

Bi-Weekly News Update

Treasury Republic of Latvia

February 24 – March 7, 2025

FINANCING AND DEBT

- On February 26, GMTN Notes due on 17 January, 2028 were offered in a competitive multi-price auction via Primary dealers. Notes were sold in nominal value of EUR 50 million and the total demand reached EUR 168.5 million. The weighted average yield rate was 2.571%. (Feb 26, <u>Treasury</u>)
- On March 3, GMTN Notes due on 22 May, 2029 were offered in a competitive multi-price auction via Primary dealers. Notes were sold in nominal value of EUR 70 million and the total demand reached EUR 134.96 million. The weighted average yield rate was 2.892%. (Mar 3, Treasury)

MACROECONOMICS

- Unemployment rate in Latvia was 6.9 % in 2024, and it has increased by 0.4 percentage points since 2023. Unemployment rate for women was still lower than for men (5.8 % and 8.0 % respectively). (Feb 24, <u>CSB</u>)
- Results from the Latvian Labour Force Survey conducted by the Central Statistical Bureau (CSB) show that 877.4 thousand people were employed in 2024, which represents 64.0 % of the population aged 15–74. Over the year employment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points and number of employed persons fell by 6.8 thousand. (Feb 24, <u>CSB</u>)
- CSB data show that average monthly gross wages and salaries (in full-time units) rose by 149 euro (9.7 %) since 2023 and stood at 1 685 euro in 2024. Hourly earnings before taxes went up to 11.38 euro (by 12.1 %). (Feb 27, CSB)
- Calendar adjusted data (at constant prices) compiled by the CSB show that, compared to January 2024, in January 2025 total retail trade turnover rose by 2.1 %. Turnover of retail trade in food products fell by 0.9%. (Feb 28, CSB)
- Data compiled by the CSB show that in 2024, compared to 2023, the gross domestic product (GDP) decreased by 0.4 %. Last year GDP at current prices amounted to EUR 40.2 billion. Compared to the 4th quarter of 2023, in the 4th quarter of 2024, GDP decrease by 0.4 % (according to seasonally and calendar unadjusted data). (Feb 28, CSB)
- The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has cut its economic growth forecasts for Latvia. The latest EBRD forecasts show that Latvia's GDP will grow by 2 percent in 2025, instead of 2.4 percent as estimated in September 2024. (Feb 28, EBRD)
- The data of the CSB show that in February 2025, compared to February 2024, the average level of consumer prices increased by 3.7 %. (Mar 10, <u>CSB</u>)

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