

Performance of main branches

- ***Growth of industrial production still dominating***

Economic performance of industry measured by industrial production index in Q1 and Q2 2007 increased, y-o-y, by 10.3%. Industry recorded faster growth, y-o-y, in Q1 compared with Q2 (by 2.5 p.p.). In Q1 2007 industrial growth was, as before, mostly contributed to by manufacturing industry again (growth by 11.5%), however, its y-o-y growth dropped between Q1 and Q2 by 3.6 p.p. High growth is continuously recorded for manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers which within the six month period increased, y-o-y, by 12.3%. Among the most rapidly growing industries belongs manufacture of office machinery and computers (growth by 30.9%), however, in spite of these developments this industry is not much important in terms of weight. Downward trend was recorded in the first quarters of 2007 in manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products and manufacture of wearing apparel; dressing and dyeing of furs. Electricity, gas and water supply increased in Q2, y-o-y, by 2.8%, however, it did not compensate the drop caused by mild winter in Q1 and fell within the six month period by 1.5%, year-on-year.

- ***Sales in industry showed also a two-digit growth***

Sales in industrial activity at constant prices were in Q1 and Q2 2007, y-o-y, 11.4 % up and at current prices 13.7.% up, y-o-y. More marked growth was recorded for sales in direct exports of industrial enterprises compared with sales in industrial activity in total – at constant prices by 16.5% and at current prices by 18.3%.

- ***Employment in industry goes up***

Employment in industry increased mainly in foreign-controlled enterprises. Average monthly wage of employees in industry was in the 1st half of 2007, y-o-y, 7.8% up and in Q2 2007 it amounted to CZK 21 128.

- ***Different development in construction in Q1 and Q2***

Construction in Q1 and Q2 2007 increased, y-o-y, in real terms by 12.6% (in Q1 by 28.8 % and in Q2 by 3.5 %), in which the share of enterprises with +20 employees made 11.7 %. The volume of works performed in building construction increased in real terms by 18.9% and in civil engineering dropped by 3.5 %.

Average registered number of employees in Q1 and Q2 2007 dropped, y-o-y, by 0.9%, average monthly wage increased by 10.1%, in real terms by 7.9 %. Labour productivity at constant prices was 12.5% up and hourly labour productivity at constant prices was 11.8% up.

In Q1 and Q2 2007 the amount of 115 738 new construction orders were signed which was 11.1% down, y-o-y. In the end of Q2 the observed construction enterprises signed 18.6 thousand of domestic orders in total amount of CZK 213.1 billion which represents labour commitments for construction companies enterprises for less than 8 months.

During Q1 and Q2 2007 construction of 19 238 dwellings was commenced which was, y-o-y, by 4.8% less (-968 dwellings). Completed were 15 095 dwellings, i.e. by 24.6 % more (+2 978 dwellings). Under construction remained 172 968 dwellings. Refurbished were 9 665 dwellings, i.e. by 7.3 % more than in the same period in 2006.

- ***Record growth of sales in retail trade***

In Q1 and Q2 2007 sales in retail trade increased y-o-y by 7.8% and in the segment of motor vehicles by 9.5 %, while the sales growth in Q1 was in both industries higher than in Q2. Sales in accommodation and restaurants increased by 0.1% and 2.4%, respectively. Sales in transport increased, y-o-y, by 10.9% and in communications by 3.8%.