

2004:12 • 29 December 2004

Short term indicators in December 2004

Gross domestic product in 3rd quarter

GDP growth 7.4% in the 3rd quarter of 2004

GDP grew at a real rate of 7.4% in the 3rd quarter of 2004 as compared with the same quarter of 2003. It is the fastest quarterly growth in the last three years. Household final consumption increased by 5.8%, explained mainly by imports of new cars and expenditure abroad. Gross fixed capital formation rose by 10%, which is a considerable slowdown from recent quarters. Government final consumption increased by 2.4% which is also a lower growth rate than in recent years. Imports of goods and services rose by 7.3% while exports rose by 11% in real terms. Hence, the growth of the aggregated gross domestic final expenditure was 6.0%. These figures are not seasonally adjusted.

Prices

The CPI rose by 3.9% in the 12 months to December

The CPI in December 2004 rose by 0.46% from the preceding month (CPI less housing cost rose by 0.30%). Over the last 12 months the CPI rose by 3.9% (CPI less housing cost by 2.6%) while the change over the last 3 months is equivalent to an annual inflation of 5,9% (4.1% inflation less housing cost). In Iceland, the HICP rose by 0.1% in November 2004. Over the 12 months to November the HICP in Iceland rose by 2.9% and by 2.1% in the EEA. The building cost index in December fell by 0.03% on the preceding month, 5.9% on December 2003.

Wages

The wage index rose by 5.4% in the 12 months to November

The wage index for the whole economy rose by 0.2% in November 2004 and had then risen by 5.4% over the last 12 months. The corresponding rise in the CPI was 3.8%. Deflated by the CPI, real wages rose by 1.6% over the 12 months to November 2004. The average purchasing power January–November this year is 1.4% over January–November last year.

Fish catch volume, catch prices and export prices

A small increase fish catch but fall in prices

The total value of the fish catch January–November, measured at constant prices, showed an increase of 0.8% from corresponding period the year before and in the twelve months to November there was the same increase over the previous 12 months period. The price of catch in Icelandic krónur was 6.7% lower in January–October 2004 than in January–October 2003. Export prices of marine products, measured in Icelandic krónur, were 2.6% lower in January–November 2004 than one year before. The price of foreign exchange decreased by 1.4% (krónur apreciated) between the periods.



Arrivals at Keflavik International Airport

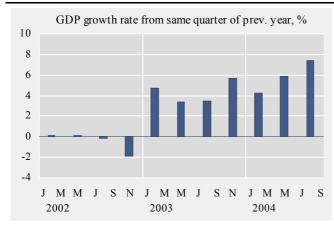
19% growth in arrivals at Keflavik International Airport 655 thousand passengers arrived from abroad at Keflavik International Airport in January–November 2004 compared with 549 thousand in same period last year. This is a growth of 19%. In the twelve months to November 2004, 690 thousand passengers arrived at Keflavik International Airport which is an increase of 20%.

Domestic demand

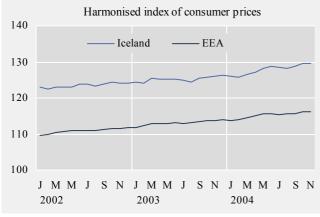
Domestic demand on the increase

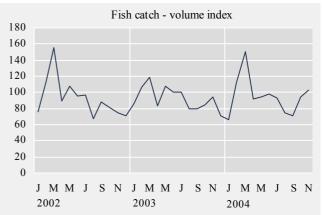
Credit card turnover of private households was up by 3.2% in January–November from the year before. The growth in last twelve months is 3.4% compared with the previous twelve months. Debit card turnover was up by 14.7% January–November. The growth in last twelve months is 14.4%. Altogether domestic debit and credit card turnover by households increased by 9.0% in the last twelve months. Credit card expenditure by Icelanders abroad increased by 15.4% in January–November. Total turnover of foreign credit and debit cards in Iceland increased by 6.6% in January–November 2004. New car registrations January–November increased by 21% while in last twelve months the increase was 22%.

			Consumer	Harmonised	Harmonised			
	GDP	Consumer	pice index	index of	index of			Aluminium
	growth	price	less housing		consumer	Building	Fish catch,	poduction
	rate	index	•	prices, Iceland	prices, EEA	•	volume index	tonnes
				<u>r</u> ,	F,			
2002		222.6	221.2	123.5	110.9	277.2	93.0	282,495
2003		227.3	222.8	125.2	113.0	286.3	95.2	280,185
Dec. 2002		223.9	221.4	124.1	111.9	278.0	70.6	22,245
Jan. 2003		224.7	221.7	124.3	111.8	285.0	85.6	24,833
Feb. 2003	4.7	224.3	220.9	124.0	112.3	285.5	107.0	23,058
Mar. 2003		226.7	223.3	125.4	112.9	284.8	119.4	26,433
Apr. 2003		227.0	223.3	125.3	113.0	285.6	82.8	25,579
May 2003	3.4	226.6	222.6	125.2	113.0	285.6	107.4	23,897
Jun. 2003		226.8	222.6	125.3	113.1	286.4	100.9	22,003
Jul. 2003		226.5	221.8	125.0	112.9	286.8	100.4	22,511
Aug. 2003	3.5	226.3	221.0	124.5	113.1	285.9	79.0	22,394
Sep. 2003		227.9	222.7	125.4	113.5	287.3	79.7	22,046
Oct. 2003		229.0	223.7	125.8	113.6	287.8	84.0	22,877
Nov. 2003	5.7	229.3	224.1	126.0	113.7	287.2	94.0	22,033
Dec. 2003		230.0	224.7	126.3	114.0	287.8	70.9	22,521
Jan. 2004		230.1	224.5	126.1	113.7	288.6	65.7	23,062
Feb. 2004	4.2	229.4	223.5	125.7	113.9	289.5	112.5	21,786
Mar. 2004		230.7	224.9	126.6	114.6	292.2	150.0	22,699
Apr. 2004		232.0	225.9	127.2	115.0	293.3	91.6	24,249
May 2004	5.9	233.9	227.4	128.2	115.5	299.8	94.1	23,450
Jun. 2004	•	235.7	228.7	128.9	115.5	300.8	97.4	23,411
Jul. 2004		234.6	227.7	128.5	115.3	301.7	92.8	21,952
Aug. 2004	7.4	234.6	227.3	128.3	115.5	302.1	75.1	23,748
Sep. 2004		235.6	228.2	128.9	115.7	302.3	71.6	24,679
Oct. 2004		237.4	229.8	129.5	116.1	303.9	94.6	25,605
Nov. 2004		237.9	229.8	129.6	116.1	304.8	103.4	23,012
Dec. 2004		239.0	230.5			304.7		<u>.</u>

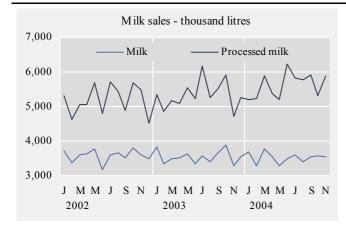


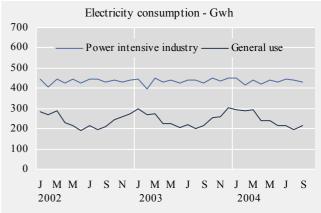


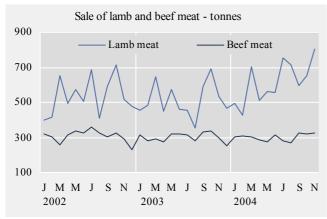


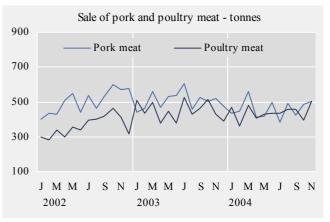


	Milk producti	on and sales in t	housand litres	Sale of meat in tonnes				Electricity cons. Gwh	
	Milk Milk		Milk processing					Power	
	received	sales	converted by					intensive	General
	by dairies	from dairies	protein content	Lamb	Beef	Pork	Poultry	industry	use
2002	110,761	42,952	62,270	6,438	3,687	6,042	4,316	5,214.6	2,894.2
2003	108,384	42,454	64,074	6,078	3,602	6,076	5,393	5,229.4	2,953.6
2003	100,364	42,434	04,074	0,078	3,002	0,070	3,393	3,229.4	2,933.0
Nov. 2002	8,533	3,600	5,485	518	290	570	414	431.1	260.5
Dec. 2002	9,525	3,482	4,523	480	231	576	316	438.6	275.7
Jan. 2003	10,027	3,840	5,337	455	316	439	509	443.3	298.6
Feb. 2003	9,236	3,337	4,859	482	278	461	437	396.8	268.6
Mar. 2003	10,009	3,482	5,165	648	292	557	500	448.1	275.5
Apr. 2003	9,968	3,524	5,096	447	277	469	380	432.6	224.2
May 2003	10,290	3,619	5,545	575	318	529	448	440.1	226.0
Jun. 2003	9,570	3,331	5,241	459	320	536	380	423.8	207.3
Jul. 2003	8,857	3,564	6,168	454	312	604	527	440.0	219.1
Aug. 2003	7,915	3,391	5,256	355	283	457	430	442.5	199.3
Sep. 2003	7,995	3,653	5,512	592	332	524	466	426.7	215.1
Oct. 2003	7,800	3,876	5,916	691	338	505	513	450.1	255.6
Nov. 2003	7,630	3,287	4,722	534	296	523	431	435.3	261.3
Dec. 2003	9,086	3,550	5,257	464	250	472	387	450.1	303.2
Jan. 2004	9,347	3,673	5,206	492	306	434	470	448.0	291.4
Feb. 2004	8,739	3,286	5,217	429	311	448	360	416.3	288.4
Mar. 2004	10,207	3,784	5,872	702	304	557	479	440.8	293.5
Apr. 2004	9,925	3,534	5,360	510	287	411	406	419.6	240.7
May 2004	10,389	3,280	5,195	561	274	416	428	442.0	238.7
Jun. 2004	10,122	3,499	6,224	558	317	497	435	429.2	217.5
Jul. 2004	9,554	3,587	5,826	754	280	384	433	443.3	213.9
Aug. 2004	8,942	3,410	5,776	712	272	492	457	440.4	196.6
Sep. 2004	8,492	3,531	5,923	595	327	421	460	430.6	216.3
Oct. 2004	8,259	3,563	5,317	650	321	486	392		
Nov. 2004	8,797	3,537	5,876	806	323	504	504		

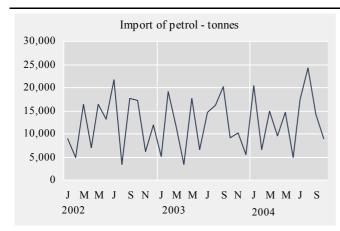


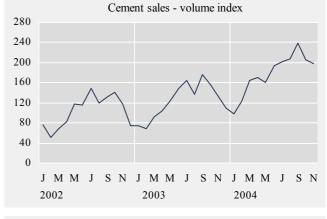






]		Market prices of housi				sing - index			
	Petrol	Gas oils	Fuel oils	Jet fuel	Cement sales index	Public housing fund loans	houses,	Single-flat houses, cap. region	All types, outside cap. region	All types, whole country
2002	145,011	387,163	93,163	105,471	103.8	2,062	116.1	118.3	114.0	115.9
2003	139,395	383,955	58,032	109,656	123.6	2,500	130.2	129.6	127.3	129.4
Dec. 2002	11,993	28,761	2,572	4,529	74.6	131	121.3	120.7	117.6	120.3
Jan. 2003	5,013	10,217	1,568	9,982	74.2	171	122.6	121.8	120.7	122.0
Feb. 2003	19,112	37,515	1,871	10,775	67.8	159	124.1	122.6	121.4	123.2
Mar. 2003	11,701	35,037	17,732	5,008	91.4	182	126.6	123.8	120.5	124.7
Apr. 2003	3,318	10,380	2,277	3,793	103.3	151	128.1	127.7	122.2	126.5
May 2003	17,722	36,212	3,573	13,359	123.2	187	128.1	128.3	124.9	127.3
Jun. 2003	6,522	27,763	3,530	4,331	148.0	155	128.8	128.7	125.3	127.9
Jul. 2003	14,750	44,180	8,230	7,900	163.9	244	130.0	130.5	130.2	130.1
Aug. 2003	16,240	33,812	1,179	16,746	137.3	238	133.2	132.9	131.6	132.8
Sep. 2003	20,184	63,560	10,334	17,120	175.5	275	134.7	134.5	133.1	134.3
Oct. 2003	9,141	41,897	5,385	9,379	155.7	233	135.1	135.2	133.2	134.6
Nov. 2003	10,226	29,625	228	8,873	133.4	235	135.6	133.5	131.9	134.4
Dec. 2003	5,466	13,757	2,124	2,391	110.2	270	136.1	135.6	132.5	135.1
Jan. 2004	20,522	49,532	4,425	11,336	98.8	218	136.1	137.4	131.6	135.1
Feb. 2004	6,577	9,897	4,122	8,002	122.9	204	136.2	138.9	131.4	135.3
Mar. 2004	14,960	47,038	3,665	12,604	163.8	260	136.9	135.8	131.1	135.3
Apr. 2004	9,529	37,708	7,841	6,338	169.9	200	139.1	139.4	131.2	137.1
May 2004	14,677	35,997	7,533	8,584	161.1	301	141.6	142.2	136.4	140.3
Jun. 2004	4,833	18,489	3,454	1,785	193.6	335	144.6	146.0	138.4	143.3
Jul. 2004	17,342	58,012	1,244	5,388	200.8	184	147.4	145.7	136.3	144.4
Aug. 2004	24,303	72,508	33,899	7,288	207.8	190	148.8	148.5	137.5	145.9
Sep. 2004	14,173	37,955	9,026	6,225	239.3	165	149.1	152.2	137.1	146.5
Oct. 2004	8,890	36,378	5,070	13,478	204.9	108	150.9	157.1	139.5	148.9
Nov. 2004					198.2	126	152.2	160.8	142.0	150.8
Dec. 2004			•	•			155.8	164.6	141.3	153.3

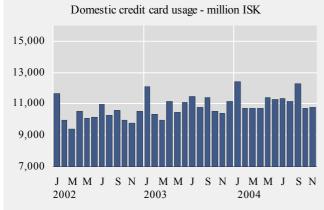




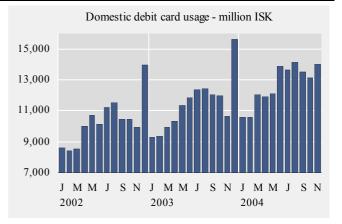


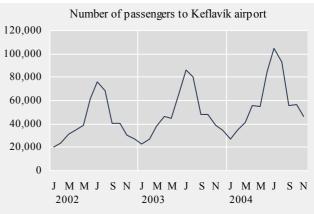


	Credit	and debit card u	sage in million	ISK			Number of	Number of
	Domestic	Credit card	Debit card I	Foreign credit	Number	Import of	passengers	overnight
	credit card	usage	usage	card usage	of new	cars, cif,	to Keflavík	stays in
	usage	abroad	in retail	in Iceland	regist. cars	million ISK	airport	hotels
2002	123,819	16,344	123,922	12,470	8,487	10,436	493,643	802,351
2003	130,835	19,693	137,242	13,106	13,289	18,885	583,832	879,356
Nov. 2002	9,794	1,525	9,950	652	573	746	30,240	45,753
Dec. 2002	10,508	1,345	13,975	676	489	636	27,155	28,316
Jan. 2003	12,077	951	9,315	609	896	1,056	22,944	30,659
Feb. 2003	10,329	1,267	9,366	541	890	1,048	27,005	45,938
Mar. 2003	9,989	1,317	9,910	664	912	1,087	38,177	63,816
Apr. 2003	11,135	1,435	10,302	768	1,063	1,373	46,653	65,719
May 2003	10,484	1,503	11,371	933	1,672	1,795	44,932	79,739
Jun. 2003	11,094	1,927	11,857	1,418	1,721	2,140	66,641	100,570
Jul. 2003	11,445	1,913	12,387	2,092	1,422	2,445	86,532	127,905
Aug. 2003	10,752	1,946	12,421	2,215	996	1,624	79,980	133,163
Sep. 2003	11,402	1,832	12,073	1,590	1,006	1,599	48,509	77,931
Oct. 2003	10,536	1,864	11,963	898	1,067	1,961	48,567	78,470
Nov. 2003	10,418	1,892	10,666	731	902	1,378	38,842	50,754
Dec. 2003	11,174	1,844	15,613	647	742	1,378	35,050	34,722
Jan. 2004	12,403	761	10,586	540	963	1,393	27,128	31,779
Feb. 2004	10,708	2,128	10,558	1,083	952	1,377	34,353	53,163
Mar. 2004	10,709	1,572	12,064	767	1,307	2,060	41,415	67,527
Apr. 2004	10,695	1,868	11,899	841	1,384	2,204	55,733	70,728
May 2004	11,404	1,804	12,077	1,020	1,617	2,335	55,200	80,272
Jun. 2004	11,283	2,188	13,918	1,264	2,277	3,185	84,257	113,136
Jul. 2004	11,350	1,970	13,611	1,776	1,654	2,251	104,793	150,329
Aug. 2004	11,141	1,997	14,132	2,629	1,122	1,635	93,051	135,755
Sep. 2004	12,259	1,917	13,509	1,595	1,318	1,928	55,756	81,814
Oct. 2004	10,702	2,174	13,152	950	1,256	1,875	56,667	82,336
Nov. 2004	10,788	2,222	13,993	812	1,303		46,492	



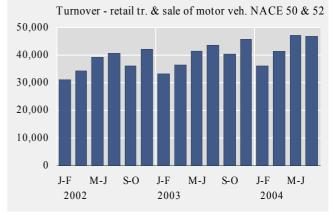




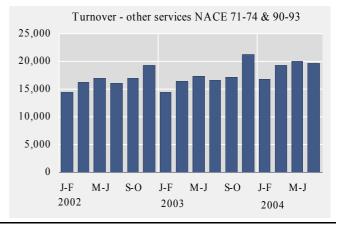


-	Turnover by industry, based on VAT records, in million ISK									
	-		Retail trade and	Hotels and		Communi-	Other services			
	Manufacturing	Construction	motor vehicles	restaurants	Transport	cation	NACE 71-74			
	NACE 15-37	NACE 45	NACE 50 & 52	NACE 55	NACE 60-63	NACE 64	& 90-93			
2002	323,002	74,423	223,113	26,415	107,191	21,798	110,535			
2003	312,460	92,917	240,791	28,983	101,990	25,512	119,351			
Jul-Aug 2000	43,798	14,133	37,677	5,522	17,770	3,371	12,615			
Sep-Oct 2000	43,863	14,638	35,375	3,882	15,716	3,294	14,510			
Nov-Dec 2000	48,434	16,586	38,265	4,006	13,596	3,581	18,476			
Jan-Feb 2001	40,791	10,558	29,311	3,064	13,303	3,050	12,911			
Mar-Apr 2001	50,783	12,098	32,520	3,853	16,661	3,179	14,671			
May-Jun 2001	53,017	15,897	37,782	4,760	20,666	3,946	17,034			
Jul-Aug 2001	55,312	16,706	39,081	5,956	23,385	3,363	15,215			
Sep-Oct 2001	55,490	16,161	35,338	4,300	18,920	3,391	16,165			
Nov-Dec 2001	55,262	14,817	41,817	3,985	16,702	3,786	19,121			
Jan-Feb 2002	50,042	9,527	31,010	3,105	15,293	3,282	14,392			
Mar-Apr 2002	56,741	9,796	34,140	3,872	16,795	3,598	16,298			
May-Jun 2002	54,254	13,899	39,354	4,960	19,051	3,862	16,898			
Jul-Aug 2002	51,404	13,875	40,536	6,293	21,193	3,740	16,129			
Sep-Oct 2002	55,711	14,120	35,952	4,195	20,004	3,687	16,889			
Nov-Dec 2002	54,852	13,205	42,122	3,990	14,856	3,629	19,330			
Jan-Feb 2003	45,845	9,828	33,279	3,186	14,221	3,704	14,538			
Mar-Apr 2003	52,886	12,010	36,534	3,949	14,449	3,990	16,359			
May-Jun 2003	54,052	16,601	41,519	5,386	20,704	4,436	17,378			
Jul-Aug 2003	50,299	17,088	43,441	7,209	19,440	4,380	16,632			
Sep-Oct 2003	55,009	19,141	40,355	4,815	17,869	4,358	17,183			
Nov-Dec 2003	54,373	18,249	45,664	4,438	15,305	4,644	21,234			
Jan-Feb 2004	46,553	12,738	36,250	3,599	15,087	4,210	16,701			
Mar-Apr 2004	60,094	15,164	41,574	4,419	18,301	4,454	19,370			
May-Jun 2004	60,382	19,829	46,990	5,886	21,260	4,966	20,048			
Jul-Aug 2004	54,031	21,012	46,898	8,073	26,058	4,652	19,664			

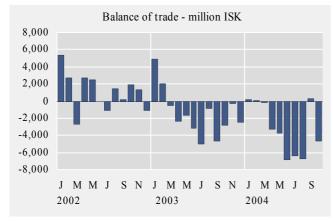


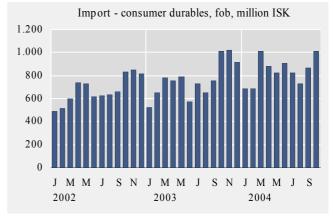


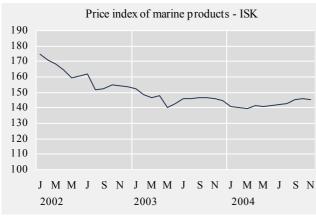


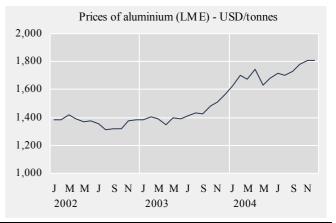


1		External tra	de, fob, in mil	lion ISK		Price index	Prices of	,
		Export	Import	Import of	Import of	of marine	aluminium	Oil price
	Balance	of goods	of goods	consumer	industrial	products	(LME)	(UK Brent 38)
	of trade	total	total	durables	supplies	ISK	USD/tonnes	USD/barrel
					**			
2002	13,098	204,303	191,982	8,099	82,150	160.6	1,365.0	25.0
2003	-16,932	182,580	199,512	9,372	79,851	146.3	1,427.9	29.3
Dec. 2002	-1,083	13,299	14,382	815	5,319	153.3	1,380.0	29.3
Jan. 2003	4,928	16,354	11,425	520	4,491	152.1	1,380.4	32.1
Feb. 2003	2,044	16,133	14,089	650	6,247	148.8	1,406.7	33.5
Mar. 2003	-526	16,726	17,252	781	6,674	146.3	1,390.3	31.6
Apr. 2003	-2,412	14,079	16,492	752	7,154	147.8	1,347.1	25.2
May 2003	-1,702	15,054	16,756	792	7,299	140.3	1,399.5	26.3
Jun. 2003	-3,170	14,309	17,479	578	6,587	142.6	1,391.5	28.0
Jul. 2003	-4,995	15,016	20,011	730	7,886	146.0	1,407.9	28.6
Aug. 2003	-850	14,927	15,777	654	6,854	145.7	1,429.9	29.9
Sep. 2003	-4,690	14,555	19,245	757	8,395	146.6	1,423.5	27.3
Oct. 2003	-2,796	15,805	18,601	1,015	7,030	146.4	1,482.4	30.0
Nov. 2003	-261	15,950	16,211	1,020	5,724	145.9	1,512.4	29.1
Dec. 2003	-2,503	13,672	16,175	915	5,509	144.9	1,567.8	30.4
Jan. 2004	186	16,622	16,436	685	7,336	141.0	1,622.3	32.0
Feb. 2004	19	14,149	14,130	682	5,438	139.9	1,704.2	31.5
Mar. 2004	-195	20,138	20,333	1,011	8,890	139.3	1,676.5	34.6
Apr. 2004	-3,259	16,770	20,029	884	7,665	141.8	1,744.4	34.0
May 2004	-3,768	14,894	18,662	821	6,952	141.0	1,633.7	38.6
Jun. 2004	-6,871	16,327	23,198	907	8,781	141.5	1,682.5	35.5
Jul. 2004	-6,389	16,648	23,036	825	8,655	142.4	1,715.7	38.5
Aug. 2004	-6,718	13,988	20,707	727	10,105	142.7	1,702.8	44.5
Sep. 2004	257	19,416	19,159	865	7,996	145.2	1,730.7	43.6
Oct. 2004	-4,630	16,928	21,558	1,015	8,991	145.9	1,782.2	51.4
Nov. 2004						145.5	1,807.8	43.4
Dec. 2004	•	•	•	•		•	1,811.0	37.7





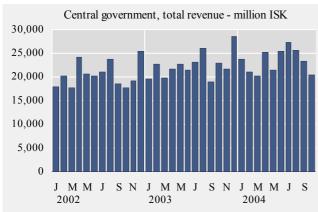


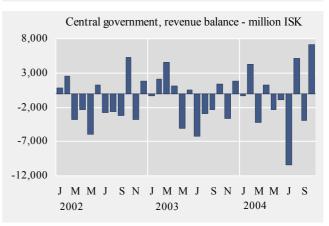


				Quarterly	average (from	2003)			
			Real	Labour force	Unemploy-	Number of	Central government finance, million ISK		
		Wage	wages,	participation	ment	employed	Total	Total	Revenue
		index	index	%	%	persons	revenue	expenditure	balance
2002		226.4	104.3	82.8	3.3	156,700	206,478	221,361	-14,883
2003		239.1	107.9	82.2	3.4	156,900	229,442	240,313	-10,871
Nov.	2002	228.1	104.5	82.7	3.3	156,600	15,513	19,251	-3,738
Dec.		228.7	104.6	02.7		150,000	27,284	25,449	1,835
Jan.		237.0	108.3	•	· .	<u>.</u>	19,202	19,485	-283
Feb.		237.5	108.0	80.1	3.9	151,800	24,953	22,781	2,172
Mar.		237.8	107.5			101,000	24,182	19,691	4,491
Apr.		238.0	107.6	·			22,887	21,736	1,151
May		238.5	107.9	84.1	4.1	159,800	17,471	22,622	-5,151
Jun.		239.0	108.2				21,861	21,355	506
Jul.		239.3	108.4				16,909	23,137	-6,228
Aug.	2003	239.6	108.2	84.3	2.6	162,900	23,203	26,112	-2,909
Sep.	2003	239.9	107.7				16,625	18,938	-2,313
Oct.		240.4	107.6				24,266	22,851	1,415
Nov.	2003	240.7	107.5	80.4	2.9	153,200	17,883	21,605	-3,722
Dec.	2003	241.0	107.5				30,324	28,541	1,783
Jan.	2004	244.9	109.3				23,533	23,807	-274
Feb.	2004	245.4	109.4	79.2	3.1	152,300	25,197	20,967	4,230
Mar.		246.8	109.4				15,900	20,189	-4,289
Apr.		247.5	109.0				26,477	25,273	1,204
May	2004	249.5	109.0	82.9	4.0	158,000	18,064	21,361	-2,426
Jun.		251.1	109.5				24,366	25,340	-974
Jul.		251.4	109.9				16,844	27,202	-10,358
Aug.		252.0	109.9	81.5	2.6	158,100	30,652	25,538	5,114
Sep.		252.5	109.5			•	20,174	23,255	-3,952
Oct.		253.2	109.3				27,538	20,372	7,166
Nov.	2004	253.8	109.2			•			









Explanatory notes and references

References are quoted for data originating outside Statistics Iceland.

GDP growth rate, %. Change in the volume of gross domestic product each quarter as compared with the same quarter of the previous year.

Consumer price index and Consumer price index less housing cost. May 1988=100. Compiled at the beginning of each month. Yearly averages are converted by middle month indices.

Harmonized index of consumer prices. 1996=100. The harmonized index of consumer prices (HICP) is compiled for all EEA-member states. It differs in scope from the Icelandic CPI. The main difference is that imputed rent for owner occupied housing is included in the Icelandic CPI but not in the HICP. On the other hand, expenditure of foreign visitors in Iceland and expenditure of people living in hospitals and similar institutions are included in the HICP but not in the Icelandic CPI.

Building cost index. June 1987=100. The index is compiled at the middle of each month.

Fish catch, volume index. The fish catch for each month is valued at average prices of 1990 and converted to an index with 1998=100.

Aluminium production, tonnes. Source: Producers.

Milk received by dairies. Thousand litres. Milk from farmers received by dairies. Source: Icelandic Dairy Association.

Milk sales from dairies. Thousand litres. Sale of milk, cream, skimmed milk and other liquid milk products. Source: Icelandic Dairy Association.

Milk processing converted by protein content. Processed milk products other than milk, cream, skimmed milk and other liquid milk products converted into thousand litres on the basis of protein content. Source: Icelandic Dairy Association.

Sale of meat in tonnes. Lamb, beef, pork, poultry. Includes sales of domestic produce but not imported meat nor game. Source: Association of Icelandic farmers.

Electricity consumption. Gigawatt-hours. Divided into consumption by power-intensive industry which is defined as aluminium and ferrosilicon production. All other consumption is considered general use. Source: National Energy Authority.

Import of fuel in tonnes. Petrol, gas oils, fuel oils and jet fuel derived from the external trade statistics.

Cement sales. Index 1990=100. Sale of domestic and imported cement. Source: Producers and importers.

Public housing fund loans. Number of loans to individuals for new construction, loans to entrepreneurs are excluded. Source: Housing Loan Fund.

Market prices of housing. Indices, March 2000=100. The indices are sub items from the CPI based on housing sales contracts collected by the Land Registry of Iceland.

Credit and debit card usage. Million Icelandic krónur (ISK). The figures show total household expenditure by credit and debit cards. Withdrawals at ATM's and payments made in banks are not included. Sources: VISA Iceland and MasterCard.

Number of new car registrations. Includes both new and used cars. Source: The Icelandic Federation for Motor Trades and Repairs.

Import of cars. Cif-value, million ISK.

Number of passengers to Keflavík Airport. The total number of visitors, Icelandic and foreign, arriving by air at Keflavík international airport. Transit passengers are not included in these figures. Source: Civil Aviation Administration, Keflavík Airport.

Number of overnight stays in hotels. Covers hotels that are operated throughout the year.

Turnover by industry. Million ISK. The figures show total turnover according to VAT returns for every two VAT-accounting months. The turnover excludes VAT. Break-down by industry is based on the Statistics Iceland activity code, ÍSAT 95 which corresponds to NACE rev. 1.

External trade. Fob-value in ISK.

Price index of marine products. Based on unit prices of the main products according to data from producers, weighted by production or sales in the previous year. 1990=100.

Prices of aluminium (LME). Average montly price of aluminium on the London Metal Exchange. Source: The National Power Company.

Oil price (UK Brent 38). Average monthly price of a barrel of North-Sea oil. Source: Olíufélagið hf.

Wage index. December 1988=100. Refers to average wages each month.

Real wages. Index 2000=100. Refers to the change in the wage index deflated by the CPI converted to mid-month figures.

Labour force participation, unemployment and number of employed persons. The figures show results from the labour force sample survey (LFS) of Statistics Iceland. From 2003 onwards, the LFS is continuous and renders quarterly results. Sample size is 4,000 persons each quarter. In the period 1991-2002 the LFS was carried out twice each year, in April and in November.

Labour force participation: The total labour force (employed and unemployed) as a proportion of the total population 16-74 years of age.

Unemployment: The number of unemployed as a proportion of the labour force.

Number of employed persons: Total number of persons engaged in any kind of work for payment, including self-employed.

Central government finance. Total revenue, total expenditure and revenue balance. Million ISK. Cash basis. Source: Government Accounting Office.

Hagtíðindi Short term indicators

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