

SPRING 2008 ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC: ANSWERS FROM SPCR

MAIN FORECAST

	2007	2008	2009
Real GDP growth	6.6	5.9	5.5
Consumer price inflation	2.8	5.0	4.0
Unemployment rate	5.3	4.4	4.1
Employment growth	1.9	1.6	0.8

Components of aggregate demand

Annual % change	2007	2008	2009
Private consumption	5.7	3.6	4.6
Public consumption	0.1	-0.4	0.3
Investment (Gross fixed capital formation)	5.7	8.0	7.8
Exports	15.0	9.4	11.0
Imports	13.2	9.4	10.3

ECONOMIC SENTIMENT

	Positive	Negative	Unchanged		
Trend in business climate over the next 6 months	Industry				
	Services				
Trend in profitability over the next 6 months	Industry				
	Services				
Investment intentions over the next 6 months	Industry				
		Increase (faster pace)	Increase (slower pace)	Unchanged	Decrease (slower pace)
Driving force behind investment decisions in the next 6 months	Replacement	Extension	Rationalisation	Innovation	
	na	Same	Same	Same	
Trend in consumer confidence over the next 6 months	Positive	Negative	Unchanged		
		yes			
Overall trend in employment	Industry: past 6 months	Industry: next 6 months	Services: past 6 months	Services: next 6 months	
	Up	Up	Up	Up	
Over the next 6 months, cost/access to finance will be...	Higher / more difficult	Same	Lower / less difficult		
	Cost	Access			
Financial market turmoil has affected companies' investment decisions negatively ...	to a large extent	to some extent	to a limited extent	not at all	
			yes		

EXCHANGE RATE DEVELOPMENTS

	Dollar per euro
Where will the EUR/USD stand in October 2008 ?	1.50

POLICY MIX

	Not necessary, situation is satisfactory	Excellent	Satisfactory	Neither satisfactory nor unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Deteriorating
Progress towards medium-term budgetary objective is...			yes			
Monetary policy is...	Tight	Appropriate	Loose			
		yes				
Consistency between fiscal and monetary policies	Adequate	Inadequate				
	yes					