

LATVIA'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (KEY ITEMS)

3 • 2004  
MONTHLY BULLETIN

In March, the current account deficit of the balance of payments was 72.4 million lats, determined by the year-on-year increase of 43.6 million lats in the goods deficit. At the same time, a rise in services and current transfers surplus was observed, covering one third of the increase in the goods deficit. Exports and imports of goods posted a rapid growth (21.6% and 31.6%, respectively). Almost half of the increase in exports of goods was driven by wood and articles of wood, whereas transport vehicles, machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical appliances, base metals and articles of base metals, products of the chemical and allied industries, as well as wood and articles of wood dominated the imports growth.

With exports of services increasing, the services surplus posted a year-on-year pickup of 5.6 million lats. The rise in services surplus was mostly determined by an increase in exports of other services (mostly in construction and financial services) and a decrease in imports of travel services. Exports of transportation services by road and services related to port operations expanded.

In March, the income account surplus dropped by 1.7 million lats year-on-year, and the income balance became negative. Although the compensation of residents employed abroad increased, a rise in non-resident income from direct investment in Latvia underlay the fall in the income surplus. Non-resident income from direct investment was mostly reinvested.

With current transfers received by other sectors (including private persons) increasing, the current transfers surplus rose by 10.1 million lats year-on-year.

The surplus of the financial and capital account was 83.0 million lats.

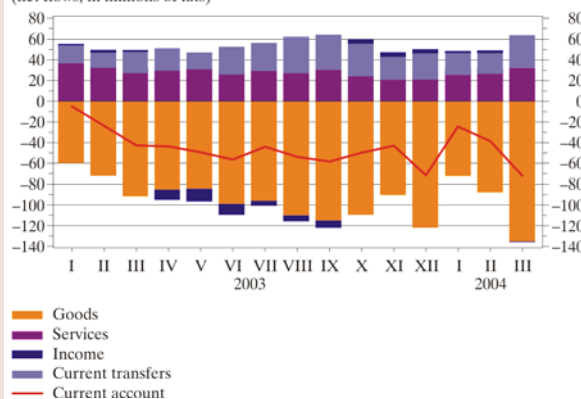
The net inflow of direct investment amounted to 19.9 million lats. In Latvia, 22.3 million lats was invested in the form of foreign direct investment. Residents received loans from direct investors in the form of other capital, totalling 8.3 million lats, whereas 7.9 million lats was reinvested in direct investment enterprises.

In March, no essential transactions with portfolio securities were reported. Portfolio investment posted a net inflow of 5.0 million lats. A drop in the portfolio investment on the asset side (mostly in the foreign debt securities portfolio) resulted in an inflow of 2.2 million lats in Latvia. In addition, non-residents purchased equity securities issued by residents.

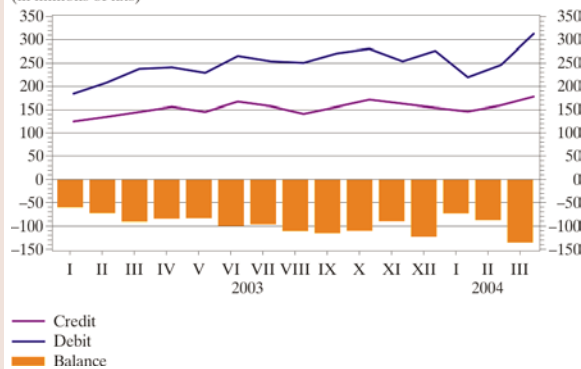
The net inflow of other investment was 64.1 million lats. By attracting demand deposits and borrowings (time deposits), residents (mostly banks) received 177.1 million lats, thus increasing the liabilities to non-residents. With loans granted to non-residents shrinking, bank demand deposits abroad increased by 196.8 million lats. Other investment grew by 112.9 million lats on the asset side.

As banks' demand for lats remained high and the exchange rate of the lats strengthened within the intervention band set by the Bank of Latvia, the latter performed interventions, selling lats

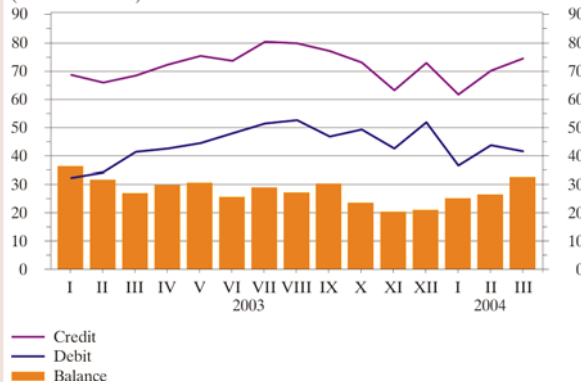
CURRENT ACCOUNT  
(net flows; in millions of lats)



GOODS  
(in millions of lats)



SERVICES  
(in millions of lats)



## MONTHLY BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (KEY ITEMS)

(balance; in millions of lats)

	Current account					Capital account	Financial account						Errors and omissions
	Goods <sup>1</sup>	Services	Income	Current transfers	Direct investment		Portfolio investment	Financial derivatives	Other investment	Reserve assets			
2003													
I	-4.9	-59.9	36.5	0.8	17.7	0.2	24.3	20.4	-32.1	2.2	-13.5	47.3	-19.6
II	-23.6	-72.9	31.8	1.9	15.6	0.7	31.6	18.5	-34.9	-1.7	78.4	-28.7	-8.6
III	-42.8	-92.1	27.2	1.4	20.7	0.4	1.4	23.6	28.6	-5.6	-115.9	70.7	40.9
IV	-43.8	-85.3	29.8	-9.7	21.5	1.3	37.7	18.6	-14.9	6.7	73.4	-46.1	4.8
V	-49.4	-84.1	30.8	-12.6	16.5	1.6	60.1	24.2	17.0	4.6	52.9	-38.6	-12.3
VI	-56.5	-99.0	25.7	-10.6	27.3	2.8	15.2	19.5	-21.9	-6.9	13.1	11.4	38.6
VII	-44.2	-96.3	29.0	-4.6	27.6	1.4	69.1	8.0	-25.5	-0.3	90.4	-3.5	-26.2
VIII	-54.0	-110.4	27.3	-5.4	34.4	1.2	72.5	3.8	-31.3	-4.5	91.0	13.5	-19.7
IX	-58.4	-115.2	30.4	-7.1	33.4	2.4	-2.1	3.5	-41.1	6.0	106.9	-77.4	58.1
X	-50.0	-109.7	23.7	4.0	32.0	1.8	37.6	24.4	-51.7	-1.9	-5.1	71.9	10.6
XI	-43.3	-90.6	20.6	4.1	22.6	1.5	80.9	13.8	24.4	4.7	90.5	-52.4	-39.1
XII	-72.0	-122.4	21.1	3.9	25.4	4.1	47.2	9.1	51.7	0.1	-7.2	-6.5	20.8
2004													
I	-24.7	-72.9	25.1	1.2	21.9	1.6	19.2	10.0	15.7	-6.9	-4.7	5.1	4.0
II	-38.7	-87.9	26.5	2.1	20.6	3.1	52.9	8.1	10.1	0.5	14.2	20.1	-17.4
III	-72.4	-135.7	32.8	-0.3	30.8	1.9	81.1	19.9	5.0	-2.2	64.1	-5.7	-10.6

## CURRENT AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

(in millions of lats)

	Current account										Capital account	
	Goods <sup>1</sup>		Services		Income		Current transfers		Credit	Debit		
	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit				
2003												
I	240.1	244.9	124.0	183.9	68.8	32.3	15.6	14.8	31.7	13.9	0.3	0.1
II	246.6	270.2	134.6	207.5	66.0	34.3	15.8	13.9	30.1	14.5	0.9	0.3
III	265.9	308.7	145.3	237.4	68.6	41.4	17.6	16.1	34.4	13.7	0.7	0.3
IV	282.3	326.0	155.1	240.4	72.4	42.6	16.4	26.2	38.4	16.9	1.6	0.3
V	273.6	323.0	144.4	228.5	75.4	44.6	16.3	29.0	37.5	21.0	1.8	0.2
VI	298.4	354.9	166.0	265.0	73.7	48.0	17.1	27.6	41.6	14.2	2.9	0.1
VII	299.8	344.0	156.6	252.9	80.5	51.5	17.5	22.1	45.3	17.6	1.4	0
VIII	291.0	345.0	140.0	250.3	79.9	52.6	18.6	24.0	52.6	18.2	1.6	0.4
IX	300.0	358.4	155.6	270.8	77.3	46.8	18.8	25.9	48.3	14.9	3.0	0.6
X	318.2	368.3	170.8	280.6	73.1	49.4	19.3	15.4	54.9	22.9	1.9	0.1
XI	284.4	327.7	162.3	252.9	63.2	42.6	17.3	13.1	41.6	19.1	1.7	0.2
XII	307.2	379.2	153.8	276.2	73.0	51.9	18.0	14.2	62.3	36.9	4.3	0.2
2004												
I	265.4	290.1	145.8	218.8	61.7	36.6	18.0	16.8	39.9	17.9	1.7	0.1
II	285.0	323.7	158.4	246.3	70.3	43.8	17.5	15.4	38.7	18.1	4.9	1.8
III	329.3	401.7	176.7	312.4	74.5	41.7	18.8	19.1	59.4	28.6	2.2	0.3

to banks against foreign currency, thus causing an increase in reserve assets. With the Bank of Latvia also meeting its contractual obligations under currency swap agreements, reserve assets increased by 5.7 million lats in March.

<sup>1</sup> The item *Goods* covers general merchandise and goods for processing (the basic source for these two items is foreign trade statistics published by the Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia), repairs on goods, goods procured in ports by carriers, and non-monetary gold. The data on exports and imports of general merchandise, collected by the Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia, have been adjusted in conformity with the methodology for compiling the balance of payments.

## CURRENT ACCOUNT: INCOME

(in millions of lats)

	Income											
			Compensation of employees		Investment income							
					Direct investment		Portfolio investment		Other investment			
	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit
2003												
I	15.6	14.8	7.3	0.2	8.3	14.6	0	7.7	5.4	2.1	2.8	4.8
II	15.8	13.9	7.4	0.2	8.4	13.7	0	6.8	5.8	2.5	2.6	4.4
III	17.6	16.1	7.7	0.2	9.8	15.9	0.2	8.2	6.7	2.7	2.9	5.0
IV	16.4	26.2	7.6	0.2	8.8	25.9	0.1	17.7	5.8	2.6	3.0	5.6
V	16.3	29.0	7.9	0.2	8.4	28.7	0.1	21.1	5.5	2.8	2.8	4.8
VI	17.1	27.6	7.9	0.2	9.2	27.4	0.1	19.8	6.1	2.6	3.0	5.0
VII	17.5	22.1	8.1	0.2	9.4	21.9	0.4	15.0	6.1	2.6	2.9	4.3
VIII	18.6	24.0	8.1	0.2	10.5	23.7	0.4	14.4	7.2	5.2	2.8	4.2
IX	18.8	25.9	8.0	0.2	10.8	25.7	0.4	14.7	7.6	6.2	2.8	4.7
X	19.3	15.4	8.9	0.2	10.4	15.1	-0.1	5.9	7.6	3.5	2.9	5.7
XI	17.3	13.1	8.8	0.3	8.5	12.9	-0.1	4.4	5.7	3.0	2.8	5.5
XII	18.0	14.2	9.1	0.2	8.9	13.9	-0.1	5.1	5.8	2.6	3.1	6.2
2004												
I	18.0	16.8	9.0	0.2	8.9	16.5	0.3	9.5	5.9	2.5	2.8	4.6
II	17.5	15.4	8.8	0.2	8.8	15.2	0.3	8.5	5.5	2.3	3.0	4.4
III	18.8	19.1	9.0	0.2	9.8	18.8	0.4	12.1	5.6	2.3	3.8	4.4

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNT: DIRECT INVESTMENT

(net flows; in millions of lats)

	Direct investment							
			Equity capital		Reinvested earnings		Other capital	
			Abroad	In Latvia	Abroad	In Latvia	Abroad	In Latvia
2003								
I	-0.9	21.3	-0.4	7.7	0	5.2	-0.4	8.3
II	-2.4	20.8	-1.9	7.9	0	4.4	-0.4	8.5
III	-0.9	24.4	-0.5	9.3	0	5.7	-0.4	9.4
IV	-0.2	18.8	-0.7	9.9	-0.1	8.3	0.6	0.6
V	-0.9	25.2	-1.5	15.0	-0.1	9.6	0.6	0.6
VI	-0.5	20.0	-1.1	8.2	-0.1	10.5	0.6	1.4
VII	-2.7	10.8	-1.5	7.2	-0.4	11.0	-0.8	-7.5
VIII	-3.4	7.2	-2.2	4.3	-0.4	10.4	-0.8	-7.5
IX	-3.1	6.6	-1.9	3.9	-0.4	10.8	-0.9	-8.1
X	-0.5	24.9	-0.5	11.4	0.1	3.9	-0.2	9.6
XI	-1.4	15.2	-1.3	12.0	0.1	2.4	-0.2	0.8
XII	-1.2	10.2	-1.1	7.5	0.1	3.0	-0.2	-0.3
2004								
I	-1.1	11.1	-0.9	-2.5	-0.3	7.5	0	6.0
II	-9.5	17.6	-9.5	7.2	-0.3	6.9	0.3	3.6
III	-2.3	22.3	-1.7	6.0	-0.3	7.9	-0.4	8.3

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNT: PORTFOLIO INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL DERIVATIVES

(net flows; in millions of lats)

	Portfolio investment										Financial derivatives	
	Assets		Liabilities		Equity securities		Debt securities				Assets	Liabilities
					Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Bonds and notes		Money market instruments		
2003												
I	-33.5	1.5	2.8	-0.1	-36.3	-36.5	0.1	1.5	1.5	0	0.2	2.0
II	-34.1	-0.9	-1.2	0.1	-32.8	-20.4	-12.4	-1.0	-1.0	0	0.7	-2.4
III	25.8	2.8	-1.2	0.6	27.0	15.3	11.8	2.2	2.2	0	-2.9	-2.7
IV	-15.5	0.6	0	0.3	-15.5	-15.2	-0.3	0.2	0.3	0	0.2	6.5
V	13.7	3.3	-0.8	1.4	14.6	17.5	-3.0	1.9	1.9	0	-1.8	6.4
VI	-31.4	9.5	0.1	4.5	-31.6	-28.6	-3.0	5.0	5.1	0	-0.5	-6.3
VII	-26.5	1.0	-0.4	-0.2	-26.1	-29.1	3.0	1.1	1.1	0	1.7	-2.0
VIII	-31.2	-0.1	3.0	-0.9	-34.2	-34.6	0.4	0.8	0.8	0	-1.7	-2.8
IX	-42.9	1.8	-0.8	1.5	-42.1	-42.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0	1.6	4.5
X	-55.0	3.3	-2.9	-0.1	-52.1	-53.0	1.0	3.4	3.4	0	-1.0	-0.9
XI	23.1	1.3	-0.6	0.2	23.7	23.4	0.4	1.2	1.2	0	4.3	0.4
XII	41.1	10.6	5.3	9.0	35.8	35.5	0.3	1.6	1.6	0	-3.4	3.5
2004												
I	15.4	0.2	-2.0	0.6	17.4	17.4	0	-0.3	-0.6	0.3	-1.3	-5.6
II	10.6	-0.6	-2.5	-1.8	13.2	12.6	0.5	1.2	1.2	0.1	-1.5	2.0
III	2.2	2.8	-0.7	2.8	2.8	4.9	-2.1	0	0	0	1.4	-3.6

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNT: OTHER INVESTMENT

(net flows; in millions of lats)

	Other investment											
	Assets		Liabilities		Monetary authorities		General government		Banks		Other sectors	
					Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
2003												
I	-61.6	48.1	0.1	-1.3	-0.3	-7.2	-54.7	57.1	-6.7	-0.4		
II	159.5	-81.0	0	0.3	-0.5	-0.3	170.5	-79.0	-10.6	-2.0		
III	-126.2	10.3	0	-0.6	0	-2.8	-118.6	16.4	-7.7	-2.7		
IV	-1.7	75.1	-0.1	2.1	-0.2	-1.7	2.3	63.9	-3.7	10.8		
V	4.5	48.5	0	-1.9	0.1	-0.4	7.7	42.7	-3.3	8.1		
VI	-98.2	111.3	0.1	-1.6	0	-0.2	-94.0	103.1	-4.4	10.0		
VII	-57.4	147.7	0	-1.4	0.3	-0.2	-59.8	142.4	2.1	7.0		
VIII	-30.1	121.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	3.3	-32.1	103.2	2.0	14.7		
IX	-26.9	133.8	0	0.2	-0.2	-2.7	-27.0	132.1	0.3	4.2		
X	26.9	-32.0	0	-0.1	0	-2.0	19.7	-34.3	7.1	4.4		
XI	-124.7	215.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	-128.1	210.3	3.2	4.4		
XII	-40.5	33.4	0.1	-1.7	0.7	-47.9	-43.6	80.9	2.3	2.0		
2004												
I	-100.8	96.1	0	-1.5	0	0.9	-86.7	78.9	-14.1	17.8		
II	7.0	7.2	0	-0.3	0.2	-0.5	6.9	7.7	0	0.2		
III	-112.9	177.1	0	0.1	0	-0.4	-115.5	177.7	2.6	-0.3		

In some cases, electronic data processing technologies may have led to slight discrepancies between the total amount shown and the sum of the subitems. Latvia's balance of payments (key items) is first published on the Bank of Latvia's website ([www.bank.lv](http://www.bank.lv)).