

# MODEL CALCULATIONS OF SHORT-TERM FORECASTS OF RUSSIAN ECONOMIC TIME SERIES

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### INTRODUCTION TO ALL THE ISSUES

This paper presents calculations of various economic indicators for the Russian Federation in *August* of 2019 to *January of* 2020, which were performed using time series models developed as a result of research conducted by the Gaidar Institute over the past few years. A method of forecasting falls within the group of *formal* or *statistical* methods. In other words, the calculated values neither express the *opinion* nor *expert evaluation* of the researcher, rather they are calculations of future values for a specific economic indicator, which were performed using formal ARIMA-models (p, d, q) given a prevailing trend and its, in some cases, significant changes. The presented forecasts are of inertial nature, because respective models rely upon the dynamics of the data registered prior to the moment of forecasting and depend too heavily on the trends, which are typical of the time series in the period immediately preceding the time horizon to be forecast. The foregoing calculations of future values of economic indicators for the Russian Federation can be used in making decisions on economic policy, provided that the general trends, which were seen prior to forecasting for each specific indicator, remain the same, i.e. prevailing long-term trends will see no serious shocks or changes in the future.

Despite that there is a great deal of data available on the period preceding the crisis of 1998, models of forecasting were analyzed and constructed using only the time horizon which followed August 1998. This can be explained by the findings of previous studies<sup>2</sup>, which concluded, among other key inferences, that the quality of forecasts was deteriorated in most of the cases when the data on the pre-crisis period was used. Additionally, it currently seems incorrect to use even shorter series (following the crisis of 2008), because statistical characteristics of models based on such a short time horizon are very poor.

Models for the economic indicators in question were evaluated using standard methods of time series analysis. Initially, the correlograms of the studied series and their first differences were analyzed in order to determine the maximum number of delayed values to be included into the specifications of a model. Then, the results of analyzed correlograms served as the basis for testing all the series for weak stationarity (or stationarity around the trend) using the Dickey–Fuller test. In some cases, the series were tested for stationarity around the segmented trend using Perron and Zivot–Andrews tests for endogenous structural changes.<sup>3</sup>

The series were broken down into weak stationary, stationary near the trend, stationary near the trend with structural change or difference stationary, and then models, which corresponded to each type (regarding the levels and including, if necessary, the trend or segmented trend or differences), were evaluated. The Akaike and Schwartz information criteria, the properties of models' residuals (lack of autocorrelation, homoscedasticity and normality) and the quality of the in-sample-forecasts based on these models were used to choose the best model. Forecast values were calculated for the best of the models constructed for each economic indicator.

Additionally, the Bulletin presents future monthly values of the CPI, which were calculated using models developed at the Gaidar Institute, and volumes of imports/exports from/to all countries, which were calculated using structural models (SM). The forecast values based on the structural models may, in some cases, produce better results than ARIMA-models do, because structural models are constructed by adding information of the dynamics of exogenous variables. Besides, the use of structural forecasts in making aggregated forecasts (i.e. forecasts obtained as average value from several models) may help make forecast values more accurate.

See, for example, R.M. Entov, S.M. Drobyshevsky, V.P. Nosko, A.D. Yudin. The Econometric Analysis of the Time Series of the Main Macroeconomic Indexes. Moscow, IET, 2001; R.M. Entov, V.P. Nosko, A.D. Yudin, P.A. Kadochnikov, S.S. Ponomarenko. Problems of Forecasting of Some Macroeconomic Indexes. Moscow, IET, 2002; V. Nosko, A. Buzaev, P. Kadochnikov, S. Ponomarenko. Analysis of the Forecasting Parameters of Structural Models and Models with the Outputs of the Polls of Industries. Moscow, IET, 2003; M.Yu. Turuntseva and T.R. Kiblitskaya, Qualitative Properties of Different Approaches to Forecasting of Social and Economic Indexes of the Russian Federation. Moscow, IET, 2010.

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See: Perron, P. Further Evidence on Breaking Trend Functions in Macroeconomic Variables // Journal of Econometrics. 1997. No.80. P. 355–385; Zivot, E. and D.W.K. Andrews. Further Evidence on the Great Crash, the Oil-Price Shock, and Unit-Root Hypothesis // Journal of Business and Economic Statistics. 1992. No.10. P. 251–270.

### INTRODUCTION TO ALL THE ISSUES

The dynamics of the Consumer Price Index was modeled using theoretical assumptions arising from the monetary theory. The following was used as explanatory variables: money supply, output volume, the dynamics of the ruble-dollar exchange rate, which reflects the dynamics of alternative cost of money-keeping. The model for the Consumer Price Index also included the price index in the electric power industry, because the dynamics of manufacturers' costs relies heavily on this indicator.

The baseline indicator to be noted is the real exchange rate, which can influence the value of exports and imports, and its fluctuations can result in changes to the relative value of domestically-produced and imported goods, though the influence of this indicator turns out to be insignificant in econometric models. Global prices of exported resources, particularly crude oil prices, are most significant factors, which determine the dynamics of exports: a higher price leads to greater exports of goods. The level of personal income in the economy (labor costs) was used to describe the relative competitive power of Russian goods. Fictitious variables D12 and D01 – equal to one in December and January and zero in other periods – were added so that seasonal fluctuations were factored in. The dynamics of imports is effected by personal and corporate incomes whose increase triggers higher demand for all goods including imported ones. The real disposable cash income reflects the personal income; the Industrial Production Index reflects the corporate income.

The forecast values of foreign exchange rates were also calculated using structural models of their dependence on global crude oil prices.

The forecast values of explanatory variables, which are required for forecasting on the basis of structural models, were calculated using ARIMA-models (p, d, q).

The paper also presents calculations of the values of the Industrial Production Index, the Producer Price Index and the Total Unemployment Index, which were calculated using the results of business surveys conducted by the Gaidar Institute. Empirical studies show<sup>1</sup> that the use of series of business surveys as explanatory variables <sup>2</sup> in forecasting models can make forecasting more accurate on the average. Future values of these indicators were calculated using ADL-models (seasonal autoregressive delays were added).

The Consumer Price Index and the Producer Price Index are also forecast using large datasets (factor models – FM). The construction of factor models relies basically on the evaluation of the principal components of a large dataset of socio-economic indicators (112 indicators in this case). The lags of these principal components and the lags of the explanatory variable are used as explanatory variables in these models. A quality analysis of the forecasts obtained for different configurations of the factor models was used to choose a model for the CPI, which included 9<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> lags of the four principal components, as well as 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> lags of the variable itself, and a model for the PPI, which included 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> lags of the variable itself.

All calculations were performed using the Eviews econometric package.

See, for example: V. Nosko, A. Buzaev, P. Kadochnikov, S. Ponomarenko. The Analysis of Forecasting Parameters of Structural Models and Models with Business Surveys' Findings. Moscow, IEP, 2003.

Used as explanatory variables were the following series of the business surveys: the current/expected change in production, the expected changes in the solvent demand, the current/expected price changes and the expected change in employment.

Table 1

Calculations of forecast values of indexes of industrial production<sup>1</sup> (%)

| IIP for machinery   |         | NBU HSE |   | 3.3         | 1.0            | 3.3          | -1.0          | -17.9        | 1.0          |   | -1.5        | 7.9           | -6.2         | -1.3         | 19.1          | 4.8          |
|---|---------|---------|---|-------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---|-------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| IIP for m   |         | fstssoA |   | -6.0        | -7.4           | -1.1         | 6.2           | 4.5          | 9.4          |   | 13.3        | 15.7          | -9.3         | -5.6         | -6.2          | -10.6        |
| orimary<br>s and<br>id metal<br>ucts                          |         | NBU HSE |   | -1.4        | 1.2            | 1.2          | 6.0           | 1:1          | 9.0          |   | 3.2         | 5.6           | 6.2          | 2.5          | 0.2           | 2.1          |
| IIP for primary<br>metals and<br>fabricated metal<br>products |         | IstzzoA |   | 7.3         | 8.2            | -1.9         | 3.2           | 9.2          | 5.0          |   | -5.2        | -6.5          | 19.6         | 7.2          | -8.3          | 2.3          |
| oke and<br>leum   |         | NBU HSE |   | -0.4        | -4.5           | -2.7         | -5.1          | -5.3         | -3.5         |   | -1.5        | 3.0           | 0.3          | 2.9          | 3.5           | 1.2          |
| IIP for coke and<br>petroleum                                 |         | IstseoA |   | -3.6        | -2.6           | -0.2         | -1.8          | -3.6         | -2.4         |   | -0.4        | 3.5           | 1.5          | 0.3          | 0.2           | 1.2          |
| food<br>ucts  |         | NBU HSE | _   | 1.9         | 2.1            | 0.0          | 5.4           | 5.6          | 5.3          | 017-2018  | 1.2         | 2.5           | 4.6          | 1.4          | -1.8          | -1.7         |
| IIP for food products   |         | Rosstat | growth on the respective month of the previous year | 2.2         | 3.3            | 1.9          | 1.6           | 2.6          | 5.0          | al growth in 2018-2019 on the respective month of 2017–2018 | 6.1         | 6.7           | 6.9          | 9.9          | 4.5           | 2.8          |
| rtilities<br>.y, water,<br>gas)                               |         | NBU HSE | h of the pr   | 6:0         | 1.7            | 5.1          | -0.1          | -1.8         | -0.7         | espective   | 9.0         | -0.3          | -3.9         | 2.7          | 5.5           | 1:1          |
| IIP for utilities<br>(electricity, water,<br>and gas)         |         | Rosstat | ctive mont  | 3.0         | 5.0            | 4.5          | 2.0           | 0.0          | 1.5          | 19 on the r   | 0.1         | -0.4          | -3.2         | 2.4          | 4.5           | 1.3          |
| for<br>cturing  |         | NBU HSE | the respe   | -0.3        | 2.4            | -0.8         | 0.1           | -1.0         | 0.0          | n 2018-20   | 2.9         | 3.7           | 5.7          | 2.7          | 4.2           | 1.2          |
| IIP for<br>manufacturing                                      |         | Rosstat |   | 1.0         | 6.0            | -0.3         | 2.4           | 1.5          | 5.4          | al growth   | 2.2         | -0.1          | 2.7          | 0.0          | 0.0           | -1.0         |
| nin<br>g  |         | NBU HSE | Expected  | 0.2         | 0.8            | 8.0          | 1.1           | 6:0          | 1.0          | For reference: actu   | 3.4         | 5.6           | 5.4          | 0.9          | 5.7           | 4.3          |
| IIP for mining  |         | Rosstat |   | 1.7         | 1.3            | 1.1          | 1.1           | 1.1          | 2.1          | For refer   | 4.5         | 6.9           | 7.4          | 7.8          | 6.3           | 8.4          |
| tion  | HSE     | BZ      |   | 1.9         | 2.3            | 1.6          | 1.1           | 2.6          | 1.9          |   | 6           | 0             | 7            | 8            | 8             | 3            |
| rial produc   | NRU HSE | АМІЯА   |   | 0.5         | 1.8            | 1.0          | 1.2           | 1.4          | 0.7          |   | 2.9         | 4.0           | 4.7          | 3.8          | 4.8           | 2.3          |
| Index of industrial production                                | stat    | BZ      |   | 1.9         | 2.4            | 1.6          | 6.0           | 2.6          | 1.8          |   | 7           | $\leftarrow$  | 7            | 4            | 0             | П            |
| lude:   | Rosstat | АМІЯА   |   | 0.7         | 1.1            | 6.0          | 1.5           | 1.7          | 1.4          |   | 2.7         | 2.1           | 3.7          | 2.4          | 2.0           | 1.1          |
|   |         |         |   | 2019        | September 2019 | - 2019       | November 2019 | er2019       | 2020         |   | 2018        | ber2018       | - 2018       | ner2018      | December 2018 | 2019         |
|   |         |         |   | August 2019 | Septem         | October 2019 | Novemb        | December2019 | January 2020 |   | August 2018 | September2018 | October 2018 | November2018 | Decemb        | January 2019 |

Note. In the time spans under review, the series of the Rosstat and the NRU HSE chain indexes of IIP, as well as the NRU HSE chain IIP for manufacturing are identified as stationary processes around the trend with an endogenous structural change; the series of the Rosstat and the NRU HSE chain IIPs for manufacturing, for primary metals and fabricated metal products, as well as the NRU HSE chain IIP for mining and Rosstat chain IIP for machinery and equipment are identified as stationary processes around the trend with two endogenous structural changes. The time series of other chain indexes are stationary at levels.

1 It is to be noted that for making of forecasts so-called "raw" indexes (without seasonal and calendar adjustment) were used and for that reason in most models existence of the season factor is taken into account and, as a consequence, the obtained outputs reflect the seasonal dynamics of the series.

### INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND RETAIL SALES

#### INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND RETAIL SALES

### **Industrial production**

For making forecast for August of 2019 to January to 2020, the series of monthly data of the indexes of industrial production released by the Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat) from January 2002 to May 2019, as well as the series of the base indexes of industrial production released by the National Research University Higher School of Economics (NRU HSE¹) over the period from January 2010 to June 2019 were used (the corrected value of January 2010 was equal to 100%). The forecast values of the series were calculated on the basis of ARIMA-class models. The forecast values of the Rosstat and the NRU HSE indexes of industrial production are calculated using business surveys (BS) as well. The obtained results are shown in Table 1.

As seen from *Table 1*, the Rosstat average<sup>2</sup> increment in the industrial production index posted 1.5% for August-January2020 against the same period of the previous year for the industry as a whole. As for the NRU HSE the industrial production index, the indicator constitutes 1.5%. At year-end 2018 projected growth of IPI according to Rosstat will amount to 2.2% and IPI of NRU HSE – 2.0%.

The average monthly gain in the Rosstat and the NRU HSE industrial production indexes for mining and quarrying amount to 1.4% and 0.8%, respectively in August 2019 – January 2020.

The average gain in the industrial production index in manufacturing industry according to Rosstat for August 2019 – January 2020 amounts to 1.8% compared to the same period of the previous year and the NRU HSE industrial production index in manufacturing industry comes to 0.1%. The monthly production of food products is forecast to grow on average by 2.8% and 3.1% for the Rosstat and NRU HSE indexes, respectively. The production of coke and petroleum products is forecast to decline on average by -2.4% and -3.6% for the Rosstat and NRU HSE indexes, respectively. The average monthly change in the industrial production index for primary metals and fabricated metal products for August 2019 – January 2020 computed by Rosstat and the NRU HSE constitute 5.1% and 0.6%, respectively. Manufacturing of machinery and equipment is forecast to grow by 0.9% and (-1.7%) for the Rosstat and the NRU HSE indexes, respectively.

The average gain in the industrial production index for electricity, gas, and steam supply; for air conditioning computed by Rosstat for August 2019 – January 2020 in comparison with the same period of the previous year constitutes 2.7%; the same indicator for the NRU HSE industrial production index comes to 0.8% per month.

Increase in the Rosstat industrial production indexes will average 1.3% (by types of economic activity) in 2019, and the NRU HSE industrial production indexes – 1.0%.

#### **Retail Sales**

This section (Table 2) presents forecasts of monthly retail sales made on the basis of monthly Rosstat data over January 1999 – July 2019.

As seen from *Table 2*, the average forecast increment of retail sales turnover in nominal terms for August 2019 to January 2020 against the corresponding period of 2018–2019 amounts to around 4.8% and the real sales turnover – 2.3%. Year-on-year, the nominal retail sales turnover will gain 4.5%, and the real one – 2.3%.

Table 2
Calculations of forecast values of retail sales and real retail sales

| Forecast            | Forecast value according to ARIMA-model  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|                     | Retail sales, billion<br>RUB (in brackets –<br>growth on the<br>respective month of<br>the previous year, %) | Real retail sales (as<br>% of the respective<br>period of the<br>previous year) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2019         | 2892.2 (5.4)   | 101.6   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2019      | 2861.0 (5.2)   | 101.7   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2019        | 2884.7 (5.1)   | 102.7   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2019       | 2890.0 (4.6)   | 102.4   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2019       | 3459.4 (4.5)   | 102.7   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2020        | 2601.0 (3.9)   | 102.5   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| For reference: actu | al values in the same r  | nonths of 2018-2019   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2018         | 2744.0   | 103.0   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2018      | 2719.1   | 102.3   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2018        | 2744.9   | 102.2   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2018       | 2762.8   | 103.3   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2018       | 3311.6   | 102.7   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2019        | 2502.8   | 102.0   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Note**. The series of retail sales and real retail sales over January 1999 – July 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The indexes in question are calculated by E.A. Baranov and V.A. Bessonov.

Average growth of industrial production indexes is the average value of these indexes for six months under review.

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Table 3
Calculations of forecast values of volumes of foreign trade turnover with countries outside the CIS

| the CIS                                | Percentage of actual<br>data in the respective<br>month of the previous<br>year | SM    | 103         | 107               | 100             | 105              | 105              | 108             |  |             |                   |                 |                  |                  |             |
|--|---|-------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| ries outside                           |   | ARIMA | 105         | 110               | 103             | 103              | 104              | 112             |  | 19.5        | 17.8              | 19.2            | 19.0             | 20.1             | 14.6        |
| Imports from countries outside the CIS | Forecast values (billion<br>USD a month)  | SM    | 20.0        | 19.0              | 19.3            | 19.9             | 21.0             | 15.7            |  | 19          | 17                | 15              | 15               | 70               | 12          |
| Import                                 | Forecast va<br>USD a  | ARIMA | 20.4        | 19.5              | 19.8            | 19.5             | 20.9             | 16.4            |  |             |                   |                 |                  |                  |             |
| Je CIS                                 | Percentage of actual<br>data in the respective<br>month of the previous<br>year | SM    | 109         | 108               | 101             | 103              | 107              | 127             |  |             |                   |                 |                  |                  |             |
| Exports to countries outside the CIS   | Percentag<br>data in the<br>month of th   | ARIMA | 95          | 95                | 26              | 66               | 104              | 115             | (OSI   | 32.7        | 6:                | 35.8            | 35.5             | 35.8             | 2           |
| ts to countri                          | Forecast values (billion<br>USD a month)  | SM    | 35.5        | 36.5              | 36.2            | 36.6             | 38.3             | 34.6            | 18 (billion USD)                             | 32          | 33.9              | 35              |                  |                  | 27.2        |
| Expor                                  | Forecast values (bi<br>USD a month)   | ARIMA | 31.2        | 32.4              | 34.6            | 35.1             | 37.4             | 31.4            | onths of 20                                  |             |                   |                 |                  |                  |             |
| 10                                     | Percentage of actual<br>data in the respective<br>month of the previous<br>year | SM    | 100         | 107               | 101             | 103              | 105              | 112             | : actual values in respective months of 2018 |             |                   |                 |                  |                  |             |
| all countries                          | Percentage of actual<br>data in the respective<br>month of the previou<br>year  | ARIMA | 103         | 110               | 104             | 105              | 102              | 117             | al values in                                 | .7          | &                 | 7.              | 5:               | 4.               | 4.          |
| Imports from all countries             | ast values (billion<br>USD a month)   | SM    | 21.7        | 21.2              | 21.6            | 22.0             | 23.6             | 18.4            | For reference: actu                          | 21.7        | 19.8              | 21.5            | 21.3             | 22.4             | 16.4        |
| =                                      | Forecast values (billion<br>USD a month)  | ARIMA | 22.3        | 21.7              | 22.4            | 22.3             | 22.9             | 19.2            | For re                                       |             |                   |                 |                  |                  |             |
|  | of actual<br>respective<br>re previous<br>ar                                    | SM    | 112         | 107               | 103             | 107              | 109              | 127             |  |             |                   |                 |                  |                  |             |
| ll countries                           | Percentage of actual<br>data in the respective<br>month of the previous<br>year | ARIMA | 95          | 93                | 93              | 101              | 103              | 120             |  | .5          | 9:                | 5:              | 5:               | ∞.               | 8.          |
| Exports to all countries               | Forecast values (billion<br>USD a month)  | SM    | 41.8        | 41.5              | 42.5            | 43.1             | 44.7             | 39.1            |  | 37.5        | 38.6              | 41.3            | 40.3             | 40.8             | 30.8        |
|  | Forecast values (bi<br>USD a month)   | ARIMA | 35.7        | 36.1              | 38.2            | 40.6             | 42.0             | 36.9            |  |             |                   |                 |                  |                  |             |
|  | Month   |       | August 2019 | September<br>2019 | October<br>2019 | November<br>2019 | December<br>2019 | January<br>2020 |  | August 2018 | September<br>2018 | October<br>2018 | November<br>2018 | December<br>2018 | Январь 2019 |

Note. Over the period from January 1999 to June 2019, the series of exports, imports, exports to the countries outside the CIS and imports from the countries outside the CIS were identified as stationary series in the first-order differences. In all the cases, seasonal components were included in the specification of the models.

### **INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND RETAIL SALES**

Calculations of forecast values of price indexes

|                         | for transport equipment for grinuserl          |   | 2.66        | 100.1             | 101.0        | 100.5            | 100.8            | 100.3        |                    | 103.9       | 104.0             | 105.0        | 105.5            | 106.4            | 100.3        |                           | 102.7       | 102.5             | 102.9        | 103.1            | 103.7            | 101.0        |
|-------------------------|--|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
|                         | for machinery and equipment                    |   | 100.3       | 100.2             | 100.2        | 100.3            | 100.3            | 101.3        |                    | 102.6       | 102.8             | 103.1        | 103.3            | 103.6            | 101.3        |                           | 110.5       | 109.0             | 106.2        | 105.0            | 105.5            | 101.2        |
|                         | betsoindef and fabricated for basic metals     |   | 100.1       | 101.0             | 101.1        | 100.5            | 100.3            | 100.7        |                    | 100.3       | 101.3             | 102.3        | 102.8            | 103.1            | 100.7        |                           | 109.8       | 111.5             | 109.9        | 108.8            | 108.6            | 98.7         |
|                         | for chemical industry                          |   | 100.7       | 100.7             | 100.7        | 101.2            | 100.3            | 101.1        |                    | 100.7       | 101.4             | 102.1        | 103.3            | 103.6            | 101.1        |                           | 110.2       | 112.4             | 115.2        | 115.5            | 113.3            | 8.66         |
|                         | for coke and refined petroleum                 |   | 102.6       | 101.6             | 102.1        | 101.7            | 6.86             | 8.96         |                    | 104.6       | 106.3             | 108.6        | 110.4            | 109.1            | 8.96         |                           | 121.5       | 127.6             | 135.9        | 136.3            | 123.4            | 6.06         |
|                         | for pulp and paper industry                    |   | 100.5       | 100.7             | 100.6        | 100.3            | 100.5            | 100.7        |                    | 101.1       | 101.8             | 102.4        | 102.7            | 103.2            | 100.7        | 018)                      | 109.8       | 111.6             | 113.1        | 114.9            | 115.6            | 101.6        |
| dexes:                  | for wood products                              |   | 100.7       | 100.2             | 100.7        | 100.4            | 100.0            | 100.4        |                    | 101.7       | 102.0             | 102.7        | 103.1            | 103.1            | 100.4        | of December 2017/2018)    | 109.1       | 109.4             | 110.3        | 111.2            | 111.3            | 100.4        |
| Producer price indexes: | for textile and sewing industry                |   | 100.3       | 100.7             | 100.6        | 100.6            | 100.0            | 100.4        | (6)                | 102.1       | 102.8             | 103.4        | 104.0            | 104.1            | 100.4        | of Decem                  | 103.6       | 105.3             | 104.4        | 106.5            | 107.0            | 100.5        |
| Produc                  | stoubord boof rof                              | ious month                                | 100.3       | 100.6             | 100.5        | 100.2            | 100.4            | 100.5        | r 2018/2019)       | 100.0       | 100.6             | 101.1        | 101.3            | 101.7            | 100.5        | .8/2019 (%                | 103.5       | 104.3             | 105.3        | 106.8            | 107.5            | 100.3        |
|                         | for utilities (electricity, water,<br>and gas) | Forecast values (% of the previous month) | 101.2       | 101.0             | 101.4        | 100.1            | 100.0            | 100.1        | f December         | 103.3       | 104.4             | 105.8        | 105.9            | 106.0            | 1001         | same periods of 2018/2019 | 101.4       | 102.0             | 104.1        | 103.8            | 103.5            | 99.1         |
|                         | gninutaetunem 101                              | values (%                                 | 100.2       | 100.5             | 100.7        | 100.6            | 100.0            | 100.6        | alues (% of        | 100.9       | 101.4             | 102.1        | 102.7            | 102.8            | 100.6        | e same per                | 109.0       | 110.6             | 112.4        | 112.7            | 110.5            | 9.86         |
|                         | for mining and quarrying                       | Forecast                                  | 99.5        | 100.1             | 100.4        | 6.66             | 87.6             | 6.66         | Forecast values (% | 105.9       | 106.0             | 106.4        | 106.4            | 104.0            | 6.66         | a                         | 116.7       | 118.4             | 128.2        | 131.1            | 121.0            | 95.9         |
|                         | (MA) sboog Jsirtsubni rof                      |   | 100.7       | 100.6             | 100.7        | 100.6            | 100.7            | 100.3        |                    | 103.9       | 104.5             | 105.2        | 105.8            | 106.6            | 100.3        | For reference: actual v   |             |                   |              |                  |                  |              |
|                         | (S8) sboog leintsubni nof                      |   | 99.4        | 100.5             | 101.2        | 100.5            | 99.2             | 6.66         |                    | 97.4        | 67.6              | 99.1         | 9.66             | 8.86             | 6.66         | or referenc               | 109.5       | 110.9             | 114.6        | 115.4            | 111.6            | 0.86         |
|                         | (AMIЯA) sboog Jsirtsubni rof                   |   | 101.2       | 101.1             | 101.1        | 6.66             | 9.66             | 100.3        |                    | 105.1       | 106.3             | 107.5        | 107.4            | 106.9            | 100.3        | ш                         |             |                   |              |                  |                  |              |
|                         | (MA) xəbni əsirq rəmuznos ədT                  |   | 100.4       | 100.6             | 100.6        | 100.4            | 100.5            | 100.5        |                    | 103.5       | 104.2             | 104.8        | 105.2            | 105.7            | 100.5        |                           |             |                   |              |                  |                  |              |
|                         | (MZ) xəbni əsirq rəmusnos ədT                  |   | 100.1       | 100.3             | 100.3        | 100.4            | 100.4            | 100.3        |                    | 102.7       | 103.0             | 103.4        | 103.8            | 104.2            | 100.3        |                           | 102.4       | 102.6             | 103.0        | 103.6            | 104.4            | 101.0        |
| (1                      | AMIЯA) xəbni əsirq rəmusnos ədT                |   | 1001        | 100.4             | 100.3        | 100.3            | 100.6            | 101.4        |                    | 103.6       | 103.9             | 104.3        | 104.6            | 105.2            | 101.4        |                           |             |                   |              |                  |                  |              |
|                         | Month  |   | August 2019 | September<br>2019 | October 2019 | November<br>2019 | December<br>2019 | January 2020 |                    | August 2019 | September<br>2019 | October 2019 | November<br>2019 | December<br>2019 | January 2020 |                           | August 2018 | September<br>2018 | October 2018 | November<br>2018 | December<br>2018 | January 2019 |

Note. Over the period from January 1999 to May 2019, the series of the chain producer price index for machinery are identified as a stationary process around the trend with two endogenous structural changes. The series of other chain price indexes are stationary at levels.

## )7/2019

### **FOREIGN TRADE INDEXES**

Model calculations of forecast values of the export and export to countries outside the CIS and the import and import from countries outside the CIS were made on the basis of the models of time series and structural models evaluated on the basis of the monthly data over the period from September 1998 to June 2019 on the basis of the data released by the Central Bank of Russia.¹ The results of calculations are shown in Table 3.

Export, import, export outside the CIS and import from the countries outside the CIS are forecast to grow on average at 5.8%, 5.7%, 5.0%, and 5.4%, respectively for August 2019 – January 2020 against the same period of 2018–2019.

### **DYNAMICS OF PRICES**

#### The Consumer Price Index and Producer Price Index

This section presents calculations of forecast values of the consumer price index and producer price index (as regards both the industry in general and some types of its activities under the National Industry Classification Standard (NICS)) made on the basis of the time-series models evaluated on the basis of the data released by Rosstat over the period from January 1999 to May 2019.<sup>2</sup> Table 4 presents the results of model calculations of forecast values over August 2019 to January 2020 in accordance with ARIMA models, structural models (SM) and models computed with the help of business surveys (BS).

The Rosstat producer price indexes are forecast to grow at average monthly rate for August 2019 – January 2020: for mining and quarrying (-0.4), manufacturing 0.4%, utilities (electricity, gas, and steam)

0.6%, food products 0.4%, textile and sewing industry 0.4%, wood products 0.4%, pulp and paper industry 0.5%, coke and refined petroleum 0.6%, for chemical industry 0.8%, for basic metals and fabricated metal 0.6%, for machinery and equipment 0.4%, and for motor vehicles manufacture 0.4%.

Annual gain in the producer price indexes across types of economic activity will average 4.2%. At year-end 2019, the maximum annual gain is projected in coke and petroleum products (9.1%), and the minimum one – in food products (1.7%).

### The Cost of the Monthly per Capita Minimum Food Basket

This section presents calculations of forecast values of the cost of the monthly per capita minimum food basket over August of 2019 to January of 2020. The forecasts were made on the basis of time series with use the Rosstat data over the period from January 2000 to July 2019. The results are shown in Table 5.

As can be seen from *Table 5*, the minimum set of food products' cost is forecast to grow

Table 5
The forecast of the cost of the monthly per capita minimum food basket

| Forecast value   | es according to ARIMA-model (RUB)            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| August 2019  | 4241.3                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2019   | 4201.6                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2019   | 4200.3                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2019 4224.7   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2019 4273.9   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2020 4311.6  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| For reference: actual values in the same months of 2018–2019 (billion RUB) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2018  | 3943.3                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2018   | 3840.2                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2018   | 3833.2                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2018  | 3883.5                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2018  | 3989.2                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2019   | 4065.7                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Expected growth on th  | ne respective month of the previous year (%) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2019  | 7.6  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2019   | 9.4  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2019   | 9.6  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2019  | 8.8  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2019  | 7.1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2020   | 6.0  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Note.** The series of the cost of the monthly per capita minimum food basket over the period from January 2000 July 2019 are stationary in the first-order differences.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The data on the foreign trade turnover is calculated by the CBR in accordance with the methods for making of the balance of payment in prices of the exporter-country (FOB) in billion USD.

Structural models were evaluated in the period from October 1998.

compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. Having said that, the minimum set of food products is forecast to average RUB 4,242.2. The minimum set of food products cost is forecast to grow on average at around 8.1% against the same period of the previous year. Annual gain in the minimum set of food products cost will amount to 7.1% in 2019.

### **Indexes of Freight Rates**

This section presents calculations of forecast values of freight tariff indexes on cargo carriage,¹ made on the basis of time-series models evaluated on the Rosstat data over the period from September 1998 to July 2019. Table 6 shows the results of model calculations of forecast values in August of 2019 – January 2020. It should be noted that some of the indexes under review (for instance, the index of pipeline tariff) are adjustable ones and for that reason their behavior is hard to describe by means of the time-series models. As a result, the future values may differ greatly from the real ones in case of the centralized increase in tariffs in the period of forecasting or in case of absence of such an increase in the forecasting period, but with it taking place shortly before the beginning of that period.

According to the forecast for August 2019 – January 2020, the composite index of transport tariffs on freight carriage will be declining at an average monthly rate of 0.9%. This being said, its annual growth will come to 0.3%.

The index of motor freight tariffs will be declining during these six months at an average monthly rate of 0.1%. Its annual increment in 2019 is forecast at 1.4%

The index of pipeline tariffs during coming six months will be growing at an average monthly rate of 0.2%. As a result, its annual gain in 2019 will amount to 11.3%.

### **World Prices of Natural Resources**

This section presents calculations of such average monthly values of Brent crude prices (US\$ per barrel), the aluminum prices (US\$ per ton), the gold prices (\$ per ounce), the copper prices (US\$ per ton), and the nickel prices (US\$ per ton) over August of 2019 to January of 2020 as were received on the basis of nonlinear models of time series evaluated on the basis of the IMF data over the period from January 1980 to June 2019.

The crude oil price is forecast to average around \$56.1 per barrel, which is below its corresponding year-earlier indexes on average by 16.0%. The aluminum prices are forecast to average around \$1,790 per ton and their average forecast slide constitutes

Table 6
Calculations of forecast values of indexes of freight tariffs

| Period   | The composite index of transport tariff | The index of<br>motor freight<br>tariff  | The index of pipeline tariff |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| For  | ecast values accor<br>% of the pre      | ding to ARIMA-mo   | odels                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2019  | 99.8                                    | 99.9   | 102.6                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2019   | 99.8                                    | 99.9   | 97.5                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2019   | 95.4                                    | 99.9   | 95.5                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2019  | 99.8                                    | 99.8   | 102.7                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2019  | 99.8                                    | 99.8   | 103.7                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2020   | 99.8                                    | 101.4  | 96.9                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forecast values according to ARIMA-models (% of December of the previous year) |   |  |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2019  | 105.7                                   | 102.0  | 112.1                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September  |   |  |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019   | 105.5                                   | 101.9  | 109.3                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2019   | 100.6                                   | 101.7  | 104.4                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2019  | 100.5                                   | 101.6  | 107.3                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2019  | 100.3                                   | 101.4  | 111.3                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2020   | 99.8                                    | 101.4  | 96.9                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| For reference  | ce: actual values in<br>% of the pre    | the same period of the same peri | of 2018–2019                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2018  | 100.2                                   | 100.1  | 100.3                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2018   | 100.1                                   | 100.0  | 99.9                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2018   | 94.8                                    | 100.1  | 88.7                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2018  | 100.7                                   | 99.9   | 100.0                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2018  | 101.0                                   | 100.1  | 102.2                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2019   | 97.6                                    | 100.1  | 90.5                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Note**. Over the period from September 1998 to July 2019, the series of the freight tariff index were identified as stationary ones; the other series were identified as stationary ones over the period from November 1998 July 2019, too; fictitious variables for taking into account particularly dramatic fluctuations were used in respect of all the series.

The paper presents a review of the composite freight rate index on freight transport and the motor load freight rate index, as well as the pipeline rate index. The composite freight rate index is computed on the basis of the freight rate indexes by individual types of transport: rail, pipeline, shipping, domestic water-borne, and motor load freight and air service (for more detailed information, pls. refer, for instance, to: Prices in Russia. The Official Publication of Goskomstat of RF, 1998).

### MODEL CALCULATIONS OF SHORT-TERM FORECASTS...

around 9.0% compared to the same level of last year. The gold price is forecast to average \$1,411 per ounce. The copper price is forecast to average \$6,113 per ton, and prices for nickel – around \$13,092 per ton. The average forecast price increase in gold constitutes around 15.0 %, in copper prices – around 0.3%, and in nickel prices – 11.0% against the corresponding level of last year.

At year-end 2019, the forecast growth in crude oil, gold, copper, and nickel prices compared to late 2018 will come to 7.7%, 14.8%, 2.2%, and 23.5% respectively. Projected decline in process on aluminum constitute 1.6%.

Table 7
Calculations of forecast values of world prices on natural resources

| Month  | Brent oil<br>(\$ per barrel) | Aluminum<br>(\$ per ton) | Gold<br>(\$ per ounce) | Copper<br>(\$ per ton) | Nickel<br>(\$ per ton) |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |                              | Forecast                 | values                 |                        | ,                      |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2019  | 58.43                        | 1773                     | 1389                   | 6143                   | 12983                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2019   | 54.39                        | 1790                     | 1384                   | 6110                   | 12995                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2019   | 58.75                        | 1793                     | 1403                   | 6109                   | 13068                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2019  | 54.27                        | 1790                     | 1429                   | 6102                   | 13121                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2019  | 57.96                        | 1793                     | 1433                   | 6111                   | 13186                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2020   | 52.58                        | 1800                     | 1430                   | 6106                   | 13199                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Expected growth on the respective month of the previous year (%) |                              |                          |                        |                        |                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2019  | -24.5                        | -16.4                    | 15.6                   | 2.6                    | 1.3                    |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2019   | -34.2                        | -12.8                    | 15.4                   | -2.4                   | 3.6                    |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2019   | -22.2                        | -8.3                     | 15.5                   | 1.9                    | 13.2                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2019  | -7.6                         | -8.6                     | 17.1                   | -1.5                   | 18.2                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2019  | 7.7                          | -1.6                     | 14.8                   | 2.2                    | 23.5                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2020   | -15.0                        | -5.3                     | 10.7                   | -0.9                   | 5.9                    |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | For referen                  | ce: actual values in t   | the same period of 20  | 17-2018                |                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2018  | 77.42                        | 2120                     | 1201                   | 5986                   | 12815                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2018   | 82.72                        | 2053                     | 1198                   | 6259                   | 12548                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2018   | 75.47                        | 1956                     | 1215                   | 5998                   | 11543                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2018  | 58.71                        | 1958                     | 1221                   | 6197                   | 11098                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2018  | 53.8                         | 1823                     | 1248                   | 5981                   | 10678                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2019   | 61.89                        | 1901                     | 1292                   | 6165                   | 12468                  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Note**. Over the period from January 1980 to June 2019, the series of prices of crude oil, nickel, gold, copper, and aluminum are series of DS type.

### **MONETARY INDEXES**

The future values of the monetary base (in the narrow definition: cash funds and the Fund of Mandatory Reserves (FMR) and M2 monetary aggregate over the period from August of 2019 to January 2020 were received on the basis of models of time-series of respective indexes calculated by the CBR¹ in the period from October 1998 to July 2019. Table 8 presents the results of calculations of forecast values and actual values of those indexes in the same period of previous year. It is to be noted that due to the fact that the monetary base is an instrument of the CBR policy, forecasts of the monetary base on the basis of time-series models are to a certain extent notional as the future value of that index is determined to a great extent by decisions of the CBR, rather than the inherent specifics of the series.

In August 2019 – January 2020, the monetary base will be growing at an average monthly rate of 1.3%. Annual gain in the monetary base in 2019 will come according to projections to 5.4%. In January 2020, seasonal adjustment of the monetary base is planned by 4.8%.

In the period under review,  $M_2$  monetary index will be growing with an average monthly rate of 0.6%. Annual increment of  $M_2$  index in 2019 is forecast at 6.6%. In January 2020, seasonal adjustment of  $M_2$  monetary index is planned by 2.6%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The data on the specific month is given in accordance with the methods of the CBR as of the beginning of the following month.

### **INTERNATIONAL RESERVES**

This section presents the outputs of the statistical estimation of such future values of the international reserves of the Russian Federation¹ as were received on the basis of evaluation of the model of time series of the gold and foreign exchange reserves on the basis of the data released by the CBR over the period from October 1998 to July of 2019. That index is forecast without taking into account a decrease in the amount of reserves due to foreign debt payment and for that reason the values of the volumes of the international reserves in the months where foreign debt payments are made may happen to be overestimated (or otherwise underestimated) as compared to the actual ones.

Subsequent to the forecast findings for August 2019 – January 2020, the international reserves will be growing at an average monthly rate of 0.5%. In 2019, the international reserves are forest to increase by 14.3%.

Table 8
The forecast of M<sub>3</sub> and the monetary base

|                            | The m          | onetary base                          | M2             |                                       |  |  |  |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Period                     | Billion<br>RUB | Growth on<br>the previous<br>month, % | Billion<br>RUB | Growth on<br>the previous<br>month, % |  |  |  |
| August 2019                | 10375          | 0.4                                   | 47351          | 0.0                                   |  |  |  |
| September 2019             | 10511          | 1.3                                   | 47679          | 0.7                                   |  |  |  |
| October 2019               | 10506          | 0.0                                   | 47351          | -0.7                                  |  |  |  |
| November 2019              | 10649          | 1.4                                   | 47679          | 0.7                                   |  |  |  |
| December 2019              | 10646          | 0.0                                   | 47863          | 0.4                                   |  |  |  |
| January 2020               | 11156          | 4.8                                   | 49104          | 2.6                                   |  |  |  |
| For reference: actu<br>(gr |                | n the respective<br>the previous mo   |                | of 2018–2019                          |  |  |  |
| August 2018                |                | 1.0                                   |                | -0.5                                  |  |  |  |
| September 2018             |                | 1.0                                   |                | 1.0                                   |  |  |  |
| October 2018               |                | 0.0                                   |                | -0.3                                  |  |  |  |
| November 2018              |                | -0.8                                  |                | -0.1                                  |  |  |  |
| December 2018              |                | -0.9                                  | 1.5            |                                       |  |  |  |
| January 2019               |                | 5.2                                   | 4.9            |                                       |  |  |  |

**Note**. Over the period from October 1998 to July 2019, the time series of monetary base were attributed to the class of series which are stationary in the first-order differences and have an explicit seasonal component and the time series of  $M_2$  monetary aggregate from October 1998 to July 2019 was identified as stationary series with explicit seasonal component.

### **FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES**

The model calculations of prospective values of the foreign exchange rates (RUB per USD and USD per euro) were made on the basis of assessment of the time series models (ARIMA) and structural models (SM) of the relevant indicators released by the Central Bank of Russia as of the last date of each month over the periods from October 1998 to July 2019 and from February 1999 to July 2019,2 respectively.

In August 2019 – January 2020, USD/RUB average exchange rate is forecast in the amount of RUB 68.17 per USD. Projected for late 2019 value of this index will average to RUB 68.66 per USD according to two models.

Projected Euro/USD exchange rate over the period under review will average USD 1.10 per 1 euro. In late 2019, value of the index is forecast to average at USD 1.10 per 1 euro according to two models.

Table 9
The forecast of the international reserves of the Russian Federation

|                       | Forecast values according to ARIMA-model |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Period                | Billion USD                              | Growth on the previous month, % |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2019           | 519,8                                    | 0,3                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2019        | 526,4                                    | 1,3                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2019          | 529,8                                    | 0,7                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2019         | 529,2                                    | -0,1                            |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2019         | 532,1                                    | 0,5                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2020          | 535,6                                    | 0,7                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| For reference: actual | values in the same pe                    | riod of 2018-2019               |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | Billion USD                              | Growth on the previous month, % |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2018           | 458.0                                    | 0.3                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2018        | 460.6                                    | 0.6                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2018          | 459.2                                    | -0.3                            |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2018         | 459.6                                    | 0.1                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2018         | 462.1                                    | 0.6                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2019          | 468.5                                    | 1.4                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| Note. Over the period | from October 1998 to                     | o July 2019, the series         |  |  |  |  |  |

**Note**. Over the period from October 1998 to July 2019, the series of the gold and foreign exchange reserves of the Russian Federation were identified as stationary series in difference.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The data on the volume of the gold and foreign exchange reserves is presented as of the first day of the following month.

The Bulletin uses the IMF data related to Euro/USD exchange rate for the period from January 1999 to June 2019, and on USD/RUB exchange rate from October 1998 to July 2019. Data on Euro/USD exchange rate for June-July 2019 and on USD/RUB exchange rate for July 2019 were taken from the exchange rate website www.oanda.com.

### THE LIVING STANDARD INDEXES

This section (Table 11) presents calculations of forecast values of indexes of real disposable cash income and real cash income<sup>1</sup>as were received on the basis of models of time series of respective indexes computed by Rosstat and taken over the period from January 1999 to January 2019 (for real accrued wage from January 1999 to June 2019. The above indexes depend to a certain extent on the centralized decisions on raising of wages and salaries to public sector workers, as well as those on raising of pensions, scholarships and allowances; such a situation introduces some changes in the dynamics of the indexes under review. As a result, the future values of the indexes of real wages and real disposable income calculated on the basis of the series which last observations are either considerably higher or lower than the previous ones due to such a raising may differ greatly from those which are implemented in reality.

According to the results presented in *Table 11*, projected real disposable cash income will be growing on average at 1.3% on a monthly rate compared to the previous year; real cash income – 1.1%; real accrued wages will amount to 4.4%.

At year-end 2019, projected increase in real disposable cash income will amount to 1.1%, real cash income – by 0.9%, and growth of real wage – by 2.9%.

### **EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT**

For the purpose of calculation of the future values of the employment (of the number the gainfully employed population) and the unemployment (the total number of the unemployed), models of the time series evaluated over the period from October 1998 to May 2019 on the basis of the monthly data released by Rosstat² were used. The unemployment was calculated on the basis of the models with results of the findings from business surveys³ too.

Table 10
Forecasts of the USD/RUB and EUR/USD exchange rates

| Period              | exchar        | SD/RUB<br>ige rate<br>er USD) | The EUR/USD exchange rate (USD per EUR) |          |  |  |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---|----------|--|--|
|                     | ARIMA         | SM                            | ARIMA                                   | SM       |  |  |
| August 2019         | 66.49         | 66.49                         | 1.10                                    | 1.10     |  |  |
| September 2019      | 67.68         | 68.04                         | 1.10                                    | 1.10     |  |  |
| October 2019        | 68.34         | 67.95                         | 1.10                                    | 1.11     |  |  |
| November 2019       | 68.44         | 68.76                         | 1.10                                    | 1.10     |  |  |
| December 2019       | 68.74         | 68.57                         | 1.10                                    | 1.11     |  |  |
| January 2020        | 68.97         | 69.60                         | 1.10                                    | 1.10     |  |  |
| For reference: acti | ual values ir | the similar                   | period of 20                            | 018-2019 |  |  |
| August 2018         | 68            | .08                           | 1.1                                     | L6       |  |  |
| September 2018      | 65            | .59                           | 1.1                                     | L6       |  |  |
| October 2018        | 65            | .77                           | 1.1                                     | L4       |  |  |
| November 2018       | 66            | .63                           | 1.1                                     | L4       |  |  |
| December 2018       | 69            | .47                           | 1.15                                    |          |  |  |
| January 2019        | 66            | .10                           | 1.15                                    |          |  |  |

**Note**. Over the respective periods, the series under review were identified as integrated series of the first order with a seasonal component.

Table 11
The forecast of the living standard indexes

| Period            | Real<br>disposable<br>cash income    | Real cash<br>income             | Real accrued wages |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Forecast<br>(% of | values accordi<br>f the respective   | ng to ARIMA-n<br>e month of 201 | nodels<br>.8)      |
| August 2019       | 101.6                                | 101.3                           | 103.3              |
| September 2019    | 101.8                                | 101.1                           | 103.8              |
| October 2019      | 100.6                                | 100.2                           | 104.2              |
| November 2019     | 103.2                                | 102.5                           | 104.7              |
| December 2019     | 100.4                                | 101.1                           | 105.0              |
| January 2020      | 100.4                                | 100.5                           | 105.4              |
|                   | e: actual values<br>.9 (% of the san |                                 |                    |
| August 2018       | 97.7                                 | 98.9                            | 106.8              |
| September 2018    | 95.9                                 | 97.5                            | 104.9              |
| October 2018      | 100.0                                | 101.8                           | 105.2              |
| November 2018     | 95.7                                 | 98.1                            | 104.2              |
| December 2018     | 100.1                                | 102.2                           | 102.9              |
| January 2019      | 98.7                                 | 99.3                            | 101.1              |

**Note**. For calculating purposes the series of disposable cash income, real cash income, and real wages in base form were used (January 1999 was adopted as a base period). Over the period from January 1999 to January 2019 (for real wages – from January 1999 to June 2019) those series were attributed to the class of processes, which are stationary in differences and have an explicit seasonal component.

Real cash income – a relative index which is calculated by means of division of the index of nominal size (i.e. which was formed in the period under review) of cash income of the population by the CPI. Real disposable cash income – is cash income less mandatory payments and contributions. (See: Rossiisky Statistichesky Ezhegodnik. Moscow, Rosstat, 2004. P. 212).

The index is computed in accordance with the methods of the International Labor Organization (ILO) and is given as of the month-end.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The model is evaluated over the period from January 1999 to May 2019.

### **EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT**

It is to be noted that feasible logical inconsistencies<sup>1</sup> in forecasts of employment and unemployment which totals should be equal to the index of economically active population may arise due to the fact that each series is forecast individually and not as a difference between the forecast values of the economically active population and another index.

Table 12
Calculation of forecast values of the indexes the employment and the unemployment

|                | Employm        | ent (ARIMA)  | l              | Jnemployment (ARIM                                     | Unemployment (BS)   |                |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------|----------------|--|----------------|--|---|----------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Month          | Million people | Growth on the respective<br>month of previous year (%) | Million people | Growth on the respective<br>month of previous year (%) | % of the index of the number<br>of the gainfully employed<br>population | Million people | Growth on the respective<br>month of previous year (%) | % of the index of the number<br>of the gainfully employed<br>population |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2019    | 72.9           | -0.6   | 3.4            | -2.9   | 4.7   | 3.3            | -5.7   | 4.5   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2019 | 72.6           | -0.6   | 3.4            | -0.9 4.6   |   | 3.3            | -3.1   | 4.5   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2019   | 72.2           | -0.4   | 3.5            | -1.9   | 4.9   | 3.4            | -4.7   | 4.7   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2019  | 71.9           | -1.0   | 3.6            | -1.8   | 5.1   | 3.5            | -4.6   | 4.9   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2020   | 70.8           | -0.6   | 3.7            | -0.8   | 5.2   | 3.5            | -4.4   | 4.9   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                | For referer    | nce: actual value                                      | s in the sar   | ne periods of 2018-2                                   | 019 (million  | people)        |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 2018    |                | 73.4   | 3.5            |  |   |                |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 2018 |                | 73.1   | 3.4            |  |   |                |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October 2018   |                | 72.5   |                | 3.6  |   |                |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November 2018  | 72.6           |  | 3.7            |  |   |                |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| December 2018  |                |  | 3.7            |  |   |                |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January 2019   | 7              | 71.2   | 3.7            |  |   |                |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Note**: Over the period from October 1998 to May 2019, the series of employment is a stochastic process which is stationary around the trend. The series of unemployment is a stochastic process with the first order integration. Both indexes include seasonal component.

According to ARIMA-model forecast (*Table 12*), in August 2019 – January 2020, the decrease in the number of employed in the economy will average 0.7% per month against the corresponding period of the previous year. As of year-end 2019, the projected number of employed in the economy population will come to 71.9 mn persons.

The average decrease in the total number of unemployed is forecast at 2.3% per month against the same period of last year. Average number of jobless in late 2019 is forecast to hit 3.6 mn persons.

For example, deemed as such a difference may be a simultaneous decrease both in the employment and the unemployment. However, it is to be noted that in principle such a situation is possible provided that there is a simultaneous decrease in the number of the economically active population.

### Diagrams of the Time Series of the Economic Indexes of the Russian Federation

Fig. 1a. The Rosstat industrial production index (ARIMA-model) (% of December 2001)

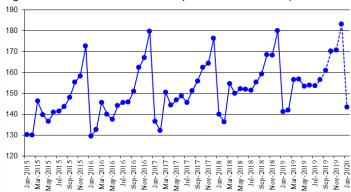


Fig. 1b. The NRU HSE industrial production index (ARIMA-model) (% of January 2010)

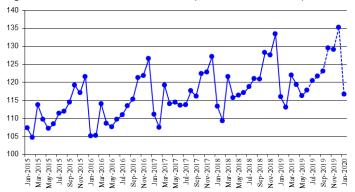


Fig. 2a. The Rosstat industrial production index for mining (% of December 2001)

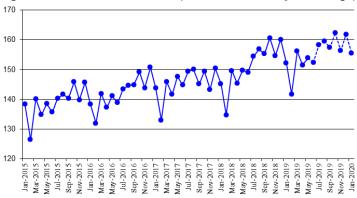


Fig. 2b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for mining (% of January 2010)

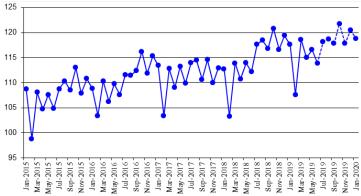


Fig. 3a. The Rosstat industrial production index for manufacturing (% of December 2001)

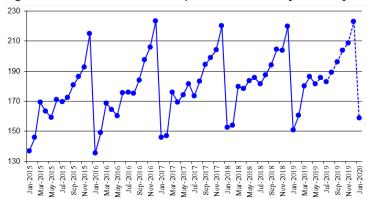


Fig. 3b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for manufacturing (% of January 2010)



Fig. 4a. The Rosstat industrial production index for utilities (electricity, water, and gas) (as a percentage of that in December 2001)

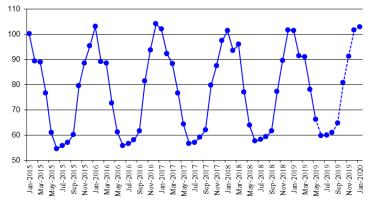


Fig. 4b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for utilities (electricity, water, and gas) (as a percentage of that in January 2010)

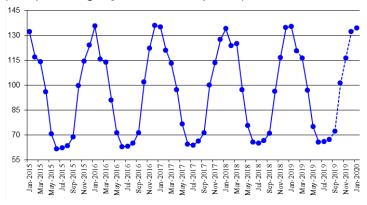


Fig. 5a. The Rosstat industrial production index for food products (as a percentage of that in December 2001)

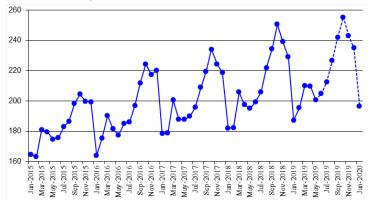


Fig. 5b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for food products (as a percentage of that in January 2010)

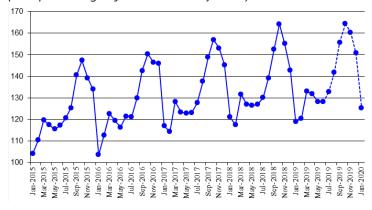


Fig. 6a. The Rosstat industrial production index for coke and petroleum (as a percentage of that in December 2001)

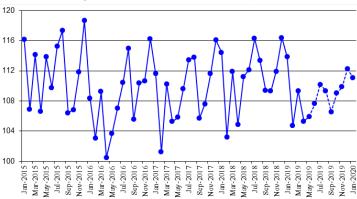


Fig. 6b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for petroleum and coke (as a percentage of that in January 2010)

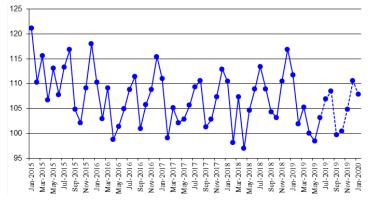


Fig.7a. The Rosstat industrial production index for primary metals and fabricated metal products (as a percentage of that in December 2001)

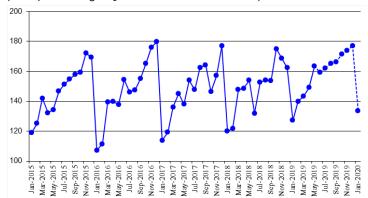


Fig. 7b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for primary metals and fabricated metal products (as a percentage of that in January 2010)

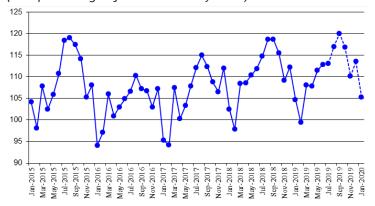


Fig. 8a. The Rosstat industrial production index for machinery (as a percentage of that in December 2001)

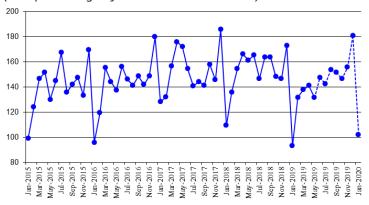
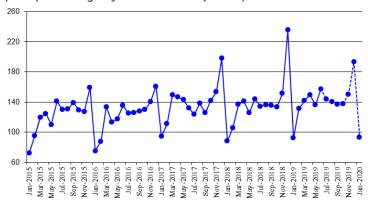


Fig. 8b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for machinery (as a percentage of that in January 2010)



### Fig. 9. The volume of retail sales (billion RUB)

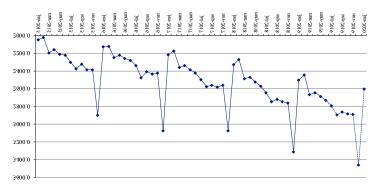


Fig. 9a. The real volume of retail sales (as a percentage of that in the same period of the previous year)

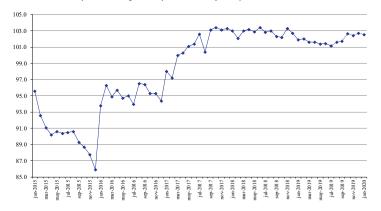


Fig.10. Export to all countries (billion USD)

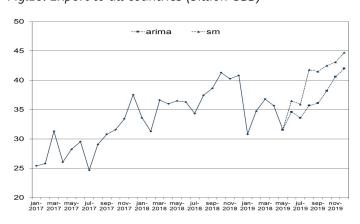


Fig. 11. Export to countries outside the CIS (billion USD)

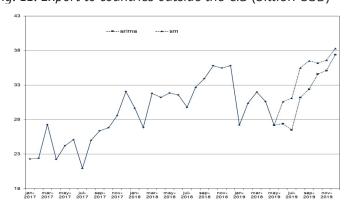


Fig. 12. Import from all countries (billion USD)

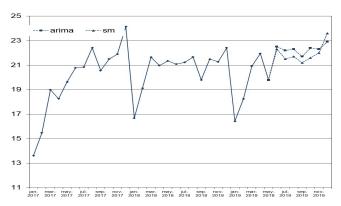


Fig. 13. Import from countries outside the CIS (billion USD)

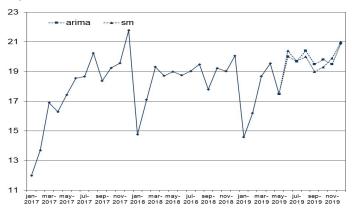


Fig. 14. The consumer price index (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

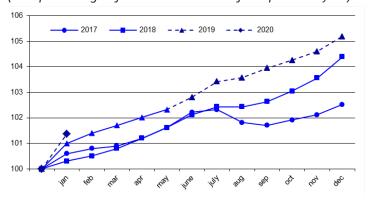


Fig. 14a. The consumer price index (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year) (SM)

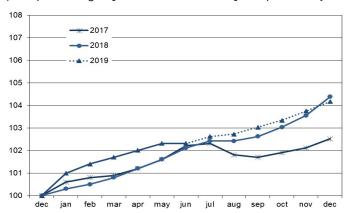


Fig.15. The producer price index for industrial goods (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

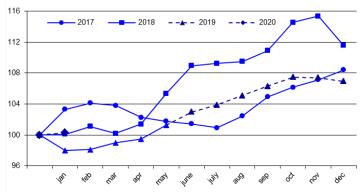


Fig. 16. The price index for mining (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

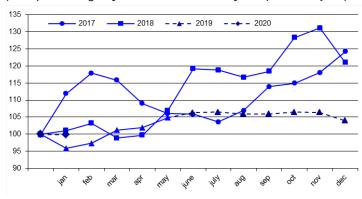


Fig. 17. The price index for manufacturing (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

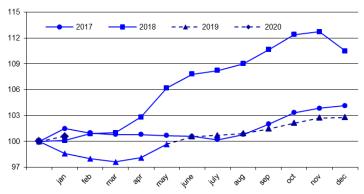


Fig. 18. The price index for utilities (electricity, water, and gas) (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

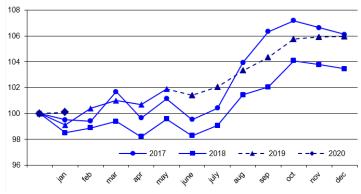


Fig. 19. The price index for food products (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

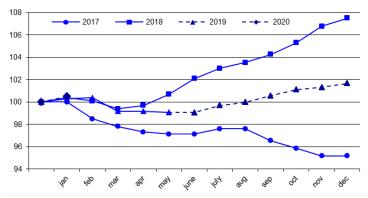


Fig. 20. The price index for the textile and sewing industry (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

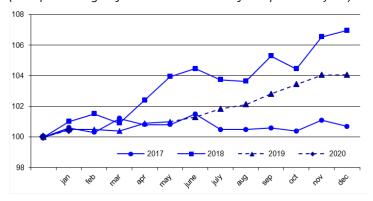


Fig. 21. The price index for wood products (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

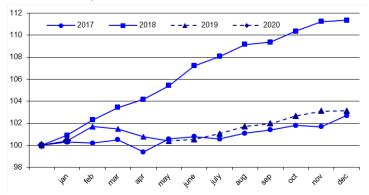


Fig. 22. The price index for the pulp and paper industry (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

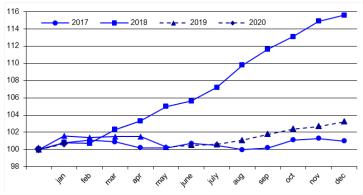


Fig. 23. The price index for coke and petroleum (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

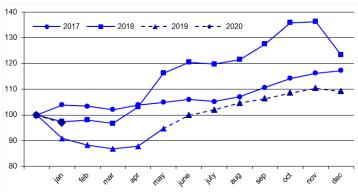


Fig. 24. The price index for the chemical industry (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

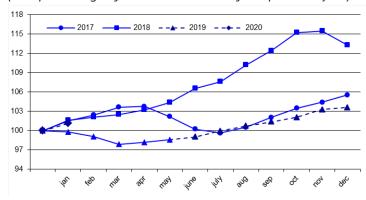


Fig. 25. The price index for primary metals and fabricated metal products (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

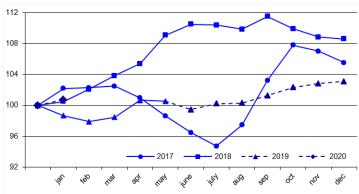


Fig. 26. The price index for machinery (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

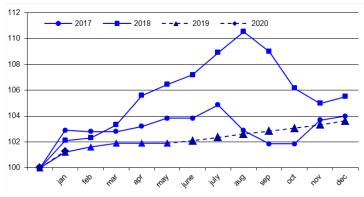


Fig. 27. The price index for transport equipment manufacturing (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

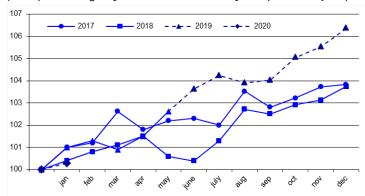


Fig. 28. The cost of the monthly per capita minimum food basket (RUB)

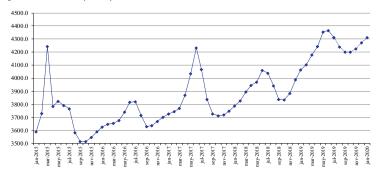


Fig. 29. The composite index of transport tariffs (for each year, as a percentage of that in the previous month)

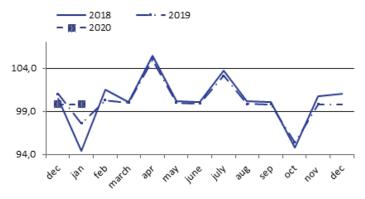


Fig. 30. The index of motor freight tariffs (for each year, as a percentage of that in the previous month)

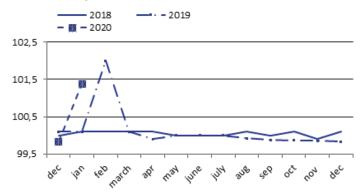


Fig. 31. The index of pipeline tariffs (for each year, as a percentage of that in the previous month)

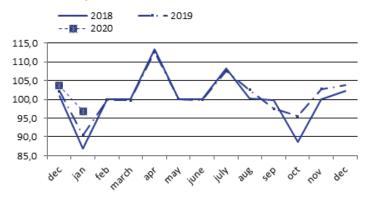


Fig. 32. The Brent oil price (\$ per barrel)

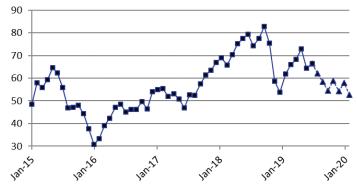


Fig. 33. The aluminum price (\$ per ton)

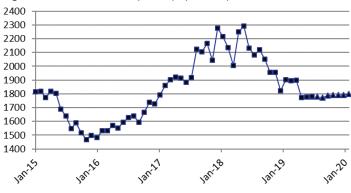


Fig. 34. The gold price (\$ per ounce)

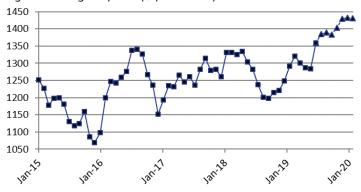
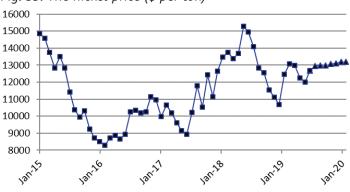


Fig. 35. The nickel price (\$ per ton)



*Fig.* 36. The copper price (\$ per ton)

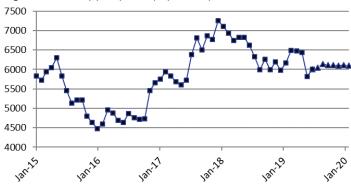


Fig. 37. The monetary base, billion RUB

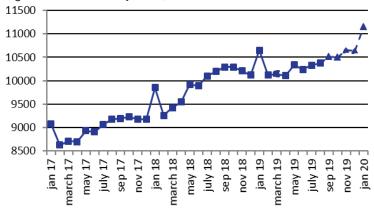


Fig. 38. M<sub>3</sub>, billion RUB

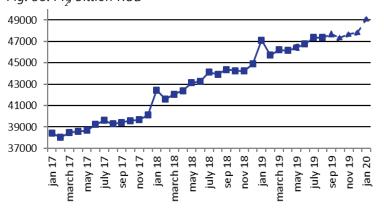


Fig. 39. The international reserves of the Russian Federation, million USD

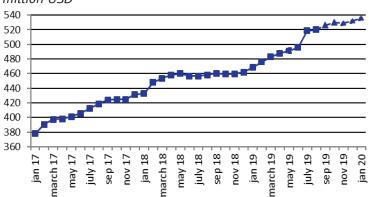


Fig. 40. The RUB/USD exchange rate

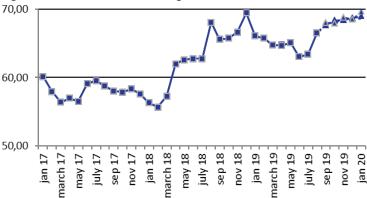


Fig. 41. The USD/EUR exchange rate

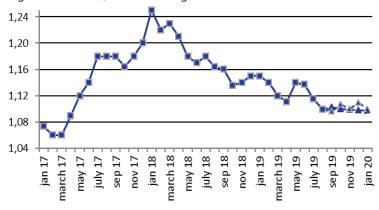


Fig. 42. Real disposable cash income (as a percentage of that in the same period of the previous year)

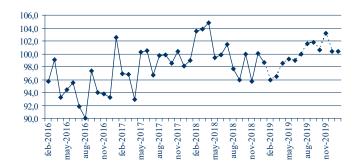


Fig. 43. Real cash income (as a percentage of that in the same period of the previous year)

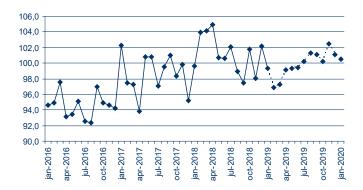


Fig. 44. Real accrued wages (as a percentage of those in the same period of the previous year)



Fig. 45. Employment (million people)

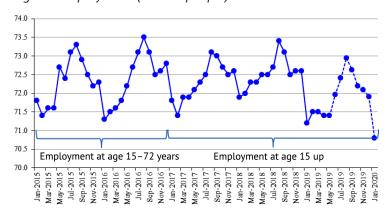
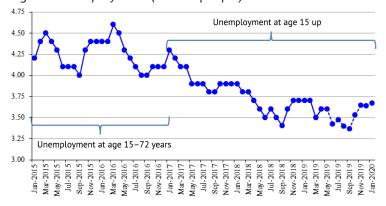


Fig. 46. Unemployment (million people)



### MODEL CALCULATIONS OF SHORT-TERM FORECASTS...

### Model calculations of short-term forecasts of social and economic indices of the Russian Federation: July 2019

| of the Russian Federation. July 2017   |             |           |           |            |                   |                 |                  |                  |              |
|--|-------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Index  |             | June 2019 | July 2019 | August2019 | September<br>2019 | October<br>2019 | November<br>2019 | December<br>2019 | January 2020 |
| Rosstat IIIP (growth rate, %)*   | 0.9         | 1.3       | 1.4       | 1.3        | 1.8               | 1.3             | 1.2              | 2.2              | 1.6          |
| HSE IIP (growth rate %)*   |             | 0.6       | 1.5       | 1.2        | 2.1               | 1.3             | 1.2              | 2.0              | 1.3          |
| Rosstat IIP for mining (growth rate, %)*   | -0.2<br>2.8 | 2.2       | 2.6       | 1.7        | 1.3               | 1.1             | 1.1              | 1.1              | 2.1          |
| HSE IIP for mining (growth rate, %)*   |             | 1.5       | 0.4       | 0.2        | 0.8               | 0.8             | 1.1              | 0.9              | 1.0          |
| Rosstat IIIP for manufacturing (growth rate, %)*                                     |             | 0.1       | 0.7       | 1.0        | 0.9               | -0.3            | 2.4              | 1.5              | 5.4          |
| HSE IIP for manufacturing (growth rate, %)*  |             | 0.2       | 2.0       | -0.3       | 2.4               | -0.8            | 0.1              | -1.0             | 0.0          |
| Rosstat IIP for utilities (electricity, water, and gas)                              | -1.6<br>1.8 |           |           |            |                   |                 |                  |                  |              |
| (growth rate, %)*  |             | 3.8       | 2.9       | 3.0        | 5.0               | 4.5             | 2.0              | 0.0              | 1.5          |
| HSE for utilities (electricity, water, and gas)                                      |             | 0.7       | 1 [       | 0.0        | 1.7               | Г 1             | 0.1              | 1.0              | -0.7         |
| (growth rate, %)*  | -0.7        | 0.3       | 1.5       | 0.9        |                   | 5.1             | -0.1             | -1.8             |              |
| Rosstat IIP for food products (growth rate, %)*                                      | 1.1         | 2.7       | 3.3       | 2.2        | 3.3               | 1.9             | 1.6              | 2.6              | 5.0          |
| HSE IIP for food products (growth rate, %)*  | 1.4         | 0.9       | 2.1       | 1.9        | 2.1               | 0.0             | 3.4              | 5.6              | 5.3          |
| Rosstat IIP for coke and petroleum (growth rate,                                     | -4.3        | -4.0      | -5.3      | -3.6       | -2.6              | -0.2            | -1.8             | -3.6             | -2.4         |
| %)*  |             |           |           |            |                   |                 |                  |                  |              |
| HSE for coke and petroleum (growth rate, %)*   | -5.9        | -5.3      | -5.7      | -0.4       | -4.5              | -2.7            | -5.1             | -5.3             | -3.5         |
| Rosstat for primary metals and fabricated metal                                      | 0.0         | 20.7      | 6.3       | 7.3        | 8.2               | -1.9            | 3.2              | 9.2              | 5.0          |
| products (growth rate, %)*   | 0.0         | 20.7      | 0.5       | 7.5        | 0.2               | 1.7             | 3.2              | 7.2              | 3.0          |
| HSE IIP for primary metals and fabricated metal products (growth rate, %)*           | 1.0         | 0.9       | -1.4      | -1.4       | 1.2               | 1.2             | 0.9              | 1.1              | 0.6          |
| Rosstat IIP for machinery (growth rate, %)*  | -10.0       | -10.8     | -2.9      | -6.0       | -7.4              | -1.1            | 6.2              | 4.5              | 9.4          |
| HSE IIP for machinery (growth rate %)*   | 8.3         | 9.1       | 6.8       | 3.3        | 1.0               | 3.3             | -1.0             | -17.9            | 1.0          |
| Retail sales, trillion Rb  | 2.69        | 2.73      | 2.79      | 2.89       | 2.86              | 2.88            | 2.89             | 3.46             | 2.60         |
| Real retail sales (growth rate, %)*  | 1.4         | 1.4       | 1.1       | 1.6        | 1.7               | 2.7             | 2.4              | 2.7              | 2.5          |
| Export to all countries (billion \$)   | 31.6        | 35.6      | 34.8      | 38.8       | 38.8              | 40.4            | 41.9             | 43.4             | 38.0         |
| Export to countries outside the CIS (billion \$)                                     | 27.2        | 29.0      | 28.8      | 33.4       | 34.5              | 35.4            | 35.9             | 37.9             | 33.0         |
| Import from all countries (billion \$)   | 19.8        | 22.4      | 21.9      | 22.0       | 21.5              | 22.0            | 22.2             | 23.3             | 18.8         |
| Import from countries outside the CIS (billion \$)                                   | 17.5        | 20.2      | 19.7      | 20.2       | 19.3              | 19.6            | 19.7             | 21.0             | 16.1         |
| CPI (growth rate, %)**   | 0.3<br>1.8  | 0.5       | 0.6       | 0.2        | 0.4               | 0.4             | 0.4              | 0.5              | 0.7          |
| PPI for industrial goods (growth rate, %)**  |             | 1.7       | 0.8       | 0.4        | 0.7               | 1.0             | 0.3              | -0.2             | 0.2          |
| PPI for mining (growth rate, %)**  | 2.9<br>1.6  | 1.3       | 0.2       | -0.5       | 0.1               | 0.4             | -0.1             | -2.2             | -0.1         |
| PPI for manufacturing (growth rate, %)**   |             | 0.9       | 0.1       | 0.2        | 0.5               | 0.7             | 0.6              | 0.0              | 0.6          |
| PPI for utilities (electricity, water, and gas) (growth rate, %)**                   |             | -0.5      | 0.6       | 1.2        | 1.0               | 1.4             | 0.1              | 0.0              | 0.1          |
| PPI for food products (growth rate, %)**   | -0.1        | 0.0       | 0.6       | 0.3        | 0.6               | 0.5             | 0.2              | 0.4              | 0.5          |
| PPI for the textile and sewing industry (growth                                      |             | 0.3       | 0.5       | 0.3        | 0.7               | 0.6             | 0.6              | 0.0              | 0.4          |
| rate, %)**   |             | 0.1       | 0.5       | 0.7        | 0.7               | 0.7             |                  | 0.0              |              |
| PPI for wood products (growth rate, %)** PPI for the pulp and paper industry (growth |             | 0.1       | 0.5       | 0.7        | 0.2               | 0.7             | 0.4              | 0.0              | 0.4          |
| rate, %)**   | -1.2        | 0.2       | 0.1       | 0.5        | 0.7               | 0.6             | 0.3              | 0.5              | 0.7          |
| PPI for coke and petroleum (growth rate, %)**  | 7.9         | 5.4       | 2.1       | 2.6        | 1.6               | 2.1             | 1.7              | -1.1             | -3.2         |
| PPI for the chemical industry (growth rate, %)**                                     | 0.4         | 0.4       | 0.9       | 0.7        | 0.7               | 0.7             | 1.2              | 0.3              | 1.1          |
| PPI for primary metals and fabricated metal  |             |           |           |            |                   |                 |                  |                  |              |
| products (growth rate, %)**  | -0.1        | -1.1      | 0.8       | 0.1        | 1.0               | 1.1             | 0.5              | 0.3              | 0.7          |
| PPI for machinery (growth rate, %)**   | 0.0         | 0.2       | 0.2       | 0.3        | 0.2               | 0.2             | 0.3              | 0.3              | 1.3          |
| PPI for transport equipment manufacturing (growth rate, %)**                         | 1.1         | 1.0       | 0.6       | -0.3       | 0.1               | 1.0             | 0.5              | 0.8              | 0.3          |
| The cost of the monthly per capita minimum food basket (thousand Rb)                 | 4.36        | 4.37      | 4.31      | 4.24       | 4.20              | 4.20            | 4.22             | 4.27             | 4.31         |
| The composite index of transportation tariffs  | 0.0         | 0.0       | 0.0       | -0.1       | -0.1              | -0.1            | -0.2             | -0.2             | 1.4          |
| (growth rate, %)**   | 0.1         |           |           |            |                   |                 |                  |                  |              |
| The index of pipeline tariffs (growth rate, %)**                                     |             | -0.1      | 7.6       | 2.6        | -2.5              | -4.5            | 2.7              | 3.7              | -3.1         |
| The index of motor freight tariffs (growth rate, %)**                                |             | -0.1      | 3.1       | -0.2       | -0.2              | -4.6            | -0.2             | -0.2             | -0.2         |
| The Brent oil price (\$ a barrel)  |             | 66.5      | 62.0      | 58.4       | 54.4              | 58.8            | 54.3             | 58.0             | 52.6         |
| The aluminum price (thousand \$ a ton)   |             | 1.78      | 1.78      | 1.77       | 1.79              | 1.79            | 1.79             | 1.79             | 1.80         |
| The gold price (thousand \$ per ounce)   |             | 1.36      | 1.38      | 1.39       | 1.38              | 1.40            | 1.43             | 1.43             | 1.43         |
| The nickel price (thousand \$ a ton)   |             | 6.00      | 6.04      | 6.14       | 6.11              | 6.11            | 6.10             | 6.11             | 6.11         |
| The copper price (thousand \$ a ton)   | 12.0        | 12.7      | 13.0      | 13.0       | 13.0              | 13.1            | 13.1             | 13.2             | 13.2         |
| The monetary base (trillion Rb)  | 10.3        | 10.2      | 10.3      | 10.4       | 10.5              | 10.5            | 10.6             | 10.6             | 11.2         |

| Index   | May 2019 | June 2019 | July 2019 | August2019 | September<br>2019 | October<br>2019 | November<br>2019 | December<br>2019 | January 2020 |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| M2 (trillion Rb)                                | 46.4     | 46.7      | 47.3      | 47.4       | 47.7              | 47.4            | 47.7             | 47.9             | 49.1         |
| Gold and foreign exchange reserves (billion \$) |          | 0.50      | 0.52      | 0.52       | 0.53              | 0.53            | 0.53             | 0.53             | 0.54         |
| The RUR/USD exchange rate (rubles per one USD)  |          | 63.08     | 63.38     | 66.49      | 67.91             | 68.15           | 68.60            | 68.66            | 69.29        |
| The USD/EUR exchange rate (USD per one Euro)    |          | 1.14      | 1.11      | 1.10       | 1.10              | 1.11            | 1.10             | 1.11             | 1.10         |
| Real disposable cash income (growth rate, %)*   |          | -1.0      | -0.1      | 1.6        | 1.8               | 0.6             | 3.2              | 0.4              | 0.4          |
| Real cash income (growth rate, %)*              |          | -0.6      | 0.2       | 1.3        | 1.1               | 0.2             | 2.5              | 1.1              | 0.5          |
| Real accrued wages (growth rate, %)*            |          | 2.3       | 2.7       | 3.3        | 3.8               | 4.2             | 4.7              | 5.1              | 5.4          |
| Employment (million people)                     |          | 72.0      | 72.4      | 72.9       | 72.6              | 72.2            | 72.1             | 71.9             | 70.8         |
| Unemployment (million people)                   |          | 3.4       | 3.5       | 3.4        | 3.4               | 3.5             | 3.6              | 3.6              | 3.6          |

Note. Actual values are printed in the bold type

<sup>\* %</sup> of the respective month of the previous year;

<sup>\*\* %</sup> of the previous month.