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**8'2015**

## **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 the period from September 2015 to February 2016, which were performed using time series models developed as a result of research conducted by the Gaidar Institute over the past few years.<sup>1</sup> 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 structur-

1 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 Indices*. Moscow, IET, 2001; R.M. Entov, V.P. Nosko, A.D. Yudin, P.A. Kadochnikov, S.S. Ponomarenko. *Problems of Forecasting of Some Macroeconomic Indices*. 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. Kiblitckaya. *Qualitative Properties of Different Approaches to Forecasting of Social and Economic Indices of the Russian Federation*. Moscow, IET, 2010.

2 Ibid.

3 See.: Perron, P. Further Evidence on Breaking Trend Functions in Macroeconomic Variables, *Journal of Econometrics*, 1997, 80, pp. 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, 10, pp. 251–270.

al 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.

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 money 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 projected 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 chose a model for the CPI, which included 9th, 12th and 13th lags of the four principal components, as well as 1st and 12th lags of the variable itself, and a model for the PPI, which included 8th, 9th and 12th lags of the four principal components, as well as 1st, 3rd and 12th lags of the variable itself.

All calculations were performed using the Eviews econometric package.

1 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.

2 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 INDICES OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION<sup>1</sup>, (%)

	Index of industrial production		IIP for mining		IIP for manufacturing		IIP for utilities (electricity, water, and gas)		IIP for food products		IIP for coke and petroleum		IIP for primary metals and fabricated metal products		IIP for machinery			
	NRU HSE		NRU HSE		NRU HSE		NRU HSE		NRU HSE		NRU HSE		NRU HSE		NRU HSE			
	Rosstat	BS	Rosstat	BS	Rosstat	BS	Rosstat	BS	Rosstat	BS	Rosstat	BS	Rosstat	BS	Rosstat	BS		
	ARIMA	BS	ARIMA	BS	Rosstat	NRU HSE	Rosstat	NRU HSE	Rosstat	NRU HSE	Rosstat	NRU HSE	Rosstat	NRU HSE	Rosstat	NRU HSE		
	Expected growth on the respective month of the previous year																	
Sep 2015	-6.6	-4.1	-3.3	-3.2	-3.4	0.2	-9.9	-5.6	2.9	0.7	-2.3	-2.1	2.7	0.1	-5.3	-3.1	-16.9	-8.3
Oct 2015	-5.6	-4.6	-3.6	-4.1	-2.8	0.1	-12.0	-5.5	-2.9	-4.1	-1.6	-1.4	2.2	0.5	-5.2	-3.1	-25.5	-13.7
Nov 2015	-4.4	-2.9	-2.4	-1.1	-2.2	-0.1	-11.0	-4.7	-2.8	-2.4	0.3	-0.8	2.7	-0.1	-5.7	-2.6	-14.1	1.3
Dec 2015	-5.5	-4.4	-3.4	-3.5	-1.7	-1.2	-14.2	-6.9	1.1	0.7	1.2	1.4	2.3	-0.2	-5.8	-3.1	-16.8	-8.6
Jan 2016	-1.5	-4.4	-3.2	-3.2	-0.2	-2.2	-12.1	-5.3	0.7	1.5	-1.2	-1.6	1.3	-1.8	-7.7	1.3	-20.7	1.1
Feb 2016	-1.7	-3.3	-1.8	-2.2	1.6	-0.6	-11.4	-4.9	2.4	6.2	-1.3	-1.0	1.8	-0.9	-3.5	5.3	-11.1	-2.9
	For reference: actual growth in 2014–2015 on the respective month of 2013–2014																	
Sep 2014	2.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	2.4	0.7	3.6	1.3	-0.8	-1.4	5.1	4.6	6.5	4.6	0.5	5.1	-4.9	-12.4
Oct 2014	2.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.9	0.1	3.6	0.8	2.8	3.3	3.5	2.7	6.7	3.8	0.3	5.6	-9.6	-6.8
Nov 2014	-0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.5	1.0	-3.0	-1.9	7.0	9.2	-1.8	-0.6	4.9	3.8	1.0	6.9	-17.0	-20.5
Dec 2014	3.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	3.0	1.4	4.1	1.7	3.4	2.8	-2.1	-1.7	3.6	2.9	4.4	7.1	1.2	-4.9
Jan 2015	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.5	1.5	-0.1	-0.1	1.2	-1.4	3.6	3.9	2.6	3.0	3.0	6.4	-9.3	-14.3
Feb 2015	-1.6	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	0.1	0.6	-2.8	-2.1	-1.7	-4.9	4.6	5.3	3.3	2.1	-3.7	0.6	-12.8	-14.0

Note: in the time spans under review, the series of the Rosstat and the NRU HSE chain indices 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 indices are stationary at levels.

1 It is to be noted that for making of forecasts so-called "raw" indices (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

For making forecast for September 2015 – February 2016, the series of monthly data of the indices of industrial production released by the Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat) from January 2002 to June 2015, as well as the series of the base indices of industrial production released by the National Research University Higher School of Economics (NRU HSE<sup>1</sup>) over the period from January 1999 to July 2015 were used (the value of January 1995 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 indices 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 average<sup>2</sup> decline of the industrial production index computed by NRU HSE over September 2015 – February 2016 amounts to 2.9% in comparison with the same period last year on industry as a whole. Reduction of the industrial production index computed by Rosstat is projected by 4.1% on average per month. As of 2015-end, forecast annual decline of the Rosstat industrial production index will come to 3.7%, and the NRU HSE industrial production index – 2.8%.

Average monthly values of industrial production index of mining and quarrying of Rosstat and NRU HSE for September 2015 – February 2016 will come to -1.4% and -0.6%, respectively. In manufacture of coke and petroleum products, average increment is forecast at 2.2% and -0.4% for the Rosstat and the NRU HSE indices, respectively.

Average decline of the NRU HSE industrial production index regarding manufacturing industry in September 2015 – February 2016 in comparison with the same period last year constitutes 5.5%, and the Rosstat index – 11.8%. Average monthly values of the Rosstat and NRU HSE industrial production index regarding manufacture of food products come to -0.8% and -0.9%, respectively. Average monthly values of industrial production index of manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products computed by Rosstat and NRU HSE constitute -5.5% and -0.9%, respectively. In manufacture of machinery and equipment average reduction is forecast at 17.5% and 5.2% for the Rosstat and NRU HSE indices, respectively.

Average growth of industrial production index of electricity, gas and water supply computed by Rosstat constitutes 0.2% for September 2015 – February 2016 compared to the same period last year, the same indicator for the NRU HSE index comes to 0.4%

Decline of the indices of industrial production across types of economic activity computed by Rosstat will average 4.1% in 2015 and for the NRU HSE index – 3.0%.

### Retail Sales

This section (Table 2) presents forecasts of monthly retail sales made on the basis of monthly Rosstat data over January 1999 – July 2015.

Table 2  
CALCULATIONS OF FORECAST VALUES OF THE  
RETAIL SALES AND THE REAL RETAIL SALES

Forecast value according to ARIMA-model		
	Retail sales, billion Rb (in brackets – growth on the respective month of the previous year, %)	Real retail sales (as % of the respec- tive period of the previous year)
Sep 2015	2,346.1 (4.7)	90.0
Oct 2015	2,420.8 (4.8)	89.5
Nov 2015	2,436.3 (4.0)	88.9
Dec 2015	3,105.3 (5.1)	88.8
Jan 2016	2,065.7 (0.1)	90.7
Feb 2016	2,025.0 (-0.3)	92.9
For reference: actual values in the same months of 2014		
Sep 2014	2,241.3	101.8
Oct 2014	2,310.9	101.7
Nov 2014	2,343.6	101.9
Dec 2014	2,954.8	105.1
Jan 2015	2,063.7	96.4
Feb 2015	2,031.9	93.0

Note: the series of retail sales and real retail sales over January 1999 – July 2015.

1 The indices in question are calculated by E.A. Baranov and V. Bessonov.

2 The average growth of industrial production indices is understood here as the average value of the said indices for six forecast months.

As seen from *Table 2*, average forecasted growth of the monthly trade turnover (in nominal terms) over the period from September 2015 to February 2016 against the corresponding period of 2014–2015 amounts to about 3.0%.

Average forecasted decline of the monthly real turnover constitutes 9.9% for this period of time against the corresponding period of 2014–2015.

Forecasted growth of the nominal indicator of retail turnover will constitute 5.1% and in real terms –down 9.1% at an annualized rate.

## INVESTMENTS IN CAPITAL ASSETS

*Table 3* presents the outputs of calculations of forecast values of investments in capital assets in September 2015 – February 2016. The forecasts were made on the basis of time-series models using the data released by Rosstat over January 1999 – July 2015.

Results presented in *Table 3* show that the average forecast increment of the investment in capital assets (in nominal terms) over September 2015 – February 2016 against the corresponding period of 2014–2015 constitute about 1.1%. Average forecasted reduction of the real investment comes to 9.3%.

Annual growth of the nominal indicator of the investment in fixed capital in 2015 will amount to 5.5%. The real investment indicator in fixed capital is forecast negative by annual rate of 7%.

## FOREIGN TRADE INDICES

*Model calculations of forecast values of the export and import 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 July 2015 on the basis of the data released by the Central Bank of Russia<sup>1</sup>. The results of calculations are shown in *Table 4*.*

Forecast average growth of export, import, export outside CIS and import from the countries outside CIS for September 2015 – February 2015 against the same period 2014 will amount to -6.8%, -25.3%, -4.8% and -32.2%, respectively. Projected average surplus volume of the trade balance with all countries for September 2015 – February 2016 will constitute \$101.5bn which corresponds to an increase of 21.8% on the same period 2014–2015.

*Table 3*

CALCULATIONS OF FORECAST VALUES OF INVESTMENTS IN CAPITAL ASSETS AND REAL INVESTMENTS IN CAPITAL ASSETS

Forecast values according to ARIMA-model		
	Investments in capital assets, billion Rb (in brackets – growth on the respective month of the previous year, %)	Real investments in capital assets (as % of the respective period of the previous year)
Sep 2015	1,212.0 (0.7)	91.7
Oct 2015	1,501.7 (2.3)	90.8
Nov 2015	1,390.6 (1.3)	90.6
Dec 2015	2,566.5 (5.5)	90.5
Jan 2016	507.2 (-1.9)	90.4
Feb 2016	672.1 (-1.3)	90.4
For reference: actual values in the same months of 2014		
Sep 2014	1,204.0	98.1
Oct 2014	1,468.5	99.2
Nov 2014	1,372.5	92.2
Dec 2014	2,433.3	98.9
Jan 2015	516.9	96.1
Feb 2015	680.7	95.7

*Note:* the series of investments in capital assets over the period from January 1999 to July 2015 are series of DS type.

<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.

Table 4

## CALCULATIONS OF FORECAST VALUES OF VOLUMES OF FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER WITH COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE CIS

Month	Export to all countries				Import from all countries				Export to countries outside the CIS				Import from countries outside the CIS			
	Forecast values (billion USD a month)		Percentage of actual data in the respective month of the previous year		Forecast values (billion USD a month)		Percentage of actual data in the respective month of the previous year		Forecast values (billion USD a month)		Percentage of actual data in the respective month of the previous year		Forecast values (billion USD a month)		Percentage of actual data in the respective month of the previous year	
	ARIMA	SM	ARIMA	SM	ARIMA	SM	ARIMA	SM	ARIMA	SM	ARIMA	SM	ARIMA	SM	ARIMA	SM
Sep 2015	33.2	33.1	87	87	16.3	16.4	63	63	31.2	26.5	95	80	12.2	11.4	53	50
Oct 2015	36.1	31.9	87	77	17.2	17.5	64	65	33.4	31.2	92	86	14.4	14.0	60	58
Nov 2015	35.3	36.9	96	100	17.4	15.6	75	68	32.2	30.8	102	98	13.1	13.6	64	66
Dec 2015	36.7	35.1	96	92	18.4	18.4	75	75	30.5	32.1	94	99	16.2	15.2	73	69
Jan 2016	26.1	29.7	94	107	12.0	12.7	96	102	24.7	23.3	101	95	8.9	9.5	82	87
Feb 2016	29.8	31.1	102	106	14.6	15.4	93	99	26.9	25.2	107	101	13.6	12.7	97	91
For reference: actual values in respective months of 2014-2015 (billion USD)																
Sep 2014	38.1				26.0				33.0				22.8			
Oct 2014	41.5				26.8				36.2				24.0			
Nov 2014	36.8				23.1				31.5				20.5			
Dec 2014	38.4				24.5				32.5				22.1			
Jan 2015	27.8				12.5				24.5				10.9			
Feb 2015	29.3				15.6				25.1				14.0			

Note: over the period from January 1999 to July 2015, the series of export, import, export to the countries outside the CIS and import 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.

Table 5

## CALCULATIONS OF FORECAST VALUES OF PRICE INDICES

Month	The consumer price index (ARIMA)			The consumer price index (SM)			The consumer price index (FM)			Producer price indices:												
	for industrial goods (ARIMA)	for industrial goods (BS)	for industrial goods (FM)	for industrial goods (ARIMA)	for industrial goods (BS)	for industrial goods (FM)	for mining and quarrying	for manufacturing	for utilities (electricity, water, and gas)	for food products	for textile and sewing industry	for wood products	for pulp and paper industry	for coke and refined petroleum	for chemical industry	for basic metals and fabricated metal	for machinery and equipment	for transport equipment	for manufacturing			
Forecast values ( % of the previous month)																						
September 15	100.6	100.5	100.3	100.1	99.5	101.1	101.4	101.5	101.8	100.6	100.5	100.0	100.6	101.9	101.2	99.8	100.7	100.6	100.6			
October 15	100.8	100.7	100.4	100.1	100.4	98.6	100.8	101.3	99.6	101.0	100.5	100.6	100.5	101.8	101.0	100.8	100.4	100.5	100.4			
November 15	101.0	100.9	100.6	100.3	99.6	98.8	101.6	100.9	100.8	101.1	100.6	100.7	100.0	101.6	101.0	101.9	100.7	100.0	100.7			
December 15	101.0	100.9	100.9	100.7	100.4	98.6	103.4	100.2	100.9	101.0	100.2	101.2	100.6	101.8	100.1	102.4	100.6	100.6	100.6			
January 16	101.9	101.8	102.1	100.9	100.3	100	101.1	101.0	100.8	100.8	100.7	101.4	100.6	101.3	100.6	102.2	101.2	101.2	101.0			
February 16	101.1	100.8	101.2	101.3	99.9	102.6	101.4	101.6	102.9	100.8	100.7	101.1	100.7	101.8	100.7	101.7	101.2	101.2	99.8			
Forecast values (% of December 2014/2015)																						
September 15	109.7	110.6	109.9	113.4	111.6	115.8	140.9	113.2	99.1	110.5	111.1	108.1	115.5	121.0	114.1	106.6	108.9	111.7	111.7			
October 15	110.5	111.3	110.3	113.5	112.0	117.1	142.1	114.6	98.7	111.6	111.7	108.8	116.1	123.2	115.2	107.4	109.4	112.4	112.4			
November 15	111.6	112.3	110.7	113.8	111.6	115.4	144.4	115.6	99.5	112.8	112.4	109.6	116.1	125.2	116.3	109.5	110.1	113.2	113.2			
December 15	112.7	113.4	111.4	114.6	112.0	114.1	149.3	115.9	100.4	114.0	112.6	110.9	116.8	127.4	116.5	112.1	110.8	113.4	113.4			
January 16	101.9	101.8	112.4	100.9	100.3	112.5	101.1	101.0	100.8	100.8	100.7	101.4	100.6	101.3	100.6	102.2	101.2	101.2	101.0			
February 16	103.0	102.7	102.1	102.2	100.2	100.0	102.5	102.7	103.7	101.6	101.4	102.5	101.3	103.1	101.4	104.0	102.4	102.4	100.8			
For reference: actual values in the same periods of 2014–2015 (% of December 2013/2014)																						
September 14		106.3			105.1		100.7	107.0	103.4	109.6	102.8	102.5	102.3	112.8	108.7	107.4	106.2	103.0	103.0			
October 14		107.1			105.4		100.9	107.4	103.8	110.2	103.3	102.2	102.3	112.2	108.9	108.7	106.9	103.8	103.8			
November 14		108.5			104.9		96.2	108.2	103.8	111.9	104.1	101.7	102.1	110.8	109.1	110.4	110.0	104.7	104.7			
December 14		111.3			105.7		98.4	108.5	104.6	115.2	106.0	103.1	103.1	102.0	110.6	114.6	111.8	105.9	105.9			
January 15		103.9			101.3		97.3	102.7	100.1	104.3	103.5	101.9	104.3	96.1	104.2	107.3	103.5	102.5	102.5			
February 15		106.2			103.4		97.5	106.0	99.2	107.7	107.0	105.1	106.0	98.2	108.9	113.2	106.1	104.0	104.0			

Note: over the period from January 1999 to June 2015, 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 indices are stationary at levels.



## 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 June 2015.<sup>1</sup> Table 5 presents the results of model calculations of forecast values over September 2015 and February 2016 in accordance with ARIMA models, structural models (SM) and models computed with the help of business surveys (BS).

Forecast average monthly growth of the consumer price index in September 2014 – February 2016 will come to 1.0%. Price growth of industrial goods manufacturers for this period is forecast at an average monthly rate of 0.2%. Annual growth of the consumer price index across three models will average 12.5%. The same indicator for the producer price index is forecast at 13.6%.

For the producer price index across types of economic activity from September 2015 to February 2016 the following average monthly growth rates are forecast: in mining and quarrying 1.6%, manufacturing 1.1%, electricity, gas and water production and supply 1.1%, manufacture of food products 0.9%, manufacture of textiles and textile products 0.5%, manufacture of wood and wood products 0.8%, manufacture of pulp, paper and paper products 0.5%, manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products 1.7%, manufacture of chemical products 0.8%, manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products 1.5%, manufacture of machinery and equipment 0.8% and manufacture of means of transport and transport equipment 0.5%.

Annual growth of producer price index across types of economic activity will average 16.7%. By 2015 year-end, maximum annual growth is forecasted for mining and quarrying (49.3%) and minimum index growth – for electricity, gas and water production and supply (0.4%).

Table 6

THE FORECAST OF THE COST OF THE MONTHLY PER CAPITA MINIMUM FOOD BASKET

Forecast values according to ARIMA-model (Rb)	
September 2015	3,659.8
October 2015	3,718.4
November 2015	3,805.9
December 2015	3,920.4
January 2016	4,050.3
February 2016	4,123.4
For reference: actual values in the same months of 2014–2015 (billion Rb)	
September 2014	2,996.1
October 2014	3,043.7
November 2014	3,139.4
December 2014	3,297.9
January 2015	3,592.5
February 2015	3,730.0
Expected growth on the respective month of the previous year (%)	
September 2015	22.2
October 2015	22.2
November 2015	21.2
December 2015	18.9
January 2016	12.7
February 2016	10.5

Note: the series of the cost of the monthly per capita minimum food basket over the period from January 2000 to June 2015 are stationary in the first-order differences.

### 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 September 2015 – February 2016. The forecasts were made based on time series with use the Rosstat data over the period from January 2000 to June 2015. The results are shown in Table 6.

As can be seen from Table 6, cost growth of the monthly per capita minimum food basket is projected compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. Herewith, forecast cost of the minimum set of food products constitutes nearly Rb 3,879.7. Thus, forecasting growth of the cost of the monthly per capita minimum food basket comes to about 18.0% against the corresponding period of the previous year. Annual growth of the cost the monthly per capita minimum food basket will constitute 18.9% in 2015

<sup>1</sup> Structural models were evaluated in the period from October 1998.

## Indices of Freight Rates

This section presents calculations of forecast values of freight rate indices on cargo carriage,<sup>1</sup> made on the basis of time-series models evaluated on the Rosstat data over the period from September 1998 to June 2015. Table 7 shows the results of model calculations of projected values in September 2015 – February 2016. It should be noted that some of the indices under review (for instance, the pipeline rate index) 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 of rates 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.

Table 7

### CALCULATIONS OF FORECAST VALUES OF INDICES OF FREIGHT RATES

Period	The composite freight rate index	The index of truckload freight rate	The index of pipeline rate
Forecast values according to ARIMA-models (% of the previous month)			
September 2015	100.6	100.1	102.9
October 2015	100.6	100.1	101.8
November 2015	100.6	100.1	102.0
December 2015	100.5	100.1	102.7
January 2016	104.9	101.8	102.6
February 2016	100.5	100.0	102.2
Forecast values according to ARIMA-models (% of December of the previous year)			
September 2015	110.4	103.0	116.9
October 2015	111.0	103.1	119.0
November 2015	111.6	103.1	121.4
December 2015	112.2	103.2	124.7
January 2016	104.9	101.8	102.6
February 2016	105.5	101.8	104.8
For reference: actual values in the same period of 2014–2015 (% of the previous month)			
September 2014	100.3	100.2	100.3
October 2014	94.9	100.2	89.9
November 2014	100.4	101.1	100.3
December 2014	101.3	102.3	100.8
January 2015	104.0	103.4	100.5
February 2015	101.2	101.4	100.0

Note: over the period from September 1998 to June 2015, the series of the freight rates index were identified as stationary ones; the other series were identified as stationary ones over the period from September 1998 to June 2015, too; fictitious variables for taking into account particularly dramatic fluctuations were used in respect of all the series.

According to the forecast results for September 2015 – February 2015, the composite freight rate index will be growing at an average monthly rate of 1.3%. As a result, its annual growth in 2015 will constitute 12.2%.

Truckload freight rate index will be growing by a monthly average rate of 0.4% over given six months. In 2015, annual growth of this indicator will constitute 3.2%.

Pipeline rate index will also be growing over the coming six months. The average monthly growth rate will stand at 2.4%. As a result, its annual growth will constitute 24.7% in 2015.

## World Prices of Natural Resources

This section presents calculations of such average monthly values of Brent crude prices (US\$ per barrel), the aluminium prices (US\$ per ton), the gold prices (\$ per ounce), the copper prices (US\$ per

<sup>1</sup> The paper presents a review of the composite freight rate index on freight transport and the truckload freight rate index, as well as the pipeline rate index. The composite freight rate index is computed on the basis of the freight rate indices by individual types of transport: rail, pipeline, shipping, domestic water-borne, truckload freight and air service (for more detailed information, pls. refer, for instance, to: *Prices in Russia*. The Official Publication of Goskomstat of RF, 1998).

ton) and the nickel prices (US\$ per ton) over September 2015 – February 2016 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 July 2015.

Table 8

## CALCULATIONS OF FORECAST VALUES OF WORLD PRICES ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Month	Brent oil (\$ per barrel)	Aluminum (\$ per ton)	Gold (\$ per ounce)	Copper (\$ per ton)	Nickel (\$ per ton)
Forecast values					
September 2015	47.30	1,570	1,132	5,041	10,717
October 2015	42.46	1,535	1,140	4,900	10,590
November 2015	46.76	1,539	1,131	4,810	10,596
December 2015	50.71	1,524	1,125	4,734	10,538
January 2016	45.33	1,507	1,139	4,659	10,520
February 2016	44.62	1,515	1,154	4,589	10,512
Expected growth on the respective month of the previous year (%)					
September 2015	-51.4	-21.1	-8.6	-26.6	-40.6
October 2015	-51.4	-21.1	-6.7	-27.3	-33.0
November 2015	-40.4	-25.1	-3.9	-28.3	-33.0
December 2015	-18.4	-20.2	-6.4	-26.6	-34.0
January 2016	-6.4	-16.9	-9.0	-20.1	-29.2
February 2016	-23.0	-16.7	-6.0	-19.9	-27.9
For reference: actual values in the same period of 2014–2015					
September 2014	97.34	1,990	1,239	6,872	18,035
October 2014	87.27	1,946	1,222	6,737	15,812
November 2014	78.44	2,056	1,176	6,713	15,807
December 2014	62.16	1,909	1,202	6,446	15,962
January 2015	48.42	1,815	1,252	5,831	14,849
February 2015	57.93	1,818	1,227	5,729	14,574

Note: over the period from January 1980 to July 2015, the series of prices of crude oil, nickel, gold, copper and aluminum are series of DS type.

The average forecast crude price amounts to about \$46.2 per barrel which is below corresponding indicators last year by 31.8%. Aluminum prices are projected at about \$1,532.0 per ton and their average projected reduction constitutes about 20% compared to the same level last year. Forecast gold prices constitute about \$1,136.0 per ounce. Average forecast copper prices constitute about \$4,789.0 per ton and prices of nickel prices – about \$10,579 per ton. Average forecast price fall on gold constitutes about 7%, average reduction of copper prices – about 25%, average reduction of nickel prices – 33% compared to the corresponding level last year.

As of 2015 year-end, forecasted decline of crude oil prices compared to 2014 year-end will constitute 18.4%. Similar decline of prices of aluminum, gold, copper and nickel by the year-end are forecast at 20.2%, 6.4%, 26.6% and 34%, respectively.

## MONETARY INDICES

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 September 2015 to February 2016 were received on the basis of models of time-series of respective indices calculated by the CBR<sup>1</sup> over the period from October 1998 to August (July – for M2 time series) 2015. Table 9 presents the results of calculations of forecast values and actual values of those indices 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

<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.

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.

Table 9

## THE FORECAST OF M2 AND THE MONETARY BASE

Period	The Monetary base		M <sub>2</sub>	
	Billion Rb	Growth on the previous month, %	Billion Rb	Growth on the previous month, %
September 2015	8,193	2.2	33,088	0,6
October 2015	8,123	-0.9	33,286	0,6
November 2015	8,323	2.5	33,484	0,6
December 2015	8,253	-0.8	34,484	3,0
January 2016	8,775	6.3	34,114	-1,1
February 2016	8,385	-4.4	34,312	0,6
For reference: actual value in the respective months of 2014–2015 (growth on the previous month, %)				
September 2014		1.6		-0.1
October 2014		-0.4		-1.2
November 2014		0.7		1.2
December 2014		-0.9		4.8
January 2015		11.1		-2.1
February 2015		-12.0		0.9

Note: over the period from October 1998 to August (July) 2015, all the time series of monetary indices were attributed to the class of series which are stationary in the first-order differences and have an explicit seasonal component

Over September 2015 – February 2016, the monetary base will be going up over the period under review at the average monthly rate of 0.8%, and money indicator M2 – at the average monthly rate of 0.7%. Annual growth of M2 in 2015 is projected at 12.6%.

In January 2016, the seasonal monetary base growth is forecast at 6.3%. Annual growth of the monetary base in 2015 will constitute 0.03% according to forecast

Table 10

## THE FORECAST OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESERVES OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Period	Forecast values according to ARIMA-model	
	Billion USD	Growth on the previous month, %
Sep 2015	348.2	-1.8
Oct 2015	338.8	-2.7
Nov 2015	322.5	-4.8
Dec 2015	306.5	-5.0
Jan 2016	294.2	-4.0
Feb 2016	281.6	-4.3
For reference: actual values in the same period of 2014–2015		
	Billion USD	Growth on the previous month, %
Sep 2014	465.2	-0.8
Oct 2014	454.2	-2.3
Nov 2014	428.6	-5.6
Dec 2014	418.9	-2.3
Jan 2015	385.5	-8.0
Feb 2015	376.2	-2.4

Note: over the period from October 1998 to July 2015, the series of the gold and foreign exchange reserves of the Russian Federation were identified as stationary series in difference.

## INTERNATIONAL RESERVES

This section presents the outputs of the statistical estimation of such future values of the international reserves of the Russian Federation<sup>1</sup> 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 2015. 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 results over September 2015 – February 2016, international reserves will be falling by average monthly rate of 3.8%. In 2015, the decline of the international reserves is forecast at 26.8%.

<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.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

The model calculations of prospective values of the foreign exchange rates (RUR 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 August 2015 and from January 1999 to August 2015<sup>1</sup>, respectively.

USD/RUR exchange rate during the reviewed period is forecasted along two models in the amount of Rb 71.15 for USD. By 2015 year-end, forecast indicator will come to Rb71.42 for USD on average along two models.

Euro/USD exchange rate is forecasted at USD1.10 per 1 euro. By 2015 year-end, this indicator is forecasted at USD1.12 per 1 euro on average along two models.

Table 11

FORECASTS OF THE USD/RUR AND EUR/USD EXCHANGE RATES

Period	The USD/RUR exchange rate (RUR per USD)		The EUR/USD exchange rate (USD per EUR)	
	ARIMA	SM	ARIMA	SM
September 2015	68.45	68.39	1.12	1.10
October 2015	70.83	70.97	1.12	1.09
November 2015	71.35	70.69	1.12	1.10
December 2015	71.94	70.90	1.12	1.11
January 2016	72.53	72.01	1.12	1.10
February 2016	73.13	72.64	1.12	1.10
For reference: actual values in the similar period of 2014–2015				
September 2014	39.39		1.25	
October 2014	43.39		1.25	
November 2014	49.32		1.25	
December 2014	56.26		1.22	
January 2015	68.93		1.12	
February 2015	61.27		1.12	

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

## THE LIVING STANDARD INDICES

This section (Table 12) presents calculations of forecast values of indices of real wages, real disposable income and real income<sup>2</sup> as were received on the basis of the model of time series of respective indices computed by Rosstat and taken over the period from January 1999 to July 2015. The above indices 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 indices under review. As a result, the future values of the indices 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.

1 The authors use the IMF data over the period from January 1999 to June 2015. The data over the period from July to August 2015 was obtained from the foreign exchange rate statistics website: [www.oanda.com](http://www.oanda.com)

2 Real cash income is a relative index which is calculated by means of division of the index of the nominal size (which was actually formed in the period under review) of households' cash income by the CPI. Real disposable cash income is cash income minus mandatory payments and contributions. (See: Rossiisky Statisticheskyy Ezhegodnik, Moscow, Rosstat, 2004, p. 212).

According to the results presented in *Table 12*, real disposable income will be on average growing by 0.7% a month (against the corresponding period of the previous year) over the reviewed period. Real money income will be declining at the average monthly rate 0.3%. Forecasted decline of real wages will be more significant and will average 6.6% a month against the corresponding period of the previous year. By 2015 year-end, forecasted decline of real disposable money income will constitute 1.7%, real money income – 2.8%, real accrued wages – 8.6%.

Table 12

## THE FORECAST OF THE LIVING STANDARD INDICES

Period	Real disposable money income	Real money income	Real accrued wages
Forecast values according to ARIMA-models (% of the respective month of 2014–2015)			
September 2015	99.5	98.2	92.2
October 2015	99.6	98.3	90.8
November 2015	99.9	98.8	92.3
December 2015	101.2	100.4	91.3
January 2016	101.8	101.0	96.9
February 2016	102.3	101.7	96.6
For reference: actual values in the respective period of 2014–2015 (% of the same period of 2013–2015)			
September 2014	100.2	101.1	101.5
October 2014	102.1	101.8	100.6
November 2014	96.2	96.4	98.8
December 2014	93.8	93.9	96.0
January 2015	99.3	98.2	91.6
February 2015	98.4	96.9	92.6

*Note:* for calculating purposes, the series of the real disposable money income, real money income and real accrued wages in the base form were used (March 1999 was adopted as a base period). Over the period from January 1999 to July 2015, those series were attributed to the class of processes which are stationary in differences and have an explicit seasonal component.

## 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 June 2015 on the basis of the monthly data released by Rosstat<sup>1</sup> were used. The unemployment was calculated on the basis of the models with results of the findings from business surveys,<sup>2</sup> too.*

*It is to be noted that feasible logical inconsistencies<sup>3</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.*

According to ARIMA-model forecasting (*Table 13*) in September 2015 – February 2016, the number of employed in the economy will grow on average by 0.3% monthly against the corresponding period of the previous year. By 2015 year-end, forecast index of employed in the economy constitutes 71.7 million persons.

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

2 The model is evaluated over the period from January 1999 to June 2015.

3 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.

Average growth of total number of unemployed is projected at 2.5% per month against the corresponding period of last year. Average number of unemployed by 2015 year-end is forecasted at the level of 4.1 million persons.

Table 13

## CALCULATION OF FORECAST VALUES OF THE INDICES THE EMPLOYMENT AND THE UNEMPLOYMENT

Month	Employment (ARIMA)		Unemployment (ARIMA)			Unemployment (BS)		
	Million people	Growth on the respective month of previous year (%)	Million people	Growth on the respective month of previous year (%)	% of the index of the number of the gainfully employed population	Million people	Growth on the respective month of previous year (%)	% of the index of the number of the gainfully employed population
September 2015	72.4	0.7	3.9	4.4	5.3	4.2	12.3	5.8
October 2015	72.2	0.3	3.9	0.5	5.4	4.2	8.1	5.8
November 2015	72.0	0.5	3.9	0.0	5.4	4.2	7.3	5.8
December 2015	71.7	0.5	3.9	-1.3	5.5	4.3	6.1	6.0
January 2016	71.4	-0.5	4.1	-1.6	5.8	4.3	2.4	6.0
February 2016	71.5	0.1	4.1	-6.7	5.7	4.3	-2.1	6.0
For reference: actual values in the same periods of 2014–2015 (million people)								
August 2014	72.4					3.7		
September 2014	71.9					3.7		
October 2014	72.0					3.9		
November 2014	71.6					3.9		
December 2014	71.4					4.0		
January 2015	71.8					4.2		
February 2015	71.4					4.4		

Note: over the period from October 1998 to June 2015, 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 indices include seasonal component.

## ANNEX

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

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

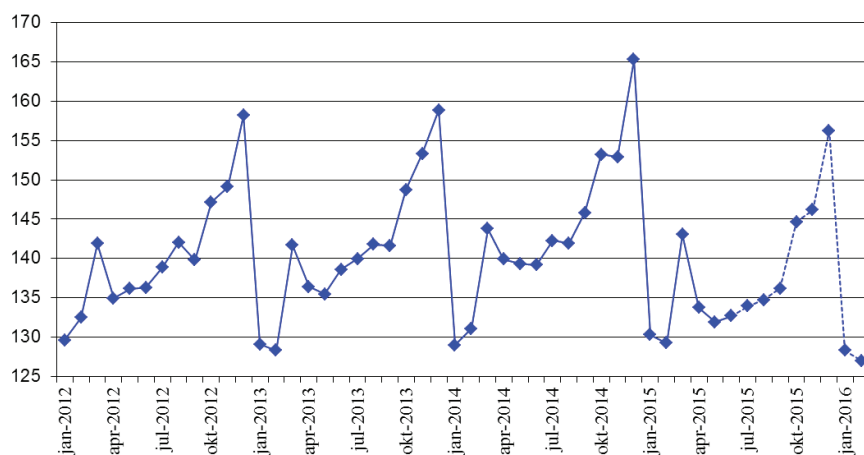


Fig. 1b. The NRU HSE industrial production index (ARIMA-model) (% of January 2005)

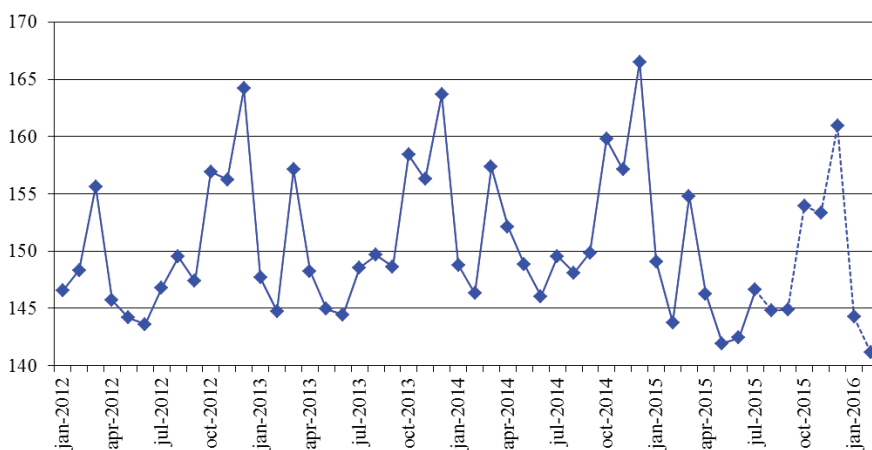


Fig. 2a. The Rosstat industrial production index for mining (% of December 2001)

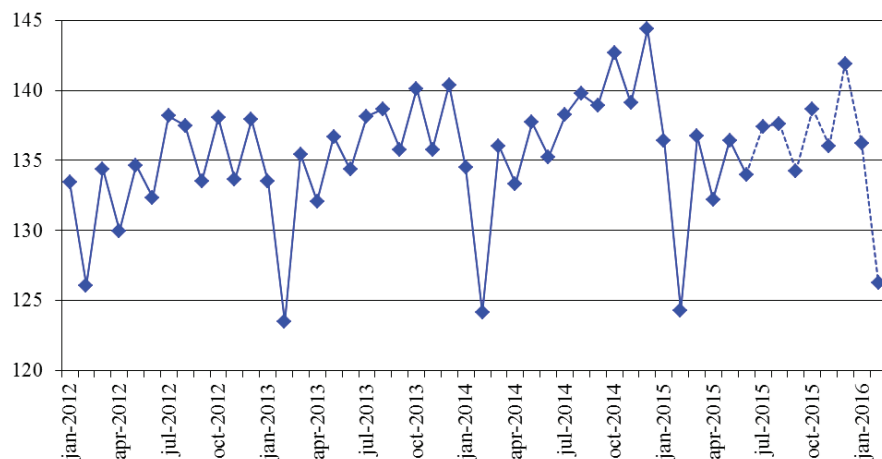




Fig. 2b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for mining  
(% of January 2005)

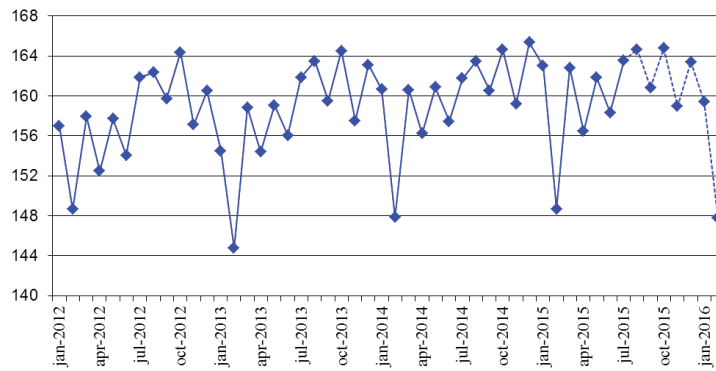


Fig. 3a. The Rosstat industrial production index for manufacturing  
(% of December 2001)

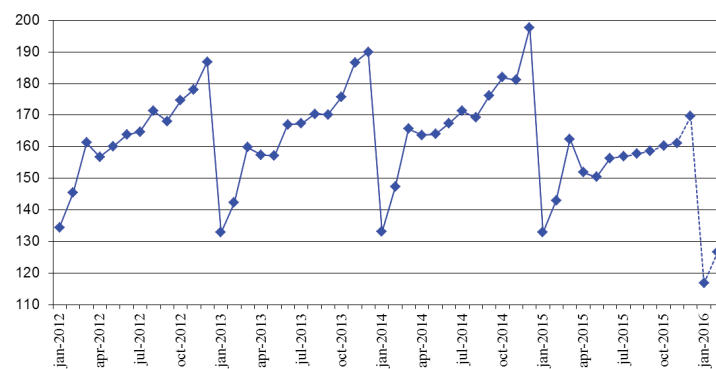


Fig. 3b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for manufacturing  
(% of January 2005)

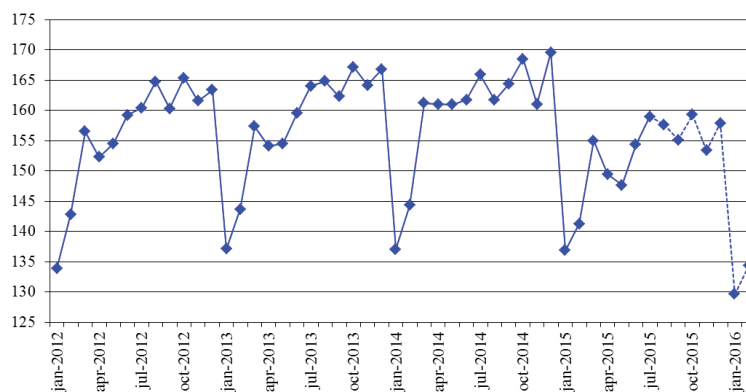


Fig. 4a. The Rosstat industrial production index for utilities (electricity, water, and gas)  
(as a percentage of that in December 2001)

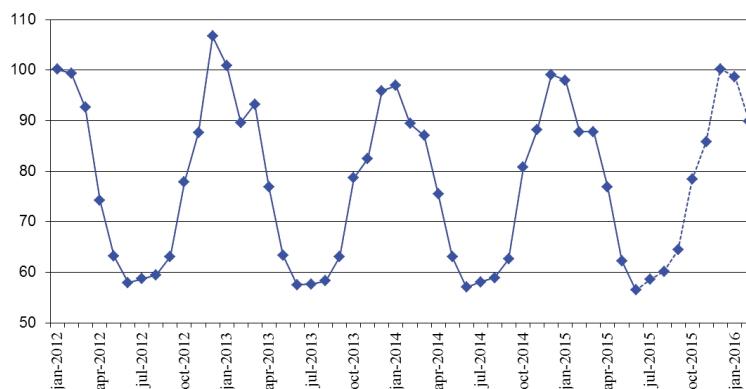


Fig. 4b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for utilities (electricity, water, and gas) (as a percentage of that in January 2005)

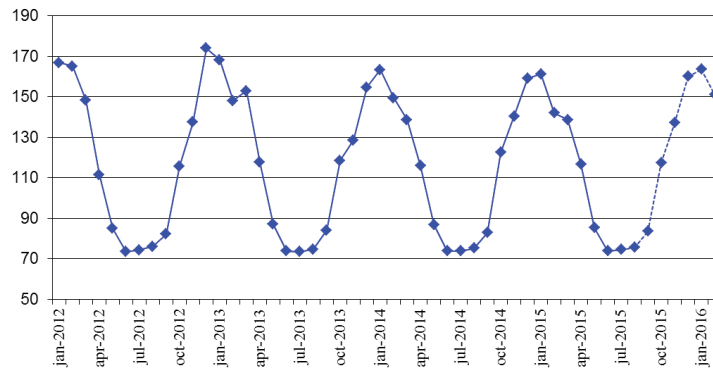


Fig. 5a. The Rosstat industrial production index for food products (as a percentage of that in December 2001)

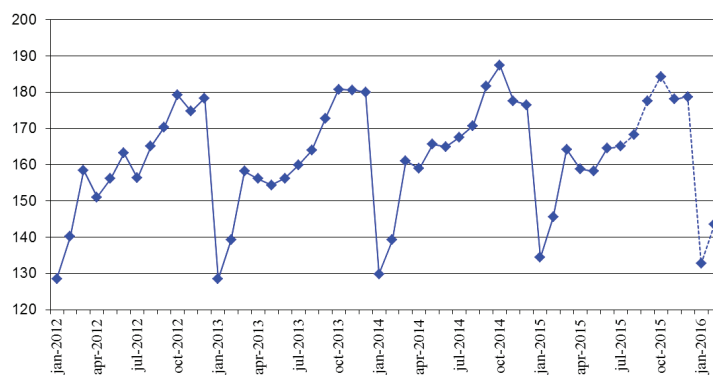


Fig. 5b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for food products (as a percentage of that in January 2005)

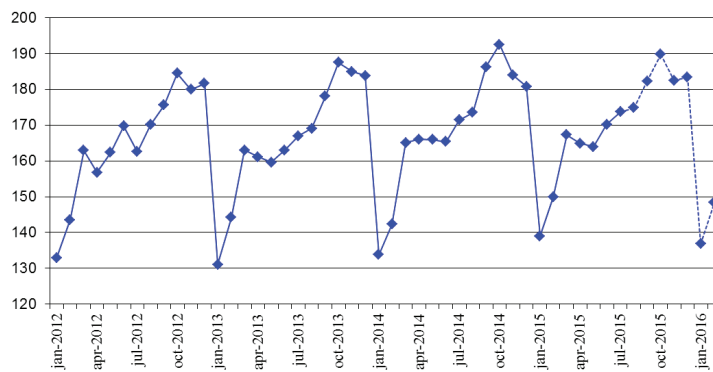


Fig. 6a. The Rosstat industrial production index for coke and petroleum (as a percentage of that in December 2001)

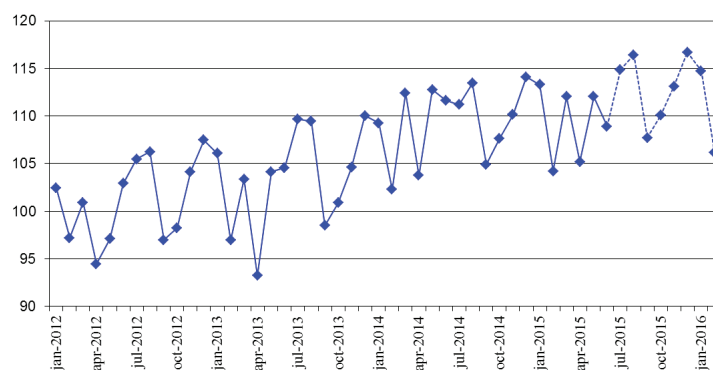


Fig. 6b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for petroleum and coke (as a percentage of that in January 2005)

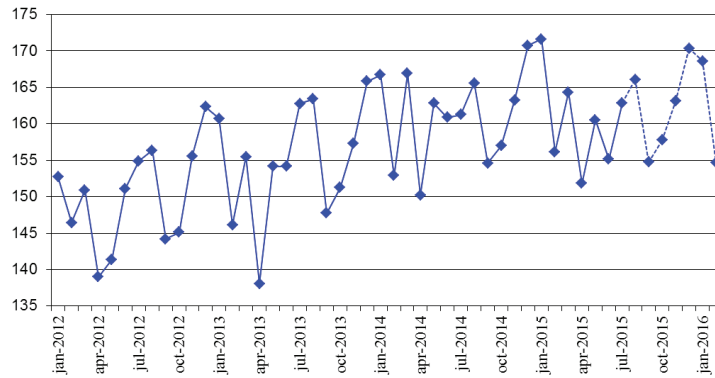


Fig.7a. The Rosstat industrial production index for primary metals and fabricated metal products (as a percentage of that in December 2001)

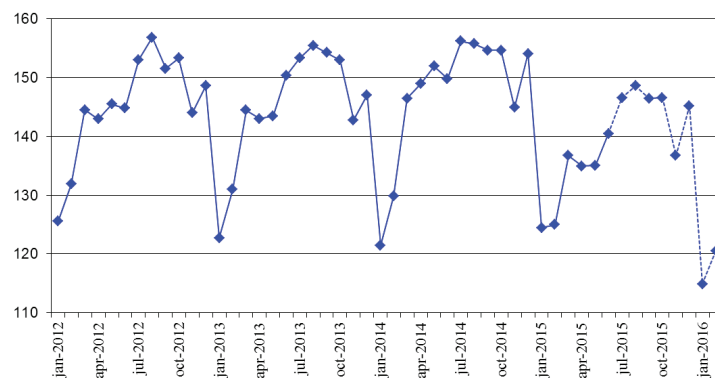


Fig. 7b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for primary metals and fabricated metal products (as a percentage of that in January 2005)

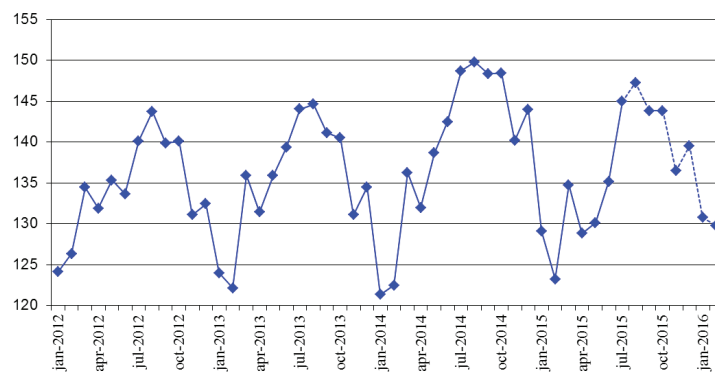


Fig. 8a. The Rosstat industrial production index for machinery (as a percentage of that in December 2001)

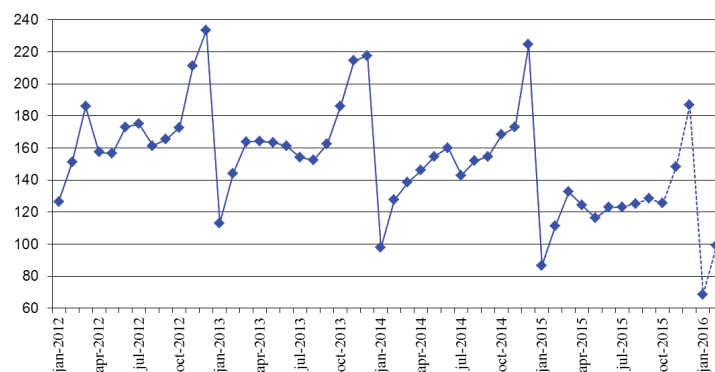


Fig. 8b. The NRU HSE industrial production index for machinery (as a percentage of that in January 2005)

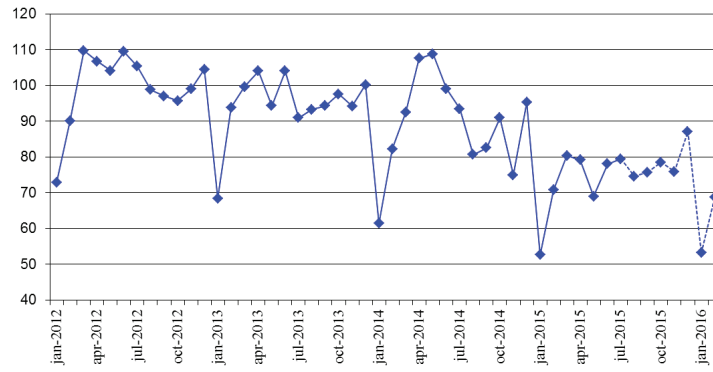


Fig. 9. The volume of retail sales (billion Rb)

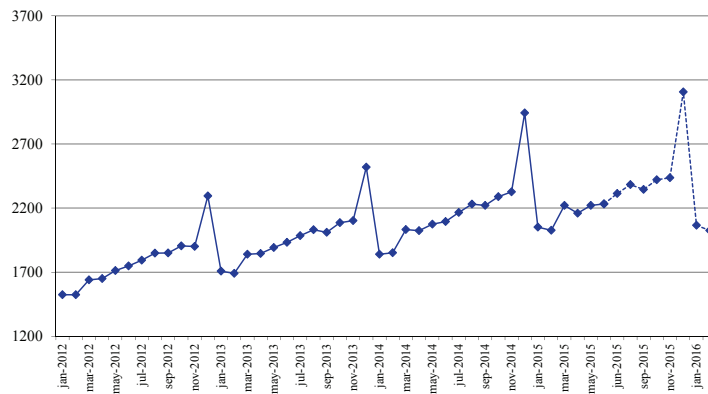


Fig. 9a. The real volume of retail sales (as a percentage of that in the same period of the previous year)

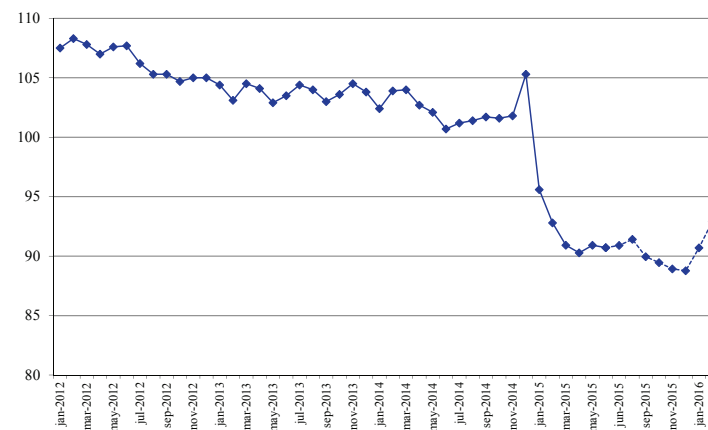


Fig. 10. Investments in capital assets (billion Rb)

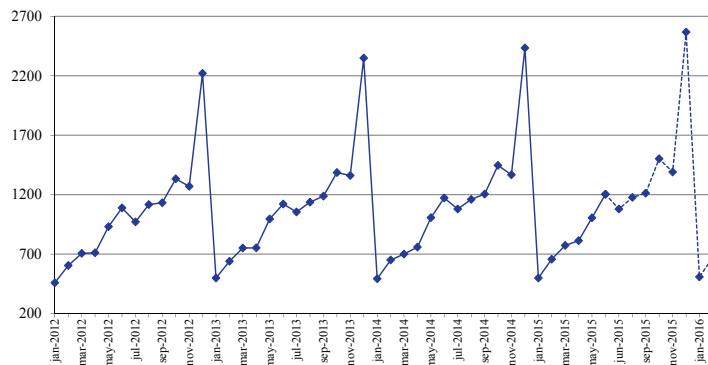


Fig. 10a. Real investments in capital assets  
(as a percentage of those in the same period of the previous year)

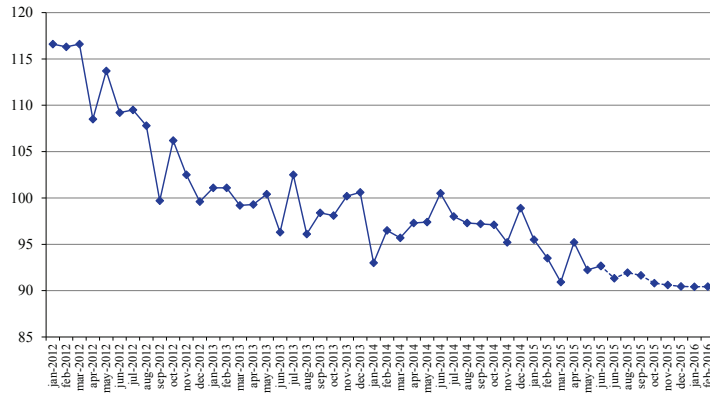


Fig. 11. Export to all countries (billion USD)

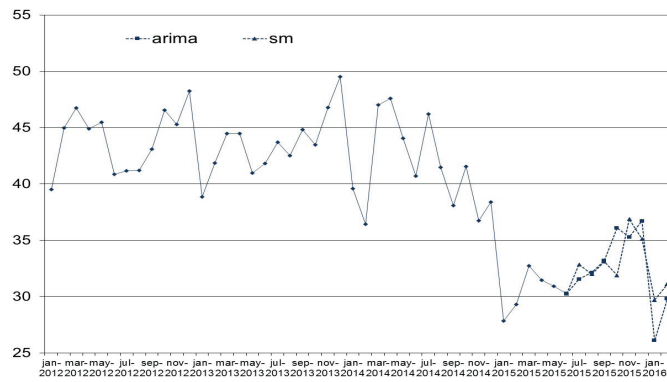


Fig. 12. Export to countries outside the CIS (billion USD)

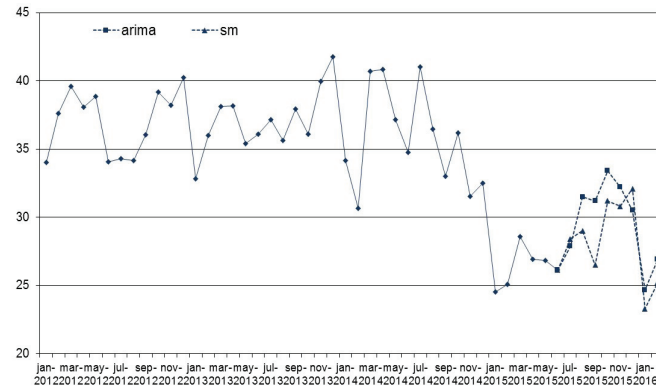


Fig. 13. Import from all countries (billion USD)

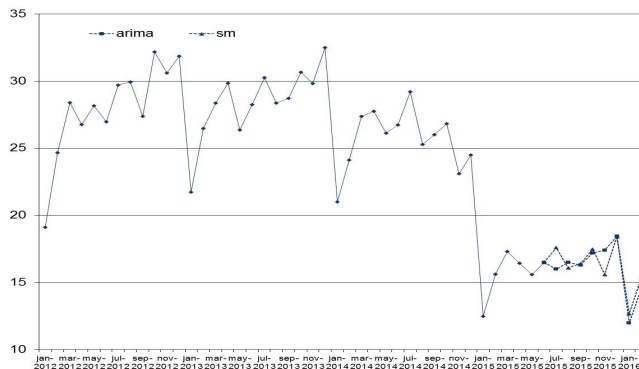


Fig. 14. Import from countries outside the CIS (billion USD)

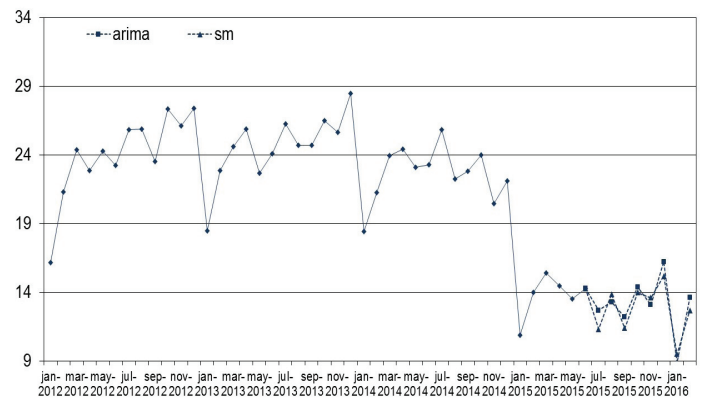


Fig. 15. The consumer price index (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

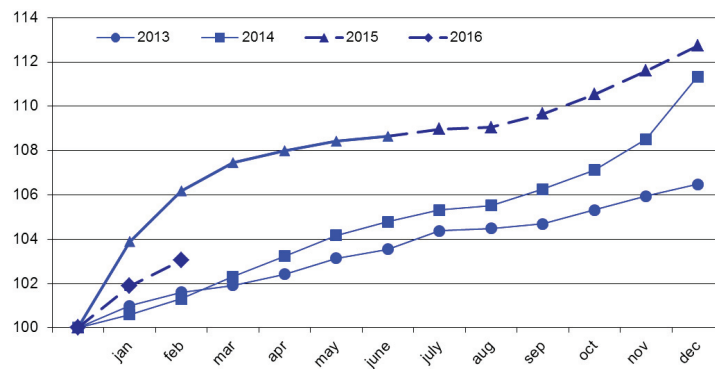


Fig. 15a. The consumer price index (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year) (SM)

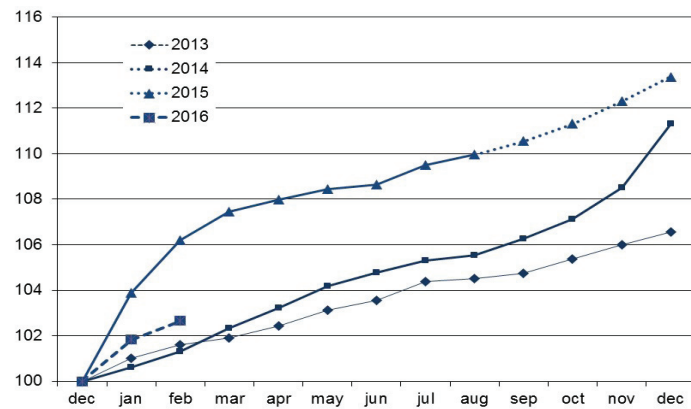


Fig. 16. The producer price index for industrial goods (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

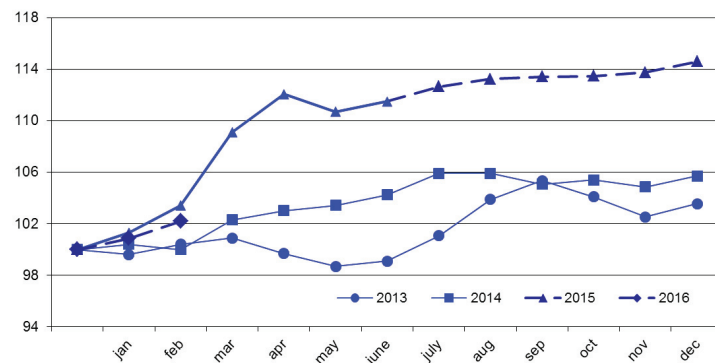


Fig. 17. The price index for mining  
(as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

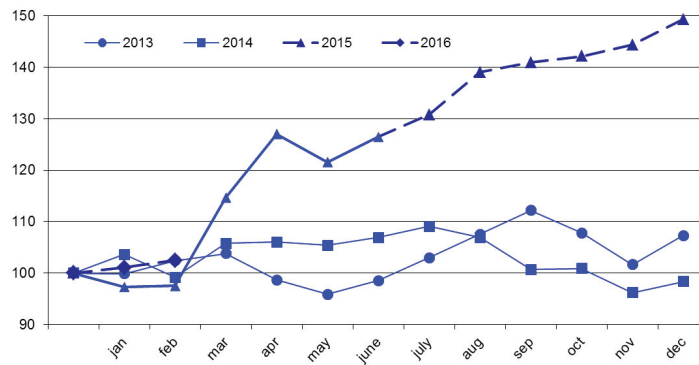


Fig. 18. The price index for manufacturing  
(as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

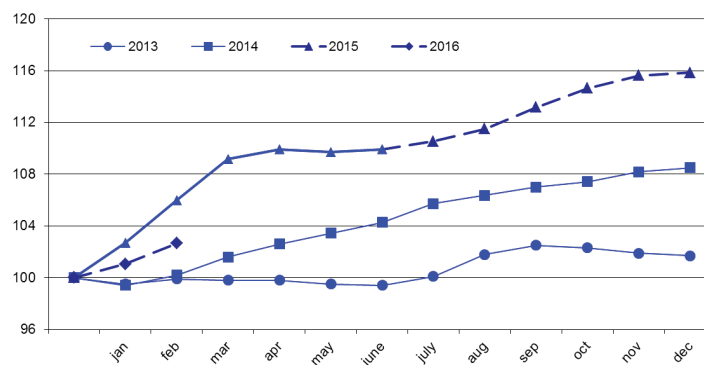


Fig. 19. The price index for utilities (electricity, water, and gas)  
(as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

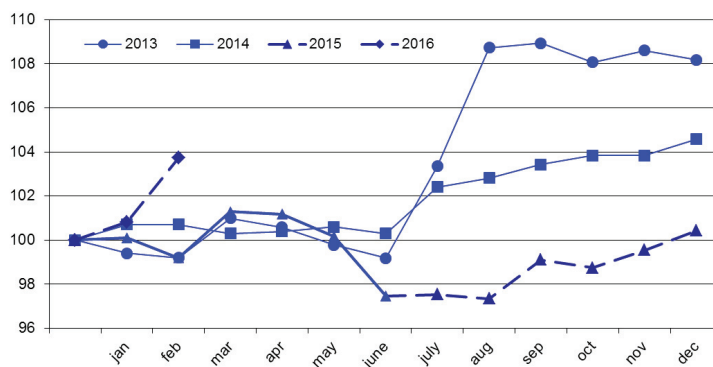


Fig. 20. The price index for food products  
(as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

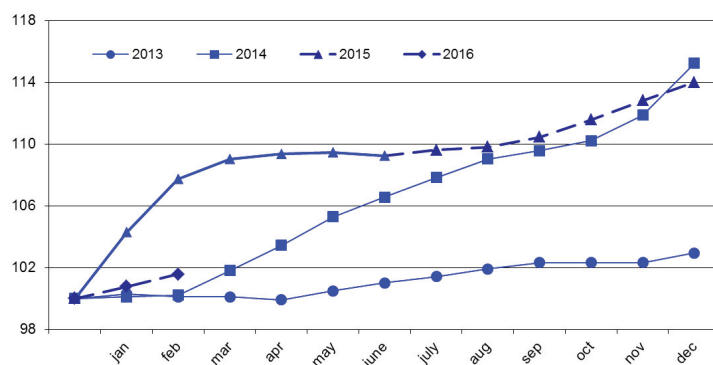


Fig. 21. The price index for the textile and sewing industry (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

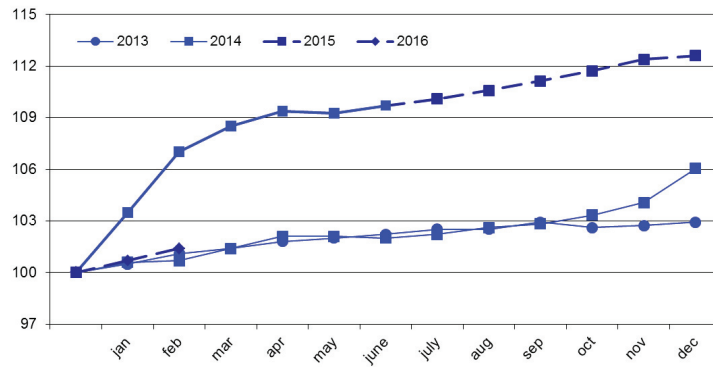


Fig. 22. The price index for wood products (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

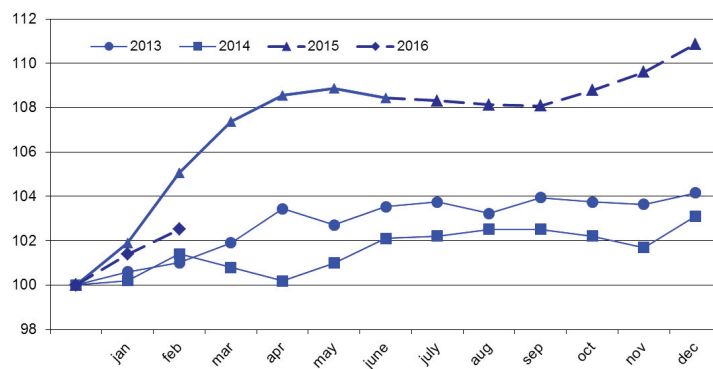


Fig. 23. The price index for the pulp and paper industry (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

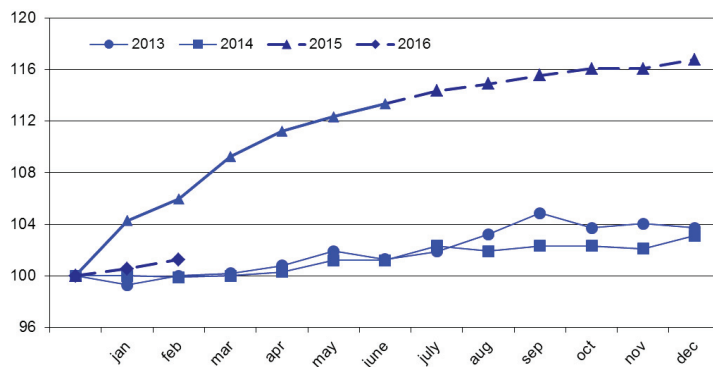


Fig. 24. The price index for coke and petroleum (as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

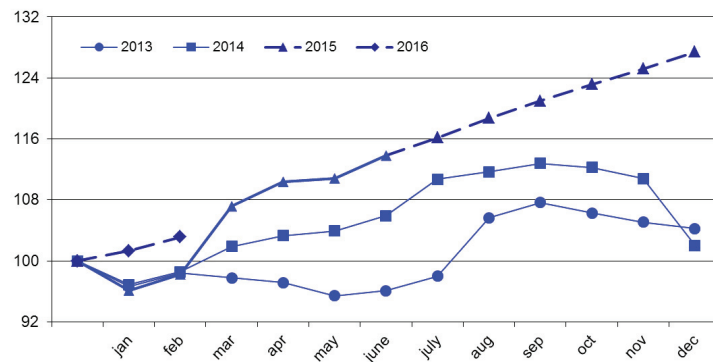




Fig. 25. The price index for the chemical industry  
(as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

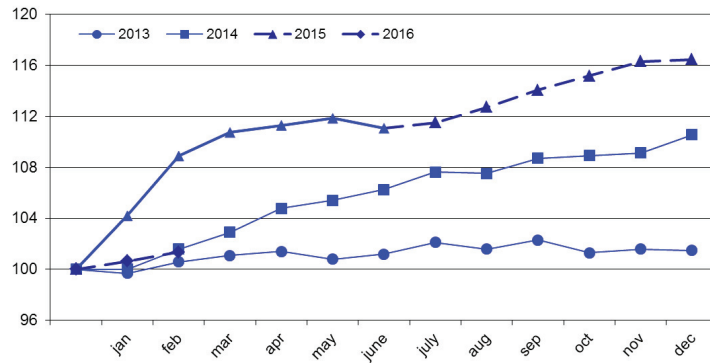


Fig.26. The price index for primary metals and fabricated metal products  
(as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

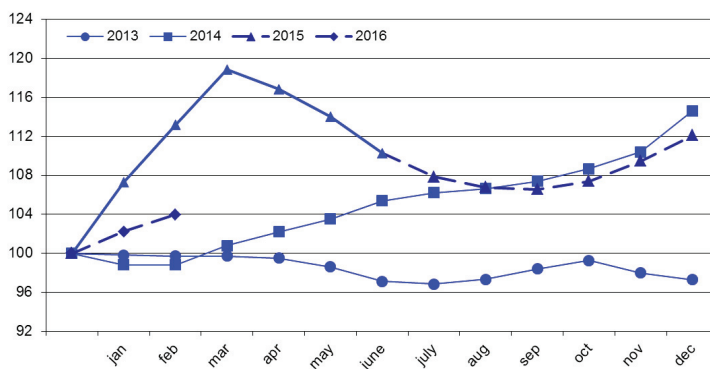


Fig.27. The price index for machinery  
(as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

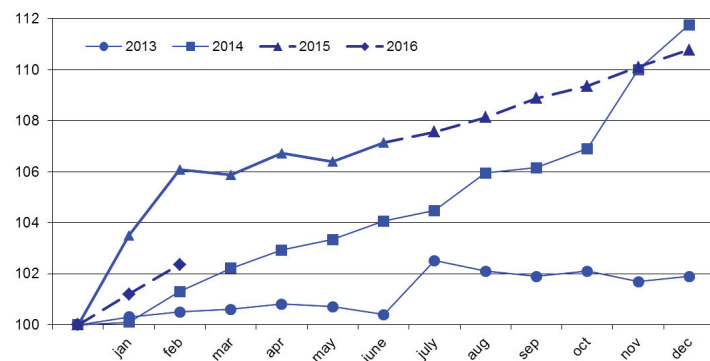


Fig.28. The price index for transport equipment manufacturing  
(as a percentage of that in December of the previous year)

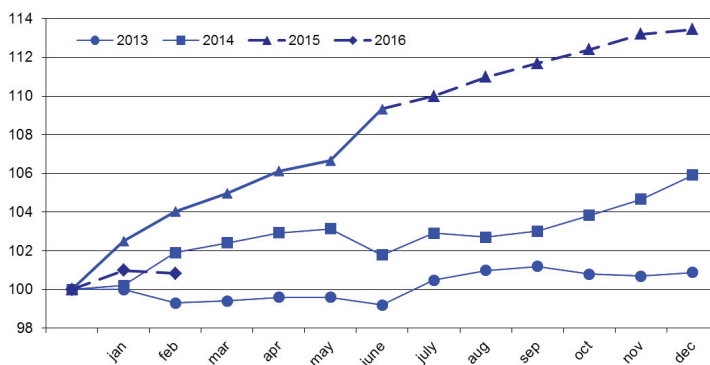


Fig. 29. The cost of the monthly per capita minimum food basket (Rb)

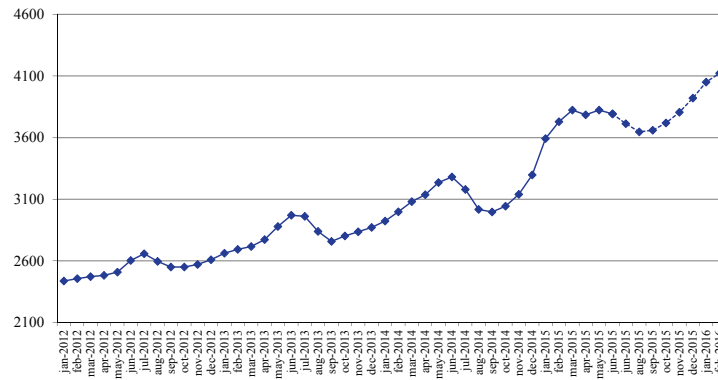


Fig. 30. The composite index of transport tariffs (for each year, as a percentage of that in the previous month)

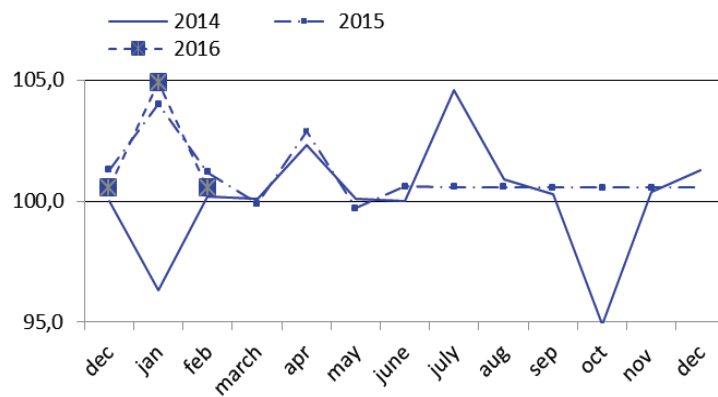


Fig. 31. The index of motor freight tariffs (for each year, as a percentage of that in the previous month)

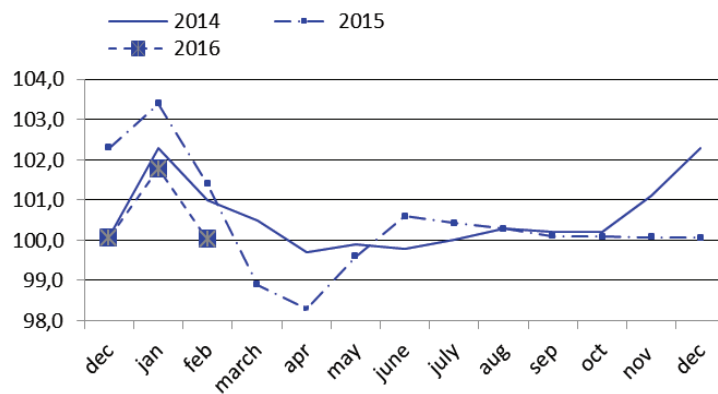


Fig. 32. The index of pipeline tariffs (for each year, as a percentage of that in the previous month)

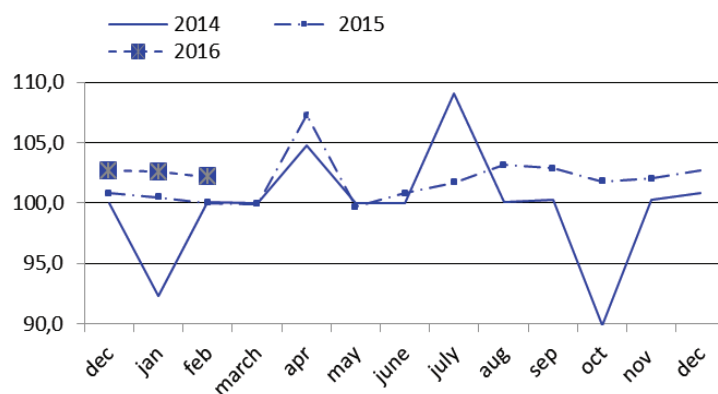


Fig. 33. The Brent oil price (\$ per barrel)

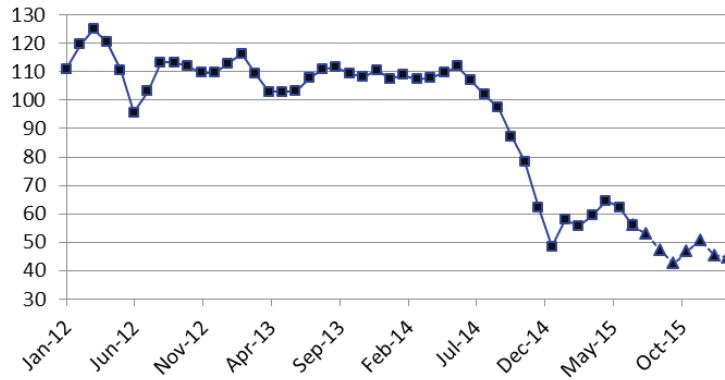


Fig. 34. The aluminum price (\$ per ton)

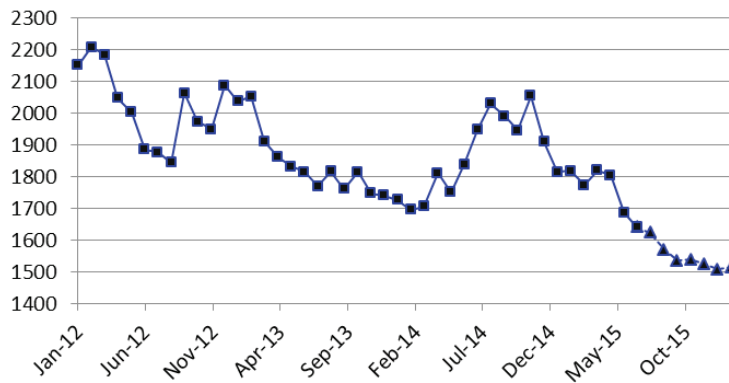


Fig. 35. The gold price (\$ per ounce)

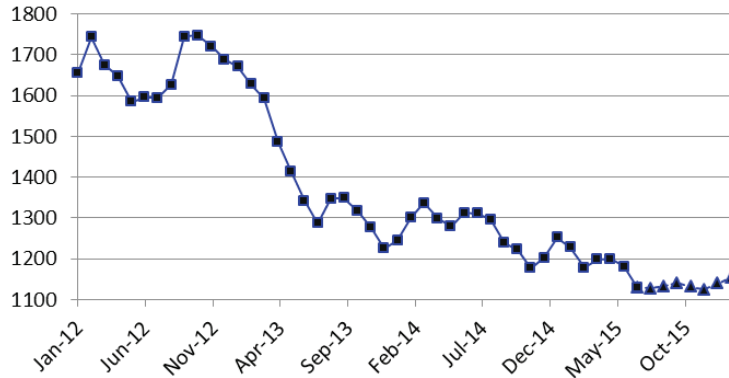


Fig. 36. The nickel price (\$ per ton)

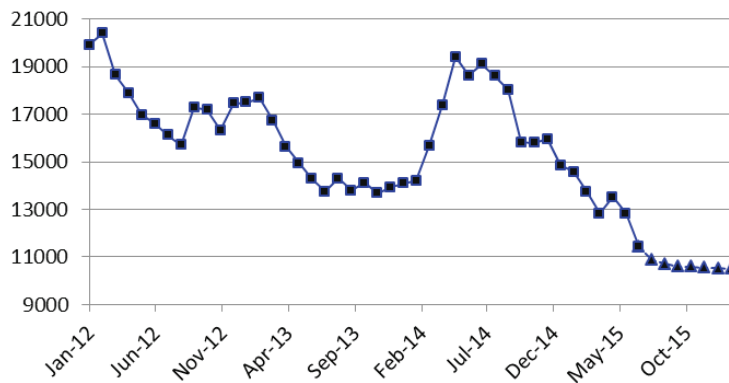


Fig. 37. The copper price (\$ per ton)

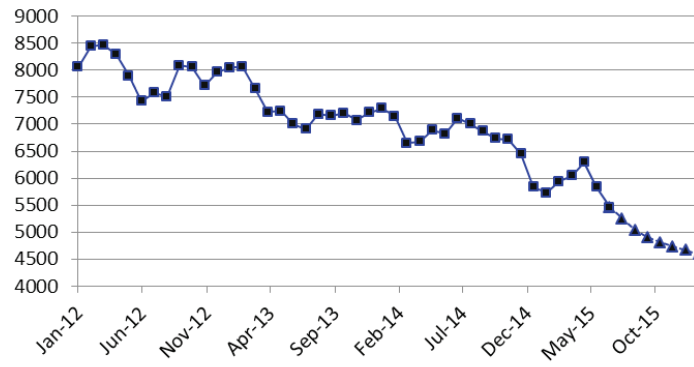


Fig. 38. The monetary base, billion Rb

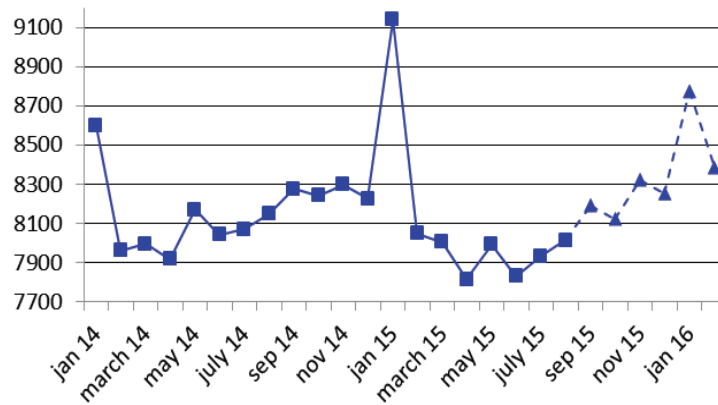


Fig. 39. M<sub>2</sub>, billion Rb

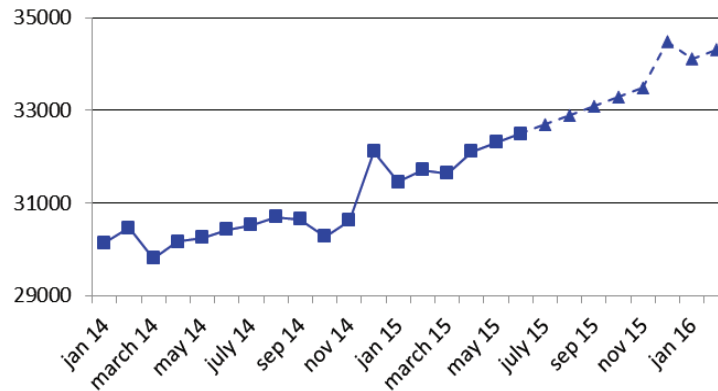


Fig. 40. The international reserves of the Russian Federation, million USD

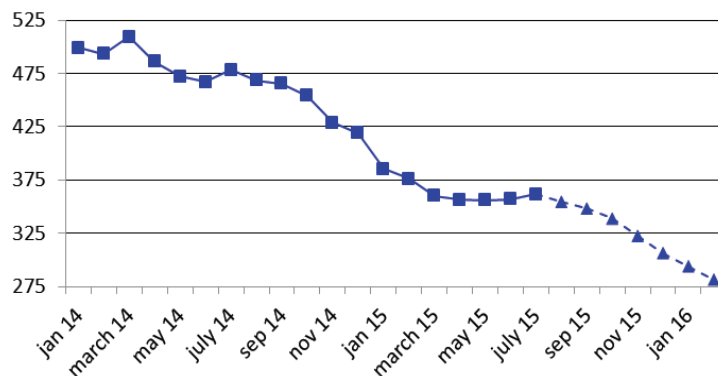


Fig. 41. The RUR/USD exchange rate

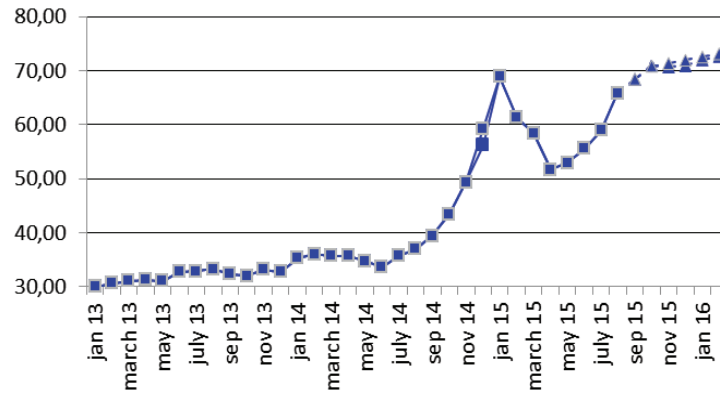


Fig. 42. The USD/EUR exchange rate

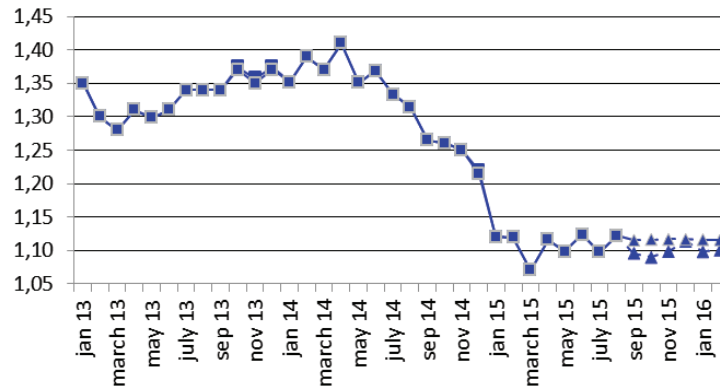
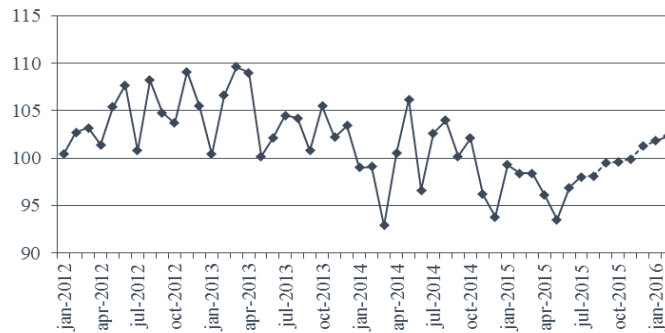
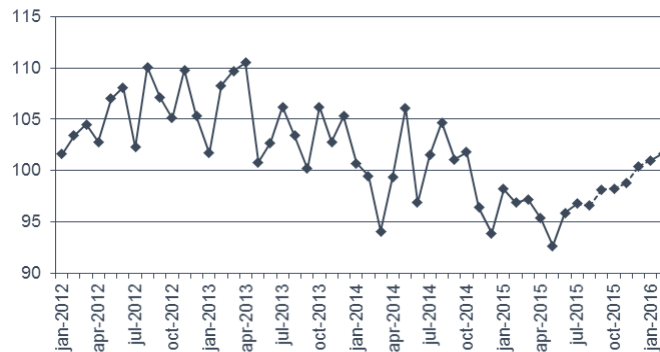
Fig. 43. Real disposable cash income  
(as a percentage of that in the same period of the previous year)Fig. 44. Real cash income  
(as a percentage of that in the same period of the previous year)

Fig. 45. Real accrued wages  
(as a percentage of those in the same period of the previous year)



Fig. 46. Employment (million people)

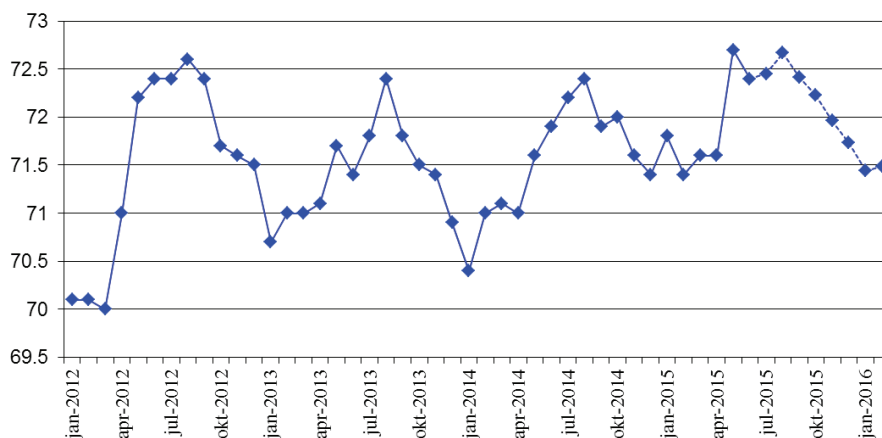


Fig. 47. Unemployment (million people)

