

## **Selected Economic Indicators**

### **Analysis on External Sector Developments**

#### ➤ **Exchange Rate**

In Azar 1403 (December 2024), each US dollar was exchanged in the unofficial market at an average rate of 721.2 thousand Iranian rials, indicating an increase of 5.9 percent compared with Aban 1403 (November 2024). Meanwhile, both the telegraphic transfer (TT) selling rate of each US dollar exchanged in Iran Center for Exchange<sup>1</sup> and the rate of each US dollar against the Iranian rial exchanged via Iran Center for Exchange rose by 9.8 percent compared with November 2024, amounting to 544.9 thousand and 560.2 thousand rials in December 2024. Continuation of military conflicts in the region along with political tensions impacted the inflation expectations of economic actors, in turn raising the exchange rate for the US dollar against the Iranian rial in the unofficial market in December 2024. In addition, the CBI implemented measures to launch the trade foreign exchange system in this month, aiming to maximize the return of foreign exchange receipts from exports into the economy, increase the foreign exchange supply in the official market, reduce the deviations of the foreign exchange from the main cycle, enhance transparency in the foreign exchange market, and narrow the gap between the exchange rate offered at the official market with that offered at the unofficial foreign exchange market.

#### ➤ **External Debt (Actual Obligations)**

The balance of the external debt of the country amounted to \$4.4 billion in December 2024, down by 12.5 percent compared with end-Esfand 1402 (March 2024). Out of the total amount of debt, \$2.7 billion (61.1 percent) was in the form of short-term debt and \$1.7 billion (38.9 percent) was related to medium- and long-term debt. On this basis, the share of the short-term debt out of the total external debt increased by 14.2 percentage points in December 2024 compared with March 2024.

#### ➤ **Foreign Trade**

According to preliminary data released by Iran's Customs Administration, the value of exports through Customs (excluding natural gas condensate) amounted to \$43.1 billion in the nine months of 1403 (April-December 2024), indicating a rise of 18.8 percent compared with April-December 2023. Similarly, the value of imports through Customs increased by 5.2 percent to \$50.9 billion. Meanwhile, the weight of exports through Customs increased by 14.5 percent to 116.3 million tons, while that of imports decreased by 2.8 percent to 27.9 million tons during April-December 2024 period compared with the same period in the year before. Accordingly, the price of each ton of exported goods rose by 3.8 percent and that of each ton of imported goods increased by 8.2 percent.

---

<sup>1</sup> [www.ice.ir](http://www.ice.ir)