

Economic Indicators



Central Bank of Iceland
May 2005

Overview of economic indicators

	Latest period	Latest value	Change (%)			Contribution to 12-mo. inflation (%)	12-mo. ch. 1 year ago (%)
			on prev. month	over 6 months ²	over 12 months		
<i>I Inflation and inflation expectations¹</i>							
Consumer price index	May '05	240.7	-0.5	2.4	2.9	.	3.2
Core index 1 (CPI excl. agric. prod., vegetables, fruit and petrol)	May '05	136.9	-0.5	3.9	3.4	3.0	3.2
Core index 2 (core index 1 excl. public services).....	May '05	136.8	-0.5	3.3	3.2	2.6	2.9
Domestic goods excl. agricultural products and vegetables.....	May '05	123.6	-2.4	-10.2	-4.0	-0.4	1.6
Agricultural products and vegetables.....	May '05	112.1	-5.3	-13.9	-4.8	-0.3	0.8
Imported goods excl. alcohol and tobacco.....	May '05	109.8	0.6	-4.7	-1.4	-0.4	1.6
- food and beverages	May '05	106.5	-2.5	-23.5	-11.8	-0.3	-0.7
- cars and spare parts.....	May '05	117.2	-0.2	-4.5	-1.0	0.0	3.0
- petrol.....	May '05	138.2	3.8	-0.6	6.2	0.3	8.4
- imported goods excl. food and beverages	May '05	99.7	0.4	-3.1	-2.0	-0.3	-0.2
Housing	May '05	203.9	-1.1	20.0	14.6	3.2	8.0
Public services.....	May '05	143.7	0.2	11.2	6.4	0.5	6.6
Private services.....	May '05	144.0	0.4	5.3	3.0	0.7	2.7
Groceries (perishable items)	May '05	112.2	-3.9	-16.0	-7.0	-1.1	-1.1
Weighted import exchange rate index (Dec. 31 1994=100).....	April 29 '05	95.5	4.4	-12.9	-8.9	.	3.3
			Expected Latest period inflation	Change on prev. survey	Exp. 12-mo inflation 1 year ago	Expected annual inflation over next 2 yrs. 3 yrs.	Perceived inflation in past 12 mo.
Breakeven inflation rate ³	March 18 '05		4.9	.	.	4.8 4.7	.
Employers' inflation expectations.....	February '05		3.6	0.0	2.8	3.0	.
Public's inflation expectations	March '05		4.1	0.2	3.3	.	3.7

1. Index base periods: Consumer price index: May 1988=100; other price indices: March 1997=100. 2. Annualised inflation. 3. Difference between non-indexed and indexed Treasury bond yields at 2 and 3 years' maturity. Data are not available after March 2005.

	Latest period	Latest value	Value 1 year ago	% change ¹ on		From beginn. of year ¹	
				previous period	previous year	Value	Change on prev. year (%)
<i>II Output and demand</i>							
GDP (b.kr.).....	Q4/2004	221.1	207.3	.	3.8	858.9	5.2
National expenditure (b.kr.).....	Q4/2004	240.6	218.2	.	7.2	909.9	7.7
Private consumption (b.kr.).....	Q4/2004	133.9	119.7	.	9.2	496.3	7.5
Public consumption (b.kr.).....	Q4/2004	58.9	55.4	.	1.3	228.2	3.6
Gross fixed investment (b.kr.).....	Q4/2004	52.0	46.6	.	7.8	188.7	12.8
Exports of goods and services (billion kr.).....	Q4/2004	79.0	69.4	.	13.2	316.1	8.3
Imports of goods and services (billion kr.).....	Q4/2004	-98.5	-80.3	.	21.3	-367.1	14.3
Domestic turnover according to VAT statements (billion kr.)....	Jan.-Feb.'05	149.4	137.2	-8.2	4.5	149.4	4.5
Turnover in groceries stores (b.kr.).....	April '05	122.1	116.7	-0.5	4.6	114.4	6.5
Credit and debit card turnover (b.kr.) ²	April '05	51.4	44.8	5.2	14.6	198.7	12.1
Turnover of publicly listed companies on ICX (b.kr.).....	Jan.-Dec. '04	341.6	266.2	.	28.3	341.6	28.3
Cement sales (thous. tons).....	April '05	21.4	15.7	18.5	36.7	67.8	32.5
Automobile registrations (number).....	April '05	2,415	1,384	35.8	74.5	7,615	65.3

1. Change between periods is presented in real terms. 2. Change in seasonally adjusted values.

	Latest period	Latest value	Value 1 year ago	% change on		From beginn. of year	
				previous period	previous year	Value	Change on prev. year (%)
<i>III Foreign trade and external economic conditions</i>							
Price of marine products in foreign currency (Jan. 1999=100)...	April '05	0.0	94.0	-100.0	-100.0	0.0	-100.0
Price of aluminium, LME cash price USD/t.....	April '05	1,867	1,730	-5.8	7.9	1,891	13.3
Price of crude oil (Brent) USD/b.....	April '05	52.6	35.1	-0.9	49.8	48.9	48.8
Groundfish (1,000 tonnes).....	April '05	52.9	48.7	-17.2	8.6	203.6	6.9
Pelagics (1,000 tonnes).....	April '05	58.7	29.5	-61.2	98.9	661.2	26.5
Merchandise exports (excl. ships & aircraft, b.kr.) ¹	March '05	16.4	20.0	1.8	-9.2	46.7	-0.8
- marine products (b.kr.) ¹	March '05	11.0	12.7	11.3	-3.5	28.4	0.2
- aluminium (b.kr.) ¹	March '05	2.5	3.6	-27.1	-22.9	9.0	16.7
- other industrial products (b.kr.) ¹	March '05	2.2	3.2	-1.4	-22.3	7.3	-21.8
Merchandise imports (excl. ships & aircraft, b.kr.) ¹	March '05	22.2	20.2	26.4	22.4	57.5	22.8
Merchandise trade balance (excl. ships & aircraft, b.kr.).....	March '05	-5.9	-0.2	.	.	-10.8	.
Services exports (b.kr.) ¹	Q4/2004	25.6	24.0	-33.1	12.7	113.8	9.8
Services imports (b.kr.) ¹	Q4/2004	34.2	29.6	4.1	22.2	128.2	14.2
Real effective exchange rate (relative CPI) (1980=100).....	Q1/2005	107.8	96.8	7.9	11.4	107.8	11.4

Note: In the case of volumes and values, 'From beginning of year' refers to cumulated figures to date, but in the case of prices or indices it refers to the average price or index. 1. Changes are calculated at constant exchange rates.

	Latest period	Latest value	Value 1 year ago	Change ¹ from previous		From beginn. of year ²	
				period	year	Average	Change on prev. year (%)
<i>IV Labour market and wages</i>							
Number of unemployed listed at employment agencies.....	April '05	3,542	4,904	-257	-1,362	3,962	-21.1
Registered unemployment, s.a. (% of total estim. labour force)	April '05	2.1	3.1	-0.1	-1.0	2.3	-0.8
Unemployment rate, labour force survey	Q1/2005	3.0	3.1	0.5	-0.1	3.1	-0.1
Listed vacancies at employment agencies	April '05	1,323	625	17.3	111.7	1,170	151.9
New work permits issued.....	April '05	214	79	2	170.9	776	108.6
Work permits issued, total.....	April '05	369	212	-2	74.1	1,254	12.1
Wage index (December 1988=100).....	April '05	264.2	247.5	0.5	6.7	262.5	6.7
Real wages (wage index deflated by CPI).....	April '05	136.4	133.2	0.3	2.3	136.3	2.2

1. Change from previous period refers to change in the number of unemployed and change in the rate of unemployment; percentage changes otherwise. 2. Average from beginning of year except for work permits where the cumulated number of permits is shown. Change on previous year refers to change in the average number of unemployed and change in the unemployment rate; percentage changes otherwise.

	Latest period	Latest value	Value 1 year ago	% change on previous		From beginn. of year	
				period	year	Value	Change on prev. year (%)
<i>V Public finances</i>							
Treasury revenue balance (billion kr.)	March '05	4.7	0.4	.	.	9.2	.
- as % of revenue	March '05	16.7	1.7	.	.	11.6	.
Net borrowing requirement (billion kr.)	March '05	7.1	4.3	.	.	15.5	.
- as % of revenue	March '05	25.2	18.0	.	.	19.5	.
Treasury revenue (b.kr.).....	March '05	28.1	23.7	-0.5	13.6	79.4	17.8
- from VAT (b. kr.).....	March '05	8.3	6.9	-1.8	15.7	22.0	17.7
- from payroll & personal income tax withheld (b.kr.).....	March '05	8.7	7.5	-0.3	10.8	25.2	10.6
- from imports, alcohol, car ownership (b.kr.)	March '05	1.8	1.5	2.8	17.5	5.5	20.2
Treasury expenditures (b.kr.)	March '05	23.4	23.3	-1.7	-3.8	70.3	3.6

Note: First four columns show 4-month moving averages of monthly values, last two show current year to date. No adjustment has been made for the change in accounting principles on January 2004, which introduces a distortion into comparisons of 4-month figures until April 2005. All changes are in real terms.

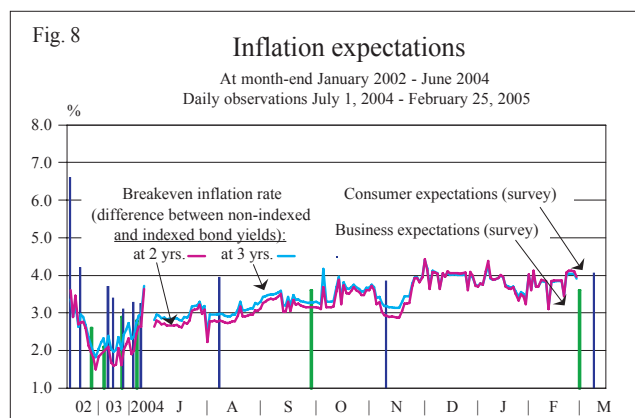
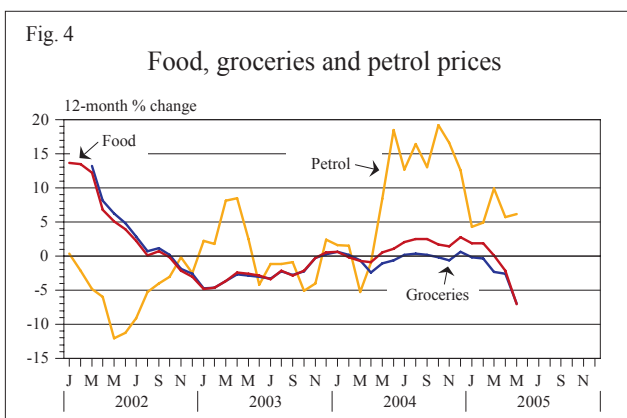
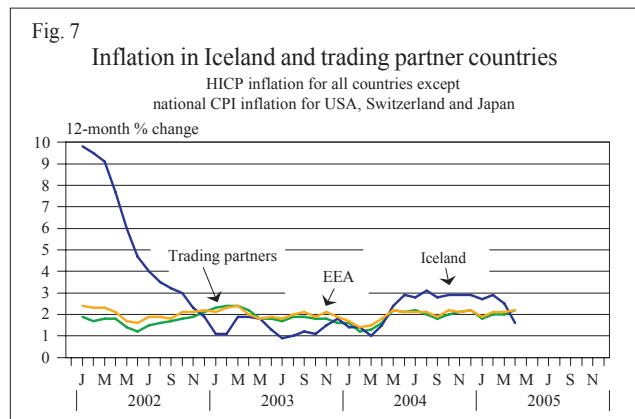
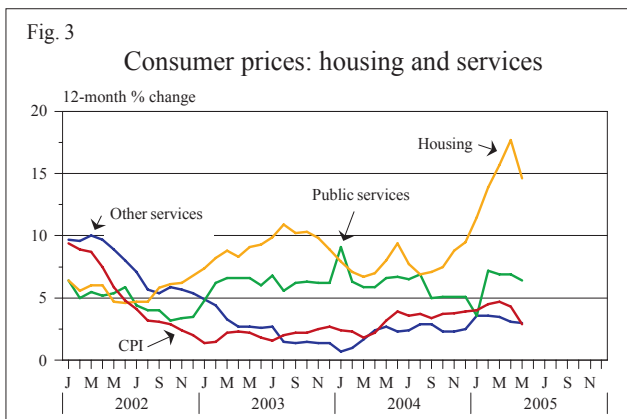
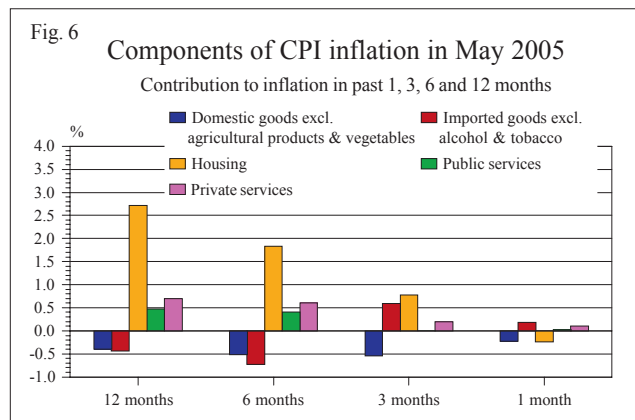
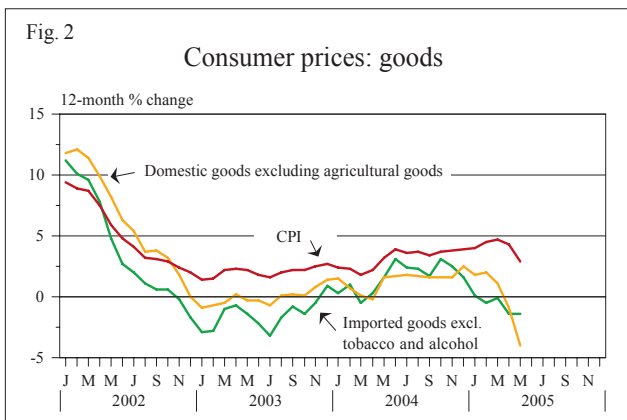
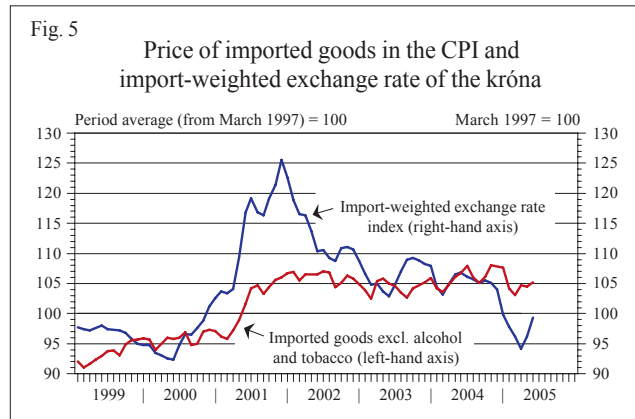
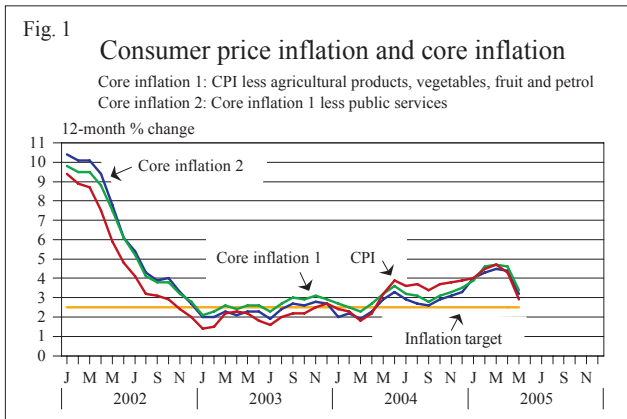
	Latest period	Latest value	Value 1 year ago	% change on previous		From beginn. of year	
				period	year	Average	Change on age ¹ prev. year (%)
<i>VI Asset markets</i>							
ICEX-15 equity price index ² (Dec. 1997=1,000).....	April '05	4,033.3	2,667.9	4.8	51.2	3,802.6	53.3
ICEX-Main equity price index ² (Dec. 1997=1,000)	April '05	3,769.6	2,573.9	4.9	46.5	3,558.7	47.9
Equity turnover on ICEX ² , monthly total.....	April '05	89.4	36.2	51.6	146.6	273.9	33.9
Residential housing prices, narrow index ³ (Jan. 1994=100).....	April '05	256.9	197.0	3.1	30.4	245.8	28.6
Real residential housing prices, broad index ³ (Jan. 1994=100)	April '05	182.9	142.3	3.7	28.6	174.6	26.1
Price of long-term cod quota (kr./kg.)	April '05	1,250	1,080	6.8	15.7	1,193	2.6

1. Except for turnover which is cumulated to date. 2. ICEX = Iceland Stock Exchange. Prices are monthly averages. 3. In Greater Reykjavik Area.

	Latest period	Latest value	Value 1 year ago	% change on previous		From beginn. of year	
				period	year	Average	Change on prev. year (%)
<i>VII Financial markets</i>							
Bank lending to domestic sector (b.kr.) ¹	April '05	1,292.7	886.4	3.3	45.8	.	.
- adjusted for estimated indexation effects on inflation- and exchange rate-linked loans (index) ¹	April '05	305.1	207.1	1.0	47.3	.	.
- in real terms (January 2002 = 100) ¹	April '05	171.8	121.2	3.9	41.7	.	.
Credit system total lending (b.kr.)	December '04	2,654	2,208	2.9	20.2	.	.
M3 (b.kr.)	April '05	608.1	504.9	3.5	20.4	.	.
Central Bank policy interest rate (%)	May 20 '05	9.00	5.50	0.00	3.50	8.67	3.35
Money market yield, 3-mo. (%) ²	May 20 '05	9.2	5.5	0.0	3.7	8.9	3.6
Treasury bill yield, 3-mo. (%) ²	May 20 '05	8.8	5.4	0.1	3.4	8.1	2.9
Treasury bill real yield, 3-mo., based on breakeven inflation (%) ²	May 20 '05	.	3.0
Yield on Treasury notes (RIKB 100317) (%).....	May 20 '05	7.6	7.2	-0.3	0.4	7.8	0.6
Yield on Treasury notes (RIKB 130517) (%).....	May 20 '05	7.6	7.4	-0.1	0.2	7.6	0.1
Real yield on HFF bonds (HFF 150224) (%).....	May 20 '05	3.6	.	0.0	.	3.6	.
Real yield on HFF bonds (HFF 150234) (%).....	May 20 '05	3.6	.	0.0	.	3.5	.
Real yield on HFF bonds (HFF 150244) (%).....	May 20 '05	3.6	.	0.0	.	3.5	.
Real yield on Treasury bonds (RIKS 151001) (%)	May 20 '05	3.6	3.8	0.0	-0.2	3.5	-0.5
Average bank lending rate, non-indexed loans (%) ²	May 20 '05	14.3	11.3	0.0	3.1	14.2	2.8
Average bank lending rate, indexed loans (%) ²	May 20 '05	7.4	8.0	0.0	-0.6	7.5	-0.7
Exchange rate index of króna (Dec. 31 1991=100) ²	May 20 '05	114.1	123.7	4.1	-7.8	111.1	-8.5

1. For comparability, financial companies which were reclassified as deposit money banks or moved into that category through mergers are included retrospectively for the entire period. This adjustment is made only for percentage changes and not applied to the original stock figures. 2. All figures except for two last columns are based on 4-week averages.

I Inflation and inflation expectations



II Output and demand

Fig. 9

Economic growth and national expenditure

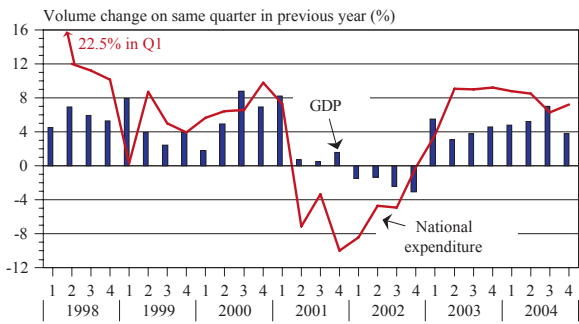


Fig. 13

Turnover based on VAT returns: selected sectors

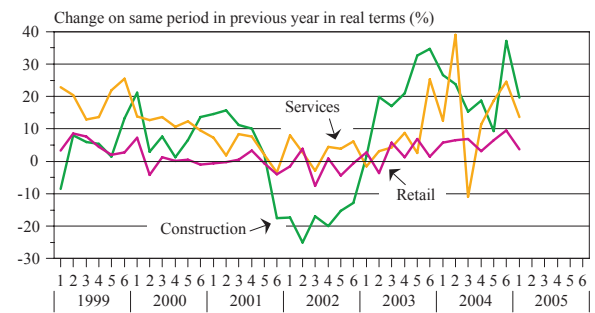


Fig. 10

Consumption and gross fixed capital formation

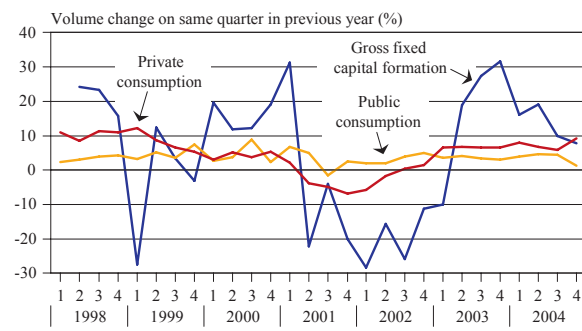


Fig. 14

Groceries turnover

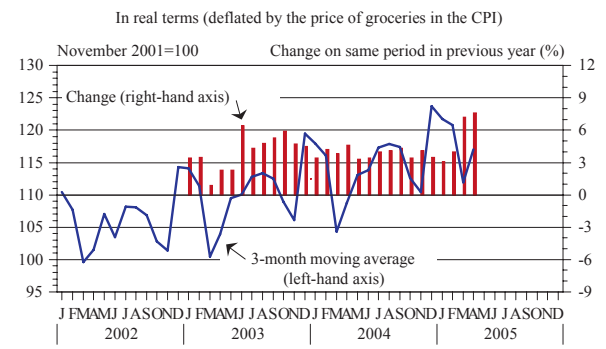


Fig. 11

Exports and imports of goods and services

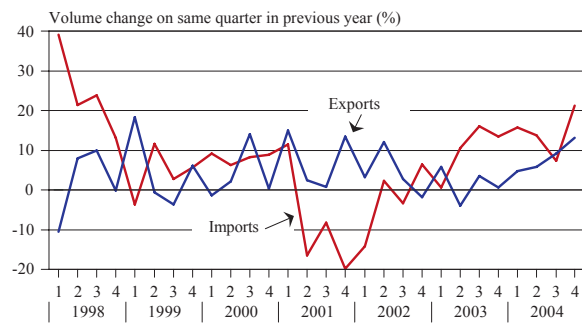


Fig. 15

Credit card and debit card turnover

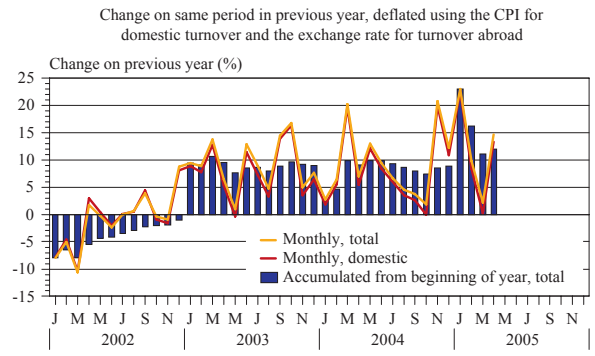


Fig. 12

Turnover based on VAT returns

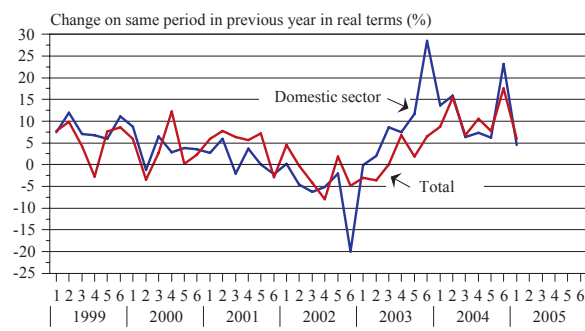
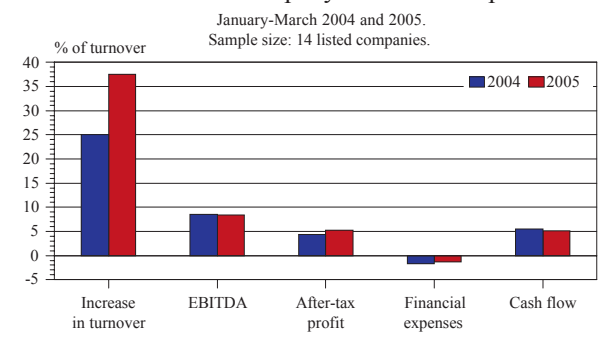


Fig. 16

ICEX-15 listed company turnover and profits



II Output and demand

Fig. 17

Cement sales and car imports and registrations

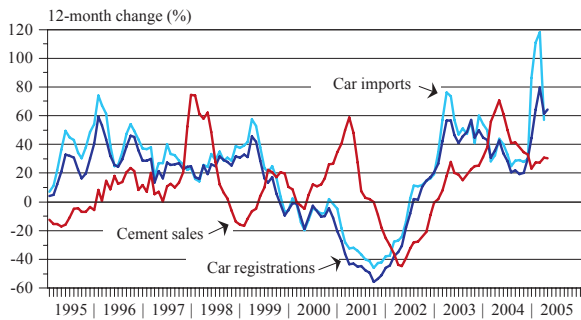


Fig. 19

Value of contracts in public tender and the ratio of value to estimated costs

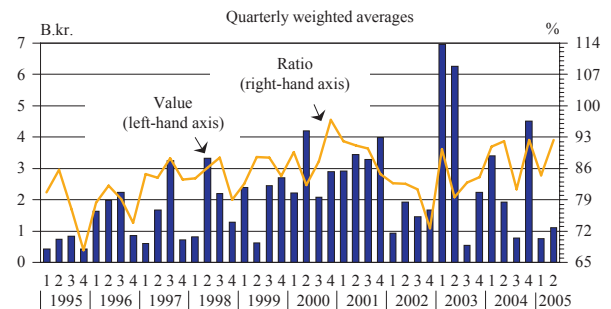


Fig. 18

Electricity sales

Ordinary market consumption (i.e. excl. metals industry and Landsvirkjun's own consumption), seasonally adjusted 3-month moving average

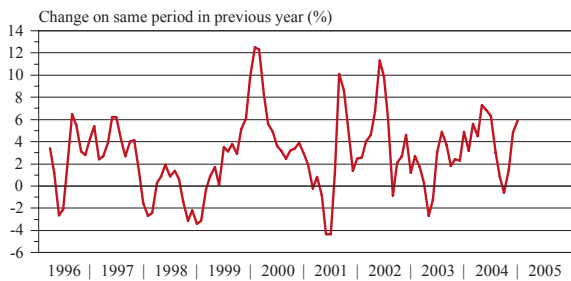
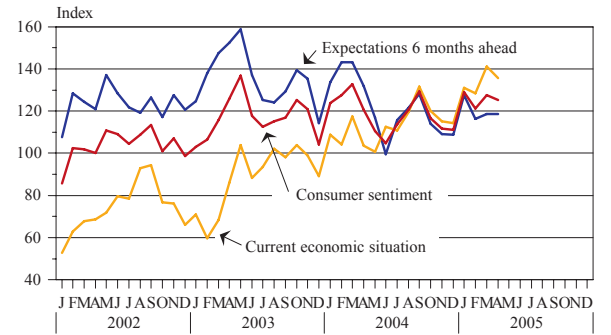


Fig. 20

Consumer sentiment



III Foreign trade and external economic conditions

Fig. 21

Quarterly current account balance

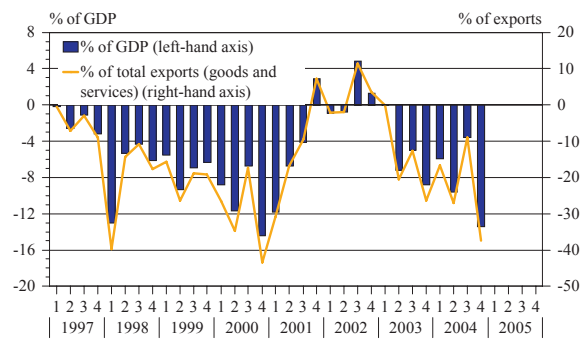


Fig. 23

Merchandise imports and exports

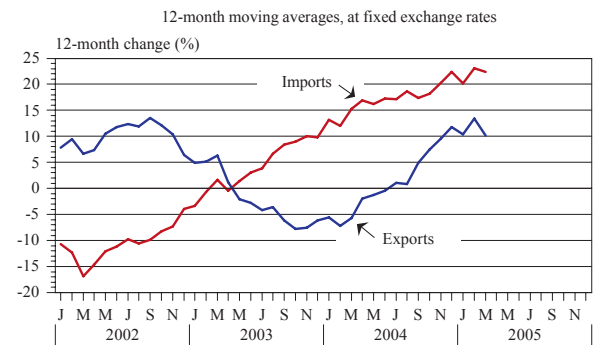


Fig. 22

Merchandise trade balance

12-month moving averages

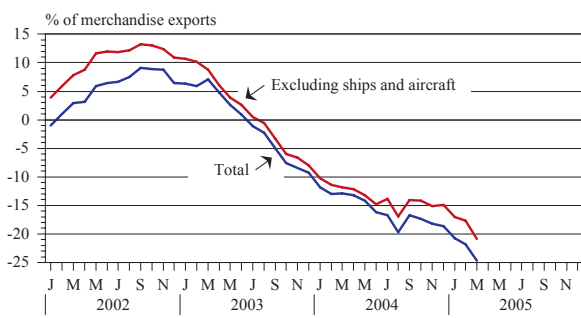
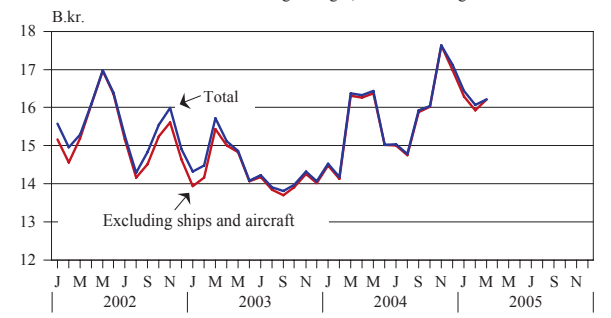


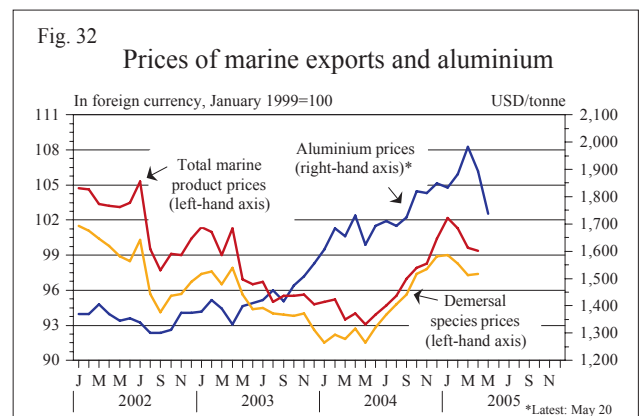
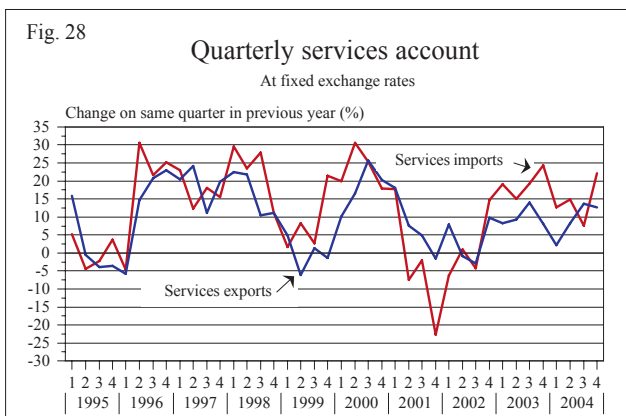
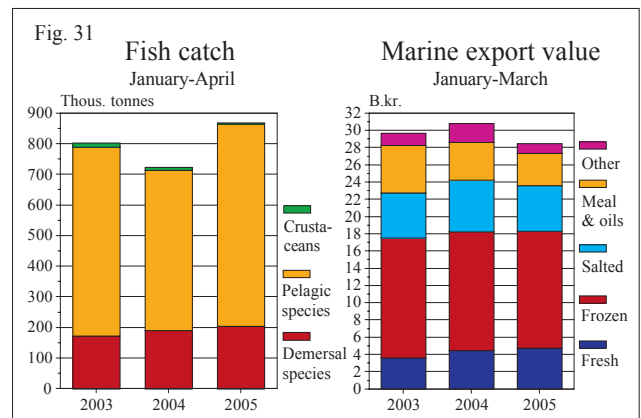
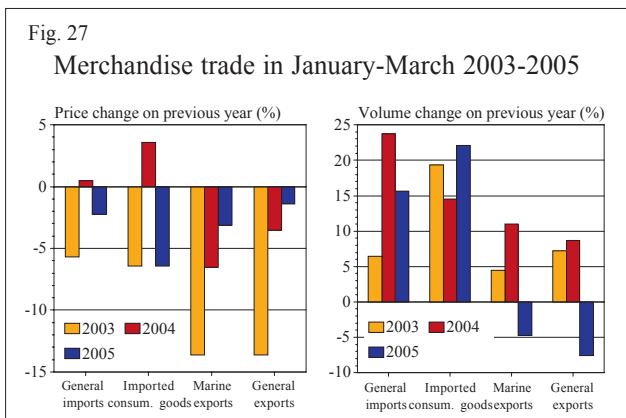
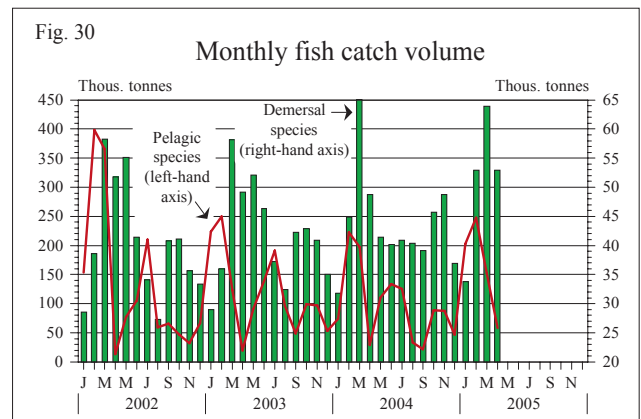
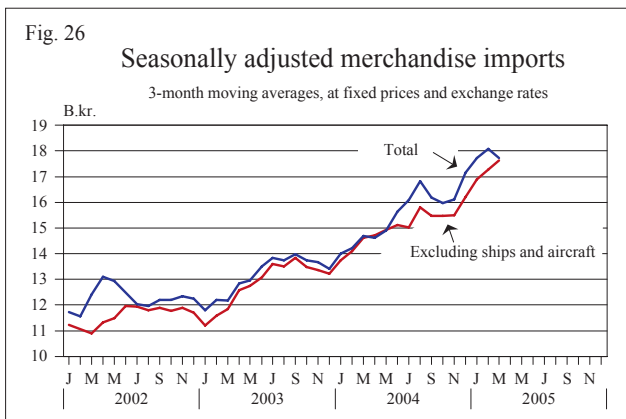
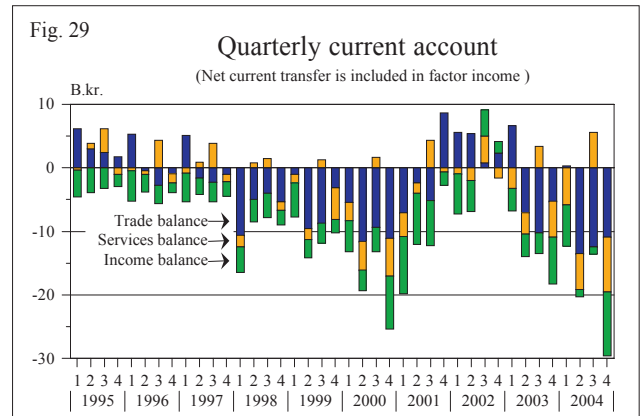
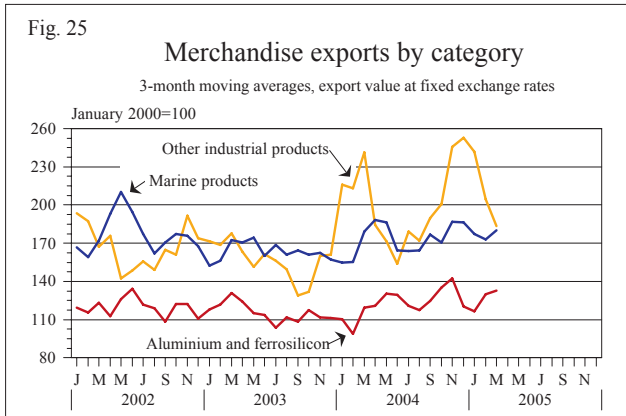
Fig. 24

Merchandise exports

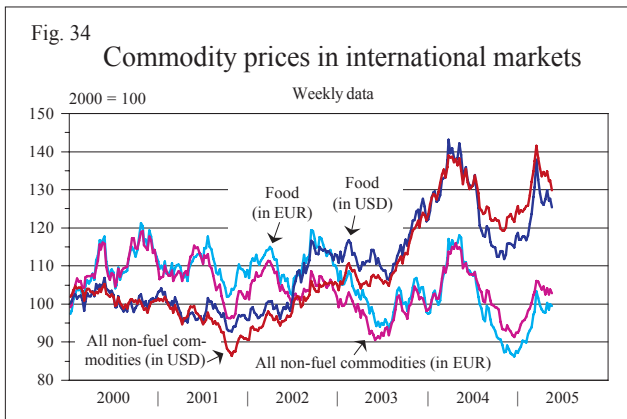
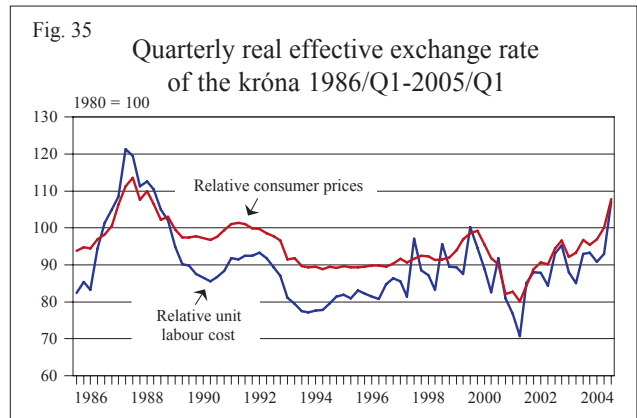
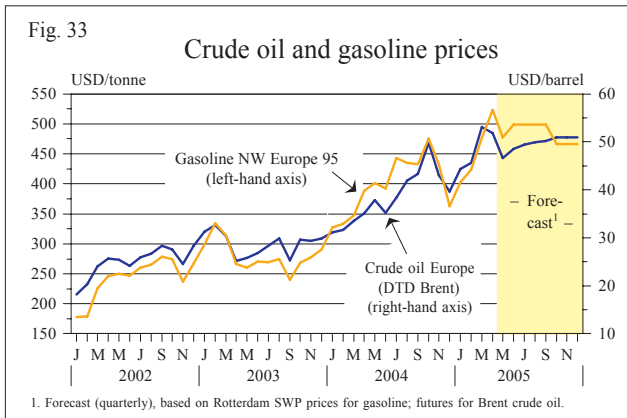
3-month moving averages, at fixed exchange rates



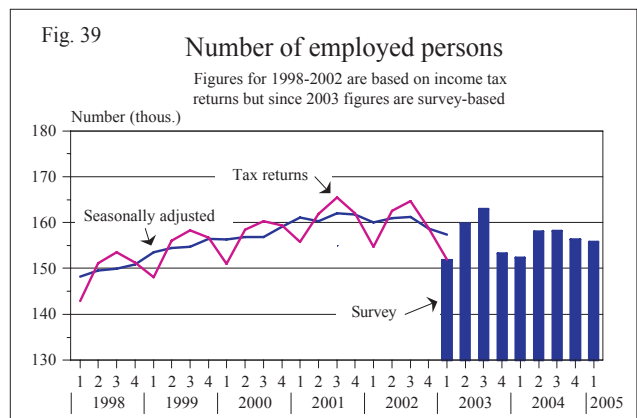
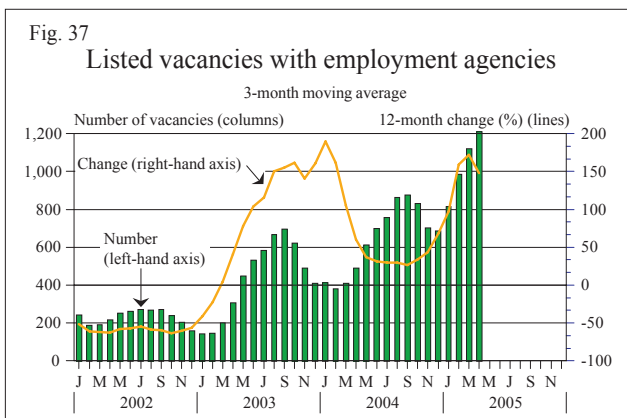
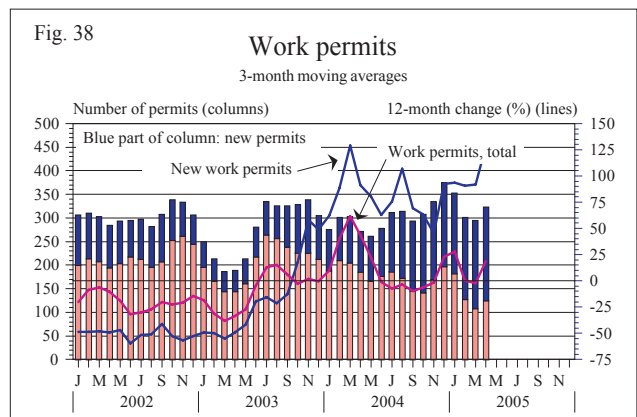
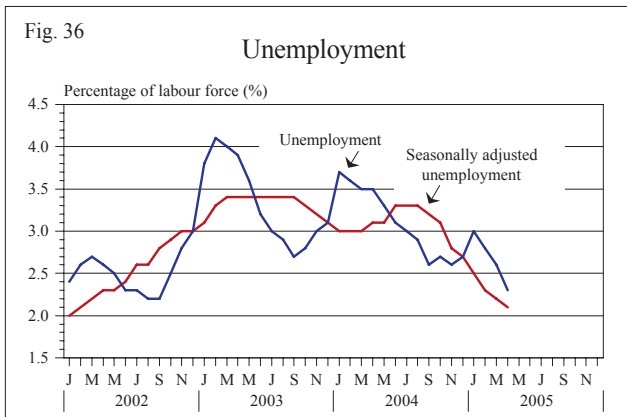
III Foreign trade and external economic conditions



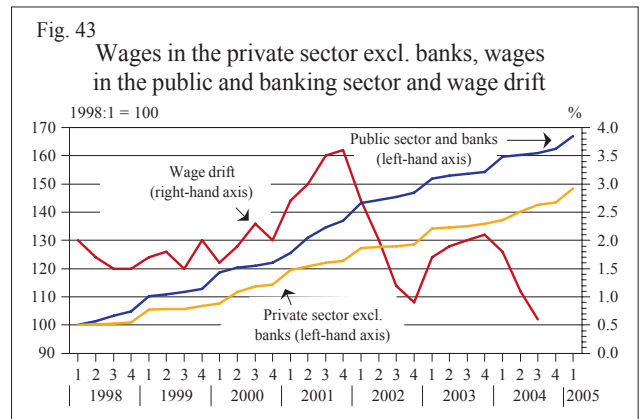
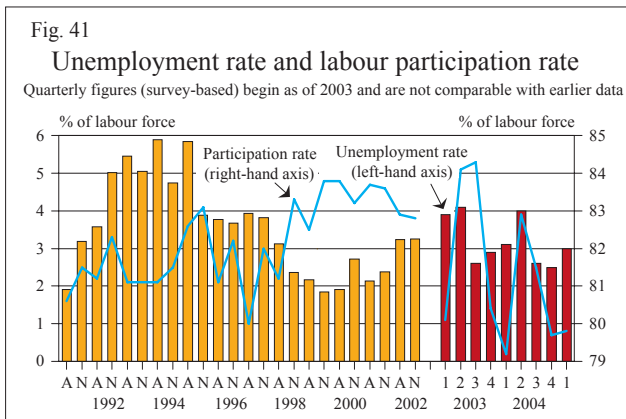
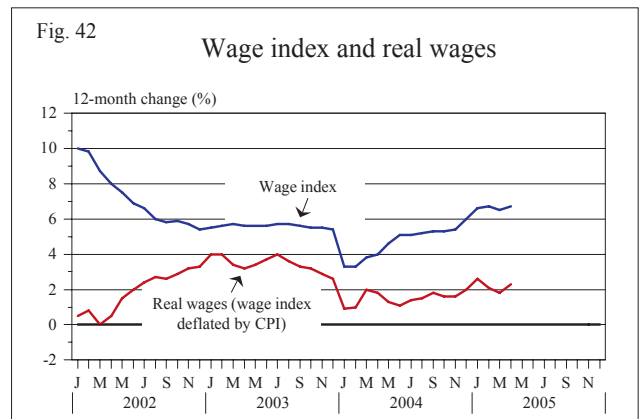
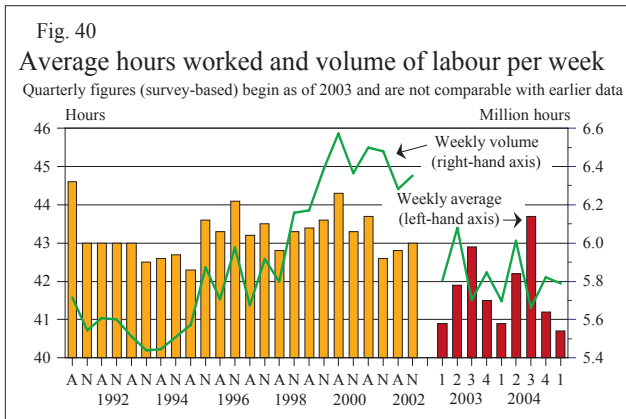
III Foreign trade and external economic conditions



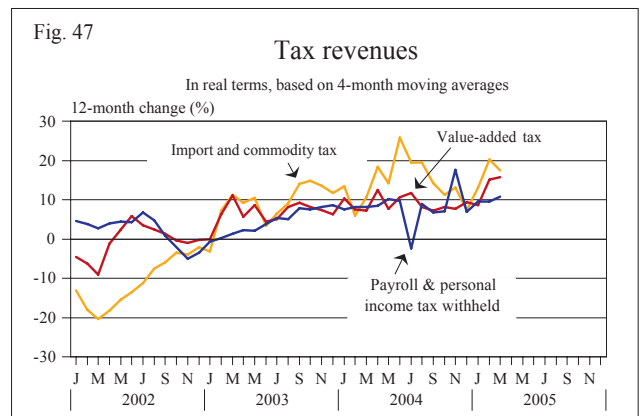
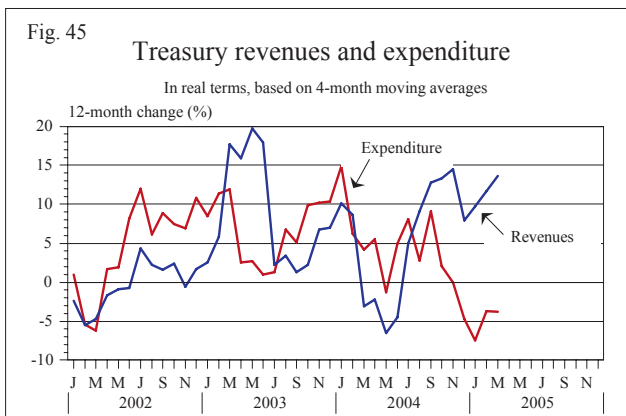
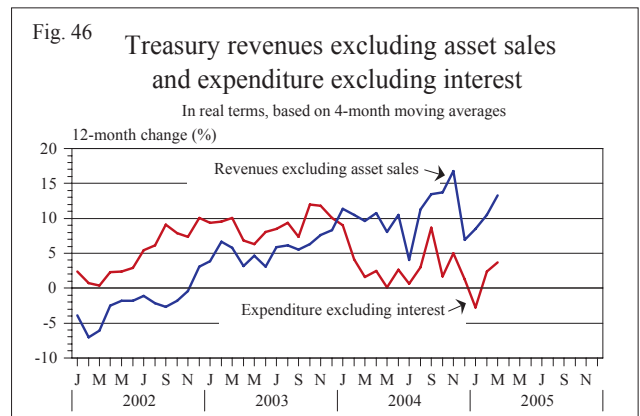
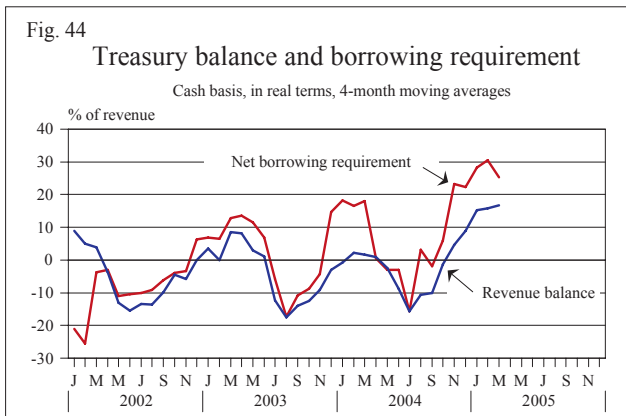
IV Labour market and wages



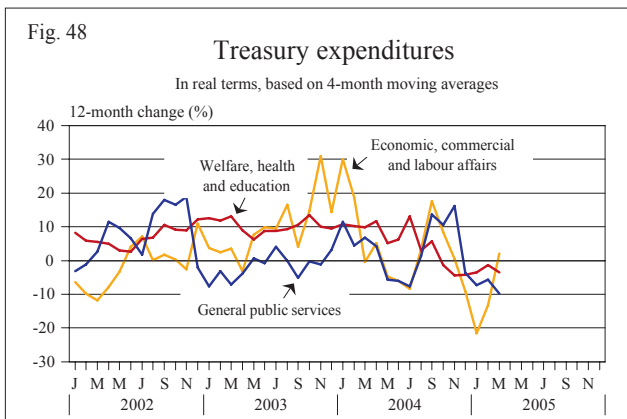
IV Labour market and wages



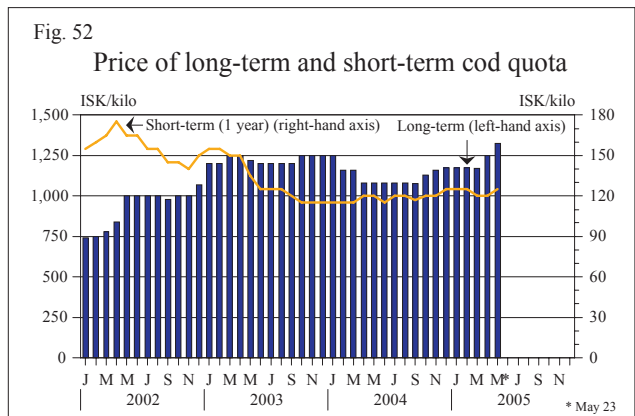
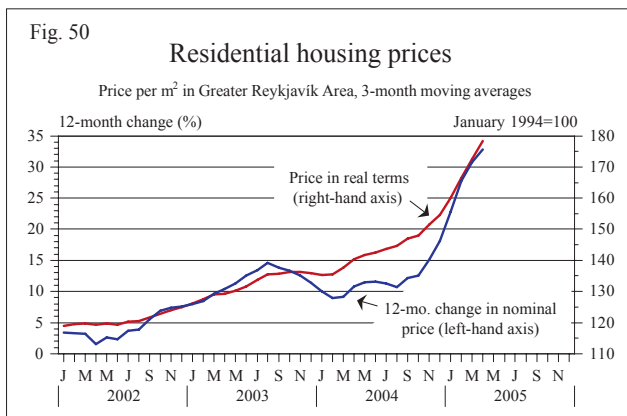
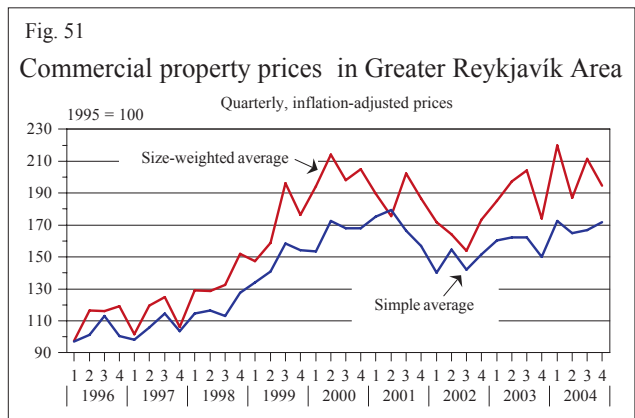
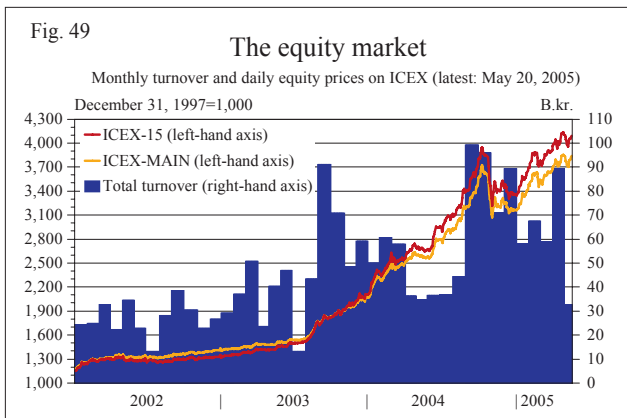
V Public finances



V Public finances



VI Asset markets



VII Financial markets

Fig. 53

Quarterly credit system lending growth

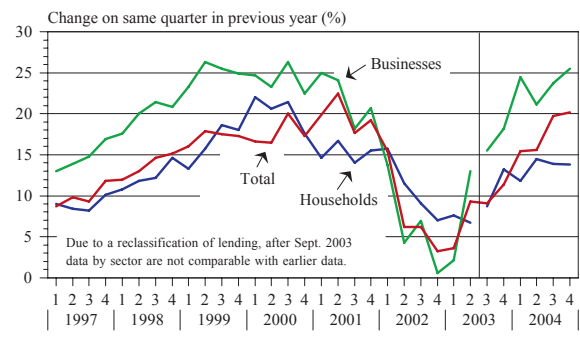


Fig. 57

Base money and repurchase agreements with the Central Bank

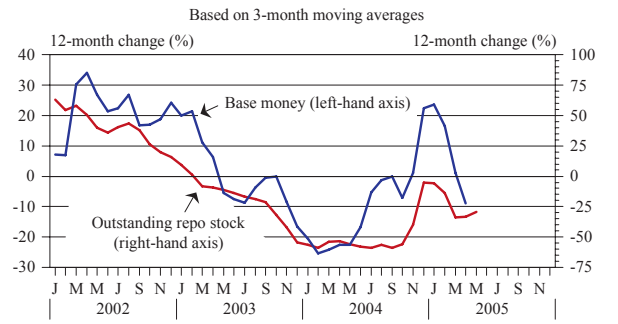


Fig. 54

Household debt with main credit institutions

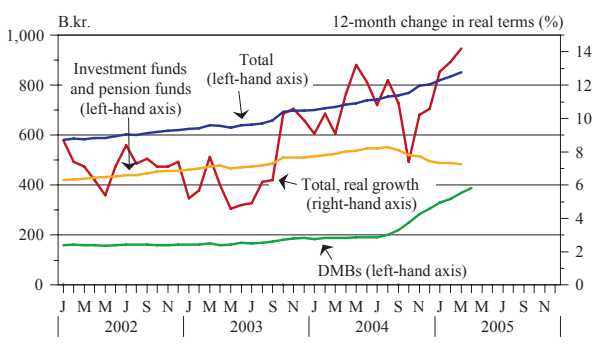


Fig. 58

The Central Bank repo rate and interbank interest rates

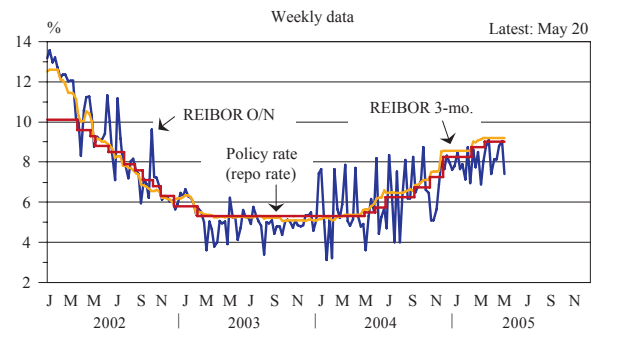


Fig. 55

Growth of M3 and bank credit

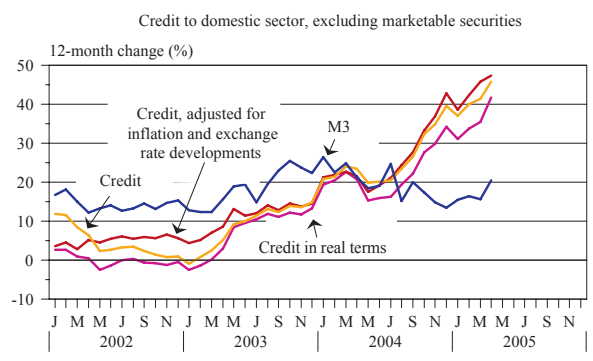


Fig. 59

Short-term interest rates and interest rate spread

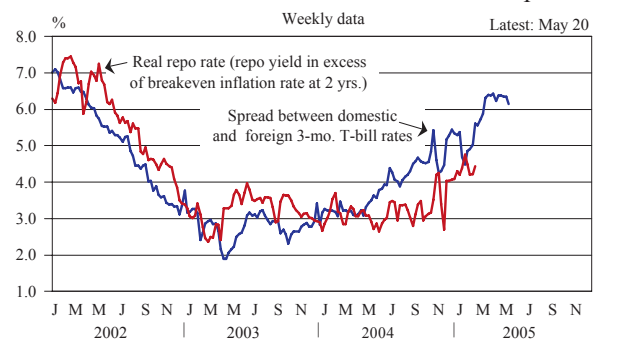


Fig. 56

Growth of M3 and DMBs' credit to domestic sector

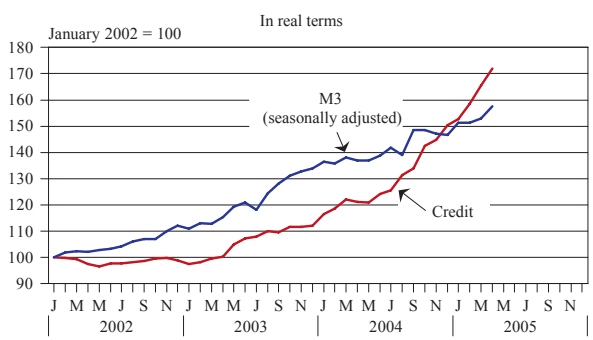
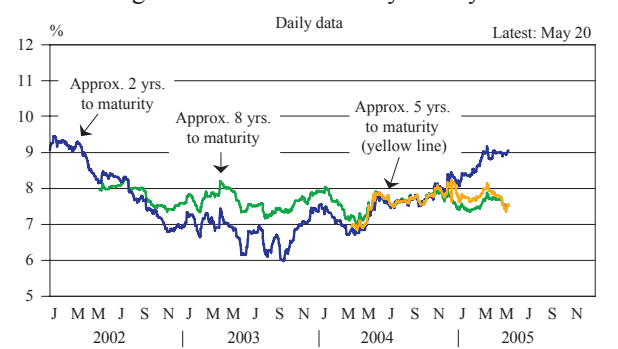


Fig. 60

Long-term nominal Treasury bond yields



VII Financial markets

