

## RESULTS OF THE MACROECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF KAZAKHSTAN

**Survey dates:** December 26, 2023 – January 3, 2024

**Number of respondents:** 10

*(ACRA, AERC, Centras Securities, Eurasian Development Bank, Eurasian Economic Commission, Freedom Finance, Halyk Finance, Jusan Invest, NAC Analytica, Renaissance Capital)*

**Survey results** (the median value of respondents' predictions, the median values of previous predictions are in brackets):

Indicator	2023 (fact)	2024	2025	2026
<b>Brent oil price</b> USD per barrel, average for the year	82,2	<b>80,0</b> (80,7)	<b>80,0</b> (80,0)	<b>80,0</b>
<b>GDP</b> %, YoY	4,9*	<b>4,5</b> (4,5)	<b>5,0</b> (5,0)	<b>4,2</b>
<b>CPI</b> %, Dec. to Dec. of the previous year	9,8	<b>7,5</b> (8,0)	<b>6,9</b> (7,0)	<b>5,8</b>
<b>Base rate</b> % per annum, average for the year	16,5	<b>13,5</b> (12,0)	<b>10,0</b> (10,0)	<b>9,0</b>
<b>Exports of goods and services</b> billions of USD per year	66,5*	<b>86,5</b> (86,5)	<b>83,6</b> (90,7)	<b>85,4</b>
<b>Imports of goods and services</b> billions of USD per year	53,5*	<b>69,1</b> (66,8)	<b>67,7</b> (61,1)	<b>69,0</b>
<b>USD/KZT exchange rate</b> average for the year	456,3	<b>475,7</b> (477,8)	<b>490,0</b> (490,7)	<b>500</b>
<b>Neutral base rate**</b> % per annum		<b>8,0</b> (8,0)		
<b>Long-term GDP growth***</b> %, YoY		<b>4,0</b> (4,0)		

**OIL PRICE.** The scenario conditions for the oil price for 2024 and 2025 have not undergone significant changes. According to the median expectations of respondents, the price of Brent crude oil will average **\$80** per barrel over the entire forecast horizon.

**GDP.** Forecasts for Kazakhstan's economic growth in 2024 and 2025 remained at **4.5%** and **5%**, respectively. The forecast for 2026 is **4.2%**.

**CPI.** Analysts' inflation forecasts have been revised down slightly from 8% to **7.5%** for 2024 and from 7% to **6.9%** for 2025. By the end of 2026, respondents predict a decrease in inflation to **5.8%**.

**BASE RATE.** In 2024, analysts predict a higher base rate – expectations have been raised from 12% to **13.5%**. Expectations for 2025 remain at **10%**. In 2026, respondents do not predict a significant reduction in the base rate – the median expectations are **9%**.

\* GDP - reported data of BNS ASPR RK for January-September 2023, exports/ imports - reported data of NBRK for the 9 months of 2023

\*\* Base rate level at which monetary policy keeps inflation and inflation expectations on target over the long term and also GDP at its potential

\*\*\* Expected average growth rate of potential GDP over a 5-year horizon

**EXPORTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES.** Respondents' forecasts for the volume of exports of goods and services for 2024 remained at the level of **86.5** billion US dollars. The forecast for 2025 has been reduced from 90.7 to **83.6** billion US dollars. In 2026, the volume of exports of goods and services is expected to reach **85.4** billion US dollars.

**IMPORTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES.** Respondents' forecasts for the volume of imports of goods and services have been revised upwards: for 2024 – from 66.8 to **69.1** billion US dollars, for 2025 – from 61.1 to **67.7** billion US dollars. The median forecast for 2026 is **69** billion US dollars.

**USD/KZT EXCHANGE RATE.** Analysts' expectations for 2024 and 2025 at the USD/KZT exchange rate remained almost unchanged – **475.7** and **490** tenge per US dollar on average for the year, respectively (previously – 477.8 and 490.7 tenge per US dollar). In 2026, respondents expect the USD/KZT exchange rate at **500** tenge per US dollar.

**NEUTRAL BASE RATE.** The base rate level at which monetary policy keeps inflation and inflation expectations on target over the long term and also GDP at its potential, remains at the level of **8%**.

**LONG-TERM GDP GROWTH.** The estimate of the average growth rate of potential GDP over a 5-year horizon remains at **4%**.

**The forecast ranges** for most macroindicators remain quite wide over the entire forecast horizon, and their dynamics are multidirectional, which reflect analysts' uncertainty regarding the prospects for the development of the domestic and global economy in both the short and medium term.