


TOP 100



ECONOMY OF BÁCS-KISKUN COUNTY | 2023

A middle-aged man with grey hair, wearing a dark suit and a light blue shirt, is speaking. He is looking slightly to his right. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an office or a meeting room with wooden shelves.

Economic situation and prospects of Bács-Kiskun county

Innovation, new methods, efficiency, productivity, digitization. These actions, dual training and the products of the Széchenyi Credit Card Program with the most favourable interest rates, which can bring success to the businesses of our county in the strong competition. József Gaál, the president of the Bács-Kiskun County Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is confident that the state of the global economy will not worsen next year, that international trade cooperation will be maintained. Along with all this, he trusts that the situation of the economy and the county's businesses can improve in 2024 as well. The Chamber will continue to do its best to achieve this goal in the future.

Compared to 2022, where does the economy of Bács-Kiskun County stand now?

The year 2023 was filled with similar challenges as the previous one. For Hungarian companies, it was perhaps calmer and more economically predictable than the Covid period and the energy crisis that followed, but this year, too, they had to face serious difficulties.

According to the research conducted in the first half of 2023, the MKIK GVI economic indicator signals improved business expectations in all company categories, but it appears that micro- and small businesses and those that do not export are the least optimistic. Among the sectors, industrial companies are the most optimistic, while those operating in the construction industry and trade are the least optimistic. In 2023, the inflation trend is decreasing, it has already entered the band below 10%. Energy prices are somewhat decreasing, but still high, and in this respect the future is at least as difficult to predict as the previous period. Those who now sign new energy contracts for the coming years can certainly expect increased costs, but predictability is still not typical. The unpredictable movement of gas prices is primarily shaped by world politics. This affects everything else as well: energy affects almost every activity of industry and the economy, so it affects the price of everything. The situation is much better in terms of availability and price of raw materials. On the other hand, what is increasingly challenging in the economy for businesses is the labor shortage in practically every profession and every job. Today in Hungary, anyone who wants to work can find a job. It is very difficult to find a workforce, and quality and good workforce is even more difficult. This situation directs even more attention to vocational training, adult training, and dual training, and businesses must concentrate even more on exploiting these opportunities in relation to the supply of professionals.

Based on the 2022 data, 84 companies from the 2021 ranking are still in the TOP100, 16 companies were newly included. Their international embeddedness is illustrated by the fact that 19 out of 100 keep their accounts in euros and 2 in US dollars.

To be included among the largest, the threshold sales revenue was HUF 6.5 billion in 2021 HUF and it increased to HUF 8.4 billion in 2022. This is an increase of almost HUF 2 billion, such a jump was unprecedented in previous years.

Total sales revenue of the TOP 100 in 2022: HUF 4,886 billion, which shows a 30% increase compared to the 2021 figure. It is also interesting that the first 5 companies account for 57% of the sales revenue of the entire TOP 100.

Bearing the global economic outlook in mind , what goals can be formulated in terms of local business development, and how big a role does innovation and digitalization play in this?

Inflation has been significant in recent years. Businesses operating on international markets are often unable or only partially able to pass this on, which can mean management difficulties. As a result of this, businesses are forced to innovate, to find new ideas, to rationalize business processes with modern cost-saving measures, to make production more efficient, and to apply innovative solutions. In terms of energy, renewable energies, solar panels, heat pump solutions, as well as building energy, insulation, and the search for savings in all respects, which is typical these days.

Today, it is almost commonplace that robots, cobots, or at least a dozen sensors support production and logistics processes. It is important to draw attention to the search for joint development opportunities at the university. Our county's institution, John von Neumann University is open and waiting for joint research and development projects, with which businesses and universities can even apply for direct EU funds together. Among the chamber members, there are several companies that carry out joint projects with John von Neumann University and can show good results, as well as bring serious business benefits.

A serious challenge is still the administrative tasks burdening businesses, the further reduction of which would help the competitiveness of SMEs in particular, the Chamber requests and recommends this. Unfortunately, international and EU regulations impose new administrative burdens on businesses, such as the EPR (extended producer responsibility) and circular economy waste management regulations, which we completely agree with in principle, and which is very important from the point of view of future and sustainability, but to a large extent burdens businesses. We request simplifications in this regard, if possible.

What can the Bács-Kiskun County Chamber of Commerce and Industry help businesses with?

We used to say that the business manager who has no problems should also come to the chamber office or take 5-10 minutes to look at the chamber's website, look up the information there, and will certainly find something useful for him or her. The phone numbers of all colleagues are available on the website: bkmkik.hu, they are ready to help with, for example, the Széchenyi Card Program, tenders, economic legislation, company information (e.g. registered construction companies), dual vocational training. The Contractual Performance Certification Expert Body, the Conciliation Board and the Permanent Arbitration Court of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry are here for controversial cases.

Developments should not be stopped even in such difficult times. In fact, it is an old economic principle that development should be carried out during a recession. In the current high bank interest rate environment, the best financing option is the Széchenyi Credit Card scheme, which can be applied for at the chamber. With interest rates of around 5%, funds can be obtained for working capital financing, various developments, including innovative developments. This is the best financing product on the market today.

Since trips abroad are possible again, the chamber re-started organizing business partner programs. This year, it is possible to conduct partially subsidized partner-seeking trips to Germany and Turkey by visiting foreign trade exhibitions, combined with meetings with businessmen.

The charitable activities of our chamber are also a form of help. This year we also organized the "Hírös" or "Famous" Dinner, for which nearly a thousand dinner- and supporter tickets were sold. From this amount, as in the previous 14 years, we support young people studying in vocational training. So far, we have supported a total of 139 young people with more than HUF 5.5 million. And on January 27, 2024, we will again organize the Entrepreneurs' Charity Ball, the proceeds of which will be used to support a worthy organization.

In summary, we are optimistic about the year ahead, but we expect serious challenges, trusting that the state of the global economy will not get worse. International cooperation in trade will remain, and the various conflicts will not have a worse effect on trade relations than at present. We hope that the economy and the situation of the majority of county businesses can improve in 2024 as well.

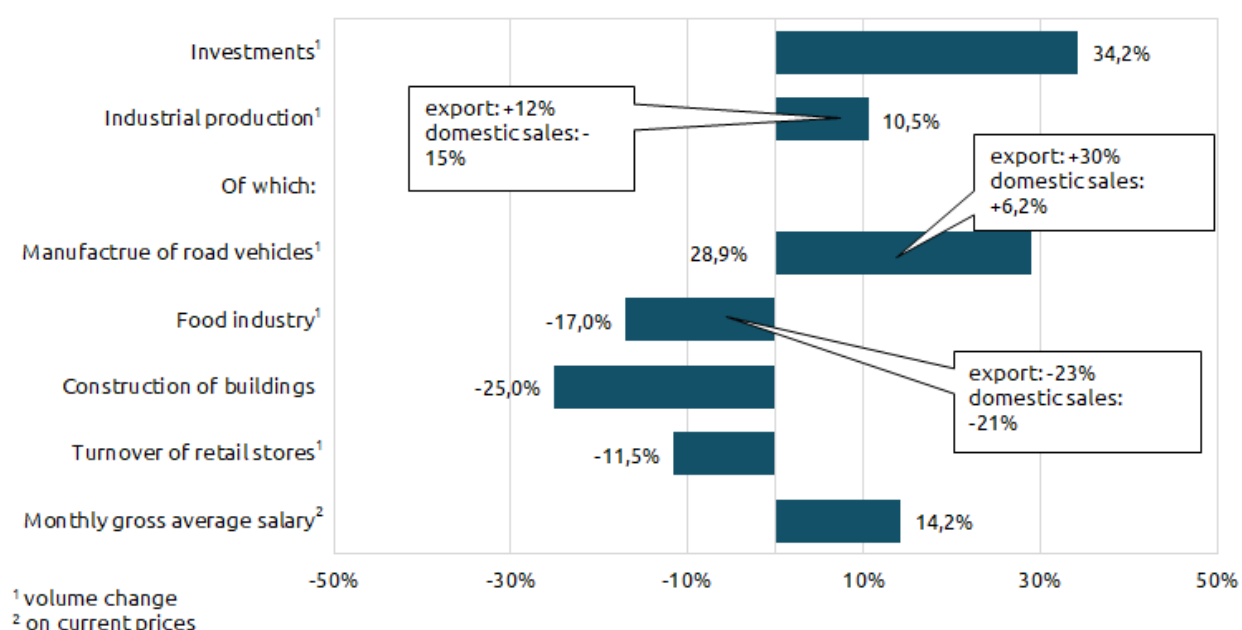
The economy of Bács-Kiskun county

After fending off the effects of the Coronavirus epidemic, Hungary's economy was affected by the shortage of raw materials and rising prices, and then by the energy crisis, partly due to the deepening Russian-Ukrainian war conflict.

In the county of Bács-Kiskun, in addition to an essentially unchanged labour market situation, we can witness unfavourable economic processes in some sectors, similar to the national situation. Investment activity has gained strength from a low base, but the food industry, which plays a significant role in the county's processing industry and produces mostly for the domestic market, is going through a difficult period. At the same time, the increasingly dominant vehicle manufacturing industry expanded significantly.

Figure 1

Change of major economic indicators in Bács-Kiskun County, First half of 2023



Business environment

In the past period, in addition to the uncertain economic environment, the biggest negative impact on the number of enterprises was caused by the legislative changes of the small business lump-sum tax (KATA) regulation.

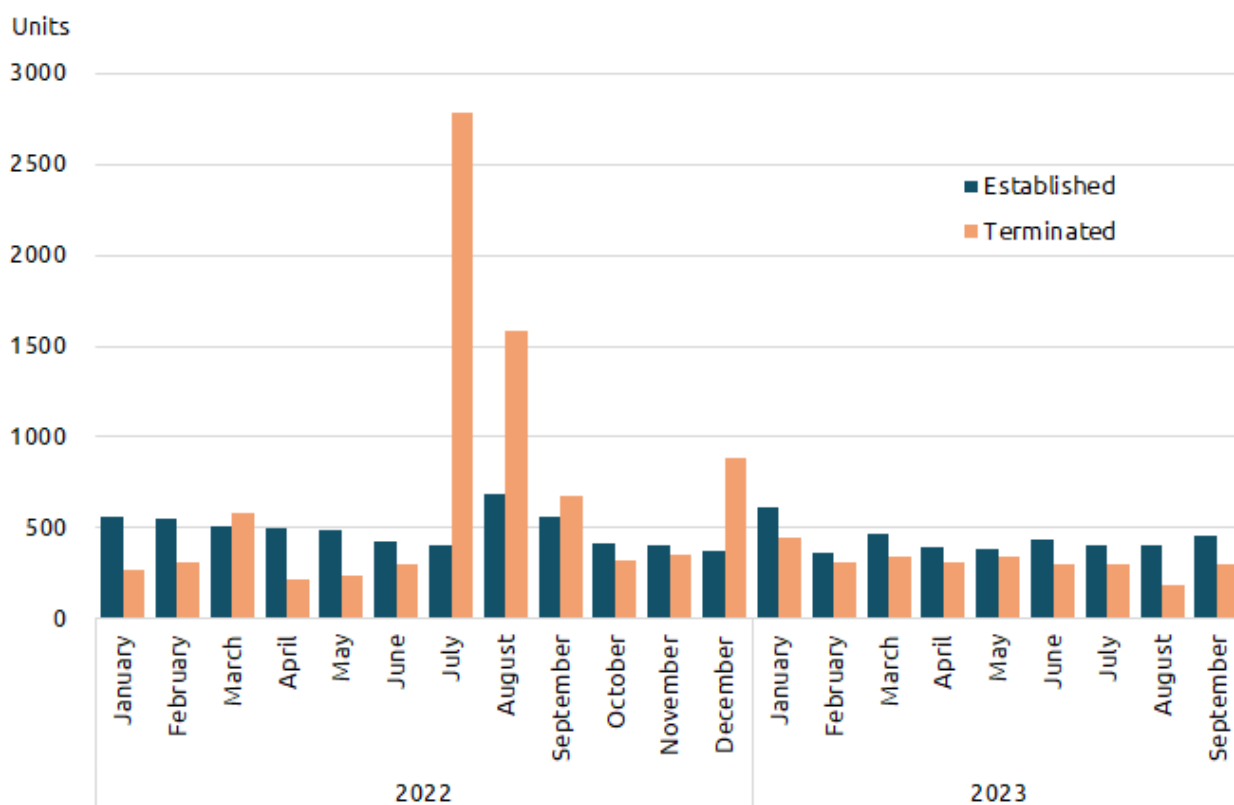
In the county of Bács-Kiskun, the slowly rising trend of the number of registered businesses until June 2022 was replaced by a sudden decline in the second half of the year, which occurred primarily in the self-employed sector. In the first half of 2022, similar to the national indicators, more businesses were established than those that terminated their activities. Then in the second half of the year, because of the tightened conditions necessary for the use of the KATA lump-sum taxation plan, the trend reversed, and the number of terminations significantly exceeded the number of newly established ones.

The proportion of sole proprietors who chose the KATA taxation plan has dropped significantly, many have chosen other forms of taxation or have just ceased their activities.

In July and August before the introduction of the new legislation on September 1, 2022, and then during the month of September, the total number of terminations exceeded five thousand, which is triple of the number of new businesses opened in this period. In the county, the spirit of entrepreneurship revived as early as January 2023, while the unfavourable processes nationwide continued until March, but at the same time the total number of business organizations remained significantly below the pre-recession level. Based on the latest data, a total of 104,000 businesses, 5.7% of those registered nationally, were registered in the county in September 2023. There were 607 fewer companies than a year earlier, and 1,191 more self-employed persons in the registers, so their total number exceeded last year's low base by only 0.6%.

Figure 2

The development of the number of newly established and terminated businesses in Bács-Kiskun county



Based on their territorial location, 3 out of every 10 businesses were registered in the Kecskemét district in September 2023, and a significant number of businesses are also found in the Kiskőrös and Baja districts. Among the settlements, the county seat ranks first with 21% of businesses, followed by Baja (5.9%), Kiskunfélegyháza (5.2%), Kiskunhalas (4.7%) and Kiskőrös (3.8%).

According to the form of business, there were still more than four times as many self-employed people as enterprises. The size structure of the enterprises is very similar at the national and county level: 98% of those registered in Bács-Kiskun had less than 10 employees, the share of organizations larger than this, but with a maximum of 49 employees, was 1.6%, while the remaining 0.3% was shared by 241 organizations with 50-249 employees and 42 organizations larger than that.

Among the branches of the national economy, agricultural enterprises represented a nationally outstanding proportion of 45%. In addition, businesses dealing with real estate transactions, trade, construction, and professional, scientific, and technical activities (such as those engaged in expert consulting or engineering services) represented a greater proportion, but not reaching 10% share. Enterprises operated in public administration entirely, in industrial branches (with the exception of the manufacturing industry) and in trade typically operated in multi-person partnership form. Self-employed forms dominated in other branches of the national economy, of which their share was the highest in agriculture (98%). In that sector, 3.6% of the nearly 46,000 agricultural enterprises were self-employed businesses, while 96% were private individuals with a tax number (including primary producers) in the register.

Among Hungary's top 500 companies with the highest sales revenue, companies from only 4 settlements in the county were included: 7 from Kecskemét, 3 from Baja, 2-2 from Kiskunfélegyháza and Tiszakécske. These 14 enterprises accounted for 2.0% of the national TOP500's workforce and 3.6% of their sales. Based on this, Bács-Kiskun is in the middle range in the order of counties, it ranks 11th in terms of number of employees and 7th in terms of sales revenue.

Organizations from a total of 28 different settlements were included in the 100 companies with the largest sales revenue within the county, but the weight of the county seat is decisive. The 40 companies in Kecskemét accounted for 57% of the TOP100's workforce and 65% of their sales. In addition, a significant number of the major organizations occurred in Kiskunfélegyháza (9) and Tiszakécske (8). Based on their main activity, the largest companies were concentrated in 3 sectors: 54 companies were active in the manufacturing industry, 26 in trade, and 14 in the construction industry.

Investments¹

Economic organizations based in Bács-Kiskun county made new investments worth 343 billion forints in 2022, which, at comparative prices, was 17% lower than the year before, significantly behind the national decrease of 1.2%. Among the capital and counties, the volume of investments fell the most. During the year, investment activity decreased in every quarter, with the highest decline occurring in the second quarter.

In the first half of 2023, the willingness to invest gained momentum again, the significant increase in the first quarter continued with an increase in volume in the second quarter. The amount of investments worth HUF 198 billion exceeded the low base of a year earlier by 34% at comparative prices. This made Bács-Kiskun one of the five counties where the volume of investments could increase. The investment value per inhabitant (HUF 401,000) was almost the same as the total counties' average, and 78% of the national average.

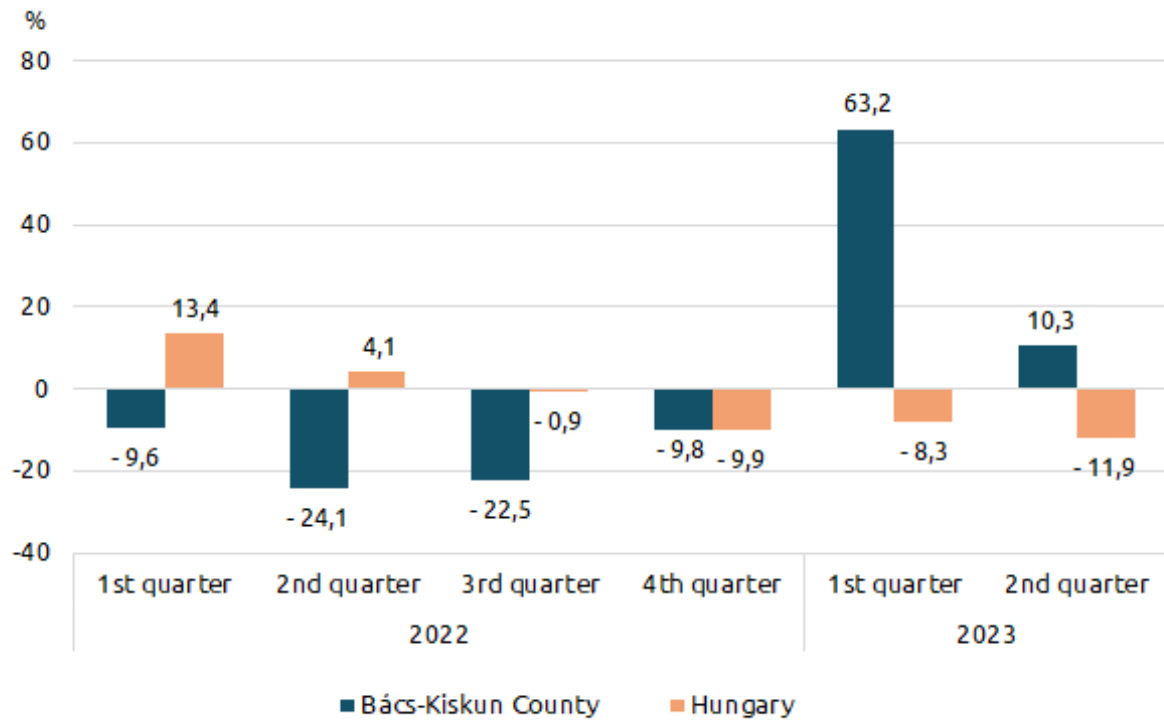
In the first half of 2023, the greatest weight (55%) was given to developments in the manufacturing industry. 64% of the HUF 109 billion invested in the economy sector was used for the expansion and development of one of the county's most significant areas, the vehicle manufacturing industry. In addition to manufacturing, investments of greater value were realized in trade and agriculture. The investment share of the other branches of the economy represented a smaller weight, and none of their shares individually reached 5.0%. At comparative prices, the manufacturing industry spent 88% more on investments than a year earlier, mainly due to the low base in the first half of 2022. Investments in trade, which is the second largest investment area, increased by 0.6%, while in agriculture, the same amount was spent on improvements compared to the previous year.

According to the material and technical composition of the investments, two-thirds to one-third were investments in machinery and vehicles, and construction investments. The performance value of domestically produced machines, equipment and vehicles fell by 5.0% at comparative prices, while the volume of real estate developments increased by 8.5%. At the same time, volume of foreign machinery and vehicle investments increased by 83%, primarily thanks to import purchases made in the manufacturing industry. Four fifths of machinery, equipment and vehicles were imported.

1 The data source is a mid-year official statistical data collection, the organizations' investments are accounted to location of headquarters, regardless of the real location of the investment, and they apply to enterprises employing more than 4 people, and to budgetary organisations and sample-selected non-profit organisations regardless of the number of employees. Preliminary data.

Figure 3

Change in the volume of investments (compared to the same period of the previous year)



Industry

The county's industrial performance increased in 2022: the output of industrial enterprises employing more than four people in the Bács-Kiskun county sites increased by 8.6%. The outstanding volume growth in January (67%), August (58%) and December (39%) pushed up the decrease in production measured in the other 5 months as well. The rate of expansion remained high in the first half of 2023.

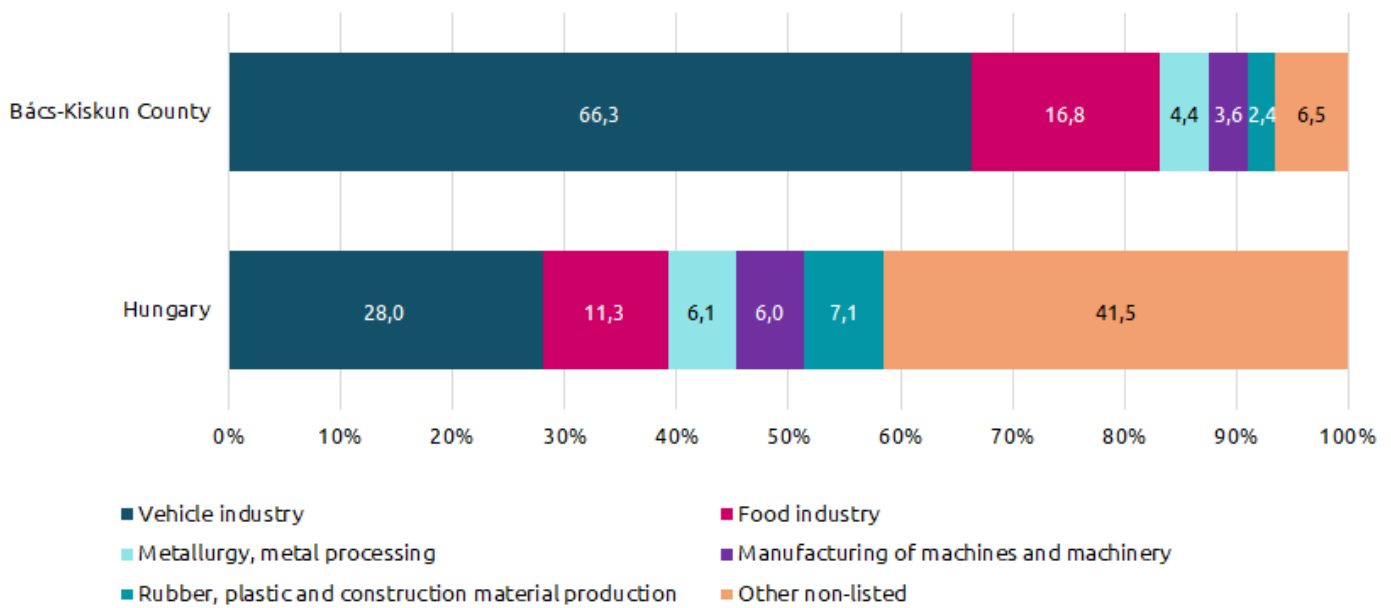
The output of county industrial organizations amounted to HUF 1,943 billion in the first half of 2023. The 7.3% increase in production represented the 3rd highest volume expansion in the ranking of counties and the capital. The moderate growth at the beginning of the year was followed by an intense increase exceeding 10% in May and June.

The industrial product value per inhabitant in January-June 2023 in the county amounted to HUF 3.9 million, which was 38% higher than the national average, and in the rankings of the counties and the capital - having improved two places compared to a year earlier – reached the 5. highest value.

The production volume of county-based industrial enterprises employing more than 49 people (excluding water and waste management) increased by 11% in the first half of 2023 compared to the same period of the previous year. Industrial sales rose by 11%, which can be explained primarily by the 19% increase in export volume. Less important domestic sales decreased by 14%.

Figure 4

Distribution of manufacturing production by main sectors*, first half of 2023



* Industrial companies with headquarters in the county and employing more than 49 persons.

The county's manufacturing growth is almost entirely due to the outstanding performance of the vehicle industry, which accounts for two-thirds of the output, as the output of the sector group increased by 29% in January-June 2023, despite the increased raw material costs. The increase in production was helped by the expansion of production capacities. Sales of the county's vehicle industry increased by 29%. In addition to the 30% expansion of exports, which provide most sales, domestic market sales, which have a smaller weight, increased by 6.2%.

The output of Bács-Kiskun's other significant sector, the food industry, which accounts for 17% of manufacturing production, decreased by 17%. In the case of the sector group that provides nearly half of the domestic sales of the county's manufacturing industry, sales on the domestic market fell by 21%. The volume decreased in most of the subsectors, for example, meat processing, preservation, and the production of meat products experienced a 26% drop in production. Among the subsectors of the food industry, only the production of other food achieved an increase with a 20% expansion.

Among the smaller sectors in the processing industry, the production of the metal raw material and metal processing product production increased by 16%, while the production of machines and machinery equipment production sector decreased by 18%.

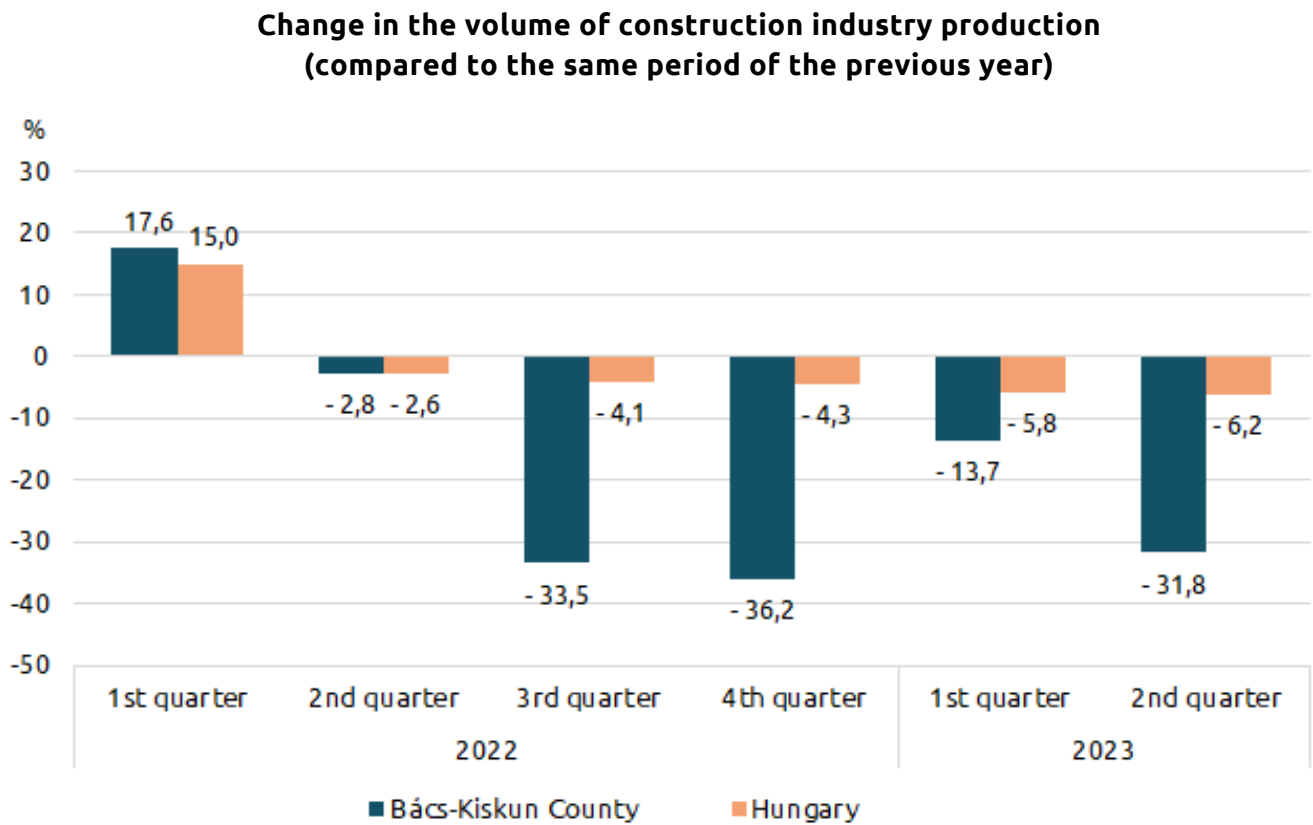
The export value of the county's manufacturing industry amounted to HUF 1,353 billion, which represented 83% of all sales. The machinery industry of the county is still strongly export-oriented, with 95% of its sales on foreign markets. Within the machinery industry, the export ratio in the vehicle industry, which is the largest, was 96%, while in the machinery and equipment manufacturing sector, the ratio was 82%. The export ratio of the other major sectors was not outstanding, the food industry produced half-half to the domestic and foreign markets, the production of metal raw materials and metal processing products reached an export ratio of 55%. At the same time, the domestic sales slightly exceeded sales on foreign markets in the case of the wood, paper and printing industry, as well as the rubber, plastic and construction materials industry.

Construction industry

The 2022 production value of the construction companies based in Bács-Kiskun county was HUF 345 billion, which, at comparative prices, was 22% lower than the year before, much deeper than the national decrease of level 0.9%. This is where the largest decrease was measured among the counties and the capital. The drop in production can be explained primarily by the 32% decrease in the volume of the construction of other structures, which accounts for three fifths of the output. Within the year, apart from the period from February to April, the performance fell short of the same month of the previous year.

In the first half of 2023, the unfavourable trend in the construction industry continued: the HUF 137 billion production volume was a quarter less than in the same period of the previous year. In a territorial comparison, this is the second most unfavourable figure in our country. In the first half of 2023, the output decreased in every month except February compared to the same month of the previous year. The county's output was 6.4% of the national output. Based on the production value per inhabitant (HUF 277,000), it ranked third after the capital and Fejér county in a territorial comparison.

Figure 5



According to the main groups of buildings, the production value was roughly divided between the construction of buildings and the construction of other structures. For the former, the volume fell by 4.6% and for the latter by 39% in one year. Regarding the construction industry sectors, the volume of production in the construction of other structures was 44% lower, and in specialized construction by 22% lower than in previous year, but at the same time, it increased by 9.7% in the construction of buildings.

The value of the new contracts concluded in the first half of 2023 amounted to HUF 140 billion, which is 18% lower than last year at comparative prices. While the volume of new contracts for the construction of other structures decreased significantly, by 39%, those for the construction of buildings increased by 26%. The contract portfolio of construction companies at the end of June 2023, amounting to HUF 195 billion, was three tenths lower than a year earlier, which was caused by a decrease in contracts for the construction of other structures.

Housing market

Compared to the exceptionally high value in 2020, the number of dwelling constructions dropped significantly in 2021, and then in 2022 in Bács-Kiskun county it decreased further: 7.1% less new housing units were built than in the previous year. Nationally, in contrast, there was an expansion of 3.2%. The decrease at the county level can be explained by the decline in the city of Kecskemét, which was only partially compensated by the growth registered in other towns and villages.

In the first half of 2023, 245 new apartments were put into use, which is almost the same as the value of a year earlier (247 apartments). Housing construction in Kecskemét increased significantly (by 39%), in the villages more moderately (by 6.4%), while in the other cities it fell by three tenths compared to the same period of the previous year. Based on the data for the first half of the year, the number of apartments built per ten thousand inhabitants in Bács-Kiskun county (5.0) was below the national average (7.7).

The majority of the apartments (130) were built for personal use, but the number of those built for sale (115) increased significantly in connection with the construction of condominiums in the county seat. Local governments still did not appear among the builders. According to the type of construction, the single-family house form is still the most popular, and all the new apartments in the villages were built as single-family houses.

The market for new apartments remained territorially concentrated on the county seat and its narrower surroundings. Nearly seven-tenths of the new apartments were delivered in the Kecskemét district, and another fifth in the Baja district. 111 flats were put into use in Kecskemét, while 48 flats were put into use in Baja, the other city with county rights.

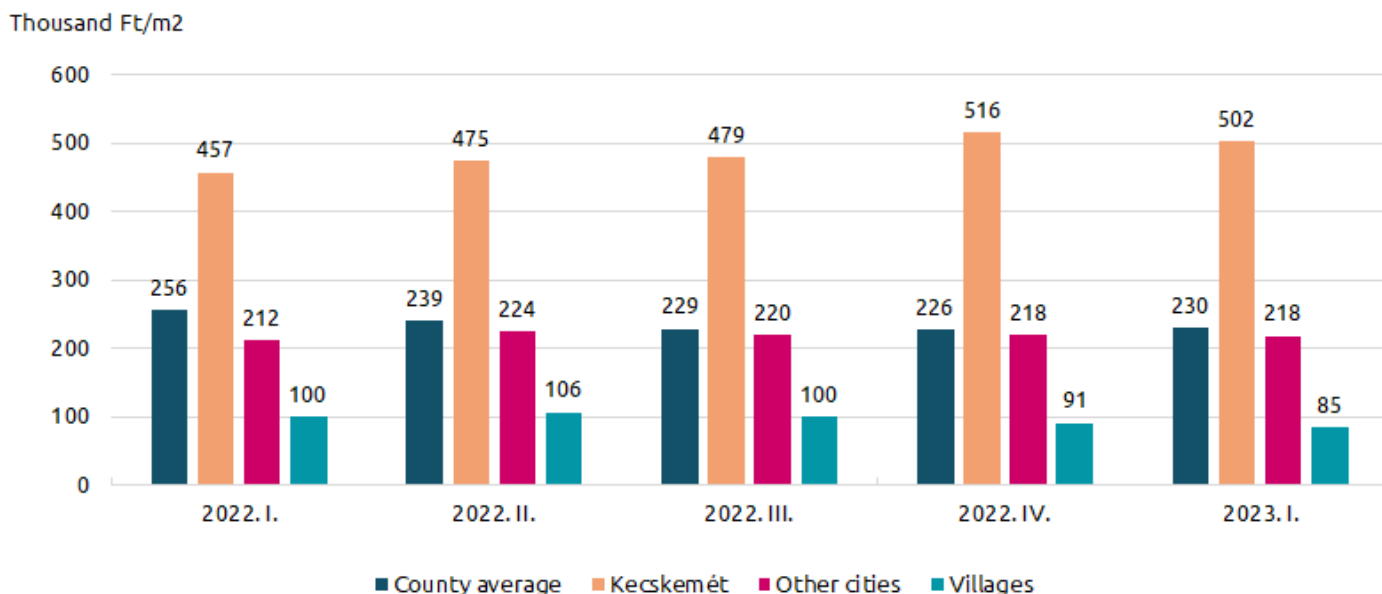
The willingness to build housing in the future has decreased - in line with the national trends, but to a much lesser extent. Based on the housing construction permits and simple notifications issued until the end of June 2023, 16% fewer apartments (324) are planned in the county than in the same period of the previous year. The submitted housing construction applications were roughly equally distributed between single-family and multi-residential buildings.

According to the preliminary data for the first quarter of 2023, housing prices are far below the national level and can be said to be low even in regional comparisons. The average price of new and used apartments in the county was HUF 230,000 per square meter, which is a tenth less than a year earlier. The average price of multi-apartment residential buildings and panel buildings is much higher than the total counties' average, while that of single-family houses was slightly more than half of that. Prefab apartments' prices rose by 13% and condominiums by 4.2% in one year, while the price of detached houses fell by 18%.

The structure of the housing market in Kecskemét is different from that of the county's: the average prices per square meter were 2.2 times higher than the county average, within which family houses cost 3.2 times more than an average county family house.

Figure 6

The average square meter price of apartments in Bács-Kiskun county



Retail trade

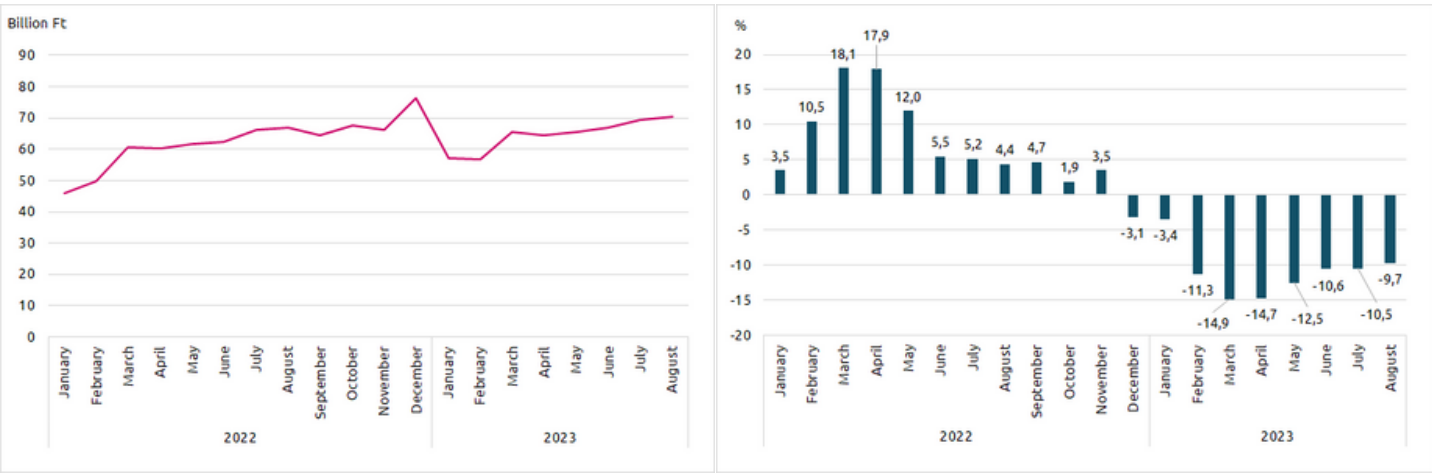
Due to the increase in maintenance and operating costs, retail stores - especially smaller ones - have found themselves in a difficult situation. All of this only strengthened the process that has been going on for years, according to which there are fewer and fewer retail stores operating in the county. At the end of 2022, 6,798 stores were registered, 3.1% (214) less than a year earlier. Four-tenths of the stores were operated by independent entrepreneurs, among whom the number of stores decreased to a greater extent, by 4.2%.

Similar to the national one, the turnover of the county stores measured in real terms, although from a high base, shows a decreasing trend since the end of 2022. The disappearance of the effect of the increase in household income (one-time personal income tax reimbursement in 2022, weapon money paid to the members of the armed forces), which raised consumption to a high level for a while, the gradual removal of the fuel price cap and the rise in inflation caused a decrease in real wages and, with it, a decrease in consumption.

In the first half of 2023, the Bács-Kiskun County retail store network achieved a turnover of HUF 376 billion. According to the change in the volume index calculated on an annual basis and taking into account price changes, the turnover of retail stores decreased in the first half of the year (-11.5%) in line with the national trend (-10.4%) and to a slightly greater extent. According to the monthly data, the decrease started already in December last year, and then exceeded the double-digit value from February.

Figure 7

Turnover and volume change of retail stores¹
in Bács-Kiskun County²



1 Compared to same period of previous year
2 Preliminary data from October 2022

Tourism

After the coronavirus epidemic, the tourism sector was faced with new challenges due to the rise in energy prices and the accompanying inflation. By 2023, the latter, in addition to the significant price increase of services, caused a decrease in real wages among the Hungarian population, which adversely affected the population's willingness to travel. In addition to all of this, international processes also shape the results of the accommodations, as Bács-Kiskun has significant transit and business guest traffic.

The accommodation capacity of Bács-Kiskun County in July of this year in terms of commercial accommodations was 128 accommodations, 4 less than the previous year, where 7.5 thousand beds awaited guests in 3.1 thousand rooms. Although the number of units decreased, the number of rooms available for rent increased by more than a fifth, and the number of beds increased by 9.3%.

This is mainly due to the expansion of community accommodation in the Kecskemét area. In this type of accommodation, the number of rooms has more than tripled, and the number of beds has increased by about two-thirds. An additional 5.9 thousand beds were available in private accommodation.

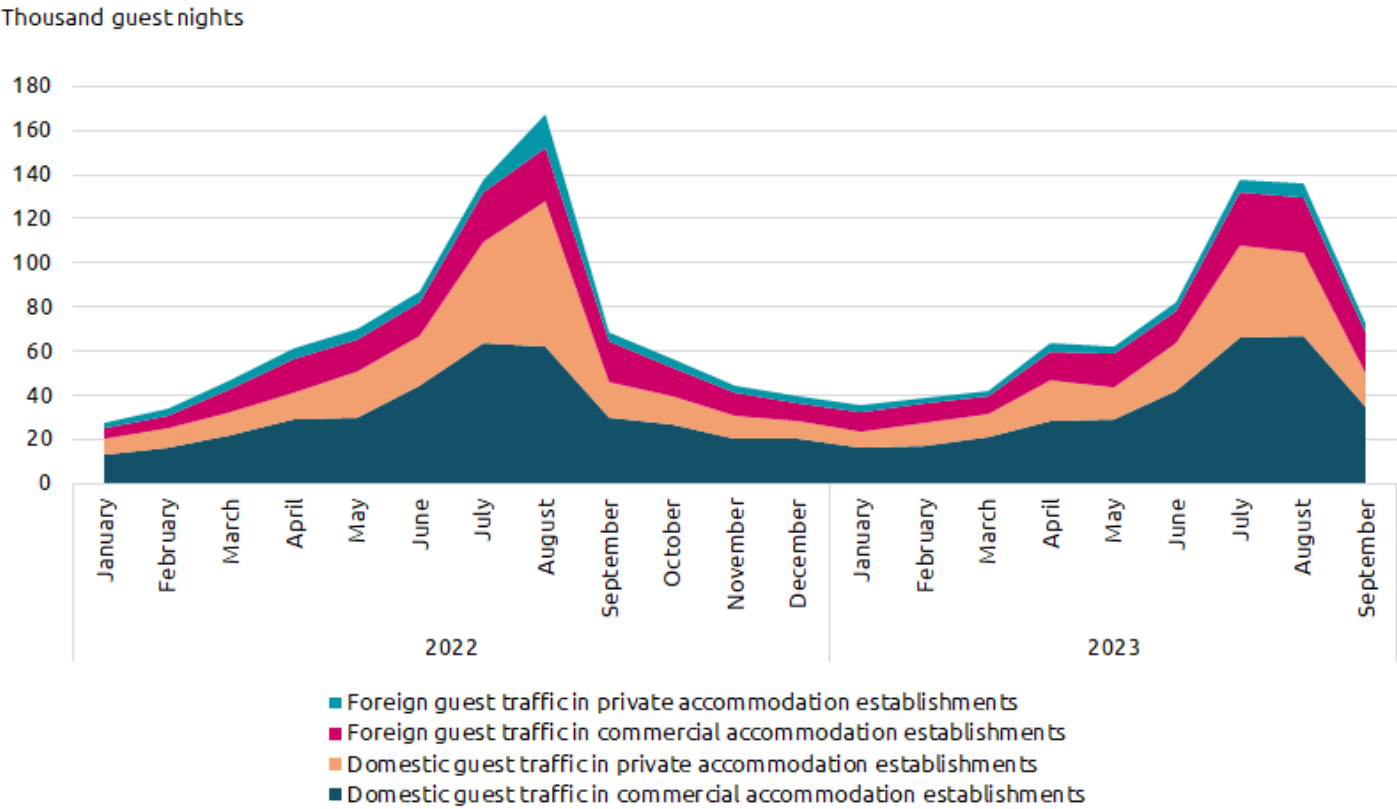
By September 2023, the county's commercial and private accommodations were visited by 295,000 guests, who spent a total of 669,000 guest nights. This represents 2.1% of the national traffic measured by guest nights. The number of guests did not change, but the number of guest nights was 4.3% lower than in the same period of the previous year. Partly due to the larger number of guests arriving for transit purposes, the length of stay of guests is only 2.3 nights.

Traffic in commercial hotels, which receive about seven-tenths of the traffic measured in guest nights, increased: by September of this year, 4.7% more guests spent 3.7% more guest nights. The expansion affected both domestic and foreign traffic. At the same time, the number of guests in private accommodation fell significantly: Hungarian guests spent 15 and foreigners 31% less guest nights in this type of accommodation.

According to the monthly data of the accommodation facilities, the turnover measured in guest nights, especially in August (-19%), fell short of the same month of the previous year. The number of domestic guest nights, which accounted for the majority of traffic, in March and from May to August was lower than a year earlier.

Figure 8

**The number of guest nights spent at tourist accommodation establishments
in Bács-Kiskun County**



In contrast to the national trends, the foreign guest traffic of accommodation facilities was contradictory: even though in the first nine months of the year in Bács-Kiskun county, there were 6.8% more guests than in the same period of the previous year, welcoming more than 70,000 guests, the number of guest nights was still 4.9% decreased to 171,000 guest nights.

Among the foreigners, the largest number of guest nights (52,000), which is nearly a third of the county's foreign traffic, was still registered by German guests. They were followed by those coming from Romania (21 thousand), Ukraine (14 thousand) and Poland (11 thousand).

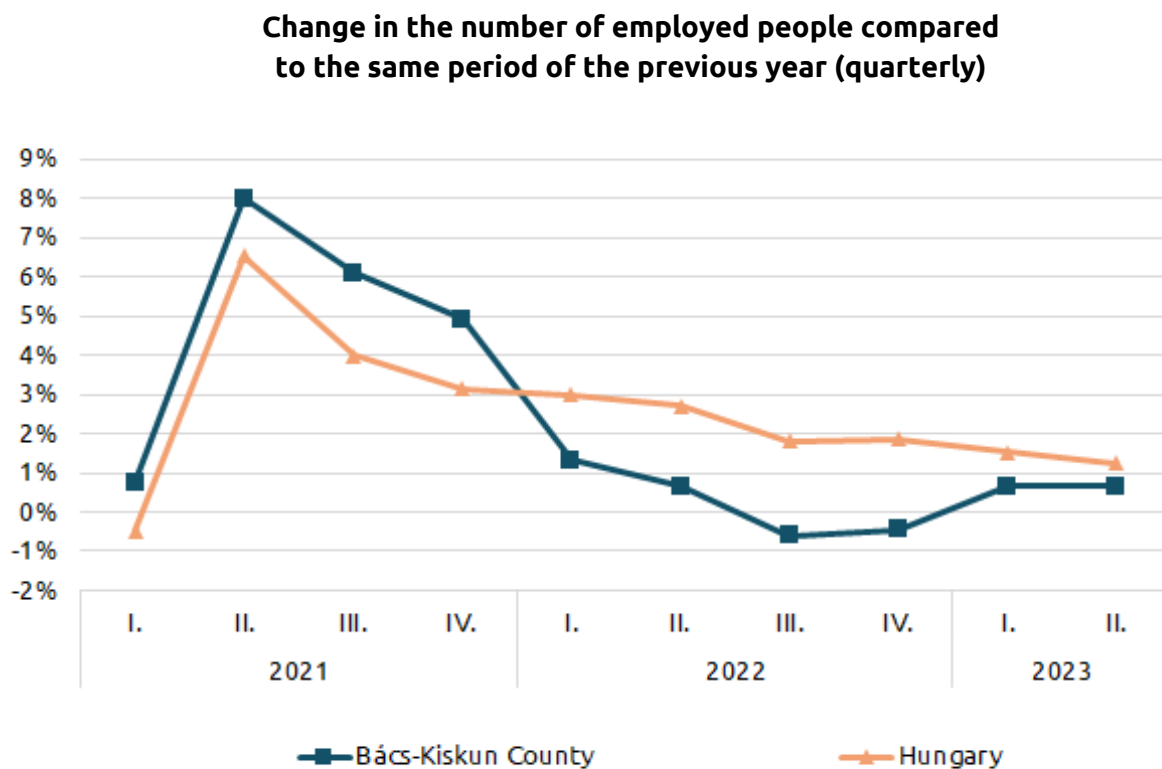
By September 2023, commercial accommodation generated HUF 6 billion in gross revenue, 19% more than in the same period of the previous year. 75% of revenues, HUF 4.5 billion, came from accommodation fees.

Labor market

In Bács-Kiskun county, in line with the growing industrial production, the number of economically active persons and, within that, the employed, rose to the highest level of the decade in the second quarter of 2023. The expansion of the labour market represented a turning point compared to the previous quarters: between August 2022 and March 2023, the employment rate decreased, which was accompanied by the local peak of the unemployment rate of 5.6% for the first quarter of 2023. Together with the 2023 second quarter's growth, the employment rate of 64.1% was already the 7th highest (previous year it was 9th), and the unemployment rate of 4.5%, which only partially left behind the previous surge, was the 8th highest in the ranking of the counties and the capital.

In April-June 2023, almost 151,000 people were employed by the relevant county organizations, which was approximately one thousand more than in the same period of the previous year.

Figure 9



In the manufacturing industry, which employs 29% of the employed, the total number of employees practically did not change in the 2nd quarter of 2023 compared to the previous year. The increase in the number of employees of the metal raw material production and metal processing sector group by approximately one thousand people was opposed by a decrease of approximately 300 each in the machine and machinery equipment manufacturing and the vehicle industry, and by approximately 200 each in the rubber, plastic and construction materials industry, and the food industry.

The number of employees in scientific and technical activities increased by 11%, and the number of employees in transportation and warehousing increased by 5.7%, the latter mainly caused by the increase of 192 employees in the road freight transport and moving sector. The growth of scientific and technical activity is primarily due to increase in legal, accounting and tax expert activities (213 persons) and further explained by the increase of 99 persons in engineering and architectural engineering activities, in the technical inspection and analysis sector. The 5.2% decrease in the number of employees in the public administration was offset by a 3.4% increase in the number of employees in the economic branch of education.



In the second quarter of 2023, the gross monthly average wage of full-time employees was HUF 479,000, which was a 15% increase compared to the same period of the previous year, slightly behind the national rate of increase of 16%. For this reason, the county's average salaries could not catch up with the national wage, the difference increased from HUF 72 thousand to HUF 88,000 in one year. The average earnings of those with physical occupations increased by 17% and those with intellectual occupations by 13%: the former earned HUF 403,000 gross on average, the latter 585,000 HUF.

Among the branches of the national economy employing a significant number of people, the manufacturing industry (19%) exceeded the county average, while the construction industry and trade (both 14%), education (13%), and health services (9%) increased to a lesser extent in the second quarter.

The number of registered jobseekers on the closing day amounted to more than 10,000 people in June 2023, which is 6.0% less than a year earlier. In June, the number of vacant positions in the county decreased by 16% compared to the previous June, so overall the labour market became more loose: there were 55 jobseekers for ten vacant positions instead of 49 the previous year. The proportion of those who had been looking for a job for less than half a year was 53%, slightly above the national rate of 49%. Among the county's jobseekers, the proportion of vocational training graduates was 28%, and those with no more than a primary school education were 37%.

On the closing day in June, there were 11% more jobseeker's allowance recipients in the registers than a year earlier. Their number was almost 2,200 people. After the nearly one-third reduction, less than one and a half thousand people received the support that replaces employment. More than 2.5 thousand people received job search aid, their number increased by 2.5% in one year.

BUILD YOUR BUSINESS

WITH THE HELP OF CHAMBER SERVICES

Starting a business

Economic development

Business offers

Access to resources

Counselling

Tender information

Adult training

Master training



Authentication of
external trade documents

Professional events



FOR AUTHENTIC INFORMATION, LOOK FOR THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF BÁCS-KISKUN COUNTY

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