

# Feeling Much Better

**Overview: Stronger Indicators  
Amid Volatile Political Mood**

**Industry: Key Driver of Economic  
Recovery**

**Retail Trade: Double-Digit Growth**

**Interest Rates: Falling as Bank  
Deposits Grow**

**Prices: Delayed Inflation**

**Exchange Rate: Public Foreign  
Currency Purchases Weaken  
*Hryvnia***

**Fiscal Accounts: Sustainable, with  
Risk of a Wider Fiscal Gap**

**External Accounts: Balance is  
Well-Balanced**

Local elections dominated the news over the past month. Although the local government has never had enough authority to become a critical player in any political contest, the ruling party obviously used these elections as a testing ground for new electoral approaches. In contrast, for the opposition, the election was a true battle for its last stronghold. However, neither the ruling party nor the opposition fully achieved its goals. The election results confirmed that Ukrainians are seeking some alternative “third force.”

Meanwhile, the economy has been showing much better prospects[>>>](#)