

# KEY INDICATORS FOR BULGARIA



National statistical institute

## Key indicators for Bulgaria

This update: 30 December 2009

Next update: 2 April 2010

		2006	2007	2008	June-09	July-09	Aug-09	Sept.-09	Oct.-09	Nov.-09
<b>1. Output</b>										
Industrial confidence <sup>1.1</sup>	%	4.1	8.7	6.6	-11.8	-9.2	-9.9	-9.0	-6.2	-9.6
Industrial production <sup>1.2</sup>	yoy % ch.*	6.2	9.7	0.9	-18.2	-18.7	-15.8	-21.1	-16.1	
Gross domestic product <sup>1.3</sup>	yoy % ch.*	6.3	6.2	6.0	7.1	6.8	3.5	-3.5	-4.9	-5.4
<b>2. Private consumption</b>										
Consumer confidence <sup>2.1</sup>	%	-34.4	-31.7	-36.6	-38.5	-38.5	-45.2	-52.8	-47.3	-53.2
Retail sales <sup>2.2</sup>	yoy % ch.*	12.7	19.4	3.5	-10.5	-9.2	-9.7	-8.3	-8.8	
Private consumption <sup>2.3</sup>	yoy % ch.*	8.5	5.1	4.5	5.3	5.9	1.8	-6.0	-5.0	-4.7
<b>3. Investment</b>										
Capacity utilization in industry <sup>3.1</sup>	%	68.4	72.6	74.9	74.4	74.5	70.6	67.4	63.9	64.8
Gross fixed capital formation <sup>3.2</sup>	yoy % ch.*	14.7	21.7	20.4	28.6	22.3	15.8	-14.1	-16.3	-36.5
Change in stocks <sup>3.3</sup>	% of GDP	5.8	7.0	5.0	8.6	4.6	2.2	0.7	1.0	1.1
<b>4. Labour market</b>										
Unemployment <sup>4.1</sup>	%	9.0	6.9	5.6	5.8	5.1	5.0	6.4	6.3	6.7
Employed persons <sup>4.2</sup>	yoy % ch.*	4.4	4.6	3.3	3.7	3.1	1.7	-0.8	-2.1	-4.0
Labour costs <sup>4.3</sup>	yoy % ch.*	4.7	16.9	19.1	21.5	19.5	18.9	19.2	15.6	11.0
Shortage of labour in industry <sup>4.4</sup>	%	11.7	16.3	20.0	12.2	10.5	10.5	10.4	9.6	9.2
Wages <sup>4.5</sup>	yoy % ch.*	11.3	19.5	21.7	14.0	11.8	12.1	10.4		
<b>5. International transactions</b>										
Export order books in industry <sup>5.1</sup>	balance	-39.7	-23.3	-23.1	-47.7	-46.8	-47.7	-48.7	-44.4	-47.1
Exports of goods <sup>5.2</sup>	mln. EUR	12011.9	13511.9	15203.8	999.9	1028.0	982.0	1050.4	1205.7	
Imports of goods <sup>5.3</sup>	mln. EUR	17574.1	20757.2	23801.1	-1343.8	-1349.1	-1243.9	-1315.3	-1461.7	
Trade balance <sup>5.4</sup>	mln. EUR	-5562.3	-7245.3	-8597.3	-343.9	-321.1	-261.9	-265.0	-256.0	
Current account <sup>5.5</sup>	mln. EUR	-4647.8	-7274.0	-8653.1	-243.8	134.4	214.3	4.5	-252.5	
Direct investment (net) <sup>5.6</sup>	mln. EUR	6021.5	8283.6	5685.0	424.7	309.2	141.6	56.2	6.2	
Portfolio investment (net) <sup>5.7</sup>	mln. EUR	292.2	-518.4	-469.7	-96.0	111.2	-12.8	8.7	155.6	
Exports of goods and services <sup>5.8</sup>	yoy % ch.*	8.7	5.2	2.9	5.1	3.8	-6.0	-17.4	-15.8	-6.7
Imports of goods and services <sup>5.9</sup>	yoy % ch.*	14.0	9.9	4.9	13.7	4.2	-3.2	-21.1	-24.3	-23.4
<b>6. Prices</b>										
HICP <sup>6.1</sup>	yoy % ch.*	7.4	7.6	12.0	2.6	1.0	1.3	0.2	0.3	0.9
Producer prices on domestic market (in industry) <sup>6.2</sup>	yoy % ch.*	8.7	7.9	13.3	-5.1	-9.0	-9.8	-7.8	-8.3	
Selling price expectations in industry <sup>6.3</sup>	balance	10.8	17.3	17.1	-2.9	-2.1	0.2	3.4	2.3	6.7
Selling price expectations in retail trade <sup>6.4</sup>	balance	18.0	27.5	36.4	-0.6	-0.2	-0.3	8.6	4.9	-1.0
<b>7. Monetary and financial indicators</b>										
SOFIBOR (3 months) <sup>7.1</sup>	index	3.69	4.90	7.14	5.94	5.69	5.30	5.11	4.84	4.80
M3 <sup>7.2</sup>	yoy % ch.*	26.9	31.2	8.8	3.6	1.7	1.0	1.6	4.4	6.4
Credit to Non-financial Corporations and Households and NPISHs <sup>7.3</sup>	yoy % ch.*	23.7	63.7	32.5	11.2	7.6	5.4	5.0	3.9	3.7
Exchange rate USD/BGN <sup>7.4</sup>	value	1.56	1.43	1.34	1.40	1.39	1.37	1.34	1.32	1.31
Nominal effective exchange rate <sup>7.5</sup>	index	126.4	127.5	131.2	133.0	132.9	133.4	134.1	134.3	

Note: \* yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.

## Comments

### 1. Output

According to the NSI business inquiries in December 2009 the **industrial confidence indicator** remains approximately at its November level. The production assurance with orders is almost the same as the previous month.

In October 2009 the **Industrial Production Index** decreased by 16.1% in comparison with the same month of the previous year (by preliminary data). Drops were recorded in Manufacturing (by 21.5%) and in Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (by 6.2%). At the same time in Mining and quarrying was registered an increase of 17.7%.

By preliminary operative data the **gross domestic product (GDP)** in the third quarter of 2009 amounted to BGN 18 056.3 million at current prices and GDP per capita was BGN 2 381.0. At the average exchange rate for the quarter of BGN 1.368459 for 1 US dollar, GDP amounted to USD 13 194.6 million and respectively USD 1 739.9 per capita. GDP recalculated in Euro was EUR 9 232.0 million or EUR 1 217.4 per capita. The real volume of GDP dropped by 5.4% compared to the third quarter of 2008.

### 2. Private consumption

In October 2009 the value of the total **consumer confidence indicator** decreased by 5.9 percentage points in comparison with July (respectively by 5.2 percentage points for the urban population and by 7.3 percentage points for the rural population) and is almost equal to the level from 6 months ago. In the consumers' opinion there is a worsening of the economic situation in the country. The prognoses about the changes which will occur in the next 12 months are also with an increased negativism.

In October 2009 the **receipts from sales in Retail Trade** decreased by 8.8% compared to the same month of 2008 (by preliminary data). The drop was observed in all constituent groups except in Retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco where was

registered an increase of 1.9%. The highest decrease was recorded in "Retail sale of computers, peripheral units and software; telecommunications equipment" and in "Retail sale of audio and video equipment; hardware, paints and glass; electrical household appliances" - by 23.8 and 18.6% respectively.

In the third quarter of 2009 for **individual consumption of the population** were spent 67.4% of the produced GDP. The real decrease of the indicator was by 4.7% in comparison with the respective quarter of 2008.

### 3. Investment

In October 2009 the **average capacity utilization in industry** increased by 0.9 percentage points in comparison with July and reached 64.8%.

In the third quarter of 2009 the **gross fixed capital formation** decreased in real terms by 36.5% compared to the same period of the previous year. The relative share of that category in GDP is 20.0%.

### 4. Labour market

In the third quarter of 2009 the **total number of employed persons** aged 15 and over was 3 280.0 thousand and their relative share of the population of the same age group was 49.8%. In comparison with the same period of 2008 the number of persons employed decreased by 137.3 thousand and the employment rate - by 1.8 percentage points.

In the third quarter of 2009 the **unemployed persons** were 234.5 thousand or 6.7% of the labour force. The unemployment rate compared to the same quarter of the previous year increased by 1.6 percentage points and the number of unemployed persons - by 49.4 thousand.

According to the NSI business inquiries in December 2009 8.8% of the industrial enterprises pointed out the **labour shortage** as a factor limiting their activity.

In September 2009 the **average wage and salary** was BGN 594 (by preliminary data) which is 3.1% higher than the previous month. In comparison with September 2008 the growth rate is 10.4%.

## 5. International transactions

According to the industrial managers' assessments in December 2009 in comparison with November there was an insignificant improvement of the production assurance with **orders from abroad**.

In the period January - October 2009, **the current account** deficit was EUR 2 463.7 million (7.4% of the projected GDP for 2009), against a deficit of EUR 6 826.6 million (20.0% of GDP) for the same period of 2008.

**The trade balance** in January - October 2009 was negative and it amounted to EUR 3 497.3 million (10.4% of the projected GDP for 2009) compared to a deficit of EUR 7 208.9 million (21.1% of GDP) for the same period of 2008.

**Exports of goods (FOB)** in January - October 2009 amounted to EUR 9 684.9 million against EUR 13 197.0 million for the same period of 2008, decreasing by 26.6% annually against an annual growth rate of 18.5% for January - October 2008.

**Imports of goods (FOB)** amounted to EUR 13 182.2 million, against EUR 20 406.0 million for January - October 2008, decreasing by 35.4% annually against an annual growth rate of 21.6% for the same period of 2008.

**Foreign direct investment abroad** was EUR 96.2 million against EUR 465.5 million for January - October 2008. **Foreign direct investment in Bulgaria** was EUR 2 332.5 million (7.0% of projected GDP) against EUR 5 866.1 million (17.2% of GDP) for the same period of 2008. The direct investment covered 94.7% of the current account deficit against 85.9% for January - October 2008.

In January - October 2009 the **portfolio investment - assets** decreased by EUR 11.2 million, compared to an increase of EUR 79.6 million for January - October 2008. **Portfolio investment - liabilities** decreased by EUR 18.3 million, compared to a decrease of EUR 255.1 million for the same period of 2008.

In the third quarter of 2009 the external balance of goods and services was positive. **The exports of goods and services** exceeded the value of the imports by BGN 710.8 million. Compared to the respective quarter of 2008 the exports of goods and services decreased in real terms by 6.7% and the **imports of goods and services** - by 23.4%.

## 6. Prices

In November 2009 the **harmonized index of consumer prices** increased by 0.9% compared to the same month of 2008, as there was an increase of prices in all observed groups with the exception of Food and non-alcoholic beverages, Transport and Communications. A certain decrease of prices was also registered in the group of Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels.

**The Producer Price Index on Domestic Market** in October 2009 decreased by 8.3% compared to the corresponding month of 2008. The prices in manufacturing decreased by 10.1%, in mining - by 3.9% and in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply - by 5.3%.

According to the conjuncture inquiry in December 2009 in comparison with November the share of managers expecting a preservation of **prices** increased and the share of managers expecting a reduction decreased.

## 7. Monetary and financial indicators

In November 2009 the **three-month interbank market index SOFIBOR** decreased from 4.84 to 4.80% compared to the previous month, whereas the value in November 2008 was 7.89%.

The annual growth rate of **the broad money (monetary aggregate M3)** was 6.4% in November 2009 against 4.4% in October, as at the end of November M3 amounted to BGN 46.761 billion (71.4% of the projected GDP for 2009) against BGN 46.554 billion in October (71.1% of GDP). The narrow money M1 amounted to BGN 17.738 billion as it decreased by 7.8% annually against a drop of 12.3% in October.

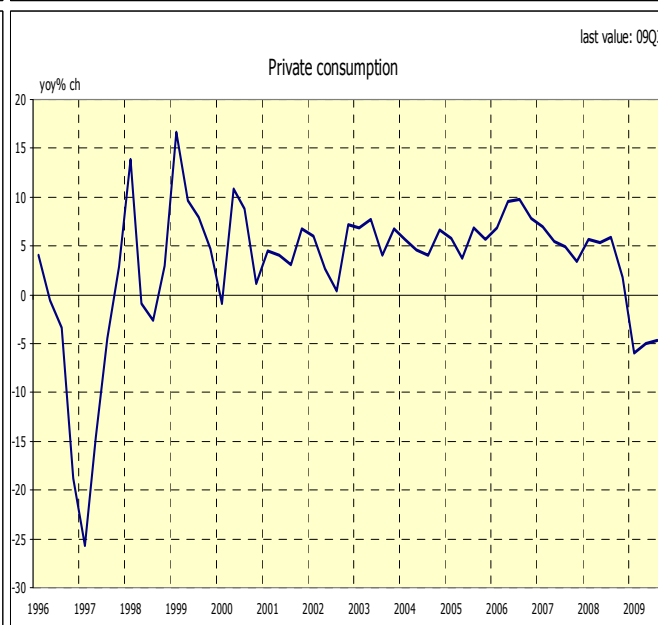
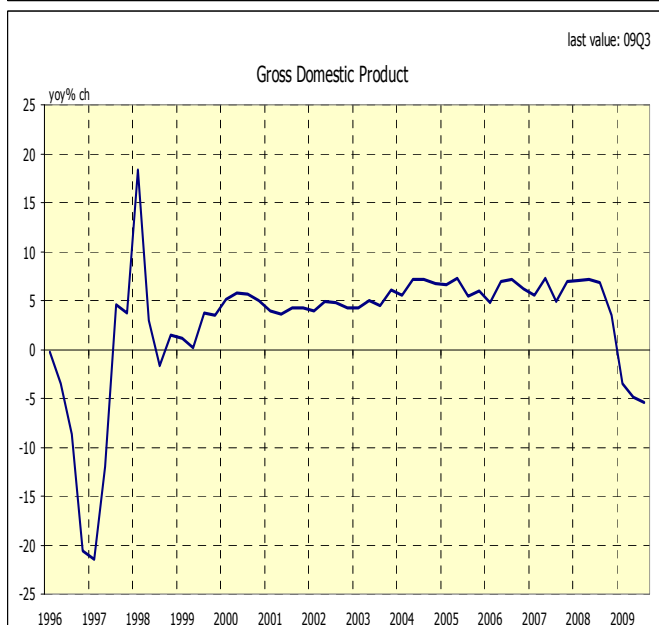
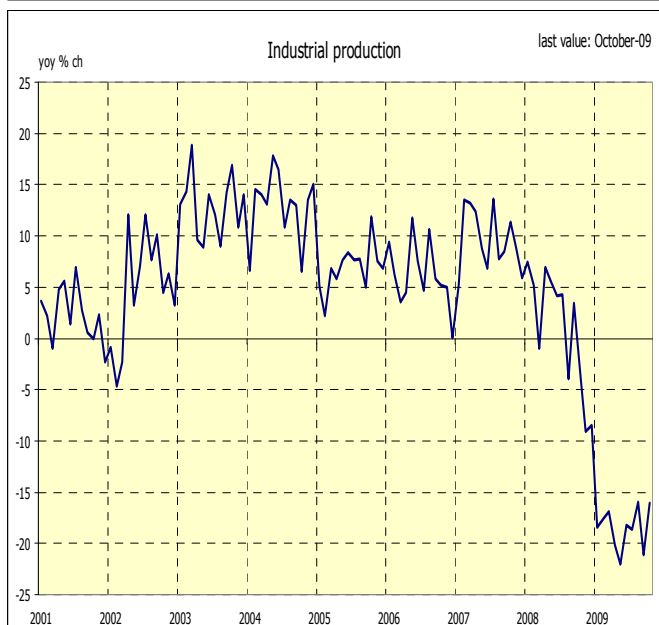
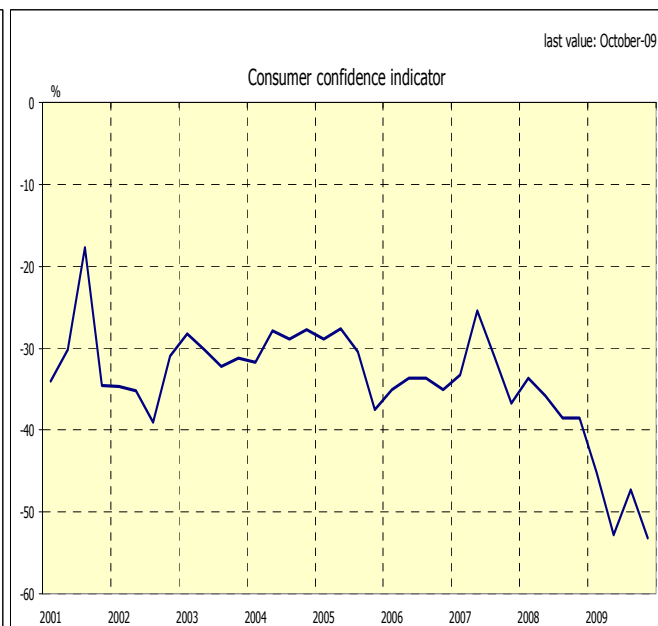
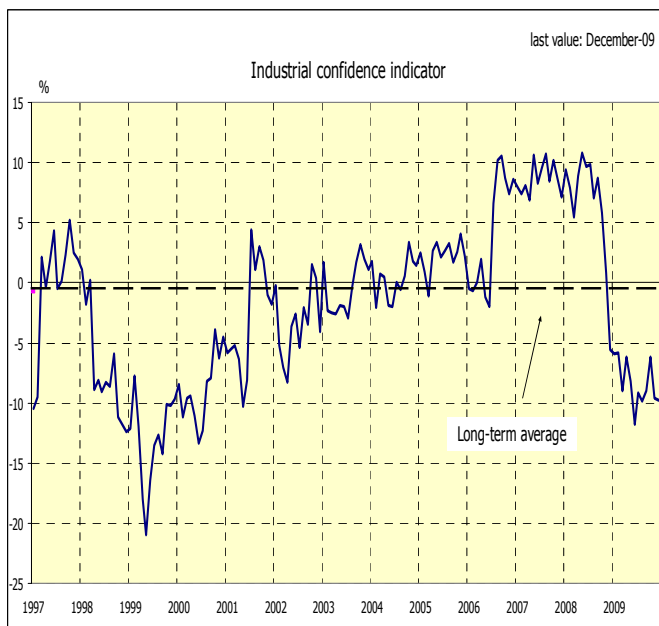
In November 2009 the volume of the **loans to non-financial corporations, households and NPISHs** amounted to BGN 50.054 billion (76.4% of the projected GDP for 2009), as their annual increase was by 3.7% against 3.9% in October 2009. The annual growth rate of the loans to non-financial corporations in November was 2.0% against 2.6% in the previous month and that of the loans to the households and NPISHs - 6.6% in November compared to 6.1% in October.

In November 2009 the **exchange rate BGN against the US dollar** decreased in comparison with the previous month from 1.32 to 1.31.

# KEY INDICATORS FOR BULGARIA

## 1. OUTPUT

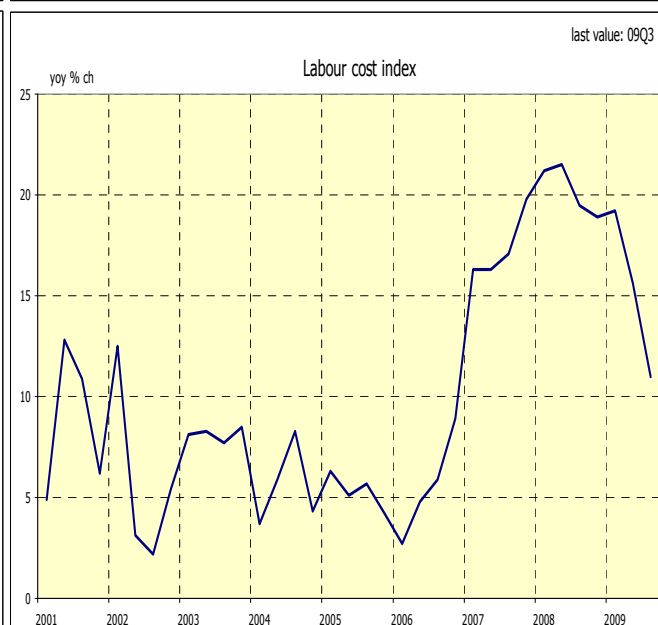
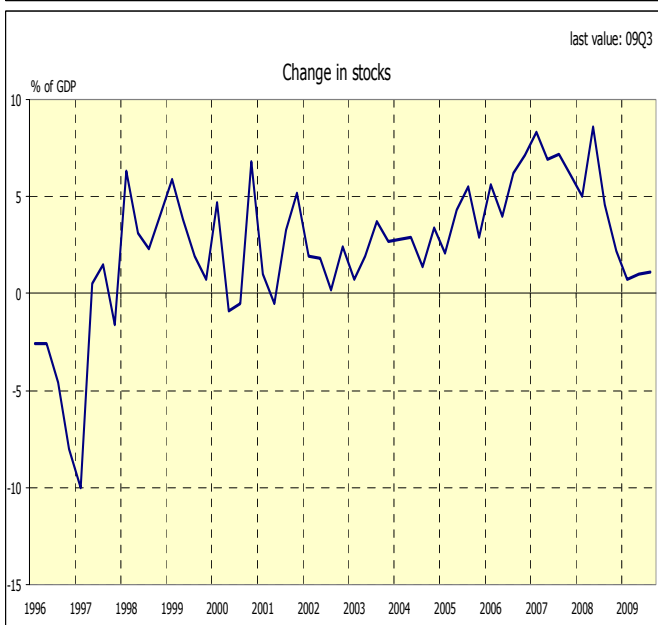
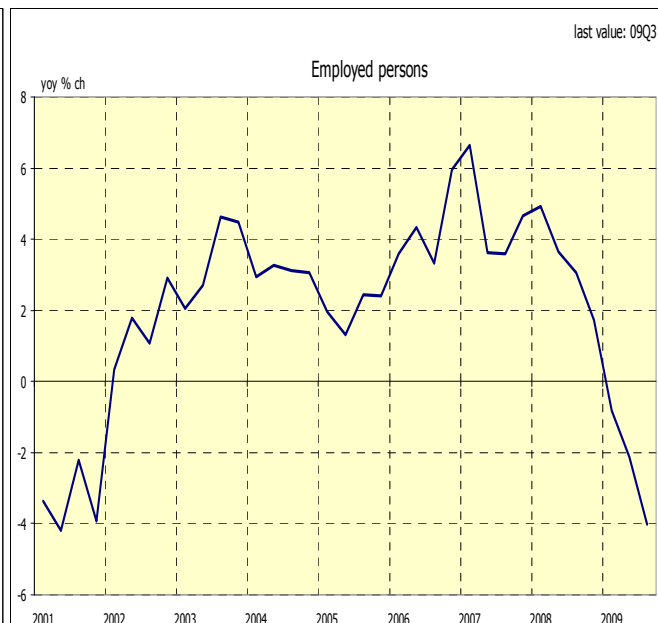
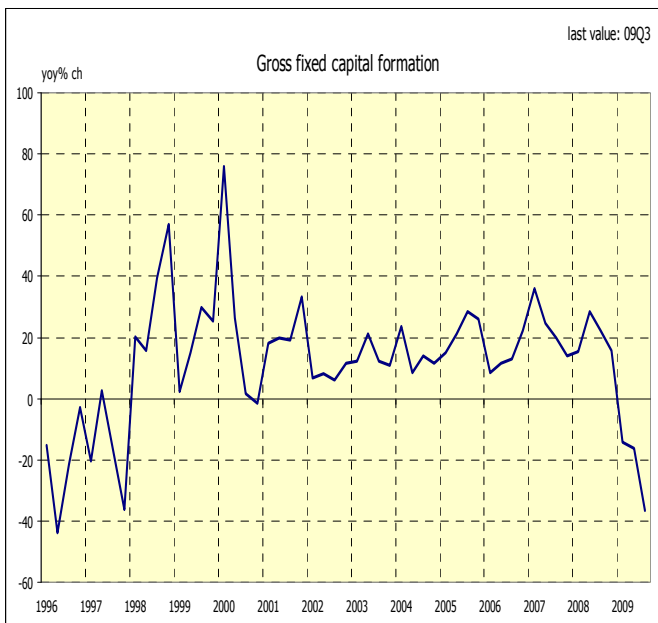
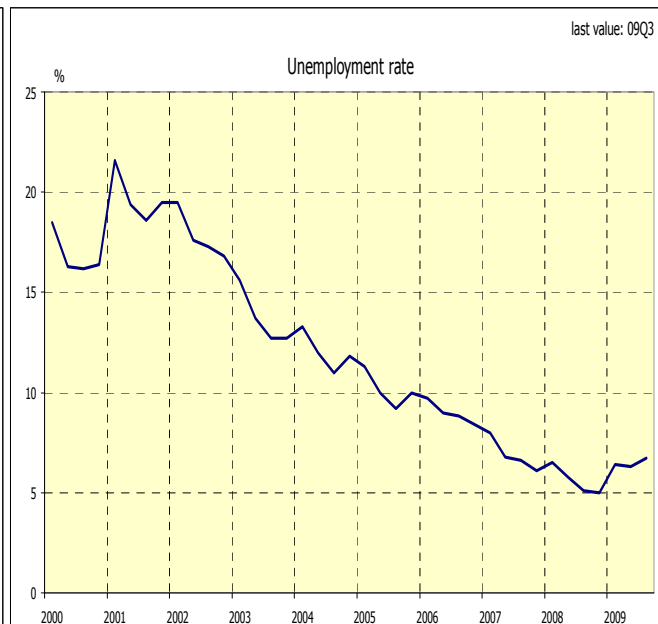
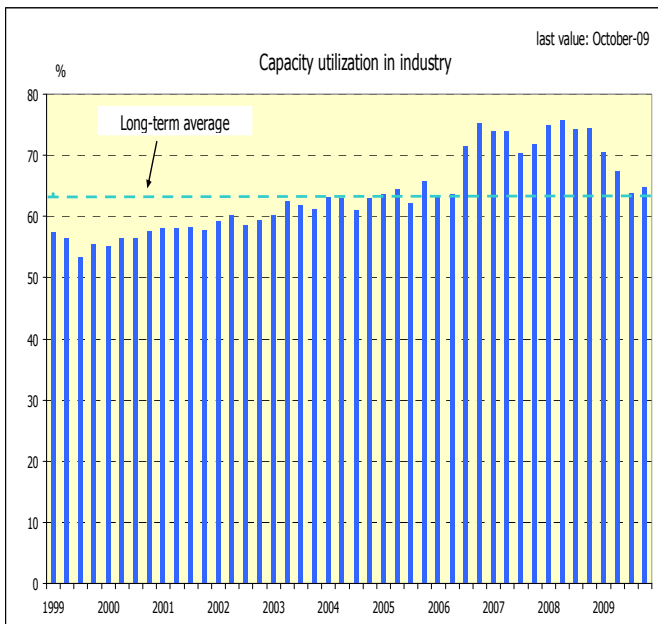
## 2. PRIVATE CONSUMPTION



Note: yoy % ch - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.

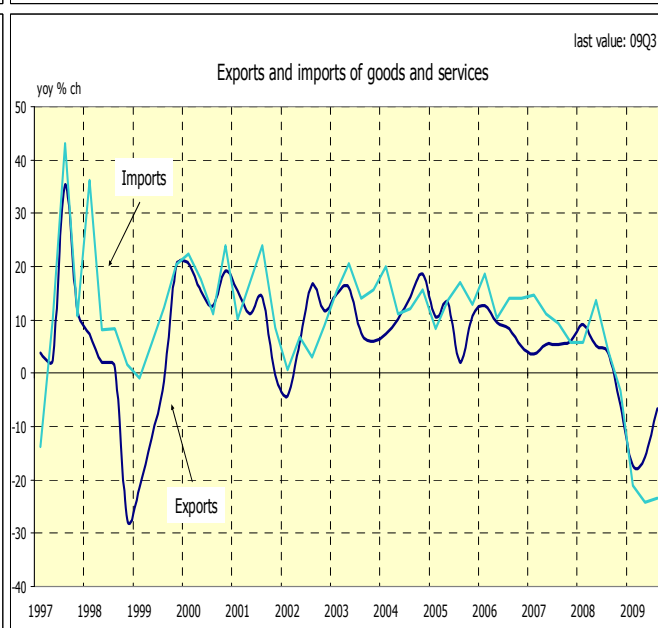
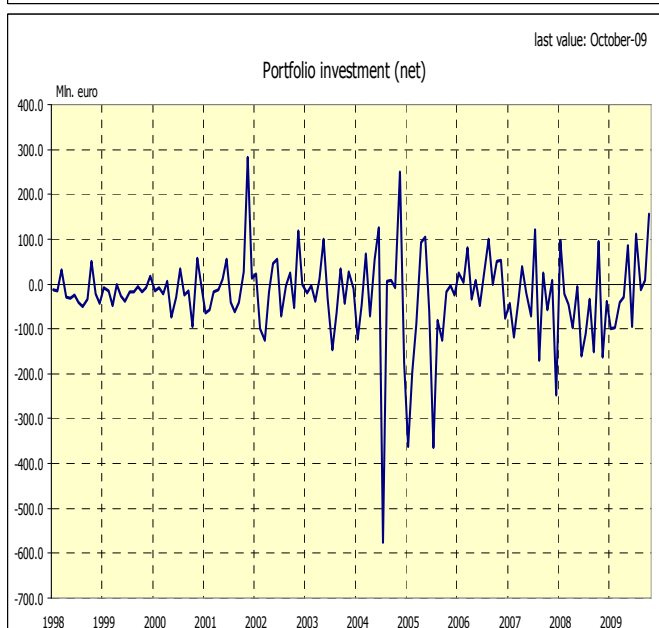
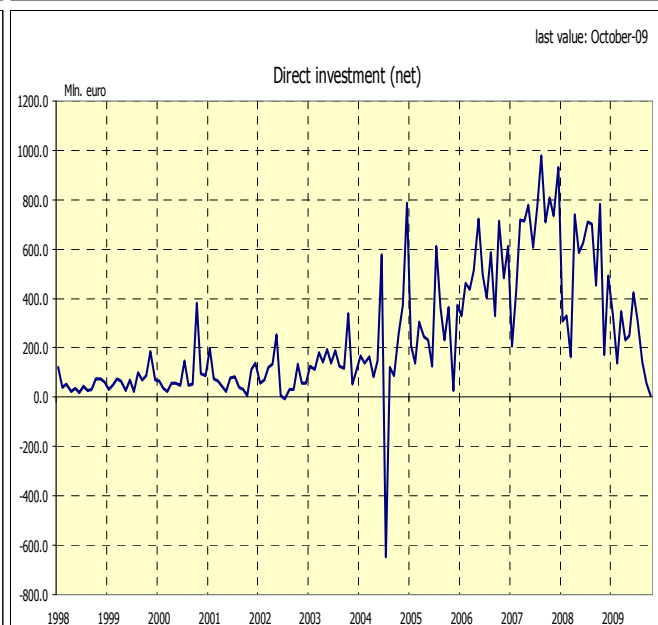
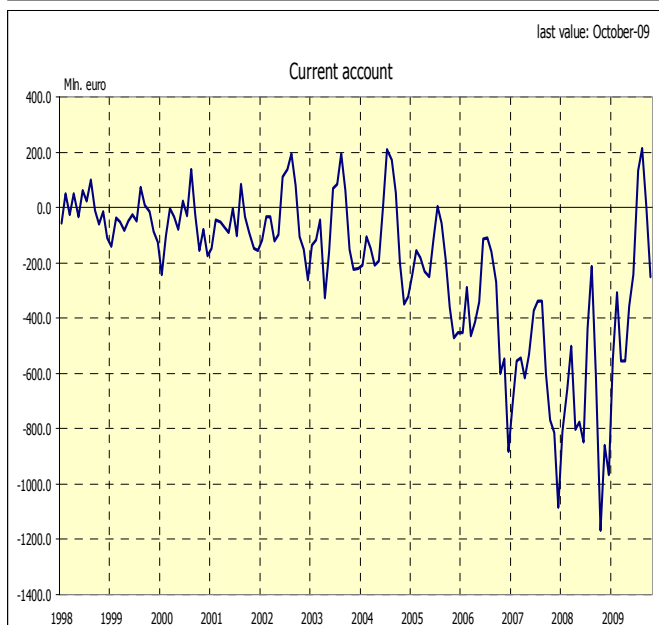
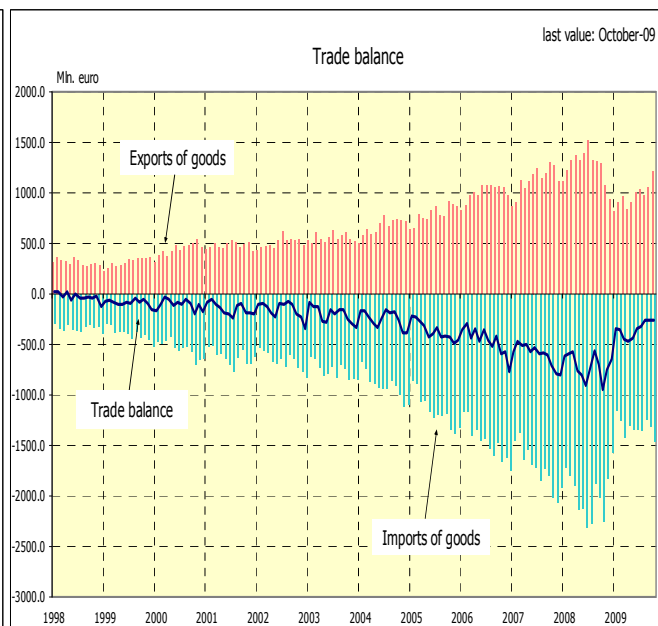
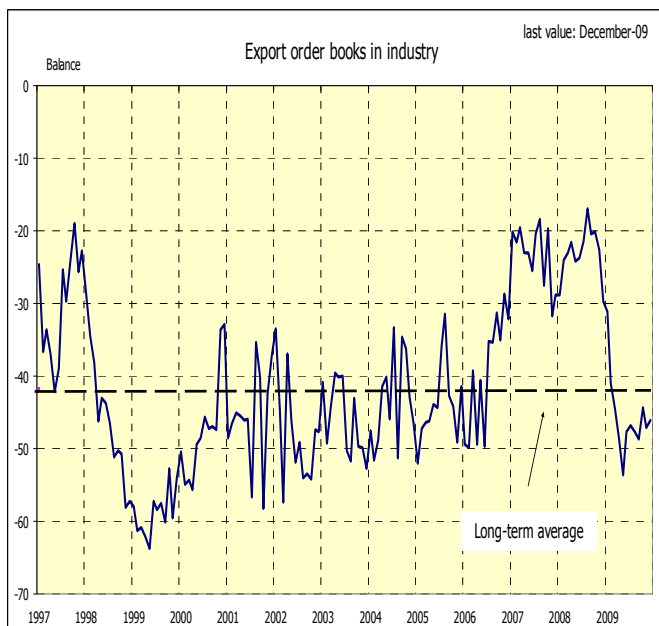
3. INVESTMENT

4. LABOUR MARKET



Note: yoy % ch - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.

## 5. INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS

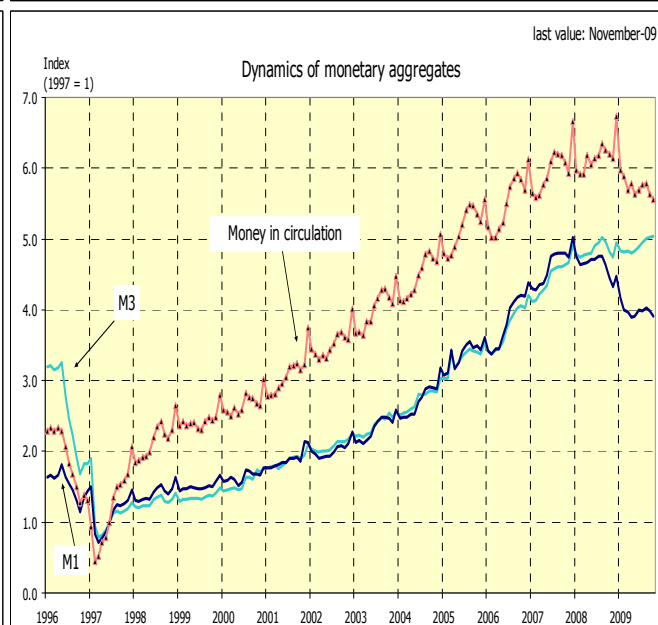
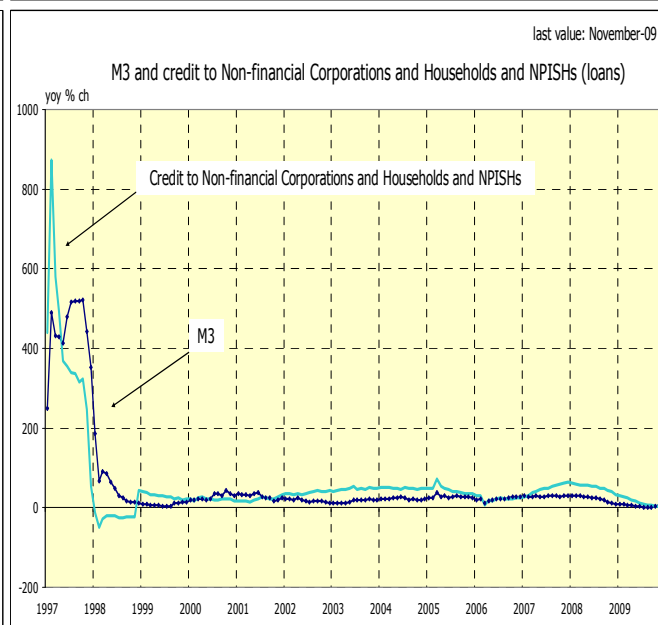
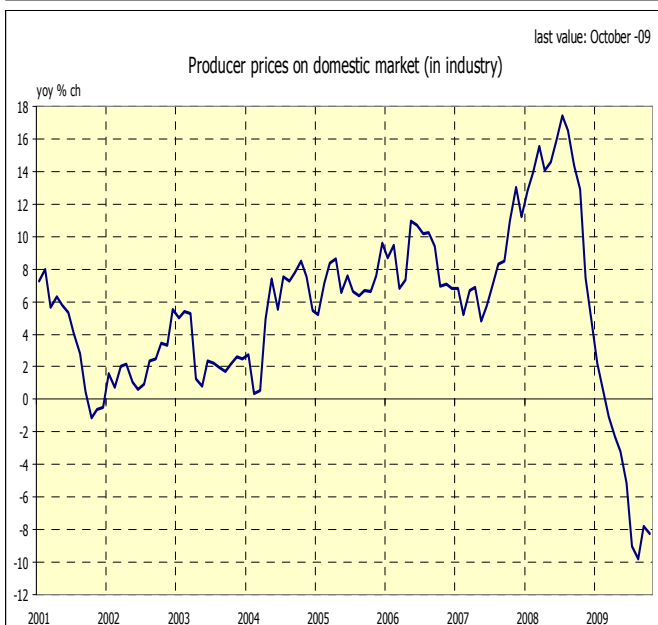
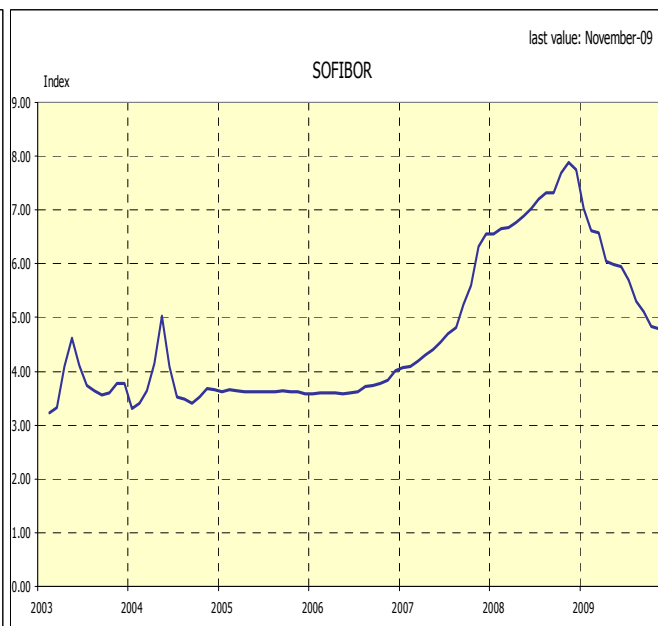
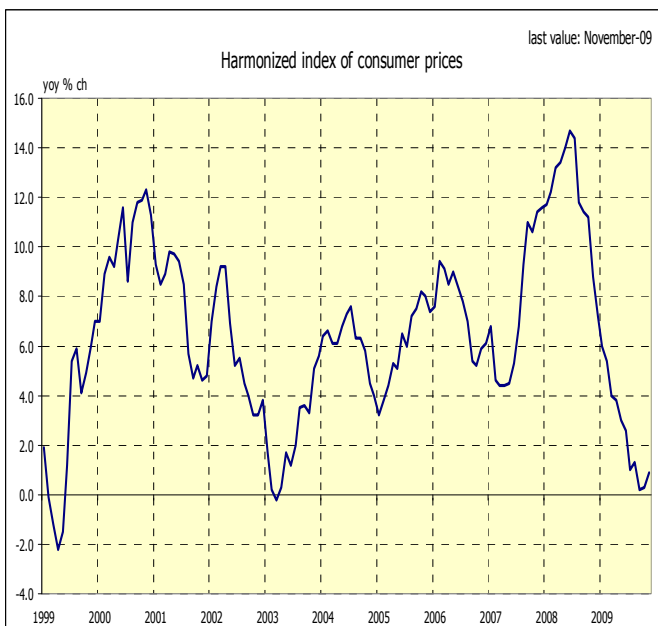


Note: yoy % ch - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



6. PRICES

7. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL INDICATORS



Note: yoy % ch - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.

# KEY INDICATORS FOR BULGARIA



<b>Key indicators for Bulgaria - Explanatory notes</b>			
№	Indicator	Note	Source
<b>1. Output</b>			
1.1.	Industrial confidence indicator	Business survey in industry. The industrial confidence indicator is an arithmetic average of balances to replies on production expectations, order books and stocks of finished products (the latter with negative sign)	NSI
1.2.	Industrial production	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
1.3.	Gross Domestic Product	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
<b>2. Private consumption</b>			
2.1.	Consumer confidence indicator	Consumer survey. The consumer confidence indicator is an arithmetic average of balances to replies to four questions (financial and economic situation, unemployment and savings over the next 12 months)	NSI
2.2.	Retail sales	Sales in retail trade (excluding motor vehicles), growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
2.3.	Private consumption	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
<b>3. Investment</b>			
3.1.	Capacity utilization	Average capacity utilization in industry, as a percentage of full capacity (data are collected each January, April, July and October)	NSI
3.2.	Gross fixed capital formation	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
3.3.	Change in stocks	As a percentage of GDP	NSI
<b>4. Labour market</b>			
4.1.	Unemployment	As a percentage of labour force in Bulgaria (data from Labour force survey)	NSI
4.2.	Employed persons	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year (data from Labour force survey)	NSI
4.3.	Labour costs	Index of hourly labour costs incurred by the employers as a result of engaging the workforce, growth rate compared to the same period of previous year	NSI
4.4.	Shortage of labour	Percentage of firms in industry pointing out shortage of labour as a constraint to production	NSI
4.5.	Wages	Nominal value, growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, average monthly wages of the employees under labour contract	NSI
<b>5. International transactions</b>			
5.1.	Export order books	Business survey in industry. Balance of positive and negative replies	NSI
5.2.	Exports of goods	Balance of payment, million EUR	BNB
5.3.	Imports of goods	Balance of payment, million EUR	BNB
5.4.	Trade balance	Balance of payment, million EUR	BNB
5.5.	Current account	Balance of payment, million EUR	BNB
5.6.	Direct investment	(net) million EUR, balance of payment	BNB
5.7.	Portfolio investment	(net) million EUR, balance of payment	BNB
5.8.	Exports of goods and services	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
5.9.	Imports of goods and services	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
<b>6. Prices</b>			
6.1.	Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
6.2.	Producer prices on domestic market (in industry)	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
6.3.	Selling price expectations in industry	Business survey in industry. Balance of positive and negative replies	NSI
6.4.	Selling price expectations in retail trade	Business survey in retail trade. Balance of positive and negative replies	NSI
<b>7. Monetary and financial indicators</b>			
7.1.	SOFIBOR	Three-month interbank market index SOFIBOR (SOFIBOR: Sofia Interbank Offered Rate is a fixing of the quotations for unsecured BGN deposits offered in the Bulgarian interbank market)	BNB
7.2.	M3	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year (monthly value: value at the end of the month)	BNB
7.3.	Credit to Non-financial Corporations and Households and NPISHs (loans)	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year (monthly value: value at the end of the month)	BNB
7.4.	Exchange rate USD/BGN	Period averages	BNB
7.5.	Nominal effective exchange rate	Index (June 1997=100)	BNB