



Key indicators for Bulgaria*

This update: 2 July 2014

Next update: 1 October 2014

		2011	2012	2013	Dec.-13	Jan.-14	Febr.-14	March-14	April-14	May-14
1. Output										
Industrial confidence ^{1.1}	%	-4,2	-6,0	-8,7	-9,9	-8,9	-8,3	-5,2	-5,2	-0,9
Industrial production ^{1.2}	yoy % ch.	6,0	-0,2	0,0	0,0	2,5	5,9	3,6	5,0	
		2011	2012	2013	12Q4	13Q1	13Q2	13Q3	13Q4	14Q1
Gross domestic product ^{1.3}	yoy % ch.	1,8	0,6	0,9	0,3	0,4	0,4	0,9	1,2	1,2
2. Private consumption										
Consumer confidence ^{2.1}	%	-41,0	-42,9	-39,6	-40,0	-37,7	-39,8	-40,7	-34,8	-30,0
		2011	2012	2013	Dec.-13	Jan.-14	Febr.-14	March-14	April-14	May-14
Turnover in retail trade ^{2.2}	yoy % ch.	0,5	5,4	2,9	5,5	7,3	9,3	5,6	2,4	
		2011	2012	2013	12Q4	13Q1	13Q2	13Q3	13Q4	14Q1
Private consumption ^{2.3}	yoy % ch.	1,7	3,2	-1,8	1,8	-0,2	-1,5	-1,3	-0,7	1,8
3. Investment										
Capacity utilization in industry ^{3.1}	%	70,9	70,5	69,5	71,4	68,0	69,5	69,8	70,8	69,5
Gross fixed capital formation ^{3.2}	yoy % ch.	-6,5	4,0	-0,3	2,4	2,4	1	1,8	3,1	3,4
Change in stocks ^{3.3}	% of GDP	0,4	0,4	0,2	0,2	-0,7	0,8	0,2	0,5	0,7
4. Labour market										
Unemployment rate ^{4.1}	%	11,3	12,3	12,9	12,4	13,8	12,9	12,0	13,0	13,0
Employed persons ^{4.2}	yoy % ch.	-2,9	-1,1	0,0	-0,7	0,1	0,9	-0,1	-0,7	1,4
Labour costs ^{4.3}	yoy % ch.	7,1	2,9	8,2	1,6	8,7	8,6	7,1	8,4	3,6
		2011	2012	2013	Dec.-13	Jan.-14	Febr.-14	March-14	April-14	May-14
Shortage of labour in industry ^{4.4}	%	7,5	8,7	8,6	9,8	9,7	9,1	10,1	9,9	11,1
Wages ^{4.5}	yoy % ch.	5,8	6,6	10,5	7,6	2,7	1,8	2,1		
5. International transactions										
Export order books in industry ^{5.1}	balance	-40,6	-46,5	-49,0	-38,0	-51,2	-54,4	-52,6	-51,5	-41,2
Exports of goods ^{5.2}	mln. EUR	20264,3	20770,2	22228,2	1584,8	1584,8	1647,9	1620,7	1738,6	
Imports of goods ^{5.3}	mln. EUR	-22420,4	-24230,4	-24581,5	-1945,2	-1922,8	-1849,1	-1907,2	-2089,7	
Trade balance ^{5.4}	mln. EUR	-2156,1	-3460,3	-2353,3	-360,4	-338,0	-201,1	-286,5	-351,1	
Current account ^{5.5}	mln. EUR	33,2	-333,9	751,3	-354,4	-277,4	-127,7	322,6	-211,6	
Direct investment (net) ^{5.6}	mln. EUR	1212,7	802,0	957,3	-315,0	60,6	14,6	-9,3	99,5	
Portfolio investment (net) ^{5.7}	mln. EUR	-357,4	-898,4	-128,2	-97,7	11,0	-192,3	12,9	-63,5	
		2011	2012	2013	12Q4	13Q1	13Q2	13Q3	13Q4	14Q1
Exports of goods and services ^{5.8}	yoy % ch.	12,3	-0,4	8,9	-0,7	10,4	5,5	10,3	9,3	1,5
Imports of goods and services ^{5.9}	yoy % ch.	8,8	3,3	5,7	0,2	7,8	2,7	7,4	6,9	6,3
6. Prices										
HICP ^{6.1}	yoy % ch.	3,4	2,4	0,4	-0,9	-1,4	-2,1	-2,0	-1,3	-1,8
Producer prices on domestic market (in industry) ^{6.2}	yoy % ch.	8,6	5,3	-1,3	-2,9	-2,0	-2,5	-1,6	-0,9	
Selling prices expectations in industry ^{6.3}	balance	8,8	9,7	2,4	4,7	3,9	1,2	0,5	8,2	8,5
Selling prices expectations in retail trade ^{6.4}	balance	4,7	5,3	0,2	0,4	-2,2	-3,9	-1,8	0,4	-0,1
7. Monetary and financial indicators										
SOFIBOR (3 months) ^{7.1}	index	3,8	2,3	1,1	1,0	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,8	
M3 ^{7.2}	yoy % ch.	12,2	8,4	8,9	8,9	10,1	9,2	8,3	8,3	8,7
Credit to Non-financial Corporations and Households and NPISHs ^{7.3}	yoy % ch.	3,3	2,8	0,0	0,0	-0,4	0,7	1,2	1,6	1,8
Exchange rate USD/BGN ^{7.4}	value	1,40	1,50	1,50	1,42	1,44	1,43	1,41	1,42	1,43
Nominal effective exchange rate ^{7.5}	index	132,1	131,0	134,1	134,1	134,6	135,27	136,3	136,6	

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

* The key indicators are elaborated in accordance with the euro zone indicators system. The analytical document is quarterly updated. Source of the data are the NSI statistical surveys and BNB data.



Comments

1. Output

According to the NSI business inquiries in May 2014 the **industrial confidence indicator** increased by 4.3% compared to April 2014.

In April 2014 the working day adjusted **Industrial Production Index** increased by 5.0% compared to the same month of 2013 (preliminary data). An increase in electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply - by 13.6%, in mining and quarrying - by 11.1% and in manufacturing - by 3.8% was recorded.

According to the preliminary data, the **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** at current prices in the first quarter of 2014 amounted to BGN 16 097 million and the GDP per person amounted to BGN 2 222. At average exchange rate for the quarter of BGN 1.42822 for 1 US dollar, the GDP amounted to USD 11 271 million or USD 1 556 per person. GDP recalculated in Euro was EUR 8 230 million or EUR 1 136 per person. According to seasonally adjusted data, in the first quarter of 2014, the GDP increased by 1.2% compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

2. Private consumption

In April 2014 the total **consumer confidence indicator** increased by 4.8 percentage points compared to the January level; an increase by 4.6% was registered among urban population and by 5.4% - among rural one. The consumer's views on the overall economic situation in the country during the last 12 months, as well as their expectations for the next 12 months are less negative than the expressed in the previous inquiry and as a result the balance indicators increased by 5.0 and 5.2 percentage points.

In April 2014 the working day adjusted **turnover in Retail trade** increased by 2.4% compared to the same month of the previous year (preliminary data). More significant growth was observed in „Retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet” - 18.0%, “Retail sale of computers, peripheral units and software; telecommunications equipment” - 14.1%; in „Dispensing chemist; retail sale of medical and orthopaedic goods, cosmetic and toilet articles” - 4.3%. A decrease by 8.8% was observed in “Retail sale of automotive fuel”, in “Other retail sale in non-specialised stores” - by 8.5%, in “Retail sale of

textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods” - by 5.1%.

In the first quarter of 2014 for **individual consumption** were spent 80.7% of the produced GDP. According to seasonally adjusted data, the real increase of the indicator compared to the respective quarter of 2013 was 1.8%

3. Investment

The average **capacity utilization in industry** decreased in April 2014 by 1.3% compared to January and reached 69.5%.

According to seasonally adjusted data, the **gross fixed capital formation** in the first quarter of 2014 increased in real terms by 3.4% compared to the same period of the previous year. The relative share of that category in GDP is 17.5%.

4. Labour market

The total **number of employed persons aged 15 and more** in the first quarter of 2014 was 2 894.1 thousand or 46.5% of the respective population. Compared to the first quarter of 2013, the share of employed increased by 0.9 percentage points.

The **number of unemployed in the first quarter of 2014** was 433.0 thousand and the unemployment rate - 13.0%. Compared to the same quarter of 2013, the number of unemployed decreased by 5.1% and the unemployment rate - by 0.8 percentage points.

According to the NSI business inquiries in May 2014 11.1% of the industrial enterprises pointed out the **labour shortage** as a factor limiting their activity.

In March 2014 the **average wage and salary** was BGN 813 or 4.2% more compared the previous month. Compared to March 2013 the increase was 2.1%.

5. International transactions

According to the industrial managers' assessments in May 2014 the **orders from abroad** increased by 10.3% compared to April.

The **current account** in January - April 2014 was negative and amounted to EUR 211.6 million (0.5% of GDP), against a deficit of EUR 54.2 million (0.1% of GDP) in January - April 2013.



The **trade balance** deficit in January - April 2014 amounted to EUR 1176.7 million (2.9% of GDP), against a deficit of EUR 608 million (1.5% of GDP) for the same period of 2013.

Exports (FOB) amounted to EUR 1,738.6 million in April 2014, dropping by EUR 229.1 million (11.6%) compared to April 2013. In January - April 2014 exports (FOB) totalled EUR 6,607 million, decreasing by EUR 573.2 million (8%) compared to the same period of 2013. In January - April 2013 exports increased by 15% year-on-year. **Imports (FOB)** amounted to EUR 2,089.7 million in April 2014, decreasing by EUR 37.1 million (1.7%) compared to April 2013. In January - April 2014 imports (FOB) totalled EUR 7,783.7 million, falling by EUR 4.5 million (0.1%) compared to the same period of 2013. In January - April 2013 imports increased by 2.6% on a year-on-year basis.

Direct investment abroad increased by EUR 7.1 million compared to an increase of EUR 10.2 million in April 2013. In January - April 2014 the **direct investment** abroad amounted to EUR 37.9 million compared to EUR 27.3 million in the same period of the previous year. **The foreign direct investment** in Bulgaria amounted to EUR 106.6 million compared to negative value of EUR 67.8 million in April 2013. The foreign direct investment in January - April 2014 amounted to EUR 218.5 million (0.5% of GDP), compared to EUR 305.1 million (0.8% of GDP) in the same period of 2013.

The portfolio investment assets increased by EUR 55.3 million compared to an increase of EUR 48.9 million in April 2013. **Portfolio investment liabilities** decreased by EUR 8.2 million, compared to an increase of EUR 4.1 million in April 2013.

The external balance (exports - imports of goods and services) is negative. According to the preliminary data, the export and import decreased by 6.3 and 1.5% respectively compared to the first quarter of previous year.

6. Prices

In May 2014 the **harmonized index of consumer prices** decreased by -1.8% compared to the same month of 2013. Compared to the previous month, an increase was registered for "Clothing and footwear" and "Miscellaneous goods and service". The prices of "Alcoholic beverages and tobacco", "Housing",

"Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance" and "Health" remained at the previous month level.

The **Producer Price Index on Domestic Market** in April 2014 decreased by 0.9% compared to April 2013. The prices decreased in the mining and quarrying industry by 10.1% and in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply - by 1.3%, whereas in manufacturing the prices remain at the April 2013 level.

The conjuncture inquiry in May 2014 registered expectations for remaining of the **selling prices** at the same level during the next three months.

7. Monetary and financial indicators

In April 2014 the **three-month interbank market index SOFIBOR** remained 0.83% as in the previous month and 1.22% compared to April 2013.

In May 2014, the annual growth rate of broad money (**monetary aggregate M3**) was 8.7% compared to 8.3% in April 2014. At the end of May 2014 M3 was BGN 68.218 billion (85.5% of GDP₃) compared to BGN 67.787 billion (85% of GDP) in April 2014.

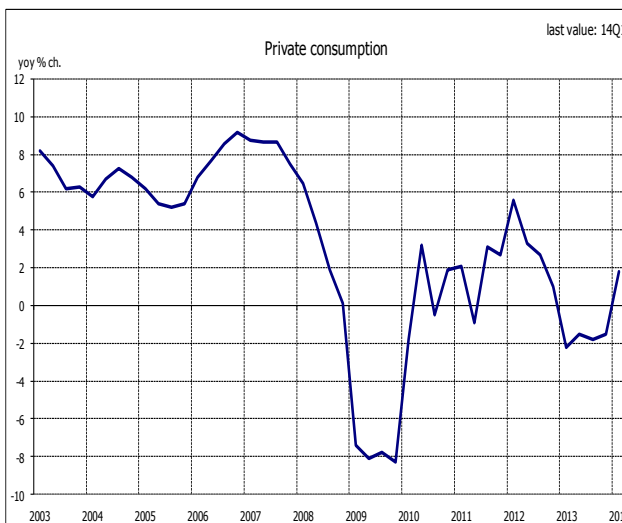
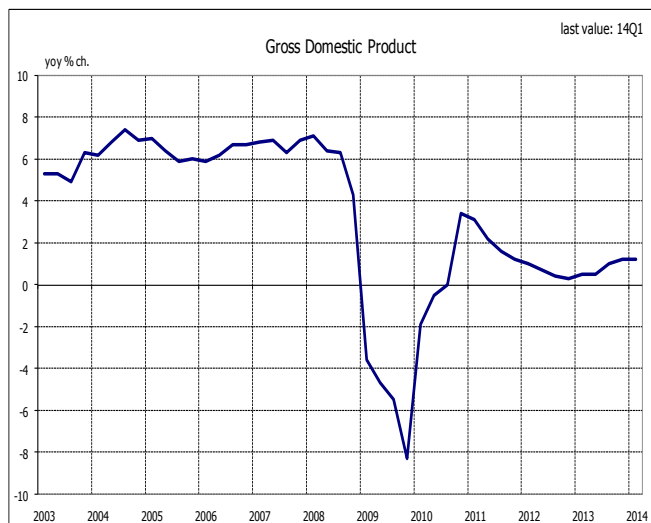
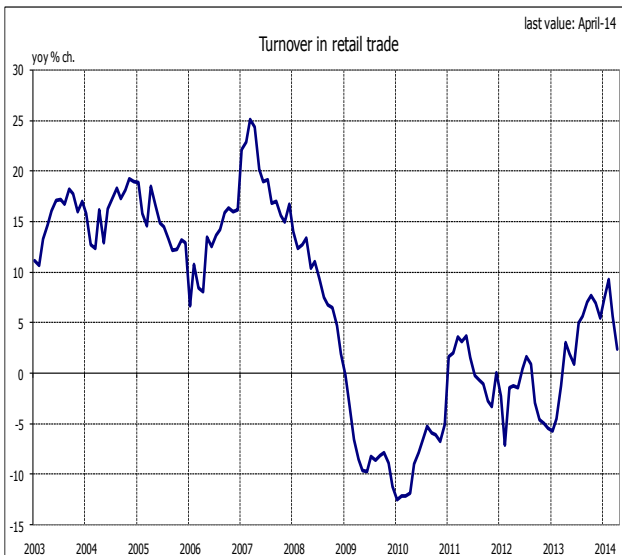
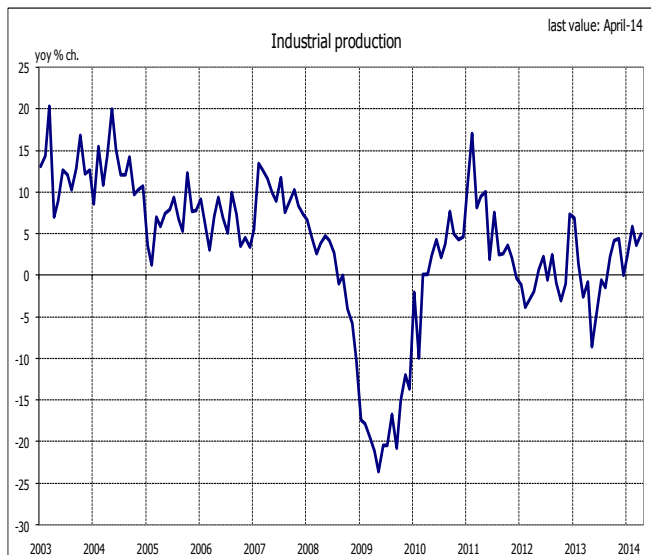
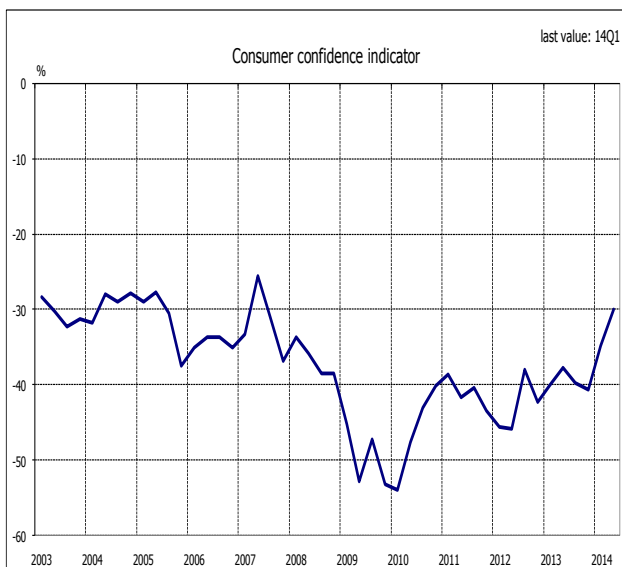
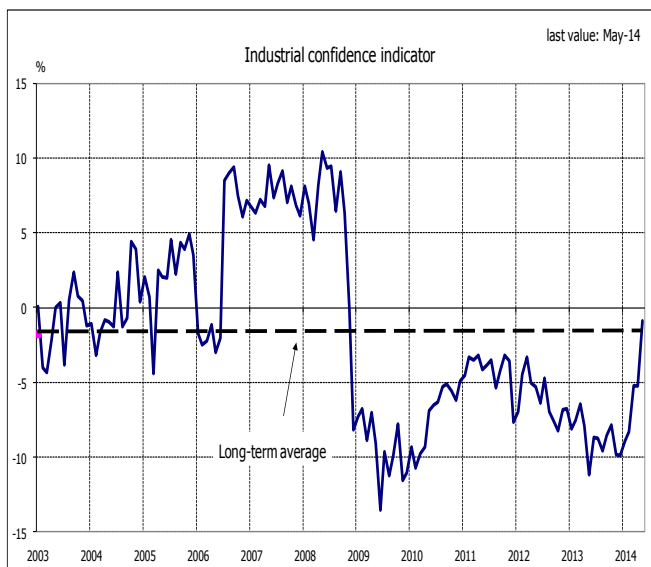
The volume of **loans to Non-financial corporations, households and NPISHs** in May 2014 amounted to BGN 54.448 billion. In May 2014, loans to Non-financial corporations increased by 2.6% annually (2.3% annual increase in April 2014) and at the end of the month amounted to BGN 35.838 billion (44.9% of GDP). Loans to Households and NPISHs were BGN 18.610 billion (23.3% of GDP) at the end of May 2014. They increased by 0.3% compared to the same month of 2013 (0.2% annual increase in April 2014). At the end of May 2014 loans for house purchases were BGN 8.887 billion and increased by 0.3% annually (0.3% annual increase in April 2014).

In May 2014 the **exchange rate BGN against the US dollar** increased compared to the previous month - from 1.42 to 1.43.



1. OUTPUT

2. PRIVATE CONSUMPTION

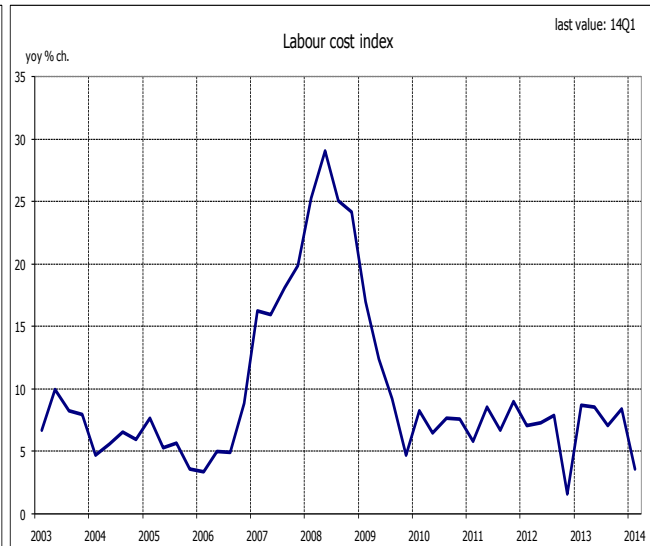
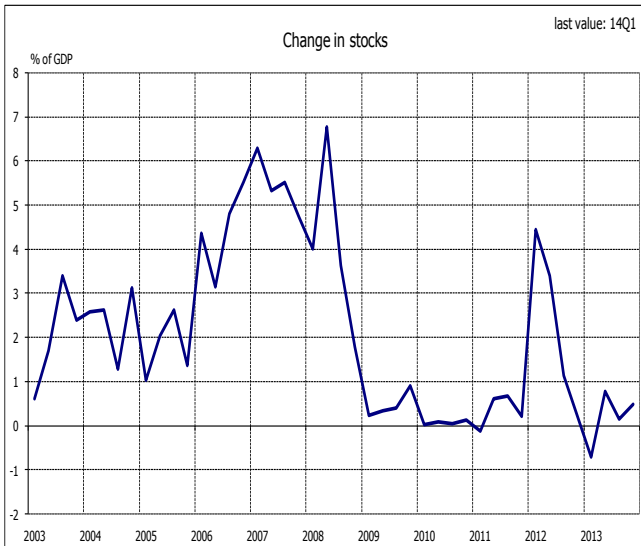
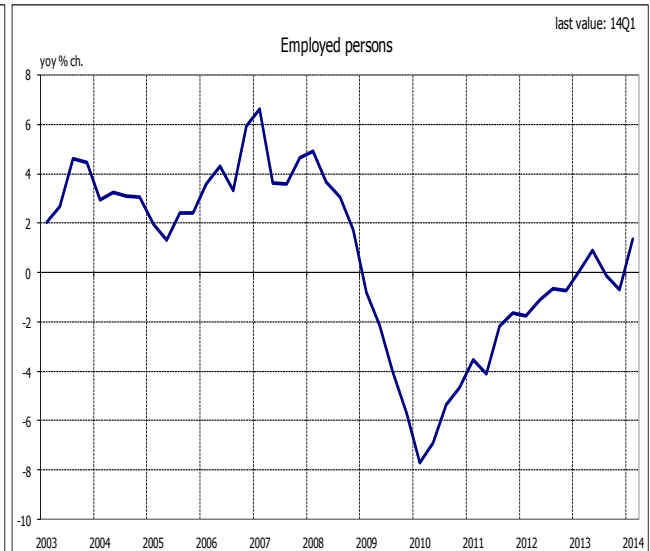
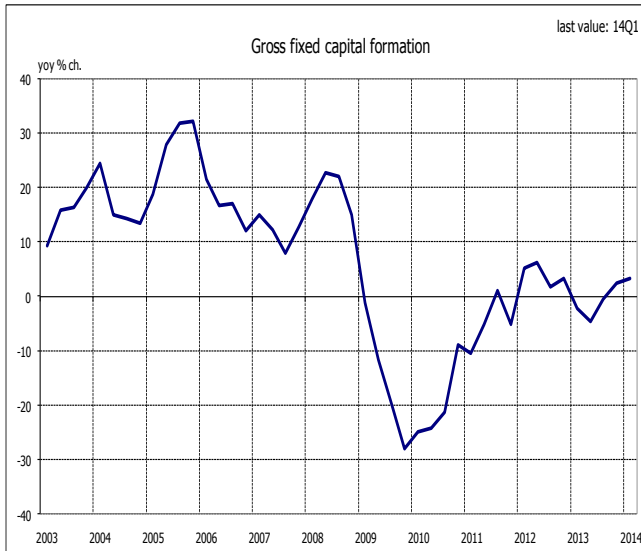
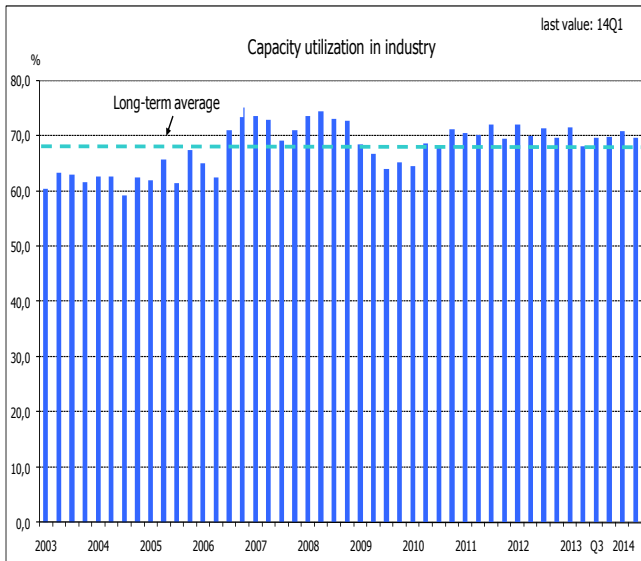


Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



3. INVESTMENT

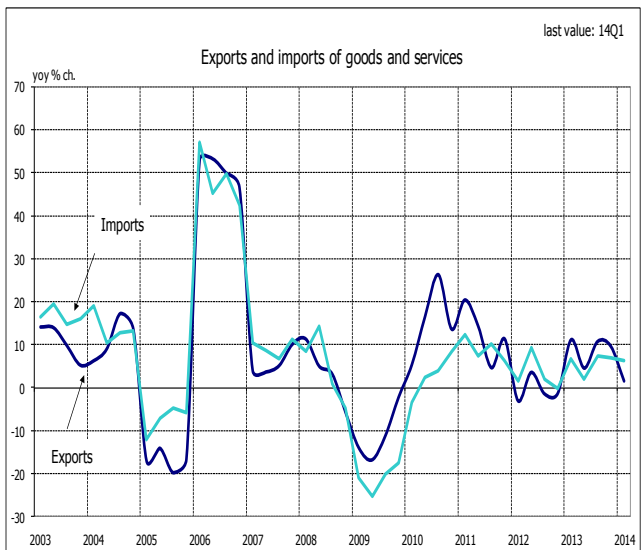
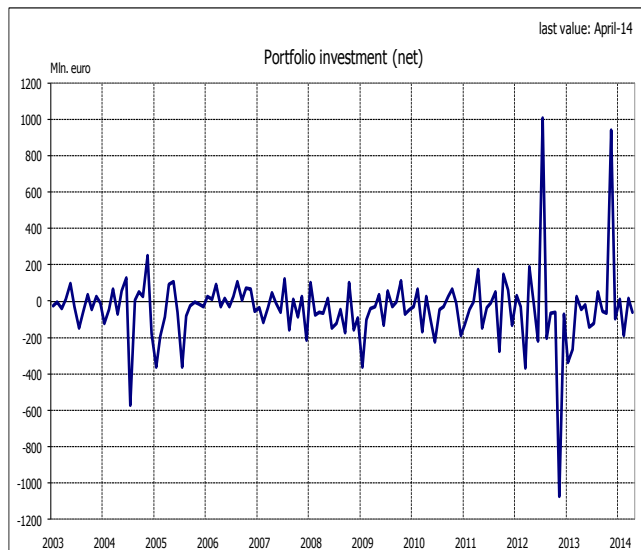
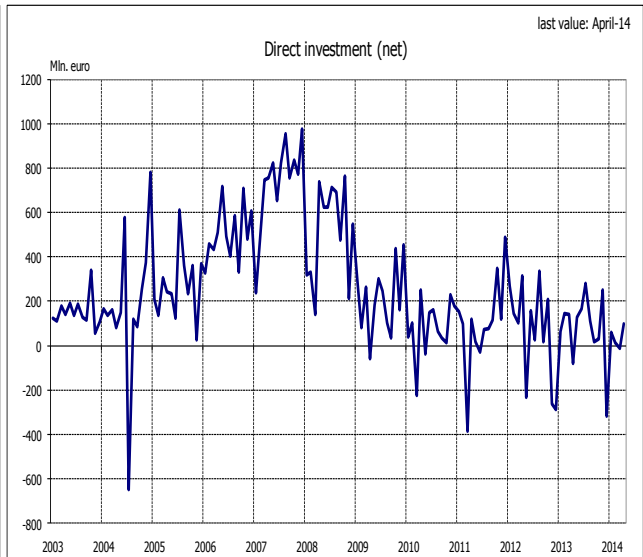
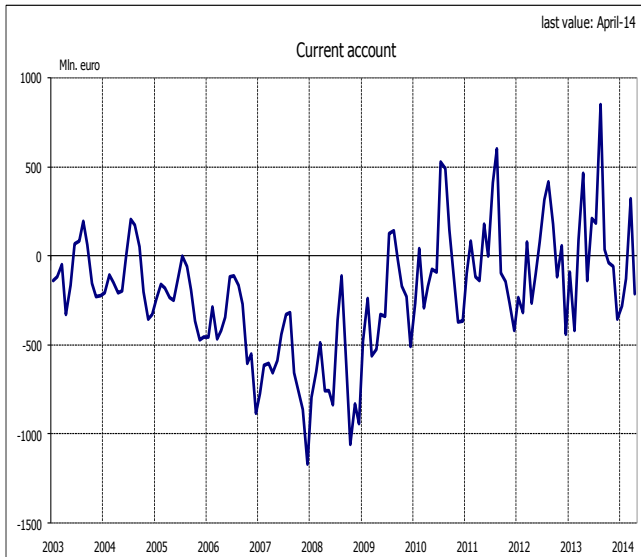
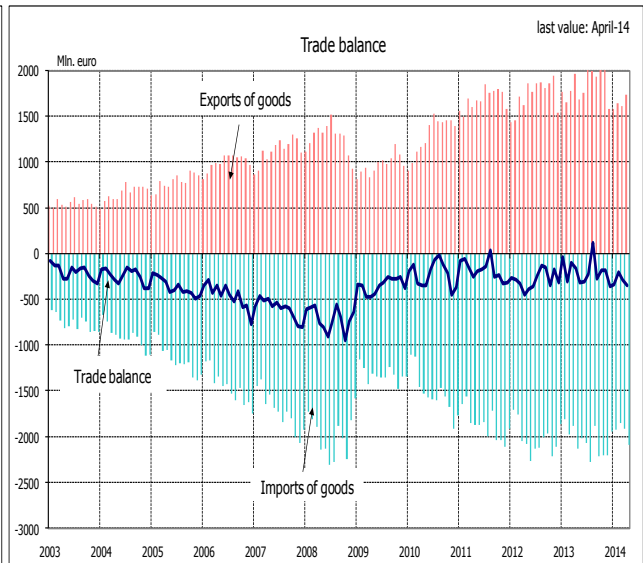
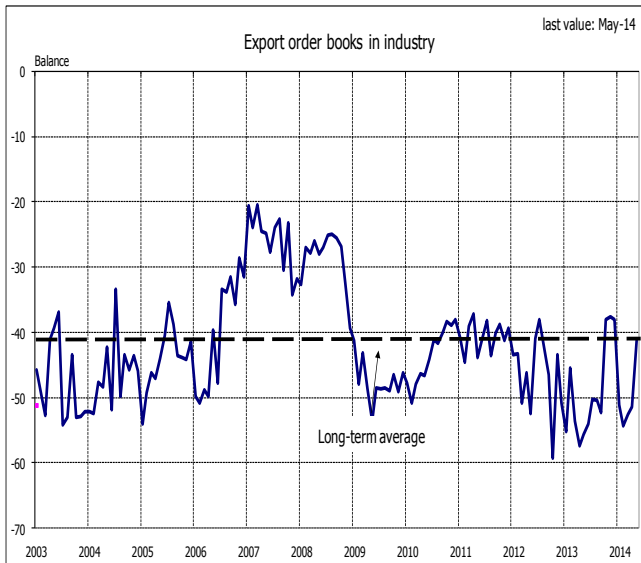
4. LABOUR MARKET



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



5. INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS

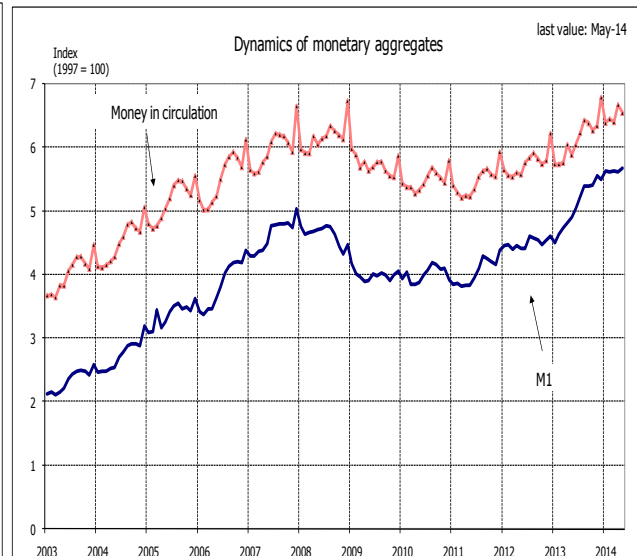
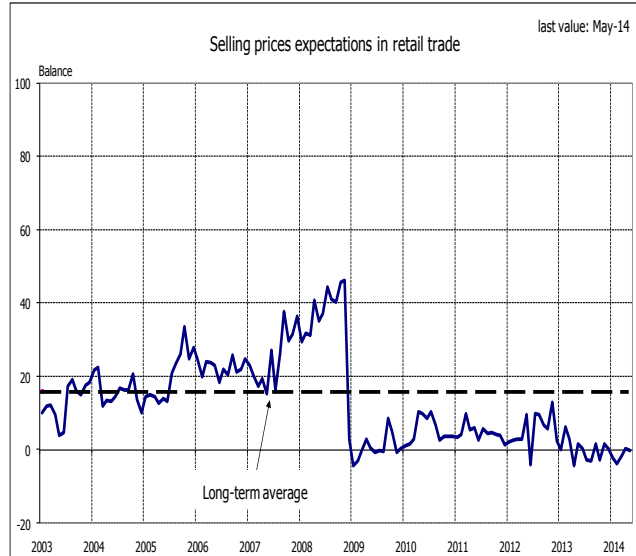
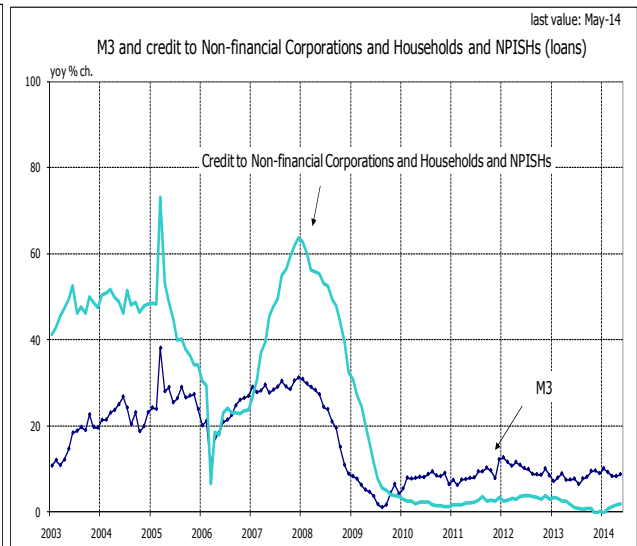
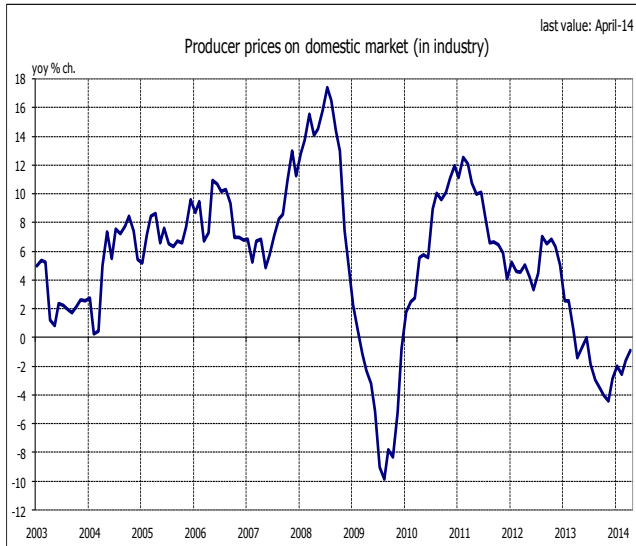
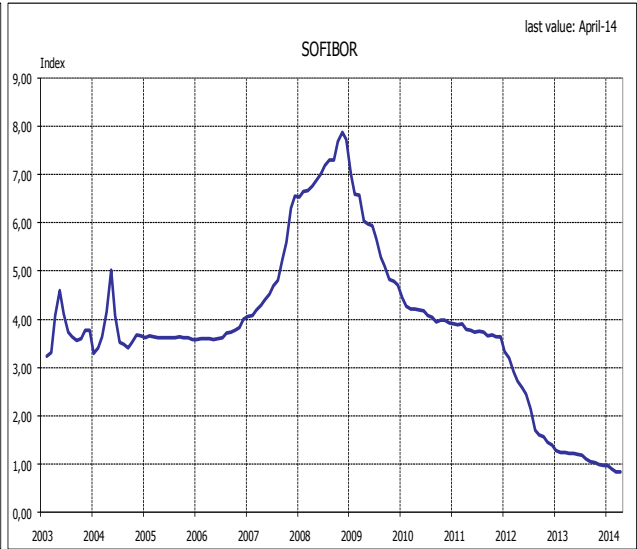
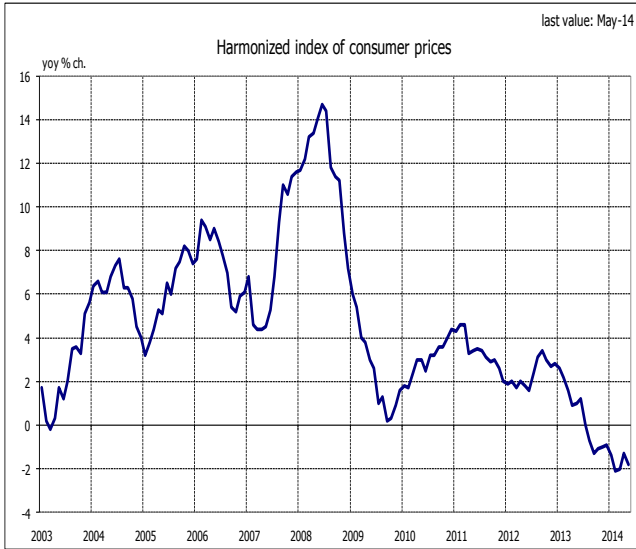


Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



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 - Methodological notes

№	Indicator	Note	Source
1. Output			
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, working day adjusted data (2010=100)	NSI
1.3.	Gross Domestic Product	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects	NSI
2. Private consumption			
2.1.	Consumer confidence indicator	Consumer survey. The consumer confidence indicator is an arithmetic average of balances of the expectations about the economic and financial situation, unemployment and savings of households over the next 12 months	NSI
2.2.	Turnover in retail trade	Turnover in retail trade (excluding motor vehicles), growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, working day adjusted data (2010=100)	NSI
2.3.	Private consumption	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects	NSI
3. Investment			
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, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects	NSI
3.3.	Change in stocks	As a percentage of GDP	NSI
4. Labour market			
4.1.	Unemployment rate	Relative share of the unemployed persons of the economically active population 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, working day adjusted data	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
5. International transactions			
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, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects	NSI
5.9.	Imports of goods and services	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects	NSI
6. Prices			
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 (2010=100)	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
7. Monetary and financial indicators			
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