

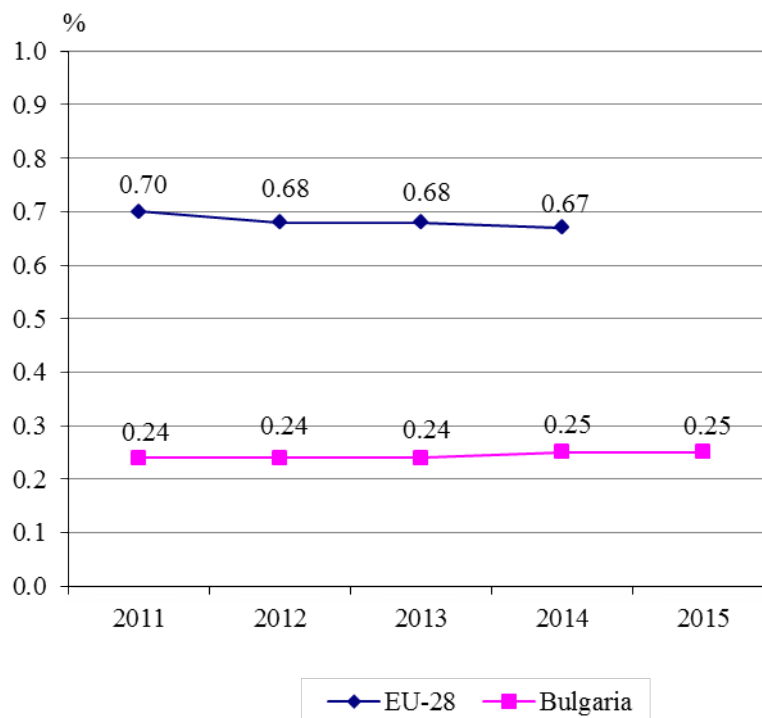


## GOVERNMENT BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR R&D (GBARD), 2015

In 2015, the government budget allocations for R&D amounted to 212.5 million BGN and increased by 2.8% compared to 2014.

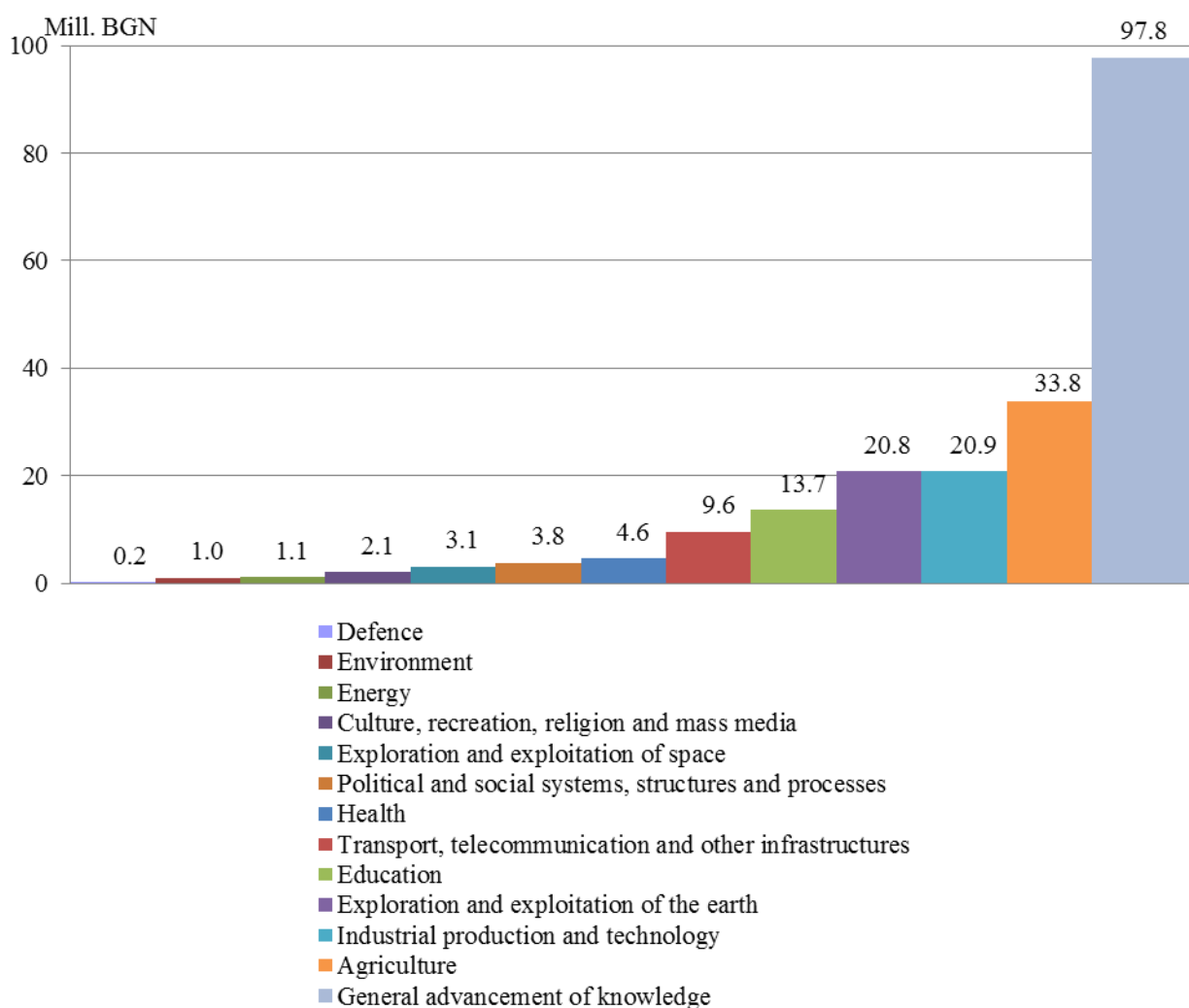
Growth in GBARD over the previous year in absolute terms does not affect their relative share of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In 2015, the government budget allocations for R&D represent 0.25% of GDP remained constant at 2014. Bulgaria still vastly lags behind the average value of this indicator for the EU-28 (0.67% in 2014).

**Figure 1. GBARD as a percentage of GDP**





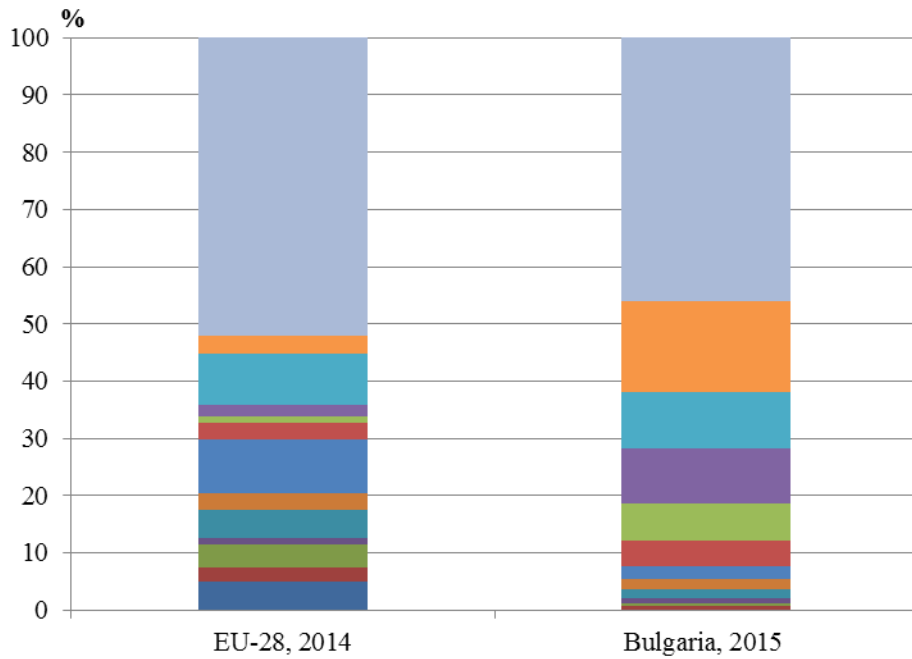
**Figure 2. GBARD by socio-economic objectives, 2015**



The structure of government budget allocations for R&D by socio-economic objectives varied slightly from the previous 2014. The largest share (46.0%) of state support for research aimed at ‘General advancement of knowledge’ which mainly includes the research realized by the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and by universities. This socio-economic objective is essential too for the European Union in 2014, with a share of 52.2%.



**Figure 3. Structure of GBARD by socio-economic objectives**



- General advancement of knowledge
- Agriculture
- Industrial production and technology
- Exploration and exploitation of the earth
- Education
- Transport, telecommunication and other infrastructures
- Health
- Political and social systems, structures and processes
- Exploration and exploitation of space
- Culture, recreation, religion and mass media
- Energy
- Environment
- Defence



## METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The purpose of the statistical survey on government budget allocations for R&D (GBARD) by socio-economic objectives is to provide internationally comparable information about the characterization of the government support for R&D activities, and the priority research areas to which appropriations for science are targeted.

The indicator ‘Government budget allocations for R&D (GBARD)’ measures the government support for R&D performed both within the country and abroad. This means that annual membership dues in the budget of international scientific organizations as well as payments from the budget related to the participation of Bulgaria in bilateral and multilateral research programmes are also treated as government budget expenditure on R&D.

The Government budget allocations for R&D include both current costs and capital expenditure on R&D.

According to the purpose of the R&D programmes or projects GBARD are distributed to the socio-economic objectives on the basis of the Nomenclature of analysis and comparison of scientific programmes and budgets (NABS 2007).