



Key indicators for Bulgaria

This update: 1 July 2011

Next update: 30 September 2011

		2008	2009	2010	Dec.-10	Jan.-11	Feb.-11	Mar.-11	Apr.-11	May-11
1. Output										
Industrial confidence ^{1.1}	%	5.9	-9.5	-7.2	-4.9	-4.5	-3.3	-3.5	-3.2	-4.2
Industrial production ^{1.2}	yoy % ch.	0.7	-18.1	2.0	5.2	8.6	15.4	6.1	9.4	
		2008	2009	2010	09Q4	10Q1	10Q2	10Q3	10Q4	11Q1
Gross domestic product ^{1.3}	yoy % ch.	6.2	-5.5	0.2	-8.9	-2.0	-0.4	0.0	3.8	3.4
2. Private consumption										
Consumer confidence ^{2.1}	%	-36.6	-49.6	-46.2	-54.0	-47.6	-43.1	-40.1	-38.6	-41.7
		2008	2009	2010	Dec.-10	Jan.-11	Feb.-11	Mar.-11	Apr.-11	May-11
Turnover in retail trade ^{2.2}	yoy % ch.	9.1	-7.4	-7.1	-3.7	-0.2	-0.1	1.4	0.5	
		2008	2009	2010	09Q4	10Q1	10Q2	10Q3	10Q4	11Q1
Private consumption ^{2.3}	yoy % ch.	3.0	-7.6	-0.6	-8.6	-0.9	-0.4	-0.6	0.3	0.8
3. Investment										
Capacity utilization in industry ^{3.1}	%	73.4	66.0	68.0	64.5	68.5	67.9	71.1	70.5	70.1
Gross fixed capital formation ^{3.2}	yoy % ch.	21.9	-17.6	-16.5	-29.2	-24.3	-21.1	-21.2	-1.0	1.6
Change in stocks ^{3.3}	% of GDP	3.9	0.5	1.4	0.9	0.6	1.7	1.1	2.2	-0.7
4. Labour market										
Unemployment ^{4.1}	%	5.6	6.8	10.2	7.9	10.2	10.0	9.5	11.2	12.0
Employed persons ^{4.2}	yoy % ch.	3.3	-3.2	-6.2	-5.7	-7.7	-6.9	-5.4	-4.7	-4.0
Labour costs ^{4.3}	yoy % ch.	21.0	12.2	9.4	7.7	10.0	9.2	10.5	7.9	6.8
		2008	2009	2010	Dec.-10	Jan.-11	Feb.-11	Mar.-11	Apr.-11	May-11
Shortage of labour in industry ^{4.4}	%	19.5	11.1	6.5	6.4	6.7	6.6	7.2	8.3	6.8
Wages ^{4.5}	yoy % ch.	26.5	11.8	6.3	10.6	8.5	8.7	8.3		
5. International transactions										
Export order books in industry ^{5.1}	balance	-28.5	-47.6	-43.5	-38.0	-40.8	-44.6	-39.1	-37.1	-43.9
Exports of goods ^{5.2}	mln. EUR	15203.8	11699.3	15588.3	1399.1	1589.7	1490.1	1696.7	1601.7	
Imports of goods ^{5.3}	mln. EUR	23801.1	15872.8	18000.8	-1728.2	-1495.4	-1504.9	-1723.6	-1778.9	
Trade balance ^{5.4}	mln. EUR	-8597.3	-4173.6	-2412.5	-329.2	94.2	-14.8	-26.9	-177.1	
Current account ^{5.5}	mln. EUR	-8162.4	-3117.8	-356.2	-276.5	63.2	80.9	66.2	4.6	
Direct investment (net) ^{5.6}	mln. EUR	6212.2	2497.7	1458.9	218.2	224.8	76.3	-381.0	-7.1	
Portfolio investment (net) ^{5.7}	mln. EUR	-730.6	-570.3	-661.1	-194.9	-127.8	-54.6	-6.1	170.6	
		2008	2009	2010	09Q4	10Q1	10Q2	10Q3	10Q4	11Q1
Exports of goods and services ^{5.8}	yoy % ch.	3.0	-11.2	16.2	-1.3	6.0	16.5	27.6	15.1	20.1
Imports of goods and services ^{5.9}	yoy % ch.	4.2	-21.0	4.5	-17.0	-1.5	2.9	5.3	10.7	8.6
6. Prices										
HICP ^{6.1}	yoy % ch.	12.0	2.5	3.0	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.6	3.3	3.4
Producer prices on domestic market (in industry) ^{6.2}	yoy % ch.	13.3	-4.2	7.2	12.0	11.1	12.5	12.1	10.7	
Selling prices expectations in industry ^{6.3}	balance	17.7	1.6	5.5	7.0	8.2	11.5	11.0	6.4	11.1
Selling prices expectations in retail trade ^{6.4}	balance	35.5	0.7	5.4	3.7	3.5	4.2	9.9	5.5	5.9
7. Monetary and financial indicators										
SOFIBOR (3 months) ^{7.1}	index	7.14	5.72	4.12	3.93	3.91	3.88	3.90	3.79	3.77
M3 ^{7.2}	yoy % ch.	8.8	4.2	6.4	6.4	7.4	6.2	7.4	7.6	7.9
Credit to Non-financial Corporations and Households and NPISHs ^{7.3}	yoy % ch.	32.5	3.6	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.6	2.1	2.1
Exchange rate USD/BGN ^{7.4}	value	1.34	1.41	1.48	1.48	1.46	1.43	1.40	1.35	1.36
Nominal effective exchange rate ^{7.5}	index	131.2	134.0	130.5	130.5	130.6	130.6	131.1	131.8	

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



Comments

1. Output

According to the NSI business inquiries in June 2011 compared to May the **industrial confidence indicator** increased by 0.4 percentage points, which is due to a certain improvement of the production assurance with orders mainly for export.

In April 2011 the working-day-adjusted **Industrial Production Index** rose by 9.4% in comparison with April 2010 (by preliminary data). An increase was recorded in Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply by 18.6%, in Mining and quarrying - by 15.9% and in Manufacturing - by 5.1%.

By preliminary operative data, the **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** in the first quarter of 2011 amounted to BGN 15 903 million at current prices and GDP per capita was BGN 2 120.9. At the average exchange rate for the quarter of BGN 1.4305 for 1 US dollar, the GDP amounted to USD 11 116.7 million and respectively USD 1 482.6 per capita. GDP recalculated in Euro was EUR 8 131 million or EUR 1 084.4 per capita. In comparison with the first quarter of 2010 the real volume of GDP increased by 3.4% according to the seasonally adjusted data.

2. Private consumption

In April 2011 the **total consumer confidence indicator** decreased by 3.1 percentage points in comparison with January 2011, which was mostly due to a decrease of confidence among the rural inhabitants. The consumers' assessments and expectations regarding the general economic situation and the households' budget were more pessimistic.

In April 2011 the working day adjusted **turnover in Retail trade** increased by 0.5% in comparison with the same month of the previous year (by preliminary data). An increase was observed in the following major groups: 'Retail sale of automotive fuel' - by 5.8%, 'Dispensing chemist; retail sale of medical and orthopaedic goods, cosmetic and toilet articles' - by 1.2% and 'Retail sale of computers, peripheral units and software; telecommunications equipments' - by 0.7%. A reduction was registered in the 'Retail sale of audio and video equipment; hardware, paints and glass; electrical household appliances', the 'Retail sale of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods' and the 'Retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco' respectively by 5.0, 2.2 and 0.9%.

In the first quarter of 2011 71.5% of the produced GDP were spent for **individual consumption of the population**. The real increase of the indicator was by 0.8% in comparison with the respective quarter of 2010 (according to the seasonally adjusted data)

3. Investment

The **average capacity utilization in industry** in April 2011 preserved its level from January 2011 and was estimated at 70.1%.

In the first quarter of 2011 the **gross fixed capital formation** increased in real terms (according to the seasonally adjusted data) by 1.6% in comparison with the same period of the previous year. The relative share of that category in GDP is 19.6%.

4. Labour market

In the first quarter of 2011 the **total number of employed persons** aged 15 and over was 2 890.7 thousand and their relative share of the population of the same age group was 44.7%. In comparison with the same period of 2010 the number of persons employed decreased by 120.6 thousand and the employment rate - by 1.4 percentage points.

In the first quarter of 2011 the **unemployed persons** were 395.5 thousand and the unemployment rate - 12.0%. The number of unemployed persons compared to the same quarter of the previous year increased by 54.5 thousand and the unemployment rate - by 1.8 percentage points.

According to the NSI business inquiries in June 2011 6.8% of the industrial enterprises pointed out the **labour shortage** as a factor limiting their activity.

In March 2011 the **average wage and salary** was BGN 689 (by preliminary data) which is by 3.9% higher than the previous month. In comparison with March 2010 the growth rate is 8.3%.



5. International transactions

According to the industrial managers' assessments in June 2011 there was an improvement of the production assurance with **orders from abroad** by 2.9 percentage points in comparison with May.

In the period January - April 2011, the **current account** was positive – EUR 214.9 million (0.6% of the GDP projected for 2011), against a deficit of EUR 726.1 million (2.0% of GDP) for January - April 2010. Main factor for the current account balance increase was the lower trade deficit (by EUR 738.3 million).

The trade balance in the period January - April 2011 was negative amounting to EUR 124.6 million (0.3% of the GDP projected for 2011), compared to a deficit of EUR 862.8 million (2.4% of GDP) for the period January - April 2010.

Exports of goods (FOB) in the period January - April 2011 amounted to EUR 6 378.2 million against EUR 4 240.3 million for the period January - April 2010, which was an increase of 50.4% against an annual increase of 21.5% for the same period of 2010.

Imports of goods (FOB) in the period January - April 2011 was EUR 6 502.8 million, against EUR 5 103.1 million for January - April period in 2010. They increased by 27.4% annually against an annual decrease of 0.3% for the period January - April 2010.

Foreign direct investment abroad in the period January - April 2011 was EUR 24.5 million against EUR 38.8 million for the period January - April 2010. Due to net payments on intercompany credits in accordance with the loan repayment schedules of enterprises, **Foreign direct investment in Bulgaria** decreased by EUR 62.5 million against an increase of EUR 378.9 million (1.1% of GDP) for the period January - April 2010.

For the period January - April 2011 the **portfolio investment - assets** decreased by EUR 73.8 million, compared to an increase of EUR 98.9 million for January - April 2010. **Portfolio investment - liabilities** decreased by EUR 91.8 million, while they decreased by EUR 22.9 million in the period January - April 2010.

In the first quarter of 2011 the external balance (exports-imports) was positive amounting to BGN 273 million. In comparison with the respective quarter of 2010 the **exports of goods and services** increased in real terms by 20.1%, while the **imports** increased by 8.6% (according to the seasonally adjusted data).

6. Prices

In May 2011 the **harmonized index of consumer prices** increased by 3.4% compared to the same month of 2010. A rise of prices was observed in all groups, with the exception of “Recreation and culture” and “Communications”. The highest increase was registered in “Food and non-alcoholic beverages” - by 8.3%.

The Producer Price Index on Domestic Market in April 2011 increased by 10.7% compared to the same month of 2010. In mining and quarrying the prices rose - by 7.2%, in manufacturing - by 11.3%, and in electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply by - 10.8%.

According to the conjuncture inquiry in June 2011 the expectations of the enterprises with regard to the **prices in industry** were for an increase over the next 3 months.

7. Monetary and financial indicators

In May 2011 the **three-month interbank market index SOFIBOR** decreased from 3.79 to 3.77% in comparison with the previous month, whereas the value in May 2010 was 4.19%.

The annual growth rate of the broad money (**monetary aggregate M3**) was 7.9% in May 2011 against 7.6% in April, as at the end of May 2011 M3 amounted to BGN 52.663 billion (70.5% of GDP projected for 2011) against BGN 52.244 billion in April 2011 (69.9% of GDP). The narrow money M1 amounted to BGN 18.364 billion as they increased by 3.5% annually against an increase of 4.5% in April 2011.

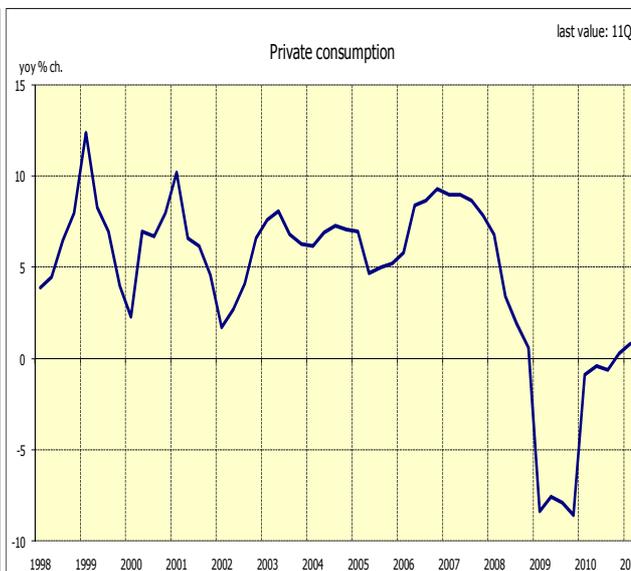
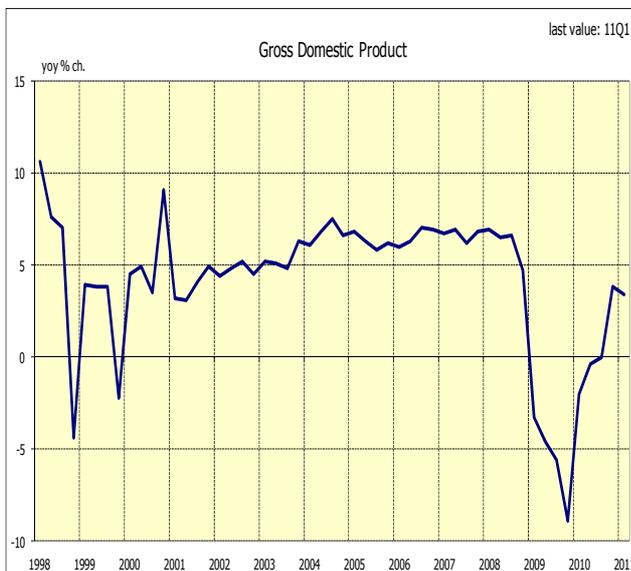
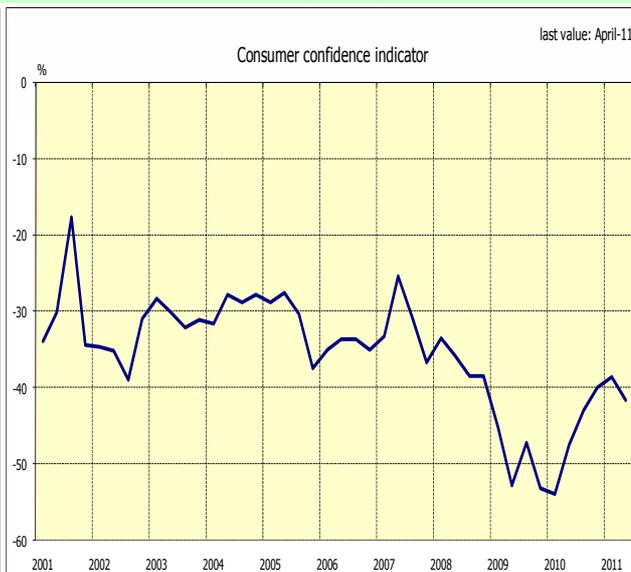
In May 2011 the **volume of the loans to non-financial corporations, households and NPISHs** amounted to BGN 50.868 billion (68.1% of the GDP projected for 2011). The annual growth rate of the loans to non-financial corporations in May was 3.7 against 3.8% in the previous month; the loans to the households and NPISHs in May decreased by 0.6% in comparison with the same month of 2010 against an annual decrease of 0.7% in April 2011.

In May 2011 the **exchange rate BGN against the US dollar** increased in comparison with the previous month from 1.35 to 1.36.



1. OUTPUT

2. PRIVATE CONSUMPTION

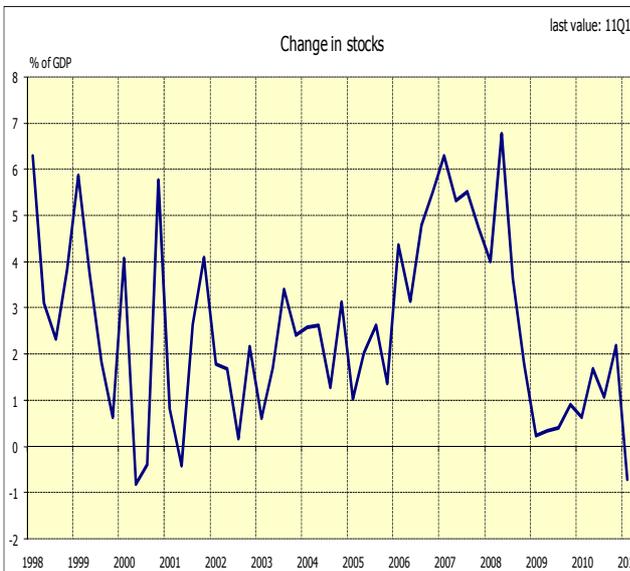
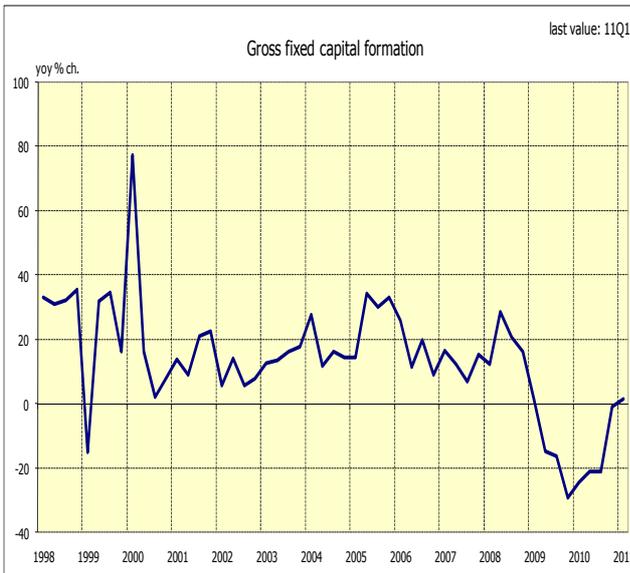
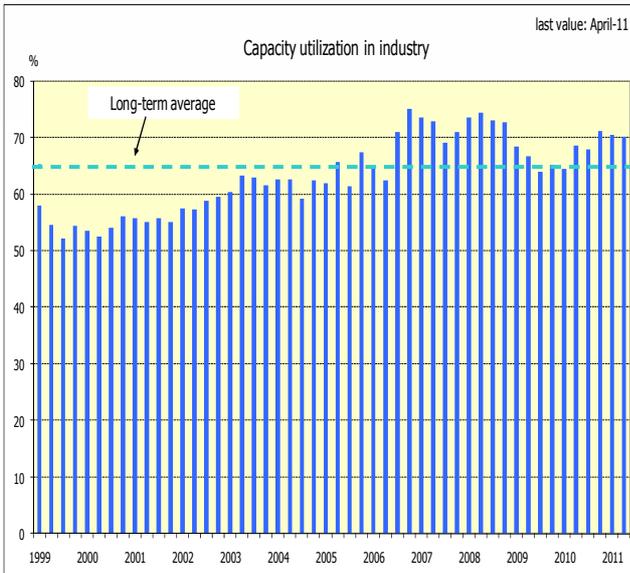


Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



3. INVESTMENT

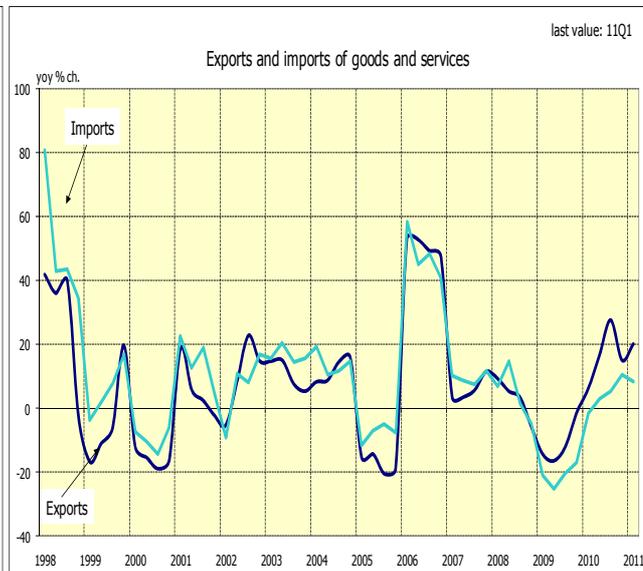
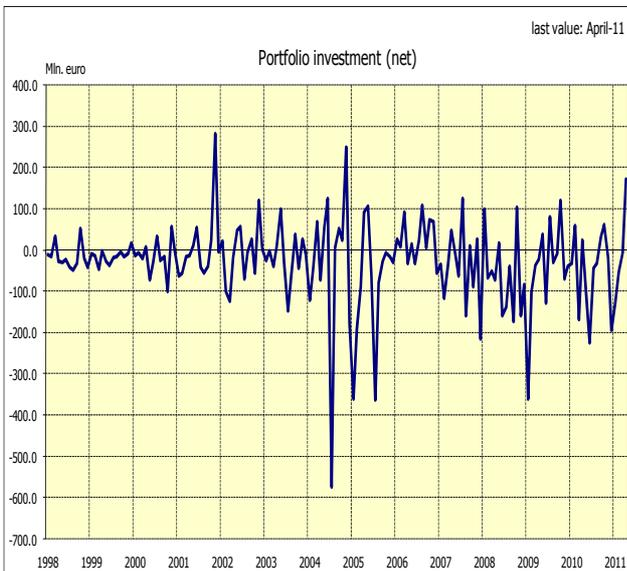
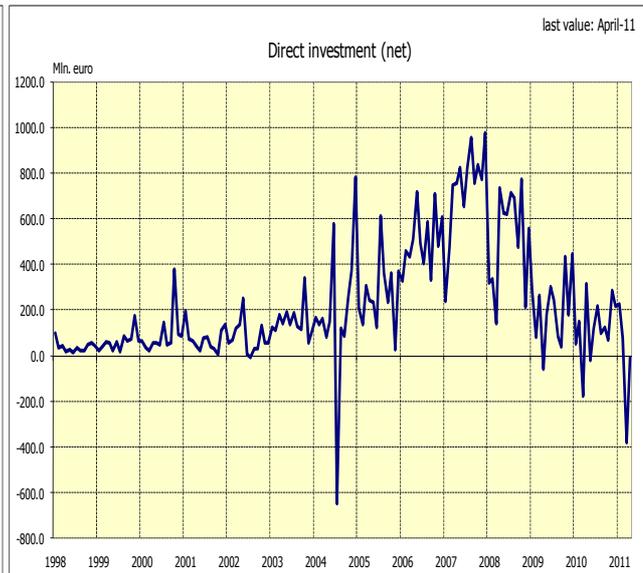
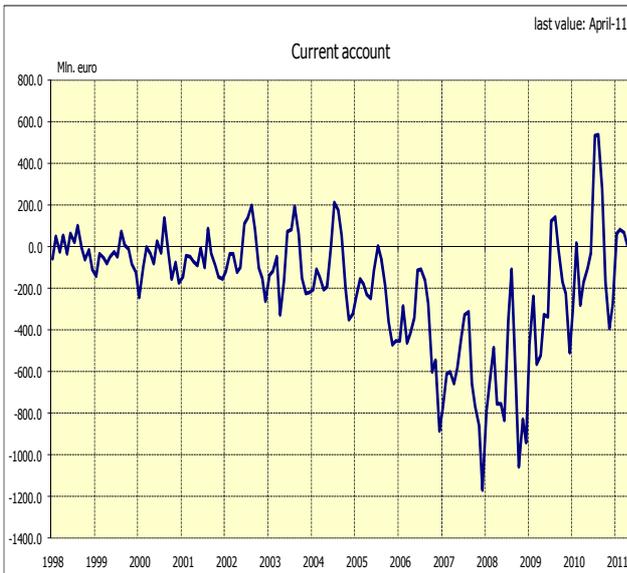
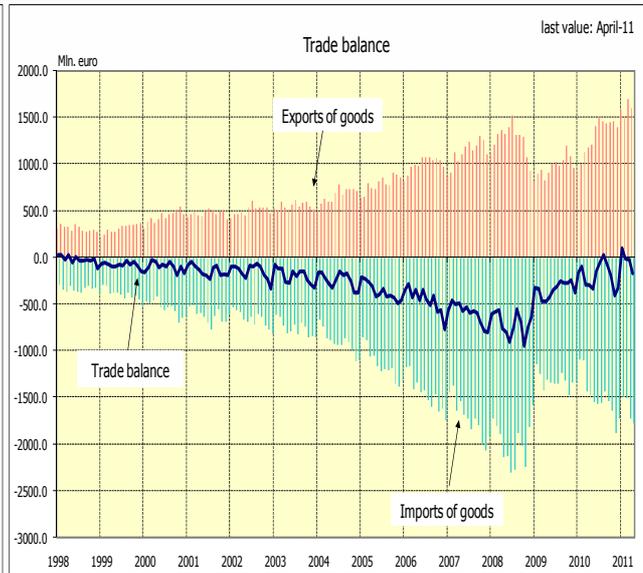
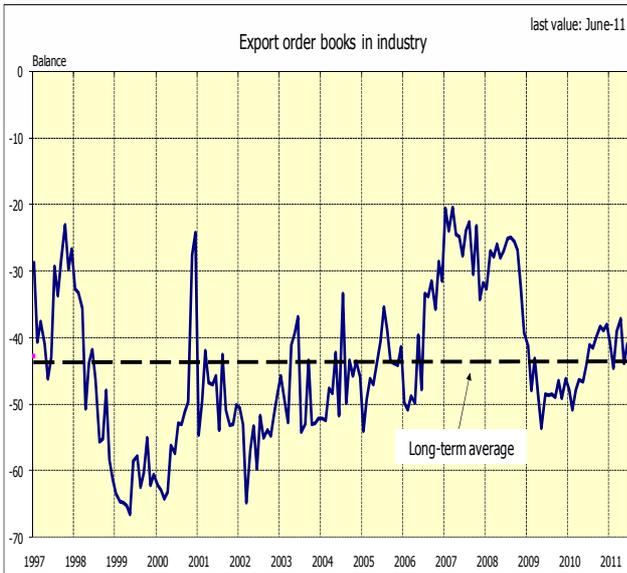
4. LABOUR MARKET



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



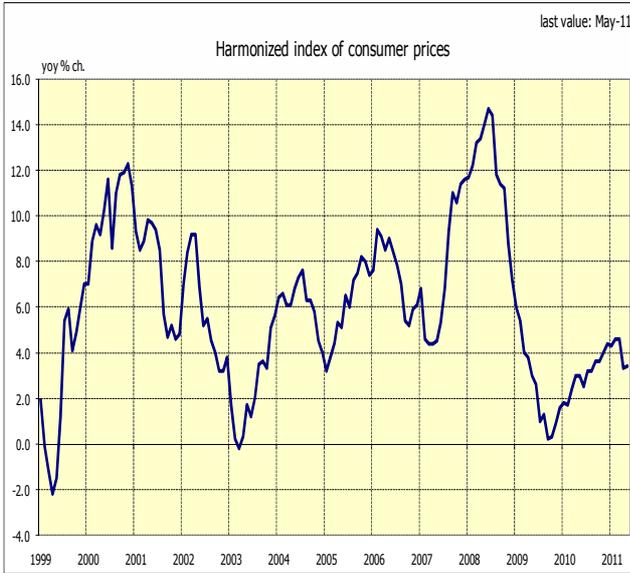
5. INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS



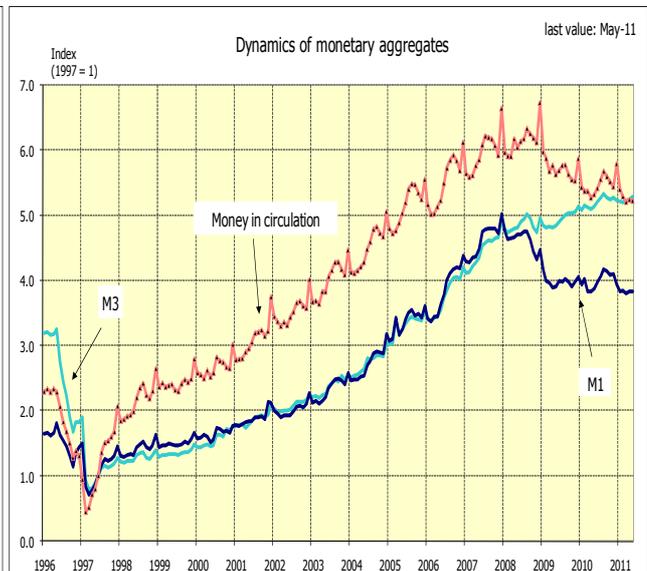
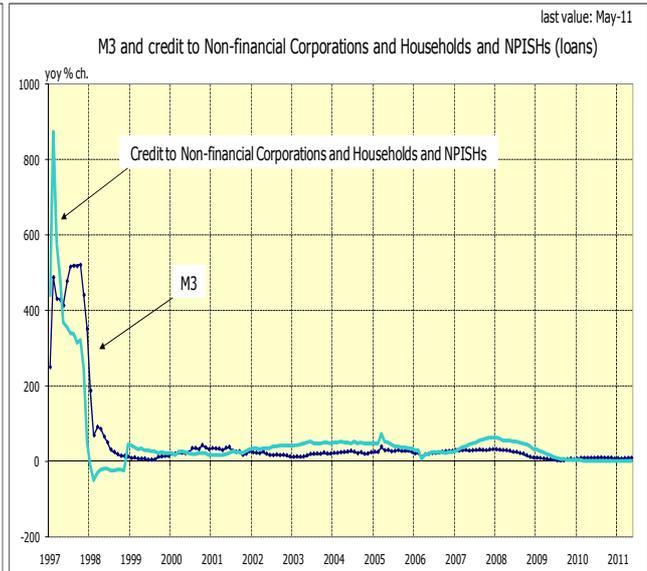
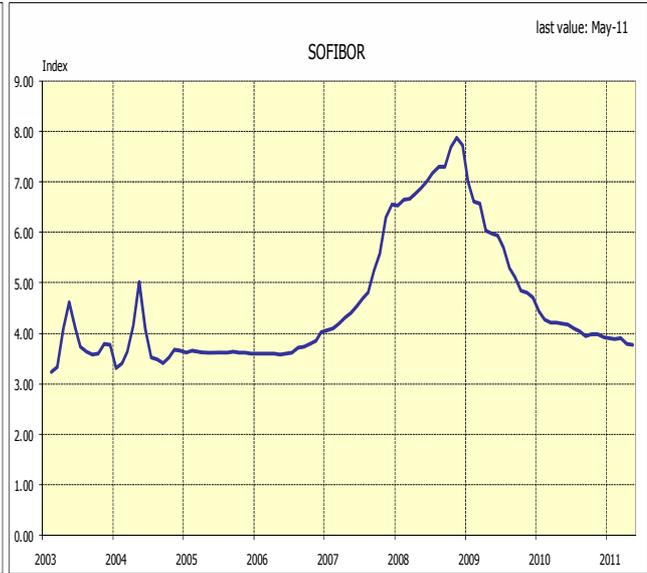
Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



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 - Explanatory notes

No	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	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	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	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, 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	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