



Key indicators for Bulgaria

This update: 30 December 2011

Next update: 2 April 2012

		2008	2009	2010	June-11	July-11	Aug.-11	Sept.-11	Oct.-11	Nov.-11
1. Output										
Industrial confidence ^{1.1}	%	5.9	-9.5	-7.2	-3.8	-3.5	-5.4	-4.3	-3.2	-3.5
Industrial production ^{1.2}	yoy % ch.	0.7	-18.1	2.0	2.9	6.6	1.1	1.4	2.4	
		2008	2009	2010	10Q2	10Q3	10Q4	11Q1	11Q2	11Q3
Gross domestic product ^{1.3}	yoy % ch.	6.2	-5.5	0.2	-0.4	0.0	3.7	3.3	2.0	1.6
2. Private consumption										
Consumer confidence ^{2.1}	%	-36.6	-49.6	-46.2	-43.1	-40.1	-38.6	-41.7	-40.4	-43.4
		2008	2009	2010	June-11	July-11	Aug.-11	Sept.-11	Oct.-11	Nov.-11
Turnover in retail trade ^{2.2}	yoy % ch.	9.1	-7.4	-7.1	-0.8	-2.8	-2.9	-3.0	-5.2	
		2008	2009	2010	10Q2	10Q3	10Q4	11Q1	11Q2	11Q3
Private consumption ^{2.3}	yoy % ch.	3.0	-7.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	0.7	1.5	1.4	1.7
3. Investment										
Capacity utilization in industry ^{3.1}	%	73.4	66.0	68.0	67.9	71.1	70.5	70.1	72.0	69.4
Gross fixed capital formation ^{3.2}	yoy % ch.	21.9	-17.6	-16.5	-21.3	-21.3	-0.9	1.6	8.4	-2.8
Change in stocks ^{3.3}	% of GDP	3.9	0.5	1.4	1.7	1.1	2.2	-0.7	3.6	3.9
4. Labour market										
Unemployment ^{4.1}	%	5.6	6.8	10.2	10.0	9.5	11.2	12.0	11.2	10.2
Employed persons ^{4.2}	yoy % ch.	3.3	-3.2	-6.2	-6.9	-5.4	-4.7	-4.0	-4.5	-2.8
Labour costs ^{4.3}	yoy % ch.	20.9	12.1	9.5	9.5	10.6	8.0	6.9	10.1	7.2
		2008	2009	2010	June-11	July-11	Aug.-11	Sept.-11	Oct.-11	Nov.-11
Shortage of labour in industry ^{4.4}	%	19.5	11.1	6.5	6.8	8.2	9.7	8.0	7.4	7.0
Wages ^{4.5}	yoy % ch.	26.5	11.8	6.3	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.5		
5. International transactions										
Export order books in industry ^{5.1}	balance	-28.5	-47.6	-43.5	-41.0	-38.2	-43.5	-40.1	-38.7	-41.3
Exports of goods ^{5.2}	mln. EUR	15204.0	11699.2	15561.2	1596.7	1845.0	1756.8	1712.5	1728.1	
Imports of goods ^{5.3}	mln. EUR	23801.7	15873.1	18324.8	-1808.2	-1807.0	-1845.8	-1898.1	-2051.3	
Trade balance ^{5.4}	mln. EUR	-8597.7	-4173.9	-2763.7	-211.5	38.0	-89.0	-185.6	-323.2	
Current account ^{5.5}	mln. EUR	-8182.5	-3116.2	-475.6	41.0	609.6	459.6	100.9	-142.1	
Direct investment (net) ^{5.6}	mln. EUR	6205.7	2505.3	1585.1	26.9	90.1	93.2	179.8	132.3	
Portfolio investment (net) ^{5.7}	mln. EUR	-730.9	-619.1	-661.2	-37.9	-11.9	51.9	-273.8	122.1	
		2008	2009	2010	10Q2	10Q3	10Q4	11Q1	11Q2	11Q3
Exports of goods and services ^{5.8}	yoy % ch.	3.0	-11.2	16.2	16.5	27.7	15.2	21.6	12.2	2.0
Imports of goods and services ^{5.9}	yoy % ch.	4.2	-21.0	4.5	2.9	5.3	10.7	10.0	7.5	8.1
6. Prices										
HICP ^{6.1}	yoy % ch.	12.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.1	2.9	3.0	2.6
Producer prices on domestic market (in industry) ^{6.2}	yoy % ch.	13.3	-4.2	7.2	10.1	8.4	6.6	6.6	6.5	
Selling prices expectations in industry ^{6.3}	balance	17.7	1.6	5.5	12.3	9.1	7.3	5.4	6.6	7.4
Selling prices expectations in retail trade ^{6.4}	balance	35.5	0.7	5.4	2.7	5.8	4.5	4.7	4.2	4.0
7. Monetary and financial indicators										
SOFIBOR (3 months) ^{7.1}	index	7.14	5.72	4.12	3.74	3.75	3.74	3.67	3.68	3.64
M3 ^{7.2}	yoy % ch.	8.8	4.2	6.4	8.0	9.4	9.4	10.3	9.6	7.8
Credit to Non-financial Corporations and Households and NPISHs ^{7.3}	yoy % ch.	32.5	3.6	1.2	2.3	2.8	3.6	2.5	2.5	2.5
Exchange rate USD/BGN ^{7.4}	value	1.34	1.41	1.48	1.36	1.37	1.36	1.42	1.43	1.44
Nominal effective exchange rate ^{7.5}	index	131.2	134.0	130.5	132.4	132.3	132.9	132.7	133.1	

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 2011 compared to November the **industrial confidence indicator** decreased by 4.1 percentage points, which is due to the raised stocks of finished goods and more unfavorable managers' expectations for production activity over the next 3 months.

In October 2011 the working day adjusted **Industrial Production Index** rose by 2.4% in comparison with October 2010 (by preliminary data). An increase was recorded in Mining and quarrying - by 13.0% and in Manufacturing - by 2.5%, while in Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply a decrease by 1.8% was observed.

By preliminary operative data, the **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** in the third quarter of 2011 amounted to BGN 21 016 million at current prices and GDP per capita was BGN 2 832.8. At the average exchange rate for the quarter of BGN 1.3833 for 1 US dollar, the GDP amounted to USD 15 192.3 million and respectively USD 2 047.8 per capita. GDP recalculated in Euro was EUR 10 745 million or EUR 1 448.4 per capita. In comparison with the third quarter of 2010 the real volume of GDP increased by 1.6% according to the seasonally adjusted data.

2. Private consumption

In October 2011 the total **consumer confidence indicator** decreased by 3.0 percentage points compared to its level 3 months ago. The reduction is due to the decreased confidence of both urban and rural inhabitants by 3.5 and 1.7 percentage points, respectively. As a whole the October survey shows an increase of the pessimism in consumers' assessments and expectations in comparison with July.

In October 2011 the working day adjusted **turnover in Retail trade** decreased by 5.2% in comparison with the same month of the previous year (by preliminary data). An increase is observed in the 'Dispensing chemist; retail sale of medical and orthopedic goods, cosmetic and toilet articles' by 6.3%. A reduction was registered in the "Retail sale of audio and video equipment; hardware, paints and glass; electrical household appliances" - by 10.5%, in the "Retail sale of computers, peripheral units and

software; telecommunications equipment" - by 8.3%, in the "Retail sale of automotive fuel" - by 6.9%, in the "Retail sale of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods" - by 3.5%, and in the "Retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco" - by 1.9%.

In the third quarter of 2011 60.9% of the produced GDP were spent for **individual consumption of the population**. The real increase of the indicator was by 1.7% in comparison with the respective quarter of 2010 (according to the seasonally adjusted data).

3. Investment

The **average capacity utilization in industry** decreased by 2.6 percentage point from July to October 2011 and reached by 69.4%.

In the third quarter of 2011 the **gross fixed capital formation** decreased in real terms (according to the seasonally adjusted data) by 2.8% in comparison with the same period of the previous year. The relative share of that category in GDP is 17.8%.

4. Labour market

In the third quarter of 2011 the **total number of employed persons** aged 15 and over was 3 018.3 thousand and their relative share of the population of the same age group was 46.6%. In comparison with the same period of 2010 the number of persons employed decreased by 85.9 thousand and the employment rate - by 0.9 percentage points.

In the third quarter of 2011 the **unemployed persons** were 343.0 thousand and the unemployment rate - 10.2%. The number of unemployed persons compared to the same quarter of the previous year increased by 16.4 thousand and the unemployment rate - by 0.7 percentage points.

According to the NSI business inquiries in December 2011 7.1% of the industrial enterprises pointed out the **labour shortage** as a factor limiting their activity.

In September 2011 the **average wage and salary** was BGN 704 (by preliminary data) which is by 3.1% higher than the previous month. In comparison with September 2010 the growth rate is 8.5%.



5. International transactions

According to the industrial managers' assessments in December 2011 there was a slightly improvement of the production assurance with **orders from abroad** by 1.9 percentage points in comparison with November.

In the period January - October 2011, the **current account** was positive - EUR 1 254.9 million (3.2% of the GDP projected for 2011), against a surplus of EUR 238.1 million (0.7% of GDP) for January - October 2010. The main factor for the current account balance increase was the lower trade deficit (by EUR 729.6 million).

The trade balance in the period January - October 2011 was negative amounting to EUR 1 207.3 million (3.1% of the GDP projected for 2011), against a deficit of EUR 1 936.9 million (5.4% of GDP) for the period January - October 2010.

Exports of goods (FOB) in the period January - October 2011 amounted to EUR 16 681.9 million against EUR 12 709.3 million for the period January - October 2010, which was an increase of 31.3% against an annual increase of 31.7% for the same period of 2010. **Imports of goods (FOB)** in the period January - October 2011 was EUR 17 889.2 million, against EUR 14 646.2 million for the period January - October 2010. They increased by 22.1% annually against an annual increase of 11% for the period January - October 2010.

Foreign direct investment abroad in the period January - October 2011 was EUR 100.5 million against EUR 168.3 million for the period January - October 2010. **Foreign direct investment in Bulgaria** was EUR 668.0 million (1.7% of the GDP projected for 2011) against EUR 1 126.6 million (3.1% of GDP) for the period January - October 2010.

For the period January - October 2011 the **portfolio investment - assets** increased by EUR 42.7 million, against an increase of EUR 344.5 million for January - October 2010. **Portfolio investment - liabilities** decreased by EUR 273.0 million, while they decreased by EUR 105.3 million in the period January - October 2010.

In the third quarter of 2011 the external balance (exports-imports) was positive amounting to BGN 2 329 million. In comparison with the respective quarter of 2010 the **exports of goods and services** increased in real terms by 2.0%, while the **imports** increased by 8.1% (according to the seasonally adjusted data).

6. Prices

In November 2011 the **harmonized index of consumer prices** increased by 2.6% compared to the same month of 2010. A rise of prices was observed in all groups, with the exception of "Recreation and culture", "Communications" and "Furnishing, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house". The highest increase was registered in "Health" - by 9.9%.

The Producer Price Index on Domestic Market in October 2011 increased by 6.5% compared to the same month of 2010. The prices rose in manufacturing by - 8.9% and in electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply - by 3.4% but in mining and quarrying decreased - by 3.8%.

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

7. Monetary and financial indicators

In November 2011 the **three-month interbank market index SOFIBOR** decreased from 3.68 to 3.64% in comparison with the previous month, whereas the value in November 2010 was 3.99%.

The annual growth rate of the broad money (**monetary aggregate M3**) was 7.8% in November 2011 against 9.6% in October, as at the end of November M3 amounted to BGN 54.939 billion (71.3% of the GDP projected for 2011) against BGN 55.228 billion in October 2011 (71.7% of the GDP projected for 2011). The narrow money M1 amounted to BGN 19.907 billion as they increased by 4.4% annually against an increase of 6.3% in October 2011.

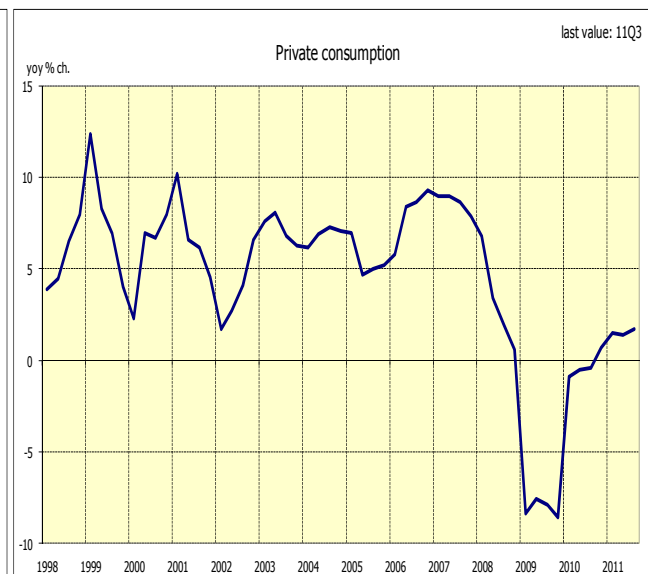
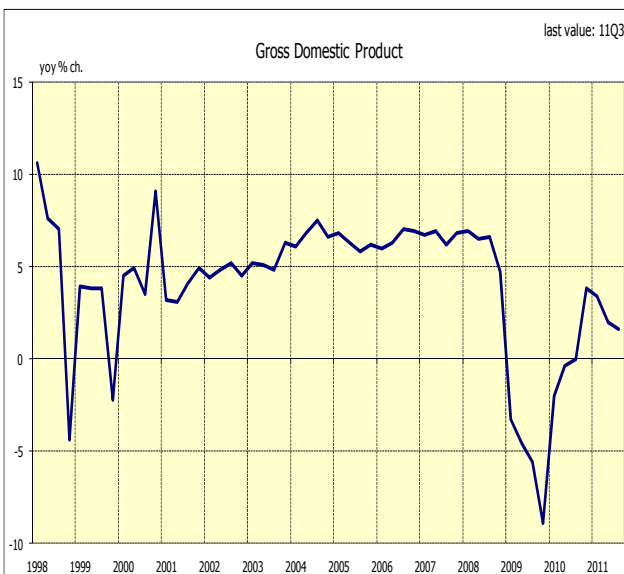
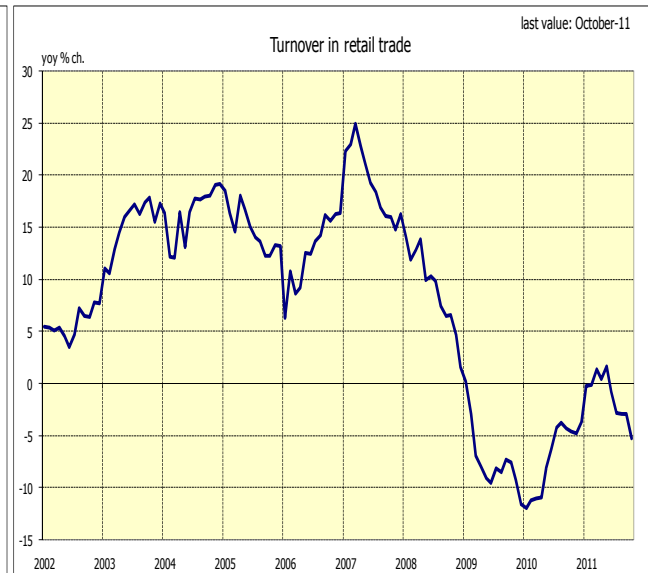
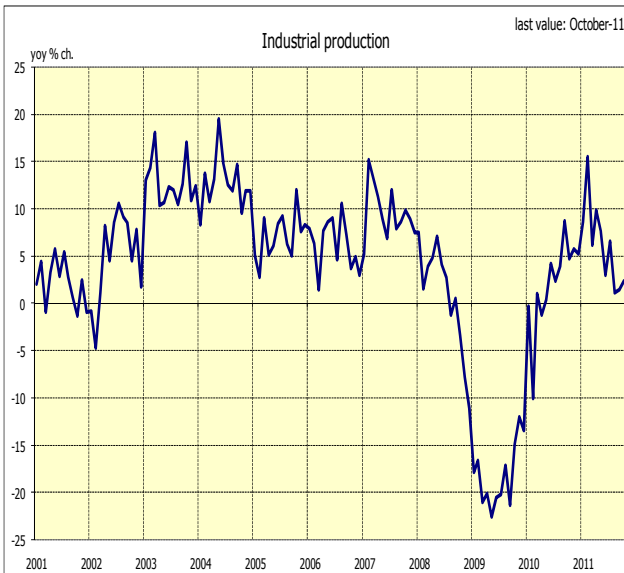
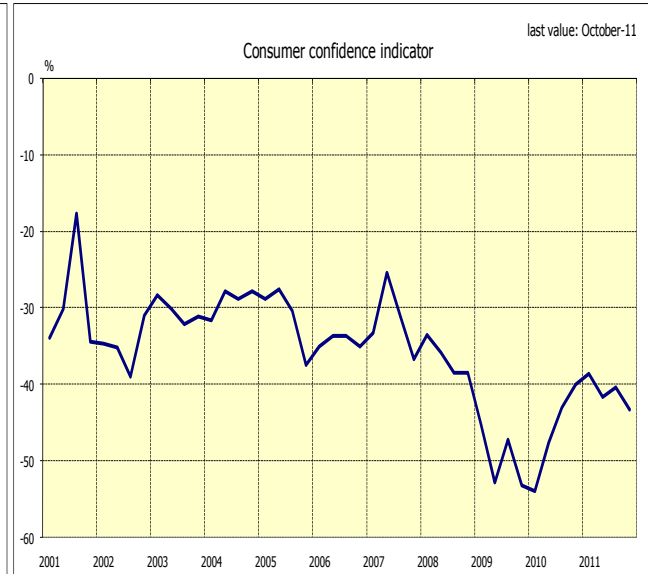
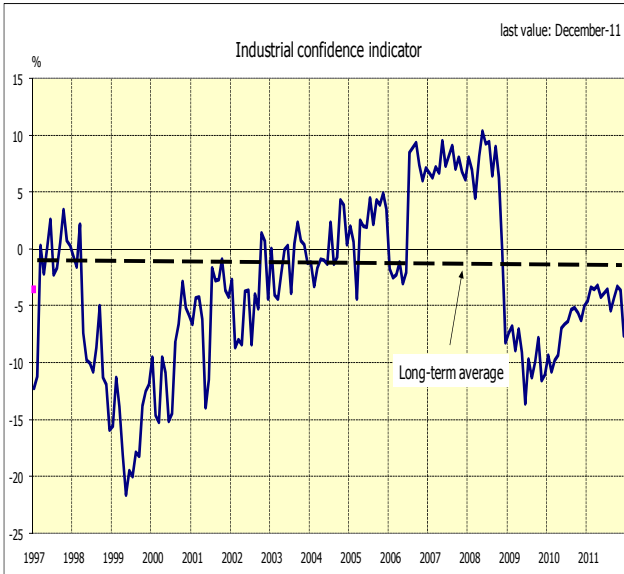
In November 2011 the **volume of the loans to non-financial corporations, households and NPISHs** amounted to BGN 51.905 billion (67.3% of the GDP projected for 2011). The annual growth rate of the loans to non-financial corporations in November was 4.2 against 4.1% in the previous month; the loans to the households and NPISHs in November decreased by 0.2% in comparison with the same month of 2010 against an annual decrease of 0.1% in October 2011.

In November 2011 the **exchange rate BGN against the US dollar** increased in comparison with the previous month from 1.43 to 1.44.



1. OUTPUT

2. PRIVATE CONSUMPTION

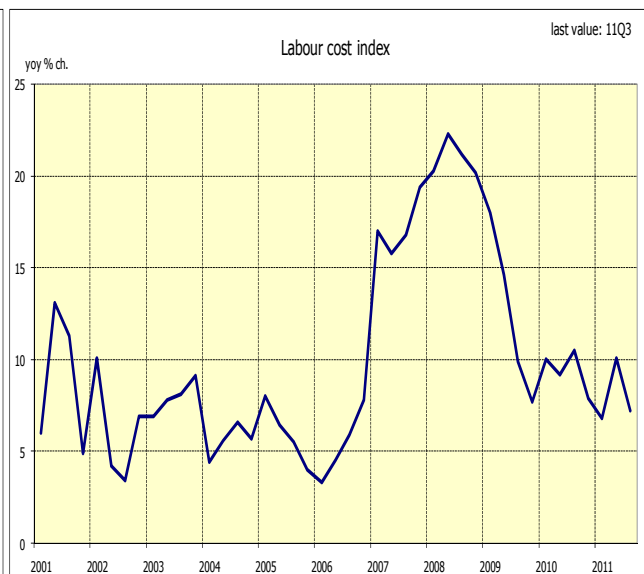
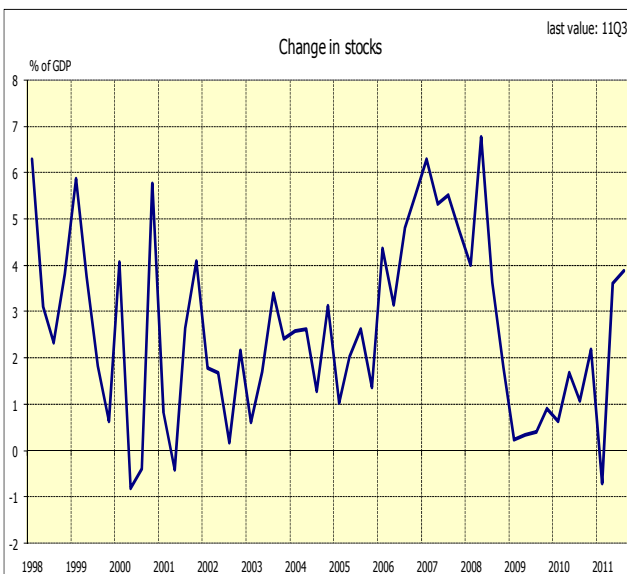
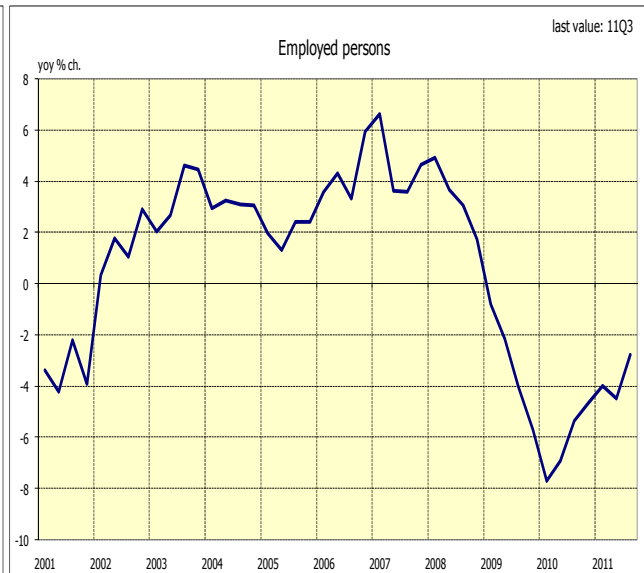
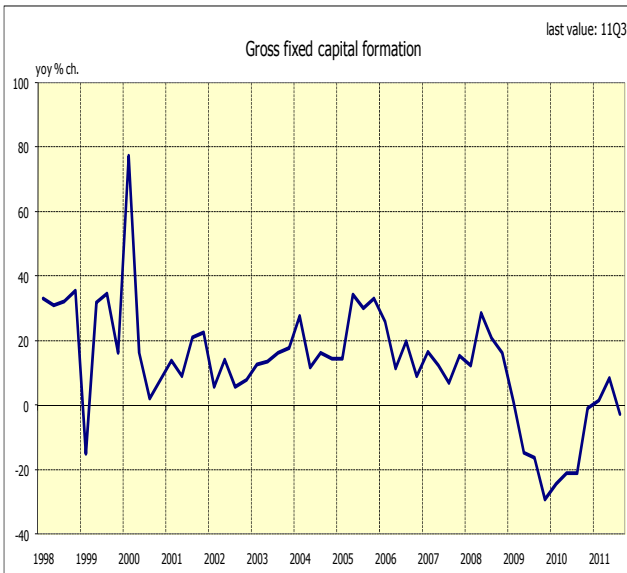
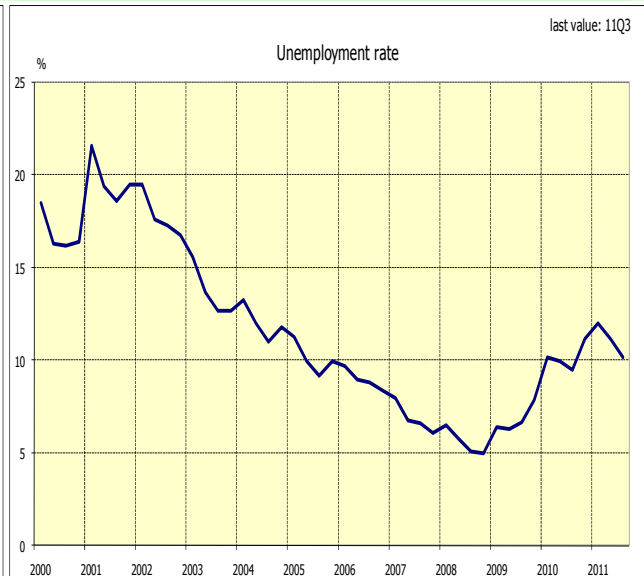
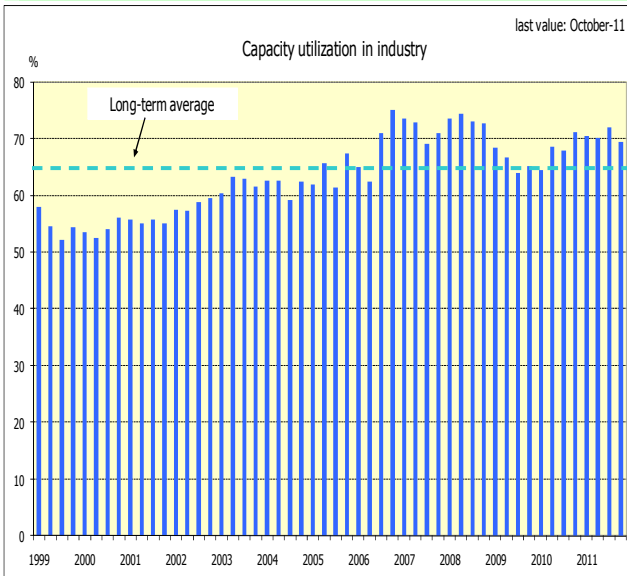


Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



3. INVESTMENT

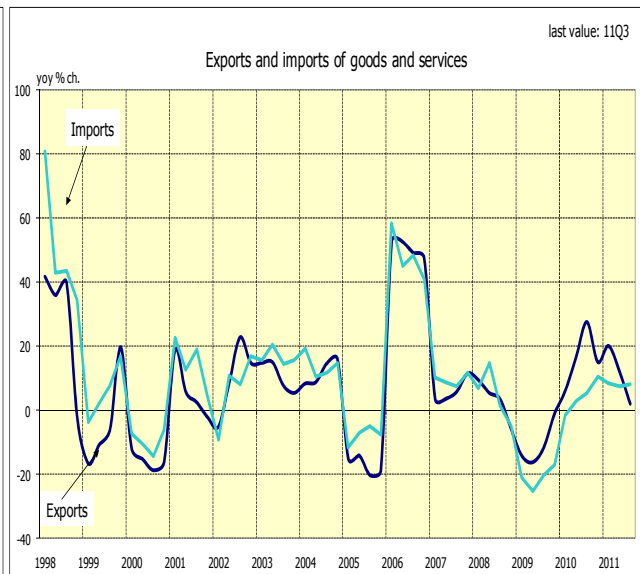
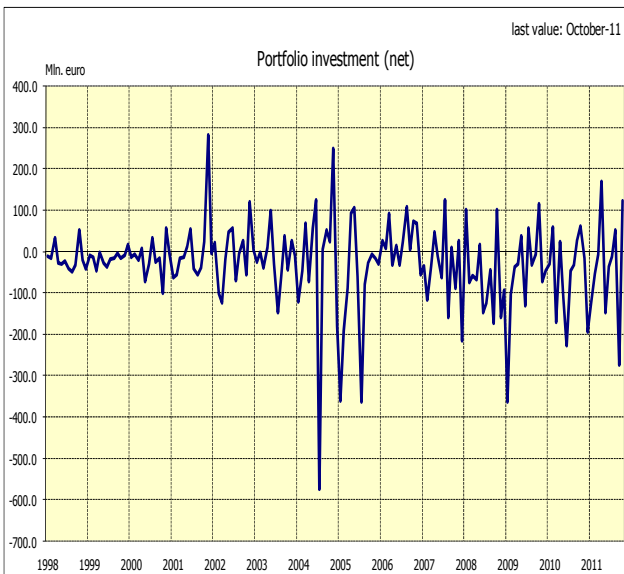
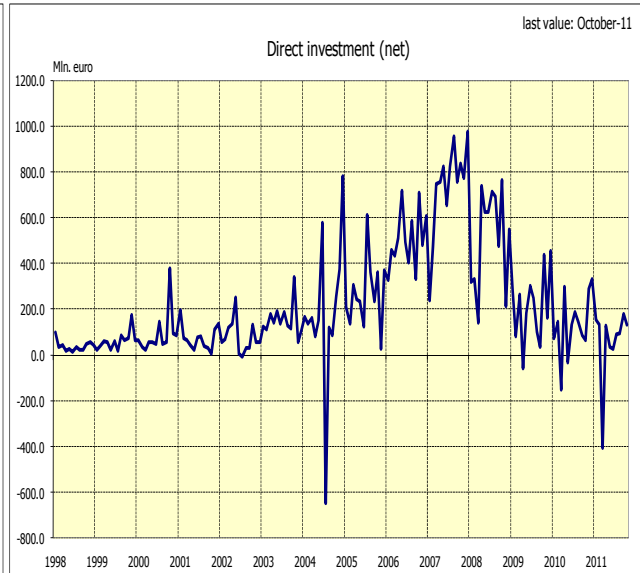
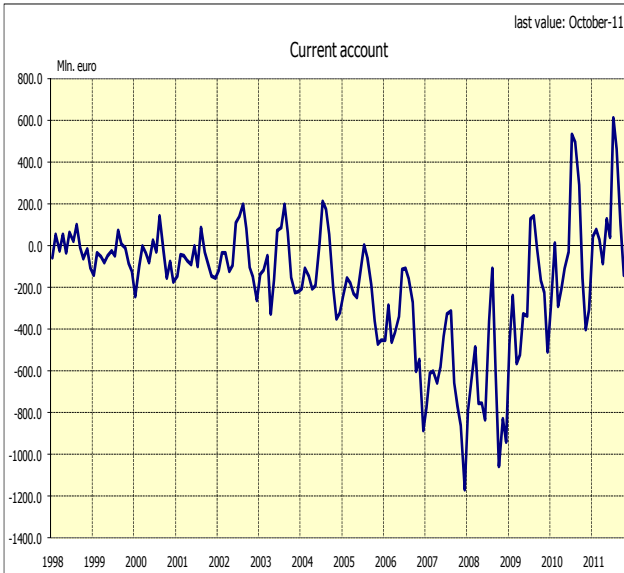
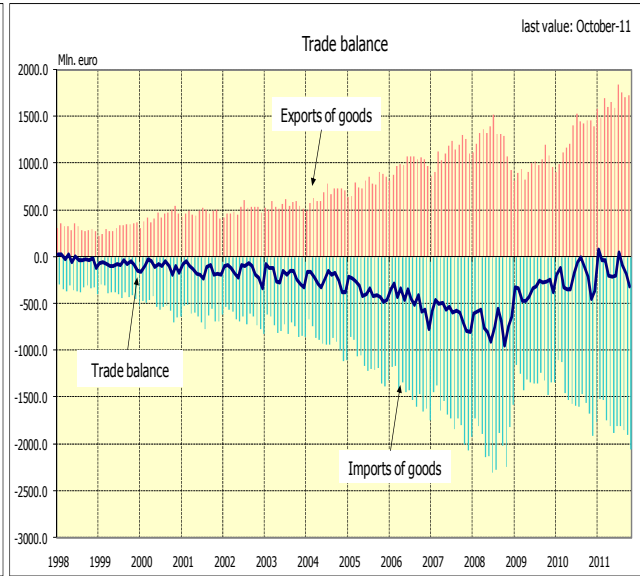
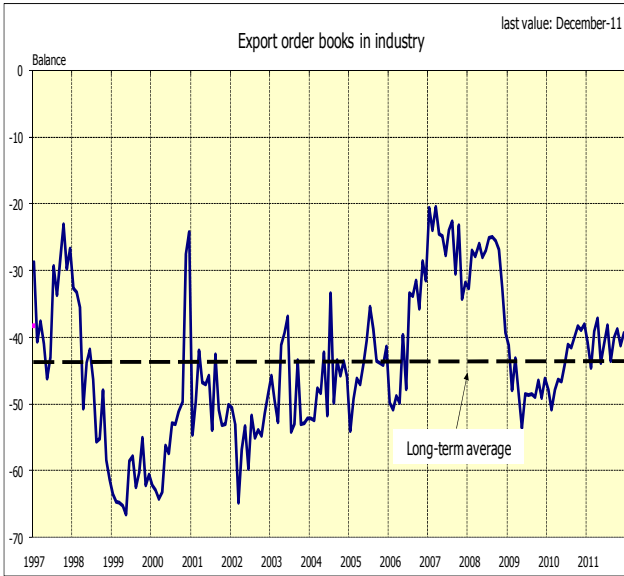
4. LABOUR MARKET



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



5. INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS

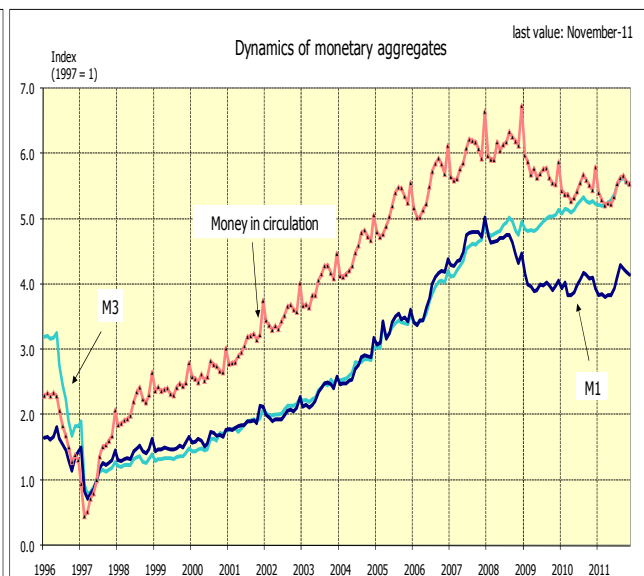
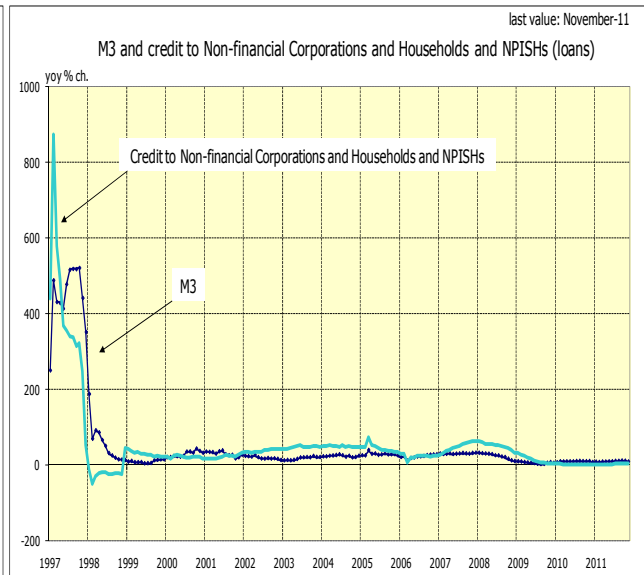
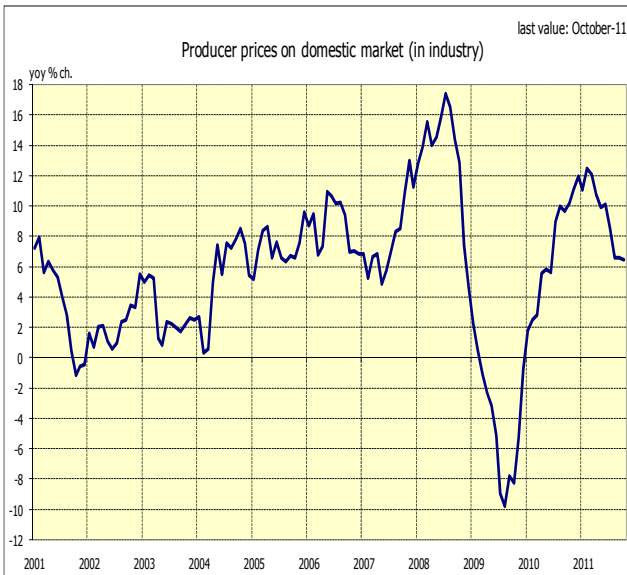
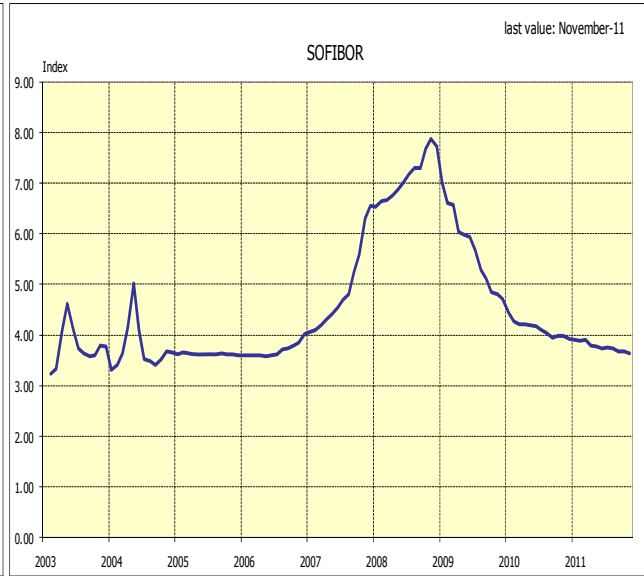
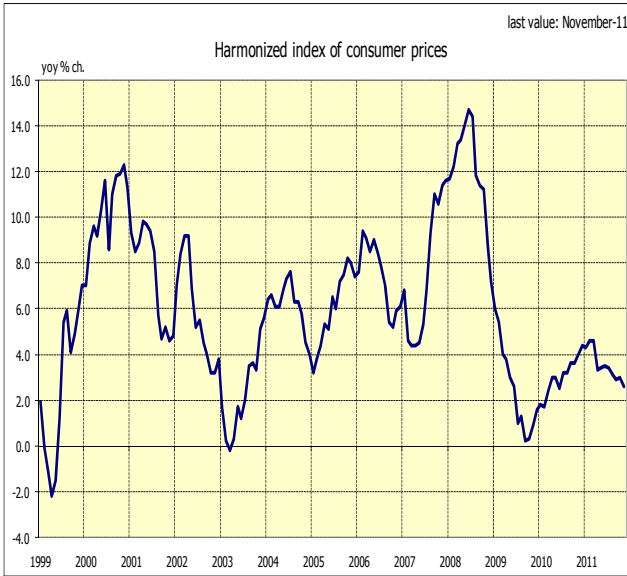


Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



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