



## Key indicators for Bulgaria\*

This update: 2 April 2013

Next update: 2 July 2013

		2010	2011	2012	Sept.-12	Oct.-12	Nov.-12	Dec.-12	Jan.-13	Feb.-13
<b>1. Output</b>										
Industrial confidence <sup>1.1</sup>	%	-7.2	-4.2	-6.0	-7.5	-8.2	-6.8	-6.7	-8.1	-7.5
Industrial production <sup>1.2</sup>	yoy % ch.	2.1	5.8	-0.3	-1.6	-3.0	0.0	6.3	7.9	
		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>11Q3</b>	<b>11Q4</b>	<b>12Q1</b>	<b>12Q2</b>	<b>12Q3</b>	<b>12Q4</b>
Gross domestic product <sup>1.3</sup>	yoy % ch.	0.4	1.8	0.8	1.5	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5
<b>2. Private consumption</b>										
Consumer confidence <sup>2.1</sup>	%	-46.2	-41.0	42.9	-43.4	-45.6	-45.8	-38.0	-42.3	-40.0
		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Sept.-12</b>	<b>Oct.-12</b>	<b>Nov.-12</b>	<b>Dec.-12</b>	<b>Jan.-13</b>	<b>Feb.-13</b>
Turnover in retail trade <sup>2.2</sup>	yoy % ch.	-8.3	0.5	-2.4	-3.0	-4.6	-5.0	-5.4	-5.5	
		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>11Q3</b>	<b>11Q4</b>	<b>12Q1</b>	<b>12Q2</b>	<b>12Q3</b>	<b>12Q4</b>
Private consumption <sup>2.3</sup>	yoy % ch.	0.6	1.7	2.0	3.2	2.8	2.5	2.9	2.0	1.3
<b>3. Investment</b>										
Capacity utilization in industry <sup>3.1</sup>	%	69.5	70.9	70.5	69.4	71.9	69.9	71.3	69.5	71.4
Gross fixed capital formation <sup>3.2</sup>	yoy % ch.	-18.3	-6.5	0.8	-2.1	-7.3	2.2	0.7	-1.5	1.5
Change in stocks <sup>3.3</sup>	% of GDP	0.1	0.4	2.4	0.7	0.2	4.5	3.4	1.1	1.4
<b>4. Labour market</b>										
Unemployment rate <sup>4.1</sup>	%	10.2	11.3	12.3	10.2	11.4	12.9	12.3	11.5	12.4
Employed persons <sup>4.2</sup>	yoy % ch.	-6.2	-2.9	-1.1	-2.2	-1.7	-1.8	-1.1	-0.6	-0.7
Labour costs <sup>4.3</sup>	yoy % ch.	9.1	8.6	5.4	7.7	9.3	6.0	4.7	5.9	5.1
		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Sept.-12</b>	<b>Oct.-12</b>	<b>Nov.-12</b>	<b>Dec.-12</b>	<b>Jan.-13</b>	<b>Feb.-13</b>
Shortage of labour in industry <sup>4.4</sup>	%	6.5	7.5	8.7	7.8	8.4	8.6	7.8	8.4	7.6
Wages <sup>4.5</sup>	yoy % ch.	6.4	5.8	11.7	9.1	9.9	7.6	8.0		
<b>5. International transactions</b>										
Export order books in industry <sup>5.1</sup>	balance	-43.5	-40.6	-46.5	-46.5	-59.3	-43.4	-50.9	-55.2	-45.4
Exports of goods <sup>5.2</sup>	mln. EUR	15561.2	20264.3	20793.1	1815.1	1860.0	1969.0	1535.9	1779.6	
Imports of goods <sup>5.3</sup>	mln. EUR	-18324.8	-22420.4	-24415.2	-1971.3	-2221.1	-2121.9	-1869.4	-1809.1	
Trade balance <sup>5.4</sup>	mln. EUR	-2763.7	-2156.1	-3622.1	-156.2	-361.0	-152.9	-333.5	-29.5	
Current account <sup>5.5</sup>	mln. EUR	-533.1	39.2	-528.2	256.0	-177.8	34.0	-354.4	-10.9	
Direct investment (net) <sup>5.6</sup>	mln. EUR	977.3	1198.7	1301.6	48.4	186.1	-165.0	-250.4	30.7	
Portfolio investment (net) <sup>5.7</sup>	mln. EUR	-635.4	-357.4	-930.6	-65.8	-60.4	-1107.6	-71.1	-281.1	
		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>11Q3</b>	<b>11Q4</b>	<b>12Q1</b>	<b>12Q2</b>	<b>12Q3</b>	<b>12Q4</b>
Exports of goods and services <sup>5.8</sup>	yoy % ch.	14.7	12.3	-0.4	7.3	12.5	-0.1	3.3	0.0	-2.1
Imports of goods and services <sup>5.9</sup>	yoy % ch.	2.4	8.8	3.7	9.2	5.9	3.4	9.8	2.6	-0.5
<b>6. Prices</b>										
HICP <sup>6.1</sup>	yoy % ch.	3.0	3.4	2.4	3.4	3.0	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.2
Producer prices on domestic market (in industry) <sup>6.2</sup>	yoy % ch.	7.2	8.6	5.3	6.6	6.9	6.4	5.1	2.6	
Selling prices expectations in industry <sup>6.3</sup>	balance	5.5	8.8	9.7	8.6	8.2	10.0	6.8	7.6	5.3
Selling prices expectations in retail trade <sup>6.4</sup>	balance	5.4	4.7	5.3	6.9	5.7	12.9	2.4	0.2	6.2
<b>7. Monetary and financial indicators</b>										
SOFIBOR (3 months) <sup>7.1</sup>	index	4.12	3.76	2.25	1.60	1.56	1.45	1.39	1.27	1.23
M3 <sup>7.2</sup>	yoy % ch.	6.4	12.2	8.5	8.6	10.1	8.5	7.1	7.9	
Credit to Non-financial Corporations and Households and NPISHs <sup>7.3</sup>	yoy % ch.	1.2	3.2	2.9	3.3	3.0	3.7	2.9	3.4	3.0
Exchange rate USD/BGN <sup>7.4</sup>	value	1.48	1.41	1.52	1.52	1.51	1.52	1.49	1.47	1.46
Nominal effective exchange rate <sup>7.5</sup>	index	130.5	132.1	131.0	130.6	130.8	130.6	131.0	131.5	

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. Information source are preliminary and final data from NSI statistical surveys and BNB data.



## Comments

### 1. Output

According to the NSI business inquiries in March 2013 the **industrial confidence indicator** increases by 1.1 percentage points compared to February which is due to more favourable managers expectations about the production activity over the next 3 months.

In January 2013 working day adjusted **Industrial Production Index** rose by 7.9% as compared to the respective month of 2012 (by preliminary data). An increase was recorded in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply by 18.4% and in the manufacturing by 5.6% while in the mining and quarrying industry a decrease by 5.6% was seen.

According to the preliminary data the **Gross Domestic Product1 (GDP)** in the fourth quarter of 2012 amounted to BGN 21 085 million at current prices and GDP per person amounted to BGN 2 892. At average exchange rate for the quarter of BGN 1.509179 for 1 US dollar GDP is USD 13 971 million or USD 1 916 per person. GDP recalculated in Euro was EUR 10 780 million or EUR 1 478 per person. In comparison with the fourth quarter of 2011 the real volume of GDP increased by 0.5% according to the seasonally adjusted data.

### 2. Private consumption

In January 2013 the **total consumer confidence indicator** increases by 2.3 percentage points compared to its October 2012 level which is due to increase of confidence among the urban inhabitants. The level of the indicator for the rural inhabitants remains unchanged. The consumers' total assessment of the current development of the general economic situation in the country is improving according to the urban and rural population. Compared to October 2012 the consumers' assessments and expectations about the financial situation of their households are more favourable.

In January 2013 the working day adjusted **turnover in Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles** declined by 5.5% in comparison with the same month of the previous year. The turnover fell in almost economic activities. The largest drop was

observed in the 'Retail sale of audio and video equipment; hardware, paints and glass; electrical household appliances' by 15.3% and the smallest was registered in the 'Other retail sale in non-specialised stores' by 0.4%.

In the fourth quarter of 2012 for **individual consumption of the population** were spent 72.9% of the produced GDP. The real increase of the indicator was by 1.3% in comparison with the respective quarter of 2011 (according to the seasonally adjusted data).

### 3. Investment

The average **capacity utilization in industry** in January 2013 increases by 1.9 percentage points compared to October 2012 and it reaches 71.4%.

In the fourth quarter of 2012 the **gross fixed capital formation** increased in real terms (according to the seasonally adjusted data) by 1.5% in comparison with the same period of the previous year. The relative share of that category in GDP is 23.3%.

### 4. Labour market

In the fourth quarter of 2012 the total number of **employed persons** (aged 15 years and over) was 2 951.8 thousand, representing 47.0% of population in the same age group. In comparison with the same quarter of 2011 the number of employed declined by 22.0 thousand, and their relative share was by 0.3 percentage points higher.

The **number unemployed persons** in the fourth quarter of 2012 was 417.3 thousand persons, and the unemployment rate - 12.4%. In comparison with the same quarter of the previous year the number of unemployed rose by 8.6% and the unemployment rate - by 1.0 percentage points.

According to the NSI business inquiries in March 2013 7.7% of the industrial enterprises pointed out the **labour shortage** as a factor limiting their activity.

In December 2012 the **average wage and salary** was BGN 812 (by preliminary data) which is by 4.4% higher than the previous month. In comparison with December 2011 the growth rate is 8.0%.



## 5. International transactions

According to the industrial managers' assessments in March 2013 compared to February a reduction of the **orders from abroad** by 8.2 percentage points was registered.

In January 2013 the **current account** recorded a deficit of EUR 10.9 million (0.03% of the predicted GDP for 2013), compared with a negative balance of EUR 253.6 million (0.6% of GDP) in January 2012. The deficit on the current account was due to the negative balance on income (EUR 63.3 million) and the trade deficit (EUR 29.5 million).

The **trade balance** recorded a deficit of EUR 29.5 million (0.1 of the projected GDP for 2013) in January 2013, against a deficit of EUR 278.3 million (0.7 of GDP) in January 2012.

**Exports of goods (FOB)** amounted to EUR 1 779.6 million in January 2013, growing by EUR 342.8 million (23.9%) from January 2012 (EUR 1 436.8 million). The exports for January 2012 dropped by 8.0% year-on-year. **Imports of goods (FOB)** amounted to EUR 1 809.1 million in January 2013 against EUR 1,715.1 million in January 2012, i.e. growing by EUR 94 million. On a year-on-year basis imports increased by 5.5% in January 2013 and by 4.5% in January 2012.

**Direct investment abroad** increased by EUR 0.7 million in January 2013 compared with an increase of EUR 13.1 million in January 2012. **Foreign direct investment in Bulgaria** amounted to EUR 31.4 million (0.1 of the projected GDP for 2013) in January 2013 against EUR 326.5 million (0.8 of GDP) in January 2012.

In January 2013 **portfolio investment assets** increased by EUR 23.0 million, compared with a decrease of EUR 101.2 million in January 2012. **Portfolio investment liabilities** decreased by EUR 258.0 million against a decline of EUR 71.6 million in January 2012.

The external balance (exports - imports of goods and services) in the fourth quarter of 2012 is negative. **Exports of goods and services** decreases by 2.1% compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous year and the **imports of goods and services** - by 0.5%.

## 6. Prices

In February 2013 the **harmonized index of consumer prices** increased by 2.2% compared to the same month of 2012. A rise of prices was observed in all groups, with the exception of "Recreation and culture", "Clothing and footwear", "Communication" and „Health". The highest increase was registered in "Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels" - by 8.2%.

The **Producer Price Index on Domestic Market** in January 2013 grew by 2.6% compared to the same month of 2012. The domestic prices increased in the manufacturing by 1.1% and in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply by 5.8%, while in the mining and quarrying industry a decrease by 1.4% was seen.

According to the conjuncture inquiry in March 2013 the majority of the industrial entrepreneurs do not expect change of the **selling prices** over the next 3 months.

## 7. Monetary and financial indicators

In February 2013 the **three-month interbank market index SOFIBOR** decreased from 1.27 to 1.23% in comparison with the previous month, whereas the value in February 2012 was 3.19%.

In February 2013, the annual growth rate of broad money (**aggregate M3**) was 7.9% compared to 7.1% in January 2013. At the end of February 2013 M3 was BGN 61.912 billion (77.5% of the projected GDP for 2013) compared to BGN 61.468 billion (77.0% of GDP) in January 2013.

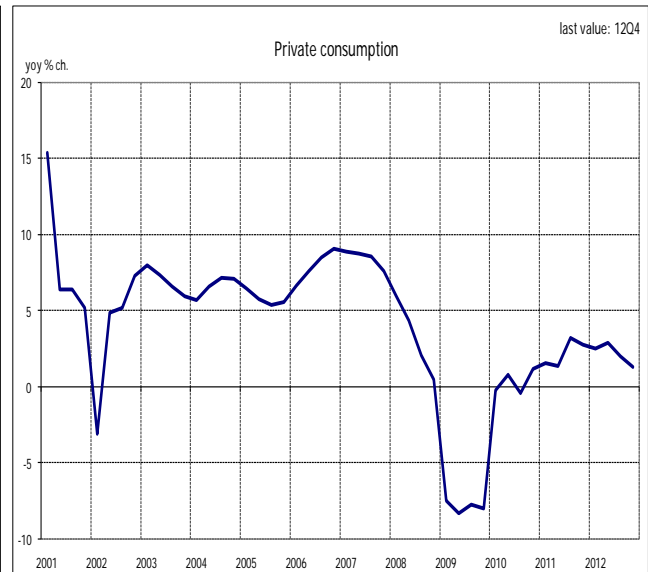
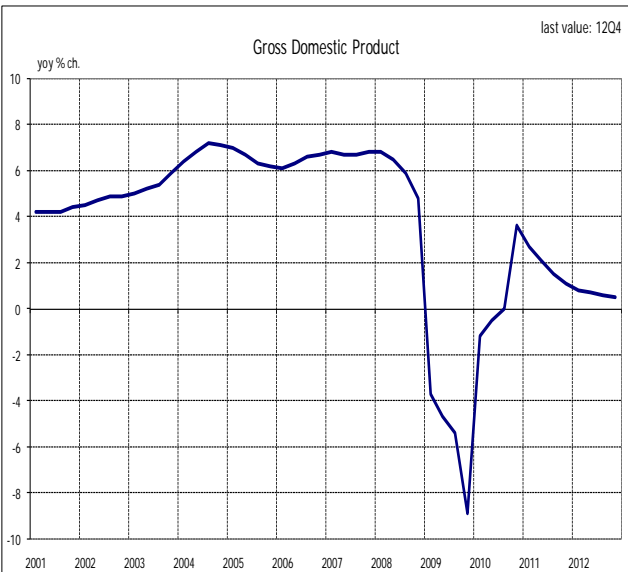
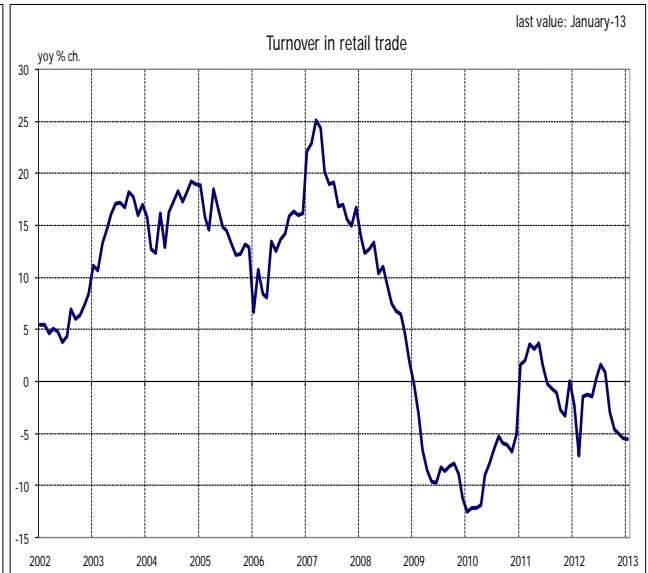
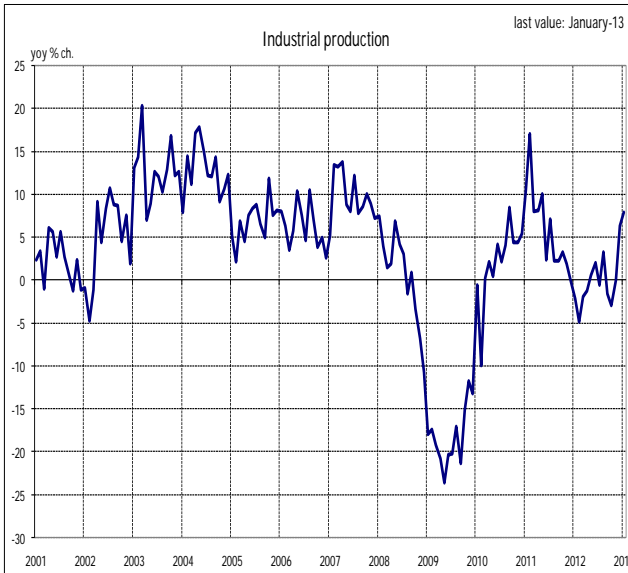
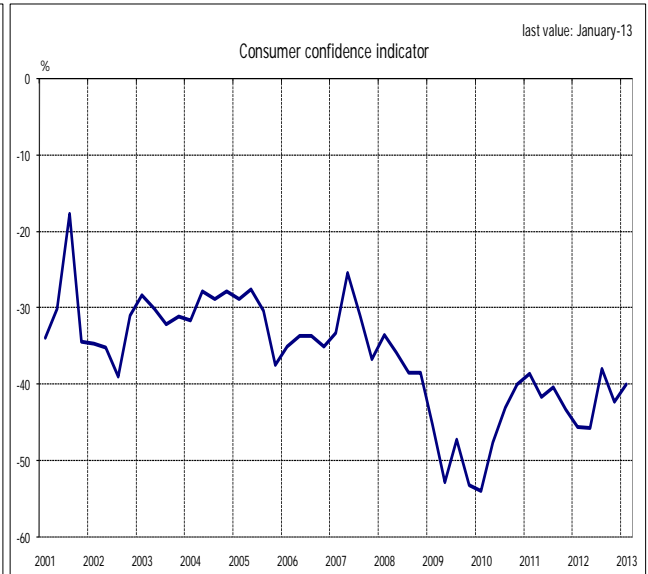
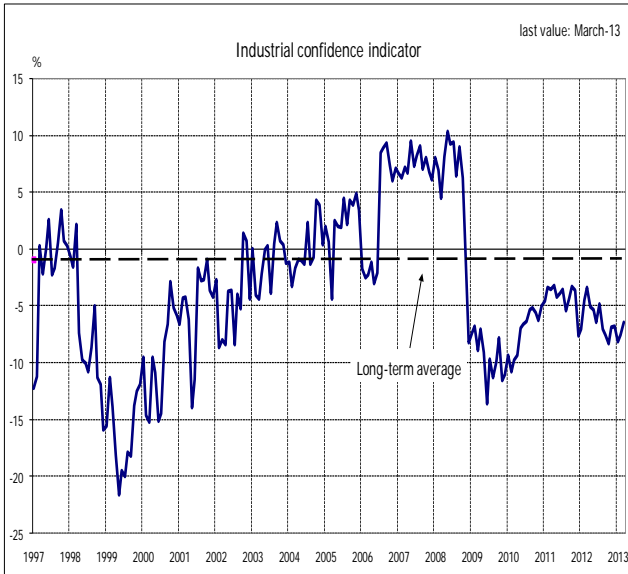
The volume of the **loans to Non-financial corporations, households and NPISHs** in February 2013 amounted to BGN 53.418 billion (66.2% of the projected GDP for 2013). The loans to Non-financial corporations increased by 5.3% annually (5.8% annual growth in January 2013) and at the end of the month amounted to BGN 34.886 billion (43.7% of GDP). Loans to Households and NPISHs were BGN 18.532 billion (23.2% of GDP) at the end of February 2013.

In February 2013 the **exchange rate BGN against the US dollar** decreases in comparison with the previous month from 1.47 to 1.46.



**1. OUTPUT**

**2. PRIVATE CONSUMPTION**

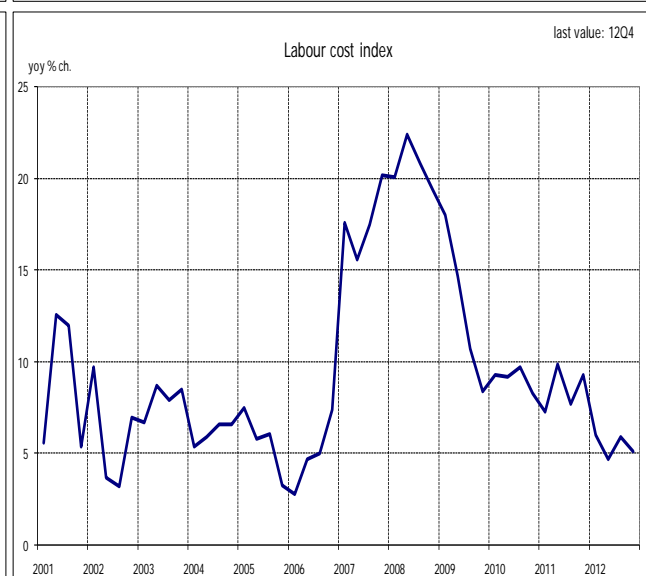
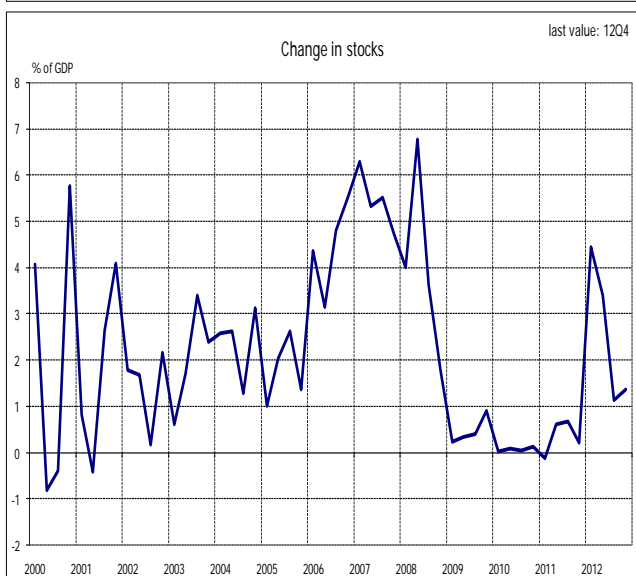
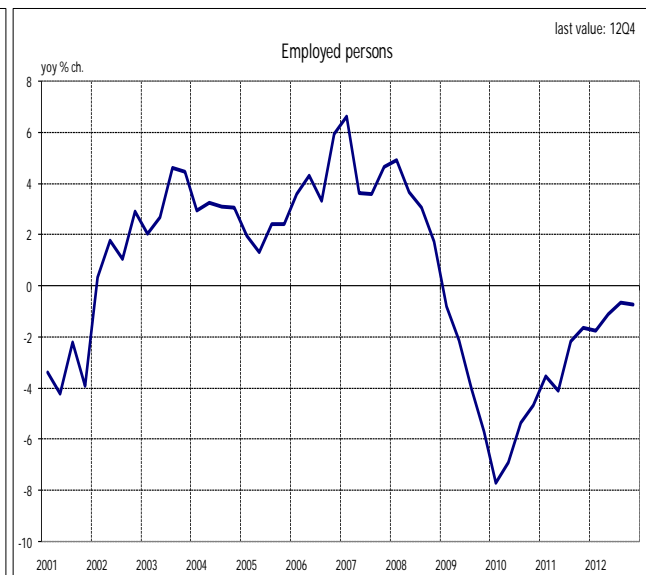
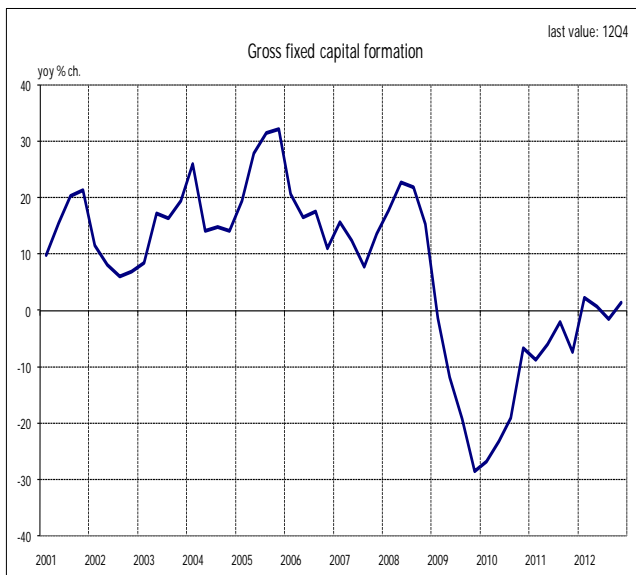
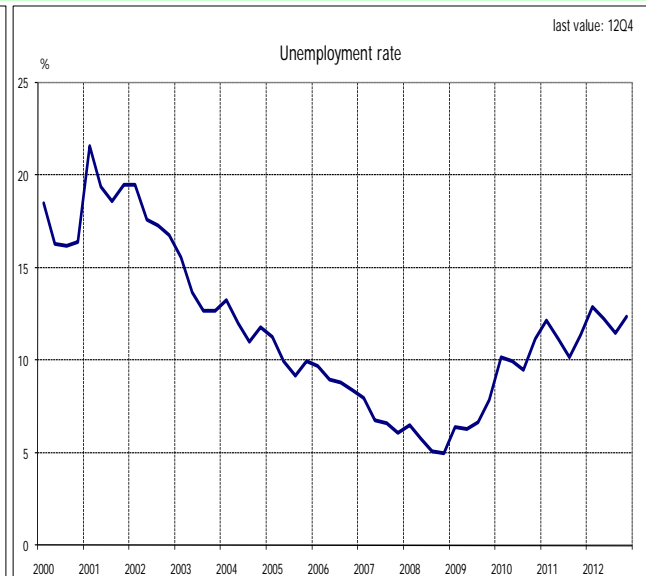
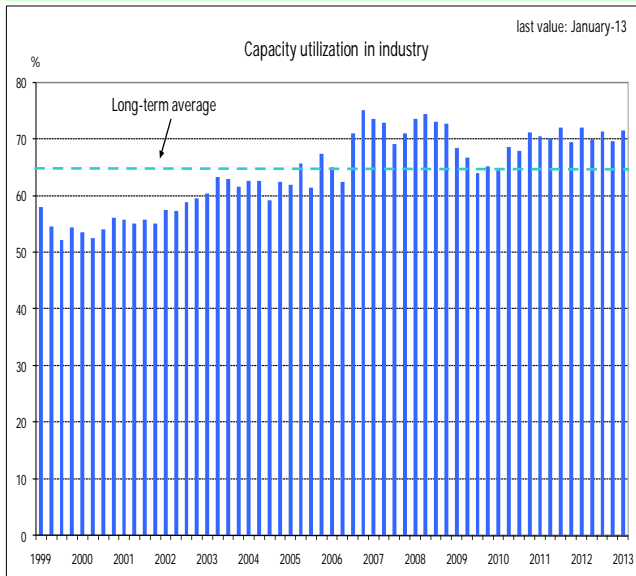


**Note:** yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



**3. INVESTMENT**

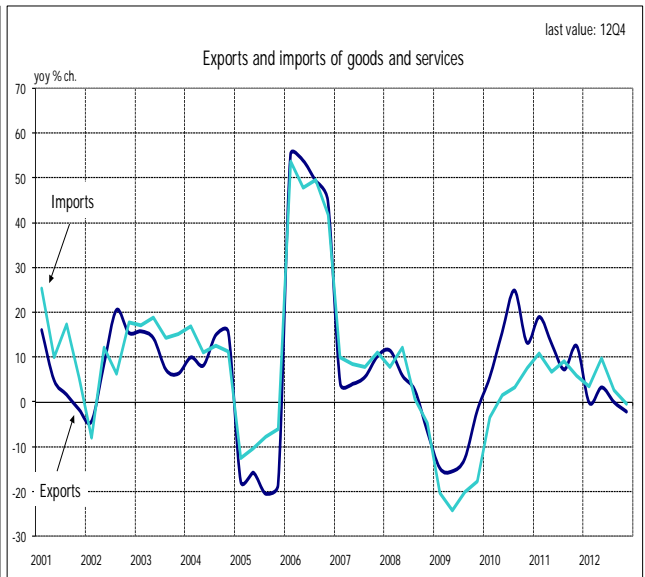
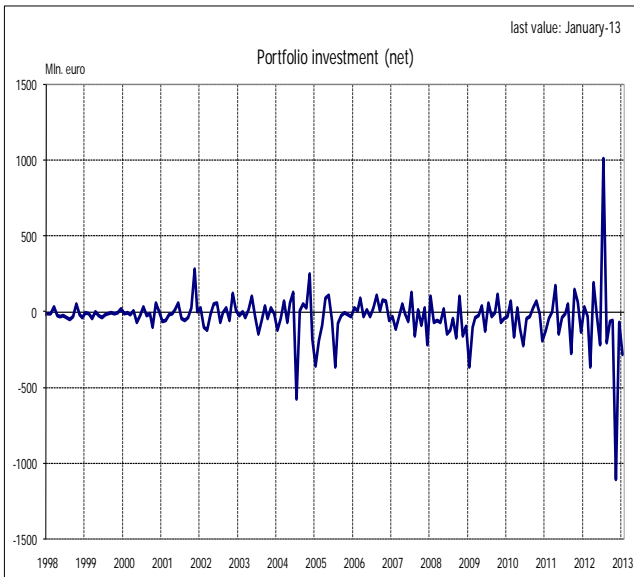
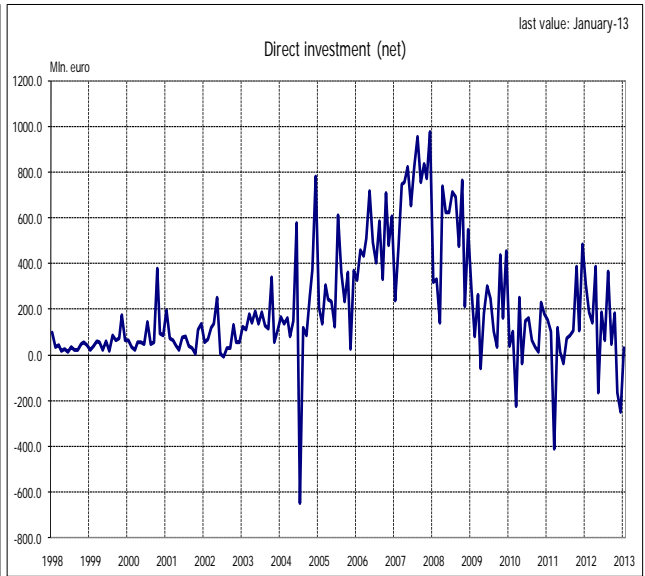
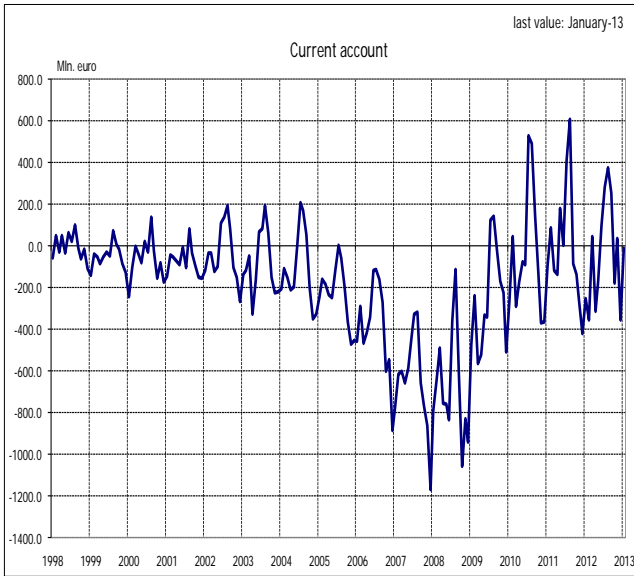
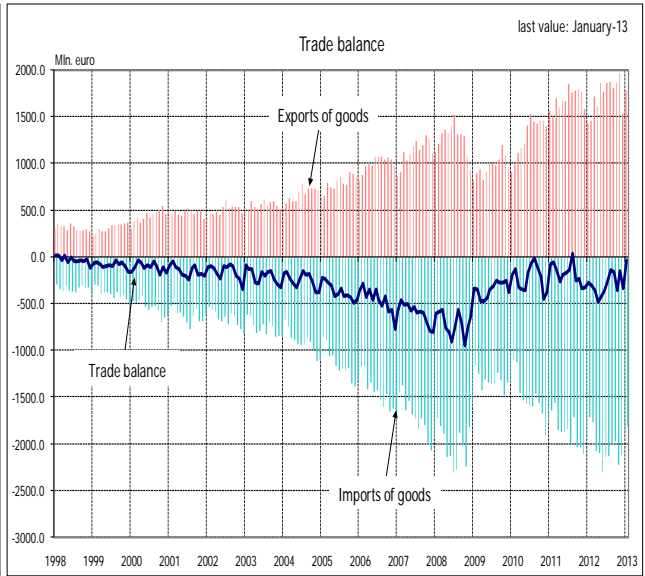
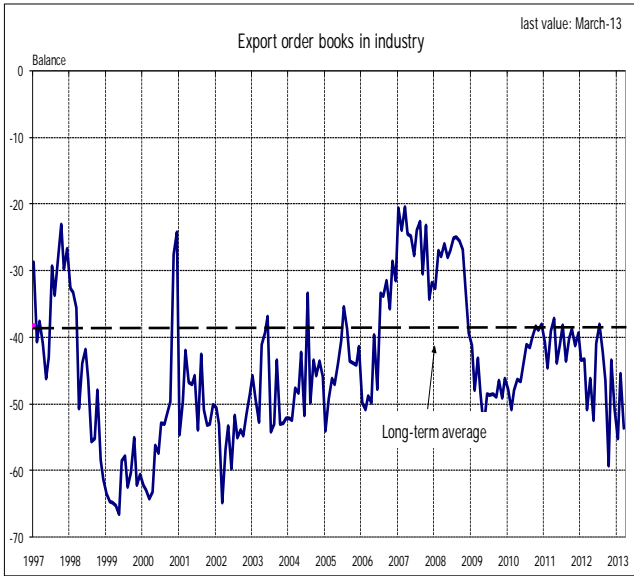
**4. LABOUR MARKET**



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



**5. INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS**

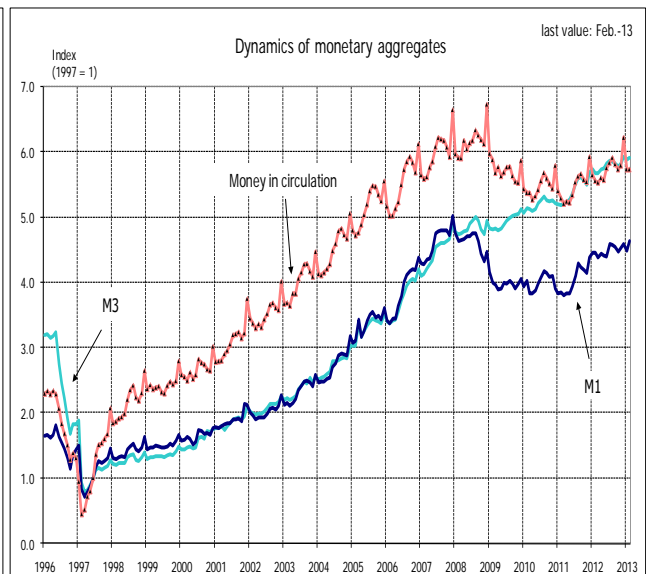
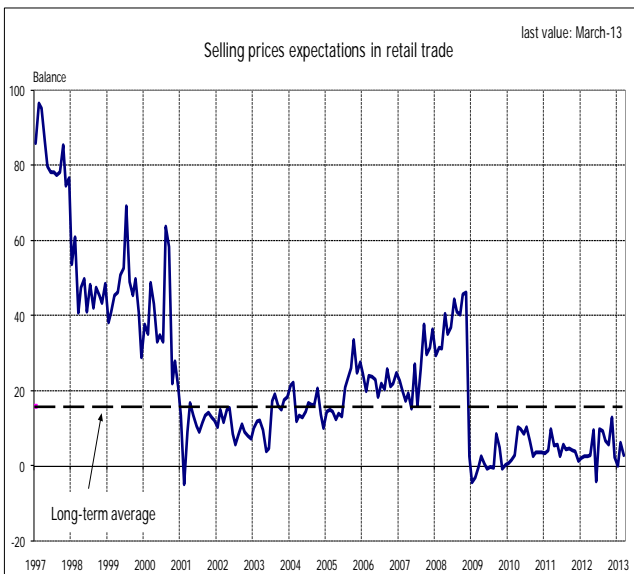
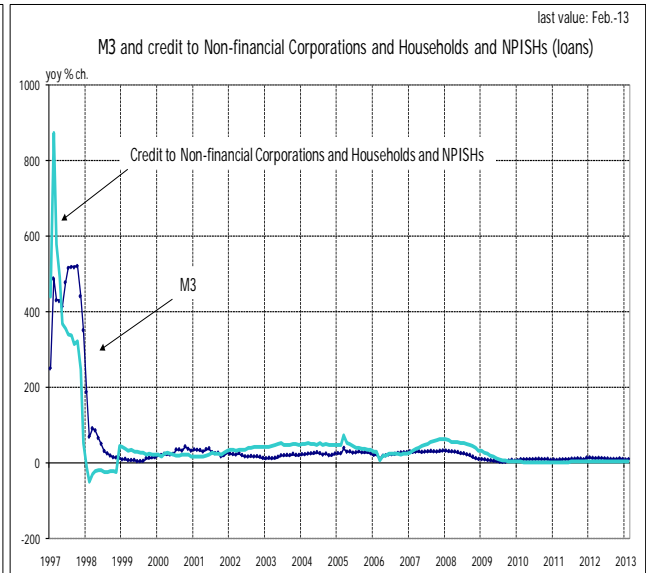
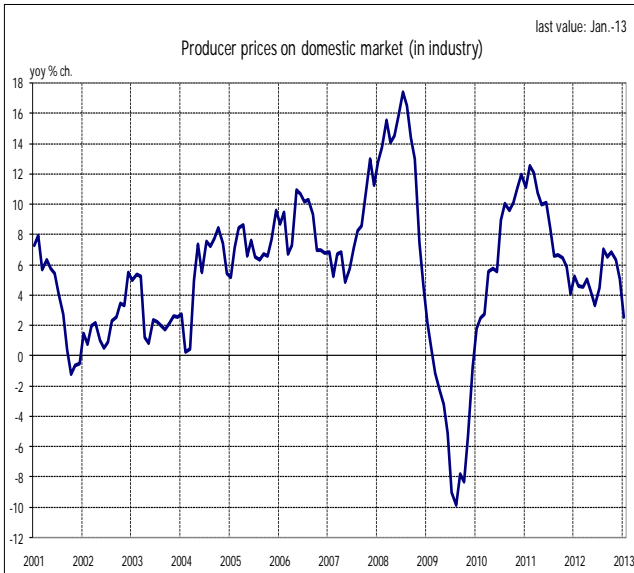
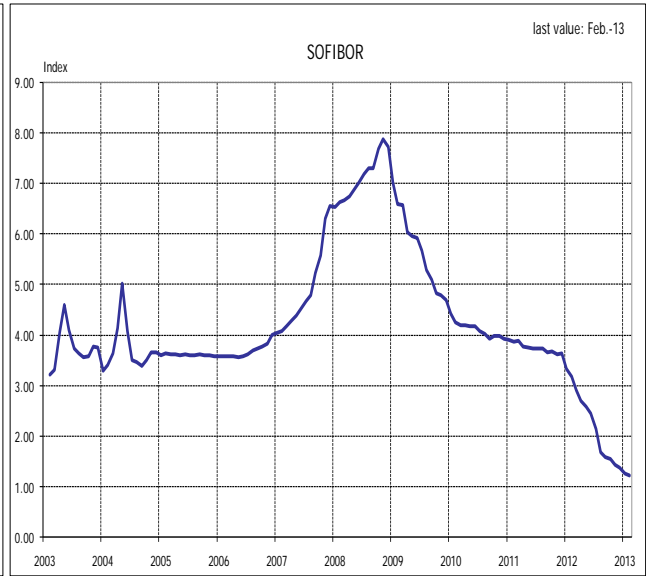
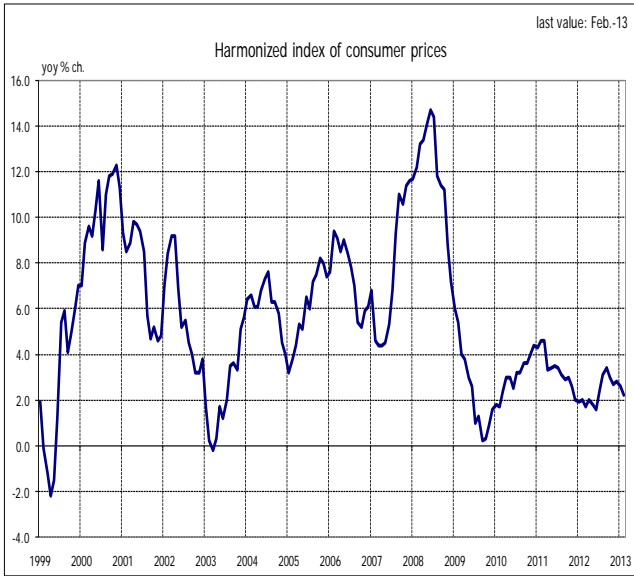


**Note:** yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



**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
<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, 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
<b>2. Private consumption</b>			
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
<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, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects	NSI
3.3.	Change in stocks	As a percentage of GDP	NSI
<b>4. Labour market</b>			
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
<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, 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
<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 (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
<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