

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2023 (PRELIMINARY DATA)

In the first quarter of 2023, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 2.3% compared to the first quarter of 2022 and an increase of 0.5% compared to the fourth quarter of 2022 at seasonally adjusted figures.

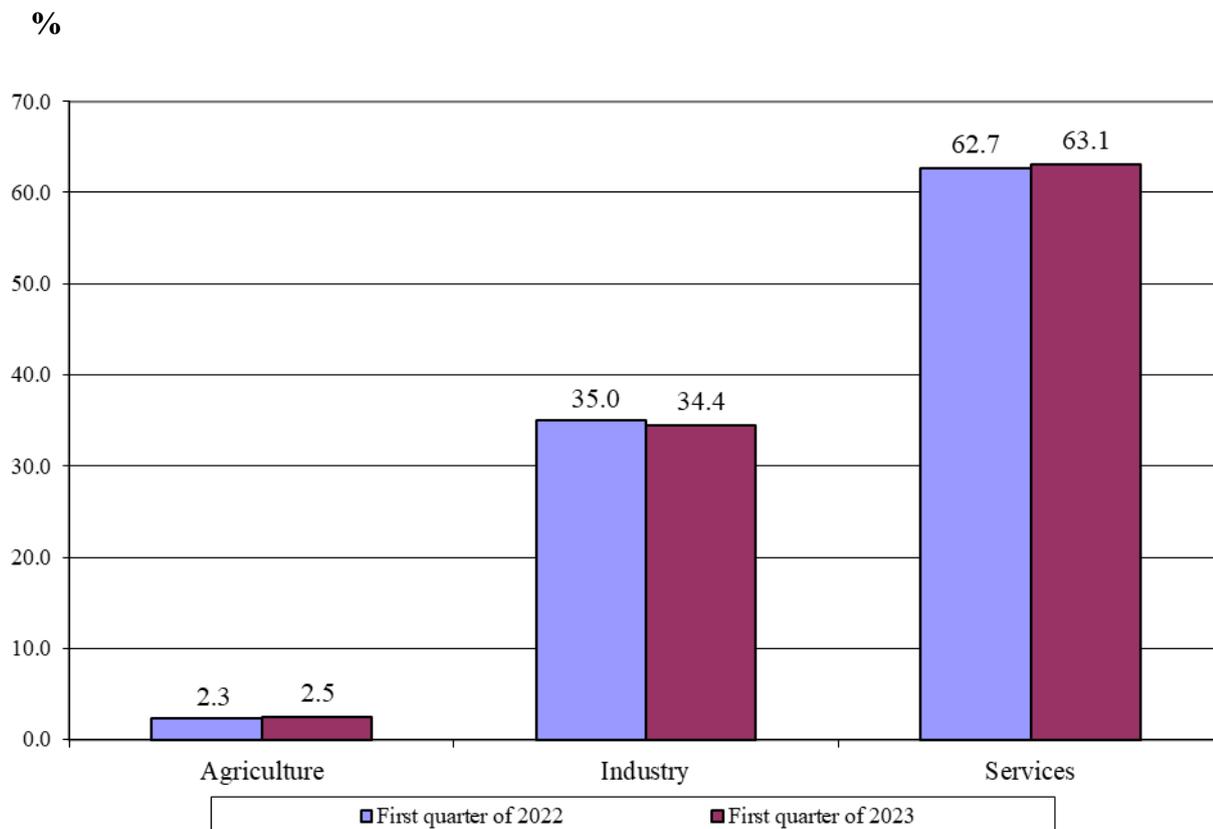
First quarter of 2023

GDP, current prices

According to the preliminary data, GDP at current prices for the first quarter of 2023 is 39 970 million BGN (Annex, Table 1). The GDP per person is 6 201 BGN. The GDP is 21 931 million USD and 3 402 USD per person using the average for the quarter exchange rate of 1.822536 BGN for 1 USD. In Euro terms, GDP reaches 20 436 million EUR in total and 3 171 EUR per person.

The GVA generated by the national economy during the first quarter of 2023 amounted to 34 878 million BGN at current prices.

Figure 1. Gross Value Added by economic sector in the first quarters of 2022 and 2023

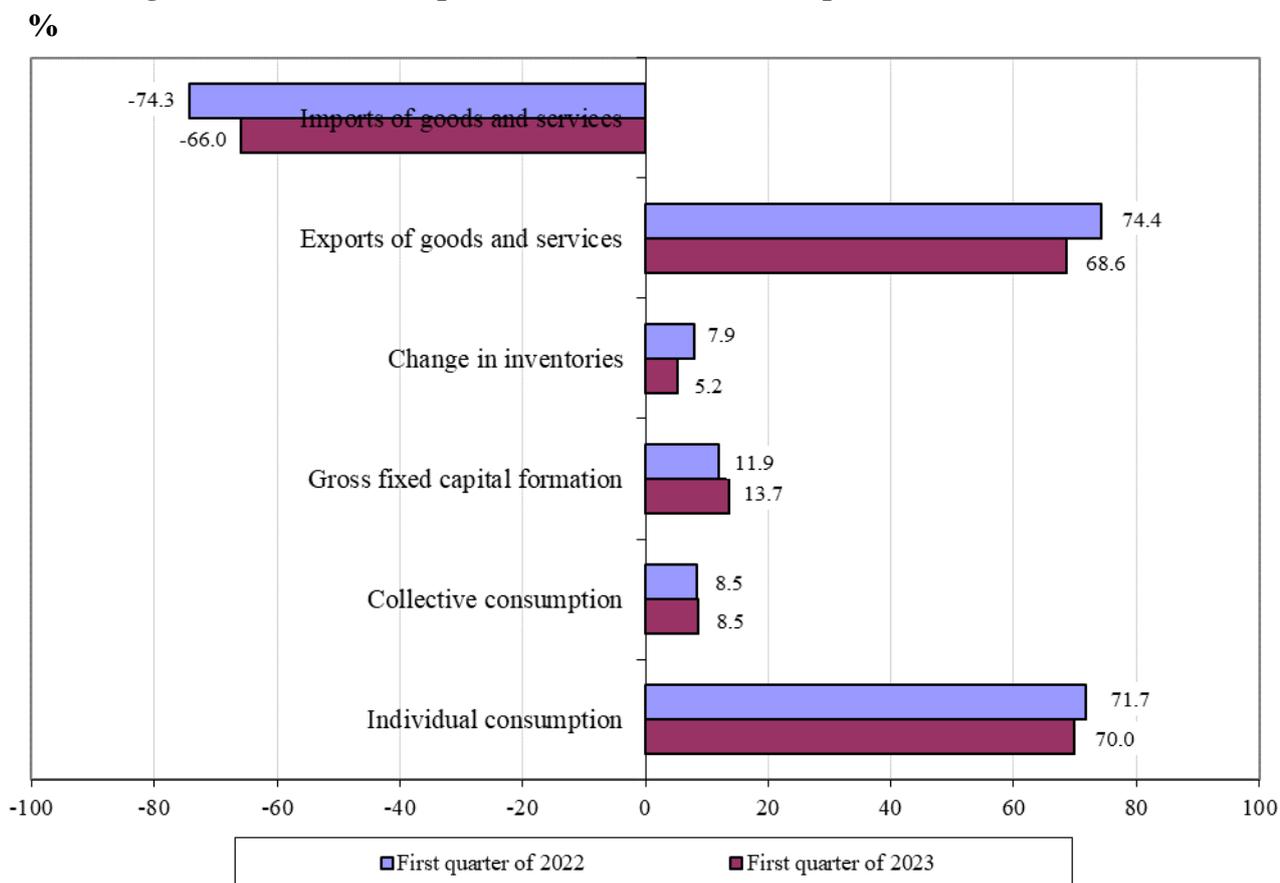


The share of the economic sector of Agriculture in GVA in the first quarter of 2023 is 2.5%, which is an increase of 0.2 percentage points compared to the first quarter of 2022.

The Industry sector decreases its relative share in GVA of the national economy by 0.6 p.p. to 34.4 %.

The relative share of the value added of the activities in the Services sector increased to 63.1% compared to 62.7% in the first quarter of 2022.

Figure 2. Final use components of GDP in the first quarters of 2022 and 2023



In the first quarter of 2023, 78.5% of the GDP is used for final consumption expenditure. Investments (gross fixed capital formation) form 13.7% of GDP.

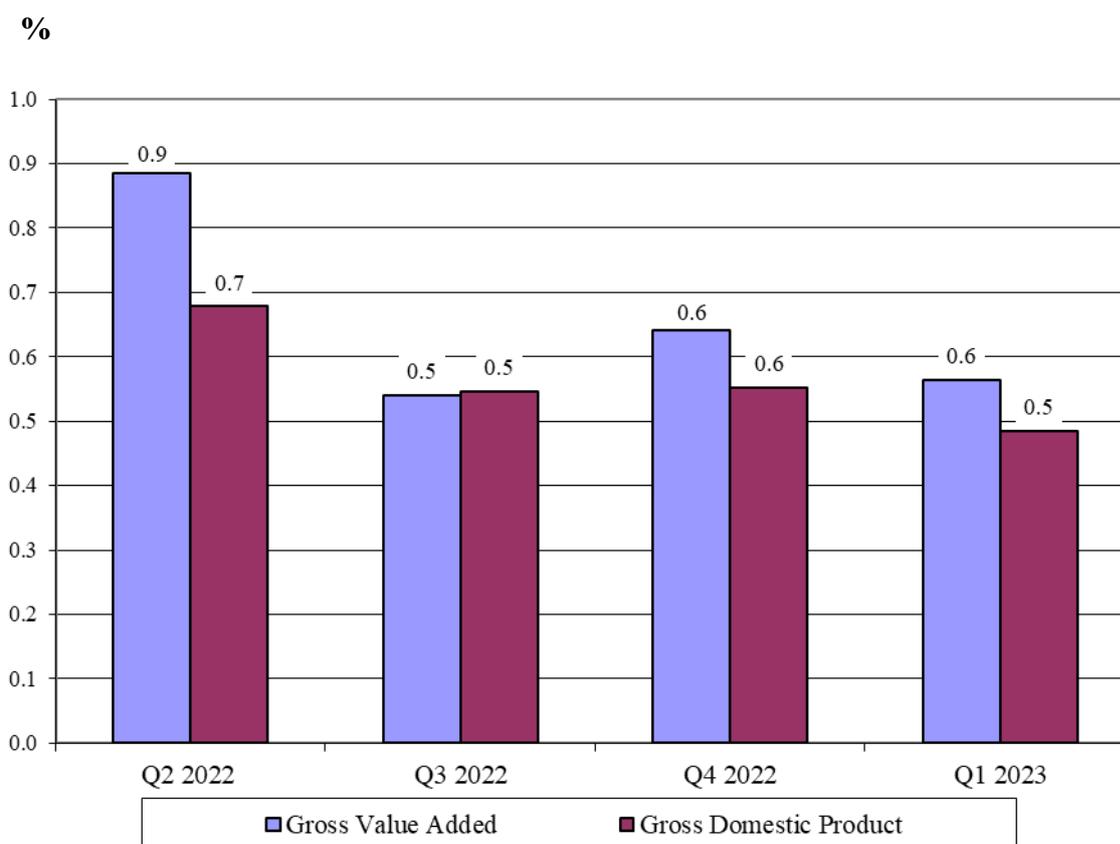
The external balance of goods and services is positive.

GDP and GVA growth rates from seasonally adjusted data

Growth rates on a quarterly basis

According to the seasonally adjusted data, in the first quarter of 2023 GDP increased by 0.5% compared to the previous quarter (Annex, Table 2). For the same period, GVA increased by 0.6%.

Figure 3. Growth rate of GDP and GVA compared to the previous quarter

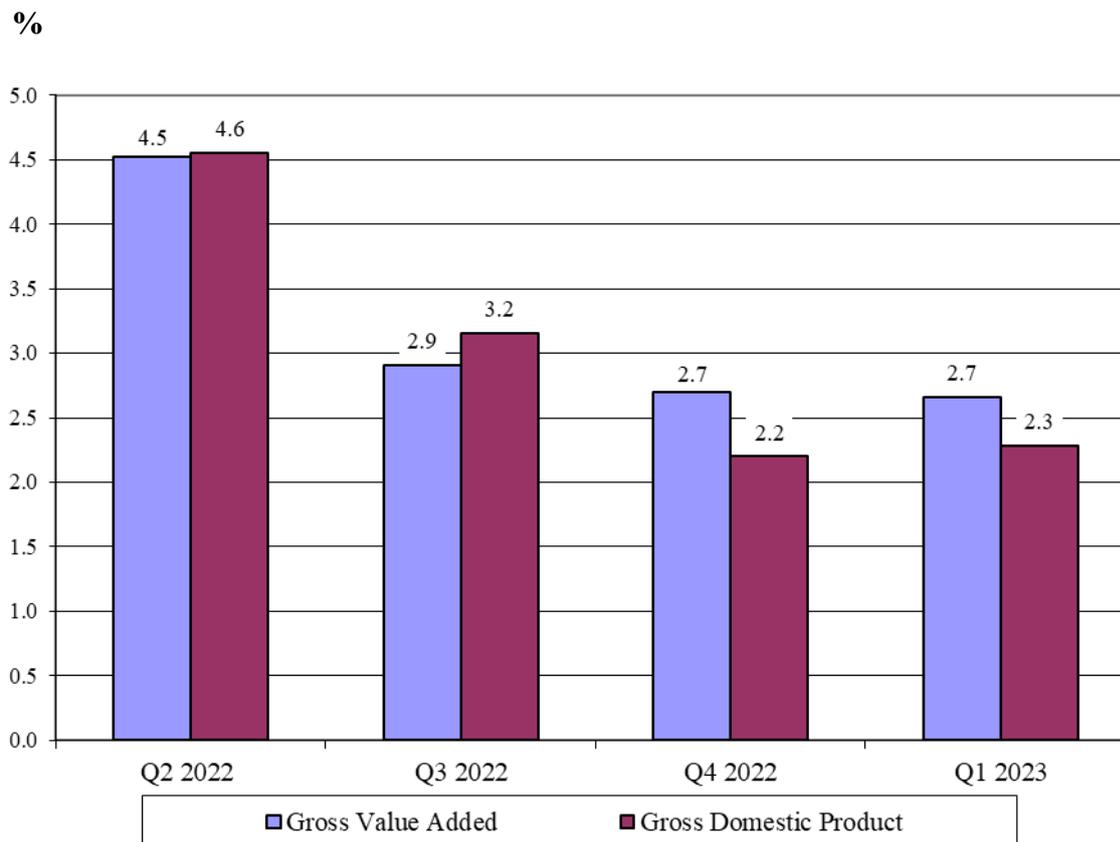


According to the seasonally adjusted data for the first quarter of 2023, gross fixed capital formation increased by 0.3% compared to the previous quarter.

Growth rates on an annual basis

GDP increased by 2.3% and GVA increased by 2.7% in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the first quarter of 2022, according to seasonally adjusted data (Annex, Table 2).

Figure 4. Growth rate of GDP and GVA compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous year



The increase in Gross Value Added is determined by the growth in the following economic activities: Construction - 7.0%, Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities - 5.9%, Information and communication - 3.2%, Real estate activities - 3.2%, Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities - 1.6%, Financial and insurance activities - 1.1%, Agriculture, forestry and fishing - 1.1%, Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply, waste management and remediation activities - 0.1%.

A decline was registered in Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services - 0.8%.

Regarding the expenditure components of GDP, contributors to the registered positive economic growth are the Final consumption, with a growth of 2.1% and gross fixed capital formation - 1.8%.

According to the seasonally adjusted data, in the first quarter of 2023, exports of goods and services increased by 2.3%, while the imports of goods and services decreased by 2.3% compared to the first quarter of 2022.



Methodological notes

Quarterly estimates of national accounts for GDP and its components are developed in accordance with the methodological principles of the European System of Accounts, 2010 - adopted by Council Regulation No. 549/2013 EC.

The survey has been conducted regularly since 1996. The time series are available on the website of the NSI (www.nsi.bg).

The results are preliminary. They are based on available monthly and quarterly statistical and administrative information, and are updated annually (9 months after the end of the year) based on data from annual exhaustive surveys and updated administrative information.

The GDP at market prices is the final result of the economic activity of resident institutional units. GDP is derived by the following three approaches:

- a) GDP is the sum of GVA generated by institutional sectors or economic activity groupings plus taxes minus subsidies on products.
- b) GDP by final expenditure is calculated as the sum of individual consumption, collective consumption, gross fixed capital formation, changes in inventories, and net exports of goods and services.
- c) GDP by income approach is a sum of compensation of employees, net taxes on production, gross operating surplus, and gross mixed income.

Seasonal adjustment of statistical indicators in NSI is performed using the software developed by Eurostat product JDemetra+, whereby applied the algorithm TRAMO/SEATS. A direct method of seasonal adjustment is applied, in which the aggregates and their components are adjusted independently.



Annex

Table 1

Gross Domestic Product in the first quarter of 2023 - seasonally unadjusted data

		First quarter of 2023		
		Value at current prices, Million BGN	Share, %	
			in GVA	in GDP
1	Gross Value Added by economic sector (2+3+4):	34 877.6	100.0	87.3
2	Agriculture	882.9	2.5	2.2
3	Industry	11986.1	34.4	30.0
4	Services	22008.6	63.1	55.1
5	Adjustments	5092.4		12.7
6	Gross Domestic Product (1+5=7+10+13+16)	39970.0		100.0
	by final use components:			
7	Final consumption (8+9)	31360.7		78.5
8	Individual	27960.0		70.0
9	Collective	3400.7		8.5
10	Gross capital formation (11+12)	7559.1		18.9
11	Gross fixed capital formation	5471.6		13.7
12	Change in inventories	2087.5		5.2
13	Balance, exports - imports (14 - 15)	1050.2		2.6
14	Exports of goods and services	27415.2		68.6
15	Imports of goods and services	26365.0		66.0
16	Statistical discrepancy	0.0		0.0



Table 2

Growth rates of GDP, total and by component¹

(Per cent)

		Growth rate, current quarter compared with the previous quarter				Growth rate, current quarter compared with the same quarter of the previous year			
		II 2022	III 2022	IV 2022	I 2023	II 2022	III 2022	IV 2022	I 2023
1	Gross Value Added by economic sector:	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.6	4.5	2.9	2.7	2.7
2	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	0.4	-0.6	0.6	0.6	1.1	-2.4	-0.2	1.1
3	Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply, waste management and remediation activities	0.5	0.0	0.5	-0.9	18.6	17.3	2.4	0.1
4	Construction	-3.4	-5.0	22.4	-4.8	-14.2	-16.5	33.5	7.0
5	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities	0.5	1.9	0.6	2.9	3.8	0.5	-1.3	5.9
6	Information and communication	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.9	2.0	1.8	2.4	3.2
7	Financial and insurance activities	0.9	-0.4	0.9	-0.2	1.1	0.8	1.9	1.1
8	Real estate activities	0.8	1.1	1.3	-0.1	1.0	2.0	0.1	3.2
9	Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	2.3	-1.0	3.6	-3.8	2.6	1.3	5.1	1.0
10	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	1.2	0.1	0.9	-0.7	3.1	1.9	3.1	1.6
11	Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services	-0.6	-0.2	0.7	-0.7	1.7	-0.4	1.2	-0.8
12	Adjustments	-1.2	0.8	-0.5	0.2	1.1	1.6	2.4	-0.6
13	Gross Domestic Product	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.5	4.6	3.2	2.2	2.3
	by final use components:								
14	Final consumption	0.0	1.3	1.7	-0.8	5.1	3.9	5.2	2.1
15	Individual	-0.6	1.9	1.8	-1.0	4.0	3.4	5.3	2.1
16	Collective	2.7	-0.6	0.5	-0.5	10.3	7.4	6.1	2.1
17	Gross capital formation	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
18	Gross fixed capital formation	-0.2	0.9	0.8	0.3	-8.2	-3.2	0.5	1.8
19	Change in inventories	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
20	Balance (exports - imports)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
21	Exports of goods and services	2.2	0.2	1.4	-1.4	8.6	11.0	8.9	2.3
22	Imports of goods and services	0.5	-1.9	1.5	-2.4	12.6	9.3	9.6	-2.3

¹ Growth rate is calculated by using seasonally adjusted, chain-linked estimates of the GDP components based on average 2015 prices.