REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

NATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

STATISTICAL REFERENCE BOOK 2025

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

STATISTICAL REFERENCE BOOK 2025

SOFIA, 2025

Dear Users,

We would like to present to your attention the latest edition of the 'Statistical Reference Book 2025', in which are collected aggregated statistical data for the period 2020 - 2024. The information includes a number of key aspects of the social, economic and demographic development in the country.

The data are systematically organized into 24 thematic sections and are presented in both graphical and tabular formats, which ensures their accessibility and makes them easy for interpretation by a broad spectrum of users, including researchers, politicians, institutions and the general public.

The Reference book is a result of the effective cooperation between the National Statistical Institute and our partners - the Bulgarian National Bank, the statistical bodies, Eurostat, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and other international institutions.

The provided statistical information is an important source for the formation of policies and for the decision-making of public and state interest. For the purpose of fulfilling its mission - to provide accurate, objective and accessible data, NSI is guided by the fundamental principles of professional independence, impartiality, reliability, statistical confidentiality, and cost-effectiveness.

As a response to the changing needs of the users and the increasing demand for high-quality data, NSI remains committed to innovation, adaptability and continuous improvement. We actively seek cooperation, promote sustainability in our activity, and we keep proactive dialogue both with our national and our international stakeholders.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the respondents and users of statistical information for being active and committed. Together, we contribute to the development and dissemination of statistics in Bulgaria, including among young people.

I would also like to thank all colleagues for the high professionalism and efforts they put in the preparation of the Statistical Reference Book 2025.

Assoc. Prof. Atanas Atanasov, PhD
President of the National Statistical Institute

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For information:
Data for 2024 are preliminary.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

BOP	=	Balance of Payments
BGL	=	Bulgarian Lev
BGN	=	Bulgarian New Lev
BNB	=	Bulgarian National Bank
CB	=	Commercial Bank
CN	=	Combined Nomenclature
CPI	=	Consumer Price Index
COICOP	=	Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose
CIF	=	cost, insurance, freight
CIS	=	Community of Independent States
cub. dm	=	cubic decimetre
cub. m	=	cubic metre
°C	=	degree Celsius
EC	=	European Community
EFTA	=	European Free Trade Association
EU	=	European Union
ESA	=	European System of Accounts
Eurostat	=	Statistical Office of the European Union
excl.	=	excluding
FISIM	=	Financial intermediation services indirectly measured
FAO	=	Food and Agriculture Organization
FOB	=	free on board
FDI	=	Foreign Direct Investments
FTE	=	Full-time equivalent
g	=	gram
GDP	=	Gross Domestic Product
GDPR	=	Regional Gross Domestic Product
GERD	=	Gross domestic expenditure on research and development
кgrt	=	gross registered ton
GVA	=	Gross Value Added
HICP	=	Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices
h.p.	=	horsepower
ha	=	hectare
HPa	=	Hecto Pascal

ICT	=	Information and communication technologies
ILO	=	International Labour Organization
IMF	=	International Monetary Fund
incl.	=	including
ISCED	=	International Standard Classification of Education
IW	=	Industrial waste
kcal	=	kilocalorie
kg	=	kilogram
km	=	kilometre
km/h	=	kilometre per hour
kW	=	kilowatt
kwa	=	kilowatt amper
kWh	=	kilowatt-hour
LFS	=	Labour force survey
LFSC	=	Law for the Family Support for Children
l	=	litre
LIPD	=	Law of Integration of the People with Disabilities
LPC	=	Law for Protection of the Child
LSS	=	Law for Social Support
m	=	metre
mill. (mln.)	=	million
mm	=	millimetre
MMFs	=	Monetary Market Funds
MOEW	=	Ministry of Environment and Water
NSI	=	National Statistical Institute
NUTS	=	Classification of Territorial Units for Statistics
NACE.BG	=	National Classification of Economic Activities
NIMH	=	National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology
NPCA	=	National Product Classification by Activities
NC	=	National currency
NPI	=	Non-profit institution
NPISHs	=	Non-profit Institutions serving household sector
NPP	=	Nuclear Power Plant
n.p.r.s.	=	not packaged for retail sale
num. (n)	=	number

OECD	=	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
pkm	=	passenger-kilometre
%	=	per cent
PC	=	Personal computer
PPPs	=	Purchasing power parities
PRODCOM.BG	=	National Nomenclature of Industrial Production
p.r.s.	=	packaged for retail sale
RES	=	Renewable Energy Sources
R&D	=	Research and development activity
SAD	=	Single Administrative Document
SITC	=	Standard International Trade Classification
SIC	=	Social Insurance Code
SNA	=	System of National Accounts
sq. km	=	square kilometre
sq. m	=	square metre
t	=	metric ton
tkm	=	ton-kilometre
TJ	=	terajoule
toe	=	tons oil equivalent
UAA	=	utilized agricultural area
UN	=	United Nations
UNESCO	=	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UDC	=	Universal Decimal Classification
USD	=	United States Dollar
UWWTP	=	Urban waste water treatment plant
VAT	=	Value Added Tax
WHO	=	World Health Organization
.	=	data not available
..	=	confidential data
-	=	figures not applicable
0	=	less than half of unit employed
*	=	preliminary data
x	=	category not applicable
( )	=	due to a small figures in brackets are not reliable
#	=	break in series

I. GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES AND CLIMATE

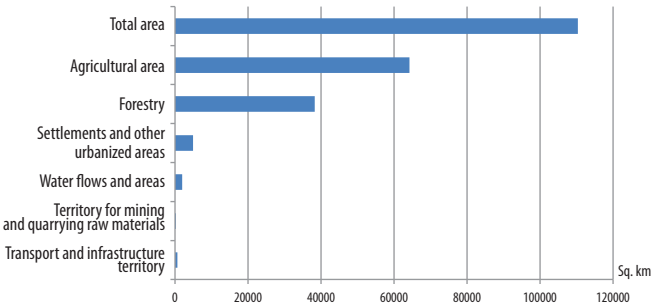
Territory and climate

The Republic of Bulgaria is situated on the Eastern Balkan Peninsula in Southeastern Europe, along the Black Sea. Total area is 110 371.9 sq. km (excl. the aquatory of the Danube river and Black Sea).

The climate of Bulgaria is temperate continental with a transition towards a subtropical climate in its Mediterranean version (in the southern parts of the country), with four seasons.

34% of the country's territory is covered with forests (non-coniferous and coniferous). The varied environment is a natural habitat for valuable animal species.

Figure 1. Territory of Bulgaria[1]



[1] Source: The Ministry of Agriculture and Food - 'Balance of the Agricultural land as of 31.12.2011'.

1. Frontiers of Bulgaria[1]

(Kilometres)

Frontiers		Total	Land	Rivers	Coastal
Total		**2344**	**1246**	**720**	**378**
Northern	- with Romania	628	139	489	-
Eastern	- with the Black Sea	378	-	-	378
Southern	- with Türkiye	274	143	131	-
	- with Greece	528	458	70	-
Western	- with Serbia	362	332	30	-
	- with the Republic of North Macedonia	174	174	-	-

[1] Source: The Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Agency at the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.

2. Meteorological data for 2024[1]

Meteorological stations	Annual average atmospheric pressure	Air temperature				
		Annual average	Annual absolute maximum temperature		Annual absolute minimum temperature	
	hPa	oC		Date	oC	Date
Vidin	1012.4	13.5	39.5	13.08	-12.9	11.01
Pleven	996.7	14.7	39.9	14.08	-12.5	22.01
Veliko Tarnovo	992.9	14.6	39.7	13.08	-9.4	10.01
Dobrich	992.2	13.2	38.9	17.07	-9.7	10.01
Varna	1011.8	14.8	37.2	18.07	-7.5	10.01
Burgas	1013.3	15.1	34.6	18.07	-5.5	10.01
Haskovo	988.8	15.3	39.3	18.07	-8.0	11.01
Kazanluk	969.7	13.0	38.8	18.07	-11.0	14.01
Pazardzhik	991.5	14.4	39.4	18.07	-13.5	22.01
Sofia - NIMH	947.8	12.7	36.7	15.08	-15.3	23.01
Kyustendil	955.1	13.2	38.6	13.08	-11.8	14.01
Cherni Vruh	772.2	2.8	21.1	13.08	-15.1	30.01
Sandanski	991.7	16.5	42.2	16.07	-7.0	23.01

2. Meteorological data for 2024[1]

(Continued and end)

Meteorological stations	Average annual relative humidity	Maximum annual 24-hour precipitation		Annual amount precipitations	Average annual cloudiness
	%	мм/mm	дата/Date	мм/mm	(0 - 10)
Vidin	72	53.2	9.05	504	5
Pleven	70	39.2	26.12	519	5
Veliko Tarnovo	67	39.5	26.12	626	6
Dobrich	73	49.2	12.09	609	6
Varna	74	37.1	11.09	462	5
Burgas	74	33.6	23.07	381	5
Haskovo	65	55.6	6.06	624	6
Kazanluk	69	54.2	23.07	582	5
Pazardzhik	66	40.5	18.04	419	5
Sofia - NIMH	67	58.0	23.05	582	5
Kyustendil	69	25.7	27.06	546	5
Cherni Vruh	-	36.0	12.10	607	6
Sandanski	61	27.8	7.09	404	5

[1] Source: National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology.

Rivers, lakes and mountains

The rivers are comparatively short and low-water. The longest river in Bulgaria is Iskar - 368 km long, while the river with the highest flow is Maritsa. The main rivers of Bulgaria are the Danube (470 km bordering Romania), Vit, Osam, Yantra (tributaries of the Danube), Tundzha, Kamchiya, Arda, Mesta and Struma.

60% of the total area is covered with hills and mountains. The mountains are part of the Alpine-Himalayan mountain chain situated on two continents - Europe and Asia. The mountains are accessible throughout the year and offer unlimited opportunities for entertainment, sports and tourism. The highest mountain in Bulgaria and in the Balkan Peninsula is Rila with its highest peak Musala (2 925 m of altitude).

3. Main rivers[1] and natural lakes[2] within the territory of Bulgaria

Rivers	Length - km	Lakes	Surface - sq. km
Iskar	352.3	Burgasko	27.6
Tundzha	328.4	Varnensko	17.4
Maritsa	309.0	Atanasovsko	16.9
Osam	204.6	Mandrensko	10.0
Struma	275.1	Pomoriysko[3]	5.0
Yantra	222.0	Beloslavsko	3.9
Kamchia	190.7		
Arda	229.1		

[1] Source: National Institute of Meteorology and Hidrology.
[2] Source: The Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Agency at the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.
[3] Excl. salterns.

4. Mountains in Bulgaria, highest peaks and their altitude[1]

Mountain	Peak	Altitude - m
Rila	Musala	2925
Pirin	Vihren	2914
Stara planina	Botev	2376
Vitosha	Cherni vrah	2290
Osogovska planina	Ruen	2251
Slavyanka	Gotsev vrah	2212
Rodopi	Golyam Perelik	2191
Belasitsa	Radomir	2029
Vlahina	Ogreyak	1924
Maleshevska planina	Ilyov vrah	1803
Karvav Kamak	Bilo	1737
Milevska planina	Milevets	1733
Ruy	Ruy	1706
Ograzhden	Bilska chuka	1643
Sredna Gora	Bogdan	1604
Lisets	Vrashnik	1500
Chudinska planina	Aramlia	1496
Konyavska planina	Viden	1487
Erulska planina	Golemi vrah	1481
Verila	Golyam Debelets	1415
Lyubash	Lyubash	1398
Strazha	Strazha	1389
Plana	Manastirishte	1338
Elovishka planina	Plocha	1329
Zemenska planina	Tichak	1295
Vidlich	Vuchibaba	1294
Lyulin	Dupevitsa	1256
Ezdimirska planina	Golemi vrah	1219
Stargach	Asenov vrah	1218
Lozenska planina	Popov del	1190
Penkyovska planina	Konski vrah	1187
Zavalska planina	Kitka	1181
Golo Bardo	Vetrushka	1158
Rudini	Banderata	1155
Cherna gora	Tumba	1129
Sakar	Vishegrad	856
Strandzha	Gradishte	710

[1] Source: The Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Agency at the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.

II. POPULATION

Population and demographic processes

Survey objects of demographic statistics are the population and demographic events.

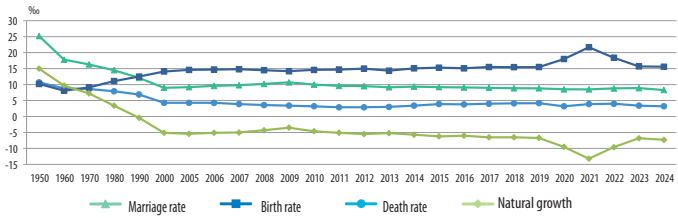
The population number and structures are calculated as of 31.12., based on the number and structures of population of the previous year and the demographic events (live births, deaths, immigrants and emigrants) registered during the year.

Demographic events include births, deaths, marriages, divorces and migration. They are registered at the moment of their occurrence during the reporting year.

Data source on vital events and migration is the Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Services of the Population.

In 2024 natural growth rate is minus 7.3 per 1 000 population (-6.8 ‰ for 2023).

Figure 1. Marriage, birth and death rates and crude rate of natural change of the population



1. Main demographic indicators

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Population as of 31.12. - in thousands	6838.9	6447.7	6445.5	6437.4
Gender ratio (women per 1 000 men)	1065	1080	1081	1080
Age dependency ratio - %	56.7	60.4	61.0	61.3
Ageing index	98.7	99.4	100.3	100.3
Share of urban population - %	73.1	73.6	73.5	73.7
Crude birth rate - ‰	8.5	8.8	8.9	8.3
Crude death rate - ‰	21.7	18.4	15.7	15.6
Natural increase - ‰	-13.2	-9.6	-6.8	-7.3
Crude marriage rate - ‰	3.9	4.0	3.4	3.2
Infant mortality (per 1 000 live births)	5.6	4.8	4.9	4.5
Net fertility rate	0.75	0.86	0.86	0.83
Total fertility rate	1.58	1.78	1.81	1.72

2. Population by census year[1]

Census year	Total	Male	Female	Share of urban population - %
	In thousands			
1887	3154	1605	1549	18.8
1892	3311	1691	1620	19.7
1900	3744	1910	1834	19.8
1905	4036	2057	1979	19.6
1910	4338	2207	2131	19.1
1920	4847	2421	2426	19.9
1926	5479	2743	2736	20.6
1934	6078	3054	3024	21.4
1946	7029	3517	3512	24.7
1956	7614	3799	3815	33.6
1965	8228	4114	4114	46.5
1975	8728	4358	4370	58.0
1985	8949	4433	4516	64.8
1992	8487	4171	4316	67.2
2001	7929	3863	4066	69.0
2011	7365	3587	3778	72.5
2021	6520	3136	3384	73.4

[1] Up to 1956 - resident population, since 1965 - permanent population.

Age-sex structure

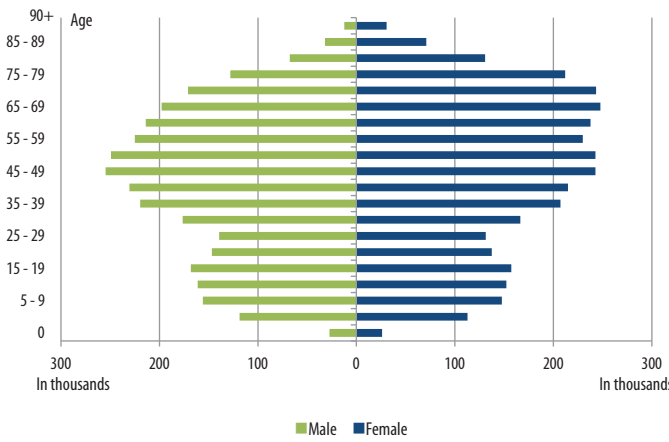
The population age structure is represented by distribution of the population by age groups. Population age is calculated in completed years as of 31.12. of the respective year.

By the end of 2024 the number of persons aged 65 and over is 1 544 245, or 24.0% of the country's population. Compared to 2023, the share of population aged 65 and over increases by 0.2 percentage points.

As of 31.12.2024, children up to 15 years of age in the country are 901 843 or 14.0% of the total population number. The share of children up to 15 years decreases by 0.1 percentage points compared to 2023.

The population ageing during the years lead to an increase of the population mean age. It has increased from 41.0 years in 2004 to 45.3 years at the end of 2024.

Figure 2. Age structure ot the population by gender as of 31.12.2024



3. Population by age and gender as of 31.12.2024

Age	Total	Male	Female	Share of urban population - %
	In numbers			
Total	**6437360**	**3095140**	**3342220**	**73.7**
0 - 4	284766	145915	138851	75.0
5 - 9	303526	155892	147634	75.9
10 - 14	313551	161176	152375	75.0
15 - 19	325439	168099	157340	74.7
20 - 24	284257	146740	137517	75.7
25 - 29	270718	139427	131291	76.3
30 - 34	342893	176515	166378	76.5
35 - 39	426868	219642	207226	77.9
40 - 44	445188	230402	214786	77.4
45 - 49	497491	254748	242743	77.0
50 - 54	491886	249119	242767	74.8
55 - 59	454879	224948	229931	72.2
60 - 64	451653	213929	237724	70.7
65 - 69	445533	197839	247694	70.1
70 - 74	414329	170915	243414	69.4
75 - 79	340042	127915	212127	68.0
80 and over	344341	111919	232422	66.9

4. Structure of population by working age status and place of residence as of 31.12.[1]

(Per cent)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Under working age	15.5	15.2	15.2	15.1
Working age	60.1	58.5	58.5	58.5
Over working age	24.4	26.3	26.3	26.4
Urban	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Under working age	16.0	15.4	15.4	15.4
Working age	61.4	60.1	60.1	59.9
Over working age	22.6	24.5	24.5	24.7
Rural	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Under working age	14.1	14.4	14.3	14.2
Working age	56.5	54.4	54.6	54.7
Over working age	29.4	31.2	31.1	31.1

[1] Working age status according to the Pension Ordinance adopted by the Council of Ministers (Ordinance No. 30, State Gazette No 21/17.03.2000).

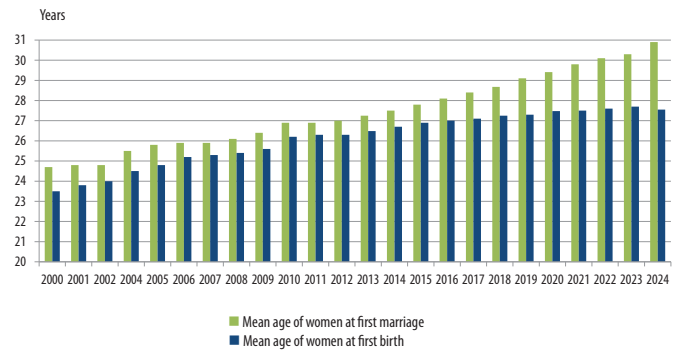
Births

Births include the number of live-born and stillborn children, and not the cases of giving birth where one, two or more children could be born.

There were 53 727 births registered in 2024, of which 53 428 (99.4%) - live births. The crude birth rate (number of live births per 1000 population) was 8.3‰.

Total fertility rate (TFR), representing the average number of children that could be born by a woman during her fertile period was 1.72 children in 2024, compared to 1.81 in the previous year.

Figure 3. Mean age of women at first marriage and first birth



5. Live births by mother's age and place of residence

(Number)

Place of residence Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**59086**	**58678**	**56596**	**57197**	**53428**
Up to 15	215	257	248	231	216
15 - 19	5755	5604	5521	5589	5603
20 - 24	9983	9984	9813	10206	9873
25 - 29	16486	15744	14637	14223	13134
30 - 34	16495	16780	15717	15588	13847
35 - 39	7857	8043	8265	8718	8224
40 - 44	1987	1959	1987	2166	2019
45 - 49	272	267	345	423	439
50 and over	35	37	60	52	70
Unknown	1	3	3	1	3
Urban					
Total	**43829**	**43692**	**41986**	**42388**	**39483**
Up to 15	144	163	164	153	132
15 - 19	3246	3103	3077	3179	3183
20 - 24	6103	6098	6011	6298	5991
25 - 29	12283	11705	10886	10580	9763
30 - 34	13451	13825	12822	12591	11234
35 - 39	6654	6843	6975	7336	7015
40 - 44	1671	1679	1686	1829	1708
45 - 49	246	240	310	379	390
50 and over	30	35	52	42	65
Unknown	1	1	3	1	2
Rural					
Total	**15257**	**14986**	**14610**	**14809**	**13945**
Под 15	71	94	84	78	84
15 - 19	2509	2501	2444	2410	2420
20 - 24	3880	3886	3802	3908	3882
25 - 29	4203	4039	3751	3643	3371
30 - 34	3044	2955	2895	2997	2613
35 - 39	1203	1200	1290	1382	1209
40 - 44	316	280	301	337	311
45 - 49	26	27	35	44	49
50 and over	5	2	8	10	5
Unknown	-	2	-	-	1

Mortality

The number of deaths includes the dead persons registered during the year.

Mortality level remains too high. Crude death rate (number of dead persons per 1 000 population) is 15.6‰ in 2024.

The infant mortality rate (number of children who die up to 1 year of age per 1 000 live births) was 4.5‰ in 2024 compared with 4.9‰ in 2023. Although infant mortality has been lowest in the country's demographic development in recent years, it continues to be higher than in European countries.

Life expectancy shows the life expectancy of the new-born under the hypothesis that the age-specific mortality observed during the respective year will remain the same. Data on the period 2022 - 2024, the life expectancy is 71.89 years for males and 79.28 years for females.

Figure 4. Crude death rate and infant mortality rate

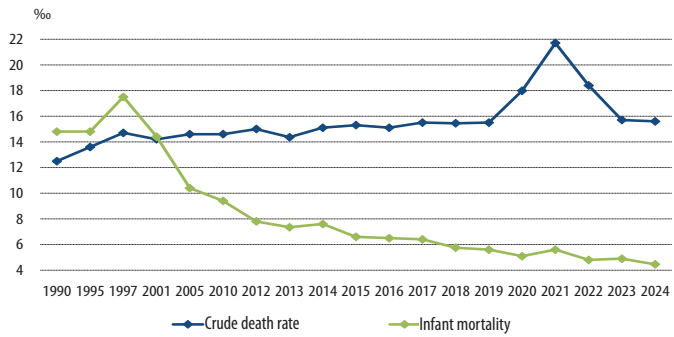
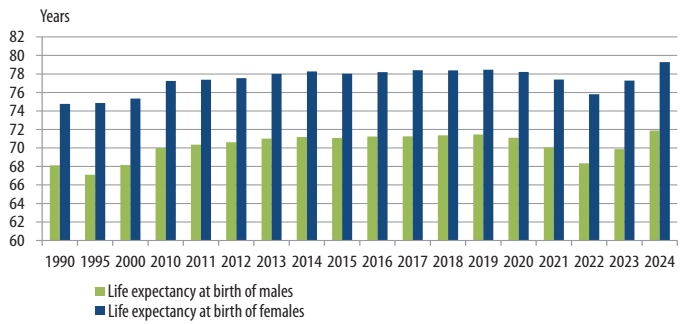


Figure 5. Life expectancy at birth



6. Deaths by age and place of residence

(Number)

Place of residence Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**124735**	**148995**	**118814**	**101006**	**100736**
Up to 1	301	326	274	281	238
1 - 4	64	72	71	71	73
5 - 9	36	61	40	42	40
10 - 14	66	63	64	70	42
15 - 19	124	145	126	115	139
20 - 24	194	243	174	171	162
25 - 29	242	346	236	206	238
30 - 34	468	594	409	396	360
35 - 39	821	963	780	680	644
40 - 44	1519	1710	1328	1131	1158
45 - 49	2554	3029	2270	2096	2039
50 - 54	3819	4709	3646	3223	3424
55 - 59	6153	7013	5192	4602	4682
60 - 64	9226	10945	8239	7215	7146
65 - 69	12852	15576	11800	10182	10339
70 - 74	17515	21825	16377	13594	13203
75 - 79	18001	22935	18090	15582	15980
80 - 84	20011	23514	18995	15733	15810
85 and over	30769	34926	30703	25616	25019
Urban					
Total	**79952**	**96424**	**76261**	**65195**	**65467**
Up to 1	196	195	166	178	152
1 - 4	43	48	49	47	48
5 - 9	26	38	27	32	30
10 - 14	40	46	46	44	31
15 - 19	84	92	91	78	100
20 - 24	126	159	117	125	119
25 - 29	159	227	162	142	176
30 - 34	341	419	278	280	246
35 - 39	605	689	572	485	452
40 - 44	1067	1234	913	799	814
45 - 49	1786	2124	1584	1429	1458
50 - 54	2589	3185	2442	2191	2329
55 - 59	4099	4680	3378	3010	3078
60 - 64	6185	7360	5367	4789	4611
65 - 69	8544	10421	7784	6660	6809
70 - 74	11320	14258	10678	8917	8650
75 - 79	11138	14408	11409	9916	10270
80 - 84	12303	14478	11599	9667	9823
85 and over	19301	22363	19599	16406	16271
Rural					
Total	**44783**	**52571**	**42553**	**35811**	**35269**
Up to 1	105	131	108	103	86
1 - 4	21	24	22	24	25
5 - 9	10	23	13	10	10
10 - 14	26	17	18	26	11
15 - 19	40	53	35	37	39
20 - 24	68	84	57	46	43
25 - 29	83	119	74	64	62
30 - 34	127	175	131	116	114
35 - 39	216	274	208	195	192
40 - 44	452	476	415	332	344
45 - 49	768	905	686	667	581
50 - 54	1230	1524	1204	1032	1095
55 - 59	2054	2333	1814	1592	1604
60 - 64	3041	3585	2872	2426	2535
65 - 69	4308	5155	4016	3522	3530
70 - 74	6195	7567	5699	4677	4553
75 - 79	6863	8527	6681	5666	5710
80 - 84	7708	9036	7396	6066	5987
85 and over	11468	12563	11104	9210	8748

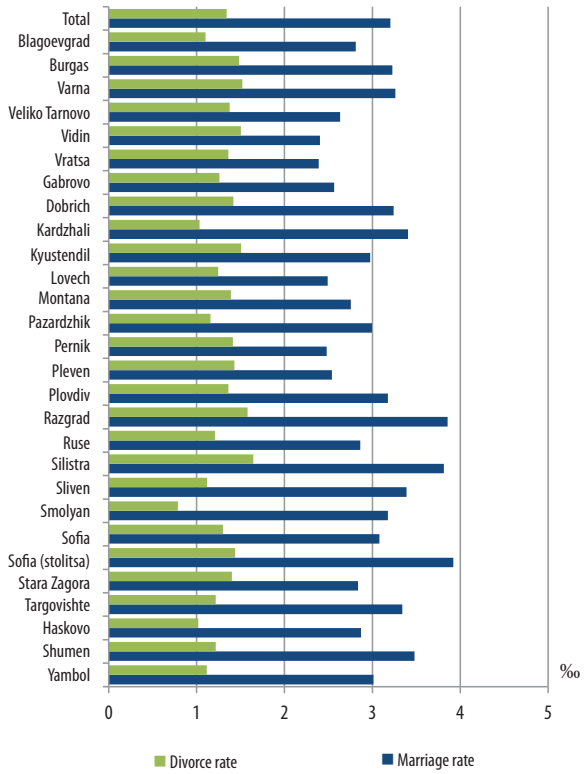
Marriages and divorces

In the territorial aspect, marriages and divorces are referred to the settlement where the husband's present address is or in case his present address is abroad to the settlement where the wife's present address is.

There were 20 643 juridical marriages registered in 2024, or 1 157 less than the previous year. The crude marriage rate (number of marriages per 1 000 population) in 2024 - 3.2‰, and in 2023 - 3.4‰.

The number of divorces in 2024 was 8 650 or 438 less was 2023.

Figure 6. Marriages and divorces by districts in 2024



7. Marriages and divorces by statistical zone, statistical region and by district in 2024

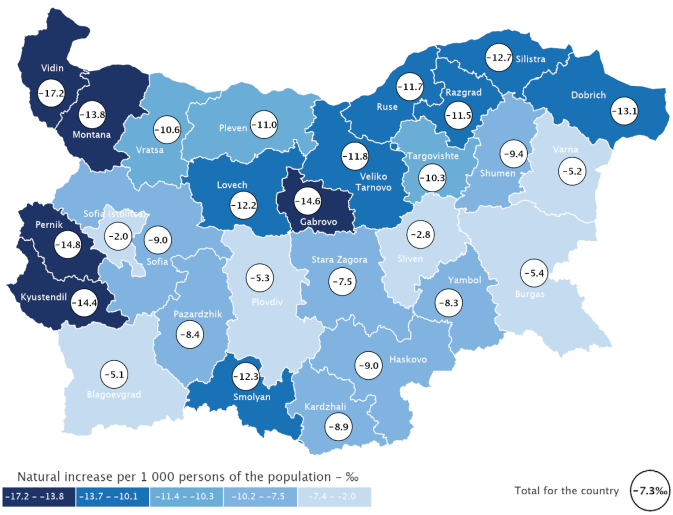
Statistical zones, statistical regions and districts	Marriages	Divorces	Marriages	Divorces
	In numbers		Per 1000 of the population	
Total	**20643**	**8650**	**3.2**	**1.3**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria				
Severozapaden	**1663**	**914**	**2.5**	**1.4**
Vidin	171	107	2.4	1.5
Vratsa	351	200	2.4	1.4
Lovech	278	139	2.5	1.2
Montana	313	158	2.8	1.4
Pleven	550	310	2.5	1.4
Severen tsentralen	**2052**	**935**	**3.0**	**1.4**
Veliko Tarnovo	530	277	2.6	1.4
Gabrovo	242	119	2.6	1.3
Razgrad	386	158	3.9	1.6
Ruse	535	226	2.9	1.2
Silistra	359	155	3.8	1.6
Severoiztochen	**2732**	**1168**	**3.3**	**1.4**
Varna	1421	663	3.3	1.5
Dobrich	473	207	3.2	1.4
Targovishte	318	116	3.3	1.2
Shumen	520	182	3.5	1.2
Yugoiztochen	**2963**	**1288**	**3.1**	**1.4**
Burgas	1248	574	3.2	1.5
Sliven	575	190	3.4	1.1
Stara Zagora	821	406	2.8	1.4
Yambol	319	118	3.0	1.1
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria				
Yugozapaden	**7157**	**2784**	**3.5**	**1.4**
Blagoevgrad	806	316	2.8	1.1
Kyustendil	318	161	3.0	1.5
Pernik	274	156	2.5	1.4
Sofia	695	293	3.1	1.3
Sofia (stolitsa)	5064	1858	3.9	1.4
Yuzhen tsentralen	**4076**	**1561**	**3.1**	**1.2**
Kardzhali	504	153	3.4	1.0
Pazardzhik	672	260	3.0	1.2
Plovdiv	2015	865	3.2	1.4
Smolyan	290	72	3.2	0.8
Haskovo	595	211	2.9	1.0

Population by districts

Data on the population number and demographic events at the territorial level were provided in accordance with the administrative-territorial division of the country as of 31.12.2024.

The lowest was the number of the population in district Vidin - 70 542 persons or 1.1% of the country's population, and the highest in district Sofia (stolitsa) - 1 295 931 persons (20.1%). Four districts hade a population above 300 thousand persons- Sofia (stolitsa), Plovdiv, Varna and Burgas.

Figure 7. Natural growth by districts in 2024 (per 1 000 persons of the population)



8. Population by gender, place of residence, statistical zone, statistical region and by district as of 31.12.2024

Statistical zones, statistical regions and districts	Total			Of which: Urban		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	**6437360**	**3095140**	**3342220**	**4744111**	**2257769**	**2486342**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria						
Severozapaden	**655430**	**315729**	**339701**	**416446**	**198195**	**218251**
Vidin	70542	33785	36757	44608	21140	23468
Vratsa	146002	70619	75383	86509	41209	45300
Lovech	110823	53598	57225	68328	32782	35546
Montana	112737	54499	58238	71760	34283	37477
Pleven	215326	103228	112098	145241	68781	76460
Severen tsentralen	**673331**	**321820**	**351511**	**448857**	**211875**	**236982**
Veliko Tarnovo	200413	95541	104872	140408	66185	74223
Gabrovo	93817	44504	49313	74521	35065	39456
Razgrad	99459	47655	51804	47155	22041	25114
Ruse	186093	89062	97031	145128	69036	76092
Silistra	93549	45058	48491	41645	19548	22097
Severoiztochen	**826742**	**397701**	**429041**	**616668**	**293338**	**323330**
Varna	437521	210115	227406	369799	176375	193424
Dobrich	145207	69335	75872	101283	47714	53569
Targovishte	94735	45968	48767	53171	25280	27891
Shumen	149279	72283	76996	92415	43969	48446
Yugoiztochen	**952383**	**457894**	**494489**	**688065**	**326833**	**361232**
Burgas	388919	186442	202477	297995	141017	156978
Sliven	169299	81670	87629	110065	52307	57758
Stara Zagora	288736	138719	150017	206281	98245	108036
Yambol	105429	51063	54366	73724	35264	38460
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria						
Yugozapaden	**2022982**	**972608**	**1050374**	**1699460**	**811995**	**887465**
Blagoevgrad	286333	138888	147445	172446	82238	90208
Kyustendil	106131	50908	55223	72892	34603	38289
Pernik	109886	52467	57419	86013	40680	45333
Sofia	224701	109802	114899	135204	65241	69963
Sofia (stolitsa)	1295931	620543	675388	1232905	589233	643672
Yuzhen tsentralen	**1306492**	**629388**	**677104**	**874615**	**415533**	**459082**
Kardzhali	149478	73371	76107	60832	28990	31842
Pazardzhik	223494	108737	114757	137894	66201	71693
Plovdiv	635630	303208	332422	475465	224404	251061
Smolyan	90534	43281	47253	52080	24723	27357
Haskovo	207356	100791	106565	148344	71215	77129

Fertility and mortality by districts

The highest was the crude birth rate in district Sliven and Yambol. The lowest was the crude birth rate in districts Smolyan and Pernik. Vidin, Montana and Kyustendil and were the districts with the highest crude death rate, while the lowest one was registered in districts Sofia (stolitsa).

Figure 8. Crude birth rate in 2024 (per 1000 of the population)
(Per 1 000 of population)

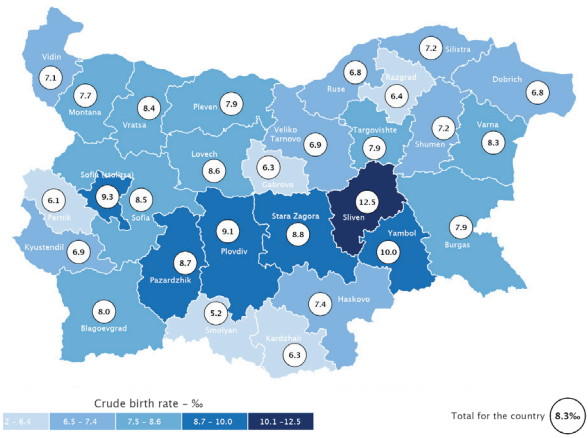
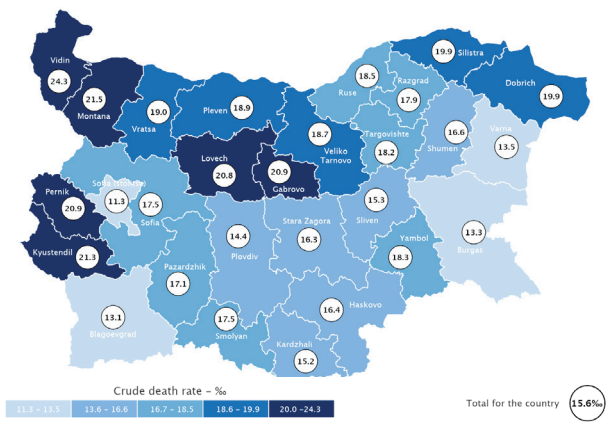


Figure 9. Crude death rate in 2024 (per 1000 of the population)
(Per 1 000 of population)



9. Live births, deaths and natural increase of the population by statistical zone, statistical region and by district in 2024

Statistical zones, statistical regions and districts	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase
	In numbers			Per 1 000 of the population		
Total	**53428**	**100736**	**-47308**	**8.3**	**15.6**	**-7.3**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria						
Severozapaden	**5269**	**13376**	**-8107**	**8.0**	**20.3**	**-12.3**
Vidin	507	1731	-1224	7.1	24.3	-17.2
Vratsa	1233	2793	-1560	8.4	19.0	-10.6
Lovech	955	2318	-1363	8.6	20.8	-12.2
Montana	870	2440	-1570	7.7	21.5	-13.8
Pleven	1704	4094	-2390	7.9	18.9	-11.0
Severen tsentralen	**4597**	**12858**	**-8261**	**6.8**	**19.0**	**-12.2**
Veliko Tarnovo	1398	3765	-2367	6.9	18.7	-11.8
Gabrovo	599	1967	-1368	6.3	20.9	-14.6
Razgrad	642	1795	-1153	6.4	17.9	-11.5
Ruse	1277	3455	-2178	6.8	18.5	-11.7
Silistra	681	1876	-1195	7.2	19.9	-12.7
Severoiztochen	**6456**	**13021**	**-6565**	**7.8**	**15.8**	**-8.0**
Varna	3632	5897	-2265	8.3	13.5	-5.2
Dobrich	993	2907	-1914	6.8	19.9	-13.1
Targovishte	754	1729	-975	7.9	18.2	-10.3
Shumen	1077	2488	-1411	7.2	16.6	-9.4
Yugoiztochen	**8760**	**14394**	**-5634**	**9.2**	**15.1**	**-5.9**
Burgas	3037	5152	-2115	7.9	13.3	-5.4
Sliven	2117	2590	-473	12.5	15.3	-2.8
Stara Zagora	2546	4719	-2173	8.8	16.3	-7.5
Yambol	1060	1933	-873	10.0	18.3	-8.3
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria						
Yugozapaden	**17664**	**26850**	**-9186**	**8.7**	**13.3**	**-4.6**
Blagoevgrad	2303	3759	-1456	8.0	13.1	-5.1
Kyustendil	735	2277	-1542	6.9	21.3	-14.4
Pernik	674	2306	-1632	6.1	20.9	-14.8
Sofia	1927	3944	-2017	8.5	17.5	-9.0
Sofia (stolitsa)	12025	14564	-2539	9.3	11.3	-2.0
Yuzhen tsentralen	**10682**	**20237**	**-9555**	**8.2**	**15.5**	**-7.3**
Kardzhali	927	2250	-1323	6.3	15.2	-8.9
Pazardzhik	1943	3846	-1903	8.7	17.1	-8.4
Plovdiv	5804	9144	-3340	9.1	14.4	-5.3
Smolyan	479	1599	-1120	5.2	17.5	-12.3
Haskovo	1529	3398	-1869	7.4	16.4	-9.0

Migration of the population

Migration of the population includes all persons who have declared a change of their present address within the country, or a change of address in the country with an address abroad or vice versa.

The highest migration growth was registered in Kardzhali (28.6‰), Burgas (17.0‰), and Varna (12.9‰). The highest population decrease due to the negative migration growth was registered in districts Smolyan (-5.0‰), and Montana (-1.9‰).

Figure 10. Migration of the population by statistical regions in 2024

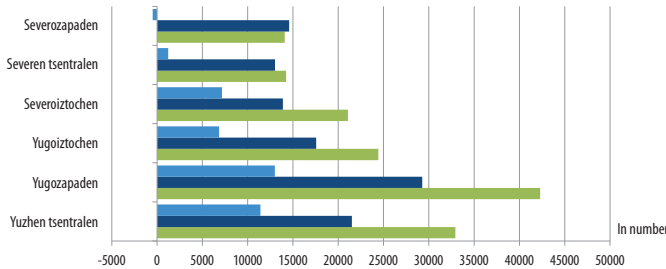
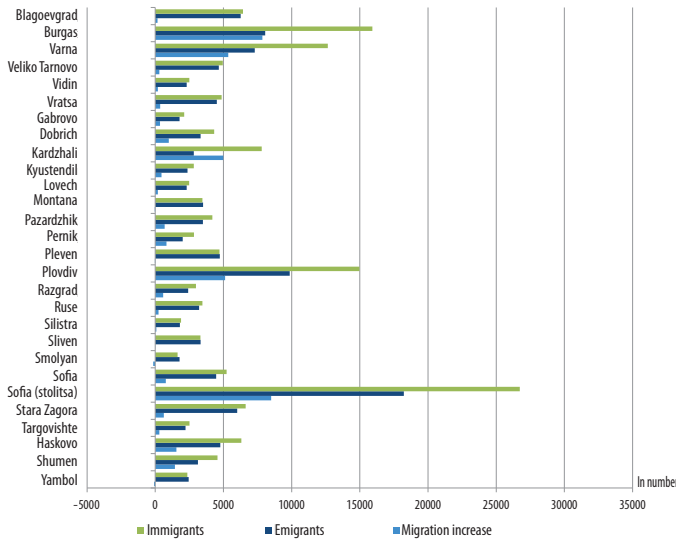


Figure 11. Migration of the population by districts in 2024



10. Migration of population by statistical zone, statistical region and by district in 2024[1]

(Number)

Statistical zones, statistical regions and districts	Immigrants	Emigrants	Migration increase
Total	**149022**	**109835**	**39187**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria			
Severozapaden	**14085**	**14572**	**-487**
Vidin	1788	1795	-7
Vratsa	3542	3599	-57
Lovech	2337	2376	-39
Montana	2506	2725	-219
Pleven	3912	4077	-165
Severen tsentralen	**14250**	**13017**	**1233**
Veliko Tarnovo	4542	3994	548
Gabrovo	1979	1656	323
Razgrad	2307	2391	-84
Ruse	3481	3040	441
Silistra	1941	1936	5
Severoiztochen	**21072**	**13899**	**7173**
Varna	11921	6326	5595
Dobrich	3161	2675	486
Targovishte	2102	2001	101
Shumen	3888	2897	991
Yugoiztochen	**24416**	**17566**	**6850**
Burgas	13572	6984	6588
Sliven	2695	2974	-279
Stara Zagora	6156	5597	559
Yambol	1993	2011	-18
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria			
Yugozapaden	**42279**	**29278**	**13001**
Blagoevgrad	5806	5094	712
Kyustendil	2153	2153	0
Pernik	2293	1807	486
Sofia	4395	4097	298
Sofia (stolitsa)	27632	16127	11505
Yuzhen tsentralen	**32920**	**21503**	**11417**
Kardzhali	7400	3161	4239
Pazardzhik	3420	3284	136
Plovdiv	14350	8966	5384
Smolyan	1317	1770	-453
Haskovo	6433	4322	2111

[1] Immigrants and emigrants in/to districts include also the movement to/from Bulgaria.

III. LABOUR MARKET

More information about breaks in time series and comparability of data from the Labour Force Survey could be found at the website of NSI, section 'Labour Market', Labour Force Survey, Annual data, 'Metadata and Methodology': https://nsi.bg/en/content/4002/annual-data.

Labour force

The labour force (the economically active population) consists of the persons, who put in or offer their labour for the production of goods and services. The labour force comprises the employed and the unemployed persons.

The activity rate is the ratio between the economically active population and the total population (in the respective group).

The source of the data is the Labour Force Survey.

Figure 1. Structure of the labour force by age in 2024

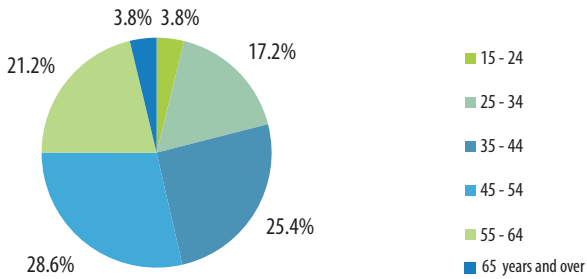
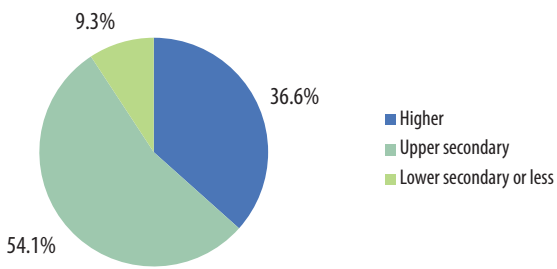


Figure 2. Structure of the labour force by level of education in 2024



1. Labour force

(Thousands)

	2020	2021[1]	2022	2023	2024
Total	**3290.3**	**3034.0**	**3067.8**	**3064.3**	**3060.3**
By place of residence					
Urban	2532.1	2348.3	2381.8	2372.1	2364.6
Rural	758.2	685.6	686.0	692.1	695.7
By gender					
Male	1772.4	1622.9	1632.0	1625.1	1625.5
Female	1518.0	1411.0	1435.9	1439.1	1434.8
By age					
15 - 64	**3190.4**	**2939.6**	**3067.8**	**2951.4**	**2945.6**
15 - 24	134.1	106.9	120.9	123.2	117.4
25 - 34	675.9	571.7	552.7	534.9	525.8
35 - 44	871.3	786.8	783.7	774.4	776.8
45 - 54	877.1	845.5	867.0	874.1	875.7
55 - 64	632.1	628.8	641.2	644.8	649.9
65 and over	99.9	94.3	102.4	112.9	114.7
By level of education					
Higher	1053.4	997.4	1000.6	1017.8	1120.3
Upper secondary	1830.5	1682.8	1722.8	1722.6	1657.0
of which: Vocational	1063.3	958.8	972.3	980.3	935.5
Lower secondary or less	406.5	353.8	344.5	323.9	283.1

2. Activity rates (age group 15 - 64)

(Per cent)

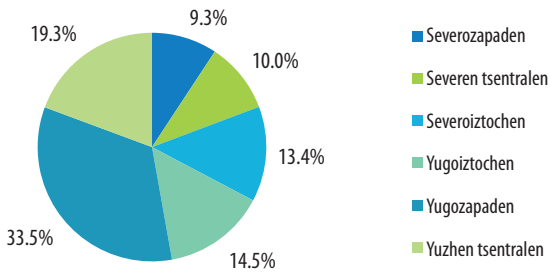
	2020	2021[1]	2022	2023	2024
Total	**72.2**	**72.3**	**73.7**	**73.9**	**74.0**
By place of residence					
Urban	74.4	74.8	76.1	76.2	76.1
Rural	65.9	64.7	66.4	67.0	67.6
By gender					
Male	76.8	76.4	77.4	77.3	77.6
Female	67.6	68.0	70.0	70.4	70.4
By age					
15 - 24	21.9	19.6	21.7	21.4	19.7
25 - 34	79.3	80.1	81.6	82.6	84.4
35 - 44	86.8	86.3	87.6	87.9	88.9
45 - 54	87.2	87.0	87.8	88.0	88.7
55 - 64	67.1	67.9	70.8	72.1	72.2

[1] Break in series.

Labour force by district

The labour force (the economically active population) aged 15 - 64 and the activity rates for the same age group are presented by statistical regions in accordance with the Classification of Territorial Units for Statistical Purposes in Bulgaria in force since 14 February 2009, harmonized with the European Classification of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS), and by districts.

Figure 3. Structure of the labour force (age group 15 - 64) by statistical region in 2024



3. Labour force (15 - 64 years of age) and activity rates by statistical zone, statistical region and by district in 2024

Statistical zones, statistical regions and districts	Labour force - in thousands	Activity rates - %
Total	**2945.6**	**74.0**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria		
Severozapaden	**272.8**	**70.5**
Vidin	29.5	72.9
Vratsa	60.8	68.3
Lovech	41.8	64.8
Montana	43.3	64.9
Pleven	97.4	77.2
Severen tsentralen	**295.0**	**72.9**
Veliko Tarnovo	87.7	73.3
Gabrovo	43.1	79.0
Razgrad	42.2	68.4
Ruse	85.0	75.1
Silistra	37.0	66.5
Severoiztochen	**396.2**	**77.2**
Varna	224.1	81.2
Dobrich	60.8	69.3
Targovishte	42.5	73.3
Shumen	68.7	75.1
Yugoiztochen	**426.2**	**74.2**
Burgas	177.5	74.3
Sliven	69.3	69.9
Stara Zagora	131.4	75.2
Yambol	48.0	78.5
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria		
Yugozapaden	**985.8**	**75.9**
Blagoevgrad	138.5	76.6
Kyustendil	43.8	69.6
Pernik	50.6	75.2
Sofia	103.2	74.2
Sofia (stolitsa)	649.6	76.6
Yuzhen tsentralen	**569.7**	**71.1**
Kardzhali	58.3	65.0
Pazardzhik	98.3	71.7
Plovdiv	286.0	72.3
Smolyan	42.2	77.0
Haskovo	84.8	68.5

Employment

Employed persons are persons 15 to 89 years of age who during the reference period:

• performed some work for at least one hour for pay in cash or in kind or other income;

• did not work but had a job or an enterprise, a business from which they were temporarily absent due to the following reasons:

- holidays, illness, maternity or paternity leave, working time arrangement;

- participation in job-related training;

- off-season, where persons continue regularly to perform tasks and duties for the job or business, excluding fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations;

- other absence (incl. unpaid parental leave for taking care of a child between 2 and 8 years of age), where the expected duration of this absence is 3 months or less.

Persons that produce agricultural goods are considered employed if the main part of these products is intended for sale or barter.

Employers are the persons who by themselves or in co-operation with other people manage their own enterprise, business, farm, professional practice or perform independently other work, and employ at least one other person.

Self-employed are the persons who by themselves or in co-operation with other people work in their own enterprise, business, farm, professional practice or perform independently other work, and do not employ any other person.

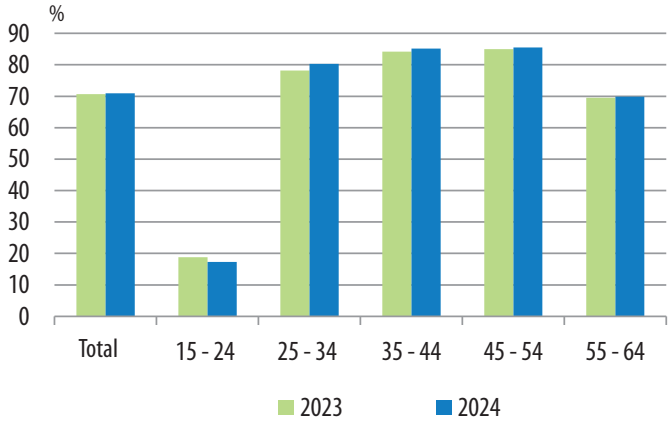
Employees are the persons who work for a public or private employer and who receive a consideration in cash or in kind in the form of wages, salaries, fees, remuneration by civil contract, etc.

Unpaid family workers are the persons who work without pay in a firm, enterprise or farm, owned and operated by a family member.

The employment rate is the ratio between the employed population and the total population (in the respective group).

The source of the data is the Labour Force Survey.

Figure 4. Employment rates (age group 15 - 64) by age



4. Employed persons

(Thousands)

	2020	2021[1]	2022	2023	2024
Total	**3121.7**	**2877.2**	**2940.6**	**2931.9**	**2932.9**
By place of residence					
Urban	2429.4	2250.9	2302.8	2289.5	2289.6
Rural	692.3	626.3	637.8	642.4	643.3
By gender					
Male	1676.1	1535.6	1561.1	1553.5	1554.1
Female	1445.6	1341.6	1379.5	1378.4	1378.7
By age					
15 - 64	**3024.3**	**2785.4**	**2840.7**	**2821.7**	**2820.8**
15 - 24	115.0	90.0	108.0	108.3	102.9
25 - 34	634.7	536.1	522.6	506.0	499.8
35 - 44	828.9	750.4	756.4	741.7	744.7
45 - 54	840.7	808.3	835.1	843.9	844.5
55 - 64	605.1	600.6	618.7	621.8	628.8
65 and over	97.4	91.8	99.9	110.2	112.1
By level of education					
Higher	1027.5	978.4	984.8	998.7	1102.2
Upper secondary	1744.3	1601.4	1655.0	1651.4	1588.6
of which: Vocational	1013.6	916.7	937.0	944.2	902.0
Lower secondary or less	349.9	297.5	300.8	281.8	242.1
By professional status					
Employers	112.0	107.8	114.8	119.6	142.8
Self-employed without employees	214.7	195.1	199.2	198.1	197.2
Employees in private sector	2090.8	1933.0	2012.4	2003.2	1950.6
Employees in public sector	685.3	625.3	599.0	597.6	632.1
Unpaid family workers	18.9	16.1	15.1	13.4	10.1

[1] Break in series.

5. Employment rates (age group 15 - 64)

(Per cent)

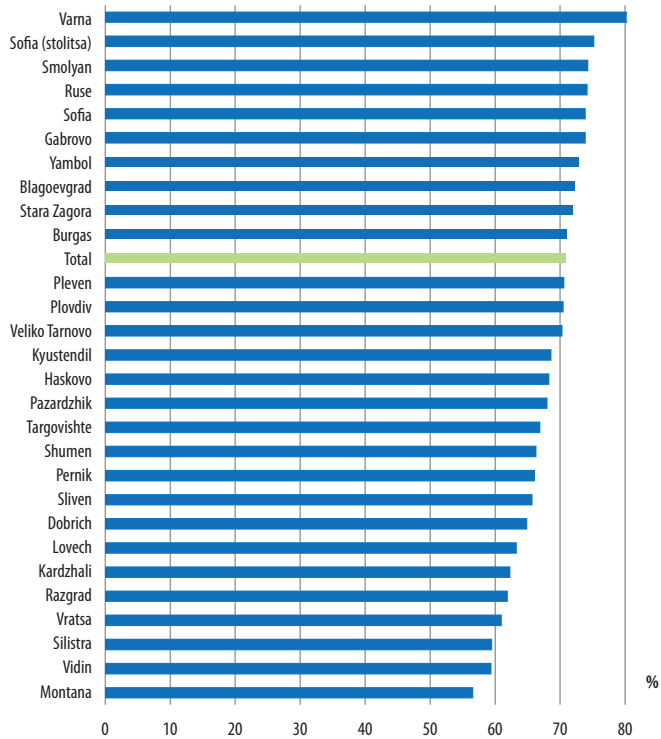
	2020	2021[1]	2022	2023	2024
Total	**68.5**	**68.5**	**70.6**	**70.7**	**70.9**
By place of residence					
Urban	71.3	71.7	73.6	73.5	73.7
Rural	60.1	59.0	61.7	62.1	62.4
By gender					
Male	72.5	72.3	74.0	73.9	74.1
Female	64.3	64.6	67.2	67.4	67.6
By age					
15 - 24	18.8	16.5	19.4	18.8	17.3
25 - 34	74.4	75.1	77.1	78.2	80.3
35 - 44	82.6	82.3	84.6	84.2	85.2
45 - 54	83.6	83.2	84.6	85.0	85.5
55 - 64	64.2	64.8	68.3	69.5	69.9

[1] Break in series.

Employment by district

The employed persons aged 15 - 64 and the employment rates for the same age group are presented by statistical regions in accordance with the Classification of Territorial Units for Statistical Purposes in Bulgaria in force since 14 February 2009, harmonized with the European Classification of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS), and by districts.

Figure 5. Employment rates (age group 15 - 64) by districts in 2024



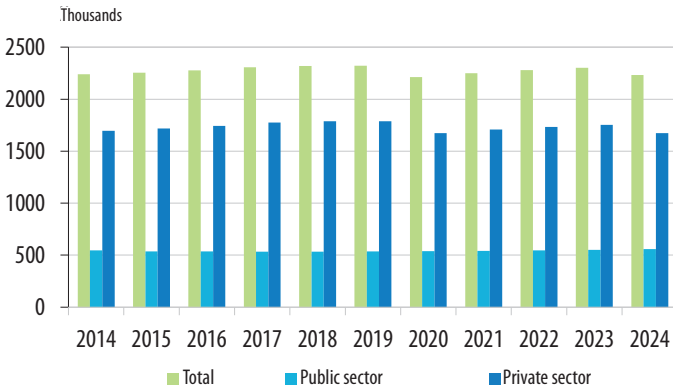
6. Employed persons (15 - 64 years of age) and employment rates by statistical zone, statistical region and by district in 2024

Statistical zones, statistical regions and districts	Employed persons - in thousands	Employment rates - %
Total	**2820.8**	**70.9**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria		
Severozapaden	**245.5**	**63.5**
Vidin	24.0	59.3
Vratsa	54.3	60.9
Lovech	40.7	63.2
Montana	37.7	56.5
Pleven	88.9	70.5
Severen tsentralen	**279.2**	**69.0**
Veliko Tarnovo	84.0	70.2
Gabrovo	40.2	73.8
Razgrad	38.1	61.8
Ruse	83.8	74.1
Silistra	33.0	59.4
Severoiztochen	**380.2**	**74.1**
Varna	223.9	81.1
Dobrich	56.9	64.8
Targovishte	38.7	66.8
Shumen	60.6	66.2
Yugoiztochen	**405.2**	**70.6**
Burgas	169.7	71.0
Sliven	65.0	65.6
Stara Zagora	125.9	72.0
Yambol	44.7	72.9
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria		
Yugozapaden	**957.9**	**73.8**
Blagoevgrad	130.8	72.3
Kyustendil	43.1	68.5
Pernik	44.4	66.0
Sofia	102.6	73.8
Sofia (stolitsa)	636.8	75.1
Yuzhen tsentralen	**552.8**	**69.0**
Kardzhali	55.9	62.2
Pazardzhik	93.0	67.9
Plovdiv	278.8	70.4
Smolyan	40.7	74.2
Haskovo	84.3	68.2

Employees

Employees are all persons who have a labour contract with their employer by virtue of the Labour Code or the Civil Servants Act and who receive remuneration in cash or in kind for certain quality and quantity of work done. The average annual number of employees under labour contract is the arithmetic mean value of the average monthly number of employees. The average monthly number of employees is the arithmetic mean value of the daily number of employees (sum of the daily number of employees divided by the number of days of the reference month).

Figure 6. Average annual number of employees under labour contract by kind of ownership



7. Employees under labour contract by economic activity groupings

(Average annual number)

Economic activity groupings	Total		Public sector		Private sector	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Total	**2302922**	**2231677**	**550445**	**558399**	**1752477**	**1673278**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	65424	63452	11099	10687	54325	52765
Mining and quarrying	18433	18055	6866	6593	11567	11462
Manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco products	82045	81351	214	74	81831	81277
Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and related products	70201	64205	..	..	..	..
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	27265	26046	100	113	27165	25933
Manufacture of coke, and refined petroleum products	2374	2341	-	-	2374	2341
Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	13977	13960	-	-	13977	13960

7. Employees under labour contract by economic activity groupings

(Continued and end) (Average annual number)

Economic activity groupings	Total		Public sector		Private sector	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Manufacture of pharma ceuticals, medicinal chemical and botanical products	7695	7812	..	..	..	..
Manufacture of rubber and plastics products, and other non-metallic mineral products	49418	48202	..	..	..	..
Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products, except machinery	63821	64914	..	..	..	..
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	10392	10059	..	..	..	..
Manufacture of electrical equipment	25945	24088	-	-	25945	24088
Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.	31021	29717	-	-	31021	29717
Manufacture of transport equipment	32005	28888	-	-	32005	28888
Other manufacturing, and repair and installation of machinery and equipment	43162	40457	928	888	42234	39569
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	28940	28375	13771	13674	15169	14701
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation	36780	36375	22314	22658	14466	13717
Construction	131526	122455	2167	2004	129359	120451
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	374433	372329	325	244	374108	372085
Transportation and storage	144963	137003	41013	40267	103950	96736
Accommodation and food service activities	113950	99595	3852	3944	110098	95651
Publishing, audiovisual and broadcasting activities	11245	10316	2700	2739	8545	7577
Telecommunications	17394	17389	..	..	..	..
IT and other information services	101277	98365	..	..	..	..
Financial and insurance activities	55315	54214	1561	1392	53754	52822
Real estate activities	22331	20402	2311	2376	20020	18026
Legal, accounting, man-agement, architecture and engineering and similar activities	46915	44048	920	880	45995	43168
Scientific research and development	12583	13073	7820	8034	4763	5039
Other professional, scientific and technical activities	27145	24345	140	96	27005	24249
Administrative and support service activities	112059	105973	17292	17885	94767	88088
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	111689	112701	111689	112701	x	x
Education	166480	165942	155793	155703	10687	10239
Human health services	112636	110450	70585	69129	42051	41321
Residential care and social work activities	57670	66350	54377	63075	3293	3275
Arts, entertainment and recreation	37190	35524	15033	14998	22157	20526
Other services	37223	32906	1212	1277	36011	31629

Unemployment

Unemployed persons are persons 15 to 74 years of age who were not employed during the reference week, and

• were currently available for work, i.e. were available for paid employment or self-employment before the end of the 2 weeks following the reference week; and

• were actively seeking work in the four-week period ending with the reference week or found a job to start within a period of at most 3 months from the end of the reference week.

The duration of unemployment is defined by the shorter of the following two periods:

• the duration of looking for a job; or

• the length of time passed since last employment.

The source of the data (excluding data on registered unemployment) is the Labour Force Survey.

The source of the data on the unemployed persons registered at the Labour Offices is the National Employment Agency.

Figure 7. Unemployment rates by sex and by age in 2024

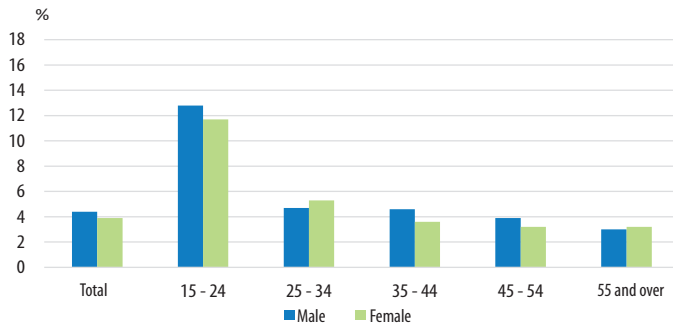
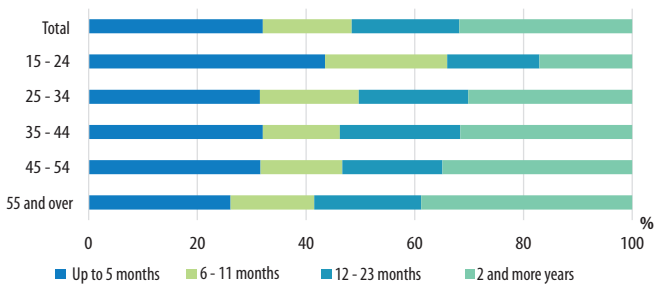


Figure 8. Structure of unemployed persons by age and by duration of unemployment in 2024



8. Unemployed persons

(Thousands)

	2020	2021[1]	2022	2023	2024
Total	**168.6**	**156.7**	**127.3**	**132.4**	**127.4**
By place of residence					
Urban	102.7	97.4	79.0	82.6	75.0
Rural	65.9	59.3	48.2	49.8	52.4
By gender					
Male	96.3	87.3	70.8	71.7	71.4
Female	72.3	69.4	56.4	60.7	56.1
By age					
15 - 64	166.1	154.2	124.7	129.7	124.8
15 - 24	19.1	16.9	12.8	14.9	14.5
25 - 34	41.2	35.6	30.1	28.9	26.0
35 - 44	42.4	36.3	27.3	32.8	32.1
45 - 54	36.4	37.2	31.9	30.2	31.2
55 and over	29.6	30.7	25.1	25.6	23.7
By level of education					
Higher	25.9	19.0	15.8	19.1	18.1
Upper secondary	86.2	81.4	67.8	71.2	68.4
of which: Vocational	49.6	42.2	35.2	36.0	33.5
Lower secondary or less	56.5	56.3	43.7	42.1	41.0
By duration of unemployment					
Up to 5 months	63.9	48.6	38.2	40.8	40.8
6 - 11 months	28.8	30.2	20.2	22.3	20.9
12 - 23 months	27.1	34.8	28.9	27.3	25.2
2 years and over	48.8	43.1	39.9	42.0	40.5
Unemployed registered at the Labour offices as of 31.12.	**220.3**	**157.3**	**153.9**	**158.2**	**148.2**

[1] Break in series.

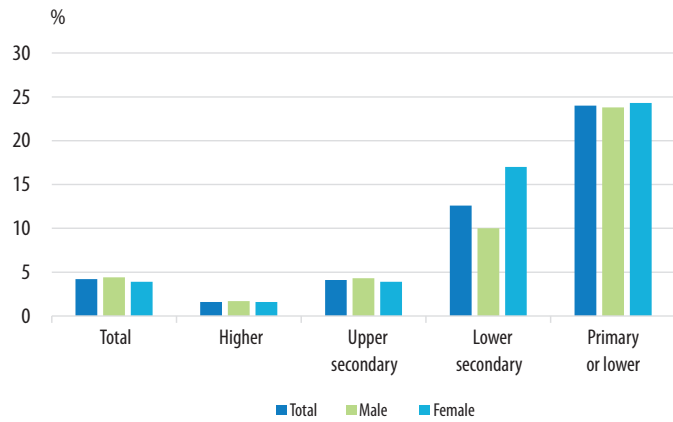
Unemployment

The unemployment rate is the ratio between the unemployed persons and the economically active population (the labour force).

The long-term unemployment rate is the ratio between the number of the long-term unemployed persons (unemployed for one or more years) and the economically active population.

Discouraged persons are the persons aged 15 - 74 years, who are not in the labour force (economically inactive population) and who want to work, but who do not actively look for a job, because they do not believe they will find a suitable job.

Figure 9. Unemployment rates by sex and by level of education in 2024



9. Unemployment rates

(Per cent)

	2020	2021[1]	2022	2023	2024
Total	**5.1**	**5.2**	**4.1**	**4.3**	**4.2**
By place of residence					
Urban	4.1	4.1	3.3	3.5	3.2
Rural	8.7	8.6	7.0	7.2	7.5
By gender					
Male	5.4	5.4	4.3	4.4	4.4
Female	4.8	4.9	3.9	4.2	3.9
By age					
15 - 64	5.2	5.2	4.2	4.4	4.2
15 - 24	14.2	15.8	10.6	12.1	12.3
25 - 34	6.1	6.2	5.4	5.4	4.9
35 - 44	4.9	4.6	3.5	4.2	4.1
45 - 54	4.1	4.4	3.7	3.5	3.6
55 and over	4.0	4.2	3.4	3.4	3.1
Long-term unemployment rate	**2.3**	**2.6**	**2.2**	**2.3**	**2.1**

10. Discouraged persons

(Thousands)

	2020	2021[1]	2022	2023	2024
Total	**63.9**	**55.0**	**48.8**	**38.3**	**24.2**
By place of residence					
Urban	33.0	27.2	24.0	16.9	9.6
Rural	30.9	27.8	24.8	21.4	14.6
By gender					
Male	33.9	30.6	24.4	22.0	14.0
Female	30.0	24.4	24.3	16.3	10.2
By age					
15 - 64	61.7	52.5	46.9	37.0	23.2
15 - 24	9.9	8.6	7.0	7.1	4.6
25 - 34	13.7	11.8	10.0	8.1	4.3
35 - 44	12.0	11.6	9.9	5.9	4.9
45 - 54	13.6	10.8	11.3	8.1	4.1
55 and over	14.7	12.1	10.7	9.0	6.3
By level of education					
Higher	(2.5)	(2.6)	(2.2)	(1.4)	(1.3)
Upper secondary	18.8	16.7	16.9	15.1	7.6
of which: Vocational	9.6	8.5	7.7	6.7	4.5
Lower secondary or less	42.7	35.7	29.7	21.8	15.3

[1] Break in series.

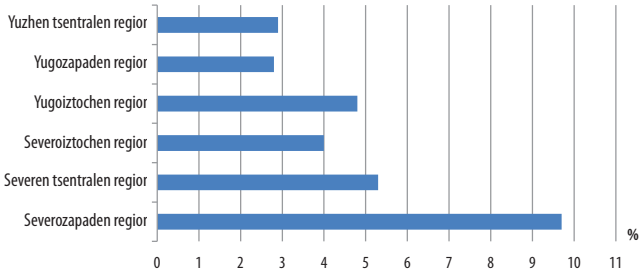
( ) - due to small sample figures in brackets are not reliable

Unemployment by district

The unemployed persons and the unemployment rates are presented by statistical regions in accordance with the Classification of Territorial Units for Statistical Purposes in Bulgaria, in force since 14 February 2009, harmonized with the European Classification of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS), and by districts.

The source of the data on the unemployed persons registered at the Labour Offices is the National Employment Agency.

Figure 10. Unemployed rate by statistical regions in 2024



11. Unemployment by statistical zone, statistical region and by district in 2024

Statistical zones, statistical regions and districts	Unemployed persons - in thousands	Unemployment rates - %	Unemployed registered at the Labour offices as of 31.12. - in thousands
Total	**127.4**	**4.2**	**148.2**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria			
Severozapaden	**27.8**	**9.7**	**25.4**
Vidin	5.7	18.7	3.8
Vratsa	6.6	10.4	5.9
Lovech	(1.0)	(2.4)	3.5
Montana	5.8	12.7	5.2
Pleven	8.7	8.4	7.0
Severen tsentralen	**16.1**	**5.3**	**18.7**
Veliko Tarnovo	3.8	4.2	4.5
Gabrovo	2.8	6.4	1.6
Razgrad	4.3	9.9	4.0
Ruse	(1.2)	(1.3)	4.7
Silistra	4.0	10.1	3.9
Severoiztochen	**16.5**	**4.0**	**20.2**
Varna	(0.2)	(0.1)	7.0
Dobrich	4.0	6.3	3.2
Targovishte	4.1	9.1	3.6
Shumen	8.3	11.2	6.4
Yugoiztochen	**21.5**	**4.8**	**20.6**
Burgas	7.9	4.3	8.8
Sliven	4.5	6.3	4.4
Stara Zagora	5.5	4.0	5.1
Yambol	3.6	7.0	2.2
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria			
Yugozapaden	**28.3**	**2.8**	**31.3**
Blagoevgrad	7.8	5.5	11.4
Kyustendil	(0.8)	(1.7)	3.1
Pernik	6.4	11.7	1.9
Sofia	(0.6)	(0.6)	4.0
Sofia (stolitsa)	12.8	1.9	11.0
Yuzhen tsentralen	**17.2**	**2.9**	**32.2**
Kardzhali	(2.6)	(4.2)	4.3
Pazardzhik	5.3	5.3	7.5
Plovdiv	7.3	2.4	11.3
Smolyan	(1.6)	(3.6)	3.5
Haskovo	(0.5)	(0.5)	5.5

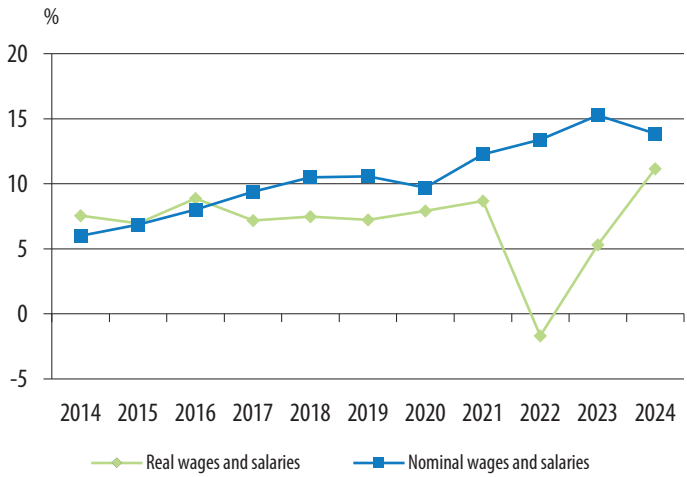
( ) - due to small sample figures in brackets are not reliable

Average annual wages and salaries

Gross annual wages and salaries are the remunerations paid regularly to the employees by the employers before the deduction of any tax and social security contributions payable by the employees and withheld by the employers.

The average annual gross wages and salaries are calculated through dividing the total amount of wage and salary costs accrued during the reference year by the average annual number of employees under labour contract excluding those on maternity leave.

Figure 11. Nominal and real wages and salaries
(Percentage change to preceding year)



12. Average annual wages and salaries by economic activity groupings

(BGN)

Economic activity groupings	Total		Public sector		Private sector	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Total	**24485**	**27881**	**25083**	**28805**	**24295**	**27569**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	17604	19628	23837	23105	16313	18913
Mining and quarrying	33602	33577	35863	32854	32243	33993
Manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco products	19488	21845	23398	19179	19478	21847
Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and related products	13368	14904	..	..	13356	14880

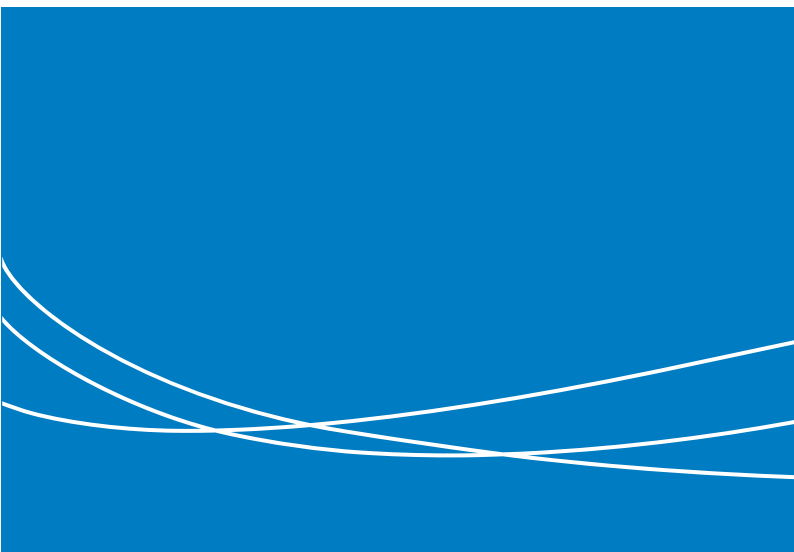
12. Average annual wages and salaries by economic activity groupings

(Continued and end)

(BGN)

Economic activity groupings	Total		Public sector		Private sector	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	17548	20629	14715	17121	17559	20644
Manufacture of coke, and refined petroleum products	40259	43231	-	-	40259	43231
Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	25632	28516	-	-	25632	28516
Manufacture of pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemical and botanical products	24489	27943	..	..	24158	27431
Manufacture of rubber and plastics products, and other non-metallic mineral products	19906	22648	..	..	19905	22648
Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products, except machinery	23857	25263	..	..	24117	25393
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	29418	32011	..	..	29418	32046
Manufacture of electrical equipment	24113	26415	-	-	24113	26415
Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.	24386	25941	-	-	24386	25941
Manufacture of transport equipment	23466	26211	-	-	23466	26211
Other manufacturing, and repair and installation of machinery and equipment	22681	26787	22115	26472	22694	26795
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	38358	39995	45030	49754	32283	30893
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation	18123	20603	16771	19442	20213	22524
Construction	18700	21963	20388	22477	18671	21954
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	21137	24408	24426	28715	21134	24405
Transportation and storage	19879	23588	24570	29000	18008	21314
Accommodation and food service activities	14605	17665	17354	20757	14507	17534
Publishing, audiovisual and broadcasting activities	31785	34240	26060	28858	33609	36209
Telecommunications	37921	42815	..	..	37926	42821
IT and other information services	66365	70067	51090	51641	66515	70267
Financial and insurance activities	35992	41044	56535	65191	35365	40383
Real estate activities	21773	25638	17137	19721	22320	26434
Legal, accounting, management, architecture and engineering and similar activities	30563	35065	25301	30509	30673	35161
Scientific research and development	37319	44510	22734	30905	62008	67344
Other professional, scientific and technical activities	35872	40316	19930	24359	35958	40381
Administrative and support service activities	20436	23119	12345	14677	21937	24861
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	28238	32822	28238	32822	x	x
Education	26188	30202	26301	30361	24498	27737
Human health services	29592	35154	28511	33427	31449	38128
Residential care and social work activities	14927	17731	14837	17710	16429	18138
Arts, entertainment and recreation	20578	24164	19093	23365	21605	24759
Other services	15366	19219	16080	18109	15341	19264

IV. EDUCATION



Types of educational institutions

Educational institutions are those institutions, which directly perform training according to educational programmes with students in organized classes (groups) locally or through distance learning. Educational programs in those institutions include all educational stages and/or attainment of professional qualification level. Non-formal education and informal learning do not come into the scope of the educational system, according to the definitions of ISCED 2011.

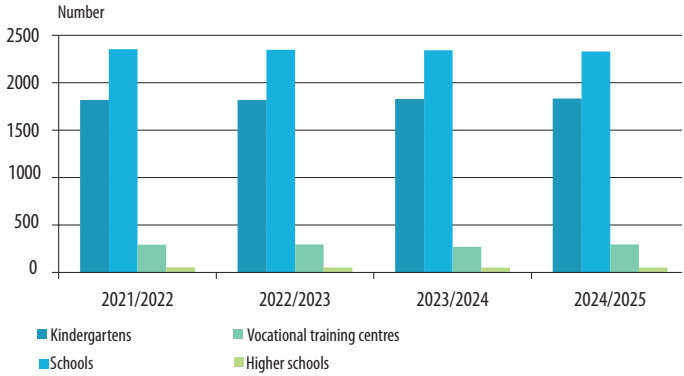
Since 2021/2022 school year, the National Statistical Institute (NSI) has started using administrative data for the primary and school education, and since 2023/2024 - also for the tertiary education. Data on primary and school education come from the National Electronic System for Preschool and School education, while data on tertiary education come from Register of all Active, Interrupted and Graduated Students and Doctoral Students, maintained by the National Center for Information and Documentation (NACID). Both systems operate under the authority of the Ministry of Education and Science (MES).

Types of educational institutions:

- Kindergartens;
- Schools[1] (I - XII grade): primary (I - IV grade), basic (I - VII grade), integrated (I - X grade), gymnasiums (VIII - XII grade), secondary (I - XII grade), vocational (art schools, sport schools, vocational gymnasiums providing training on programs for attainment of level of professional qualification);
- Vocational training centres providing training to persons aged 16 and over in vocational programmes against payment for acquisition of professional qualification, according to the Law on Vocational Education and Training;
- Vocational colleges carrying out training on programs with admission after completed secondary education;
- Higher schools - colleges, universities and equivalent higher schools. The statistical survey on tertiary education covers all higher schools accredited according to the Higher Education Act and up to 2021/2022 academic year incl. the private spiritual higher schools, opened under the regulation of the Religious Denominations Act.

[1] According to the Pre-school and School Education Act (promulgated SG No. 79 of 13 October 2015).

Figure 1. Educational institutions by type



1. Educational institutions by type and kind of ownership

(Number)

	2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
	Total	of which private	Total	of which private	Total	of which private	Total	of which private
Total	**4536**	**544**	**4533**	**549**	**4509**	**526**	**4521**	**548**
Kindergartens	**1817**	**117**	**1817**	**119**	**1827**	**123**	**1830**	**125**
Schools[1]	**2352**	**104**	**2347**	**108**	**2341**	**108**	**2329**	**107**
Primary (I - IV grade)	126	7	127	8	128	9	129	10
Basic (I - VII grade)	1136	34	1128	35	1123	33	1110	30
Integrated (I - X grade)	75	-	75	-	74	-	70	-
Upper secondary (VIII - XII grade)	116	20	116	19	115	19	114	18
Secondary (I-XII grade)	503	35	504	37	499	33	505	36
Art schools	21	-	21	-	21	-	21	-
Sports schools	25	-	25	-	25	-	25	-
Vocational gymnasiums	350	8	351	9	356	14	355	13
Vocational colleges after upper secondary education	**21**	**19**	**22**	**19**	**19**	**16**	**17**	**13**
Vocational Training Centres[2]	**292**	**288**	**296**	**290**	**271**	**266**	**294**	**290**
Higher schools[3]	**54**	**16**	**51**	**13**	**51**	**13**	**51**	**13**
Universities and equivalent higher schools	50	12	48	10	48	10	48	10
Colleges, at the universities	17	-	17	-	16	-	16	-
Independent colleges	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3

[1] Incl. the Bulgarian schools abroad financed by the state.

[2] Centres conducting programmes for attaining level of professional qualification.

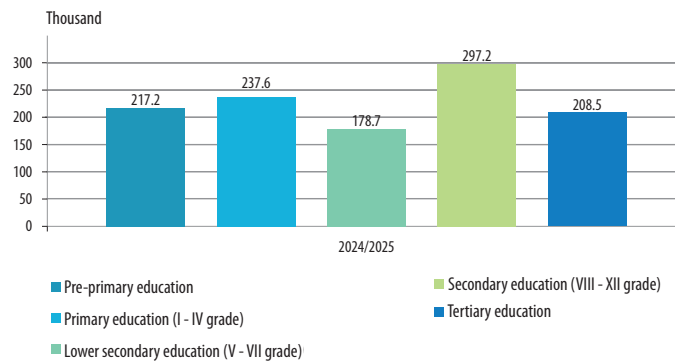
[3] Due to a change in the Religious Denominations Act, the three spiritual higher schools are out of the scope of the survey, from the 2022/2023 academic year.

Students enrolled

The methodology of education statistics is built on the basis of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED), revision 2011, and the concomitant methodological guidelines:

- Pre-primary education in kindergartens and preparatory groups at schools (education level ISCED - 0);
- Primary and lower secondary stage of basic education and upper secondary education in all types of schools (education levels ISCED - 1, 2 and 3);
- Vocational education after upper secondary education in vocational colleges (education level ISCED - 4);
- Vocational training against payment for attainment of professional qualification level in centres for vocational training and schools (education levels ISCED - 2 and 3);
- Tertiary education for acquiring professional bachelor's, bachelor's and master's educational-qualification degrees from colleges, universities and equivalent higher schools (education levels ISCED - 6 and 7);
- Tertiary education for acquiring doctor's educational and scientific degree from universities, equivalent higher schools and scientific organizations (education level ISCED - 8).

Figure 2. Students enrolled by level of education



2. Pupils and students enrolled by level of International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011)

(Number)

	2021/2022[1]		2022/2023		2023/2024[2,3]		2024/2025	
	Total	of which private	Total	of which private	Total	of which private	Total	of which private
Total	**1159605**	**53650**	**1155980**	**53801**	**1132983**	**50482**	**1152177**	**56627**
Pre-primary education (ISCED - 0)	214847	5569	216481	5977	216857	6129	217247	6596
Primary education (I - IV grade, ISCED - 1)	233548	4880	232742	5141	234521	5206	237579	5455
Lower secondary education (V - VII grade, ISCED - 2)	195109	3430	189779	3743	182691	3790	178692	3816
Secondary education (VIII-XII grade, ISCED - 3)	280039	5121	286766	5680	293779	6246	297227	6480
Vocational training for adults - first level professional qualification (ISCED - 2)	3380	2907	3711	2671	3464	2555	3660	3128
Vocational training for adults - second level professional qualification (ISCED - 3)	2429	2073	2092	1604	2258	1832	2904	2543
Vocational training for adults - third level professional qualification (ISCED - 3)	2559	1918	2476	1652	3034	2277	5535	4825
Post secondary non-tertiary education (ISCED - 4)	586	380	603	456	682	454	787	529
Vocational training for adults - fourth level professional qualification (ISCED - 4)	127	127	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tertiary education (ISCED - 6, 7, 8)	226981	27245	221330	26877	195697	21993	208546	23255
Professional bachelor's degree (ISCED - 6)	7799	1430	6783	1188	6321	1098	6422	1130
Bachelor's degree (ISCED - 6)	139000	18596	135947	18558	123335	16304	130911	16638
Master's degree (ISCED -7)	73640	6940	72052	6842	60857	4442	66184	5299
Doctor's degree (ISCED - 8)	6542	279	6548	289	5184	149	5029	188

[1] Break in the time series for the preschool and school education due to a change of the data source and the reference date.

[2] Break in the time series for the tertiary education data due to a change of the data source and the methodology.

[3] Data for doctor's degree (ISCED - 8) for the reference year 2023 were revised.

Teaching staff

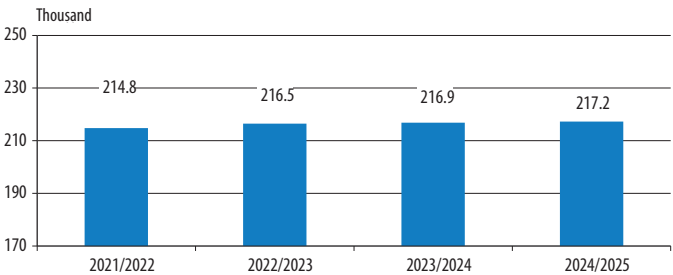
Teachers (teaching staff) are officials who directly conduct the training sessions according to the curricula irrespective of whether they are full-time or part-time employees.

The management personnel include officials performing managerial functions at the level of the educational institution - principals, assistant principals with teaching responsibilities.
The number of the teaching staff includes teachers and management personnel with teaching activity.

Pre-primary education

The kindergartens and preparatory groups at schools cover children aged 3 - 6 years.

Figure 3. Children in pre-primary education



3. Pre-primary education

(Number)

	2021/2022[1]	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Kindergartens	1817	1817	1827	1830
Pedagogical staff	19975	19747	20001	20907
of which: teachers	18726	18830	19236	18022
Children enrolled	214847	216481	216857	217247
of which: girls	104332	105234	105281	105575

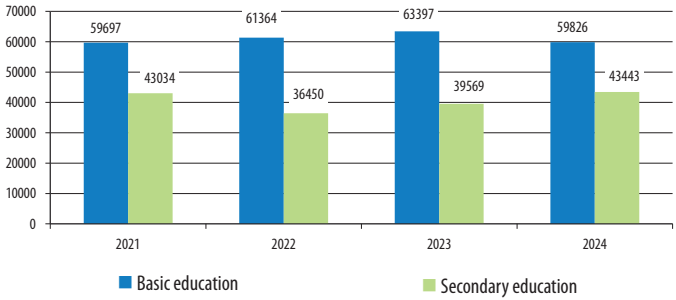
[1] Brake in the time series due to a change of the data source.

School education

The data about the number of students is presented by grade groups.

Graduates are those students who have received a document for a completed level from a legitimate educational institution, containing all the necessary records and stamps according to the law.

Figure 4. Basic and secondary education graduates



4. Pupils by grade groups

(Number)

	2021/2022[1]	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Total	**708696**	**709287**	**710991**	**713498**
I - IV grade	233548	232742	234521	237579
V - VII grade	195109	189779	182691	178692
VIII - XII grade	280039	286766	293779	297227

5. Basic and secondary education graduates

(Number)

	2021[1]	2022	2023	2024
Basic education	59697	61364	63397	59826
Upper secondary education	43034	36450	39569	43443

[1] Break in the time series due to a change of the data source and the reference date.

Vocational training

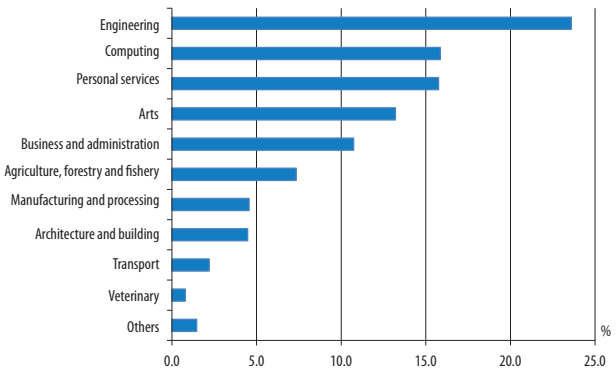
The training for attainment of a level professional qualification is conducted in vocational classes.

The number of graduates includes students who successfully passed the exams and received certificates for a level of professional qualification.

The distribution of students and graduates in programmes for acquiring all the levels of professional qualification by narrow fields of education is presented according to the List of professions for vocational education and training.

Secondary education graduates who have attained second or third level of professional qualification are eligible to continue their education in higher schools or to start work in the acquired occupation (specialty).

Figure 5. Structure of the students by fields of education in programmes for attainment of third level of professional qualification for the school year 2024/2025



6. Students enrolled in vocational programmes by level of professional qualification and fields of education, 2024/2025 school year

(Number)

Fields of education	Total	Level of professional qualification			
		I	II	III	IV
Total	**170177**	**4061**	**28575**	**136754**	**787**
Arts	**18276**	-	215	18057	4
Humanities	**140**	-	-	140	-
Journalism, mass communication and information	**63**	-	-	63	-
Business and administration	**17023**	76	2240	14687	20
Physical sciences	**8**	-	-	8	-
Computing	**24329**	504	2134	21691	-
Engineering	**39988**	594	7014	32267	113
Manufacturing and processing	**10710**	958	3514	6238	-
Architecture and building	**7092**	213	762	6117	-
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	**13188**	563	2578	10047	-
Veterinary	**1086**	-	-	1086	-
Health	**1726**	-	935	664	127
Social services	**992**	-	229	763	-
Personal services	**31455**	1153	8502	21549	251
Transport	**3464**	-	452	3012	-
Environmental protection	**304**	-	-	304	-
Public security services	**333**	-	-	61	272

7. Vocational programmes graduates in 2024 by level of professional qualification and fields of education

(Number)

Fields of education	Total	Level of professional qualification			
		I	II	III	IV
Total	**21992**	**481**	**2473**	**18694**	**344**
Arts	**2086**	-	20	2060	6
Humanities	**14**	-	-	14	-
Journalism, mass communication and information	**15**	-	-	15	-
Business and administration	**2770**	18	253	2471	28
Computing	**3596**	80	381	3135	-
Engineering	**4886**	55	324	4499	8
Manufacturing and processing	**1047**	161	254	632	-
Architecture and building	**1142**	45	51	1046	-
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	**1209**	38	156	1015	-
Veterinary	**161**	-	-	161	-
Health	**254**	-	115	86	53
Social services	**74**	-	3	71	-
Personal services	**4165**	84	857	3134	90
Transport	**334**	-	59	275	-
Environmental protection	**43**	-	-	43	-
Public security services	**196**	-	-	37	159

Vocational training - IV level

The vocational colleges provide vocational training for acquisition of forth level of professional qualification with duration of up to two years. They enrol students with completed upper secondary education.

Tertiary education

Students are persons enrolled in an educational program of formal tertiary education according to ISCED irrespective of the mode of attendance. Formal education includes the educational programmes implemented in the legitimate educational institutions created in compliance with the existing legal order.

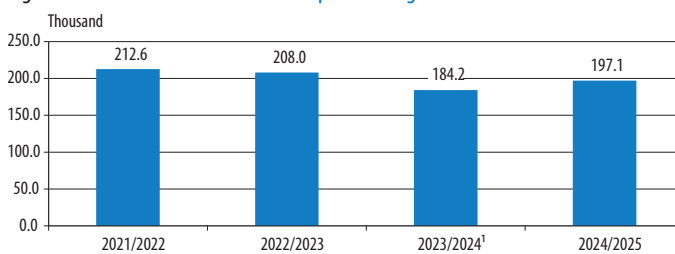
The NSI reports annually the number of students enrolled by counting the students themselves and not by counting the number of enrolments. For example, according to the current national methodology, students are counted only once in the cases of simultaneous enrolment in two specialties within one higher school.

Graduates with minimal duration of studies of 4 years according to the curriculum are awarded bachelor's degree; master's degree is awarded to graduates with minimal duration of studies of 5 years or at least one year of studies after the acquisition of bachelor's degree.

Professional bachelor's degree is a degree of tertiary professional education. It is awarded after the completion of professional training at college with minimal duration of studies of 3 years.

Doctor's educational and scientific degree is awarded by a Scientific Jury, according to the Law on Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria after minimum 3 years of studies and the successful defence of a doctoral dissertation.

Figure 6. Students at universities and equivalent higher schools



[1] Break in the time series for the tertiary education data due to a change of the data source and the methodology.

8. Students enrolled at higher schools

(Number)

	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024[1]	2024/2025
Total	**220439**	**214782**	**190513**	**203517**
In universities and equivalent higher schools	212640	207999	184192	197095
In colleges	7799	6783	6321	6422

[1] Break in the time series due to a change of the data source and the methodology.

9. Tertiary education graduates[1]

(Number)

	2021	2022	2023[2]	2024
Total	**46135**	**47675**	**44077**	**47767**
Professional bachelor's	1 864	1 795	1 603	1601
Bachelor's	23 269	23 295	22 097	22983
Master's	21 002	22 585	20 377	23183

[1] Excl. doctor's educational and scientific degree.
[2] Break in the time series due to a change of the data source.

10. Ph.D. students in higher schools and scientific organizations

(Number)

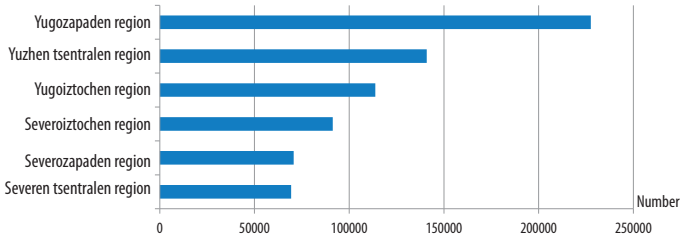
	2021	2022	2023[1,2]	2024
Students enrolled	6542	6548	5184	5029
of which: Regular training	3709	3629	3104	3063
Graduates at doctoral level	1149	1101	955	1159
of which: Regular training	542	503	478	613

[1] Break in the time series due to a change of the data source.
[2] Data for the reference year 2023 were revised.

Schools, teaching staff and pupils by district

The 'district' administrative and territorial units are presented in accordance with the Territorial Organization Act of the Republic of Bulgaria, which entered into force on 5 February 1999 (28 districts), while the territorial units for statistical purposes 'statistical zones' and 'statistical regions' are presented according to the Classification of Territorial Units for Statistical Purposes in Bulgaria. This classification complies with the NUTS classification of Eurostat.

Figure 7. Pupils by statistical region in the school year 2024/2025



11. Schools, teaching staff and students by statistical zone, statistical region and district in the school year 2024/2025[1]

(Number)

Statistical zones, statistical regions and districts	Schools	Teaching staff[2]	Students
Total	**2329**	**69224**	**713498**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria	*1257*	*33993*	*345078*
Severozapaden	**317**	**7367**	**70652**
Vidin	32	708	6749
Vratsa	69	1734	16736
Lovech	55	1229	11942
Montana	58	1211	11884
Pleven	103	2485	23341
Severen tsentralen	**274**	**7261**	**69298**
Veliko Tarnovo	85	2237	21008
Gabrovo	30	909	9245
Razgrad	52	1140	11024
Ruse	66	1950	18603
Silistra	41	1025	9418
Severoiztochen	**301**	**8856**	**91323**
Varna	123	4610	51467
Dobrich	65	1534	14286
Targovishte	49	1066	9802
Shumen	64	1646	15768
Yugoiztochen	**365**	**10509**	**113805**
Burgas	135	4282	47023
Sliven	68	1839	20258
Stara Zagora	119	3238	33909
Yambol	43	1150	12615
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria	*1072*	*35231*	*368420*
Yugozapaden	**566**	**21417**	**227542**
Blagoevgrad	117	3404	34356
Kyustendil	38	1036	10598
Pernik	40	1089	11378
Sofia	96	2416	23937
Sofia (stolitsa)[3]	275	13472	147273
Yuzhen tsentralen	**506**	**13814**	**140878**
Kardzhali	69	1472	13480
Pazardzhik	110	2507	25367
Plovdiv	194	6573	71032
Smolyan	56	1132	8597
Haskovo	77	2130	22402

[1] Excl. higher schools and vocational colleges.
[2] Incl. teachers, directors and deputy directors with teacher work.
[3] Incl. the Bulgarian schools abroad, financed by the state.

Coverage rate of education system and education expenditure

The 'group net enrolment rate' indicator aims at showing the extent of coverage of the education system among population belonging to a specific age group corresponding to a given education level.

12. Group net enrolment rates[1] of the population in the education system by levels of ISCED 2011

(Per cent)

	2021/22[2]	2022/23	2023/24[3]	2024/25
Pre-primary education (ISCED - 0)	86.4	87.3	87.9	88.6
Primary education (I - IV grade, ISCED - 1)	93.1	92.7	92.5	92.7
Lower secondary education (V - VII grade, ISCED - 2)	91.4	90.7	89.9	89.6
Upper secondary education (VIII - XII grade, ISCED - 3)	87.5	86.2	85.1	84.7
Post secondary non-tertiary (ISCED - 4)	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.04
Tertiary education (ISCED - 6, 7)	48.2	46.0	42.2	43.4

[1] Group net enrolment rates are calculated as a percentage of the number of enrolments by levels of education in age groups 3 - 6, 7 - 10, 11 - 13, 14 - 18, 19 - 20 and 19 - 23 years to the number of the population in the same age groups.

[2] Break in the time series for the preschool and school education due to a change of the data source and the reference date.

[3] Break in the time series for the tertiary education data due to a change of the data source and the methodology.

V. CULTURE AND ART

Publishing

The national written cultural heritage is expressed in the books, pamphlets, newspapers, magazines, bulletins and periodical collections issued in the country. The statistical reporting for the issued products, gives the public an idea of the number of titles and their circulation by different classification groups.

Figure 1. Published titles

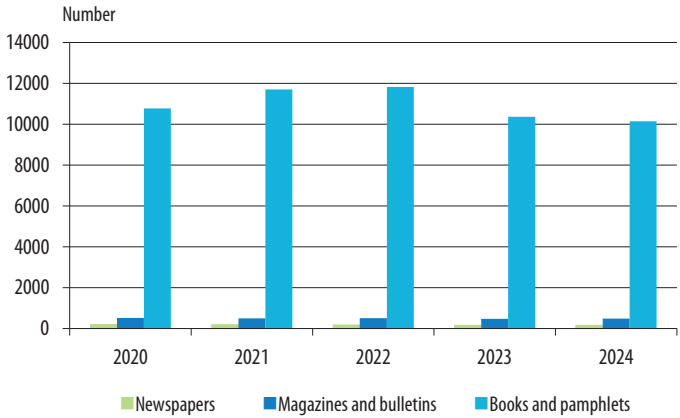
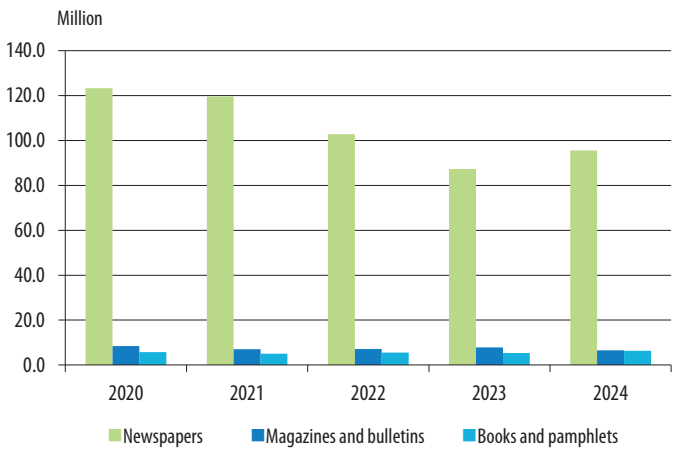


Figure 2. Circulation



1. Publishing

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Books and pamphlets				
Titles - number	10 769	11 700	11 828	10 361	10 143
Circulation - million	5.7	5.0	5.6	5.4	6.3
	Magazines and bulletins				
Titles - number	519	494	503	475	481
Annual circulation - million	8.4	7.0	7.1	7.9	6.5
	Newspapers				
Titles - number	209	201	191	180	178
Annual circulation - million	123.3	119.6	102.8	87.2	95.6

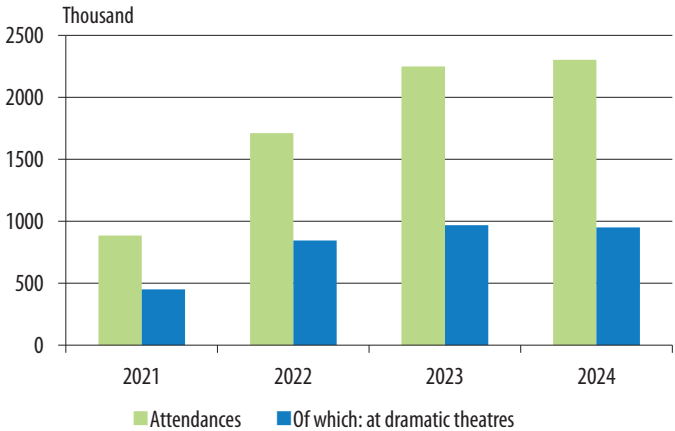
2. Book and pamphlet production by target group in 2024

Target group	Total		Books		Pamphlets	
	Titles - number	Circulation - thousand	Titles - number	Circulation - thousand	Titles - number	Circulation - thousand
Total	**10143**	**6306**	**8891**	**5297**	**1252**	**1009**
Social political	4	2	4	2	-	-
Scientific literature	2256	364	2196	357	60	6
Popular literature	1800	875	1648	813	152	62
Scientific and popular for adults	1800	875	1648	813	152	62
Professional literature	172	88	157	71	15	17
Professional production	172	88	157	71	15	17
Educational literature	1379	2362	1251	2072	128	289
Higher schools	703	96	684	94	19	2
General-education and special schools	583	2211	484	1928	99	283
Educational methodological	93	55	83	50	10	5
Fiction	3024	1464	2900	1442	124	23
Fiction for adults	3024	1464	2900	1442	124	23
Children's and juvenile literature	1331	1100	565	489	766	611
Children's and juvenile fiction	828	648	416	328	412	320
Children's and juvenile popular science	503	452	149	161	354	291
Official documents	66	24	65	24	1	0
Reference literature	111	28	105	27	6	1

Performing arts and cinemas

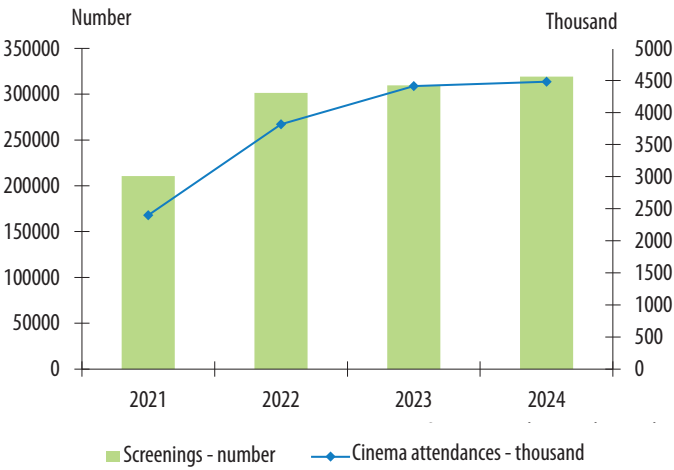
The NSI observes the activities of theatres, operas, operettas and musical theatres, and those of music and dance formations (philharmonic orchestras, ensembles for folk songs and dances and orchestras), their audience capacity, attendance and number of performances.

Figure 3. Attendances at theatres



At the end of 2024 the number of cinemas in Bulgaria was 84, and the number of screens - 240 which was an increase of 3 and 15 respectively in comparison with 2023.

Figure 4. Cinema attendances and screenings



3. Theatres

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Theatres - number	71	72	83	81
Capacity - thousand	29.7	31.7	34.1	46.9
Theatre performances - thousand	10.0	13.2	16.1	16.6
Theatre attendance - million	0.9	1.7	2.2	2.3

4. Cinemas

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cinemas - number	76	85	81	84
Screenings - number	210536	301350	309659	319136
Cinema attendances - thousand	2400	3816	4412	4481

5. Film production

(Number)

Films by kind	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Films produced	**74**	**98**	**144**	**190**
of which: For the television	31	58	92	113
Full-length films	**20**	**24**	**36**	**44**
Feature films	12	18	18	24
Documentaries	8	5	17	19
Others	-	1	1	1
Short- and medium-length films	**54**	**74**	**108**	**146**
Feature films	13	15	7	13
Documentaries	30	48	91	122
Animations	11	11	10	11
Others	-	-	-	-

Museums and community clubs

The museum is a cultural and scientific organisation which searches, examines, conserves and makes available for public viewing cultural and natural evidential material with cognitive, educational and aesthetical purposes. The NSI observes all museums open to visits: historical, natural, archaeological, ethnographic museums, art galleries and other exhibitions.

The Community clubs are 'traditional self-governing Bulgarian cultural and educational associations in urban and village areas, which perform public cultural and educational tasks' (Art. 2. Para 1 of the Act on community clubs). NSI conducts the survey on the community clubs' activities every five years.

Figure 5. Museums

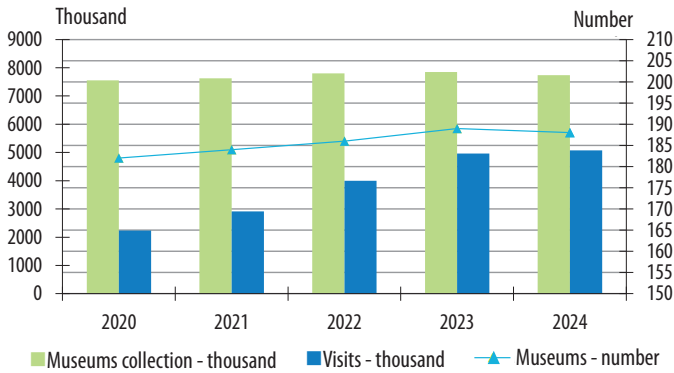
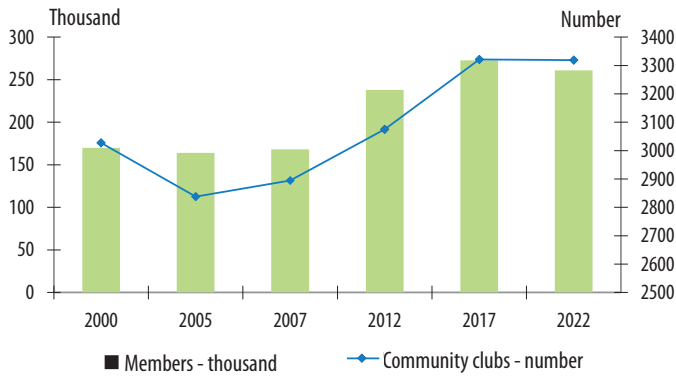


Figure 6. Community clubs and community clubs members



6. Museums

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Museums - number	184	186	189	188
Stocks units - thousand	7624	7804	7848	7733
Digital units - thousand	452	463	436	482
Visits - thousand	2915	4001	4965	5070
Visits in the day for free entrance - thousand	383	545	789	682
Personnel - number	3377	3392	3685	3423
of which: Professionals with an academic degree or academic title, and curators	1057	1062	1120	1101

7. Museums by statistical zone and statistical region in 2024

Statistical zones and statistical regions	Income - thousand BGN	Expenditure - thousand BGN	Personnel - number	
			Total	Of which: Permanent staff
Total	**160766**	**140956**	**3423**	**3100**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria	77204	64899	1808	1620
Severozapaden	11715	9809	290	278
Severen tsentralen	25612	21926	636	577
Severoiztochen	18114	14718	445	343
Yugoiztochen	21763	18446	437	422
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria	83562	76056	1615	1480
Yugozapaden	59750	54945	1101	1000
Yuzhen tsentralen	23812	21111	514	480

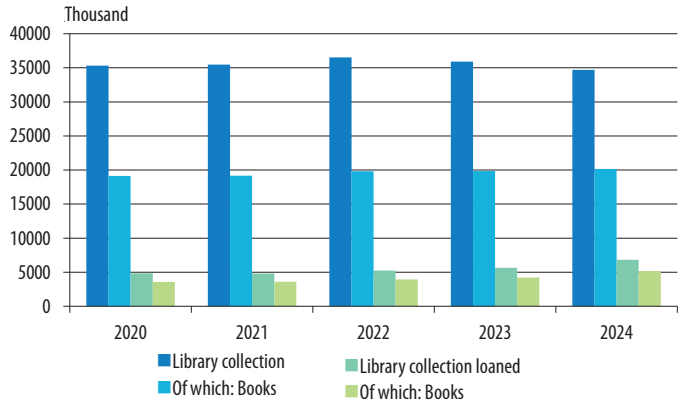
8. Community clubs

	2007	2012	2017	2022
Community clubs - number	2895	3075	3321	3319
In towns	548	587	663	665
In villages	2347	2488	2658	2654
Members - thousand	168	238	273	261
In towns	67	96	111	106
In villages	101	142	162	155

Libraries

Since 2002, the NSI has observed libraries with collection sizes above 200 thousand books. These are the biggest libraries in the country: the 'St. St. Cyril and Methodius' National Library, the regional libraries, some larger community club libraries, specialized libraries and libraries at institutions of higher education. At the end of 2024, the 49 libraries had 34 697 thousand library collections. The readers were 277 thousand. The books in libraries increased by 1.5% compared to the previous year.

Figure 7. Libraries with library collections above 200 thousand



9. Libraries with collections above 200 thousand

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Libraries - number	47	49	49	49
Library collection - thousand	35480	36528	35901	34697
of which: Books	19179	19825	19848	20147
Library collection loaned - thousand	4807	5247	5638	6822
of which: Books	3591	3934	4226	5142
Users - thousand	221	314	270	277

10. Libraries by category with collections over 200 thousand in 2024

Type of libraries	Libraries - number	Library collection - thousand		Users - thousand	Library collection loaned - thousand	
		Total	of which: Books		Total	of which: Books
Total	**49**	**34697**	**20147**	**277**	**6822**	**5142**
National Library 'St. St. Cyril and Methodius'	1	8573	2002	30	901	431
Regional libraries	27	12204	10347	167	4533	3997
Public libraries	4	1023	956	9	191	151
Libraries at institutions of higher education	13	7543	5083	64	1149	518
Special libraries	4	5354	1760	7	48	45

11. Libraries with collections over 200 thousands by statistical zone and statistical region in 2024

Statistical zones and statistical regions	Libraries - number	Library collection - thousand	Users - thousand	Visitors - thousand	Library collection loaned - thousand
Total	**49**	**34697**	**277**	**4384**	**6822**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria	28	10573	139	2105	2772
Severozapaden	6	1688	19	253	472
Severen tsentralen	9	3446	43	468	881
Severoiztochen	6	2824	41	749	652
Yugoiztochen	7	2615	35	635	767
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria	21	24124	138	2279	4050
Yugozapaden	14	20781	94	1919	2760
Yuzhen tsentralen	7	3343	44	360	1290

Radio and television activities

During the period 2021 - 2024, the number of radio stations in Bulgaria decreased by three (74 in 2021 and 71 respectively in 2024). In 2024, the share of broadcast advertisements was 4.2% of all broadcasts.

The total duration of the broadcasts in 2024 increased by 3.7% compared to 2023. In 2024, the share of television advertising was 6.8% of all broadcasts.

Figure 8. Structure of radio broadcasts

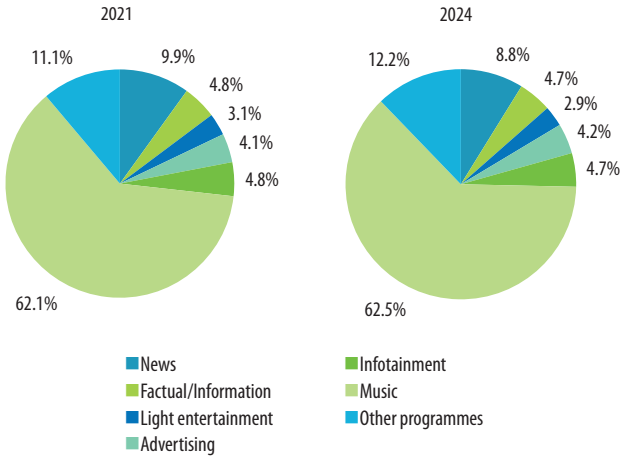
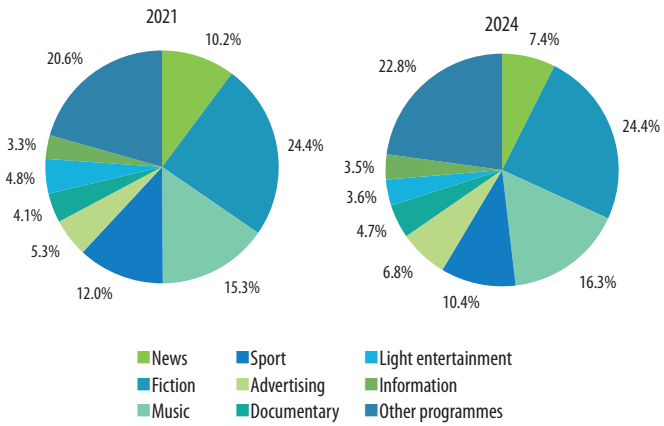


Figure 9. Structure of television broadcasts



12. Radio and television operators

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Radio operators - number	**74**	**73**	**73**	**71**
Programmes - hour	634967	603201	605616	606888
Television operators - number	**127**	**112**	**113**	**119**
Programmes - hour	856806	778163	772653	801809

13. Radio programmes by genre

(Hour)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**634967**	**603201**	**605616**	**606888**
News	63058	52567	51823	53467
Factual/Information	30665	26907	26892	28417
Infotainment	30378	26764	26907	28652
Light entertainment	19865	17888	16694	17536
Art and culture	11945	9264	9277	8327
Educational	6807	8076	8610	8156
Science	1656	1398	2087	1662
Religion	1352	1484	3330	3744
Dramatic	329	398	458	417
Sport	8368	8250	8060	8213
Entertainment	16852	20440	18851	12147
Music	394265	376450	380290	379056
Serious music programmes (classical music)	23204	15034	15883	20004
Light music programmes	263054	247224	250122	242492
Other music programmes	108007	114192	114285	116560
Children-youth	6949	12944	12811	13675
Regional	8471	7583	7686	9218
Advertising	26032	25074	24360	25770
Presentation/Promotion	3719	3516	3574	3620
Not classified elsewhere	4256	4198	3906	4811

14. Television programmes by genre

(Hour)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**856806**	**778163**	**772272**	**801809**
News	87178	62058	60422	58936
Information	28041	25811	26331	28432
Live broadcast from Parliament	2983	2167	3265	4194
Information/Entertainment	41244	32755	27665	29144
Topical	36666	40784	39769	43196
Human interest	4971	4610	4266	4312
Art/Humanities/ Sciences	15066	15322	15658	16715
Educational	8803	7762	8437	9564
Religion	6170	6530	7298	7260
Sport	102731	88968	80724	83327
Fiction	209265	186926	188944	195852
Feature films	95254	97572	98259	95458
Television or video films	114011	89354	90685	100394
Entertainment	25065	21917	17765	23665
Music	131434	122569	140126	131032
Children	6707	5216	5509	5909
Youth	5497	3895	12742	6824
Documentaries	35147	28754	29656	37710
Regional	8467	7620	8814	15724
Advertising	45152	59446	46873	54797
Teleshopping	17715	15859	13275	15272
Not classified elsewhere	38504	39194	34733	29944

VI. HEALTH

Health establishments and medical personnel

The health network includes in-patient and outpatient health establishments as well as other health establishments. Data are presented according to the status at the end of the year. Data on hospital beds include all de facto operating hospital beds as well as hospital beds temporary out of use for a period of less than six months. Hospital beds for temporary use are excluded.

When analyzing the health network data the following has to be taken into account: the number of health establishments and hospital beds has changed not only as a result of the opening or closure of establishments, but also because of the reorganization or merging of establishments.

At the end of 2024 there were 59 193 beds in all types of health establishments available in the country. Health establishments for hospital aid are hospitals, dermato-venereological centres, complex oncological centres, mental health centres. At the end of 2024 the number of health establishments for hospital aid was 341 with 56 061 beds.

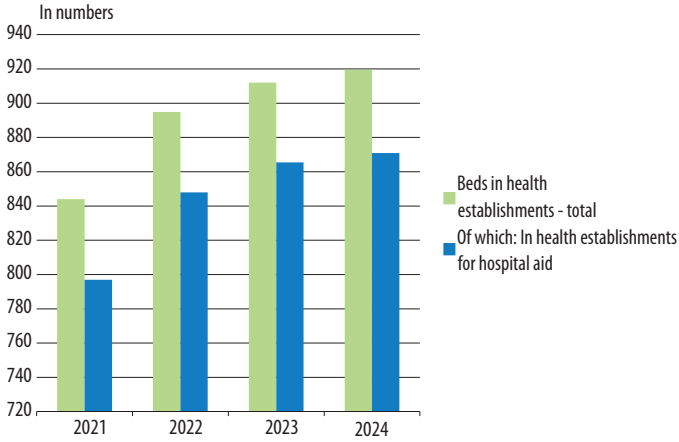
There were 920 beds available per 100 thousand of the population in 2024 and 871 hospital beds per 100 thousand inhabitants.

The number of medical personnel (individuals working under basic labour contract) includes persons practicing at healthcare establishments regardless of their ownership and subordination. Data on medical specialists working outside of the country as well as on medical specialists practicing outside of the health establishments (for example, doctors working for the pharmaceutical industry) are excluded.

At the end of 2024, there were 30 149 practicing physicians and 7 784 dentists. The number of physicians and dentists per 10 thousand of the population at the end of 2024 was 46.8 physicians and 12.1 dentists.

The number and structure of the population at the end of each year are calculated on the basis of the previous year's data and the data on natural movements and migration of the population in the current year. The population estimate as of 31 December 2022 reflects the changes in population numbers and structure recorded in the Census 2021. In this regard, there is a break in the time series for all coefficients for 2022.

Figure 1. Beds per 100 000 of the population[1]



[1] There is a break in the time series for all coefficients for 2022 due to the availability of a new population estimate based on 2021 Census data.

1. Health establishments as of 31.12.

(Number)

	2022		2023		2024	
	Establish-ments	Beds	Establish-ments	Beds	Establish-ments	Beds
Health establishments for hospital aid	**341**	**54707**	**341**	**55724**	**341**	**56061**
Hospitals	319	52462	319	53472	319	53806
Multi profile hospitals	179	38144	181	39168	181	39801
Specialized hospitals	140	14318	138	14304	138	14005
Dermato-venereological centres	3	30	3	30	3	30
Complex oncological centres	7	1193	7	1203	7	1203
Mental health centres	12	1022	12	1019	12	1022
Out-patient health establishments	**2172**	**1303**	**2237**	**1307**	**2289**	**1283**
Diagnostic and consulting centres	111	276	113	293	114	276
Medical centres	786	948	834	922	846	929
Dental centres	64	5	67	9	68	3
Medical-dental centres	60	74	67	83	70	75
Independent medical-diagnostical laboratories and medical-technical laboratories	1151	-	1156	-	1191	-
Other health establishments	**148**	**1751**	**149**	**1742**	**149**	**1849**
of which:						
Centres for urgent medical aid	27	-	27	-	28	-
Haematological transfusion centres	4	-	4	-	4	-
Hospices	43	1229	45	1252	44	1318
Homes for medical and social care for children	4	450	4	418	3	352
Integrated care centres for children with disabilities and chronic illnesses	10	70	10	70	12	177

2. Medical personnel in health establishments as of 31.12.[1]

(Number)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Physicians	29604	29599	29911	30149
Per 10 000 population[2]	43.3	45.9	46.4	46.8
Dentists	7499	7602	7607	7784
Per 10 000 population[2]	11.0	11.8	11.8	12.1
Health care professionals and other medical specialists	44451	44493	44523	44554
Per 10 000 population[2]	65.0	69.0	69.1	69.2
Of which: Nurses	28816	28827	28570	28393
Per 10 000 population[2]	42.1	44.7	44.3	44.1

[1] Under basic labour contract.

[2] There is a break in the time series for all coefficients for 2022 - see the methodological notes.

Medical personnel by district

The peculiarities of healthcare services from a territorial point of view have to be taken into account during the analysis of data on health establishments and medical personnel. Depending on the specialization of medical activities, the health establishments serve the population of one or more municipalities, districts or of the entire country.

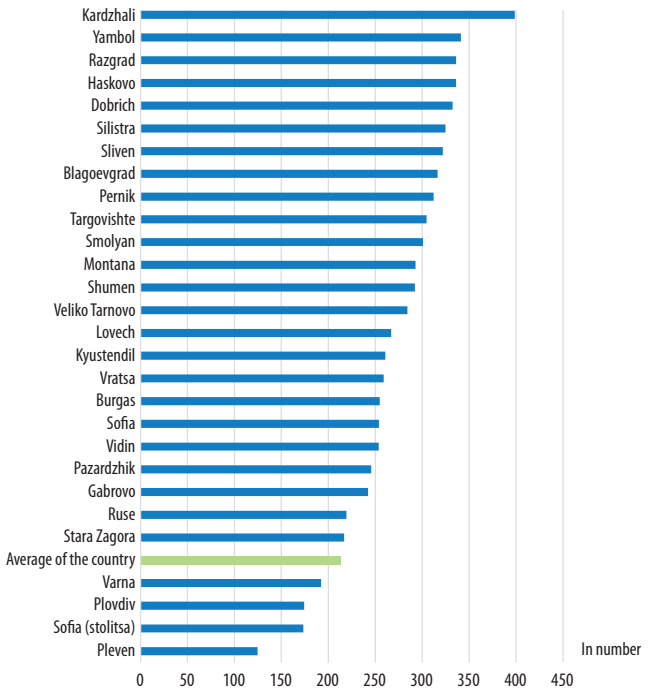
Indicators on the number of population per one physician and per one dentist are calculated based on the number of population at the end of the year. There is a break in the time series for all coefficients for 2022 due to the availability of a new population estimate based on 2021 Census data.

In total, for the country, there were 214 persons per one physician in 2024.

Compared to the country's average, this indicator is more favourable for the districts Pleven, Sofia (stolitsa), Plovdiv and Varna.

The highest number of population served by one physician is registered for the districts of Kardzhali (399 persons) and Razgrad (341).

Figure 2. Population per physician by district at the end of 2024



3. Medical care of the population by statistical zone, statistical region and by district as of 31.12.[1]

(Number)

Statistical zones, statistical regions and districts	Population per					
	Physician			Dentist		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Total[2]	**218**	**215**	**214**	**848**	**847**	**827**
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria	241	238	*237*	1072	1065	*1055*
Severozapaden	**205**	**199**	**194**	**1291**	**1312**	**1327**
Vidin	267	260	254	921	983	1008
Vratsa	260	259	259	1353	1330	1377
Lovech	260	265	267	1246	1275	1274
Montana	286	288	293	1452	1487	1523
Pleven	138	130	125	1377	1388	1372
Severen tsentralen	**274**	**270**	**267**	**1118**	**1108**	**1107**
Veliko Tarnovo	287	287	284	972	972	997
Gabrovo	247	243	242	1066	1090	1091
Razgrad	335	345	336	1580	1549	1579
Ruse	232	224	219	1031	968	949
Silistra	329	317	325	1449	1579	1509
Severoiztochen	**228**	**228**	**234**	**845**	**828**	**825**
Varna	183	184	192	641	621	633
Dobrich	328	333	332	1237	1275	1210
Targovishte	317	313	305	1552	1471	1393
Shumen	297	292	292	1226	1258	1214
Yugoiztochen	**264**	**262**	**258**	**1171**	**1169**	**1131**
Burgas	252	256	255	1233	1213	1147
Sliven	336	326	322	1343	1360	1344
Stara Zagora	231	224	217	983	984	959
Yambol	338	341	341	1359	1381	1387
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria	215	212	*210*	737	740	*718*
Yugozapaden	**207**	**205**	**202**	**761**	**766**	**743**
Blagoevgrad	319	324	316	895	892	886
Kyustendil	277	263	261	997	1006	1011
Pernik	297	318	312	776	730	704
Sofia	257	256	254	1724	1742	1677
Sofia (stolitsa)	179	176	173	659	669	646
Yuzhen tsentralen	**227**	**225**	**223**	**704**	**703**	**682**
Kardzhali	382	392	399	1048	1094	1150
Pazardzhik	247	249	246	1010	1019	985
Plovdiv	181	178	174	537	535	513
Smolyan	308	302	301	778	774	774
Haskovo	322	323	336	1080	1051	1021

[1] There is a break in the time series for all coefficients for 2022 - see the methodological notes.

[2] The indicators for the country are calculated by taking into account the total number of physicians and dentists incl. those attached to other offices as well as practicioners working in individual or group practices under a contract with the National Health Insurance Fund in more than one district.

Registered cases of malignant neoplasms and active tuberculosis

The data on the registered cases of malignant neoplasms and active tuberculosis are collected on the basis of the annual statistical reports. The latter are produced according to the notifications issued by the specialized health establishments with respect to such cases.

Two indicators are calculated - the prevalence rate and the incidence rate. The prevalence rate is the ratio between the total number of registered cases (incl. cases registered during previous years) and the average population for the respective year. The Incidence rate is the ratio between the newly registered cases and the average population for the same period. There is a break in the time series for all coefficients for 2022 due to the availability of a new population estimate based on 2021 Census data.

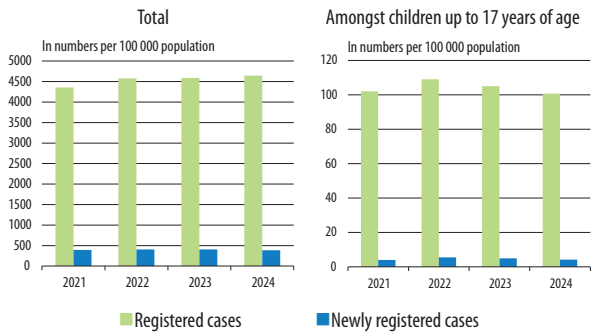
The number of registered cases had increased from 4 356 in 2021 to 4 646 in 2024 per 100 thousand of the population. The number of the newly registered cases was 385 per 100 thousand of the population.

The prevalence rate for the malignant neoplasms for children up to 17 years of age is 101 registered cases per 100 thousand children. The incidence rate per 100 thousand children of the respective age group is 4.

In 2024 the prevalence rate for active tuberculosis was 38 per 100 thousand of the population. The incidence rate is 14 per 100 thousand of the population.

The prevalence rate for the children up to 17 and incidence rate is 6 and 2 per 100 thousand children.

Figure 3. Registered and newly registered cases of malignant neoplasms[1]
(Per 100 000 population)



[1] There is a break in the time series for all coefficients for 2022 due to the availability of a new population estimate based on 2021 Census data.

4. Registered cases of diseases[1]

(Number)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Malignant neoplasms In numbers			
Total	**299628**	**295880**	**295827**	**299244**
Of which: New registered cases	26973	26235	26208	24815
Of which: Children 0 - 17 years of age				
Total	1212	1201	1153	1111
Of which: Newly registered	52	57	52	46
	Per 100 000 population[2]			
Total	**4356**	**4577**	**4589**	**4646**
Of which: New registered cases	392	406	407	385
Of which: Children 0 - 17 years of age[3]				
Total	102	109	105	101
Of which: Newly registered	4	5	5	4
	Active tuberculosis In numbers			
Total	**2548**	**2541**	**2419**	**2439**
Of which: New registered cases[4]	678	772	869	885
Of which: Children 0 - 17 years of age				
Total	87	62	60	65
Of which: New registered cases[4]	29	36	23	19
	Per 100 000 population[2]			
Total	**37**	**39**	**38**	**38**
Of which: New registered cases4	10	12	13	14
Of which: Children 0 - 17 years of age[3]				
Total	7	6	5	6
Of which: New registered cases4	2	3	2	2

[1] Source: National Centre for Health Information at the Ministry of Health.

[2] There is a break in the time series for all coefficients for 2022 - see the methodological notes.

[3] Calculated with the number of the population in the corresponding age group.

[4] Incl. recurrence.

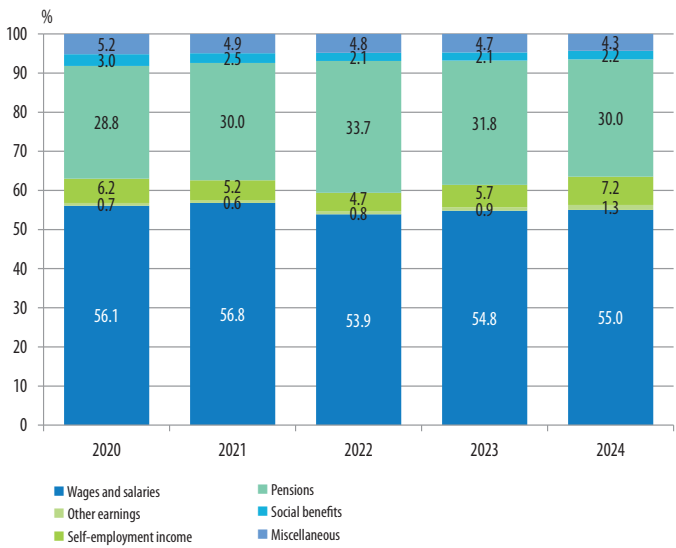
VII. HOUSEHOLD INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND CONSUMPTION

Total income, total expenditure, consumption of basic foods and purchasing power of the households are calculated on the basis of a quarterly representative survey of a random (stochastic) sample of 3 060 households held by NSI.

Total household income

Total income includes all monetary income as well as income in kind with a known value, irrespective of their source

Figure 1. Structure of total household income by source



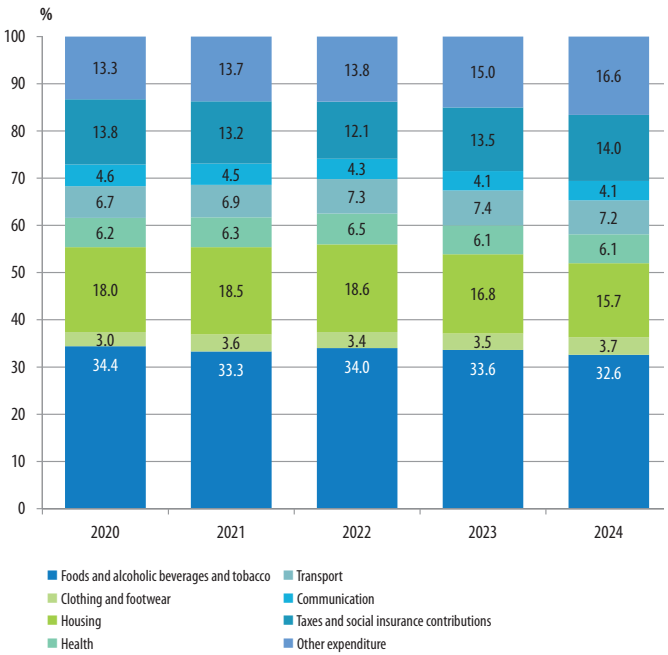
1. Total household income by source

Sources of income	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Average per capita - BGN				
Total income	**7002**	**7705**	**9008**	**10846**	**12857**
Total gross income	6749	7434	8720	10499	12488
Wages and salaries	3927	4379	4851	5941	7071
Other earnings	46	49	71	101	171
Self-employment income	434	401	421	621	923
Property income	43	33	52	35	35
Pensions	2018	2311	3039	3451	3863
Unemployment benefits	32	31	30	28	41
Family allowances	82	71	75	100	111
Other social benefits	90	90	93	94	129
Regular transfers from other households	78	70	89	128	144
Receipt sale	20	15	30	49	80
Miscellaneous	233	255	257	299	290
Drawn savings	219	278	376	423	437
Loans and credits	66	53	56	56	125
	Structure - %				
Total income	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total gross income	96.4	96.5	96.8	96.8	97.1
Wages and salaries	56.1	56.8	53.9	54.8	55.0
Other earnings	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.3
Self-employment income	6.2	5.2	4.7	5.7	7.2
Property income	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.3
Pensions	28.8	30.0	33.7	31.8	30.0
Unemployment benefits	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Family allowances	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9
Other social benefits	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.0
Regular transfers from other households	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.1
Receipt sale	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6
Miscellaneous	3.3	3.3	2.9	2.8	2.3

Total household expenditure

Total household expenditure includes all monetary expenditure on food and non-food goods and services as well as valued expenditure in kind according to the international Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) adopted by Eurostat.

Figure 2. Structure of total household expenditure



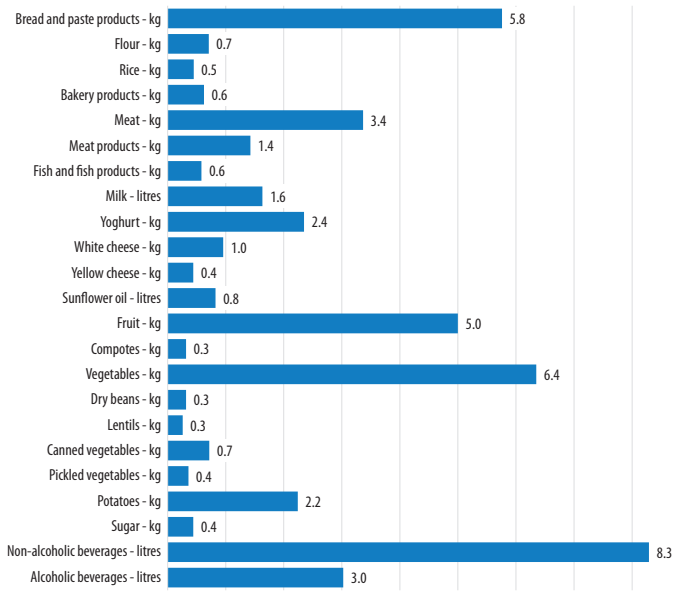
2. Total household expenditure by group

Expenditure groups	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Average per capita - BGN				
Total expenditure	**6220**	**7042**	**8389**	**10044**	**11712**
Consumer total expenditure	5054	5788	6970	8216	9466
Foods and non-alcoholic beverages	1872	2057	2529	2987	3357
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	265	289	327	390	452
Clothing and footwear	188	256	281	348	435
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	861	974	1187	1211	1260
Furnishing and maintenance of the house	260	333	379	474	570
Health	388	442	546	610	716
Transport	415	483	614	744	839
Communication	285	315	360	415	480
Recreation, culture and education	250	312	380	558	780
Miscellaneous goods and services	270	326	366	479	577
Taxes	360	394	423	554	680
Social insurance contributions	500	532	597	801	960
Regular transfers to other households	56	63	68	89	113
Other expenditure	251	264	330	385	494
Saving deposits	510	533	651	697	956
Debt paid out and loan granted	135	141	141	202	260
	Structure - %				
Total expenditure	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Consumer total expenditure	81.3	82.2	83.1	81.8	80.8
Foods and non-alcoholic beverages	30.1	29.2	30.1	29.7	28.7
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.9
Clothing and footwear	3.0	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.7
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	13.8	13.8	14.1	12.1	10.8
Furnishing and maintenance of the house	4.2	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.9
Health	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.1	6.1
Transport	6.7	6.9	7.3	7.4	7.2
Communication	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.1
Recreation, culture and education	4.0	4.4	4.5	5.6	6.7
Miscellaneous goods and services	4.3	4.6	4.4	4.8	4.9
Taxes	5.8	5.6	5.0	5.5	5.8
Social insurance contributions	8.0	7.6	7.1	8.0	8.2
Regular transfers to other households	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0
Other expenditure	4.0	3.7	3.9	3.8	4.2

Consumption of main foods

The consumption of main food products covers foods consumed at home. Catering data are excluded.

Figure 3. Average monthly consumption of main foods and beverages per capita in 2024



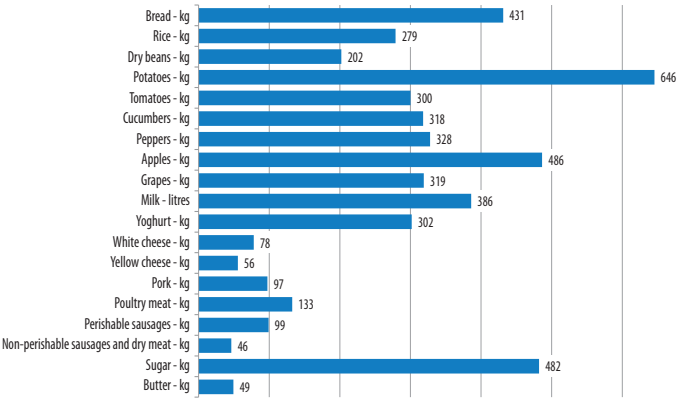
3. Household consumption of main foods and beverages average per capita

Foods and beverages	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bread and paste products - kg	80.4	78.2	75.6	72.5	69.1
Flour - kg	9.3	9.4	9.0	8.8	8.5
Rice - kg	6.0	6.1	5.7	5.6	5.4
Other cereals - kg	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8
Other bakery products - kg	6.1	6.6	6.8	7.1	7.5
Meat - kg	36.1	38.4	37.8	38.1	40.4
Meat products - kg	13.4	14.6	15.4	16.2	17.1
Fish and fish products - kg	5.6	6.2	6.1	6.2	7.0
Milk - litres	18.0	19.2	18.5	18.7	19.6
Yoghurt - kg	29.6	28.9	28.5	27.3	28.2
White cheese - kg	11.8	12.0	12.1	11.6	11.5
Yellow cheese - kg	4.6	5.1	4.9	4.9	5.3
Eggs - in numbers	157	160	160	162	166
Sunflower oil - litres	12.0	12.0	11.2	10.6	9.9
Margarine - kg	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6
Butter - kg	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Fresh and frozen fruit - kg	53.7	56.4	53.6	54.2	60.0
Compotes - kg	6.3	5.4	5.0	4.8	3.8
Fresh and frozen vegetables - kg	73.0	75.9	75.1	75.0	76.2
Dry beans - kg	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.8
Lentils - kg	2.9	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.1
Canned vegetables - kg	9.5	9.5	9.3	9.4	8.6
Vegetable juices and nectars - litres	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4
Pickled vegetables - kg	5.7	4.5	4.3	4.6	4.3
Potatoes - kg	27.2	28.1	27.5	27.2	26.9
Sugar - kg	6.6	6.6	6.3	5.8	5.3
Sugar products - kg	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.4
Chocolate products - kg	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.4
Salt - kg	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6
Vinegar - kg	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Non-alcoholic beverages - litres	72.1	78.7	82.5	88.4	99.5
Alcoholic beverages - litres	31.7	31.7	32.0	34.9	36.3
Cigarettes - in numbers	727	781	891	1005	1089

Purchasing power of household

The purchasing power is the quantity of a given kind of goods, which can be bought with the monetary annual household income average per capita if this income is used to buy only this kind of good.

Figure 4. Average monthly household purchasing power per capita in 2024



4. Household purchasing power average per capita

Goods	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Foods				
White bread - kg	4213	4230	3841	4418	5176
Rice - kg	2694	2706	2754	2938	3347
Dry beans - kg	1663	1728	1812	2110	2426
Potatoes - kg	6620	7507	7102	6655	7748
Tomatoes - kg	3022	3088	2925	3180	3601
Cucumbers - kg	3174	3231	3107	3307	3816
Peppers - kg	3391	3329	3254	3630	3934
Apples - kg	4138	4558	4917	5311	5837
Grapes - kg	4399	4302	4613	4437	3828
Milk - litres	4138	4223	4016	4009	4632
Yoghurt - kg	2921	3026	2877	3063	3622
White cheese - kg	834	873	786	805	936
Yellow cheese - kg	540	580	532	559	666
Pork - kg	814	952	1001	1005	1169
Poultry meal - kg	1404	1431	1326	1398	1590
Perishable sausages - kg	983	1036	1052	1082	1188
Non-perishables sausages - kg	430	462	485	504	556
Eggs - in numbers	28963	31904	27118	24502	29730
Sugar - kg	5001	5245	4182	4195	5785
Butter - kg	460	477	437	511	590
	Non-foods				
Men's shoes - pair	134	172	183	186	193
Women's shoes - pair	155	203	203	221	257
Children's shoes - pair	195	229	222	248	276
Men's suits - in numbers	52	35	60	53	57
Women's suits - in numbers	78	80	91	108	96
Coal - kg	23	22	20	22	35
Television sets - in numbers	14	18	14	18	18

Poverty indicators

The survey on income and living conditions is considered as the main source of statistical data on incomes and social inclusion along with the common indicators. To calculate indicators of poverty and social inclusion total disposable (net) income per equivalent unit is used. Equivalent scales are used because of the different composition and number of persons in the households. The modified OECD scale is used according to which the first adult aged 14 and more receives weight 1.0, the second adult aged 14 and more receives weight 0.5 and every child aged less than 14 receives weight 0.3. The weights are assigned to every household member and then are summed up so that an equivalent size of the household is obtained. Total disposable (net) income for every household is divided by its equivalent size and thus a net total disposable income per equivalent unit is formed. Data on poverty level show the share of poor people under the poverty line. The last is defined as 60% of the median equivalent disposable income.

Figure 5. At-risk-of-poverty rate by age

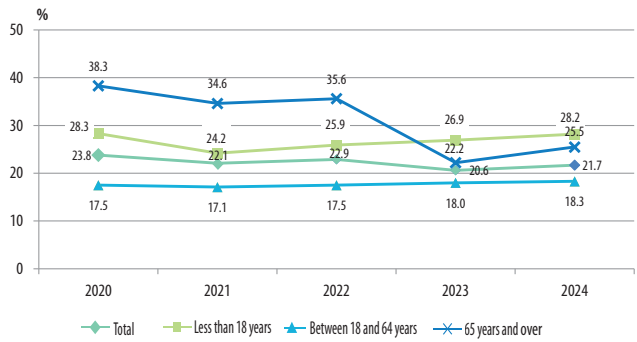
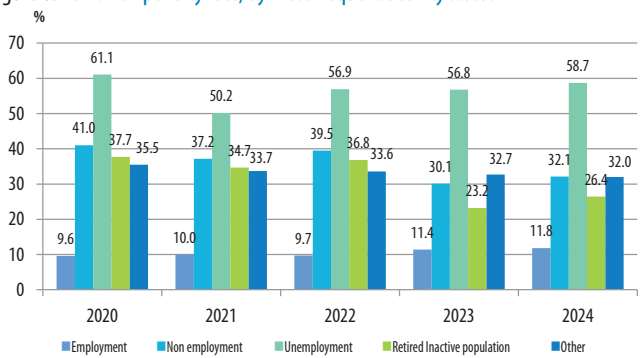


Figure 6. At-risk-of-poverty rate, by most frequent activity status



5. At-risk-of-poverty rate by age

Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**23.8**	**22.1**	**22.9**	**20.6**	**21.7**
0 - 17	28.3	24.2	25.9	26.9	28.2
18 - 64	17.5	17.1	17.5	18.0	18.3
65 and over	38.3	34.6	35.6	22.2	25.5

6. At-risk-of-poverty rate by household type

Households type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**23.8**	**22.1**	**22.9**	**20.6**	**21.7**
Households without dependent children	23.5	22.5	23.3	17.5	19.2
One adult younger than 64 years	24.1	23.6	25.9	24.6	23.7
One adult older or equal than 65 years	61.8	55.4	61.3	36.4	40.4
Single female	53.5	48.6	56.2	32.5	35.0
Single male	36.8	34.7	34.3	30.5	31.4
Two adults younger than 65 years	9.5	10.6	10.2	11.4	10.9
Two adults, at least one aged 65 years and over	23.6	21.3	16.4	10.7	14.6
Three or more adults	8.4	8.0	8.5	7.8	8.2
Households with dependent children	24.2	21.8	22.6	23.6	24.3
Single parent with dependent children	39.5	35.7	34.9	42.8	40.0
Two adults with one dependent child	11.9	13.2	12.2	14.6	17.7
Two adults with two dependent children	19.8	16.1	18.5	21.2	22.4
Two adults with three or more dependent children	59.2	49.3	48.5	55.2	47.0
Three or more adults with dependent children	26.6	24.8	25.6	22.4	22.5

7. At-risk-of-poverty rate by most frequent activity status

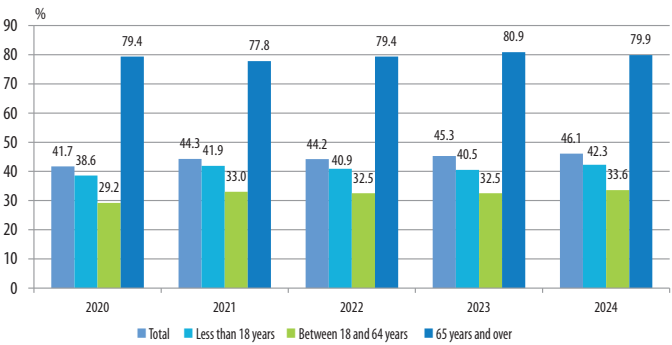
Activity status	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Employment	9.6	10.0	9.7	11.4	11.8
Non employment	41.0	37.2	39.5	30.1	32.1
Unemployment	61.1	50.2	56.9	56.8	58.7
Retired	37.7	34.7	36.8	23.2	26.4
Other inactive population	35.5	33.7	33.6	32.7	32.0

8. Inequality of income distribution

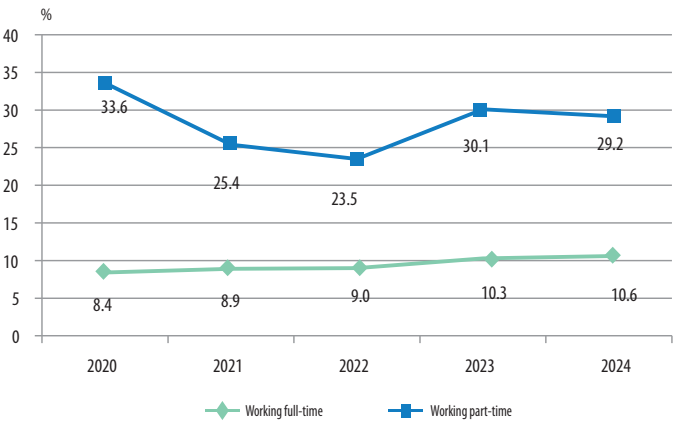
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
S80/S20[1]	8.0	7.4	7.3	6.6	7.0
Gini coefficient	40.0	39.7	38.4	37.2	38.4

[1] Inequality of income distribution S80/S20 income quintile share ratio.

Figure 7. At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers by age



Fidure 8. In-work at-risk-of-poverty rate (by full-time/part-time work)



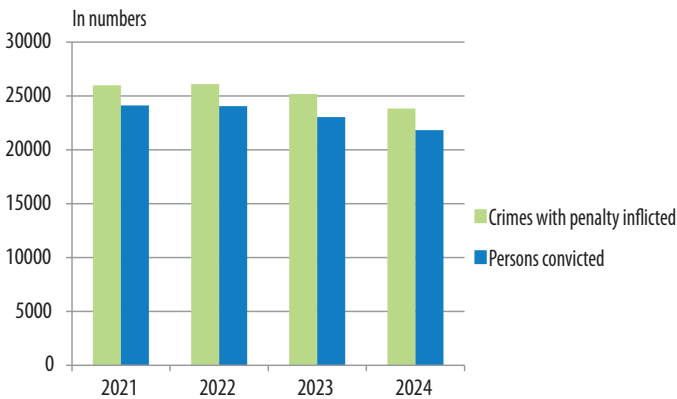
VIII. CRIMINALITY AND JUSTICE

Crimes with penalty inflicted

Statistical data on crimes with penalty inflicted and persons convicted are based on the annual data and cover the activity of district, regional and military courts within the territory of the country on penal trials of a general, private and administrative nature. The number of crimes includes the information from penal trials with sentence that has come into force during the reference year. Crimes with penalties inflicted include proceedings that finished with conditional or effective sentence irrespective of the number of perpetrators. A crime committed by more than one person (in complicity) is counted as crime with penalty inflicted when at least one of the accused persons is effective or conditional convicted. When a crime is committed by more than one person, it is reported only once. Crimes committed abroad which are under the jurisdiction of courts in the Republic of Bulgaria are included in the total number of crimes.

Sources of the data on crimes with penalty inflicted are NSI's statistical survey and an administrative source - the Unified Information System for Counteraction to Criminality, maintained by the Administration of the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Bulgaria. According to NSI's final data, the number of convicted crimes in 2024 is 23 831.

Figure 1. Crimes with penalty inflicted and persons convicted



1. Crimes with penalty inflicted and persons convicted[1]

(Number)

	2021		2022		2023		2024	
	Crimes	Persons convicted	Crimes	Persons convicted	Crimes	Persons convicted	Crimes	Persons convicted
Total	**25988**	**24121**	**26088**	**24047**	**25169**	**23037**	**23831**	**21821**
of which:								
Crimes against the person	1763	1517	1726	1373	1860	1455	2313	1788
of which:								
Homicide (committed and attempted)	71	75	53	55	62	70	59	62
Bodily harm	767	722	720	653	814	699	1056	865
Depravity	260	217	242	198	241	181	263	202
of which: Rape (committed and attempted)	47	44	32	28	30	28	28	26
Crimes against marriage, family and youth	617	580	599	569	624	573	609	547
Crimes against the property	4744	5147	4617	5052	4748	5069	4597	4980
of which:								
Theft	3261	3704	3217	3693	3298	3663	3163	3583
Robbery	444	511	411	481	455	512	447	508
Misappropriation	109	108	75	75	64	60	79	77
Crimes against the economy	1245	1248	1082	1064	939	896	759	721
Crimes against the financial, tax and insurance system	100	92	89	78	91	70	87	82
Crimes against the activity of state bodies, public organisations and persons performing public duties	2153	1968	2715	2458	2713	2559	2391	2273
Documentary crimes	1018	798	1158	945	951	761	866	653
Crimes against the order and the public peace	479	411	453	406	475	425	547	473
of which: Hooliganism	370	288	356	296	325	260	381	296
Generally dangerous crimes	13654	12163	13428	11902	12543	11022	11424	10096
of which:								
Crimes against the transport and communications	9197	8323	9598	8666	8622	7626	7699	6893
Theft of motor vehicle	192	199	164	174	175	191	165	153
Drug - related crimes	3298	2753	2938	2413	3341	2869	3258	2812
Military crimes	3	3	5	4	5	5	1	1

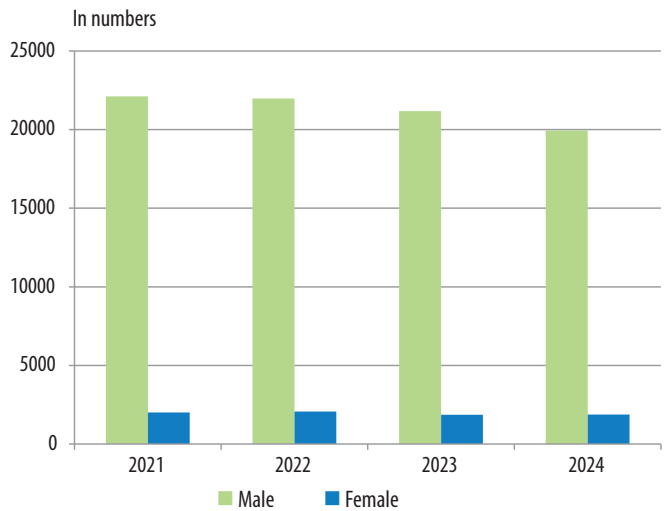
[1] According to the sentences into force.

Persons convicted

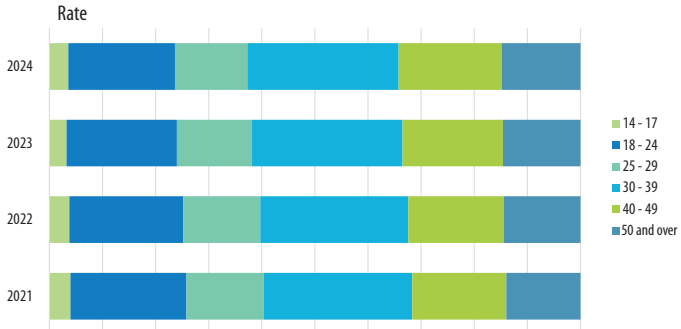
The number of persons convicted during a certain year includes those with effective or conditional sentence which has come into force during the same year. In case there is convicted person for more than one committed crime in one proceeding, the most severe punishment is counted. If a person is convicted for several crimes, the person is counted as the most serious punishable offence and each crime separately according to the respective type of crime. The number of persons convicted does not coincide with the actual number, as during the calendar year, a person may be convicted more than once. The age of persons convicted is in completed years by the date of commitment of the crime. Persons, who have completed 14 years of age, but not 18 years, are considered juveniles. Persons who have completed 14 years of age are considered to be penalty responsible.

In accordance with NSI's final data the number of persons convicted in 2024 is 21 821.

Figure 2. Persons convicted by sex



Фиг. 3. Разпределение на осъдените лица по възраст



2. Persons convicted by gender[1]

Sex	2021	2022	2023	2024
	In numbers			
Total	**24121**	**24047**	**23037**	**21821**
Male	22107	21973	21167	19941
Female	2014	2074	1870	1880
	Structure - %			
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Male	91.7	91.4	91.9	91.4
Female	8.3	8.6	8.1	8.6

3. Persons convicted by age[1]

Age	2021	2022	2023	2024
	In numbers			
Total	**24121**	**24047**	**23037**	**21821**
14 - 17	963	912	748	781
18 - 24	5262	5155	4784	4376
25 - 29	3516	3480	3252	2980
30 - 39	6739	6705	6533	6212
40 - 49	4270	4316	4356	4232
50 +	3371	3479	3364	3240
	Structure - %			
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
14 - 17	4.0	3.8	3.2	3.6
18 - 24	21.8	21.4	20.8	20.0
25 - 29	14.6	14.5	14.1	13.7
30 - 39	27.9	27.9	28.4	28.5
40 - 49	17.7	17.9	18.9	19.4
50 +	14.0	14.5	14.6	14.8

[1] According to the sentences into force.

IX. NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

Gross domestic product

The national accounts of Bulgaria are compiled in accordance with the main methodological recommendations of the documents 'European System of Accounts, 2010' (ESA 2010) issued by Eurostat and the 'System of National Accounts, 2008' (SNA 2008), a joint issue of the UN, OECD, Eurostat, IMF and the World Bank. The main macroeconomic indicator of the System of National Accounts is Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

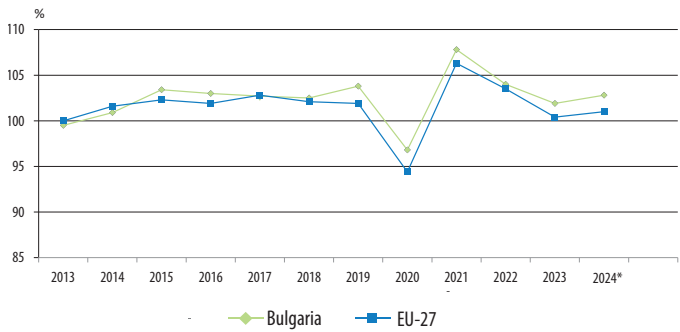
GDP estimates are an indicator for the trends in the development of the respective economy and they can be treated as an indicator for the economic policies at the macroeconomic level.

Gross domestic product represents a balanced estimate of the data performed by using the following three approaches:

- Production approach (output approach);
- Final expenditures approach;
- Income approach.

Every approach is based on different economic aggregates, which, put together, represent a generalization of the logical interrelations within the system of national accounts. A fundamental requirement of the system is the independence of the three different estimates, i.e. every component of GDP calculated according to the different approaches should be estimated independently and on its own.

Figure 1. Volume indices of GDP



1. Gross domestic product per capita

	2021	2022	2023	2024*
BGN	21453	26041	28733	31479
Euro	10969	13315	14691	16095
USD	12966	13987	15881	17364
Exchange rate - USD/BGN	1.655	1.862	1.809	1.808

2. Gross domestic product and gross value added by economic sector and economic activity groupings at current prices

(Million BGN)

Economic sector and economic activity groupings	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	6040	6248	4663	4190
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	24109	36921	34800	37682
Construction	4845	5679	7171	7933
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities	28245	32672	37560	40077
Information and communication	9520	11214	13391	14607
Financial and insurance activities	8283	9804	10416	11821
Real estate activities	10992	12187	14038	14302
Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	8447	9888	11433	12445
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	19599	22704	26183	30683
Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services	2091	2370	2759	3022
Gross value added at basic prices	**122170**	**149688**	**162414**	**176761**
Adjustments (taxes less subsidies on products)	17432	18672	22818	26101
Taxes on products	19383	24963	24294	27034
Subsidies on products	1951	6291	1476	934
Gross Domestic Product	**139602**	**168360**	**185233**	**202861**

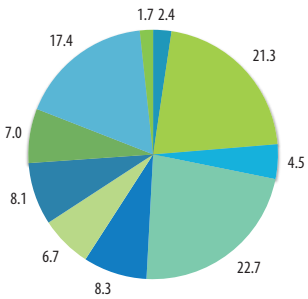
Gross value added

Gross domestic product (GDP) is calculated along the production approach as the sum of the gross value added at basic prices for the economy as a whole and of the adjustments, which include net taxes on products (taxes less subsidies), value added tax and import duties. On its own, the gross value added is a balancing item of the 'Output' account and determines the result of the production process as the difference between gross output and the goods and services used in this process, that is, the intermediate consumption.

Output (at basic prices) is the value of produced goods and services resulting from the production activity of resident units during the relevant period.

Intermediate consumption includes the value of all goods and services, transformed or entirely used up in the production process during the corresponding period except for the consumption of fixed assets, recorded as consumption of fixed capital (amortization).

Figure 2. Structure of GVA by economic sector and economic activity groupings in 2024*



- Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- Construction
- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities
- Information and communication
- Financial and insurance activities
- Real estate activities
- Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities
- Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities
- Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services

3. Volume indices of GDP and GVA by economic sector and economic activity groupings

(Preceding year = 100)

Economic sector and economic activity groupings	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	130.1	92.8	84.7	93.0
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	103.7	114.3	94.7	101.2
Construction	89.2	105.3	103.8	105.2
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities	113.7	101.1	105.8	103.5
Information and communication	107.2	102.0	104.3	103.0
Financial and insurance activities	123.7	108.4	103.0	102.9
Real estate activities	107.0	103.8	108.0	100.5
Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	114.0	105.4	103.8	100.5
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	100.9	107.0	102.9	105.5
Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services	97.8	99.0	97.0	100.8
Gross value added at basic prices	**108.1**	**105.5**	**101.3**	**102.5**
Adjustments (taxes less subsidies on products)	105.4	94.1	106.9	104.9
Gross Domestic Product	**107.8**	**104.0**	**101.9**	**102.8**

Compensation of employees and gross operating surplus/ gross mixed income

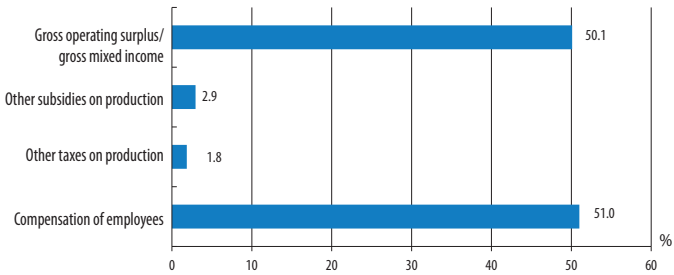
The income approach is compiled simultaneously with the production approach for GDP estimation; it characterizes the activity in which the primary incomes of the participants in the production process originate. According to the income approach for GDP estimation, GDP consists of the compensation of the employees, of the net taxes on production and imports, and of the gross operating surplus/gross mixed income and adjustments.

The compensation of the employees includes the total remuneration, in cash or in kind, paid by the employer to the employees in return for work done by the latter during the accounting period, including the social and health insurance contributions payable by the employer according to the national labour legislation.

Other net taxes on production and imports (taxes minus subsidies) are included as a component of the value added by economic sectors and represent output related unrequited payments of the employers to the state budget less the production subsidies granted by the state budget to the economic units.

Gross operating surplus/gross mixed income is a balancing item for the income approach. It is a measure of the results achieved by the production activities of the economic units. The gross operating surplus is calculated as the difference between the gross value added, the compensation of the employees, and the net taxes on production and imports.

Figure 3. Structure of GVA by income approach in 2024*



4. Gross domestic product by value added components at current prices

(Million BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Compensation of employees	61328	70304	80922	90163
Net taxes on production (other taxes minus subsidies)	-4716	-1870	-1655	-1944
Operating surplus and mixed income, gross	65559	81254	83148	88542
Consumption of fixed capital	17947	18948	21315	x
Operating surplus and mixed income, net	47611	62306	61833	x
Gross value added at basic prices	**122170**	**149688**	**162414**	**176761**
Adjustments	17432	18672	22818	26101
GDP at market prices	**139602**	**168360**	**185233**	**202861**

Investments and consumption

According to the final expenditure approach, GDP is calculated as a sum of individual consumption, collective consumption, gross fixed capital formation, changes in inventories and the net exports of goods and services.

Individual household consumption consists of final household consumption expenditure, government final consumption expenditure for the provision of individual services to households and final consumption expenditure of the non-profit institutions serving households.

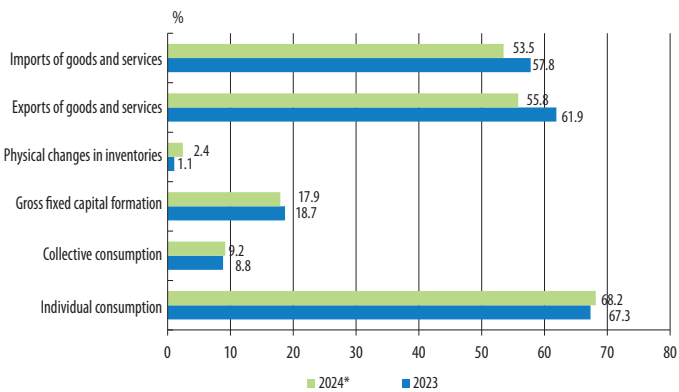
Collective consumption is measured by the final consumption expenditure of government on collective services provided to society as a whole.

Gross fixed capital formation includes expenditure on acquisition of fixed non-financial assets, including the increase of uncompleted construction less revenues from sales of existing fixed assets.

Changes in inventories include the change in materials and supplies, work-in-progress, finished goods and goods for resale in the enterprises, as well as the changes of households inventories resulting from their unincorporated activity.

Net exports of goods and services (exports minus imports of goods and services) as a final use GDP component represents the difference between the values of the exports and imports of goods and services. Exports and imports are valued at F.O.B. prices.

Figure 4. Structure of GDP by expenditure approach



5. Gross domestic product by expenditure approach, current prices

(Million BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Gross domestic product	**139602**	**168360**	**185233**	**202861**
Final consumption	107242	128289	141051	156853
Individual consumption	94689	113036	124694	138276
Collective consumption	12553	15253	16357	18577
Gross capital formation	28892	38196	36583	41291
Gross fixed capital formation	22720	28627	34624	36383
Changes in inventories	6173	9568	1958	4908
Net exports	3468	1876	7599	4718
Exports of goods and services	86303	117813	114632	113211
Imports of goods and services	82835	115938	107033	108494
Statistical discrepancy	0	0	0	0

6. Volume indices of GDP by expenditure approach

(Preceding year = 100)

	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Gross domestic product	**107.8**	**104.0**	**101.9**	**102.8**
Final consumption	106.5	104.9	101.3	104.3
Individual consumption	107.9	104.0	101.4	104.5
Collective consumption	96.7	112.0	100.7	102.8
Gross capital formation	109.7	109.2	87.2	104.1
Gross fixed capital formation	91.7	106.5	110.2	98.9
Changes in inventories	.	.	.	.
Net exports	0.9	-3.2	5.5	-2.1
Exports of goods and services	111.6	112.1	100.0	99.2
Imports of goods and services	110.7	115.3	94.5	101.3
Statistical discrepancy	.	.	.	.

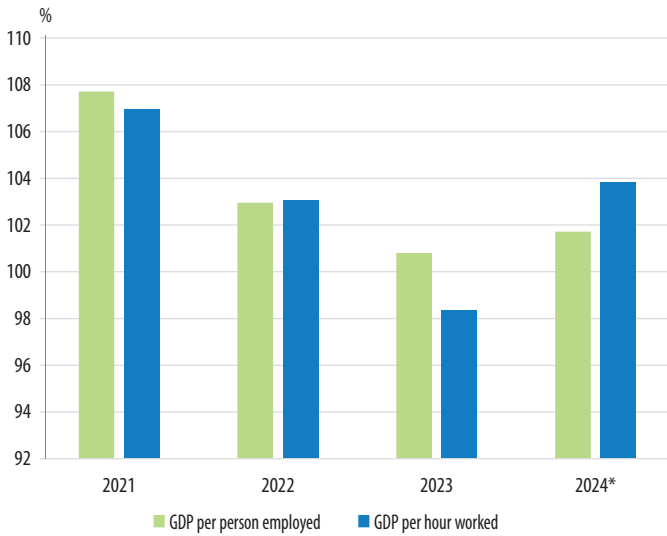
Labour productivity

Labour productivity is a compound economic indicator, which compares the accomplished result (the newly created product) with the labour input used in a given economic activity within a certain economic area during a specified period of time. The main components of labour productivity are indicators measuring the result of the performed productive activity (as a numerator), and indicators related to the labour input in the production process (as a denominator).

For the purposes of international comparisons, GDP is the preferred measure for the labour productivity of the various national economies.

Using GVA is appropriate for estimating labour productivity at the national level as well as at the production activity level.

Figure 5. Volume indices of GDP per employed and hour worked



7. Gross domestic product per employed and hour worked at current prices

(BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024*
GDP per employed	40958	48879	53206	57653
GDP per hour worked	25.3	30.2	32.1	35.5

8. Gross value added per employed and hour worked by economic sector at the same year prices[1]

(BGN)

Economic sectors	Per employed			Per hour worked		
	2022	2023	2024*	2022	2023	2024*
Agriculture	11974	9020	8570	8.3	6.4	6.1
Industry	49438	48943	53296	29.8	28.6	31.8
Services	44440	50126	54371	27.0	29.5	32.8
Total of economy	**40771**	**43730**	**47746**	**25.2**	**26.4**	**29.4**

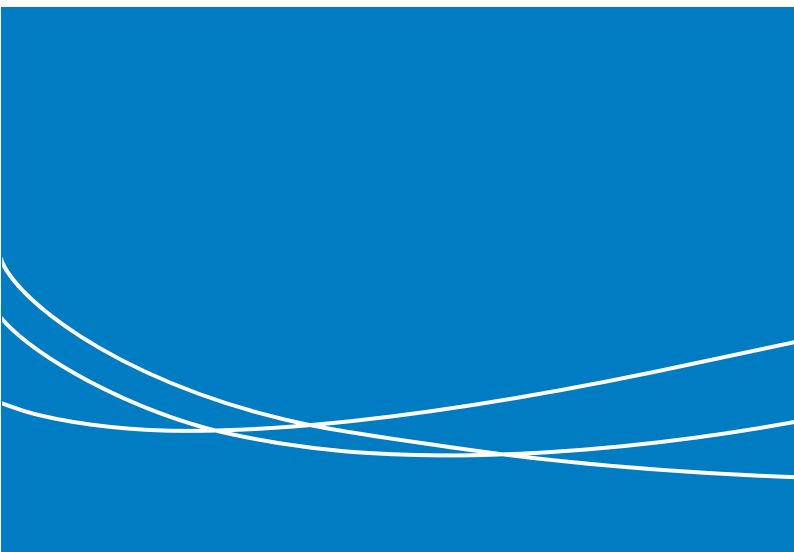
9. Volume indices of GVA per employed and hour worked by economic sector[1]

(Preceding year = 100)

Economic sectors	Per employed			Per hour worked		
	2022	2023	2024*	2022	2023	2024*
Agriculture	94.7	85.5	98.4	96.5	87.7	99.0
Industry	113.9	96.3	102.1	113.6	93.4	104.3
Services	100.9	102.6	102.0	100.9	99.3	104.7
Total of economy	**104.4**	**100.2**	**102.9**	**104.5**	**97.7**	**105.1**

[1] For the calculations of labor productivity, gross value added data do not include imputed rent for persons living in owner-occupied dwellings.

X. FINANCE



Monetary aggregates

Money supply comprises liabilities with money character of monetary financial institutions (MFIs) to the resident sectors with exception of the liabilities to the Central government sector and the Monetary financial institutions sector. It is measured using the following monetary aggregates: M1, M2 and M3.

The monetary aggregate M1 - 'narrow money' - includes the most liquid instruments used in settlements (currency outside the MFIs and overnight deposits in national and foreign currency).

The 'Currency outside monetary financial institutions' indicator represents currency in circulation less cash in BGN held by other monetary financial institutions.

Overnight deposits include deposits without an agreed maturity, which are immediately convertible into currency or transferable on demand through banker's order or by cheque without significant restrictions or penalties. One-day deposits and also transferable deposits are included in this item. Transferable saving deposits are included in transferable deposits.

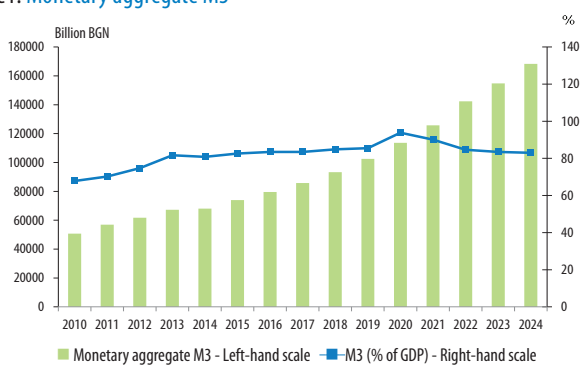
The monetary aggregate M2 includes monetary aggregate M1 and quasi-money.

Quasi-money comprise deposits with agreed maturity of up to two years and deposits redeemable at notice (incl. non-transferable savings deposits) up to three months. Deposits with agreed maturity are not immediately available as they have an agreed term prior to withdrawal. Received loans are also included under this category. Deposits redeemable at notice include non-transferable savings deposits and other deposits redeemable at notice.

The monetary aggregate M3 (broad money) includes monetary aggregate M2 and marketable instruments.

Marketable instruments consist of repos, money market funds shares/units and debt securities issued up to two years.

Figure1. Monetary aggregate M3



1. Money supply as of 31.12.[1,2]

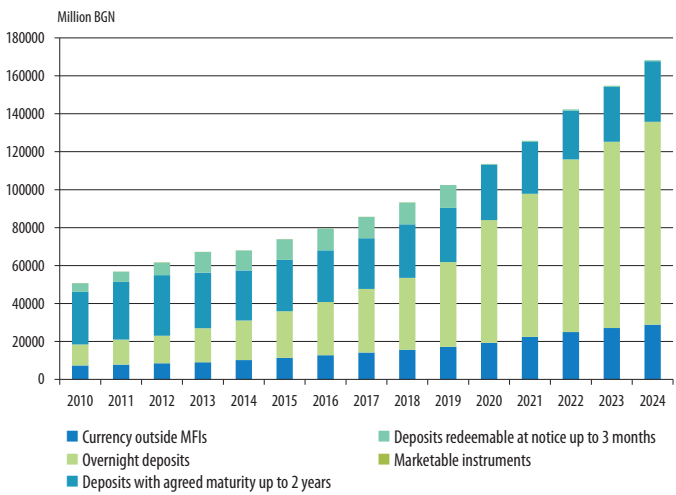
(Million BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Broad money M3	**125776.2**	**142370.9**	**154757.7**	**168279.5**
Money M1	97827.8	115979.7	125285.9	135767.0
Currency outside MFIs	22377.6	24998.4	27134.5	28850.4
Overnight deposits	75450.2	90981.3	98151.4	106916.6
Money M2 (M1 + quasi-money)	125776.2	142370.9	154757.7	168279.5
Quasi-money	27948.4	26391.2	29471.8	32512.5
Deposits with agreed maturity up to 2 years	27339.0	25764.4	28871.4	31900.3
Deposits redeemable at notice up to 3 months	609.5	626.8	600.4	612.3
Marketable instruments (debt securities issued up to 2 years+ MMFs shares/ units + repos)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

[1] Source: BNB.

[2] The definition of monetary aggregates is in accordance with the requirements of the ECB.

Figure 2. Components of the monetary aggregate M3

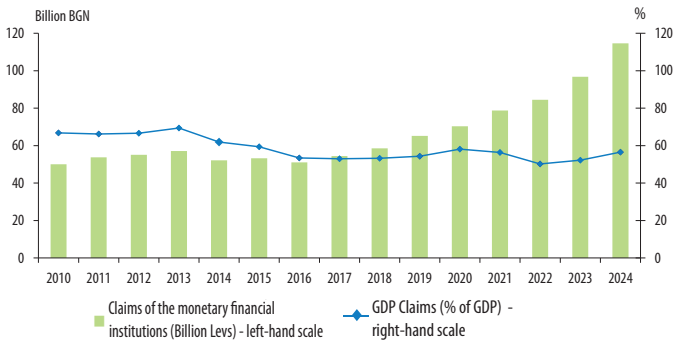


Claims of the monetary financial institutions on the government and non-government sectors

Claims of the monetary financial institutions on government and non-government sectors represent domestic credit, which is part of net domestic assets included in the Monetary survey. It is part of the monthly monetary statistics published by the Bulgarian National Bank.

Domestic credit covers credit to the consolidated general government sector (net claims on the central government sector, and gross claims on sectors local government and social security funds) and credit to the non-government sector (gross claims on non-financial corporations, financial corporations, households and NPISHs).

Figure 3. Claims of the monetary financial institutions on government and non-government sectors



2. Claims of MFIs on government and non-government sectors as of 31.12.[1]

(Million BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Claims on General government	**5183.9**	**1821.6**	**4046.1**	**8450.5**
Central government (net)	4800.1	1432.8	3548.8	7972.2
Claims	14679.3	14689.0	15582.8	18417.3
Government securities	14041.4	14071.4	15103.9	18103.8
Repos	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Loans	637.9	617.6	478.9	313.5
Less: liabilities (deposits and repos)	9879.3	13256.2	12034.0	10445.1
Local government and Social security funds	383.8	388.8	497.3	478.3
Securities other than shares	68.4	59.6	32.1	26.0
Repos	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Loans	315.4	329.2	465.2	452.3
Claims on non-government sector	**73475.0**	**82636.1**	**92719.8**	**106190.8**
Non-financial corporations	38283.2	42176.0	45399.0	50072.6
Repos	355.9	404.0	555.8	524.3
Loans	37280.0	41146.2	44142.2	48580.6
Securities other than shares	432.3	428.4	496.0	765.3
Shares and other equity	215.0	197.4	205.0	202.4
Financial corporations	6283.9	7333.0	8924.3	9744.0
Repos	40.0	51.9	86.7	120.2
Loans	4968.7	5946.0	7486.3	8345.3
Securities other than shares	534.4	620.9	651.2	585.1
Shares and other equity	740.8	714.2	700.1	693.4
Households and NPISHs	28907.9	33127.1	38396.5	46374.2
Repos	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Loans	28907.6	33126.8	38396.2	46373.9

[1] Source: BNB.

Interest rates

Interest rates refer to BGN denominated instruments. They are average weighted with the respective volumes, except for the base interest rate and the long-term interest rate (LTIR) for convergence assessment purposes, which are calculated as simple average values.

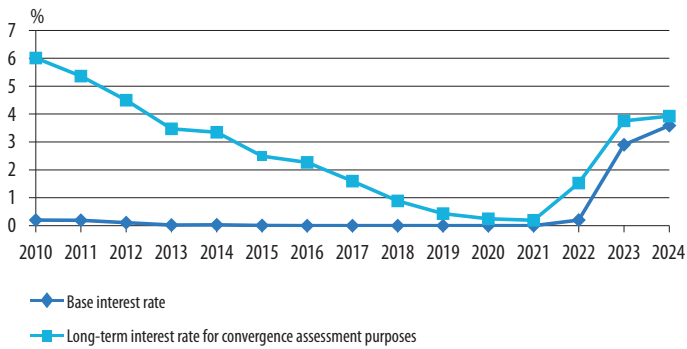
Yield on long-term government securities is the average weighted effective yield to maturity on individual transactions in interest-bearing government securities on the secondary market during the reporting period. The yield is calculated using the ISMA formula at ACT/365 day count convention. The securities are grouped by their original maturity.

The long-term interest rate for convergence assessment purposes is determined on the basis of the secondary market yield to maturity of a long-term government bond (benchmark bond) issued by the Ministry of Finance and denominated in national currency.

The annual effective interest rates are average weighted with the new business volumes throughout the reporting period or the outstanding amounts as of the end of the reporting period. These are the interest rates applied by the banks on loans and deposits vis-a-vis resident 'Non-financial corporations' and 'Households and NPISHs' sectors.

The annual percentage rate of charge comprises all interest payments on a loan, as well as all fees, commissions and other charges a client has to pay in order to obtain the loan. It is calculated for consumer loans and loans for house purchases only.

Figure 4. Dynamics of the interest rates



3. Interest rates[1,2]

(Per cent)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Base interest rate	0.00	0.20	2.90	3.59
Interbank money market	-0.62	0.74	3.21	3.61
Yield on long-term government securities	0.28	1.15	3.48	3.12
Long-term interest rate for convergence assessment purposes	0.19	1.53	3.76	3.93
New business[3]				
Deposits with agreed maturity	0.00	0.07	1.48	1.67
Short-term loans, other than overdraft	5.90	4.90	7.25	7.79
Long-term loans, other than overdraft	4.19	4.19	4.85	5.00
Annual percentage rate of charge	6.10	6.00	6.21	6.21
Outstanding amounts[3]				
Overnight deposits[4]	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.02
Deposits with agreed maturity	0.08	0.10	0.40	0.71
Overdraft[4]	3.86	3.89	4.64	4.38
Short-term loans, other than overdraft	6.08	5.87	7.29	7.26
Long-term loans, other than overdraft	4.05	4.00	4.27	4.27

[1] Source: BNB.

[2] The interest rates are on BGN instruments.

[3] Effective annual rates applied by banks on loans and deposits vis-a-vis Non-financial corporations and Households and Non-profit institutions serving households (NPISHs) sectors.

[4] The interest rates on new business and on outstanding amounts coincide.

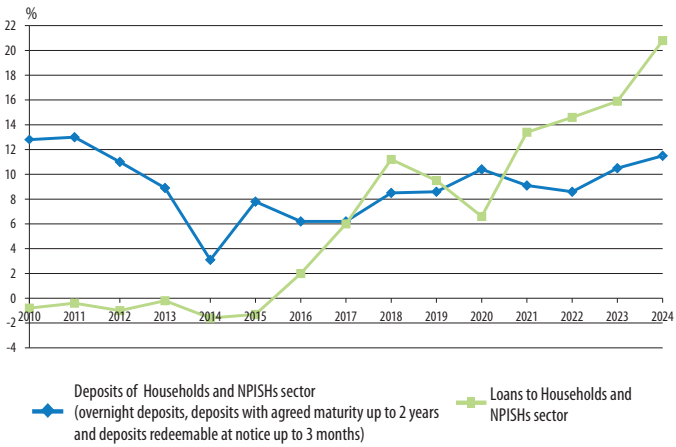
Deposits and loans of Households and NPISHs sector

Deposits are funds accepted by the monetary financial institutions and can be payable at sight, without any notice, upon notice or under other previously agreed payment conditions. Deposits are accepted upon agreement between the parties concerning the terms and conditions for the keeping of the deposit accounts, the interest rate, the time of repayment and the penalties for the parties in case of failure to perform their obligations. The deposits are liabilities of financial institutions.

Deposits with agreed maturity are not immediately available as they have an agreed term or other restriction on withdrawal. These deposits cannot be used for payment purposes and are not convertible into cash money prior to maturity without significant restrictions or penalties. Received loans are also included under this category.

Deposits redeemable at notice include non-transferable savings deposits and other deposits redeemable at notice. Savings deposits are non-transferable deposits without specified maturity used for safekeeping the funds of households against issuance of a personal savings book or an analogous document. These include deposits on house purchase, children's deposits and other deposits. Other deposits redeemable at notice are non-transferable deposits without a specified maturity, which cannot be converted into currency without any notice. Their conversion into cash is not possible or they can be converted into cash prior to the term of the notice but by imposing a sanction. Non-transferable deposits with specified maturity which can be converted into cash prior to maturity only at notice are also included.

Figure 5. Annual change of deposits and loans of Households and NPISHs sector



Loans are financial assets created to provide borrowers with funds, goods, or services. Terms and conditions of loans (fixed by the creditor or negotiated) are usually evidenced by a non-transferable document. A loan is an unconditional debt which has to be repaid upon maturity and which generates income in the form of interest. Margin deposits made by the reporting agents are also included in the 'Financial corporations' sector.

Overdrafts represent debit balances on current accounts. Repayment is automatic upon receipt of funds in the respective current account. Both overdrafts with pre-agreed interest terms and amounts and without pre-agreed terms are included.

Consumer loans - loans granted for the purchase of goods and services for personal use by households.

Loans for house purchases - loans extended to households for the purpose of investing in housing for own use or rental, including building and home improvements.

Other loans - all other loans extended to households, including loans for education and medical treatment. Loans for commercial or production purposes and loans to NPISHs are also included in the indicator.

4. Deposits and loans of Households and NPISHs sector as of 31.12.[1]

(Million BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Deposits of Households and NPISHs sector	**64804.2**	**70361.4**	**77767.8**	**86726.7**
In BGN	41918.7	46449.6	53388.2	61505.5
Deposits with agreed maturity up to 2 years	11121.8	10513.9	11034.6	11972.1
Deposits redeemable at notice up to 3 months	338.2	347.9	334.2	353.2
Overnight deposits	30458.7	35587.8	42019.4	49180.2
In foreign currency[2]	22885.5	23911.8	24379.6	25221.2
Loans to Households and NPISHs sector	**28907.5**	**33126.9**	**38396.2**	**46373.9**
In BGN	27240.8	31691.8	37199.9	45153.0
Overdraft	1106.8	1160.1	1215.2	1302.5
Consumer loans	12996.1	14698.8	16158.7	18604.6
Loans for house purchases	12800.6	15454.8	19441.7	24769.2
Other loans	337.3	378.1	384.3	476.7
In foreign currency[3]	1666.7	1435.1	1196.3	1220.9

[1] Source: BNB.

[2] The indicator includes data on overnight deposits, deposits with agreed maturity up to 2 years and deposits redeemable at notice up to 3 months.

[3] The indicator includes data on overdraft, consumer loans, loans for house purchases and other loans.

XI. PRICES

Consumer price indices

The consumer price index is an official measure of the inflation in the Republic of Bulgaria. It measures the total relative price change of goods and services used by households for private (non-production) consumption and it is calculated by applying the structure of the final monetary consumption expenditures of the Bulgarian households. The main source of information concerning the expenditures is the Households budget survey in the country. The CPI in year t is calculated with structure of expenditures for year t - 1.

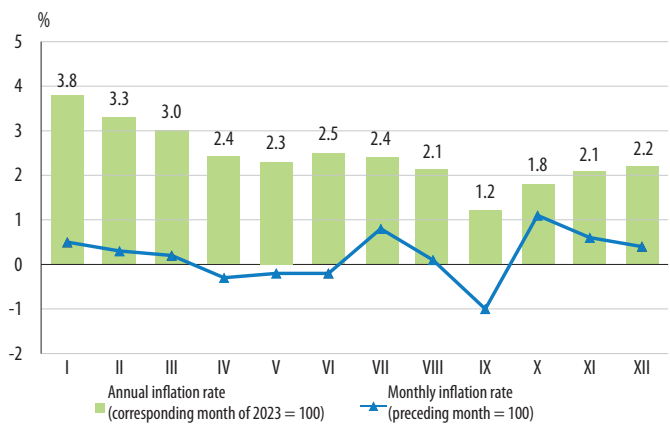
The chain consumer price indices measure the price change in the current month compared to the previous month. The chain consumer price indices are used as a measure of **monthly inflation.**

The 12-month consumer price indices measure the price change between the current month and the same month of the previous year. The 12-month consumer price indices are used as a measure of a**nnual inflation**.

Consumer price indices over December of the previous year measure the accumulated changes in the prices of the current month with respect to December of the previous year. Consumer price indices over December of the previous year have been used as measures of the **inflation since the beginning of the year**. In December each year, the 12-month index is equal to the consumer price index over December of the previous year.

The annual average consumer price indices measure the average price change during the 12 months of the current year compared to the average price change during the 12 months of the previous year. The annual average consumer price indices are used as a measure of the **annual average inflation**.

Figure 1. Consumer prices indices by months in 2024
(Annual and monthly inflation rates)



1. Annual consumer price indices by main commodity groups (Annual inflation rates)

(December of the current year compared to December of the preceding year)

Commodity groups	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**7.8**	**16.9**	**4.7**	**2.2**
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	8.9	26.1	5.6	2.8
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	1.4	3.7	6.3	6.0
Clothing and footwear	2.8	7.6	3.1	-1.2
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	11.6	19.9	0.5	2.8
Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance	4.8	13.9	5.1	-1.5
Health	0.9	8.7	8.1	1.8
Transport	22.2	8.1	3.3	-0.6
Communication	-5.3	5.9	2.7	-3.2
Recreation and culture	5.6	14.8	3.3	3.7
Education	4.8	10.3	8.2	7.1
Restaurants and hotels	6.7	21.0	9.5	7.5
Miscellaneous goods and services	3.3	11.0	8.8	3.4

Figure 2. Consumer prices indice by commodity groups (Annual inflation rates)

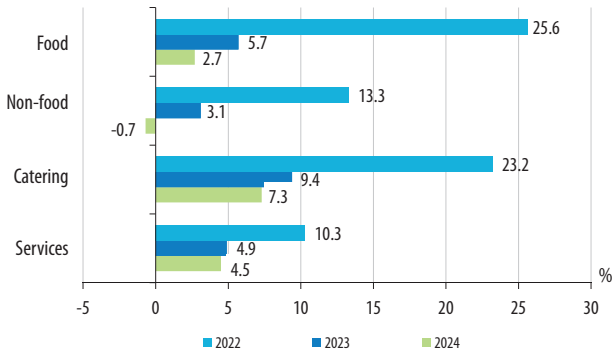


Figure 3. Consumer prices indice
(Annual average inflation rates)

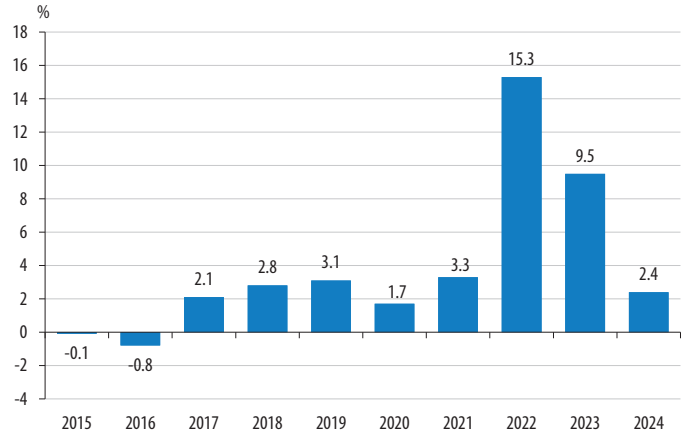
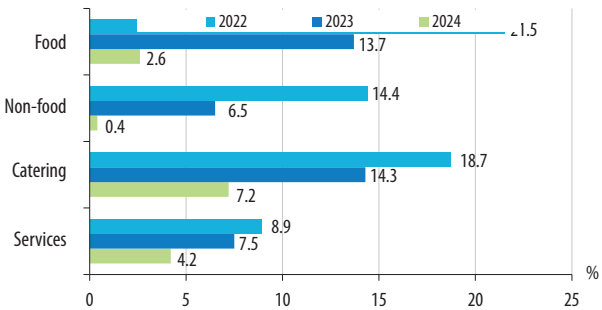


Figure 4. Consumer prices indice by commodity groups
(Annual average inflation rates)



2. Annual average consumer price indices

(1995 = 100)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
All items	7383.61	8515.77	9321.28	9547.29

3. Annual average consumer price indices by main commodity groups (Annual average inflation rates)

(Preceding year = 100)

Commodity groups	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**3.3**	**15.3**	**9.5**	**2.4**
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	2.8	22.0	13.7	2.6
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0.8	2.6	6.1	5.9
Clothing and footwear	-1.1	6.6	5.7	-0.4
Housing. water. electricity. gas and other fuels	4.8	19.7	7.1	3.0
Furnishing. household equipment and routine household maintenance	1.9	11.6	9.0	0.8
Health	0.8	3.2	11.6	3.4
Transport	10.4	22.7	-1.8	0.6
Communication	-2.6	0.7	5.5	-2.3
Recreation and culture	5.8	10.9	12.4	0.2
Education	4.8	7.0	10.1	7.1
Restaurants and hotels	3.2	17.6	13.5	7.7
Miscellaneous goods and services	1.6	6.5	12.2	4.5

Harmonized index of consumer prices

The Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices is the comparable measure of inflation across EU Member states. It is one of the criterions of price stability and for the readiness of Bulgaria to join the euro-zone.

HICP, just as CPI, measures the total relative price change of goods and services. Both indices are calculated using the same basket of goods and services, but differ with respect to the used weights. HICP is calculated through the use of weights, which reflect the individual and the collective consumption of all households (incl. institutional and foreign households) on the economic territory of the country. The main source of information for HICP weights is the national accounts data. HICP in year t is calculated with the weights of year t-2.

In compliance with Regulation (EC) No. 2016/792 **the base year for HICP is 2015** and all indices have been calculated and published at **2015 as a base year**.

Figure 5. Harmonized indices of consumer prices by months in 2024
(Annual and monthly inflation rates)

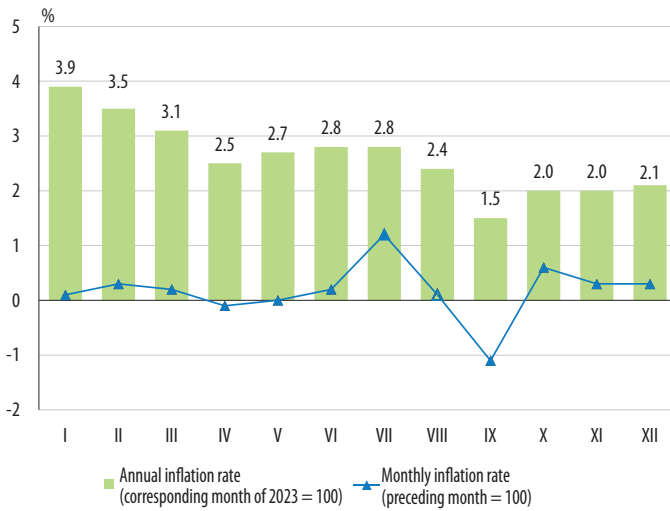
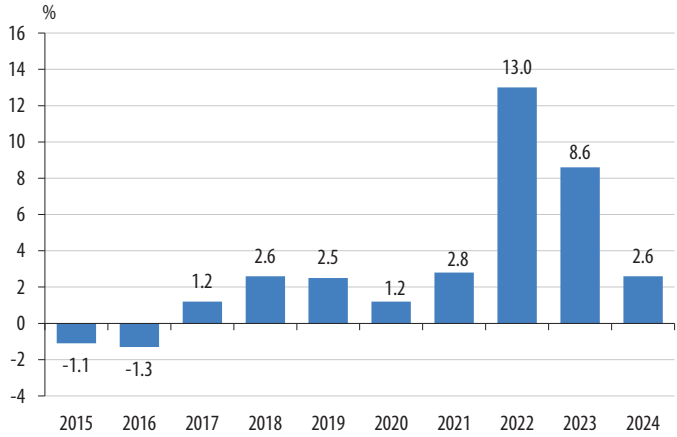


Figure 6. Harmonized indices of consumer prices
(Annual average inflation rates)



4. Annual average harmonized indices of consumer prices

(2015 = 100)

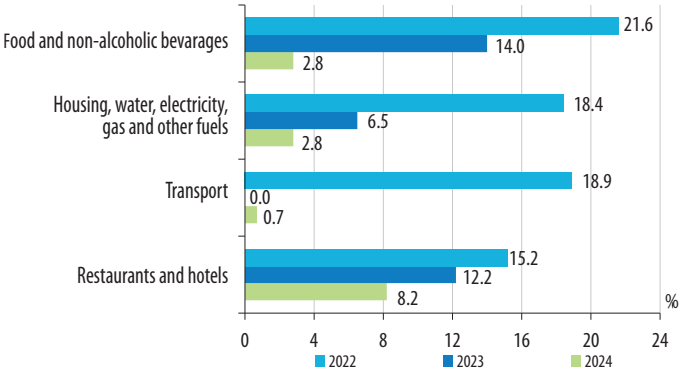
	2021	2022	2023	2024
All items	109.30	123.52	134.15	137.63

5. Annual average harmonized indices of consumer prices by main commodity groups
(Annual average inflation rates)

(Preceding year = 100)

Commodity groups	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**2.8**	**13.0**	**8.6**	**2.6**
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	2.7	21.6	14.0	2.8
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	1.0	3.2	6.5	5.7
Clothing and footwear	-0.9	6.7	5.9	-0.6
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	4.5	18.4	6.5	2.8
Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance	2.4	11.4	8.0	1.0
Health	0.8	3.2	11.5	3.3
Transport	8.3	18.9	0.0	0.7
Communication	-2.6	0.7	5.5	-2.3
Recreation and culture	3.5	6.4	7.6	-0.1
Education	4.9	7.4	9.5	6.9
Restaurants and hotels	0.7	15.2	12.2	8.2
Miscellaneous goods and services	3.3	6.2	10.8	4.4

Figure 7. Harmonized indices of consumer prices by selected commodity groups (Annual average inflation rates)



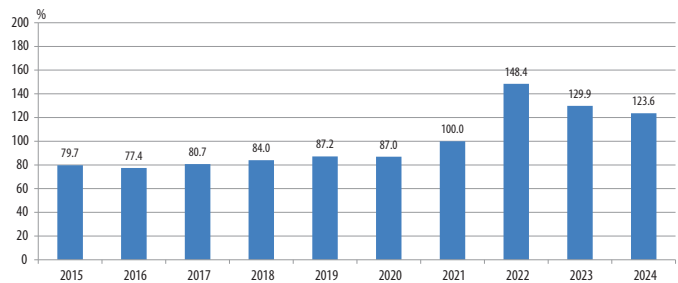
Industrial producer price indices on the domestic market

The industrial producer price indices on the domestic market measure the average price changes of industrial products produced by industrial enterprises and sold on the domestic market, on the basis of a permanent sample of enterprises and products. Surveyed prices do not include VAT, excises and subsidies.

Information for calculation of PPI is received on the basis of monthly surveys on producer prices of industrial products, where the prices of specific products with equal quality in the two surveyed time periods are compared and also in case of quality change of the surveyed specific products this quality change is taken into account.

Price indexes are calculated at fixed base year, where indexes at different level of detail are calculated as weighted average though ascending weighing system, following the structure of the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE.BG 2008).

Figure 8. Producer price indices on the domestic market (2021 = 100)



6. Producer price indices on the domestic market in industry by economic activities

Economic activities	Code	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
		2021 = 100			Previous year = 100		
Total		**148.4**	**129.9**	**123.6**	**148.4**	**87.5**	**95.2**
Mining and quarrying	**B**	**112.6**	**114.1**	**123.4**	**112.6**	**101.3**	**108.2**
Manufacturing	**C**	**127.1**	**131.8**	**131.6**	**127.1**	**103.7**	**99.8**
Manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco products	CA	120.1	135.7	137.6	120.1	113.0	101.4
Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and related products	CB	109.6	123.7	132.3	109.6	112.8	106.9
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	CC	129.6	137.4	132.7	129.6	106.0	96.6
Manufacture of coke, and refined petroleum products	CD	..	..	..	..	..	..
Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	CE	153.6	128.7	117.9	153.6	83.8	91.6
Manufacture of pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemical and botanical products	CF	105.1	115.0	107.2	105.1	109.4	93.2
Manufacture of rubber and plastics products, and other non-metallic mineral products	CG	121.8	136.1	139.3	121.8	111.8	102.3
Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	CH	123.9	120.5	118.0	123.9	97.3	97.9
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	CI	107.0	114.7	117.3	107.0	107.3	102.2
Manufacture of electrical equipment	CJ	115.2	122.2	126.5	115.2	106.0	103.5
Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.	CK	111.7	123.6	129.3	111.7	110.7	104.6
Manufacture of transport equipment	CL	103.9	115.0	122.2	103.9	110.7	106.3
Other manufacturing, and repair and installation of machinery and equipment	CM	112.7	125.7	133.6	112.7	111.5	106.3
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	**D**	**183.3**	**128.9**	**111.5**	**183.3**	**70.3**	**86.5**

Producer prices indices in agriculture

The survey of producer prices in agriculture is carried out in accordance with the main requirements of the Eurostat agricultural price statistics methodology (i.e., the Handbook of Agricultural Price Statistics).

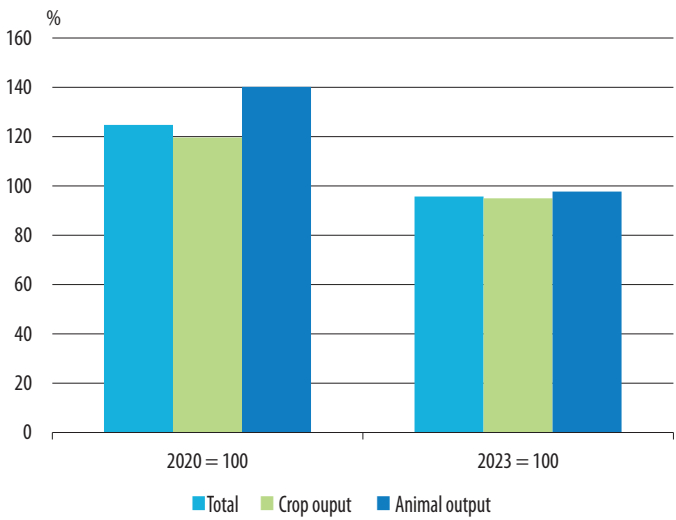
The survey is based on samples and is carried out quarterly.

The object of the survey is the producer price of a defined specific product. This is the price of the largest purchase or sale, in terms of quantity, during the respective month of the reference period. In the case of daily purchases or sales, the price in the middle of the month is recorded.

The producer's price is the output price of the agricultural farm, i.e., this price excludes expenditures for delivery, storage, transportation and the other expenditures arising from selling or purchasing agricultural products. This price does not include the product subsidies received (if such subsidies exist), VAT and other paid taxes.

On the basis of the collected information on agricultural producer prices, the producer price indices are calculated, using as a base (100) the year 2020, as well as the preceding year.

Figure 9. Producer price indices in agriculture in 2024



7. Producer price indices for agricultural products and live animals in 2024

	2024 as % to	
	2020	2023
Total	**124.8**	**95.7**
Crop output	**119.7**	**95.0**
Cereals crops	114.4	87.1
Industrial crops	123.3	108.3
Forage plants	136.0	96.3
Potatoes	159.8	102.1
Vegetables	122.0	104.5
Fruit	125.6	100.5
Other crop products	201.2	109.8
Animal output	140.2	97.7
Animals	139.6	97.1
Cattle	146.1	104.9
Pigs	127.0	94.7
Sheep and goats	161.3	107.6
Poultry	139.7	92.6
Animal products	140.7	98.4
Milk	136.7	102.3
Cow's milk	134.1	103.8
Other milk types	150.1	94.8
Eggs	166.7	91.0
Other animal products	114.2	97.2

Price indices of goods and services, currently consumed in agriculture

The survey of the prices of goods and services, currently consumed in agriculture is carried out in accordance with the main requirements of the Eurostat agricultural price statistics methodology (The Handbook of Agricultural Price Statistics). Five surveys on prices of fertilizers, animal feeding stuffs, plant protection products, veterinary-medical products and seeds and planting stock are carried out.

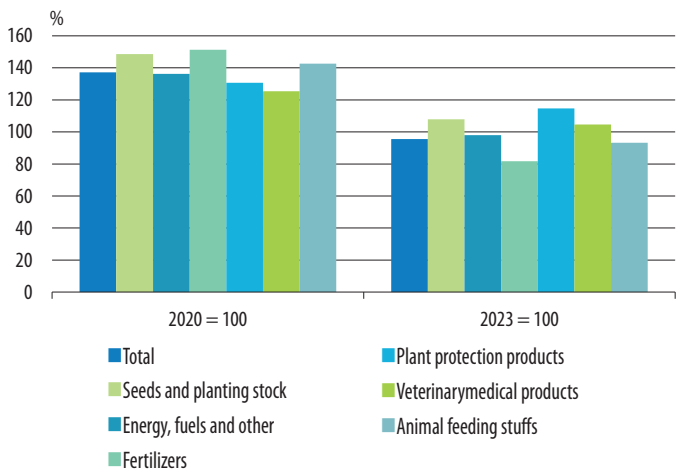
The surveys are based on samples and are carried out quarterly.

The objects of the surveys are the purchasing prices of the surveyed goods and services, currently consumed in agriculture.

The surveyed unit price is the price at the input of the agricultural farm, i.e., the price, which the purchaser has actually paid for the goods. This price includes taxes and levies and excludes subsidies and deductible VAT.

Based on the information from the five surveys, as well as on the information from other surveys conducted by NSI, the common price index of the goods and services, currently used in agriculture, is calculated using as a base (100) the year 2020, as well as the preceding year.

Figure 10. Price indices of goods and services, currently used in agriculture in 2024



8. Price indices of goods and services currently consumed in agriculture in 2024

	2024 as % to	
	2020	2023
Total	**137.2**	**95.5**
Seeds and planting stock	148.6	107.9
Energy, fuels and other	136.3	98.0
Fertilizers	151.3	81.7
Straight fertilizers	151.7	81.5
Nitrogenous fertilizers	159.0	80.2
Phosphatic fertilizers	143.7	89.3
Potassic fertilizers	81.2	76.0
Compound fertilizers	148.9	82.3
Plant protection products and pesticides	130.7	114.7
Fungicides	136.1	116.1
Insecticides	111.8	126.0
Herbicides	132.1	110.8
Veterinary-medical products	125.4	104.7
Animal feeding stuffs	142.6	93.2
Straight feeding stuffs	128.3	89.1
Compound feeding stuffs	150.1	96.8
Maintenance of materials	130.8	105.5
Maintenance of buildings	143.3	103.8
Other goods and services	122.1	102.8

Price indices of goods and services contributing to agricultural investment

In order to calculate the price indices of goods and services contributing to agricultural investment using as a base (100) the year 2020, as well as the preceding year, are used the calculated:

- Quarterly indices for import of agricultural machinery and transport equipment from the 'Foreign trade statistics' department;

- Monthly indices in building construction from the 'Business trends and tourism' department.

9. Price indices of goods and services contributing to agricultural investment in agriculture in 2024

	2024 as % to	
	2020	2023
Total	**128.1**	**112.6**
Materials	142.4	117.0
Machinery and other equipment	143.2	118.2
Transport equipment	135.6	109.8
Buildings	100.9	102.8

Total index of goods and services in agriculture

The total index is calculated based on the prices indices of goods and services currently consumed in agriculture and the price indices of goods and services contributing to agricultural investment.

10. Price indices of goods and services in agriculture in 2024

	2024 в % към	
	2020	2023
Total	135.8	98.1

XII. EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF GOODS

Foreign trade turnover

The indicators, which describe the foreign trade turnover of the Republic of Bulgaria are based on the following data: the Single Administrative Document for exports and imports with third countries; the monthly surveys of the Intra-EU exports and Intra-EU imports of the providers of statistical information on the values for trade between EU Member States; the statistical adjustments for non-response and intra-Union trade under the thresholds; additional statistical information from other administrative sources.

The main trading partner of Bulgaria, during the recent years is EU - over half of the country's foreign trade is carried out with the Member States.

Figure 1. Exports and imports

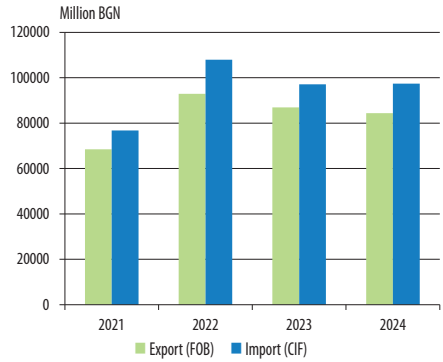
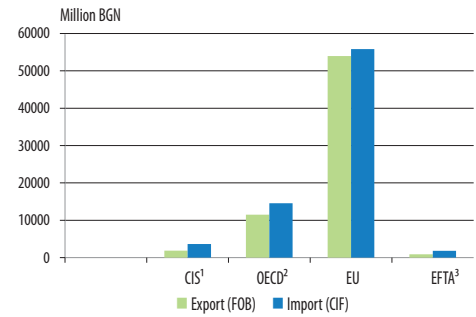


Figure 2. Exports and imports by economic zones in 2024



[1] CIS includes: Azerbaijan; Armenia; Belarus; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyz, Republic; Moldova, Republic of; Russian Federation; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[2] OECD includes: Australia; Virgin Islands (US); United States; Iceland; Canada; Chile; Colombia; Costa Rica /from 2022/; Mexico; New Zealand; Norway; Korea, Republic of Türkiye; United Kingdom; Switzerland; Japan and Israel.

[3] EFTA includes: Norway; Switzerland; Iceland and Liechtenstein.

1. Foreign trade turnover

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Turnover	**145173.8**	**200830.6**	**183976.6**	**181760.5**
Exports (FOB)	68431.2	92917.8	86903.6	84369.5
Imports (CIF)	76742.6	107912.8	97073.0	97391.0

2. Number of countries, trade partners of Bulgaria

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Turnover	**214**	**216**	**210**	**217**
Exports (FOB)	208	212	205	213
Imports (CIF)	176	172	173	175

3. Exports and imports by economic zones

(Млн. левове)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Exports	**68431.2**	**92917.8**	**86903.6**	**84369.5**
of which:				
CIS[1]	1322.2	1715.0	1923.7	1857.1
OECD[2]	9126.2	11351.1	11497.6	11473.9
EU	45270.6	60583.5	55155.0	53975.8
EFTA[3]	566.8	733.5	801.0	883.0
Imports	**76742.6**	**107912.8**	**97073.0**	**97391.0**
of which:				
CIS[1]	6267.7	12933.0	7460.2	3627.3
OECD[2]	9948.8	13983.5	12796.8	14571.6
EU	46332.9	59612.4	58140.2	55805.5
EFTA[3]	623.1	700.0	1096.8	1808.5

[1] CIS includes: Azerbaijan; Armenia; Belarus; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Moldova, Republic of; Russian Federation; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[2] OECD includes: Australia; Virgin Islands (US); United States; Iceland; Canada; Chile; Colombia; Costa Rica /from 2022/; Mexico; New Zealand; Norway; Korea, Republic of Türkiye; United Kingdom; Switzerland; Japan and Israel.

[3] EFTA includes: Norway; Switzerland; Iceland and Liechtenstein.

Exports by main trade partner countries

The geographical distribution of the data on exports is presented according to the countries of destination of the goods. The graph shows exports to the top 10 Bulgarian trade partner countries.

The distribution of exports according to the Standard International Trade classification shows the biggest share of 'Machinery and transport equipment' followed by 'Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material'.

Figure 3. Exports to the top 10 Bulgarian trade partner countries in 2024

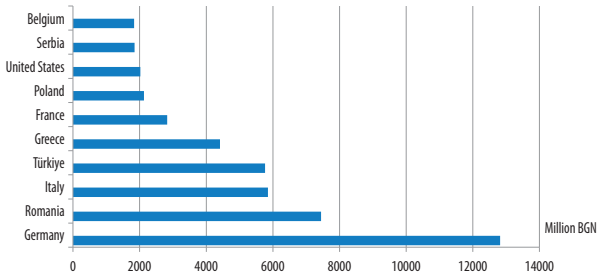
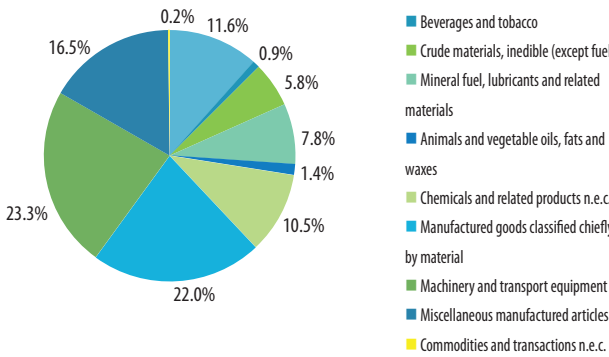


Figure 4. Structure of exports by sections of SITC (rev. 4) in 2024



4. Exports by countries main trade partners

(Million BGN)

Country	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**68431.2**	**92917.8**	**86903.6**	**84369.6**
of which:				
Austria	1345.5	1849.2	1787.4	1327.2
Algeria	161.9	1020.4	1079.3	1022.3
Belgium	2211.3	2397.4	2734.2	1834.0
China	2198.7	1539.0	2015.6	1476.4
Croatia	636.5	739.9	625.2	998.1
Cyprus	274.5	390.3	279.0	256.7
Czechia	1489.0	1526.5	1635.1	1607.8
Denmark	645.0	439.1	396.2	385.1
Egypt	465.9	1266.8	1452.2	1288.1
France	2478.3	3080.3	2837.9	2828.9
Georgia	380.0	489.4	566.4	765.1
Germany	10135.1	13083.4	11834.2	12819.2
Gibraltar	272.4	1026.3	336.3	1069.8
Greece	4744.0	6053.4	4784.7	4412.3
Hungary	1249.7	1636.8	1100.8	1148.5
Izrael	379.4	587.6	414.9	319.7
Italy	5128.0	6974.1	6238.9	5852.0
Lebanon	105.1	337.7	53.8	143.3
Libya	229.3	372.7	315.5	116.6
Netherlands	1703.2	2450.4	1731.2	1499.8
Poland	1716.8	2098.0	2032.0	2132.0
Portugal	251.0	239.3	242.1	248.3
Republic of North Macedonia	1124.6	1522.0	1727.6	1555.8
Romania	6864.9	9444.9	7962.3	7447.6
Russian Federation	853.8	956.3	979.7	724.1
Serbia	1453.8	2286.6	1880.6	1849.5
Singapore	56.3	49.5	267.8	76.0
Slovakia	565.9	879.1	1015.8	881.5
Slovenia	419.9	517.2	469.9	493.8
Spain	1860.7	2433.6	2266.6	1632.4
Sweden	533.0	697.6	788.3	704.5
Switzerland	458.1	608.5	664.2	742.6
Türkiye	4206.9	5553.1	5071.3	5767.0
Ukraine	793.7	2252.6	1675.1	1025.8
United Arab Emirates	157.9	274.5	350.4	295.5
United Kingdom[1]	1257.0	1452.0	1629.4	1262.5
United States	1699.0	2068.1	2230.4	2021.9

[1] The United Kingdom includes: Northern Ireland; Great Britain; Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

5. Exports by sections of SITC, rev. 4

(Million BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**68431.2**	**92917.8**	**86903.6**	**84369.6**
Food and live animals	8049.0	10064.7	11232.5	9814.0
Beverages and tobacco	634.8	636.2	751.0	746.3
Crude materials, inedible (except fuel)	5218.5	5281.9	5245.6	4897.3
Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials	4114.2	10658.8	6746.9	6559.3
Animals and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	1363.1	3369.1	1687.3	1205.0
Chemicals and related products n.e.c.	7989.1	10995.4	9142.6	8850.5
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	15921.9	20014.9	17560.9	18588.2
Machinery and transport equipment	15578.5	19095.4	20506.9	19630.7
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	9305.3	12673.4	13568.4	13880.5
Commodities and transactions n.e.c.	256.8	128.0	461.5	197.8

Imports by main trade partner countries

The geographical distribution of the data on imports is presented according to the countries of consignment of the goods. The graph shows imports from the top 10 partner countries.

The distribution of imports according to the Standard International Trade classification shows the biggest share of 'Machinery and transport equipment' followed by 'Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material'.

Figure 5. Imports from the top 10 Bulgarian trade partner countries in 2024

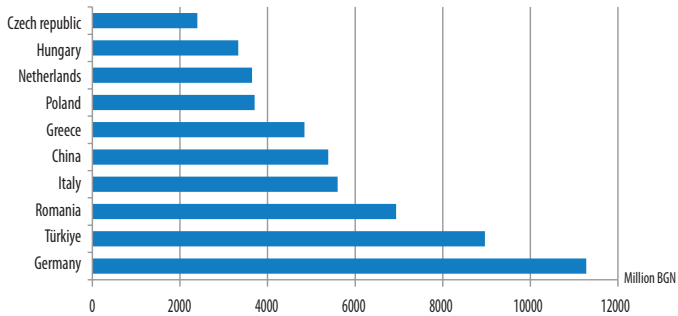
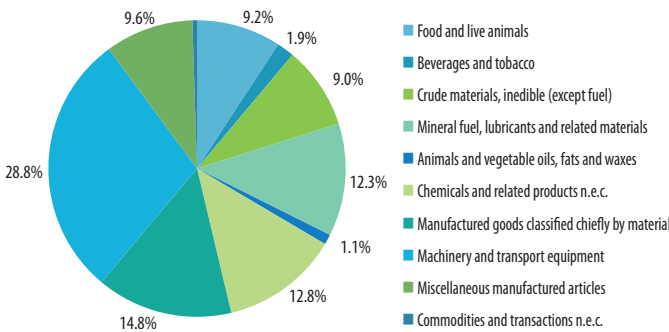


Figure 6. Structure of imports by sections of SITC (rev.4) in 2024



6. Imports by countries main trade partners

(Million BGN)

Country	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**76742.6**	**107912.8**	**97073.0**	**97391.0**
of which:				
Austria	1870.2	2370.4	2585.4	2382.6
Belgium	1481.3	2027.7	2159.9	1932.1
China	4148.2	6251.4	5257.7	5384.4
Croatia	370.8	240.4	259.0	329.0
Czechia	1890.4	2402.3	2738.6	2396.1
Denmark	348.7	463.0	618.3	504.9
Egypt	513.8	482.9	727.3	1812.0
France	2016.5	2351.1	2601.0	2287.9
Germany	9391.5	11663.9	11991.6	11277.0
Georgia	724.1	1018.5	584.0	390.5
Greece	4209.3	6347.9	4245.0	4841.5
Hungary	2805.8	3392.1	3377.4	3329.5
India	392.5	477.7	483.7	449.9
Italy	5059.2	6443.4	6490.6	5601.7
Ireland	497.6	427.3	389.0	442.6
Japan	400.8	458.0	384.0	325.6
Jordan	7.1	25.3	52.6	29.9
Korea, Rep .of	277.2	388.8	362.2	431.1
Netherlands	3252.6	4453.3	3966.3	3645.6
Poland	2738.5	3572.2	3784.3	3703.3
Republic of North Macedonia	728.0	876.8	1030.7	977.6
Romania	5784.5	7384.8	6686.5	6935.5
Russian Federation	5827.8	11702.3	6535.4	1217.6
Serbia	1498.4	1861.0	2286.0	1983.5
Slovakia	958.6	1104.9	1166.5	1205.7
Slovenia	570.6	798.5	882.4	905.8
Spain	1448.6	2192.7	1839.1	1630.5
Sweden	485.1	690.6	797.4	574.9
Switzerland	561.0	623.0	763.4	840.3
Taiwan[2]	332.6	486.1	308.1	255.4
Türkiye	6011.8	9095.8	7957.3	8961.2
Ukraine	1634.5	3411.8	1979.3	2213.3
United Kingdom[1]	611.7	862.6	785.2	941.6
United States	558.4	1586.3	1078.2	821.7

[1] The United Kingdom includes: Northern Ireland; Great Britain; Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

[2] Separate customs territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu.

7. Imports by sections of SITC, rev. 4

(Million BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**76742.6**	**107912.8**	**97073.0**	**97391.0**
Food and live animals	5802.1	7526.5	8370.1	8908.7
Beverages and tobacco	1256.3	1468.1	1686.6	1847.5
Crude materials, inedible (except fuel)	6811.9	9612.0	7436.7	8786.1
Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials	8792.4	18077.0	10787.4	11951.0
Animals and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	507.9	1636.0	898.7	1051.5
Chemicals and related products n.e.c.	11845.5	15269.0	13206.8	12480.4
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by the material	13223.4	17258.1	15417.8	14412.0
Machinery and transport equipment	21379.2	28570.5	30372.9	28057.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	6546.5	8394.2	8785.8	9383.6
Commodities and transactions n.e.c.	577.4	101.4	110.2	513.2

Exports and imports by commodities

NSI applies the Special System of Trade for the reporting of foreign trade flows.

The reporting of commodity flows by kind of commodity is done according to he Combined Nomenclature.

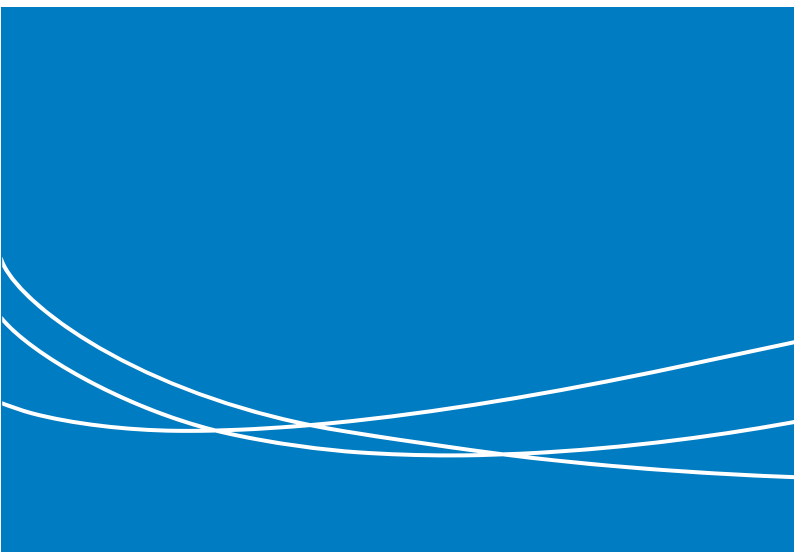
8. Exports of selected commodities

Commodities	2021	2022	2023	2024
Meat of swine - fresh, chilled or frozen - thousand tons	6.4	7.9	7.5	6.5
Poultry meat - fresh, chilled or frozen - thousand tons	32.1	34.1	30.8	28.5
Cheese and yellow cheese - thousand tons	14.0	12.7	13.0	12.7
Tomatoes, fresh or chilled - thousand tons	15.8	14.0	17.2	13.8
Cucumbers and gherkins, fresh or chilled - thousand tons	16.4	10.6	8.0	6.9
Maize - thousand tons	1759.3	963.5	1364.9	889.0
Preserved tomatoes - thousand tons	3.9	4.3	3.2	2.3
Other preserved vegetables - thousand tons	26.6	23.0	19.1	18.5
Tobacco, unmanufactured - thousand tons	22.9	23.7	21.7	17.2
Cigarettes - thousand tons	4.5	5.9	7.8	8.6
Dentifrices - thousand tons	8.4	9.6	9.6	9.2
New pneumatic tyres of rubber - thousand tons	3.7	3.6	3.2	3.0
Men's or boys' suits, jackets, trousers - million BGN	253.4	327.7	396.9	379.9
Men's or boys' shirts - million BGN	44.3	48.4	56.1	39.0
Footwear upper of leather - thousand pairs	2796.7	3126.9	2642.7	1805.4
Pumps for liquids - million BGN	242.2	284.5	297.2	317.6
Lathes - thousand tons	3.5	3.8	3.6	3.4
Electric accumulators - million BGN	391.3	416.4	648.4	511.1
Furniture - million BGN	490.5	518.3	466.5	458.6

9. Imports of selected commodities

Commodities	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bananas - thousand tons	73.0	63.1	70.2	68.7
Oranges - thousand tons	35.9	33.6	38.0	32.2
Lemons - thousand tons	39.0	39.0	38.4	43.1
Grapefruit - thousand tons	20.4	19.7	12.8	16.1
Olives - thousand tons	15.9	15.1	13.6	10.4
Coffee beans - thousand tons	38.1	35.8	33.9	40.4
Pepper (black and white) - tons	814.8	796.1	814.2	822.4
Rice - thousand tons	57.7	133.3	86.4	54.5
Margarine - thousand tons	6.2	5.5	5.5	6.0
Chocolate - thousand tons	32.5	36.2	36.8	37.9
Fruit and vegetable juices - thousand tons	25.8	25.8	23.3	22.7
Sugar - thousand tons	207.9	304.6	233.9	231.3
Soya groats - thousand tons	107.6	92.9	91.6	98.4
Salt - thousand tons	256.4	252.5	166.6	170.0
Coal (excl. anthracite) - thousand tons	388.8	430.6	357.8	236.9
Anthracite - thousand tons	472.0	968.5	165.3	63.6
Coke and semi-coke of coal - thousand tons	56.0	81.0	172.8	194.8
Cellulose - thousand tons	7.9	7.1	7.3	4.3
Newsprint - thousand tons	18.2	19.9	12.1	13.1
Cigarette paper - thousand tons	7.4	8.0	7.3	9.3
Cotton (incl. linter) - thousand tons	2.7	1.6	2.3	2.1
Footwear upper of leather - thousand pairs	3363.9	3915.1	4132.9	3389.0
Tubes of cast iron and steel - thousand tons	75.1	80.4	91.3	78.4
Refrigerators - thousand items	56.8	65.8	74.4	85.8
Washing machines thousand items	273.6	324.5	275.7	278.5
Vacuum-cleaners - thousand items	669.9	640.0	619.8	783.4
TV sets - thousand items	759.7	752.7	732.3	750.6
Household sewing machines - thousand items	11.0	20.6	32.9	19.3
Combines (corn) - in numbers	543	963	767	374
Passenger cars - thousand items	79.3	78.4	91.4	95.1
Trucks - thousand items	11.1	15.5	12.0	24.3
Busses - in numbers	1954	2045	3718	2974
Bicycles- thousand items	117.5	84.0	62.1	47.0
Motorcycles - thousand items	51.4	56.6	46.5	75.9
Tractors - thousand items	8.7	8.4	8.4	6.8
Cultivators - in numbers	7921	3245	5105	6522
Cameras - million BGN	1.0	1.5	1.4	1.6
Clocks and watches - thousand items	1123.3	1110.7	1196.5	1187.3

XIII. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS



Balance of payments

The Balance of payments (standard presentation) is in accordance with the Sixth edition of the 'Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual' (IMF, 2009) and the 'Guidelines of the European Central Bank'. The components of the standard presentation of the balance of payments are classified in the following main categories:

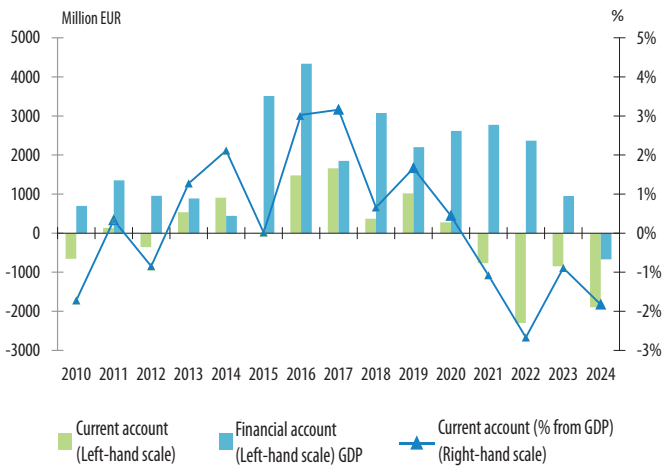
Current Account - comprises the acquisition and provision of goods and services, primary and secondary income between residents and non-residents.

Capital Account - shows (1) capital transfers receivable and payable between residents and non-residents; and (2) the acquisition and disposal of non-produced nonfinancial assets between residents and non-residents.

Financial Account - records all transactions that involve financial assets and liabilities and that take place between residents and non-residents.

Net errors and omissions is an offsetting item.

Figure 1. Current and financial account



1. Balance of payments of Bulgaria[1]

(Million EUR)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Current and Capital Account	**-277.0**	**-1506.1**	**628.7**	**-86.4**
Current Account	**-768.4**	**-2299.0**	**-846.3**	**-1897.9**
Goods and Services - Net	1773.0	958.0	3920.0	2401.0
Goods - Net[2]	-2886.7	-5083.7	-3930.7	-5365.1
Services - Net	4659.7	6041.7	7850.6	7766.2
Primary income - Net	-3451.5	-4805.4	-6269.4	-5291.6
Secondary income - Net	910.1	1548.5	1503.1	992.7
Capital Account	**491.4**	**792.9**	**1475.0**	**1811.5**
Gross acquisitions/disposals of non-produced non-financial assets - Net	-310.8	-1059.3	701.5	442.8
Capital transfers - Net	802.2	1852.2	773.5	1368.7
Financial account - Net[3]	**2773.5**	**2366.1**	**952.3**	**-670.4**
Direct investment - Net[4]	-1112.4	-3572.2	-3986.7	-2264.5
Portfolio investment - Net[5]	2309.0	1060.9	1248.3	2373.4
Financial derivatives - Net	78.6	3.9	11.7	-36.9
Other investment - Net	-2108.0	881.9	399.3	161.2
BNB Reserve assets[6]	3606.3	3991.7	3279.7	-903.6
Balancing Items:				
Current and Capital Account Balance	-277.0	-1506.1	628.7	-86.4
Financial Account Balance	2773.5	2366.1	952.3	-670.4
Net errors and Omissions[7]	3050.6	3872.2	323.7	-584.0

[1] Standard presentation in accordance with IMF 6-th edition of the "Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual". Preliminary data as of March 21, 2025.

[2] Preliminary NSI and BNB data for 2023 and 2024. The data are based on the balance of payments compilation methodology.

[3] A minus sign denotes a capital outflow (decrease in assets or liabilities) and a positive sign - a capital inflow (increase in assets or liabilities).

[4] Preliminary data compiled in accordance with the asset/liability principle. Data are provided by direct investment companies reporting to BNB, banks, the Central Depository, notaries, the NSI, the Public Enterprises and Control Agency. The 2024 data are subject to revisions with the annual NSI data and reports from foreign direct investment enterprises.

[5] Based on data provided by banks, nonbank financial institutions, insurance companies and pension funds, general government institutions, and nonfinancial corporations acquiring securities without intermediation of a resident investment intermediary.

[6] Excluding valuation changes due to the exchange rate or price changes, changes associated with the creation of reserve assets (monetarization/demonetarization of gold and the allocation or cancellation of SDRs) and reclassifications. A positive sign (+) denotes an increase in the reserves, a minus sign (-) - a decrease.

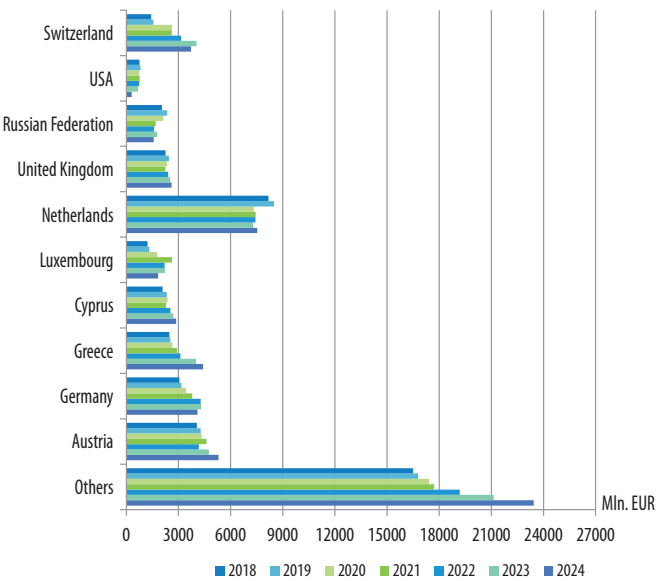
[7] Net errors and omissions represent the difference between the Financial account balance and Current and Capital account balance.

Foreign direct investments

Foreign direct investment in the country is an international investment in which a direct investor, resident of a foreign economy, obtains a lasting interest in an enterprise resident of the Bulgarian economy (direct investment enterprise). The lasting interest of the direct investor in a long-term relationship with the direct investment enterprise implies a significant degree of influence by the direct investor on the management of the direct investment enterprise. For the purposes of international compatibility of the data of the separate countries, the Balance of Payments Manual has adopted the principle that the acquisition of 10 or more percents of the voting power in the management of an enterprise is considered an establishment of a direct investment relationship.

The foreign direct investment comprises the initial transaction establishing the relationship between the direct investor and the direct investment enterprise, as well as all subsequent transactions between them. The transactions can be related to increase/decrease in the liabilities of the direct investment enterprise to its direct investor, as well as to increase/decrease in the claims of the direct investment enterprise on the direct investor.

Fig. 2. Stock of FDI in Bulgaria, by country



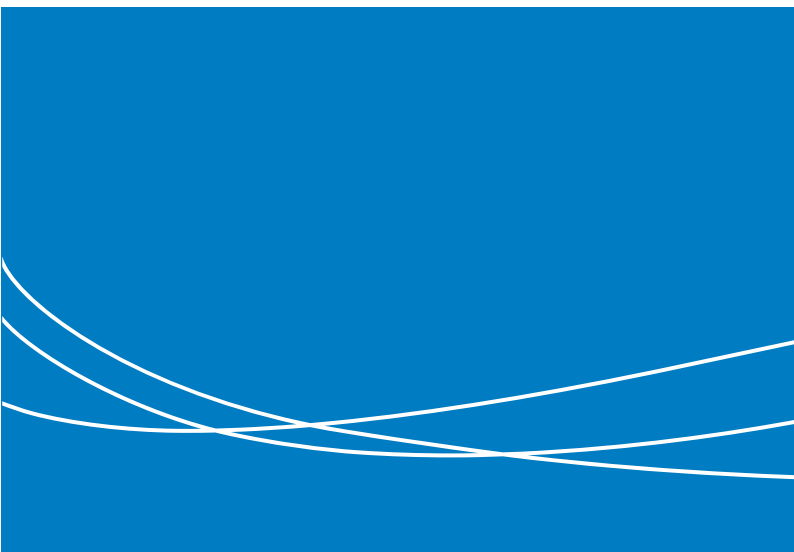
2. FDI flows in Bulgaria, by economic activity groupings[1]

(Million EUR)

Икономически дейности	2021	2022	2023	2024
All FDI activities	**1435.9**	**4127.8**	**4634.5**	**2854.5**
Accommodation and food service activities	-73.9	-10.5	28.9	-0.2
Administrative and support service activities	23.0	60.6	64.9	43.4
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.5	6.1	2.0	13.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	20.3	38.5	6.8	34.7
Construction	-48.0	-17.7	120.5	23.9
Education	-0.2	-3.7	1.7	2.1
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	105.7	87.5	-198.1	164.3
Financial and insurance activities	901.3	1037.5	1569.8	1493.0
Human health and social work activities	-1.3	1.7	10.9	1.8
Information and communication	280.3	838.9	518.3	124.9
Manufacturing	-133.4	925.9	1448.2	47.3
Mining and quarrying	15.4	44.3	99.8	-226.1
Other service activities	2.8	7.3	17.6	9.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	246.2	-76.6	148.4	228.9
Real estate activities	47.2	134.0	35.1	107.8
Transportation and storage	-64.6	61.1	10.0	83.3
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	-0.5	-2.7	11.7	52.8
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	126.9	1020.0	751.5	665.0
Not allocated	-22.8	-24.5	-13.2	-15.3

[1] Source: Bulgarian National Bank. Preliminary data as of March 21, 2025.

XIV. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

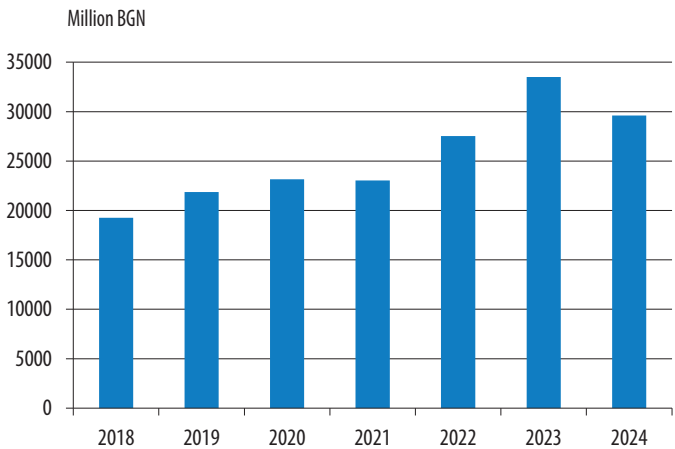


Expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets

The expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets include the actual expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets of land, buildings and construction equipment, machines, equipment and means of transport, other expenditure made through construction and purchase, including used tangible fixed assets.

The data about expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets are shown at current prices.

Figure 1. Expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets



1. Expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets by kind

(Thousand BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**23035610**	**27522260**	**33503298**	**29610561**
Land	2233372	2294278	2411038	1332475
Buildings and construction equipment	8146644	9557540	12347013	11533455
Machines, equipment and means of transport	9709179	11501461	14024616	14154151
Other expenditure	2946415	4168981	4720631	2590480

2. Expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets by economic activity groupings

(Thousand BGN)

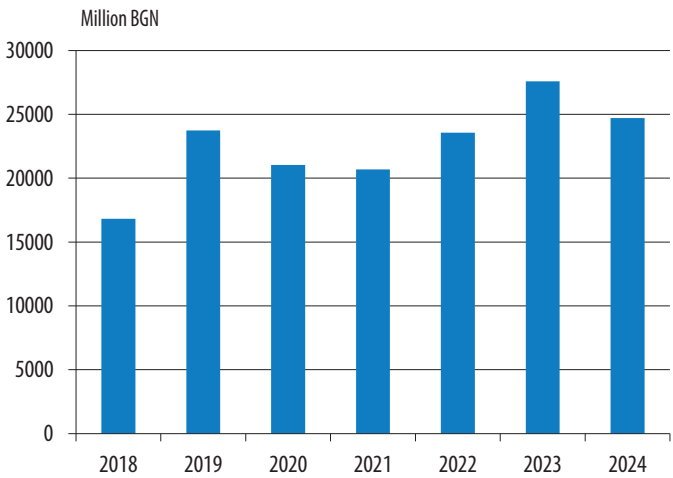
Economic activity groupings	2022	2023	2024
Total	**27522260**	**33503298**	**29610561**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2268073	2236403	1488052
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	7140444	9073127	8021564
Construction	2050203	2424347	1628548
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	6936677	7785102	6587568
Information and communication	1222031	1242543	785770
Financial and insurance activities	450437	396457	725855
Real estate activities	3087490	3306583	3771807
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	1659680	1977562	2172571
Public administration, defense, education, human health and social work activities	2221596	4402742	4154799
Other services	485629	658432	274027

Acquired tangible fixed assets

The acquired tangible fixed assets include the value of all acquired tangible fixed assets, irrespective of the manner of their acquisition (construction or purchase). The tangible fixed assets acquired by construction are reported after their putting into operation according to Ordinance No. 2/31.07.2003 of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.

The data about acquired tangible fixed assets are shown at current prices.

Figure 2. Acquired tangible fixed assets



3. Acquired tangible fixed assets by kind

(Thousand BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**20685094**	**23572282**	**27587097**	**24712055**
Land	2233372	2294278	2411038	1332475
Buildings and construction equipment	6510614	7540098	8609316	8265190
Machines, equipment and means of transport	9930480	11123503	13554662	13153391
Other expenditure	2010628	2614403	3012081	1960999

4. Acquired tangible fixed assets by economic activity groupings

(Thousand BGN)

Economic activity groupings	2022	2023	2024
Total	**23572282**	**27587097**	**24712055**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2105902	2088532	1504840
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	6046564	7973787	6852506
Construction	1443200	1800505	1579959
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	6588741	6646210	5425298
Information and communication	1127196	1196438	763443
Financial and insurance activities	419977	402433	677220
Real estate activities	2424671	2428444	2057873
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	1432261	1895948	1875475
Public administration, defense, education, human health and social work activities	1550435	2501214	3710608
Other services	433335	653586	264833

XV. DOMESTIC TRADE; ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Retail sales premises

The number of 'Shops' comprises shops and pavilions of the stationary trade network with trade rooms for serving customers. The number of 'Petrol stations' and 'Gas stations' is not included in the number of shops. The retail sales shops are classified according to the predominant kind of goods offered.

In 2023, a reduction in the total number of shops was registered. In comparison with 2022, the number of shops decreased as for 'Foods, beverages and tobacco' as well as for 'Durable and other consumer goods' by 4.5% and 1.8%, respectively.

1. Retail sales premises as of 31.12.

Kind of premises	In numbers			Change - % (Preceding year = 100)	
	2021	2022	2023	2022	2023
Shops and pavilions - total	**111347**	**111632**	**108524**	**0.3**	**-2.8**
For foods, beverages and tobacco	**41224**	**41163**	**39293**	**-0.1**	**-4.5**
Specialized shops	15267	15747	14633	3.1	-7.1
Unspecialized shops with different kinds of goods	25957	25416	24660	-2.1	-3.0
For durable and other consumer goods	**70123**	**70469**	**69231**	**0.5**	**-1.8**
Specialized shops	54797	54892	54232	0.2	-1.2
Unspecialized shops with different kinds of goods (mainly non-foods)	15326	15577	14999	1.6	-3.7
Petrol stations	**2481**	**2495**	**2515**	**0.6**	**0.8**
Gas stations	**301**	**310**	**307**	**3.0**	**-1.0**

Turnover in domestic trade, accommodation and food service activities

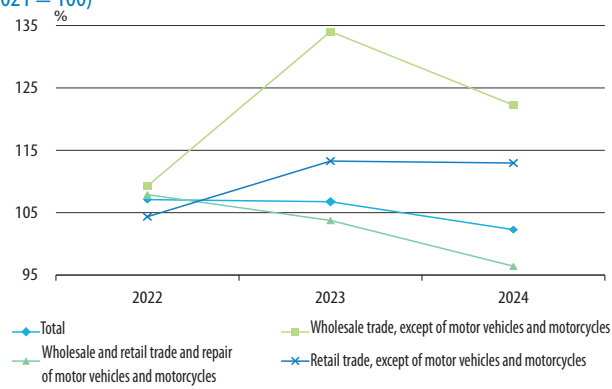
The indicator refers only to the economic subjects classified in accordance with the National Classification of Economic Activities (NACE.BG - 2008) in section G - 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' and section I 'Accommodation and food service activities'. The turnover includes all revenues invoiced during the reported period for delivery of products, goods or services, including the accrued excises.

The turnover indices are calculated for all groups of trade activities as defined in Regulation (EC) No. 1893/2006 and reflect the turnover changes between two consecutive years' constant prices. They are calculated on the base of 2021 average annual prices and are chain-linked and comparable in coverage. The price impact is eliminated by deflation of the turnover through use of the consumer prices' indices and the producer prices' indices, regrouped according to the content of the relevant activity groups.

According to the preliminary data in 2024 the turnover in section 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' declined by 4.2% compared to the previous year. In the 'Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles', the general decrease was 0.3%. In the 'Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles', the drop of 7.1% determined the magnitude of the overall index, as the activity formed about 70% of the turnover volume in the trade sector. A decline was observed in 'Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' - by 8.8%.

The turnover at constant prices in section 'Accommodation and food service activities' in 2024 ran up by 6.1% compared to 2023. A decrease was observed in the 'Food and beverage service activities' - by 1.5%, while the 'Accommodation' was noted a growth - by 16.2%.

Figure 1. Turnover indices for the major trade activities (2021 = 100)

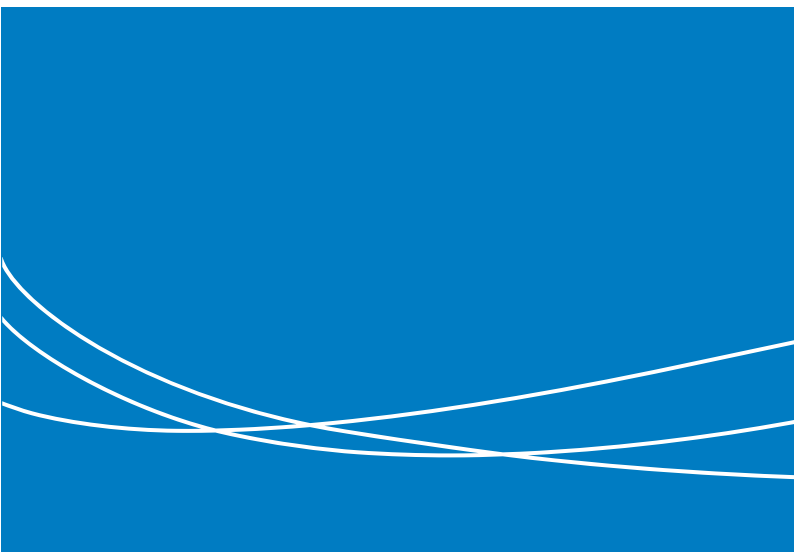


2. Turnover in section 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' and section 'Accommodation and food service activities'

(Million BGN)

Economic activities	2021	2022	2023	2024
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	**161307**	**206889**	**208283**	**203019**
Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	10882	12497	15482	14310
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	110173	145048	139129	130367
of which:				
Wholesale of agricultural raw materials and live animals	17536	20700	20367	19351
Wholesale of food, beverages and tobacco	20676	25052	27889	25634
Wholesale of household goods	17993	20301	21636	22954
Wholesale of information and communication equipment	3413	4052	4089	4936
Wholesale of other machinery, equipment and supplies	6088	7843	8356	8747
Other specialised wholesale	35169	52718	40610	32316
Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	40252	49344	53672	58342
of which:				
Retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco	15051	17074	20204	22911
Other retail sale in non-specialised stores	1933	2482	2704	2960
Retail sale of automotive fuel in specialised stores	4902	7696	6481	6798
Dispensing chemist; retail sale of medical and orthopaedic goods, cosmetic and toilet articles in specialised stores	4022	4654	5293	5950
Retail sale of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods in specialised stores	1707	2123	2462	2744
Retail sale of audio and video equipment; hardware, paints and glass; electrical household appliances, etc. in specialised stores	5148	6056	6469	6662
Retail sale of computers, peripheral units and software; telecommunications equipment, etc. in specialised stores	4969	6177	6685	6725
Accommodation and food service activities	**5258**	**7533**	**9043**	**10205**
Accommodation	1775	2755	3268	4108
Food and beverage service activities	3483	4778	5775	6098

XVI. INDUSTRY



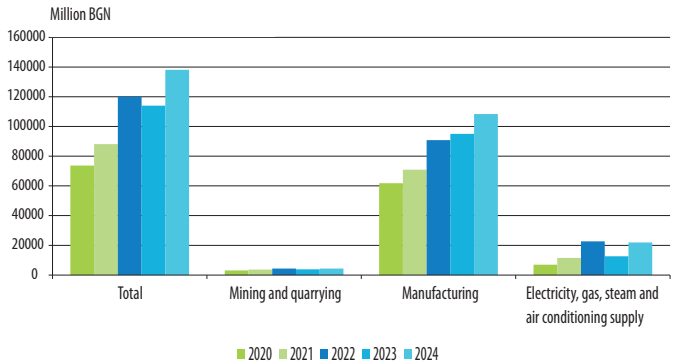
Production value of industrial enterprises

The 'Industry' comprises the activity of industrial enterprises, classified in the mining and quarrying industry, manufacturing, electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply and water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities.

The indicator 'Production value of industrial enterprises' refers to the entire of the industrial enterprises, i.e., it includes receipts from their non-industrial activities. The production value comprises the following elements: receipts from sales of industrial production and services expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets on own account of the enterprises, other receipts, changes in stocks of finished goods and changes in stocks of work-in-progress.

All data in value terms are published at current prices.

Figure1. Production value of industrial enterprises



1. Production value of industrial enterprises

(Thousand BGN)

	2022	2023	2024
Total	**120045561**	**114037210**	**138120603**
Mining and quarrying	4323326	3887734	4390605
Manufacturing	90775334	95051277	108362143
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	22617058	12614347	21897384
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation	2329843	2483852	3470472

2. Production value of industrial enterprises by economic activities

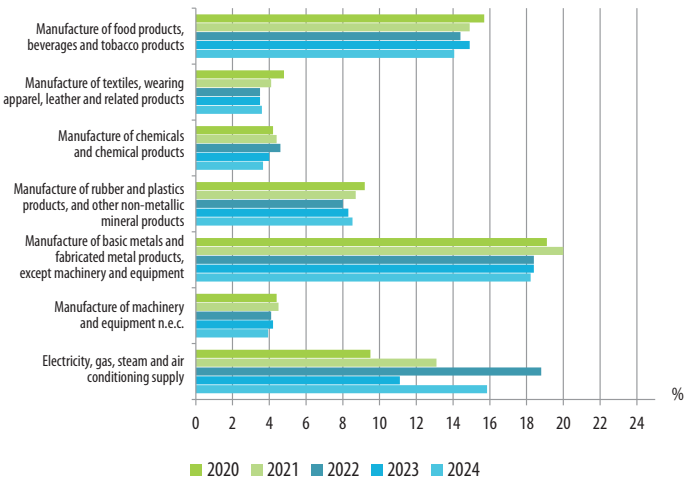
(Thousand BGN)

Economic activities	2022	2023	2024
Total	**120045561**	**114037210**	**138120603**
Mining and quarrying	**4323326**	**3887734**	**4390605**
Manufacturing	**90775334**	**95051277**	**108362143**
Manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco products	17299636	16998865	19417161
Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and related products	4249145	4047570	4971680
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	4540619	4075687	5099776
Manufacture of coke, and refined petroleum products	3004517	..	..
Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	5474905	4531808	5053241
Manufacture of pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemical and botanical products	1382513	..	..
Manufacture of rubber and plastics products, and other non-metallic mineral products	9556719	9454257	11783037
Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	22137008	20990862	25170135
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	2333003	2417313	2372815
Manufacture of electrical equipment	4798273	5135539	4983870
Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.	4967788	4744812	5437420
Manufacture of transport equipment	6135264	6788336	5980344
Manufacture of furniture; other manufacturing; repair and installation of machinery and equipment	4895944	5099367	7084051
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	**22617058**	**12614347**	**21897384**
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation	**2329843**	**2483852**	**3470472**

Structure of the production value of industrial enterprises

The structures (relative shares) are calculated at current prices. A change in the contribution of the main industrial activities in the volume of production is observed. The shares of electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, shares of the manufacture of furniture; other manufacturing; repair and installation of machinery and equipment increased, while a decrease was observed in the shares of manufacture of transport equipment; manufacture of electrical equipment and manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco products.

Figure 2. Share of the production value in some main economic activities



3. Structure of the production value of industrial enterprises by economic activities

(Per cent)

Economic activities	2022	2023	2024
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Mining and quarrying	**3.6**	**3.4**	**3.2**
Manufacturing	**75.6**	**83.3**	**78.5**
Manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco products	14.4	14.9	14.1
Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and related products	3.5	3.5	3.6
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	3.8	3.6	3.7
Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products	2.5	..	..
Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	4.6	4.0	3.7
Manufacture of pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemical and botanical products	1.2	..	..
Manufacture of rubber and plastics products, and other non-metallic mineral products	8.0	8.3	8.5
Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	18.4	18.4	18.2
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	1.9	2.1	1.7
Manufacture of electrical equipment	4.0	4.5	3.6
Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.	4.1	4.2	3.9
Manufacture of transport equipment	5.1	6.0	4.3
Manufacture of furniture; other manufacturing; repair and installation of machinery and equipment	4.1	4.5	5.1
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	**18.8**	**11.1**	**15.9**
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation	**2.0**	**2.2**	**2.5**

Indices of industrial production, calendar-adjusted

The Industrial Production Index is calculated on the basis of the calendar-adjusted monthly indicator 'Industrial Production Index'. It is based on sample survey. As of July 2024, the indices were recalculated using 2021 as the new base year, which necessitated the replacement of the previously published indices for 2022 and 2023.

4. Production value indices of industrial enterprises

(Preceding year = 100)

	2022	2023	2024
Total	**113.30**	**103.85**	**99.92**
Mining and quarrying	108.6	93.7	89.4
Manufacturing	113.5	108.9	105.5
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	116.2	83.4	79.8
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation	100.0	94.6	99.6

5. Production value indices of industrial enterprises by economic activities

(Preceding year = 100)

Economic activities	2022	2023	2024
Total	**113.3**	**103.8**	**99.9**
Mining and quarrying	**108.6**	**93.7**	**89.4**
Manufacturing	**113.5**	**108.9**	**105.5**
Manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco products	108.5	103.7	102.8
Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and related products	109.4	96.8	81.2
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	105.0	91.8	92.4
Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products	..	..	..
Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	108.1	98.0	104.3
Manufacture of pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemical and botanical products	106.6	105.4	117.3
Manufacture of rubber and plastics products, and other non-metallic mineral products	103.4	91.1	87.6
Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	118.8	129.4	140.8
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	127.0	112.7	105.3
Manufacture of electrical equipment	111.2	111.4	99.3
Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.	113.7	101.1	89.8
Manufacture of transport equipment	120.2	124.7	108.5
Manufacture of furniture; other manufacturing; repair and installation of machinery and equipment	116.6	106.0	98.3
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	**116.2**	**83.4**	**79.8**
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation	**100.0**	**94.6**	**99.6**

Industrial products in kind

The annual statistical survey on industrial products in kind is conducted on the basis of the National Nomenclature of Industrial Production (PRODCOM.BG), which is identical to the European Nomenclature of Industrial Products (PRODCOM List) and ensures comparability with EU industrial products. Information is collected according to the methodology of the statistical survey for all PRODCOM.BG headings for which it is known that production exists, on the basis of a representative sample of industrial enterprises and non-industrial ones whose secondary activity is industrial.

The data on the output of industrial products in kind (Table 6) comprises total production in volume terms for the respective reference year, including industrial products manufactured on the sub-contracting basis, and intermediate consumption of the enterprises (any production by the enterprise which is incorporated into the manufacture of other products).

Due to the specific character of the survey, published data are subject to continuous review and updating to improve the quality of the disseminated data.

Figure 3. Portland cement

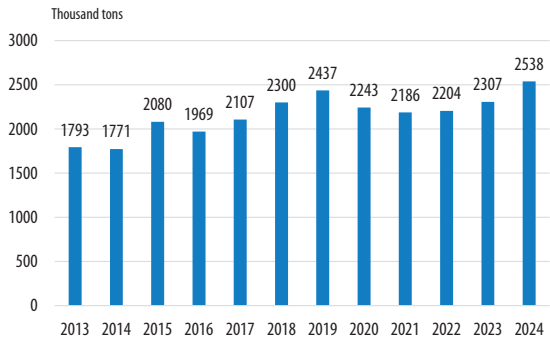
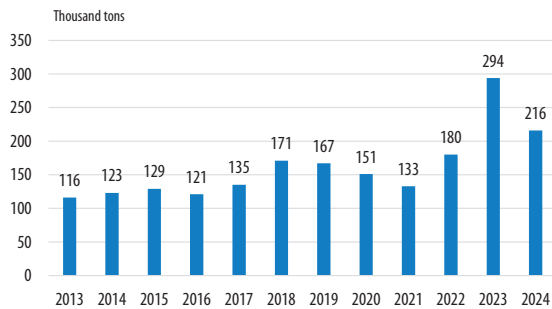


Figure 4. Refined sunflower oil



6. Output of basic industrial products

Industrial products	2021	2022	2023	2024
Copper ores and concentrates - thousand tons	30774	35521	34435	33286
Lead, zinc and tin ores and concentrates - thousand tons	881	879	873	828
Limestone flux, limestone and other calcareous stone used for the manufacture of lime or cement (excluding crushed limestone aggregate and calcareous dimension stone) - thousand tons	6264	7025	5813	5571
Natural sands - thousand tons	7518	7262	7229	6729
Refined unwrought lead (excluding lead powders or flakes) - thousand tons	85	89	77	107
Pulley tackle and hoists powered by an electric motor (excluding of the kind used for raising vehicles) - in numbers	13156	12619	12254	10125
Self-propelled works trucks fitted with lifting or handling equipment, powered by an electric motor, with a lifting height ≥ 1 m - in numbers	50	41	18	..
Self-propelled works trucks fitted with lifting or handling equipment, non-powered by an electric motor - in numbers	69	22	..	..
Non-numerically controlled horizontal lathes, for removing metal - in numbers	..	..	..	..
Bicycles and other cycles (including delivery tricycles), non-motorised - thousand items	381	351	193	103
Lead-acid accumulators, excluding for starting piston engines - elements	486927	432716	370280	328571
Lifts and skip hoists - in numbers	1013	962	843	715
Electrical instantaneous or storage water heaters and immersion heaters - thousand items	1239	1162	1127	1074
Electricity supply or production meters (incl. calibrated) - thousand items	..	..	..	..
Paints and varnishes based on synthetic or modified natural polymers dispersed or dissolved in an aqueous medium - thousand tons	23	20	17	18
Detergents and washing preparations - tons	83375	92878	106324	83192
Tooth paste - thousand items	76579	93262	90578	83764
Shampoos - tons	4246	4851	5411	4961
Portland cement - thousand tons	2186	2204	2307	2538
Quicklime, slaked lime and hydraulic lime - thousand tons	1519	1418	1305	1370
Non-refractory clay building bricks - thousand cub. m	564	693	643	665
Bituminous mixtures based on natural asphalt, on natural bitumen, on petroleum bitumen, on mineral tar or on mineral tar pitch - thousand tons	4908	3035	2966	3032
Corrugated paper and paperboard in rolls or sheets - thousand tons	166	158	158	163
Toilet paper - thousand tons	27.1	23.7	24.4	25.7
Cotton yarn - thousand tons	1.3	0.9	0.8	1.4
Wool yarn - thousand tons	6.0	6.5	..	6.9
Cotton fabrics - million sq. m	5.0	5.1	4.1	3.3
Panty hose and tights - million items	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.3
Socks - million pairs	56.7	54.7	30.5	20.5

6. Output of basic industrial products

(Continued and end)

Industrial products	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bed linen of cotton (excluding knitted or crocheted) - tons	1376	1061	1133	732
Footwear with leather uppers, with rubber, plastic or leather outer soles (including boots; excluding sports footwear, footwear with a protective metal toe-cap) - thousand pairs	1594	1592	1244	851
Meat (excl. edible offal)[1] - thousand tons	207	210	209	216
Sausages - thousand tons	102	106	102	88
Fish and fish products processed and preserved - thousand tons	15	18	22	26
Vegetables processed and preserved[1] - thousand tons	78	86	84	83
Fruit manufactured and preserved[1] - thousand tons	75	78	64	72
Butter, fats and other cream based on milk[1] - thousand tons	1	1	1	1
White cheese[1] - thousand tons	62	61	62	62
Yellow cheese[1] - thousand tons	27	25	26	23
Milk in liquid form[1] - thousand litres	75265	66153	64447	70764
Yoghurt[1] - thousand tons	159	153	154	159
Refined sunflower oil and its fractions (excluding chemically modified) - thousand tons	133	180	294	216
Mayonnaise, other sauces and preparations therefor, mixed condiments and mixed seasonings - thousand tons	17	16	16	16
Wheat or meslin flour - thousand tons	469	503	479	486
Rice - thousand tons	22	30	22	27
Prepared feeds for farm animals (excluding premixtures) - thousand tons	942	923	979	789
Uncooked pasta - tons	9273	10799	9814	8184
Jams, marmalades, fruit jellies, fruit or nut purees and pastes (excluding of citrus fruit, homogenised preparations) - thousand tons	14	12	11	10
Spirits obtained from distilled grape wine or grape marc - thousand litres alc 100%	4898	5572	5273	4120
Wines, including with 'Protected geographical indication (PGI)' and sort of wines and grape must with fermentation prevented or arrested by the addition of alcohol (excluding sparkling wine and wine with 'Protected Designation of Origin') - million litres	110	101	107	129
Beer made from malt (excluding non-alcoholic beer, beer containing ≤ 0.5 % by volume of alcohol) - million litres	439	442	463	458
Cigarettes containing tobacco or mixtures of tobacco and tobacco substitutes - million items	..	..	..	..

[1] Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

XVII. CONSTRUCTION AND HOUSING FUND

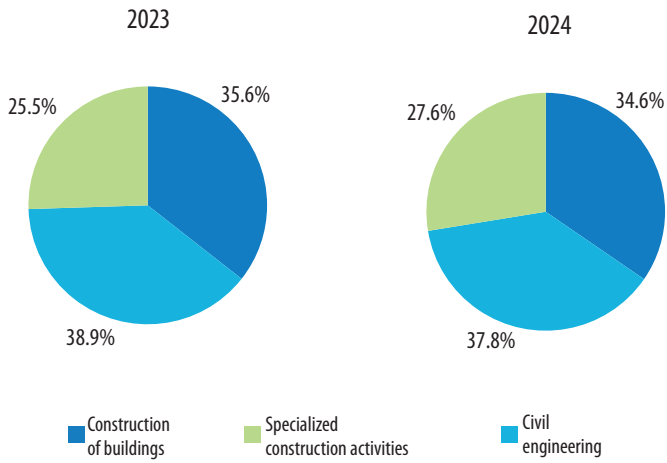
Production of enterprises in construction

Data on the production of enterprises in the construction are shown at current prices.

The enterprises are classified by economic activity grouping according to the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE. BG - 2008), where they are divided as follows: Construction of buildings, Civil engineering and Specialized construction activities.

According to the Eurostat Regulations from 2021, the production value (value of output) does not include the charged excise duties and other operating income, but includes the income from product- or turnover-related subsidies from state support.

Figure 1. Structure of production of construction enterprises



1. Production of construction enterprises

(Thousand BGN)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	**20595054**	**23407443**	**29127348**	**24386161**
Construction of buildings	7180296	8927586	10365430	8435455
Civil engineering	8553832	8725154	11321372	9225985
Specialized construction activities	4860926	5754703	7440546	6724721

Housing fund

Data about the housing fund as of the end of 2024 is calculated on the basis of the results of the Census of the housing fund as of 7th September 2021, and accumulation of the number of new constructed residential buildings and deduction of the number of destroyed residential buildings during the period 7.09.2021 - 31.12.2024 year.

Residential buildings are the buildings which by initial building or after reconstruction are suitable for living and consist of one or more dwellings that take at least 60% of the total area. In the coverage of the survey 'Housing fund at the end of the year' are included inhabited and uninhabited residential buildings, campuses and buildings of institutional households.

Steel-concrete buildings are those of which the carrier and the floor constructions are built of steel-concrete and the walls are made of panels, brick masonry or other materials.

Solid structures are those of which the carrier walls are of brick and stone masonry and the belts, the beams and the floor construction are made of steel-concrete but have no steel-concrete columns. The buildings whose the floor elements are precast reinforced concrete units also refer to the solid structures.

In the group of 'other buildings' are included the structures that are built of stones, sun-dried brick, wood and other materials.

Figure 2. Dwellings

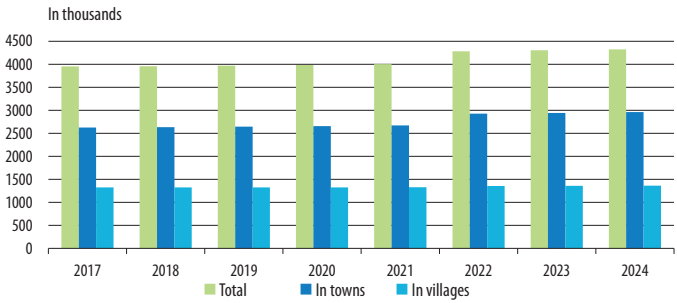
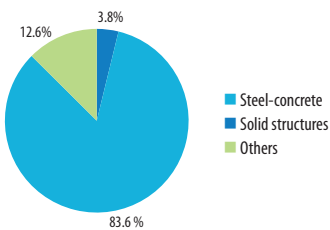


Figure 3. Structure of residential buildings by kind of construction in 2024



2. Housing fund

	2021	2022[1]	2023	2024
	Total			
Dwellings - thousand numbers	4002	4283	4304	4324
Useful floor space - thousand sq. m	294220	346735	348915	350876
of which: Living floor space[2]	250117	270713	272430	273915
	In towns			
Dwellings - thousand numbers	2673	2927	2944	2961
Useful floor space - thousand sq. m	198571	236292	237959	239442
of which: Living floor space[2]	168440	182901	184217	185349
	In villages			
Dwellings - thousand numbers	1329	1356	1360	1363
Useful floor space - thousand sq. m	95649	110443	110956	111434
of which: Living floor space[2]	81677	87812	88213	88566

[1] Due to a recalculation of the housing fund for 2022, the data is updated.

[2] From 01.01.2019 the living floor space includes the space of the kitchens over 4 sq. m.

3. Residential buildings by structure of building

(Thousand numbers)

	2021	2022[1]	2023	2024
	Total			
Total	**2085**	**2062**	**2066**	**2071**
Steel-concrete	93	71	75	79
Solid structures	1651	1731	1731	1732
Others	341	260	260	260
	In towns			
Total	**785**	**809**	**811**	**814**
Steel-concrete	61	45	47	50
Solid structures	667	723	723	723
Others	57	41	41	41
	In villages			
Total	**1300**	**1253**	**1255**	**1257**
Steel-concrete	32	26	28	29
Solid structures	984	1008	1008	1009
Others	284	219	219	219

[1] Due to a recalculation of the housing fund for 2022, the data is updated.

Permits issued for buildings and dwellings completed

Data about building permits issued for construction are collected from quarterly statistical surveys of NSI, which ensure information about building permits issued for construction of new buildings for the type of buildings and the gross building area by municipal authorities.
Type of buildings is classified according to the Classification of types of construction (CC) and is divided into:

- Residential - buildings, the useful floor area of which is mostly used for permanent residential habitation.
- Non-residential - buildings for various purposes, including:

- administrative - offices and buildings for administrative work of departments and other organizations and associations (representative buildings - banks, post offices, government department offices, conference and congress centres, court-of-law, municipal halls, etc.);

- other buildings - buildings used for different activities: production, trade, transport, education, cultural purposes, sports, agriculture, health, recreation and facilities for short accommodation (hotels, motels, rest houses, huts and others).

The gross building area is the sum of all floors areas according to their external dimensions.

In the scope of the survey were the newly built residential buildings with an approved record of handover Form 16 or a valid usage license according to Regulation № 2/31.07.2003 of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.

Living floor space includes the space of the rooms and kitchens over 4 sq. m. floor area. The space of the kitchens with over 4 sq. m floor area was presented separately before 31.12.2018.

A room is defined as a space in the dwelling enclosed by walls reaching from the floor to the ceiling or roof, of a size large enough to hold a bed for an adult (4 sq. metres at least) and at least 2 metres high over the major area of the ceiling.

Service floor space is the floor area of the rooms and kitchens with less than 4 square meters of floor area, vestibules with a portal or another screen, corridors, bathrooms, toilets, larders, hanging closets, other service rooms such as drying-rooms, laundries or balconies regardless of their space.

The useful floor space of the dwelling is the sum of the living floor space and the service floor space.

4. Buildings permits issued for construction of new buildings

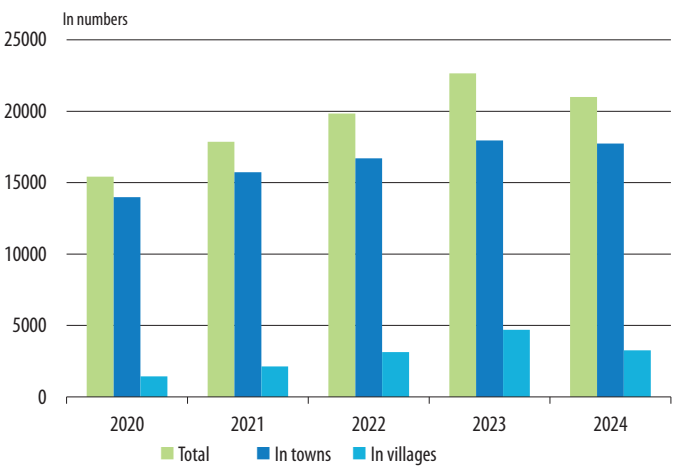
Kind of buildings	2021	2022	2023	2024
Residential buildings - in numbers	7047	8169	8165	7786
Dwellings in residential buildings - in numbers	39998	48210	47290	39834
Gross building area - thousand sq. m	4686	5649	5374	4613
Administrative buildings - in numbers	96	70	80	76
Gross building area - thousand sq. m	181	115	210	172
The other buildings - in numbers	4685	4631	4923	4614
Gross building area - thousand sq. m	2544	2528	2921	2181

5. Dwellings completed

	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Total			
Dwellings - in numbers	17868	19847	22649	20998
Useful floor space - thousand sq. m	1748	2039	2240	2025
of which: Living floor space[1]	1367	1615	1767	1538
	In towns			
Dwellings - in numbers	15731	16705	17951	17736
Useful floor space - thousand sq. m	1444	1559	1704	1521
of which: Living floor space[1]	1134	1238	1347	1164
	In villages			
Dwellings - in numbers	2137	3142	4698	3262
Useful floor space - thousand sq. m	304	480	536	504
of which: Living floor space[1]	233	377	420	374

[1] From 01.01.2019 the living floor space includes the space of the kitchens over 4 sq. m.

Figure 4. Dwellings completed



XVIII. ENERGY

Overall energy balance

The overall energy balance (OEB) is an aggregate of the energy balances of all energy products consumed in the country, in an unified unit of measurement. It consists of the following indicators:

Primary energy production represents any kind of extraction of energy products from natural sources on the territory of the country. Includes coal production (purified production is reported), crude oil, natural gas, nuclear energy, renewable energy (water, wind, solar, geothermal and heat from the environment), biomass, biogas, liquid biofuels and non-renewable fuels. Since 2019, it has comprised also primary heat production, which is calculated by estimation of the quantities of electricity and heat produced from 'heat from chemical processes' and efficiency of the production process.

Recovered and recycled products refer to slurry and shale from coal recovered from mines as well as to lubricants used for petroleum products, which are processed.

Imports (incl. Intra-Union imports) and exports (incl. Intra-Union exports) include the quantities passed through the political boundaries of the country, whether customs clearance has taken place or not. Transit is not reported (excluding electricity). Only energy products, produced in the country, are reported as exports in the energy balance.

Stock change is the difference between stocks at the beginning and at the end of the year in producers, large trading companies and consumers.

Gross available energy is calculated from primary energy production + recovered and recycled products + imports – exports + stock change. Shows the amount of energy, required to meet energy demand in the country.

International maritime bunkers are the quantities of fuels delivered to ships of all flags that are engaged in international navigation. The international navigation may take place at sea, on inland lakes and waterways, and in coastal waters (port of departure and port of arrival are in different countries).

Gross inland consumption is calculated as Gross Available Energy minus the International maritime bunkers.

International aviation are quantities of fuels delivered to aircrafts for international flights. The domestic/international split is determined based on departure and landing locations and not by the nationality of the airline.

1. Overall energy balance for 2023

(Thousand tons of oil equivalent)

	Total	Solid fossil fuels	Manu-factured gases	Peat and peat products	Oil shale and oil sands	Oil and petroleum products
Primary production	**10483.8**	3491.0	-	-	5.9	-
Recovered and recycled products	**56.3**	13.2	-	-	-	43.1
Imports	**11320.6**	374.0	-	-	-	8287.0
Exports	**4449.0**	181.0	-	-	-	3352.4
Change in stock	**-110.8**	17.4	-	-	-4.6	-129.2
Gross available energy	**17300.9**	**3714.7**	**-**	**-**	**1.3**	**4848.5**
International maritime bunkers	**66.6**	-	-	-	-	66.6
Gross inland consumption	**17234.2**	**3714.7**	**-**	**-**	**1.3**	**4781.8**
International aviation	**235.9**	-	-	-	-	235.9
Total energy supply	**16998.4**	**3714.7**	**-**	**-**	**1.3**	**4546.0**
Transformation input	**17419.4**	3483.2	-	-	1.4	7267.3
Transformation output	**11713.8**	122.9	-	-	-	7098.2
Energy sector	**973.5**	0.0	-	-	-	427.7
Distribution losses	**415.9**	33.6	-	-	-	0.8
Available for final consumption	**9903.3**	**320.8**	**-**	**-**	**-0.1**	**3948.3**
Final non-energy consumption	**422.7**	57.2	-	-	-	246.9
Final energy consumption	**9520.1**	240.3	-	-	-	3739.0
Statistical differences	**-39.4**	23.4	-	-	-0.1	-37.5

1. Overall energy balance for 2023

(Continued and end)

(Thousand tons of oil equivalent)

	Natural gas	Renewables and biofuels	Non-renewable waste	Nuclear heat	Heat	Electricity
Primary production	8.4	2643.9	50.4	4218.0	66.1	-
Recovered and recycled products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imports	2165.6	114.4	-	-	-	379.6
Exports	-	249.3	-	-	-	666.2
Change in stock	-1.7	7.3	-	-	-	-
Gross available energy	**2172.3**	**2516.3**	**50.4**	**4218.0**	**66.1**	**-286.6**
International maritime bunkers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross inland consumption	**2172.3**	**2516.3**	**50.4**	**4218.0**	**66.1**	**-286.6**
International aviation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total energy supply	**2172.3**	**2516.3**	**50.4**	**4218.0**	**66.1**	**-286.6**
Transformation input	933.6	1427.9	6.5	4218.0	74.9	6.6
Transformation output	-	182.1	-	-	849.3	3461.4
Energy sector	20.7	-	-	-	135.5	389.6
Distribution losses	11.5	-	-	-	166.6	203.4
Available for final consumption	**1206.4**	**1270.4**	**43.9**	**-**	**538.3**	**2575.1**
Final non-energy consumption	118.6	-	-	-	-	-
Final energy consumption	1017.2	1327.3	43.9	-	544.1	2608.4
Statistical differences	70.7	-56.9	-	-	-5.7	-33.2

Total energy supply represents the amount of energy required to meet domestic consumption in the country. For secondary products derived from a transformation process, the data may be a negative number.

Transformation input are fuels and energy used to produce other energy products.

Transformation output are the quantities of the secondary energy products derived from different transformation processes: production of electricity and heat, briquetting, coke and blast furnace, production of petroleum products. The total heat production of main activity producer plants and the produced heat sold to third parties by Autoproducer plants are reported.

Consumption of the energy sector reflects final consumption of energy and fuels (not transformed in other energy products) for the implementation and maintenance of the main activity of companies producing energy products.

Distribution losses includes losses in gas and heat transmission and distribution, electricity transmission and distribution and transport of other fuels.

Available for final consumption are the quantities of energy products available for final use. This indicator is calculated as: *Total energy supply – Transformation input + Transformation output – Energy Sector Consumption – Distribution losses.*

There are two types of final consumption: non-energy and energy consumption.

Final non-energy consumption shows the quantities of fuels used as raw materials for the production of non-fuel products.

Final energy consumption contains data for consumed energy products, which are not transformed into others. The quantities of fuel consumed in the Autoproducer plants for the production of heat, used for inner plants' activities, are reported as final energy consumption by the relevant sector of economic activity.

Statistical difference is the difference between *Available for final consumption* and *Final consumption* (non-energy and energy).

The information on the overall energy balance is presented in thousand tons of oil equivalent. The Joule and its multiples are used as common energy unit of measure in international practice. The conversion from one type of measure unit into another is effected by the following relation:

1 Gigajoule = 278 kWh = 0.023885 toe

2. Structure of primary energy production

(Per cent)

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Solid fossil fuels	34.5	38.7	44.8	33.3
Oil shale and oil sands	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Oil and petroleum products	..	..	0.0	..
Natural gas	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
Renewables and biofuels	23.8	24.5	21.3	25.2
Non-renewable waste	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
Nuclear heat	40.0	35.4	32.6	40.2
Heat[1]	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6

[1] Heat from chemical processes

3. Final energy consumption by sectors

	2021	2022	2023	2023 in % to 2022
	Thousand tons of oil equivalent			
Total	**10165.8**	**9856.9**	**9520.1**	**96.6**
Industry	**2823.8**	**2703.5**	**2454.7**	**90.8**
Iron and steel	114.2	102.9	99.6	96.7
Chemical and petrochemical	829.2	759.7	685.9	90.3
Non-ferrous metals	182.8	176.4	165.7	94.0
Non-metallic minerals	599.4	579.9	519.7	89.6
Transport equipment	17.9	18.1	20.5	113.1
Machinery	133.5	129.1	121.1	93.8
Mining and quarrying	182.3	174.9	174.0	99.4
Food, beverages and tobacco	277.5	285.1	267.4	93.8
Paper, pulp and printing	177.9	193.2	135.8	70.3
Wood and wood products	89.9	74.9	67.9	90.6
Construction	83.7	72.0	72.2	100.3
Textile and leather	53.2	51.6	46.1	89.4
Not elsewhere specified (industry)	82.3	85.7	78.7	91.8
Transport	**3434.6**	**3468.1**	**3527.8**	**101.7**
Rail	44.7	44.8	41.5	92.7
Road	3328.2	3330.8	3384.7	101.6
Domestic aviation	5.1	8.0	5.6	70.7
Domestic navigation	0.1	0.2	0.1	92.4
Pipeline transport	56.5	84.4	95.8	113.5
Not elsewhere specified (transport)	-	-	-	-
Other	**3907.4**	**3685.3**	**3537.6**	**96.0**
Commercial and public services	1299.9	1343.4	1263.4	94.0
Households	2403.9	2137.4	2046.6	95.8
Agriculture and forestry	193.8	193.3	193.4	100.0
Fishing	0.7	0.6	0.5	83.6
Not elsewhere specified (other)	9.2	10.6	33.7	318.4

Figure 1. Energy flows

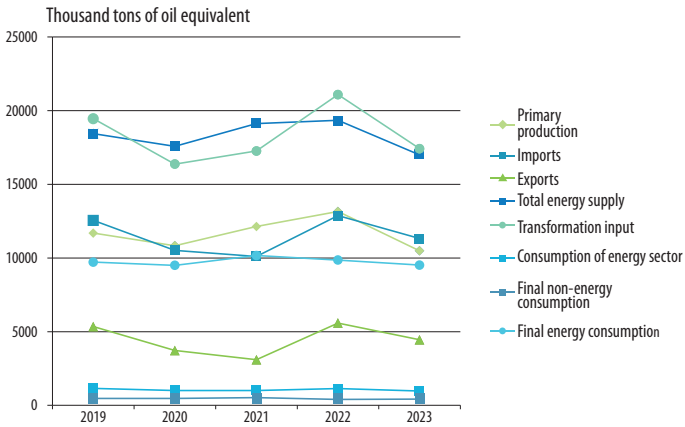
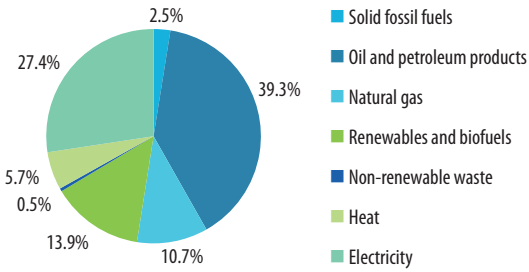


Figure 2. Structure of final energy consumption by energy sources in 2023



4. Balance of electricity

(GWh)

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Gross production	**40754.4**	**47568.1**	**50499.3**	**40255.5**
Net production	37222.8	43457.8	45960.0	36923.2
Imports	3706.7	1857.0	1470.0	4414.8
Exports	7114.8	10635.3	13664.6	7748.3
Transformation input - electricity and heat generation (for pumped storage)	720.4	376.9	49.6	77.1
Supply	**33094.3**	**34302.6**	**33715.7**	**33512.6**
Distribution losses	2595.4	2602.3	2510.6	2365.5
Available for final consumption	**30498.9**	**31700.2**	**31205.1**	**31147.1**
Energy sector	1214.5	1119.0	1308.6	1198.3
Industry	9456.9	9693.3	9608.4	9111.4
Transport	422.7	450.4	454.2	425.2
Households	11356.2	11953.3	11969.7	12311.7
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	382.0	317.6	277.9	324.4
Commercial and public services	6992.2	8555.1	8409.1	8053.2
Not elsewhere specified (other)	-	-	-	109.5
Statistical differences	674.4	-388.6	-822.7	-386.7

Electricity and heat

Electricity generation is the gross electricity generation which is the sum of the electric energy produced by all generating sets concerned (incl. pumped storage), measured at the output terminals of the main generators.

The gross electricity generation includes the electric energy, absorbed by the power plants own generating auxiliaries and the losses in the main generator transformers.

Heat production covers gross heat production by the public plants and only heat production by auto-producers which is sold to third parties.

The public plants (Main Activity Producers) report the gross heat produced by the installations. This is the heat produced by the installations, including own needs.

Auto-producers report the heat sold to third parties only. The production of heat used by a company for its main activity is not included.

The Available for final consumption is on the one hand: *Net production + Imports – Exports – Transformation input for electricity and heat generation (incl. Pumped storage) – Distribution losses, and on the other hand: Final energy consumption by sectors (Industry, Transport, Households, Agriculture, forestry and fishing, Commerce and public services, Energy sector, Not elsewhere specified - other) + Statistical differences.*

The electricity consumption by economic activities does not include the own needs of power plants, as it is reported in the consumption of Energy sector.

The available amount of heat for final consumption to be interpreted similarly.

5. Balance of heat

(GWh)

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Gross production	**10841.4**	**11390.4**	**10113.0**	**9877.5**
Net production	10281.9	10804.1	9611.0	9407.6
Transformation input - electricity and heat generation	132.2	135.8	108.6	102.7
Supply	**10149.7**	**10668.3**	**9502.4**	**9304.9**
Distribution losses	1909.2	2029.8	1885.3	1937.8
Available for final consumption	**8240.5**	**8638.6**	**7617.1**	**7367.1**
Energy sector	1865.5	1898.7	1193.0	1106.2
Industry	1285.0	1214.9	1376.5	1432.8
Households	3837.2	3940.6	3575.0	3397.2
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	152.2	94.5	68.4	68.7
Commercial and public services	1145.5	1439.9	1443.3	1394.7
Not elsewhere specified (other)	-	-	-	34.3
Statistical differences	-45.0	50.0	-39.2	-66.8

Figure 3. Structure of electricity consumption by sectors

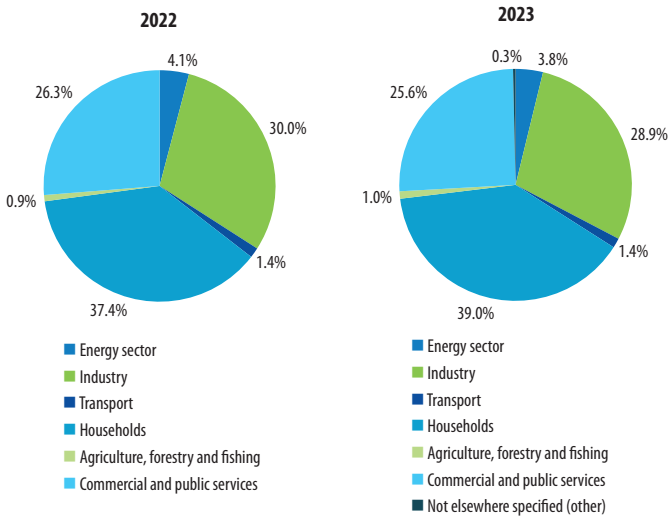
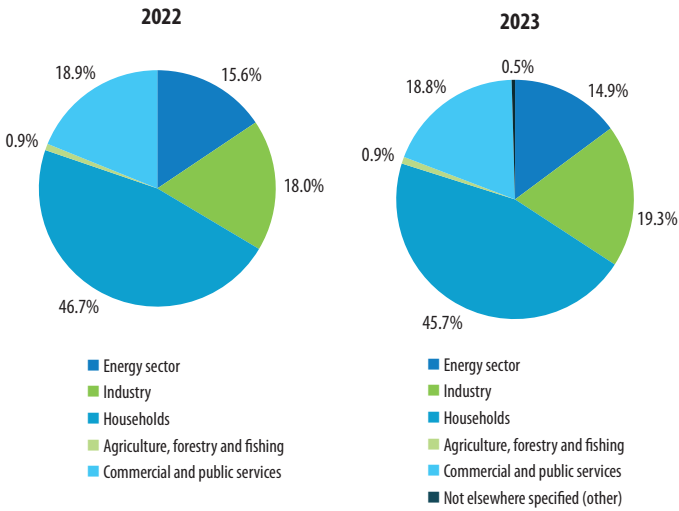


Figure 4. Structure of heat consumption by sectors



XIX. TRANSPORT

Transport - main data on transport development

Transport is a branch in the national economy which comprises transport enterprises that provide services for hire or reward. According to the National classification of economic activities, this section includes all kinds of transport (railway, road, maritime, inland waterway, air, pipeline and urban electric transport).

The section consists of basic data characterizing the state and changes that occurred in the public and private sector.

The total length of the railway lines includes current road and station platforms. The current road covers the length of the railway lines between the stations' axes and the distance between the border stations and the state borders. The length of the double and the electrified railway lines is measured in one direction.

The international regular bus lines are included in the coach lines.

The route length of the trolleybus and electric bus lines, the tram network and the metro is a sum of the total one-way operational length of the lines. The length of the overlaying lines is reported only once.

The data source of registered freight vehicles and buses is the Security Police Service Department at the Ministry of Interior.

The number of trolleybuses, electric buses, trams and metro motorcars is related to the available vehicles owned by the urban electrical enterprises.

1. Basic transport data

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Length of track, incl. sidings - km	5460	5451	5451	5445
of which: Running track - km	4031	4029	4029	4025
Share of electrified running track - %	73.4	73.5	73.4	73.6
Coach lines - number	2736	3099	3030	3150
Total length of coach lines - thousand km	405.3	351.6	325.2	332.4
Towns with trolleybus lines - number	10	10	10	10
Route length of trolleybus lines as of 31.12. - km	479	409	419	408
Route length of electric bus lines as of 31.12. - km	66	317	920	1290
Route length of tram lines as of 31.12. - km	133	139	125	158
Route length of underground lines as of 31.12. - km	50	50	50	50

2. Means of transport by kind as of 31.12.

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Registered cargo vehicles - number	499311	514373	532355	552485
Lorries	410197	422213	436804	453775
Special vehicles	40797	42762	45204	48343
Road tractors	48317	49398	50347	50367
Registered busses - number	17352	17534	17942	17812
Trolleybuses - number	379	330	337	330
Passenger seats - number	39591	35568	36162	35540
Electric buses - number	45	99	209	220
Passenger seats - number	3210	6261	15068	15507
Trams - number	316	301	314	314
Passenger seats - number	61361	57271	59879	59879
Railcars for underground electrical transport - number	298	298	298	298
Passenger seats - number	82574	82574	82574	82574
Sea cargoships - number	1	1	1	1
Carrying capacity - thousand tons	7	7	7	7
Sea passenger ships - number	11	11	9	12
Passenger seats/berths - number	403	397	228	690
Inland non-self-propelled cargoships - number	98	101	103	106
Carrying capacity - thousand tons	165	174	198	182
Inland passenger boats - number	1	5	5	5
Seats/berths - number	243	885	885	885

Goods and passengers carried and transport performance

The main indicators characterizing transport activities are related to the carriage of goods and passengers via land, sea, air and urban electrical transport.

Land transport includes the transport activities by rail and road, as well as the carriage of goods by pipeline transport.

Data on freight land transport include the goods carried and the transport performance of railway, road and pipeline transport. The land passenger transport covers the number of passengers carried and the transport performance of railway and road transport.

The data on urban electrical transport include passengers carried and transport performance of the trolleybus transport in the country, tramway transport and metro in Sofia (the capital).

Freight transport

Figure 1. Goods carried by mode of transport

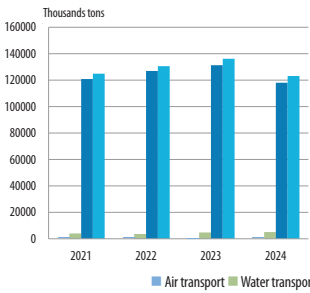
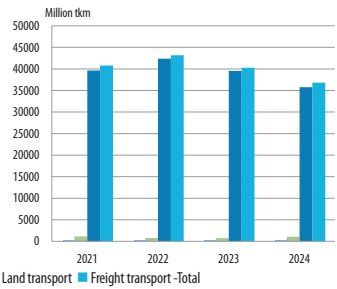


Figure 2. Transport performance by mode of transport



Passenger transport

Figure 3. Passengers carried by mode of transport

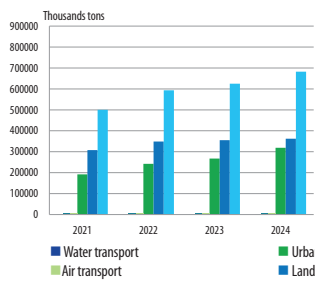
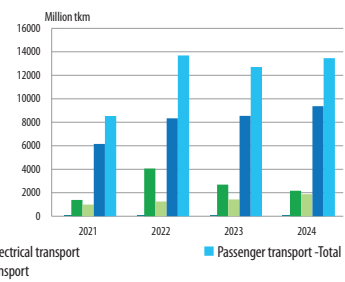


Figure 4. Transport performance by mode of transport



3. Goods carried and transport performance by mode of transport

Mode of transport	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Goods carried - thousand tons			
Total	**124804**	**130504**	**136103**	**123099**
Land transport[1]	120781	126881	131310	118036
Water transport[2]	3992	3608	4776	5048
Air transport	31	15	17	15
	Transport performance - million tkm			
Total	**40801**	**43162**	**40288**	**36816**
Land transport[1]	39635	42367	39542	35763
Water transport[2]	1147	780	723	1040
Air transport	19	15	23	13

[1] Railways, road and pipeline transport.
[2] Maritime and inland transport.

4. Passengers carried and transport performance by mode of transport

Mode of transport	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Passengers carried - in thousands			
Total	**500184**	**593201**	**624849**	**682532**
Land transport[1]	307614	348402	355001	361919
Water transport[2]	152	214	275	264
Air transport	603	2418	2451	1646
Urban electrical transport	191815	242167	267122	318703
	Transport performance - million pkm			
Total	**8535**	**13688**	**12714**	**13466**
Land transport[1]	6155	8341	8552	9376
Water transport[2]	6	29	37	35
Air transport	1386	4062	2698	2173
Urban electrical transport	988	1256	1427	1882

[1] Excl. free of charge travels by railways and road transport.
[2] Maritime and inland waterway transport.

XX. TOURISM

Accommodation establishments

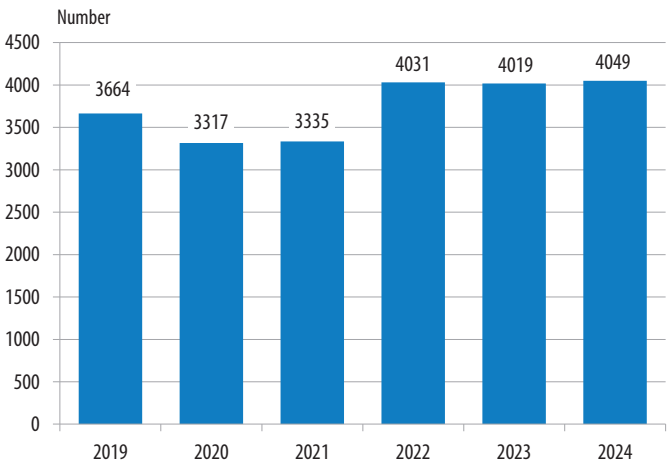
The methodology used in statistical surveys on tourism is in line with the Regulation No. 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning European statistics on tourism and Commission Regulation No. 1051/2011 implementing Regulation No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning European statistics on tourism, with regards to the structure of the quality reports and the transmission of the data.

The object of the survey is all accommodation establishments in use with 10 or more bed-places - hotels, camping sites and other establishments for short-term accommodation (holiday settlements, hostels, guesthouses, bungalows, rest houses, mountain chalets, private rooms and flats, and other).

The observation of accommodation establishments collects various data by types of accommodation establishments, nights spent, arrivals in accommodation establishments, revenues from nights spent and others.

In 2024, there were 4 049 public and private accommodation establishments functioning in the country - hotels, motels, mountain chalets, camping sites and other establishments for short-term accommodation with 10 or more bed places.

Figure 1. Accommodation establishments



1. Accommodation establishments[1]

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Accommodation establishments - in numbers	**3335**	**4031**	**4019**	**4049**
Bed-places - in thousands	304.2	354.7	359.9	360.6
Bed-nights - in thousands	57701	68969	72890	73596
Using of bed-nights - %	30.5	35.0	36.9	37.6
Nights spent - in thousands	17620	24173	26865	27646
of which: By non-residents	7994	12887	14554	15058
Revenues from nights spent - million BGN	1071.7	1675.8	2080.2	2402.2
Hotels - in numbers	**1960**	**2276**	**2259**	**2268**
Bed-places - in thousands	255.0	294.2	299.1	299.6
Bed-nights - in thousands	48560	58037	61146	62041
Using of bed-nights - %	32.7	38.1	40.1	40.9
Nights spent - in thousands	15889	22117	24532	25357
of which: non-residents	7818	12557	14200	14752
Revenues from nights spent - million BGN	1021.9	1604.8	1990.5	2305.4
Camping sites - in numbers	**12**	**14**	**35**	**34**
Bed-places - in thousands	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.9
Bed-nights - in thousands	126	130	324	384
Using of bed-nights - %	67.5	53.2	39.6	36.9
Nights spent - in thousands	85	69	128	142
of which: By non-residents	2	3	9	13
Revenues from nights spent - million BGN	0.7	0.7	2.5	3.3
Other establishments for short-term accommodation - in numbers	**1363**	**1741**	**1725**	**1747**
Bed-places - in thousands	48.2	59.4	59.2	59.1
Bed-nights - in thousands	9015	10802	11420	11171
Using of bed-nights - %	18.3	18.4	19.3	19.2
Nights spent - in thousands	1646	1987	2205	2147
of which: By non-residents	174	327	345	293
Revenues from nights spent - million BGN	49.1	70.3	87.2	93.5

[1] In use.

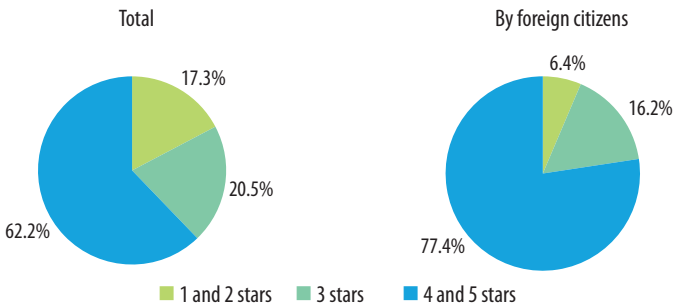
Nights spent

The total number of the nights spent in all accommodation establishments in 2024 was 27 646.2 thousand and increased by 781.2 thousand (2.9%) compared to 2023. The number of the nights spent by non-residents (15 058.0 thousand) in all accommodation establishments increased by 3.5% in 2024 compared to the previous year.

Almost all foreign citizens - 98.0%, preferred to spend the night in hotels while 2.0% of them spent nights in other accommodation establishments (camping sites, mountain chalets and other establishments for short-time accommodation).

The structure of the nights spent by non-residents in 2024 showed that the highest percentage of nights was spent in four and five-star accommodation establishments (77.4%), followed by those with three stars (16.2%) and those with one and two stars (6.4%).

Figure 2. Structure of the nights spent in accommodation establishments by categories in 2024



2. Nights spent by non-residents in accommodation establishments by country of origin and by categories in 2024

(Number)

Country	Total	Categories of accommodation establishments			
		1 and 2 stars	3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
Total	**15058045**	**961837**	**2437657**	**8953509**	**2705042**
EU	**9419539**	**462179**	**1317365**	**5983428**	**1656567**
Austria	132120	5392	12102	80258	34368
Belgium	129663	6978	10549	84871	27265
Croatia	28484	2915	6633	13592	5344
Cyprus	31571	1363	5022	17794	7392
Czechia	932096	26392	137554	624368	143782
Denmark	148892	9725	15277	98158	25732
Estonia	36413	2724	6611	21450	5628
Finland	82229	8883	13769	46590	12987
France	223496	16091	23407	140927	43071
Germany	1200161	37547	109806	811936	240872
Greece	225782	15020	35891	133597	41274
Hungary	203201	17550	47012	115705	22934
Ireland	136040	16732	23453	77389	18466
Italy	192398	16292	38947	100352	36807
Latvia	45002	2979	9090	25407	7526
Lithuania	114223	4036	14396	74147	21644
Luxemburg	13307	169	524	8981	3633
Malta	9848	550	1975	5550	1773
Netherlands	144874	12167	18746	90342	23619
Poland	1459507	45835	242043	986568	185061
Portugal	36208	3108	9134	16693	7273
Romania	3334950	171971	424479	2084917	653583
Slovakia	270477	14413	60292	162126	33646
Slovenia	28356	4002	9227	12331	2796
Spain	146627	11049	24911	80460	30207
Sweden	113614	8296	16515	68919	19884
Other European countries	**3921163**	**386169**	**852512**	**2118553**	**563929**
Norway	190351	27438	28042	102220	32651
Republic of North Macedonia	153292	8075	24068	92616	28533
Russian Federation	77923	7642	14411	34890	20980
Serbia	186561	17540	44382	101856	22783
Switzerland	54586	3327	7071	27687	16501
Türkiye	329981	53428	58664	144201	73688
Ukraine	1635105	155034	502539	848904	128628
United Kingdom	1293364	113685	173335	766179	240165
Others countries	**729803**	**28024**	**52159**	**322580**	**327040**
Israel	538113	16908	34988	247594	238623
Japan	19089	1901	2145	10859	4184
USA	172601	9215	15026	64127	84233
Rest of the world	**987540**	**85465**	**215621**	**528948**	**157506**

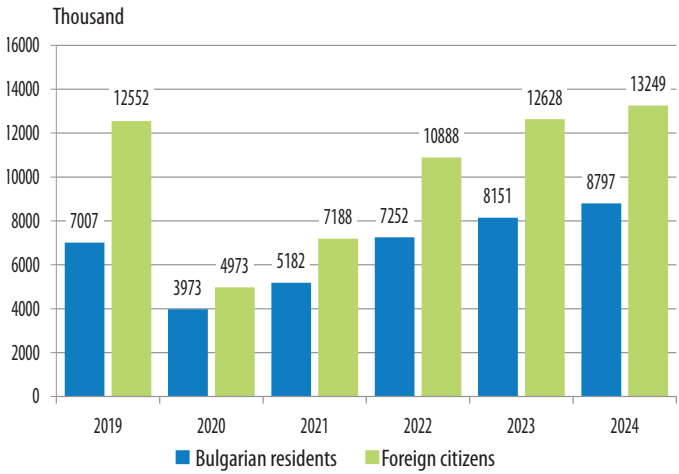
Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad and arrivals of non-residents to Bulgaria

The statistical data on travel of Bulgarian residents abroad and on visits by non-residents in Bulgaria are developed on the basis of the monthly information received from the Ministry of the Interior and from a sample survey of the National Statistical Institute among Bulgarian and foreign citizens passing the border crossing control points.

The number of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad during 2024 was 8 796.8 thousand, which is an increase of 7.9% compared to 2023.

In 2024, the number of visits from abroad to Bulgaria was 13 249.5 thousand, 45.7% of which were with other purpose, 43.7% with holiday and recreation purpose, and 10.6% with professional purpose. Compared to the previous year, the visits of foreign citizens to Bulgaria increased by 4.9%.

Figure 3. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad and arrivals of foreign citizens to Bulgaria



3. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad and arrivals of non-residents to Bulgaria by country of origin

(Number)

Country	Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad		Arrivals of non-residents to Bulgaria by country of origin	
	2023	2024	2023	2024
Total	**8150840**	**8796793**	**12627547**	**13249456**
EU	**4619413**	**4968473**	**6274597**	**6697390**
Austria	256830	284551	183926	198267
Belgium	120451	123036	128725	136887
Croatia	51156	50318	32218	34003
Cyprus	9382	8976	23514	27930
Czechia	115825	120613	198727	206202
Denmark	31536	31722	48332	47792
Finland	6832	7025	20997	25292
France	194510	219469	200950	197888
Germany	489904	524294	897480	920368
Greece	1871114	1982330	1109412	1190898
Hungary	66529	66401	99704	98449
Ireland	12137	13200	47844	52976
Italy	268534	287729	181514	180958
Malta	11390	12505	5339	6224
Netherlands	80802	89932	185584	197520
Poland	67552	74515	467505	477751
Portugal	21982	21150	20686	23016
Romania	666846	755820	2106097	2332357
Slovakia	34696	35210	78424	78767
Slovenia	22842	27817	13605	16975
Spain	188757	202737	86655	116087
Sweden	18369	17202	67133	64819
Others countries from EU	11437	11921	70226	65964
Other European countries	**3347477**	**3645078**	**5074511**	**5271630**
Norway	11809	11744	49312	49662
Republic of North Macedonia	285543	294181	425012	406199
Russian Federation	1378	4960	139799	85035
Serbia	624251	685986	643488	728980
Switzerland	27794	29645	35193	38023
Türkiye	2200476	2413396	2200341	2286711
Ukraine	1954	2608	1181911	1278753
United Kingdom	194272	202558	399455	398267
Others countries	**32901**	**19480**	**341388**	**261673**
Canada	5365	5296	20225	15106
Israel	14121	1210	206570	163653
USA	13415	12974	114593	82914
Rest of the world	**151049**	**163762**	**937051**	**1018763**

XXI. FORESTRY

Total forest area

The total forest area covers all wooded, non-wooded and non-timber producing areas.

The deciduous high-stemmed forests include trees of seedling origin, which are naturally and artificially established through afforestation by planting or seeding. The deciduous low-stemmed forests include the same species as the deciduous high-stemmed forests, but have shoots origin. The forests are managed through methods that preserve their biological variety and shoots regeneration (including the stands of Robinia pseudoacacia).

Wooded forest area is a land under natural or planted stands of trees and bushes that covers natural plantings, sparse forests and crops.

Data on afforestation are based on the inventory of forests.

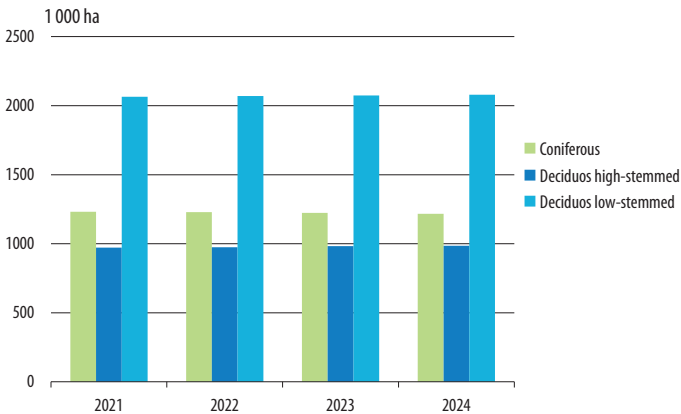
Afforestation in mature non-regenerated forest is defined as afforestation carried out in a mature forest (at the age of the main cutting) for which natural regeneration is insufficient.

Afforestation of sparse forests is carried out on areas with small numbers of trees per unit of area.

Reforestation of crops is afforestation in artificially established forest areas up to 3 years old for the restoration of dry (lost) saplings.

Growing crops includes activities aiming at supporting the initial growth and the stability of the saplings up to 3 years old (cutting of shoots, digging, removing of competitive plants, etc.).

Figure 1. Forest area by kind



1. Forest area[1]

(1 000 ha)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Forest area by type	**4269**	**4273**	**4280**	**4283**
Coniferous	1232	1229	1224	1217
Deciduous	3037	3044	3056	3066
High-stemmed	972	974	982	986
Low-stemmed	2065	2070	2074	2080
of which: Wooded forest area[2]	**3921**	**3926**	**3936**	**3939**
Coniferous	1115	1113	1109	1102
Deciduous	2806	2813	2827	2837
High-stemmed	913	915	923	928
Low-stemmed	1893	1898	1904	1909

[1] Source: Executive Forest Agency.
[2] Incl. area under Pinus mugo.

2. Afforestation[1]

(Hectares)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Preparation of area	1508	2420	1743	964
Afforestation	1645	1179	1711	905
New afforestation	957	654	783	449
Mature non-regenerated forests	605	587	879	433
Sparse forests	77	32	46	20
Establishment of two-storeyed plantations	535	418	643	271
Reforestation of artificial forests	625	760	955	703
Growing of crops	9432	9968	10964	9823

[1] Source: Executive Forest Agency.

Management of the forests

Thinning and cleaning are regular cuttings in young and middle-aged plantations in order to regulate their species structure and to improve the growing conditions and the quality of timber production.

Sanitary logging is the cutting of dead (lost) trees and bushes and trees damaged (broken) by storm and snow, in order to ensure protection from calamities and diseases.

Supporting the natural regeneration includes all activities to facilitate the forest's natural regeneration, from seeds and shoots.

Figure 2. Management of the forests

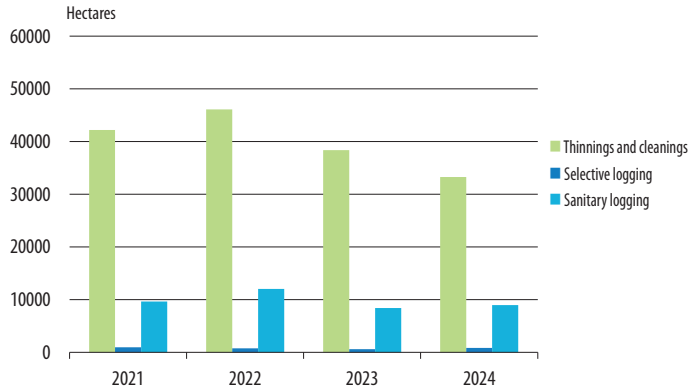
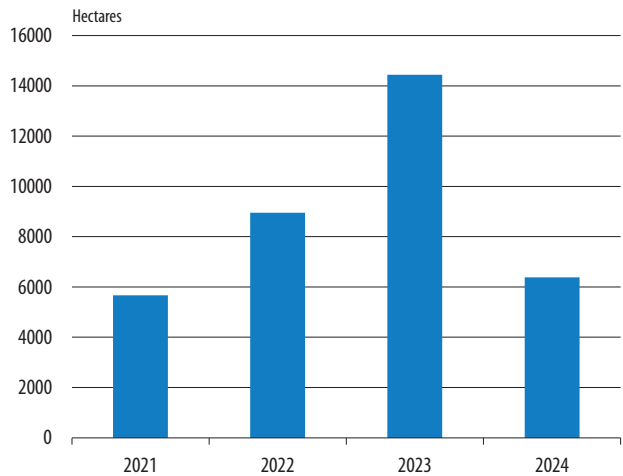


Figure 3. Supporting the natural reproduction of the forests



3. Management of the forests[1]

(Hectares)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Thinnings and cleanings	42189	46085	38351	33247
Coniferous	21200	21109	17172	16257
Deciduous high-stemmed	12875	15583	13938	10978
Shoots	8112	9393	7241	6012
Selective logging	944	735	572	809
Coniferous	326	342	202	270
Deciduous high-stemmed	467	315	271	430
Shoots	151	78	99	109
Sanitary logging	9620	12036	8414	8963
Coniferous	7619	9301	6071	7025
Deciduous high-stemmed	666	1192	941	694
Shoots	1335	1543	1402	1244
Trimming	1209	1203	1860	1117
Supporting the natural reproduction	5668	8956	14446	6383
of which: Chisel shoots	4045	4808	8554	4105
Blazed timber logging fund	109856	124819	115885	115014
Coniferous	46735	50332	45017	51650
Deciduous high-stemmed	26174	30059	26883	26360
Shoots	36946	44428	43985	37004

4. Production of forest seeds[1]

(Kilograms)

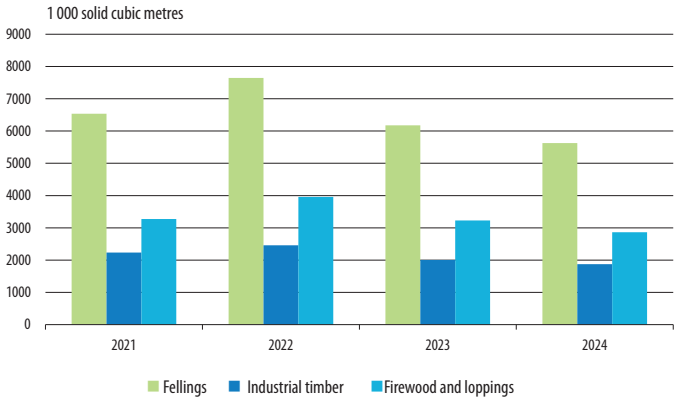
	2021	2022	2023	2024
Pick of coniferous strobiles	2977	4553	1224	4600
Gathered and yield of seeds	42155	50531	47921	40643
Coniferous spaces	353	1480	4844	16
Deciduous spaces	41802	49051	43077	40627
of which: Oak acorn	39978	47089	42479	32645

[1] Source: Executive Forest Agency.

Wood

Data covers: total wood produced of industrial cuttings, firewood and lopping for the population, dead and fallen trees and wood produced by sanitary logging, conducted in state and private forests.

Figure 4. Wood



5. Wood[1]

(1 000 solid cubic metres)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Total			
Fellings	6536	7644	6176	5626
Removals	5506	6416	5234	4736
Industrial timber	2232	2459	2004	1873
Firewood and loppings	3274	3957	3230	2861
	Deciduous			
Fellings	3017	3520	2807	2758
Removals	2401	2798	2262	2224
Industrial timber	1576	1699	1379	1336
Firewood and loppings	825	1099	883	887
	Deciduous			
Fellings	3519	4124	3369	2868
Removals	3105	3618	2972	2512
Industrial timber	656	760	625	537
Firewood and loppings	2449	2858	2347	1974
High-stem beech				
Fellings	647	795	656	593
Removals	563	687	571	511
Industrial timber	120	149	120	104
Firewood and loppings	444	537	451	406
High-stem oak				
Fellings	202	185	139	130
Removals	172	160	122	113
Industrial timber	35	32	26	21
Firewood and loppings	137	128	96	92
Other deciduous high-stemmed				
Fellings	544	645	593	515
Removals	490	563	518	452
Industrial timber	238	246	209	193
Firewood and loppings	253	317	309	258
Coppice				
Fellings	2125	2497	1980	1629
Removals	1877	2207	1758	1434
Industrial timber	263	331	269	217
Firewood and loppings	1615	1875	1489	1217

[1] Source: Executive Forest Agency.

Game

The number of game species in Bulgaria is determined on an annual basis through game counts carried out both in the state hunting areas and in the hunting areas, managed by the local hunting companies. The game counts consist of estimating the number of game by species, sex, age and number, settled on a certain territory, suitable for game breeding. The process of game counts is carried out through questionnaires, filled out by the gamekeepers for the respective region. The Executive Forest Agency maintains a Register for the annual data on spring game counts at a national level.

Figure 5. Small game

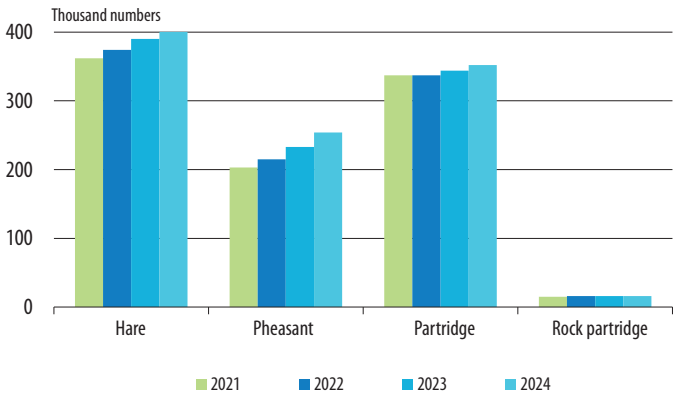
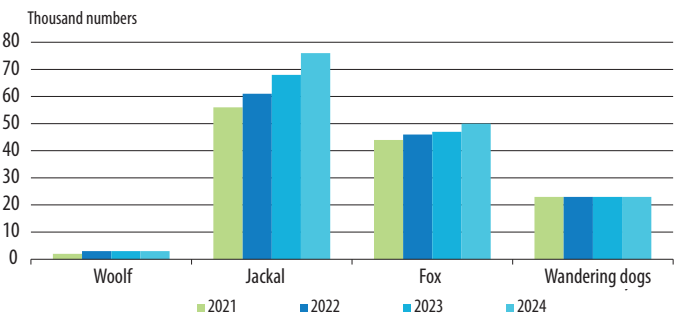


Figure 6. Predatory animals



6. Game[1]

(Number)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Big game			
Red deer	32819	35121	38434	41443
Fallow deer	10523	11589	12141	12812
Deer	125523	130755	134976	142085
Wild boar	40134	43654	47122	58303
Wild goat	2949	3319	3689	3948
Moufflon	4652	4256	4511	4705
Bear	995	1086	1206	1324
Tibetan Yak	16	16	17	18
Auroch	65	67	72	80
Capercaille	3510	3709	3974	4064
	Small game			
Hare	362455	374148	390121	418539
Pheasant	203937	215662	233684	254093
Partridge	337199	337961	344290	352370
Rock partridge	15906	16165	16070	16707
	Predatory animals			
Woolf	2712	3082	3001	3058
Jackal	56436	61804	68279	76645
Fox	44235	46477	47129	50686
Wandering dogs	23193	23299	23355	23960

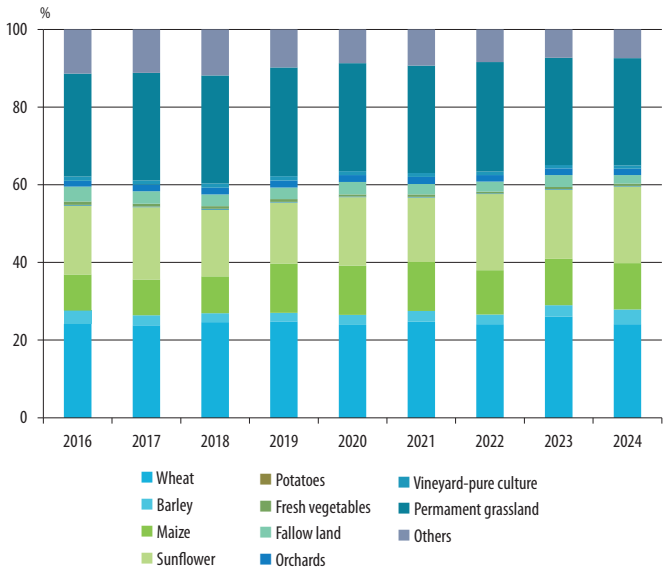
[1] Source: Executive Forest Agency.

XXII. AGRICULTURE

Utilized agricultural area and arable land

The data on crop area and the data on utilised agricultural area are obtained from the Survey on Land Use and Land Cover in Bulgaria, based on a territorial sample. The survey is conducted during the May-July period and is implemented throughout the entire territory of Bulgaria. The land cover and land use are observed at approximately 110 000 points grouped into 3 123 segments. The surveyors observe the same points and the same segments each year.

Figure 1. Structure of the utilized agricultural area



1. Arable land and utilized agricultural area[1,2]

(Hectares)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Arable land	**3486748**	**3455143**	**3472814**	**3478885**
Wheat	1247453	1207969	1301482	1207279
Barley	139109	127270	151880	190649
Rye and triticale	35053	31327	42042	29323
Oats	10421	13632	15210	24710
Maize	633735	572048	595560	595092
Other cereals	21903	14549	19930	18123
Sunflower	840185	985591	892956	984895
Tobacco	3015	3207	2502	2399
Other oleaginous crops	142838	146800	86532	68744
Other industrial crops	64261	48837	45574	51575
Potatoes	12363	10285	8948	8301
Beans, peas, other pulses	30584	22198	14934	28757
Fresh vegetables	31015	21206	23681	28293
Annual fodder crops	8115	5940	8528	16693
Grassland under legumes	119942	104618	103168	104847
Grassland under cereals	7345	5010	4402	4399
Fallow land	137707	132752	153480	112700
Green houses	1704	1904	2006	2105
Utilized agricultural area	**5046597**	**5022062**	**5002992**	**5014053**
Kitchen gardens	13728	13332	12739	12730
Orchards	90261	83572	82561	83281
Vineyard - pure culture	50252	47551	46948	46258
Mixed permanent crop	6820	6310	6016	5918
Nurseries	1709	1907	1506	1508
Total permanent crop	149042	139341	137031	136966
Permanent grassland and meadows - orchards	1397079	1414246	1380408	1385473
Agricultural area	**5227350**	**5226087**	**5208482**	**5215876**

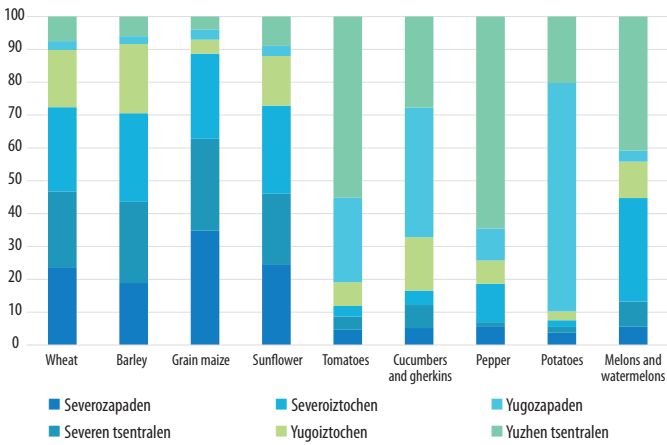
[1] Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

[2] Survey on land cover and land use of the territory of Bulgaria (BANCIK) data.

Agricultural crop production

Data on the main agricultural crops production is obtained through the survey on the yield of the main crops in 2024. The survey is carried out during the month of November through interviews with the farmers. The total production of vegetables includes production from open areas and greenhouses.

Figure 2. Structure of the production of main crop products by statistical regions in 2024



2. Harvested area, production and yields of main crops[1]

Crops	Harvested area - ha		Production - thousand tons		Yields- kg/ha	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Wheat	1220906	1194342	6624	6846	5425	5732
Barley	149980	196485	770	1053	5136	5358
Grain maize	534637	502972	2393	1598	4476	3177
Sunflower	869907	929079	1765	1609	2028	1732

3. Area, production and yields of vegetable crops, potatoes and melons and watermelons[1]

Crops	Harvested area[2] - ha		Production[3] - tons		Yields[4]- kg/ha	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Tomatoes	2540	2912	115650	128144	23440	24411
Cucumbers and gherkins	452	479	52514	54450	17668	18795
Pepper	2371	2697	52005	57169	19512	19133
Potatoes	7019	6770	119239	113935	16973	16829
Melons and watermelons	6508	9425	109617	160505	16843	17030

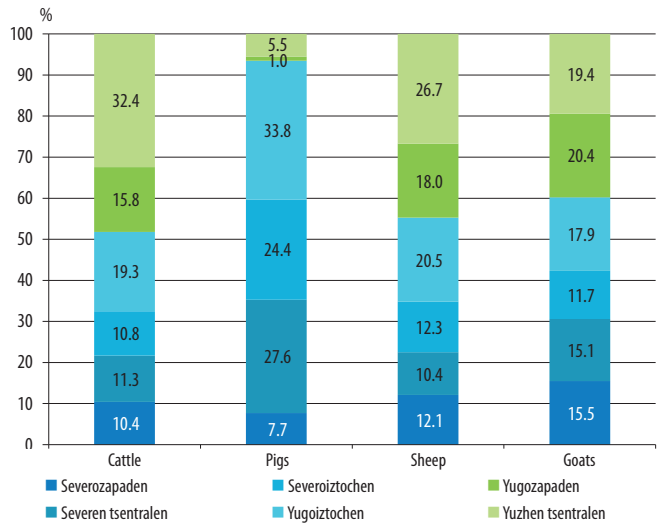
[1] Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food.
[2] Harvested area, excl. area under glass.
[3] Incl. under glass production (for the gherkins production 2023 and melons production 2023 and 2024 is from open area only).
[4] Average yields excl. production under glass.

Livestock

Information on the number of livestock in Bulgaria is obtained by means of a special survey. Statistical data on the type, category and number of animals, milk production and its sales distribution, sales of animals for slaughter, slaughtered animals in farms and main information on the structure of livestock are collected. The questionnaire is filled out by means of interviews with livestock farmers.

The information on the number of poultry and egg production is collected by a special survey. All the big farms are observed exhaustively. The results are supplemented with information from a sample of small holdings raising poultry.

Figure 3. Structure of main livestock by statistical regions as of 1.11.2024



4. Livestock by type as of 1.11.[1]

(Thousand numbers)

Type of animals	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cattle	589.5	559.5	553.4	538.5
of which: Cows	381.4	361.5	355.6	338.6
Buffaloes	21.7	20.3	20.9	20.0
of which: Buffalo-cows	15.4	14.8	15.3	14.6
Pigs	694.7	601.7	724.7	700.8
of which: Sows	54.4	49.8	54.0	47.5
Sheep	1199.5	1096.4	1072.8	1020.9
of which: Ewes	1013.2	928.9	901.2	867.1
Goats	215.0	184.0	175.0	150.0
of which: She-goats	179.8	156.3	145.3	127.8
Poultry	14168.0	15507.0	14522.0	13559.4
of which: Hens	6659.0	7139.0	6583.1	6742.7

5. Farms and livestock by type as of 1.11.2024[1]

	Farms - in thousands	Livestock	
		In thousands	Average per farm - in numbers
Cattle	15.2	538.5	35.4
of which:			
Cows	14.4	338.6	23.5
Cattle less than 1 year old	9.1	110.7	12.2
Buffaloes	0.5	20.0	40.0
of which: Buffalo-cows	0.4	14.6	36.5
Pigs	0.7	700.8	1001.1
of which: Sows	0.2	47.5	235.0
Sheep	10.7	1020.9	95.4
of which: Ewes	10.6	867.1	81.8
Goats	3.6	150.0	41.7
of which: She-goats	3.5	127.8	36.5

[1] Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

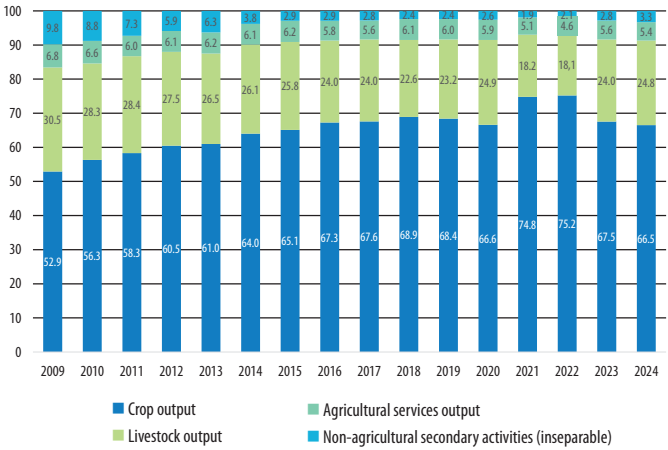
Economic accounts for agriculture

The Economic accounts for Agriculture (NSI data) are satellite accounts in the framework of National Accounts.

Output of agriculture represents all goods and services produced over the accounting period by all the units, irrespective of whether their agricultural activity is main or secondary, including households. Data refers to the final production, excluding internal turnover (goods and services produced and consumed for their own use during the accounting period). From 2007 onwards, the information includes both the financial support from the national budget and the EU budget

The main purpose of the elaboration of the economic accounts is the calculation of the entrepreneurial income characterizing the state and development tendencies of agriculture.

Figure 4. Structure of final output in agriculture at current prices



6. Economic accounts for agriculture-final output at current prices

(Million BGN)

Indicators	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Cereals	4429.3	5485.4	4104.0	3399.0
Industrial crops	2578.2	2971.0	1783.8	1776.0
Fodder	172.1	205.5	221.4	202.1
Vegetables	405.4	512.5	532.6	575.1
Potatoes	84.4	97.7	75.6	70.7
Fruits	361.2	386.4	355.4	385.7
Wine	.	.	.	.
Other crop products	34.4	41.3	51.7	54.4
Crop output	8065.0	9699.8	7124.5	6463.0
Livestock	966.1	1151.0	1362.5	1330.2
Livestock products	996.5	1182.6	1172.7	1082.4
Livestock output	1962.6	2333.6	2535.2	2412.6
Agricultural goods output	10027.6	12033.4	9659.7	8875.6
Agricultural services output	546.3	595.3	595.7	526.1
Agricultural output	10573.9	12628.7	10255.4	9401.7
Non-agricultural secondary activities (inseparable)	202.3	273.2	299.0	317.1
Output of agricultural activities	10776.2	12901.9	10554.4	9718.8
Total intermediate consumption	5612.8	6988.7	6337.4	5684.7
Gross value added at basic price	5163.4	5913.2	4217.0	4034.1
Fixed capital consumption	981.7	1124.4	1232.2	1210.0
Net value added at basic prices	4181.7	4788.8	2984.8	2824.1
Factor income	6109.9	7183.6	5246.5	5174.2
Net operating surplus/mixed income	4935.5	5790.4	3611.6	3393.5
Net entrepreneurial ncome	3260.8	3239.2	974.7	964.3

XXIII. ENVIRONMENT

Environmental statistics provide information on the state and changes in environmental conditions and the impact of human activities on it, as well as information on social actions and economic measures taken by society to avoid or mitigate these impacts and to restore and maintain the environment capacity.

Environmental accounts are a statistical system that combines economic and environmental information into a common framework for measuring the contribution of the environment to the economy and the impact of the economy on the environment. They organize environmental data from many areas using the same concepts and terminology as national accounts. In this sense, they are satellite accounts to national accounts, through which various aspects of the economy can be analyzed and evaluated.

Air emissions

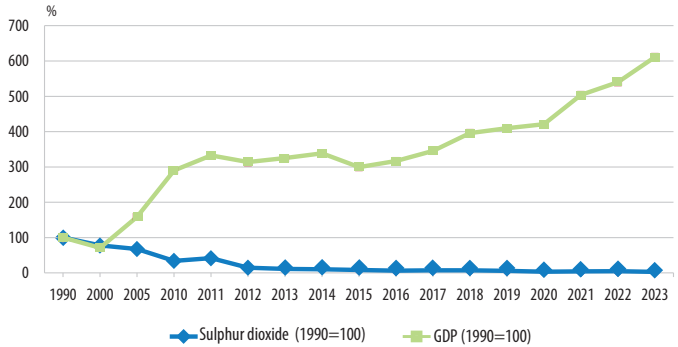
Emission is the release of harmful substances (pollutants) into the air (air emission). Air emissions are a direct result of the economic activity in the country. The amount of the emitted harmful substances depends both on the quantities of consumed fuels and produced output, and the level of technology used.

Air emissions are calculated based on data from a specialized statistical survey of the National Statistical Institute (NSI) and information from the Executive Environmental Agency (ExEA) at the Ministry of Environment and Water (MOEW). Emissions are estimated using a calculation method based on the following parameters: fuels consumed, sulphur content, calorific value, quantity of produced output and input of raw materials, as well as emission factors applicable for the respective pollutants.

The most common characteristic of the relation economy - environment is contained in the indicator 'Emission per unit of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)'. Relative to output GDP, emissions characterize its resource intensity (energy intensity) and structure. High energy consumption per unit of GDP is accompanied by high emissions per unit of GDP and vice versa.

The following figure shows the trend of sulfur dioxide emissions and the trend of GDP (in dollars at current prices).

Figure 1. Emissions of Sulphur dioxide and GDP



1. Air emissions[1,2]

(Thousand tons)

	Sulphur oxides	Nitrogen oxides	Non-methane volatile organic compounds	Methane	Carbon oxide	Carbon dioxide	Dinitrogen oxide	Ammonia oxides	Particulate matter to 2.5μm	Particulate matter to 10μm
					2019					
Total	**86**	**92**	**72**	**232**	**217**	**42263**	**17**	**64**	**28**	**45**
Industrial heating processes	76	24	1	3	7	26926	0	0	2	2
Industrial processes	6	5	33	42	20	4570	0	1	2	8
Other sources[3]	4	64	37	187	190	10767	16	62	24	35
					2020					
Total	**48**	**86**	**71**	**228**	**231**	**36631**	**16**	**62**	**31**	**47**
Industrial heating processes	39	22	1	3	8	22131	0	0	1	2
Industrial processes	6	4	30	37	17	4155	0	1	2	7
Other sources[3]	4	60	40	188	206	10345	15	61	28	38
					2021					
Total	**60**	**93**	**72**	**235**	**233**	**42433**	**16**	**62**	**30**	**46**
Industrial heating processes	49	27	1	3	12	26998	1	0	2	2
Industrial processes	5	4	33	42	20	4323	0	1	2	7
Other sources[3]	5	61	38	189	202	11112	15	61	26	36
					2022					
Total	**69**	**95**	**73**	**234**	**196**	**46995**	**16**	**63**	**26**	**40**
Industrial heating processes	60	31	1	4	12	31696	1	0	2	3
Industrial processes	6	5	38	48	19	4620	0	1	2	5
Other sources[3]	2	59	34	182	165	10679	15	61	21	32
					2023					
Total	**44**	**83**	**66**	**214**	**172**	**34548**	**16**	**61**	**22**	**36**
Industrial heating processes	37	21	1	3	10	19955	0	0	2	2
Industrial processes	6	5	33	35	17	3859	0	1	2	5
Other sources[3]	1	58	31	176	144	10735	15	60	19	29

[1] Because of rounding some totals exceed or are less than the sums of their components.

[2] Emissions are calculated in accordance with the latest edition of EMEP/EEA Guidebook 2023 and IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.

[3] Data on emissions from road transport, agriculture and households are included.

Based on the data on calculated emissions, data from the National Emission Inventories and from other statistical surveys and administrative sources, the Air Emission Accounts are prepared and reported to Eurostat, in compliance with the residency principle, in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EU) No 691/2011.

1.1. Air emissions accounts[1]

(Thousand tons)

	Carbon dioxide	Carbon dioxide from biomass	Nitrous oxide	Methane	Hydrofluorocarbons	Perfluorocarbons	Sulphur hexafluoride, Nitrogen trifluoride	Nitrogen oxides	Non-methane volatile organic compounds	Sulphur oxides	Ammonia	Particulate matter to 2.5µm	Particulate matter to 10µm	Carbon oxide
2019														
Total air emissions for the country on a resident basis	**43935**	**8257**	**17 232**	**806**	**0**	**19**	**110**	**74**	**89**	**64**	**29**	**46**	**225**
Total industry air emissions	41209	4720	16 218	513	0	19	101	39	85	60	7	23	70
Household air emissions	2726	3537	1 14	293	..	..	9	35	4	4	22	23	155
2020														
Total air emissions for the country on a resident basis	**38068**	**8526**	**16 228**	**795**	**0**	**20**	**101**	**73**	**50**	**60**	**31**	**47**	**233**
Total industry air emissions	35297	4327	15 211	506	0	20	93	35	46	55	6	21	62
Household air emissions	2771	4199	1 17	289	..	..	9	38	4	5	25	26	171
2021														
Total air emissions for the country on a resident basis	**44245**	**9409**	**16 235**	**789**	**0**	**23**	**113**	**75**	**62**	**60**	**31**	**47**	**239**
Total industry air emissions	41202	5662	15 219	502	0	23	105	38	56	56	7	22	70
Household air emissions	3043	3748	1 159	287	.	.	9	37	5	4	24	25	169
2022														
Total air emissions for the country on a resident basis	**48570**	**8583**	**16 234**	**702**	**0**	**24**	**112**	**76**	**72**	**61**	**27**	**41**	**204**
Total industry air emissions	45991	5351	15 222	447	0	24	104	41	70	57	7	20	70
Household air emissions	2579	3232	1 12	255	.	.	7	35	2	4	20	21	133

1.1. Air emissions accounts[1]

(Thousand tons)

	Carbon dioxide	Carbon dioxide from biomass	Nitrous oxide	Methane	Hydrofluorocarbons	Perfluorocarbons	Sulphur hexafluoride, Nitrogen trifluoride	Nitrogen oxides	Non-methane volatile organic compounds	Sulphur oxides	Ammonia	Particulate matter to 2.5µm	Particulate matter to 10µm	Carbon oxide
	2023[2]													
Total air emissions for the country on a resident basis	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total industry air emissions	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Household air emissions	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

[1] The totals may be not equal to the sum of the components due to the rounding of figures.

[2] According to the National Statistical Program, the data for 2023 will be published on the NSI website on 19th December 2025.

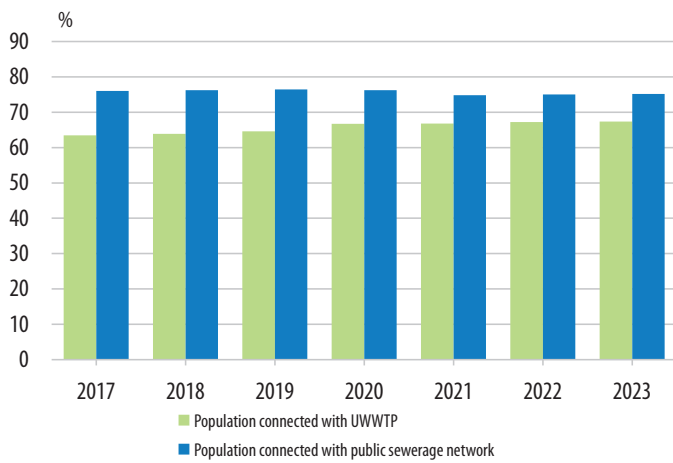
Water

Water statistics gives information for different parts of the water cycle in quantitative terms (water abstraction, water use, wastewater), water infrastructure, treatment plants for drinking water, and urban wastewater treatment plants (UWWTP). The scope of water statistics includes companies providing supply and sewage water services (PWS, operators of UWWTP and irrigation systems) and water users.

The data are based on annual statistical surveys: 'Water supply, sewage and treatment' and 'Water supply through irrigation systems' (exhaustive) and 'Water use' (business entities using over 36 thousand cubic meters of water/year and over 20 thousand cubic meters of water/year for irrigation of agricultural areas, livestock and industrial purposes (including cooling). The water abstraction by households is not covered. The presented results are calculated on the basis of the reported statistical data, proportions and estimates. The methodology also uses principles from the Data Collection Manual for the OECD/Eurostat Joint Questionnaire 'Inland water'.

The share of the population with wastewater collection and treatment services provides an overview of infrastructure development and environmental protection.

Figure 2. Basic indicators for population and the water services



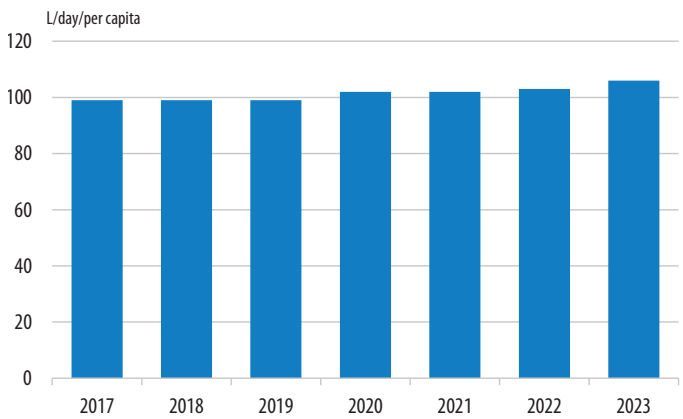
2. Water abstraction, water use, wastewater

(Million m³/year)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total gross fresh water abstraction	**5421**	**5077**	**5294**	**5519**	**5336**
Fresh surface water	4860	4515	4755	4969	4790
of which: From artificial reservoirs	2010	1686	1947	2135	1881
Fresh groundwater	562	561	539	551	546
Non-fresh water abstraction	4	36	151	18	1
Water use by economic activity - total	**4579**	**4310**	**4586**	**4668**	**4468**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	327	336	339	303	321
of which: For irrigation purposes	267	274	283	255	268
Industry	3928	3650	3924	4029	3824
of which: For cooling in Energy sector	3552	3322	3587	3688	3490
Services	73	66	66	84	73
Private households	251	257	256	251	250
Total wastewater discharged into water bodies	**715**	**713**	**720**	**703**	**710**
of which: From WWTPs (urban and other)	533	532	535	530	549
Cooling water discharged into water bodies	**3480**	**3259**	**3556**	**3576**	**3401**

Water is key to normal human functioning. Figure 3 presents the amount of water (average per person per day) delivered from the public water supply to households. Water supplied by the public to other consumers, total water losses (including illegal use-theft of water) and water supplied for technological and fire-fighting purposes are not included.

Figure 3. Drinking water used by households from Public water supply, average per capita



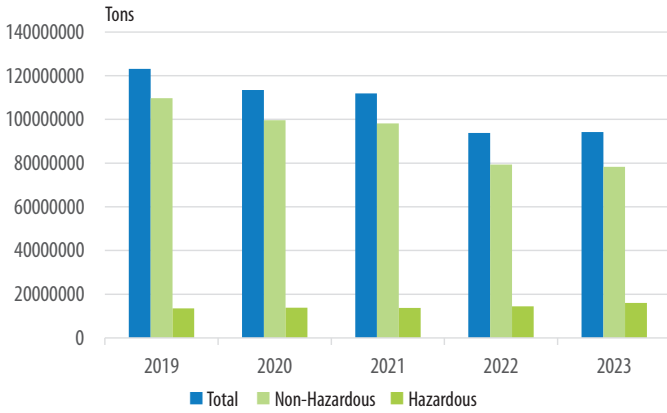
Waste

Waste statistics cover waste from economic activity and household waste.

Waste from economic activity is the waste generated as a result of all economic activities in the country.

In 2023, the total amount of waste generated in Bulgaria was 94 238 564 tons. Over the years, the ratio between hazardous and non-hazardous waste has remained relatively constant, and in 2023 it was 17% and 83% of the total amount of waste generated in the country.

Fig. 4. Generated industrial and hazardous waste by type - total



3. Generated waste by economic activities by industry and type

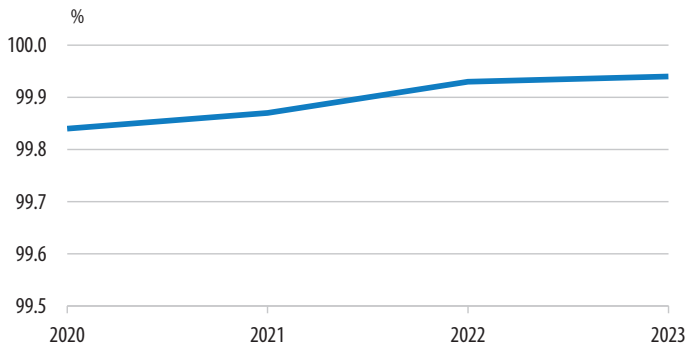
(Tons)

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Non-Hazardous waste - total	**99592763**	**98146585**	**79356559**	**78275339**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	888101	708721	814214	968737
Mining and quarrying	81676822	78830390	56346659	60341664
Manufacturing	4453972	4792658	4941263	4527279
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	6067154	8031743	9722577	5542396
Water supply; sewerage, waste managment and remedation activities	3366001	4045062	4221805	3465668
Construction	1795813	903661	1438332	2475413
Services (excel. wholesale of waste and scrap)	1344900	834351	1871709	954181
Hazardous waste - total	**13866148**	**13694850**	**14405853**	**15963225**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	4663	2713	2998	2103
Mining and quarrying	13294166	13263569	13932326	15565474
Manufacturing	466684	367030	395806	334889
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	23214	2978	2074	2435
Water supply; sewerage, waste managment and remedation activities	13680	16634	19266	23461
Construction	20488	12488	7298	5652
Services (excel. wholesale of waste and scrap)	43252	29438	46085	29211

Municipal waste is the waste that results from the vital activity of people in homes, administrative, social and public buildings. The waste from commercial sites and accompanying craft activities, sites for recreation and entertainment, when it is not hazardous waste and at the same time its quantity or composition does not interfere with its treatment together with household waste, is equated to municipal waste. The information about the waste is provided through specialized statistical surveys of the NSI and administrative data from the Executive Agency for Environment, including estimation.

The share of the served population of the municipal waste collection system continues to increase, reaching 99.94% in 2023 (compared to 99.87% in 2021). The tendency to serve almost all settlements, except for some hard-to-reach settlements, is permanently preserved.

Figure 5. Share of population served by systems for organized waste collection



'Generated municipal waste' is a summary indicator that is calculated as the sum of the quantities of municipal waste: 1) collected through organized waste collection systems, 2) collected through other systems than those with organized waste collection (mostly recyclable materials, such as metal, paper, plastic and others, which are collected at specialized sites and subsequently sent directly for recycling), and 3) statistical assessment of the generated waste from the not covered population by organized waste collection systems. The quantity of generated municipal waste from 2020 to 2023 has a tendency to increase, and in 2023 it reaches 3 165 thousand tons.

4. Municipal waste[1]

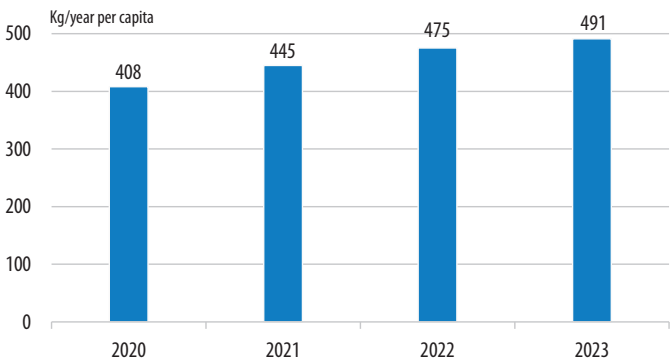
	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total generated municipal wastes - thousand tons	**2829**	**3058**	**3157**	**3165**
Delivered for landfilliling municipal waste - thousand tons	814	777	741	757
Delivered for preliminary treatment - thousand tons	1865	1960	2023	2075
Delivered for recycling municipal waste - thousand tons	143.6	302.4	374.6	315.0
Generated municipal wastes per capita - kg/year/per capita	408	445	475	491
Served settlements - number	4727	4746	4770	4785
Share of population served by municipal waste collection systems - %	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9
Landfill sites and installation for treatment of municipal waste - number	73	73	71	75

[1] There are no data available on the treated waste of Kyustendil municipality.

The rate of accumulation of municipal waste or generated municipal waste per capita is the ratio between the amount of generated municipal waste and the average number of the population for the year. It shows the pressure on the environment.

The amount of waste generated per capita each year in the period 2020 - 2023 increases to 491 kg average per capita in 2023.

Figure 6. Collected municipal waste per capita of served population



Environmental protection expenditure accounts

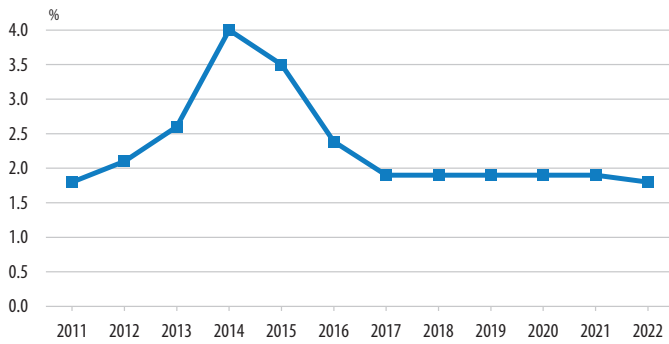
Statistics on environmental protection and restoration expenditures quantify the resources distributed to environmental protection by local economic units. They include all activities and actions whose main purpose is to prevent, reduce, and remove pollution and any other deterioration and loss of environmental quality. The environmental expenditures are carried out in the following directions: wastewater discharge and treatment, air protection, forests, soils, biodiversity, collection, treatment and disposal of waste and others.

The source of data on environmental protection and restoration expenditures is a statistical survey. The set of statistical surveys combines two approaches - comprehensive and sample observation.

The survey is comprehensive for statistical units previously known to have incurred environmental expenditure. The rest of the statistical population is covered by a random sample, representative at a national level by a group of economic activities according to the number of employees (over 10 employees). The random sample is processed and supplemented based on an assessment to ensure representation at a national level and quality.

The share of environmental expenditures from the gross domestic product (GDP) is the main measure for steps taken by society and the state to reduce environmental pressure. For example, in 2022, the share of environmental expenditure of GDP was 1.8%.

Figure 7. Expenditure of protection and restoration of environment (% of GDP)



5. Expenditure on protection and restoration of the environment

	2019	2020[1]	2021	2022	2023[2]
Total - million BGN	**2308**	**2471**	**2643**	**3030**	**.**
On acquisition of tangible and intangible fixed assets - million BGN	455	658	704	731	.
On maintenance of tangible fixed assets - million BGN	1853	1813	1939	2298	.
Share of environmental expenditure in GDP - %	**1.9**	**1.9**	**1.9**	**1.8**	**.**

[1] Revised data.

[2] According to the National Statistical Program the data for 2023 will be published on the NSI website on 20th of December 2025.

Waste recovery and disposal has the largest share of the total environmental expenditures (59%), followed by the protection of air (16%) and wastewater treatment (15%). For other environmental domains - noise abatement, conservation of biodiversity, protected areas and sites and others, the share is 10%.

6. Expenditure on protection and restoration of the environment by use[1,2]

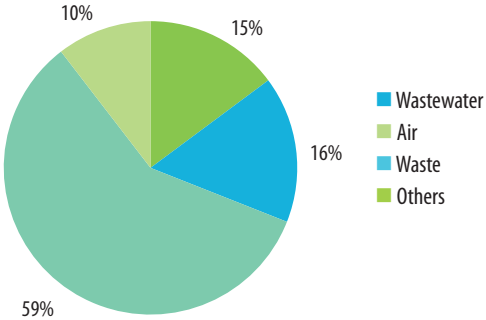
(Thousand BGN)

Use	2022	2023
Total	**3029779**	**.**
Wastewater	449147	.
Circulating water supply	127563	.
Air	489971	.
Protection and restoration of soil, groundwater and surface water	28837	.
Forests	3607	.
Protection of biodiversity and natural scenery	9892	.
Hunting and fishing projects	703	.
Waste	1774376	.
Noise	1903	.
Scientific and research activity	8931	.
Educational and other activity	3	.
Administrative activity	65515	.
Monitoring and control equipment	68554	.
Environmentant impact assessment	777	.

[1] Revised data.

[2] According to the National Statistical Program the data for 2023 will be published on the NSI website on 20th of December 2025.

Figure 8. Structure of expenditure on protection and restoration of the environment by ecological use in 2022



Tangible fixed assets with ecological use

Tangible fixed assets (TFA) with ecological use include facilities, installations and equipment necessary for the protection and restoration of the environment in areas (for wastewater, air, land, waste disposal, protection of biodiversity, noise protection), and monitoring and control equipment. They do not include equipment to protect the air purity and reduce noise and vibration in the workplace, i.e. labor protection activities. The statistics provide information on the availability and movement of tangible fixed assets for environmental purposes.

Data on tangible fixed assets with ecological use are collected through a comprehensive statistical survey. The methodology is in line with the latest requirements of Eurostat (EU Statistical Office) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Data on available tangible fixed assets are published at book value and are part of the total tangible fixed assets in the country.

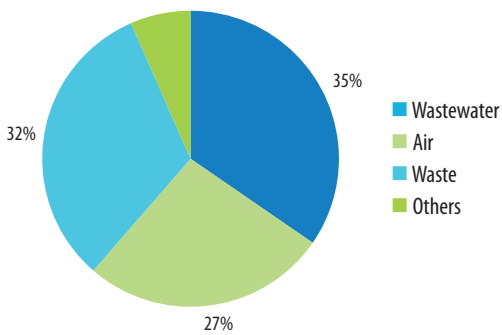
At the end of 2023, the total value of the TFA with ecological use amounted to 11 484 million BGN and is distributed by the main environmental domains as follows: for wastewater treatment (industrial and urban wastewater treatment plants, sewerage network, etc.) - 35%, followed by the facilities for air protection - 27% for waste treatment - 32% and others - 6%. There is no significant change in the relative share of assets distributed by environmental domains compared to previous years.

7. Tangible fixed assets with ecological use[1]

Use	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total - thousand BGN	**9889758**	**10468033**	**10873312**	**11092112**	**11483538**
Wastewater	3429842	3672458	3693672	4050841	3974357
of which: Wastewater treatment plants	1659824	1680922	1928095	2009689	2126788
Circulating water supply	258041	279092	248635	240540	264386
Air	2971711	3118719	3256571	2976066	3073684
Protection and remediation of soil, groundwater and surface water	124998	130595	131381	147025	150552
Protection of biodiversity and natural scenery	45136	49336	50106	52624	60139
Hunting and fishing projects	5435	4532	4334	4977	4567
Recovery and disposal of waste	2852272	2991424	3267601	3381507	3679979
Noise	2267	2260	5343	11567	31890
Monitoring and control equipment	200056	219617	215669	226965	243984

[1] Accounting value at the end of the year.

Figure 9. Tangible fixed assets with ecological use as of 31.12.2023



Environmental goods and services

The environmental goods and services sector includes all economic operators carrying out activities leading to environmental protection and resource management (called producers of environmental goods and services). Environmental protection includes all activities and actions whose main purpose is to prevent, reduce and eliminate its pollution and deterioration. Resource management includes the conservation, maintenance and improvement of natural resources, and as a result, their prevention from depletion. Producers of environmental goods and services may or may not specialize in their production, may produce them as a result of primary or secondary activities, or may produce them for their own use.

Data on environmental goods and services are collected through a statistical survey.

The statistical survey is a combination of comprehensive and sample statistical survey. The methodology is in line with the requirements of the European institutions and Eurostat and is based on the Environmental goods and services sector accounts - Handbook 2016 edition. The environmental goods and services sector provides data on output, value added, exports and employment, according to the System of Environmental Economic Accounting 2012 - Central Framework (SEEA SF 2012) and Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 on European environmental economic accounts.

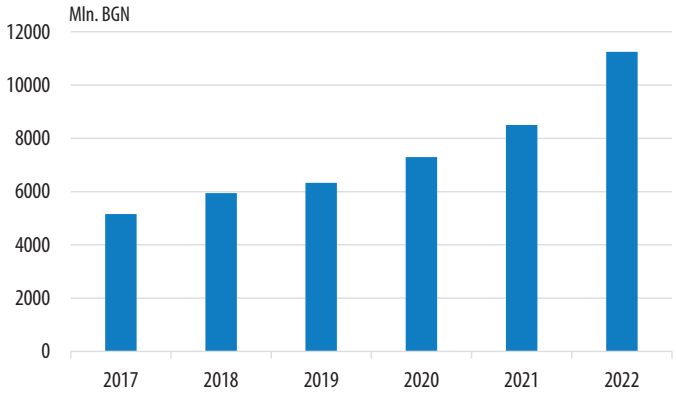
In 2022, the total value of the produced environmental goods and services for environmental protection and resource management amounted to 11 252 million BGN, which is 32.3% more compared to 2021 (8 505 million BGN).

8. Environmental goods and services

Economic activity	Output - Mln. BGN	Gross value added - Mln. BGN	Gross value added - Mln. BGN
		2019	
Total	**6334**	**2676**	**63108**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	528	213	9252
Mining and quarrying; Manufacturing	1686	425	9905
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	2695	1583	24503
Construction	388	129	4421
Services	1036	325	15027
		2020	
Total	**7296**	**3014**	**65562**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	587	250	8780
Mining and quarrying; Manufacturing	1908	502	11121
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	2450	1480	23115
Construction	1110	399	7185
Services	1241	384	15361
		2021	
Total	**8505**	**3286**	**68539**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	614	226	8306
Mining and quarrying; Manufacturing	2511	488	12575
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	3018	1775	25617
Construction	816	237	7973
Services	1547	560	14068
		2022	
Total	**11252**	**4492**	**72884**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	890	348	11614
Mining and quarrying; Manufacturing	3713	669	13709
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	4220	2588	26923
Construction	512	256	5061
Services	1917	631	15577
		2023[1]	
Total	.	.	.
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	.	.	.
Mining and quarrying; Manufacturing	.	.	.
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	.	.	.
Construction	.	.	.
Services	.	.	.

[1] According to the National Statistical Program, the data for 2023 will be published on the NSI website on 31st of October 2025.

Fig. 10. Output in the environment goods and services sector



Packages placed on the market

Package is all products made of material of any nature, used to place, store, transport, deliver and present goods - from raw materials to processed goods - from the manufacturer to the user or the consumer. Items that are 'non-returnable' and used for the same purposes are also considered packaging. Data on packages placed on the market, used for packaging of sold products, are collected through a statistical survey of economic entities that produce and import packaged goods; carry out packaging of goods for remuneration; package goods for own sale; produce disposable packaging and utensils.

The statistical survey is comprehensive. It is consistent with the need for a complete statistical estimation of the phenomenon.

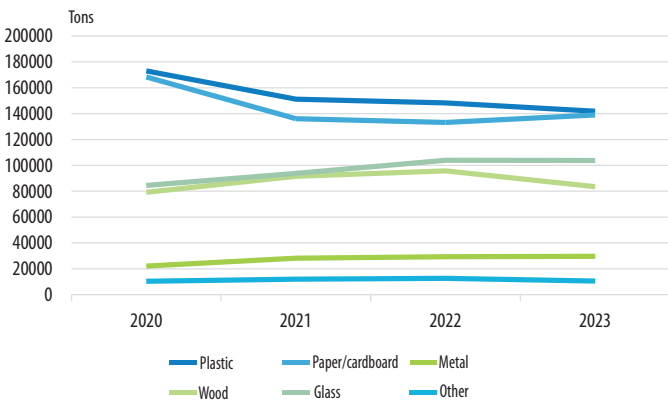
Over the last 3 years, there has been a trend of decrease in plastic packaging (for the last reporting year 2023 - by about 4% compared to 2022). The largest increase in 2023 was observed in paper packaging - almost 4% compared to 2022.

9. Packages placed on the market by materials

(Tons)

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	**537692**	**513102**	**523187**	**508213**
Plastic	173072	151277	148367	141819
Paper/cardboard	168331	136098	133242	139026
Metal	22133	28267	29313	29650
Wood	79248	91635	95687	83466
Glass	84481	93879	103874	103748
Other	10426	11945	12703	10503

Fig. 11. Packages placed on the market



Underground reserves

Underground reserves are the reserves and resources of underground natural resources, which are mineral deposits in the earth's interior or on the earth's surface with a certain geological study and economic interest. The reserves are the part of the mineral resources that are expected to be extracted for commercial purposes with a certain degree of security. The reserves of the underground natural resources are grouped in the following classification categories: (1) proven reserves - those for which with a high degree of certainty (90 and over 90%) the technical possibility for extraction and its economic profitability with the existing technology and the corresponding prices, and (2) probable reserves - those that have not yet been proven, but for which there is more than a 50% probability of a technically feasible and economically viable yield.

Data on underground reserves are obtained on the basis of a comprehensive statistical survey. It is consistent with the need for a complete statistical estimation of the phenomenon.

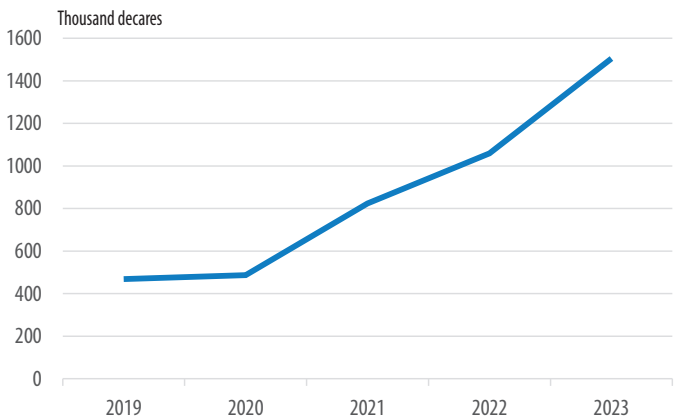
The area of underground reserves in 2023 increased by 22% compared to 2019.

10. Area of deposits of ores and minerals

(Thousand decares)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total for the country	468	487	824	1060	1505

Fig.12. Area of underground reserves - total for the country



Registered noise levels

Noise is one of the main factors with adverse effects on the population, present as unwanted or harmful external sound caused by human activity, including that emitted by road, rail and air transport, from industrial installations and facilities and from local sources. Noise levels are observed in legally defined terrains, distributed in and development zones in the urbanized territories and outside them. A special noise indicator is used for areas subject to aviation noise.

Noise level data are based on a comprehensive survey, covering all noise registration points in the country. The source of the data is the National Center for Public Health and Analysis. The statistical survey is comprehensive and is conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Noise Monitoring System. In 2024, 744 points for measuring the noise level were observed, distributed in 36 settlements, and in 506 points levels above the permissible norms were measured.

Figure 13. Surveyed points of noise registration

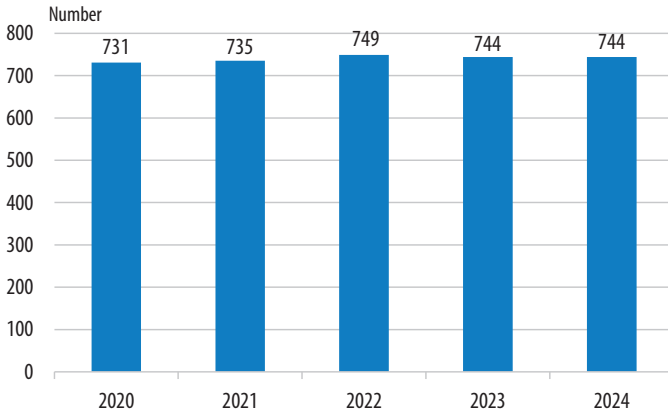
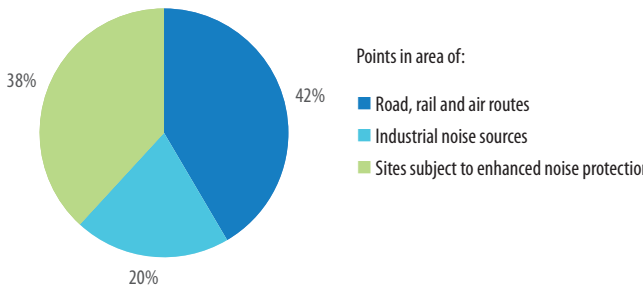


Figure 13.1. Surveyed noise-exposed points, distributed by area type in 2024



11. Surveyed points of noise registration by district in 2024[1]

(Number)

Districts	Total	Of which: above permissible limits	By registered noise level in decibels						
			Under 58	58 - 62	63 - 67	68 - 72	73 - 77	78 - 82	Over 82
Total	**744**	**506**	**183**	**142**	**268**	**132**	**18**	**1**	**-**
Blagoevgrad	17	3	13	4	-	-	-	-	-
Burgas	37	21	7	6	8	14	2	-	-
Varna	45	21	26	5	7	7	-	-	-
Veliko Tarnovo	48	34	4	12	21	11	-	-	-
Vidin	15	13	5	-	10	-	-	-	-
Vratsa	15	11	6	5	3	1	-	-	-
Gabrovo	20	14	3	7	10	-	-	-	-
Dobrich	15	11	3	2	10	-	-	-	-
Kardzhali	15	10	5	-	1	5	3	1	-
Kyustendil	36	32	7	6	21	2	-	-	-
Lovech	15	12	3	10	2	-	-	-	-
Montana	15	13	3	9	2	1	-	-	-
Pazardzhik	15	11	3	1	7	4	-	-	-
Pernik	20	13	-	6	11	3	-	-	-
Pleven	21	16	5	2	9	5	-	-	-
Plovdiv	43	34	-	2	10	30	1	-	-
Razgrad	15	14	4	3	6	2	-	-	-
Ruse	30	22	2	2	18	7	1	-	-
Silistra	15	13	-	1	14	-	-	-	-
Sliven	20	11	4	6	9	1	-	-	-
Smolyan	15	6	5	3	6	1	-	-	-
Sofia (stolitsa)	75	51	24	12	17	18	4	-	-
Sofia	35	21	6	11	18	-	-	-	-
Stara Zagora	45	33	5	10	14	9	7	-	-
Targovishte	51	26	25	8	16	2	-	-	-
Haskovo	20	16	5	1	8	6	-	-	-
Shumen	15	11	5	2	7	1	-	-	-
Yambol	16	13	5	6	3	2	-	-	-

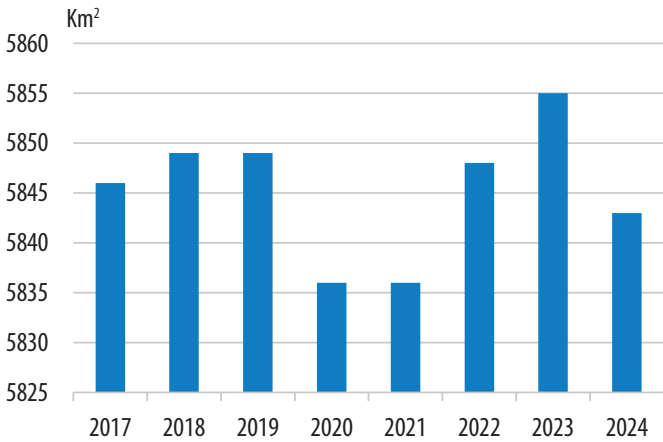
[1] Source: National Center of Public Health and Analyses.

Protected natural scenery

'Protected areas' in Bulgaria is a generalized concept covering all parks, reserves, landmarks and protected areas. They are designed to protect the biological diversity of ecosystems and the natural processes taking place in them, as well as characteristic or remarkable objects of inanimate nature. Data on the number and area of protected areas and sites by species (reserves, natural landmarks, protected areas, national parks, nature parks and maintained reserves), as well as the number of protected plants, animals and centuries-old trees are provided by statistical survey with administrative data from the Ministry of Environment and Water. The scope of the study includes all protected areas and sites in the country. The statistical survey is comprehensive and is conducted in accordance with the Protected Areas Act and the Biodiversity Act.

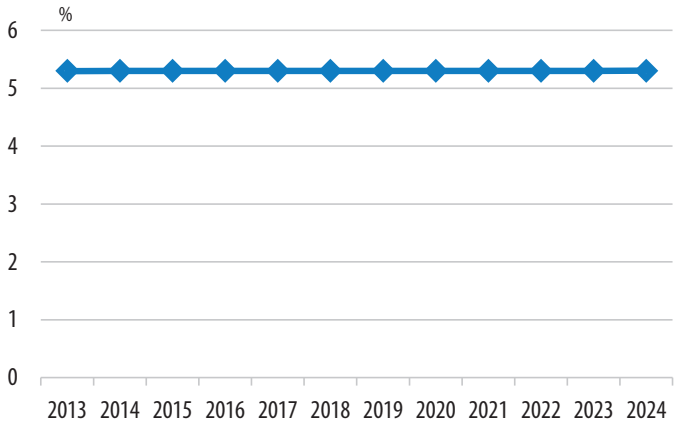
In 2024, 10 protected areas and 3 natural landmarks with a total area of 1 934 hectares were newly declared.

Figure 14. Area of protected natural scenery



The share of protected areas and sites for the country remains at 5.3% for 2024.

Figure 15. Share of protected areas in the total country's territory



12. Protected natural scenery in 2024[1,2]

	In numbers			Area- ha		
	As of 31.12.2024	Included in 2024	Excluded in 2024	As of 31.12.2024	Included in 2024	Excluded in 2024
Protected natural areas	**1060**	**13**	**-**	**584372.4**	**1971.7**	**3098.8**
Reserves	55	-	-	77317.3		-
Natural landmarks	357	3	-	17848.6	32.4	-
Protected areas	599	10	-	80483.1	1901.2	-
National parks[3]	3	-	-	147747.2	38.1	3089.6
Natural parks	11	-	-	256441.3	-	-
Maintained reserves[3]	35	-	-	4534.9	-	9.2
Protected plant species	574	-	-	x	x	x
Protected animal species	483	-	-	x	x	x
Protected venerable trees	1467	57	5	x	x	x

[1] Source: Ministry of Environment and Water.

[2] Because of rounding some totals do not exceed or are less than the sums of their components.

[3] The inclusion and exclusion of the area in 2024 is a result of procedures carried out under Art. 42, para. 6 of the Protected areas law for updating the areas of protected areas, and is not a result of procedures for declaring new protected areas of the respective category or procedures for changing the areas of existing ones.

13. Protected natural areas[1]

Year	Area - ha	Share of protected areas as % to the total country's territory
2019	584922	5.3
2020	583582	5.3
2021	583626	5.3
2022	584836	5.3
2023	585500	5.3
2024	584372	5.3

[1] Source: Ministry of Environment and Water.

XXIV. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY AND INNOVATION ACTIVITY

Research and development activity (R&D)

Research and development activity (R&D) comprises creative and systematic work undertaken in order to increase the stock of knowledge - including knowledge of humankind, culture and society - and to devise new applications of available knowledge. R&D activity covers basic research, applied research and experimental development.

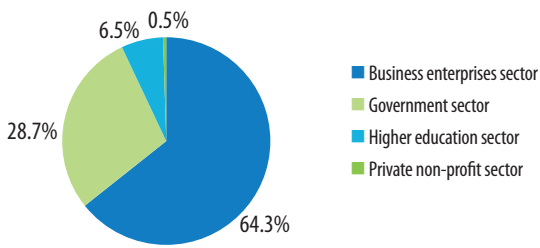
Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) comprises current costs and capital expenditure.

R&D expenditure as a percentage of GDP is an internationally comparable measure of the intensity of R&D.

R&D personnel comprise two categories - researchers and other R&D personnel. The personnel employed on R&D is measured both in full-time equivalent (FTE) on R&D and in headcounts. Personnel in FTE are calculated on the basis of working time spent on R&D activity during the reference year.

GERD and R&D personnel are distributed in four institutional sectors: business enterprises sector, government sector, higher education sector and private non-profit sector.

Figure 1. Structure of gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) by institutional sectors in 2023



1. Gross domestic expenditure on research and development activity (GERD) by type of costs

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GERD - thousand BGN	**1023790**	**1074004**	**1265635**	**1467491**
Current costs	922112	996144	1179619	1332309
Capital expenditure	101678	77860	86016	135182
R&D expenditure as a percentage of GDP - %	0.85	0.77	0.75	0.79

2. Personnel engaged in research and development activity (R&D) by category

Categories	2020	2021	2022	2023
	Headcount			
Total	**35087**	**34613**	**37056**	**35179**
Researchers	23228	23234	24350	23489
Other R&D personnel	11859	11379	12706	11690
	Full-time equivalent			
Total	**26085**	**25122**	**27090**	**25410**
Researchers	16691	16230	17487	16356
Other R&D personnel	9394	8892	9603	9054

Innovation activity

An innovation is a new or improved product (good or service) or business process that differs significantly from the enterprise's previous products or business processes and that has been implemented on the market or brought into use by the enterprise.

An innovation-active enterprise is an enterprise, which during the observation period is engaged in one or more activities to develop or implement new or improved products or business processes.

A product innovation is a new or improved good or service that differs significantly from the enterprise's previous goods or services and that has been implemented on the market. It includes significant changes to the design of the goods. Simple re-sale of new goods and changes of a solely aesthetic nature are excluded.

A business process innovation is a new or improved business process for one or more business functions that differs significantly from the enterprise's previous business processes and that has been implemented within the firm.

3. Innovation-active enterprises as a share of all enterprises in 2022[1]

(Per cent)

Economic sectors	
Total	**26.1**
Industry	**32.9**
Mining and quarrying	18.9
Manufacturing	33.8
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	18.5
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	20.5
Services	**19.6**
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	16.6
Transportation and storage	8.4
Information and communication	40.9
Financial and insurance activities	20.6
Architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis	15.1
Scientific research and development	100.0
Advertising and market research	21.7

4. Enterprises that have new or significantly improved products new to the market as a share of all enterprises in 2022[1]

(Per cent)

Economic sectors	
Total	**7.4**
Industry	**9.5**
Mining and quarrying	0.9
Manufacturing	10.0
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1.6
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	3.1
Services	**5.4**
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	4.0
Transportation and storage	0.6
Information and communication	14.7
Financial and insurance activities	5.8
Architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis	4.2
Scientific research and development	37.7
Advertising and market research	5.6

[1] The data refer to enterprises with 10 or more persons employed and cover economic activities pointed in table.

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