



Key indicators for Bulgaria*

This update: 30 December 2014

Next update: 2 April 2015

		2011	2012	2013	June'14	July'14	August'14	Sept.'14	Oct.'14	Nov.'14
1. Output										
Industrial confidence ^{1.1}	%	-4.2	-6.0	-8.7	1.9	-1.7	-2.0	-3.4	-0.6	-2.8
Industrial production ^{1.2}	yoy % ch.	6.0	-0.2	0.0	0.9	-0.3	-2.0	0.0	0.4	
		2011	2012	2013	13 Q2	13 Q3	13 Q4	14 Q1	14 Q2	14 Q3
Gross domestic product ^{1.3}	yoy % ch.	2.0	0.5	1.1	0.3	1.1	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.5
2. Private consumption										
Consumer confidence ^{2.1}	%	-41.0	-42.9	-39.6	-39.8	-40.7	-34.8	-30.0	-34.3	-37.2
		2011	2012	2013	June'14	July'14	August'14	Sept.'14	Oct.'14	Nov.'14
Turnover in retail trade ^{2.2}	yoy % ch.	0.5	5.4	2.9	2.3	4.1	4.5	5.4	3.0	
		2011	2012	2013	13 Q2	13 Q3	13 Q4	14 Q1	14 Q2	14 Q3
Private consumption ^{2.3}	yoy % ch.	1.9	3.2	-1.8	-1.7	-2.3	-1.9	4.3	0.9	0.6
3. Investment										
Capacity utilization in industry ^{3.1}	%	70.9	70.5	69.5	69.5	69.8	70.8	69.5	74.2	73.4
Gross fixed capital formation ^{3.2}	yoy % ch.	-4.6	2.0	-0.1	0.5	2.1	4.2	4.8	5.1	4.4
Change in stocks ^{3.3}	% of GDP	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.0
4. Labour market										
Unemployment rate ^{4.1}	%	11.3	12.3	12.9	12.9	12.0	13.0	13.0	11.4	10.8
Employed persons ^{4.2}	yoy % ch.	-2.9	-1.1	0.0	0.9	-0.1	-0.7	1.4	1.3	1.6
Labour costs ^{4.3}	yoy % ch.	7.1	2.9	8.2	8.6	7.1	8.4	3.6	3.6	3.2
		2011	2012	2013	June'14	July'14	August'14	Sept.'14	Oct.'14	Nov.'14
Shortage of labour in industry ^{4.4}	%	7.5	8.7	8.6	11.5	10.3	12.8	12.5	12.3	12.1
Wages ^{4.5}	yoy % ch.	5.8	6.6	6.0	1.6	2.1	2.2	2.4		
5. International transactions										
Export order books in industry ^{5.1}	balance	-40.6	-46.5	-49.0	-35.9	-33.2	-30.7	-32	-28.5	-32.0
Exports of goods ^{5.2}	mln. EUR	20264.3	20770.2	22271.4	1889.6	2052.1	1946.2	2006.7	2064.8	
Imports of goods ^{5.3}	mln. EUR	-22420.4	-24230.4	-24701.4	-2033.9	-2138.3	-2105.2	-2288.2	-2302.0	
Trade balance ^{5.4}	mln. EUR	-2156.1	-3460.3	-2430.0	-144.3	-86.2	-159.0	-281.5	-237.2	
Current account ^{5.5}	mln. EUR	33.2	-458.0	848.2	278.7	483.9	408.5	40.8	-194.3	
Direct investment (net) ^{5.6}	mln. EUR	1212.7	871.5	1094.3	10.2	73.8	257.8	-332.5	213.6	
Portfolio investment (net) ^{5.7}	mln. EUR	-357.4	-886.7	-128.5	104.0	1397.4	34.4	80.4	-79.3	
		2011	2012	2013	13 Q2	13 Q3	13 Q4	14 Q1	14 Q2	14 Q3
Exports of goods and services ^{5.8}	yoy % ch.	11.5	0.8	9.2	6.5	11.5	10.5	2.1	3.0	-2.8
Imports of goods and services ^{5.9}	yoy % ch.	8.5	4.5	4.9	4.2	6.5	6.4	5.5	3.7	2.6
6. Prices										
HICP ^{6.1}	yoy % ch.	3.4	2.4	0.4	-1.8	-1.1	-1.0	-1.4	-1.5	-1.9
Producer prices on domestic market (in industry) ^{6.2}	yoy % ch.	8.6	5.3	-1.3	-0.5	-0.6	-1.1	-0.6	0.8	
Selling prices expectations in industry ^{6.3}	balance	8.8	9.7	2.4	6.2	8.9	5.5	9.0	6.7	10.7
Selling prices expectations in retail trade ^{6.4}	balance	4.7	5.3	0.2	1.0	-0.2	2.0	-0.3	3.3	0.1
7. Monetary and financial indicators										
SOFIBOR (3 months) ^{7.1}	index	3.8	2.3	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
M3 ^{7.2}	yoy % ch.	12.2	8.4	8.9	7.4	6.9	7.2	7.2	6.7	-1.2
Credit to Non-financial Corporations and Households and NPISHs ^{7.3}	yoy % ch.	3.3	2.8	0.0	2.1	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.9	-7.5
Exchange rate USD/BGN ^{7.4}	value	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6
Nominal effective exchange rate ^{7.5}	index	132.1	131.0	134.1	135.7	135.6	136.0	135.5	135.5	

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

* The key indicators are elaborated in accordance with the euro zone indicators system. The analytical document is quarterly updated. Source of the data are the NSI statistical surveys and BNB data.



Comments

1. Output

According to the NSI business inquiries in December 2014 the **industrial confidence indicator** keeps its level from the previous month.

In October 2014 the working day adjusted **Industrial Production Index** decreased by 0.4% compared to the same month of 2013 (preliminary data). On annual basis in October 2014 Industrial Production Index calculated from working day adjusted data increased in the manufacturing by 2.3% while decreases were seen in the mining and quarrying industry by 8.8% and in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply by 2.7%.

According to the preliminary data, the **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** at current prices in the third quarter of 2014 amounted to BGN 22 838 million. The GDP per person amounted to BGN 3 161. In USD terms at average quarterly exchange rate of BGN 1.47546 per USD, the GDP amounted to USD 15 479 million or USD 2 142 per person. In Euro terms, the GDP amounted to EUR 11 677 million or EUR 1 616 per person. According to the seasonally adjusted data, the GDP growth rate in the third quarter of 2014 is 1.5% compared with the same quarter of the previous year.

2. Private consumption

In October 2014 the total **consumer confidence indicator** decreases by 2.9 percentage points compared to its level 3 months ago which is due to the decreased confidence of both urban and rural inhabitants by 3.0 and 2.8 percentage points respectively. The opinions about the development of the general economic situation in the country over the last 12 months and the expectations about the next 12 months are more unfavourable in comparison with the previous survey.

In October 2014 the working day adjusted turnover in **'Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles'** grew by 3.0% in comparison with the same month of the previous year. In October 2014 compared to the same month of 2013 **the turnover** increased more significantly in the 'Retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet' by 17.3%, in the 'Retail sale of automotive fuel' by 8.0%, in the

'Dispensing chemist; retail sale of medical and orthopaedic goods, cosmetic and toilet articles' by 6.6%. A drop was registered in the 'Retail sale of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods' - 8.0% and in the 'Retail sale in non-specialised stores' - 4.3%.

In the third quarter of 2014 for **individual consumption** were spent 62.2% of the GDP produced. According to seasonally adjusted data, the real increase of the indicator compared to the respective quarter of 2013 was 0.6%

3. Investment

In October 2014 the average **capacity utilization in industry** decreased by 0.8% compared to July and reached 73.4%.

According to seasonally adjusted data, the **gross fixed capital formation** in the third quarter of 2014 increased in real terms by 4.4% compared to the same period of the previous year. The relative share of that indicator in GDP is 20.7%.

4. Labour market

In the third quarter of 2014 the total number of **employed persons aged 15 years and over** was 3 061.9 thousand and represented 49.3% of the population in the same age group. In comparison with the third quarter of 2013 employment rate rose by 1.1 percentage points.

In the third quarter of 2014 there were 368.8 thousand **unemployed persons** and the **unemployment rate** was 10.8%. In comparison with the third quarter of 2013 the number of unemployed persons was by 10.4% lower, and the unemployment rate decreased by 1.2 percentage points.

According to the NSI business inquiries in December 2014 13.1% of the industrial enterprises pointed out the **labour shortage** as a factor limiting their activity.

In September 2014 the **average wage and salary** was BGN 820 or 3.4% more compared to the previous month. Compared to September 2013 the increase was 2.4%.



5. International transactions

According to the industrial managers' assessments in December 2014 there is certain decline of the production assurance with **orders from abroad** in comparison with November (by 0.7 percentage points).

The **current account** in January - October 2014 was positive and amounted to EUR 349.2 million (0.9% of GDP), compared with a surplus of EUR 1 236.6 million (3% of GDP) in January - October 2013.

The **trade balance** deficit in January - October 2014 amounted to EUR 2 345.8 million (5.8% of GDP), compared with a deficit of EUR 1 886.6 million (4.6% of GDP) in January - October 2013.

In January - October 2014 **exports (FOB)** totalled to EUR 18 380.6 million, dropping by EUR 264.3 million (1.4%) year-on-year (from EUR 18 644.9 million). In January - October 2013 exports increased by 7.9% year-on-year. In January - October 2014 **imports (FOB)** totalled to EUR 20 726.4 million, increased by EUR 195 million (0.9%) compared to January - October 2013 (EUR 20 531.5 million). In January - October 2013 imports increased by 1.4% year-on-year.

In January - October 2014 the **direct investment abroad** totalled to EUR 141.9 million, compared to EUR 135.2 million in the same period of 2013. **The foreign direct investment** totalled to EUR 804.9 million (2% of GDP), compared to EUR 1 310.4 million (3.2% of GDP) in the same period of 2013.

The portfolio investment assets increased in January - October 2014 by EUR 159.2 million compared with an increase of EUR 602.8 million in January - October 2013. **Portfolio investment liabilities** increased by EUR 1 457.7 million, compared to a decline of EUR 370 million in January - October 2013.

The external balance in the third quarter of 2014 is positive. **The export and import** increased by 2.6 and 2.8% respectively compared to the third quarter of previous year.

6. Prices

In November 2014 the **harmonized index of consumer prices** decreased by 1.9% compared to

November 2013. The highest decrease was registered in "Transport" - by 7.8%.

Producer Price Index on Domestic Market in October 2014 increased by 0.8% compared to the same month of 2013. The domestic prices rose in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply by 2.8%, while prices decreases were registered in the mining and quarrying industry by 2.1% and in the manufacturing by 0.1%.

According to the conjuncture inquiry in December 2014 the managers expected the **selling prices in industry** to remain unchanged over the next 3 months.

7. Monetary and financial indicators

Compared to November 2013, the **three-month interbank market index SOFIBOR** decreased by 0.31 percentage points from 0.97% to 0.66%.

In November 2014, the annual growth rate of broad money (**monetary aggregate M3**) is negative¹ and compared to 6.7% in October 2014 it decreased to 1.2%. At the end of November 2014 M3 was BGN 65.459 billion (83.2% of GDP) compared to BGN 70.055 billion (89% of GDP) in October 2014.

The volume of **loans to Non-financial corporations, households and NPISHs** in November 2014 amounted to BGN 49.470 billion. On annual basis, in November 2014, the loans to Non-financial corporations decreased by 11.5% (3% annual increase in October 2014) and at the end of month amounted to BGN 30.975 billion (39.3% of GDP). Loans to Households and NPISHs were BGN 18.496 billion (23.5% of GDP) at the end of November 2014.

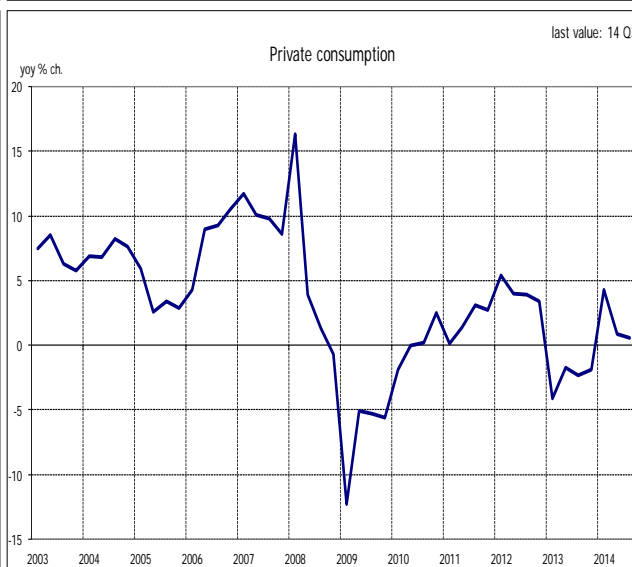
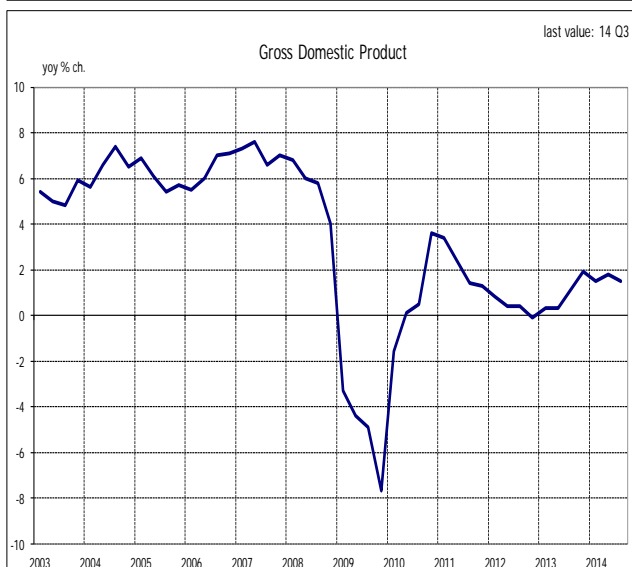
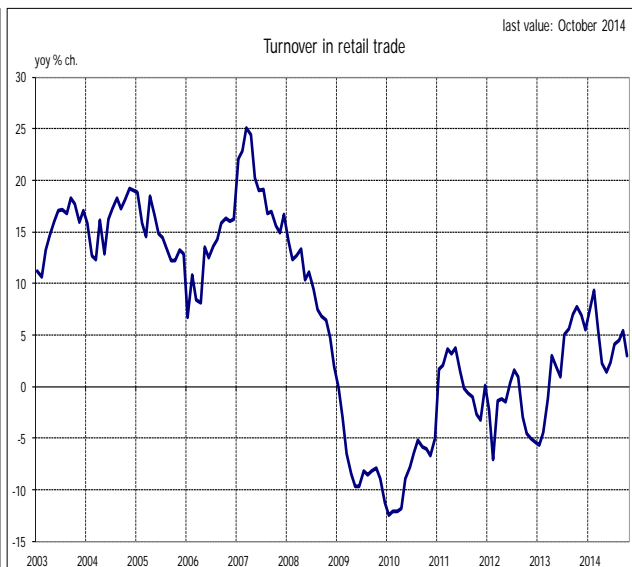
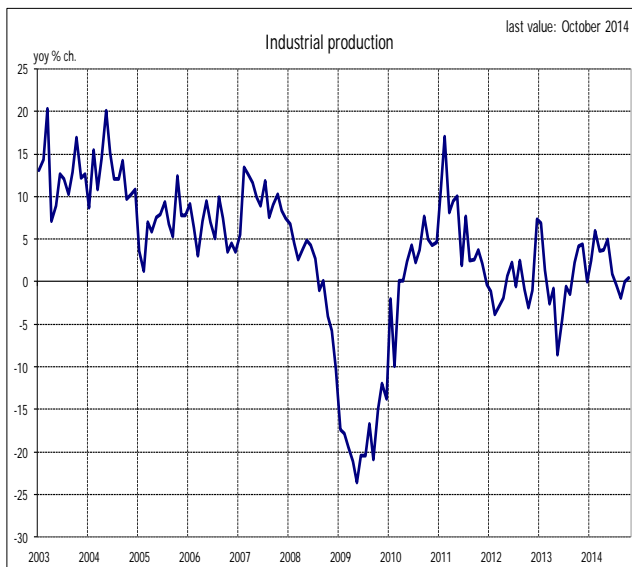
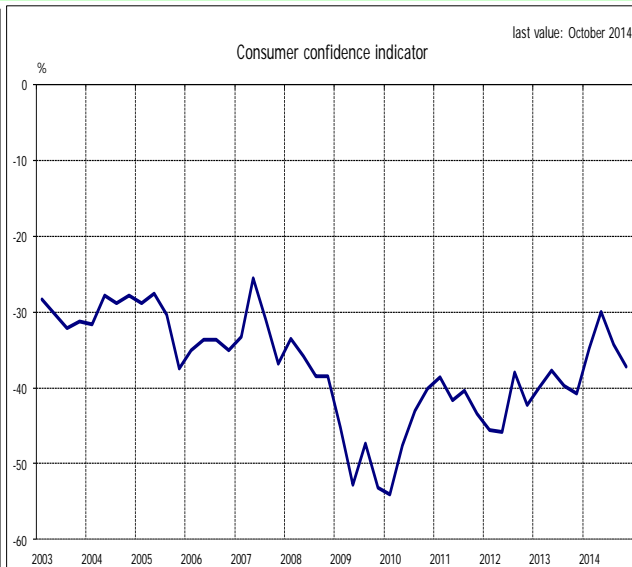
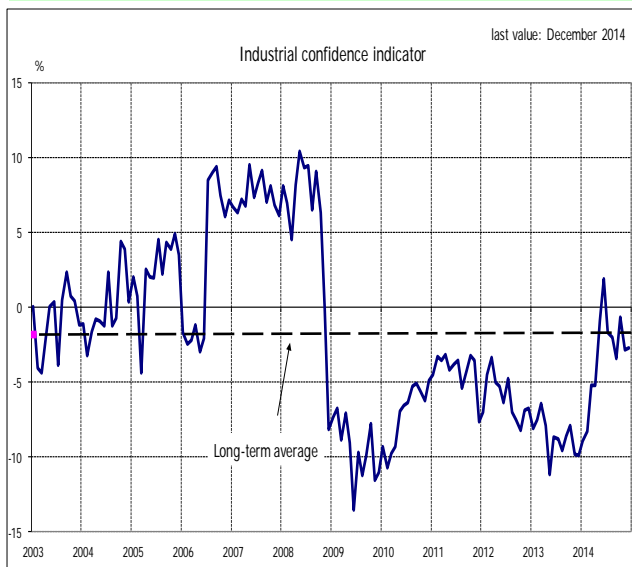
In November 2014 the **exchange rate BGN against the US dollar** remained at the previous month level – BGN 1.6 per USD.

¹ The annual decline is due to the exclusion of Corporate Commercial Bank (KTB) from the reporting population in November 2014.



1. OUTPUT

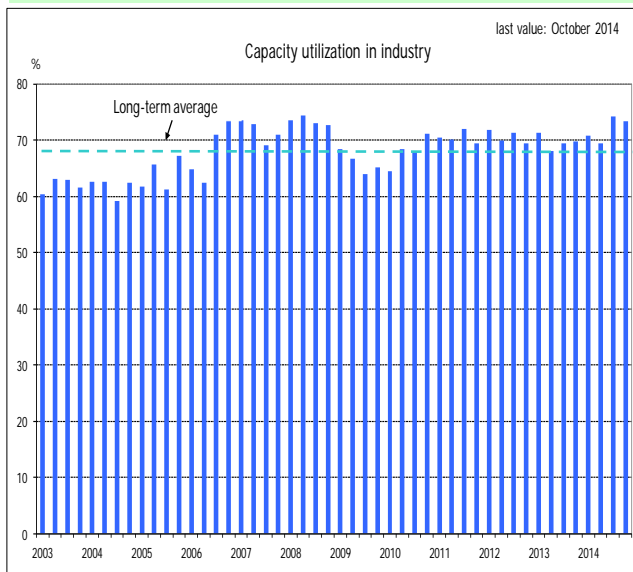
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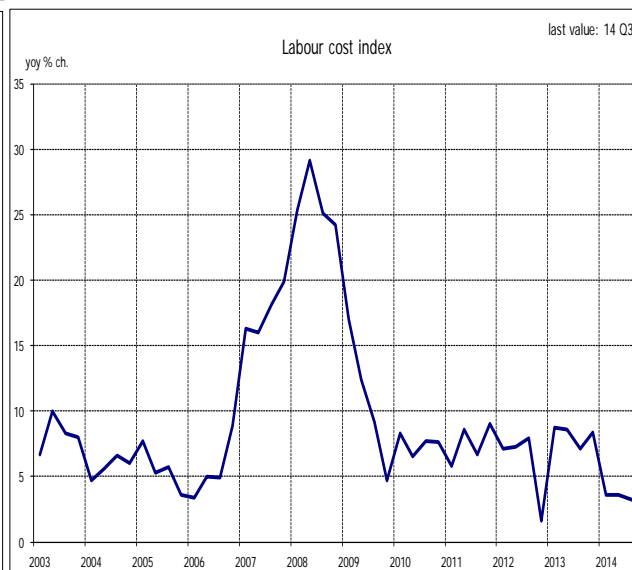
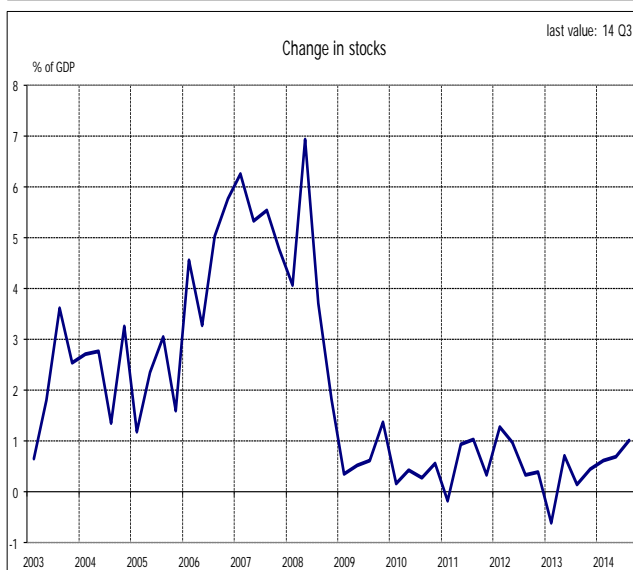
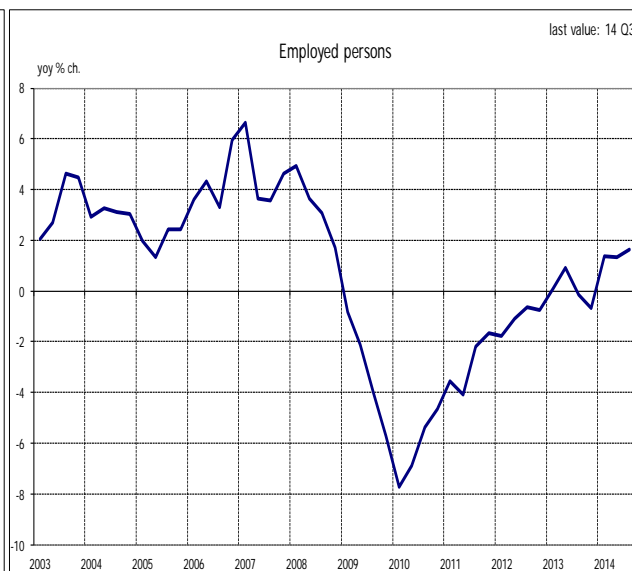
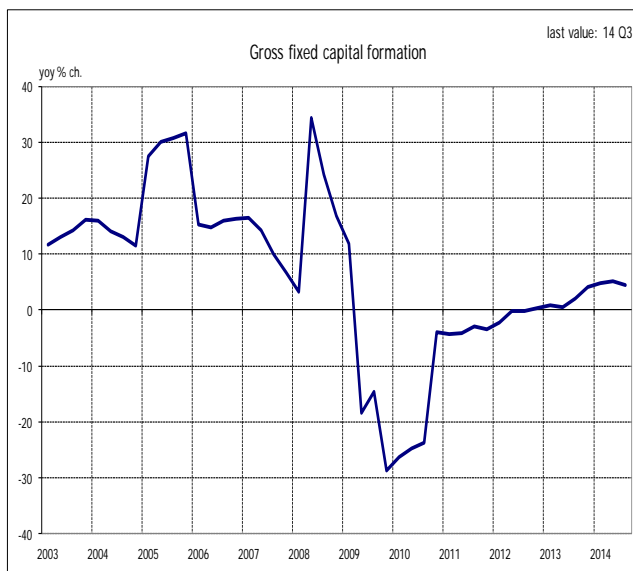
Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



3. INVESTMENT



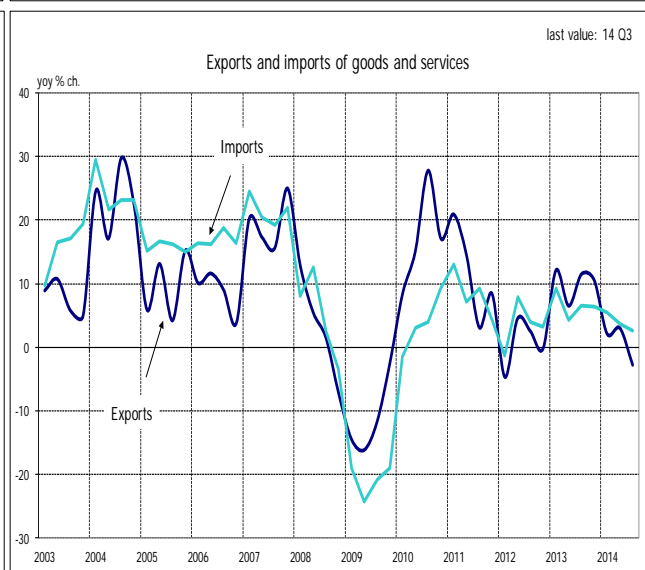
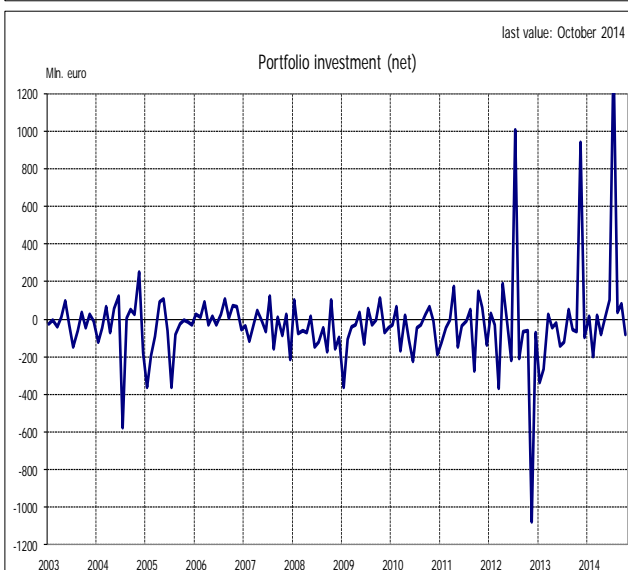
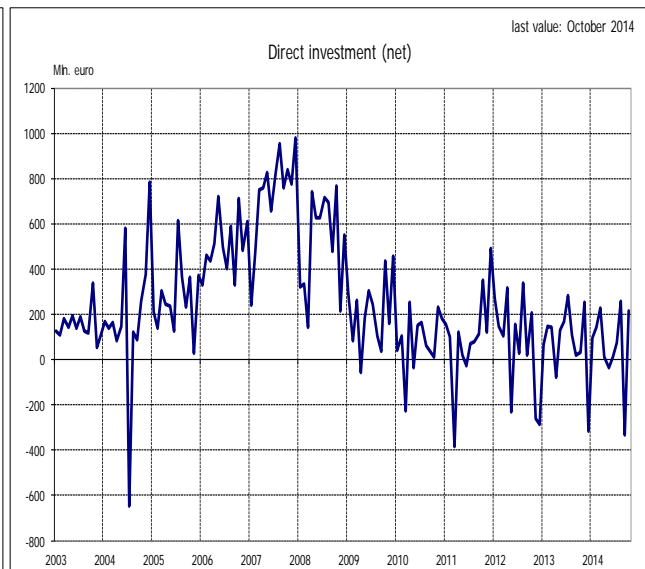
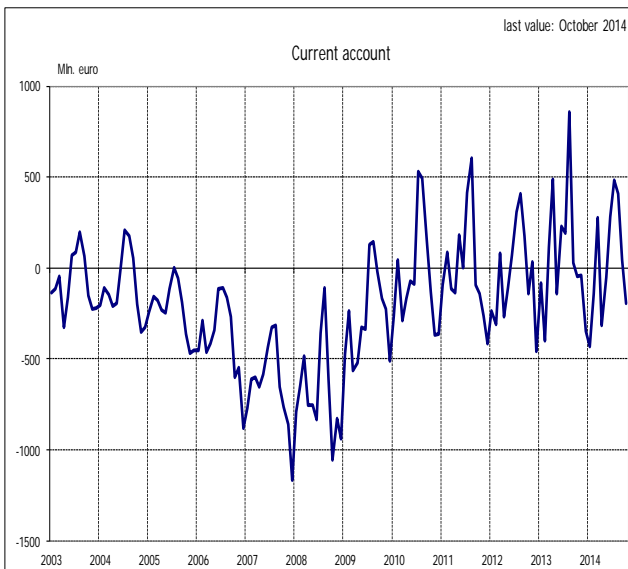
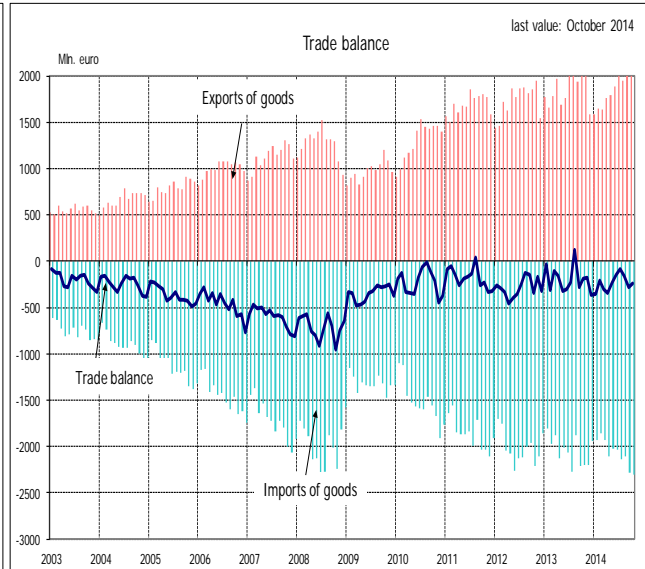
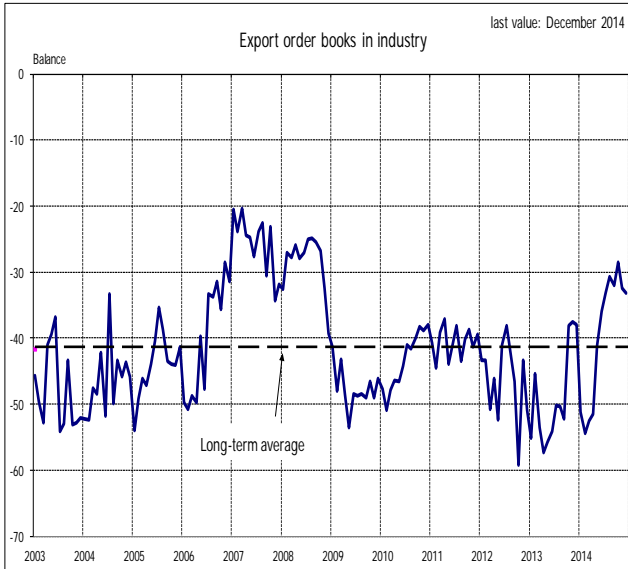
4. LABOUR MARKET



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



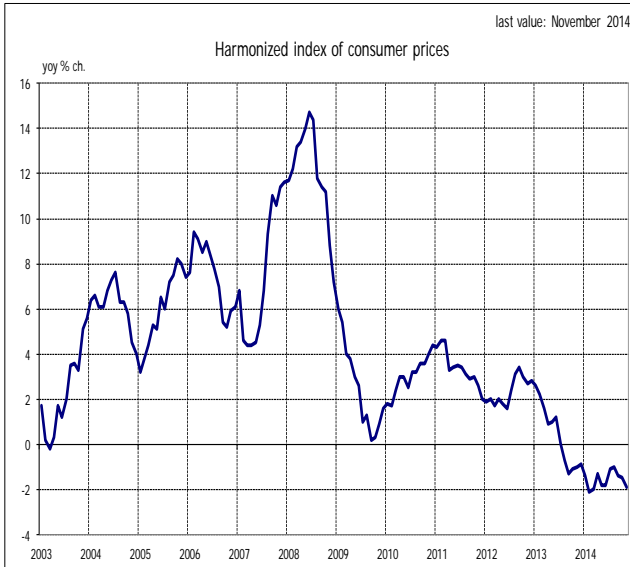
5. INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS



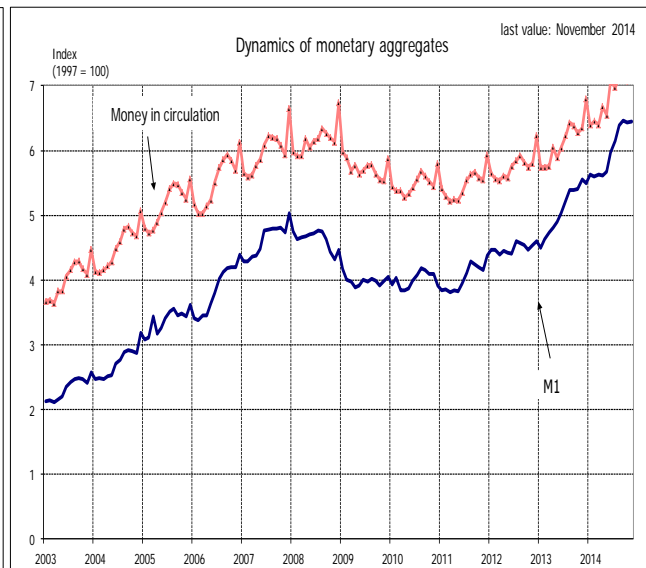
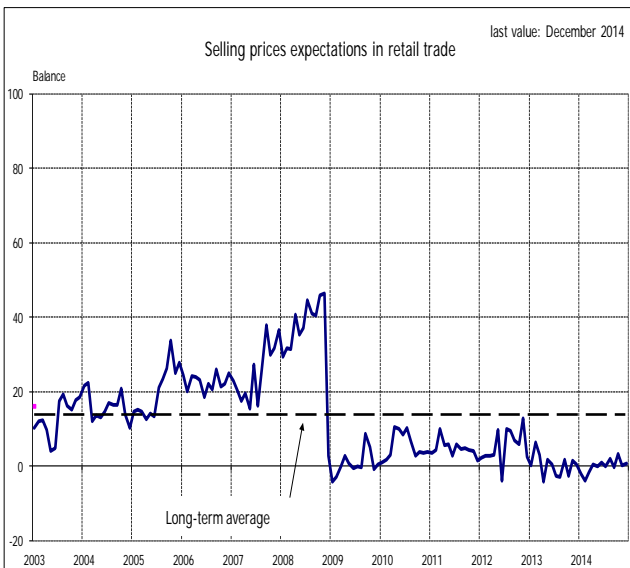
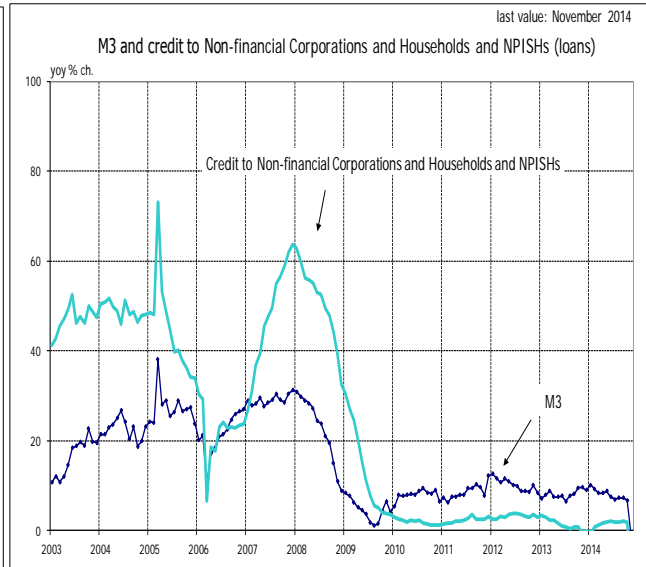
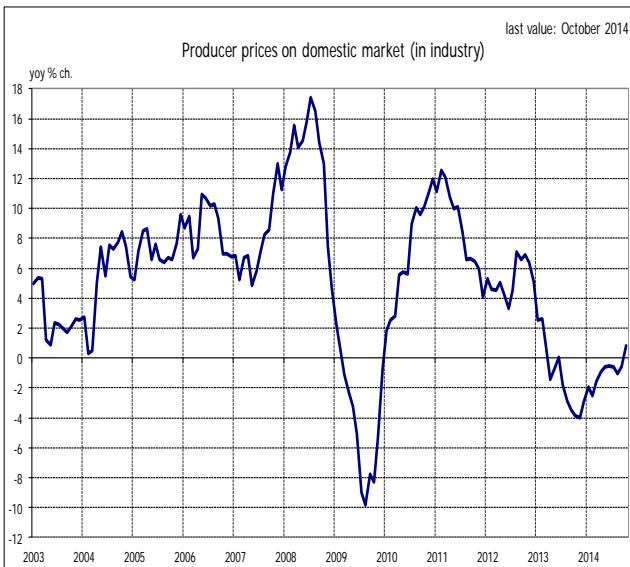
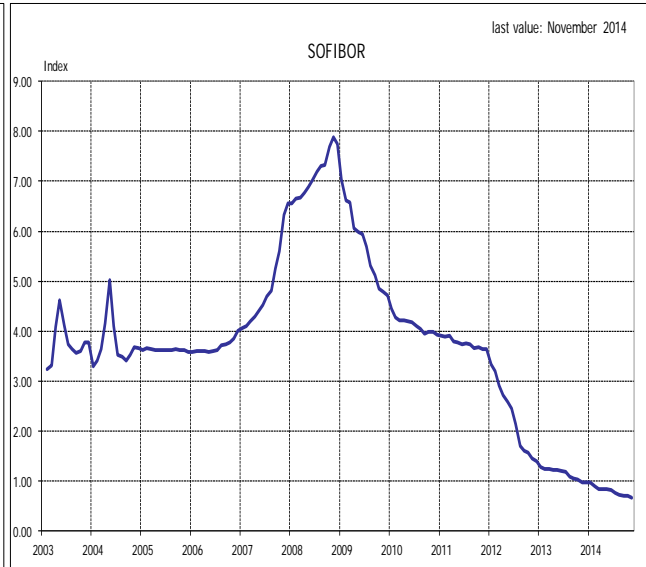
Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



6. PRICES



7. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL INDICATORS



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



Key indicators for Bulgaria - Methodological notes

№	Indicator	Note	Source
1. Output			
1.1.	Industrial confidence indicator	Business survey in industry. The industrial confidence indicator is an arithmetic average of balances to replies on production expectations, order books and stocks of finished products (the latter with negative sign)	NSI
1.2.	Industrial production	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, working day adjusted data (2010=100)	NSI
1.3.	Gross Domestic Product	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects. Data are presented according to ESA'10.	NSI
2. Private consumption			
2.1.	Consumer confidence indicator	Consumer survey. The consumer confidence indicator is an arithmetic average of balances of the expectations about the economic and financial situation, unemployment and savings of households over the next 12 months	NSI
2.2.	Turnover in retail trade	Turnover in retail trade (excluding motor vehicles), growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, working day adjusted data (2010=100)	NSI
2.3.	Private consumption	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects. Data are presented according to ESA'10.	NSI
3. Investment			
3.1.	Capacity utilization	Average capacity utilization in industry, as a percentage of full capacity (Data are collected each January, April, July and October)	NSI
3.2.	Gross fixed capital formation	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects. Data are presented according to ESA'10.	NSI
3.3.	Change in stocks	As a percentage of GDP. Data are presented according to ESA'10.	NSI
4. Labour market			
4.1.	Unemployment rate	Relative share of the unemployed persons of the economically active population in Bulgaria (data from Labour force survey)	NSI
4.2.	Employed persons	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year (data from Labour force survey)	NSI
4.3.	Labour costs	Index of hourly labour costs incurred by the employers as a result of engaging the workforce, growth rate compared to the same period of previous year, working day adjusted data	NSI
4.4.	Shortage of labour	Percentage of firms in industry pointing out shortage of labour as a constraint to production	NSI
4.5.	Wages	Nominal value, growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, average monthly wages of the employees under labour contract	NSI
5. International transactions			
5.1.	Export order books	Business survey in industry. Balance of positive and negative replies	NSI
5.2.	Exports of goods	Balance of payment, million EUR	BNB
5.3.	Imports of goods	Balance of payment, million EUR	BNB
5.4.	Trade balance	Balance of payment, million EUR	BNB
5.5.	Current account	Balance of payment, million EUR	BNB
5.6.	Direct investment	(net) million EUR, balance of payment	BNB
5.7.	Portfolio investment	(net) million EUR, balance of payment	BNB
5.8.	Exports of goods and services	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects. Data are presented according to ESA'10.	NSI
5.9.	Imports of goods and services	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data corrected for working day effects. Data are presented according to ESA'10.	NSI
6. Prices			
6.1.	Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year	NSI
6.2.	Producer prices on domestic market (in industry)	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year (2010=100)	NSI
6.3.	Selling price expectations in industry	Business survey in industry. Balance of positive and negative replies.	NSI
6.4.	Selling price expectations in retail trade	Business survey in retail trade. Balance of positive and negative replies.	NSI
7. Monetary and financial indicators			
7.1.	SOFIBOR	Three-month interbank market index SOFIBOR (SOFIBOR: Sofia Interbank Offered Rate is a fixing of the quotations for unsecured BGN deposits offered in the Bulgarian interbank market)	BNB
7.2.	M3	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year (monthly value: value at the end of the month)	BNB
7.3.	Credit to Non-financial Corporations and Households and NPISHs (loans)	Growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year (monthly value: value at the end of the month)	BNB
7.4.	Exchange rate USD/BGN	Period averages	BNB
7.5.	Nominal effective exchange rate	Index (June 1997=100)	BNB