



Key indicators for Bulgaria*

This update: 1 October 2014
 Next update: 30 December 2014

		2011	2012	2013	March'14	April'14	May'14	June'14	July'14	August'14
1. Output										
Industrial confidence ^{1.1}	%	-4.2	-6.0	-8.7	-5.2	-5.2	-0.9	1.9	-1.7	-2.0
Industrial production ^{1.2}	yoy % ch.	6.0	-0.2	0.0	3.6	3.7	5.0	0.9	-0.2	
		2011	2012	2013	13 Q1	13 Q2	13 Q3	13 Q4	14 Q1	14 Q2
Gross domestic product ^{1.3}	yoy % ch.	1.8	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.6
2. Private consumption										
Consumer confidence ^{2.1}	%	-41.0	-42.9	-39.6	-37.7	-39.8	-40.7	-34.8	-30.0	-34.3
		2011	2012	2013	March'14	April'14	May'14	June'14	July'14	August'14
Turnover in retail trade ^{2.2}	yoy % ch.	0.5	5.4	2.9	5.6	2.2	1.4	2.3	4.0	
		2011	2012	2013	13 Q1	13 Q2	13 Q3	13 Q4	14 Q1	14 Q2
Private consumption ^{2.3}	yoy % ch.	1.7	3.2	-1.8	-0.2	-1.5	-1.3	-0.7	1.8	1.6
3. Investment										
Capacity utilization in industry ^{3.1}	%	70.9	70.5	69.5	68.0	69.5	69.8	70.8	69.5	74.2
Gross fixed capital formation ^{3.2}	yoy % ch.	-6.5	4.0	-0.3	2.4	1.0	1.8	3.1	3.4	3.9
Change in stocks ^{3.3}	% of GDP	0.4	0.4	0.2	-0.7	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.8
4. Labour market										
Unemployment rate ^{4.1}	%	11.3	12.3	12.9	13.8	12.9	12.0	13.0	13.0	11.4
Employed persons ^{4.2}	yoy % ch.	-2.9	-1.1	0.0	0.1	0.9	-0.1	-0.7	1.4	1.3
Labour costs ^{4.3}	yoy % ch.	7.1	2.9	8.2	8.7	8.6	7.1	8.4	3.6	3.6
		2011	2012	2013	March'14	April'14	May'14	June'14	July'14	August'14
Shortage of labour in industry ^{4.4}	%	7.5	8.7	8.6	10.1	9.9	11.1	11.5	10.3	12.8
Wages ^{4.5}	yoy % ch.	5.8	6.6	10.5	2.1	3.1	2.1	1.6		
5. International transactions										
Export order books in industry ^{5.1}	balance	-40.6	-46.5	-49.0	-52.6	-51.5	-41.2	-35.9	-33.2	-30.7
Exports of goods ^{5.2}	mln. EUR	20264.3	20770.2	22228.2	1631.6	1738.5	1784.0	1882.8	2039.1	
Imports of goods ^{5.3}	mln. EUR	-22420.4	-24230.4	-24581.5	-1918.2	-2097.8	-2007.0	-2012.0	-2115.3	
Trade balance ^{5.4}	mln. EUR	-2156.1	-3460.3	-2353.3	-286.6	-359.2	-223.0	-129.2	-76.2	
Current account ^{5.5}	mln. EUR	33.2	-333.9	751.3	360.4	-217.0	29.1	450.4	594.3	
Direct investment (net) ^{5.6}	mln. EUR	1212.7	802.0	957.3	-18.4	175.1	71.2	85.4	70.0	
Portfolio investment (net) ^{5.7}	mln. EUR	-357.4	-898.4	-128.2	18.5	-80.1	3.3	122.0	1463.9	
		2011	2012	2013	13 Q1	13 Q2	13 Q3	13 Q4	14 Q1	14 Q2
Exports of goods and services ^{5.8}	yoy % ch.	12.3	-0.4	8.9	10.4	5.5	10.3	9.3	1.5	3.9
Imports of goods and services ^{5.9}	yoy % ch.	8.8	3.3	5.7	7.8	2.7	7.4	6.9	6.3	3.4
6. Prices										
HICP ^{6.1}	yoy % ch.	3.4	2.4	0.4	-2.0	-1.3	-1.8	-1.8	-1.1	-1.0
Producer prices on domestic market (in industry) ^{6.2}	yoy % ch.	8.6	5.3	-1.3	-1.6	-0.9	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6	-1.0
Selling prices expectations in industry ^{6.3}	balance	8.8	9.7	2.4	0.5	8.2	8.5	6.2	8.9	5.5
Selling prices expectations in retail trade ^{6.4}	balance	4.7	5.3	0.2	-1.8	0.4	-0.1	1.0	-0.2	2.0
7. Monetary and financial indicators										
SOFIBOR (3 months) ^{7.1}	index	3.8	2.3	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7
M3 ^{7.2}	yoy % ch.	12.2	8.4	8.9	8.3	8.3	8.7	7.4	6.9	7.2
Credit to Non-financial Corporations and Households and NPISHs ^{7.3}	yoy % ch.	3.3	2.8	0.0	1.2	1.6	1.8	2.1	1.8	1.9
Exchange rate USD/BGN ^{7.4}	value	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5
Nominal effective exchange rate ^{7.5}	index	132.1	131.0	134.1	136.3	136.6	136.0	135.7	135.6	

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 September 2014 the **industrial confidence indicator** decreased by 1.4% compared to August 2014.

In July 2014 the working day adjusted **Industrial Production Index** decreased by 0.2% compared to the same month of 2013. On annual basis, the Industrial Production Index calculated from working day adjusted data decreased in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply by 11.9% and in the mining and quarrying industry by 0.9%, while in the manufacturing an increase by 3.9% is registered.

According to preliminary data, the **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** at current prices in the second quarter of 2014 amounted to BGN 19 517 million. The GDP per person amounted to BGN 2 696. At average exchange rate for the quarter of BGN 1.42758 BGN per 1 US dollar, the GDP amounted to USD 13 671 million or USD 1 889 per person. In Euro terms, the GDP amounted to EUR 9 979 million or EUR 1 379 per person. According to the seasonally adjusted data, the GDP growth rate in the second quarter of 2014 is 1.6% compared with the same quarter of the previous year.

2. Private consumption

In July 2014 the total **consumer confidence indicator** decreased by 4.3 percentage points compared to its level 3 months ago which is due to the decreased confidence of both urban and rural inhabitants by 3.9 and 5.1 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 pessimistic compared to the previous survey.

In July 2014 the working day adjusted turnover in **'Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles'** increased by 4.0 % compared to the same month of previous year. Compared to the same month of 2013, the **turnover** increased more significantly in the 'Retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet' - by 22.0%, in the 'Retail sale of automotive fuel' - by 7.1%, in the 'Retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco' and in the 'Retail sale of computers, peripheral units and software; telecommunications equipment' - by 5.2%. A

decrease was registered in the 'Retail sale in non-specialised stores' - by 2.0% and in the 'Retail sale of audio and video equipment; hardware, paints and glass; electrical household appliances' - by 0.6%.

In the second quarter of 2014 for **individual consumption** were spent 70.9% of the GDP produced. According to seasonally adjusted data, the real increase of the indicator compared to the respective quarter of 2013 was 1.6%

3. Investment

In July 2014 the average **capacity utilization in industry** increased by 4.7% compared to April and reached 74.2%.

According to seasonally adjusted data, the **gross fixed capital formation** in the second quarter of 2014 increased in real terms by 3.9% compared to the same period of the previous year. The relative share of that category in GDP is 21.6%.

4. Labour market

The total **number of employed persons aged 15 and more** in the second quarter of 2014 was 2 979.8 thousand, representing 47.9% of the respective population. Compared to the second quarter of 2013, the share of employed increased by 0.9 percentage points.

The **number of unemployed persons in the second quarter of 2014** was 381.8 thousand and the unemployment rate - 11.4%. Compared to the same quarter of 2013, the number of unemployed decreased by 12.7% and the unemployment rate - by 1.5 percentage points.

According to the NSI business inquiries in September 2014 12.5% of the industrial enterprises pointed out the **labour shortage** as a factor limiting their activity.

In June 2014 the **average wage and salary** was BGN 802 or 1.7% less compared to the previous month. Compared to June 2013 the increase was 1.6%.

5. International transactions

According to the industrial managers' assessments in September 2014 there was certain decline of the production assurance with **orders from abroad** in comparison with August (by 1.3 percentage points).



The **current account** in January - July 2014 was positive and amounted to EUR 528.2 million (1.3% of GDP), compared with a surplus of EUR 398.9 million (1% of GDP) in January - July 2013.

The **trade balance** deficit in January - July 2014 amounted to EUR 1 684.4 million (4.2% of GDP), compared with a deficit of EUR 1 507.3 million (3.8% of GDP) in January - July 2013.

In January - July 2014 **exports (FOB)** totalled to EUR 12 328.7 million, dropping by EUR 355.3 million (2.8%) year-on-year (from EUR 12 684 million). In January - July 2013 exports increased by 8% year-on-year. In January - July 2014 **imports (FOB)** totalled to EUR 14 013.1 million, dropping by EUR 178.2 million (1.3%) compared to January - July 2013 (EUR 14 191.3 million). In January - July 2013 imports increased by 0.7% year-on-year.

In January - July 2014 the **direct investment abroad** totalled to EUR 99.8 million, compared to EUR 101.3 million in the same period of 2013. **The foreign direct investment** totalled to EUR 825.3 million (2% of GDP), compared to EUR 1 070.8 million (2.7% of GDP) in the same period of 2013.

The portfolio investment assets increased in January - July 2014 by EUR 8.7 million compared with an increase of EUR 558 million in January - July 2013. **Portfolio investment liabilities** increased by EUR 1,338.4 million, compared to a decline of EUR 346.7 million in January - July 2013.

The external balance in the second quarter of 2014 is negative. The export and import increased by 3.4 and 3.9% respectively compared to the second quarter of previous year.

6. Prices

In August 2014 the **harmonized index of consumer prices decreased by 1%** compared to August 2013. The highest increase was registered in "Transport" - by 0.7%.

In August 2014 **Producer Price Index on Domestic Market** decreased by 1.0% compared to the same month of 2013. The domestic prices fell in the mining and quarrying industry by 4.8%, in the manufacturing by 0.3%, and in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply by 1.9%.

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

7. Monetary and financial indicators

Compared to August 2013, the **three-month interbank market index SOFIBOR** decreased by 0.37 percentage points to 0.72%.

In August 2014, the annual growth rate of **broad money (aggregate M3)** was 7.2% compared to 6.9% in July 2014. At the end of August 2014 M3 was BGN 69.422 billion (87.6% of GDP) compared to BGN 68.206 billion (86.1% of GDP) in July 2014.

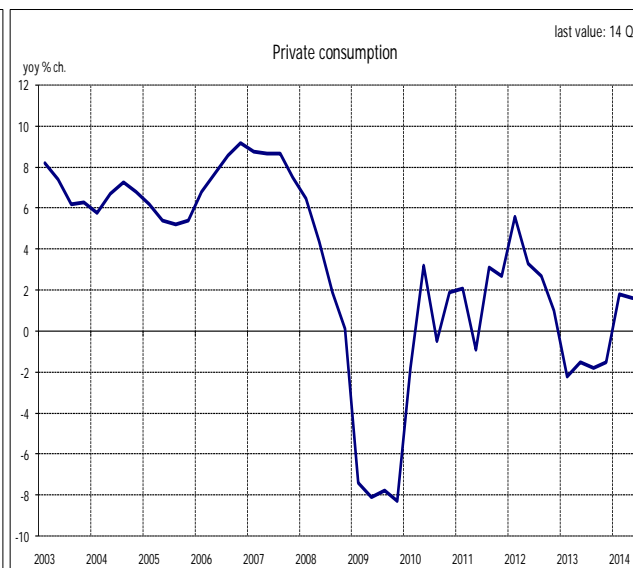
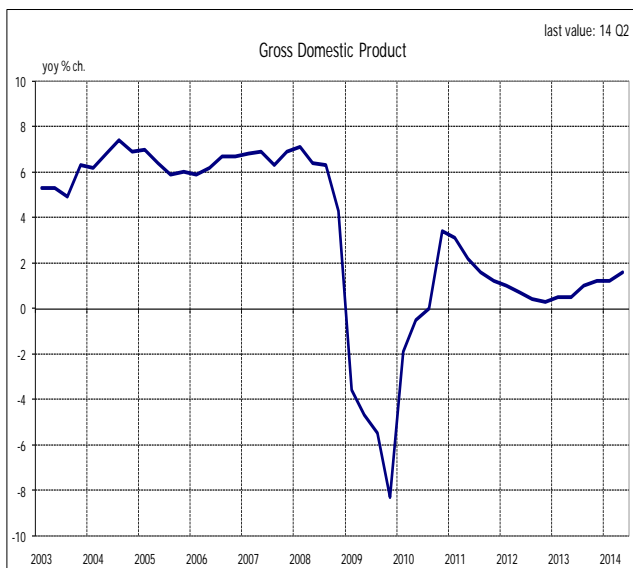
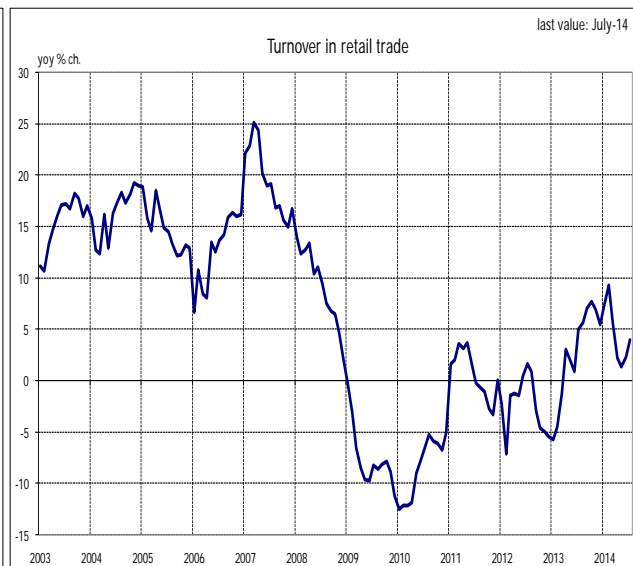
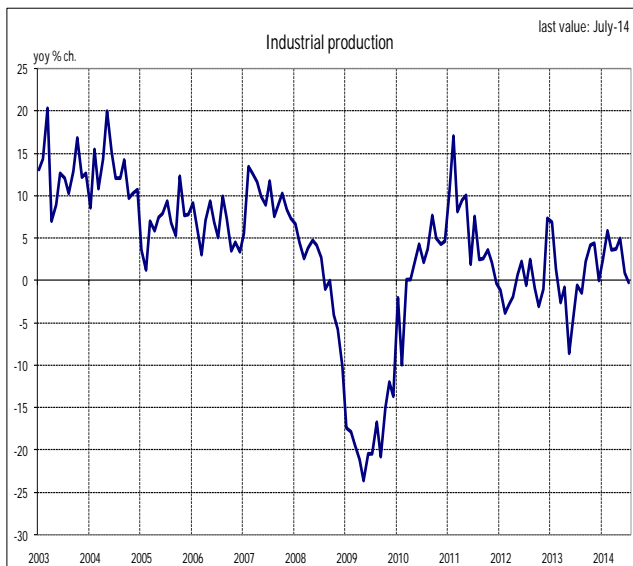
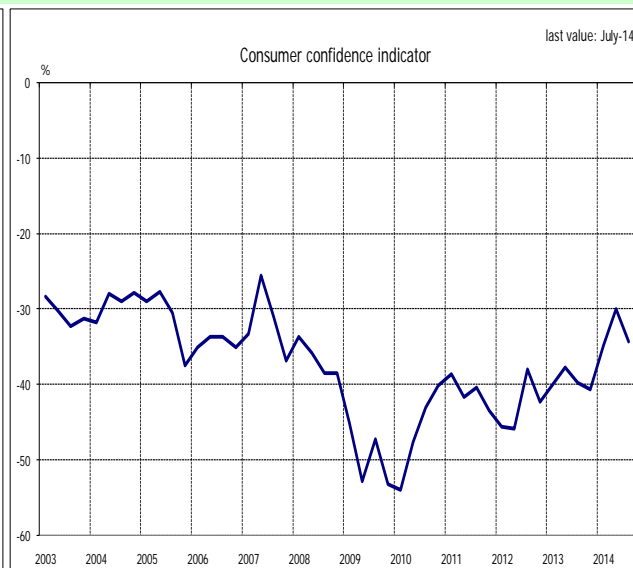
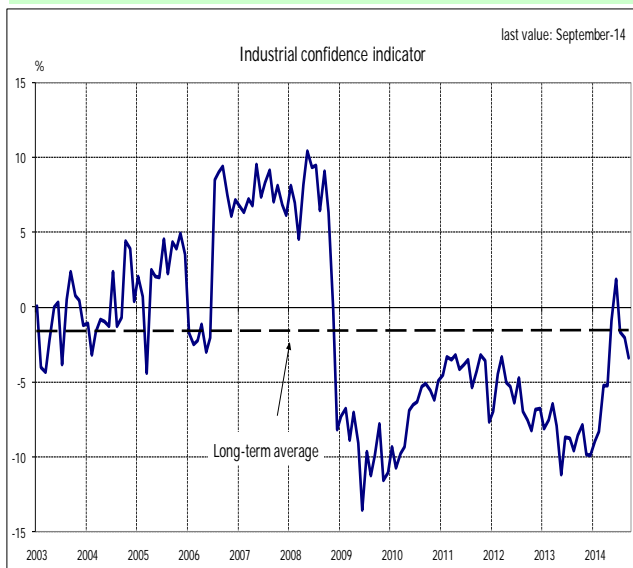
The volume of **loans to Non-financial corporations, households and NPISHs** in August 2014 amounted to BGN 54.425 billion. On annual basis, in August 2014, the loans to Non-financial corporations increased by 2.9% (2.7% annual increase in July 2014) and at the end of month amounted to BGN 35.851 billion (45.3% of GDP). Loans to Households and NPISHs were BGN 18.575 billion (23.5% of GDP) at the end of August 2014.

In August 2014 the **exchange rate BGN against the US dollar** remained at the previous month level - 1.5.



1. OUTPUT

2. PRIVATE CONSUMPTION

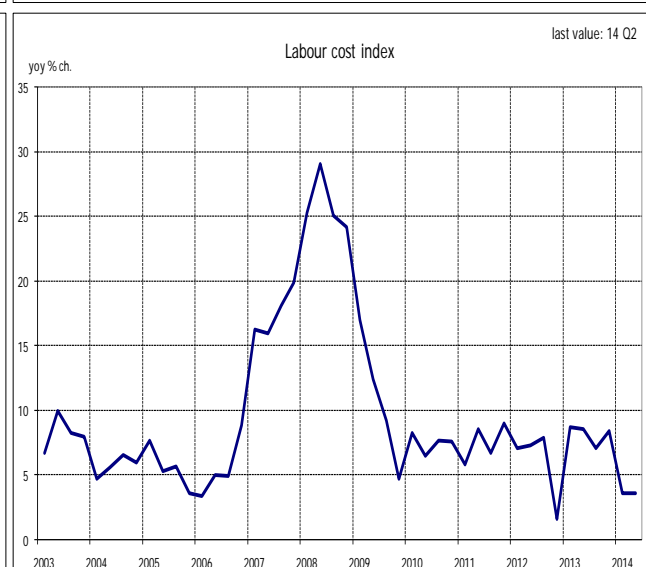
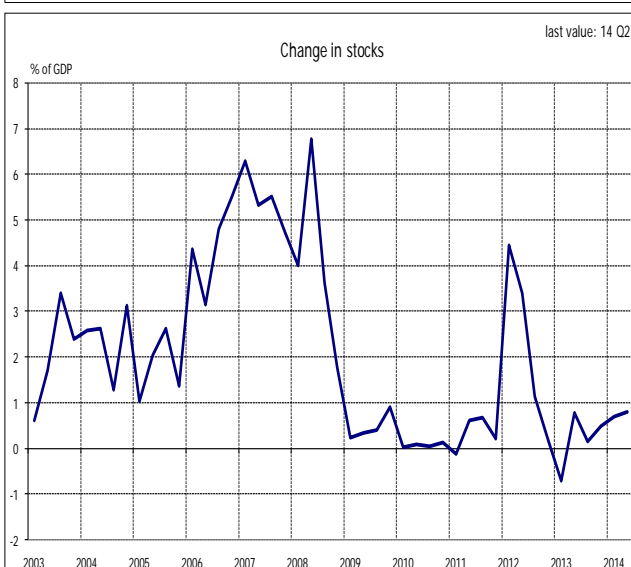
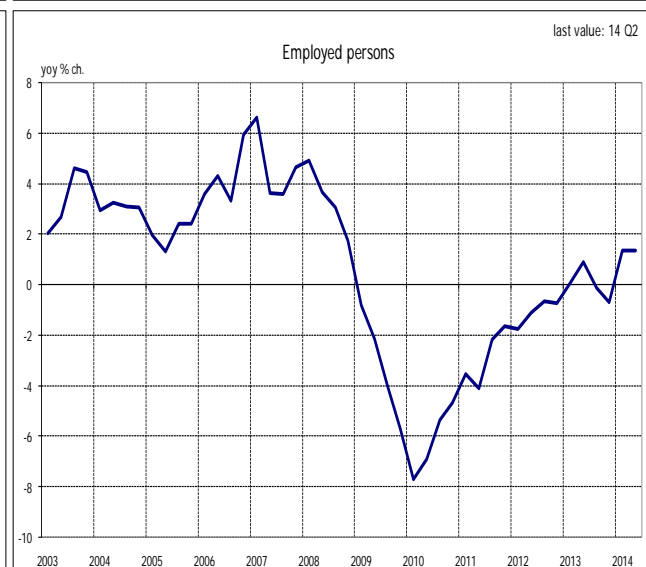
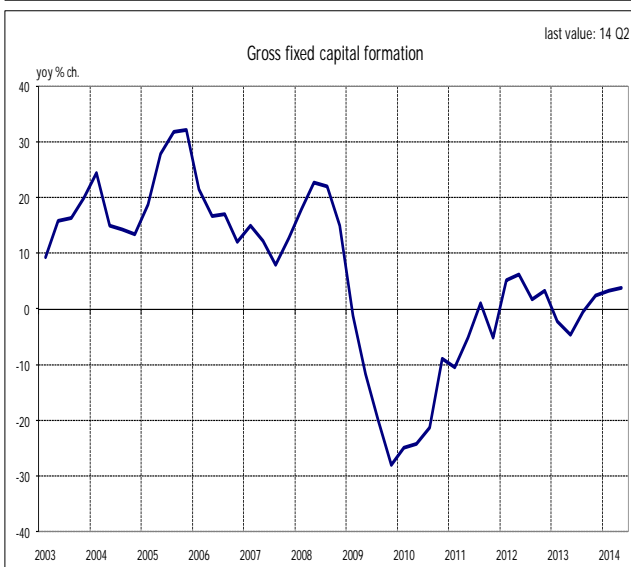
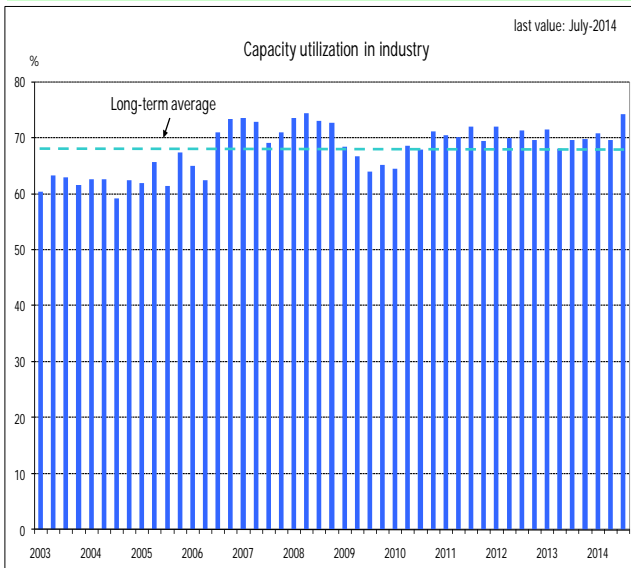


Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



3. INVESTMENT

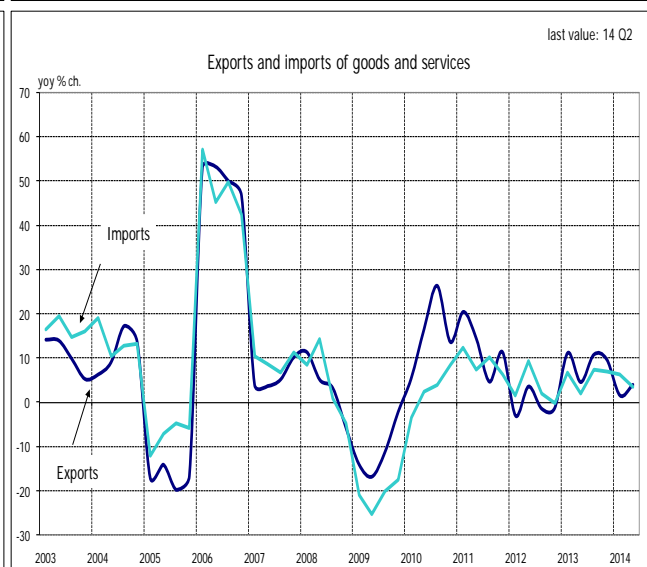
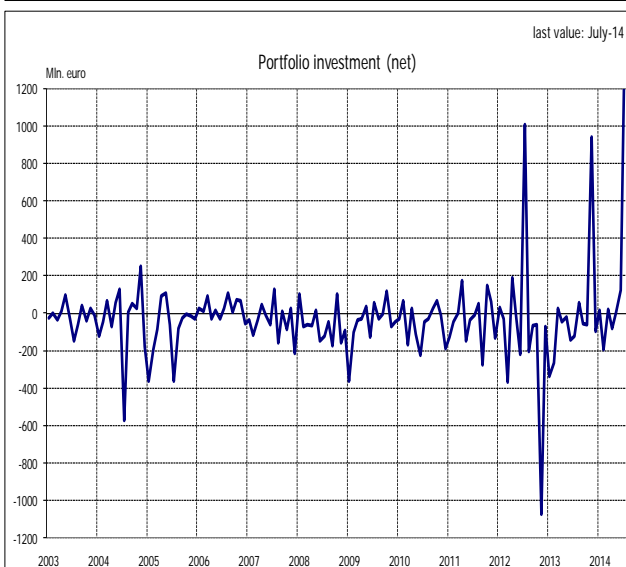
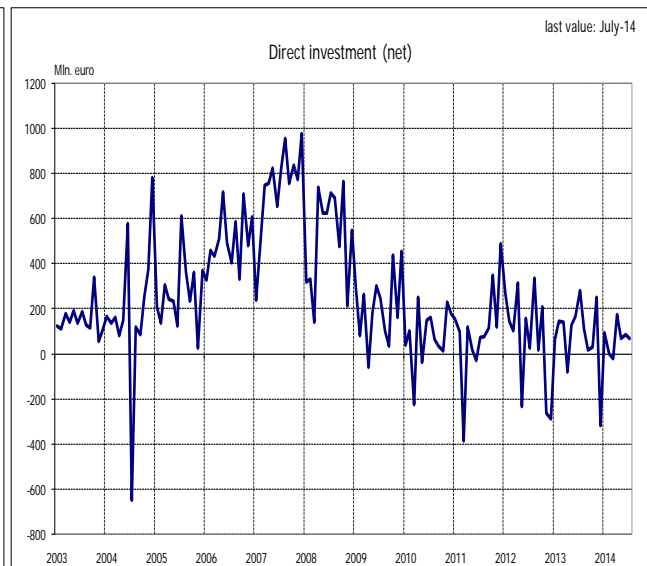
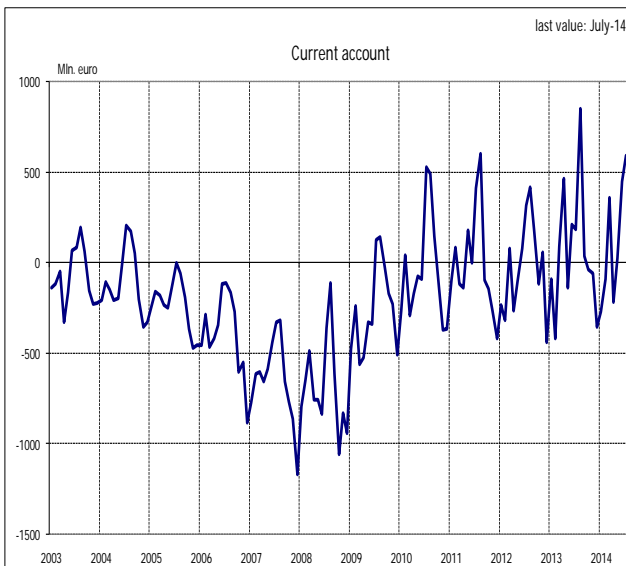
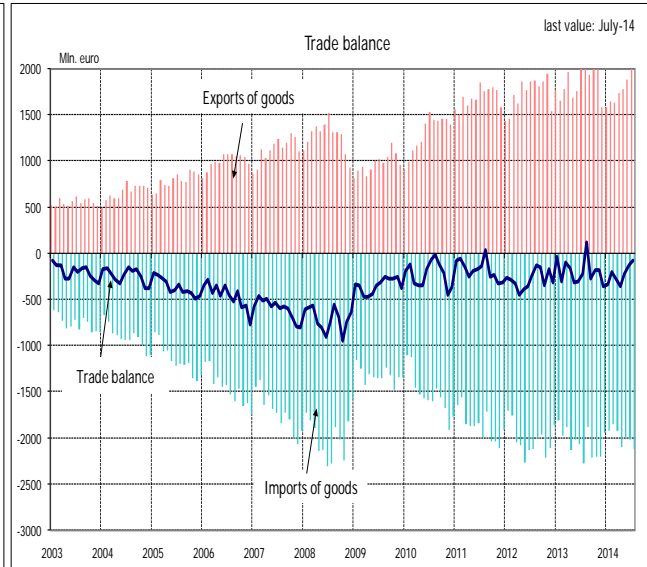
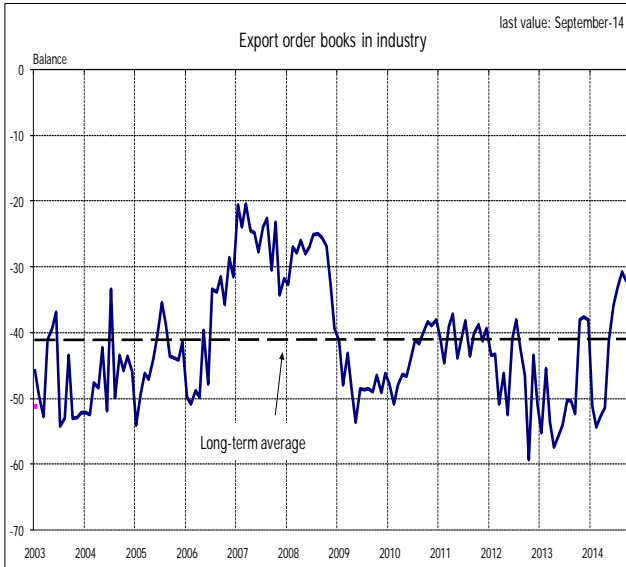
4. LABOUR MARKET



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



5. INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS

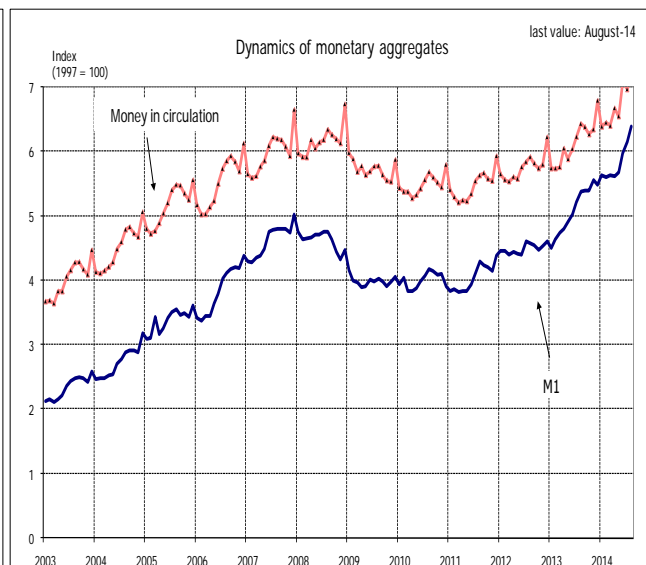
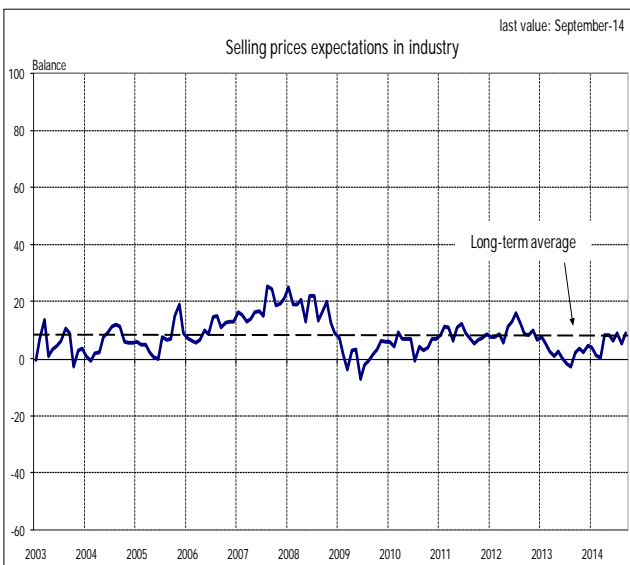
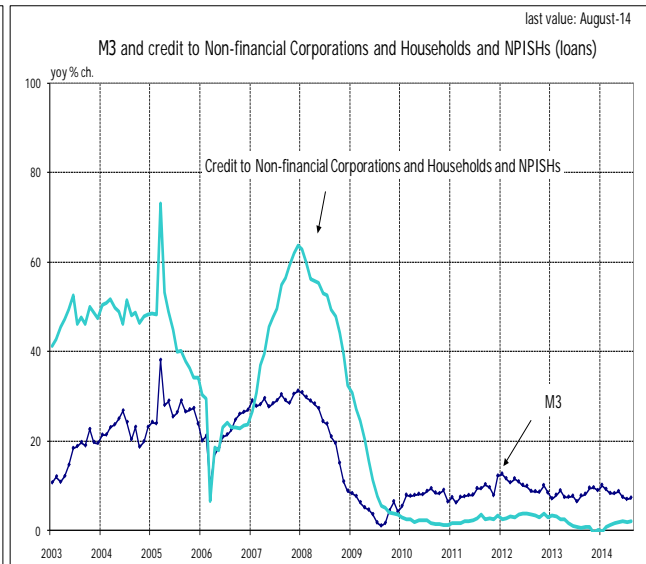
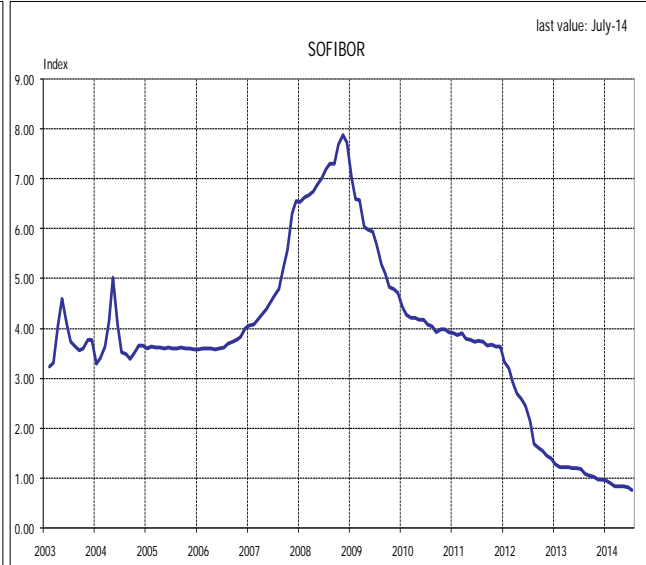
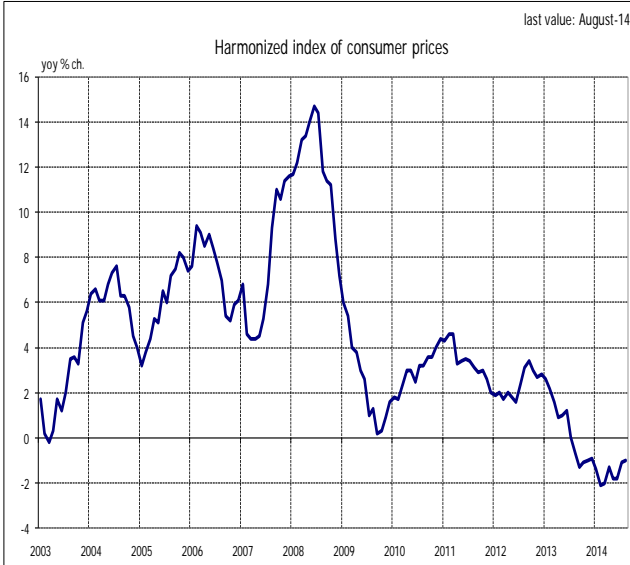


Note: yoy % ch. - growth rate compared to the same period of the previous year.



6. PRICES

7. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL INDICATORS



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



Key indicators for Bulgaria - Methodological notes

№	Indicator	Note	Source
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'95.	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'95.	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'95.	NSI
3.3.	Change in stocks	As a percentage of GDP. Data are presented according to ESA'95.	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'95.	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'95.	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