



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
Ministry of Finance

ISSN 2367-5020



April/2015

BULGARIAN ECONOMY

Monthly Report

May/2015

June/2015

July-August/2015

September/2015

October/2015

November/2015

December/2015

BULGARIAN ECONOMY

Monthly Report

April/2015

This issue of the Monthly Report on Bulgarian Economy is based on materials and statistical data received up to May 13, 2015. Contents of the Monthly Report may be quoted or reproduced without further permission; however, due acknowledgment is requested. The estimates and projections published in this issue should not be regarded as advice or recommendation.

ISSN 2367-5020

© Ministry of Finance, 2015
Economic and Financial Policy Directorate

102, Rakovski Str., 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria
<http://www.minfin.bg/en/page/542>
e-mail: secretary.evp@minfin.bg

Highlights

According to flash estimates, Bulgarian **GDP growth** reached 2% yoy (s.a. data) in Q1 2015, up 0.9% qoq. Economic activity accelerated compared to Q4 2014, in line with the positive signals from the short-term indicators for the first three months of the year. Growth was driven by exports, up by 9.1% yoy. Domestic demand also had positive contribution with final consumption up by 0.6% yoy and GFCF up by 2.6% yoy.

Short-term business statistics kept improving in March. The higher expectations in all economic sectors and the better financial situation of households sustained the positive trends of business climate and consumer confidence indicators.

Registered unemployment rate decreased further to 10.7% in April, while **consumer prices** rose by 0.5% mom, thus the *negative annual inflation rate* decelerated to 0.9% in line with expectations.

The current account deficit has improved by 0.5 pps yoy to 0.6% of GDP (EUR 239.7 mln). **Financial account balance** was also negative at 0.5% of GDP (EUR 231.1 mln) for the first two months of the year. As of April, BNB is publishing external sector statistics in accordance with the Sixth edition of the IMF methodology on the Balance of payments and the International investment position with data currently revised back to 2007.

Gross external debt (GED) amounted to EUR 38.67 bn (90.5% of projected GDP) as of end-February, compared to EUR 37bn and 88.1% of GDP as of end February 2014, respectively.

International reserves reached EUR 19.5 bn at the end of April, thus monetary base coverage posted a slight improvement against March to 172.1%. As of end-February, the international reserves could cover 7.1 months of imports or 174.2% of the short-term external debt.

Consolidated budget balance was positive at the end of March accounting for BGN 257.1 mln (0.3% of GDP) on a cash basis. Both the national budget and the EU funds account were on surplus. Total revenue and grants increased by 18.6% yoy in Q1 2015, while total expenditure growth stood at 1.2% yoy. As a result, the balance on the consolidated budget improved significantly compared to end-March 2014, when a deficit of 1.1% of GDP was registered. ●

Recent economic developments

SHORT-TERM BUSINESS STATISTICS

Industrial turnover¹ growth accelerated to 16.8% yoy in March mainly due to the strong increase of foreign industrial sales, up 30.6% yoy. Major contribution for the reported growth had *energy products*. Domestic turnover also gathered speed, up 8.5% yoy, supported by the upward trend in *electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply*. Manufacturing also returned to growth, up by 3.3% compared to the same period of the previous year.

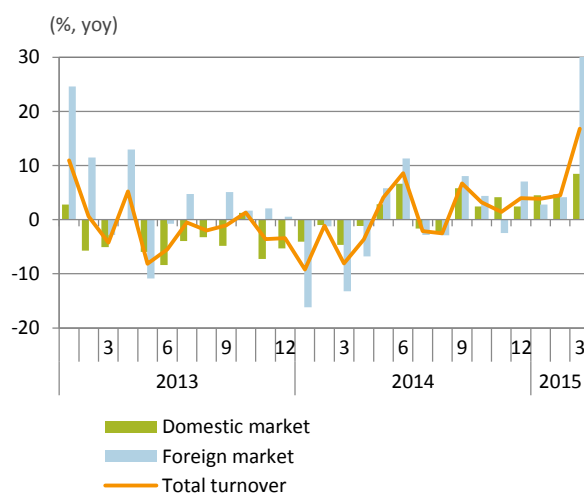
Industrial production increased by 4.4% yoy compared to a growth of 2.5% in February. *Energy products* and *products for intermediate consumption* had the major contribution for the reported growth, while *consumer goods*' performance weakened.

The growth of **retail sales** decelerated to 0.9% compared to the same period of the previous year. *Retail sales of medical and orthopedic good, cosmetic and toilet articles* and *retail sales of audio and video equipment* posted the largest increase, up 8.9% and 8.8%, respectively, while *retail sales of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods* decreased the most, down 13.5% yoy compared to an annual growth of 1.7% in February.

The decline in **construction production index** slowed further down to 0.2% yoy due to both *civil engineering* and *building construction*. *Civil engineering* growth accelerated to 10.6%, while the slump in *building construction* narrowed to 9.1% on annual basis.

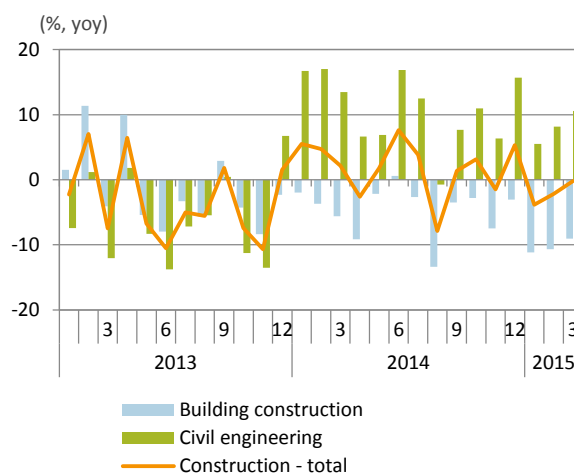
¹ According to NSI methodology, the *industrial turnover index* reflects changes in both volume of sales and prices, while for the *industrial production index* compilation, the value of enterprises' production is deflated by the producer price index in order to isolate the price fluctuations.

Fig. 1: Industrial turnover



Source: NSI

Fig. 2: Construction production index



Source: NSI

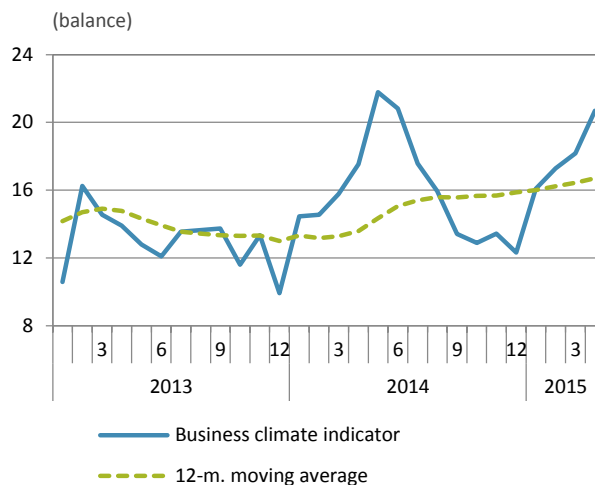
The overall business climate indicator increased once again in April. It was due to the more favorable expectations regarding the future business situation of the enterprises in all sectors. In industry the number of respondents who reported insufficient demand as a problem decreased, while export expectations improved. Demand for services in recent months increased and managers' expectations regarding future demand are optimistic. The entrepreneurs in construction reported higher construction activity and an increase in orders. The production is assured with contracts for 5.4 months - a longer period in comparison with 4.9 months in January. Retailers reported increase in the volume of sales but their expectations for the next 3 months were more reserved.

The **consumer confidence indicator** also increased in April, up by 2.6 pps compared to January. The assessments about the general economic situation in the country in the last 12 months and the financial situation of the households improved. The expectations of the respondents regarding the economic development and households' financial situation are also more optimistic. Consumers' inflation expectations remained low, while their expectations regarding unemployment in the country shifted to more moderate opinions. The latest survey reported improvement in the intentions of households to make major purchases of durable goods and expenditures on home improvement.

LABOR MARKET

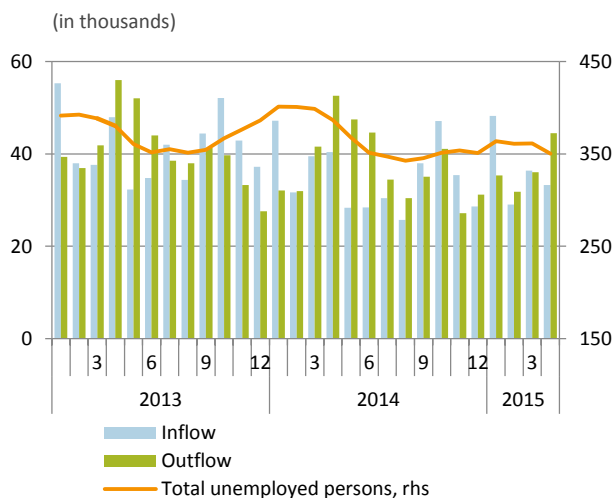
Registered unemployment decreased from 11% in March to 10.7% in April. The unemployment rate in March did not change compared to February due to the slight increase in the number of unemployed to 361.5 K. The latter was due to the unemployment inflow growth of 25.2% mom, having to do with the higher number of people who have terminated their participation in subsidized employment programs. The outflow of unemployment also increased over the previous month due particularly to the increased number of persons who found jobs on the primary labor market (15.6 K in March). The rising labor demand on the primary market, together with

Fig. 3: Business climate



Source: NSI

Fig. 4: Inflow, outflow and unemployed number



Source: EA

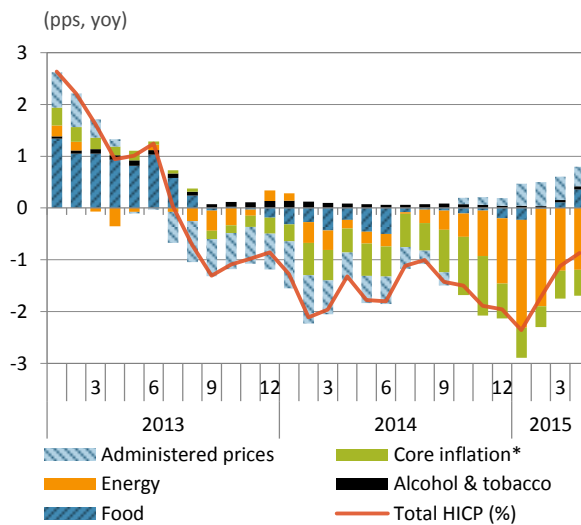
the implementation of active labor market programs and measures led to the reported decrease in unemployment in April. The number of persons who started working during the month went up by 30.8% compared to March to 27.1 K, over 65% of which got jobs in the real sector of the economy. At the same time, the number of persons included in subsidized employment programs increased to 5.1 K. On a year earlier, however, the scope of those who found jobs in April decreased due particularly to the discontinuation of the national program “From social aids to employment”.

INFLATION

Consumer prices continued on the increase, up by 0.5% mom in April, thus the accumulated inflation rate since the beginning of the year stood positive at 0.2%. Food prices rose by 1.3% mom largely due to seasonal moves in prices of unprocessed food and contributed the most (+0.31 pps) for the monthly increase in the headline rate. Prices of clothing and footwear increased by 5.3% mom on average at the introduction of the new spring-summer collection and added another 0.19 pps for the monthly change in the HICP. Market services showed almost no change over the previous month as the decrease reported by accommodation and travel services, down by an average of 2.2% mom, has been offset by increases in international airfares and mobile phone services, up by 3% and 0.8% respectively. Prices of alcohol and tobacco also remained almost unchanged at their level as of March. Administered prices, on the other hand, reported 0.4% decrease over the previous month and subtracted 0.06 pps from the headline rate as prices of natural gas supply and central heating have been cut by 9.4% and 6.2%, respectively.

The *negative annual inflation rate* decelerated further to -0.9% yoy in April largely on the account of the widening positive contribution from food prices and well in line with the official projections of the Ministry of finance.

Fig. 5: HICP and contributions by main components



* Overall index excluding energy, food, alcohol and tobacco.

Source: NSI, MF

EXTERNAL SECTOR

In Jan-Feb 2015, export of goods grew by 11.6% yoy, while import declined by 3.3%. Both export and import to the EU increased yoy, while trade with non-EU countries remained almost unchanged compared to the same period of 2014. In most of the commodity groups the ongoing fall in international prices completely offset the higher traded volume. As export growth outstripped that of import, trade balance improved in yoy terms. The deficit lowered to 1.1% of GDP from 1.6% in Jan-Feb 2014. The balances on the other articles remained almost unchanged as a share of GDP at a surplus of 0.5% and 0.2% for *Services* and *Secondary income*, respectively, and a 0.3% deficit for *Primary income*. Thus, the **current account balance** came in negative at 0.6% of GDP (EUR 239.7 mln), improving by 0.5 pps yoy.

Financial account balance was also negative at 0.5% of GDP (EUR 231.1 mln) for the first two months of the year. The deficit was mainly due to developments in the banking sector, as banks withdrew assets from abroad to increase reserves held in BNB.

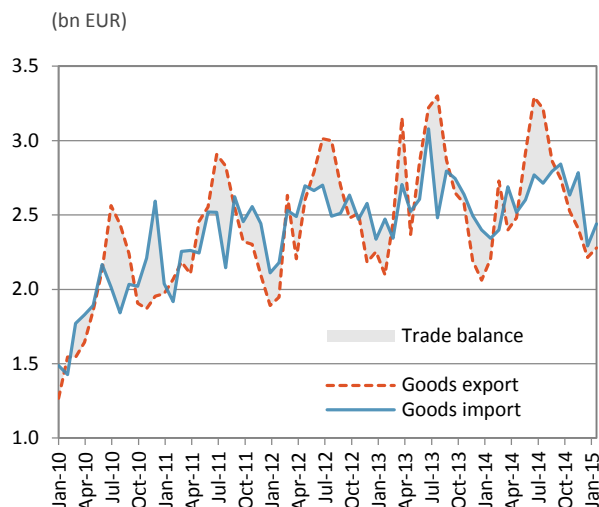
Methodological note on the compilation of the Balance of payments statistics of Bulgaria in accordance with the sixth edition of the IMF Manual

Starting April 2015, BNB is publishing the statistical information on the external sector according to the 6th edition of the IMF methodology on the Balance of payments and the International investment position with data currently revised back to 2007. The main changes in the current account include the reclassification of manufacturing of goods on physical inputs owned by others from Goods to Services. On the other hand, merchandising of goods is reclassified from Services to Goods (i.e. the purchase of goods is negative export and the sale of goods is positive export of goods for the economy of the merchant). As a result in BPM6 the level of both export and import of goods is lower, while services export and import increases compared to BPM5.

There are also some presentational changes, with the Income article renamed (together with some small reclassifications) to Primary income and Current transfers – to Secondary income.

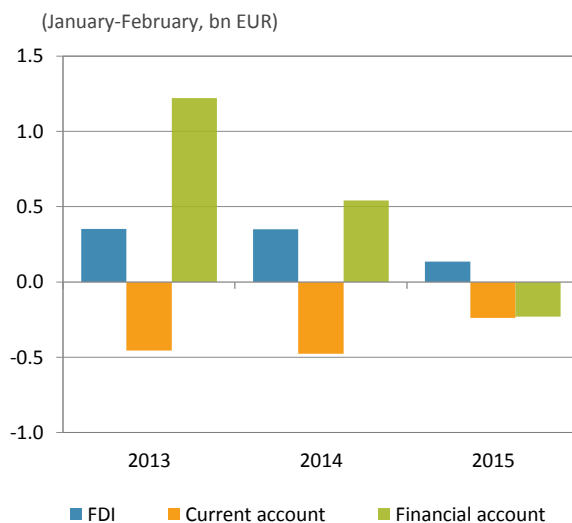
In the financial account, negative signs are no longer used to denote an increase in assets (outflows) and positive signs to denote a reduction in assets (inflows). Instead, a positive number indi-

Fig. 6: Merchandise trade dynamics



Source: BNB

Fig. 7: FDI, Current and Financial Account



Source: BNB

cates an increase in assets or liabilities and a negative number the opposite (a decrease). The balance is calculated as the difference between assets and liabilities. The most important presentational change relates to foreign direct investment, whose standard presentation is now on “gross basis” as assets and liabilities, instead of the former “directional principle” (the flows were grouped according to the initial direction of the transaction – abroad or in the reporting economy – and any following reverse payments or investments in fellow enterprises were netted out). In the new methodology as assets are reported all investments of resident companies in entities abroad.

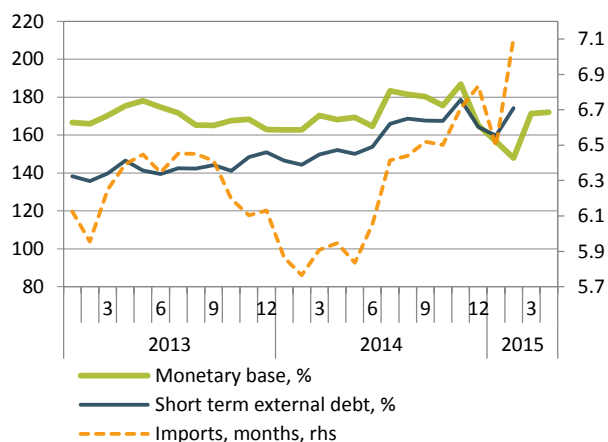
Further information for the introduction of BPM6 can be found on the ECB website and the website of the BNB.

Gross external debt (GED) amounted to EUR 38.67 bn (90.5% of projected GDP) as of end-February. The external debt of the government surged by 61.3% yoy to EUR 5.58 bn (13% of the projected GDP) as of end-February. However, the share of government debt in the total external debt stayed low. Inter-company lending kept its positive trend, going up by 1.5% yoy to EUR 15.74 bn. Banks were reducing their external debt, which reached EUR 5.42 bn (12.7% of GDP), shrinking by 6.2% yoy. It should be noted that banks attracted new foreign deposits in February, unlike previous months when withdrawal of short-term deposits by non-residents was recorded. The external debt of other sectors went down by 2.7% yoy to EUR 11.94 bn as the reduction of short-term liabilities more than compensated the rise of longer term debt. The share of short-term external debt inched up to 25.5% of total GED as of end-February against 25.4% a year earlier.

FINANCIAL SECTOR

International reserves expanded by 2.7% mom in April and reached EUR 19.5 bn at the end of the month. The increase was due mainly to the 10.8% mom growth of the Government deposit at the BNB. Behind it was the positive contribution from the new issue of 10Y BGN-denominated government securities to the amount of BGN 50 mln and the seasonally higher tax revenues. Bank reserves moved in the positive direction, increasing by 2.4% mom. Given their monthly dynamics, international reserves in April continued to accelerate, up

Fig. 8: Coverage with FX Reserves



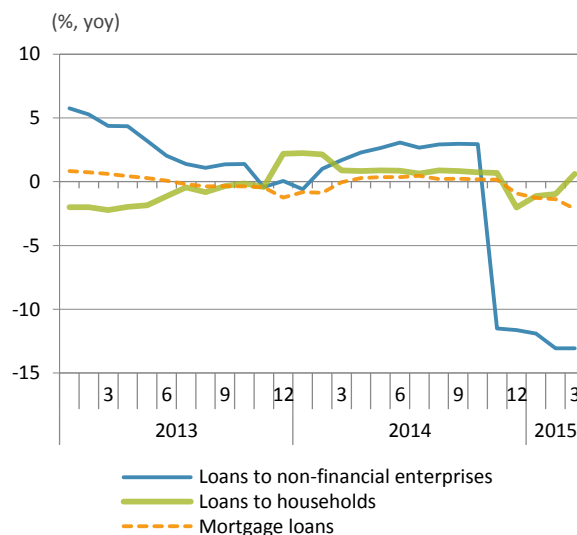
Source: BNB, MF

by 38.4% yoy with bank reserves and the Government deposit having the largest contribution. Monetary base coverage posted a slight improvement to 172.1% at the end of April, being 171.3% in March. As of end-February, the international reserves could cover 7.1 months of imports or 174.2% of the short-term external debt.

Money supply growth marginally slowed to 1.9% yoy at the end of March (vs. 2% in February). Liquid aggregate M1 continued to increase its pace from 15.1% to 15.3% yoy mostly due to the slightly higher growth of overnight deposits (16.4% vs. 16.2% yoy as of end-February). Notes and coins in circulation registered an accelerated annual growth for a fourth consecutive month reaching 13.1% yoy in March. Deposits with agreed maturity slightly deepened their rate of decrease compared to the previous month from 7% to 7.2% yoy, and deposits, redeemable at notice decreased faster as well, down by 7.3% yoy compared to the 6.6% decline a month earlier. Broad money went up by 0.2% over the previous month. Overnight deposits increased by 0.9% mom in March which contributed positively to the 0.4% monthly increase of M1 aggregate. Meanwhile, monthly growth of quasi money stayed close to zero due to the 0.2% mom decrease of deposits with agreed maturity which was partially compensated by the 0.6% mom increase of deposits, redeemable at notice. **Total deposits** grew marginally slower at 0.3% yoy compared to 0.5% at the end of February. Deposits from households slightly picked up from 3.5% in February to 3.8% yoy, while deposits from financial institutions continued to be a negative contributor shrinking by 30.8% yoy vs. 22% yoy decrease a month earlier. Total deposits increased by 0.3% mom in March due to positive developments in deposits of both non-financial enterprises and households.

Credit to the private sector increased by 0.8% mom, returning to positive territory after posting negative monthly rates in January and February. Positive signals came mainly from developments in the corporate segment, up by 0.7% mom, in line with the positive trend in short-term business indicators, while its annual drop stood at 13.1% almost flat over the pre-

Fig. 9: Credit growth



Source: BNB, MF

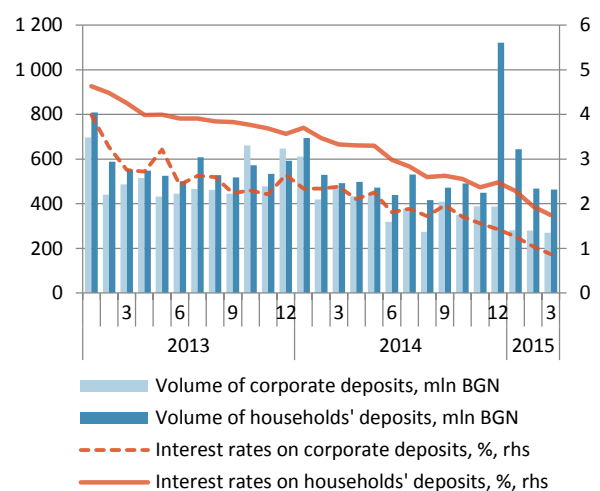
vious month. Consumer credit growth registered a positive monthly and annual growth rates, up by 0.2% and 0.6% respectively. On the contrary, mortgage deals monthly growth was close to zero, while the annual decrease deepened to 2.1% (vs. a decline of 1.4% in February). **Bad and restructured loans** continued to decrease in annual terms and shrank by 4.3% yoy in March. Their share in total credits for firms and households decreased slightly to 18.9% from 19% in February.

Weighted average interest rates on credits to non-financial corporations in March showed volatility and went up by 166 bps over the previous month to 7.7% (vs. 6.1% in February), while the monthly volume of new corporate loans increased for the first time this year and grew by 20.1% yoy. Regarding dynamics in mortgage deals on a year earlier, the price for borrowing funds was higher by 58 bps. On a monthly basis, the price of new mortgages again reported a slight decrease by 6 bps. Weighted average interest rates on time deposits in BGN, EUR and USD all declined in March. The rate on time deposits in BGN decreased by 13 bps mom, down by 151 bps yoy. The monthly volume of new deposits in local currency increased by 3.3% compared to the end of the previous month. The average rate on euro denominated time deposits lost 14 bps. The average rate on dollar denominated time deposits decreased by 25 bps over the previous month. The monthly volume of new deposits amounted to BGN 1.66 bn, down by 20.4% over March 2014.

FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS

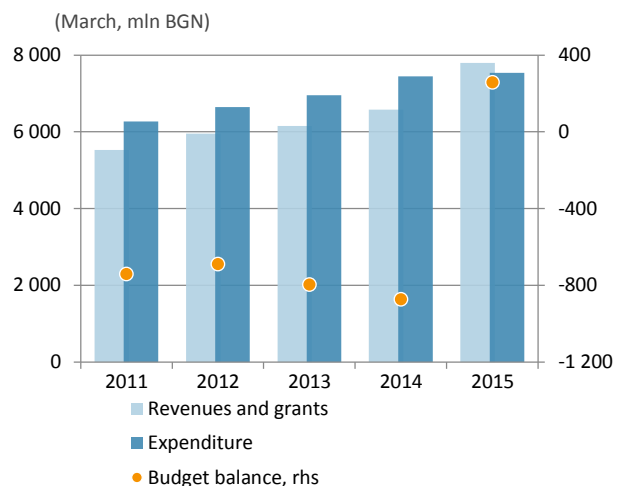
Consolidated budget balance was positive at the end of March accounting for BGN 257.1 mln (0.3% of GDP) on a cash basis. Both the national budget and the EU funds account were on surplus. Total revenue and grants increased by 18.6% yoy in Q1 2015, while total expenditure growth stood at 1.2% yoy. As a result, the balance on the consolidated budget improved significantly compared to end-March 2014, when a deficit of 1.1% of GDP was registered.

Fig. 10: Interest rates and volumes of time deposits in BGN up to 1Y



Source: BNB, MF

Fig. 11: Consolidated budget



Source: MF

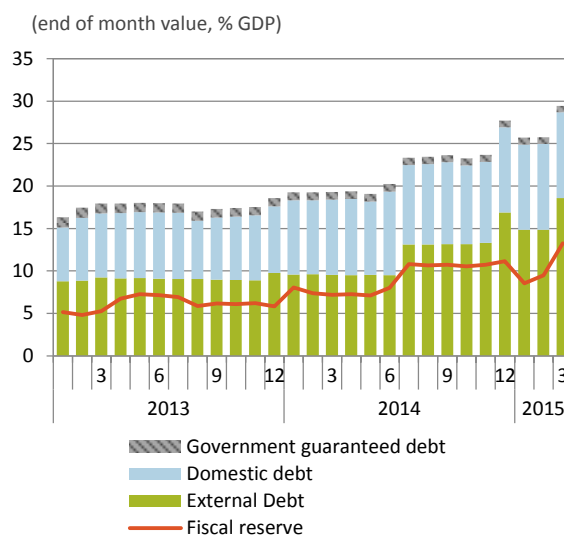
Total tax revenue increased by 14.2% yoy in the first quarter as indirect tax receipts grew by 18% yoy and revenues from social and health insurance contributions were up by 16.4%. Direct taxes increased by 0.9%. Both non-tax revenue and grants grew, the latter being related to a transfer of BGN 522.5 mln that has been received in the EU funds accounts in March as a reimbursement to Bulgaria by the European Commission under the Operational programs and the Rural Development Program.

Consolidated budget expenditure increased by 1.2% yoy for the first three months of the year, with the highest contribution coming from subsidies, as a result of a payment to tobacco producers in March. Interest expenditure grew significantly, up by 31.8% compared to the same period last year. A decline was registered in maintenance and capital expenditure.

Fiscal reserve at end-March accounted for BGN 11.1 bn (13.3% of projected GDP), including BGN 10.1 bn deposits in BNB and banks and BGN 1.0 bn receivables under the EU Funds for certified expenditure, advance payments, etc.

Government debt amounted to BGN 23.9 bn (28.7% of projected GDP) as of end-March. It consisted of 10.1% of GDP domestic debt and 18.6% of GDP external debt. Compared to the previous month external government debt increased by EUR 1590.7 mln, reflecting newly issued Eurobonds on international capital markets. On March 19, 2015, Bulgaria issued triple-tranche benchmark Eurobonds under the Global Medium Term Note (GMTN) Program, which amounted to EUR 3.1 bn in nominal terms. In March, the December 2014 bridge loan amounting to EUR 1.5 bn was entirely redeemed, with funds generated from the transaction on issue of the triple-tranche Eurobonds. **Government guaranteed debt** accounted for 0.8% of GDP. ●

Fig. 12 : GG debt and fiscal reserve



Source: MF

Key Economic Indicators

		Annual data			Quarterly data				Monthly data						
		2012	2013	2014	Q1'14	Q2'14	Q3'14	Q4'14	Oct'14	Nov'14	Dec'14	Jan'15	Feb'15	Mar'15	Apr'15
— GDP															
Gross Domestic Product ¹	% , yoy	0.5	1.1	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Consumption	% , yoy	2.9	-1.3	2.4	3.3	1.2	0.8	1.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross fixed capital formation	% , yoy	2.0	-0.1	2.8	4.8	5.1	4.4	3.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Export	% , yoy	0.8	9.2	2.2	2.1	3.0	-2.8	5.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Import	% , yoy	4.5	4.9	3.8	5.5	3.7	2.6	7.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Agriculture	% , yoy	-7.3	3.3	5.2	-0.3	1.4	3.7	3.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Industry	% , yoy	1.6	-0.1	2.0	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services	% , yoy	-0.8	1.6	1.2	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adjustments	% , yoy	6.9	0.3	2.1	-1.7	1.6	2.5	3.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
— Short-term business statistics															
Industrial production	% , yoy	-0.4	-0.1	1.8	3.3	4.5	-0.5	0.4	-0.5	-1.1	2.9	-0.1	2.5	4.4	-
Industrial turnover	% , yoy	2.3	-1.0	0.0	-6.3	2.8	0.5	2.9	3.2	1.4	4.0	3.9	4.5	16.8	-
Retail trade turnover	% , yoy	5.3	3.8	4.4	7.4	2.1	4.4	4.0	3.6	1.7	6.4	4.3	4.2	0.9	-
Construction output	% , yoy	-0.8	-3.7	1.8	4.1	2.1	-1.0	2.2	3.1	-1.5	5.3	-3.8	-2.1	-0.2	-
Total business climate	balance	14.3	13.0	15.9	14.9	20.0	15.6	12.9	12.9	13.4	12.3	16.1	17.3	18.2	-
Industry	balance	21.3	15.6	18.2	17.8	21.0	18.5	15.5	16.0	14.1	16.5	19.9	22.3	24.6	25.1
Retail trade	balance	16.4	19.7	24.0	22.2	28.8	22.7	22.2	18.7	26.2	21.6	19.6	21.9	20.9	26.2
Construction	balance	0.3	2.0	7.3	1.7	13.2	9.7	4.8	6.2	8.2	0.0	9.8	11.6	8.0	16.4
Services	balance	12.2	12.2	11.7	15.2	16.2	8.9	6.4	7.5	4.7	7.1	11.2	8.2	12.6	10.5
— Labor market															
Participation rate (15+)	level	53.1	53.9	54.1	53.5	54.1	55.2	53.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employment rate (15+)	level	46.6	46.9	48.2	46.5	47.9	49.3	48.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employment (LFS)	% , yoy	-2.5	-0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployment rate (LFS)	level	12.3	12.9	11.4	13.0	11.4	10.8	10.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployment rate (Employment agency)	level	11.1	11.3	11.2	12.2	11.2	10.5	10.7	10.7	10.8	10.7	11.1	11.0	11.0	10.7
Nominal wage	% , yoy	6.6	6.0	6.8	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.6	1.8	2.2	-	-	-	-
Real wage ²	% , yoy	4.1	5.6	8.5	4.2	3.9	3.5	4.1	4.1	3.8	4.3	-	-	-	-
Labor productivity (GDP per employed)	% , yoy	3.1	1.5	1.3	0.7	1.8	1.2	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real ULC (GDP)	% , yoy	2.9	8.0	-0.5	1.7	-1.8	-3.9	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
— Prices															
National index of consumer prices (CPI)	% , yoy	3.0	0.9	-1.4	-2.4	-1.8	-0.8	-0.6	-0.4	-0.6	-0.9	-1.0	-0.5	0.1	0.5
Harmonized index of consumer prices (HICP)	% , yoy	2.4	0.4	-1.6	-1.8	-1.6	-1.2	-1.8	-1.5	-1.9	-2.0	-2.4	-1.7	-1.1	-0.9
Domestic producer prices	% , yoy	5.4	-1.3	-0.9	-2.0	-0.7	-0.8	0.0	0.8	0.3	-0.9	-1.9	-1.2	-0.4	-
— Consolidated fiscal program (cumulative)															
Revenues and grants	mIn BGN	27 470	28 981	29 409	6 576	14 171	21 556	29 409	24 021	26 738	29 407	2 472	4 762	7 796	-
Total expenses	mIn BGN	27 828	30 430	32 482	7 450	15 167	23 035	32 482	25 781	28 339	32 455	2 403	4 867	7 539	-
Contribution to EU budget	mIn BGN	809	934	955	349	562	700	955	743	810	955	76	226	302	-
Cash deficit (-) / surplus (+)	mIn BGN	-358	-1 448	-3 073	-875	-996	-1 479	-3 073	-1 760	-1 601	-3 048	69	-106	257	-
	% of GDP	-0.4	-1.8	-3.7	-1.1	-1.2	-1.8	-3.7	-2.1	-1.9	-3.7	0.1	-0.1	0.3	-
Government debt (incl. guaranteed debt)	mIn BGN	14 683	14 893	22 758	15 836	16 604	19 409	22 758	19 096	19 433	22 758	21 470	21 504	24 606	-
	% of GDP	18.3	18.6	27.7	19.3	20.2	23.6	27.7	23.2	23.7	27.7	25.7	25.7	29.4	-

		Annual data			Quarterly data				Monthly data						
		2012	2013	2014	Q1'14	Q2'14	Q3'14	Q4'14	Oct'14	Nov'14	Dec'14	Jan'15	Feb'15	Mar'15	Apr'15
Fiscal reserve ³	mIn BGN	6 081	4 681	9 170	5 904	6 600	8 824	9 170	8 653	8 824	9 170	7 130	7 940	11 088	-
	%, yoy	21.6	-23.0	95.9	40.0	14.7	77.7	95.9	76.5	76.9	95.9	7.6	31.0	87.8	-
— Financial sector															
BNB International reserves	mIn EUR	15 552	14 426	16 534	13 960	14 323	15 564	16 534	15 580	16 061	16 534	15 647	17 180	18 963	19 467
Monetary base coverage	%	174.9	162.9	165.1	170.4	164.5	180.4	165.1	175.5	186.8	165.1	156.7	147.8	171.3	172.1
Coverage of import with FX reserves	months	6.7	6.1	6.4	5.9	6.1	6.5	6.8	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.5	7.1	-	-
Coverage of short-term external debt	%	150.2	150.9	166.0	149.8	153.8	167.6	164.3	167.5	178.6	164.3	159.6	174.2	-	-
Money M1 (Narrow money)	%, yoy	9.5	17.5	15.1	16.1	16.4	18.7	15.1	18.6	15.3	15.1	14.8	15.1	15.3	-
Money M3 (Broad money)	%, yoy	8.4	8.9	1.1	8.3	7.4	7.2	1.1	6.7	-1.2	1.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	-
Deposits	%, yoy	8.4	9.4	-0.5	8.2	6.6	6.6	-0.5	5.9	-3.1	-0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	-
Credit to private sector	%, yoy	3.0	0.2	-8.2	1.4	2.3	2.6	-8.2	2.3	-7.4	-8.2	-8.4	-9.0	-8.9	-
Credit to non-financial enterprises	%, yoy	5.0	0.1	-11.6	1.7	3.1	3.0	-11.6	3.0	-11.5	-11.6	-11.9	-13.1	-13.1	-
Credit to households	%, yoy	-1.0	-0.2	-1.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	-1.6	0.0	0.0	-1.6	-2.0	-2.0	-1.8	-
Interest rate on short-term loans	%	7.6	7.9	7.4	7.8	7.8	7.1	7.0	5.9	8.3	6.8	6.5	9.4	9.5	-
Interest rate on time deposits	%	4.3	3.5	2.7	3.2	3.0	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.4	2.1	1.7	1.6	-
Exchange rate BGN/USD	eop	1.48	1.42	1.61	1.42	1.43	1.55	1.61	1.56	1.57	1.61	1.73	1.74	1.82	1.74
	per. av.	1.52	1.47	1.47	1.43	1.43	1.48	1.57	1.54	1.57	1.58	1.69	1.72	1.81	1.81
— Gross External Debt (GED)															
Gross external debt	% of GDP	92.2	90.0	94.7	88.5	88.7	92.2	94.7	92.8	92.3	94.7	90.7	90.5	-	-
Short-term external debt	% of GED	27.5	25.9	25.3	25.1	25.0	24.0	25.3	23.9	23.2	25.3	25.3	25.5	-	-
Intercompany lending	% of GED	41.4	41.8	40.7	42.2	43.3	41.6	40.7	41.8	41.4	40.7	40.8	40.7	-	-
— Balance of payments⁴															
Current account	mIn EUR	-108	765	359	-147	-10	1 097	-581	-99	-108	-375	-79	-161	-	-
<i>Current account (moving average)</i>	% of GDP	-0.3	1.9	0.9	2.4	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.4	1.4	-	-
Trade balance	mIn EUR	-3 947	-2 891	-3 429	-1 023	-786	-710	-910	-250	-219	-441	-184	-270	-	-
<i>Trade balance (moving average)</i>	% of GDP	-9.6	-7.0	-8.2	-8.0	-7.8	-8.0	-8.2	-8.0	-8.0	-8.2	-7.5	-7.6	-	-
Export, f.o.b.	mIn EUR	19 668	21 208	21 031	4 570	5 195	5 737	5 530	1 975	1 880	1 676	1 631	1 744	-	-
	%, yoy	3.2	7.8	-0.8	-7.2	0.3	0.5	2.5	1.7	-2.8	10.4	10.8	12.4	-	-
Import, f.o.b.	mIn EUR	23 615	24 099	24 461	5 593	5 981	6 447	6 440	2 225	2 098	2 116	1 816	2 014	-	-
	%, yoy	8.8	2.0	1.5	0.8	-1.1	2.3	3.8	3.3	-2.3	11.3	-4.0	10.8	-	-
Capital account	mIn EUR	546	469	992	127	198	203	465	14	301	149	7	56	-	-
Financial account	mIn EUR	-1 164	1 422	-1 845	375	-434	-656	-1 130	-250	-300	-579	1 233	-1 464	-	-
Net Foreign Direct Investments	mIn EUR	-859	-1 129	-824	-176	-169	-361	-119	-100	-44	26	-100	-44	-	-
Net Portfolio Investments	mIn EUR	2 016	1 161	1 871	150	-72	1 241	553	327	171	56	-506	37	-	-
Other Investments – net	mIn EUR	-350	700	2 056	463	-463	1 219	838	-43	-568	1 449	636	-1 537	-	-
Change in BNB reserve assets	mIn EUR	2 121	-532	1 810	-553	317	1 182	864	31	446	387	-1 165	1 565	-	-

Notes:

1. Reference year 2010, seasonally and working days adjusted data;
2. HICP deflated;
3. Change in the structure of fiscal reserve as of 2014;
4. Data under BPM6.