

BULGARIAN ECONOMY

Monthly Report

3/2018

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Main topics:

- » Short-term Business Statistics
- » Labour market
- » Inflation
- » External Sector
- » Financial sector
- » Fiscal Developments
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Highlights

The **economic climate tracer** in the country moved deeper in the expansion area over the first quarter of 2018, suggesting acceleration of the economic growth.

Short-term business statistics reported weaker performance in February as growth of industrial production, construction output and retail trade slowed down. The **business climate indicator** increased in March due to better assessments in construction and retail trade, while the **consumer confidence indicator** decreased due to some worsening of the expectations regarding the general economic situation in the country.

In March, the **registered unemployment** further decreased to reach 6.8% due to the higher outflow of unemployment.

Consumer prices fell by 0.2% mom on average in March. Meanwhile, **the annual inflation rate** accelerated further to 1.9% yoy. The rate of increase in services prices gained further momentum, thus core inflation stepped up to 1.9% yoy.

In January, the overall **current account balance** came in negative at 0.3% of GDP. The export of goods increased by 18.4% yoy, while import rose by 23.9%, which led to a slight deterioration in the **trade balance** to a deficit of 0.5% of GDP. **Gross external debt** stood at 61.9% of GDP, declining both on a month and a year earlier.

The annual growth rate of **credit to the private sector** slightly accelerated to 5% yoy in February vs 4.8% a month earlier, mainly on the account of households' credit.

Weighted average interest rate on new time deposits increased by 4 bps, largely due to the higher price for attracted funds from non-financial corporations. Meanwhile, **weighted-average interest rate on new credits** to non-financial corporations and consumer loans decreased, down by 38 bps and 26 bps, respectively, while the price of mortgages posted a slight increase, up by 6 bps.

According to monthly data on a cash basis, **the budget balance on the consolidated fiscal programme** (CFP) for the first two months of 2018 was positive, amounting to BGN 0.8 bn (0.7% of projected GDP). The surplus resulted from higher revenues over expenditure on the national budget (0.9% of GDP), while the EU funds account recorded a minor deficit (0.2% of GDP).



SHORT-TERM BUSINESS STATISTICS

The growth of **industrial turnover** slowed down to 0.5% yoy in February compared to an annual increase of 9.8% in the previous month (fig. 1). Foreign industrial sales decreased by 5.4% yoy, while the growth of domestic turnover decelerated to 5.7% yoy (8.6% yoy in January). The unfavourable development covered most of the manufacturing industries and the diffusion index fell below 50 for both domestic and foreign turnover.

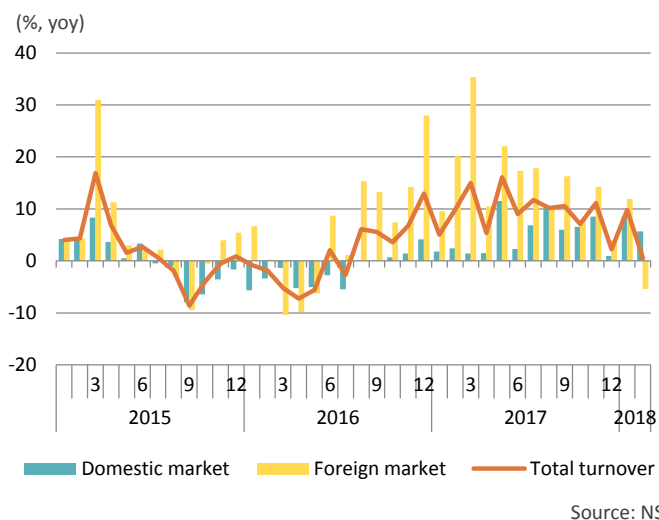
Industrial production also followed a downward trend and the index decreased by 1% compared to the same period of the previous year. Weak performance of *manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment* and the continued decline in *energy products* had major contribution for the slump in industrial activity.

After the strong increase of 28.5% yoy in January, the growth of the **construction production index** moderated to 4.1% yoy in February (fig. 2). Both *building construction* and *civil engineering* contributed to the reported slowdown, up by 7.4% and 0% compared to an annual growth of 37% and 18.5% a month earlier.

The growth of **retail trade** reached 3.1% yoy in February. *Retail sales of medical and orthopaedic goods* posted the largest increase of 15.9%, while *retail trade of automotive fuel, retail sales of textile, clothing, footwear and leather goods* and *sales in non-specialised stores*, reported a decrease of 7.6%, 7.4% and 3.2%, respectively.

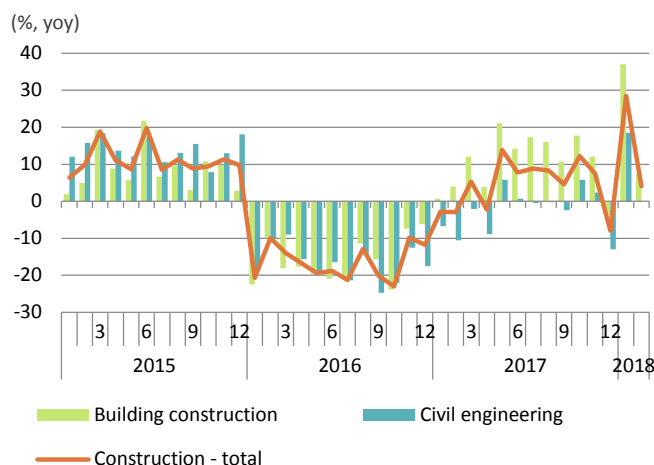
In March, the **overall business climate indicator** increased due to improvement of the assessments in construction and retail trade (fig. 3 and 4). Construction activity expectations were optimistic as an increase in orders was recorded. Expectations for the sales and orders placed with suppliers in retail trade improved, too. Only expectations of respondents in industry and services were more reserved.

Fig. 1: Industrial turnover by components



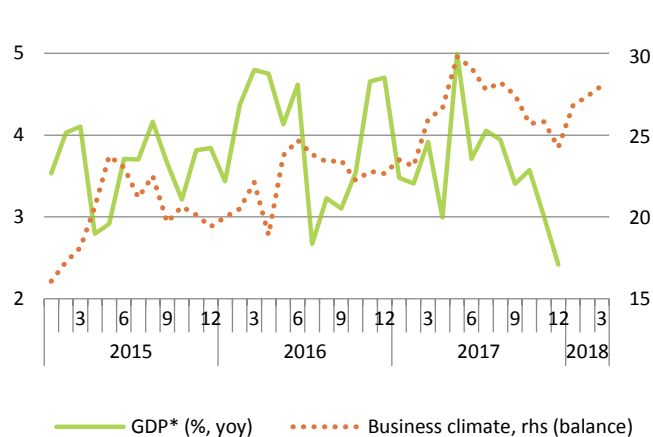
Source: NSI

Fig. 2: Construction production index



Source: NSI

Fig. 3: Business climate and GDP



* Monthly GDP data is obtained using Chow-Lin methodology for temporal disaggregation

Source: NSI, MF

The **consumer confidence indicator** decreased by 1.4 points in March (fig. 5) due to some worsening of the expectations regarding the general economic situation in the country. At the same time, the expectations for the financial situation of households improved.

The **economic climate tracer**¹ in the country moved deeper in the expansion area over the first quarter of 2018 (fig. 6), suggesting acceleration of the economic growth. All sectoral climate tracers were in the expansion quadrant, as well.

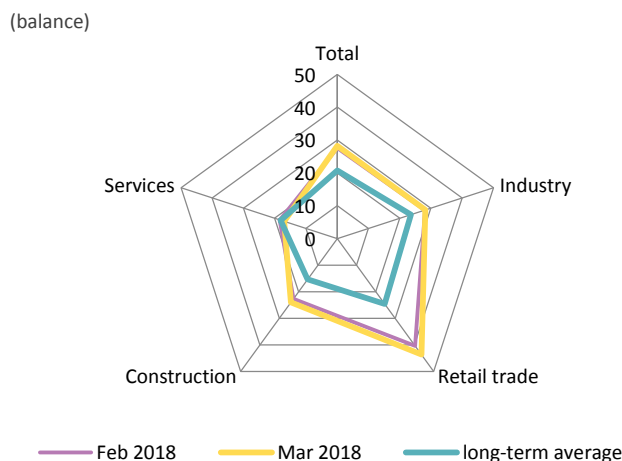
LABOUR MARKET

In March, the **registered unemployment** further decreased to reach 6.8%. The outflow of unemployment was higher by 9 thousand people compared to the inflow, thus resulting in a decrease in the overall unemployed number to 221.6 thousand (fig. 7). The number of persons who found jobs went 22.9% up compared to February largely on the back of people who started working on the primary labour market. This was in line with the revival in the seasonal demand for labour in *hotels and restaurants, agriculture, trade and manufacturing industries*.

INFLATION

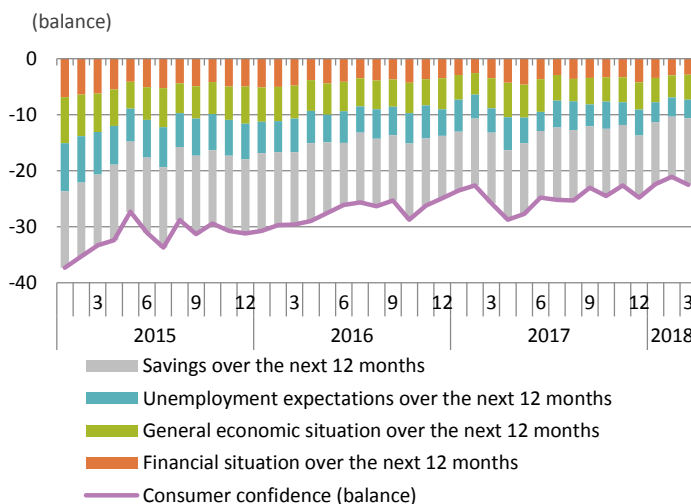
Consumer prices fell by 0.2% mom on average in March with all major HICP components contributing to the decrease in the headline rate, except for alcoholic beverages and tobacco and administered prices. Transport fuels had the largest negative contribution as their prices declined by 1.3% during the month, despite the reported increase in crude oil prices both in dollar and euro terms. The latter could be attributed to the decrease in international prices for this

Fig. 4: Business climate by sectors



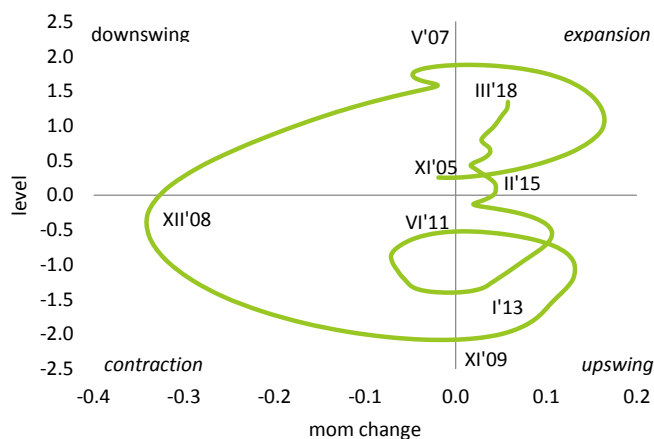
Source: NSI

Fig. 5: Consumer confidence indicator by components



Source: Eurostat

Fig. 6: Climate tracer



Source: Eurostat, MF

¹ The climate tracer illustrates developments in the survey data over the respective quarter. For more information, please refer to Gayer, C (2010) "Report: The Economic Climate Tracer – A tool to visualise the cyclical stance of the economy using survey data" and Gayer, C, J. Genet (2006) "Using Factor Models to Construct Composite Indicators from BCS Data"

commodity in the previous month (fig. 8). Prices of market services also decreased on a month earlier, largely due to lower prices of package holidays, down by 9.4% mom.

Administered prices increased by 0.3%² on average during the month with higher prices for sewerage collection and water purification services, up by 1.2% mom, and postal services, up by 22.5%. As of March 1, “Bulgarian Posts” EAD introduced new prices for some of the services provided under the universal postal service due to the implementation of acts of the Universal Postal Union in force since the beginning of 2018.

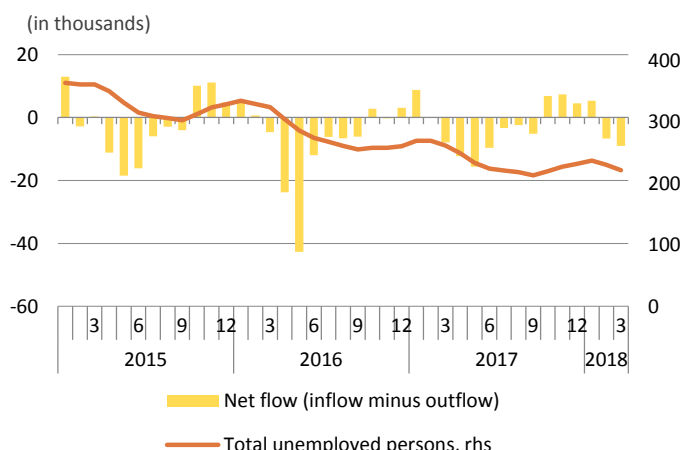
Despite the monthly decline in the headline rate, the **annual inflation rate** accelerated further to 1.9% yoy in March (fig. 9). The rate of increase in services prices gained further momentum, thus core inflation³ stepped up to 1.9% yoy.

EXTERNAL SECTOR

The strong growth in external trade continued in January, as export of goods increased by 18.4% yoy, while import rose by 23.9%. This led to a slight deterioration in the *trade balance* to a deficit of 0.5% of GDP compared to a negative balance of 0.3% twelve months earlier (fig. 10). At the same time, the *services balance* improved in nominal terms, as import declined due to lower transportation and other services import, while export of services remained stagnant. The *balance on Incomes* posted a slight surplus of 0.1% of GDP. The overall **current account balance** came in negative at 0.3% of GDP.

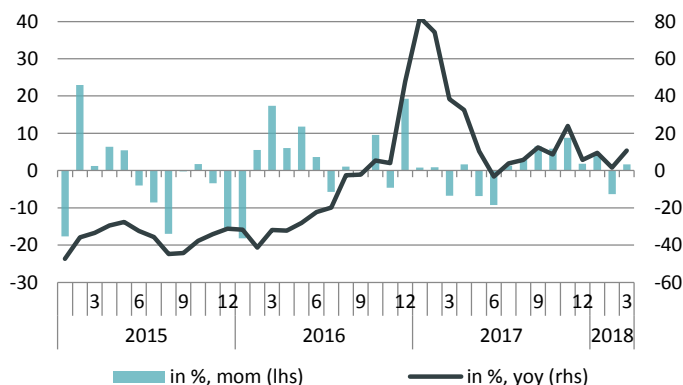
Along with the January data, BNB published regular annual revisions for 2016 and 2017. While there were no significant changes in trade of goods, the services

Fig. 7: Net flow and stock of unemployment



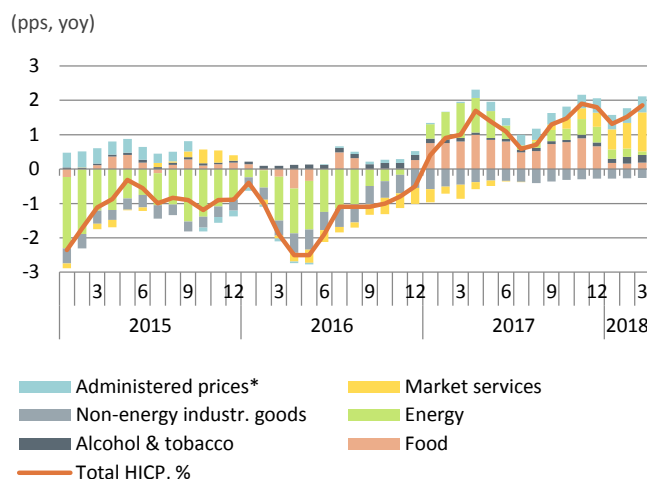
Source: EA

Fig. 8: International prices of Brent in euro



Source: World bank, MF

Fig. 9: Contributions by main HICP components



* The index of administered prices is calculated as a weighted average of all elementary aggregate groups (goods and services) the prices of which are set or influenced to a significant extent by the government.

Source: Eurostat, MF

² The index of administered prices is calculated as a weighted average of all elementary aggregate groups.

³ The total index excluding energy and unprocessed food.

surplus was reduced for 2016, as import of services was revised upwards. The income payments to foreign investors in 2016 were also revised upwards, which led to a primary income deficit of 5.1% in 2016 compared to a negative balance of 2.4% before the revisions. Regarding the significant changes in 2017, secondary income balance was revised up to a higher surplus, due to higher transfers from abroad to the private sector. These changes resulted in a lower current account surplus in 2016 (2.3% of GDP), and a higher positive balance in 2017 (4.5% of GDP). Thus, instead of the previously reported decline in the CA surplus, revised data showed an improvement in 2017 as compared to 2016.

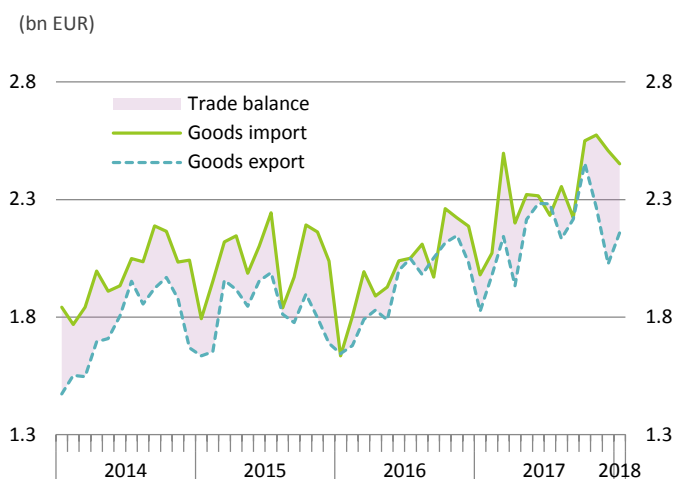
Gross external debt stood at 61.9% of GDP as at end-January, declining both on a month and a year earlier (fig. 11). Net external debt also improved, reaching a negative value of 2.4% of GDP, i.e. the external assets surpassed the gross external debt.

FINANCIAL SECTOR

International reserves posted a 1.8% increase in March, reaching EUR 22.6 bn. The largest contribution to the increase came from bank reserves, which increased by 8.2%. The Government deposit had a negative contribution reporting its first decrease for the quarter, down by 4.5% mom, while currency in circulation went up by 1.4% mom. The monthly increase contributed to the smaller drop in the international reserves on a year earlier (6% vs. 6.9% in the previous month). The Government deposit and bank reserves were the main drivers behind the annual change; meanwhile currency in circulation increased by 11.3% yoy.

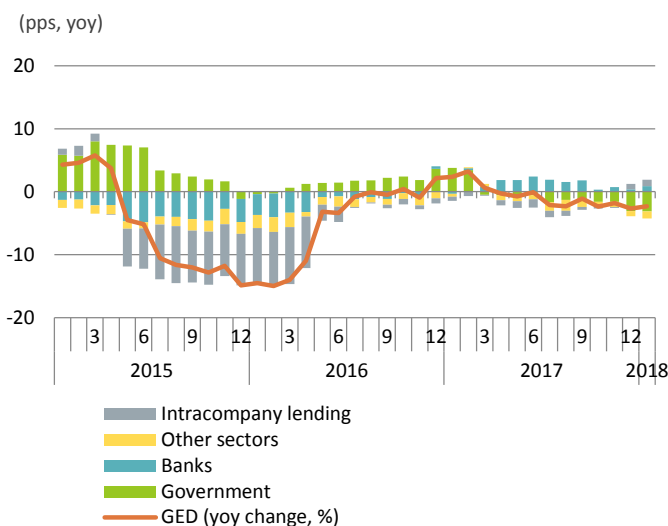
The annual growth of **credit to the private sector** slightly accelerated to 5% yoy in February vs 4.8% a month earlier, largely driven by households' credit. The latter kept its pace of increase at 6.1% yoy. Con-

Fig. 10: Foreign trade



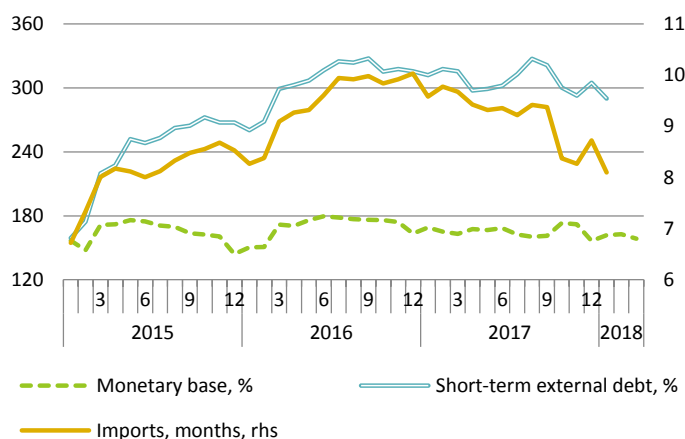
Source: BNB

Fig. 11: Contributions to GED growth



Source: BNB

Fig. 12: Coverage with FX Reserves



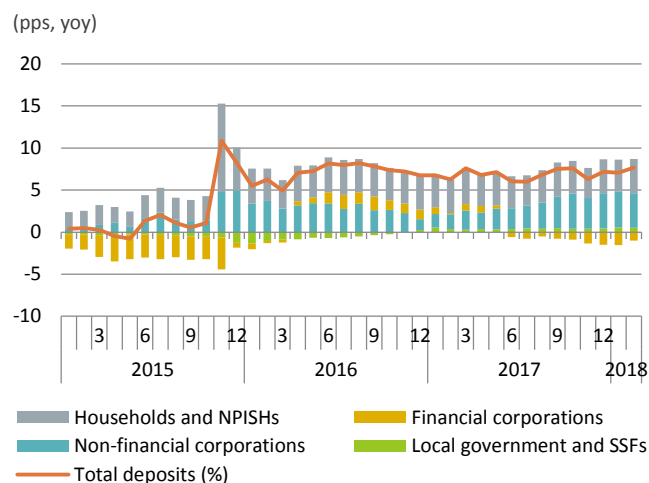
Source: BNB, MF

sidered by components, consumer loans accelerated most to 7% yoy vs. 6.5% in January. Similar dynamics were observed for mortgages, which increased by 8.5% yoy compared to 8.2% in January. "Other credits" decreased by 2% yoy. Corporate loans also contributed to the annual acceleration of private credit, up by 2% yoy vs. 1.6% yoy in the previous month. Bad and restructured credits continued on the decrease, down by 14.6% yoy. Their share in total credits to non-financial corporations and households reached 13.1%.

Weighted-average interest rate on new credits to non-financial corporations decreased by 38 bps in February, while their volume increased marginally by 1.1% mom. The price change was driven mainly by the new EUR denominated corporate loans (down by 132 bps), while those in BGN and USD reported a slight increase compared to January, up by 33 bps and 10 bps respectively. The average price of consumer loans in February decreased by 26 bps, while rates on mortgages reported a slight increase, up 6 bps. The total volume of new corporate and households' credits in February reached BGN 1.55 bn, up by 4% yoy.

Weighted interested rate on new time deposits in February increased by 4 bps due to the higher price of attracted funds from non-financial corporations, which increased by 13 bps mom. Weighted interest rates on new time deposits from households reported a marginal decrease, down by 1 bp mom. In terms of currency structure, the return of BGN denominated deposits remained unchanged, while those denominated in EUR and USD posted an increase of 3 bps and 4 bps, respectively. The total volume of new time deposits reached BGN 1.11 bn in February, down by 2.6% yoy.

Fig. 13: Contributions to annual growth of total deposits by institutional sectors



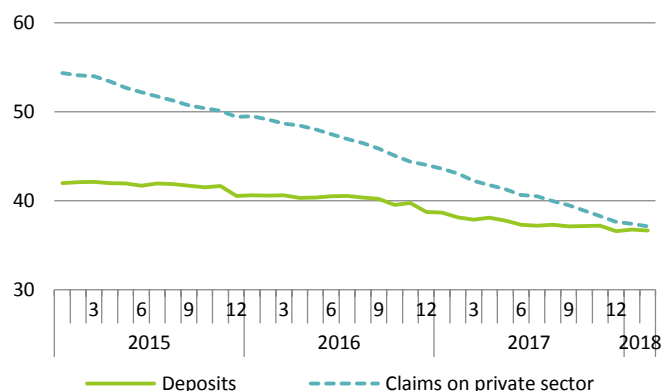
Source: BNB

Table 1: Weighted average interest rate on new credits to households and non-financial companies, in %

	February 2017	January 2018	February 2018
Non-financial companies	4.54	3.82	3.44
Consumer credits	8.40	8.06	7.79
Mortgages	4.24	3.69	3.76

Source: BNB, MF

Fig. 14: Share of deposits and claims on private sector in FX (% of total)



Source: BNB, MF

Table 2: Annual Percentage Rate of Charge on new loans to households

	February 2017	January 2018	February 2018
Consumer credits	10.31	10.30	9.91
Mortgages	4.71	4.08	4.14

* Annual Percentage Rate of Charge on New Business on Loans to Households Sector by Original Maturity. APRC for consumer credits and mortgages are weighted by currency and maturity.

Source: BNB, MF

FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS

According to monthly data on a cash basis, **the budget balance on the consolidated fiscal programme (CFP)** for the first two months of 2018 was positive, amounting to BGN 0.8 bn (0.7% of projected GDP). The surplus resulted from higher revenues over expenditure on the national budget (0.9% of GDP), while the EU funds account recorded a minor deficit (0.2% of GDP).

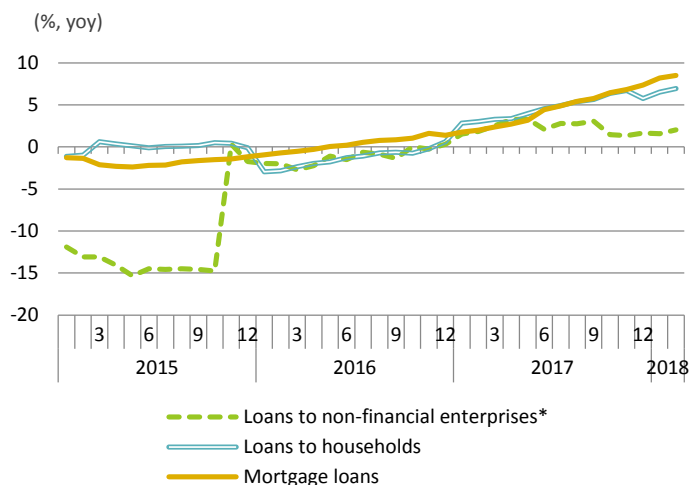
Revenues and grants (fig. 16) totalled BGN 6.2 bn (up 8.4% yoy). Compared to the same period of the previous year, tax and non-tax receipts rose by 14% and 9.5% respectively, while grants came significantly lower (down 87.3%). Indirect tax revenue, up by 10% yoy, had the highest contribution to the overall tax growth, followed by social and health insurance contributions (up 15.9% yoy) and direct tax receipts (29.5% yoy). Proceeds from VAT, excise and custom duties rose 10.9%, 6.6% and 51.3% yoy, respectively.

Consolidated government expenditure (Fig. 17), including the Bulgarian contribution to the EU budget, accounted for BGN 5.5 bn, up by 11.4% yoy. The latter was mostly due to higher personnel costs, as a result of increased remunerations in educational sector. Social payments also had significant contribution, mainly on account of the base effect since the increase of pensions as of July 2017. Investment costs recovered as well, being 58.5% higher in February 2018 compared to February 2017. Current maintenance and interest costs went down by 8.3% and 11.1% yoy respectively.

Fiscal reserve as of February 28, 2018 amounted to BGN 10.7 bn (10.8% of projected GDP), of which BGN 10 bn in bank deposits and BGN 0.7 bn EU funds receivables on certified expenses.

General government debt, incl. guaranteed debt, decreased to BGN 24.5 bn or 23.4% of projected GDP at the end of February, being 27.1% of GDP a year earlier.

Fig. 15: Credit growth



* The double-digit decline, which persisted until October 2015 was due to the statistical effect of the exclusion of Corporate Commercial bank (CCB) as a reporting agent from the monetary statistics data of the sector "Other monetary financial institutions".

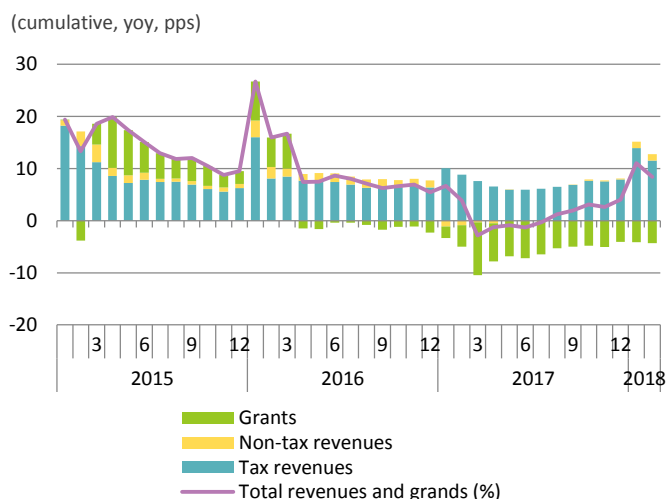
Source: BNB, MF

Table 3: Weighted average interest rate on new time deposits of households and non-financial companies, in %

	February 2017	January 2018	February 2018
BGN	0.28	0.23	0.23
EUR	0.30	0.28	0.31
USD	0.37	0.42	0.69

Source: BNB, MF

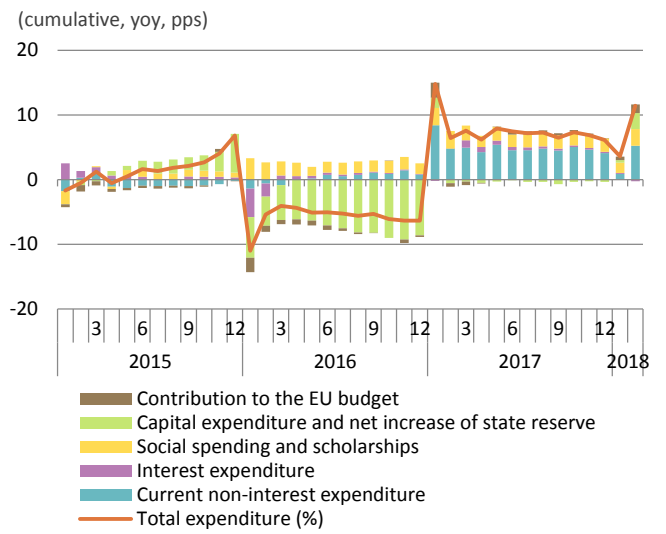
Fig. 16: Contribution to the growth of total revenues and grants



Source: MF

er. Domestic debt stepped down to 5.4% of projected GDP from 6.1% of GDP in February 2017. The external debt-to-GDP-level also moved down from 19.3% to 16.1%. Government guaranteed debt was 1.9% of GDP, being 1.7% of GDP a year earlier.

Fig. 17: Contribution to the growth of total expenditure



Source: MF



KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

		Annual data			Quarterly data				Monthly data						
		2015	2016	2017	Q1'17	Q2'17	Q3'17	Q4'17	09'17	10'17	11'17	12'17	01'18	02'18	03'18
— GDP¹															
Gross Domestic Product	% , yoy	3.6	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.9	3.8	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Consumption	% , yoy	3.8	3.3	4.5	4.2	4.7	4.2	4.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross fixed capital formation	% , yoy	2.7	-6.6	3.8	2.4	4.0	4.2	4.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Export	% , yoy	5.7	8.1	4.0	6.1	3.6	4.6	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Import	% , yoy	5.4	4.5	7.2	9.1	6.2	5.4	8.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Agriculture	% , yoy	-6.8	5.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-1.5	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Industry	% , yoy	4.2	4.0	3.4	3.7	4.1	3.5	2.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services	% , yoy	3.3	3.1	4.2	5.4	4.3	3.6	3.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adjustments	% , yoy	7.5	7.2	2.4	-4.0	2.7	9.0	1.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
— Short-term business statistics²															
Industrial production	% , yoy	2.9	2.7	3.4	3.9	4.9	3.5	1.6	1.8	4.3	1.9	-1.1	5.8	-1.0	-
Industrial turnover	% , yoy	1.7	1.1	9.3	10.0	10.1	10.8	6.7	10.5	7.1	11.1	2.2	9.8	0.5	-
Retail trade turnover	% , yoy	11.8	6.1	3.7	4.8	3.4	2.6	4.0	2.2	3.9	4.0	4.0	5.0	3.1	-
Construction output	% , yoy	11.2	-16.7	4.6	0.1	6.4	7.3	4.2	4.6	12.2	7.6	-7.9	28.5	4.1	-
Total business climate	balance	20.3	22.5	26.6	24.3	28.7	28.0	25.4	27.6	25.8	26.0	24.4	27.0	27.5	28.2
Industry	balance	22.9	23.5	26.9	26.5	27.7	27.8	25.7	28.3	25.5	26.7	24.8	28.6	28.1	28.2
Retail trade	balance	27.6	33.6	37.9	32.1	39.4	40.6	39.5	39.8	38.7	39.7	40.1	40.5	40.4	43.6
Construction	balance	15.2	17.9	24.6	19.0	29.1	27.9	22.2	26.8	25.2	22.5	19.0	19.1	22.7	23.9
Services	balance	12.7	13.8	16.7	17.4	19.6	15.8	13.8	14.8	14.2	14.1	13.2	18.1	18.4	17.0
— Labour market															
Participation rate (15+)	level	54.1	53.3	55.4	53.7	55.8	56.5	55.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employment rate (15+)	level	49.1	49.3	51.9	50.0	52.2	53.2	52.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employment (SNA)	% , yoy	0.4	0.5	1.8	1.2	0.9	2.7	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployment rate (LFS)	level	9.1	7.6	6.2	6.9	6.3	5.8	5.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployment rate (EA)	level	10.1	8.7	7.2	8.1	7.2	6.6	6.9	6.5	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.0	6.8
Nominal wage	% , yoy	6.8	8.0	11.8	9.1	9.9	10.2	10.6	11.5	10.4	10.7	11.0	-	-	-
Real wage ³	% , yoy	8.0	9.5	10.5	8.3	8.4	9.2	8.8	10.1	8.8	8.6	9.0	-	-	-
Labour productivity (GDP per employed)	% , yoy	3.3	3.4	1.7	2.4	2.9	1.1	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real ULC (GDP)	% , yoy	0.1	0.1	4.5	3.1	1.6	5.8	7.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nominal ULC (GDP)	% , yoy	2.3	2.3	5.7	2.6	4.1	7.5	8.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
— Prices															
National consumer price index (CPI)	% , yoy	-0.1	-0.8	2.1	1.7	2.3	1.6	2.7	2.1	2.5	3.0	2.8	1.8	2.0	2.2
Harmonized index of consumer prices (HICP)	% , yoy	-1.1	-1.3	1.2	0.8	1.4	0.9	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.9	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.9
PPI, domestic market	% , yoy	-1.6	-2.9	4.2	2.3	3.4	5.7	5.5	6.0	5.5	5.8	5.1	5.6	4.4	-
PPI, non-domestic market	% , yoy	-2.4	-3.5	6.0	9.6	5.6	4.8	4.6	5.3	5.8	5.6	2.3	2.1	-0.5	-
— Consolidated fiscal program (cumulative)															
Revenues and grants	mIn BGN	32 200	33 959	35 316	8 838	17 483	26 152	35 316	26 151	29 167	31 903	35 315	3 706	6 212	-
Total expenditure	mIn BGN	34 685	32 491	34 471	7 781	15 737	23 732	34 471	23 731	26 673	29 518	34 470	2 544	5 460	-
Contribution to EU budget	mIn BGN	946	859	888	214	488	677	888	677	746	816	888	84	220	-
Cash deficit (-) / surplus (+)	mIn BGN	-2 485	1 468	846	1 058	1 746	2 420	846	2 421	2 493	2 386	845	1 162	752	-
	% of GDP	-2.8	1.6	0.9	1.1	1.8	2.5	0.9	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.9	1.1	0.7	-
Government debt (incl. guaranteed debt)	mIn BGN	23 300	27 424	25 531	26 886	27 212	25 479	25 531	25 479	25 539	25 518	25 531	24 461	24 463	-
	% of GDP	26.3	29.1	25.9	27.3	27.6	25.6	25.6	25.8	25.9	25.9	25.9	23.4	23.4	-
Fiscal reserve	mIn BGN	7 873	12 883	10 289	12 574	13 174	11 867	10 289	11 867	12 013	11 916	10 289	11 186	10 687	-
	% , yoy	9.1	63.6	-20.1	6.0	-6.8	-16.9	-20.1	-16.9	-15.9	-16.8	-20.1	-19.2	-21.3	-

		Annual data			Quarterly data				Monthly data						
		2015	2016	2017	Q1'17	Q2'17	Q3'17	Q4'17	09'17	10'17	11'17	12'17	01'18	02'18	03'18
— Financial sector															
BNB International reserves	mIn EUR	20 285	23 899	23 662	24 044	23 970	24 551	23 662	24 551	22 230	22 198	23 662	22 264	22 215	22 606
Monetary base coverage	%	144.3	163.4	156.4	163.0	168.4	161.2	156.4	161.2	173.2	172.0	156.4	161.8	162.7	158.6
Coverage of import with FX reserves	months	8.5	10.0	8.7	9.6	9.3	9.3	8.7	9.3	8.4	8.3	8.7	8.1	-	-
Coverage of short-term external debt	%	267.5	315.7	304.6	315.6	302.1	321.1	304.6	321.1	300.1	292.7	304.6	289.9	-	-
Money M1 (Narrow money)	%, yoy	15.6	13.5	16.9	17.7	15.2	16.3	16.9	16.3	16.2	15.0	16.9	16.9	17.6	-
Money M3 (Broad money)	%, yoy	8.8	7.6	7.7	8.5	7.0	8.2	7.7	8.2	8.2	7.0	7.7	7.7	8.1	-
Deposits	%, yoy	8.2	6.7	7.2	7.6	6.0	7.5	7.2	7.5	7.6	6.3	7.2	7.1	7.7	-
Credit to private sector	%, yoy	-1.2	1.5	4.8	3.8	4.2	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.2	4.2	4.8	4.8	5.0	-
Credit to non-financial enterprises	%, yoy	-1.7	0.3	1.7	2.5	2.1	3.1	1.7	3.1	1.5	1.3	1.7	1.6	2.0	-
Credit to households	%, yoy	-1.3	2.0	6.0	4.7	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.9	6.3	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.1	-
Interest rate on credits ⁴	%	7.0	5.8	4.3	5.1	4.7	4.4	4.2	4.4	3.9	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.4	-
Interest rate on deposits ⁵	%	1.3	0.8	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	-
Exchange rate BGN/USD	eop	1.79	1.86	1.63	1.83	1.71	1.66	1.63	1.66	1.68	1.65	1.63	1.57	1.60	1.59
	per. av.	1.76	1.77	1.74	1.84	1.78	1.67	1.66	1.64	1.66	1.67	1.65	1.60	1.58	1.59
— Gross External Debt (GED)															
Gross external debt	% of GDP	73.6	71.1	66.1	67.6	67.9	66.1	66.1	66.1	65.4	65.5	66.1	61.9	-	-
Short-term external debt	% of GED	22.2	22.1	23.3	22.3	23.2	22.9	23.3	22.9	22.5	22.9	23.3	23.2	-	-
Intercompany lending	% of GED	38.1	36.2	38.1	36.9	36.3	37.3	38.1	37.3	37.5	37.7	38.1	38.3	-	-
— Balance of payments⁶															
Current account	mIn EUR	-17	1 091	2 269	-98	581	2 250	-464	422	66	-190	-339	-140	-	-
<i>Current account (moving average)</i>	% of GDP	0.0	2.3	4.5	2.4	2.7	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.1	-	-
Trade balance	mIn EUR	-2 622	-984	-2 074	-603	-407	-179	-885	-7	-95	-308	-483	-292	-	-
<i>Trade balance (moving average)</i>	% of GDP	-5.8	-2.0	-4.1	-2.6	-2.9	-3.1	-4.1	-3.1	-3.0	-3.5	-4.1	-4.1	-	-
Export, f.o.b.	mIn EUR	21 919	23 104	25 754	5 945	6 431	6 631	6 747	2 216	2 455	2 267	2 025	2 160	-	-
	%, yoy	4.2	5.4	11.5	16.3	14.5	9.0	7.2	8.1	16.0	5.6	-0.3	18.4	-	-
Import, f.o.b.	mIn EUR	18 678	24 088	27 829	6 548	6 838	6 811	7 632	2 224	2 550	2 575	2 508	2 452	-	-
	%, yoy	-21.5	29.0	15.5	20.6	16.7	11.1	14.4	12.9	12.8	15.9	14.7	23.9	-	-
Capital account	mIn EUR	1 422	1 070	526	113	81	144	188	17	40	52	96	16	-	-
Financial account	mIn EUR	-738	-356	2 320	-336	232	1 325	1 099	193	2 376	-254	-1 023	1 379	-	-
Net Foreign Direct Investments	mIn EUR	-2 329	-356	-688	-222	-160	-97	0	64	-26	-166	-17	-162	-	-
Net Portfolio Investments	mIn EUR	44	2 198	878	-29	348	-193	752	163	517	26	209	240	-	-
Other Investments – net	mIn EUR	-4 603	1 734	843	-136	378	126	476	82	1 520	29	-1 074	1 235	-	-
Change in BNB reserve assets	mIn EUR	3 730	3 467	-99	77	96	597	-869	126	-2 339	-3	1 473	-1 359	-	-

Notes:

Ratios to GDP are calculated using GDP data as follows: for 2015 - BGN 88 571.3 mln, for 2016 – BGN 94 129.9 mln, for 2017 – BGN 98 631.1 and MF projections for 2018 - BGN 104 674.4 mln;

1. Growth rates derived from chain-linked (2010) level series, not seasonally adjusted data;
2. Not seasonally adjusted data;
3. HICP deflated;
4. Weighted average interest rate on new credits to households, NPISHs and non-financial companies by type, currency and maturity;
5. Weighted average interest rate on new time deposits of households, NPISHs and non-financial companies by type, currency and maturity;
6. Analytical presentation (BPM6).

This issue of the Monthly Report on Bulgarian Economy is based on materials and statistical data received up to April 16, 2018. 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.

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