

General notes: Bulgaria

Source for Table 1: Eurostat.

Source for all other tables: Българска народна банка (Bulgarian National Bank), unless otherwise indicated

Table 1: Basic statistical data

Population

Annual average

Exchange rate

A currency board has been in place in Bulgaria since 1997 (EUR 1 = BGN 1.95583).

Table 2: Settlement media used by non-MFIs

Value of overnight deposits held at MFIs

Overnight deposits held at MFIs (excluding ECB). The counterpart sector “non-MFIs” includes the component sectors “Central government” and “Rest of the world”. Thus, this indicator is not synonymous with the same term used in the ECB concept of narrow money supply (M1).

Table 3: Settlement media used by credit institutions

Overnight deposits held at other credit institutions

Starting from 2004 the data refer to the amount of BGN overnight deposits of MFIs held at resident credit institutions at the end of the reference quarter.

Table 4: Banknotes and coins

“Currency in circulation” indicator also includes commemorative coins.

As of 1 January 2016, the 1 lev banknote, issued in 1999, is no longer legal tender. It can be exchanged at the teller desks of Българска народна банка (Bulgarian National Bank) for its nominal value with no limit on the amount of banknotes that can be exchanged, no fees and no deadline for exchange.

Therefore, this 1 lev banknote, which was issued in 1999 and is still in circulation, is included in the value of the “Currency in circulation” indicator but is not part of the structure of the “Total banknotes in circulation” indicator, in accordance with payments statistics requirements.

Table 5: Institutions offering payment services to non-MFIs

Since 2004 the data on offices refer to the total number of places of business offering payment services set up in the territory of the country.

For prior periods the number of offices does not include all structures through which banks operate, but only those which take part in the payment system.

Additional information is available on Bulgarian National Bank’s website at

<http://www.bnb.bg/RegistersAndServices/index.htm>

Tables 7a and 8a: Payments per type of payment service involving non-MFIs: number/value of transactions

Transactions per type of payment instrument: Credit transfers. Direct debits

Since 2010 the data for credit transfers and direct debits include all transactions. For prior periods only interbank transactions are included.

Tables 7b and 8b: Payments per type of terminal involving non-MFIs: number/value of transactions

Transactions at terminals provided by resident PSPs with cards issued by resident PSPs and transactions at terminals provided by resident PSPs with cards issued by non-resident PSPs

Most of the reporting agents are not able to distinguish prepaid card transactions at their terminals. Therefore some prepaid card transactions are reported under the

item "POS transactions (except e-money transactions)" instead of the item "E-money payments with cards with an e-money function".

Reference year – 2013

Volume and value of SEPA credit transfers:

volume – 433,463

value in EUR millions – 6,443.545

SEPA direct debit was not used in Bulgaria in 2013.

Reference year – 2012

Volume and value of SEPA credit transfers:

volume – 343,588

value in EUR millions – 5,441.499

SEPA direct debit was not used in Bulgaria in 2012.

Reference year – 2011

Volume and value of SEPA credit transfers:

volume – 173,646

value in EUR millions – 2,685.160

SEPA direct debit was not used in Bulgaria in 2011.

Reference year – 2010

Volume and value of SEPA credit transfers:

volume – 125,682

value in EUR millions – 2,047.293

SEPA direct debit was not used in Bulgaria in 2010

Tables 10 and 11: Payments processed by selected payment systems: number/value of transactions

RTGS

RINGS. Has been in live operation since 2 June 2003.

The items “Total transactions sent”, “Card payments” and “ATM transactions” in Tables 10 and 11 for the retail system BORICA include only the interbank transactions in the country made by cards issued in the country.

TARGET2-BNB

As of 1 February 2010 Bulgarian National Bank is a connected central bank in TARGET2 and operates the national TARGET2 component system, TARGET2-BNB.

BISERA7-EUR

As of 1 February 2010 a new retail payment system for payments in euro is in operation (BISERA7-EUR). BISERA7-EUR processes only SEPA payments. The value and volume of transactions are shown in Tables 10 and 11 and are also included in the information above on SEPA credit transfers.