



БЪЛГАРСКА ТЪРГОВСКО-ПРОМИШЛЕНА ПАЛАТА
BULGARIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

BULGARIA IN FIGURES®

10th
anniversary
edition

2019

**The brochure has been compiled
by courtesy of:**

**National Statistical Institute,
Bulgarian National Bank and
InvestBulgaria Agency.**



Dear business partners,

I have the privilege to present to your attention the 10th anniversary edition of the brochure “Bulgaria in figures” of the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), which reports on the most important indicators of the country’s economic development. In it you will find information about the macroeconomic data of the country, education, tourism, and other sectors.

We are pleased that Bulgaria has not only maintained, but also managed to improve its position in a number of international rankings. Our country has once again registered higher GDP growth than the EU average. This, coupled with the stable macroeconomic indicators – low government debt, budget surplus, accompanied by some of the lowest corporate and personal income tax rates in the EU, makes Bulgaria an attractive investment destination. We remind investors that they can benefit from the opportunity of a zero percent corporate income tax in regions with 25% or higher unemployment rate than the country’s average, as well as a number of other incentives: <http://www.investbg.government.bg/en/pages/11-investment-incentives-184.html>.

International cooperation and the expansion of commercial relations are leading lines in the Chamber’s activity. BCCI aims to create opportunities, to direct both companies and the competent public institutions to ambitious and pragmatic steps that promote and create business partnerships.

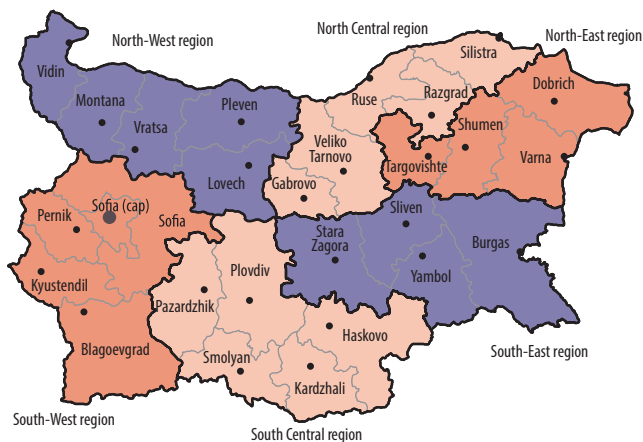
Every entrepreneur who has chosen the good conditions of our country is welcome at BCCI. The limited volume of the brochure does not allow us to go into details that may be important to you, but if you are interested in carrying out joint projects, events or research with the Chamber, contact us at: office@bccibg.org. Remember that BCCI is and will always be a trusted data source.

Hoping that you will find the provided information useful, I remain

Yours sincerely,

*Tsvetan Simeonov
BCCI President*

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA



General data

State government: Parliamentary Republic

Head of state: President

Head of government: Prime Minister

Capital: Sofia

Area: 111 001.9 sq.km.

Administrative and territorial division: 28 districts and 265 municipalities, 6 regions

Population: 7 000 039 persons as of 31.12.2018

Official language: Bulgarian

Religion: Mostly Eastern Orthodox Christians

National currency: LEV (BGN – fixed to the Euro, 1 EUR = 1.95583 BGN, since 1997)

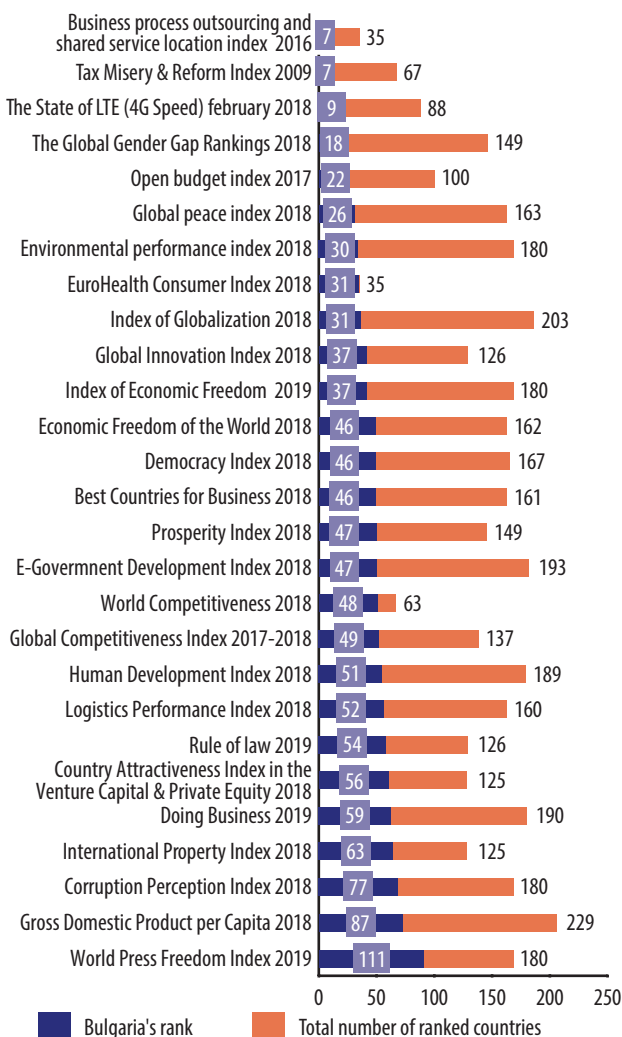
BULGARIA IN THE INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

Bulgaria has competitive positions in the different international indices. According to the following rankings the country has the best performance in terms of business process outsourcing (BPO), low taxes and 4G speed.

For more information:

<https://www.bcci.bg/economic-analyses-en.html>

Bulgaria in international rankings



Source: Respective websites

Facts about Bulgaria

- ▲ EU, NATO and WTO Membership
- ▲ Strategic geographical location and openness to foreign markets: crossroad between Europe, Asia and Africa
- ▲ Stability in financial environment: Bulgaria's debt is the third lowest in the EU 28 (22.6% of GDP) as of 2018
- ▲ Business-friendly environment: Simple and low taxation
- ▲ Competitive operational costs and competitive labour level

Main indicators – actual data

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
GDP (mill. EUR)	42 823	45 288	48 128	51 622	55 181
GDP real growth rate (%)	1,8	3,5	3,9	3,8	3,1
Inflation (%)	-1,4	-0,1	-0,8	2,1	2,8
Government deficit/surplus (% of GDP)	-5,4	-1,7	0,1	1,2	2,0
Exports (mill. EUR)	22 105	22 982	24 126	27 916	28 247
Imports (mill. EUR)	26 126	26 357	26 181	30 286	32 169
Employment rate (%)	61,0	62,9	63,4	66,9	67,7
Unemployment rate (%)	11,4	9,1	7,6	6,2	5,2

Source: Eurostat, Bulgaria National Bank, National Statistical Institute

Macroeconomic forecast

	2019	2020	2021	2022
GDP (mill. EUR)	59 022	62 800	66 705	70 780
GDP (real growth rate %)	3,4	3,3	3,3	3,3
Exports (real growth rate %)	1,8	2,0	1,8	1,7
Imports (real growth rate %)	5,0	3,3	3,2	3,2
Average inflation rate (%)	1,8	2,5	2,3	2,2
Unemployment rate (%)	4,6	4,1	4,0	4,0

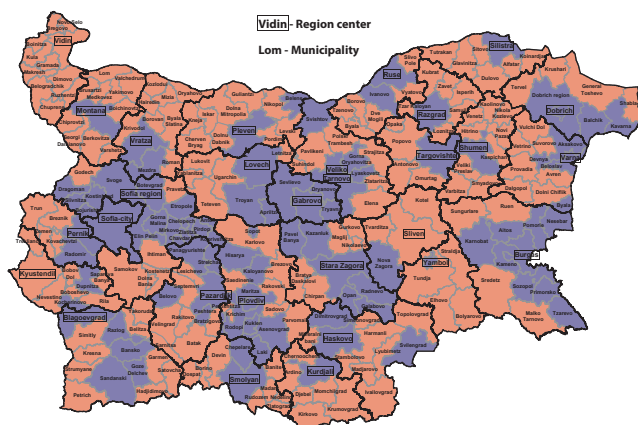
Source: Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Bulgaria

FOCUS ON TAXATION

Flat-tax system is introduced in Bulgaria – a single 10% rate applied on personal income and a 10% rate applied on corporate income. Value-added tax in Bulgaria is 20%, with the exception of hotel services, where a reduced rate of 9% is applied.

In Bulgaria taxpayers are released from payment of corporate tax in regions with high unemployment rates. In 2018 about 2/3 of municipalities – 169 (of total 265 in Bulgaria) had 25% higher than the average rate of unemployment for the country and there is 0% corporate income tax.

Unemployment by municipalities – 0% corporate tax in regions shown in orange

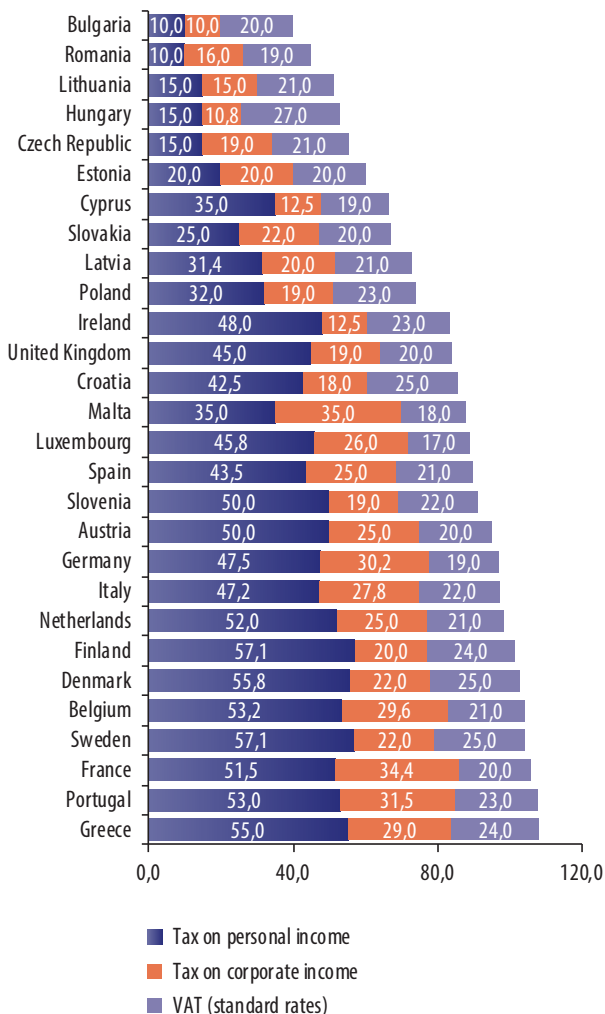


- Municipalities with an unemployment rate lower than the country's average or an unemployment rate equal to or higher than the country's average (Art. 3, (8) RAIPA)
- Municipalities with an unemployment rate 25% higher than the country's average (Art. 183, (1) CITA; Art. 3, (8) RAIPA)

Source: Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
Ministry of finance of the Republic of Bulgaria

Bulgaria is the third least tax burdened country in the EU as of 2017: The overall tax-to-GDP ratio in Bulgaria is 29.5% for 2017, compared to an EU average of 40.2%.

Top statutory income tax rates and standard VAT rates (2018), %



Source: Eurostat

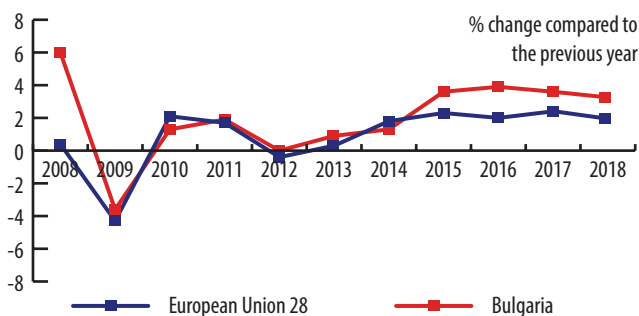
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

In the recent years the Bulgarian economy has been growing steadily, with higher rates than the EU average.

Over 2015 economic activity in Bulgaria accelerated significantly. In 2018 real growth of GDP in Bulgaria reached 3.1% (3.8% in 2017) according to provisional data.

Growing domestic demand was the main driver for GDP and it is expected to remain in the next two years.

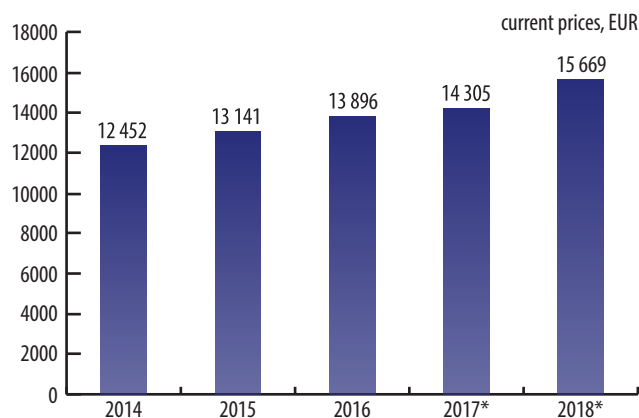
Real GDP growth rate



Source: Eurostat

Over the past five years the GDP per employed has grown. The main factor of growth has been the increase of Gross Value Added in the economy.

GDP per employed



* Preliminary data

Source: National Statistical Institute,
Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Gross Domestic Product and Gross Value Added by economic sectors and economic activity groupings at current year prices

Million EUR

Economic sectors and economic activity groupings	2014	2015	2016	2017*	2018*
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1 952	1 873	1 952	2 103	2 013
Mining, quarrying and manufacturing	8 494	9 210	10 130	10 900	11 066
Construction	1 647	1 699	1 626	1 844	2 043
Wholesale and retail trade	7 918	8 633	9 188	9 911	10 803
Information and communication	2 063	2 072	2 566	2 736	2 941
Financial and insurance activities	2 545	2 738	3 000	2 985	3 267
Real estate activities	3 895	3 852	3 976	4 509	4 996
Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	2 118	2 464	2 603	2 713	2 886
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	5 622	5 643	5 541	6 117	6 758
Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services	932	955	945	989	1 040
Gross Value Added	37 187	39 140	41 526	44 807	47 812
Adjustments (taxes less subsidies on products)	5 637	6 148	6 602	6 856	7 369
Gross Domestic Product	42 824	45 288	48 128	51 662	55 181

* Preliminary data

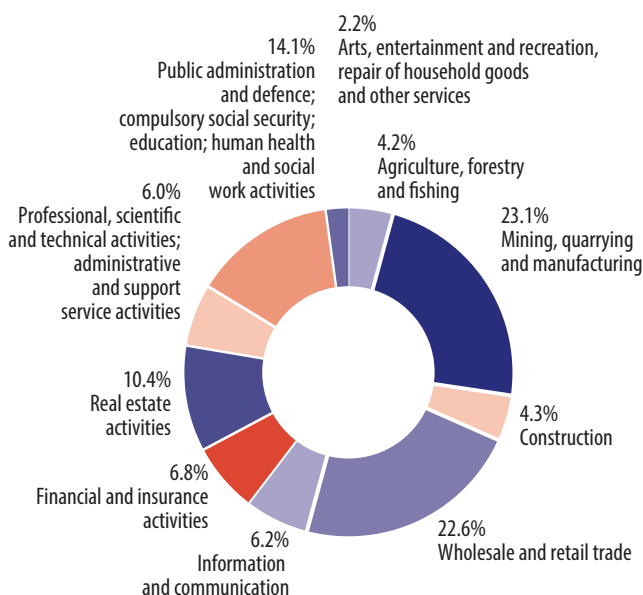
Source: National Statistical Institute,
Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

In 2018 Real estate activities, Financial and insurance activities and Construction were the most important engines for the growth in the gross value added compared to 2017.

The sectors that reported the largest contribution to GDP in 2018 (share of 46%) were Mining, quarrying and manufacturing and Wholesale and retail trade.

The relative share of industry in the GVA of the national economy is 28%. The services sector creates 68% of the total GVA and agriculture – 4%.

Structure of Gross Value Added by economic sectors and economic activity groupings in 2018



Source: National Statistical Institute,
Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

EXPORT

Exports have made strong contribution to GDP.

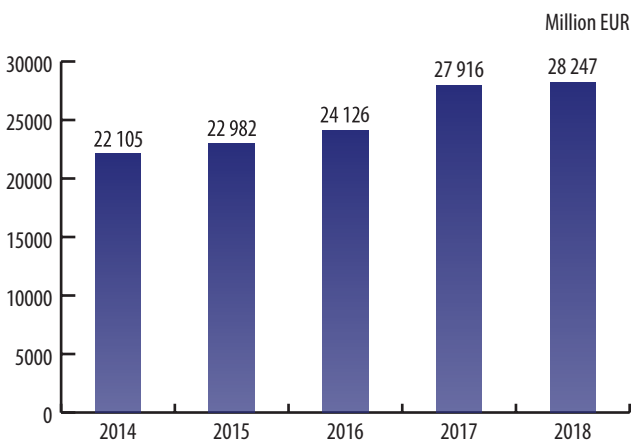
Despite volatility in the world economic environment and the softer slowdown in exports to some of the large trade partners (Turkey and the Russian Federation), Bulgaria's export of goods and services picked up.

Exports (FOB) in 2018 amounted to EUR 28.2 billion. From all commodity grouping exports of Electrical machines, Iron and Steel and Spare parts and equipment reported the highest growth compared to 2017. The upward trend in exports of machines is expected to be sustained also in 2019 due to growing external demand.

In 2018 the exportation of Bulgaria to the EU Member States registered a 9.1% increase compared to the previous year. Exports to Germany, Italy and Romania contributed most perceptibly to the growth.

There is an increasing external demand of Bulgarian goods, which reflects and strengthens the competitiveness of the Bulgarian economy.

Exports by years



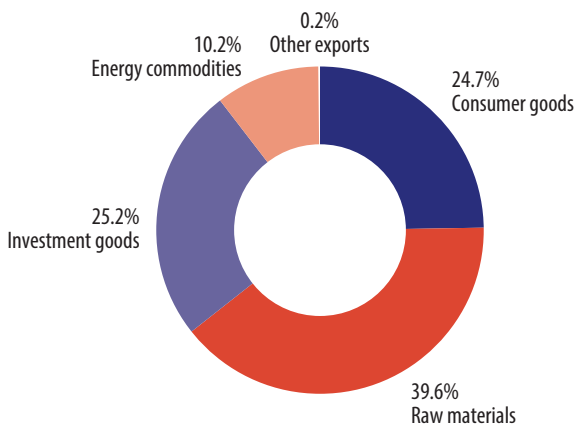
Source: Bulgarian National Bank

Exports by commodity groups

Years	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Consumer goods	5 212	5 736	6 096	6 849	6 987
Food	1 089	1 197	1 332	1 649	1 698
Tobacco	215	226	205	138	93
Beverages	101	85	90	102	113
Clothing and footwear	1 554	1 609	1 583	1 661	1 614
Medicines and cosmetics	803	929	974	1 103	1 093
Furniture and household appliances	775	880	990	1 087	1 122
Others	674	810	923	1 108	1 255
Raw materials	9 679	9 121	9 409	10 878	11 197
Iron and steel	618	549	412	536	663
Non-ferrous metals	2 408	2 231	2 296	2 821	2 739
Chemicals	311	335	379	422	459
Plastics and rubber	658	718	801	955	1 006
Fertilizers	169	192	244	214	190
Textiles	400	423	477	560	593
Raw materials for the food industry	2 310	1 844	1 782	1 893	1 960
Wood products, paper and paperboard	440	475	490	523	526
Cement	22	17	24	33	23
Raw tobacco	168	133	127	128	119
Others	2 176	2 205	2 377	2 794	2 919
Investment goods	3 970	4 302	4 881	7 023	7 116
Machines and equipment	1 142	1 209	1 249	1 558	1 638
Electrical machines	548	502	558	815	1 009
Vehicles	410	410	473	635	579
Spare parts and equipment	1 062	1 149	1 271	1 574	1 755
Others	808	1 032	1 331	2 441	2 135
Total non energy commodities	18 861	19 160	20 386	24 750	25 300
Energy commodities	3 385	2 911	2 555	3 109	2 888
Petroleum products	2 904	2 369	1 904	2 259	2 066
Others	481	543	651	850	822
Other Exports	26	34	41	56	59
TOTAL EXPORTS /FOB/	22 271	22 105	22 982	27 916	28 247

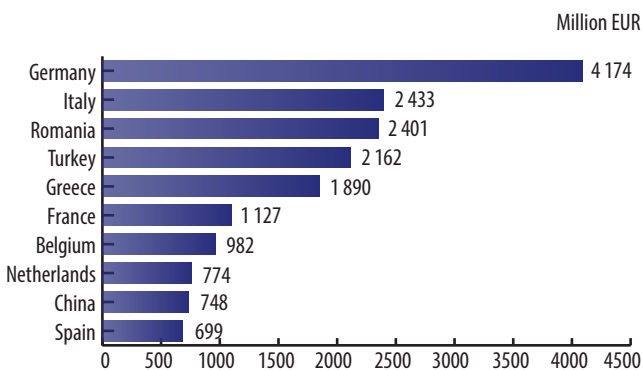
Source: Bulgarian National Bank

Structure of exports by commodity groups in 2018



Source: Bulgarian National Bank

Exports to the TOP 10 Bulgarian trade partner countries in 2018



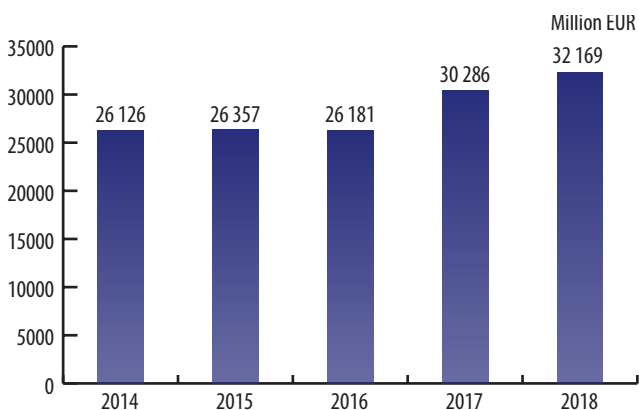
Source: Bulgarian National Bank

IMPORT

In the recent years dynamics of imports as well as exports amendment have reported an increase with the exception of 2016. According to the balance of payments data, at the end of 2018 imports reached EUR 32.1 billion. In 2018 nominal imports of goods registered an increase compared to 2017, as the highest positive contribution to this growth was the import from Germany, China and Italy. Imports of goods from EU Member States increased by 6.2%.

Raw materials and investment goods contributed most significantly to the rise of imports. Imports of consumer goods also grew in line with improved consumption most perceivable in groups of food, drink, tobacco and furniture.

Imports by years



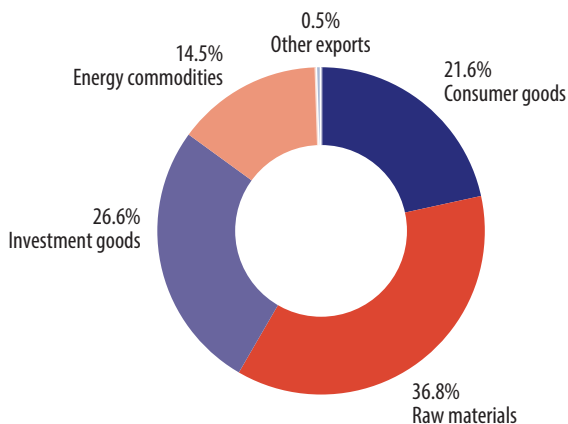
Source: Bulgarian National Bank

Imports by commodity groups

Years	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Consumer goods	5 114	5 600	5 961	6 527	6 941
Food, drinks and tobacco	1 601	1 757	1 879	2 087	2 228
Furniture and household appliances	745	799	766	823	896
Medicines and cosmetics	1 132	1 222	1 273	1 375	1 442
Clothing and footwear	597	631	760	800	819
Automobiles	317	372	398	481	492
Others	723	819	885	961	1 064
Raw materials	9 071	9 674	9 425	11 159	11 835
Ores	1 334	1 315	1 052	1 741	1 859
Iron and steel	770	830	796	1 024	1 208
Non-ferrous metals	687	709	678	964	980
Textiles	1 177	1 192	1 217	1 246	1 241
Wood products, paper and paperboard	473	513	547	577	627
Chemicals	566	642	608	692	743
Plastics and rubber	1 381	1 473	1 494	1 651	1 761
Raw materials for the food industry	558	675	692	744	705
Raw skins	97	103	92	79	77
Raw tobacco	115	80	85	88	85
Others	1 914	2 143	2 164	2 354	2 550
Investment goods	6 576	6 751	7 121	7 837	8 572
Machines and equipment	2 167	2 255	2 241	2 603	2 782
Electrical machines	896	977	1 069	1 088	1 204
Vehicles	1 146	1 282	1 320	1 371	1 602
Spare parts and equipment	1 004	1 078	1 199	1 395	1 645
Others	1 363	1 159	1 292	1 379	1 339
Total non energy commodities	20 762	22 024	22 507	25 522	27 348
Energy commodities	5 241	4 204	3 535	4 609	4 656
Crude oil and Natural gas	3 574	2 955	2 275	3 031	3 313
Coal	147	103	60	87	89
Fuels other than Crude oil, Natural gas and Coal	125	192	342	403	387
Oils	1 395	954	858	1 088	866
Electricity	0	0	0	0	0
Other imports	123	129	139	155	165
TOTAL IMPORTS /CIF/	26 126	26 357	26 181	30 286	32 169

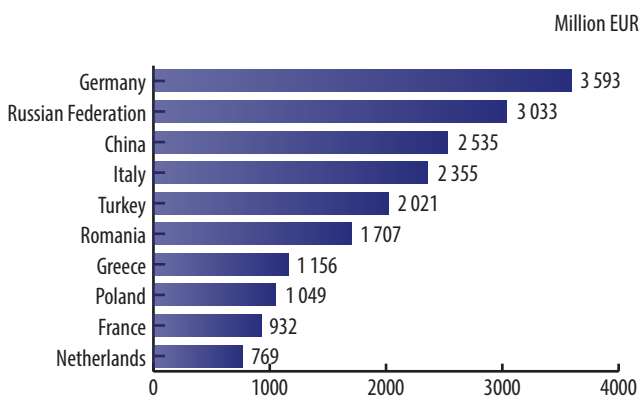
Source: Bulgarian National Bank

Structure of imports by commodity groups in 2018



Source: Bulgarian National Bank

Imports from the TOP 10 Bulgarian trade partner countries in 2018



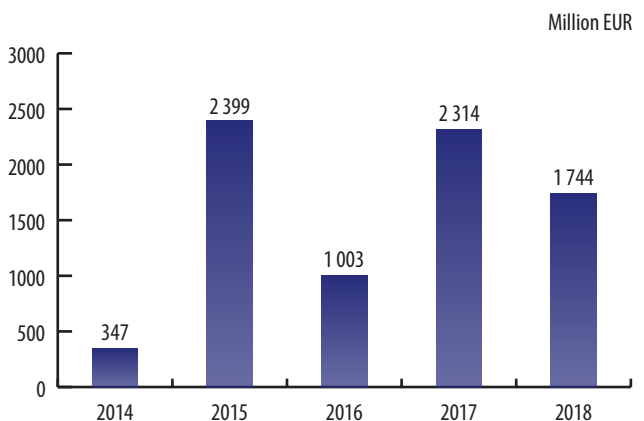
Source: Bulgarian National Bank

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

Foreign direct investment in Bulgaria reached EUR 1 744 million in 2018.

The composition of FDI by country in 2018 suggests that foreign direct investment attracted from the Netherlands (EUR 1 265 million), Hungary (EUR 588 million) and Germany (EUR 185 million) accounted for the largest shares.

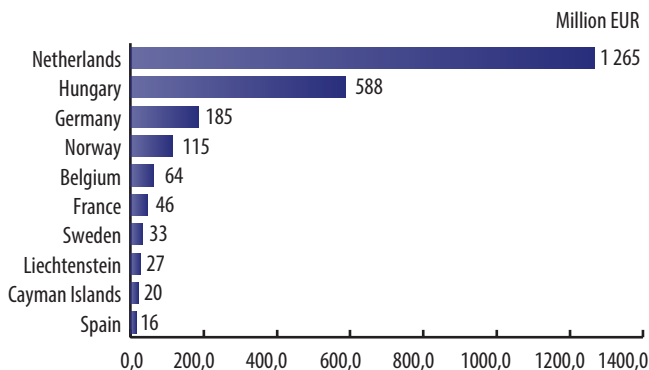
Foreign direct investment flows in Bulgaria by years



Source: Bulgarian National Bank

Foreign direct investment flows in Bulgaria by economic activity

Only Manufacturing attracted about 73% of FDI flows in 2018.



Source: Bulgarian National Bank

Foreign direct investment flows in Bulgaria by economic activity

Manufacturing and Wholesale and retail trade attracted about 65% of FDI flows in 2018.

Million EUR

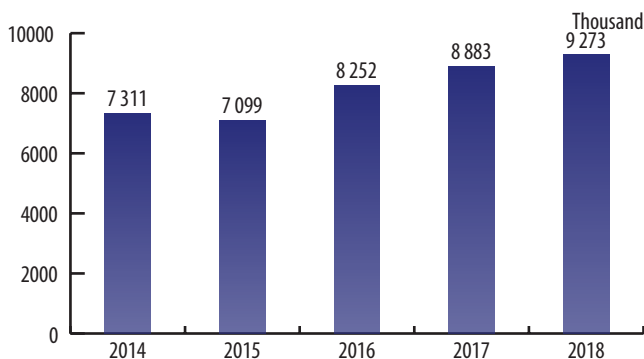
Year	2018
All FDI activities	1 744
Manufacturing	1 282
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	136
Financial and insurance activities	584
Real estate activities	-149
Not allocated	13
Construction	-96
Administrative and support service activities	49
Arts, entertainment and recreation	-4
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	-38
Human health and social work activities	1
Other service activities	6
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	5
Transportation and storage	10
Accommodation and food service activities	-14
Mining and quarrying	11
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	-110
Information and communication	46
Professional, scientific and technical activities	14

Source: Bulgarian National Bank

TOURISM

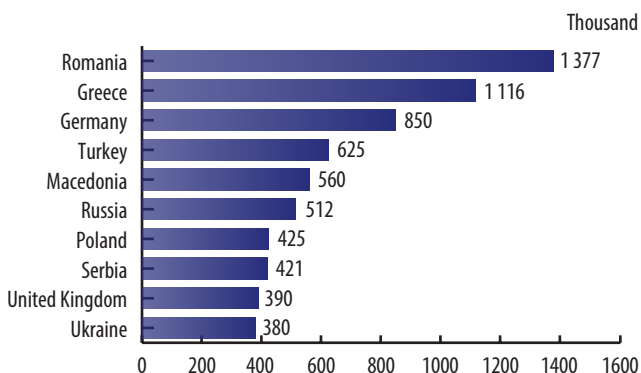
Tourism plays an important role in Bulgaria because of its economic, social and employment potential. The number of international tourists has been growing rapidly. In 2018 Bulgaria attracted a record-high number of tourists – 9.2 million tourists, which is about 4% more than 2017.

Foreign tourists in Bulgaria



Source: Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Bulgaria

TOP 10 countries ranked by number of tourists in Bulgaria for 2018

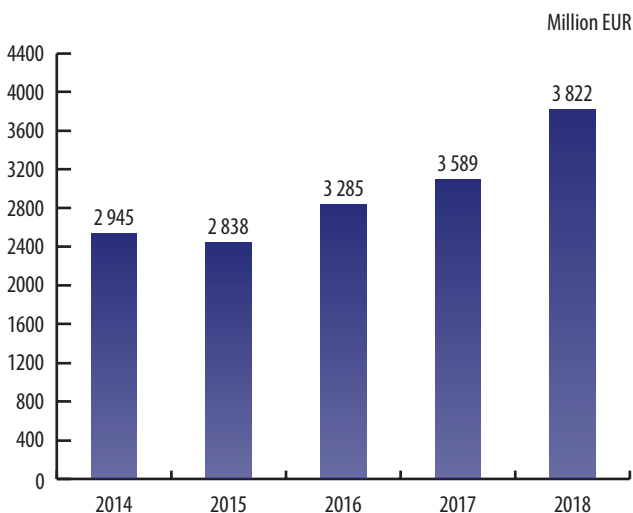


Source: Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Bulgaria

The ranking by number of tourists for 2018 is headed by Romania with 1 377 thousand tourists, followed by Greece with 1 116 thousand tourists, and Germany with 850 thousand tourists.

According to data from the balance of payment, in 2018 the revenue from international tourism in Bulgaria exceeded EUR 3.8 billion.

Revenue from international tourism in Bulgaria



Source: Bulgarian National Bank

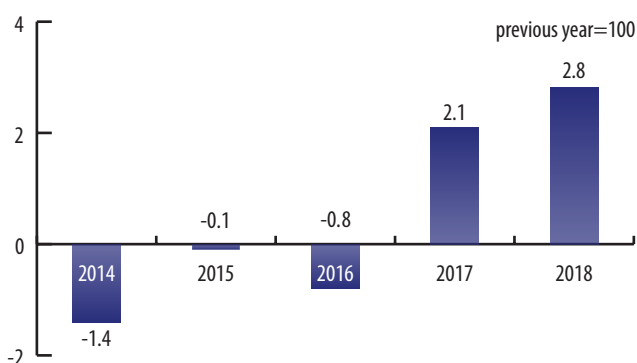
CONSUMER PRICES

Consumer price indices and annual inflation

In 2018 the average consumer price index was positive at +2.8 per cent.

Increased prices of all product groups had the contribution to the rise in the inflation with an exception of clothing and footwear.

Consumer price index (annual average inflation rates – %)



Source: National Statistical Institute

Annual average consumer price index by main categories (annual average inflation rates – %)

previous year=100

Main categories	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Average consumer price index (CPI)	-1,4	-0,1	-0,8	2,1	2,8
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-1,0	0,3	-0,2	4,0	2,2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	1,1	0,8	2,0	1,5	3,4
Clothing and footwear	-1,1	0,6	-0,5	-1,4	-1,4
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	-2,0	3,4	0,0	3,2	4,6
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	-1,1	-0,4	-1,5	-0,3	1,6
Health	-3,4	-1,6	-0,2	0,2	0,2
Transport	-3,4	-9,1	-6,4	3,7	4,9
Communication	-3,5	-3,1	-3,7	-2,6	2,6
Recreation and culture	-0,7	2,8	-0,5	-2,5	3,5
Education	1,7	2,7	2,7	4,5	3,0
Restaurants and hotels	1,2	1,1	1,4	2,5	4,5
Miscellaneous goods and service	-0,2	-0,2	-1,2	0,3	2,0

Source: National Statistical Institute

LABOUR MARKET

Labour force

According to the latest statistics, in 2018 the labour force in Bulgaria consisted of 3.3 million people – 54% men and 46% women. Most of the labour force (87%) has completed some forms of higher or upper secondary education.

Labour force

	Thousand				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total	3 366	3 337	3264	3357	3326
By sex					
Male	1 799	1 782	1749	1797	1787
Female	1 567	1 555	1515	1560	1539
By level of education					
Higher	997	1 018	1014	1020	1021
Upper secondary	1 907	1 890	1849	1921	1887
Lower secondary	391	364	339	349	346
Primary or lower	71	65	62	67	72

Source: National Statistical Institute

Employment

In 2018 the trend of increasing employment, which started in 2014, continued with more significant results. The growth of the economic activity and demand for employees by companies have been the main factors for labour market recovery. The number of employees reached more than 3.1 million people in 2018.

Employment

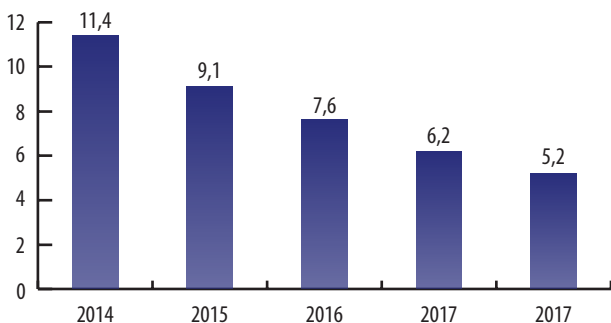
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Employment rate (15–64 years), %	61,0	62,9	63,4	66,9	67,7
	Thousand				
Total employment	2 981	3 032	3017	3150	3153
Employees in private enterprises	1 904	1 968	1982	2102	2114
Employees in public enterprises	706	699	681	674	672
Self-employed	238	237	228	235	227
Employers	114	108	107	115	117
Unpaid family workers	21	20	19	25	24

Source: National Statistical Institute

Unemployment

In 2018 unemployment rate continued to decrease, reaching 5.2%, which is the lowest level for more than 30 years.

Unemployment



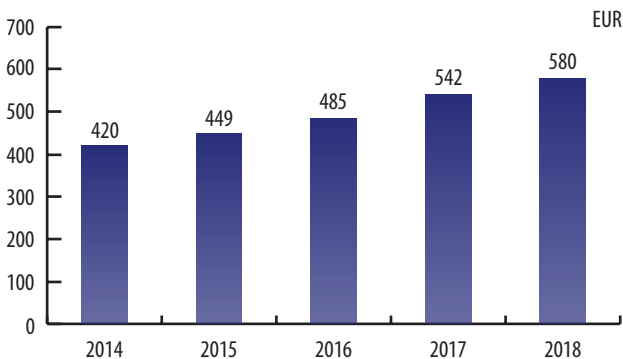
Source: National Statistical Institute

Average monthly salary

In 2018 average hourly labour costs recorded in Bulgaria (EUR 5.4) were more than 5 times lower than the EU average (EUR 27.4).

In 2018 the average monthly wage per employee in Bulgaria amounted to EUR 580, an increase in nominal terms by 7%.

Average monthly salary of employees by labor contract



Source: National Statistical Institute, Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

EDUCATION

Higher education plays a crucial role for the development of intelligent and sustainable economy. Thanks to the efforts of the higher education institutions in the country, they continue to attract the most talented students. Bulgarian universities offer a wide range of specialties.

Higher schools by type

Academic year	Number
2018/19	
Total	54
Universities and equivalent higher schools	50
Colleges	21
- Independent colleges	4
- Colleges, at the universities and equivalent higher schools	17

The types of higher education institutions in Bulgaria are Universities and equivalent higher schools and Colleges. During the 2018/2019 academic year in the 54 education institutions the total number of the students (in degrees 'Professional bachelor', 'Bachelor', 'Master' and 'PhD') is 222 997.

TOP 10 field of education by number of students in academic year 2017/2018



The most preferred fields of education (for all degrees) in Bulgaria are "Business and Administration" (18%), followed by "Health" (12%) and "Engineering and engineering trades" (12%).

Universities in Bulgaria attract many international students due to excellent quality education, diploma recognised in EU/EEA and beyond, good level of costs and different programs in English, German and French.



Technical University of Sofia

We **succeed!**

Technical University of Sofia – the largest educational and scientific institution in Bulgaria in the field of technical and applied sciences offers Bachelor's, Master's and PhD Programs in the following scientific areas:

- ❖ Automatics
- ❖ Electrical Engineering
- ❖ Power Engineering and Power Machines
- ❖ Industrial Technology
- ❖ Mechanical Engineering
- ❖ Electronic Engineering and Technologies
- ❖ Telecommunications
- ❖ Computer Systems and Technologies
- ❖ Transport
- ❖ Management
- ❖ Applied Mathematics and Informatics

Technical University of Sofia provides:

- ❖ Modern education and research facilities
- ❖ High scientific and technical level and practical orientation of the education
- ❖ System for credit transfer which allows studying in European universities for a certain period of time
- ❖ Erasmus+ Programme students' mobility
- ❖ Modern Library and Information Center
- ❖ Cooperation with more than 50 higher schools in Europe, Asia, North and Central America
- ❖ Education in English, German and French

If you want to be among the best and proven professionals, become one of us!

Together we can make it!

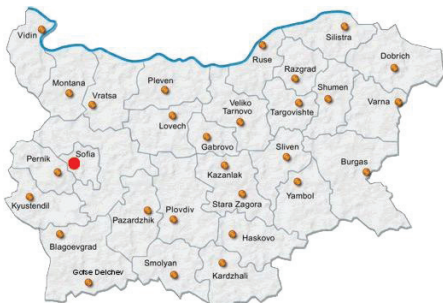
**www.tu-sofia.bg
info@tu-sofia.bg**

BULGARIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY – THIRD CENTURY IN BENEFIT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

- ▲ The BCCI is the leading employers' association in Bulgaria – comprising of over 50 000 members, in which are employed with labor contract more than 844 thousand persons (38% of total employed in the country).
- ▲ The BCCI is based on the principles of voluntary membership, autonomy and self-financing and seeks to establish ethical and socially responsible relationships in business.
- ▲ The BCCI contributes to the creation of a more favourable business environment and dedicates many efforts to the promotion and support of entrepreneurship and innovation initiatives.
- ▲ The BCCI is a part of the Association of the Organizations of Bulgarian Employers (AOBE) – a free union of the four employers' organizations that are officially acknowledged as representative according to the operating legislation.
- ▲ The BCCI is a universal organization in which all members are companies from various sectors and of different sizes, which comply with the Code of Business Ethics.
- ▲ 28 Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry are united in the Unified System of Bulgarian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- ▲ The BCCI participates in over 200 public-private bodies.
- ▲ The BCCI is a regular member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), World Chambers Federation (WCF), Association of European Chambers of Commerce (Eurochambres), World Trade Centers Association (WTCA), Association of the Balkan Chambers (ABC), Regional Cooperation Council, International Council on Cooperation, BSEC Business Council, Central European Initiative (CEI), GS1 International Association, Enterprise Europe Network (EEN).
- ▲ A Club of Joint and Foreign Chambers in Bulgaria with over 50 organizations operates at BCCI.
- ▲ The 90 Sectorial Organizations are united in a Council of Sectorial Organizations at the BCCI.
- ▲ At BCCI operates an Arbitration Court with 120 years of activity.

The 28 Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry

<http://www.bcci.bg/chambers-en.html>



Structures and services



TRADE REGISTER AND MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORATE



Additional information:

<https://www.bcci.bg/tradereg-general-en1.html>

Main activities:

1. Trade Register Services
 - ▲ Registration in the Unified voluntary trade register of the BCCI – around 50 000 companies and organizations and other legal subjects;
 - ▲ Obligatory registration of commercial representative offices of foreign persons in Bulgaria;
 - ▲ Maintenance and updating of the information on file subject to registration;
 - ▲ Issuing of certificates and references in Bulgarian and foreign languages for the status and financial condition of the registered legal subjects;
 - ▲ Providing oral and written references in Bulgarian and foreign languages with data about the registered legal subjects.
2. Membership with BCCI.
3. Issuance and validation of documents:
 - ▲ Certificates of origin of goods; BCCI is the only organization in Bulgaria accredited by ICC WCF to issue certificates of origin. BCCI has a permit from the Bulgarian Customs Agency to issue non-preferential of origin.
 - ▲ Validation of signatures.
4. Issuance and validation of ATA Carnets.
5. Issuance of Force-Majeure Certificates.
6. Assistance for validation of invitation-declarations for business trips of foreigners to the Republic of Bulgaria.
7. Assistance in obtaining information about the existence and current status of foreign companies.
8. Obtaining a qualified electronic signature certificate by physical persons and legal entities respectively StampIT Doc and StampIT DocPro.
9. Excellent SME certificate.
10. Carrying out coordination and keeping constant relations with the 28 Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry (RCCI).
11. Carrying out coordination with the sectorial organizations members of the Council of Sectorial Organisations with the BCCI.

For Contacts: **Zdravka Georgieva, Director**


Tel.: (+359 2) 987 88 84, 8117 476

Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: z.georgieva@bcci.bg



EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AND EUROPEAN PROJECTS DIRECTORATE

 Additional information:

<http://www.bcci.bg/projectsBCCI.htm>

<http://www.bcci.bg/seminars-en.html>

<http://www.bcci.bg/en-een.html>

<http://www.bcci.bg/economic-analyses-en.html>

Main activities:

1. Participation in EU funded projects.
2. Enhancing the BCCI's capacity to manage activities under EU programmes.
3. Supporting the development and strengthening of the SMEs.
4. Enterprise Europe Network is the largest information and consulting network in the world that helps SMEs to take advantage of business opportunities in the EU single market, to increase their competitiveness in Europe and find reliable technology, business and project partners.
5. Business research inquiries at a request of the customers.
6. Economic analyses by sectors.
7. Database references about the financial results of a company or a group of companies.
8. Annual classification TOP 100 – The leading companies in the Bulgarian economy.
9. Provision of information based on the annual financial statements of the companies.
10. Publication of annual financial statements.


For Contacts: **Mariana Tancheva, Director**

Tel.: (+359 2) 988 34 82; 8117 508; Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: mtancheva@bcci.bg



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTORATE

 Additional information:

<http://www.bcci.bg/business-delegations-en.html>

<http://www.bcci.bg/seminars-en.html>

<http://www.bcci.bg/company-presentation.html>

Main activities:

1. Participation in EU funded projects.
2. Enhancing the BCCI's capacity to manage activities under EU programmes.
3. Supporting the development and strengthening of the SMEs.

For Contacts: **Gabriela Dimitrova, Director**

Tel.: (+359 2) 987 25 38; 8117 489; Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: interdpt@bcci.bg, G.Dimitrova@bcci.bg



ARBITRATION COURT AT BCCI



Additional information:

<http://www.bcci.bg/arbitration/index.html>

Main activities:

1. Out-of-court tribunal institution for fast and efficient settlement of private law property disputes.
2. Four times lower taxes for big claims in comparison with the taxes, applied by public court.
3. Possibility to include foreign arbitrators, if the company has more than 50% foreign capital.
4. 98% of the cases are solved within 12 months period.
5. Possibility to involve private law enforcement agents.

Arbitration Clause, recommended by the BCCI: "Any disputes arising from this contract or concerning it, including disputes arising from or concerning its interpretation, invalidity, non-performance of termination, as well as disputes about filling gaps in a contract or its adaption to newly arisen circumstances, shall be settled by the Arbitration Court at the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in accordance with its Rules for cases based on Arbitration Agreements."

For Contacts: **Blagovest Punev, President**

Natalia Stefanova, Secretary of the Arbitration Court

Nina Nikolova, Secretary of the Arbitration Court

Tel.: (+359 2) 8117 434, 8117 560; Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: acourt@bcci.bg



GS1 BULGARIA



Additional information:

<http://www.gs1bg.org>

Main activities:

Member organization of GS1, global, neutral, non-profit standards organization that brings efficiency and transparency to the supply chain. GS1 standards are proven by industry and can help companies achieve their public policy goals.

For Contacts: **Tzveta Bratanova, CEO**

Tel.: (+359 2) 8117 604

E-mail: gs1bulgaria@gs1bg.org



BCCI – CENTRE FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING, TRANSLATIONS, CONSULTATIONS AND COMPANY SERVICES EOOD



Additional information:

<http://www.center.bcci.bg>

Main activities:

1. Consultations on economic activity; legal issues; projects for financing; marketing research; tax issues.
2. Filling in/elaboration of commercial documents.
3. Translation / interpretation services.
4. Training.
5. Fairs and Exhibitions.

For Contacts: **Margarita Damyanova**

Tel.: (+359 2) 8117 477, Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: M.Damyanova@bcci.bg

INDUSTRIAL ZONES

i Additional information:

| <http://www.bcci.bg/zones/>

INDUSTRIAL PARK – STRIMON, Simitli
INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK AITOS, Aitos
BURGAS INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Burgas
INDUSTRIAL ZONE “MEDEN RUDNIK”, Burgas
INDUSTRIAL ZONE “POBEDA”, Burgas
INDUSTRIAL ZONE “NORTH”, Burgas
INDUSTRIAL ZONE “SOUTH”, Burgas
BALGAROVO INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Balgarovo
DOBRICH BUSINESS ZONE, Dobrich
INDUSTRIAL ZONE “NORTH”, Dobrich
INDUSTRIAL ZONE “WEST”, Dobrich
GENERAL TOSHEVO INDUSTRIAL ZONE, General Toshevo
GABROVO INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Gabrovo
DIMITROVGRAD INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Dimitrovgrad
FREE ZONE - SVILENGRAD, Svilengrad
SVILENGRAD INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Svilengrad
INDUSTRIAL ZONE KARDZHALI - SOUTH, Kardzhali
LETNITSA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Letnitsa
TROYAN INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Troyan
TECHNOLOGY PARK, Montana
INDUSTRIAL PARK - PAZARDZHIK, Septemvri
INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Pernik
INDUSTRIAL PARK PERNIK - EAST, Pernik
INDUSTRIAL ZONE PERNIK, Pernik
INDUSTRIAL ZONE DOLNA MITROPOLIA, Dolna Mitropolia
INDUSTRIAL ZONE - PLEVEN, Pleven
TELISH (PLEVEN) INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Telish
INDUSTRIAL PARK RHODOPES, Plovdiv
KRUMOVO LOGISTICS ZONE, Plovdiv
ASSENOVGRAD INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Asenovgrad
MARITSA INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ZONE, Plovdiv
NORTH INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Plovdiv
PLOVDIV FREE ZONE, Plovdiv
KALOYANOV INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Kaloyanovo
INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ZONE KARADZHALOVO, Karadzhhalovo
KUKLEN INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ZONE, Kuklen
RAKOVSKI INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Stryama
BUSINESS ZONE “PERISTAR” - RAZGRAD, Razgrad
RUSE EAST INDUSTRIAL PARK, Ruse
INDUSTRIAL PARK RUSE, Ruse
IVANOV INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Shtraklevo
KASPICHAN INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Kaspichan
SHUMEN INDUSTRIAL PARK, Shumen
DANUBE INDUSTRIAL PARK, Silistra
TCHAVDAR PARK BOTEVGRAD, Botevgrad
INDUSTRIAL PARK SOFIA, Sofia
INDUSTRIAL PARK SOFIA EAST, Elin Pelin
SAMOKOV INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Samokov
INDUSTRIAL PARK PROMOEST BULGARIA, Sofia
INDUSTRIAL PARK WEST, Sofia
ELIN PELIN INDUSTRIAL PARK, Elin Pelin
GORNA MALINA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Gorna Malina
INDUSTRIAL PARK - PETARCH, Petarch
STARA ZAGORA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Elenino
INDUSTRIAL ZONE ZSK, Stara Zagora
TARGOVISHTA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Targovishte
INDUSTRIAL ZONE VARNA - WEST, Devnya
FIRST INDUSTRIAL ZONE - AVREN, Avren
INDUSTRIAL ZONE VETRINO, Vetrino
SUVOROV INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Suvorovo
VARNA WEST INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Varna
INDUSTRIAL ZONE - SOUTH, STRAZHITSA, Strazhitsa
SVISHTOV INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Svishtov
VRATZA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Vratza



The building of Sofia
Commercial and Industrial Chamber
2 Slavianska Str., Sofia
built in 1914

The building of the BCCI
42 Parchevich Str., Sofia
Opened 1995



New building of the BCCI
9 Iskar Str., Sofia

Bulgarian Chamber
of Commerce and Industry
9 Iskar Str., 1058 Sofia, Bulgaria
Tel.: (+359 2) 8117 400
Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09
Web site: www.bcci.bg
E-mail: bcci@bcci.bg