

BULGARIA

Update: 12th June 2024



Geography

Area: 100 910 km²

Borders: 1,808 km (Greece: 494 km, Macedonia: 148 km, Romania: 608 km, Serbia: 318 km, Turkey: 240 km) Coastline: 354 km (Black Sea)

Capital: Sofia

Official language: Bulgarian



Population

Population: 6,827,736 inhabitants (2023

est.)

Population aged under 15 years: 14.2%

of the total population (2023)

Population aged 65 years and more:

23.5% of the total population (2023)

Natural change rate: -6,6% (2023 est.)

Migration rate: -0.3‰ (2023 est.)

First-time asylum applicants: 22,510

(2023)

Foreign residents: EU nationals 0.1%,

non-EU nationals 1.2% (2019)

Life expectancy: men 72 years, women

79,6 years (2023)

Religions: Orthodox Christian 64.7%, Muslim 9.8%, other 0.1%, none 3.7%, unspecified 20.7% (2021 est.)

Source: Eurostat, The World Factbook, ECB





Economy

Currency: the Lev (BGN) (fixed exchange rate: 1€ = 1,96 BGN) GDP:

€ 93,948 millions (2023)

GDP per capita: € 7,850 (2023)

GDP Growth: 1.8% (2023)

Unemployment: 4.5% (April 2024) **Inflation:** 2.5% (April 2024)

Public balance: -2.3% of GDP (Q4

2024)

Public debt: 23.1% of GDP (Q4 2023)

High performance sectors: food industry, tourism, petrochemistry Stock of foreign direct investment from the entire world: 69.4% of GDP

(2022)

Source: Eurostat, European Commission, Bulgarian National Bank



Political System

Parliamentary Republic (Constitution of 12th July 1991):

Head of State: Rumen Radev (independent supported by the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP)), was relected on 14th November 2021. He took office on 22nd January 2022

Prime Minister: On 30th March 2024, the President of the Republic, Rumen Radev, appointed Dimitar Glavchev as interim Prime Minister following the failure of the agreement reached between the PP-DB (coalition Continuing the Change/Bulgaria Democratic [centre-right]) and GERB [centre-right]).

Monocameral parliamentary system:

The National Assembly comprises 240 seats. The deputies are elected for four years by direct universal suffrage according to proportional representation. A threshold of 4% of votes must be reached in order for a political party to be represented in Parliament.



Political Representation

Current composition of the National Assembly following the 9th June 2024 elections

- 69 seats Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria (GERB)
- 63 seats coalition PP-DB
- 36 seats Movement for Rights and Freedom (DPS)
- 34 seats Revival (V)
- 23 seats coalition for Bulgaria (BSPzB)
- 11 seats There is such a people (ITN)
- 4 seats Independents

Female representation:

-in government: 4/19

-in the National Assembly: 61/240

Next elections:

presidential election in 2026 and general elections in 2028