

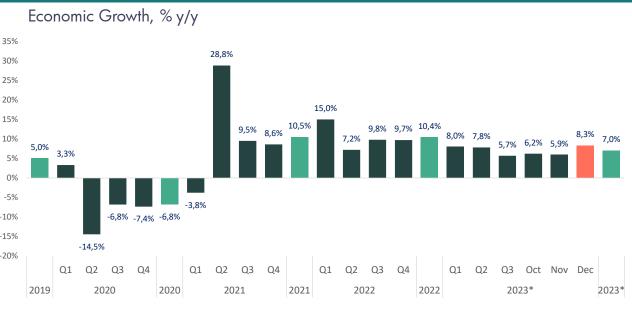
Current Economic Outlook

January, 2024

Key Developments

- In December 2024, the real GDP growth rate was 8.3 percent and average growth rate of 2023 was 7.0 percent, according to the preliminary estimates of the National Statistics Office.
- In January, annual inflation stood at 0 percent, while core inflation was 1.4 percent
- In December, exports decreased by 7.5 percent year-on-year and imports decreased by 11.3 percent year-on-year, decreasing the trade deficit by 13.3 percent year-on-year to 790 million USD
- For December, the real effective exchange rate appreciated by 2.1 percent compared to the same period of the previous year and depreciated by 0.01 percent compared to the previous month
- The National Bank of Georgia decreased monetary policy rate at 9.0 percent in January

Economic Growth in December was equal to 8.3 percent



- Estimated real GDP growth rate in December 2023 equaled 8.3 percent YoY and average annual real GDP growth rate for the 4th quarter of 2023 equals to 6.8 percent, while the average growth of the 2023 was 7.0 percent. Seasonally adjusted economic growth in November comparing to the previous month was 2.4 percent.
- In December 2023 the estimated real growth compared to the same period of the previous year was observed in the following activities: Construction, Manufacturing, Financial and insurance activities, Information and communication.
- A decline was registered in the fields of Energy and Real estate activities.

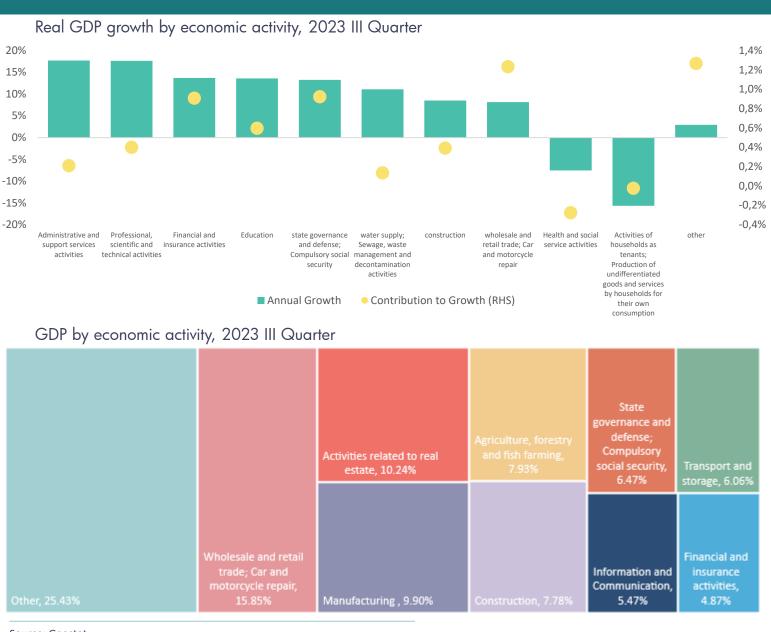






Source: Geostat, MOF

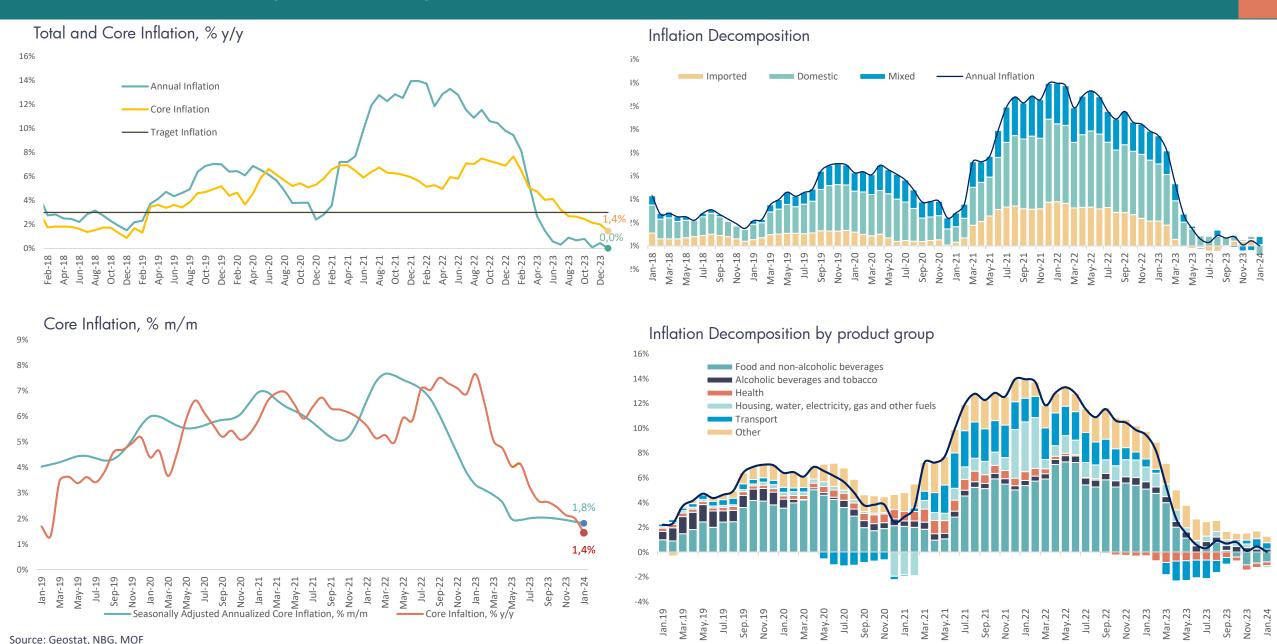
According to preliminary estimates, real GDP increased by 5.7 percent in the third quarter of 2023



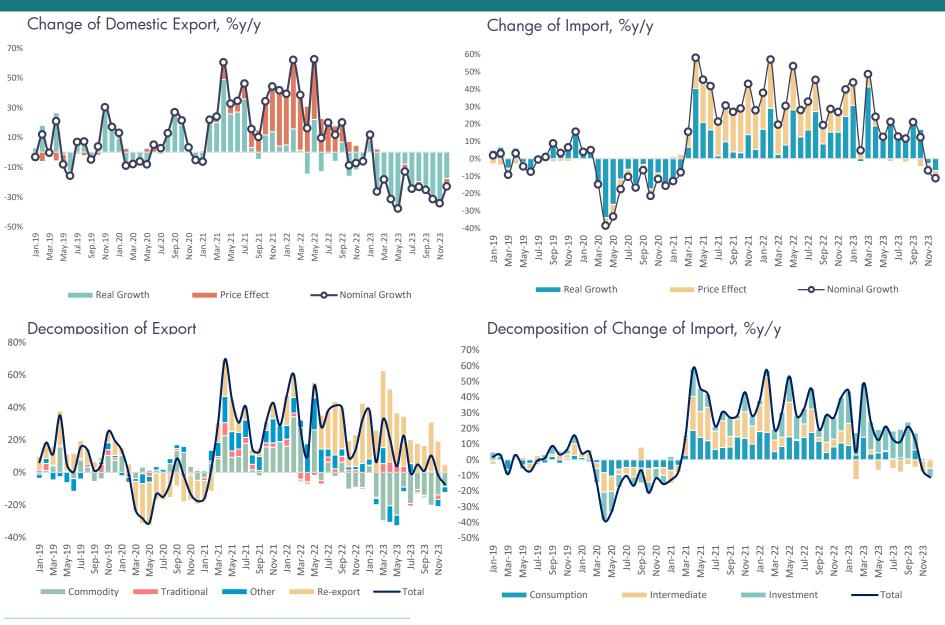
- According to preliminary estimates, in the third quarter of 2023 economic growth amounted to 5.7 percent, while in the second quarter of 2023, compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, real GDP increased by 7.8 percent. In the third quarter 2023 economic growth was 19.1 percent compared to the third quarter of 2019.
- The following industries have made a significant contribution to growth of Q3 2023:
 - Administrative and support services activities 17.7% (0.2 p.p.)
 - Professional, scientific and technical activities 17.6% (0.4 p.p.)
 - Financial and insurance activities 13.7% (0.9 p.p.)
 - Education 13.6% (0.6 p.p.)
 - state governance and defense; Mandatory social security
 13.3% (0.9 p.p.)
 - water supply; Sewerage, waste management and decontamination activities 11.1% (0.1 p.p.)
 - Construction: 8.5% (0.4 p.p.)
 - wholesale and retail trade; Repair of automobiles and motorcycles: 8.1% (1.2 p.p.)
- The following sectors made a significant contribution to the decrease:
 - Health care and social service activities: -7.5% (-0.3 p.p.)
 - Activities of households as employers: -15.7% (-0.02 p.p.)

Source: Geostat

Annual inflation in January has reached 0 percent



Trade Deficit in December decreased by 13.6 percent annually



- Export decreased annually by 7.5 percent to 514.2 million USD in December.
- Domestic export decreased annually by 23.0 percent to 229.5 million USD.
- Import annually decreased by 11.3 percent to 1 303.7 million USD in December.
- Trade deficit annually decreased by 13.6 percent to 789.5.0 million USD in December.
- Share of re-export in export growth is equal to 4.8 percent (10.4 %y/y), while share of commodity export is negative 9.0 percent (-42.4 %y/y).
- Contribution of import of Investment, Consumption and Intermediate goods to total import annual growth was equal to -5.7, -0.2 and -5.3 percent respectively.

Source: Geostat, MOF

International trade is characterized by stable diversification



Top Export Products:

- Motor cars: 179.6 million. USD 34.9 percent of total exports.
- Ferroalloys: 32.3 million USD 6.3 percent.
- Citrus fruit, fresh or dried: 22.1 million USD 4.3 percent.

Top Import Products :

- Motor cars: 178.3 million. USD 13.7 percent of total imports.
- Petroleum and petroleum oils: 113.9 million US dollars - 8.7 percent.
- Medicaments put up in measured doses: 57.6 million USD 4.4 percent.

Top Export Country:

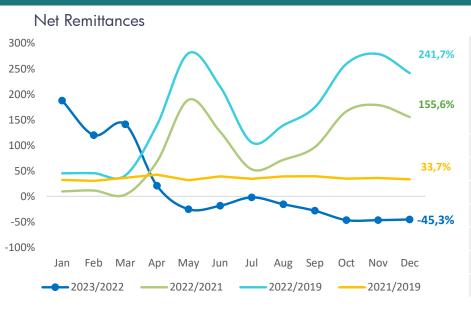
- Armenia: 76.2 million USD, 14.8 percent.
- Azerbaijan: 74.3 million USD, 14.4 percent.
- Kyrgyzstan: 67.7 million USD 13.2 percent.

Top Import Country :

- Turkey: 242.9 million USD, 26.2 percent.
- Russia: 155.4 million USD 11.9 percent.
- USA: 121.8 million USD 9.3 percent.

Source: Geostat

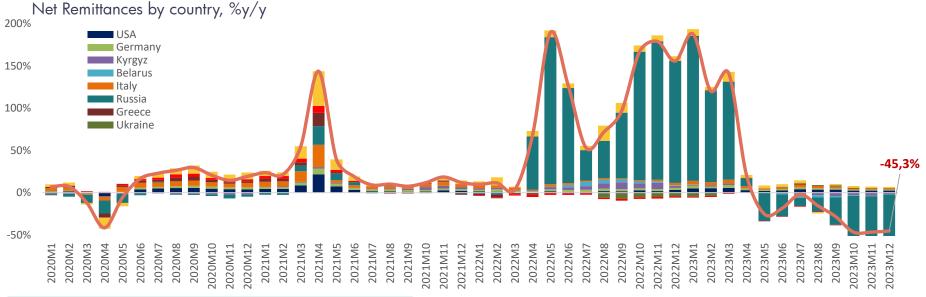
Net Remittances decreased by 45.3 percent in December 2023



Net Remittances, December 2023

Country	Net Remittances (USD million)	Change, %y/y	Share in growth, pp
Russia	63.9	-79.6	-49.8
Italy	48.8	15.3	1.3
USA	44.7	38.1	2.5
Germany	21.0	11.2	0.4
Greece	20.7	30.0	1.0
Israel	20.5	10.5	0.4
Other	54.7	-8.7	-1.0

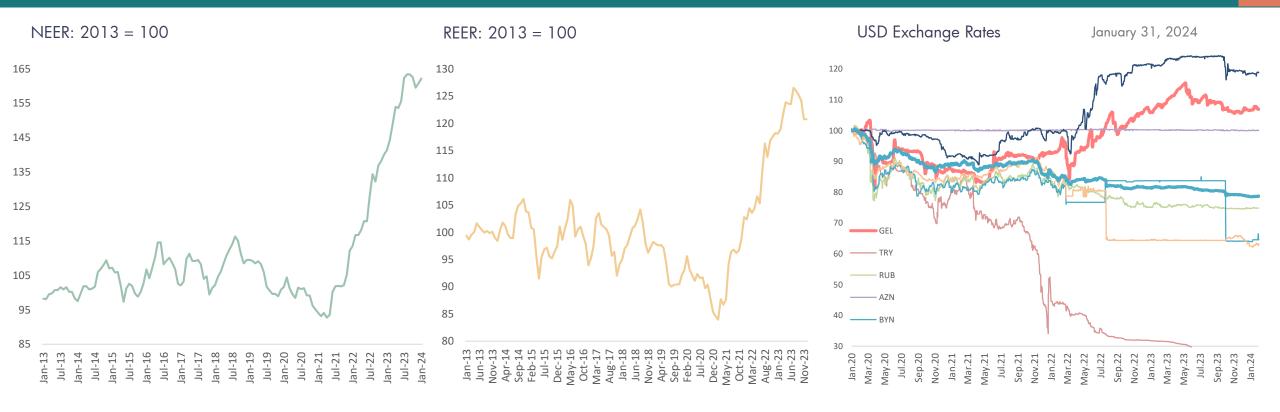
- In December 2023, net remittances were estimated at 274.3 million USD, representing a 45.3 percent annual decrease. Relative to corresponding month of 2019, Net Remittances increased by 86.9 percent.
- Net Remittances increased from:
 - Jordan: 340.3 percent (0.2 p.p. contribution to total growth).
 - USA: 38.1 percent (contributing 2.5 pp to total growth).
 - Kazakhstan: 25.3 percent (contribution of 0.5 pp to total growth).
- Net Remittances decreased from:
 - Tajikistan: -86.6 percent (-0.7 pp contribution to total growth)
 - Kyrgyzstan: -81.3 percent (-1.7 pp contribution to total growth)
 - Russia: -79.6 percent (-49.8 pp contribution to total growth)
 - Turkey: -50.0 percent (-0.2 pp contribution to total growth)



January | 2024

Source: NBG

Real Effective Exchange Rate Appreciated by 2.1 percent in December



Note: Increase means appreciation

	February 1, 2024	Febr 1, 2024 - Jan 1, 2023	Febr 1, 2024 - Jan 1, 2022
Euro	2.9044	-0.7%	2 0.5%
US Dollar	2.6818	0.8%	1 5.2%
Turkish Lira	0.0883	63.4%	161.8%
Russian Ruble	0.0299	22.9%	37.9%
NEER	188.64	14.6%	43.9%
REER (December 2023)	148.47	2.3%	17.5%

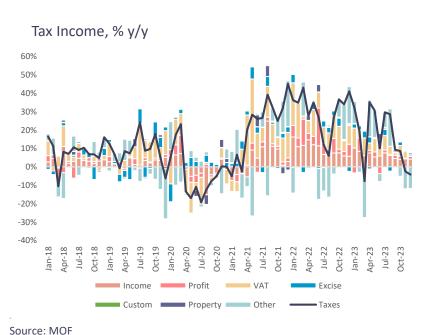
Source: NBG

Tax revenues in January is above the forecast value by 0.9 percent



VAT

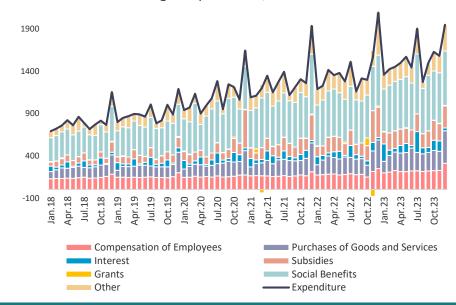
Excise



Tax Revenue

Income Tax

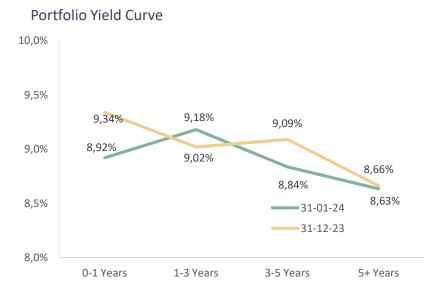
Consolidated Budget Expenditure, mln GEL

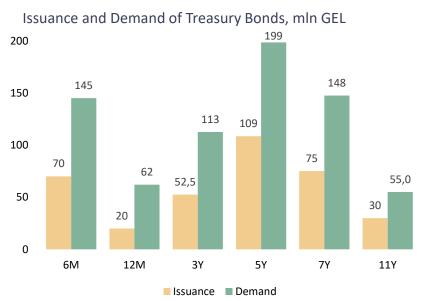


—— Operating Balance

- The actual level of tax income in January 2024 was 1,860 mln GEL, which is above the forecasted value by 0.9 percent.
- Consolidated budget revenues decreased by 1.4 percent and expenditures decreased by 6.9 percent in December.
- The operating budget of the consolidated budget, which represents the savings of the government, amounted to 174.9 million GEL, while the total balance was set at negative 799.9 million GEL.
- Revenue from taxes had a significant impact on revenue from Income and profit tax in December, accounting for 4.1 and 1.5 percent of total growth, respectively.

Structure of the Treasury Securities Portfolio Changed Significantly in January

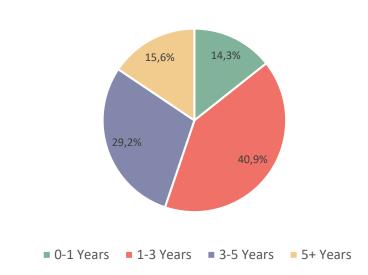








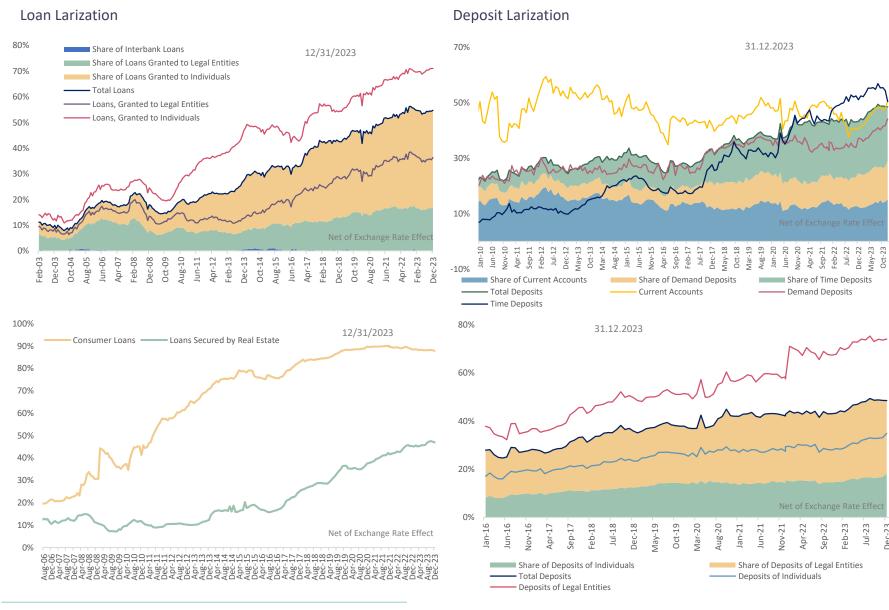
Portfolio by Residual Maturity, December 31, 2023



- In January 2024, 6 issuance and 1 switch auctions were held with the total issuance volume of 404.65 million GEL.
- The weighted average interest rate amounted to 8.48%.
- There were issued treasury bills with maturities of 6 and 12 months and the treasury bonds with maturities of 3, 5, 7 and 11 years. The treasury securities with total amount of 564 million GEL were redeemed. On the switch auctions, the bonds with a nominal value of 50 million GEL were switched.
- As of January 31, 2024 around 41% of the treasury securities portfolio (in December it was 23.1%) is composed of the securities whose maturity date is due for the next 1-3 years. The medium-term state financials securities (with duration 3-5 years) have also a sizable share (at around 29%) in the total portfolio. The later was 43.1% in the previous period (December).
- The Bid-to-cover ratio decreased compared to the previous month's value (December 2.31) and amounted to 2.02.

Source: MoF

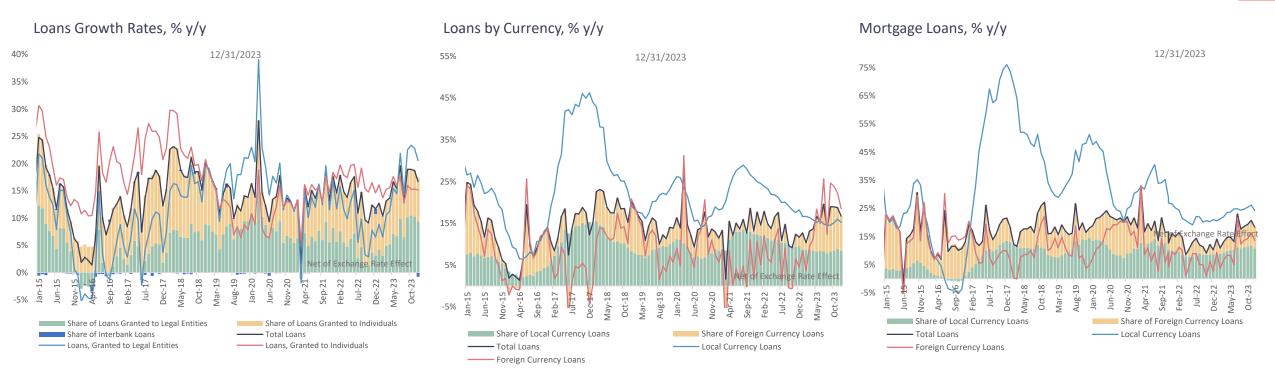
In January Loan Larization Indicator Went Up and Deposits' One Went Down



- As of December 31, 2023, the larization of total loans is 54.7 percent.
- The larization of loans to individuals is 71.1 percent.
- The larization of the loans to legal entities amounted to 35.4 percent.
- The larization of the total deposits equals to 48.5 percent.
- The larization on the deposits of legal entities amounted to 74 percent.
- The larization of the deposits of individuals is 34.9 percent.
- The larization of time deposits is 50.4 percent.
- The larization of current accounts equals to 50.7 percent.
- The larization of the demand deposits is 44.1 percent.

Source: NBG

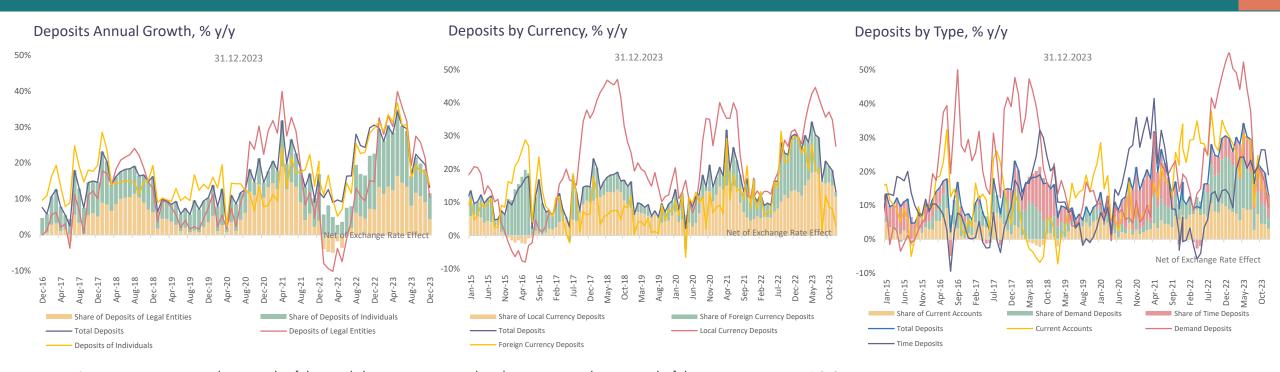
High Annual Growth Trends of Loans Have Retained



- As of December 31, 2023, the total loans increased by 16.7 percent compared to the corresponding period of 2022 (excluding exchange rate effects).
- The annual growth of the loans to the legal entities is 20.5 percent.
- The annual growth of loans to individuals is 15.1 percent.
- As of December 31, 2023, the growth rate of the loans denominated in the national currency amounted to 15.2 percent.
- The annual growth of loans denominated in foreign currency amounted to 18.5 percent.
- As of December 31, 2023, the annual growth of the loans secured by real estate amounted to 18.3 percent. At the same time, the mortgage loans denominated in the national currency increased by 24.2 percent, while the mortgage loans denominated in the foreign currency also increased by 13.6 percent.

Source: NBG

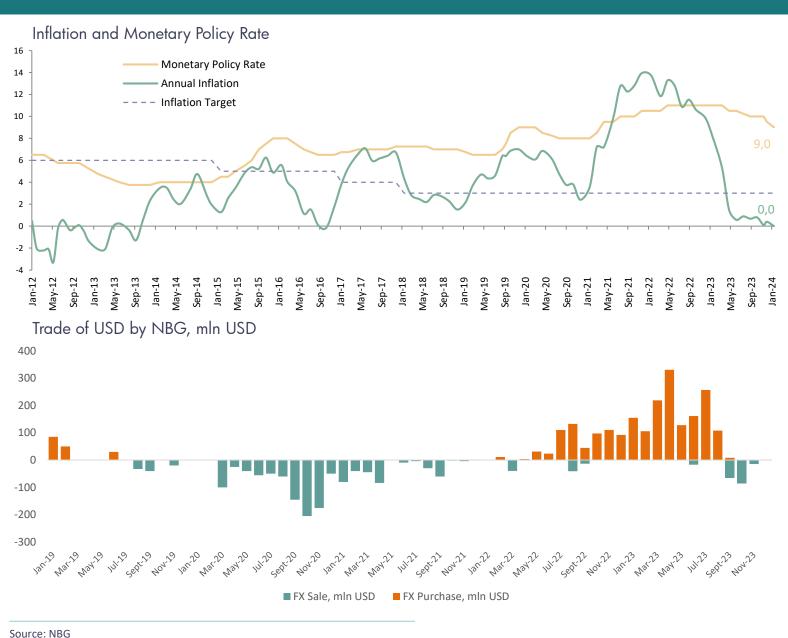
Annual Growth Rates of Deposits Are Declining



- As of December 31, 2023, the growth of the total deposits compared to the corresponding period of the previous year is 13.2 percent.
- The annual growth of the deposits denominated in the national currency amounted to 26.9 percent. The annual growth of the deposits denominated in foreign currency stood at 2.8 percent over the same period.
- The growth of the deposits of individuals amounted to 14 percent, while the annual growth of deposits of legal entities in the same period amounted to 10.4 percent.
- The annual growth of current accounts at the beginning of January, 2024, was equal to 10.2 percent.
- The annual growth of the time deposits was 19 percent.
- The growth of the demand deposits amounted to 9.6 percent.

Source: NBG

The National Bank of Georgia Reduced the Monetary Policy Rate to 9.0 percent



- On January, 2024, the Monetary Policy Committee of the National Bank of Georgia was conducted. The NBG decreased the refinancing rate to 9.0 percent level within this period.
- Per the NBG, inflation is less than the target one (3 percent). There are both external and internal factors affecting it. The external shocks related to the Russo-Ukrainian war and the Pandemic are weakened which mitigate the role of them into the inflation formation. As for the internal factors, it is worth highlighting a decrease in domestic products inflation and tighter monetary policy influencing the inflation in Georgia. In Georgia, the inflation has already retreated from its peak. It was at 0 percent in January this year and still has on a downward path. It is expected that given the appreciated Georgian Lari, the aforementioned global trends will be gradually transmitted to the local markets, helping to further reduce inflation. In spite of the tendencies mentioned above, the risks of inflation rising remain at the high level that, with the existing strain geopolitical situation, pushes the NBG to loose the monetary policy at a slower pace.
- The next meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee will be held on March 13, 2024.
- The NBG did not make any foreign exchange interventions through the auctions during January, 2024.

Market Interest Rates Increased in Foreign Currency



- As of January 1, 2024, the interest rate on foreign currency deposits was 1.9 percent, and in the national currency 10.7 percent.
- The weighted average interest rate on deposits in the national currency by legal entities was 10.9 percent, and in foreign currency 2.6 percent.
- The average annual interest rate on deposits by individuals is 1.8 percent for foreign currency deposits and 10.8 percent for the national currency deposits.
- The weighted average annual interest rate on short-term consumption loans was 14.6 percent (17.2 percent in the national currency and 6.5 percent in foreign currency).
- The weighted average annual interest rate on long-term consumption loans was 16.2 percent (17.3 percent in the national currency and 7.8 percent in foreign currency).
- At the end of December, 2023, the interest rate on the mortgage loans denominated in local currency issued to legal entities was 13.4 percent, and in the foreign currency 9.5 percent. The interest rate on the loans to individuals in the national currency was 12.9 percent, and in foreign currency 7.3 percent.

Disclaimer

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