



October, 2023

## Monthly Macroeconomic Review\*

### Main indicators of Month

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- According to the GEOSTAT preliminary estimate, in September\* annual economic growth amounted to 5.1% YoY. Should be marked high economic growth rates and fast recovery process compared to 2019, pre pandemic period.
- Annual consumer price inflation amounted to 0.8% in October, lower than the inflation target of 3.0%, primarily driven by increasing prices on alcoholic beverages and housing.
- In September\*, general government revenues increased by 8.4% YoY, while expenses increased by 14.0% YoY.
- In September\*, commercial bank loans amounted to 47.7 billion GEL. As for loans issued by types of activity, the highest were issued in trade, construction and industry.
- In January - September\*, goods exports increased by 12.7%, while imports increased by 18.2% YoY. Trade turnover amounted to 15,911 million USD.
- In September\* money transfers amounted to 283.9 million USD. The main source of money transfers are EU countries (39.0% of total) and Russia (20.9%).
- In October, international reserves reached 5,119 million USD and increased by 16.7% YoY.
- In September\*, the dollarization on deposits and on loans increased MoM.
- In October, GEL depreciated against USD (by 1.7%) and depreciated against EUR (by 0.4%) MoM.

Macroeconomic Analysis and Tax Policy Unit

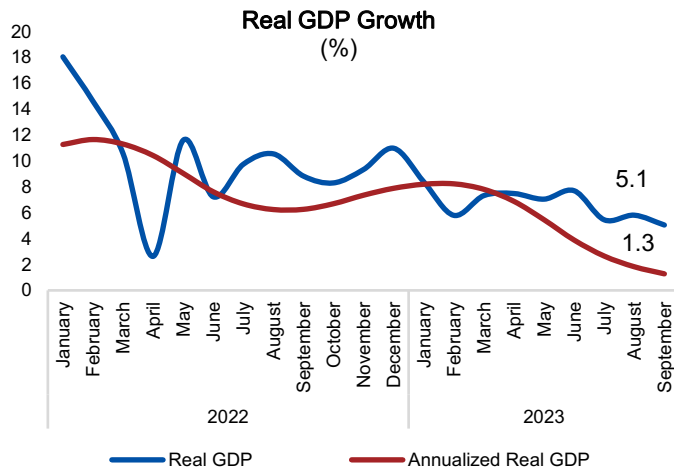
E-Mail:[pbo@parliament.ge](mailto:pbo@parliament.ge)

\*According to the release calendar of the statistical data, some indicators represent the variables of the previous month



Parliamentary Budget Office of Georgia 2023

# 1. Real and Fiscal Sector

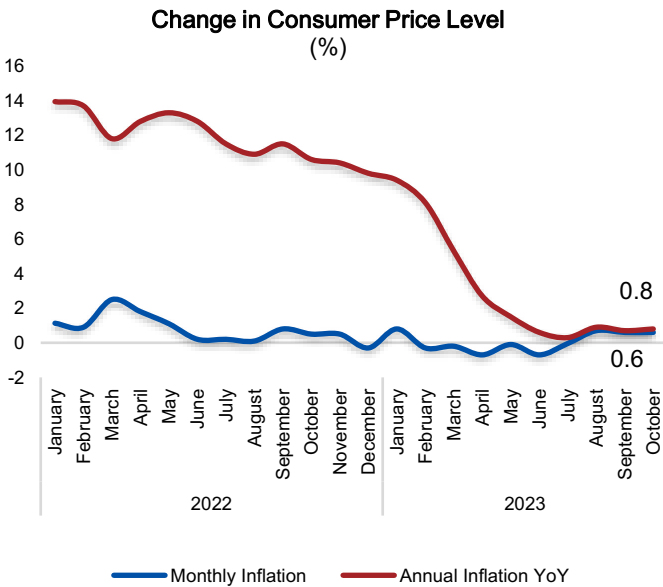
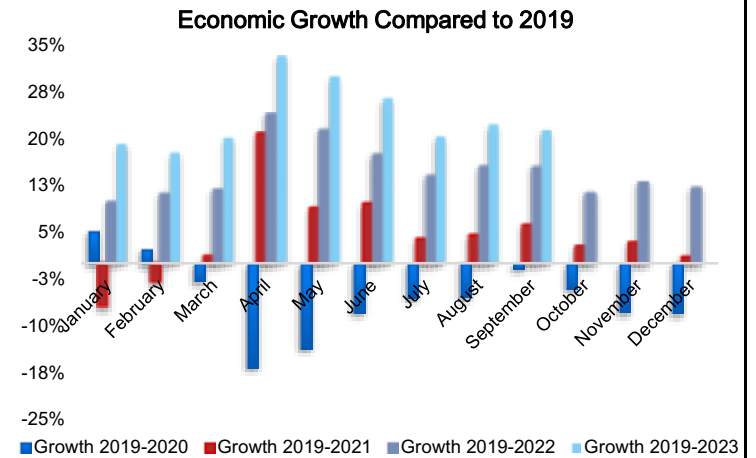


**In September\*, positive annual economic growth was 5.1%.**

In accordance with preliminary estimates of GEOSTAT, in September\* 2023, annual real GDP growth amounted to 5.1% YoY.

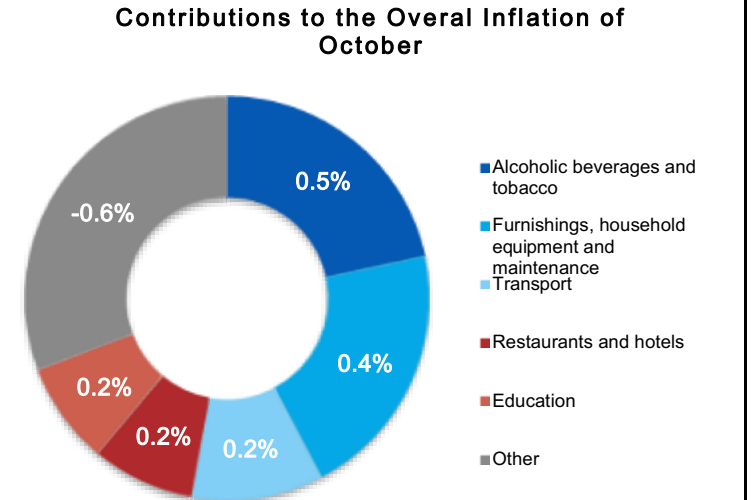
According to the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) estimates, MoM annualized growth rate<sup>1</sup> of the real GDP amounted to 1.3% in September.

Should be marked high economic growth rates in recent months and fast recovery process compared to 2019, pre pandemic period.



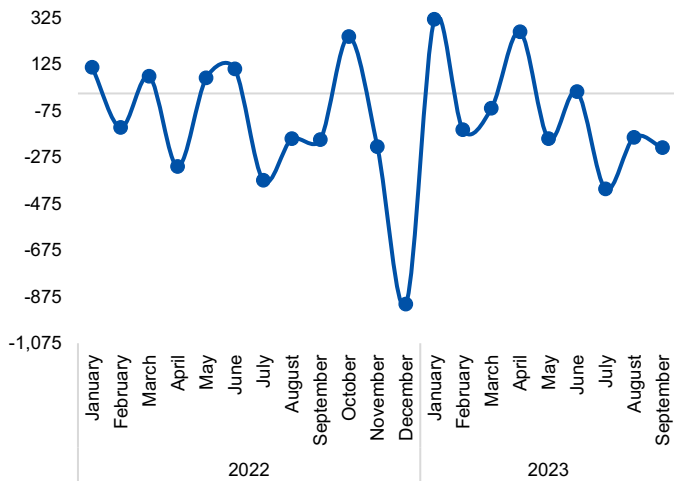
**In October, annual CPI inflation amounted to 0.8%**

In October 2023, the inflation rate amounted to 0.8% YoY, lower than the inflation target of 3.0%. Annual inflation was predominantly driven by dynamics of prices on the alcoholic beverages and tobacco, housing, water, electricity, gas, transport, education and restaurants and hotels. With regard to the annual core inflation in October (excluded food and non-alcoholic beverages, tobacco, energy, regulated tariffs, transport), the prices increased by 2.1%. In September\* 2023, the annual forecasted GDP deflator amounted to 0.6%.



<sup>1</sup> MoM annualized growth rate of real GDP is calculated on the basis of real GDP data by removing seasonality and random shocks, in order to showcase development trends

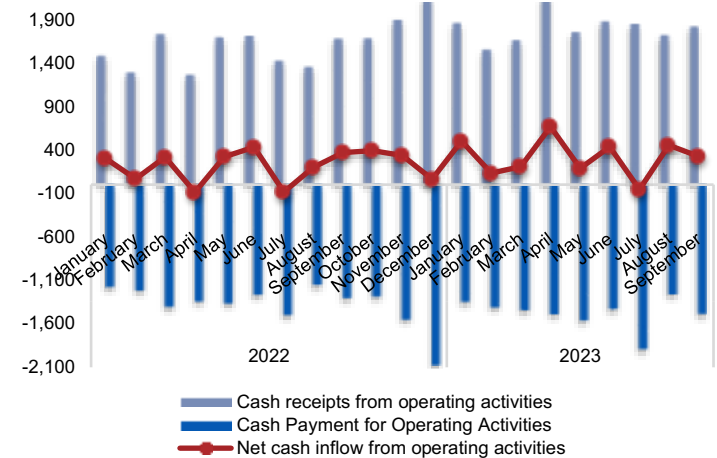
**Consolidated Budget Balance**  
(Mln GEL)



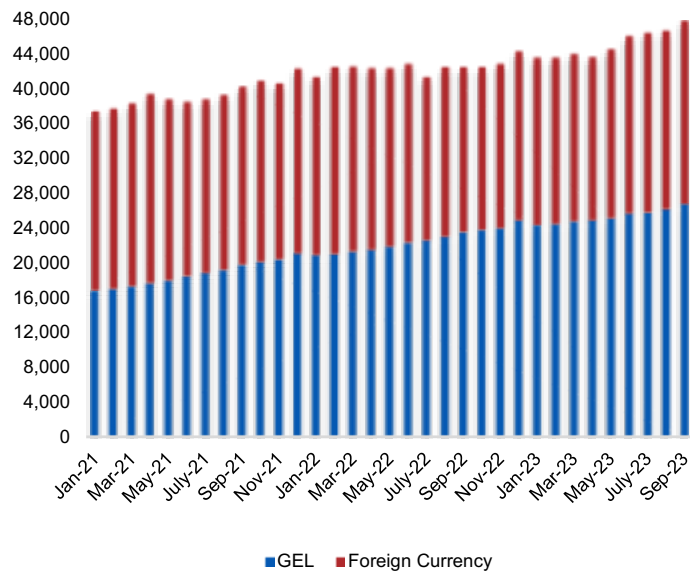
**In September\*, the general government net lending/borrowing was negative.**

In September\* 2023, general government revenues increased by 8.4% YoY, while expenses increased by 14.0% YoY. In the analyzing period, the general government positive net operating balance amounted to 325.1 million GEL, while negative net lending/borrowing (budget deficit) was defined at 233.8 million GEL.

**Receipts and Payments**  
(Mln GEL)



**Commercial Bank Loans**  
(Mln GEL)

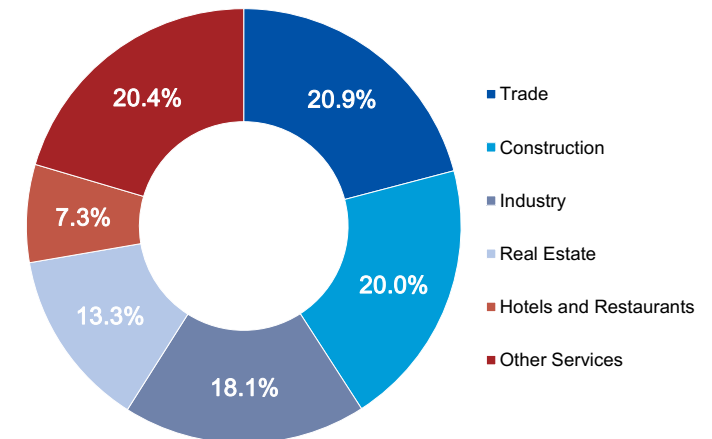


**In September\*, compared to the same period of the previous year, commercial bank loans to the national economy increased in both national currency and foreign currency.**

In September\* 2023, compared to the September of the previous year, commercial bank loans increased by 12.4% and amounted to 47.7 billion GEL. National currency loans increased by 13.9%, while foreign currency loans increased by 10.6%. It's worth mentioning, that more than half of total loans (54.2%) was distributed to households.

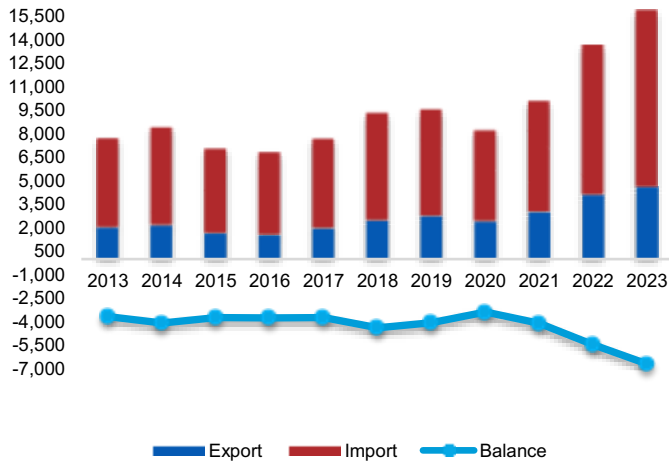
As for loans issued by types of activity, the highest 20.9% were issued in trade, 20.0% in construction, 18.1% in industry, 13.3% in real estate and 7.3% in the field of hotels and restaurants.

**Loans by Types of Activity**  
(Flows)



## 2. External Sector

**External Trade Indicators**  
(Mln USD)  
January - September

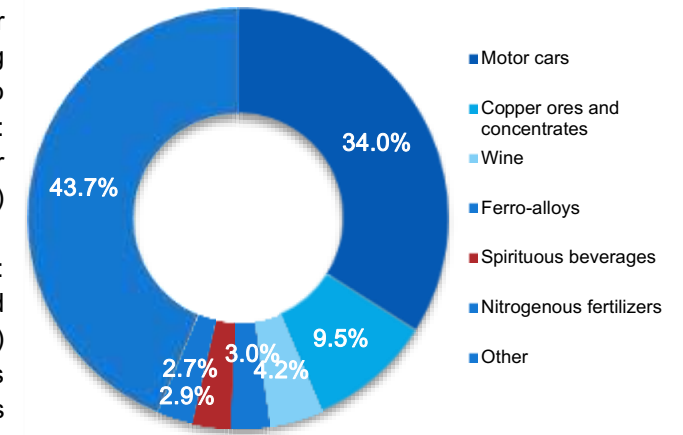


**In January - September\*, both export and import of goods have increased.**

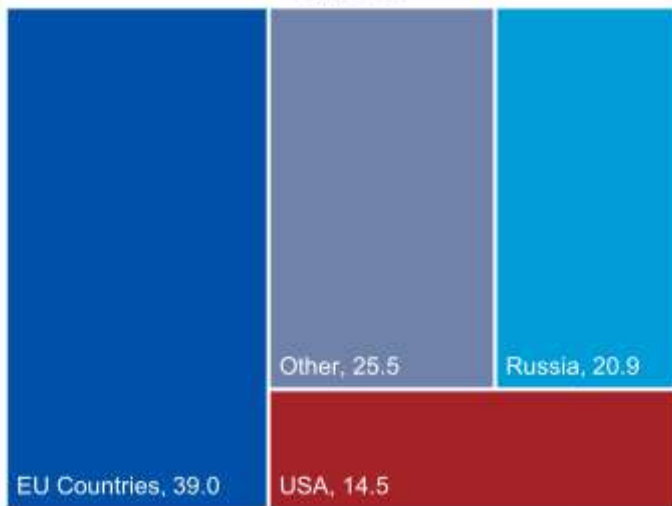
In January - September\*, exports increased by 12.7%, while imports increased by 18.2% YoY. As a result, trade turnover amounted to 15,911 million USD (16.5% increase YoY). During this period, the share of exports in external trade amounted to 29.0%. Export growth was substantial in the following countries: Kyrgyzstan (897%, due to the increase of re-exported motor cars), Kazakhstan (230%), Armenia (64%), Azerbaijan (30%) and others.

High growth was recorded in several export commodity groups: motor cars (164%), mineral and aerated waters with added sugar (41%), alcoholic beverages (37%), mineral waters (28%) el. energy (23%), wines (12%). While deterioration was recorded in several groups: Ferro-alloys (68%), Copper ores (42%) and Nitrogenous fertilizers (41%).

**Major Commodity Groups by Exports**  
(January - September)



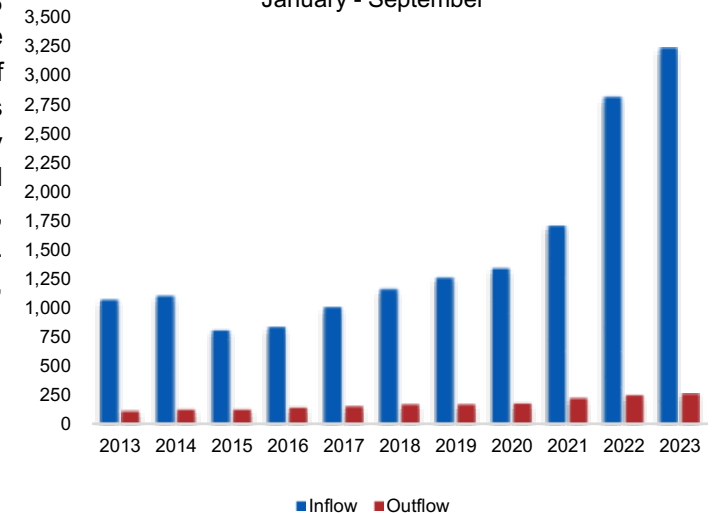
**Remittance (%)**  
September



**In September\*, remittances decreased**

In September\*, remittances in Georgia decreased by 26.7% YoY and amounted to 283.9 million USD. In September\*, the main source of money transfers were EU countries (39.0% of total) and Russia (20.9%). In the analyzing period, remittances increased significantly from the following countries: Iraq (by 472.1%), Hungary (by 388.6%), Jordan (by 358.1%), Ireland (by 90.5%), Kazakhstan (by 80.6%), USA (by 43.8%), Germany (by 32.8%), Canada (by 21.5%) and others. Remittances deteriorated from Armenia (by 84.6%), Kyrgyzstan (by 76.1%), Russia (by 65.8%).

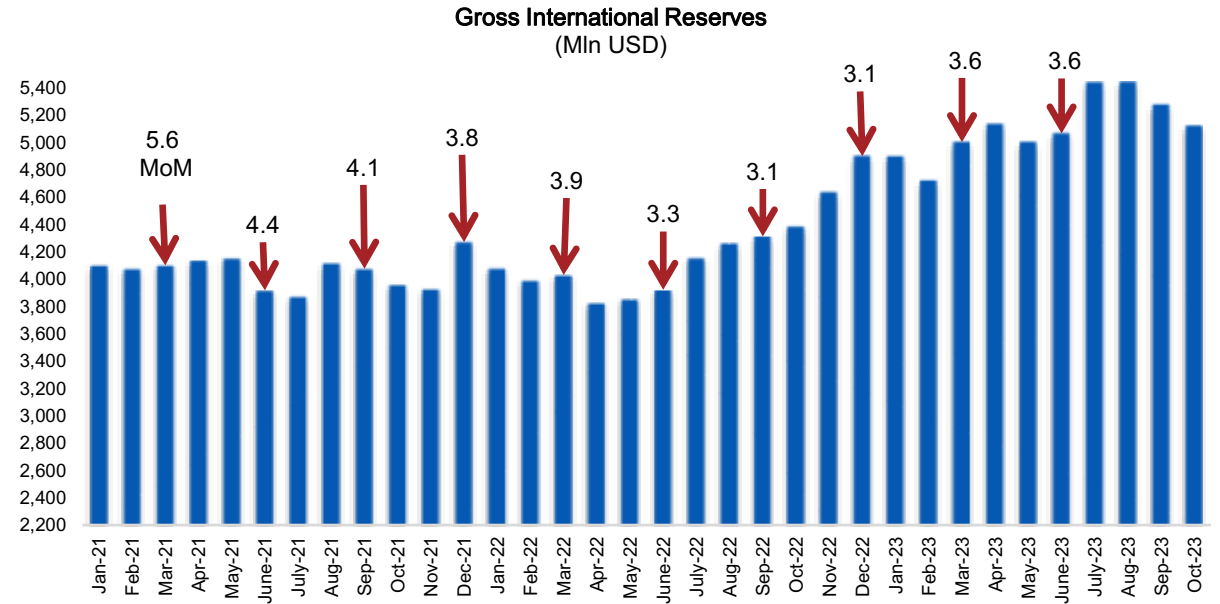
**Remittance**  
(Mln USD)  
January - September



**In October, international reserves reached 5,119 million USD.**

In October, international reserves amounted to 5,119 million USD, which is a 16.7% increase YoY and 2.9% decrease MoM.

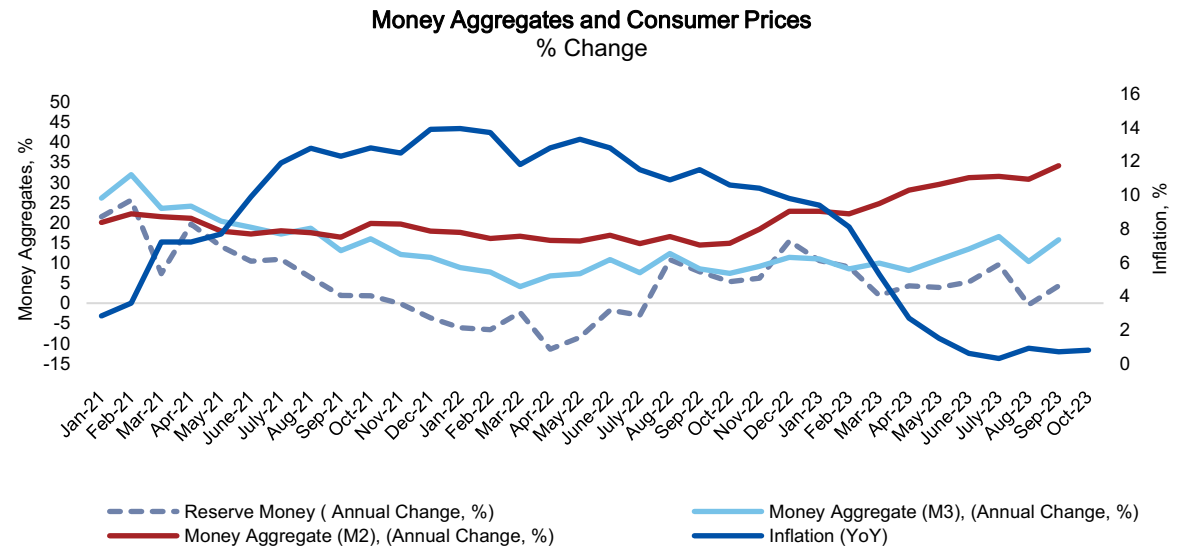
In October 2023, the National Bank of Georgia sold 84.9 million USD through the foreign exchange auctions.



### 3. Monetary Sector

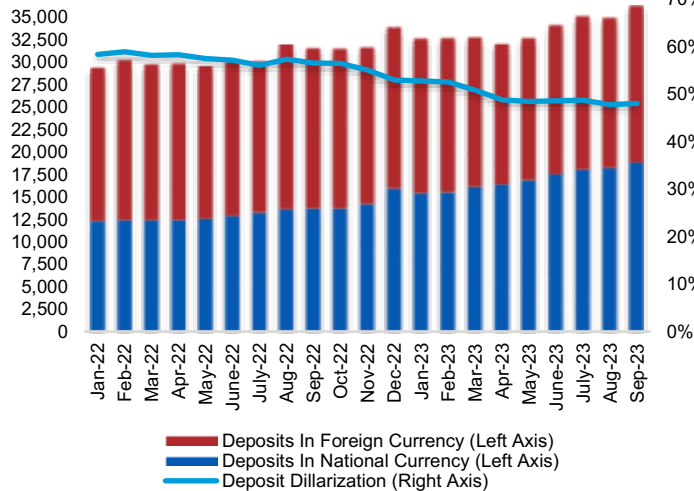
**In September\*, compared to the same period of the previous year, reserve money had an increasing tendency.**

In September\* 2023, reserve money increased by 4.3% YoY, money aggregate M2 increased by 34.2%, and money aggregate M3 – by 15.7%. In October 2023, consumer price inflation amounted to 0.8% YoY.



#### Deposits and Dollarization

(Mln GEL, %)

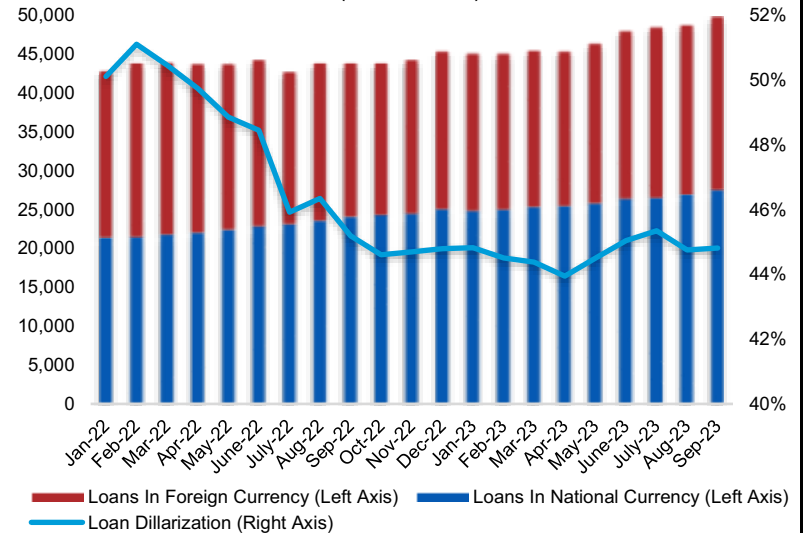


**In September\*, the dollarization on deposits and on loans increased MoM.**

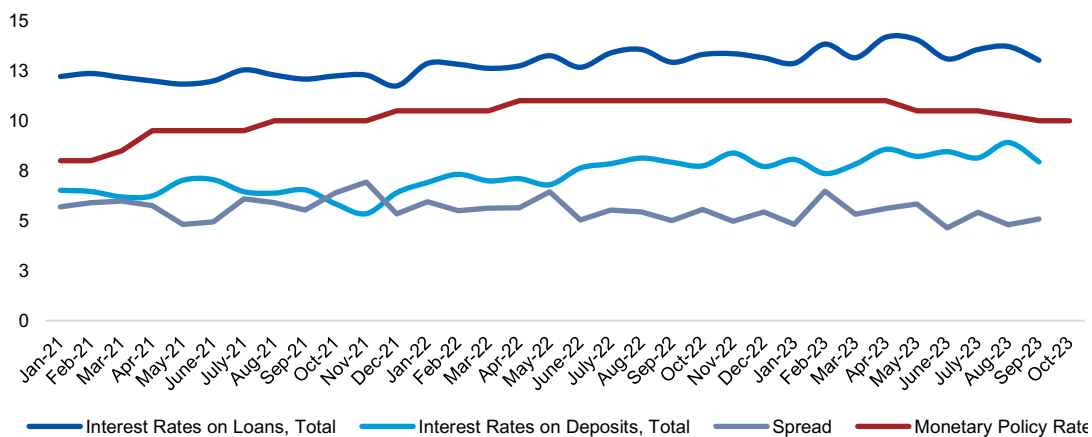
In September\* 2023, the deposit dollarization indicator increased by 0.28 pp and amounted to 48.1% MoM, while loan dollarization increased by 0.06 pp and made up to 44.8%. In September\*, foreign currency deposits increased by 4.4% MoM, while national currency deposits increased by 3.2%.

#### Loans and Dollarization

(Mln GEL, %)



**Market Interest Rates on Loans and Deposits (%)**



**In September\*, interest rates on deposits decreased by 1.0 pp MoM, while interest rates on loans decreased by 0.7 pp MoM.**

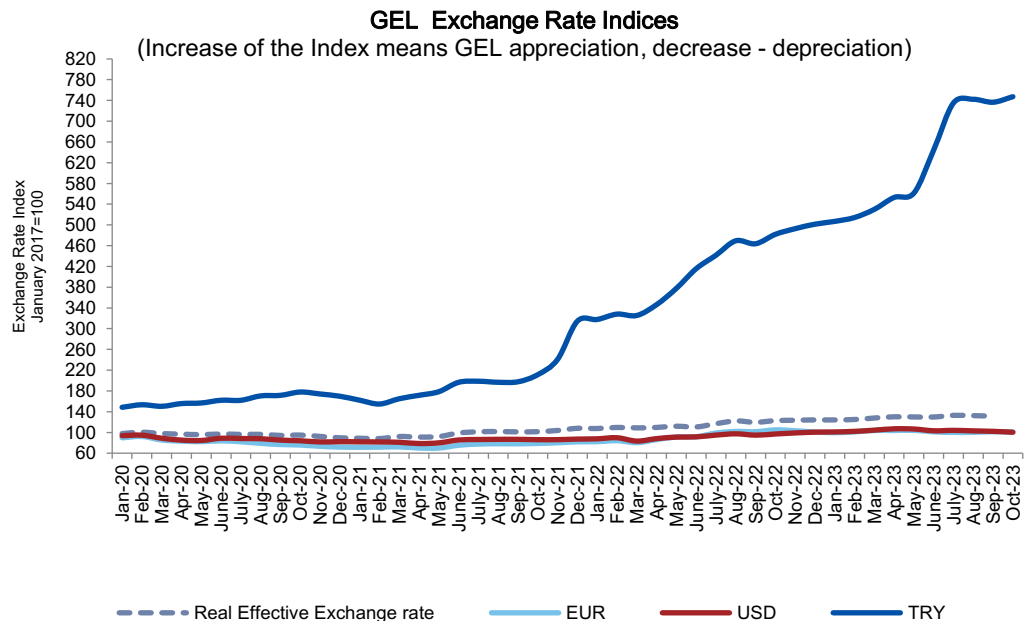
In September\* 2023, market interest rates on loans amounted to 13.0%, while interest rates on deposits were defined at 7.9%. The interest rate spread (difference between loan and deposit rates) amounted to 5.1% as of September\* 2023, 0.08 pp higher compared to September 2022.

On October 25, 2023, the monetary policy committee of the National Bank of Georgia decided to maintain the monetary policy rate at 10.0%.

**In October, compared to the previous month, the GEL shows depreciation towards USD and toward EUR.**

In October 2023, GEL depreciated against USD by 1.7%, depreciated against EUR by 0.4%, while appreciated against TRY by 1.5% MoM. In the analyzing period, the nominal effective exchange rate depreciated as well. In October, the GEL exchange rate appreciated by 3.5% YoY towards USD, depreciated by 3.9% YoY towards EUR and appreciated by 55.1% YoY towards TRY.

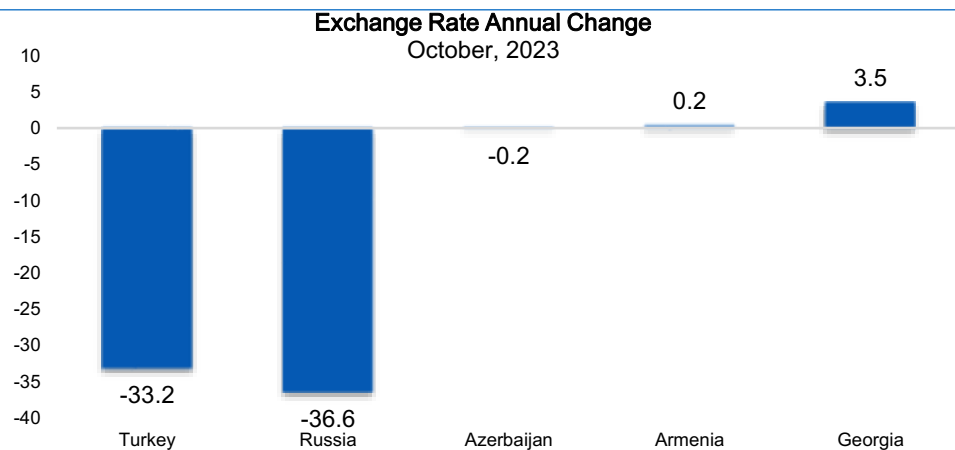
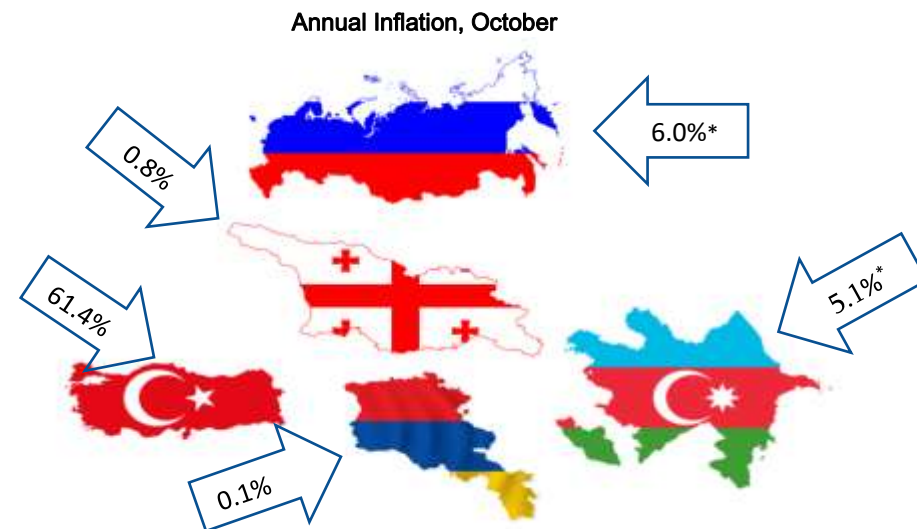
It should be noted, that in recent months, the volume of foreign direct investments, remittances, income from tourism and export in Georgia has increased significantly, which had a positive effect on the appreciation of the GEL.



## 4. Regional Review

**In October, consumer price inflation stands out with similar dynamic trends in the region countries, except Turkey.**

Namely, in October 2023, annual inflation amounted to 61.4% in Turkey. Inflation was lower in Armenia (0.1%). As for Azerbaijan and Russia, in September\* 2023, consumer prices increased by 5.1% YoY in Azerbaijan and by 6.0% YoY in Russia.



**In October, part of the currencies of the region countries stand out with a tendency of appreciation towards USD, while others depreciated.**

Particularly, in October 2023, AMD appreciated by 0.2% YoY towards USD. In the analyzing period RUB depreciated by 36.6% YoY, TRY by 33.2% YoY and AZN by 0.2% YoY towards USD.

### Sources of Used Data:

1. National Statistics Office of Georgia
2. Ministry of Finance of Georgia

3. National Bank of Georgia
4. Georgian National Tourism Administration

## Summary Tables of Main Economic Indicators

**Table N1. Main Economic Indicators**

		Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sep 23	Oct 23
Real Sector	GDP Growth Rate (%)	8.3	9.3	11.0	8.4	5.8	7.3	7.5	7.0	7.7	5.5	5.8	5.1	
	VAT Turnover Growth Rate (%)	14.8	16.7	16.6	18.8	11.7	9.2	6.1	5.2	6.1	2.9	4.2	3.0	
Monetary Sector	Inflation (%)	10.6	10.4	9.8	9.4	8.1	5.3	2.7	1.5	0.6	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.8
	Monetary Policy Rate (%)	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.25	10.00	10.00
	Deposit Dollarization (%)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	
	Loan Dollarization (%)	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
External Sector	Exchange Rate (GEL)	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7
	Remittances (Thousand USD)	501,998.8	521,164.6	535,251.1	444,964.0	372,328.3	438,392.2	369,709.2	384,885.8	353,170.7	301,068.1	287,005.6	283,878.0	
	Export (USD Million)	448.7	490.7	555.8	459.0	455.8	546.7	500.5	541.4	550.4	529.8	495.8	528.0	
	Import (USD Million)	1,203.9	1,310.9	1,469.3	1,114.9	1,067.5	1,378.1	1,222.9	1,328.2	1,338.5	1,319.7	1,292.3	1,241.4	
	Trade Balance (USD Million)	-755.2	-820.2	-913.5	-655.9	-611.7	-831.4	-722.4	-786.8	-788.0	-789.9	-796.5	-713.3	
	International Reserves (USD Million)	4,385.6	4,636.7	4,900.6	4,899.3	4,720.2	5,003.8	5,133.4	5,005.3	5,066.7	5,436.1	5,436.8	5,273.2	5,118.8
Fiscal Sector	Revenues (GEL Million)	1,688.4	1,898.4	2,151.6	1,858.0	1,555.1	1,656.6	2,165.0	1,755.9	1,877.8	1,846.9	1,721.5	1,821.2	
	Recurrent Expenditure (GEL Million)	1,296.9	1,561.6	2,090.5	1,357.0	1,422.1	1,450.0	1,496.7	1,568.9	1,441.2	1,901.2	1,269.0	1,496.1	
	Capital Expenditure (GEL Million)	148.0	600.3	1,054.5	185.9	313.1	317.4	414.1	400.6	495.8	365.4	659.1	616.0	

Increase
  Decrease
  Change < 1%

**Table N2<sup>2</sup>.** Comparison of key economic indicators with similar data for the corresponding month of last year.

		10.2022	11.2022	12.2022	01.2023	02.2023	03.2023	04.2023	05.2023	06.2023	07.2023	08.2023	09.2023	10.2023
<b>Real Sector</b>	GDP Growth Rate													
	VAT Turnover Growth Rate													
<b>Monetary Sector</b>	Inflation													
	Monetary Policy Rate													
	Deposit Dolarization													
	Loan Dolarization													
<b>External Sector</b>	Exchange Rate													
	Remittances													
	Export													
	Import													
	Trade Balance													
	International Rerves													
<b>Fiscal Sector</b>	Revenues													
	Recurent Expenditure													
	Capital Expenditure													

**Table N3.** Comparison of key economic indicators with similar data of the previous month.

		10.2022	11.2022	12.2022	01.2023	02.2023	03.2023	04.2023	05.2023	06.2023	07.2023	08.2023	09.2023	10.2023
<b>Real Sector</b>	GDP Growth Rate													
	VAT Turnover Growth Rate													
<b>Monetary Sector</b>	Inflation													
	Monetary Policy Rate													
	Deposit Dolarization													
	Loan Dolarization													
<b>External Sector</b>	Exchange Rate													
	Remittances													
	Export													
	Import													
	Trade Balance													
	International Rerves													
<b>Fiscal Sector</b>	Revenues													
	Recurent Expenditure													
	Capital Expenditure													

<sup>2</sup> Indicators of table N2 and N3 are based on the data in Table N1.