# Macroeconomics Review April 2025

▲ 87.56

Monetary Policy	Inflation Rates	Annual inflation was 3.4% in April, down 0.1pp from the previous month.
	Refinance Rates	The ECB lowered its monetary policy rate by 25 BP at its last meeting.
	International Reserves	International reserves rose by \$207 million in April, reaching \$4.52 billion.
Macroeconomic Outlooks	Real GDP	Real GDP witnessed a 9.0% annual growth in March.
	Tourism Sector	Tourism revenues reached \$826 million in Q1 2025.
	Residential Real Estate	Tbilisi's real estate market size amounted to \$243 mln in March ( $+16.1\%$ y/y).
External Trade	Exports Dynamics	Exports experienced an 8.2% increase from the previous year in March.
	Imports Dynamics	Annually, March Imports have shown a 14.3% increase.
	Other Observations	Motor car exports increased by 19% compared to the previous year.
Additional oservations	Remittance Inflows	Remittance inflows in March increased by 3.9% y/y, amounting to \$292 mln.
	Exchange Rates	GEL appreciated by 0.48% against the USD in April.

S&P 500 rose 9% to \$5,844, Bitcoin up by 22% to \$102,644.

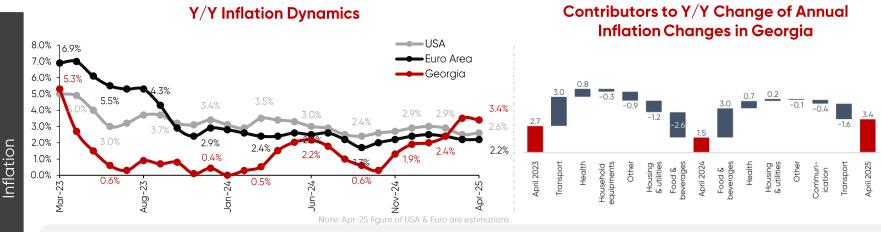
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Market Watch

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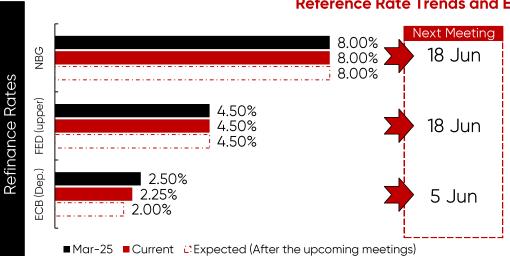
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- In April, Georgia's annual inflation rose to 3.4%, driven mainly by higher prices in food and non-alcoholic beverages (+2.43pp contribution) and healthcare (+0.77pp).
- Domestic inflation amounted to 4.7% (2.2PP contribution in total) in April, mixed\* 5.0% (1.5PP) and imported -1.0% (-0.2PP).
- Monthly inflation amounted to 0.2%, mainly influenced by price changes for the Food and non-alcoholic beverages (0.18PP).

\*Including products that are imported as well as those produced domestically.

Sources: Geostat, Eurostat, US Bureau of Labor Statistics



## **Reference Rate Trends and Expectations**

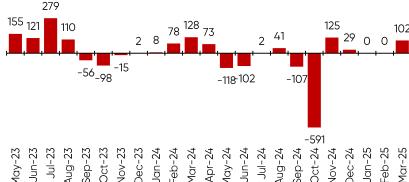
- Over the past month, inflation in Georgia slightly declined from 3.5% to 3.4%. Despite the decrease, inflation remains above the NBG's target level of 3%, making a rate cut unlikely.
- The Fed kept its benchmark rate at 4.50%, citing solid economic activity and a strong labor market, despite lingering inflation pressures. Elevated uncertainty and balanced risks to inflation and employment supported the decision to hold.
- ECB lowered its deposit facility rate by 25 basis points to 2.25%, continuing its monetary easing cycle. Policymakers remain cautious, signaling that future rate adjustments will depend on inflation trends and external risks.

Sources: NBG, Bloomberg, ECB

### NBG Reserves Dynamics (US\$ bln)

#### **NBG Net Purchases (US\$ mln)**



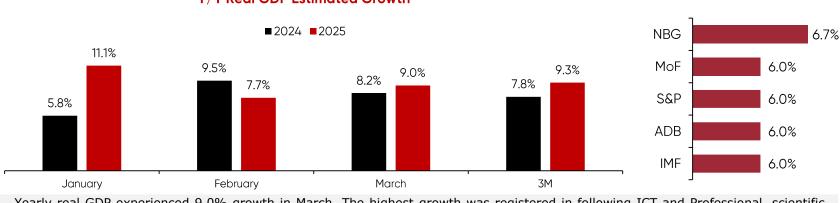


- As of April, national reserves amounted to \$4.52 billion, reflecting an increase of \$208 million from the previous month.
- In March, the NBG conducted its first foreign exchange operations of the year, purchasing \$102 million via the Bmatch platform.
- Year-over-Year national reserves decreased by \$296 mln.

Source: NBG

#### Y/Y Real GDP Estimated Growth

#### Forecasts for 2025:



- Yearly real GDP experienced 9.0% growth in March. The highest growth was registered in following ICT and Professional, scientific and technical activities.
- Due to strong economic growth in the first quarter of 2025, both the National Bank of Georgia and the Ministry of Finance revised their annual GDP forecasts upward, with NBG increasing its projection from 5.0% to 6.7% and the MoF raising its estimate from 5.5% to 6.0%.

Sources: Geostat , MoF, S&P, IMF

#### **Tourism Income by Countries (US\$ mln) Tourists by Countries (Q1-25)** Main Figures of Tourism (Q1-25) Tourism Income (mln) **Total Visitors** ■ Q1-24 ■Q1-25 \$240 \$249 \$826 1.31mln \$171 Y/Y▲ 2.3% Y/Y**▲** 1.1% Others \$117 \$107 \$114 \$108\$103 Tourist Trips Same Day Trips \$33 \$34 0.96mln 0.21mln \$31 \$28 India 29 Y/Y▲ 2.2% Y/Y**▼** -2.4% Iran 2% Azerbaijan 6% EU & UK Azerbaijan Ukraine Russia Israel Turkey Armenia Other

In the first quarter of 2025, tourism income reached \$826 million, marking a 2.3% increase compared to the same period last year.

Source: Geostat



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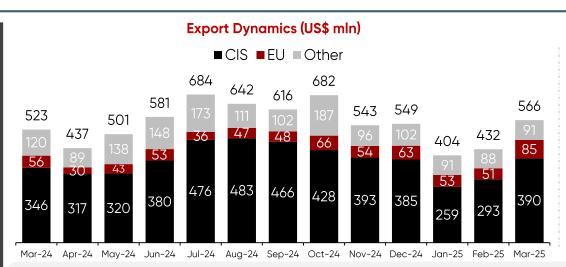
Dynamics of Tbilisi's Housing Market Size (US\$ mln)

- In Mar-25, the market size in Tbilisi amounted to 243 mln and saw 3.2% m/m and 16.1% y/y increase.
- In Tbilisi, during the fourth quarter of 2024, the number of residential building permits issued declined by 2% to 1,168, while the permitted area, in terms of square meters, increased by 11.5% to 1,568 thousand.

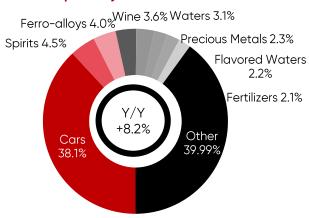
Note: Changes in rent prices are derived from NBG data, while absolute values are sourced from SS.ge.

Sources: NBG, Recov, SS.ge, Geostat

Export Dynamics

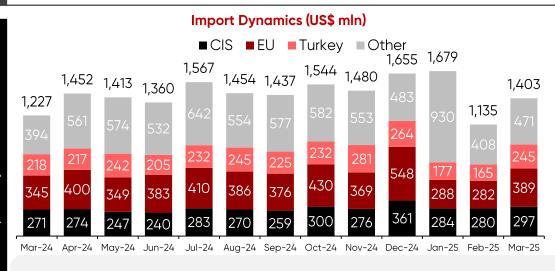


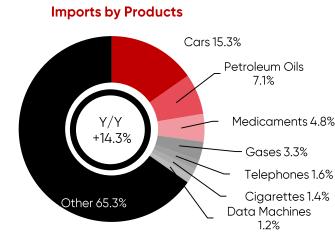
## **Exports by Products**



- In March, exports totaled \$566 million, marking a 8.2% increase compared to the same period last year. Exports to the EU rose by 51%, while exports to CIS countries increased by 13%.
- Key contributors to this increase were Motor Cars (+6.6 PP effect in total) and Precious metals (+1.4PP), while Wines (-3.0PP), had the biggest negative impact.

Source: Geostat



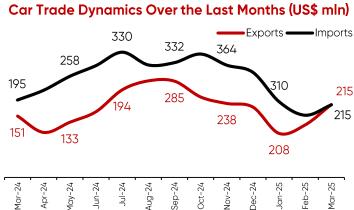


- Imports to Georgia amounted to \$1.4 bln In March illustrating a 14.3% increase from March 2024.
- Key contributors to this increase were Medicaments (+1.5PP effect in total growth) and Cigarettes (+0.7PP).

Source: Geostat



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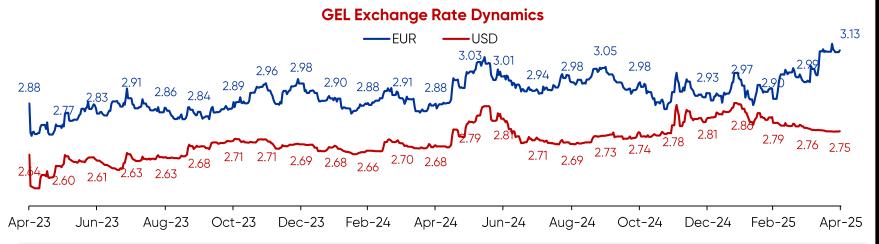
- Compared to March 2024, exports of Precious Metals Increased by 132%.
- Motor car exports increased by 19% compared to the previous year, while imports decreased by 6.2%; however, import figures are subject to revision and are likely to increase.

Source: Geostat

#### Remittances Inflow Dynamics (US\$ mln) **Top 10 Countries and** Y/Y Change (Mar-25) ■EU ■CIS ■USA ■Other USA 1 \$55 mln 21.7% 298 291 292 283 285 284 281 279 281 281 2 Italy \$50 mln 7.1% 267 252 242 3 Russia \$38 mln -29.1% 4 Greece \$24 mln 14.8% 5 19.2% Germany \$24 mln 47 72 67 60 75 74 72 72 60 54 53 6 50 Israel \$21 mln 1.8% 43 7 Turkey \$9 mln 3.5% 128 129 117 121 120 125 8 \$7 mln 154.8% Kyrgyzstan 9 Spain \$7 mln 22.3% 10 \$7 mln -44.3% Mar-24 Apr-24 May-24 Jun-24 Jul-24 Aug-24 Sep-24 Oct-24 Nov-24 Dec-24 Jan-25 Feb-25 Mar-25 Kazakhstan

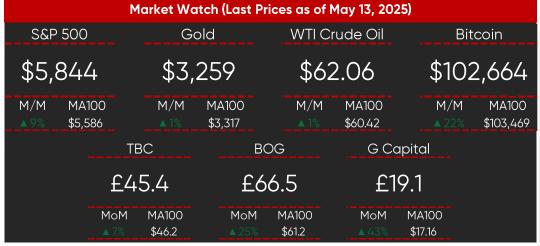
- Yearly remittance inflows in Georgia increased by 3.9% and amounted to \$292 mln in March.
- Highest decrease in inflows was from Russia (-15 mln) while inflows from Kyrgyzstan (4.2 mln), Germany (3.9 mln) and Greece (3.1 mln) had highest growths.

Source: NBG



• In April, GEL appreciated by 0.48% against the USD and deppreciated by 4.52% against the Euro.

Sources: NBG



MA100 is the moving average price over the last 100 days

- S&P 500 rose by 9% m/m to \$5,844, driven by easing inflation, solid earnings, and market relief following the U.S.-China agreement to roll back tariffs over the next 90 days.
- Gold edged up 1% m/m to \$3,259, as improving trade sentiment and a stronger dollar limited safe-haven demand despite ongoing geopolitical risks.
- Bitcoin surged 22% m/m to \$102,664, supported by institutional inflows and rising confidence in crypto amid broad market gains and easing global trade tensions.
- WTI Crude Oil rose 1% m/m to \$62.06, as trade optimism offset pressure from rising U.S. inventories and OPEC+'s decision to gradually increase output starting May.

Sources: Bloomberg, LSE

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