## Macroeconomics Review May 2025

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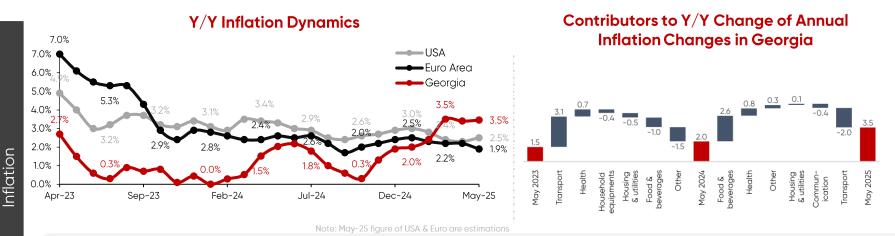
Monetary Policy	Inflation Rates	Annual inflation was 3.5% in May, up 0.1pp from the previous month.
	Refinance Rates	The ECB lowered its monetary policy rate by 25 BP at its last meeting.
	International Reserves	International reserves rose by \$67 million in May, reaching \$4.58 billion.
Macroeconomic Outlooks	Real GDP	Real GDP witnessed a 7.5% annual growth in April.
	<u>Labor Market</u>	In the first quarter, the unemployment rate amounted to 14.7%.
	Residential Real Estate	Tbilisi's real estate market size amounted to \$244 mln in April (+6% y/y).
External Trade	Exports Dynamics	Exports experienced an 41% increase from the previous year in April.
	Imports Dynamics	Annually, April Imports have shown a 3.6% decrease.
	Other Observations	Motor car exports increased by 91% compared to the previous year.
Additional Observations	<u>FDI</u>	FDI in 1Q-25 amounted to \$179 mln, 8% decrease from 2024 figure.
	Exchange Rates	GEL appreciated by 0.57% against the USD in May.
	<u>Market Watch</u>	S&P 500 rose by 7% to \$6,000, Bitcoin up by 4% to \$107,000.

### Report was created by Macroeconomics & Research Unit

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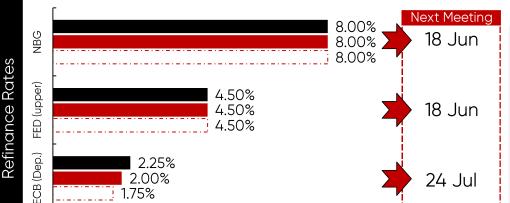
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- In May, Georgia's annual inflation rose to 3.5%, driven mainly by higher prices in food and non-alcoholic beverages (+2.82pp contribution) and healthcare (+0.75pp).
- Domestic inflation amounted to 4.9% (2.3PP contribution in total) in May, mixed\* 5.8% (1.7PP) and imported -2.0% (-0.5PP).
- Monthly inflation amounted to 0.4%, mainly influenced by price changes for the Food and non-alcoholic beverages (0.51PP).

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

Sources: Geostat, Eurostat, US Bureau of Labor Statistics



## Reference Rate Trends and Expectations

- This month, inflation in Georgia was 3.5%, slightly higher than last month's 3.4%. With inflation still above the NBG's target rate of 3%, there is no expectation of a rate cut.
- Due to strong job data, including positive job openings and nonfarm payrolls reports and inflation above the Fed's 2% target at 2.3%, with expectations for a higher reading in May, there are no expectations of a rate cut. The Fed is likely to maintain its current stance as economic conditions remain strong, with inflation above target.
- The ECB lowered its deposit facility rate by 25 bps to 2.0%, continuing its monetary easing cycle. Policymakers signaled that they are nearing the end of this cycle, with expectations that the next rate cut will occur at the upcoming meeting, after which no further cuts are anticipated.

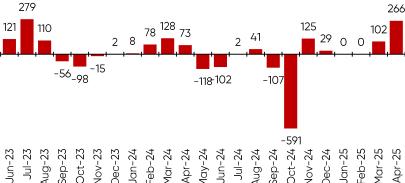
Sources: NBG, Bloomberg, ECB

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

■ Apr-25 ■ Current :: Expected (After the upcoming meetings)

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

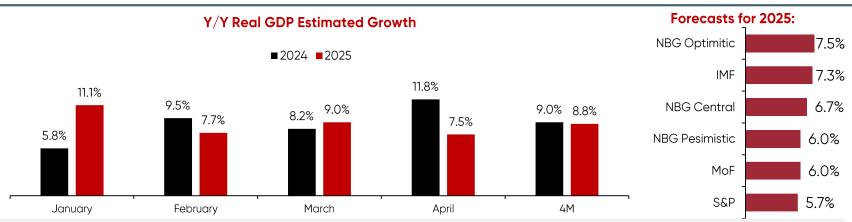




- As of May, national reserves amounted to \$4.58 billion, reflecting an increase of \$67 million from the previous month.
- In April, the NBG purchased \$266 million via the Bmatch platform.
- Year-over-Year national reserves decreased by \$15 mln.

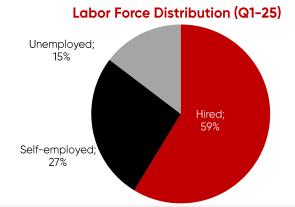
Source: NBG

International Reserves Dynamics

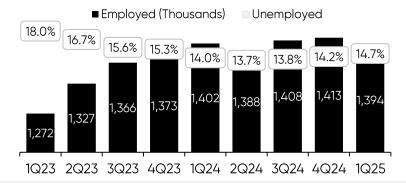


- Yearly real GDP experienced 7.5% growth in April. The highest growth was registered in following ICT and Financial and Insurance activities.
- The IMF has increased Georgia's 2025 GDP growth forecast from 6.0% to 7.3%, citing strong early-year performance. Last month, both the NBG and MoF also raised their projections.

Sources: Geostat Sollate Supplement



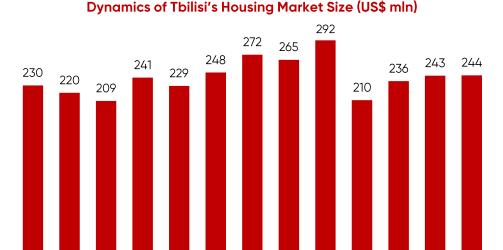
### Population Distribution by Employment Type (%)



In Q1, the unemployment rate was 14.7%, and employment fell 7.6K y/y due to a 13.5K drop in self-employed, partly offset by a 5.3K rise in hired.

Source: Geosta





Apr-24 May-24 Jun-24 Jul-24 Aug-24 Sep-24 Oct-24 Nov-24 Dec-24 Jan-25 Feb-25 Mar-25 Apr-25

- In Apr-25, the market size in Tbilisi amounted to \$244 mln and saw 0.2% m/m and 6% y/y increase.
- In Tbilisi, during the first quarter of 2025, the number of residential building permits declined by 8% year-on-year to 873, while the permitted area rose by 0.7% to 1,123 thousand square meters.

Source: Colliers, Geostat

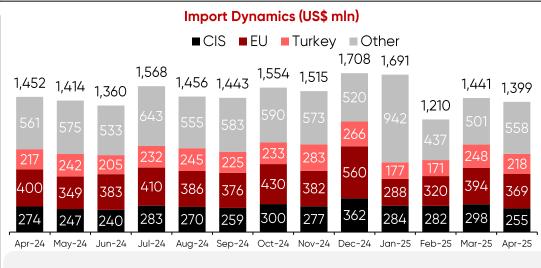
Export Dynamics

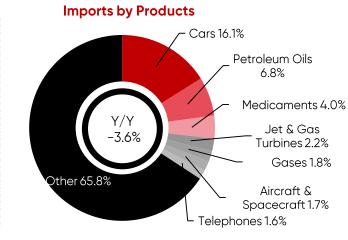
### **Export Dynamics (US\$ mln)** ■CIS ■EU ■Other 684 682 642 616 617 581 562 549 543 501 437 432 404 81 483 466 428 393 390 380 385 293 Apr-24 May-24 Jun-24 Jul-24 Aug-24 Sep-24 Oct-24 Nov-24 Dec-24 Jan-25 Feb-25 Mar-25 Apr-25

# Wine 3.6% Spirits 3.5% Waters 2.1% Precious Metals 7.0% Copper 2.0% Gold 1.7% Ferro-alloys 1.7% Other 37.33%

- In April, exports totaled \$617 million, marking a 41.1% increase compared to the same period last year. Exports to the EU rose by 154.4%, while exports to CIS countries increased by 39.4%.
- Key contributors to this increase were Motor Cars (+27.5 PP effect in total) and Precious metals (+8.5PP), while Wines (-4.8PP), had
  the biggest negative impact.

Source: Geostat



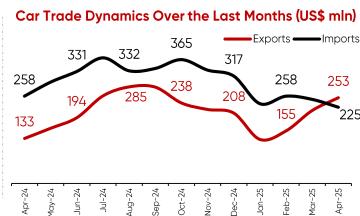


- Imports to Georgia amounted to \$1.39 bln In April illustrating a 3.6% decrease from March 2024.
- Key contributors to this decrease were Data Machines (-3.2PP effect in total growth) and Petroleum Oils (-3.2PP).

Source: Geostat



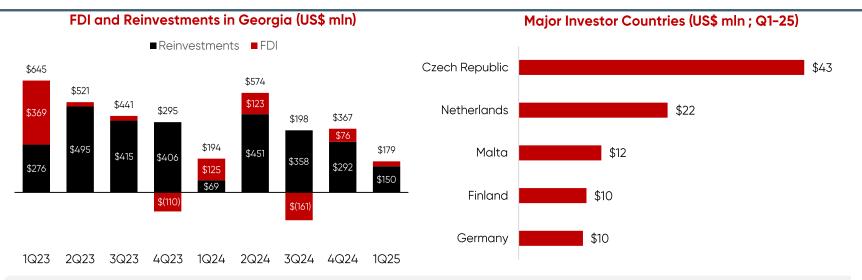




- Compared to April 2024, exports of Precious Metals Increased by 589%.
- Motor car exports increased by 90.7% compared to the previous year, while imports decreased by 12.7%; however, import figures are subject to revision and are likely to increase.

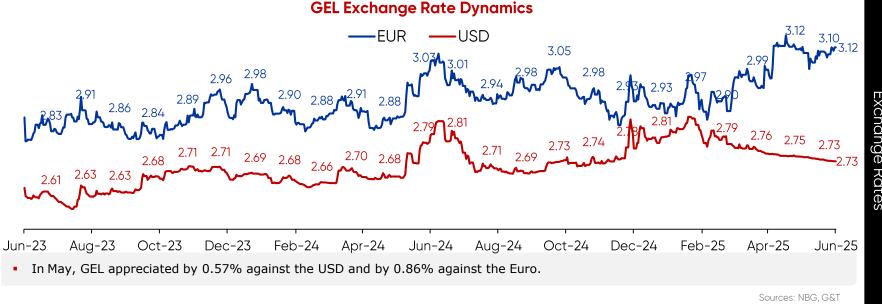
Source: Geostat

Page 4



- In 1Q25, FDI amounted to \$179 million, reflecting a 7.7% decrease compared to the same period last year.
- The Czech Republic was the major foreign direct investor in 1Q25, with \$43 million (23.9% of the total). The Netherlands followed with \$22 million (12.5% of the total), and Malta came third with \$12 million (6.9% of the total).

Source: NBG





MA100 is the moving average price over the last 100 days

- S&P 500 rose by 7% m/m to \$6,000, driven by cooling inflation, strong corporate earnings, and renewed optimism after the U.S. and China formally began rolling back tariffs under a new 90-day accord.
- WTI Crude Oil rose by 7% m/m to \$64.89, supported by robust summer demand, OPEC+'s continued quota discipline, and geopolitical tensions around key supply routes adding a modest risk premium to oil markets.
- Bitcoin climbed 4% m/m to \$106,994, fueled by continued institutional ETF inflows, improving macro conditions, and growing investor confidence.

Sources: Bloomberg, LSE

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