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

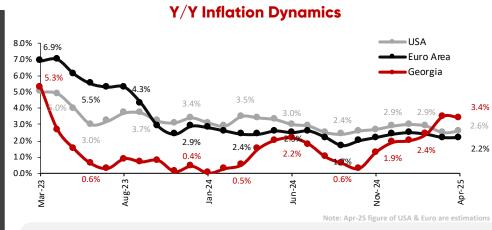
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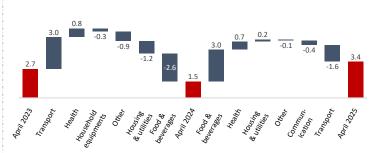
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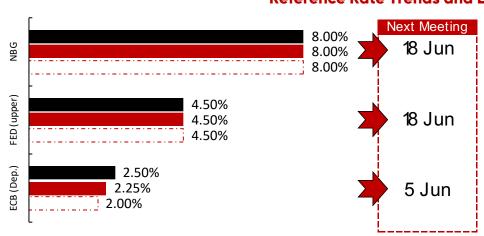
#### Contributors to Y/Y Change of Annual Inflation Changes in Georgia



- 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



Expected (After the upcoming meetings)

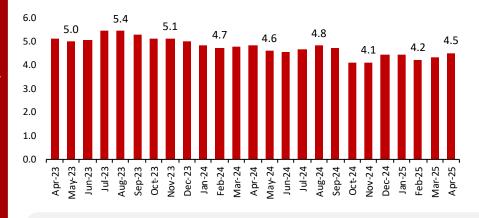
#### **Reference Rate Trends and Expectations**

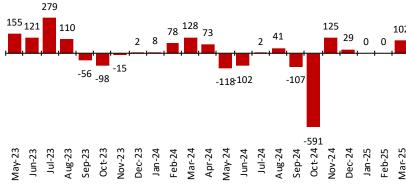
- Over the past month, inflation in Georgia slightly declined from 3.5% to 3.4%. Despite the decrease, inflation remains above the NBG's target level of 3%, making a rate cut unlikely.
- The Fed kept its benchmark rate at 4.50%, citing solid economic activity and a strong labor market, despite lingering 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.

nternational Reserves Dynamics

Inflation

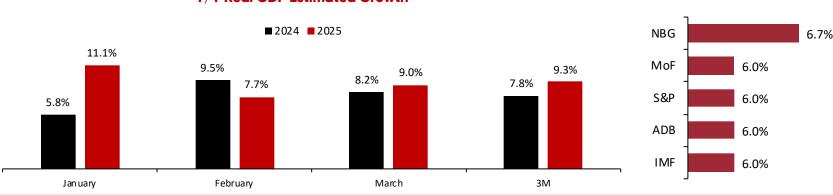
Refinance Rates

■ Mar-25

Current

#### 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
- 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 Turkey 19% \$171 Y/Y **▲** 2.3% Y/Y **▲ 1.1%** Others 49% \$117 \$107 \$108\$103 Tourist Trips Same Day Trips 0.21mln 0.96mln \$33 \$34 \$31 \$28 Y/Y ▲ 2.2% Y/Y **▼-2.4%** Iran 2% Israel Turkey EU & UK Azer ba ij an Other Russia Azerbaijan 6%

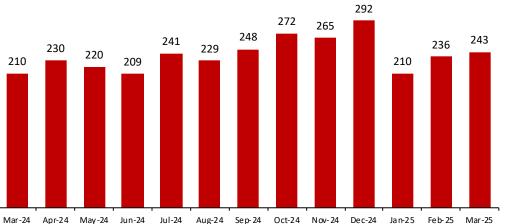
In the first quarter of 2025, tourism income reached \$826 million, marking a 2.3% increase compared to the same period last year.

Source: Geostat

#### Tbilisi Residential Estate Market (Mar-25)



### Dynamics of Tbilisi's Housing Market Size (US\$ mln) 272



- 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** 

Mar-24

Apr-24

May -24

Jun-24

#### Export Dynamics (US\$ mln)

#### ■ CIS ■ EU ■ Other 682 684 642 616 581 566 549 543 523 501 437 432 404 85 476 483 466 428 380 346 259

Se p- 24

Oct-24

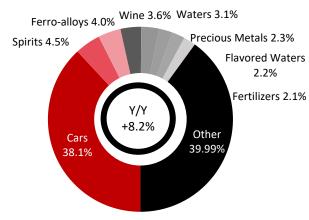
Nov-24

De c-24

Jul-24

Aug-24

#### **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%.

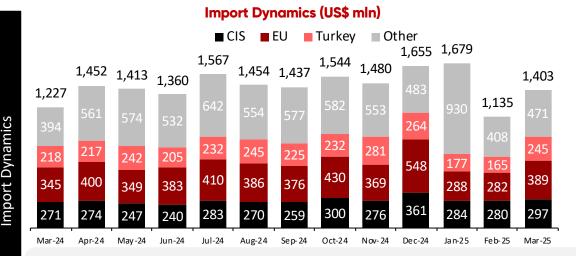
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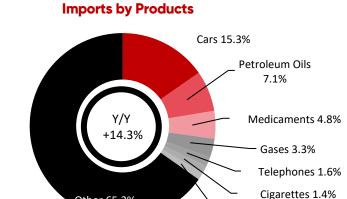
Feb-25

Mar-25

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

Data Machines 1.2%



# 

# Car Trade Dynamics Over the Last Months (US\$ mln) 330 332 364 Exports Imports 310 215 215 238 208

Other 65.3%

- 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% 298 291 292 285 284 281 283 281 2 Italy \$50 mln 7.1% 267 252 242 3 Russia \$38 mln -29.1% Greece \$24 mln 14.8% 5 \$24 mln 19.2% Germany 72 59 72 72 60 54 60 53 6 Israel \$21 mln 1.8% 50 7 Turkey \$9 mln 3.5%

109

Ian -25

Feb-25

132

Mar-25

8

9

10

Kyrgyzstan

Kazakhstan

Spain

Yearly remittance inflows in Georgia increased by 3.9% and amounted to \$292 mln in March.

129

Aug-24

129

Sep-24

125

Oct-24

119

Nov-24

128

Jul-24

120

Jun-24

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.

129

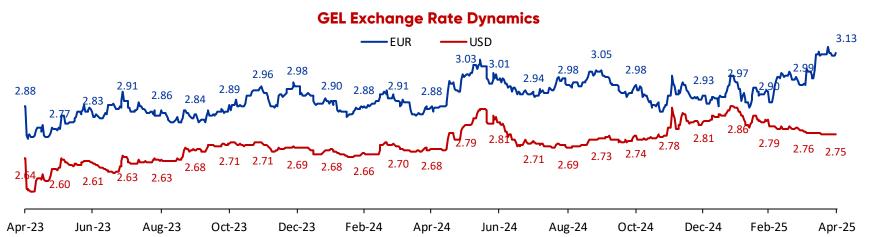
Dec-24

\$7 mln 154.8%

\$7 mln -44.3%

22.3%

\$7 mln



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

Sources: NBG

Market Watch (Last Prices as of May 13, 2025)									
S&P 500	S&P 500		Gold		WTI Crude Oil		Bitcoin		
\$5,844		\$3,259		\$62	\$62.06		\$102,664		
M/ M MA <sup>-</sup> ▲ 9% \$5,5			MA100 \$3,317	M/ M <u>1</u> %	MA100 \$60.42	M/ M ▲ 22%	MA100 \$103,469		
	TBC		BOG		G Capital				
	£45.4		£66.5		£19.1				
		MA100 \$46.2	MoM <u>▲</u> 25%	MA100 \$61.2	MoM ▲ 43%	MA100 \$17.16			

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 alobal 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

281

75

117

Mar-24

279

74

Apr-24

121

May-24

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