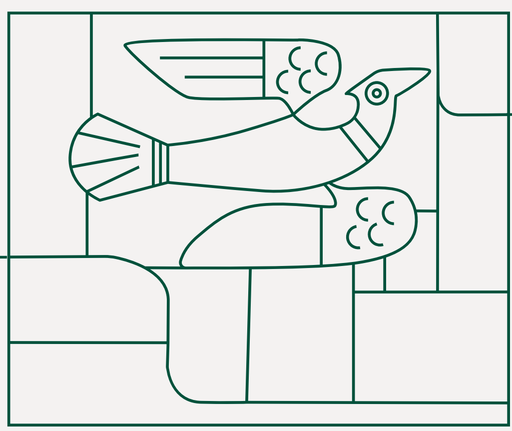
BULGARIAN
NATIONAL BANK
EUROSYSTEM

Bank Lending Survey for Bulgaria

SECOND QUARTER

2026



The Bank Lending Survey for Bulgaria is conducted on a quarterly basis by the Economic Research, Forecasting and Monetary Policy Directorate. It provides information for the purposes of ongoing monitoring and analysis of the credit terms and conditions in Bulgaria, including questions concerning changes during the respective quarter in demand for loans by enterprises and households, changes in banks' lending policies, as well as their expectations for the following quarter. The Survey has been conducted since the fourth quarter of 2003, involving the majority of commercial banks in Bulgaria. Results are aggregated using weights based on banks' market share in the relevant lending segment. In its initial form, the Survey included only questions related to demand and lending standards for short-term and long-term corporate loans. From the first quarter of 2010, questions concerning household loans and overall corporate lending, as well as factors affecting credit demand and supply were also included. From the beginning of 2016, the scope of the questionnaire was expanded in order to deepen the analysis of trends in bank lending and to achieve greater alignment with the ECB's Bank Lending Survey for euro area countries. Until the end of 2025, a summary of the weighted survey results was published in the BNB publication 'Economic Review'. In relation to Bulgaria's accession to the euro area, from the fourth quarter of 2025, Bulgaria has participated in *The Euro Area Bank Lending Survey*. Participation during this period was on a trial basis, and from the first quarter of 2026, the results for Bulgaria have been included in the aggregate results for the euro area. The current questionnaire is standardised for all Member States.[1] The number of participating banks from each country is determined based on the respective country's share in total euro area lending, with priority given to the largest banks with significant market shares and a broad range of lending products. Due to changes in the structure and content of the questionnaire, as well as in the number of participating banks, data from the fourth quarter of 2025 onwards are not fully comparable with those for previous periods.

[1] For more information on the questionnaire and the methodology for carrying out *The Euro Area Bank Lending Survey*, see: Euro area bank lending survey.

Contents

1. Overview of Results of the Bank Lending Survey (BLS)

Weighted BLS results for Bulgarian banks, which are included in *The Euro Area Bank Lending Survey*, show that in the second quarter of 2026, credit standards for granting corporate loans remained unchanged compared with the January-March 2026 period, while those for housing, consumer and other loans to households were tightened from the previous quarter. Bank risk perceptions contributed to the tightening of credit standards in all segments, with banks' reduced risk appetite also adding to the further tightening of credit standards for housing and consumer loans. At the same time, banks reported no factors contributing to an easing of credit standards for both corporations and households. In the third quarter of 2026, banks expect credit standards for housing, consumer and other loans to households to remain unchanged, while those for corporate loans will tighten.

In April–June 2026, overall terms and conditions on loans to firms remained unchanged from the previous quarter, with only lending rates recording some tightening. Terms and conditions on loans for house purchase, as well as those for consumer loans and other loans to households remained unchanged from the January-March 2026 period.

In the second quarter of 2026, banks reported lower demand for corporate loans and a rise in demand for housing and consumer loans, with consumer lending increasing significantly from the previous quarter. The main contributing factors behind the decrease in demand for corporate loans were firms' decreased financing needs for investment and the level of interest rates. Stronger demand for housing and consumer loans, as well as other lending to households was mainly due to improved consumer sentiment. Concurrently, interest rate levels and, in the case of housing loans, the assessment of housing market prospects contributed to lower demand. In the third quarter of 2026, banks expect a further decline in demand for corporate loans and a retention of demand for loans by households compared to the April–June 2026 period.

In the second quarter of 2026, banks reported no changes in the share of rejected loan applications for corporate and housing loans, while the share of rejected applications in consumer credit and other lending to households increased compared with the previous quarter.

Ad Hoc Questions[1]

The weighted results of the Bank Lending Survey for the second quarter of 2026 show a retention for access of banks to funding, with banks also expecting no changes in regards to alternative sources of funding during the third quarter.

In April–June 2026, the share of non-performing loans and other credit quality indicators had a neutral impact on credit standards for corporate, housing and consumer loans, as well as other lending to households. In the third quarter of 2026, banks expect credit quality indicators to lead to an easing in standards for housing loans, while for corporate and consumer loans, the impact is projected to remain neutral.

In the first six months of 2026, banks tightened credit standards for loans to enterprises in the manufacturing and commercial real estate sectors. Banks expect that in the second half of 2026 credit standards for loans to enterprises will remain unchanged across all economic sectors. Regarding demand for corporate loans, only the residential real estate sector reported a decline in the first six months of the year, while this demand remained unchanged across all other sectors. In the second half of the year, banks expect demand for loans to enterprises to remain unchanged across all sectors.

Over the last 12 months, climate change led to an easing of credit standards for green firms, no change in credit standards for firms in transition and a tightening in credit standards for high-

[1] So-called *ad hoc* questions in The Euro Area Bank Lending Survey are specific or thematic questions that are included in the Survey in addition to standard questions in order to analyse topical or new issues on bank lending, financing or euro area monetary policy.

emitting firms. In addition, climate change had a neutral effect on credit standards for housing loans for both high-energy class buildings and low energy efficient buildings. Over the last 12 months, climate change had a positive effect on demand for loans to green firms, and, to a lesser extent, for firms in transition, while its impact on demand for loans by high-emitting firms, as well as demand for housing loans to purchase high energy housing and low energy performance housing was neutral. Over the next four quarters, banks expect climate change to contribute to the tightening credit standards for high-emitting firms and to have a neutral effect on both credit standards for green firms and firms in transition, as well as housing loans for high and low energy performance buildings. In addition, climate change is expected to add to the increase in demand for corporate loans and continue to have a neutral effect on demand for housing loans.

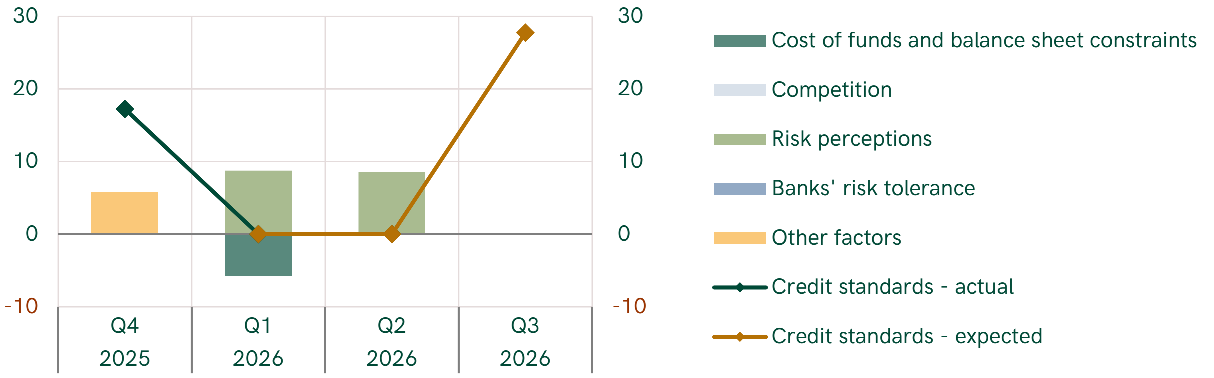
2. Loans to Enterprises

According to the weighted BLS results for Bulgarian banks, included in *The Euro Area Bank Lending Survey*, in the second quarter of 2026, standards for extending loans and credit lines to enterprises remained unchanged from January-March 2026. Risk perceptions, in particular performance and prospects for individual firms, as well as their creditworthiness, had a tightening impact on corporate credit standards. Banks reported no factors contributing to an easing of credit standards for the second quarter of 2026. In the third quarter of 2026, banks expect credit standards for enterprises to be tightened (Chart 1).

CHART 1

Changes in Credit Standards Applied to the Approval of Loans or Credit Lines to Enterprises, and Contributing Factors

(net balance of opinions and contributing factors)



Notes: As regards credit standards and terms and conditions on loans or credit lines, the net balance of opinions is defined as the difference in percentage points between the share of banks reporting that they had 'tightened' ('considerably' and 'somewhat') and the share of banks reporting that they had 'eased' ('considerably' and 'somewhat'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. Data presented in the Chart show the change in credit standards compared to the previous quarter. Expectations are shown in the charts by shifting the data a quarter forward. The net balance of opinions in replying to the questions on factors that have contributed to the change in credit standards is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to tightening' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to easing ('considerably' and 'moderately'). 'Cost of funds and balance sheet constraints' is the simple average of 'banks' capital and the costs related to bank's capital position', 'access to market financing' and 'liquidity position'; 'Competition' is the simple average of 'competition from other banks', 'competition from non-banks' and 'competition from market financing'; 'Risk perceptions' is the simple average of 'general economic situation and outlook', 'industry or firm-specific situation and outlook/borrower's creditworthiness' and 'risk related to the collateral demanded'; 'Banks' risk tolerance' is banks' risk appetite; 'Other factors' is the simple average of the further factors which were mentioned by banks as having contributed to changes in credit standards.

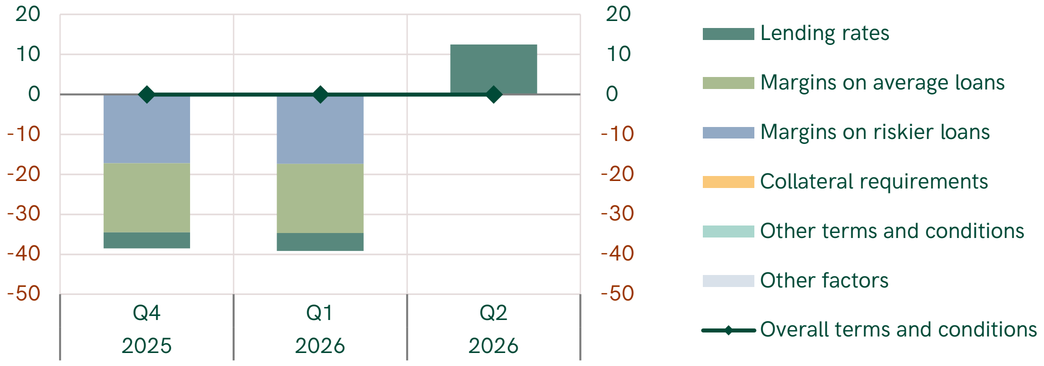
Source: BNB.

According to the weighted balance of opinions, the overall terms and conditions for granting corporate loans remained unchanged compared to the first quarter of 2026. Tightening is observed only in relation to interest rates (Chart 2).

CHART 2

Changes in Terms and Conditions on Loans or Credit Lines to Enterprises

(net balance of opinions)



Notes: See the note to Chart 1. Data presented in the Chart show the change in terms and conditions on loans or credit lines to enterprises compared with the previous quarter. 'Interest margin' is defined as 'the spread over relevant market reference rates'; 'Other terms and conditions' are the simple average of 'non-interest rate charges', 'size of the loan or credit line', 'loan covenants' and 'maturity'; 'Other factors' refer to a simple average of the further terms and conditions components which were mentioned by banks as having contributed to changes in overall terms and conditions on loans or credit lines.

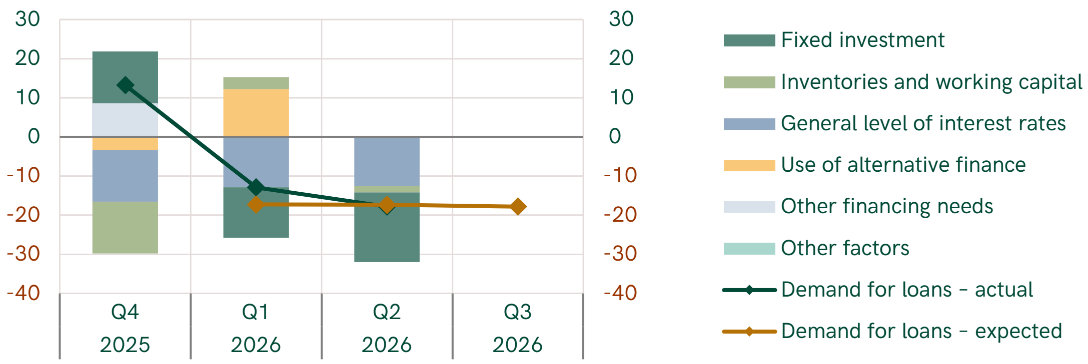
Source: BNB.

In the second quarter of 2026, demand for loans or credit lines by enterprises declined compared to January-March 2026. A decrease in demand was reported in short-term loans, as well as in both segments – small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and, to a greater extent, large enterprises. The main factors considered by banks to have affected lower credit demand were firms' decreased financing needs for investment and interest rate levels. In the second quarter of the year, banks did not indicate factors that contributed to the stronger demand for corporate loans. In the third quarter of 2026, banks expect a further decline in demand for both short-term and long-term corporate loans, with lower demand expected from SMEs and large corporate customers (Chart 3).

CHART 3

Changes in Demand for Loans or Credit Lines to Enterprises, and Contributing Factors

(net balance of opinions and contributing factors)



Notes: In the context of demand for credit or credit lines, balance of opinions is defined in percentage points as a difference between the share of banks reporting that demand had 'increased' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that it had 'decreased' ('considerably' and 'moderately'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. Data presented in the Chart show the change in demand compared to the previous quarter. Expectations are shown in the charts by shifting the data a quarter forward. The net balance of opinions in replying to the questions on the factors behind the changes in demand for loans or credit lines is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that a given factor had 'contributed to the increase' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to the decrease' ('considerably' and 'moderately'). 'Other financing needs' is the simple average of 'mergers/acquisitions and corporate restructuring' and 'debt refinancing/restructuring and renegotiation'; 'Use of alternative finance' is the simple average of 'internal financing', 'loans from other banks' and 'loans from non-banks', 'issuance/redemption of debt securities' and 'issuance/redemption of equity'; 'Other factors' refer to a simple average of the further factors which were mentioned by banks as having contributed to changes in demand for loans or credit lines.

Source: BNB.

According to the weighted banks' replies, the share of rejected applications for loans or credit lines to enterprises in the second quarter of 2026 remained unchanged compared to January-March 2026.

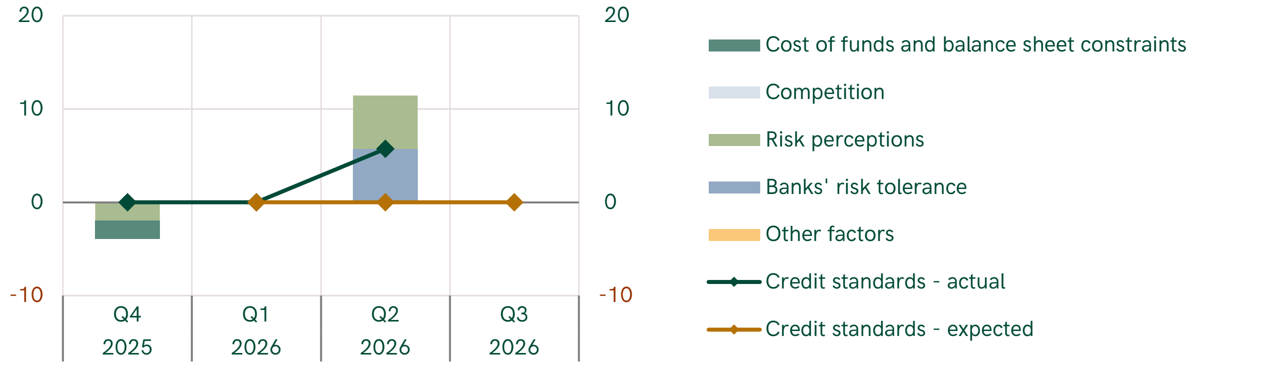
3. Loans to Households for House Purchase

The weighted results of the Bank Lending Survey for the second quarter of 2026 show that credit standards for housing loans tightened slightly compared with January-March 2026. This tightening is driven by banks' risk perceptions (including the general macroeconomic environment, housing market outlook and borrowers' creditworthiness) along with lower risk appetite. In the third quarter of the year, banks expect standards for housing loans to remain unchanged from the April to June 2026 period (Chart 4).

CHART 4

Changes in Credit Standards Applied to the Approval of Loans to Households for House Purchase, and Contributing Factors

(net balance of opinions, and contributing factors)



Notes: See the note to Chart 1. Data presented in the Chart show the change in credit standards compared to the previous quarter. 'Cost of funds and balance sheet constraints' is the simple average of 'banks' capital and the costs related to banks' capital positions', 'access to market financing' and 'liquidity position'; 'Competition' is the simple average of 'competition from other banks' and 'competition from non-banks; 'Risk perceptions' is the simple average of 'general economic situation and outlook', 'housing market prospects, including expected house price developments' and borrower's creditworthiness';'Banks' risk tolerance' is banks' risk appetite; 'Other factors' refer to a simple average of the further factors which were mentioned by banks as having contributed to changes in credit standards.

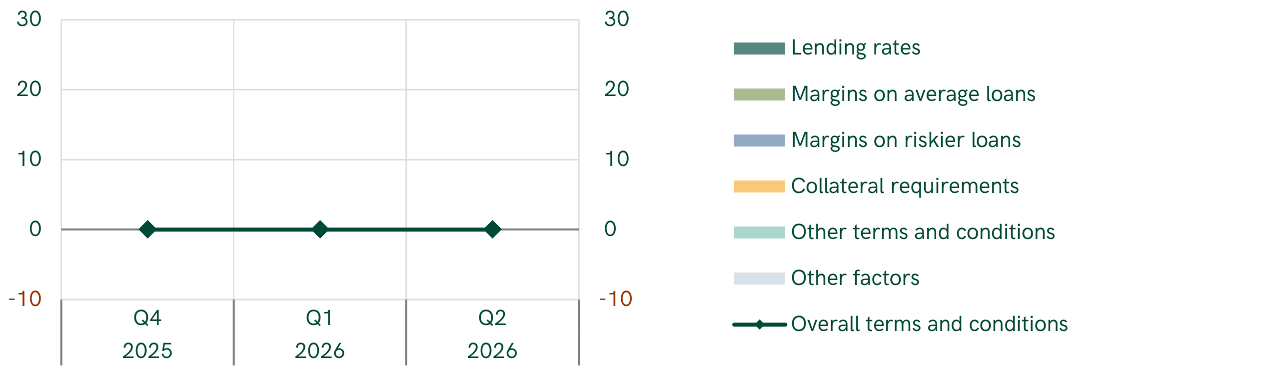
Source: BNB.

In the second quarter of 2026, banks reported no changes in the terms and conditions on loans to households for house purchase compared with the previous quarter (Chart 5).

CHART 5

Changes in Terms and Conditions on Loans to Households for House Purchase

(net balance of opinions)



Notes: See the note to Chart 1. Data presented in the Chart show the change in terms and conditions on loans to households for house purchase compared to the previous quarter. 'Interest margin' is defined as the spread over relevant market reference rates; 'Other terms and conditions' is the simple average of 'loan-to-value ratio', 'other loan size limits', 'non-interest rate charges', and 'maturity'; 'Other factors' refer to a simple average of the further terms and conditions components which were mentioned by banks as having contributed to changes in overall terms and conditions on loans.

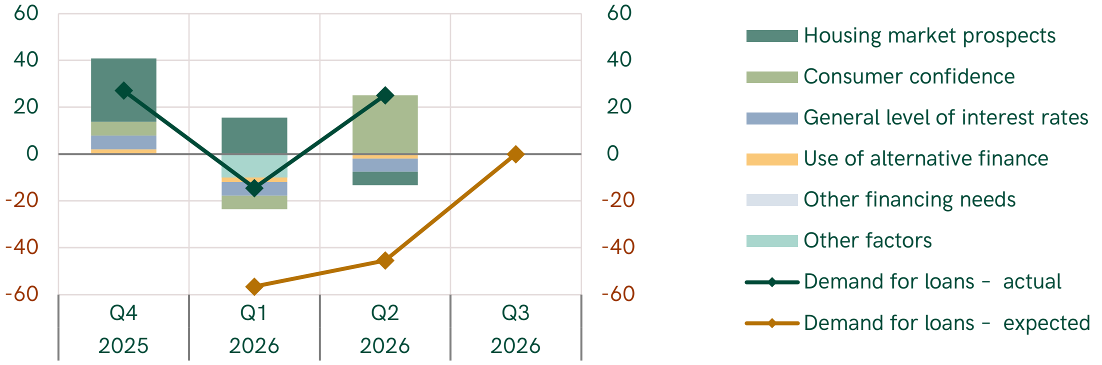
Source: BNB.

According to the weighted balance of opinions, demand for housing loans in the second quarter of 2026 increased compared to the January-March 2026 period. The only factor behind the stronger demand indicated by banks was the improved consumer sentiment. At the same time, the general level of interest rates, the assessment of housing market prospects and the possibility of other banks' lending contributed to weaker demand. Banks expect that demand for housing loans will remain unchanged in the third quarter of the year compared with April-June 2026 (Chart 6).

CHART 6

Changes in Demand for Loans to Households for House Purchase, and Contributing Factors

(net balance of opinions, and contributing factors)



Notes: See the note to Chart 3. Data presented in the Chart show the change in demand compared to the previous quarter. 'Other financing needs' is the simple average of 'debt refinancing/restructuring and renegotiation' and 'regulatory and fiscal regime of housing markets'; 'Use of alternative finance' is the simple average of 'internal finance of house purchase out of savings/down payments', 'loans from other banks' and 'other sources of external finance'; 'Other factors' refer to a simple average of the further factors which were mentioned by banks as having contributed to changes in loan demand.

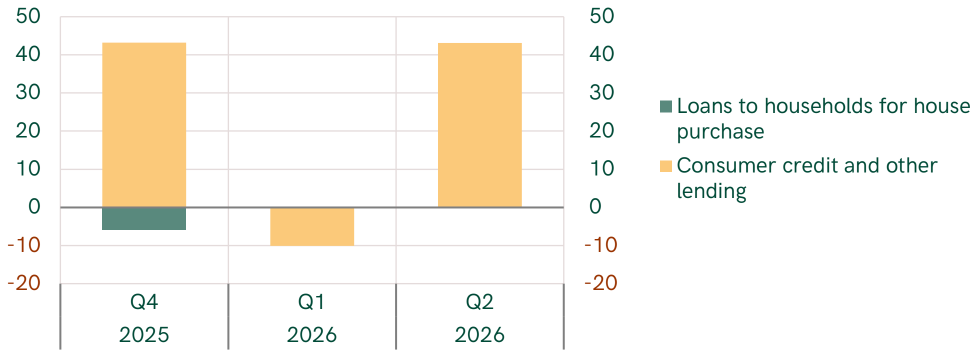
Source: BNB.

In the second quarter of 2026, banks reported no changes in the share of rejected loan applications for housing loans, unlike consumer credit and other lending to households where this share increased compared with the previous quarter (Chart 7).

CHART 7

Changes in the Share of Rejected Loan Applications for Households

(net balance of opinions)



Notes: Share of rejected loan applications relative to the volume of all loan applications in that loan category. Data presented in the Chart show the change in the share of rejected loan applications for housing loans, consumer credit and other lending, compared with the previous quarter.

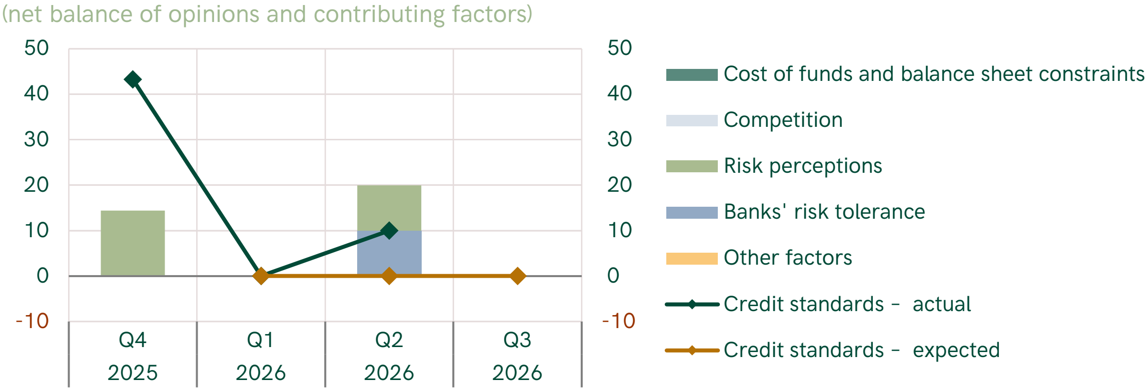
Source: BNB.

4. Consumer Credit and Other Lending to Households

The weighted results of the Survey for the second quarter of 2026 show a tightening of standards for consumer credit and other lending to households compared to January–March 2026. Risk perceptions and banks' lower risk appetite contributed to tightening of the standards. The general economic situation and outlook, borrower's creditworthiness and risk related to the collateral demanded were relevant to the risk perceptions. In the third quarter of 2026, banks expect standards for consumer credit and other lending to households to remain unchanged (Chart 8).

CHART 8

Changes in Credit Standards Applied to the Approval of Consumer Credit and Other Lending to Households, and Contributing Factors



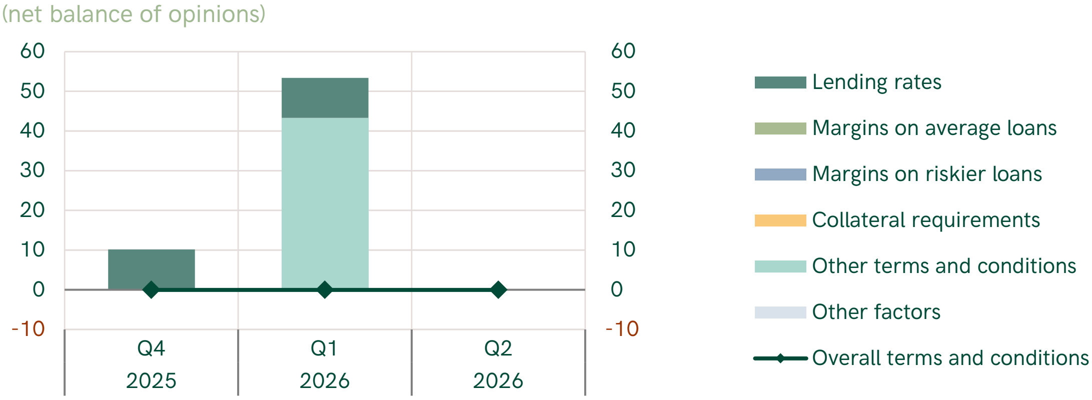
Notes: See the note to Chart 1. Data presented in the Chart show the change in credit standards compared to the previous quarter. 'Cost of funds and balance sheet constraints' is the simple average of 'banks' capital and the costs related to bank's capital position', 'access to market financing' and 'liquidity position'; 'Competition' is the simple average of 'competition from other banks', and 'competition from non-banks'; 'Risk perceptions' is the simple average of 'general economic situation and outlook', 'borrower's creditworthiness' and 'risk related to the collateral demanded'; 'Banks' risk tolerance' is 'banks' risk appetite'; 'Other factors' is the simple average of the further factors which were mentioned by banks as having contributed to changes in credit standards.

Source: BNB.

Between April and June 2026, banks reported that the terms and conditions for consumer credit and other lending to households remained unchanged from the previous quarter (Chart 9).

CHART 9

Changes in Terms and Conditions on Consumer Credit and Other Lending to Households



Notes: See the note to Chart 1. The data presented in the chart show the changes in terms and conditions on consumer credit and other lending to households compared with the previous quarter. 'Margins' are defined as 'the spread over relevant market reference rates'; 'Other terms and conditions' is the simple average of 'size of the loan', 'non-interest rate charges' and 'maturity'; "Other factors" refers to a simple average of the further terms and conditions components which were mentioned by banks as having contributed to changes in overall terms and conditions on loans.

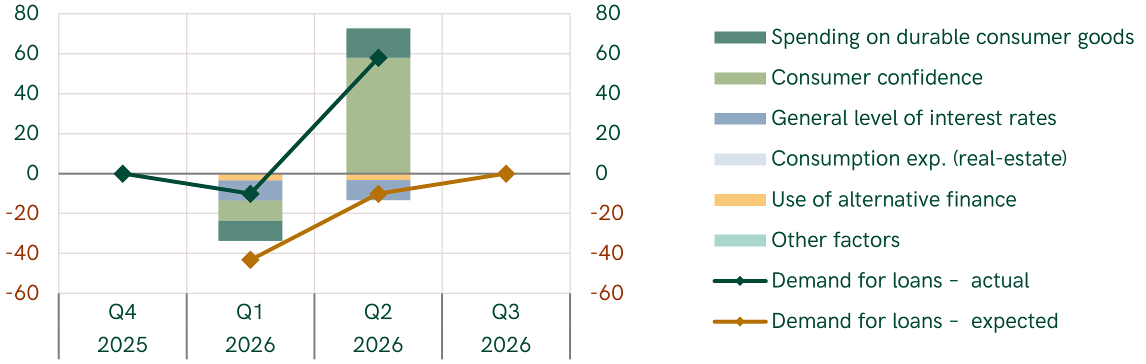
Source: BNB.

According to the weighted balance of opinions, demand for consumer credit and other lending increased significantly in the second quarter of 2026 compared with January-March 2026. The main factors contributing to the stronger demand are improved consumer confidence, while, to a lesser extent, demand was also underpinned by households' need for funds for spending on durable consumer goods. The general level of interest rates and financing opportunities from other banks have contributed to lower demand for consumer credit and other lending. Banks' expectations for the third quarter of 2026 point to keeping demand for consumer credit and other lending to households unchanged compared with April-June 2026 (Chart 10).

CHART 10

Changes in Demand for Consumer Credit and Other Lending to Households, and Contributing Factors

(net balance of opinions and contributing factors)



Notes: See the note to Chart 3. Data presented in the Chart show the change in demand compared to the previous quarter. 'Use of alternative finance' is the simple average of 'internal financing out of savings', 'loans from other banks' and 'other sources of external finance'; 'Consumption exp. (real estate)' denotes 'consumption expenditure financed through real estate-guaranteed loans' 'Other factors' refers to a simple average of the further factors which were mentioned by banks as having contributed to changes in loan demand.

Source: BNB.

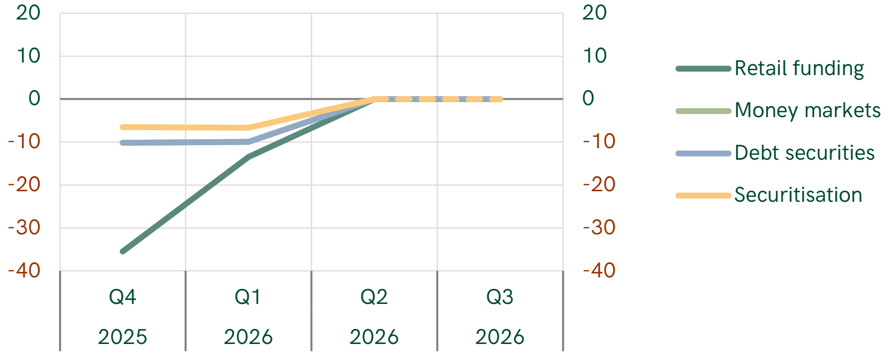
5. *Ad Hoc* Questions

The weighted results of the Bank Lending Survey for the second quarter of 2026 show banks' continued access to retail funding (with short-term deposits of up to one year and long-term deposits of over one year, in money markets, through debt securities and securitisation). Credit institutions expect that their access to funding will also remain unchanged in the third quarter of 2026 (Chart 11).

CHART 11

Changes in Banks' Access to Retail and Wholesale Funding

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Notes: The chart shows the change in banks' access to funding compared with the previous quarter. Banks' net balance of opinions is defined as a difference in percentage points between the percentage of banks responding 'deteriorated' ('considerably' and 'somewhat'), and the percentage of banks responding 'eased' ('considerably' and 'somewhat'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. 'Retail funding' is the simple average of 'short-term deposits (up to one year)' and 'long-term deposits (more than one year)' and other retail funding instruments; 'Money markets' refers to the interbank unsecured money market and is the simple average of 'very short-term money market (up to one week)' and 'short-term money market (more than one week)'; 'Debt securities' is the simple average of 'short-term debt securities (e.g. certificates of deposit or commercial paper)' and 'medium to long-term debt securities (incl. covered bonds)'. 'Securitisation' is the simple average of 'securitisation of corporate loans', 'securitisation of loans for house purchase' and 'ability to transfer credit risk off balance sheet'. The last period shows expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

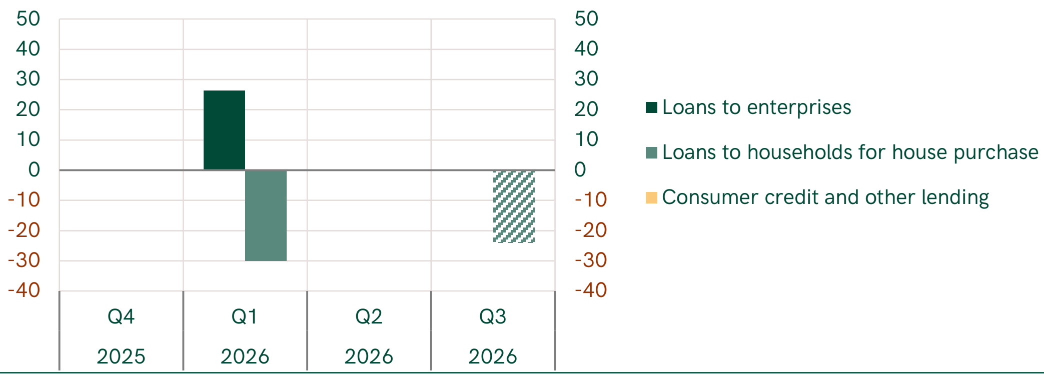
Source: BNB.

According to the weighted balance of opinions, in the second quarter of 2026 the share of non-performing loans in banks' credit portfolios and other indicators of credit quality of loans did not entail a change in credit standards for loans to enterprises, as well as in loans to households for house purchase and consumer credit and other lending to households. Banks expect the credit quality indicators in the third quarter of 2026 to contribute to an easing of standards for loans to households for house purchase, while the effect is expected to remain neutral for both loans to enterprises and consumer credit (Chart 12).

CHART 12

Impact of Banks' NPL Ratios and Other Credit Quality Indicators on Credit Standards

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Notes: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that credit standards had 'tightened' ('considerably' and 'somewhat') and the share of banks reporting that they had 'eased' ('considerably' and 'somewhat'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. The last period shows expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

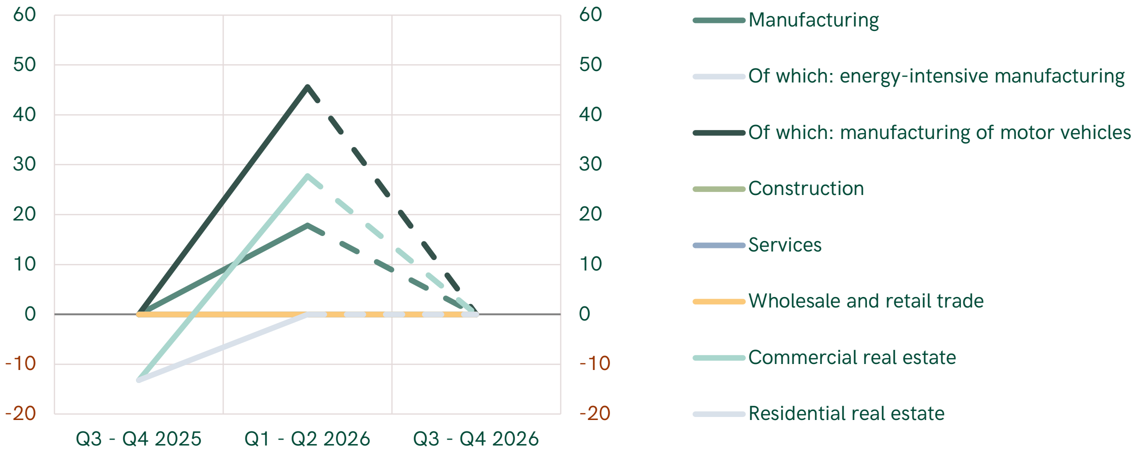
Source: BNB.

According to the weighted answers of the Bank Lending Survey, banks tightened credit standards for loans to enterprises in the manufacturing sectors in the first six months of 2026 (in both energy-intensive manufacturing and manufacturing of motor vehicles sub-sector) and commercial real estate. Over the same period, banks reported maintaining credit standards for loans to enterprises in other sectors. Banks expect that in the second half of 2026 credit standards for loans to enterprises will remain unchanged across economic sectors (Chart 13).

CHART 13

Changes in Credit Standards for New Loans to Enterprises across the Main Economic Sectors

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Notes: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that credit standards had 'tightened' ('considerably' and 'somewhat') and the share of banks reporting that they had 'eased' ('considerably' and 'somewhat'). The last period shows expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

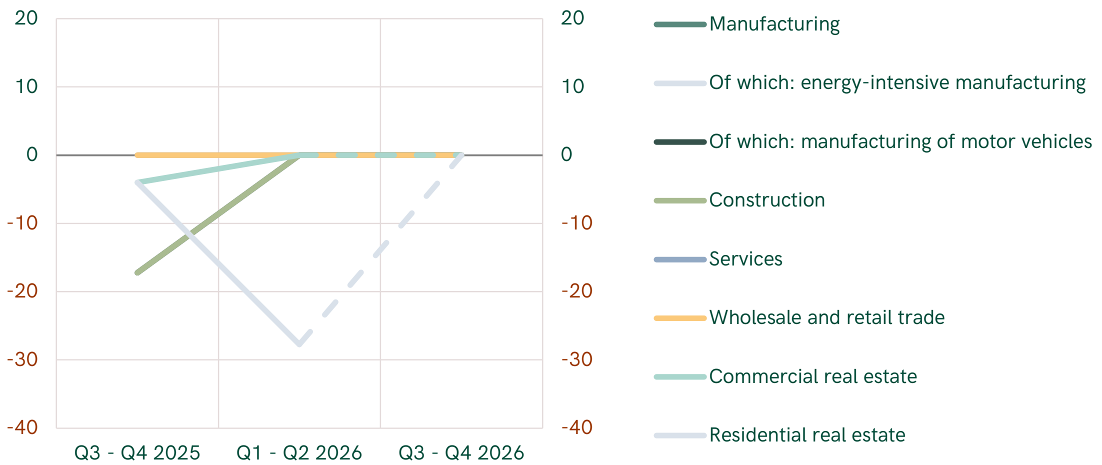
Source: BNB.

Survey results show a decline in demand for loans to enterprises in the first six months of 2026 only in the residential real estate sector, while demand in other sectors remained unchanged compared to the July–December 2025 period. In the third and fourth quarters of 2026, banks expect the demand for loans to enterprises to remain unchanged across all economic sectors (Chart 14).

CHART 14

Changes in Demand for Loans or Credit Lines to Enterprises Across the Main Economic Sectors

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Notes: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the percentage of banks responding 'increased' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the percentage of banks responding 'reduced' ('significant' and 'moderately'). The last period shows expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

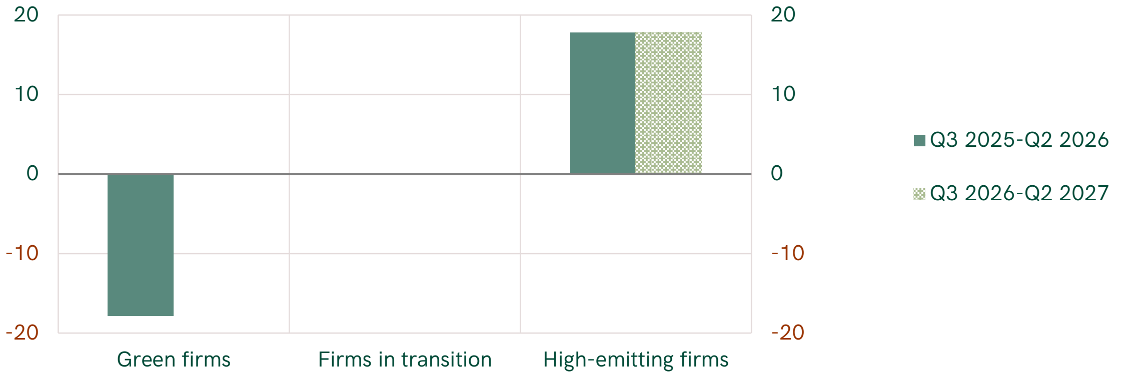
Source: BNB.

The weighted results of the Bank Lending Survey for Bulgaria for the second quarter of 2026 show that over the last 12 months, climate change contributed to easing credit standards for loans to green firms, maintaining credit standards for loans to firms in transition unchanged and tightening credit standards for loans to high-emitting firms. Over the next year, banks expect climate change to have a neutral impact on credit standards for green firms and firms in transition, but to contribute to a further tightening of credit standards for high-emitting firms (Chart 15).

CHART 15

Impact of Climate Change on Banks' Credit Standards for Loans to Firms

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Note: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to tightening' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to easing' ('considerably' and 'moderately'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. The shaded bars show expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

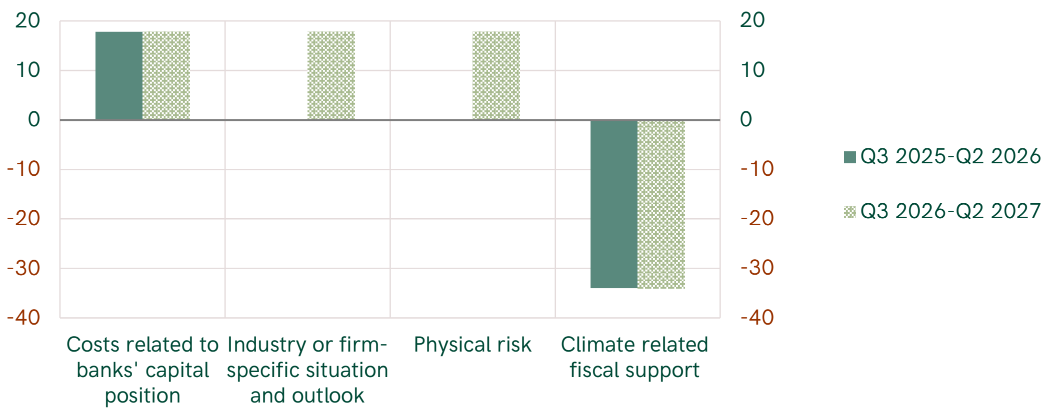
Source: BNB.

According to the weighted balance of opinions, costs related to banks' capital position were the only climate-related factor that contributed to a tightening of credit standards for firms over the past 12 months. At the same time, climate-related fiscal support contributed to an easing of standards. According to banks' expectations for the next four quarters, costs related to banks' capital position, industry or firm-specific situation and outlook, as well as the assessment of physical risk will contribute to a tightening of credit standards for firms, while fiscal support will contribute to a further easing of those standards (Chart 16).

CHART 16

Impact of Climate-related Factors on Banks' Credit Standards for Firms

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Note: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that credit standards had 'tightened' ('considerably' and 'somewhat') and the share of banks reporting that they had 'eased' ('considerably' and 'somewhat'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. The shaded bars show expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

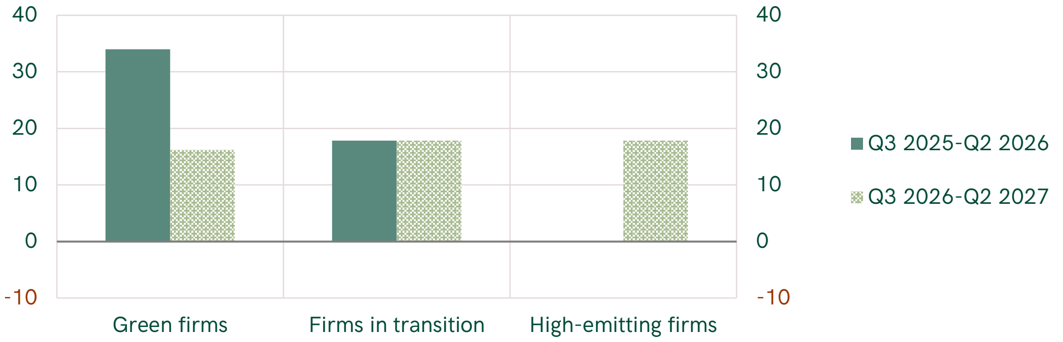
Source: BNB.

The results of the Survey for the second quarter of 2026 indicate a positive effect of climate change on credit demand from green firms over the past 12 months and, to a lesser extent, from firms in transition, while their impact on demand from high-emitting firms was neutral. Banks expect climate change to contribute to stronger credit demand across all three categories of firms in the period from the third quarter of 2026 to the second quarter of 2027 (Chart 17).

CHART 17

Impact of Climate Change on Demand for Loans to Firms

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Note: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to the increase' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to the decrease' ('considerably' and 'moderately'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. The shaded bars show expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

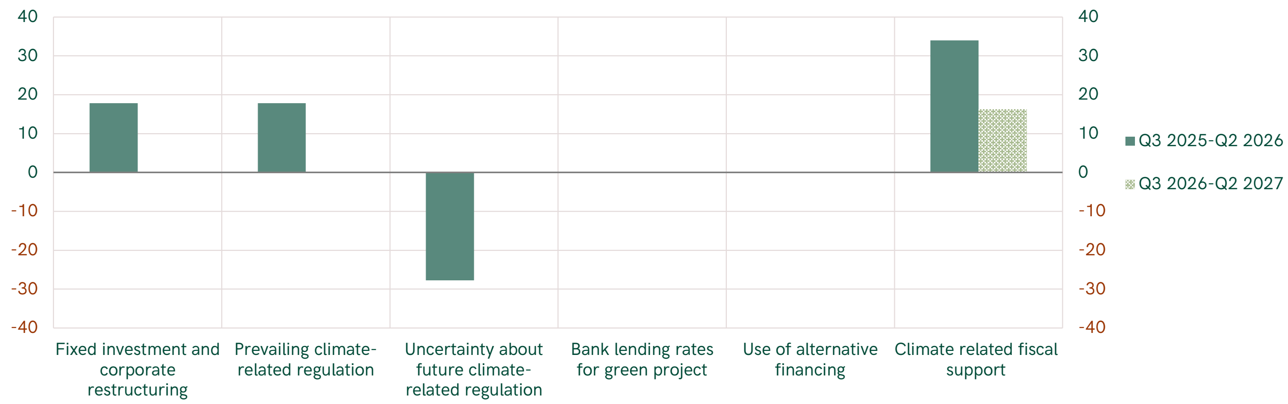
Source: BNB.

Climate-related fiscal support is the main contributor to the higher credit demand by firms over the last four quarters, while fixed investment and corporate restructuring, along with the prevailing climate-related regulation had a comparatively weaker impact. At the same time, banks reported uncertainty about future climate-related regulation as the only factor that contributed to lower demand for corporate loans over the past 12 months. According to banks' expectations for the next four quarters, climate-related fiscal support will be the only factor contributing to an increase in firms' demand for loans (Chart 18).

CHART 18

Impact of Climate-related Factors on Demand for Loans to Firms

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Note: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that they had 'contributed to the increase' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that they had 'contributed to the decrease' ('considerably' and 'moderately'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. The shaded bars show expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

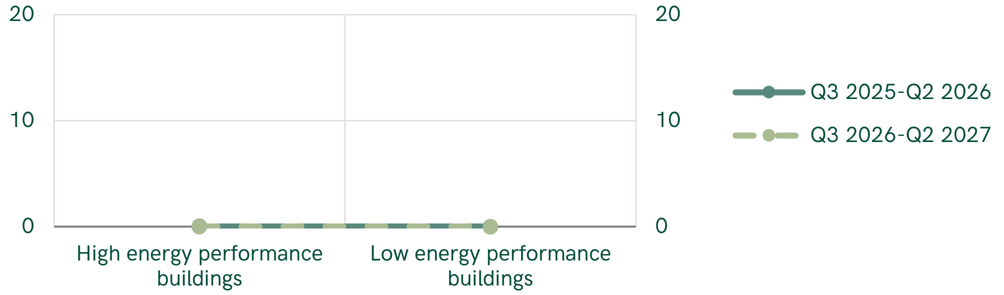
Source: BNB.

The weighted results of the Bank Lending Survey for Bulgaria for the second quarter of 2026 show that, over the last 12 months, the impact of climate change on banks' credit standards for loans to households for house purchase, both for high-energy class buildings and low energy performance buildings, was neutral. Credit institutions expect climate change to continue to have a neutral effect on credit standards for housing loans in both categories of buildings over the next four quarters (Chart 19).

CHART 19

Impact of Climate Change on Banks' Credit Standards for Loans to Households for House Purchase

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Note: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to tightening' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to easing' ('considerably' and 'moderately'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. The shaded bars show expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

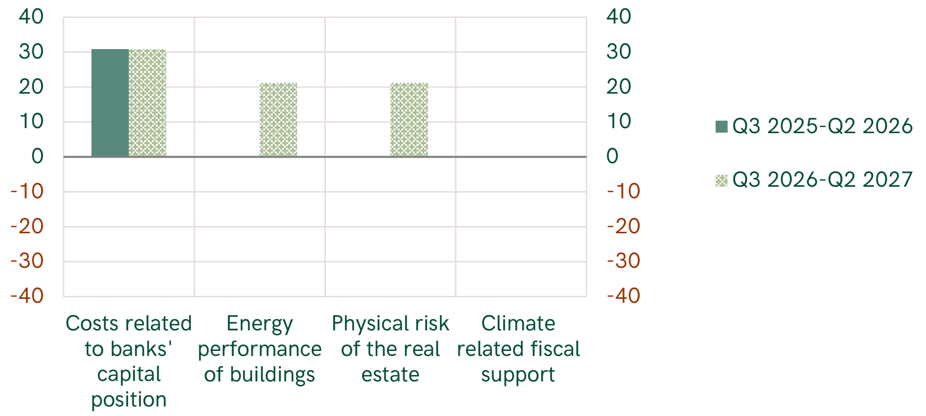
Source: BNB.

Banks reported costs related to their capital position as the only climate-related factor that contributed to the tightening of standards for loans to households over the last 12 months. Banks did not report climate factors that contributed to an easing of these standards over the same period. Over the next year, banks expect that costs related to their capital position, the energy performance of buildings, and the physical risk of the real estate (*e.g.*, floods, fires, *etc.*) will contribute to a tightening of standards for housing loans (Chart 20).

CHART 20

Impact of Climate-related Factors on Banks' Credit Standards for Households for House Purchase

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Note: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that they had 'contributed to tightening' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that they had 'contributed to easing' ('considerably' and 'moderately'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. The shaded bars show expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

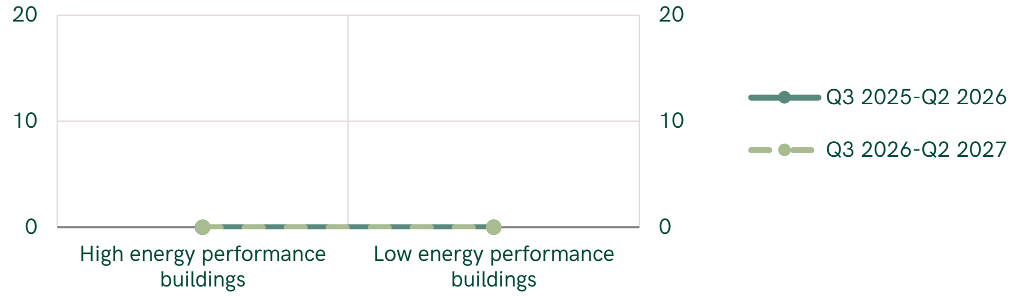
Source: BNB.

According to the weighted balance of opinions, climate change had a neutral impact on demand for housing loans over the past four quarters for the purchase of homes in buildings with both high and low energy performance. Banks expect climate change to continue to have a neutral impact on demand for housing loans for both housing categories over the next 12 months (Chart 21).

CHART 21

Impact of Climate Change on Demand for Loans to Households for House Purchase

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Note: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to the increase' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that it had 'contributed to the decrease' ('considerably' and 'moderately'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. The shaded bars show expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

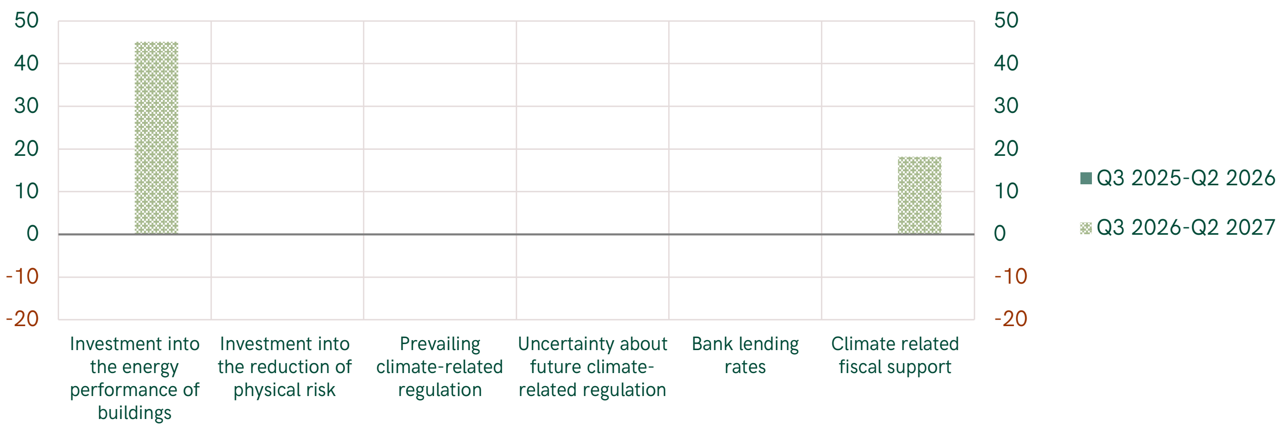
Source: BNB.

In the period from the third quarter of 2025 to the second quarter of 2026, banks did not report any climate-related factors that affected demand for housing loans. Over the next 12 months, credit institutions expect investment into the energy performance of buildings, as well as climate-related fiscal support to contribute to stronger demand for housing loans (Chart 22).

CHART 22

Impact of Climate-related Factors on Demand for Loans to Households for House Purchase

(net balance of opinions, actual and expected)



Note: The net balance of opinions is defined as the difference between the share of banks reporting that they had 'contributed to the increase' ('considerably' and 'moderately') and the share of banks reporting that they had 'contributed to the decrease' ('considerably' and 'moderately'). All banks' replies are weighted by the market share of the banks in the relevant lending segment. The shaded bars show expectations indicated by banks in the current round.

Source: BNB.

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Website: www.bnb.bg
ISSN 3134-2124 (online)