

# Belarus slide package for a foreign investor



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# 1. General information

## a) Geographical facts

Area:

207 600 km<sup>2</sup>

Borders with:

Latvia 141 km, Lithuania 502 km, Poland 407 km, Russia 959 km, Ukraine 891 km

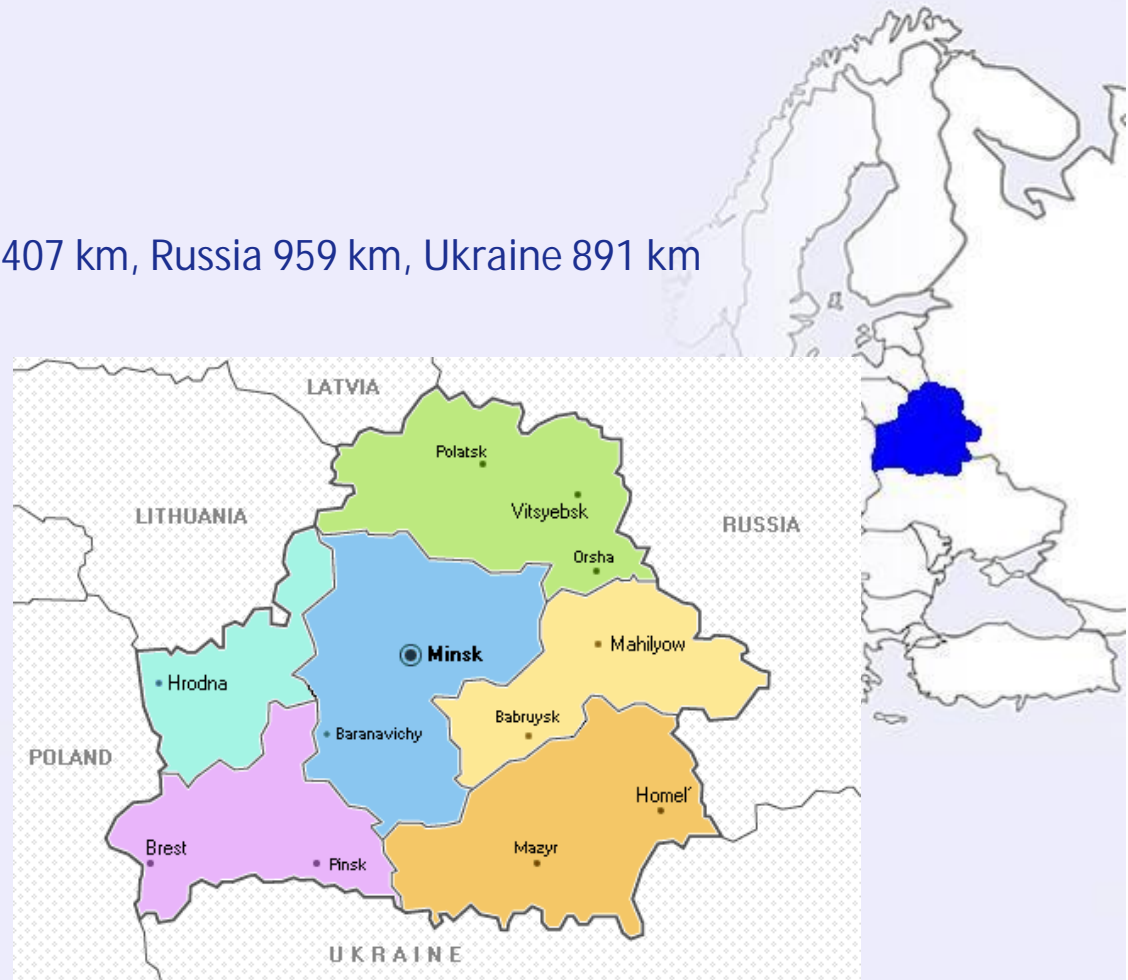
Distance from Minsk to some European capitals:

Berlin 955 km, Helsinki 716 km,  
London 1872 km, Madrid 2767 km  
([www.geobytes.com](http://www.geobytes.com))

Provinces:

Brest, Homel, Horad Minsk\*, Hrodna,  
Mogiljov, Minsk, Vitebsk

\*municipality



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# 1. General information

## b) Population and basic facts

Population:  
9,7 million (2007, World Bank)

Population growth (annual)  
-0.3 % (2007, World Bank)

Largest cities:	(population)
Minsk	1 770 000
Homel	492 000
Mogiljov	365 000
Vitebsk	350 000
Hrodna	315 000

Share of urban population:  
73 % (Belstat)

Main industrial output:  
metal-cutting machine tools, tractors, trucks, earthmovers, motorcycles,  
televisions, chemical fibers, fertilizers, textiles, radios, refrigerators (CIA World Factbook)



# 1. General information

## c) Resources and transport infrastructure

### Natural resources:

forests, peat deposits, small quantities of oil and natural gas, granite, dolomitic limestone, marl, chalk, sand, gravel, clay

### Major ports:

None, landlocked

### Roads:

Total	94 797 km
Paved	84 028 km
Unpaved	10 769 km

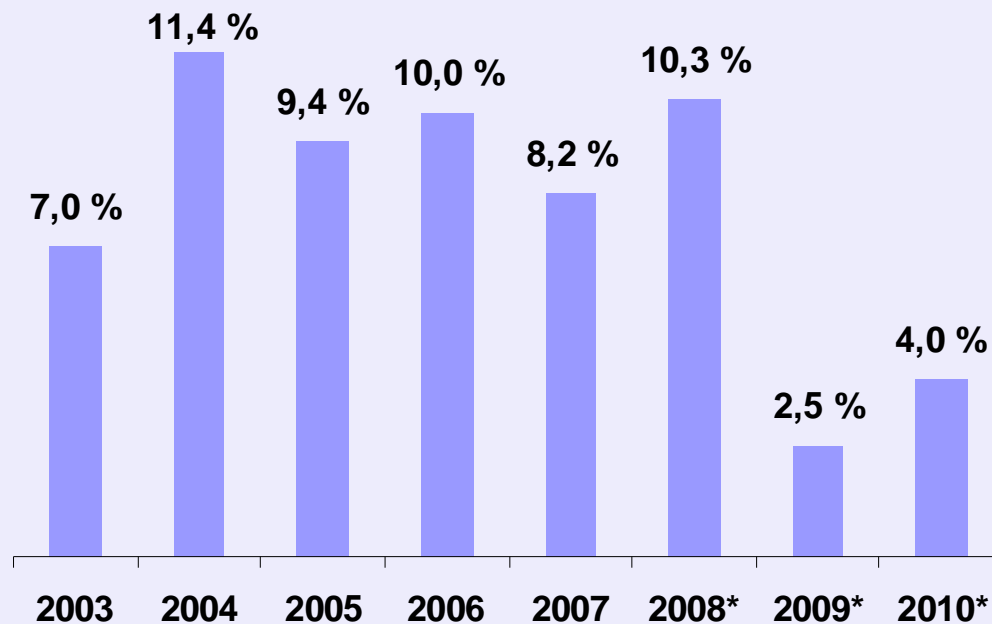
Railways: 5 512 km

Source: CIA World Factbook



# 2. Economic development

## a) Real GDP growth



Sources: BelStat

\* Economist Intelligence Unit  
estimate (Belarus December 2008)

GDP per capita 2007: EUR 2 888

(IMF World Economic Outlook)

GDP estimate 2008: EUR 36,5 bln\*\*

(BelStat)

\*\*Exchange rate  
according to the  
National Bank of  
Belarus 20.1.2009,  
EUR 1 =  
BYR 3526,37



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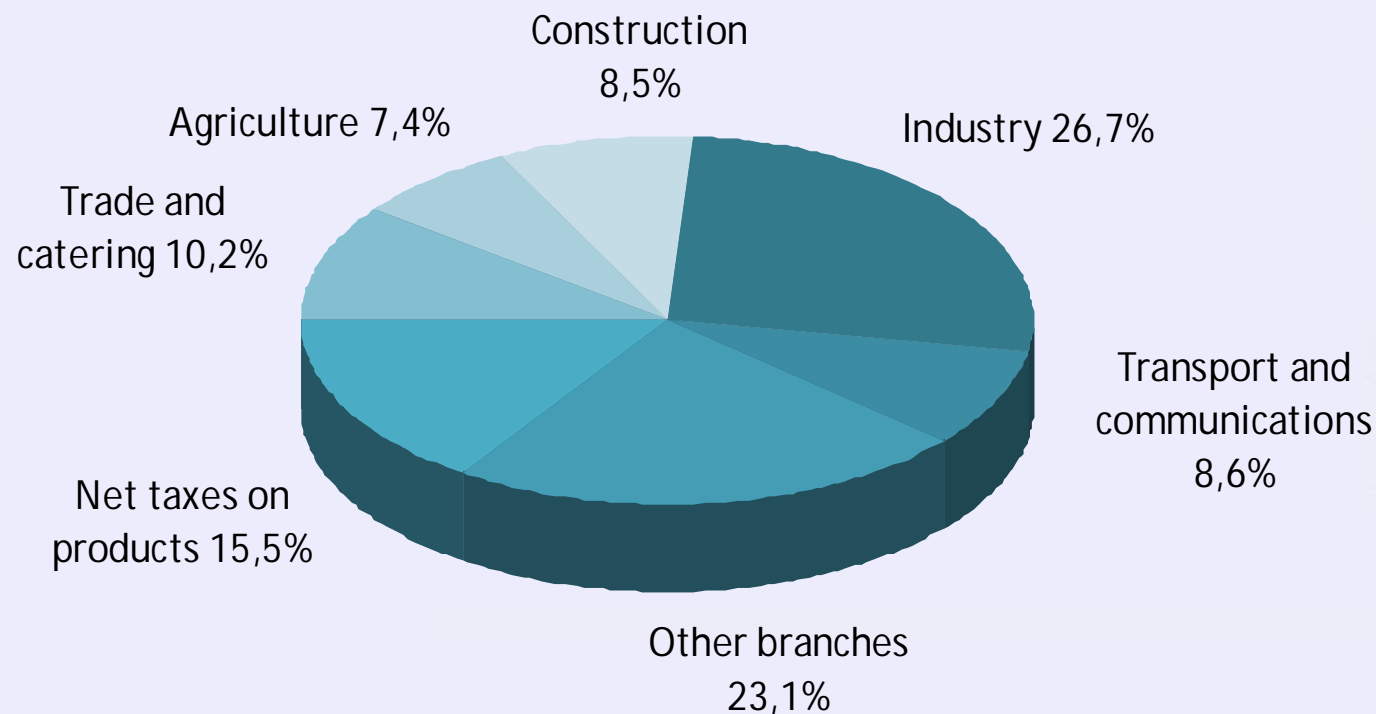
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# 2. Economic development

## b) Gross domestic product by sectors in 2006



Source: BelStat

# 2. Economic development

## c) Labour force and population

	1995	2000	2007
Population (1 000)	10 177	9 990	9 690
Unemployment (1 000)	131	96	44
Economically active population (1 000)	4 524	4 537	4 525



Source: BelStat

# 2. Economic development

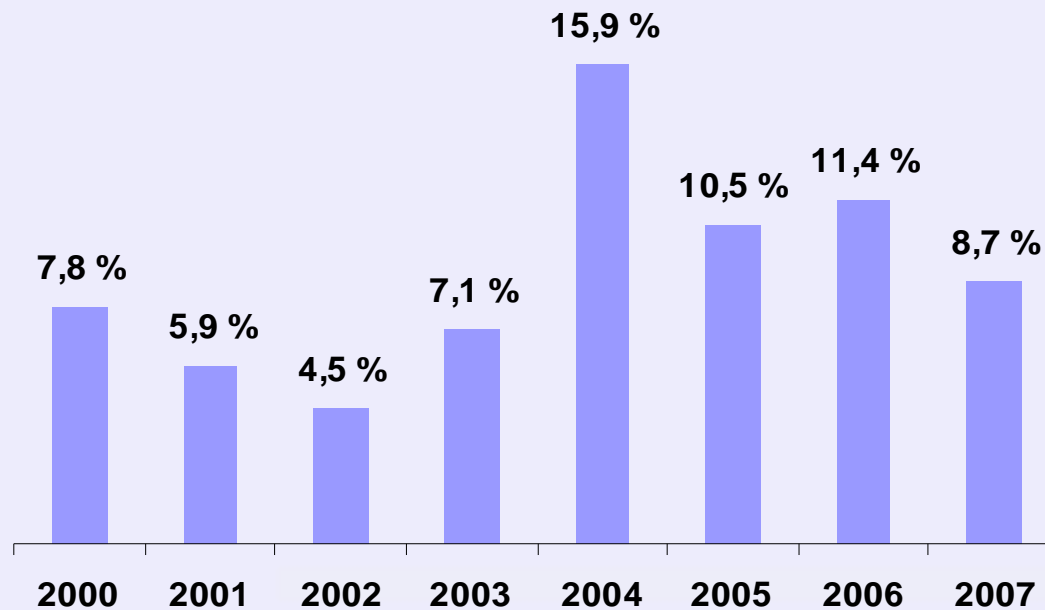
## d) Belarus' business environment in comparison

Ranking index	Rank of Belarus / Total number of countries
World Democracy Audit overall ranking (World Audit, October 2008)	146/150
Press Freedom ranking (World Audit, October 2008)	143/150
The 2009 Index of Economic Freedom (The Heritage Foundation)	167/179
Corruption Perceptions Index 2008 (Transparency International)	151/180 (15/20 within Eastern Europe and Central Asia)
Ease of Doing Business 2009 (World Bank)	85/181 (15/25 within Eastern Europe and Central Asia)



# 2. Economic development

## e) Growth of industrial output



Source: BelStat



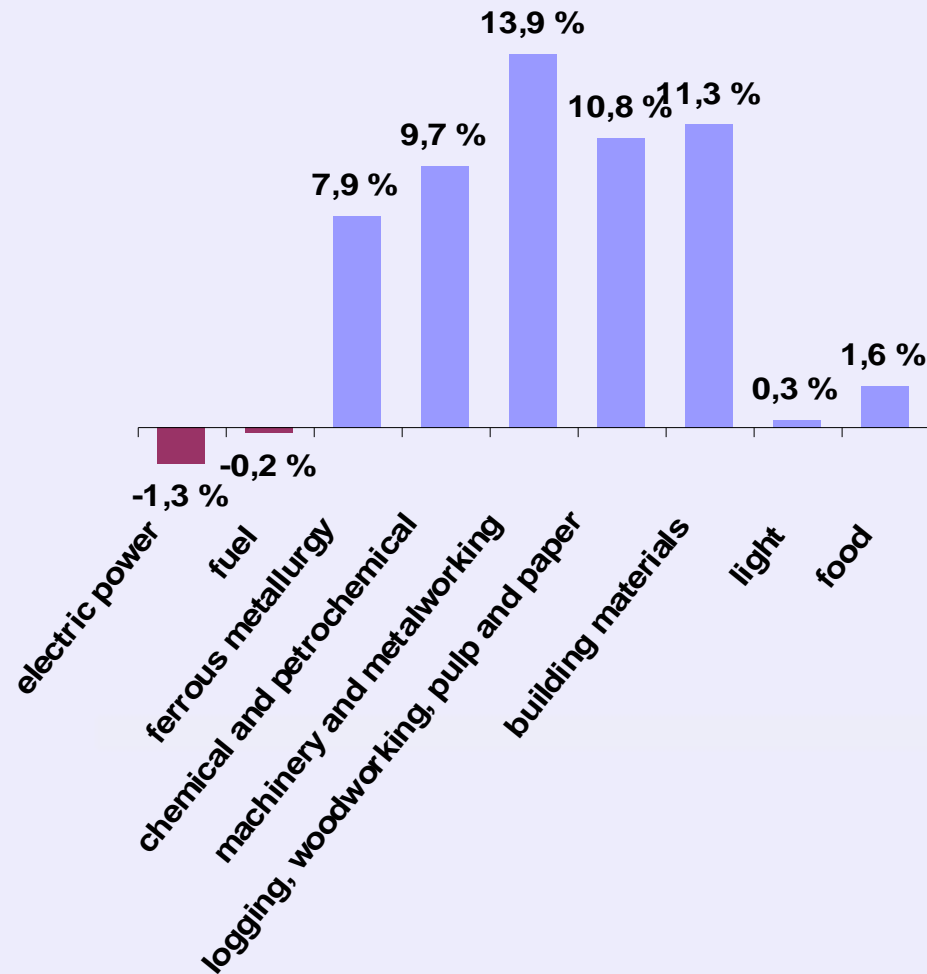
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# 2. Economic development

## f) Growth of industrial output by sectors in 2007



Source: BelStat



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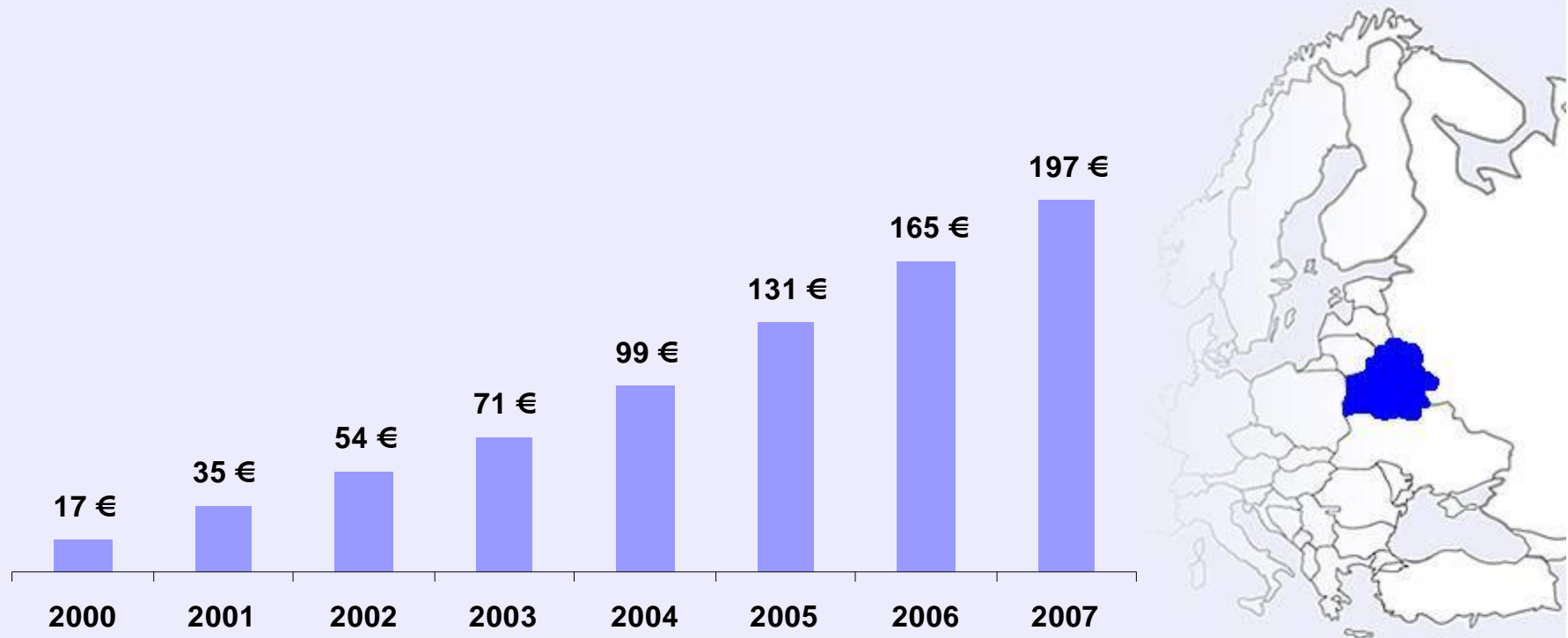
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# 3. Prosperity and consumption

## a) Nominal gross average monthly wages and salaries



Source: BelStat

Exchange rate according to the  
National Bank of Belarus  
20.1.2009, EUR 1 = BYR 3526,37



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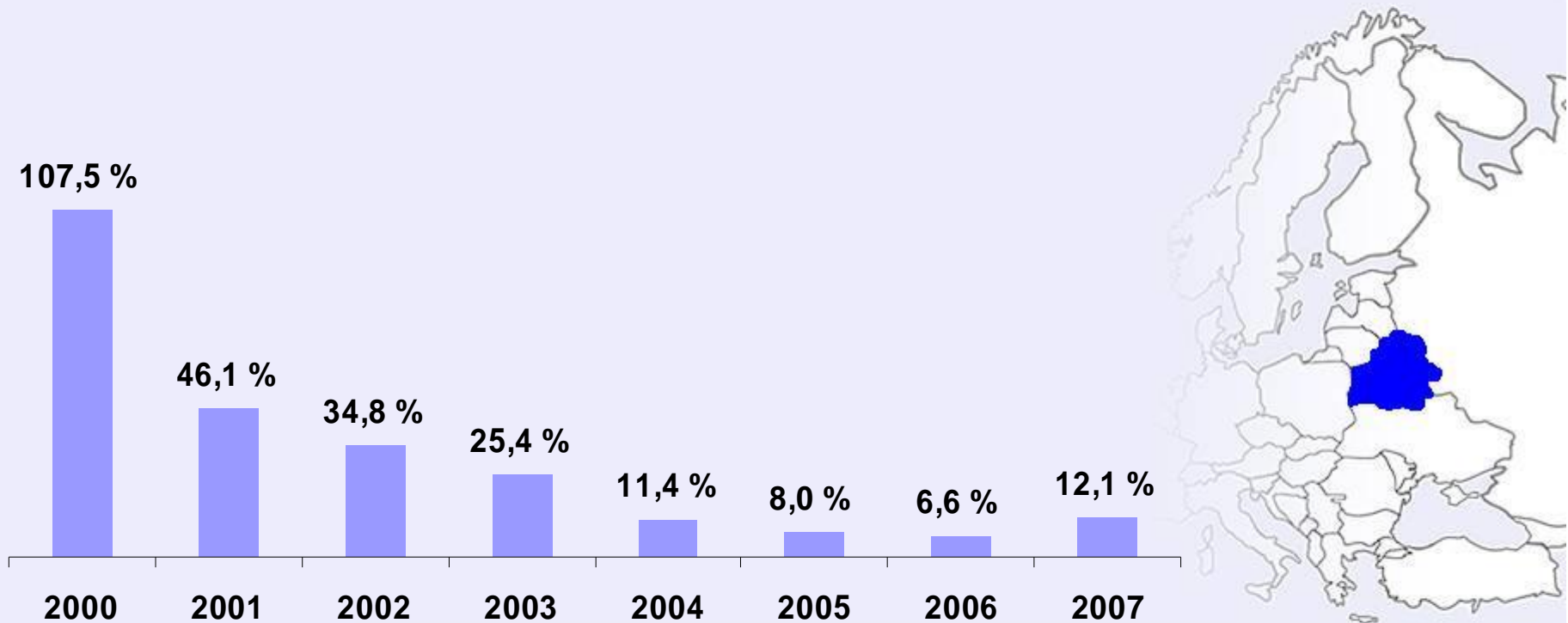
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# 3. Prosperity and consumption

## b) Consumer price index



Source: BelStat



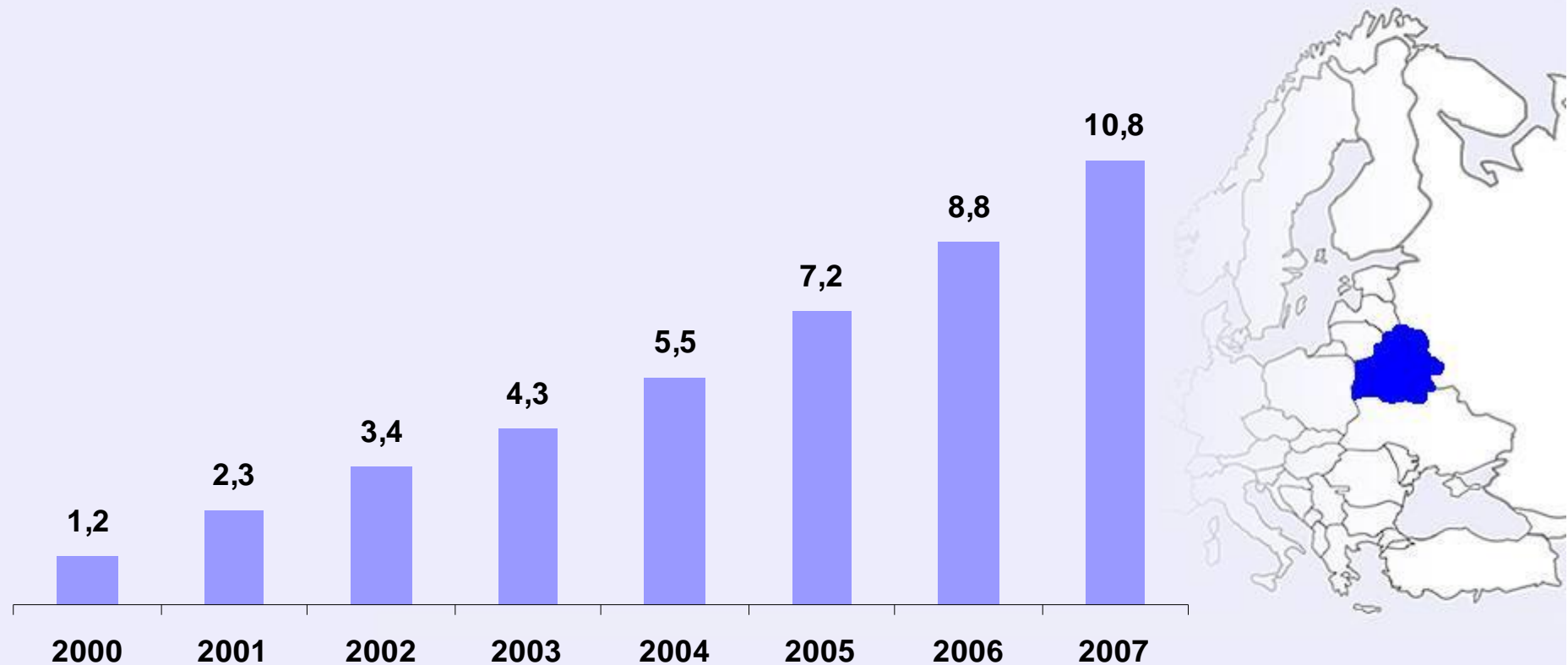
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# 3. Prosperity and consumption

## c) Retail trade (€ billion)



Source: BelStat

Exchange rate according to the  
National Bank of Belarus  
20.1.2009, EUR 1 = BYR 3526,37



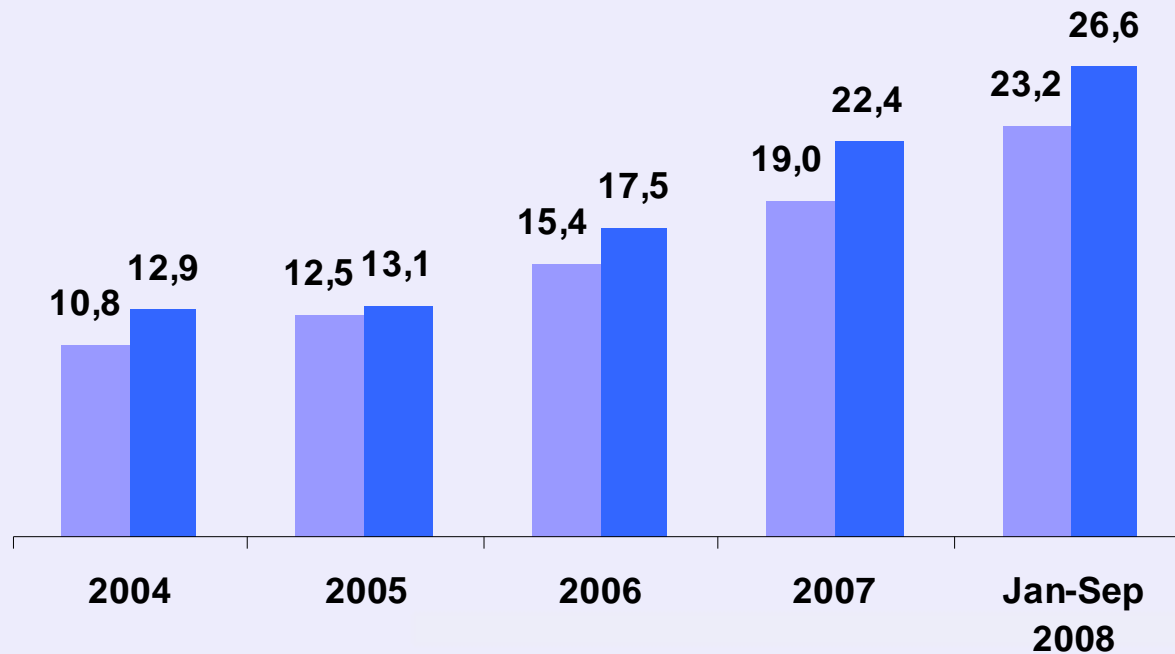
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# 4. External economic relations

## a) Development of foreign trade (€billion)



Sources: BelStat and State Customs Committee of the Republic of Belarus

Exchange rate according to the Bank of Finland 23.1.2009,  
EUR 1 = USD 1,2795

# 4. External economic relations

## b) Foreign trade structure in 2007

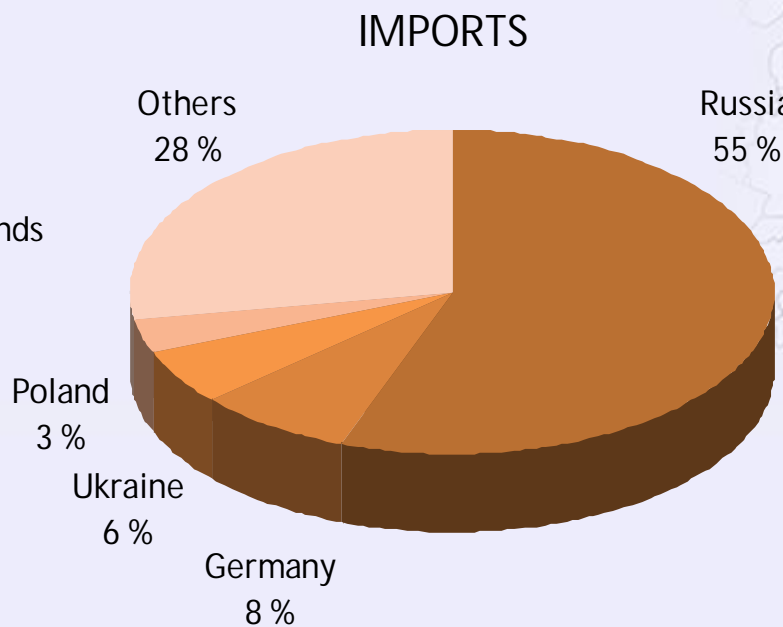
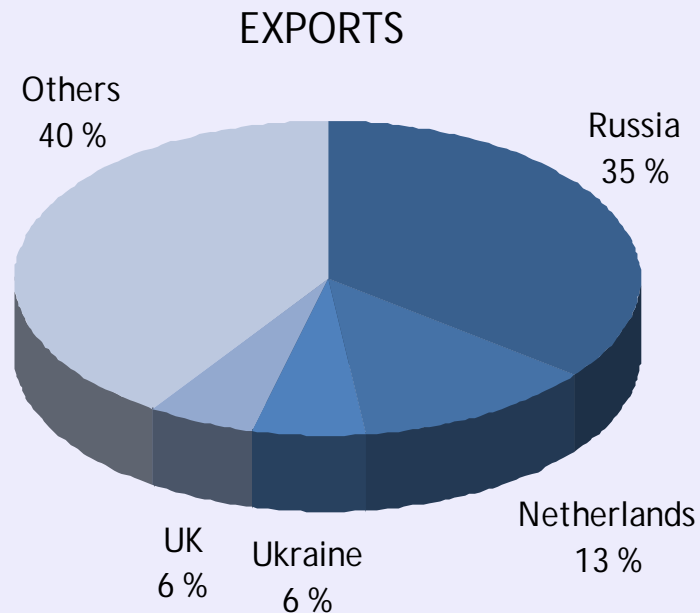
Commodity Group	Exports	Imports
Mineral products	36 %	36 %
Machines, equipment and vehicles	22 %	25 %
Chemical industry products, rubber (incl. chemical fibres and filaments)	15 %	12 %
Food stuffs and agricultural raw materials	8 %	8 %
Other	20 %	20 %



Source: BelStat

# 4. External economic relations

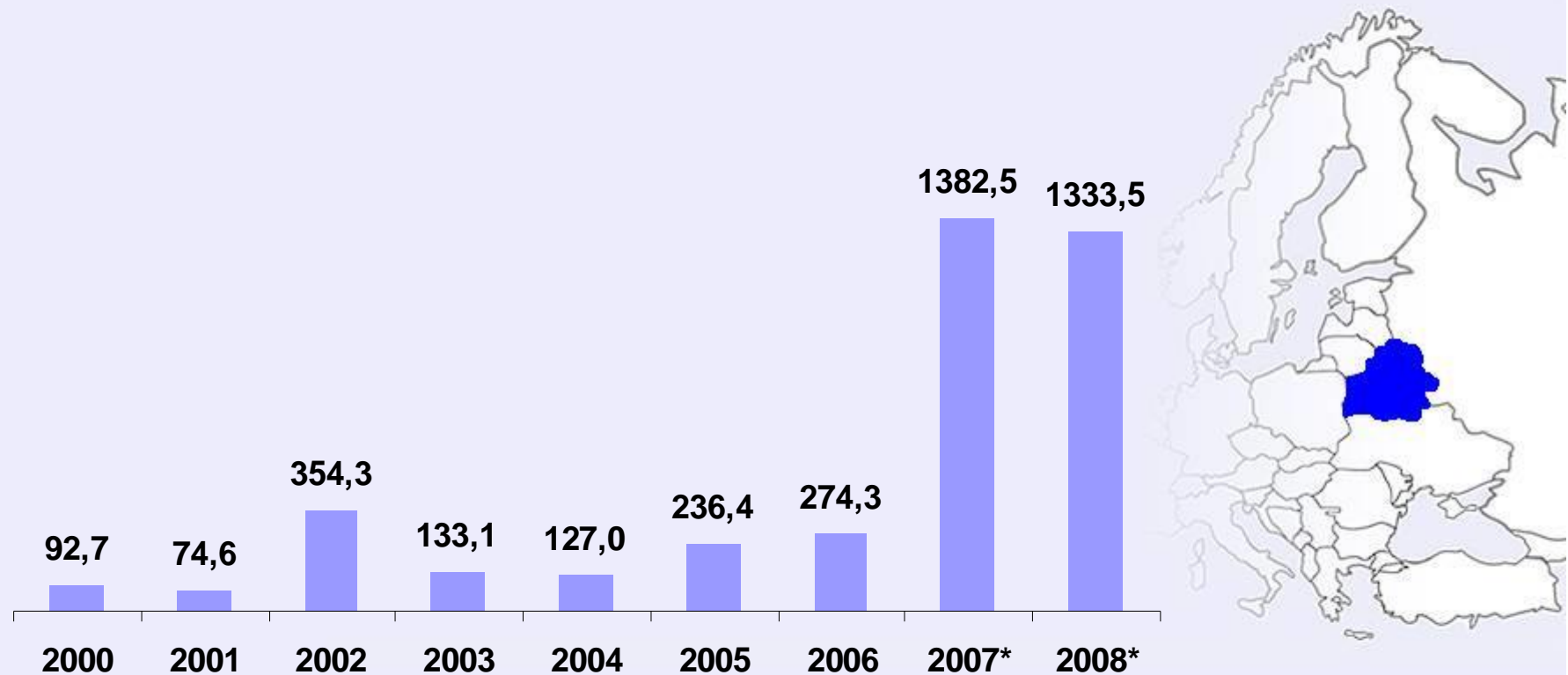
## c) Major export and import partners in 2007



Source: Economist Intelligence Unit

# 4. External economic relations

## d) FDI inflow (€ million)

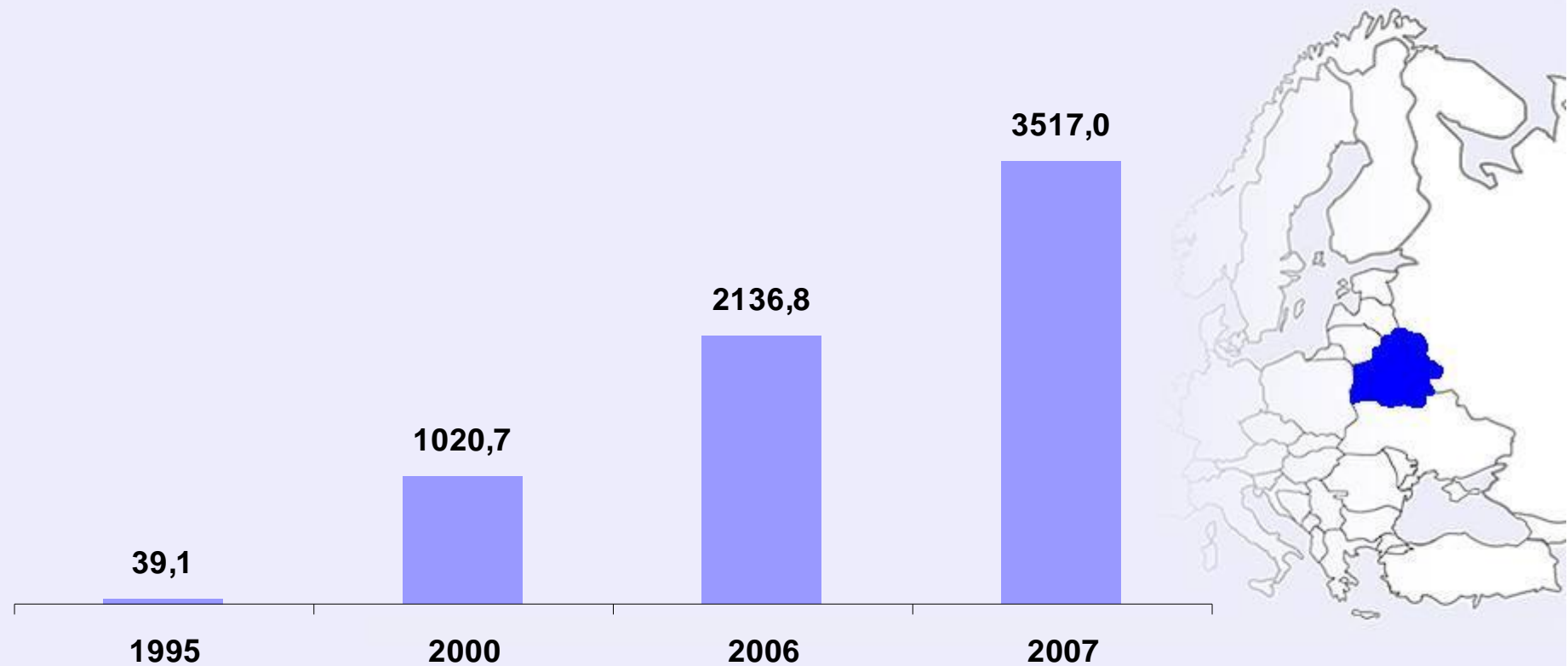


Source: EBRD  
\*estimates

Exchange rate according to the  
Bank of Finland 23.1.2009,  
EUR 1 = USD 1,2795

# 4. External economic relations

## e) Foreign investment stock (€ million)

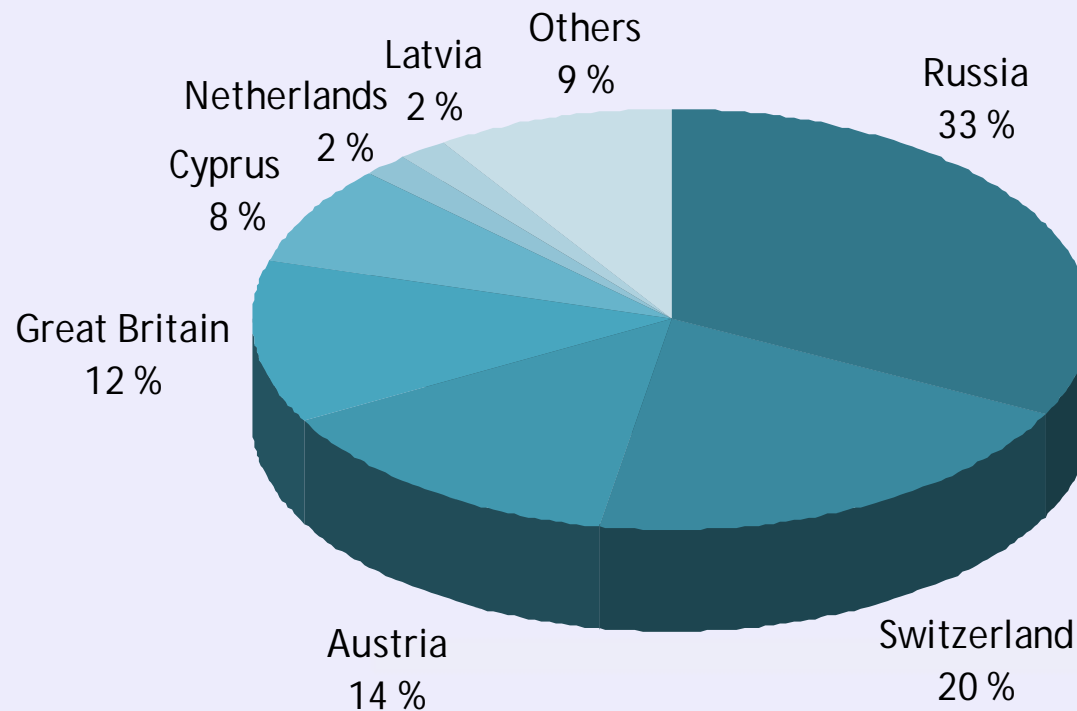


Source: UNTACD, World Investment Report 2008

Exchange rate according to the  
Bank of Finland 23.1.2009,  
EUR 1 = USD 1,2795

# 4. External economic relations

## f) FDI by countries (January-September 2008)

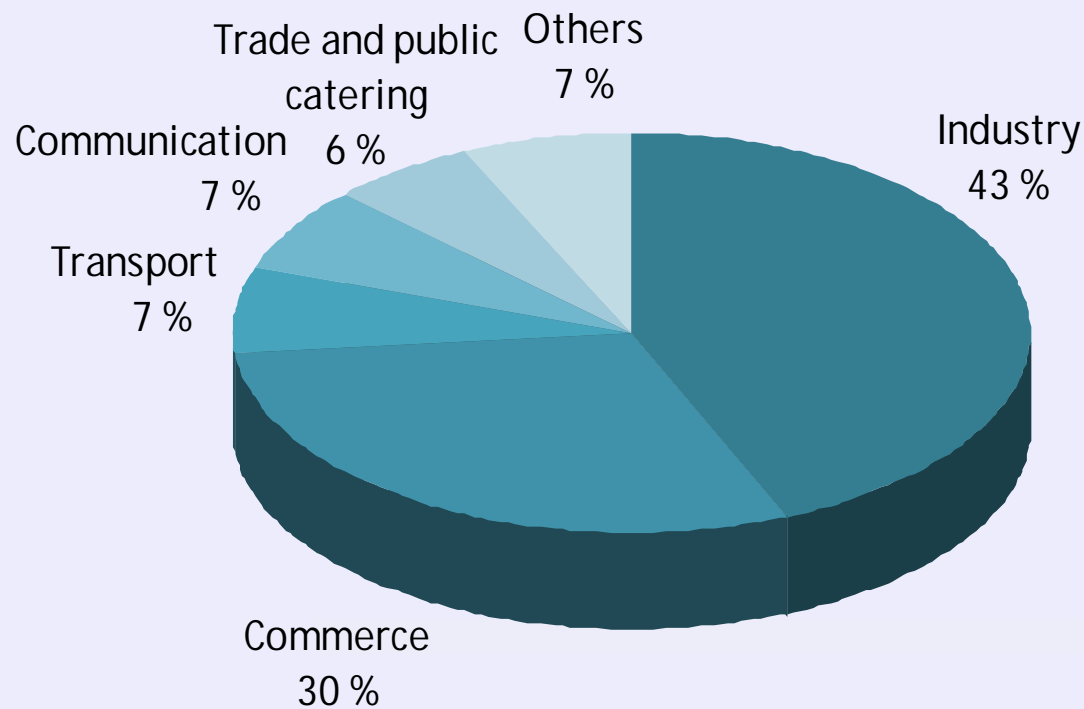


The FDI in January-September 2008 was 5 247.0 million USD, which is 1.4 times the volume of investment on the same period in 2007.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus

# 4. External economic relations

## g) FDI by sectors (2007)



Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus



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# 5. Additional information

## a) Business services and authorities

### BUSINESS SUPPORTING SERVICES

Finpro Northern Europe

<http://www.finpro.fi/fi-FI/Business/>

Invest in Belarus

[www.invest.belarus.by/en/belarus](http://www.invest.belarus.by/en/belarus)

### SOME AUTHORITIES

Official Government Portal (in Russian)

[w3.economy.gov.by](http://w3.economy.gov.by)

Foreign Ministry

<http://www.mfa.gov.by/en/>

Ministry of Economics (in Russian)

[www.economy.gov.by](http://www.economy.gov.by)

National Bank of Belarus

[www.nbrb.by/engl/default.asp](http://www.nbrb.by/engl/default.asp)

Information subject to changes



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# 5. Additional information

## b) Embassy and European Commission's Delegation

### Finland's Embassy, Belarus (in Lithuania)

[www.finland.lt](http://www.finland.lt)

Address:

Embassy of Finland  
Klaipedos gatve 6, 3rd floor  
Lt-01117 Vilnius  
Lithuania  
Tel. +370-5-212 1621, 212 2775 (visas)  
Fax +370-5-212 2463, 2122 441  
E-mail: sanomat.vil@formin.fi

### The European Commission's Delegation to Belarus

[www.delblr.ec.europa.eu/page63.html](http://www.delblr.ec.europa.eu/page63.html)

Address:

34a Engels Street  
Minsk 220030  
Republic of Belarus  
Phone +375 17 328 66 13, +375 17 328 35 82  
Fax +375 (17) 2891281  
E-mail: delegation-belarus@ec.europa.eu



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# 5. Additional information

## c) Other sources

Economist Intelligence Unit

[www.eiu.com](http://www.eiu.com)

EBRD

[www.ebrd.com/country/country/belarus/index.htm](http://www.ebrd.com/country/country/belarus/index.htm)

Electronic Publications of the Pan-European Institute

[www.tse.fi/pei/](http://www.tse.fi/pei/)

IMF

[www.imf.org/](http://www.imf.org/)

Ministry of Statistics and Analysis of Belarus

[www.belstat.gov.by/homep/en/main.html](http://www.belstat.gov.by/homep/en/main.html)

Worldbank

[www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)



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