- Post-censal estimates were calculated on the basis of the 1985 census. The estimates have not been recalculated backwards from the 1992 census, therefore they do not account for substantial unregistered emigration during 1989-1992. As a consequence, the comparison between the official estimates for the December 31st of 1991 and 1992 show a very significant drop in population numbers between these two particular dates.
- 2 Post-censal estimates were calculated on the basis of the 1992 census. The estimates have not been recalculated backwards from the 2001 census, therefore they do not account for unregistered emigration during 1993-2000.
- 3 Post-censal estimates were calculated on the basis of the 2001 census. The estimates have not been recalculated backwards from the 2011 census, therefore they do not account for unregistered emigration during 2001-2010.
- Infant deaths are possibly under-registered due to a more restrictive definition of infant death used in Bulgaria compared with that recommended by the World Health Organization: newborns weighing less than 1000 grams and surviving less than six days are registered as spontaneous abortions rather than as infant deaths.
- The definition of a live birth differs from the internationally accepted concept. Live births include all births of newborns weighing at least 1000 grams and showing signs of life irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy. Newborns weighing less than 1000 grams are registered as live births only if they survived for at least six full days. If they did not survive for six days, they are registered as spontaneous abortions (if gestation lasted for less than 28 weeks or their height was no more than 35 centimeters) or as stillbirths (if gestation lasted for at least 28 weeks or their height was above 35 centimeters).
- 6 Unexplained and significant drops in the number of deaths in the upper triangle for 1986 among males and females belonging to the 1900 or older cohorts may indicate errors in the data.
- 7 Actually present (de facto) population.
- 8 Resident population.
- 9 Post-censal population estimates.

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From 2009 onwards, Bulgaria has been using the definitions for live births and infant deaths recommended by WHO.

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Post-censal estimates were calculated on the basis of the 2011 census.