

wiiw Annual Database – detailed description

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As a backbone for its core research, wiiw maintains and regularly updates its wiiw Annual Database on key macroeconomic and structural indicators. The main characteristics are described here.

Countries covered

The **wiiw Annual Database** currently covers the following 22 Central, East and Southeast European countries. The database has been expanded by three new countries: **Belarus, Kosovo and Turkey**.

| | | | |
|------------------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Albania | Estonia | Macedonia | Slovakia |
| Belarus | Hungary | Montenegro | Slovenia |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Kazakhstan | Poland | Turkey |
| Bulgaria | Kosovo | Romania | Ukraine |
| Croatia | Latvia | Russia | |
| Czech Republic | Lithuania | Serbia *) | |

*) Data referring to Serbia exclude Kosovo and Metohija.

Data for Serbia and Montenegro combined are available until 2005.

Many of the time series reach as far back as the 1960s (Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania). Series on the newly independent countries are available from the late 1980s onwards. Data on Serbia as well as for Montenegro usually start in the late 1990s.

Updates

The time series are regularly updated as soon as the official statistical sources become available.

Coverage of indicators

The **wiiw Annual Database** comprises about 1300 annual time series per country covering the following key macroeconomic and structural indicators:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Population | Labour market | Foreign finance |
| National accounts | Wages | Foreign trade |
| Investment | Prices | |
| Production | Domestic finance | |

One of the major assets of this database is the careful **description of methodological breaks in footnotes and chain linking of breaks in time series**. The comparability of time series over time and with international methodologies is ensured, possible deviations are again defined in footnotes. Permanent quality controls and consistency checks are the key to sound economic analyses.

Classifications used for structural data:

The activity breakdown for GDP, investment, employment and wages is given according to the EU-wide applied **NACE classification** (Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community, details are available at Eurostat). **NACE Rev. 2** is the most recent one, introduced in 2008 in response to the technological developments and structural changes of the economy. Time

series according to NACE Rev. 2 usually start in mid-2000 (depending on indicator and country), **NACE Rev. 1**, the previous classification, is available mostly back to the mid-1990s. Both revisions are available at 1 letter code. The less detailed industry breakdown for the transition period and even backwards is given according to the classification previously used in the former COMECON – in this database called **other classification** (for some CIS countries the only classification used until 2000).

Structure of the wiiw Annual Database tree:

Population

National accounts

- Main indicators
- Gross value added by activities
- Gross domestic product by expenditures
- Employment by activities
- Gross fixed capital formation by activities
- Gross fixed capital formation by type

Investment¹⁾²⁾

- Gross fixed investment by activities
- Gross fixed investment by type

Production

Labour market

- Labour force by Labour Force Survey (LFS)³⁾
 - Labour force total
 - Employment by activities (LFS)
- Labour force by registration²⁾
 - Labour force total by registration
 - Employment by activities
 - Employees by activities

Wages

- Wages and salaries total
- Average gross monthly wages by activities
- Average net monthly wages by activities

Prices

Domestic finance

- Budget and public debt
- Money supply
- Interest rates

Foreign finance

- Balance of payments
 - Balance of payments – 6th edition (detailed structure)
 - Balance of payments – 5th edition (detailed structure)
- Gross external debt
- Reserves
- Exchange rates
- Purchasing power parity

Foreign trade²⁾⁴⁾

- By partners
- By commodity groups (SITC; HS – both at 1-digit level)
- Terms of trade

- 1) As compared to 'gross fixed capital formation' (chapter National accounts) these gross fixed investment data are based on 'Annual Investment Surveys'. Their level is lower than the one of national accounts and is in some countries the only information on investment activities.
- 2) Time series for the New EU Member States are no longer being updated– see below *Modifications relating to the new EU Member States – NMS*.
- 3) Currently the LFS data are given according to nationally defined population. For the majority of countries this is population aged 15+ (in some countries there is a lower age limit described in footnotes).
- 4) Time series on foreign trade are provided in the initially reported currency of the respective country, for example, Albanian lek, Polish zloty, etc. or US dollar in the case of Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine and Macedonia. For a better comparison all foreign trade series are additionally available in the common currency euro (by definition euro series do not reach back as far as the national currency series).

Modifications relating to the new EU Member States – NMS:

As of autumn 2008 wiiw started to replace data from national sources by Eurostat data for the NMS (Bulgaria, Croatia as of 2015, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia). This substitution had an impact on gross investment, labour force by registration and foreign trade. The time series are frozen and no longer being updated, because other internationally comparable time series could be used e.g. gross fixed capital formation instead of gross fixed investment, labour force survey data instead of labour force data by registration. In case of foreign trade data the national currency series are frozen, while time series in euro are continued.

wiiw forecasts

wiiw is making forecasts on the current year and the forthcoming two years for GDP, consumer prices, unemployment rate (LFS) and current account in % of GDP. These forecasts are revised mid of March, July and November.

In the wiiw Annual Database the forecasts are presented in a different colour (HTML, Excel) or the period is written in the last column (CSV, TSV).

Sources used

Data and information provided by the national statistical offices and National Banks of the respective countries serve as a basis for this database as well as for wiiw's own research and forecasts.

For the new EU Member States Eurostat has replaced national statistics as the general source of data from the year 2000 onwards (two exceptions: LFS data from 2005, BOP data from 2006 onwards). Indicators not covered by Eurostat (e.g. gross monthly wages, money supply, gross external debt, etc.) and those on the period before 2000 are still being updated by wiiw using national statistical sources, in particular the national statistical offices and National Banks of individual countries (see *Modifications relating to the new EU Member States - NMS* above).

National currencies

In the database the general term 'national currency (incl. 'euro fixed' series)' is used. We list here the respective currencies of the individual countries.

| Country | ISO code | Currency |
|---------------------------|----------|---|
| Albania | ALL | Albanian lek |
| Belarus | BYN | Belarussian rouble (new denomination from 1 July 2016) |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | BAM | Bosnian convertible mark (introduced June 1998) |
| Bulgaria | BGN | Bulgarian lev (new denomination from 5 July 1999) |
| Croatia | HRK | Croatian kuna (introduced 30 May 1994) |
| Czech Republic | CZK | Czech koruna (introduced 8 February 1993) |
| Estonia | EUR | Euro introduced 1 January 2011, fixed Estonian kroon until 2010 (Estonian kroon introduced 20 June 1992) |
| Hungary | HUF | Hungarian forint |
| Kazakhstan | KZT | Kazakh tenge (introduced 15 November 1993) |
| Kosovo | EUR | Kosovo euro (introduced 1 January 2002) |
| Latvia | EUR | Euro introduced 1 January 2014, fixed Latvian lats until 2013 (Latvian lats introduced March 1993) |
| Lithuania | EUR | Euro introduced 1 January 2015, fixed Lithuanian litas until 2014 (Lithuanian litas introduced 25 June 1993) |
| Macedonia | MKD | Macedonian denar (new denomination from 1 May 1993) |
| Montenegro | EUR | Montenegrin euro (introduced 1 January 2002) |
| Poland | PLN | Polish zloty (new denomination from 1 January 1995) |
| Romania | RON | Romanian leu (new denomination from 1 July 2005) |
| Russia | RUB | Russian rouble (new denomination from 1 January 1998) |
| Serbia | RSD | Serbian dinar (new denomination from 24 January 1994) |
| Slovakia | EUR | Euro introduced 1 January 2009, fixed Slovak koruna until 2008 (Slovak koruna introduced 8 February 1993) |
| Slovenia | EUR | Euro introduced 1 January 2007, fixed Slovenian tolar until 2006 (Slovenian tolar introduced 8 October 1991) |
| Turkey | TRY | Turkish lira (new denomination from 1 January 2005) |
| Ukraine | UAH | Ukrainian hryvnia (introduced 2 September 1996) |
| United States | USD | US dollar |
| Euro area | EUR | Euro (introduced 1 January 2002 as cash) |
| | ECU | European Currency Unit (until end 1998) |

Euro introduction

Five CESEE countries have already adopted the euro: Slovenia (2007), Slovakia (2009), Estonia (2011), Latvia (2014) and Lithuania (2015). This involved the statistical adjustment of all nominal and real time series in national currency as well as exchange rates and PPP rates by applying a fixed conversion factor to the years backward to achieve euro-fixed series.

Slovenia: Conversion factor is 239.64 SIT per EUR applied until 2006.

Slovakia: Conversion factor is 30.126 SKK per EUR applied until 2008.

Estonia: Conversion factor is 15.6466 EEK per EUR applied until 2010.

Latvia: Conversion factor is 0.702804 LVL per EUR applied until 2013.

Lithuania: Conversion factor is 3.4528 LTL per EUR applied until 2014.

In order to calculate time series in current euro from national currency one has still to divide by the exchange rate (important for the period before euro introduction).

In the wiiw Annual Database we use the term '*national currency (incl. 'euro fixed' series)*'. This description comprises all mentioned national currencies including those countries already having adopted the euro as defined above.

Abbreviations used

Conventional signs and abbreviations:

| | |
|------|----------------------------|
| . | not available |
| p.a. | per annum |
| mn | million (10 ⁶) |

Other abbreviations:

| | |
|--------|--|
| SNA | System of National Accounts (SNA 1993, SNA 2008) |
| ESA | European System of Accounts (ESA 1995, ESA 2010) |
| NACE | Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans les communautés européennes (Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community), Rev. 1 (1990), Rev. 2 (2008) |
| SITC | Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), Rev. 3 |
| BOP | Balance of Payments |
| COICOP | Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose |
| CPI | Consumer Price Index (national inflation measurement) |
| ECB | European Central Bank |
| FDI | Foreign Direct Investment |
| FISIM | Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured |
| FSU | Former Soviet Union |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| HICP | Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (Eu wide inflation measurement) |
| ITRS | International Transactions Reporting System |
| LFS | Labour Force Survey |
| NCU | National currency unit |
| NB | National Bank |
| NFS | Non-Factor Services |
| NPISH | Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households |
| SPE | Special Purpose Entities |
| SUT | Supply and Use Tables |
| PPI | Producer Price Index |
| PPP | Purchasing power parity |
| ULC | Unit Labour Costs |
| VAT | Value-Added Tax |

Related publications

wiiw Handbook of Statistics

The wiiw Handbook of Statistics is a unique compilation of detailed macroeconomic and structural indicators on 22 Central, East and Southeast European countries (Belarus included since 2016, Turkey and Kosovo since 2015).

This user-friendly compilation of tables and maps serves as a quick reference tool to a broad range of economic indicators for this region. Easily understandable tables (values, shares, growth rates) and meaningful maps are generated mainly out of the wiiw Annual Database and wiiw FDI Database. Footnotes explain methodological breaks in time series.

The printed version of the handbook covers six years while longer time series are available in MS Excel format on USB-drive or online permitting a wide range of individual time series analyses with most data starting from 1990.

For more information please go to: [here](#)

The *wiiw Annual Database* will be steadily improved and enlarged by indicators or countries. wiiw welcomes any comments or suggestions aimed at improving its quality and user-friendliness.