

ALBANIA
Table 1. Data Categories and Indicators¹

Data Categories	Indicators	Periodicity (GDDS Recommendation)	Timeliness (GDDS Recommendation)
Real Sector			
National accounts aggregates	GDP (nominal and real)	Not available (Annually)	Not available (6–9 months)
Production index/indices	Manufacturing or industrial	Monthly (Monthly)	1 month (6 weeks–3 months for all indices)
Price indices	Consumer price index	Monthly (Monthly)	(8 days) 1–2 months
Labor market indicators	Employment Unemployment Wages	Annually Monthly Quarterly (Annually - all items)	2 months 1 month 2 months (6–9 months)
Fiscal Sector			
Central government budgetary aggregates	Revenue, expenditure, balance, and financing With breakdowns, as relevant	Monthly (Quarterly)	2 weeks (1 quarter)
Central government debt	Domestic debt (by debt holder and instrument) External debt (by currency, maturity, debt holder and instrument)	Quarterly (Annually)	5 weeks (1–2 quarters)

¹ In the columns on Periodicity and Timeliness, the GDDS recommendation, in parenthesis, is noted directly below the actual practice.

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Table 1 (continued). Data Categories and Indicators¹

Data Categories	Indicators	Periodicity (GDDS Recommendation)	Timeliness (GDDS Recommendation)
Financial Sector			
Broad money and credit aggregates	Net external position, domestic credit, broad or narrow money	Monthly (Monthly)	2 months (1–3 months)
Central Bank Aggregates	Reserve money	Monthly (Monthly)	2 months (1–2 months)
Interest rates	Short- and long-term government security rates, policy variable rate	Monthly (Monthly)	2 months 1 day after auction for TBs (1 month)
Stock market ²		Not available (Monthly)	Not available (1 month)
External Sector			
Balance of payments aggregates	Imports and exports of goods and services, current account balance, reserves, overall balance	Quarterly (Annually)	2 months (6 months)
International reserves	Gross official reserves denominated in US dollars	Monthly (Monthly)	2 months (1–4 weeks)
Merchandise trade	Total exports and total imports	Monthly (Monthly)	2 months (8 weeks–3 months)
Exchange rates	Spot rates	Daily (Daily)	Daily (Disseminated on a high frequency)

¹ In the columns on Periodicity and Timeliness, the GDDS recommendation, in parenthesis, is noted directly below the actual practice.

² The stock market is not developed and functions only as a secondary market for treasury bills.

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Table 1 (concluded). Data Categories and Indicators¹

Data Categories	Indicators	Periodicity	Timeliness
Socio-Demographic Data			
Population	Population size, births, deaths, migration flows	Annual	6 months
Health	Mortality rates, morbidity rates, health inputs, health services	Annual	3 months
Education	Enrollment rates, repetition and drop-out rates, inputs, achievement scores	Bi-annual	3 months
Poverty	Characteristics of the poor: household composition and size, income and access to credit, sources of income, consumption, assets	Irregular	Not available

¹ The columns on Periodicity and Timeliness relate to the actual practice. The World Bank, in collaboration with other international institutions, is developing a set of recommended good practices.

Table 2. Albania – Salient Features of the Data Quality Matrix

	Statistical Infrastructure	Conceptual Framework	Source Data	Statistical Techniques	Serviceability	Accessibility
Real Sector						
National accounts aggregates; Production index	The Law of Statistics of March 1993 requires the Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) to collect, process, and publish statistics. A Council of Statistics has been established to formulate Albania's statistical policy including the development of programs and the setting of priorities.	No official national accounts are yet compiled. A well defined work program has been developed to strengthen INSTAT's institutional capacity to compile national accounts in accordance with <i>1993 System of National Accounts</i> . The compilation of the Industrial Production Index (IPI) uses the Nomenclature GJnJrale des ActivitJs Economiques dans les CommunautJs EuropJennes (NACE), Rev.1 classification. From 1998, the <i>Classification of Products by Activities (CPA)</i> has been used.	Administrative records and surveys of private and public institutions, in accordance with National Statistics Program (NSP). GDP estimates suffer from poor coverage, especially of the private sector. New basic data sources, e.g., censuses, surveys, and business register are being developed and coverage of existing sources (industrial production index) is being expanded.	The IPI is not seasonally adjusted.	No official national accounts are yet compiled. Data revisions and changes in methodology for IPI are identified in notes in INSTAT's publications.	No official national accounts are yet compiled. INSTAT publishes an advance release calendar covering real sector indicators. Methodology for compiling the IPI is described in <i>Methodology of the Industrial production Index</i> . The IPI is published in the <i>Month Briefly</i> , <i>Quarterly Statistics Bulletin</i> , <i>Conjuncture</i> , and <i>Albania in Figures</i> .

Table 2. Albania – Salient Features of the Data Quality Matrix

	Statistical Infrastructure	Conceptual Framework	Source Data	Statistical Techniques	Serviceability	Accessibility
Real Sector (cont'd)						
Consumer Price index (CPI)	See national accounts	The CPI covers 11 cities and compilation is based on a sample of 221 items, with December 1993 as the base period. Classification of goods and services follows the <i>Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP)</i>	The weights are based on the 1993 Household Budget Survey. These are expected to be updated on the basis of the results of the 1999-2000 Household Budget Survey.	The CPI is not seasonally adjusted	A detailed breakdown of the index for the 8 major groups is available.	The methodology was published in the <i>Quarterly Statistical Bulletin</i> No. 4 of 1994. The CPI is published in the monthly <i>Consumer Price Index</i> for the most recent 12 months.
Labor market indicators – employment, unemployment, and wages	See national accounts.	Annual employment data cover the public and private formal sectors. Classification is based on 1988 International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88) and NACE, Rev.1. Definition of unemployment is based on the recommendations of the International Labor Organization. Average monthly wage data cover only public sector. Data on the official minimum wage are also published.	Public sector – declarations in accordance with NSP. Private sector – declaration forms filled for tax offices. Administrative records of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. Wages collected on a quarterly basis through declarations in accordance with NSP.	Estimates for agricultural private sector based on indicators such as production and area cultivated.	Detailed breakdown by district, gender and activity. Detailed breakdown by district, gender, age group and education. Published data breakdown by occupation, economic activity, and district.	Methodology for employment, unemployment, and wages published in the 1994 issue of <i>Albania Labor Market</i> . Annual employment, unemployment, and wages data are published in <i>Albania in Figures</i> and <i>Albania Labor Market</i> . Data on unemployment are published in <i>Month Briefly</i> , <i>Quarterly Statistics Bulletin</i> , and <i>Conjuncture</i> . Data on wages are published in <i>Conjuncture</i> .

	Statistical Infrastructure	Conceptual Framework	Source Data	Statistical Techniques	Serviceability	Accessibility
Fiscal Sector						
Central government budgetary aggregates; Central government debt	The Organic Budget Law of July 1998 requires the Minister of Finance to present a final statement of accounts to the Council of Ministers and Parliament by the end of June each year. For government debt (foreign and domestic), the presentation is twice a year.	Compilation methodology is broadly consistent with the analytical framework in the IMF's <i>A Manual on Government Finance Statistics (GFSM) 1986</i> . Data cover the general government sector. Distinction between foreign and domestic debt is based on the residency criterion of the IMF's <i>Balance of Payments Manual, fifth edition (BPM5)</i> . IMF credit is not included in the debt of central government. Arrears of past communist regime are excluded. Domestic debt data are not consolidated to net out intra-government holdings. Data are on cash basis; transactions in financial instruments are valued at market prices.	Data for government operations are compiled from administrative records of the Ministry of Finance's (MOF) Treasury Department and returns from Social and Health Care Insurance Institutes. Data on foreign loans are compiled from administrative records of the Debt. Department and from the Bank of Albania (BOA). The basic source for domestic debt data is the BOA.	No statistical or seasonal adjustments are made.	Data are presented in sufficient component detail and time series to permit users to assess reasonableness of the data. National presentation and classification of data for central government operations differ from the <i>GFSM</i> format. Government financing data are reconciled with financial sector claims on and liabilities to government, as well as with records of foreign creditors. Data on government debt and official debt flows are reconciled with the balance of payments. Data on grants received by official sector are not consistent with grants received by general government. Technical descriptions of changes appear as footnotes in <i>FSG</i> .	A methodological description is not publicly available, but an internal document defining the detailed series within revenue and expenditure is available on request. Monthly and annual data on the consolidated budget are published in the quarterly <i>Fiscal Statistics of Government</i> . Data are released simultaneously to all users through press releases and periodicals. No outside agencies have access to data before release.

	Statistical Infrastructure	Conceptual Framework	Source Data	Statistical Techniques	Serviceability	Accessibility
Financial Sector						
Broad money and credit aggregates; Central Bank aggregates; Interest rates	<p>The legal basis for the collection, compilation, and publication of financial data is contained in the Bank of Albania Law of 1997.</p> <p>BOA staff and affiliates are prohibited from disclosing, transferring to a third party, or using information obtained during the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The credit institutions and savings and loan associations are governed by a separate law, the “Law on Savings and Loan Associations” of 1996.</p>	<p>The monetary survey is compiled in accordance with the analytical framework in the IMF’s <i>Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual (MFSM)</i>. The survey consolidates the positions of the BOA and the commercial banks. Accounts of credit institutions and savings and loan associations are not included in the monetary survey. Data are compiled on an accrual basis; transactions in financial instruments are valued at market prices.</p> <p>Interest rate data disseminated by the BOA do not include the inter-bank repurchase agreement rate.</p>	Data are based on the monthly balance sheets and other accounting records of the BOA and on the monthly returns of commercial banks.	<p>The monetary survey is based on actual accounting records of the BOA and the commercial banks. No sampling or estimations are applied.</p> <p>No statistical or seasonal adjustments are made.</p>	<p>The data are published within a balance sheet framework of the monetary survey. Separate balance sheet data for the monetary authorities and commercial banks are published, which permit some cross-checking of the data. BOA reconciles its balance sheet data with corresponding accounts from commercial banks and central government fiscal accounts. Data revisions and changes in the data compilation practices are noted in footnotes to the tables published in the <i>Monthly Statistical Report</i>.</p> <p>The BOA disseminates monthly weighted average rates for commercial bank’s loans and deposits. Time series for the past six years are published.</p>	<p>The compilation methodology is not published in national sources, but is based on the IMF’s <i>MFSM</i>. Data are published in the BOA’s <i>Monthly Statistical Report</i> and <i>Quarterly Bulletin</i>. Data are released simultaneously to all users through press releases and periodicals.</p> <p>High frequency data on treasury bill rates (auction days) are disseminated to subscribers of Reuters online service.</p> <p>No outside agencies have access to data before release.</p> <p>There is no ministerial commentary on the data at the time of release.</p>

	Statistical Infrastructure	Conceptual Framework	Source Data	Statistical Techniques	Serviceability	Accessibility
External Sector						
Balance of payments aggregates; International reserves; Merchandise trade; Exchange rates; and International Investment Position (IIP)	BOA is responsible for producing and disseminating data on balance of payments, international reserves, and exchange rates. The BOA law requires all institutions and persons to deliver statistical data in accordance with the reporting system approved by the BOA.	The framework of the balance of payments conforms with the basic principles of <i>BPM5</i> . Coverage is deficient as illegal activities lie outside the source net. Monthly external trade statistics are produced and disseminated by INSTAT and are compiled in accordance with the recommendations of the United Nations. The definition of international reserve assets follows the methodology of <i>BPM5</i> . A comprehensive IIP is not available due to lack of data on foreign direct investment and on outstanding foreign assets and liabilities of the private sector. Transactions other than exports and imports are valued at market prices.	Main sources are, customs statistics (for merchandise trade); the foreign exchange record derived from bank reports, and report forms completed by government agencies, including BOA and the MOF (for services, income, transfers, and financial account). Adjustments to imports and exports are attributable to smuggling.	Incomplete source data require various estimations. For exports and imports, BOA makes adjustments to customs data to exclude temporary exports/imports and re-exports, to include goods smuggled into Albania and electric energy exports and imports, and to estimate imports on a f.o.b. basis. Many components of services, income and transfers are estimated by applying a fixed percentage to exports (to derive freight credits) and travel credits are based on number of visitors, average length of stay, and per capita spending.	Gross official reserves data are fully reconciled with the data on foreign assets published in the BOA's <i>Monthly Statistical Report</i> . Detailed data and time series for the most recent four quarters and six years are available in the BOA's <i>Balance of Payments Quarterly Statistical Bulletin(BPQSB)</i> . Detailed data and analysis of developments in external trade are available in the BOA's <i>Quarterly Trade Balance Bulletin</i> . External trade statistics published by INSTAT include quarterly trade balances disaggregated by country and product (Harmonized system) and annual quarter-to-quarter comparisons. Data revisions and changes in methodology are identified in footnotes in the <i>BPQSB</i> .	A methodological description on the balance of payments is available on request from the BOA. Methodological notes on external trade statistics are published together with the figures in <i>Situation of Foreign Trade and Conjunction</i> . Data on the BOP are compiled on a quarterly basis and published in the BOA's <i>BPQSB</i> . Data are released simultaneously to all users through press releases and periodicals. High frequency data on exchange rates (daily) are disseminated to subscribers of Reuters online service. No outside agencies have access to data before release. There is no ministerial commentary on the data at the time of release.

	Statistical Infrastructure	Conceptual Framework	Source Data	Statistical Techniques	Serviceability	Accessibility
Socio-Demographic Data						
Population; Health; Education; Poverty	The Law of Statistics requires all institutions of the public sector and private enterprises with 10 or more employees to report statistical data to INSTAT as part of the National Statistical Program	Statistics on education, mortality, and morbidity are based on <i>1997 International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97)</i> and <i>International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision (ICD-9)</i> . Albania participates in UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat (UOE) program on education statistics and Eurostat/WHO program on health statistics. Relative poverty levels are compiled in accordance with recommendations of the European Union and Eurostat.	Administrative records and surveys of public health, social care, and education institutions; population censuses; living conditions and household budget surveys; civil registration offices; declaration forms filled for tax offices.	Incomplete source data require various estimations. Data from vital registration offices are cross-checked with data from Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Local Government and are adjusted for consistency with other demographic indicators. Population is estimated from data on live births and deaths and assumptions on migration flows. Employment in agricultural sector is estimated from available indicators.	Data are presented in sufficient component detail and time series to permit users to assess reasonableness of the data. Data revisions and changes in methodology are identified in notes in INSTAT's publications.	Methodological notes are published in <i>Demographic Yearbook</i> . INSTAT publishes an advance release calendar covering socio-demographic data. Data are released simultaneously to all users through press releases and periodicals. No outside agencies have access to data before release. There is no ministerial commentary on the data at the time of release.