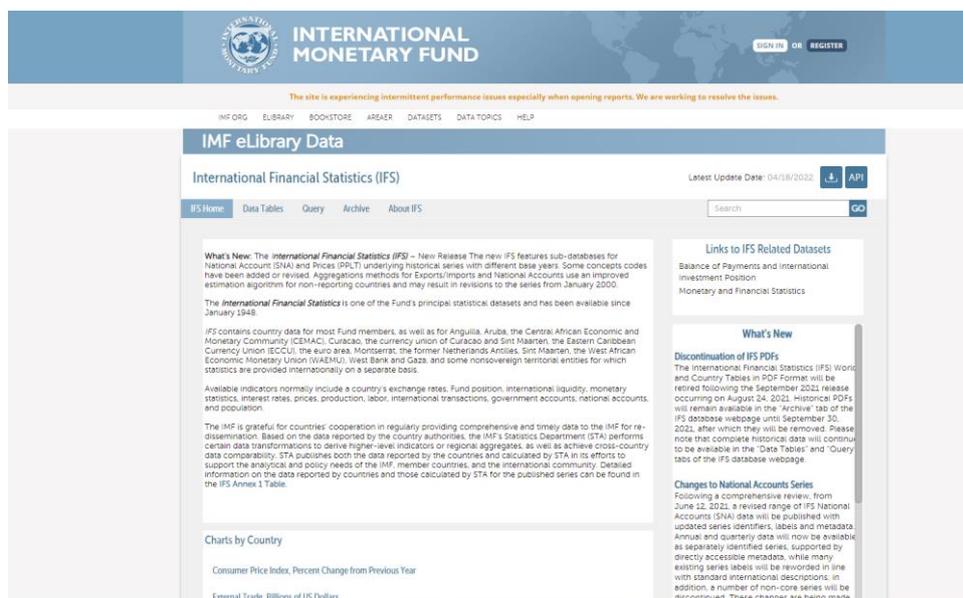


# Guide for Retrieval of IMF Data

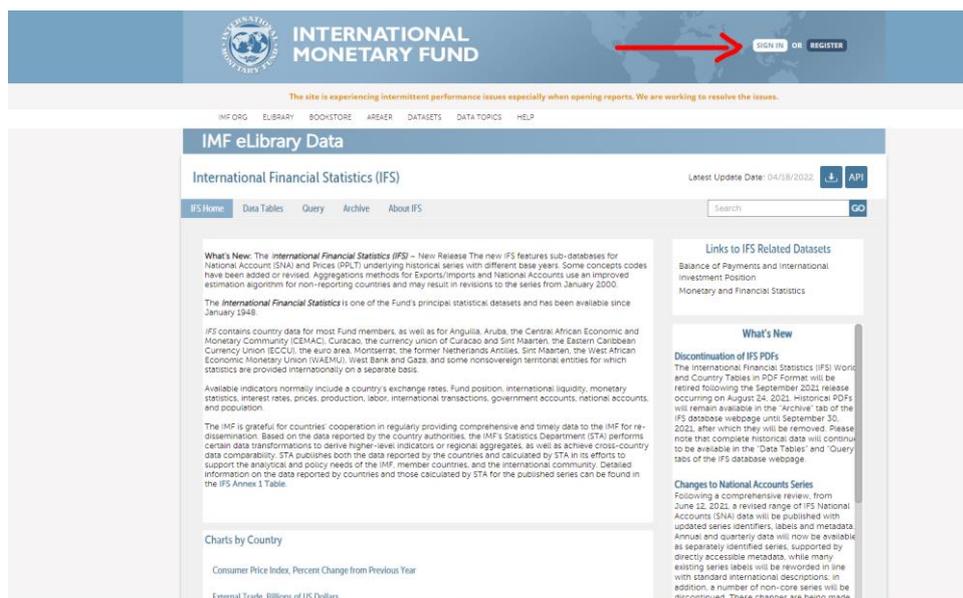
This is a quick guide to use the IMF's data sources. This guide will demonstrate how to use the website to retrieve annual Balance of Payment data of Albania from 2000 through 2021.

## 1. Go to [International Financial Statistics - At a Glance - IMF Data](#)



The screenshot shows the IMF eLibrary Data page for International Financial Statistics (IFS). The page has a blue header with the IMF logo and the text "INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND". Below the header, there is a navigation bar with links for "IMF.ORG", "ELIBRARY", "BOOKSTORE", "AREAR", "DATASETS", "DATA TOPICS", and "HELP". The main content area is titled "IMF eLibrary Data" and "International Financial Statistics (IFS)". It includes a search bar, a "Latest Update Date: 04/18/2022" indicator, and a "GO" button. The page is divided into several sections: "What's New", "Links to IFS Related Datasets", "What's New" (repeated), "Discontinuation of IFS PDFs", and "Changes to National Accounts Series". A red arrow points to the "REGISTER" button in the top right corner of the header.

## 2. Register or sign up



This screenshot is identical to the one above, showing the IMF eLibrary Data page for International Financial Statistics (IFS). A red arrow points to the "REGISTER" button in the top right corner of the header.

### 3. Select a specific database

Select “Balance of Payments and International Investment Position” database

The screenshot shows the IMF eLibrary Data page for International Financial Statistics (IFS). The page features the IMF logo and navigation links (IMF.ORG, ELIBRARY, BOOKSTORE, AREA, DATASETS, DATA TOPICS, HELP). A search bar is present with a 'GO' button. The main content area is titled 'International Financial Statistics (IFS)' and includes a 'Latest Update Date: 04/18/2022' and 'API' link. A red arrow points to the 'Links to IFS Related Datasets' section, which lists 'Balance of Payments and International Investment Position' and 'Monetary and Financial Statistics'. The 'What's New' section contains information about the discontinuation of IFS PDFs and changes to National Accounts Series.

### 4. Build a Query

The screenshot shows the IMF eLibrary Data page for Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Statistics (BOP/IIP). The page features the IMF logo and navigation links (IMF.ORG, ELIBRARY, BOOKSTORE, AREA, DATASETS, DATA TOPICS, HELP). A search bar is present with a 'GO' button. The main content area is titled 'Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Statistics (BOP/IIP)' and includes a 'Latest Update Date: 03/23/2022' and 'API' link. The 'Query' tab is highlighted in red. The 'What's New' section contains information about new data series on separately identifiable cross-border flows and positions of SPEs.

## 5. Amend Time and Country to preferences

Click on the pencil-like symbols next to the options.

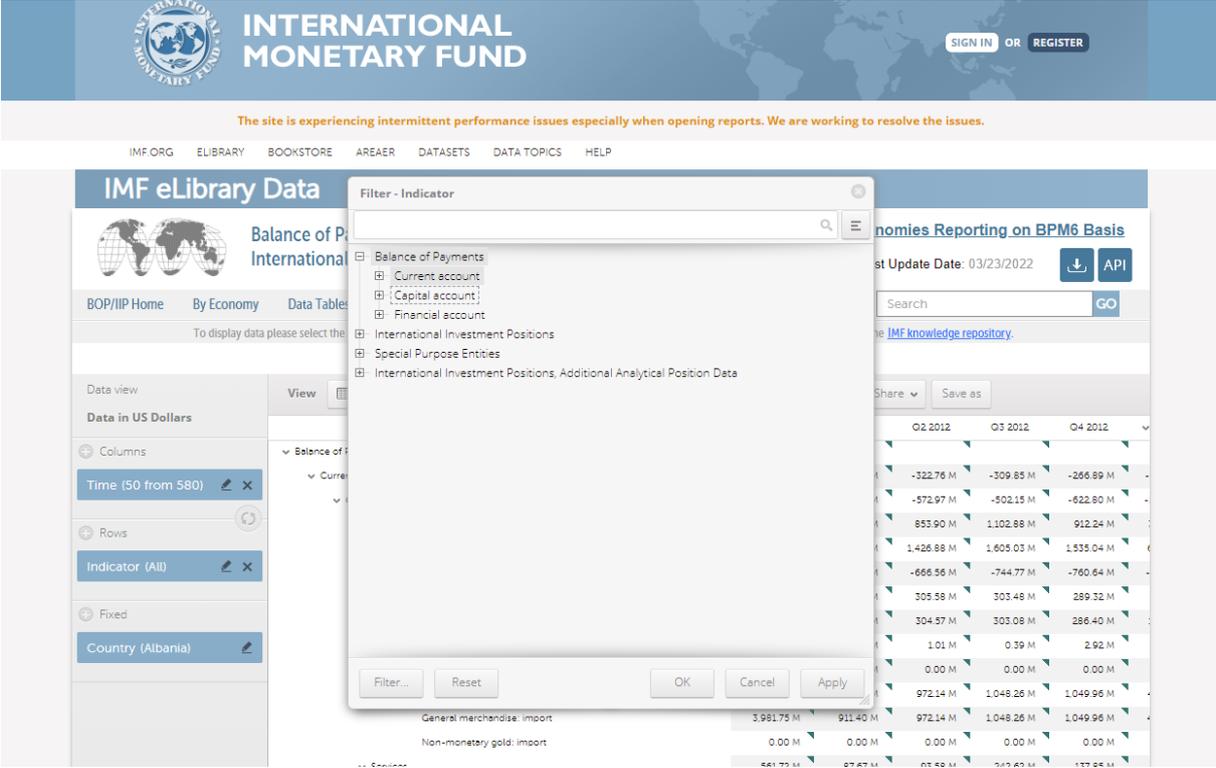
- For the “Time” option: select the option “Timeline” and deselect quarters and choose the timeframe to be from 2000 until 2021 and click apply and ok.
- Under the “Country” option select Albania

The screenshot shows the IMF eLibrary Data interface for 'Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Statistics (BOP/IIP)'. The page is titled 'Data in US Dollars'. On the left sidebar, under 'Data view', there are two sections: 'Columns' and 'Rows'. In the 'Columns' section, the 'Time (50 from 580)' option is selected, and a red arrow points to the pencil icon next to it. In the 'Rows' section, the 'Country (Albania)' option is selected, and a red arrow points to the pencil icon next to it. The main content area displays a table of data for the year 2012, broken down by quarter (Q1 2012, Q2 2012, Q3 2012, Q4 2012). The table includes categories such as 'Balance of Payments', 'Current account', 'Goods and services', 'Credit', 'Debit', 'Goods', 'Services', and 'Credit'.

## 6. Select the correct indicator

The screenshot shows the IMF eLibrary Data interface for 'Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Statistics (BOP/IIP)'. The page is titled 'Data in US Dollars'. On the left sidebar, under 'Data view', there are three sections: 'Columns', 'Rows', and 'Fixed'. In the 'Rows' section, the 'Indicator (All)' option is selected, and a red arrow points to the pencil icon next to it. The main content area displays a table of data for the year 2012, broken down by quarter (Q1 2012, Q2 2012, Q3 2012, Q4 2012). The table includes categories such as 'Balance of Payments', 'Current account', 'Goods and services', 'Credit', 'Debit', 'Goods', 'Services', and 'Credit'.

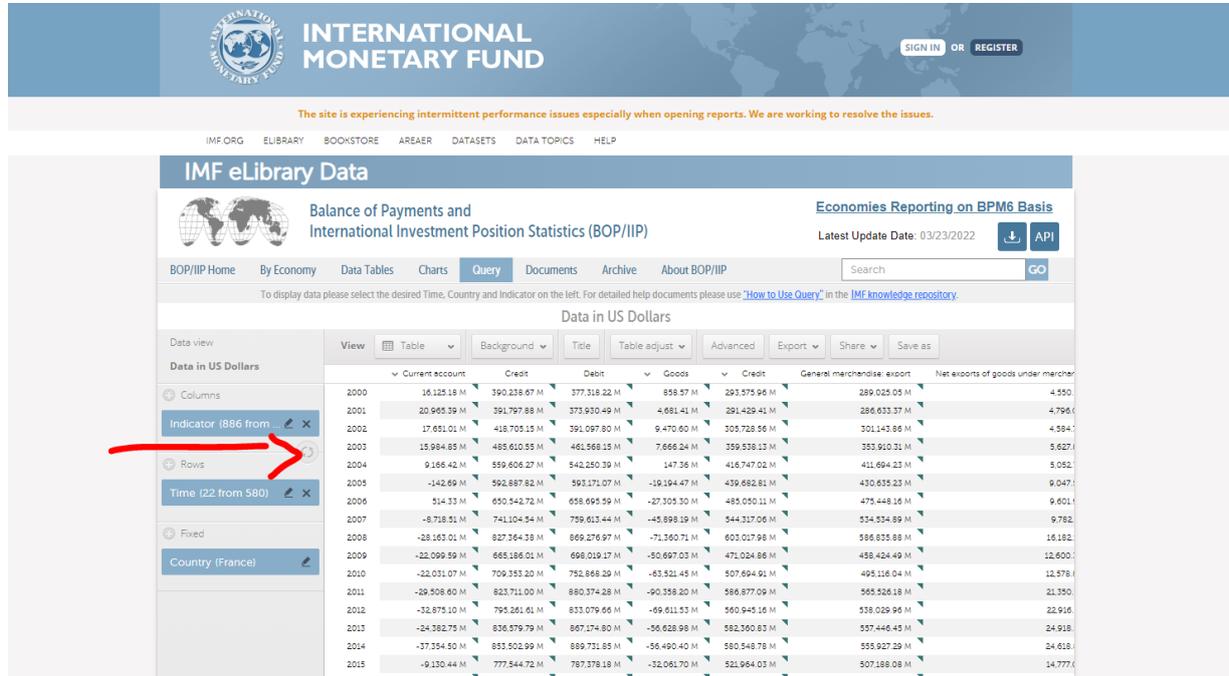
After clicking on the pencil-like symbol next to “Country”, deselect all but “Balance of Payments”. To deselect click on the items that should not be included. A successful deselection is indicated by the disappearing grey background coloring as in the following picture.



After the correct selection click on apply and ok. If no data are available for a given year, the IMF leaves the corresponding entry blank.

## 7. Table options

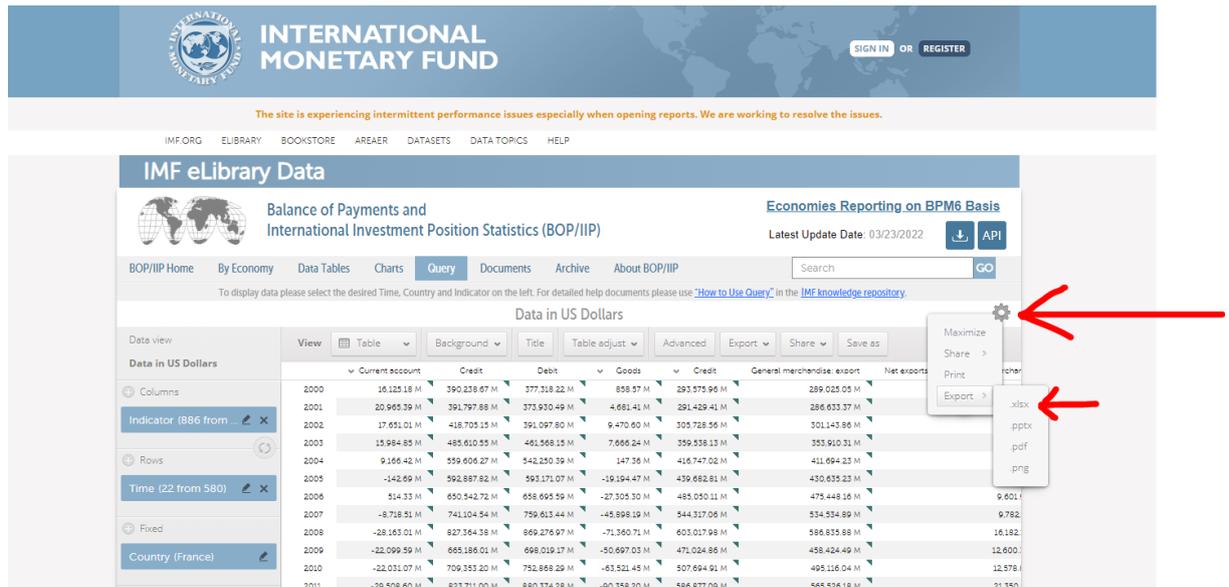
Within the left “data view” section you have the option to customize the table by clicking the “Rotate” button or by dragging the data manually. This may give you a better view of the data.



The screenshot shows the IMF eLibrary Data interface. The main content area displays a table titled "Data in US Dollars" with columns for Current account, Credit, Debit, Goods, Credit, General merchandise: export, and Net exports of goods under merchant. The table lists data for years 2000 through 2011. In the left sidebar, under "Data view", there are buttons for "Indicator (886 from ...)", "Time (22 from 580)", and "Country (France)". A red arrow points to the "Indicator" button.

## 8. Exporting the data

By clicking the symbol marked by the big arrow you can export the data in different formats (e.g., Excel).



The screenshot shows the IMF eLibrary Data interface. The main content area displays the same "Data in US Dollars" table. In the top right corner of the table view, there is a gear icon for settings and an "Export" button. A red arrow points to the "Export" button. A dropdown menu is visible next to the "Export" button, showing options for exporting to xlsx, pptx, pdf, and png. Another red arrow points to the "xlsx" option in the dropdown menu.