

# 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](#)

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### IMF eLibrary Data

#### International Financial Statistics (IFS)

Latest Update Date: 04/18/2022

IFS Home Data Tables Query Archive About IFS

**What's New:** The *International Financial Statistics (IFS)* – New Release The new IFS features sub-databases for National Accounts (SNA) and Prices (PPLT) underlying historical series with different base years. Some concepts codes have been added or revised. Aggregations methods for Exports/Imports and National Accounts use an improved estimation algorithm for non-reporting countries and may result in revisions to the series from January 2000.

The *International Financial Statistics* is one of the Fund's principal statistical datasets and has been available since January 1948.

IFS contains country data for most Fund members, as well as for Anguilla, Aruba, the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), Curacao, the currency union of Curacao and Sint Maarten, the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU), the euro area, Montserrat, the former Netherlands Antilles, Sint Maarten, the West African Economic Monetary Union (WAEMU), West Bank and Gaza, and some non-sovereign territorial entities for which statistics are provided internationally on a separate basis.

Available indicators normally include a country's exchange rates, Fund position, international liquidity, monetary statistics, interest rates, prices, production, labor, international transactions, government accounts, national accounts, and population.

The IMF is grateful for countries' cooperation in regularly providing comprehensive and timely data to the IMF for re-dissemination. Based on the data reported by the country authorities, the IMF's Statistics Department (STA) performs certain data transformations to derive higher-level indicators or regional aggregates, as well as achieve cross-country data comparability. STA publishes both the data reported by the countries and calculated by STA in its efforts to support the analytical and policy needs of the IMF, member countries, and the international community. Detailed information on the data reported by countries and those calculated by STA for the published series can be found in the IFS Annex 1 Table.

**Links to IFS Related Datasets**

- Balance of Payments and International Investment Position
- Monetary and Financial Statistics

**What's New**

**Discontinuation of IFS PDFs**

The International Financial Statistics (IFS) World and Country Tables in PDF Format will be retired following the September 2021 release occurring on August 24, 2021. Historical PDFs will remain available in the "Archive" tab of the IFS database webpage until September 30, 2021, after which they will be removed. Please note that complete historical data will continue to be available in the "Data Tables" and "Query" tabs of the IFS database webpage.

**Changes to National Accounts Series**

Following a comprehensive review, from June 12, 2021, a revised range of IFS National Accounts (SNA) data will be published with updated series identifiers, labels and metadata. Annual and quarterly data will now be available as separately identified series, supported by directly accessible metadata, while many existing series labels will be reworded in line with standard international descriptions. In addition, a number of non-core series will be discontinued. These changes are being made

**Charts by Country**

- Consumer Price Index, Percent Change from Previous Year
- External Trade, Billions of US Dollars

## 2. Register or sign up

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### 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 has a blue header with the IMF logo and navigation links. A red arrow points to the 'Links to IFS Related Datasets' section, which includes 'Balance of Payments and International Investment Position' and 'Monetary and Financial Statistics'. The page also features a 'What's New' section with updates on the IFS database and a 'Charts by Country' section.

### 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 has a blue header with the IMF logo and navigation links. The 'Query' link in the navigation bar is highlighted with a red circle. The 'What's New' section mentions new data series on separately identifiable cross-border flows and positions of SPEs. The page also features a 'Charts and More Information' section.

## 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

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### IMF eLibrary Data

Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Statistics (BOP/IIP)

Economies Reporting on BPM6 Basis

Latest Update Date: 03/23/2022

BOP/IIP Home By Economy Data Tables Charts Query Documents Archive About BOP/IIP

To display data please select the desired Time, Country and Indicator on the left. For detailed help documents please use "How to Use Query" in the IMF knowledge repository.

Data in US Dollars

View Table Background Title Table adjust Advanced Export Share Save as

Data view

Data in US Dollars

Columns

Time (50 from 580)

Rows

Indicator (All)

Fixed

Country (Albania)

	2012	Q1 2012	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012
Balance of Payments	-1,256.64 M	-357.15 M	-322.76 M	-309.85 M	-266.89 M
Current account	-2,296.76 M	-598.84 M	-572.97 M	-502.15 M	-622.80 M
Goods and services	3,555.57 M	686.56 M	853.90 M	1,102.88 M	912.24 M
Credit	5,852.33 M	1,285.39 M	1,426.88 M	1,605.03 M	1,535.04 M
Debit	-2,856.47 M	-686.50 M	-666.56 M	-744.77 M	-760.64 M
Goods	1,123.28 M	224.90 M	305.58 M	303.48 M	289.32 M
Credit	1,113.96 M	219.90 M	304.57 M	303.08 M	286.40 M
General merchandise: export	9.32 M	5.01 M	1.01 M	0.39 M	2.92 M
Net exports of goods under merchanting	0.00 M	0.00 M	0.00 M	0.00 M	0.00 M
Non-monetary gold: export	3,981.75 M	911.40 M	972.14 M	1,048.26 M	1,049.96 M
Debit	3,981.75 M	911.40 M	972.14 M	1,048.26 M	1,049.96 M
General merchandise: import	0.00 M	0.00 M	0.00 M	0.00 M	0.00 M
Non-monetary gold: import	561.72 M	87.67 M	93.58 M	242.62 M	137.85 M
Services	2,432.30 M	461.66 M	548.32 M	799.41 M	622.92 M
Credit					

## 6. Select the correct indicator

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Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Statistics (BOP/IIP)

Economies Reporting on BPM6 Basis

Latest Update Date: 03/23/2022

BOP/IIP Home By Economy Data Tables Charts Query Documents Archive About BOP/IIP

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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.

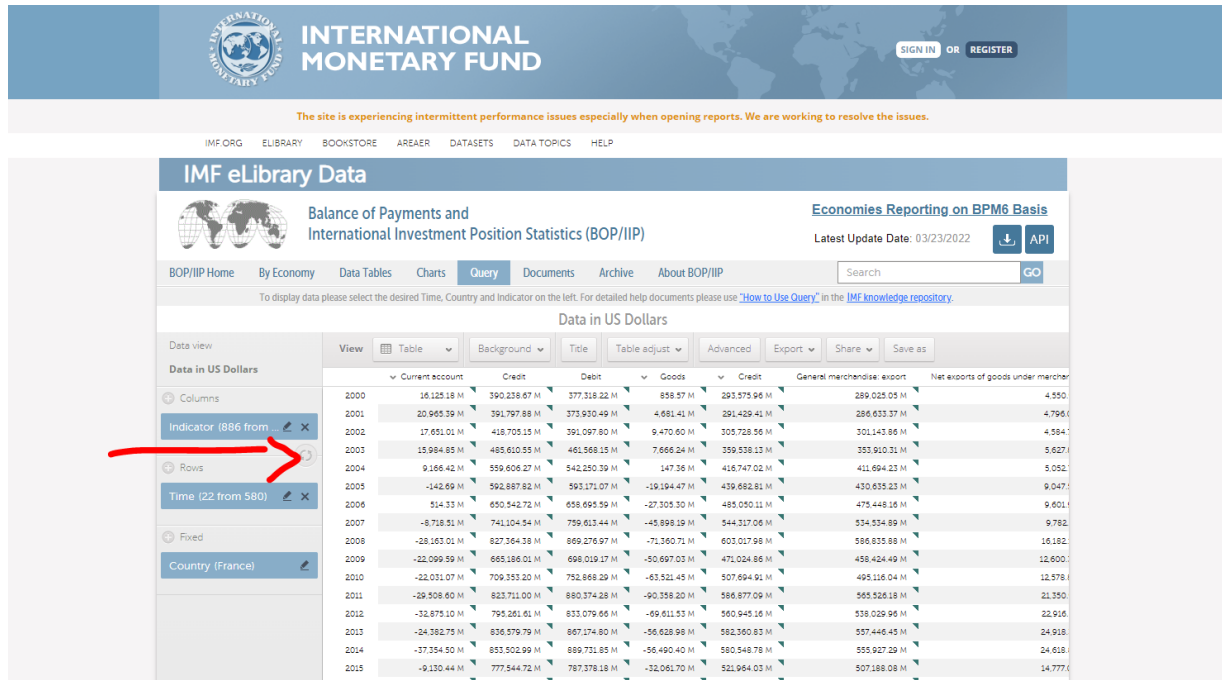
The screenshot displays the IMF eLibrary Data interface. A 'Filter - Indicator' dialog box is open, showing a list of indicators. The 'Balance of Payments' indicator is selected, and its sub-items are also visible. The background shows the IMF website header with the logo and navigation links. Below the header, there is a message about intermittent performance issues. The main content area shows the 'IMF eLibrary Data' section with a search bar and a list of indicators. The 'Balance of Payments' indicator is selected, and the 'Filter - Indicator' dialog box is open. The dialog box has a search bar and a list of indicators. The 'Balance of Payments' indicator is selected, and its sub-items are also visible. The background shows the IMF website header and a data table for Albania.

	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012
Balance of Payments	-322.76 M	-309.85 M	-266.89 M
Current account	-572.97 M	-502.15 M	-622.80 M
Capital account	853.90 M	1,102.88 M	912.24 M
Financial account	1,426.88 M	1,605.03 M	1,535.04 M
International Investment Positions	-666.56 M	-744.77 M	-760.64 M
Special Purpose Entities	305.58 M	303.48 M	289.32 M
International Investment Positions, Additional Analytical Position Data	304.57 M	303.08 M	286.40 M
General merchandise: import	1.01 M	0.39 M	2.92 M
Non-monetary gold: import	0.00 M	0.00 M	0.00 M
	972.14 M	1,048.26 M	1,049.96 M
	3,981.75 M	911.40 M	972.14 M
	0.00 M	0.00 M	0.00 M
	561.75 M	97.67 M	97.67 M
			137.95 M

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

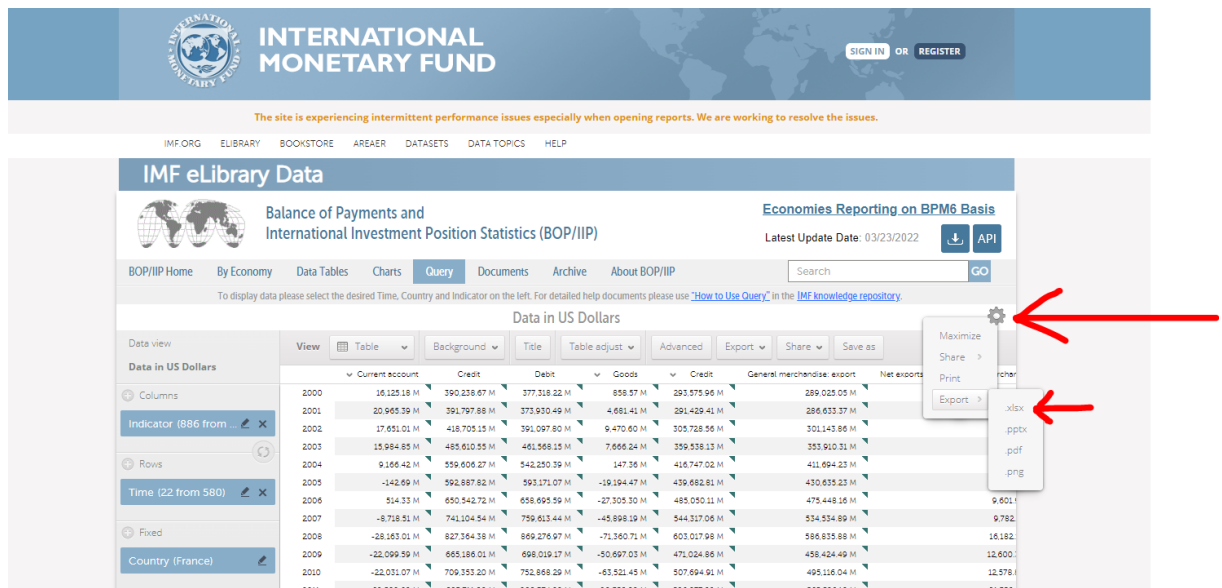
Within the left “data view” section you have the option to customize the table by clicking the “Rotate” button or by dragging the data manually. This may give you a better view of the data.



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 various years from 2000 to 2015. On the left sidebar, under "Data view", there is a section for "Data in US Dollars" with buttons for "Columns", "Indicator (886 from ...)", "Rows", "Time (22 from 580)", and "Country (France)". A red arrow points to the "Indicator (886 from ...)" 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).



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