



BANCO CENTRAL
DE LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA

COMUNICACIÓN "C" 73566

28/12/2016

A LAS ENTIDADES FINANCIERAS:

Ref.: ***SEMF - Monetary and Financial Statistics System - Reformulation of the Internet Home Page.***

The BCRA is reformulating its web page containing monetary statistics, which can be accessed by selecting "Publications and Statistics | Monetary and Financial" in the institution's site (www.bcra.gob.ar).

The changes implemented complete the final formal structure of the Monetary and Financial Statistics System (Sistemas de Estadísticas Monetarias y Financieras, SEMF) of the Central Bank of Argentina offering access to open-format data that may be directly used with tools designed for mining data in large volumes.

Thus, in line with the objective of technological innovation, which contributes to the process of financial inclusion, the Bank's available information structure —systematized to offer an extended time coverage for the different series— includes a new element that adds to the policy of disclosure data.

A. Data format supply

This newly revalued set of information has been integrated into current publication schemes so as to create a statistic structure aimed at serving the multiple predominant aspects of diverse users' interests, both regarding its conceptual diversification and its time scope, and the different formats that allow users to exploit information (published daily, monthly and quarterly) through various data mining tools with different degrees of complexity.

The range of options for accessing monetary and financial statistical series is:

Personalized searches of statistical series

On-line visualization

Exporting

Excel (XLS)

Comma Separated Value (CSV)

Extensible Markup Language (XML)

Internet query file (IQY)

Standardized statistical series tables

Excel (XLS)

Non-format or open-format text (with the corresponding url without an active link)

B. Reorganization

The conceptual reorganization of the standardized tables of statistical series available at the web site has not altered the three current major groupings. Rather, it has made a thematic separation within each of these, so as to classify statistics based on similar characteristics.



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These three major groupings include the links to the files containing the corresponding information (in excel) and the description of the urls pertaining to the open code files (next to the title of the section they are included in).

These files are in txt format and have their fields delimited by semi-colons (;) for the date (dd/mm/yyyy); the series code, and the series value.

After the reorganization, the three groupings continue to be:

1 “Monetary and Financial Outlook”, offering access to the main monetary variables that are relevant for assessing the evolution and the current balance of reserves, the monetary base and the BCRA’s main liabilities, the various definitions of monetary aggregates (including the disaggregation of each component), the loans and deposits of the financial system, and the main active and passive interest rates.

2 “Money and Credit” includes the balance sheets of the financial system and the rest of the statistical information generated by the BCRA for a more thorough understanding of the circumstantial and conceptual aspects of the behavior of the assets and liabilities of the financial system.

This set of information, consolidated and presented in a way that prioritizes the ability to respond to economic assessment needs (complementing the accounting perspective offered by the Superintendence of Banks and Financial Institutions on the BCRA web site in the Information on Financial Entities’ section), covers both the details of the assets and liabilities of the financial system (including those of the BCRA), as recorded on their monthly balance sheets, and the daily position of their main components (reserves and monetary liabilities of the BCRA, and main assets and liabilities of financial entities).

It also provides access to the statistical series related to regulatory liquidity standards (included concepts, requirements level and integration status) and to financial activity in general (financial derivatives operations, debtors situation statement, monthly profits and loss, physical data —such as number of accounts, staff members, etc.— as well as a disaggregation of loans and/or deposits by the main economic activity of their holders, by amounts deposited or by geographic location).

The improvement for easier access to the available information consists in the definition of the following thematic items (which may be opened by clicking on the symbol + or on the item title):

Money and Credit

- Consolidated balance sheets, minimum cash requirement and integration and other financial system data

 - Consolidated balance sheet of the financial system

 - Balance sheet of the Central Bank of Argentina

 - Consolidated balance sheet of financial entities

 - Consolidated balance sheet of banks

 - Future operations, debtor statement, income and loss statement and quantity of accounts, holders, staff members and current entities

 - Turnover rate of deposits in domestic currency

 - Document movements in clearing houses

 - Information regarding the BCRA’s regulatory liquidity standards

- Public securities, loans and deposits disaggregated by type of holder



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Loans and deposits of the non-financial public sector, disaggregated by holder's jurisdiction and by province
Loans and deposits of the non-financial private sector, disaggregated by type of holder
Mortgage and secured loans to the non-financial private sector, disaggregated by destination
Public security holdings in financial entities, disaggregated by issuers' political jurisdiction and province

Daily information on international reserves, main liabilities of the BCRA and main assets and liabilities of financial entities

International reserves and main liabilities of the BCRA
Daily information on main assets of financial entities
Daily information on main liabilities of financial entities

Other information on financial activity

Loans by activity
Cash, loans and deposits by political jurisdiction
Deposit sections (quarterly series)
Daily information on the main assets of financial entities with branches in the City of Buenos Aires (CABA) and the Greater Buenos Aires (loans and other) (1984-1995)
Daily information on the main liabilities in financial entities with branches in CABA and the Greater Buenos Aires (deposits and other obligations) (1984-1995)

3 "Interest Rates" compiles all available statistical information, published monthly and daily, on the evolution of rates paid and charged by financial entities (for deposits or obligations abroad and for loans granted both to the financial sector and to the non-financial private sector).

In this case, there is also a wide range of disaggregation providing relevant information not only for the interest rate analysis (by type of bank, by type of holder of the financial operation, by term, or even by tier of individual amounts operated, for passive interest rates) but also for the assessment of other characteristics that account for other related information vectors (regularly traded amounts, average term, operation concentration by interest rate levels, etc., for active interest rates).

This final grouping also provides access to the interest rates and adjustment coefficients established by the BCRA (such as the interest rates established by Com. "A" 1828 and by Statement N° 14.290—for judicial purposes—, the CER and other rates and indicators referenced in current BCRA regulations).

The improvement for easier access to the available information in this grouping consists in the definition of the following thematic items (which may be opened by clicking on the symbol + or on the title):

Interest Rates

For deposits
For loans to the non-financial private sector
For loans among local financial entities
For obligations incurred in by local financial entities with foreign financial entities
Interest rates and adjustment coefficients established by the BCRA



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C. Personalized Searches of Statistical Series

The reorganization implemented on the Central Bank's web site is in line with the structure designed in the web application that allows users to make an interactive search into the database containing the monetary statistical information.

This web application continues to give users the ability to interactively search the monetary statistics they are concerned with either through a term or series number search, or through a search guided by a conceptual hierarchy tree.

The conceptual hierarchy tree replicates the organization set out in the previous section, offering the various statistical series available for their individual selection.

The user's selection (including the choice between actual data and/or metadata — methodological notes of series, notes referable to individual's observations or links for access to specific regulation support) shows the data and/or metadata in one or several sections ("screens"), depending on the time extension of the search.

It is recommended that users view the data and/or metadata online through the embedded facility of the application, allowing to export them in a range of formats covering all main current software tools (Excel, comma-delimited text and extensible markup language, xml) for subsequent use.

The application also allows to save the search made (in the same information source of the monetary statistic user) in order to execute it in the future and thus obtain updated information without the need to repeat the personalized search —option especially useful to facilitate regular research routines. The search may always be edited —by using a text processor— to include more series.

Given that scalability is the main principle in implementing this search system, the set of available series will be expanded over time.

The technical requirements to use this application do not exceed those for using an active Internet connection. However, the public should bear in mind the following technical and information specifications in order to ensure timely and adequate results:

- Technical Specifications:

In order to view the results of the selected actions, it is recommended that users enable pop-ups for the bcra.gob.ar web site.

Exporting search results into an Excel file may trigger a format error in Windows 10 (64 bytes); in that case, the file should be allowed to completely download into the selected folder before opening it from that folder, ignoring the format error message.

- Information Specifications:

- The personalized search of statistical series enables a simultaneous selection of up to 10 series. If this number is exceeded, they will need to implement their search in sections. If the series to be searched are more than 10 and belong mostly to one conceptual grouping, the user might want to download standardized blocks of statistical series (sets of series grouped by subject and frequency, contained in Excel files) or to save the search and edit it to include additional series by stating the required code and date



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- Series dates are expressed as dd/mm/yyyy (dd: day; mm: month; yyyy: year)
- In the case of monthly statistical series containing information on the values observed for the month (even though they do not refer to the last day of the month, such as averages, cumulative sums, etc.), the date must be stated as the latest calendar day
- When the value of a series is unavailable for a specific moment over its span, a hyphen is shown (-)
- Simultaneously selecting monthly and daily series will produce non-existing informative events (marked by hyphens) in the monthly series
- Daily statistical series record observations for business days; a specific note will state any holidays that do not fall on a weekend
- Once the series that wish to be examined have been selected, the application will request the user to state the desired period to be searched by choosing a beginning and end date in the appropriate boxes (the dates do not need to coincide with the beginning and end of any given series)
- all statistical series expressed in local currency terms are reported in thousands of pesos (this is why a sufficient number of decimals have been enabled to reflect a significant figure in historic observations)

Finally, it should be noted that there are two email accounts for any kind of inquiries on monetary statistics per se and other related aspects: estadis.monyfin@bcra.gob.ar and boletin.estad@bcra.gob.ar.

Sincerely,

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