

Preface

State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) produce reliable and timely statistics mostly pertaining to central banking and related areas of interest for the use of policy makers, researchers, academia and other stakeholders. The Monthly Statistical Bulletin (MSB) presents a wide range of data disseminated at one place, most of which is also available on the websites of respective data producers such as SBP and Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS). The bulletin attempts to present data in a user friendly way. It is available both in print as well as electronic form on SBP website at: https://www.sbp.org.pk/reports/stat_reviews/Bulletin/index.htm.

MSB was started in 1951 by Statistics Department of SBP. The department was later reorganized as Statistics & Data Warehouse Department (S&DWD) which has recently been restructured as two departments, i.e. Core Statistics Department (CSD) and Data Services and Innovations Department (DSID). While the CSD, as the name suggests, is mandated to produce core central banking statistics, the DSID is tasked to modernize and manage an efficient data dissemination system, among its other responsibilities. In line with this mandate, SBP has recently launched EasyData (easydata.sbp.org.pk), an intuitive and interactive data portal from where one can access, download and plot time-series data from a collection of more than seven thousand variables. A significant part of data included in this bulletin have already been made available on EasyData. More datasets are being made available there gradually.

This edition of MSB comprises of data released up to 25th of the month as per existing practice. Efforts have, however, been made to include as much data released after the cut-off date as possible.

In this edition, three data tables have been included to facilitate users. These includes Table 2.10: Annual Accounts of State Bank of Pakistan, Table 2.11: Annual Accounts of SBP Banking Services Corporation, and Table 3.20: Agricultural Loans Disbursed by Holdings and Sectors. These tables were previously part of annual publication “Banking Statistics of Pakistan”.

If you want to include some specific data table(s), please write to us with your valuable suggestions at feedback.statistics@sbp.org.pk with Monthly Statistical Bulletin in subject line.

In the end, I would like to acknowledge and appreciate the team for their efforts in bringing out yet another issue of the bulletin.

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