Preface

State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) produces reliable and timely statistics 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 in one place, most of which is also available on the websites of the 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 in electronic form on the SBP website at: https://www.sbp.org.pk/reports/stat_reviews/Bulletin/index.htm.

MSB was started in 1951 by the 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 CSD, as the name suggests, is mandated to produce core central banking statistics, DSID is tasked to modernize and manage efficient data dissemination, 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 eight thousand variables. A significant part of the data included in this bulletin has already been made available on EasyData. More datasets are being made available there gradually. Users are encouraged to visit EasyData and inform us know if there are other datasets that should be included in it.

In case of any suggestions for inclusion of a specific data table(s) in this publication, you can reach us at feedback.statistics@sbp.org.pk with Monthly Statistical Bulletin in the subject line.

The dedicated efforts of the team in bringing out this monthly bulletin are acknowledged and appreciated.

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