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 eight 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. Users are encouraged to visit EasyData and let us know which other datasets they would like to be part of the database.

If you want to include some specific data table(s) in this publication, 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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