

Methodological notes

Definitions and data sources for country snapshot variable indicators

Liberalisation

Current account convertibility

Options: full (full compliance with Article VIII of IMF Agreement), limited (restrictions on payments or transfers for current account transactions).

Source: International Monetary Fund, International Financial Statistics.

Interest rate liberalisation

Options: full (banks are free to set deposit and lending rates), limited de facto (no legal restrictions on banks to set deposit and lending rates, but limitations arise from substantial market distortions, such as directed credits or poorly functioning or high illiquid money or credit markets), limited de jure (restrictions on the setting of interest rates by banks through law, decree or central bank regulation).

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Wage regulation

Restrictions or substantial taxes on the ability of some enterprises to adjust the average wage or wage bill upward; options: yes, no.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Stabilisation

Share of general government tax revenue in GDP

General government includes central government, extra-budgetary funds and local government.

Source: See the Macroeconomic indicator tables.

Exchange rate regime

Options: currency board, fixed, fixed with band, crawling peg, crawling peg with band, managed float, floating.

Source: International Monetary Fund, International Financial Statistics.

Privatisation

Primary privatisation method since the start of transition

Options: vouchers (distribution of investment coupons at a symbolic price), direct sales (sales to outsiders), MEBOs (management /employee buy-outs), liquidations.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Secondary privatisation method since the start of transition

Options and definitions as above.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Tradability of land

Options: full (no substantial restrictions on the tradability of land rights beyond administrative requirements; no discrimination between domestic and foreign subjects), full except foreigners (as "full", but with some differential treatment of foreigners), limited de facto (substantial de facto limitations on the tradability of land, for example due to the lack of enforceability of land rights, a non-existent land market, or significant obstruction by government officials), limited de jure (legal restrictions on the tradability of land rights), no (land trade prohibited).

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Enterprises and markets

Competition Office

Competition or anti-monopoly office exists separately from any ministry, though it may not be fully independent; options: yes, no.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Infrastructure

Independent telecommunications regulator

Independent body, but the scope of power may differ across countries; options: yes, no.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Separation of railway accounts

Accounts for freight and passenger operations are separated; options: yes, no.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Independent electricity regulator

Independent body, but the scope of power may differ across countries; options: yes, no.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Financial sector

Capital adequacy ratio

Ratio of bank regulatory capital to risk-weighted assets; regulatory capital includes paid-in capital, retentions and some forms of subordinated debt.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Deposit insurance system

Deposits in all banks are covered by a formal deposit insurance scheme; options: yes, no.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Secured transactions law

Non-possessory security over movable assets permitted; options: yes, restricted, no.

Source: EBRD regional survey of secured transactions laws.

Securities commission

Securities and exchange commission exists separately from any ministry, although it may not be fully independent; options: yes, no.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Social reform

Share of the population in poverty

Percentage of population living on less than US\$ 2.15 (at 1993 US\$ at PPP) a day per person. Survey year in parenthesis.

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators.

Private pension funds

Options: yes, no.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Liberalisation

Share of administered prices in CPI (in per cent)

Administered prices are defined as those prices subject to regulation by the state.

Sources: EBRD survey of national authorities and IMF country reports.

Number of goods with administered prices in EBRD-15 basket

The EBRD-15 basket consists of flour/bread, meat, milk, gasoline/petrol, cotton textiles, shoes, paper, cars, television sets, cement, steel, coal, wood, rents, intercity bus service.

Source: EBRD survey of national authorities.

Share of trade with non-transition economies (in per cent)

Ratio of merchandise exports and imports with non-transition economies to total trade (exports plus imports).

Source: IMF, Directions of Trade Statistics. Data for CIS countries suffer from under-reporting of intra-CIS trade for the early 1990s and are reported for 1994 onwards only.

Share of trade in GDP (in per cent)

Ratio of exports plus imports to GDP.

Source: See the Macroeconomic indicator tables.

Tariff revenues (in per cent of imports)

Tariff revenues include all revenues from international trade. Imports are those of merchandise goods.

Sources: EBRD surveys of national authorities and IMF country reports.

Definitions and data sources for structural and institutional indicators

Privatisation

Privatisation revenues (cumulative, in per cent of GDP)

Government revenues from cash sales of enterprises, not including investment commitments.

Sources: EBRD survey of national authorities and IMF country reports.

Private sector share in GDP (in per cent)

The “private sector shares” of GDP represent rough EBRD estimates, based on available statistics from both official (government) sources and unofficial sources. The underlying concept of private sector value added includes income generated by the activity of private registered companies, as well as by private entities engaged in informal activity in those cases where reliable information on informal activity is available.

Sources: EBRD staff estimates, 1994-2000, and IMF staff estimates, 1989-93.

Private sector share in employment (in per cent)

The “private sector shares” of employment represent rough EBRD estimates, based on available statistics from both official (government) sources and unofficial sources. The underlying concept of private sector employment includes employment in private registered companies, as well as in private entities engaged in informal activity in those cases where reliable information on informal activity is available.

Sources: EBRD staff estimates, 1994-2000, and IMF staff estimates, 1989-93.

Enterprises

Budgetary subsidies and current transfers (in per cent of GDP)

Budgetary subsidies and other current transfers to enterprises, excluding social transfers.

Sources: EBRD and IMF country reports.

Share of industry in total employment (in per cent)

Industry includes electricity, water, power, mining and manufacturing.

Sources: ILO, Labour Statistics Yearbook, UN, National Account Statistics, national statistical publications and IMF country reports.

Change in labour productivity in industry (in per cent)

Labour productivity is calculated as the ratio of industrial production to industrial employment and the changes in productivity are calculated on the basis of annual averages.

Sources: National statistical publications and IMF country reports.

Investment rate/GDP (in per cent)

Gross capital formation (formerly gross domestic investment) consists of additional outlays to the economy’s fixed assets, plus net changes in inventory levels. Fixed assets include land improvements (fences, ditches, drains, etc.); plant, machinery and equipment purchases; and the construction of roads, railways, schools, offices, hospitals, private residential dwellings, commercial and industrial buildings etc. Inventories are stocks of goods held by firms to meet temporary or unexpected fluctuations in production or sales and “work in progress”. Net acquisitions of valuables are also considered capital formation.

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators.

Infrastructure

Fixed-line (mobile) penetration rate (per 100 inhabitants)

Fixed line refers to the number of telephone lines connecting a customer to the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN). Mobiles refer to the number of cellular mobile telephone subscribers.

Source: International Telecommunications Union.

Internet penetration rate (per 10,000 inhabitants)

Internet penetration rate is calculated as the number of Internet hosts (number of computers directly linked to the worldwide Internet network) per 10,000 inhabitants.

Source: International Telecommunications Union.

Railway labour productivity (1989=100)

Productivity measured as the ratio of the number of traffic units (passenger-kilometres plus freight tonne-kilometres) and the total number of railway employees.

Sources: National authorities and World Bank.

Electricity tariffs, USc kWh (collection rate in per cent)

The average retail tariff; the collection rate is defined as the ratio of total electricity payments received in cash and total electricity charges.

Sources: National authorities and World Bank.

GDP per unit of energy use (PPP in US dollars per Kgoe)

The ratio of GDP in Purchasing Power Parity terms and total energy consumption.

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators.

Financial institutions

Number of banks (foreign-owned)

Number of commercial and savings banks, excluding cooperative banks. Foreign-owned banks are defined as those with foreign ownership exceeding a 50 per cent share, end-of-year.

Source: EBRD survey of central banks.

Asset share of state-owned banks (in per cent)

Share of total bank assets of majority state-owned banks in total bank sector assets. The state is defined to include the federal, regional and municipal levels, as well as the state property fund and the state pension fund. State-owned banks are defined as banks with state ownership exceeding 50 per cent, end-of-year.

Source: EBRD survey of central banks.

Non-performing loans (in per cent of total loans)

Ratio of non-performing loans to total loans. Non-performing loans include substandard, doubtful and loss classification categories for loans, but excludes loans transferred to a state rehabilitation agency or consolidation bank, end-of-year.

Source: EBRD survey of central banks.

Domestic credit to private sector (in per cent of GDP)

Ratio of total outstanding bank credit to the private sector at end-of-year, including households and enterprises, to GDP.

Sources: IMF, International Financial Statistics and IMF country reports.

Stock market capitalisation (in per cent of GDP)

Market value of all shares listed on the stock market as a percentage of GDP, end-of-year.

Source: EBRD survey of national stock markets. In some cases, the data differ notably from capitalisation as reported by the Standard & Poor’s/IFC Handbook of Emerging Markets. The difference in most cases is due to the exclusion in the Standard & Poor’s/IFC data of companies listed on the third tier.

Social sector

Expenditures on health and education (in per cent of GDP)

Expenditures of general government, excluding those by state-owned enterprises.

Sources: EBRD survey to ministries of finance, IMF country reports, World Bank, World Development Indicators.

Life expectancy at birth, total (years)

Life expectancy is defined as the average age reached by an individual after the first day of life, excluding deaths at birth.

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators.

Basic school enrolment ratio (in per cent)

Gross rates of school enrolment in per cent of the relevant population between 7 and 15 years old. Basic school includes eight years of schooling from the age of 7/8 to 14/15.

Sources: UNICEF, International Child Development Centre, TransMONEE Database.

Methodological notes (continued)

Earnings inequality (GINI coefficient)

The GINI coefficient measures the distribution of employees' earnings. A higher coefficient implies a higher degree of earnings inequality. The GINI coefficient is derived from the cumulative distribution of earnings across the workforce ranked in order of ascendance. It is defined as one half of the mean difference between any two observations in the earnings distribution divided by average earnings. Its possible values range between 0 and 1. The GINI coefficients presented in the table are calculated using monthly earnings data as reported by employers. Small employers are often excluded, and some data refer to the public sector only.

Sources: UNICEF, International Child Development Centre, TransMONEE Database.

EBRD transition indicators

The transition indicator scores range from 1 to 4 with 0.3 decimal points added or subtracted for + and – ratings. These ratings were first introduced in 1997 and retroactively added to years 1989–96 in the 2000 *Transition Report*. For definitions of the rating scores, see Table 2.1 and Annex 2.1. The infrastructure rating is an unweighted average of four sector-specific reform ratings (power, roads, telecommunications and water) for the period 1993–97 and five sector-specific reform ratings (power, railways, roads, telecommunications and water) from 1998 onward.

Source: EBRD staff assessments.

Definitions and data sources for macroeconomic variables

Data for 1995–2002 represent official estimates of out-turns as reflected in publications from the national authorities, the IMF, the World Bank, the OECD, the Institute of International Finance and Tacis Economic Trends. Data for 2003 reflect EBRD staff assessments, based in part on information from these sources. Because of frequent revisions to official data sources, there may be changes to all series published in the *Transition Report* and *Transition Report Update* from year to year.

Country-specific notes can be found under each country table.

Output and expenditure

Official estimates of GDP, industrial and agricultural production. Growth rates can lack precision in the context of transition due to large shifts in relative prices, the failure to account for quality improvements and the substantial size and change in the informal sector. In some countries, national authorities have started to incorporate the informal sector into their estimates of GDP.

Employment

For most countries, data reflect official employment records from the labour registries. In many countries, small enterprises are not recorded by official data. A number of countries have moved towards ILO-consistent labour force surveys in recording changes in labour force, employment and unemployment. Where available these data are presented.

Prices and wages

Data from the statistical offices or IMF. In some countries, official CPI data may underestimate underlying inflation because of price controls and inadequate measurement of price increases in informal markets. Wage data are from national authorities and often exclude small enterprises as well as the informal sector.

Government sector

Data for the general government, including local government and extra-budgetary funds, where available. Data for most countries are from IMF country reports. Budget balance data can differ from official estimates due to different budgetary accounting, in particular with respect to privatisation revenues and foreign lending.

Monetary sector

Broad money is the sum of money in circulation outside banks and demand deposits other than those of the central government. It also includes quasi-money time, savings and foreign currency deposits of the resident sectors other than the central government. Data from IMF, International Financial Statistics, IMF country reports and monetary authorities.

Interest and exchange rates

Deposit and lending rates from most countries are weighted averages across maturities. For some countries, weighted averages are not available and rates are quoted for the most frequently used instruments. Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan operate dual exchange rate systems or have substantial parallel markets with significant premiums on the official exchange rate. Please refer to the table footnotes for details on the reported exchange rates. Data from the IMF, International Financial Statistics, IMF country reports and monetary authorities.

External sector

Trade data in many countries can differ between balance of payments and customs statistics, because of differences in recording and of informal border trade, which is typically not recorded by customs statistics. Country notes provide further details. Trade data are on a balance of payments basis as published by the monetary authorities and IMF country reports. External debt are EBRD staff estimates based on IMF country reports and national authorities.