

National Bank of the Republic of Macedonia
Statistics Department



Methodological notes on external debt

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The National Bank of the Republic of Macedonia (National Bank) is the institution responsible for recording and monitoring of the external debt of the Republic of Macedonia in accordance with the legislation i.e. the Law on the National Bank of the Republic of Macedonia and the Foreign Exchange Law.

The external debt statistics is prepared in accordance with the External Debt Statistics Guide.

The basic data source for the external debt statistics is the reporting system for external debt, whereby data are collected on credit indebtedness of residents abroad, using specially prescribed forms.

External debt data for the current year are published on a monthly basis, in euros and in US Dollars. Stock data, repayment schedules, arrears and new commitments are converted into the unit of account using the mid exchange rate of the National Bank at the cut-off date. Flow data, disbursements and repayments, are converted into the unit of account using the mid exchange rate of the National Bank on the day of the transaction.

The current year data are revised on a monthly basis and are preliminary.

Data on long-term and short-term debt are presented separately, where short-term debt is defined as debt with maturity of one year or less, and long-term debt encompasses liabilities with maturities of more than one year.

The published data on external debt, present:

- Debt stock
- Repayments
- Disbursements

The stock of debt is a result of disbursements, decreased for the amortization (repayments of principal), increased for the amounts of capitalized interest in arrears and default interest. Having in mind the fact that stock data are converted using the end period exchange rate, while the flow data are converted using the transaction date exchange rate, discrepancies between debt stock at end-period and beginning of period differ from the net flows, as they include the exchange rate differentials as well.

Long-term external debt data are classified by sector of the debtors, and further on by groups of creditors.

Short-term external debt data are classified by sector of the debtors, and further on by type of instrument.

The sector of the debtor is established in accordance to whether the debtor is publicly owned or not.

The public sector includes the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, the National Bank and the public enterprises.

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia comprises of the public authorities and their agencies, which are entities established through political processes that exercise legislative, judicial, and executive authority within a territorial area.

General government consists of

- government units that exist at each level—central and local—of government within the national economy;
- all social security funds operated at each level of government; and
- all non-market non-profit institutions that are controlled and mainly financed by government units.

The National Bank is the monetary authority.

Public corporation is defined as a non-financial or financial corporation that is subject to control by government units, with control over a corporation defined as the ability to determine general corporate policy by choosing appropriate directors, if necessary. Control can be established through government ownership of more than half of the voting shares or otherwise controlling more than half of the shareholder voting power, through special legislation, decree, or regulation that empowers the government to determine corporate policy or to appoint directors.

The private sector consists of private banks and the other non-banking private entities.

Creditors are classified in two groups: official and private creditors. Official creditors include multilateral and bilateral creditors. Multilateral creditors are the international financial organizations. Bilateral creditors are defined as the governments and government agencies of other countries (including the Paris Club of creditors). The private creditors consist of foreign private banks and the other non-banking private entities.