

Uzbekistan
Metadata
Non-observed economy

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0. Prerequisites

0.1 Legal environment

0.1.1 Responsibility for collecting, processing, and disseminating statistics

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

On August 11, 2021, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Official Statistics” was adopted, which was developed on the basis of the Generic Law on Official Statistics for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.

The purpose of the Law is to regulate relations in the field of official statistics. This Law applies to producers and users of official statistics, respondents and suppliers of administrative data, as well as relations arising between them related to the production, dissemination and coordination of official statistics.

Also, in accordance with the Regulations on the National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan, approved by the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated February 24, 2025 No. RP-75 “On measures to organize the activities of the National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan”, the National Statistics Committee is responsible for compliance with the basic principles of official statistics and identity of statistical methodology consistent with international recommendations; organizing the collection of statistical data, statistical observations of households, conducting censuses, one-time counts, sample surveys and other statistical observations; providing users of all levels with official statistical data in the prescribed manner; maintaining statistical registers and classification systems for their use for statistical purposes.

At the same time, in accordance with Article 14 of the Law “On Official Statistics”, statistical authorities have the right:

- receive from state and economic management bodies, citizens' self-government bodies, banks and other organizations forms of statistical observation and use statistical observation data for statistical purposes;
- to carry out statistical observations of the activities of statistical units and use the obtained primary data for statistical purposes;
- to reward respondents - individuals for participating in statistical observations;
- to request and receive from state and economic management bodies, as well as from other organizations, information necessary for the implementation of statistical programs;

- involve on a contractual basis individuals and legal entities to collect statistical data necessary for the production of official statistics, in accordance with the law;
- use and introduce into the national statistical system modern methods and tools for collecting, processing, summarizing, analyzing, disseminating and storing statistical data;
- in case of revealing violations related to the presentation of statistical data, give instructions on their elimination and make appropriate corrections to the statistical data;
- within the limits of their powers, apply to officials who have violated the procedure for submitting statistical reports, measures of administrative penalties in accordance with the law.

According to Presidential Order №O-5054 dated September 12, 2017, economic and financial data in the country must comply with the requirements of the Enhanced General Data Dissemination System (e-GDDS) of the International Monetary Fund and be coordinated within the framework of this system.

Management of statistical processes, including the preparation and dissemination of statistical data, is carried out in accordance with national procedures developed on the basis of international quality management models (GSIM, GSBPM, GAMSO).

0.1.2 Data sharing and coordination among data producing agencies

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

According to article 11 of the Law on Official Statistics, producers of official statistics are guided by internationally recommended definitions, classifications and methodology when producing statistics.

The authorized state body, within the framework of statistical programs, coordinates the activities of other producers of official statistics.

Producers of official statistics coordinate the methodology for producing statistics within their mandate.

If a discrepancy with international recommendations is revealed in the statistical methodologies of other producers of official statistics, the authorized state body, based on the results of the audit of statistical methodologies, has the right to make them mandatory submissions.

Other producers of official statistics that are part of the national statistical system create subdivisions responsible for generating statistical data and ensuring information exchange with the authorized state body.

Producers of official statistics and suppliers of administrative data submit to the authorized state body the statistical and (or) administrative data they have at their disposal free of charge in the manner and terms established by statistical programs.

According to Article 10 of the Law “On Official Statistics”, the Statistical Council is a collegial advisory body on the development, functioning and coordination of official statistics under the authorized state body.

The composition of the Statistical Council is formed from representatives of government bodies, research organizations, non-governmental non-profit organizations, as well as national experts in statistics.

0.1.3 Confidentiality of individual reporters' data

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

According to Article 27 of the Law “On Official Statistics”, individual data held by the producers of official statistics are used exclusively for statistical purposes to compile aggregate statistical data. Individual data cannot be used by state bodies, citizens' self-government bodies and other organizations, including international ones, for the purposes of investigation, control, litigation, administrative decisions or for other purposes concerning individuals and legal entities or households.

The National Statistics Committee's employees must comply with the code of ethics, including the principle of confidentiality, not disclose any information provided to them in the performance of their duties.

They are informed of the responsibilities at the time of appointment. Each employee of the National Statistics Committee is obliged to sign an agreement that obliges him not to disclose such data.

0.1.4 Provision of statistical reporting

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

According to Article 14 of the Law “On Official Statistics”, state statistics bodies have the right to receive forms of statistical observation from bodies of state and economic management, self-government bodies of citizens, banks and other organizations. In accordance with Article 215 of the Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Administrative Liability”, violation by officials of the procedure for submitting statistical reports, expressed in failure to submit reports and other data necessary for conducting statistical observations, distortion of reporting data or violation of the deadlines for submitting reports entails the imposition of a fine from seven to ten basic calculated values.

According to Article 16 of the Law “On Official Statistics”, when conducting statistical observations in accordance with statistical programs, respondents are obliged to provide producers of official statistics with reliable and complete data free of charge in the manner and terms established by the producer of official statistics.

0.2 Resources

0.2.1 Staff, facilities, computing resources, and financing

There are 4 employees in the Division for the coordination of statistical evaluation of the hidden economy within the Department of macroeconomic indicators and national accounts.

Training of personnel on the methodology for assessing the non-observed economy is ongoing. Division employees improve their qualifications through:

- courses organized by the Institute for Professional Development and Statistical Research of the National Statistics Committee;

- courses organized by the International Monetary Fund jointly with:
 - Institute for Capacity Development (USA),
 - Joint Vienna Institute (Austria),
 - Regional Capacity Development Centre for the Caucasus, Central Asia and Mongolia (Kazakhstan);
- online courses organized by the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific;
- other seminars of international statistical organizations.

The division has sufficient computers - each employee works on a personal computer. Personal computers are connected to the local network and also have internet access.

Financial resources are provided within the framework of the Statistical Program and are sufficient to carry out the statistical work stipulated by the Program, as well as to implement the planned measures for introducing the updated "System of National Accounts 2008" manual into statistical practice.

1.Integrity

1.1 Professionalism

1.1.1 Impartiality of statistics

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

According to Article 6 of the Law “On Official Statistics”, the main principles of official statistics are impartiality and objectivity.

According to Article 13 of the Law “On Official Statistics”, state bodies, other organizations and their officials are not entitled to interfere with the activities of state statistics bodies carried out in accordance with this Law.

Territorial departments of statistics, departments of statistics of districts (cities) are independent from local government bodies and are directly subordinate to the authorized government body.

When selecting the employees and appointing them to senior positions, their experience and professionalism in the field of statistics are taken into account. Improvement of the qualification of the department's employees is ensured through participation in training courses organized by the Institute for Professional Development and Statistical Research of the National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as in training courses, training seminars organized by international organizations. Employees of the department give lectures at training courses organized by the Institute for Professional Development and Statistical Research. The placement of scientific articles of the department's employees in the mass media has been organized.

1.1.2 Selection of sources, methodology, and modes of dissemination

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

According to Article 33 of the Law “On Official Statistics”:

Producers of official statistics assess the quality of official statistics on an ongoing basis. To ensure quality assurance, official statistics are produced and disseminated on the basis of general principles and methods concerning coverage, definitions, statistical units and classifications of official statistics.

In order to improve the quality of official statistics, producers of official statistics have the right to analyze and edit data, combine data from various sources, link and compare data for statistical purposes, and use statistical methods to evaluate them.

Producers of Official Statistics document the sources and methods used in the production process as well as the resulting datasets. Users of official statistics are informed about the sources and methods of producing statistics and about the quality of official statistics through metadata.

1.1.3 Commenting on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The National Statistics Committee may comment on misinterpretation and misuse of statistical data.

1.2 Transparency

1.2.1 Disclosure of terms and conditions for statistical collection, processing, and dissemination

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

According to Article 6 of the Law “On Official Statistics”, the main principles of official statistics are clarity and transparency. The conditions for the collection, processing and dissemination of statistical data are included in the legislative acts of the Republic of Uzbekistan concerning statistics. These laws are posted on websites and are thus available to the public. The Law “On Official Statistics” and the statistical program, which clearly defines the terms for the development and dissemination of statistical data, are posted on the official website of the National Statistics Committee (<https://stat.uz>). The law is available in the bulletin of the Oliy Majlis, the database of regulatory legal acts (norm), as well as in the database of the Ministry of Justice located at www.lex.uz. Statistical reporting forms submitted by respondents to generate statistical data are published in advance for users on the National Statistics Committee's official website.

1.2.2 Internal governmental access to statistics prior to release

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The government does not have access to the statistics produced by the National Statistics Committee prior to their publication. State statistical bodies are independent in the dissemination of statistical data. Interference by state bodies is not allowed (Article 13 of the Law “On Official Statistics”). Only the Chairman of the Committee, his deputies and responsible employees have access to statistical data prior to their publication.

1.2.3 Attribution of statistical products

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The logo and footnotes clearly identify that the information published for the public in print statistical publications, information bulletins and in mass media is produced by the National Statistics Committee.

1.2.4 Advance notice of major changes in methodology, source data, and statistical techniques

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The National Statistics Committee notifies the public in advance about the transition to a new methodology and significant changes in existing methods and approaches. The National Statistics Committee posts on its official website the relevant methodological guidelines explaining what changes users should expect. The expected changes are communicated to the public in articles, news and press conferences.

1.3. Ethical standards

1.3.1 Guideline for staff behavior

The National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The Rules of Conduct for the National Statistics Committee's employees were approved. They are required to comply with a code of ethics, including the principle of confidentiality, and must not disclose any information provided to them in the performance of their assigned duties. They are informed of these obligations upon appointment. An employee of the National Statistics Committee is obliged to conclude an agreement containing an obligation not to disclose individual data.

2. Methodology

2.1 Concepts and definitions

2.1.1 Concepts and definitions

Within the framework of statistical assessment of the non-observed economy, the calculation of the gross value added of the non-observed economy and its share in the gross domestic product using various methods for economic sectors is carried out on an annual and quarterly basis, based on the concepts and definitions recommended by the 2008 System of National Accounts.

The methodological basis for statistical assessment of the non-observed economy is the "Methodological provisions for statistical assessment of the non-observed economy" (approved by order No. 114 of May 27, 2024).

2.2 Scope

2.2.1 Scope

2.2.1.1 Scope of the data

Currently, non-observed economy data cover all resident units of the economic territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan by type of economic activity. Statistical indicators for the informal sector of the economy, including production for own final consumption, as well as indicators of the "hidden" economy, are assessed without taking into account indicators of illegal activities. Statistical assessment of the non-observed economy is carried out by types of economic activity across different sectors of the economy.

2.2.1.2 Exceptions to coverage

There are no exceptions.

2.2.1.3 Unrecorded activity

Assessment of statistical indicators of the non-observed economy is carried out without including indicators of illegal activities.

2.3 Classification/sectorization

2.3.1 Classification/sectorization

When statistically assessing the non-observed economy, the National classification on kinds of economic activities of the Republic of Uzbekistan, rev.2 is used as the industry classification.

2.4 Basis for recording

2.4.1 Valuation

The valuation rules used for accounting flows and stocks generally comply with the 2008 SNA:

- The value of market output is recorded at basic prices;
- Output for own final use is valued at equivalent market prices;
- Transactions in foreign currency are converted using the average market exchange rate at the time of transaction;
- Economic transactions in the SNA are recorded mainly on an accrual basis at prices current at the time of transaction;
- Non-market goods and services are valued using the market price of similar goods and services sold in the market, if it can be determined, or at production costs if no market price is available. In particular, the services of general government and non-profit institutions serving households are valued at production costs.

2.4.2 Recording basis

Transactions and flows are recorded on an accrual basis in accordance with SNA principles.

2.4.3 Grossing/netting procedures

Estimates of the non-observed economy are calculated on a gross basis, i.e., gross value added equals the difference between output and intermediate consumption. The gross value added of industries is calculated on a gross basis, i.e., including the consumption of fixed capital.

3. Accuracy and reliability

3.1 Source data

3.1.1 Source data collection programs

The sources of information for calculating the volume of the informal economy are sample survey data on individuals' production in the informal sector and household survey data, which are compiled in industry statistics. When necessary, additional special surveys are conducted with increased sample coverage.

Conducting special surveys of legal entities' activities plays an important role in assessing the volume of shadow economic activity. The results of these special sample surveys are compared and analyzed against available official statistics data, and calculations are also performed based on indirect information characterizing the activities of legal entities.

3.1.2 Source data definitions, scope, sectorization, classifications, valuation, and time of recording

The source data align with the definitions, statistical coverage, and classifications of the non-observed economy, as well as with the accounting time, reporting periods, and valuation principles. To obtain the necessary data for statistical assessment of the non-observed economy using the production method, statistical survey forms are regularly revised, taking into account the requirements for statistical evaluation of the non-observed economy.

3.1.3 Source data timeliness

Source data are received on time, within the timeframes established in the Statistical Program.

3.2 Assessment of source data

3.2.1 Source data assessment

The sources of information for calculating the volume of the informal economy are sample surveys of individuals on production in the informal sector and household surveys, which are compiled in industry statistics. If necessary, additional special surveys are conducted with increased sample coverage.

Conducting special surveys of legal entities' activities plays an important role in assessing the volume of shadow economic activity. The results of these special sample surveys are compared and analyzed against available official statistics data, and calculations are also performed based on indirect information characterizing the activities of legal entities.

3.3 Statistical techniques

3.3.1 Source data statistical techniques

Calculation methods in constant prices.

The calculation of GDP components in constant prices is carried out using two main methods:

- deflating data for the reporting period in current prices using corresponding price indices;
- extrapolating data in current prices for the corresponding period of the previous year using physical volume indices or natural indicators that adequately reflect the dynamics of development for this type of economic activity.

In some cases, a direct revaluation method is also used, where the calculation of indicators in constant prices is carried out by multiplying the quantity of products produced in the reporting period by the prices of the corresponding period of the previous year.

When calculating GDP components, the deflation method is predominantly used, while the extrapolation method is applied in the absence of suitable price indices.

Since GDP components are aggregated values, their valuation methods represent a combination of the aforementioned methods.

3.3.2 Other statistical procedures

In the statistical assessment of the non-observed economy, activities prohibited by law are not evaluated. Informal and hidden activities are assessed based on special studies, administrative data, and sample household surveys.

3.4 Data validation

3.4.1 Validation of intermediate results

Individual data sources are reviewed to check for outliers. If outliers are detected, national accounts compilers contact the relevant departments to verify the data. The source data are analyzed and checked for consistency over time.

3.4.2 Assessment of intermediate data

Possible discrepancies in the main intermediate data are analyzed and adjusted to eliminate inconsistencies. In particular, the following ratios are carefully examined: intermediate consumption/output and gross value added/output. Additionally, the structure of value added by type of activity is checked for chronological consistency.

3.4.3 Assessment of discrepancies and other problems in statistical outputs

Statistical discrepancies between the production and expenditure (final use) methods of GDP calculation are clearly presented. Differences in GDP estimates are analyzed.

3.5 Revision studies

3.5.1 Revision studies and analyses

Within the framework of statistical assessment of the non-observed economy, the procedure for revising the calculation of gross value added of the non-observed economy and its share in gross domestic product using various methods across economic sectors is reflected in the annually approved Statistical Program. The annual assessment of the non-observed economy is submitted in December of the year following the reporting year, and the quarterly assessment - on the 45th day after the reporting period. This assessment of the non-observed economy is formed based on the data from annual statistical reports submitted after the reporting year.

4. Serviceability

4.1 Periodicity and timeliness

4.1.1 Periodicity

Statistical assessment of the non-observed economy is conducted quarterly and annually.

4.1.2 Timeliness

Preliminary quarterly assessments of the non-observed economy are produced on the 45th day after the reporting quarter.

Final annual estimates of the non-observed economy are produced in December.

4.2 Consistency

4.2.1 Internal consistency

Within the framework of statistical assessment of the non-observed economy using various methods for economic sectors, when calculating the volume of the non-observed economy and its share in GDP, statistical discrepancies between the production and expenditure (final use) methods of GDP calculation are clearly demonstrated. Differences in GDP estimation are analyzed.

4.2.2 Temporal consistency

Annual assessments of the non-observed economy have been available since 2010, and quarterly assessments since 2018.

4.2.3 Intersectoral and cross-domain consistency

The indicators of statistical assessment of the non-observed economy are consistent with the data from the Tax Committee and industry statistics.

4.3 Revision

4.3.1 Revision and/or update schedule

The data revision cycle is determined in advance and remains quite stable from year to year. The schedule for revising indicators is reflected in the annually approved Statistical Program.

4.3.2 Identification of preliminary and/or revised/updated data

In publications, preliminary data are indicated and explained as needed.

4.3.3 Dissemination of revision studies and analyses

Revised (final) data are disseminated through publications of the National Statistics Committee and on the official website.

5. Accessibility

5.1 Data

5.1.1 Statistical presentation

Quarterly and annual data are provided to users through the publications "Socio-economic situation of the Republic of Uzbekistan," "National accounts of the Republic of Uzbekistan," "Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Uzbekistan," "Uzbekistan in figures" and others, as well as on the official website of the National Statistics Committee at <http://www.stat.uz> in the form of press releases and tables.

Statistical assessment indicators of the non-observed economy are published in an understandable form with graphs, tables, and a brief analytical commentary.

For the correct interpretation of data, methodological explanations for the main indicators are provided in publications. Additionally, methodological guidelines for compiling and calculating statistical indicators are posted on the website. To facilitate data comparison across publications and the website, indicators for several periods are presented in the form of tables and graphs.

The schedules for releasing statistical publications (data) are reflected in the annually approved Statistical Program.

5.1.2 Dissemination media and format

5.1.2.1 Hard copy - New release

Data are distributed to users in printed form through publications of the National Statistics Committee, such as: "Socio-Economic Situation of the Republic of Uzbekistan" (quarterly), "Uzbekistan in Figures" (annually), "Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Uzbekistan" (biennial), "National Accounts of the Republic of Uzbekistan" (biennial) and others. Additionally, data are provided to government bodies and other users according to agreed-upon table layouts upon request.

Macroeconomic indicators are published in the form of tables, graphs, and diagrams with brief analytical comments.

5.1.2.2 Hard copy - Monthly bulletin

Not available.

5.1.2.3 Hard copy - Quarterly bulletin

The publication "Socio-Economic Situation of the Republic of Uzbekistan" is distributed quarterly, and statistical data in the form of tables are also provided to government bodies and other users upon their request.

5.1.2.4 Hard copy - Annually bulletin

Annual data are disseminated through the publication "Uzbekistan in Figures" (annually), and are also provided in agreed table formats to government bodies and other users upon their request.

5.1.2.5 Hard copy - Other

Annual data are disseminated through the publications "Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Uzbekistan" (biennial), "National Accounts of the Republic of Uzbekistan" (biennial) and others. Annual data are also provided to government bodies and other users upon their request in agreed table formats.

5.1.2.6 Electronic - On-line bulletin or data

On the official website of the National Statistics Committee, statistical data, time series in the form of electronic tables, and press releases are posted quarterly and constantly updated. The publication "Main Indicators of Socio-Economic Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan" is also published there. Additionally, the data is posted on Uzbekistan's National Summary Data Page as part of the IMF's Enhanced General Data Dissemination System (e-GDDS).

5.1.3 Advance release calendar

The official statistics calendar is posted on the official website of the National Statistics Committee.

5.1.4 Simultaneous release

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5.1.5 Dissemination on request

According to the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Official Statistics" and other regulatory documents, statistical data are provided to users upon their request in the prescribed manner. Dissemination of statistical information is carried out by providing, upon request of legal entities or individuals, printed or electronic tables, statistical compilations, bulletins, express information, as well as information in accordance with agreements between parties on information exchange.

5.2 Metadata

5.2.1 Dissemination of documentation on concepts, scope, classifications, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques

Data concepts, statistical coverage, classifications, accounting basis, data sources, and statistical methods are reflected in disseminated statistical compilations in the form of methodological explanations for indicators of the non-observed economy. Methodological provisions for statistical assessment of the non-observed economy are posted on the website.

5.3 Assistance to users

5.3.1 Dissemination of information on contact points

On the official website of the National Statistics Committee.

9. Plans

9.1 Recent

9.1.1 Plans for improvement - Recent improvements

Calculation of housing services produced by homeowners for their own consumption using the user cost method, calculation of the volume of financial intermediation services measured indirectly, as well as National classification on kinds of economic activities have been introduced into statistical practice.

9.2 General

9.2.1 Plans for improvement - Short-term

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9.2.2 Plans for improvement - Medium-term

Improving the accounting of the non-observed economy.

9.3 Financial

9.3.1 Plans for improvement - TA/financing needs - Short-term

Technical assistance is required to improve the calculation of macroeconomic indicators.

9.3.2 Plans for improvement - TA/financing needs - Medium-term

Technical assistance is required to improve the accounting of the non-observed economy.

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