

**Inventory of the methods, procedures and sources
used for the compilation of deficit and debt data and
the underlying government sector accounts
according to ESA 2010**

Austria

April 24

Background

Compilation and publishing of the Inventory of the methods, procedures and sources used to compile actual deficit and debt data is foreseen by Council Regulation 479/2009, as amended.

According to Article 8.1: *“The Commission (Eurostat) shall regularly assess the quality both of actual data reported by Member States and of the underlying government sector accounts compiled according to ESA 95.... Quality of actual data means compliance with accounting rules, completeness, reliability, timeliness, and consistency of the statistical data. The assessment will focus on areas specified in the inventories of Member States such as the delimitation of the government sector, the classification of government transactions and liabilities, and the time of recording.”*

In line with the provisions of the Regulation set up in Article 9, *“Member States shall provide the Commission (Eurostat) with a detailed inventory of the methods, procedures and sources used to compile actual deficit and debt data and the underlying government accounts. The inventories shall be prepared in accordance with guidelines adopted by the Commission (Eurostat) after consultation of CMFB. The inventories shall be updated following revisions in the methods, procedures and sources adopted by Member States to compile their statistical data”*.

The content of the Inventory and the related guidelines have been endorsed by the Committee on Monetary, Financial and Balance of Payments statistics in June 2012 and are followed by all EU Member States. This version introduces references to the ESA 2010 and the updates mirroring the changes introduced by the ESA 2010. It also includes changes introduced by the August 2019 MGDD version.

Contents

A. Institutional arrangements, sources, procedures and methods used for the calculation of deficit and debt data	8
1. General Government	8
1.1. Central government subsector (S.1311)	8
1.2. State government subsector (S.1312).....	8
1.3. Local government subsector (S.1313).....	9
1.4. Social security funds subsector (S.1314).....	9
2. Institutional arrangements	10
2.1. Institutional responsibilities for the compilation of general government deficit and debt data	10
2.1.1 Existence of an EDP unit/department.....	12
2.1.2 Availability of resources for the compilation of GFS data	12
2.2. Institutional arrangements relating to public accounts.....	13
2.2.1 Legal / institutional framework.....	13
2.2.2 Auditing of public accounts	13
2.2.2.1 General government units	13
2.2.2.2 Public units, not part of general government.....	15
2.3. Communication	16
2.3.1 Communication between actors involved in EDP	16
2.3.1.1 Agreement on co-operation	16
2.3.1.2 Access to data sources based on public accounts.....	17
2.3.2 Publication of deficit and debt statistics.....	17
2.3.2.1 Publication of EDP data.....	17
2.3.2.2 Publication of underlying government ESA 2010 accounts	17
3. EDP tables and data sources	18
3.1. EDP table 1.....	18
3.1.1 Compilation of Maastricht debt.....	18
3.1.1.1 Specification of debt instruments.....	18
3.1.1.2 Data sources used for the compilation of Maastricht debt.....	19
3.1.1.3 Amendments to basic data sources.....	20
3.1.1.4 Consolidation of Maastricht debt.....	20
3.2. Central Government sub-sector, EDP table 2A and 3B.....	20
2.2.1 Data sources for main Central Government unit: “Bund”	20
3.2.1.1 Details of the basic data sources	23
3.2.1.2 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source	23
3.2.1.3 Supplementary data sources and analytical information	23
3.2.1.3.1 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts..	24
3.2.1.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts	24
3.2.1.4 Extra-budgetary accounts (EBA)	24
3.2.2 Data sources for other Central Government units	24
3.2.2.1 Details of the basic data sources	25
3.2.2.2 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source	26
3.2.2.3 Supplementary data sources and analytical information	26
3.2.2.3.1 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts..	26
3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts	26
3.2.3 EDP table 2A	27
3.2.3.1 Working balance - use for the compilation of national accounts.....	27
3.2.3.2 Legal basis of the working balance.....	27
3.2.3.3 Coverage of units in the working balance	27
3.2.3.3.1 Units to be classified outside the subsector, but reported in the WB	27

3.2.3.3.2	Units to be classified inside the subsector, but not reported in the WB	27
3.2.3.4	Accounting basis of the working balance	28
3.2.3.4.1	Accrual adjustment relating to interest D.41, as reported in EDP T2	28
3.2.3.4.2	Accrual adjustments reported under other accounts receivable/payable F.8 in EDP T2	28
3.2.3.4.3	Other accrual adjustments in EDP T2.....	29
3.2.3.5	Completeness of non-financial flows covered in the working balance	29
3.2.3.6	Financial transactions included in the working balance.....	29
3.2.3.7	Other adjustments reported in EDP T2	29
3.2.3.8	Net lending/net borrowing of central government.....	29
3.2.4	EDP table 3B	30
3.2.4.1	Transactions in financial assets and liabilities.....	30
3.2.4.2	Other stock-flow adjustments.....	30
3.2.4.3	Balancing of non-financial and financial accounts, transactions in F.8...31	
3.3.	State government sub-sector, EDP table 2B and 3C.....	33
3.3.1	Data sources for State Government unit.....	33
3.3.1.1	Further specifications/comments to the table.....	33
3.3.1.2	Details of the basic data sources.....	33
3.3.1.3	Statistical surveys used as a basic data source.....	35
3.3.1.4	Supplementary data sources and analytical information	35
3.3.1.4.1	Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts..	35
3.3.1.4.2	Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts	35
3.3.2	Data sources for other State Government units.....	35
3.3.2.1	Details of the basic data sources.....	36
3.3.2.2	Statistical surveys used as a basic data source.....	37
3.3.2.3	Supplementary data sources and analytical information	37
3.3.2.4	Extra-budgetary accounts.....	37
3.3.3	EDP table 2B	37
3.3.3.1	Working balance - use for the compilation of national accounts.....	37
3.3.3.2	Legal basis of the working balance.....	37
3.3.3.3	Coverage of units in the working balance	37
3.3.3.3.1	Units to be classified outside the subsector, but reported in the WB	38
3.3.3.3.2	Units to be classified inside the subsector, but not reported in the WB	38
3.3.3.4	Accounting basis of the working balance	38
3.3.3.4.1	Accrual adjustments relating to interest D.41, as reported in EP T2	38
3.3.3.4.2	Accrual adjustments reported under other accounts receivable/payable F.8 in EP T2	38
3.3.3.4.3	Other accrual adjustments in EDP T2.....	38
3.3.3.5	Completeness of non-financial flows covered in the working balance	38
3.3.3.6	Financial transactions included in the working balance.....	39
3.3.3.7	Other adjustments reported in EDP T2	39
3.3.3.8	Net lending/net borrowing of state government.....	39
3.3.4	EDP table 3C	39
3.3.4.1	Transactions in financial assets and liabilities.....	39
3.3.4.2	Other stock-flow adjustments.....	40
3.4.	Local government sub-sector, EDP table 2C and 3D	41
3.4.1	Data sources for Local Government main units	41
3.4.1.1	Details of the basic data sources.....	41
3.4.1.2	Statistical surveys used as a basic data source.....	41
3.4.1.3	Supplementary data sources and analytical information	42
3.4.1.3.1	Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts..	42
3.4.1.3.2	Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts	42
3.4.2	Data sources for other Local Government units.....	42
3.4.2.1	Details of the basic data sources.....	43
3.4.2.2	Statistical surveys used as a basic data source.....	44

3.4.2.3	<i>Supplementary data sources and analytical information</i>	44
3.4.3	<i>EDP table 2C</i>	44
3.4.3.1	<i>Working balance - use for the compilation of national accounts</i>	44
3.4.3.2	<i>Legal basis of the working balance</i>	44
3.4.3.3	<i>Coverage of units in the working balance</i>	44
3.4.3.3.1	Units to be classified outside the subsector, but reported in the WB	44
3.4.3.3.2	Units to be classified inside the subsector, but not reported in the WB	44
3.4.3.4	<i>Accounting basis of the working balance</i>	45
3.4.3.4.1	Accrual adjustments relating to interest D.41, as reported in EDP T2C.....	45
3.4.3.4.2	Accrual adjustments reported under other accounts receivable/payable F.8 in EDP T2C	45
3.4.3.4.3	Other accrual adjustments in EDP T2C.....	45
3.4.3.5	<i>Completeness of non-financial flows covered in the working balance</i>	45
3.4.3.6	<i>Financial transactions included in the working balance</i>	45
3.4.3.7	<i>Other adjustments reported in EDP T2C</i>	45
3.4.3.8	<i>Net lending/net borrowing of local government</i>	45
3.4.4	<i>EDP table 3D</i>	46
3.4.4.1	<i>Transactions in financial assets and liabilities</i>	46
3.4.4.2	<i>Other stock-flow adjustments</i>	47
3.5.	<i>Social security sub-sector, EDP table 2D and 3E</i>	47
3.5.1	<i>Data sources for Social Security Funds main unit: Social Security Funds</i> . 47	
3.5.1.1	<i>Details of the basic data sources</i>	48
3.5.1.2	<i>Statistical surveys used as a basic data source</i>	48
3.5.1.3	<i>Supplementary data sources and analytical information</i>	48
3.5.1.3.1	Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts..	48
3.5.1.3.1	Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts	48
3.5.2	<i>Data sources for other Social Security units</i>	49
3.5.2.1	<i>Details of the basic data sources</i>	49
3.5.2.2	<i>Statistical surveys used as a basic data source</i>	50
3.5.2.3	<i>Supplementary data sources and analytical information</i>	50
3.5.3	<i>EDP table 2D</i>	50
3.5.3.1	<i>Working balance - use for national accounts compilation</i>	50
3.5.3.2	<i>Legal basis of the working balance</i>	50
3.5.3.3	<i>Coverage of units in the working balance</i>	51
3.5.3.3.1	Units to be classified outside the subsector, but reported in the WB	51
3.5.3.3.2	Units to be classified inside the subsector, but not reported in the WB	51
3.5.3.4	<i>Accounting basis of the working balance</i>	51
3.5.3.4.1	Accrual adjustments relating to interest D.41, as reported in EP T2D.....	51
3.5.3.4.2	Accrual adjustments reported under other accounts receivable/payable F.8 in EDP T2D	51
3.5.3.4.3	Other accrual adjustments in EDP T2D	51
3.5.3.5	<i>Completeness of non-financial flows covered in the working balance</i>	51
3.5.3.6	<i>Financial transactions included in the working balance</i>	52
3.5.3.7	<i>Other adjustments reported in EDP T2D</i>	52
3.5.3.8	<i>Net lending/net borrowing of social security funds</i>	52
3.5.4	<i>EDP table 3E</i>	53
3.5.4.1	<i>Transactions in financial assets and liabilities</i>	53
3.5.4.2	<i>Other stock-flow adjustments</i>	53
3.6.	<i>Link between EDP T2 and related EDP T3</i>	54
3.6.1	<i>Coverage of units</i>	54
3.6.2	<i>Financial transactions</i>	54
3.6.3	<i>Adjustments for accrued interest D.41</i>	55
3.6.4	<i>Other accounts receivable/payable F.8</i>	55
3.6.5	<i>Other adjustments/imputations</i>	55

3.7.	General comments on data sources	55
3.8.	EDP table 4	55
3.8.1	Trade credits and advances	55
3.8.2	Amount outstanding in the government debt from the financing of public undertakings.....	56
4.	Revision policy used for annual GFS	57
4.1.	Existence of a revision policy in your country	57
4.1.1	Relating to deficit and non-financial accounts	57
4.1.2	Relating to debt and financial accounts.....	57
4.2.	Reasons for other than ordinary revisions	57
4.3.	Timetable for finalising and revising the accounts	57
B.	Methodological issues	59
5.	Sector delimitation – practical aspects	59
5.1.	Sector classification of units	59
5.1.1	Criteria used for sector classification of new units	60
5.1.2	Updating of the register	60
5.1.3	Consistency between different data sources concerning classification of units	61
5.2.	Existence and classification of specific units	61
6.	Time of recording	62
6.1.	Taxes and social contributions	63
6.1.1	Taxes	63
6.1.2	Social contributions	65
6.2.	EU flows	65
6.2.1	General questions	66
6.2.2	Cash and Schengen facility:.....	66
6.2.3	EU financial instruments	66
6.2.4	Market Regulatory Agencies.....	67
6.3.	Military expenditure	69
6.3.1	Types of contracts	69
6.3.2	Borderline cases.....	69
6.3.3	Recording in national accounts	69
6.4.	Interest	70
6.4.1	Interest expenditure	70
6.4.2	Interest Revenue.....	71
6.4.3	Consolidation.....	71
6.4.4	Recording of discounts and premiums on government securities.....	71
6.4.5	Recording of interest accrued on intergovernmental loans in dispute and interest accrued on intergovernmental loans unlikely to be repaid.....	71
6.5.	Time of recording of other transactions	72
7.	Specific government transactions	72
7.1.	Guarantees, debt assumptions	72
7.1.1	Guarantees on borrowing	72
7.1.1.1	New guarantees provided.....	72
7.1.1.2	Treatment of guarantees called	74
7.1.1.3	Treatment of repayments related to guarantees called	74
7.1.1.4	Treatment of write-offs by government in public accounts of government assets that arose from calls, if any.....	75
7.1.1.5	Data sources	75
7.1.2	Guarantees on assets	75
7.1.2.1	New guarantees provided.....	75

7.1.2.2	Treatment of guarantees called	75
7.1.2.3	Treatment of repayments related to guarantees called	76
7.1.2.4	Treatment of write-offs.....	76
7.1.2.5	Data sources	76
7.1.3.	Standardised Guarantees	76
7.2.	Claims, debt cancellations and debt write-offs.....	76
7.2.1	New lending	77
7.2.2	Debt cancellations	77
7.2.3	Repayments of claims.....	78
7.2.4	Debt write-offs	78
7.2.5	Sale of claims	78
7.3.	Capital injections in public corporations	78
7.4.	Dividends	79
7.5.	Privatization.....	79
7.6.	Public Private Partnerships	80
7.7.	Financial derivatives	81
7.7.1	Types of derivatives used	82
7.7.2	Data sources	83
7.7.3	Recording.....	83
7.8.	Payments for the use of roads.....	83
7.9.	Emission permits	83
7.10.	Sale and leaseback operations	84
7.11.	Securitisation	84
7.12.	Mobile phone licenses	85
7.13.	Transactions with the Central Bank.....	85
7.14.	Lump sum pension payments.....	86
7.15.	Pension schemes.....	86
7.16.	Rearranged transactions	89
7.17.	Decommissioning costs	89
7.18.	Income contingent loans	89
7.19.	Concessions	89
7.20.	Energy Performance Contracts	89

Annex I – list general government units

A. Institutional arrangements, sources, procedures and methods used for the calculation of deficit and debt data

This chapter provides a summary description on the general government sector components and specifies institutional responsibilities and basic data sources used for EDP tables and for the compilation of general government national accounts. Special attention is given to EDP tables: detailed description of components of the working balance and the transition into B.9 (net lending/net borrowing); compilation of Maastricht debt and of stock-flow adjustments; explanation of the link between EDP table 2 and 3, balancing process and statistical discrepancies.

1. General Government

This section describes the coverage of the General Government sector and the sub-sectors for Austria. *See Annex I for the complete list of general government, and government-controlled units as of 31 March 2023.*

The most recent version of the list of government units is also available for download on the [STAT-website](#).

The general government sector is composed by four sub-sectors: S.1311, S.1312, S.1313 and S.1314. It includes:

1.1. Central government subsector (S.1311)

The central government subsector includes the main unit “federal government” (i.e. the “Bund”) and other central government units. According to the current list of S.13 entities – as of 31 March 2023 – 378 units for the reference year 2022 were classified to the central government sector.

Central government units vary greatly in size as well as in their impact on deficit and debt. Examples of units with a significant impact on the subsector’s revenue, expenditure, net lending/net borrowing, or Maastricht debt are ÖBB Infrastruktur AG, the Bundesimmobiliengesellschaft mbH or the defeasance structures.

Universities and colleges (“Fachhochschulen”), federal chambers, and units such as Statistik Austria (STAT) or Österreichische Finanzmarktaufsicht (FMA) also belong to S.1311.

1.2. State government subsector (S.1312)

Main units: State government subsector consists of eight states (“Länder”) although Austria has nine states. However, the capital Vienna acts on both the state and the local level. As regards budgets and closed accounts, it is assigned to the local level. Therefore, for Public Accounts Statistics and National Accounts Vienna is classified as local government unit.

Other units: According to the current list of S.13 entities – as of 31 March 2023 – 346 other state government entities (in addition to the aforementioned eight main units) are classified under S.1312.

A subset of other state government units has a noticeable impact on the subsector's revenue, expenditure, net lending/net borrowing, or Maastricht debt. Examples are public hospitals, state health funds, or (large) real estate companies.

Other state government units form the remainder group, such as chambers on the state government level or (small) economic promotion agencies. Units might differ concerning the data sources used for the compilation of national accounts (see chapters 3.3.2 and 3.3.3).

1.3. Local government subsector (S.1313)

The local government subsector consists of 2093 municipalities and 2265 other local units as of 31 March 2023.

Main units:

Austrian municipalities (“Gemeinden”) including Vienna capital: 2093 units as of 31 March 2023, taking into account the merger of municipalities in Styria in 2014 (from 539 to 287 municipalities) and in Upper Austria in 2015 (from 444 to 442).

Other units:

Associations of municipalities (“Gemeindeverbände” for schools, for other administrative purposes, etc.): as of 31 March 2023, there are 1262 units.

Other local government units: as of 31 March 2023, there are 1003 units: primarily comprising local infrastructure and real estate entities categorized under NACE 68, engaged in renting and operating their own or leased real estate; 35 social welfare associations and about a dozen public hospitals.

A subset of other local government units has a noticeable impact on the subsector's revenue, expenditure, net lending/net borrowing, or Maastricht debt. Examples are large public hospitals on the municipal level (e.g. in Vienna) or (some large) real estate companies on the local government level.

Units might differ concerning the data sources used for the compilation of national accounts (see chapters 3.4.2 and 3.4.3).

The list of all general government and government-controlled units according to ESA2010 can be downloaded from the [STAT-website](#).

1.4. Social security funds subsector (S.1314)

The social security funds subsector consists of 49 units as of 31 March 2023, including health insurance, pension insurance, accident insurance institutions, and other units.

Further details relating to practical aspects of sector classification for individual units into general government sector could be found in Chapter B, section 1.

2. Institutional arrangements

This section provides general information on institutional arrangements relating to the production and dissemination of government deficit and debt statistics:

- responsibility of national authorities for compilation of individual EDP tables and underlying government national accounts, as defined by ESA 2010 Transmission Programme;
- institutional arrangements relating to public accounts which are used by statistical authorities for compilation of government national accounts and EDP tables;
- general overview about bookkeeping system used by public units, internal quality checks and external auditing;
- communication between individual national authorities involved in EDP;
- publication of deficit and debt statistics.

Legal basis for the compilation of GFS and EDP data

The Austrian Federal Statistical Law 2000 (Bundesstatistik-Gesetz, BStG) specifies explicitly the type of statistics STAT has to compile (in the so-called “Anlage II”). Both “National Accounts” and “Maastricht indicators” are mentioned there. The Regulation of Public Accounts Statistics (Gebarungstatistik-Verordnung, GebStat-VO) is the legal basis for collecting Public Accounts data from all government units.

2.1. Institutional responsibilities for the compilation of general government deficit and debt data

This section describes institutional responsibilities for compilation of Government Finance Statistics (national accounts for general government and EDP tables). Further related information is described in section 2.3 Communication.

National accounts data for general government are transmitted to Eurostat¹ via the following tables (see the related EU legislation)²:

Table 2 – Main aggregates of general government (annual data)

Table 6 – Financial accounts by sector (annual data)

Table 7 – Balance Sheets for financial assets and liabilities (annual data)

Table 801 – Non-financial accounts by sector (quarterly)

Table 9 – Detailed Tax and Social Contribution Receipts by Type of Tax or Social Contribution and Receiving Sub-sector (annual data)

Table 11 – Expenditure of General Government by function (annual data)

Table 25 - Quarterly Non-financial Accounts of General Government

Table 26 – Balance sheets for non-financial assets (annual data)

Table 27 – Quarterly Financial Accounts of General Government

Table 28 – Quarterly Government Debt (Maastricht Debt) for General Government

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1581327918231&uri=CELEX:32013R0549>

Table 29-Accrued-to-date pension entitlements in social insurance

Data on government deficits and debt levels are reported to Eurostat twice a year (in April and October) in EDP notification tables³.

Table 1. - Institutional responsibilities for the compilation of general government national accounts and EDP tables

Institutional responsibilities <i>(the appropriate cells are crossed)</i>		NSI	MOF	NCB	Other	
Compilation of national accounts for General Government:						
Nonfinancial accounts	annual	X				
	quarterly	X				
Financial accounts	annual	X				
	quarterly	X				
Maastricht debt	quarterly	X				
Compilation of EDP Tables:						
EDP table 1	actual data	deficit/surplus	X			
		debt	X			
		other variables	X			
	planned data	deficit/surplus		X		
		debt		X		
		other variables		X		
EDP table 2 (actual data)	2A central government		X			
	2B state government		X			
	2C local government		X			
	2D social security funds		X			
EDP table 3 (actual data)	3A general government		X			
	3B central government		X			
	3C state government		X			
	3D local government		X			
	3E social security funds		X			
EDP table 4		X				

NSI - National statistical institute including units subordinated to the NSI (the latter is to be specified in comments)

MOF – Ministry of Finance/Economy including units subordinated to the MOF (to be specified in comments)

NCB – National Central Bank

Other – other national body, to be specified in comments

³ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/government-finance-statistics/excessive-deficit-procedure/edp-notification-tables>

NSI: Bundesanstalt Statistik Österreich/Statistik Austria, Statistics Austria (STAT). According to the BStG STAT is responsible for “National Accounts” and “Maastricht indicators”; i.e. all official notifications to the EU in this context are made by STAT.

MoF: Bundesministerium für Finanzen, Ministry of Finance (BMF)

BMF estimates EDP figures for the current year (“planned data”) and transmits them to STAT for official notifications.

NCB: Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB)

Other: Österreichische Bundesfinanzierungsagentur, Austrian Treasury (OeBFA)

OeBFA provides data and metadata to be used for the calculation of the interest accrual adjustment and federal government debt.

As it is shown in Table 1 all actual data are compiled by STAT which are supplemented for EDP purposes with the planned data provided by the BMF. STAT is fully responsible for the EDP data; there is no final approval by any other institution. EDP tables are transmitted and signed by STAT via eDAMIS.

2.1.1 Existence of an EDP unit/department

The Unit “Sector Accounts and Public Finance” of STAT-Directorate Macro-Economic Statistics is responsible for EDP statistics and National Accounts for general government. A specific EDP unit doesn’t exist in Austria.

The staff in the Unit Sector Accounts and Public Finance

a) compiles Public Accounts Statistics (collection, evaluation, publication) according to the GebStat-VO,

b) compiles EDP data and metadata and National Accounts for general government according to the ESA2010 transmission programme (annual and quarterly, non-financial and financial, tables 2, 9, 11, 25, 27,28 and 29 and input to tables 1, 3, 5, 10, 12, 15 and 16), the IMF-Government Finance Statistics, the OECD Revenue Statistics and for the OECD/IMF/World Bank Public Sector Debt database,

c) compiles main fiscal indicators by individual states (“Länder”) in the context of the Austrian Stability Pact,

d) compiles non-financial accounts by sector (annual and quarterly, tables 8 and 8.01 of the ESA2010 transmission programme),

e) compiles health expenditure according to the “System of Health Accounts” (SHA)

f) cooperates with the staff of OeNB in the compilation of annual financial accounts by sector (tables 6 and 7 of the ESA2010 transmission programme),

g) collects and/or compiles monthly, quarterly, and annual data in the context of the Council Directive 2011/85/EU on requirements for budgetary frameworks of the Member States.

“Compilation” always includes documentation, publication, and official notifications to the EU/OECD/IMF/World Bank.

2.1.2 Availability of resources for the compilation of GFS data

24 (approx. 20 VZÄ) persons (as of June 2023) work in the Unit Sector Accounts and Public Finance in charge of the duties listed under section 2.1.1., 10 of them work on Public Accounts Statistics.

2.2. Institutional arrangements relating to public accounts

Generally, “public accounts” are basic source data for GFS compilation, i.e. EDP tables as well as annual and quarterly accounts for general government. Public accounts are used by public units and refer to accounting records and relating accounting outputs (e.g. financial statements) based on the accounting framework defined by a national legislation. This section provides a general overview on institutional responsibilities relating to public accounts. Further details on public accounts for individual government subsectors are described under relevant sections on data sources and EDP tables.

2.2.1 Legal / institutional framework

General legal basis:

Main units

- S.1311: Federal government accounting law (*Bundeshaushalts-Gesetz, BHG*)
 - S.1312/S.1313: Budget and Closed Accounts Regulation (*Voranschlags- und Rechnungsabschlussverordnung, VRV*)
 - S.1314: Guidelines of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Affairs
- Other government units: Austrian Commercial Code (Unternehmensgesetzbuch, UGB), Budget and Closed Accounts Regulation (Voranschlags- und Rechnungsabschlussverordnung, VRV)*

Generally speaking, all registered capital corporations are obliged to publish their accounts once a year. Capital corporations typically encompass companies with limited liability and public limited companies. Small capital corporations only have to publish an aggregated balance sheet and adapted notes.

Bookkeeping systems:

Main units

- S.1311: Cash (until 2012), integrated data source (from 2013 onwards) (for more details see chapter 3.2.1)
- S.1312/S.1313: Cash and “due to be paid” (until 2019), integrated data source (from 2020 onwards compulsory, some units changed prior to 2020) (for more details see chapter 3.3.1 for S.1312 main units and chapter 3.4.1 for S.1313 main units)
- S.1314: Accrual (for more details see chapter 3.5.1)

Other government units: Integrated data source

Public corporations principally operate under the same accounting rules as private corporations. Differences can occur if (small) public corporations operate under VRV which is only used within the public sector. Private companies cannot opt for VRV as accounting framework.

The BMF is responsible for bookkeeping standards used by public units and the designing of financial statements. STAT is responsible for data collection and processing, whereas for internal quality and consistency checks and validation the units themselves are responsible. STAT is regularly consulted when the BHG is updated.

2.2.2 Auditing of public accounts

2.2.2.1 General government units

All units of general government sector are audited, by either Court of Audit (CoA) or private audit firms.

The Austrian Court of Audit (CoA) is the Supreme Audit Institution of the Republic of Austria. The CoA is independent and committed to complying with the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). Therefore, the CoA is entitled to independently audit:

- ⇒ the Federal Government, the provinces, and the municipalities*
- ⇒ all areas in which public funds are used*
- ⇒ the social insurance providers, and*
- ⇒ the statutory professional representations (chambers).*

The CoA audits the public finances, funds, and the state's administration, for example in the areas of education, arts and culture, health care, safety and security, environment and energy, transport, construction, and much more. He also audits public companies and measures to fight corruption.

The CoA works for the National Council, the provincial parliaments, and the municipal councils. The members of the aforementioned bodies receive the reports containing the recommendations.

The tasks, functions, organization, and standing of the CoA are defined by Chapter VII of the Federal Constitutional Law. More detailed information can be found in the provincial laws and the Court of Audit Act.

The standing orders of the National Council and the provincial parliaments contain stipulations on the strategically important participation of the CoA in committee meetings and plenary sessions. The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union is directly applicable when it comes to the control over the use of the EU's community funds and the cooperation with the European Court of Auditors.

Should disagreements related to the Austrian Court of Audit's competencies and powers arise when it wishes to audit a certain entity, the Austrian Court of Audit can turn to the Constitutional Court to reach a decision. These proceedings are regulated in detail by the Constitutional Court Act.

The federal CoA is responsible for auditing municipalities and their related economic units with more than 10.000 inhabitants and the provincial CoAs for those under 10.000 respectively. Only at the justified request of the provincial government or upon resolution of Parliament, the federal CoA audits the management of certain municipalities with fewer (in the case of regional CoAs more) than 10.000 inhabitants. For this, it applies that only two such requests may be made in any one year. Such requests shall be admissible only in respect of those municipalities which, in comparison with other municipalities, have a conspicuous development of debts or liabilities.

The federal CoA and the provincial (“Länder”) CoAs are completely independent of each other. Neither in the Constitutional Act nor in the CoA Law there are provisions for their cooperation or any hierarchy between them.

According to the Constitutional Law, the Austrian provinces (“Länder”) are entitled to set up their provincial (“Landes-”) CoAs and have to ensure their independence as controlling authorities.

Social security funds are audited annually by independent certified auditing firms as well as the Federal Ministry for Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection (Bundesministerium für Soziales, Gesundheit, Pflege und Konsumentenschutz).

Only some extra-budgetary units are audited by the court of auditors; extra-budgetary units undergo the same auditing procedures mentioned below for the public units outside general government.

As soon as the findings of the auditing processes are integrated into the final closed accounts of the government units they are incorporated into national accounts.

Audit reports do not include risk analyses on a regular basis.

For more details see www.kontrolle.gv.at.

2.2.2.2 Public units, not part of general government

In general, financial statements of public corporations are audited once a year according to §268 (1) UGB by private audit corporations. However, small corporations with limited liability according to §221 (1) UGB are excluded from this rule in case they do not have to establish a supervisory board. According to §268 (2) UGB groups have to be audited once a year.

In general, according to §270 (1) UGB the auditor has to be chosen by the shareholders of the parent corporation. In the case of an existing supervisory board, the board has to submit a proposal.

According to §269 (1) UGB general book-keeping practices, the annual financial statement (inclusive notes), the progress report (“Lagebericht”), and (optional) the corporate governance report are subject to the annual audit procedure. The audit procedure follows a risk-oriented approach to guarantee a true and fair view of the annual statement of the corporation. In case the European Commission has accredited International Standards on

Auditing (ISA), these standards have to be exercised when performing an audit (see §269a UGB).

The auditing of the accounts takes place usually once a year. The audit reports are published annually. In general, according to §277 (1) UGB the legal representatives have to file the (audited) annual financial statement with the commercial register within 9 months after the balance date. Annual financial statements can be found e.g. at <http://www.portal.at> and can be downloaded against a fee.

2.3. Communication

2.3.1 Communication between actors involved in EDP

2.3.1.1 Agreement on co-operation

There is both formal and informal co-operation between actors involved in EDP.

There are three official agreements in place:

a) “Rules of Procedure” for the Maastricht Working Group (MaWG) have been elaborated in the first half of 2012 and finally sent out by STAT on 15 June 2012. The MaWG is an advisory group to STAT as regards methodological questions in the field of ESA-government accounts and EDP statistics; delegates come from STAT, OeNB, BMF, OeBFA and CoA.

b) A “Memorandum of Understanding: EDP-data exchange” between STAT and OeNB was signed on 15 April 2013 which specifies the data to be exchanged between the partner institutions for the compilation of non-financial and financial accounts for sector government and the EDP data, respectively. Section 2.1 table 1 above shows the principal responsibilities for the compilation of general government national accounts and EDP tables.

The MaWG usually meets twice a year, participating institutions may bring in agenda points until three weeks before the meeting day. STAT sends out the final agenda until two weeks before the meeting day. Issues to be discussed are methodological ones aiming at consistent recording in non-financial and financial accounts. Minutes (Ergebnisprotokoll) are prepared by STAT.

In the framework of the “Memorandum of Understanding: EDP-data exchange” there is a standing STAT-OeNB task force on a rather unofficial level, which deals with financial accounts of general government and meets regularly monthly (“Jour fixe”), minutes are not formal.

c) On 5 November 2015 a “Memorandum of Understanding on enhanced cooperation” was signed between STAT and the Court of Audit. Therein the exchange of information resulting from in-depth analyses of both institutions of the Public Accounts of Government units is enshrined.

The CoA publishes the statement of account of the Bund (“Bundesrechnungsabschluss”, BRA) each year at the end of June. The statement of accounts contains detailed data from the Bund as well as descriptions and additional information. A specific chapter of the BRA shows the developments in public finances according to ESA. In this chapter the following information/data is included:

- information regarding new entities in the public sector,

- a table explaining the transition between the working balance in BRA (Finanzierungsrechnung) and the surplus/deficit of the federal subsector (S.1311) according to ESA,
- a table explaining the transition between the debt level in BRA/federal law to the debt of the federal subsector (S.1311) according to ESA,
 - ⇒ a table on the development of government deficit/surplus for each subsector,
 - ⇒ a table on the development of government debt for each subsector,
 - ⇒ a table on the development of government expenditure and revenue for each subsector
 - ⇒ Occasionally also other tables regarding government expenditure and revenue, surplus/deficit and debt.

Statistics Austria transmits to the CoA the relevant information for the ESA-specific chapter for the BRA. These data are consistent with the April-EDP-notification of Statistics Austria. The CoA analyses the information and Statistics Austria and the CoA exchange information on conceptual issues and accounting rules regarding the transmitted tables.

2.3.1.2 Access to data sources based on public accounts

STAT has no access to public accounts databases. The main units of central, state and local governments, however, transmit data from their bookkeeping systems via an electronic data interface directly to STAT; for the data see details in sections 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4.

The source data used for EDP data compilation is not “certified” by a signature of the responsible government institution.

If data are available via different means the most detailed version is used for further processing to compile ESA-Accounts for general government.

2.3.2 Publication of deficit and debt statistics

2.3.2.1 Publication of EDP data

STAT publishes the EDP figures, including net borrowing/net lending and debt per subsector, on its website on the same day they are notified to Eurostat. The EDP figures are updated, if necessary after the request for clarification period has been closed. Explanatory notes are not regularly published but there is a section “Weiterführende Daten” on the STAT-website which provides additional information on Public Finance Statistics (for instance press conferences’ material).

2.3.2.2 Publication of underlying government ESA 2010 accounts

ESA2010 accounts data on government (main aggregates (annual and quarterly figures, non-financial and financial accounts), details on tax revenues and COFOG) are published usually on the same day on the [STAT-website](#) when the transmission tables are provided to Eurostat. The same procedure refers to the other ESA2010 tables, too (like annual non-financial sector accounts (transmission table 8)).

The STAT-website contains for each statistical area a so-called “Standarddokumentation”.
For public finance statistics especially, the following are relevant:

- [Einnahmen und Ausgaben des Staates \(VGR\) ab 1995](#)
- [Finanzielle Konten des Sektors Staat \(Jahr und Quartal\) inkl. öffentlichem Schuldenstand](#)
- [Gebarungsstatistik](#)

3. EDP tables and data sources

This section reports on availability and use of basic data sources for the compilation of national accounts and EDP tables, by general government subsectors and main units/groups of units. It also aims at describing adjustments to basic data source in order to compile ESA 2010 based deficit/surplus; EDP tables compilation techniques, balancing practices; link between EDP table 2 and 3.

3.1. EDP table 1

EDP table 1 provides the core, summary information for the reporting period, as requested by the related EU legislation⁴: net borrowing(-)/net lending(+)(B.9) for general government sector and its subsectors, outstanding amount of Maastricht debt by instruments, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) for GG sector and data on interest expenditure (D.41).

This section focuses on Maastricht debt only. A detailed description of B.9 calculation and data sources for individual subsectors is covered under section 3.2.

3.1.1 Compilation of Maastricht debt

3.1.1.1 Specification of debt instruments

AF.2: Only Euro coins are classified under this debt instrument.

AF.31 Short-term debt securities are only found within central government.

AF.32 This category is especially relevant for the central government – where the OeBFA is responsible for the biggest part of the issued bonds. Parts of them are passed to the state governments in the form of loans (so-called “Rechtsträgerfinanzierung (RTF)”).

The Republic of Austria issues federal bonds according to its issuance policy. With the issue of federal bonds via auctions, 10 to 15% of the bonds are own holdings (“Eigenquote”) in the balance sheet of the Austrian treasury, which is, on the one hand, shown on the liability side of federal government and, on the other hand, on the securities account (asset side) of federal government.

On the central government level, also some extra-budgetary units like the ÖBB Infrastructure AG issued bonds on their liability side.

⁴ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2014.069.01.0101.01.ENG

AF.41 Short-term loans and overdrafts on bank accounts are found in this category. For the social security funds stocks of AF.41 are notable. Moreover, cash collaterals at the core unit “Bund” where the information is provided by the Austrian Treasury are included in AF.41.

AF.42 Due to the new data interfaces for all the subsectors where counterpart- and maturity information is provided, there is now more information provided regarding the nature of the long-term loans. Straight-forward bank loans are prevalent in this category.

There is one state government that has long-term trade credits on the liability side which is classified under AF.4.

3.1.1.2 Data sources used for the compilation of Maastricht debt

S.1311: So far, data for central government relies on two main data sources, data from OeBFA and closed accounts and annual reports for the extra-budgetary units.

For the “Bund”, STAT receives quarterly information from OeBFA. Data on an instrument-by-instrument basis is quarterly available to STAT from Q1/2017 onwards. Therefore, a line-by-line electronic data interface has been set up with OeBFA.

For the extra-budgetary units, closed accounts and annual reports are transmitted. For the ÖBB Infrastructure and ÖBB Personenverkehr, also quarterly closed accounts are available.

S.1312: For state government subsector, the electronic data interface comprises debt data. Via this data interface, state governments deliver annual and quarterly data comprising information on financial instrument, currency, location of creditor, interest rate, etc. For other state government units, again, information is gathered from closed accounts and annual reports.

S.1313: For local government subsector, the electronic data interface comprises debt data. For other local government units, information is gathered from closed accounts of the units.

S.1314 Debt data for Social Security funds are taken from the closed accounts of the individual units.

In principle, for the April EDP notification, STAT uses quarterly data for the year t-1. For the October notification, annual data is available and used for the main units of S.1311, S.1312 and S.1313. For the April EDP notification, if available, counterpart information for extra-budgetary units is used. Only for very large extra-budgetary units like ÖBB Infrastruktur AG, also quarterly data is available. For debt securities, with the help of secondary information (security-by-security database) the transactions are attributed to the corresponding quarter. For loans, this is not possible and transactions are split equally among the four quarters. Only if there exists counterpart information, we can adjust transactions to the corresponding quarter.

The institutional responsibility for the aforementioned data sources lies solely within STAT, Unit Sector Accounts and Public Finance with support from the IT Department regarding the technical aspect of data collection. Additional, cross-check information is exchanged with the OeNB, the OeBFA, the government units and the BMF.

For details also see chapters 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4.

3.1.1.3 Amendments to basic data sources

In recent years there has been no deviations in the valuation of debt.

STAT compares the direct data of state governments on debt owed to the “Bund” with the information received from OeBFA. Amendments using this type of counterpart information are made if necessary but are actually non-existent anymore.

In exceptional cases, guaranteed debt is directly classified as government debt when it is clear that government will repay the debt.

For the compilation of financial accounts as well as for the compilation of Maastricht debt, the same data sources are used.

3.1.1.4 Consolidation of Maastricht debt

Within central government, there are, on the one hand, loans from the core unit “Bund” to other central government units and, on the other hand, loan lending between central government units. Within state government, there are mainly loans from state governments (“Länder”) to other state government units. The main source of information used for the consolidation of debt and the valuation of holdings is data provided by OeBFA. Furthermore, closed accounts of state and local governments and annual reports of extra-budgetary units are examined. Additional research is usually necessary.

The main problem regarding consolidation arises between state and local government. The creditor and debtor data between local data was a very poor match in the past. With the VRV 2015, improvement in the match between state and local government was noticed. For debt data, the debtor view is taken because the liability side is overall more precise. Consolidation between central and state government is considerably less problematic since the data is usually a better match.

Problems with inconsistencies in data on consolidation are solved through extensive research and the use of direct and indirect information. If no result can be obtained, the debtor view is taken.

Debt data remain unchanged due to the use of consolidated flows from a counterpart subsector.

3.2. Central Government sub-sector, EDP table 2A and 3B

Information provided in this section refers to data sources available for the Central Government (S.1311), indicates what sources are used for compilation of non-financial and financial accounts and EDP tables for S.1311, and explains the adjustments made in order to comply with ESA 2010.

2.2.1 Data sources for main Central Government unit: “Bund”

This section describes data sources available and used for compilation of national accounts and EDP tables for the main Central Government unit:

- Basic data sources

- Complementary data sources used for the purpose of special ESA 2010 adjustments (e.g. accrual adjustments, recording of specific government transactions, etc.).

The main central government unit refers to all departments of federal government.

Table 2 – Availability and use of basic source data for the main central government unit

Available source data				Source Data Accounting	Source data used for compilation of		
Accounting basis (C/A/M)	Periodicity (M/Q/A/O)	Time of availability of annual results for T-1			WB	B.9 (NFA)	B.9f (FA)
		First results	Final data				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		<i>T + days</i>	<i>T+months</i>		<i>cross appropriate cells</i>		
				Budget Reporting			
				(1) Current revenue and expenditure			
				(2) Current and capital revenue and expenditure			
C/A	M	T+ 35	T+7	(3) Current and capital revenue and expenditure and financial transactions	x	x	
A	Q	T+ 35	T+7	(4) Balance sheets		x	x
				Financial Statements			
				(5) Profit and loss accounts			
				(6) Balance sheets			
				(7) Cash flow statement			
				Other Reporting			
				(8) Statistical surveys			
				(9) Other:			
C/A	Q		2	(10) Additional information from OeBFA on interest		x	
C/A	Q		T+2	(11) Data on instrument by instrument basis from OeBFA			x
C	A		T+7	(12) detailed annual data on equity provided by the “Bund”			x
A	A		T+7	(13) Anlagenspiegel		x	

Accounting basis (column 1): C- cash, A- accrual, M-mixed

Periodicity (column 2); M - monthly, Q - quarterly, A - accrual, O - other, to be specified.

Time of availability (column 4): availability of annual results for T-1 = number of months and days after the reporting period.

Column 6, 7 and 8 – those cells are crossed which refer to data sources used for compilation of the WB, B.9 (non-financial accounts) and B.9f (financial accounts), respectively.

Empty cells in column 1, 2, 3 and 4 mean that the data source does not exist.

As mentioned in chapter 2.2.1, the “Bund” has used integrated data sources as a bookkeeping system since 2013. The available data consist of Finanzierungshaushalt (cash), Ergebnishaushalt (accrual, roughly comparable with profit and loss accounts), and Vermögenshaushalt (balance sheets). The working balance of EDP table 2A shows revenue minus expenditures of the Finanzierungshaushalt. An automatic bridging from Finanzierungshaushalt to Ergebnishaushalt is done for all relevant transactions for non-financial accounts to implement time adjustments. Additional information from OeBFA is needed for the calculation of B.9 because data from

BMF on interest are delivered on a net basis (revenue minus expenditure). OeBFA provides STAT with information showing explicit figures on interest expenditure and interest revenue. Statistics Austria also receives the Anlagenspiegel (part of the balance sheet with more details) from the BMF. With this information time adjustments are made for gross fixed capital formation (P.51g).

3.2.1.1 Details of the basic data sources

Data sources used for compilation of national accounts

The budget positions in Finanzierungshaushalt/Ergebnishaushalt are the basis for the classification of the flows for national accounts.

As an example, the budget position 32030200-1/7420.933 (plus text) contains the following information:

32 – chapter (e.g. Arts and Culture),

3203 – global budget (e.g. cultural institutions),

320302 – detail budget level 1 (e.g. Bundestheater, federal theatres),

32030200 – detail budget level 2 (for further breakdowns if needed),

1 – expenditure (2 would represent revenues),

7420 – economic type of expenditure/revenue (e.g. current transfers to associated companies),

933 with text – further breakdown of economic type, mainly 000 (e.g. current transfers to Wiener Staatsoper GmbH).

For the compilation of ESA aggregates, the economic type of expenditure/revenue, sometimes in connection with the detail budgets, is used. This structure of the budget of federal government makes it possible to distinguish between financial and non-financial flows.

Some minor problems occur with the identification of transactions to/from government units; transfers to different units may be aggregated in one budget position.

Basically, for the compilation of financial accounts, the Vermögenshaushalt is used. Since 2015 also quarterly data on detail budget level 2 are available (stock data).

Additionally, STAT receives data from OeBFA to calculate quarterly government debt.

Moreover the “Bund” provides detailed annual data on equity.

Working balance (WB)

Data as reported in the WB is used for compilation of B.9 and national accounts.

3.2.1.2 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source

Statistical surveys are not used for B.9 and B.9F compilation of the main central government unit.

3.2.1.3 Supplementary data sources and analytical information

This section describes supplementary data sources used to amend basic data sources when compiling national accounts. In order to meet ESA 2010 requirements, supplementary data could be used for e.g. for accrual adjustments, reclassification of specific transactions, consolidation, amendments of revenue and expenditure structure, amendments of structure of assets and liabilities, identification of a counterpart sector, etc.

3.2.1.3.1 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts

For the time adjustment of interest and intergovernmental interest, we receive information from OeBFA in March each year. B.9 and expenditures (D.41PAY) are affected. The BMF provides regularly the following information (preliminary/final data for the April EDP notification; final data for the October EDP notification): tax refunds (impact on expenditures and revenues), payable tax credits (impact on expenditures and revenues) etc.

The BMF further transmits detailed information on special events if necessary, e.g., supplementary information relating to the financial crisis, time adjustments for Covid-subsidies or expenses financed by the RRF.

Twice a year (in March and in September) additional information is received from the Ministry of Social Affairs to match the transfers from federal government to the pension insurance scheme. The related adjustment leads to changes in B.9 and expenditures (D.73PAY to S.1314).

Eurostat provides regularly information on the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) and on SMP payments. The adjustments for EFSF and SMP payments affect both the level of expenditures and revenues and B.9.

3.2.1.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts

For the compilation of financial accounts also counterpart information from the money and banking statistics and security-by-security database provided by the OeNB on a quarterly basis is used. Therefore, STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation taking the better data quality on transferable and other deposits (F.22, F.29) and on debt securities (F.3A) and equity and investment fund shares or units (F.5) into account. Especially data on market value for F.3 and F.5 will be taken from OeNB.

3.2.1.4 Extra-budgetary accounts (EBA)

Usually, not all flows of a non-financial nature are recorded in the so called budgetary accounts which enter the WB, as reported in the first line of EDP table 2. Some funds could be put aside as reserves, special purpose funds and are booked in so called “extra-budgetary accounts” - EBA. In some cases, according to national legislation, transactions that are not scrutinized by budgetary rules can be booked in EBA and not in ordinary budgetary accounts. It is very important that all non-financial flows of the main entity, including those entering EBA, are appropriately incorporated into calculations of deficit.

Extra-budgetary accounts do not exist for the “Bund”.

3.2.2 Data sources for other Central Government units

This section describes data sources available and used for compilation of national accounts and EDP tables for other Central Government units (those not reported in the working balance in EDP T2A).

Table 3 – Availability and use of basic source data for other central government units

Available source data				Source Data Accounting	Source data used for compilation of	
Accounting basis (C/A/M)	Periodicity (M/Q/A/O)	Time of availability of annual results for T-1			B.9 (NFA)	B.9f (FA)
		First results	Final data			
1	2	3	4	5	7	8
		<i>T + days</i>	<i>T+months</i>			
				Budget Reporting		
				(1) Current revenue and expenditure		
				(2) Current and capital revenue and expenditure		
				(3) Current and capital revenue and expenditure and financial transactions		
				(4) Balance sheets		
				Financial Statements		
A	A		T+5 to 13	(5) Profit and loss accounts	x	
A	A		T+5 to 13	(6) Balance sheets	x	x
				(7) Cash flow statement		
				Other Reporting		
				(8) Statistical surveys		
				(9) Other: business register		

See notes to table 2, on the used abbreviations.

For the April EDP notification data for other central government units is mainly not available. Therefore, STAT estimates data on the basis of previous years. Some units are not able to provide data until T+7 months, so estimations are also necessary for the October EDP notification.

If possible information from the main unit will be taken into account. In some cases, the OeNB may provide additional information via the security-by-security database. Especially for quarterly data, STAT uses counterpart information because for most of the extra-budgetary units, only annual data is available.

3.2.2.1 Details of the basic data sources

Basic data sources for other state government units are annual financial statements. For units with a complex structure, GFS aggregates are derived from financial statements in-house. All other units provide data via a web questionnaire.

This web questionnaire was designed by STAT specifically to collect data from other units and is sent out to other government units. The respective units are obliged by GebStat-VO (see sections 2.1 and 2.2) to fill out the questionnaire. The questionnaire contains all facts from a financial statement according to commercial law which are relevant for compiling

financial and non-financial accounts according to ESA2010 rules. Additionally, information is also collected in more depth if necessary for generating other government statistics required either by national and/or European law.

In general, the available information allows for identifying flows within and between subsectors and for distinguishing between financial and non-financial flows. Additionally, in most cases, it is also possible to identify flows that have to be reclassified.

For the compilation of financial accounts balance sheets and stock information is available. Transactions are not only compiled as changes in stocks, but also information for instance from profit-and-loss statements (for example information on holding gains and losses) is taken into account. In general, information on non-consolidated flows and stocks is available. These flows can be consolidated between general government units and subsectors according to ESA2010 rules. Equally, transfers to and from other sectors of the economy can be identified (in particular transfers to/from corporations and private households).

Not depending on the mode of data collection (web questionnaire or financial statement), additional information can be obtained from the units directly if the received information leaves questions open. In previous years, these open questions most often concerned information on counterpart sectors.

For some units (bad banks, COFAG, ÖBB Infrastruktur, ÖBB Personenverkehr ...) also quarterly data are available.

3.2.2.2 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source

No statistical surveys are used for the compilation of non-financial and financial accounts, respectively.

3.2.2.3 Supplementary data sources and analytical information

This section describes supplementary data sources which are used to amend basic data sources while compiling national accounts. In order to meet ESA 2010 requirements, supplementary data could be used for, e.g., accrual adjustments, reclassification of specific transactions, consolidation, amendments of revenue and expenditure structure, amendments of structure of assets and liabilities, identification of a counterpart sector, etc.

3.2.2.3.1 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts

For other central government units, no supplementary data sources are used for the compilation of non-financial accounts.

3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts

For the compilation of financial accounts also counterpart information from the money and banking statistics and security-by-security database provided by the OeNB on a quarterly basis is used. Therefore, STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation taking the better data quality on transferable and other deposits (F.22, F.29) and on debt securities (F.3A) and equity and investment fund share or units (F.5A) into account. Especially data on market values (stock information) for F.3 and F.5 will be taken from OeNB. The information is quarterly available and has no impact on B.9F. Moreover, this method has proven to be a useful cross-check mechanism for the quality of direct data.

Also, for F.3A and F.5A direct data does not provide sufficient information regarding the split of changes in stocks into transactions and other changes in volume. Additionally, a clear distinction between F.31, F.32, F.511, F.512 and F.52 is not possible. Therefore, direct data are adjusted to the transactions reported in the security-by-security database. The residual is imputed as a transaction in F.519A, therefore B.9F is still derived from direct data.

For F.2 transactions, counterpart information from the money and banking statistics is used: Especially for the April notification, STAT has quarterly information for t-1 for extra-budgetary units from the money and banking statistics to estimate financial transactions. Additionally, the money and banking statistics provide information about foreign exchange effects which is especially useful for the defeasance structures.

3.2.3 EDP table 2A

This section provides detailed information on individual lines reported in EDP T2A.

3.2.3.1 Working balance - use for the compilation of national accounts

Data sources used for the compilation of WB are used for non-financial accounts and also for B.9.

3.2.3.2 Legal basis of the working balance

The legal basis of the WB is the Federal government accounting law 2013 (Bundeshaushalts-Gesetz (BHG)).

Until 2015 the WB was voted for in Parliament and audited by the Court of Auditors in September t+1; from 2016 onwards, the WB is audited until June t+1. The final (audited) accounts of federal government are available here:

https://www.rechnungshof.gv.at/rh/home/was-wir-tun/was-wir-tun_3/Einzahlungen_und_Auszahlungen_des_Bundes.html

The result of the auditing can also have an impact on B.9 or B.9F.

3.2.3.3 Coverage of units in the working balance

Two adjustment lines due to sector delimitation appear in EDP T2. The purpose of the first adjustment is to exclude flows relating to units, which do not belong to the government sector (or to the particular subsector) according to ESA 2010 definition. The second adjustment refers to B.9 of other units, which are classified within the particular government subsector, but related inflows/outflows are not included in the working balance.

3.2.3.3.1 Units to be classified outside the subsector, but reported in the WB

There are no units reported in the WB but not classified in S.1311.

3.2.3.3.2 Units to be classified inside the subsector, but not reported in the WB

For the units reported under line B.9 of other central government units, please refer to chapter 3.2.2.

B.9 of these units is on an accrual basis. The impact of methodological imputations/reclassifications is, if applicable, reflected in their B.9 as reported in EDP T2 line 'Net borrowing (-) or net lending (+) of other central government bodies'.

A full sequence of ESA2010 accounts is available for large individual units or groups of units (e.g. universities).

3.2.3.4 Accounting basis of the working balance

Please refer to chapter 3.2.1 explaining *Finanzierungshaushalt* and *Ergebnishaushalt*.

3.2.3.4.1 Accrual adjustment relating to interest D.41, as reported in EDP T2

Currently, the accounting basis used for recording interest expenditure and revenue in the WB is cash. All interest expenditure of the main entity is recorded in the WB. Payment of discount and inflow from premium is recorded in the WB, the amounts cannot be identified by STAT.

Under line 'Difference between interest paid and accrued' adjustments for expenditure, revenue, discount, and premium for the main entity are included. These adjustments are compiled by OeBFA.

Under line 'Non-financial transactions not included in the WB' other adjustments to accrual interest are reported: *Receivables and payables in the context of EFSF financing*.

3.2.3.4.2 Accrual adjustments reported under other accounts receivable/payable F.8 in EDP T2

Time adjustments on taxes and adjustments for EU agricultural and structural funds are reported via line 'Other accounts receivable'. Furthermore, time adjustments regarding revenues derived from the comparison of the relevant *Konten* of *Finanzierungshaushalt* (cash flow) and *Ergebnishaushalt* (profit and loss accounts) are included here. More detailed information on taxes and EU funds can be found in sections 6.1.1 and 6.2, respectively.

Under 'Other accounts payable' the following items are displayed:

- Change in financial assets of taxpayers (prepayments exceeding tax due)
- write-offs
- Time adjustments regarding
 - EU own resources,
 - a current transfer from federal government to social security funds,
 - the federal nursing scheme expenditure and *Nachtschwerarbeitergesetz* (federal government/social security fund),
 - transfers from federal government to *ÖBB Infrastruktur/ÖBB Personenverkehr*,
 - emission permits and UMTS licences,
 - the compensation for the takeover of Bank Austria pensioners in ASVG,
 - the SMP transfers to Greece,
 - Covid measures,
 - subsidies to mitigate high energy costs and high inflation,
 - revenues of the *Recovery and Resilience fund (RRF)*,
 - expenditures derived from the comparison of the relevant *Konten* of *Finanzierungshaushalt* (cash flow) and *Ergebnishaushalt* (profit and loss accounts),
 - gross fixed capital formation derived from the comparison of the relevant *Konten* of *Finanzierungshaushalt* (cash flow) and the *Anlagenspiegel*.

Accrual adjustments in EDP table 2 are normally consistent with transactions in F.8 (payables and receivables in sum) reported in EDP table 3 and financial accounts. F.8 in sum is consistent, but a difference between *Finanzierungshaushalt* (cash) and *Ergebnishaushalt*

(accrued) does not automatically signal whether the corresponding financial transaction is f.i. a transaction in payables or a transaction in receivables. Furthermore, EDP table 3 is consolidated within S.1311 whereas OAR/OAP of EDP table 2 is unconsolidated and refers only to the main unit of central government.

3.2.3.4.3 Other accrual adjustments in EDP T2

N/A.

3.2.3.5 Completeness of non-financial flows covered in the working balance

Under 'Non-financial transactions not included in the working balance' the following adjustments are included (if not already mentioned in section 3.2.3.4.1 or 3.2.3.4.3):

State guarantee system for exports - debt cancellation, Receivables and payables in the context of EFSF financing, write-off of maintenance payments, which are not included in the cash WB.

3.2.3.6 Financial transactions included in the working balance

Transactions regarding granted loans, repayments of loans, acquisition or sales of equities, reserves, etc. can be recorded in the WB according to the national legislation.

Transactions which have been recently reported in EDP Table T2 in the adjustment line 'Financial transactions included in the WB' are the following:

- *Loans, granted*
- *Loans, repayments*
- *Equities, acquisition*
- *Equities, sales*

Other financial transactions:

This includes notably recurring transactions in reserves and net settlements under swap contracts. Also, specific transactions regarding the financial crisis were recorded under this heading (if already recognised in the working balance).

3.2.3.7 Other adjustments reported in EDP T2

The item 'Statistical discrepancies' shows minor discrepancies occurring when preparing EDP table T2A, which is mainly due to rounding impacts.

3.2.3.8 Net lending/net borrowing of central government

B.9, as reported in the last line in EDP T2, is derived from the same source data used when calculating the WB.

3.2.4 EDP table 3B

3.2.4.1 Transactions in financial assets and liabilities

Table 4. Data used for compilation of transactions and of stocks of financial assets and liabilities

	Assets							Liabilities						
Source Data	F.2	F.3	F.4	F.5	F.6	F.7	F.8	F.2	F.3	F.4	F.5	F.6	F.7	F.8
	Calculation of transactions													
Transaction data (integrated in public accounts)		X	X	X		X			X	X			X	
Other transaction data	X	X		X							X			
Stock data	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Calculation of stocks													
Transaction data														
Stock data	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

For the “Bund” basically the Vermögenshaushalt is used. Since 2015 also quarterly data on detail budget level 2 is available (stock data). Additionally, STAT receives data from OeBFA to calculate quarterly government debt. Apart from that, the “Bund” provides detailed annual data on equity, too. For extra-budgetary units only stock information is available, mostly collected from the statement of accounts.

Additionally, indirect data sources on the asset side like the security-by-security database and money and banking statistics provided by the OeNB are used. Therefore, STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation taking the better data quality on transferable and other deposits (F.22, F.29) and on debt securities (F.3) and equity and investment fund share or units (F.5) into account. In these cases, the totals remain unaltered and merely the structure of individual assets/liabilities is changed. Especially data on market value for F.3 and F.5 will be taken from OeNB. On the liability side only to a small amount also indirect data is used for equity (F.5) where the information is also provided by the OeNB.

See also 3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts.

Counterpart information is used for instance to adjust time lags for accounting entries like interest or premiums/discounts between OeBFA and extra-budgetary units within S1311. In these cases, the information from OeBFA is used.

Information on debt cancellations stems from the profit and loss accounts of the Bund (e.g. regarding export guarantees).

3.2.4.2 Other stock-flow adjustments

For the “Bund” information from OeBFA on “Issuance above/below nominal value”, “Difference between interest accrued and paid”, “Redemptions/repurchase of debt

above/below nominal value” and “Appreciation/depreciation of foreign currency debt” is available.

For the “Bund” STAT receives quarterly information from OeBFA. Data on an instrument-by-instrument basis is quarterly available to STAT from Q1/2017 onwards. Therefore, a line-by-line electronic data interface has been set up with OeBFA. First information is available for the October 2017 EDP notification.

With the aid of the security-by-security database, it is possible to calculate the appreciation/depreciation of foreign-currency debt of debt securities for other government units. With the April notification 2021, there was a change in the compilation of early redemption of loans, specifically bonded loans, which are similar to securities and where premiums/discounts are now recorded under holding gains and losses.

More recently, cases reported in the item “Changes in sector classifications” are mostly related to entities belonging to the BIG-group. Typically, corporate subsidiaries are created for new real estate projects and then classified in S.1311.

The entries in the line “Other volume changes in financial liabilities“ are related to the FMA decision in these years which changed the nominal value of the HETA liabilities:

In 2016 the FMA imposed a haircut for nearly all HETA liabilities. The haircut was 100% for all subordinated debt and 53.98% for all other eligible debt.

In 2017 from 46% to 64% of the original value.

In 2019 from 64% to 86% of the original value.

3.2.4.3 Balancing of non-financial and financial accounts, transactions in F.8

This section aims at describing of techniques and methods for balancing non-financial and financial accounts applied generally for the whole general government sector.

Allocation of discrepancy B.9 vs B.9f

We try to allocate observed differences between B.9 and B.9f at the level of source data.

Changes to intermediate data

We use counterpart data to obtain final statistics in FA (for instance security-by-security database) but they have no impact on B.9F. We do not allocate discrepancies between B.9 and B.9F at the final stage.

Complementary elements on stocks/

N/A

Accruals

Observed discrepancies between B.9 and B.9F could result from time of recording problems, especially for quarterly data.

Ex-post monitoring

So far there is no equilibrating mechanism for discrepancies between B.9 and B.9F. STAT, however, works continuously to minimise the discrepancies, mainly via efforts to improve data quality on all levels.

3.3. State government sub-sector, EDP table 2B and 3C

3.3.1 Data sources for State Government unit

Table 5 – Availability and use of basic source data for the state government unit

Available source data				Source Data Accounting	Source data used for compilation of		
Accounting basis (C/A/M)	Periodicity (M/Q/A/O)	Time of availability of annual results for T-1			WB	B.9 (NFA)	B.9f (FA)
		First results	Final data				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		<i>T + days</i>	<i>T+months</i>		<i>cross appropriate cells</i>		
				Budget Reporting			
				(1) Current revenue and expenditure			
				(2) Current and capital revenue and expenditure			
C/A	Q/A	T+35	T+5	(3) Current and capital revenue and expenditure and financial transactions	x	x	
A	Q/A	T+35	T+5	(4) Balance sheets	x	x	x
				Financial Statements			
				(5) Profit and loss accounts			
				(6) Balance sheets			
				(7) Cash flow statement			
				Other Reporting			
				(8) Statistical surveys			
				(9) Other:			

Accounting basis (column 1): C- cash, A- accrual, M-mixed

Periodicity (column 2); M - monthly, Q - quarterly, A - accrual, O - other, to be specified.

Time of availability (column 4): availability of annual results for T-1 = number of months and days after the reporting period.

Column 6, 7 and 8 – those cells are crossed which refer to data sources used for compilation of the WB, B.9 (non-financial accounts) and B.9f (financial accounts), respectively.

Empty cells in column 1, 2, 3 and 4 mean that the data source does not exist.

3.3.1.1 Further specifications/comments to the table

-

3.3.1.2 Details of the basic data sources

Prior to 2020, the main units reported data according to VRV 1997, since 2020 VRV 2015 has to be applied.⁵ The accounting basis in the old budget reporting system was mixed, and the principle of recording was “due to be paid”. VRV 2015, on the contrary, provides integrated data sources: Available data consists of “Finanzierungshaushalt” (cash data), “Ergebnishaushalt” (accrual, roughly comparable to profit and loss accounts) and “Vermögenshaushalt” (balance sheets).

Data is transmitted via an electronic data interface. From the reporting year 2012 onwards, direct information from budget reporting is used for both, the compilation of non-financial and financial accounts and EDP tables (prior to the reporting year 2012, financial accounts were compiled based on counterpart statistics from the OeNB).

The periodicity is quarterly and yearly (both for data based on VRV 1997 and on VRV 2015); the (final) annual account is not necessarily the cumulated four quarters but may include closing entries (not yet present in quarterly accounts).

For the compilation of non-financial accounts mainly data from “Ergebnishaushalt” is used. One major exception is gross fixed capital formation (P.51g) which is calculated based on information from “Vermögenshaushalt”. A second important exception is tax revenue which is calculated based on information from “Finanzierungshaushalt”. Revenue and expenditure are recorded on a very detailed level (according to ten main groups of economic units (“Ansatz”) and ten main groups of transactions (“Konto”) and several sub-units/-transactions). The structure of public accounting allows for distinguishing between financial and non-financial flows.

For the compilation of financial accounts, we use data from “Vermögenshaushalt” for all financial instruments. Data from “Vermögenshaushalt” also contains information on groups of transactions (“Konto”) and some state governments also provide information on economic units (“Ansatz”).

Problems might occur with the identification of certain transactions to/from government units because transfers to different units may be aggregated in one budget position. Therefore, STAT asks for additional information on counterparts for certain transactions and/or stocks via the data interface for state governments. In practice, the quality of this information on counterparts is not always satisfying and further information is requested from the reporting units. Additionally, counterpart information from other state government organisations units (see chapter 3.3.2) can be used as an additional data source.

The VRV also includes accounts for the reporting of operating and financial leasing as well as financial derivatives. If necessary, further information on derivatives is requested from the reporting units (see also section 7.7).

Data sources used for compilation of national accounts

Basic data source for the state government sector’s main units is public budget reporting according to the VRV for “Länder” as described above.

Working balance

Data as reported in the WB are used for compilation of B.9 and national accounts.

⁵ From 2020 onwards, it was compulsory to apply VRV 2015. However, some state government main units changed to the new accounting system earlier than 2020.

3.3.1.3 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source

Statistical surveys are not used for B.9 and B.9F compilation of the main state government units.

3.3.1.4 Supplementary data sources and analytical information

3.3.1.4.1 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts

Supplementary data sources, if necessary, are provided by the main unit itself.

3.3.1.4.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts

For the compilation of financial accounts, counterpart information from the money and banking statistics and the security-by-security database provided by the OeNB is used. STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation for general government. The information is available on a quarterly basis and has no impact on B.9F.

Direct data transmitted by main units on the state and local government level to STAT does not always allow a clear distinction between F.2 and F.8. As a result, a residual compilation was implemented. This compilation adjusts the direct data for F.2 to the values reported in the OeNB's money and banking statistics (in the money and banking statistics, banks report the amounts deposited in their accounts by S.13 units). The counter entries are subsequently made in F.8 so that B.9F remains the result of direct data sources only.

See also 3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts.

3.3.2 Data sources for other State Government units

Table 6 – Availability and use of basic source data for other State Government unit

Available source data				Source Data Accounting	Source data used for compilation of		
Accounting basis (C/A/M)	Periodicity (M/Q/A/O)	Time of availability of annual results for T-1			WB	B.9 (NFA)	B.9f (FA)
		First results	Final data				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		T + days	T+months		cross appropriate cells		
				Budget Reporting			
				(1) Current revenue and expenditure			
				(2) Current and capital revenue and expenditure			
A/M	A		T+5 to 13	(3) Current and capital revenue and expenditure and financial transactions		x	x
A	A		T+5 to 13	(4) Balance sheets		x	x
				Financial Statements			
A	A	T+150	T+7	(5) Profit and loss accounts		x	x
A	A	T+150	T+7	(6) Balance sheets		x	x

				(7) Cash flow statement			
				Other Reporting			
				(8) Statistical surveys			
				(9) Other:			

Accounting basis (column 1): C- cash, A- accrual, M-mixed

Periodicity (column 2); M - monthly, Q - quarterly, A - accrual, O - other, to be specified.

Time of availability (column 4): availability of annual results for T-1 = number of months and days after the reporting period.

Column 6, 7 and 8 – those cells are crossed which refer to data sources used for compilation of the WB, B.9 (non-financial accounts) and B.9f (financial accounts), respectively.

Empty cells in column 1, 2, 3 and 4 mean that the data source does not exist.

Data for other state government units is not available for the April EDP notification. Thus, STAT estimates data on the basis of previous years. Final data for other state government units is usually available in T+5 months, or in some cases, only T+13 months (estimations for these units are necessary also in the October EDP notification). To the extent possible, information from the controlling main units is taken into account to improve estimations or check consistency in the final data. In some cases, the OeNB may provide additional information, for instance on counterparts.

3.3.2.1 Details of the basic data sources

Basic data sources for other state government units are annual financial statements. For units with a complex structure, GFS aggregates are derived from financial statements in-house. All other units provide data via a web questionnaire.

This web questionnaire was designed by STAT specifically for the purpose of collecting data from other units and is sent out to other government units. The respective units are obliged by GebStat-VO (see sections 2.1 and 2.2) to fill out the questionnaire. The questionnaire contains all facts from a financial statement according to commercial law which are relevant for compiling financial and non-financial accounts according to ESA2010 rules. Additionally, information is also collected in more depth if necessary for generating other government statistics required either by national and/or European law.

In general, the available information allows for identifying flows within and between subsectors and for distinguishing between financial and non-financial flows. Additionally, in most cases, it is also possible to identify flows that have to be reclassified.

For the compilation of financial accounts balance sheets and stock information is available. Transactions are not only compiled as changes in stocks, but also information for instance from profit-and-loss statements (for example information on holding gains and losses) is taken into account. In general, information on non-consolidated flows and stocks is available. These flows can be consolidated between general government units and subsectors according to ESA2010 rules. Equally, transfers to and from other sectors of the economy can be identified (in particular transfers to/from corporations and private households).

Not depending on the mode of data collection (web questionnaire or financial statement), additional information can be obtained from the units directly if the received information leaves questions open. In previous years, these open questions most often concerned information on counterpart sectors.

3.3.2.2 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source

No statistical surveys are used for the compilation of non-financial and financial accounts, respectively.

3.3.2.3 Supplementary data sources and analytical information

Additionally, counterpart information from the money and banking statistics and from the security-by-security database provided by the OeNB is used for the compilation of financial accounts. STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation for the general government. The information is available on a quarterly basis and has no impact on B.9F.

See also 3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts.

3.3.2.4 Extra-budgetary accounts

Not relevant.

Non-financial flows recorded in EBA

-

Financial flows recorded in EBA

-

3.3.3 EDP table 2B

3.3.3.1 Working balance - use for the compilation of national accounts

The starting point of EDP table 2B in Austria is the total of the working balances of the eight main state government units. The working balance of the main state government units is calculated according to the “Rechnungsquerschnitt” defined in Annex 5a of VRV 2015 and is published in the final annual accounts of the “Länder”. The line “Finanzierungssaldo (“Vorläufiges Maastricht-Ergebnis”)” of the “Rechnungsquerschnitt” is used for the working balance in Table 2B.

The “Rechnungsquerschnitt” is a matrix where the single positions of the accounts are added up in groups to calculate several “economic indicators” (such as personnel expenditure or revenue from interest and dividends), both for the unit as a whole and for “market units” covered in the VRV (quasi-corporations not part of general government). The data sources are, in principle, the same as the sources for the compilation of non-financial accounts described in section 3.3.1.2. The working balance (the line “Finanzierungssaldo (“Vorläufiges Maastricht-Ergebnis”)” of the “Rechnungsquerschnitt”) is then calculated as the difference between revenue and expenditure plus gross fixed capital formation as defined in the “Rechnungsquerschnitt”.

The WB does not comprise other units on state government level (see chapter 3.3.2).

3.3.3.2 Legal basis of the working balance

The WB (“Rechnungsquerschnitt”) is regulated in the VRV. For the “Länder” there is an auditing procedure of the final annual account (see chapter 2.2.2.1) on a regular basis.

3.3.3.3 Coverage of units in the working balance

The WB covers the eight “Länder” (the capital Vienna enters the WB of S.1313).

3.3.3.3.1 Units to be classified outside the subsector, but reported in the WB

There are no units to be classified outside the subsector but reported in the WB.

3.3.3.3.2 Units to be classified inside the subsector, but not reported in the WB

Units to be classified inside the subsector are not reported in the WB (but form part of other state government organisations). For the units reported under line 'Net borrowing (-) or net lending (+) of other state government bodies' please refer to chapter 3.3.2.

B.9 of these units is on an accrual basis. The impact of methodological imputations/reclassifications is, if applicable, reflected in their B.9 as reported in EDP T2B line 'Net borrowing (-) or net lending (+) of other state government bodies'. A full sequence of ESA2010 accounts is available for large individual units or for groups of units.

3.3.3.4 Accounting basis of the working balance

As described in section 3.3.1.2, VRV 2015 has to be applied from the reporting year 2020 onwards and provides cash, accrual and balance sheet data. For the calculation of the working balance, the main data source is accrual data from "Ergebnishaushalt". Major exceptions are gross fixed capital formation and tax revenue. For gross fixed capital formation, balance sheet data from "Vermögenshaushalt" is used, for tax revenue, cash data from "Finanzierungshaushalt" is used.

3.3.3.4.1 Accrual adjustments relating to interest D.41, as reported in EP T2

In line with VRV 2015, interest expenditure and revenue are recorded on an accrual basis in the WB. However, for some states, STAT receives very detailed additional information on premiums and discounts. In these cases, adjustments are made if necessary.

3.3.3.4.2 Accrual adjustments reported under other accounts receivable/payable F.8 in EP T2

No adjustments reported.

3.3.3.4.3 Other accrual adjustments in EDP T2

Other accrual adjustments are reported in several different subsections of Table 2B depending on the nature of the adjustment: Accrual adjustments related to infrastructure projects in several state governments are reported under "Other adjustments" as mentioned below. Adjustments related to the implementation of VRV 2015 are either reported under "Non-financial transactions not included in the working balance" or under "Financial transactions reported in the working balance".

3.3.3.5 Completeness of non-financial flows covered in the working balance

'Non-financial transactions not included in the working balance' are related to public hospitals and public care institutions in one state until 2020. In the "Rechnungsquerschnitt" of this state, both public hospitals and public care institutions were treated separately as specific "market units" and were not included in the working balance. However, for National Accounts purposes the public hospitals are classified as S.1312 units and consequently the respective non-financial transactions related to public hospitals are included in this subsection until 2020. On the contrary, public care institutions are S.11-units, but they are not profit-making. Therefore, the respective non-financial transactions are included as well in this subsection until 2020. In 2020, a new unit taking over the public hospitals and the public care institutions was founded. Since 2021, they are no longer included in the accounts of the

state government main unit. Accrual adjustments for several state governments concerning different transactions are also reported in this subsection in Table 2B. See section 3.3.3.4.3.

Additional reclassifications reported in this subsection concern several singular transactions in different states such as transfers related to guarantees.

3.3.3.6 Financial transactions included in the working balance

Financial transactions included in the working balance concern adjustments for premiums or discounts for loans as mentioned in section 3.3.3.4.1. Other major transactions reported in this subsection of Table 2B concern accrual adjustments from 2020 onwards related to several different ESA transactions (see section 3.3.3.4.3). Further reclassifications reported in this subsection concern several singular transactions in different states such as the sale of company shares in one state government in 2019.

3.3.3.7 Other adjustments reported in EDP T2

Other adjustments are related to accrual adjustments for infrastructure projects in several state governments. Moreover, adjustments concerning the implementation of VRV 2015 and related budget restructuring are reported in this sub-section of Table 2B.

For one state government, an adjustment was necessary until 2019 as this state government recorded redemption payments related to the former sale of housing promotion loans in its WB. Besides these positions, certain temporary estimations of transfer and subsidy positions might be shown in this section. This is due to the fact that some closing entries might be missing in the quarterly data, which is used for the compilation of the April notification. These closing entries are, however, included in the annual data. Therefore, these adjustments are not necessary in the October notification as they are already included in the WB.

3.3.3.8 Net lending/net borrowing of state government

B.9, as reported in the last line in EDP T2, is derived from the same source data used when calculating the WB.

3.3.4 EDP table 3C

3.3.4.1 Transactions in financial assets and liabilities

Table 7. Data used for compilation of transactions and of stocks of financial assets and liabilities

	Assets							Liabilities						
Source Data	F.2	F.3	F.4	F.5	F.6	F.7	F.8	F.2	F.3	F.4	F.5	F.6	F.7	F.8
	Calculation of transactions													
Transaction data	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

(integrated in public accounts)														
Other transaction data	X	X		X							X			
Stock data	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Calculation of stocks													
Transaction data														
Stock data	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

STAT receives quarterly direct data from the “Länder” via electronic data interface. For all other units, stock information is available annually, mostly collected from the statement of accounts.

Indirect data are also used on the asset side like security-by-security database and money and banking statistics provided by the OeNB. Therefore, STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation taking the better data quality on transferable and other deposits (F.22, F.29) and on debt securities (F.3) and equity and investment fund share or units (F.5) into account. In these cases, the totals remain unaltered and merely the structure of individual assets/liabilities is changed. Especially data on market value for F.3 and F.5 will be taken from OeNB.

On the liability side only to a small amount also indirect data is used for equity (F.5) where the information is also provided by the OeNB.

See also 3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts.

Counterpart information is used for instance to adjust time lags for accounting entries like interest or premiums/discounts between OeBFA and “Länder”. In these cases, the information from OeBFA is used.

3.3.4.2 Other stock-flow adjustments

For the Issuances above/below nominal value data are derived from the data interface of the state government. This information can be cross-checked with the values from the OeBFA since most of premiums and/or discounts in this sector arise from forwarded loans via the “RTF”.

Also, appreciation/depreciation of foreign-currency debt comes from the electronic data interface of the state government. For extra-budgetary units no foreign currency debt is reported.

3.4. Local government sub-sector, EDP table 2C and 3D

3.4.1 Data sources for Local Government main units

Table 8 – Availability and use of basic source data for main local government units

Available source data				Source Data Accounting	Source data used for compilation of		
Accounting basis (C/A/M)	Periodicity (M/Q/A/O)	Time of availability of annual results for T-1			WB	B.9 (NFA)	B.9f (FA)
		First results	Final data				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		<i>T + days</i>	<i>T+months</i>		<i>cross appropriate cells</i>		
				Budget Reporting			
				(1) Current revenue and expenditure			
				(2) Current and capital revenue and expenditure			
C/A	Q/A	T+28	T+5	(3) Current and capital revenue and expenditure and financial transactions	x	x	
A	Q/A	T+28	T+5	(4) Balance sheets	x	x	x
				Financial Statements			
				(5) Profit and loss accounts			
				(6) Balance sheets			
				(7) Cash flow statement			
				Other Reporting			
				(8) Statistical surveys			
				(9) Other:			

Accounting basis (column 1): C- cash, A- accrual, M-mixed

Periodicity (column 2); M - monthly, Q - quarterly, A - accrual, O - other, to be specified.

Time of availability (column 4): availability of annual results for T-1 = number of months and days after the reporting period.

Column 6, 7 and 8 – those cells are crossed which refer to data sources used for compilation of the WB, B.9 (non-financial accounts) and B.9f (financial accounts), respectively.

Empty cells in column 1, 2, 3 and 4 mean that the data source does not exist.

3.4.1.1 Details of the basic data sources

For the City of Vienna and all Austrian municipalities, VRV 2015 has to be applied. Therefore, the same data interface and rules as described in section 3.3.1.2 have to be applied. The data requirements between municipalities and state governments differ only slightly in the level of detail.

3.4.1.2 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source

Statistical surveys are not used for B.9 and B.9f compilation of the municipalities.

3.4.1.3 Supplementary data sources and analytical information

3.4.1.3.1 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts

Supplementary data sources, if necessary, are provided by the main unit itself (e.g. accrued interest: impact on B.9 and expenditures).

3.4.1.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts

For the compilation of financial accounts, counterpart information from the money and banking statistics and from the security-by-security database provided by the OeNB is used. STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation for general government. The information is available on a quarterly basis and has no impact on B.9F.

Direct data transmitted by main units on the state and local government level to STAT does not always allow a clear distinction between F.2 and F.8. As a result, a residual compilation was implemented. This compilation adjusts the direct data for F.2 to the values reported in the OeNB's money and banking statistics (in the money and banking statistics, banks report the amounts deposited in their accounts by S.13 units). The counter entries are subsequently made in F.8 so that B.9F remains the result of direct data sources only.

See also 3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts.

3.4.2 Data sources for other Local Government units

Table 9 – Availability and use of basic source data for other local government unit

Available source data				Source Data Accounting	Source data used for compilation of		
Accounting basis (C/A/M)	Periodicity (M/Q/A/O)	Time of availability of annual results for T-1			WB	B.9 (NFA)	B.9f (FA)
		First results	Final data				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		<i>T + days</i>	<i>T+months</i>		<i>cross appropriate cells</i>		
				Budget Reporting			
				(1) Current revenue and expenditure			
				(2) Current and capital revenue and expenditure			
A/M	A		T+5 to 13	(3) Current and capital revenue and expenditure and financial transactions		x	x
A	A		T+5 to 13	(4) Balance sheets		x	x
				Financial Statements			
A	A		T+5 to 13	(5) Profit and loss accounts		x	x
A	A		T+5 to 13	(6) Balance sheets		x	x

				(7) Cash flow statement			
				Other Reporting			
				(8) Statistical surveys			
				(9) Other:			

Accounting basis (column 1): C- cash, A- accrual, M-mixed

Periodicity (column 2); M - monthly, Q - quarterly, A - accrual, O - other, to be specified.

Time of availability (column 4): availability of annual results for T-1 = number of months and days after the reporting period.

Column 6, 7 and 8 – those cells are crossed which refer to data sources used for compilation of the WB, B.9 (non-financial accounts) and B.9f (financial accounts), respectively.

Empty cells in column 1, 2, 3 and 4 mean that the data source does not exist.

Data for other local government organisations is not available for the April EDP notification. Thus, STAT estimates data on the basis of previous years. Final data for other local government units is usually available in T+5 months, or in some cases, only T+13 months (estimations for these units will then be necessary also for the October EDP notification). To the extent possible, information on the controlling main units will be taken into account to improve estimations in the April notification or check consistency in the final data.

In some cases, the OeNB can provide additional information, for instance, on counterparts.

3.4.2.1 Details of the basic data sources

Basic data sources for other state government units are annual financial statements. For units with a complex structure, GFS aggregates are derived from financial statements in-house. All other units provide data via a web questionnaire.

This web questionnaire was designed by STAT specifically to collect data from other units and is sent out to other government units. The respective units are obliged by GebStat-VO (see sections 2.1 and 2.2) to fill out the questionnaire. The questionnaire contains all facts from a financial statement according to commercial law which are relevant for compiling financial and non-financial accounts according to ESA2010 rules. Additionally, information is also collected in more depth if necessary for generating other government statistics required either by national and/or European law.

In general, the available information allows for identifying flows within and between subsectors and for distinguishing between financial and non-financial flows. Additionally, in most cases, it is also possible to identify flows that have to be reclassified.

For the compilation of financial accounts, balance sheets and stock information is available. Transactions are not only compiled as changes in stocks, but also information for instance from profit-and-loss statements (for example information on holding gains and losses) is taken into account. In general, information on non-consolidated flows and stocks is available. These flows can be consolidated between general government units and subsectors according to ESA2010 rules. Equally, transfers to and from other sectors of the economy can be identified (in particular transfers to/from corporations and private households).

Not depending on the mode of data collection (web questionnaire or financial statement), additional information can be obtained from the units directly if the received information

leaves questions open. In previous years, these open questions most often concerned information on counterpart sectors.

3.4.2.2 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source

No statistical surveys are used for the compilation of non-financial and financial accounts, respectively.

3.4.2.3 Supplementary data sources and analytical information

Additionally, counterpart information from the money and banking statistics and the security-by-security database provided by the OeNB is used for the compilation of financial accounts. STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation for the general government. The information is available on a quarterly basis and has no impact on B.9F.

See also 3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts.

3.4.3 EDP table 2C

3.4.3.1 Working balance - use for the compilation of national accounts

For the City of Vienna, the setting is comparable to the “Länder” (see chapter 3.3.3.1); that is, the working balance published in the final annual accounts is used as WB. For the remainder of the 2092 Austrian municipalities, the WB is compiled on an aggregate level (by region) by STAT, according to the VRV rules. It does not comprise other units on the local government level (see chapter 3.4.2).

Starting from the WB, adjustments according to ESA2010 are deduced and reported in EDP table 2C.

3.4.3.2 Legal basis of the working balance

The WB (“Rechnungsquerschnitt”) is regulated in the VRV. For large municipalities, there is an auditing procedure of the municipality’s closed accounts (see chapter 2.2.2.1) regularly.

3.4.3.3 Coverage of units in the working balance

The WB covers all Austrian municipalities.

3.4.3.3.1 Units to be classified outside the subsector, but reported in the WB

Parts of local government accounts that deal with the provision of services for social security of civil servants are classified outside S.1313. This is shown in the line “Working balance (+/-) of entities not part of local government”.

3.4.3.3.2 Units to be classified inside the subsector, but not reported in the WB

Units to be classified inside the subsector are not reported in the WB (but form part of other local government units).

For the units reported under line B.9 of other local government units, please refer to chapter 3.4.2.

B.9 of these units is on an accrual basis. The impact of methodological imputations/reclassifications is, if applicable, reflected in their B.9 as reported in EDP T2C line 'Net borrowing (-) or net lending (+) of other local government bodies'.

3.4.3.4 Accounting basis of the working balance

As described in section 3.3.1.2, VRV 2015 had to be applied from the reporting year 2020 onwards and provides cash, accrual, and balance sheet data. For the calculation of the working balance, the main data source is accrual data from "Ergebnishaushalt". Exceptions are gross fixed capital formation, tax revenue, and received capital transfers. For gross fixed capital formation and received capital transfers, balance sheet data from "Vermögenshaushalt" is used, for tax revenue, cash data from "Finanzierungshaushalt" is used.

3.4.3.4.1 Accrual adjustments relating to interest D.41, as reported in EDP T2C

In line with VRV 2015, interest expenditure and revenue are recorded on an accrual basis in the WB. However, for some municipalities STAT receives very detailed additional information on premiums and discounts. In these cases, adjustments are made.

3.4.3.4.2 Accrual adjustments reported under other accounts receivable/payable F.8 in EDP T2C

No adjustments reported.

3.4.3.4.3 Other accrual adjustments in EDP T2C

Other accrual adjustments will be reported under other adjustments (see 3.4.3.7)

3.4.3.5 Completeness of non-financial flows covered in the working balance

In general, non-financial flows are covered well in the VRV (e.g. dividends received). Occasionally, corrections have to be made, which will then be covered under 'Non-financial transactions not included in the working balance'.

3.4.3.6 Financial transactions included in the working balance

In general, no financial flows are included in the WB. Occasionally, corrections have to be made, which will then be covered under 'Financial transactions included in the working balance'.

One recurring example would be the correction of principal components in the context of on-balance PPPs.

3.4.3.7 Other adjustments reported in EDP T2C

If adjustments, that cannot be classified under the previously mentioned categories, are necessary, these will be shown under 'other adjustments'.

In the April Notification estimations due to preliminary data will be shown under this category.

Other accrual adjustments are also reported under this category. If singular corrections of the data are necessary, these corrections are typically also reported here.

3.4.3.8 Net lending/net borrowing of local government

B.9, as reported in the last line in EDP T2C, is derived from the same source data used for calculating the WB and other local government units.

3.4.4 EDP table 3D

3.4.4.1 Transactions in financial assets and liabilities

Table 10. Data used for compilation of transactions and of stocks of financial assets and liabilities

Source Data	Assets							Liabilities						
	F.2	F.3	F.4	F.5	F.6	F.7	F.8	F.2	F.3	F.4	F.5	F.6	F.7	F.8
	Calculation of transactions													
Transaction data (integrated in public accounts)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x
Other transaction data	x	x		x							x			
Stock data	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Calculation of stocks													
Transaction data														
Stock data	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x

STAT quarterly receives direct data from the municipalities via the electronic data interface. For all other units, stock information is available annually mostly collected from the statement of accounts.

Indirect data are also used on the asset side like security-by-security database and money and banking statistics provided by the OeNB. Therefore, STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation taking the better data quality on transferable and other deposits (F.22, F.29), and on debt securities” (F.3) and “equity and investment fund share or units (F.5) into account. Especially data on market value for F.3 and F.5 is taken from OeNB.

On the liability side only to a small amount also indirect data is used for equity (F.5) where the information is also provided by the OeNB.

See also 3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts.

Counterpart information is used for instance to adjust time lags for accounting entries like interest or premiums/discounts between OeBFA and Vienna. In these cases, the information from OeBFA is used.

We also match the information from the local government units with the information from other government subsectors to guarantee correct counterpart information.

3.4.4.2 Other stock-flow adjustments

With the aid of the security-by-security database, it is possible to calculate the appreciation/depreciation of foreign-currency debt of debt securities. On foreign-currency debt loans, we receive information via data interface from the local governments.

Due to the implementation of VRV 2015, we now receive additional information from local governments on financial liabilities, that have not been available before. Therefore, to account for that increase in stock, we booked other stock-flow adjustments (K5), especially for the year 2019 (i.e. before the VRV 2015).

In addition, from 2020 onwards, we now also receive more detailed data via data interface from municipality associations (Gemeindeverbände). In this case, further other stock-flow adjustments (K5) had to be booked in 2019.

3.5. Social security sub-sector, EDP table 2D and 3E

3.5.1 Data sources for Social Security Funds main unit: Social Security Funds

The main unit refers to those health insurance funds, pension insurance funds, and accident insurance funds that are associated with the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger).

Table 11 – Availability and use of basic source data for social security funds

Available source data				Source Data Accounting	Source data used for compilation of		
Accounting basis (C/A/M)	Periodicity (M/Q/A/O)	Time of availability of annual results for T-1			WB	B.9 (NFA)	B.9f (FA)
		First results	Final data				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		<i>T + days</i>	<i>T+months</i>		<i>cross appropriate cells</i>		
				Budget Reporting			
				(1) Current revenue and expenditure			
				(2) Current and capital revenue and expenditure			
A	A	T+50	T+13	(3) Current and capital revenue and expenditure and financial transactions	x	x	x
A	A	T+50	T+13	(4) Balance sheets		x	x
				Financial Statements			
				(5) Profit and loss accounts			
				(6) Balance sheets			
				(7) Cash flow statement			
				Other Reporting			

				(8) Statistical surveys			
				(9) Other:			

Accounting basis (column 1): C- cash, A- accrual, M-mixed

Periodicity (column 2); M - monthly, Q - quarterly, A - accrual, O - other, to be specified.

Time of availability (column 4): availability of annual results for T-1 = number of months and days after the reporting period.

Column 6,7 and 8 – those cells are crossed which refer to data sources used for compilation of the WB, B.9 (non-financial accounts) and B.9f (financial accounts), respectively.

Empty cells in column 1, 2, 3 and 4 mean that the data source does not exist.

3.5.1.1 Details of the basic data sources

The data set for final data provided by social security funds through the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger) in January of year t+2 consists of income statements and closing balance sheets for each unit. The data set for preliminary data is the Finance Statistics of the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der Sozialversicherungsträger), which includes flows on an aggregated basis and is provided in February as well as (updated) in August.

Non-financial and financial flows can be distinguished through the title of the budget position. Gross fixed capital formation is derived from information from the balance sheet (“Anlagenspiegel”). The structure of inflows and outflows is appropriate; flows that should be consolidated can mainly be distinguished.

For April and October, EDP notification in year t+1 only aggregated preliminary data of social security funds are available. Therefore, estimates based on the available aggregated information, partly counterpart information, and of previous years have to be made.

On a quarterly basis, STAT also receives aggregated stock data on currency, deposits, securities, and loans from the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der Sozialversicherungsträger).

3.5.1.2 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source

Statistical surveys are not used for B.9 and B.9F compilation of the social security funds main unit.

3.5.1.3 Supplementary data sources and analytical information

3.5.1.3.1 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of non-financial accounts

For parts of the estimates derived based on aggregated preliminary data in the April and October notification in t+1, counterpart information is used where appropriate.

3.5.1.3.1 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts

STAT receives quarterly aggregated data on short-term loans (AF.41) from the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der Sozialversicherungsträger). This, however, does not include any counterpart information. Therefore, STAT compares the data with information from OeBFA to derive the share of loans from the Bund. Additionally, STAT refers to indirect data sources from the OeNB such as the money and banking statistics and

the security-by-security database, which is particularly important for the market valuation in F.3 and F.5. (see also 3.5.4.1).

3.5.2 Data sources for other Social Security units

Table 12 – Availability and use of basic source data for other social security units

Available source data				Source Data Accounting	Source data used for compilation of		
Accounting basis (C/A/M)	Periodicity (M/Q/A/O)	Time of availability of annual results for T-1			WB	B.9 (NFA)	B.9f (FA)
		First results	Final data				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		<i>T + days</i>	<i>T+months</i>		<i>cross appropriate cells</i>		
				Budget Reporting			
				(1) Current revenue and expenditure			
				(2) Current and capital revenue and expenditure			
A	A	T+50	T+ 13	(3) Current and capital revenue and expenditure and financial transactions		x	x
A	A		T+ 13	(4) Balance sheets		x	x
				Financial Statements			
A	A		T+5 to 13	(5) Profit and loss accounts		x	x
A	A		T+5 to 13	(6) Balance sheets		x	x
				(7) Cash flow statement			
				Other Reporting			
				(8) Statistical surveys			
				(9) Other:			

Accounting basis (column 1): C- cash, A- accrual, M-mixed

Periodicity (column 2); M - monthly, Q - quarterly, A - accrual, O - other, to be specified.

Time of availability (column 4): availability of annual results for T-1 = number of months and days after the reporting period.

Column 6,7 and 8 – those cells are crossed which refer to data sources used for compilation of the WB, B.9 (non-financial accounts) and B.9f (financial accounts), respectively.

Empty cells in column 1, 2, 3 and 4 mean that the data source does not exist.

For the April EDP notification (and in some cases also for the October EDP notification) in year t+1 data for other social security units is not available. Therefore, STAT estimates data based on previous years, counterpart information, or additional information.

If possible, also counterpart information will be taken into account for instance to compile government debt.

3.5.2.1 Details of the basic data sources

Basic data sources for other social security units are annual financial statements and compilations by the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der Sozialversicherungsträger). For units with a complex structure, GFS aggregates are derived from financial statements in-house. GFS aggregates are also derived from the compilations by the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der Sozialversicherungsträger) in-house. All other units provide data via a web questionnaire (see details e.g. in section 3.2.2.1). In general, the available information allows for identifying flows within and between subsectors and for distinguishing between financial and non-financial flows. Additionally, in most cases, it is also possible to identify flows that have to be reclassified. Gross fixed capital formation is derived from information from the balance sheet (“Anlagenspiegel”).

For the compilation of financial accounts balance sheets and stock information is available. Transactions are not only compiled as changes in stocks, but also information for instance from profit-and-loss statements (for example information on holding gains and losses) is taken into account. In general, information on non-consolidated flows and stocks is available. These flows can be consolidated between general government units and subsectors according to ESA2010 rules. Equally, transfers to and from other sectors of the economy can be identified (in particular transfers to/from corporations and private households).

Not depending on the mode of data collection (web questionnaire or financial statement), additional information can be obtained from the units directly if the received information leaves questions open.

3.5.2.2 Statistical surveys used as a basic data source

Statistical surveys are not used for B.9 or B.9F compilation of other social security units.

3.5.2.3 Supplementary data sources and analytical information

For the estimates of some major transactions in the non-financial accounts for some other social security units in the April (and in some cases in the October) notification in year $t+1$, counterpart information and monthly/quarterly additional information, either from the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der Sozialversicherungsträger), from data provided by the unit themselves on their websites or from other publicly available information, is used.

For the compilation of financial accounts, STAT also refers to indirect data provided by the OeNB via its money and banking statistics as well as the security-by-security database (see also 3.5.4.1). This allows STAT to derive transactions where otherwise no transaction data was available.

See also 3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts.

3.5.3 EDP table 2D

3.5.3.1 Working balance - use for national accounts compilation

Data sources used for the compilation of WB are used for non-financial accounts and also for B.9.

3.5.3.2 Legal basis of the working balance

The legal basis of the WB are financial accounting requirements for social security bodies as defined in § 444 ASVG (Allgemeines Sozialversicherungsgesetz) and equivalent regulations in other social insurance laws for specific groups (e.g. civil servants, self-employed).

According to § 444, § 448, and § 449 ASVG (and equivalent regulations in other social insurance laws for specific groups (e.g. civil servants, self-employed)) the WB is audited annually by independent certified auditing firms as well as the Federal Ministry for Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection.

3.5.3.3 Coverage of units in the working balance

3.5.3.3.1 Units to be classified outside the subsector, but reported in the WB

There are no units reported in the WB but not classified in S.1314.

3.5.3.3.2 Units to be classified inside the subsector, but not reported in the WB

Please refer also to chapter 3.5.2.

B.9 of these units is on an accrual basis. The impact of methodological imputations/reclassifications is, if applicable, reflected in their B.9 as reported in EDP T2 line 'Net borrowing (-) or net lending (+) of other social security bodies'.

A full sequence of ESA2010 accounts is available for individual groups of units.

3.5.3.4 Accounting basis of the working balance

The accounting basis of the working balance is accrual.

3.5.3.4.1 Accrual adjustments relating to interest D.41, as reported in EP T2D

Since the accounting basis of expenditures and revenues is accrual, no adjustment relating to interest is necessary.

3.5.3.4.2 Accrual adjustments reported under other accounts receivable/payable F.8 in EDP T2D

In general, since the accounting basis of expenditures and revenues is accrual, no adjustments are to be reported under other accounts receivable/payable. However, for the expenditure and revenue associated with COVID-19-related spending, a consolidation with counterpart information on the expenditure from the central government to health insurance funds is carried out, leading to an accrual adjustment for other accounts receivable.

3.5.3.4.3 Other accrual adjustments in EDP T2D

There are no other accrual adjustments reported in EDP T2D.

3.5.3.5 Completeness of non-financial flows covered in the working balance

Under 'Non-financial transactions not included in the working balance' the following adjustments are included:

Gross fixed capital formation (not included in WB, but derived from the balance sheet),

Reimbursement (lump sum transfers from foreign social security funds) for medical care of resident people who are not covered by the Austrian social insurance system but are insured

by foreign social security funds (for instance for a person who used to work in Germany and settled in Tyrol after retirement) (not included in WB of the Austrian social security funds).

Benefit fund (reimbursement of cost sharing in extreme cases; predominantly dental treatment) (included in the balance sheet of Finance Statistics of Association of Austrian Social Security Funds and not in the profit and loss account; therefore, this entity is not an extra-budgetary fund, but part of S.1314).

Estimated additional uncollectible for COVID-19-related deferrals of social contributions: As the social contributions are based on amounts evidenced by assessments and declarations, an estimate for the uncollectible has to be included in GFS/EDP data. The WB of social security funds includes information on the uncollectible once it is determined with certainty that the amounts in question are uncollectible. ESA 2010 requires that the uncollectible is accounted for in the period for which the social contribution declaration took place. As the item in the WB on the uncollectible in the WB is normally rather stable over time, the differences between the two mentioned concepts do not pose a major difficulty and the item of the WB is used as a proxy for the uncollectible according to ESA 2010. For the COVID-19-related deferrals of social contributions that took place in 2020 and 2021 additional estimates for the uncollectible had to be carried out as the difference between the two concepts mentioned is assumed to be larger. These estimates also have to be used to correct the item in the WB downwards once these COVID-19-related uncollectible enter the WB.

3.5.3.6 Financial transactions included in the working balance

This item includes the drawdown and build-up of reserves included in “total revenue” and “total expenditure” respectively. It also includes revenue from the disposal of financial assets included in the WB (F.32).

3.5.3.7 Other adjustments reported in EDP T2D

The item “Other adjustments” includes the depreciation of fixed assets, included in “total expenditure”. “P.51c” in ESA-terms which is included in the working balance has to be deducted because it does not influence B.9.

Other adjustments include also revaluation items included in the working balance (K.7), an adjustment for consolidating transfers from central government through the “Fonds für Zahngesundheit” to the health insurance funds, and the statistical discrepancy between detailed final data and the WB of social security funds.

3.5.3.8 Net lending/net borrowing of social security funds

B.9 as reported in the last line in EDP T2D is derived from the same source data that is used for calculating the WB.

3.5.4 EDP table 3E

3.5.4.1 Transactions in financial assets and liabilities

Table 13. Data used for compilation of transactions and of stocks of financial assets and liabilities

	Assets							Liabilities						
Source Data	F.2	F.3	F.4	F.5	F.6	F.7	F.8	F.2	F.3	F.4	F.5	F.6	F.7	F.8
	Calculation of transactions													
Transaction data (integrated in public accounts)														
Other transaction data	X	X		X							X			
Stock data	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Calculation of stocks													
Transaction data														
Stock data	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

The data used in EDP Table 3E is mainly stock data derived from the balance sheets of all individual units classified in S.1314. Indirect data are also used on the asset side like security-by-security database and money and banking statistics provided by the OENB is used. Therefore, STAT and OeNB agreed on a residual compilation taking the better data quality on transferable and other deposits (F.22, F.29) and debt securities (F.3), and equity and investment fund share or units (F.5) into account. Especially data on market value for F.3 and F.5 will be taken from OeNB.

On the liability side, only to a small amount also indirect data is used for equity (F.5) where the information is also provided by the OeNB.

See also 3.2.2.3.2 Supplementary data sources used for the compilation of financial accounts.

3.5.4.2 Other stock-flow adjustments

There are no other stock-flow adjustments in EDP table 3E

3.6. Link between EDP T2 and related EDP T3

The monitoring of the link between the individual adjustments in EDP T2 and the related transactions reported in EDP T3 is important for the assessment of GFS data quality.

It is not expected that the adjustments from EDP T2 would be clearly identified in EDPT3.

- First, this is due to different coverage of units, because the adjustments in EDP T2 should refer only to the main entity reported in the WB, while transactions in EDP T3 reflect the whole subsector.
- Second, due to the accounting basis and coverage of transactions reported in the WB. For the former, if the WB is on accrual basis, theoretically there is no need for adjustments in other accounts receivable/payable F.8 in EDP T2, but it should be ensured that the accrual recordings in non-financial accounts are linked to transactions in F.8 reported in EDP T3 and in FA. For the latter (coverage of transactions), the WB balance as reported in EDP T2 typically does not cover all financial flows, since some are booked in the so called extra-budgetary accounts of the main entity.
- Third, adjustments/transactions reported in EDP T2A are non-consolidated, since they refer to the main entity only, as recorded in the working balance (e.g. loans, other accounts receivable/payable, etc.), while financial transactions recorded in EDP T3 refer to the whole subsector and they are consolidated.

As far as specific imputations are concerned, such as debt cancellation, debt assumption etc., which are reported in EDP T2, these should be reflected also in financial accounts and EDP T3 under the related financial instrument.

Therefore, in order to ensure consistency between non-financial and financial accounts and quality of GFS data, statisticians are to be able to explain and to quantify a link between flows reported in EDP T2 and EDP T3.

3.6.1 Coverage of units

As non-financial and financial accounts are both compiled by STAT the coverage of units reported in EDP tables 2 and 3 is identical.

3.6.2 Financial transactions

For the central government, financial transactions are reported in the WB. With the introduction of the new budget accounting system for the central government for the presentation of financial transactions also the link between the three parts of the new budget accounting system is used.

Also, at the state and the local governments level, financial transactions are sometimes included in the working balance. One example is the sale of company shares recorded as “dividends” in their bookkeeping systems. These transactions are also reported in T3 but for T3 the transactions are imputed because the state and local authorities had these transactions in their books as non-financial flows. For the local governments, these are very rare and minor cases.

For the social security accounts, there are only drawdown and built up of reserves included in the working balance.

For the compilation of financial accounts, financial transactions reported in the WB are not used as for the compilation of financial accounts more detailed data is used for financial transactions.

Financial transactions in assets (F.5) are reconciled for all subsectors between T2 and T3 because of the above-mentioned adjustments (sale of shares etc.). For the “Bund”, adaptations in F.5 are made because detailed information for market values, transactions and other flows is only available annually.

3.6.3 Adjustments for accrued interest D.41

For the “Bund” STAT receives quarterly information from OeBFA about accrued interest via an electronic data interface.

As described in section 3.3.3.4.1, interest expenditure and revenue are, in line with VRV 2015, recorded on an accrual basis in the WB. However, for some states, STAT receives very detailed additional information on premiums and discounts. In these cases, adjustments are made.

3.6.4 Other accounts receivable/payable F.8

For S.1311 and S.1314, figures reported under other accounts receivable/payable are identical to those reported in financial accounts. For detailed information see also chapters 3.2.3.4.2 and 3.5.3.4.2

3.6.5 Other adjustments/imputations

For the central government, there is an adjustment for the statistical discrepancy in Table 2A.

For the state and local government, adjustments especially refer to revaluation of assets. These adaptations are reflected in financial accounts in F.4. Adjustments which were necessary due to the new VRV 2015 are also reported under this category. For details on adjustments for state and local governments refer to chapters 3.3.3.4.3 (state governments) and 3.4.3.7 (local governments).

For social security accounts, the depreciation of fixed assets is included in “total expenditure” of the WB but excluded for EDP/GFS purposes. There are no adjustments in financial accounts.

3.7. General comments on data sources

No additional general comments.

3.8. EDP table 4

Table 4 – The statements on the provision of additional data contained in the Council minutes of 23/11/1993 request the submission of trade credits and advances, amounts outstanding in the government debt from the financing of public undertakings, differences between the face value and the present value of government debt and GNI at market prices.

3.8.1 Trade credits and advances

STAT refers to direct data sources for the calculation of the stock of liabilities in trade credits. As the same data source for the stocks reported in table 4 and the transactions reported in table 3 are used, the data is consistent.

3.8.2 Amount outstanding in the government debt from the financing of public undertakings

With the purpose to minimize financing expenditures, enterprises – owned totally by the federal government – had – until 2002 – permission to obtain financing via federal government bonds (“Rechtsträgerfinanzierung”, short RTF). To this end, the Federal Republic of Austria emitted bonds or took out loans in its own name and passed them on to the respective enterprise. Interest payments and debt redemption have been paid in full by the respective enterprise to the federal government.

4. Revision policy used for annual GFS

This section relates to the revision policy concerning annual non-financial and financial government accounts. It describes the country policy for revisions with and without impact on the deficit (non-financial accounts for general government) and debt (financial accounts for general government).

4.1. Existence of a revision policy in your country

The revision policy of STAT for compiling national accounts is naturally closely geared to the deadlines set by the European Union for the transmission of data and aggregates. The provisions on the supply of the data are laid down in regulations which contain details of all variables, transmission deadlines and derogations.

The revision policy calendar for the government sector data is integrated with the general revision policy schedule of national accounts to ensure coherence across all the datasets. The regular revisions of government sector data are made biannually and usually cover two years, while the major (benchmark) revisions are carried out from time to time and cover the years back to 1995.

4.1.1 Relating to deficit and non-financial accounts

Revisions are made regardless of whether there is an impact on deficit and/or debt or not. For details see section 4.3.

4.1.2 Relating to debt and financial accounts

Revisions are made regardless of whether there is an impact on deficit and/or debt or not. For details see section 4.3.

4.2. Reasons for other than ordinary revisions

As mentioned above regular revisions of government sector data are made biannually and usually cover two years. These regular revisions also take into account other issues not due to normal updates of data sources, like new data sources, changes in methodology or correction of errors discovered. So, one could say that government accounts data are “permanently” under revision and the work of compiling the data is spread over the whole year.

4.3. Timetable for finalising and revising the accounts

For the main units of central, state, and local governments, that are “Bund”, “Länder” and “Gemeinden”, quarterly accounts are available $t+85$ days according to the ESA2010 transmission programme. These data are also used for the April $t+1$ EDP/ESA notifications. Data for extra-budgetary units are estimated using various sources (for instance, the counterpart information of the “mother” main unit).

The GebStat-VO obliges all government units to send public accounts data to STAT until the end of May $t+1$. Therefore, the accounts transmitted in the $t+1$ October EDP/ESA notifications could be seen in principle as final versions. Usually, however, not all units send in comprehensive information so some revisions still are necessary for the April $t+2$ EDP/ESA notifications.

B. Methodological issues

5. Sector delimitation – practical aspects

5.1. Sector classification of units

General government is defined by ESA 2010 §2.111 as "... institutional units which are non-market producers whose output is intended for individual and collective consumption, and are financed by compulsory payments made by units belonging to other sectors, and institutional units principally engaged in the redistribution of national income and wealth". Moreover, §20.05 specifies that the general government sector "consists of all government units and all non-market non-profits institutions (NPIs) that are controlled by government units. It also comprises other non-market as identified in paragraphs 20.18 to 20.39".

It is necessary to determine:

- if it is an institutional unit (ESA 2010 2.12 describes the rules according to which an entity can be considered as an institutional unit)
- if it is a public institutional unit (ESA 2010 §20.18 and MGDD I.2.3 – define the notion of control by the government over an entity as "the ability to determine the general policy or programme of that entity"... According to the list of criteria listed in ESA 2010 §20.309)
- if it is a non-market public institutional unit - reference to "Market-non-market delineation" (ESA 2010 §20.19 to §20.28 and MGDD I.2.4)"

In principle, only institutional units that are non-market producers are classified in sector general government. There are, however, market producers without the status of institutional units which are classified in the general government sector. They are seen as ancillary units. The most important ones seen from a quantitative aspect are public real estate units which exist on all levels of government except S.1314.

For public institutional units, the market-non-market test is applied as the ratio of sales to production costs (as defined in paragraphs 20.30 and 20.31):

ESA 2010	Position	Austrian Commercial Code (UGB)	
Sales			
P1	Output	§ 231 (2) Z1 UGB	Umsatzerlöse
	Other operating income	§ 231 (2) Z4 c) UGB	sonstige betriebliche Erträge, wobei Gesellschaften, die nicht klein sind, folgende Beträge aufgliedern müssen: c) übrige
Production costs			
P.2	Intermediate consumption		
	Raw materials and consumables used	§ 231 (2) Z5 UGB	Aufwendungen für Material und sonstige bezogene Herstellungsleistungen
- P.12	own account production (deducted from production costs)	§ 231 (2) Z3 UGB	andere aktivierte Eigenleistungen
D41	Net interest (Payables minus receivables)	§ 231 (2) Z12 UGB § 231 (2) Z15 UGB	sonstige Zinsen und ähnliche Erträge; Zinsen und ähnliche Aufwendungen

Sector delimitation – practical aspects - Existence and classification of specific units

	Other operating expenses	§ 231 (2) Z8 UGB	<i>sonstige betriebliche Aufwendungen</i>
D.1 + D.29	Compensation of employees + Other taxes on production	§ 231 (2) Z6 UGB	<i>Personalaufwand</i>
P.51c	Consumption of fixed capital	§ 231 (2) Z7 a) UGB	<i>Abschreibungen: a) auf immaterielle Gegenstände des Anlagevermögens und Sachanlagen</i>
Sales/cost-ratio (market/non-market test)			
	Sales / costs		

All public corporations are regularly reviewed (once a year). If the result of the test is close to 50%, a three-year monitoring phase is applied before eventually changing the institutional sector to S.13. Individual data is used for the market-non-market test.

S.13 units are re-evaluated if a major change arises (e.g. change in the activity of the unit due to a change in the market environment or ownership).

In terms of qualitative aspects for the sector/subsector classification, we apply the concept of “ancillary units”, i.e. units selling their output only or foremost to government.

For units already within the general government sector, STAT receives detailed data on flows and stocks according to national or international accounting practices. The legal basis for this is GebStat-VO. These flows and stocks are “enriched” with the necessary ESA2010 classifications (including analysis and inquiries with the specific unit) and are the basis for the application of the 50% criterion if a major change (e.g. activity of the unit, or due to the change in the market environment) requires a market non-market test.

STAT draws upon multiple sources to track the creation of new units. Frequent reconciliation with the Statistical Business Register provides information on new units. In 2011 a new chapter was introduced in the “Austrian Stability Pact” which obliges every unit classified by STAT in S.13 to make an announcement (to STAT and the BMF) in case a new unit is created. This obligation for an announcement has also been included in the GebStat-VO. In practice, units can choose whether to announce the creation of a new unit via a specific form or within the data interface that is also used to report stocks and flows for EDP purposes. STAT also reconciles its information on government-controlled units with a list of public entities that is regularly published by the CoA. - The final decision on ESA2010 classification issues regarding S.13-units is made by STAT, Directorate Macro-economic Statistics.

5.1.1 Criteria used for sector classification of new units

See above. STAT applies quantitative and qualitative criteria: ownership (public control) and activity to delimit the public sector, market-non-market-test and the concept of economically significant prices (“ancillary unit”) to delimit S.13.

5.1.2 Updating of the register

All institutional units in the business register are classified according to the criteria set in ESA2010. Information on units to be classified in the government sector is provided by the Directorate Macro-economic Statistics to the Business Register Unit. Ownership information is partly available in the business register and used to the extent possible.

The Directorate Macro-economic Statistics conducts a separate public sector register. At least once a year these data are matched with the Business Register Unit to be consistent. Updates are made for the whole public sector once a year. 5.1.3 Data to calculate the market-non-market test for public and new units stem from the annual reports of the companies/units in question. Those reports are downloaded from the commercial register. If information from the commercial register is not available, we use Structural Business Statistics. If no information is available, data are requested directly from the company. To fulfil the Questionnaire on government-controlled units classified outside general government, data on liabilities need to be gathered throughout the year. In Austria, companies usually have time T+9 months to fill their annual reports with the commercial register. Parameters from the profit and loss statement are used to calculate the market-non-market-test (see also above): production, input, depreciation, personnel expenditure, other production input, and net interest expenditure.

5.1.3 Consistency between different data sources concerning classification of units

Statistical surveys are based on the business register so that there is consistency between the different data sources.

The sector classification of each corporation in the business register is provided regularly (monthly) to the OeNB.

The close cooperation between STAT and the OeNB in National Accounts covers this issue, too (regular checks and extraordinary efforts as regards new units).

5.2. Existence and classification of specific units

In principle, the work to classify units by institutional sectors is described above (5.1)

*Some government controlled **non-profit institutions** (NPI) are included in S.13, examples include*

- *Schuldnerberatung Wien - gemeinnützige GmbH*
- *Suchthilfe Wien gemeinnützige GmbH*

Quasi-corporations

exist mainly on the local level and only to a very minor extent on the state government level. Quasi-corporations are market producers and as such they are classified in S.11

The Austrian states organize their market activities mainly outside the government sector and there almost exclusively as corporations with other legal forms (limited corporations etc.).

The Austrian municipalities have more diverse corporations organized as quasi-corporations than the states. Quasi-corporations are treated on a regional level and not individually. Their main activities are water supply, wastewater treatment and garbage removal. However, the VRV allows for all kinds of operations, e.g., real estate management, agriculture, and forestry, or energy providers.

Infrastructure companies:

- *railways*

ÖBB Infrastruktur and ÖBB Personenverkehr classified in S.1311; Rail Cargo Austria classified in S.11.

- roads

ASFINAG, classified in S.11.

- metro

Exist only in Vienna, Wiener Linien, classified in S.1313.

- public utility companies

a) Energy providers on federal, state, and government level (ownership) are all classified in S.11.

b) Companies dealing with water supply, wastewater treatment, and garbage removal are classified in S.11. For the ones organized as quasi-corporations the 50%-test delivered results substantially over 50% (see also explanations above).

- ports, airports

Vienna Airport, classified in S.11.

Universities and schools are classified throughout as S.13. Few universities and schools with private funds more than 50% are classified in S.11 (50%-criterion).

Public TV and radio:

Österreichischer Rundfunk (ORF) classified in S.1311.

Public hospitals are included in S.13. They receive payments from social security funds via 'Landeskrankenanstaltenfonds' (S.1312/S.1313), which – according to ESA2010 – are not recorded as P.1, but as D.73. Public hospitals are therefore non-market producers.

SPVs are included in S.13.

S.1312:

a) Wohnbau Burgenland GmbH, refinancing in connection with housing loans,

b) "Landesimmobiliengesellschaften (LIGs)" (sale and lease back limited liability companies).

Specific public units involved in financial activities:

Finanzmarkteteiligung Aktiengesellschaft des Bundes classified in S.1311.

Defeasance structures KA Finanz AG, HETA Asset Resolution AG, and immigon portfolioabbau ag classified in S.1311.

Protection funds

Einlagensicherung AUSTRIA Ges.m.b.H., Österreichische Raiffeisen-Sicherungseinrichtung eGen and S-Haftungs GmbH (deposit guarantee schemes) classified in S.1311.

Other specific units:

No other specific units.

6. Time of recording

This section describes the time of recording for taxes and social contributions, EU flows, military expenditure, interest and other transactions (subsidies, current and capital transfers and financial transactions).

The time of recording is defined in ESA 2010 §1.101. It is the accrual basis, meaning when economic value is created, transformed or extinguished, or when claims and obligations arise, are transformed or are cancelled.

6.1. Taxes and social contributions

ESA 2010 states that taxes and social contributions are derived from two sources: amounts evidenced by assessments and declarations or cash receipts.

If assessments and declarations are used, amounts should be adjusted by a coefficient reflecting assessed and declared amounts never collected. An alternative treatment foresees recording tax/social contribution revenue on a gross basis and adjusting this amount by a capital transfer to the relevant sectors equal to the amounts unlikely to be collected.

If cash receipts are used, the amounts should be time adjusted so that the cash is attributed to the time when the underlying activities, transactions or other events took place to generate the tax/social contribution liability, or when the amount of tax was determined, in the case of some income taxes.

6.1.1 Taxes

This section describes the methods of recording of taxes on an accrual basis. The time of recording of taxes is defined in ESA 2010 §4.26 and §4.82 as the time "...when the activities, transactions or other events occur which create the liabilities to pay taxes".

Austria records taxes in the following way:

ESA2010 category

<i>D.21</i>	<i>Taxes on products</i>	<i>Cash receipts</i>
	<i>Value added tax</i>	<i>Time adjusted cash</i>
	<i>Duty based on fuel consumption</i>	<i>Time adjusted cash</i>
	<i>Tax on mineral oils</i>	<i>Time adjusted cash</i>
	<i>Tax on tobacco</i>	<i>Time adjusted cash</i>
	<i>Tax on non-ETS emissions (carbon tax)</i>	<i>Time adjusted cash</i>
<i>D.29</i>	<i>Other taxes on production</i>	<i>Cash receipts</i>
	<i>Emission trading allowances</i>	<i>Time adjusted cash</i>
<i>D.51</i>	<i>Taxes on income</i>	<i>Cash receipts</i>
	<i>Wage tax</i>	<i>Time adjusted cash</i>
<i>D.59</i>	<i>Other current taxes</i>	<i>Cash receipts</i>
<i>D.91</i>	<i>Capital taxes</i>	<i>Cash receipts</i>

Most importantly, data on tax revenue is obtained from the closed accounts of the main units of central, state, and local governments. Detailed data collection of tax revenue of the "Bund" is done by BMF (and provided within the closed accounts of the "Bund"). The data collection by BMF is done via a Single Tax Account (STA), meaning that each taxpayer (households and corporations) is provided with one single account through which all tax claims and tax payments for all taxes relevant to the individual taxpayer are recorded. In principle, tax claims are recognised on the debit side of STA whereas cash payments/tax refunds, etc. are recognised on the credit side of STA. Tax claims are registered at the time

they come into existence (e.g., the claim is either issued by the tax authorities or by self-assessment through the taxpayers) whereas payments are recognized as soon as the cash payment is received by the tax authorities). The events administrated through the STA are also accounted for daily in the closed account of the “Bund” (basically the tax claims entering the STA are recorded in the accrual account, the cash payments/tax refunds, etc. are recorded in the cash account of the “Bund”). One basic principle of the STA is, that tax payments can either be made indicating a specific tax (with “clearing notice”) or without declaring a specific tax (without “clearing notice”). In the latter case, the “oldest” tax claims will be cleared. If the payments made by taxpayers (including refunds, tax credits, and surpluses from final settlement) exceed the not yet paid tax claims, these payments cannot be attributed to a specific tax until the next claim is recorded in the STA. In the meantime, these surpluses on the STA are accounted for in the “Konto Abgabenguthaben” in the cash account of the “Bund” which is not used for compiling tax revenue by STAT but is entering the financial accounts as a F.8 payable. The “Abgabenguthaben” can either be claimed by the taxpayer at his/her/its request or remain on the STA until the next tax claim enters the STA (and is used to clear this next tax claim up to the amount of the “Abgabenguthaben”). As a consequence of this accounting practice, a payment for taxes has to fulfil two preconditions to be recognized in the cash account of the “Bund” as a specific tax and therefore to be included in tax revenue: 1) there has to be a cash payment by the taxpayer (or any form of a tax refund) and 2) there has to be an existing, not yet paid, claim for a specific tax.

STAT compiles the data for EDP tables and related questionnaires.

To a minor extent, data on tax revenue also stems from other government units such as student’s associations; chambers, etc. (see sections 3.2.2, 3.3.2, and 3.4.2 for data sources). Data collection and compilation are done by STAT for these other units.

Where a time adjustment is made, the following periods are used for the lag:

- D.211 Value added tax (two months)
- D.214A Duty based on fuel consumption (two months)
- D.214A Tax on mineral oils (two months)
- D.214A Tax on tobacco (two months)
- D.214A Tax on non-ETS emissions (carbon tax) (four months)
- D.29F Emissions trading allowances (one year, for details see section 7.9)
- D.51A Wage tax (one month)

The calculation of time-adjusted cash is based on monthly tax receipts of the main central government unit.

Because of COVID-19-related eased possibilities for tax deferrals, an ad hoc adjustment was carried out for the years 2020-2022 for certain taxes. This ad hoc adjustment was done by incorporating information from the profit and loss account (“Ergebnishaushalt”) of the “Bund” into the figures for tax revenue on VAT, wage tax, and the duty based on fuel consumption and accompanied by a corresponding estimate for the uncollectible.

In 2020, due to technical reasons and the background of the COVID-19 crisis, tax claims (mainly for VAT, corporation tax and income tax) foreseen to be made in 2020 and relating to years 2019 and before were delayed so that payments for these taxes were due to be paid in February 2021. As a result, the usually applied cash accounting for corporation tax and income tax would have led to distortions in the GFS-revenue between 2020 and 2021 for these taxes. The problem was not present for VAT because in this case, the period for time-

adjusting the cash data did cover for this delay. As a consequence, an ad-hoc time adjustment based on additional information provided by the Ministry of Finance was carried out for corporation and income tax.

6.1.2 Social contributions

The time of recording of social contributions is defined in ESA 2010 §4.94 as "... the time when the work that gives rise to the liability to pay the contribution is carried out..." for employers and employees' social contributions, and as "... when the liabilities to pay are created" for self-employed and non-employed persons.

The main data source for compiling social contributions is the closed accounts of the health insurance funds, pension insurance funds, and accident insurance funds (i.e., social security funds; see chapter 3.5.1). The data is on an accrual basis. Data is collected by the social security funds and the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger) and compiled by STAT.

Assessed amounts are reduced by the amount of social contributions unlikely to be collected; i.e., social contributions are provided on a net basis (to enhance consistency with non-financial sector accounts); the information on the proxy for the reduction is usually taken from the data provided by the social security funds. Due to the COVID-19 crisis and eased possibilities to defer social contributions in 2020 and 2021, additional estimates for the uncollectible had to be carried out (see also section 3.5.3.5).

Final data consists of income statements and closing balance sheets for health insurance funds, pension insurance funds, and accident insurance funds, provided by the social security funds through the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger). Preliminary data is provided by the umbrella association of social insurance funds (Dachverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger), but on a more aggregate basis (basis for the first EDP notification in April and, updated, for the second EDP notification in October). Final, detailed data for year t is available in $t+13$ months (for the EDP notification in April in year $t+2$).

In addition, data on certain social contributions (e.g., unemployment insurance, pension schemes of civil servants) is obtained from the accounts of the main units of central, state, and local governments as well as from other government units. In this case, data is based on cash receipts (see also section 6.1.1).

6.2. EU flows

The issue of recording EU flows is important for national accounts, especially government accounts, because – due to the institutional arrangements – in general all amounts transit via government accounts. In order to avoid potential effects on the level of government deficits, countries have to eliminate these flows from public accounts.

ESA 2010 paragraphs 20.294-20.300 foresee that when non-government units are beneficiaries from EU grants, all the flows to and from government should be recorded as financial transactions, without any impact on government net lending/borrowing (B.9).

When final beneficiary is a government unit, the neutrality of EU flows is ensured by matching the time of recording of government revenue from the EU and the time of recording of the government expenditure covered by the EU grant.

The ESA 2010 Manual on government deficit and debt Chapter 2.6 “Grants from and contributions to the EU budget” provide further details concerning the recording of these flows.

6.2.1 General questions

The Bund (S.1311) is designated to receive payments from the EU regarding Structural funds and Agricultural funds. Information is received from the BMF to identify positions in the profit and loss accounts and the cash flow of the Bund associated with the mentioned EU funds.

For the Bund, collection of data on EU flows is possible; the data of expenditure in the cash flow statement is the time of expenditure. Information on which unit/sector is receiving the flows from the Bund is available. Advances/reimbursements cannot be distinguished.

Amounts from the relevant EU funds are entering the WB of the Bund. The neutralization of the flows is shown in EDP Table 2A under other accounts receivable.

If state or local governments receive transfers on behalf of a third party these transfers are, according to VRV 2015, to be recorded in a separate section of the closed account, the so-called “nicht voranschlagswirksame Gebarung”. For the calculation of ESA expenditure and revenue, this section of the closed account is not used. For cases in which state or local governments are final recipients of EU flows, VRV 2015 provides two specific accounts (“Konten”). For extra-budgetary units on S.1311 level and for S.1312 and S.1313 level investigations have to be done.

Adjustments for the third resource are shown under other accounts payable in EDP Tables 2A and 3B.

6.2.2 Cash and Schengen facility:

The time of recording of payments received by the beneficiary Member States through Schengen and Transitional Facilities would be accounted according to the Eurostat decision on EU flows, while the time of recording of Cash-flow Facility is when the transfers are to be made by the Commission. In practice, in this particular case, the amounts would be recorded as revenue in the years in which they were received by the beneficiary countries.

Austria doesn't receive cash through Schengen and Transitional Facilities.

6.2.3 EU financial instruments

The EU has been providing measures of financial support from EU structural and investment funds ‘financial instruments’ (FI). These instruments may be ‘equity or quasi equity investments, loans or guarantees’ and they are intended to support activities that will generate income, or result in saving on future expenditure. Unlike grants, they do not constitute a gift to the final recipient, which will typically be a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) since, under normal circumstances, the funds are expected to be repaid to the creditor and produce a return on the investment (such as interest on the loan, or profit on subsequent sale of equity). EU legislation allows for a choice on how the financial instruments are implemented nationally: the Implementing Authorities can choose whether to assign the implementing task to a newly created entity or contract out the management to the EIF/EIB or to existing financial institutions.

Austria has implemented only a few EU financial instruments programmes with very small amounts.

EU Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF)

The BMF is the main data source regarding the grants which Austria receives through the RRF. In Austria, there are no RRF loans received from the EU.

At the beginning of the program implementation, STAT received a detailed excel sheet with the planned data for the different categories of expenditures.

This table gets an update every year in the course for the preparations of the April notification with the actual expenditures from the year before.

The amounts received from the RRF in cash are entering the working balance of S1311.

In Austria, until now, no revenue reduction measures or assets have been acquired through RRF funds.

For EDP table 2, the block "other accounts payable" is used to neutralise RRF flows. For EDP table 3, besides other account receivables/ payables, also net acquisition of currency and deposits is used to neutralise the RRF flows. This position is derived from the discrepancies between the inflows of the RRF program and the actual expenditures that were financed by RRF funds.

As regards the update of the maximum financial contribution from the RRF in June 2021, the RRF plan was not updated, since for Austria a higher maximum amount was confirmed.

There have been no financial instruments issued that are financed from RRF grants.

6.2.4 Market Regulatory Agencies

Market regulatory agencies are bodies whose intervention activities are mostly characterised by buying and selling products, often on behalf of the EU, with an aim to stabilize prices and to maintain purchasing prices to farmers at a sufficiently high level: they offer buying agricultural products from domestic producers at a predetermined price (often higher than "market" prices) and reselling them usually at a lower price later on and occasionally arranging for giving them away free of charge. These agencies can be involved in storing agricultural inventories, or in arranging for storage, as well as in distributing subsidies.

The question is whether the principle of re-arranging EU transactions would also apply to the recording of changes in inventories (P.52) arising from the interventions of agricultural market regulatory agencies in the market. According to the guidance, in those circumstances where a market regulatory agency acting on behalf of the EU is classified inside general government, the creation of a unit in S.11 is recommended in order to capture the changes in agricultural inventories, and to avoid that such changes in inventories are recorded in national government accounts (as changes in government inventories, with an impact on the government deficit/surplus) or in the rest of the world accounts (as exports and imports). The unit to be created to capture these changes in inventories is a quasi-corporation, rather than a notional unit, in order to ensure an equality of treatment with cases where market regulatory agencies are classified outside government. This is also appropriate because any temporary

difference in value arising from changes in market value of these inventories not yet covered by subsidies is likely to be small and on average zero.

Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA) was created as a government entity by the AMA Act of 1992 and was set up as an EU-compliant market regulatory agency that oversees the implementation and administration of all EU market regimes. AMA is classified as S.1311.

6.3. Military expenditure

The ESA 2010 principle on accrual recording, when applied to military expenditure, is generally the time when the economic ownership of the good occurs, which is usually when delivered.

ESA 2010 paragraphs 20.190-20.192 define the rules for the statistical recording of military equipment. Chapter II.5 in Part II of the ESA 2010 MGDD details the rules concerning the recording of military expenditure.

6.3.1 Types of contracts

All information is available from the federal government's closed accounts.

The majority of contracts are sales agreed in advance with industrial suppliers. There are no long-term rental contracts for military equipment in Austria.

Trade credits are incurred when the equipment is delivered and the invoice is made but not yet paid. In most of these cases, technical acceptance tests have to be done before the payment. Out of budgetary considerations, the general rule is to pay in the term of payment to be able to take advantage of the usual discount allowances. Purchasing through an international special agency exists only to a minor extent.

6.3.2 Borderline cases

No borderline cases have been identified because the system of budget accounts is very detailed in Austria.

6.3.3 Recording in national accounts

An accrual adjustment for military expenditure is done with the information from the Anlagenspiegel of the Bund. In the Anlagenspiegel expenses are usually recorded when the good is delivered.

Another accrual adjustment was calculated from the comparison of the Bund Ergebnisrechnung (profit and loss accounts) and Finanzierungsrechnung (cash flow) regarding gross fixed capital formation and COFOG 02.1.

6.4. Interest

This part aims at describing accrual adjustment for interest.

ESA 2010 paragraph 20.178 reads: *"In the system, interest is recorded on an accrual basis, i.e. interest is recorded as accruing continuously over time to the creditor on the amount of principal outstanding"*

ESA 2010 MGDD part 2, chapter 2.4 is dealing with some practical aspects of the recording of interest.

6.4.1 Interest expenditure

Table 14 Availability and basis of data on interest

Instrument	S.1311		S.1312		S.1313		S.1314	
	State	OCGB	Main unit	OSGB	Main unit	OLGB	Main unit	OSSB
Deposits (AF.2)	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Debt Securities (AF.3)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Loans (AF.4)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Other accounts receivable (AF.8)	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M

Cash/accrual, M (not applicable) or L (not available)

For subsector S.1311, OeBFA calculates interest on an accrual basis according to the "debtor approach". The debtor approach records the accrual of interest from the perspective of the issuer and based on conditions determined at the time of issue of a debt. In general, OeBFA records the accrual of interest on securities and loans on a single transaction basis. Securities and loans denominated in foreign currency will be expressed in Euro based on the ECB Reference rate of the reporting date.

All data are available both cash and accrual.

Data on an instrument-by-instrument basis is quarterly available to STAT from Q1/2017 onwards. Therefore, a line-by-line data interface has been set up with OeBFA. First information is available for the October 2017 EDP notification.

For state and local governments, interests are also recorded on an accrual basis according to the "debtor approach" and are incorporated in the data interface. For some states, STAT receives detailed additional information on premiums and discounts. In these cases, adjustments are made if necessary.

All data on a cash basis are available in the "Finanzierungshaushalt" and accrual in "Ergebnishaushalt". These values are bridged in the "Vermögenshaushalt" where the difference between these two positions is recorded.

Interest payments for extra-budgetary units are included in the closed accounts and are also based on the accrual principle.

The recording of accrued interest is under the same instrument as the debt issued.

Accrual adjustments are not the same in tables 2A and 3B. Cash inflow from premium and cash outflow from discount in table 3B are eliminated in EDP table 2A.

6.4.2 Interest Revenue

Data on an instrument-by-instrument basis is quarterly available to STAT from Q1/2017 onwards. Therefore, a line-by-line data interface for the core unit of S.1311 has been set up with OeBFA. First information is available for the October 2017 EDP notification.

Related accrual adjustments are included in EDP tables in line ‘Difference between interest paid (+) and accrued (D.41)(-)’.

6.4.3 Consolidation

Information from OeBFA is/will be used for the consolidation on interest for all subsectors. Consolidation does not impact B.9.

6.4.4 Recording of discounts and premiums on government securities

For central government, the flows associated with premiums and discounts enter the working balance on a cash basis. These flows are neutralised in the line “difference between interest paid (+) and accrued (EDP D.41) (-)”.

Premiums and discounts are spread over the life of an instrument. Premiums are treated as negative expenditures in national accounts.

The repayment of discount is identifiable from the repayment of debt. With the April notification 2021, there was a change in the compilation of early redemption of loans, specifically bonded loans, which are similar to securities and where premiums/discounts are now recorded under holding gains and losses.

6.4.5 Recording of interest accrued on intergovernmental loans in dispute and interest accrued on intergovernmental loans unlikely to be repaid

We currently have no cases of intergovernmental loans that are in dispute. Furthermore, it is not possible to distinguish interest accrued between intergovernmental loans in dispute and interest accrued on intergovernmental loans unlikely to be repaid.

6.5. Time of recording of other transactions

For all subsectors, data on a (near) accrual basis are available.

For the Bund, cash data is used and accrual adjustments are automatically made for all relevant positions by using information from the profit and loss accounts of the Bund.

For state and local government main units, the majority of non-financial transactions are recorded on an accrual basis (based on the “VRV-Ergebnishaushalt” or – as in the case of P.51g, for example – on the “VRV-Vermögenshaushalt”, see section 3.3.1.2). One important exception is tax revenue, recorded as cash revenue.

7. Specific government transactions

Methodological rules applicable for recording of specific government transactions are set up in the Manual on Government Deficit and Debt (implementation of ESA 2010), 2019 edition⁶.

7.1. Guarantees, debt assumptions

Generally, government guarantees are recorded off-balance sheet in government accounts (contingent liability), and neither government debt nor deficit is impacted. However, when a guarantee is activated (called), the payment made by government on behalf of the debtor is normally recorded as government expenditure. In case of repeated guarantee calls, the whole outstanding amount of the guaranteed debt should be assumed by government. The latter leads to a one-off increase of government debt as well as of deficit. The accounting rules are explained in the Chapter VII.4 on Government guarantees of the ESA2010 Manual on government deficit and debt. This chapter describes also specific cases and related treatment in national accounts.

7.1.1 Guarantees on borrowing

7.1.1.1 New guarantees provided

Recording in public accounts

Guarantees are given in Austria on every level which means from central, state, and local government sector and social security. The guarantees cover a wide range of purposes with different beneficiaries.

For central government, there are six large groups of beneficiaries: export guarantee scheme AFFG, transportation and infrastructure such as ÖBB Infrastruktur, ÖBB Personenverkehr, SCHIG and ASFINAG (highway construction; railway company, railway network); the financial market with guarantees given according to the Finanzmarktstabilitätsgesetz.

⁶ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/government-finance-statistics/methodology/manuals>

Specific government transactions - Guarantees, debt assumptions

Further, economic promotion covers guarantees to SME (AWS), Tourismbank (ÖHTB), and R&D promotion (FFG). Two more recent categories are the guarantees related to the COVID-19 pandemic starting 2020 and guarantees for the euro coins and collector coins starting with 2015.

On state government level, the beneficiaries are state-owned enterprises or funds, for instance, state-owned real estate companies, which are renting real estate to state governments and for some state gvt. economic promotion entities. Dominant on state gvt. level however are guarantees for housing loans.

On local level, waste management and water boards are the most important beneficiaries for guarantees on borrowing.

The government records for guarantees are complete concerning stocks and transactions.

Each guarantee scheme has a maximum amount of money that can be accorded as guarantees and foresees the constitution of provisions. The amount of provisions to be provided and the degree of exploitation of the guarantee scheme is indicated in the closed accounts for federal and state gvt.

For all gvt. layers the number of guarantees provided is indicated in a report connected to the Österreichischer Stabilitätspakt (Austrian Stability Pact). The actual amount as computed by Statistics Austria is set in relation to the maximum amount as defined by law in a multiyear program.

All guarantee mechanisms are governed by law – some specific, for instance, for railways, export promotion, R&D, etc. – which regulate the maximum liability and the procedure for guarantee giving and receiving.

The guarantees given are published in an annex to the closed accounts of the different layers of government. The information is published on a very detailed level, line by line.

These closed accounts and the guarantee annex are published on the internet for central and state gvt. and for some local gvt units.

For federal gvt. guarantees contain the following information: Beneficiary of the guarantee; Stock beginning of the year/ end of year; Increase/ decrease; Guarantees called; Release liability; Currency exchange rate; Principal/ Interest; Extent to which the guarantees are being issued within the legal frame; collected fees for guarantee and repayment of called guarantees.

For state and local gvt. the following characteristics are to be reported via data interface to Statistics Austria: ID of guarantee based on UID number of beneficiaries; status of guarantee according to VRV; ESA sector of beneficiary; duration of guarantee; maximum amount of guarantee possible; Stock beginning of the year/ end of year; Increase/ decrease. The accounting records are kept exclusively in gvt. public accounts, but for the export guarantees and the other aforementioned units who act in the name and account of federal gvt. The recording in these cases however is according to commercial accounting rules.

The recording is at nominal value with a risk evaluation and risk provision for state and local government.

There are no cases of debt assumption at inception for the period 2019-2022.

On the asset side, on federal level there are guarantees for deposit with the EFSF and export insurance. Guarantees for housing loans however are exclusively to be found on state level.

Recording in national accounts

In national accounts, guarantees provided are treated as contingent liabilities, and are therefore not recorded. In cases where it is foreseen since inception that government will regularly pay interest and/or redemption (via guarantee calls), in national accounts a debt assumption would be recorded, i.e. the counterpart transaction of the financial flows recorded in the financial accounts would be a capital transfer with negative impact on B.9.

7.1.1.2 Treatment of guarantees called

Recording in public accounts

See 7.1.1.1 for general information.

When the guarantee is recognized as being called, the guarantee is debited from the detail budget 45010200 AFFG – Kursrisikogarantie (forex guarantee).

For guarantees regarding economic promotion (AWS, ÖHTB, FFG), when the guarantee is recognized as being called, the amount called is debited from the 45010300 Sonstige Finanzhaftungen.

Recording in national accounts

Central gvt. level:

On central gvt. level cash calls on borrowing in context of the Ausfuhrfinanzierungsförderung covers two aspects: the borrowing of OeKB on capital markets and a guarantee on forex (currency exchange risk). So far, only forex guarantees have been called and recorded as expenditure D.99.

Further, debt relief for developing countries is also recorded as an expenditure, D.99 other capital transfer.

Cash calls in context of economic promotion, both general and COVID-19 are recorded as expenditure, D.99.

State gvt. level:

On state gvt. level cash calls in context of COVID-19 guarantees or other economic promotion are recorded as expenditure D.99. So far, the amount on state gvt. level is negligible.

7.1.1.3 Treatment of repayments related to guarantees called

Recording in public accounts

Central gvt.:

Repayments related to guarantees called are recorded as revenue.

On state gvt. level cash calls are recorded as Other administrative and operating expenses / guarantee call.

Specific government transactions - Guarantees, debt assumptions

Recording in national accounts

Central gvt.:

Repayments related to guarantees called are recorded as D.99 in national accounts.

State gvt. level:

Repayments related to guarantees called are recorded as revenue.

7.1.1.4 Treatment of write-offs by government in public accounts of government assets that arose from calls, if any

There are no write-offs by gvt. in public accounts regarding guarantees on borrowing. The call is recorded as expenditure right away.

7.1.1.5 Data sources

Data on related flows by beneficiary are not available. Data sources for stocks of guarantees are annexes of the closed accounts of central, state, and local government. For extra-budgetary units on central government level, a survey has been conducted since 2012, and for state and local government guarantees of extra-budgetary units are compiled since 2016. The data interface covering guarantees for state and local gvt. level is in place since 2014.

7.1.2 Guarantees on assets

7.1.2.1 New guarantees provided

On the asset side, there are export insurance guarantees (AusfuhrförderungG). Further, housing loans are reported at the state gvt. level and local gvt. level (Vienna).

Recording in public accounts

New guarantees are added to the stock of guarantees in the annex attached to the closed accounts of central, state and local gvt.

Recording in national accounts

Please refer to 7.1.1.1

7.1.2.2 Treatment of guarantees called

Recording in public accounts

Guarantees (on assets) called are treated as the acquisition of loan assets. Recoverability is regularly assessed in public accounts. For debt cancellations and write-offs please refer to chapter 7.2.

In the context of AusfFG (AusfuhrförderungG) central government provides guarantees relating to the claims of Austrian businesses against their foreign counterparts. If the foreign business partner fails to pay the debt or the payment is delayed, the guarantee is called, i.e. detail budget 45010100 Haftungen Bund Ausfuhrförderung is debited and a claim is acquired by central government in the Vermögensrechnung (Balance sheet). These claims are written down and regularly assessed concerning their probability of recovering.

Recording in national accounts

Guarantees (on assets) called are treated as the acquisition of loan assets as in public accounts.

The debt cancellations in this context recorded in national accounts are linked to the recording in public accounts.

Cash calls in context of the export guarantee scheme (Ausfuhrförderung) are recorded as a financial transaction F.41 (acquisition of claim).

7.1.2.3 Treatment of repayments related to guarantees called

Recording in public accounts

Repayments related to the export guarantee scheme (AusfuhrförderungG) are recorded as repayment of claim on the detail budget 45010100 Haftungen Bund Ausfuhrförderung.

Recording in national accounts

Repayments related to called guarantees under the export guarantee scheme (AusfuhrförderungG) are recorded as financial transaction F.41 (repayment of claim).

7.1.2.4 Treatment of write-offs

Write-offs in this context are treated as capital transfers from general government to the appropriate sector in national accounts. Related flows enter the WB of the Bund as a non-financial transaction not included in the working balance.

7.1.2.5 Data sources

See chapter 7.1.1.5.

7.1.3. Standardised Guarantees

There are no standardised guarantee schemes in Austria.

COVID-19 guarantees scheme will be implemented in the upcoming mid-term revision 2024 as standardized guarantees.

7.2. Claims, debt cancellations and debt write-offs

Providing loan capital is generally a financial transaction not impacting the net borrowing/net lending (B.9). Government, as a lender, is expecting that the debtor will be in a position to repay the loans, according to a schedule agreed at inception. However, if the loan is non-recoverable, the recording of government expenditure might be considered. The related accounting rules are set up in ESA 2010 and further clarified in the Chapter 3.2 on Capital

injections and Chapter 7.2 on Debt assumption and cancellation of the ESA 2010 Manual on government deficit and debt.

7.2.1 New lending

Central government:

The Bund grants a bilateral loan to Greece and loans in the context of the so-called “Rechtsträgerfinanzierung (RTF)” are granted to Länder. Moreover, maintenance payments and the State guarantee system for exports are included.

On the central government level extra-budgetary units like the defeasance structures HETA Asset Resolution AG, KA Finanz AG and immigon portfolioabbau ag grant short-term as well as long-term loans. Also, some research and development funds grant especially long-term loans to corporations.

For loans granted on central government level, direct data on transactions on new lending and on the related payments are received. As for the Bund, only stocks are available, transactions are derived based on cash flow data and profit and loss accounts. Data information is based on integrated data sources.

State government:

On state government level, loans are mostly granted to households for housing. These are long-term loans with low interest rates. Either Länder itself grant the loans or this is done via special housing funds.

Local government:

Also, on local government level, mainly Vienna grants long-term loans for housing.

The electronic data interface allows for a distinction between transactions and other flows. On social security level loans are granted rarely.

Recoverability of loans is regularly assessed in public accounts. Loans granted by government are not considered regularly on recoverability by statisticians also because there are only a few different types of granted loans: Housing loans are typically recoverable as well as loans granted in the context of the “Rechtsträgerfinanzierung (RTF)”.

Aside from the special case of called guarantees on assets, there are no cases where granted loans are recorded as a transfer instead of financial transactions.

7.2.2 Debt cancellations

The recording of debt cancellations in public accounts is determined in the BHG 2013 (or subsequent regulations), in the VRV or in the UGB. Information that there was a debt cancellation comes from public accounts

In the accrual data sources, the distinction between debt cancellations and debt write-offs is not possible. Debt cancellations are not recorded on F.8 OAR. Loans or other accounts receivable which are clearly non-recoverable are treated as capital transfer. The time of recording of debt cancellation is the same in national accounts as in public accounts.

Since there are no standardised guarantees in Austria no provisions regarding guarantees are recorded in national accounts.

7.2.3 Repayments of claims

Receipts from repayments of claims which were previously cancelled are recorded as non-financial transaction (revenue).

There is no data available on repayments in kind.

7.2.4 Debt write-offs

The recording of debt cancellations in public accounts is determined in the BHG 2013 (or subsequent regulations), in the VRV or in the UGB. Debt cancellations and debt write-offs cannot be distinguished in public accounts. Information that there was a debt cancellation comes from public accounts.

Debt write-offs in national accounts, which have not followed public accounts recordings, were recorded in connection with financial support for banks.

7.2.5 Sale of claims

Sales of well-performing loans

Several state governments sold housing loans in previous years. The transaction was recorded as F.42, the difference to the nominal value as other economic flow.

7.3. Capital injections in public corporations

Government capital injections are transactions which occur when governments provide assets (in cash or in kind) to public corporations (or assume liabilities), in their capacity of owner / shareholder, with an aim to capitalize or recapitalize them. The accounting rules are set out in ESA 2010 paragraphs 20.197-20.203 and clarified in the Chapter 3.2 on Capital injections of the ESA 2010 Manual on government deficit and debt. These chapters devotes considerable space to set the operational rules for the recording of capital injections in national accounts either as transactions in equity (financial transaction = financing = “below-the-line”), or as capital transfers (non-financial transaction = expenditure = “above-the-line”).

It is recalled that the MGDD also indicates that payments by government to public units, structured in the legal form of a loan or a bond, might be considered in specific circumstances as capital injections, and to be classified in certain cases as a non-financial transaction (predominantly capital transfer D.9); cf. MGDD 3.2.3.2.2.

The capital injection test is applied by STAT if there are big amounts in the closed accounts of government units or if other information on exceptional payments is available.

For state and local governments, a new data interface was introduced along with the implementation of VRV 2015. When providing data via this data interface, state and local governments are asked to provide information on counterpart sectors according to the list of general government and government-controlled units according to ESA for certain transactions such as capital transfers. The quality of this information on counterparts is not always satisfying but it can help to improve the recording of capital injections.

At local government level, transfers from municipalities into their (in general profit-making) quasi-corporations are of noticeable amount. These capital transfers are recorded as non-financial transactions, in line with the guidelines set out in MGDD III.3.

7.4. Dividends

The accounting rules are set out in ESA 2010 paragraphs 20.205-20.207. It is recalled, that the ESA 2010 Manual on Government Deficit and Debt chapter 3.5 indicates that large and exceptional payments out of reserves which significantly reduce the own funds of the corporation should be treated as superdividends, i.e. transaction in shares and other equity (a capital withdrawal). It also sets out that the resource available for distribution by a unit (a corporation) is the *distributable income* of the unit, as defined in the ESA 2010, paragraph 4.55.

Total distributions could therefore comprise one part recorded as distributed income of corporations, D.42, and another recorded as transactions in equity, F.5. The former data is reported to Eurostat in ESA 2010 table 2 and table 8 within “other property income” category, and the latter is included within transactions in equity in financial accounts. Within the latter, for the benefit of analysis, one should also distinguish between amounts received from the National Central Bank, and amounts received from other public corporations.

The data sources on dividends received by the government are the closed accounts of the government units.

The procedure for identifying superdividends is the following:

STAT applies the superdividend test for all dividends of relevant size (more than 10 mn) paid by units classified outside S.13 and received by the Bund, by Österreichische Beteiligungs AG (ÖBAG; classified in S.1311) and by the Länder/Vienna. These dividends amount to about three quarters of all dividends received by general government.

At the local government level (except for Vienna), the superdividend test is not performed because the amounts are very small and many dividends are summarized into one position in the closed accounts.

STAT generally uses „Betriebsergebnis“ (operating surplus) plus „sonstige Zinsen und ähnliche Erträge“ (interest receivable on deposits) minus „Zinsen und ähnliche Aufwendungen“ (interest payable on debts) as an indicator for the distributional/entrepreneurial income (profit P).

The procedure for the test is the following:

Compare the dividend of year t with P of year t-1.

If government is a 100%-owner of the company:

dividend \leq P \rightarrow property income (D.421);

dividend $>$ P \rightarrow superdividend;

withdrawal of equity (F.5) for (dividend minus P),

property income (D.421) for the other part of the dividend.

If government is an x%-owner of the company:

dividend \leq P \rightarrow property income (D.421) for dividend multiplied by x%;

dividend $>$ P \rightarrow superdividend;

withdrawal of equity (F.5) for (dividend minus P) multiplied by x%

7.5. Privatization

The accounting rules are set out in ESA 2010 paragraphs 20.210-20.213. The proceeds collected by government when disposing of shares in public corporations are often called

Specific government transactions

privatization proceeds. The counterpart entity (i.e. the acquirer of shares) is the private sector. Privatization can be indirect when the proceeds are forwarded to government after the sale of a subsidiary. The MGDD chapter 5.2 indicates that such indirect privatization proceeds are not government revenue. MGDD chapters 5.3 and chapters 5.4, respectively, provide the guidance on the treatment of privatisation proceeds from public corporations and restitution and use of vouchers for privatisation.

Specifically, chapter 5.3.1 of the ESA 2010 Manual on government deficit and debt mentions that in some EU Member States, holding companies have been set-up by the government to restructure the public sector with the aim of making the enterprises more competitive and profitable and, in the long run, disengaging the government. Often their main activity is to organise the privatisation efficiently and transfer the proceeds of the sale of shares to other public corporations (owned by the holding company or not), through grants, loans or capital injections.

The main issue is: what is the relevant sector classification of this sort of unit managing privatisation and possibly making grants to other enterprises? Should this activity been considered as taking place on behalf of the government?

The unit involved in privatization is the Österreichische Beteiligungs AG (ÖBAG). It is classified in central government sector. In recent years, no privatizations have taken place.

There is no possibility of separating between privatization and the sale of shares in the data reported. Only due to additional information, it is possible to distinguish between privatization and the sale of shares.

7.6. Public Private Partnerships

The term “Public-Private Partnerships” (PPPs) is widely used for many different types of long-term contracts between government and corporations for the provision of public infrastructure. In these partnerships, government agrees to buy services from a non-government unit over a long period of time, resulting from the use of specific “dedicated assets”, such that the non-government unit builds a specifically designed asset to supply the service. The accounting rules are set out in ESA 2010 paragraphs 20.276-20.282 and clarified in the Chapter 6.4 of the ESA 2010 Manual on government deficit and debt.

The key statistical issue is the classification of the assets involved in the PPP contract – either as government assets (thereby immediately influencing government deficit and debt) or as the partner’s assets (spreading the impact on government deficit over the duration of the contract). This is an issue similar to the one of distinguishing between operating leases and finance leases, which is explained in Chapter 15 of ESA 2010.

As a result of the methodological approach followed, in national accounts the assets involved in a PPP can be considered as non-government assets only if there is strong evidence that the partner is bearing most of the risk attached to the asset of the specific partnership. In this context, it was agreed among European statistical experts that, for the interpretation of risk assessment, guidance should focus on three main categories of risk: “construction risk” (covering events like late delivery, respect of specifications and additional costs), “availability risk” (covering volume and quality of output) and “demand risk” (covering variability of demand).

Specific government transactions

PPP assets are classified in the partner's balance sheet if both of the following conditions are met: the partner bears the construction risks and the partner bears at least one of either availability or demand risk, as designed in the contract.

If the conditions are not met, or *if government assumes the risks through another mechanism*, (e.g. guarantees, government financing) then the assets are to be recorded in the government's balance sheet. The treatment is in this case similar to the treatment of a financial lease in national accounts requiring the recording of government capital expenditure and borrowing. In borderline cases it is appropriate to consider other criteria, notably what happens to the asset at the end of the PPP contract.

STAT collects data on PPPs from government entities annually. With the entry into force of the VRV 2015, the scope of the reporting obligations for the core units of subsectors S.1312 and S.1313 was enhanced and became legally binding. The process of data collection remained unchanged: data for the core units of subsectors S.1312 and S.1313 is collected via the electronic data interface; for S.1311 and S.1314 via questionnaire (Email).

To distinguish PPPs from concessions or operative leases, we basically apply the definitions of MGDD, chapter VI.5.I (PPPs) and chapter VI.4 (concessions). As, from a conceptual perspective, PPPs are simply put a special case of leasing. For borderline cases, additional criteria are considered:

In contrast to ordinary leasing contracts, we would expect a PPP-contract to be much more complex and to have detailed provisions about (1) risk sharing, (2) the service level to be provided and (3) the calculation of the unitary charge payments – especially if the availability of the asset is reduced. (Most ordinary – standardised – leasing contracts leave many of these details to the general norms of civil law). PPP projects will also tend to be bigger regarding overall costs and cover a longer time frame compared to a standard leasing contract. Furthermore, it is typical of a PPP project that with the expiration of the contract the “dedicated assets” pass into the ownership of the government.

Currently, three on-Balance and seven off-Balance sheet PPP-Projects are reported in the EDP-Questionnaire as “biggest projects” out of the 20 identified nationwide included in “Total PPPs”.

There are also some PPPs, where the public partner is a public corporation (classified in Sector S.11; basically, motorways or railways.)

There is no specific unit established to deal with PPPs. However, in the case of major planned PPPs with a possible impact on EDP, STAT is often consulted in advance by the interested (public) parties.

STAT, Unit Sector Accounts and Public Finance, is assessing the risks associated and who bears the risks.

It is STAT that analyses the contracts and assesses the risks.

7.7. Financial derivatives

This part describes the use of financial derivatives and the recording of derivative related flows in EDP tables and national accounts.

Regulation (EU) No 549/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on the European system of national and regional accounts in the European Union does not distinguish between the ESA and EDP definition of interest. The Regulation No 549/2013 paragraph 4.47 reads: *Payment resulting from any kind of swap arrangement is recorded as a*

Specific government transactions

transaction in financial derivatives in the financial account, and not as interest recorded as property income. Transactions under forward rate agreements are recorded as transactions in financial derivatives in the financial account, and not recorded as property income.

ESA 2010 paragraph 20.133 specifies the treatment of so called of market swaps: “Lump sums exchanged at inception on off-market swaps are classified as loans (AF.4) when the lump sum is received by government. Off-market swaps are partitioned in the balance sheet into a loan component and a regular, 'at-the-money' swap component.”

Swaps

The Republic of Austria (via OeBFA) issues securities other than shares in foreign currency and uses cross-currency swaps to hedge foreign currency exposure from the underlying note. This is the case both for “own” borrowing and for borrowing on behalf of other subsectors. As government debt is to be calculated “after swaps”, the outstanding liabilities “after swaps”, therefore, can be split into three parts:

- a) underlying liabilities “before swaps” plus*
- b) swap-liabilities minus*
- c) swap-assets.*

Recording in Maastricht Debt

Borrowing of OeBFA swapped in another currency is classified in Maastricht debt of central government (S.1311) as AF.3 “Securities other than shares, excluding financial derivatives”, regardless of whether borrowing for its own or on behalf of other subsectors. The exchange rate agreed in the swap contract (i.e. conversion of a USD note into EUR) is used for conversion of the security issuance in foreign currency into EUR.

Recording in ESA2010 financial accounts

Borrowing of OeBFA is recorded as AF.3 “before swap” i.e. in the currency of issuance. Furthermore, transactions (settlements) due to hedging of foreign currency exposures by means of swap arrangements are recorded as AF.7 “Financial derivatives”.

As regards consolidation between subsectors the debt of central government includes the “swap supplement” for its “own” debt and the “swap supplement” of borrowing on behalf of other subsectors. The loan to other government subsectors (RTF) is consolidated on the level of general government (according to ESA2010 rules). For the calculation of the “Subsector contribution to general government debt” (extra lines in EDP Tables 3B to 3E), however, this loan reduces the “contribution” of central government.

Transactions (settlements) due to hedging of foreign currency exposures by means of swap arrangements carried out by OeBFA are recorded in ESA2010 financial accounts as AF.7 “Financial derivatives” of S.1311. Financial accounts data are the basis for the item “net incurrence of liabilities in financial derivatives (F.7)” in EDP table 3A and 3B.

7.7.1 Types of derivatives used

Interest rate swaps, cross currency swaps, foreign exchange swaps.

The Republic of Austria (via OeBFA) issues securities other than shares in foreign currency and uses cross-currency swaps to hedge foreign currency exposure from the underlying note.

Specific government transactions

This is the case both for “own” borrowing and for borrowing on behalf of other subsectors. OEBFA also uses interest rate swaps.

State governments use cross currency swaps as well as interest rate swaps.

Local governments use interest rate swaps.

7.7.2 Data sources

The data source for the core unit “Bund” is OeBFA. Also, since the introduction of the VRV 2015 for state and local governments a data interface has been used to collect data. In some cases, further information is requested like which type of derivatives or the market values, when in the data interface only nominal values are delivered. For extra-budgetary units, financial statements are used to collect data on financial derivatives. Derivative-related flows are reported on both sides in national accounts reports.

7.7.3 Recording

For central government debt, there has been early redemptions of interest swaps. No threshold for swap operations is applied.

7.8. Payments for the use of roads

The main issue is whether payments for road, both in the case of tolls and vignettes, should be considered as sale of services or as a tax, when the infrastructures are owned by public units. The issue is important also because the classification of payments made for the usage of roads, either as sales or taxes, influences the assessment of the 50% criterion, which is fundamental for the purpose of assessing whether a given institutional unit (in some cases, a government-controlled entity receiving the payment of the toll or vignette) is a market or a non-market producer.

Payments for the use of roads will generally be classified as a sale of a service in the case of tolls. They will also be classified as a sale of a service in the case of vignettes whenever users have sufficient choice both in terms of selecting specific roads and of choosing a determined length of time for the vignette.

The toll system on all motorways and express roads (existing and new network) consists of

- a) a km-based tolling system on motorways and express roads for vehicles > 3,5 t and*
- b) a toll sticker (“vignette”) system for smaller vehicles.*

There is a sufficient choice both in terms of selecting specific roads and choosing a determined length of time.

The income from the vignettes is classified as sales revenue. The institutional unit collecting toll/vignette revenues (ASFINAG, i.e. the Autobahnen- und Schnellstraßen-Finanzierungs AG; „Motorways and Express Roads Financing Corporation”) is a non-financial corporation (ESA2010 sector S.11).

7.9. Emission permits

There are two main trading systems, where European Union Member States can participate:

The Kyoto Protocol is a 1997 international treaty, which came into force in 2005. In the treaty, most developed nations agreed to legally binding targets for their emissions of the six

Specific government transactions

major greenhouse gases.[33] Emission quotas (known as "Assigned amounts", AAUs) were agreed by each participating 'Annex 1' country,

The European Union Emission Trading Scheme (or EU ETS) is the largest multi-national, greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme in the world. It is one of the EU's central policy instruments to meet their cap set in the Kyoto Protocol. The so-called EU emission Allowance (EUA) is traded.

The ESA 2010 MGDD part 6, chapter 6.5 is dealing with the statistical recording of the emission trading allowances.

Austria participates in the European Union Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS). With the start of the third trading period in 2013, the Bund started to raise quantitatively significant revenue from the sale of emission certificates. According to the MGDD revenue related to emission permits should be recorded in the year of surrender of the allowances. To achieve this, the MGDD allows for a simplified time-adjusted cash accounting for the revenue from emission certificates. In the Austrian case, tax revenue (D.29) in year t is recorded as the cash value (F.2) observed in year $t-1$. This accounting practice also leads to an entry in F.8 payable that is recognized in the financial accounts.

7.10. Sale and leaseback operations

Government sells an asset and immediately leases it back from the purchaser. The issue is whether the sale is to be considered as a "true sale" (transaction in GFCF improving B.9) or the transaction is to be treated differently and an asset should remain on government's balance sheet.

MGDD part 6, chapter 6.2 is dealing with sale and lease back operations

There were no sale and leaseback operations.

7.11. Securitisation

Securitisation is when a government unit transfers the ownership rights over financial or nonfinancial assets, or the right to receive specific future cash flows, to a special-purpose vehicle (SPV) which in exchange pays the government unit by way of financing itself by issuing, on its own account, asset backed bonds.

The classification of the proceeds received by government as disposal of an asset may lead to an impact on the government deficit, when the asset is a nonfinancial asset or if it is determined that a revenue should accrue. All securitisation of fiscal claims should be treated as borrowing, as well as all securitisation with a deferred purchase price clause and all securitisation with a clause in the contract referring to the possibility of substitution of assets. In addition, if the government compensates the SPV ex-post, although this was not required according to the contract, the operation should be reclassified as government borrowing.

ESA 2010 paragraphs 20.260-20.271 establish securitisation operations accounting rules. The MGDD part 5, chapter 5.5 is dealing with securitisation operations.

A limited liability company incorporated under the laws of Austria, the "Blue Danube Loan Funding GMBH" (BDLF) bought from the Land of Lower Austria the right to perceive

interest and principal on a mortgage loan portfolio consisting of around 150 000 State-subsidised housing loans granted by the Land of Lower Austria.

The BDLF financed the acquisition of the loans by issuing notes for an amount of €2.593 bn in 2001. The notes will be redeemed in May 2049 (final maturity date). From May 2012, the issuer will have the right to redeem the notes (as in May 2017, May 2022, and at any date after May 2027).

BDLF is classified in S.1312.

The Land of Lower Austria gave guarantees to noteholders, by guaranteeing the payment of amounts corresponding to principal and interest on the Notes when due and payable and any other amount that may be due and payable by the Issuer, should the Issuer fail for any reason to pay when due and payable.

Since then no securitisation operation has taken place.

There is no formal information obligation in place, but in general, “operations” with a big impact on government deficit and/or debt are discussed with STAT beforehand.

7.12. Mobile phone licenses

The receipts of government following the allocation of mobile phone licenses to operators are to be recorded as rent (D.45) over the whole time of the licence.

In cases when licenses are sold in advance of their actual availability, any prepayment collected by government should be recorded as other accounts payable (F.8).

The ESA 2010 MGDD part 6, chapter 6.1 is dealing with the sale of mobile phone licenses.

There have been four major sales of mobile phone licenses (2000, 2013, 2019, and 2020. The revenues are spread over the whole time of the licence and recorded as D.45.

7.13. Transactions with the Central Bank

The management of asset portfolios and interventions in foreign exchange markets for monetary policy purposes may generate capital gains for central banks, which are liable to be distributed to general government. The amounts involved may sometimes be very large. Capital gains are not income in national accounts and therefore payments to government financed out of capital gains cannot be recorded as property income but have to be recorded as financial transactions.

It also proposes to apply the rules on capital injections when government makes a payment to the Central Bank. Such payments by government may be made to cover losses made by the Central Bank. Capital losses may occur due to foreign exchange holding losses. Operational losses may occur due to the fact that interest and other operational income do not cover operational costs made by the central bank. Capital losses cannot be recorded as equity injection, therefore capital gains and losses are somehow not treated symmetrically. This asymmetrical treatment is nevertheless justified for the purpose of appropriately measuring government deficit.

The Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB) pays dividends and corporation tax to the federal government which is recorded as non-financial revenues of S.1311 (D.421 and D.51BF). The superdividend test is done annually for the dividends of OeNB to central government.

7.14. Lump sum pension payments

ESA 2010 paragraphs 20.273-20.275 define the accounting rules for recording of the lump sum pension payments. The related accounting rules are further described in the MGDD (2022 Edition) Part 3.7 Impact on government accounts of transfer of pension obligations.

The government took over the pension obligations of the Bank Austria into the unfunded social security scheme. The bank paid a lump sum to government to cover all obligations. The value was estimated as too low in comparison to the value of the obligations, therefore this is treated as an unbalanced transfer of pension obligations. This resulted in the recording of a capital transfer D.99 to S.12 and an impact on B.9 of S.1311 in the year 2017. The liability is recorded as AF.89 which is reduced by time and offset via an imputed D.75 revenue.

7.15. Pension schemes

Definition of pensions

A pension (also known as superannuation) is a retirement plan intended to provide a person with a secure income for life.

Classification of pension schemes

In Austria, the pension system (old-age, survivorship, disability) is based on three pillars: the compulsory state pension system (first pension pillar), the occupational pension schemes consisting of single- and multi-employer pension funds (Pensionskassen), Staff-Provisions-Funds, defined benefit schemes administrated by the employer and group life insurances as well as voluntary personal retirement provisions (second and third pension pillars).

Most Austrians obtain their retirement income from the compulsory statutory pension insurance system or the pension system for civil servants. Austrian pension systems are mainly based on a person's employment status and a person's marital (orphan) status. Thus, people who were active labour-market participants and insured throughout most of their working life or surviving married partners (orphans) are entitled to retirement income from the Austrian pension systems.

The statutory insurance pension system (from 1956) provides a range of pension benefits: old-age pensions, invalidity pensions, survivor's pensions and the equalisation supplement.

Occupational pension schemes and particularly Pensionskassen have been gaining more and more importance in Austria for some years. However, their relevance is still little compared to other European countries. Since the early 1990s, the institutional framework for additional forms of protection has been improved by the adoption of the Company Pension Law and the Pension Fund Law: The Company Pension Law provides for better hedged pension commitments by employers and the Pension Fund Law enables the formation of company and inter-company (pooled) pension funds and regulates the requirement for admission, organisation and activity of such funds. The formation of a company or inter-company pension fund needs a company or collective agreement. Within this voluntary agreement, the following regulations have to be stipulated: the participation of employees in the administration of pension funds and the rules of

Specific government transactions

entitlements (e.g. entitlement to benefits and employers' contributions). About 10% of the Austrian population is covered by pension funds.

Since 1 July 2002, the Occupational Staff Provision Act – better known as “new severance pay” – has been in force in Austria. Every employer has to transfer 1.53 % of the monthly salary of an employee to a staff provision fund ("Mitarbeitervorsorgekasse") set up especially for this purpose. When benefits become eventually due employees may choose between receiving the entire severance pay or a life-long pension.

The Staff-Provisions-Funds have to be selected in cooperation with the workers' councillor. The contributions have to be paid also for periods without remuneration, which means for periods of military and community service as well as for periods of receiving health benefits. For periods of receiving childcare benefits or educational leave benefits and for periods of family leave to care for terminally ill relatives, the contributions will be paid by the Family Fund. All contributions are collected by the Health Funds and then redistributed to the SP Funds.

With the termination of their employment contract, employees are entitled to receiving severance pay in several ways: e.g., they can decide to leave the amount of the severance pay in the SP fund until they retire or they can move the amount of the severance pay into a company or inter-company fund. If severance payments are paid out, they are subject to taxation; in all other cases, payments are exempted from taxation. Private pensions are even less important than company pensions. A voluntary state-sponsored personal retirement provision exists in Austria. The scheme participants can choose between a lump-sum payment and a tax-exempt annuity.

Classification of social insurance pension schemes

The statutory pension insurance system in Austria is primarily financed by the contributions of the insured (and the contributions of their employers) and a federal contribution (tax revenues), which essentially covers the gap between revenues and expenditures. The financing of the statutory pension insurance system is based on a pay-as-you-go system.

For civil servants exists a separate retirement system. Civil servants obtain retirement benefits directly from their public employers, but also civil servants have to pay (retirement) contributions during their active working life.

Definition of social security schemes

On 1 January 2005, the new Act on the Harmonisation of Austrian Pension Systems came into effect. The main element of this Act represented the introduction of a uniform pension system for all employees born after 1954. In consequence, this new pension system gradually replaces the many different pension schemes for private sector employees, self-employed, farmers, and civil servants. All public pensions are and will also in the future be footed merely on a pay-as-you-go system. Survivor and disability pensions add up to a considerable proportion (around one third) of total pension benefits.

Pension entitlements are subject to individual lifetime earnings, reaping the maximum benefits of 80 % of average earnings in the case of 45 insurance years⁷ at the statutory

⁷ including pension contributions, equally ranking waiting periods for parental leave and child care, unemployment, military service, etc.

Specific government transactions

retirement age of 65 years. The annual accrual rate is 1.78%. The basis of average individual earnings will be extended gradually from the best 15 to 40 income years until 2028. A benefit will be granted at all provided 7 years of pension contributions in a working life. Pension benefits are adjusted yearly with the consumer price index. Past contributions and maximum contribution levels are indexed by net wage growth. The statutory retirement age is basically harmonised at 65 years for men and women (with longer phases of fading in for women until 2033). A pension corridor was introduced between 62 and 68 years, but with an actuarially fair discount/bonus of 4.2 percentage points per year before/after 65 years and at minimum when 450 insurance months have been acquired. Pension benefits are subject to personal income taxation and social security contributions, above all on health care.

Classification of institutional units supporting pension schemes; borderline cases

The following table specifies which categories of pension schemes are “classified” in each of the different sectors/subsectors. Since schemes are not institutional units, we refer here to situations where a scheme is supported (attributed to, run by) by one institutional unit (or by two or more institutional units belonging to the same sector/subsector).

Sub-category A = social security schemes

Sub-category B = private funded schemes administered by insurance companies or autonomous pension funds

Sub-category C = Private funded schemes operated by employers

Sub-category D = private unfunded schemes operated by employers

E = social assistance

F = other insurance

*Table 15 – Institutional sectors/subsectors
vs Categories of Pension Schemes*

		Categories of pension schemes					
		A	B	C	D	E	F
Institutional sectors/ sub-sectors	S.11	XX	No	Yes	No	No	No
	S.121	XX	No	Yes	No	No	No
	S.122	XX	No	Yes	No	No	No
	S.123	XX	No	Yes	No	No	No
	S.124	XX	No	Yes	No	No	No
	S.129	XX	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
	S.1311	Yes	XX	No	No	No	No
	S.1312	Yes	XX	No	No	No	No
	S.1313	Yes	XX	No	No	No	No
	S.1314	Yes	XX	No	No	Yes	No
	S.14	XX	No	Yes	No	No	No
	S.15	XX	No	No	No	No	No
S.2	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	

Yes = there are institutional units belonging to the sector/subsector which support (run) pension scheme of the specified category:

Specific government transactions

*No = there is no institutional unit belonging to the sector/subsector which supports (runs) pension schemes of the specified category;
XX = the combination is impossible.*

There are no pension schemes that are run by two or more institutional units belonging to different sectors/subsectors in Austria. Central government (S.1311), state government (S.1312), and local government (S.1313) run unfunded defined benefit schemes for their civil servants (on a pay-as-you-go basis). These institutional units have control over their pension scheme and finance it. Participation in the scheme is compulsory. The civil servants have to pay a certain percentage of their salary into the system. Overall the structure of the pension schemes is very similar to the general social security pension scheme.

7.16. Rearranged transactions

There are no rearranged transactions.

7.17. Decommissioning costs

There are no decommissioning activities in S13.

7.18. Income contingent loans

There have been no cases of income-contingent loans.

7.19. Concessions

There are no concession contracts in S.13.

7.20. Energy Performance Contracts

On 19 September 2017, Eurostat published the Guidance note on the recording of energy performance contracts in government accounts and on 8 May 2018, Eurostat published, in cooperation with the EIB, the Guide on statistical treatment on EPC.

Some EPCs are available on the municipal level. Respondents applying the VRV 2015 are encouraged to also apply the EPC guide. The data sources are the financial statements of municipalities. As a general rule, the VRV 2015 allows for the recording of EPCs either as a financial lease (on-balance) or as an operating lease.

List of abbreviations

<i>AFFG</i>	<i>Ausfuhrfinanzierungsförderungsgesetz (Export financing promotion law)</i>
<i>ASVG</i>	<i>Allgemeines Sozialversicherungsgesetz (General law on social insurance)</i>
<i>AusFG</i>	<i>Ausfuhrförderungsgesetz (Export promotion law)</i>
<i>AWS</i>	<i>Austria Wirtschaftsservice</i>
<i>BHG</i>	<i>Bundeshaushalts-Gesetz (Federal government accounting law)</i>
<i>BIG</i>	<i>Bundesimmobiliengesellschaft</i>
<i>BMF</i>	<i>Bundesministerium für Finanzen (Ministry of Finance)</i>
<i>BStG</i>	<i>Bundesstatistik-Gesetz (Austrian Federal Statistical Law 2000)</i>
<i>CoA</i>	<i>Court of Audit</i>
<i>COFOG</i>	<i>Classification of the Functions of Government</i>
<i>EDP</i>	<i>Excessive Deficit Procedure</i>
<i>EFSF</i>	<i>European Financial Stability Facility</i>
<i>ESA</i>	<i>European System of Accounts</i>
<i>FFG</i>	<i>Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft mbH (Austrian Research Promotion company)</i>
<i>GDP</i>	<i>Gross Domestic Product</i>
<i>GebStat-VO</i>	<i>Gebarungstatistik-Verordnung (Regulation of Public Accounts Statistics)</i>
<i>GFCF</i>	<i>Gross Fixed Capital Formation</i>
<i>GFS</i>	<i>Government Finance Statistics</i>
<i>GNI</i>	<i>Gross National Income</i>
<i>LIG</i>	<i>Landesimmobiliengesellschaft</i>
<i>MaWG</i>	<i>Maastricht Working Group</i>
<i>MGDD</i>	<i>Manual on Government Deficit and Debt – Implementation of ESA 2010 (2022 edition)</i>
<i>MoF</i>	<i>Ministry of Finance</i>
<i>NACE</i>	<i>Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans les communautés européennes</i>
<i>NCB</i>	<i>National Central Bank</i>
<i>NSI</i>	<i>National Statistical Institute</i>
<i>ÖBAG</i>	<i>Österreichische Beteiligungs AG (</i>
<i>ÖBB</i>	<i>Österreichische Bundesbahnen (Austrian Federal Railways)</i>
<i>ÖBB Infra</i>	<i>ÖBB-Infrastruktur Aktiengesellschaft</i>
<i>ÖBB PV</i>	<i>ÖBB-Personenverkehr AG (ÖBB passenger traffic)</i>
<i>OeBFA</i>	<i>Österreichische Bundesfinanzierungsagentur (Austrian Treasury)</i>
<i>OeKB</i>	<i>Oesterreichische Kontrollbank</i>
<i>OeNB</i>	<i>Oesterreichische Nationalbank</i>
<i>ÖHTB</i>	<i>Österreichische Tourismusbank</i>
<i>RRF</i>	<i>Recovery and Resilience Fund</i>
<i>RTF</i>	<i>Rechtsträgerfinanzierung (Financial resources generated with the issuance of securities passed on in the form of a loan)</i>
<i>SCHIG</i>	<i>Schieneninfrastruktur-Dienstleistungsgesellschaft mbH (Rail infrastructure service company)</i>
<i>SHA</i>	<i>System of Health Accounts</i>
<i>STA</i>	<i>Single Tax Account</i>
<i>STAT</i>	<i>Statistik Austria (Statistics Austria)</i>
<i>UGB</i>	<i>Unternehmensgesetzbuch (Austrian Commercial Code)</i>
<i>VRV</i>	<i>Voranschlags- und Rechnungsabschluss-Verordnung (Regulation on Budget and Closed Accounts)</i>

Specific government transactions

WB *Working Balance*