

AN OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORICAL DATA PUBLISHED BY THE BANK OF ITALY

This note briefly explains how the historical data produced by the Bank of Italy are made available to the public. All the historical series can be downloaded via the Bank's website, with one exception mentioned below. The historical data are organized according to the following rules (which basically depend on whether or not the data are still published and on their sources).

For the statistics that are currently published in the Statistical Bulletin and the Supplements to the Statistical Bulletin, the entire time series – including observations that are no longer included in the paper version of the publication – can be downloaded from the Bank of Italy's statistical database (BIP on-line) in the *statistics* section of the Bank's website. As an example, users interested in the consolidated balance sheets of Italian MFIs can download them by following the path: *Statistics/Statistical database (BIP on-line)/Supplements to the Statistical Bulletin/Money and Banking*.

For the series that are no longer published in the Statistical Bulletin or the Supplements to the Statistical Bulletin, statistics are made available in three different ways: **(a)** the “Historical tables” section of the BIP on-line contains data at national level on frequently requested monetary and financial aggregates, such as the discount rate (from 1936) and old monetary aggregates (1950-1998). These tables were not previously included in any publication and have been created especially for this section of the statistical database. These tables can be downloaded from the BIP on-line by following the path: *Statistics/Historical statistics /Historical data in the BIP on-line*; **(b)** the “Tables no longer produced” section of the BIP on-line includes all the tables published in the Statistical Bulletin since 1989 that are no longer produced. The Statistical Bulletin contains data on credit aggregates and bank interest rates, organized according to their sources (supervisory returns, Central Credit Register, interest rate surveys), and with detailed geographical and sectoral breakdowns. These tables can be downloaded by following the path: *Statistics/ Statistical database (BIP on-line)/Tablesno longer produced: Statistical Bulletin*; and **(c)** the CD-ROM of the BIP on-line statistical database, produced (only in Italian) in December 2001, contains the Supplements to the Statistical Bulletin (on monetary and credit aggregates, banks, base

money, financial accounts, etc.) whose publication was discontinued at the end of the 1990s when national statistics were significantly reformed and harmonized across Europe. Requests for the December 2001 CD-ROM should be sent to the library of the Bank of Italy.

The data drawn from the Collana delle Pubblicazioni Storiche offer a miscellanea of real, monetary and credit statistics for the period 1936-1968, based on the volumes of the Bank of Italy's historical research series, published by Laterza. These tables, which normally contain annual data, can be downloaded in Italian by following the path: *Statistiche/Statistiche storiche/Dati tratti dalle pubblicazioni della Collana Storica*.

As the series we are presenting in this note often span a very long period, users are advised to look carefully at the methodological notes and general information accompanying each publication. They contain guidance on the institutional and statistical framework, indicate where figures have been estimated and provide additional information on sources and methodological aspects.