

Forthcoming release of the new Statistical Database

A new version of the electronic “Statistical Database” (BIP on-line) is scheduled for imminent release. The new version will be accompanied by a new interrogation application.

The main innovations concern metadata, with a classification system that documents all the information in detail and is designed for comparability with other Italian and international sources.

The new interrogation application is intended for easier use and for broader and more diversified exploitation of the database.

The release date and the new URL of the Statistical Database will be announced in advance with a notice in the “News” section of the Bank of Italy website.

1. Main features of the new Database and the interrogation application

One of the most important innovations of the data base is the use, where possible, of codes issued by certification organizations so as to facilitate the integration of Bank of Italy data with data from other Italian and international sources. Specifically, there will be new codes describing the domains designated “geographical area”, “currency”, “institutional sector” and “financial instruments”. To ease the transition to the new system, you can already consult [the file](#) with the concordance between the old and the new codes.

Another change is the extension of multidimensional classification and representation to all the series published via the Database, i.e. including the series from Supplements to the *Statistical Bulletin*, which until now have been identified by the code CODBISS¹.

As to the application, on the main page there will be a slide show offering direct access to the most representative tables of each publication and possibly to some pre-determined reports.

Consultation functions will be extended significantly: visualization of the data by time series or in multidimensional mode, presentation of data also in graphic form, a more powerful search engine, enhanced personalization and consultation functions for data found in more than one table, greater flexibility in choosing data to export, access to the publications calendar, and more highly diversified metadata.

2. Compatibility of the application with the previous version

The functional innovations will prevent continued use of the user names defined in the current BIP on-line as well as any personalized views you may have under the option “Favourites”.

¹ In the current application, the data have multidimensional representation only in some publications/tables (e.g. in the *Statistical Bulletin* or the tables in the financial accounts sections). Multidimensionality consists in the definition of an identifier (the so-called series key) containing the variables that classify and identify the phenomenon of interest unequivocally. In any case, for comparability with the past, the old CODBISS code will be retained in the new database.

In any case, you can create and save personalized views more flexibly than at present, taking advantage of the broad possibilities offered by the personalized “MySpace” work area.

Note, finally, that “export” functions will be available for single tables and views but not for the entire database.

3. Aid to the users

The application will offer documentation supporting consultation and export of data (a user’s guide, video tutorial, FAQ, concordance between old and new codes).

As usual, please address any queries on the new contents and functions or on the transition to statistiche@bancaditalia.it.