



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC**  
**HELLENIC STATISTICAL**  
**AUTHORITY**



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**Information note as regards Monthly Reports on the Observance of the Special  
Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS)**

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) disseminates the Excel tables of the Monthly Observance reports on Greece's National Summary Data Page (NSDP) for the months starting from June 2013 onwards<sup>1</sup>.

The present note aims at helping users understand the above monthly table reports, which are released on ELSTAT's portal.

The monthly reports are the outcome of the assessment carried out by the Data Dissemination and Review Division of the Statistics Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The assessment pertains to the observance of the **Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS)** requirements in terms of Periodicity and Timeliness of Data on the Advance Release Calendar (ARC) and on the National Summary Data Page (NSDP) as regards the following variables:

REAL SECTOR

National Accounts  
Production Index  
Forward-Looking Indicators  
Labor market: Employment  
Labor market: Unemployment  
Labor market: Wages/Earnings  
Price index: Consumer Prices  
Price index: Producer Price Index in Industry

FISCAL SECTOR

General Government Operations SDDS  
Central Government Operations (monthly)  
Central Government Operations (annual)  
Budgetary Central Government Debt

FINANCIAL SECTOR

Analytical Accounts of the Banking Sector

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<sup>1</sup> ELSTAT assumed the National Coordination role of the SDDS for Greece from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013.

Analytical Accounts of the Central Bank  
Interest Rates  
Stock Market: Share price index

#### EXTERNAL SECTOR

Balance of Payments  
International Reserves (Eurosystem definition)  
Template on international reserves and foreign currency liquidity  
Merchandise Trade  
International Investment Position  
External Debt  
Exchange Rates

#### SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population

More specifically:

Periodicity: The observance report takes note if the components of all prescribed data categories are released in compliance with, at least, the periodicity requirements.

Timeliness: The observance report takes note if the components of all prescribed data categories are released in compliance with, at least, the timeliness criteria.

If the release date shown on the ARC for a data category does not meet the SDDS periodicity or timeliness criteria, this will be noted as an observance issue in the monitoring reports.

If the ARC meets the periodicity and timeliness requirements of the SDDS but the actual release date does not meet the SDDS requirements, this will also be noted as an observance issue.

If data are not released on the NSDP as announced in the ARC, this also is considered as an observance issue.

Electronic monitoring is performed daily by IMF staff. The NSDP is scanned on a daily basis. Any delays in the dissemination of data are calculated on the basis of calendar days. If one or more components of a data category is/are not disseminated on time, the monthly monitoring report and the annual assessment will indicate the components whose dissemination was delayed and the whole data category will be marked.

From July 2013 onwards, the monthly reports are sent to the National Coordinator (ELSTAT) after the end of each month (starting from June onwards). The reports note if Greece:

- 1) Meets SDDS requirements as regards timeliness and periodicity
- 2) Does not disseminate data in compliance with its ARC.

In case where data requirements are not fully met and there are deviations, it is requested to provide explanations and more specifically when:

- a) data categories subject to release were not disseminated,
- b) there are long delays in the release of data
- c) some components were not disseminated
- d) periodicity described in the metadata was inconsistent with that reflected on the ARC or NSDP
- e) ARC dates did not meet SDDS requirements
- f) There were other deviations from the envisaged requirements.

The outcome of the assessment is depicted in the monthly reports in the form of excel table.

For each variable of the Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board (DSBB) in columns D to M of the excel table report: (i) unmarked cells indicate that the SDDS requirements are met and/or data are released on the date shown on the ARC;(ii) shaded cells indicate deviation from the SDDS requirements; (iii) \*NO\* indicates the reference period in the ARC or NSDP is not as laid down in the SDDS; (iv) positive/negative numeric entry indicates the number of days when data were disseminated earlier/later than the release date on the ARC or the date laid down in the SDDS; (v) "NYD" indicates that the data are not yet disseminated; and (vi) "X" indicates that the data are not disseminated and/or no ARC release dates are provided.

2/ The abbreviations indicate: PF - Periodicity flexibility option taken; TF-Timeliness flexibility option taken; SF-Special timeliness flexibility option taken; TT-Targeted timeliness flexibility option taken; RPF-"As relevant" flexibility option taken for timeliness.

It is noted that once all the monthly reports of the year have been completed, an annual report is elaborated and released on IMF/DSBB covering the observance of the SDDS requirements, which involve four metadata dimensions of the SDDS:

- data (coverage, periodicity, timeliness)
- access by the public (Advance Release Calendar-ARC)
- integrity (metadata certification)
- quality (availability of information on methodology, sources and reconciliation of data categories in Data Quality Assessment Framework-DQAF).

The annual assessment reflects the observance of requirements for the calendar year.

The monthly monitoring reports and the annual assessments indicate the cases where the subscriber did not meet its commitments under the SDDS.

Users can find the annual reports for years up to 2012 on the IMF web page at the following link:

<http://dsbb.imf.org/Pages/SDDS/CtyCtgList.aspx?ctycode=GRC>