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MEXICO

REPORT ON THE OBSERVANCE OF STANDARDS AND CODES—DATA MODULE VOLUME I

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This report is based on information provided prior to and during a mission conducted during June 7-21, 2021 as well as on a survey of users and publicly available information. The mission team was led by Mr. James W. Tebrake (Assistant Director, IMF Statistics Department) and also comprised Mr. Ethan Wiseman (Expert, Government Finance Statistics), Mr. Eduardo Rodriguez (Expert, Balance of Payments-International Investment Position), Ms. Lisbeth Rivas (Senior Economist (IMF), and Expert, National Accounts).

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Glossary

1993 SNA	<i>System of National Accounts, 1993</i>
2008 SNA	<i>System of National Accounts, 2008</i>
BI	Benchmark to Indicator Ratio
BM	Bank of Mexico
BOP	Balance of payments
BPM5	<i>Balance of Payments Manual, fifth edition</i>
BMP6	<i>Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, sixth edition</i>
CGT	General Conditions of Employment of the Bank of Mexico
CNBV	National Banking and Securities Commission
COFOG	Classification of Functions of Government
COICOP	Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose
DSBB	Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board
DQAF	Data Quality Assessment Framework
EDS Guide	External Debt Statistics, Guide for Compilers and Users, 2013
ESS	External Sector Statistics
GFS	Government Finance Statistics
GFSM 1986	<i>A Manual on Government Finance Statistics, 1986</i>
GFSM 2001	<i>Government Finance Statistics Manual, 2001</i>
IIP	International investment position
INEGI	National Institute of Statistics and Geography
ISIC	<i>International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i>
LSNIEG	Law of the National System of Information on Statistics and Geography
MFSM 2000	<i>Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual 2000</i>
NA	National accounts
NAICS	North American Industry Classification System
ODC	Other depository corporations
ROSC	Report on the Observance of Standards and Codes
SDDS	Special Data Dissemination Standard
SHCP	Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit
SNIEG	National System of Statistics and Geographic Information

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

1. **This Report on the Observance of Standards and Codes—Data Module (Data ROSC) updates assessments conducted in 2010 and 2015.** The updated assessments are based on the May 2012 version of the IMF’s Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF) and cover the national accounts, government finance, and external sector statistics. The National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) is responsible for the national accounts, the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit (SHCP) for the government finance statistics (except for data on state and local governments, which are the responsibility of INEGI), and the Bank of Mexico (BM) for the external sector statistics.

2. **The macroeconomic statistics are generally of high quality, although there is some variation across datasets (Table 1).** The mission found a high degree of quality awareness, professionalism, cooperation, and integrity in statistical production. Data publication practices are good, as Mexico has been a subscriber of the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) since August 1996, posting its metadata on the Fund’s *Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board (DSBB)* starting in March 1998. Mexico is in observance of the SDDS, meeting specifications for data coverage, periodicity, and timeliness, while complying with an advance release calendar. Data publication performance appears within reach of the more stringent requirements of the SDDS Plus established in 2012 (Appendix I compares current dissemination practices with SDDS Plus requirements).

3. **The macroeconomic statistics programs are well-developed, attaining significant advances in governance, quality, and process over the last five years.** Most notably, the Law of the National System of Information on Statistics and Geography (LSNIEG) was passed in 2008, and over the last several years the statistical system has been able to leverage the full advantages of this improved legal framework. At present, the workings of the statistical system appear efficient and mature, as INEGI coordinates the system of statistics and geographic information (SNIEG), with oversight by a National Statistical Council and the support of a National Advisory Committee. The mission’s recommendations aim at further strengthening the SNIEG, its statistical operations, and the quality and consistency of the national accounts, external sector and fiscal statistics.

4. **There is some variation across statistical domains with respect to the pace of improvements achieved since 2010 and 2015.** While the benchmark year of the national accounts was updated to 2013, work is underway to update the benchmarks to 2018 by 2022. INEGI also has standardized its statistical business processes resulting in efficiency and quality gains. Early in 2015, the Bank of Mexico launched a project to adopt the *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Sixth Edition (BPM6)*. And in 2017 it began publishing BPM6-based data on the Balance of Payments for the period 2006–the present and IIP for 2002–the present (annual data; and for 2009–present, quarterly information). The SHCP began publishing, in April 2021, annual fiscal statistics in closer alignment to the *Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014 (GFSM 2014)*, and in June 2021 disseminated quarterly general government statistics beginning with the first quarter of 2021.

5. **While substantial progress has been made, there is some scope for further improvement.** There is a need for greater consistency across datasets, and for regular reconciliation exercises that should be published. In particular, the publication of reconciliation tables would enhance the usefulness of the macroeconomics statistics, and inter-dataset consistency could be enhanced through increased data sharing across organizations. Users' understanding of the fiscal data could be enhanced by publishing a complete list of public sector institutional units, identifying the institutional sector assigned to each unit, and indicating which units are in scope for each of the fiscal, national accounts, and external sector statistics.

6. **Based on the DQAF, the remainder of this section summarizes the mission's main findings,** which are presented for each agency for the first two dimensions of quality, and across datasets for the remaining four.

7. **Mexico has sufficient prerequisites of quality and assurances of integrity in place to ensure users are provided with high quality data.** The LSNIEG establishes that INEGI has the exclusive responsibility for integrating the national accounts (Article 59); has legal backing to collect information for the national accounts (Article 45 (1)); and must promote strict data confidentiality (Article 37). Further, Article 26 of the Constitution grants INEGI technical and operating autonomy. Resources are adequate, with various advisory committees established to advise INEGI regarding program relevance. INEGI firmly adheres to the principle of objectivity in the collection, processing, and dissemination of statistics, demonstrating professionalism and transparency in policies and practices, and providing guidelines to staff on ethical conduct. INEGI's autonomy guarantees that no government authority has access to its statistics before official release. For key economic indicators INEGI establishes a fixed release date and time, publishes an advance release calendar, and ensures that all users are granted simultaneous access.

8. **The Federal Budget and Fiscal Responsibility Law and other laws clearly establish that fiscal statistics on the central government** and certain other levels of the public sector are to be compiled and disseminated by the SHCP, while INEGI is responsible for compiling and disseminating data on the operations of state and municipal (local) governments. The government accounting standards and associated catalogs are established by the National Council for Accounting Harmonization (CONAC). These standards are established in close collaboration with the SHCP and state and municipal governments, while public enterprises follow national accounting standards for corporations. Once established, all government entities are required to implement the standards to facilitate uniform reporting across all levels of government. However, universal implementation is yet to be completed. Confidentiality of data is protected, and statisticians are free from political influence in the choice of the most appropriate data sources and methods. Resources are adequate for current tasks, and there is awareness that quality is the key for maintaining public confidence in the statistics, with the laws, regulations, methodologies, and manuals governing compilation and dissemination of statistics available to the public on the SHCP website. Fiscal statistics are released simultaneously to Congress and to the public through the SHCP website.

9. **The responsibility for compiling macroeconomic statistics by the Bank of Mexico (BM) is broadly stated in Article 62 Section I of the Bank of Mexico Law (1994) that indicates that**

the BM, in coordination with the other relevant authorities, may prepare, compile, and publish economic and financial statistics, as well as operate information systems based on these statistics, and collect the necessary data for these purposes. The BM also is granted authority to collect and compile macroeconomic statistics under the LSNIEG. As the Balance of Payments/IIP and External Debt Statistics have not yet been identified as statistics of national interest, the BM collects data under the Bank of Mexico Law and cannot mandate nonfinancial corporations to provide information. Instead, the BM relies on the goodwill of nonfinancial corporation respondents to voluntarily complete BM surveys and other reporting forms. This impacts the overall accuracy of the statistics due to lower response rates, as compared to similar surveys run by INEGI, and late reporting. Resources dedicated to statistical production are adequate and high ethical standards are set for staff. Data collected for statistical purposes are not shared with other departments within the BM (i.e., cannot be used for regulatory purposes). While the BM does not conduct regular meetings with outside users, it has well-established procedures to monitor data quality.

10. **The methodological foundations of the statistics are generally sound, with some variation across datasets.** The national accounts generally follow the conceptual advice in the *System of National Accounts, 2008 (2008 SNA)*. Preparation of the balance of payments and international investment position reflect the recommendations of the *BPM6*. The BM has not yet implemented the recommendations of the *External Debt Statistics, Guide for Compilers and Users, 2013 (EDS Guide)* for gross external debt. In particular, the external intercompany debt and SDR allocations are not included in the external debt disseminated by BM, with the market value limited to the liabilities of deposit-taking corporations, excluding the central bank. The application of the accrual principle in the balance of payments is yet to be extended to the recording of interest of public sector debt.

11. **The SHCP compiles and disseminates two presentations of fiscal statistics.** A national traditional presentation is prepared for use by domestic policymakers and the public. This presentation has a long history and is widely used to monitor government operations and public debt. The SHCP also prepares fiscal data broadly reflecting the *Manual on Government Finance Statistics, 2014 (GFSM 2014)*, including for re-dissemination in the IMF's Government Finance Statistics Yearbook. While the source data used for both presentations are the same, differences in the classification of transactions and coverage of institutional units make it difficult for users to reconcile the different presentations. Gross domestic debt is recorded at face value, except in the case of treasury bills [*CETES*], which are recorded at discount value. Gross external debt also is recorded at face value. The classification of financing and debt as domestic or foreign is guided by place of issue of the liabilities rather than the residency criterion. The same financing and debt data are used as source data for the external sector statistics.

12. **Classification in the international presentation of fiscal statistics follows the framework of the GFSM 2014.** However, detailed tables are not provided for the classification of revenue, the economic classification of expense, transactions by instruments in nonfinancial assets, financial assets and liabilities, or the transactions of financial assets and liabilities classified by sector of the counterparty to those financial instruments. In addition, other classifications that do not follow the

GFSM 2014 include: 1) the possible absence of the recording of equity transactions for certain public corporations; and 2) the recording of accounts receivable and accounts payable. Currently, accounts receivable and accounts payable represent the reconciliation differences between stocks and flows for debt instruments and not actual accounts receivable and payable as found on financial statements.

13. **The accuracy and reliability of the data are generally adequate and have improved since 2010 and 2015.** In the national accounts, the quality of the source data is high, owing to a well-developed quinquennial economic census and an extensive annual and monthly business survey program. The statistical techniques are sound and statistical outputs sufficiently portray reality. Currently, INEGI uses fixed base year weights to calculate constant price estimates of GDP. The *2008 SNA* suggests the use of chain weighting when producing estimates of the volume of GDP and its sub-components. Use of fixed weights when calculating the volume of GDP could introduce bias in the estimates, especially when the economy undergoes significant structural change.

14. **The source data for BOP statistics are obtained from comprehensive data collection programs and extensive use of administrative data.** Over several years, the BM has been able to address a number of data gaps related to the incomplete coverage of the nonfinancial private sector, in both the current and financial accounts, particularly services,¹ and financial transactions, including trade credits and financial derivatives.

15. **While the information necessary for compiling fiscal data (in both the national and *GFSM 2014* presentations) for the various levels of government is available,** timeliness is problematic for data on local governments. There have been notable timeliness improvements in the availability of **annual** data on state and municipal government in recent years, specifically the collection of data from municipalities. Information for an average of 1,100 municipalities (representing 80 percent of municipal revenue) is available within nine months of the reference period, however overall publication of state and municipal government data still exceeds nine months after the reference period. This complicates timely monitoring of fiscal trends in the general government and the public sector as a whole.

16. **While the serviceability of data has improved since 2010 and 2015 and meeting SDDS Plus requirements may be within reach, improvements are still needed in two areas.** First, there is scope to improve consistency across datasets. Systematic reconciliation of data should be conducted on a regular schedule, with results published to keep users apprised of remaining issues. Second, there is a general need to provide more information to users with respect to revisions. As most data are available with adequate periodicity and timeliness exceeding SDDS requirements in some cases, Mexico appears a good candidate to work towards adherence to the IMF's SDDS Plus.

17. **Accessibility of the data has improved substantially since 2015, with the BM and INEGI modernizing their dissemination platforms.** Data are available in a variety of formats using the latest technologies. For example, the BM and INEGI have developed Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) that allow users to extract data directly from databases, and issue press releases

¹ There is inter-agency work ongoing to improve the coverage of services.

when releasing the national accounts and the balance of payments. However, the BM does not issue a press release when releasing the IIP and external debt, which may result in the underutilization of the IIP statistics. The modernization of INEGI's website greatly improved access to data and metadata. The metadata for each INEGI product is presented alongside the data, improving the overall interpretability of the data. However, for certain products the level of detail on sources and methods could be improved. The BM also provides users with access to metadata, but both the access to and the quality of the metadata could be improved. The mission found the SHCP website difficult to navigate and the fiscal statistics often difficult to interpret, especially in comparison to the users' experience with the INEGI and BM websites. The SHCP should build on international best practices to enhance users' access and experience.

18. **Section II provides a summary assessment by agency and dataset based on a four-part scale. This is followed by staff recommendations in Section III.** Practices compared to the SDDS Plus requirements are summarized in Appendix I. The authorities' response to this report and the detailed assessments are presented in volumes II and III, respectively.

ASSESSMENT BY AGENCY AND DATASET

19. **Assessments for the three macroeconomic datasets—national accounts, government finance, and external sector statistics—were conducted using the DQAF-May 2012.** The results are presented at the level of the DQAF elements using a four-point rating scale (Table 1). Assessments of the prerequisites of data quality and the assurances of integrity (Dimensions "0" and "1") are presented in Tables 2a–c. For each dataset, the assessment of methodological soundness, accuracy and reliability, serviceability, and accessibility (Dimensions "2" to "5") are shown in Tables 3a–c.

Table 1. Mexico: Data Quality Assessment Framework—Summary Results

Key to symbols: O = Observed; LO = Largely Observed; LNO = Largely Not Observed; NO = Not Observed; NA = Not Applicable¹

Dimensions/Elements	Datasets		
	National Accounts	Government Finance Statistics	Balance of Payments Statistics, International Investment Position and External Debt Statistics
0. Prerequisites of quality			
0.1 Legal and institutional environment	O	O	LO
0.2 Resources	O	O	O
0.3 Relevance	O	O	LO
0.4 Other quality management	O	O	O
1. Assurances of integrity			
1.1 Institutional Integrity	O	O	O
1.2 Transparency	O	O	O
1.3 Ethical standards	O	O	O
2. Methodological soundness			
2.1 Concepts and definitions	O	LO	LO
2.2 Scope	O	LO	O
2.3 Classification/sectorization	O	LNO	LO
2.4 Basis for recording	LO	LO	LO
3. Accuracy and reliability			
3.1 Source data	O	O	LO
3.2 Assessment of source data	O	O	O
3.3 Statistical techniques	LO	O	O
3.4 Assessment and validation of intermediate data and statistical outputs	O	O	O
3.5 Revision studies	O	O	LO
4. Serviceability			
4.1 Periodicity and timeliness	O	O	O
4.2 Consistency	LO	LO	LO
4.3 Revision policy and practice	LO	LNO	LO
5. Accessibility			
5.1 Data accessibility	O	LO	LO
5.2 Metadata accessibility	LO	O	LO
5.3 Assistance to users	O	O	O
¹ Observed: Current practices generally meet internationally accepted statistical standards without any significant deficiency. Largely observed: There are some departures, but these are not seen as sufficient to raise doubts about the broad observance of standards. Largely not observed: Current practices deviate significantly from standards, and major remedial action is required. Not observed: Most current practices deviate from standards. Not applicable: Used only exceptionally when standards do not apply to a country's circumstances.			

Table 2a. Mexico: Assessment of Data Quality—Dimensions 0 and 1—National Institute of Statistics and Geography

0. Prerequisites of quality	1. Assurances of integrity
<p>Legal and institutional environment. According to Article 26 of the Constitution, INEGI is a public institution with technical and managerial autonomy. Under the law (LSNIEG) published in April 2008, INEGI has exclusive responsibility for conducting the national census and integrating the system of national accounts (Article 59). INEGI coordinates the newly established SNIEG, which includes a National Advisory Council and committees by type of statistics. This supports inter-institutional coordination, with timely flow of source data among agencies. There are pre-established calendars for the provision of data from surveys and censuses, which are strictly observed. Confidentiality of individual data is guaranteed by the Second Title, Chapter V of the LSNIEG and by the Federal Law of Administrative Responsibilities of the Public Servants (March 2002). The legal power of INEGI for compiling statistics is clearly set out in Chapter V of the LSNIEG, which refers to the rights and obligations of users and respondents. Article 45 (1) states that “system respondents are obliged to provide accurate and timely data and reports as and when requested....” The Law also provides penalties for refusing data requests or falsifying information.</p> <p>Resources. The human and financial resources allocated to national accounts (NA) are commensurate with INEGI’s institutional program objectives. Staff attends training courses offered by international organizations. Computing resources, physical infrastructure, and funding are adequate. INEGI seeks to take advantage of modern information technology for the compilation of NA.</p> <p>Relevance. INEGI consults users, including when changing the base year. There is a portal on the INEGI website that provides a permanently open communication channel to users for consultation on methodology and conceptual issues. INEGI staff and management are updated on developments in NA methodology and compilation techniques through participation in international fora.</p> <p>Other quality management. Article 3 of the LSNIEG states that the INEGI has the objective of providing to society and to the state quality information that is relevant, trustful and timely, in order to support national development. The SNIEG envisages the design of strategic programs (long-term), national programs (five5 years), and annual programs in order to improve and broaden statistical products as well as implement international standards. INEGI seeks expert advice for improving statistics, and quality standards are designed to enhance efficiency in the use of resources.</p>	<p>Institutional Integrity. Professional competence is the basic principle for recruitment and promotions of staff. The choice of sources and methods is solely based on statistical considerations. INEGI prepares press notes stating its position when errors of interpretation are detected, making these notes available to the broad public by means of the webpage of the Institute.</p> <p>Transparency. Press releases indicate that published data are compiled under the responsibility of INEGI and in accordance with the LSNIEG. The autonomy conferred to the INEGI guarantees that no government authority has access to the statistics before release. A note is sent to the Presidency of the Republic the same day of the release (but only after the data are released). The data are published in a press release with the logo of the INEGI. When there is a change in the base year of the NA, the most recent methodological standards are adopted. Any substantial modification in source data and/or methodology is publicized in advance.</p> <p>Ethical standards. The conduct of INEGI’s staff is subject to the norms and sanctions established by the Federal Law on Administrative Responsibilities of the Public Servants as well as INEGI’s ethical code issued under article 7 of LSNIEG.</p>

Table 2b. Mexico: Assessment of Data Quality—Dimensions 0 and 1—Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit

0. Prerequisites of quality	1. Assurances of integrity
<p>Legal and institutional environment. The Federal Budget and Fiscal Responsibility Law and other laws assign to the SHCP the obligation to provide Congress monthly and quarterly reports on the public finances and debt. Within the SHCP, the General Directorate of Public Finance Statistics is responsible for fiscal statistics on revenue, expenditure, and financing, while the Debt Statistics Department is responsible for debt statistics. INEGI is responsible for compiling and disseminating fiscal statistics on state and local governments. The confidentiality of data reported by respondents is protected by law. For the federal public sector and parastatal entities there are legal and administrative provisions for collecting information necessary for compiling fiscal statistics.</p> <p>Resources. The human resources assigned to compile fiscal statistics are adequate to perform current tasks. Training on methodological matters is mainly internal, complemented by IMF courses. Physical facilities are adequate and computer hardware and other modern technologies are available to facilitate the timely compilation and dissemination of quality fiscal statistics. Funding is reasonably secure for the identified needs of the statistical program, while budgeting procedures allow cost control and adequate allocation of resources.</p> <p>Relevance. Fiscal statistics follow the budget cycle and are used to prepare and monitor the budget, and the public finances broadly defined. The timeliness and level of detail provided by the statistics allow users to assess fiscal performance. Periodic meetings with users take place, including through meetings coordinated by the SHCP Investor Relations Office. INEGI, through its Committee for Quality Assurance (CoAC), carries out an analysis the EFIPEM report on state and local governments for relevance.</p> <p>Other quality management. The SHCP has been working for several years to improve data coverage and timeliness. The broader fiscal indicator, the financial requirements of the public sector, is now a fiscal anchor. Work is under way to strengthen the financial information system and the National Council for Accounting Harmonization (CONAC) has established accounting standards and accounting systems underlying financial and budgetary information. INEGI, through its CoAC, implemented the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) which describes in detail the activities carried out to produce standardized statistical and geographic information.</p>	<p>Institutional Integrity. Article 26 of the Constitution grants INEGI technical and operating autonomy and the Federal Public Servants Responsibility Law protects civil servants against illegal orders. Fiscal statistics are compiled based on accounting records from the accounting centers and administrative records, which follow charts of accounts and budgetary rules derived from the legal framework. Statisticians are free of political influence in the choice of data sources and methods to compile statistics. Dissemination is based solely on statistical considerations and generally follows international dissemination standards. The Press Office monitors the use of fiscal statistics and makes the necessary clarifications to avoid misinterpretation.</p> <p>Transparency. The laws, regulations, and methodologies that govern the compilation and dissemination of statistics are available to the public on the SHCP website. Fiscal statistics are released simultaneously to the public. The tables disseminated by the SHCP identify the department responsible for their compilation. Methodological changes are usually described in the draft Expenditure Budget of the Federation and in the General Economic Policy Criteria for the relevant year. Methodological notes are available on the SHCP website.</p> <p>Ethical standards. INEGI has issued a code of ethics that sets the standards of behavior for all staff undertaking statistical and geographic activities, and it is available to the public on the INEGI website. The Federal Law on the Responsibility of Public Servants spells out behavioral duties for civil servants. Failure to comply may result in prosecution and sanctions, including dismissal.</p>

Table 2c. Mexico Assessment of Data Quality—Dimensions 0 and 1—Bank of Mexico

0. Prerequisites of quality	1. Assurances of integrity
<p>Legal and institutional environment. The BM compiles the monetary and external sector statistics. A 1952 Presidential Decree establishes that the BM is the sole agency with the faculty to send information to the IMF. However, the BM Law, which became effective April 1, 1994, does not specifically assign responsibility for the balance of payments statistics or any other external sector statistics to the BM. However, Article 62.I of the Law indicates that the BM, in coordination with the other authorities, may prepare, compile, and publish economic and financial statistics, as well as operate information systems based on these statistics, and collect the necessary data for these purposes. Article 36 stipulates that financial corporations are obliged to provide the BM with the information it requires regarding their operations in order to fulfill its functions appropriately; but the BM is not empowered by the Law to require reporting by the nonfinancial private sector (except for firms involved in the business of personal money transfers). Confidentiality of the reported data and limiting use for statistical purposes are adequately guaranteed by legislation. The General Conditions of Employment of the BM (CGT) establish that revealing operating secrets or confidential BM matters is grounds for dismissal, without the BM incurring any liability. Likewise, the BM Ethical Code establishes similar confidentiality norms.</p> <p>Resources. The financial, computing, and staff resources are adequate to compile the external sector statistics (ESS). Every effort is made to use the most advanced information technology available for data processing and dissemination.</p> <p>Relevance. Under the Transparency and Access to Public Information Federal Law, the BM keeps records on users' questions and expressions of data needs with the aim of improving statistical products. While the BM consults internal users and the Transparency Portal serves as a channel for questions from the private sector, it does not have a formal process of consultation with private sector users.</p> <p>Other quality management. The BM appears fully aware of quality as the keystone for the credibility of its statistics. To this end, there are auditing statistical procedures through the internal audit office.</p>	<p>Institutional Integrity. The BM is staffed with well-qualified personnel, and compilers participate in external courses and receive on-the-job training. Macroeconomic statistics are compiled in accordance with strict technical considerations and are disseminated without political interference. The BM has a long tradition of independence, professionalism, and impartiality. If an incorrect interpretation is observed, efforts are made to contact the respective person or organization to explain the issue.</p> <p>Transparency. The BM Law is available on the BM website. There is data sharing among the public agencies that collaborate with the BM in the production of the ESS—SHCP, INEGI, the Secretariat of Economy. Data are released simultaneously to the public. The terms and conditions under which statistics are compiled and disseminated are made available to reporting entities but not to the public.</p> <p>Ethical standards. There are clear codes of conduct for staff in the BM Law, the 2019 BM Code of Ethics, the Federal Law on the Administrative Responsibilities of Civil Servants, and in the CGT. Article 24 of the CGT specifies that BM personnel must use discretion in the exercise of their duties, keeping BM matters strictly confidential. Also, the BM has issued a code of ethics that regulates the standards of behavior for all staff undertaking statistical activities.</p>

Table 3a. Mexico: Assessment of Data Quality—Dimensions 2 to 5—National Accounts

2. Methodological soundness	3. Accuracy and reliability	4. Serviceability	5. Accessibility
<p>Concepts and definitions. National Accounts are compiled following the 2008 SNA.</p> <p>Scope. Annual and quarterly GDP estimates are compiled by the production, and expenditure approaches at current and constant prices. Annual and quarterly GDP is also compiled by the income approach at current prices. Annual and quarterly sectoral accounts are also compiled and published. The economic territory, production and assets boundaries are in general accordance with the 2008 SNA. Illegal activities are not included.</p> <p>Classification/sectorization. Economic activities are classified according to the North America Industry Classification System, compatible with ISIC rev. 4. COICOP and COFOG are used to classify household consumption and government expenditures, respectively.</p> <p>Basis for recording. All transactions are recorded in accordance with the valuation principles of the 2008 SNA. Transactions are recorded on an accrual basis, except for the quarterly government accounts. Imports and exports are not recorded on a change in ownership basis, although special tabulations are available for users.</p>	<p>Source data. Mexico has a very comprehensive regular system of censuses and economic surveys. Censuses have a five-year frequency; and surveys are conducted with monthly and annual periodicity. Data on the BOP are received from the BM. Adequate quarterly data on the federal government and the state governments are available; quarterly information on municipal governments is based on a sample.</p> <p>Assessment of source data. Appropriate methods are applied to validate the source data.</p> <p>Statistical techniques. Quarterly GDP by production is compiled at a quite disaggregated level ensuring an appropriate capture of changes in the production structure. GDP by expenditure is independently estimated. The Denton method is used for benchmarking the quarterly data. Seasonally adjusted data are estimated</p> <p>Assessment and validation of intermediate data and statistical outputs. When detected, discrepancies are investigated and addressed. The supply and use framework is used to make the NA data consistent.</p> <p>Revision studies. Revision studies are conducted regularly, but only major revisions are disclosed. Explanations of the revisions are only provided in the case of a change in the base year.</p>	<p>Periodicity and timeliness. Periodicity and timeliness of the national accounts exceeds the SDDS requirements.</p> <p>Consistency. Data are consistent for long periods. With each change of the base year, the series are recalculated backward; the 2013 base data were recalculated back to 1993 for quarterly data. Quarterly estimates are reconciled with the annual estimates. The national accounts are broadly consistent with the BOP data but there are differences, mainly related to timing and revision policies. Differences are more substantial when comparing the BOP financial accounts and the NA' financial account for the rest of the world. There are discrepancies with the government finance statistics owing to differences in the institutional coverage and the basis of recording.</p> <p>Revision policy and practice. There is a well-established cycle of production and revisions, which is known to the general public. In July and December, a calendar for the following year is posted on the INEGI website. Exact release dates are provided six months in advance. Quarterly data for the current year are revised with the release of each new quarter. Revisions of previous years' data are made at the time the first final annual estimates are published at the end of the year. There is a regular cycle for changing the base year. Internal revision studies are produced but not published.</p>	<p>Data accessibility. Quarterly data along with analytical commentary are disseminated through a press release posted on the INEGI website. Data on quarterly GDP by production with sufficient breakdowns are made available on the website, along with tables of global supply and use of goods and services. Seasonally adjusted GDP series are also published. Quarterly data are available from 1993 and annual data are available from 1980.</p> <p>Metadata accessibility. Metadata is available on the INEGI website but lacks sufficient detail on compilation methods. Summary methodologies are posted on the IMF's DSBB and the OECD website.</p> <p>Assistance to users. Assistance to users is managed through the INEGI website. Contact information is clearly visible for users.</p>

Table 3b. Mexico Assessment of Data Quality—Dimensions 2 to 5—Government Finance Statistics

2. Methodological soundness	3. Accuracy and reliability	4. Serviceability	5. Accessibility
<p>Concepts and definitions. The national concepts and definitions used in compiling GFS broadly follow the <i>GFSM 1986</i>. There are no explicit plans to migrate to the <i>GFSM 2014</i>. Annual and quarterly data fully consistent with the <i>GFSM 2014</i> are not compiled.</p> <p>Scope. Compilation of GFS follow two methodologies: a) the traditional one with national definitions and concepts; and b) the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR), an international presentation that aims to follow the <i>GFSM 2014</i>. The tables recommended by the <i>GFSM 2014</i> are not compiled. The data on general government disseminated in June 2021 do not include municipalities.</p> <p>Classification/sectorization. A table showing the institutional units in the public sector and subsectors is not published. There are major presentational differences with the latest international standards, including for sectorization and classification, and residency. For example, the nonfinancial public sector does not include state and local governments.</p> <p>Basis for recording. Revenue, expenditure, financing, and the overall balance in the fiscal statistics are presented on a modified cash basis. Information on states and municipalities, collected by INEGI are recorded on a modified accrual basis. Market valuation, period average exchange rates for flows, and some international standards for basis of recording (such as accrual recording) are not applied. In general, debt is recorded at face value.</p>	<p>Source data. The main sources of information for the fiscal statistics for the federal government are the administrative systems that monitor budget execution and accounting records, which cover all institutional units. For state and local governments, the main source is accounting records, complemented by a questionnaire for some municipalities. The main source of information for parastatal entities is the Integrated Information System for Government Revenues and Expenditure (SII). <i>The classifications and groupings are consistent with the GFSM 1986</i>. Source data are timely, except for state and local governments, although timeliness has improved in recent years.</p> <p>Assessment of source data. Fiscal statistics are generally based on complete information. Data on the federal public sector are cross-checked with other accounting records.</p> <p>Statistical techniques. Compilation procedures are sound. Consolidation of data for institutional aggregates follows <i>GFSM 1986</i> for the national/traditional presentation and <i>GFSM 2014</i> for the PSBR presentation.</p> <p>Assessment and validation of intermediate data and statistical outputs. Information on revenue, expenditure, financing, and debt is regularly reconciled with the budgetary records of various SHCP units and with bank records. Statistical discrepancies are investigated.</p> <p>Revision studies. Revisions to data incorporate all changes resulting from new information, and the reasons for the changes are known. Internal revision studies are undertaken to improve the quality of the fiscal statistics, but these studies are not made public.</p>	<p>Periodicity and timeliness. The periodicity and timeliness of the GFS meet SDDS requirements.</p> <p>Consistency. The various accounting identities are observed. Monthly statistics use the same concepts, definitions, and classifications used for annual statistics. Also, the sum of monthly statistics equals quarterly and annual statistics. Time series are consistent. However, debt and financing for state and local governments contain inconsistencies. In general, reconciliation of data across macroeconomic datasets is not conducted on a regular basis and some inconsistencies exist across the publicly available data (e.g., net portfolio investment for the nonfinancial public sector does not match the external sector statistics).</p> <p>Revision policy and practice. The main revision of data takes place when the information for the Federal Public Accounts becomes available. This information is audited and considered final. Revisions are also made in the month following the publication of preliminary data. The public is not provided with information on the schedule of revisions or the analysis and explanations about revisions.</p>	<p>Data accessibility. The data are presented primarily for budget monitoring and analyses. The national presentation of fiscal statistics is not suitable for cross-country comparisons. Detailed tables following the <i>GFSM 2014</i> are not compiled and disseminated. An advance release calendar is published.</p> <p>Metadata accessibility. Methodological notes explaining concepts, sources and methods are disseminated on the SHCP's and INEGI's websites. Methodological notes are also published on the IMF's DSBB.</p> <p>Assistance to users. The presentation and navigation on the SHCP website could be strengthened to further ease users' experience. A telephone number, and an address for queries about the fiscal statistics appears on the SHCP website. Contact information is also posted on INEGI website.</p>

Table 3c. Mexico Assessment of Data Quality—Dimensions 2 to 5—External Sector Statistics

2. Methodological soundness	3. Accuracy and reliability	4. Serviceability	5. Accessibility
<p>Concepts and definitions. Balance of payments and IIP statistics are compiled according to the <i>BPM6</i>. The BM also maintains another time-series compiled according to the <i>BPM5</i>. External debt is compiled, for the most part, based on the previous edition (2003) of the <i>EDS Guide</i>.</p> <p>Scope. The ESS cover the transactions of institutional units' resident in Mexico with the rest of the world.</p> <p>Classification/sectorization. Classification and sectorization of the BOP and IIP broadly follows the recommendations of the <i>BPM6</i>. Classification and sectorization of the external debt use a mix of the last and previous editions of the <i>EDS Guide</i>. Cross-country comparability of data is hindered by the use of national classifications and presentations rather than the standard classifications of <i>BPM6</i> and <i>EDS Guide</i>. Intercompany debt is not classified as external debt, sectors are classified using a mix of institutional sector and public/private concepts, and on-lent funds are attributed to the sector of the "final user" of the funds, instead of the unit that borrows from nonresidents.</p> <p>Basis for recording. Every effort is made to ensure valuation at market prices and recording on an accrual basis. However, public sector debt is recorded at face value and interest on public sector financial assets and liabilities is on a cash basis. Considering that CETES are issued at a discount and represent around 15 percent of government's outstanding securities, recording interest on a cash basis could cause significant differences.</p>	<p>Source data. Source data used in compiling the balance of payments, IIP and external debt statistics are in general adequate and timely. However, source gaps are emerging in the current account particularly for digital services. Efforts are made to maintain adequate coverage in financial transactions of the nonfinancial private sector.</p> <p>Assessment of source data. There is a range of comprehensive checks for internal consistency, comparisons with other sources, and routine queries when large transactions are detected.</p> <p>Statistical techniques. A series of measures have been established to control quality and conduct appropriate and timely verification of the information collected through surveys, both before and after electronic processing.</p> <p>Assessment and validation of intermediate data and statistical outputs. Statistical discrepancies in the intermediate data are assessed and investigated. Trends in the major components of the BOP, IIP, and external debt are monitored using statistical methods.</p> <p>Revision studies. Although the direction and size of the revisions between the preliminary and final data are examined, no formal studies are conducted or published to inform statistical processes and users.</p>	<p>Periodicity and timeliness. The periodicity and timeliness of all external sector statistics meet SDDS requirements.</p> <p>Consistency. The statistics are broadly consistent internally and overtime. However, consistency could be improved between the IIP and external debt. There are differences between the balance of payments and national accounts, notably in the financial account and financial positions.</p> <p>Revision policy and practice. There is no formal revisions policy. No formal procedure has been established for disseminating studies and analysis of revisions.</p>	<p>Data accessibility. Data access is provided through the BM website. Data are available in several formats and aggregation levels. Data are released on a preannounced schedule available on the NSDP, following the SDDS requirements. IIP and external debt statistics are not included in the advance release calendar maintained by the BM.</p> <p>Metadata accessibility. Metadata are available, although more detail and timely updates (particularly in the case of the external debt) are needed.</p> <p>Assistance to users. Support and advisory assistance are provided to users on request by e-mail. The BM responds to users' questions in a timely manner.</p>

STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the review of statistical practices, discussions with the data producing agencies, and responses from data users (see Appendix III of the Detailed Assessments—Volume III), the mission has developed a set of recommendations. These are designed to increase further Mexico's adherence to internationally accepted standards, and their implementation would, in the mission's view, enhance the analytical usefulness of the data. Some additional technical suggestions are included in the Detailed Assessments (Volume III).

CROSS-CUTTING RECOMMENDATIONS

Strengthen consistency across the macroeconomic statistics by further harmonizing the terminology, coverage, sectorization, classification of transactions and positions, valuation methods, as well as the adjustments to source data. INEGI, BM and SHCP are encouraged to create a Working Group on Consistency among Fiscal Statistics, External Sector Statistics and National Accounts.

² This working group would establish subgroups that would be tasked with:

- ✓ Updating a common public sector universe—the list of all public entities and the identification of the sector to which each entity belongs.
 - ✓ Recording and publishing decisions concerning the sectorization of public entities.
 - ✓ Publishing the public sector universe as a statistical product, identifying which units are included in the various subsectors of the public sector in the (1) fiscal accounts for the purposes of both the national and international (PSBR) presentations, (2) the national accounts (institutional sector accounts), (3) the balance of payments/IIP, and (4) external debt statistics.
 - ✓ Harmonize the classification and valuation of transactions, instruments, positions and cash to accrual adjustments.
 - ✓ Produce and publish annual reconciliation and bridging tables across the two sets of fiscal statistics, balance of payments/IIP and external debt statistics and national accounts.
- Over the last several years, specific areas of the SNIEG have made notable advances in statistical operations and processes and invested in statistical infrastructure. These improvements should be extended across the entire SNIEG such that:
 - ✓ Statistical business processes (e.g., design, collection, process, analysis, etc.,) are standardized (where possible) across INEGI, BM and SHCP.³
 - ✓ INEGI, BM and SHCP align their accessibility and dissemination practices, providing users

² This working group could be established under the existing Technical Committee on Macroeconomic Statistics and National Accounts. If appropriate, consideration could also be given to establish a new Technical Committee responsible for consistency among the macroeconomic statistics.

³ In fact, this recommendation could extend to the entire SNIEG.

- of official macroeconomic statistics with a common user-friendly experience when accessing and interacting with national accounts, external sector, and fiscal statistics.
- ✓ INEGI, BM, and SHCP develop a modern and streamlined process/procedures/protocols for sharing data among organizations.
 - ✓ Implement a legal framework that clearly establishes the mandatory reporting of data to the BM for the compilation of ESS by the nonfinancial corporations. If that is not possible, joint INEGI-BM procedures for conducting surveys should be implemented under the LSNIEG, in such a way that nonfinancial corporations can be compelled to directly provide the information required by the BM to compile ESS.
- Mexico currently subscribes to the IMF SDDS and its statistical system is mature and well-positioned to adhere to the IMF's SDDS Plus. Mexico would do well to launch the process to adhere to the IMF's SDDS Plus, working over the next five years towards:
 - ✓ Improving the timeliness of sector balance sheets from 155 days to 120 days.
 - ✓ Publishing quarterly estimates of general government operations with the required details within a 12-month lag.⁴
 - ✓ Publishing quarterly estimates of general government debt with the required details within a 4-month lag.

A. National Accounts

- Given that INEGI collects and publishes extensive annual and monthly production, expenditure, and income statistics, it is well positioned to compile chained GDP volume indices using previous period annual weights. This would provide an improved estimate of economic growth, especially in periods of structural change. This should be implemented in stages given the communication challenges associated with this type of change. (3.3.2)
- The SNA and *BPM6* recommend that imports and exports are recorded on a change of ownership basis. Currently, both INEGI and BM impute a change in ownership when goods and services cross the customs frontier. Given the importance of Maquila in Mexico, INEGI, in cooperation with the BM should develop experimental estimates of manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others, and subsequently both Institutions could discuss trilaterally with the engaged statistical agencies of the US and Canada ways to advance on this matter. Once these estimates are mature, and in coordination with the main trading partners, INEGI and BM should adopt the *2008 SNA* and *BPM6* recommendations. (3.3.2)
- Investigate the feasibility of using satellite images of agricultural land to detect the extent of illegal crops. INEGI should supplement this data with models developed from specialized studies and information on merchandise seized by law enforcement (i.e., Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), etc.), to develop experimental estimates of illicit crop and drug

⁴ In order to improve the timeliness of data on the state and municipal governments, the SHCP and INEGI may want to consider estimating the current period using a sample of municipalities and state institutional units.

production, consumption, and exports. If the estimates are material, INEGI should work to incorporate these measures into official national accounts statistics. (3.3.2)

- Conduct the National Household Income and Expenditure Survey (ENIGH) during a complete calendar year to avoid seasonality in household data so that the ENIGH results can be used in the compilation of the national accounts. (3.1.1)
- Produce estimates of replacement cost consumption of fixed capital (CFC) for the general government. The CFC expense should be included in the measure of government output. (3.3.2)
- INEGI periodically undertakes national accounts revision studies, and it should produce an annual national accounts revision report to be published on its website. (4.3.3)
- Expand the existing national accounts metadata to provide more detailed information on calculation procedures to assist users with the interpretation of the national accounts. (5.2.2.)

B. Government Finance Statistics

- Modify the compilation of annual fiscal statistics in the international presentation to conform more fully to the concepts and definitions in the *GFSM 2014*. (2.1.1)
- Compile and disseminate quarterly general government statistics building on the statistics disseminated in June 2021, with a complete set of statements. This would help preparations to adhere to the SDDS Plus requirements. (2.1.1)
- Develop a *GFSM 2014* migration plan (including steps already envisaged) and consider adding target completion dates for the various steps. (2.1.1)
- Publish a table of all institutional units in the public sector and its subsectors, and clearly group them according to: 1) the traditional coverage of units used in the national presentation of fiscal statistics; 2) the coverage used in the international presentation of fiscal statistics (highlighting any differences from international standards); and 3) the subsectors of the public sector as described in the *GFSM 2014*. (2.2.1)
- Use the residency criterion to classify transactions and positions in financial instruments as domestic or external in collaboration with INEGI and the BM. (2.3.1)
- If foreign currency transactions cannot be converted into Mexican pesos at the mid-point exchange rate prevailing in the market on the day the transactions take place, use the period average exchange rate for the month when the transaction is recorded. Positions can continue to be converted using the end-of-period exchange rate. (2.4.1)
- Implement recording on a cash basis for the Statement on Sources and Uses of Cash and incorporate accrual or modified accrual in the other statements that follow the *GFSM 2014*. (2.4.2)

- Continue to implement harmonized accounting standards and related catalogs to facilitate the compilation of fiscal statistics according to the *GFSM 2014*. (3.1.1)
- Continue to improve the timeliness in the reporting/collection and compilation of data on state and municipal governments, aiming at publishing quarterly data within four months of the reference quarter. (3.1.3)
- To supplement information disseminated under the SDDS, consider adding data on the annual general government operations to the NSDP with timeliness of within six months, consistent with SDDS requirements. Based on data disseminated in June 2021 with this coverage and timeliness, this is feasible and would remove the need for an SDDS flexibility option. (4.1.2)
- Aim to diminish statistical discrepancy between the state and local government operations (above-the-line) and the financing. Improved classification of financing operations currently recorded as part of revenue and expenditure may contribute to resolving much of these discrepancies. (4.2.1)
- Develop and publish reconciliation tables between the fiscal statistics and other sets of macroeconomic statistics, along with explanatory notes. Specifically, the reconciliation tables should describe how the fiscal statistics are used to derive the general government data as disseminated in the context of the quarterly national accounts, balance of payments, international investment position, external debt, and monetary and financial statistics. (4.2.1)
- Clearly indicate to users whether observations are revised, or final. (4.3.2)
- Make revisions studies public. (4.3.3)
- Strengthen the presentation and navigation on the SHCP website for fiscal statistics by providing users with detailed tables, time series and charting capabilities for coverage, instrument and transaction classifications, and presentation formats. For example, general government statistics should include a: Statement of Sources and Uses of Cash; Statement of Operations; Statement of Other Economic Flows; and Balance Sheets, following the *GFSM 2014*. (5.1.1)

C. Balance of Payments Statistics, IIP, and External Debt

- Consult with data users, at least annually, regarding the quality and relevance of ESS. (0)
- Publish the terms and conditions under which ESS are compiled and disseminated. (1)
- Establish and disseminate a revision policy and conduct and publish revision studies. (3, 4)
- Ensure consistency in the valuation of debt securities at market price, recording interest following the accrual principle and use original maturity to classify debt instruments across the ESS. (2)

- Consistent with the recommendations for the national accounts program, within the governance structure of the SNIEG and in coordination with the US and Canadian compilers, develop experimental estimates of manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others. Once these estimates are of sufficient quality, in coordination with major trading partners, implement the BPM6 recommendation. (2)
- There is a need to reinforce the authority of the BM to collect statistical information from the nonfinancial private sector. This would require a legal framework that clearly establishes the mandatory reporting of data to the BM for the compilation of ESS, or joint INEGI-BM procedures to conduct surveys under the authority of the Statistical Law.
- In the framework of the SNIEG committees and working groups, establish a plan to compile data on digital services acquired from nonresidents by households. This plan should ensure the provision to the BM of fiscal data related to digital services, information on credit/debit card transactions and any other information required to produce an accurate estimate.
- In cooperation with INEGI, compile transactions in the secondary income and financial account related to insurance services. (2)
- Revise the external debt compilation process to enhance adherence to guidelines in the *BPM6* and the *EDS Guide*, and to ensure consistency with the IIP. (3)
- Disseminate external debt following the presentations established in the Guide with bridging tables between the external debt published by the BM and the public external debt disseminated by the SHCP. (4)
- Disseminate the balance of payments and the IIP with a structure (institutional sectors and financial instruments) consistent with the standard components of the *BPM6*, including additional details considered relevant for the Mexican economy, if needed. (4)
- Consider the costs and benefits of discontinuing the publication of the *BPM5* series, taking due account of users' feedback. (4)
- Disseminate a release calendar covering all external sector statistics, including the IIP and external debt. (1)
- Expand the information provided about metadata in the methodological notes for the balance of payments and the IIP and update the methodological note for the external debt statistics. (5)
- Publish press releases for the IIP and external debt statistics, to better promote use of these data among users. (5)

Appendix I. Practices Compared to the SDDS Plus

1. Mexico meets SDDS Plus requirements for six of the nine data categories, with the three uncomplying series comprising the sectoral balance sheet (timeliness), data on general government operations (timeliness and periodicity) and general government debt (timeliness and periodicity). Officials from the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), the Ministry of Finance (SHCP), and the Central Bank of Mexico (BM) expressed strong interest to adhere to the SDDS Plus.
2. Mexico meets the SDDS Plus requirements for six of the nine SDDS Plus data categories (Table 1).⁵ The three uncomplying series comprise the sector balance sheet (for timeliness), data on general government operations (timeliness and periodicity), and general government debt (timeliness and periodicity). Mexico disseminates sufficient data to comply with requirements related to data on the Other Financial Corporations Survey, Financial Soundness Indicators, Debt Securities, Coordinated Direct Investment Survey, Coordinated Portfolio Investment Survey, and the Currency Composition of Official Foreign Exchange Reserves (COFER).⁶ Mexico exceeds the periodicity and timeliness requirements for data on the Other Financial Corporations Survey and Financial Soundness Indicators.
3. Annual general government operations and general government debt are published with a 19-month lag, compared with a requirement of quarterly data with a 12-month and four-month lag respectively. The Ministry of Finance currently disseminates partial data on general government operations (excluding municipalities), and general government debt at or exceeding the required periodicity and timeliness.⁷ Sectoral Balance Sheet data are disseminated with somewhat longer than prescribed timeliness (155 days vs. 4 months), which also should be improved.⁸
4. Mexico could consider adhering to the SDDS Plus using the option of adopting a transition plan for the three above-noted data categories. To do so, as per the [SDDS Plus Guide](#) (¶1.17), the authorities would need to commit to comply with all SDDS Plus requirements within five years following the date of adherence, with credible compliance plans. The authorities' ongoing efforts to improve data collection from municipalities should help comply with the fiscal data requirements and support the improvement in the timelines of sectoral balance sheet data. These improvements are also in line with the broader ROSC recommendations on fiscal data.
5. Adhering to the SDDS plus also will require modernizing Mexico's [National Summary Data Page to include links to SDDS Plus data series in SDMX format](#). As an SDDS Plus adherent, Mexico would need to disseminate data series (rather than latest data points) on a machine-to-machine format (SDMX) which will also enhance data sharing and better serve users. The adherence process

⁵ Mexico subscribed to the SDDS on August 13, 1996; the latest annual observance reports can be found [here](#).

⁶ COFER data is confidential, and the mission team did not have access to these data. The assessment is based on Mexico's self-reporting participation in [COFER](#).

⁷ See ¶3.5 in the SDDS Guide for options how to reflect small government units within the general government.

⁸ Currently, the timeliness of Sectoral Balance Sheet data exceeds the timeliness of the general government debt as the compiler (INEGI) relies on other data sources.

also will require the updating of metadata as relevant, and the preparation of the SDMX files in compliance with the presentation requirements of each data category as described in the [SDDS Plus Guide](#).

Table 1. Mexico: Current Data Dissemination Practices via-a-vis SDDS Plus Requirements (June 15, 2021)

Data category	Coverage	Periodicity		Timeliness	
		SDDS Plus	Mexico	SDDS Plus	Mexico
1 Sectoral balance sheets	Coverage met	Q	Q	4M	155 days
2 General Government Operations 1/	Coverage met	Q	A	12M	19M
3 General Government Debt /2	Coverage met	Q	A	4M	19M
4 Other Financial Corporations Survey	Coverage met	Q	M	4M	2M
5 Financial Soundness Indicators	Coverage met	Q	M	Q	2M
6 Debt securities	Coverage met	Q	Q	4M	4M
Coordinated Direct Investment					
7 Survey (CDIS)	Coverage met	A	A	9M	9M
Coordinated Portfolio Investment					
8 Survey (CPIS)	Coverage met	SA	SA	7M	7M
Currency composition of Official					
9 Foreign Exchange Reserves (Cofer)	Coverage met	Q	Q	Q	Q

Source: Preliminary assessment based on publicly available information and mission discussions.

1/ Currently Mexico uses a flexibility option for timeliness of General Government Operations to subscribe to the SDDS.

2/ Mexico currently disseminate General Government Operations and General Government Debt Data with a quarterly periodicity and a 4M timeliness but it excludes municipal

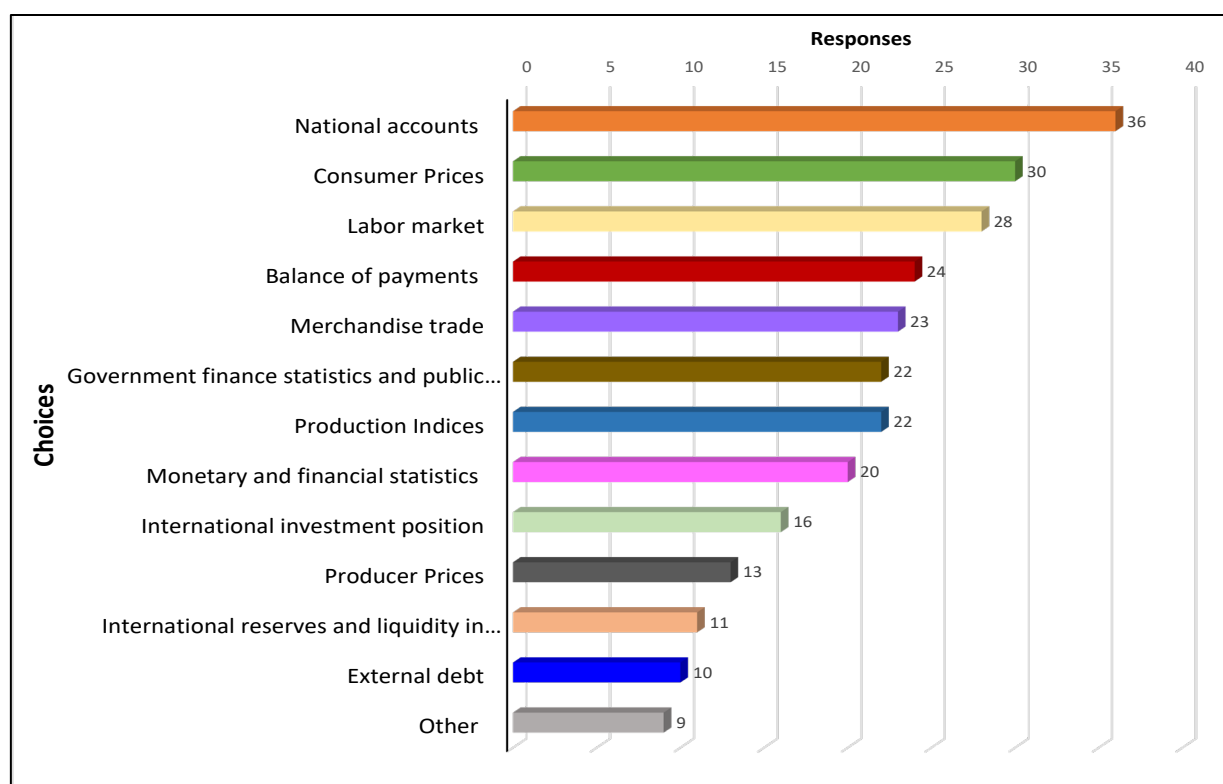
Legend:

Exceeds requirement Meets requirement Needs improvement

Appendix II. Users' Views

1. The Data ROSC mission conducted a survey of users of the macroeconomic statistics during May 27–June 10, 2021 to obtain their views on data quality. The survey was mailed out to 350 individuals identified by INEGI, BM and SHCP. Forty-seven responses were received from representatives of the private sector, commercial banks, consulting companies, academic institutions, and government agencies. To follow up on the survey, the mission had two meetings with selected private and public sector users to provide an overview of survey results and to elicit comments.
2. Respondents indicated strong interest in the national accounts, balance of payments and government finance statistics, with less demand for the international investment position and gross external debt.

What Official Statistics Do You Use Regularly?



3. In general, respondents indicated satisfaction with the coverage of the official statistics. Nonetheless, several users suggested that INEGI should extend the national accounts' time series and provide more detail by industry and at regional and sectoral levels. Others noted the need for more granular government finance statistics on revenues and expenditures as well as on financial instruments. Data are used for a variety of purposes, most often for monitoring current economic trends for decision making and economic research. Users pointed out that they receive information via press releases published by INEGI, BM and SHCP and from official policy documents, but statistics are overwhelmingly accessed via institutional websites.

In general, do you consider the coverage of official statistics satisfactory?		
	Yes	No
National accounts	83.8%	16.2%
Government finance statistics and public debt	87.0%	13.0%
Balance of payments	88.0%	12.0%
External debt	90.9%	9.1%
International investment position	70.6%	29.4%

4. Users also were satisfied with the frequency of the various macroeconomic statistics but indicated interest in more timely data on monthly consumption and investment, and on the quarterly international investment position. Some respondents were not aware of the release calendars and would like to be provided with more information on the source of revisions.

5. Respondents are generally satisfied with the methodological soundness of the macroeconomic statistics, indicating a high level of trust in official data.

In your opinion, is the basic methodology of official statistics sound and adequate?		
	Yes	No
National accounts	94.6%	5.4%
Government finance statistics and public debt	82.6%	17.4%
Balance of payments	87.5%	12.5%
External debt	100.0%	0.0%
International investment position	82.4%	17.6%

6. Most respondents considered the macroeconomic statistics to be unbiased and accurate, although some respondents noted a few concerns.

In general, do you consider official statistics to be unbiased and accurate?		
	Yes	No
National accounts	77.8%	22.2%
Government finance statistics and public debt	78.3%	21.7%
Balance of payments	80.0%	20.0%
External debt	90.9%	9.1%
International investment position	70.6%	29.4%

7. Most users were satisfied with access to the macroeconomic statistics, but some noted issues with access to the international investment position. Respondents indicated that accessing metadata was more difficult than accessing data.

Do you have easy access to the following official statistics?		
	Yes	No
National accounts	86.5%	13.5%
Government finance statistics and public debt	82.6%	17.4%

Balance of payments	84.0%	16.0%
External debt	81.8%	18.2%
International investment position	58.8%	41.2%

8. Overall, users were generally satisfied with the quality of Mexico's macroeconomic statistics. Most respondents felt that the official statistics are better or at least as good as those of other countries in the region. Only a few users felt that some macroeconomic statistics are worse than those of other countries in the region.

How would you rate the quality of the country's official statistics in comparison with those of other countries in the region?			
	Better	Same	Worse
National accounts	65.9%	26.8%	7.3%
Government finance statistics and public debt	58.3%	30.6%	11.1%
Balance of payments	52.9%	41.2%	5.9%
External debt	45.7%	48.6%	5.7%
International investment position	45.7%	40.0%	14.3%