

Gross External Debt Position: by Sectors and Financial Instruments

General Provisions

The IMF's *Balance of Payments Manual* and *External Debt Statistics Manual* constitute the methodological basis for compiling external debt.

Total external debt is broken down by maturity into long- and short-term debt and four sectors of the economy are singled out, i.e. monetary authorities, governmental agencies, banking and other sectors.

The general government sector includes all general government bodies of the republic, local Councils of deputies, local executive and administrative bodies of the Republic of Belarus as well as diplomatic and other official representative offices of the Republic of Belarus located outside the Republic of Belarus.

The monetary authorities sector includes authorities that hold and manage international reserves of the country and, as a rule, issue money. The National Bank of the Republic of Belarus belongs to such authorities.

The banking sector includes banks and Non-bank Credit and Financial Institutions of the Republic of Belarus.

The other sectors include natural persons and legal entities (their structural units) that are not mentioned in the definitions of the above-mentioned sectors.

Sources of information used for compiling external debt statistics fully coincide with those used for compiling the balance of payments financial account and international investment position of the Republic of Belarus, major of them being information furnished by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus on changes in the Government-guaranteed foreign debt and by the National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus on direct, portfolio and other investment of other sectors, as well as banks' reports on payments and status of their foreign assets and liabilities.

Description of Selected Indicators

Total foreign debt of the Republic of Belarus at any given time is an outstanding amount of actual current and absolutely unconditional liabilities of Belarusian residents to non-residents, which requires payment(s) by the debtor of principal, and/or interest at a certain future period of time.

Total foreign debt of the Republic of Belarus comprises all liabilities to non-residents classified in accordance with the fifth edition of the *Balance of Payments Manual* by type of financial instrument. Financial instruments are classified as follows: direct investor's credits (other capital), debt securities, trade credits, credits and loans, accounts and deposits, and other liabilities (past-due debt). Foreign debt does not include:

shares and other forms of capital participation, since they do not provide for payment of principal and/or interest thereon (direct and portfolio investment ensuring capital participation);

derivative financial instruments, both forward contracts and options – these are excluded on the same grounds as shares and other forms of capital participation, because main debt principal is not granted and interest thereon is not accrued;

monetary gold.

Long- and short-term liabilities are differentiated based on the original maturity period criterion.

Long-term foreign debt is defined as debt with maturity exceeding one year or without prescribed maturity.

Short-term foreign debt is defined as debt repaid at call or with the original maturity period not exceeding one year.