



Communications

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Swiss National Bank's new data portal

From today, the Swiss National Bank (SNB) is making statistical data available on its new data portal at data.snb.ch. To begin with, current data on the Swiss balance of payments and international investment position will be available online from the portal, as will the data from the former *Monthly Statistical Bulletin*. The platform will be expanded to include the current data on direct investment in December 2015, and the data from what is currently the *Monthly Bulletin on Banking Statistics* in February 2016. The development of the new platform is linked to the discontinuation of various print and online statistical publications.

Advantages of the data portal

The new platform has several advantages as regards the use and publication of statistical data. Data can be accessed according to topic, explanatory texts can be viewed directly in the data window, and data revisions are easy to keep track of. Additionally, users can adapt the pre-defined online tables using various criteria, meaning that they can control the level of detail themselves. Finally, data prepared in this way can easily be downloaded in different formats and worked on locally.

There will also be a change to the publication calendar. The data platform makes it possible for the SNB to publish some data sooner after they become available rather than waiting for a particular publication to be released. The publication calendar can be found at data.snb.ch/en/calendar.

Changes to publications

The new platform will gradually replace the printed and PDF tables in various publications. By clicking on 'Description' for each publication, users can find an overview of where the tables from former publications can be found on the new data portal.



Press release

More specifically, the *Monthly Statistical Bulletin* and the *Monthly Bulletin of Banking Statistics*, which have thus far been available in print form and online, will be discontinued as of September 2015 and January 2016 respectively. Existing subscribers and users can consult or download the data that interest them using the data portal. The online publications *Interest rates and exchange rates (monthly)* and *SNB balance sheet items* are also being discontinued in their current form with immediate effect. Henceforth, these data will also be available on the data portal.

The publications that include a commentary on the most significant developments (e.g. *Banks in Switzerland* and *Swiss Financial Accounts*) will continue and will still be available in printed form. However, the data series in these publications will gradually be made available on the platform and the printed or PDF tables will be discontinued.

Further development

The SNB will continue to expand the functionality of the data portal. In 2016, an interface will be added to allow access to complete and detailed data series (web warehouse). At a later date, it should also be possible to view data as graphs.

The SNB is convinced that the new platform will provide data users with an attractive, up-to-date service. We welcome your feedback at publications@snb.ch.