

IMF GFS Government Finance Statistics

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Contents

Summary

Tables In IFs

Data Pulling Instructions

 Data Pulling Instructions: IMF GFS COFOG

Data Notes

Summary

The Government Finance Statistics (GFS) database compiles detailed data on revenue, expenses, transactions in assets and liabilities, and stocks positions in assets and liabilities of general government as well as its subsectors. The GFS database's main purpose to provide a framework that is ideal for analyzing and evaluating fiscal policy, most importantly the performance of the general government and the broader public sector.

Within the IMF GFS there are different dataset organized by topic. IMF GFS COFOG is used for health and education spending. The data set provides a comprehensive view of the functions, or socioeconomic objectives, that government aims to achieve through various kinds of expenditure, comprising detailed classifications of general public service, defense, public order and safety, economic affairs, environment protection, housing and community services, health, recreation, culture and religion, education, and social protection services.

Tables In IFs

Table	Definition	Source Definition	Source	UsedInPreprocessor	UsedInPreprocessorName
SeriesGovtCalcExpendTot%GDP	Expenditure, government, total, as % of GDP	Sector Name- Expenditure, Function name- General Government	IMF GFS	1	ECONOMY
SeriesGovtCalcExpendCen%GDP	Expenditure, government, Central government, as % of GDP	Sector Name- Expenditure, Function name- Central Government	IMF GFS	1	ECONOMY
SeriesGovtCalcRevTot%GDP	Revenue, government, total, as % of GDP	Sector Name- Revenue, Function name- General Government	IMF GFS	1	ECONOMY
SeriesGovtCalcRevCen%GDP	Revenue, government, Central government, as % of GDP	Sector Name- Revenue, Function name- Central Government	IMF GFS	1	ECONOMY
SeriesGovtCalcHealthTot%GDP	Health spending, government, total, as % of GDP	Sector Name- Health, Function name- General Government	IMF GFS COFOG	1	ECONOMY
SeriesGovtCalcHealthCen%GDP	Health spending, government, Central government, as % of GDP	Sector Name- Health, Function name- Central Government	IMF GFS COFOG	1	ECONOMY
SeriesGovtCalcEdCen%GDP	Education spending, government, Central government, as % of GDP	Sector Name- Education, Function name- Central Government	IMF GFS COFOG	1	ECONOMY
SeriesGovtCalcEdTot%GDP	Education spending, government, total, as % of GDP	Sector Name- Education, Function name- General Government	IMF GFS COFOG	1	ECONOMY
SeriesTaxCorporate%GDP	Corporate taxes as a % of GDP	Sector Name- General Government, Classification Name- Taxes on income, profits, & capital gains: corporations	IMF GFS	0	

Note that IMF has two indicators for Central Government: with and without security funds. We want the Central government (incl. social security funds).

Below are the steps to pull from IMF GFS and IMF GFS COFOG. More details about IMF

GFS COFOG can be found here.

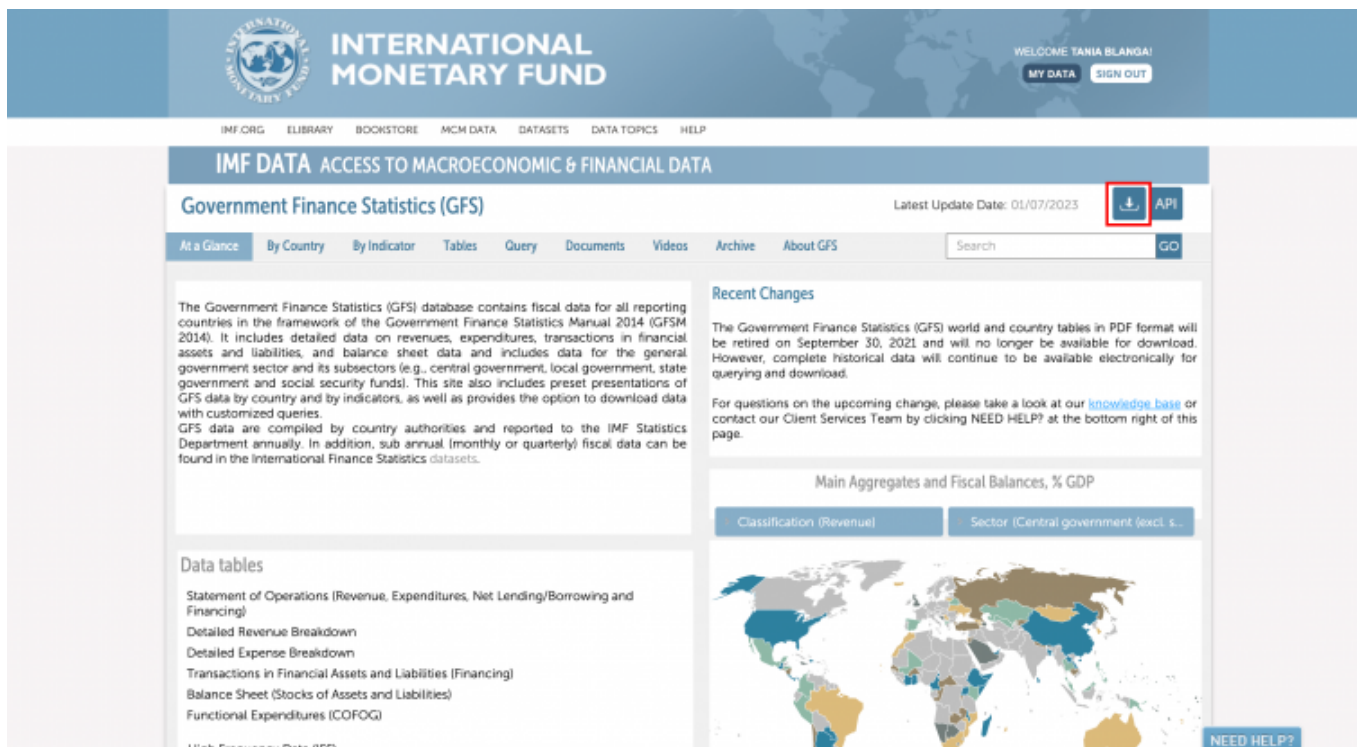
Data Pulling Instructions

Step 1: Navigate to the GFS Home Page



GFS Data Page

Step 2: Click the Download icon in the upper right corner to begin a bulk download



Data Download Icon

If you have not previously signed in, the pop up pictured below will appear. Click OK.



You will be navigated to this page:

A screenshot of the "IMF Bookstore Signup" page. The page has a header with "IMF DATA" and navigation links. The main heading is "IMF Bookstore Signup" with a subtext: "Sign up here so that you can save the results of searches and any personalization you might do while in any of the Bookstore sites". The form includes fields for "Email:", "First Name:", "Last Name:", "Institution:", "Password:", and "Confirm Password:". Below these is a checkbox for "I'm not a robot" and a "reCAPTCHA" logo. A "Register New User" button is at the bottom. A red text block at the bottom right specifies password requirements: "8-15 characters", "At least one capital letter", and "At least one small letter". A "Website Feedback" button is visible on the right side of the page.

Step 3: Fill out the required fields and click Register New User

You will be navigated to this page:

Step 4: Enter the confirmation number sent to the email you provided and click Enter Confirmation Number

You will be navigated to this page, which will automatically navigate you back to the GFS Home Page

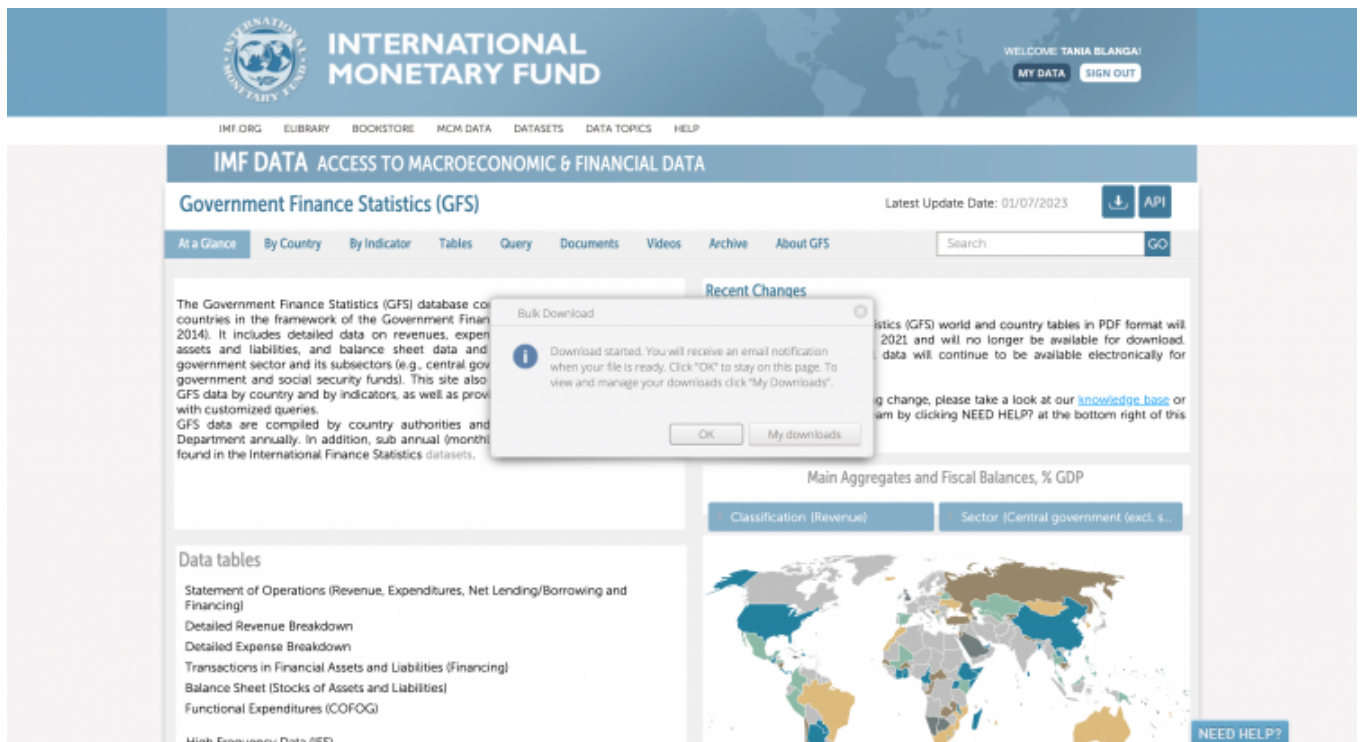
Step 5: Click the Download icon on the upper right corner again and this pop-up will appear:



Use the tabs to select the desired countries, sector, unit, classification, and date range.

Step 6: When you have made all of your selections, click OK

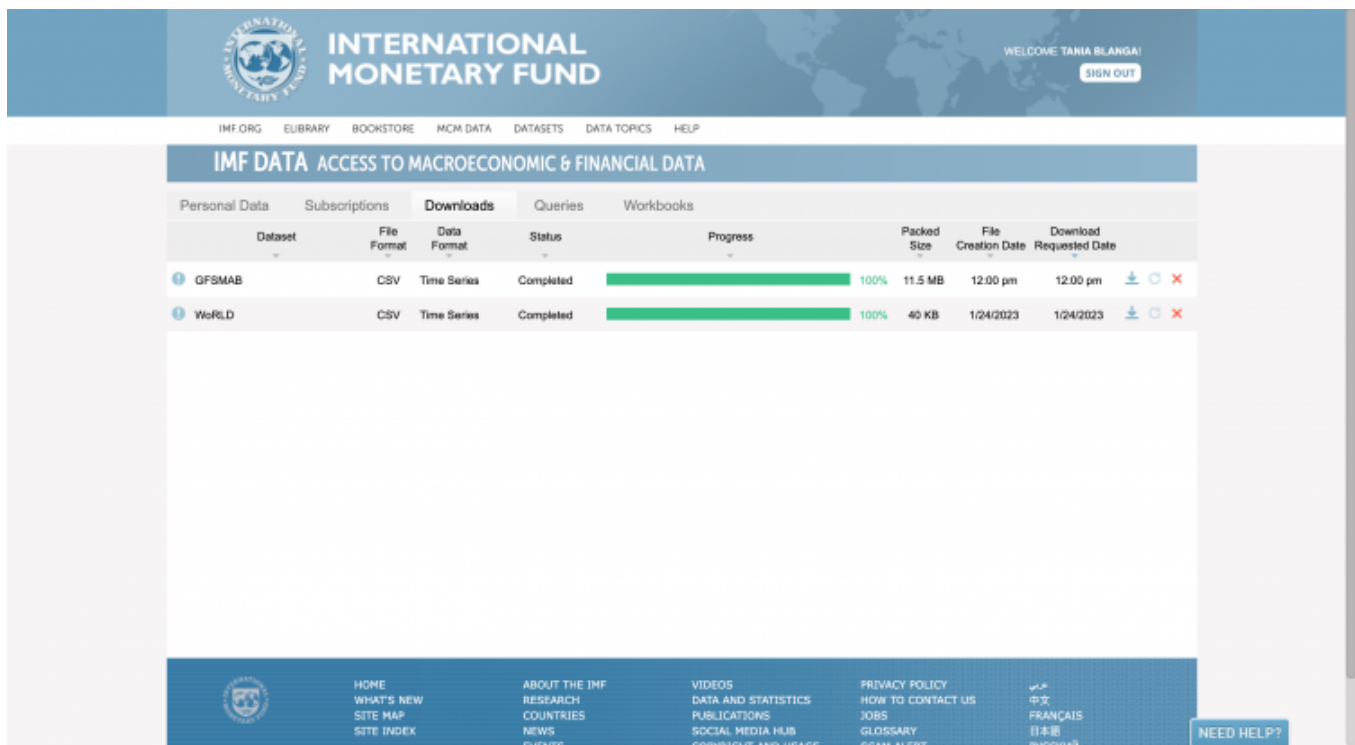
This pop-up will appear:



Step 7: To locate the download file, you can either click My Downloads or click OK and

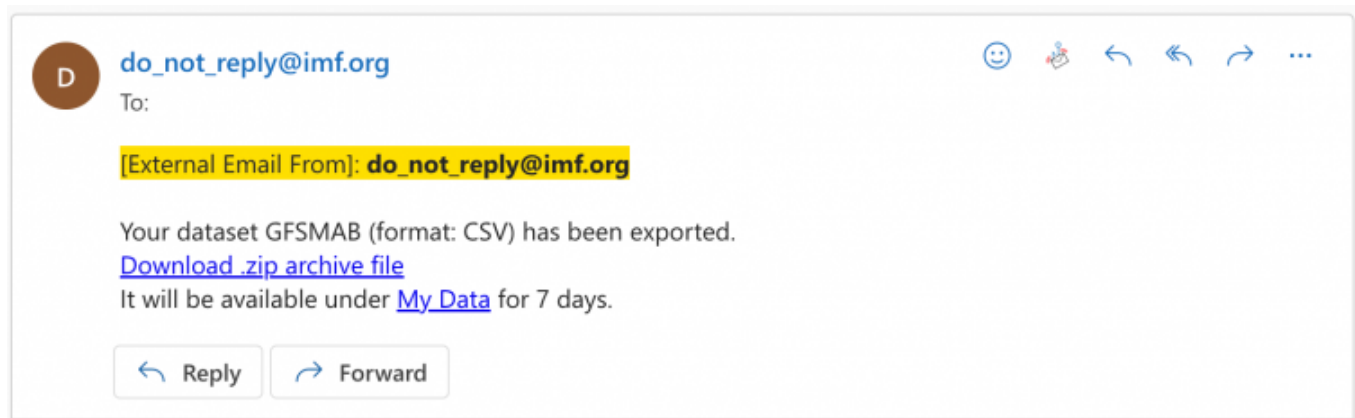
navigate to the email you used to create your account

My Downloads will look like this:



My Downloads Page

The email will look like this:



Step 8A (My Downloads): If you choose to navigate to My Downloads, locate the dataset in your Downloads queue and click the download icon to download the dataset

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Dataset	File Format	Data Format	Status	Progress	Packed Size	File Creation Date	Download Requested Date	
GFSMAB	CSV	Time Series	Completed	100%	11.5 MB	12:00 pm	12:00 pm	Download
WoRLD	CSV	Time Series	Completed	100%	40 KB	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	Download

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Step 8B (Email): If you choose to navigate to your registered email, click the download link to download the dataset

do_not_reply@imf.org

To:

[External Email From]: **do_not_reply@imf.org**

Your dataset GFSMAB (format: CSV) has been exported.

[Download .zip archive file](#)

It will be available under [My Data](#) for 7 days.

[Reply](#) [Forward](#)

Data Pulling Instructions: IMF GFS COFOG

Step 1: Navigate to the query tab of IMF GFS

**Government Finance Statistics (GFS), Statement of Sources and Uses of Cash**

This dataset provides an overview of government's cash flows, as summarized in the Statement of Sources and Uses of Cash, for those countries compiling GFS on a noncash basis (for example, an accrual basis) and are also including a cash flow statement.

Government Finance Statistics (GFS), Financial Assets and Liabilities by Counterpart Sector

This dataset provides an overview of total financial assets and liabilities classified by the sector to which the counterparty claim belongs. The counterpart sectors include nonfinancial corporations, the central bank, deposit taking corporations, other financial corporation sectors, government sectors, international organizations, external financial corporations, external general government, and other external sectors.

Government Finance Statistics (GFS), Integrated Balance Sheet (Stock Positions and Flows in Assets and Liabilities)

This dataset provides a comprehensive view of the integrated balance sheet. In other words, changes between the opening and closing stock positions in assets and liabilities are explained through transactions, holding gains/losses, and other changes in the volume of assets and liabilities. Data on net investment in nonfinancial assets – a component of total expenditure – on its components and related stock positions are provided.

Government Finance Statistics (GFS), Expenditure by Function of Government (COFOG)

This dataset provides a comprehensive view of the functions, or socioeconomic objectives, that government aims to achieve through various kinds of expenditure, comprising detailed classifications of general public service, defense, public order and safety, economic affairs, environment protection, housing and community services, health, recreation, culture and religion, education, and social protection services.

Government Finance Statistics (GFS), Expense

This dataset provides a comprehensive view of government expense, including detailed classifications of compensation of employees, use of goods and services, consumption of fixed capital, interest payable, subsidies payable, grants payable, social benefits, and other expense.

Government Finance Statistics (GFS), Revenue

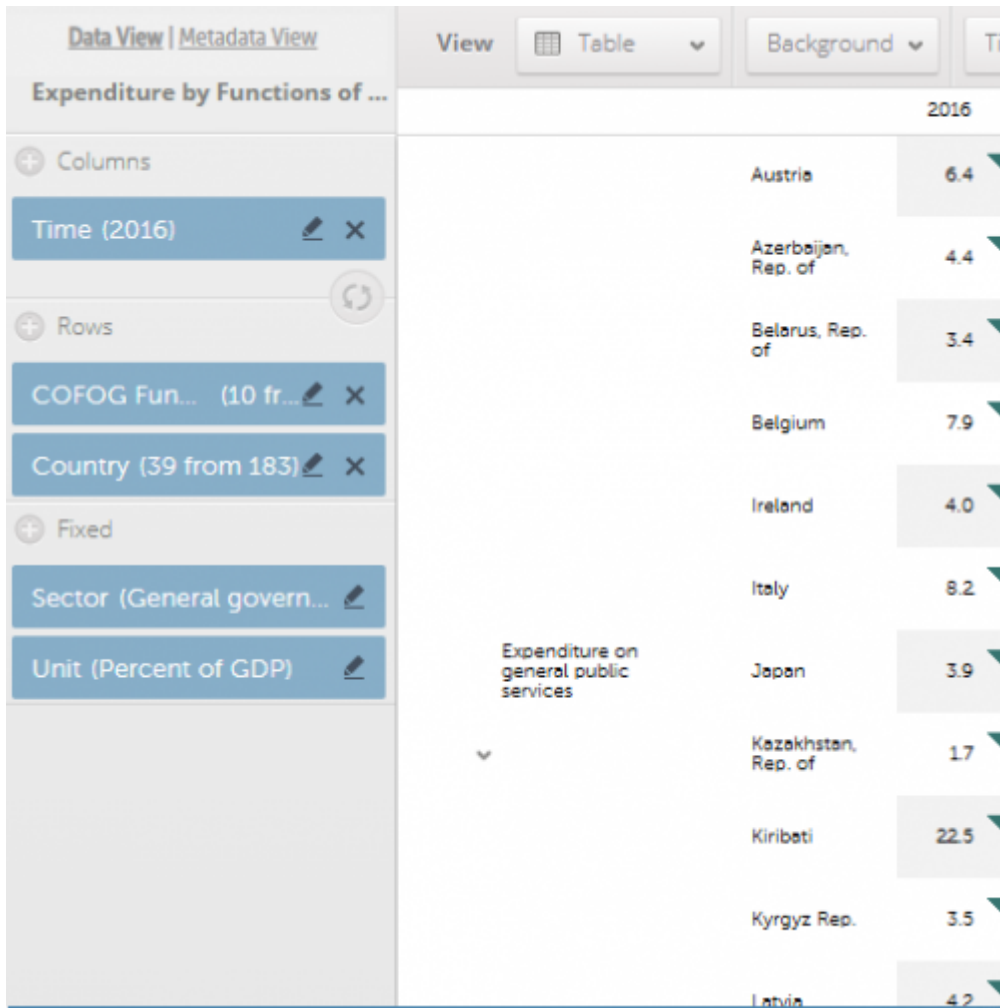
This dataset provides a comprehensive view of government revenue, including detailed classifications of taxes, social contributions, grants receivable, and other revenue.

Government Finance Statistics (GFS), Main Aggregates and Balances

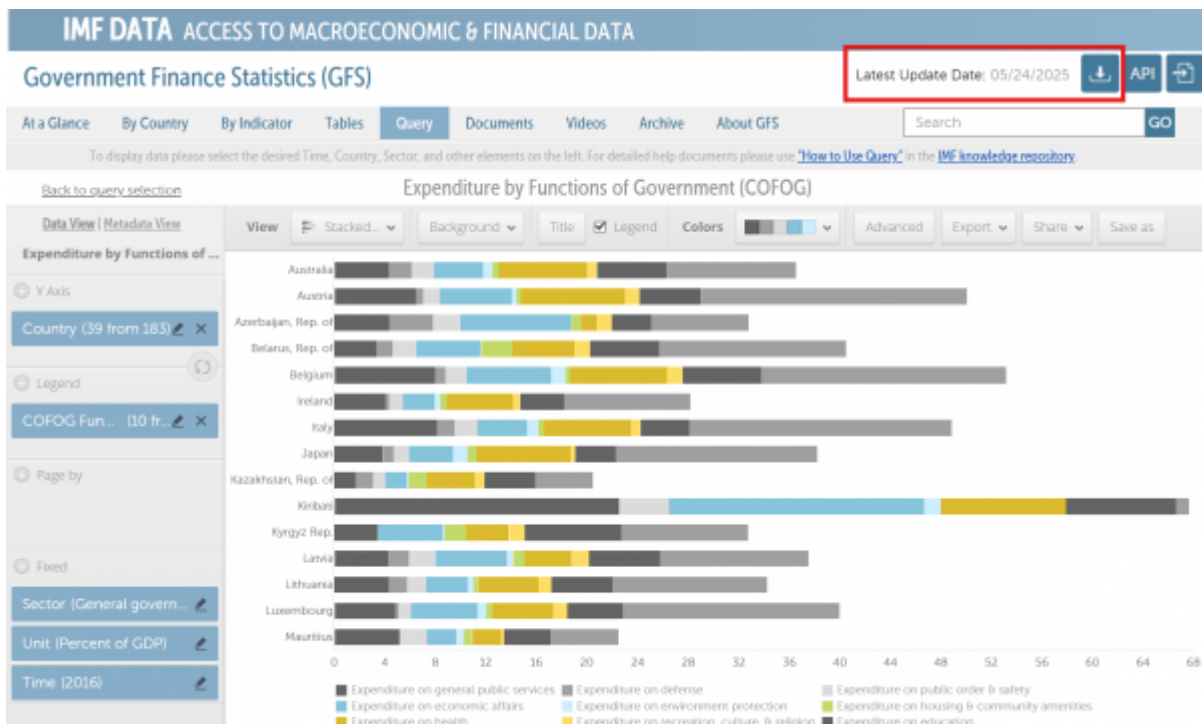
This dataset provides an overview of government operations and stock positions, as well as several derived balances. The Statement of Government Operations shows revenue and expense, with their main components, the operating balance and net lending/net borrowing, as well as financing. The Balance sheet shows stock positions in assets and liabilities, with their main components, as well as net worth and net financial worth. In addition, data on gross debt and net debt are included.

Select: Government Finances Statistics (GFS), Expenditure of Government (COFOG)

Step 2: Once you click it, select your indicators. Select all countries, all years, and the COFOG indicator and sector of government you need. Select View: Table. To organize the data, you can follow this selection (remember to select all the years):



Step 3: you can download the bulk excel (circled below)



If you would like to use a script to organize the data: here.

Data Notes

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