

# IMF GFS Government Finance Statistics

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## SUMMARY

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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 is 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.

The Data Team uses the GFS database for a number of series such as

- **SeriesGovtCalcEdCen%GDP**
- **SeriesGovtCalcEdTot%GDP**
- **SeriesGovtCalcExpendCen%GDP**
- **SeriesGovtCalcExpendTot%GDP**
- **SeriesGovtCalcHealthCen%GDP**
- **SeriesGovtCalcHealthTot%GDP**
- **SeriesGovtCalcRevCen%GDP**
- **SeriesGovtCalcRevTot%GDP**
- **SeriesTaxCorporate%GDP**

To pull data from IMF GFS to upload into IFs, refer to the instructions below

## STEPS TO PULL FROM GFS

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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.

The screenshot shows the IMF Data website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the IMF logo and the text "INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND". Below this, there are links for "IMF.ORG", "eLIBRARY", "BOOKSTORE", "MCM DATA", "DATASETS", "DATA TOPICS", and "HELP". The main header reads "IMF DATA ACCESS TO MACROECONOMIC & FINANCIAL DATA". The current page is "Government Finance Statistics (GFS)", with a "Latest Update Date: 01/07/2023" and an "API" button. A navigation menu includes "At a Glance", "By Country", "By Indicator", "Tables", "Query", "Documents", "Videos", "Archive", and "About GFS". A search bar is present with a "GO" button. A "Recent Changes" section is visible, containing a modal dialog box with the following text: "Authorization is required to perform this action. Click OK to sign in. After signing in click the download button again. Click Cancel to stay on current page." Below the dialog, there are buttons for "OK" and "Cancel". To the right of the dialog, there is a notice: "Statistics (GFS) world and country tables in PDF format will 2021 and will no longer be available for download. data will continue to be available electronically for...". Below this, there is a section titled "Main Aggregates and Fiscal Balances, % GDP" with two tabs: "Classification (Revenue)" and "Sector (Central government (excl. s...". A world map is displayed below the tabs, with a "NEED HELP?" button in the bottom right corner.

You will be navigated to this page:

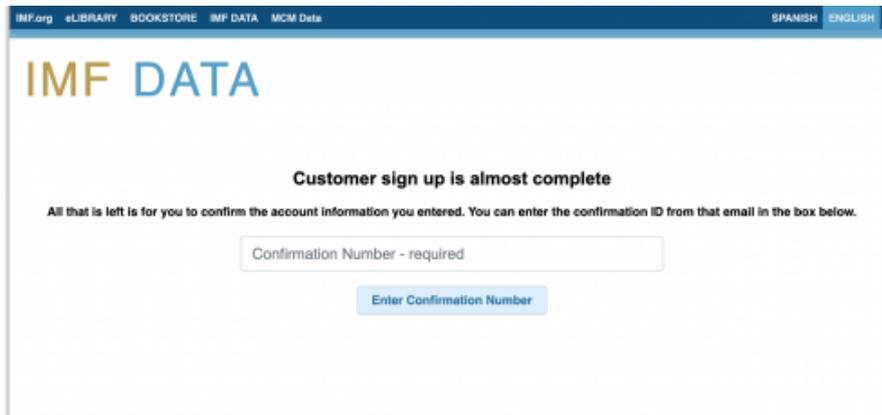
The screenshot shows the "IMF Bookstore Signup" form. The form is titled "IMF Bookstore Signup" and includes the following fields and instructions:

- Email:** Account Email Address - required
- First Name:** First Name
- Last Name:** Last Name - required
- Institution:** Institution Name
- Password:** Password - required
- Confirm Password:** Password Confirmation - required

Below the fields, there is a checkbox for "I'm not a robot" and a reCAPTCHA logo. A "Register New User" button is located below the checkbox. At the bottom of the form, there are 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.

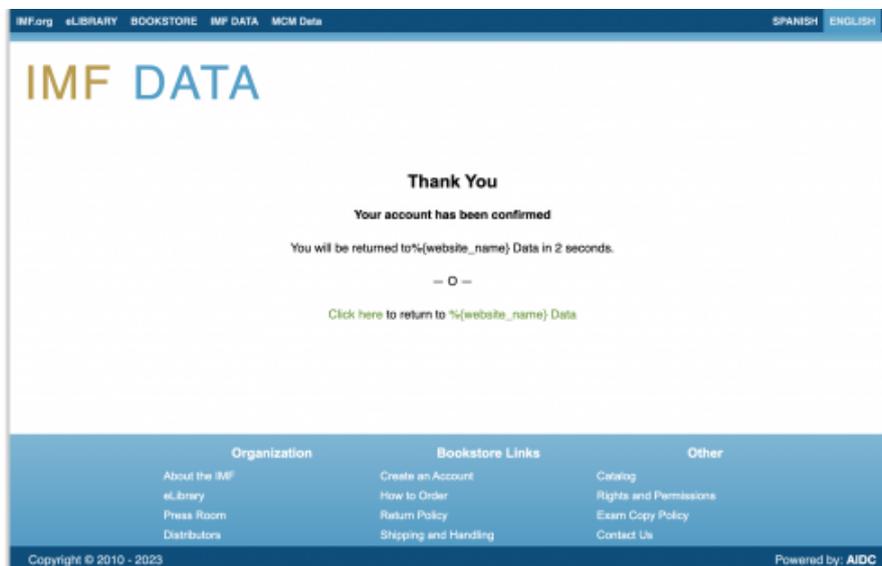
**Step 3:** Fill out the required fields and click Register New User

You will be navigated to this page:

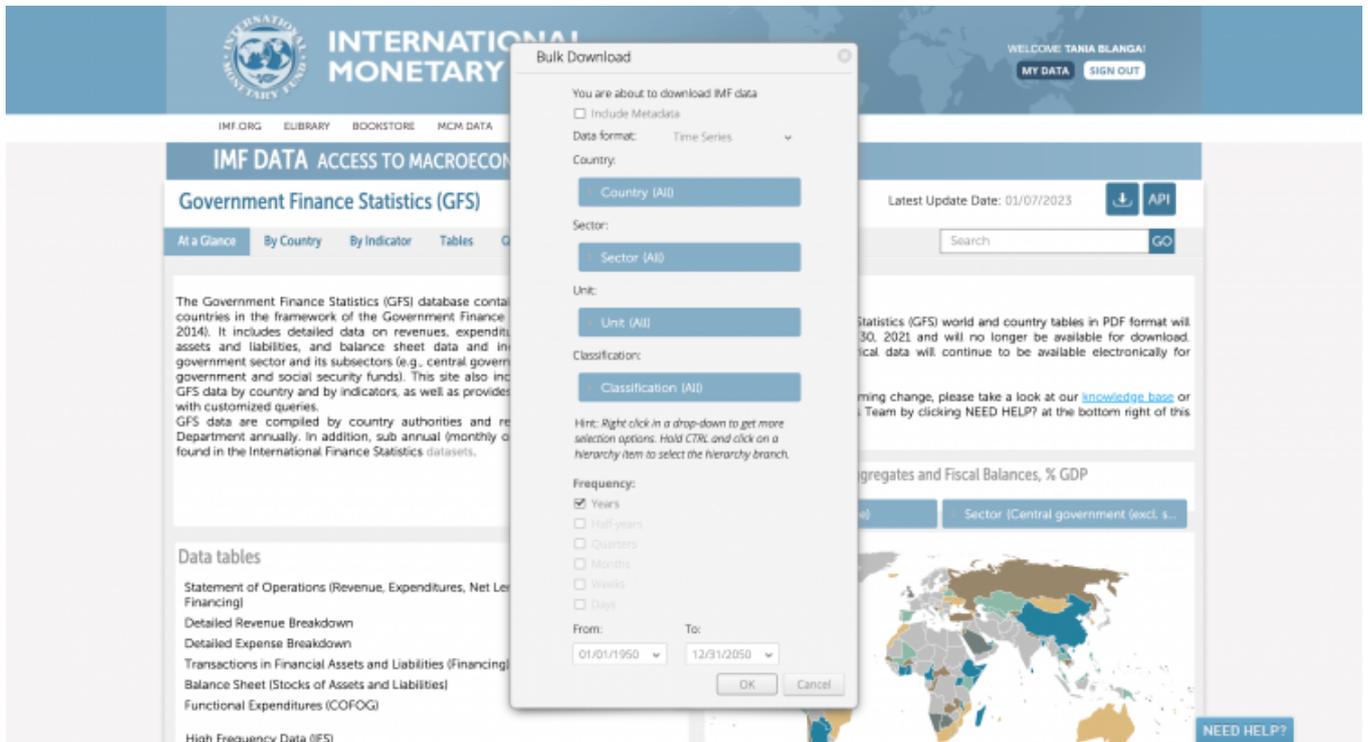


**Step 4:** Enter the confirmation number sent to the email you provided and click Enter Confirmation Number

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



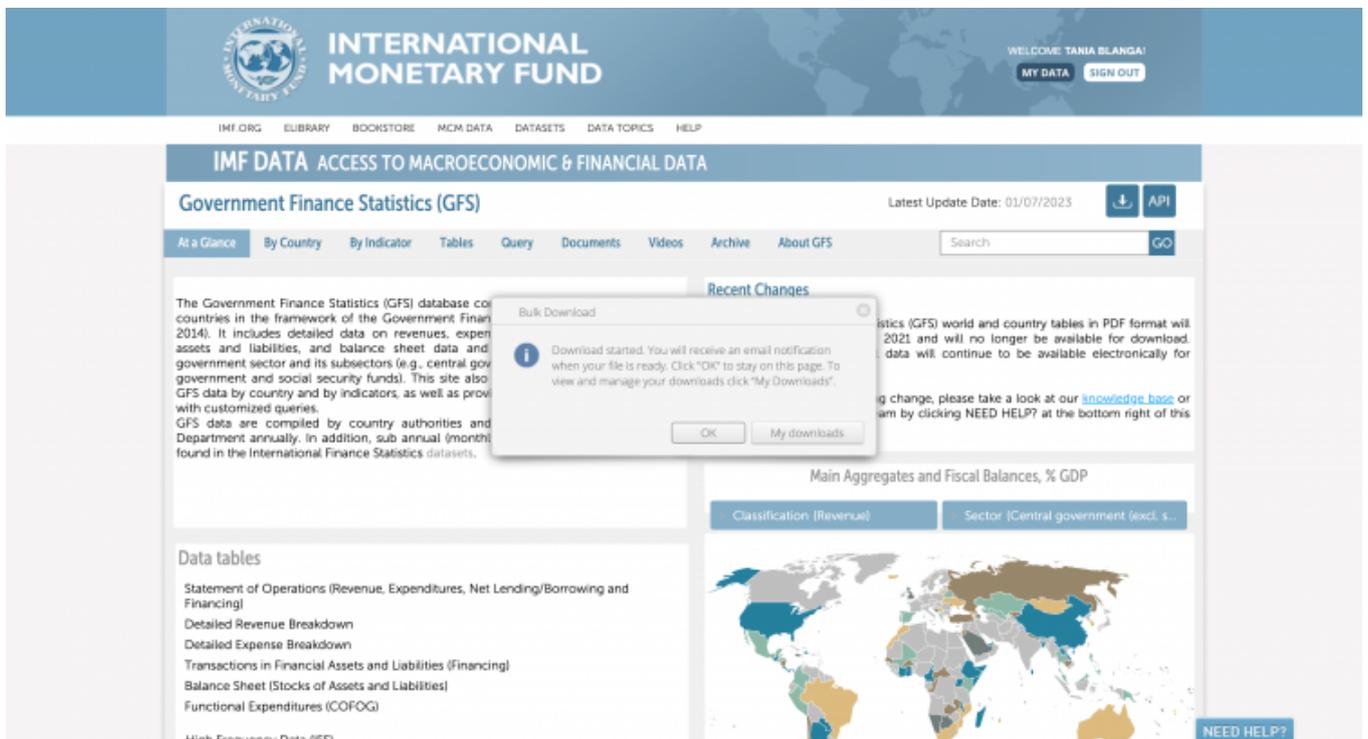
**Step 5:** Click the Download icon on the upper right corner again and this pop-up will appear:



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:

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	<a href="#">Download</a> <a href="#">Refresh</a> <a href="#">Close</a>
WoRLD	CSV	Time Series	Completed	100%	40 KB	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	<a href="#">Download</a> <a href="#">Refresh</a> <a href="#">Close</a>

My Downloads Page

The email will look like this:

**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](#)

**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

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

WELCOME TANIA BLANGA! [SIGN OUT](#)

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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	
WoRLD	CSV	Time Series	Completed	100%	40 KB	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	

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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.

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