

# Social Protection Statistics

Reference Metadata in Euro SDMX Metadata Structure

(ESMS)

INSTAT

## Reference Metadata

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<b>1. Contact</b>	
1.1. Contact organisation	Institute of Statistics, INSTAT
1.2. Contact organisation unit	Living Conditions Sector, Social Statistics Directory
1.3. Contact name	Vera Breçani
1.4. Contact person function	Specialist, Living Conditions Sector
1.5. Contact mail address	St. Vllazën Huta, Building 35, Entrance 1, Tirana, ZIP Code 1017
1.6. Contact email address	<a href="mailto:vbrecani@instat.gov.al">vbrecani@instat.gov.al</a>
1.7. Contact phone number	+(355) 4 2222411 / +(355) 4 2233356
1.8. Contact fax number	+(355) 4 228300
<b>2. Metadata update</b>	
2.1. Metadata last certified	24.11.2024
2.2. Metadata last posted	24.11.2024
2.3. Metadata last update	24.11.2024
<b>3. Statistical presentation</b>	
3.1. Data description	<p>Social Protection statistics contain data on the main indicators of social protection in Albania, which includes the interventions made by state and private bodies in alleviating the financial burden of families and individuals in need, to whom arise the right to these benefits. This intervention can be in the form of cash payments, in the form of reimbursements of expenses incurred by protected persons or in the form of goods and services provided directly to the individuals entitled to receive them.</p> <p>Statistical indicators of Social Protection contain information on the number of beneficiaries of unemployment benefits, families and beneficiaries of the economic assistance scheme, person's beneficiaries of disability payments, beneficiaries of urban and rural pensions in the social insurance scheme, etc.</p> <p>The information is collected by the responsible institutions units according to legal provisions, which regulate the provision of social benefits and their financing. The</p>

	data are provided by the Social Insurance Institute, the State Social Service and the National Agency for Employment and Training.
3.2. Classification system	Not applicable.
3.3. Sector coverage	<p>Information in the field of social protection provides data on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• budget expenditures in the field of social protection;</li> <li>• urban and rural pensions;</li> <li>• contributors to the social security system;</li> <li>• amount of pension by type;</li> <li>• beneficiaries of old age, disability and family pensions;</li> <li>• beneficiary families in the economic assistance scheme;</li> <li>• categories of persons in need beneficiaries in the economic assistance scheme;</li> <li>• economic assistance fund;</li> <li>• beneficiaries of disability payments;</li> <li>• beneficiary of unemployment benefits;</li> <li>• amount of unemployment benefit.</li> </ul>
3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions	<p><b>Social protection scheme</b> is a special set of rules supported by one or more institutional units that regulate the provision of social protection benefits and their financing.</p> <p><b>Old-age pension</b> is a monthly cash payment paid to insured persons in order to maintain income from work even after retirement.</p> <p><b>Survivor pension</b> is a monthly cash payment which is entitled to receive by persons dependent on the insured person who dies, who previously received an old age pension or disability pension.</p> <p><b>Disability pension</b> is a monthly cash payment which is entitled to receive insured persons who become disabled: a) for any economic activity; b) when there are severe disabilities and physical injuries (including blindness).</p> <p><b>Person with a disability</b> is an individual, child or adult, with long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments, which in interaction with various barriers can hinder his full and effective participation in society just like the rest of society.</p> <p><b>Economic assistance</b> is a periodic cash payment given to low-income or low-income families and certain categories of people in need.</p> <p><b>Disability payment</b> is a cash and in-kind benefit given to persons with disabilities who meet the conditions to qualify as such, in order to facilitate their daily living.</p> <p><b>Unemployment benefit</b> is a cash benefit, given for a period of up to 12 months to persons who leave the labor market as unemployed and who have contributed to their social security for not less than 12 months.</p>

3.5. Statistical unit	Statistical units are pensioners receiving old age, family and disability pensions (urban and rural), and families receiving economic assistance, persons in need receiving economic assistance, persons receiving unemployment benefits.
3.6. Statistical population	<p>The statistical population refers to the beneficiary population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in the social insurance scheme of urban and rural pensions, old age pensions, disability pensions, family pensions;</li> <li>• in the unemployment payment scheme;</li> <li>• in the economic assistance scheme;</li> <li>• in the disability scheme;</li> <li>• in the social care centres.</li> </ul>
3.7. Reference area	Social Protection statistics data cover the entire territory of the country.
3.8. Time coverage	The data of Social Protection statistics for the pension and economic assistance scheme dated from 1998 onwards, while the data of social protection statistics for the unemployment scheme dated from 2000 onwards.
3.9. Base period	Not applicable.
<b>4. Unit of measure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Average annual number of urban and rural pensions in the social insurance scheme.</li> <li>- Four-Monthly average number of families and individuals in the economic assistance scheme.</li> <li>- Annual economic assistance fund according to family structure in thousand / ALL.</li> <li>- Quarterly average number of unemployment benefit beneficiaries.</li> <li>- Unemployment payment in ALL.</li> <li>- The amount of the monthly urban or rural pension according to the type of pension in ALL.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Reference period</b>	The reference period for social protection statistics is quarterly and annually. This report refers to 2023 data.
<b>6. Institutional mandate</b>	
6.1. Legal acts and other agreements	<p>The legal basis on National Level consist on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Law No.17/2018 "On Official Statistics"</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Official Statistics National Program 2022-2026</a></li> <li>• Memorandum with Social Insurance Institute, State Social Service and National Agency for Employment and Training.</li> </ul>

6.2. Data sharing	INSTAT does not transmit indicators to Eurostat regarding Social Protection Statistics.
<b>7. Confidentiality</b>	
7.1. Confidentiality - policy	<p>The data collected are considered as strictly confidential and used only for statistical purposes and scientific research in accordance with the national Statistical Law No.17/2018 “On Official Statistics”, date 10.03.2018 and the Law no. 9887, dated 10.03.2008 "Personal Data Protection", Article 31 of the Law on Official Statistics clearly define that all statistical information collected by INSTAT are confidential and may only be used or published in such summary tables that do not identify the information of the unit. The direct identification is called when a statistical unit is directly identified by the name, address or any officially recognized identification number. When data processing is performed in such a way as to enable the data subject to be identified, the data must be coded immediately so that the entities are no longer recognized.</p>
7.2. Confidentiality - data treatment	<p>Albanian Institute of Statistics protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units. Albania Institute of Statistics takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by Albania Institute of Statistics if and only if:</p> <p>a) these data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation, in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or</p> <p>b) the statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.</p> <p>The confidential data that are transmitted to Albania Institute of Statistics are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task. Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the staff working in Albania Institute of Statistics. The responsibilities of this staff are to recommend on: which detailed level the statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible; the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users; the access granting to researchers on confidential data for scientific purposes.</p>
<b>8. Release policy</b>	
8.1. Release calendar	Statistical information on Social Protection data is published in accordance with an approved release calendar on a quarterly, four monthly and annual bases.
8.2. Release calendar access	<a href="#">The Calendar of Publications</a> is available on INSTAT website.

8.3. User access	<p>In accordance with Article 34 of Law no. 17/2018 "On Official Statistics", INSTAT distributes statistics on the INSTAT website and other media for simultaneous access, respecting professional independence and in a transparent, professional and professional manner, in which all users are treated fairly equal. The following distribution channels are used to release the results of Social Protection Statistics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Website;</li> <li>2. Written requests (by mail or <a href="#">e-mail</a>);</li> <li>3. Publication;</li> <li>4. <a href="#">Data request</a>, section available for external users.</li> </ol>
<b>9. Frequency of dissemination</b>	Social protection data are published on a quarterly, four-monthly and annual basis.
<b>10. Accessibility and clarity</b>	
10.1. News release	Not applicable.
10.2. Publications	<p>Users can find the publications on Social Protection on the INSTAT website organized as follows:</p> <p>Annually in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">"Social Protection Statistics"</a>;</li> <li>• <a href="#">"Regional Statistical Yearbook"</a>;</li> <li>• <a href="#">"Men and Women in Albania"</a>.</li> </ul> <p>Quarterly and four-monthly in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">"Social Protection Statistics"</a>.</li> </ul>
10.3. On-line database	Data are published on official website of INSTAT in the following link: <a href="#">Statistical Database</a>
10.4. Micro – data access	Social protection data is not made available at the micro level. Aggregate data is the only type of data offered to external users. The most detailed level of aggregate data obtained is at the prefecture level.
10.5. Other	Users can submit other specific Social Protection Statistics requests through a dedicated section for <a href="#">Data Request</a> .
10.6. Documentation on methodology	A brief explanation of the definitions, key concepts and methodological explanations for users is published in the press release and publications. Additional information is provided to internal users when needed. On the INSTAT website there is a section related on <a href="#">Methodology</a> on Social Protection Statistics.
10.7. Quality documentation	The Sector of Living Conditions documents the entire process and procedures for internal purposes.

<b>11. Quality management</b>	
11.1. Quality assurance	<p>INSTAT is committed to ensure the highest quality with respect to the compilation of statistical information. In accordance with the Statistics <a href="#">Law No 17/2018 "On Official Statistics"</a>, INSTAT use statistical methods and processes in compliance with internationally recognized scientific principles and standards conduct on-going analyses of the statistics with a view to quality improvements and ensure that statistics are as up-to-date. In performing its tasks, it follows the general principles of quality management from the <a href="#">European Statistics Code of Practice</a>. INSTAT declares that it takes into account the following principles: impartiality, quality of processes and products, user orientation, employee orientation, effectiveness of statistical processes, reducing the workload for respondents.</p>
11.2. Quality assessments	<p>The data source for Social Protection Statistics is administrative. The data are compared with data from previous years to determine if there is data coherence or there have been major changes.</p>
<b>12. Relevance</b>	
12.1. User needs	<p>Users of Social Protection Statistics are divided into internal and external users.</p> <p>External users are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Administration Institutions;</li> <li>• Universities;</li> <li>• Businesses;</li> <li>• Researchers, students and other similar groups;</li> <li>• National non-profit organization;</li> </ul> <p>Internal users are those within the institution of INSTAT, who use the Social Protection Statistics as input for their work.</p>
12.2. User satisfaction	<p>Page Views on Social Protection Statistics in 2023 are 5,970.</p> <p>During 2023, INSTAT conducted User Satisfaction Survey from INSTAT publications. The survey results show that the overall quality of “Social Protection Statistics” is rated 3.95 (79 %) on a scale of 1 (very poor) to 5 (very good).</p> <p>INSTAT organizes every year <a href="#">User Satisfaction Survey</a>.</p>
12.3. Completeness	<p>The completeness of the data for Social Protection statistics for 2023 is judged by comparing the quality and quantity of indicators in the Official Statistics Program (2022-2026). The Completeness rate of Social Protection Statistics for 2023 is 100%.</p>
<b>13. Accuracy and reliability</b>	
13.1. Overall accuracy	<p>Information on Social Protection Statistics is collected administratively as required by the legal basis and Memorandums of Cooperation with the Social Insurance Institute, the State Social Service and National Agency for Employment and</p>

	<p>Training. In general, the data have been checked with previous years to identify any significant changes in data performance. In general, the data have been checked with previous years to identify any significant changes in the performance of the data. In cases where changes are encountered, INSTAT notifies the relevant data sources to inform about the findings found in order to correct this data if deemed necessary or to be officially confirmed.</p>																		
13.2. Sampling error	Not applicable.																		
13.3. Non - sampling error	<p>The non-sampling errors are mainly errors of the administrative data sources reported data. Data review occurs only if the relevant institutions review the data sent to INSTAT for the purpose of updating or any potential human error. If the relevant institutions review the data sent to INSTAT, these changes will be reflected in the nearest publication and brief explanatory information will be provided to users.</p>																		
<b>14. Timeliness and punctuality</b>																			
14.1. Timeliness	<p>The results of the annual Social Protection Statistics are published on the INSTAT website 92 days after the end of the reference period (V + 92 days) for economic assistance data by family structure and unemployment payment, and 122 days after the reference period for pensions (V+122). The results of the quarterly Social Protection Statistics data are published in INSTAT website 60 days after the end of the reference period (T+60). The reference period of the results of the Social Protection Statistics 2023 is 31 December 2023.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Social Protection</th> <th>Statistical domain</th> <th>Reference period</th> <th>Date of publication</th> <th>Timeliness</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>Economic assistance and unemployment benefits</td> <td>12/31/2023</td> <td>4/01/2024</td> <td>92</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pensions</td> <td>12/31/2023</td> <td>5/01/2024</td> <td>122</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Social Protection	Statistical domain	Reference period	Date of publication	Timeliness		Economic assistance and unemployment benefits	12/31/2023	4/01/2024	92		Pensions	12/31/2023	5/01/2024	122			
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14.2. Punctuality	<p>Data on Social Protection are published based on the publication calendar. The publication of Social Protection Statistics has been punctual in 100% of the publications made over the years for economic assistance and unemployment benefits. Regarding the annual data on pensions, their publication has been postponed by 21 days as a result of delays in obtaining data from the source institution.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Social Protection</th> <th>Statistical domain</th> <th>Reference period</th> <th>Date of announcement</th> <th>Date of publication</th> <th>Time lag</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>Economic assistance and unemployment benefits</td> <td>12/31/2023</td> <td>4/01/2024</td> <td>4/01/2024</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pensions</td> <td>12/31/2023</td> <td>5/01/2024</td> <td>5/01/2024</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Social Protection	Statistical domain	Reference period	Date of announcement	Date of publication	Time lag		Economic assistance and unemployment benefits	12/31/2023	4/01/2024	4/01/2024	0		Pensions	12/31/2023	5/01/2024	5/01/2024	0
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	Pensions	12/31/2023	5/01/2024	5/01/2024	0														



<b>15. Coherence and comparability</b>	
15.1. Comparability - geographical	Social Protection statistics are presented at country level. These statistics are comparatively comparable as data-gathering institutions coordinate the process of data collection.
15.2. Comparability - over time	<p>Social Protection statistics related to indicators of pensions and economic assistance by family structure dated from 1998 referring to the statistical database, providing a long-term comparability of 26 years (<math>CC2 = J_{last} - J_{first} + 1 = 26</math>).</p> <p>Social Protection statistics related to unemployment benefit indicators date back to 2000 referring to the statistical database providing a time comparability of 24 years (<math>CC2 = J_{last} - J_{first} + 1 = 24</math>).</p> <p>The data are constantly checked to ensure their comparability over time.</p>
15.3. Coherence - cross domain	Not applicable.
15.4. Coherence - internal	The internal consistency of the data is checked before being finalized. The relation between the variables and the coherence in the various series are also checked.
<b>16. Cost and burden</b>	The staff involved in the preparation of social protection statistics at the Social Protection Statistics Sector is: 1 employee at the central offices of INSTAT.
<b>17. Data revision</b>	
17.1. Data revision - policy	<p>Revision policy is done in accordance with general Revision Policy and Errors Treatment Policy introduced by INSTAT in the links below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Statistical Revision Policy;</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Errors Treatment Policy.</a></li> </ul>
17.2. Data revision - practise	<p>If the authorities that send information on Social Protection Statistics to INSTAT will report changes in the information provided through tables, this data will be updated and published in the forthcoming publication accompanied by an explanatory note to the user.</p> <p>No Social Protection Statistics data revisions for 2023 have been conducted, subject to this report.</p>
<b>18. Statistical processing</b>	
18.1. Source data	<p>Information on Social Protection Statistics is collected from administrative sources in the framework of Memorandum of Cooperation, respectively with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Security Institute;</li> <li>• National Agency for Employment and Training ;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State Social Service.</li> </ul>
18.2. Frequency of data collection	Data collection is organized in quarterly and annual reference periods. Data on economic assistance, disability payments and unemployment benefits are collected on a quarterly and annual basis, while social security data are collected on an annual basis.
18.3. Data collection	The Institute of Statistics organizes the work for the calculation of Social Protection indicators and statistics for 2020, oriented by the Program of Official Statistics and the Law on Statistics. Social Insurance Institute, National Agency for Employment and Training, and the State Social Service are the main source of data for all indicators published under this program. After the data is collected, it is subjected to quality control and statistical analysis and in case of absences it is followed by communications (email, telephone) and when necessary meetings with representatives of relevant institutions.
18.4. Data validation	Logical and mathematical controls are done to the Social protection data. These controls are performed throughout the data processing process, for all indicators that INSTAT publishes. Among the methods of verifying administrative data we can mention: Check for completeness of data, consistency over time, arithmetic corrections (should not be too high), summary checks, check of time series if there are large deviations, etc.
18.5. Data compilation	Not applicable.
18.6. Adjustment	Not applicable.
<b>19. Comment</b>	
<b>Annex</b>	