

HOUSEHOLD BUDGET SURVEY

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(ESMS)

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2. Metadata update	
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3. Statistical presentation	
3.1. Data description	Household Budget Survey is a statistical survey carried out at the Albanian usual resident households and gives a clear overview of the socio-economic situation of the Albanian households.

	The main purpose of the data collection is to estimate the level and structure of consumption expenditure in the country as a whole as well aggregated by prefecture level, as well as other indicators based on consumption expenditures. However, the advantage that the Household Budget Survey has over other sources of consumption is that the survey takes information at household level, it also get information about the characteristics of the household and its members. The Household Budget Survey data are used to update Consumer Price Index and to estimate the private final consumption expenditure of the household sector in the National Accounts. The maintenance of a detailed diary of the household expenditures over a one-week period by the surveyed households is thus the main distinguishing feature of the Household Budget Survey.
3.2. Classification system	The Household Budget Survey collect the information on the consumption expenditures by the above classifications: • Classification of consumption by the Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP - 6 digit 2012 adapted for Albania situation), COICOP-5 digits; • International Standard Classification of Education, ISCED 2011.
3.3. Sector coverage	The main groups of consumption are designed by the Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP) as follows: • Food and non-alcoholic beverages; • Alcoholic beverages, tobacco; • Clothing and footwear; • Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels; • Furnishing, household equipment and routine maintenance of the dwelling; • Health; • Transport; • Communication; • Recreation and culture; • Education; • Restaurants and hotels; • Miscellaneous goods and services.
3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions	The consumption expenditures of households include all types of purchases of goods and services to meet the individual needs of households and individuals, excluding purchases of durable goods, capital investments, money given to third parties, and imputed rent. Reference period is the duration of a certain subject that the information is collected on. The survey uses different reference periods depending on the type of information that must be taken and objectives of each matter to be analyzed.

	Household is referred to a group of people, a related person or not, who live together in the same apartment or in a part of the house and share a partial or common economy. Head of household is a person who is defined as the head for the purposes of the survey, (person who is the owner of the house or the person identified by other members of the family). If family members do not determine by themselves the person, he will normally be the person who contributes more to the income of the household. Child is considered every person under 18 years old.
3.5. Statistical unit	The unit of observation is the household.
3.6. Statistical population	The statistical population is all the Albanian usual resident households. The sample of the survey covers all the territory of Albania.
3.7. Reference area	The sample of the survey covers all the territory of Albania. The sample represents the whole population as well as its most typical groups. Collective households are not included in this survey. Elderly homes, nursing homes for disabled children, student hostels, hotels, soldier's barracks, hospitals, sanatoriums, imprisonment institutions, etc are excluded from the survey
3.8. Time coverage	The Household Budget Survey has a one-year extension in the field. The data covered by the Household Budget Survey date from 2006-2007, 2008-2009, 2014 and ongoing.
3.9. Base period	Not applicable.
4. Unit of measure	
4.1 Unit of measure	The consumption expenditures are measured in ALL.
5. Reference period	
5.1 Reference period	The reference period is the whole calendric year, January - December 2025.
6. Institutional mandate	
6.1. Legal acts and other agreements	In the national level the Household Budget Survey statistics are based in: • Law No.17/2018 "On official statistics"; • Official Statistical National Program 2022-2026.

6.2. Data sharing	Not applicable.
7. Confidentiality	
7.1. Confidentiality - policy	The data collected in the households 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.124/2024, “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.
7.2. Confidentiality - data treatment	All individual data collected in the statistical unit for the production of official statistics are used only for statistical purposes. These data are published jointly and are not used to make any administrative decision, including decisions on fiscal control or legal investigations.
8. Release policy	
8.1. Release calendar	Notifications about the dissemination of statistics are published in the release calendar, which is available on the website. The announcements and delays are pre- announced in this calendar. In the case of delays, the date of the next publication and the explanation of the reasons for the delays are specified.
8.2. Release calendar access	The calendar of publications is available on the INSTAT website.
8.3. User access	In accordance with Article 34 of Law No. 17/2018 on Official Statistics, official statistics are disseminated in a manner that ensures all users have equal and immediate access. All possible forms of media are used, and INSTAT and the agencies, within their distribution programs, aim to meet any request from any organization or individual for unpublished data or specific analyses. The channels through which users can access the results of the Household Budget Survey are as follows: • Website - online release; • Written requirements; • Publications (Regional Statistical Yearbook, Albania in Figures); • The link of dedicated information to contact INSTAT.

9. Frequency of dissemination	
9.1 Frequency of dissemination	The Household Budget Survey results are published annually.
10. Accessibility and clarity	
10.1. News release	The press release contains information on key indicators such as the average monthly consumption expenditure of the household, average monthly consumption expenditure by prefecture, etc. The Household Budget Survey press release is published online on the INSTAT website.
10.2. Publications	Users can find the results on the INSTAT website: Household Budget Survey . The Household Budget Survey results are published in the Regional Statistical Yearbook .
10.3. On-line database	All information is available in two languages: Albanian and English. Since 2011, through the PX-Axis system, for the external users on the website is provided time series from Household Budget Survey 2006/2007, 2008/2009 and 2014 ongoing. There is also a simple methodological explanation on this website. You can access the database on household consumption expenditures on the link: database .
10.4. Micro – data access	The Household Budget Survey data is not made available at micro level as a result of confidentiality. Aggregated data is the only type of data provided to external users.
10.5. Other	Users can send other specific requests through a dedicated session for contacts .
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 to the survey methodology .
10.7. Quality documentation	The Household Consumption Statistics Sector documents the entire work process and the Household Budget Survey procedures for internal purposes.
11. Quality management	
11.1. Quality assurance	INSTAT is committed to ensure the highest quality with respect to the compilation of statistical information. In accordance with the Statistics law, INSTAT use statistical methods and processes in compliance with internationally recognized

	scientific principles and standards conduct ongoing analyses of the statistics with a view to quality improvements and ensure that statistics are as up to-date. In carrying out its duties, INSTAT follows the general quality management principles, in line with the European Statistics Code of Practice. INSTAT for quality assurance is guided by the following principles: impartiality, quality of processes and statistical products, user orientation, employee orientation, statistical process effectiveness and reduction of interviewer's workload. The data entry process is programmed to minimize the errors that come from the data collection process. During the data collection process takes measures to reduce the non-response rate. The collected data are compared in terms of internal coherence, administrative resources or other household surveys that INSTAT realizes guaranteeing a qualitative final product
11.2. Quality assessments	The data from the Household Budget Survey are comparable over the years to identify whether there is data coherence or if there have been significant changes.
12. Relevance	
12.1. User needs	The Household Budget Survey users are divided into internal and external users. With external users we mean: • Public Administration Institutions; • Universities; • National and International Non-profit Organizations; • Businesses; • Researchers, students and other similar groups. With internal users are meant other sectors within INSTAT who use Household Budget Survey results as inputs to their work: • National Accounts Directorate; • Sectorial Statistic Directorate.
12.2. User satisfaction	INSTAT organizes every year User Satisfaction Survey.
12.3. Completeness	The Household Budget Survey is conducted based on the gentlemen's agreement, where each member state sets the objectives, methodology and frequency of the survey. Based on this agreement, the completeness of Household Budget Survey data is in full compliance with the objectives set by INSTAT. The data completeness rate, for Household Budget Survey, is 100%.
13. Accuracy and reliability	
13.1. Overall accuracy	Each survey conducted by INSTAT is based on a sample selection to draw the conclusions in the study about the population. Naturally, this process involves a

	source of uncertainty, known as the standard error of estimation. For this reason, the error standard of the choice used for interpreting the results of the survey were calculated.								
13.2. Sampling error	In 2025 the sample for the Household Budget Survey consisted of 10.452 households. The household response rate, calculated as the ratio of the number of households that completed the survey to the total number of selected households, expressed as a percentage, was 72.05 %. For the 2025 Household Budget Survey, the overall standard error of estimation for the sample were calculated. Tables 1 and 2 in the Annex provide the standard error of estimation and coefficients of variation for average monthly consumption expenditures across 12 main consumption groups, as well as average monthly consumption expenditures by the 12 prefectures.								
13.3. Non - sampling error	Non-response at the record level considers households that are unable or unwilling to respond, cases where interviewers are unable to locate the households, or when other obstacles prevent the interview from being completed. The unweighted non-response rate at the record level is 27.95%. The variable-level non-response rate for imputed rent with and without equipment is 4.7 %. The over-coverage rate indicates the percentage of households that should not have been included in the survey as they fall outside the survey's focus. The over-coverage rate for the 2025 Household Budget Survey is 3.03%.								
14. Timeliness and punctuality									
14.1. Timeliness	Results of Household Budget Survey are published on INSTAT website 279 days after the end of the reference period (T+279 days). The reference period of Household Budget Survey 2025 results is December 31st, 2025. <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Reference period</td><td>12/31/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date of publication</td><td>10/6/2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Timeliness</td><td>279</td></tr> </table>	Reference period	12/31/2025	Date of publication	10/6/2026	Timeliness	279		
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Timeliness	279								
14.2. Punctuality	The final data of Household Budget Survey are disseminated according to the publication calendar. The publication of Household Budget Survey 2025 has been punctual on time at 100% of publications made over the years. <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Reference period</td><td>12/31/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date of announcement</td><td>10/6/2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date of publication</td><td>10/6/2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Time lag</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	Reference period	12/31/2025	Date of announcement	10/6/2026	Date of publication	10/6/2026	Time lag	0
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Date of announcement	10/6/2026								
Date of publication	10/6/2026								
Time lag	0								

15. Coherence and comparability	
15.1. Comparability - geographical	The data on Household Budget Survey indicators are compiled in accordance with Eurostat methodology and as such are comparable at international level. The data are comprehensive and produced at country and prefecture level.
15.2. Comparability - over time	The Household Budget Survey was conducted by INSTAT in these years: 2006-2007, 2008-2009 and since 2014 it is conducted continuously. The reference period of data collection for the 2019 survey and onwards differs from previous household budget surveys, where the data of diary are collected for the whole sample with a reference period of 1 week. The methodology over the years is generally the same since 2006-2007 enabling a comparability over time. Since 2014 the Household Budget Survey is conducted continuously enabling a comparability in the time series of 12 years ($CC2=Jlast- Jfirst+1=12$).
15.3. Coherence - cross domain	Regular interconnected controls are provided with information from other sources from INSTAT as the results of this survey are also used to update the Consumer Price Index and the Final Household Consumption calculation as an important aggregate of GDP with the expenditure method.
15.4. Coherence - internal	The internal consistency of the data has been checked before it is finalized. The links between the variables and the coherence in their series are also checked.
16. Cost and burden	
16.1 Cost and burden	People working for Household Budget Survey are: • General Staff at Headquarters: 4 employees; • Staff at Regional Offices, 28 employees; • Interviewers, Operators, Controllers (Temporary Staff of INSTAT): 81 Interviewers +6 Controllers + 7 Operators.
17. Data revision	
17.1. Data revision - policy	The Household Budget Survey review policies are made in accordance with the revision policy and the policy of errors treatments set by INSTAT. For more information refer to: • Revision Policy; • Errors Treatment Policy.
17.2. Data revision - practise	At the end of May 2014, INSTAT published the full population estimates for the years 2001-2014 reflecting the population changes that came from the Population and Housing Census 2011. These figures, such as the number of population, the

	number of household, the population according to age groups etc. Bring the changes in the estimation of other population-based indicators. No reviews of data on Household Budget Survey for 2025 have been conducted, subject to this report.
18. Statistical processing	
18.1. Source data	As the only source of data collection is the Household Budget Survey.
18.2. Frequency of data collection	Data is collected annually.
18.3. Data collection	Data collection is based on two different ways of collecting the information: Completing a diary of purchases (as well also a self-consumption diary each time the family declares that consumed articles or services that they produce) by the household HH for 7 consecutive days. Conduct a direct interview through the interviewers in the first week of the following month reference period in which the diary of purchases/auto-consumption booklet is completed.
18.4. Data validation	Regarding the data validation, the data editing procedures generally refer to editing at micro level or otherwise at the household level. Quantitative and qualitative control of the questionnaire: The control of the collected questionnaires, completeness checks, value accuracy and logical control of the questionnaire. The controlling staff has a specific quantitative control program of the questionnaire. The number of questionnaires collected should be equal to the number of questionnaires distributed in all the prefectures Individual controls are made for cases of refusals and no contact. Arithmetic corrections, logical corrections and verification of coherence between the different parts of the questionnaire. After the data entry process is realized a data cleaning and imputation using SCIA and RIDA computer programs.
18.5. Data compilation	For the compilation of results, we have two basic procedures: Data quality analysis To analyze the data quality have been applied some rules: • Mathematical control of the survey;

	• Logical control of survey data; • Comparison of time series data; • Compare data with other available files in INSTAT. Treatment of non-responses All non-responses cases are considered as: • No contact; • Full Refusal; • Partial Refusals (for variables or special indicators). For the treatment of partial non-response are used some direct methods or their combined such as: • Time series study; • Imputation by similar method at demographic variables level using computer programs SCIA and RIDA.
18.6. Adjustment	Not applicable.
19. Comment	No seasonal adjustment is applied to the data collected from the Household Budget Survey.

Annex

Table A1. Estimations of the average consumption expenditure and quality indicators for 12 main groups

Main groups	Estimation of consumption expenditures	Standard Error of Estimate	95% Confidence Interval		Coefficient of variation
			Lowest	Highes	
Average total consumption expenditures	95,227	1,177	92,917	97,537	1.2
Food and Non-alcoholic beverages	37,859	379	37,115	38,603	1.0
Alcoholic beverages and Tobacco	4,115	109	3,900	4,329	2.7
Clothing and footwear	4,798	165	4,474	5,122	3.4
Housing, Water, Electricity and Other Fuels	9,218	140	8,944	9,492	1.5
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	6,293	171	5,956	6,629	2.7
Health	3,264	126	3,016	3,513	3.9
Transport	6,895	210	6,483	7,307	3.0
Communication	3,561	30	3,502	3,620	0.8

Recreation and culture	2,707	170	2,373	3,041	6.3
Education	3,105	277	2,561	3,649	8.9
Restaurants and hotels	7,153	170	6,819	7,487	2.4
Miscellaneous goods and services	6,259	112	6,040	6,478	1.8

Table A2. Estimations of the average consumption expenditure and quality indicators by prefecture

Prefecture	Estimation of consumption expenditures	Standard Error of Estimate	95% Confidence Interval		Coefficient of Variation
			Lower	Upper	
Average total consumption expenditures	95,227	1,177	92,917	97,537	1.2
Berat	86,249	3,866	78,662	93,836	4.5
Dibër	77,027	4,352	68,485	85,570	5.7
Durrës	91,992	3,237	85,639	98,345	3.5
Elbasan	83,174	2,618	78,036	88,312	3.1
Fier	89,750	2,571	84,703	94,797	2.9
Gjirokastrë	86,528	4,331	78,027	95,029	5.0
Korçë	93,381	2,468	88,537	98,224	2.6
Kukës	76,009	2,674	70,761	81,257	3.5
Lezhë	86,935	6,226	74,714	99,155	7.2
Shkodër	87,900	3,767	80,506	95,295	4.3
Tiranë	11,904	2,715	105,575	116,234	2.4
Vlorë	86,669	4,001	78,816	94,522	4.6