

Guide to accessing international macro data using Beyond 20/20 Web Data Server: IMF International Financial Statistics

ESDS International at Mimas, University of Manchester provides support for and access to the key international datasets produced by Inter-Governmental organisations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The data is accessed via the delivery software Beyond 20/20 Web Data Server (WDS) and is freely available to UK FE and HE.

This guide is intended to introduce you to Beyond 20/20 WDS by carrying out a simple research task. The task is: to visualise and download monthly exchange rate data for select Latin American countries between 1990m1 to 1999m12 using the IMF's International Financial Statistics (IFS).

Stage 1: Finding and selecting your data

Choose IMF IFS data from the **Direct Links to data** drop down list on the ESDS International website. Alternatively use http://esds.mcc.ac.uk/wds_ifs/

Input UK HE/FE Institutional username and password in the login window. (Note: You will be re-directed to online ESDS registration and special conditions if not yet completed).

After opening **Reports** screen expand the **International Monetary Fund** folder then the **International Financial Statistics <month and year of release>** folder. Select the **World Tables** folder.



Click on the **Exchange Rates** folder and select the **Monthly series** report.

Select **Country** in the **Select Items to View** option from the toolbar to enter the dimension view.

Use the **Clear All [x]** tool to remove any existing selections.

Type **Argentina** in the search input box and click **Search**.

Place a tick in the checkbox next to the series item. Do this again for **Bolivia, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago**.

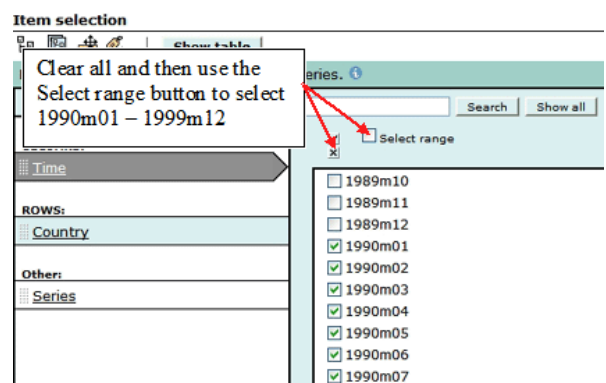


Move to the next dimension **Time** either by using the **Select Items to View** icon or by clicking the **Time** dimension name under the **Columns** heading.

Use the **Clear All** tool, then tick **Select Range** and click on **1990m1** tick box followed by **1999m12** tick box.

This will select all years within the range specified, i.e. the period from 1990 to 2000.

You have now completed the Finding and Selecting data stage and can move on to visualising your data.



Stage 2: Visualising the data

Select the **Show Table** tool at the top of the screen to view the report in table format.

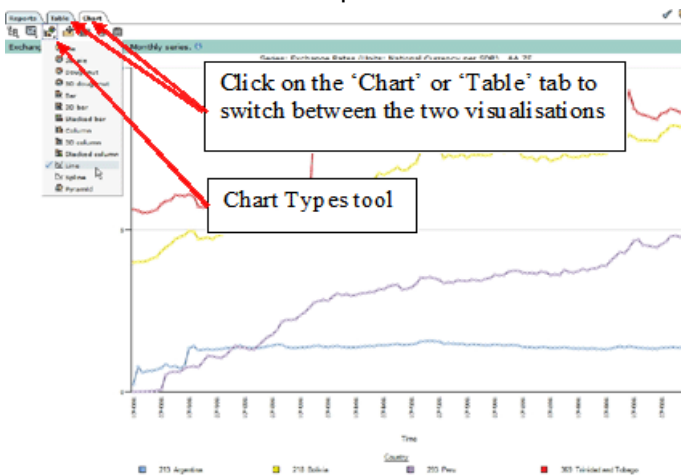
Use the **Set Dimension Order** icon to alter the format of the report. By default the dimension headings are displayed as follows:

Columns: Year
Rows: Country
Other: Series

Time	1990m01	1990m02	1990m03	1990m04	1990m05	1990m06
Country	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓	↑↓
213 Argentina	0.25	0.79	0.61	0.65	0.66	0.70
218 Bolivia	4.00	4.02	4.02	4.05	4.12	4.17
293 Peru	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04
369 Trinidad and Tobago	5.63	5.60	5.53	5.54	5.58	5.63

Tip: You can also change the layout of the report by simply dragging and dropping the dimension headings.

Click on **Chart** tab at the top of the screen to view the report in chart format.



Use **Chart Types** tool to change chart type.

Use **Alt + Print Screen** to save the chart image as right clicking to 'Save picture as' only saves the chart itself and not the chart key or heading.

Tip: The layout i.e. row, column configuration and content is downloaded exactly as it appears on screen so manipulate the data prior to download

Stage 3: Downloading the data:

The report must be in table format to download to your pc. Click the **Table** tab to return to table view.

Use the **Download** icon from the toolbar to download report data and select your desired download format -*ivt, *csv, or *xls.

Congratulations! You have completed the ESDS International introductory worksheet for Beyond 20/20 WDS using IMF IFS. Now you are ready to further explore the functionality of Beyond 20/20 WDS for extracting, manipulating and visualising international data. If you have any queries or feedback, please contact us on international@esds.ac.uk

For further information on the topical and geographical coverage of the IMF IFS -please view our comprehensive dataset user guide on the ESDS International website under **Support > User Guides**

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