

## Material Flow Accounts

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2. Metadata update	
2.1. Metadata last certified	February 18, 2025
2.2. Metadata last posted	February 18, 2025
2.3. Metadata last update	February 18, 2025

3. Statistical presentation	
<b>3.1. Data description</b>	
<p>The material flow accounts is a comprehensive information system that reflects the interaction of the domestic economy with the natural environment and the rest of the world economy in terms of material resources, represented in physical units. It includes solid, gaseous and liquid raw materials except water and air. The above metadata refers to the data set used to generate the material flow accounts and various indicators, see structure of the material flow data: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1798247/6191533/Annexes+of+EW-MFA+questionnaire">https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1798247/6191533/Annexes+of+EW-MFA+questionnaire</a></p> <p><b>Material flows by categories</b> represent the total flow of resources entering the country's economy (Domestic extraction and import) and outgoing (export), from which the main indicators of material flows are calculated;</p> <p><b>Domestic consumption per capita, material intensity and resource productivity</b> are relative indicators and additionally are represented as percentage change by the chain index (2014 = 100%);</p> <p><b>Import, export and trade balance</b> are classified according to production stages (raw products, semi-manufacture products, finished products).</p>	
<b>3.2. Classification system</b>	
<p>Material flow accounts – Handbook  <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/9117556/KS-GQ-18-006-EN-N.pdf/b621b8ce-2792-47ff-9d10-067d2b8aac4b?t=1537260841000">https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/9117556/KS-GQ-18-006-EN-N.pdf/b621b8ce-2792-47ff-9d10-067d2b8aac4b?t=1537260841000</a></p>	
<b>3.3. Sector coverage</b>	
<p>The whole economy, according to institutional sectors and types of economic activities. Also, all material resources that enter the economic territory of the country.</p>	
<b>3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions</b>	
<p><b>Domestic extraction (DE):</b> The total amount of raw materials extracted from the natural environment by individuals and legal entities, intended for future production.</p> <p><b>Imports (IMP):</b> Material resources imported from outside the country.</p> <p><b>Exports (EXP):</b> Material resources exported abroad.</p> <p><b>Physical trade balance (PTB):</b> physical imports minus physical exports.</p> <p><b>Direct material input (DMI):</b> All kinds of material resources available for production and consumption. DMI is equal to the sum of domestic extraction and imports.</p> <p><b>Domestic material consumption (DMC):</b> Domestic consumption of material resources. Domestic consumption is calculated as the difference between DMI and exports.</p>	
<b>3.5. Statistical unit</b>	
<p>The statistical units on which the material flows report is based, vary according to the data sources and include statistics on agriculture, forestry, fishing, entrepreneurs, energy, foreign trade and etc.</p>	
<b>3.6. Statistical population</b>	
<p>Economic territory of the country.</p>	
<b>3.7. Reference area</b>	

Entire country (Georgia), excluding occupied regions.
<b>3.8. Time coverage</b>
Since 2014.
<b>3.9. Base period</b>
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<b>4. Unit of measure</b>
Thousand tonnes, %.
<b>5. Reference period</b>
Year.
<b>6. Institutional mandate</b>
<b>6.1. Legal acts and other agreements</b>
The Law of Georgia on Official Statistics; <a href="https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf">https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf</a> Statistical Work Programme (annual); <a href="https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/307/statistical-work-programme">https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/307/statistical-work-programme</a> Charter of the National Statistics Office of Georgia. <a href="https://www.geostat.ge/media/20845/10%2Csaqstatis-konsolidirebuli-debuleba.pdf">https://www.geostat.ge/media/20845/10%2Csaqstatis-konsolidirebuli-debuleba.pdf</a>
<b>6.2. Data sharing</b>
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<b>7. Confidentiality</b>
<b>7.1. Confidentiality – policy</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Law of Georgia on Official Statistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>According to the article 5 of the law Statistical confidentiality and exclusive use for statistical purposes – individual data collected or received by the producer of official statistics, relating to natural or legal persons, must be strictly confidential and used only for statistical purposes.</li> <li>According to the article 34 (Observing Confidentiality of Statistical Data) of the law 1. Data collected, processed, and stored to produce official statistics are confidential if they enable the direct or indirect identification of a statistical unit. In addition, aggregated data are subject to statistical confidentiality: a) Aggregates composed of 1 to 3 units, when the unit is a natural or legal person if one of these units could be identified indirectly, thereby disclosing individual data about this unit. Aggregates composed of more than 3 units may be declared confidential by the Executive Director if required to ensure statistical confidentiality; b) Information declares as a state secret on the basis of the „Law of Georgia on State Secrets“. 2. Confidential data shall be used exclusively for the purposes of producing statistics in accordance with this law. 3. Statistical data about the administrative body cannot be considered confidential information, except for the information determined by the Law of Georgia „On State Secrets“. 4. Individual data obtained from publicly available sources, which are defined as public information in accordance with the legislation of Georgia, shall not be considered confidential information. 5. Confidential (individual) data may be published if there is written consent from the statistical unit regarding the publication of such data. 6. It is not allowed to disseminate and distribute confidential data or use it for non-statistical purposes.</li> <li>According to the article 38 (Confidentiality commitments) of the law the confidential statistical data collected and processed for statistical purposes shall not be used or disseminated either for personal, academic, research or any other activities, by the employees of the producers of Official Statistics.  <a href="https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf">https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>Data Confidentiality Policy at Geostat  <a href="https://www.geostat.ge/media/20860/Data-Confidentiality-Policy-at-Geostat_En.pdf">https://www.geostat.ge/media/20860/Data-Confidentiality-Policy-at-Geostat_En.pdf</a></li> <li>Procedure for providing access to confidential data for research purposes  <a href="https://www.geostat.ge/media/61533/Rule-on-Access-to-Confidential-Data-for-Scientific-and-Research-Purposes....pdf">https://www.geostat.ge/media/61533/Rule-on-Access-to-Confidential-Data-for-Scientific-and-Research-Purposes....pdf</a></li> <li>The Law of Georgia on Personal Data Protection  <a href="https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/1561437?publication=9">https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/1561437?publication=9</a></li> </ol>

<b>7.2. Confidentiality – data treatment</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confidentiality guidelines.</li> <li>• Written undertakings by an employee of Geostat on ensuring confidentiality of gained/collected data as a result of official duties.</li> </ul>
<b>8. Release policy</b>
<b>8.1. Release calendar</b>
Data dissemination dates are defined by the calendar developed on the basis of the Statistical Work Programme, which is published on the website of Geostat and is publicly available.
<b>8.2. Release calendar access</b>
<a href="https://www.geostat.ge/en/calendar">https://www.geostat.ge/en/calendar</a>
<b>8.3. User access</b>
All users have the equal access to the statistical data simultaneously.
<b>9. Frequency of dissemination</b>
Annual.
<b>10. Accessibility and clarity</b>
<b>10.1. News release</b>
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<b>10.2. Publications</b>
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<b>10.3. On-line database</b>
The data is published as table on the website of National Statistics Office of Georgia: <a href="https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/566/environmental-economic-accounts">https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/566/environmental-economic-accounts</a> Also, the data is disseminated via PC-AXIS database. The main indicators of Material Flow Accounts: <a href="https://pc-axis.geostat.ge/PXweb/pxweb/en/Database/Database_Environment%20Statistics_Environmental-Economic%20Accounts/1.MFA.px/?rxid=b4fec5bc-409f-4489-9622-19652d797754">https://pc-axis.geostat.ge/PXweb/pxweb/en/Database/Database_Environment%20Statistics_Environmental-Economic%20Accounts/1.MFA.px/?rxid=b4fec5bc-409f-4489-9622-19652d797754</a> DMC per capita, Material Intensity and Resource Productivity: <a href="https://pc-axis.geostat.ge/PXweb/pxweb/en/Database/Database_Environment%20Statistics_Environmental-Economic%20Accounts/2.MFA-DMC.px/?rxid=b4fec5bc-409f-4489-9622-19652d797754">https://pc-axis.geostat.ge/PXweb/pxweb/en/Database/Database_Environment%20Statistics_Environmental-Economic%20Accounts/2.MFA-DMC.px/?rxid=b4fec5bc-409f-4489-9622-19652d797754</a>
<b>10.4. Micro-data access</b>
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<b>10.5. Other</b>
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<b>10.6. Documentation on methodology</b>
The Methodology of Material Flow Accounts: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1798247/6191533/3-Economy-wide-material-flow-accounts...-A-methodological-guide-2001-edition.pdf">https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1798247/6191533/3-Economy-wide-material-flow-accounts...-A-methodological-guide-2001-edition.pdf</a>
<b>10.7. Quality documentation</b>
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<b>11. Quality management</b>
<b>11.1. Quality assurance</b>
To ensure the quality of the statistical processes and products Geostat follows Chapter 10 – Quality of official statistics – of the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics, as well as the European Statistics Code of Practice, the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (ESS QAF).
<b>11.2. Quality assessment</b>
Methodology and Quality Management Division of Geostat, along with the sectoral departments, is responsible for the quality of the produced statistical products and processes. The Division carries out quality audit, self-assessment of statistical processes and assesses the risks for the quality of statistical processes and products. Geostat has developed policy documents, guidelines and standard routine descriptions. These documents ensure the standardization of

statistical processes and products and the establishment of a unified quality assurance system.  
 Quality policy is available on the following link:  
[https://www.geostat.ge/media/44380/QP\\_Geostat\\_EN.pdf](https://www.geostat.ge/media/44380/QP_Geostat_EN.pdf)

**12. Relevance**

**12.1. User needs**

The main users of the Material Flow Accounts indicators are: government organizations, educational institutions, scientific-research organizations, international and non-governmental organizations, media, various legal entities and individuals. These users use the requested information for different purposes. Government agencies need data to make decisions, educational institutions and research organizations - for scientific activities, international organizations - to compare and analyze data from different countries, legal entities and individuals - for personal use, to analyze the situation in the country, etc.

**12.2. User satisfaction**

In 2023 user satisfaction survey was conducted, the target of the survey was to analyze the assessment of quality of statistical data by users and explore ways to improve user services. The survey report is available on the website of Geostat (in Georgian):  
<https://www.geostat.ge/en/page/customer-service>

**12.3. Completeness**

The data are comparable to international standards.

**13. Accuracy and reliability**

**13.1. Overall accuracy**

Data accuracy is ensured by comparability of survey and calculation methods to international methodology.

**13.2. Sampling error**

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**13.3. Non-sampling error**

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**14. Timeliness and punctuality**

**14.1. Timeliness**

The data are published one year after the end of the reporting period, in the second half of February.

**14.2. Punctuality**

The data is published according to the date specified in the statistical work program. There has not been any violation of publication dates.

**15. Coherence and comparability**

**15.1. Comparability – geographical**

The same methodological approaches are used for all regions of Georgia and they are comparable to international standards.

**15.2. Comparability – over time**

Data are comparable.

**15.3. Coherence – cross domain**

Coherent.

**15.4. Coherence – internal**

Coherent.

**16. Cost and burden**

The data are processed based on internal resources, so no additional expenses are incurred.

**17. Data revision**

**17.1. Data revision – policy**

Statistical data revision policy is available on the website of Geostat:

<a href="https://www.geostat.ge/media/59824/Data-Revision-Policy-and-Error-Correction-at-Geostat_Eng.pdf">https://www.geostat.ge/media/59824/Data-Revision-Policy-and-Error-Correction-at-Geostat_Eng.pdf</a>
<b>17.2. Data revision – practice</b>
The statistical data revisions and adjustments are made on a regular basis rely on relevant sources. In addition, a large-scale revision is performed once a year to obtain verified data. Main purpose of this procedures to obtain statistically valid data.
<b>18. Statistical processing</b>
<b>18.1. Source data</b>
The main sources of EW-MFA are Survey of Agricultural Holdings, Statistical Survey of Enterprises, Database of Custom Declaration and other Administrative Sources.
<b>18.2. Frequency of data collection</b>
Annual.
<b>18.3. Data collection</b>
Material flow accounts – Questionnaire: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1798247/6191533/Economy-wide+material+flow+accounts+%28EW-MFA%29+questionnaire">https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1798247/6191533/Economy-wide+material+flow+accounts+%28EW-MFA%29+questionnaire</a>
<b>18.4. Data validation</b>
The data provided for the creation of the MFA is additionally verified by the staff of the Environmental Statistics Division.
<b>18.5. Data compilation</b>
<b>Formulas for calculating the main indicators of the MFA:</b> <b>Physical trade balance (PTB):</b> exports - imports; <b>Direct material input (DMI):</b> DE + IMP; <b>Domestic material consumption (DMC):</b> DMI – EXP; <b>Domestic material consumption per capita:</b> DMC/POP; <b>Resource productivity:</b> GDP/DMC; <b>Material intensity:</b> DMC/GDP;
<b>18.6. Adjustment</b>
Not applicable.
<b>19. Comment</b>
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