Protected areas
(D-1)

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

3. Statistical presentation
3.1. Data description
The table on the area of protected territories includes information on the size of protected areas categorized according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and national classifications. The obtained data is disseminated through the website in the form of tables and charts, as well as via databases.
3.2. Classification system
Law of Georgia "On the System of Protected Areas": https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/32968?publication=15
3.3. Sector coverage
The area of protected areas includes Georgia's terrestrial and/or aquatic areas that are protected and managed based on long-term and solid legal foundations. It includes the following categories of protected areas: state reserve, national park, natural monument, managed reserves, protected landscape and territory of multipurpose use. And according to the international categories of nature protection: Ia (strict nature reserve), Ib (wilderness area), II (national park), III (natural monument), IV (habitat/species management area), V (protected landscape), VI (protected area with sustainable use of natural resources).
3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions
Protected area – A land area and/or water area of special importance for the preservation of biological diversity, natural resources and cultural phenomena embedded in the natural environment, the protection and management of which is carried out on a long-term and solid legal basis. The categories of protected areas are: state reserve, national park, natural monument, protected landscape and territory of multiple use.
State reserve – A protected area established to preserve nature, natural processes, and genetic resources in their dynamic and untouched state. It allows minimal human impact for scientific research, educational activities, and environmental monitoring.
National Park – A protected area of national and international significance, created to safeguard large ecosystems of outstanding natural beauty. It serves vital ecological and recreational purposes, protecting unique, rare, or endangered ecosystems, biocenoses, and species listed in Georgia's "Red List" of threatened wildlife and plants.
Natural monument – A relatively small area of national importance that features rare, unique, and aesthetically significant ecosystems, individual geomorphological and hydrological formations, unique plant specimens, or fossilized remains of living organisms. Examples include caves, valleys, river deltas, and forest groves.
Managed reserve – A protected area designated to preserve natural conditions essential for the survival of wild species, species groups, biocenoses, and non-living formations of national importance. It requires specific restoration and conservation measures by humans. Under strict control, limited use of certain renewable resources is allowed.
Protected landscape – A protected area of national significance, distinguished by high aesthetic value. It is created to conserve both natural and cultural landscapes that have developed through the harmonious interaction between humans and the natural environment. It also supports the maintenance of vital ecosystems, recreation, tourism, and

traditional economic activities.
3.5. Statistical unit
Protected area.
3.6. Statistical population
Protected Areas of Georgia.
3.7. Reference area
Entire country (Georgia), including occupied regions.
3.8. Time coverage
Since 2012.
3.9. Base period
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4. Unit of measure
1000 km².

5. Reference period
Year.

6. Institutional mandate
6.1. Legal acts and other agreements
The Law of Georgia on Official Statistics;
https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf
Statistical Work Programme (annual);
https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/307/statistical-work-programme
Charter of the National Statistics Office of Georgia.
https://www.geostat.ge/media/67749/New-Chapter-eng-upd.pdf
6.2. Data sharing
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7. Confidentiality
7.1. Confidentiality – policy

1. The Law of Georgia on Official Statistics:
    • 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.
    • 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.
    • 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.
    https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf

2.	Data Confidentiality Policy at Geostat
	https://www.geostat.ge/media/20860/Data-Confidentiality-Policy-at-Geostat_En.pdf
3.	Procedure for providing access to confidential data for research purposes
	https://www.geostat.ge/media/61533/Rule-on-Access-to-Confidential-Data-for-Scientific-and-Research-Purposes....pdf
4.	The Law of Georgia on Personal Data Protection
	https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/1561437?publication=9

7.2. Confidentiality – data treatment

- Confidentiality guidelines.
- Written undertakings by an employee of Geostat on ensuring confidentiality of gained/collected data as a result of official duties.

8. Release policy

8.1. Release calendar

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.

8.2. Release calendar access

https://www.geostat.ge/en/calendar

8.3. User access

All users have the equal access to the statistical data simultaneously.

9. Frequency of dissemination

Annual.

10. Accessibility and clarity

10.1. News release

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10.2. Publications

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10.3. On-line database

The data is available on the Geostat website as a spreadsheet:

https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/73/environment-statistics

Also in the PC-Axis database:

https://pc-axis.geostat.ge/PXweb/pxweb/en/Database/Database__Environment%20Statistics__Protected%20Areas/Protected-areas.px/?rxid=c931486a-6e1e-416b-864f-8ac678a8278e

10.4. Micro-data access

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10.5. Other

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10.6. Documentation on methodology

Metodological documentation:

https://unece.org/DAM/env/europe/monitoring/Indicators/D-1-en-final.pdf

10.7. Quality documentation

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11. Quality management

11.1. Quality assurance

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).

11.2. Quality assessment

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

12. Relevance

12.1. User needs

The main users of the data are: researchers and students, international organizations, government institutions, media outlets, etc. They need this data to conduct various types of statistical analysis, study and assess the ecological state and ecosystems.

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 in the second half of December of the year following the reporting period.

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

The 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:

https://www.geostat.ge/media/59824/Data-Revision-Policy-and-Error_Correction-at-Geostat_Eng.pdf

17.2. Data revision – practice
Planned revision of data is not carried out. An Unplanned revision (to clarify data) was not carried out in practice.

18. Statistical processing
18.1. Source data
A letter is sent annually to the LEPL Agency of Protected Areas, which collects information about each category of protected areas.
18.2. Frequency of data collection
Annualy.
18.3. Data collection
Data collection is based on administrative sources.
18.4. Data validation
The information provided by the LEPL Agency of Protected Areas is summarized by the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Statistics. After the collected information undergoes appropriate verification procedures, it is published on the Geostat website.
18.5. Data compilation
Calculation formula:
Share of protected areas in the total area of the country (%) = (area of protected areas/area of the country) × 100
18.6. Adjustment
Not applicable.

19. Comment
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