



The Republic of South Sudan
National Bureau of Statistics

Press Release for South Sudan Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Estimates for 2020

March 31, 2022

Subject: **Press Release for South Sudan Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Estimates for 2020**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are pleased to welcome you to the National Bureau of Statistics for the dissemination of the 2019 National Accounts statistics (Gross Domestic Product). This time round, we are also disseminating economic growth figures for the very tenth time in the National Bureau of Statistics. These statistics are the most commonly used indicators of a country's economic development.

The compilation of these figures is a significant achievement because they will be an extremely valuable input to the national policy -making process and to other users. Gross Domestic Product(GDP) is the most commonly used aggregate in national accounts. It measures the market value of all final goods and services produced in a country over a given period.

1. Nominal GDP, which is calculated using current prices, was 3,007,894.0 trillion South Sudanese pounds in 2020.

2. Real GDP, which we calculate using constant prices to remove the effect of inflation, was 23,444.6 trillion South Sudanese pounds in 2020.

3. Real GDP per capita, which is real GDP per person, was just 649 USD South Sudanese pounds in 2020 while it has declined significantly from 835 USD in 2019 due to current economic turmoil.

Real GDP for 2020 (Table 2) decreased by 3.4 percent and should be published by March 2022. A significant contributor is the 8.3 percent decrease in exports of oil (contributing -2.1 percentage points to real GDP growth) and 15.0 percent increase in imports of goods and services (contributing -6.0 percentage points to real GDP growth). This was partially offset by household final consumption expenditure (4.1 percent increase, contributing 2.3 percentage points to real GDP growth) and government final consumption expenditure (4.2 percent

increase, contributing 2.1 percentage points to real GDP growth). This result is similar to Fund projections in the most recent Staff Report¹ [Real GDP decreasing by 5.4 percent for 2020/21 financial year].

In spite of the budgetary and human resources challenges the Bureau is facing currently, the coverage and accuracy of our National Accounts estimates are increasing year by year. Eventually, the national accounts information we provide will be detailed enough to allow policy-makers to analyze growth by sector of the economy, analyze trends in consumption and investment and the saving behavior of households and government.

Once again, I am very pleased to be able to release these figures. Detailed estimates and explanations are provided to you in the Press Release in your pack. I hope you will disseminate them widely, and ensure that as many people as possible have access to the most up-to-date economic information on South Sudan. On behalf of NBS, I thank you for accepting the invitation to attend this press conference. We hope you will continue to cooperate with the NBS in the vital dissemination of information.

The GDP 2020 and its growth are the most commonly used indicators of a country's economic development. They permit economic comparisons to other countries in the region and worldwide, as well as being a tool for measuring progress in South Sudan itself. These estimates will be of critical importance to the government in formulating monetary and fiscal policies for the Republic of South Sudan.

While the GDP indicates the size of an economy, other indicators such as poverty rate, education and health outcomes are important to give a full picture of the condition of the people of South Sudan. Many of these other vital socio-economic indicators can be found in the Statistical Yearbooks for South Sudan produced by NBS, and some are available on our website www.ssnbs.org or at our office.

Production of national accounts is a continuing process and to ensure a strong information base for economic policymaking, it will be important to produce high quality and frequent estimates of GDP, and to produce it by economic sector in line with International Monetary Fund (IMF) guidelines.

Some of the GDP 2019 and 2020 figures have been revised vigorously for all its components because of reliable and adequate data from the line ministries and agencies, plus the exchange rate adjustment in some of the components.

¹ <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/CR/Issues/2021/11/15/Republic-of-South-Sudan-First-Review-under-the-Staff-Monitored-Program-Press-Release-and-506888>

This will require significant strengthening of existing systems of data collection and compilation by all the relevant statistical producers. To do this, there will be need for political support and increased access to resources especially this time around. We are extremely proud to be able to release 2019 GDP and South Sudan's tenth press release of GDP estimates. We believe they will be useful to institutions in the development plans of the Republic of South Sudan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Isaiah Chol Aruai', with a stylized, cursive script.

Isaiah Chol Aruai

Chairperson,

National Bureau of Statistics

CC: Hon. Deputy Chairperson, NBS

CC: Chief, Economic Statistics, NBS

CC: Chief, Finance and Support Services, NBS

South Sudan Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Estimates for 2020

A technical assistance mission was conducted during November 15–26, 2021 to support the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) with improved measurement of GDP by expenditure and GDP production compilation techniques for policy making. The mission was enabled by AFRITAC East and the Data for Decisions (D4D) Fund. The AFE Mission conducted by Timmi Graversen (LTX) overlapped by one week with the HQ D4D mission conducted by Christopher Hinchcliffe (STX). The D4D mission focused on a review of the 2020 GDP by expenditure with the primary focus on the use of improved source data. The LTX expert leveraged the work of the STX and they worked together to review the 2020 GDP by expenditure and the LTX started the work on the compilation of GDP by production and the recently conducted business survey.

Reliable national accounts statistics are essential for informed economic policy making by the authorities. These data also provide the private sector, foreign investors, rating agencies, and the public in general with important inputs in their decision-making, while informing both domestic economic policy and IMF surveillance.

The mission partnered with the authorities to develop recommendations to improve South Sudan’s national accounts statistics and compile GDP for 2020. The Fund’s latest Article IV consultation² considered South Sudan’s national accounts statistics to have serious shortcomings that significantly hamper surveillance. The quality of South Sudan’s national accounts statistics is constrained by inadequate source data which should be improved.

The mission identified two key objectives as follows:

- **Finalize and publish GDP by expenditure for 2020.** The mission finalized a thirteen-year GDP time series (2008-2020). Real GDP for 2020 decreased by 3.4 percent and is similar to Fund projections. The NBS is encouraged to discuss and validate the results with major stakeholders and publish this time series by March 2022.
- **Improvements to source data.** South Sudan's GDP may not be accurate as the last estimate compiled with sufficient contemporary source data was for calendar year 2009. One indicator of accuracy is whether an estimate of GDP has been compiled with sufficient contemporary source data within the last five, or at the very least ten, years. The mission recommends improvements to mining industry value added, capital formation, household consumption, and NPISH consumption.

² For further details, refer to <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/CR/Issues/2019/06/04/South-Sudan-2019-Article-IV-Consultation-Press-Release-Staff-Report-and-Statement-by-the-46965+>

- 1. Real GDP for 2020 decreased by 3.4 percent and should be published by March 2022.**
2. A significant contributor is the 8.3 percent decrease in exports of oil (contributing -2.1 percentage points to real GDP growth) and 15.0 percent increase in imports of goods and services (contributing -6.0 percentage points to real GDP growth).
3. This was partially offset by household final consumption expenditure (4.1 percent increase, contributing 2.3 percentage points to real GDP growth) and government final consumption expenditure (4.2 percent increase, contributing 2.1 percentage points to real GDP growth). This result is similar to Fund projections in the most recent Staff Report [Real GDP decreasing by 5.4 percent for 2020/21 financial year].

In partnership with the IMF and the NBS compiled GDP for 2020 with IMF, the IMF has it developed recommendations to enhance the capacity of South Sudan's National Accounts Statistics and continue improving capacity through trainings and other technical assistance.

Reliable national accounts statistics are essential for informed economic policy-making by the authorities. They also provided the private sector, foreign investors, rating agencies, and the public in general with important inputs in their decision-making, while informing both domestic economic policy and IMF surveillance.

Both Real and nominal South Sudan GDP figures have been produced for 2020; GDP measures the value of all final goods and services produced in a country over a given period. Nominal GDP is measured at current prices while the real GDP is measured at constant prices. These are the figures for nominal and real GDP respectively.

Nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of South Sudan in 2020 was 3,007,894.0 trillion South Sudanese Pounds.

- **Real GDP (2009 prices) for 2020 was 23,444.6 trillion South Sudanese pounds.**

March 31,2022

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Figures 2020

Expenditure category	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Final consumption expenditure	17,013.4	18,253.2	22,307.2	29,872.0	36,924.8	41,734.1	45,856.7	67,474.0	263,704.4	680,648.8	1,251,111.2	2,589,052.4	3,467,722.0
Final consum exp, government	4,774.2	4,364.2	5,853.3	6,781.2	6,992.1	9,661.9	13,345.4	16,636.9	34,850.1	75,197.6	147,110.9	231,682.7	258,891.8
Final consum exp, households	10,066.5	10,891.3	11,489.8	17,140.4	26,117.2	28,670.9	30,067.7	46,863.7	217,357.9	586,196.9	1,084,190.0	2,341,564.4	3,186,312.5
Final consum exp, NPISH	2,172.6	2,997.7	4,964.0	5,950.5	3,815.4	3,401.3	2,443.7	3,973.4	11,496.4	19,254.3	19,810.3	15,805.2	22,517.7
Fixed capital formation	4,478.0	3,841.9	3,835.1	5,011.2	3,380.8	3,429.6	3,481.3	5,094.2	19,686.2	71,082.3	156,481.9	210,646.1	260,434.9
Changes in inventories	7.4	7.8	10.2	7.4	17.1	17.1	113.2	26.2	125.2	294.4	601.9	802.2	1,293.9
Gross Domestic Expenditure	21,491.3	22,095.1	26,142.3	34,883.3	40,305.6	45,163.7	49,338.0	72,568.2	283,390.6	751,731.1	1,407,593.1	2,799,698.5	3,728,156.9
Exports of goods and services	20,806.6	16,393.7	21,444.0	34,099.2	2,522.8	10,688.1	15,585.8	10,364.6	94,941.0	281,988.1	454,751.4	541,096.8	426,017.2
of which: Oil	20,707.8	16,270.9	21,287.3	33,940.7	2,369.1	10,522.9	15,382.8	8,632.8	76,460.0	237,312.1	412,090.6	476,528.7	361,480.1
Imports of goods and services	12,087.5	11,811.8	13,169.2	17,594.7	16,648.7	18,314.6	20,839.1	57,453.2	225,228.8	627,842.5	718,047.1	742,913.6	1,146,280.0
Gross Domestic Product	30,210.5	26,677.0	34,417.0	51,387.8	26,179.8	37,537.2	44,084.7	25,479.6	153,102.8	405,876.7	1,144,297.4	2,597,881.8	3,007,789.4
Oil sector value added	19,206.4	14,521.0	19,534.1	31,677.2	2,182.9	9,653.8	13,918.1	6,506.4	67,651.8	211,064.1	359,033.9	396,079.1	272,267.1
Non-oil GDP	11,004.0	12,156.0	14,882.9	19,710.6	23,996.8	27,883.3	30,166.7	18,973.2	85,451.0	194,812.6	785,263.5	2,201,802.7	2,735,627.0
of which: General Government	2,847.1	3,033.3	3,633.7	4,224.9	4,660.1	5,300.8	6,970.7	10,013.3	21,482.6	48,244.1	79,525.6	117,236.2	149,954.5
Contribution to GDP (per cent)	63.6	54.4	56.8	61.6	8.3	25.7	31.6	25.5	44.2	52.0	31.4	15.2	9.1

Oil exports, share of GDP (per cent)	68.5	61.0	61.9	66.0	9.0	28.0	34.9	33.9	49.9	58.5	36.0	18.3	12.0
Expenditure on GDP													
Constant 2009 Prices - Million SSP													
Expenditure category	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Final consumption expenditure	17,686.9	18,253.2	20,280.4	20,568.3	18,446.9	20,690.3	22,739.4	24,738.8	24,748.6	24,167.1	24,187.4	25,996.8	27,091.8
Final consum exp, government	4,873.7	4,364.2	4,667.1	4,802.6	4,336.9	5,622.9	7,806.1	9,313.4	10,404.9	10,697.5	10,779.9	12,076.8	12,579.1
Final consum exp, households	10,569.9	10,891.3	11,405.0	11,469.0	11,880.0	13,163.4	13,575.4	13,797.0	13,351.8	12,893.3	13,088.3	13,733.4	14,292.0
Final consum exp, NPISH	2,243.4	2,997.7	4,208.4	4,296.7	2,230.0	1,903.9	1,358.0	1,628.4	991.9	576.2	319.2	186.6	220.7
Fixed capital formation	4,711.7	3,841.9	3,734.9	3,726.5	1,862.9	1,827.5	1,798.0	1,778.8	1,377.3	1,520.1	1,750.6	1,711.4	1,749.7
Changes in inventories	7.8	7.8	10.0	5.6	8.9	8.9	58.0	7.5	7.9	7.5	7.7	7.9	7.8
Gross Domestic Expenditure	22,398.7	22,095.1	24,015.4	24,294.8	20,309.9	22,517.8	24,537.5	26,517.6	26,125.9	25,687.1	25,938.0	27,708.2	28,841.5
Exports of goods and services	14,796.8	16,393.7	16,038.5	15,774.8	1,037.2	4,368.8	7,093.8	7,001.6	5,832.1	5,325.9	5,630.7	6,194.3	5,695.2
of which: Oil	14,689.3	16,270.9	15,875.8	15,651.2	953.9	4,283.2	7,000.4	6,904.0	5,730.0	5,219.2	5,519.1	6,077.6	5,573.1
Imports of goods and services	12,716.6	11,811.8	13,504.8	13,122.9	8,231.8	9,863.6	9,847.0	10,238.6	10,223.6	10,038.4	9,788.1	9,643.2	11,092.1
Gross Domestic Product	24,478.8	26,677.0	26,549.1	26,946.7	13,115.2	17,022.9	21,784.3	23,280.6	21,734.3	20,974.7	21,780.6	24,259.3	23,444.6
Oil sector value added	13,109.5	14,521.0	14,168.4	13,968.0	851.3	3,822.5	6,247.6	6,161.5	5,113.8	4,657.9	4,925.6	5,424.0	4,973.8
Non-oil GDP	11,369.3	12,156.0	12,380.6	12,978.7	12,263.9	13,200.4	15,536.7	17,119.1	16,620.6	16,316.8	16,855.1	18,835.4	18,470.8
of which: General Government	2,845.9	3,033.3	2,505.5	2,901.7	3,051.9	3,306.9	4,525.4	5,381.7	6,012.5	6,181.6	6,229.2	6,978.6	7,268.8
Constant 2009 Prices, Annual Changes, Per Cent													
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Gross Domestic Product		9.0	-0.5	1.5	51.3	29.8	28.0	6.9	6.6	-3.5	3.8	11.4	-3.4
Oil sector		10.8	2.4	1.4	93.9	349.0	63.4	1.4	17.0	8.9	5.7	10.1	8.3
Non-oil GDP		6.9	1.8	4.8	5.5	7.6	17.7	10.2	2.9	1.8	3.3	11.7	1.9
Contribution to growth													
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020

Gross Domestic Product		9.0	-0.5	1.5	-51.3	29.8	28.0	6.9	-6.6	-3.5	3.8	11.4	-3.4
Oil sector		5.8	1.3	0.8	-48.7	22.7	14.2	0.4	-4.5	-2.1	1.3	2.3	-1.9
Non-oil GDP		3.2	0.8	2.3	-2.7	7.1	13.7	7.3	-2.1	-1.4	2.6	9.1	-1.5

National Accounts Aggregates Figures

Main National Accounts Aggregates													
Item	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Current prices													
Million SSP													
Gross Domestic Product	30,210	26,677	34,417	51,388	26,180	37,537	44,085	25,480	153,103	405,877	1,144,297	2,597,882	3,007,894
Non-oil GDP	11,004	12,156	14,883	19,711	23,997	27,883	30,167	18,973	85,451	194,813	785,263	2,201,803	2,735,627
Property income, net, to the rest of the world	9,596	7,770	10,804	19,002	15,614	10,663	-0	-1,159	-8,094	-6,682	-89,707	-51,297	-53,855
Gross national income	39,806	34,447	45,221	70,389	41,794	48,200	44,084	24,321	145,009	399,194	1,054,590	2,546,584	2,954,039
Per capita, SSP													
Gross domestic product	3,610	3,072	3,822	5,473	2,676	3,687	4,165	2,316	13,400	34,199	92,856	203,305	227,012
Non-oil GDP	1,315	1,400	1,653	2,099	2,453	2,738	2,850	1,725	7,479	16,415	63,721	172,309	206,464
Gross National Income	4,757	3,966	5,022	7,497	4,272	4,734	4,165	2,211	12,692	33,636	85,576	199,291	222,948
Million USD													
Gross Domestic Product	13,933	10,740	13,601	16,757	6,906	10,682	12,867	6,644	3,064	3,285	5,807	10,666	8,603
Property income, net, to the rest of the world	4,588	3,364	4,687	6,715	5,293	3,615	-0	-319	-173	-59	-634	-325	-325
Gross national income	18,521	14,104	18,288	23,472	12,199	14,297	12,867	6,324	2,890	3,227	5,173	10,342	8,279
Per capita, USD													
Gross Domestic Product	1,665	1,237	1,510	1,785	706	1,049	1,216	604	268	277	471	835	649
Gross National Income	2,213	1,624	2,031	2,500	1,247	1,404	1,216	575	253	272	420	809	625
Population, Persons	8,367,688	8,684,963	9,005,261	9,389,376	9,782,927	10,182,291	10,585,044	11,000,128	11,425,377	11,868,209	12,323,419	12,778,250	13,249,924

Exchange Rate, SSP/USD Official	2.09	2.31	2.30	2.83	2.95	2.95	2.95	3.63	46.71	113.6 5	141.3 9	158.0 2	165.9 0
Exchange Rate, SSP/USD Parallel Market	3.01	3.33	3.32	4.08	4.25	4.27	4.66	12.22	55.20	155.8 5	245.1 6	293.1 4	396.3 4