

Business Ready (B-READY) 2025

Reproducibility Package

Overview

This reproducibility package includes all code and some of the data necessary to reproduce the analysis and outputs for the *Business Ready 2025* report. The package follows World Bank DIME reproducibility standards and implements an improved data processing workflow compared to the previous report.

Data Availability Statement

This reproducibility package uses multiple data sources for the B-READY 2025 Project. These are saved in the folder “01_Raw”:

- **Expert Surveys (10 Topics, 21 surveys):** Primary data collected through Survey Solutions online questionnaires.
- **Enterprise Surveys at Economy Level:** Firm-level data and the reproducibility package that produces economy-level indicators can be downloaded from the World Bank Enterprise Surveys (WBES) [website](#).
- **Supporting Data Sources:**
 - World Bank [Country Code and Income Classification](#), valid for fiscal year 2025 (i.e., July 1, 2024–June 30, 2025).
 - Global variables: Team constructed the dataset using three datasets from World Development Indicators (WDI), in combination with national statistics (where WDI data is unavailable) and region classification from *Women, Business and the Law historical dataset*.
 - Special Drawing Rights (SDR) Valuation data downloaded from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) [SDR Valuation](#) in April 2025.
 - World Development Indicators (WDI) Database for GDP Per Capita standardization.

Additionally, the code that produces the figures and tables of the B-READY 2025 report uses the following datasets. These are all saved in the folder “03_Code/07_BREADY_2025_Figures_Tables/00_Input data”:

- **Firm_Level_TFP_Estimates_and_Factor_Ratios_July_21_2025.dta:** Firm level Total Factor Productivity (TFP) sourced from the World Bank Enterprise Surveys (WBES) at <https://www.enterprisesurveys.org/en/data>, retrieved on July 21, 2025.
 - The dataset is publicly available and requires the creation of a user account before being able to download, free of charge.
 - Once logged onto the data portal of Enterprise Surveys, the data can be accessed from the “Combined Data” tab with the name “Firm-Level-TFP-Estimates-and-Factor-Ratios-Data-and-Documentation.zip”.

- **WDI_BREADY_20250423.dta:** World Development Indicator downloaded from <https://datatopics.worldbank.org/world-development-indicators/> in Excel format, on April 23, 2025.
- **countryyear_101_LP.dta:** List of economies and their latest data year extracted from Firm_Level_TFP_Estimates_and_Factor_Ratios_July_21_2025.dta limited to the 101 economies on which data collection and scoring was performed.

Folder Structure

- **00_Documentation:** includes this README file and the ES indicator definitions
- **01_Raw:** includes initial data inputs
 - **01_Aggregated:** B-READY expert surveys processed in and downloaded from the Data Management Portal (DMP) in Excel format.
 - **02_ES:** Enterprises Survey data for economies covered in B-READY 2025
 - **03_Topic_Data:** additional data for topic specific indicator construction and scoring
- **02_Scoring_Template:** include 10 standardized scoring templates from each Topic with indicator mapping and scoring rules at sub-indicator level
- **03_Code:** Stata Do-files to prepare data, merge datasets, construct and score indicators by topic, and save the scores as outputs
 - **07_BREADY_2025_Figures_Tables:** Code and data for the figures and tables of the BREADY 2025 report.
 - **data:** Includes the following:
 - **00_Input_Data:** Additional datasets used with details in the previous section.
 - **01_Scores:** Processed scores for the 10 topics and merged to form large datasets both in long and wide formats to create graphs and tables for the B-READY report. The code for generating these datasets is found in “02_Code”.
 - **code:** “02_Code” Includes all the Stata Do-files used for producing the tables and graphs in the B-READY report. The folder contains a “00_Master.do” that calls all other Do-files in sequence and sets up the environment and additional time stamped folders for the outputs.
- **04_Output:** includes all data and analytical (coming later) outputs
 - **00_Data:** merged B-Ready aggregates and additional data for indicator construction and scoring
 - **01_Scores:** final scores for each topic
 - **02_ES:** processed ES indicators for Pillar 3 indicators
 - **03_Tables:** summary and analysis tables for report
 - **04_Graphs:** graphs for report
- **05_Questionnaire:** includes original Survey Solution questionnaires distributed to experts

Data Processing Workflow

The improved data processing workflow follows these key stages:

1. **Data validation and aggregation:** Data validation, cleaning and aggregating expert-level responses to economy-level were implemented in the DMP, and the downloaded datasets are used as initial inputs
2. **Indicator Construction and Scoring:** Apply scoring templates and calculate topic scores
3. **Analytical Products Development:** Tables and graphs were produced for the B-READY 2025 report

Computational Requirements

Software Requirements:

- Stata 18.0 or higher
- Required Stata packages (automatically installed by master script):
 - ietoolkit
 - iefieldkit
 - mdesc
 - ds3
 - fs
 - ereplace
 - mvfiles
 - labvars
 - carryforward
 - missings
 - moss
 - filelist
 - charlist
 - sencode
 - egenmore
 - labutil
 - palettes
 - colrspace
 - heatplot
 - moremata
 - schemepack
 - graphfunctions
 - grc1leg
 - fre
- **Memory and Runtime:**
 - **Approximate time needed:** 12 minutes 45 seconds

- **Approximate storage space needed:** 208 MB
- **Technology Environment**
 - OS: Windows 11 Enterprise, version 24H2
 - Processor: 13th Gen Intel(R) Core (TM) i7-1365U (1.80 GHz)
 - Memory available: 32 GB
 - Software version: Stata 18.5 MP and Stata 19.5 MP

Key Improvements from Previous Rollout

- **Streamlined indicator construction process** with user-written programs:
 - **ACMOS**
 - **Pillar 3 Program**
 - **Trade Indicator Maker Program**
- **Improved documentation** with comprehensive request tracking
- **Standardized naming conventions** using topic shorthand codes (BE, BL, US, etc.)
- **ISO country code standardization** for merging and identifying economies consistently

Instructions for Replication

1. Setup:

- a. Download the complete "B-READY_2025_Package" folder
- b. Ensure Stata 18.0 or above is installed
- c. Verify internet connection for package installation

2. Data Access:

- a. B-READY economy-level data included in the package as Excel datasets
- b. Enterprise Surveys economy-level indicators included in the package, or users can replicate it using publicly available [replicability package](#) on the WBES website
- c. Supporting datasets are publicly available from specified sources

3. Execution:

- a. BREADY scores:
 - i. Navigate to 03_Code/
 - ii. Open the master do-file: 00_master.do
 - iii. Update the global path to point to your package location
 - iv. Run the master script
- b. Tables and figures for the BREADY 2025 report:
 - i. Navigate to 03_Code/07_BREADY_2025_Figures_Tables/02_Code
 - ii. Open the master do-file: 00_master.do
 - iii. Update the global path to point to your package location
 - iv. Run the master script

4. Expected Outputs:

- a. **Topic Level Aggregation:** aggregation results for each topic combined into BREADY_Overall.dta file
- b. **Microdata:** Detailed scoring at sub-indicator × economy level

- c. **Economy Scores:** Final scores by pillar (Foundations/Efficiency/Services) for each topic
- d. **Aggregated Results:** Overall B-READY scores and rankings
- e. **Figures and Tables:** figures and tables for the 2025 BREADY report, saved in “04_Output/03_Tables” and “04_Output/03_Graphs”.

Special Economy-Level Values

Economy-level answers may include special values:

- **0.5:** Equal split between "yes" and "no" responses
- **Skip logic (-9):** Majority of experts skipped the question
- **Multiple modes (-8):** Multiple overlapping answer options
- **[Value]; 50% skip logic:** Half experts skipped, half responded with [Value]

Scoring Templates and Logic

- All scored variables documented in corresponding Scoring Template files
- Logic operators (AND/OR/COUNT) specify how variables combine for scoring
- Special scoring rules documented in topic-specific templates
- Reweighting tables applied where specified by topic teams

Documentation and Support

- **Scoring Template:** Comprehensive Excel files with sub-indicator scoring rules and the overall Pillar – Category – Subcategory – Indicator – Sub-indicator frameworks
- **Questionnaires:** Available in PDF format

Contact Information

For questions regarding data access or replication:

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The authors will assist with reasonable replication attempts for two years following publication.

This reproducibility package follows World Bank DIME standards for reproducible research.