



SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS (SEI) BHUTAN

Second Quarterly Issue
2026



NATIONAL STATISTICS BUREAU
ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN

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As we strive to enhance the quality and scope of our reports, we welcome comments and suggestions from users to further improve future editions. The SEI publication can also be accessed through the NSB website (www.nsb.gov.bt).

Thank you once again for your support and collaboration.

POPULATION

INDICATORS	2024	2025	2026
Population	777,224	784,043	790,718
Male	404,411	407,663	410,840
Female	372,813	376,380	379,878

Source: National Population Projection 2017-47, NSB.

INDICATORS	2005	2017
Population Density (Per Sq. Km)	16	19
Population Growth Rate (%)	1.3	1.3
Average Household Size	4.6	3.9
Dependency ratio	60.6	47.0
Sex ratio	111	110
Population Distribution (%)		
Urban	30.9	37.8
Rural	69.1	62.2
Life Expectancy at Birth	66.3	70.2
Male	65.7	68.8
Female	66.9	71.7

Source: PHCB 2005 and PHCB 2017, NSB.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

INDICATORS	2026		% CHANGE/ % POINT
	1 ST QTR	2 ND QTR	
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	65.4	65.3	0.10 ▼
Male	73.9	73.5	0.40 ▼
Female	56.0	56.3	0.30 ▲
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.4	2.9	0.50 ▼
Male	3.0	2.4	0.60 ▼
Female	3.9	3.5	0.40 ▼
Youth Unemployment Rate (%)	16.5	17.3	0.80 ▲
Male	16.2	13.8	2.40 ▼
Female	16.7	20.3	3.60 ▲
Number of New Jobseekers Registered	2,930	2,792	4.71 ▼
Male	1,653	1,635	1.09 ▼
Female	1,277	1,157	9.40 ▼
Placement through Overseas Employment Program	118	7	94.07 ▼
Male	23	1	95.65 ▼
Female	95	6	93.68 ▼

Note: No overseas placements were made in Middle East due to the ongoing war situation.

Source: Quarterly Labour Force Survey Reports, NSB and Bhutan Labour Market Information System (BLMIS).

POVERTY

INDICATORS	2012	2017	2022
Poverty Rate (%)	12	8.2	12.4
Urban	1.8	0.8	4.2
Rural	16.7	11.9	17.5

Note: The poverty rate for 2022 is not comparable with previous years due to a change in the methodology.

Source: Poverty Analysis Report, NSB.

INCOME

INDICATORS	2025	2026	% CHANGE/ % POINT
	4 TH QTR	1 ST QTR	
GDP by Sector (Nu. in Million)	82,566.74	69,453.22	15.88 ▼
Agriculture	14,221.88	6,765.20	52.43 ▼
Industry	26,427.66	19,565.74	25.96 ▼
Service	41,917.20	43,122.28	2.87 ▲
GDP Growth (%)	8.76	5.78	2.98 ▼
Share of Agriculture to GDP (%)	17.22	9.74	7.48 ▼
Share of Industry to GDP (%)	32.01	28.17	3.84 ▼
Share of Service to GDP (%)	50.77	62.09	11.32 ▲

Source: Quarterly Gross Domestic Product, First Quarter, 2026, NSB.

INDICATORS	2026		% CHANGE/ % POINT
	1 ST QTR	2 ND QTR	
Inflation Rate (%) ¹	5.81	7.26	1.45 ▲
Total Foreign Exchange Reserves (USD in Million)	1,315.83	1,224.81	6.92 ▼
USD (in Million)	1,020.72	1,096.55	7.43 ▲
Rupees (Rs. in Million)	27,975.72	12,140.74	56.60 ▼
Exchange Rate 1 USD to Ngultrum	94.80	94.66	0.15 ▼
Non Performing Loans Ratio (NPR) (%)	3.60	...	-
Credit to Deposit Ratio (%)	...	...	-
Money Supply (Nu. in Million)	307,545.60	...	-
Minimum Lending Rate (%)	5.72	5.72	0.00 -
Claims on other Sectors including Private Sector (Million Nu.)	239,425.70	...	-
Claims on Central Government (Million Nu.)	17,316.00	...	-

Claims on Central Government (Million Nu.)	17,316.00	...	-
Number of Domestic Digital Transactions (In Million)	85.32	91.32	7.03 ▲
Value of Domestic Digital Transactions (Billion Nu.)	306.69	341.17	11.24 ▲
Volume of Remittances (Million Nu.)	10,940.41	8,804.58	19.52 ▼
Number of Accounts			
Saving	1,050,890	1,359,112	29.33 ▲
Current	80,172	95,619	19.27 ▲
Recurring Deposits	46,179	56,960	23.35 ▲
Fixed Deposits	68,816	74,067	7.63 ▲

Note: Data are reported either for the respective quarter or as of the end of the quarter and are provisional.

Source: Royal Monetary Authority (RMA) and ¹ Monthly CPI Report, NSB.

PUBLIC FINANCE (NU. IN MILLION)

INDICATORS	2026		% CHANGE/ % POINT
	1 ST QTR	2 ND QTR	
Government Revenue Receipt ¹	15,896.34	31,019.49	95.14 ▲
Tax Revenue	11,738.31	15,954.37	35.92 ▲
Non-Tax Revenue	4,158.03	15,065.12	262.31 ▲
Government Expenditure	25,063.90	49,597.63	97.88 ▲
Current	12,380.64	16,970.65	37.07 ▲
Capital	11,388.05	28,503.32	150.29 ▲
Net Lending	-943.24	13.69	101.45 ▲
Repayment	2,238.46	4,109.96	83.61 ▲
Total Public Debt	306,323.21	...	-
As % of GDP	90.60	...	-
External Debt	285,225.15	...	-
As % of GDP	84.40	...	-
Hydro Debt	166,313.24	...	-
As % of GDP	49.20	...	-
Non-Hydro Debt	118,911.92	...	-
As % of GDP	35.20	...	-
Domestic Debt	21,098.05	...	-
As % of GDP	6.20	...	-
Convertible Currency Debt (USD in Million)	1,035.29	...	-
As % of GDP	34.50	...	-
Rupee Debt (Rs. in Million)	186,955.19	...	-
As % of GDP	65.50	...	-
Total Debt Service through Budget	28,333.14	...	-

Note: ¹ Provisional data from Department of Revenue and Customs.

Source: Ministry of Finance.

INDUSTRIES AND TRADE

INDICATORS	2026		% CHANGE
	1 ST QTR	2 ND QTR	
Industries			
Industries by Sector	30,441	32,056	5.31 ▲
Production and Manufacturing	4,351	4,449	2.25 ▲
Services	24,310	25,637	5.46 ▲
Contruction	1,780	1,970	10.67 ▲
Industries by Ownership	30,441	32,056	5.31 ▲
Sole Proprietorship	28,866	30,315	5.02 ▲
Partnership	306	358	16.99 ▲
Company	1,136	1,234	8.63 ▲
Others	133	149	12.03 ▲
Industries by Size	30,441	32,056	5.31 ▲
Large	445	488	9.66 ▲
Medium	883	968	9.63 ▲
Small	17,885	19,156	7.11 ▲
Cottage	11,228	11,444	1.92 ▲
Number of FDI Industries	175	184	5.14 ▲
Trade			
Trade by Sector	24,276	24,496	0.91 ▲
Micro Trade	9,880	9,869	0.11 ▼
Retail	13,472	13,707	1.74 ▲
Wholesale	924	920	0.43 ▼
Trade by Ownership	24,276	24,496	0.91 ▲
Sole Proprietorship	23,372	23,555	0.78 ▲
Partnership	211	211	0.00 -
Company	52	676	1200.00 ▲
Others	641	54	91.58 ▼
Trade by Size	24,276	24,496	0.91 ▲
Large	1,574	1,589	0.95 ▲
Medium	697	724	3.87 ▲
Small	12,125	12,314	1.56 ▲
Cottage	9,880	9,869	0.11 ▼

Note: Data on number of active licenses as of end of Qtr.

Source: Department of Industry & Department of Trade, MoICE.

FOREIGN TRADE (NU. IN MILLION)

INDICATORS	2026		% CHANGE
	1 ST QTR	2 ND QTR	
Export	14,465.60	13,221.93	8.60 ▼
India	11,401.86	10,483.89	8.05 ▼
Third Countries	3,063.74	2,738.04	10.63 ▼
Import	34,860.63	41,747.69	19.76 ▲
India	28,207.43	32,391.17	14.83 ▲
Third Countries	6,653.20	9,356.52	40.63 ▲
Balance of trade	-20,395.03	-28,525.77	39.87 ▲
India	-16,805.57	-21,907.28	30.36 ▲
Third Countries	-3,589.46	-6,618.49	84.39 ▲

Note: Provisional figure.

Source: Department of Revenue and Customs.

TOURISM

INDICATORS	2026		% CHANGE
	1 ST QTR	2 ND QTR	
Total number of Tourists Arrival	37,141	86,250	132.22 ▲
Tourists from Countries other than India (COTI)	12,998	16,355	25.83 ▲
Tourists from India	22,965	68,410	197.89 ▲
Tourists from Bangladesh	1,178	1,485	26.06 ▲
Tourists Arrival by Port of Entry	37,141	86,250	132.22 ▲
Gelephu	125	108	13.60 ▼
Paro	15,650	27,773	77.46 ▲
Phuentsholing	20,882	57,908	177.31 ▲
Samdrup Jongkhar	451	456	1.11 ▲
Samtse	33	4	87.88 ▼
Nganglam	0	1	-
Tourists Revenue to Government (USD in Million)	8.44	12.91	52.96 ▲

Note: Data includes only SDF paying tourists.

Source: Department of Tourism, MoICE.

HEALTH

INDICATORS	2000	2012	2023
Health			
Infant Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Live Births)	60.5	30.0	15.2
Crude Birth Rate (Per 1,000 Population)	34.1	17.9	18.0
Crude Death Rate (Per 1,000 Population)	8.6	6.2	8.5
Maternal Mortality Ratio (Per 100,000 Live Births)	255.0	86.0	53.0
Total Fertility Rate (Children Per Woman)	4.7	2.3	2.0
Deliveries Attended by Skilled Health Workers (%)	23.7	74.6	98.5
Institutional Delivery (%)	19.8	73.7	98.0
Under-5 Mortality Rate (Per 1000)	84.0	37.3	19.5
Neonatal Mortality Rate (Per 1000)	...	21.0	6.9
% of Population within 2 Hours from the Nearest Health Facility	...	87.7	96.8
Sanitation			
Rural Population Access to Improved Drinking Water Source (%)	73.2	97.2	99.5
Rural Population Access to Improved Sanitation (%)	...	57.9	98.9
Crude Childhood Immunization Coverage (%)	...	95.1	99.4

Source: National Health Survey, MoH.

INDICATORS	2023	2024	2025
Health Institutes (Number)			
Hospitals	54	55	59
Primary Health Centres (PHC)	186	187	194
Sub-Posts	51	51	51
Outreach Clinics (ORC)	554	557	555
Health Information and Service Centres (HISC)	...	7	7
Indigenous Hospitals	1	1	1
Indigenous Units	72	80	80
Training Institutes	3	4	4

Source: Annual Health Bulletins Report.

INDICATORS	2022	2023	2024
Health Human Resources¹			
General Specialists/Sub-Specialists	136	121	177
Medical Officers (MS/CMO/MO/GDMO)	143	211	173
Clinical Nurses	278	359	368
Staff/Assistant Nurses	1,330	1,229	1204
Health Assistants (HA)	659	580	574

Note: ¹ For 2022, the data is as of January 2022.

Source: Annual Health Bulletins Report.

EDUCATION

INDICATORS	2022	2023	2024
Education			
Number of Students	162,536	155,159	155,272
Number of Teachers	10,584	10,158	10,096
Net Enrollment Rate in ECCD	39	38	38
Net Enrollment Rate in Primary (PP-VI)	93	94	89
Net Enrollment Rate in Basic (PP-X)	92	92.71	91
Net Enrollment Rate in Secondary (VII-XII)	55	69	63
National Literacy Rate (6 years and above) ¹	70.6	70.6	70.6
Number of Educational Institutes (Schools, Institutes and Centres)			
Government Schools	500	497	491
Higher Secondary Schools	71	79	78
Middle Secondary Schools	62	57	63
Lower Secondary Schools	59	38	32
Primary Schools	308	323	318
Extended Classrooms	62	45	47
Special Institutes	2	2	2
Private Schools	23	27	26
Higher Secondary Schools	21	14	10
Middle Secondary Schools	2	2	2
Lower Secondary Schools	1	1	1
Primary Schools	12	10	13
Centres and Institutes			
ECCD Centres	491	525	574
Schools with SEN Program	26	39	44
Tertiary Institutes	18	17	17
Other Institutes ²	536	692	518

Note: ¹ Data sourced from Bhutan Living Standard Survey 2022 (BLSS 2022).

² Other Institutes includes Technical Training Institutes, Institutes of Zorig Chusum, Continuing Education Centres, Non-Formal Education Centres and Monastic Education Institutes.

Source: Annual Education Statistics Reports.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

INDICATORS	2026		% CHANGE
	1 ST QTR	2 ND QTR	
Transport			
Length of Road (Km) ¹	18,056.63	18,056.63	0.00 -
Number of Motorable Bridges	393	393	0.00 -
Number of Suspension Bridges	438	438	0.00 -
Number of Revenue Earning Passengers Carried by Druk Air	60,164	68,313	13.54 ▲
Revenue Earned by Druk Air (Nu. in Million)	1,213.48	1,832.16	50.98 ▲
Number of Revenue Earning Passengers Carried by Bhutan Airlines	32,502	43,767	34.66 ▲
Revenue Earned by Bhutan Airlines (Nu. in Million)	634.79	885.69	39.52 ▲
Number of Revenue Earning Passengers Carried by Helicopter Service	1,368	1,528	11.70 ▲
Revenue Earned by Helicopter Service (Nu. in Million)	60.33	87.85	45.61 ▲
Number of Motor Vehicles Registered	128,237	132,156	3.06 ▲
Heavy	7,957	7,943	0.18 ▼
Medium	2,517	2,529	0.48 ▲
Light	91,828	94,167	2.55 ▲
Two-Wheeler	9,415	9,353	0.66 ▼
Taxi	7,217	7,427	2.91 ▲
Other ²	9,303	10,737	15.41 ▲
Electric Vehicle (EV)	1,252	1,531	22.28 ▲
Telecommunication			
Number of Telephone Exchange Stations	...	...	-
Number of Telephone Connections	9,894	9,778	1.17 ▼
Number of Internet Connections	831,528	846,719	1.83 ▲

Lease Line Connections	57,280	61,174	6.80 ▲
Broadband Internet Connections	7,354	8,032	9.22 ▲
EDGE/GPRS+3G+4G Connections	674,059	652,088	3.26 ▼
5G Connections	92,835	125,425	35.11 ▲
B-Mobile Subscribers	515,874	521,281	1.05 ▲
Tashicell Subscribers	308,523	309,730	0.39 ▲

Note: ¹Data as per Road Classification and Network Information of Bhutan 2025.

²Includes tractors, power tillers, and earth-moving equipment.

Source: MoIT and BICMA.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION (IN METRIC TON)

INDICATORS	2025		% CHANGE
	3 RD QTR	4 TH QTR	
Cereals	19,572.19	55,062.94	181.33 ▲
Oilseeds	185.76	198.53	6.87 ▲
Vegetables	10,879.36	9,922.99	8.79 ▼
Species	1,888.98	3,998.63	111.68 ▲
Roots and Tubers	23,975.95	5,560.17	76.81 ▼
Fruits and Nuts	5,921.31	19,224.02	224.66 ▲
Dairy Products	16,570.88	13,735.00	17.11 ▼
Meat	1,781.73	1,751.61	1.69 ▼
Honey	24.64	9.66	60.79 ▼
Eggs (Number in Million)	19.19	18.49	3.63 ▼

Source: Quarterly Integrated Agriculture and Livestock Survey of Bhutan, 2025

FORESTRY

INDICATORS	2026
Forestry (Number)	
Divisional Forest Office	14
Range Offices Division	42
Beat Office Division	76
Range Office Park	32
Beat Office Park	14
Forest Cover (%) ¹	69.7
Protected Area (%)	43.48
Protected Areas Number (Parks, Sanctuaries and Reserves)	10
Biological Corridors (%)	8.28
Royal Botanical Park (%)	0.24
Tiger Centre ²	1
Forestry Research Institute	1

Note: ¹ Excluding alpine shrubs 3.39% and shrubs 9.74%. ² Merged under Nature Conservation Division and it functions as a sub centre.

Source: Department of Forest and Park Services, MoENR.

HYDRO-POWER (UNITS IN MILLION)

INDICATORS	2026		% CHANGE/ % POINT
	1 ST QTR	2 ND QTR	
Total Electricity Generation ¹	1,438.78	3,287.12	128.47 ▲
Total Scheduled Electricity Export	93.39	693.82	642.93 ▲
Total Schedule Export of Electricity to India (%)	6.49	21.11	14.62 ▲
Hydro Electricity Generated by Chhukha	183.45	451.91	146.35 ▲
Schedule Electricity Export from Chhukha	3.12	10.96	250.69 ▲
Hydro Electricity Generated by Kurichhu	45.83	113.18	146.94 ▲
Schedule Electricity Export from Kurichhu	0.00	0.00	-
Hydro Electricity Generated by Tala	459.61	1,136.18	147.20 ▲
Schedule Electricity Export from Tala	1.75	0.49	71.73 ▼
Hydro Electricity Generated by Dagachhu	0.00	43.33	-
Schedule Electricity Export from Dagachhu	0.00	42.46	-
Hydro Electricity Generated by Mangdechhu	308.30	900.68	192.14 ▲
Schedule Electricity Export from Mangdechhu	15.48	125.20	708.83 ▲
Hydro Electricity Generated by Basochu	41.95	65.92	57.15 ▲
Schedule Electricity Export from Basochu	0.00	15.27	-
Hydro Electricity Generated by Nikachhu	48.05	120.83	151.50 ▲
Schedule Electricity Export from Nikachhu	31.16	100.89	223.78 ▲
Hydro Electricity Generated by Punatsangchhu II	351.59	455.09	29.44 ▲

Schedule Electricity Export from Punatsangchhu II	41.88	398.55	851.68 ▲
Total Electricity Import (Bid Quantum)	1,482.44	297.73	79.92 ▼
Total Domestic Sales	2,714.22	2,982.03	9.87 ▲
Total Subsidized Energy	46.28	46.38	0.22 ▲
Number of Villages Electrified	4,493	4,493	0.00 -
Number of Towns Electrified	54	54	0.00 -
Number of Electricity Consumers	265,411	268,175	1.04 ▲

Note: ¹ Does not include generation from solar plants, wind plant and mini/micro hydro power plants.

Source: BPC and Department of Energy, MoENR.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

INDICATORS	2026		% CHANGE
	1 ST QTR	2 ND QTR	
Number of Contributors to NPPF	65,251	65,320	0.11 ▲
Civil and Corporate Members	51,237	51,333	0.19 ▲
Male	33,229	33,277	0.14 ▲
Female	18,008	18,056	0.27 ▲
Armed Force Members	14,014	13,987	0.19 ▼
Male	12,306	12,282	0.20 ▼
Female	1,708	1,705	0.18 ▼
Number of Pensioners	11,380	11,598	1.92 ▲
Civil and Corporate Members	6,925	7,097	2.48 ▲
Armed Force Members	4,455	4,501	1.03 ▲

Note: Data on total active members as of end of Qtr.

Source: National Pension and Provident Fund (NPPF).

INDICATORS	2023	2024	2025
Number Civil Servants	28,406	29,723	30,159
Male	17,035	17,563	17,523
Female	11,371	12,160	12,636

Source: Civil Service Statistics, RCSE.



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