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## Review of the book Statistical Handbook 1996: States of the Former USSR

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**Statistical handbook, 1996: states of the former USSR.** English and Russian. World Bank, 1996. 560p (Studies of economies in transformation, 21) ISBN 0-8213-3845-5 pbk, \$50.00

In this fifth handbook on the countries of the Former Soviet Union (FSU), the World Bank staff provide (in Russian and English) detailed statistics on population and employment, gross domestic product, foreign trade, wages and prices, energy, budgets, and agricultural and industrial production for 1990-95 (where available). Information is first presented in tables including all countries of the FSU, allowing easy comparisons. The rest of the book is arranged alphabetically by country, with definitions for the various terms and categories provided in an appendix. The data were supplied, based on a standard set of tables, by the statistical offices of the countries themselves and hence should be treated with some caution. Although some of the information is available elsewhere, this source is better organized than *The*

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*Statistical Handbook of Social and Economic Indicators for the Former Soviet Union* (CH, Dec'96) and is more detailed and current than *Statistical Abstract of the World*, ed. by Marlita A. Reddy, CH, Jun'95). This reasonably priced trade paperback is recommended for most reference collections.—  
J. A. Drobnicki, CUNY York College