

International Budget Project  
**OPEN BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE**

# **AZERBAIJAN**

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International Budget Project  
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities  
820 First Street, NE  
Suite 510  
Washington, DC 20002  
[www.internationalbudget.org](http://www.internationalbudget.org)

**This questionnaire was completed by:**

**Name:** IBRAGIM IBRAGIMOV and FARID GARDASHBAYOV  
**Organization:** PUBLIC FINANCE MONITORING CENTER  
**Address:** 39, Fizuly Street, Apart. 28  
Baku AZ1014  
Azerbaijan  
**Telephone:** (+994 12) 497 8967, 499 3774  
**E-mail:** [ibragim\\_fi@yahoo.com](mailto:ibragim_fi@yahoo.com); farid875@yahoo.com  
**Internet Website:** [www.pfmc.az](http://www.pfmc.az)

# International Budget Project OPEN BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE AZERBAIJAN

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## **Section One: The Availability of Budget Documents**

## Table 1. Budget Year of Documents Used in Completing the Questionnaire

*Please indicate the budget year of the document used to complete the questionnaire. If the document is not available to the public, please state, "Not Available."*

<b>Budget Documents Used in Completing the Questionnaire</b>	
<i>As explained in the guide to the questionnaire, documents from a variety of fiscal years are referred to throughout the questionnaire. Please indicate below for which fiscal year responses to questions relating to each report or experience were based on.</i>	
	Budget Year Used
Pre-Budget Statement	Not Available
Budget Summary	2005
Executive's Budget Proposal	2005
Supporting Budget Documents	2005
Citizens Budget	Not Available
Enacted Budget	2005
In-Year Reports	Not Available
Mid-Year Report	Not Available
Year-End Report	Not Available
Audit Report	Not Available

## Table 2. Internet Links for Key Budget Documents

*Please provide the Internet link for the document, or indicate one of these three answers: “Not Produced,” “Produced, But Not Available to the Public,” “Publicly Available, But Not on the Internet.”*

Budget Document	Website
Pre-Budget Statement	Not Produced
Budget Summary	Publicly Available, But Not on the Internet.
Executive’s Budget Proposal	<a href="http://www.maliyye.gov.az/law_2004.shtml">http://www.maliyye.gov.az/law_2004.shtml</a> <a href="http://xalqqazeti.com/view.php?d=11703">http://xalqqazeti.com/view.php?d=11703</a>
Supporting Budget Documents	Publicly Available, But Not on the Internet.
Citizens Budget	Not produced
Enacted Budget	<a href="http://www.maliyye.gov.az/?lang=en&amp;mod=main&amp;id=49">http://www.maliyye.gov.az/?lang=en&amp;mod=main&amp;id=49</a> <a href="http://xalqqazeti.com/view.php?d=11703">http://xalqqazeti.com/view.php?d=11703</a>
In-Year Reports	Produced, But Not Available to the Public
Mid-Year Review	Produced, But Not Available to the Public
Year-End Report	Produced, But Not Available to the Public
Audit Report	Produced, But Not Available to the Public
Other Documents	
Relevant Ministries & Departments	Ministry of Finance of Azerbaijan Republic ( <a href="http://www.maliyye.gov.az">http://www.maliyye.gov.az</a> ) Ministry of Taxes ( <a href="http://www.taxes.gov.az">http://www.taxes.gov.az</a> ) Ministry of Economic Development ( <a href="http://www.economy.gov.az">http://www.economy.gov.az</a> )

**Table 3. Distribution of Documents Related to the Executive's Budget Proposal**

<b>DISTRIBUTION OF BUDGET DOCUMENTS</b>						
<i>For the following reports, place "Yes" in the appropriate row below to indicate if the report is:</i>						
	Pre-budget	<b>Executive's Budget Proposal</b>				Citizens budget
		Main document	Budget summary*	Supporting Document 1	Additional Document 2	
A. Not produced, even for internal purposes	Yes					Yes
B. Produced for internal purposes, but not available to the public						
C. Produced and available to the public, but only on request			Yes	Yes		
D. Produced and distributed to the public (for example, in libraries, posted on the Internet.)		Yes				
<i>For budget reports that are produced and distributed to the public, what steps does the executive take to distribute these reports and to promote interest in them? For each characteristic, mark "Yes" if yes, "No" if no, or "NA" if Not Available.</i>						
	Pre-budget	<b>Executive's Budget</b>				Citizens budget
		Main document	Budget summary*	Supporting Document 1	Additional Document 2	
1. The release date is known at least one month in advance		No				
2. Advance notification of release is sent to users, media		No				
3. Released to public same day as official release to media		No				
4. Available on the Internet free of charge		Yes				
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution		Yes				
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution		No				
7. Readily available outside capital and/or big cities <sup>†</sup>		No				
8. Written in more than one language		Yes				
9. News conference is held to discuss release		No				

\*A budget summary should be a stand-alone document, which could include a budget speech or a separately published executive summary.

<sup>†</sup>Mark "Yes" if access by mail order or by Internet, if Internet service is readily available outside the capital and/or big cities.

**Table 4. Distribution of the Enacted Budget and Other Reports**

<b>DISTRIBUTION OF ENACTED BUDGET AND OTHER REPORTS</b>					
<i>For the following reports, place a “Yes” in the appropriate row below to indicate if the report is:</i>					
	Enacted budget	In-year reports	Mid-year review	Year-end report	Audit report
A. Not produced, even for internal purposes					
B. Produced for internal purposes, but not available to the public		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
C. Produced and available to the public, but only on request					
D. Produced and distributed to the public (for example, in libraries, posted on the Internet.)	Yes				
<i>For budget reports that are produced and distributed to the public, what steps does the executive take to distribute these reports and to promote interest in them? For each characteristic, mark “Yes” if yes, “No” if no, or “NA” if Not Available.</i>					
	Enacted budget	In-year reports	Mid-year review	Year-end report	Audit report
1. The release date is known at least one month in advance	No				
2. Advance notification of release sent to users, media	No				
3. Released to public same day as official release to media	No				
4. Available on the Internet free of charge	Yes				
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution	Yes				
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution	No				
7. Readily available outside capital/big cities <sup>†</sup>	No				
8. Written in more than one language	Yes				
9. News conference is held to discuss release	No				

<sup>†</sup>Mark “Yes” if access is available by mail order or by Internet, if Internet service is readily available outside the capital and/or big cities.



## **Section Two: The Executive's Budget Proposal**

*Notes on abbreviations:*

BY = budget year (year for which the budget proposals are being made)

BY+1 = one year beyond the budget year

BY-1 = one year before the budget year

*Please mark your answer by placing the appropriate letter in the box to the right of the question. For all answers marked “not applicable/other,” please provide a brief explanation indicating either why the answer choices provided are not applicable or why another response would be more appropriate.*

<b>The Executive’s Budget Proposal</b>	
<b>Estimates for the Budget Year and Beyond</b>	
<p>1. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by administrative unit (that is, by ministry, department, or agency)?</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">a. All expenditures are classified by administrative unit.  b. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit, but some small units are not shown separately.  c. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit, but a significant number of units are not shown separately.  d. No expenditures classified by administrative unit are presented.  e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Functional, Economic and Administrative Classification of the Public Budget for the Year 2005: Budget Expenditures,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>2. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by functional classification?</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">a. All expenditures are classified by functional classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.  b. All expenditures are classified by functional classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.  c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function.  d. No expenditures classified by function are presented.  e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Functional, Economic and Administrative Classification of the Public Budget for the Year 2005: budget expenditures,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005. When the International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) Government Finance Statistics (GFS) was referenced, the functional classification shown in budget proposal does not meet the GFS’s requirements.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<p>3. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by economic classification?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All expenditures are classified by economic classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>b. All expenditures are classified by economic classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by economic classification.</li> <li>d. No expenditures classified by economic classification are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></b> Information can be found in the document entitled “Functional, Economic and Administrative Classification of the Public Budget for the Year 2005: budget expenditures,” attached to Part 1 of the budget proposal for the year 2005. When the IMF’s Government Finance Statistics (GFS) was referenced, the functional classification shown in the budget proposal does not meet the GFS’s requirements.</p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</u></b> We do not agree with Peer Reviewer One’s comments because of the absence of Commonwealth of Independent States’ (CIS) standards for classification of state expenses. As we know there are only international standards presented by the IMF. In our case, there is just CIS adaptation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> The economic classification does not meet a number of international standards. The classification is prepared based on Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) standards.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
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<p>4. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program-level data are presented for all expenditures.</li> <li>Program-level data are presented for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>Program-level data are presented, but for less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>No program-level data are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researchers marked the answer as “d.”</b> Expenditures are only classified by functional, administrative and economic classification. There is no classification by program level.</p> <p><b>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</b> Expenses in the budget documents are not presented by individual programs. For example, the ongoing state program for education improvement for 2005-2008, the expenditures for the program are not listed in the budget document in 2006 or 2007.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> “c.” Expenditures are classified for individual programs such as Education, Health, and Science. 3 year-programs, such as the “Health Development Program 2006-2009” are approved.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>5. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of expenditure presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented.</li> <li>No, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found on page 86 of the document entitled “The Azerbaijan Republic Social and Economic Development Conception and Forecast Indicators for 2005-2008,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>6. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for expenditure estimates that cover a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, multi-year expenditure estimates are presented for all individual programs, and for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative).</li> <li>b. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative), but only for some individual programs.</li> <li>c. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented, but only for a portion of one or more of the expenditure classifications (such as some functions, or some administrative units) and/or for only some individual programs.</li> <li>d. No, multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> Only general information is presented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>7. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of tax revenue (such as income tax or VAT) for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All sources of tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>b. Sources of tax revenue amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Sources of tax revenue amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No sources of tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on that can be found in the document entitled “Revenues of the Public Budget for the year 2005 classified by paragraphs of budget revenue classification,” attached to Part II of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>8. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of goods and services) for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All sources of non-tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>b. Sources of non-tax revenue amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, non-tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Sources of non-tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all non-tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No sources of non-tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on that can be found in the document entitled “Revenues of the Public Budget for the year 2005 classified by paragraphs of budget revenue classification,” attached to Part II of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>9. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of revenue presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are presented.</li> <li>b. No, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are not presented.</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found on page 86 of the document entitled “The Azerbaijan Republic Social and Economic Development Conception and Forecast Indicators for 2005-2008,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> Only general information is presented, with no differentiation on sources.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>10. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for revenue estimates that cover a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, multi-year revenue estimates are presented for individual sources of revenue, and by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax).</li> <li>Yes, multi-year estimates are presented by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax), but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>Yes, multi-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>No, multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate revenue only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researchers marked the answer as “d.”</u></b> Multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate revenues only. Finance documents of the Statistic Committee are not publicly available. They are distributed among state agencies only. Organizations that may have close personal ties with state organizations can have access to these documents but the public is not provided access.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> General information about total government debt is presented. Information can be found at Finance Documents of Statistic Committee.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>11. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present data on the total government debt outstanding for the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt both at the start of the budget year and at the end of the budget year (and thereby reflect the net borrowing requirement of the budget).</li> <li>Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the end of the budget year.</li> <li>Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the start of the budget year.</li> <li>No, data on the outstanding debt are not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on outstanding debt can be found in the document entitled “State of Public Debt of the Azerbaijan Republic as of July 01 2004,” attached to Part II of the budget proposal for the year 2005. In the budget proposal for 2005, information about outstanding debt is shown for nine months of the present year. We cannot determine the exact amount of outstanding debt at the start of the budget year due to having only nine months of information. The new loans that are borrowed towards the end of the year are not represented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>12. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present interest payments on the debt for the budget year?</p> <p>a. Yes, interest payments on the debt are presented.  b. No, interest payments on the debt are not presented.  c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Functional, Economic and Administrative Classification of the Public Budget for the year 2005: Budget Expenditures,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>13. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information related to the composition of government debt (such as interest rates on the debt, maturity profile of the debt, currency denomination of the debt, or whether it is domestic and external debt) for the budget year?</p> <p>a. Yes, extensive information related to the composition of government debt is presented.  b. Yes, key additional information is presented, but some details are excluded.  c. Yes, some additional information is presented, but it lacks important details.  d. No, additional information related to the composition of government debt is not presented.  e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on that can be found in the document entitled “State of Public Debt of the Azerbaijan Republic” attached to Part II of the budget proposal for the year 2005 and “Functional, Economic and Administrative Classification of the Public Budget for the year 2005: Budget Expenditures.” These documents cover the following: payments on interest rates and main debt calculated for external and domestic state debt, expenditures related to domestic and external state debt services, ceiling of external and domestic debt for the budget year, total internal and external state department, etc. All information but the currency denomination is covered in these documents.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>



<p>14. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive discussion of the macroeconomic forecast is presented, and key assumptions (such as inflation, real GDP growth, unemployment rate, and interest rates) are stated explicitly.</li> <li>b. Yes, the macroeconomic forecast is discussed and most of the key assumptions are stated explicitly, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, there is some discussion of the macroeconomic forecast (and/or the presentation of key assumptions), but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information related to the macroeconomic forecast is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found on page 55 of the document entitled “The Azerbaijan Republic Social and Economic Development Conception and Forecast Indicators for 2005-2008,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005. Details such as unemployment rates and interest rates are not presented in the macroeconomic forecast.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>15. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation show the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions (i.e., sensitivity analysis) on the budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of the major macroeconomic assumptions, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no analysis of the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions on the budget.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>16. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how policy proposals in the budget, as distinct from existing policies, affect expenditures?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on the impact of policy proposals on expenditures is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policy proposals on expenditures, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on the impact of policy proposals on expenditures is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on policy proposals’ impact on expenditure can be found in the document entitled “Draft Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on State Budget for the year 2005 and Explanation to that Law,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.” But this information covers only some structural changes in expenditures and does not explain the way they are taking place.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>17. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how policy proposals in the budget, as distinct from existing policies, affect revenues?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on the impact of policy proposals on revenues is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policy proposals on revenues, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on the impact of policy proposals on revenues is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on that can be found in the document entitled “Draft Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on State Budget for the year 2005 and explanation to that law,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.” But this information covers only general explanations and there are no explanations for changes in revenue structure, or how changes in revenue structure and prices would specifically impact on the overall picture.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>

<b>Estimates for Years Prior to the Budget Year</b>	
<p>18. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) that are classified by administrative unit (that is, by ministry, department, or agency)?</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">a. All expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">b. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1, but some small units are not shown separately.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">c. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1, but a significant number of units are not shown separately.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">d. No expenditures classified by administrative unit are presented for BY-1.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Information about Expected Execution of Public Budget for the first three quarters of 2004, classified by functional, economic and administrative classification,” attached to Part III of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>19. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) that are classified by functional classification?</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">a. All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">b. All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function for BY-1.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">d. No expenditures classified by function are presented for BY-1.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Information about Expected Execution of Public Budget for the first three quarters of 2004, classified by functional, economic and administrative classification” attached to Part III of the budget proposal for the year 2005. When the IMF’s Government Finance Statistics (GFS) was referenced, the functional classification shown in the budget proposal does not meet the GFS’s requirements.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<p>20. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) that are classified by economic classification?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>b. All expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1.</li> <li>d. No expenditures classified by economic classification are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Information about Expected Execution of Public Budget for the first three quarters of 2004, classified by functional, economic and administrative classification,” attached to Part III of the budget proposal for the year 2005. When the IMF’s Government Finance Statistics (GFS) was referenced, the functional classification shown in the budget proposal does not meet the GFS’s requirements.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<p>21. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Program-level expenditure data are presented for all expenditures for BY-1.</li> <li>b. Program-level expenditure data are presented for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures for BY-1.</li> <li>c. Program-level expenditure data are presented, but for less than two-thirds of expenditures for BY-1.</li> <li>d. No program-level expenditure data are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Expenditures are only classified by functional, administrative and economic classification. There is no classification by program level.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>22. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, how many months of actual data are reflected in the expenditure estimates of the year prior to the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect six or more months of actual expenditure.</li> <li>b. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels, but reflect less than six months of actual expenditure.</li> <li>c. Some BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect actual expenditure.</li> <li>d. The BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original enacted levels, or no BY-1 estimates are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Information on Execution of State Budget of the Azerbaijan Republic in the first three quarters of 2004,” attached to Part II of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>23. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of expenditure presented for years that precede the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented.</li> <li>b. No, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented.</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found on page 86 of the document entitled “The Azerbaijan Republic Social and Economic Development Conception and Forecast Indicators for 2005-2008,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>24. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for expenditure estimates that cover years preceding the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, such prior-year expenditure estimates are presented for all individual programs, and for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative).</li> <li>b. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative), but only for some individual programs.</li> <li>c. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented, but only for a portion of one or more of the expenditure classifications (such as some functions, or some administrative units) and/or for only some individual programs.</li> <li>d. No, such prior-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Comparative table of the Indicators of Public Budgets for years 2003-2005,” attached to Part III of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>25. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all expenditures reflect actual outcomes?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).</li> <li>b. Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).</li> <li>c. Before BY-3.</li> <li>d. No actual data for all expenditures are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found on page 86 of the document entitled “The Azerbaijan Republic Social and Economic Development Conception and Forecast Indicators for 2005-2008,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>26. Are the expenditure estimates for the years prior to the budget year adjusted, as needed, to be comparable with the budget-year estimates in terms of classification and presentation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, prior-year data are always adjusted to be comparable to the budget year data.</li> <li>b. Yes, in most cases, prior-year data are adjusted to be comparable.</li> <li>c. Yes, in some cases, prior-year data are adjusted to be comparable, but significant deviations between prior-year and budget-year classifications exist.</li> <li>d. No, prior-year data are not adjusted to be comparable, or no prior-year estimates are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Comparative Table of the Indicators of Public Budgets for years 2003-2005,” attached to Part III of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>27. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of tax revenue (such as income tax or VAT) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>b. Tax revenues amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenue for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Comparative Table of the Indicators of Public Budgets for years 2003-2005,” attached to Part III of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>28. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of goods and services) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All non-tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>b. Non-tax revenues amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, non-tax revenue for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Non-tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all non-tax revenues for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No non-tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Comparative Table of the Indicators of Public Budgets for years 2003-2005,” attached to Part III of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>29. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, how many months of actual data are reflected in the revenues estimates of the year prior to the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimates to reflect six or more months of actual revenue collections.</li> <li>b. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimates, but reflect less than six months of actual revenue collections.</li> <li>c. Some BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original estimates to reflect actual revenue collections.</li> <li>d. The BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original estimates or no BY-1 estimates are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Information on Execution of State Budget of the Azerbaijan Republic in the first three quarters of 2004,” attached to Part II of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>



<p>30. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of revenues presented for years that precede the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, such prior-year estimates of aggregate revenue are presented.</li> <li>b. No, such prior-year estimates of aggregate revenue are not presented.</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found on page 86 of the document entitled "The Azerbaijan Republic Social and Economic Development Conception and Forecast Indicators for 2005-2008," attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>31. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for revenue estimates that cover years preceding the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, such prior-year revenue estimates are presented for individual sources of revenue, and by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax).</li> <li>b. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax), but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>c. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>d. No, such prior-year estimates are presented for aggregate revenue only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled "Comparative Table of the Indicators of Public Budgets for years 2003-2005," attached to Part III of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>32. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all revenues reflect actual outcomes?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).</li> <li>b. Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).</li> <li>c. Before BY-3.</li> <li>d. No actual data for all revenues are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found on page 86 of the document entitled "The Azerbaijan Republic Social and Economic Development Conception and Forecast Indicators for 2005-2008," attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>33. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information related to the government debt for the year preceding the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information is presented on the level and composition of government debt for the year preceding the budget year.</li> <li>b. Yes, information on the level of debt is presented, but some important details about the composition of the debt are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, but only information on the level of debt is presented.</li> <li>d. No, information related to the government debt for BY-1 is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on that can be found in the document entitled "State of Public Debt of the Azerbaijan Republic as of July 01 2004," attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005. This information does not provide any figures on how much the government is planning to borrow and how much of the debt is to be repaid. The budget does not present a complete picture of the government debt for the year preceding the current budget year.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>34. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which the debt figures reflect actual outcomes?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).</li> <li>b. Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).</li> <li>c. Before BY-3.</li> <li>d. No actual data for government debt are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in the document entitled “Comparative Table of Indicators of Public Budgets for years 2003-2005,” attached to Part III of the budget proposal for the year 2005. Since this question is about outcomes, we can say that such figures are presented in the document mentioned above.</p> <p>The budget proposal for every year contains information on public debt for the first three quarters of the current year. For example, in budget proposal for 2005, public debt is presented for January-September of 2004. No information on forthcoming borrowings and payments is presented to calculate the amount of the debt as on the end of the current year (on the beginning of the new budget year). So we can say that there are no actual outcomes for any of previous years. Although the information for BY-1 is incomplete, actual outcomes for BY-2 can also be included in the budget documents. If that is the case, leave as A.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
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<b>Comprehensiveness</b>	
<p>35. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key extra-budgetary funds, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on extra-budgetary funds is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There are two extra-budgetary funds in Azerbaijan. The State Social Protection Fund and the State Oil Fund. Budget documentation contains detailed information about the former. This information is shown in the document entitled "Draft Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budget of State Social Protection Fund for the year 2005," attached to Part IV of the budget proposal for the year 2005. For the State Petroleum Fund, there is information only at the aggregate level of revenues and expenditure reflected on page 86 of the document entitled "The Azerbaijan Republic Social and Economic Development Conception and Forecast Indicators for 2005-2008," attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p>Only general figures are presented. For instance, transfers from state budget to State Social Protection Fund are generally shown, but no information regarding where and how they will be spent is provided.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>

<p>36. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on intergovernmental transfers?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on intergovernmental transfers is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key intergovernmental transfers, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on intergovernmental transfers is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on intergovernmental transfers to local and regional governments can be found in the document entitled “Draft Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on State budget for the year 2005 and explanation to that law,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005. This information reflects transfers to local and regional governments and contains only aggregate figures without any details.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>37. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on transfers to public corporations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on transfers to public corporations is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key transfers to public corporations, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on transfers to public corporations is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on transfers to public corporations can be found in the document entitled “Draft Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on State Budget for the year 2005 and Explanation to that law,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.” But this information does not contain important details. For example, the government is going to give \$47 million to Azerbaijan Airlines, a state owned company, to improve its aircraft depot. Baku Metro is going to be given \$10.5 million to improve its train depot. Information regarding the exact use of these funds, such as how many aircrafts or trains will be acquired, and the cost for these vehicles is missing.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<p>38. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on quasi-fiscal activities?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on quasi-fiscal activities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and, where possible, quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key quasi-fiscal activities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on quasi-fiscal activities is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on that can be found in the document entitled "Aggregated Budget of the Azerbaijan Republic for years 2005-2008," attached to Part II of the budget proposal for the year 2005. There is data on quasi-fiscal subsidies granted to the energy sector in this document. However, only aggregate figures are shown, omitting detailed information. For example, there is no information on inter-enterprise arrears and loans to State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) below market rates by state-owned banks.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>39. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on financial assets held by the government?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on financial assets is presented, including a listing of the assets, a discussion of their purpose, and an estimate of their market value.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key information, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on financial assets is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>40. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on non-financial assets held by the government?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on non-financial assets is presented, including a listing of the assets, a discussion of their purpose, and (where possible) an estimate of their market value.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key information, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on non-financial assets is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>41. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on expenditure arrears?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on expenditure arrears is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key expenditure arrears, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on expenditure arrears is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>42. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on contingent liabilities (such as government loan guarantees)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on contingent liabilities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key contingent liabilities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on contingent liabilities is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>43. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on future liabilities, such as civil service pensions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on future liabilities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key future liabilities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on future liabilities is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>



<p>44. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation provide details on the sources of donor assistance, both financial and in-kind?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All sources of donor assistance are identified individually.</li> <li>b. At least two-thirds of, but not all, sources of donor assistance, are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Less than two-thirds of sources of donor assistance are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No sources of donor assistance are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researchers marked the answer as “a.”</b> Information on that can be found in the document entitled “Revenues of the Public Budget for the year 2005 classified by paragraphs of budget revenue classification,” attached to Part II of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> The answer should be “b.” Not all sources are stated in the budget packet. There is a special grant paragraph in the packet, but not all sources are classified.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>45. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on tax expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on tax expenditures is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key tax expenditures, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on tax expenditures is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>46. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify all earmarked revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>b. At least two-thirds of, but not all, earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Less than two-thirds of earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such identification in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>47. What percentage of expenditure in the budget year is dedicated to spending on secret items relating to, for instance, national security and military intelligence?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. One percent or less of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.</li> <li>b. Three percent or less, but more than one percent, of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.</li> <li>c. Eight percent or less, but more than three percent, of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.</li> <li>d. More than eight percent of expenditure is dedicated to secret items, or the percentage is not available to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> No economic, functional classification of secret items expenditures is presented. Usually general information does not give any idea about those expenditures.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<b>The Budget Narrative &amp; Performance Monitoring</b>	
<p>48. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation explain how the proposed budget is linked to government’s stated policy goals, by administrative unit (or functional category), for the budget year?</p> <p>a. Yes, extensive information on the link between the budget and the government’s stated policy goals, by administrative unit (or functional category) is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</p> <p>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the link between major policy goals and the budget, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, information on the link between the budget and the government’s stated policy goals is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on policy goals can be found in the document entitled “Draft law of the Azerbaijan Republic on State budget for the year 2005 and explanation to that law”, attached to Part I budget proposal for the year 2005. However, this information covers some structural changes in expenditures and presents only a few explanations for the way the budget is linked to policy goals.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>49. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation explain how the proposed budget is linked to government’s stated policy goals for a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, extensive information on the link between the budget and the government’s stated policy goals over a multi-year period is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</p> <p>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the major policy goals, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, information on the link between the budget and the government’s stated policy goals over a multi-year period is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>50. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present non-financial data, such as the number of beneficiaries, for expenditure programs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Non-financial data are presented for all programs.</li> <li>b. Non-financial data are presented for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>c. Non-financial data are presented for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditure.</li> <li>d. No non-financial data are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on that can be found in the document entitled “Draft Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on State Budget for the year 2005 and explanation to that law,” attached to Part I budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>51. Are the non-financial data presented useful for assessing how an expenditure program is performing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The non-financial data are very useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>b. The non-financial data are mostly useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>c. The non-financial data are somewhat useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>d. No non-financial data are provided or they are not useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on that can be found in the document entitled “Draft Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on State Budget for the year 2005 and explanation to that law,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005. There are figures regarding indicating the number of people that are going to benefit from increasing expenses on salary, pensions power reducing, etc. The figures do not indicate how the expenditure program is performing in terms of true impact on quality of lives.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>52. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation contain performance indicators for expenditure programs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Performance indicators are presented for all programs.</li> <li>b. Performance indicators are presented for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>c. Performance indicators are presented for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No performance indicators are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>53. Are the performance indicators sufficiently well designed, such that one can assess whether there has been progress toward meeting policy goals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All performance indicators are well designed.</li> <li>b. Most performance indicators are well designed.</li> <li>c. Some performance indicators are well designed, but most are not.</li> <li>d. No programs have performance indicators, or they are not well designed.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>54. Are performance indicators used in conjunction with performance targets presented in the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets.</li> <li>b. Most performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets.</li> <li>c. Some performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets, but most are not.</li> <li>d. No performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no such information in the budget documentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>55. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on policies (both proposals and existing commitments) in at least the budget year that are intended to benefit directly the country’s most impoverished populations?</p> <p>a. Yes, extensive information on policies intended to alleviate poverty is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</p> <p>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policies intended to alleviate poverty, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, information on policies intended to alleviate poverty is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on policies can be found in the document entitled “Draft Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on State Budget for the year 2005 and explanation to that law,” attached to Part I of the budget proposal for the year 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<b>Additional Key Information for Budget Analysis &amp; Monitoring</b>	
<i>Please note that the questions in this section ask about information that is generally available to the public. The information need not be included in the executive’s budget proposal or supporting documents, but may be found in other documents issued by the executive.</i>	
<p>56. Does the executive make available to the public a description of the tax rate or fee schedule for all revenue sources?</p> <p>a. Yes, extensive information on tax rates and fee schedules is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</p> <p>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the rates and fees for major revenue sources, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, information is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information on tax rates and fee schedules is presented on the Tax Ministry’s website at: <a href="http://www.taxes.gov.az">www.taxes.gov.az</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>57. Does the executive make available to the public an analysis of the distribution of the tax burden?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Yes, a detailed analysis of the distribution of the tax burden is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li><li>b. Yes, an analysis is presented, highlighting key aspects of the distribution, but some details are excluded.</li><li>c. Yes, some analysis is presented, but it lacks important details.</li><li>d. No analysis on the distribution of the tax burden is presented.</li><li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li></ul> <p>de</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> This information is not available.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; padding: 5px;">d</div>
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58. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from international financial institutions (IFI)?

- a. Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.
- b. Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

b

Citation and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "a."** Everyone has easy access to IFI reports. For example all staff in PFMC can get any information from different sites of IFI.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** The answer should be "b." The government of Azerbaijan does not present all conditions of such assistance; there is not a regular responsibility for the government to provide such information. The public access to IFI reports is limited.

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. While transparency in Azerbaijan surrounding IFI assistance has improved in recent years, civil society was denied access upon request of draft country strategy papers, i.e. as the country strategies were under development, from the World Bank and EBRD as such disclosure was not approved by the government. It is difficult to find out specific details on which state assets to be commercialized/shares publicly offered were "required/strongly encouraged" by the IMF/World Bank/IFC – these processes are far from being transparent to the public.

In addition, the World Bank's first Poverty Reduction Support Credit was held up for many months (maybe even more than a year) due to the Bank requiring the Azeri government to first raise energy tariffs – such a "conditionality" was not necessarily shared with the public – though it made its way informally into news papers. Also, the latest Article IV consultation report from the IMF is still not disclosed on the IMF's website. The Article IV consultation was completed in April. The IMF encourages countries to disclose these reports, but it is based on individual government approval (FYI: most IMF member countries now disclose it). Azerbaijan disclosed the 2004 Article IV but it is not clear if they are just lagging behind or if they are not disclosing it because as of this year they now no longer have an IMF program, which puts more pressure on them for transparency.



<p>59. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from donor countries?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</u></b> Information on that is released by donor countries. However, very little information is presented classifying the sources of donor aid and very general information is provided on this issue.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response would be “c.” The government of Azerbaijan does not present all conditions of such assistances and there is no law requiring the government to present this information. The public has little access to donor countries reports and since it is the considered government’s prerogative to release this information, little information is provided by donor countries.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. Also refer to IBP comment for question 58.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
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<p>60. Does the executive make available to the public a summary that describes the budget and its proposals?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, it provides a summary that is very informative.</li> <li>Yes, it provides a summary that is somewhat informative.</li> <li>Yes, but the summary is not very informative.</li> <li>No, it does not provide a summary.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researchers marked the answer as “c.”</u></b> The budget summary is not very informative.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The summary is not released as a stand alone document, but the minister makes a speech about the budget and its proposals on TV channels such as ANS and Aztv, and his speech is published in newspapers such as People’s and Azerbaijan Newspaper and Azertaj State Information Agency. So it can be considered a budget summary. But he gives very common information on budget expenditures, revenues and state debt. Therefore we prefer to choose “b” as the response.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer ”c” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>61. Does the executive publish a “citizens budget” or some non-technical presentation intended for a wide audience that describes the budget and its proposals?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is very informative.</li> <li>Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is somewhat informative.</li> <li>Yes, but the citizens budget is not very informative.</li> <li>No, it does not publish a citizens budget.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A citizens budget is not published in Azerbaijan.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>62. Does the executive make available to the public non-technical definitions of terms used in the budget and other budget-related documents (for instance, in a glossary)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, thorough definitions of budget terms are provided.</li> <li>Yes, definitions are provided, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some definitions are provided, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, definitions are not provided.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Definitions of terms used in budget documents can be found in paragraph 1 of the document entitled “Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System” and this document is released to the public. There are 30 definitions of terms used in the budget system and this document can be seen on the internet at: <a href="http://www.maliyye.gov.az/?lang=en&amp;mod=main&amp;id=49">http://www.maliyye.gov.az/?lang=en&amp;mod=main&amp;id=49</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>63. Does the executive make available to the public a summary of the budget process?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, it includes a summary of the budget process that is very informative.</li> <li>Yes, it includes a summary of the budget process that is somewhat informative.</li> <li>Yes, but the summary of the budget process is not very informative.</li> <li>No, it does not include a summary of the budget process.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researchers marked the answer as “d.”</u></b> A summary is not published in Azerbaijan.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” Information on budget preparation, execution, reporting and auditing can be found in paragraphs 11-26 of the document entitled “Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System.” There is general information about the budget process in this document. More detailed information on the budget process is reflected in another document entitled “Formulation and execution rules of State budget, 2004,” but it is not released to the public. The first document describing the budget process can be considered a summary, but it lacks some information.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. As pointed out by the peer reviewer, in Azerbaijan the detailed budget summary is not released to the public.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>64. Do citizens have the right in law to access government information, including budget information?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the right has been codified into law, and citizens are generally able in practice to obtain government information, including budget information.</li> <li>b. Yes, the right has been codified into law, but it is sometimes not possible for citizens in practice to obtain government information, including budget information.</li> <li>c. Yes, the right has been codified into law, but it is frequently or always impossible in practice to obtain access to government information, including budget information.</li> <li>d. No, the right to access government information has not been codified into law, or this right does not include access to budget information.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> According to the Constitution of the Azerbaijan Republic, each citizen has the right to obtain the budget information upon request. However, in practice, it is very difficult to come by budget information without government officials' willingness to provide it to society.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>65. Are citizens able in practice to obtain financial information on expenditures for individual programs in a format that is more highly disaggregated than that which appears in the executive's budget proposal if they request it (for example, from a ministry or agency)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for all programs except those considered related to national security or military intelligence.</li> <li>b. In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>c. In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. In practice, no highly disaggregated expenditure information is available.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> It is difficult to obtain any form of information regarding the executive's budget proposal.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

66. Are citizens able in practice to obtain non-financial information related to expenditures (for example, number of beneficiaries, number of persons employed by the program, etc.) for individual programs in a format that is more highly disaggregated than that which appears in the executive's budget proposal if they request it from a ministry or agency?

- a. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for all programs except those considered related to national security or military intelligence.
- b. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.
- c. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.
- d. In practice, no highly disaggregated non-financial expenditure information is available.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment: It is difficult to obtain any form of information regarding the executive's budget proposal.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

d

## **Section Three: The Budget Process**

<b>The Budget Process</b>	
<b>Executive's Formulation of the Budget</b>	
<p>67. How far in advance of the release of the budget is the day of its release known?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The release date is set in permanent law.</li> <li>The executive announces the release date at least two months in advance.</li> <li>The executive announces the release date less than two months but more than two weeks in advance.</li> <li>The executive announces the release date two weeks or less before the release, or makes no announcement.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Information can be found in items 13 and 14 of the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System. Item 13 states that the budget proposal for the Financial Year must be submitted to Parliament by no later than October 15. Item 14 states that the budget proposal for the FY has to be released in the press no later than 10 days after being submitted to Parliament.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>68. Does the executive release to the public its timetable for its budget preparation process?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, a detailed timetable is released to the public.</li> <li>Yes, a timetable is released, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, a timetable is released, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, a timetable is not issued to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researchers marked the answer as “d.”</u></b> A common timetable is codified in the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System. However, this timetable is not complete. There are several steps to the budget process and their timetables are not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” Some information on the executive’s timetable is codified in the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System. For example, submitting dates of budget documents to relevant government agencies (local organizations, Ministry of Finance, Cabinet of Ministries and Parliament) and each of the Ministry of Finance’s steps are reflected in this document. However, other agencies’ steps are not shown explicitly.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. As pointed out by the peer reviewer, in Azerbaijan a comprehensive timetable is not released to the public.</p>	d

<p>69. Does the executive adhere to its timetable for the preparation and release of the budget?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The executive adheres to the dates in its timetable.</li> <li>The executive adheres to most of the key dates in its timetable.</li> <li>The executive has difficulty adhering to most of the dates in its timetable.</li> <li>The executive does not adhere to the dates in its timetable, or it does not release to the public its timetable.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “b.”</u></b> Every year, the executive sends the draft budget to Parliament by October 15, begins to execute the approved budget from January 1, and completes its execution by the date mandated in the Budget System Law.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. Since the detailed timetable is not released to the public (refer to question 68) this question is automatically marked “d.”</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>70. Does the executive hold consultations with members of the legislature as part of its process of determining budget priorities?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the executive holds extensive consultations with a wide range of legislators.</li> <li>Yes, the executive holds consultations with a range of legislators, but some key members are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, the executive holds very limited consultations, involving only a few members of the legislature.</li> <li>No, the executive does not typically consult with members of the legislature as part of the budget preparation process.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> While determining budget priorities, members of the government have limited consultations with heads of parliamentary commissions on economic and social policy as well as with some members of parliament (MPs) from each commission. The remaining MPs are not involved in the preparatory budget process.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>



<p>71. Does the executive hold consultations with the public as part of its process of determining budget priorities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the executive holds extensive consultations with a wide range of constituencies.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive holds consultations with a range of constituencies, but some key constituencies are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive holds very limited consultations, involving only a few constituencies.</li> <li>d. No, the executive does not typically consult with the public as part of the budget preparation process.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Civilians are not involved in the budget process.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>72. When does the executive release a pre-budget statement to the public?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The executive releases a pre-budget statement at least four months in advance of the start of the budget year.</li> <li>b. The executive releases a pre-budget statement at least two months (but less than four months) in advance of the start of the budget year.</li> <li>c. The executive releases a pre-budget statement, but it is released less than two months before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>d. The executive does not release a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No Pre-budget statement is released.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>73. Does the pre-budget statement describe the government’s macroeconomic and fiscal framework?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s fiscal and macroeconomic policy is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the fiscal and macroeconomic framework, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No Pre-budget statement is released.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>74. Does the pre-budget statement describe the government’s policies and priorities that will guide the development of detailed estimates for the upcoming budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s budget policies and priorities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the government’s budget policies and priorities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No Pre-budget statement is released.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<b>Legislative Approval of the Budget</b>	
<p>75. How far in advance of the start of the budget year does the legislature receive the budget?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The legislature receives the budget at least three months before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>b. The legislature receives the budget at least six weeks, but less than three months, before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>c. The legislature receives the budget less than six weeks before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>d. The legislature does not receive the budget before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> According to Item 13 of the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System, the budget proposal for the financial year (FY) must be submitted to Parliament no later than October 15.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<p>76. Does a legislative committee (or committees) hold public hearings on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework presented in the budget in which testimony from the executive branch and the public is heard?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, public hearings are held on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework in which testimony is heard from the executive branch and a wide range of constituencies.</li> <li>b. Yes, hearings are held in which testimony is heard from the executive branch and some constituencies.</li> <li>c. Yes, hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard, but no testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>d. No, public hearings are not held on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework in which testimony from the executive branch and the public is heard.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Citizens are not invited to partake in the discussions on the budget proposal held by the legislative committee. To report on these discussions, journalists must obtain a special pass that permits entry into the parliament building. Each news agency is allotted one pass for one journalist at the beginning of the year. In addition, such hearings are not often broadcast via television.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> No public hearings on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework are held. Participation of civil society institutes in such a discussion is prohibited. Journalists have no right to participate in discussions, they just observe the process.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

77. Do legislative committees hold public hearings on the individual budgets of central government administrative units (that is, ministries, departments, and agencies) in which testimony from the executive branch is heard?

- a. Yes, extensive public hearings are held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.
- b. Yes, hearings are held, covering key administrative units, in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.
- c. Yes, a limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.
- d. No, public hearings are not held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "c."** The budget proposal is only discussed by parliamentary commissions on economic and social policy; not all commissions are permitted to participate. Journalists, one per paper, are allowed to report on these hearings. However, the hearings are not often broadcast to the public via television. The commissions hold meetings with members of a few executive agencies prior to the budget discussions in Parliament.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** Answer should be "d." No public hearings are held. Only general information is submitted to journalists without fielding their questions.

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. To be considered a public hearing, any member of the public should have easy access to the meeting. Since the government restricts access to these meetings in Azerbaijan, they cannot be considered to be public meetings for the purposes of this survey.

d

<p>78. Does a legislative committee (or committees) hold public hearings on the individual budgets of central government administrative units (that is, ministries, departments, and agencies) in which testimony from the public is heard?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive public hearings are held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>Yes, hearings are held, covering key administrative units, in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>Yes, a limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>No, public hearings are not held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No Public hearings are held on the individual budgets of central government administrative units.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>79. Do the legislative committees that hold public hearings release reports to the public on these hearings?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the committees release very informative reports, which include all written testimony presented at the hearings.</li> <li>Yes, the committees release reports, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, the committees release reports, but they are not very informative.</li> <li>No, the committees do not release reports or do not hold public hearings.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “c.”</u></b> Information on public hearings is publicized in a parliamentary newsletter called the Azerbaijan Newspaper and is broadcast through state television. These reports are highly general and lack important details. The legislative committee prepares the press release for the media and they have the access to this discussion</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate answer would be “d.” No reports are released to the public, and only general information is presented in the table version.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. To be considered a public hearing, any member of the public should have easy access to the meeting. Since the government restricts access to these meetings in Azerbaijan, they cannot be considered to be public meetings for the purposes of this survey.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

80. Does the executive present more details or provide a better explanation of any budget proposal, if members of the legislature (including from minority parties) request such information?

- a. The executive responds to such legislative requests, and it generally provides an appropriate and timely response.
- b. The executive responds to such legislative requests, but its responses are sometimes not appropriate or timely.
- c. The executive responds to such legislative requests, but its responses are typically not appropriate or timely.
- d. The executive responds selectively or ignores such legislative requests.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment:

**The researchers marked the answer as “c.”** In Azerbaijan executive power has informal supremacy over legislatures. That is why sometimes there might be some delays while getting responses. The executive explanation on it very flexible and limited.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** The answer should be “c.” The executive does not respond to a number of questions, such as those regarding military and national security expenditures.

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be “a.” The executive always responds to legislative requests in a timely manner. According to item 11.17 of the documents entitled “Law of Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System,” the Ministry of Finance has authority over other budget funding organizations to require financial documents within the desired time frame. If required documents are not presented in a timely manner, they will be held accountable by the Ministry of Finance. Therefore, efforts are concerted to present all requested documents in a timely manner. In practice, the Ministry of Finance also presents all requested documents to Parliament within the given timetable. This is evidenced that the budget proposal is usually approved by the legislature by the date stated in the budget guidelines. In Azerbaijan, the executive has no informal supremacy over the legislature.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.

c

<p>81. Is the legislature (or the appropriate legislative committee) given information for the budget year on the spending of secret items relating to, for instance, national security and military intelligence?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the legislature is provided extensive information on all spending on secret items.</li> <li>b. Yes, the legislature is provided information on spending on secret items, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, the legislature is provided some information on spending on secret items, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, the legislature is provided no information on secret items.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Such information is not presented in the budget documentation submitted to MPs. However, once some members of parliament receive some of some information on secret expenses, the information is discussed. This information often only contains aggregated figures and does not provide detailed data.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>82. Does the legislature have authority to amend the budget presented by the executive?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the legislature has unlimited authority to amend the budget.</li> <li>b. Yes, the legislature has authority to amend the budget, with some limitations.</li> <li>c. Yes, the legislature has authority to amend the budget, but its authority is very limited.</li> <li>d. No, the legislature does not have any authority to amend the budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Parliament has the right to advise the executive to make amendments to the budget proposal but it is not authorized to make any amendments. Azerbaijan is a presidential republic and the president has the right to decline laws approved by Parliament.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>83. What is the most detail provided in the appropriation (expenditure budget) approved by the legislature?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The approved budget includes program-level detail.</li> <li>b. The approved budget includes departmental totals and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs).</li> <li>c. The approved budget includes only departmental totals.</li> <li>d. The approved budget includes less information than departmental totals.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Budget expenditures in Azerbaijan do not include program level detail, however, department level details are provided.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<b>Executive's Implementation of the Budget</b>	
<p>84. How often does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual expenditure (organized by administrative unit, economic classification and/or function)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every month.</li> <li>b. In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>c. In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>d. In-year reports on actual expenditure are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports are not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for MPs.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>85. What share of expenditure is covered by in-year reports on actual expenditure (organized by administrative unit, economic classification and/or function)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, in-year reports cover all expenditures.</li> <li>b. Yes, in-year reports cover at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures.</li> <li>c. Yes, in-year reports cover less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports are not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for MPs.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>



<p>86. Do the in-year reports released to the public compare actual year-to-date expenditure with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, comparisons are made for all expenditures.</li> <li>b. Yes, comparisons are made for at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures.</li> <li>c. Yes, but comparisons are made for less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No, comparisons are not made, or no in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports are not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for MPs.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>87. How often does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are released at least every month.</li> <li>b. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>c. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>d. In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports are not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for MPs.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>88. What share of revenue is covered by the in-year reports on actual revenue collections?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of all sources of revenue.</li> <li>b. In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of at least two-thirds of, but not all, sources of revenue.</li> <li>c. In-year reports cover actual revenue collections of less than two-thirds of revenue sources.</li> <li>d. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are not released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports are not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for MPs.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>89. Do the in-year reports released to the public compare actual year-to-date revenue collections with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, comparisons are made for all revenue sources.</li> <li>Yes, comparisons are made for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue sources.</li> <li>Yes, but comparisons are made for less than two-thirds of revenue sources.</li> <li>No, comparisons are not made, or no in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports are not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for MPs.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>90. Does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual borrowing?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least every month.</li> <li>Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>No, in-year reports on actual borrowing are not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports are not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for MPs.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>91. Do in-year reports released to the public on actual borrowing present information related to the composition of government debt (such as interest rates on the debt, maturity profile of the debt, and currency denomination of the debt) for the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information related to the composition of government debt is presented.</li> <li>Yes, key additional information is presented, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some additional information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, additional information related to the composition of government debt is not presented, or such in-year reports on borrowing are not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports are not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for MPs.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>92. For in-year reports on actual expenditure released to the public by the executive, how much time typically elapses between the end of the reporting period and when the report is released (e.g., are quarterly reports released less than 4 weeks after the end of the quarter)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Reports are released 1 month or less after the end of the period.</li> <li>b. Reports are released 2 months or less (but more than 1 month) after the end of the period.</li> <li>c. Reports are released more than 2 months after the end of the period.</li> <li>d. In-year reports are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports are not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for MPs.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>93. Does the executive release to the public a mid-year review of the budget that discusses the changes in economic outlook since the budget was enacted?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the mid-year review includes an extensive discussion of the economy that includes a revised forecast for the full fiscal year and its effects on the budget.</li> <li>b. Yes, the mid-year review includes a discussion of the economy, but it lacks some details.</li> <li>c. Yes, the mid-year review includes a discussion of the economy, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, the mid-year review does not include a discussion of the economy, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A mid-year review is not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for members of parliament.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>94. Does the executive release to the public a mid-year review of the budget that includes updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated expenditure estimates for the full fiscal year, providing extensive information on why estimates have changed from the original enacted levels.</li> <li>b. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but some details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>c. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but important details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>d. No, the mid-year review does not include updated expenditure estimates for the budget year, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A mid-year review is not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for members of parliament.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>95. What is the most detail provided in the mid-year review for expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The mid-year review includes program-level detail for expenditures.</li> <li>b. The mid-year review includes departmental totals (or functional totals) and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs).</li> <li>c. The mid-year review includes only departmental totals (or functional totals).</li> <li>d. The mid-year review includes less information than departmental totals (or functional totals) for expenditures, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A mid-year review is not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for members of parliament.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>96. Does the executive release to the public a mid-year review of the budget that includes updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated revenue estimates for the full fiscal year, providing extensive information on why estimates have changed from the original enacted levels.</li> <li>b. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of revenue, but some details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>c. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of revenue, but important details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>d. No, the mid-year review does not include updated revenue estimates for the budget year, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A mid-year review is not released to the public, being available only for internal purposes and for members of parliament.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>97. Does the executive seek input from the legislature when the executive shifts funds between administrative units (except when the amounts are below a certain level, as specified in law or regulation)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the executive seeks approval from the legislature before shifting funds between administrative units.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive advises the legislature before shifting funds, giving the legislature an opportunity to block or modify the proposed adjustment.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive seeks legislative approval, but only after the shift of funds has been implemented.</li> <li>d. No, the executive shifts funds between administrative units without seeking input from the legislature.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> According to item 18.4 of the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System, in case of necessity, the Cabinet of Ministers and the Ministry of Finance are authorized to shift funds between administrative units within certain item of expenditures. For example, the Ministry of Finance is authorized to cut funds from one hospital to move it to another while keeping total expenses on health care unchanged.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

98. During the past year, have there been credible reported instances in which the procurement of goods and services has not followed an open and competitive process in practice?

- a. There were no credible reported instances of procurement failing to follow an open and competitive process in practice during the past year.
- b. The procurement of goods and services frequently followed an open and competitive process in practice, but there were some reported instances of irregularities.
- c. The procurement of goods and service followed an open and competitive process in many instances, but there were significant reported examples of irregularities.
- d. No, the procurement process was not open and competitive in practice.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment:

**The researchers marked the answer as “d.”** There have not been any public announcements for public bids for contracts in any newspapers or other media during the past year. Only companies that are close to government officials can be involved in the procurement process.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” According to item 20 of the document entitled “The decree of the President of Azerbaijan Republic on the implementation of the Law of Azerbaijan Republic on budgetary system for the year 2005,” the State Agency on Procurement must oversee the adherence to transparency and conformance to the legislation regarding federal procurements of products and services of relevant entities, enterprises and organizations and must report to the president and the Cabinet of Ministers twice a year. The procurement procedures are laid out in items 26 and 27 and Chapter 4 of the law of Azerbaijan Republic on State Procurement. Therefore, all state organizations must make public announcements on federal procurements in newspapers such as Azerbaijan Newspaper (usually listed on the last page of this newspaper). We have examples of such newspaper announcements from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health. However, the results of such bids are not always announced.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. Azerbaijan is ranked 137th in the 2005 Corruption Perception Index issued by Transparency International.

d

<p>99. When does the legislature typically approve supplemental budgets?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Supplemental budgets are approved before the funds are expended, or the executive rarely proposes a supplemental budget (please specify).</li> <li>b. Supplemental budgets are approved after the funds are expended, or the executive implements supplemental budgets without ever receiving approval from the legislature (please specify).</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Supplemental budgets must be adopted before the funds are expended.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>100. In most years, how large are supplemental budget requests relative to the size of the original budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Supplemental budgets are generally equal to 2 percent or less of the original budget.</li> <li>b. Supplemental budgets are generally equal to more than 2 percent, but less than 5 percent, of the original budget.</li> <li>c. Supplemental budget are generally equal to more than 5 percent, but less than 10 percent, of the original budget.</li> <li>d. Supplemental budget are generally equal to 10 percent or more of the original budget, or insufficient information is available to the public regarding the amount of supplemental budgets.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> According to amendments and additions to the Public Budget of the Azerbaijan Republic for the year 2005, revenues were increased by 8%, and expenditures by 11.6%.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

101. When does the legislature approve the expenditure of contingency funds or other funds for which no specific purpose was identified in the budget?

- a. Expenditures are approved before the funds are expended, or contingency funds or other funds with no specific purposes are not included in the budget.
- b. Expenditures are approved after the funds are expended, but before the end of the fiscal year.
- c. Expenditures are approved after the end of the fiscal year, for example in the next budget.
- d. Such expenditure takes place without legislative approval.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

d

Citation and/or comment: There is a Reserve Fund in the Public Budget of the Azerbaijan Republic. According to Item 6.2 of the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System, no more than 5% of the revenues are accumulated in this fund. In case of contingency expenses, the government is free to use these funds without legislative approval. In addition, a President Fund was created to finance contingency expenses. According to the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System, no more than 2% of the expenditures are accumulated in this fund. In case of contingency expenses, the president is free to use these funds without legislative approval.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**



<b>Executive's Year-End Report and the Supreme Audit Institution</b>	
<p>102. How long after the end of the budget year does the executive release to the public a year-end report or another document that discusses the budget's actual outcome for the year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Reports are released six months or less after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>b. Reports are released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>c. Reports are released more than 12 months after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>d. The executive does not release a year-end report.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> According to Item 20.7 of the Law of Azerbaijan Republic on Budgetary System, the Ministry of Finance publishes quarterly and year-end reports in the media. But the Ministry of Finance has interpreted 'media' to mean publishing reports in its own journal on finance. This journal can be obtained only by paying a subscription, so we do not consider this document as available to the public. The Ministry's journal subscription fee is \$65 for a year (\$5.40 for a month), and any citizen can be a subscriber to this journal. But at the same time, to give a comparison to the subscription fee, the minimum [monthly] salary is \$32 and average salary is \$100 for a month.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>103. In the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), have the data on the actual outcomes been audited?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, all data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>b. At least two-thirds, but not all, of the data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>c. Less than two-thirds of the data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>d. None of the data on actual outcomes has been audited, or a year-end report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>104. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>105. What level of detail is the focus of the explanation of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for expenditures presented in the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The explanation of the differences between the enacted expenditure levels and the actual outcome focuses on the program level.</li> <li>b. The explanation focuses on departmental totals (or functional totals) or some lower level of detail (but not the program level in all cases).</li> <li>c. The explanation focuses on a higher level of aggregation than departmental totals (or functional totals).</li> <li>d. No explanation of the differences is provided, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>106. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>107. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>108. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the original estimates of non-financial data and the actual outcome?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>109. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the original performance indicators and the actual outcome?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>110. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the enacted level of funds intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>111. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), present the actual outcome for extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on the actual outcome for extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key issues, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information is not presented on extra-budgetary funds, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The year-end report is for internal purposes only and is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>112. How long after the end of the fiscal year are the final expenditures of national departments audited and (except for secret programs) released to the public?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Final audited accounts are released to the public six months or less after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>b. Final audited accounts are released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>c. Final audit accounts are released more than 12 months, but within 24 months of the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>d. Final audited accounts are not completed within 24 months after the end of the fiscal year or they are not released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The Accounting Chamber only published an evaluation report on its website. In this report, only comparative data is presented. For example, it could be said that the value of health care expenses was \$60 million instead of \$61.8 million. I do not consider evaluation reports to be audit reports, which are not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>113. Two years after the completion of a fiscal year, what percentage of expenditure has been audited and (except for secret programs) the reports released to the public?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All expenditures have been audited and the reports released to the public.</li> <li>b. Expenditures representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditure have been audited.</li> <li>c. Expenditures representing less than two-thirds of expenditure have been audited.</li> <li>d. No expenditures have been audited, or the reports have not been released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Audit reports are not released to the public</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>114. Do year-end audit reports of departmental expenditure that are released to the public include an executive summary?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All of these audit reports include an executive summary.</li> <li>b. Most of these reports include an executive summary.</li> <li>c. Some of these reports include an executive summary.</li> <li>d. None of these audit reports include an executive summary, or such reports are not released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Audit reports are not released to the public</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>115. Must a branch of government other than the executive (such as the legislature or the judiciary) give final consent before the head of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) can be removed from office?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the head of the SAI may only be removed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before they are removed.</li> <li>b. No, the executive may remove the head of the SAI without the final consent of the judiciary or legislature.</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</u></b> According to the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Accounting Chamber, the head of the Accounting Chamber may only be removed by the Speaker. There has not been an instance nor has it been established in law on how the head of the SAI may be removed from office apart from health reasons.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> There has not been an instance not has it been established in law on how the head of the SAI may be removed from office apart from health reasons.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “b” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. The procedures for removal of the head of the SAI in Azerbaijan are vague.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<p>116. Does the Supreme Audit Institution release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the SAI releases to the public audits of all extra-budgetary funds.</li> <li>Yes, the SAI releases audits representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, extra-budgetary funds.</li> <li>Yes, the SAI releases audits representing less than two-thirds of all extra-budgetary funds.</li> <li>No, the SAI does not release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds, or it does not audit such funds.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Audits of extra-budgetary funds are not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>117. Beyond the established year-end attestation audits, does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) have discretion in law to undertake those audits it may wish to?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SAI has full discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.</li> <li>The SAI has significant discretion, but faces some limitations.</li> <li>The SAI has some discretion, but faces considerable limitations.</li> <li>The SAI has no discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The Accounting Chamber is only authorized to undertake audits that are permitted by the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Accounting Chamber.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>



<p>118. Who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The budget of the SAI is determined by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body), and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.</li> <li>The budget of the SAI is determined by the executive, and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.</li> <li>The budget of the SAI is determined by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body), but the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.</li> <li>The budget of the SAI is determined by the executive, but the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researchers marked the answer as “d.”</b> The SAI creates its own budget in accordance with the Accounting Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Accounting Chamber and it is approved by Parliament. But in practice, the Finance Ministry creates a de facto budget for the Accounting Chamber, which it must adopt.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate answer is “c.” The budget of the Supreme Audit Institution is discussed and approved by Parliament. I do not agree with the comment.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. The executive seems to have the powers to determine the budget of the SAI in Azerbaijan.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>119. Does a committee of the legislature view and scrutinize the audit reports?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, all audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>Yes, most audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>Yes, some audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>No, audit reports are not scrutinized.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No audit reports are published and evaluation reports are scrutinized by the committee of the legislature.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>120. Does the executive make available to the public a report on what steps it has taken to address audit recommendations or findings that indicate a need for remedial action?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the executive reports publicly on what steps it has taken to address audit findings.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive reports publicly on most audit findings.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive reports publicly on some audit findings.</li> <li>d. No, the executive does not report on steps it has taken to address audit findings.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No such practice exists, and no such responsibility is delineated by the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on the budgetary system.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>121. Does either the Supreme Audit Institution or the legislature release to the public a report that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, a comprehensive report is released regularly that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations.</li> <li>b. Yes, a report is released, covering key audit recommendations, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, a report is released, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, a report is not produced or it is prepared for internal purposes only (please specify).</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No such practice exists, and no such responsibility is delineated by the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on the Accounting Chamber.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>122. Are audit reports related to national security and other secret programs provided to the legislature (or relevant committee)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, legislators are provided with detailed audit reports related to national security and other secret programs.</li> <li>b. Yes, legislators are provided audit reports on secret items, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, legislators are provided audit reports on secret items, but they lack important details.</li> <li>d. No, legislators are not provided audit reports on secret items, or secret programs are not audited (please specify).</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
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