

Appendix: Data Closure in Russia 2022–2024

Period	Category	Indicator	Executive body	Measures	Description
January 2022	protection from sanctions	detailed export and import data	the Customs Service	stopped updating	explained by the desire to avoid speculation
2022	protection from sanctions	data on the export and import of agricultural products	the Ministries of Industry and Trade	deleted	following the Customs
2022	protection from sanctions	data on the export and import of jewellery and gold	the Assay Chamber	deleted	following the Customs
2022	protection from sanctions	data on the export and import of hydrocarbons	the Ministry of Energy	deleted	following the Customs
March 2022	protection from sanctions	contract data of sanctioned companies	the Ministry of Finance	allowed not to publish	explained it by the unfriendly actions of Western countries
March 2022	protection from sanctions	bank ownership data and full financial statements	the Central Bank	allowed not to publish	Initially, the measures were in effect until the end of 2022, but were extended, and the list of information was expanded. Currently, financial organizations have the right not to publish financial statements and data on owners until the end of 2024.
July 2023	protection from sanctions	corporate information entities under sanctions and related to the defence industry	the Government	allowed not to publish	The new procedure is valid for information about transactions from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2022. The decree was extended until July 1, 2023. In July, this procedure was

					retained indefinitely for companies with risks of sanctions or operating in the territories occupied by Russia.
December 2022	protection from sanctions	income declarations of public servants	the President	allowed not to publish	over the following years, government Departments removed similar datasets from their websites
April 2023	protection from sanctions	statistics on oil and gas extraction	the Government	stopped updating	published by Rosstat and the Ministry of Energy
2022	protection from sanctions	the "Open Data" section (information about state property)	the Federal Property Management Agency	deleted	Probably, the concerns were related to the registers of federal property (real estate, air and sea transport), but they deleted the entire section just in case. In April 2024, the agency returned to publishing administrative datasets.
2022-2023	protection from sanctions	registries of companies involved in the development and production of weapons, aviation technology, and those working on import substitution	the Ministry of Industry and Trade	deleted	The files were deleted for two years without explanation
2023-2024	war-related information used in journalistic investigations	detailed mortality data	Rosstat	stopped updating	Journalists use these data to estimate military losses indirectly, such as by assessing excess mortality. Since 2022, the Russian database on birth and death from the Center for Demographic Research of the Russian School of Economics, based on Rosstat data, has lacked detailed breakdowns of mortality from external causes by

					specific causes of death, including military losses. Also, in March 2022, Rosstat ceased publishing statistics on the number of deaths by sex, age groups, and regions, which could have allowed for more accurate assessments of losses, and since 2023 the agency has not updated the dataset on causes of death on its website.
2022	war-related information used in journalistic investigations	the handling of benefits for military families	the Ministry of Defense	changed the order of registration	This case was not a data deletion. Data on payments were not specifically collected and published. The state has made it impossible to calculate this data.
2023	war-related information used in journalistic investigations	data on payments to combat veteran	Rosstat	changed the statistical report	Rosstat removed lines with data on payments to veterans from the annual social benefits directory and also removed the total amount to prevent calculations.
2024	war-related information used in journalistic investigations	data sets about all social payments	Rostrud	deleted	This data did not appear to be connected to military payments and was deleted, probably just in case.
October 2023	war-related information used in journalistic investigations	monthly data on the number of disabled (website section)	the Pension Fund	deleted	This happened after journalists used these data to estimate the number of people who received disabled status due to military injuries
April 2023	war-related information used in journalistic investigations	dataset about the number of departmental pensioners from 2022 year	the Ministry of Defense	uploaded empty values	The dataset should also disclose data on the number of disabled people who have suffered military injuries, which is probably the reason for the concealment. In

					2024, the Agency also did not update the data, despite the fact that they should be published in accordance with the Federal Statistical Work Plan.
April 2024	war-related information used in journalistic investigations	dataset about the number of departmental pensioners from 2023 year	Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD)	stopped updating	The Department followed the example of the Ministry of Defense, also stopping updating data for no apparent legal reason.
July 2023	war-related information used in journalistic investigations	all data about the number of prisoners (dataset and website section)	the Federal Penitentiary Service	deleted	This decision was likely prompted by Mediazona's materials, which assessed the extent of prisoner recruitment into the Wagner Group. Data restored from web archives can be found on the "To Be Precise" platform.
January 2023	data on social and economic issues	analytical reports and statistical monitoring forms about crime (Legal Statistics Portal)	General Prosecutor's Office	stopped updating	This was ostensibly due to technical work on the site, although no such work was reported on the main website where they also ceased updating summary data about their activities.
2023	data on social and economic issues	data on crimes involving firearms	Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD)	stopped updating	The reason for closing this data was likely due to an increase in the number of similar crimes, as well as expectations of further increases.
February 2024	data on social and economic issues	reports on the migration situation from 2024	Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD)	stopped updating	After the terrorist attack in Crocus City Hall, the Interior Ministry deleted most of the reports from previous years, leaving only the last two reports for 2023.

2023	data on social and economic issues	data on sentences for crimes against military service (statistical report)	Judicial Department	deleted	This is currently the only example of such meticulous data cleansing from past years, as typically agencies remove all "sensitive" data en masse.
February 2023	data on social and economic issues	reporting on the operation of air transport (Open Data section)	Federal Air Transport Agency	deleted	Likely an initiative of the agency, as data collected according to the federal plan of statistical works continue to be updated on an interdepartmental platform
2022	data on social and economic issues	all data from Open Data section	Federal Marine and River Transport Agency	deleted	It is likely that the deletion of data was also an initiative of the agency. Some of the deleted datasets contained administrative data, and some of the data continues to be published on the EMISS platform.
2023	data on social and economic issues	detailing data on the number of fatalities and injuries from emergencies	Ministry of Emergency Situations	stopped updating	The Department publishes data on Russia as a whole, without a breakdown by region.
2023	data on social and economic issues	data on the mass of emissions of specific pollutants (from the Registry of objects having a negative impact on the environment)	Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resources	deleted	These data were crucial for identifying the perpetrators of environmental incidents. Appeals by public organizations to the government and the State Duma led nowhere. However, the removed data remained in the code of the site's registry, allowing analysts from the project "To Be Precise" to download them.