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METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

TURNOVER IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE

This methodological explanation relates to the data releases:

Turnover in retail trade, Slovenia, monthly (First Release)



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1 PURPOSE

The purpose of publishing data on turnover indices in retail trade, trade and repair of motor vehicles, and wholesale trade is to show monthly changes in real and nominal turnover in these activities.

Key statistics include data on turnover in retail trade and wholesale by activities. Such statistics are:

- Index of turnover in retail trade with food, beverages and tobacco
- Index of turnover in retail trade of non-food products (except automotive fuel)
- Index of turnover in retail trade in specialized stores selling automotive fuels
- Index of turnover in the motor trade and repair of motor vehicles
- Index of turnover in wholesale and commission trade

2 LEGAL BASIS

- [Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys \(LPSR\)](#) (only in Slovene)
- [National Statistics Act](#) (OJ RS, No. 45/95 and 9/01)
- Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on European business statistics, repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics (CELEX: 32019R2152)

3 UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA

The units described by the published data are turnover in retail trade and turnover in wholesale and commission trade in enterprises whose main registered activity is trade (section G according to the Standard Classification of Activities NACE Rev.2). Data on turnover refer to the total enterprise turnover, including turnover from potential side activities not related to trade. Turnover is observed according to enterprise's activity based on NACE Rev. 2.

4 SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT

Observation units are enterprises whose principal activity is classified under divisions 47 Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles, 45 Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles and 46 Wholesale and commission trade of the Standard Classification of Activities (SKD 2008 or NACE Rev. 2). Data refer to the whole enterprise, including eventual secondary activity not related to trade. In addition, there are several enterprises in Slovenia whose principal activity is not among the activities mentioned above, but generate a significant share of their turnover with one of

these activities as their secondary activity. Therefore, we survey also such major enterprises, but we take into account only the data related to the observed activities.

Observation units in the TRG/M and TRG-D/M surveys are selected based on threshold coverage. The criteria for the definition of units included in the survey are the principal registered activity, annual turnover of the enterprise and the number of persons in paid employment according to the Statistical Register of Employment. The survey covers all enterprises whose main activity is in section G of NACE Rev. 2, that have annual turnover higher than EUR 300,000 or more than 5 persons in paid employment. The TRG/M survey includes approximately 3,300 units and the TRG-D/M survey approximately 4,250 units. From the above-described selection we determine units that will complete the questionnaire, while data of the remaining units are obtained from the administrative source.

Observation units that answer the questionnaires are determined on the basis of their previous turnover in two steps: at the level of the survey and at the level of the activity group. The units are sorted by descending turnover, and then we select a sufficient number of units from the beginning of the list so as to exceed the defined share (approximately 60%) of turnover in the total turnover of units covered in the selected survey and in the selected activity group, respectively.

5 SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Data are collected on a monthly basis.

The data are obtained with two surveys: "Retail trade, sale and maintenance of motor vehicles" (TRG/M) and "Wholesale" (TRG-D/M). The data in these surveys are obtained by:

- Monthly questionnaire "Retail trade, sale and maintenance of motor vehicles" (TRG/M), which can be filled out by units both electronically and by post.
- Monthly questionnaire "Wholesale" (TRG-D/M), which can be filled out by units both electronically and by post.
- Administrative data being reported by enterprises to the Financial Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for the value added tax purpose (DDV-O forms). These data are available to the Statistical Office approximately 45 days after the reference period.

Reporting units are obliged to deliver the requested data for the previous month to the Statistical Office no later than the 8th of the month. Observation units that are already registered in the web application eSTAT send their data electronically, while data from the remaining units are collected with a postal questionnaire.

Administrative data used in research is data being reported by enterprises to the Financial Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for the value added tax

purpose (DDV-O forms).

6 DEFINITIONS

Retail trade is purchase of goods and their subsequent sale to consumers (for personal and household use) in stores, stalls, via mail or Internet, door-to-door sales, etc.

Wholesale is resale (sale without transformation) to traders and other sole proprietors, legal persons and other individuals who are buying goods for the performance of their trade or profession. Wholesalers frequently physically assemble and sort goods, prepare goods for distribution, store, deliver and install goods and engage in sales promotion. All these manipulations, carried out for their own account, are considered as part of the wholesale trade.

Commission trade is activity of commercial agents and wholesale traders trading on their own behalf and on third party account or activity of those who act as agents between sellers and buyers and take over trade business on behalf of the owner of goods. The agents' sales income is the commission.

Turnover comprises the totals invoiced by the observation unit during the reference period, and this corresponds to market sales of goods or services supplied to third parties. Turnover also includes all other charges (transport, packaging, etc.) passed on to the customer, even if these charges are listed separately in the invoice. Turnover excludes VAT and other similar deductible taxes directly linked to turnover as well as all duties and taxes on the goods or services invoiced by the unit. Reduction in prices, rebates and discounts as well as the value of returned packing must be deducted

7 EXPLANATIONS

7.1 CLASSIFICATIONS

Results are published according to SKD 2008, the national version of the standard classification, which includes the entire European classification of activities (NACE Rev. 2) but also adds some national subclasses.

A more detailed explanation of the classification is available on the following link: <http://www.stat.si/StatWeb/Methods/Classifications>.

7.2 DATA PROCESSING

DATA EDITING

Data were statistically edited with appropriate imputation procedures. The following imputation methods were used: logical imputations mean imputations,

historical imputations.

For more, see the general methodological explanations [Statistical data editing](#).

WEIGHTING

The data are not weighted.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

For seasonal adjustment of time series we use the TRAMO/SEATS method. A time series model is set up, which is revised in detail and corrected about once a year. Using the model the time series is decomposed into:

- the trend-cycle component (which consists of the trend and cyclical movements over a period longer than one year),
- the seasonal component (which consists of the seasonal effects and the calendar effects; the calendar effects are composed of the working day effect, the leap-year effect, the holiday effect and the Easter effect),
- the irregular component (which consists of random fluctuations and some outliers).

Seasonally adjusted data are original data from which the seasonal and calendar effects are eliminated

For more, see the general methodological explanations [Seasonal adjustment of time series](#).

DATA PROCESSING OTHER

Data were edited with the combination of systematic corrections, individual corrections and imputation procedures. The following imputation methods were used: logical imputations mean imputations, historical imputations.

For more, see the general methodological explanations [Statistical data editing](#).

7.3 INDICES

Calculation of turnover indices published in the First Release:

- Indices of turnover based 'on the corresponding month of the previous year', which are working day adjusted, are calculated by the following formula:

$$I_{LET,t,YCal} = \frac{I_{BAZ,t,YCal}}{I_{BAZ,t-12,YCal}} * 100$$

- Indices of turnover based 'on the previous month', which are seasonally adjusted, are calculated by the following formula:

$$I_{MES}_{t,SA} = \frac{I_{BAZ}_{t,SA}}{I_{BAZ}_{t-1,SA}} * 100$$

Whereby:

t	Month
t-1	Previous month
t-12	Corresponding month of the previous year
I_YEAR _{t,ycal}	The index based on the corresponding month of the previous year, working day adjusted
I_MON _{t,sa}	The index based on the previous month, seasonally adjusted
I_BAS _{t,ycal}	The index based on average of the base year, working day adjusted
I_BAS _{t,sa}	The index based on average of the base year, seasonally adjusted

7.4 PRECISION

In statistical surveys different kinds of errors can occur (e.g. sampling error, nonresponse error, measurement error) influencing the reliability and accuracy of the statistical results. Errors deriving from the random mechanisms determine the precision and consequently the reliability of the statistical estimates. The precision of the statistical estimate is estimated by calculating the standard error (SE). The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia draws attention to less reliable estimates by flagging them with a special sign. If the table contains estimated indices, publishing limitations are determined by the standard errors of the estimates (SE) of the indices. In such cases it holds: If the standard error (SE) of the estimate of a proportion is

- 10 or below (SE ≤ 10) the estimate is reliable enough and is published without limitations;
- between 10 and up to 30 (10 < SE ≤ 30) the estimate is less reliable and is flagged for caution with letter M;
- over 30 (SE > 30), the estimate is too unreliable to be published and therefore suppressed for use by letter N. For more, see the general methodological explanations [Precision of statistical estimates](#).

7.5 OTHER EXPLANATIONS

In 2018 we started to publish turnover indices for the entire trade (G), which includes retail trade (G47), wholesale (G46) and wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (G45). In 2018 we also started to

publish volume turnover indices of wholesale. Volume data relating to wholesale and the entire trade are available in the SiStat Database from 2010 onwards.

In the SiStat Database we started to publish together the data for retail trade and trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles and the data for wholesale. Previously they were published separately. Data are available in the tables under Indices of Turnover in Retail Trade, Wholesale, and Wholesale, Retail Trade and Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles.

For the major aggregates – Retail trade, Retail trade except automotive fuel, Retail trade of food, beverages and tobacco, Retail trade with non-food (except automotive fuel) and Sale and maintenance of motor vehicles and motorcycles – the results in the First Release are published in the form of indices of turnover growth for current month/previous month and current month/same month of the previous year.

From the data for the current month, which we compare to the data from the previous month, influences of the season and calendar are eliminated. Data for the current month that are compared to data for the same month of the previous year are adjusted to the number of working days.

8 PUBLISHING

- SiStat Data Base: [Trade and services](#) - Trade - Indices of turnover in retail trade, wholesale, and wholesale, retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles. Value and volume indices are published as the original and adjusted data (data are seasonally and working day adjusted). Data are published according to the Standard Classification of Activities (NACE 2008).
- First Release (Trade and services, Trade): »Turnover in retail trade, Slovenia, monthly«.
- Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat)

9 REVISION OF THE DATA

9.1 PUBLISHING OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DATA

Data for the last 10 months are provisional. With each release the data for the last 10 months can be corrected and supplemented with new data. Data revision is planned. Due to the needs of users for timely information, data are published that meet the criteria of the quality of official statistical data but do not meet the quality that can be met with complete coverage. Data are revised when recent, completed and more quality data respectively can significantly contribute to the quality of data-based decision-making and when due to publication deadlines determined by the European legislation less accurate data are published on the basis of incomplete coverage.

9.2 FACTORS INFLUENCING COMPARABILITY OVER TIME

From 2009 on indices are calculated and published according to the SKD 2008, while indices for the period before 2009 were calculated according to the 2002 version of the SKD. In 2009 all series from 2000 on were recalculated into the new classification of activities. Methodological explanation on revision of statistical data is available on <http://www.stat.si/dokument/5299/RevisionOfStatisticalDataMEgeneral.pdf>.

10 OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS

Methodological materials on SURS's website are available at <https://www.stat.si/statweb/en/Methods/QuestionnairesMethodologicalExplanationsQualityReports>.

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- Questionnaire (only in Slovene):
 - Vprašalnik za statistično raziskovanje: Trgovina na drobno, trgovina z motornimi vozili in popravila motornih vozil (TRG/M)
 - Vprašalnik za statistično raziskovanje: Trgovina na debelo (TRG/DM)

Theme: Trade and services, Sub-theme: Trade

- Quality report for the survey: Monthly report on retail trade, sale and maintenance of motor vehicles (TRG/M) and monthly report on wholesale trade (TRG/DM)

Theme: Trade and services, Sub-theme: Trade

- Reference Metadata in Euro SDMX Metadata Structure: (ESMS):STSRD_ESMS12_A
https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/EN/sts_wrt_ts_esms_si.htm