



METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

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TRADE

This methodological explanation relates to the data releases:

- Retail trade and wholesale, commission trade, Slovenia, annually (First Release)



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1 PURPOSE

The purpose of publishing data on retail trade, wholesale and commission trade is annual monitoring of data on turnover from sale of goods and material by commodity groups and by kind of buyers in retail trade and wholesale and on turnover in commission trade. Key statistics are turnover from sale of goods and material in retail trade by commodity groups, turnover from sale of goods and material in retail trade by kind of buyers, turnover from sale of goods and material in wholesale by commodity groups, turnover from sale of goods and material in wholesale by kind of buyers and turnover in commission trade.

2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- [Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys \(LPSR\)](#) (only in Slovene)
- [National Statistics Act](#) (OJ RS, No. 45/95 and 9/01)
- Regulation (EU) No 549/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on the European system of national and regional accounts in the European Union (CELEX: 32013R0549).

3 UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA

The units described by the published data are turnover from sale of goods and material generated by business entities performing trade activity on the territory of Slovenia and turnover from commission trade generated on the territory of Slovenia or abroad. Turnover from sale of goods and material is observed according to kind of trade (retail trade, wholesale), commodity groups and kind of buyers.

4 SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT

The observation unit is every business entity or its part (enterprise, company, business unit, entrepreneur) or affiliate of a foreign company that performs trade activity, irrespective of its main activity.

The sampling unit is every business entity which performs one of the trade activities in section G of the Standard Classification of Activities (NACE Rev. 2) as their principal activity and has annual turnover from sale of goods and material of at least EUR 25,000 or at least 5 persons employed according to the Statistical Register of Employment. Business entities whose main activity is not in section G of NACE Rev. 2, but which have annual turnover higher than EUR 1 million and the share of turnover from sale of goods and material in total turnover is at least 50% or annual turnover from sale of goods and material is higher than EUR 4.4 million, are also included in the sampling frame.

Selection of observation units is based on probability sampling.

The sampling plan is stratified. If the principal activity of the enterprise is from section G, stratification variables are 3-digit NACE codes of the enterprise and the size of the enterprise (defined by the number of employees and annual turnover from sale of goods and material). Enterprises which are not in section G are divided into three size classes:

- Size class 1, if the enterprise has at least 250 persons employed or at least EUR 22,800,000 of turnover.
- Size class 2, if the enterprise has at least 50 persons employed or at least EUR 3,300,000 of turnover.
- If the enterprise does not fulfil the criteria for the previous two size classes, it is classified into size class 3.

Considering the above described criteria, the sampling plan is divided into several strata. The selection of observation units from strata is then made by the following procedure: the units of the biggest size class (size class 1) are chosen with certainty and the units from the other strata with coordinated probability sampling. The number of units observed in one single stratum is defined by proportional allocation; in the strata with fewer than 8 units all units are allocated.

The final sample includes about 3,500 business entities.

5 SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Data are collected annually.

The data are collected via web (a web application for electronic reporting of data to the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia) with the questionnaire Retail trade and wholesale, commission trade (TRG/L). The source of data is the accounting documentation of enterprises and only exceptionally their estimates.

Data for the survey are not obtained from administrative sources.

6 DEFINITIONS

Wholesale is purchase of goods for further sale to merchants, entrepreneurs, legal persons and others that purchase goods for performing their professional or profit-making activity.

Retail trade is purchase of goods for further sale to final users (for personal and household use).

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 without value added tax from sale of goods and material - sale charged to buyers - is value of goods and materials which were in the observed period sold to buyers and for which invoices (or some other accounting documents) were issued. It includes all costs and charges linked to the buyer and excludes the value added tax and other similar deductible taxes, eventual sale of fixed assets and other extra income. Sale for loan is registered in the month of invoicing. Internal sale between wholesale and retail trade in a composite enterprise is not taken into consideration; income is only the value of sale to external buyers.

7 EXPLANATIONS

7.1 CLASSIFICATIONS

LIST OF COMMODITY GROUPS

Commodity groups in published data:

COMMODITY GROUPS IN WHOLESALE	
from 2022 on	until 2021
<i>Food, beverages and tobacco</i>	<i>Food, beverages and tobacco</i>
Fresh and unprocessed agricultural food products	Fresh fruit and vegetables and other agricultural food products
Fresh and unprocessed fish and other water organisms for nutrition	Fish and other water organisms in purpose of nutrition
Products of the food industry	Food products
Beverages	Beverages
Tobacco and tobacco products	Tobacco products
<i>Non-food products</i>	<i>Non-food products</i>

Agricultural raw materials, flowers and live animals	Agricultural materials
Ornamental water plants and animals and their products	Ornamental water plants and animals and their products
Products of forestry – raw wood, parts and fruits of forest plants	Products of forestry
Metal ores (ferrous and non-ferrous metals)	Metal ores
Other mining and quarrying products	Other mining and quarrying products
Metals (in primary forms, pipes, wires, semi-finished products)	Basic metals
Textiles (except apparel)	Textiles
Apparel (also leather), including headgear and accessories, fur products	Wearing apparel
Leather, semi-finished products of leather, fur	Leather, semi-finished products of leather, fur
Footwear, leather products	Footwear, leather notions
Wooden windows and doors, floor coverings	Wooden building furniture
	Wooden floor coverings
Other treated wood (except furniture)	Other treated wood and products of wood and cork, articles of straw and plaiting materials
Paper, products made out of paper and pulp	Pulp and similar semi-finished products for making paper

	Paper, products made out of paper
Printed matter and pre-recorded recording media	Books, magazines, newspapers, other printed matter publishing services; computer programmes and games
	Services of recorded media with movie and music content, printed music
Toilet, cosmetic and cleaning chemical products	Cosmetic and toilet chemical products, detergents and other washing and cleaning preparations
Chemicals and other chemical products	Chemicals and other chemical products
Drugs and other pharmaceutical products, basic pharmaceutical products	Drugs and other pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations
Medical equipment	Medical equipment
Rubber and plastic products for business entities	Rubber and plastics products for industry and construction
Rubber and plastic products for households	Rubber and plastics products for households
Non-metallic mineral products for business entities	Other non-metallic mineral products for non household use
Non-metallic mineral products for households	Products made out of glass, porcelain and ceramic for household use
Metal products, except machinery and devices	Metal products, except machinery and devices
Computers, electronic and optical products; measuring and electromedical devices	Computers, electronic and optical products

Electric devices and their parts (except household devices)	Electric devices and their parts, except household devices
Electric and non-electric household devices and their parts	Electric and non electric household devices and their parts
Machines, devices and their parts for industry construction, agriculture	Machines and devices and their parts for industry construction, agriculture
Furniture and parts	Furniture and parts
Other products (jewellery, musical instruments, sports requisites, toys, etc.)	Other products (jewellery, musical instruments, sports requisites, toys)
Residues and waste materials, waste materials for recycling, secondary materials	Residues and waste materials, waste materials for recycling, secondary materials
Other	Other
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels	Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels
Coal and lignite	Coal and lignite
Crude petroleum and natural gas	Crude petroleum and natural gas
Coke and refined petroleum products	Coke and refined petroleum products
Motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Motor vehicles and other transport equipment
Passenger cars	Passenger cars
Buses, goods vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	Buses, goods vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers
Parts for motor vehicles	Parts for motor vehicles
Other transport equipment and their parts	Other transport equipment and their parts

COMMODITY GROUPS IN RETAIL TRADE	
from 2022 on	until 2021
<i>Food, beverages and tobacco</i>	<i>Food, beverages and tobacco</i>
Food – fresh, unprocessed, unfrozen	Food; frozen and unprocessed agricultural products
Food – other food	Food; other food
Coffee, tea and cocoa	Coffee, tea and cocoa
Fruit and vegetable juices	Fruit and vegetable juices
Water and non-alcoholic beverages	Other non-alcoholic beverages
Beer (also non-alcoholic)	Beer
Wine	Wine, sparkling wine
Other alcoholic beverages	Other alcoholic beverages - spirits
Tobacco and tobacco products	Tobacco and tobacco products
<i>Non-food products</i>	<i>Non-food products</i>
Clothing	Clothing
Footwear	Footwear
Furniture	Office furniture and furnishings
	Other furniture

Lights	Lights
Carpets and other floor coverings	Carpets and other floor coverings
Table and wall decoration	Accessories for home
Household textiles	Household textiles
Non-electric household products (dishes, cutlery, baskets, glassware, vases, etc.)	Household products
Cleaning products and detergents	Cleaning and maintenance products
Non-durable household products	Other cleaning appliances
Major household appliances	Major household appliances
Small electric household appliances	Small electric household appliances
Electric appliances for personal care	Electric appliances for personal care
Telephones and related equipment	Telephone and telefax equipment and telephone answering-machines
Audio-video devices	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures
Photographic, cinematographic, optical devices and equipment	Cameras and cam-corders, film and slide projectors, microscopes, telescopes and accessories
Computers, computer equipment and software, unrecorded recording media	Personal computers, printers, software calculators, typewriters and word processors

	Software
	Pre-recorded and unrecorded services of recorded media
Printed matter and pre-recorded recording media	Books
	Newspapers and periodicals
	Other printed matter
Drawing and painting materials made out of paper (paper, envelopes, notebooks, etc.)	Drawing and painting materials made out of paper
Other drawing and painting materials (pens, brushes, staplers, etc.)	Drawing and painting materials - other
Equipment for sport and camping	Equipment for sport and camping
Sports vehicles, pleasure crafts and sport planes; major recreational products	Pleasure crafts and other sports vehicles
Bicycles (also electric)	Bicycles
Musical instruments, games, hobbies	Musical instruments
	Games, toys also video games
Seeds, plants and flowers	Gardens, plants and flowers
Garden equipment and accessories (pots, horticultural preparations, fertilizers, etc.)	Garden equipment and accessories
Pets and related products including veterinary and other services for pets	Pets and related products including veterinary and other services for pets
Small electric accessories	Small electric accessories

Machines for house maintenance and workroom	Machines for workroom- maintenance of the house
Metal products and tools for house and workroom	Metal products for house and workroom
Garden tools (shovels, rakes, scythes, fences, etc.)	Garden tools and equipment
Garden motorised tools (lawn mowers, brush cutters, chain saws, etc.)	Garden motorised tools
Garden furniture	Garden furniture
Metal building materials, windows and doors	Building materials - metal products
Wooden building materials, windows and doors	Building materials - wood and wooden products
	Wooden products for finishing
Electrical installations (electrical cables, electrical cabinets, etc.)	Electrical installations
Machinery installations (plumbing and heating)	Machinery installations
Products for minor maintenance and repair of the dwelling (paints, varnishes, putty, etc.)	Products and materials, purchased for minor maintenance and repair of the dwelling
Mineral and plastic building materials, windows and doors, ceramics	Small plumbing items and surfacing materials
	Building materials - non metal products
Heating oil	Heating oil
Solid fuels	Solid fuels
Liquid fuels	Liquid fuels

Medicines and medical products	Pharmaceutical and other medical products
Therapeutic appliances	Therapeutic appliances and equipment
Cosmetics and toilet accessories made out of paper	Cosmetics and toilet accessories made out of paper
Cosmetics - other	Cosmetics and toilet accessories-other
Watches, jewellery and precious stones	Clocks, watches, alarm clocks, stones and metals and jewellery
Suitcases, bags, wallets, umbrellas, sunglasses and other personal effects	Suitcases, bags, wallets, baby carriages, etc
*	Antiques, used goods (also books)
Other	Other
Fuels	Fuels
Fuels, lubricants, brake fluids and coolants	Fuels, lubricants, brake fluids and coolants
Motor vehicles	Motor vehicles
Motor cars	Motor cars
Motor cycles	Motor cycles
Spare parts and transport equipment	Spare parts and transport equipment

* For commodity group Antiques, used goods (also books), data collection has been discontinued.

Results by principal activity of the business entities are published according to SKD 2008, the national version of the Standard Classification of Activities. The Standard Classification of Activities SKD 2008 <https://www.stat.si/doc/pub/skd.pdf> is the national version of the European statistical classification of economic activities NACE Rev. 2 <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/5902521/KS-RA-07-015->

<EN.PDF/dd5443f5-b886-40e4-920d-9df03590ff91?version=1.0>, which includes all activities of the European classification and adds some national subclasses.

The principal activity of the enterprise is the statistical activity defined in the Statistical Business Register for statistical purposes, and is in some cases different from the registered activity defined in the Business Register of Slovenia, kept by AJPES. The statistical activity is determined for the major units which have a different principal activity based on existing statistical data than its registered principal activity.

7.2 DATA PROCESSING

DATA EDITING

Data were edited by using appropriate systematic and individual corrections.

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

WEIGHTING

With weighting adjustment we want to achieve representativeness of the sample, so that the weighted data give us as good population estimates as possible. The process of weighting depends on the sampling design, the unit non-response rate and available auxiliary variables used for calibration. The final weight is the product of the sampling weight, the non-response weight and the calibration factor.

Weighting is done by strata determined with the group of activity and the enterprise size class.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

Seasonal adjustment is not applicable.

7.3 INDICES

Indices are not published.

7.4 PRECISION

In statistical surveys different kinds of errors can occur (e.g. sampling error, non-response 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 population totals of (continuous) variables, estimated averages of continuous variables or estimated ratios of population totals of (continuous) variables, publishing limitations are determined by the relative standard errors or the coefficients of variation (CV). In such cases it holds:

If the coefficient of variation (CV) is

- 15% or below ($CV \leq 15\%$), the estimate is reliable enough and is published without limitations;
- between 15% and up to 30% ($15\% < CV \leq 30\%$), the estimate is less reliable and is flagged for caution with letter M;
- over 30% ($CV > 30\%$), 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

Because of rounding, the totals do not always add up.

Data that are statistically protected to respect the confidentiality of reporting units are replaced with the letter »z«.

8 PUBLISHING

- SiStat Database: [Trade and services](#) - Trade - Retail trade and wholesale and commission trade. Absolute data on turnover from the sale of goods are published by commodity groups, by main activity of enterprises according to SKD 2008 and by kind of buyers. Also absolute data on turnover from commission trade are published.
- First Release (Trade and services, Trade): »Retail trade and wholesale, commission trade, Slovenia, final data«.

9 REVISION OF THE DATA

9.1 PUBLISHING OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DATA

Provisional data are not disseminated. Only final data are published.

9.2 FACTORS INFLUENCING COMPARABILITY OVER TIME

Due to changes in data reporting of some enterprises for 2019, previously published data for 2008-2018 have been revised. Comparable data are now published for the whole time series since 2008, but they can differ from previously published data.

In reporting for 2022, the set of commodity groups was changed, which is evident from the list of commodity groups (Chapter 7.1). As a result, there have been changes in the tables showing data by commodity groups. The changes are at the level of commodity groups and in aggregates one level higher, while all other aggregates are comparable to data from previous years. The data in the other tables are comparable for the period from 2008 on.

10 OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS

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

- Questionnaire:
 - Trgovina (TRG/L)

Theme: Trade and services, Subtheme: Trade

- Quality report for the survey:
 - Trade (TRG/L)

Theme: Trade and services, Subtheme: Trade