



METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

Rok Gabrič

TRADE

This methodological explanation relates to the data releases:

- Retail trade and wholesale, commission trade, Slovenia, 2021 (First Release)



July 2022



Content

1	PURPOSE.....	3
2	LEGAL FRAMEWORK.....	3
3	UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA.....	3
4	SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT.....	3
5	SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION.....	4
6	DEFINITIONS.....	4
7	EXPLANATIONS.....	5
8	PUBLISHING.....	10
9	REVISION OF THE DATA.....	11
10	OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS.....	11

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 with 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 with the 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.

Data are obtained with the survey on retail trade and wholesale, commission trade (TRG/L). Data from enterprises are collected with the TRG/L postal questionnaire. 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 RETAIL TRADE
<i>Food, beverages and tobacco</i>
Fruit, vegetables, fish
Meat, frozen fruits, vegetables, fish, other food products except food for animals
Coffee, tea and cocoa
Fruit and vegetable juices
Mineral waters, soft drinks
Beer
Wine, sparkling wine
Other alcoholic beverages - spirits
Tobacco and tobacco products
<i>Non- food products</i>
Clothing
Footwear
Garden furniture
Office furniture and furnishings
Furniture (without office and garden furniture)
Lights
Accessories for home (pictures, engravings, tapestries, other art, other ornaments)
Carpets and other floor coverings
Household textiles
Glassware, tableware and household utensils
Major household appliances
Small electric household appliances

Small electric accessories (power sockets, switches, wiring flex, electric bulbs)
Electric appliances for personal care (electric razors, hair dryers, electric appliances for dental hygiene)
Telephone and telefax equipment and telephone answering-machines
Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures (television sets radio sets, car radios, radio clocks CD-players)
Books
Newspapers and periodicals
Other printed matter (catalogues and advertising material posters, plain or picture postcards, calendars, greeting, visiting cards, maps and globes)
Drawing and painting materials made out of paper (writing pads, envelopes, account books, notebooks, diaries)
Drawing and painting materials – other (pens, pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners, paints, crayons, pastels and brushes)
Cameras and cam-coders, film and slide projectors, microscopes, telescopes and accessories (screens, lenses, filters...)
Personal computers and visual display units, printers, software calculators, including pocket calculators, typewriters and word processors
Software
Pre-recorded and unrecorded tapes, cassettes, video cassettes, diskettes and CD-ROMs
Musical instruments
Equipment for sport and camping
Pleasure crafts and other sports vehicles
Games, toys also video games
Gardens, plants and flowers
Garden equipment and accessories (flowerpots, flower planter, fertilizers)
Pets and related products including veterinary and other services for pets
Pharmaceutical and other medical products (medicinal preparations, medicinal drugs, serums and vaccines, vitamins and minerals, thermometers, adhesive and non-adhesive bandages, first-aid kits, elasticated stockings)
Therapeutic appliances and equipment (corrective eye-glasses, contact lenses, hearing aids, glass eyes, artificial limbs and other prosthetic devices, orthopaedic braces and supports, orthopaedic footwear, medical massage equipment, wheelchairs)
Cosmetics and toilet accessories made out of paper (toilet paper, handkerchief, diapers)
Cosmetics and toilet accessories-other (powder, soap, water, comb, cream)
Clocks, watches, alarm clocks, stones and metals and jewellery
Suitcases, baby carriages, car beds and seats, pipes, lighters, cigarette cases, cigar cutters, sun-glasses, walking sticks and canes, umbrellas, wall thermometers
Products and materials, purchased for minor maintenance and repair of the dwelling (paints and varnishes, wallpapers, window panes, plaster, putty, wallpaper pastes)
Small plumbing items (pipes, taps, joints) and surfacing materials (floor boards, ceramic tiles)
Building materials – non-metal products
Building materials – metal products
Building materials-wood and wooden products

Wooden products for finishing
Electrical installations (electric cables, electric cabinet)
Machinery installations (water supply installations, central heating systems)
Machines for workroom- maintenance of the house
Metal products for house and workroom
Garden tools and equipment such as wheel barrows, watering cans, hoses, spades, shovels, rakes, forks, scythes, sickles and secateurs
Garden motorised tools such as saws, lawn mowers, cultivators, chain saws
Cleaning and maintenance products (soaps, washing powders and liquids, detergents, disinfectant bleaches, softeners, window-cleaning products, waxes, polishes)
Other cleaning appliances (filters, table napkins, kitchen paper, vacuum cleaner bags, aluminium foil and plastic bin liners, clothes hangers)
Heating oil
Solid fuels
Liquid fuels
Bicycles
Antiques, used goods (also books)
Other
Motor vehicles
Motor cars
Motor cycles
Spare parts and transport equipment
Fuels
Fuels, lubricants, brake fluids and coolants
COMMODITY GROUPS IN WHOLESALE
Food, beverages and tobacco
Fresh fruit and vegetables and other agricultural food products (milk, honey; all not further prepared, unfrozen)
Fish and other water organisms in purpose of nutrition (all not further prepared, unfrozen, fresh or chilled)
Food products (meat, processed fruit, vegetables and fish, other food products)
Beverages (non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages)
Tobacco products
Non-food products
Agricultural materials (seeds, plants, fodder, skins etc.) flowers, live animals
Products of forestry - wood in the rough (logs, fuel wood, cork etc.), tree plants
Ornamental water plants and animals and theirs products
Metal ores (iron ores and non-ferrous metal ores)
Other mining and quarrying products (stone, sand and clay, chemical minerals, peat, salt, bitumen and asphalt, precious and semi-precious stones)
Textiles (textile yarn, woven textiles, textile products, except clothing and carpets)
Wearing apparel (also leather clothes), including headgear and access., articles

of fur)
Leather, semi-finished products of leather, fur
Footwear, leather notions (luggage, handbags, belts etc.)
Wooden furniture
Wooden floor coverings
Other treated wood and products of wood and cork, articles of straw and plaiting materials except furniture
Pulp and similar semi-finished products for making paper
Paper, products made out of paper
Books, magazines, newspapers and other printed matter publishing services, computer programmes and computer games on services of recorded media
Services of recorded media with movie and music content, printed music
Cosmetic and toilet chemical products, detergents and other washing and cleaning preparations
Chemicals and other chemical products (basic chemicals, fertilisers and nitrogen compounds, colouring matter and preparations, lakes etc.)
Drugs and other pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations
Rubber and plastics products for households
Rubber and plastics products for industry and construction
Other non-metallic mineral products for non-household use (glass, porcelain and ceramic products, cement, lime, plaster, concrete, abrasive products etc.)
Products made out of glass, porcelain and ceramic for household use
Basic metals (pipes, wires, semi-finished products)
Metal products, except machinery and devices (for industry, construction, household; hand tools: saw, blade, shovel etc.; generators for central heating
Computers, electronic and optical products (computers and peripheral equipment, computing machinery and parts and accessories thereof, communication equipment, consumer electronics, electronic components, measuring equipment, photographic equipment)
Electric devices and their parts, except household devices (electro motors, generators, transformers, devices for distribute electricity, cables and wires, batteries etc.)
Electric and non-electric household devices and their parts (ovens, stoves, refrigerators and freezers, irons, vacuum cleaners)
Machines and devices and their parts for industry construction, agriculture (motors, pumps, elevators, tractors, cooling and air condition devices, sewing machines)
Furniture and parts (seats and parts thereof, mattress)
Medical equipment (medical instruments and devices, needles, catheters, medical, dentists and veterinary furniture, orthopaedic appliances, glasses, prostheses etc.)
Other products (jewellery, musical instruments, sports equipment, equipment for games, toys, pens, umbrellas, brooms, brushes, candles, artificial flowers)
Residues and waste materials, waste materials for recycling, secondary materials
Other
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels
Coal and lignite
Crude petroleum and natural gas

Coke and refined petroleum products
<i>Motor vehicles and other transport equipment</i>
Passenger cars
Buses, goods vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers
Parts for production of motor vehicles (motors, car bodies, gear boxes, clutches etc.)
Other transport equipment and their parts (bicycles, carriages, motorcycles, water and aircrafts, rolling stock)

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 different principal activity based on existing statistical data than is 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
- First Release (Trade and services, Trade): »Retail trade and wholesale, commission trade, Slovenia, final data«.
- [Statobook](#)

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

10 OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS

Methodological materials on SURSs 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