

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

1. **The source of the data** is the turnover chapter (CA) in the monthly statistical survey on the services short term indicators (SERV TS), in accordance with the European Council Regulation no. 1165/1998, European Council and Parliament Regulation no. 1158/2005 and European Commission Regulation no. 1503/2006 regarding the short term statistics.

2. **The Statistical Survey is of sample type.** The type of the survey used and the method of the sample extraction is that of the stratified survey with simple random selection with no recurrence within any strata, in which the stratification variables are represented by the following: the economic activity and the enterprise size class according to the number of employees. Due to the necessity regarding the comparability of results on groups of homogeneous activities as well as at enterprise level from a period to another, the category of economic units with high economic potential (50 employees and over) are exhaustively surveyed. The selection base of the sample provides representativeness calculated according to the turnover of 94.21% of the total multitude of active units. Data are collected from about 1600 economic units with retail as main activity (Division CANE Rev. 2: 47). Maximum permissible error of estimates is of $\pm 3\%$.

3. **Retail** (Division CANE Rev. 2: 47) This division *includes* the resale (sale without transformation) of new or used goods, mainly to the public at large, for consumption or personal or household use, in stores, supermarkets, stands, mail order houses, vendors, consumer cooperatives etc. The retail is classified, in the first place, by the type of merchandising unit (retail in stores (groups 471 to 477); retail outside stores (groups 478 and 479). The retail in stores includes the retail of used goods (class 4779).

For the retail in stores, there is another distinction too, between the retail in specialized stores (groups 472 to 477) and the retail in unspecialized stores (group 471). The groups mentioned above are further subdivided by the type of products they sell. The trade done outside the stores is subdivided according to the type of trade, such as the retail in stands and markets (group 478) and the retail outside the stores, such as mail order, door-to-door sale, vending machines sale etc. (group 479).

The goods sold under this division are limited to the so called consumer goods. Therefore, the non-consumer goods are excluded (e.g.: cereals, ore, industrial machinery etc.). This division also includes units that sell to the public at large products such as personal computers, stationary, paint or timber, although these products may not be for personal or household use.

Handling, which is generally included in the trade activity, does not affect the characteristics of the goods and may also include the selection, detachment, blending and packaging of the goods.

This division also *includes* the retail by courier and the activities of the retail auction houses.

This division *excludes*: that farmers sell own products; the manufacturing and sale of own production, which generally is classified as manufacturing industry in the divisions 10 – 32; the sale of motor vehicles, motorcycles and their spare parts (see division 45); the trade with cereals, ore, crude oil, chemical products for the industry, iron and steel, machinery and industrial equipments (see division 46); the sale of food and beverages for restaurants and sale of packed prepared food (see division 56); rental of personal and household goods to the public at large (see group 772).

4. **The Turnover (VAT excluded)** represents the total revenue recorded by the company during the reporting period, obtained both from the main activity and the secondary activities performed by them. The turnover does not include the revenue from the sale or transfer of assets.

The turnover volume indices of the retail are Laspeyres type indices and are calculated under comparable prices and methodological conditions. For expressing the values of the current period in prices of the reference period the deflating price indices are used (consumer price index). The first indices obtained are at the level of class/group CANE Rev. 2, then, by successive aggregations indices at aggregated levels are obtained. The weights used for aggregation are calculated based on the turnover according to the results of the Business Structural Survey from the reference year (2010).

5. To adjust the series, the programme package JDEMETRA + v 2.0 has been used starting with 2016, which estimates the effect of the number of working days, different from one month to another and the effect of the calendar (leap year and other national holidays) as well as the identification and correction of extreme values (occasional, transient or permanent changes of level) and the interpolation of missing values. The adjusted series with the number of working days has been obtained by eliminating these effects from the gross series with the help of some correction coefficients determined according to the regression model used (additive or multiplicative).

Setting the regression models used for each series is done in the beginning of each year and involves the recalculation of the adjusted series calculated during the previous year (recalculation due to the changes in the adopted models, to the number of used regressors and to the number of available observations). The adjustment of the aggregate levels has been done with the direct method which means direct adjustment of aggregated series. The use of the direct method may lead to some inconsistencies in the data series (that is, the aggregates may not be always contained between the values of the components from which they derive).

6. The calculation of the turnover volume indices, compared to those of the previous month or compared to those of the corresponding month of the previous year, is done starting from the indices with fixed base (year 2010=100) as follows:

- the turnover volume indices compared to previous month: by dividing the index with fixed base (year 2010=100) of the respective month with the index with fixed base (year 2010=100) of the previous month, multiplied by 100;
- the turnover volume indices compared to the corresponding month of the previous year: by dividing the index with fixed base (year 2010=100) of a certain month of the respective year with the index with fixed base (year 2010=100) of the same month from the previous year, multiplied by 100.

7. **Data are provisional and may be periodically revised** based on the retroactive adjustments done by the economic units in the sample.