

## 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 94.62% of the total multitude of active units. Data are collected from about 2500 economic units with wholesale as main activity (Division CANE Rev. 2: 46). The sampling volume was determined by imposing, at country level, an estimation accuracy of  $\pm 3\%$ , at a confidence level of 95%.

**3. Wholesale** except for the trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles (Division CANE Rev. 2: 46) includes the activities of new and used goods resale (sale without transformation) in big quantities, to retail dealers, industrial, commercial or professional users, by other wholesale dealers acting as dealers and brokers in merchandise purchase or for merchandise sale to other persons or firms.

Wholesale also includes intermediation activities in wholesale (commission activities, between dealers as well as all intermediation on others behalf or account), no matter of sale on domestic market or for export.

This division excludes:

- wholesale trade of motor vehicles, trailers and motorcycles, see 451,454
- wholesale trade of motor vehicle parts and accessories, see 4531,4540
- rental and leasing activities, see 77
- packaging of solid goods and bottling of liquid or gaseous goods, including blending and filtering for third parties, see 8292

**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 it, less rebates, draws and other discounts to customers. Subsidies received from public authorities or EU institutions **are** included in the turnover. The turnover **does not** include excise and revenue from the sale or transfer of fixed assets.

The turnover volume indices in wholesale are of Laspeyres type and are calculated as non-deflated weighted indices. The first indices obtained are at the level of CANE Rev. 2 group, then, by aggregations, indices at total level 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 (2015).

**IMPORTANT!** In order to highlight the changes in the economy structure, starting with the data release for **January 2018** reference month the base year used for the calculation of the indices, for all short-term indicators, was changed from 2010 to 2015.

The changing of the base year involves the updating of the weighting system, to reflect the structural modifications occurred in the national economy activities. These modifications determined the proper recalculation and revision of the data series previously published.

The changing of the base year was made in two steps, respectively the rebasing of the indices for the period 2005-2014 to the new reference year (2015=100) and the recalculation of the indices with the new weighting system starting from January 2015 until present.

Once passing to the new base year and weighting system 2015, the time series based 2010 will not be available anymore. The new data series, based 2015, will be available progressively, in the TEMPO online database starting with March 2018 when the data for January 2018 will be disseminated.

These changes will appear in press releases, statistical publications published by the INS and in the TEMPO online database.

The Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat) and the other EU Member States will proceed similarly and simultaneously to the change of the base year, in order to ensure the comparability between member states.

5. For the adjustment of the data series the programme package JDEMTRA+ v 2.0 has been used; it 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 involves the recalculation of the adjusted series previously disseminated (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 by **direct method** that 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 value 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 2015=100) as follows:

- the turnover value indices compared to previous month: by dividing the index with fixed base (year 2015=100) of the respective month with the index with fixed base (year 2015=100) of the previous month, multiplied by 100;
- the turnover value indices compared to the corresponding month of the previous year: by dividing the index with fixed base (year 2015=100) of a certain month of the respective year with the index with fixed base (year 2015=100) of the same month from the previous year, multiplied by 100.

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