

OF THE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON STATISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES

N° 9 - December 2013



FOCUS

Compilers Guide for the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010 (CGMSITS 2010)

Dear Reader,

Birth of CG MSITS 2010

While adopting the *Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010* (MSITS 2010) at its 41st session in 2010, the Statistical Commission recognized the challenges faced by the national statistical systems to implement the recommendations contained in this manual. The Commission, therefore, emphasized the importance of compilation guidance and training. In March 2011, the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (TFSITS) requested UNSD to take the lead in developing a compilers guide for the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in

Services 2010 (CG MSITS). The main aim of the CG MSITS 2010 is to provide compilers of statistics of international trade in services practical advice on implementing the framework set forth in MSITS, including good country practices and pitfalls to avoid. A draft of the CG MSITS 2010 will be submitted to the 45th session of the Statistical Commission in 2014.

Drafting process of the CG MSITS 2010

In December 2011, The United Nations established an Expert Group on the compilation of statistics of international trade in services (the Expert group) consisting of national experts of developed

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UIS-WTO-UNSD proposal to amend EBOPS 2010 to enhance the measurement of cultural services in the Caribbean

Improving the measurement and analysis of the activities in the cultural and creative industries sector is one of the priorities in the Caribbean region. To this end a workshop on Statistics of International Trade in Services with a special focus on Creative Industries was organized in Bridgetown, Barbados, 13-16 March 2012.

One of the conclusions of the Workshop was that there is a need to provide a further breakdown of the Extended Balance of

Payments Services 2010 classification (EBOPS 2010) to accurately identify creative services. Following this, the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), WTO and UNSD prepared a note aiming at identifying within the current international classifications provided in the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010 (MSITS 2010) and the 6th edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments Manual, a further breakdown that could be pertinent to

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and developing countries as well as members of the Task Force. In March 2012 the first virtual meeting of the Expert group was held via an electronic discussion forum and was immediately followed by a meeting of the Task Force in New York at the end of March 2012. The purpose of these initial meetings was to agree on the scope and general content of the guide, as well as to review the annotated outlines of its individual chapters.

In May 2012, the updated outline of the guide was circulated for comments in a world-wide consultation to which more than 50 countries replied. The responding countries advised to extensively use examples of country practices, emphasized the importance of consistency within the guide and in relation to the conceptual manuals, supported the existence of a dynamic (Internet based) version of the guide and also suggested that take into account differences in data compilation issues across the various geographic regions.

Comments from the worldwide consultation were discussed in the second virtual meeting of the UN Expert Group in early October 2012, and the first set of draft chapters was reviewed. The group supported the coordination structure of the drafting process, the division of labor – which included the support of experts from more than 40 countries – the production of a printed and a dynamic version of the guide, and the use of the (at that time) available draft chapters of the Compilation Guide of the 6th edition of the Balance of Payment Manual (BPM6) for consistency purposes. At a Special Session of the Task Force held in Paris in October 2012, the Task Force made decisions regarding the issues and questions that were raised in the second virtual meeting, ranging from coordination of the drafting process to the resolution of some conceptual and technical issues. The Task Force also reviewed the proposed establishment of an on-line knowledge base that could supplement the Compilers Guide, which would contain links to country practices on the compilation of

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Box 1.

Summary of Parts of the CG MSITS 2010

Part I gives an overview of the general frameworks governing the work of data compilers, namely the conceptual framework, the legal framework and the institutional arrangements that underpin the statistical production process. This part shows and explains the consistency between the concepts and definitions used in MSITS 2010 and those used in the 2008 SNA and in BPM6. The concepts in MSITS 2010 are also harmonized as much as possible with related frameworks regarding FATS and FDI. Especially for a Compilers guide it is important to highlight and explain the advantages of a legal framework for obtaining data sources, and for sharing and using basic data sources among the relevant national institutes. Effective institutional arrangements are also crucial for the production of high quality statistics.

Part II focuses on data collection and starts off with an overview of data sources within the modes of supply framework. In general, a statistical business register is important as a survey frame to gross up sample results with the objective to cover the whole national economy, but it is even more important for the integration of economic statistics (which includes SITS) as a central sampling frame for all business surveys. Examples of enterprise and establishment surveys are provided. Such surveys can be used to collect data for the compilation of both statistics on resident/non-resident trade in services and FATS. Alternatively, the international transactions reporting system could be used as a data source or other administrative records. Part II concludes with a broad comparison of the practical advantages and disadvantages of these various data sources.

(Continued on page 3)

More about the
Compilers Guide @
[http://
unstats.un.org/unsd/
tradeserv/msits/
CGmsits2010.htm](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/msits/CGmsits2010.htm)

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statistics of international trade in services and other important statistical procedures, such as dissemination and quality management. In the subsequent months, almost 200 contributions (country practices or instructive sections) were sent by the experts and the accumulated draft text was reviewed in March 2013 again via the discussion forum. Over 100 posts were submitted, commenting on specific substantive issues of each chapter as well as editorial revisions and rearrangements of chapters.

The Expert group met for a five day face-to-face meeting in June 2013 in Geneva, where materials pertaining to all 24 chapters of the guide were reviewed. Thirty-four experts of developing and developed countries as well as the international organizations agreed upon the general principles for completion of the drafting process and the presentation and standardization of country examples and best practices.

Moreover, with direct support from Mr. Vladimir Markhonko, the contracted editor of the Compilers Guide, each of the chapters was reviewed listing clearly the work left to be done. During this review it was decided to reduce the overall structure of the guide from five to four main parts, moving the data dissemination with the cross-cutting issues, since it was more logical to keep the dissemination of data and metadata together.

The meeting concluded with the adoption of an action plan for the completion of the guide.

During August and September 2013, the editor revised and updated the Compilers Guide following these drafting principles and in accordance with the agreed conclusions of the June meeting, while the organizing agencies collected and transmitted the remaining contributions. The fully edited version of the draft guide was then presented to the Task Force at its meeting in October 2013 and was thereafter discussed electronically by the Expert group during the whole month of November 2013.

Notwithstanding a number of issues which still needed to be solved at the time of this electronic discussion, it was agreed that there was a strong need for guidance to be made available as soon as possible to assist in the implementation of MSITS 2010. Acknowledging this urgent need for guidance, the group agreed that the draft version of the guide should be submitted to the Commission at its 45th session in 2014 and be made available to compilers for use now, as a draft electronic document, that would be finalized in a reasonable time frame after March 2014.

As the work on the Compilers Guide is being finalized, the Task Force will

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Box 2.

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Part III elaborates on many issues of data compilation. It provides guidance on how to overcome some of the difficulties faced with the integration of the various data sources mentioned above. Country experiences, including challenges and good practices, are described for the compilation of particular EBOPS services categories, as well as for the compilation of FATS and modes of supply. Part III also elaborates on the use of models and estimates to complement and complete the observed data.

Finally, Part IV deals with cross-cutting topics like metadata, quality management and the use of information technology. The metadata are relevant for the correct understanding of the content, coverage and limitations of the reported data, and should guide users on their correct interpretation. Most aspects of data compilation have a direct impact on quality assurance, and quality management is therefore more systematically described in this part of the guide. Further, an integrated presentation of statistics of trade in services, trade in goods, FDI and FATS is not evident, but can be achieved and is discussed in the data dissemination chapter.

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continue its focus on improving the quality, level of detail, comparability and availability of SITS. Data on bilateral trade in services by EBOPS categories, on FATS and FDI, as well as on modes of supply are important for the work undertaken by the UN Friends of the Chair group on International Trade and Economic Globalization. In that context the integration of SITS and business statistics needs more attention by the national compilers. Such integrated data are also an important input for analytical work on Global Value Chains and specifically as input to compile estimates for Trade in Value Added.

Content of the CG MSITS 2010

The Compilers guide is intended to better integrate SITS compilation as part of the compilation of related economic statistics and, therefore, recognizes the importance not only of the statistical standards of the

2008 SNA and BPM6, but also of the international recommendations contained in the *Guidelines on Integrated Economic Statistics* and the advice given in the National Quality Assurance Framework. Further, the guide has distinct added value with respect to the compilation of trade in services statistics by EBOPS categories and trading partners, of FATS and FDI statistics, as far as it relates to the international supply of services, and of modes of supply statistics on the basis of the analytical framework laid out in MSITS 2010. The organization of the guide largely follows the logic of the statistical process beginning with an overview of the conceptual, legal and institutional context followed by the details of data collection and data compilation, and concludes with the elaboration of several key cross-cutting topics, which includes the data dissemination. The guide consists therefore of four main parts, which are described in box 1 and box 2.

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enhance the measure of cultural services in the Caribbean.

Relevant codes and definitions were also used using the 2009 UNESCO Framework for cultural statistics as a reference, as well as the CPC Version 2.0. This was done having in mind the specific requirements for such statistics in the region, as well as the need to ensure comparability if other countries had similar needs in the future.

The proposal focuses on three items of the services items of MSITS 2010; namely, travel, charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e., and personal, cultural and recreational services (for definitions, refer to the MSITS2010 and the EBOPS 2010-CPC Version 2.0 correspondence table). For the Caribbean region, key services related to

culture could be singled out within the items listed above to capture specific information, such as transactions of residents and non-residents traveling to attend a carnival or festival, artists traveling abroad to perform during a festival or undertaking a concert, non-resident groups which are using studio recording facilities, non-resident companies which are shooting a movie in the region, resident artists receiving rights from abroad on their original works (e.g., music recordings), etc. If supplementary needs are identified in other regions, they could be sent to the task force for discussion, in particular to ensure international comparability with others compiling data for similar items.

The proposal for cultural/creative services for the Caribbean is on the following page: ➡

Proposal for Cultural/Creative Services for the Caribbean:**Travel:***Presentation BY PURPOSE*

- 4. Travel
 - 4.1 Business
 - 4.1.1 Acquisition of goods and services by border, seasonal and other short-term workers
Of which, By persons employed in the context of cultural events
 - 4.1.2 Other
Of which, Expenditure of performers, artists etc. providing cultural services
 - 4.2 Personal
 - 4.2.1 Health-related
 - 4.2.2 Education-related
 - 4.2.3 Other
 - 4.2.3.1 Cultural-related**
 - 4.2.3.1.1 Festivals/Carnival related**
 - 4.2.3.1.2 Other cultural related**
 - 4.2.3.2 Other**

Alternative Presentation by PRODUCT

- 4. Travel
 - 4a.1 Goods
Of which
 - 4a.1.1 Cultural goods**
 - 4a.1.1.1 Handicraft**
 - 4a.1.1.2 Other cultural goods**
 - 4a.1.2 Other goods**
 - 4a.2 Local transport services
 - 4a.3 Accommodation services
 - 4a.4 Food-serving services
 - 4a.5 Other services
Of which:
 - 4a.5.1 Health services**
 - 4a.5.2 Education services**
 - 4a.5.3 Cultural services**
 - 4a.5.3.1 Festivals, Carnivals**
 - 4a.5.3.2 Other cultural services**

Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.:

- 8. Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.
 - ...
 - 8.4.1 Licenses to reproduce and/or distribute audio-visual products
 - 8.4.1.1 License to reproduce and/or to distribute music**
 - 8.4.1.2 Other licences to reproduce and/or distribute audio-visual products**
(i.e. except music)

Personal, cultural, and recreational services

- 11. Personal, cultural, and recreational services
 - 11.1 Audiovisual and related services
 - 11.1.1 Audiovisual services
 - 11.1.1.1 Musical (sound) recording services**
 - 11.1.1.2 Motion picture production**
 - 11.1.1.3 Other audiovisual services**
 - 11.1.2 Artistic related services
 - 11.1.2.1 Festival/Carnivals performance services**
 - 11.1.2.2 Concert abroad**
 - 11.1.2.3 Other artistic related services**
 - 11.2 Other personal, cultural and recreational services
 - ...
 - 11.2.3 Heritage and recreational services
 - 11.2.3.1 Heritage services**
 - 11.2.3.2 Recreational services**

Use of OECD-WTO bilateral trade in services matrices for TiVA estimates

Over the past few years, OECD and WTO have jointly prepared matrices of bilateral trade in services world export flows. Matrices have been produced for the years 1995, 2000, 2005 and 2010, covering 238 economies and regions. The matrices were built on the basis of information available at the time of publication, supplementing reported data on exports with mirror statistics.

Data sources include OECD (*International Trade in Services by Partner country (TISP)*) and the WTO trade in services dataset, making use of data from Eurostat (*International Trade in Services*), UNSD (*UN ServiceTrade*), IMF (Balance of Payments statistics) and national sources (in particular for China, Singapore, and Tunisia).

The OECD-WTO Trade in Value Added initiative has capitalized on, and has given further impetus to, this collaborative effort. The bilateral trade in services matrices already produced by OECD and WTO broadly match the TiVA data needs, but were refined with two additional datasets with data from 1995 to 2010 covering both exports and imports (in EBOPS 2002):

1. Bilateral trade in services data for total services for all countries reporting such data (54). Bilateral data for OECD members are sourced from the OECD TISP database (including Eurostat data for EU-member countries); bilateral data for non-OECD members are sourced from the joint WTO-UNCTAD-ITC database (mostly based on national sources, complemented by data extracted from

the UN Service Trade database and Eurostat).

2. Trade in services with Partner World for all reporters (210) and for all available EBOPS 2002 categories sourced from the joint WTO-UNCTAD-ITC database.

As most countries still provide data in BPM5 format, only a few had to be converted from BPM6 (Australia, Canada, Hong-Kong China and the Russian Federation at bilateral level; however, data for around 25 economies were converted to BPM5, with partner world only). Additional adjustments were made when relevant like adjustments to world totals were needed in the case of inconsistent bilateral data (e.g. due to different sources).

Next steps

OECD and WTO will jointly work on analysis of asymmetries between reported and mirror flows, and possibly contact compilers for further investigation. The next OECD Working Party on Trade in Goods and Services Statistics which will take place at the OECD headquarters from the 24th to 26th of March 2014 will also have a special session on asymmetries. In addition, further work will be carried out on the estimation of missing data points and on reconciling the data with National Accounts.

The complete matrices are available upon request to be sent to std.servstat@oecd.org or statistics@wto.org.

More about the OECD-WTO TiVA estimates @ <http://www.oecd.org/industry/ind/measuringtradeinvalue-addedanoecd-wtojointinitiative.htm>



More about I-TIP @
http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statistics_e/itip_e.htm

The Integrated Trade Intelligence Portal (I-TIP)

Improving the transparency of trade policy measures

In July 2013 WTO and the World Bank launched the Integrated Trade Intelligence Portal (I-TIP) for Services, complementing the information already available on goods trade policy measures (tariff and non-tariff measures).

I-TIP provides a single entry point for information compiled by the WTO on trade policy measures. Containing information on over 25,000 measures, I-TIP covers both tariff and non-tariff measures affecting trade in goods as well as information on trade in services, regional trade agreements and the accession commitments of WTO members. Its aim is to serve the needs of those seeking detailed information on trade policy measures as well as those looking for summary information.

The Services component of I-TIP is a joint initiative of the World Trade Organization and the World Bank. It is a set of linked databases that provides information on:

- Members' commitments under the WTO's General Agreement on Trade in Services-GATS (market access commitments and exemptions to the obligation of most-favoured-nation-MFN),
- Services commitments in regional trade agreements (RTA),
- Applied measures in services (applied measures affecting access to markets and conditions

of operation by foreign service suppliers), and

- Services statistics.

The module on services statistics accompanies the GATS, RTA and Applied Regimes modules by providing relevant trade data. It presents available information on WTO Members' resident/non-resident services trade flows (for selected service sectors and, when possible, by partner), statistics on foreign establishment of firms (activities of foreign affiliates and foreign direct investment in service industries), as well as market information of Members (production, employment and sector-specific monetary and non-monetary indicators). This information is provided in a standardized format for each Member.



TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SEMINARS

Summary of Technical Cooperation and Seminars

2013	Place	Title	Participants
WTO	Geneva	Regular participation in WTO Advanced Trade Policy Courses; Trade in Services Statistics	Selection of WTO members and observers
WTO	South Africa (January 2013)	WTO National Seminar on Statistics of International Trade in Services	South Africa (as well as participants from Botswana; Namibia; Lesotho; Swaziland and SACU)
Eurostat/MedStatIII	Algeria; Israel (first quarter 2013)	Trade in services metadata	Algeria; Israel
UNSD/CARICOM Secretariat	Roseau, Dominica (May 2013)	Regional workshop on travel and international tourism consumption	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Belize; Bermuda; Cayman Islands; Dominica ; Grenada; Guyana; Jamaica; Montserrat; Saint Lucia; St. Kitts and Nevis; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Suriname; Trinidad and Tobago
UNWTO	Baku, Azerbaijan (June 2013)	UNWTO Statistical Capacity Building Programme (SCBP) for Tourism Statistics: III Workshop: for the CIS countries and Georgia	Armenia; Azerbaijan; Belarus; Georgia; Kazakhstan; Moldova; Russian Federation; Uzbekistan
APEC/USAID	Medan, Indonesia (June 2013)	APEC Workshop on Measuring Services Trade: Statistical Capacity Building and Networking	Selected APEC economies (China; Chile; Colombia; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; United States)
APEC/Bank of Indonesia	Jakarta (September 2013)	Workshop on Measuring Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured (FISIM)	Australia, Chile; Malaysia; Mexico; Philippines; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; Vietnam
Eurostat/MedstatIII	Algeria; (September 2013)	Direct reporting	Algeria
CEFTA/WTO	Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina (October 2013)	Workshop on Statistics of International Trade in Services	Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; FYR Macedonia; Moldova; Montenegro; Serbia; UNMIK/Kosovo
UNSD/APEC/ASEAN, hosted by BPS Statistics Indonesia, with support of AANZFTA ECWP and APEC TATF	Jakarta, Indonesia (October 2013)	International Seminar on Trade and Tourism Statistics	Australia; Bangladesh; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; Chinese Taipei; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Laos; Maldives; Malaysia; Mexico; Myanmar; Nepal; New Zealand; Philippines; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Thailand; Timor Leste; Vietnam
WTO	Uruguay (November 2013)	WTO National Seminar on Statistics of International Trade in Services	Uruguay

Overview of existing databases covering SITS at different international organizations

					  
Mandate	Regulation (EC) No 184/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council	Article VIII of the IMF's Articles of Agreement	OECD Working Party on International Trade in Goods and Services Stats. (WPTGS) mandate for trade in services annual data collection	Statistical Commission at its 23rd Session (2001)	WTO: GATS, RTA transparency mechanism require monitoring & surveillance of trade flows for assessing trade liberalization, UNCTAD: The Doha mandate: Development centered globalization: Towards inclusive and sustainable growth and development, ITC: Building awareness and improving the availability and use of trade intelligence in developing countries
Geographical coverage	Europe, EEA members (30)+ Croatia, Turkey, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Japan, USA	All economies. Regional and world aggregates.	TIS: 34 Member countries (MCs) plus BRIICS	Member(180 of 192) + some 15 territories	Annual data: approximately 190 individual economies; Quarterly data: approximately 130 individual economies; Monthly data: approximately 30 individual economies made available by WTO only
Format	Standard questionnaire via GESMES format (full SDMX compatible)	Integrated Correspondence System (ICS) Standard Excel questionnaire	EU-OECD countries: electronic download from EUROSTAT website, Non EU-OECD countries+ Russian Federation + Hong Kong SAR of China: Standard Excel questionnaire, BRIICS for TIS (excl Russian Federation): IMF	File exported from National Statistical Offices (NSO) or Central Banks (CB) database in delimited text file or Standard Excel questionnaire	Any input format accepted
Source	Data collection	Data collection	EU-OECD countries: EUROSTAT, Non EU-OECD countries + Russian Federation + Hong Kong SAR of China: Data collection (CBs or NSOs) through Excel questionnaire, BRIICS for TIS (excl Russian Federation): electronic download from IMF	Data collection (NSO, CB) + electronic data transfer from Eurostat + IMF monthly BOPS database	IMF monthly BOPS database Eurostat, OECD, UNSD, websites of NSOs and CBs and WTO/UNCTAD estimates
Time period	Annual: 1985-latest year	1948 to latest year	TIS: from 1970 - latest year TISP: from 1999 - latest year	2000 - latest year	Annual data: 1980 - latest year available; Short-term data: 2006 - latest period available
Service classification	EBOPS 2002	Starting with the August 2012 releases of the International Financial Statistics (IFS) and of the on-line Balance of Payments Statistics Database, data will be published on a BPM6 basis.	EBOPS 2002 in general, EBOPS 2010 for some countries (for example, Australia). Data following the new EBOPS 2010/ BPM6 standards are countries' reports (not derived from OECD conversion)	EBOPS 2002	Annual data: Total services, Commercial services, and 16 selected BPM5/EBOPS items; more detailed EBOPS information available from ITC Trade map; Under development: Quarterly data by 4 main sub-items: Transport, Travel, Other (commercial) services and government services n.i.e.
Breakdown by Products (CPC)	No	No	Ongoing research project on trade by products and industries	No, but experimental CPC module is planned	No
Number of countries with partner data	32 Countries(27 MCs, Croatia, Turkey, Norway, Switzerland and Japan)	No	35 countries (33 of the 34 MCs, Hong Kong SAR of China, and Russian Federation)	46 countries	49 countries
Availability of metadata	Quarterly: m-3	The metadata that will appear in the August 2012 issues of the International Financial Statistics and the on-line Balance of Payments Statistics Database will indicate on what basis (BPM5 versus BPM6) an economy provided data to the IMF (see Service classification above).	Yes	Yes, in development	Yes
Collection cycle	Annual: Sep, a-1. May. T-1	Continuously	Continuously	July, t-1	Annual data: twice a year (Feb/March and June/July, t-1); Short-term data: on rolling basis (as available)
Publication cycle	May, t-1 (prelim) Annual: December, t-1, Quarterly: t+110 days	Monthly	Rolling update on OECD.Stat	Continuous –Target deadline for data February, t-2	Annual data: twice a year (April and July, t-1); Quarterly data: four times a year (t+90 days); Monthly data: twice a month
Format of Publication	Internet database download	Internet database download, CD-ROM, printed publication	Internet database download, CD-ROM, printed publication	Internet database download	Internet database download and Internet download of predefined tables (or time series), e-publication, and print (UNCTAD also publishes a DVD with selected series from its database).
Website	http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/portal/page/portal/balance_of_payment_s/introduction	http://elibrary-data.imf.org/	- http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TIS - http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TIS_EBOPS2010	http://unstats.un.org/unsd/servicetrade/	WTO: "Statistics gateway" : http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statistics_e.htm UNCTAD: "UNCTADstat" : http://unctadstat.unctad.org/ ITC Trade Map: www.trademap.org

PUBLICATIONS AND DATABASES

UNSD database on Statistics of International Trade in Services

UN ServiceTrade, a global database on International Trade in Services, is publicly and freely available at the UNSD website at the following address: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/servicetrade/default.aspx>

The main scope of UN ServiceTrade is resident to non-resident trade in services and some related data series, broken down by EBOPS category and partner country, starting with the year 2000 provided on an annual basis. The main sources of data and metadata are national statistical offices, central banks, Eurostat and IMF. All values are expressed in US dollars. Services are classified according to EBOPS and its memorandum items and some additional BOP components and direct investment.

United Nations International Trade Statistics Knowledgebase

UNSD has developed a knowledge base on the statistics of international trade in services to assist users. The knowledge base complements the one on trade in goods and aims at providing users a single portal where they can access information related to concepts and definitions used in compiling trade statistics and search the base if they have specific questions. The knowledge base is therefore updated regularly with questions received from users and relevant methodological documentation published by countries or international organizations. Both knowledge bases are accessible at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradekb/Knowledgebase/>.

Eurostat Statistics on International Trade in Services

Extremely detailed data on International Trade in Services are publicly and freely available from Eurostat website at the following address: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/balance_of_payments/data/database.

Not only for all the EU27 Member States, but also for Croatia, Turkey, Iceland, Norway, the United States and Japan, the on-line Eurostat database contains annual data on ITS

broken down by EBOPS category and partner country, starting, for some countries from year 1985.

The main sources of data are central banks and the national statistical offices. All values are expressed in million of Euro. Quarterly data for 11 main types of service and a reduced geographical breakdown are also available from Eurostat public database, as part of the tables related to quarterly balance of payments data.

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OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services

International trade in services data are published by OECD in one dataset: *Trade in services by service category and partner country* (TISP dataset).

The TISP dataset seeks to provide balance of payments data type of service (EBOPS 2002 classification) at the most detailed level and partner country for the 34 OECD member countries plus the Russian Federation. Published data go back to 1970 and historic series are available to the extent that countries can report them. All values are expressed both in million of US dollars and in national currency, and are provided on an annual basis.

An extract of the TISP dataset according to EBOPS 2002 is freely available at:

<http://stats.oecd.org/wbos/default.aspx?datasetcode=TISP>.

The OECD policy is to switch gradually to the new BPM6-EBOPS 2010 standard along with the country provision of such data. As some countries have already moved to the new BPM6/EBOPS2010 standard (for instance Australia), a parallel dataset with trade in services by partner country is also maintained according to the EBOPS 2010 classification:

http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TISP_EBOPS2010.

Each dataset is followed by the correspondent metadata. The main sources of data and metadata are Eurostat, national statistical offices, central banks, and IMF.

Other Publications

UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics

Trade in services statistics are presented in two main sets of tables: total trade in services and trade in services by category of services. The first set presents exports and imports of total trade in services by individual country, geographical region, economic grouping and trade group. The aggregate data include estimates of missing values that are not shown separately. The second set presents statistics by category of service for selected country groups and for major individual exporters and importers among developing and transition economies, as well as among developed countries.

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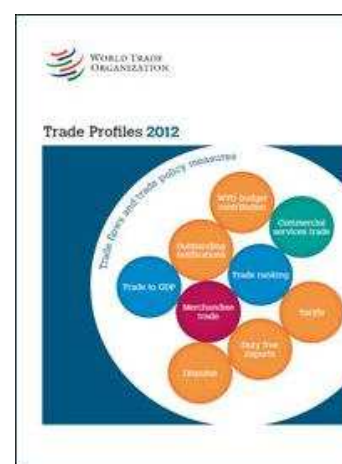
WTO International Trade Statistics

The WTO International Trade Statistics report (available in the autumn) provides comprehensive, comparable and up-to-date statistics on trade in commercial services by country, region and main service category, together with merchandise trade data. Available bilateral statistics are also presented. Major trade developments are summarized in the highlights of each chapter of the report. The publication also presents available data on sales of services by foreign affiliates, which is useful to estimate the supply of services through mode 3.



WTO Trade Profiles

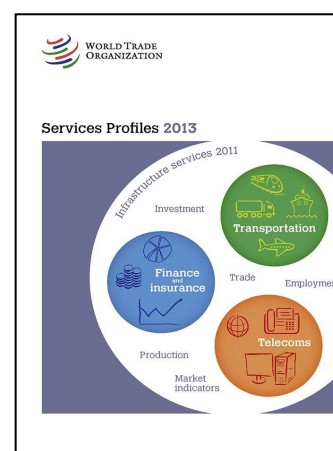
This publication presents standard information on the structural trade situation (including commercial services trade) and relevant trade policy measures for 180 members, observers and other selected economies. The profiles are complemented with general macroeconomic indicators. They are updated twice a year (once a year for the paper version).



WTO Services Profiles

It includes standard information on key "infrastructure services" (transportation, telecommunications, finance and insurance) for over 100 economies. Around 100 indicators relating to investment, market performance, production, employment, trade as well as performance rankings are available.

For more information see <http://stats.unctad.org> and <http://stat.wto.org>.



The Geneva Cooperation: ITC, WTO and UNCTAD

In May this year, International Trade Centre (ITC) adhered to the joint compilation of trade-in-services statistics, set up two years ago by WTO and UNCTAD. The three Geneva-based organizations will now share the work, construct annual services trade figures in a cooperative manner, and publish the results simultaneously, each one opting for dissemination approaches pertinent to their objectives. The collaboration is appreciated by the respective membership of the three institutions, as well as by the institutions themselves.

ITC, WTO and UNCTAD make use of all available sources, international and national, in order to fill in the data gaps where possible and compile consistent and comprehensive series. The resulting annual figures are released twice a year (mid-April and mid-July). Publishable estimates are included in the data sets, and are clearly indicated, so that users can easily distinguish them from official statistics. Appropriate metadata, also accessible online, complement the international trade in services "*Geneva Cooperation*" data sets.

In its *Trade Map* tool (<http://www.trademap.org>), ITC publishes official annual figures for all individual economies for as many EBOPS services categories as possible, starting with year 2000. When available, detailed partner country statistics are also presented, currently for around 50 reporting economies.

The *Statistics Database* of WTO (<http://stat.wto.org/Home/WSDBHome.aspx?Language=E>) and the *UNCTADstat* database of UNCTAD (<http://unctadstat.unctad.org>) contain figures on 17 selected services items for about 200 individual economies and over 80 regional and trade groupings. Global and regional totals include estimates. Total services, commercial services, transport, travel and other commercial services are available from 1980, while more detailed services categories appear from year 2000. In addition to statistics in US-dollar values, UNCTADstat offers pre-calculated derived indicators, such as shares in the world trade, growth rates, etc.

WTO and UNCTAD also assemble and publish quarterly services trade statistics, covering over 140 individual economies. Only total and commercial services are made accessible online (values and growth rates). The figures start with Quarter 1 2006 and go up to the latest quarter available from international or national sources. Quarterly trade in services data are published about 100 days after the end of the last reference period.

WTO also maintains a monthly trade in commercial services data set. These statistics are published for individual economies who present their monthly figures (approximately 30), the updates being posted online on the WTO website twice a month.

TRADE MAP

Trade statistics for international business development

Monthly, quarterly and yearly trade data. Import & export values, volumes, growth rates, market shares, etc.

PAST EVENTS

37th Meeting of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics on International Trade in Services Statistics (TFSITS), Paris, 16th-18th of October hosted by OECD

The Task Force provided comments on the edited draft Compiler's Guide of the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in services and discussed trade in services related issues such as technical assistance: WTO reported on current activities (national and regional events). The list is made available online and it is noted that the Compilers guide will be a useful tool for strengthening statistical capacity. The e-Learning course developed by UNCTAD and WTO can be used as a preparatory activity for participants of training seminars. WTO will prepare an inventory of financing bodies to help countries in applying for funding for training seminars and other capacity development activities.

The TF also discussed the status of international trade in services data collections). In particular BPM5 – BPM6 (and vice versa) conversion will remain on the agenda of many international organizations at least until 2015. Detailed data (by partner country and EBOPS category) are used for TiVA purposes and other work on Global Value Chains. In that respect, the joint OECD-WTO undertaking for building a bilateral trade in services world matrix for the Trade in Value Added (TiVA) initiative and other analytical needs was presented.

The Task Force supported the proposal for a Methodological Soundness Questionnaire (MSQ) on the compilation of data by EBOPS 2010. The MSQ aims to collect SITS metadata in order to identify and compare how national offices have implemented EBOPS 2010, and to provide the possibility to benchmark and spread good practices. The MSQ will only be

disseminated after 2015/2016 when countries have implemented EBOPS 2010, and ideally should be web based and use existing information and forms that are already used by, for instance, IMF in their Metadata Web Form. The TF took also note of the WTO report on the EBOPS 2010 – CPC 2.0 correspondence table established by UNSD with the assistance of IMF, OECD and WTO which was presented to the Expert group in June 2013 and should be seen as an annex to the Compilers guide, as it is in great demand by compilers.

The correspondence table was also submitted to the UN Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications for initial feedback, and will be formally reviewed by the UN Technical Sub-Group on the CPC. The table will be made available on the website of the Task Force. The Task Force welcomed the IMF report on the completion of the SDMX Data Structure Definition (DSD) for the Balance of Payment statistics, including Statistics on International Trade in Services.

The code lists for the dimensions of the DSDs, which are shared by BOP, FDI and National Accounts, have been fully harmonized to facilitate implementation. The Task Force will encourage countries to report using SDMX. It was suggested at the meeting to merge the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services and the Task Force of Merchandise Trade Statistics due to the increasing overlap between trade in goods and services related topics. Further details about the meeting are available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/meeting-2013-10.htm>.

The TFSITS meeting documents are available @ <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/meetings-tf.htm>

36th Meeting of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics on International Trade in Services Statistics (TFSITS), Rome 16th-18th April 2013 hosted by FAO

The Task Force took note of the report on coordination of technical assistance by WTO and of the WTO-UNCTAD work drafting an outline of the e-learning course. OECD and WTO presented an inventory of the BPM5-BPM6 conversion initiatives across the different International Organisations and expressed support to the efforts to use a common algorithm for conversion, taking into account the conversion formula adopted by the IMF.

The status of the different International Organisations databases was presented and discussed. In particular it was noted UNSD would align its exchange rates with those used by other International Organisations and would highlight countries that provide bilateral data in its report.

The Task force also took note of the OECD International trade in Services dataflow for SDMX based on the BOP DSD and of the plans regarding availability of historical BPM6 data on the IMF website.

UNSD presented a report of the virtual meeting which had taken place from the 11th

to the 29th of March 2013 noting available draft text had been well received. The summary of comments as prepared by the UNSD were then discussed by chapter by the Task Force. When discussing the status of the provision of draft texts, it was noted some sections had not been attributed to any author so it was decided to launch a call for contributions which would be coordinated by UNSD and sent both to central banks and national Statistical offices. Some possible overlap with the BPM6 compiler's Guide were flagged.

The Task Force also took note of the preparation of the Tourism Compilation Guide which will include case studies and should be presented at the 2014 session of the UNSC. WTO presented a note setting out to conceptualize merchanting of services as a follow up to the text already included in the Handbook on the impact of globalization on national accounts. Further details about the meeting are available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/meeting-2013-04.htm>.

The TFSITS meeting documents are available @ <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/meetings-tf.htm>

Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services



EDITORIAL NOTE

The Newsletter of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (TFSITS) is a joint publication of the members of the task force: the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) - the Task Force is chaired by OECD. The Newsletter is prepared by the International Trade in Services Section of the United Nations Statistics Division - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. This Newsletter does not necessarily express the official position of any of the members nor is it an official document of the United Nations.

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