Statistical Structural Survey (Annual Structural Survey)

Metadata

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

1. Contact Information

1.1. Responsible subdivision within NBS

Structural Statistics Division

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2. Metadata Update

2.1. Last certification of metadata

14.02.2024

2.2. Last update of metadata

14.02.2024

3. Statistical Presentation

3.1. General description

The Annual Structural Survey (ASS) is a sampling structural statistical survey covering the enterprises which carry out their economic activity on the territory of the Republic of Moldova and describes the structure, conduct and performance of economic activities, down to the most detailed activity level.
ASS reflects the annual results of the enterprises' activity.

ASS covers: the active enterprises.

Enterprises with the following main type of activity were not included in the survey: agriculture, public administration, financial, education, public health and arts activities.

Non-commercial organizations and enterprises from the left side of the river Nistru and municipality Bender were not included in the survey.

ASS represents the source of data regarding the enterprises' productive and commercial system; development of National Accounts; update of the National Registry of Statistical Units and comparability with international statistics.

3.2. Concepts and definitions

3.2.1. Definitions

Turnover (sales revenue), excluding VAT and excise duties represents the revenues obtained from the sale of products, goods, services and performance of works, both from the main activity and from the secondary activities, exercised by the enterprise during the reference period. This indicator is the sum of the credit turnover of account 611 " Sales revenue ".

Subsequent costs are the costs and / or expenses incurred by an economic entity for itself related to the construction (production) of new long-term assets, repair and / or development of existing fixed assets in order to improve their initial characteristics and, accordingly, increase the economic benefits expected from their use included in composition of long-term tangible and intangible assets (capitalized).

Subsidies – indicate the amounts (sum) received on a non-reimbursable basis from the National Public Budget (BPN) in connection with the production, sale of goods, services or the use of factors of

production to promote a socio-economic policy.

Local unit is an enterprise or a part of an enterprise (for instance, subsidiary, workshop, plant, storage facility, mine, storehouse, etc.) which meets the following criteria:
- is located at an identified address;
- at least one person operates;
- economic activity is carried on.

Production includes all the products which were manufactured and all the services that were provided during one calendar year.

Gross added value is measured as difference between the value of produced goods and services and intermediary consumption, representing the newly-created value in the production process.

3.2.2. Unit of measurement

Data expressed in absolute values are presented for: personnel – in persons, and value indicators – in thousand lei.

Data expressed in relative values are presented in %.

3.2.3. Formula of calculation

The following economic indicators are calculated based on collected data:
1. Value of production:
VP= turnover + other incomes from the operational activity + subsequent costs – accounting cost of goods sold +/-variation of stocks of products (final) and unfinished production (production in progress)

2. Value added at factor costs
VAFC = VA + subsidies for operational activity – taxes and fees included in expenses

3.3. Classification system

Economic activity: the results of the survey are classified in line with the Classification of Activities in Moldova Economy (CAEM), harmonized with the Statistical Nomenclature of Economic Activities in European Community, NACE. Key data are double reported in CAEM Rev.1.1 and CAEM Rev.2 for 2013 and 2014.

Forms of ownership: Data are grouped according to the Classifier of Ownership Forms in the Republic of Moldova (CFP), approved via the Decision of the Standards, Metrology, and Technical Supervision Department No. 276-st dated 04.02.1997, by forms of ownership: public, private, mixed, joint stock and foreign companies.

Legal form: Classification of enterprises by legal form is carried out in line with the Classifier of Legal Forms (CFOJ), approved via the Moldova Standard Decision No. 1607-ST dated November 9, 2004, in force since 01.01.2005.

Territorial distribution: Data are grouped based on the Classifier of Administrative-Territorial Units of the Republic of Moldova (CUATM), approved via the Moldova Standard Decision No. 1398-ST dated 03.09.2003, with subsequent modifications.

3.4. Scope

3.4.1. Sector coverage

The Structural Survey of Enterprises covers the economic sectors according to the Classification of Activities in Moldova Economy (CAEM, rev.2) for Section B to J, L to N and S95, S96.

Double reported data in CAEM rev.1.1 and CAEM rev.2 are available for 2013- 2014 years.

3.4.2. Statistical population

The statistical population is included active units. The statistical population does not include enterprises

that do not have employees and without turnover.

3.4.3. Geographical coverage

ASS is carried out in the whole country, except for the localities situated on the left side of the river Nistru and in Bender municipality.

3.4.4. Temporal coverage

ASS does not provide time series.

3.5. Level of disaggregation

The data resulting from ASS are disaggregated by:

- types of activities;
- forms of ownership;
- legal forms;
- enterprise size class: small, medium, and big (by average number of employees);
- statistical zones (North, Center, South, Chisinau municipality, and ATU Gagauzia) and administrative-territorial units level;

Restrictions: if disaggregated data contain confidential information (see p.7.1), they are not disseminated; they are aggregated at the minimum available level to ensure data confidentiality.

3.6. Periodicity of dissemination

Annually

3.7. Timeliness

The month of November of the year following the reported year.

3.8. Revision

Data are final at first dissemination.

The data revision policy is in accordance with the Statistical Data Revision Policy, approved by NBS Order No 35 of 30.08.2022:

https://statistica.gov.md/files/files/despre/planuri/Politici/Politica_revizuire_2022_ro.pdf

3.9. Period of reference

Year of reference. ASS data refer to the calendar year

4. Data Collection and Processing

4.1. Data source

4.1.1. Statistical survey

The Statistical Structural Survey of Enterprises (ASS)

4.1.2. Administrative sources

Database of financial reports.

4.1.3. Estimations

Not applicable.

4.2. Characteristics of the statistical survey/administrative sources

4.2.1. Objective and background

The objectives of the structural survey are to provide useful data for:

- to provide information for the characterization of the productive and commercial system of enterprises in total on the national economy, including by types of activity, forms of ownership, size classes and regional profile;
- to be an important source of data for the elaboration of National Accounts at national and regional level;
- to provide the necessary information for updating the Register of Statistical Units, which is subsequently used to carry out statistical surveys

4.2.2. Statistical unit
The enterprise is <u>the observation unit</u> of the structural survey.
The enterprise is defined as the smallest legally established unit which has decisional autonomy and is organized to carry out in one or more places, one or more activities for production of goods and services. The surveys also collect some information regarding the local units that pertain to enterprises.

4.2.3. The circle of units covered in the survey
The sampling plan is a stratified sampling plan, and the selection method is a simple random selection without return. The strata are formed at the intersection of the economic activity at the class level (CAEM rev.2 4 signs) and the size class (4 groups: 0-4, 5-9, 10-19, 20 employees and over). The method of detection of atypical units is that of the interquartile range and the coefficient of variation at the division level of no more than 3.5%.
From the population of enterprises were surveyed:
Exhaustive:
• enterprises with an average number of employees 20 and more;
• small layers that have 5 or fewer statistical units;
• enterprises that have two or more local units;
• atypical enterprises (detected by the interquartile range method).
The rest of the companies were researched selective.

4.2.4. Survey periodicity
Annually

4.2.5. Data collection
The collection of data is carried out by the territorial statistical bodies on paper or through the e-reporting portal. The filled-in questionnaires are submitted by enterprises to the territorial statistical bodies according to the location of enterprises' registration, where checking and input of the data and afterwards the processing and generalization of the data by the National Bureau of Statistics are carried out.
The period of reference is the year prior to the reporting period (n-1).

4.3. Data processing and compilation

4.3.1. Data validation
Several rules apply to data analysis and quality assurance: • Mathematical control of data; • Logical data control; • Comparing data with other databases available in the NBS; • Comparison of data with similar data from financial statements; • Setting ceilings for certain indicators, for example, turnover, average number of employees, etc.

4.3.2. Compilation/extrapolation of data
The data obtained in the sample are extrapolated on the entire universe of active enterprises in line with the expansion coefficient, calculated for every sample stratum.

4.3.3. Adjustments
No adjustments are made.

4.3.4. Quality assurance
The quality of statistical data is assured by observing the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics adopted by the UN General Assembly on 29 January 2014, as well as those set forth in the national Law on Official Statistics no. 93 of 26 May 2017.
In its activity of producing statistical information, NBS pays huge importance to ensuring the high quality of data.
To this end, a series of quality assurance measures are implemented at each stage of the statistical

approach: in the process of organizing statistical survey, collection, processing and elaboration of statistical information.

Important efforts are undertaken to ensure the completeness and quality of data presentation by respondents included in statistical surveys.

Errors, inconsistencies and suspicious data are revealed in order to verify and specify them.

Primary data are verified and analyzed for internal coherence (according to the Questionnaire), temporal coherence (with data for previous periods), with data from other similar units, as well as data available from other statistical surveys and administrative sources.

To ensure the quality of primary data, consultations are provided to interviewers and respondents so as to explain definitions and the correct way of filling in the questionnaires.

4.4. Data accuracy

4.4.1. Non-response rate

The average annual non-response rate accounts for about 3%.

4.4.2. Sampling errors

Sampling errors are calculated taking into account the complexity of the sampling plan with a significance level of 95%.

The confidence interval is calculated based on the sampling error, in the limits of which the real value of the indicator is located with a probability of 95%.

5. Comparability and Coherence

5.1. International comparability

ASS is in line with the European standards in the area of enterprises' statistics: European Parliament and Council Regulation No 295/2008 adopted on 14/02/2008.

5.2. Comparability over the time

Relative indicators (%) that characterize the structure of economic phenomena are comparable over time.

5.3. Coherence with other statistics

The coherence with the respective data of sector statistics and administrative data (Financial statements) for **turnover (sales revenue)** and **average number of employees** is ensured

6. Institutional Mandate (normative-legal basis)

The NBS activity is based on respecting the Republic of Moldova Constitution, the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, other legislative and normative acts, NBS management decisions and orders.

The Law on Official Statistics regulates the organization and operation of the unique system of official statistics, establishing the general principles for collecting, processing, centralizing, diminishing, and stocking statistical information (art.1).

Art. 5 of the Law provides that the production of statistical information is based on respecting the following principles: impartiality, objectiveness, relevance, transparency, confidentiality, cost-efficiency etc.

Being the central statistical body, the National Bureau of Statistics is an administrative authority created under the Government for leading and coordinating the activity in the statistics area.

In accordance with Government Decision 935 of 24.09.2018 on the organization and operation of the NBS, the Bureau exercises the following tasks:
1) Coordinates the national statistical system on the development and production of official statistics;
2) Elaborates and implements strategies for the development of the national statistical system, annual and multiannual statistical programs;
3) Elaborates the normative and institutional framework necessary for the achievement of the

strategic objectives in its field of activity, as well as the mechanisms for their implementation in practice;

4) Performs the management and control of the achievement in quality conditions of the programs and statistical plans adopted at central and regional level;

5) Harmonizes and aligns national statistical indicators, methodologies, methods and techniques with international regulations and standards;

6) Promotes the statistical culture in the society.

The legislative and normative acts ruling the activity of the NBS are available on its official page www.statistica.gov.md, under About NBS https://statistica.gov.md/en/acte-normative-56.html

7. Confidentiality

7.1. Principles

According to art. 19 of the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, producers of official statistics shall take all regulatory, administrative, technical and organizational measures to protect confidential data and prevent their disclosure.

Chapter VII of the above-mentioned law stipulates that the data collected, processed and stored for the production of statistical information are confidential if they allow the direct or indirect identification of the respondents. The following shall not be considered confidential:

a) data that can be obtained from publicly accessible sources according to the legislation;

b) individual data on address, telephone, name, type of activity, number of employees of legal entities and individual entrepreneurs;

c) data referring to public enterprises, institutions and organizations funded from the budget, submitted at the request of the public administration authorities.

According to the Law on Official Statistics, art. 20, access to confidential information is granted to the persons who, according to their official functions, participate in the production of statistical information shall have access to individual data in so far as individual data are necessary for producing this information.

The same article stipulates that the access to individual data, which do not allow the direct identification of respondents, may be given for scientific survey projects, whose expected results do not refer to identifiable individual units, under the regulation approved by the central statistical authority.

Art. 23 (5) of the Law stipulates that the the statistical information cannot be disseminated to users if it refers to 1-3 statistical units.

7.2. Practical assurance of the confidentiality rules

In order to ensure the protection of confidential statistical data in compliance with the Law on Official Statistics No.93 dated 26.05.2017, the National Bureau of Statistics undertakes all the regulatory, administrative, technical, and organizational measures to protect the confidential statistical information and prevent its disclosure.

In compliance with the above-mentioned law, the employees of producers of official statistics, including temporary employees who, according to their official functions, have direct access to individual data shall be obliged to observe the confidentiality of these data during and after termination of employment.

Until the dissemination, the statistical data are checked for compliance with the requirements for the protection of confidential data. If the statistical data contain confidential information (see p.7.1), their dissemination is not carried out and the data is aggregated to the minimum available level which ensures the protection of the confidentiality of it.

8. Access to information and dissemination format

8.1. Access to information

8.1.1. Calendar of statistical publications

Annually, the Press release calendar of statistical information produced by the NBS is developed.

8.1.2. Access to the calendar of statistical publications
The press release calendar is posted on the NBS official page https://statistica.gov.md/en/dissemination_calendar

8.1.3. Access to statistical data
According to the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, art. 23: a)   Producers of official statistics shall be obliged to disseminate the statistical information within the deadlines specified in the programme of statistical works and in the press-release calendar. b)   The dissemination of statistical information laid down in the programme of statistical works to all categories of users shall be made free of charge and under equal access conditions in terms of volume, quality and time of dissemination. The Program of Statistical Works may be accessed on the web page www.statistica.gov.md, under About NBS / legislative and normative acts http://www.statistica.gov.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=323& The NBS web page www.statistica.gov.md represents the most important information source for ensuring users' access to different statistical information and transparency about the NBS activity. All the operative information, informative notes, time series, as well as the statistical publications developed by NBS are placed on its official web page.

8.2. Dissemination format

8.2.1. Operative information / Analytical notes
Not applicable.

8.2.2. Publications
The publication developed by NBS based on the ASS survey: "Results of the Structural Survey of Enterprises" Access to publication in electronic format, on NBS official page https://statistica.gov.md/en/results-of-the-sampling-structural-survey-of-enterprises-editions-2008-2022-9687_59501.html

8.2.3. Databases/time series
- **Statistical databank** https://statbank.statistica.md/pxweb/pxweb/en/40%20Statistica%20economica/?rxid=b2ff27d7-0b96-43c9-934b-42e1a2a9a774 under *Economic statistics / Entrepreneurship / Annual Structural Survey*

8.2.4. Questionnaires/data sent upon request of international organizations
Not applicable.

8.2.5. Requests for additional data
NBS makes available for users additional statistical information beyond the data presented in the statistical publications, informative notes, operative information, as well as the data placed on the official web page in the limits of available information, in line with the Law on Official Statistics. Request can be sent personally, by post, by e-mail moldstat@statistica.gov.md or via online web form – www.statistica.gov.md heading *Products and services / Statistical data request* https://statistica.gov.md/en/information_request

9. Useful References (links)

9.1. Accessibility of documentation on methodology
The methodology is available on the official page www.statistica.gov.md , under Metadata, concepts and methodologies/ Reference metadata https://statistica.gov.md/files/files/Metadate/en/Ancheta_structurala_anuala_en.pdf

9.2. Accessibility of documentation on Evaluation Reports
The NBS assessment reports are available on the official page www.statistica.gov.md, under About NBS / Assessments and opinions on NBS / Assessment reports https://statistica.gov.md/en/assessment-reports-9930_3816.html

9.3. Accessibility of information on user surveys
User surveys are available on the official page www.statistica.gov.md , under About NBS / Assessments

and opinions on NBS / User surveys https://statistica.gov.md/en/user-surveys-9933_3817.html	
9.4. Other useful references	
EUROSTAT database	http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database
UNdata database	http://data.un.org/Browse.aspx
Statistical database of the UN Economic Commission for Europe	http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/Dialog/