

Mexico's Monthly Distributive Trade Survey (MDTS)

INTRODUCTION.

Mexico's economy has been transformed in the last years, passing the manufacturing industry to a second place, and now the services sector is the most important in terms of participation in the total of the economy. The share of the services sector in the period 1980-2002 was about 45% of the gross domestic product (GDP), little more than 60% if it included the commerce sector. This high participation in the economy made necessary to measure the services activities with more accuracy. Because of this, in 1983, the main Mexican unit in the issue of statistics development (INEGI) put under way the Monthly Distributive Trade Survey (MDTS) as the mean through which would serve as input for calculate the conjuncture indicators that served for better knowledge of this important sector.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE.

The Monthly Distributive Trade Survey is engaged of generate statistical information of conjuncture for National Trade in each of the studied cities. The main objective of these results is to orient the decisions of the public, private and academic sectors, and to know the monthly behavior of distributive trade in the short term. This information is used for economic investigations and analysis.

COVERAGE.

The Monthly Distributive Trade Survey is engaged in the study of the operations of trade activities in 37 cities and show the behavior of the wholesale and retail trade in establishments or places of business, primarily engaged in selling merchandises to retailers, to industrial, commercial, institutional, farm, construction, contractors or professional business users, or to other wholesalers or acting as agents or brokers in buying merchandise for or selling merchandise to such persons or companies. The establishments must have the follow characteristics:

1. Six employees or more, at least and/or
2. Selling merchandise for three millions of pesos (price of 1980) at least.

In 1980, the thematic coverage was wider; because of this situation the MDTS reflects a problem for the opportunity of the results and the determination of the directory. Thereby, in 1988 the project was reformed; thereabout 50 cities were analyzed, 33 cities were selected for the creation of the indicators with base in 1994 and with the goal of to reflect the National Trade Activity and to provide a deterministic statistics design.

THEMES.

Occupied personnel. - Personnel who depend to the same firm: Remunerated and owners, relatives and other workers no-remunerated. Personnel who do not depend to the same firm: personnel supplied for other firm (outsourcing personnel for fee or commission without fixed salary, employees, workers and eventual personnel).

The work can be realized in or out of the establishment with a usually fee. Include personnel on vacations, leave of absences (temporary) and medical permission.

Remunerations.- Include: salaries of remunerated personnel, social loans, bonus, allowances, Christmas pay, gifts, rewards and extra hours.

Expenditures for consumption of goods and services.- Include purchased merchandise for to resell them, payment of supplied personnel and fees or commissions.

Inventory's Variation.- It is requested in terms of the monthly variation stocks.

Incomes.- Include the selling of merchandise acquired for reselling them, incomes for sales to consignment or commission, incomes for other economic activities, incomes no-provided of the activities.

Added to the previous themes, the survey asks for, in its questionnaires, the origin of the income through the sales by cash, sales with own credit of the company, sales with financial institutions, etc.

Mexico's Annual Distributive Trade Survey

GENERAL OBJECTIVE.

This survey provides statistical information with more detail on specific aspects about the behavior of trade activities and its relationship with other industries.

CONTENTS.

The information covers aspects about establishment's structure: Kind of economic unit, surface, employment, expenditures, incomes, credits or finances, assets and expectations.

For each theme, the percentages are showing the share in different concepts of study: class, branch or industry. Statistical Office of United Nations provides recommendation for the Distributive Trade Survey's questionnaire; they were incorporated since 1998. The changes had been made to improve identification and to ponder workers: men and women, therewithal to know the generation or loss of employments. In 2000, annual survey was included into incomes chapter the different way of trade used into establishments; credit instruments and credit sources.

COVERAGE.

Monthly and annual surveys collect information about giant, big and medium establishments with economic activity of production; main in trade activity and auxiliary establishments into 37 cities selected in trade survey.

METHOD.

Annual trade survey considers a few international recommendations for this kind of researches, for example: a few variables are included in a countable outline, administrative or fiscal. This situation makes the questionnaire easier to answer for the informant or to found the relationship between observed unit and captured unit. The statistical design is deterministic. There are included the most important establishments according to their incomes for sale. 70 percent average in sales at each city (37, at the beginning, and 41 cities, more latter, in accordance to the redesign of the surveys, based in the recent results of the XIII Trade Census 2004.

TEMPORARY COVERAGE.

The information provided by the Survey is related to the distributive trade activities of the recent past year. The information is used to promote the comparability between cause-effect that explains the behavior of statistical trade information in that time. Usually the collect of data start from April to August.

PRODUCTS OF DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE SURVEYS.

The results of the Trade Surveys are used by several users of the information, that in agreement with their objectives. Annually the System of Results generates indicators of the trade activity at national level and by city. Internet and bulletins of press can be consulted in specialized and several tabulators are available (The monthly project, also reports this results in a monthly frequency).

USAGE.

The generation of statistical information about distributive trade activity has its source in give answers at the collection, tabulation, presentation and analysis of data relating trade establishments and for promoting uniformity and comparability in the presentation of statistical data collected. Users of this information are governmental institutions and enterprises, among others. This data provide information about economic activity into the time and space for the orientation of economic decision, therewith, is an important instrument for the economic research and analysis.