

Country experience: India: compilation of education services

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6.90. In order to better analyse trends in trade in higher education in India, the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics of India (DGCI and S) initiated a survey on international trade in education services, under the overall guidance of the Central Statistics Office in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The scope of the survey was restricted to higher education services, i.e., technical education, management education, medical education and general discipline (university-level courses). The survey period was 2010-2011, since all financial information for that year had already been audited and was accessible. The fieldwork of the survey, as well as the processing and compilation of data, was outsourced to the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade under the overall guidance and supervision of DGCIS.

6.91. A stratified sampling method was used to select institutes and universities, from eight cities in India, that provide education services under each of the categories of education and by mode of supply. In addition, all the important universities and technical and management in India that enrol foreign students were within the sample. The questionnaire was developed in consultation with relevant agencies to collect detailed information on trade (both exports and imports) in higher education from Indian universities and institutions. The questionnaire has 16 subsections, covering among other data types (a) the identification of the service provider, (b) transactions with non-residents, (c) employment by type of staff, (d) details of revenues and receipts from foreign universities and institutes (including foreign students studying in India and in-house Indian faculty visiting abroad), (e) details of expenses and payments to foreign universities and institutes (including Indian students studying abroad and foreign faculty visiting India) and (f) the identification of trade barriers in higher education services.

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