Resources on International Trade in Services Statistics and Tourism

UN ServiceTrade Metadata:


Methodological framework: Following the BPM5, the services component comprises transportation, travel, and other services. Transportation services cover freight and passenger transportation as well as transit fees on the credit side. A breakdown of means of transportation is available. Travel covers goods and services, including health and education, acquired by travellers for business and personal purposes. The other services item covers receipts and payments related to services other than transportation and travel (communication, construction, financial, leasing, insurance, cultural, sport and recreational services, government services n.i.e., etc.).

Data sources: The Bulgarian National Bank derives the data on freight transportation as a percentage of foreign trade data and passenger transportation as a percentage of travel receipts and expenditure. With the January 2006 data introduced a new methodology for the compilation of freight transportation receipts and payments. Receipts are calculated based on estimated receipts of resident carriers concerning the country’s exports of goods. Payments are calculated as an estimation of the payments made by residents on behalf of non-resident carriers to the country’s imports of goods. The receipts and payments are estimated according to the mode of transportation and nationality of the carrier. Data series starting from 2002 were revised. The introduction of the system INTRASTAT (introduced with the Law on Statistics of Intercommunity Merchandise Trade, GG. N51 of 2006) with the January 2007 data changes in the way of a compilation of receipts and payments regarding the freight transportation of Bulgaria with the rest of the EU member states took place. Due to the delay in receiving the detailed data on trade of Bulgaria with the rest of the EU member states from the NSI, as of the date of publication of the preliminary balance of payments report for the corresponding month (42 days after the close of the reporting period) the preliminary compilation of receipts and payments of freight transportation is based on data for preceding years. For imports of transport services – 5% of the imports FOB, 48% are performed by non-resident carriers and are subject to reporting in the balance of payments. These estimates are subject to revisions after receiving the detailed preliminary data (with breakdown by trade partners and by type of goods) on trade with the rest of the EU member states for the reporting month. The NSI provides the Bulgarian National Bank with monthly data on the receipt of transit fees.

The travel data are based on information from the Ministry of Internal Affairs on the number of travellers crossing the borders and on estimates of per capita receipts and expenditure based on the methodology of the Bulgarian National Bank and the Ministry of the Economy. Starting from January 2007, data for the number of foreigners who visited the country are based on information from the border police and NSI estimates. The sources of information used for the other services item are the commercial banks and the corporate sector.

Source: ECB (2007)


National Statistical database: Bulgarian National Bank

National metadata: N/A

National practices

Tourism Statistics

Data and Metadata:

- Metadata: N/A

Presentations at workshops

Other publications
• How to use UN Comtrade (Comtrade)
  • metadata
  • use
  • tutorial
  • how-to
  • api

• Data Exchange Suite (DES) (Comtrade)
  • user
  • tutorial
  • comtrade
  • des
  • sdmx

• Timetable for data availability of country (Comtrade)
  • user
  • comtrade
  • use
  • data_availability
  • qa

• Quantity unit tons in detailed level data (Comtrade)
  • user
  • comtrade
  • use
  • commodity
  • qa