



MONTENEGRO
STATISTICAL OFFICE
IV Proleterske 2, 81000 Podgorica
Tel: +382 (0) 20 230 811
Fax: +382 (0) 20 230 814
E-mail: contact@monstat.org

QUALITY REPORT 2020

Turnover in Wholesale trade

Responsible person: Milena Jolic and Jelena Prelevic
Department: Department for Short-term Indicators

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1. Introduction – Basic information about the survey

1.1 Purpose, goal and subject of the survey

The aim of survey is to evaluate the total turnover of the wholesale trade by commodity groups. The data are used to monitor volume and dynamics of turnover trends; to analyze the effects of trade policy measures; to analyze scope and structure of turnover in wholesale trade by commodity group.

1.2 Legal basics

The Law on Official Statistics and Official Statistical System (Official Gazette of Montenegro No 18/12 and 47/19) defines provisions for collection, processing, and dissemination of data. The Law provides to the Statistical Office legal powers to collect and access the data necessary for the implementation of Program and Annual Plan. The Law gives a priority to the use of administrative data and right of access to individual data that are a result of survey of other official statistical producers. As an annex to legal provisions, Statistical Office has signed several memoranda on cooperation with administrative data providers.

1.3 Statistical units

The statistical observation units for which data are produced are enterprises that are classified in the Statistical Business Register in area 46 KD 2010 (wholesale).

1.4 Coverage and scope of survey

1.4.1 Sectors

Reporting units are all enterprises (companies) whose main activity is trade and who are in the Statistical Business Register registered in the area of 46 NACE Rev2. Enterprises with turnover = 0 are excluded. Data are broken down by turnover size of statistical units (enterprises). Five classes are applied in accordance with accounting standards:

- Class 1: 0 - 24 999 EUR
- Class 2: 25 000 - 199 999 EUR
- Class 3: 200 000 - 999999 EUR
- Class 4: 1 000 000 - 4 999 999 EUR
- Class 5: more than 5 000 000 EUR

1.4.2 Statistical population

The sample frame was based on the data from the Statistical Business Register and includes all active businesses in the wholesale area 46 NACE Rev2. Enterprises with turnover = 0 are excluded. The stratification of the sample is done on the base of class and group of companies. Classes are determined by turnover of companies:

- Class 1: 0 - 24 999 EUR
- Class 2: 25 000 - 199 999 EUR
- Class 3: 200 000 - 999999 EUR
- Class 4: 1 000 000 - 4 999 999 EUR
- Class 5: more than 5 000 000 EUR

The sample includes all companies in the class 4 and 5 and the rest is determined by random sampling. Groups are determined by activity of enterprise (NACE Rev2):

GRUPA	KD_NACE_Rev2
1	461
2	462
3	463
4	464
5	465
6	466
7	467
8	469

1.5 Referent geographical area

The whole territory of Montenegro.

1.6 Concepts and definitions

Indices of turnover in wholesale show the dynamics of the value of turnover in wholesale trade in the territory of Montenegro. Wholesale trade includes activities in the field of 46 KD NACE Rev2. The wholesale trade involves the sale of new or used goods, without processing, for further sale or processing, and sales of major consumer goods for their own consumption.

1.7 Classifications

NACE Rev2 and COICOP

1.8 Frequency of data collection

Yearly.

1.9 Frequency of data dissemination

Yearly.

1.10 Methodology

Methodology of wholesale trade survey is available on MONSTAT website: [Methodology](#)

1.11 Base period

The base year is previous year.

1.12 Unit of measure

Turnover - in Euro.

Changes compared to the previous periods – indices numbers.

1.13 Source of data

Data are collected on a sample of reporting units including Statistical Business Register (SBR) in MONSTAT which are registered according to 46 NACE Rev. 2 classifications. Company filled information based on accounting records.

1.14 Method of collection data

Data are collected through paper questionnaires (by post, email or fax).

2. Relevance – Data users

2.1 User needs

National users:

- Ministries and other public administration bodies,
- Local government, and
- Other local government bodies.
- Central bank,
- Non-governmental organizations,
- Students,
- Researchers,
- Media.

2.2 User satisfaction

The Statistical Office has adopted the Quality Management Strategy, the Guidebook to the Implementation of the Quality Management Strategy, as well as the Plan for the Implementation of the Quality Policy. In order to measure the degree to which fulfills obligations towards users and within the new quality policy, the Statistical Office conducted User satisfaction survey. Data collection was carried out through a web survey, in the period from 6 March to 27 April, 2020. The results of the survey are available on the Statistical Office website, link: [User satisfaction report](#)

3. Accuracy and reliability

3.1 Accuracy – Overall remark

The yearly wholesale trade survey results are based on a sample of reporting units and are subject to the usual types of errors associated with sampling techniques, as well as non-sampling errors, measurement errors, processing errors and non-response.

3.2 Sampling error

Since the survey does not include all units of a target population but rather a randomly selected sample of units, there are sample errors that may occur in estimations. A variation coefficient is a relative measure (percentage) of the accuracy of an estimate. Along with these measures, a lower and upper limit of a confidence interval is calculated.

Indicators of sampling error

The sampling error is regularly calculated for the turnover indices in area 46. The sampling error of the total turnover index for area 46 (wholesale) is in principle small and during 2020 was 1.8.

3.3 Non-sampling error

Non-sampling errors are tied to other errors that are not related to the sample. Non-sampling errors include: Coverage errors, Measurement errors, Processing errors and Non-response errors.

3.3.1 Coverage error

Coverage error is the divergence between the frame population and the target population. The coverage errors include: over – coverage and under – coverage.

Indicators of coverage error

Over - coverage is appearing when a company which is registered in 46 (the area that is the subject of observation) deliver information to deal with some other activity (not wholesale), and in case when the company is closed. Only 1.2 % of the units in the sample in 2020 are defined as over - coverage, which did not affect the final result. Under - coverage can cause an underestimation, because those units that have remained outside the frame can affect the final result. For this reason, the real impact assessment units which are not included in the coverage. The under - coverage includes units engaged in wholesale, and are registered in other activities, as well as those companies which are registered in the course of the observed year, and beyond the frame for the choosing of the sample. Share of under - coverage in 2020 was 7.2%.

3.3.2 Error of measurement

Measurement errors are errors that occur during data collection and cause recorded values of variables to be different from the true ones. Indirect analysis based on the results on editing phase is implemented for correction. Every year, from reporting units is required the same variables, which facilitates filling out the questionnaire.

3.3.3 Non-response error

Non-response errors occur when the survey fails to get response to one, or possibly to all questions of the survey. Non - response errors include: unit non response and item non response.

Unresponsive unit rate

The unit non response rate is calculated as the ratio of the number of units which did not responded to the total number of eligible units (unweight rate). In the annual wholesale survey, the non-response rate in 2020 was around 43.0%.

Non-response rate

The item non response rate is calculated as the ratio of the eligible units which have not responded to a particular item and the in-scope units that are required to respond to that particular item. Average item non response rate in 2020 was about 7.4%.

3.3.4 Error processing the data

Once data have been collected, they pass through a range of processes before the final compilation (estimates, etc.) are produced: coding, keying, editing, imputing, weighting, tabulating, etc. Errors introduced at these stages are called processing errors.

Imputation rate

The average imputation rate on the field level in 2020 was 8.2%, while average imputation rate on the level of the questionnaire amounted to 5.3%.

3.4 Seasonal adjustment

Not available.

3.5 Data revision

3.5.1 Data revision policy

Statistical Office has adopted the revision policy and it is available on the website: [Revision Policy](#)

3.5.2 Data revision practice

Survey on Wholesale uses regular revisions. Large and unplanned audits are only used in the specific cases defined by the revision policy.

3.5.3 Data revision - average size

Not available

4 Timeliness and punctuality

4.1 Timeliness

The first results are published 6 months after the end of the reference year. Questionnaires are sent to reporting units at the beginning of the year. The deadline for replies is May 10 of current year for reference year.

Time lag of the first results

The number of days (or weeks or months) from the last day of the reference period to the day of publication of first results:

$T1 = d_{\text{first}} - d_{\text{ref}}$,

T1 = 6 months and 20 days

d_{first} - release date of first results

d_{ref} - last day (date) of the reference period of the statistics.

Deadlines for publication wholesale trade data during 2020 are published according to the Statistical Release Calendar.

Time lag of the final results

The number of days (or weeks or months) from the last day of the reference period to the day of publication of complete and final results. Preliminary wholesale data are published 200 days after the end of the reference period in accordance with release calendar. Final data are published 10 months after the end of the reference period in accordance with release calendar. Time gap of publication of final data in the wholesale releases is 10 months.

4.2 Punctuality

The accuracy indicator represents the time difference between the actual data release and the planned data release. $P3 = d_{\text{act}} - d_{\text{sch}}$ Regarding wholesale trade research, accuracy = 0, which means that the data are published in accordance with the Data Release Calendar.

5. Availability and clarity

5.1 Statistical Release Calendar

The Law on Official Statistics and Official Statistical System (Official Gazette of Montenegro No 18/12 and 47/19) stipulates that official statistical producers prepare, update, and publish Statistical Release Calendar. It is published on the website of Statistical Office not later than 20 December for the next year, for all official statistical producers that includes date of releasing statistical data. Any change in date of releasing in the Calendar is published in advance in accordance with the Procedure on Unplanned Revisions.

5.2 Access the data Release Calendar

[Statistical Release Calendar](#)

5.3 Releases

New release are available on the MONSTAT website : [Release](#)

5.4 Publication

Statistical Office publishes the following regular publications:

1. Monthly Statistical Review,
2. Statistical Yearbook,
3. Montenegro in Numbers,

In addition to the above regular ones, Statistical Office publishes also additionally publications. Some of the most important additional publications are as it follows:

1. Women and Men in Montenegro,
2. Children in Montenegro,
3. The most often used statistical data.

All publication published by Statistical Office are available at the following link: [Publication](#)

5.5 On-line database

Data of wholesale trade are available on web site: [Database](#)

5.6 Availability of microdata

The Law on Official Statistics and Official Statistical System (Official Gazette of Montenegro No 18/12 and 47/19) regulates rules under which external users can obtain an access to individual data for needs of research. Article 58 defines types of scientific and research organizations that can obtain such data. Providing individual data without identifier is possible only upon a written request of scientific and research institutions, with purpose of performing scientific and research activities as well as international statistical organizations and statistical producers from other countries. Research entity signs the agreement with Statistical Office, and it signs the statement on respecting the confidentiality principle. Official statistical producers keep a separate record on users and purpose of using the statistical data given to these users.

5.7 Metadata occupancy

The ratio of the number of metadata elements provided to the total number of metadata elements applicable. For an annually wholesale survey, the metadata fill rate is 100%.

6. Comparability

6.1 Comparability - geographical

No data are available by geographic areas that since the trade data refer to the whole territory of Montenegro and for national purposes.

6.2 Time comparability

Wholesale data have been produced for more than 50 years, but since 2006 they have been working according to the new methodology. By 2006, all businesses engaged in wholesale were included in the sample, regardless of the activity they are registered in. Since 2006, only companies that are registered in the 46 NACE Rev 2 (wholesale) sector are in the sample frame. Since 2006 there has been no interruption of the series.

Time comparability indicator

Length of comparable time series indicator is calculated as follows:

$$CC1 = J_{last} - J_{first} + 1$$

J_{last} - number of the last reference period with disseminated statistics.

J_{first} - number of the first reference period with comparable statistics.

According to the above formula, the length of a comparable time series for wholesale trade research is 15 years. Data on wholesale trade are available on the MONSTAT website, in the [Data](#) section, and are comparable over time.