



Montenegro  
Statistical Office

## **REVISION POLICY**

Podgorica, July 2017

## Introduction

Document 'Revision Policy' was prepared by Statistical Office on the basis of the ESS Guidelines on revision policy for PEEIs<sup>1</sup>.

Use of this document in practice will contribute to the improvement of statistical product quality.

The Revision Policy follows the principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice<sup>2</sup>), in particular:

- **Principle 6: Impartiality and objectivity:**
  - **Indicator 6.6:** Advance notice is given on major revisions or changes in methodologies;
- **Principle 8: Appropriate statistical procedures:**
  - **Indicator 8.6:** Revisions follow standard, well-established, and transparent procedures;
- **Principle 12: Accuracy and reliability**
  - **Indicator 12.3:** Revisions are regularly analysed in order to improve statistical processes.

With this document, Statistical Office accepts the main principles for the revision of statistical data in national statistical system defined by Eurostat and aligned with the European revision principles for statistics.

The main principles for revision of statistical data in national statistical system are:

- **Principle 1:** General and domain specific revision policies;
- **Principle 2:** Consistency and stability of domain specific revision policies;
- **Principle 3:** Communication of revisions.

Principles related to the data production process, i.e. statistical domains:

- **Principle 4:** Routine revisions;
- **Principle 5:** Major revisions (caused by changes in definitions and classifications, for larger intervals);
- **Principle 6:** Non-scheduled revisions (caused by errors and unforeseeable accidents in the production process accompanied by appropriate explanation)
- **Principle 7:** Definition of domain specific revision policies;
- **Principle 8:** Data vintages and monitoring of revisions.

These principles should be applied at institutional and domain level, taking care of data specific characteristics for each production process within individual domains. In this context, every domain can be with its own revision policy that must be aligned with this document.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/5935517/KS-RA-13-016-EN.PDF>

<sup>2</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/5921861/KS-32-11-955-EN.PDF/5fa1ebc6-90bb-43fa-888f-dde032471e15>

Pursuant to Article 32 of the Law on State Administration (Official Gazette of the Republic of Montenegro No 38/03 and Official Gazette of Montenegro No 22/08, 42/11, and 54/16) and Article 9 paragraph 1 point 9 of the Law on Official Statistics and Official Statistical System (Official Gazette of Montenegro No 18/12) Statistical Office hereby issues

## **REVISION POLICY**

### **1. Definition of official statistical result revision**

Revisions are any change in a value of a statistical result released to the public.

They occur when:

- New observations become available (monthly or quarterly),
- Current or past values are modified.

The data are revised in order to incorporate new, improved information<sup>3</sup>.

Revision of official statistics results is done by official statistics producers defined by the Law on Official Statistics and Official Statistical System, and in accordance with the revision standards regulated by international regulations/methodologies of Eurostat.

Revision is done by employed persons of official statistics producer for its domain, i.e. statistical area.

### **2. Type of revision**

Revision policy of Statistical Office (hereinafter referred to as the 'competent body) includes three types of revision policy:

- Routine revisions
- Major revisions
- Non-scheduled revisions.

#### **2.1. Routine revisions**

Routine revisions are those revisions used when the time series are harmonized with different periodicity of dissemination (for ex. monthly or quarterly data toward annual data).

A subject of routine revisions can be all statistical data if this is defined by the Statistical Data Release Calendar.

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<sup>3</sup> EUROSTAT, (2013), *ESS Guidelines on revision policy for PEEIs*, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, p. 5

Statistical data that can be regularly revised are as follows:

- Preliminary data

Statistical data are considered preliminary (they can be changed during statistical processing data) if they are a subject of routine revisions.

Final statistical data cannot be regularly revised.

### **2.1.1. Reasons for introduction of routine revisions**

In certain number of domains/statistical areas, users find very important to have data published before a complete data set used for the calculation of the statistical data is collected. Such statistical data are called “preliminary data”. For the calculation of final data it is necessary that a full data set is available envisaged by methodology for the calculation of statistical data.

Extension of series of indices by adding new monthly or quarterly data can cause additional changes in adjusted indices and trend index for previous period due to applied method for seasonal and calendar adaptation in cases where seasonal and calendar unadjusted data of previous periods were not changed. Manners of seasonal and calendar adaptations are defined on the basis of survey methodologies and individual quality surveys.

### **2.1.2. Dissemination of statistical data obtained through routine revisions**

When statistical data are disseminated, they are marked by preliminary or final statistical data.

Preliminary data have sign “(p)”.

Quality report must contain explanation on statistical data.

Explanation must contain: date of publication of preliminary and final data, length of period under revision as well as depth of revisions (revision levels for indicators).

## **2.2. Major revisions**

Major revisions imply important changes in data. Longer time series of data are ensured by major revisions so that a negative influence of break in series of data is minimized. When major revisions are applied, it is necessary to analyse their influence on other statistical indicators of related and unrelated statistical domains.

### **2.2.1. Purpose of major revision**

The purpose for using major revisions are changes occurred in classifications, definitions, change in base period, adoption of new sources and methods or accessibility of new statistical data.

### **2.2.2. Publication of statistical data obtained by conducting major revisions**

Major revisions are carried out in longer time periods. They are announced in advance with explanation in the Statistical Data Release Calendar in order to inform users on deadline of dissemination, reasons for applying major revisions as well as on possible influence on other statistical data. After dissemination of revised data, there is necessary to disseminate also analysis of impact of change on data.

### **2.3. Non-scheduled revisions**

Non-scheduled revisions are caused by unforeseeable events that cannot be influenced in advance.

#### **2.3.1. Reasons for introducing non-scheduled revisions**

Non-scheduled changes in data sources due to change in data and additionally found errors in submitted data are the most often reasons for introducing non-scheduled revisions.

In these cases it is necessary to fill in a standard form 'Report on Non-Scheduled Revisions of Statistical Data' that is a constituent part of the Procedure on Non-Scheduled Revisions.

The Guideline on how to react in case of need for non-scheduled revisions is defined by the Procedure on Non-Scheduled Revisions.

#### **2.3.2. Dissemination of statistical data obtained by carrying out non-scheduled revisions**

Non-scheduled revisions are not envisaged by Statistical Data Release Calendar. They are disseminated at the earliest possible date, and their announcement is done by changes in Statistical Data Release Calendar pursuant to the Guideline.

Still, when changes in data are not important, dissemination is done by the following regular revision or other publication of data of the same sort, with obliged note that these are corrected data, with explanation of reasons why the revisions happened.

### 3. Domain specific revision policy

All types of revisions is applied for a certain statistical domain/area. Description of revisions must be mentioned in the quality reports for statistical domain/area for which the revision was applied.

When considered of high importance for certain domain/statistical area, production of revision policy must be done in accordance with this document.

No \_\_\_\_\_

Podgorica \_\_\_\_\_

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