

Short-term Statistics on Services in the European Union

Proposals to improve the availability of infra-annual data for the eurozone and the EU*

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1. Introduction

In the 1998 report on information requirements in European Monetary Union, the Monetary Committee highlighted the need for progress in the development of a sound statistical basis for the services sector, and in particular “the cyclically sensitive service industries”. The Economic and Financial Committee (EFC), in its 4th Progress Report on the implementation of the Monetary Committee's Report, reverted to this subject and concluded:

"Yet, timely, comparable and high-frequency statistics on them are scarce in relation to those on the industrial sector. The qualitative business surveys introduced by the Commission (DG ECFIN) earlier this year, whilst welcome, are not a long-term substitute. The Regulation concerning Short-term (Business) Statistics provides for only a minimal set of data on service activities (employment and turnover in value). Though some work is underway at the national level it is essential to co-ordinate objectives and efforts in order to achieve early results with good coverage at the EU level. The SPC (Statistical Programme Committee), in co-operation with the CMFB, is therefore invited to develop proposals by April 2002 on what action should be taken to improve the availability of monthly and quarterly data on service activities."

While since 1998 progress has been made for qualitative surveys on service business, very limited progress has been made for quantitative short-term indicators. For the latter no significant further improvements can be expected before the second half of 2003, i.e. after derogations granted to most National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) expire. This note, which is drafted in response to the request of the EFC, therefore not only compares the current situation with the statistical requirements, but considers also the situation as it is expected to be in about 2-3 years after the full implementation of important statistical regulations in the EU.

Moreover, while efforts have also been made to provide an adequate and harmonised legislative framework for the production of structural services statistics at annual frequency or annual national accounts data, this note is focused on the identification of gaps in quarterly and monthly

* This document has been compiled from two documents reflecting the user and producer views respectively: *The Evolution of Short-term Service Statistics*, European Commission (Eurostat), 16 April 2002, and *Short-Term Statistics on Services for the Euro Area*, Committee on Monetary, Financial and Balance of Payments Statistics (CMFB), 25 March 2002. The discussions in the two Committees have shown that the assessment and priorities of producer and potential user of short-term statistics in the service sector are very similar. A common document is planned to provide the basis for the report to the EFC in the context of the 5th Progress Report on the implementation of the Monetary Committee's report on EMU statistics.

services statistics. No attempt is made to identify the requirements for, or possible gaps in, the availability of annual data.

2. The services sector and selection criteria for short-term statistics

Almost 70% of the GDP for both the eurozone and the EU is produced by activities, which are traditionally classified as services. The services sector is formed by a wide and heterogeneous set of activities and it cannot be expected that the statistical requirements are the same for all services industries. Services are often defined as a residual item, i.e. the activity outside the industry sector, or the activity that does not deal directly with the production of goods. The Monetary Committee requested efforts for the cyclically sensitive service industries.

- *What could be an operational definition of cyclically sensitive service industries?*

Related to this definition, but more operational, is the distinction between market and non-market services. The European System of Accounts (ESA 95) set out criteria for this distinction, which are fundamental because they determine the valuation principles in national accounts. According to these definitions, market output consists of output that is provided to the market and sold at economically significant prices (i.e. if more than 50% of the production costs is covered by sales, ESA paragraphs. 3.16-3.19).

Statistical data on activity, prices and employment are classified according to the NACE Rev. 1 as shown for services in table A.1 of the annex. Services consist of 10 broad sections, subdivided in 27 divisions according to types of services supplied or their destination (and further in the more detailed NACE Group and Class levels). The distinction between market and non-market has not been a criterion for the grouping of economic activities in the NACE Rev.1; the main criterion used there is the "principal activity", i.e. the activity of a unit that contributes most to the total value added. Nevertheless, by convention a split between market and non-market activities is adopted in several statistical publications. Market services include distributive trade, hotels and restaurants, transport and communication, financial services (banking, insurance, pension funds, financial auxiliary services), other market services (i.e. real estate agencies, rental agencies, computer programming, research and other business activities). Non-market services include public administration and defence, health, education and other non-market services. However, the non-market group contains several activities, which are market activities (e.g. driving schools, cinema, hairdressing, or health services supplied through the market), and the market producer group contains some activities, which are non-market (e.g. central banking). Table 2.1 reports the share of market and non-market services. Market services account for more than two-thirds of the total value added of all services.

Table 2.1: Shares of market/non-market services in total economy value added
(value added at basic prices, current prices, year 2000)

Breakdown	NACE	Eurozone		EU-15	
		Euro billions	%	Euro billions	%
Whole economy	A-Q	6,061.8	100.0	7,870.7	100.0
Services	G-Q	4,188.9	69.1	5,481.9	69.6
Market services	G-K	2,902.9	47.9	3,790.2	48.2
<i>Trade, transport and communication</i>	<i>G,H,I</i>	<i>1,267.6</i>	<i>20.9</i>	<i>1,656.2</i>	<i>21.3</i>
<i>Financial intermediation, real estate</i>	<i>J,K</i>	<i>1,635.3</i>	<i>27.0</i>	<i>2,113.9</i>	<i>26.9</i>
Non-market services	L-Q	1,286.0	21.2	1,691.5	21.5

Source: Eurostat, National Accounts

More details on the shares of activities within the services sector are given in table 2.2. Due to the lack of sufficiently detailed information on value added, employment data have been used. Distributive trade has the biggest employment share in services. All main NACE Sections (except P and Q) contribute by at least 5% to the total service employment, or, in other words, none of these sections can be disregarded when the aim is to develop representative services sector statistics.

Table 2.2: Employment by services activity (thousands, year 2000)

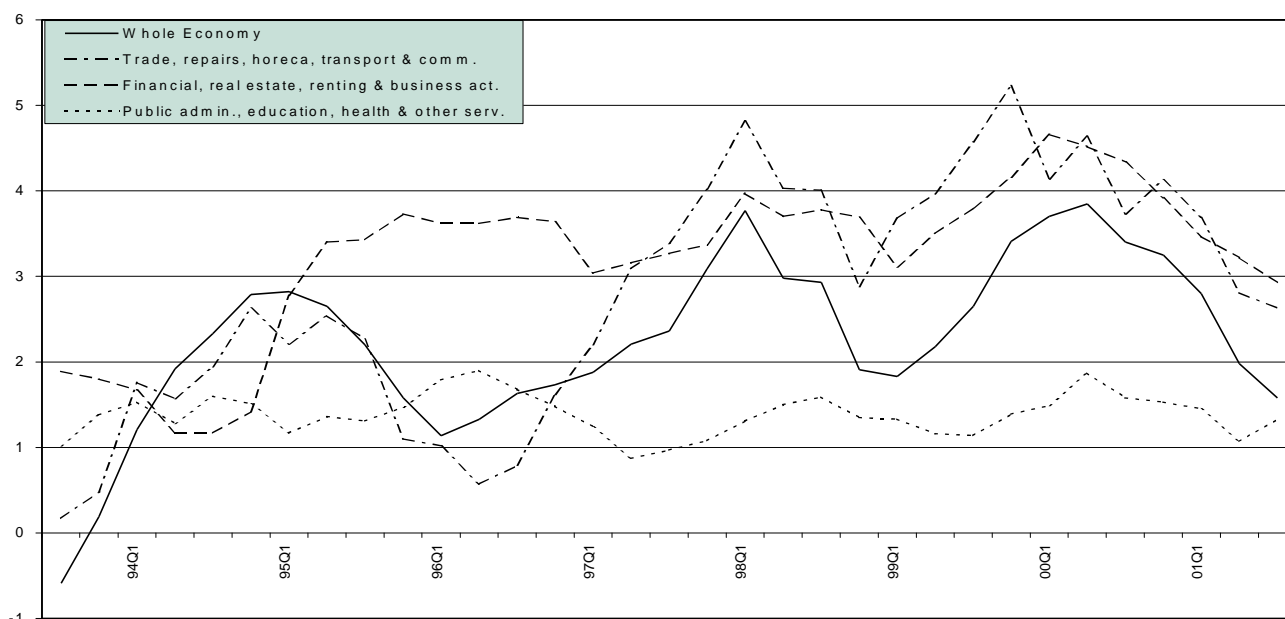
NACE groups		Eurozone	%	EU	%
G	Wholesale and retail trade	17574.0	22.6	23405.0	22.2
H	Hotels and restaurants	4789.9	6.2	6366.2	6.0
I	Transport, storage, communication	7041.2	9.0	9657.0	9.2
J	Financial intermediation	3902.1	5.0	5379.6	5.1
K	Real estate, renting and business activities	9711.3	12.5	13719.0	13.0
L	Public administr., defence; compulsory soc. security	9599.4	12.3	11982.0	11.4
M	Education	7586.0	9.7	10546.0	10.0
N	Health and social work	10663.0	13.7	15071.0	14.3
O	Other community, social and pers. Service activities	5374.7	6.9	7391.8	7.0
P	Private households with employed persons	1465.5	1.9	1660.2	1.6
Q	Extra-territorial organisations and bodies	114.4	0.1	141.6	0.1
Total services		77822.0	100.0	105320.0	100.0

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Surveys.

- *Do service activities display a cyclical pattern?*

The assumption that market services and cyclically sensitive industries overlap to a considerable extent is confirmed by a comparison of the short-term movements of the three main service categories available from national accounts. The outputs of the two aggregate market service categories move similarly to the movement of overall GDP (more pronounced for trade, transport and communication than for financial intermediation, real estate, renting and other services). The non-market output is much less dynamic with annual growth rates ranging in a narrow band from 1%-2%. However, the picture may be different for variables other than output, in particular for nominal variables (e.g. compensation).

Chart 1: Value added for the Eurozone (constant prices, ECU/euro, annual percentage changes)



- Which short-term statistics should be developed for market and non-market service activities?

To answer this question two criteria are used in this paper: *relevance* and *short-term dynamics*. Relevance is defined in this context as the degree to which the statistical indicator is ideally expected to reflect economic activity, prices and labour market conditions. Short-term dynamics is defined as the degree to which the statistical indicator is expected to vary with the business cycle or show other significant short-term fluctuations. The indicators examined include value added, turnover, new orders, export/imports (or a breakdown of variables into domestic and external components), business climate, prices, employment and wages for NACE sections (i.e. indicators covered by different statistical domains). This selection of criteria and indicators is a simplification and could be further refined, but covers the main aspects. Table A.2 in the annex shows the results in more detail.

The evaluation of relevance and dynamics, short-term information on activity and prices/costs is particularly important for market services sectors, but not *all* indicators are useful for *all* market sectors. For non-market sectors, short-term information on employment and wages has the highest priority for short-term analysis (in addition to the value added estimates produced for quarterly national accounts). For all service activities a detailed analysis of data requirements for individual branches (NACE Divisions and below) is necessary given the heterogeneous composition of many aggregate activity groupings in the NACE.

3. EU legal framework and available data

Data on services are covered in the main statistical domains, namely national accounts, business statistics (short-term and structural), labour market statistics, but also consumer price statistics. Precise legal provisions exist for all domains with the exception of labour cost indices, where data are supplied on the basis of a gentlemen's agreement but a regulation is currently being adopted as a follow-up to the EMU Action Plan. Table A.3 (Annex) gives a detailed overview of the existing regulations.

In general, the requirement for statistical information at an annual frequency is more comprehensive and complete than the requirements for quarterly or monthly data. Short-term information is not covered homogeneously in the different regulations. In particular for the non-market services the coverage is very limited.

For short-term statistics, the requirements for statistics on services appear also unfavourable both in term of coverage, frequency and timeliness, as shown in the table below.

Table 3.1: *Short-term statistics requested for industry and services by the STS Regulation*

	Industry		Services	
	Frequency	Timeliness	Frequency	Timeliness
<i>Production</i>	Monthly	T+45	Not required	
<i>Turnover</i>	Monthly	T+60	Quarterly *)	T+90
<i>New orders received</i>	Monthly	T+50	Not required	
<i>Number of persons employed</i>	Quarterly	T+90	Quarterly *)	T+90
<i>Hours worked</i>	Quarterly	T+90	Not required	
<i>Gross wages and salaries</i>	Quarterly	T+90	Not required	
<i>Output prices</i>	Monthly	T+35	Not required	

*) for selected branches only.

In consumer price and quarterly national accounts offer the most complete set of data on service currently available at European level. Consumer price data are monthly available on harmonised basis for all EU countries after approximately 20 days with respect to the reference month. National accounts offer a more heterogeneous set of data but the available breakdown for economic activities on services is rather limited.

Finally, in the field of short-term statistics the transmission of national data and, therefore, the compilation of European aggregates on services is still very limited but it is expected to improve significantly in the course of the year 2003, when all the derogations granted to EU countries will expire. At present, due to the limited coverage of national data, Eurostat can only supply aggregates for turnover in two of the six sectors for services, namely wholesale trade (NACE 51.00) and hotels and restaurant (55.00); no aggregates are available for employment. Table A.4 gives an overview of the status of implementation of short-term statistics in other services. Qualitative data from business surveys, at the moment, are often used to fill this gap at European level but only partially because of their nature and of the limited detail.

4. Requirements for short-term indicators on services for the single monetary policy in the Eurozone

The European Central Bank (ECB) has repeatedly stressed the importance for the purposes of economic and monetary policy to have a methodologically sound and consistent information system that produces relevant information in a timely fashion. Detailed requirements for general economic statistics including services statistics have been endorsed by the Governing Council of the ECB and published for indicators, level of detail, frequency and timeliness.¹

¹ See European Central Bank (August 2000), "Statistical Requirements of the European Central Bank in the field of General Economic Statistics".

Price statistics are particularly important for the ECB for monitoring the price dynamics within the Eurozone. A set of producer prices for services would complete the set of price statistics for services and provide economic analysts with an additional indicator to assess price evolution. Whilst prices for consumer services are covered in the consumer price index (HICP), prices for business to business services may serve the same purposes as the producer price index in industry. Producer prices may also be used as a deflator for the part of the output sold between the service business, or more generally, the deflation of services turnover and the calculation of output.²

Short-term output measures for market services in particular are essential for the analysis of the economy. Short-term information on turnover (nominal and deflated) is crucial for the retail trade sector as an indicator of household consumption and may provide a useful indicator of activity in other market services sectors.

Given its importance for the cyclical development and its high contribution to job creation in the economy, the third set of indicators for the short-term services statistics is represented by employment data.

Finally, labour cost indicators (unit labour costs, wages and salaries, etc.) are also very useful to assess inflationary pressure and competitiveness of the EMU.

5. Expected improvements in statistics for services in the EU

Following several high-level initiatives at European level, in the forthcoming months the availability of service statistics can be expected to increase considerably.

In the forthcoming 5th Progress Report of the Economic and Financial Committee, a lot of emphasis is put on service statistics and, for the first time, a precise set of recommendations for EU member states is set down. The recommendations for the improvement of service statistics follow a two-step procedure:

- by 2003 and 2004 (2005 for labour costs) the implementation of existing regulations will be completed; further studies on the feasibility and methods for compiling service statistics are planned.
- following this phase, decisions on the coverage of service statistics in EU statistical regulations are to be made; careful consideration shall be given to the trade-off between the development of new and reliable statistics and the user need for timely and high frequency statistical data.

Actions will concern especially the short-term statistics. Important improvements, however, are also planned in other domains, namely:

- *National Accounts*: reduction of publication delay to 70 days, new information on hours worked,

² Producer price indices are the preferred measure for deflation in Eurostat's Handbook of Price and Volume measures in national accounts. In some market sectors (e.g. banking, insurance) and most non-market services (e.g. education) the calculation of producer price indices is very difficult or impossible due to the lack of observable prices. Calculation of volumes therefore often have to rely on second best methods which are described in the handbook.

- *Labour Cost Index*: reduction of publication delay to 70 days, extension of the coverage of the service sector, provision of more detailed branch data;
- *Labour Force Survey*: availability of European employment aggregates for branches.

The foreseen actions for short-term statistics are presented in the following paragraph. Table A.5 in the annex summarises the main expected improvements in the provision of statistics on services for the EU.

5.1 Proposed improvements in short-term statistics

The main proposals to improve the availability and timeliness of short-term statistics for the service sector are:

- (a) compilation of output prices for services;
- (b) compilation of gross wages and salaries and hours worked for services;
- (c) compilation of a monthly indicator for turnover;
- (d) improvement of timeliness of the turnover and employment indicators;
- (e) collection of data on market activities currently not covered by the STS Regulation (NACE sections L to Q).

For all these proposals, studies will be conducted. These studies will be carried out in the frame of the Eurostat Working Group of Short Term Statistics.

a. Addition of a quarterly indicator on service prices

The EU Member States see it as an important area of future development but with rather long-term objectives for the availability of European indices. Eurostat proposes to start work on the subject with a task force to clarify essential aspects in co-operation with the OECD:

- Clarification of the available service price statistics in the European Union;
- Definition of the scope of service price statistics to be developed;
- Proposal of a definition for the variable;
- Proposal for a legal basis for service prices;
- Proposal of the basic concepts for a model methodology adapted to the specific conditions of different sectors;
- Assessment of the resources required in the Member States and Eurostat;
- Planning for the implementation of the variable.

The study can only cover the clarification of a framework in which the basic conditions are to be analysed and proposed.

b. Addition of a quarterly indicator on gross wages and salaries and hours worked

A large majority of Member States sees a need for such indicators for the service sectors. The main issue is the practicality of co-ordination between various domains potentially concerned. Eurostat proposes to conduct an internal study in order to identify potential overlaps between

various domains compiling indicators on hours worked and wages and salaries (National Accounts and Labour Cost Indices).

The following items shall be analysed in more detail:

- Existing coverage of the domains in terms of indicators related to 'hours worked' and 'wages and salaries';
- Future plans in each of the domains for extensions;
- Coverage of NACE activities and levels of details;
- Definitions used in the various domains;
- Practical issues, such as base years, weights, data adjustments, etc.;
- Sources of data, e.g. labour force surveys, enterprise surveys, administrative sources;
- User requirements.

Eurostat proposes to complete the study by spring 2003 mainly through a Eurostat-internal work group composed from the different domains and possibly expert from EU Member States.

c. Compilation of a monthly indicator for turnover

The current STS Regulation foresees quarterly reference periods for service sector turnover and employment. Monthly indicators for the service sector are a particular challenge for some NSIs because of their reliance on administrative data. The enterprise demography in services makes surveys resource consuming. This also applies to the turnover indicator. Additional surveys to complement administrative data in specific areas, such as small enterprises, may be necessary to increase the frequency of the indicator.

Eurostat proposes to investigate with the Member States more closely the current situation and the obstacles and costs they see in changing the reference period. This information will be compiled in a report in spring 2003.

d. Improvement of timeliness of the turnover and employment indicators

The present STS Regulation requires a delay of 3 months for both indicators. This delay was the result of a compromise between the requirements for the purposes of economic and monetary policy and what was considered feasible by Member states on a medium-term perspective. A proposal will be made to reduce this delay to 2 months.

e. collection of data on market activities currently not covered by the STS Regulation

The STS Council Regulation in its annex D (Other Services) applies certain restrictions in terms of the coverage:

- All public services or services that are normally state supplied (Section L to Section Q),
- Entire Section J (financial intermediation),
- Division 70 (real estate activities),
- Division 71 (renting activities),
- Division 73 (research and development).

The extension of the coverage of the STS Council Regulation has been already stipulated in the Regulation itself as a topic for pilot studies focusing on:

- (i) Travel agents NACE Rev. 1 Group 63.3;

- (ii) Real estate NACE Rev. 1 Division 70;
- (iii) Renting activity NACE Rev. 1 Division 71;
- (iv) Research and development NACE Rev. 1 Division 73;
- (v) Management activities of holding companies NACE Rev. 1 Class 74.15;
- (vi) NACE Rev. 1 Sections J, M, N and O;

Further pilot studies were proposed on a more detailed breakdown beyond the current level.

Eurostat proposes to investigate the issue of coverage by a study in which the availability and relevance of data in the above named service sectors in the Member States is investigated further. This analysis should be conducted by using a questionnaire to the NSIs. The results of the analysis are planned for the end of 2002.

6. Conclusions

The first priority for short-term statistics in the service sector is the complete implementation of the existing STS Regulation, which will set a precise timetable for the availability of EU/EMU aggregates. At the same time, new important requirements are put forward for STS and other domains, namely National Accounts, Labour Cost Index, the Labour Force Survey.

The development of good quality short-term statistics in the service sector is a challenge for the statistical authorities in the European Union. Considerable methodological developments are necessary to produce reliable information on, in particular, prices and output. New surveys may be necessary for producing at least some of the statistical variables, if other (administrative) sources are not available or appropriate. This will increase the response burden of the economy. It will also require that sufficient resources are available to statistical producers to be able to meet these tasks. These initiatives for better statistics on services reflect the much-increased importance of this sector for the economic development and will also lead to a re-balancing in priorities in comparison to statistics in the industrial sector.

ANNEX

Table A.1: NACE Rev.1 two-digit classification for services.

G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods	
	50	Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
	51	Wholesale trade and commission trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles
	52	Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles; repair of personal and household goods
H	Hotels and Restaurants	
	55	Hotels and Restaurants
I	Transport, storage and communication	
	60	Land transport; transport via pipelines
	61	Water transport
	62	Air transport
	63	Supporting and auxiliary transport activities; activities of travel agencies
	64	Post and telecommunications
J	Financial intermediation	
	65	Financial intermediation, except insurance and pension funding
	66	Insurance and pension funding, except compulsory social security
	67	Activities auxiliary to insurance and pension funding
K	Real estate, renting and business activities	
	70	Real estate activities
	71	Renting of machinery and equipment without operator and of personal and household goods
	72	Computer and related activities
	73	Research and development
	74	Other business activities
L	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	
	75	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
M	Education	
	80	Education
N	Health and social work	
	85	Health and social work
O	Other community, social and personal service activities	
	90	Sewage and refuse disposal, sanitation and similar activities
	91	Activities of membership organisations
	92	Recreational, cultural and sporting activities
	93	Other service activities
P	Private households with employed persons *	
	95**	Private households with employed persons
	96***	<i>Undifferentiated goods producing activities of private households</i>
	97***	<i>Undifferentiated services producing activities of private households for own use</i>
Q	Extra-territorial organisation and bodies	
	99	Extra-territorial organisation and bodies

*) Changed to "Private households with employed persons" in NACE Rev.1.1.

***) Changed to "Activities of households as employers of domestic staff" in NACE Rev.1.1.

***) New in NACE Rev.1.1.

Table A2: Relevance and short-term dynamics of short-term services statistics

	Activity										Prices		Labour market				
	Value added		Turnover		New Orders		Ex/Import (or dom./ext. market)		Business climate		Output Prices		Employment (& hours worked)		Wages		
	Rel	Dyn	Rel	Dyn	Rel	Dyn	Rel	Dyn	Rel	Dyn	Rel	Dyn	Rel	Dyn	Rel	Dyn	
G – Trade and Repair	++	++	++	+ 3)	++	-	+ 3)	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	+	++	+
H – Hotels and restaurants	++	++	++	-	-	++	-	-	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	+
I – Transport, storage and communication	++	++	++	+ 2)	++ 2)	++	+ 2)	++ 2)	++	++	++	++	+	++	+	++	+
J – Financial intermediation	++	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	++	++	+	+	+	++	+	++	+
K – Real estate, renting and business activities	++	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	++	++	++	++	+	++	+	++	+
L – Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	++	+	++	+
M – Education	++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	++	+	++	+
N – Health and social work	++	+	+ 1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	++	+	++	+
O – Other community, social and personal service activities	++	+ 1)	+ 1)	-	-	-	+ 1)	+ 1)	+ 1)	+ 1)	+ 1)	+ 1)	+ 1)	++	+	++	+

1) for market activities; 2) for some transport and storage activities; 3) for wholesale trade.

Rel : Relevance for measuring economic activity, or prices, or labour market conditions

Dyn: Short-term dynamics

++ : highly relevant / high short-term dynamics

+ : some relevance / some short-term dynamics

- : not relevant / no short-term dynamics / not applicable

Not mentioned are consumer price statistics which are available for all relevant consumer services, but which are grouped according to the purpose of consumption rather than economic activity.

Table A.3: Coverage of annual, quarterly and monthly services sector statistics in existing EU regulations

Domains	Legal references	Variables	Coverage and level of detail	Frequency	Timeliness
<i>National Accounts</i>	Council Regulation (EC) No 2223/96 of 25 June 1996 (ESA 95).	<u>value added</u> : - output by industry - intermediate consumption - gross value added at basic prices - consumption of fixed capital <u>capital formation</u> <u>employment and compensation</u> . <u>Value added, compensation and employment</u> .	A31 (sections G to Q of NACE Rev.1)	Annual	9 months after the reference year.
			A6 (G+H+I, J+K and L to P)	Quarterly	4 months after the reference quarter (70 days in future)
<i>Structural Business Statistics</i>	Council Regulation (EC, EURATOM) No 59/97 of 20 December 1996, amended by Council Regulation (EC, EURATOM) No 410/98 of 16 February 1998. Specific Commission Regulations exist for insurance service and tourism statistics.	<u>demographic</u> : number of enterprises/local units; <u>enterprise characteristics</u> : turnover, production value, value added, personal costs, total purchases of goods and services, gross investments in tangible goods, number of persons employed, number of employees; <u>regional characteristics</u> : wages and salaries, number of persons employed.	Sections G, H, I, J, K Non-market services and public services are not covered.	Annual	18 months after the end of the reference year. Preliminary national results within 10 months for turnover and number of persons employed.
<i>Short -term Business Statistics</i>	Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98 of 19 May 1998.	<u>turnover</u> and <u>employment</u> .	Sections G, I, K (only computer and related activities, other business activities). Non-market services, public services and financial intermediation are not covered Pilot studies are planned on sections K (complete) and J, M, N, O.	Quarterly	90 days after the reference quarter.
<i>Labour Force Survey</i>	Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 of 9 March 1998.	<u>Labour force, employment, hours worked</u> .	Section G-Q, possibly also Divisions.	Quarterly/ Annual	12 weeks after the end of the reference period (quarterly surveys). 9 months (annual survey).

Domains	Legal references	Variables	Sectors and level of detail	Frequency	Timeliness
<i>Labour Cost Indices</i>	Gentlemen's agreement. Draft regulation in progress.	Total labour costs; labour costs excluding bonuses; wages and salaries; employers' social contributions.	Draft Regulation: Sections G to O Currently the level of detail is very limited.	Quarterly	Currently 95 days after the reference quarters. In the regulation the delay for national data is reduced to 70 days.
<i>HICP</i>	Commission Regulation No 2214/96 of 20 November 1996, amended by Commission Regulation No 1749/99 of 23 July 1999.	Consumer service price indices, accounting for around 38% of the overall index for the Eurozone.	The main branches covered and published at 3 digit COICOP level are: - rents - health (hospital and out-patient services); - transport; - telecommunications; - recreation and culture; - education; - restaurants and hotels.	Monthly	15 days after the reference month.
<i>EC business survey in the service sector</i>	European Commission decision on the 'Joint Harmonised EU Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys' and the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Social and Economic Committee, Nov.2000, COM (2000) 770.	5 questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessment of the business climate • evolution of demand (in recent months and in the months ahead) • evolution of employment (in recent months and in the months ahead) 	NACE Rev.1 Section I (divisions 60-63); Section K (divisions 71-74); Section O (division 90)	Monthly	Second working day after the end of the reference month

Table A.4: Status of implementation of STS in Other Services

Branch /Section	Operational	Comments <i>Data is declared missing if major aggregates and most detailed data (> 90% of the data required by the STS Regulation) are missing</i>	Missing Member States
Turnover			
50.00	NO	Data is partially missing from: D (sends only 5050) Data is partially missing from: NL (sends only 5020, 5050) Data sent only starting 1998: NL	EL, E, I, P
51.00	YES	European aggregates are available for all but 5110. Data is partially missing from: D, FR (do not send 5110) Data sent only starting 1998: IRL Data sent only starting 2000: NL (not usable)	EL, E, I, P
55.00	YES	European aggregate is available. Data is partially missing from: NL (does not send 5500, but all three-digits; these cannot be aggregated due to missing weights) Data sent only starting 1998: IRL, NL	EL, E, I, A, P
Section I	NO	Data is partially missing from: I (does not send 6000, 6300) Data is partially missing from: UK (sends only 6300, 6420) Data sent only starting 1998: IRL, IT, UK Data sent only starting 2000: NL (not usable) European aggregate available only for NACE 6410.	D, EL, E, L, A, P
72.00	NO	Data sent only starting 1998: IRL, NL Data sent only starting 1999: IT	D, EL, E, L, A, P
74.00	NO	Data sent only starting 1998: IRL	D, E, EL, I, L, NL, A, P
Number of persons employed			
50.00	NO	European aggregates are not possible. Data sent only starting 1998: UK, IRL	B, EL, E, L, P, S
51.00	NO	European aggregates are not possible. IT and NL (sends part of three digits series) Data sent only starting 1998: UK, IRL	B, EL, E, L, P, S
55.00	NO	European aggregates are not possible. Send data only since 1998: IE, UK	B, EL, E, P, S
Section I	NO	European aggregates are not possible. Data sent only starting 1998: UK, IRL	B, D, EL, E, L, P, S
72.00	NO	European aggregates are not possible. Data sent only starting 1998: UK, IRL	B, D, EL, E, L, P, S
74.00	NO	European aggregates are not possible. Data sent only starting 1998: UK, IRL	B, D, EL, E, L, P, S

Overview of status of variables (situation end April 2002)

Activities covered:

NACE Division 50 Motor vehicle trade
NACE Division 51 Wholesale trade
NACE Division 55 Hotels and restaurants
NACE Section I Transport, storage and communication
NACE Division 72 Computer and related activities

Table A5: Summary of proposals and suggested timetable

Statistical Regulation	Action	Schedule
Turnover (nominal)		
<i>Short-term statistics</i>	Release of first quarterly results according to the current regulation at t+90 Release after t+60 Expand coverage to other market services Explore the possibilities for a monthly index at t+30	by end 2003 by end 2004 under study under study
Output prices		
<i>Short-term statistics</i>	Methodological work, feasibility studies Cast into regulation Implementation, release of output prices and deflated turnover	2002-2003 2004 from 2006 (for European results, individual MS earlier)
Labour costs and wages		
<i>Short-term statistics</i> <i>Labour Cost Index</i>	Coverage for market services Implementation for NACE H-K Feasibility studies for NACE L-O Implementation for L-O (subject to result of feasibility)	Under study by end 2003 by end 2005 2007
Employment		
<i>Short-term statistics</i>	Release of quarterly results according to the current regulation at t+90 Release after t+60 Expand coverage to other market services	by end 2003 by end 2004 under study