

Progress Report - Center Bureau of Statistics Israel

19th Meeting of the Voorburg Group – Ottawa

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Producer Price Index (PPI) for services

The main achievements for 2003-2004

The Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics is currently at the final stage of developing a price index for “Bookkeeping And Accounting Services”, within the PPI framework. Development of service sector price indices began in Israel in the early 2003's as an adjunct to the familiar PPI system for estimating prices in the production sector.

Priorities of the work program for the next years

The main goal is that from January 2005 the accounting services price index will be calculated on the basis of data collected in the previous year. Also from January 2005 we are going to develop the price index for “Business Activities” according to the priority of the national accounts in Israel that include:

Architectural, engineering and other technical activities
Business consultancy, market research and public opinion polling
Advertising and public relations services
Photographic activities
Other business activities n. e. c.
Security activities

The developing of the service price index will depend on budgetary restraints.

In the beginning of 2005 we started developing accounting service staff involved two full time persons with university degree.

Stages included in the work:

Feasibility study

Develop price index based on experience, expert knowledge, review of literature and international experiences.

Contacting and visiting accounting firm

Collecting prices

Formulation methodology for accounting.

Developing questionnaires

Calculation

The main issues and challenges facing the country or organization

The most important developing issue is the PPI for services.

The progress of work will be rather slow due to budgetary considerations because until now only one person has been working on this project. Another problem may be the cooperation by the firms.

Future topics which are of interest to the Voorburg Group for inclusion in the next program

PPI for business activities

Security activities