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TURNOVER IN THE WHOLESALE TRADE INDUSTRY IN SWEDEN

SESSION ON TURNOVER/OUTPUT FOR WHOLESALE TRADE

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1. Background

Structural Business Statistics (SBS) is an EU-regulated survey carried out annually. Prior to 1997, a sample was drawn every year to gather economic information (including turnover) about the business sector for various industries in Sweden. From 1997 and onwards Statistics Sweden has access to the enterprises income tax return forms via the Swedish Tax Authority (Skatteverket). In this way, Statistics Sweden gets information from all the enterprises in Sweden regarding main economical variables such as turnover, cost of trade goods and raw material, cost of personnel, financial incomes and costs, assets and debts etc.

Up until 2002 turnover on product level was surveyed intermittently in different industries, usually every fifth year. The increased concentration on economical statistics in general and the service sector in particular has led to an annual survey of all industries. This means Statistics Sweden now annually has information on turnover per product group for the industries required by the National Accounts (130 industries at present).

This sector paper concentrates on the turnover in the Wholesale trade and the turnover by products.

2. The purpose of the survey

To satisfy the needs of the National Accounts, Statistics Sweden annually surveys the wholesale trade industry regarding turnover per product group. Today, enterprises can specify their turnover into approximately 400 product groups, of which around 50 belongs to the wholesale trade industry.

Statistics Sweden also needs to fulfil the requirements of the EU regulation. This means that, within the wholesale trade, Statistics Sweden annually delivers turnover by three digit NACE level and size class.

Statistic Sweden must also deliver some intermittent statistics in the wholesale trade. This includes turnover by product on a four digit NACE level (reference year 2003, 2008 etc) and turnover by region and three digit NACE level (reference year 2004, 2009 etc).

3. Methodology

3.1 Prior to 2003

Prior to 2003, all enterprises with at least 50 employees were surveyed. This sample method led to a skewed distribution between the manufacturing industries and the other industries. Manufacturing enterprises are much fewer in number but on the other hand bigger in terms of turnover and number of employees, which made the number of manufacturing enterprises surveyed almost as many as the number of service enterprises surveyed.

In 2002, there were 717 000 enterprises in the population. 55 000 of these belonged to the manufacturing industry and 440 000 of these belonged to the service sector, of which 42 000 belonged to the wholesale trade industry. The remaining enterprises were found in agriculture, forestry, mining, construction and the energy industries.

The total sample in 2002 was approximately 4 400 enterprises. This amounted to 0.6 percent of the total number of enterprises but 58 percent of the total turnover in the business

sector. Within the manufacturing industry a relatively large share of the enterprises have more than 50 employees. This led to a sample of 1 700 objects, which covered 3.2 percent of the number of enterprises and as much as 79 percent of the turnover within the industry. Within the service sector the picture is somewhat different. A large share of the enterprises are small, and the sample of 2 300 enterprises covered only 0.5 percent of the enterprises and 48 percent of the turnover.

Within the wholesale trade industry, 360 enterprises were surveyed. This corresponds to 0.9 percent of the number of enterprises or 48 percent of total turnover.

3.2 2003 and onwards

For reference year 2003 and onwards, the sample procedure was modified due to the shift of focus to the economical statistics in general and the service sector in particular. The aim with this shift was to improve the quality of service sector statistics. Statistics Sweden now uses administrative data (i.e. the enterprises income tax return forms) to a larger degree, as a means to improve the quality of the sample. The information available from Prodcom (An EU-regulated survey measuring the production in the manufacturing sector on a detailed level) is also used to lessen the response burden for enterprises within the manufacturing industries.

For reference year 2003, 10 200 enterprises were surveyed, of which 7 800 belonged to the service sector. For reference year 2006, the sample had increased to 14 800 enterprises, of which 12 100 belonged to the service sector. Within the wholesale trade industry 1 820 of the industry's total 46 000 enterprises were sampled. This means that more than 4 percent of the total number of enterprises were surveyed, covering approximately two thirds of the total turnover.

The new sample method also means that Statistics Sweden now has annual information about industries only consisting of enterprises with fewer than 50 employees. A fine example of this is hairdressers, an industry with almost 20 000 enterprises, but not a single one with 50 employees or more. The largest sub-industry within wholesale trade without larger enterprises is NACE 51.34 with approximately 600 enterprises.

3.3 Stratification

The stratification aims at covering as much of the turnover and as many products as possible. For reference year 2006, the stratification was made on four-digit NACE level or the national five-digit level. The number of enterprises is relatively evenly distributed among the strata, with stratum 51.879 (Wholesale of machinery for industry, trade and navigation n.e.c.) being the largest. Stratum 51.15-51.16 (Agents involved in the sale of furniture, household goods, hardware and ironmongery and sale of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods) was however the stratum with the largest sample.

Table 1 Number of enterprises in wholesale trade strata

Stratum	Number of enterprises in the population	Number of enterprises in the sample
51.11,51.18-51.19	1 490	62
51.12-51.13	602	49
51.14	1 034	66
51.15-51.16	1 650	83

51.17	481	48
51.210	419	35
51.220+51.250	316	38
51.230	197	15
51.240	95	15
51.310	550	15
51.320	240	24
51.330	100	38
51.340	574	42
51.350	61	11
51.360	348	43
51.370	128	18
51.380	1 632	52
51.390	660	34
51.410	942	44
51.420	2 238	40
51.431	416	23
51.432	461	21
51.433	211	27
51.434	562	21
51.440	726	23
51.450	807	20
51.460	1 257	32
51.471	703	35
51.472	1 215	27
51.473	413	14
51.479	3 416	52
51.510	675	26
51.520	520	33
51.530	3 755	65
51.541	748	53
51.542	958	37
51.550	775	37
51.561	376	18
51.562	501	24
51.569	592	51
51.571-51.573	763	19
51.810	504	30
51.820	487	13
51.830	32	10
51.840	1 938	30
51.851	350	17
51.852	470	34
51.860	685	26
51.871+51.872	724	59
51.873	381	20
51.879	3 844	69
51.880	612	11
51.9	534	71
Total	44 168	1 820

The information above is from the time of the sample. When controlling the material, enterprises classified in incorrect industries are usually discovered. The final number of enterprises within the wholesale industry thus slightly differs from the original number.

3.4 Sample

The sample method used is the so called π ps-sample, where the size measure S equals total turnover plus total cost is gathered from the enterprise's income tax return form, which Statistics Sweden gains access to in August year t+1. This sample method means that the higher the turnover of the enterprise, the higher the probability to be sampled. The method also means that a number of enterprises are drawn with probability 1. A positive feature with this method is the ability to control the sample size depending on the amount of turnover wished to be covered. Since the population changes can be significant between two years, and especially in the service sector, a new sample is drawn every year.

As mentioned earlier, two thirds of the turnover within the wholesale trade industry was covered for reference year 2006.

3.5 Variables

By awaiting the income tax return forms, Statistics Sweden is able to pre-print values on the questionnaires and thus simplify the task of the respondents by only asking them to answer specifications of main variables, e.g. turnover. Furthermore, Statistics Sweden adjusts the questionnaires with regard to industry and, if available, the enterprise's returned questionnaire from the year before, t-1. The questionnaire consists of the following four parts regarding turnover on product level:

1. The industries main variables – activities/products that are common in the enterprise's industry.
2. Other industry variables – activities/products that exist within the industry but are not as common.
3. Answers from earlier years – other activities/products that the enterprise has pursued/sold earlier.
4. Other variables – activities/products that are not normally part of the enterprise's industry.

Part 1-3 are covered in the questionnaires sent out to the enterprises. Part 4 are, in the electronic version of the questionnaire, available as a drop-down list, where the enterprises can choose between approximately 400 product/activity groups. Enterprises not using the electronic version are asked to fill in "Other activities" and specify what this is.

For reference year 2006, the enterprises within the wholesale trade industry could choose from 51 activities, as seen in table 2 below.

Table 2 Available products for wholesale trade enterprises

Variabel	Presentation text
v1231	Sale of textiles
v1235	Sale of clothes and shoes
v1239	Sale of household appliances, radio and TV equipment
v1243	Sale of household glass, porcelain, wall paper and cleaning agents
v1247	Sale of other household goods (furniture, toys, books, sportswear etc.)

v1251	Sale of perfume and cosmetics
v1255	Sale of medical equipment and pharmaceutical preparations
v1259	Sale of fruit and vegetables
v1263	Sale of meat and meat products
v1267	Sale of dairy products, eggs, cooking oils and cooking fats
v1271	Sale of beverages (incl. alcoholic)
v1275	Sale of sugar, chocolate and confectionary
v1279	Sale of coffee, tea, cocoa and spices
v1283	Sale of other groceries
v1287	Sale of tobacco products
v1291	Sale of industrial machinery
v1319	Sale of other raw materials for manufacturing(excl. metals, construction materials, iron goods and chemical products)
v1323	Sale of office equipment and office furniture
v1327	Sale of grain, planting seed and cattle food
v1331	Sale of live animals
v1335	Sale of hides, skin and leather
v1339	Sale of raw tobacco
v1343	Sale of flowers and plants
v1347	Sale of fuels
v1351	Sale of metals and metal ores
v1355	Sale of paint, varnish and lacquer
v1359	Sale of glass work and other construction materials
v1363	Sale of timber, planed and rough sawn wooden products and sanitary wares
v1367	Sale of iron goods and heating, ventilation and sanitary equipment
v1368	Sale of chemical products
v1371	Sale of waste products and scrap
v1375	Sale of manufacturing machinery
v1376	Sale of electronic components
v1379	Sale of building and construction machinery
v1383	Sale of textile, sowing and knitting machinery
v1387	Sale of other machinery for manufacturing, trade and shipping
v1391	Sale of tractors and machinery, tools and equipment for agriculture and forestry
v1435	Selling and licensing revenues from non-own-developed software
v1439	Commission on sale of software
v1443	Sale of computers and computer equipment
v1447	Commission on sale of computers and computer equipment
v1451	Sale of telephones and other telecom equipment
v1455	Commission on sale of telephones and other telecom equipment
v1503	Commission trade with live animals, agricultural raw materials, textile raw materials and intermediate textile products
v1504	Commission trade with fuels, metals, ores and industrial chemicals
v1505	Commission trade with timber and construction materials
v1506	Commission trade with machinery, industrial equipment, ships and aircrafts
v1507	Commission trade with furniture, household goods and iron goods
v1508	Commission trade with textiles, clothes, shoes and leather products
v1509	Commission trade with groceries, beverages and tobacco
v1510	Other commission trade

3.6 Estimations

Since all enterprises' income tax return forms are made available to Statistics Sweden from the Tax Authority, the total turnover is, at least in principle, based on a census. There exists

some non-response but for larger enterprises this information is gathered through official annual reports and for smaller enterprises the turnover (along with other economic variables) is imputed, based on responding enterprises belonging to the same industry and the same size class.

When it comes to turnover by product, the enterprises are divided into model strata based on industry and size class. Within these model strata, estimations are made based on the responding enterprises' distribution.

4. Improvements

After every reference year, the survey is revised in order to find areas in need of improvement, regarding variables, sample, questionnaire design etc. The National Accounts are also involved in this process, since they are the main final user of the results from the survey.

4.1 Variables

As mentioned above, there are 51 different activity/product turnover variables for the wholesale trade industry. This is approximately the same number as in 2003, when the survey underwent a major revision. However, on the product level these variables has gone through some changes, with some variables being bundled together and other being divided into one or more variables. This has been done so satisfy the demand from the National Accounts, but also to simplify the task for the responding enterprises.

It is important for the quality of the returned questionnaires that the respondents feel familiar with the terminology used in the survey, which is why Statistics Sweden adjusts the variables' presentation text in the questionnaire with regard to the enterprise's sub-industry. Hence, the same variable can have different presentation texts for different enterprises. This is usually more common for the cost variables. For example, the enterprises' definition of Cost of trade goods usually varies from the National Accounts' definition.

4.2 Coordination with other surveys

For total turnover within the wholesale trade industry, comparisons are made with the VAT statistics as well as the Turnover statistics. The Trade Margin Survey, presented in separate paper, also uses the results from the SBS.

4.3 Questionnaire design

Statistics Sweden has in latter years put more and more focus on the electronic questionnaires, since enterprises has increased their will to respond electronically. The layout of the questionnaire is revised after each reference year, to improve the design if possible. Electronic information gathering also enables the use of some controls as the respondents fill in the questionnaire. For example, enterprises can not return the questionnaire if invalid values are filled in. Some summation controls are also present in the electronic questionnaire. The number of controls in this stage must however not be too many or enterprises might lose their will to return the questionnaire.

5. Results

5.1 Response rate

The questionnaires for reference year 2006 were sent out in September 2007. Enterprises that has not responded on time are reminded via written reminders and finally by telephone. When the data collection was finalised, 1 540 of the 1 820 enterprises in the sample had returned the questionnaire, i.e. 85 percent. Weighted after turnover, the corresponding share was higher, 93 percent. Within the strata, the response rate varied between 67 percent and 100 percent. The weighted response rate was in general, as well as on average, higher but varies between 62 and 100 percent. The response rate in the different strata can be seen in table 3 below.

Table 3 Response rate

Stratum	Number of enterprises in the sample	Number of responses in the sample	Un-weighted response rate	Weighted response rate
51.11,51.18-51.19	62	51	82,3	94,6
51.12-51.13	49	44	89,8	98,6
51.14	66	57	86,4	86,9
51.15-51.16	83	66	79,5	85,0
51.17	48	32	66,7	83,4
51.210	35	30	85,7	93,0
51.220+51.250	38	33	86,8	76,9
51.230	15	12	80,0	92,7
51.240	15	14	93,3	97,9
51.310	15	12	80,0	96,9
51.320	24	19	79,2	85,4
51.330	38	35	92,1	97,1
51.340	42	37	88,1	89,7
51.350	11	8	72,7	94,6
51.360	43	34	79,1	84,1
51.370	18	13	72,2	84,5
51.380	52	42	80,8	93,7
51.390	34	29	85,3	99,3
51.410	44	34	77,3	84,4
51.420	40	33	82,5	74,8
51.431	23	20	87,0	97,6
51.432	21	21	100,0	100,0
51.433	27	19	70,4	68,1
51.434	21	20	95,2	98,0
51.440	23	20	87,0	83,3
51.450	20	14	70,0	61,7
51.460	32	30	93,8	95,3
51.471	35	31	88,6	86,3
51.472	27	18	66,7	76,0
51.473	14	11	78,6	89,5
51.479	52	38	73,1	83,8
51.510	26	24	92,3	96,9
51.520	33	30	90,9	88,5
51.530	65	57	87,7	78,7
51.541	53	47	88,7	89,9

51.542	37	26	70,3	94,9
51.550	37	32	86,5	82,0
51.561	18	13	72,2	89,6
51.562	24	22	91,7	96,6
51.569	51	48	94,1	98,9
51.571-51.573	19	16	84,2	98,7
51.810	30	28	93,3	95,4
51.820	13	11	84,6	96,0
51.830	10	10	100,0	100,0
51.840	30	23	76,7	90,0
51.851	17	12	70,6	67,4
51.852	34	31	91,2	96,9
51.860	26	25	96,2	99,0
51.871+51.872	59	54	91,5	91,9
51.873	20	17	85,0	96,4
51.879	69	60	87,0	89,3
51.880	11	11	100,0	100,0
51.9	71	66	93,0	97,2
Total wholesale	1 820	1 540	84,6	93,2

5.2 Turnover

As mentioned earlier, the enterprises are asked to specify the turnover into different type of products. These are then translated into SPIN codes, which is the Swedish version of the European standard – CPA (Classification of Products by Activity). It is obvious that these codes are closely related to the NACE classification, which also can be seen when looking into table 4 and table 5 beneath. A major difference is that enterprise classified within wholesale trade can have other activities as well.

Table 4 Turnover by SPIN code 2004-2006 (sorted by value 2006)

SPIN	Text	2004	2005	2006
5151000	Wholesale of fuels	93 521	123 119	149 338
5146000	Wholesale of pharmaceutical goods	73 367	76 895	69 908
5147000	Wholesale of other household goods	60 650	54 823	65 336
5187A00	Wholesale of other machinery for use in industry, trade and navigation	29 948	43 802	55 585
5184000	Wholesale of computers, computer peripheral equipment and software	45 077	42 617	51 970
5186000	Wholesale of electronic parts	43 190	59 227	49 027
5138000	Wholesale of other food including fish, crustaceans and molluscs	29 014	43 567	48 627
5154000	Wholesale of hardware, plumbing and heating equipments and supplies	24 385	44 072	47 161
515300A	Wholesale of wood, construction materials and sanitary equipment	41 042	34 831	43 088
5143000	Wholesale of electrical household appliances and radio and television goods	45 530	43 171	40 828
515300B	Wholesale of float glass and other building equipments	38 141	48 963	37 375
5152000	Wholesale of metals and metal ores	25 821	30 137	34 599
5131000	Wholesale of fruit and vegetables	21 690	21 728	26 358
5132000	Wholesale of meat and meat products	16 469	19 412	24 495
5190000	Other wholesale	26 961	11 958	23 277
5142000	Wholesale of clothing and footwear	17 864	23 719	22 622
5156000	Wholesale of other intermediate products	436	18 099	22 020

5155000	Wholesale of chemical products	10 776	14 403	19 356
5187300	Wholesale of telecommunication equipment	18 385	14 756	17 946
5134000	Wholesale of alcoholic and other beverages	15 932	19 922	16 776
5133000	Wholesale of dairy produce, eggs and edible oils and fats	15 580	17 175	16 525
5136000	Wholesale of sugar and chocolate and sugar confectionery	11 211	12 891	14 440
5188000	Wholesale of agricultural machinery and accessories and implements, including tractors	21 072	22 364	13 886
5182000	Wholesale of mining, construction and civil engineering machinery	2 930	7 243	11 769
5141000	Wholesale of textiles	5 579	9 213	10 344
5185000	Wholesale of other office machinery and equipment and office furniture	3 159	6 211	9 526
5121000	Wholesale of grain, seeds and animal feeds	9 704	8 426	9 015
5135000	Wholesale of tobacco products	9 554	8 749	8 368
5181000	Wholesale of machine tools	6 430	4 103	7 901
5144000	Wholesale of china and glassware, wallpaper and cleaning materials	5 435	8 116	7 733
5145000	Wholesale of perfume and cosmetics	4 116	3 921	7 290
511A000	Agents involved in the sale of a variety of goods	5 034	2 671	4 570
5157000	Wholesale of waste and scrap	12 977	3 672	4 329
5122000	Wholesale of flowers and plants	3 622	3 878	3 939
5137000	Wholesale of coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	5 401	3 810	3 783
5153004	Wholesale of paint, varnish and lacquer	4 467	3 612	2 146
5112000	Agents involved in the sale of fuels, ores, metals and industrial chemicals	2 288	1 032	1 724
5114100	Agents involved in the sale of machinery, industrial equipment, ships and aircraft, except office machinery and computer equipment	4 623	733	1 060
5115000	Agents involved in the sale of furniture, household goods, hardware and ironmongery	5 634	582	874
5114200	Agents involved in the sale of office machinery and computer equipment	3 293	358	728
5117000	Agents involved in the sale of food, beverages and tobacco	46	174	661
5113000	Agents involved in the sale of timber and building materials	114	260	436
5116000	Agents involved in the sale of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	505	1 079	360
5123000	Wholesale trade of live animals	2	3	239
5124000	Wholesale of hides, skins and leather	847	847	232
5183000	Wholesale of machinery for the textile industry and of sewing and knitting machines	18	36	91
5125000	Wholesale of un-manufactured tobacco	0	160	40
5111000	Agents involved in the sale of agricultural raw materials, live animals, textile raw materials and semi-finished goods	4	3	1
01-05	<i>Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing</i>	41	8	89
10-37	<i>Manufacturing</i>	15 160	10 184	9 097
40	<i>Electricity, gas and water supply</i>	0	120	145
45	<i>Construction</i>	665	62	66
50	<i>Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; retail sale of automotive fuel</i>	9 905	12 471	15 237
52	<i>Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles; repair of personal and household goods</i>	26	340	749
55	<i>Hotels and restaurants</i>	0	0	23
60-64	<i>Transport, storage and communications</i>	6 549	1 512	1 615
65-67	<i>Financial intermediation</i>	0	51	0
70-74	<i>Real estate, renting and business activities</i>	8 420	5 965	8 246

80-85	<i>Education, health and social work</i>	0	152	31
90-93	<i>Other community, social and personal service activities</i>	1 127	2	160
9999999	<i>Others</i>	9 198	1 901	2 210
	Total turnover	942 312	993 419	1 107 985

Table 5 Turnover (million SEK) by NACE code 2003-2006 (sorted by value 2006)

NACE	Text	2003	2004	2005	2006
5151	Wholesale of solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	92 308	100 704	129 658	160 139
5139	Non-specialized wholesale of food, beverage and tobacco	91 739	93 825	98 397	102 024
5187	Wholesale of other machinery for use in industry, trade and navigation	70 292	76 862	76 501	87 474
5153	Wholesale of wood, construction materials and sanitary equipment	58 261	62 335	61 504	74 473
5146	Wholesale of pharmaceutical goods	63 005	67 588	69 201	73 454
5184	Wholesale of computers, computer peripheral equipment and software	49 028	52 768	59 164	66 167
5143	Wholesale of electrical household appliances and radio and television goods	54 605	57 590	64 173	66 028
5147	Wholesale of other household goods	43 050	44 442	50 986	55 088
5154	Wholesale of hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	30 161	32 444	36 369	37 591
5152	Wholesale of metals and metal ores	20 290	28 251	37 406	35 829
5156	Wholesale of other intermediate products	33 100	32 333	29 109	30 757
5186	Wholesale of electronic parts	26 311	29 647	29 026	30 418
5142	Wholesale of clothing and footwear	20 694	21 502	23 549	26 233
5155	Wholesale of chemical products	21 516	21 505	25 372	21 073
5138	Wholesale of other food including fish, crustaceans and molluscs	18 381	17 819	18 144	19 312
5131	Wholesale of fruit and vegetables	18 490	16 550	17 452	18 770
5182	Wholesale of mining, construction and civil engineering machinery	8 174	9 135	11 078	12 980
5188	Wholesale of agricultural machinery and accessories and implements, including tractors	10 823	11 118	12 404	12 936
5121	Wholesale of grain, seeds and animal feeds	14 365	11 454	10 550	12 347
5157	Wholesale of waste and scrap	8 156	10 512	10 961	11 920
5185	Wholesale of other office machinery and equipment and office furniture	7 259	8 727	9 450	11 122
5136	Wholesale of sugar and chocolate and sugar confectionery	8 487	8 001	9 721	10 352
5134	Wholesale of alcoholic and other beverages	7 825	8 002	8 255	8 909
5145	Wholesale of perfume and cosmetics	6 414	6 401	7 217	8 153
5132	Wholesale of meat and meat products	7 376	6 971	12 071	7 657
5114	Agents involved in the sale of machinery, industrial equipment, ships and aircraft	6 374	4 894	5 755	6 760
5181	Wholesale of machine tools	5 327	5 621	5 865	6 683
5113	Agents involved in the sale of timber and building materials	2 922	3 739	4 010	6 464
5118	Agents specializing in the sale of particular products or ranges of products n.e.c.	6 053	4 189	5 068	6 247
5112	Agents involved in the sale of fuel, ores, metals and industrial chemicals	4 527	4 277	4 702	5 389
5141	Wholesale of textiles	4 689	4 952	5 370	5 185
5144	Wholesale of china and glassware, wallpaper and cleaning materials	5 647	5 114	5 154	4 851
5133	Wholesale of dairy produce, eggs and edible oils and fats	5 014	4 198	4 331	4 719
5122	Wholesale of flowers and plants	3 317	3 581	3 649	4 084

5190	Other wholesale	4 470	3 450	3 056	3 666
5117	Agents involved in the sale of food, beverages and tobacco	3 007	2 143	2 310	3 037
5116	Agents involved in the sale of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	2 073	2 239	2 105	2 291
5119	Agents involved in the sale of a variety of goods	1 301	2 288	2 241	2 193
5115	Agents involved in the sale of furniture, household goods, hardware and ironmongery	1 458	2 095	1 822	2 176
5135	Wholesale of tobacco products	7 193	2 797	2 254	1 809
5137	Wholesale of coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	511	582	580	686
5124	Wholesale of hides, skins and leather	681	680	635	501
5123	Wholesale of live animals	303	227	287	325
5183	Wholesale of machinery for the textile industry and of sewing and knitting machines	112	201	138	141
5111	Agents involved in the sale of agricultural raw materials, live animals, textile raw materials and semi-finished goods	65	82	72	92
5125	Wholesale of un-manufactured tobacco	9	7	6	6
Total turnover		855 163	893 842	977 128	1 068 511

A link between NACE Rev 1.1 and ISIC Rev 4.0 can be found in Annex 1. This is however an approximation but at a 3-digit-level the "translation" is good enough.

It should also be noted that large differences between the years not necessarily mean real economic changes. In many cases the cause is that enterprises change activity from one year to another. Since Statistics Sweden, through the SBS survey, gets to know the true activity of the enterprises it also means that the SBS is a very important source of code errors in the register. To always improve the Business Register there is a close cooperation between the Business Register Unit and the other units at Statistics Sweden.

6. Conclusions

Regarding turnover, wholesale trade is by far the largest 2-digit-level industry in Sweden with over 1 000 billion SEK, or more than one sixth of the total turnover. Regarding production value, which within the wholesale trade can be seen as the trade margin, wholesale trade is "only" the fourth largest industry (NACE 45, 74 and 34 is larger) with a share of approximately 6 percent of the total production value. There is no doubt, however, that all information that can be produced about wholesale trade is of major importance. Since the revision of the economic statistics in 2003 Statistics Sweden, and most importantly the National Accounts, now have annual statistics about turnover by product for the wholesale trade industry.

Annex 1 – NACE Rev 1.1

NACE Rev 1.1	ISIC Rev 4.0	
51.1	461	Wholesale on a fee or a contract basis
51.2	462	Wholesale of agricultural raw materials and live animals
51.3	463	Wholesale of food, beverages and tobacco
51.4	464	Wholesale of household goods
51.5	466	Wholesale of non-agricultural intermediate products, waste and scrap
51.8	465	Wholesale of machinery, equipment and supplies
51.9	469	Other wholesale