

User oriented quality report

Index of Persons Employed in Retail Trade

Generally

The index of persons employed in retail trade is a quarterly index that was first compiled in 2004 with 2000=100.0 as the base year and backdated data from the 1st quarter of 2000.

The indices of hours worked, as well as gross wages and salaries with base year 2010=100.0 are quarterly indices that are first compiled in 2016 and backdated data from the 1st quarter of 2010.

Purpose of the index – definitions

The purpose of the persons employed index is to show the development of employment in retail trade. The compilation of the index includes the number of persons employed in the enterprise irrespective of their status (owners, partners and their family members) and the nature of their work (managers, sales persons and auxiliary staff) and irrespective of whether they work on a provisional or seasonal basis, full time or part time, with or without remuneration.

The purpose of the hours worked index is to show the development in the volume of work done in retail trade from the total of persons employed (employers, own-account workers, salaried employees, unpaid family workers). The total number of hours worked represents the aggregate number of hours actually worked for the output of the enterprise during the reference period (quarter). Included are hours actually worked during normal working hours; hours worked in addition to those; time which is spent at the place of work on tasks such as preparing the site and time corresponding to short periods of rest at the work place. This variable excludes hours paid but not actually worked such as for annual leave, holidays and sickness leave. It also excludes meal breaks and commuting between home and work.

The purpose of the wages and salaries index is to approximate the development of the gross wages and salaries bill. Wages and salaries are defined as the total remuneration, in cash or in kind, payable to all persons counted on the payroll (including home workers), in return for work done during the accounting period, regardless of whether it is paid on the basis of working time, output or piecework and whether it is paid regularly.

Legal basis

The compilation of the index of persons employed in retail trade is governed by Council Regulation (EEC) No.1165/98 concerning short-term statistics., while the indices of hours worked, and gross wages and salaries are governed by the Commission Regulation (EC) No 329/2009 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98 concerning short-term statistics as regards the updating of the list of variables. In addition, all the above indices are governed by the Regulation No.1893/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the statistical classification of economic activities NACE Rev.2.

Reference period

Quarter.

Base year

2010=100.0.

Revision

Pursuant to the provisions of Council Regulation No 1165/98 concerning short-term statistics, the index in question is updated every five (5) years in years ending in 0 or 5.

Statistical classification

The NACE Rev.2 statistical classification of economic activities is used, in conformity with Regulation (EC) 1893/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council.

Geographical coverage

The indices cover the whole country, with data coming from 58 Regional Units.

Coverage of economic activities

The indices cover the division 47 of NACE Rev 2 statistical classification of economic activities of the European Parliament and the Council.

Statistical survey

For the compilation of indices of persons employed, hours worked, and wages and salaries in retail trade (2010=100.0), a sub-sample of enterprises is used, which was obtained from the existing sample of observation units from the turnover index in retail trade survey. More specifically, out of the 1607 enterprises included in the sample of the survey for the turnover index in retail trade (2010=100.0), 754 enterprises were selected covering all the design strata of the above survey, which resulted by crossing of 11 categories of aggregated economic classes and size classes of enterprises.

Calculating the indices

The indices of persons employed, hours worked and wages and salaries in retail trade are calculated as a chain index. First, the moving based index is calculated by comparing the estimated value (number of persons employed, hours worked, wages and salaries) for the current quarter with the corresponding value of the previous quarter. Afterwards the fixed base index for the current quarter is calculated by multiplying the moving-based index by the fixed base index of the previous quarter.

The hours worked index is reduced to a typical quarter of equal duration. To this end the hours worked estimates are multiplied by a suitable correction factor that is calculated by dividing the mean quarterly number of working days in the given year by the number of the regular working days in the quarter under consideration.

Compiled index series

The time series of the persons employed in retail trade is compiled from 1st quarter 2000 as follows: 1) Overall index, 2) Overall index except the automotive fuel sector, 3) Index in the food sector and 4) Overall index except food and automotive fuel sector. The time series of the hours worked, and wages and salaries indices are compiled from the 1st quarter 2010 at division level (code 47 of NACE Rev. 2).

Seasonal Adjustment

Seasonal adjustment is the procedure followed to remove the impact of seasonality on the time series of indices in order to improve the comparability over time. The method used is the TRAMO-SEAT method with the use of JDemetra 2.0.0. The whole series with seasonally adjusted indices is *recalculated* every time a *new* observation is added in time series.

Publication of data

The time series of the index of persons employed in retail trade (2010=100.0) have being published since 2000. The time series of the hours worked, and wages and salaries indices have being published since 2010.

References

More information on the methodology concerning the compilation and calculation of the indices and for the time series is available on the ELSTAT website:

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/DKT12/>