Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS)
Country: Greece
Compiling agency: ELSTAT
Domain name: International Trade in Goods by Enterprise Characteristics (T.E.C.), reference Year 2014

ELSTAT metadata

1. Contact	Top
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2. Introduction	Top

Statistics on International Trade in Goods (ITGS) by Enterprise Characteristics (TEC) are compiled yearly and refer to the total value of imports and exports on the basis of the sector of economic activity, employment size class, level of concentration, geographical diversification and products' trade. International Trade in Goods Statistics (ITGS), when combined with data on other characteristics of the enterprises, provide a

more comprehensive view of international trade transactions. The data on International Trade in Goods by Enterprise Characteristics are compiled pursuant to Regulations 638/2004 and 471/2009 as are amended of the European Parliament and of the Council.

3. Metadata update	Top
3.1 Metadata last certified	DECEMBER 2016
3.2 Metadata last posted	DECEMBER 2016
3.3 Metadata last update	DECEMBER 2016

4. Statistical presentation	Top

4.1 Data description

TEC statistics describe the structure of trade by characteristics of the trading enterprises. The scope of TEC is the same as for monthly International Trade in Goods Statistics (ITGS).
The TEC data refer to the following variables:
- flow
- activity sector
- enterprise size class
- partner
- commodity
- type of trader

4.2 Classification system

The classification system follows:
- Commodity by the Combined Nomenclature (CN) which is the classification used within the EU for the purposes of collecting and processing international trade statistics (both intra- and extra-Community) in order to categorise goods, based on the Harmonised commodity description and coding System (HS).
- Country by GEONOMENCLATURE. Trade flows are broken down by partner country, in accordance with the 'Nomenclature of countries and territories for the international trade statistics of the Community and statistics of trade between Member States'
- International economic activity classification NACE Rev.2.
- Products by Activity (CPA). The following breakdowns are used:
  • CPA divisions for section C (divisions 10 to 32)
  • Section level for the products of sections A, B, D and E
  • Other for rest of the products
- Employment size-class
  • 0 to 9 employees
  • 10 to 49 employees
  • 50 to 249 employees
  • 250 or more employees

4.3 Sector coverage

The sector coverage for economic activities (NACE Rev. 2) refers to:
  • Section level for sections A, B, D, E, F, H, J, K, L, M, N.
  • Division level for sections C (10 to 33) and G (45 to 47).
  • Other for activities I and O to U.

4.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Trade value: is the value of traded goods, calculated at national frontiers and as a FOB (free on board) basis for exports and dispatches and a CIF (cost, insurance, freight) basis for imports and arrivals. Hence, only incidental expenses (freight, insurance) are included and they are incurred for:

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- ✓ exports and dispatches: in the part of the journey located on the territory of the Member State where the goods are exported from;
- ✓ imports and arrivals: in the part of the journey located outside the territory of the Member State where the goods are imported to.

Partner country: for dispatches and exports it is the country of destination of the goods. That is the last country to which it is known that, at the time of dispatch/export, the goods are to be delivered. For imports, the definition of the partner country differs between Intrastat and Extrastat. For extra-EU imports it is the country of origin of the goods; for intra-EU arrivals it is the country (EU Member State) of consignment of goods.

Product: the outcome of economic activity of an enterprise.

Economic activity: is said to take place when resources such as equipment, labour, manufacturing techniques, information networks or products are combined, leading to the creation of specific goods or services.

Number of employees: persons who work for an employer.

Type of trader: specifies the type of trade activity of the enterprise (involved only in exports or only imports or trade in both flows).

4.5 Statistical unit

- Legal persons in the framework of Intra EU Trade system.
- Legal persons submitting custom declaration in a Member State in the framework of Extra EU Trade, on condition that the customs procedure has statistical relevance.

4.6 Statistical population

The statistical population is based on the guidelines of the United Nations regarding the compilation of ITGS and includes all the goods that add or subtract from the stock of material resources of the reference country during the time of arrival/import or dispatch/export of the economic territory, including goods being intended for processing.

TEC data are allocated to the following populations for each trade flow concerning the whole reference year, according to Compilers guide on European statistics on international trade in goods by enterprise characteristics (TEC):

Population 1: Total trade (including adjustments for trade below thresholds and non-response).

Population 7: This population includes all traders who have reported trade transactions under the Intrastat declaration, VAT data for non-collected intra-EU trade (trade below the exemption threshold and nonresponse), customs data or data stemming from any other source in case of specific goods and movements.

Population 8: This population concerns traders who have reported trade transactions under a valid ID number and are successfully matched with the International Trade in Goods Statistics (ITGS) register and Business Register. The reference population 8 is used in all TEC tables. It can be derived from population 7 by excluding traders who can be matched with the previously mentioned registers but whose activity sector is unknown or missing (Population 5).

Population 5: Unclassified trade

Unclassified trade refers to traders with valid ID numbers but with an activity sector that cannot be identified either due to non-matching or due to missing information on the activity sector.

Population 6: Unknown trade

It consists of traders with invalid, artificial or missing ID numbers which cannot be associated to any identified trader. Moreover, non-established traders are allocated to unknown trade, if they are not included in the Business Register.

4.7 Reference area

All regions of Greece are covered. The statistical territory of Greece coincides with their customs territory as defined in Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No. 2913/92 of 12 October 1992 establishing the Community Customs Code, as amended.

4.8 Time coverage

2009-2014

4.9 Base period
Not applicable.

5. Unit of measure

The characteristics that correspond to population sizes (e.g number of enterprises, number of persons employed etc.) are recorded in units. The characteristics that correspond to values are recorded in euro and compiled in thousand euros.

6. Reference period

Calendar Year

7. Institutional mandate

7.1 Legal acts and other agreements

The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is as follows:

➢ **Law 3832/2010** (Government Gazette No 38, Issue A): *"Hellenic Statistical System Establishment of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) as an Independent Authority",* as amended and in force

➢ **Regulation on the Operation and Administration of the Hellenic Statistical Authority** (ELSTAT), 2012, (Government Gazette No 2390, Issue B, 28-8-2012)

➢ **Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council**, on the European statistics (Official Journal of the European Union L 87/164).

➢ **Article 14 of the Law 3470/2006** (Government Gazette No 132, Issue A): *"National Export Council, tax regulations and other provisions"*.

➢ **Article 3, paragraph 1c, of the Law 3448/2006** (Government Gazette No 57, Issue A): *"For the further use of information coming from the public sector and the settlement of matters falling within the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization"*.

➢ **European Statistics Code of Practice**, adopted by the Statistical Programme Committee on 24 February 2005 and promulgated in the Commission Recommendation of 25 May 2005 on the independence, integrity and accountability of the national and Community statistical Authorities, after its revision, which was adopted on 28 September 2011 by the European Statistical System Committee.

➢ **Presidential Decree 226/2000** (Government Gazette No 195, Issue A): *"Organization of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece"*.

➢ **Articles 4, 12 , 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Law 2392/1996** (Government Gazette No 60, Issue A): *"Access of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece to administrative sources and administrative files, Statistical Confidentiality Committee, settlement of matters concerning the conduct of censuses and statistical works, as well as of matters of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece".*

The Legal Framework is detailed in the following link:
http://www.statistics.gr/en/legal-framework

Statistics of international trade of goods statistics (ITGS) are compiled according to the EU Regulations:

• EXTRA EU-TRADE with non EU Member States - in accordance with the criteria set out in E.E.C. Council Regulation 471/2009 and Commission Regulations 113/2010 and 92/2010

• INTRA EU TRADE with EU Member States is assessed in accordance with European Parliament and Council Regulation 638/2004 as it was amended by 222/2009 laying down the implementing provisions of Commission Regulations 91/2010 and 96/2010. They are collected via the Intrastat system which came into operation on 1 January 1993 when it replaced customs declarations as the source of trade statistics within the EU.

Paragraph 8c of Council Regulation (EC) No 222/2009 on Community statistics relating to the trading of

goods between Member States and article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 471/2009 on Community statistics relating to external trade with non-member countries; specify that national authorities shall compile annual statistics on trade by business characteristics.

Specifically, article 13a of Commission Regulation (EU) No 96/2010 on Community statistics relating to the trading of goods between Member States, as regards the simplification threshold, trade by business characteristics, specific goods and movements and nature of transaction codes, specifies that: 'National authorities shall compile annual statistics on trade by business characteristics. The statistical units shall be enterprises as defined in the Annex to Council Regulation (EEC) No 696/93. Statistical units are constructed by linking the identification number allocated to the party responsible for providing information pursuant to Article 9(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 638/2004 with the legal unit of the Business Register in accordance with the variable 1.7a referred to in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 177/2008 of the European Parliament and ofthe Council'.

| **7.2 Data sharing** |
| There aren't any. |

8. Confidentiality

| **8.1 Confidentiality policy** |
| The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are arranged by articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Law 3832/2010 as in force, by Articles 8, 10 and 11(2) of the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System and by Articles 10 and 15 of the Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT.
More precisely: ELSTAT disseminates the statistics in compliance with the statistical principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice and in particular with the principle of statistical confidentiality.
http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-confidentiality?inheritRedirect=true |

| **8.2 Confidentiality – data treatment** |
| ELSTAT protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units that have provided them by the disclosure of individual information directly received for statistical purposes or indirectly supplied from administrative or other sources. ELSTAT takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by ELSTAT if and only if:
a) these data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS), in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or
b) the statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.
The confidential data that are transmitted by ELSS agencies to ELSTAT are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task and appointed by an act of the President of ELSTAT.
ELSTAT may grant researchers conducting statistical analyses for scientific purposes access to data that enable the indirect identification of the statistical units concerned. The access is granted provided the following conditions are satisfied:
a) an appropriate request together with a detailed research proposal in conformity with current scientific standards have been submitted;
b) the research proposal indicates in sufficient detail the set of data to be accessed, the methods of analyzing them, and the time needed for the research;
c) a contract specifying the conditions for access, the obligations of the researchers, the measures for respecting the confidentiality of statistical data and the sanctions in case of breach of these obligations has been signed by the individual researcher, by his/her institution, or by the organization commissioning the research, as the case may be, and by ELSTAT. Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the Statistical |

Confidentiality Committee (SCC) operating in ELSTAT. The responsibilities of this Committee are to make recommendations to the President of ELSTAT on:

- the level of detail at which statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible;
- the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users;
- the granting to researchers access to confidential data for scientific purposes.

➢ The staff of ELSTAT, under any employment status, as well as the temporary survey workers who are employed for the collection of statistical data in statistical surveys conducted by ELSTAT, who acquire access by any means to confidential data, are bound by the principle of confidentiality and must use these data exclusively for the statistical purposes of ELSTAT. After the termination of their term of office, they are not allowed to use these data for any purpose.

➢ Violation of data confidentiality and/or statistical confidentiality by any civil servant or employee of ELSTAT constitutes the disciplinary offence of violation of duty and may be punished with the penalty of final dismissal.

➢ ELSTAT, by its decision, may impose a penalty amounting from ten thousand (10,000) up to two hundred thousand (200,000) euros to anyone who violates the confidentiality of data and/or statistical confidentiality. The penalty is always imposed after the hearing of the defense of the person liable for the breach, depending on the gravity and the repercussions of the violation. Any relapse constitutes an aggravating factor for the assessment of the administrative sanction.

9. Release policy	Top

9.1 Release calendar

Publications related to the international trade in goods by enterprise characteristics are presented in ELSTAT's press release calendar.

9.2 Release calendar access

The release calendar is available on the ELSTAT's website in the following link:
http://www.statistics.gr/en/calendar

9.3 User access

Press release including tables of results of the international trade in goods by enterprise characteristics, is published in the ELSTAT's website in the following link:
http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SFC08/-

10. Frequency of dissemination	Top

TEC data are transmitted to Eurostat within 18 months after the end of the reference year.
 The data are compiled annually.

11. Dissemination format	Top

11.1 News release

Regarding the international trade in goods by enterprise characteristics a Press Release including tables of data, for the reference year 2014, is published.
http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SFC08/-

11.2 Publications

The means of dissemination used so that the IFATS data is made available to public, except for the ELSTAT's website, is ELSTAT's database and other online publications such as: e-mail, fax etc.

11.3 On-line database

11.3.1 Data tables - consultations

Visits reached 1107 views at total.

11.4 Micro-data access
Microdata are made available to users only in the case of approval of the Committee of Statistical Confidentiality. Microdata are made available to users after they are submitting a request to the: Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) Division of Statistical Information and Publications, 46 Peiraios and Eponiton Str., P.O. Box: 80847, 18510 Piraeus Tel: :+30 213 135173,Fax: :+30 213 135022, e-mail : data.dissem@statistics.gr)
11.5 Other
11.5.1 Metadata – consultations

12. Accessibility of documentation   Top

12.1 Documentation on methodology
12.1.1 Metadata completeness - rate
The completeness of metadata is estimated at 100%.
12.2 Quality documentation
ELSTAT compiles, detailed annual quality report for the International Trade in Goods Statistics based on Eurostat's requirements. TEC quality indicators refer to relevance, accuracy and timeliness and punctuality. Detailed quality report for the reference year 2012, in the format required by the European institutional framework is available at the ELSTAT's portal : http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SFC02/2012-M01 The Quality Report will be compiled and transmitted to Eurostat, during February 2017 as required, and will be available at the ELSTAT's portal.

13. Quality management   Top

13.1 Quality assurance
The quality policy of ELSTAT is described in the following linκ: http://www.statistics.gr/en/policies
13.2 Quality assessment
A wide range of data completeness, reliability and validity controls is implemented in order to ensure high quality data. The Intrastat and Extrastat Regulations include detailed provisions on the annual quality reporting procedure. Starting from 2012, TEC was included in this procedure.

14. Relevance   Top

14.1 User needs
The main users are Enterprises, Ministries, Universities etc. User needs are monitored on a daily basis.
14.2 User satisfaction
ELSTAT conducts a user satisfaction survey as well as an annual users' Congress in which all potential users are invited to express their opinion and their needs regarding Statistical data.The results of the user satisfaction survey is in the following link: http://www.statistics.gr/en/user-satisfaction-survey
14.3 Completeness
All TEC mandatory tables are compiled. Additionally, the International Trade in Goods Statistics are covering all mandatory variables, as well as part of the optional, as defined by the relevant EU Regulations.

15. Accuracy and reliability

15.1 Overall accuracy

The International Trade in Goods Statistics are based on census data, given the fact that high rates of coverage are required within the European institutional framework and the methods of calculating estimations on Intra EU trade are based on administrative data sources.

15.2 Sampling error

The International Trade in Goods Statistics do not appear to have sampling errors, it is about a census survey.

15.3 Non-sampling error

For the year 2014 the data collection covers 95.87% of arrivals and 97.95% of dispatches and the rest is estimated based on data derived from administrative sources.

15.3.1 Coverage error

15.3.1.1 Over-coverage – rate

15.3.1.2 Common units – proportion

15.3.2 Measurement error

15.3.3 Non response error

15.3.4 Processing error

15.3.5 Model assumption error

16. Timeliness and punctuality

16.1 Timeliness

The TEC datasets are complied eighteen (18) months after the end of the reference year.

16.2 Punctuality

The transmission of the TEC data to Eurostat is carried out within eighteen (18) months after the end of the reference year, as envisaged by the European regulatory framework.

17. Comparability

17.1 Comparability - geographical

For compiling TEC data, the EU Regulations and the methodological principles of "Eurostat Compilers guide on European statistics on international trade in goods by enterprise characteristics (TEC)" are implemented, thus ensuring the comparability of European statistics.

17.1.1 Assymetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient

Not applicable.

17.2 Comparability over time

The compiled data are checked for their over-time comparability.

18. Coherence

18.1 Coherence cross-domain

18.1.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

TEC data have high cross-domain coherence between International Trade in Goods Statistics.

18.1.2 Coherence – National Accounts

TEC data have cross-sectoral consistency with national accounts statistics, as ITGS is the main source of their compilation.

18.2 Coherence - internal
The compilation method of International Trade in Goods Statistics is based on comprehensive, systematic and standardized methods of data collection thus achieving high internal consistency of the data. The internal consistency of ITGS is ensured by comparing the data with the data deriving from administrative sources.

19. Cost and burden

Data collection is mainly based on web applications and IT tools and there are no additional costs for TEC compilation.

20. Data revision

20.1 Revision policy
Data revision, if needed, is based on the Circular Revision Policy of ELSTAT that is available at the link: http://www.statistics.gr/en/policies

20.2 Revision practice
For reference year 2014 there were no revisions.

21. Statistical processing

21.1 Source data
- Intrastat is an exhaustive statistical survey. The parties responsible for providing statistical information through Intrastat System are the enterprises which perform intra EU trade transactions and they have exceeded the applied statistical thresholds. The statistical data of Intra EU-Trade include also the transactions of the enterprises, which are not obliged to submit Intrastat data since the value of their transactions is below the applied statistical threshold. In compliance with the obligations provided in the EU Regulations regarding the compilation of Intra EU-Trade statistics, these transactions are estimated on the basis of the Recapitulative Statements of Intra-EU Deliveries and Acquisitions that all the enterprises are obliged to submit to the Ministry of Finance. - Extrastat is a statistical survey where data are collected by administrative sources for the compilation mainly of Extra EU trade transactions. The Customs Authorities collect the relevant statistical data on trade by filling in the Single Administrative Document (SAD). All the transactions with third countries above the amount of 1.000 euros are registered. In the beginning of each month Customs Authorities transmit to Hellenic Statistical Authority an electronic file with the customs data of statistical relevance of the previous month. - Business Register

21.2 Frequency of data collection
Monthly data

21.3 Data collection
Data collection is mainly based on web applications and IT tools.

21.4 Data validation
A wide range of completeness, reliability and validation quality controls are applied in order to ensure data quality, including inter-dataset validation and consistency checks. Before the data transmission to Eurostat, the data are checked and validated with the EDIT validation tool. For any errors or warnings which may arise, either explanatory comments are transmitted or corrections are made for their elimination. When Eurostat receives the final data and the explanatory reports of the survey, it conducts the final checks and before the final publication of the data it asks for the approval of the MS.

21.5 Data compilation
The procedure for the compilation of statistics on trade by enterprise characteristics (TEC) is described as

follows:

- ➢ The trade value of each trader is linked with in the ITGS Register and the Business Register.
  A number of tables (datasets) according to the data requirements are generated. The reference population 8 is used in all TEC tables:
  0. Reference populations
  1. Trade by activity sector and type of trader
  2. Trade by activity sector and enterprise size class
  3. Concentration of trade by activity
  4. Trade by partner countries and activity
  5. Trade by number of partner countries and activity
  6. Trade by commodity and activity
- ➢ The breakdown variables used in the production of the Tables are:
  - ✓ Flow : imports and exports
  - ✓ Activity sector: The requested data on TEC have to be made available according to NACE Rev. 2 classification. Three different levels of breakdowns are used:
    1. Aggregated breakdown in tables 3, 4 and 5:
       - Industry (B to E)
       - Trade (G)
       - (A,F, H to U)
    2. Normal breakdown in tables 1, 2 and 6:
       - Division level for sections C (10 to 33) and G (45 to 47)
       - Section level for sections A, B, D, E, F, H, J, K, L, M, N
       - Other for activities I and O to U
       - Unknown
       - Total
  - ✓ Enterprise size class: measured in numbers of employees. For the purpose of TEC, the following classification is used:
    - 0 to 9 employees
    - 10 to 49 employees
    - 50 to 249 employees
    - 250 or more employees
    - Unknown (_U)
    - Total (_T)
  - ✓ Concentration of trade: expressed in terms of trade value concentrated in a few top enterprises. 'Top enterprises' are the largest enterprises measured in terms of trade value. The following classification is used:
    - Top 5 enterprises (T5)
    - Top 10 enterprises (T10)
    - Top 20 enterprises (T20)
    - Top 50 enterprises (T50)
    - Top 100 enterprises (T100)
    - Top 500 enterprises (T500)
    - Top 1000 enterprises (T1000)
    - Total (_T)
  - ✓ Partner: The requested data on TEC is broken down into a)Total trade (WORLD), b) Intra-EU trade (EU28) and c)Extra-EU trade (EXT_EU28).
  - ✓ Number of partner countries: The number of partner countries is calculated by counting first the number of individual partner countries of each enterprise. The enterprises with the same number of partner countries are then summed up to form the following first seven classes:
    - 1 partner country
    - 2 partner countries

- 3 to 5 partner countries
- 6 to 9 partner countries
- 10 to 14 partner countries
- 15 to 19 partner countries
- 20 or more partner countries
- Unknown (_U)
- Total (_T)

✓ Commodity: The requested data on TEC have to be made available according to the Classification of Products by Activity in the European Economic Activity (CPA 2008).The following breakdowns is used:
- CPA divisions for section C (divisions 10 to 32);
- Section level for the products of sections A, B, D and E;
- Other for rest of the products (_O);
- Unknown (_U) for the products which are not classified at CN8 level. These include also estimates of trade below the exemption threshold;
- Total (_T).

✓ Type of trader: Enterprises are broken down according to their trade activity into traders who have only export activities, traders who have only import activities and traders who have trade activities in both flows.
- Exporter only (EXP)
- Importer only (IMP)
- Two-way trader (TWT)

✓ Three other categories are derived:
- All importers (IMPT = IMP + TWT)
- All exporters (EXPT = EXP + TWT)
- All trading enterprises (_T = EXP + IMP + TWT)

Compilation instruction in Table 1: the categorization of traders has to be based on the total trade (partner world), taking into account all data sources. Every enterprise can be categorized to only one class (EXP or IMP or TWT). After categorization, it is included in the counting of number of enterprises and contribution to the trade value by flow and partner.

21.6 Adjustment

21.6.1 Seasonal adjustment
Not applicable.

22. Comment