

# **REPORT**

## **ON PRESENT SITUATION OF SERVICES STATISTICS IN THE LITHUANIAN DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS**

The Lithuanian statistics was a part of the Soviet statistics before the restoration of independence of the Republic of Lithuania. So the Lithuanian statistics including services statistics was conducted according to the directives directed from Moscow.

Statistical reports on sales of services to households from union, union-republican, and republican ministries of enterprises and organizations were collected. Differently from today, plans of the mentioned ministries were adopted for every kind of sales of services. After the reports were collected, the plans were coordinated with all ministries. Half year and annual publications were issued on sales of services to households.

After the restoration of independence, it was begun to change the statistical system using methodical and material aid from foreign countries and international statistical institutions.

It was begun to reorientate services statistics as well on the basis of international experience and requirements. NACE was started to use since 1993. Following this classification, data are collected and presented by these kinds of services:

- repair and maintenance of motorvehicles and motorcycles;
- repair of personal and household goods;
- services of hotels, rest-homes and others establishments of temporary accommodation;
- passenger transport services;
- activities of turizm enterprices;
- post and communications services;
- incuranse;
- real estate services;
- leasing and rent of machinery and equipment, personal and household goods;
- compiuters and related services;
- R&D and applied research;
- other business services;
- education services;
- health care and social services;
- sewage and refuse disposal services;

- recreation, cultural and sporting services;
- miscellaneous services;
- other services.

Services sold not only to households but enterprises and institutions are reported since 1994, too.

Quarterly and annual statistical reports on services are collected from enterprises of all types of ownership with the main activity of sales of services. Statistical reports are collected from enterprises selling services for which is a secondary activity (e. g. construction, production enterprises). The main indicators received from enterprises are the following: a volume of services rendered and the number of employees. Enterprises present information to regional statistical offices which check it, enter to computers and present to the Department of Statistics in Vilnius. Enterprises submit statistical information on the basis of the Law on Statistics. The Law on Statistics provides for measures to guarantee data confidentiality and reliability.

The Enterprise Register is used for making up a list of enterprises rendering services.

At present, small private enterprises selling various services are established. These enterprises present declarations on their financial activity for tax inspectorates every quarter. The Department of Statistics gets this information from the Tax Inspectorate every quarter. Nevertheless, the information got on volume of services sold and the number of employees of small private enterprises is aggregated but not by every enterprise and this causes many difficulties. The number of natural and legal people buying patents and selling services is increasing today. A volume of services sold is estimated as well.

Post and communication services of enterprises are reported cooperating with the Ministry of Communications and Informatics. Monthly, quarterly and annual data are presented. The main indicators of post and communication activity are the following: post dispatches (international and local), telephones of households, business telephones, distribution of telephones in urban and rural areas, automatic digital telephone exchange, duration of talks(international and local), and other.

Information on production of services is presented every quarter for the National Accounts Division. Estimating production of enterprises engaged in services rendering, information not only from services reports collected by the division but from enterprises reports on financial indicators unified for all activities is used. According to this report, non-financial enterprises (i. e. enterprises with the purpose to produce goods and to sell non-financial services for the market and

to get a profit present the indicators of capital, profit, income, expenditure, taxes, employees.

Two annual statistical publications on services are issued: an abstract "Sales of services to households" and a bulletin "Sales of services". Information on services is presented in the Yearbook of the Department of Statistics.

Trade, Transport, and Service Division is the main organizer of services statistics. 4 employees are engaged in the field of services statistics.

One of the main problems organizing services statistics is inaccuracies in the Enterprise Register because one part of enterprises are registered as enterprises engaged in services rendering but conducting construction and production activities (i. e. dwellings maintenance, sewing, and similar). So it is difficult to estimate the production made in enterprises engaged in services rendering. Other part of enterprises of the register do not indicate any activity. This causes many problems to conduct samplings. It is necessary to have a register of enterprises engaged in services rendering in which not only the main activity of enterprise but other activities are marked.

In addition, it is complicated to compare indicators of previous years with present data because of classifications, calculation methodics changed.

Services questionnaire (annual and quarterly) used at present is not specialized by separate services kinds so new specialized questionnaires by separate services kinds are under preparation at the time. This will allow to have more detail and reliable information on services.

CPA is used to report services in many countries. Translation and adaptation of it is conducted now in the Department of Statistics. Maybe this classifier will be used in the field of services in the future.

Therefore, we have many problems with the services statistics and hope to solve them successfully.

The fulfilling of a joint project "Improvement of statistics to business activities" with Denmark has been started at the middle of 1997. We hope that services statistics will take an appropriate place. The experience of Danish specialists would be very useful improving services statistics.

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