

EXPLANATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

Far-reaching political and economic changes, the emergence of new independent states in the region, currency reforms etc., have also been affecting the quality and comparability of available statistics (the latest changes include the separate compilation of time series for Serbia, Montenegro and the EU accession of eight Central and East European countries in May 2004). During the period covered, the transition countries have been revamping their statistical systems, replacing old reporting methods with the concepts, classifications and methodologies used in market economies, especially of the European Union. As in other areas, the individual countries' progress in this respect has been uneven. Data coverage, especially of the expanding private sector, is usually incomplete. Statistics are being frequently revised several years backward, definitions and coverage change. These and other problems still adversely affect the data comparability over time, across individual transition countries and with advanced market economies. Wherever possible and meaningful, the euro (EUR, until end-1998 ECU) has been used as a common currency denominator in this handbook.

The most important definitions, qualifications and methodological changes are quoted in footnotes accompanying the respective tables. Below, some more general abbreviations and definitions used in the handbook are listed.

Conventional signs and abbreviations:

*	preliminary (all 2004 data are preliminary)
.	not available
p.a.	per annum
mn	million (10^6)
bn	billion (10^9)
CMFY	change in % against corresponding month of previous year
CCPY	change in % against cumulated corresponding period of previous year

Country codes:

AL	Albania	MK	Macedonia
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	PL	Poland
BG	Bulgaria	RO	Romania
HR	Croatia	RU	Russia
CZ	Czech Republic	CS	Serbia and Montenegro
EE	Estonia	SK	Slovak Republic
HU	Hungary	SI	Slovenia
LV	Latvia	UA	Ukraine
LT	Lithuania		

Currency abbreviations:

ALL	Albanian lek
BAM	Bosnian convertible mark (introduced June 1998)
BGN	Bulgarian lev (new denomination from 5 July 1999)
HRK	Croatian kuna (introduced 30 May 1994)
CSD	Serbian dinar (new denomination from 24 January 1994)
CZK	Czech koruna (introduced 8 February 1993)
EEK	Estonian kroon (introduced 20 June 1992)
EUR	Montenegrin euro (introduced 1 January 2002)
HUF	Hungarian forint
LVL	Latvian lats (introduced March 1993)
LTL	Lithuanian litas (introduced 25 June 1993)
MKD	Macedonian denar (new denomination from 1 May 1993)
PLN	Polish zloty (new denomination from 1 January 1995)
RON	Romanian leu (new denomination from 1 July 2005)
RUB	Russian rouble (new denomination from 1 January 1998)
SKK	Slovak koruna (introduced 8 February 1993)
SIT	Slovenian tolar (introduced 8 October 1991)
UAH	Ukrainian hryvnia (introduced 2 September 1996)
USD	US dollar
ECU	European Currency Unit
EUR	euro (introduced 1 January 2002)
PPP	purchasing power parity
Note:	Data are expressed in currency denominations valid in 2005 (e.g. Romanian data for 1990-2005 are expressed in re-denominated leu).

Country groupings:

EU-25	European Union (15 countries plus NMS-10)
EU-15	European Union (15 countries prior to enlargement on 1st May 2004)
NMS	New Member States (i.e. Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia)
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States (12 republics of the former Soviet Union, i.e. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan)

Economic activities and commodity trade classifications:

SNA	System of National Accounts
ESA	European System of Accounts (ESA 1995)
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification
NACE	Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans les communautés européennes, rev. 1 (at 1-digit level identical with ISIC)
NACE rev. 1 / ISIC rev. 3 (at one-digit level)	
A	Agriculture, hunting and forestry
B	Fishing
C	Mining and quarrying
D	Manufacturing
E	Electricity, gas and water supply
F	Construction
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods
H	Hotels and restaurants
I	Transport, storage and communications
J	Financial intermediation
K	Real estate, renting and business activities
L	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
M	Education
N	Health and social work
O	Other community, social and personal service activities
P	Private households with employed persons
Q	Extra-territorial organizations and bodies

SITC	Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), rev. 3
SITC 0	Food and live animals
SITC 1	Beverages and tobacco
SITC 2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels
SITC 3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials
SITC 4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes
SITC 5	Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.
SITC 6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material
SITC 7	Machinery and transport equipment
SITC 8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles
SITC 9	Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC
HS	Harmonized System of Goods Description and Coding
CN	Combined Nomenclature - identical with HS at the first level
I.	Live animals, animal products
II.	Vegetable products
III.	Fats, oils and waxes
IV.	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages; tobacco
V.	Mineral products
VI.	Products of the chemical or allied industries
VII.	Plastics, rubber and articles thereof
VIII.	Raw hides and skins, leather, furskins and articles thereof
IX.	Wood, articles of wood; basketware; charcoal; cork
X.	Materials and products of paper industry
XI.	Textiles and textile articles
XII.	Footwear, headgear and accessories of fashion
XIII.	Articles of stone, plaster, cement; ceramic products; glassware
XIV.	Pearls, precious stones and metals and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin
XV.	Base metals and articles of base metal
XVI.	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; sound and image recorders and reproducers
XVII.	Vehicles and associated transport equipment
XVIII.	Optical, medical and measuring instruments; clocks and watches; musical instruments
XIX.	Arms and ammunition
XX.	Miscellaneous manufactured articles
XXI.	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques

Other abbreviations:

BOP	Balance of Payments
COICOP	Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose
CPI	Consumer Price Index
ECB	European Central Bank
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FISIM	Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GMP	Gross Material Product
LFS	Labour Force Survey
NFS	Non-Factor Services
NPISH	Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households
PPI	Producer Price Index
ULC	Unit Labour Costs
VAT	Value Added Tax