

فــركــز الإحــصــاء STATISTICS CENTRE

Information Technology and Communications

Statistics Methodology

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Overview

The Statistics Center - Abu Dhabi has conducted a set of specialized economic surveys targeting the identification of the characteristics of the activities of establishments operating in the Emirate and providing the necessary basic data and information relating to these establishments. This is intended to prepare a set of the most important indicators of national accounts according to the system of national accounts [SNA 1993]. The survey of information and communication technology (ICT) is one of these surveys.

Importance

The importance of this survey derives from providing data on the number of employees and their compensation, details of intermediate consumption, revenues and capital formation; these are the most important data necessary for preparing national accounts.

Objectives

- Providing the necessary data to prepare national accounts and estimate the contribution of different activities to the gross domestic product.
- Providing the necessary data to support policies and making economic decisions in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and measuring these policies.
- Providing the necessary data for businessmen and investors to take the appropriate decisions and evaluate their investment decisions.
- Contributing to the provision of a strong base of the statistical data on the overall economy in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi whether as regards traditional activities or the ten activities of future development.
- Contributing to the provision of the necessary data to estimate the extent of economic diversification and the development taking place in non-oil sectors.
- Contributing towards building a national statistical system in the United Arab Emirates.

Concepts and Definitions

Establishment: a unit or part of a unit having a fixed location and performing one of the productive activities (pertinent to goods or services), or its major productive activity generates the greatest part of the value-added and is performed under one management, which may have regular accounts, and the owner of the unit is a natural or juridical person irrespective of the legal entity.

Employees: the number of employees in the establishment whether they work full-time or part-time (nationals or non-nationals). This comprises absentees on sick or periodic leaves, or training sessions, or scholarships, etc., excluding trainee, seconded and approved for job students who do not receive salaries during the survey year. To obtain the average number of male and female employees in the establishment during the year, the number of employees at end of each month is added up and the sum is divided by (12).

Employee compensation: the salaries, cash wages and the regular and special in-kind and social benefits due to the employees during the survey year. The compensation employees receive in-kind comprises accommodation, transportation and benefits in-kind in addition to contributions to the Social Security Authority which are paid on behalf of employees to insurance companies and social security. This also includes what companies pay to employees for their medical treatment, either directly or indirectly, to insurance companies for medical insurance purposes.

Intermediate consumption: the total requirements of goods (which is the total value of goods and materials used in the production process as requirements for the production of other goods or services) and the requirements of services (which are the services required by the production processes performed by others for the establishment).

Gross value of Production: This is total revenue whether from major or secondary activities of the activities of the ICT establishments.

Value-added Tax: the value of production minus the value of intermediate consumption.

It is a concept relating to production and refers to the value generated by any unit practicing any production activity. Total value added is defined as the quotient of subtracting intermediate consumption from gross production. Net value added is obtained by subtracting consumption of fixed capital from gross value added. Net value added reflects the level of the production activity in a better way

Fixed capital formation: expenditure on fixed capital goods plus change in stock.

Capital formation means all capital expenditure that the company spends on capital goods such as machinery, equipment, instruments, tools, construction and building, transportation, moving location, computers and computer programs, and other capital goods purchased by telecommunications companies during the year (Generally goods that have a product cycle time of more than a year).

Consumption of Fixed Capital (depreciation): This is the decrease in the value of fixed assets (except land and goodwill) as a result of normal use or wear and tear or project obsolescence by the passage of time.

Paid-up capital: the amount that has been paid of the value of shares presented to public offering in case of joint stock companies; as for other establishments it is the value of capital actually paid by the partners or owner in addition to any changes by increase or decrease in the capital until the end of the survey year.

Goods and services requirements: The requirements of goods and services are all the operational expenditure incurred by the company whether being expenditure on goods such as fuel, oil, raw materials, spare parts or other necessary goods for the purposes of the production process. These also include expenditure on services such as rents and expenditure on transportation, moving offices, communication, guards and other expenditure in the form of a service that is necessary for completing the production process.

Geographical Coverage and Statistical Unit

Statistical Unit: The statistical unit where data is collected and is used for the purpose of statistics is the "establishment" engaged in the activity as a main one.

Geographical Coverage: The survey covers the establishments working in the ITC activity in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi over three regions: Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Dhafra.

Frequency

The publication is issued annually on the financial data of the previous year.

Classifications

- International Standard Industrial Classification 4 ISIC 4
- System of National Accounts [SNA 1993], [SNA 2008]

Main Data Sources

Field survey (Information and Communications Technology survey)

Survey Questionnaire

When depending on field survey in collecting data, the form has been designed to contain all the data that achieve the objectives of the survey, including the following:

- Introductory and general data on the establishment.
- Number of employees by gender, nationality and compensation.
- Production requirements.
- Revenues of the major activity and secondary activities as well as financial revenues.
- Data on current and non-current assets.
- Fixed assets (non-current assets).
- Current and non-current liabilities.
- Propriety rights data.

Sample Design

The survey frame consists of all the establishments operating in the activity inside the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and involves using the stratified random sampling method whereby establishments are divided into strata according to the employees in the following way:

- Large establishments: these establishments are comprehensively surveyed.
- Medium establishments: a sample is drawn.
- Small establishments: a sample is drawn.
- Micro establishments: a sample is drawn.

Data Collection

The data collection process is divided into the following stages:

- Preparatory stage: This stage involves identifying the objectives of the survey, designing the form, preparing training booklets, editing and field and office review.
- Field work Stage: The field work is conducted by preselected enumerators, trained according to specific criteria and distributed into teams. The progress of work shall be supervised by the field supervisor and controllers.

Data Editing

In the case of field survey, editing data is performed in three stages:

- **Field editing:** This is the first stage of editing where observers check forms in the field before submitting them to the office editing.
- **Desk editing:** The second stage of editing begins after handing in the readymade forms to the office editing gradually where the forms are fully audited. In case there are mistakes the type of error shall be identified and treated in the office or by contacting the establishment. After this, forms are coded and sent to the department of data entry.
- Electronic editing: The Data is entered according to the electronic program prepared for this
 purpose and this process takes place directly after the end of editing and coding each form. Then
 statements including the preliminary findings of the survey are extracted and checked to make
 sure that that the data is correct and consistent. After that the previously prepared multiplier
 factors are entered, the entry of data is checked and the final results are extracted.

Indicators Calculation

The most important variables and indicators to be calculated:

- Number of establishments: This is the number of establishments incorporated in the ITC activity.
- Number of employees: This is the total number of employees in the ICT activity by nationality (national, non-national).
- Employee compensations: The sum of salaries and cash wages + in-kind benefits + the social benefits due to employees during the year of survey.
- Intermediate consumption: the sum of the requirements of goods and services used in production.
- Gross production value: the sum of revenues from the major activity + revenues from secondary activities.
- Value-added: Gross production value intermediate consumption.
- Fixed capital formation: The sum of (the value of purchases for each of the fixed assets + additions and improvements + assets produced by the establishment + transfers – sales for each of the fixed assets).
- Depreciation of fixed capital: The total depreciation during the year of all fixed assets of the establishments operating in the activity.

Timeliness

Data of the ICT survey shall be published after the completion of the survey and not later than approximately 17 months from the data of the survey year. In each survey this period becomes lesser than the previous survey by a rate of approximately 3 months until it becomes 9 months from the date of the survey data.

Dissemination

Data shall be disseminated in several forms including results tables and survey bulletins, in addition to extracting indictors to be displayed in public bulletins. This is to be done either in paper form or e-copies or via the website.



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