



**An
Phríomh-Oifig
Staidrimh**

Central
Statistics
Office

Standard SIMS Report: Irish Industrial Production by Sector

(Previously PRODCOM)

2022



Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS) Report

For

Irish Industrial Production by Sector

(previously PRODCOM)

This documentation applies to the reporting period:
2022

Last edited: 13/07/2022



1. Table of Contents

1. Table of Contents	3
2. Introduction	5
3. Contact	5
4. Metadata Update	5
4.1. Metadata last certified	5
4.2. Metadata last posted	5
4.3. Metadata last update	5
5. Statistical Presentation	6
5.1. Data Description	6
5.2. Classification System	6
5.3. Sector Coverage	7
5.4. Statistical Concepts and definitions	7
5.5. Statistical Unit	7
5.6. Statistical Population	7
5.7. Reference Area	7
5.8. Time Coverage	7
5.9. Base period	7
6. Unit of Measure	7
7. Reference Period	7
8. Institutional Mandate	8
8.1. Legal Acts and other agreements	8
8.1.1. Legislative basis - National	8
8.1.2. Legislative basis - European	8
8.2. Data Sharing	8
9. Confidentiality	8
9.1. Confidentiality – policy	8
9.2. Confidentiality – data treatment	8
10. Release Policy	9
10.1. Release Calendar	9
10.2. Release calendar access	9
10.3. User access	9
11. Frequency of Dissemination	9
12. Accessibility and clarity	9
12.1. News release	9
12.2. Publications	9
12.3. On-line database	9
12.3.1. AC 1. Data tables - consultations	9
12.4. Micro-data Access	10
12.5. Other	10
12.5.1. AC2. Metadata consultations	10
12.6. Documentation on Methodology	10
12.6.1. AC3 – Metadata completeness – rate	10
12.7. Quality Documentation	10
13. Quality Management	10
13.1. Quality Assurance	10
13.2. Quality Assessment	10
14. Relevance	11
14.1. User Needs	11
14.1.1. Main National Users	11
14.1.2. Principal External Users	11
14.2. User Satisfaction	11
14.3. Data Completeness	11
14.3.1. Data Completeness rate	11
15. Accuracy and reliability	11
15.1. Overall accuracy	11



15.2. Sampling Error.....	12
15.2.1. A1. Sampling error indicator.....	12
15.3. Non-sampling Error.....	12
15.3.1. Coverage error.....	12
15.3.2. Measurement error.....	12
15.3.3. Non-Response Error.....	12
15.3.4. Processing error.....	13
15.3.5. Model assumption error.....	13
16. Timeliness and punctuality.....	13
16.1. Timeliness.....	13
16.1.1. TP1. Time lag – First results.....	13
16.1.2. TP2. Time lag – Final results.....	13
16.2. Punctuality.....	13
16.2.1. TP3. Punctuality – Punctuality - delivery and publication.....	14
17. Comparability.....	14
17.1. Comparability – Geographical.....	14
17.1.1. CC1. Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics.....	14
17.2. Comparability over time.....	14
17.2.1. Length of Comparable Time series.....	14
17.3. Coherence – cross domain.....	14
17.3.1. Coherence – Sub annual and annual statistics.....	14
17.3.2. Coherence with National Accounts.....	14
17.4. Coherence – internal.....	14
18. Cost and Burden.....	15
19. Data Revision.....	15
19.1. Data Revision Policy.....	15
19.2. Data Revision Practice.....	15
19.2.1. Data Revision – Average size.....	15
20. Statistical processing.....	15
20.1. Source Data.....	15
20.1.1. Population and sampling frame.....	15
20.1.2. Sampling design.....	15
20.1.3. Survey size.....	16
20.1.4. Survey technique.....	16
20.2. Frequency of data collection.....	16
20.3. Data Collection.....	16
20.3.1. Type of Survey/Process.....	16
20.3.2. Questionnaire (including explanations).....	16
20.3.3. Survey Participation.....	17
20.3.4. Data Capture.....	17
20.4. Data Validation.....	17
20.5. Data Compilation.....	17
20.5.1. Imputation (for Non-Response or Incomplete Data Sets).....	18
20.5.2. Grossing and Weighting.....	18
20.6. Adjustment.....	18
20.6.1. Seasonal Adjustment.....	18
21. Comment.....	18



2. Introduction

PRODCOM is a system for the collection and dissemination of statistics on the production of manufactured goods. The title comes from the French "PRODUCTION COMMUNAUTAIRE" (Community Production) for mining, quarrying and manufacturing: sections B and C of the Statistical Classification of Economy Activity in the European Union (NACE Rev. 2).

It is based on a product classification called the PRODCOM List which consists of about 3,928 headings relating to manufactured products.

The PRODCOM Inquiry is conducted by the Central Statistics Office (CSO). This is an annual survey of the value and volume of products produced by industrial enterprises in Ireland and sold during the reference year. It is carried out in compliance with EU Council Regulation on the Establishment of a Community Survey of Industrial Production (No. 3924/91). Results were first published for PRODCOM in respect of 1994.

The results are presented using a harmonised EU product classification called PRODCOM. Each year, a new PRODCOM list is published based on changes to the Combined Nomenclature. Since 2003 an annual Commission Regulation is required for the PRODCOM List.

3. Contact

Contact Organisation:	Central Statistics Office
Contact Organisation Unit:	Business Statistics
Contact Name:	Ewan Mullane (Data Collection Unit) Noel Ryan (Data Collection Unit) Eamonn Cleary (Results, Analysis and Publication) Deirdre O'Connor (Results, Analysis and Publication)
Contact person function:	Mr. Mullane - Statistician Mr. Cleary - Statistician Ms. O'Connor - Higher Executive Officer Mr. Ryan - Higher Executive Officer
Contact Mail address:	Skehard Road, Cork T12 X00E, Ireland
Contact email address:	Industry_dcu@cso.ie (Data Collection Unit) business_stats@cso.ie (Results, Analysis and Publication)
Contact Phone Number:	+353 21 4533500 (Mr. Mullane) +353 21 4535575 (Mr. Ryan) +353 21 4535483 (Mr. Cleary) +353 21 4535206 (Ms. O'Connor)
Contact Fax Number:	

4. Metadata Update

4.1. Metadata last certified

13/7/2023

4.2. Metadata last posted

13/7/2023

4.3. Metadata last update

13/7/2023



5. Statistical Presentation

5.1. Data Description

PRODCOM provides statistics on the production of manufactured goods. The term comes from the French "PRODUCTION COMMUNAUTAIRE" (Community Production) for mining, quarrying and manufacturing: sections B and C (NACE 07-08, 10-18, 20-33 and 38) of the Statistical Classification of Economy Activity in the European Union (NACE Rev. 2).

It is an annual survey of the value and volume of products manufactured by industrial enterprises in Ireland and sold during the reference year.

PRODCOM uses the product codes specified on the PRODCOM List, which contains about 3900 different types of manufactured products.

- Products are identified by an 8-digit code:
 - The first four digits are the classification of the producing enterprise given by the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE) and the first six correspond to the CPA,
 - The remaining digits specify the product in more detail,
- Most product codes correspond to one or more Combined Nomenclature (CN) codes, but some (mostly industrial services) do not.

5.2. Classification System

In the PRODCOM classification, products are grouped by the NACE Rev. 2 four-digit industrial sectors in which they are primarily produced (i.e. characteristic products). NACE Rev. 2 is the EU system for classifying economic activities. The value and volume data shown for a product, therefore, includes not only the production by enterprises classified to the NACE sector where it is primarily produced but also its subsidiary production by enterprises classified to the other NACE Rev. 2 sectors.

Classification of Products

The PRODCOM list is divided into "Classes" corresponding to the classes of NACE Rev 2. Within the individual classes, the headings of the list are set out in ascending order of their PRODCOM codes.

PRODCOM uses an eight-digit product code of the form XX.XX.XX.YY.

The first four digits of the code correspond to the 4-digit classes of NACE Rev. 2. The first six digits are the Community Classification of Products by Activity (CPA) codes. The CPA provides a detailed listing of the characteristic products for each 4-digit NACE Rev. 2 economic activity. The last two digits provide a more detailed breakdown of the CPA classes into PRODCOM product headings.

There is a direct link between the PRODCOM classification and the EU foreign trade Combined Nomenclature (CN). Each PRODCOM 8-digit heading covers one or more CN 8-digit headings.

In accordance with Article 2(2) of the PRODCOM regulation - EU Council Regulation on the Establishment of a Community Survey of Industrial Production (No. 3924/91) and by Commission Regulation (EC) No 0912/2004 of 29 April 2004, additionally, a Commission Regulation updating the PRODCOM classification is available annually since 2003. Each heading of the PRODCOM list is, with a few exceptions, defined by one or more headings of the European Union Trade nomenclature, the eight-digit Combined Nomenclature (CN). Exceptions include some industrial services.



5.3. Sector Coverage

Mining, Quarrying and Manufacturing industries (NACE 07-08, 10-18, 20-33 and 38).

The survey does not cover the following sectors and products:

- Products of coal and lignite mining,
- Coke and refined petroleum products.

5.4. Statistical Concepts and definitions

The data covers the value and volume of products manufactured and sold by enterprises, irrespective of the year of manufacture. Also included are the fees earned by the enterprises for industrial services provided and work done on commission.

Value relates to the Net Selling Value (NSV), excluding VAT, invoiced to customers. It excludes duties and taxes payable on the goods such as excise duties, separately charged freight costs, discounts and goods resold without any further processing.

5.5. Statistical Unit

The observation unit is Enterprise/ Legal Unit. The reporting unit is Enterprise.

5.6. Statistical Population

The survey covers all industrial enterprises with three or more persons engaged which are wholly or primarily engaged in industrial production and industrial services in the Mining, Quarrying and Manufacturing industries (NACE 07-08, 10-18, 20-33 and 38).

5.7. Reference Area

The data refers to industrial products, manufactured on the territory of the Republic of Ireland.

5.8. Time Coverage

Data available from 2000 to 2022.

5.9. Base period

Not applicable.

6. Unit of Measure

The volume of production: Physical measurement unit required by the Nomenclature of Industrial Production, specific for each product.

The value of production: the value is expressed in thousands, excl.VAT and excise duties.

The volume unit: the measurement unit, such as kilogram, sq meter etc., used to indicate the volume of produced goods.

7. Reference Period

2022



8. Institutional Mandate

8.1. Legal Acts and other agreements

8.1.1. Legislative basis - National

PRODCOM is a statutory inquiry conducted under the Statistics (Industrial Commodities Production Survey) Order 2022 (S.I. No 87/2022) made under Statistics Act, 1993.

<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2022/si/87/made/en/print>

8.1.2. Legislative basis - European

This survey is carried out in compliance with:

- Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 as amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197
- Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/1933 (establishing the PRODCOM List - the latest regulation is given effect each time, regulation renewed every 2 years)

8.2. Data Sharing

Not applicable.

9. Confidentiality

9.1. Confidentiality – policy

All information supplied to the CSO is treated as strictly confidential. The Statistics Act, 1993 sets stringent confidentiality standards: Information collected may be used only for statistical purposes, and no details that might be related to an identifiable person or business undertaking may be divulged to any other government department or body.

These national statistical confidentiality provisions are reinforced by the following EU legislation: Council Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics for data collected for EU statistical purposes. Further details are outlined in the CSO's Code of Practice on Statistical Confidentiality.

For more information on the CSO confidentiality policy please visit:

<https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/csodatapolicies/statisticalconfidentiality/>

9.2. Confidentiality – data treatment

The information which was provided by enterprises is treated as strictly confidential in accordance with national and EU law. Rules are applied to both the value and volume data of each individual product or service to identify confidential data.

We apply active confidentiality checking and use established Eurostat (n, k) criteria, i.e. a cell is confidential if it meets any of the following 3 conditions:

- There are less than 3 units contributing to the aggregate.
- If 80% or more of the aggregate value is attributable to 1 unit.
- If 90% or more of the aggregate value is attributable to 2 units.

Individual products which are confidential are identified in the publication as -99,999,999.



10. Release Policy

10.1. Release Calendar

The date of dissemination of all statistics released by CSO can be found in the Release Calendar published in CSO.ie. This calendar is regularly updated.

10.2. Release calendar access

The release calendar can be accessed via the CSO website, www.cso.ie, or directly from this link: <https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/releasecalendar/>

10.3. User access

In accordance with Principle 6 of the European Statistics Code of Practice all users of CSO statistics have equal access via the CSO website at the same time of 11 am. Any privileged pre-release access to any outside user is limited, controlled and publicised. In the event that leaks occur, pre-release arrangements are revised so as to ensure impartiality.

The CSO recognises that in very limited circumstances a business need for pre-release access may be substantiated. Any form of pre-release access is a privilege and a strict CSO pre-release access policy is adhered to for these special requests. The full pre-release access policy can be accessed at <https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/csodatapolicies/csopolicyonpre-releaseaccess/>

The various results are published nationally in statistical release format as well as on the CSO website (www.cso.ie). Selected extracts from the results are posted on the CSO's data dissemination database, PxStat.

11. Frequency of Dissemination

Annual.

12. Accessibility and clarity

12.1. News release

Not applicable.

12.2. Publications

PRODCOM has an electronic release in July each year. Principal statistics are published on the CSO website, which relate to value of products sold during the year, broken down by broad industry groups.

The latest results of the PRODCOM survey can be found online via the CSO website directly from this link: <https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/industry/prodcom-irishindustrialproductionbysector>

12.3. On-line database

Individual data tables referring to the PRODCOM can be found in the CSO's dissemination database PxStat directly from this link: <https://data.cso.ie/product/pcom>

12.3.1. AC 1. Data tables - consultations

Not calculated.



12.4. Micro-data Access

Microdata access for PRODCOM can be accessed by applicants who complete the RMF application form.

12.5. Other

Please see the CSO website for questionnaire and background notes.

Data from PRODCOM is also used in the Business in Ireland publication and in the Statistical Yearbook for Ireland. These publications are released on a yearly basis.

Specific user requests are acceded to where possible and where confidentiality issues do not arise.

Data is stored in Eurostat's New Cronos database which contains high quality macroeconomic and social statistics data organised into nine statistical themes; Industry, Trade and Services (which includes PRODCOM), General Statistics, Economy and Finance, Population and Social Conditions, Agriculture and Fisheries, External Trade, Transport, Environment and Energy, Science and Technology. The entry for this statistic is available on the Eurostat website here and uses the following navigation: Database navigation tree>Database by themes>Industry, trade and services>Statistics on the production of manufactured goods (prom).

12.5.1. AC2. Metadata consultations

Not calculated

12.6. Documentation on Methodology

Further information on the methodology used to compile this release can be found in the CSO's methods page <https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/industry/prodcom/>

12.6.1. AC3 – Metadata completeness – rate

Not calculated

12.7. Quality Documentation

For more information on the quality of this release please refer to the CSO's methods page on <https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/industry/prodcom/>

13. Quality Management

13.1. Quality Assurance

Quality Management Framework

The CSO avails of an office wide Quality Management Framework (QMF). This framework allows all CSO processes and outputs to meet the required standard as set out in the European Statistics Code of Practice (ESCP). The QMF foundations are based on establishing the UNECE's Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) as the operating statistical production model to achieve a standardised approach to Quality Management. All and any changes implemented to CSO processes and outputs require adherence to the QMF.

13.2. Quality Assessment

The CSO requires that all dissemination products carry out an annual self-evaluation on the quality of their processes and outputs. The results of the last iteration of this exercise show that while using the



most suitable systems, we have been actively researching and implementing techniques to keep improving the quality of our outputs.

14. Relevance

14.1. User Needs

PRODCOM data provides industry, business and researchers with a powerful tool for market analysis. By combining them with the trade statistics, users can derive various other statistics for example shares of exports, the net supply to the market and unit prices for production, imports and exports – all at the product level.

PRODCOM data also play an important role in the process of reconciling the income, expenditure and output components of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), providing estimates of domestic supply.

At European level, the PRODCOM system enables the size of the Community market to be known. It allows for the comparison of industrial production between countries and makes it possible to compile data on the markets of individual products.

14.1.1. Main National Users

- Government authorities, organs of public administration (central and local),
- Trade associations, research institutions, students,
- Enterprises
- Other CSO (e.g. Monthly industrial Production (MIP), Environmental Accounts, Census of Industrial Production (CIP), National Accounts)
 - National accounts use product data for the supply and use table,
 - The industrial producer price index uses product data for its weighting system.
- Economists/statisticians

14.1.2. Principal External Users

- Eurostat
- International institutions e.g. UN

14.2. User Satisfaction

No measurement of user satisfaction is collected for PRODCOM statistics.

14.3. Data Completeness

Data on all variables and Production Types required are collected and submitted to Eurostat.

14.3.1. Data Completeness rate

100%.

15. Accuracy and reliability

15.1. Overall accuracy

PRODCOM as carried out in Ireland is a census of all enterprises in the aforementioned NACE Rev. 2 groups, with FTE (full time equivalence) employees ≥ 3 . Generally, the FTE threshold is higher in Europe but given Ireland is a small country with many small producers, in order to achieve the required quality standard on accuracy we issue questionnaires at this level. There is a potential to change to a sample-based survey, but at present it remains a census.



15.2. Sampling Error

Sampling errors do not occur in the survey since it is carried out as a census of enterprises. There is no grossing up for units below the threshold. It is therefore not relevant/possible to calculate sampling error.

15.2.1. A1. Sampling error indicator

Not applicable.

15.3. Non-sampling Error

The main types of non-sampling errors can be classified as follows:

- Coverage errors,
- Measurement errors (wrong industrial product codes, wrong volume unit measurement unit, wrong quantities manufactured or sold),
- Processing errors,
- Non-response errors.

The missing values (non-response) are compensated by estimations.

15.3.1. Coverage error

When the PRODCOM survey population is selected from the Business Register, a detailed analysis is carried out by Industry staff of the new births and if there are issues detected, they are fed back to Business Register.

There may be some multiple listings (duplicated) when the sample is first taken from Business Register. They are removed from the sample when discovered.

15.3.1.1. A2. Over coverage rate

Not calculated.

15.3.1.2. A3. Common units – proportion

Not applicable.

15.3.2. Measurement error

The main types of measurement errors are as follows:

- a respondent may give incorrect data;
- the form/questionnaire may lead to the recording of wrong values. Examples include – missing product details, product details not clear enough, wrong contact details, some enterprises find it difficult to supply product data.

The solution was

- product details are updated on a continuous basis
- comparison of data at local level – previous year and possibly further back. There are built in edit checks
- training of staff so that they have good knowledge of the companies that they are responsible for
- design of questionnaire is monitored – changes made if necessary

15.3.3. Non-Response Error

In 2022, the response rate to the PRODCOM Survey was 42.5% of all enterprises surveyed, there is no data available for item non-response.



Large non-respondents (employment greater than 100) were estimated using turnover data from other CSO surveys, principally the Monthly Industrial Production. Total turnover was disaggregated, where possible, by reference to the product mix details supplied by the non-respondents to an earlier PRODCOM inquiry. In all other cases, both volume and value are imputed by the in-house IT system (DMS).

In the case of respondents, estimates for missing volumes have been made in certain cases by using the average unit price from the respondent firms. In other cases, it was not possible to estimate for missing volumes, in these cases, the Average unit price for a product across all member states (Eurostat Median Price) is used to obtain an average unit price.

15.3.3.1. Unit non-response rate

The response rate was 42.5% for the reference year 2022.

15.3.3.2. Item non-response rate

Not calculated.

15.3.4. Processing error

Forms are sent to all industrial enterprises with three or more persons engaged. The returned data is verified by the data collection team. Edits are run on each local unit. Types of processing errors include incorrect verification. The in-house IT system produces lists of errors for each type or edit. These are then analysed, and records are corrected as appropriate.

15.3.5. Model assumption error

In imputation, using ratios from responding enterprises to impute for non-respondents may have an effect on data quality but this is not quantifiable.

16. Timeliness and punctuality

16.1. Timeliness

PRODCOM is published on the CSO's website within t+7 months. Once PRODCOM data has been validated by Eurostat, data is uploaded onto Eurostat's website. Typically, this will be at the same time that CSO publishes the PRODCOM data on its website.

As part of the EU regulation underpinning the PRODCOM inquiry, data is transmitted to Eurostat at t+6 months.

16.1.1. TP1. Time lag – First results

Not applicable

16.1.2. TP2. Time lag – Final results

6 months - Eurostat transmission.

7 months – National release.

16.2. Punctuality

Data is submitted to Eurostat before the regulatory deadline of the 30th June each year.

At national level data is disseminated per the dates announced in the advanced release calendar.



16.2.1. TP3. Punctuality – Punctuality - delivery and publication

0 days.

17. Comparability

17.1. Comparability – Geographical

As all EU member states conduct the PRODCOM inquiry, international comparisons are possible, however comparability is not applicable at individual Member States level

17.1.1. CC1. Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics

Not applicable at national level.

17.2. Comparability over time

It should be noted that the PRODCOM list changes on an annual and sometimes bi-annual basis making some direct comparisons difficult however over the past number of years, these changes have been minimal.

Since the introduction of PRODCOM in respect of 1994, by and large the classification has remained the same with no major breaks.

The data is fully comparable between successive years. Introduction of NACE Rev.2 in 2008 resulted in break in series.

17.2.1. Length of Comparable Time series

23 years.

17.3. Coherence – cross domain

Control checking is applied, and comparisons made at micro and macro level with the data of the following statistical surveys conducted by the NSI: Short Term Statistics, Structural Business Statistics and External Trade to ensure the veracity of the returned data.

These checks will involve examining the aggregated returns for PRODCOM, MIP and CIP at NACE 2 digit level and ensuring that returns are consistent, where there are differences, these cases are further scrutinised and corrected if necessary.

17.3.1. Coherence – Sub annual and annual statistics

Not applicable.

17.3.2. Coherence with National Accounts

Not applicable.

17.4. Coherence – internal

PRODCOM statistics are internally coherent by their nature.

The survey is based on the Nomenclature of Industrial Production (identical to the PRODCOM list) which defines the products to be included in the survey.

Data on these products are obtained by surveying producer enterprises and after that aggregated at the product level (8-digit code). Microdata aggregation can also be made at the 6-digit level of product subcategories of the Classification of Products by Economic Activities (CPA).



18. Cost and Burden

Estimates of Cost and Burden can be obtained from the Response Burden Barometer

<https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/multisectoral/responseburdenbarometer/> Survey specific information is available via CSO's dissemination database PxStat. <https://data.cso.ie/product/RBB>

19. Data Revision

19.1. Data Revision Policy

Revisions refer to changes made to published statistical data when the information used in its production has been updated or corrected. This information includes all data used in compiling the statistic e.g. respondent data, administrative data, weights and factors, methodology, classifications, definitions, modifications to survey questionnaires, survey scope and data collection methods. The data revision policy that CSO statistics adheres to can be found via the following link:

<https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/quality/treatmentofrevisions/>

19.2. Data Revision Practice

Where a significant data change occurs, there would be a revised dataset sent to Eurostat for PRODCOM and similar changes/corrections made to the national dataset on the PxStat databank facility on our website.

We follow the Office policy regarding any need for data revisions.

19.2.1. Data Revision – Average size

Not applicable.

20. Statistical processing

20.1. Source Data

The PRODCOM survey is an electronic survey. The Information sought for each PRODCOM product code covers the physical volume of production sold during the survey period and the value of production sold during the survey period. This information is provided by industrial enterprises with three or more persons engaged which are wholly or primarily engaged in industrial production and industrial services in the Mining, Quarrying and Manufacturing industries (NACE 07-08, 10-18, 20-33 and 38).

20.1.1. Population and sampling frame

A permanent up-to-date register is kept of all enterprises with 3 or more persons engaged known to be involved in industrial production. The register is maintained from the Central Business Register, administrative and public utility records, announcements in the press, business journals, etc.

The sampling frame is extracted from the CSO's Business Register. Every December a file is taken from the business register containing the relevant enterprises and this file is uploaded into the processing system.

The survey population is made up of all industrial enterprises in NACE 07-08, 10-18, 20-33 and 38 with 3+ persons.

20.1.2. Sampling design

Census of all enterprises with 3+ employees. Census is taken from the CSO's Business Register. No other external data sources are used.



20.1.3. Survey size

For the 2022 iteration a total of 5,542 enterprises were issued a questionnaire.

20.1.4. Survey technique

PRODCOM is an electronic survey. A link to an online electronic form is sent to respondents for completion. Forms are sent out typically during January.

Respondents are sent a number of reminders throughout the first part of the year, encouraging them to complete the forms in a timely manner.

20.2. Frequency of data collection

Annual

20.3. Data Collection

PRODCOM data are collected from enterprises via an electronic questionnaire using the secure eQ system.

20.3.1. Type of Survey/Process

Primary statistical census survey.

20.3.2. Questionnaire (including explanations)

A customised form is sent to each respondent based on the return from the previous year. In the case of new products, the respondent will provide a description and a Combined Nomenclature (CN) code. On receipt of the form, the section will assign a new PRODCOM code based on the CN code provided.

For enterprises being surveyed for the first time, the process is the same.

The following paragraphs are explanations of the terms used within the questionnaire and descriptions of inclusions/exclusions etc.

Net Selling Value (NSV)

The value of sales for each product relates to the Net Selling Value i.e. the net amount (excluding VAT) invoiced to customers.

This value includes amounts charged by enterprises to customers for transport of goods by their own vehicles and packaging costs.

Excluded from this definition are:

- duties and taxes payable on the goods e.g. excise duties;
- separately charged freight costs;
- any discounts granted to customers;
- goods resold with further processing i.e. goods merchanted or factored.

Products include:

- all finished goods made from materials or intermediate goods purchased by the enterprise;
- semi-finished goods transferred for further processing to another establishment of the business (valued at their estimated value);
- goods which were substantially made in the factory but on which some intermediary work was done on commission by another firm;
- goods fully manufactured by the enterprise on commission from materials supplied by another firm;
- goods partly manufactured by the enterprise on commission;



- work done for a fee or charge on products supplied by another firm within the State and then returned for further processing prior to becoming a finished product;
- any other work done on commission.

A sample PRODCOM questionnaire can be found at this link:

<https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/surveyforms/irishindustrialproductionbysector/>

20.3.3. Survey Participation

This survey is statutory and therefore participation is compulsory.

20.3.4. Data Capture

Data once received is scrutinised. The survey form is then scanned and verified. It is then transferred to the internal IT system (DMS) and a copy of the scanned image is stored on the network.

20.4. Data Validation

Micro editing carried out as survey forms are returned to us. Macro editing carried out thereafter. Cross survey comparisons carried out also against monthly production inquiry.

A number of validation procedures, from data collection to data dissemination are performed:

- Automatic checks - performed in the process of data entry.
- Logical checks - data control of correctness of the suspicious size of the values or incompleteness of the data. Errors of this type are corrected through direct contacts with the enterprises.
- Micro checks - at the level of observational unit.
- Macro checks - at the level of product (8-digit PRODCOM code) and NACE class (4-digit code).

Within the DMS system, there are extensive micro and macro edits such as "Net Selling Value year on year" and "Volume year on Year".

Checks are made against previous returns to check for inconsistencies and where necessary enterprises are contacted.

For the larger enterprises, data from Monthly Industrial Production is compared to ensure consistency between the sources.

Typically, one month before the Eurostat deadline of t+6 months, the survey is closed down and a clean file is generated. A number of SAS procedures are run to ensure the quality of the data. These procedures include checking the Census of Industrial Production for all enterprises with turnover greater than €10m where available and checking the unit price at NACE 4 digit level.

Micro and macro plausibility checks are performed as historical and actual data are compared; comparison with other sources (External trade and SBS especially) is also made.

Once satisfied with the quality of the data, imputation procedures can be run.

Use is made of PRODCOM validation software provided by Eurostat. By making extensive use of this product, it ensures that the data sent to Eurostat is validated, reducing the likelihood of revisions.

20.5. Data Compilation

The survey is a census so there is no grossing or weighting performed on the data.



Post estimation results are simply aggregated by PRODCOM product code. Data are published on the internet only and are grouped by product code showing the value and volume for each relevant PRODCOM code.

Estimation is used for large enterprises that have not responded using as basis the following information: monthly data, SBS data, data from previous year (product history of enterprise), Report on revenues and expenditures, External trade data, the average unit price for the product (as reported by other respondents). A factor is applied to the previous year's return based on the change in turnover year on year in Monthly Industrial Production (MIP) for each particular enterprise. A number of SAS procedures are run to calculate the factor from MIP and in turn calculate the Net Selling Value of the enterprise.

20.5.1. Imputation (for Non-Response or Incomplete Data Sets)

For unit non-response, large firms i.e. employment greater than 100 are not imputed but are estimated based on returns from the Monthly Industrial Production survey.

The procedure imputes individual product values for the enterprise, the total Net Selling Value (NSV) is first imputed and then needs to be apportioned across all product codes which are relevant in the current period.

For all other units who did not respond, SAS is used to run the imputation procedures.

This second procedure imputes individual product volumes for the enterprises. A volume figure is imputed for all relevant product codes and an average unit price for each product is set.

In the case of respondents, estimates for missing volumes have been made in certain cases by using the average unit price from the respondent firms. In other cases, it was not possible to estimate for missing volumes, in these cases, the Average unit price for a product across all member states (Eurostat Median Price) is used to obtain an average unit price.

20.5.1.1. A7. Imputation rate

Not calculated.

20.5.2. Grossing and Weighting

This is a census survey, consequently grossing and weighting techniques are not used.

20.6. Adjustment

Not applicable.

20.6.1. Seasonal Adjustment

Not applicable.

21. Comment