

## Interpretation guidelines for selected eCOICOP items

- 1.) Dietary versions of preparations that have their own classification follow that product (see the explanatory text for margarine (01.1.5.2)).
- 2.) The line between 'educational programmes' (10.5.0.0) and participation in out-of-school individual or group lessons in all manner of pastimes (09.4.1.2) can become blurred. Education should be seen as the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university whereas participation in lessons in some pastime activity seems to suggest a more limited time frame with participation focussed on recreation/sporting and less on vocation. Recreation, according to the Oxford dictionary, is an activity done for enjoyment when one is not working. One can imagine that a six evening (two hour course) on modern Japanese flowering arrangement is a leisure activity that could be of interest to florists as well. Another example is an evening course in Photoshop in which both amateur photographers participate, but also website designers for whom it could be vocational training.

The index compiler should apply some discretion here as the motives of participants are often not known, however:

1. The institution providing the lessons may be knowledgeable on the motives of the majority of participants. If the course is meant to be vocational training it should be considered as belonging to 10.5, otherwise 09.4.1.2 despite the fact that for some participants the lessons may be vocational.
  2. The VAT tax regime applying to the service may help, if there is a difference in tariff between vocational and recreational courses.
- 3.) Art and music schools with a formally recognised qualification received upon completion should be classified under COICOP 10.3.0, 10.4.0 or 10.5.0 (depending on the level of the course). It includes also any kind of structured courses with a formally recognised qualification received upon completion. They should be classified under COICOP 10.3.0, 10.4.0 or 10.5.0 (depending on the level of the course). Educational programmes of musical and artistic schools that require no previous vocational or cultural development are explicitly mentioned as belonging to 10.5, but out-of-school individual or group lessons in music belong to 09.4.1.2. Two elements seem useful to help us: that the course is offered by a school (10.5) and the recreational nature of 09.4.1.2. Recreation is an activity done for enjoyment when one is not working. We suggest that all courses offered by music or artistic schools that are part of an educational programme (e.g. consisting of an annual programme that is split into terms and that distinguishes between different levels of accomplishment or experience and during which some reporting on progress is made) be considered 10.5. Courses of several weeks that are not part of a longer term programme (and that may often be aimed at novices) should be put in 09.4.1.2.

- 4.) To make a distinction between sea and inland waterway passenger transport, the index compiler should use discretion and seek a practical solution. However, the borderline can be determined using the following definitions: Inland waterways are stretches of water, not part of the sea, which are suitable for navigation primarily by inland waterway vessels. Waterways of a maritime character are included. Such waterways include river estuaries; the boundary between sea and inland waterway being that point nearest the sea where the width of the river is both less than 3 km at low water and less than 5 km at high water. Please see The Illustrated Glossary for Transport Statistics <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/5911341/KS-RA-10-028-EN.PDF/6ddd731e-0936-455a-be6b-eac624a83db4?version=1.0>.