

Note: this FAQ document will be regularly updated in order to address general questions of respondents

What are the criteria for determining the size of a country (Small, Medium, Large) in the domain for short-term business statistics?

Answer:

Grouping of countries in the STS domain is done on the basis of their share in EU gross value added of Sections B to N (excluding Section K): thresholds are set at 1% and 4% to distinguish between small (S), medium (M) and large (L) countries.

Based on 2010 data this would result in the following classification:

	Small	Medium	Large
	BG, EE, CY, LV, LT, LU, HU, MT, RO, SI, SK, HR	BE, CZ, DK, IE, EL, AT, PL, PT, FI, SE	DE, ES, FR, IT, NL, UK

A special safeguard clause applies for Manufacturing industry, Construction and Services: if a country's share in one of the following NACE Rev.2 Sections or aggregates corresponds to that of a lower size category, this country's data requirements, for that particular NACE Section or aggregate, are according to the lower size category: NACE Rev.2 Sections C, F, aggregate of Sections H to N (excluding K).

Applying this safeguard – on the 2010 data – would for example mean that Ireland (IE) and Greece (EL) are considered as a Small country for STS data on Construction, and that the Netherlands (NL) would be considered as Medium sized for data on Manufacturing Industry.