European business statistics methodological manual for PRODCOM

### 2021 edition





MANUALS AND GUIDELINES

### European business statistics methodological manual for PRODCOM

2021 edition

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# Introduction to PRODCOM

European business statistics methodological manual has been specially designed as a guide for data suppliers within the European Union (EU) so that they have information, which is essential for data collection in a harmonised way. It may also be of interest to users of production statistics to better understand and interpret the official statistics that are available at a national level for the EU.

### 1.1 Background to PRODCOM

PRODCOM statistics measure the production of the manufactured goods and industrial services carried out by enterprises on the national territory of the reporting countries. The title PRODCOM comes from the French "PRODuction COMmunautaire" (Community Production). PRODCOM covers Mining and quarrying, Manufacturing (with the exception of military products and some energy products) and Materials recovery; i.e. sections B, C and E (38.3) of the Statistical Classification of Economy Activity in the European Union (NACE 2 (<sup>1</sup>)).

The evolution of PRODCOM dates back to 1985 when Eurostat and the Member States endeavoured to harmonise the various ways industrial production statistics on the European level. 'European' means that the statistics are compiled based on the concepts and definitions set out in EU legislation.

In most countries, statistics were collected on production and these covered the national situation. As follows, national nomenclatures were used and different survey methods applied.

The basis of PRODCOM is to enable these national statistics to be compared and where possible aggregated to give a picture of the developments of an industry or product in the European context. This aim became more urgent with the creation of the single market in 1992, and with rapid changes occurring in Europe, the statistical system had to adapt to these changes.

The first year for the survey was 1993, with 1992 national data, however these statistics are not considered reliable, only PRODCOM database from 1995 onwards is available to public.

### 1.2 Legal basis

The following development of legislation structured mandatory requirements for collecting PRODCOM data.

The Council Regulation (EEC) No 3924/1991 (<sup>2</sup>) (hereafter referred to as the PRODCOM regulation) on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production defined that production is to be

<sup>(&#</sup>x27;) NACE Rev.2 - Statistical classification of economic activities

<sup>(2)</sup> Council Regulation (EEC) No 3924/1991 on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production

recorded according to the product headings of the PRODCOM List. This was needed as in the original EU treaties there had been no mention of a register for production statistics.

For 1995 to 2007 the data collection was based on NACE Rev. 1.1. and has been converted where possible to the data based on NACE Rev. 2. Therefore, the PRODCOM data from 1995 onwards provide a series of data available on NACE Rev. 2.

The survey conducted between 1995 and 2020 covered the physical volume of production and the value of the production sold during the survey period. The Sold Production reported the value or volume of production sold, i.e. excluding any production that the enterprise needed for further processing. The Total Production referred to the total volume of production, whether it was sold or used by the enterprise for further processing.

In 2004, the Commission Regulation (EC) No 912/2004<sup>3</sup> clarified the PRODCOM coverage and the observation units, with the aim to reduce the administrative burden on respondents reporting on industrial production.

In the past, statistics on steel production were collected under the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). When the Treaty expired at the end of 2002, PRODCOM steel statistics are no more available to public.

The Commission Implementing Regulation EU 2020/1197<sup>4</sup> (hereafter referred to as the EBS regulation) is laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council. The EBS regulation presents the additional data requirements such as the collection and transmission of data on production under sub-contracted operations and the introduction of the kind-of-activity unit (KAU<sup>5</sup>) as the statistical unit for collecting PRODCOM statistics. The EBS data exchange standards should be harmonised to the extent possible and ensure cross-domain comparisons.

For reference period 2021 and onwards, the current survey collects PRODCOM data on the physical volume and the value for Sold Production and Production under Sub-contracted Operations. The Actual Production refers to the actual volume of production, whether it is sold or used by the enterprise for further processing. The production under sub-contracted operations is completely separated from the sold production variable.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>) Commission Regulation (EC) No 912/2004 of 29 April 2004 implementing Council Regulation (EEC) No 3924/91 on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production

<sup>(\*)</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation EU 2020/1197 of 30 July 2020 laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>) European business statistics methodological manual for statistical business registers (europa.eu)



### **General information**

This chapter gives general information about requirements for the production of PRODCOM statistics in order to produce comparable data between the Member States and achieve harmonisation across all Business Statistics domains.

For producing detailed product output information at the EU level, the production statistics are compiled from information provided by Member States, EFTA and candidate countries on an annual basis, for several thousand of selected products (= commodities and services) specified in the PRODCOM List.

### 2.1 Reference area

Twenty-four Member States report now the production statistics under EU legislation. Cyprus, Luxembourg and Malta are exempted on providing these statistics based on the economic size of the country. The 1% rule is applied, i.e. it is not necessary to compile data for PRODCOM statistics, if a related indicator of the Member States is less than 1% of the EU total.

In addition to the Member States, the EFTA countries, Norway and Iceland, are bound by the EBS regulation to conduct PRODCOM surveys and transmit the data to Eurostat. National data for all non-Member State countries are published individually and are not included in EU totals.

### 2.2 Reference period

PRODCOM data is primarily reported on an annual basis.

- PRODCOM survey is primarily an annual survey.
- Member States can choose to run their survey monthly, quarterly or annually as long as the data are supplied to Eurostat as annual data.
- PRODCOM List is in force at the end of the reference period.
- The first reference period under the EBS regulation is 2021.

### 2.3 PRODCOM List

The PRODCOM List includes the codes of the products listed in PRODCOM and it is to be used to survey production during that year.

The PRODCOM Working Group used to prepare the PRODCOM List every year until 2016. After the List is updated every 2 or 3 years and it is published as the subject of a Commission Regulation.

PRODCOM products derive from activities listed in sections B, C and E (divisions 07-33 and 38.3 CPA (<sup>6</sup>)) in the Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community, NACE (Rev. 2).

- The products are included in PRODCOM according to their eight-digit code, the PRODCOM List. The first four digits of a PRODCOM code refer to the NACE classification, and the first six digits refer to the CPA classification. The last two digits are created specifically for PRODCOM.
- Most eight-digit PRODCOM codes have a complete reference to the Combined Nomenclature (CN (<sup>7</sup>)). A complete reference means full comparability between data from PRODCOM and data from foreign trade classified by the CN.

Exemptions from this main rule are:

- PRODCOM codes that are more detailed than CN.
- PRODCOM codes that cover industrial services (because the CN only includes commodities). Nevertheless, PRODCOM codes on industrial services might have a reference to CN codes. This reference only gives information on the products to which the services apply.
- The corresponding trade data on volume cannot be provided for PRODCOM codes for which unit of measure is not consistent with unit of measure given in CN, even if a PRODCOM code has a complete CN reference.

The consequences of this way of creating PRODCOM codes are:

- PRODCOM codes do not cross CPA (or NACE) classes. Each PRODCOM code belongs to only one CPA (or NACE) class.
- Trade data can only be provided for PRODCOM codes with a complete reference (clear link) to the CN.

PRODCOM includes data on national production and EU aggregates since 1995. Data is recorded on an annual basis, and were on a monthly basis for steel products between 2003 and 2005 (not available).

Normally, data on the value and quantity of production of each PRODCOM heading is published. Exact information on the data to be reported for each eight-digit PRODCOM code is included in the PRODCOM List.

Each PRODCOM code has a 'Description', a 'Volume Physical unit' (except services and codes covering products of diversified physical features), a 'Production type' and occasionally a 'Reference to notes'. Detailed information on these fields is included in the first – 60 – pages of the PRODCOM List.

- The 'Description' is a short, self-explanatory, stand-alone text
- The CN reference refers to the CN codes covered by the PRODCOM heading
- The 'Volume Physical unit' indicates the measurement unit for this heading
- The 'Production type' indicates the concept of production
- The 'Reference to notes' includes reference to any specific information on this heading

The data transmitted to Eurostat by the Member States must contain one record for each heading in the List, to report the national production of the product referred to by the heading.

The List provides a number of characteristics for each heading. The following are important in reporting data for the heading:

- The heading type, which indicates the combination of production types required.
- The volume unit to be used to express volumes for this heading. If no volume unit is specified the volume of production does not have to be reported.

<sup>(\*)</sup> Statistical Classification of Products by Activity; Commission Regulation (EU) No 1209/2014 of 29 October 2014 establishing a new statistical classification of products by activity (CPA)

<sup>(7)</sup> Combined Nomenclature; Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 2020/1577 of 21 September 2020

 $\mathbf{D}$ 

#### **Box 2.1: PRODCOM List**

**Quick links** 

Europa - RAMON - PRODCOM List 1993 and onwards

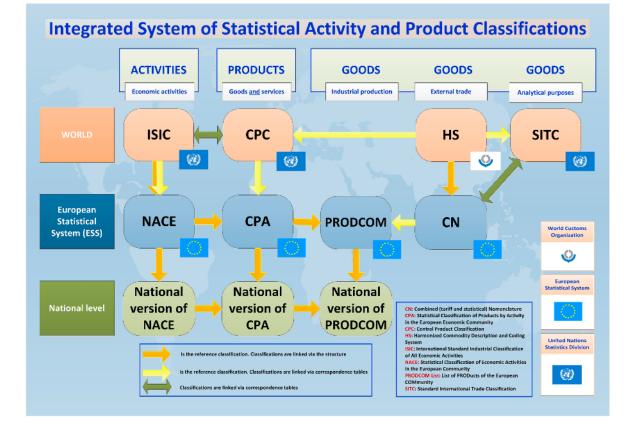
Europa - RAMON - Reference And Management Of Nomenclatures

#### 2.3.1 Classification of products in detail

Before data collection could begin, it was necessary to draw up a common list of products to be covered. Drawing up the PRODCOM List was a unique opportunity for Eurostat, the NSIs and the European Trade Associations (FEBIs) to work together to produce a classification that would work on the micro, national and European level. The two principal aims were to measure production and to enable a calculation of apparent consumption by linking production statistics to foreign trade statistics. The link between the two, production statistics and external trade data refers to Europroms.

The PRODCOM statistics have to be comparable with external trade statistics, which are based on the Combined Nomenclature (CN), there had to be a close relationship between the two nomenclatures. Furthermore, the basic building blocks for PRODCOM are NACE (Rev. 2, as from 2008) and the CPA (Classification of products by activity), therefore the PRODCOM List had to be developed in close association with these nomenclatures.

To understand how the different nomenclatures fit together, and their links to worldwide nomenclatures it is useful to consider the diagram below, which gives an overview of the revised system of integrated statistical classifications. This diagram shows the clear links between the PRODCOM List and the CN, which then links up to the Harmonised System at a worldwide level.



#### Figure 2.1: Statistical classifications

PRODCOM headings are directly derived from the 2 nomenclatures to its left on the diagram – NACE and the CPA. The 8-digit PRODCOM code takes its first 4 digits from NACE and digits 5 and 6 from the CPA, thus enabling a consistent link to these two classifications.

However, there were instances where the CN classification gave too much detail in how it broke down products within a specific category. It did not meet the needs of the likely end users of PRODCOM data such as the European federations and other professional associations.

The box below gives an example of how one industrial sector can be broken down into different headings.

#### **Box 2.2: Classification of products**

NACE 11.02

			Detail	
11.02	Manufactu	ure of wine fr	om grape	
	<b>1</b> 1.02.12	Wine of free	sh grapes, except sparkling wine; grape must	
		11.02.12.11	White wine with a protected designation of origin (PDO)	Detail
		11.02.12.15	Wine and grape must with fermentation prevented or arrested by the addition of alcohol, put up with pressure of $CO_2$ in solution $\ge 1$ bar < 3, at 20 °C (excluding sparkling wine)	Detail
		11.02.12.17	Quality wine and grape must with fermentation prevented or arrested by the addition of alcohol, with a protected designation of origin (PDO) produced of an alcoholic strength of $\leq$ 15 % (excluding white wine and sparkling wine)	
		11.02.12.20	Wine and grape must with fermentation prevented or arrested by the addition of alcohol, of an alcoholic strength $\leq$ 15 % (excluding sparkling wine and wine (PDO))	Detail
		11.02.12.31	Port, Madeira, Sherry and other > 15 % alcohol	Detail
		11.02.12.50	Grape must (excluding alcohol duty)	Detail

Source: Europa - RAMON - Reference And Management Of Nomenclatures

That was the reason to base the PRODCOM List on the CN but with some modifications. The result was a list of 5765 headings, which was published in November 1993 in all nine official languages of the Union. Now they are available in all EU languages. Because of changes in an industry, some modifications are made to the list to improve it. These can range from a new breakdown of the codes used for products, an improvement to the translation of a heading for a languages or a restructuring of some headings.

Over the years, the List has been added to in various ways to satisfy the demands of various users. The List has become increasingly complex, and little attention was paid to the feasibility of collecting data on all the required headings. A process of consultation was therefore conducted in 2004 with a view to simplifying the List and thus improving its quality. These were applied to the 2005 List, with further simplifications being applied in subsequent years.

Currently, there are almost 3900 products available in the PRODCOM List. The PRODCOM Working Group of November 2016 agreed to keep the list stable and update it only with the frequency required by the technological changes in the industries and as driven by the related nomenclatures (i.e. the PRODCOM List will be updated if the NACE and the HS/CN classification are updated).

#### 2.3.2 Divisions – CPA headings

This section gives an overview of divisions (CPA) grouping the PRODCOM List.

- 07. Mining of metal ores
- 08. Other mining and quarrying
- 10. Manufacture of food products
- 11. Manufacture of beverages
- 12. Manufacture of tobacco products
- 13. Manufacture of textiles
- 14. Manufacture of wearing apparel
- 15. Manufacture of leather and related products
- 16. Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials
- 17. Manufacture of paper and paper products
- 18. Printing and recording services
- 19. Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products
- 20. Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products
- 21. Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations
- 22. Manufacture of rubber and plastic products
- 23. Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products
- 24. Manufacture of basic metals
- 25. Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment
- 26. Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products
- 27. Manufacture of electrical equipment
- 28. Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.
- 29. Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers
- 30. Manufacture of other transport equipment
- 31 Manufacture of furniture
- 32. Other manufactured products
- 33. Repair and installation services of machinery and equipment
- 38 (38.32). Recovery of sorted materials



This chapter provides the necessary methodology, content and definition of PRODCOM datasets related to the compilation of statistical data on sold production and production under sub-contracted operations.

## 3.1 PRODCOM collection and transmission

Member States use a survey questionnaire, which conforms to the requirements of the regulation. They may also use other sources of information to supplement the survey.

Enterprises are asked to give true and complete information within the stipulated deadlines.

After data have been collected, Member States send them to Eurostat within 6 months of the end of the reference year for annual data. Data, which under national law are confidential, are also transmitted to Eurostat, and handled under the rules of the Statistical Law (<sup>8</sup>).

When data already transmitted to Eurostat are subject to revision, Member States shall transmit the revised data by the time of their dissemination at national level at the latest, or, if they are not disseminated at national level, no later than one month after they have become available to a national statistical authority.

### 3.2 PRODCOM concept and definition

#### 3.2.1 Data types 2008-2020

Based on the PRODCOM regulation (1991), different production concepts were used in the survey:

Sold Production, type S.

This is used for reporting the value or volume of production sold, i.e. excluding any production that the enterprise uses for further processing. It is the production sold outside the enterprise during the reference period.

• Total Production, type T.

<sup>(\*)</sup> Legal framework for European statistics - The Statistical Law - Products Statistical Books - Eurostat (europa.eu)

This is used for reporting the total volume of production, whether it is sold or used by the enterprise for further processing. Since products that are not sold cannot easily be valued, only the volume of Total Production can be reported for these products. It includes any production by the enterprise, which is incorporated into the manufacture of other products. Such production is normally taken to mean only those products which:

- is processed into another product, or
- is fitted into another product, or
- is put in stock.

By definition, the heading type indicates the combination of production types that is required for the heading:

- S Both the value and volume of sold production are reported. In some cases, no volume unit is defined for a heading. In these cases, only the value is reported.
- T The value of sold production and the volume of both sold and total production are reported.
- I Type I headings are industrial services. Only the value is reported, and this corresponds to the fee paid to the enterprise providing the service. It is not necessary to signal that the value is based on the fee paid.
- V Only the total volume is reported.

#### 3.2.2 Data variables 2021 and onwards

The EBS regulation (2020) stipulates country-level business statistics on industrial production to be collected for three variables 251001 Sold production, 251002 Production under sub-contracted operations and 251003 Actual production actually carried out on its territory. This means that the production of subsidiary undertakings, which takes place outside the enterprise's territory, is not included in the survey.

The following information is requested for each variable carried out during the reference period and within the economic territory of each country:

- Variable 251001: The sold production is defined as sold (invoiced) production, which may be carried out under the primary or secondary activities of the enterprise. It includes production sold (invoiced) between different kind-of-activity units belonging to the same enterprise.
- Variable 251002: The production under sub-contracted operations, which has been sold (invoiced) to the principal in line under the conditions for sub-contracted operations as specified by the CPA guidelines (<sup>9</sup>). The production may be carried out under the primary or secondary activities of the enterprise.
- Variable 251003: The actual production includes any production carried out during the reference period and within the economic territory of each country. It includes those products which, either in the kind-of-activity unit itself, or in another kind-of-activity unit belonging to the same enterprise:
  - 1. are intended for sale,
  - 2. are processed into another product,
  - 3. are fitted into another product, or
  - 4. are put into stock.

EBS variables on industrial production include the following data:

- The variable 251001 (Sold production) include values of the sold production produced on own account and quantities of the sold production produced on own account. It includes production sold/invoiced during the reference period.
- The variable 251002 (Production under sub-contracted operations) contain values equal to the fee received by subcontractor/paid by principal and quantities produced under sub-contracted

<sup>(9)</sup> EUROPA > European Commission > CIRCABC > Eurostat > NACE Rev. 2 - CPA 2008 European Commission > Eurostat > CPA > CPA Ver. 2.1 CPA rev. 2.1 Handbook part 6 - Outsourcing

operations. It includes production paid to the sub-contractor by the principal during the reference period.

• The variable 251003 (Actual production) is a sum of quantities of the production on own account and quantities produced under a sub-contracted operations. It includes production carried out during the reference period.

The heading type indicates the combination of production types that are required for the heading:

- S Production sold and Production under sub-contracted operations are reported by value and volume. In some cases, no volume unit is defined for a heading. In these cases, only the value is reported.
- T Production sold and Production under sub-contracted operations are reported by value and volume. Actual production is reported by volume.
- V Only Actual production is reported by volume.
- I Type I headings are industrial services. Only the value of sold production is reported, and this corresponds to the fee paid to the enterprise providing the service.

According to the requirements in the EBS General Implementing Act, the following three variables for industrial production are specified:

- Variable 251001 (Sold production): national currency (thousands) and (except for industrial services) quantity as defined in the PRODCOM List in force at the end of the reference period.
- Variable 251002 (Production under sub-contracted operations): (except for industrial services) national currency (thousands) and quantity as defined in the PRODCOM List in force at the end of the reference period.
- Variable 251003 (Actual production): quantity as defined in the PRODCOM List in force at the end of the reference period.

### Box 3.1: EBS variables on industrial production shall include the following data

**The variable 251001** shall include values of the sold production produced on own account (including industrial services) and quantities of the sold production produced on own account. It includes production sold/invoiced during the reference period.

**The variable 251002** shall contain values equal to the fee received by subcontractor/ paid by principal and quantities produced under sub-contracted operations. It includes production paid to the sub-contractor by the principal during the reference period.

The variable 251003 shall be a sum of quantities of the actual production on own account and quantities produced under a sub-contracted operations. It includes production carried out during the reference period.

### 3.2.3 Changes compared with regulation repealed by the EBS regulation

For the reference years 1995 – 2020, the data transmitted to Eurostat by the Member States had to contain a record for:

- Sold production
  - a. values = values of the sold production produced on own account + values of the sold production produced under sub-contracting operations
  - b. quantities = quantities of the sold production produced on own account + quantities of the sold production produced under sub-contracting operations

This was used for reporting the value or volume of production sold, i.e. excluding any production that the enterprise uses for further processing.

• Total production (no changes comparing to EBS variable 251003) = quantities of the production on own account + quantities produced under sub-contracting operations

Since 1995 onwards, this is used for reporting the total (actual) volume of production, whether it is sold or used by the enterprise for further processing. For reference years 1995 – 2020 the EBS variable 251002 (production under sub-contracted operations) was not required.

#### 3.2.4 Production on own account and production under subcontracted operations

This section specifies the production physically carried out on own account by producer and production under sub-contracted operations. The latter production is carried out by a sub-contractor on materials owned by the principal and has been sold (invoiced) during the reference period to the principal. The sub-contractor is paid for the work carried out, and the services rendered can include the provision of a small quantity of additional materials needed for this work.

In any sub-contracted operation, the principal unit and the sub-contractor unit are to be different enterprises. Sub-contracted operations between different plants (KAUs (<sup>10</sup>)) belonging to the same enterprise are not possible, nor to be recorded under PRODCOM statistics.

The collection and compilation method differs for the variable 251001 and the variable 251002, the variable 251003 includes total for both possible productions.

#### The collection and compilation method

#### 1) variable 251001 Sold production:

- a. values = values of the sold production produced on own account sold/invoiced during the reference period
- b. quantities = quantities of the sold production produced on own account sold/invoiced during the reference period

### Box 3.2: Production carried out on own account is to be collected from the producer

The producer reports:

Sold production value produced on own account sold/invoiced during the reference period

Sold production quantities produced on own account sold/invoiced during the reference period

Actual production quantities produced on own account during the reference period

#### 2) variable 251002 Production under sub-contracted operations:

- a. values = value equal to the fee received by subcontractor/paid by principal during the reference period
- b. quantities = quantities produced under sub-contracted operations paid to the subcontractor by the principal during the reference period

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>) European business statistics methodological manual for statistical business registers (europa.eu)

### Box 3.3: Production carried out under sub-contracted operations is to be collected from the subcontractor

The subcontractor reports:

Sold production value equal to the fee received by subcontractor/paid by principal during the reference period

Sold production quantities produced under sub-contracted operations paid to the subcontractor by the principal during the reference period

Actual production quantities produced under sub-contracted operations during the reference period

**3) variable 251003 Actual production** = quantities of the production on own account + quantities produced under sub-contracted operations.

The actual production is calculated by summing up all production carried out during the reference period and within the economic territory of each country, whether produced on own account or under sub-contracted operations.

The distinction between the production on own account and the production carried out under subcontracted operations has to be made (in order to avoid over reporting or under reporting). In other words, the production under sub-contracted operations shall be completely separated from the sold production variable.

The producer is reporting the production data either as sold production on own account, or as production under sub-contracted operations when meeting the requirements defined in this section.

### 3.1.1.1 THE PRODUCTION ON OWN ACCOUNT VS. THE PRODUCTION UNDER SUB-CONTRACTED OPERATIONS

The distinction between the production on own account and the production under sub-contracted operations shall be based on one of the two methods listed below:

A. The main material input principle:

The value of the material inputs provided shall be used as the criterion for identifying the main material input, as set out by the CPA guidelines. This is a quantifiable and rather objective measurement unit. The threshold for the main material input is set to 80 %, thus indicating that the ratio main/secondary inputs must be high. Nevertheless, this threshold was adopted arbitrarily and should therefore be interpreted with flexibility. Intangible assets (software, patents, etc.), as well as machines or tools provided by the principal unit are however not to be considered as material inputs. Software products for instance are used in the production process in the same way as machines and other equipment, i.e. they are not incorporated or transformed into the final product. They are thus to be regarded as capital goods and not as physical material inputs. This rule of the main material input owned by the principal is just a general guiding principle having exceptions.

B. The ownership of the final product principle:

Alternatively, another principle could be used to establish the relation between the parties in the case of sub-contracted operations when the share of the value within the material input owned by the principal and by the sub-contractor is difficult to identify. In this case, it is recommended to use the contractual relationship between the two parties and to consider who has the ownership of the final product.

If at least one of the above criteria is met, the respective production should be recorded under the variable 251002 – Production under sub-contracted operations.

#### 3.2.5 PRODCOM data flags

The comment fields are used to signal the estimated figures. They can contain two different values:

E: reliable estimate

U: low reliability estimate

The estimated data (flagged E) signals that the values are reliable estimates, considered accurate enough to be published at the national level. These figures will be disseminated and flagged accordingly in dissemination, both at EU level and at the national level.

The low reliability estimates should be flagged with U in the Comment field. Such estimates will be suppressed from the national data published by Eurostat but will be included in calculation of the EU totals. These totals will be flagged with E.

Although not published at the national level, U flagged figures will be treated as confidential and EU aggregates will be rounded in order to protect them.

N: CETO (contribution to European totals only)

In order to minimise the burden on businesses and the costs to the national statistical authorities, Member States may mark data for use as a contribution to European totals only (CETO) for the EBS variables. The data shall be flagged with an N and shall not be published at the national level. This data will not be either disseminated by Eurostat, however will be used for calculating the EU totals. The EU totals will be flagged by E on Eurostat's website.

The PRODCOM Dataset including the EBS variables will be published for the first time by July 2022.

#### Getting in touch with the EU

#### In person

All over the European Union there are hundreds of Europe Direct Information Centres. You can find the address of the centre nearest you at: https://europa.eu/european-union/contact\_en

#### On the phone or by e-mail

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- at the following standard number: +32 22999696 or
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#### Open data from the EU

The EU Open Data Portal (http://data.europa.eu/euodp/en) provides access to datasets from the EU. Data can be downloaded and reused for free, for both commercial and non-commercial purposes.

#### European business statistics methodological manual for PRODCOM

The EBS methodological manual for PRODCOM defines the methodology i.e. concepts and definitions under the Commission Implementing Regulation EU 2020/1197 (EBS Regulation). It is intended to provide information to general users on the production of manufactured goods carried out by enterprises on the national territory of the reporting countries. The PRODCOM team in consultation with national experts drafted this document.

For more information https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/

