

Guide to Eurostat culture statistics

2018 edition



MANUALS
AND GUIDELINES

eurostat 

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culture statistics** | 2018

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1

Introduction

Culture — how to describe it in figures?

A universally accepted definition of ‘culture’ does not exist and probably never will. This is just the first difficulty encountered by statisticians in the field — in the course of 20 years spent developing culture statistics, EU statisticians have also had to deal with a plethora of more practical challenges.

Following the EU Council of Culture Ministers’ adoption in 1995 of a resolution on the promotion of statistics on culture and economic growth, Eurostat (the EU’s Statistical Office) set up a pilot group of national experts (the ‘Leadership group — Culture’ (LEG-Culture)) in 1997. Three years later, the group issued a first European methodological framework for culture statistics, covering concepts, definitions (including, first, a definition of the field of ‘culture’ for statistical purposes) and key indicators in the domain of cultural employment, the financing of culture and cultural practices.

Further methodological developments, incorporating more and more links to available EU data collections, were to follow, thanks to the Eurostat working group on culture statistics and, in particular, the European Statistical System network on culture (ESSnet-Culture) set up in 2009. ESSnet-Culture was a wide group of national experts, working over two years in four thematic task forces, on ‘framework and definitions’, ‘financing and expenditure on culture’, ‘cultural industries’ and ‘cultural practices and social aspects’.

The voluminous 2012 [ESSnet-Culture final report](#) became a basic reference for culture statistics in Europe. It presents a framework for culture statistics, including concepts and relevant definitions, the methodology elaborated by the thematic task forces, descriptions of 10 cultural domains, and a list of EU and national data sources. There are also chapters dedicated to specific topics, such as intangible cultural heritage, spill-overs from creative industries, etc. The report presents as well recommendations for the future development of European culture statistics.

The ESSnet-Culture methodological framework for culture statistics is based on the UNESCO framework for cultural statistics (FCS), but it is structured slightly differently and the domains covered do not include (as in the FCS) natural heritage, equipment/supporting materials, sport or tourism.

The ESSnet-Culture framework for cultural statistics covers 10 cultural domains:

- heritage
- archives
- libraries
- books and press
- visual arts
- performing arts
- audio-visual and multimedia
- architecture
- advertising
- art crafts

and six functions:

- creation
- production/publishing
- dissemination/trade
- preservation
- education
- management/regulation.

See the visual matrices presenting the framework for cultural statistics and showing domains, functions and dimensions, on pp. 47–48 of the *ESSnet-Culture final report*.

The ESSnet-Culture work has been followed up in the past five years. Eurostat has built a consistent cross-sectoral, publicly available database with various statistics relating to culture. These statistics are introduced in a [dedicated section on culture](#) on the Eurostat website and the subject of several thematic *Statistics explained* articles.

We are now in a position to provide users with comprehensive information on all harmonised data on culture available at EU level: data sources, how they cover culture, the methodologies used, where to find the data, the limitations and changes expected in the near future.

The chapters of this publication describe different fields of culture statistics available at EU level: cultural employment, cultural enterprises, international trade in cultural goods and services, cultural participation, private households and public expenditure on culture. The information on culture-related cities statistics and statistics on production of cultural goods is also presented. Additionally, some information is given about data collected by the European group of museums statistics (EGMUS).

At the end, there is an indication where culture statistics of individual countries can be found on national websites.

Each chapter is structured in the same way: it begins with the general description of the data source and then explains culture-related methodological issues: coverage of culture (including list of 'cultural' codes in classifications concerned), compilation of cultural indicators and limitations and other issues important to be mentioned for a given data collection. The last section of each chapter shows how culture-related data are disseminated by Eurostat — in Eurobase and via publications.

This guide is not a theoretical manual; rather, it reports how the ESSnet-Culture methodology has been put into practice at EU level, with available Eurostat data. The limitations of the latter may explain their occasional deviation from national cultural estimates.

There is no single European survey dedicated to culture. The information presented here is taken from various EU data collections, i.e. harmonised statistics related to culture, available in Eurostat.

Given the multi-dimensional nature of culture, statisticians have to use various methodologies, as expressed in classifications that are specific to statistical areas. For instance, when analysing cultural employment, we need to classify the sectors of employment and occupations; for trade statistics, goods and services classifications are used; cultural participation is surveyed using a list of culture-specific activities. All the cultural items, categories and codes used in statistical language have been sorted for each area to form the theoretical scope of culture statistics.

The 'practical' coverage of culture statistics can differ somewhat from the theoretical scope and vary between statistical domains. This is a function of the statistical coverage of the surveys and the level of detail available in the classifications used in the data collections. For example, some four-digit 'cultural' codes in the classification of economic activities (NACE Rev. 2) are available in business statistics, but not in employment statistics; as a result, they will be omitted from the cultural employment figures.

Appendix I contains a list of NACE Rev. 2 codes for economic activities identified as 'cultural'. The theoretical scope of 'culture' is presented alongside the operational scope applied in practice for cultural employment and business statistics.

It should be underlined that the scope of culture statistics does not correspond directly to the scope of statistics on cultural and creative sectors (industries), which is determined in different ways in different countries. The term 'cultural and creative sectors' is not well defined yet at international level and data providers should always give a clear explanation of the coverage of such statistics.

This publication presents the state of progress in EU culture statistics in 2018. Things have already moved on from 2016, when Eurostat published its last statistical book on *Culture statistics*. More data are available and some additional statistical areas have been explored.

In recent years, some adjustments have been agreed with the countries represented in the working group on culture statistics as regards the scope of 'culture' in a few statistical domains – mainly for the sake of better alignment with UNESCO's FCS. In particular, 'culture' is now taken to include 'related cultural activities' (printing and reproduction of recorded media, the manufacture of jewellery and related articles, and the manufacture of musical instruments).

Some positive developments for culture statistics are expected in the ESS in the near future (early 2020s), in particular better coverage of culture in two major data sources, the EU labour force survey (EU-LFS) and structural business statistics (SBS).

Several areas of culture statistics would need further development, e.g. (tangible and intangible) cultural heritage, cultural tourism and cultural participation via the internet. There is potential in the use of big data for culture statistics and in building culture satellite accounts. There is also a growing demand for statistics on culture at regional, local and city level ⁽¹⁾.

The methodology elaborated at European level (thanks to discussions between national experts and the exchange of good practices) is used for EU harmonised culture statistics, but is also helpful for statistics on culture in general — at national level and beyond Europe.

⁽¹⁾ See: Montalto V.; Jorge Tacao Moura C.; Langedijk S.; Saisana M., *The cultural and creative cities monitor* (2017) and download pages at: <https://composite-indicators.jrc.ec.europa.eu/cultural-creative-cities-monitor/>.

2

Cultural employment

1. Introduction

Statistics on cultural employment show culture's contribution to overall employment and the characteristics of people and jobs in cultural field.

These statistics are derived from the results of the **European Union Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS)**, which is the main source of information about employment and labour market trends in the EU, EFTA countries and candidate countries.

The 2012 ESSnet-Culture final report proposed a methodology to be applied to cultural statistics, including the scope of 'cultural economic activities' and 'cultural occupations', on the basis of two reference classifications:

- NACE (Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans les Communautés européennes'), which classifies the employer's main activity; and
- the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO).

Cultural employment is calculated by cross-tabulating ISCO and NACE cultural codes, as defined in the *ESSnet-Culture final report*.

The EU-LFS results make it possible to characterise cultural employment by a number of core social variables (sex, age, educational attainment) and selected characteristics (self-employment, full-time work, permanent jobs and people with one job only).

In 2016, the Eurostat's working group on culture statistics agreed to extend the scope of culture for statistical purposes as proposed by ESSnet-Culture. This change was implemented in cultural employment statistics from reference year 2011. The latest Eurostat publication, *Culture statistics — 2016 edition*, was based on the previous scope.

2. Data source

General overview

The EU-LFS is a random sample survey of people living in private households. It is regulated by several EU [legal acts](#).

The EU-LFS sampling units are dwellings, households or individuals, depending on the sampling frame. The units are sampled in various ways, ranging from the simple random sampling to complex stratified multi-stage sampling methods used for clusters. Most countries use a variant of the two-stage stratified random sampling of household units.

Participation in the survey is compulsory in Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, Austria, Portugal, Slovakia, Norway and Turkey. Some of the data can be supplied by equivalent information from alternative sources, including administrative registers, provided the data obtained are of equivalent quality. Typically, the Nordic countries take demographic information directly from their population registers.

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

Since the early 2000s, the EU-LFS has been carried out every quarter; previously, it was an annual survey run in the spring. Since the survey became quarterly, it has included both quarterly and annual variables (i.e. those collected only once a year).

In addition to various employment statistics disseminated on a quarterly basis, averages of quarterly data are calculated and published annually, after the results for the last quarter of year T are published in year $T+1$.

Cultural employment estimates are calculated on the basis of annual data and updated annually.

Time coverage

For the EU-LFS in general, data are mostly available from 1999 or 2000 onwards, for all Member States.

Statistics on cultural employment are calculated from reference year 2011. Before 2011, EU-LFS data relied on an old version of ISCO (ISCO 88), which did not cover cultural occupations in the same way as the new version (ISCO 08).

Geographical coverage

Eurostat receives LFS data from the 28 EU Member States, plus Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Montenegro. Since 2014, data for France have included the overseas departments except Mayotte (i.e. Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana and La Réunion).

The LFS data can be broken down to the level of [NUTS 2](#) regions.

Reference population

The EU-LFS results cover the total population usually residing in the countries in question, except for people living in collective or institutional households. While demographic data are gathered for all age groups, questions relating to labour market status are restricted to those who are 15 years or older. In the participating EFTA countries (Iceland, Norway and Switzerland), population data are not provided for age groups that are not covered by the labour market questions.

Statistical unit

In the EU-LFS, the respondent units are individuals and households.

Cultural employment data and indicators relate to individuals.

Reference period

The EU-LFS is a continuous quarterly survey with interviews spread uniformly over all weeks of a quarter. The reference week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday. By convention, the first week of the year is the week including the first Thursday, and the first reference quarter consists of 13 consecutive weeks starting from that week. Therefore, the reference quarter corresponds to the calendar quarter.

As for many employment-related variables, the reference period is the last week. For the purposes of the EU-LFS, an **employed person** is a person aged 15 or over (16 or over in Iceland and Norway) who performed work during the reference week — even if just for an hour — for pay, profit or family gain.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

Methodological references

The statistical concept of cultural employment is based on the methodology proposed in the *ESSnet-Culture final report*. It encompasses situations (see Table 1) where a person:

- holds a cultural occupation and works in the cultural sector (e.g. a ballet dancer employed by a ballet company or a journalist working for a daily newspaper — field I);
- holds a cultural occupation outside the cultural sector (e.g. a designer working in the automobile industry — field II); or
- holds a non-cultural occupation in the cultural sector (e.g. an accountant working in a publishing house — field III).

Table 1: Cultural employment at the intersection of NACE and ISCO classifications

		Activities (NACE)	
		Cultural	Non-cultural
Occupations (ISCO)	Cultural	I	II
	Non-cultural	III	IV

Cultural employment therefore consists of the sum of I + II + III in Table 1.

However, not all of the NACE and ISCO codes are 'fully cultural'; some represent 'partially cultural' economic activities or occupations. The *ESSnet-Culture final report* put forward a list of all fully or partially cultural NACE and ISCO codes; this was later amended by the Eurostat working group on culture statistics.

A detailed list of 'cultural' NACE Rev. 2 and ISCO 08 codes, as currently used for the compilation of cultural employment statistics from the EU-LFS, is provided in section 3.2 below.

Classifications

The EU-LFS uses Eurostat's [Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community \(NACE\)](#) to encode the economic activity of the main job and second job. The minimal level of detail in NACE is two digits, but a number of countries voluntarily provide NACE three-digit codes for the main job. NACE Rev. 2 has been implemented since 2008.

The [International standard classification of occupations \(ISCO\)](#) was developed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and is used to classify the occupational status of employed people. The EU-LFS uses ISCO at three-digit level for the main job (the fourth digit is provided on a voluntary basis). The classification was last revised in 2008 (ISCO 08) and the LFS has used that version since 2011.

The [International Standard Classification of Education \(ISCED\)](#) is used primarily to determine interviewees' educational attainment level. ISCED 2011 has been applied since 2014, replacing ISCED 97.

Reference documents

The *ESSnet-Culture final report* considers cultural employment in its chapter devoted to cultural industries (pp. 139–151 and 155–168).

The main concepts and features of the EU-LFS are available in the article [EU labour force survey](#), and in detailed [EU-LFS database user guide](#).

Annual EU-LFS quality reports give a brief description of the survey and a summary of the main quality indicators, i.e. relevance, accuracy, accessibility and clarity, timeliness and punctuality, comparability, and coherence. The latest currently available report is the [Quality report of the European Union Labour Force Survey 2016](#).

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

EU-LFS disaggregated data are used as an input for calculating cultural employment statistics. An algorithm was developed to make sure that all individuals employed in the cultural sphere (in a cultural economic activity and/or occupation) are included. On the basis of the cross-tabulation of NACE and ISCO nomenclatures, all people in a cultural occupation (ISCO) are included, whatever economic activity (NACE) they are employed in, while all people working in a cultural economic activity are included regardless of the cultural nature of their occupation.

The algorithm calculates cultural employment in countries that provide the most detailed data, i.e. NACE three-digit and ISCO four-digit data. For countries with a different combination of available digits for those two dimensions, estimates are calculated on the basis of available data for other countries.

Tables 2 and 3 show the details of all NACE and ISCO codes that are part of the cultural scope of employment statistics, based on expert discussions in the context of ESSnet-Culture or later in the Eurostat's working group on culture statistics.

But data for this theoretical scope, built on the lowest level of classification details, are not fully available in the EU-LFS. In the statistical processing of cultural employment, the 'operational definition' based on the actual availability of data gathered by the survey is applied. Appendix I presents the theoretical and operational scope of cultural sectors in NACE Rev. 2 in three EU data collections: EU-LFS, SBS and BD.

Table 2: Economic activities (NACE Rev. 2 at two-, three- and four-digit level) that relate fully (1) or partly (x) to culture

NACE Rev.2 code	Description	Cultural component
18	Printing and reproduction of recorded media	1*
18.1	Printing and service activities related to printing	1*
18.2	Reproduction of recorded media	1*
32	Other manufacturing	x
	(...)	
32.2	Manufacture of musical instruments	1*
47	Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	x
	(...)	
47.6	Retail sale of cultural and recreation goods in specialised stores	x
47.61	Retail sale of books in specialised stores	1*
47.62	Retail sale of newspapers and stationery in specialised stores	1*
47.63	Retail sale of music and video recordings in specialised stores	1*
47.64	Retail sale of sporting equipment in specialised stores	0
47.65	Retail sale of games and toys in specialised stores	0
	(...)	
58	Publishing activities	x
58.1	Publishing of books, periodicals and other publishing activities	1*
58.11	Book publishing	1
58.12	Publishing of directories and mailing lists	1**
58.13	Publishing of newspapers	1
58.14	Publishing of journals and periodicals	1
58.19	Other publishing activities	1**
58.2	Software publishing	x
58.21	Publishing of computer games	1
58.29	Other software publishing	0
59	Motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing activities	1
59.1	Motion picture, video and television programme activities	1
59.11	Motion picture, video and television programme production activities	1
59.12	Motion picture, video and television programme post-production activities	1
59.13	Motion picture, video and television programme distribution activities	1
59.14	Motion picture projection activities	1
59.2	Sound recording and music publishing activities	1
60	Programming and broadcasting activities	1
60.1	Radio broadcasting	1
60.2	Television programming and broadcasting activities	1
63	Information service activities	x
63.1	Data processing, hosting and related activities; web portals	0
63.9	Other information service activities	x
63.91	News agency activities	1
63.99	Other information service activities n.e.c.	0
71	Architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis	x
71.1	Architectural and engineering activities and related technical consultancy	x
71.11	Architectural activities	1
71.12	Engineering activities and related technical consultancy	0
71.2	Technical testing and analysis	0
73	Advertising and market research	x
73.1	Advertising	x
73.11	Advertising agencies	x
73.12	Media representation	0

NACE Rev.2 code	Description	Cultural component
73.2	Market research and public opinion polling	0
74	Other professional, scientific and technical activities	x
74.1	Specialised design activities	1
74.2	Photographic activities	1*
74.3	Translation and interpretation activities	1*
74.9	Other professional, scientific and technical activities n.e.c.	0
77	Rental and leasing activities	x
	(...)	
77.2	Renting and leasing of personal and household goods	x
77.21	Renting and leasing of recreational and sports goods	0
77.22	Renting of video tapes and disks	1*
77.29	Renting and leasing of other personal and household goods	0
	(...)	
85	Education	x
	(...)	
85.5	Other education	x
85.51	Sports and recreation education	0
85.52	Cultural education	1
85.53	Driving school activities	0
85.59	Other education n.e.c.	0
	(...)	
90	Creative, arts and entertainment activities	1
90.01	Performing arts	1
90.02	Support activities to performing arts	1
90.03	Artistic creation	1
90.04	Operation of arts facilities	1
91	Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities	1**
91.01	Library and archives activities	1
91.02	Museums activities	1
91.03	Operation of historical sites and buildings and similar visitor attractions	1
91.04	Botanical and zoological gardens and nature reserves activities	0

Notes: * Eurostat's working group on culture statistics reclassified these codes as fully cultural at a meeting in 2016.

** These codes are not considered fully cultural from a theoretical point of view; they were included for practical reasons (availability of three-digit codes only in the EU-LFS). For example, in the *ESSnet-Culture final report*, NACE code 91 was not considered fully cultural (91.04 was excluded from the scope of culture). However, because NACE four-digit level data were not available in the EU-LFS, the working group on culture statistics accepted all of code 91 as cultural at a meeting in 2015. The non-cultural codes 58.12 and 58.19 are included for the same reason (otherwise, the entire 58.1 category would escape cultural employment statistics, even though non-cultural codes 58.12 and 58.19 represent only a small part of the 58.1 category).

Table 3: Occupations (ISCO 08 three- and four-digit level) that relate fully (1) or partly (x) to culture

ISCO 08 code	Title	Cultural component
122	Sales, marketing and development managers	x
1221	Sales and marketing managers	0
1222	Advertising and public relations managers	x
1223	Research and development managers	0
134	Professional services managers	x
1341	Child care services managers	0
1342	Health services managers	0
1343	Aged care services managers	0
1344	Social welfare managers	0
1345	Education managers	0
1346	Financial and insurance services branch managers	0
1349	Professional services managers not elsewhere classified	x
143	Other services managers	x
1431	Sports, recreation and cultural centre managers	x
1439	Services managers not elsewhere classified	0
216	Architects, planners, surveyors and designers	1*
2161	Building architects	1
2162	Landscape architects	1
2163	Product and garment designers	1
2164	Town and traffic planners	1*
2165	Cartographers and surveyors	1*
2166	Graphic and multimedia designers	1
231	University and higher education teachers	x
2310	University and higher education teachers	x
232	Vocational education teachers	x
2320	Vocational education teachers	x
233	Secondary education teachers	x
2330	Secondary education teachers	x
234	Primary school and early childhood teachers	x
2341	Primary school teachers	x
2342	Early childhood educators	0
235	Other teaching professionals	x
2351	Education methods specialists	0
2352	Special needs teachers	0
2353	Other language teachers	1*
2354	Other music teachers	1
2355	Other arts teachers	1
2356	Information technology trainers	0
2359	Teaching professionals not elsewhere classified	0
251	Software and applications developers and analysts	x
2511	Systems analysts	0
2512	Software developers	0
2513	Web and multimedia developers	x
2514	Applications programmers	0
2519	Software developers and analysts not elsewhere classified	0
262	Librarians, archivists and curators	1
2621	Archivists and curators	1
2622	Librarians and related information professionals	1
263	Social and religious professionals	x
2631	Economists	0

ISCO 08 code	Title	Cultural component
2632	Sociologists, anthropologists and related professionals	x
2633	Philosophers, historians and political scientists	x
2634	Psychologists	0
2635	Social work and counselling professionals	0
2636	Religious professionals	0
264	Authors, journalists and linguists	1
2641	Authors and related writers	1
2642	Journalists	1
2643	Translators, interpreters and other linguists	1
265	Creative and performing artists	1
2651	Visual artists	1
2652	Musicians, singers and composers	1
2653	Dancers and choreographers	1
2654	Film, stage and related directors and producers	1
2655	Actors	1
2656	Announcers on radio, television and other media	1
2659	Creative and performing artists not elsewhere classified	1
333	Business services agents	x
3331	Clearing and forwarding agents	0
3332	Conference and event planners	0
3333	Employment agents and contractors	0
3334	Real estate agents and property managers	0
3339	Business services agents not elsewhere classified	x
343	Artistic, cultural and culinary associate professionals	x
3431	Photographers	1
3432	Interior designers and decorators	1
3433	Gallery, museum and library technicians	1
3434	Chefs	0
3435	Other artistic and cultural associate professionals	1
352	Telecommunications and broadcasting technicians	x
3521	Broadcasting and audio-visual technicians	1
3522	Telecommunications engineering technicians	0
441	Other clerical support workers	x
4411	Library clerks	1
4412	Mail carriers and sorting clerks	0
4413	Coding, proof-reading and related clerks	0
4414	Scribes and related workers	0
4415	Filing and copying clerks	0
4416	Personnel clerks	0
4419	Clerical support workers not elsewhere classified	0
511	Travel attendants, conductors and guides	x
5111	Travel attendants and travel stewards	0
5112	Transport conductors	0
5113	Travel guides	x
731	Handicraft workers	x
7311	Precision-instrument makers and repairers	0
7312	Musical instrument makers and tuners	1
7313	Jewellery and precious-metal workers	1
7314	Potters and related workers	1
7315	Glass makers, cutters, grinders and finishers	1
7316	Sign writers, decorative painters, engravers and etchers	1
7317	Handicraft workers in wood, basketry and related materials	1
7318	Handicraft workers in textile, leather and related materials	1

ISCO 08 code	Title	Cultural component
7319	Handicraft workers not elsewhere classified	1
752	Wood treaters, cabinet-makers and related trades workers	x
7521	Wood treaters	0
7522	Cabinet-makers and related workers	x
7523	Woodworking-machine tool setters and operators	0

Notes:* Eurostat's working group on culture statistics reclassified these codes as fully cultural at a meeting in 2016.

Treatment of partly cultural codes

A first difficulty in calculating cultural employment is to deal with NACE and ISCO codes that are partly cultural at the most detailed level available in the EU-LFS (i.e. four digits for ISCO codes, three digits for NACE codes). Due to the lack of information regarding their cultural part, the ISCO four-digit and NACE three-digit codes that are only partly cultural are not considered as cultural in the algorithm.

However, thanks to the cross-tabulation (NACE x ISCO) method, people with a 'partly cultural' occupation code are actually included in cultural employment statistics if they are also employed in a fully cultural sector of activity (and conversely, those with a 'partly cultural' economic activity are included when they have a fully cultural occupation).

Number of available digits in NACE and ISCO

A second difficulty lies in the level of detail (i.e. the number of digits of the NACE and ISCO codes) provided by countries: in the current EU-LFS Regulation, the minimum requirement is two digits for NACE and three digits for ISCO. Fortunately, most countries (around two-thirds for reference year 2017) provide more detail (three digits for NACE, four for ISCO). Such detailed data make it possible to calculate cultural employment (defined as the sum of fully cultural three-digit NACE and four-digit ISCO codes) accurately. For the other countries, cultural employment is estimated by using the coefficients calculated for countries providing the highest level of detail.

As a result, any change in the level of detail provided by a country from one year to the next leads to a break in the series. Table 4 shows details by country over the period 2011-2017.

Table 4: Details of digit levels of ISCO*NACE classifications available in the EU-LFS

Country	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Belgium	3*2	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2
Bulgaria	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2
Czechia	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Denmark	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2
Germany	3*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Estonia	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Ireland	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2
Greece	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3
Spain	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3
France	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Croatia	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Italy	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	4*3
Cyprus	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	4*3	4*3	4*3
Latvia	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2
Lithuania	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Luxembourg	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Hungary	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Malta	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Netherlands	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Austria	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Poland	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Portugal	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3
Romania	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Slovenia	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2	4*2
Slovakia	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Finland	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Sweden	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
United Kingdom	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Iceland	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3	3*3
Norway	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Switzerland	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Montenegro	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3	4*3
Turkey	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2	3*2

More detailed information about the matrix applied when calculating cultural employment is provided in the [document detailing the compilation of cultural employment statistics](#).

Data reliability

In accordance with EU-LFS practice, cultural employment statistics published in Eurobase use a flagging typology to inform the user about data accuracy. Two cases apply to LFS data: data of low reliability and unreliable data. Those reliability levels are defined based on sample size and survey design in individual countries, and refer to weighted results. In dissemination, the data of a low reliability are flagged 'u', while the unreliable data are not published and are flagged ':u'. Reliability flagging is linked to annually published reliability limits (see [Publication guidelines and thresholds](#)).

3.3 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Estimates

As explained above, the algorithm used for calculating cultural employment figures relies on estimates for countries that do not provide a three-digit level of detail for NACE codes and/or four digits for ISCO codes. The fact that these estimates are calculated on the basis of data for other Member States may result in a bias for some countries.

No estimation is applied to the partly cultural four-digit ISCO codes and partly cultural three-digit NACE codes, because in order to be valid this would have to be done at national level. In the absence of relevant information, these codes are simply not included in calculations and cultural employment is under-estimated as a result.

There are two exceptions to that conservative principle: two partly cultural NACE codes that are important for culture — 581 ('publishing of books, periodicals and other publishing activities') and 910 ('libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities') — include small non-cultural parts, e.g. in code 910, only 9104 ('botanical and zoological gardens and nature reserves activities') is not cultural. Due to the unavailability of data at NACE four-digit level, the non-cultural part was impossible to estimate. In order to avoid excluding codes 581 and 910, it was decided that they should be considered fully cultural. This results in a slight over-estimation of cultural employment figures, which may be compensated by the general under-estimation of the conservative methodology.

Only main jobs captured

People with a cultural occupation, e.g. artists, often have another job. As a rule in the EU-LFS, such people decide themselves which job is to be considered the main job (in cases of doubt, the main job should be that accounting for the greatest number of hours usually worked). Where the respondent considers her/his cultural job to be secondary, it will not be included in cultural employment statistics. EU-LFS data about the second job are available, but at a lower level of detail (only two digits for NACE).

Consistency with employment statistics in national accounts and SBS

The EU-LFS data are preferred as a source of data on cultural employment because the survey provides information not only on the sector of employment but also on the occupation of the interviewee (through the ISCO classification). National accounts provide data at too aggregated level, and structural business statistics (SBS) cover market-oriented companies only.

For various reasons relating to the nature of the EU-LFS (statistical unit, sampling design, etc.), its employment figures may differ from those obtained from other sources.

Key concepts used in national accounts, such as domestic employment, have no equivalents in the EU-LFS, which instead uses the number of people employed on the basis of residency within a national border (national employment). There are also differences in coverage – the EU-LFS covers only people aged 15 and over living in private households, while national accounts cover all people, regardless of age or type of residence. The reference period for the measurement may also contribute to some differences. The LFS estimates represent the average of all weeks in the year (for annual results) or the quarter (for quarterly results).

National accounts stock estimates refer to the middle of the year (for annual accounts) or the middle of the quarter (for quarterly accounts). National accounts combine data from all available data sources in the country, which ensures better coverage of the non-observed economy. For this reason, national accounts employment estimates are frequently higher than LFS estimates. The reasons for the disparities, either in levels or in the direction of employment growth, are not fully known. In general, the sources of incoherence vary widely across countries.

Broadly, national accounts are judged to be more suitable for measuring employment levels, employment growth and industry breakdowns, while the EU-LFS is better suited to measuring participation in the labour market (i.e. employment rates, activity rates, etc.), or analysing the situation of specific socio-economic groups (e.g. by age, sex or educational level).

Structural business statistics (SBS) and short-term business statistics (STS) focus on production-related variables such as output, turnover and value added. The employment estimates may, and frequently do, differ from LFS results, mainly because of differences in:

- scope — business surveys gather information on production units operating in the territory, whereas the LFS gathers information on people living in the country. Cross-border workers and seasonal workers are therefore recorded in different countries;
- coverage — business statistics focus on market-oriented activities. The LFS covers all economic activities and all company sizes, whereas business statistics typically do not gather information on agriculture, government and some service activities. In addition, business registers used to compile business statistics may not include small companies below a certain threshold or may leave out people not appearing on the payroll or in the accounting books, such as family workers. Finally, the LFS does not usually collect information on people living in collective households (while business statistics do not exclude this information); and
- units — business surveys estimate the number of jobs whereas the LFS counts jobholders. Business surveys rarely have access to information on jobholders' age, sex, etc.; the LFS is the only source for such data.

Expected future changes and developments

A new Regulation on integrated European social statistics (IESS), which is expected to enter into force in 2021 or 2022, will affect the EU-LFS in many ways. Among the expected changes, all respondent countries will have to collect NACE three-digit data on the main job and ISCO four-digit occupation data. In other words, estimates of cultural employment figures will hopefully not be needed from reference year 2021 or 2022 onwards.

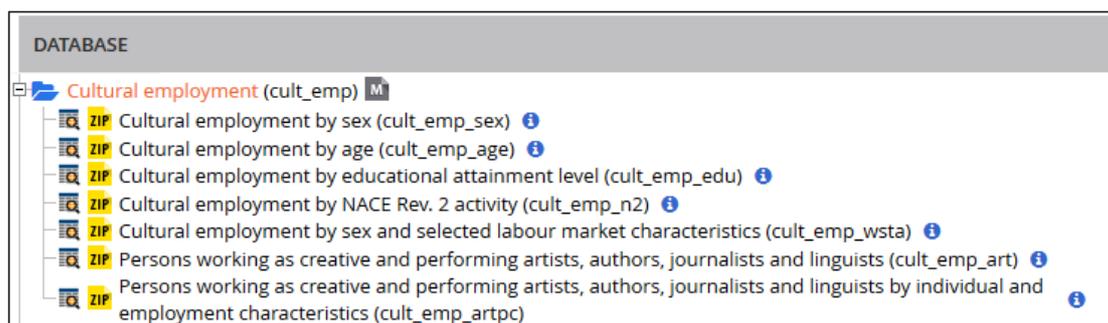
4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section on the Eurostat website includes an introduction to cultural employment statistics: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

Seven tables are currently available in the Eurobase domain *Population and social conditions > Culture > Cultural employment*:



Description of tables

The items and categories available in tables on cultural employment are as follows:

Breakdown by social variables

- sex;
- age;
- educational attainment
 - low — less than primary, primary and lower secondary education (levels 0-2);
 - medium — upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education (levels 3 and 4); and
 - high — tertiary education (levels 5-8);
- economic activity — selected NACE categories (18, 32, 58, 59, 60, 74, 90, 91);
- occupation — selected ISCO categories (ISCO codes 264 and 265); and
- labour market characteristics — employees with a permanent job, self-employed people, employed people working full-time, employed people with one job only.

Time coverage

From 2011 onwards.

Unit of measurement

- number of persons in thousands; and
- percentage of total employment

Revisions

EU-LFS data are subject to frequent revisions. Consequently, quarterly and annual data in the LFS domain are updated on a regular basis.

Cultural employment data are compiled and updated once a year and all revisions between periods are taken into account in the subsequent release.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the 'culture' data tree.

Access to microdata

Microdata are available for 31 countries and access is granted for scientific purposes following the set-up [procedures](#).

Publications

An analysis of cultural employment figures is presented in the following *Statistics explained* article: [Culture statistics — cultural employment](#).

3

Cultural enterprises

1. Introduction

Statistics on cultural enterprises show how market-oriented cultural enterprises contribute to the overall economy. The main variables of interest are the number of enterprises, turnover, value added at factor cost and the birth and survival rates of active enterprises.

These statistics are taken from **structural business statistics (SBS)** and **business demography (BD)** data. While SBS data focus on input variables (labour, goods and services and their cost, and investments) and output variables (monetary indicators such as turnover and value added at factor cost), BD data provide indicators such as birth, death and survival rates for market-oriented cultural enterprises.

For the purpose of cultural statistics, specific SBS 'cultural enterprises' aggregates are computed and made available in the 'Culture' domain in Eurobase, enabling the publication of indicators on:

- the number of active enterprises;
- the size of enterprises (number of employed people per enterprise);
- value added at factor cost; and
- turnover.

Some BD statistics (e.g. birth rate, survival rate) are also made available in the Eurobase 'Culture' domain, but no specific cultural aggregate is computed (it is more relevant to analyse BD data by detailed economic activity).

The 2012 *ESSnet-Culture final report* describes the methodology applied to culture statistics, including the scope of the 'cultural economic activities' based on NACE. Both SBS and BD provide data by economic activity, using the NACE classification.

In 2018, Eurostat's working group on culture statistics agreed to extend the scope of culture as established by ESSnet-Culture. The revised scope applies to statistics on cultural enterprises for reference years from 2010 onwards. Eurostat's latest publication *Culture statistics — 2016 edition* was still based on the previous scope.

2. Data sources

General overview

Depending on the data collection strategy adopted nationally, **SBS** data may come from different **data sources**: statistical surveys and/or administrative data or registers. The statistical business register serves as the basis for the statistical population. Statistical surveys usually involve exhaustive surveys of large enterprises (businesses above an industry-specific employment threshold) and sampling of small businesses.

In the EU, the SBS data are reported to Eurostat in accordance with the relevant EU **legislation**.

SBS data describe the structure, conduct and performance of businesses across Europe. They can be broken down to a very detailed sectoral level (several hundred economic activities) and are thus much more detailed than national accounts aggregates.

BD data cover a group of variables that describe enterprises' characteristics and demography. The creation of new enterprises and the closure of others reflect business dynamism in the economic sector in question.

The national business registers are the main source of data for BD statistics. No samples are drawn from the registers: the full registers are processed. The registers hold data *inter alia* on creation and cessation of enterprises, their legal form, economic activity, employment, turnover, etc.

Some countries improve the availability of specific data on employment and turnover by including other sources.

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

Eurostat receives SBS and BD data annually. Certain series focusing on specific sectors in which it is particularly difficult to collect data are covered at intervals of a few years.

EU SBS aggregates are calculated and disseminated twice a year for most characteristics of the main data series, broken down by economic activity and, for some variables, size class. Preliminary data are published a year after the end of the reference year ($T+1$). Final data are published two years after the end of the reference year ($T+2$).

BD data on 'enterprise deaths' are confirmed only after two years, in case the unit concerned becomes active again during that period. Final data on enterprise deaths are thus reported a year later than other data. However, survival rates are based on preliminary data and not updated.

Time coverage

As regards SBS in general, 1995 is the first reference year for implementation. 1995-1998 was a transition period. The dataset is more complete and comparable from reference year 1999 onwards.

BD data are generally available from:

- 1997 — enterprise stocks and deaths;
- 1998 — enterprise births;
- 1999 — survival rates.

For both SBS and BD, NACE Rev. 2 has been implemented as of reference year 2008.

SBS indicators for cultural aggregates have been computed since 2010 reference year.

Geographical coverage

Eurostat receives SBS and BD data from all 28 EU countries, plus Norway, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Iceland (for Iceland, data are scarcer for SBS). SBS data are also provided by Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The SBS data are also available by NUTS 2 region and BD data by NUTS 3.

Reference population

The SBS regulation covers enterprises classified under NACE Rev. 2 sections B-N and division S95, which (broadly speaking) include market activities in:

- industry;
- construction;
- distributive trades; and
- (market) services.

Financial services (NACE Rev. 2 section K) are generally kept separate because of their specific nature and the limited availability of most types of standard business statistics. The term 'non-financial business economy' is often used to refer to economic activities covered by NACE Rev. 2 sections B-J and L-N and division S95.

SBS do not cover:

- agriculture, forestry and fishing;
- public administration; and
- largely non-market services, such as education or health.

BD coverage encompasses enterprises in sections B-N (excluding the activities of holding companies – K64.2). Data for sections P, Q, R and S are provided on a voluntary basis.

Statistical unit

The statistical unit is the enterprise as defined in Council Regulation (EEC) No 696/93. The enterprise is the smallest combination of legal units constituting an organisational unit producing goods or services and benefiting from a degree of autonomy in decision-making, especially as regards allocating its current resources.

An enterprise performs one or more activities at one or more locations and may comprise one or more legal units. If it performs more than one economic activity, the value added and the

turnover it generates, the people it employs and the values of all other variables will be classified under its principal activity. The principal activity of a statistical unit is that which contributes most to the total value added of that unit.

Reference period

Both BD and SBS data refer to the calendar year — the same as the tax year in most cases.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

The *ESSnet-Culture final report* identified a list of NACE Rev. 2 codes pertaining to culture. This initial scope of culture was revised in 2018 on the basis of the work of the culture statistics working group which agreed on the inclusion of additional NACE codes, broadening 'cultural services' to include trade (NACE Rev. 2 codes G47.61, G47.62, G47.63) and industry (C18, C32.12 and C32.2). Some service-related economic activities (M74.2, M74.3 and N77.22) were also added.

Table 5 summarises the NACE Rev. 2 codes used for statistics on cultural enterprises from the SBS and/or BD databases, depending on availability.

Table 5: Culture-related economic activities (NACE Rev. 2 codes) available in SBS and BD

NACE Rev. 2 'cultural' codes	Description	SBS database	BD database
C18	Printing & reproduction of recorded media	x	
C32.12	Manufacture of jewellery & related articles	x ⁽¹⁾	
C32.2	Manufacture of musical instruments	x	
G47.61	Retail sale of books in specialised stores	x ⁽¹⁾	
G47.62	Retail sale of newspapers & stationery in specialised stores	x ⁽¹⁾	
G47.63	Retail sale of music & video recordings in specialised stores	x ⁽¹⁾	
J58.11	Book publishing	x ⁽¹⁾	
J58.13	Publishing of newspapers	x ⁽¹⁾	
J58.14	Publishing of journals & periodicals	x ⁽¹⁾	
J58.21	Publishing of computer games	x ⁽¹⁾	
J59	Motion picture, video & television programme production, sound recording & music publishing activities	x	x
J60	Programming & broadcasting activities	x	x
J63.91	News agency activities	x ⁽¹⁾	
M71.11	Architectural activities	x ⁽¹⁾	x
M74.1	Specialised design activities	x	x
M74.2	Photographic activities	x	x
M74.3	Translation & interpretation activities	x	x
N77.22	Renting of video tapes & disks	x ⁽¹⁾	x
R90	Creative, arts & entertainment activities		x ⁽²⁾
R91	Libraries, archives, museums & other cultural activities		x ⁽²⁾

Notes:

(¹) Variable 'size class' (table sbs_sc_1b_se_r2) not available at NACE four-digit level. (²) On a voluntary basis.

Classifications

For cultural business statistics, NACE Rev. 2 is the main classification used. It forms the basis for collecting, compiling and disseminating SBS. For national purposes, the Member States are allowed to use a national version derived from the NACE Rev. 2 which is tailored to their national economic structures. However, such national versions must still fit into the structural and hierarchical framework of NACE Rev. 2.

NACE Rev. 2 was adopted at the end of 2006 and implemented in SBS from the 2008 reference year. This made it possible to compile broader and more detailed information on services, while also updating the classification to identify new areas of activity better.

As regards business data by size class, the [EC Recommendation 2003/361/EC](#) classifies small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) by the number of persons employed. For statistical purposes, SMEs are generally defined as firms employing fewer than 250 people. The number of size-classes available varies according to the activity under consideration. However, the main groups used for analytical purposes and dissemination of data on SMEs are:

- micro-enterprises (fewer than 10 persons employed);
- small enterprises (10–49 persons employed); and
- medium-sized enterprises (50–249 persons employed).

The BD data are available for breakdown by size class (0, 1–4, 5–9, 10 or more employees) and legal form (sole proprietorship, partnership and limited liability enterprise).

Reference documents

The *ESSnet-Culture final report* deals with statistics on cultural enterprises in the chapter produced by task force 3 'Cultural industries' (pp. 129–226).

As regards SBS, specific methodological information and quality reports relating to the collection of these statistics in individual countries are available here: [SBS methodology by country](#).

As regards BD, most countries adhere closely to the methodology laid down in the [Eurostat-OECD manual on business demography statistics](#). For national deviations, see the [country-specific notes](#).

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

Data compilation

'Cultural enterprises' aggregates are computed for the following SBS indicators:

- number of enterprises;
- size of enterprises (number of employed people);
- value added (at factor cost); and
- turnover.

The 'cultural aggregate' is the sum of all NACE Rev. 2 economic activities identified as cultural, and available in the SBS database.

The main difficulty with compiling cultural aggregates (i.e. the sum of all culture-related NACE codes) is confidentiality of data, especially when economic activities are examined at a very detailed (NACE three- or four-digit) level. To address this issue, every year Eurostat sends an *ad-hoc* request to all countries identified as being able to waive confidentiality as regards the cultural aggregate. The aggregate is made available for dissemination if these countries agree, but the confidential sub-components remain confidential and unpublished.

No 'cultural enterprises' aggregate is computed for BD data. These data have to be analysed separately for the various sectors available in the BD database.

3.3 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Coverage of 'culture'

Business statistics describe market-oriented enterprises and do not usually include non-profit companies or public services that are largely subsidised. This restriction clearly affects the picture for areas such as culture.

SBS do not currently cover NACE codes R90 ('creative, arts and entertainment activities') and R91 ('libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities'), two areas of considerable importance from a cultural point of view. BD statistics include them on a voluntary basis only.

Completeness over time

As mentioned above, *ad-hoc* specific requests are sent by Eurostat to countries that might agree to waive the confidentiality of some NACE codes in order to compute the cultural aggregate. With the scope revision in 2018 (for the reference year 2015), the *ad-hoc* requests of the previous years were no longer valid. Such requests represent a burden for Eurostat and the responding countries. They were not reiterated backwards, so cultural aggregates for reference years 2010-2014 are now missing for the countries with confidential data on some cultural activities.

International comparability

In some countries, a threshold (in terms of turnover or number of people employed) is applied when sampling business units, so small businesses may be excluded from published figures. In practice, many countries' business registers have a low threshold, given the coverage criteria of the sources used to establish and update the register. Variation in the level of thresholds in business registers may affect comparability across countries to some extent.

Expected future changes and developments

A Commission proposal for a new framework Regulation on integrated business statistics (FRIBS) is currently under discussion by the co-legislators. It would affect culture-related business statistics in two major ways:

- it is proposed that the coverage of annual enterprise statistics be extended to the important culture-related NACE divisions R90 ('creative, arts and entertainment activities') and R91 ('libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities'), as well as on code 8552 ('cultural education').

This would improve coverage of the cultural sphere (while retaining a focus on market-oriented businesses).

However, it would also introduce a general break in series for the cultural aggregates. This applies in particular to indicators expressed as a percentage: including the NACE division R means changing the divisor (denominator) from 'total non-financial business economy' (i.e. the sum of NACE codes B-N without K, plus S95) to 'industry, construction and services, except public administration, defence, compulsory social security, activities of membership organisations, activities of households as employers and extra-territorial organisations and bodies (i.e. B+C+D+E+F+G+H+I+J+K+L+M+N+P+Q+R+S95+S96); and

- it is also proposed that countries compute two cultural aggregates (the sum of culture-related NACE codes — one for all sectors and another for services) and send them to Eurostat. Eurostat would no longer need to make *ad-hoc* requests regarding confidentiality issues.

In addition, the new Regulation would enable data from SBS and BD to be reconciled, thereby improving consistency between the two datasets. Currently, data on the population of active enterprises, for example, may vary slightly between the two databases due to their use of different methodologies to define the populations covered and to collect data.

4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section on the Eurostat website includes an introduction to cultural enterprises statistics: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

Six tables with statistics on 'cultural enterprises' are available in Eurobase in the domain *Population and social conditions* > *Culture* > *Enterprises in cultural sectors*:

DATABASE	
Enterprises in cultural sectors (cult_ent)	M
ZIP	Number and average size of enterprises in the cultural sectors by NACE Rev. 2 activity (cult_ent_num) ⓘ
ZIP	Value added and turnover of enterprises in the cultural sectors by NACE Rev. 2 activity (cult_ent_val) ⓘ
ZIP	Industry by employment size class (NACE Rev. 2, B-E) (sbs_sc_ind_r2) ⓘ
ZIP	Services by employment size class (NACE Rev. 2, H-N, S95) (sbs_sc_1b_se_r2) ⓘ
ZIP	Annual enterprise statistics by size class for special aggregates of activities (NACE Rev. 2) (sbs_sc_sca_r2) ⓘ
ZIP	Business demography by size class (from 2004 onwards, NACE Rev. 2) (bd_9bd_sz_cl_r2) ⓘ
ZIP	Sold production, exports and imports by PRODCOM list (NACE Rev. 2) - annual data (DS-066341)

The first two tables include a cultural aggregate.

Description of tables

Table '*cult_ent_num*' includes two indicators, by cultural economic activity (NACE Rev. 2):

- number of enterprises; and
- average size of enterprises (average number of persons employed by enterprise).

Table '*cult_ent_val*' presents two monetary indicators, by cultural economic activity (NACE Rev. 2):

- turnover (gross premium written); and
- value added at factor cost.

Both indicators are expressed in millions of euros and as a percentage of the total non-financial business economy: total business economy B-N except K ('financial and insurance activities') and S95 ('repair of computers and personal and household goods').

Both tables cover the reference year 2010 and onwards.

Additional indicators are available in the SBS source data tables (for various NACE economic activities but without cultural aggregate):

- [special aggregates of activities](#);
- [industry](#);
- [trade](#), and
- [services](#).

The bookmarks for Tables '[sbs_sc_ind_r2](#)', '[sbs_sc_1b_se_r2](#)' and '[sbs_sc_sca_r2](#)' point to a selected list of culture-related NACE categories and a selection of indicators (number of enterprises, turnover and value added), by size classes in number of persons employed:

- less than 10;
- 10-19, 20-49, 50-249; and
- 250 or more.

Finally, the bookmark for Table '[bd_9bd_sz_cl_r2](#)' points to a selected list of culture-related NACE categories and many BD indicators, e.g.:

- population of active enterprises;
- number of enterprises newly born in $T-1$ that survive in T ;
- number of people employed in active enterprises;
- number of employees in active enterprises;
- people employed in enterprises newly born in $T-1$ that survive in T ;
- people employed in the year of birth in the population of enterprises newly born in $T-1$ that survive in T ;
- birth rate: number of enterprise births in the reference period (T) as a percentage of the number of enterprises active in T ; and
- survival rate: number of enterprises in the reference period (T) newly born in $T-1$ that survive to T as a percentage of the number of enterprise births in $T-1$.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the culture data tree.

Publications

Figures on cultural enterprises are analysed in the following *Statistics explained* article: [Culture statistics — cultural enterprises](#).

4

International trade in cultural goods

1. Introduction

Statistics on the international trade in cultural goods are part of a set of measures that make it possible to assess and monitor the economic impact of culture. The *ESSnet-Culture final report* identifies dissemination (trade) as one of six sequenced functions in the cultural cycle (Figure 1) — it is needed for the transmission of cultural goods, values and ideas.

Statistics on imports and exports of cultural goods provide an insight into the contribution of cultural trade to total national trade and its contribution to the EU economy as a whole.

Figure 1: Trade as a cultural function



The *ESSnet-Culture final report* did not explicitly cover international trade in cultural goods. *UNESCO's framework for cultural statistics (FCS)*, on his side, addressed this topic, defined cultural goods for the purpose of international trade and proposed cultural trade indicators in line with its concept of culture.

2. Data source

European international trade in goods statistics (ITGS)

Statistics on international trade in cultural goods are based on data extracted from [Comext](#), Eurostat's database on [international trade in goods](#).

In the EU, the international trade in goods is reported and registered in accordance with EU [regulations](#) establishing the legal framework for gathering trade statistics on tangible goods. The use of common definitions, classifications and common procedures guarantees a high level of quality and harmonisation in the collected data and enables very detailed international comparisons.

The legislation on European statistics on international trade in goods relies on the concepts of [extra-EU trade](#) and [intra-EU trade](#) and corresponding 'Extrastat legislation' and 'Intrastat legislation' that has applied since 1993 when the [single European market](#) came into operation. The defining feature of the EU single market is the underlying principle of free movement of goods and the removal of custom formalities between the Member States. This made it necessary to create two specific monitoring systems: Intrastat for intra-EU trade and Extrastat for trade with non-EU partners.

Under the Intrastat and Extrastat legislation, all goods entering EU territory are recorded in the country of receipt if released for free circulation as extra-EU [imports](#). The same goods can then be dispatched to another Member State as intra-EU [exports](#). This specific system for extra-EU trade is called the 'special trade system' which applies to all goods entering or leaving the economic territory of a country with the exception of goods in transit.

Comext database

National authorities record data on international trade in goods and transmit them to Eurostat on a regular basis. Eurostat compiles this detailed statistical information and stores it in Comext. Comext contains several datasets depending on the product nomenclature used, who declares the trade, etc., but the following statistical fields are always available:

- reporter — country declaring commercial transactions;
- partner — trade partners of declaring country (all countries of the world);
- flow — exports and imports;
- indicator — the value and/or volume of traded products;
- product — list of commodities by [Harmonised System \(HS\)](#), [Combined Nomenclature \(CN\)](#), [Standard International Trade Classification \(SITC\)](#) or other (depending on the dataset); and
- time — month or year.

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

The detailed trade data are collected on a monthly basis and disseminated in Eurostat's [International trade in goods database](#). Annual data are aggregated and then disseminated in $T+3$ months after the end of reference period.

Data on international trade in cultural goods are compiled at the earliest $T+10$ months after the end of reference year T to take account of revisions made by individual countries.

Time coverage

Detailed Comext data are available from 1988 onwards or from a more recent year, depending on the dataset and declaring countries.

Annual statistics on international trade in cultural goods are compiled for 2004 onwards.

Geographical coverage

Comext statistics on international trade in goods measure the value and quantity of goods traded between the EU Member States (intra-EU trade) and those traded by the Member States with non-EU countries (extra-EU trade). Trade values for EFTA and candidate countries as trade reporters are also collected. Comext thus contains data for declaring EU-28, EFTA and candidate countries trading with partners from all over the world.

Reference population

EU and Member States' international trade in goods includes all goods that are added to or subtracted from the stock of material resources of the reporting Member State by entering (imports) or leaving (exports) its economic territory.

Statistical unit

International trade statistics gather the data on the trade value of tangible goods, i.e. all movable property, including electricity (but excluding services and licences).

Any lodging of a customs declaration by a natural or legal person in a Member State constitutes reporting to the extra-EU trade statistics, provided that the customs procedure is of statistical relevance.

With intra-EU trade statistics, any taxable (legal or natural) person carrying out an intra-EU trade transaction is responsible for providing the information. However, small and medium-sized operators are exempted from the obligation to provide Intrastat declarations. Member States have implemented a threshold system that allows intra-EU traders not to report on their transaction, or to provide less detailed information, on condition that their total trade in the previous or present calendar year does not exceed a certain value. However, Member States must ensure minimum quality standards when determining these thresholds.

Reference period

The reference period for detailed information on international trade transactions should be the calendar month of [dispatch](#)/export or [arrival](#)/import of the good. However, in practice the reference period is generally (for extra-EU trade) the calendar month in which the customs declaration is accepted by the national authorities or (for intra-EU trade) that in which VAT becomes chargeable on intra-EU acquisitions.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

Methodological references

The *ESSnet-Culture final report* did not explicitly cover international trade in cultural goods but the methodology for gathering statistics on this topic draws on the concepts elaborated by ESSnet-Culture. The criterion of 'artistic creation' in the production process was essential for identifying cultural goods, as was the purpose of the products in conveying symbolic, artistic and spiritual expressions and values.

The selection criteria were checked against the numerous products identified within the 10 cultural domains acknowledged by ESSnet-Culture. This resulted in a list of products that could then be transposed into the CN at EU level. The scope was extended to some goods that do not meet the 'artistic creation' criterion, but enable artistic expression or access to cultural content (e.g. musical instruments, CDs, DVDs, video games and consoles). Some jewellery and ornamental articles were also included (as fruits of artistic creativity), despite the difficulty of distinguishing the production process in the product classification. However, other durable goods also enabling access to cultural content but resulting from large-scale manufacturing (e.g. TV sets, CD players and cameras) were excluded.

Eurostat's culture statistics working group approved the scope of 'cultural goods' in international trade statistics in 2016.

Reference documents

For more information on the frameworks for statistics on trade in cultural goods, please see:

- [UNESCO framework for cultural statistics, 2009](#) ; and
- [UNESCO — The globalisation of cultural trade - a shift in consumption: international flows of cultural goods and services 2004-2013](#).

For more information on the methodology for gathering European statistics on international trade in goods, see:

- [User guide on European statistics on international trade in goods — 2016 edition](#).

Classifications

International trade data are collected according to the Combined Nomenclature (CN) which is the European classification conceived for the purpose of international trade. The CN is composed of around 9 400 eight-digit codes that correspond to tangible goods classified according to their physical characteristics, nature and the type of material used. The final utility, usage and function of a good are not among the classification criteria. The CN classification is integrated into a larger system of classifications of products or activities related to each other by structure or correspondence tables. This makes it possible to convert data into other

classification systems ⁽²⁾, e.g. the Harmonised Systems (HS), Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) and Classification of Products by Activity (CPA). The advantage of the CN is that it is very detailed and is regularly updated to reflect changing technologies and include emerging products.

The [Geonomenclature](#) is used to classify reporting countries and trading partners.

Cultural goods

Cultural goods in international trade are goods identified according to the CN that involve 'creation' or 'artistic expression' in the production process and the purpose of which is to transmit aesthetic, symbolic or artistic values. CN eight-digit level goods meeting those criteria were identified in seven of the 10 cultural domains (in particular, heritage, books and press, visual arts, art craft, performing arts, audio-visual and multimedia and architecture) and aggregated into 12 meaningful cultural groups (see Figure 2). Trade in goods is not relevant for the three remaining domains (archives, libraries and advertising), which rather involve trade in services.

A detailed list of eight-digit CN codes of the cultural aggregates can be found in Table 6 below.

Figure 2: Cultural goods at aggregated level by cultural domain

CULTURAL DOMAIN	CULTURAL GOODS
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiques, collections and collectors' pieces, postage or revenue stamps
Books and press	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Books • Newspapers, journals and periodicals • Maps and hydrographical and similar charts
Visual arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works of art (paintings, engravings, sculpture, designs etc.) • Photographic plates and films developed
Art craft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft (hand made fabrics and ornamental articles) • Jewellery (of precious metals and stones)
Performing arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical instruments
Audiovisual and multimedia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio-visual and interactive media (films, videos, video games and consoles) • Recorded media with music (gramophone records, magnetic tapes and CDs)
Architecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architecture plans and drawings

⁽²⁾ For classifications details, see Eurostat portal: [RAMON](#) — reference and management of nomenclatures.

Table 6: Detailed list of cultural goods (CN eight-digit level)**Table 6.1:** Antiques; postage or revenue stamps; collections and collector's pieces (ANTQ)

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (ANTQ)
97040000	n.e.d. ⁽²⁾	Postage or revenue stamps, stamp-postmarks, first-day covers, postal stationery (stamped paper), and the like, used or unused, other than those of heading 4907.
97050000	n.e.d.	Collections and collectors' pieces of zoological, botanical, mineralogical, anatomical, historical, archaeological, paleontological, ethnographic or numismatic interest.
97060000	n.e.d.	Antiques of an age exceeding 100 years.

Table 6.2: Works of arts (paintings, engravings, sculpture, designs etc.) (ART)

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (ART)
49119100	n.e.d. ⁽²⁾	Printed pictures and photographs; artistic screen prints (art serigraphy), even if signed and numbered by the artist.
97011000	n.e.d.	Paintings, drawings and pastels
97019000	n.e.d.	Collages and similar decorative plaques
97020000	n.e.d.	Original engravings, prints and lithographs
97030000	n.e.d.	Original sculptures and statuary, in any material

Table 6.3: Photographic plates and film, exposed and developed (PHOT)

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (PHOT)
37051000	Until 2016	Photographic plates and film, exposed and developed, other than cinematographic film for offset reproduction
37052000	Until 2006	Microfilm, exposed and developed (excl. microfilm for offset reproduction)
37059010	2007–2016	Microfilm, exposed and developed (excl. microfilm for offset reproduction)(2007- 2016); photographic plates and film, exposed and developed, for the graphic arts (excl. products made of paper, paperboard or textile materials, film for offset reproduction and microfilm)(1988–1998)
37059090	2007–2016	Photographic plates and film, exposed and developed (excl. products made of paper, paperboard or textiles, cinematographic film, film for offset reproduction and microfilm)(2007–2016); photographic plates and film, exposed and developed (excl. products made of paper, paperboard or textile materials, cinematographic film, film for offset reproduction or the graphic arts and microfilm)(1988-1998)
37059000	Until 2006	Photographic plates and film, exposed and developed (excl. products made of paper, paperboard or textiles, cinematographic film, film for offset reproduction and microfilm)

Table 6.4: Books (BOOK)

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (BOOK)
49011000	n.e.d. ⁽²⁾	Printed books, brochures, leaflets and similar printed matter, whether or not in single sheets or not folded
49019100	n.e.d.	Dictionaries and encyclopedias, and serial instalments thereof
49019900	n.e.d.	Printed books, brochures and similar printed matter (excl. those in single sheets; dictionaries, encyclopedias, periodicals and publications which are essentially devoted to advertising)
49030000	n.e.d.	Children's picture, drawing or colouring books

Table 6.5: Newspapers, journals and periodicals (NWPR)

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (NWPR)
49021000	n.e.d. ⁽²⁾	Newspapers, journals and periodicals, whether or not illustrated or containing advertising material appearing at least four times a week
49029000	2009 - n.e.d.	newspapers, journals and periodicals, whether or not illustrated or containing advertising material (excl. those appearing at least four times a week)
49029010	Until 2008	Newspapers, journals and periodicals, whether or not illustrated or containing advertising material: appearing once a week
49029030	Until 2008	Newspapers, journals and periodicals, whether or not illustrated or containing advertising material: appearing once a week
49029090	Until 2008	Newspapers, journals and periodicals, whether or not illustrated or containing advertising material: (excl. those appearing at least four times a week, those appearing once a week and those appearing once a month)

Table 6.6: Maps and hydrographical or similar charts (MAP)

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (MAP)
49051000	n.e.d. ⁽²⁾	Maps and hydrographic or similar charts of all kinds, including atlases, wall maps, topographical plans and globes, printed: In globes
49059100	n.e.d.	Maps and hydrographic or similar charts of all kinds, including atlases, wall maps, topographical plans and globes, printed: In book form
49059900	n.e.d.	Maps and hydrographic or similar charts of all kinds, including atlases, wall maps, topographical plans and globes, printed: Other

Table 6.7: Plans and drawings for architectural or other similar purposes (PLAN)

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (PLAN)
49060000	n.e.d.	Plans and drawings for architectural, engineering, industrial, commercial, topographical or similar purposes, being originals drawn by hand; handwritten texts; photographic reproductions on sensitized paper and carbon copies of the foregoing.

Table 6.8: Musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof (MUSI)

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (MUSI)
92011010	n.e.d. ⁽²⁾	New upright pianos
92011090	n.e.d.	Used upright pianos
92012000	n.e.d.	Grand pianos
92019000	n.e.d.	Harpsichords and other keyboard stringed instruments (excl. pianos)
92021010	n.e.d.	Violins
92021090	n.e.d.	String musical instruments played with a bow (excl. Violins)
92029010	2003	Harps
92029030	n.e.d.	Guitars
92029080	2004 - n.e.d.	Mandolins, zithers and other string instruments (exc. With keyboard, those played with a bow and guitars)
92030000	2004–2006	Keyboard pipe organs; harmonious and similar keyboard instruments with free metal reeds (excl. String musical instruments)
92041000	Until 2006	Accordions and similar instruments
92042000	Until 2006	Mouth organs

CN	Period of validity (¹)	Description (MUSI)
92051000	n.e.d.	Brass-wind instruments
92059000	Until 2006	Wind musical instruments (excl. organs and brass-wind instruments)
92059010	2007 - n.e.d.	Accordions and similar instruments
92059030	2007 - n.e.d.	Mouth organs
92059050	2007 - n.e.d.	Keyboard pipe organs; harmoniums and similar keyboard instruments with free metal reeds (excl. String musical instruments)
92059090	2007 - n.e.d.	Wind musical instruments (excl. Brass-wind instruments, accordions and similar instruments, keyboard pipe instruments with free metal reeds)
92060000	n.e.d.	Percussion musical instruments (for example drums, xylophones, cymbals, castanets, maracas)
92071010	n.e.d.	Keyboard organs, the sound of which is produced, or must be amplified, electrically.
92071030	n.e.d.	Digital piano with keyboard
92071050	n.e.d.	Synthesisers with keyboard
92071080	n.e.d.	Musical instruments, the sound of which is produced or must be amplified, electrically, with keyboard (excl. Organs, digital pianos, synthesisers and accordions)
92079010	n.e.d.	Guitars, the sound of which is produced, or must be amplified electrically
92079090	n.e.d.	Accordions and musical instruments without keyboards, the sound of which is produced, or must be amplified electrically (excl. Guitars)
92081000	n.e.d.	Musical boxes
92089000	n.e.d.	Fairground organs, mechanical street organs, mechanical singing birds, musical saws and other musical instrument; decoy calls of all kinds; whistles, call horn and other mouth blown sound signalling instruments
92091000	Until 2006	Metronomes, tuning forks and pitch pipes
92092000	Until 2006	Mechanisms for musical boxes
92093000	n.e.d.	Musical instrument strings
92099100	n.e.d.	Parts and accessories for pianos, n.s.e.
92099200	n.e.d.	Parts and accessories for string musical instruments without keyboards, n.s.e. (excl. Strings and those for musical instruments, the sound of which is produced, or must be amplified electrically)
92099300	Until 2006	Parts and accessories for keyboard pipe organs, harmoniums and similar keyboard instruments with free metal reeds n.s.e.
92099400	n.e.d.	Parts and accessories for musical instruments, the sound of which is produced or must be amplified electrically, n.s.e.
92099920	2007 - n.e.d.	Parts and accessories for clarinets, trumpets, bagpipes, keyboard pipe organs, harmoniums and similar keyboard instruments with free metal reeds, accordions and similar instruments, mouth organs and other brass-wind instruments of heading 9205, n.s.e.
92099930	Until 2006	Parts and accessories for clarinets, trumpets, and other brass-wind instruments of heading 9205, n.s.e.
92099940	2007 - n.e.d.	Metronomes, tuning forks and pitch pipes
92099950	2007 - n.e.d.	Mechanisms for musical boxes
92099970	n.e.d.	Parts and accessories for fairground organs, mechanical street organs and other musical instruments n.s.e.

Table 6.9: Articles of jewellery (of precious and semi-precious metals and stones) (JEWLR)

CN	Period of validity (¹)	Description (JEWLR)
71131100	n.e.d. ^(²)	Articles of jewellery and parts thereof, of silver, whether or not plated or clad with other precious metal
71131900	n.e.d.	Articles of jewellery and parts thereof of other precious metal, whether or not plated or clad with precious metal

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (JEWLR)
71132000	n.e.d.	Articles of jewellery and parts thereof of base metal clad with precious metal
71141100	n.e.d.	Articles of goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares and parts thereof of silver, whether or not plated or clad with other precious metal
71141900	n.e.d.	Articles of goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares and parts thereof of other precious metal, whether or not plated or clad with precious metal
71142000	n.e.d.	Articles of goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares and parts thereof of base metal clad with precious metal
71161000	n.e.d.	Articles of natural or cultured pearls, n.e.s.
71162011	n.e.d.	Necklaces, bracelets and other articles made wholly of natural precious or semi-precious stones, simply strung without fasteners or other accessories
71162019	Until 2010	Articles made wholly of natural precious or semi-precious stones, n.s.e.
71162080	2011 - n.e.d.	Articles of precious or semi-precious stones (natural, synthetic or reconstructed), n.e.s.
71162090	Until 2010	Articles of precious or semi-precious stones "natural, synthetic or reconstructed", n.s.e. (excl made wholly of natural precious or semi-precious stones)

Table 6.10: Audio-visual and interactive media (films, videos, video games and consoles) (FILMVG)

CN	Period of validity (!)	Description (FILMVG)
37061010	Until 2011	Cinematographic film, exposed and developed of a width of 35 mm or more, consisting only of soundtrack
37061020	2012-n.e.d. ⁽²⁾	Cinematographic film, exposed and developed, consisting only of soundtrack, width >= 35 mm; Negatives and intermediate positives of cinematographic film, exposed and developed, whether or not incorporating soundtrack, width >= 35 mm
37061091	Until 2011	Negatives and intermediate positives of cinematographic film, exposed and developed, whether or not incorporating soundtrack, width >= 35 mm
37061099	n.e.d.	Positives of cinematographic film, exposed and developed, whether or not incorporating soundtrack, width >= 35 mm (excl. intermediate positives, and consisting only of soundtrack)
37069010	Until 2011	Cinematographic film, exposed and developed, consisting only of soundtrack, width < 35 mm
37069031	Until 2011	Negatives and intermediate positives of cinematographic film, exposed and developed, whether or not incorporating soundtrack, width < 35 mm
37069051	Until 2011	Positives of newsreels, exposed and developed, whether or not incorporating soundtrack, width < 35 mm (excl. intermediate positives)
37069052	2012 - n.e.d.	Cinematographic film, exposed and developed, consisting only of soundtrack, width < 35 mm; Negatives, intermediate positives and newsreels of cinematographic film, exposed and developed, whether or not incorporating soundtrack, width < 35 mm
37069091	n.e.d.	Positives of cinematographic film, exposed and developed, whether or not incorporating soundtrack, width < 10 mm (excl. intermediate positives and newsreels, and consisting only of soundtrack)
37069099	n.e.d.	Positives of cinematographic film, exposed and developed, whether or not incorporating soundtrack, width >= 10 mm but < 35 mm (excl. intermediate positives and newsreels, and consisting only of soundtrack)
95041000	Until 2011	Video games used with television receiver
95045000	2012 - n.e.d.	Video game consoles and machines (excl. operated by any means of payment)
85234945	2012–2016	Discs for laser reading systems: for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image, recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine
85234951	2012–2016	Digital versatile discs 'DVD' recorded, for reproducing sound and image or image only (excl. for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine) (DVDs)

CN	Period of validity (¹)	Description (FILMVG)
85234959	2012–2016	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound and image or image only (excl. digital versatile discs 'DVD' and discs for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine)
85234045	2007–2011	Discs for laser reading systems, For reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine
85234051	2007–2011	Digital versatile discs (DVD) , recorded
85234059	2007–2011	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound and image or image only (excl. digital versatile discs 'DVD' and discs for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine)
85243910	Until 2006	Discs, recorded, for laser reading systems, for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine
85243920	Until 2006	Digital versatile discs (DVD), recorded
85243980	Until 2006	Discs, recorded, for laser reading systems, for reproducing sound and image or image only (excl. digital versatile discs 'DVD' and discs for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine)
85245300	Until 2006	Magnetic tapes for reproducing sound or image, recorded, of a width > 6,5 mm
85249910	Until 2006	Recorded media for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine (excl. discs for laser reading systems, magnetic tapes and cards incorporating a magnetic stripe)
85232933	2007-2016	Magnetic tapes and magnetic discs, recorded, for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine

Table 6.11: Music in manuscript, gramophone records, recorded magnetic tapes and optical media (CDs) (RECMED)

CN	Period of validity (¹)	Description (RECMED)
49040000	n.e.d. (²)	Music, printed or in manuscript, whether or not bound or illustrated
85241000	Until 2006	Gramophone records
85238099	2007–2016	Media, recorded, for reproducing sound or image, incl. matrices and masters for the production of discs (excl. for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine, magnetic, optical and semiconductor media, and products of chapter 37)
85245100	Until 2006	Magnetic tapes for reproducing sound or image, recorded, of a width <= 4 mm
85245200	Until 2006	Magnetic tapes for reproducing sound or image, recorded, of a width > 4 mm but <= 6,5 mm
85232939	2007–2016	Magnetic tapes and magnetic discs, recorded, for reproducing sound or image (excl. for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine and goods of chapter 37)
85243210	Until 2006	Discs, recorded, for laser reading systems, for reproducing sound only, of a diameter <= 6,5 cm
85243290	Until 2006	Discs, recorded, for laser reading systems, for reproducing sound only of a diameter >6.5 cm

CN	Period of validity (*)	Description (RECMED)
85234031	2007–2011	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound only, of a diameter <= 6,5 cm
85234039	2007–2011	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound only, of a diameter > 6,5 cm (CDs), recorded
85234931	2012–2016	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound only, of a diameter <= 6,5 cm
85234939	2012–2016	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound only, of a diameter > 6,5 cm (CDs), recorded

Table 6.12: Craft (handmade fabrics and ornamental articles) (CRAFT)

CN	Period of validity (*)	Description (CRAFT)
58043000	n.e.d. ⁽²⁾	Handmade lace in the piece, in strips or in motifs (excl. fabrics of heading 6002 to 6006)
58050000	n.e.d.	Hand-woven tapestries of the type Gobelins, Flanders, Aubusson, Beauvais and the like, and needle-worked tapestries (for example, petit point, cross stitch), whether or not made up
58101010	n.e.d.	Embroidery on a textile fabric ground without visible ground, in the piece, in strips or in motifs, of a net value of > euro 35 per kg
58101090	n.e.d.	Embroidery on a textile fabric ground without visible ground, in the piece, in strips or in motifs, of a net value of <= euro 35 per kg
58109110	n.e.d.	Embroidery of cotton on a textile fabric ground, in the piece, in strips or in motifs, of a net value of > euro 17,50 per kg (excl. embroidery without visible ground)
58109190	n.e.d.	Embroidery of cotton on a textile fabric ground, in the piece, in strips or in motifs, of a net value of <= euro 17,50 per kg (excl. embroidery without visible ground)
58109210	n.e.d.	Embroidery of manmade fibres on a textile fabric base, in the piece, in strips or in motifs, of a net value of > euro 17,50 per kg (excl. embroidery without visible ground)
58109290	n.e.d.	Embroidery of manmade fibres on a textile fabric base, in the piece, in strips or in motifs, of a net value of <= euro 17,50 per kg (excl. embroidery without visible ground)
58109910	n.e.d.	Embroidery of materials other than cotton or manmade fibres, on a textile fabric base, in the piece, in strips or in motifs, of a net value of > euro 17,50 per kg (excl. embroidery without visible ground)
58109990	n.e.d.	Embroidery of materials other than cotton or manmade fibres, on a textile fabric base, in the piece, in strips or in motifs, of a net value of <= euro 17,50 per kg (excl. embroidery without visible ground)
60024000	n.e.d.	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of a width not exceeding 30 cm, containing by weight 5% or more of lastomeric yarn but not containing rubber thread
60029000	n.e.d.	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of a width not exceeding 30 cm, containing by weight 5% or more of lastomeric yarn or rubber thread
60031000	n.e.d.	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of a width not exceeding 30 cm of wool or fine animal hair
60032000	n.e.d.	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of a width not exceeding 30 cm of cotton
60033010	n.e.d.	Raschel lace of synthetic fibres, of a width of <= 30 cm (excl. those containing by weight >= 5% of elastomeric yarn or rubber thread)
60033090	n.e.d.	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of synthetic fibres, of a width of <= 30 cm (excl. raschel lace, those containing by weight >= 5% of elastomeric yarn or rubber thread, and pile fabrics, incl. "long pile", looped pile fabrics, labels, badges and similar articles, knitted or crocheted fabrics, impregnated, coated, covered or laminated, and sterile surgical or dental adhesion barriers of subheading 3006.10.30)
60034000	n.e.d.	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of artificial fibres, of a width of <= 30 cm (excl. those containing by weight >= 5% of elastomeric yarn or rubber thread, and pile fabrics, incl. "long pile", looped pile fabrics, labels, badges and similar articles, knitted or crocheted fabrics, impregnated, coated, covered or laminated, and sterile surgical or dental adhesion barriers of subheading 3006.10.30)

CN	Period of validity (*)	Description (CRAFT)
60039000	n.e.d.	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of a width of ≤ 30 cm (excl. of cotton, man-made fibres, wool or fine animal hair, those containing by weight ≥ 5% of elastomeric yarn or rubber thread, and pile fabrics, incl. "long pile", looped pile fabrics, labels, badges and similar articles, knitted or crocheted fabrics, impregnated, coated, covered or laminated, and sterile surgical or dental adhesion barriers of subheading 3006.10.30)
60041000	n.e.d.	Knitted or crocheted fabrics, of a width of > 30 cm, containing ≥ 5% by weight elastomeric yarn (excl. containing rubber thread, pile fabrics, incl. 'long pile', looped pile fabrics, labels, badges and similar articles, and knitted or crocheted fabrics, impregnated, coated, covered or laminated)
60049000	n.e.d.	Knitted or crocheted fabrics, of a width of > 30 cm, containing ≥ 5% by weight elastomeric yarn and rubber thread or rubber thread only (excl. pile fabrics, incl. 'long pile', looped pile fabrics, labels, badges and similar articles, and knitted or crocheted fabrics, impregnated, coated, covered or laminated)
44209010	n.e.d.	Wood marquetry and inlaid wood;
96011000	n.e.d.	Worked ivory and ivory articles
96019000	2011 - n.e.d.	Bone, tortoiseshell, horn, antlers, coral, mother of pearl and other animal carving material, and articles of these materials (including articles obtained by moulding)
96019010	Until 2010	Worked coral, natural or agglomerated, and articles of coral, n.e.s.
96019090	Until 2010	Worked bone, tortoiseshell, horn, antlers, mother-of pearl and other animal carving material and articles of these materials, n.e.s. (excl. ivory or coral)
69131000	n.e.d.	Statuettes and other ornamental ceramic articles of porcelain or China.
69139010	n.e.d.	Statuettes and other ornamental articles of common pottery, n.e.s.
69139093	n.e.d.	Statuettes and other ornamental articles of Earthenware or fine pottery
70189090	n.e.d.	Statuettes and other ornaments of lamp-worked glass (excl. imitation jewellery)

Notes:

(*) Period of validity informs about the years the given code is valid for the reference period 2004–2016.

(²) No end date.

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

Data processing details / cultural aggregate

As regards international trade in goods, groups of cultural products are calculated as an aggregate of eight-digit items by CN (as presented in Tables above). For the purpose of culture statistics, units such as percentage of total trade, percentage of EU-28 trade and percentage of total cultural trade are computed in addition to trade value for exports and imports (expressed in thousands of euro).

3.3. LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Quasi-transit — 'Rotterdam effect'

A particular phenomenon in international trade statistics is the impact on national figures of the specific trade system applied to extra-EU trade. This quasi-transit is called the '[Rotterdam effect](#)', as it concerns mostly Member States with big ports at the external EU border, in particular the Netherlands. In line with Community rules and as the country where goods are released for free circulation, the Netherlands records goods arriving in Dutch ports and destined for other Member States as extra-EU imports. The Netherlands then dispatches these goods as intra-EU exports to other Member States, even though there is no impact on its economy. Quasi-transit is known to impact imports more, but exports are also affected. In exceptional

cases, customs clearance occurs not in the Member State of origin but in the Member State from which the goods leave the EU customs territory.

A Member State's trade flows may be over-valued because of 'quasi-transit' trade. Its trade balance is not impacted, as quasi-transit should increase by the same amount as the intra- and extra-EU trade flows (extra-EU imports followed by dispatches to the Member State of actual destination or arrivals from the Member State of actual export followed by extra-EU exports to the country of actual destination).

International comparability

Eurostat statistics on international trade in goods may differ from national data or data from other international sources, such as the UN database, due to the application of different concepts and definitions (e.g. use of the general trade system or exclusion of quasi-transit).

Confidential trade

The statistics referring to products at eight-digit level in international trade may be biased because of 'confidential trade'. Reporting countries can make some trade (product or partner) confidential at the lowest level of disaggregation, but have to include this at the upper levels. It is difficult to evaluate the weight of confidential trade, as there is no imputation (so as to avoid disclosure). It is assumed that confidential cultural trade is minor and does not induce significant bias in cultural trade statistics.

Fluctuating values

In international trade statistics, values at eight-digit level may fluctuate strongly from one year to the next, especially in small countries with few international operators.

Not enough details in classification

Internationally traded cultural products are identified according to the CN classification. CN logic and principles sometimes make it impossible to identify the cultural content in the terms required by the ESSnet-Culture framework. Often a lack of information on the production process and a lack of distinction between crafts and industrial manufacturing make it impossible to classify some products as 'cultural'.

Digital goods that support cultural content may of course also support non-cultural content. However, it is considered that some over-estimation is acceptable, given the increasing importance of consumer electronics in accessing cultural content.

Digital shift

'International trade in goods statistics' provide data on trade in tangible goods only. They do not cover services, licences, intellectual property rights or digital content such as music, films and video games available via streaming platforms. The challenge is to find a way to monitor and measure the flows of such cultural content, which is increasingly available and accessible via the internet. Some data on the online consumption/purchase of cultural content are available through surveys on information and communication technologies ⁽³⁾.

⁽³⁾ See chapter 6.2: Use of ICT for cultural purposes.

Revision of classification

The CN classification is revised annually. However, the biggest revisions take place every five years and may include amending its actual structure. The purpose of the revision is to adapt the list of commodities to changes in technology and the emergence of new products. For this reason, the codes in the fast-evolving domain of audio-visual and digital production must be monitored on a regular basis to keep track of developments. Revision may involve codes being split/merged or discontinued, which generally leads to breaks in the time series.

Several breaks in series reported on data for some cultural groups stem from the major revisions of the HS and CN classifications in 2007, 2012 and 2017. The validity of codes and the substitutes of phased-out codes are detailed in the tables 7 and 8.

Expected future changes and developments

A major revision of the CN in 2017 consisting of the split/merge/replacement of some codes affected three cultural groups:

- PHOT — photographic plates and film, exposed and developed;
- FILMVG — audio-visual and interactive media (films, videos, video games and consoles); and
- RECMED — music in manuscript, gramophone records, recorded magnetic tapes and optical media (CDs).

For the new created codes in the PHOT group, there is one-to-one correspondence with replaced codes.

However, the numerous, very detailed RECMED and FILMVG codes distinguishing sound from sound and image (making it possible to create a group with music on the one hand and a group with film and image on the other) were dropped. Instead, wider categories were created for 'DVD-type supports' and other 'laser-reading system' supports such as CDs and blue-ray. Unfortunately, it is not possible to re-allocate these new codes between RECMED and FILMVG and continue the previous data series. Instead a broad new category will be created, covering all digital supports (for both sound and image).

Table 7: CN 2017 new codes corresponding to phased out codes in group PHOT

CN codes phased-out	LABEL	Cultural group	CN 2017 – new corresponding codes	LABEL
37051000	Photographic plates and film, exposed and developed, other than cinematographic film for offset reproduction	PHOT	37050010	Photographic plates and film, exposed and developed, other than cinematographic film for offset reproduction
37059010	Microfilm, exposed and developed (excl. microfilm for offset reproduction)(2007- 2016);photographic plates and film, exposed and developed, for the graphic arts (excl. products made of paper, paperboard or textile materials, film for offset reproduction and microfilm)(1988-1998)	PHOT	37050090	Photographic plates and film, exposed and developed (excl. products made of paper, paperboard or textiles, for offset reproduction and cinematographic film and ready-to-use printing plates)
37059090	Photographic plates and film, exposed and developed (excl. products made of paper, paperboard or textiles, cinematographic film, film for offset reproduction or the graphic arts and microfilm)(1988-1998)	PHOT		

Table 8: CN 2017 new codes corresponding to phased-out RECMED and FILMVG codes

CN codes phased-out	LABEL	Cultural group	CN 2017 – new corresponding codes	LABEL
85234925	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing phenomena (excl. those for reproducing sound or image, and goods of chapter 37)	OUT	85234910	Digital versatile discs "DVDs", recorded
85234939	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound only, of a diameter > 6,5 cm (CDs), recorded	RECMED		
85234945	Discs for laser reading systems: for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image, recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine	FILMVG		
85234951	Digital versatile discs "DVD", recorded, for reproducing sound and image or image only (excl. for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine) (DVDs)	FILMVG		

CN codes phased-out	LABEL	Cultural group	CN 2017 — new corresponding codes	LABEL
85234925	'Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing phenomena (excl. those for reproducing sound or image, and goods of chapter 37)	OUT	85234920	Discs for laser reading systems, recorded (excl. DVDs)
85234931	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound only, of a diameter <= 6,5 cm	RECMED		
85234939	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound only, of a diameter > 6,5 cm (CDs), recorded	RECMED		
85234945	Discs for laser reading systems: for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image, recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine	FILMVG		
85234959	Optical discs for laser reading systems, recorded, for reproducing sound and image or image only (excl. digital versatile discs "DVD" and discs for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine)	FILMVG		

CN codes phased-out	LABEL	Cultural group	CN 2017 — new corresponding codes	LABEL
85232931	Magnetic tapes and magnetic discs, recorded, for reproducing phenomena (excl. those for reproducing sound or image, for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine, and goods of chapter 37)	OUT	85232919	Magnetic tapes and magnetic discs, recorded
85232933	Magnetic tapes and magnetic discs, recorded, for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine	FILMVG		
85232939	Magnetic tapes and magnetic discs, recorded, for reproducing sound or image (excl. for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine and goods of chapter 37)	RECMED		

CN codes phased-out	LABEL	Cultural group	CN 2017 — new corresponding codes	LABEL
85238091	Recorded media for reproducing phenomena (excl. those for reproducing sound or image, for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine, magnetic, optical and semiconductor media, and products of chapter 37)	OUT	85238090	Media, recorded, incl. matrices and masters for the production of discs (excl. magnetic, optical and semiconductor)

CN codes phased-out	LABEL	Cultural group	CN 2017 — new corresponding codes	LABEL
85238093	'Recorded media for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine (excl. magnetic, optical and semiconductor media, and products of chapter 37)	OUT		media, and products of chapter 37)
85238099	Media, recorded, for reproducing sound or image, incl. matrices and masters for the production of discs (excl. for reproducing representations of instructions, data, sound, and image recorded in a machine-readable binary form, and capable of being manipulated or providing interactivity to a user, by means of an automatic data-processing machine, magnetic, optical and semiconductor media, and products of chapter 37)	RECMED		

Note:

RECMED - music

FILMVG - Film, video, games

4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section of the Eurostat website includes an introduction to statistics on international trade in cultural goods: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

Two tables with statistics on international trade in cultural goods are available in Eurobase, in the domain *Population and social conditions* > *Culture* > *International trade in cultural goods*:

DATABASE

- International trade in cultural goods (cult_trd_go) M
 - ZIP Intra and extra-EU trade in cultural goods by product (cult_trd_prd) i
 - ZIP Intra and extra-EU trade in cultural goods by product and partner (cult_trd_prt) i

Description of tables

The data on international trade in cultural goods are computed for the years from 2004 onwards and are composed of the following dimensions:

Cultural products

The following categories of products pertaining to cultural trade are available in Eurobase datasets (see Table 6 for details):

- antiques and collectors' pieces (ANTQ);
- works of art (paintings, engravings, sculpture, design, etc.) (ART);
- craft articles (hand-made fabrics and ornamental articles) (CRAFT);
- jewellery (JEWLR);
- books (BOOK);

- newspapers, journals and periodicals (NWPR);
- maps (MAP);
- architectural plans and drawings (PLAN);
- photography (developed films) (PHOT);
- audio-visual and interactive media (films, videos, video games and consoles) (FILMVG);
- recorded media with music (CDs, magnetic tapes, gramophone records) (RECMED); and
- musical instruments (MUSI).

Flows

- import; and
- export

Trade partners

Data are compiled for the following trade partners:

- intra-EU;
- extra-EU;
- world; and
- individual partner countries.

EU aggregate

The EU aggregate is computed, but a distinction must be understood in the context of EU and national figures.

The EU figures exclude intra-EU trade. In other words, the EU is deemed to be a single entity and internal exchanges (between Member States) are not counted. However, national figures refer to both intra- and extra-EU trade.

Time coverage

Annual statistics on international trade in cultural goods are compiled for 2004 onwards.

Unit of measurement

- trade value of cultural goods expressed in thousands of euro (THS_EUR);
- percentage of total national trade (PC_TOT) — the value of cultural trade divided by total value of national trade. This indicator gives an idea of the weight of cultural trade in total national trade;
- percentage of total EU trade (PC_EU) — the value of cultural trade of each Member State divided by the EU total. This shows the contribution of each Member State to the total EU cultural trade for each group of cultural products; and
- percentage of total cultural trade (PC) — the trade value of each cultural product divided by total value of cultural trade. This shows the distribution of cultural trade by type of cultural goods.

Revisions

Individual countries may make revisions. Because the indicators on international trade in cultural goods are annual and disseminated annually, revisions of source data occurring between updates are taken into account in a subsequent wave of release.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the culture data tree.

Publications

Patterns of trade in cultural goods, focusing on trade developments, main traded products and main trading partners are analysed in the following *Statistics explained* article: [Culture statistics — international trade in cultural goods](#).

5

International trade in cultural services

1. Introduction

Statistics on international trade in cultural services improve our ability to assess and monitor the economic impact of culture. Data represent the monetary value of such trade and can be analysed by category of service and by partner country.

These statistics concern transactions recorded in a country's **balance of payments (BoP)**, which captures all transactions between its residents and non-residents.

The statistics cover cultural services provided by news agencies, performing actors, architects, etc. Many relate to charges for the use of intellectual property (e.g. licences in the domain of audio-visual or performing arts).

2. Data source

General overview

Data on international trade in cultural services are derived from a specific set of statistics on '**International trade in services**' (**ITS**), which are based on [BoP](#) data. The BoP systematically summarises all economic transactions between the residents and non-residents of a country or an economic area over a given period. ITS data are used to monitor the economies' external commercial performance.

ITS data come from a variety of sources — they can be reported by banks or directly by companies and households. Each year or quarter, Member States' national banks or statistical offices provide Eurostat with data on the basis of a predefined questionnaire.

The reference document used by national compilers of ITS data is the *Balance of payments vademecum*. This contains questionnaires, details of the coding system and data format, and deadlines for data transmission. The methods used to collect and compile statistics differ between services items listed in a country's ITS dataset and its BoP, and between countries.

In the EU, ITS data are reported and registered in accordance with [Regulation \(EC\) No 184/2005 on Community statistics concerning balance of payments, international trade in](#)

[services and foreign direct investment](#), which became applicable for EU data production as from reference year 2006. Full legal information is available under the [legislation](#) page of the Eurostat 'International trade in services' section.

In the compilation of BoP, responsibility is shared between Eurostat and the European Central Bank (ECB). Eurostat focuses on quarterly and annual BoP, international investment position (IIP), ITS and foreign direct investment (FDI) aggregates for the EU and on detailed ITS data for the euro area, whereas the ECB is in charge of compiling and disseminating euro-area monthly and quarterly BoP statistics. The two parties have signed a [memorandum of understanding](#) (with a [BoP annex](#)). For more information on euro-area BoP data, see the [ECB website](#).

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

ITS data are compiled annually, at $T+9$ months. Every November or December, data for round year $T-1$ are published (with full details by partner country), together with revisions for years $T-2$ and $T-3$. Less detailed ITS data are compiled in the BoP dataset with quarterly frequency, but the level of detail is not such as to allow the user to distinguish cultural services.

Consequently, data on international trade in cultural services are annual.

Time coverage

Annual ITS data compiled using the most recent methodology (*IMF, balance of payments and international investment position manual-sixth edition (BPM 6)*) are available for 2010 onwards. Countries reported their ITS data according to BPM6 methodological guidelines for the first time for reference year 2013 (in September 2014). The 2010–2012 series were calculated retrospectively either by Member States themselves or by Eurostat using conversion tables.

For years prior to 2010, only data compiled according to the BPM5 methodology are available.

Geographical coverage

ITS statistics cover all EU Member States as well as EFTA, candidate and potential candidate countries. EU-28 and euro area (EA-19) aggregates are also calculated.

Reference population

The statistical population includes all economic transactions between the residents and non-residents of a country in a given period.

BPM 6 defines a 'transaction' as an interaction between two institutional units that occurs by mutual agreement or through the operation of the law and involves an exchange of value or transfer. In this context, the concept of 'resident' is based on the notion of a centre of economic interest.

The extent to which the reported transactions cover the statistical population assured can differ widely for different BoP/ITS items.

Statistical unit

The statistical unit is any individual, corporation or other institution that provides information on the transactions between the residents and non-residents of a country in a given period. An institutional unit is a resident unit when it has a centre of economic interest in the economic territory of a country for at least one year.

Reference period

The reference period is the calendar year.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

Methodological references

ESSnet-Culture did not devote much discussion to statistics on international trade in cultural services. The task force working on cultural industries identified the calculation of the 'share of cultural services in total exports (goods and services)' indicator as an action to be carried out, after further exploring currently available data and defining the concept of cultural services. Eurostat worked on this and in 2017 its culture statistics working group discussed and approved the scope of statistics relating to international trade in cultural services.

Cultural services are a particular set of services identified by:

- [Manual on statistics of international trade in services — MSITS 2010](#);
- [UNESCO FCS \(2009\)](#);
- [UNESCO-UIS report *The globalisation of cultural trade: a shift in consumption. International flows of cultural goods and services 2004–2013 \(2016\)*](#).

The reference methodology used for the BoP and the compilation of ITS data is set out in BPM6. MSITS 2010 is an additional source of information.

MSITS 2010 (p.81) proposes that the 'cultural transactions' grouping should encompass cultural transactions such as performing rights relating to live musical or theatrical performances, rights for theatrical releases abroad by drama companies, rights for musical shows produced abroad, music composers' rights that are not linked to the sale of records paid through collecting societies, performing fees relating to live musical or theatrical performance, and fees for theatrical releases abroad by drama companies.

According to the MSITS 2010, the 'cultural transactions' grouping includes:

- audio-visual transactions (audio-visual services plus licences to reproduce and/or distribute audio-visual products);
- related artistic services;
- licences to reproduce and/or distribute other products;
- heritage and preservation services (e.g. those involving fees collected for exchanges of artefacts between museums in different countries);
- news agency services;
- other information services, excluding database- and related services;
- architectural services;
- advertising services included in advertising, market research, and public opinion polling services; and
- culture-related services not covered by the above items.

Classifications

Since the 2013 reference year, BoP and ITS data have been compiled on the basis of the BPM6 standard which replaced the BPM5 standard and uses a revised methodology for measuring BoP (including ITS) that improves coordination with the implementation of the 2008 [System of National Accounts](#) and the [ESA 2010](#) transmission programme. The Commission took this revision into account in [Regulation \(EU\) No 555/2012](#), which amended Regulation (EC) No184/2005 and introduced new data requirements in line with the BPM6 methodology.

The classification of services according to the BPM6 methodology comprises 12 categories:

1. Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others (SA)
2. Maintenance and repair services (SB)
3. Transport (SC)
4. Travel (SD)
5. Construction (SE)
6. Insurance and pension services (SF)
7. Financial services (SG)
8. Charges for the use of intellectual property (SH)
9. Telecommunications, computer and information services (SI)
10. Other business services (SJ)
11. Personal, cultural and recreational services (SK)
12. Government goods and services not specified elsewhere (SL)

Extended Balance of Payments Service Classification (EBOPS 2010) ⁽⁴⁾ provides a further breakdown of these items that is completely consistent with BPM6, but more detailed in a number of areas.

In the EBOPS 2010, cultural transactions are represented by the codes specified under items 8, 9, 10 and 11:

Item 8 — Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e. (SH):

...

8.4 Licences to reproduce and/or distribute audio-visual and related products (SH4)

8.4.1 Licences to reproduce and/or distribute audio-visual products (SH41)

8.4.2 Licences to reproduce and/or distribute other products (SH42)

Item 9 — Telecommunications, computer and information services (SI):

...

9.3 Information services (SI3)

9.3.1 News agency services (SI31)

9.3.2 Other information services (SI32) — excluding databases related services

Item 10 — Other business services (SJ):

...

10.2.2 Advertising, market research and public opinion polling services (SJ22) (*only advertising can be taken into account as a cultural service*)

...

⁽⁴⁾ *Manual on statistics of international trade in services — MSITS 2010*, Annex I, p.145.

10.3.1.1 Architectural services (SJ311)

Item 11 — Personal, cultural and recreational services (SK)

11.1 Audio-visual and related services (SK1)

11.1.1 Audio-visual services (SK11)

11.1.2 Artistic related services (SK12)

...

11.2.3 Heritage and recreational services (SK23)

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

In the domain of international trade in cultural services, there is no data processing specific to culture-related indicators. Data are presented in the 'Culture' domain of Eurobase as a bookmark (a link to the data published by the Eurostat unit in charge of BoP statistics).

3.3 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Insufficient details for distinguishing cultural services

Despite MSITS 2010's identification of the grouping related to cultural transactions, some cultural EBOPS 2010 codes are too broad to be considered fully cultural.

For example, the service category SK23 ('heritage and other recreational services') combines services associated with museums with purely recreational services (sporting, gambling and other recreational activities, which seem to be very important components in some countries). Similarly, in 'other information services' (SI32), it is not feasible to distinguish database-related services, which should be excluded from cultural services.

Confidentiality

A significant amount of data on international trade in cultural services is confidential: for some countries, confidentiality is applied to all selected cultural codes; in others there are confidential data for some of the selected codes.

For BoP statistics, Member States have the option of flagging part of their data as confidential (the primary confidentiality treatment). Eurostat then performs a secondary confidentiality treatment (when not applied by Member States or complementary to a potential national secondary confidentiality treatment), in order to avoid any (direct or indirect) recalculation of confidential data. In addition, some Member States choose to flag part of the series as 'non-publishable'. These series cannot be disseminated publicly, but are not subject to secondary confidentiality treatment by Eurostat.

Poor availability of some data

There is poor data availability for item 8.4 ('licences to reproduce and/or distribute audio-visual and related products'). This variable is not required by Regulation (EC) No 184/2005, as amended by Regulation (EU) No 555/2012 and Regulation (EU) No 2016/1013; it is only requested on a voluntary basis in the ITS questionnaire. However, the category is important as

for some countries licences to reproduce and/or distribute audio-visual and related products' represent the main component of cultural service imports.



No cultural aggregate for international trade in services

Due to these limitations, Eurostat does not calculate a cultural aggregate for ITS; its components are disseminated separately (see section 4: Dissemination — International trade in cultural services in Eurobase).

4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section of the Eurostat website includes an introduction to statistics on international trade in cultural services: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

For the time being, statistics referring to international trade in cultural services are available in Eurobase as bookmarks in the domain *Population and social conditions* > *Culture* > *International trade in cultural services*:



Description of tables

Statistics on international trade in cultural services cover the total value of credits (or exports), debits (or imports) and the net result or balance (credits minus debits) of transactions with each partner.

Cultural services

The following categories of cultural services feature in the table:

- **information services** (SI3);
- **architectural services** (SJ33), which includes transactions relating to the design of buildings;
- **audio-visual and related services** (SK1), which covers services associated with audio-visual activities (movies, music, radio and television) and services relating to the performing arts;
- **licences** to reproduce and/or distribute audio-visual and related products (SH4); and
- **heritage** and recreational services (SK23), which include services associated with museums and other cultural, sporting, gambling and recreational activities.

Data for items SH4 ('licences to reproduce and/or distribute audio-visual products') and SK23 ('heritage and recreational services') can be used, bearing in mind the limitations described in section 3.3 above.

An aggregate 'cultural services' value is not calculated (see section 3.3).

Trade partners

Data are available for all EU Member States, selected partner countries outside the EU and for several aggregates, including 'intra-EU' and 'extra-EU'.

International trade in cultural services statistics distinguish between transactions between EU Member States (intra-EU transactions) and transactions with non-member countries (extra-EU transactions). National figures cover both intra- and extra-EU trade. EU figures exclude intra-EU trade — the EU is deemed to be a single entity and internal exchanges between Member States are not counted.

Time coverage

Annual 'international trade in cultural services' data according to the BPM6 methodology are available from 2010 onwards. However, the first reference year for the compilation of data according to this new methodology was 2013, with backward calculations for 2010-2012.

For years prior to 2010, data are available only according to the BPM5 methodology.

Unit of measurement

The trade value of cultural services is expressed in millions of euro.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the culture data tree.

Publications

No *Statistics explained* articles on international trade in cultural services have been published to date.

6

Cultural participation

The *ESSnet-Culture final report* defines cultural participation according to the 'ICET' model, which distinguishes four forms of participation:

- Information — seeking, collecting and spreading information on culture;
- Communication and community — interacting with others on cultural issues and participating in cultural networks;
- Enjoyment and expression — enjoying exhibitions, art performances and other forms of cultural expression, practising arts for leisure and creating online content; and
- Transaction — buying art and buying or reserving tickets for shows.

The ICET model sees cultural participation as encompassing people's activities as consumers of culture (reading books and newspapers, going to the cinema, theatres and concerts, visiting museums and historical sites, etc.), but also as active participants (painting, playing music, dancing or engaging in any activity with an artistic dimension).

The EU statistics on cultural participation come from various sources:

- Adult education survey (AES) — historical data (AES 2007 and 2011);
- **Survey on income and living conditions (EU-SILC)** — *ad hoc* modules on cultural and social participation (2006 and 2015);
- **Survey on ICT usage in households and by individuals**; and
- **Harmonised European time use survey (HETUS)**.

These statistics are described in more detail in the sections 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 below.

6.1 Participation in cultural activities

1. Introduction

This section presents information on cultural participation as observed by EU-SILC and by the AES (historical data). Both surveys included questions on cultural participation in specific *ad hoc* modules (i.e. not as part of the core survey).

The AES included a module on cultural participation in 2007 (pilot survey) and 2011 (the inclusion of the questions was optional, so results are not available for all countries). The AES target population was the 25–64 age group. The module was subsequently discontinued.

As the AES will no longer include a module on cultural participation, the 2007 and 2011 results (still available in Eurobase) may be considered as historical data. The description below therefore focuses on the more recent data from EU-SILC, which includes questions on cultural practices every few years and will now be considered as the main EU source of data on cultural participation.

2. Data source

General overview

EU-SILC is the EU reference source for comparative statistics on income and social inclusion. It now operates under a framework Regulation (Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the Council and the Parliament) and a series of Commission [implementing regulations](#).

EU-SILC provides two types of annual data:

- ‘cross-sectional’ data referring to a given time or period, with variables on income, poverty, social exclusion and other living conditions; and
- ‘longitudinal’ data at individual level used to observe changes over a four-year period.

It collects comparable multidimensional microdata on income and living conditions (including housing, labour, education, health, etc.) that makes it possible to understand and monitor poverty and social exclusion in the EU.

Rather than using a common questionnaire or a survey approach, it is based on a framework setting out:

- harmonised lists of target primary (annual) and secondary variables (also referred to as *ad hoc* module variables) to be transmitted to Eurostat;
- common guidelines and procedures; and
- common classifications and definitions of ‘household’ and ‘income’, in order to maximise the comparability of the information produced.

Every year, an *ad hoc* module is added to the core questions to address specific topics (e.g. health, access to services, etc.) on a rotating basis, each topic being addressed every few years.

Culture-related variables are collected through the *ad hoc* module on social and cultural participation.

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

In EU-SILC, all core indicators are collected and disseminated annually and refer to the survey year.

The *ad-hoc* module on social and cultural participation was included in 2006 and in 2015; the next one is planned for 2022 as part of a 'quality of life' module.

Time coverage

The primary source of EU data on income and living conditions from 1994 to 2001 was the European Community Household Panel (ECHP). This was replaced by EU-SILC, which was launched, depending on the country, between 2003 and 2018.

The *ad hoc* module on social and cultural participation was part of EU-SILC in 2006 and 2015. In 2015, in addition to attendance-related variables, information on obstacles to participation and data on the active practising of cultural activities were gathered.

Geographical coverage

All EU Member States participate in EU-SILC, along with Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Serbia, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, and, from 2018, Kosovo.

Results from the 2015 *ad hoc* module are available for all EU Member States, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Reference population

The statistical population consists of all persons aged 16 and over living in private households. Persons living in collective households and institutions are generally excluded.

Statistical unit

The statistical units in EU-SILC are households and all household members aged 16 or over.

Reference period

EU-SILC results are generally presented on an annual basis (the survey year, whatever the underlying income reference period), although certain longitudinal indicators may cover a longer period (e.g. four years).

The income reference period is a fixed 12-month period (e.g. the previous calendar or tax year) for all countries except the United Kingdom for which it is the current calendar year, and Ireland, for which the survey is continuous and income data are collected for the past 12 months.

Other data typically relate to the date of the survey.

In the 2015 *ad hoc* module on cultural participation, the reference period for the majority of variables (attendance activities, i.e. going to the cinema, attending live performances and visiting cultural sites) was the previous 12 months. The practice of artistic activities referred to 'usual' practice.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

The EU-SILC 2015 *ad hoc* module included the following variables on cultural participation:

- going to the cinema;
- going to live performances — i.e. plays, concerts, operas, ballet, dance performances, etc. Street performances were also included, but only if they were organised events. For example, if the respondent listened to a busker on the street, this was not counted, but if the respondent attended a concert in a park, this was included;
- visits to cultural sites — i.e. historical monuments, museums, art galleries, archaeological sites, etc. Visits (either planned or spontaneous) were included only where the purpose was to become acquainted with the cultural or historical content of the site; and
- practice of artistic activities — i.e. playing an instrument, composing music, singing, dancing, acting, photography, making a video, drawing, painting, carving or practising other visual arts, handcraft, writing poems, short stories, fiction, etc. These included only hobby activity (not professional activities), whether or not organised. Where the respondent was engaged in more than one activity, the total time spent on all of them was counted.

The module did not cover reading habits. The most recent data on reading books, newspapers and magazines are from AES 2011.

For all variables except the practice of artistic activities, the EU-SILC 2015 module included questions on the main reason for non-participation; respondents were asked to select from 'financial reason', 'lack of proximity', 'lack of interest' and 'other'.

Classifications

The EU-SILC results are produced in accordance with the relevant international classifications used for the core social variables (NACE, ISCO, ISCED).

Reference documents

Chapter devoted to 'Cultural practices and social aspects of culture' of the *ESSnet-Culture final report* (pp. 227 276) deals specifically with cultural participation.

[EU statistics on income and living conditions \(EU-SILC\) methodology](#) is a Eurostat online publication describing the methodological and practical framework for the computation and production of EU statistics on income and living conditions published in Eurostat's dissemination database.

For more information on EU-SILC *ahm* 2015, see [Description of EU-SILC *ahm* 2015 variables](#) and [EU-SILC *ahm* 2015 – assessment of the implementation](#).

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

The Eurostat unit responsible for EU-SILC calculates an aggregate on cultural participation by combining three cultural activities (cinema, live performances and cultural sites) in the 'any cultural activity' indicator, i.e. the percentage of people who either went to the cinema or attended live performances or visited cultural sites in the previous 12 months. The data for each cultural activity separately are also available.

3.3 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Self-reporting

EU-SILC data are collected by interview. Even where the interview protocol is well structured and standardised, self-reporting measures are often subject to biases. Respondents to questions on cultural participation, especially those relating to attendance, may be influenced by social desirability.

Number and formulation of questions on cultural participation

Given the complexity (and consequent burden) of EU-SILC, the *ad hoc* module on cultural participation can include only a limited number of questions. It is not possible to glean more detail from this data collection; only dedicated national surveys can provide a more complete picture of cultural practices.

The question on reasons for non-participation could be improved by offering more detailed reply options (to provide a better understanding of the 'other' reasons), e.g. adding 'lack of time' as a possible reason.

Expected future changes and developments

Given the timetable for implementing the new Regulation on integrated European social statistics (IESS), which is currently in preparation, the next EU-SILC data on cultural participation are expected to be collected in 2022 as part of the six-yearly rolling module on quality of life.

All EU-SILC *ad hoc* modules are prepared by a task force and the proposed questionnaire is discussed with all participating countries. For the next module on cultural participation, the variables included in the 2015 *ad hoc* module might be revised (while trying to preserve the continuity of data series).

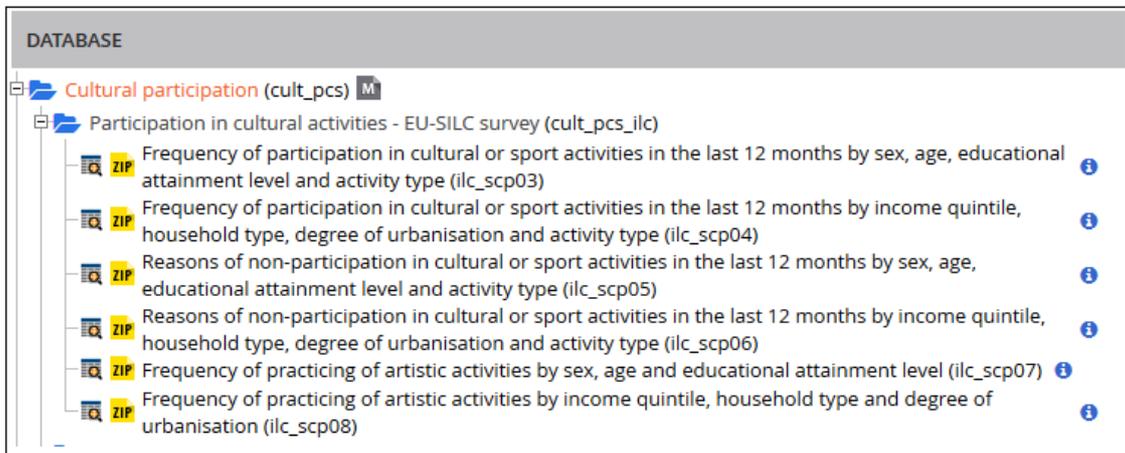
4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section on the Eurostat website includes an introduction to statistics on cultural participation, which mentions the EU-SILC data: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

For the time being, six EU-SILC tables with statistics referring to participation in cultural activities are available in Eurobase as bookmarks in the domain *Population and social conditions* > *Culture* > *Cultural participation*:



Description of tables

Cultural activities

The data on the following cultural activities are available:

- going to the cinema;
- attending live performances;
- visiting cultural sites;
- all three cultural activities combined (cinema, live performances or cultural sites); and
- practicing artistic activities.

Breakdown by frequency and socio-economic variables

The separate datasets provide main indicators (participation rate for the target population and percentage of non-participants reporting different reasons for non-participation), along with the geopolitical entity, timeframe and the following dimensions (depending on the title of the table in question):

- frequency:
 - of participation in cultural or sport activities in the past 12 months: none, one to three times, at least once, at least four times;
 - of practising artistic activities: every day, every week, once a month, several times a month, at least once a year, not in the past 12 months;
- age group;
- sex;
- educational attainment level;
- income quintile;
- degree of urbanisation; and
- household type (single, two adults, three or more adults, with or without dependent children).

Time coverage

The EU-SILC *ad-hoc* modules on cultural participation refer to reference years 2006 and 2015. Indicators on obstacles to participation and on the active practising of artistic activities are available for 2015 only.

Unit of measurement

Indicators on cultural participation are made available as a percentage of the target population (the whole population aged 16+) or only non-participants for the questions regarding reasons for non-participation.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the culture data tree.

Access to microdata

The EU-SILC microdata are available both for individuals and households are available in the user database (UDB), access to which is granted for scientific purposes following the [set-up procedures](#).

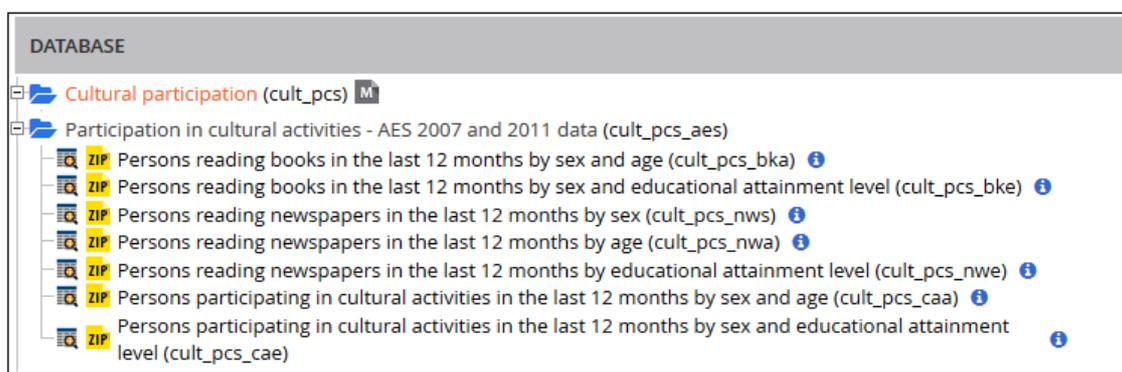
Publications

Two *Statistics explained* articles analyse the results of the EU-SILC 2015 *ad hoc* module:

- [Culture statistics — frequency and obstacles in participation](#); and
- [Culture statistics — cultural participation by socioeconomic background](#).

Tables with historical AES data are still available in the same section of the 'Culture' domain of Eurobase, under '*Participation in cultural activities – AES 2007 and 2011 data*' (*cult_pcs_aes*). The geographical coverage is 22 EU Member States in 2007 and 20 EU Member States for 2011.

The population covered is the 25-64 age group. The AES covers two variables that are not covered by the EU-SILC: 'reading books' and 'reading newspapers'.



6.2 Use of the internet for cultural purposes

1. Introduction

The internet and new technologies have profoundly transformed the services sector by enabling online access to many services and by creating products and activities that exist only online. The digital shift (widespread integration of ICT resulting in fundamental changes on all aspects of business and society) has had a particular impact in the field of culture, where it has opened up new ways of accessing content and new forms of consumption and participation.

The myriad forms of cultural participation that can now take place online include reading newspapers, listening to music, watching films and videos, playing games and sharing cultural content (through blogs, forums, etc.).

Another important internet phenomenon is e-commerce, which has had a particularly big impact on the film and music industries, and also on ticketing.

The digital shift continues to affect individual consumption patterns, shape people's behaviour and influence business models (and firms' responses to it).

In this context, statistics on online cultural participation are needed to assess how quickly the changes take place, who are the users/consumers of online cultural contents and how online participation is evolving relative to the overall spread of internet services and to traditional forms of participation in culture.

2. Data source

ICT surveys

A set of statistics on the use of the internet for cultural purposes, including cultural activities and the purchase of cultural goods, is available from the [Community survey on information and communication technologies \(ICT\) usage in households and by individuals](#). The aim of the ICT survey is to provide relevant statistics on the information society: access to and use of ICTs, what people use the internet for, ICT security and trust, ICT skills, etc. The data are available according to numerous breakdown variables, including age, sex, educational attainment, country of birth, employment status, etc.

The legal basis for ICT surveys and requirements in terms of coverage, duration, periodicity, subjects and breakdowns is laid down in the EU Regulation on Community statistics on the information society ([framework Regulation \(EC\) No 808/2004](#) and amended by [framework Regulation \(EC\) No 1006/2009](#)). The specificity of the framework is that the information requested in the surveys can be adjusted to meet the evolving needs of users and decision-makers, and to reflect the rapidly changing technological context.

Eurostat model questionnaire

Changes and specifications regarding the content of the annual Eurostat model questionnaire are adopted annually through [implementing regulations](#). Eurostat is in charge of drawing up an annual proposal on the basis of consultations with multiple stakeholders and the Member States.

The questionnaire is composed of several modules covering the fields specified in the framework. Currently, most of the data collected are used in the context of the [digital single market strategy](#) for 2016–2021.

The subjects regularly addressed by the model questionnaire are as follows:

- access to ICT;
- use of the internet;
- use of e-commerce;
- use of e-government;
- internet security/trust/privacy;
- e-skills and competencies;
- barriers to the use of ICT; and
- ubiquitous connectivity.

Not all subjects are covered every year. The content of the modules may change according to policy requirements and stakeholder needs. Although some modules are core modules aimed at gathering the same type of information, the questions are often adapted according to purpose, context or characteristics of concept. The modules may also cover, on an *ad hoc* basis, themes of interest to particular users, such as the ‘use of mobile connections’ module in 2012.

Outlines for the main data requirements, the periodicity of the collection of specific information, exploitation of past data and a list of new areas to be explored are currently set out in the Commission document [Monitoring the digital economy and society 2016–2021](#).

An overview of variables gathered through the ICT survey, with their periodicity in 2003-2017, is published in [Variables collected — ICT usage in households and by individuals](#).

The cultural variables in the ICT survey are listed, with an indication of their periodicity, in Tables 9 to 13 below.

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

Data are collected annually, in most cases in the second quarter of the reference year and disseminated before the end of that year. However, some variables (e.g. those that tend to be stable over time) can be observed with a lower frequency.

Time coverage

Time series (annual data) are available from 2003 onwards for certain variables. However as questions in the model questionnaire are often adapted to changing realities, the time series for certain variables cover just a couple of years. As a consequence, some time series and variables are not consistent over the longer term.

Geographical coverage

The data are available for the 28 EU Member States, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and the candidate countries for EU accession.

Reference population

The target population for the different statistical units is:

- individuals — all individuals aged 16 to 74; and
- households — all (private) households with at least one member aged 16 to 74.

As regards the 'individuals' target population, some countries choose to collect separate data on individuals aged 15 years or less and/or those aged 75 or more.

Statistical unit

In the ICT usage survey, the following statistical units are used (depending on the variable):

- households; and
- individuals.

Reference period

For most questions, the reference period is three months. The choice of which three months is a trade-off between recall bias and seasonal bias. For questions relating to e-commerce (where an important seasonal effect can be expected in consumption patterns throughout the year, e.g. more Christmas purchases, more booking of holidays in the summer), a reference period of 12 months is used.

More data

The complete Eurostat working database (in MS-Access format), with results from past and current surveys on the use of ICT in enterprises and households/by individuals, and instructions on its use, can be downloaded directly from the webpage '[comprehensive database](#)'.

Microdata on ICT use have been available at Eurostat since 2011, when the transmission of microdata to Eurostat was made mandatory. However, access to confidential microdata is restricted in order to protect the anonymity of individuals or businesses; it is granted for scientific purposes only, on request, following the set up [procedures](#).

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

Methodological references

For ESSnet-Culture, cultural participation refers to a set of activities and habits identified within 10 cultural domains across the following dimensions:

- amateur practices, i.e. practising the arts as a leisure activity;

- attending/receiving, i.e. visits to cultural events and following artistic and cultural broadcasts of all kind of media; and
- social participation/volunteering, e.g. being a member of a cultural group and association, doing voluntary work for a cultural institution, etc.

Cultural participation also covers transactions, e.g. buying art and reserving tickets, etc.

In the context of online cultural participation, digital supporting materials and online transmission channels replace or coexist with other, traditional means of accessing cultural content.

As in real life, it is possible via the internet to participate in culture both receptively (listening, reading and watching) and actively (professional and amateur artists presenting their work to a general audience and their fellow artists e.g. by writing blogs, etc.). The internet also provides a growing number of opportunities to learn to play a musical instrument, to sing or paint and to share self-created cultural content. There are many examples of cultural participation via the internet and the possibilities are spreading to more and more areas. For example, it is now possible to make virtual visits of museums, archives, libraries or watch operas online.

Online cultural participation also includes the online purchase of cultural goods or services, e.g. tickets for cultural events, books, CDs and works of art.

On the basis of the ICT survey questionnaire, Eurostat compiled a list of cultural activities carried out via the internet and a list of goods and services bought on the internet.

Classifications

The survey uses standard classifications such as ISCED or ISCO for core social variables describing individuals' characteristics.

Online cultural participation in ICT surveys and data periodicity

All the culture-related indicators are addressed in the ICT survey modules on 'use of internet' and 'use of e-commerce'. Some indicators relevant to culture were provided in the *ad hoc* modules on 'use of mobile connection to internet' (2012) and 'cloud computing' (2014). However, in the context of rapid ICT evolution, these data can already be considered historical.

The list of cultural activities monitored in the ICT survey is currently limited to the most relevant indicators, as the survey is not specifically dedicated to cultural participation. Again, it must be underlined that some indicators undergo frequent revision and have short time-series, as we are dealing with a subset of cultural indicators updated in 2016. In line with the recommendation in *Monitoring the digital economy and society 2016–2021*, new series of questions on online cultural participation were formulated and implemented in 2016. These are to be run every two years until 2021, except the question on reading newspapers, which has been included annually since 2013.

Data on purchasing cultural goods have been collected annually since at least 2010 as part of the e-commerce module.

Currently, via the 'use of internet' module, the data on the following cultural activities carried out on the internet are collected on an annual or biennial basis:

- reading online newspapers — annual;
- watching TV, movies and videos — biennial;
- listening to music — biennial;
- playing or downloading games — biennial;
- creating websites or blogs — biennial; and
- consulting wikis (to obtain knowledge on any subject) — biennial.

From the e-commerce module, annual statistics on the online purchase of the following items are available from 2010 (or earlier, depending on the country):

- books, magazines and newspapers;
- films and music; and
- tickets for events (including sports events).

In 2017, some questions were added on downloading content (e-books and e-newspapers) directly from apps and websites.

In 2012, the *ad hoc* 'mobile connection to the internet' module captured the use of mobile devices for internet activities such as:

- reading or downloading online news / newspapers / news magazines;
- playing or downloading games, images, video or music; and
- reading or downloading online books or e-books.

The module on cloud computing in the ICT 2014 survey provided information on the use of cloud services for storing and/or sharing cultural content, in particular:

- e-books or e-magazines;
- music;
- photos; and
- videos, including films and TV programmes.

A detailed list of cultural variables collected through the ICT survey can be found in Tables 9 to 13 below. The components of derived variables on cultural participation are set out in Table 10.

Table 9: Internet activities by individuals (Eurobase table isoc_ci_ac_i) — list of variables on cultural participation and their periodicity until 2017

CODE	DESCRIPTION	OLDER	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
I_IUCWEB	Internet use: creating websites or blogs		x		x		x	
I_IUWIKI	Internet use: consulting wikis (to obtain knowledge on any subject)		x		x		x	
I_IUNW	Internet use: reading/downloading online newspapers/news	x	x					
I_IUNW1	Internet use: reading online news sites/newspapers/news magazines			x	x	x	x	x
I_IUGM	Internet use: playing/downloading games, images, films or music	x	x		x			
I_IUWEB	Internet use: listening to web radios and/or watching web TV	x	x					
I_IUGMNET	Internet use: playing networked games with other persons		x		x			
I_IUWEB2	Internet use: listening to web radio				x			
I_IUPDG	Internet use: playing or downloading games						x	
I_IUMUSS	Internet use: listening to music (e.g. web radio, music streaming)						x	
I_IUSTV	Internet use: watching internet streamed TV (live or catch-up) from TV broadcasters						x	
I_IUVOD	Internet use: watching video on demand from commercial services						x	
I_IUVSS	Internet use: watching video content from sharing services						x	
I_IUV	Internet use: watching video content from commercial or sharing services						x	
I_IUSTVV	Internet use: watching internet streamed TV or videos						x	
I_IUGMV	Internet use: playing/downloading games, listening to music or watching videos (excluding VOD)						x	
I_IUENT	Internet use: playing/downloading games, listening to music or watching internet streamed TV or videos						x	

Table 10: Eurobase derived variables on online cultural participation and their content

I_IUV	Internet use: watching video content from commercial or sharing services	
=	I_IUVOD	Internet use: watching video on demand from commercial services
or	I_IUVSS	Internet use: watching video content from sharing services
I_IUSTVV	Internet use: watching internet streamed TV or videos	
=	I_IUSTV	Internet use: watching internet streamed TV (live or catch-up) from TV broadcasters
or	I_IUVOD	Internet use: watching video on demand from commercial services
or	I_IUVSS	Internet use: watching video content from sharing services
I_IUGMV	Internet use: playing/downloading games, listening to music or watching videos (excluding VOD)	
=	I_IUPDG	Internet use: playing or downloading games
or	I_IUMUSS	Internet use: listening to music (e.g. web radio, music streaming)
or	I_IUVSS	Internet use: watching video content from sharing services
I_IUENT	Internet use: playing/downloading games, listening to music or watching internet streamed TV or videos	
=	I_IUPDG	Internet use: playing or downloading games
or	I_IUMUSS	Internet use: listening to music (e.g. web radio, music streaming)
or	I_IUSTV	Internet use: watching internet streamed TV (live or catch-up) from TV broadcasters
or	I_IUVOD	Internet use: watching video on demand from commercial services
or	I_IUVSS	Internet use: watching video content from sharing services

Table 11: Internet purchases by individuals (Eurobase table isoc_ec_ibuy) — list of cultural goods and services for period until 2017

CODE	DESCRIPTION	OLDER	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
I_BFILM	Online purchases: films/music	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
I_BTICK	Online purchases: tickets for events	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
I_BBOOKNL	Online purchases: books/magazines/newspapers	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
I_BFILMO	Online purchases: films/music, delivered or upgraded online	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
I_BEBOOKO	Online purchases, downloaded or accessed from websites or apps: e-books							x
I_BMGNWO	Online purchases, downloaded or accessed from websites or apps: e-magazines, e-newspapers							x
I_BBOOK1O	Online purchases, downloaded or accessed from websites or apps: e-books, e-magazines/e-newspapers							x
I_BGOOD3O	Online purchases, downloaded or accessed from websites or apps: films/music, e-books, e-magazines/e-newspapers							x

Table 12: Purpose of mobile internet use (Eurobase table isoc_cimobi_purp) — module 2012

CODE	DESCRIPTION	2012
I_IUHD_NW	Mobile internet use via handheld device: for reading or downloading online news / newspapers / news magazines	x
I_IUHD_BOOK	Mobile internet use via handheld device: for reading or downloading online books or e-books	x
I_IUHD_GM	Mobile internet use via handheld device: for playing or downloading games, images, video or music	x
I_IUHD_POD	Mobile internet use via handheld device: for using podcast service to automatically receive audio or video files of interest	x

Table 13: Individuals — use of cloud services (Eurobase table isoc_cicci_use) — module 2014

CODE	DESCRIPTION	2014
I_CC	Used internet storage space to save documents, pictures, music, video or other files	x
I_CC_CCS	Internet storage space use: to save or share documents, pictures, music, video or other files	x
I_CC_PHO	Internet storage space use: to save or share photos	x
I_CC_EBO	Internet storage space use: to save or share e-books or e-magazines	x
I_CC_MUS	Internet storage space use: to save or share music	x
I_CC_VID	Internet storage space use: to save or share videos including films, TV programmes	x
I_CC_MV	Internet storage space use: to save or share music and videos	x
I_CC_RLIB	Reason for using internet storage space: access to large libraries of music, TV programs or films	x
I_CC_EPV	Used software run over the internet for editing pictures or videos	x
I_CC_EPVX	Used the internet but did not use software run over the internet for editing pictures or videos	x
I_CC_CCS_EPV	Used internet storage space to save or share files or edit pictures or videos	x
I_CC_PMV	Used services over the internet for playing music or video files uploaded or saved in internet storage space	x
I_CC_PMVX	Used the internet but did not use services over the internet for playing music or video files uploaded or saved in internet storage space	x
I_CC_CCS_PMV	Used internet storage space to save or share files or play music or videos	x

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

There is no data processing specific to culture-related indicators in the domain of cultural online activities. Data are collected, processed and published by the Eurostat unit in charge of ICT statistics and presented as bookmarks in the 'Culture' domain of Eurobase.

3.3 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Short time series

The ICT sectors are growing fast and rapidly transforming production, supply and consumption patterns. It is therefore difficult to monitor these processes over a long period. Survey questions have to be adapted frequently and this results in breaks in series or short series. The current subset of variables on cultural participation has 2016 as the reference year and is expected to be reiterated until 2021 ⁽⁵⁾, after which policy requirements and variables may change.

Biennial variables

The part of the module on the use of the internet for cultural purposes is subject to rotation and is conducted every two years. However, if another policy priority emerges, it could be dropped. Conversely, some biennial variables may become annual if there is strong demand from policy-makers.

Partial coverage of online cultural participation

As the ICT survey is a multipurpose survey, online cultural participation and the online purchase of cultural goods and services are covered only broadly. The impact of digital culture could be gauged more accurately if some items were to be added or split, but the questionnaire is limited to a few key areas. For example, the survey provides no information on the frequency of certain activities (unlike the 2015 *ad hoc* module of EU-SILC, for instance) or on time spent doing them (unlike HETUS, with most recent data from the 2010 wave).

As regards indicators for purchases of cultural goods, the ICT survey can provide information only on the range and intensity of the phenomenon in the reference population but not on how much was spent; this information is measured by household budget surveys.

Expected future changes and developments

Some stakeholders have called for the e-commerce section in the model questionnaire to be amended to distinguish supports for film from those for music, tickets for cultural events from tickets for sport events, and games software from other software. These requests have been taken into consideration for the 2020 questionnaire. After 2021, the structure of the survey might change and questions might be reformulated.

4. Dissemination

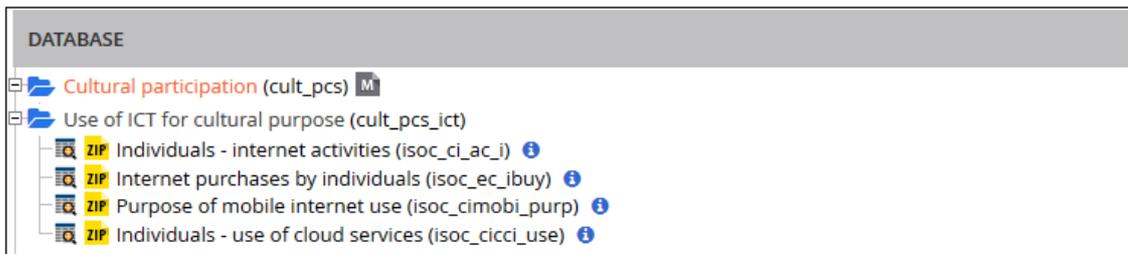
Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section on the Eurostat website includes an introduction to cultural participation statistics with a reference to the ICT survey: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

⁽⁵⁾ See [Monitoring the digital economy and society 2016–2021](#)

Tables available in Eurobase

Four datasets with statistics referring to online cultural participation are available in Eurobase: *Population and social conditions* > [Culture](#) > *Cultural participation* > *Use of ICT for cultural purposes*:



Description of tables

Indicators on ICT use for cultural purposes

Tables 9 to 13 included above show currently available indicators on cultural online practices.

Socio-economic breakdowns

The data on individuals' use of the internet are broken down by numerous socio-economic variables. The most common breakdowns are age, sex, educational attainment, household income quartile, place of birth, rural/urban area of residence and employment status.

Time coverage

Tables 9 to 13 included above show the periodicity and time coverage of indicators on cultural online practices.

Unit of measurement

Data are expressed as percentages of (all) individuals and of the target population, depending on the dataset and the variable. For cultural participation, the second unit of measurement is the percentage of individuals who used the internet in the past three months.

As regards purchases of cultural goods, several measurements are calculated, taking into account diverse denominators: individuals who used the internet in the past year and in the past three months, individuals who purchased online in the past 12 or three months, and individuals who purchased online from sellers from other countries.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the culture data tree.

Publications

Patterns of online cultural activity, including the evolution of cultural e-commerce, are analysed in the following *Statistics explained* article: [Culture statistics — use of ICT for cultural purposes](#).

6.3 Time spent on cultural activities

Introduction

The available European social surveys make it possible to monitor cultural practices in terms of participation rate, frequency of participation and time spent on various cultural activities. The latter can be derived from the **Harmonised European time use survey (HETUS)**, which is specifically designed to report how, on average, people allocate their time to different day-to-day activities.

HETUS brings out very interesting information about people's lives. The data are used in numerous comparative social research studies, e.g. on differences in time use between men and women, or to evaluate the amount of paid and unpaid work. However, conducting and processing this valuable survey is quite demanding. Due to the burden of managing it, HETUS is run every 10 years at a different point of time and not all Members States carry it out.

1. Data source

General overview

The [Harmonised European Time Use Survey \(HETUS\)](#) measures the amount of time people spend on a wide range of activities, such as paid work, household and family care, personal care, voluntary work, social life, travel and leisure activities.

It is designed to allow the derivation of various indicators relating to time spent, including *mean time*, *real participation time* (mean time spent in activities by individuals who took part) or *participation rate* (proportion of individuals who spent some time doing the activities). In addition, numerous individual breakdown variables are reported. These include age, sex, educational attainment level, working status and working pattern (full-time/part-time).

The survey also gathers information on household characteristics, such as composition of the household, type of tenure, type of dwelling, household equipment and household income.

A distinction can also be made between weekdays and weekend, as respondents are asked to report their activities for one weekday and one day of the weekend.

The survey is conducted every 10 years on the basis of a gentlemen's agreement (i.e. on a voluntary basis).

Two waves of HETUS have already been run: the 2000 HETUS, carried out between 1998 and 2006, and the 2010 HETUS, carried out between 2008 and 2015. The results of both waves are available on the Eurostat website.

Data collection instrument

The survey consists of a household interview, individual interview and two diaries (to be filled out by respondents on a weekday and on a weekend day, randomly selected). The diary allows

activities to be recorded in 10-minute time slots over 24 hours of a day (except in Austria, where 15-minute time slots were used). Only one activity per line is accepted, but if two activities are performed in parallel, it is possible to record one of them as the main activity and the other as the secondary activity. The questionnaire also asks where the main activity takes place, what the means of transport are used and with whom the activity is done (family members or others). A version of the diaries for children aged 10 to 14 is also available, to be filled in with the help of parents.

The information gathered via the diaries enables numerous derived indicators to be computed and analysis to focus on sub-items such as 'worktime', 'leisure time', 'childcare', 'main/secondary activity' and 'means of transport'.

Individuals are asked to record all their activities in the time diaries in their own words.

Data are collected via the national surveys in each participating country. The results were harmonised by Statistics Finland (rounds 2000 and 2010) and Statistics Sweden (round 2010), with financial support from Eurostat.

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

As managing the survey places a considerable burden on NSIs and it is difficult for people to complete the diaries, the survey is conducted only every 10 years. The last rounds took place in 2000 and 2010. The next round (2020) is in preparation.

As HETUS is conducted on a voluntary basis, the data collection period in each round may deviate from the HETUS wave year (i.e. be spread over several years). For this reason, the dissemination of results by Eurostat takes more time, as it depends on the submission of the last data for the wave in question. For instance, the results of the 2010 wave were sent to Eurostat between 2014 and 2017.

Time coverage

Table 14 shows the national reference years for the 2000 and 2010 waves of HETUS.

Table 14: National survey reference years for 2000 and 2010 HETUS waves

Country	2000 wave	2010 wave
Belgium	2005–2006	2012–2013
Bulgaria	2001–2002	:
Czechia	:	:
Denmark	:	:
Germany	2001–2002	2012–2013
Estonia	1999–2000	2009–2010
Ireland	:	:
Greece	:	2011–2012
Spain	2002–2003	2009–2010
France	1998–1999	2009–2010
Croatia	:	:
Italy	2002–2003	2008–2009
Cyprus	:	:
Latvia	2003	:
Lithuania	2003	:
Luxembourg	:	2014–2015
Hungary	:	2009–2010

Country	2000 wave	2010 wave
Malta	:	:
Netherlands	:	2011–2012
Austria	:	2008–2009
Poland	2003–2004	2012–2013
Portugal	:	:
Romania	:	2010–2011
Slovenia	2001	:
Slovakia	:	:
Finland	1999–2000	2009–2010
Sweden	:	:
United Kingdom	2000–2001	2014–2015
Norway	2000–2001	2010–2011
Serbia	:	2010–2011
Turkey	:	2014–2015

In principle, the period covered is one calendar year per wave round. However, in practice, the time coverage varies across countries, depending on the periodicity of the data collection at national level (see Table 14). For example, in the 2010 round the reference year varied from 2008–2009 in Austria to 2014–2015 in the UK and Turkey.

Geographical coverage

HETUS 2000 covered 14 European countries: Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Estonia, Spain, France, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, Finland, the UK and Norway.

HETUS 2010 covered 18 countries: Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Hungary, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Romania, Finland, the UK, Norway, Serbia and Turkey.

Reference population

The scope of HETUS is the resident population of the country living in private households.

The minimum age for inclusion in the survey varies between countries. The following populations are covered in the 2010 HETUS wave: Belgium - 12+; Bulgaria - 7+; Germany- 10+; Estonia - 10+; Spain - 10+; France - 15+; Italy - 3+; Latvia - 10+; Lithuania - 10+; Poland - 15+; Slovenia - 10+; Finland - 10+; UK - 8+; Norway - 9-79.

In Eurobase, most data are calculated and published for the population aged 20-74 (see section 4 below for details).

Statistical unit

Statistical units are persons, households and time.

Reference period

Household members are asked to keep detailed diaries for 24 hours of a randomly designated weekday and one day of the weekend. This is in order to have representative coverage of a week in a full 12-month period of the reference year.

2. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

Methodological references

In its chapter on cultural participation, the *ESSnet-Culture final report* provides an overview of time-use statistics and lists the cultural items in the HETUS activity coding list (ACL).

As regards HETUS methodology, there are several support materials providing information on the data collection framework:

- 2000 wave — [Guidelines on harmonised European time use survey, 2000](#);
- 2010 wave — [Harmonised European time use surveys, 2008 guidelines](#).

Classifications

HETUS does not operate with a harmonised classification but with a harmonised list of activities (ACL). The activity code system is hierarchical, with three levels allocated to 10 broad categories as follows:

- 0 Personal care
- 1 Employment
- 2 Studies
- 3 Household and family care
- 4 Voluntary work and meetings
- 5 Social life and entertainment**
- 6 Sports and outdoor activities
- 7 Hobbies and computing**
- 8 Mass media**
- 9 Travel and unspecified time

The respondents note the activities in their own words and the ACL categories are later allocated to each of the 144 lines of the diary (the coding is usually done by the NSI, not by the respondents).

The ACL was developed by experts based on experience with pilot exercises. Coding indices, examples and descriptions are provided for each three-digit activity code to guarantee the uniform coding of the activities across countries.

Countries can extend the list of categories, but each national code must fit one-to-one to the ACL code.

The results from the 2000 survey round were coded according to [ACL 2000](#), while in the 2010 survey round [ACL 2008](#) was used. Correspondence tables linking the two coding lists are available in the 2008 HETUS guidelines.

The majority of the cultural activities can be found at three-digit level in the following themes of the HETUS coding list:

- 5 — 'social life and entertainment';
- 7 — 'hobbies and computing'; and
- 8 — 'mass media'.

For classifying the information on the reference person in households, the survey uses other standard nomenclatures such as ISCED for educational attainment (ISCED-97 in the 2010 wave), ISCO for occupation (ISCO-08 in the 2010 wave) and NACE for sector of economic activity (NACE Rev. 2 for the 2010 wave).

Cultural categories in HETUS ACL

The ACL codes and their content were analysed by Eurostat and discussed in the culture statistics working group. The group proposed a list of the codes at three-digit level (fully or partly cultural) for analysis of time spent on cultural activities.

Not all three-digit ACL codes could be reported separately in the Eurostat database. Some were aggregated in groups consisting of two or more three-digit codes (to regroup similar categories or to minimise reliability or comparability problems). As a result, the aggregated codes sometimes consist of both (fully or partly) cultural and non-cultural categories (see Table 15). For a better visual understanding, in the table below fully or almost fully cultural categories are presented in bold, partly cultural categories in normal font and non-cultural codes in grey.

Table 15: Cultural codes in the HETUS coding list and Eurostat database

Eurostat database — ACL codes		2010 HETUS activity codes
AC22	Free time study	221 Free time study
AC33A	Handicraft and producing textiles and other care for textiles	333 Handicraft and producing textiles 339 Other or unspecified making and care for textiles
AC38B	Teaching, reading and talking with child	382 Teaching the child 383 Reading, playing and talking with the child
AC52	Entertainment and culture	521 Cinema 522 Theatre and concerts 523 Art exhibitions and museums 524 Library 525 Sport events 529 Other or unspecified entertainment and culture
AC733	Computer games	733 Computer games
AC7A	Computing	721 Computing — programming 722 Information by computing 723 Communication by computing 729 Other or unspecified computing
AC7B	Hobbies and games except computing and computer games	711 Arts (visual, performing, literary) 712 Collecting 713 Correspondence 719 Other or unspecified hobbies 731 Solo games and play, gambling 732 Parlour games and play 739 Other or unspecified games
AC812	Reading books	812 Reading books
AC811	Reading, except books	811 Reading periodicals 819 Other or unspecified reading
AC82	TV and video	821 Watching TV, video or DVD
AC83	Radio and music	831 Listening to radio or recordings

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

There is no data processing specific to culture-related categories in the domain of time spent on cultural activities. Data are collected, processed and published by the Eurostat unit in charge of HETUS statistics and presented as bookmarks in the Eurobase 'Culture' domain.

3.3. LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Geographical coverage

Because of the burden it imposes on administrators and respondents, HETUS is conducted in a limited number of countries.

Timeliness

Because of the high cost of managing and processing, HETUS is conducted in many European countries every 10 years only and at different points in time (years), leading to a gap between the year of the survey and the publication of the data in Eurobase.

For some activities (including cultural ones) where patterns are changing rapidly with the wider use of ICT, this interval may reduce the time-relevance of the data.

Comparability issues

There are some issues regarding the comparability of time use surveys between countries and over time. Despite the recommendations on harmonising survey methodologies, there are still differences in the sampling of diary days, the timeliness of surveys and the number of household members filling in the diaries.

As for timeliness, each wave of the survey is spread over several years around the wave year (see Table 14).

As regards the survey instrument, individuals are asked to keep diaries. However, the target population for filling in these diaries may vary between countries (age or definition of 'household'). The choice of reported days can also differ (e.g. one random day of the week instead of one weekday and one weekend day).

Coding of activities

There might be a bias linked to the level of accuracy in NSIs coding of activities: some reported activities are not covered by a three-digit code or are so general that they cannot be split into sub-tasks at three-digit level. The solution is to enter such observations using codes 'other activities'.

Cultural activities merged with leisure

The time-use aggregates computed for Eurobase and available for analysing time spent on cultural activities contain activities that are not always culture-related, but refer more broadly to leisure or hobby time.

Expected future changes and developments

Work is under way to revise the 2008 HETUS guidelines, including the ACL, for the 2020 wave.

3. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section of the Eurostat website includes an introduction to cultural participation statistics, with link to information on HETUS: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

Several datasets referring to time spent on cultural activities are available in Eurobase as bookmarks in the domain *Population and social conditions* > *Culture* > *Cultural participation* > *Time Use Survey*:

DATABASE	
[-]	Cultural participation (cult_pcs) M
[-]	Time spent on cultural activities (cult_pcs_tus)
[Q]	ZIP Time spent, participation time and participation rate in the main activity by sex and age group (tus_00age) i
[Q]	ZIP Time spent, participation time and participation rate in the main activity by sex and household composition (tus_00hhstatus) i
[Q]	ZIP Time spent, participation time and participation rate in the main activity by sex and educational attainment level (tus_00educ) i
[Q]	ZIP Time spent, participation time and participation rate in the main activity by sex and self-declared labour status (tus_00selfstat) i
[Q]	ZIP Time spent, participation time and participation rate in the main activity by sex and professional status (tus_00profstat) i
[Q]	ZIP Time spent, participation time and participation rate in the main activity by sex and day of the week (tus_00week) i
[Q]	ZIP Time spent watching TV or other media, playing computer games and any similar screen activities (as main or secondary activity) (tus_00screen) i

It is important to note that the tables refer to the 20–74 year old population only, except the first table ('tus_00age'), which covers all respondents aged 15+.

Description of tables

Cultural and partly cultural activities in ACL coding list (see Table 15)

AC22	Free time study
AC33A	Handicraft and producing textiles and other care for textiles
AC38B	Teaching, reading and talking with child
AC25	Entertainment and culture
AC733	Computer games
AC7A	Computing
AC7B	Hobbies and games except computing and computer games
AC812	Reading books
AC811	Reading, except books
AC82	TV and video
AC83	Radio and music

Breakdown variables

The following breakdowns and analysing topics are available:

- age;
- sex;
- educational attainment;
- household composition (different categories — with/without children, etc.);
- working status (employed, employee, self-employed, unemployed, student, retired, part-time worker, homeworker);
- time spent on activities by week day (weekday or day of weekend); and
- time spent doing activities by month (all months of the year).

Time coverage

Data on time spent on cultural activities are available for the 2000 and 2010 rounds, with significant variations across countries (see Table 14).

Unit of measurement

The tables on time spent on cultural activities use the following units:

- time spent (hh:mm), i.e. mean time spent on the activities by all individuals;
- participation time (hh:mm), i.e. mean time spent on the activities by those individuals who took part; and
- participation rate (%), i.e. proportion of individuals who spent some time on the activities.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the culture data tree.

Publications

No article on cultural activities using HETUS data has been prepared to date.

7 Household expenditure and price index on cultural goods and services

7.1 Private household expenditure on cultural goods and services

1. Introduction

Data on private cultural expenditure focus on household expenditure on cultural goods and services. These statistics give us a better understanding of the private financing of culture, cultural participation and, to some extent, access to culture.

To address these aspects, we can analyse the data on household expenditure on cultural goods from **household budget surveys (HBSs)**.

2. Data source

General overview

Household Budget Surveys (HBSs) are national surveys focusing principally on consumption expenditure. One of their main objectives is to make it possible to calculate weights for the consumer price index (aimed at measuring inflation). However, due to the scope and richness of the information gathered on private households' consumption structure and the characteristics of households and individuals, HBSs have many more uses. For example, they are the only source of information on households' expenditure in relation to income.

The European-level HBS is run on the basis of a gentlemen's agreement, with the principle of output harmonisation. Despite continuous efforts to move towards harmonised concepts and definitions, the structure of the survey and its design, timing and frequency still differ between countries.

The objective of HBSs is to measure household expenditure on goods and services such as food, beverages, clothing, housing, water, electricity, health, transport, communication, education and travel. They also collect information on the income, housing and possession of durable consumer goods. In addition, HBSs gather data on the composition of households and

on many demographic and socio-economic characteristics of household members, such as age, working status and the educational attainment level of the reference person.

The essential reference concept and framework for expenditure in HBS is [household final consumption expenditure](#) incurred by households in the individual consumption of goods and services. 'Household consumption' does not include services for collective consumption (e.g. national defence, the use of public infrastructures or public broadcasting) or social transfers-in-kind received (e.g. expenditure on health and education). Also excluded from the scope of the surveys are savings, amounts invested or loaned, repayments of loans (e.g. interest on mortgages) and outlays, gambling losses, cash grants and donations (except small recurrent contributions to churches and charitable institutions).

National data collection involves a combination of one or more interviews and diaries or logs maintained by households and/or individuals, generally on a daily basis.

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

A number of countries conduct annual expenditure surveys and are able to revise and update their expenditure weights each year.

Eurostat's HBS data are collected every five years. There have been six data collection rounds to date: in 1988, 1994, 1999, 2005, 2010 and 2015.

In each round of Eurostat data collection, the timeliness of some national surveys may deviate from the 'wave year' and be spread over several years. For this reason, the dissemination of results can take more time, as Eurostat waits for the majority of countries to transmit their data (which then need to be checked).

Table 16 shows the frequencies of national HBSs and national reference years for the 2010 and 2015 waves.

Table 16: Survey frequency and data collection years for HBS 2010 and 2015 waves

Country	Frequency ⁽¹⁾	Reference year in 2010 wave	Reference year in 2015 wave
Belgium	Annual (until 2010); biennial (from 2012)	2010	2014
Bulgaria	Annual	2010	2015–2016
Czechia	Annual	2010	2015
Denmark	Annual	2008–2010	2014–2015
Germany	Every five years	2008	2013
Estonia	Irregular	2010	2015–2016
Ireland	Every five years	2009–2010	
Greece	Annual from 2008 onwards	2010	2015
Spain	Annual	2010	2015
France	Approximately every five years	2010–2011	2016–2017
Croatia	Annual until 2011; then approximately biennial	2010	2014
Italy	Annual	2010	2015
Cyprus	Every five years	2008–2009	2015–2016
Latvia	Annual	2010	2016
Lithuania	Annual (until 2008); then approximately every four years	2008	2015
Luxembourg	Annual	2010	2014–2016
Hungary	Annual	2010	2015
Malta	Approximately every five years	2008	2015–2016
Netherlands	Annual; from 2015 onwards every five years	2010	2015
Austria	Every five years	2010	2015
Poland	Annual	2010	2015
Portugal	Every five years	2010	2015
Romania	Annual	2010	2015
Slovenia	Annual (until 2011); then every three years	2009–2010	2015
Slovakia	Annual	2010	2015
Finland	Approximately every five years	2012	2015–2016
Sweden	Irregular	2009	2012
United Kingdom	Every five years	2010	2015–2016
Norway	Annual until 2009; then periodically with no fixed frequency	2010	2012
Montenegro	Annual	2010	2015
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Annual	2010	2015
Turkey	Annual	2008–2010	
Serbia			2015
Kosovo			2015

Notes: ⁽¹⁾ According to 2010 HBS quality report

Cultural indicators based on the wave 2010 are available for 27 EU Member States (excepting the Netherlands due to the lack of five-digit level data), Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey.

The results of the 2015 HBS wave are being disseminated as soon as countries submit the final results to Eurostat. The data for 24 EU Member States (excepting Denmark, France, Portugal and the United Kingdom) are available so far.

Reference population

The reference population are private households. People living in collective households or institutions are generally excluded.

The definition of 'household' for the purpose of the HBS is based on two criteria: co-residence and sharing of expenditures.

The following persons, if they share household expenses, are regarded as household members:

- persons usually resident, related to other members;
- persons usually resident, not related to other members;
- resident boarders, lodgers, tenants;
- visitors;
- live-in domestic servants, au-pairs;
- persons usually resident, but temporarily absent from the dwelling (for reasons of holiday travel, work, education, etc.);
- children of the household who are being educated away from home;
- persons absent for long periods, but having household ties (persons working away from home, etc.); and
- persons temporarily absent but having household ties (persons in hospital, nursing homes, boarding schools or other institutions).

The reference person is the adult (aged 16+) with the highest income (the 'main income earner').

Statistical unit

The statistical units are households and household members.

Cultural expenditure refers to households only.

Reference period

To monitor their expenditure, households are asked to keep detailed diaries over a fixed period. The diaries are designed to cover expenses incurred over the reference year.

The recording period varies between countries from one week to one month, with two weeks being the most common period in each annual round. In some countries, the reporting of diaries is distributed randomly through the year.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

Methodological references

In the *ESSnet-Culture final report*, the chapter on cultural expenditure gives an overview of the sources of statistics on household expenditure and includes a list of cultural items in the [Classification of individual consumption by purpose \(COICOP\)](#). It addresses comparability issues relating to HBS data and methodologies and makes some recommendations. The report

also outlines the directions for possible analysis and provides an overview of the indicators to be computed.

Reference documents

Several support materials provide information on the framework of the data collection for HBS surveys (2010 wave):

- [Household budget surveys in the EU — methodology and recommendations for harmonisation, 2003](#);
- [Description of the data transmission for HBS 2010](#); and
- [Quality report of HBS 2010](#);

For methodological information on the 2015 HBS wave, see [Description of the data transmission for HBS 2015](#).

Classifications

The classification system used for the HBS is the United Nations' Classification of individual consumption by purpose (COICOP), which is made up of four-digit codes divided into services (S), non-durables (ND), semi-durables (SD) and durables (D).

For the purpose of EU HBS, a special version of the classification COICOP-HBS ⁽⁶⁾ was created, with an additional fifth digit (for more detailed breakdowns) that has been used since the 2000 wave. This was further revised in 2003 for the 2005 and 2010 waves.

For the 2015 wave, the [European classification of individual consumption according to purpose \(ECOICOP\)](#) was recommended (although some countries still used the COICOP-HBS in their national surveys ⁽⁷⁾). ECOICOP relies on the structure of COICOP-HBS for the fifth-digit, but for some codes even more disaggregation is available.

The main COICOP divisions include:

- CP01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages;
- CP02 Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics; use
- CP03 Clothing and footwear;
- CP04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels;
- CP05 Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house;
- CP06 Health;
- CP07 Transport;
- CP08 Communications;
- CP09 Recreation and culture;**
- CP10 Education;
- CP11 Restaurants and hotels;
- CP12 Miscellaneous goods and services.

The survey uses other standard classifications such as ISCED and ISCO for socio-economic variables describing the reference person in the household.

⁽⁶⁾ For detailed structure of COICOP-HBS, see [Household budget surveys in the EU. Methodology and recommendations for harmonisation \(2003\)](#), p. 167

⁽⁷⁾ Information about the COICOP version used by countries for HBS 2015 will be available soon in the 2015 HBS quality report.

Cultural categories in HBS by COICOP

COICOP division 09 ('culture and recreation') is explicitly devoted to expenditure on culture.

COICOP-HBS and ECOICOP specifically identify many intrinsically cultural goods and services: books, newspapers and services provided by cinemas, theatres, concert halls or museums (e.g. tickets), etc.

Other durable goods such as musical instruments, photo and video cameras, drawing materials, equipment (e.g. IT equipment, TV sets, radios and CD players), CDs and DVDs, are also identified in the classification and included in the scope of culture-related household expenditure. These items represent 'indirect cultural expenditure', i.e. they are used for artistic expression (e.g. musical instruments) or allow the reception of cultural content or facilitate access to it (e.g. TV sets, computers, CDs). Because durables such as TV sets or radio receivers are included in the scope of cultural spending, television and radio taxes, fees, subscriptions and hire and repair costs for these articles are also included.

In the ECOICOP used in the 2015 survey round, some five-digit codes are new, others are more clearly demarcated and others are slightly redefined in terms of scope.

Table 17 lists the cultural codes in the 2010 COICOP-HBS and Table 18 lists cultural codes in ECOICOP for the 2015 wave of HBS.

Table 17: Cultural categories in 2010 wave of HBS by COICOP-HBS and corresponding codes in Eurobase dictionary

Selected cultural codes in HBS 2010	
CP09111	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound
CP09112	Television sets, video cassette players and recorders
CP09121	Photographic and cinematographic equipment
CP0913	Information processing equipment
CP0914	Recording media
CP0915	Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment
CP09221	Musical instruments
CP09421	Cinemas, theatres, concerts
CP09422	Museums, zoological gardens and the like
CP09423	Television and radio taxes and hire of equipment
CP09424	Other services
CP0951	Books
CP0952	Newspapers and periodicals
CP0954	Stationery and drawing materials

Table 18: Cultural categories in 2015 wave of HBS by ECOICOP

Selected cultural codes in HBS 2015	
CP09111	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound
CP09112	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and vision
CP09113	Portable sound and vision devices
CP09119	Other equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and picture
CP09121	Cameras
CP09122	Accessories for photographic and cinematographic equipment
CP0913	Information processing equipment
CP0914	Recording media
CP0915	Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment
CP09221	Musical instruments
CP0942	Cultural services
CP09421	Cinemas, theatres, concerts
CP09422	Museums, libraries, zoological gardens
CP09423	Television and radio licence fees, subscriptions
CP09424	Hire of equipment and accessories for culture
CP09425	Photographic services
CP09429	Other cultural services
CP0951	Books
CP09511	Fiction books
CP09512	Educational text books
CP09513	Other non-fiction books
CP09514	Binding services and E-book downloads
CP0952	Newspapers and periodicals
CP09521	Newspapers
CP09522	Magazines and periodicals
CP0954	Stationery and drawing materials

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

Cultural expenditure (COICOP-HBS and ECOICOP four- and five-digit level) is calculated for households in [purchasing power standard \(PPS\)](#). PPS is used as a ‘fictional currency’ to eliminate differences in purchasing power between countries. Due to the detailed breakdown of cultural items and related reliability issues, the only breakdown variable concerning household characteristics used for the cultural data is the household income [quintile](#).

In the computation process, some estimates for missing values are made on the basis of average values observed for other countries.

It should be noted that, in the ECOICOP used in 2015 round, the fifth digit is not fully consistent with the five-digit level of COICOP-HBS. To allow comparison and address some availability issues regarding five-digit codes, the ECOICOP categories selected are those that match the COICOP-HBS scope as closely as possible.

The data are presented in two datasets published in the ‘Culture’ domain of Eurobase.

3.3 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Comparability issues

Household final consumption expenditures are not fully comparable between countries, because the methodologies used for national data collections are not fully harmonised. For example, in some countries owner-occupier rent is not imputed to household expenditure.

Comparability issues also arise as a result of differing:

- reference years — in each wave of the survey, the time span among countries spreads over several years around the wave year (see Table 16);
- observation periods — these may vary from one week to a couple of weeks over the year;
- survey instruments – some countries use individual diaries instead of household diaries; and
- sampling methods — these vary in terms of sampling unit, sampling framework, etc.

There is also a lack of uniformity in the definition of ‘consumption expenditure’ used and a number of components that are taken into account. The majority of countries use final consumption expenditure but a few follow an [actual final expenditure](#) approach.

A comparison of national HBS surveys for the 2010 wave, specifying the concepts, definitions and approaches followed, is presented in the HBS 2010 quality report. Eurostat regularly issues methodological guidelines and recommendations to encourage more harmonisation in future waves of the EU HBS.

Identification of cultural products and services

Some cultural codes in COICOP-HBS are not detailed (disaggregated) enough to give a complete picture of cultural expenditure (because it is not possible to distinguish all cultural items or there is a slight over-estimate where the code includes a non-cultural component, such as recording media covering unrecorded supports in HBS 2010).

Expected future changes and development

Cultural expenditure in HBS 2015

The collection round for the HBS 2015 wave has been completed. Eurostat published data for 24 countries in October 2018 and is adding other countries' data as and when they become available.

As regards the culture-related indicators in the 2015 wave, on the assumption that there had been some changes in the coding list (due to implementation of ECOICOP), analysis was carried out on the availability of cultural codes and some adjustments were found necessary to assure comparability with the 2010 wave (see Annex 1 to [metadata on cultural expenditure](#)).

New COICOP 2018

The international COICOP classification has recently been revised. The main change was an increase in the number of digits to identify goods and services more precisely. There was also an urgent need to adapt the nomenclature to technological progress and the digital shift, and to reflect numerous other changes in consumption patterns across the world in the last 20 years.

For instance, as regards culture, digital contents and forms of online access were identified and added to the list of items in the relevant categories, e.g. digital versions of books, films, music and newspapers. For the first time, amateur art classes were distinguished from formal education. Also, some new categories were created to cover goods and services such as streaming and video-on-demand services, recorded media, video game equipment, online video games subscriptions, and educational and other books.

COICOP 2018 was adopted by the UN Statistical Division and released in 2018. It can now be used as a reference classification for future waves of the EU-HBS.

4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section of the Eurostat website includes an introduction to statistics on household expenditure on culture: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>

Tables available in Eurobase

For the time being, two datasets with statistics referring to household mean expenditure on cultural goods and services are available in Eurobase in the domain *Population and social conditions* > [Culture](#) > *Private households expenditure on culture*:

DATABASE		
	Private households expenditure on culture (cult_exp) 	
	Mean consumption expenditure of private households on cultural goods and services by COICOP consumption purpose (cult_pcs_hbs)	
	Mean consumption expenditure of private households on cultural goods and services by income quintile (cult_pcs_qnt)	

Description of tables

Breakdown variables

One dataset contains mean household expenditure is presented for detailed COICOP cultural categories, 'cultural total' and total household expenditure.

The second dataset presents aggregated cultural expenditure broken down by household income quintile. For reasons of reliability linked to the sample size, it is difficult to analyse detailed cultural categories by other breakdown variables.

The mapping of cultural codes in HBS 2010 and HBS 2015 and dissemination dictionary of cultural categories of COICOP are available in [metadata](#), Annex I — Mapping of cultural codes in HBS 2010 and HBS 2015.

Time coverage

Data on household expenditure on cultural goods and services are available for 2010 and 2015.

Unit of measurement

The tables on household cultural expenditure present weighted mean household expenditure expressed in PPS.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the culture data tree.

Access to microdata

The microdata from the 2010 round are available for 26 countries and access is granted for scientific purposes following the set-up [procedures](#).

The microdata from the 2015 round will be available in 2019.

Publications

Analysis of the patterns of private household expenditure on cultural goods and services with a focus on the structure of such expenditure is set out in the following *Statistics explained* article: [Culture statistics — private expenditure on culture](#).

7.2 Harmonised index of consumer prices for cultural goods and services

1. Introduction

The level and structure of prices of goods and services are one of key determinants of household expenditure. Information on the **harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP)** thus complements data on private expenditure on cultural goods and services.

While the results of the HBS are available only at five-yearly intervals, the HICP provides monthly information about price changes, thus facilitating regular monitoring.

2. Data source

General overview

The [harmonised index of consumer prices \(HICP\)](#) is an economic indicator that measures change over time in the prices of consumer goods and services acquired by households. The HICP monitors the changing cost of a fixed basket of goods and services, i.e. it tells us how much the basket a consumer bought in the base period would cost now. It also gives a comparable measure of [inflation](#) in the EU, as it uses a harmonised approach for its calculation and a single set of definitions.

The NSIs calculate the HICP, while Eurostat produces European and product-specific aggregates.

A harmonised methodology for HICP is ensured by the framework regulations and a series of implementing acts that provide the basis for the production and publication of these data and establish a harmonised methodology for compiling the indices. The framework Regulation adopted in 2016 (Regulation (EU) 2016/792) addresses issues such as the compilation and comparability of the harmonised indices, requirements on data (including flash estimates for the euro area), their frequency, deadlines for data transmission to Eurostat, revisions and exchange standards.

The HICP is computed as a [Laspeyres-type price index](#) based on the 'pure' prices of goods and services available for purchase in the economic territory of each EU country to meet consumer needs directly (final consumption). It is a 'pure price index', i.e. products and their weights remain constant during a given year and any change in the index is due to price changes.

Like the HBS, the HICP is intended to measure the prices in final household consumption expenditure and to cover only monetary transactions involving products (goods and services) that are used for the direct satisfaction of individual needs.

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

The full set of HICPs is collected and published monthly, usually 15-18 days after the end of the reference month.

The annual average index is published in January of year $T+1$. It is the sum of the 12 monthly indices (correct to one decimal place) for one year, divided by 12.

Time coverage

Publication of the HICP started in March 1997, covering the period from January 1996.

Geographical coverage

Currently data are collected for the 28 EU countries, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland.

Reference population

The target statistical universe is [household final monetary consumption expenditure](#) in the economic territories of the countries compiling the HICP.

The household sector to which the HICP refers is as defined in European System of Accounts (ESA 2010) (paragraph 2.119(a) and (b)) and includes all individuals or groups of individuals whose principal function is consumption and persons living permanently in institutions (members of religious orders living in monasteries, long-term patients in hospitals, prisoners serving long sentences, residents of retirement homes), irrespective of the type of area in which they live, their position in the income distribution and their nationality or residence status.

The HICP encompasses all products and services purchased through monetary transactions by households, both resident and non-resident (i.e. 'domestic concept'), in the territory of a country.

As far as possible, the concepts, definitions and conventions used for the HICP are consistent with those used in the ESA 2010.

Statistical unit

Each published index or rate of change refers to the 'final monetary consumption expenditure' of the whole household sector of the corresponding geographical entity. The observation unit is the price of a good or service available for purchase for the purpose of directly satisfying consumer needs.

Reference period

The reference period is the calendar month or year for which the index is calculated.

HICP statistics are referred to a base year. The data are produced and published using the common index reference period 2015=100. Indices referred to 1996=100 and 2005=100 are also published.

Culture-related HICPs are identified in both monthly and annual data.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

Methodological references

The *ESSnet-Culture final report* includes a section on household expenditure on culture. It gives an overview of the data sources used in this area of statistics and provides a list of cultural items in COICOP-HBS ⁽⁸⁾. This list was used to identify the cultural codes in the five-digit ECOICOP for HICP.

Reference documents

The requirements, methodologies and compilation guidelines for the HICP are governed by the regulations and implementing acts available in the following sub-section of the 'HICP' section of the Eurostat website:

- [legislation](#);
- [HICP methodology](#); and
- [frequently asked questions](#) (FAQs).

Classifications

The HICP components are currently classified according to [European Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose \(ECOICOP\)](#), the European version of COICOP, extended to a five-digit level.

ECOICOP is compatible with COICOP at four-digit level, but offers more detail for observation. It is also strongly compatible with COICOP-HBS 2010 which also contains five digits. Eurostat started publishing price indices at ECOICOP five-digit level in October 2016. Until then only the four-digit level data were available.

The main ECOICOP divisions include:

- CP01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages
- CP02 Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics
- CP03 Clothing and footwear
- CP04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels
- CP05 Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house;
- CP06 Health
- CP07 Transport
- CP08 Communications
- CP09 Recreation **and culture**
- CP10 Education
- CP11 Restaurants and hotels
- CP12 Miscellaneous goods and services.

These 12 (two-digit) ECOICOP divisions are broken down into groups (three digits), classes (four digits) and sub-classes (five digits).

⁽⁸⁾ See section 6.1 (Household expenditure on cultural goods and services)

To calculate the indices for all ECOICOP levels, countries define a representative sample basket of goods and services of which they follow the prices.

Cultural categories in ECOICOP

HICP has used ECOICOP since 2015. Having undergone revision that year, ECOICOP is more recent and thus more detailed than COICOP-HBS (from 2010). This is why the ECOICOP list of cultural products used for HICP differs slightly from the list used for HBS 2010.

In ECOICOP (as in COICOP-HBS), division 09 ('culture and recreation') deals specifically with culture-related items. The classification clearly identifies quite a range of cultural goods and services: books, newspapers and services provided by cinemas, theatres, museums and concert halls. Additional information is available on the type of books and newspapers (fiction books, educational books etc.), as is a distinction between recorded and unrecorded media (which COICOP-HBS lacks).

Some durable goods, such as musical instruments, photo and video cameras, drawing materials and equipment (e.g. IT equipment, TV sets, radios and CD players) are also included in the scope of culture-related price indices (like in HBS). These items are used for artistic expression and enable people to receive cultural content or access it more easily. In ECOICOP, individual types of supporting equipment are even more clearly demarcated (e.g. cameras are clearly distinct from cinematographic equipment).

Table 19 below lists the standard cultural categories in ECOICOP.

Table 19: Cultural categories in ECOICOP for the HICP

CODE	DESCRIPTION
CP091	Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment
CP0911	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and picture
CP09111	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound
CP09112	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and vision
CP09113	Portable sound and vision devices
CP09119	Other equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and picture
CP0912	Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments
CP09121	Cameras
CP09122	Accessories for photographic and cinematographic equipment
CP0913	Information processing equipment
CP09141	Pre-recorded recording media
CP0915	Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment
CP09221	Musical instruments
CP0942	Cultural services
CP09421	Cinemas, theatres, concerts
CP09422	Museums, libraries, zoological gardens
CP09423	Television and radio licence fees, subscriptions
CP09424	Hire of equipment and accessories for culture
CP09425	Photographic services
CP09429	Other cultural services

CODE	DESCRIPTION
CP0951	Books
CP09511	Fiction books
CP09512	Educational text books
CP09513	Other non-fiction books
CP09514	Binding services and E-book downloads
CP0952	Newspapers and periodicals
CP09521	Newspapers
CP09522	Magazines and periodicals
CP0954	Stationery and drawing materials

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

There is no data processing specific to HICP culture-related indicators. Data are collected, processed and published by the Eurostat unit responsible for HICP statistics and presented as bookmarks in the Eurobase 'Culture' domain.

3.3 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Changes in the list of products

Some products included in the basket of goods and services may disappear from some national markets, while others may enter the market. To ensure that it is comparable over time, HICP must take account of such changes. New products have to be added to the basket when sales volumes exceed one part per thousand (1/1 000) of total consumer expenditure covered by HICP in a country.

Digital shift and COICOP

The latest version of ECOICOP has taken some account of the digital shift and identified a number of high-tech products. However, it lacks specific references to a number of new products and services such as those available online (e.g. listening to music on streaming or playing online games). The overall structure of ECOICOP is the same as when it was established 20 years ago.

The revised (2018) version of COICOP, which is international and produced under the auspices of the United Nations, now provides specific codes for online consumption.

Expected future changes and developments

The revision of COICOP launched in 2015 aimed to increase the number of goods and services itemised. There was also an urgent need to bring the nomenclature into line with technological progress and the digital revolution, and to cover many other changes in consumption patterns worldwide. The new version ([COICOP 2018](#)) was adopted by the UN Statistical Division and made available in 2018.

The date on which COICOP 2018 is to be implemented in the HICP at EU level, has not yet been decided, as further discussions are needed.

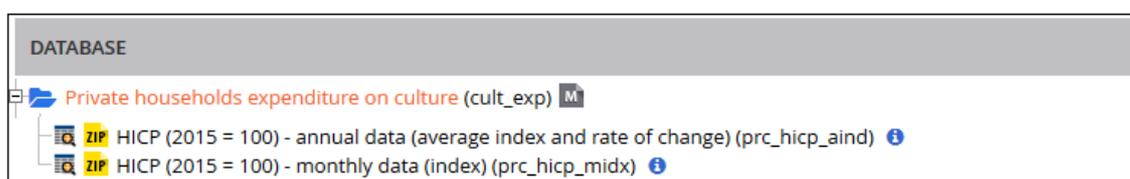
4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section on the Eurostat website includes an introduction to statistics on private households expenditure on culture, with a link to the information on HICP: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

Two datasets with statistics referring to the HICP for cultural goods and services are available in Eurobase as bookmarks in the domain *Population and social conditions* > *Culture* > *Private households expenditure on culture*:



Description of tables

COICOP cultural categories

Harmonised indices of consumer prices in both monthly and annual tables are presented for ECOICOP cultural categories as set out in Table 19.

Base year

Since the 2016 data collection, base year 2015=100 has been applied.

In monthly data, base year 2005=100 and 1996=100 are also available.

Time coverage

HICP data are available at COICOP four-digit level from 1996 to 2014 and at ECOICOP five-digit level from 2015.

Unit of measurement

Data are expressed in the form of an index for monthly data. For annual data, the average arithmetical index and the average rate of annual change are calculated.

The HICP table, bookmarked for cultural categories with annual data, presents the average index and rate of change based on 2015=100.

The HICP table of monthly data includes monthly indices for three base years: 1996, 2005 and 2015.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the culture data tree.

Publications

Patterns of private household expenditure on cultural goods and services, including a small part devoted to the HICP, are analysed in the following *Statistics explained* article: [Culture statistics — private expenditure on culture](#).

8

Public (government) expenditure on culture

1. Introduction

The monitoring and evaluation of the economic dimension of culture should cover public expenditure on culture, which plays an important role in the functioning of numerous cultural institutions and activities.

The *ESSnet-Culture final report* attempted to provide some guidelines for a 'centralised methodological model' for statistics relating to public expenditure on culture, in particular in the form of methodological proposals concerning definitions, variables and indicators. The first step was a pilot survey aiming to assess data availability in European countries and to gather knowledge about national practices (application of the Classification of the functions of government (COFOG)), levels of government covered, procedures for the consolidation of public expenditure on culture, etc.). A very complex picture emerged of models and practices used by countries when collecting data relating to public expenditure on culture. No further research has been carried out in this area.

Eurostat data on the public funding of culture come from the **government finance statistics (GFS)** domain. These data can be used to analyse patterns of public expenditure, especially trends in government expenditure on particular functions over time, and inter-country comparisons (to be contextualised by differences in the composition of government sectors and institutional arrangements).

2. Data source

General overview

Eurostat collects annual [government finance statistics \(GFS\)](#) under the ESA 2010 transmission programme. EU Member States are asked to submit, *inter alia*, Table 1100 on 'expenditure of general government by function' 12 months after the end of the reference period. This table provides information about expenditure by the general government sector divided into main COFOG functions and ESA 2010 categories.

The data relate to the [general government sector](#) of the economy, as defined in ESA 2010, paragraph 2.111: 'The general government sector (S.13) consists of institutional units which are

non-market producers whose output is intended for individual and collective consumption, and are financed by compulsory payments made by units belonging to other sectors, and institutional units principally engaged in the redistribution of national income and wealth'. Data come primarily from administrative and other general government records and are consistent with other GFS tables.

In the EU, GFS data are reported to Eurostat according to the relevant [EU regulations](#).

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

Data are collected annually. Countries may also revise data and submit them more frequently. Eurostat receives data in the form of aggregates.

Data are disseminated annually.

Time coverage

The legal requirement for the first level of COFOG (division level) is that all series should start in 1995, subject to derogations. In practice, the length of available series varies widely from one country to another. The provision of COFOG level II (group level) data is compulsory for general government only from 2001 onwards, and is subject to derogations.

Geographical coverage

In all, 31 countries currently report public finance data to Eurostat: the 28 EU Member States, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland.

Reference population

The reference population is the general government sector and its subsectors.

Statistical unit

The statistical unit is the institutional unit and grouping of units as defined in ESA 2010 and COFOG.

According to ESA 2010 (paragraph 2.112), the institutional units included in the general government sector (S.13) are the following:

- general government units that exist through a legal process to have judicial authority over other units in the economic territory, and administer and finance a group of activities, principally providing non-market goods and services, intended for the benefit of the community;
- corporations or quasi-corporations that are government units, if their output is mainly non-market and a government unit controls them;
- non-profit institutions recognised as independent legal entities that are non-market producers and are controlled by the general government; and
- autonomous pension funds, to which there is a legal obligation to contribute the funds of which are managed by general government with respect to the settlement and approval of contributions and benefits.

Reference period

The reference period is the calendar year.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects**3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE**

Culture-related statistics on government expenditure are drawn from data on the expenditure of general government by function. The coverage of culture is determined by the functions of the expenditure as identified in COFOG.

Classifications

The [Classification of the functions of government \(COFOG\)](#) groups government expenditure in 10 main divisions (COFOG level I) which are further broken down into groups (COFOG level II).

The divisions are as follows:

- 01 – General public services
- 02 – Defence
- 03 – Public order and safety
- 04 – Economic affairs
- 05 – Environmental protection
- 06 – Housing and community amenities
- 07 – Health
- 08 – Recreation, culture and religion**
- 09 – Education
- 10 – Social protection

Functions of government relating to culture

COFOG identifies the functions of government relating to culture in division 08 ('recreation, culture and religion', which is made up of the following sub-categories (groups):

08.1 – Recreational and sporting services

08.2 – Cultural services

08.3 – Broadcasting and publishing services

08.4 – Religious and other community services

08.5 – R&D Recreation, culture and religion

08.6 – Recreation, culture and religion n.e.c.

COFOG makes it possible to report figures specifically and totally related to culture for the following categories (described in the COFOG, pp. 66-67):

- **cultural services (code 08.2)**, which include:
 - the provision of cultural services;
 - the administration of cultural affairs;
 - the supervision, regulation, operation and support of cultural facilities (libraries, museums, art galleries, theatres, exhibition halls, monuments, historic houses and sites, zoological and botanical gardens, aquaria, arboreta, etc.); and
 - the production, operation or support of cultural events (concerts, stage and film productions, art shows, etc.) and grants, loans or subsidies to support individual artists.

The group excludes cultural events intended for presentation beyond national borders and national, regional or local celebrations intended mainly to attract tourists; and

- **broadcasting and publishing services** (code 08.3), which include:
 - the administration of broadcasting and publishing affairs;
 - the operation, supervision, support and regulation of broadcasting and publishing services; and
 - grants, loans or subsidies to support: the construction or acquisition of facilities for television or radio broadcasting; the construction or acquisition of plant, equipment or materials for newspaper, magazine or book publishing; the production of material for, and its presentation by, broadcasting; the gathering of news or other information; and the distribution of published works.
 The group excludes government printing offices and plants, and provision of education by radio or television broadcasting.

Together, these two groups cover a large part of culture-related government expenditure.

However, culture-related areas such as the following are not distinguishable from recreational and religious components:

- research and development - group 08.5 ('R&D recreation, culture and religion'); and
- those that are 'not elsewhere classified' - group 08.6, which includes administration, operation or support of activities such as formulation, administration, coordination and monitoring of overall policies, plans, programmes and budgets for the promotion of culture, production and dissemination of general information, technical documentation and statistics on culture.

Reference documents

The following references provide detailed information on the ESA 2010 framework and data collection in the context of the COFOG classification:

- [European system of accounts 2010 \(Eurostat, 2013\)](#), and
- [Manual on sources and methods for the compilation of COFOG statistics \(Eurostat, 2011\)](#).

3.2 DATA PROCESSING FOR CULTURAL INDICATORS

In the domain of government expenditure, there is no data processing specific to culture-related indicators. The data reported in the 'Culture' domain of Eurobase are as published by the Eurostat unit in charge of GFS.

3.3 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

The main limitation of statistics on government expenditure on culture relates to the granularity of the COFOG classification. In particular, the cultural component of research and experimental development (code 08.5) and of activities not elsewhere classified (code 08.6) is not distinguishable from recreational and religious components.

4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section on the Eurostat website includes an introduction to the statistics on public expenditure on culture: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

Data on public expenditure on culture are available in Eurobase in the domain *Population and social conditions* > *Culture* > *Public expenditure on culture, recreation and religion*:



Description of tables

Data on general government expenditure are broken down by level of government (i.e. central, state, local and social security funds) and national accounts items/indicators (compensation of employees, subsidies, intermediate consumption, etc.).

Time coverage

For most countries, data on general government expenditure on culture, recreation and religion are available from 1995 onwards.

Unit of measurement

Data on general government expenditure are available:

- in (million) euro and (million) units of national currency; and
- as percentages of total expenditure and of nominal GDP (i.e. GDP at current prices).

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the 'Culture' data tree.

Publications

Analysis of general government expenditure on COFOG division 08 ('recreation, culture and religion') as a whole is presented in the following *Statistics explained* article: [Government expenditure on recreation, culture and religion](#).

9

Other sources of data on culture

This chapter presents short descriptions of two other Eurostat sources of data relating to culture:

- **City statistics** – mainly the perception survey on quality of life in cities, which collects data for assessing the level of people's satisfaction with public infrastructure and facilities (including cultural facilities); and
- **Prodcom**, which includes data on the production of cultural goods.

In addition, in section 9.3, we present information about the European Group on Museum Statistics (EGMUS).

9.1 Eurostat data source: city statistics

1. Introduction

Data on more than 900 European cities are collected annually by Eurostat and the (NSIs), on the basis of gentlemen's agreements and grants. To complement the regular data collection, DG REGIO carries out a three-yearly perception survey covering only a sample of cities. In both cases, the aim is to contribute towards the improvement of the quality of urban life by supporting the exchange of experience among European cities, helping to identify best practices, facilitating benchmarking at European level and providing information on the dynamics within cities and with their surroundings.

2. Data sources

General overview

The annual [city data](#) and the results of the perception survey can be used for culture statistics purposes. The regular city survey reports data on urban cultural infrastructure, while the perception survey focuses on city-dwellers' satisfaction with public facilities.

The surveys are conducted on the basis of a gentlemen's agreement (i.e. on a voluntary basis).

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

The regular city data collection is annual. Data from the perception survey are collected and disseminated every three years.

Time coverage

The time coverage of the regular city data collection is 1990-2017, but it varies across countries and indicators.

The perception survey covered the period 2004-2015, but data for reference year 2004 are scarce. More cities were covered in reference years 2006, 2009 and 2012, but coverage was widest in the most recent data collection (2015).

Geographical coverage

The EU Member States, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey are represented in the annual data collection. The most recent perception survey covered 109 cities in the Member States, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey

In 2011, the OECD and the Commission developed a new harmonised definition of what constitutes a city and its commuting zone. Under this definition, over 900 cities with an urban centre of at least 50 000 inhabitants were identified in the EU, Switzerland, Iceland and Norway. More information is available in [Methodological manual on city statistics](#).

Statistical unit

The statistical units are cities and their 'functional urban areas (FUAs), i.e. the city and its commuting zone.

Unit of measurement

In the regular city data collection, the variables for culture statistics are measured in absolute numbers (e.g. number of cinema seats).

In the perception survey, people's opinions are measured on a Likert-type scale (a four-step continuum from 'not at all satisfied' to 'very satisfied'); for each step, data are expressed as a percentage of all respondents.

Classification

The city code consists of:

- a two-digit country code,
- a three-digit city code; and
- a final code, as follows:
 - C1/C2 for central city;
 - L1/L2 for FUA (Functional Urban Area, the city and its commuting zone); and
 - D for sub-city district (SCD), a subdivision of the city according to population criteria.

For example:

Spatial unit	Code	Name
Country	BE	Belgium
City	BE001C1	Brussels

From 2019, new rules for coding and labelling in city statistics will be implemented in the data collection and in disseminated information.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

The city indicators and variables cover several aspects of quality of life, e.g. demography, housing, health, educational attainment, economic activity, labour market, income disparity, environment, climate, travel patterns, tourism and cultural infrastructure.

In the annual data collection, the NSIs provide data on the number of cinema seats (total capacity), cinema attendance (per year), number of museum visitors (per year), number of theatres and number of public libraries (all distribution points).

In the perception survey, respondents are asked to rate their level of satisfaction with the following culture-relevant items:

- cinemas in the city; and
- cultural facilities such as concert halls, theatres, museums and libraries.

3.2 DATA PROCESSING AND DISSEMINATION

In this domain, there is no data processing specific to culture-related indicators. The data reported in the 'Culture' domain of Eurobase are as published by the Eurostat unit in charge of city statistics.

3.3. LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Comparability issues

The national Urban Audit coordinators do their best to ensure the comparability of city data, at least within their own country. Where this was not possible, attempts were made to estimate the data. Due to occasionally divergent definitions and the use of different data sources, the comparability of data is limited to some extent, even within countries.

4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section on the Eurostat website includes an introduction to statistics on [cultural participation](#), mentioning the dedicated section on city statistics: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

Data on city statistics related to culture are available in Eurobase as a bookmark in the domain *Population and social conditions* > [Culture](#) > [Cultural participation](#):



Description of tables

In the regular annual survey (urb_ctour), data are provided by city and reference year for the following indicators:

- number of cinema seats (total capacity);
- cinema attendance (per year);
- number of museum visitors (per year);
- number of theatres;
- number of public libraries; and
- number of cinema seats per 1 000 residents.

Data on satisfaction with cultural facilities (triennial perception survey) are broken down by city, reference year and indicator. The selected indicators relating to culture are satisfaction with:

- cinemas in the city, and
- cultural facilities such as concert halls, theatres, museums and libraries.

Time coverage

Main data (regular city data collection) are available for 1990 and subsequent years, with availability depending on countries.

For most countries, data on satisfaction with cultural facilities are available from 2006 onwards, on a triennial basis.

Unit of measurement

The regular city survey reports numbers (in absolute value).

Data from the perception survey are expressed as percentages of all respondents, by the following response categories: not at all satisfied; rather unsatisfied; rather satisfied; very satisfied; no answer.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) attached to tables in the Eurostat 'City statistics' database.

This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with a specific dataset or data node in the culture data tree.

Publications

There is currently no Eurostat publication on city indicators related to culture.

9.2 Eurostat data source: Prodcom

1. Introduction

Prodcom provides statistics on the production of manufactured goods. It uses the product codes specified on the Prodcom list, which contains about 3900 different types of manufactured products. Prodcom statistics relate to products (not to activities) and are therefore not strictly comparable with activity-based statistics such as SBS.

2. Data source

General overview

Prodcom is a survey to collect statistics on the amount of production of each of the products in the Prodcom list that has taken place in the reporting country during the reference period. Although the aim should be to achieve 100 % coverage of each product, in other words to report the full amount of production of each product, this is unrealistic. In particular, in order to reduce the burden on small enterprises, the regulation states that only enterprises with more than 20 employees should be surveyed. However, the regulation stipulates that national survey methods should ensure that 90 % coverage across the whole 4-digit NACE class is achieved.

The observation units are identified via business registers. Eurostat uses the national data to calculate EU totals.

There are two concepts of production currently used in Prodcom: 'sold production' (value and volume of the product sold by a company) and 'total production' (volume of all production of the product, including that retained by the company to be added to stocks, used in further processing, etc.). From 2006 onwards, sold production by value and volume must also be reported for those products for which data on total production are required.

The Prodcom list is the nomenclature embedded in the CPA and NACE classifications, detailing manufactured products.

Prodcom data are reported and registered in accordance with [Council Regulation \(EEC\) N° 3924/91](#) on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production and [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 912/2004](#), which implements the Council Regulation.

The data collection can be found in the Eurostat database (Eurobase) under theme [Statistics on the production of manufactures goods \(prom\)](#).

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

Data are transmitted by Member States on an annual basis, in June of year $T+1$, and published around mid-July.

Time coverage

Data have been collected since 1995 for annual data and from 2003 to 2005 for monthly data on steel.

Geographical coverage

Prodcom statistics cover the EU Member States (except Cyprus, Luxembourg and Malta), Norway, Iceland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey.

Statistical unit

The enterprise (within one country) is the observation unit surveyed by the NSIs. The production of each Prodcom product from all surveyed enterprises in the country is aggregated before the results are sent to Eurostat.

Unit of measurement

Value of production is expressed in euro (converted from national currency by Eurostat, if necessary). Volume is expressed in a unit specified for each product.

Classification

The survey is based on the Prodcom list, which includes about 3900 manufactured products. The list is updated every two to three years. Products are identified by an eight-digit code: the first four digits are those from the NACE classification and the first six correspond to the [Classification of Products by Activity \(CPA\)](#); the remaining digits specify the product in more detail.

From 2008 onwards the Prodcom codes have been linked to CPA 2008 (updated in 2016 to correspond to CPA 2.1) and NACE Rev. 2. The link to NACE enables the NSIs to use the business registers to identify the enterprises likely to be manufacturing any given product.

Since most products correspond to one or more Combined Nomenclature (CN) headings, external trade data can be related to production data.

The Prodcom list determines the products in the following NACE Rev. 2 sectors that are to be included in the survey:

- section B — mining and quarrying for the following divisions:
 - mining of metal ores
 - other mining and quarrying
 - mining support service activities
- **section C — manufacturing.**

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

Prodcum statistics are based on data on the manufacturing of goods produced by enterprises on the national territory.

In the Prodcum list, the following NACE activities contain culture-relevant items (within the scope of culture, as amended in 2018):

- 18.11 Printing of newspapers
- 18.12 Other printing
- 18.20 Reproduction of recorded media
- 32.12 Manufacture of jewellery and related articles
- 32.20 Manufacture of musical instruments

The following Prodcum codes are included in these NACE classes:

Table 20: Cultural products in PRODCOM

PRODCOM code	Label
18111000	Printed newspapers, journals and periodicals, appearing at least four times a week
18121300	Printed newspapers, journals and periodicals, appearing less than four times a week
18121407	Printed books, brochures, leaflets and similar printed matter, in single sheets
18121414	Printed books, brochures, leaflets and similar printed matter (excluding in single sheets)
18121421	Printed children's picture, drawing or colouring books
18121428	Printed dictionaries and encyclopedias, and serial instalments thereof
18121435	Printed maps, hydrographic or similar charts, in book-form
18121442	Printed maps, hydrographic or similar charts (excluding in book-form)
18121463	Printed pictures, designs and photographs
18121920	Printed music (including braille music)
18201010	Reproduction of sound on gramophone records
18201030	Reproduction of sound on magnetic tapes of a width ≤ 4 mm
18201050	Reproduction of sound on magnetic tapes of a width > 4 mm but $\leq 6,5$ mm
18201070	Reproduction of sound on compact discs
18202050	Reproduction of sound and vision video recording on magnetic tapes of a width $> 6,5$ mm
18202070	Reproduction of sound and vision on video discs and other supports (excluding magnetic tapes)
18203030	Reproduction of magnetic tapes bearing data or instructions of a kind used in automatic data-processing machines; of a width ≤ 4 mm (excluding sound or vision recordings)
18203050	Reproduction of magnetic tapes bearing data or instructions of a kind used in automatic data-processing machines; of a width > 4 mm (excluding sound or vision recordings)

PRODCOM code	Label
18203070	Reproduction of computer supports bearing data or instructions of a kind used in automatic data-processing machines (excluding magnetic tapes, sound or vision recordings)
26406000	Video games of a kind used with a television receiver
26406050	Video game consoles (not operated by means of payments)
32121100	Cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, including synthetic or reconstructed, worked but not set
32121200	Industrial diamonds, worked; dust and powder of natural or synthetic precious or semi-precious stones
32121330	Articles of jewellery and parts thereof of precious metal (including plated, clad)
32121351	Articles of goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares of silver
32121353	Articles of goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares of precious metals, n.e.c.
32121355	Articles of goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares of base metal clad with precious metal
32121400	Other articles of precious metal; articles of natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones
32201110	Acoustic new upright pianos (including automatic pianos)
32201130	Acoustic grand pianos (including automatic pianos)
32201150	Keyboard stringed instruments (including harpsichords, spinets and clavichords)
32201200	Other string musical instruments
32201310	Keyboard pipe organs, harmoniums and similar keyboard instruments with free metal reeds
32201340	Accordions and similar instruments; mouth organs
32201370	Other wind instruments
32201400	Musical or keyboard instruments, the sound of which is produced, or must be amplified, electrically
32201510	Percussion musical instruments
32201530	Musical boxes, fairground organs, mechanical street organs, mechanical singing birds, musical saws, rattles, mouth-operated sirens; decoy calls; mouth-blown-, call horns and whistles
32201600	Metronomes, tuning forks and pitch pipes; mechanisms for musical boxes; musical instrument strings
32202000	Parts and accessories of musical instruments

3.2 DATA PROCESSING AND DISSEMINATION

In the Prodcom domain, there is no data processing specific to culture-related indicators.

The data reported in the 'Culture' domain of Eurobase are as published by the Eurostat unit in charge of Prodcom statistics.

3.3. LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Confidential data

Reporting countries mark some data as confidential and Eurostat is legally bound to suppress those data from dissemination.

However, Eurostat is able to publish EU totals containing confidential data if this can be done without revealing the confidential items within the total. Eurostat has introduced a system of "controlled rounding" of EU totals, which enables it to give a range within which the true total lies and thus to publish more EU totals.

Missing data

In the past, in case a country was unable to report data for a product, not only was the national data unavailable, but also the EU total could not be calculated. Eurostat has now introduced a system of estimating missing data so that it can calculate and publish EU totals. Combined with the controlled rounding of EU totals (see above), this means that EU totals are now published for all products.

4. Dissemination

Dedicated section

The 'Culture' section on the Eurostat website includes an introduction to statistics on enterprises in cultural sectors, which mentions also Prodcom data:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/data>.

Tables available in Eurobase

For the time being, statistics referring to manufactured cultural goods and services are available in Eurobase as a bookmark in the domain *Population and social conditions* > *Culture* > *Enterprises in cultural sectors*:



Description of tables

Cultural products

The Prodcom codes pertaining to culture are presented in Table 20.

Time coverage

For most countries, annual data on the production of cultural goods and services are available from 1995 onwards.

Unit of measurement

Sold production is measured by value (euro); volume (in kg, m², number of items, etc.) is also available for some products.

Requirement of data on total production does not concern cultural products.

Metadata

Useful metadata are included in the [ESMS file](#) concerning enterprises in cultural sectors. This can be accessed by clicking the  icon associated with table "cult_ent".

Publications

There is currently no Eurostat publication on Prodcom statistics relating to culture.

9.3 Museums statistics by EGMUS

1. Introduction

The collection, harmonisation and administration of European data on museums are coordinated by the European group on museum statistics (EGMUS).

2. Data source

EGMUS is a network whose mission is to collect and publish comparable data on museums and to promote the harmonisation of museum statistics at European level.

EGMUS was founded in 2002, in the context of work on the first EU framework for culture statistics. Its members are various bodies and institutions under the responsible national authorities in charge of museum statistics: NSIs, culture ministries and museum institutes, councils and associations.

Membership of the group, involvement in its activities and the provision of data are all voluntary. Country representatives meet once a year at plenary meetings where they share practices as regards museum statistics, discuss recent developments and review current issues relating to museum activities.

EGMUS' main goal is to collect and disseminate data on museums. These statistics are publicly available on the EGMUS website.

Apart from working on the harmonisation of museum statistics at European level, EGMUS also contributes to international developments, e.g. ISO standards on museum statistics.

EGMUS data collection

National authorities gather data from museums according to country-specific methodologies and for national purposes. In order to obtain standardised information, EGMUS has developed a [standard questionnaire](#) to collect the same type of information from all countries, which can then be easily processed and presented in comparative tables. Several countries have introduced the standard questionnaire into their national data collection scheme, but others still use instruments and tools that reflect national requirements.

The model questionnaire focuses on key concepts and indicators such as:

- the identification of museums (to distinguish them from 'museum-like' institutions such as exhibition halls) and their typology;
- legal status and ownership;
- exhibitions and visits;
- expenditure and income;
- opening hours;
- personnel; and
- use of ICT.

EGMUS has also developed methodological guidelines [Definitions and explanations](#) to help in the interpretation of the terms and concepts used in the questionnaire.

Frequency of data collection and dissemination

EGMUS collects and disseminates data on museums every year.

Time coverage

The oldest data in the EGMUS database refer to 1998 but fairly consistent time series go back to 2005.

Geographical coverage

Around 30 countries: EU, EFTA, candidate and other non-EU countries are or have been involved in the network and provide data with various degrees of regularity. Around half provide data every year or every two years.

Reference period

The reference period is the calendar year.

Statistical scope

The observation unit is a museum as defined by International Council of Museums (ICOM):

*'A **museum** is a non-commercial, permanent institution in the service of society and of its development, and open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits, for purposes of study, education and enjoyment, material evidence of man and his environment.*

In addition to museums designated as such, the following, recognised by ICOM as having the character of museums, are also covered by the surveys:

- a) conservation institutes and exhibition galleries on libraries and archives centres;*
- b) natural, archaeological and ethnographic monuments and sites and historical monuments and sites of a museum nature, owing to their acquisition, conservation and communication activities.'*

This definition should be taken in a broad sense; in practice, countries use more criteria for labelling an institution as a museum. Also, legal context is important and often museum sectors and the gathering of statistics are often regulated by law. Account is taken of sites rather than administrative units.

Unit of measurement

As the data on museums relate to different indicators, the units of measurement vary; they include:

- number of museums, staff or visits;
- number of museums, visits, etc. per inhabitant;

- percentage of professional staff vs percentage of volunteers; and
- museum income or expenditure (in euros).

Classification

EGMUS recommends using UNESCO's specific classification system for distinguishing museums by type:

1. art, archaeology and history museums:
 - art museums; and
 - archaeology and history museums;
2. science and technology museums, ethnology museums:
 - natural history and natural science museums;
 - science and technology museums; and
 - ethnography and anthropology museums; and
3. other museums:
 - specialised museums;
 - regional museums;
 - general museums; and
 - other museums.

However, countries may use national typologies that differ from the UNESCO classification.

3. Culture-related methodological aspects

3.1 COVERAGE OF CULTURE

Museums are the key component of the 'heritage' domain in the EU framework for culture statistics, reflecting their important role in heritage preservation and promotion. The *ESSnet-Culture final report* repeatedly acknowledged the importance of data on museums from the perspective of cultural participation (number of museums and visits) and in economic and performance terms (financing, income, staff, etc.).

EU data collections have very limited statistics on museum activities; some data can be found for the broader NACE Rev. 2 code 91 ('libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities') as regards employment (in the EU-LFS) or business demography (BD database, for some countries only).

EGMUS statistics are therefore a very valuable, unique source of information on museums in Europe.

Methodologies used in national data collections on museums and specific features of countries' legal context, governance model, financing system and stakeholders' role are described in [national methodological reports](#).

3.2 DATA PROCESSING AND DISSEMINATION

The responsible national authorities collect data on museums according to national methodologies and definitions, often trying to follow the EGMUS recommendations. The data are then compiled in line with the EGMUS standard questionnaire and dissemination template.

Statistics on museums are disseminated in the EGMUS database by country, year and topic. The topics correspond to the subjects of the standard questionnaire.

3.3 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC ISSUES

Geographical coverage and timeliness

The timeliness of data supplied to EGMUS varies across countries. Despite efforts to improve regularity and completeness, there are still many gaps in data series and geographical coverage. This is linked to the availability of data at national level and varying degrees of compliance with EGMUS requirements.

Comparability issues

The major factor limiting the comparability of museum statistics is the fact that the statistical scope and observation unit (museum) are not defined according to the same criteria in all countries.

Expected future changes and developments

EGMUS and Eurostat have started to collaborate with the aim of improving the availability (country coverage) and comparability of EGMUS statistics. This collaboration is expected to result in more countries being involved in data collection, and more timely and more harmonised data.

Eurostat is currently working on a comparison of the museum-related definitions used by countries, assessing the extent to which they comply with EGMUS definition. The analysis takes account of the data collection context (legislation, governance system, financing, stakeholders, etc.) and its impact on data availability and comparability.

Appendices

Appendix I: NACE Rev. 2 codes for culture statistics — theoretical scope and operational scope applied for employment and business statistics

Appendix II: Culture statistics in the European countries ([link to the Eurostat webpage](#))

Appendix I:

NACE REV. 2 CODES FOR CULTURE STATISTICS —THEORETICAL SCOPE AND OPERATIONAL SCOPE APPLIED FOR EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS STATISTICS

✓ = included in cultural statistics; ✗ = not included; na = not available in the data source

* Eurostat's working group on culture statistics requalified these codes as fully cultural at its meeting in 2016.

** These codes are not considered as fully cultural from a theoretical point of view; they were included for practical reasons (availability of only three-digit codes).

NACE Rev.2 code	Description	Theoretical scope	Employment statistics (EU-LFS)	Business statistics (SBS)	Business statistics (BD)
18	Printing and reproduction of recorded media	fully*	✓	✓	na
18.1	Printing and service activities related to printing	fully*	✓	✓	na
18.2	Reproduction of recorded media	fully*	✓	✓	na
32	Other manufacturing				
	(...)				
32.12	Manufacture of jewellery and related articles	fully*	na	✓	na
32.2	Manufacture of musical instruments	fully*	✓	✓	na
47	Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	partly	✗	✗	✗
	(...)				
47.6	Retail sale of cultural and recreation goods in specialised stores	partly	✗	✗	✗
47.61	Retail sale of books in specialised stores	fully*	na	✓	na
47.62	Retail sale of newspapers and stationery in specialised stores	fully*	na	✓	na
47.63	Retail sale of music and video recordings in specialised stores	fully*	na	✓	na
47.64	Retail sale of sporting equipment in specialised stores	not cultural	✗	✗	✗
47.65	Retail sale of games and toys in specialised stores	not cultural	✗	✗	✗
	(...)				
58	Publishing activities	partly	✗	✗	✗
58.1	Publishing of books, periodicals and other publishing activities	partly	✓**	✓**	na
58.11	Book publishing	fully	na	✓	na
58.12	Publishing of directories and mailing lists	not cultural	✗	✗	✗
58.13	Publishing of newspapers	fully	na	✓	na

NACE Rev.2 code	Description	Theoretical scope	Employment statistics (EU-LFS)	Business statistics (SBS)	Business statistics (BD)
58.14	Publishing of journals and periodicals	fully	na	✓	na
58.19	Other publishing activities	not cultural	×	×	×
58.2	Software publishing	partly	×	✓**	na
58.21	Publishing of computer games	fully	na	✓	na
58.29	Other software publishing	not cultural	×	×	×
59	Motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing activities	fully	✓	✓	✓
59.1	Motion picture, video and television programme activities	fully	✓	✓	na
59.2	Sound recording and music publishing activities	fully	✓	✓	na
60	Programming and broadcasting activities	fully	✓	✓	✓
60.1	Radio broadcasting	fully	✓	✓	na
60.2	Television programming and broadcasting activities	fully	✓	✓	na
63	Information service activities				
	(...)				
63.9	Other information service activities	partly	×	×	×
63.91	News agency activities	fully	na	✓	na
63.99	Other information service activities n.e.c.	not cultural	×	×	×
71.1	Architectural and engineering activities and related technical consultancy	partly	×	×	×
71.11	Architectural activities	fully	na	✓	✓
71.12	Engineering activities and related technical consultancy	not cultural	×	×	×
	(...)				
73	Advertising and market research				
73.1	Advertising	partly	×	×	×
	(...)				
74	Other professional, scientific and technical activities	partly	×	×	×
74.1	Specialised design activities	fully	✓	✓	✓
74.2	Photographic activities	fully*	✓	✓	✓
74.3	Translation and interpretation activities	fully*	✓	✓	✓
74.9	Other professional, scientific and technical activities n.e.c.	not cultural	×	×	×
77	Rental and leasing activities				
	(...)				

NACE Rev.2 code	Description	Theoretical scope	Employment statistics (EU-LFS)	Business statistics (SBS)	Business statistics (BD)
77.2	Renting and leasing of personal and household goods	partly	x	x	x
77.21	Renting and leasing of recreational and sports goods	not cultural	x	x	x
77.22	Renting of video tapes and disks	fully*	na	✓	✓
77.29	Renting and leasing of other personal and household goods	not cultural	x	x	x
	(...)				
85	Education				
	(...)				
85.5	Other education	partly	x	x	x
85.51	Sports and recreation education	not cultural	x	x	x
85.52	Cultural education	fully	na	na	na
85.53	Driving school activities	not cultural	x	x	x
85.59	Other education n.e.c.	not cultural	x	x	x
	(...)				
90	Creative, arts and entertainment activities	fully	✓	na	✓
90.0	Creative, arts and entertainment activities	fully	✓	na	na
90.01	Performing arts	fully	na	na	na
90.02	Support activities to performing arts	fully	na	na	na
90.03	Artistic creation	fully	na	na	na
90.04	Operation of arts facilities	fully	na	na	na
91	Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities	partly	✓**	na	✓**
91.0	Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities	partly	✓**	na	na
91.01	Library and archives activities	fully	na	na	na
91.02	Museums activities	fully	na	na	na
91.03	Operation of historical sites and buildings and similar visitor attractions	fully	na	na	na
91.04	Botanical and zoological gardens and nature reserves activities	not cultural	na	na	na

Appendix II:

CULTURE STATISTICS IN THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Available on the Eurostat webpage: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/culture/links>

Links to the national websites on culture statistics			
Member States			
 Belgium	 Bulgaria	 Czechia	 Denmark
 Germany	 Estonia	 Ireland	 Greece
 Spain	 France	 Croatia	 Italy
 Cyprus	 Latvia	 Lithuania	 Luxembourg
 Hungary	 Malta	 Netherlands	 Austria
 Poland	 Portugal	 Romania	 Slovenia
 Slovakia	 Finland	 Sweden	 United Kingdom
EFTA countries			
 Iceland	 Norway	 Switzerland	
Candidate countries/Potential candidate countries			
 Montenegro	 Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	 Albania	 Serbia
 Turkey	 Bosnia and Herzegovina		

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Guide to Eurostat culture statistics

This publication provides an overview of the methodology used in the different areas of Eurostat culture statistics available from harmonised EU data collections.

These statistics cover areas such as cultural employment, enterprises in cultural sectors, international trade in cultural goods and services, cultural participation, households' cultural expenditure, etc. They are publicly available in Eurostat's database (Eurobase) and analysed in several Statistics explained articles and Eurostat 'culture statistics' pocketbooks (the third edition of which was published in 2016).

The methodology used in compiling the statistics is based on the ESSnet-Culture final report, which was published in 2012. Since then, slight adjustments have been made to the statistical scope of 'culture' and more EU harmonised surveys have been searched for culture-related data.

The aim of this guide is to summarise the methodology used for culture statistics, as applied in 2018. The definitions and methods presented here refer primarily to the general methodology used for the various EU surveys, but some (e.g. lists of 'cultural codes' in different classifications, a matrix used for cultural employment and cultural aggregates compiled in several data collections) are specific to culture statistics.

For more information

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/>