

Statistics for related categories can be grouped together or **aggregated** in order to provide a broader picture. Thus, an **aggregate** is the combination of related categories, usually within a common branch of a hierarchy, to provide information at a broader level to that at which detailed [observations](#) are taken.

By way of illustration, national income and [price indices](#) are aggregative, in contrast to the income of an individual or the price of a single commodity, which are not.

The aggregating is usually not done by simple addition, but taking account of the relative importance of the different categories, using [weights](#) .

## Related concepts

- [Weight](#)
- [Weighted average](#)

## Source

- [OECD glossary of statistical terms](#)