



## EUROSTAT QUALITY PROFILE

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|---|--|
| <b>Indicator (definition)</b>                         | <b>Public procurement:</b><br>Value of public procurement which is openly advertised in the Official Journal, as a percentage of GDP |
| <b>Eurostat Unit</b>                                  | C-3: Public Finance  |
| <b>Other Commission DGs</b>                           | DG MARKT   |
| <b>European Statistical System Working Group (WG)</b> | None   |
| <b>Date</b>   | 2 May 2007   |

**1. Overall assessment of accuracy and comparability** (Description of quality grades under the following link: [http://circa.europa.eu/Members/irc/dsis/structind/library?l=/general\\_information/quality\\_profiles/annex\\_enpdf/EN\\_1.0\\_&a=d](http://circa.europa.eu/Members/irc/dsis/structind/library?l=/general_information/quality_profiles/annex_enpdf/EN_1.0_&a=d))

A       B       C       Indicator to be developed

Data quality is restricted due to problems regarding accuracy and the limited comparability across countries and over time.

### 2. Objective and relevance of the indicator:

The indicator covers data on public procurement based on the information contained in the calls for competition and contract award notices submitted for publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

The European Council (March, 2006) stressed that SMEs' access to markets will be improved by facilitating their access to public procurement markets and standardisation as well as by supporting their internationalisation; exploration of specific actions to bring about more sustainable consumption and production patterns at EU and global level, including and fostering green public procurement, inter alia by promoting environmental criteria and performance targets.

### Restriction of the indicator's relevance and other characteristics which may lead to restrictions in using it in monitoring and reporting

### 3. Data availability: details

( $t_1$ : earliest reference year available;  $t_2$ : latest reference year available in May 2007)

|       | Member States | Candidate and Acceding Countries | US and Japan | EEA-EFTA <sup>1</sup> |
|-------|---------------|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| $t_1$ | 1993 – EU-15  | -                                | -            | -                     |
| $t_2$ | 2005 - EU-15  | -                                | -            | -                     |

### 4. Overall accuracy

High   
Restricted (sources, errors, methodology, etc.)

Data on **public procurement** is calculated by the DG Internal Market (DG MARKT) on the basis of the information published in the Official Journal of the European Union, Supplement S. For each of the sectors works, supplies and services, the number of calls for competition published is multiplied by an average based, in general, on all the prices provided in the contract award notices. In the case of smaller countries

<sup>1</sup> While being a member of the EEA, Liechtenstein has complete or partial exemptions from several statistical requirements due to its size. Thus, Liechtenstein is excluded from this overview as most of the data for structural indicators are missing.

(Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg and Portugal) the average is based on all available prices, including those for previous years. For Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Finland the averages are based on a five year rolling average. Data are calculated in euro (ECU before 1999). Data in national or foreign currency is valued at the average annual exchange rate of the year to which the data relate to.

Total public procurement is the sum of utilities procurement and the ESA 95 data for the aggregates P2 (intermediate consumption), P51 (Gross fixed capital formation) and D6311\_D63121\_D63131PAY (social transfers in kind related to expenditure on products supplied to households via market producers, payable) for S.13 (general government sector) of table 2 (“main aggregates of general government”) of the ESA95 transmission programme.

Utilities procurement until 2003 has been extrapolated from estimates from two surveys carried out in 1994 and 1998. From 2004 it is estimated, for the larger sectors, from ESA 95 compliant input-output tables (table 1600: Use table at purchasers’ prices) and from some other sources such as company accounts for sectors not separately detailed in those tables or where the tables are not yet available at national level.

In order to improve accuracy, cross-checking of the data is undertaken wherever possible against statistical reports submitted by Member States.

**GDP data** are regularly transmitted in the framework of the transmission programme associated to Annex B of ESA 95 (European System of Accounts). Countries compile GDP according to standard international rules (ESA 95/SNA 93 – with some exceptions). At the European level, accuracy of GDP is regularly monitored in the framework of the GNI (Gross National Income) Committee and technical aspects are regularly analysed in several working groups and technical committees.

## 5. Comparability across countries

High



Restricted



The data on **Public procurement** is based on the values submitted in contract award notices published in the Official Journal. Data is comparable because of the definition of public procurement contracts, which should be published, is laid down by Council Directives 92/50/EC, 93/36/EC, 93/37/EC and 93/38/EC up until 2005 and by Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC from 2006.

Concerning the **GDP data** comparability across countries is ensured by the application of the legal framework represented by the European System of Accounts (ESA 95) and the System of National Accounts (SNA 93). Comparability of GDP for EU countries is regularly monitored in the context of the work of the Gross National Income (GNI) Committee. In addition, international harmonisation of techniques and, to some extent, compilation tools is ensured by the work of the national accounts working groups (Eurostat, OECD, UN).

At present, some EU Member States are still in the implementation phase of ESA 95 and full comparability is not yet achieved but this leads only to minor discrepancies.

## 6. Comparability over time

High



Restricted



Data on **Public procurement** series are in general available for the EU-15 from 1993 onwards. Data for the ten new Member States is by definition not available before 2004 and for that year data available relates only to the second half of the year. Comparability over time is ensured by the use of the same definitions over time.

ESA 95 requires coherent long time series for **GDP** which are produced by most of the EU Member States. In some countries, methodological breaks can affect time series (normally on a temporary basis). Backward calculations of time series are provided to ensure full time coherence in a

case of methodological changes.

#### **7. Development perspective for improving the quality of this indicator (including as far as possible an indication of the burden on Member States and respondents.)**

A system of reminders is being put in place in order to remind contracting authorities and entities of their obligation to submit contract award notices and in particular to submit contract values even if they are not for publication. A more automated estimation method is being examined which might speed up the production of the indicator.

#### **8. Contribution to the coherence of the set/potential to qualify for an integrated policy analysis**

**Relevant European legislation:** Council Directives 92/50/EEC of 18 June 1992, 93/36/EEC of 14 June 1993, 93/37/EEC of 14 June 1993, 93/38/EEC of 14 June 1993, 2004/17/EC of 31 March 2004, 2004/18/EC of 31 March 2004

Council Regulation (EC) No 2223/96 of 25 June 1996 on the European system of national and regional accounts in the Community

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1564/2005 of 7 September 2005 establishing standard forms for the publication of notices in the framework of public procurement procedures

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