

Inward Foreign Affiliates Statistics 2011
National Reference Metadata in Euro SDMX Metadata Structure (ESMS)
National Statistics Office (NSO)
Time Dimension: 2011
Data Flow: MALTA_INFATSES_A_MT

Concept name	
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2 Metadata update	
2.1 Metadata last certified	30/06/2015
2.2 Metadata last posted	30/06/2015
2.3 Metadata last update	30/06/2015
3 Statistical presentation	

3.1 Data description	<p>Inward Foreign Affiliates Statistics (FATS) describe the overall activity of foreign affiliates resident in Malta.</p> <p>The complete list of variables covered by the Inward FATS Regulation may be accessed through: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32007R0716&qid=1440655162997&from=EN.</p> <p>In addition, the FATS Recommendations Manual lays down detailed guidelines for the methodology, collection and compilation in the European Union.</p>
3.2 Classification system	<p>Inward FATS data use NACE Rev. 2 as a classification for economic activities. In addition, countries are classified according to the official ISO 3166-1 codes.</p>
3.3 Coverage - sector	<p>The economic activity breakdown for Inward FATS covers NACE Rev. 2 Sections B to N, and S95. Section K of NACE Rev. 2 is provided for a limited number of variables and is not included in the Total business activity aggregate.</p>
3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions	<p>Foreign affiliate means an enterprise resident in the compiling country over which an institutional unit not resident in the compiling country has control. Control means the ability to determine the general policy of an enterprise by choosing appropriate directors if necessary. An enterprise is deemed to be controlled by an institutional unit when this unit directly or indirectly controls more than half of the shareholders voting power or more than half the shares. FATS data is published broken down by country of the ultimate controlling institutional unit (UCI) of a foreign affiliate, which means the institutional unit, proceeding up a foreign affiliate's chain of control, which is not controlled by another institutional unit.</p> <p>Nine characteristics are collected on an annual basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of enterprises, which is the number of foreign controlled enterprises resident in the compiling economy (variable 11110); • Turnover, that is market sales of goods and services supplied to third parties, including non-deductible taxes, duties and charges, rebates and discounts (variable 12110); • Production value, which is the amount actually produced, based on sales, including changes in stocks and resale of goods and services (variable 12120); • Value added at factor cost, which is the gross income from operating activities after adjusting for operating subsidies and indirect taxes (variable 12150); • Total purchases of goods and services, which is the value of all goods and services purchased during the accounting period for resale or consumption in the production process, excluding capital goods (variable 13110); • Purchases of goods and services purchased for resale in the same condition as received , i.e. purchases of goods for resale to third parties without further processing, output from service activities, rights to use predetermined services or physical supports for services (variable 13120); • Personnel costs, i.e. total remuneration payable including taxes and social contributions paid by the employer and the employee (variable 13310); • Number of persons employed, i.e. average yearly headcount of persons employed and paid by the observation unit including unpaid family workers and persons absent for a short time (variable 16110); and • Gross investment in tangible goods - investment in existing or new tangible capital goods (variable 15110). <p>Malta is exempted from transmitting data on R&D variables.</p>
3.5 Statistical unit	<p>The statistical units for Inward FATS refer to enterprises or branches resident in Malta under foreign control.</p>
3.6 Statistical population	<p>The population in Inward FATS Statistics comprises all enterprises and branches under foreign control. To be able to compare with the whole business economy, the nationally-controlled enterprises are also included</p>

	within the Structural Business Statistics. In fact, Inward FATS data is a subset of Structural Business Statistics (SBS).
3.7 Reference area	Malta.
3.8 Coverage - Time	Inward FATS data was compiled on a voluntary basis for reference year 2005. The data collection is mandatory as from reference year 2007. NACE Rev. 2 was used as from reference year 2008.
3.9 Base period	Not applicable.
4 Unit of measure	Monetary data are expressed in thousands of Euros. Variables such as number of enterprises and persons employed are expressed in units.
5 Reference Period	The data is based on a calendar year. This report refers to year 2011.
6 Institutional Mandate	
6.1 Institutional Mandate - legal acts and other agreements	As from 2007 onwards data are collected according to FATS Regulation (EC) No 716/2007 of the European Parliament and the Council (EC) of 20 June 2007 (FATS-R). The Commission adopted three other regulations implementing and amending the FATS-R being: 1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 364/2008 on the technical format and transmission; 2) Commission Regulation (EC) No 747/2008 on the structure and activity of foreign affiliates; and 3) Commission Regulation (EC) No 834/2009 as regards the quality reports. In addition, the FATS Recommendations Manual is a reference document.
6.2 Institutional Mandate - data sharing	Not Applicable.
7 Confidentiality	
7.1 Confidentiality - policy	<p>Article 40 of the MSA Act stipulates the restrictions on the use of information and in Article 41, the prohibition of disclosure of information. Furthermore, Section IX of the Act (Offences and Penalties) lays down the measures to be taken in case of unlawful exercise of any officer of statistics regarding confidentiality of data. No cases of breaches in the law have been recorded to date.</p> <p>Since its inception, the NSO has always operated within a culture of strict confidentiality to which it is also bound by the provisions of the Data Protection Act. This Act, which came fully into effect on July 15, 2003, seeks to protect individuals against the violation of their privacy by the processing of personal data.</p> <p>Refer also to the NSO policy "Confidentiality of Personal and Commercial Data" https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/About NSO/Documents/NSO Policies/Confidentiality of personal and commercial data.pdf</p> <p>Further information on access to microdata is available on the NSO's website through: https://nso.gov.mt/en/Services/Microdata/Pages/Access-to-Microdata.aspx</p> <p>During 2009, the NSO has set up a Statistical Disclosure Committee to ensure that statistical confidentiality is observed, especially when requests for microdata are received by the NSO.</p>

	<p><u>At National level:</u> Confidentiality is one of the major principles guiding the activities of the NSO.</p> <p>Upon employment, NSO employees are informed of the rules and duties pertaining to confidential information and its treatment. According to the MSA Act, before commencing work, every employee is required to take an oath of secrecy whose text is included in the Act.</p> <p><u>At European level:</u> Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics (recital 24 and Article 20(4) of 11 March 2009 (OJ L 87, p. 164), stipulates the need to establish common principles and guidelines ensuring the confidentiality of data used for the production of European statistics and the access to those confidential data with due account for technical developments and the requirements of users in a democratic society.</p>
7.2 Confidentiality - data treatment	Primary confidentiality is flagged on either too few enterprises (where the number of units is less than 3), or if the dominance share of the largest two units is 75% or more. Secondary confidentiality is flagged in order to protect primary confidential data, which are suppressed so that sensitive information is not revealed. These are identified and flagged by NSO using a common methodology applied by other statistical agencies.
8 Release policy	
8.1 Release calendar	No news releases on Inward Fats are published. In general, the NSO publishes a release calendar with a three-month advance notice on scheduled news releases.
8.2 Release calendar access	The release calendar can be accessed through: https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx .
8.3 Release policy - user access	A list of NSO policies can be accessed through: http://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/About_NS0/Pages/NSO-Policies.aspx The following policies are directly related to the users access to statistical data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination • Relations with the Media • Confidentiality of Personal and Commercial Data
9 Frequency of dissemination	Annual.
10 Dissemination format	
10.1 Dissemination format - News release	Not applicable.
10.2 Dissemination format - Publications	Not applicable.
10.3 Dissemination format - online	Not applicable.

database	
10.4 Dissemination format - microdata access	Not applicable.
10.5 Dissemination format - other	Users can submit an ad-hoc request through the NSO website through: http://nso.gov.mt/en/Services/Pages/Request-for-Information.aspx .
11 Accessibility of documentatio n	
11.1 Documentati on on methodology	The FATS Recommendations Manual lays down detailed guidelines for the methodology, collection and compilation of Inward FATS Statistics.
11.2 Quality management - documentatio n	No Quality Report for Inward FATS was provided up to reference year 2011. The Structural Business Statistics Unit annually documents all the work processes and procedures in area of the Inward FATS for internal purposes.
12 Quality management	
12.1 Quality assurance	Since Inward FATS data is a subset of SBS data, all quality measures would have already been implemented to finalise SBS data. In addition, Inward FATS dataset is compared with previous year's data and checked for any large changes especially due to large deviations in the main variables concerned.
12.2 Quality management - assessment	All measures are taken into consideration to assure that the data is of good quality. The finalised SBS data is checked against the Business Register which provides the country of the UCI for each enterprise. UCIs are checked with past data and queries are checked against an administrative source. When possible, branches or subsidiaries of foreign enterprises are included as estimates.
13 Relevance	
13.1 Relevance - User Needs	Eurostat is the main user of Inward FATS Statistics.
13.2 Relevance - User Satisfaction	A user satisfaction survey was carried out by NSO in 2014. Results showed that 48.1% regarded the quality of requests by the SBS Unit as high/good. These results are specific to the SBS Unit, not particularly to the area of Inward FATS statistics. Such information can be found using the following link: http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_01/Methodology_and_Research/Pages/User-Satisfaction-Survey.aspx .
13.3 Completeness	All the data requested by the Regulation is transmitted.

14 Accuracy	
14.1 Accuracy - overall	Overall the data is checked with previous years to identify major changes in the data variables.
14.2 Sampling error	Given that Inward FATS data is compiled on an existing SBS survey, the sampling error which applies for IFATS is the same as SBS. Inward FATS is not compiled by undertaking a separate survey. All units included in SBS are included when compiling Inward FATS statistics.
14.3 Non-sampling error	<p>Non-sampling error is not quantified. The sources that give rise to this error include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • different base year than the one required; • data not converted to Euro; • number of employees not provided as an average for the year; • NACE misclassifications; and • Wrong attribution of UCI which leads to a misclassification problem <p>Imputations for SBS are usually done based on administrative sources and in extreme cases data from previous years is used.</p>
15 Timeliness and punctuality	
15.1 Timeliness	The data is to be provided at t+20 months after the end of the reference period.
15.2 Punctuality	Inward FATS data for reference year 2011 was sent in February 2015. NSO plans to send the data on a timely manner in the future.
16 Comparability	
16.1 Comparability - geographical	Inward FATS data is comparable to other Member States data in view of common methodology adhered to.
16.2 Comparability - over time	The data is comparable between 2009 and 2012, except for the change in the Nace classification to Rev. 2 which took place in 2008.
17 Coherence	
17.1 Coherence - cross domain	Inward FATS data is compiled using SBS data.
17.2 Coherence - internal	Inward FATS data is coherent with SBS since it uses the same weighting structure and the same SBS variables. It is also coherent with the BR in terms of country of UCI.
18 Cost and Burden	Inward FATS uses SBS data, thus the cost in relation to other surveys is relatively low since it does not increase burden on respondents. The biggest burden for NSO is the maintenance of the BR in relation to both current enterprise groups and new groups structures. Each enterprise group is individually checked through the MFSA website until the UCI is determined. In addition, a statistician is still required to aggregate the data by country

	of UCI, check for errors and consistency, and to apply the confidentiality treatment.
19 Data revision	
19.1 Data revision - policy	Once published, the data is considered final and is not subject to revisions. The NSO adapts a general revision policy Revisions of Official Statistics which is available on the NSOs website.
19.2 Data revision - practice	No revisions are made in general.
20 Statistical processing	
20.1 Source data	Inward FATS is a subset of SBS data thus no other survey in this respect is used. The Ultimate Controlling Institution (UCI) is determined from the Business Register by using the Malta Financial Services Authority (MFSA) website.
20.2 Frequency of data collection	Inward FATS data is compiled annually.
20.3 Data collection	Inward FATS is a subset of SBS data thus no other survey in this respect is used.
20.4 Data validation	NSO validates the data before it is published. In general, at the vetting stage, the data is checked for the most obvious mistakes or for item non-response. The data is analysed and compared to previous years for any significant fluctuations, and a number of logical checks are in-place in an application programme that shows the validations to be checked or confirmed.
20.5 Data compilation	SBS data which is used for Inward FATS is based on mailed paper questionnaires. In case of non-response, administrative sources are used when available and imputations are done from previous years for certain limited strata if the data is limited. Sometimes, queries are checked and/or confirmed by contacting the respondents by telephone or email. The weighting structure (for reference year 2011) is based on employment size class and turnover quartiles and no calibration techniques are applied.
20.6 Adjustment	Not applicable.
21 Comment	No other comments.