

Foreword

The international *Producer Price Index Manual* (PPI Manual) published by the IMF in 2004 constituted a landmark for international standards on price measurement. It contains detailed, comprehensive information for the compilation of producer price indices as well as an extensive coverage of conceptual and theoretical issues. The joint Eurostat-OECD *Methodological Guide for Developing Producer Price Indices for Services* (SPPI Guide) is a complement to the *PPI Manual* in two ways: it focuses on service specific aspects in the PPI compilation by further developing the conceptual framework and it adds detailed descriptions of PPI measurement for a series of service industries.

Over the past decade, the field of service producer price indices (SPPI) has developed further. Considerable methodological and practical progress has been made by both European Union (EU) and non-EU OECD countries, resulting in a significant increase in the availability of SPPI. This second edition of the *SPPI Guide* signifies this considerable progress. It updates and replaces the first edition of the *Guide* that was published in 2005. It aims to help countries in developing SPPIs by sharing experiences and lessons learnt in the collection of data and the compilation of indices.

The second edition of the *SPPI Guide* has three objectives: *first*, to propose a global and comprehensive framework that improves the understanding of problems related to the specific nature of services: many services are unique, they are not repeated, at least not in a fully comparable manner, or they might be customer specific; *second*, to identify practical solutions implemented by countries for developing SPPIs for specific service industry (e.g. transport and storage, information and communication services, and professional, scientific and technical services); *third*, to promote new methodologies that in some cases are still under development (e.g. financial intermediation, insurance, human health activities) and for which the sharing of experiences and expertise will contribute to address remaining issues and challenges.

The electronic version of the second edition of the *SPPI Guide* is available on the websites of the OECD and Eurostat. The *SPPI Guide* should be considered as a ‘living document’; in due course, it will be revised and updated, to incorporate additional service industries and to address particular issues in greater detail. It is hoped that this *Guide* will advance the development of services producer price indices in the OECD region and beyond, thus providing better information for decision-making and analysis.

We trust that this second edition of the *Methodological Guide for developing producer price indices for services* will foster the compilation, the understanding and the use of producer price indices for services.



Martine Durand
OECD Chief Statistician and
Director of Statistics



Walter Radermacher
Chief Statistician and
Director General of Eurostat

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The second edition of the *SPPI Guide* has been jointly produced by the OECD, Eurostat and a joint Eurostat-OECD Task Force set up to oversee the revision and updating of the 2005 edition of the *SPPI Guide*.

The joint Eurostat-OECD Task Force was established in 2011 and met three times: on 14-15 April 2011 (Paris, OECD), 26-27 September 2011 (Newport, U.K., Office for National Statistics) and 26-27 April 2012 (Paris, OECD). The Task Force was chaired by Nadim Ahmad (OECD) and Paul Schreyer (OECD). Delegates from Austria, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Mexico, Poland, the United Kingdom and the United States participated in the Task Force. Several among them contributed to the *Guide* by providing detailed descriptions of their methodologies for compiling service PPIs; the others were represented by national experts in meetings of the Task Force.

André Loranger (Statistics Canada) officially represented the Voorburg Group on Services Statistics in the Task Force.

The first three methodological chapters in the *Guide* were written by the OECD and Eurostat Secretariats, under the guidance of the Task Force. Anne-Sophie Fraisse (OECD) is the principal author, with support from Thomas Jaegers (Eurostat). Niall O’Hanlon (CSO Ireland) contributed significantly.

Chapters 4 to 13 of the *Guide*, which mainly report country practices, were drafted under the responsibility of lead authors, again under the guidance of the Task Force: Dorothee Blang (Destatis), Paul Boling (Australian Bureau of Statistics), Johanna von Borstel (Destatis), Catherine Draper, (Statistics Canada), Anne-Sophie Fraisse (OECD), David Friedman (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics), Denis Gac (INSEE), Alain Gallais (INSEE), Ildikó Hamvainé Holocsy (Statistics Hungary), Christopher Jenkins (Office for National Statistics United Kingdom), Hina Kikegawa (Bank of Japan), Michael Morgan (Australian Bureau of Statistics), Bonnie Murphy (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics), Aspasia Papa (Office for National Statistics United Kingdom), Christian Puchter (Statistics Austria), Maria Schuch (Statistics Austria), Marcel Spanjaard (Statistics Netherlands), and Ruth Vizner (Central Bureau of Statistics Israel).

Niall O’Hanlon (CSO Ireland) acted as the editor of the *SPPI Guide* with contributions from Anne-Sophie Fraisse (OECD).

Eurostat and the OECD would like to thank all those who contributed by providing comments and suggestions to the improvement of this *Guide*.



From:

Eurostat-OECD Methodological Guide for Developing Producer Price Indices for Services Second Edition

Access the complete publication at:

<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264220676-en>

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD/Eurostat (2014), "Foreword and Acknowledgements", in *Eurostat-OECD Methodological Guide for Developing Producer Price Indices for Services: Second Edition*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264220676-1-en>

This work is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgment of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to rights@oecd.org. Requests for permission to photocopy portions of this material for public or commercial use shall be addressed directly to the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) at info@copyright.com or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at contact@cfcopies.com.