Price statistics: application of a new approach to data collection
Methodological guidelines used in the calculation of the consumer price index


- For classification of goods and services the national version of the COICOP classification is used and its structure is fully aligned with the international version
Selection of representative products and services

151 types of food products

269 types of non-food products

99 types of paid services

List of products included in the consumer basket

Stores, fairs, markets, service objects and etc. of all types of property (total 5043 centers)

Selection of trade centers
Price registration

Primary data on prices covers all regions of the country. The consumer price index is calculated and published for each economic region.

Registration of prices is carried out online by the relevant specialists of local statistical agencies (85 enumerators) using tablet computers.

During the month, prices are registered at 1560 food, 1359 non-food trade objects, 2124 service objects.
Primary data are inputted into the Committee's database by the local statistical agencies and summarized.
Development of ICT in statistics and new partner relations

- Development of ICT in the field of statistics and the establishment of partnerships with trade networks on a new level allowed to improve the process of price registration and use of electronic databases of trade networks for statistical purposes. The following steps have been taken for this purpose:
  - Trade networks which make 20,0 percent of retail trade turnover on Baku city and have 264 supermarkets were selected;
  - In January 2018, an agreement was concluded with trade networks on the submission of retail price data to the State Statistical Committee in the form of electronic databases and partnership agreements were signed;
  - After completion of preparatory works in 2018, the information submitted since January 2019 is integrated into the State Statistical Committee database through special software developed for this purpose;
  - From mid-2019, the scope of use of the new method was further expanded and applied in Khirdalan, Sumgait, Ganja, Mingechevir cities and Dashkesen, Zaqatala, Guba, Barda, Imishli, Saatli regions.
Use of electronic databases of trade networks for statistical purposes:

Conclusion of partnership agreements between the State Statistical Committee and trade networks for the aim to obtain data on retail prices in electronic form from the databases of trade networks.
Direct obtaining of data on retail prices in electronic form from the databases of trade networks.
Codes (barcodes) used by the trade network

COICOP classification codes applied in the State Statistical Committee

Corresponding tables are created to integrate into the database of the State Statistical Committee

10114122 (code of the product according to statistical classification)
Advantages

- data collection costs and time are saved;
- the number of the types of price-monitored products are observed is significantly increasing (from 43534 to 501939);
- accuracy in calculations increases, possible errors accruing from human factor are eliminated;
- there is an opportunity to involve free price registrars in other statistical surveys;
- physical contact is minimized during primary data collection;
- during the Covid-19 pandemic the use of this method becomes even more relevant.
Use of alternative data sources in primary data collection

Internet resources are also used for collection of primary data on prices.

The websites of the relevant retailers of price-monitored products and services (for example: home appliances, telephone sets, data processing equipment, passenger cars, air and railway passenger transportation and etc.) are also used to collect and verify primary data.
Software for re-checking prices that exceed the average growth (decrease) rate (5-10%) by product type

Software for re-checking suspicious figures resulted from comparing prices in different trade networks for the same product or service
Data processing

Final indicators are disseminated through press release, interactive spreadsheets, statistical bulletins and yearbooks. All information is posted on the Committee’s website.
Thank you for your attention!