

## **Analysis of BEC data for estimating the imports tables in Europe**

Topic: Eurostat: Estimating Trade

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In the consolidation process for European SUIO tables Eurostat has to estimate imports matrices for all EU countries when not available from the Member States. Eurostat has investigated the use of additional trade data such as BEC (Broad Economic Classification) data for this estimation and has compared it with the current estimation based on a proportionality assumption for each product line between the uses of imports and the total uses.

The paper will describe: 1. limitations and possible use of BEC data to estimate imports matrices, 2. the comparison of this method with the proportionality assumption and the real data (in descriptive terms and using a measure of deviation such as WAPE Weighted Average Percentage error), 3. Possible refinement of the methodology by going at more detailed level of the trade classification (HS or CN detailed levels) and 4. Present the methodology retained for the estimation of national tables in the European consolidation process.