

**TRANSPORTS**  
**TRANSPORT ACTIVITY**

Metadata

National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova (NBS)

## 1. Contact Information

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## 2. Metadata Update

### 2.1. Last certification of metadata

21.01.2015

### 2.2. Last update of metadata

21.01.2015

## 3. Statistical Presentation

### 3.1. General description

The statistical system regarding the transport activity covers the indicators related to the volume and evolution of goods' transportation (in tonnes and tonnes-kilometers) and passengers' transportation (in passengers and passengers-kilometers), per every transport type: road, railway, air, and river.

The annual statistical data on road transportation of goods, as well as the data obtained through the ASTRM statistical survey refer to the transport on own account (without fees) and/or the transport on others' account (fee-based), and the operative monthly/quarterly statistical data – the fee-based transport fulfilled by enterprises (legal entities) which have in their inventory or which rent 10 and more road vehicles for goods' transportation;

Public passenger transport covers the transportation carried out with road vehicles (buses, minibuses, taxi, and trolleybuses), which is performed on schedule and occasional basis, as well as the transportation performed with railway, river, and air transport means.

### 3.2. Concepts and definitions

#### 3.2.1. Definitions

From the activity object standpoint, transportation is divided into goods' transport and passengers' transport.

*Goods road transport* - transportation of goods performed with the help of road vehicles for carrying goods.

*Passenger road transport (buses and minibuses, taxi and trolleybuses)* – transportation of persons performed with the help of road vehicles meant for carrying persons on public roads.

*Goods/passengers railway transport* – movement of goods/passengers using railway vehicles between the place of loading/embarkation and the place of unloading/disembarkation.

*Inland navigable waterways transport* – movement of goods and passengers using ships for inland navigable ways or mixed ships for journeys which are carried out entirely (with the same ship) on inland navigable waterways.

#### I. **Concepts and definitions used in statistics of goods' transportation** (road, railway, river, and air)

**Goods transported with road transport, in tonnes**, represent the weight of transported goods within a certain period of time. This category includes the goods transported with own or rented transportation means, regardless of the place of expedition or destination. *Goods road transport* includes the goods carried with road vehicles registered in Moldova.

**Weight of goods transported with road transport** covers the transported goods within a certain period of time. The weight of transported goods is registered when shipping them. The weight of transported goods includes goods' own weight and the weight of packing, containers, or pallets used for transporting the goods.

**Goods transported by railway** include the goods loaded in wagons and shipped by railway, regardless of the place of destination. They also include the goods loaded on a foreign railway network and transported on a Moldovan railway to be unloaded in the country or to be transited through the country.

**Weight of the goods transported by railway** represent the weight in tonnes of goods carried with railway transport. The railway transport covers the goods loaded in wagons and shipped by railway, regardless of the place of destination, as well as the goods loaded in wagons which entered through border railway stations. **The quantity of goods transported by railway is registered when shipping the goods.** When establishing the weight of transported goods (in tonnes), the following is also taken into account: the weight of packaging, containers or pallets used for transportation, as well as the road vehicle for carrying the goods transported by railway.

**Goods and mail transported by airport transport** represent the quantity of goods and mail shipped through a certain flight (with the same number) registered one single time. The weight of goods also includes the weight of containers and packing, express mail, diplomatic mail, excluding the passengers' luggage and board supplies.

**Turnover of goods** is determined by the weight of transported goods and the distances passed by the vehicles which carry out the transportation from the loading place (shipment) to the unloading place (destination).

**Net operation turnover of goods – for goods trains** – is calculated by summing up the results of multiplying the weight of loaded goods with the distance traveled by the train on the railway, on the territory of Moldova.

**Tariff turnover of goods – for goods trains** – is calculated by summing up the results of multiplying the quantity of transported goods with the distances travelled by the goods transport, from the shipment place till the destination place for national transport. In case of international and transit transport, only the distance travelled within the railway network on the territory of the country is taken into consideration. **Tariff turnover** of goods is calculated on the segment from the loading place to the unloading place, depending on the distance registered in the goods transport document. The turnover of goods is registered during the calendar period when the shipment was performed.

**Average goods transport distance** characterizes the average length traveled by the good, expressed in km. It is calculated as a division between the turnover of goods and volume of transported goods.

**National transport of goods** represents the transport performed between two places: the loading place and unloading place, both situated in Moldova.

**International transport of goods** covers the transport when the loading is performed in Moldova, and unloading in another country or the transport when the unloading is located in Moldova, and the loading place is situated in another country. *Statistical data on international goods road transport* from the statistical publications include the routes which do not transit Moldova and the traffic in transit.

**Transit** represents the transport performed between two places, loading place and unloading place, both

being located in the same country or in different countries, without any loading or unloading on the territory of Moldova.

**Goods road transport for own account** – transport performed by units with their main activity in other areas than transport, and which have in their inventory road transport means for carrying goods, and which perform transports for their own use.

**Goods road transport on others' account** – transport performed by units with their main activity in goods transport area and which perform transportation services for third parties (on others' account) on payment basis.

**Average rolling time for goods wagons** expresses the average duration of a complete transport cycle of goods wagons within the network limits, respectively the average time between two consecutive loadings.

**Gross average weight of goods trains** is determined between the gross operation performance and number of train-km. The manoeuvre trains, the parcel traffic, duty trains and isolated locomotives are not included.

## II. *Concepts and definition used in statistics – passenger transport* (road (bus, microbus, taxi, trolleybus), railway, river, and air)

**Transported passengers** represent the embarked passengers to any destination, regardless if the departure takes place on the territory of country or not, conditioned that the vehicle belongs to the transport operator from our country or is rented by him/her.

**Railway transport** includes the passengers who left the railway stations from the country, regardless of the destination, and the passengers who entered the territory of the country in wagons through railway stations.

The passengers transported by **air** represent the passengers of one flight having the same number, and registered one single time. The passengers in direct transit are excluded – the passengers who after a short stop continue their journey with the same flight or with a flight that has the same number as the arrival flight.

*Transported passengers* represent the number of persons who were transported during the year, including the passengers benefiting from free-of-charge transportation. *They also include* the persons transported on the basis of tickets, subscriptions, travel IDs, and other transport documents.

**Turnover of passengers** represents the volume of passengers transport (in passenger-km) and is determined by the number of transported passengers and the effective distance in km which was passed by every passenger.

**Turnover of passengers** with trolleybuses is calculated as a product of the number of transported passengers and the average circulation distance of the trolleybus passengers. The average circulation distance is established once in five years as a result of the survey performed for the flow of passengers on the trolleybus routes of the respective city, is approved in the established order and is taken into calculation as a constant measure.

**Average distance for passenger transport** is expressed in km. It is calculated as a ratio of the turnover of passengers and the number of transported passengers.

**Passenger** is any person who moves around using a transportation means, except for the personnel on duty of the passenger transport.

**Passenger-kilometer** is the unit of measure which represents the transport of one passenger over a distance of one kilometer. It is the distance passed effectively by the passenger.

**Passenger road transport:** the operation through which persons' movement is performed with the road vehicle on a road opened for public circulation, on pre-established distances and conditions. From activity standpoint, it is classified in public road transport and own account road transport.

**Public passenger road transport** is the fee-based road transport performed on contract basis by the road

transport operators only with the road vehicles held in possession, at the board of which, during the whole duration of the transportation, there is a copy of the transport license, as well as the route license or the international transport authorization or the transport document corresponding to the occasional services, as the case may be.

**Tourist transport** is the occasional transport service which ensures the movement of a group of persons for touristic purposes.

**Occasional passenger transport service** is an activity of public passenger transport, performed on contract basis for every route, which cannot be defined as a regular service or special regular service, used to transport groups of persons established in advance, upon the initiative of a person, due to some events, special manifestations, circular trips of recreational nature, tourism, and other.

### **III. Concepts and definition used in statistics – international airport traffic**

**Airport traffic** represents embarkation/disembarkation of passengers and loading/unloading of goods and mail in/from national or foreign aircrafts which take off/land on the International Airport Chisinau, as well as movements of aircrafts in this airport.

**Commercial air transport service:** operation of an aircraft in one or more flight stages carried out on regular basis or not, designated for public fee-based transport of passengers and/or goods and mail.

**Regular commercial air transport service (according to a timetable):** service provided through flights or extra flights in case of traffic affluence, carried out according to a published timetable or with a frequency that will constitute a systematic series, opened for public direct reservations.

**Non-regular commercial air transport service:** service provided through commercial flights other than the regular ones. The flights of air taxi type are also included.

**International flight:** transport of passengers and/or goods and mail which is performed to, from and inside of the country or between countries different from the one in which the transport operator is located.

**Flight stage:** in international transport is considered to be the flight of an aircraft when the airports in which the aircrafts take off and land on are located in another country than the country where the transport operator is located. Flight stage refers only to commercial air transport service.

**Embarked/disembarked passengers:** passengers registered in an airport who start or finish a trip (at the take off or land on). The passengers in transfer or indirect transit are included, meaning the passengers who land on and afterwards take off with another aircraft within an interval of 24 hours, or with the same aircraft with another number.

**Loaded and unloaded goods and mail:** quantity of goods and mails loaded to be transported and respectively unloaded from the aircraft at the place of destination.

**Regular air routes** represents the series of the flight with the following characteristics:

- are based on fees and performed with the aircrafts for transport of passengers, goods, and mail which are offered to population directly by the airport transport operator or through its authorized agents;
- are organized so as to ensure the link between two or more airports according to a published timetable or with a regularity which represents an obvious systematic series.

**Non-regular air routes** are the paid-for flights, other than the ones indicated in regular flights. The charter flights and other non-regular flights are included.

**Total movements of aircrafts for commercial services** – represents the total of paid take-offs (departures) and land-ons (arrivals) which are performed by civil aircrafts, for regular and non-regular flights.

#### **3.2.2. Unit of measure**

The unit of measure for the indicators from transport area is expressed as follows:

- transported goods (quantity of transported goods), in **thousand tonnes**;

- goods turnover, in **thousand tonnes-km**;
- transported passengers (number), in **thousand passengers**;
- passengers turnover, in **thousand passenger-kilometers**;
- transport average distance, in **km**;
- relative indicators are calculated in **%**.

### 3.2.3. Computation formula

#### Transported goods:

$$G_{tm} = \sum gm$$

**G<sub>tm</sub>** - volume of transported goods;

**gm** – weight in tonnes of every transported good.

#### Goods turnover:

$$TTK = \sum gm*km$$

**TTK** – goods turnover;

**gm** – weight in tonnes of every transported good;

**km** – distance in km passed by every load separately.

#### Average goods transport distance:

$$S_q = TTK / G_{tm}$$

**S<sub>q</sub>** - average goods transport distance;

**TTK** – goods turnover;

**G<sub>tm</sub>** – volume of transported goods.

#### Transported passengers:

$$N_p = \sum pi$$

**N<sub>p</sub>** – number of transported passengers;

**pi** – number of transported passengers with a transportation means on every distance *i* .

#### Passengers turnover:

$$PPK = \sum pi*sikm$$

**PPK** – passengers turnover;

**pi** - number of passengers transported with a transportation means corresponding for every distance *i*;

**sikm** – distance passed by a transport means corresponding to every category *pi* of passengers.

#### Passengers transport average distance:

$$S_p = PPK / N_p$$

**S<sub>p</sub>** – passengers transport average distance;

**PPK** – passengers turnover;

**N<sub>p</sub>** – number of transported passengers.

#### Vehicles turnover:

$$PV = \sum d$$

**PV** – vehicles turnover;

**d** – passed distance under load and with no load on every route.

### 3.3. Used classifications

Used classifiers and nomenclatures:

*Classifier of Activities in Moldova Economy* (CAEM rev.2 - *Clasificatorul Activităților Economice a Moldovei in Romanian*), fully harmonized with NACE ver.2.

*Classifier of Ownership Forms in the Republic of Moldova* (CFP - *Casificatorul formelor de proprietate din Republica Moldova, in Romanian*): approved via Standards, Metrology, and Technical Supervision Department Decision No. 276-st dated 04.02.1997;

*Classifier of Administrative-Territorial Units of the Republic of Moldova* (CUATM - *Clasificatorul unităților administrativ-teritoriale al Republicii Moldova in Romanian*), approved via the Moldova-Standard Decision no. 1398-ST dated 03.09.2003; in force since 03.09.2003.

*At the same time, a number of nomenclatures and classifications corresponding to EC Regulations' requirements are used for the statistical surveys on transport:*

- Standard nomenclature of transports / revised – NST/R;
- Classification of hazardous goods;
- Nomenclature of goods' packing modalities;
- Classification of types of routes performed by road transport.

### 3.4. Scope

#### 3.4.1. Sector coverage

The transport services activity for transportation of *goods and passengers* is CAEM rev.2 activity, class:

- 49.10 - Passenger rail transport, interurban
- 49.20 - Freight rail transport
- 49.31, 49.32, 49.39 - Other passenger land transport
- 49.41 - Freight transport by road
- 49.50 - Transport via pipeline
- 50.30 - Inland passenger water transport
- 50.40 - Inland freight water transport
- 51.1 - Passenger air transport
- 51.21 - Freight air transport

#### 3.4.2. Statistical population

The statistical collectivity for collecting data on goods and passengers transport activity is established taking into account the modes of transport, size of enterprises, organizations, and institutions involved in the transport process, types of transport (for goods or passengers / for charge or for own account), legal status.

Hence, the statistical surveys (listed in point 4.1.1.) cover:

*in road transport sector*

**annually** (1-tr(auto) – legal entities which have in their inventory or rent out road vehicles, and also possess car roads in operation; natural persons who perform regular fee-based transportation of passengers on the bus routes of general use;

**monthly** (1-auto), **quarterly** (65-auto) – legal entities which perform fee-based road transportation of goods; legal entities and natural persons who perform regular transportation of passengers on bus routes of general use;

**weekly** (ASTRM) – road vehicles for road transportation of goods, which are owned by individuals from the selected sample;

**annually** (1-trol), **quarterly** (65-trol) – enterprises which operate and maintain urban electrical transport  
*in railway transport sector*

**monthly** (1-cf), **quarterly** (65-cf), **annually** (f.nr.2-cf) – state railway enterprise (SE “Moldova Railway”).

*in river transport sector*

**monthly** (f.nr.1-nav.int.) – enterprises performing river transportation of goods and passengers

*in air transport sector*

**monthly** (f.nr.1-ac) – air operators, legal entities involved in aircrafts operation;

**quarterly** (f.nr.6-ac) – airport operators.

*in gas pipeline transport sector*

**quarterly** (f.nr.1-conducte) – joint stock company dealing with transportation of gas through pipelines “Moldovagaz” JSC.

### 3.4.3. Geographical coverage

Information is developed and disseminated without covering the data of the enterprises and organizations from the left side of the River Nistru and Bender municipality.

### 3.4.4. Time coverage

Annual time series are available in NBS publications and on the web page – starting with 2000.

## 3.5. Disaggregation level

Data resulting from statistical surveys of transportation of goods and passengers, and modes of transport are disaggregated by:

**Districts, municipalities, and ATU Gagauzia** (35), **economic development** regions (Chisinau mun., North, Center, South, ATU Gagauzia) (for road transportation of goods and/or passengers);

**Forms of ownership:** public property, private property, mixed property (public and private) without foreign participation, foreign property, joint ventures’ property;

**Economic activities** at class level (4 digits) CAEM: road, railway, river and air transport, and pipelines for gas transport;

**Type of transport** (fee-based goods road transport or for own needs);

**Destinations** (for goods road transport – domestic or international);

**Groups of goods**, for railway transport, according to the Standard Nomenclature for Transport Statistics/Revised (NST/R) recommended by the EU Statistics Office (EUROSTAT).

Data resulting from the statistical surveys listed in point 4.1.1. are disseminated by observing the confidentiality requirements.

Used symbols:

- the event did not exist;
- 0,0 small number of cases.

## 3.6. Dissemination frequency

Monthly;

Quarterly;

Annually.

## 3.7. Timeliness

**Monthly** operative data – on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the reported period; **quarterly** – on the 55<sup>th</sup> day after the reported quarter; **annually** (final data) – May after the reported year

## 3.8. Revision

Monthly data are preliminary when disseminated for the first time, which are revised and disseminated quarterly and annually. Data resulting from annual statistical surveys are final at first dissemination.

### 3.9. Period of reference

The period of reference of the variables collected through statistical surveys refer to:

**month and cumulative period from the beginning of the year** (f. nr. 1-auto, 1-cf, 1-nav.int., 1-ac.);

**quarter and cumulative period from the beginning of the year** (f. nr. 65-auto, 65-cf., 65-trol., 1-conducte, 6-ac, ASTRM);

**year of reference** (f. nr. 1-tr.(auto), 2-cf., 1-trol.).

## 4. Data Collection and Processing

### 4.1. Data source

#### 4.1.1. Statistical surveys

**Exhaustive statistical surveys** specific for every transportation type: *railway, road, river, air* (except for the goods road transport possessed by physical persons, for which a sample survey is implemented) are carried out based on statistical reports:

##### monthly

- road transport performance (f.nr.1-auto);
- goods and passengers railway transport, indices of railway transport use (f.nr.1-cf);
- goods and passengers river ships transport (f.nr.1-nav.int.);
- air traffic (f.nr.1-ac).

##### quarterly

- transportation with road transport means (f.nr.65-auto);
- railway transport performance (f.nr.65-cf);
- airport traffic (f.nr.6-ac);
- trolleybus performance (f.nr.65-trol);
- gas pipelines (f.nr.1-conducte).

##### annually

- road transport and length of car roads in administrative operation (f.nr.1-tr.(auto));
- railway transport of general use and length of railway lines (f.nr.2-cf);
- performance and use of electric transport (f.nr.1-trol).

**Sample statistical survey** – Statistical Survey on goods road transport (natural persons) (ASTRM-*Ancheta statistică privind transportul rutier de mărfuri în Romanian*).

#### 4.1.2. Administrative sources

The following is used to obtain statistical data from road transport sector:

- Information from the State Transport Registry;
- Information on transport operators who perform international transportation of goods with road vehicles;
- Information regarding the transport operators who have regular routes to perform passengers' transportation with buses on suburban, inter-urban, and international routes.

#### 4.1.3. Estimations

The number and turnover of passengers transported with taxi is estimated on quarterly basis – it is calculated by multiplying the fee-based taxi turnover of passengers with the average number of transported passengers (2 passengers are taken into calculation), the obtained product is divided to the average distance of passengers' transport (the average distance for transporting passengers by bus in



suburban traffic is taken into calculation).

Number and turnover of passengers transported by buses and minibuses, trolleybuses, including the beneficiaries of free-of-charged transport, which are calculated and registered in the statistical report by the responsible person from the reporting unit, according to the methodological guidelines annexed to the statistical report.

## 4.2. Characteristics of the statistical survey

### 4.2.1. Objective and background

- **The exhaustive statistical surveys** carried out based on the statistical reports - *monthly (f. nr. 1-auto, 1-cf, 1-nav.int., 1-ac) and quarterly (f. nr. 65-trol., 1-conducte)* aim to obtain operative statistical data regarding the fee-based road transportation of goods and passengers on regular routes; volume of goods and passengers carried with railway, river, air transport and gas transported through pipelines, and the monthly/quarterly dissemination of these data to the users.

As compared to 1990, there is a considerable increase of the number of economic units – legal entities which perform fee-based road transport activities, based on those units which beforehand were under the subordination of ministries from other economy branches than transport, as well as based on natural persons.

Up to 2006, the road transport enterprises were subject to exhaustive monthly and quarterly surveys, and starting with 2006, the surveys cover the enterprises (legal entities) which perform fee-based goods transportation and have in their inventory or rent 10 and more goods road vehicles.

- **The exhaustive statistical surveys** carried out based on *annual (f. nr. 1-tr(auto), 2-cf, 1-trol), monthly and quarterly statistical reports, as well as those with the cumulative period from the beginning of the year (f. nr. 65-auto, 65-cf, 1-conducte, 1-ac, 6-ac)* have the following objective:

- to obtain annual qualitative data regarding the volume of transported goods, goods turnover, transported passengers and passengers turnover, by modes of transport;
- to create the database and to ensure information for dissemination among beneficiaries;
- to harness the results of the statistical surveys for studies and analyses.

Starting in 1999, the statistical toolkit for railway, inland waterways and air transport statistics is redesigned and implemented so as to harmonize the statistical development with the European standards.

The annual statistical report (*f. nr. 1-tr(auto)*) which covers goods road transport on own account (without payment) and/or on others' account (fee based) which are carried out by *legal entities* having in their inventory or renting road transport means was implemented in 1990, afterwards being modified so as to meet the beneficiaries' requirements.

After 1990, the first lorries in the possession of Moldovan citizens were registered. Thus, to ensure the integrity of statistical data on goods road transport, during 1992-2003 estimations were made for the volume of goods transported with the road vehicles of natural persons-entrepreneurs.

In 2004, **the Statistical Survey on Goods Road Transport (ASTRM)**, started to be implemented; the main objective of the survey is to disseminate on quarterly (annual) basis the data regarding the volume of transported goods and the goods turnover – transport activities performed with goods transport road vehicles of natural persons. ASTRM ensures partially the harmonization of the methodology and the process of data collection with EUROSTAT recommendations: UE Regulation nr. 70/2012 on goods road transport.

### 4.2.2. Statistical unit

The statistical unit for exhaustive surveys – see point 3.4.2., and for sample statistical survey – natural person (citizens possessing goods transport road vehicles).

To register the information in the survey questionnaire, **the self-registration method** is used.

<b>4.2.3. Circle of units covered in the survey</b>	<b>4.2.4. Survey frequency</b>	<b>4.2.5. Data collection</b>	<b>4.2.6. Data collection</b>
1auto - 1010 units; 1-cf - 1 unit; 1- nav.int. - 2 units ; 1-ac - 1 unit	monthly	calendar month, cumulatively from the begging of the year	before the 5 <sup>th</sup> day of the month following the reported period
65-auto - 1010 units	quarterly	calendar quarter, cumulatively from the beginning of the year	before the 18 <sup>th</sup> day after the reported quarter
65-cf - 1 unit	quarterly	calendar quarter, cumulatively from the beginning of the year	before the 50 <sup>th</sup> day after the reported quarter
6-ac - 1 unit	quarterly	calendar quarter, cumulatively from the beginning of the year	before the 5 <sup>th</sup> day after the month following the reported quarter
65-trol - 2 units	quarterly	calendar quarter, cumulatively from the beginning of the year	before the 12 <sup>th</sup> day following the reported quarter
1-conducte - 1 unit	quarterly	calendar quarter, cumulatively from the beginning of the year	before the 22 <sup>nd</sup> day of the month following the reported quarter
1-tr.(auto) - 7611 units	annually	calendar year	January 25
2-cf - 1 unit	annually	calendar year	April 10
1-trol. - 2 units	annually	calendar year	February 27
ASTRM - the general collectivity is set from about 73.000 road vehicles for goods road transport. The sample volume for the quarter is about 1800 goods road vehicles. One road vehicle from the sample frame may be included in the sample one time per year.	data are representative at the level of one quarter	the week when the road vehicle was extracted in the sample	before the 2 <sup>nd</sup> day after the surveyed week

### **4.3. Data processing and compilation**

#### **4.3.1. Data validation**

Data are verified and analyzed from their quality point of view, especially in relation to their internal coherence, temporal coherence, as well as coherence with other data, at the first stage – by the territorial statistical body, and afterwards – at the central level by the IT main Division of NBS. The results of the statistical surveys are presented as totals, percentages, and average values. The control is based on visual methods, as well as automated methods using soft applications. The control methods allow verifying:

- integrity of the data filled in the report;
- compliance of the identification data;
- observance of logical conditions for data correlation.

#### **4.3.2. Compilation/extrapolation of data**

**Extension of ASTRM results** is performed based on the principle according to which every road vehicle from the sample (answer or zero) from a stratus, represents in average a number of road vehicles equal to the reverse sample fraction from the same stratus. Hence, when calculating the estimated totals, the values of the corresponding variables of a road vehicle under survey are taken into account a number of times equal to the number of road vehicles represented by the given road vehicle.

The procedure ensures non-biased estimations by different way of population grouping and avoids the need to adjust the number of road vehicles from the population, due to their transfer from one stratus to another.

#### **4.3.3. Adjustments**

No adjustments are made.

#### **4.3.4. Quality assurance**

The quality of statistical data is ensured by observing the fundamental principles of official statistics approved by the UN Economic Commission for Europe in 1992 (and Statistical Commission/UN in 1994), as well as those set forth in the Republic of Moldova Law on Official Statistics.

In its activity of producing statistical information, NBS pays huge importance to ensuring high quality of data. In this respect, a number of measures for quality assurance are carried out at every stage of the statistical process: organization of statistical surveys, collection, processing, and development of statistical information.

Important efforts are undertaken to ensure the plenitude and quality of data presentation by the respondents included in the statistical surveys.

Errors, inconsistencies, and suspicious data are brought to light so as to be verified and corrected.

The primary data are verified and analyzed from internal coherence point of view (within the questionnaire), temporal coherence (with data from previous periods), with data of other similar units, as well as with data available from other statistical surveys and administrative data sources. The missing or inconsistent data are imputed, if needed.

To ensure the quality of the primary data, meetings (seminars) are organized with respondents for explaining the definitions, the correct way to fill in the questionnaires, especially when they are modified or implemented.

### **4.4. Data accuracy**

#### **4.4.1. Non-response rate**

No non-responses were registered for the annual exhaustive surveys mentioned in point 4.1.1.

The non-response rate is calculated on quarterly basis for the sample survey ASTRM. The non-responses include: refusals, cases when no answer or communication was received about the sampling unit or cases when the answer was received, but the questionnaire was filled in so poorly, as it cannot be used in analysis.

#### **4.4.2. Sampling errors**

The main sources of errors for ASTRM are the errors that can appear while processing and presenting the information obtained from administrative sources.

For the indicators of goods transport volume and goods turnover – the relative error is calculated with a confidence level of 95%.

## **5. Comparability and Coherence**

### **5.1. International comparability**

International comparability is ensured, first of all, by using:

- Glossary for statistics on transport – III edition, 2003, UN and EU;
- EU Regulation No. 70/2012 on statistical data regarding goods road transport - physical persons;

- EC Regulation No. 91/2003 on railway transport statistics;
- EC Regulation No. 473/2003 on statistical reports regarding the air transport of passengers, goods, and mail.

### 5.2. Comparability over the time

Comparability over the time of the main indicators is generally ensured, starting with 2000.

### 5.3. Coherence with other statistics

Coherence with other statistics is ensured by the use of the same national classifications.

Definitions, notions and calculation methodology used in the statistical surveys for every mode of transport from the transport activity sector are common.

Coherence of the data available in intra-annual and annual statistical surveys on transport activity by every mode of transport is ensured.

The statistical data regarding the volume of goods transported with road transport by legal entities (in tonnes and tonnes-km) developed based on statistical surveys differ. They cover:

monthly/quarterly – enterprises (legal entities) which operate with road goods transport for charge with 10 and more vehicles of their own or rented;

annual – all legal entities which have in their inventory or rent road transportation means, which carry out goods road transportation activities on their own (without payment) and/or others' account (fee based).

## 6. Institutional Mandate (normative-legal basis)

The NBS activity is based on respecting the Republic of Moldova Constitution, the Law on Official Statistics No. 412 dated 09.12.2004, other legislative and normative acts, NBS management decisions and orders.

The Law on Official Statistics regulates the organization and operation of the unique system of official statistics, establishing the general principles for collecting, processing, centralizing, disseminating, and stocking statistical information (art.1).

Art. 5 of the Law provides that the production of statistical information is based on respecting the following principles: impartiality, statistical deontology, relevance, transparency, confidentiality, cost-efficiency, coordination at the national level, and collaboration at the international level.

Being the central statistical body, the National Bureau of Statistics is an administrative authority created under the Government for leading and coordinating the activity in the statistics area.

In line with the Government Decision No. 1034 dated 29.12.11 on approval of the NBS Regulation and the Nominal Composition of the NBS Collegium, the National Bureau of Statistics:

- develops alone or jointly with other central administrative authorities and approves the methodologies for statistical surveys, as well as the methodologies for calculating statistical indicators, in line with the international standards, especially the EU standards, and with the advanced practice of other countries, and taking into account the peculiarities of the social-economic conditions of the Republic of Moldova;
- organizes, in line with the Program of Statistical Work, approved annually by the Government, statistics surveys regarding the economic, social, and demographic situation and development of the country, carrying out collection, processing, centralization, stocking, and dissemination of statistical data;

The legislative and normative acts ruling the activity of the NBS are available on its official page [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md), under About NBS (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=323&>)

The agreement concluded between the NBS and the Ministry of Information Technology and Communications refers to obtaining the electronic version of transportation means registered in the country.

## 7. Confidentiality

### 7.1. Principles

According to art. 9(2) of the Law on Official Statistics No. 412 dated 09.12.2004, the official statistical bodies shall protect the obtained individual data.

Chapter V of the above-mentioned law stipulates that the information collected, processed, and stored for the production of statistical information is confidential if it allows direct or indirect identification of either physical or legal persons and reveals individual data. The following information is not confidential:

- a) information that may be obtained from sources accessible to the public, according to the legislation;
- b) individual information about the address, telephone, name, type of activity, staff number of the legal and physical persons that carry out entrepreneurial activities;
- c) information about state owned enterprises, submitted at the request of the relevant central and local public authorities;
- d) information about the central and local public authorities, public health facilities, other public institutions, generalized at the unit level.

According to the Law on Official Statistics, art. 24, access to confidential information is granted to people who, according to their job duties, participate in the production of statistical information, to the extent to which the confidential information is needed for the production of the aforementioned information.

The same article stipulates that the access to confidential information that does not lead to direct identification may be granted through the decision of the general director of the central statistical body for research projects, strategies, and programs of national importance, provided that there is not any obvious risk of breaking the individual data protection regime and interfering in people's private life.

Art. 25 of the Law stipulates that the statistical information shall not be spread to users if it contains confidential information. In this case, the generalized information shall contain data about at least 3 units, and the share of one unit shall be at most 85% of the generalized information.

### 7.2. Practical assurance of confidentiality rules

To ensure the protection of confidential statistical data in compliance with the Law on Official Statistics No. 412 dated 09.12.2004, the National Bureau of Statistics undertakes all the regulatory, administrative, technical, and organizational measures to protect the confidential statistical information and prevent its disclosure.

In compliance with the above-mentioned law, the staff of official statistical bodies, reviewers, interviewers, and other people that, according to their job duties, have direct access to individual data, must keep the data confidentiality, not to reveal it in any form, including after leaving their positions – a fact that is provided in the agreement signed by every employee of the NBS.

Before being disseminated, the statistical data are verified if they meet the protection requirements set for confidential data. If the statistical data contain confidential information (see p. 7.1), they are not disseminated, but aggregated at the minimum available level which ensures the protection of data confidentiality.

## 8. Access to Information and Dissemination Format

### 8.1. Access to information

#### 8.1.1. Release calendar

Quarterly, release calendar of the operative information and informative notes developed by NBS is drafted.

#### 8.1.2. Access to the calendar of statistical publications

The release calendar of the operative information and informative notes is placed on the NBS official page [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md).

#### 8.1.3. Access to statistical data

According to the Law on Official Statistics No. 412 dated 09.12.2004, art. 9: the official statistical bodies must:

- a) spread the statistical information to users according to the volume, mode and deadlines established in the program of statistical works;
- b) provide all users with access to non-confidential statistical information on equal terms regarding the spreading volumes and deadlines;

The program of statistical work may be accessed on the web page [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md), under About NBS / legislative and normative acts (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=323&> )

The NBS web page [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md) represents the most important information source for ensuring users' access to different statistical information and transparency about the NBS activity.

All the operative information, informative notes, time series, as well as the statistical publications developed by NBS are placed on its official web page.

## **8.2. Dissemination format**

### **8.2.1. Operative information / Analytical notes**

The operative information and analytical notes are published on the NBS official page: <http://www.statistica.md> under Press Releases, according to the Calendar for Press Releases.

### **8.2.2. Publications**

Publications developed by NBS, which contain statistical data on transport:

- Statistical Yearbook,
- Statistical pocket-book "Moldova in figures",
- Social-economic Situation of the Republic of Moldova,
- Quarterly Statistical Bulletin,
- monthly operative information, and other.

Access to publications:

- in electronic format, on NBS official page [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md), under Products and services / Publications <http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=350&nod=1&> )
- in hardcopy format – in NBS library (more details at the address <http://www.statistica.md/libview.php?l=en&idc=340&id=2400> )
- or may be procured at the NBS office (more details at the address [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md), under Products and services / Publications <http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=350&id=2219>)

### **8.2.3. Databases/time series**

- **Statistical databank** <http://statbank.statistica.md> , under Economic statistics / Transport
- **NBS official page:** <http://www.statistica.md> under: Press Release, Statistics by themes / Transport, Publications;

### **8.2.4. Questionnaires/data sent upon request from international organizations**

International questionnaires:

- quarterly – Questionnaire on short-term transport trends, International Transport Forum (ITF);
- annually – Questionnaire regarding the trends in transport sector, International Transport Forum (ITF);
- annually – Common Questionnaire on Transport Statistics, International Transport Forum (ITF);
- annually – Questionnaire of World Roads Statistics, International Road Federation (IRF); etc.

### **8.2.5. Requests for additional data**

NBS makes available for users additional statistical information beyond the data presented in the statistical publications, informative notes, operative information, as well as the data placed on the official web page in the limits of available information, in line with the Law on Official Statistics. Request can be sent personally, by post, by e-mail or via online web form – [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md) heading Products and services / Statistical data request [http://www.statistica.md/solicitare\\_informatii\\_statistice.php?l=en](http://www.statistica.md/solicitare_informatii_statistice.php?l=en)

<b>9. Useful References (links)</b>	
<b>9.1. Accessibility of documentation on methodology</b>	
The methodology is available on the official page <a href="http://www.statistica.md">www.statistica.md</a> , under Metadata ( <a href="http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=351&amp;nod=1&amp;">http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=351&amp;nod=1&amp;</a> ).	
<b>9.2. Accessibility of documentation on Evaluation Reports</b> <i>[Global Assessment, ROSC]</i>	
The NBS assessment reports are available on the official page <a href="http://www.statistica.md">www.statistica.md</a> , under About NBS / Assessments and Opinions on NBS / Assessment Reports ( <a href="http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=399&amp;id=2739">http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=399&amp;id=2739</a> ).	
<b>9.3. Accessibility of information on user surveys</b>	
User surveys are available on the official page <a href="http://www.statistica.md">www.statistica.md</a> , under About NBS / Assessments and Opinions on NBS / User Surveys ( <a href="http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=399&amp;id=2740">http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=399&amp;id=2740</a> ).	
<b>9.4. Other useful references</b>	
EUROSTAT database	<a href="http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/search_database">http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/search_database</a>
UN Economic Commission for Europe database	<a href="http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/Dialog/">http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/Dialog/</a>
International Road Federation database	
International Transport Forum database	<a href="http://www.internationaltransportforum.org/statistics/statistics.html">http://www.internationaltransportforum.org/statistics/statistics.html</a>
EBRD database	