

2024

Microdata exchange in Intrastat

From January 2022, a new EU regulation ((EU) 2019/2152) has come into effect for the Intrastat survey. The regulation obliges statistical authorities within the EU to exchange micro-data on exports among the member states.

The purpose of the microdata exchange is for the member states to get another source of data that can be used when producing foreign trade statistics. Statistics Sweden will be able to use a member states' data on exports to Sweden as a source for calculating Swedish imports. In the long run, this new data source could reduce the member states' own collection of import data, but this only after the microdata exchange has been thoroughly evaluated.

In November 2011, a request came from the European Council to the ESS (European Statistical System) to take effective measures to achieve the global goal of ensuring a significant reduction in the reporting burden. This by modernizing Intrastat and at the same time maintaining a good level of data quality.

The aim of modernizing the current system is to:

- Reduce the reporting burden
- Satisfy the needs of the users of the statistics in terms of availability and quality
- Create more flexibility for authorities responsible for statistics in each member state

The microdata exchange is based on the fact that data should not need to be collected more than once because export data will be able to be mirrored and used as a source for import data in the receiving member state. Export data was identified as the most burdensome flow to report, and is generally of higher quality than import data, thus there was more to be gained by exchanging export data.

All statistical authorities are committed to taking all necessary legislative, administrative, technical and organizational measures to ensure the physical and logistical protection of microdata. Read more:

[Regulation on European Business Statistics \(EU 2019/2152\)](#)