



METADATA/QUALITY REPORTING

ESSPROS EARLY ESTIMATES

MEMBER STATE: Slovenia

REFERENCE YEAR: 2022

REPORT ISSUED: 25 October 2023

1. Accuracy and Reliability / Geographical coverage

1.1 Coverage of data sources* - (part 1)

Name of data source	Type of data source used⁽¹⁾	Frequency of the data source in months⁽²⁾	Time lag in months⁽³⁾	Schemes/benefits covered <i>(please indicate which scheme numbers and/or which benefits or group of benefits are covered by this data source)</i>
National accounts: Sector Accounts and General Government Expenditure by Function (COFOG statistics)	Mainly from administrative data and register-based data sources.	12 months	COFOG statistics: 11 months (t-1) Main aggregates of the general government sector: 9 months (t-1) Sector accounts: 9 months (t-1)	All schemes covered. As Item Coverage see Adjustments in Chapter 3.1., which were made that the same social benefits as for regular compiling of ESSPROS survey, were taken into account.

* Please be exhaustive by mentioning all schemes.

1. Please specify: "Administrative data", "Register based data", "National Accounts", "Survey", "Census", "Other". For category "Other", please specify the type.

2. Please specify: "3 months", "6 months", or "12 months" or etc.

3. The time lag is the period between reference year (31st of December of reference year) and the moment in which data sources are available.

1.1 Coverage of data sources (part 2) – please note that part 1 and part 2 is in fact one table and have only been separated to facilitate the completion of the table

Name of data source <i>(Please indicate the same data sources as in table 1.1 part 1)</i>	Overall accuracy⁴	Geographical coverage (i.e. which parts of the country are covered by this data source)⁽⁵⁾
National accounts: Sector Accounts and General Government Expenditure by Function (COFOG statistics)	While sources for compiling First estimates data are mainly administrative data and register-based data, coverage issues can be seen as the main possible errors.	National

When comparing ESSPROS and NA for 2021, results showed that: **a)** difference calculated as ESSPROS cash benefits (only government schemes) minus COFOG NA cash benefits, shows a positive sign for the sum of all functions and for old age and employment (while negative for other functions) ; representing 5.1 % difference (EUR mio 417), meaning that ESSPROS Benefits in cash are about 5.1 % higher from those recorded under NA D62. **b)** difference calculated as ESSPROS benefits in kind (only government schemes) minus COFOG NA benefits in kind, shows a positive sign for the sum of all functions and for some individual functions (except health/sickness, Old age, Survivors and Social exc.) ; representing 0,8 % difference, meaning that ESSPROS Benefits in kind are about 0,8 % (EUR mio 34) higher from those recorded under NA P31.

ESSPROS within social transfers includes COVID intervention measures for reimbursement of wage compensation, which were intended to preserve the jobs of employees whose employers were temporarily unable to provide work due to the consequences of the epidemic. Under Other cash periodic benefits we included: Reimbursement of salary compensation - ordered quarantine or fouce majeure. Employer could claim a refund of the entire salary compensation paid: for employees who could not work due to the ordered quarantine and employer could not organize work at home for them and for employees who could not perform work for reasons of force majeure due to childcare or other external objective circumstances defined in the legislation. NA does not record this social transfer but as subsidy. Therefore *when comparing ESSPROS and NA for 2021, where results showed that: **a)** difference calculated as ESSPROS cash benefits (only government schemes) minus COFOG NA cash benefits, representing 5.1 % difference, meaning that ESSPROS Benefits in cash are about 5.1 % higher from those recorded under NA D62 – this is mainly*

due to the fact, that NA does not record this social transfer but as subsidy.

ESSPROSS also as social transfers records:

A: Extraordinary assistance in the form of a monthly basic income. A beneficiary of extraordinary assistance in the form of a monthly basic income is a beneficiary who cannot perform an activity due to the epidemic or performs it to a significantly reduced extent, namely:

- a self-employed person who, on the date of entry into force of Intervention Acts, performs an activity and is included in the mandatory pension and disability insurance on the basis of ZPIZ-2,

- a religious employee of a registered church or other religious community who, on the date of entry into force of Intervention Act, is included in mandatory pension and disability insurance based on ZPIZ-2 and has the right to dedicated state financial assistance from the state budget to cover social security contributions, and

- a farmer who, on the date of entry into force of this intervention law, is included in the mandatory pension and disability insurance based on ZPIZ-2.

B. Partial reimbursement of lost income due to ordered quarantine or child care. Beneficiaries are self-employed persons and farmers, if they cannot perform activities and organize the performance of activities at home due to an ordered quarantine or child care (due to an ordered quarantine or other external objective circumstances - e.g. school closure). C. Extraordinary assistance in the form of basic monthly income for the self-employed in culture

D. Financial compensation due to loss of income. Holder of an agricultural holding and holder of complementary activities on the farm, meaning , a natural person who is the owner of the forest and the holder of a license for commercial fishing, who have a loss of income due to the consequences of the epidemic, which is mainly the result of the inability to sell stocks, a reduction in the volume of production,

	<p>processing or sales, are entitled to financial compensation for loss of income if the sector has suffered a loss of income of at least 20%. – All recorded under Partial unemployment benefits, while NA records this as subsidy – help to economy.</p> <p>Early estimates 2019 (our first transmission) based on NA data taking into account was quite accurate. NA department for this year confirmed that all mentioned differences (not connected to COVID) are mainly due to different data sources used (when compiling NA or ESSPROS statistics) and not because of different allocation or treatment of certain social benefits. While First estimates for 2020 and CS 2020 had a major deviation of COVID benefits under the Unemployment function, since when making estimates for 2020, it was not predicted, that NA will record it as subsidy, while ESSPROS record it as social transfers. For First estimates 2021 and 2022 this deviation was taken into account.</p>	
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4. Please fill in this column only in cases of inaccuracies in the source for the purpose of deriving an early estimate: delays, data source containing estimations, incomplete coverage for some schemes and other possible problems or errors. Give a brief description of the main sources of inaccuracies.

5. Please indicate "Full coverage" if the data source covers the whole country. If the data source contains data for some regions only, please specify the region.

2. Changes in the calculation of early estimates (In the first column, please indicate the scheme and/or the benefit(s) involved, then describe in the other columns each change in comparison with previous year estimates with a few words.)

Scheme/Benefit (or group of benefits)	Details on the change			
	Changes in the data sources used ⁽⁶⁾	Changes in the methods used for estimating data ⁽⁷⁾	Changes due to conceptual adjustments ⁽⁸⁾	Other

6. E.g. changes in the set of the data sources (new data sources, disappearing of an old one); additional information supplied by certain data sources; other changes in data sources.

7. E.g. changes in the methods used, revised methods to put the information supplied by data sources in line with the ESSPROS methodology or other changes in methods.

8. E.g. changes in the ESSPROS methodology; in the social protection system; in classifications or definitions other than ESSPROS; etc.

3. Other information related to Quality

3.1 Links with national accounts

Please specify checks/corrections to the data from national accounts to take into account conceptual differences between ESSPROS and national accounts when calculating early estimates.

Data compilation:

The Early Estimates 2022 were mainly derived from the related NA data collection. It should be noted that the 2022 figures from T8 of ESA 2010 Transmission Program for Slovenia were still provisional at the time of preparation of this estimates.

The procedure employed in constructing the Early estimates 2022 was as follows. We took D62 of the NA Table 8, by sector; from D62, we subtracted the benefits, which are outside of ESSPROS scope (i.e. COFOG 08, 09 and 10.6). We then estimated the figure for “ESSPROS benefits in cash plus Rerouted Social Contributions” based on the corresponding percentage from 2021 data (percentage of difference between 2021 ESSPROS and NA data). We then subtracted an estimate for the 2022 Rerouted Social Contributions based on the 2021 actual data and then calculate estimate for ESSPROS cash benefits. This amount was finally distributed across the eight ESSPROS functions, based on the percentages of the 2021 data.

In a similar manner, we calculated the estimates for the 2022 benefits in kind. Firstly, taking D63=P31 of the NA Table 8, by sector: from P31 we subtracted the benefits identified as being outside of ESSPROS scope (i.e. COFOG 08 and 09) and added the figure for Housing in kind from ESSPROS. We got an estimate for the benefits (in kind) to be compared with the ESSPROS benefits in kind. We then estimated the figure for “ESSPROS Social Benefits in kind plus “Administration

costs” (by applying percentage of difference between 2021 ESSPROS and NA data), where the figure for Administration costs was based on 2021 actual data percentages. The latter was deducted from the former and we calculated an estimate for the ESSPROS social benefits in kind. We then distributed this amount across the eight ESSPROS functions based on the percentages of the 2021 actual data.

Finally, we added the estimated cash benefits to the estimated benefits in kind and come to the early estimates by ESSPROS function.

Adjustments:

The variable D62 Social benefits other than Social transfers in kind of NA refers to social benefits other than social transfers in kind, whereas D63 refers to social transfers in kind (payable by government and non-profit institutions only). The NA benefits include both benefits covered by ESSPROS and benefits outside of ESSPROS scope. The ESA D62 and D63 are not directly comparable with ESSPROS social benefits in cash and in kind but it is feasible to identify the existing differences. In general, there is overlap between ESSPROS and social benefits in NA.

(a) Education benefits which are included in NA (D62 and D63) whereas in ESSPROS they are means-tested and included under the family/children function, if provided to indigent families with children, (b) transfers in kind without a social purpose are included in NA (D63) in the form of recreational, cultural or sport services for free or at prices which are not economically significant. These are not included in ESSPROS.

Benefits in cash

The conceptual differences between ESSPROS and NA were adjusted for:

- The benefits identified as being out of ESSPROS scope, were deducted from the sum of D62 in COFOG functions 08 and 09.
- Benefits in kind in the ESSPROS scope, namely housing (COFOG 10.6) are included in social benefits other than social transfers in kind in NA (D62) and they therefore were deducted.
- Rerouted Social Contributions are included in NA benefits but not in ESSPROS and were therefore deducted.

Benefits in kind

- Scope of benefits: we excluded NA benefits that are outside of the scope of ESSPROS (e.g. education, sport and cultural benefits)
- ESSPROS Administration Costs (non-market) are included in Social Transfers in kind in NA and were therefore deducted.

ESSPROS within social transfers includes COVID intervention measures for reimbursement of wage compensation, which were intended to preserve the jobs of employees whose employers were temporarily unable to provide work due to the consequences of the epidemic. Under Other cash periodic benefits we included: Reimbursement of salary compensation - ordered quarantine or fouce majeure. Employer could claim a refund of the entire salary compensation paid: for employees who could not work due to the ordered quarantine and employer could not organize work at home for them and for employees who could not perform work for reasons of force majeure due to childcare or other external objective circumstances defined in the legislation. NA does not record this as social transfer but as subsidy.

ESSPROS also as social transfers includes:

A: Extraordinary assistance in the form of a monthly basic income. A beneficiary of extraordinary assistance in the form of a monthly basic income is a beneficiary who cannot perform an activity due to the epidemic or performs it to a significantly reduced extent, namely:

- a self-employed person who, on the date of entry into force of Intervention Acts, performs an activity and is included in the mandatory pension and disability insurance on the basis of ZPIZ-2,
- a religious employee of a registered church or other religious community who, on the date of entry into force of Intervention Act, is included in mandatory pension and disability insurance based on ZPIZ-2 and has the right to dedicated state financial assistance from the state budget to cover social security contributions, and
- a farmer who, on the date of entry into force of this intervention law, is included in the mandatory pension and disability insurance based on ZPIZ-2.

B. Partial reimbursement of lost income due to ordered quarantine or child care. Beneficiaries are self-employed persons and farmers, if they cannot perform activities and organize the performance of activities at home due to an ordered quarantine or child care (due to an ordered quarantine or other external objective circumstances - e.g. school closure). C. Extraordinary assistance in the form of basic monthly income for the self-employed in culture

D. Financial compensation due to loss of income. Holder of an agricultural holding and holder of complementary activities on the farm, meaning, a natural person who is the owner of the forest and the holder of a license for commercial fishing, who have a loss of income due to the consequences of the epidemic, which is mainly the result of the inability to sell stocks, a reduction in the volume of production, processing or sales, are entitled to financial compensation for loss of income if the sector has suffered a loss of income of at least 20%. –

All recorded under Partial unemployment benefits, while NA records this as subsidy – help to economy.

3.2 Other relevant information on quality of the early estimates

Please specify any issues that could potentially affect the quality of the early estimates.

Reasons for lack of coherence/comparability with national accounts:

Reasons are all being conceptual nature, due to different recording of following items between ESSPROS and NA system:

- The coverage of risk: NA cover all social benefits, also include benefits in education, culture and sports.
- Administrations costs of social protection schemes, which are not specifically defined in NA – included along with other costs and cannot be separately identified.
- Benefits in kind (social transfers in kind) are separately available only for govern. and non-profit institutions in NA.
- Rerouted SCs: in ESSPROS recorded separately from benefits. In NA, some social protection related transfers to other schemes are included along with other transfers and cannot be separately identified.
- Housing benefits in ESSPROS classified as benefits in kind. NA do not follow this convention.
- Accounting: Data for NA and ESSPROS are, where possible, reported on an accrual basis. In the cases where source data are only available on a cash basis these are adjusted (where possible). Only in exception cases where this is not possible is data reported on a cash basis. Teoretically, both systems base on accrual accounting basis, but in practise it is that some data is recorded on cash basis, so the differences can derive also due to reporting basis.

All stated differences were adjusted when preparing model of First estimates.

Also previously mentioned COVID variables under function of Unemployment (ESSPROS: social benefits, NA: subsidy) were adjusted.

In overall, there is quite good coherence and comparability with NA in 2021 (but not as good as in previous years). ESSPROS Benefits in cash (only government schemes) were in 2021 about 5,1% higher from those recorded under NA D62 (COFOG statistics) and ESSPROS Benefits in kind (government schemes) were in 2021 about 0,8 % higher from those recorded under NA P31 (COFOG statistics).

COFOG data for 2021 will be revised in November 2023 due to a bigger revision on NA (GDP) statistics in September 2023.

4. Dissemination

Are these estimates published in your country?⁽⁹⁾	At what timeliness? (in months)⁽¹⁰⁾	State any specific publication (and possibly the link)	Are they part of regular publications? (yes or not)
Not, yet, First Estimates 2022 will be published on 3 rd November 2023 as Release.	/	/	Not yet.

9. Please specify "yes everything", "yes, only the following part...", "yes, but not in the ESSPROS format" or no". In case of "yes, but not in the ESSPROS format", please explain.

10. Please specify how many months after the period of reference the data are published (the period of reference for this collection was 31st December of reference year).