

6 – REGIONAL ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS

At the time the present yearbook went into print access was available to ISTAT estimates (at a Regional level for 2009) for the following economic aggregates: internally employed persons, work-units, value added, gross domestic product (GDP), full-time worker income and expenditure for final consumption of the family. However, the informational basis for aggregate estimates at a Regional level is partial when compared to the one available for the estimates of complete accounts (published after the standard time-lapse of 21 months), since it is issued only nine months from the end of the year. Consequently, the above-mentioned estimates are supplied at a restricted level of disaggregation and are to be considered provisional. In parallel to the Regional data estimates for 2009, revision of estimates for 2007 and 2008 was also carried out. Again, with regard to 2008, the data issued is less disaggregated than that following the standard time-lapse of 21 months; this is due to operations regarding the adoption of the new European NACE-Rev.2 classification and a general revision of economic accounts (which by European law must be concluded during the year 2011).

The principal aggregates estimated in the sphere of national accounting, in the same way as Regional accounting, are summarised in resource and investments accounts; in the income account this presents gross domestic product and import of goods and services and in the expenditure account final consumption outlay, gross investments and export of goods and services. By highlighting the equilibrium between final supply and demand this sums up the economic situation in Sicily.

The gross domestic product (GDP) represents the ultimate result of production activity of resident producer units.

According to estimates made by the Statistical Institute, the gross domestic product in Sicily in 2009 amounted to a figure of 86,015 million Euros, signifying a decrease of about 1.4% when compared to 2008. The Regional

portion of the GDP amounted to 5.7% of the national total. In 2007 (last available year) imports of goods and services increased by 1.3% at current values, showing a slowing-down when compared to 2006 (7.6%). Overall in 2007, available resources increased by 2.5% (in 2006 the overall increase was 4.6%). As regards investments in the same year, there were increases in both final domestic consumption (+2.9%) and in fixed gross investments (+1.1%), although in this case too there was a deceleration in the growth-rate recorded in 2006.

Value added measures the increase in value attained by resident units (taken as a whole) carrying out productive activities. The figure represents the result of the difference between the production-value of the goods and services produced by the individual sectors of production and the value of the intermediate goods and services consumed by them.

In Sicily, the value added at base prices (or at prices to the producer) attained in 2009, amounted to 75,085 million (current) Euros, with a loss of 1.1% over 2008.

Taking each sector individually, and with constant reference to data at current prices, value added showed a downturn in all branches with losses of 10.5% in agriculture, 15.2% in industry in the strict sense and 5.8% in construction. The contribution to production provided by public and private services cannot be evaluated for 2009, and therefore the last available data refers to 2007, a year in which the overall percentage for services was particularly high (78.4%), markedly higher than the average national figure (70.4%). On the other hand, value added for industry in the strict sense in 2009 underwent a fall from 11.4% registered in 2007, to 9.4%, as against the 19.4% registered for the industrial sector in Italy as a whole.

The GDP per inhabitant is considered the indicator *par excellence* of unitary territorial productive capacity; in 2009 it reached a figure of about 17,000 Euros, with an unfavourable gap of -32.4% when compared to Italy as a whole (25,237 Euros). In comparison with the previous year, the per capita GDP fell by 1.7% , (-293 Euros), whereas compared to 2005 the increase was +5.7% (corresponding to 925 current Euros).

The organisation of data at sub-Regional level, for 2007 (last data available), confirmed the three metropolitan areas of the Region at the head of the inverted table with levels of value added at base prices ranging from the 10,259,000 Euros of Messina to the 19,102,000 Euros of Palermo. Enna registered the lowest value of the aggregate with a mere 4,157,000 Euros. At the Provincial level the services are more in line with growth in the Regional economic system, with figures everywhere exceeding 60%.

Glossary

Final consumption: total value of goods and services used to satisfy human, individual and/or collective needs directly.

Full-time employee income: cost to employer of work (both manual and intellectual) carried out by his employees; the figure is made up of gross income and effective and/or notional social security contributions.

Gross fixed investments: include purchase of fixed capital by resident producers, to which is added the increase in value of the goods (material and non-material) produced and destined to be used in production processes for a period of over one year. Gross investments are made up of the aggregate of gross fixed investments, variations in stock and purchase of objects of value.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at market prices: is the result of production on the part of resident production units. It amounts to the total production of the economy's goods and services, minus intermediate consumption, increased by the addition of VAT and indirect taxes on imports. It is also equal to the sum of value added at market prices of the various sectors of economic activity, increased by the addition of VAT and indirect taxes on imports, disregarding indirectly-measured services of financial intermediation (**SIFIM**). The latter represents the production figure arising from financial inter-mediation provided by credit institutions, which is not detracted at the level of single sectors of production.

Net imports: difference between imports and exports of goods and services.

Stock variation: difference between the value on entering or leaving the warehouse. It includes: raw materials, intermediate products, half-finished products and finished products.

Value added: aggregate that allows one to appreciate the growth of the economic system in terms of new goods and services placed at the disposal of the community for final consumption. The figure is the difference between the production-value of the goods and services produced by the individual sectors of production and the value of the intermediate goods and services consumed (raw materials and services).

Value added at base prices: balance between production, calculated net of tax on products, and inclusive of contributions on products (base prices), and intermediate consumption.

Value added at market prices: value added at basic prices plus tax on products, excluding VAT, and net of contributions on products.

Work-unit: represents the quantity of work carried out in one year by a full-time worker, or the quantity of equivalent work carried out by part-time workers or by workers carrying out two jobs. The units of work are employed as units of measure for the work carried out in producing the goods and services that are part of the estimate of the GDP in a given period.

Further reading

Publications

Italian Statistical Yearbook– 2010 – ISTAT

National accounting - National Economic Accounts – years 1970-2008 – ISTAT

National Economic Accounts per institutional sector: new estimates in accordance with Sec95 - 1990-2002

Internet

www.istat.it

Productivity factor measures - Years 1980-2007

Production of Regional indicators for evaluating development policies

Regional Economic Accounts– years 2000-2008

Preliminary estimate of GDP - quarterly

ConIstat data-bank

System of territorial indicators – *National Accounting* section

www.bancaditalia.it

Notes on the trends of the economy in Sicily

www.starnet.unioncamere.it

Thematic area– Economic accounts– Analysis and data

Focus on – General Economics – Scenarios of development of local economies