

**SDMX STATISTICAL GUIDELINES**

**SDMX Cross-Domain Code Lists**

## CL\_COICOP

**Name**: Code list for concept “Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose” (ID: COICOP).

**Description**: This code list provides a set of building blocks to be used for classifying the household expenditure according to purpose (e.g., food, health and education services).

The Classification of individual consumption according to purpose (COICOP) is used to classify both individual consumption expenditure and actual individual consumption. COICOP is part of a set of classifications known as "functional" classifications and which have formed part of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) since 1968.

"Functional" classifications are designed to classify certain transactions of producers and of three institutional sectors, namely household, general government and non-profit institutions serving households. They are described as "functional" classifications because they identify the "functions" - in the sense of "purposes" or "objectives" - for which these groups of transactors engage in certain transactions.

The four SNA functional classifications are:

* Classification of individual consumption according to purpose (COICOP),
* Classification of the functions of government (COFOG),
* Classification of the purposes of non-profit institutions serving households (COPNI) and,
* Classification of outlays of producers according to purpose (COPP).

**Remarks concerning the code list**: The categories of the code lists coincide with the categories of the COICOP official classification published in 1999 and 2018 by the United Nations, except for the coding which is based on the SDMX “Guidelines for the creation and Management of SDMX Cross-Domain Code Lists” [[1]](#footnote-1).

The agreement of the United Nations concerning the SDMX coding was sought and obtained in April 2014.

The field called “Annotations - ORDER” is to be used for sorting the entries in their correct sequential order.

The field called “Annotations - ORIGINAL\_CODE” contains the official COICOP codes as published by the United Nations.

The field called “Annotations - COMPLEMENT” (available in the COICOP 2018 code list only) contains the product type tags, which are included in COICOP at the class and sub-class level to denote whether an item/expenditure is a service (S), or non-durable (ND), semi-durable (SD) or durable good (D).

The field called “Annotations - HIER\_LEVEL” contains the hierarchical level to which a code belongs to. This field may help implementers who would wish to select only some hierarchical levels of the classification, and not the whole classification.

*Details about the five hierarchical levels of COICOP:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * *Hierarchical level 1* | *Divisions, coded with two digits;* |
| * *Hierarchical level 2* | *Groups, coded with three digits;* |
| * *Hierarchical level 3* | *Classes, coded with four digits;* |
| * *Hierarchical level 4* | *(in COICOP 2018 only) Subclasses, coded with four digits;* |
| * *Hierarchical level 5* | *(in COICOP 2018 only) FAO extension for divisions 01;* |

In some use cases, data providers may be asked to provide information from either version of the COICOP classification, e.g. during a transition period between the two classifications. The different options to handle simultaneous usage of different versions of a classification are mentioned in the [Guidelines for creation and management of SDMX Code lists, version 3.0](https://sdmx.org/wp-content/uploads/SDMX_Guidelines_for_CDCL.docx), section 6.1.1.

For convenience the code list is presented in an MS-Excel file.

**Established international standard(s) used as input for the code list**:

* For CL\_COICOP\_1999: United Nations, COICOP 1999 (Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose, 1999 version)[[2]](#footnote-2).
* For CL\_COICOP\_2018: United Nations, COICOP 2018 (Classification of Individual Consumption According to purpose, 2018 version)[[3]](#footnote-3).

**Version:** 2.0.

**Date**: 16 May 2024.

1. To be found on the SDMX official website <http://sdmx.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/classifications/Econ> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/classifications/Econ> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)