

SURVEY STATISTICS

OUTLINE OF REB SURVEYS

A. COVERAGE OF SURVEYS

Since December 1991, the "Russian Economic Barometer" has been conducting regular monthly panel surveys of Russian industrial and agricultural enterprises.

The sample comprises about 800 units: 500 industrial enterprises and 300 agricultural ones throughout Russia. The response rate for each sector varies in the range of 20% and 15% respectively.

Industrial enterprises selected for the sample are situated rather evenly over the territory of Russia. The majority of them belongs to the manufacturing. The branch distribution in the sample (see Table 1) is representative for Russia as a whole.

Most of the enterprises surveyed are medium-scale (by Russian standards) with the number employed from 150 to 2,000. In 2007, the average number employed was about 822 (see Tables 2 and 3).

During 1992 — 1998, the status of many of the participants surveyed has changed: the share of state-owned enterprises among them declined from 82% to 15%.

The number of industrial enterprises reporting monthly equals 150–220.

Agricultural enterprises selected for the REB sample are from over 30 regions of Russia. The sample also includes mainly medium-scale enterprises with the number employed in the range of 100–500. About half of the surveyed enterprises specialized chiefly in plant-growing, and the rest ones are mainly specialized in animal husbandry.

The number of every month respondents-agricultural enterprises equals 40–60.

B. CONTENTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE

The managers polled reported the main performance characteristics of their enterprises, as well as answering a number of specific questions concerning the impact of governmental economic policy, privatisation process, and influence of the overall changes in economic environment on their activities and prospects, etc. this strange.

C. DATA AGGREGATING METHODS

In the majority of cases, the REB's respondents are asked to indicate the most, in their opinion, acceptable interval for the indicator to be measured. When treating the survey data the mean value was chosen for each interval. In case of extremes, the continuation of the adopted gradation was assumed and on this basis the same method was used. In other cases, when respondents were to choose one situation out of several, the results represent simple addition of reports from individual units.

Table 3**Average number of employees at industrial enterprises by size (REB sample, people)**

people	1992–1995	1996–1999	2000–2003	2004–2007	2008–2011	2012–2015	2016–2019	2020
<200	125–134	123–129	113–122	103–110	101–106	101–105	88–103	83
200–500	337–350	303–348	322–328	312–322	302–319	314–325	323–327	319
500–1000	731–765	695–740	689–739	682–695	689–708	667–684	648–726	718
1000<	2556–3453	1937–2787	2437–2966	2805–2932	1634–2645	1744–2178	1839–2246	2266
Entire sample	840–1174	645–850	791–934	822–898	482–799	473–521	422–583	514

CLARIFICATION TO THE SERIES

By the way they are constructed the indicators published in the bulletin may be divided into several groups. Below in the description of these ways, numbers of respective series are indicated.

1. Indicators calculated as “portion of enterprises”. Such indicators are calculated as

$$a_t = \frac{A_t}{N_t} \times 100, \quad (1)$$

where N_t is the total number of enterprises which answered to the respective question during the month t ; A_t is the number of enterprises which answered in the positive. Like all the other cases such indicators are calculated without weighting by enterprise size (if no special reservation is made).

In this way the following series are constructed: 19, 20, 32, 34, 41, 42, 44, 45, 61–66, 72, 121–124, 126.

2. **Indicators like “limiting factor”** are built similarly to the first type for each factor separately. In this case A_t denotes the number of enterprises which marked this factor as one of major constraints of production (investment etc.). The questionnaire usually lists 10–12 factors (A, B, C, ...) and invites to choose 3 major ones. Respectively the sum $a+b+c+ \dots$ may exceed 100%. Its theoretical maximum (when 3 options are marked) is 300%. However in the REB surveys this sum is practically always lower.

In this way the following series are constructed: 48–58, 101–105.

3. **Diffusion index (D)** is a more complex variant of “portion of enterprises”. It is used to assess the incidence (diffusion) of the indicator’s change. It is calculated as

$$D_t = \frac{A_t + 0.5B_t}{N_t} \times 100, \quad (2)$$

where A_t is the number of enterprises which reported an increase of the indicator, B_t is the number of those which reported it unchanged and N_t is the total number of enterprises which sent their answers at time t .

Time span when a change is recorded to calculate D may be different. Its duration is always indicated after the indicator’s name (a month, 3 months, half a year, a year). And these may be periods both of the past (back from the moment of the survey) and of the future. Respectively the change is either actual or anticipated.

The following series are constructed in this way: 1–8, 10, 11, 14, 21–30.

Series 10, 11 and 28 are constructed in the similar way with the only difference that to assess the direction of their change respondents must use the scale “worsened – remained the same – improved” instead of the scale “reduced – remained the same – increased”.

4. **Balance indicators** are defined as

$$S_t = \frac{A_t - C_t}{N_t} \times 100, \quad (3)$$