



International Family of Economic and Social Classifications

United Nations Statistics Division

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Overview

- Programme on Statistical Classifications
- Bodies of International Classifications
 - Statistical Commission
 - Expert Group / Technical Subgroup
- International Family of Classifications
 - Types of Classifications
 - History of Economic/Trade Classifications
 - Relationships between Classifications
- Role of Custodians

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Programme on Statistical Classifications

- To develop and maintain economic and social classifications approved as guidelines by the United Nations Statistical Commission
- To provide technical support for development, implementation, interpretation, maintenance, updating and revision of these classifications
- To prepare and disseminate classifications methods and materials, i.e., statements of best practice, explanatory notes, indexes, correspondence tables, coding strategies and methods
- To coordinate international cooperation in the area of statistical classifications through the Statistical Commission and through activities of the United Nations Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications.

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Statistical Commission

- Established: 16th February 1946
- 24 members, according to geographical distribution pattern:
 - 5 members from Africa
 - 4 members from Asia
 - 4 members from Eastern Europe
 - 4 members from Latin America & Caribbean
 - 7 members from Western European and other States
- 4 years membership
- 1 meeting per year (since 1999)

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Statistical Commission

Commission shall assist the Economic & Social Council:

- "In promoting the development of national statistics and the improvement of their comparability;
- In the coordination of the statistical work of specialized agencies;
- In the development of the central statistical services of the Secretariat;
- In advising the organs of the United Nations on general questions relating to the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical information;
- In promoting the improvement of statistics and statistical methods generally."

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Expert Group on Statistical Classifications

- Central coordinating body for classification matters
- Ensures harmonization and convergence among classifications in the family
- Recommends, examines changes/updates
- Adopts schedules for updates
- Can install subgroups

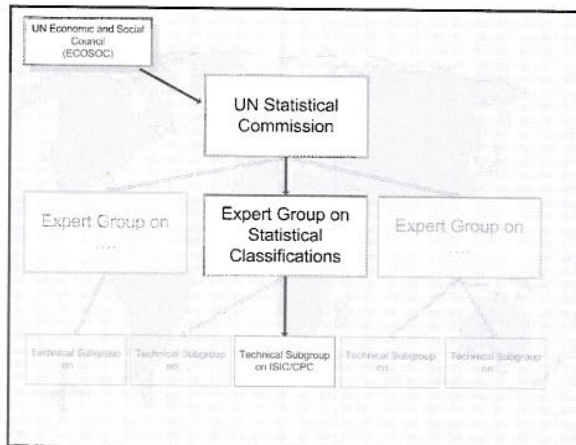
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Technical Subgroup (TSG)

- carries out technical, analytical or exploratory tasks
- reports back to Expert Group
- currently there's one TSG, concerned with revisions of ISIC, CPC
 - Installed by Expert Group in 1999

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Family of Classifications

- **What is the Family of International Classifications?**
 - Classification, whose custodians follow the "best practices"
- **What's the purpose?**
 - Enforce cooperation, coordination and improve quality
- **Which Classifications belong to the Family?**
 - Subject matter areas:
 - Activities Products Expenditures
 - Trade Health Education
 - Employment Environment
 - International & (multi-)national

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Types of Classifications

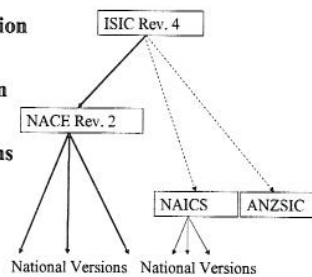
- Within each area there are:
 - Reference Classifications
 - Derived Classifications
 - Related Classifications

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Example: Activity classifications

- **Reference classification**
 - ISIC Rev.4
- **Derived classification**
 - NACE Rev.2
- **Related classifications**
 - NAICS, ANZSIC



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Reference Classifications

- Product of international agreement
- Approved by UN Statistical Commission (or other international board) and recommended as "model classification"
- Means of harmonization of international statistics
- Guidelines for the preparation of (multi-)/national classifications
- Used for data collection and comparison at the international level
- Define structure and building blocks

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Requirements for Reference Classifications

- Have to be general enough to
 - be applicable to all countries
 - provide room for national adaptation and specifications
- Have to be specific enough to
 - allow for useful data collection
 - provide reasonable guidelines for creation of national classifications

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Requirements for Reference Classifications

- orchestrated updates within the family
- Long-term schedule of updates
 - Example: activity and product classification recommended to be reviewed in 5 year intervals (2002, 2007, etc.)

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Derived Classifications

- Based on the Reference Classification
- Adopt structure
 - consistency of aggregates
- Respect building blocks
 - additional detail where necessary
- Tailored for use at national or multinational level

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Related Classifications

- Only partial concordance
- Differ in structure and/or building blocks from reference classifications
- Linked mainly through correspondence tables
 - many links will refer to partial correspondences

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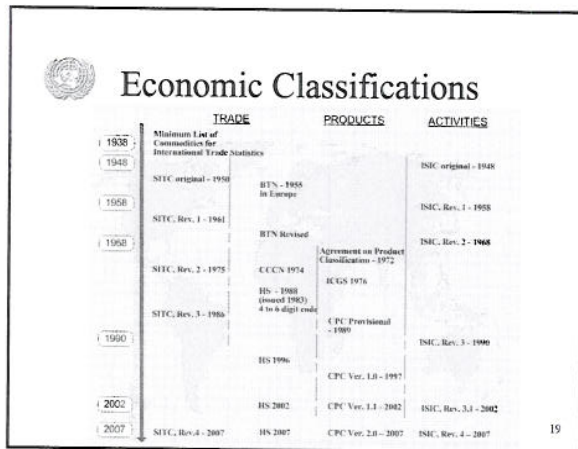
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CLASSIFICATION	
Reference	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 4 (ISIC Rev. 4); International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 3.1 (ISIC Rev. 3.1); International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Third Revision (SITC, Rev. 3); International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Second Revision (SIC, Rev. 2); International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, First Revision (ISIC, Rev. 1); International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (Original Version - 1948) (ISIC)
Derived	Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE Rev. 1); Activity Classification of All Related Member States (NAISMA)
Related	The North American Industry Classification System Canada 2002 (NAICS-Canada 2002); The North American Industry Classification System Canada 1997 (NAICS-Canada 1997); The North American Industry Classification System - Mexico, 2002 (NAICS-Mexico 2002); The North American Industry Classification System - Mexico 1997 (NAICS-Mexico 1997); The North American Industry Classification System US (NAICS-US 1997); The North American Industry Classification System United States 2002 (NAICS-US 2002); Austrian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 1993 (ANZSIC)
PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION	
Reference	Central Product Classification Version 1.1 (CPC Ver. 1.1); Central Product Classification Version 1.0 (CPC Version 1.0); Provisional Central Product Classification (Provisional CPC); Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS 1996); Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 3 (SITC, Rev. 3); Classification by Broad Economic Categories, Defined in terms of SITC, Rev. 3 (BEC Rev. 3); Statistical Classification of Products by Activity in the European Economic Community (CPA); Product Classification of Activities (PCA) (NAICS-Mexico 2002)
Derived	
Reference	Classification of the Functions of Government (COFUG); Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP); Classification of the Purposes of Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households (COFPH); Classification of the Outputs of Production Activities in Europe (COPE)
EMPLOYMENT, OCCUPATION OR EDUCATION CLASSIFICATION	
Reference	International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93); International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88); International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-93)
SOCIAL OR HEALTH CLASSIFICATION	
Reference	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10); International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities, and Handicaps (ICIDH); International Classification of Functioning and Disability (ICF-DH-2); International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)
COUNTRY AND AREA CLASSIFICATION	
Reference	United Nations List of Countries and Areas (M49, Revision 4 (M49, Rev. 4))
OTHER CLASSIFICATION	
Reference	Balance of Payments Manual (BPM5); Government Finance Statistics (GFS); Classification of Environmental Protection Activities and Expenditure (CEPA); United Nations Classification of Activities for Temp-Insta Register (UNACTIR)
Other	

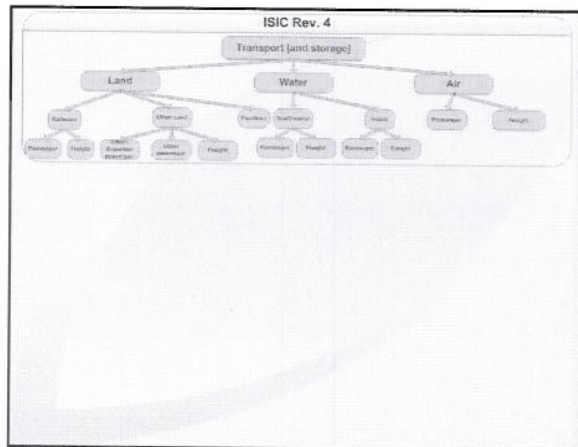


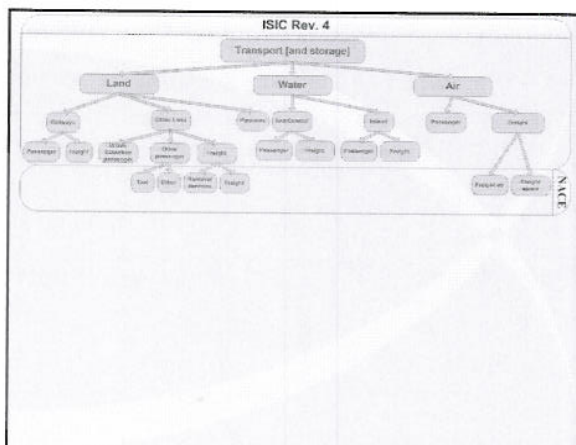
Economic Classifications

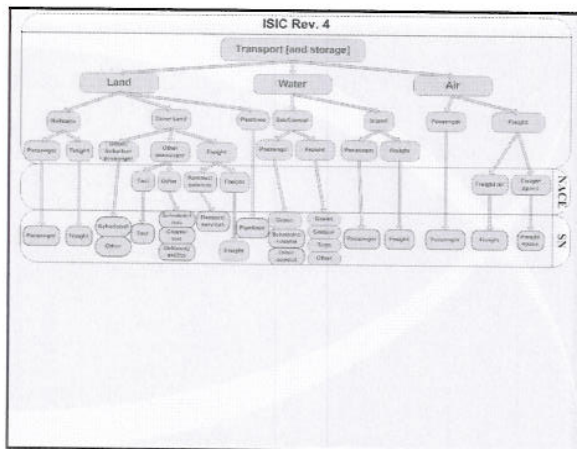
	TRADE	PRODUCTS	ACTIVITIES
Minimum List of Commodities for International Trade Statistics			
1938			ISIT original - 1948
1945			
1958	SITC original - 1950	BTN - 1955 in Europe	ISIC, Rev. 1 - 1958
1958	SITC, Rev. 1 - 1961		
1958		BTN Revised	ISIC, Rev. 2 - 1968

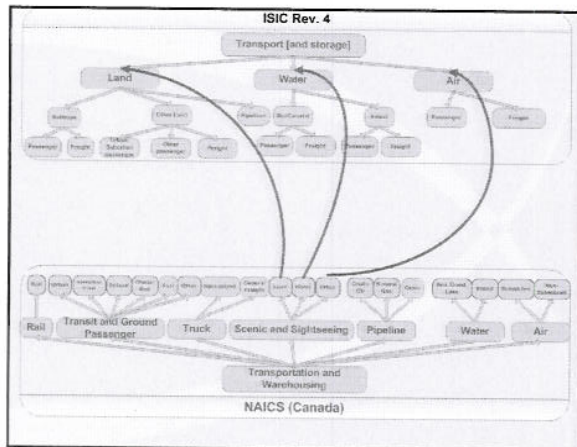
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 **Links between classifications**

Can generally be of the form (from B A to B):

- One-to-one
 - Results can be transformed in both ways
- Many-to-one
 - Results of A can be compared in terms of B
- One-to-many
 - Results of B can be compared in terms of A
- Many-to-many
 - Results can't be compared in any direction

3110 → 4403.2

3120 → 4403.41

3120 → 4403.49

3120 → 4403.91

3120 → 4403.99

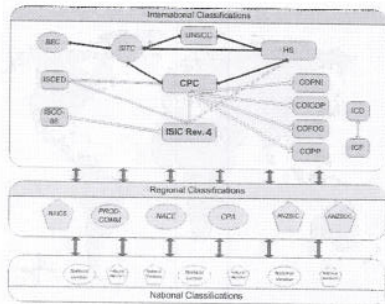
4161 → 8838.51

4163 → 8838.51

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More links



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Roles of Custodians

- Maintenance, update and revision of “their” classification
- Follow family obligations
 - Collaborate with other custodians
 - Willing to exchange information and work transparently
 - Contribute their experience for advancement of Reference Classification (guidelines, definitions, interpretations,...)
 - Coordinate timing of changes/updates
 - Develop guidance and training materials

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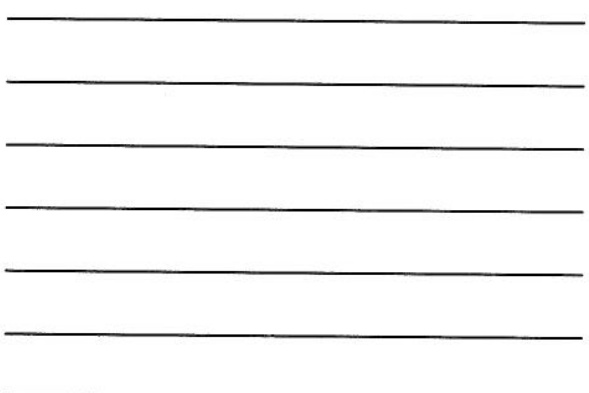
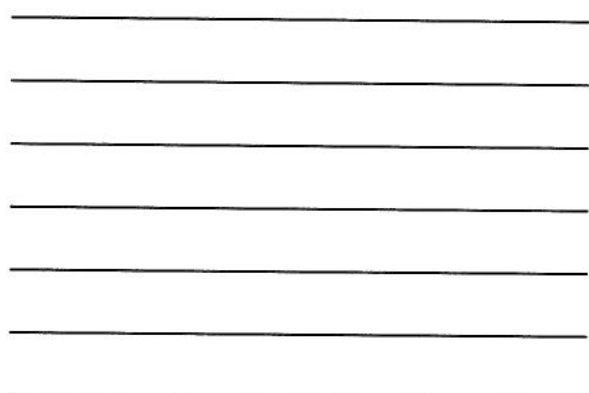
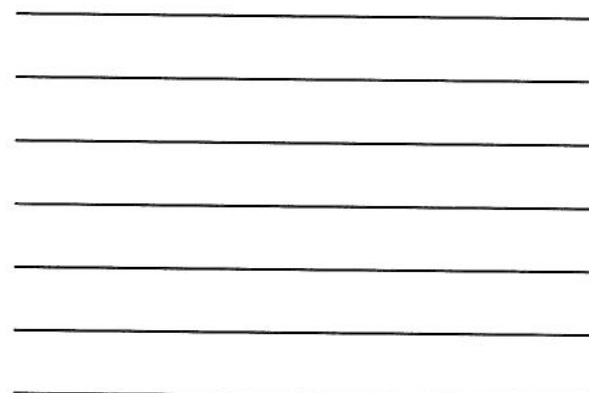


Resources and contacts

UN Classifications Hotline

- **E-mail:** CHL@un.org
- **Snail Mail:** Classifications Hotline
Room DC2-1522
United Nations Statistics Division
2, UN Plaza
New York, NY 10017, USA
- **Fax:** (+1-212)-963-1374
- **UN Classifications Website:**
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/class>

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Classifications Registry

Available Classifications
Alternative structures
Alphabetical Index
Comparative Tables
English language publications
Last updated: 2017-01-11
Search the Registry

Alphabetical index for ISIC Rev.4.1

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Entries starting with 'B'

1699 records found

code	Activity description
3242	Babies clothing, retail
3251	Baby carriages or strollers, manufacturing
3252	Baby carriages, retail
3253	Baby foods (including meats), retail
3254	Baby foods, canned, wholesale
3255	Baby garments, fresh, embroidered and bottled, manufacturing
3256	Baby goods, wholesale
3257	Baby pants, vulcanized rubber and substituted fabric, manufacturing
3258	Baby prams and baby st, manufacturing
3259	Baby scales, manufacturing
3260	Baby seats for automobiles, manufacturing
3261	Babysitters, separate
3262	Babysitting (private households employing babysitters in the home)
3263	Babysitting in own home (i.e., private device)
3264	Babysitting in the child's home

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Registry entries

The Registry entries describe individual changes made to the classifications, corrections, proposals for change and their status, answers to questions raised (case level) and other information. The entries in the UN Classifications Registry can be viewed sorted by category, by classification or by date. You can also search for entries by using keywords. Any combination of criteria is possible. Note: Registry entries are available in English only.

Search by Registry ID: [] and code: []

or by classification: [] and code: []

Include subcategories in search? ☐ Yes ☒ No

or keywords: []

or most recently updated: []

Search

Currently the following categories are available:

Type	Number of entries	Include in search
Correction	29	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deletion	7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Information	44	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Information	38	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	9	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Revised	175	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Update	76	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Update Information (UOI)	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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Classifications Registry

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International Cooperation in Classifications

International cooperation in classifications spans a number of activities across all countries and regions of the world. United Nations statistical classifications are used in some way by virtually every country. An integral part of the work of international cooperation in classifications is to ensure harmonization and standardization, so that changes in statistical classifications at the international level, consistently reverberate through multinational/regional levels to the national level. This is accomplished through the sharing of information in Expert Group meetings, regional workshops, country visits as well as through ongoing interaction on the Statistical Classifications Hotline, Discussion Forum and other communication channels. A Classifications Newsletter is also published with the objective of presenting recent developments in international classifications and announcing the availability of new technical materials for use in this domain. It provides information on updates and revisions of classifications, new rulings, classifications publications and meetings, along with technical articles of practical importance.

- [New changes in classifications](#)
- [Reports and advice taken by the Commission on classifications](#)
- [United Nations Statistics Division, in partnership with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia \(UNESCWA\), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean \(UNECLAC\), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific \(UNESCAP\), and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Africa \(UNESA\), have organized a series of regional workshops on classifications.](#)
- [About UN Statistics Division](#)
- [United Nations Statistics Division](#)
- [Classifications Hotline](#)



End

Thank you for your attention!

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