

Exposition of the Transition from Thailand Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (TSIC) 2001 to TSIC 2009 on Quarterly Gross Domestic Product (QGDP), Production side

The Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) has officially been responsible for compiling Quarterly Gross Domestic Products (QGDP). At present, Thailand's economic activities within the production boundary comply with Thailand Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities 2001 (TSIC 2001) which was published by the Department of Employment, Ministry of Labor. TSIC 2001 is based on the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities Revision 3 (1990) of the United Nations (UN) (ISIC Rev.3, 1990) and has been used in QGDP compilation since 2002.

The International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) was initiated by the Statistical Commission of the United Nations. The main purposes of the economic activities classification are intended to facilitate the collection of data, the presentation of economic and social standard statistical data, and an up-to-date framework for the international comparison of national statistics precisely and accurately. The ISIC has been reviewed and revised by the Statistical Commission for 5 revisions as follows the first revision of ISIC (ISIC, Rev.1) issued in 1958; the second revision (ISIC, Rev.2) issued in 1968; the third revision of ISIC (ISIC, Rev.3) issued in 1990; the update to the third revision (ISIC, Rev.3.1) issued in 2004; and the latest revision (ISIC, Rev.4) issued in 2008.

Thailand has primarily adopted and implemented the ISIC as the basis for developing national industrial classifications in 1972 by the Department of Labor, Ministry of Interior as the central agency. It is also comprised of many public and private agencies who gave recommendations and opinions based on the ISIC, Rev.2, 1968. The second revision of TSIC was issued in 2001 based on the ISIC, Rev.3, 1990. The third revision of TSIC was issued in 2009, the latest TSIC, based on ISIC, Rev.4, 2008 by the Department of Employment, Ministry of Labor.

The guideline for classifications of the TSIC structure has been based on ISIC of the United Nations since the first revision of the ISIC. However, Thailand is using national classifications based on or derived from ISIC. This method is called "Derived Classifications". Thoroughly, the international guideline of ISIC is adopted and then, the details of economic activities are added up in order to accord with domestic economic and social activities. The economic activities of ISIC are classified into four-digit classes but that of TSIC are classified into five-digit classes. Economic activities that are similar in respect of these criteria have been grouped together in the categories of ISIC.

At present, the Department of Employment has improved the classification of economic activities of Thailand to be consistent with ISIC Rev.4 (2008). The new classification is called TSIC 2009. Many agencies in Thailand have improved their data collection as well as data dissemination in accordance with TSIC 2009, such as the National Statistical Office, Department of Business Development, Revenue Department, etc. Therefore, the National Economic and Development Council (NESDC) needs to improve its current classification of economic activities in order to conform to TSIC 2009 for the benefit of effectively analyzing the economic situation, being the same standard as other agencies, and making comparison across various countries. The NESDC has improved the calculation of the Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) according to the new classification (TSIC 2009), published it since 2015 and also revised the historical data from 1990 to 2015 for the benefit of the third-party users.

At this time, TSIC 2001 is still used in the compilation of Quarterly Gross Domestic Product (QGDP) because the change of the compilation method of QGDP based on TSIC 2009 together with revising the historic data back to 1993, the initial year of current dataset, requires a lot of time.

Currently, the NESDC has completely improved the compilation of Quarterly Gross Domestic Product based on TSIC 2009. The revision of the economic activities classification based on the new classification from 1993 to 2018 is on the process. However, the NESDC has planned to announce the QGDP based on TSIC 2009 in First Quarter 2019.

Comparison of TSIC between 2001 and 2009

TSIC 2001		TSIC 2009	
A	Agriculture, hunting and forestry <i>(Landscape care and maintenance service activities moved from Section A in TSIC 2001 to the new Section N)</i>	A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing
B	Fishing		
C	Mining and quarrying	B	Mining and quarrying
D	Manufacturing <i>(Publishing activities and Recycling moved from the manufacturing section in TSIC 2001 to the new Section J and Section E, orderly)</i>	C	Manufacturing
E	Electricity, gas and water supply	D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
		E	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
F	Construction	F	Construction
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods <i>(Repair of personal and household goods moved from this section in TSIC 2001 to the new Section S)</i>	G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
H	Hotels and restaurants	I	Accommodation and food service activities
I	Transport, storage and communications	H	Transportation and storage
		J	Information and communication

TSIC 2001		TSIC 2009	
J	Financial intermediation (Activities auxiliary to financial intermediation moved from this section in TSIC 2001 to the new Section N)	K	Financial and insurance activities
K	Real estate, renting and business activities (Split “Real estate activities” from this section in TSIC 2001 to the new Section L; Other professional, scientific and technical activities moved from this section in TSIC 2001 to the new Section M; Office administrative, office support and other business support activities moved to the new Section N; and other existing activities moved to other Sections such as Section J)	L	Real estate activities
		M	Professional, scientific and technical activities
		N	Administrative and support service activities
L	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	O	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
M	Education	P	Education
N	Health and social work (Split “Veterinary activities” from this section in TSIC 2001 to the new Section M)	Q	Human health and social work activities
O	Other community, social and personal service activities	R	Arts, entertainment and recreation
		S	Other service activities
P	Activities of private households as employers and undifferentiated production activities of private households	T	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use