Explanation of Seasonal Adjustment

As of 2012, the monthly series of the Labour Force Survey has been seasonally adjusted. In general, a procedure of seasonal adjustment can be performed on a series with original data of at least five years. Since the data of the monthly series, based on the new survey, began in January 2012, a special procedure of seasonal adjustment and trend estimation was performed, based on monthly original data. These data were computed from the data of the quarterly Labour Force Survey for the period beginning in January 2003 until September 2011, with the addition of original data from the monthly Labour Force Survey, from October 2011. In order to perform the procedure of seasonal adjustment and trend estimation on the data series without a "fracture" in definitions, the aforementioned data series was made to correlate with the characteristics of the entire labour force, in accordance with the definitions of the monthly Labour Force Survey.

Note that seasonally adjusted data are calculated by adjusting the original data for the influence of seasonality and festival and trading day effects. Trend data are estimated by removing the irregular influences (noise) from the seasonally adjusted data. The seasonally adjusted data and the trend are subject to revisions as they are calculated anew each month on the basis of additional original data (concurrent seasonal adjustment).

A detailed and updated explanation on the seasonal adjustment procedure and trend estimation is given in the publication **"Seasonal and prior adjustment factors for 2018, trends for 2014-2018"** (internet only, at the C.B.S.: "Classification and methods, statistical methods, time series"):

http://www.cbs.gov.il/www/publications/tseries/seasonal18/presentatione18.pdf

Notes:

1. The seasonally adjusted data are estimated using the **X-12-ARIMA** seasonal adjustment method that was developed by the US Census Bureau and by a procedure developed in the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) for the simultaneous estimation of the moving festival dates and the number of trading days effects in Israel.

2. The seasonally adjusted data are calculated by adjusting the original data for the influence of seasonality and festival and trading day effects. Trend data are estimated by removing the irregular influences (noise) from the seasonally adjusted data.

3. The seasonally adjusted data and the trend are subject to revisions as they are calculated **anew**, each month or quarter, on the basis of original data that include an additional observation (concurrent seasonal adjustment).