

COFECE initiates market study in retail food and beverage sector

- COFECE's electronic mail address: estudiocomercio@cofece.mx is made available to receive any element deemed relevant for the assessment of the sector, from a competition perspective.
- The study may identify market structures, regulations or public policies that may affect the sector's performance and will propose, if it be the case, recommendations to mitigate risk in competition and free market access processes.

Mexico City, May 20, 2019.- The Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE or Commission) announces the initiation of a market study in the retail sector for foods and beverage in the traditional, modern and electronic channels. The objective is to analyze the conditions of competition in this sector. To this end, COFECE makes available to the general public and the sector's participants the electronic email address: estudiocomercio@cofece.mx, through which they can provide elements they consider relevant to analyze the sector from a competition perspective.

In 2018, retailing contributed 9.5% of the GDP. The 2014 Economic Census provided that there were 995 thousand 554 economic units involved in the retail of food and beverages, including supermarkets. The sector is relevant to the Mexican economy because of its impact on families' pockets, who allocate 27.3% of their quarterly spending on the purchase of food and beverages for consumption at home, according to the 2016 National Income and Household Expenditures Survey.

The study may identify market structures, regulations or public policies that could affect the performance of this sector, and if it is the case, COFECE will propose recommendations to mitigate the risks to the processes of competition and free market access. The study does not prejudice any possible anticompetitive conducts breaching the Federal Economic Competition Law; which, if applicable, it will be investigated through the respective legal procedures.

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The Federal Economic Competition Commission is entrusted with safeguarding competition and free market access. This contributes to people's well-being and the efficient functioning of markets. With its work, COFECE seeks better conditions for consumers, more services of higher quality and a "level playing field" for companies.

