

Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers - International Roundtable on Business Survey Frames

Country progress report 2015 and future plans

Country:

United States

Reporter:

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Institution:

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

I. Organisation, Population and Usage of the Statistical Business Register

1. Name of the register

U.S. BLS Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Business Register

2. Name of the organisation responsible for holding the register

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

3. Position of the register unit in the organisation

Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics

4. Number of employees in the register unit (Headcount employees)

12, plus Regional and State partners

5. Primary goal and use of the register

The QCEW business register is used to produce Business Demography data, as well as for a sample frame, employment survey benchmarking, research, and data sharing with other federal agencies.

6. Year of establishment of the register

1990

7. Year(s) of the main re-engineering(s) of the register

1990, 2003

8. Number of active enterprises* in the register at the end of 2015

*If it is difficult to use Enterprises, you can use Legal units instead.

Enterprises: 5,065,000 (Q1 2015 - Firm Level) Legal units: 9,461,878 (Q1 2015)

II. Progress and Developments in the Past Year

Please list main achievements (maximum 3) in the past year (2015) or the problems you have tackled.

1. Short title of work which was done

Development and implementation of a new statistical Weighted Match system in longitudinal linking

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

BLS has replaced a proprietary matching program with one developed in-house intended to specifically address the linking of QCEW data. The program bases matches on administrative fields such as name, address, industry, and Federal tax ID.

2. Short title of work which was done

Administrative NAICS Reclassification of Home Based Services for the Elderly

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

BLS has addressed an administrative reclassification that occurred in 2013 data. New industry codes for units impacted by this scope change have been pushed back on the database, and all historical tabulations have been reproduced with the 2015/Q1 publication.

3. Short title of work which was done

Annual Business Employment Dynamics measures by firm age and firm size

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The BLS is researching ways to expand annual business employment dynamics estimates by firm size and firm age. For size, BLS will use the firm's size and apply it to all of the individual establishments within that firm. For firm age, BLS will assign the age of the oldest establishment to the firm and apply it to all of the individual establishments.

III. Future plans

Please list themes/projects (maximum 3) which you plan to tackle in the current (2016) and following year(s).

1. Short title of work planned

Linking the Foreign Direct Investment to the Business Register

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

By linking the Bureau of Economic Analysis' Survey of Direct Foreign Investment in the United States and the BLS Business Register, BLS aims to develop employment and wage estimates for foreign-owned United States establishments at the national, state and industry level.

2. Short title of work planned

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

3. Short title of work planned

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

IV. Main challenges

Please list main challenges (maximum 3) with respect to development, maintenance and use of your statistical business register.

1. Main challenge 1

Budget Constraints

Description of the challenge

Continued budget cuts have curtailed a small portion of the program which may delay development of some projects.

2. Main challenge 2

Description of the challenge

3. Main challenge 3

Description of the challenge

