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Quality and Coverage

**How to communicate the contents of the quality indicators of a Statistical Business Register**

**Abstract**

The quality of a Statistical Business Register (SBR) influences the quality of all outputs produced from it. Therefore assessing and communicating the quality of a SBR is one of the most important parts of maintaining it. The quality of a SBR can be measured in relation to the uses of the SBR such as statistical uses (sampling frame, source of auxiliary information and source for the production of statistics) or administrative uses. The quality of the SBR can also be measured in relation to the users of the SBR: production and maintenance team of the SBR, methodologists, producers of statistics, external users. Quality is traditionally described along different dimensions such as coherence, accuracy, completeness, timeliness, etc. For each quality dimension one can distinguish between units and variables of the SBR. Each dimension is associated to a number of indicators which in turn can be measured by different methods. Further the indicators can refer to the data, metadata or paradata and the input, processing or output phases of the SBR.

As shown for example in the Guidelines on Statistical Business Registers (United Nations 2015), quality indicators can be defined to measure relevant quality dimensions of a Statistical Business Register. As a SBR is a large, complex and rapidly changing dataset, this results in a wealth of quality indicators, which are of potential interest for internal and external customers.

Within the process of reengineering of the Swiss SBR, efforts are undertaken to make this large numbers of quality indicators more useful and more easily usable, through the use of modern techniques for summarizing and visualizing large datasets.

In this paper some examples of the use of these techniques will be presented, as they are applied to communicate the content of the quality indicators, at different levels of details and for different types of users.