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

Country progress report 2015 and future plans

Country:

> CHINA

Reporter:

> WANG WEIYU;SHEN NA

Institution:

> Census Center ,NBS

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

1. Name of the register

> Business Register

2. Name of the organisation responsible for holding the register

> Census Center,NBS

3. Position of the register unit in the organisation

> Basic and important work

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

> 30

5. Primary goal and use of the register

> Being the one and only frame for various statistical surveys, the BR is to provide principal lists for 'above threshold' enterprises, 'under threshold' enterprises and non-enterprise units.

6. Year of establishment of the register

> 2001

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

> 2009

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: 12.45 million	Legal units:15.61 million

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

> Totally updating BR by using data from the third Economic Census.

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

> Comparing with economic census database, 7.89 billion legal units were updated with data collected from economic census, accounting for 68.6% of the total; 3.35 billion new units were added to BR ; And 2.6 billion closed or bankrupt were eliminated.These units were marked according to types of update in BR. Furthermore, licenses information and identification pictures of units obtained from economic census had been hooked to BR units which can be viewed directly online.

2. Short title of work which was done

Exploring new methods to collect information for the maintenance of BR, PDA.

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

When the third Economic Census was accomplished, we kept a certain quantity of PDA devices.In order to Improve the efficiency of data collection, from July to November in 2015, a pilot program 'Collect information for updating BR with PDA' had been carried out in three regions of Jiangsu and Guangxi provnce, which collected questionnaires and licenses information about newly established units in the period of second quarter by PDA.We are now doing the summarization work for the pilot program,The next step is to gradually promote a widespread application of PDA for data collection.

3. Short title of work which was done

Propelling the progress of sharing data between departments

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The interim measures of management on sharing SBR data between departments was issued. It consists of 5 cahpters，and 16 clauses, regulations concerning the extent ,principle ,respective responsibilities, procedure ,as well as confidentiality and data security are stipulated in the document.it could be regarded as the policy guarantee for data sharing, which propelled the progress of sharing data between departments and standardized the management of survey units from different department statistics.

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

Carry out the pilot work and establish a survey program for profiling

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

We are currently doing the research of profiling and are expecting to establish a formal survey program to collect the information of structures of the medium and large enterprise groups in BR, and to clarify the hierarchical relationship between related legal units, as well as the relationship of the legal units and certain establishments. These steps are expected to give a strong support for the application of statistical data.

2. Short title of work planned

Complete and promote the intelligent coding of industry classification

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Some progress on this work has been made through pilot work in 2015. This year, we will improve program development mode continuously, and make the description of "principal activities" more standardized. Lack of key judgment words, too simple or too complex description of "principal activities" is the biggest obstacle to realize the intelligent coding of industry classification in BR. Gradual cleaning will be done in the next half year.

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

Massive maintenance work

Description of the challenge

Along with the reform of China's industrial and commercial registration system, the market has seen a big growth in newly registered market players. Meanwhile, a large amount of small and micro business change their operation modes or cease their activities all the time, thus these frequent changes have brought great burden to the maintenance of SBR. Local statistical agencies are in lack of professional staff responsible for BR's maintenance, and the existing staff are not stable or high-qualified, thus the local statistical agencies are not capable of verifying tens of thousands of units and meeting the requirements of BR's maintenance, with which comes along the problem of data quality control.

2. Main challenge 2

Difficulty in utilizing administrative resources from other departments

Description of the challenge

In non-census years, administrative records are an important source for BR updating and maintenance. However, the organizational code in administrative records is somewhat different from that in the BR. it is lack of a sole identifier to exchange data with related departments, and that greatly hinders the work of linking different administrative registers with BR. Work should be done towards the creation of a unique identifier (in conjunction with other ministries such as the taxation department).

3. Main challenge 3

BR has little information about the structures of large enterprise groups

Description of the challenge

The parent companies and their subsidiaries, and the legal units on each level of the unincorporated enterprise groups should all be treated as respondents and report their data respectively, rather than the parent companies reporting the data for their direct or indirect subsidiaries, which is very common in practice. This would lead to duplicates, while BRs do not have the structure of these enterprises with complicate relationships.