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

Country progress report 2015 and future plans

Country:

> **Finland**

Reporter:

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Institution:

> Statistics Finland

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

> Statistics Finland

3. Position of the register unit in the organisation

> Data Collection Division

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

> 18

5. Primary goal and use of the register

> Survey frame, base register in statistics production: source of units and their basic characteristics, source of business statistics population and business demography statistics, enterprise respondent register

6. Year of establishment of the register

> 1968

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

> 2013: Implementation of the revision project of the Business Register and Business Statistics

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: 793 000	Legal units: 793 000

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

> Active participation in the EU level development work regarding Business Register

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

> During 2015, Statistics Finland has participated in all three Work Packages of the Essnet on ESBRs, including e.g. the collaboration of ESBRs Business Architecture and the coaching activities within profiling. The work within the 2014 EU grant on 'Delineation of Statistical Units and Testing Profiling' was finalized and the work will continue further into an implementation phase within the 2015 grant 'Delineation of Statistical Units'.

2. Short title of work which was done

Improvements made in the coherence of Business Register data between business enterprises and general government institutions

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The production methods and timetables between the business enterprises and the general government institutions have previously differed within the Business Register. Moreover, the Business Register publication has only covered the business enterprises. One target set out within a large renewal project, was to diminish these differences. In 2015, important steps have been taken to bring the production of the data on general government institutions closer to the one of business enterprises. The production process of the data on general government institutions has been accelerated and also co-operation between different statistics is now utilized more comprehensively. This has lead to improvements in the timeliness of the data as well as to a better coherence between the different sectors. Moreover, the Business Register data on general government institutions has been published for the first time.

3. Short title of work which was done

Centralized process management application

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

A centralized process management application implemented in the integrated business statistics production system has been extended to cover all Business Register data collection. Via the application all integration of administrative and survey data into the database can easily be controlled and managed.

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

Implementation of new units: Complex enterprise (ENT) and the kind-of-activity unit (KAU)

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The work on implementing the complex enterprise units as well as the kind-of-activity units in to the integrated business statistics production system will continue both within a grant agreement as well as through a national project.

2. Short title of work planned

Analysis of nonresponse

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Statistics Finland will further invest in analyzing the nonresponse in the enterprise surveys as well as take active initiatives in order to control and minimize the nonresponse. This will apply also to Business Register surveys where the nonresponse has been increasing in recent years.

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

Tightening resources together with the additional requirements

Description of the challenge

Tightening resources due to retirements and budget cuts may impose a challenge when seen together with the increasing requirements brought up by the implementation of the kind-of-activity unit and enterprise as well as the additional requirements from the FRIBS regarding e.g. the EGR data exchange.

2. Main challenge 2

Diminishing response rates

Description of the challenge

Response rates to the Business Register surveys have been diminishing already for several years. So far, this has applied mostly to the smaller units and in so has not lead to any remarkable actions. The lack of survey data is replacable by the administrative sources only to some extent and plans have been made to better control the issue in the future.

3. Main challenge 3

Description of the challenge