

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

Country progress report 2015 and future plans

Country:

Italy

Reporter:

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Institution:

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

1. Name of the register

Tha ASIA system (in Italian, Archivio Statistico delle Imprese Attive)

2. Name of the organisation responsible for holding the register

The National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT)

3. Position of the register unit in the organisation

Directorate for economic statistics

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

30 (8 researchers, 22 clerical staff)

5. Primary goal and use of the register

A centralized frame for SBS/STS surveys and for grossing up survey results; the official statistical source for information on the structure and the demography of the business population

6. Year of establishment of the register

1996

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

2006, 2012

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: about 4,9 million of active enterprises Legal units: about 8,1 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

Updating registers for supporting the continuous economic censuses

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Istat is proceeding with the construction of the continuous economic censuses: for public institutions (PI), non-profit institutions (NPI) and Farms. The general approach is based on two main activities: i) set-up of statistical registers ii) launching of statistical surveys to validate the quality (completeness) of registers and provide new statistical information to be added to the one available from administrative sources. For PI and NPI the expected output is similar to that of conventional censuses, while for Agriculture the final output is the set-up of the Farm Register, with information regarding the structure of the units. For the business sector the BR has virtually completed the offering of information typical of a census, and is developing the construction of satellite registers to further enrich the disseminated information, increasingly integrating administrative and statistical sources.

2. Short title of work which was done

Unit identification and Employment assessment for Public Administration

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Administrative data do not reflect the actual organization of the statistical units within the public administration. The main difficulties, that have been solved, relate to the identification of the “detection” and “analysis” units starting from the administrative units existing in the available admin sources. Furthermore a process of harmonization of classifications has been performed and the transformation in statistical patterns achieved. In addition, the updating of information on employment at the individual level succeeded, as done for businesses, with a LEED (Linked Employer-Employee Database) structure linking individuals to institutional units.

3. Short title of work which was done

Improving quality of the BR

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Review of methodologies to classify units in order to improve coverage, in terms of legal form (market/non market) and economic activity performed. Some units belonging to particular riding activities between agriculture and manufacturing/trade has been classified using new administrative sources and new classification rules (e.g. agro-energy). Moreover method for allocation has been studied to fill gaps due to advance acquisition of administrative source. A review of the estimation methodology of some variables (turnover) by integrating administrative sources has been carried out. In addition new variables (e.g. the age of the enterprise) were disseminated to meet user requirements and a quality assessment on multinational units was performed (quality test of EGR-2013 respect to I/O FATS surveys using indicators developed under the ESSnet WP3)

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

Link Business Demography to data on Trade by Enterprise Characteristics (TEC)

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Participation to the grant “Link business demography to data on trade by enterprise characteristics (TEC) for 12 month (2017), in order to continue the work started with the previous “Micro-data linking of structural business statistics and other business statistics” that covered reference years 2008-2013, to provide Eurostat with data for missing reference years 2014 and 2015.

2. Short title of work planned

Re-engineering of the Enterprise Group Register

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Main goals of restructuring will be: a rationalization of a process which over the years has undergone several modifications and additions to requirements, not always easily implemented and easy to be included into the existing structure; the need to have temporally different situations in the same instant; the historicizing of the EG part of the BR informative system; to satisfy the national users' needs and at the same time those of Eurostat; to have a structure ready for the new concept of "Enterprise"; a greater integration with the existing registers in the BR system; a greater integration with EGR and especially with the new GSBPM process model being built for EGR 2. A quality analysis will be conducted on the change of timing using proper indicators.

3. Short title of work planned

Participation to Individual grants – Implementation of interoperable business registers

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Complete the identification of foreign legal units stored in national statistical business registers; Initial profiling as country of global decision centre (GDC) and profiling partnering exercise on foreign groups (reference year 2015); Follow-up of profiling as country of GDC and profiling partnering exercise on foreign groups (reference year 2015); measuring the quality of input and output EGR data.

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

Reorganising the National Institute of Statistics

Description of the challenge

During 2016 Istat is facing a new plan for a completely revised organizational structure, under the new Business Architecture theories and with a look to the GSBPM. It will be based on a strong and structured governance and production lines modeled on registers, with two poles, statistic production and cross-cutting divisions. The NSIs of Northern Europe (where the use of statistical registers is more advanced) have been the primary point of reference. The outcome is an enhanced central role of the BR, nevertheless the risk is to have a long period of transition for arrangement which provide possible delays or difficulties to the statistical production

2. Main challenge 2

Implementation of the statistical unit in the BR in view of the compliance with SBS

Description of the challenge

A revised method for automatic profiling will be implemented, using a new approach to identify better ancillary units. Mapping DEG and TENs that could be treated automatically, the number of legal units and number of persons employed impacted by an automatic treatment will be determined (participation to Eurostat individual grant "Steps towards implementing the definition of statistical units for business statistics: Delineation of statistical units")

3. Main challenge 3

First steps towards the implementation of interoperable registers

Description of the challenge

The process will start with investigations to determine what is necessary for improving the existing SBR procedures and systems, in view of an integration of production and updating processes that can improve coherence and harmonization. Main preliminary goal of the following redesigning and rebuilding phase will be to ensure greater timeliness of outputs for internal and external (EGR) users. In future proper guidelines will be drawn to provide specifications to the IT staff for the implementation of ENT register (based on the implementation of profiled Groups) and for its integration in the IT system of registers