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Administrative Data/Agencies/Units

An Italian experience to evaluate the quality of integrated administrative data

Abstract

The use of administrative data in the production of official statistics has exceedingly increased in the recent years. If in the past administrative data were mostly used for the purposes of sampling frame construction or as the auxiliary variable in the estimation process, it is now more and more popular to use administrative data also as a direct data source. Effective use of these data has required the development of new methods as well as for the estimation and quality evaluation of statistical products.

This paper reports the Istat experience in the establishing an appropriate methodological framework for assessing the quality of administrative data for statistical purpose. The project, named ARCOLAIO, has developed methodologies for monitoring the quality of administrative data that enter in the different phases of statistical production process. Methodological solutions has been proposed:

- To evaluate the quality of administrative data in the acquisition phase through an approach based on quality indicators
- To evaluate the quality of the integrated administrative data
- To analyze the temporal stability of administrative data, in terms of metadata and data, and their impact on production process

The methodological solutions have been applied to the new Integrated System of Microdata (SIM), recently implemented by ISTAT.