



Business Register to be launched in 2013

The Business Register is being developed by the Statistics Bureau of Japan (SBJ) based on the Statistics Act. The SBJ is preparing to launch the operation of the Business Register in January 2013.

[Business Register]

The Business Register is a database which consists of the frame of statistical surveys for establishments and enterprises using the results of statistical surveys and administrative data. The Business Register is available to government, prefectures and ordinance-designated cities.

In Japan, the development of the Business Register has been stipulated in the Statistics Act for the first time in the revision of the Act in 2007.

1 Approaches implemented so far

The SBJ has almost constructed the basis of the system of Business Register by March 2012.

For developing the Business Register, the SBJ conducted the Economic Census for Business Frame in July 2009, in order to grasp information of establishments and enterprises. It also conducted the Economic Census for Business Activity in February 2012 in order to clarify the actual situation of the economic activity of establishments and enterprises.

The results of the Censuses are used as the foundation of the Business Register.

In addition, the SBJ collated the results of statistical surveys and administrative data provided by the other ministries with information in the Business Register, and examined how to record and how to use the data.

Furthermore, the SBJ tentatively contacted newly established and abolished establishments to confirm the information for updating the Business Register, using labour insurance information provided by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare every month.

2 Approaches planned from now on

(1) Operational test for Business Register

In order to assure smooth operation of the Business Register from January 2013, the SBJ will conduct operational tests from July 2012. Through these tests, the SBJ will construct and coordinate the system in detail and prepare fundamental data of the Business Register.

(2) Formulation of operational control regulations

For starting operation of the Business Register, the SBJ will formulate operational control regulations reflecting the results of the operational tests of the Business Register which are to be executed in fiscal 2012.

(3) Confirming the information for updating the Business Register using labor insurance information

The SBJ will officially introduce the task of contacting newly established and abolished establishments to confirm the information for updating the Business Register using labour insurance information in fiscal 2012.

(4) Examination of Business Register statistics

In reference to the examples of foreign countries, the SBJ will examine what kind of tabulation and release are needed to be carried out about Business Register statistics which connects various statistical surveys.

3 Main Points in Business Register

(1) Simplification of checking duplication

The SBJ will properly manage the status of implementations of the coordination work in order to prevent specific establishments and enterprises from being surveyed many times, simplify the coordination work and reduce the workload by registering operational plans of statistical surveys with the Business Register by the ministries.

(2) Provision of annual frame database

The SBJ will provide annual frame database which is developed using the results of the Economic Census, statistical surveys and administrative data from the ministries. The SBJ will start providing the annual frame database in the first quarter of 2013.

(3) Maintenance of the common establishment code

Since the common establishment code carries out important roles on the operation of the Business Register, conducting the statistical surveys and using the results of surveys, the SBJ will promote the maintenance of the common establishment code by specifying that ministries should maintain the common establishment code in operational control regulations.

The process of examinations of the Business Register is as follows.
(<http://www.stat.go.jp/info/kenkyu/jsdb/index.htm>)