Regional Course on Statistical Business Registers: Making a Business Case for an Operational Statistical Business Register

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Issues in Maintaining SBRs and Maintenance Strategy Considerations

Construction: Coverage
Groups of Units in SBRs

- Statistical units
- Legal, administrative and operational units
- Observation and reporting units
A Statistical Units Model

FIGURE 6.1: RECOMMENDED STATISTICAL UNITS MODEL

Enterprise Group

Enterprise

Establishment

SBR Units: Example from African Guidelines

FIGURE 6.2: RECOMMENDED MODEL FOR ORGANIZATIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND STATISTICAL UNITS
Construction: Contents

Start with: What do we need SBR for?

- Sampling frame for economic surveys
- Production of business statistics
- Production of business demographic statistics
- Source of information about businesses
Introduction

Statistical Content

Statistical content can be grouped in four major groups:

* Identification and contact characteristics
* Demographic characteristics
* Descriptive (economic/stratification) characteristics
* Linkage characteristics
ABS Survey Frames from Common Frame

- 17 Regular frames consisting of:
  - 6 Quarterly frames
  - 1 biannual frame
  - 6 Annual frames (+ 2 migrating)
  - 4 Biennial frames
- Irregular surveys
Survey Frames and selections

Example Timeline

Common Frame Variables

All Units:
- State
- Employment size
- Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC)
- Standard Institutional Sector Classification of Australia (SISCA)
- Alive status
- Birth date / Death date
- Level of Government
- Private/Public indicator
- Long Term Non-remitter flag
- Random Number

Profiled population
- Unit Identifiers (TAU, EG)
- Unincorporated Joint Venture flag

Non-profiled population
- Unit Identifier (AT)
- Australian Business Number (ABN)
- ABN Status
- Income Tax withholding roles
- Goods and services tax payer role
Common Frame Preparation

- Monthly updates
  - administrative data
  - Profiling
  - Unit level feedback from SMAs (address, takeovers)
- Every quarter – monthly process + additional steps
  - Shutdown for CF extraction
  - Updates from SMAs (files)
  - Audits and Quality Gates

From Common Frame to Sample Frames

- The Common frame identifies the units that are available for selection
- For each survey they scope from those units
**Maintenance**

* Dealing with *changes*
  * Births and deaths and demographic events
  * Changes in descriptive characteristics
  * Changes in linkages

* Rules
  * Continuity rules
  * Stability rules

* Dealing with errors

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**Updating Rules**

- **Unit Continuity**
  - Distinguish births/deaths of enterprises from changes in ownership/organizational structure

- **Attribute and resistance**
  - Preventing large enterprises movements between sampling in strata

- **Screening incoming information**
  - Action on conflicting information i.e survey vs admin records
Maintenance Strategy

- Sources of information and rules for dealing with conflicting information
- Maintenance groups—different strategies for efficiency and cost effectiveness of procedures
- Time dimension: timing of updates, continuity and stability rules, historical registers

Sources

- Administrative sources
- Feedback from surveys
- SBR Improvement surveys
- Profiling
ABS Two-population model

- Profiled Population
  - Larger / complex businesses
  - Updated through direct contact with providers
  - Less than 1% of businesses
  - 50% of Industry Value Added
- Non-Profiled Population
  - Smaller / less complex businesses
  - Updated via ABR data
  - ABS derivations applied

Updating Schedule: Issues

- Several sources of information each having a given periodicity, coverage and content
- SBR as basis for sampling frames
  - Live register -> Snapshot -> Frozen Frame
Survey Frames and selections

Example Timeline