

Definitions, basic concepts and preconditions for producing register-based statistics

Regional Training

Producing Register-based Population statistics in Developing countries

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What is a register?

Definition of register

- Systematic collection of unit level data organized in such a way that
- updating is possible

Units

- Units must be uniquely identified
 - Preferably by identification codes/numbers
- Example: Resident persons in a country
 - Identified according to rules of Central Population Register

Updating

Processing unit level information to keep track of changes in units and their attributes

- New units (new born, immigrants) added
- Exiting units (dead, emigrants) “removed”
 - Classified as “not active”
- Real changes in attributes
- Corrections
- Updating only for units that have undergone changes
- Updating when changes arise (“continuously”)

- A traditional census file is **not** a register: All data are collected on unit level for a point in time or a period
 - New data collected for next census
 - Not updated as a register

Administrative registers

Administrative registers

- Primarily used in administrative information systems
- Used in production of goods or services in public or private sector
- Used for decisions on individuals (persons, buildings, enterprises)
- Administrative registers used for statistical purposes in Norway
 - Mainly countrywide registers in public sector
 - Operated by the state or jointly by local authorities

Administrative data sources

- All kinds of data sources used for administrative purposes
- Nowadays normally registers

Register owner

- Authority responsible for an administrative register
- = Register keeper

Statistical registers

- Created by processing data from administrative registers for statistical purposes
 - Could be based on one single register
 - Normally based on combined data from several registers

Primary register

- Administrative register or
- Statistical register where no central administrative register exists
 - ♦ Register of education in Norway

Secondary register

- Statistical register

Base registers

- Opposite: Specialised register

Administrative base registers

- Basic, common resource for public administration
- Keeping stock of the population
- Maintain identification information

Statistical base registers

- Based on the corresponding administrative base register/registeres
- Great importance for the whole statistical system

Statistical base registers in Nordic countries

Register on persons (CPR)

- ID: Personal identification number

Business register

- ID: Business identification numbers (for enterprises and establishments)

Property registers

- Real estates, buildings, dwellings and addresses
- ID for linking to persons and establishments: Numerical address

Register on activities

- In some countries regarded as base register
- Example: Job register
- ID: Personal ID and business ID

Specialised registers

- Serving one specific purpose
 - Or clearly defined group of purposes
- Data for defined subject areas
- Linked to one (or more) basic register(s)
 - A car may be owned by a person or a company
- Receive information on population and some basic data from base register(s)

Specialised registers, examples from social statistics

Register on persons

- Educational attainment
- Social security
- Health
- Pensions
- Income

Activity registers

- Jobs
- Self employment
- Other registers on employment
- Unemployment
- Students

Preconditions for use of administrative sources in production of statistics

- Legal base
- Public approval
- Unified identification system
- Comprehensive and reliable register system
- Cooperation among authorities

Thank you for your attention !