

Country specific notes in Business demography

Most EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland have participated in the harmonised data collection on business demography since its first round in 2002. Some country level data have not yet been released because of remaining quality issues. Market activities in industry, construction, distributive trades and services as well as other sectors like education and health are covered (agriculture, public administration, non-market activities of households, and extra-territorial agencies are not) in business demography population.

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Belgium

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - statistical business register is called DBRIS2 and is updated by:

- **Identification data** - a daily copy of the Crossroad bank of enterprises (BCE/KBO). The Crossroad Bank for Enterprises is a register containing comprehensive identification data related to businesses and their 'establishment units' (i.e. business locations). It includes data from the national register of legal entities and the trade register and VAT and NSSO information and is kept up to date by the relevant bodies which enter data there.
- **Individual data** - quantitative data coming from Value Added Tax administration (VAT declarations: turnover,..), ONSS (National Social Security Organization) (employment,..), ONSSAPL (local authorities administrations) (employment data), Income tax of Natural Persons.
- A regular copy to the national accounts of the National Bank of Belgium.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - until June 2009, natural persons such as lawyers or doctors (liberal professions) or accountants that do not have employment and are not VAT registered were not included.

Coverage - all required NACE activities and legal forms are covered. VAT threshold - enterprise with annual turnover less than 5580 EUR is exempted to fill in VAT declaration (*régime de la franchise de la taxe*). These enterprises are included in the Business register, however, in order to avoid any differences with SBS data (Structural Business Statistics), if the only source of activity is the VAT declaration and the VAT turnover is below 5600 EUR, the unit is deleted from business demography population.

Statistical unit- legal units.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed.

National publication – not available.

Bulgaria

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the source is the Business Register for statistical purposes. It is updated every year with data on main economic activity, employment and turnover from the annual statistical surveys, which are exhaustive according to the Law of Statistics in Bulgaria. For the purpose of Business Demography, data are obtained from the administrative Trade register, annual accounts, Social Security Institute and Tax authority.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no significant changes.

Coverage - there is no threshold on the inclusion of units. All economically active units are covered. Coverage is complete in terms of NACE activities and size classes.

Statistical unit- enterprises which are equal to legal units.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed.

National publication

http://www.nsi.bg/sites/default/files/files/pressreleases/BDE2012_en_GSYL3SX.pdf (Press releases)

<http://www.nsi.bg/en/content/8200/harmonized-data-collection-2012> (Time series)

Czechia

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the source used is the Register of Economic Subjects - RES (the Czech Business Register for Statistical Purposes). RES contains information from administrative sources: income tax payers (from Ministry of Finance) and social security payers and data on self-employed persons (from Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no significant changes.

Coverage - all the required NACE classifications and legal forms are covered. The estimated coverage of the business register in terms of number of active units is 99.2%. Under-coverage is neglected, as the Register of Economic Subjects (RES) is a multi-source register (data being compared from several administrative sources), and to the fact that no thresholds are used. Units in liquidation are also included in the population of active enterprises if they have turnover or employment.

Statistical unit- enterprises.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed.

National publication – not available

Denmark

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the source used is the Statistical Business Register (SBR).

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there has not been any significant change, except the introduction of e-income register. This has resulted in a small data break between reference year 2007 and 2008, concerning the employment data.

Coverage - the threshold of a half person employed in full-time equivalents is set to all units in the business register. Enterprises below this threshold are not covered.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were followed as much as possible. Up to 2012 employment variables are expressed in full-time equivalents and hence the employment measures may not respect expected relationships, for example with the number of enterprises. In some cases it is possible to have more enterprises than persons employed. The issue was overcome in 2013 (2012 for death data) when the input of employment variables has been changed from full time employment (FTE) to a headcount measure. This results in slightly higher figures and imposed a break in time series in 2013 (2012 death data).

Statistical unit- enterprises.

National publication

<http://www.dst.dk/en/Statistik/emner/virksomhedernes-udvikling/erhvervsdemografi.aspx>

<http://www.dst.dk/en/Statistik/dokumentation/Declarations/business-demography.aspx>

<http://www.dst.dk/pukora/epub/Nyt/2013/NR391.pdf>

Germany

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the source is the statistical business register complemented by “short-term” administrative data from the Federal Employment Agency and from the Tax Authorities.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no significant changes.

Coverage - all required NACE activities and legal forms are covered. The business register contains in general all units with a taxable amount of sales (turnover) of goods delivered and services rendered of at least 17 500 Euro and/or with at least one employee covered by compulsory social insurance contributions at the end of at least one quarter. The “short-term” administrative data from the Federal Employment Agency contain the monthly declarations of the units, the “short-term” administrative data from the Tax Authorities contain monthly

and quarterly declarations.
Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were followed.
Statistical unit - enterprises.
National publication https://www.destatis.de/

Estonia

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the main source is the Business Register for Statistical Purposes (in Estonian “Majandusüksuste Statistiline Register”) complemented by Commercial Register and Register of Taxable Persons.
Significant changes of the sources over the years – the number of newly born sole proprietor enterprises in the business demography population have increased since 2008, due to the requirements for registering all sole proprietors in the Commercial Register.
Coverage - in the population of active enterprises, births and survivals up to 2002, and on enterprise deaths up to 2001, sole proprietors only with 20 or more employees were covered. In the following years, legal form coverage is complete. According to Estonian legislation, very small enterprises can also be registered as private limited companies. The new requirement to register all sole proprietors in the Commercial Register was showing its first results in 2008. The sole proprietors who had only been registered in the Register of Taxable Persons were required to re-register themselves in the Commercial register by 2010, if they wished to continue operating. To meet all these changes, the production system for 2013 Business Demography statistics was redesigned, which impose break in series.
Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed. Data on number of persons employed were not available for all units and they were estimated by adding 1 working proprietor to all active enterprises with zero employees.
Statistical unit – enterprises - equal to legal units.
National publication http://pub.stat.ee/px-web.2001/I_Databas/Economy/06Economic_units/01Business_demography/01Business_demography.asp http://pub.stat.ee/px-web.2001/I_Databas/Economy/06Economic_units/01Business_demography/RE34.htm

Ireland

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data – the main source is Business Register.
Significant changes of the sources over the years - the process of updating the Business Register, from being survey dependant to using administrative data, was changed in 2005. Data from VAT, PREM, Corporation Tax and Income Tax registers were used to add such enterprises to the Business Register. Due to active enterprise definition changes, a coherency project with Structural Business Statistics and the greater use of administrative data there was a break in the series in 2014.
Coverage - Business Register covers all required NACE sectors and legal forms. All enterprises that are registered with the Revenue Commissioners for Corporation Tax, Income Tax or PREM (employer registrations), and that pay Corporation Tax, Income Tax, or have employees, are included in the Business Register.
Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed. Some differences may exist due to the employment rounding method used.
Statistical unit – enterprises and legal units.

National publication

<http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/er/bd/businessdemography2012/>

Greece

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the source is the Statistical Business Register, which is updated annually with administrative information from the Tax Authorities (VAT) and the Social Security Insurance.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no changes.

Coverage - all NACE activities, legal forms and economically active units are covered. There is no threshold on the inclusion of units in the Business register.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed.

Statistical unit – enterprises that are considered equal to legal units.

National publication - not available.

Spain**Sources and methods for compiling business demography data**

Spanish Business Register is named 'Directorio Central de Empresas' (DIRCE).

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there were no relevant changes to this source until the reference year 2018. From the reference year 2018, the full implementation of the statistical unit enterprise is achieved.

Coverage - all units operating in the country should be included. Thresholds are not considered. Non-market oriented units are excluded.

Methodological deviation - The methodological guidelines were closely followed. The number of persons employed was estimated as no reliable administrative sources could be used for the number of unpaid persons employed. From the reference year 2002 onwards, the data are estimated in terms of full-time equivalents and rounded to the nearest unit.

Statistical unit – before the reference year 2013, legal units were used as a good proxy to enterprises. In the reference years 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 (transition period), a partial implementation of the statistical unit enterprise was used for the production of Business Demography data. From the reference year 2018 onwards, the production of Business Demography data will apply the full implementation of the statistical unit enterprise achieved in our source. Nevertheless, data related to high growth enterprises have been always produced taking legal units as a good proxy to enterprises.

National publication

https://www.ine.es/dyngs/INEbase/en/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica_C&cid=1254736161927&menu=resultados&idp=1254735576550

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30204>

https://www.ine.es/en/metodologia/t37/t373020417_en.pdf

France**Sources and methods for compiling business demography data**

The main source is Companies and establishments register, in French "Répertoire des entreprises et des établissements (REE)", which is built from the administrative business register Sirene.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - a new sole proprietorship simplified tax regime, called "auto-entrepreneur", was implemented in January 2009, which led to the increase of newly born enterprises. This regime has been renamed "micro-entrepreneur" since December 2014.

Since reference year 2014, employment variables have been harmonised by applying annual average calculation based on full time equivalent data. In addition, the definition of legal

forms has been improved.

Coverage - all units operating in the country are included. Thresholds are not considered.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were followed. However employment and employee size classes are defined in full-time equivalent, not head count. For employer enterprises population, where only enterprises with at least one employees are included, between 2008 and 2010 the size class were defined using the number of employees at the end of the year, what is the reason for having employer enterprise death with zero employees.

Statistical unit – legal units as an approximation of enterprises.

National publication

<http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/indicateur.asp?id=41>

<https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques?debut=0&theme=38&categorie=1>

Croatia

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

The main source is Statistical business register.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - business demography production was established in 2014.

Coverage - all the requested NACE codes and legal forms are covered. There is no threshold regarding employment or turnover.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were followed. 2009 birth data, which are excluded from 2012 high-growth population, were checked for reactivation only in 2008. This may lead to a slight increase of high-growth data for the reference year 2012.

Statistical unit – enterprises - equal to legal units.

National publication - Business demography data are not published at national level.

Italy

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

The main source is Italian-Business-Register (ASIA). Additional information from statistical/administrative sources (Intrastat files , Events of structural changes, Database of bankruptcies, etc.) are used to determine and/or check the status of activity.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - for reference year 2011, the Italian-Business-Registers has undergone substantial changes in both the methodology for estimating the status of activity of enterprises and in the methodology of estimation of employment, particularly:

- a total revision of the methodology to estimate the self-employed is adopted;
- identification of outworker
- identification of the “dual-positions”
- greater accuracy in the calculation of the annual average employment
- identification of “Full time equivalent” employment.

Coverage - all NACE and all legal form are covered in Business Register (BR). The BR includes all units with employment and/or have turnover greater than a threshold. This threshold is based on the average remunerations of the business sector and the geographical area in which the company operates.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed.

Statistical unit – enterprises.

National publication

<http://www.istat.it/it/archive/130111>

Cyprus

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the source is the business register, updated annually with administrative information from VAT and Social security registers.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no changes.

Coverage - all NACE classifications and legal forms are fully covered. Employment is the primary criterion. All units above the VAT threshold of 9.000 CYP (approximately 15,000 €) are generally covered.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed.

Statistical unit – enterprises.

National publication – not available.

Latvia

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the main source used was Statistical Business Register (SBR). Taxpayers Register (TR) and State Enterprise Register (SER) were used as additional sources.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no changes.

Coverage - all legal persons registered in State Enterprise Register are included in the Statistical Business Register. Natural persons performing economic activity on the basis of licenses or patents and peasant farms are included only from 2002 onwards for populations of active enterprises and of enterprise births (and in their related variables of employment). The exceptionally high birth rate of 2002 is due to the first inclusion of these natural persons. Only since 2004 the Central Statistical Bureau has access to all individual data (on natural and legal persons) from State Revenue Service. Duplication is not possible because each unit has a unique ID code, which is used in administrative sources and in Statistical Business Register.

Natural persons performing work on the basis of licenses and patents and peasant farms, are included only in the populations of 2002 onwards.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed. Variables number of persons employed and number of employees were estimated according to the methodological guidelines.

2009 birth data, which are excluded from 2012 high-growth population, were checked for reactivation only in 2008. This may lead to a slight increase of high-growth data for the reference year 2012.

Statistical unit – enterprises.

National publication – not available.

Lithuania

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the main source is Statistical Business Register (SBR), complemented by the following administrative sources: Social insurance fund register, Tax payers register and VAT register.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no changes.

Coverage - all legal persons from the register of legal entities are included in the Statistical business register. The estimated coverage of the business register in terms of number of

active units is about 80-83% for each year. VAT threshold is around 28 985€. VAT source is used only when there is no information on turnover from other statistical sources. Coverage of activity from VAT source is about 15%. Enterprises with 0 or 1 employee without turnover (about 11 000) and non-profit units (about 15 000) are excluded from the population of active enterprises.

Natural persons have been covered from reference year 2004 onwards, which led to high birth rates in reference years 2004 and 2005. In 2005, natural persons operating without any patents or licences were included for the first time.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were followed. The data on number of persons employed have been calculated as annual average from Social security fund source. The method for calculation of the annual average is according to the manual. This means that if the enterprise worked only one quarter and had 1 person employed, this observation is used as annual average and the Number of persons employed will be considered as 1. The number of enterprises is not always less than or equal to the corresponding number of persons employed in size class "0 employees". This is due to the fact that in the population of enterprises, have also been included units that have zero persons employed, if they had turnover higher than zero.

Statistical unit – enterprises.

National publication – not available.

Luxembourg

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data – the NSBR is the main data source. Additional information is used and made available by Social security to compile data for enterprises classified in NACE 86.2 or published in the annual report of the “Commissariat aux assurances” to compile data for enterprises classified in NACE 65.2.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - No changes.

Coverage - all the requested NACE classifications and legal forms are covered. All enterprises classified in NACE 64.2 and 64.3 (mostly classified in sector 127) or in institutional sectors 127, 13, 15 and some enterprises classified as SPEs in institutional sector 11 are not covered. The NSBR does not apply any threshold in terms of employment or turnover. However, coverage of enterprises having no employees and not subject to VAT may not be complete. Enterprises are not obliged to register to VAT in case their annual turnover does not exceed 30.000€ (however, a lot of enterprises with an annual turnover of less than 30.000€ are covered in the BR) or having activities not subject to VAT (most of these enterprises are classified in NACE 64.2, 64.3, 65.2 and 86.2, the two former are not covered and for the two latter additional information to compile the population is used (see above)).

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines have been followed quite closely. The number of persons employed data is partially estimated by adding to the number of employees additional persons working for the enterprise either from data made available by Social security or by adding 1 or 2 persons according to legal form. As there is no systematic adding of additional persons to enterprises having no employees, the number of persons employed can be less than the number of enterprises for some specific data breakdowns (these are extremely small enterprises for which one or more persons may only work several hours each month).

Statistical unit – enterprises.

National publication

https://statistiques.public.lu/stat/ReportFolders/ReportFolder.aspx?IF_Language=fra&MainTheme=4&FldrName=1&RFPat h=10835

<https://statistiques.public.lu/fr/publications/series/analyses/2020/analyses-03-20/index.html>

<http://www.statistiques.public.lu/fr/publications/series/regards/2011/13-11-demographie-entreprises/index.html>

<http://www.statistiques.public.lu/fr/publications/series/bulletin-statec/2007/05-07-demogr-entrepr/index.html>

<http://www.statistiques.public.lu/fr/publications/series/bulletin-statec/2005/08-05-entreprises/index.html>

<http://www.statistiques.public.lu/fr/publications/series/bulletin-statec/2004/09-04-demograph-entreprises/index.html>
http://www.statistiques.public.lu/stat/ReportFolders/ReportFolder.aspx?IF_Language=fra&MainTheme=4&FldrName=1&FPath=9798
<http://www.statistiques.public.lu/fr/methodologie/methodes/entreprises/Repertoire/demographie/index.html>

Hungary

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - Business demography data are compiled from the Hungarian Business Register (HBR). Thanks to the existing 'Single Window' system in Hungary the data sharing is operated by a multilateral electronic data exchange with daily frequency among the administrative institutions (Tax Office, Court Office, Central Office for Administrative and Electronic Public Service, Hungarian Central Statistical Office). Beside the administrative sources, relevant data collected by statistical surveys are stored in HBR as well. HBR gets employment data and turnover data twice a year for all enterprises from the Tax Office. Furthermore in order to detect demographic events in case of largest enterprises (with more than twenty employees) there are used sources as newspapers, Internet, Official Journals, or direct contact with the enterprises.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no changes.

Coverage - all required NACE activities and legal forms are covered. In Hungary tax relation is obligatory for all units carrying out business activities (there is no VAT threshold). The Hungarian Business Register uses the same unique identifiers for enterprises as the Register of Tax Office to be able to interconnect relevant information (data) and to avoid duplications. The cases of false self-employed proprietors (legally sole proprietors but 'de facto' employees within an enterprise) are included in the Business Register as sole proprietors, but they can not be identified.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were closely followed.

Statistical unit – enterprises - equal to legal units.

National publication

http://www.ksh.hu/stadat_eves_3_2

http://www.ksh.hu/stadat_annual_3_2

http://www.ksh.hu/apps/shop.kiadvany?p_kiadvany_id=31006&p_temakor_kod=KSH&p_session_id=932273040931001&p_lang=EN

http://www.ksh.hu/apps/shop.kiadvany?p_kiadvany_id=34996&p_temakor_kod=KSH&p_session_id=630386162584391&p_lang=HU

Malta

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data - the source is Business Register, which is updated by administrative (mainly Corporate Tax & VAT) and Survey data (mainly Structural Business Statistics).

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no changes.

Coverage – all requested NACE classifications and legal forms are covered. The VAT threshold is 7 000 euro. Mainly sole proprietors below this threshold and for which the VAT declaration is the only source, are not included in business demography population.

Methodological deviation - in general, methodological guidelines were followed, with the exception of survival data up to 2013. Their size class and economic activity characteristics were defined from the reference year which is the reason of some extreme values of survival rate. In 2014 the identification of the birth, death and survival population was improved.

Statistical unit – enterprises - equal to legal units.

National publication – not available.

The Netherlands

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

The current study uses four sources of information. The Business Register (BR) provides the population of units. Three other sources are used to distinguish between active and non-active

enterprises. These sources also provide necessary information on turnover and/or on the number of employees. These are: Value Added Taxes (VAT), Corporate tax, the Survey on Labour and Wages.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no changes. A new business register was introduced in 2006, which allowed a better use of external registers. The registers by itself did not change significantly, the coupling loss gradually decreased via methodological improvements which may account for some distortions in time series. The production system for 2013 Business Demography statistics was redesigned by introducing more reliable sources, imposing break in series. The previous years will be soon revised which will improve the year-to year comparability.

Coverage - there is not a threshold for VAT, but natural persons with small enterprises can be exempted from the administrative burden (although the entrepreneur has to convince the tax authorities in some way). In general the coverage of the register is believed to be around 99% (except for Section A which is not included in the business demography project). Some units in the liberal professions that have no employees in paid employment may be missing. Other thresholds: Registration at the social security administration is only for enterprises with employees in paid employment. Under- or over-coverage due to lags or duplications: the primary source for the updating of the business register is the registration of the Chambers of Commerce. The time lag between registration at the Chambers of Commerce and registration at the statistical business register is half a month on average. The time lag between registration at the statistical business register and the actual start of economic activities is about 3 months on average. So, this will result in a little overcoverage. The time lag between the actual end of economic activities and deregistration is unknown, and long. In fact, many registered units will never become active. On average about 20% of registered enterprises are not active. Moreover units may be overcovered by duplication or by misinterpretation of statistical units.

Until 2009 a survey was used for enterprises with up to 20 persons employed to determine whether this unit is 'active' or not. A threshold of 15 working hours per week was used as well. From 2010 onwards this information is derived from registers without a threshold, which led to significant increase of the population of active enterprises.

Methodological deviation - in general, the methodological guidelines were followed. A known deviation is that enterprise survivals can include reactivations. All employment variables are measured as full time equivalents. The effect can be that the number of enterprises is sometimes higher than the related employment. In the current working procedure, all enterprises that do not meet the selection criteria as defined for activity are classified as inactive. This may lead to a considerable underestimation of the actual active population.

Statistical unit – enterprises.

National publication - business demography data are not published at national level.

Austria

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

The business registers of Statistics Austria (business register for administrative purposes and business register for statistical purposes) form the central data basis for the business demography statistics.

Additionally, the following administrative data sources are used:

- Basic tax data and turnover tax data taken from turnover tax returns and advance turnover tax returns submitted to the tax authorities and income tax data
- Employers and employees data from the Main Association of Austrian Social Insurance

Institutions
Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no changes.
Coverage – from 2007 all legal units with either turnover and/or at least one employee are included in business demography statistics. Before 2007 there was a threshold for Turnover 10.000€.
Methodological deviation - methodological guidelines were closely followed.
Statistical unit – legal units.
National publication http://www.statistik.at/web_de/statistiken/wirtschaft/unternehmen_arbeitsstaetten/unternehmensdemografie_ab_2015/index.html http://www.statistik.at/web_de/statistiken/wirtschaft/unternehmen_arbeitsstaetten/unternehmensdemografie_bis_2014/index.html

Poland

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data The main source is Statistical Business Register. Additional sources are administrative data such as tax data and data from VAT register, survey data.
Significant changes of the sources over the years - the Statistical Business Register update procedure for the number of persons employed and employees was improved in 2009 by including administrative sources.
Coverage – all legal units operating in country and there is no threshold applied in their inclusion into business register.
Methodological deviation - methodological guidelines were closely followed.
Statistical unit – legal units up to 2017; since 2018 - enterprises
National publication – https://stat.gov.pl/en/topics/economic-activities-finances/activity-of-enterprises-activity-of-companies/selected-entrepreneurship-indicators-in-2013-2017,10,5.html

Portugal

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data The main source is Portuguese Business Register, complemented with information from the administrative data.
Significant changes of the sources over the years - from 2005 onwards, due to a better coverage derived from the fiscal data, the sole proprietors and the independent workers were included in the Business register. Break in data series between 2007 and 2008 due to changes in methodology following implementation of ESA 2010 in the National Accounts as well as the other methodological improvements. These changes were applied and 2008-2014 data revised. Therefore, comparable series are available starting with year 2008.
Coverage - Business Register includes all NACE activities and legal forms.
Methodological deviation - methodological guidelines were closely followed.
Statistical unit – enterprises that are equal to legal units.
National publication https://www.ine.pt/xportal/xmain?xpid=INE&xpgid=ine_destaques&DESTAQUESdest_boui=382055969&DESTAQUESmodo=2&xlang=en

https://www.ine.pt/xportal/xmain?xpid=INE&xpgid=ine_indicadores&indOcorrCod=0008643&contexto=bd&selTab=tab2
<http://metaweb.ine.pt/sim/operacoes/Pesquisa.aspx>

Romania

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

The source is the Business Register, complemented with the Fiscal Register, Trade Register VAT files, social security information and annual balance sheets. SBS data are used to correct data on large units.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - in 2011 the population increased as data on sole proprietors become available.

Coverage – all enterprises having turnover or employees at least one month in a fiscal year are included in the Business Register, so also used for BD population. Sole proprietorships are not covered until 2011, as there were no administrative source available to determine if they were active or not.

Methodological deviation - methodological guidelines were closely followed.

Statistical unit – enterprises.

Slovenia

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

The main source is the Statistical Business Register (SBR), complemented by the following administrative sources:

- Administrative Business Register of the Republic of Slovenia - ABRS (used for statistical and administrative purposes)
- Statistical Register of Employment (main source for the data on employment)
- Annual Accounts - the source for turnover in legal persons and in 2002 also for sole proprietors
- Income tax for natural persons - the source for turnover in natural persons, received from the Tax Authority
- Report on Insurance - the source for turnover in the 11 insurance companies and two re-insurance companies

Significant changes of the sources over the years

In 2002 the Statistical Register of Employment was updated and became the source for more natural persons. Consequently, the population of active enterprises is larger and it leads to overestimation of births.

In 2002 a new secondary administrative source for employment was used (data from annual accounts were used for legal persons that have no data on employment in the Statistical Register of Employment or in the Statistical Monthly Report on Earnings and Persons in Paid Employment in Companies and other Institutions). Therefore, there is a decrease of employment data from 2001 to 2002. Concerning enterprise births in 2002, the reason for large difference between 2001 and 2002 is the improvement in the inclusion of natural persons.

Coverage – the Administrative Business Register of Slovenia (ABRS) covers all sectors of activity and all legal forms with the exception of farmers and private households. There is not VAT threshold. There are no lags in the source that might affect the data. Units in liquidation are included in the population of active enterprises because usually they have turnover or employment. False self-employed persons are included if they are registered in the ABRS (they are matched according to the identification number that is also present in the Statistical Register of Employment). Non-profit institutions serving households and government owned public units that are not market oriented were excluded from the scope of data collection.

VAT threshold in Slovenia is 50 000 EUR and does not have an impact on the coverage of the Business register.

Methodological deviation - the recommended estimation method for employment was not used. There are differences in the definition of variable number of persons employed: it does not include unpaid working persons. From 2002 onward, annual accounts employment data have been used for enterprises that have no employment in the Statistical Register of Employment or have not reported employment in ZAP-M (Statistical Monthly Report on Earnings and Persons in Paid Employment in Companies and other Institutions). In annual accounts there are also 0 persons employed. Therefore, the number of enterprises is not always less than or equal to the number of persons employed.

Statistical unit – legal units.

National publication

http://www.stat.si/eng/metodologija_pojasnila.asp?pod=14

Slovak Republic

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

The sources are Statistical Business Register (in custody of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic) and Tax Agency data (used to check the activity status of units).

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no significant changes. Since 2012 the data from the Social Insurance Agency are available on a monthly basis instead of annual basis.

Coverage –. the estimated coverage of the business register in terms of active units is 99%. There are no VAT thresholds in the business register, all activities are included in the business register, regardless they are VAT payers or not. There is no information if there is some false self-employment included in the business register. Publicly owned units carrying out market activities and non-profit units were included.

Methodological deviation - methodological guidelines were closely followed. The imputation methods for calculating missing employment were not checked in the real practice and this is the reason for some inaccurate data.

Statistical unit – enterprises - equal to legal units.

National publication

<http://www.statistics.sk/pls/elisw/MetaInfo.explorer?obj=337&cmd=go&s=1001&sso=1&so=5>

Finland

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

The source was Finnish Business Register until 2013. From 2014 onwards the source is the integrated business microdata system.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - Business Demography compilation process migrated into a new integrated business microdata system which caused break in 2013 series. Also, the application of more precise estimation methods for persons employed led to considerable increase of employment figures. In addition, the adoption of enterprise as a reporting statistical unit is likely to cause some changes in the future.

Coverage – Business register covers all legal forms and NACE classes. The VAT threshold is 8.500 €. The estimated coverage of the Business Register, for enterprises falling below this VAT threshold, is about 95%. Of these registered enterprises, 90% are included on the basis of information from sources other than VAT, whilst for the remaining 10% information is from voluntary VAT registration. There are no other thresholds. Under- or over-coverage due to lags or duplications: time lags in the registration of the information about enterprises'

creations can cause under-coverage. At the same time, time lags in the registration of the information about enterprises' death can cause some over-coverage. There are no thresholds in business demography for turnover or employment.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were followed very closely. Employment variables are measured in head counts from 2003 onwards, supplemented by estimates where head count is unavailable.

Statistical unit – legal units.

National publication – not available.

Sweden

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

The main source is the Swedish Business Register, complemented with information on turnover from structural business statistics and taxation information.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - for reference year 2011, additional enterprises were included in the frame used for creating the enterprise population. This increase referred partly to inclusion of enterprises with activities inside Sweden but postal addresses outside Sweden. The total increase was about 25 000 enterprises in the frame population, of which 2 500 were real births.

Coverage – Business register includes all units registered for VAT and/or employment and/or Company tax. Also all legal persons that are not active according to above registrations are included in the register. There is no threshold regarding VAT.

Methodological deviation - the methodological guidelines were followed very closely. In some cases it is possible that for a specific year, activity and size class, the number of enterprises is higher than the number of persons employed. This is due to the technique used to estimate the number of persons employed from the number of employees. In particular, for limited liability companies, the number of persons employed is set equal to the number of employees.

Statistical unit – enterprises.

National publication – not available.

The United Kingdom

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

Business demography data are compiled entirely from the Inter-Departmental Business Register - IDBR. No other sources are combined with this information

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no significant changes.

Coverage – all NACE activities and legal form are included. The business register covers over 2.1 million businesses in all sectors of the UK economy, other than some very small businesses (those without employees, and with turnover below the tax threshold) and some non-profit making organisation. Units trading below the VAT threshold are included on the business register where they either register voluntarily or have employees and are collecting income and/or social benefit tax payments through a pay-as-you-earn tax scheme (approximately 860,000 enterprises in 2014).

Methodological deviation - methodological guidelines were closely followed. The confidentiality of all data held on the Inter-Departmental Business Register is protected by the National Statistics Code of Practice and associated Protocols and by specific legislation. The disclosure of data relating to individual undertakings without consent is prohibited under the Statistics of Trade Act 1947, the Value Added Tax Act 1994 and the Finance Act 1969. In accordance with these requirements, data have been rounded to prevent disclosure. Values

may be rounded down to zero and so all zeros are not necessarily true zeros. Where an auxiliary variable i.e. employment or turnover is deemed to be disclosive it will be removed. Where we remove one figure in a row or column we must remove another to avoid disclosure by deduction. Differences may exist in totals across tables due to disclosure methods used.

Statistical unit – enterprises.

National publication

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/bus-register/business-demography/index.html>

Switzerland

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

Business demography data are compiled from the administrative register (OASI) and the Business Register as main sources.

Additional information from the survey on newly born enterprises and from other firm level surveys (profiling, profiling light, job statistics) are used as well.

Significant changes of the sources over the years - the OASI administrative source replaced for the reference year 2011 the former business census for all business statistics. In Business demography domain this significant change affected 2013 data. From this reference year onward, it is possible to observe all businesses if the annual paid salary to employees or the income of self-employed is higher than 2300 CHF. The business population covers now almost all active enterprises (before only those working at least 20 h per week).

Coverage – all Nace activities and legal form are included. While no turnover threshold applies to the Swiss data, a threshold based on obligatory social insurance compensation (2300 CHF income per year) is applied. The necessary data are available from the surveys on newly born enterprises (ex-nihilo) and from social insurance registers.

Methodological deviation - - methodological guidelines are closely followed.

For employer businesses it is not possible to capture entries by growth and exits by decline.

Statistical unit – enterprises.

National publication

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/de/home/statistiken/industrie-dienstleistungen/unternehmen-beschaefigte/unternehmensdemografie.html>

Norway

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

Business demography data are compiled from the Central Register of Establishments and Enterprises (CRE)

Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no significant changes.

Coverage – all Nace activities and legal form are included. In general the coverage of the register is believed to be around 99%. The VAT threshold is 3,698 € (for non-profit organisations - 17,256 €) at the applicable exchange rate in 2000. It is estimated that nearly all of the units below this thresholds are covered by the register either through voluntary VAT registration or from other sources.

Methodological deviation - methodological guidelines were closely followed.

Due to methodological changes, in some size classes/activities with relatively small populations, survival rates for 2001 (therefore relating to enterprises born before 2000) exceed 100%. Enterprise deaths in 2000 were not checked for reactivation, since the population of active enterprises in 2002 is not available. Deaths where the enterprises still had employees were removed from the file. Based on the percentage of reactivation in 2001

(deaths in 1999), a sample of enterprise deaths was removed from deaths in 2000.

In some cases it is possible that for a specific year, activity and size class, the number of enterprises is higher than the number of persons employed. There are two reasons for this:

- the technique used to estimate the number of persons employed from the number of employees. In particular, for limited liability companies, the number of persons employed is set equal to the number of employees.
- the number of persons employed is set to 0 if the total turnover is less than 150 000 NOK (18 087 € at the 2014 exchange rate). Further, the number of persons employed is calculated as the annual average of employees, which is rounded down to 0 if the average is less than 0.5.

Statistical unit – legal units

National publication

<http://www.ssb.no/en/virksomheter-foretak-og-regnskap/statistikker/foretak/aar/2013-05-13?fane=om#content>

Iceland

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data – The current study uses four sources of information. The Business Register (BR) provides the population of units. Three other sources are used to distinguish between active and non-active enterprises. These sources also provide necessary information on turnover and/or on the number of employees. These are: Value Added Taxes (VAT), Corporate tax, PAYE register.

Significant changes of the sources over the years – there are no changes. A new business register was introduced in 2015, which allowed a better use of external registers. Registers by itself did not change. The production system for Business Demography statistics was designed during the period 2017 – 2018 with introduction of more reliable sources, imposing break in series.

Coverage – here is not a threshold for VAT. In general the coverage of the register is the full coverage of the business demography project. Some units in the liberal professions that have no employees in paid employment may be missing. There are no duplicates, because each enterprise has unique personal ID no. or CPR no. Under- or over-coverage due to lags: the primary source for the updating of the business register is the registration at the Directorate of Internal Revenue. The time lag between registration at the Directorate of Internal Revenue and registration at the statistical business register is one day. The time lag between registration at the statistical business register and the actual start of economic activities is about 3 months on average. So, this will result in a little over coverage. The time lag between the actual end of economic activities and deregistration is unknown, and long. In fact, many registered units will never become active. On average about 20% of registered enterprises are not active in the scope of BD. Moreover units may be over covered by misinterpretation of statistical units. For time series from 2008 onwards information is derived from registers without thresholds based on turnover greater than 0 or/ and paid employment greater than 0.

Statistical unit – legal unit as proxy for enterprise.

Methodological deviation – the methodological guidelines have been followed quite strictly. The number of persons employed data has been partially estimated as regards the independent workers. However, additional independent workers have not been added to enterprises having no employees and affiliated or estimated independent workers. As well, values for employment rounded (for each enterprise) – therefore, all zeros are not necessarily true zeros. As a result, the number of persons employed can be less than the number of enterprises for specific data breakdowns.

National publication –

https://px.hagstofa.is/pxen/pxweb/en/Atvinnuvegir/Atvinnuvegir_fyrirtaeki_afkoma_3_lydfraedifyrirtaekja/FYR09001.px
https://px.hagstofa.is/pxen/pxweb/en/Atvinnuvegir/Atvinnuvegir_fyrirtaeki_afkoma_3_lydfraedifyrirtaekja/FYR09002.px
https://px.hagstofa.is/pxen/pxweb/en/Atvinnuvegir/Atvinnuvegir_fyrirtaeki_afkoma_3_lydfraedifyrirtaekja/FYR09003.px
https://px.hagstofa.is/pxen/pxweb/en/Atvinnuvegir/Atvinnuvegir_fyrirtaeki_afkoma_3_lydfraedifyrirtaekja/FYR09004.px

Turkey

Sources and methods for compiling business demography data

Business demography data are compiled from the Business Register as the main source.
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Significant changes of the sources over the years - there are no significant changes.
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Coverage – all Nace activities and legal form are included.
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Methodological deviation - methodological guidelines were closely followed.
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Statistical unit – enterprises.
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National publication – not available.
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