

Industry and Services Statistics

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Business Statistics and Entrepreneurship

Purpose

To provide official annual data for detailed industrial and service sectors (at the 4 digit ISIC level), consistent and relevant for international comparison in order to meet policy makers' and analysts' needs for structural business statistics for detailed economic sectors. Three databases are currently maintained.

To develop a program of internationally-comparable indicators regarding entrepreneurship, its determinants and its impacts, to inform policy-analysis and policy-making.

Objectives and outputs

The databases on structural business statistics (SSIS) and (BSC), updated through a joint questionnaire with UNIDO, contain annual data on core economic variables, relating to both industry and services, at a very detailed level of ISIC revision 3 (up to the 4th digit level). They cover such variables as production, value added, investment, number of enterprises, employment, wages and salaries, and hours worked. Statistics are derived mainly from structural business surveys, censuses and administrative sources.

The BSC database contains this information broken down by enterprise size class. Detailed ISIC revision 3 data as well as sources and definitions is published in a Business Statistics publication, which in 2008 will include a dedicated section on entrepreneurship indicators.

Business Demography Indicators are now being collected formally and will include indicators of birth, death and survival rates and numbers of high growth firms - all based on common concepts developed in the new Eurostat/OECD Manual.

This new Eurostat-OECD Manual on Business Demography Statistics is one of the main achievements in 2007.

In 2007, the OECD was also involved in the organisation of the OECD Structural Business Statistics Experts Meeting and the Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD meeting on business registers.

During the year 2007, the sub-groups of the Entrepreneurship Indicators Steering Group (EISG) have been progressing in activities including the foundation definitions of entrepreneurship; a policy framework for entrepreneurship and the list of core indicators and associated metadata. This last activity is the responsibility of a joint OECD/Eurostat Task Force and it also includes the development of the Measurement Manual that will guide the indicator work. As a result, a framework for measuring entrepreneurship as well as definitions for entrepreneur, entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial activity were proposed. Two meetings of the steering group were held in June and November 2007. The November meeting was preceded by a workshop on the measurement of high-growth enterprises as part of the OECD Entrepreneurship Indicators Program (EIP). In addition to the Steering Group, the Secretariat has maintained an EIP Network so that additional countries and organisations may remain abreast of the Entrepreneurship Indicators work and participate on an ad hoc basis. The EIP was also presented in several fora and meetings.

Databases

Structural Statistics for Industry and Services (SSIS), Business Statistics by Size Class (BSC), and Business Demography Indicators (BSC)

Main Developments for 2008

General aspects:

Expected improvements to SBS statistics in 2008 include the extension of the coverage in the collection of comparable business demography statistics such as births and deaths. Several of these indicators are now formally requested within the annual business demography questionnaires sent to NSOs. Other entrepreneurship indicators will be identified and added.

Also, important outputs will be the production of the Entrepreneurship measurement manual and the Entrepreneurship Indicators compendium in 2008.

Data collection:

More comparable information is expected on business demography and Entrepreneurship statistics, especially on the basis of the new Eurostat-OECD manual on Business Demography Statistics.

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Production and Sales Indicators

Purpose

To provide short-term economic indicators of production, sales, orders, work started and in progress and stocks (and associated methodological information) for OECD member countries and selected large emerging non-member economies to meet the on-going requirements of a number of internal OECD users.

To develop new international standards and the formulation of guidelines for best practice for short-term statistics.

Objectives and outputs

All the subjects under the Production and sales are classified under the following six top headings: Production, Sales, Orders, Work started, Work in progress, Stocks. Within each heading, indicators are further classified according to economic activities. 2007 saw an expansion of indicators especially in the area of Orders and Work Started as a result of cooperation with Eurostat.

A key achievement was the endorsement by CSTAT of the "Compilation Manual for the Index of Services Production" (ISP) produced through the Short-Term Economic Statistics Working Party (STESWP). Application of this manual was also applied to a number of countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa

Databases

MEI_REAL

Main Developments for 2008

General aspects:

A key issue will be to expand the range of services output indicators contained in the MEI database and presenting analysis of this data to STESWP. Discussions would focus on the relative quality of data across countries and the key uses that can be made from it. In this regard, it will be important to engage the Central Banking Community.

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Services Statistics Co-ordination

Purpose

In response to the increasing importance of services in modern economies, and a request from UN Statistical Commission, the activity seeks to coordinate and raise awareness of international development work on services statistics that takes place in a wide variety of expert groups in OECD and in other agencies.

Within OECD a further aim is to provide support as required to database managers in improving dissemination of data on services.

Objectives and outputs

A progress and strategy report is provided to the UN Statistical Commission at its request.

Publish a paper on developments in services, in 2008 this will include aspects of globalisation of services.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, India, International organisation, Russian Federation, South Africa

Main Developments for 2008

General aspects:

In consultation with other agencies a new report on developments and strategy will be prepared in 2008 for UNSC 2009.

Develop web pages for the activity.

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STAN Database for Industrial Analysis

Purpose

To provide a comprehensive database tool for cross-country analyses of industrial performance (competitiveness, productivity etc.) and structural change at a relatively detailed level of activity.

Objectives and outputs

The STAN database for industrial analysis provides analysts and researchers with a comprehensive tool for analysing industrial performance at a relatively detailed level of activity across countries. It includes annual measures of output, labour input, investment and international trade which allow users to construct a wide range of indicators to focus on areas such as productivity growth, competitiveness and general structural change. The industry list provides sufficient detail to enable users to highlight high-technology sectors and is compatible with those used in related OECD databases.

Databases

Database for Industrial Analysis (STAN)

Main Developments for 2008

General aspects:

A new production process based around SAS and SQL is now in place. First updates using the new system appeared at the end of 2007 (after a gap of more than 2 years) for about 10 countries. 2008 will see updates for more countries and dissemination via OECD.Stat data warehouse and its related metadata management systems.

Data management:

Changes in database system, from PCExpress to SAS/SQL

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Steel

Purpose

To meet the mandate of the OECD Steel Committee and provide the statistical background needed for policy discussions in the Committee.

Objectives and outputs

To provide participants of the Steel Committee with a broad range of information on the world steel industry in order to enhance transparency and facilitate discussion by member and non-member economies on challenging policy issues facing the industry. More specifically, the statistical work includes gathering data on steel supply (capacity, production), demand, basic prices, and trade, in addition to data on raw materials used in steelmaking.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Estonia, Europe, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Other, Peru, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela

Main Developments for 2008

General aspects:

The statistical work carried out to support the efforts of the OECD Steel Committee will be enhanced in 2008 through greater cooperation with the International Iron and Steel Institute.

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Tourism

Purpose

To meet the 2007-2011 Mandate of the Tourism Committee: a) improve the measurement of tourism services in OECD economies by addressing government and industry information needs and promoting the tourism satellite account; b) contribute to the dissemination of data on tourism economics and to a more effective use of such data for business and policy analysis and decision-making processes; and c) work in complementarity with other international organisations.

Objectives and outputs

In 2008, the final output result of this activity will be a report making recommendations and disseminating good practices to increase the use of the "Tourism Satellite Account: a recommended methodological framework (TSA)" for business and policy analysis and design. This work will include a survey of initiatives taken by OECD countries and selected non members in this area to examine what is the level of use of data on tourism economics for policy and business purposes. The survey will also consider current gaps and requirements in the measurement and socio-economic analysis of tourism and will identify policy/business priorities for data collection and analysis.

The results of this project will be examined at an ad-hoc meeting of the Tourism Committee on statistics on 18 November 2008.

On 19-21 November 2008, the OECD in cooperation with Eurostat and the French authorities (INSEE and Ministry in charge of Tourism) will co-organise the 9th International Forum on Tourism Statistics.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Romania, South Africa

Databases

Tourism

Main Developments for 2008

General aspects:

The OECD will continue to participate in the context of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Tourism Statistics (UNWTO, Eurostat, ILO, etc.) to the update of the definitions on tourism and of the TSA. The results of these reviews will be presented at the UN Statistical Commission in 2008.