

21th Meeting of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers

- International Roundtable on Business Survey Frames

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Country: Hungary

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1. Organisation and Population of the Business Registers

The maintenance of the Hungarian Business Register is regulated by the Statistical Act of Hungary. The business register is operated by the Business Register Section which is part of the Business Statistics Department of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office since 2007. The BR Section has 10 staff, 2 further programmers of the IT Department are dedicated for register developments. Further human resources are allocated in one regional office with the tasks of business register maintenance; this is a 7 staff in FTE.

The forum of co-operation between the users, the operator and the developer staff of the register is the Business Statistics Committee. This committee supports and controls the Business Register Section in methodological issues and coordinates the activities in business statistics. Members of the Business Statistics Committee are statisticians of various business statistical fields and regional offices.

The main tasks of the BR Section are:

- Maintenance of the data of registered units by administrative and survey data.
- Producing snapshots for survey frame of data collections.
- Producing enterprise statistics, demographic and regional data on enterprises.
- Providing information services subject to charge.

The main task of the IT Department is the IT development of the BR.

The main tasks of the regional office are:

- Recording the survey data of register-related surveys (basic information survey for new enterprises, register update survey).
- Updating and manual corrections of the BR data.
- Profiling of enterprise groups and kind of activity units.

The business register of the HCSO contains the data of all legal units which are registered by the Tax Office and have tax identifier. The tax identifier and the identity code in the register are the same. The registered entities are: companies, partnerships, sole proprietors, government and social security bodies, non-profit institutions with tax number. At the middle of the year 2008 the business register covered 1 million 624 thousand registered legal units, of which 78 thousand non-profit units, 14 thousand governmental units. The number of enterprises raised with more than 300 thousand, because of the so-called "agricultural primary producers", which had to register themselves.

2. Progress and Developments in the Past Year

- Implementation of NACE Rev. 2 to the BR

The following program developments were completed in order to have a NACE Rev. 2 compatible business register: development of the data tables, modification of query and update forms, development of the data tables of the updating sources, a conversion program to carry out the reclassifications, modification of survey frame procedures. During 2007 the enterprises with more than 5 employees reported in statistical surveys their activity according to NACE Rev. 2.

Although a part of the filled questionnaire was not correct. 100% of the units were reclassified but there are enterprises which were reclassified based on estimations. According to the turnover the proportion of these enterprises is only 16 %.

- Improvement of business demography statistics
There was produced new data series of enterprises with at least one employee and on high growth enterprises. Moreover a preliminary estimation of the death enterprises was produced 18 month after the related year.
- Expansion of the enterprise group level of the register.
With the use of administrative sources from the Court Office the data of 6000 enterprise groups were uploaded in the business register.
- Development of the connection and linkage with administrative sources
The HCSO has 3 main data sources about the registration and changes of enterprises. The data of sole proprietors were received through MQ data transmission system with XML messages from the Document Offices of the Inner Ministry until now as well.
Before 2008 October the register updates from the Tax Office arrived once a week on data cassettes. From now on the Tax Office uses an MQ data transmission system and so the register updates are transferred on-line as well. The data transmission system with the Court Offices was developed too.

3. Issues solved, problems and future plans

- Take part in the project EuroGroups Register (EGR)
In cooperation with Eurostat the HCSO provide the Hungarian data to EGR and will participate in the definition of the national preference and priority rules in the process of integration of national data in the EGR.
- Improvement of business demography statistics
Results expected from this activity are the improving of an appropriate estimation method for the death enterprises and bring to perfection the method of calculation of the secondary confidentiality.
- Integration of the satellite registers and the BR
The project on the integration of the non-profit register into the BR is under way. Currently the data collections of non-profit units have a separate non-profit register; some units do not have a BR identifier and are not covered by the BR. During 2009 the two registers will be linked and the BR will be the survey frame for the non-profit data collections as well.