The Development of an Integrated Approach to Business Statistics at United Nations Statistics Division[1]

by

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I. Introduction

In his statement of programme issues to the 38th session of the Statistical Commission[2] on March 2, 2007, Paul Cheung, Director of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), reflected on the ongoing extension of the regular program on economic statistics at UNSD to basic statistics beyond the traditional core domains covered by the programme such as national accounting, environmental accounting and statistics, merchandise trade and trade in services, classifications, industrial and energy statistics.

"….. We are also in the process of refocusing our economic statistics programme on basic economic statistics. In 2007 UNSD will undertake further steps in such areas as economic census and surveys, statistical business registers, use of administrative data with a purpose of identifying good practices and promoting them among the countries to improve their capability to compile quality basic statistics in the most cost effective way. In addition to documenting national practices, UNSD will finalize draft recommendations on industrial and distributive trade statistics and produce a technical report on economic census and surveys in the African context and on results of the worldwide review of practices in international trade statistics. In response to requests from countries, we have also started the preparation of Handbooks on Good Practices in Economic Census in general and on Use of Administrative Data in particular. Similar normative work is undertaken on Manual on Water Statistics and a revision of Energy Statistics Manuals has started. We believe that this focus on basic economic statistics will bring long-term benefits and will support the implementation of the System of National Accounts…."

This note sets out in more detail the integrated approach to business statistics and its programme. The description of the approach elaborates on the objective, purpose, use and integrated structure of the UNSD program on business statistics. A separate note will be prepared for the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental Economic

[1] Paper prepared for the OECD Structural Business Statistics Expert Meeting – Paris, 10-11 May 2007. The views expressed are those of the authors. The acknowledgements of references to other texts has to be added.

[2] Full text of the statement of programme issues http://unstats.un.org/unsd/newsletter/speeches/Programme%20Statement%20to%20the%2038th%20Session%20of%20the%20Stat%20Com.pdf

Accounting to elaborate on the program in the domain of environmental accounting and statistics, including energy statistics.

It should be observed that that the work on the extension of the economic statistics programme reflects more a renewed than a novel interest of UNSD. Traditionally, UNSD has issued from the late 1940s onwards international recommendations and manuals on the structural and short-term statistics in the economic statistical domains[3] of industrial statistics, distributive trade statistics and tourism statistics (see annex 1 for UN statistical publications) apart from its ongoing program on national accounts, trade and energy statistics. Based on explicit requests from countries and international agencies, UNSD is re-focusing the economic statistics program to the revision of existing international recommendations and drafting of new international recommendations, compilation guidance and related publications in the domains of business statistics in support of the implementation of the SNA.

II. Objective and purpose of business statistics

As an internationally agreed premise, the objective and purpose of business statistics pertain to two distinct but interrelated set of statistics, structural business statistics and short-term business statistics.

The structural business statistics are production-related statistics that are collected, compiled, transmitted and evaluated to establish the structure, activity, competitiveness and performance of businesses at national, regional and international level.

By contrast, the short-term business statistics are production-related statistics that are collected, compiled, transmitted and evaluated to establish the business cycle with respect to the short-term evaluation of supply and demand, production factors and prices.

The UNSD is in the process of articulating a common integrated framework encompassing both the structural and short-term business statistics in goods and services producing industries. This framework will be based on common methodological principles and common definitions of characteristics that will allow for a coordinated compilation of harmonized statistics with reliability, flexibility and the level of detail required to meet the needs of the governments, business community and regional and international agencies.

[3] The coverage of economic domains as formulated by the Statistical Commission is: 1. National accounts, 2. Agriculture statistics, 3. Forestry and fishery statistics, 4.Industrial statistics, 5. Energy statistics, 6. Distributive trade statistics, 7. International trade statistics: i. Trade in goods and ii.Trade in services, 8.Transport statistics, 9. Communication statistics, 10. Tourism statistics, 11.Statistics of services not included elsewhere, 12. Money, finance and insurance statistics, 13. Fiscal statistics, 14.Balance of payments statistics, 15.Prices statistics, 16.Statistics of science, technology and patents, 17. Other economic statistics

Structural business statistics generally provide information referring to a whole reference year. They show changes from one year to the next, and can be used to judge the accuracy of infra-annual data, which is often produced from smaller sample sizes. The production figures from structural business statistics can also be used to compare with product data from the commodity production surveys. Finally they can provide a benchmark population figure for analyzing infrequent, irregular or one-off surveys.

Short-term business statistics are often used to produce monthly or quarterly indicators, and often take the form of indices. They are usually produced to a strict timetable, and they are required as soon as possible by policy makers. Sometimes this means that initial figures are subsequently revised as more data is collected and analyzed.

III. Use of Business Statistics

A. Business statistics and national accounts

At the present stage of formulating the common business statistics framework, structural business statistics are used as one of the inputs for the compilation of production-related annual national accounts statistics. The list of variables that are identified for collection and compilation pertain to the compilation of supply and use tables depicting the structure of production and the links among the different branches (grouping of industrial activities). Structural business statistics try to meet these demands in two different ways. Firstly, by the production of enterprise data broken-down into principal and secondary activities (in the supply table), and secondly, by the role given to the statistical unit used to provide information on the technical conditions of the production process (in the use table). Also the list of variables supports the collection and compilation of changes in inventories and gross fixed capital formation. At a later stage the business statistics may be extended for selected activities to generate sector accounts.

Quarterly national accounts statistics are based on short term business statistics mainly in the form of indexes on production, turnover, prices, employment and wages and salaries, order books, etc. that allow for a systematic compilation of real GDP by economic activities.

Given the importance of basic business statistics in the compilation of annual and infra-annual national accounts statistics, wherever possible, the concepts and definitions have been adapted to those in the 1993 System of National Accounts (1993 SNA). This requirement has been balanced against the ability of respondents to provide information and the cost and burden attached to the provision of this information.

B. Other uses of Business Statistics

There are many users of business statistics with many different motivations for using the data. Depending of the scope of the variables included in the collections, the business statistics could in principle cater to analysis on:

- Demographics of enterprises (births, cessations, active, non-active units, ownership (public, private, foreign controlled), etc.)
- Production and turnover
- Generation of waste and scrap products (as input in the waste and emissions information system)
- Investment (by different assets categories)
- Employment (number, hours worked, status, type of employment (production, non-production workers) organization of employment (partime/full time, employment in the informal sector, etc.)
- Energy expenditures (main energy products in volume and value as input in the energy information system)
- Expenditures on use of other natural resources (e.g. use of water and minerals as input in water and mineral information system)
- Environmental expenditures (environmental protection expenditures, investments, etc.)
- Research and development expenditure (number of persons, employment cost, value, etc.)
- Sub-contracting (work done on physical inputs owned by others)

The availability of micro dataset allows the evolution of individual units to be studied in the following ways:

- Activity analysis – this analysis pertains to the structural change in one activity or to the comparison of relative performance of several activities within or between reference periods.
- Geographical analysis – this analysis allows for details between different Member States, measuring phenomena by region or world total.
- Size class analysis - this analysis shows the relationship between the various sizes of enterprises and their activity and performance, as well as the different size structures of the activities by providing an indication of the degree of concentration and competition. Moreover, it allows for analysis of employment and performance differences between smaller and larger enterprises. This type of analysis is particularly important for studying business demography.
- Ownership analysis – This analysis allows for comparison of performances across the various ownership and control like public, private and foreign-owned enterprises by economic activities and between economic activities.

With the use of structural and short-term business statistics for the four distinct types of analysis, it is paramount that the common framework for business statistics should ensure coherence of concepts and definitions and other characteristics across economic activities, geographical areas, size classes and ownership of the enterprises.

IV. The components of the common framework for business statistics

Introduction

The common framework consists of ten interrelated statistical components. Each component will be described briefly in turn along with the programme activities undertaken by UNSD in recent years:

- Industry-specific international recommendations (specifying the industry-related dissemination variables and their characteristics)
- Production list of industrial goods
- Classifications
- Statistical units
- Sample frameworks including business registers and economic censuses
- Compilation guides
- National practices in compilation and dissemination
- Quality assessments
- Transmission protocols
- Glossary of terms and definitions

Industry-specific international recommendations (specifying the list of dissemination variables and their characteristics)

Description

In principle, the industry-specific list of dissemination variables and characteristics pertain to the description of the series of statistics to be compiled and disseminated for both structural and short-term business statistics. These series of structural and short-term business statistics should cater to need for comparative structural and business cycle analysis across activities, class sizes, geographical areas and ownership arrangements. This component of the framework for integrated business statistics should reflect an *output approach*, defining the detail of the series of variables to be compiled and disseminated as distinct from an *input approach*, describing national practices for data collection of basic data for those variables through an economic survey program.

Rather than formulating explicit detailed recommendations for the methods of collection and processing of basic data, it will be left to the country to decide on the most appropriate methods of collection and processing of basic data. As a reference for the countries, compendiums of compilation guides and country practices on collection and processing of basic data (see component on Compilation Guides and National Practices) should be prepared to select the most suitable practice giving the prevailing legal and administrative circumstances and existing statistical infrastructure.

In defining the output series of variables for business statistics, various characteristics of the variables have to be described of which supporting tables will be provided for structural business statistics and short-term business statistics. The descriptions of the characteristics of the list of variables pertain to:

- The definition of dissemination variables (with links to business accounts and other variables)
- The specific economic activities for which the statistics are to be compiled
- The types of statistical unit to be used for the compilation of the activities (e.g. enterprises, KAU, local KAU unit)
- The reference period of the variables
- The level of detail of the variables determined by ISIC level

The coverage of business statistics does not include agriculture, forestry and fishing (ISIC Section A) and Public Administration and Defense, including compulsory social security (ISIC Section O). Moreover, the recommendations for the definition of output series are grouped by:

- Industry – mining, manufacturing, electricity and water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (ISIC Section B, C, D, E)
- Construction (ISIC Section F)
- Distributive trade (ISIC Section G)
- Transportation and storage (ISIC Section H)
- Financial and insurance activities - (ISIC Section K)
- Tourism – including part of transportation, accommodation and food service activities (ISIC Section H and I)
- Other services –including information and communication (ISIC Section J), real estate activities (ISIC Section L), professional, scientific and technical activities (ISIC Section M), administrative and support service activities (ISIC Section N), education (ISIC Section P), human health and social work activities (ISIC Section Q), arts, entertainment and recreation (ISIC Section R) and other service activities– (ISIC Section S)

UNSD programme activities

Traditionally, UNSD has published international recommendations on structural business statistics on industry, construction, distributive trade and tourism (see annex 1). Those recommendations on industry, distributive trade and tourism are presently subject to revision following the update of the 1993 SNA as a result of the new economic business environment warranting conceptual amendments in the recommendations on statistical units, classification and terminology of assets, capitalisation of research and development expenditures and environmental-related issues with production. Moreover, the revised international recommendations will reflect on integrated approach to unification of the list of dissemination variables and coding, fully aligning text on statistical units, cross referencing of text, etc.

In keeping with the tradition of preparing methodological guidance on business statistics, progressively UNSD will publish recommendations on structural business statistics and short-term business statistics.

Regarding structural business statistics, the international recommendations on industrial statistics, the international recommendations on distributive trade and the international recommendations on tourism statistics are subject to revision. The related expert groups have been established and will re-convene in June and July of 2007 to review the first drafts of the international recommendations.

In conjunction, substantive work has progressed on the international recommendations on index numbers of industrial production (IIP) and distributive trade indexes to cover a suite of short-term business statistics.

Production list of industrial goods

Description

Based on a limited UN list of industrial commodities, the production values and volumes are determined at a detailed product level, which are representative for major industrial activities. The purpose is to determine the comparative evolution and structure of industrial production. Also an assessment is provided for the contract processing on fee basis (i.e. outsourcing).

UNSD programme activities

A Revised UN list of Industrial Products (List) has been developed in 2005. It forms the basis on which annual data for the United Nations Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook is compiled, starting with the 2004 collection round. This List, which is used in the questionnaire, is comprised of a selected set of products intended for data collection on industrial production. It is not intended to represent an exhaustive list of industrial manufacturing products. Products have been selected on the basis of their overall importance and their importance as outputs of individual ISIC industries in the world economy. Moreover, a consolidated list on contract processing services for industrial products has been included.

The List includes 563 commodities, which for publication purposes, will be supplemented by selected agriculture-related products as well as selected energy products from secondary sources.

It is noted that this list is still being evaluated based on the responses from countries. By 2009, it is expected to be released to the Statistical Commission as the revision of the recommendations on Commodity Production of 1971.

Classifications

Description

Classifications are used to categorize statistical data in homogenous groupings that are the object of the statistics in question. For business statistics, two international systems of classification are more important, i.e. the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) and Central Product Classification (CPC).

ISIC is intended to classify statistical units by productive economic activities that can be utilized for the collection and presentation of production-related data. The introduction to the publication provides the details on the principles and criteria of classification and coding. Also at length the boundary issues between the various industries are described such as between manufacturing and distributive trade. Evidently, the publications provide the structure, explanatory notes and the details on the concordances with other classification including the product classifications.

The CPC presents the harmonized classification of goods and services. As the ISIC, it describes the principles and criteria of classification, the structure, explanatory notes and concordances.

UNSD programme activities

As a matter of fact, the one of the first statistical publication issued by the United Nations in the late 1940s pertained to the activity classification. Over time, the work on classifications accumulated in the release of ISIC Rev. 4 and CPC v.2 which were submitted to the Statistical Commission in 2006.

Further methodological work is ongoing in the area of compilation guidance in the application of ISIC and CPC for their interpretation and national adaptations. Moreover, additional statistical documents are considered to support the implementation of ISIC and CPC like the (a) the guide on the adaptation of business registers, (b) the guide on adaptation of sample frames and weights and (c) the guide on backcasting of timeseries.

Statistical units

Description

Statistical units are an essential component of the integrated framework of business statistics. With the use of common definitions of statistical units, it will be possible to provide integrated statistical information with reliability, flexibility and degree of detail for the analysis of the production system.

UNSD programme activities

UNSD is preparing a functional international reference document on statistical units that is applicable to most of the statistical publications including the domains of business statistics. At present, the definitions of the units are revised based on the update of the 1993 SNA and other macroeconomic frameworks reflecting the multiple use of the concept of statistical unit in international statistical recommendations.

Sample Frameworks

Business register

Description

The availability of business registers is of fundamental importance to the compilation of the statistics needed to provide indicators of both short-term and structural economic developments. More specifically, the business registers is applied:

- For the detection and construction of statistical units;
- As a tool for the preparation and co-ordination of surveys, and for grossing up survey results;
- As a source of information for statistical analysis of the business population and its demography;
- As a tool for the mobilization of administrative data;
- As a dissemination tool.

The scope and nature of national business registers are determined by country specific factors. The primary factor concerns the purposes for which the register is used, e.g. as a tool for the conduct of surveys, or as a source for statistics in its own right. A second major factor is that legal requirements determine to a significant extent both the information available to build and maintain business registers, and the limits within which that information may be stored and used. Thirdly, the information which businesses need for their own purposes, or to fulfil administrative requirements, governs to a large extent the information a statistical institute can obtain for its register, since it is often difficult to persuade enterprises to supply information which they do not themselves need. Finally, business registers are very expensive to compile and maintain, and the resources devoted to them vary between Member States.

UNSD programme activities

If the coverage, comprehensiveness and quality of these registers vary between countries, the data produced from them, either directly or via statistical surveys, are difficult to integrate to produce aggregates across countries. The goal of consistent and comparable statistics cannot be achieved without some form of standardization of registers. Therefore clear international guidelines are required for the harmonization of definition of units, coverage of active units, update/maintenance procedures, characteristics of units like turnover, employment, etc.

UNSD will initiate collections on country practices in statistical business registers in 2008 which is expected to result in an international recommendation on statistical business registers in 2009.

Economic census

Description

Economic censuses are periodically undertaken in many countries to generate detailed small area statistics for enterprises and establishments with non-agricultural activities to generate a limited set of demographic statistics for those units related to their location, year of establishment, size of employment, value of sales or turnover, ownership structure, intra-establishments relationship, etc.

These small area statistics of all production units in a country or a well-delimited part of the country have multiple uses. For public administration, they are used for allocating funding to particular geographical areas, measuring the impacts of industrial development and the like. Moreover, they are of great importance for the national statistical system in providing the area frame for sample surveys and the information to update and maintain the statistical business registers. In addition, they have their application in research and analysis for projections and as benchmark statistics used by government, private sector and general public. In many instances, the benchmark collections of economic activities on a census basis are undertaken in conjunction with economic censuses for production units above a certain cut-off point to generate production statistics on the internationally recommended list of variables based on the statistical output frameworks for business statistics.

UNSD programme activities

UNSD will initiate collections on country practices in the conduct of economic censuses in 2008 which is expected to result in an international recommendation on statistical economic censuses in 2009.

Compilation guides

Description

In addition to the normative standards on business statistics, practical guidance in compiling and applying the normative standards are requested by countries. These compilation guides are based on a critical review of country practices

UNSD programme activities

For various normative standards, compiler's manuals are planned like for the ISIC and the CPC, international recommendations on industrial statistics, distributive trade, business registers and economic census. Progressively they will become available in 2009 and 2010

National practices on compilation and dissemination

Description

In order to cater to the requests of countries to provide guidance on the data collection methods for business statistics, this component of the integrated framework for business statistics provides two separate sets of compendiums of country practices on structural and short-term business statistics organized for selected groupings of the above-mentioned economic activities. These country practices will include actual compilation and dissemination practices including the editing, verification and adjustments to the basic data, weighting procedures to compile aggregates, link to national accounts, etc.

These descriptions of country practices would support the preparation of detailed outlines of metadata for each of the components of the integrated framework for business statistics.

UNSD programme activities

A broad range of national practices on compilation and dissemination are expected to be collected on various topics in the period 2007 to 2009 to support the preparation of compilation guidance.

Quality assessment

Description

Based on the recommendations on business statistics, well-defined quality assessments criteria should be drawn up for each of the individual components of the integrated framework on business statistics. These quality assessment criteria will allow countries to undertake self-assessments that could feed into the formulation of request for technical assistance for the realization of the national statistical capability and capacity in business statistics.

UNSD programme activities

Progressively with the revision of the international recommendations on business statistics, descriptions will be added on aspects of quality assessment.

Transmission protocols

Description

Protocols should established for the transmission of data by countries to designated international and regional agencies including data electronic formats and non-electronic formats such as questionnaires, frequency of reporting, deadlines, etc. Also transition periods the adoption of the recommendations for individual or groups of countries could be formulated.

UNSD programme activities

In the area of business statistics, only the databases on industrial production and industrial production indexes are held at UNSD. Most countries transmit the requested data through a questionnaire in excel files. The Prodcom files received from European

counties are mainly in excel or text format. Initial work has started to phase-in the use of SDMX in other domains of economic statistics like merchandise trade statistics but so far the progress is limited.

Glossary of terms and definitions

Description

A glossary of terms and definition should be established for ease of reference and harmonization of terminology.

UNSD programme activities

Already central repositories of statistical terms and definitions exist, which will be reviewed and updated along with the drafting of the international recommendations.

V. Integrated Approach to Business Statistics at UNSD

The integrated approach to business statistics at UNSD as reflected in the scheduled work program of UNSD till 2009 (see annex 2) has been summarized in a schematic presentation on the next page.

In principle, each international recommendation on business statistics should be accompanied by a compilation guide, national practices, quality assessment framework and glossary of terms and definitions. These statistical components could be released either as separate publications or in a combined publication. Some of the "boxes" related to some of the international recommendations have not been indicated because the work is not foreseen in the near future due to shortage of resources.

The evaluation and review of the existing manual on construction still has to take place in light of the changing economic environment since 1997 and the consistency with other international recommendations and macroeconomic frameworks like the SNA and BPM.

Also further evaluation will be undertaken to assess the need to extend the present coverage of structural business statistics recommendations to services producing activities like transport and other services.

Schematic Presentation of the Integrated Approach to Business Statistics at UNSD

Type of Statistical Product	Structural Business Statistics				Short-term business statistics		Classifications		Units	Sample frames	
Methodological Standard	International Recommendation on Industrial Statistics (IRIS)	International Recommendations on Distributive Trade Statistics (DTS)	International Recommendations on Construction Statistics	International Recommendations on Tourism Statistics	International Recommendations on Industrial Production Indexes (IIP)	International Recommendations on Distributive Trade Indexes (DTI)	International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) Rev. 4	Central Product Classification (CPC Ver 2.0	International Recommendations on Statistical Units	International Recommendations on Statistical Business Register (SBS)	International Recommendations on Economic Census
Database	IRIS Data	DTS Data			IIP Data	DTI Data					
Compilation Guide	IRIS Guide	DTS Guide			IIP Guide	DTI Guide	ISIC Guide	CPC Guide			
Compilation and Dissemination Practices	IRIS Practices	DTS Practices			IIP Practices	DTI Practices	ISIC Practices	CPC Practices		SBS Practices	Census Practices
Quality assessment	IRIS Quality	DTS Quality			IIP Quality	DTI Quality	ISIC Quality	CPC Quality		SBS Quality	Census Quality
Glossary of Terms and Definitions	IRIS Glossary	DTS Glossary		Tourism Glossary	IIP Glossary	DTI Glossary	ISIC Glossary	CPC Glossary	Units Glossary	SBS Glossary	Census Glossary

Annex 1.

Selected UN International Recommendations and Manuals on the Structural and Short-term Business Statistics since the 1950s.

Structural business statistics

Industrial statistics

1. International Standards in Basic Industrial Statistics, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 17, 1953 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E. 1953.XVII.7). International Recommendations in Basic Industrial Statistics: A Guide to Objectives and Definitions, Statistical Papers, Series M, No.17, Rev. 1, 1960 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.60.XVII.8). International Recommendations for Industrial Statistics, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 48, 1968 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.68.XVII.10).
2. The 1973 World Programme of Industrial Statistics. Summary of Data from selected countries. Statistical Papers, Series P, No. 15 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.79.XVII.3).
3. International Recommendations for the 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics – Part Two Organisation and Conduct of Industrial Censuses. Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 17 (Part II) (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.81.XVII.12).
4. International Recommendations for Industrial Statistics, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 48, Rev. 1, 1983 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.83.XVII.8).
5. Strategies for Measuring Industrial Structure and Growth, Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 65, 1993 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.94.XVII.11).

Construction statistics

1. International Recommendations for Construction Statistics, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 47, 1968 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.68.XVII.11)
2. International Recommendations for Construction Statistics, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 47, Rev. 1, 1997 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.97.XVII.11).

Distributive trade and other services statistics

6. International Recommendations in Statistics of Distribution, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 26, 1958 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.58.XVII.4)
7. International Recommendations on Statistics of the Distributive Trades and Services, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 57, 1975 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.75.XVII.9)
8. Organization and Conduct of Distributive-Trade Survey, Studies in Methods, Series F, No.19 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.77.XVII.3).

Classifications

1. International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) Rev. 3.1. Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 4, Rev. 3.1 (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.03.XVII.4)

2. Central Product Classification (CPC) Version 1.0, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 77 Ver.1.0, (United Nations Publication

Short-term business statistics

1. Index Numbers of Industrial Production 1950 (Studies in methods No. 1).
2. Guidelines of a System of Price and Quantity Statistics 1977 (Series M, No. 59)
3. Manual on Producers' Price Indices for Industrial Goods 1979 (Series M, No. 66)

Annex 2

United Nations Statistics Division
Program on Business Statistics
List of Methodological Publications and Compendiums of National Practices
Draft (to be confirmed)

Industrial statistics:

1. International Recommendations on Industrial Statistics, 2008.
2. United Nations List of Industrial Products for Commodity Production, 2009.
3. Manual on Index Numbers of Industrial Production, 2009.
4. National Practices in Collection and Compilation of Index Numbers of Industrial Production, 2008.

Distributive trade statistics:

1. International Recommendations on Distributive Trade Statistics, 2008.
2. National Practices in Compilation and Dissemination of Distributive Trade Statistics, 2008.
3. Distributive Trade Statistics: Compilers Manual, 2009.
4. Indices of Distributive Trade: A Handbook of Good Practices, 2009.

Tourism statistics

1. International Recommendations on Tourism Statistics (jointly with UNWTO), 2009
2. National Practices in Compilation and Dissemination of Tourism Statistics, 2009 (jointly with UNWTO).
3. Tourism Satellite Account: Recommended Methodological Framework, Revision 1, 2009 (jointly with WTO, CEC, OECD and IMF).

Classifications:

1. International Standard Industrial Classification for all Economic Activities Revision 4, 2006 (to be printed in 2008).
2. Central Product Classification Version 2, 2007.
3. ISIC/CPC user's guide, 2008.
4. Implementation of ISIC Rev.4: Adaptation of Business Registers, 2009.
5. Implementation of ISIC Rev.4: Handbook on Backcasting, 2009.

Economic census:

1. National Practices in Economic Census, 2008.
2. International Recommendations on Economic Census, 2009

Business register

1. National Practices in Statistical Business Register, 2008.
2. International Recommendations on Statistical Business Register, 2009.

Other publications

1. Reference List of Data Items and Dissemination Variables for Use in Economic Statistics (electronic version), 2008.
2. Statistical and Reporting Units (electronic version), 2008
3. Glossary of Terms and Definitions for Use in Economic Statistics (electronic version), 2008.