

Survey Units for Economic Statistics Establishments, Enterprises, or...?

John Murphy

**Methodology Director for Classification, U.S. Census Bureau
Chair Economic Classification Policy Committee (ECPC)**

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Considerations

- **Characteristics of industrial or activity classification**
- **Definition of Establishment**
- **Collection realities**

Classification Characteristics

- **Homogeneity**
 - Supply v. Demand
 - Steel mill vs. other not elsewhere classified
 - Treatment of vertical integration
- **ISIC vs. NAICS on integration**
 - Go to final product?
 - Base on production process?

Establishment Definition

- “...an enterprise or part of an enterprise that is situated in a single location and in which only a single (non-ancillary) productive activity is carried out or in which the principal productive activity accounts for most of the value added.”
- “the smallest operating entity for which records provide information on the cost of resources-materials, labor, and capital-employed to produce units of output.”

Collection Issues

- Census – Establishment (usually)
- Annual – Company or establishment
- Monthly – Company or ?
- Is there a consistent location for reporting the needed data?
 - Division, corporate segment, other?
 - What happens when one location serves two segments?

Neither Enterprise nor Establishment Guidance?

- Organization of multi-establishment enterprises often focus on product lines or markets
 - E.g., home products vs. industrial products
 - E.g., North American Division vs. European Division

New Guidance?

- **Different uses might require different survey units**
 - Sales vs. margins
 - Total output indices
 - Input/Output tables
- **Define and prioritize what is needed and choose the most appropriate units?**