



Business Register and Gender Topics

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Statistical Business Register (SBR)

The SBR delivers the basic information for **conducting economic surveys** by providing the **populations of statistical units and their characteristics**. Further, the SBR provides **links to administrative units and registers**, thus enabling the **use of administrative data for statistical purposes**. It also provides **unique identifiers** enabling linkages at the micro-level across statistical domains as needed.

Source: Guidelines on Statistical Business Register, United Nations, UNECE, Geneva 2015, page 1, chapter 1, 1.4)



Statistical Business Register (SBR)

A business register **combines different sources**, such as tax records, other administrative records etc. using unique identifiers.

All **survey populations** drawn from the business register and **all administrative data matched to it**, ensures that information from different data sources is classified consistently.

Source: Guidelines on Integrated Economic Statistics, United Nations, New York, 2013, page 63, 5.53)



Framework regulation integrating business statistics (FRIBS)

Recital 9 FRIBS

The role of national statistical business registers and the EuroGroups register **should be enhanced as basic infrastructure for the collection and compilation of European business statistics**. National statistical business registers should be used as source of information for statistical analysis of the **business population and its demography**, for the **definition of the survey population** and for establishing the **link to administrative data sources**.



Framework regulation integrating business statistics (FRIBS)

Business registers (BR): the **national business registers** include information on the active business population (i.e. statistical units). **They play a central role in the production of business statistics** both in terms of the way the statistics are produced and their content and quality. **Besides names and addresses of the statistical units**, they also cover other characteristics such as **start date/closure date of the unit, economic activity (NACE), employment, turnover, legal form, plus formation on control and ownership relations**; (Stammdaten/données de référence)



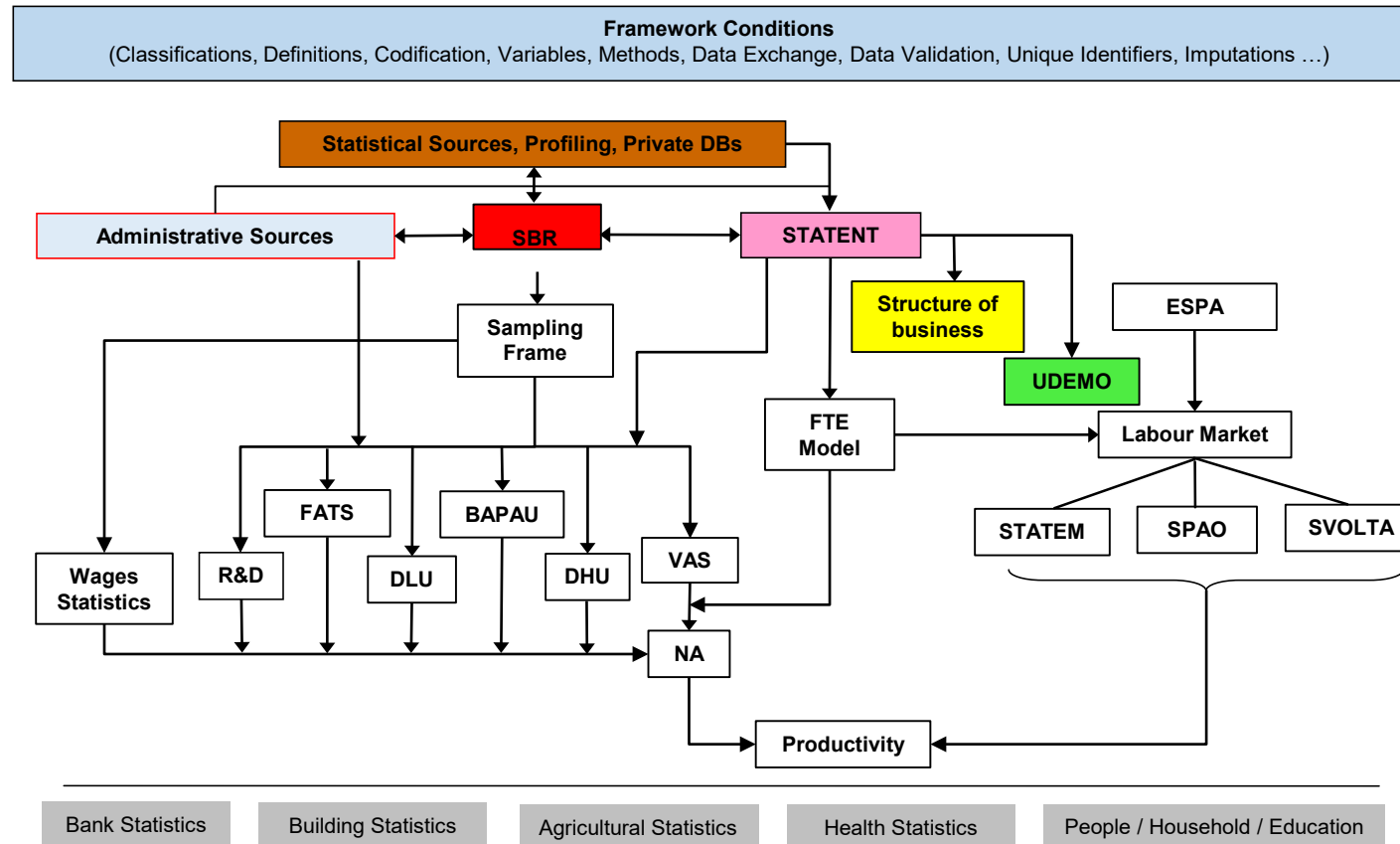
Implementation in Switzerland

In accordance with the requirements formulated in FRIBS, and before that by CE No 177/2008, the business register is the backbone of business statistics and used as a tool for conducting economic statistics (input side).

All surveys in the field of economic statistics use the SBR as a basis.



Centralised data system for Business Statistics





SBR requirements in Switzerland

To ensure the continuous updating of statistical units

To ensure the continuous updating of the following characteristics:

- Opening/closing (status)
- Structure
- Location
- Activity code
- Legal form
- Institutional sector
- Group information
- Employment
- Turnover



Terms and conditions for making SBR data available (OUTPUT)

Art. 10 para. 3 of the Federal Statistics Act (FStatA) provides the basis for the use of SBR

³ The Federal Office cooperates closely with the cantons in the maintenance of a Business and Enterprise Register (BER) used as an aid in conducting surveys on businesses and enterprises. The Federal Council may provide that specific data is also used for purposes related to specific persons in the public interest.

Articles 9, 10 and 11 and the annex to the SBR Ordinance (OREE) provide the basis for regulating the use of the SBR for statistics and administration.

Art. 10 para. 1 (OREE) states that the identifiers, the economic activity code and the structure can be communicated in a general way, i. e. they are public.



Administrative use of the SBR

Since the beginning of the SBR, and well before the implementation of the FStatA, the SBR has been used as a reference base for administrative activities.

For example, the unemployment insurance system (PLASTA) uses the SBR as a universe for managing unemployment insurance activities. The characteristics of the SBR such as Entity Status, Location, Activity Code, Size Class are fundamental information in this use.

The Confederation awards contracts for services in Switzerland only to companies guaranteeing compliance with the Federal Act on Public Procurement. This covers working conditions, industrial safety regulations (Employment Act; Accident Insurance Act) and equal pay for men and women (Equality Act). SBR is use to screen the enterprises involved (<https://www.ebg.admin.ch/ebg/en/home/topics/work/equal-pay/government-controls-in-public-procurement.html>)

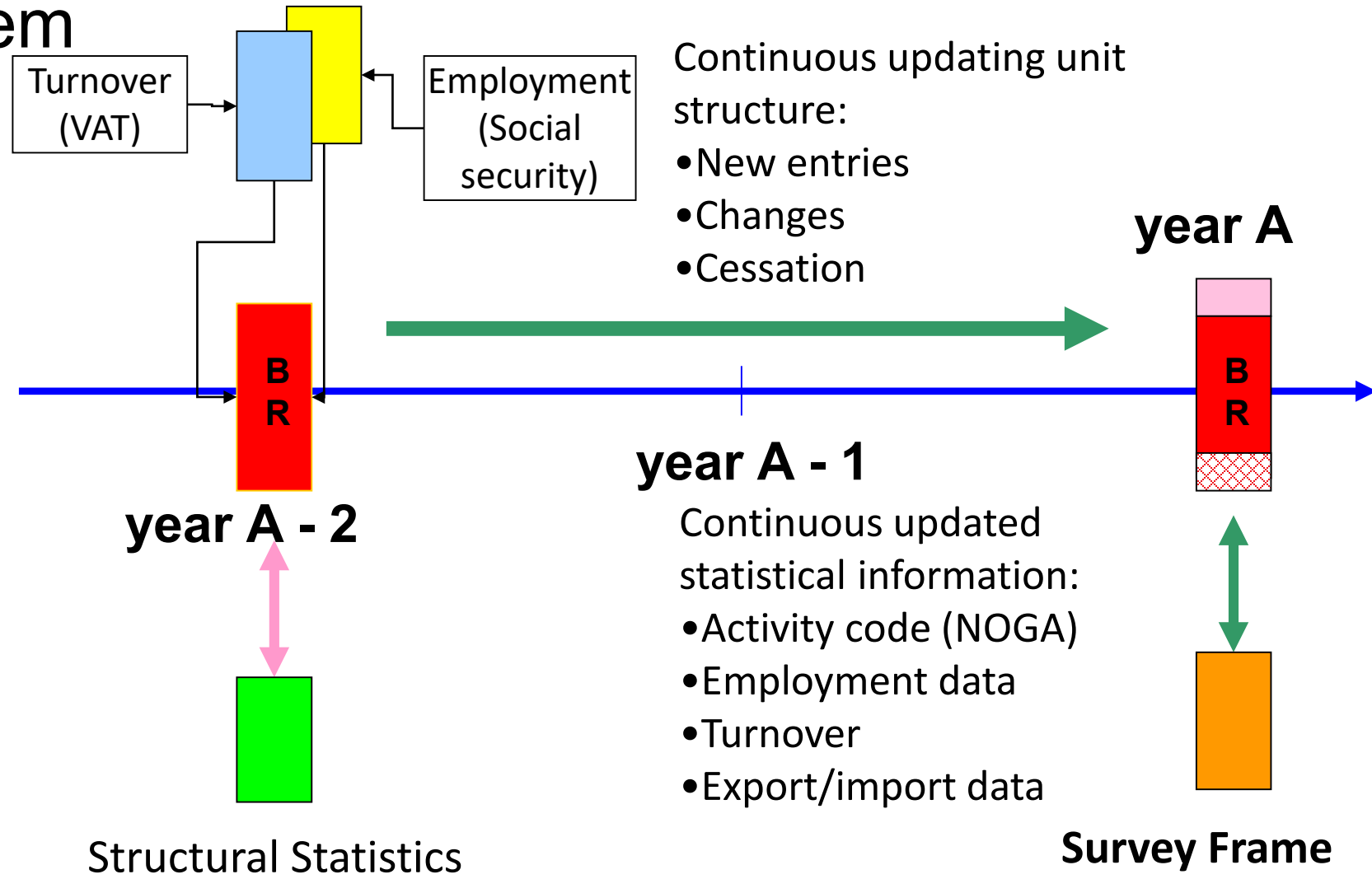


The survey framework for business statistics

- The survey framework is based on the SBR
- The FSO uses the sampling frame for all enterprise statistics surveys
- Each year a new survey framework is provided with all the metadata necessary to explain the changes (transfer, mergers, etc.)
- The coordination of the sampling system must be ensured. The use of this system reduces the administrative burden on companies



Survey Frame System





How the register can contribute to the gender topic

- The characteristics contained in the register can provide basic information to describe the sex structure of enterprises
- Enterprise statistics surveys can contain questions on sex or gender (entrepreneurship)
- The sampling frame can be used to conduct thematic surveys
- At the administrative level, the register is used to control the policy of public procurement



Example of how to use the characteristics of the register

- Distribution of number of enterprises and employment by sex and legal form
- Division 2 NACE where women's employment is mainly in sole proprietorships
- Business demographics
- Creation of businesses (entrepreneurship)



Distribution of number of enterprises, employment, by sex, legal form

| Legal form | Text Legal form | FTE_T | FTE_M | FTE_F | TOT_ENT | % |
|------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------|
| 1 | Sole proprietorship | 372327 | 217349 | 154978 | 317300 | 52.6% |
| 2 | Simple partnership | 23805 | 11525 | 12280 | 8820 | 1.5% |
| 3 | General partnership | 17152 | 10147 | 7005 | 6116 | 1.0% |
| 4 | Limited partnership | 3536 | 2240 | 1296 | 820 | 0.1% |
| 5 | Partnership limited by shares | 148 | 96 | 53 | 7 | 0.0% |
| 6 | Company limited by shares | 2138023 | 1442640 | 695382 | 120377 | 20.0% |
| 7 | Limited liability company | 370905 | 244594 | 126311 | 113910 | 18.9% |
| 8 | Cooperative | 107996 | 49538 | 58458 | 3259 | 0.5% |
| 9 | Association | 154948 | 59018 | 95930 | 21146 | 3.5% |
| 10 | Foundation | 129147 | 42807 | 86340 | 4072 | 0.7% |
| 11 | Swiss branch of an enterprise domiciled abroad registered in the commercial register | 17237 | 11080 | 6156 | 1703 | 0.3% |
| 12 | Swiss branch of an enterprise domiciled abroad not registered in the commercial register | 1366 | 949 | 417 | 197 | 0.0% |
| 13 | Special legal form | 15 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 0.0% |
| 17 | Public sector institution | 115699 | 62072 | 53627 | 263 | 0.0% |
| 20 | Federal administration | 36216 | 25313 | 10904 | 1 | 0.0% |
| 21 | Cantonal administration | 181495 | 86990 | 94505 | 26 | 0.0% |
| 22 | District administration | 816 | 394 | 422 | 12 | 0.0% |
| 23 | Local administration | 88553 | 45898 | 42654 | 2180 | 0.4% |
| 24 | Public corporation | 63896 | 35279 | 28618 | 2375 | 0.4% |
| 31 | Cantonal public company | 30209 | 10025 | 20183 | 76 | 0.0% |
| 32 | District public company | 397 | 72 | 324 | 8 | 0.0% |
| 33 | Local public company | 24437 | 9457 | 14980 | 237 | 0.0% |
| 34 | Corporate public company | 25933 | 9097 | 16836 | 178 | 0.0% |
| | TOTAL | 3904256 | 2376588 | 1527668 | 603084 | |



Using sole proprietorship as entry point for analysis

- Sole proprietors are an important part of entities in the business register
- Sole proprietors are easy to process in terms of sex and provide a good indicator of entrepreneurship
- Sole proprietors are easy to identify as entities that have the biggest fluctuations in terms of demographics
- Sole proprietors could offer other points of analysis in terms of demographic aspects (age, etc.)



Division 2 NACE where women's employment is the greater share among Sole proprietors

| NACE_2 | NACE_2_TXT | FTE_T | FTE_M | FTE_F | TOT_ENT |
|--------|--|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| 10 | Manufacture of food products | 6448 | 2815 | 3633 | 1582 |
| 13 | Manufacture of textiles | 333 | 100 | 233 | 463 |
| 14 | Manufacture of wearing apparel | 837 | 152 | 685 | 1448 |
| 47 | Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 21839 | 9835 | 12005 | 17412 |
| 56 | Food and beverage service activities | 25957 | 12020 | 13938 | 10341 |
| 85 | Education | 8222 | 3873 | 4349 | 15447 |
| 86 | Human health activities | 55348 | 15960 | 39388 | 48797 |
| 87 | Residential care activities | 310 | 55 | 255 | 116 |
| 88 | Social work activities without accommodation | 2111 | 299 | 1812 | 3495 |
| 91 | Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities | 56 | 28 | 28 | 48 |
| 96 | Other personal service activities | 24184 | 3868 | 20315 | 32422 |



Analysis based on economic activity

- There are economic activities where women are predominantly employed. Longitudinal analyses can be conducted to see the changes in this matter
- Other analysis can be conducted in terms of demographic aspects (age, education, etc.) to determine the impact of public policies



Using direct surveys

- The new entry survey contains a question relating to business founders
- <https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/fr/home/statistiques/industrie-services/enquetes/erst.html>

8. **Votre entreprise a-t-elle été créée** (en dehors des apports financiers) **par:**

- un/des homme/s uniquement – une/des femme/s uniquement
– un/des homme/s **et** une/des femme/s

Was your enterprise created by:

- a man/men only
- a woman/women only
- a man/men **and** a woman/women



Using direct surveys

| Number of new businesses created in 2015 | | |
|--|---------------|-------|
| Total | 39'526 | |
| By women and men | 3'892 | 9,8% |
| By men | 22'275 | 56,4% |
| By women | 13'359 | 33,8% |

Source: FSO, New Business Creation 2015 (next publication: December 2018)

The most recent data will be available in the next publication in 2019



How to use the survey frame

- Thematic surveys can use the same infrastructure as business surveys
- Possibility of coordinating surveys and comparing results



How the register is used in public policy monitoring

- Control of WTO tenders
- Tripartite commission for the control of collective convention contracts
- Public policy controls against wage dumping
- Public policies in the field of training and education



Control of WTO tenders

This is intended to safeguard social achievements that guarantee industrial peace and that prevent undesired socio-political effects and competitive bias. Persons complying with the legal provisions shall not be disadvantaged in favour of those who do not. Competitive bias against employers who respect equal pay shall be avoided.



Control of WTO tenders

The Confederation's procurement offices can conduct equal pay audits themselves or enlist external help. Should pay discrimination be detected in a tendering company, the procurement office concerned has the following options:

- issue a contract penalty;
- withdraw acceptance of the bid or exclude the bidder from the tender procedure;
- terminate or withdraw from contract, if this has already been signed.

<https://www.ebg.admin.ch/ebg/en/home/topics/work/equal-pay/government-controls-in-public-procurement.html>



Control of WTO tenders

- [Factsheet: Control mechanisms for equal pay compliance in public procurement \(available in German and French\) \(PDF, 201 kB, 27.07.2018\)](#)
- [Guidelines: The monitoring of compliance with wage equality between women and men in federal procurement \(PDF, 252 kB, 25.01.2017\)](#)
- [Methodological approach for monitoring compliance with wage equality between women and men in federal procurement \(PDF, 515 kB, 24.10.2017\)](#)



Links

REE: Business and Enterprise Register

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/fr/home/registres/registre-entreprises/registre-entreprises-etablissements.html>

UID : Enterprise Identification Number

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/fr/home/registres/registre-entreprises/numero-identification-entreprises.html>