

Use of administrative data in the SBR

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Special session for EECCA and SEE countries

**Meeting of the Group of Experts on Business Registers,
jointly organized by UNECE, Eurostat and OECD,
27 – 29 September 2017, Paris**

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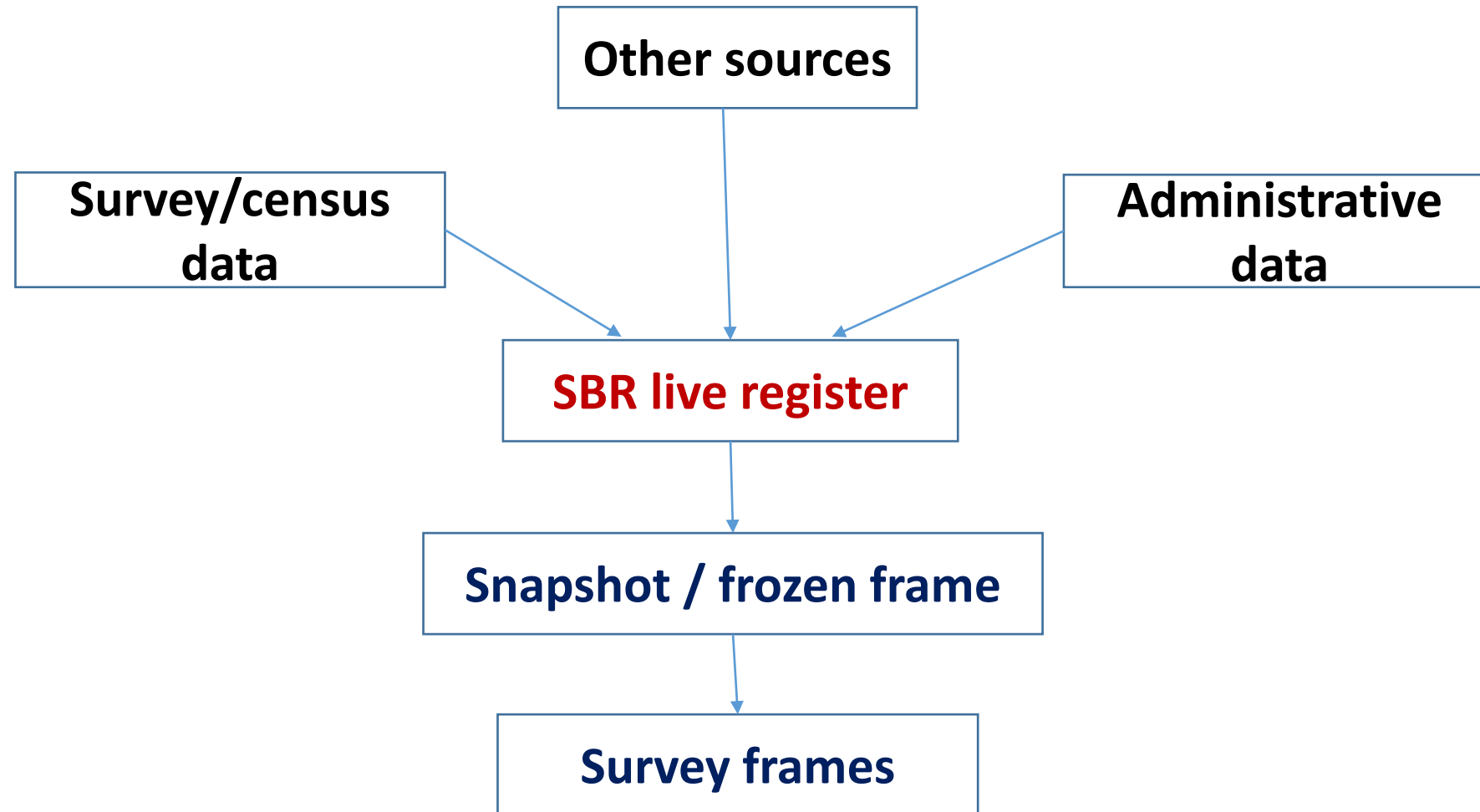
- Why are administrative data essential for statistical business registers (SBRs)
- For what are administrative data used in SBRs
- Access to and request to use administrative data sources
- Implications for the use of administrative data
- Possible roles of the SBR unit concerning the use of administrative data sources in the NSI
- Resume

Why are administrative data essential for SBRs?

- Because of the basic role of the SBRs to serve as backbone for all business statistics:
 - Statistical units in the SBR must have a high coverage of the business population
 - Stratification characteristics of units must be available and up-to-date
 - SBR data should generally be of high quality

Of course, not all of these goals can be achieved just by using administrative data; furthermore, there are various issues, problems and risks related with the use of administrative data

Backbone role of SBR



For what are administrative data used in SBRs?

- To **identify the units** of the business population: legal units, identifier of legal units, name, legal form, address and other contact information, ownership, date of registration and cessation in administrative registers, links between the units belonging together
- To **add attributes** to the various units: turnover, number of persons employment/employees, other economic variables, (economic activity)

Common understanding of administrative data

- Various definitions of administrative data:
 - A more narrower definition:

Data collected by government for the purpose of administering taxes, public pension funds and other regulations

- A more broader definition:

Administrative sources are sources containing information that is not primarily collected for statistical purposes

UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

- Principle 5:

Data for statistical purposes may be drawn from all types of sources, be they statistical surveys or administrative records. Statistical agencies are to choose the source with regard to quality, timeliness, costs and the burden on respondents.

European Statistics Code of Practice (1)

- Principle 8: Appropriate statistical procedures:
 - Indicator 8.1: When European Statistics are based on administrative data, the definitions and concepts used for administrative purposes are a good approximation to those required for statistical purposes
 - Indicator 8.7: Statistical authorities are involved in the design of administrative data in order to make administrative data more suitable for statistical purposes
 - Indicator 8.8: Agreements are made with owners of administrative data which set out their shared commitment to the use of these data for statistical purposes

European Statistics Code of Practice (2)

- Principle 8 (continued):
 - Indicator 8.9: Statistical authorities co-operate with owners of administrative data in assuring data quality
- Principle 9: Non-excessive burden on respondents:
 - Indicator 9.4: Administrative data are used whenever possible to avoid duplicating requests for information

European Statistics Code of Practice (3)

- Important consequences from the Indicators of Principles 8 and 9:
 - NSIs are responsible for the use of administrative data for statistical purposes
 - NSIs need to check and to co-operate with the owners of administrative data sources to ensure the quality and suitability of the administrative data used for statistical purposes
 - NSIs need to investigate the potential of available administrative data sources for statistical purposes
 - NSIs needs to fully understand the content and the processing of the administrative data used; the owners of the administrative data sources needs to be kept informed about the statistical use of their data
 - NSIs should provide feedback on the data quality of the administrative data used to the owners of the administrative data, while respecting confidentiality

European Statistics Code of Practice (4)

- Important consequences from the Indicators of Principles 8 and 9:
 - NSIs should seek (written) agreements with owners of administrative data setting out the shared commitment to the use of these data for statistical purposes, covering institutional arrangements, data delivery and technical issues, quality and metadata
 - Before performing a survey NSIs should analyse whether the survey goal could not be achieved by using administrative data instead
 - NSIs should monitor developments concerning regulations/legal acts/plans, etc. related to administrative data relevant currently or in future for statistical purposes
 - NSIs should be consulted and involved in changes in the design or processing of administrative data and records

Basic requirement: legal access to administrative data (1)

- The legal requirements have two aspects:
 - Legal access of the NSI to administrative data (Statistics Law)and
 - Administrative authorities are obliged to provide administrative data to the NSI for statistical purposes (in subject matter legislation)
- Data should be delivered in electronic form and be free of charge

Basic requirement: legal access to administrative data (2)

Generic Law on Official Statistics:

- Article 17: Access to administrative data
 - 17.1 All national and local authorities are obliged to provide the Producers of Official Statistics, free of charge, with data in their possession at the level of detail necessary for the production of official statistics and with metadata that enable assessing data quality. Special confidentiality or secrecy provisions in other legislation cannot be invoked unless the legislation explicitly excludes the use of data for statistical purposes.
 - 17.2 If the providers of administrative data plan to develop a new data collection or carry out a major revision in their data collection or processing in a way that may affect data provided for official statistics, they shall consult the National Statistical Office and, where appropriate, the Other Producers of Official Statistics, in advance of the decision.

Use of administrative data for SBRs

Specific aspects in the use of administrative data in SBRs:

- SBRs usually have to use more than one administrative data source
- The SBR provides the links between the sources and single identifiers for the units
- The use of a specific administrative data source for the SBR usually precedes the use for compiling business statistics
- The administrative data sources used by the SBRs are important for a variety of economic and social statistics

Possible roles of the SBR unit concerning the use of administrative data sources in the NSI

- The SBR unit could act as knowledge and data centre for the administrative data sources in use
- The SBR unit could take care of the co-ordination of the use of these administrative data sources in the NSI
- The SBR unit could take care of the actual co-operation with the owners of these administrative data sources for the NSI

Resume

- In addition to a comprehensive legal basis, good relations and co-operations with the owners of administrative data sources are important:
 - High dependencies and related risks
- Furthermore, relations with government and legislation authorities are needed to ensure that the use of administrative data for statistical purposes is recognised and supported at the political level

**Thank you very much
for your attention!**

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