

Extraordinary solutions concerning data collection in the Polish official statistics during the **COVID-19** pandemic.

Programming and Coordination of Statistical Surveys Department
Statistics Poland

Agnieszka Prochot, Jerzy Gajewski, Anna Pawlak

EXTRAORDINARY SOLUTIONS CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- methodological solutions,
- organizational solutions,
- legal solutions.

METHODOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- changes of subject matter of some surveys,
- changes of objective scope of some surveys (including reduction of samples),
- changes of methods of data collection

CHANGES IN SUBJECT MATTER OF SURVEYS

Subject matter of some key Polish surveys has been supplemented by additional questions connected with assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on:

1. Economic activity of businesses;
2. Production of industrial enterprises;
3. Behaviour on the labour market;
4. Selected aspects of the situation of households;
5. Trips of the Poles;
6. Organizational entities operating in the area of culture;
7. Production of goods connected with protection against the COVID-19.

CHANGES IN SUBJECT MATTER OF SURVEYS

In order to reduce the time of phone interview, subject matter of the longest questionnaires (for example, EU-SILC) has been also reduced.

CHANGES IN THE OBJECTIVE SCOPE OF SURVEYS

Due to transition from "face-to-face" interviews to phone interviews, it was necessary to take some steps in order to alleviate the situation of the statistical interviewers' network (reduction of samples, use of panel samples).

CHANGES IN METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Because of the fast-growing number of coronavirus infections and epidemiological threat in the country, "face-to-face" interviews has been discontinued (until further notice).

CHANGES IN METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Since 13 March 2020, surveys has been conducted almost completely by the CATI method (interviewers contact households and farms participating in a survey by phone) with the use of available phone numbers.

In some surveys, data are collected from respondents also by Internet (the CAWI/CAII method).

CHANGES IN METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Statistics Poland is also considering a possibility for providing rapidly IT tools, connected with implementation of the CAI method, for all sample surveys in which the CAPI method is used. Nevertheless, reconstruction of software is needed to achieve that goal.

ORGANIZATIONAL SOLUTIONS CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Changes of deadlines for some surveys:

- ✓ deadlines for data provision through the Reporting Portal of Statistics Poland were prolonged,
- ✓ EU-SILC was postponed for the autumn 2020 (initially planned for the spring 2020)

ORGANIZATIONAL SOLUTIONS CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- An intensive promotional action was launched in order to inform about changes in survey methods and also to emphasize the importance of surveys for the Polish official statistics.

ORGANIZATIONAL SOLUTIONS CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Appropriate notifications informing about reasons for the change of data collection method and about possible phone contact with the statistical office for additional information, are added to the letters for respondents inviting to participation in a survey.

ORGANIZATIONAL SOLUTIONS CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

It was necessary to prepare manuals, guidelines and recommendations useful for conducting the survey during the pandemic:

- guidelines for the interviewer,
- manual for the tele-interviewer, possible for use for all of the surveys,
- recommendations concerning the way how some activities connected with the budget household survey should be performed,
- recommendations for interviewers how to collect data about prices in retail and service points for the consumer price survey.

EXTRAORDINARY LEGAL SOLUTIONS CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- changes introduced in the Act on the National Agricultural Census 2020 as well as in the Act on the National Census of Population and Housing 2021,
- enhancing the contactless method of data collection (increase of importance of electronic data collection),
- changes in the organization of data collection

EXTRAORDINARY LEGAL SOLUTIONS CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- changes introduced in the Law of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics,
 - ensuring an additional mode of data collection: new prerogatives for the President of Statistics Poland,
 - extension of the personal data catalogue which public statistics is entitled to collect,
 - solving the legal problem regarding the transfer of data by providers of publicly available telecommunications services,
 - ensuring the possibility of obtaining personal data, including telephone numbers from a new data source - Office of Electronic Communications

EXTRAORDINARY LEGAL SOLUTIONS CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- changes introduced in the annual programmes of statistical surveys of official statistics for 2020 and 2021 (regulation of the Council of Ministers concerning the survey programme)
 - addition of new data providers and new data sources,
 - modification of the scope of the data provided,
 - changes in the dates and frequency of data transfer to public statistics

Programming and Coordination of Statistical Surveys Department
Statistics Poland

Agnieszka Prochot, Jerzy Gajewski, Anna Pawlak