

Case study for Road Map on Statistics for SDGs 2.0

Canada: Small area estimation for employment and sales survey

Description

At Statistics Canada small area estimation techniques are currently used for the Labour Force Survey to estimate monthly employment counts and unemployment rates for about 150 cities in Canada. For many of these cities, the LFS sample size is so small that standard survey estimates are not released. SAE techniques allow us to produce estimates for all those cities every month. The auxiliary variables considered for producing small area estimates are the number of employment insurance beneficiaries that come from an administrative source and the numbers of persons older than 15 years. SAE methods have also been used for the Monthly Survey of Manufactures to produce estimates of total sales by Census Metropolitan Areas and industry groups using Goods and Services Tax file as a source of auxiliary information. Other applications of SAE techniques have been or are currently being investigated, such as for the health statistics programme, where 19 health indicators are sought for around 150 neighbourhoods in Ontario, and in the Tourism programme. In the former, census data are used as auxiliary data whereas in the latter, payment card data are used. SAE techniques could also be used to obtain estimates for small and vulnerable populations in the context of SDGs.