

Data Browser and MetaData Manager: the new dissemination platform for Istat aggregate data

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Abstract

This presentation aims to outline the advantages of using a new dissemination tool, the so-called SDMX Istat Framework, a new dissemination platform entirely developed by Istat. The SDMX Istat Toolkit is composed by several modules (Metadata Repository/Registry, SDMX Web Service, SDMX Metamanager, SDMX Datamanager, SDMX Data Browser) and extends the Eurostat SDMX-RI functionalities, allowing to handle the whole dissemination process in a “metadata and SDMX driven” manner. The SDMX Istat Toolkit is an open project published on GitHub. The information search system allow interactive navigation of tables, graphics and dashboards. Dashboards allow simultaneously view of interactive tables and graphs; explanatory text elements, with a renewed and complete set of interactive maps and graphics.

In 2020, the migration of the current dissemination system (I.Stat) to a platform metadata-driven, SDMX-based, began. SDMX is an internationally recognized transfer standard that allows you to easily reuse all I.Stat data and metadata, without changing the production and data modeling (CSV) processes. The Permanent Population Census dissemination, which took place for the first time on the new platform, highlighted the potential to manage large amounts of data and metadata in a native SDMX environment ensuring conceptual and functional coherence. The experimentation conducted in 2021, to achieve a complete migration of the Institute's macrodata in SDMX format, highlighted the full compatibility with the statistics production processes and the total reconversion of all metadata, both at structural (DSD, Data Structure Definition) and referential level. Furthermore, the thematic contents will benefit from the new navigation features and an open format display, also available for machine-to-machine web services. The goal is actually to migrate the aggregate data present on the various diffusion systems to this platform starting from I.Stat data warehouse.