

# New business statistics data series in the COVID-19 pandemic period

Session 7: SBR and the Covid-19 pandemic

Meeting of the Group of Experts on Business Registers

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# Purpose

- ⦿ Introducing new indicator series by Stats NZ
- ⦿ Supplementing existing labour and business statistics
- ⦿ Huge customer demand during COVID-19 period

# Contents

1. Background
2. Enterprise count indicator series
3. Employment indicator series
4. Users of indicator series
5. Analysis
6. Future work

# 1. Background

## COVID-19:

- ⦿ First country wide lockdown in March 2020
- ⦿ Economic support programs initiated by the Government
- ⦿ Wage subsidy to support businesses to pay the employees

## 2. New indicator data series (Business count)

- Demand from data users
- Need for more timely data
- Annual Business Demography Statistics (BDS) is eight months old
- Different from BDS data series

## 2. New indicator data series (Enterprise count)...

- The new indicator data series is from the snapshot of SBR as at the end of each month and not revised
- Six new **monthly indicator** data series to supplement other economic indicators
  1. monthly enterprise count
  2. monthly enterprise entry
  3. monthly enterprise exit
  4. monthly enterprises count by industry
  5. monthly geographic units (business locations) by region
  6. monthly enterprise count in tourism industries

## 2. New indicator data series (Enterprise count - Data quality)

- Statistical Business Register is maintained by various administrative data sources
  - Inland Revenue Client Register (Tax registration)
  - GST
  - Employment
  - Tax
  - Companies Office
  - Other administrative data
- Through monthly bulk update processes
- Economically significant units (annual GST > \$30,000)
- Excludes 'Rest of the world' units

### 3. New indicator data series (Employment)

- To supplement the new SBR business count data series
- Stats NZ developed a **new** monthly employment indicator (**MEI**) series
- Provides an early indication of changes in the labour market
- These indicators use a combination of data from two different Inland Revenue sources: the Employer Monthly Schedule (EMS) and Payday filing
- This data is used to produce the filled jobs and gross earning indicator series, published four to five weeks after the end of the reference month



### 3. New indicator data series (Employment) - Data source

- Two data sources used in the production of the monthly filled jobs and gross earnings indicators series, which begin April 1999
- From April 1999 to April 2019, Employer Monthly Schedule (EMS) data is used
- All New Zealand employers are required to report PAYE (pay as you earn) data for their employees to Inland Revenue
- Prior to April 2019, the PAYE data was reported on a monthly basis as the EMS

### 3. New indicator data series (Employment) - Data source...

- From May 2019 onwards, payday filing data is used
- Since 1 April 2019 all New Zealand employers paying more than \$50,000 PAYE and Employer Superannuation Contribution tax (ESCT) per year are required to electronically file payroll information
- Larger employers need to file within two working days of each payday
- Smaller employers can choose to file by paper and have slightly longer timeframes. This data is provided daily to Stats NZ by Inland Revenue

### 3. New indicator data series (Employment) - Coverage

- Information received from Inland Revenue is filed at the enterprise level using business IRD numbers
- This is then matched against a monthly population snapshot of businesses in New Zealand taken from the Stats NZ Business Register (SBR)
- The SBR is a database of individual private and public sector businesses and organisations engaged in producing goods and services in New Zealand
- All businesses on the SBR are assigned an ANZSIC06 industry code, so this allows the payroll information to be aggregated into broad industry groupings
- Enterprises in foreign government representation are excluded from the industry coverage

## 4. Main users of the data

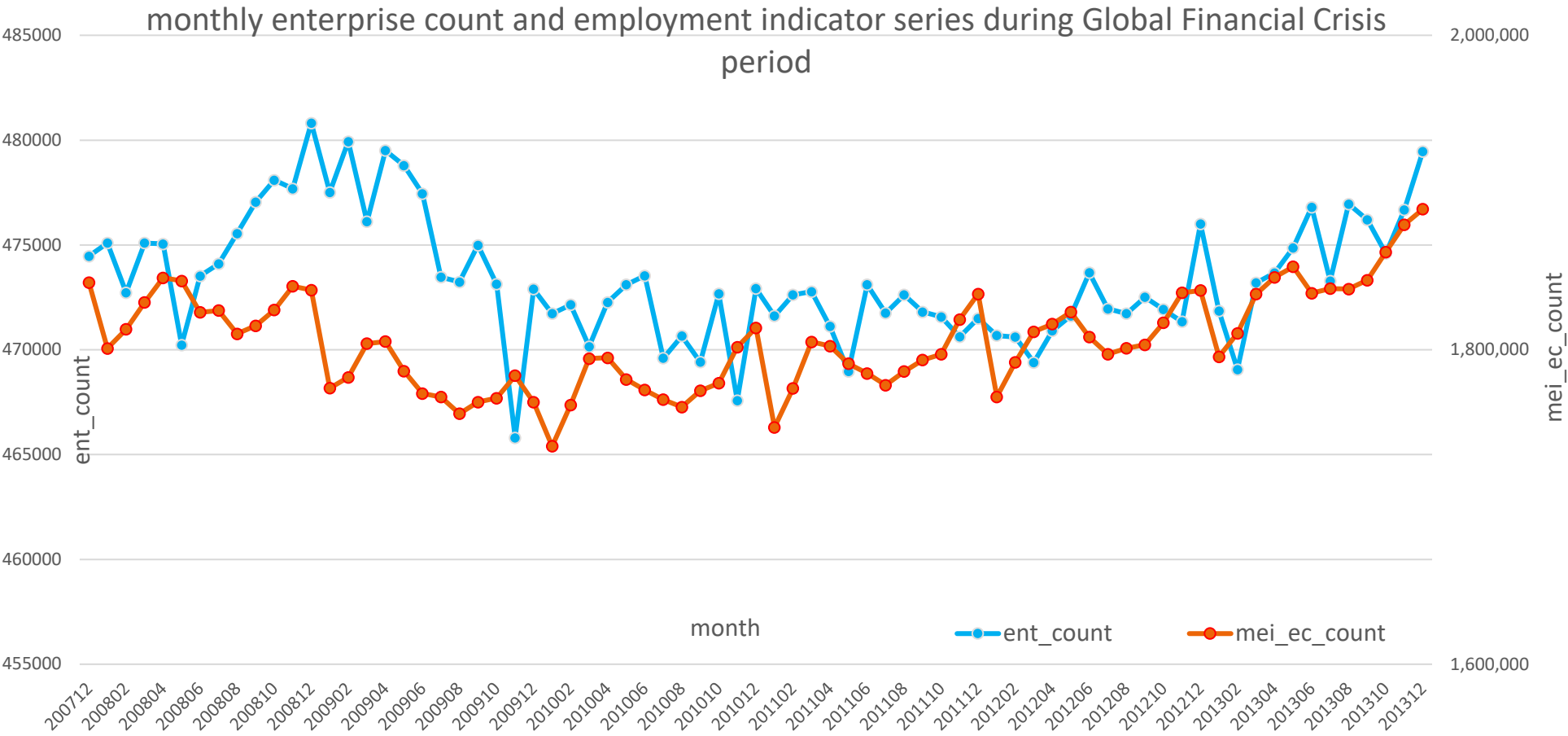
### EXTERNAL:

- Reserve Bank
- The Treasury
- Businesses
- The Media
- Economic Agencies (NZIER, BERL, Trading Banks)
- Other government departments and industry associations

### INTERNAL:

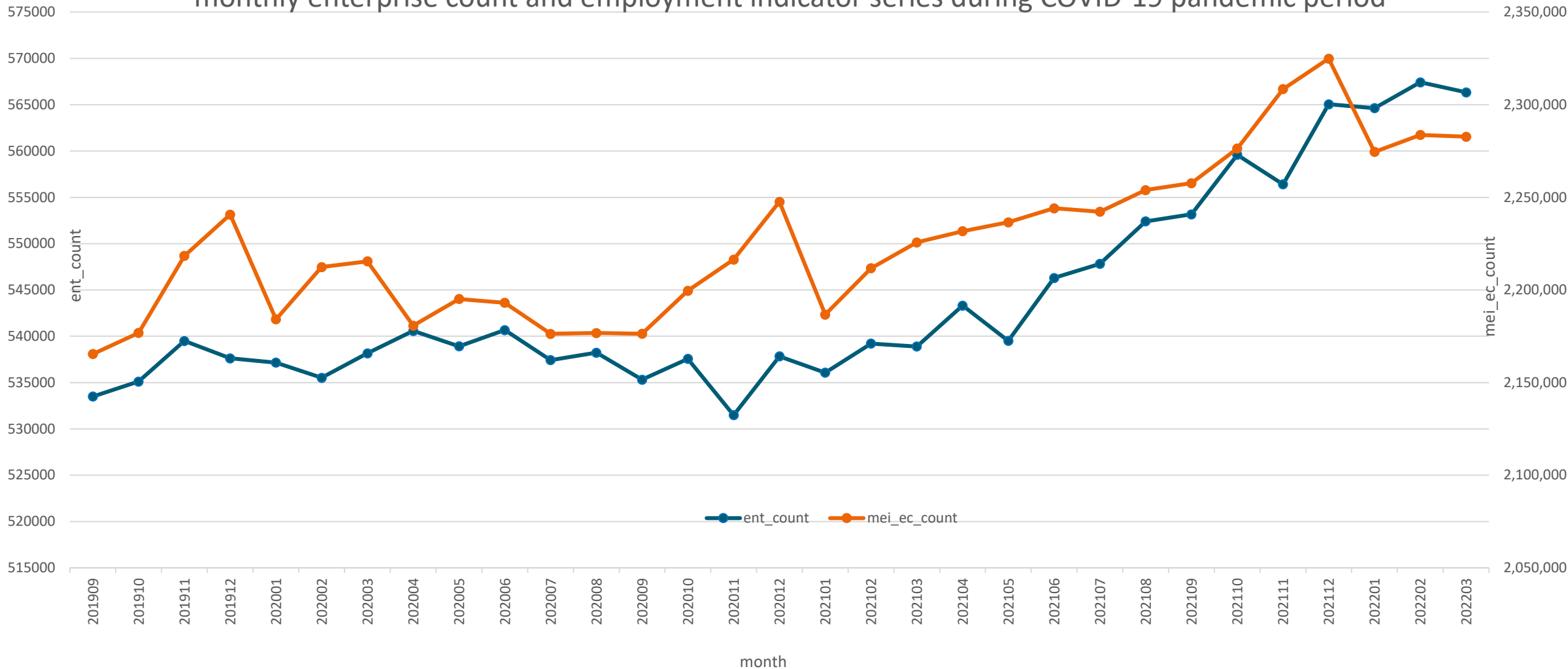
- National Accounts Division
- Labour Market Division

# 5. Enterprise and employment count series



# 5. Enterprise and employment count series...

monthly enterprise count and employment indicator series during COVID-19 pandemic period

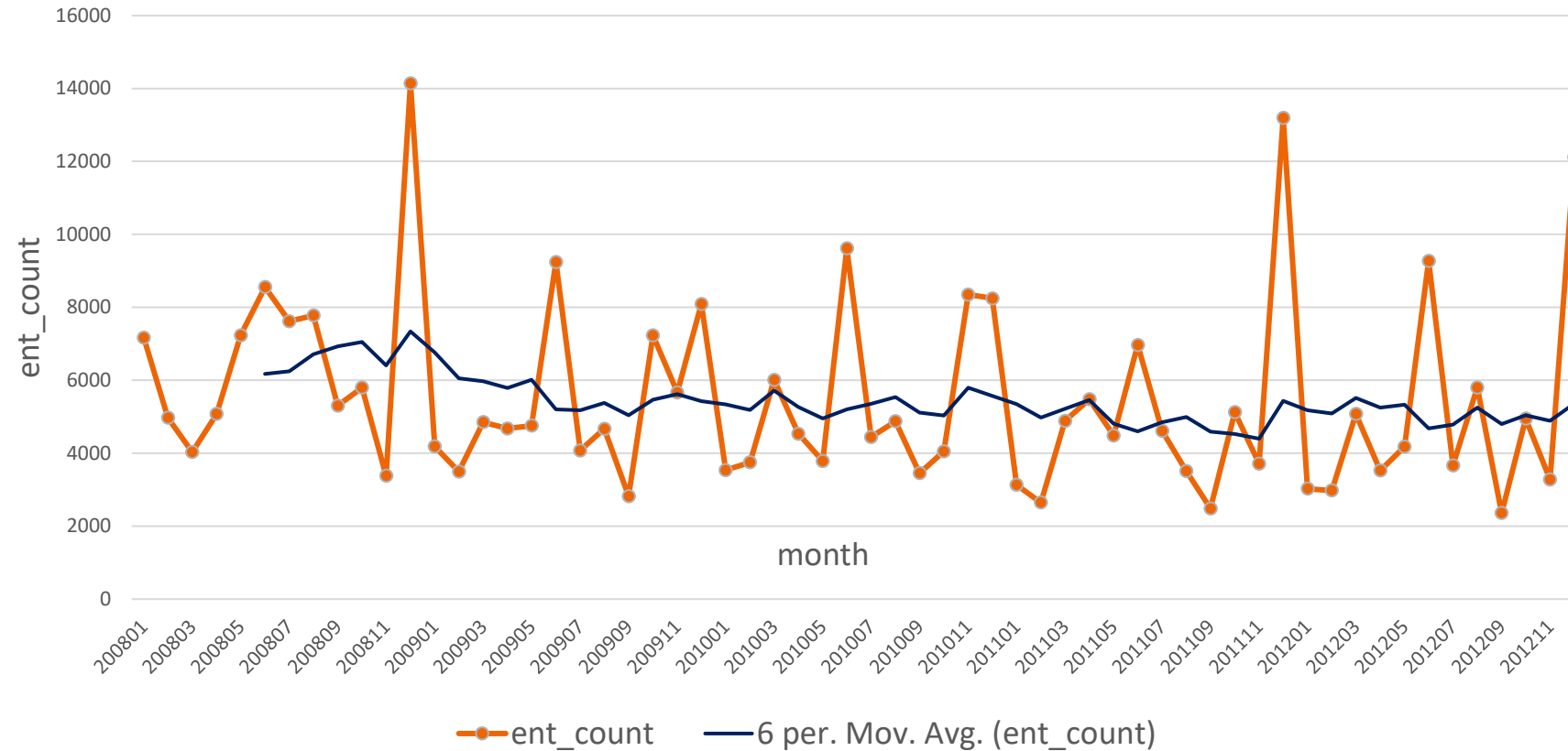


# 5. Enterprise entry and exit series

- Enterprise entry
  - A unit appears in the current reference period but not in the previous reference period
  - New unit birthed
  - Unit became significant
- Enterprise exit
  - A unit does not appear in the current reference period but in the previous reference period
  - Live unit ceased
  - Unit became insignificant

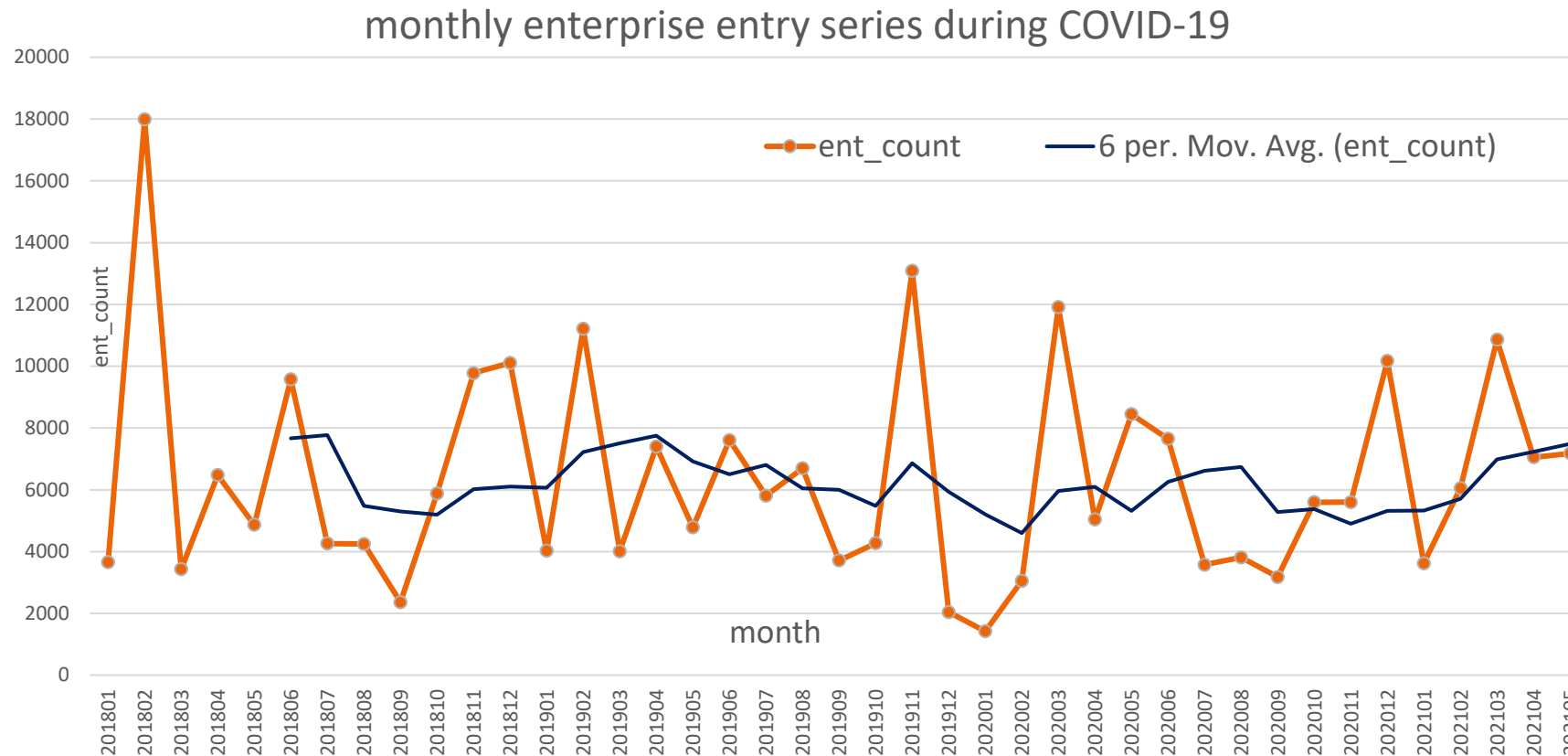
## 5. Enterprise entry series

monthly enterprise entry series during Global Financial Crisis period





## 5. Enterprise entry series...



## 6. Future work

- Exploring more data sources
  - Electronic Card Transaction data
    - » merchant terminal level data supplied to Stats NZ daily
  - Web scrapping
- Additional monthly indicator data series
  - (1) geographic units (business locations) by industry
  - (2) geographic units (business locations) by region (Regional Council/Territorial Authority) and industry
  - (3) geographic units (business locations) total NZ
  - (4) enterprise entry by ANZSIC division
  - (5) enterprise exit by ANZSIC division

# Links

1. [New Zealand business demography statistics: At February 2021 | Stats NZ](#)
2. <http://infoshare.stats.govt.nz/SelectVariables.aspx?pxID=368ac777-4e44-4851-b9f6-204c9030d8f4>
3. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/experimental/covid-19-data-portal>

**END....**