

## **Design of a new system for statistical information return to companies involved in economic surveys, as part of the Statistical Business Portal**

Pasquale Papa and Paola Bosso (Istat)

[papa@istat.it](mailto:papa@istat.it); [paola.bosso@istat.it](mailto:paola.bosso@istat.it)

### ***Abstract***

The increasing statistical burden that official statistical surveys impose on the Italian business system determines a decreasing motivation to actively collaborate in direct surveys. The lack of motivation often translates into decreasing participation rates and growing impatience. This situation leads the National statistical institutes to identify alternative strategies oriented to identify new statistical sources and to automate some phases of the data collection process.

A complementary solution, already partially implemented by Istat for some years in the context of the Centralized Data Collection model and the Business Statistical Portal of companies, consists in returning to companies a set of useful information to understand the specific trend of their sector of belonging and their positioning in the markets, motivating them to participate in surveys.

In this context, the objective of the paper is to define an optimal structural framework, based on the information available, of the sector of economic activity to which each company belongs, as well as information on the reference markets and on its competitive positioning, providing useful guidelines for planning of such systems.

The framework will be defined on the basis of the experience already acquired in Istat and on similar experiences carried out in other NIS and may constitute a basis of reference and comparison with other institutions that intend to design and implement a return system.

---

## **Penalties management strategy and quality of economic official surveys**

Pasquale Papa; Silvia Binci; Silvana Curatolo; Francesca Monetti (Istat)

[papa@istat.it](mailto:papa@istat.it); [binici@istat.it](mailto:binici@istat.it); [curatolo@istat.it](mailto:curatolo@istat.it); [fmonetti@istat.it](mailto:fmonetti@istat.it)

### ***Abstract***

The objective of the paper is to investigate, from a statistical point of view, the role of penalties in ensuring adequate participation of companies, notably the most influential ones, in official statistical surveys. The attention is also focused on the possible “side-effects” on other dimensions of the Total Survey Error and on the possible alternative tools (new sources, new technologies) and solutions (organizational, communication) to be adopted during data collection in order to ensure awareness among companies and to make the provision of data by users more “sustainable”.

The analysis mainly concerns the economic surveys carried out during the years 2021 and 2022, distinctly in the contexts of the structural and short-term economic surveys, which provide for two substantially different systems of application.

The indicators used for the analysis are the response rates of the various surveys, the penalty-rates applied, some qualitative indicators on involvement in the surveys by the companies drawn from the current correspondence with the units included in the surveys.

The context is that of the centralized data collection model, adopted by Istat.