

Reduction of response burden for individual businesses

Lianne Ippel, Leanne Houben & Ger Snijkers, Statistics Netherlands

UNECE, Expert Meeting on Statistical Data Collection
Thursday 27 October 2022



Perceived Burden

Actual Burden

7 Ambitions of SN multi focus approach

- Minimize multi-surveying of small businesses
- Providing data with the push of a button (import RCFSI data in the questionnaire)
- Facilitate businesses in reporting and obtaining data by developing a Business Portal
- Reduction of total survey burden by improved communication designs and enhanced enforcement
- Implement changes in European regulations with minimum increase in burden
- Strengthen cooperation with sectors and businesses
- The development of a new strategy on primary data collection from businesses by exploring future needs of businesses



Minimize multi-surveying of small businesses



Multi-surveyed businesses

- Businesses which received, within the last 12 months,
 - > 3 surveys when businesses have 0-9 employees
 - > 4 surveys when businesses have 10-19 employees

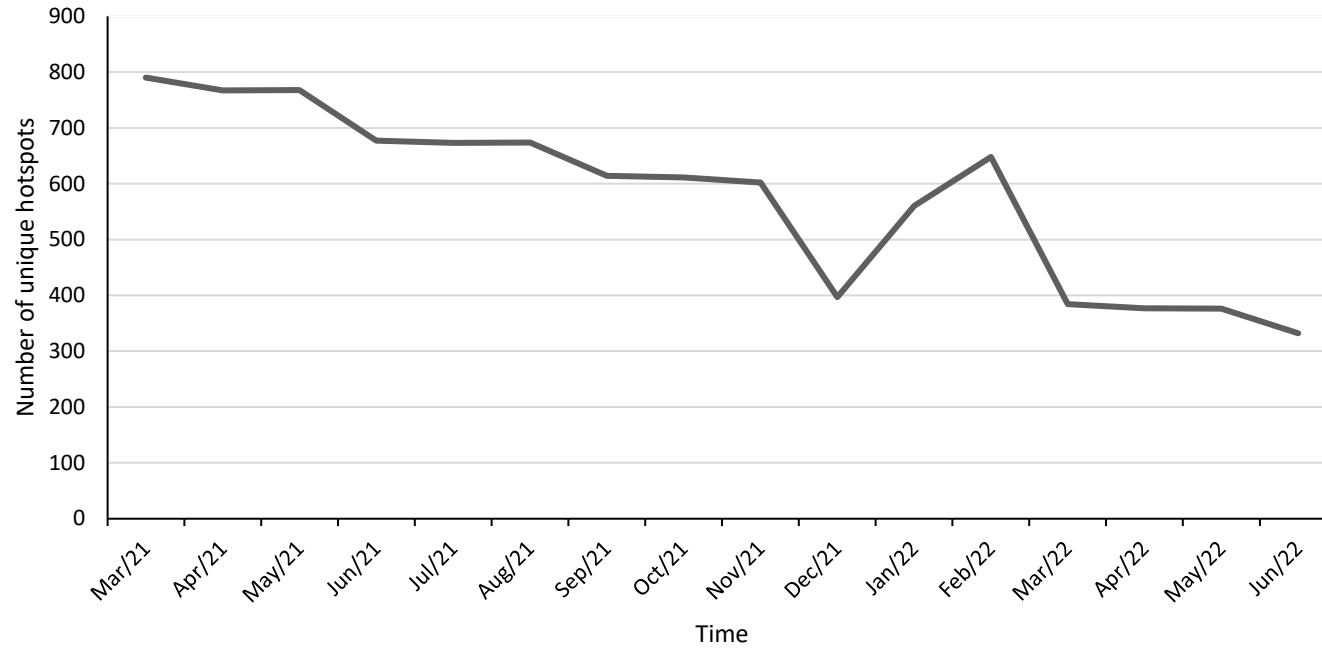


Three strategies

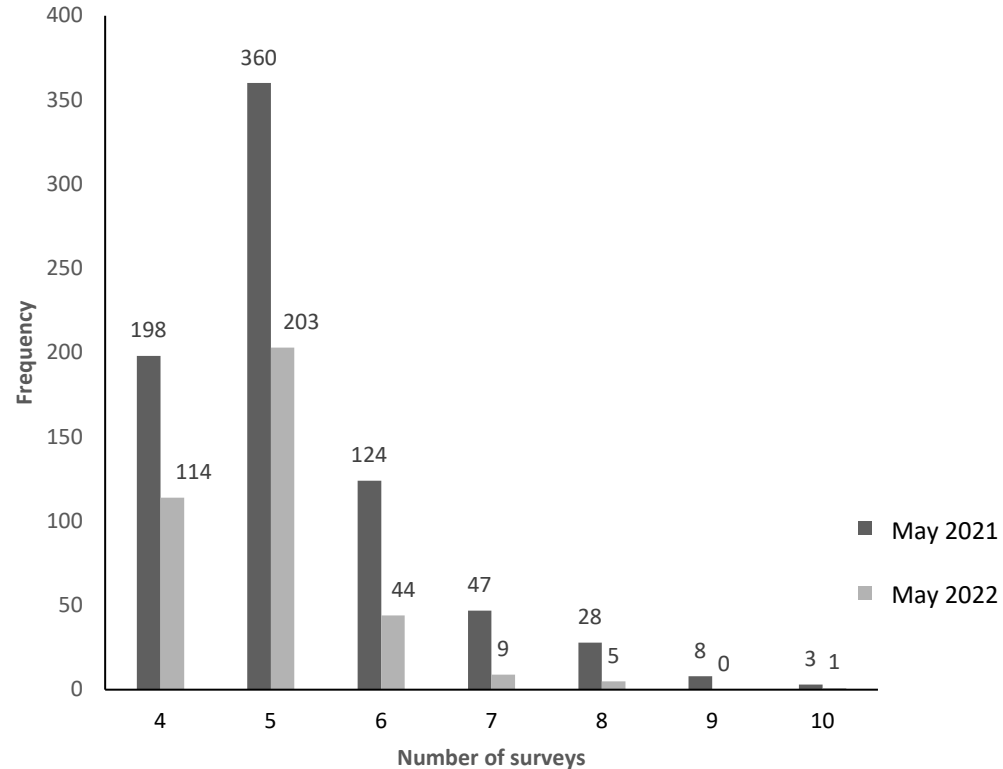
1. Remove units from sample
2. Replace units
3. Remove units from sampling frame



Number of multi-surveyed businesses



Number of surveys received by multi-surveyed businesses

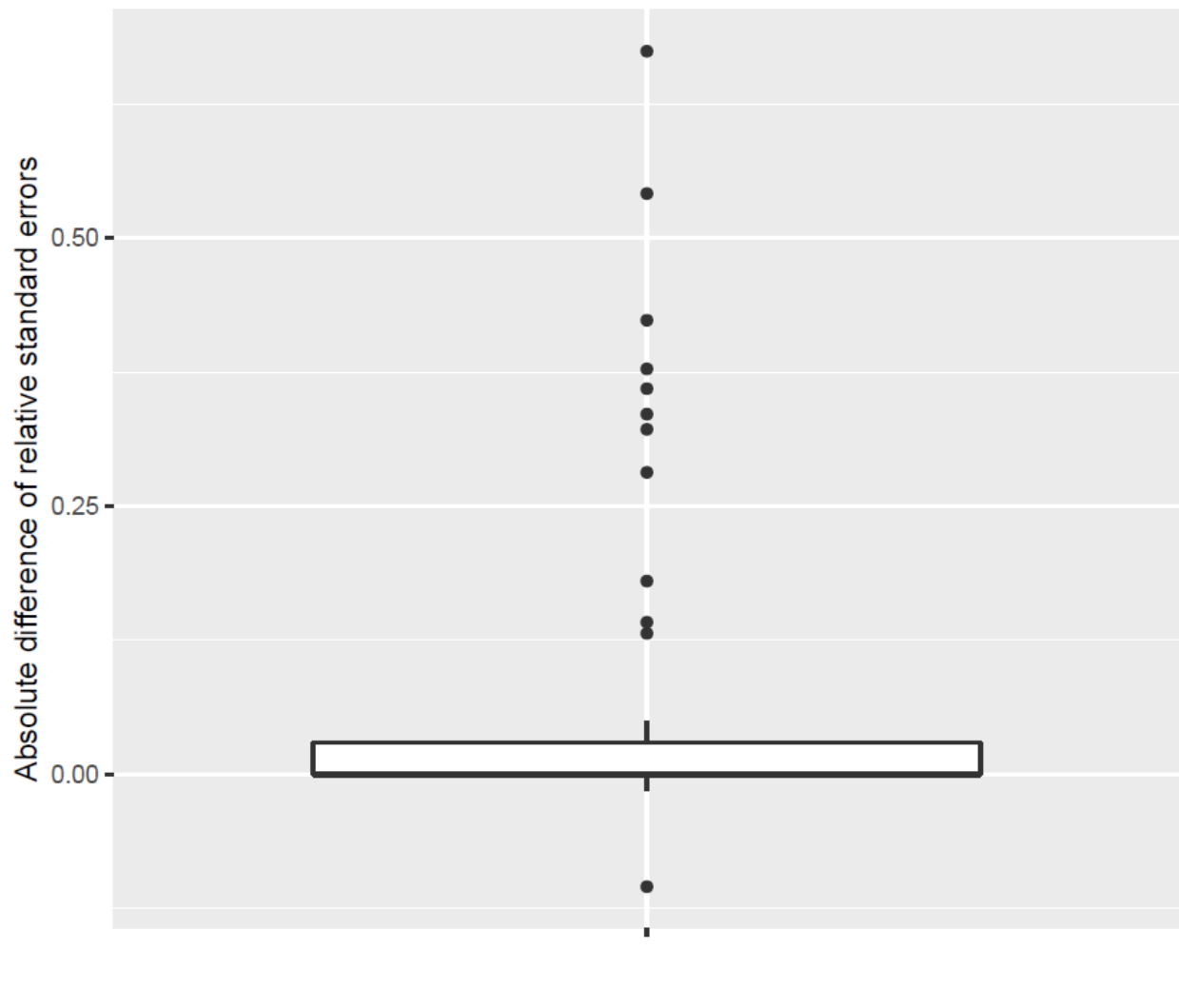


Results R&D estimates

Target	Including multi-surveyed			Excluding multi-surveyed			Rel. difference
	Total _h x1000	SE _h	rSE _h	Total x1000	SE	rSE	(rSE/rSE _h)-1
Expenditure	13,944	208,161	0.015	14,006	215,663	0.015	0.033
Employees	192	4,831	0.025	193	4,908	0.026	0.012
FTE	134	2,758	0.021	134	2,839	0.021	0.024



Effect of removing multi-surveyed units



Work in progress

- More efficient use of sample coordination system
- Formalization of applied strategies
- Investigate options for larger businesses
- Spatially balanced sampling.

Conclusions

- Decrease in number of multi-surveyed businesses
 - Labor intensive process (at this moment)
 - There are negative effects on relative standard error
-
- Combined efforts to reduce response burden will be more effective than each measure on its own

Questions for discussion:

- How do other NSIs manage the reduction of response burden, and do you have such a multi-focus approach?
- What methods do you have, to avoid multi-surveying of small businesses?

Thank you!

