

Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers

Country progress report 2017 and future plans

Country:

Finland

Reporter:

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Institution:

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I. Organisation, Population and Usage of the Statistical Business Register

1. Name of the register

Business Register, since 2014 an integral part of the Integrated business statistics production system (YTY)

2. Name of the organisation responsible for holding the register

Statistics Finland

3. Position of the register unit in the organisation

Department of Data Collection

4. Number of employees in the register unit (Headcount employees)

25

5. Primary goal and use of the register

The centralized tool for the preparation and coordination of business surveys; the source of information for statistics of the business population and its demography; the point of reception and use of administrative data; identification and construction of statistical units.

6. Year of establishment of the register

1968, in 2014 the Business Register was amalgamated with the Integrated business statistics production system (YTY)

7. Year(s) of the main re-engineering(s) of the register

2013: integration of the Business Register to the Integrated business statistics production system (YTY) as a result of the revision project of the Business Register and Business Statistics.

8. Number of active enterprises* in the register at the end of 2017

*If it is difficult to use Enterprises, you can use Legal units instead.

Enterprises: (Legal units:)

9. Does the register have geographical coordinates assigned to every address or could they be obtained through other registers linked to it?

II. Progress and Developments in the Past Year

Please list main achievements (maximum 3) in the past year (2017) or the problems you have tackled. Also, please classify them according to the categories within each drop-down list.

1. Short title of work which was done

Implementation of the enterprise unit (ENT)

(Category)

3. Units

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

First 34 enterprise groups were profiled and complex enterprise units were delineated as an outcome of a national project. The first survey addressing the enterprise with the focus on internal items was carried out and results were validated and updated to the database. Preliminary analysis and comparison of the legal units and enterprise units were carried out. Design and tests continued on technical integration of these enterprise units to the Integrated business statistics production system (YTY).

2. Short title of work which was done

Preparations for a major reform package on health, social services and regional government in Finland

(Category)

2. Coverage

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The health, social services and regional government reform will establish new counties and reform the structure, services and funding of health and social services as well as transfer new duties to the counties. Provided that Parliament adopts the proposed legislative acts governing the reform in spring 2018, the reform will come into force on 1 January 2020. The Business Register started getting prepared for the new counties and their inclusion in the register. A feasibility study on impacts on data collection and classifications such as sector, type of ownership and type of general government, was completed.

3. Short title of work which was done

Managing changes in key administrative data sources

(Category)

8. Quality

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The Finnish Tax administration is running a project (2013–2019) with the aim to develop operations and reform taxation software. Numerous taxation software will be replaced by one software package. Changes will affect the administrative data that the National Board of Taxes provides to Statistics Finland. There will be changes to both the content and the format of the data. The Business Register analysed the effects, assessed the centralized input of data and change management procedures of the system in adapting to the changes, and recommends as a lesson learned to construct a uniform abstract layer between data input and the Business Register.

III. Future plans

Please list themes/projects (maximum 3) which you plan to tackle in the current (2018) and following year(s). Also, please classify them according to the categories within each drop-down list.

1. Short title of work planned

Implementation of the enterprise unit (ENT)

(Category)

3. Units

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The national project on enterprise units continues. In early 2018, enterprise units of first 34 enterprise groups were updated as well as an additional enterprise group was profiled and its enterprise units delineated. Design and tests will continue on technical integration of these enterprise units to the Integrated business statistics production system (YTY). Second round of the enterprise survey will be carried out. Technical extraction of the LKAU data in case of complex enterprises will be implemented.

2. Short title of work planned

(Category)

Preparations for a major reform package on health, social services and regional government in Finland

2. Coverage

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The health, social services and regional government reform will establish new counties and reform the structure, services and funding of health and social services as well as transfer new duties to the counties. Provided that Parliament adopts the proposed legislative acts governing the reform in spring 2018, the reform will come into force on 1 January 2020. The Business Register continues getting prepared for including new counties and their local units in the register, i.e. readiness to determine the statistical units involved and collect all their register characteristics. In 2018 and 2019, the focus will gradually shift to design and implementation of data collection and reception of administrative data.

3. Short title of work planned

(Category)

Enhancement of the European system of interoperable business registers

8. Quality

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The Business Register takes part in two development projects funded by EU grants: 1) identification of and sharing best practices for use of EGR Identification Service, and 2) profiling complex multinational enterprise groups in European cooperation applying the revised methodology of European profiling and using the Interactive Profiling Tool (IPT). For the first project, the Business Register studies different ways of identifying legal units belonging to Finnish enterprise groups and locating abroad. The aim is to contribute to quality improvement of unit identification throughout the European system. For the second project, the Business Register will profile seven Finnish multinational enterprise groups and prepare twenty partnering answers to countries whose enterprise groups' have legal units locating in Finland. The aim is to test the revised methodology and contribute to the development of the IPT tool, alongside finalised enterprise profiles.

IV. Main challenges

Please list main challenges (maximum 3) with respect to development, maintenance and use of your statistical business register. Also, please classify them according to the categories within each drop-down list.

1. Main challenge 1

(Category)

Balance with growing demands and limited number of staff

5. Maintenance

Description of the challenge

New requirements set out by both the national and European legislative acts, i.e. the national reform package on health, social services and regional government, and the European FRIBS package, will demand resources from the Business Register. Recent retirements and budget cuts themselves are a challenge to the maintenance of the register let alone resourcing the ongoing and anticipated development projects.

2. Main challenge 2

(Category)

Stability of the Integrated business statistics production system (YTY)

10. IT considerations

Description of the challenge

The new system has been running since 2014, and some weaknesses in the system architecture have been identified:

- system support to statistical editing business processes needs to be improved.
- service interfaces need to be provided and loose coupling of system portions improved.
- system robustness needs to be improved and new statistical production processes included.

However, the IT development resources are scarce at the moment being, and the enhancement of the system continues with incremental steps while waiting for appropriate resources be freed from competing projects.

3. Main challenge 3

(Category)

Description of the challenge