

Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers

Country progress report 2017 and future plans

Country:

USA

Reporter:

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Institution:

U.S. Census Bureau

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

1. Name of the register

Business Register (BR)

2. Name of the organisation responsible for holding the register

U.S. Census Bureau, Economic Statistical Methods Division (ESMD)

3. Position of the register unit in the organisation

The register is supported by multiple departments organized along functional lines,

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

80

5. Primary goal and use of the register

To serve as a sampling frame for the Census Bureau's economic statistical programs.

6. Year of establishment of the register

1974

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

2002

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: ~35 million (including non-employers) (Legal units:)

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

Yes

II. Progress and Developments in the Past Year

Please list main achievements (maximum 3) in the past year (2016) 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

Economic Census (EC) preparations

(Category)

1. Roles of the SBR

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The 2017 EC is being conducted. Establishments were selected from the BR and assigned the

2. Short title of work which was done

Electronic Workflow

(Category)

10. IT considerations

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

For the EC, an Electronic Workflow system is being used to digitally deliver work to BR analysts.

3. Short title of work which was done

Updated geographic codes

(Category)

8. Quality

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The geographic coding system used by the BR was updated prior to the EC. All addresses were re-

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

Automated Multi-unit Add Processing

(Category)

2. Coverage

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The Economic Census (EC) collects information about new locations (establishments) owned by

2. Short title of work planned

Automated "Write-In" Coding

(Category)

8. Quality

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

A number of single unit cases on the BR have industry classifications that are incomplete or of low

3. Short title of work planned

Updating Technology for Interactive Tools

(Category)

10. IT considerations

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Interactive research and updating tools are vital to the successful maintenance of the BR. Virtually

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

Size, Scope, and Complexity

(Category)

1. Roles of the SBR

Description of the challenge

The Business Register (BR) serves many roles beyond being a sampling frame and administrative

2. Main challenge 2

Data Integration

(Category)

3. Units

Description of the challenge

The statistical structures and classification systems upon which the BR is based do not always lend

3. Main challenge 3

Interoperability and Communication

(Category)

1. Roles of the SBR

Description of the challenge

The BR serves as an originating data source for many other systems. For example the database