REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY

Statistical Business Register

for 2022

Organisational unit: Statistical Business Register Department

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November 2024

0. Basic information

- Purpose and subject of the survey

The Statistical Business Register (hereinafter referred to as: SBR) is a complete, comprehensive, structured and regularly updated database of legal and statistical units included in the production of goods and services. The SBR provides the frame for conducting statistical surveys as well as statistical analysis of the population of business entities, for compiling business demography statistics, establishing links with administrative sources and identifying and creating statistical units. It contains information on legal entities and natural persons who perform an independent activity (craftsmen and free lances) and contribute to the GDP. It is compiled from data from administrative and statistical sources. Administrative sources from which data are obtained are the Register of Business Entities, the Central Register of Crafts, the Register of Taxpayers, the Court Register, the Central Depository and Clearing Company Inc., the Financial Agency, etc. Statistical data sources are the EuroGroups Register and statistical surveys of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics. The SBR includes the following types of units: legal units, enterprises, local units, enterprise groups and non-resident units linked by ownership with resident units.

- Reference period

Calendar year

- Legal acts and other agreements

Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on European business statistics, repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics

eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019R2152

Uredba - 2019/2152 - EN - EUR-Lex

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197 of 30 July 2020 laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics, repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics Implementing regulation - 2020/1197 - EN - EUR-Lex

Council Regulation (EEC) No 696/93 of 15 March 1993 on the statistical units for the observation and analysis of the production system in the Community (OJ L 76, 30 March 1993)

Regulation - 696/93 - EN - EUR-Lex

Decision on the National Classification of Activities 2007 – NKD 2007 (OG, Nos 58/07 and 72/07)

European business statistics methodological manual for statistical business registers, Eurostat, 2021 edition https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-manuals-and-guidelines/-/ks-gq-20-006

European Business Statistics Manual – Eurostat, 2021 edition

European Business Statistics Manual — 2021 edition - Products Manuals and Guidelines - Eurostat (europa.eu)

European Business Profiling – Recommendations Manual, Eurostat, 2020 edition

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-manuals-and-guidelines/-/ks-gq-20-002

Official Statistics Act (NN, No 25/20)

Official Statistics Act

- Classification system

  National Classification of Activities 2007 – NKD 2007

  Classification of spatial units for statistics

  Sectoral classification of institutional units according to ESA 2010

- Concepts and definitions

  SBR contains information on the following main types of units: legal units, enterprises, local units, enterprise groups and non-resident units.

  Legal unit is an administrative unit that allows for the creation of statistical units and their connection with administrative databases. Legal unit can be a legal entity or natural person which performs an independent activity aimed at generating a profit, i.e. aimed at doing the work for which it has been established. It may appear in the form of a trade company, an institution, a state government body, a body of local (regional) self-government unit, an association, a political party or another legal constitutional formation of legal entities, as well as a craft or free lance that is registered and operates according to the law.

  Information on legal units in the SBR are the following: identification numbers (ID, PIN, TIN, craft licence, etc.), name, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, registration date, date when it ceased operating, legal constitutional formation, number of persons employed and annual turnover, NKD 2007 activity code, ESA 2010 sector code, ID of the enterprise group to which a unit belongs, date of association with the enterprise group, date of separation from the enterprise group, identification numbers of resident legal units that are controlled by the legal unit or that control the legal unit, etc.

  Enterprise is a basic statistical unit defined in the methodology of business registers, which is in most cases identical to the legal unit, but in some exceptional cases, it may be created by grouping of legal units. In that case, an enterprise represents the smallest combination of legal units that constitute an organisational unit engaged in the production of goods and services and has a certain level of autonomy in making decisions.

  Information on enterprises recorded in the SBR are the following: identification number, connection with the legal unit or enterprise group, name, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, date of creation, date when it ceased operating, number of persons employed and annual turnover, NKD 2007 activity code, ESA 2010 sector code, ID of enterprise group to which a unit belongs, date of association with the enterprise group, date of separation from the enterprise group, code of the survey which includes the unit, etc.

  Local unit is an enterprise or a part of an enterprise/legal unit that operates at a geographically determined location. One or more economic activities of the enterprise to which the local unit belongs are performed at or from that location. At least one person performs an activity at that location, even in exceptional cases when that person is not employed full time. Information on local units recorded in the SBR are the following: identification number, connection with the enterprise and legal unit, ordinal number within the legal unit, name, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, identification numbers of the legal unit and enterprise to which the local unit belongs, date of creation, date when it ceased operating, main activity at the NKD 2007 class level, secondary activities at the NKD 2007 class level, designation in case the activity performed in the local unit is an ancillary activity at the enterprise level, etc.

  Enterprise group is an association of enterprises bound together by legal and/or financial links. It can have more than one decision-making centre, especially for policies on production, sales and profits. It may also centralise certain aspects of financial management and taxation. It constitutes an economic entity authorised to make decisions, particularly concerning the units which it comprises. Information on enterprise groups recorded in the SBR are the following: identification number (national and European), type of group, name of the group in the Republic of Croatia, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, date of creation of the group in the Republic of Croatia, date when it ceased operating in the Republic of Croatia, number of employed persons and annual

turnover, NKD 2007 main activity code, secondary activity codes, if any, direct parent of the main legal unit in the Republic of Croatia, direct parent's country, branch offices, links between the main legal unit and branch offices, shares in ownership, control mark, consolidated turnover of the group and number of employed persons in the group.

A non-resident unit is a foreign legal unit or branch. It can be a direct parent or a dependent unit of a Croatian legal unit. It can also be the global decision-making center of an enterprise group or a unit at the top of the group (group head), the so-called group manager. The group manager is a superior legal unit that is not directly or indirectly controlled by any other legal unit. Data on non-resident units recorded in the SBR are the following: identification numbers (national and European), type of non-resident unit (legal entity or branch), country of registration, address, date of creation of the non-resident unit in the Republic of Croatia, as well as international creation, date of international cessation of business, date of creation and/or cessation of the link with a resident unit, or with an enterprise group.

- Statistical units

Statistical units in the SBR are enterprise group, enterprise, local unit and kind-of-activity unit. Statistical units are selected on the basis of statistical domains.

Until 2019, a legal unit was considered a proxy for enterprise, while, during 2019, intensive work on creating complex enterprises took place. Complex enterprises are created by using the profiling method (automatic and manual).

An enterprise adopts the main activity of the legal unit with the highest number of employed persons. The turnover in all legal units is being consolidated in such a way that profits generated among units of the same enterprise are eliminated.

- Statistical population

SBR is a complete and comprehensive list of business entities registered in administrative registers in the Republic of Croatia (residents and non-residents in the Republic of Croatia). No threshold whatsoever is used in coverage, but data on all business entities are taken over from available administrative or statistical sources. Natural persons – lump sum income taxpayers are excluded from the coverage.

1. Relevance

1.1. Data users

Internal users of the SBR data: statistical units of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics (Business Statistics Directorate and Macroeconomic Statistics Directorate as well as particular surveys in Social Statistics Directorate)

External users of the SBR data: Directorates General of the European Commission, Croatian National Bank and Ministry of Finance within sectoral classification of institutional units

Individual users

1.1.1. User needs

SBR is important for the compilation of consistent and comparable European business statistics, establishing efficient statistical survey frames, providing identification numbers of all the units used for connecting with different sources, increasing statistical information and reducing the reporting burden on business entities.

SBR is referred to as the „backbone" in the production of economic statistics because it provides the core infrastructure to ensure data consistency between various statistical outputs e.g. statistical surveys.

The users of the SBR are primarily statistical departments to whom the SBR provides the population for conducting statistical surveys.

The needs of external users are satisfied to a limited degree due to the fact that the SBR data, except those on sectoral classification of institutional units, are confidential and unavailable to external users on an individual level. They are just aggregated in a way which does not allow the identification of individual units and their business indicators.

1.1.2. User satisfaction

User satisfaction is measured in a user satisfaction survey. It was first carried out in 2013, the second one in 2015, and the last one at the end of 2022. The survey results can be checked on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics https://dzs.gov.hr/highlighted-themes/quality/user-satisfactionsurveys/686 .

Eurostat also periodically conducts national statistical business register user satisfaction surveys.

Internal users are given an opportunity to express their opinion and satisfaction with the SBR on semi-annual meetings.

1.2. Completeness

SBR is fully harmonised with the EU legislation.

1.2.1. Data completeness rate

The indicator is not computed.

2. Accuracy and reliability

2.1. Sampling error

Not applicable for the SBR.

2.1.1. Sampling error indicators

The indicator is not applicable.

2.2. Non-sampling error

Non-sampling errors that affect the quality of the SPR data refer to errors of coverage, measurement and processing.

2.2.1. Coverage error

The coverage errors relate to under-coverage, duplication of units and misclassification according to the NKD 2007.

Under-coverage: in the SPR, legal entities are fully covered, but there are some shortcomings in the part covering natural persons, which primarily relate to the coverage of free lances and, to a very small extent, of crafts.

The under-coverage of free lances is caused by a lack of a single and up-to-date register of free lances, since special categories of free lances are registered in dozens of various registers within professional chambers, associations and other organisations. In the absence of a single register of free lances, the Register of Taxpayers is used instead, in which there are certain shortcomings in designating individual categories of natural persons who perform their activity independently.

Crafts are subject to under-coverage to a lesser extent, and this occurs in exceptional and rare cases when some crafts are not transferred to the SBR due to a certain error in the Crafts Register.

Duplication of data is present in relation to free lances because of multiple ID numbers assigned to the same freelancers, where each new ID number taken over from an administrative source is considered a new unit.

Efforts are taken for the code of the activity actually performed to be entered into the SBR. Necessary information on that activity is mainly obtained on the basis of various statistical surveys of business statistics, in which indicators related to specific activities are collected (industry, agriculture, services, tourism, construction, etc.) and to which reporting units are selected according to their registered activity.

If the registered activity is not actually performed, reporting units cannot enter the required information and report another activity instead. The given information is a foundation for a possible change of the activity code in the SBR.

In other surveys, in which the requested data are not directly related to the activity (e.g. investments), reporting units often report that the activity assigned in the SBR is incorrect and state the activity registered in the Administrative Business Register as a correct one, which is often not accurate.

2.2.2. Over-coverage rate

The indicator is not computed.

2.2.3. Measurement errors

The measurement errors that occur in the SBR relate to data taken over from poor-quality administrative sources. These errors are primarily errors in the number of employees and turnover, which occur when the data are incorrectly entered into the source from which they have been taken over.

Such errors are continuously identified by comparing data from multiple sources or consecutive years, checked and corrected.

2.2.4. Non-response errors

Not applicable for the SBR.

2.2.5. Unit non-response rate

The indicator is not computed.

2.2.6. Item non-response rate

The indicator is not computed.

2.2.7. Processing errors

Units are registered in the SBR with features that have already been recorded in administrative sources, i.e. they are calculated by using specific algorithms when downloaded to the SBR, the example of which is the code of the institutional sector. There are errors in specific cases that are continually checked and corrected by contacting the reporting units.

2.2.8. Imputation rate

The indicator is not computed.

2.2.9. Model assumption error

Not applicable for the SBR.

2.3. Data revision

2.3.1. Data revision – policy

The indicator is not applicable.

2.3.2. Data revision – practice

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.3.3. Data revision – average size

The indicator is not computed.

2.4. Seasonal adjustment

Seasonal adjustment is not carried out in the SBR.

3. Timeliness and punctuality

3.1. Timeliness

T + 10 months

3.1.1. Timeliness – first results

Timeliness of first results is T + 10 months.

3.1.2. Timeliness – final results

Timeliness of final results is T + 12 months.

3.2. Punctuality

SBR is updated according to the planned schedule and ready to fulfil users' needs.

3.2.1. Punctuality − delivery and publication

The indicator is not applicable.

4. Accessibility and clarity

Data are delivered in aggregated form on request, in paper and electronic format.

4.1. News release

Data are not published in the publications of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

4.2. Online database

Data on classifying business entities according to the sectoral classification of institutional units are available online.

4.3. Microdata access

Only microdata pertaining to the sectoral classification of institutional units are available.

Sectoral classification of institutional units

The conditions under which certain users can access microdata are regulated by the Ordinance on Conditions and Terms of Access and Use of Confidential Statistical Data of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics for Scientific Purposes (OG, No. 5/23) .

4.4. Documentation on methodology

European business statistics methodological manual for statistical business registers (2021 edition) is publicly available on the Eurostat website at the following link: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/en/web/products-manuals-and-guidelines/-/ks-gq-20-006

European Business Profiling – Recommendations Manual (Eurostat, 2020 edition) is publicly available on the Eurostat website at the following link:
https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-manuals-and-guidelines/-/ks-gq-20-002

5. Coherence and comparability

5.1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics

Not applicable for the SBR.

5.2. Comparability over time

Statistical data on business entities in the SBR are comparable and adjusted over time (2008 − 2018). In 2019, there was a break in time series and data are not comparable to data from previous years.

5.2.1. Length of comparable time series

Length of comparable time series is four years.

5.2.2. Reasons for break in time series

Data from 2019 are not comparable due to the creation of a statistical unit "enterprise", e.g. complex enterprise.

5.3. Coherence – short-term and structural data

The indicator is not computed.

5.4. Coherence – national accounts

The indicator is not computed.

5.5. Coherence – administrative sources

The indicator is not computed.

6. Cost and burden

6.1. Cost

Costs directly linked to the Statistical Business Register are the following:

- personnel costs

- eight employed persons

- IT maintenance and development costs

- 100 000 kuna on an annual basis.

6.2. Burden

The burden on reporting units has been minimised by using administrative sources. The burden is present only in cases when data checking is required by directly contacting the reporting units.