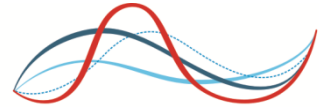REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY

Statistical Business Register

For 2018

Organisational unit: Statistical Business Register Department
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0. Basic information

- Purpose, goal, 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. SBR provides the frame for conducting statistical surveys, statistical analysis of population of business entities and for the compilation of business demography statistics, for establishing links with administrative sources and for identifying and creating statistical units. It contains information on legal entities and natural persons that perform an independent activity (crafts and freelances) and contribute to GDP.

It is compiled using data from administrative and statistical sources. Administrative sources are: the Register of Business Entities, the Central Register of Crafts, the Register of Tax Payers, 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 types of units registered in the SBR are 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 (EC) No 177/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 February 2008 establishing a common framework for business registers for statistical purposes and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 2186/93 (OJ L 61, 5.3.2008)
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, 30.3.1993.)
Decision on the National Classification of Activities, 2007 version – NKD 2007. (NN,OG Nos 58/07 and 72/07)

- Classification system

National Classification of Activities – NKD 2007.
Classification of Spatial Units for Statistics
Sector Classification of Institutional Units according to ESA 2010

- Concepts and definitions

SBR registers the following main types of units: legal units, enterprises, local units and enterprise groups.

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 that performs an independent activity for the purpose of gaining profit or for realisation of the function for which it is established. It may appear in the form of a trade company, an institution, a state government body, a body of local and regional self-government units, an association, a political party or another legal constitutional formation of legal entities, as well as a trade or freelance that is registered and operates according to the law.

Information on legal units that are entered in the SBR are the following: identification numbers (ID, PIN, TIN, number of craft licence etc.), name, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, date of incorporation for legal persons or date of official recognition as an economic operator for natural persons, date on which the legal unit ceased; legal form, number of employees and annual turnover, date of incorporation for legal persons or date of official recognition as an economic operator for natural persons, date on which the legal unit ceased; legal form, number of employees, activity code according to the NKD 2007., sector code according to the ESA 2010, ID of the enterprise group to which a unit belongs, date of association to the enterprise group, date of separation from the enterprise group, identification numbers of resident legal unit(s) that are controlled by the legal unit or that control the legal unit, etc.

Enterprise is a basic statistical unit defined by the methodology of business registers, which is in most cases identical to 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 that are entered in the SBR are the following: identification number, link to the legal unit or group of legal units, name, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, date of commencement, date of cessation, number of persons employed and annual turnover, activity code according to NKD 2007., sector code according to ESA 2010 ID of enterprise group to which a unit belongs, date of association to the enterprise group, date of separation from the enterprise group, code of the survey in which a unit is included, etc.

Local unit represents 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 activity at that location, even in exceptional cases when that person is not employed full time.

Information on local units that are entered into the SBR are the following: identification number, link to 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 of cessation, main activity at the NKD 2007. class level, secondary activities at the NKD 2007. class level, mark if the activity carried out in the local unit is an ancillary activity at the enterprise level, etc.

An 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 which is authorised to make decisions, particularly concerning the units which it comprises.
Information on enterprise groups that are entered into the SBR are the following: identity number (national and European), type of the group, name of the group in Croatia, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, date of commencement of the group in Croatia, date of cessation of the group in Croatia, number of persons employed and annual turnover, main activity code according to NKD 2007., secondary activity codes, if any, direct parent of the main legal unit in Croatia, country of the direct parent, subsidiaries, links between the main legal unit and subsidiaries, percentage of ownership, mark of control, consolidated turnover of the group, number of employees in the group.

- Statistical units

Statistical units are selected on the basis of statistical domains.

Currently, a legal unit is a proxy for an enterprise and it is the main unit for which information is collected. For 2017, there are the first data on complex enterprises (several legal units grouped into one complex enterprise).

Some statistical surveys use kind-of-activity units or local kind-of-activity units, which are derived from legal units or local units.

- Statistical population

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

1. Relevance

1.1. Data users

- internal users of SBR data: statistical departments of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics (Business Statistics Directorate and Macroeconomic Statistics Directorate, as well as several surveys of the Social Statistics Directorate)
- external users of SBR data: Eurostat, Croatian National Bank and Ministry of Finance within sectoral classification of institutional units
- individual users

1.1.1. User needs

The content of the SBR data is defined by the EU regulation on business registers, which provides for basic indicators for conducting statistical surveys and statistical analyses

The needs of external users are met 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. External users can use only aggregate data in order to prevent the identification of individual units and their business indicators.

1.1.2. User satisfaction

User satisfaction is measured by the user satisfaction survey.
It was first carried out in 2013 and then in 2015. The level of user satisfaction was published in the results of this survey in 2015 at
http://www.dzs.hr/Hrv/international/Quality_Report/Quality_Report_Documents/Quality_Report Satisfaction_Survey.pdf.

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

1.2. Completeness

SBR is in full compliance with the EU legislation.

1.2.1. Data completeness rate

The indicator for this survey is not computed.

2. Accuracy and reliability

2.1. Sampling error

Not applicable to the Statistical Business Register.

2.1.1. Sampling error indicators

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.1.2. Bias in sample selection process

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.2. Non-sampling error

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

2.2.1. Coverage error

The coverage errors relate to under-coverage, duplication of units and incorrect classification 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 the coverage of freelances 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 Craft Register.
Duplication of data is present in relation to freelancers 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 in the SBR. That data is mainly obtained on the basis of various business statistics surveys in which indicators related to specific activities are collected (industry, agriculture, services, tourism, construction, etc.), to which reporting units are classified according to their registered activity.
If the registered activity is not actually performed, the reporting units cannot enter the required data and in that case , they report on performance of another activity. The given information is a base for a possible change of the activity code in 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 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 to SBR.

2.2.5. Unit non-response rate

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.2.6. Item non-response rate

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

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 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 for this survey is not computed.

2.2.9. Editing rate

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.2.10. Hit rate

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.2.11. Model assumption error

Not applicable to the Statistical Business Register.

2.3. Data revision

2.3.1. Data revision – policy

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 for this survey is not computed.

2.4. Seasonal adjustment

Seasonal adjustment is not carried out in SBR.

3. Timeliness and punctuality

3.1. Timeliness

3.1.1. Time lag – first results

Time lag – final results is T + 10 months.

3.1.2. Time lag – final results

Time lag – final results is T + 12 months.

3.2. Punctuality

3.2.1. Punctuality – delivery and publication

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

4. Accessibility and clarity

Data are delivered in aggregate form on request in paper and electronic form.

4.1. News release

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

4.2. Other publications

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

4.3. Online database

Data on classifying business entities according to the Sectoral Classification of Institutional Units are available online.

4.4. Micro-data access

Only microdata pertaining to the Sectoral Classification of Institutional Units are available.

4.5. Documentation on methodology

The Business Register Recommendations Manual is publicly available on the Eurostat website at http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/statmanuals/files/KS-32-10-216-EN-C-EN.pdf

5. Comparability

5.1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics

Not applicable to SBR.

5.2. Comparability over time

5.2.1. Length of comparable time series

Length of comparable time series is 9.

5.2.2. Reasons for break in time series

Break in time series can occur due to the expansion of coverage by including a certain category of business entities that was not previously included, due to changes in data sources, i.e. in important classifications (NKD 2007. or the Sectoral Classification of Institutional Units).

6. Coherence

6.1. Coherence – short-term and structural data

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

6.2. Coherence – national accounts

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

6.3. Coherence – administrative sources

The indicator for this survey is not computed.

7. Cost and burden

7.1. Cost

The costs directly linked to the Statistical Business Register are the following:
- personnel costs – ten employees
- IT maintenance and development costs – 100.000 kuna on the annual basis.

7.2. Burden

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