Abstract

The field of economic statistics and the statistical processes supported by the SBR is extensive. The core of the economic statistics is comprised by the statistics that support the composition of GDP-related statistics in the “Chain of Dutch Business Statistics”. This “chain” describes the input, throughput and the output which starts with the SBR and ends with the “demand and supply tables” on behalf of National Accounts, in a coherent way. But the Dutch SBR also supports other kinds of economic statistics, like the accounting statistics on governmental bodies where maintenance to assign the correct sectorcode in the SBR contributes to raise the quality.

The maintenance strategy of the Dutch Statistical Business Register (SBR) depends on the economic statistical system according the Dutch business architecture to produce national statistics, the strategy to reduce administrative burden, the input sources (and their quality) and the automatic and manual procedures used to derive statistical units to support statistical processes of economic statistics.

The sources used to maintain the SBR are the Trade Register, the Tax register (with fiscal legal persons) and the VAT administration of the Tax office, Social Security Employment Data, Information on SPEs of the Dutch National Bank, Survey-information on financing large enterprise groups, Standardised Address Information and Profiling. To maintain and control the SBR, derivation and priority rules between these sources, determine who has priority for the derivation of characteristics on legal and statistical units which are originally determined by the source.

Besides these derivation and priority rules between the sources, the maintenance strategy subscribes to determine which part of the Enterprise Groups (EGs) is maintained by manual processing (profiling) and which part is maintained by automatic processing. For this distinction, Statistics Netherlands uses an algorithm, which calculates (each month) a score to describe the complexity and the impact of the EG in the statistical output. This score is called the “Complexity and Statistical Impact”-score (CSI). For each EG in the SBR, a classification of this score determines the way it is treated and maintained in the “chain”.

Maintenance strategy of the Dutch SBR
Most of the statistical units in the SBR are maintained by automatic processing, but it always possible for a statistician or the SBR-Staff to propose a “change proposal” to correct frame errors. Correction of frame errors are processed in the SBR by manual intervention after a ‘frame error consultation’ procedure.

Each month a ‘final’ population frame is derived from the live register of the Dutch SBR. This frame describes a steady situation of the statistical units, their characteristics and their links to the administrative units in order to coordinate populations to produce statistical output or to conduct coordinated surveys. But before, a macro-validator has to approve all changes caused by the sources by judging the impact for the users and take action if necessary.

The paper will focus on the derivation and priority rules of the sources, the calculation of the CSI-score profiling and the conditions on which ‘changes’ are processed in the Dutch SBR of Statistics Netherlands.