

Methodology of the quarterly data collection on registrations and bankruptcies

Statistics on registrations

Registration is the recording of a legal unit in the business register for administrative purposes (URV) under certain premises (see below). In addition to the URV, the statistical business register (URS) represents the central database for the quarterly statistics on registrations of legal units. All market economy activities in sections B to S without section O and section S94 of ÖNACE 2008 are recorded.

The following sources from the URV are used to determine the number of registrations, the registration date and characteristics:

- Commercial register (FB)
- Chamber of Commerce (WIKA)
- Main association of the Austrian social insurance agencies (DV)
- Chambers of the Liberal Professions (KfB)
- Basic tax data, advance sales tax returns and income tax data (tax)

The creation of the statistics on registrations takes place in several steps. In a first step, rules (premises) are defined when a legal unit is counted as a registration:

- 1) Registration in the FB
- 2) Registration with WIKA
- 3) Registration with DV as an employer
- 4) Registration with DV as a self-employed person
- 5) Registration with the chambers of liberal professions as self-employed
- 6) Registration with the tax and sales figures from the sales tax advance returns or income tax data are available.

The registrations of associations (Vereine) are not counted.

In a second step, the date of registration is defined. This is determined on the basis of the first sign of life in the sources, i.e. the first registration is counted.

Since the ÖNACE code is not always available in the data sources at the time of registration, the WIKA subject allocation is used as the data source for an initial allocation of the ÖNACE code. All other missing ÖNACE codes are estimated in a third step using an ÖNACE distribution based on the new entries in the URS.

Note: The data on the registrations for the last four reporting quarters are shown as provisional due to the relatively late availability of the underlying administrative data sources and are revised when a new quarter is published. In order to be able to map the effects of the Corona crisis in the data, the time series starts as early as the first quarter of 2019.

Statistics on bankruptcies

The data on the bankruptcies are based on the judicial bankruptcy proceedings. The initiation of bankruptcy proceedings of a legal unit in accordance with the Bankruptcy

Code - IO, RGBI. No. 337/1914. These bankruptcy proceedings are: bankruptcy opening proceedings, bankruptcy proceedings, restructuring proceedings with and without self-administration.

The statistics are created in several steps:

- (1) The main source of data is the Judicial Edict File. The data recorded there is made available by the Federal Ministry of Justice,
- (2) stored in the statistical business register (URS) and the administrative register (URV) and
- (3) Enriched with further characteristics.
- (4) Changes of procedure are not counted, i.e. there are no double counting of legal units in the case of a change of procedure.
- (5) Units that have opened bankruptcy proceedings several times in a period of 12 months are adjusted and only the first bankruptcy proceedings are counted.
- (6) Subsequent distributions are excluded.
- (7) The statistics are compiled every quarter from the 2019 reporting year and are evaluated according to aggregated economic sectors (ÖNACE 2008).
- (8) For units for which ÖNACE is not available, an estimate is made using an ÖNACE distribution based on the new entries in the URS.

Notes: In Austria, there are comparable bankruptcies figures for instance from the KSV1870. Although the data source used is identical, there are slight deviations from the figures published by Statistics Austria. Causes include: different coverage areas or reference times for the analysis or the assignment of the units to economic branches according to ÖNACE 2008.

The data on bankruptcies for the last four quarters of the report are shown as provisional and are revised when a new quarter is published.