

Standard-documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

Structural Business Statistics

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Executive Summary

Structural business statistics (SBS) enables a detailed analysis of enterprise and employment structures, of the economic performance of enterprises and kind of activity units as well as regional distribution of kind of activity units and local units. This statistic is an important basis for decision making within politics and economy. Additionally, SBS provides essential basis data for calculating different economic indicators and for observing the European single market. The determination of harmonised and comparable economic indicators contributes to a better understanding of economic performance and competitiveness of enterprises within the European Union.

Since reference year 1997, SBS has been compiled yearly as specified in the EU regulation concerning structural business statistics in production and service sectors. Until reference year 2001 SBS has been based on a stratified random sample survey with annual rotation of sampled units and free grossing up to the total population. With reference year 2002 the concepts for SBS have been adapted according to the requirements of the federal statistics law 2000 with a view to respondents' burden reduction. Therefore, this statistic is conducted as cut-off survey with legally defined thresholds. With these method enterprises below thresholds (small and micro enterprises) could be exempted from reporting obligations. Nevertheless, the results have to reflect the structure of the total population within in the economic activities. For this reason, the variables of enterprises below thresholds are estimated by model-based estimation on micro level, which is based on information of the primary survey as well as BR and administrative data.

Since reference year 2008 structural business statistics are compiled according to the SBS Recast Regulation and structured by NACE Rev. 2. Sections B to N and division S95 of NACE Rev. 2 are covered. At the same time the national survey thresholds have been raised to relieve further small and micro enterprises from reporting obligations. On 16 October 2014 a further new national SBS Regulation has entered into force, mainly to introduce flexible survey thresholds and the obligation to report electronically for those enterprises with appropriate technical prerequisites. With the reference year 2018, the statistical enterprise was implemented in SBS. With the method of profiling, legal units of enterprise groups were delineated to statistical enterprises in order to consolidate substantial internal flows between legal units of the same enterprise from SBS results.

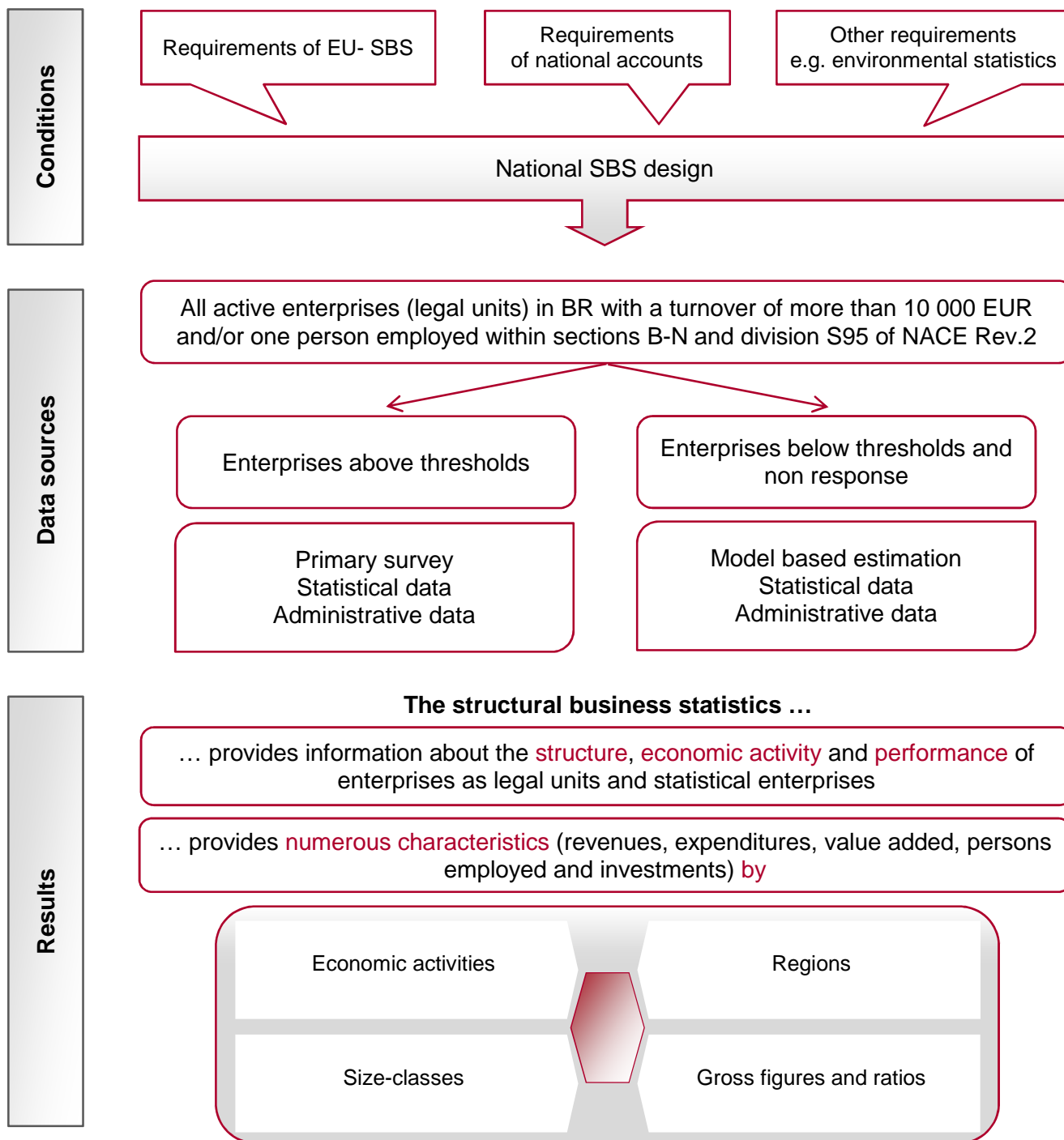
In the yearly primary survey 36 000 enterprises (legal units) are included on average (approx. 10% of total population). Data reported by those enterprises cover around 75% of total employees and nearly 90% of total turnover. On a voluntary basis, national decision centres of the largest enterprise groups were asked for consolidated data for their statistical enterprises. The total population is approx. 346 000 enterprises (legal units), which were combined to 322.000 statistical enterprises (reference year 2018).

In general, the reduction of burden on enterprises by using administrative data, by model based estimation and by benefits from synergies between surveys has high priority in SBS. Financial services are nearly completely compiled from statistical data of the Austrian National Bank (OeNB) and the Financial Market Authority (FMA). Beyond that, synergies between short term statistics in industry and construction (STS) and SBS are exploited.

For calculation of SBS results of enterprises below legal predefined thresholds, administrative data and model based estimation is used. While data for employees of Federation of Austrian Social Insurance Institutions (DV) and turnover tax data of the financial authorities (tax notifications) have been used since 2002, wage tax data for gross wages and salaries have been used since 2008. Since 2011, data from DV and from the chambers of free-lance professions have been integrated step by step for calculating self-employed persons and turnover from supplements to the income tax return and corporate tax return.

With help of SBS results, enterprises can be analysed according to economic activities, size classes and regional aspects. Figure 1 shows an overview of the concept of structural business statistics in Austria.

Figure 1: Concept of structural business statistics in Austria



The present methodological report refers to SBS from reference year 2018 onwards. Information about SBS before 2018 can be found in [pre versions](#) of the present report.

Structural Business Statistics – Main features	
Subject Matter	Statistics about the economic structure of the production and service sector (sections B to N and division S95 of NACE Rev. 2) – employment, revenue and expenditure structure, investments by economic activities, regions and enterprise size-classes.
Population	Enterprises (legal units) and statistical enterprises with main economic activity in NACE-sections B to N and division S95 being economically active in the respective reference year in BR (having a yearly turnover of more than 10 thousand EUR and/or persons employed (about 346 000 enterprises as legal units and 322 000 statistical enterprises).
Type of statistics	Combination of primary survey (35 000 resp. 10% of the population), use of secondary statistical data, data from business register and administrative data as well as model based estimation.
Data sources/Survey techniques	<p>Primary survey (SBS survey)</p> <p>Secondary (statistical) data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term statistics in industry and construction • International Trade in Services Statistics <p>BR data and administrative data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federation of Austrian Social Insurance Institutions (DV) and chambers of free-lance professions • Turnover tax data, income tax return and corporate tax return data and wage tax data • Statistical Business Register (SBR) • Statistical data of the Austrian National Bank (OeNB) and of the Financial Market Authority (FMA)
Reference period or due day	Calendar year (in case of a deviating bookkeeping period, the bookkeeping year finished before 31.12. of reference year resp. short fiscal year)
Periodicity	yearly
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	<p>Mandatory for enterprises above predefined turnover and/or employment thresholds:</p> <p>Production (sections B-F of NACE Rev. 2): 20 persons employed and activity based, specific, flexible turnover thresholds starting at 1 million EUR resp. 2 million EUR, if a predefined coverage rate of a particular ÖNACE section could not be reached.</p> <p>Services (sections G to N and division S95 of NACE Rev. 2): activity based, specific, flexible turnover thresholds of 300 thousand EUR, 900 thousand EUR, 1.9 million EUR and 3 million EUR) and/or alternative thresholds of persons employed (10 or 20 persons employed).</p>
Main legal acts	<p>Leistungs- und Strukturstatistik-Verordnung, BGBl. II Nr. 428/2003 of 16 September 2003, as amended (National SBS regulation).</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 295/2008 of the European parliament and of the council of 11 March 2008 concerning structural business statistics, as amended.</p>
Most detailed regional breakdown	<p>Enterprises and kind of activity units: Austria and federal provinces.</p> <p>Local units: NUTS 3</p> <p>Detailed breakdown in form of individual generated tables possible.</p>
Availability of results	<p>Preliminary data: t + 10 months</p> <p>Final data: t + 18 months</p>
Other	-