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 legal units as well as regional distribution of local units. This statistic is an important basis for national accounts, other business statistics and 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.

SBS has been compiled yearly since reference year 1997. Starting with the reference year 2021, SBS is based on Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 on European business statistics and the national SBS Regulation 2022. SBS survey for legal units is conducted as a cut-off survey with legally defined thresholds. With these method units below thresholds (mainly small and micro units) could be exempted from reporting obligations. Nevertheless, the results have to reflect the structure of the total population within the economic activities. For this reason, the variables of legal units below thresholds are estimated by model-based estimation on micro level, which is based on information of the primary survey as well as SBR and administrative data. With the method of profiling, legal units of enterprise groups were delineated to statistical enterprises in order to consolidate substantial internal flows within legal units of the same enterprise.
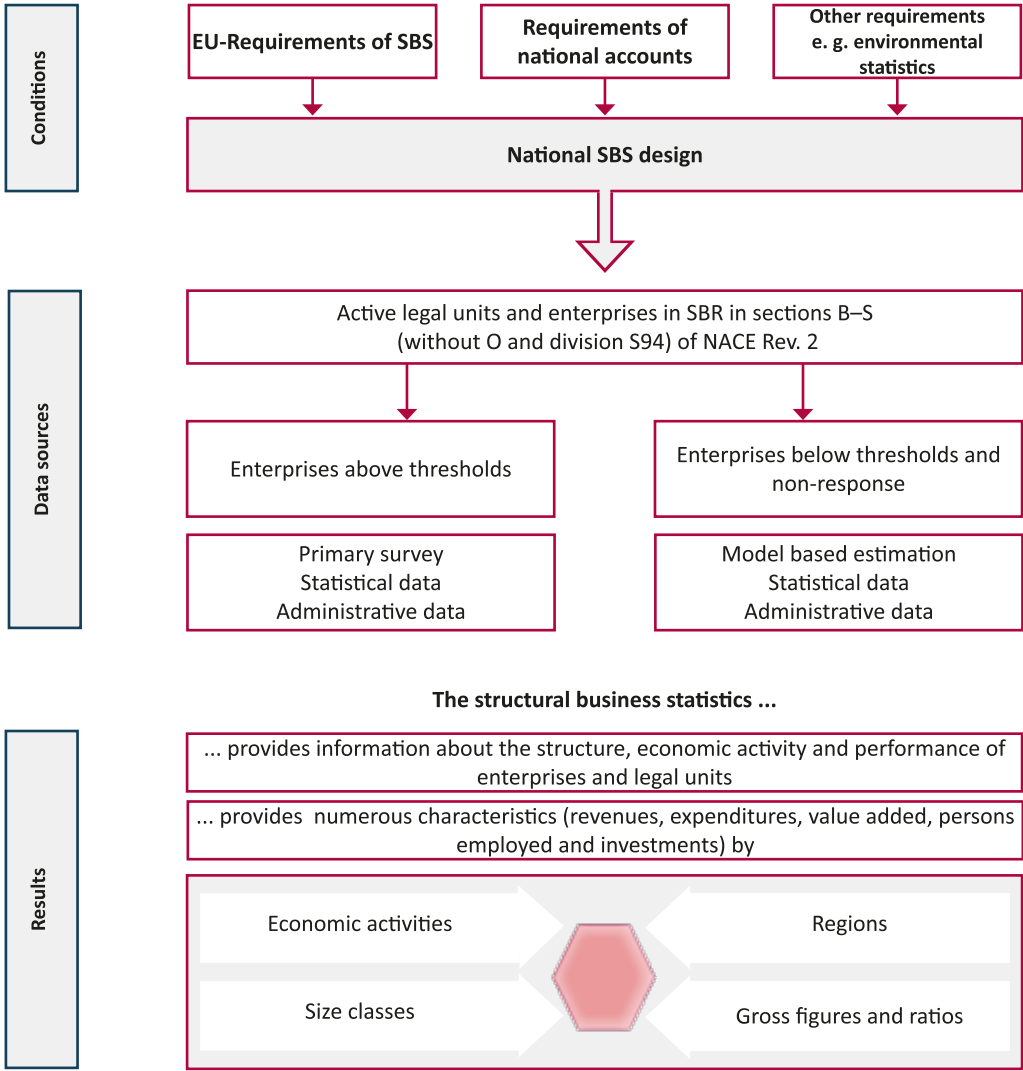
Since reference year 2021, NACE Rev. 2 Sections B to S (excluding O and S94) are covered. In the yearly primary survey 38 000 legal units are included on average (approx. 6% of total population). Normally about 95 % of respondents report their SBS data in time - data reported by those 36 500 legal units cover around 75% of total employees and nearly 85% of total turnover. In SBS survey 2021 87,9 % of legal units have used the electronic questionnaire eQuest and 11,9 % the new WebService for reporting the balance of accounts attributed to SBS variables. Only 0,2 % used the paper questionnaire. For reference year 2021, total population was 620 000 legal units, which were delineated to 590 000 enterprises. In addition, about 720 000 local units were covered.

In general, the reduction of burden on respondents 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 and other variables 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 SBS in Austria.

Conditions

| EU-Requirements of SBS | Requirements of national accounts | Other requirements e. g. environmental statistics |

National SBS design

Data sources

Active legal units and enterprises in SBR in sections B–S
(without O and division S94) of NACE Rev. 2

| Enterprises above thresholds | Enterprises below thresholds and non-response |

| Primary survey
Statistical data
Administrative data | Model based estimation
Statistical data
Administrative data |

The structural business statistics ...

Results

... provides information about the structure, economic activity and performance of enterprises and legal units

... provides numerous characteristics (revenues, expenditures, value added, persons employed and investments) by

| Economic activities | Regions |
| Size classes | Gross figures and ratios |

Structural Business Statistics – Main Key Points	
Subject matter	Statistics about the economic structure of the production and service sector (sections B to S (without O and S94) of NACE Rev. 2) – employment, personal expenditures, revenue and expenditure structure, production value, value added, gross operating surplus, investments by economic activities, regions and enterprise size-classes.
Population	Market enterprises and legal units with main economic activity in NACE-sections B to S (without O und S94) being economically active in the respective reference year in SBR (having turnover and/or persons employed (about 590 000 enterprises and 620 000 legal units).
Type of statistics	Combination of primary survey (38 000 resp. 6 % of the population), use of secondary statistical data, data from SBR and administrative data as well as model-based estimation. Consolidation and/or summing up of legal units to enterprises.
Data sources/Survey techniques	Primary survey (SBS survey) Secondary (statistical) data • Short term statistics in industry and construction • International Trade in Services Statistics SBR data and administrative data • Employment data from social security authorities and chambers of free-lance professions • Turnover tax data, income tax return, 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	Reference year or deviating bookkeeping period or short fiscal year
Periodicity	Annual
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	Mandatory for enterprises above predefined turnover and/or employment thresholds
Main legal acts	Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 on European business statistics and the General Implementing Act (EU) 2020/1197 National SBS Regulation 2022, BGBL. II Nr. 305/2022
Most detailed regional breakdown	Enterprises and legal units: Austria and federal provinces. Local units: NUTS 3 Detailed breakdown in form of individual generated tables possible.
Availability of results	Preliminary data: t + 10 months; Final data: t + 18 months
Other	-