Creating the registers

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1. What is register?

2. Type of registers

1. What is register?

- Register is a systematic collection of unit-level data organized in such a way that updating is possible.

- Updating is the processing of identifiable information with the purpose of establishing, bringing up to date, correcting or extending the register.

- Key requirement of register is that each unit in the register can always be uniquely identified by using a system of identification codes (keys).

- If sufficient information on the units is available such as name, address, date of birth etc, no identification is needed.

2. Types of registers

1. Administrative

2. Statistical

What is needed for administrative register?

1. Legal base

2. Identifiers

3. Starting point – establish population

4. Updating

Identifiers

- Identifying codes (ID-numbers) should not be changed during the lifetime of a unit

- Example of personal ID
  - Contain date of birth and sex: Changes may occur
  - Temporary ID-number changed to permanent ID-number

- When ID-numbers are changed: The NSO should establish links between ID-numbers
  - One solution: Statistical register

Establish population

- Example: Central Population Register

- Census
  - Legal base?

- Regional/local registers
  - Possible problem: no common identifiers
    - May cause double registration
    - Matching by using name, address, sex, date of birth

- Administrative sources other than registers
  - Possible problem: Not in an electronic format

Updating

- Decide who shall be responsible for updating

- Updating must start immediately after population is established
    - Otherwise changes in units and attributes are lost

Example Central Population Register - updating

- Births and deaths: Hospitals
- Immigration, citizenship: Immigration authorities
- Change of address, emigration: Citizens
- Marriages, divorces, change of name, adoptions: courts
- Administrative Central Population register is updated every day
  - all changes transferred to NSO
- The statistical population register is updated daily

Statistical register

- Statistical registers are created for data processing from administrative registers.

- Statistical registers could be based on a single administrative register, but they are more frequently based on combined data from several administrative sources

What is needed to create a statistical register?

- Existence of comprehensive administrative registers of good quality
  - Access?

- Possibility to link units
  - Legal base?
  - Unique identifiers?

- Variables relevant to statistics
  - Or possibility to derive variables?

What is needed to create a statistical register? (2)

Use of more than one administrative register

- Population

  - Central or local/regional population register

- Variables

  - Directly accessible or derived

Statistical Population Register

Target population:

❖ persons resident in the country

❖ or include other groups

Central population register exists

- Is the target population in administrative population register

➢ Only nationals?

➢ Including persons living abroad?

- Necessary to use more than one source register?

Statistical Population Register (2)

No central population register exists

- Necessary to combine several registers.

- What sources are available?

  - Tax registers, social security, etc.

- Combine registers to improve coverage.

- Possible problems: Under-and over-double coverage, counting.

References

This presentation adopted from:

1. Presentation by Harald Utne, Statistics Norway on Regional Training Producing Register-based Population Statistics in Developing Countries, Tehran 27 – 31 October 2013

2. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, 2007. Register-based staistics in the Nordic countries. Review of best practices with focus on population and sosial statistics.