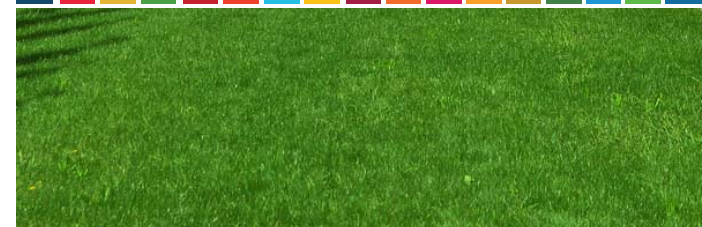


Use of Statistical Business Registers for Business Demography and Entrepreneurship Statistics

CESRIC Workshop on Business Demography and Entrepreneurship statistics
July 2024

Carsten Boldsen, UNECE



Content



- 1. The Statistical Business Register (SBR)**
- 2. Business demography and entrepreneurship statistics**
- 3. Requirements for the SBR to produce BD and ESS**
- 4. More information**

The SBR



What is an SBR?

An SBR is a structured database, containing:

- **Economic units in a country**
 - legal, administrative and statistical units
- **Characteristics of the economic units**
 - type of activity, size (employment, turnover)

The SBR

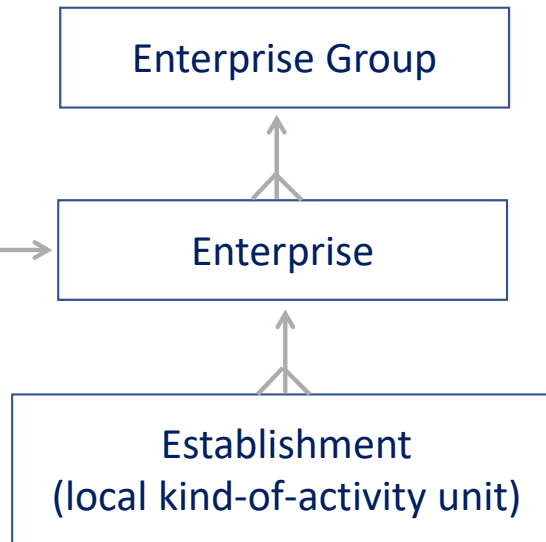


Units in the SBR (recommended model)

Real world units



Statistical units



The SBR



Characteristics in the SBR:

- **Identification and contact** (name, address, ID)
- **Demographic** (birth, death, split, merging)
- **Economic/stratification** (type of activity (ISIC), employment, turnover a.o.)
- **Links between different types of units in the SBR** (legal-statistical units, between statistical units)
- **Links with units in other registers/sources** (e.g. VAT, social & population registers)

The SBR



Roles of the SBR:

- Backbone in the production of coherent economic statistics
- Provides infrastructure for collection and integration/linking of economic data
- Provide survey frame and samples for survey-based statistics
- Facilitate production of economic statistics based directly on SBR
- Facilitate international data exchange

Business demography and entrepreneurship



Business Demography Statistics

- Provides variables that describe the development of the business population
- Focus of business demography statistics is on
 - Birth of enterprises
 - Survival of newly created enterprises
 - Death of enterprises
 - High-growth enterprises and gazelles
 - Indicators of entrepreneurs linked with their business

Business demography and entrepreneurship



Main indicators of business demography are:

- **Birth rate:** share of newly born enterprises in year t as percentage of all active enterprises in year t
- **Survival rate:** share of enterprises born in year t that are still active in the years, $t+1$, $t+2$, $t+3$, ... as percentage of number of enterprises born in year t
- **Death rate:** share of enterprises that stopped their activity in year t as percentage of all active enterprises in year t

Indicators of business demography are usually broken down by **economic activity**, **employment size classes**, **regions**

Business demography and entrepreneurship



Indicators of entrepreneurs and their business:

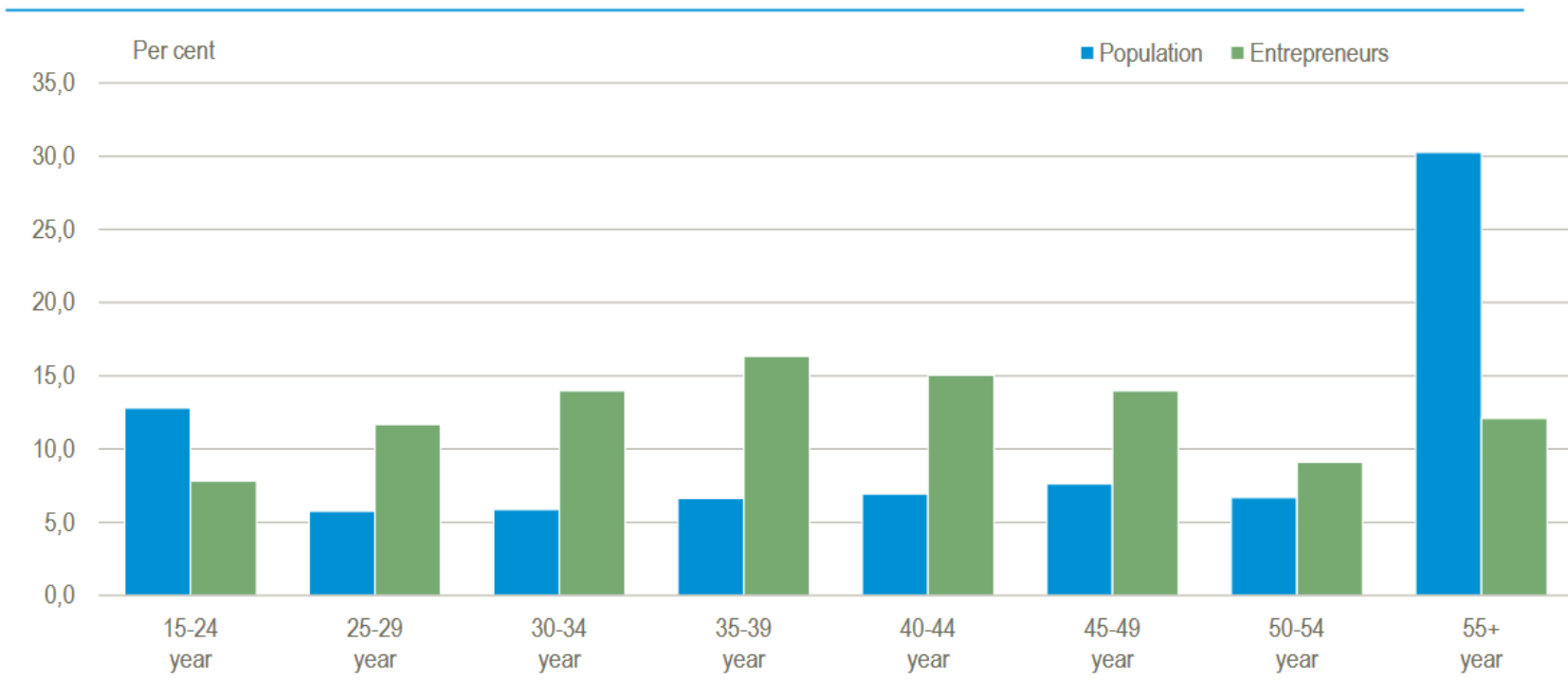
- Gender, age, education, entrepreneurial career, etc. by
 - economic activity (ISIC)
 - size classes (employment, turnover)
- The indicators are usually produced by micro-data linking of the SBR with data sources on persons

Example: OECD publication: *Entrepreneurship at a glance* (2011 – 2017)

Business demography and entrepreneurship



Figure A2.5 **New entrepreneurs and the entire population broken down by age (per cent)**

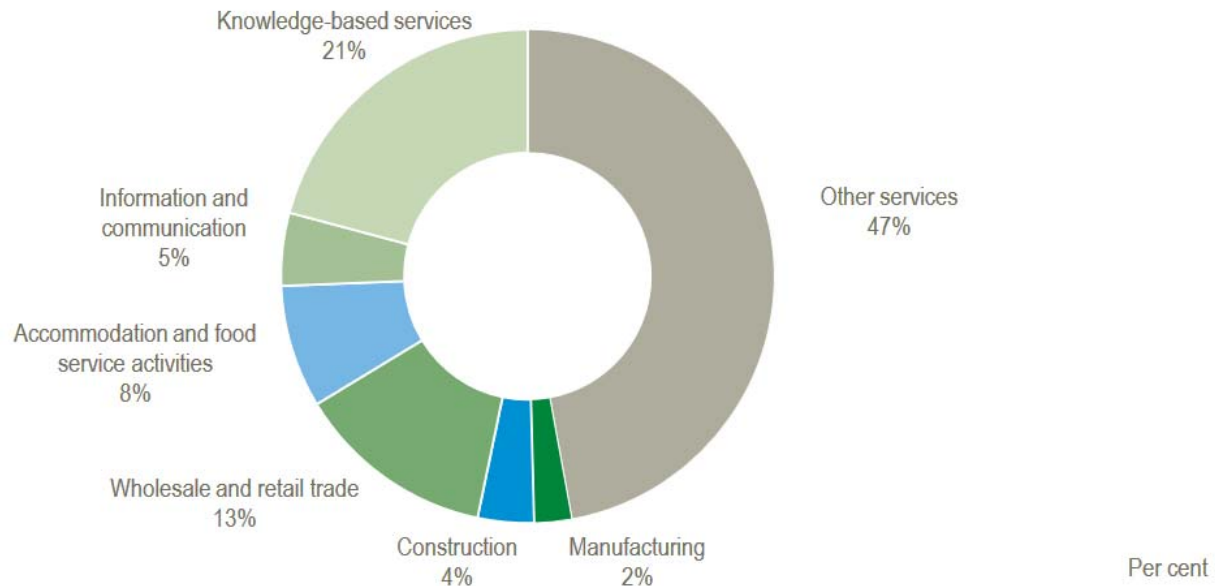


Source: Statistics Denmark

Business demography and entrepreneurship



Figure A2.3 **Women entrepreneurs broken down by sector (2013)**



Source: Statistics Denmark

Requirements for SBR to support BD and entrepreneurship statistics



- **Full coverage of enterprises**
 - Especially small enterprises, enterprises without employees, self-proprietor enterprises
 - **High quality of the variables of the enterprises**
 - Activity (ISIC), number of employees and self-employed persons, timeliness
 - **SBR maintenance according to the demographic events and continuity rules**
 - Ensures transformation of administrative registration into statistical units.
- ➔ Serves as basis for creation of **longitudinal databases**, which require *continuity rules* for demographic events.

Requirements for SBR to support BD and entrepreneurship statistics



Longitudinal unit

- may be linked to more than one statistical unit in the SBR over the course of its history
- therefore, the statistical identifiers cannot, on their own, be used to track longitudinal units

An SBR supporting BD may involve

- creating a longitudinal component to the SBR to provide characteristics and size information by reference period from the date of creation to the time of closure of the longitudinal unit

Requirements for SBR to support BD and entrepreneurship statistics



Statistics on entrepreneurs require linking SBR with personal employment data

International classification of status in employment (ICSE) is crucial

ICSE-93: Distinguish between employed and self-employed

SNA: Self-employed = persons who are the sole or joint owners of the unincorporated enterprises in which they work (2008 SNA,19.25).

- excludes owners of incorporated enterprises and unincorporated quasi corporations
 - ➔ underestimation of number of entrepreneurs
- Not all self-employed are entrepreneurs:
 - unconventional work relationships
 - gig workers, non-standard employment contracts
 - digital platform workers

Requirements for SBR to support BD and entrepreneurship statistics



ICSE-18 replaces ICSE-93

The new category, Independent workers, will be the best starting point for identification and compilation of statistics on entrepreneurs

Independent workers and dependent workers

According to type of authority
(ICSE-18-A)

Independent workers

A. Employers

- 11 – Employers in corporations
- 12 – Employers in household market enterprises

B. Independent workers without employees

- 21 – Owner-operators of corporations without employees
- 22 – Own-account workers in household market enterprises without employees

Dependent workers

C. Dependent contractors

- 30 – Dependent contractors

D. Employees

- 41 – Permanent employees
- 42 – Fixed-term employees
- 43 – Short-term and casual employees
- 44 – Paid apprentices, trainees and interns

E. Contributing family workers

- 51 – Contributing family workers

Workers in employment for profit and workers in employment for pay

According to type of economic risk
(ICSE-18-R)

Workers in employment for profit

F. Independent workers in household market enterprises

- 12 – Employers in household market enterprises
- 22 – Own-account workers in household market enterprises without employees

C. Dependent contractors

- 30 – Dependent contractors

E. Contributing family workers

- 51 – Contributing family workers

Workers in employment for pay

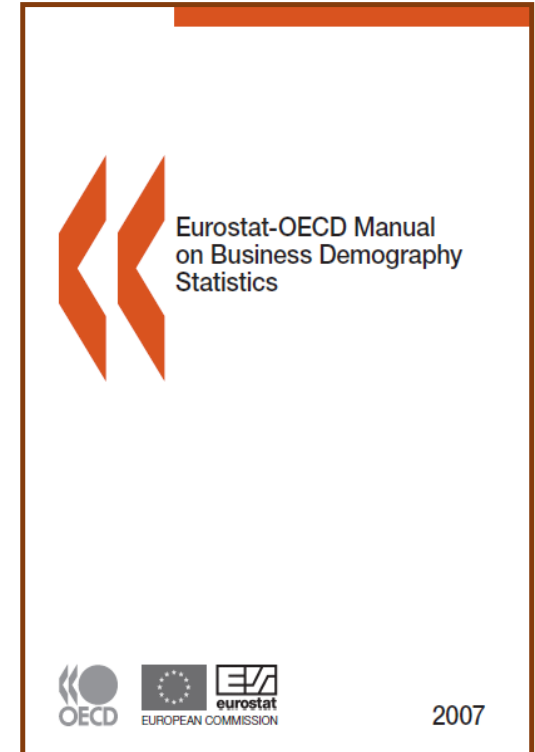
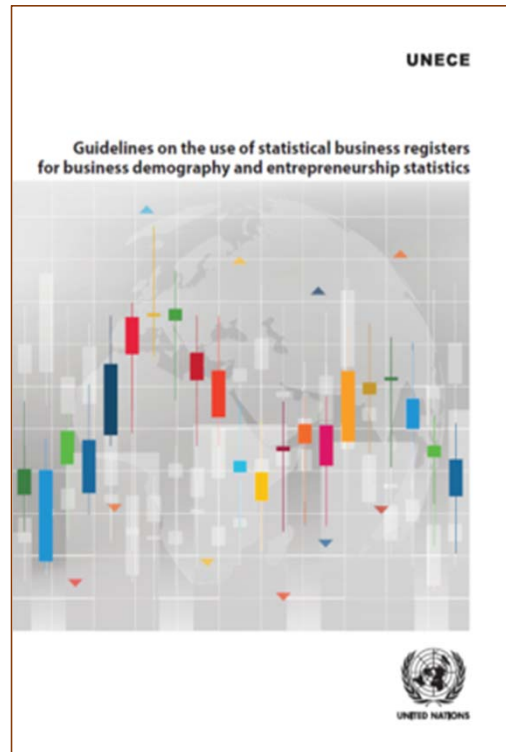
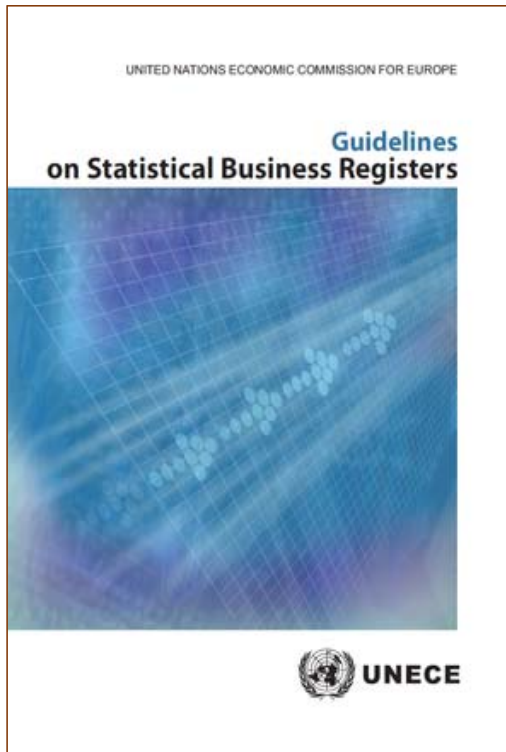
G. Owner-operators of corporations

- 11 – Employers in corporations
- 21 – Owner-operators of corporations without employees

D. Employees

- 41 – Permanent employees
- 42 – Fixed-term employees
- 43 – Short-term and casual employees
- 44 – Paid apprentices, trainees and interns

More information



More information



Handbook on Forms of Employment (UNECE 2022)

- gives guidance on measurement of new forms of employment based on ICSE-18.



More information



Online meeting of the Expert Group on Business Register on 15-18 October 2024. Check on UNECE website www.unece.org under **meetings** for details

Thank you for your attention!

Contact: carsten.boldsen@un.org