Register-based census

The use of a single, coherent system of statistics means that, since 1981, even Denmark's population and housing census has been based solely on administrative registers, with no questionnaires to citizens. This means that new and detailed census statistics are available every year.

Labour Accounts

Labour market statistics describes the labour force, its qualifications, earnings etc. Furthermore its task is to describe inefficiencies in form as unemployment, participation in labour market policy schemes etc. But labour market statistics have also links to economic and business statistics when it describes labour as a factor in the production process or employment in different industries.

In order to enhance the integration of labour market statistics across topics Statistics Denmark have established Labour Accounts within a conceptual framework based on a uniform use of ILO and SNA concepts. Labour Time Account is the first result of this work. In this system data from statistics on persons is linked to data in national accounts based on integration of a number of data sources: the register based labour force statistics, wage statistics, the labour force survey and various other data sources.

Business Statistics

Business statistics is concerned with the description of business units and their characteristics. The statistics gives a comprehensive picture of a series of different aspects of business structure and its development. The statistics comprises e.g. production; commodity; accounts; employment and payroll statistics.

Sector-based business statistics

Information directly from enterprises

Information contained in sector-based business statistics predominantly relates to four main areas - agriculture, industry, transport and tourism - and covers a wide range of independent data collected by questionnaire directly from enterprises.

Compilation frequency

The frequency with which sector-based statistics are compiled is determined by how up-to-date the information has to be. Economic trends are illuminated by monthly statistics of e.g. industrial orders and sales, and by quarterly statistics, such as economic barometers for industry, selected service activities and construction. The structural statistics are based on counts conducted at yearly or longer intervals.

A steady transition is under way towards the replacement of independent data collection by increased use of information from administrative registers.
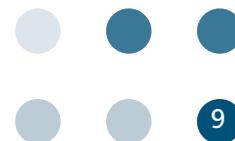
General business statistics

The information contained in general business statistics covers economic and employment factors for *all* business sectors. Like social statistics general business statistics are predominantly based on register data primarily intended for administrative purposes.

This system relieves business and industry of an additional statistical reporting burden. The area covered by the individual administrative registers is wide-ranging, and this category of statistics is easier to compile than statistics based on information independently collected by Statistics Denmark from businesses.

The weakness of these statistics is their sensitivity to legislative or administrative changes. Their conceptual content, degree of detail, and data quality are not wholly satisfactory in all areas. Accordingly, processing is sometimes complex and time-consuming.

The principal components of general business statistics are listed below:

- Turnover statistics based on VAT information from the Ministry of Taxation, Central Customs and Tax Administration

- Establishment, employment and payroll statistics, primarily based on information from the Ministry of Taxation, Central Customs and Tax Administration

- Accounts statistics, primarily based on information from the Ministry of Taxation, Central Customs and Tax Administration in combination with data collected directly from the enterprises