

Business Register System 95 (URS 95)

Aim of the business register:

The business register contains all economic entities belonging to sections C to K or M to O of NACE¹ Rev.1.1, which contribute to the gross domestic product (GDP) and whose seat is in the Federal Republic of Germany. The business register provides structural data about nearly all economic sectors and contains the essential infrastructure for economic statistics which are needed for planning, preparation and implementation of individual enterprise and local unit surveys. Besides it serves as a sampling frame (and expansion frame) for groups of respondents and samples. As the business register forms the basis for the substitution of counts and specific surveys it furthermore leads to a reduction of burdens on enterprises.

Survey method: Annual update from administrative sources

Reporting period: Year under review of the respective administrative data: Calendar year (e.g. 2002) or reference day 31 December of the calendar year (e.g. 31 December 2002)

Survey population:

All economic entities contributing to the gross domestic product (GDP), whose set is in the Federal Republic of Germany (enterprises and local units) and whose main economic activity is in one of the sections C to K or M to O of NACE Rev.1.1.

Number of enterprises in the business register at the end of 2003: about 3,200,000

Survey characteristics: Name and address in plain text; legal form; economic activity; start and, where applicable, end of activity (date); register court records; identifiers in administrative files; links between units of the enterprise; active persons; employees subject to social insurance contributions; turnover; crafts sector; branch of trade; statistics to which the enterprise or local unit is obligated to report

Legal bases:

EU legal basis: Regulation (EEC European Economic Community) No 2186/93 on Community coordination in drawing up business registers for statistical purposes, amended by Annex II No 15 of Regulation (EC) No 1882/2003.

National legal basis: Art. 2 to 4 of the law on setting up and maintaining a statistical register (Statistical Register Law – StatRegG) of 16 June 1998, amended by Art. 12 Para. 1 of the law of 10 November 2006.

Subject-related breakdown: Current edition of the German Classification of Economic Activities (WZ)

¹ Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans les Communautés Européennes“ (Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community).