

Aspects of Estimation Procedures at EUROSTAT with Some Emphasis in the Over Space Harmonization

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Abstract

It is of high interest for Eurostat, the investigation of the different estimation procedures that are applied, or discussed, internally.

We focus our interest on three estimation domains i.e. the micro-aggregation techniques for producing confidential data, the backward calculation methods for obtaining homogeneous time series and some aspects of the sampling procedures that are discussed by Eurostat and are applied in the Member State level.

With regard to each domain of estimation, we describe the different estimation procedures that are applied and the criteria for assessing the quality of the results obtained, and we make some proposals for the adoption of better practices. Due to the multinational character of the third estimation domain and in order to achieve the targets of our description, we used as exploratory tools three sample surveys that are conducted in all Member States i.e. the Labour Force survey, the European Household Panel survey and the Household Budget survey.

Especially for those estimation domains that are applied at National level, we examine attempts that aim at the over space harmonization of the estimation procedures or of the measured concepts, and the role that

Eurostat adopts in relation to those harmonization attempts.