

Types of administrative registers

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Types of administrative data sources used in PHCs

Base registers

- Population register (PIN)
- Address/dwelling/building register (Address ID)
- Establishment/business register (Enterprise ID, farm ID)

Statistical UNITS are different
"Person,
Address and
Establishment"

Specialized registers

- Social security/pension
- Tax
- Employment, unemployment/jobseeker
- Education and student
- Health
- Border control
- Foreigners, residence permits
-

Statistical UNIT is identical throughout data sources,
"person"



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Types of specialized registers

1. Social security or pension registers

2. Tax registers

3. Employment, unemployment and jobseeker registers

4. Education and student registers

5. Health registers

6. Border control data

7. Other supplementary registers

- Registers held by official bodies typically for the purposes of the administration of national social insurance programmes and the allocation of benefits and allowances that encompass, for example, the unemployed, families, pensioners, people undertaking parental care, and the disabled and long-term sick
- Data from such registers may be used to derive census attributes for such topics as sex, age, marital status, unemployment status, income and disability status



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- Registers held by national/local tax authorities for the purposes of the administration and collection of income tax, purchase taxes, property and wealth taxes, and other national and locally-imposed taxes
- Data from such registers may be used to derive census data on personal or household income and wealth that might otherwise be difficult, or too sensitive, to collect directly on a household questionnaire
- Other information held in such registers may include details of sex, date of birth, marital status, employment status, occupation, place of work and place of usual residence



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- These are sources of information from which the country's official employment and unemployment figures are usually taken
- It should be recognised that the concepts of employment and the unemployed adopted in national registers may not be consistent with the concepts recommended by the ILO for the purposes of producing labour force statistics
- Data recorded may nevertheless enable the NSO to derive census figures relating to key socio-economic topics, including labour force status, employment status, occupation, hours of work and place of work



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- Registers maintained centrally and by individual educational and academic establishments for the purpose of registering admissions and the performances of students as well as the employment of teaching staff
- Data held may be used by NSOs to create census statistics on attendance, literacy and highest level of educational attainment
- In some countries such available data may often only refer to the current student population. If this is the case, data for persons no longer formally attending an educational establishment must be obtained from other sources



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- Registers maintained by national or local health authorities for the purposes of providing health-related services, whether these are within the context of a nationally managed health service or provided by insurance-based private agencies
- The raw information they contain are usually treated as confidential but can be anonymised to a sufficient extent to allow them to be used by the NSO to create data on health status, domain and level of disability, and number of liveborn children
- Health registers can also be used: (a) to identify population sub-groups living in health-related institutional establishments including long-term inpatients and residential student nurses; and (b) for improving the quality of population registers based on 'sign of life' approach



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- Registers of border control data, in combination with the data held in the population register (or collected in a traditional field enumeration) have the potential to measure the scale, patterns and impact of migration
- Such data can provide a picture of the inflow and outflow of international migrants over a specified period of time (1, 5 years, etc.), and can include details on the type and nature of migration such as type of visa, country of citizenship and country of origin/destination
- ❖ Population registers alone cannot measure the quantity of movement over a particular period of time accurately because people who emigrate may not easily be identified



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- Other administrative sources may be available either to provide topic-related census variables or to identify particular population sub-groups that are hard to count accurately (and for whom full information may not be recorded in the population register), such as the institutional population
- Examples (non-exhaustive list):
 - registers of foreign nationals (or of residence permits)
 - registers held by public facility service providers
 - registers of persons living in institutional places
 - registers of building permits
 - farm registers
 - electoral registers
 - registers of motor vehicles
 - lists of military service personnel



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Options if data are not available from administrative sources

- Register-based censuses are generally based on the *Statistical Population Register* created by the NSO from the integration of unit record data from two or more types of administrative registers
- More often than not, however, it is not possible to collect all desired census variables from registers
 - There will always be circumstances in which it is difficult, impossible, too costly, or even unlawful to obtain some variables from registers
 - In such cases, NSOs must rely on other data sources:
 - in order to report on those census characteristics that cannot be derived from the registers; or
 - to improve the quality of the data obtained from administrative registers



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Options if data are not available from administrative sources

- Examples of when it is not possible to collect all desired census variables from registers:
 - Information on relationships between household members (e.g., relationship to a household reference person) may not be held on any administrative registers ... info necessary to derive household and family composition status
 - Cultural-related characteristics such as ethnicity, religion and language may not be held in administrative registers because of the subjectivity/sensitivity/the law
 - Characteristics that relate to events that occurred abroad, such as highest level of foreign education obtained may not be recorded in national education registers
 - Education-related variables (such as literacy and highest level of education attained) may be available in registers only for those persons attending formal educational programmes
 - Information on mode of transportation to work may not be available in registers, ... although data from public transportation companies, toll stations and mobile telephones may, in the future, be used for modelling this
 - Administrative sources relating to the economic activity of the labour force (such as employment or business registers) may not hold a sufficient level of detailed information on the type and place of work, or on workers in the informal sector
 - Key housing variables such as the number of rooms or bedrooms or presence of lift or disability access may not be held on any administrative dwelling registers
 - ❖ Situations or events occurring before the register was created are likely not recorded, and data from registers that have only recently been created may not be reliable since it takes time to establish sufficiently good data quality



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Options if data are not available from administrative sources

- Where such circumstances occur, alternative sources of data should be explored, including the use of:
 - Existing sample surveys carried out by the NSO (e.g., Labour Force Survey, Annual Population Survey, Household Income and Expenditure Survey, or International Passenger Survey, etc.)
 - Purpose-built/ad-hoc sample surveys
 - Other alternative sources: geospatial information, commercial data sources, Big Data, etc.
- Resorting to alternative data sources may be particularly necessary for the purpose of monitoring SDG indicators
 - Of course, not all of the 17 SDGs and the 169 accompanying targets and 230 indicators, can be measured by information collected in the census, whatever methodology is adopted
 - Where NSOs start to rely increasingly on administrative registers to collect census information they will want to ensure that registers and alternative data sources collectively will contain the relevant variables needed for the measurement of progress towards SDGs



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