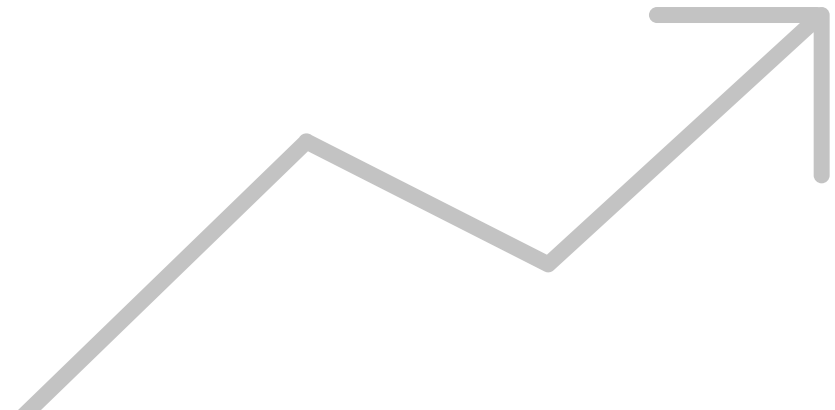


The New System of Business Statistics – SysdU

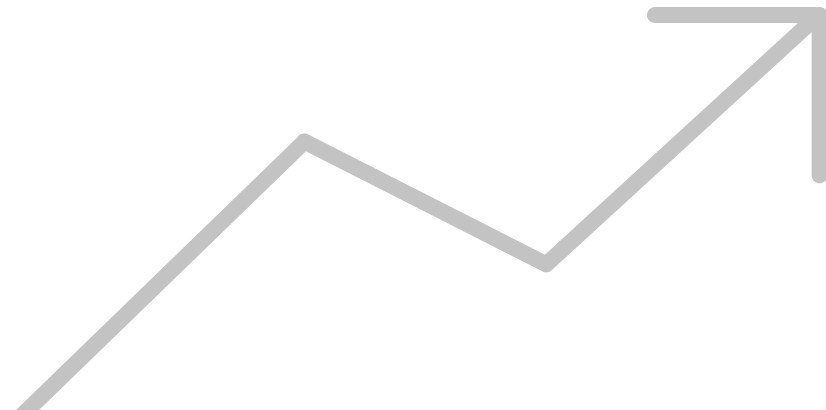
Voorburg Group Meeting 2026, Den Haag

Murad Hajiyeu

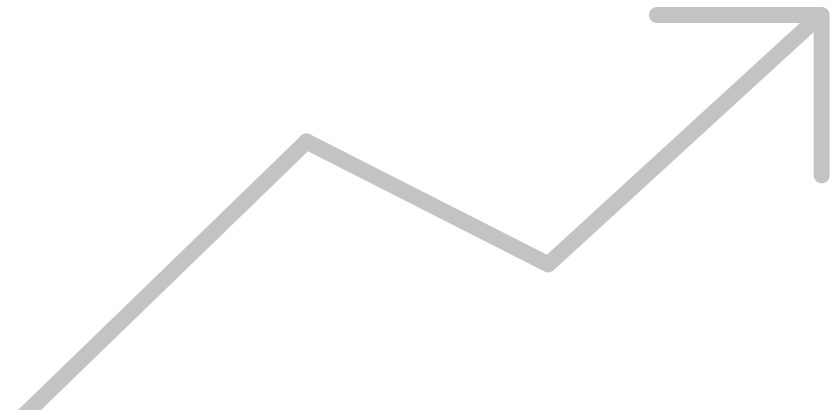


Agenda

- (1) Target model of the new system
- (2) The enterprise as observation unit
- (3) Future data offering
- (4) Implementation plan



Target of the new system



Current practice

Grown over decades – separate statistics have developed for individual economic sectors

Inconsistent units

- » Short-term statistics in manufacturing: establishments and their local kind-of-activity units
- » Short-term statistics in trade and services: legal units and their business segments
- » Structural statistics: enterprises as defined by the EU, but legal units at Land level

Inconsistent methodology

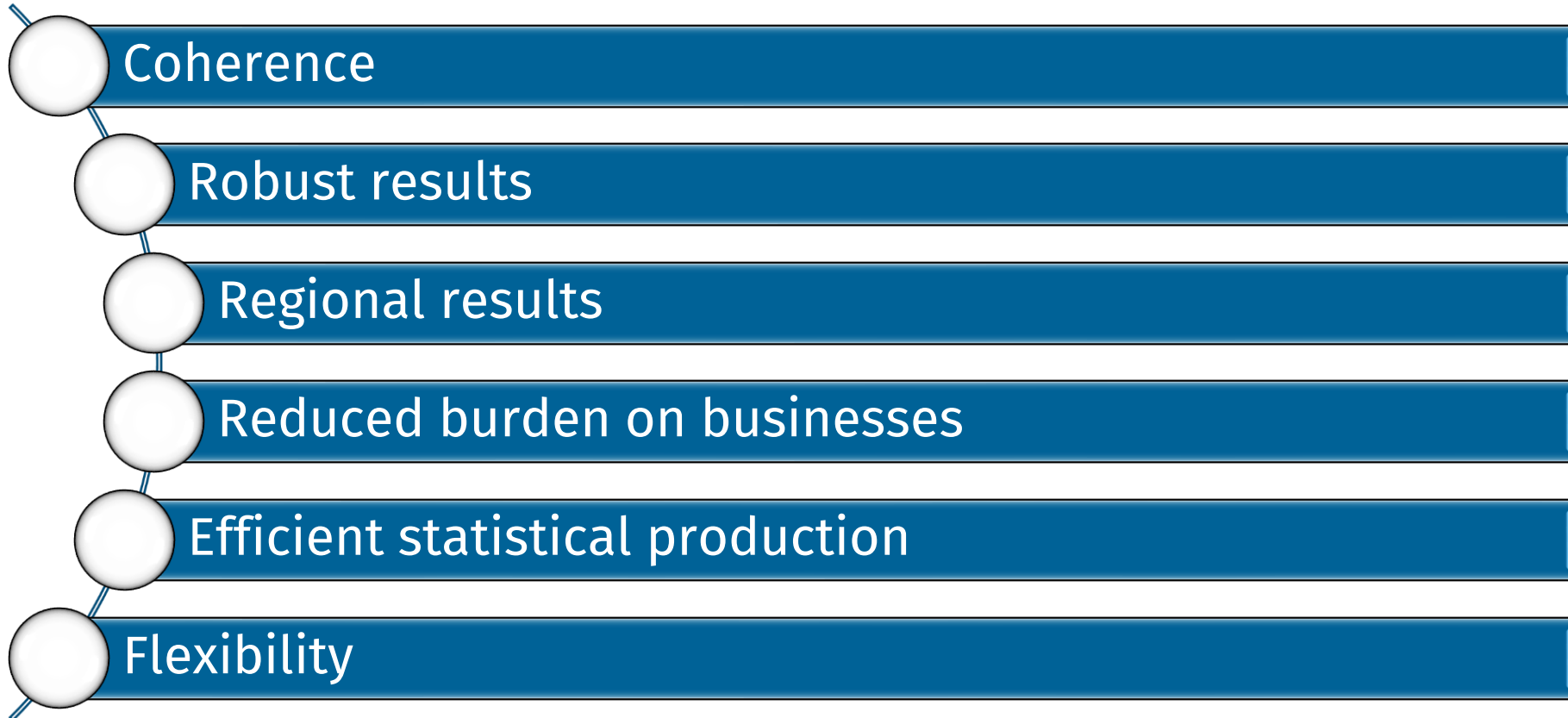
- » Censuses with cut-off thresholds alongside sample surveys
- » Differing variable definitions, e.g. for turnover and hours worked
- » Uneven level of detail: short-term data finely broken down, structural data regionally coarser

Effort and burden

- » Little alignment with business accounting, hardly any automation
- » High effort for data processing and quality assurance
- » Duplicate reporting: respondents do not see the benefit and perceive the burden as high

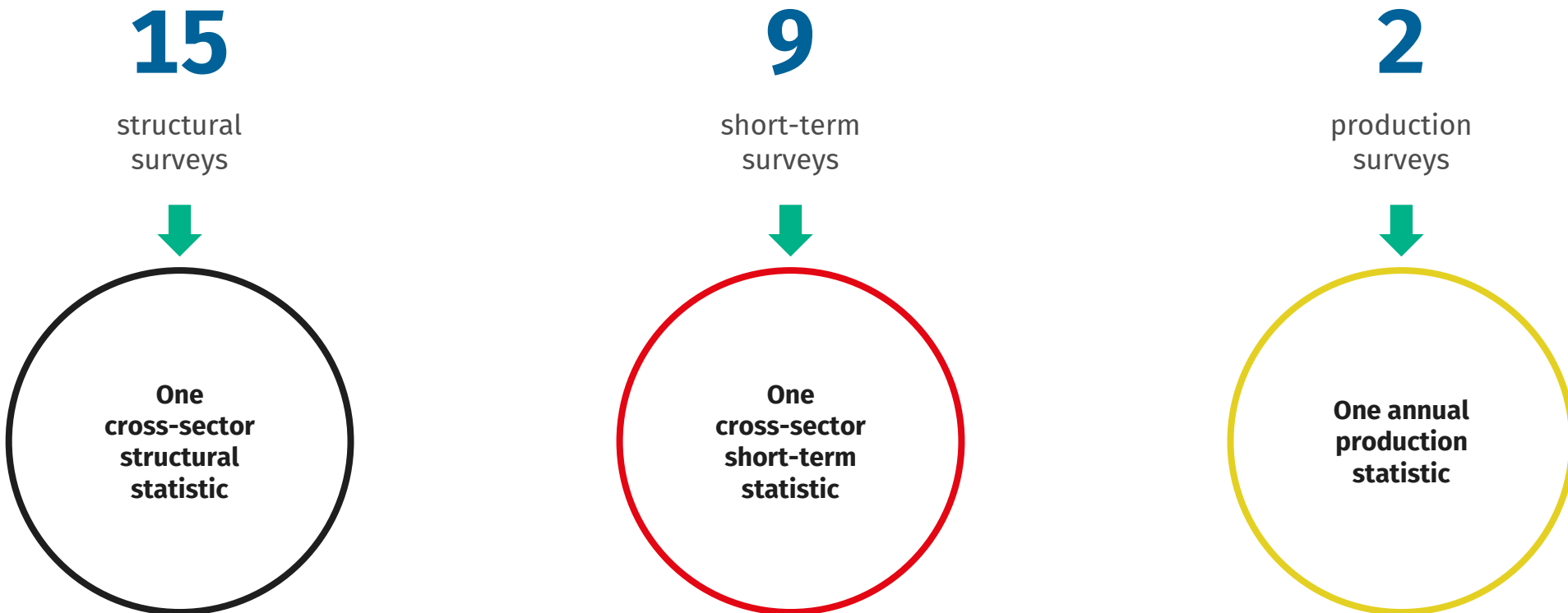
The result: incoherences between economic sectors that are hard to explain, and between structural and short-term statistics; robustness is not fully assured

Goals for a new system



Greater efficiency and lower costs through cross-sector surveys

26 individual statistics will become 3:



Coherence between the three statistics

Where required, economic activities are observed down to the level of local units (e.g. the variables investment, persons employed, wages and salaries, production)

**One
cross-sector
structural
statistic**

**One
cross-sector
short-term
statistic**

**One annual
production
statistic**

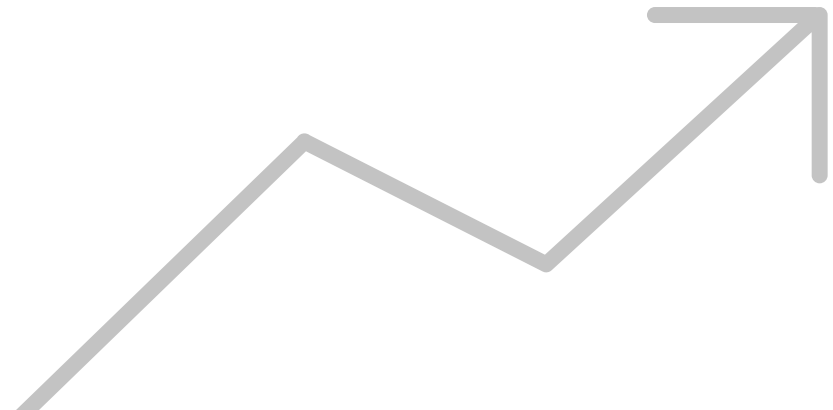
Both observe the enterprise as defined by the EU, or its kind-of-activity units, in order to reflect economic reality more accurately

The three statistics in SysdU at a glance

A flexible survey programme by economic activity for all three statistics

	Structural business statistics cross-sector	Short-term business statistics cross-sector	Production statistics
Periodicity	annual	monthly	annual (monthly index retained)
Observation unit	The enterprise	The kind-of-activity units (KAU) of enterprises	Local units and their production
Sampling	Sample, sampling unit Enterprise	Sample, sampling unit Enterprise	Presented by product groups
Core features	All relevant structural variables incl. investment; quality measurable and manageable	Turnover, production, stocks and orders in a single survey	Detailed recording of production; meets the EU reporting obligation (Prodcom)

The enterprise as observation unit

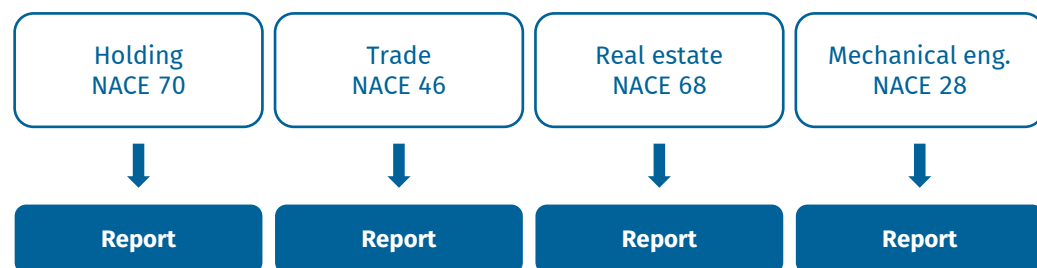


From legal entity to enterprise

Who reports, and for which unit – that is what changes with SysdU

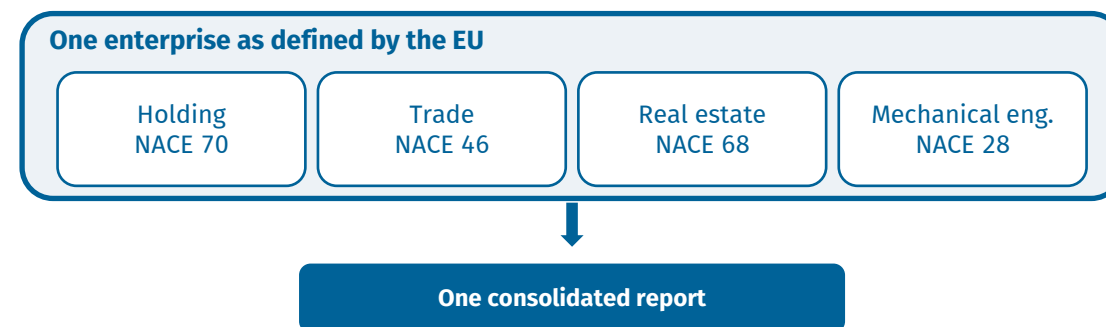
Current approach

Four legal units of one enterprise group



- » Each legal unit is assigned to its own activity and surveyed separately
- » Intra-group links and value-added stages only take effect once the returns have arrived
- » Nationally by the activity of the enterprise, regionally by that of the legal unit

Approach in SysdU



- » Enterprise = smallest combination of legal units with a certain degree of autonomy
- » Presented under the activity in which it mainly operates on the market
- » Consolidated figures; the determining legal unit is the single point of contact

Example based on the State Statistical Office of Lower Saxony

Units and their functions in SysdU

Four units in the business register – each with a clear role in the survey process

The units



Enterprise group

All units of a group linked by ownership or control



Enterprise

Smallest combination of legal units with a certain degree of autonomy that produces goods and services



Legal unit

Smallest unit that keeps accounts for commercial and tax purposes



Local unit

Unit at a single location, flagged as head office or registered seat

Functions in SysdU

Sampling unit

The enterprise – basis for drawing the sample



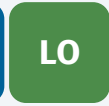
Reporting unit

The determining legal unit – one contact, subject to mandatory response



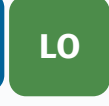
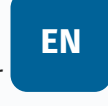
Observation unit

Enterprise and local unit – what data are collected about



Dissemination unit

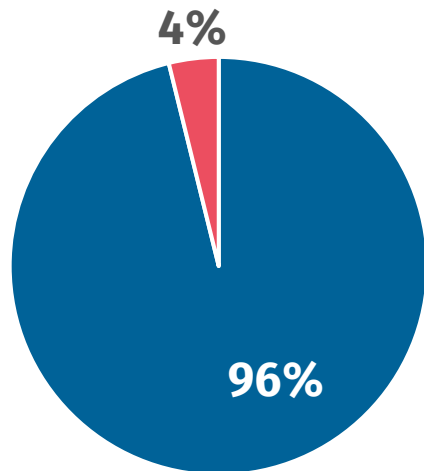
Enterprise and local unit – what results are published for



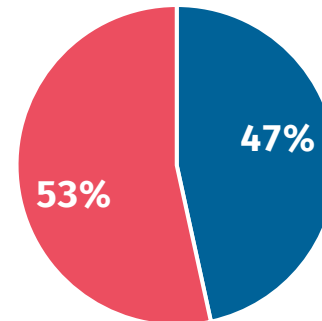
Key figures on simple and complex enterprises, 2023

Share by enterprise type in Germany

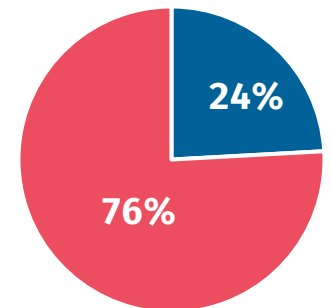
■ simple ■ complex



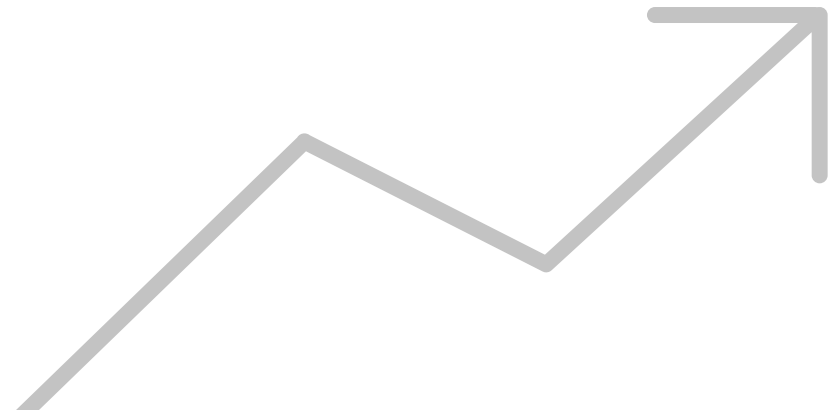
Share of employees



Share of turnover



Future data offering



Objectives of the future data offering

What users will get – and what businesses will no longer have to provide

Consistent presentation

- » Economic sectors and regions are presented consistently
- » Structural: meets detailed regional data needs
- » Short-term: indicators at Land level
- » Production: precise insight into production activity

Detail that matches demand

- » Users' data needs are met at the various levels of detail
- » Additional publication by size class, e.g. employment size classes

Relief through Once-Only

- » Good data quality while reducing the burden on businesses
- » Existing data are collected once and used many times

Closer to reality

- » Observing enterprises reflects economic reality more accurately
- » Consistent results across the economic sectors

Understandable, regionally meaningful, available from one central source, geocoded – and flexibly analysable

Current and future data offering compared

Today the unit and level of detail depend on the individual survey – in future, uniform rules will apply

	Dissemination unit today	Dissemination unit in SysdU	Periodicity today → SysdU	Regional levels in SysdU	Lowest WZ 2025 level
structural statistics	Enterprises (national), legal units (regional), local units (in part)	Enterprises and local units	annual → annual	Federation, Land, government region, district	B–S (excl. P) + T95, T96
short-term statistics	Local units, legal units, business segments	Enterprises and their kind-of-activity units	monthly → monthly	Federation, Land	B–O (excl. L, 70.1, 72, 75)
production statistics	Local units / product groups	Local units / product groups	monthly, quarterly → annual	Federation, Land, government region, district	B–C

Level of detail: the finer the region, the coarser the economic activity

NUTS 0 · Germany

4-digit WZ (e.g. C10.52)

NUTS 1 · Land

3-digit WZ (e.g. C10.5)

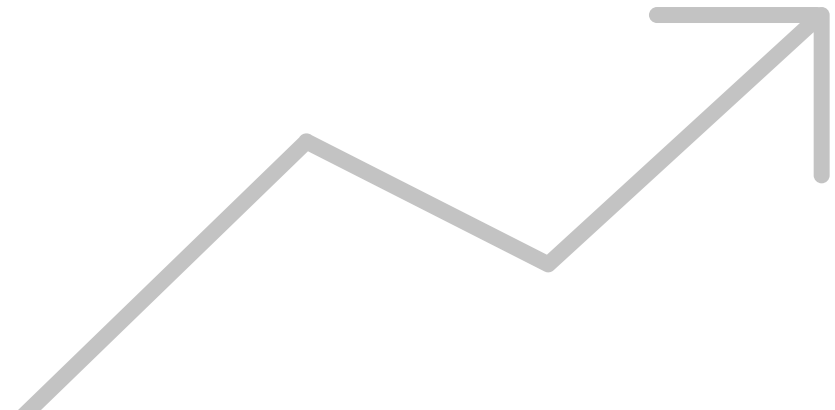
NUTS 2 · Government region

2-digit WZ (e.g. C10)

NUTS 3 · District

1-digit WZ (e.g. C, C10 where possible)

Implementation plan



Test surveys with complex enterprises

Today results for complex enterprises are computed within the Federal Statistical Office – in future they are to be collected directly

Sub-population A

- » Large, complex enterprise groups approached via a single point of contact with individual support
- » Under investigation: direct contact, ongoing support, degree of automation in data delivery, particularly demanding variables, duplicate deliveries
- » Initial contact via the enterprise group, normally addressed to the CFO

Sub-population B

- » Enterprise groups that correspond to exactly one enterprise – uncomplicated regardless of their size
- » Under investigation: comprehensibility of the new approach and reporting of consolidated data without intensive support
- » Initial contact via the enterprise group, normally addressed to the CFO

Sub-population C

- » Smaller enterprises and enterprise groups – the bulk of the later survey
- » Under investigation: high-volume processing and data availability; capacity constraints require a largely automated procedure here
- » Initial contact by post to the determining legal unit

Legal basis: Section 7 (2) Federal Statistics Act – voluntary, no more than 20 000 respondents
To be governed by the 1st Business Statistics Reform Act (planned for 2026) · Production statistics are not part of the tests

Objectives, conduct and timetable

The tests do not produce statistical results, but a workable survey procedure

What we want to find out

- » How often and how substantially does the profiling result have to be adjusted?
- » How can suitable reporting units be approached – the determining legal unit or the German decision-making unit?
- » How often is no agreement reached on a meaningful delineation of the enterprise?
- » Can the reporting units supply the structural and short-term variables – and how far automatically from their accounting systems?
- » What time and what qualifications does this require in the statistical offices?

How a session runs

- » 2 to 4 people from the Federal and Land statistical offices, session lasting 2 to 3 hours
- » Three roles: moderation, manual profiling, subject-matter statistics
- » Structured interview guide: profiling result, then structural, then short-term variables
- » Concludes with a binding agreement on the test data delivery

Timetable

by June 2026

Pilot surveys, training

from July 2026

Test surveys, sub-population A

End of 2026

Design of sub-populations B and C

from early 2027

Test surveys B and C; key findings on all three by mid-2027

2028

Completion and evaluation of the test surveys

Initial reference periods: structural data for reference year 2024, short-term data for reference month 01/2026

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