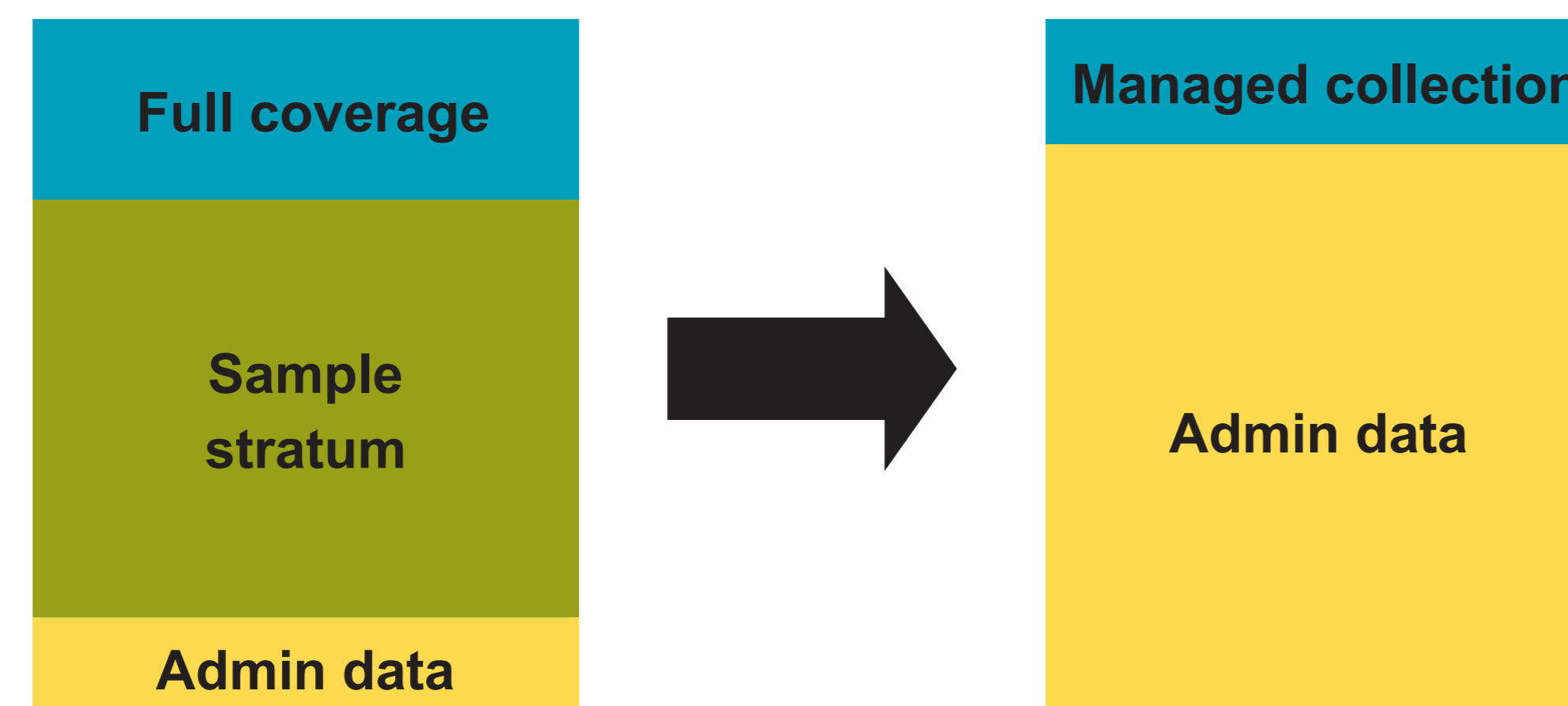


# Admin data first: Ask questions if needed

Craig Liken, Statistics New Zealand

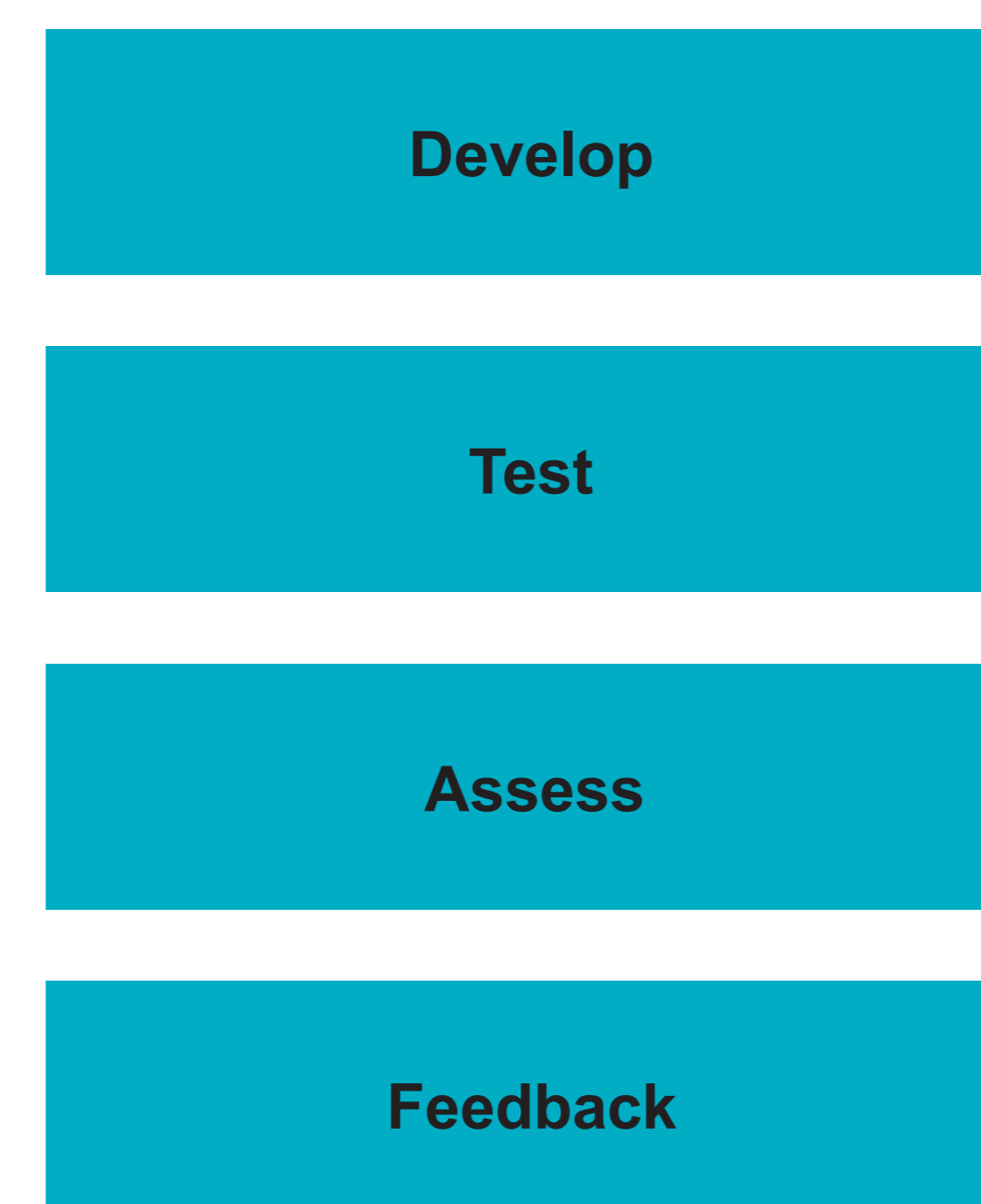
## Paradigm change

- Reducing business compliance costs
- Reusing data and efficiency savings
- Expanding coverage without increasing respondent burden
- Admin data first and survey only when needed (managed collection)



## Challenges

- Conceptual alignment of variables
- Timeliness of admin data versus survey data
- Different statistical units
- Missing variables (eg inventories)
- Filing frequency different from statistical outputs (more modelling required)
- Confidence of customers in results using admin data
- Processes and systems



## Starting with the familiar

- Manufacturing and wholesale trade
- Modelling of inventories — industry-specific methods
- Trial series produced and agreed with customers
- Introduced from September 2015 quarter
- Large reduction in survey respondents



Source: Statistics New Zealand

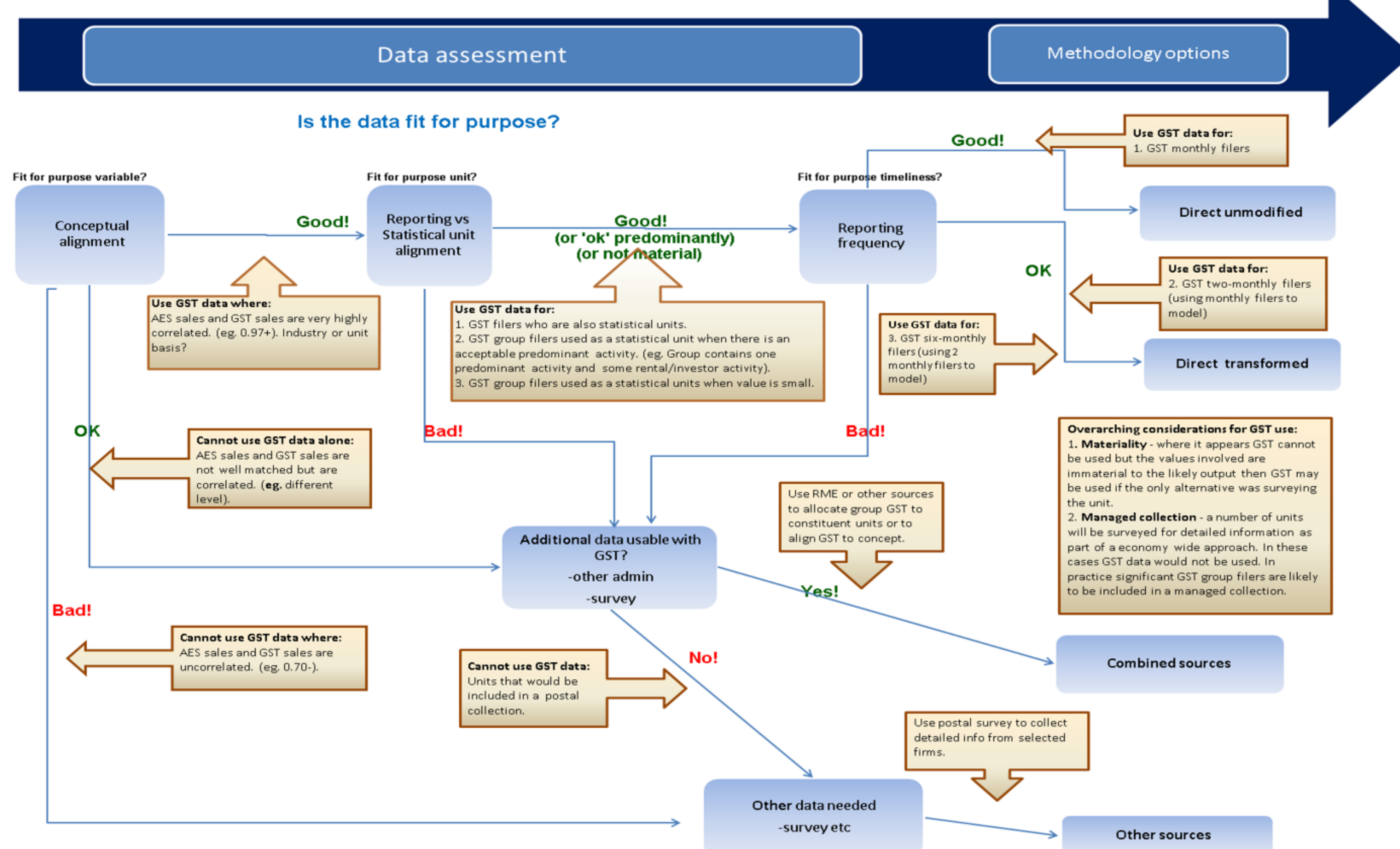
## Expanding into services — eg Personal and other services

- Hairdressing and beauty, funeral services, laundry services, and other services
- Currently sample surveyed but somewhat problematic
- Mostly small units — ideal for administrative data use (80% of sales by small firms)
- Few complex units
- Introduced from September 2015 quarter
- New services measures added

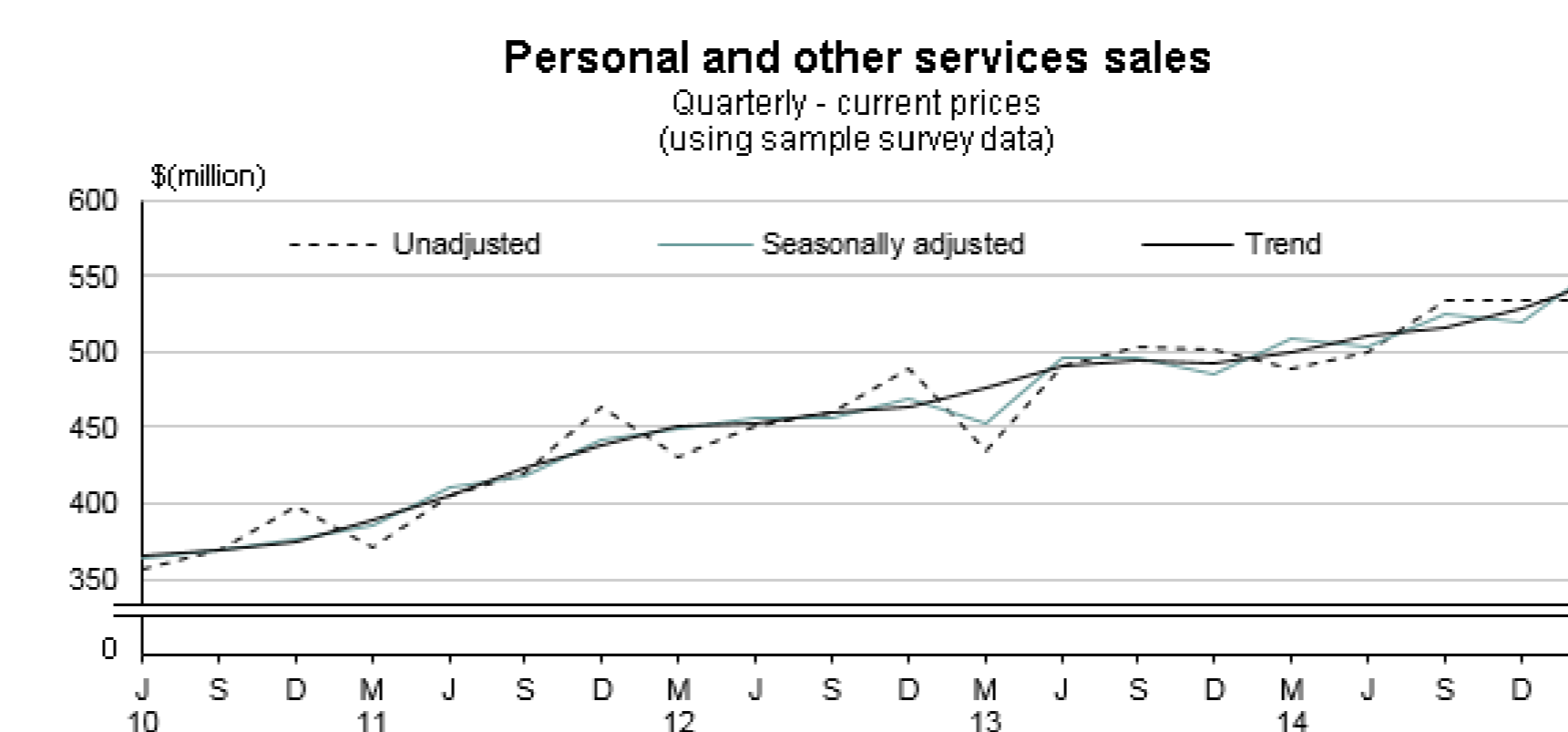


Surveyed units cut to a fifth of what they were

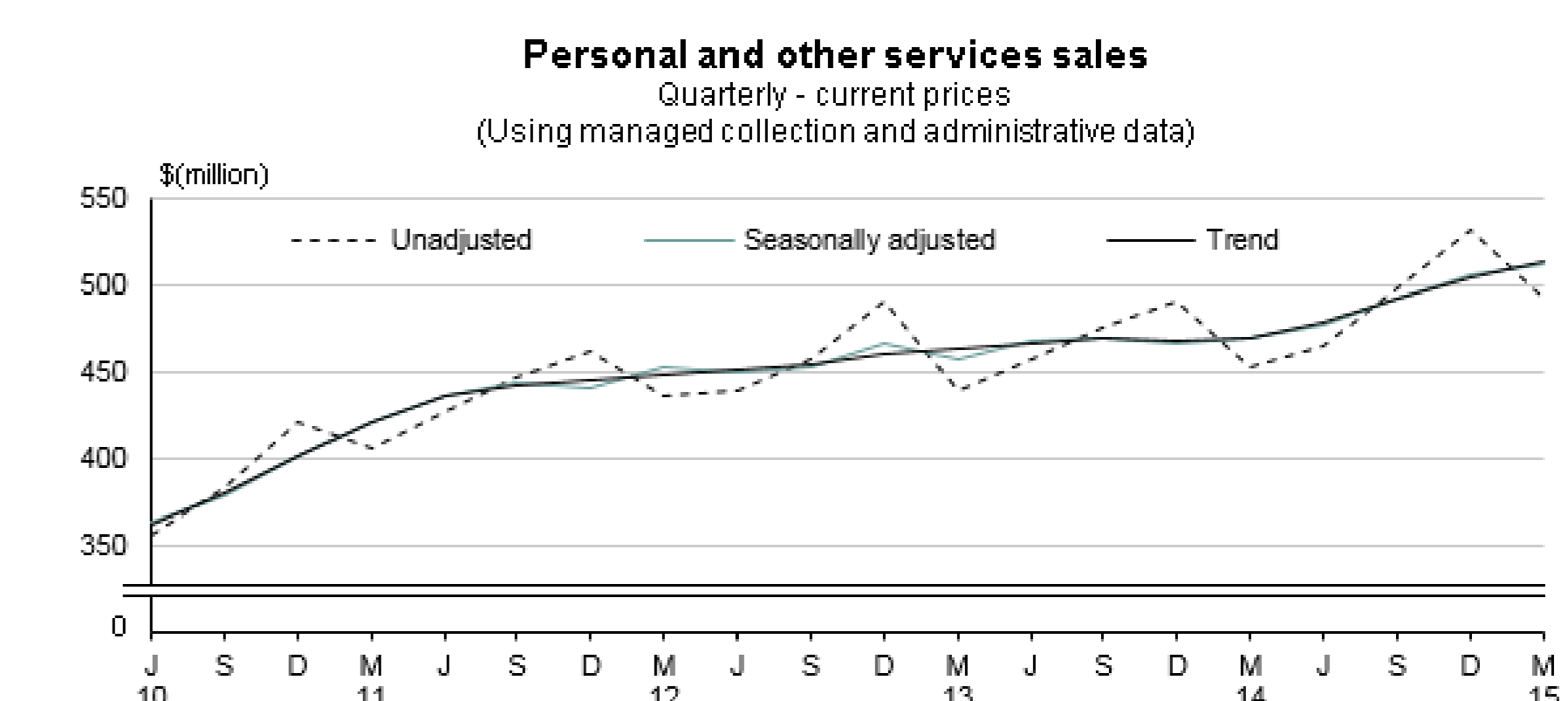
## Applying the assessment model for GST sales use



## Results — from sample survey to admin data



Source: Statistics New Zealand



Source: Statistics New Zealand

## Conclusions

- Moving to admin data first can be done — and the results might actually be better than before!
- A lot of work and thinking required—but worth it.
- Time series changes — not as significant as we expected
- More industries covered, with reduced respondent burden overall
- More to do — work needs to be expanded into other industries