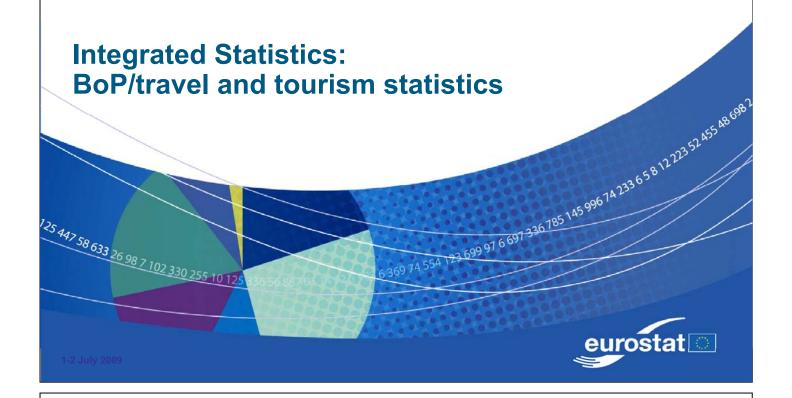
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Eurostat survey on data sources

■ Travel item in Balance of Payments framework

- Travel covers the goods and services acquired from an economy by travellers during visits of less than one year to that economy.
- Monetary variables: credits (exports) = receipts; debits (imports)expenditure

■ Tourism statistics

- Related to activities of those persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes.
- Physical variables: arrivals, trips made, nights spent, etc.

Differences

■ Conceptual framework

 Balance of Payments Manual (IMF); International Recommendations on Tourism Statistics (IRTS 2008); EU legislation

■ Concepts and definitions

traveller vs. tourists; receipts vs. expenditure; transport

Coverage

 international carriage of travellers, students, patients, seasonal and border workers

■ Institutional framework

National Central Banks, National Statistical Institutes

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Data sources - BoP/Travel

Main sources, supplementary sources, sources used for validation

- Frontier surveys (18)
- Household surveys (16)
- Estimates and models (16)
- Surveys of tourism providers (14)
- Administrative sources (13)
- Other sources (13)
- Partner country data (12)
- Bank reporting system (10)
- Credit cards data (10)
- Surveys at accommodation establishments (10)
- Surveys of tourist intermediaries (8)



Data sources – tourism statistics

Household surveys

- Traditional household/individuals survey
 - → data on trips made by residents (= domestic and/or outbound)
- Border surveys
 - → data on trips made by residents (= outbound and/or inbound)

Business surveys

- Accommodation statistics collected from tourist accommodation establishments (hotels, campsites, etc.)
 - → data on nights spent and arrivals (= domestic and/or inbound)

Other sources

Labour Force Survey (employment), Transport Statistics and ... BoP

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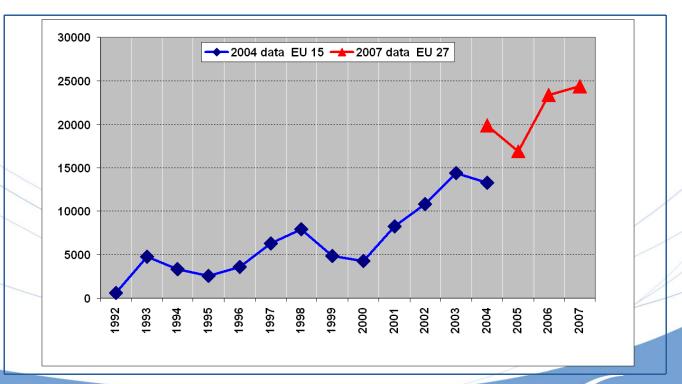
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Data quality - asymmetries

- Asymmetries are an inherent feature of all statistics for which "mirror" statistics are collected, i.e. for which two countries collect the same type of information in relation to each other.
- They occur when one country's data do not correspond to the data for the same transaction reported by its partner country.
- Foreign trade, Balance of payments, tourism, migration

Historical evolution of travel asymmetries

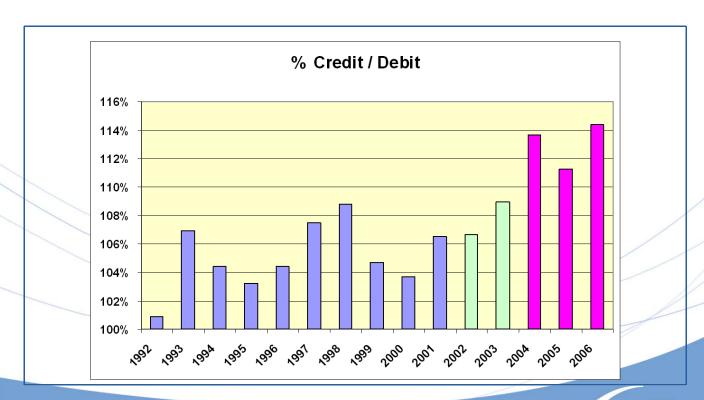


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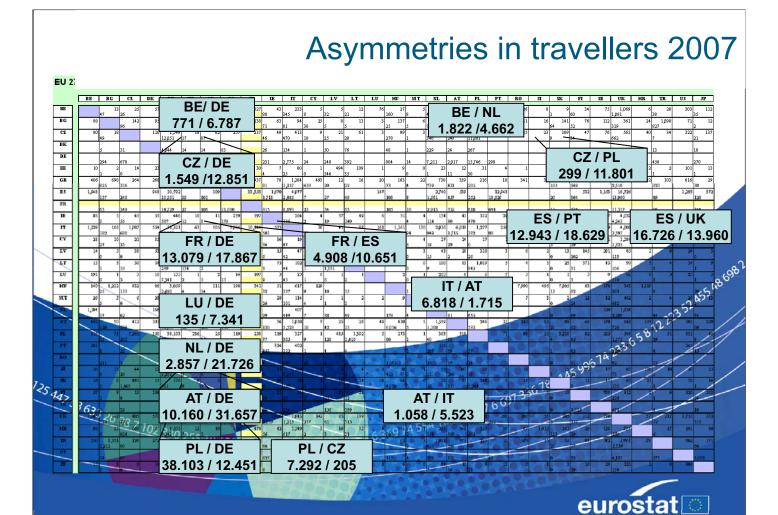
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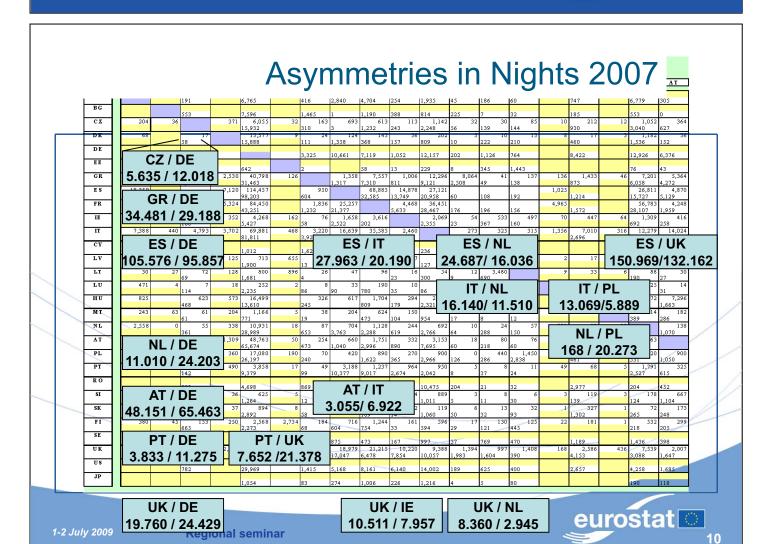


Credits bigger than debits



eurostat 🖸





Reengineering of production of statistics

- Historically, statistics have developed not in an integrated manner, but rather area by area.
- By using a combination of sources, substantial reductions in the burden on business should be possible.
- The compilation of BoP/travel relies on same or similar sources as tourism statistics
- Closer co-operation BoP/Travel and tourism should lead to:
 - avoidance of duplication of surveys in the two domains,
 - Reduction of workload on the compilers
 - efficient use of available data sources, and
 - improved comparability and coherence between the two datasets.

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How to do

- Take stock of surveys carried out and other sources of information in both BoP/travel and tourism domain
- Analyse the similarities and dissimilarities in the existing legal acts describing the data collections in terms of list of variables, scope and information collected, methodological issues, reference period, frequency of surveys etc.
- Undertake necessary adjustments in the surveys, administrative and other data sources to meet the needs of both domains
- Workout possible synergies between both domains

How to do

- While using the same data sources, develop, test and implement methods to compile BoP/travel and tourism statistics by accommodating differences in concepts and definitions
- find ways to move from tourism statistics concepts to BoP concepts (and vice-versa) via estimations additionally to the existing primary sources.

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13

Eurostat initiatives: MEETS programme

- The MEETS (Modernisation of European Enterprise and Trade Statistics) programme will run from 2009 until 2013.
- Finance projects with the aim of adapting business statistics to new needs and adjusting the production system to new sources of information, so as to reduce the burden on businesses.
- Improving consistency between BoP/travel and tourism statistics
- Approximate time table:
 - Call for proposal: May 2009.
 - Grants assigned: end of 2009.
 - Beginning of the project in the MS: January 2010.
 - Duration of action: 24 months.

Eurostat initiatives: Joint workshop

■ Past: Eurostat Technical Group Travel

- ➤ "Are you collaborating nationally with tourism statisticians for the compilation of the Travel item of the BoP?"
 - 19 countries replied "Yes"
 - 5 countries answered "No".
 - 3 MS did not reply to the consultation.
- Future: Workshops on Travel related issues

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13



Thank you for your attention