Business registers

- With concepts and classifications, it is one of the main basic instrument for statistical observation.
- The dynamic of productive activities is given by:
  - Changes in the productive activities of existing productive units;
  - Actual “Death” of productive units (not apparent);
  - Actual “Birth” of productive units (not apparent);

Business registers follow the demography of productive units
Starting point

- Define the statistical unit;
- If more than one statistical units are used, define their mutual link and how the system will describe this link
  - establishments may change hands
  - enterprise might blend, separate, change status
- Define the variables that are going to characterize these units
- Define the updating process and how the characteristics will be “dated”
  - Date of a fact
  - Date in which it was reported

Maintaining the Register up to date

- Establishing the first register: usually from a census operation;
- Cross checking with other sources (business directories, phone books, social security files, tax reporting files)
  - Identifying those that match; reviewing (correcting?) the characteristics;
  - Identifying and adding those that do not match
Using the registers

- To select samples
- To estimate missing value
- For grossing up survey results