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Session 6: New Data sources: Opportunity and challenges

**Title of the Paper:**

**Efforts for Further Development and Enhancement of Statistical Business Register in Japan**

**- Improvement of Update Frequency -**

**Abstract**

*(300 – 500 words)*

The Statistical Business Register in Japan (JSBR) is maintained by using the data obtained from statistical surveys such as the Economic Census as the main source of data, and by additionally utilizing administrative data.

There was a discussion regarding the coverage of the JSBR: whether the JSBR comprehensively covers the business establishments in Japan as a whole, or whether the JSBR exhaustively covers small business establishments among the main sources of data obtained through statistical surveys. Thanks to building up the system of the corporate numbers in Japan, which are a kind of administrative data, in 2013 in Japan, the 2019 Economic Census was carried out by adding approximately 1.6 million new corporations to the census list. The comparison between the data of JSBR and the corporate number disclosure website was conducted with the name and addresses of corporations. As a result, the coverage of JSBR has been greatly expanded. However, since the enumerators only checked the activity status of the business establishments in operation from the outside appearance, it has become a new issue to improve the frequency of updating the basic data of the business establishments in operation in the JSBR.

Therefore, starting from 2023, basic data such as sales and the number of workers will be checked online and by mail every year within the scope that covers the top 90% of sales of business establishments in Japan, which will improve the frequency of updating the basic items of the JSBR.

Consequently, since the data on major business establishments and enterprises in the JSBR will be kept updated every year in a timely manner, it is expected to contribute to providing the most up-to-date population data of business establishments and enterprises, which results in improving the accuracy of various economic statistics and alleviating the burden on the respondents of statistical surveys through overlapping corrections.

*Keywords: Economic Census, Coverage, Corporate Number, Establishment in Operation, Update Frequency*