COMPILATION OF ACTIVITY STATUS AND EMPLOYMENT VARIABLES IN ESTONIAN REGISTER-BASED CENSUS

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Abstract

Population and housing census includes several variables related with person's activity status and employment: current activity status, status in employment, occupation, industry, location of place of work. Activity status is the most challenging census characteristic because it changes frequently over time, and there is no register comprising updated information on all activity status components. Several databases should be used in the activity status algorithm. Concepts and definitions in administrative register often differ from statistical definitions. Therefore, the compilation algorithm includes complicated linking procedures, numerous logical checks and rules for adjusting register information to the statistical needs.

Pursuant to the Census Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2017/543), current activity status of persons aged 15 and over has the following breakdowns: employed, unemployed, pension or capital income recipients, students and others. Main data sources of the activity status and other employment variables are Employment Register, Tax declarations in Register of Taxable Persons, Register of Persons Registered as Unemployed and Job-Seekers, Social Services and Benefits Registry, Estonian Education Information System etc.

Firstly, the algorithm was elaborated for the first pilot census (Muusikus, Lehto, 2018). Separate lists of employed, unemployed, pensioners and students are prepared using different registers. Activity status lists are linked with the list of permanent residents compiled based on the residency index methodology (Maasing et al, 2017). Each person is ascribed one activity status according to the order of priority of activity statuses established in the Census Regulation. Other employment variables are compiled for employed persons. Process of further development and adaptation of the algorithms for register-based population and housing census 2021 will be presented.

Keywords: register-based census, current activity status.

References

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