



Meeting of the Group of Experts on Business Registers – Session No 5

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The Data Quality Program for the Statistical Business Registers in the European Statistical System

1. Introduction



- Quality provisions are formulated in the BR Regulation
 - put into practice, from 2009 to 2015, through the so called "Annual Inquiry" <-> **NSBRs Compliance.**
- NSIs (SBRs) and ESTAT (EGR) already used to take measures to improve quality before the DQP <-> **Lack of coordination, of harmonised evaluation and of ESS vision.**
- In 2015 Eurostat launched the **DQP** for the SBRs in the ESS, in line with the general ESS standard quality pillars.

2. The DQP



OBJECTIVE:

- Achieve better **quality** in a coordinated manner
...
- ... allowing the full achievement of the **backbone role** for the production of business statistics in the ESS.

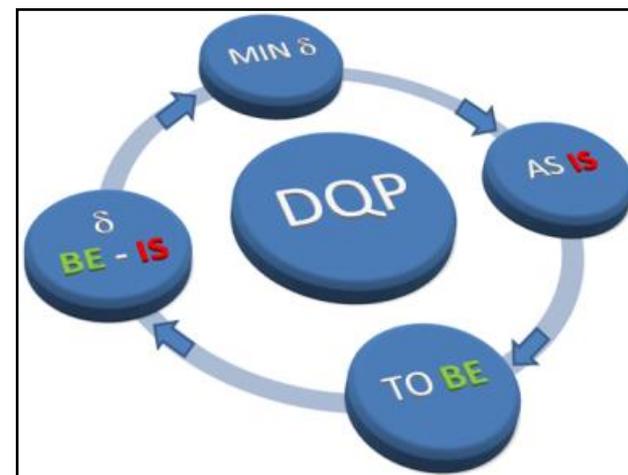
2. The DQP



In line with the general ESS quality standards, the DQP is made of 4 main components (ESS quality pillars):

Part (A)	Reporting	or	As-Is.
Part (B)	Defining the targets	or	To-Be.
Part (C)	Assessing	or	Gap To-Be - As-Is
Part (D)	Improving	or	Reducing the Gap.

The 4 components are to be followed cyclically each year



3. Achievements



The **first DQP cycle in 2016** has focused on:

- describing annual routines;
- developing standardized templates;
- gradually implementing the 4 parts of the program.

In 2017 the DQP is fully in production.

Some fine tuning of the components is still going on, in particular concerning the establishment of **targets** and the following **assessment**.



	NSBRs	EGR
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standardized templates for quality and meta-data reports• Quality report = just compliance• Synthesis meta-data report produced by Eurostat – for SBRs use only	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1st EGR quality and meta-data reports• Published in the EGR wiki
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Same as 2016.• Plans to extend the quality reports beyond compliance in 2018.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved EGR quality report, taking into account a better set of quality indicators



1) Mandatory (compliance)

7 targets derived from the BR Regulation have been established in 2016 and used for the assessment in 2016 and 2017.



2) Non-mandatory – mainly not implemented yet



FOR	FROM	
NSBRs	BR Regulation	Optional provisions in the BR Regulation. They concern some characteristics of the SBRs and the exchange of information.
NSBRs	Good Practices	It is planned setting up a catalogue of good practices . MS being recognized for their expertise and experience in specific production and dissemination processes will be asked to provide descriptions of their practices
EGR	ESBRs Business Case	EGR coverage – matching FATS population. Eurostat plans achieving a very good coverage for FATS purposes already in 2018.
SBRs	Quality Indicators	Based on the analysis of results of the EGR indicators: input → NSBRs; throughput and output → EGR
SBRs	From users' needs	The first general user needs consultation was conducted in 2017 and its results will help in formulating further targets for the 2018 DQP cycle. These needs should be monitored regularly.



	NSBRs	EGR
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assessment of the quality reports against 6 targets from BR regulation + 7th target from EGR process ● Score 0-100 allows rapid monitoring of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Compliance by country for a given year ➤ Progress by country over the time 	
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as 2016. ● Plans to extend the assessment towards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Other mandatory targets ➤ Progress by country over the time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New EGR indicators showed minor failures for throughput and output ● 1st EGR scoreboard (0-100) on NSIs contribution to 2015 cycle

2015 EGR Scoreboard



Very well done

Well done - few input missing

More input needed

Much more input needed

Real efforts needed



1. Improving the NSBRs compliance

ESTAT follows-up the annual compliance report which describes the causes for non-compliance.

Specific actions have been taken in 2016 and even more in 2017 to improve the understanding of the national situations and of the plans towards the full compliance.



2. Improving the NSBRs and EGR quality (non-mandatory targets)

Improvement Plan established in 2015 & regularly discussed/ revised in the ESS. It lists possible improvement actions (at present 9) to be discussed in short/medium term.

Each year 2 or 3 actions discussed in details → agreed recommendations for improving the current practice. 2 already discussed. 2 more to be discussed by end 2017.

In the coming years the Improvement plan should mainly result from the non-mandatory targets set in the second DQP component (to-be state).



3. EGR action plan 2017-2018

On top of the general SBRs Improvement plan, Eurostat defined an action plan for the EGR development in 2017 and 2018.

This action plan:

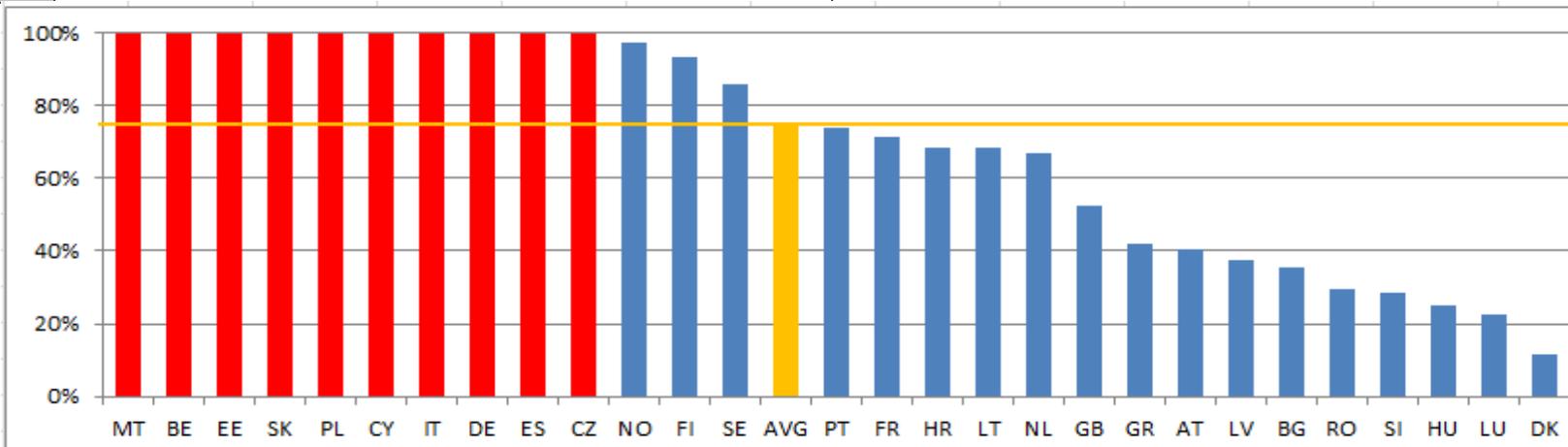
- is fitting to milestones for EGR in the period 2017-2020 set in the road map of the ESRs Business Architecture
- it almost fully covers the EGR targets derived from the 2017 user needs consultation.

4. EGR data quality vs FATS

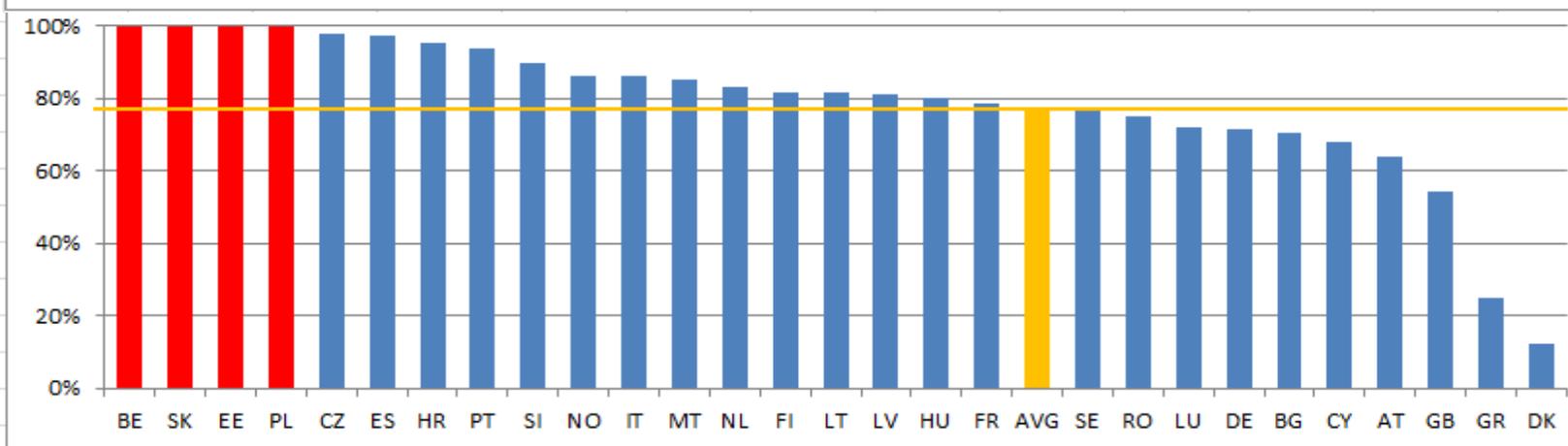


COVERAGE	2014 cycle	2015 cycle
IFATS enterprises	55%	75%
IFATS employment	71%	78%

IFATS enterprises 2015



IFATS employment 2015



5. Publication of EGR aggregates



Eurostat proposes publishing as experimental statistics aggregated data tables presenting the structure of the MNE groups in Europe.

The main goal of this initiative is to seek feedback and stimulate discussions on the future scope of MNE group statistics, on applied definitions and classifications.

Potential quality issues that could be highlighted through the users' comments includes the following:

EGR coverage, MNE group perimeters (units which are part of the groups), group characteristics, allocation of global decision centres of the groups.

Conclusions



DQP is reaching maturity and starts delivering results

Quite well implemented. Expected to produce relevant benefits in the coming years

Gradual insertion of non-mandatory targets and relative improvement actions. → NSBRs and EGR improvement

EGR quality profit of the NSBRs quality improvements

By 2018 EGR is expected to be well fit for FATS purposes: it should cover all IFATS units and all OFATS UCIs and should contain validated GDC (Global Decision Center)

Plans to serve other users than FATS will be analyzed in the coming years and will introduce new quality challenges

The monitoring of the users' needs through the DQP will allow taking the right decisions on the future actions for quality improvement both for the NSBRs and for the EGR