Towards response burden management across surveys

UNECE workshop Statistical Data Collection ‘Resourceful Data Acquisition’

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Response burden at Statistics Netherlands (SN)

1994 – 2016:
Over 70% decrease

- Administrative data
- Advanced methodology
- Electronic data collection innovations
- SN wide central coordination of response burden

Approaching a minimum level
Change in focus Response burden management

To improve the noticeability for the businesses:
managing response burden at the business level
Not only top down . . . also bottom up
focus on
perceived burden &
spread of the burden
Our analyses

Facilitated by recently available information in more detail
Analyses on completed questionnaires received by SN
Bottom up view from the businesses
Separate views on response burden: € ⌚ #
Analyses on 1.5 million businesses in the Netherlands
Our results

non-existent (92%)

or only small (5%)

response burden for most businesses

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medium or high response burden for a small amount of businesses

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Including the hotspots
A view on questionnaires and completion time

Completion time per year

2%

99.99 %

0.01 %

# returned questionnaires per year

98%
A view on burden by size class

![Graph showing burden by size class]

- Avg. Completion time per year
- Avg. # returned questionnaires per year

Size classes and corresponding burden:
- 5-9
- 10-19
- 20-49
- 50-99
- 100-199
- 200-499
- 500 and more
A view on burden by sector and size class group
Hotspots

Disproportionally high burdened businesses

Different hotspots depending on our views

A relatively small group of businesses...

however

...a big burden for the businesses concerned
SN wide group discussion on the results
improved awareness for issue of accumulated burden for hotspots

- Exploring ideas to improve the burden in the hotspots, a.o.
  - optimize burden bottom up
  - using insights in both complexity and statistical importance per business
  - tailored and extra communication to hotspots
  - exploring extra support for hotspots

- ... All for noticeable effects for the hotspots
Towards noticeable results!  Thank you

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