

Country Profile on Economic Census

1. Name of Country: MEXICO

2. Name of Agency Responsible for Economic Census: INEGI

3. Description of Economic Census Objectives:

- a) Source data for national accounts
- b) Structural description of the economy
- c) Statistical infrastructure for sample frameworks and sample selection.

4. Legal Mandate or Regulations for Conducting Economic Census

a) Required by law. Article 42 of the Statistical and Geographical Information Law states the mandatory character of surveys and census carried out by the competent authorities.

b) Article 38 of the Statistical and Geographical Information Law protects confidentiality of information.

5. Coverage

- a) Institutional coverage. Economic census is mainly (but not exclusively) directed to market oriented activities. Religious organizations and government services are enumerated (counted) but not fully interviewed. Political parties and embassies are not covered.
- b) Sector coverage. All economic activities, except agriculture, forestry and farming. Embassies and political parties are excluded.
- c) Size coverage. All the economic units that fulfill the characteristics of unit observation are included, without regard to their size. Nevertheless, a simplified version of each questionnaire is applied to the small economic units (those with less than 50 workers and employees)
- d) Regional coverage. Data is representative of the whole country. Localities with 2500 inhabitants or more are exhaustively covered, while the rest incorporated through a representative (rural) sample.
- e) Statistical unit. In general, the unit of observation is the establishment. The establishment is defined as the economic unit that in a sole place bordered by constructions and fixed installations and permanently installed in the same place, that combines actions and resources under the control of a unique holder or proprietor to do activities of production of goods,

purchasing-selling of merchandises or offering services, whether it is done for profit or not.

- f) Number of sectors covered. The activities that constitute the objective of the Economic Census are grouped in 976 classes of economic activities, according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).
- a) Number of businesses covered. Around 4000,000 economic units enumerated in 2004.

6. Content

a) Questionnaires include subjects such as: Employment, Incomes, Expenditures, Assets, Investment, Inventories, Products, Raw Materials, Innovation and research, Wages, Foreign capital, Days worked, Date of birth of the economic unit, Type of organization or legal status, Modality of operation, etc.

b) Questionnaires have a common set of questions for all economic units but differ one to the other on sector or size specific questions.

c) In 2004, the INEGI applied 23 different questionnaires and 5 annexes. In total, we used 28 data collection formats.

7. Frequency

a) Economic Censuses are carried out every five years, starting in 1930.

b) The last three censuses correspond to 1994, 1999 and 2004

8. Methods

a) Face to face interview, with paper questionnaire or PDA;

b) Indirect interview with paper questionnaire or trough Internet.

c) Exhaustive coverage for all the localities with 2500 inhabitants or more. Sample for the complement;

d) The results are subject to a number of consistency tests, including contrasting against available directories of other sources.

9. Data Products

Brief description of the key data products:

a) There are two main sets of information. Information on the number of units found at the moment of the application of the questionnaires (enumeration) and information on fully interviewed units (those that comply with all the requirements of the units of observation and reporting) with data describing the situation of the economic units during the reference period (the previous year).

b) Information is presented in form of general results with variables common to all sectors and in form of specific results with the incorporation of variables that are sector specific.

c) Similarly, results are presented at the national, state and municipality levels.

d) Data is published online, via CD and in printed format.

- e) Besides the traditional tabulates, data is presented in a Geographic Information System format called IRIS and in a Dynamic Access System called SAIC.
- f) Sector specific and thematic papers are published by the institute alone or in collaboration with research institutes.

10. Uses and Users of Economic Census Data

- a) Source data for National Accounts. INEGI
- b) Sample design and selection for current surveys. INEGI
- c) Legal reference for the authorization of new industry chambers. Ministry of Economics
- d) Planning and decision making. Federal state and local governments.
- e) Marketing, location decisions and planning. Public and private enterprises.
- f) Social and economic research. Professional researchers and students.