E.3. Establishment based sample surveys

7.104. There are a large variety of establishment surveys, each designed to obtain specific information on, e.g., production; export; employment, average earnings and hours of work; occupational employment and wage structure; labour cost; job vacancies, hiring and firing practices; skill level; future employment prospects; and employment in the informal sector.

7.105. An establishment survey is designed to provide industry information on structure of employment, average weekly hours, average hourly earnings, and average weekly earnings, and on the distribution of employees by levels of earnings and hours; level and composition of labour cost; vacancies; labour turnover; occupations and occupational wages; and skills and training needs. The employment data collected in establishment surveys are sometimes disaggregated by sex.

7.106. As an establishment survey is a sample survey, the reliability and completeness of its results are fully dependent on the completeness and efficient updating of the country’s business register[1].

7.107. In the field of tourism statistics, the following types of establishment-based surveys are used to produce tables with a multiplicity of data on employment in the tourism industries, which are usually used in combination with data collected from other sources (the list is by no means exhaustive): the Labour Cost Survey; the survey of Employment, Earnings and Hours of Work; Workforce Jobs Survey, as part of the ShortTerm Employment Surveys (United Kingdom); the Business Register and Employment Survey (United Kingdom); the Annual Business Inquiry (United Kingdom); the Business Register Survey (United Kingdom); the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (United Kingdom); and the Labour Situation Survey (Spain). For an example of a survey of Employees’ Earnings and Hours, see Annex IV.

[1] A business register is a list of the enterprises and/or establishments in a country, with an identification number for each unit. It includes, at the minimum, information about the unit’s size, type of activity, and activity status, as well as extensive contact information.