

The use of administrative data for statistical purposes has brought the NSIs to the creation of a set of statistical registers. For this reason, there is now a growing interest in planning register based surveys and in revisiting and reorganizing the existing ones.

This paper focuses on how statistical registers, based upon available administrative data, can be used in the framework of Business Statistics to restructure and redesign surveys. With reference to statistics on businesses in Italy, it is investigated how surveys can benefit from administrative data and from their integration with the survey data. The study relies on changes with reference to variables to be collected and to the improvement of the data collection process, such as use of the available information for designing optimal survey strategies or in an adaptive design framework.

Examples and experiments are presented with reference to business statistics data collected in the context of Official Statistics in Italy (Istat). In particular, R&D survey and Business statistics surveys are considered to investigate potentials of statistical registers for the redesign of surveys and the implementation of adaptive design schemes. Web as a data collection tool is taken into account as a further aspect of innovation in the review process.

The paper is developed in the context of a research protocol with Istat.