

Data protection information

This document on data protection informs you about the processing of personal data in the structural business statistics survey.

Data protection information for the web questionnaire eQuest

The electronic questionnaires for this survey are generated using the application eQuest. Since eQuest is used for several different statistical surveys, general information on data privacy that relates to eQuest as a whole – regardless of a specific survey - is summarized in an extra document on data privacy. Respondents can access the information when signing into the [application eQuest](#).

Data protection information for the Balance of accounts

The Balance of accounts is a XML file based on accounting and other information required for the structural business statistics survey. It is generated within the enterprise and transferred to Statistics Austria via a web service or an import interface. The balance of accounts obligatorily refers to companies that are organized in the legal form of a corporation, which are not addressed by the General Data Protection Regulation. Natural persons are not affected.

It is always possible to transmit a test report when transferring the data with the Balance of accounts. Data of test reports are not considered as valid reports and are not processed further by Statistics Austria. In order to release the reported data for further processing and registration, the status M (for report, in German “Meldung”) or K (for correction report, in German “Korrekturmeldung”) must be selected at the transmission. After a successful report the enterprises receive a PDF file, which confirms the successful transmission and lists the reported variables. The transferred values of individual accounts as well as the characteristics of local units are not displayed, only their total number is shown. After a successful completion of the report the data is processed in a specific application.

Even though the reported data of the Balance of accounts do not refer to natural persons it can be necessary for employees of Statistics Austria to contact the respondents or transmitters of questionnaires when processing and validating the reports. Therefore, the Balance of accounts encompasses respective variables (name, telephone number, e-mail address). This information is processed as follows:

- a) They are exported together with all other collected data and imported into the reprocessing application. There, they are displayed for employees of Statistics Austria to contact the respondents in case of any queries and are available until the closure of data processing for the respective reference period.
- b) They are forwarded to the Statistical Business Register (Register of statistical units pursuant to Section §25a of the Federal Statistics Act 2000) where the respondents are maintained and administered.

Log files, Cookies

Only parts of the header data of Statistics Austria's portal are recorded in the log files. The reporting tool Balance of accounts does not use any specific cookies. Since the interface is connected to the portal of Statistics Austria, some session cookies are set by the portal.

The encryption of the data transmission occurs only in the portal of Statistics Austria.

If the respondents take part in the survey for the first time, they receive their authentication data (a user ID and a password) to gain access to the application. The original password must be changed to an individual password after the first log in. Authentication takes place via the portal of Statistics Austria, which belongs to the Austrian portal network system. For further information please consult the [information on data protection of the portal \(in German\)](#).

Name and address of the controller

The controller within the meaning of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR, Regulation (EU) 2016/679) and other data protection provisions is:

STATISTICS AUSTRIA
Bundesanstalt Statistik Österreich
Guglgasse 13
1110 Wien
Tel.: +43 (1) 71128-0
Fax: +43 (1) 71128-7728
E-Mail: office@statistik.gv.at
Website: www.statistik.at

Name and address of the data protection officer

Mag. Maria-Christine Bienzle
Statistics Austria (Bundesanstalt Statistik Österreich)
Guglgasse 13
1110 Wien
Telefon: +43 (1) 71128-7751
E-Mail: dsgvo@statistik.gv.at

General information about the survey

Structural business statistics (SBS) enable a profound analysis of the structure of enterprises and employment, their economic output as well as the regional distribution of local units and work places. Hence, these statistics provide a significant basis for decisions in politics and economics. Moreover, the SBS survey delivers important data for the calculation of several economic indicators and for monitoring the European single market. The determination of harmonized and comparable economic indicators contributes to a better understanding about economic activity and competitiveness of companies in the European Union. SBS have been published since the reference period of 1997 in accordance with European guidelines on structural business statistics in production and service sectors. The guidelines on structural business statistics were the legal basis until reporting year 2021, since reporting year 2021 the regulation 2019/2152 on European business statistics is in force.

Legal basis

- Regulation on structural business statistics 2022, Federal Law Gazette II No. 305/2022
- Regulation 2019/2152 of the European parliament and of the council on European business statistics, repealing ten acts in the field of business statistics, OJ L 327, 17.12.2019 p. 1, as amended.
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197 of 30 July 2020 laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics OJ L 271, 18.8.2020, p. 1, as amended.
- Regulation (EU) No 549/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on the European system of national and regional accounts in the European Union, OJ L 174, 26.6.2013, p. 1.

Obligation to report

Pursuant to section 7 of the regulation on structural business statistics 2022, Federal Law Gazette II No. 305/2022 in conjunction with section 9 of the Federal Statistics Act 2000, Federal Law Gazette I No. 163/1999, as amended.

Recipients of personal data

Explicitly for statistical purposes:

1. Austrian Economic Chambers (limited to data of the chambers' members) pursuant to section 71 par. 1 of the Economic Chamber Act 1998, Federal Law Gazette I No. 103/1998, as amended.
2. Regional statistical offices according to the agreements pursuant to section 15a, Federal Constitutional Act between the federation and the federal provinces in statistics, Federal Law Gazette I No. 408/2009, as amended.
3. Eurostat (statistical office of the European Union) according to regulation (EG) No. 223/2009, as amended. Only in aggregated form and with labels that mark data rows, which must be kept confidential.
4. Austrian national bank pursuant to section 6 par. 6 Foreign Exchange Act 2004, Federal Law Gazette I No. 123/2003, as amended.

Transfer of personal data to a third country or an international organization

None.

Duration of storing personal data

Personal and enterprise-related data are processed and stored in accordance with sections 15 and 26 of the Federal Statistics Act 2000. The data are encrypted as early as possible. The connections to persons or enterprises in the data are only established if this is necessary for the continuation of progress statistics, for a specific audit of international institutions, which can be carried out by them on the basis of a legal act that is binding under international law, for decreasing the burden on respondents in the case of repeated statistical surveys on the same characteristics or for new or consecutive surveys for business statistics or for revisions in the calculations of economic national accounts. Personal or enterprise-related data contained in the business registers pursuant to sections 25 and 25a of the Federal Statistics Act, are immediately deleted as soon as they are no longer required for the therein cited purposes, but no later than 30 years after the cessation of enterprise status pursuant to section 3 no. 20.

Information on data, which are not directly reported

Variables of the survey, which are collected from administrative data sources or the register of statistical units pursuant to section 25a of the Federal Statistics Act 2000 in accordance with the regulation on structural business statistics 2022, are listed in section 6 of the regulation on structural business statistics 2022, Federal Law Gazette II No. 305/2022.

Exercise of rights of the data subject

Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), regulation (EU) 2016/679, natural persons have the following rights: right of access by the data subject (Article 15 GDPR), right to rectification (Article 16 GDPR), right to erasure (Article 17 GDPR), right to restriction of processing (Article 18 GDPR), right to data portability (Article 20 GDPR) and right to object (Article 21 GDPR), provided that these rights are exercised on the basis of the legal provisions in the specific case. To assert these rights, please send an e-mail to dsgvo@statistik.gv.at or a letter to the address of the data protection officer mentioned above.

Right to lodge a complaint to the data protection authority

If there are any complaints about the processing of your data, natural persons can contact the Austrian data protection authority as supervisory authority.

Austrian protection authority, Barichgasse 40-42, 1030 Wien, e-mail: dsb@dsb.gv.at.

Source: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Structural Business Statistics Survey. Compiled on 22 August 2023.