



Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

Household Surveys, The Census and Administrative Data

Pádraig Dalton
Central Statistics Office

May 9, 2012



Who am I?

The image shows a white pole with three directional signs. The top sign is green and points right, the middle sign is yellow and points left, and the bottom sign is red and points right. The signs are slightly tilted and have a 3D effect. The background is a clear blue sky.

What do I do?

Why am I here?



Assistant Director General

Central Statistics Office

Social and Demographic
Statistics

Census of Population

Live Register

Employment

Unemployment

Earnings

Income

Crime

Vital Statistics

Migration

Education

Health

Poverty

Social Inclusion

Irish Statistical System

Household Surveys

Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS)

EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC)

Some others (cyclical)

Household Budget Survey

PIAAC

Wealth Survey



QNHS

- Primary purpose is the provision of estimates relating to the labour force on a quarterly basis
- Irish version of the labour force survey (LFS) – covered by EU regulation;
- Survey is continuous
- 152 interviewers, 12 regional co-ordinators
- Interviews organised by ‘blocks’ which are small areas of approx. 75 households
- Approx. 2,600 blocks in the full sample and 15 households in each block will be interviewed each quarter, giving 39,000 total interviews
- Each person aged over 15 interviewed
- Designed on a wave basis, households in for 5 consecutive quarters
 - Each quarter one fifth rotates out and 20% are included for the first time

QNHS continued

- Core questionnaire includes over 200 questions including a broad range of topics such as:
 - Age, sex, nationality of respondent
 - Educational attainment
 - Employment status/principle economic status
 - Household information (tenure, type of accommodation etc.)

Main QNHS Outputs

- Quarterly report published
- Main indicators are employment and unemployment
 - ILO standard for employment used
 - Data on economic sector of employment, occupation, hours worked, participation rates
 - Data by region published
 - Nationality tends to get a large focus
- QNHS modules

QNHS Modules

- Modules included each quarter
- Include more than one module some quarters
- Topics covered include Pensions, Crime & Victimization, Childcare, Health, Financial Distress etc.
- Wide range of topics reflecting usefulness of QNHS to cover social topics
 - Canvass of users each 2 years to select subjects to be covered
- Structure allows us to fully exploit the survey instrument

QNHS and Data Linking

- Collection of Personal Public Service Number (PPSN)
- Opportunities to link with other sources
- Extraction of income data from Revenue sources (P35)
- Data integrity and data protection issues

EU-SILC

- Detailed survey – lasts up to 1 hour
 - Approx 800 questions
 - Governed by EU regulation
- Uses the same sampling frame, interviewers and blocks as the QNHS
- Approx. 6,000 to 7,000 households surveyed each year
- Households included for 4 years on a panel – 25% rotated out each year

EU-SILC continued

- All income covered for all persons in the household
- Use of PPSN allows certain questions on social transfers to be skipped (linkage to other sources)
- Data from administrative data sources (social welfare and revenue) used for income

EU-SILC continued

- Deprivation
 - Generally the inability to afford various goods or services such as warm clothing, replacement furniture etc.
- Additional information on household collected such as age, central heating etc.
- A range of other individual information such as age, sex, education, employment status, nationality

Main EU-SILC Outputs

- One annual report – November each year
- Main indicators
 - Income – official source of household income data
 - At risk of poverty rate
 - Consistent poverty rate (AROP plus deprivation)
- One additional module output

EU-SILC Modules

- Additional topics covered each year
 - 2006 Social Capital
 - 2007 Housing
 - 2008 Over-indebtedness and financial exclusion
 - 2009 Material deprivation
 - 2010 Intra-household allocation of resources

Household Survey Transformation

- EU agenda – involves a co-ordinated modernisation programme
- Coherent view of different data needs
 - Modularisation of different subjects
 - Proposed data collection model (pillars)
 - Aggregate and micro-level matching
 - Maximising use of administrative data
- CSO transformation of household surveys
 - Introduction of telephone interviewing for QNHS follow up interviews
 - Integrated approach to additional data needs

The Census

- Every five-years in Ireland
- Census 2011 - April 10, 2011
- Traditional approach – hand delivery and hand collection of all Census forms
- Temporary field force – 6 CLO, 44 Regional Supervisors, 438 Field Supervisors and 4,854 enumerators
- 2 million private residences and communal establishments
- Usage of geodirectory for field work

Census Outputs

Title of Publication	Publication Type	Publication Date
Principal Demographic Results	Volume	29 Mar
Population Classified by Area	Volume	26 April
Profile 1 – Geography	Profile	26 April
Profile 2 – Ages	Profile	24 May
Principal Socio-Economic Results	Volume	28 June
Small Area Population Statistics	Web Tables	June
Profile 3 – Workers and Employment	Profile	26 July
Profile 4 – Housing	Profile	30 August
Profile 5 – Households, Families and Marital Status	Profile	20 September
Profile 6 – Migration and Diversity	Profile	11 October
Profile 7 – Disability, Carers and Health	Profile	1 November
Profile 8 – Education	Profile	22 November
Profile 9 – Commuting	Profile	13 December

Census – The Future?

- Multi-mode data collection methodology
- Internet option
- Post-out, post-back
- Non-response follow-up door to door
- Opportunities to exploit administrative data
- Are significant challenges but.....

Reform agenda

Drivers (more data,
quicker, cheaper,
improved quality
- at lower cost!)

How we can
Contribute?

Administrative data?

Joined up Government
requires Joined up data





What needs to be done to facilitate exploitation of administrative data?

Who can drive the change?

Will it happen purely on the basis of a statistical requirement?

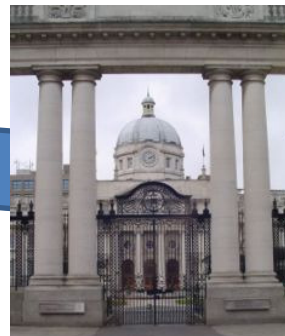
How can we engage the relevant actors?

Will it meet our needs?

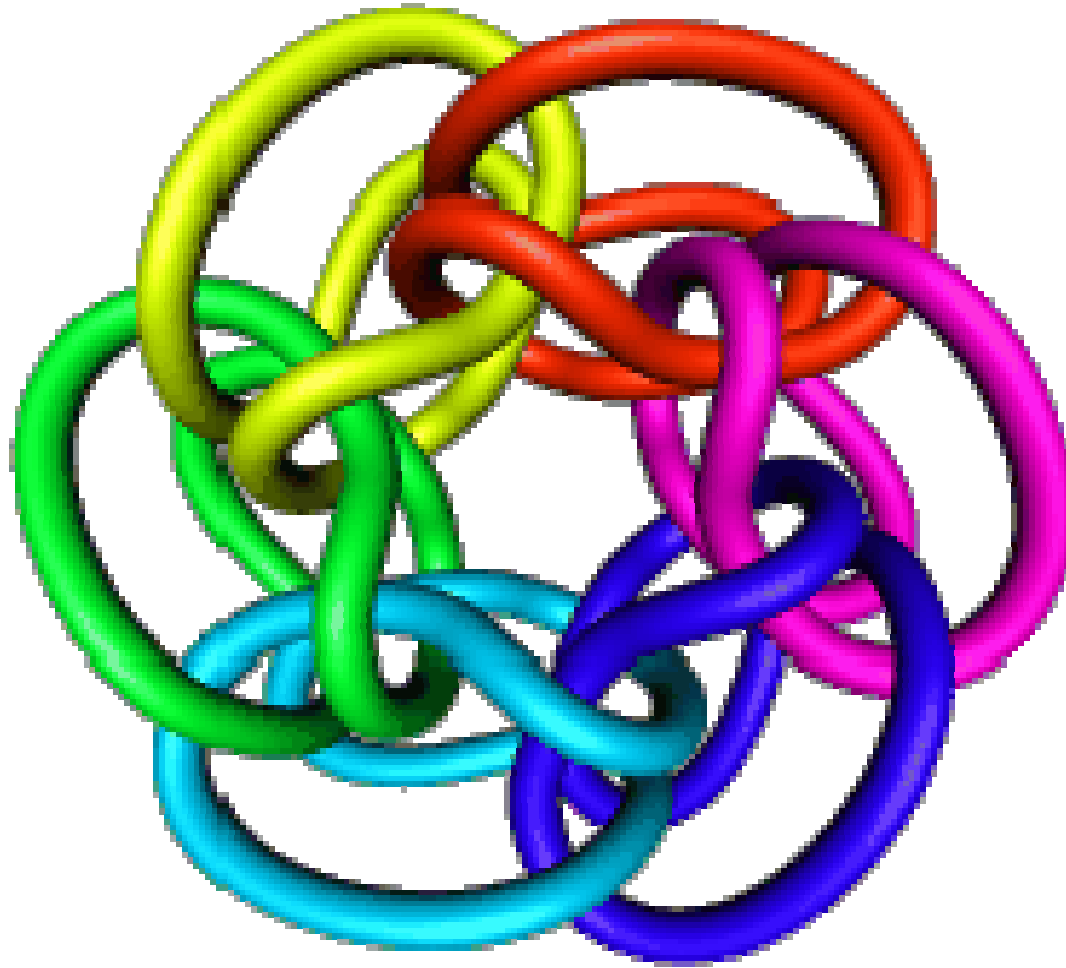
Administrative Data Holdings



Is the data being fully exploited?



Do we have the infrastructure in place
to support the linking of data sources



There are some links but they are not used in all cases

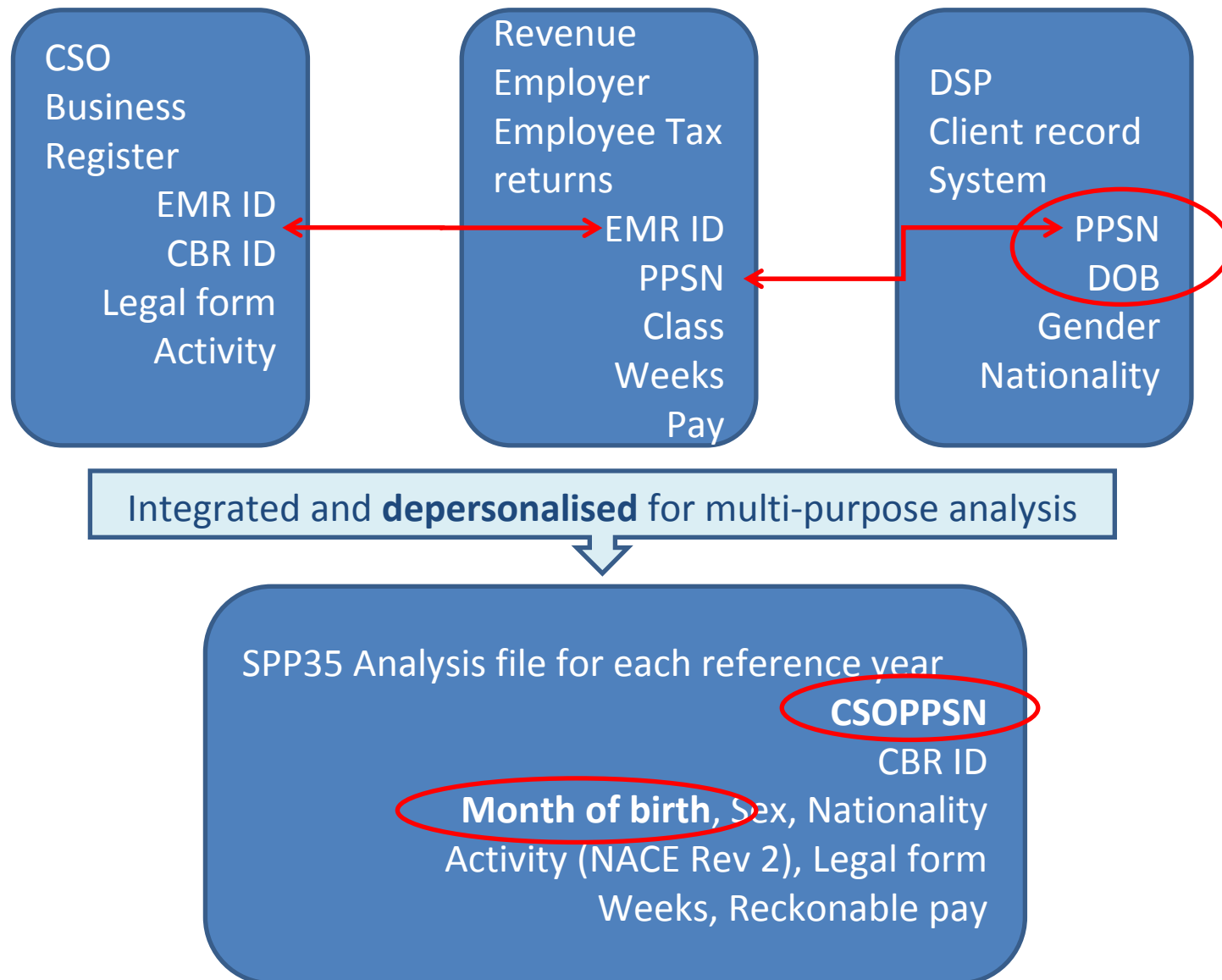
There are also missing links – geo-codes



Infrastructure: UBI, PPSN, Geo-codes

Without structure all we have is silos of data/information

Jobs Churn



Jobs Churn

- Links information on employer and employees
- Comprehensive
- High quality
- Consistent
- Track people from business to business over time (age, sector, income, nationality etc.)
- Connects social statistics to business statistics



Administrative Data?



The Irish Statistical System

National Statistics Board Strategy for Statistics 2003 – 2008

Introduced concept of the Irish Statistical System

Recognition that increasing demand for data could not be met from statistical sources solely

Need to exploit all relevant data sources including administrative sources

Focus is on the provision of evidence to support policy development and evaluation

Programme for Government refers to the need for better sharing of data across Government Depts. and Agencies to eliminate social welfare fraud



Where are we now

At this since 2003!

Significant progress has been made (e.g. New statistical products, MOUs, formal data flows, common business identifier)

But progress has been slow and uneven

Pockets of innovation – no systematic change

Went about it the wrong way?

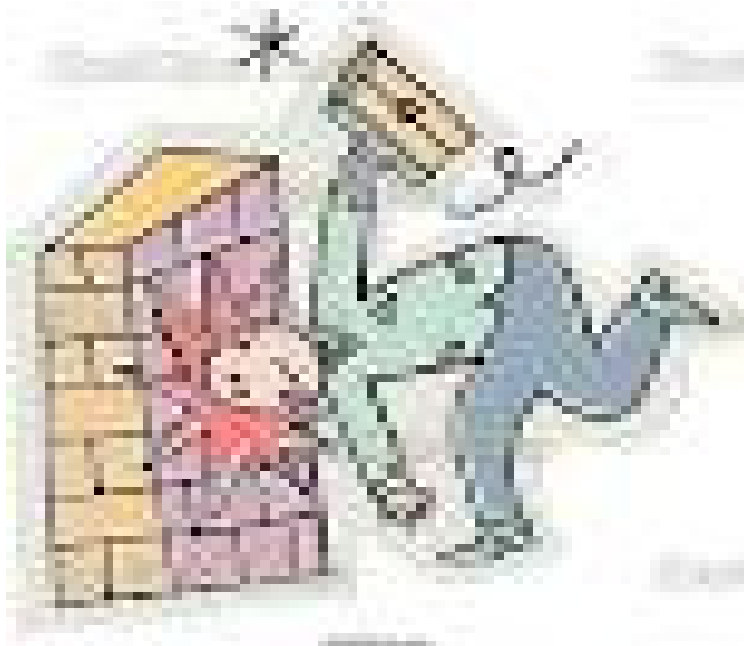
Statistical argumentation drive changes?

ISS will only come about as a spin-off from “Joined Up Government”

Need to build a shared objective/common purpose

What is in it for me – concept vs tangible

Opportunity – timing everything



Challenges

Identifying the right people and influencing them

Talk their language not ours

What , why and how – provide solution

Developing the necessary infrastructure

Must be conscious of data protection issues – risk management versus risk avoidance

Capacity – analytical capacity

Data quality

Have been recent developments





Government Decision – January 2012

Based heavily around “The Irish Statistical System: The Way Forward” and the supporting paper “Joined Up Government Needs Joined Up Data

See http://www.nsb.ie/word_docs/NSB%20ISS%20Position%20Papers.pdf

Principles

Promote usage of data to support evidence based policy making

Optimal usage of all potential data sources

Adherence to international standards (including independence, objectivity etc.)

Development of a partnership approach with respect to capabilities and capacity

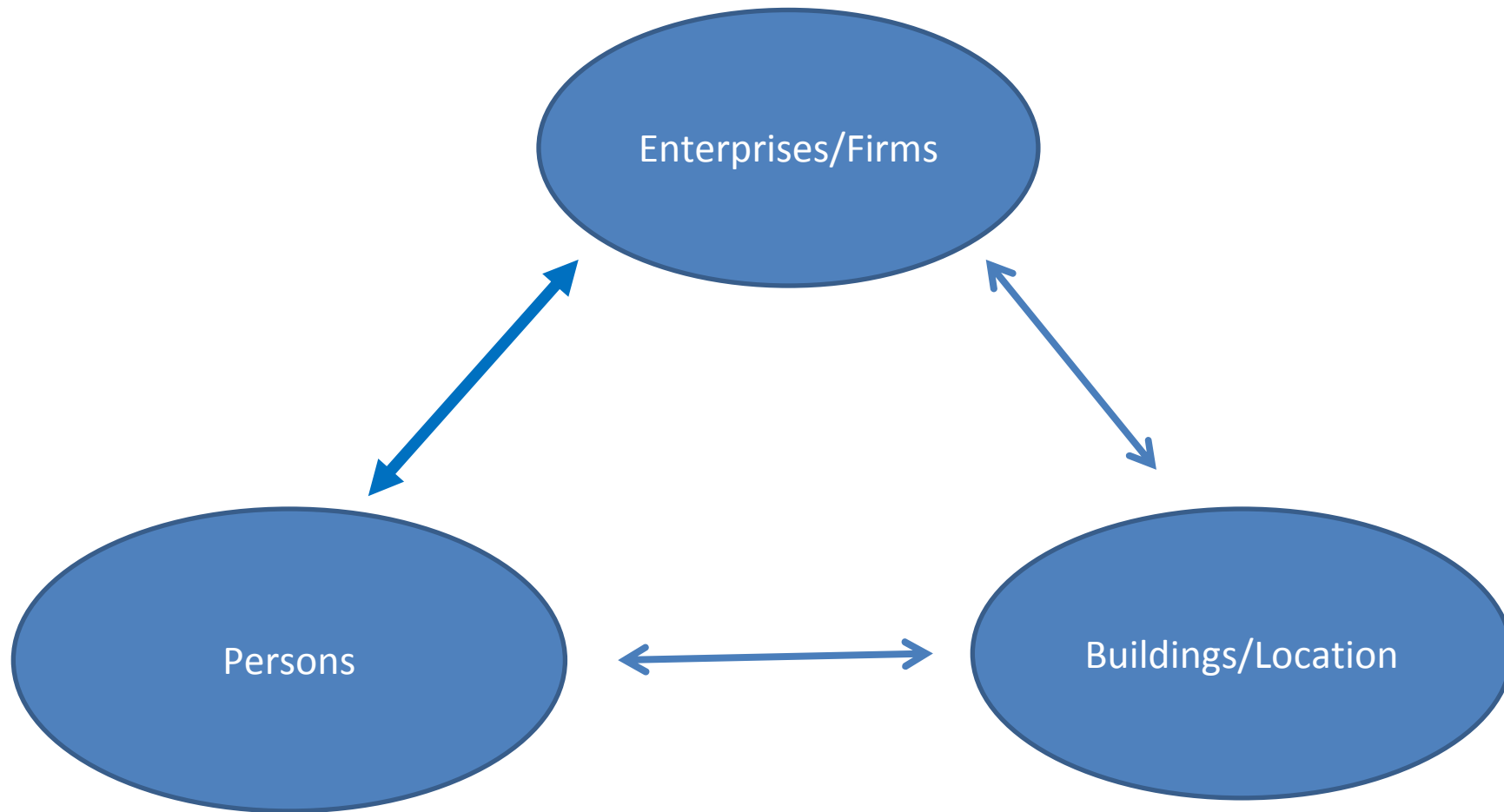


Public Sector Reform Plan

2.10 Develop a code of practice for data gathering and its use for statistical purposes across the Public Service, to facilitate improved usefulness of the data gathered for decision-making, planning and service delivery and the reduction of the potential for fraud.

- (i). Development of a code of practice and standards for the gathering and use of data for statistical purposes in the Public Service.
- (ii). Develop an integrated approach to the collection of administrative data across the Public Service, including a strategy to promote consistent approaches to, and systematic uses of, data **(including identifiers, classifications and geo-spatial/postcode data) in service planning and delivery.**
- (iii). Assess the legislative environment with a view to identifying the scope for additional and greater uses of statistical data, including any potential legislative changes where necessary.

An example of where we would like to be
Key registers required





Advocacy

Leaders – all levels

▶ Cultural change

Action



Need to transform our household survey environment to meet new demands

Plan for Census 2016 but need to create a longer term vision

Continue engagement on administrative data side to make systemic change

Exploit opportunities to embed administrative data within our strategies

Reality is that its a medium to long term vision



Questions

Comments