Small Area Estimation for the Labour Force Survey in Latvia

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The purpose of this work is to obtain detailed statistical information on the indicators of economic activity in Latvia. Traditionally Labour Force Survey (LFS) in Latvia is designed to produce precise statistics at national level and limited data at regional (NUTS 3) level, but often data users, mostly policy makers and local governments, are interested to have data at LAU level (cities under state jurisdiction and municipalities), but it is not possible to provide the requested information from LFS due to unacceptable precision – the sample sizes are not big enough to make robust estimates, but increasing the size of samples would be prohibitively expensive. Therefore, it is needed to develop advanced estimation methods and combine data from administrative and survey data sources to produce estimates for small areas or domains.

Keywords: Labour Force Survey, Small Area Estimation, administrative data