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Given that the secondary use of data is becoming an increasingly important topic in many areas, e.g., also around the discussion at the European Union level around data spaces, Switzerland is now also moving towards creating a new legal framework law for the secondary use of data in order to establish a clear legal basis how to use, link and access data from different sources. After approval of the national parliament to work on such a law in June 2023, the federal administration will start the preparatory work in autumn 2023. Linkhub.ch will actively participate in this preparatory phase in order to highlight the importance of the law and the needs of the research community to have good access to existing data within an established legal and institutional framework.

More information: <https://linkhub.ch/about/>

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URUGUAY

Reporting: **Diego Aboal**

Innovations in Uruguay's 2023 Census

Uruguay is performing the 2023 Population, Households and Housing Census (2023 PHHC). It presents innovative features for the Latin America and Caribbean region.

Firstly, the completely digital 2023 PHHC census will take place in two phases: a web phase where households will be able to self-register, and a face-to-face phase with electronic recording of data through 8-inch tablets. Unlike previous censuses, for the 2023 PHHC self-registration is intended as a crucial census strategy and not only as a marginal or recovery strategy. In the region, the only known successful web census, in terms of coverage, is the 2022 Argentine PHHC.

Secondly, in parallel, a census based on administrative records will be conducted. It is the first time that a country, in the region, has carried out such a pilot. It will allow comparisons between a traditional census and a register-based census for some basic variables. In this manner, gaps could be assessed taken into consideration the national plan for moving to a complete register-based census in the future. During the last years, Uruguay has been improving the quality and integration of administrative records. In this sense, Nordic countries are examples that are being followed by Uruguay.

Thirdly, the Uruguayan census is making strong use of administrative records in the pre-census phase. Early results indicate that the correction to office work carried out on satellite images of the census areas will be less than 1%. On the other hand, the count of addresses in the field is yielding similar numbers to the previous count carried out with administrative data based on the number of connections to the electricity service. In Uruguay, electricity coverage reaches 98% of homes and can be georeferenced appropriately. The convenience of such traditional field count in the pre-census phase is an open question. In future it will probably be more efficient to use administrative data during such phase.

The high coverage of the electricity service and the possibility of managing the consumption meters of customers with high precision permits the geo-location of the census data collected through the web. Households responding to the 2023 PHHC via Internet must login with their customer number and the number of their electricity meter. Incentives have been designed for the population to respond through this mechanism with the aim of lowering costs and data collection times: those who respond to the web questionnaire will be able to participate in a lottery for one year of free electricity consumption.

Finally, the Uruguayan census is innovating in another dimension: leveraging technology to flatten the pyramid usually observed in field operations with respect to the information flow to and from the

field. In fact, one of the limitations of the traditional pyramidal structure of census supervision is the distortion of information received by census enumerators and from them up to the survey chiefs. Usually, the vast majority of supervisors are staff with no previous survey experience, so those messages and information flowing through those channels present limitations. Technology can help to overcome this problem.

In the case of Uruguay, a planning and control centre has been established. This center is in permanent contact with the census enumerators and supervisors of the first level in the field directly (all tablets have access to electronic messaging services and have connection to mobile telephone lines) and it is the first reference for conceptual doubts, data collection and other field incidents. The heads of the field work and their assistants are the coordinators of those centers. The centers have access through computer systems to various tools to evacuate the above-mentioned doubts and solve problems in a short time. In addition to being able to monitor the progress of the survey. These centers receive incidents quickly (without distortions from intermediaries), can adequately systematize the information and can give rapid, unified and validated responses by the survey managers to all field staff, thereby improving the quality of the flow of information allowing more timely decisions to be made.

This report was prepared in collaboration with Leonardo Cuello, Lucía Pérez and Federico Seguí.

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UNITED STATES

Reporting: **Andreea L. Erciulescu**

Toward a Vision for a New Data Infrastructure for Federal Statistics in the 21st Century

Ad hoc committees appointed by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine are developing a vision for the new national data infrastructure to help inform decision makers on matters regarding economy, society, and life in general. For this, virtual public workshops are being held to gather information from key stakeholders and external experts, which is then being disseminated in public reports. The first two reports, on the overall vision for a new national data infrastructure and on using multiple data sources, have already been released. A third report will be produced, on data privacy and confidentiality. More information on the overall project can be found at the following link: [Toward a Vision for a New Data Infrastructure for Federal Statistics and Social and Economic Research in the 21st Century | National Academies](#).