Measuring the Contribution of Small Businesses to the Canadian Economy

Danny Leung
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Delivering insight through data for a better Canada
Outline

1. Varied products and definitions
   • Mostly based on employment size, but others are used
   • Mostly at the enterprise level, but other definitions are used at finer levels of geography and industry

2. Data sources
   • Access to microdata from survey and administrative sources facilitates the production of a wide range of products

3. Users and uses
   • Greater timeliness and granularity being demanded
Varied products and varied definitions (1)

**Canadian Business Counts (semi-annual)**
- count of businesses (locations)
- detailed employment size (0 employees, 1-4, 5-9, 10-19, 20-49, 50-99, 100-199, 200-499, 500+)
- 3-digit NAICS
- Canada, province and territory, census metropolitan area, census subdivision

**Labour Force Survey (monthly) – Employment by enterprise size**
- Employment size (0-4, 5-19, 20-49, 50-99, 100-299, 300-499, 500+)
- 2-digit NAICS
- Canada, province and territory

**Survey of Employment Payroll and Hours (monthly) – employment, average weekly earnings, average weekly hours of enterprise**
- Employment size (0-4, 5-19, 20-49, 50-99, 100-299, 300-499, 500+)
- 2-digit NAICS
- Canada, province and territory
Varied products and varied definitions (2)

Trade by Exporter and Importer Characteristics (annual) – value of exports and imports, number of exporters and importers
- Employment size (0-499, 500+) of enterprise or establishment
- 2-digit NAICS
- Canada (enterprise and establishment), province and census metropolitan area (establishment)
- Other dimensions: partner country, export size, etc

Business Dynamics (monthly, annual) – entry, exit, openings, closings, job creation and destruction of enterprises
- Employment size (1-4, 5-19, 20-49, 50-99, 100-499, 500+) of enterprise
- 2-digit NAICS
- Canada, province and territory, census metropolitan area

Entrepreneurship Indicators Database (annual) – business survival, number of high growth firms, number of gazelles
- Growth based on revenue or employment
- 2-digit NAICS
- Canada
Varied products and varied definitions (3)

Financial Performance Data (annual)
- Income statement variables, balance sheet variables, financial ratios,
- Detailed industry (up to 6-digit NAICS)
- Revenue size ($30,000 to $5,000,000 and $5,000,000 to $20,000,000) and quartiles with size groupings
- Incorporated and unincorporated businesses
- Canada, province and territory

GDP by Firm Size (irregular)
- Employment size (0, 1-99, 100-499, 500+) of enterprise
- 2-digit NAICS
- Canada, province

Business ownership statistics (irregular) – Number of businesses, employment, trade by type of owner
- Gender, immigrant status, visible minority status
- 2-digit NAICS
- Canada, province and territory
Data sources

Survey
- Labour Force Survey
- Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours
- Survey of Financing and Growth of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises

Administrative data
- Canada Revenue Agency
  - Corporate and personal income tax
  - Payroll deduction remittances
- Canada Border Services Agency
## Users and Uses

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Thank you

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