

Overview of Data Sources

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Overview of Data Sources

Table 1.1 Classification of Data Sources

Source	Description
International trade statistics (ITS)	ITS measure the quantities and values of goods that add to or subtract from a nation's stock of goods as a result of movement into or out of a country. These data are compiled from forms submitted (by exporters, importers, or their agents) to customs officials or directly to the ITS compiler.
International transactions reporting system (ITRS)	An ITRS measures individual BOP cash transactions (passing through the domestic banks and foreign bank accounts of enterprises) and noncash transactions and stock positions. Statistics are compiled from forms submitted to domestic banks and from forms submitted by enterprises to the compiler.
Enterprise surveys (ES)	ES collect data on BOP activity from enterprises. In comparison with an ITRS, ES collect aggregate enterprise data rather than individual transactions data.
Collections from persons and households	These collections obtain information from individuals and households (for example, migration statistics and surveys of travelers).
Official sources n.i.e.	Official sources n.i.e. cover official sources not mentioned elsewhere in this table and include (a) sources that measure activities of the official sector and (b) sources that are by-products of administrative systems.
Partner country and international organizations	These sources cover data available from foreign government agencies or international organizations.

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Table 12.1 Compilation of Items in Transportation Services

Item Number	Description	Source and Method of Compilation
x206	<i>Sea transport</i>	
x207	<i>Passenger</i>	<p><i>Services Provided by Resident Transport Operators (credit)</i> Data could be collected, through ES or an ITRS, from resident operators. Fares earned from nonresident travelers on domestic flights should be excluded and included in the travel items x237 and x240. Alternatively, a data model based upon the number of nonresident travelers carried by resident operators, travelers' countries of origin and destination, and average fare rates could be used.</p> <p><i>Services Provided by Nonresident Transport Operators (debit)</i> Data could be collected, through ES or an ITRS, from branches of nonresident operators or ticket selling agents. Ideally, data should be collected on an earnings, rather than a ticket sale, basis. Gross data should be recorded—that is, before the deduction of commissions that are included in item x209. Alternatively, a data model on numbers of resident travelers carried by nonresident operators and classified by destination and data on average fares could be used.</p>

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x208	<p><i>Freight</i> Freight on exports and imports of the compiling economy</p>	<p><i>Export Freight Services Provided by Residents (credit)</i> Data could be collected, through ES or an ITRS, from resident operators. If an ITRS is used, freight paid on exports by exporters to resident operators should be measured and added to freight paid on exports by nonresidents to residents. Alternatively, a data model could be used.</p>
		<p><i>Import Freight Services Provided by Nonresidents (debit)</i> This item could be collected in an ITRS if the ITRS provides a breakdown of import costs and if the amounts paid to resident operators by nonresident exporters are deducted. Alternatively, freight on imports could be measured by approaching, via ES, branch offices and agents for nonresident operators. Another way to derive this item is to estimate total freight on imports (see table 12.2 for various methods) and to deduct from this estimate the income earned by resident transport operators from freight on imports. The latter item could be collected through ES.</p>
	Freight on other goods	<p><i>Services Provided by Resident Transport Operators (credit)</i> Data could be collected, through ES or an ITRS, from resident operators.</p> <p><i>Services Provided by Nonresident Transport Operators (debit)</i> Data on these services could be collected, through ES or an ITRS, either by approaching branch offices and agents for nonresident operators or by approaching resident users of the transportation services. Alternatively, some form of estimation could be required.</p>

Table 12.4 Compilation of Items in Other Services

Item Number	Description	Source and Method of Compilation
x245	Communications services	An ITRS or ES could be used to compile this item.
x249	Construction services	An ITRS or ES could be used to compile this item. If an ITRS is used, particular care should be taken to measure transactions involving bank accounts of construction enterprises in the host economy. Special note should be taken of the treatment of construction activity, which is discussed in paragraphs 452-455 of chapter 10 and in paragraphs 547-550 of this chapter.
x253	Insurance services	An ITRS or ES could be used to obtain the underlying premiums and claims data necessary to compile this item. However, as explained in paragraphs 551-561 of this chapter, these data must be manipulated in order to derive estimates of insurance services.
x260	Financial services	An ITRS or ES could be used as a primary source to compile this item. Care should be taken to ensure that financial service fees are reported separately from underlying financial transactions, particularly if an ITRS is used. If primary source data are unavailable, this item could be estimated by applying appropriate ratios to various measures of financial activity involving nonresidents. If significant, the collection of supplementary information will probably be necessary to derive estimates of foreign exchange services when the service element is implicit in transactions rates. The treatment of these services is described in paragraphs 562-568 of this chapter.

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x262	Computer and information services	An ITRS or ES could be used to compile this item.
x266	Royalties and license fees	An ITRS or ES could be used to compile this item. It is important that royalties, fees, etc. be reported separately from transactions in underlying licenses, patents, and copyrights. Transactions in these underlying items should be recorded in the capital account (item ×480).
x268 x269 x272 x273	Other business services Merchandising and trade-related Operational leasing Miscellaneous	An ITRS or ES could be used to compile these items. For the compilation of merchandising services, the discussion in paragraphs 138-139 of chapter 4 is relevant. For leasing, it is important to note the different treatments of financial and operational leasing. (The treatment of financial leasing is discussed in paragraphs 784-786 of chapter 16.) For the operational leasing of mobile equipment, only leases of equipment without crew should be included in the operational leasing item. The leasing of equipment with crew should be shown as part of other transportation services.
x287 x288 x289	Personal, cultural, and recreational services Audio-visual and related Other	An ITRS or ES could be used to compile these items.

Survey (Collection) Design

Effective survey design for an ITRS and for ES requires: well-defined objectives, sufficient legislative authority, thorough coverage of the population or the activity being measured, appropriate methodologies, well-designed survey forms, responsive reporters, good statistical processing procedures, appropriate levels of resources, and responsiveness to the needs of users.

Selection of the most appropriate data source is by no means straightforward. The choice is affected by many factors, including compatibility of the source with BOP concepts, the timeliness with which data are provided, the frequency with which data are available, the quality of data coverage, usability of the data in BOP compilation, resource costs to the compiler, the respondent burden to the data provider, and the legal authority of the compiler.

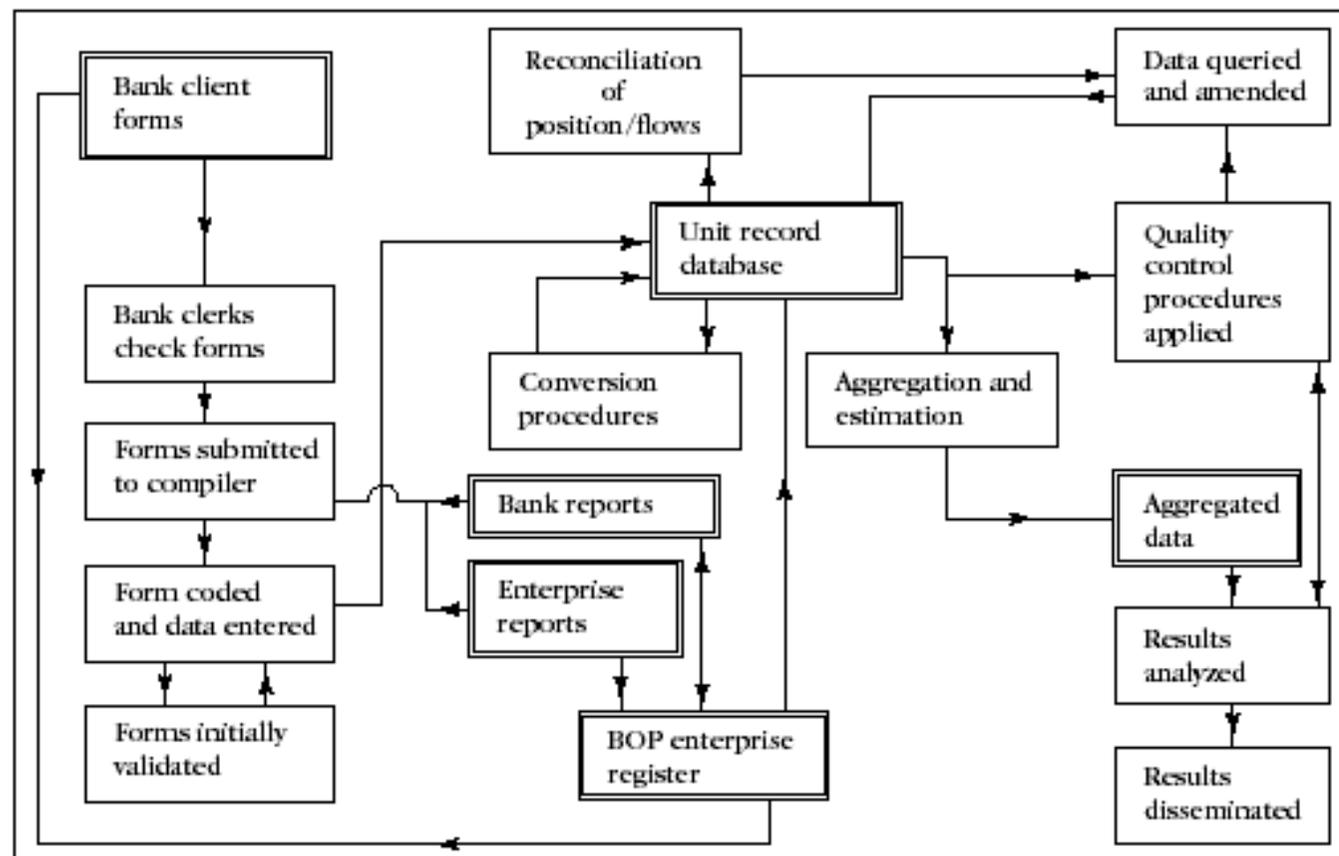
ITRS (Collection) Design

An ITRS should contain a number of basic features if it is to produce statistics of good quality. The ITRS should:

- ✓ meet BOP conceptual requirements;
- ✓ cover all BOP cash transactions using foreign or domestic currency and be supplemented to measure non-cash transactions, including reinvested earnings attributable to direct investors;
- ✓ include enterprise transactions settled through accounts with nonresident banks;
- ✓ encompass procedures to measure stocks of external financial assets and liabilities;
- ✓ provide for reconciliation of stocks and flows at the enterprise (or enterprise group) level. For this purpose, recording the identity of larger transactors is important.

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Illustration 18.2 ITRS Processing Activities



ITRS (Collection) Design

The diagram shows three types of basic input: bank client forms (completed by bank clients), bank reports (completed by banks), and enterprise reports

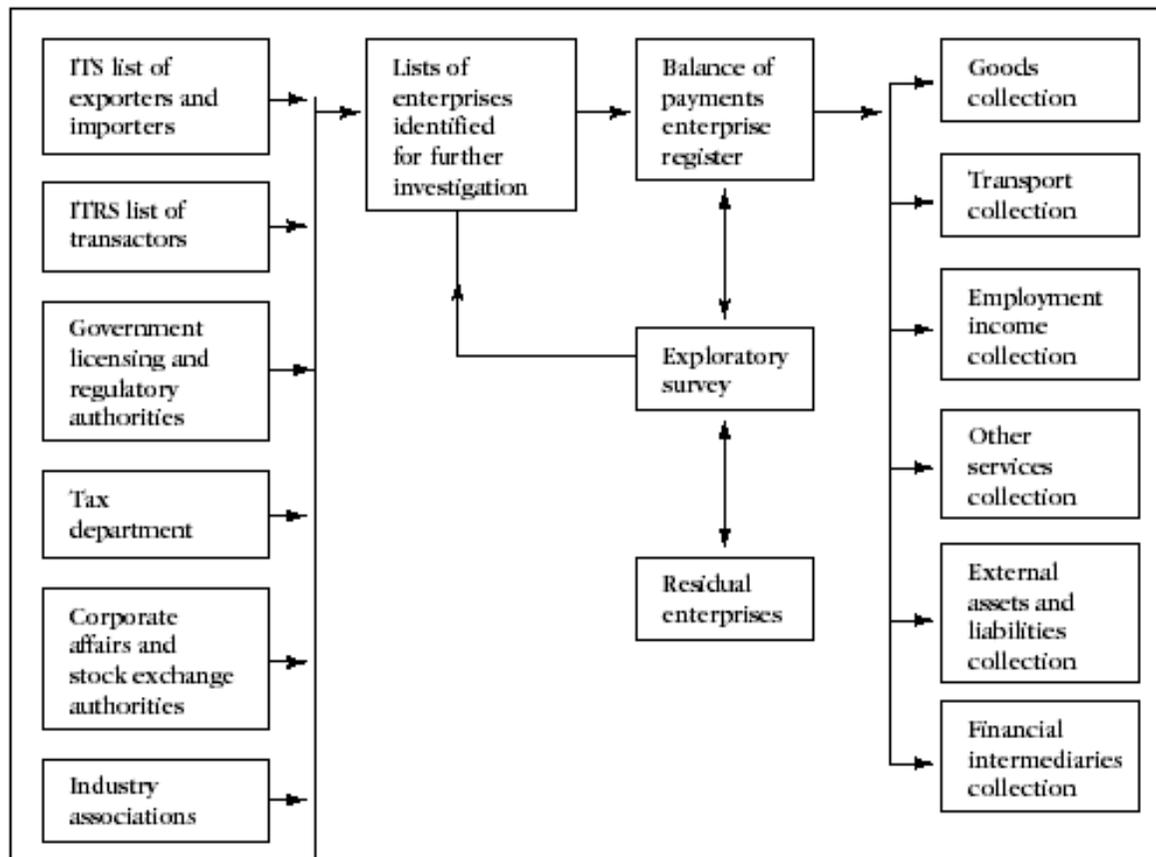
Enterprise Survey Design

Collection of data from enterprises is predicated on determination of the **statistical unit** with responsibility for supplying data. For this purpose, it is necessary to insure that all entities involved in an activity are uniquely identified; otherwise, there is scope for omission and duplication.

Selection of collection strategies for ES depends on a number of factors. One of these factors is **segmentation of population**. The population may be segmented so that certain homogeneous groups can be easily identified. For example, a few foreign-owned petroleum companies may be a dominant group in an economy, and these may be isolated as one group for collection purposes. Banks and certain other financial institutions could be similarly isolated.

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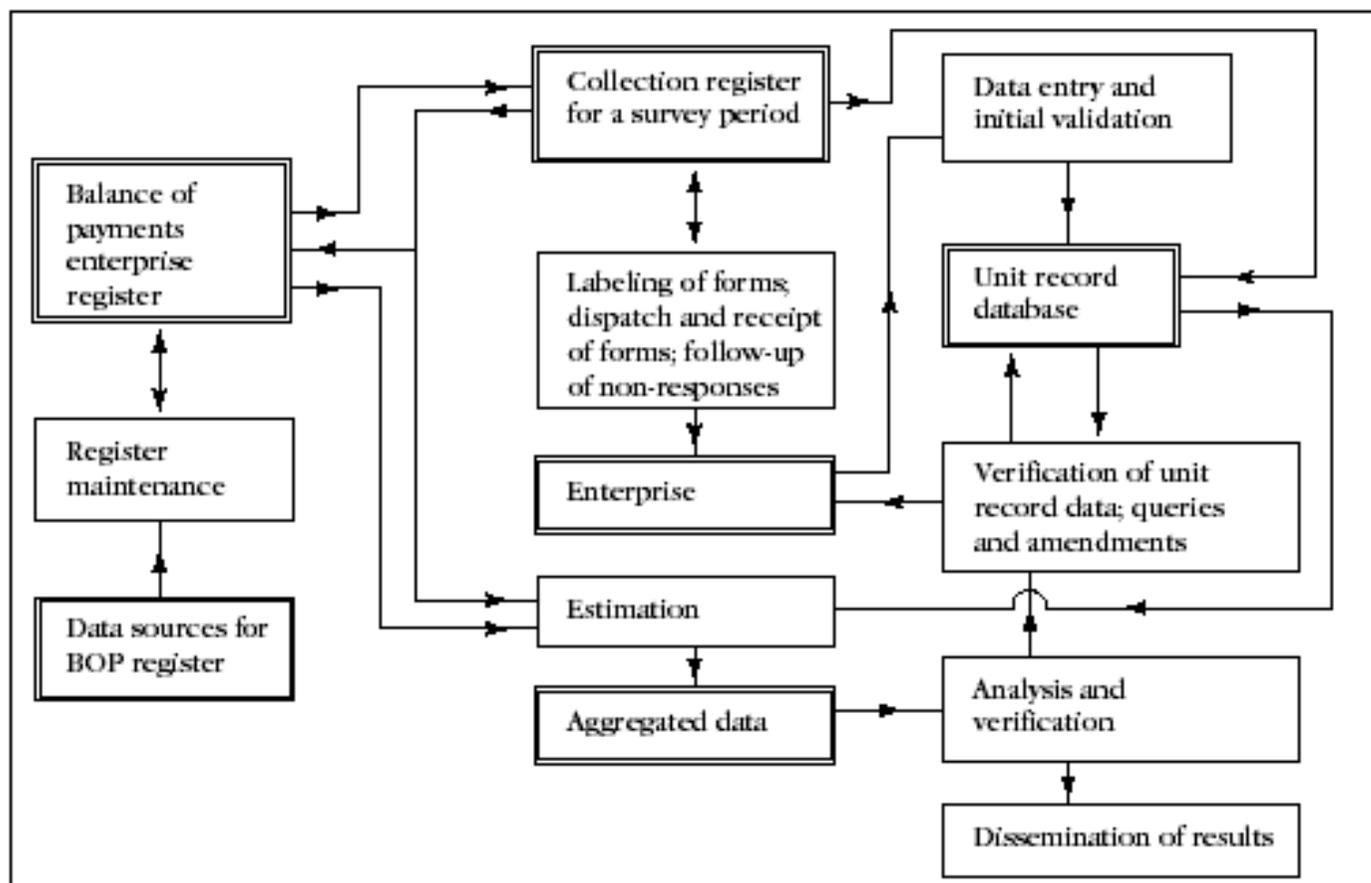
Illustration 18.1 Register Maintenance for an Enterprise Survey



Enterprise Survey Design

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Illustration 18.3 Enterprise Survey Processing System



Enterprise Survey Design

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Illustration 19.1 Sample Page One of a Collection Form

Form number	LOGO	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> Address label, including reference number </div>		Compiling agency's address, telephone, and facsimile number
	Collection title Reference period	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Legal obligation * Confidentiality * Purpose of collection and data required * General layout of questionnaire * Level of accuracy required (careful estimates acceptable) * Due date * Help available * Postage-paid envelope for reply * Keep a copy for your records * Thank you 		Authorized by
Contact name of person completing form Telephone number of person completing form		

Questionnaire Design

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Model ITRS Forms

Model Form 3—Payments

Form 3P is designed to capture bank client payments in foreign currency and payments to nonresidents in domestic currency. BOP transactors should complete form 3P for all such transactions above certain thresholds.

Model Form 4—Banks

Two model bank collection forms are included among the model ITRS forms in appendix 2. Instructions accompanying the forms describe the overall collection process (especially the procedures for handling the ITRS form 3 series) and present instructions for completing ITRS bank forms 4A and 4B.

Model Form 5—Enterprises

This form is for enterprises that have accounts with nonresident banks, foreign currency accounts with domestic banks, or other external assets and liabilities. Thresholds could be used to exclude small contributors.

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Model ITRS Forms

Form 4A collects:

- ✓ reference information (part A);
- ✓ transactions of a bank on its own account (parts B and C);
- ✓ a summary of all the transactions passing through the bank's accounts (part D) 186;
- ✓ a reconciliation of these transactions with the bank's nostro and vostro account balances (parts E and F);
- ✓ the bank's external asset and liability positions (part G).

Form 4B requests a record of all bank-related

- Foreign currency transactions and all transactions with non-residents. Such a form is useful to ensure complete reporting of these transactions.

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Model ITRS Forms



**Balance of Payments Survey
ITRS Form 4A—Banks**

Part A. Reference Information

Bank Name	Bank Reference Number	Currency Code	Month and Year

Part B. Bank's Own Account Payments and Receipts

(Including transfer of funds between accounts and the purchase and sale of foreign currency)

1. All amounts, except lira and yen, should be reported in thousands in columns F, G, H, and I. Lira and yen should be reported in millions in columns F and H.
2. Small transactions—that is, transactions of less than the value of \$G 10,000 Gondwanaland dollars—should be combined and included as a single transaction. These should be given the most appropriate transaction codes.
3. In the case of multi-payment and offset transactions (see instruction 9), the underlying gross amounts should be recorded.

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Summary of Model Collection Forms

Number and Title	Scope and Purpose	Other Comments
1. BOP Exploratory	The form collects information on the type and size of BOP activity undertaken by enterprise groups. It provides information for maintaining and developing a BOP enterprise register.	This form may be regarded as a benchmark collection form. It uses mark boxes to encourage a quick response. It may be modified to establish an ITRS enterprise register.
2. BOP Register	The form records details of enterprise groups and the type and size of their BOP activity. It provides data essential for BOP collection design and maintenance.	This is an office form.
3. ITRS—Transactions	The form collects data, within the limits of certain thresholds and exemptions, on foreign exchange payments and payments passing through the domestic banking system to nonresidents. The form provides information on individual transactions that are not collected in other ITRS forms.	The model form relates to payments; a similar form (referred to as form 3R) is required for receipts. The classifications to be used in an ITRS (form 3C) and a supplementary imports form (form 3M) are included in the set of model forms.

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4. ITRS—Banks	The form collects data on banks' own account transactions and stock positions and provides space to summarize transactions recorded on form 3s.	The instructions, which could be issued as a separate booklet, provide an overview of the whole ITRS model collection. A separate form (form 4A) is to be completed for each currency. The model form is for a <i>closed</i> ITRS—one that provides for a reconciliation of transactions and bank positions. An <i>open system</i> would permit simpler forms.
5. ITRS—Enterprises	The form collects information on enterprise transactions and stock positions and reconciles positions and transactions. It provides data on transactions of enterprises that are not recorded on form 3.	The instructions could be issued separately. A separate form is to be completed for each account. An <i>open system</i> would permit simpler forms.
6. ES—Goods	The form collects across-the-board data and selected data on exports and imports of goods.	The form illustrates methods for collecting various data—including processing, repairs, merchenting, and projections—on goods. In practice, a form designed to collect information on goods would be simpler as compilers would only use parts of the model form.
7. ES—Resident transport operators	The form collects data on resident transport operator earnings and expenses for compilation of transportation and certain goods items.	The form could be tailored for different modes of transport.

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Summary of Model Collection Forms

Number and Title	Scope and Purpose	Other Comments
9. ES—Travel	The form collects data on the means used to pay for travel and related services for compilation of the travel item.	Several specialized forms could be created from this form.
10. ES—Services	The form collects data on services not covered by forms 6-9 for compilation of various services items.	Separate forms could be created to collect information on insurance. The creation of separate forms would simplify the other services form.

Thank you for your attention