



The Best Period Lag for Publishing Official Statistics from The Enterprise-based Survey: Manufacturing Production Growth Case in Indonesia

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Abstract:

Official statistics are fundamental in the process of national policymaking. It has to be in a timely fashion and actual, or else it can be biased and harass the direction of national development. The situation has recently become more challenging to serve the official statistics since the Covid-19 pandemic makes data collection from the respondent, especially enterprise-based surveys, hindered. One that has been affected is the Manufacturing Production Growth indicator which usually released quarterly but then suspended due to several considerations. This study aims to evaluate an appropriate period for data collecting, measuring, and disseminating from the enterprise-based survey. This study uses data response share from large and medium-scale manufacturer samples in 34 provinces in Indonesia. The result shows significant progress of the 2020 first quarter's response share, which is only 58,06 per cent by April 2020 (no time lag for publication) to 90,82 per cent by January 2021 (a year lag). Also, the study finds that response share levels between April and July (1 quarter lag), and July and October (2 quarter lag) are statistically different at 1 per cent significance level by paired samples T-test. Contrarily, it shows no differences in response share gain between October 2020 and January 2021. This result indicates that official statistics produced from the enterprise-based survey, in this case the manufacturing production growth, can be estimated unbiasedly in a 2-quarter lag time as the response share has been more robust. Therefore, the study outcome recommends to Statistics Indonesia for publishing the first quarter of manufacturing production growth in the third quarter of the year, and so on. However, for reducing the lag, all parties should have made more efforts, e.g. raising private awareness in data supplying, promoting innovation in data collection, and strengthening statistics regulation and integration between the government and business sector.

Keywords:

Official Statistics, Publication, Time Lag, Manufacturing, Enterprise-based Survey