



## Dissemination Policy for Annual Employment Survey (AES) and Annual Business Survey of Economic Impact (ABSEI)

The reports and statistics produced through the AES and ABSEI surveys are available free of charge to all users via the Department's website.

In advance of publication of the annual survey reports, a memo will be sent to government via e-cabinet.

Pseudonymised microdata is made available to researchers, subject to strict protocols. For further information, see our Policy on Access to Research Microdata Files under [statistical quality and methodology documentation](#).

### Code of Practice

The Department is committed to ensuring that all data is compiled to the highest standard. In particular, the Department adheres to the principles set out in the 'Irish Statistical System Code of Practice' [www.isscop.ie/codeofpractice](http://www.isscop.ie/codeofpractice) and has signed a statement of commitment to ISSCoP.

### Open Data

Reports are in the form of PDF files, and supporting data is provided in both Excel and CSV format. In line with Government policy the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment is committed to publishing open data so that its outputs are accessible to and reusable by the widest possible audience. From 2022 AES and ABSEI data will also be made available on the CSO's online data portal, PxStat, from which it can be queried and downloaded in a range of open-data formats.

### Revisions Policy

The AES and ABSEI publications are based on the population of client companies of the enterprise development agencies at the time of the survey. This population can change from one year to the next, as companies initiate or cease engagement with the development agencies. Attributes can also evolve as a business grows, such as ownership and industry sector. In each year of the AES and ABSEI reports, the entire set of data for previous years is updated to reflect changes such as these. As a result, a figure that is several years old may be revised slightly in a newer report. This approach is taken so that the addition, removal or reclassification of a client company does not lead to an artificial growth or fall in one or more time series. Thus, each report provides a record of the performance of the companies which were clients of the development agencies at the time of publication. If a user wishes to query the status of the population of client companies as it was in some past year "X", then they should refer to the report published in that same year.

Companies are asked to provide estimated values for certain variables for the current year (the year in which the survey takes place). Statistics produced from this estimated data are presented in italics and are subject to revision in the following year.

Where the format, content or methodology of the surveys is altered or revised, notice of such revisions are communicated in the subsequent release.

Where an error occurs in a published output, this will be addressed promptly and a notice placed on the affected statistical release. Any correction shall be made as soon as possible.