Compiling production accounts and measuring volume of residential nursing care activities and residential care activities for the elderly and disabled by linking individual data to transactions on the kind-of-activity level

Topic: A Global Focus on the Service Sector

Author: Nikolaus Bayerl

The area of residential nursing care activities and residential care activities for the elderly and disabled is a representative example for a constellation in which the availability of data sources for the compilation of National Accounts aggregates is often scarce. In a situation of lacking primary statistics approaches to close data gaps have to be developed for the compilation of exhaustive and coherent product and production accounts. Moreover because of missing benchmarks plausibility checks for analysing the quality of the results must be created. In the first step solutions to overcome such data limitations for the compilation of accounts will be presented. It will be depicted how data on the unit level as well as on the associated transactions are arranged according to the underlying conceptional and classificatory framework of National Accounts. By integrating physical variables the calculation framework can be extended for the purpose of price and volume measures. In order to derive representative volume indicators according to Atkinson (2005) quality of outputs (as well as of inputs) must be taken into account. An indicator for the quality of outputs can be estimated by using data from register-based census information at the individual level. These data are aggregated to the level of local kind of activities and linked to the National Accounts dataset. The result is a set of National Accounts variables and volume measures which allow for the analysis of indicators on the national and on the regional level as well as according to types of producers.