The Swedish experience with scanner data From sampling to index calculation Paulina Jonéus

Abstract

Statistics Sweden replaces traditional collection of price data with scanner data for samples of outlets and products in some parts of the consumer price index. A fixed basket approach is used, where the computing of indices is equivalent to the computing methods applied within the previous production system of the national CPI.

The use of scanner data has lowered the collection costs with annuals savings of approximately 80 000 EUR per year. In addition, the sample sizes could be increased and the standard errors of index could thereby be decreased at a low cost. About 2 000 unique products are included in 90 product groups each year, and some 100 000 price observations from scanner data are used in the Swedish CPI each month.