**Statement of administrative sources used for statistical purposes**

**Data sources**

When compiling official statistics staff within DAERA utilise the data held in the following administrative systems.

**Table 1: Statistical usage of our own organisation’s administrative or management sources**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Administrative Data** **Source** | **Main administrative purpose of this source/system** | **Geospatial Coverage** | **Title(s) of all Statistical Products derived from this Source1** |
| Grants and Subsidies system | Record of Farm Businesses for the payment of EU subsidies. | NI | June/Dec Agricultural and Horticultural Survey  EU Farm Structure Survey  Statistical Review of NI Agriculture |
| Animal and Public Health Information System (APHIS) | Record of cattle births, deaths, movements.  Also information on sheep, poultry, pig holdings. | NI | June/Dec Agricultural and Horticultural Survey  EU Farm Structure Survey  Statistical Review of NI Agriculture |
| Northern Ireland Bird Register Update | Register of Bird flocks and number of poultry in June. | NI | June/Dec Agricultural and Horticultural Survey  EU Farm Structure Survey  Statistical Review of NI Agriculture |
| Annual Inventory of Pigs | Register of Pig herds and numbers on farm in June | NI | June/Dec Agricultural and Horticultural Survey  EU Farm Structure Survey  Statistical Review of NI Agriculture |
| Annual Sheep and Goat register | Register of Sheep and Goat flocks and numbers in December | NI | June/Dec Agricultural and Horticultural Survey |
| Water Quality Archive | Water quality monitoring data | NI | NI Environmental Statistics Report |
| Groundwater Monitoring Database | Monitoring of groundwater data | NI | NI Environmental Statistics Report |
| Industrial Consents Database | Records of consented industrial and private sewage discharges | NI | NI Environmental Statistics Report |
| Pollution Incidents (PILOTS) | Details of water pollution incidents recorded throughout Northern Ireland | NI | NI Environmental Statistics Report |
| Water Service Discharge Database | Monitoring data for Sewage Treatment Works and their discharge | NI | NI Environmental Statistics Report |
| Private Water Supplies Database | Private Water Supplies Databases (water quality monitoring data and private water supplies register) | NI | NI Environmental Statistics Report |
| Air Quality Monitoring Statistics | Air Quality Monitoring Statistics | NI | NI Environmental Statistics Report |
| WasteDataFlow | Data on municipal waste collection and management | NI | NI Municipal Waste Management Statistics |
| Carrier Bag Levy returns | Number of carrier bags dispensed in NI to facilitate collection of levy | NI | NI Carrier Bag Levy annual statistics |

**Change management**

When changes to administrative systems are considered, statistical staff are consulted as part of the change management process.

**Data access**

Statistical staff are granted continual, but limited, access to the administrative systems. The information extracted contains only the relevant data and statistical staff have no authority to directly alter any data contained within the systems. They can, however inform the administrative system managers of any errors they uncover, to aid in the overall system maintenance.

A data extraction facility is available to allow statistical staff to extract the relevant data, ad hoc, from the APHIS data. This reduces the involvement of the system administrators and ensures the data is comparable with previous extractions.

For all databases in relation to the NI Environmental Statistics Report, a download or analysis is specified by statistical staff when required, and then run on request. For the WasteDataFlow system, statistical staff are registered users and can log in directly to the system to download data as required.

**Data quality**

A rolling review of data quality is conducted with both credibility and logical checks performed.

Permission to use APHIS, in place of surveys, to provide statistical data on cattle populations (as required under Council Directive 93/24/EC) was granted in 2007 following an application made to Eurostat by the UK.

When downloads or analyses are received for NI Environmental Statistics Report and waste management statistics report, the following processes are undertaken: (i)comparison with relevant data sources; (ii) analysis of trends; (iii) checking that values fall within acceptable ranges; (iv) checking internal consistency and reliability of the data and (v) consulting with policy colleagues.

**Security**

The data is accessible only through secure Departmental desktop computers. Staff permission to access administration systems is subject to twice yearly review.

**Other administrative sources**

There are no additional administration systems with the potential to reduce the compliance burden on data providers.