

Census and sample in Capital Surveys in Brazil

Katherine Hennings*

Central Bank of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil katherine.hennings@bcbr.gov.br

Thiago Said Vieira

Central Bank of Brazil, Brasilia, Brazil thiago.vieira@bcbr.gov.br

The long Brazilian dependence on foreign savings to foster its economic growth obliged the government not only to impose strict controls on but also to establish a system for registering foreign capital flows and position. Parallel to the liberalization of flows, the purpose of controls became only statistical and the nature of data collected changed. In this scenario, foreign capital surveys in the country were resumed. In the latest surveys, the method of collection has changed significantly, from paper to online responses. Recently, in the period between censuses, data collection has been complemented by samples. This article aims to give an overview of the system by which statistics of flows and positions of different capital modalities - foreign and domestic – are collected. In the sequence, it describes the method utilized in the census surveys and its evolution to the samples, as well as the imputation of the data. An analysis of the series resulting from each process is provided to illustrate the differences and the results.

Key words: foreign investment, collection of statistics, measurement of investment position, communication of statistics