

PRESS RELEASE

29 October 2020

Through this press release, the Director-General of INSEE wants to inform readers about how the Institute will carry out its missions during this second lockdown period, given that remote working has once again become the general rule for staff.

In terms of registers

INSEE aims to perform all its registers maintenance tasks as normal, both in terms of the National Register for the Identification of Natural Persons (RNIPP) and the National Register for Companies and their Establishments (SIRENE).

In terms of statistical production

INSEE aims to stick to its publication schedule for the majority of the short-term economic indicators and the national accounts as planned, similar to what was done during the first lockdown.

When necessary, these indicators will be published together with methodological caveats that may be linked to disruptions in the provision of data or precautions regarding the interpretation of the numbers.

- Business surveys will be continued, but we should expect a drop in response rates.
- Household surveys conducted face-to-face will be suspended; all these surveys will
 therefore be conducted by telephone or via the Internet, which may also have
 consequences for the response rates. The same applies to price surveys conducted in the
 field, at least initially.
- **Some indicators** may not be relevant during the lockdown, for example, the unemployment rate as defined by the ILO given that some criteria (actively seeking employment and availability to take up employment) have been necessarily altered.

As in the spring, INSEE will increase the frequency of some of its publications so as to report on the demographic and economic situation as soon as possible:

- Death statistics will once again be published on a weekly basis;
- The frequency of the economic outlook reports will once again be twice-monthly until the end of next year; the next

report is scheduled for mid-November.

INSEE will continue to conduct specific surveys: the monthly Acemo Covid business survey launched in conjunction with DARES in April; some specific questions in the monthly household survey. INSEE is also involved in the second wave of the Epicov survey, which is jointly managed by INSERM and DREES.

The press office remains available to journalists <u>via email</u> for any additional information and explanations regarding the INSEE statistics and studies. bureau-de-presse@insee.fr