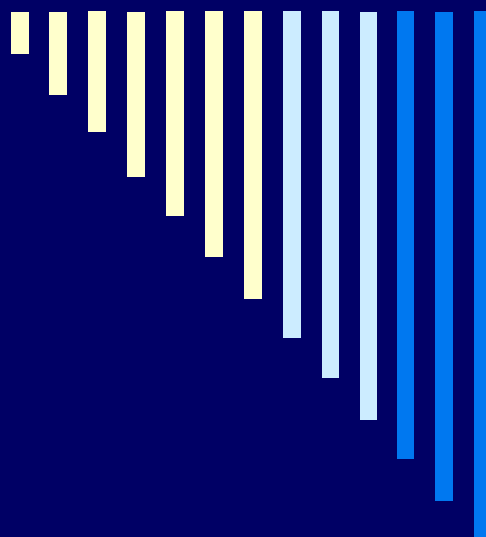


Statistics Netherlands - Division for Social and Spatial Statistics
P.O. Box 4000
2270 JM Voorburg
NETHERLANDS

Phone: 00 31 337 5715
Fax: 00 31 337 5798
E-mail: plan@cbs.nl



Record Linking as a Shared Service

Methods and Organisation at Statistics Netherlands



Paul van der Laan
Statistics Netherlands

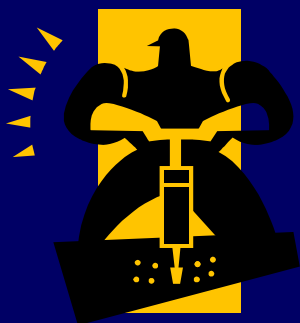


Helsinki, 10 February 2005



Driving forces

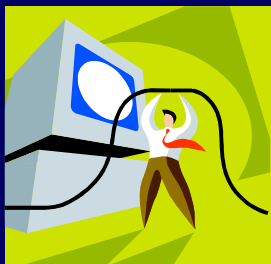
- More coherence, more detail and more flexibility in statistical output, i.e. a better product
- Cut down statistical processing costs: multi-data-source statistics; efficient sampling
- Minimise reporting burden caused by official statistics: once-only data supply
- High non-response rates in surveys





Data environment

- Government data management:
Towards 'authentic' registers
- Threat for Statistics Netherlands: More
and more organisations can produce
'statistics'
- Official statistics must demonstrate an
added value for society





Social statistics data collection strategy

- Start from 'authentic' registers
- Supplement with other administrative data
- Supplement with business and household surveys
- Link all data sources at the micro-level
- Create a 'data clearing-house' within the statistical office



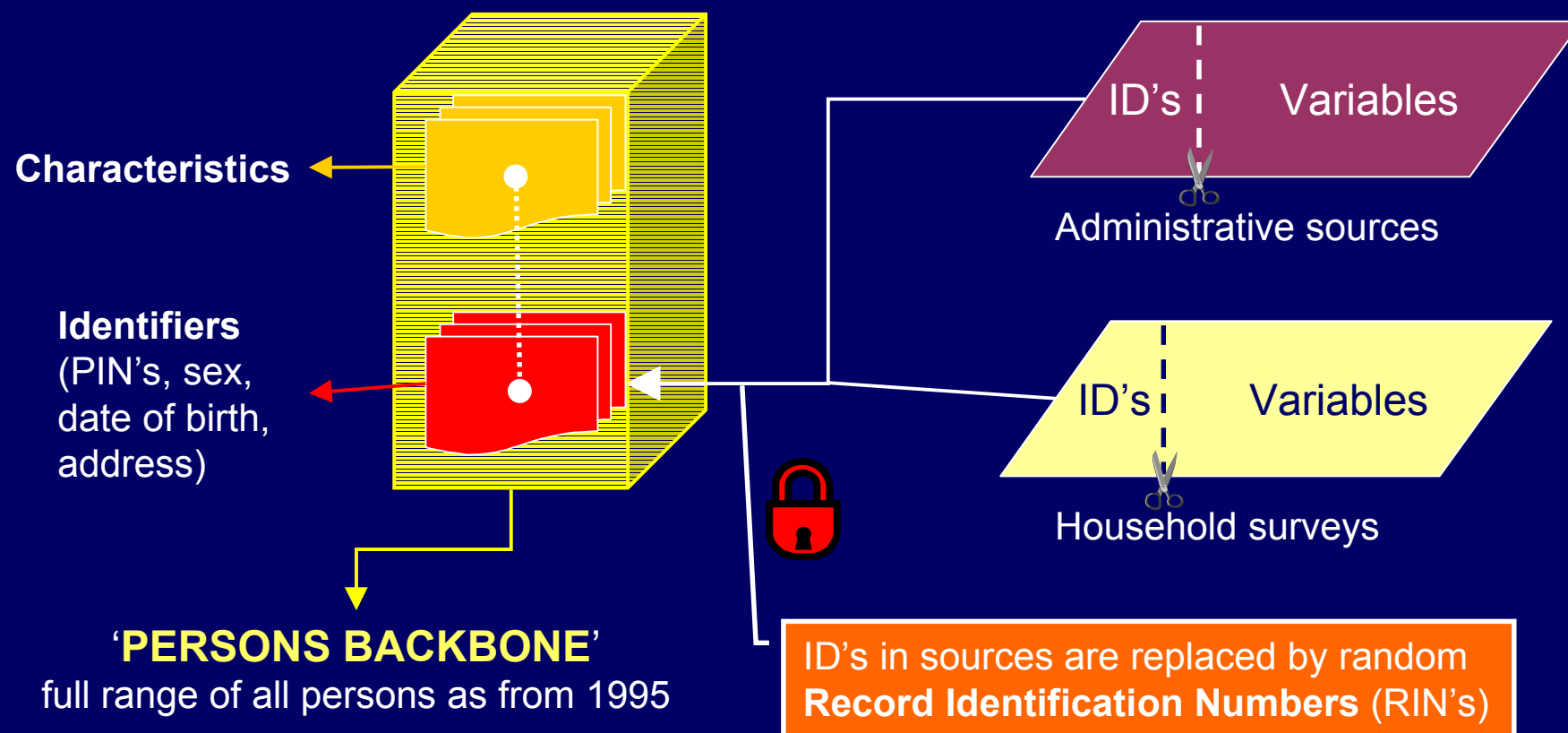


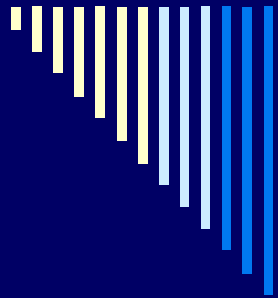
Personal identifiers

- Population Register: A-number and Sofi-number
- Education: Education number (= Sofi-number)
- Work and income: Sofi-number
- Health care: Care identification number
- As from 2007: Citizen Service Number (= Sofi-number?)



Linking data sources



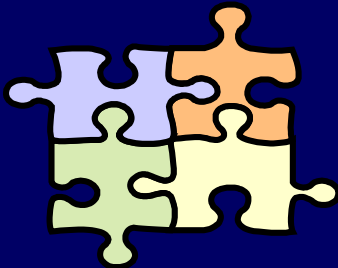


Results of the record linking process

- Statistical file + Record Identification Number **RINS**

- File with all personal identifiers + Record Identification Number **RINI**

- File which links **RINI** and **RINS**

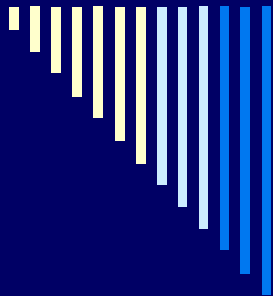




Conclusions

- Record linking increases
 - The relevance of social statistics
 - The possibilities for social policy research
 - The efficiency of statistics production
 - The accuracy of statistical outputs
- Record linking diminishes the administrative burden
- Safeguarding confidentiality is vital for the whole process of record linking





Thank you for your attention!

