

NAPCS Implementation in the Economic Census: BLS Perspectives

David Friedman

Assistant Commissioner for Industrial Prices &
Price Indexes

Federal Economic Statistics Advisory
Committee

June 14, 2013



BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

www.bls.gov

General Reactions

- General agreement with recommendations of Interagency Product Coding team
 - ▶ Apply consistent product coding and presentations
 - ▶ Tabulate industry & product data in matrix format
 - ▶ Use consistent, systematic distribution of non-sample and nonresponse product data
- Concerns about consistent coding approach chosen, especially within Producer Price Index program

BLS Use of NAPCS

- Unlikely to shift to NAPCS for publishing of current commodity-based products
- Some programs, such as productivity, look forward to the flexibility that NAPCS implementation may provide, especially productivity statistics
- PPI is the program with most impacts and concerns – dealing with potential loss of primary/secondary products

PPI Challenges

- Loss of primary/secondary products for Mining & Manufacturing – Census plans will be expensive, requiring more resources for us to approach this like we do now for Census services data
- Impact on PPI sampling
- Impact on selected PPI data users if we are no longer able to produce primary and secondary net output industry price indexes

BLS/PPI Needs

- Concordances between NAPCS-based product codes and former NAICS-based product classes/codes
- Clear/consistent guidelines/business rules for industry code assignment and designation of significant products across Census/BLS/BEA
- Aggregate value information from Census on significant products of an industry and % of revenue by product by industry

Other considerations

- Time series continuity down to at least 7-digit product class level
- May lead to reconsideration of need for PPI to continue to produce primary and secondary products aggregations
- Emphasis on transparency for data users – adequate documentation

Contact Information

David Friedman
Assistant Commissioner, PPI

www.bls.gov/ppi

202-691-6307

Friedman.David@bls.gov



www.bls.gov