Access to official statistics from R: part II

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Abstract

Providing smooth and easy access to official statistics is of utmost importance for Statistical Institutes and their users. In previous years we analysed the software landscape currently available to endusers to access official statistics data and metadata from R [1] and broader in a FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) perspective [2]. These analyses were based on the awesome list of official statistics software [3], which contains more than 30 software packages in this category. One of the conclusions was that there is currently no 'one-for-all' software package for access to all official statistics. In addition, a number of generally features were identified from the available software packages that could be used as input for such solution.

In this talk we go one step further. Based on an update of the earlier analysis, we design a preliminary setup where the features identified can be offered on as many data providers as possible with a maximum re-use of existing solutions and a minimum of additional maintenance. A smoke test of relevant software packages from the awesome list is part of the work. This will help decide on the feasibility of different design choices that can be made. In this presentation we will present the results, the successes and thoughts on a possible ways forward, with a special focus on FAIRness of official statistics for the R user.

References

- [1] Bosch, O. ten, Jonge, E., Access to official statistics from R: an overview, uRos 2023, Bucharest
- [2] Bosch, O. ten, Jonge, E., Laloli H. *To be FAIR, what is missing in Official Statistics?*, Conference On Smart Metadata for Official Statistics (COSMOS 2024), April, 11-12, 2024, Paris, France
- [3] http://awesomeofficialstatistics.org