Access to European Statistical System microdata – an overview

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Objective of the presentation

To present the ESS microdata access system:

- Data
- Modes of access
- Procedures
- Users
- Outcomes
- Work in progress

Outline

1. Microdata sets available
2. Modes of access
3. Microdata access workflow
4. Research entities
5. Research proposals
6. Recent achievements and plans for 2017

Microdata access at the EU level

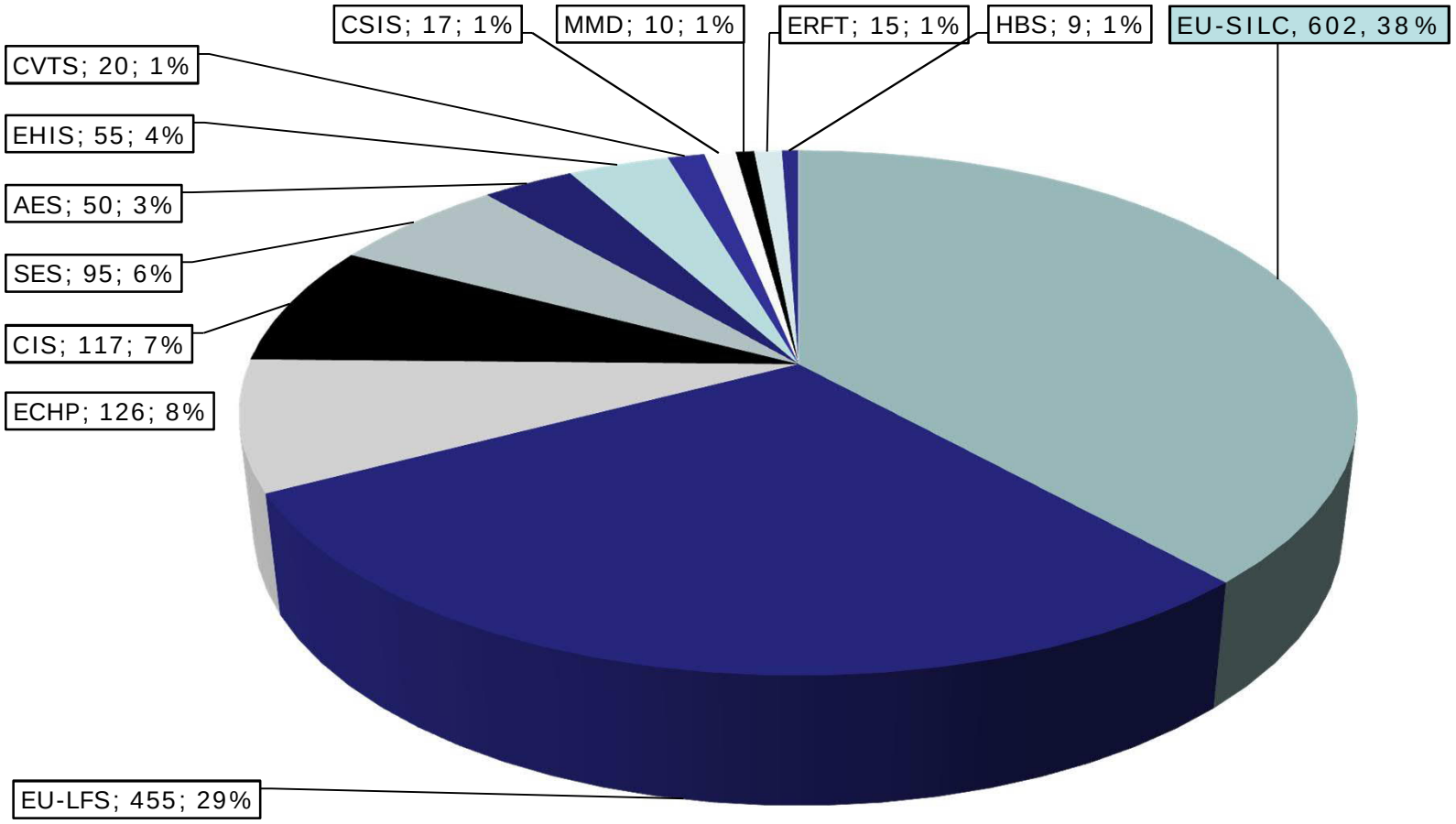
- New rules since July 2013
- Objective: wider access to EU microdata

1. Microdata sets available

ESS microdata for scientific purposes

1. European Community Household Panel
2. European Union Labour Force Survey
3. Community Innovation Survey
4. European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions
5. Structure of Earnings Survey
6. Adult Education Survey
7. European Road Freight Transport Survey
8. European Health Interview Survey
9. Continuing Vocational Training Survey
10. Community Statistics on Information Society
11. Micro-Moments Dataset
12. Household Budget Survey 2010 (since September 2016)

Use of microdata sets



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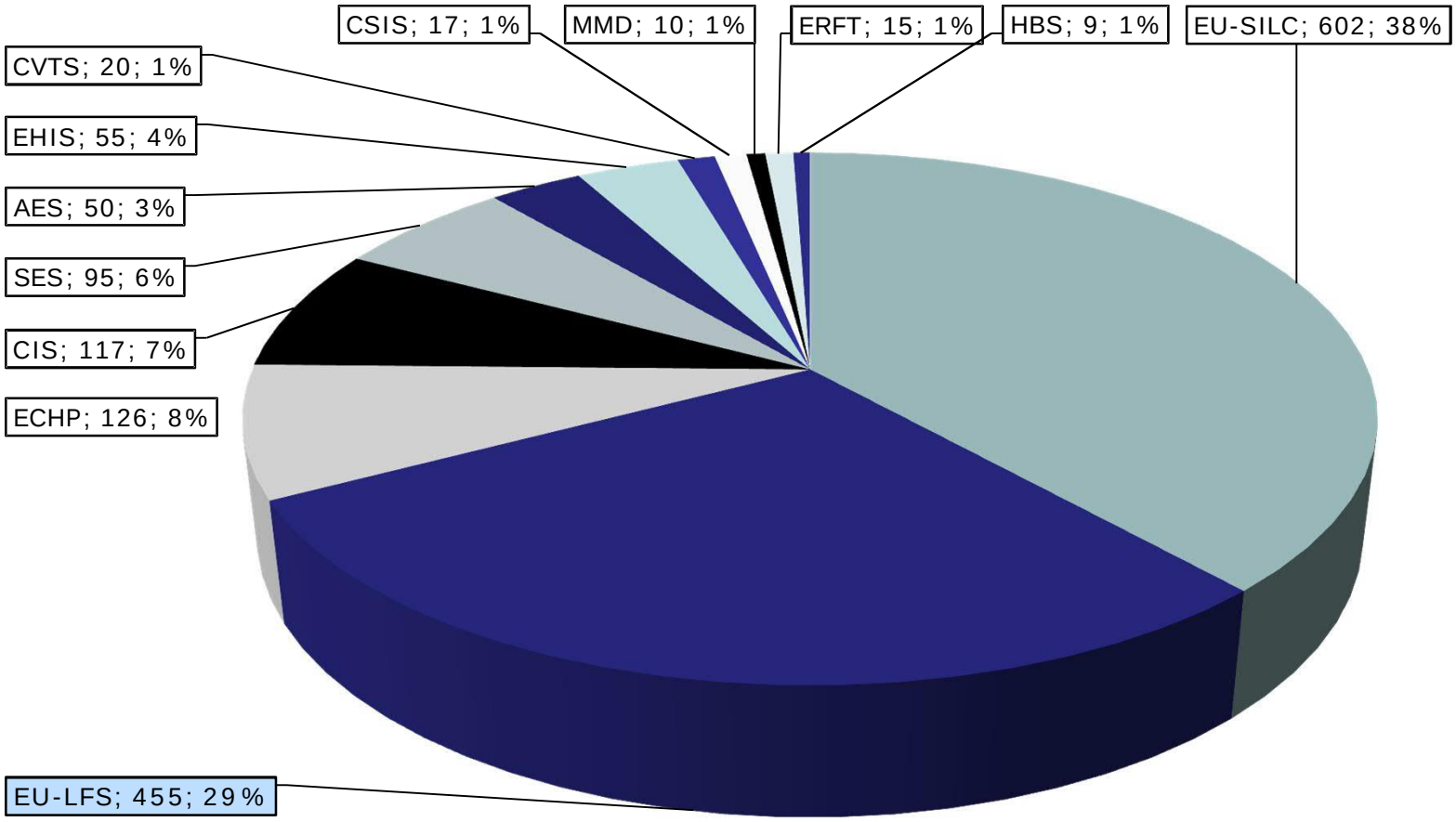

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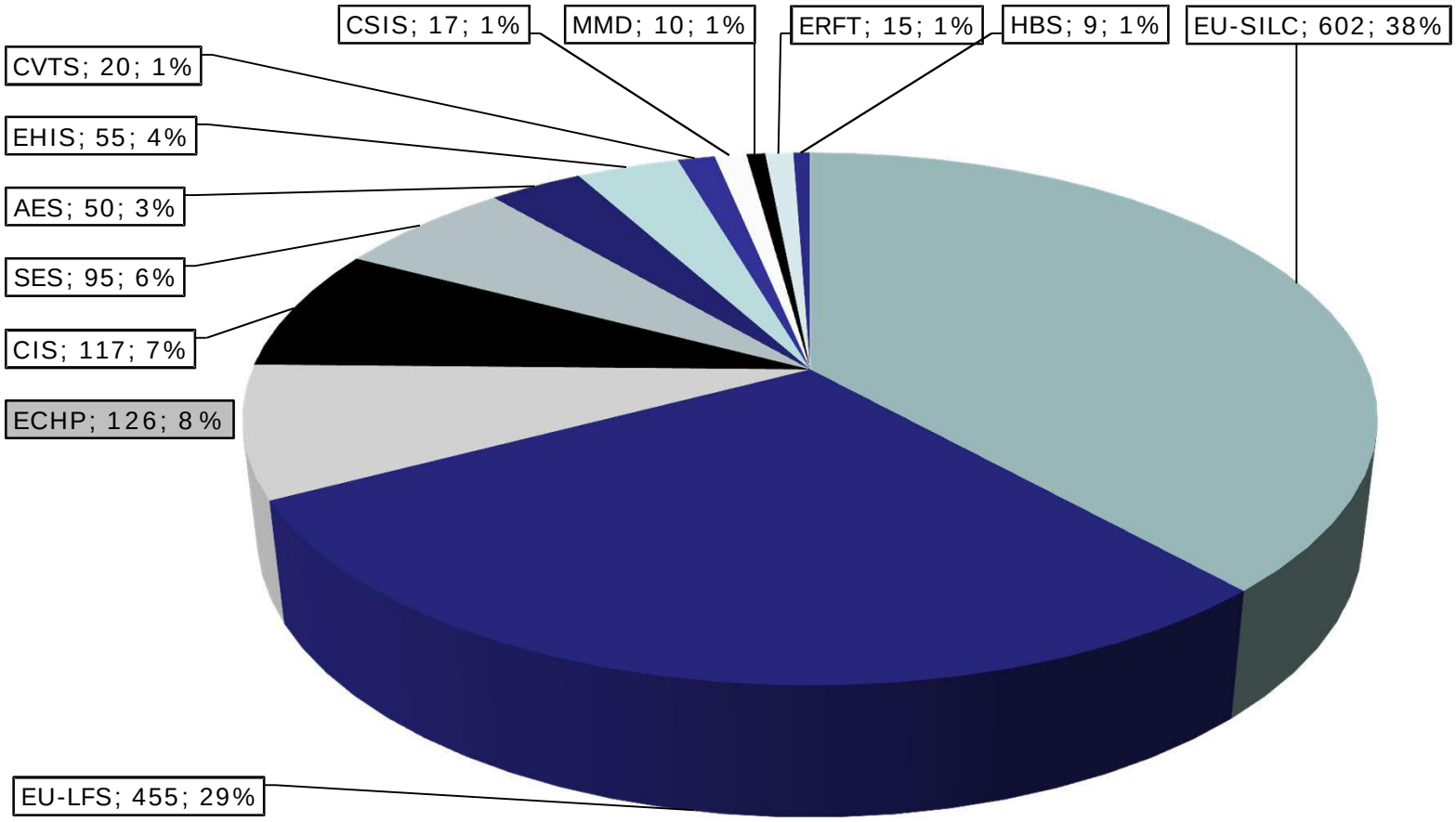

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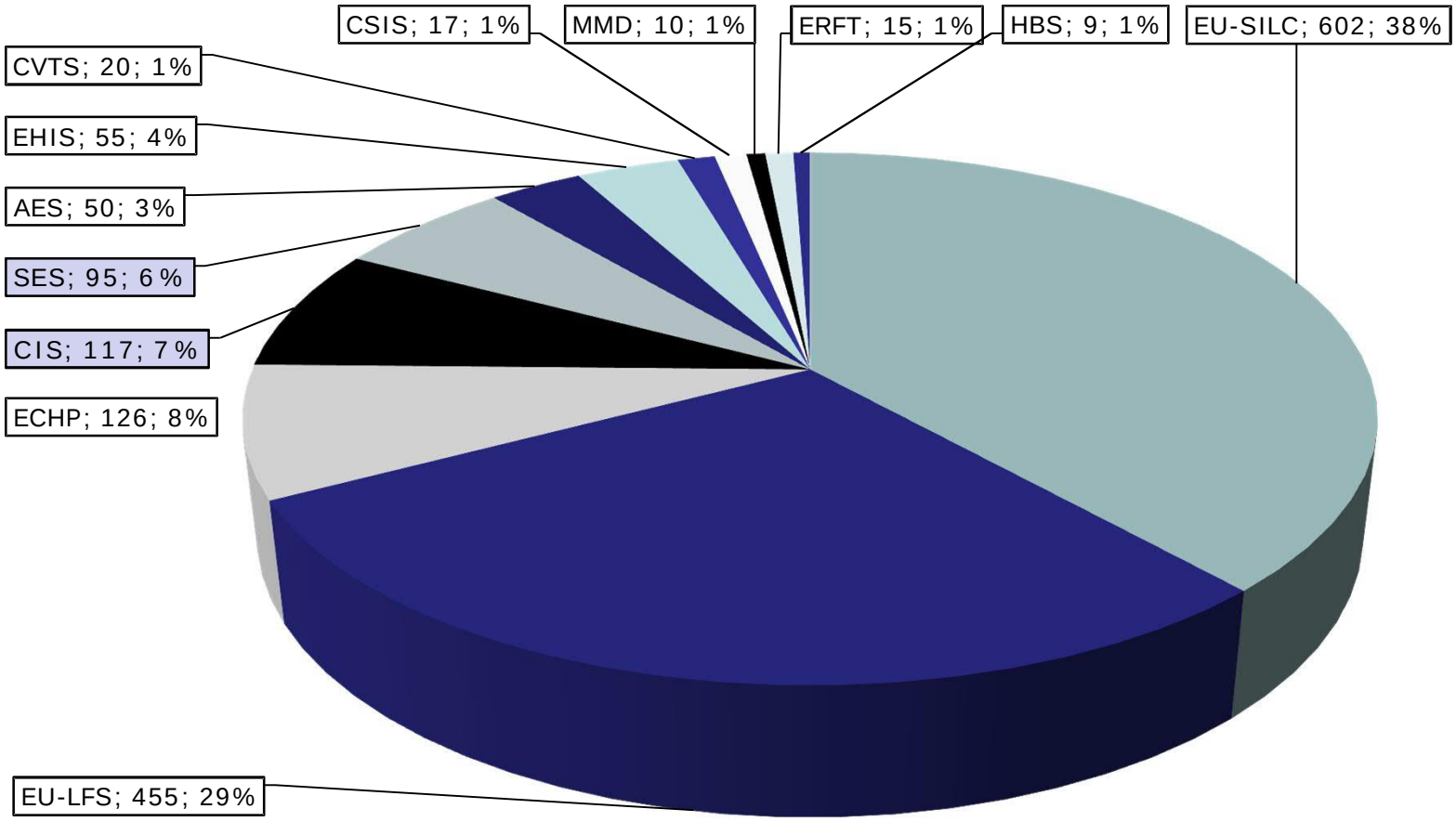

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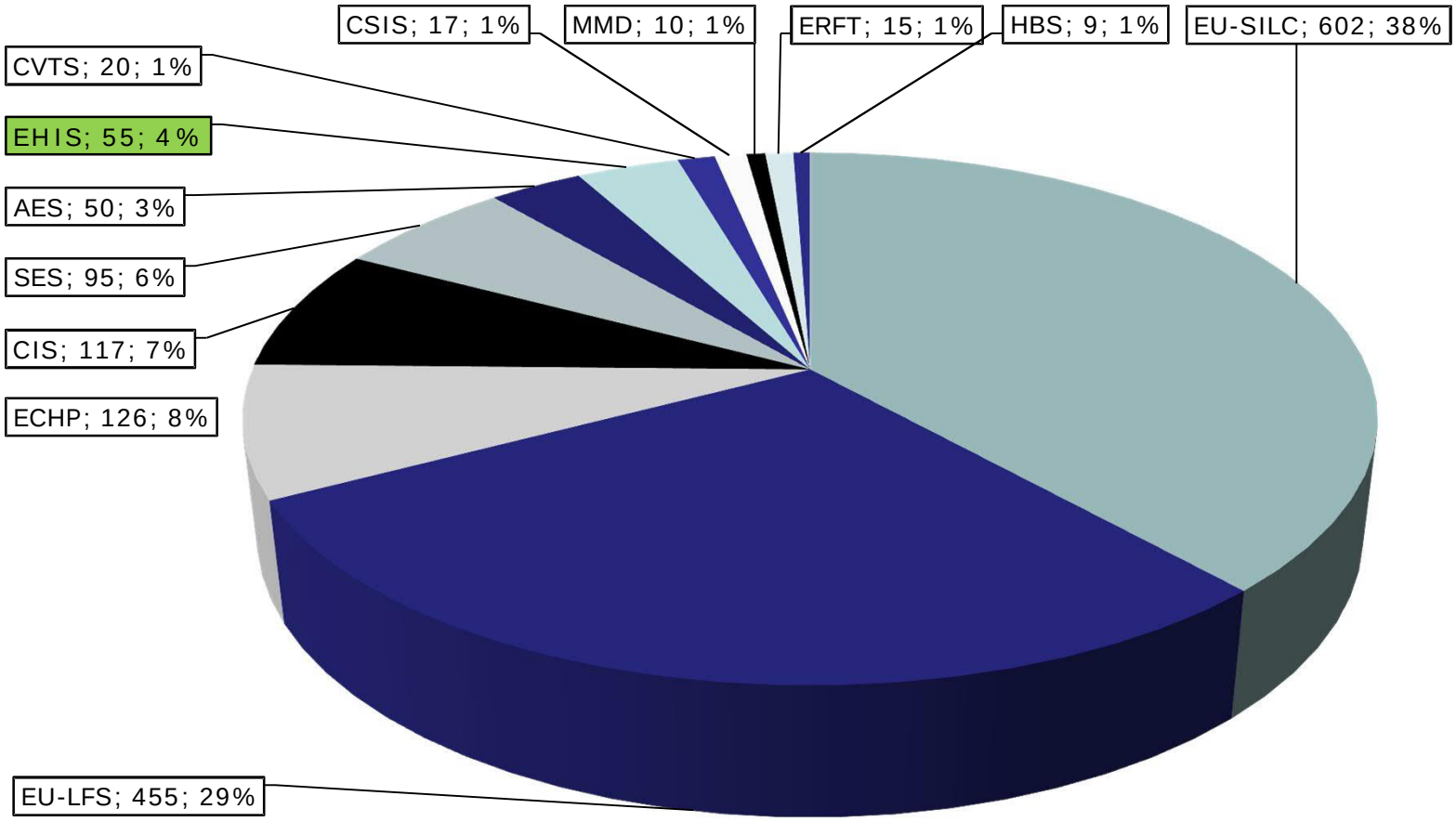
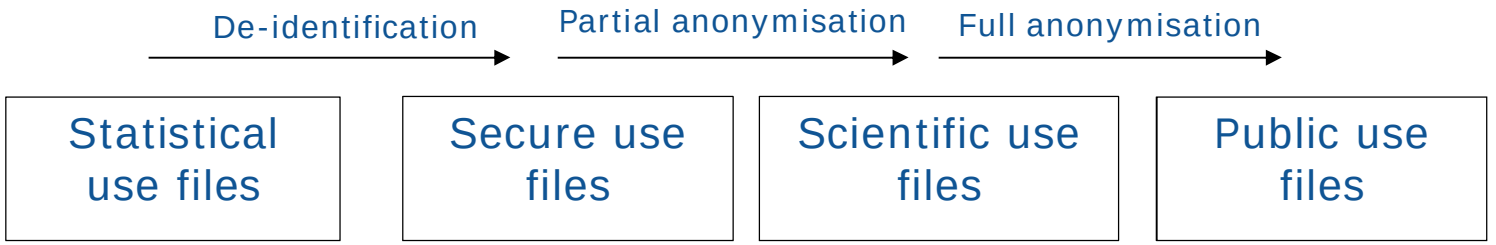
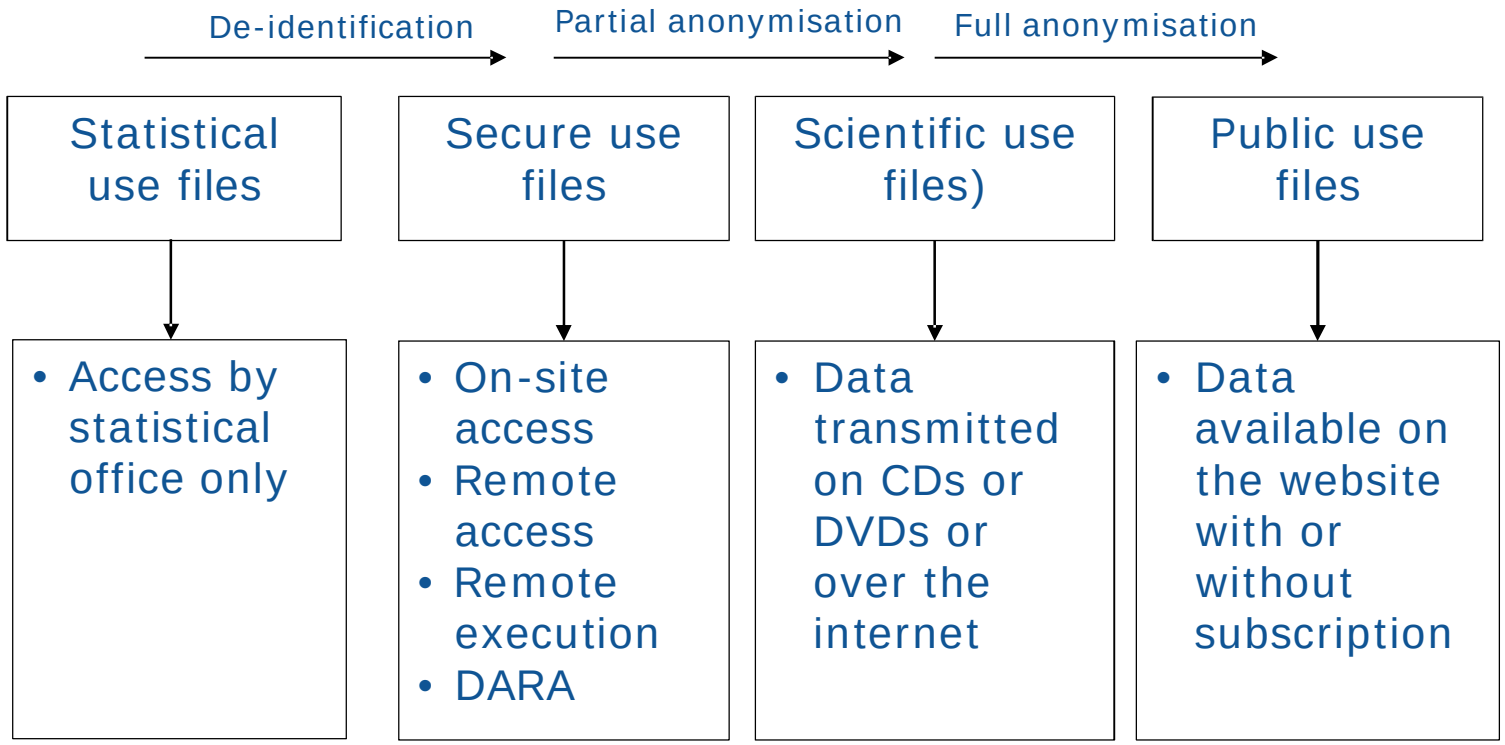


2. Modes of access

Data anonymisation



Anonymised datasets and modes of access



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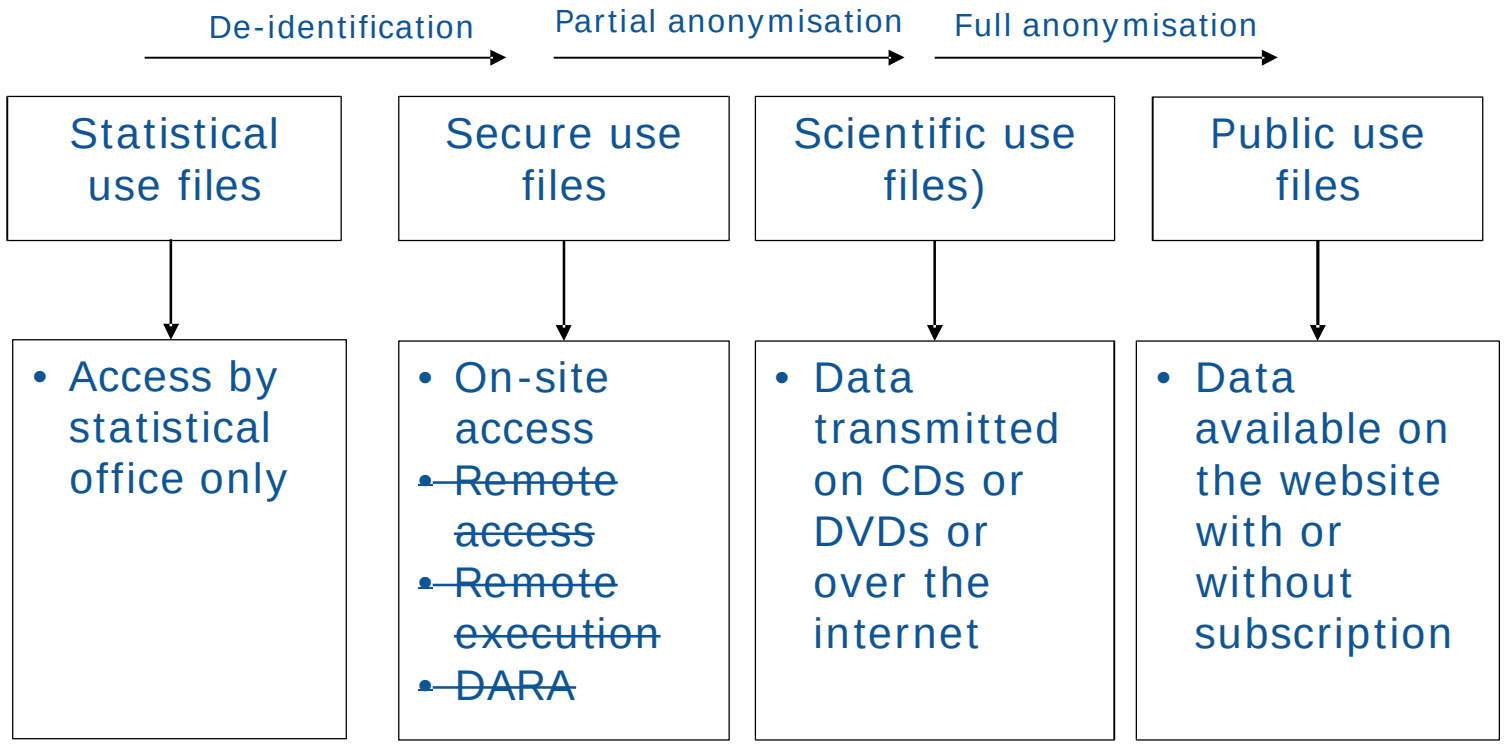

Types of microdata

	Secure use files (CIS, SES, MMD)	Scientific use files (all except MMD)	Public use files (EU-SILC, EU-LFS)
Criteria	Approved research proposal	Approved research proposal	–
Access	In Eurostat safe centre	At researchers' workplace	Public
Data preparation	Only direct identifiers removed	Partial anonymisation (variables grouped together, rounded, swapped or suppressed)	Data fully anonymised
Identification	Possible	Possible but difficult	Impossible

3. Microdata access workflow

Step 1
Institutional level
(1 month)

Recognition of the research entity (institutional eligibility)

Is the entity doing research? (eligible to ask for access to microdata?)

Step 2
Researchers
(2 months)

Research proposals

Is the request for access well justified?

Eurostat

National statistical authorities
(4 weeks)

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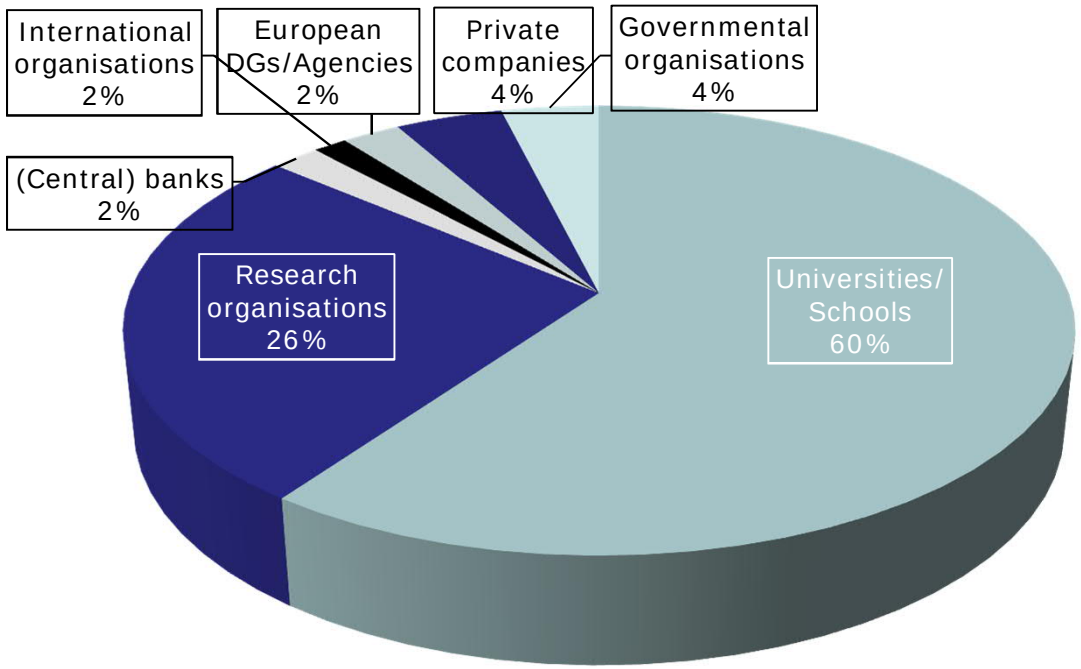
4. Research entities

Eligible institutions are:

- Doing research
- Making their results public
- Independent
- Safe

- 620 entities recognized on 27/03/2017 (779 applications received since 2013)

Recognised research entities, by entity type



5. Research proposals

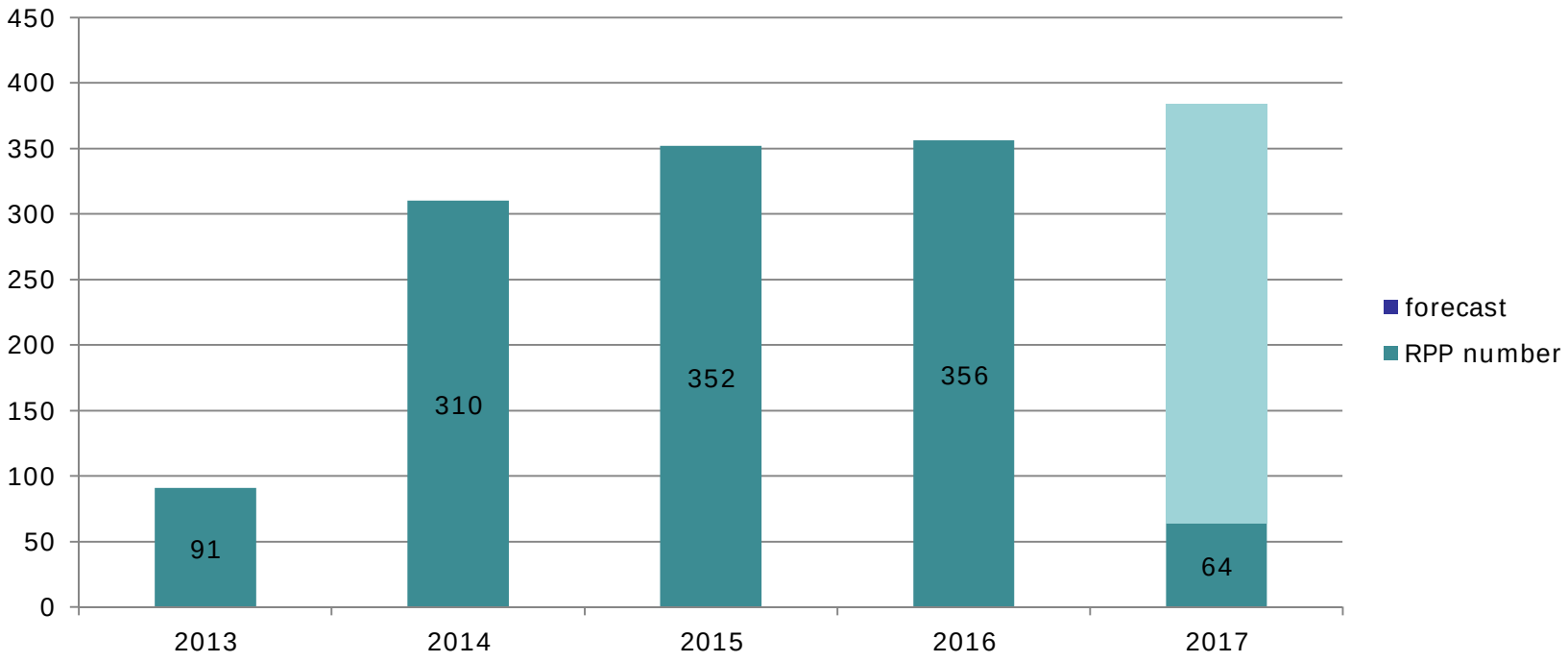
Eligible research proposal

- Scientific purpose well described
- Need for microdata justified
- Research results made public
- Data security measures in place

Assessment of research project proposal (RPP)

- Eurostat:
  - Microdata access team: initial check
  - Technical units: is the microdata appropriate for the planned research
- MS: 4 weeks

Number of research proposals received (2013-2016)



Research subjects 2016: LFS

- Labour market studies
- Impact of migration
- Skills
- Gender studies
- Hours worked
- Inequalities
- Employment
- Job satisfaction

Research subjects 2016: EU-SILC

- Economic studies
- Impact of crisis on households situation
- (income, ethnic, geographical) inequalities
- Labour market studies
- (in work) poverty
- Mobility in Europe
- Euromod / tax-benefits models
- Wages, incomes
- Well-being, housing
- Youth

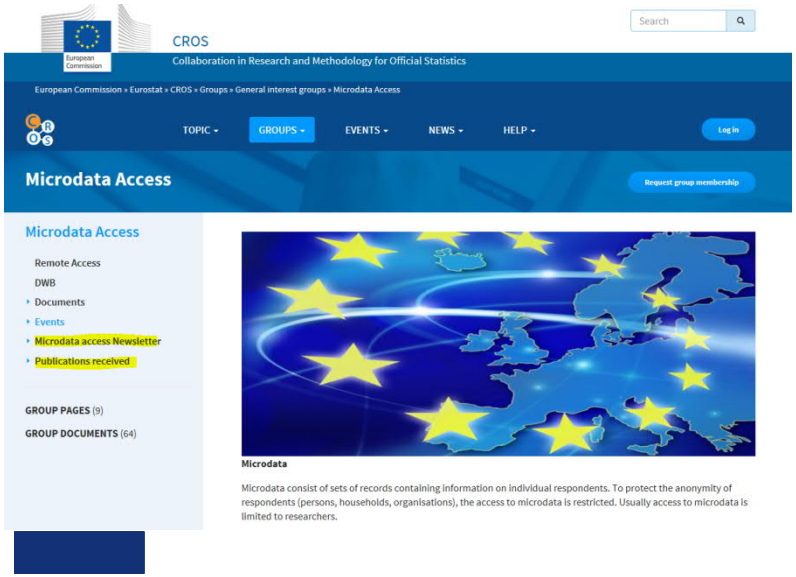
6. Recent achievements and plans for 2017

Achievements 2016 (1): new data

- Public use files
  - for EU-SILC (2012-2013) and EU-LFS (2013)
  - for DE, FI, HU, NL, SI
  - https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/
    Topics, A-Z, Access to microdata, Public use files for Eurostat microdata)
- Household Budget Survey 2010 available for scientific purposes

Achievements 2016 (2): process improvements

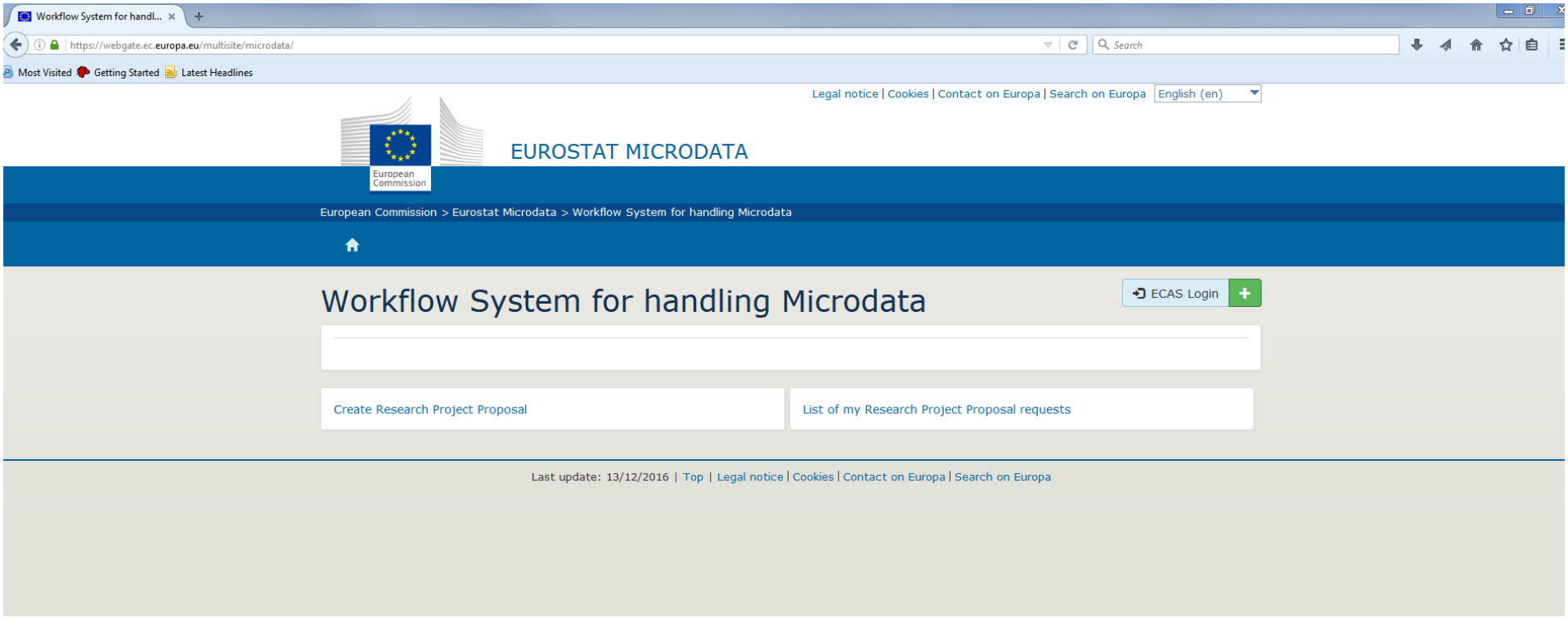
- Self-study material for microdata users
  - http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/microdata/overview/self-study-material-for-microdata-users
- New contract templates for non-EU entities
- On CROS portal:
  - Newsletters
  - Database with publications written using ESS microdata



Achievements 2016 (3): IT

- Workflow tool and webforms replacing Word microdata applications in (since January 2017)
- Pilot on SFTP (secure file transfer protocol) transmission of LFS 2015 data

Workflow tool



https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/multisite/microdata/

Plans for 2017

- PUFs: all countries EU-SILC and EU-LFS
- First meeting of the microdata access network group – June 2017
- Collaboration with Council of European Social Science Data Archives - CESSDA (entry point for national microdata access systems)

- Table builder allowing tailored tabulations (confidentiality on the fly)

Thank you for your attention!

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