The ESIEC and Survey Methodology

The Enterprise Survey for Innovation and Entrepreneurship in China (ESIEC) is a field survey of Chinese private enterprises conducted by the Center for Enterprise Research of Peking University over three consecutive years (2017, 2018, and 2019). Based on a random sampling of enterprises with business registration, the survey previously interviewed nearly 10,000 new private enterprises in seven provinces from 2010 to 2017, collecting information such as start-up history and business operations. Following the coronavirus outbreak, the ESIEC Project Alliance (formed by Peking University, Central University of Finance and Economics, Harbin Institute of Technology – Shenzhen Campus, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, and Shanghai University of International Business and Economics) conducted a special survey on the survival of small, medium, and micro enterprises under coronavirus conditions. A total of 2,726 samples were collected (including 2,349 from previous ESIEC sample and 377 online responses). As shown in Figure 1, the industry distribution of the collected samples is about the same as that of the total data. At the industry level, these samples are to reasonably representative of small, medium, and micro enterprises in China.

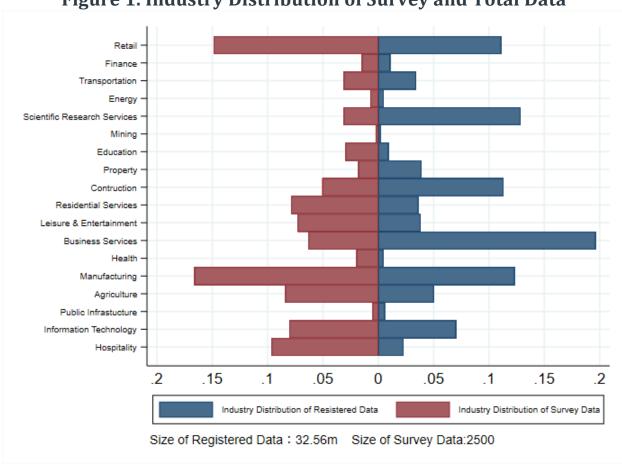


Figure 1. Industry Distribution of Survey and Total Data

Note: Authors' calculations based on survey and business registration data.