Constructing Supply and use tables in current and constant prices: the Australian experience

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In Australia, the compilation of Input-Output tables as part of national accounts go back to the sixties. From 1998 onwards, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) set up a new integrated system, based on supply and use tables in both current and constant prices. The introduction of supply and use tables has improved the quality of the national accounts as well as the IOTs estimates. The main reason for this change is that the supply and use provide a superior integration framework. They provide a closer link with source statistics such as on production and foreign trade statistics, data on capital and consumption formation and maybe even more important, with prices statistics. This paper provides an overview of how the ABS construct supply and use tables in current and constant prices and discusses some of the challenges in the construction of these tables.