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Economic analysis of both actual and potential future benefits from space activities and applications to
nations and peoples. (3)

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STATISTICS AND THEMATIC SATELLITE ACCOUNTS FOR MEASURING THE SPACE
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Abstract

The space sector is transforming at an extremely rapid pace. In the context of the covid pandemic, but also critical environmental and societal issues, like climate change or the digitalisation of the economy, space has an ever more important role to play. Robust and reliable data are needed to both measure and monitor the trends of the Space Economy. As current datasets rely on industry survey and bottom-up analysis of the various segments that make the space value chain, some gaps remain, as well as continuous debate about the actual size of the Space Economy. While the gathered data provide strong segment insights across the space industry, it also displays shortcomings in terms of how space contributes to the overall economy, especially through comparable indicators such as output, gross value-added or employment. Thematic satellite accounts are a complementary set of statistics within the central framework of national accounts. They allow to highlight specific sectors of the economy that may not be obvious to find in the core set by identifying and quantifying relevant commodities across industries. This paper aims at presenting the potential of satellite account approaches for measuring and monitoring the Space Economy. It highlights the current state of play but also the wide range of potential analyses of using existing statistics to provide data on the space sector and its contribution to the economy and industries.