

STATISTICAL SERVICE OF CYPRUS

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 2025

GOAL: PROVISION OF HIGH-QUALITY INFORMATION IN AN INDEPENDENT, TRANSPARENT, RELIABLE AND TIMELY MANNER

CURRENT STATUS:

The Statistical Service is the competent authority for the development, production and dissemination of official statistics in the country. Its functions and responsibilities are governed by the Official Statistics Law of 2021 (Law No. 25(I)/2021). Its core activity is the carrying out of censuses, sample surveys and statistical enquiries with respect to any economic, demographic, social, environmental or agricultural matter. The objective is to serve the needs of the state for statistical information for the purpose of policy formulation, evidence-based decision making and monitoring and control, as well as the needs of the business world, the social partners, the academic and research community, the media and the public in general. The Statistical Service acts as a coordinator of the national statistical system, which includes the other national authorities producing official statistics and as a technical advisor to other public bodies undertaking statistical work directly related to their areas of competence.

As provided in the Official Statistics Law, the Statistical Service compiles multiannual and annual programmes of statistical activities, which constitute the framework for fulfilling the objectives and actions envisaged. It is worth noting that around 90% of the work foreseen stems from obligations laid down in the EU statistical acquis and needs to be performed on the basis of uniform standards and harmonized methods.

The vision of the Statistical Service is to be a model organisation, to which everybody looks to for high quality statistical information. In this respect, the Statistical Service strives to comply with the principles set out in the European Statistics Code of Practice, such as relevance, accuracy, timeliness, punctuality, accessibility and clarity, comparability and coherence. The ultimate objective is to ensure public trust in the statistics produced. Minimising the burden on respondents and limiting the costs of statistical production and, at the same time, keeping the quality high (including meeting the ever increasing user needs for new data) is another challenge that needs to be specifically addressed. Initiatives are in place that aim at a wider use of administrative data sources and the introduction of alternative/new methods of data collection and processing.

The Statistical Service is a member of the European Statistical System (ESS), which constitutes the partnership of Eurostat and the national statistical authorities of all EU Member States. In this capacity it undertakes to implement and take part in a wide range of ESS activities and to contribute to the common strategic challenges of identifying and responding to user needs, promoting the quality of European statistics, exploiting the potential of new data sources, investing in new IT tools and methodological development, implementing efficient and robust statistical processes and adopting dissemination and communication practices that are flexible and global.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Effective production of the statistical output and dissemination of high quality statistics, integrating European and national needs

The effective production of the statistical output and the dissemination of high quality statistics, integrating European and national needs, is being achieved through the following specific actions:

- Implementation of the annual and the multi-annual programmes of statistical activities, which include, amongst others, as key projects the dissemination of the results of the Census of Agricultural Holdings 2020 and the Census of Population and Housing 2021.
- Implementation of the provisions of the new legal framework provided by the Official Statistics Law of 2021.
- Functioning of the Statistical Council and the Committee on Coordination of Official Statistics.
- Continuous efforts to reduce response burden and contain the cost of production of statistics.
- Wider use of administrative data sources and of privately held data sets.
- Introduction of alternative/new ways of data collection and processing.
- Setting up of a Statistical Data Warehouse, in the context of extending the Government Data Warehouse (GDW).
- Systematic assessment of users' data needs.
- Designation of standardized processes and introduction of a core system of quality management for all statistical products.
- Improvement of the quality of statistical output.
- Dissemination of the statistical output in a user-friendly manner.
- Upgrading of the security of IT systems.
- Protection of personal data collected for statistical purposes.
- Active contribution to the activities of the European Statistical System.
- Cooperation with Eurostat, other EU Member States, various international organisations and national stakeholders.
- Cooperation with the academic and research community.
- Training of staff in new statistical methods and processes and development of their skills and know-how.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

Goal (G)/Activity(A)	Performance Indicator	Value of the Indicator	Description
G01: Provision of high-quality information in an independent, transparent, reliable and timely manner	PIG01: Degree of overall satisfaction (%) of the users of statistical data	2021: 76,2% 2019: 80,9% 2018: 70,6% 2017: 73,7% 2016: 84,3% 2014: 82,8%	The Statistical Service carries out on a regular basis a Users' Satisfaction Survey during the last quarter of the year. The survey is conducted online through the web portal of the Statistical Service or by sending the questionnaire via e-mail to frequent users of statistical data. In particular, one of the questions asks users to rate their overall satisfaction with the information and the services they receive from the Statistical Service. The indicator measures the number of users who said they were very satisfied or satisfied with the information and services they received from the Statistical Service in relation to the total number of users who responded to the Users' Satisfaction Survey.
A01: Effective production of the statistical output and dissemination of high quality statistics, integrating European and national needs	PIA01: Degree of compliance (%) with European requirements for statistical data	2021: 95,0% 2020: 93,0% 2019: 94,2% 2018: 95,8% 2017: 95,0% 2016: 94,5% 2014: 89,2%	European statistics account for around 90% of all statistics produced and disseminated by the Statistical Service. The transmission of these statistics to the European Commission (Eurostat) is done through the online platform eDAMIS (electronic Data files Administration and Management Information System), which acts as the single-entry point for the submission of statistical data to Eurostat. The indicator measures the number of datasets that were transmitted via eDAMIS to the EU as a proportion of all the datasets that were expected to be transmitted to the EU under legal cover during the reference year. Date of retrieval of the information from the eDAMIS platform: 12/7/2022.