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## ARGENTINA

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Reporting: **Verónica Beritich**

### **2022 Census: The INDEC presented the final results on fertility**

The National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC) released more definitive results of the 2022 National Census of Population, Households and Dwellings. On this occasion, indicators compiled in a thematic publication on fertility are presented, with information on women aged 14 to 49 years.

This publication on fertility is added to those on Housing conditions of the population, households, and dwellings; population structure, by sex and age; collective housing and homeless population; health and social security; education; gender identity; migrations; economic characteristics of the population; indigenous population; and afro-descendant population.

- The 2022 Census counted 12,382,860 women between 14 and 49 years old: 57.5% had daughters and sons born alive. On average, each woman had 1.4 children in 2022.

- Santiago del Estero, Misiones and Formosa, with 1.7 children per woman, were the jurisdictions with the highest average number of children. Opposite, the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires had 0.9 children per woman. The provinces of Córdoba, Neuquén, Tierra del Fuego, Antarctica, and the South Atlantic Islands followed with 1.3.

- The percentage of women between 15 and 19 years old with daughters and sons born alive in 2022 had a very pronounced decrease compared to the results of the previous census: it went from 13.1% in 2010 to 6.4% in this census.

- Afro-descendant women had an average of 1.4 children; foreign women, 1.8; and indigenous women, 1.9.

- From the total number of women between 14 and 49 years old with incomplete secondary school, 84.6% had daughters or sons born alive. This percentage decreases with the educational level: From those with a complete or incomplete higher level, 64.6% had children born alive.

- Forty-two out of every 100 14-year-old women with daughters and sons responded that they were not attending an educational establishment in 2022. That number is reduced to 4 out of every 100 in women of the same age who declared that they did not have daughters and sons born alive.

- 71.8% of the women, aged between 30 and 34 years old who had daughters or sons born alive, were economically active and 88% of the women who did not have children.

General information can be found at [https://www.indec.gob.ar/ftp/cuadros/poblacion/censo2022\\_fecundidad.pdf](https://www.indec.gob.ar/ftp/cuadros/poblacion/censo2022_fecundidad.pdf)

For further information, please contact <https://www.indec.gob.ar/indec/web/Institucional-Indec-Contacto>.

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## CANADA

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Reporting: **Steve Matthews and François Brisebois**

### **Fasten your seat belt for Statistics Canada's Methodological Acceleration!**

A comprehensive review of the agency's activities and practices was conducted at Statistics Canada in the fall of 2022, in order to better understand and take stock of the investments made throughout its modernization journey up to now. This initiative required extensive agency-wide consultations and resulted in 12 strategic recommendations aimed at achieving efficiencies, mainly in the form of reduced costs for survey programs, for example through reducing manual processing and avoiding duplication of efforts.

*Methodological Acceleration* was the title given to one of these twelve recommendations centered around statistical methods. The motivation for this initiative comes from the need to take a significant step forward in the Agency's ability to effectively and quickly implement modern solutions to the data challenges of today and tomorrow. To propel the *Acceleration*, a series of six projects were launched in early 2023, each targeting different sources of potential efficiency. Three of these projects were more specifically associated with programs on social statistics and aimed to explore methodological solutions likely to improve the efficiency of data collection. The other three projects rather concerned processes common in the world of economic statistics, where here the efficiency gains would mainly come from a reduction in manual processing. These projects made it possible to concretely launch efforts aimed at efficiency and helped to design and define what is now known as the *Methodological Acceleration*. Although these proposed projects are evaluated in the context of very specific existing programs, they were each reviewed and developed from a horizontal perspective to potentially generate even greater efficiencies by applying the developed scalable solutions to multiple programs.

The first six projects were carried out within a year, from April of 2023 to March of 2024, and in that time each project first established baseline indicators linked to the targeted area of efficiency, then explored different solutions to achieve efficiencies, and finally provided recommendations on the implementation of the recommended solution, including indications on how it could be extended to other statistical programs.

At the end of this first exploration phase, four of the six projects concluded that the proposed idea could indeed generate efficiency gains and therefore recommended moving to the implementation phase. The current fiscal year will therefore include work aimed at these implementations, as well as the addition of a new series of projects to explore other new ideas that have potential for more efficiency gains across the various statistical programs of the agency. With the momentum gained in the first year, the plan is to keep our foot on the gas and continue to fuel the acceleration with new and innovative ideas.

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## CROATIA

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Reporting: **Ksenija Dumicic**

### **Generations and Gender Programme (GGP) Survey launched in Croatia in 2023 based on GGP Push-to-Web Experiment pilot study experience**

The Generations & Gender Programme (GGP), was launched in 2000 by the Population Unit of the UNECE and has been coordinated by the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI) since 2009. It is a large international demographic survey that provides harmonized, large-scale, longitudinal, cross-national panel data on individual life courses and family dynamics. Over time, the

GGP Survey follows respondents through relationships, marriages, parenthood, divorces, deaths, and many of the opportunities and challenges that people face along the way. The European Commission gave it the status of top research infrastructure. The GGP Survey in the second round (GGS-II) research methodology is generally explained by Gauthier et al. (2023), and The Technical Guidelines (Generations and Gender Programme, 2023), which specify that all data collections have to include a web component and might be a mixed-mode survey.

In Croatia, jointly with the NIDI, the institutions that worked on the GGS-II are the Central State Office for Demography and Youth, IPSOS Croatia, the University of Zagreb Faculty of Economics, and GGP Central Hub. The target population of the GGS-II round in Croatia is the resident non-institutionalized population within a specified age range of 18 to 54. The sampling frame was the list of residents provided by the Croatian Ministry of Interior Affairs. A random stratified sample with proportionate allocation across all 21 counties was applied, enabling the calculation of estimates for four NUTS 2 regions of Croatia. The gross sample was sufficient to achieve the aimed net sample size for Croatia of 5,000 as planned in Gauthier et al. (2023). The GGS Push-to-Web Experiment in the pilot study discovered that GGS in Croatia is feasible for Computer-Assisted Web Interviews (CAWI), and also looked to advance the knowledge on the introduction of an incentives approach. A questionnaire was sent on May 9, 2023, and over the course of seven months, more than 6,000 questionnaires were collected for an effective sample size. Response rate varies across countries, but was the highest in Croatia, being around 28%. Each respondent received an unconditional incentive of 6.64 euros. Minor adjustments in the survey design were made to make GGS-II more suitable for web interviews (Emery et al., 2023). The results of GGS-II Round, Wave 1, executed in Croatia in 2023 were presented on March 19, 2024, Croatian Large Families Association "Obitelji 3plus" (2024).

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## **ESTONIA**

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Reporting: **Ene-Margit Tiit**

### **Estonian Statistical Society conference "Science of Big Data"**

On 19 and 20 April 2024, the Estonian Statistical Society held a conference titled "Science of Big Data" ("Suurte andmete teadus") in Tartu. This was the thirty-first in a series of conferences organised by the Estonian Statistical Society, founded in 1992, and was dedicated to the 90th birthday of Ene-Margit Tiit, Professor Emeritus at the University of Tartu and a founding member of

the Society. The main organisers of the conference were Krista Fischer, Professor of Mathematical Statistics at the University of Tartu, and Terje Trasberg, team lead of population and education statistics at Statistics Estonia.

On the first day of the conference, Associate Professor Liina-Mai Tooding gave a historical overview of the development of data analysis at the University of Tartu, which began in the early 1960s when the university received a Ural-type mainframe computer that became an important tool for the statistical analysis of data collected in the university's research activities and the drawing of reliable conclusions. In her presentation, Dagmar Kutsar, Associate Professor in Social Policy, highlighted the reliability and truthfulness of the information and testimonies given in surveys by children, even though they are often mistakenly underestimated by researchers. Professor of Probability Theory Kalev Pärna spoke about the work of statisticians in estimating forest resources, which has been a topic of lively and popular discussion in Estonia for a number of years since Estonians as a forest people – forests cover more than 50% of the country's territory – are concerned about the future of forests. The presentations by Andres Võrk and Kadri Rootalu focused on the use of data and innovative models in labour and wage policy.

The last two presentations of the day covered linguistic statistics. Professor Mare Koit, laureate of the prestigious Wiedemann Language Prize, spoke about modelling the Estonian language and its history. The topic is particularly relevant today, on the one hand because of the topicality of large language models, and on the other because of the active language policy of the Estonian state – the introduction of a uniform Estonian-language education system. Estonian is probably one of the languages with the smallest number of speakers (less than 1 million) for which machine translation and speech synthesis models have been developed. A distinguished colleague, Professor Emeritus Esa Läärä (University of Oulu, Finland) compared the development and situation of statistics vocabulary in the Estonian and Finnish languages, which are closely related. The most entertaining presentation was given by the legendary 95-year-old Professor of Astronomy, Academician Jaan Einasto, who, accompanied by fitting music, showed a series of photos from about 70 years ago.

The presentations on the second day of the conference focused on the latest population and housing census, in which Statistics Estonia implemented several original innovations. The residency index used to determine the total population of the census was presented by Ethel Maasing, one of the authors and implementers of the idea of this indicator which integrates information from several dozen state registers. Helle Visk talked about the idea, potential applications and practical use of another original concept – the partnership and location index. Her results make it possible to statistically correct inaccuracies in registers in order to obtain more adequate statistics.

The conference continued with a presentation of the printed word. Professor of Mathematical Statistics Tõnu Kollo gave an overview of the nearly fifty published books by Ene-Margit Tiit, which were also on display in the conference room. The most important of these were deemed to be the university's teaching materials offset printed between 1960 and 1990, which aided students in the fields of probability theory and mathematical statistics.

This was followed by the presentation of the book “Eesti rahvastik. Loendamata loendatud” (“Estonian Population. Counted without Counting”). Its author, Ene-Margit Tiit, was interviewed by professors Krista Fischer and Jaak Kikas. The book introduces the results of the 2021 population census in Estonia, offers a brief comparison with the results of the previous census, highlighting the most important changes, and based on census data, gives an overview of the population of all 15 Estonian counties.

Link to the book (available only in Estonian):

<https://www.stat.ee/et/uudised/eesti-rahvastik-loendamata-loendatud>.

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## HONG KONG S.A.R.

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Reporting: **Ada Cheung**

### **Re-engineering of Population Census of Hong Kong**

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) of Hong Kong, China is actively preparing for the re-engineering of the workflow of Population Census starting from the 2026 round. Since 1961, Hong Kong's Population Census was conducted every ten years in years ending "1", which comprised a simple enumeration of about nine-tenths of the entire population using a "short form" questionnaire and a detailed enquiry of the remaining one-tenth of the population using a "long form" questionnaire. A Population By-census was conducted in the middle of each intercensal period in years ending "6", with only the "long form" enumeration of one-tenth of the population.

Starting from 2026, Population Census of Hong Kong will be re-engineered into a sample survey on par with the scale of a Population By-census to be conducted every five years. With the availability of administrative data on passenger movements from Immigration Department, accurate population size and age-sex structure can be compiled without the need to conduct the "short form" enumeration in full Censuses. Simulation studies using the 2021 Population Census (21C) data have confirmed the accuracy of the new approach. Besides passenger movement records, the feasibility of matching administrative data from other Government bureaux and departments with the census sample file at record level using addresses is being explored, with a view to trimming some census questions to reduce respondent burden and enhance data quality.

The experience of conducting 21C during the COVID-19 pandemic pointed to the vast risks of conducting large-scale survey operation in a short period of time (1.5 months in past Census operations). The re-engineered Census of Hong Kong will take place over a full year, significantly reducing the operational risks brought forth by uncontrollable events. With a longer data collection period, a smaller and better trained workforce can be deployed for fieldwork. Data quality can be enhanced as a result while savings in salary and associated overheads can also be realised. Statistical methods will be deployed to adjust the data collected to the mid-year position, such that the results will continue to be generally comparable to those of the previous rounds based on data collected near mid-year.

For more information, please contact Ada Cheung ([akycheung@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:akycheung@censtatd.gov.hk)).

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## HUNGARY

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Reporting: **Gáborné Székely**

### **The HCSO-ingatlan.com rent index – experimental statistics**

The vast majority of Hungarian households live in their own property. The proportion of rental dwellings in the Hungarian housing market is extremely low, even in European comparison. 6.7% of occupied dwellings, about 270,000 dwellings, were used by residents who rented it from a private owner, according to the 2022 census. In Hungary, 4.8% of the population lived in market rental housing in 2018, while on average in the EU Member States this proportion was close to 21%.

Home renting belongs to the 'gray zone' of the Hungarian housing market. Many of its actors are hiding, their relationships are changing rapidly, in many respects they do not fit into the conceptual framework of traditional statistical data collection, and its observation is also difficult to solve relying on traditional statistical techniques. Therefore, it is extremely difficult to reliably measure the size, occupants and, last but not least, prices of the rental sector.

At the same time, renting out private dwellings has spread appreciably in recent years and has now become a key factor in the metropolitan housing market. Today – in addition to policymakers, market participants, and researchers – lay people also demand statistical information on rental trends. In the absence of reliable data, partial information, data of uncertain origin and validity are circulating in the market.

A significant step forward in this situation was that ingatlan.com, a large online real estate advertisement company offered its advertising database to the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HCSO) for statistical utilization, to monitor changes in rents. Ingatlan.com has an extremely extensive database of hundreds of thousands of unique advertisements, which is also structured for statistical processing. Linking this database with relevant data available from the HCSO system makes it possible to prepare analyses that none of the contributors could solve individually. Another advantage of the cooperation is that it provides much faster access to data than official channels, so that information on this particularly sensitive segment of the housing market can be available within a few days after the reference period.

In contrast to official statistics, these results do not cover the entire examined population, i.e. the rental market, as they are based only on home rental data that appear among the advertisements of ingatlan.com. Nearly half of Budapest landlords and more than a third of those living in county seats contacted their tenants via internet real estate portals, and this ratio is likely to have risen further in the time since, according to the results of the 2018 HCSO rent survey preceding the present research (Private apartment rental, rental prices – main results of the 2018 rent survey).

Our results provide information on changes in supply prices of rentals, as they reflect the rental price level of dwellings available to those entering the market, which – as we have also shown before – differs significantly from the rental prices of dwellings actually rented in the given period. We emphasize that the results are experimental statistics, which are based on some novel, innovative solution. Their novelty also lies in the use of new data sources and new methods, but unlike official statistics, they are less robust, they may not cover all aspects of the given phenomenon, but the results still meet most quality expectations.

HCSO-ingatlan.com rent index was first published in August 2020, very soon after the collapse of rental housing market due to the Covid-19 pandemic. That situation offered a unique opportunity to present a housing market indicator which (despite its experimental character) could contribute to better understand housing market changes.

<https://www.ksh.hu/s/en/experimental-statistics/publications/hcsoingatlancom-rent-index-april-2024/>

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## THE NETHERLANDS

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Reporting: **Deirdre Giesen**

### **CBS launches new statistic: goods transport by pipeline**

At the request of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, CBS has recently developed a new statistic: goods transport by pipeline. This statistic is an addition to the mandatory European statistics on transport for sea, air and inland waterway transport and road and rail traffic. Examples of goods that can be transported by pipeline are CO<sub>2</sub>, natural gas, petroleum (products), chemicals, (industrial) water and heat.

The new statistic was developed in close collaboration with the association of pipeline owners in the Netherlands (VELIN). The first publication for this statistic was in April 2024, about 2022 data. The data show that transport by pipeline accounts for 16 percent of the total Dutch transport. That is slightly more than inland shipping (15 per cent) and much more than transport by rail (2 per cent). The national government and regional authorities can use the new statistics on transport by pipeline

for policy decisions. For example, can a branch be made from an existing pipeline to a new project? The statistic will be updated annually. For more information: Goods transport; modes and flows of transport to and from the Netherlands | CBS (<https://www.cbs.nl/en-gb/figures/detail/83101ENG?q=transport>) or contact Mathijs Jacobs, Program Manager, [mj.jacobs@cbs.nl](mailto:mj.jacobs@cbs.nl).

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## NEW ZEALAND

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Reporting: **Rosalia Rohwer**

### **Gender and sexual identity variables in the 2023 Census**

For the first time, New Zealand's 2023 Census asked questions about gender, sexual identity, and variations of sex characteristics (generally known as intersex). We have developed a data standard for gender, sex, and variations of sex characteristics (<https://www.stats.govt.nz/methods/data-standard-for-gender-sex-and-variations-of-sex-characteristics/>). This includes the "Gender by default principle" that defaults to the collection and output of gender data as opposed to sex. In the 2023 Census we collected both sex at birth and gender, allowing us to derive information about transgender populations.

Methodologies for filling gaps in the gender and sex at birth variables have been updated for New Zealand's 2023 Census. (<https://www.stats.govt.nz/methods/methodologies-for-filling-gaps-in-gender-and-sex-at-birth-concepts-for-the-2023-census/>) These methods have been informed by engagement with key stakeholders, a public consultation and discussion with our Data Ethics Advisory Group.

For more information, please contact [Micah.Davison@stats.govt.nz](mailto:Micah.Davison@stats.govt.nz) or [Digby.Carter@stats.govt.nz](mailto:Digby.Carter@stats.govt.nz).

### **The 2023 Post-enumeration Survey: A targeted approach to improve survey response**

The post-enumeration survey (PES) is a household survey undertaken in New Zealand shortly after the 2023 Census to evaluate the completeness of census coverage. For the 2023 PES, we developed a targeted collection approach in areas where we expected it to be harder to obtain a response. We recruited a diverse field-force who were representative of the communities we were surveying. A survey incentive scheme was implemented in parts of Auckland with relatively high socio-economic deprivation – this was a supermarket voucher included with the PES information sent out to households in these areas prior to interviewing.

Initial analyses suggest the combined impact of the targeted initiatives was significant. PES results will be released on the Stats NZ website ([stats.govt.nz](https://www.stats.govt.nz)) on 9 December 2024.

For more information, please contact [Ben.Faulks@stats.govt.nz](mailto:Ben.Faulks@stats.govt.nz) or [Joel.Watkins@stats.govt.nz](mailto:Joel.Watkins@stats.govt.nz).

### **The 2023 Household Disability Survey: An innovative community approach for Deaf respondents**

The established collection method for the Household Disability Survey is telephone calls. Historically, Deaf people selected for Stats NZ telephone surveys have either relied on external New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) interpreters or been unable to participate.

We contracted a qualified NZSL interpreter to directly engage with the Deaf community and design a tailored Deaf-for-Deaf collection approach. The outcome was that Stats NZ hired Deaf interviewers to collect data from Deaf survey participants using NZSL via Microsoft Teams video calls. We also provided extensive information about the survey in alternate formats, including in NZSL. 2023 HDS results will be released on the Stats NZ website ([www.stats.govt.nz](https://www.stats.govt.nz)) later in 2024.

For more information, please contact [Chris.Pooch@stats.govt.nz](mailto:Chris.Pooch@stats.govt.nz).

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## NIGERIA

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Reporting: **Olaniyi Mathew Olayiwola**

### **IASS WORKSHOP ON JANUARY 24, 2024.**

On January 24th, 2024, a full-day workshop titled "Visualization of Survey Data using R" was inaugurated at 1:00 pm, generously funded by the International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS). This workshop was held in partnership with the Department of Statistics, College of Physical Sciences, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria. It was conducted at Pisad Auditorium at the Federal University of Agriculture.

Dr. (Mrs.) Wale-Orojo, from the Department of Statistics at the Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta, Nigeria, officially opened the workshop and welcomed participants. During her address, she briefed attendees on the process of becoming a member of IASS, providing a link to the association's webpage for membership details.

The second session of the workshop, which focused on big data, was led by Henry Ekong from the Department of Statistics at the College of Physical Sciences, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria.

Throughout the workshop, Ekong delved into the significance of Nominal and Ordinal scaled variables, elucidating on the impact of Survey weights on the analysis of survey data. He provided valuable insights into the composition of survey data, covering various aspects such as Demographic Data, Dietary Data, Medical Examination Data, Laboratory Data, Questionnaire Data, and Geographic Data.

Leveraging the R software extensively, Ekong demonstrated the visualization of survey data with categorical variables, including Nominal and Ordinal responses. The showcased visualizations included Correlation Matrix Plots, Upper Triangular Correlation Matrix Plots, Cumulative Density Plots, Pie Chart Plots, Grouped Pie Chart Plots, Bar Chart Plots, Grouped Bar Charts, Stacked Bar Charts, and Item-person maps.

Ekong also explored Survey Data with weights, addressing Sampling weights and finite population corrections. The presentation featured Bar Plots of Proportions and Spatial visualization of Survey data.





The workshop garnered participants up to One Hundred and Thirty attendees, representing academic institutions, ministries, and various agencies. The participants were actively engaged throughout the lectures and practical sessions, demonstrating enthusiasm in acquiring knowledge in the Sample Survey.

The feedback from participants universally reflected satisfaction with the workshop's content and delivery. The workshop concluded at 4:00 pm, and the organizing team expressed gratitude to IASS for their financial support, extending prayers for future collaboration and support.

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## POLAND

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Reporting: **Tomasz Żądło**

### **9<sup>th</sup> Conference on Survey Sampling in Economic and Social Research**

The 9th Conference on Survey Sampling in Economic and Social Research is scheduled for **December 3-4, 2024** in Katowice. The conference is organized by the Department of Statistics, Econometrics, and Mathematics at the University of Economics in Katowice, along with the Polish Statistical Association – Katowice branch. This event will be held entirely **online**. This conference aims to continue the tradition of fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange among experts in the field of survey methodology.

The conference website is: <https://web.ue.katowice.pl/metoda>

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## UKRAINE

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Reporting: **Volodymyr Sarioglo**

### **Current situation in the State Statistics Service of Ukraine**

The humanitarian crisis brought on by the February 2022 Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine has led to large-scale displacement, both internally and across borders, of the Ukrainian population. This has necessitated the development of updated approaches for obtaining relevant and actual statistics to inform stakeholders, first of all international organizations, and internal users for social, economic, and community reconstruction efforts [1].

The situation was significantly complicated by the fact that after the beginning of the war, the State Statistics Service of Ukraine (SSSU) stopped conducting any surveys of the population and households, as well as the formation of population statistics. This is due to the provisions of the Law of Ukraine "On Protection of the Interests of the Subjects of Submission of Reports and Other Documents During the Period of Martial Law or State of War".

Under such conditions, there was an urgent need to get estimates of the most important indicators on the basis of available data from other sources, namely data from administrative registers, in particular data of the Pension Fund of Ukraine regarding the number and characteristics of pensioners and contributors, of the Ministry of Education regarding the number, distribution and gender age structure of students, data of Mobile Operators regarding the number and placement of subscribers, results of sample surveys conducted without the participation of the SSSU, etc. Together with UNFPA and other international organizations an approach has been developed to estimate the number, structure and location of the population as of mid-2023. In particular, it was established that there were about 31.7 million people in the Government Controlled Area of Ukraine. Currently, studies are being conducted to estimate the characteristics of the population as of mid-

2024. These estimates are essential both for humanitarian purposes and for the activities of authorities at all levels.

With the technical support of UNICEF, at the end of 2023, a household sample survey on the living conditions and economic activity of the population was conducted with a probability sample of 8,000 households and according to a methodology close to the methodology of state sample surveys. This made it possible to assess important indicators of the composition of households, poverty by various criteria, the effectiveness of social programs, employment and unemployment, etc. Preparations are now being made to disseminate the results of the survey to stakeholders. The possibility of conducting at least one more round of this survey in 2024 is being explored.

The SSSU, taking advantage of the forced pause, is piloting a number of surveys that were planned for implementation in 2023-2025. We are primarily talking about the EU-SILC survey and the Time use survey, which users were counting on before the war. At the same time, the efforts of some government officials under the guise of digitization and digital transformation and saving public resources to make the transition from official statistics to the collection of data from the population and households exclusively through online or telephone surveys are cause for concern, which, given the situation in Ukraine, in particular the level of Internet use, may actually destroy the system of state sample household surveys, which has been in development for 25 years [2].

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## UNITED STATES

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Reporting: **Andreea Erciulescu, Linda Young, Jenny Thompson and Blynda Metcalf**

### Updated Race and Ethnicity Standards

Over the past two years, dozens of federal agencies, with input from the public, have been working on updating the standards for maintaining, collecting, and presenting federal data on race and ethnicity. The changes include collecting race and ethnicity information using one combined question, adding Middle Eastern or North African as a new minimum category, collecting detailed race and ethnicity categories as default, and updating terminology such as discontinuing the use of the terms ‘majority’ and ‘minority,’ with some exceptions. The new standards became effective on March 28, 2024, and are to be implemented in censuses and surveys. They help improve consistency, accuracy, and utility of race and ethnicity data across federal programs. For additional details, see the following notice published in the Federal Register: Revisions to OMB’s Statistical Policy Directive No. 15: Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity.

(<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/03/29/2024-06469/revisions-to-ombs-statistical-policy-directive-no-15-standards-for-maintaining-collecting-and>)

## Webinar Series on Artificial Intelligence

The U.S. Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM) and the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) collaborated to produce a series of five webinars, beginning in October 2023, aimed to equip U.S. federal practitioners and managers with insights into the applications and challenges of Artificial Intelligence (AI) adoption within their respective agencies. Methods and use cases for text and image analyses as well as organizational, managerial, and ethical concerns were discussed. The series of webinars provided a solid foundation for an in-person event at the historic National Academies of Sciences building in collaboration with the Committee on National Statistics in May. This event brought together experts and practitioners in the field of AI to explore its integration into federal statistical practices and was a culmination of collaborative efforts aimed at advancing AI integration in federal statistical practices. One of the highlights of the event was the opportunity for participants to engage in discussions about the latest developments in AI technology and its applications in federal statistics. From machine learning algorithms to data analytics techniques, attendees gained valuable insights into how AI is reshaping the landscape of federal data collection and analysis.

## Annual Integrated Economic Survey

The U.S. Census Bureau launched its newest survey, the Annual Integrated Economic Survey (AIES), on March 15, 2024. (<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/aies.html>) This ambitious initiative consolidates seven separate annual business surveys into one comprehensive program encompassing all sectors of the U.S. economy. The AIES marks a significant departure in the Economic Directorate's practices, prompting the reimagining of data collection, processing, analysis, and dissemination methods. It incorporates many of the key recommendations from a comprehensive review of our economic programs by a panel from the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) issued in the 2018 report. (<https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/25098/reengineering-the-census-bureaus-annual-economic-surveys>) As a result, the Census Bureau consolidated the Annual Retail Trade Survey (ARTS), the Annual Wholesale Trade Survey (AWTS), the Service Annual Survey (SAS), the Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM), the Annual Capital Expenditures Survey (ACES), the Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders Survey (M3UFO), and the Report of Organization (COS) into a single survey.

The AIES leverages key Census Bureau infrastructure investments to improve data collection, processing, and dissemination. This allows the AIES significantly greater adaptability in adjusting survey content, sampling methods, and integrating non-survey source data compared to what was achievable with various specialized collection platforms employed in previous annual surveys. The AIES sample design requirements are informed by the user community's longstanding data needs (e.g., national and sub-national tabulations), as well as by extensive respondent research on collection. The AIES sample unit is the company (firm), which can operate in one or more industries and can own one or more establishments. This reduces the reporting burden for medium- and large-scale companies over the previous practice of requesting separate reports from the same company by sector activity (i.e., use a "company-centric, rather than industry-centric, collection strategy").

The AIES sampling units are clusters of unequal size, with the sampling procedure selecting all establishments within the sampled company. Since economic activity is measured within industry using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), the AIES sample design provides a "crosswalk" between company and industry. Inclusion probabilities account for company contributions to industries at national and subnational levels, and the allocation procedure likewise for unit size. The sample design accounts for the inherent skewness in the economic population(s) under consideration, designating many of the largest or most organizationally complex companies on the frame as self-representing (included with probability one). The remaining companies are stratified into disjoint "noncertainty" strata, from which unequal probability samples are selected

using sequential random (Chromy) sampling. Ongoing research activities include post-data collection edit and imputation methods, replication variance estimation, and quality metrics (e.g., response rate, imputation rate computation).

AIES data will release estimates from the 2023 data collection in July 2025.



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## Conferences on survey statistics and related areas

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### Workshop on Modern Methods in Survey Sampling

July 8- to 10, 2024

University of Ottawa, Canada

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/canssi-crt-workshop-on-modern-methods-in-survey-sampling-tickets-852432878687?aff=oddtcreator>



Complex surveys play an important role in providing information for policy makers and the general public as well as many scientific areas, such as public health and social science research. The objective of this workshop is to take stock of new developments in the field of survey data, to bring together some of the most active researchers in the field, and to identify the current challenges. The workshop is the final activity of a three-year Collaborative Research Team project funded by the Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute. The project is called “Modern Methods in Survey Sampling”. The workshop will cover a range of topics, including:

- Machine learning methods
- Data integration techniques
- High-dimensional data
- Small area estimation

## The BNU Workshop on Survey Statistics

August 26 to 30 2024

“Data Integration and Population Size Estimation”

Poznań University of Economics and Business, Poland

<https://wiki.helsinki.fi/xwiki/bin/view/BNU/Events/Workshop%20on%20Survey%20Statistics%202024/>



## Australasian Applied Statistics Conference

September 2 to 4, 2024

Rottnest Island, Western Australia

<https://aasc2024conf.netlify.app/>



This conference is in the series which originated with the Australasian Genstat Conference held in Canberra in 1979. It became the Australasian Applied Statistics Conference in 2011 to encompass the wider community of applied statisticians. AASC conferences have been held in Palm (Aus), Bermagui (Aus), Rotorua (NZ) and Inverloch (Aus).

The organizers passionately welcome anyone studying or working in statistics, data science, and related fields to join us for an enlightening journey into how statistical methodologies can be leveraged across various biological disciplines.

## **ITSEW2024 - International Total Survey Error Workshop (ITSEW)**

**September 18 to 24, 2024**

National Institute of Statistical sciences (NISS), United States

Location: George Washington University, Washington

<https://www.niss.org/events/international-total-survey-error-workshop-itsew>



The goal of ITSEW is to promote discussion of questions of research, methodology and practice relating to Total Survey Error (TSE) and Total Survey Quality, and Blended Data.

## **Conference PSD2024: Privacy in Statistical Databases 2024**

**September 25 to 27, 2024.**

Antibes Juan-les-Pins, France

<https://crises-deim.urv.cat/psd2024/>



The purpose of PSD 2024 is to attract worldwide, high-level research in statistical database privacy. The conference is organized by the [CRISES research group](https://crises-deim.urv.cat/) with proceedings published by Springer-Verlag in Lecture Notes in Computer Science.

## 2024 International Methodology Symposium

“Shaping the future of official statistics“

October 29 – November 1, 2024

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Offices of Statistics Canada (with a virtual option)



Email: [statcan.symposium2024-symposium2024.statcan@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:statcan.symposium2024-symposium2024.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/conferences/symposium2024/index>.



shutterstock.com - 2304981101

The conference proceedings will be published online.

## 13th International Francophone Conference on Sample Surveys

November 5 to 8, 2024

University of Luxembourg in Esch-Belval

<https://sondages2024.sciencesconf.org/>



STATEC, the [University of Luxembourg](#) and the [Société Luxembourgeoise de Statistique](#) will host on the Campus of the University of Luxembourg in Esch-Belval, the *13th international French-speaking conference on surveys*. Tuesday, November 5, 2024, will be devoted to training workshops that will be offered to event participants.

This international scientific meeting has been organized since 1997, every two to three years, under the aegis of the [French Statistical Society \(SFdS\)](#). It brings together researchers and practitioners, from public institutes or the private sector, who carry out or use sample surveys.

The purpose of the 2024 conference is to take stock of the state of practices and research in the various areas of survey and polling methodology. It is also about bringing together all the people working in the field of surveys, whether study designers, collection managers or data users.



## The R Project - The Use of R in Official Statistics – uRos2024

November 27 to 29, 2024

Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT), Pireos, Greece

<https://r-project.ro/conference2024.html>



Over the last two decades R has become the *lingua franca* for statisticians, methodologists and data scientists worldwide. The reasons why the official statistics community is rapidly embracing R are clear: it has an active worldwide community of users, there is wide support from the industry and it combines a vast amount of functionalities for data preparation, methodology, visualisation and application building. Moreover, R-based software is exchanged through strictly enforced technical standards: “*R is probably the most thoroughly validated statistics software on Earth.*” – Uwe Ligges, CRAN maintainer (*useR!*2017).

## The 9<sup>th</sup> Conference Survey Sampling in Economic and Social Research

December 3 to 4, 2024

University of Economics in Katowice, Poland

Online

<https://sites.google.com/uekat.pl/survey-sampling>



## **NTTS2025: New Techniques and Technologies for Statistics**

**March 11 to 13, 2025**

Bruxelles, Belgium.

<https://cros.ec.europa.eu/dashboard/ntts-2025>



The NTTS conference is organized by Eurostat and devoted to statistical innovation and how to best use Data and Statistics for taking informed decisions. Topics include data collection and integration, innovation in statistics, Artificial Intelligence, data analytics, estimation and analysis, data reuse and sharing, outreach to users, communications and dissemination.

NTTS 2025 is financed by the European Commission and there are no attendance fees.

## **The 9th Italian Conference on Survey Methodology (ITACOSM 2025)**

**July 1 to 4, 2025**

The University of Bologna, Italy



**ITACOSM** is a bi-annual international conference organized by the [Survey Sampling Group \(S2G\)](#) of the [Italian Statistical Society \(SIS\)](#) whose aim is promoting the scientific discussion on the developments of theory and application of survey sampling methodologies in the fields of economics, social and demographic sciences, of official statistics and in the studies on biological and environmental phenomena.

## **IASS satellite meeting SAE2025**

**July 8 to 12, 2025, Turin, Italy**

Venue: Castello del Valentino

[https://castellodelvalentino.polito.it/?page\\_id=47](https://castellodelvalentino.polito.it/?page_id=47) [[castellodelvalentino.polito.it](https://castellodelvalentino.polito.it)]



**11th European Survey Research  
Association Conference ESRA 2025**

**July 14 to 18, 2025**

Venue: Utrecht University in Utrecht,  
The Netherlands



The conference theme “**Promises and problems of new and alternative data sources and data formats for survey research. Methodological challenges and substantive conclusions**”

<https://www.europeansurveyresearch.org/conference/utrecht-2025/call-sessions/>

Call for Session Proposals to ESRA 2025 is now open!

**65th ISI World Statistics Congress 2025**

**October 5 to 9, 2025**

The Hague, The Netherlands

<https://www.isi-next.org/conferences/isi-wsc2025/>



The ISI World Statistics Congress (WSC) is the leading congress on Statistics & Data Science worldwide. It is held every two years, since 1887 by the International Statistical Institute (ISI). The organizers welcome you at the 65th edition: ISI WSC 2025!

## In Other Journals

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### Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology

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**Volume 12, Issue 1, February 2024**

<https://academic.oup.com/jssam/issue/12/1>

#### ***Survey Methodology***

**Interviewer Involvement in Respondent Selection Moderates the Relationship between Response Rates and Sample Bias in Cross-National Survey Projects in Europe**

*Marta Kolczyńska, Piotr Jabkowski, and Stephanie Eckman*

**Detecting Interviewer Fraud Using Multilevel Models**

*Lukas Olbrich, Yuliya Kosyakova, Joseph W. Sakshaug, and Silvia Schwanha*

**Panel Conditioning in a Probability-Based Longitudinal Study: A Comparison of Respondents with Different Levels of Survey Experience**

*Fabienne Kraemer, Henning Silber, Bella Struminskaya, Matthias Sand, Michael Bosnjak, Joanna Koßmann, and Bernd Weiß*

**Reducing Burden in a Web Survey through Dependent Interviewing**

*Curtiss Engstrom and Jennifer Sinibaldi*

**Equipping the Offline Population with Internet Access in an Online Panel: Does It Make a Difference?**

*Ruben L. Bach, Carina Cornesse, and Jessica Daikeler*

**Is there a Day of the Week Effect on Panel Response Rate to an Online Questionnaire Email Invitation?**

*Chloe Howard, Lara M. Greaves, Danny Osborne, and Chris G. Sibley*

#### ***Survey Statistics***

**Handling Missing Values in Surveys With Complex Study Design: A Simulation Study**

*Natasa Kalpourtzi, James R. Carpenter, and Giota Touloumi*

**Modeling Public Opinion Over Time: a Simulation Study of Latent Trend Models**

*Marta Kolczyńska and Paul-Christian Burkner*

**Using Auxiliary Marginal Distributions in Imputations for Nonresponse while Accounting for Survey Weights, with Application to Estimating Voter Turnout**

*Jiurui Tang, D. Sunshine Hillygus, and Jerome P. Reiter*

**Joint Imputation of General Data**

*Michael W. Robbins*

**Jackknife Bias-Corrected Generalized Regression Estimator in Survey Sampling**

*Marius Stefan and Michael A. Hidioglou*

## **Maximum Entropy Design by a Markov Chain Process**

Yves Tillé and Bardia Panahbehagh

### ***Applications***

## **Modeling Group-Specific Interviewer Effects on Survey Participation Using Separate Coding for Random Slopes in Multilevel Models**

*Jessica M. E. Herzing, Annelies G. Blom, and Bart Meuleman*

**Volume 12, Issue 2, April 2024**

<https://academic.oup.com/jssam/issue/12/2>

### ***2022 Morris Hansen Lecture***

## **Hansen Lecture 2022: The Evolution of the Use of Models in Survey Sampling**

*Richard Valliant*

## **Discussion of the 2022 Hansen Lecture: “The Evolution of the Use of Models in Survey Sampling”**

*F. Jay Breidt*

## **Modeling in Sample Surveys: Discussion of Professor Valliant’s Hansen Lecture 2022**

*Trivellore Raghunathan*

### ***Survey Statistics***

## **Multivariate Small-Area Estimation for Mixed-type Response Variables with Item Nonresponse**

*Hao Sun, Emily Berg, and Zhengyuan Zhu*

## **Pseudo-Bayesian Small-Area Estimation**

*Gauri Datta, Juhyung Lee, and Jiacheng Li*

## **Small Area Poverty Estimation Under Heteroskedasticity**

*Sumonkanti Das and Ray Chambers*

## **Poverty Mapping Under Area-Level Random Regression Coefficient Poisson Models**

*Naomi Diz-Rosales, Maria Jose Lombardia, and Domingo Morales*

### ***Survey Methodology***

## **Leveraging Predictive Modelling from Multiple Sources of Big Data to Improve Sample Efficiency and Reduce Survey Nonresponse Error**

*David Dutwin, Patrick Coyle, Joshua Lerner, Ipek Bilgen, and Ned English*

## **Bayesian Integration of Probability and Nonprobability Samples for Logistic Regression**

*Camilla Salvatore, Silvia Biffignandi, Joseph W. Sakshaug, Arkadiusz Wisniowski, and Bella Struminskaya*

## **Automated Classification for Open-Ended Questions with BERT**

*Hyukjun Gweon and Matthias Schonlau*

## **Correction to: Leveraging Predictive Modelling from Multiple Sources of Big Data to Improve Sample Efficiency and Reduce Survey Nonresponse Error**

*David Dutwin, Patrick Coyle, Joshua Lerner, Ipek Bilgen, and Ned English*



**Volume 40 (2024): Issue 1 (March 2024)**

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/jofa/40/1>

**Steps Toward a Shared Infrastructure for Multi-Party Secure Private Computing in Official Statistics**

*Fabio Ricciato*

**Some Open Questions on Multiple-Source Extensions of Adaptive-Survey Design Concepts and Methods**

*Stephanie M. Coffey, Jaya Damineni, John Eltinge, Anup Mathur, Kayla Varela and Allison Zotti*

**Visualizing the Shelf Life of Population Forecasts: A Simple Approach to Communicating Forecast Uncertainty**

*Tom Wilson*

**Nonresponse Bias of Japanese Wage Statistics**

*Daiji Kawaguchi and Takahiro Toriyabe*

**Structural Break in the Norwegian Labor Force Survey Due to a Redesign During a Pandemic**

*Håvard Hungnes, Terje Skjerpen, Jørn Ivar Hamre, Xiaoming Chen Jansen, Dinh Quang Pham and Ole Sandvik*

**Bayesian Inference for Repeated Measures Under Informative Sampling**

*Terrance D. Savitsky, Luis G. León-Novelo and Helen Engle*

**On the Validity of Using Webpage Texts to Identify the Target Population of a Survey: An Application to Detect Online Platforms**

*Piet Daas, Wolter Hassink and Bart Klijs*

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## Survey Research Methods

**Journal of the European Survey Research Association**

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**Vol 18 No 1 (2023)**

<https://ojs.ub.uni-konstanz.de/srm/issue/view/238>

**Modeling Public Opinion Over Time and Space: Trust in State Institutions in Europe, 1989-2019**

*Marta Kołczyńska, Paul-Christian Bürkner, Lauren Kennedy, Aki Vehtari*

**The Poisson Extension of the Unrelated Question Model: Improving Surveys With Time-Constrained Questions on Sensitive Topics**

*Benedikt Iberl, Anesa Aljovic, Rolf Ulrich, Fabiola Reiber*

**Question Wording Matters in Measuring Frequency of Fear of Crime: A Survey Experiment of the Anchoring Effect**

*Aubrey L. Etopio, Emily R. Berthelot*

**Evaluating the Effect of Monetary Incentives on Web Survey Response Rates in the UK Millennium Cohort Study**

*Charlotte Booth, Erica Wong, Matt Brown, Emla Fitzsimons*

**We Have Come a Long Way and We Have a Long Way to Go: A Cross-Survey Comparison of Data Quality in 16 Arab Countries in the Arab Barometer vs the World Values Survey**

*Saskia Glas, Veronica Kostenko*

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**Other Journals**

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- **Statistical Journal of the IAOS**
  - <https://content.iospress.com/journals/statistical-journal-of-the-iaos/>
- **International Statistical Review**
  - <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/17515823>
- **Transactions on Data Privacy**
  - <http://www.tdp.cat/>
- **Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A (Statistics in Society)**
  - <https://rss.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/1467985x>
- **Journal of the American Statistical Association**
  - <https://amstat.tandfonline.com/uasa20>
- **Statistics in Transition**
  - <https://sit.stat.gov.pl>

## Welcome New Members!

We are very pleased to welcome the following new IASS members!

<b>Title</b>	<b>First name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Country</b>
MR.	Christopher	Antoun	United States
MR.	Kwamena Leo	Arkafra	Ghana
PROF. DR.	Jonathan	Auerbach	United States
DR.	Veronica	Ballerini	Italy
MRS	Rosalyn	Berry	United States
DRS	Gaia	Bertarelli	Italy
DR.	Haoyi	Chen	United States
DR.	Mamadou S	Diallo	United States
PROF	Maria	Ferrante	Italy
DR.	Pramod Kumar	Gupta	India
MR.	Karol	Krotki	United States
DR.	Yukiko	Kurihara	Japan
PROF	Thomas	Lumley	New Zealand
MR.	Kouadio J. Stephane	N'zi	Côte d'Ivoire
DR.	Jennifer	Park	United States
MR.	Francisco	Quiroa	Guatemala
MR.	Benjamin	Schneider	United States
DR.	Christine	Wells	United States



## IASS Executive Committee Members

Executive officers (2023 – 2025)

<b>President:</b>	Natalie Shlomo (UK)	natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk
<b>President-elect:</b>	Partha Lahiri (US)	plahiri@umd.edu
<b>Vice-Presidents:</b>		
Scientific Secretary and Social Media Coordinator	Annamaria Bianchi (Italy)	annamaria.bianchi@unibg.it
Monthly newsletter	Jiraphan Suntornchost (Thailand)	jiraphan.s@chula.ac.th
VP Finance and IASS conferences support 2024, 2025	Natalie Shlomo (UK) Partha Lahiri (US)	natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk plahiri@umd.edu
Liaising with ISI EC and ISI PO plus administrative matters	Partha Lahiri (US)	plahiri@umd.edu
Chair of the 2025 Cochran- Hansen Prize Committee, Chair of the 2024 Hukum Chandra Prize Cimmittee and IASS representative on the ISI Awards Committee	Eric Rancourt (Canada)	eric.rancourt@statcan.gc.ca
IASS representatives on the World Statistics Congress Scientific Programme Committee	Partha Lahiri (US)	plahiri@umd.edu
IASS representative on the World Statistics Congress short course committee:	Natalie Shlomo (UK)	natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk
IASS representative on the ISI publications committee	Partha Lahiri (US)	plahiri@umd.edu
IASS Webinars 2023-2025	Andres Gutierrez (Chile)	andres.gutierrez@cepal.org
Ex Officio Member:	Conchita Kleijweg (the Netherlands)	c.kleijweg@cbs.nl

**IASS Twitter Account @iass\_isi ([https://twitter.com/iass\\_isi](https://twitter.com/iass_isi))**

**IASS LinkedIn Account <https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-association-of-survey-statisticians-iass>**

**IASS Facebook Account: <https://www.facebook.com/iass.isi/>**



## Institutional Members

### International organisations:

- Eurostat (European Statistical Office) – Unit 01: External & Inter., Luxembourg

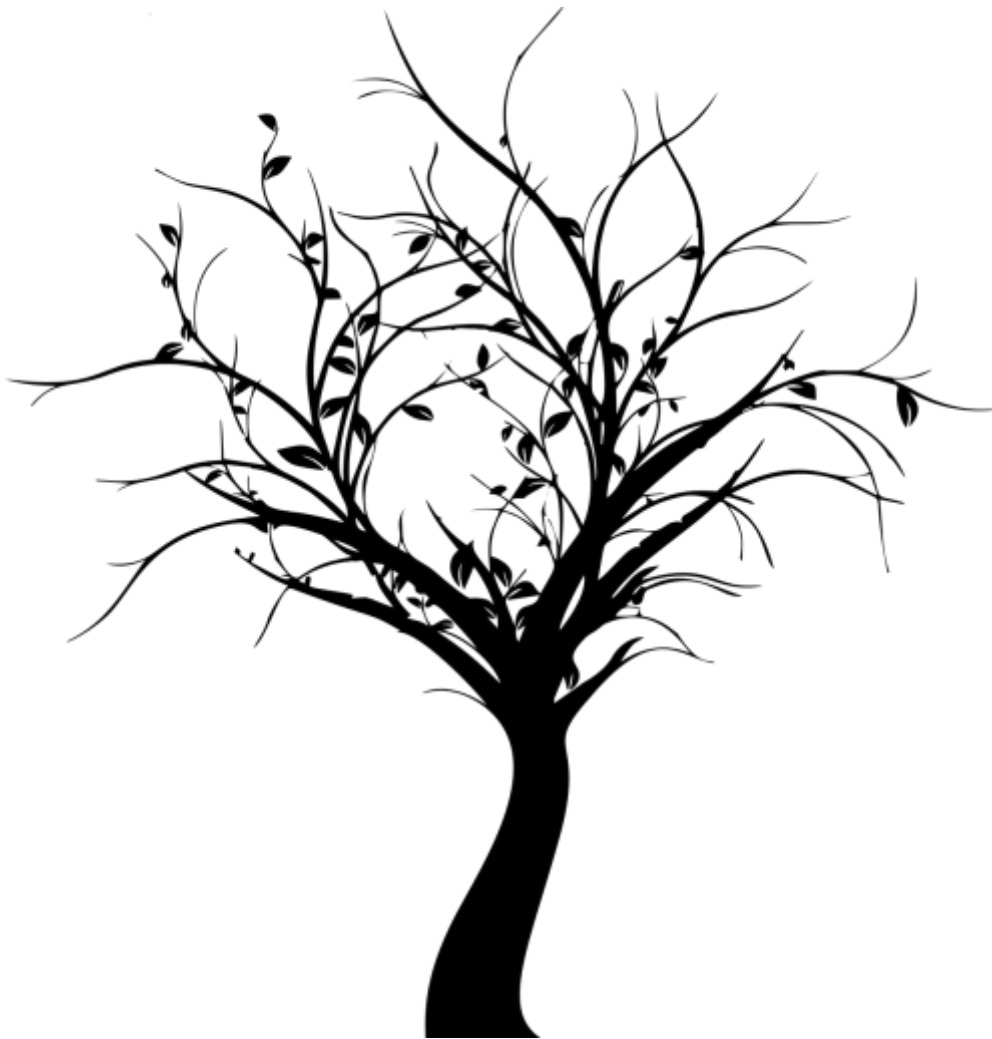
### National statistical offices:

- Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australia
- Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia y Estatística (IBGE), Brazil
- Statistics Canada, Canada
- Statistics Denmark, Denmark
- Statistics Finland, Finland
- Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis), Germany
- International Rel. & Statistical Coordination, Israel
- Istituto nazionale di statistica (ISTAT), Italy
- Univ. of Tuscany, Dept. Economics & Management, Italy
- Statistics Korea (KOSTAT), Republic of Korea
- Direcção dos Serviços de Estatística e Censur (DSEC), Macao, SAR China
- Statistics Mauritius, Mauritius
- Statistics New Zealand, New Zealand
- Statistics Norway, Norway
- Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE), Portugal
- Statistics Sweden, Sweden
- Office for National Statistics Service (ONS), United Kingdom
- National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), United States

### Other statistical organizations:

- Institut Public de Sondage d'Opinion Secteur (Ipsos), Italy
- WESTAT Inc., United States

**Read *the Survey Statistician*  
online!**



<http://isi-iass.org/home/services/the-survey-statistician/>