Country Reports

ARGENTINA

Reporting: **Verónica Beritich**

INDEC presents the new update of the Integrated System of Social Statistics

On January 5, 2023, the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC) presented an update of the Integrated System of Social Statistics (SIES). It is a dynamic platform that provides statistical information on current and future well-being in our country from a multidimensional perspective that includes material conditions, quality of life, and sustainability over time.

With respect to the initial version, published on July 6, 2022, the "Summary" section is added, which includes the temporal evolution of each dimension at the country level, and a comparative analysis of the well-being indicators per jurisdiction within the "Here and Now" subsection. Four new context indicators are also included in the Income and Employment dimensions.

Through its interactive visualization, the SIES presents a federal approach to the state of the welfare situation from the capabilities approach in Argentina. In this way, the possibility of selecting 86 indicators and obtaining personalized charts and data files in CSV or XLS format is provided.

The visualization system, developed by the team of the Directorate of Sectoral Statistics dependent on the National Directorate of Social and Population Statistics, is in line with the multidimensional approach of measuring well-being [1] which, at the same time, is articulated with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations Organization.

Within the new Summary section, in the "Recent evaluation" option, the data of the last 5 years are considered. There is a comparison between each end of the series, and three colors are used in the graphic to reveal whether their situations have improved (green), worsened (red), or has not changed (yellow) along the time. For these calculations, a hypothesis test (t-test) is used to evaluate the difference of means when data comes from a survey; and an interval of +/- 0.5% of percentage variation is established for data coming from records and censuses.

In "Temporal evolution", a disaggregated visualization of the indicators is offered, grouped into the dimensions of housing, employment, education and skills, state of health, civic commitment, and human capital, which continues with the system of colors and labels proposed in "Recent evaluation".

Finally, in "Here and now" the distribution of the indicators is presented per jurisdiction based on the median absolute deviation of all jurisdictions (see more in SIES>About SIES>General considerations), by means of an interactive bubble chart.

[1] Stiglitz, J., Fitoussi, J.P. and Durand, M. (2018). Beyond GDP. Measuring What Counts for Economic and Social Performance, https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264307292-en.

The Integrated System of Social Statistics can be found at https://shiny.indec.gob.ar/sies

General information can be found at www.indec.gob.ar.

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

AUSTRALIA

Reporting: **Emma Farrell**

Introducing a new statistical data collection mode - Video Assisted Live Interviewing

Video-Assisted Live Interviewing (VALI) is data collection conducted online using a video conferencing platform. Following extensive success with video-interviewing for questionnaire testing, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is now pursuing VALI for quantitative data collection. As a replacement for face-to-face household survey interviews, the mode reduces nonresponse in a range of situations (e.g., pandemic related reasons). It also shows potential to improve data collection efficiency, reduce costs, enhance interviewer safety, and reduces respondent burden.

Comprehensive research was undertaken to develop the video interviewing process prior to offering this option to live survey respondents. This included conducting a feasibility study of mode preferences using a commercial online panel, sentiment testing with respondents following traditional ABS face to face interviews, and multiple usability testing rounds with ABS field interviewers and various respondent cohorts. The live pilot study involved offering the mode in the later stages of a large health survey, and VALI interviews have been successfully completed for over 400 respondents. Debriefings were conducted with respondents and interviewers at the beginning of the pilot.

Feedback from tests and debriefings are that respondents:

- are positive about the mode, and many had used video calls previously for other purposes.
- appreciated being interviewed from a private location where they felt most comfortable. For example, in a bedroom or study when otherwise they would have met with an interviewer in a main room of the house.
- liked and felt more at ease with the physical separation that video provided when talking about sensitive content.
- appreciated being able to see survey prompt cards online during the interview, and would have liked more to be shown on the cards to more easily comprehend complex questions.

The ABS is now collaborating with the Social Research Centre to conduct an experiment comparing data quality between VALI, online and telephone collection modes.

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CANADA

Reporting: **Jean-François Naud**

Canadian Covid-19 Antibody and Health Survey – Cycle 2

Statistics Canada, in partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada and Canada's COVID-19 Immunity Task Force, conducted the second cycle of the Canadian COVID-19 Antibody and Health Survey (CCAHS-2) to better understand the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and the longer-term impacts of COVID-19 in Canadian adults. The survey data was collected in three waves from April to August 2022, from a sample of more than 100,000 Canadians aged 18+. Selected individuals were asked to complete a short questionnaire and to provide a dry blood sample (DBS) to be sent by mail to Statistics Canada. Respondents from Waves 2 and 3 were also asked to provide a saliva sample and send it along with the DBS. The saliva samples were used to detect

current and recent infections through a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test, while the DBS were used to measure immunity by detecting antibodies from past infection or vaccination.

The laboratory tests measure the concentration of three antibodies. For a sample to be considered positive from either vaccination or infection, at least two of the three antibodies must be detected in the blood sample. For a sample to be considered positive from a past infection, the nucleocapsid antibody must be one of the two positive antibodies. The CCAHS-2 was collected during a period when a very high proportion of the population had been vaccinated, and other studies showed that vaccinated individuals generate fewer nucleocapsid antibodies following an infection. Therefore, determining whether an individual had been previously infected or not was not as clear as it was for CCAHS-1, which was collected at the start of the vaccination roll-out.

To take this uncertainty into account, instead of using the Rogan-Gladen estimator, a modelled probability of having been infected was used. The model was created in partnership with the University of Ottawa and Sinai Health, which were the institutions responsible for the CCAHS-2 DBS laboratory testing. The probabilities were modelled using data from a baseline cohort followed from a point in time after the vaccine roll-out through to the initial onset of the Omicron variant. From these probabilities, weighted estimates of the prevalence of previously infected persons were produced.

Furthermore, given the increased uncertainty caused by the high proportion of vaccinated persons and different conditions in the two labs, some systematic differences in the measures from each were observed. These differences were perfectly acceptable from a microbiology point of view but could have impacted statistical estimates from the survey. A cross-over study was done to put the lab measures to the same scale. A random sample of three hundred specimens collected by CCAHS-2 that had been tested by one lab were sent to the other for re-testing and vice-versa. The measured concentrations from these six hundred specimens were used to create a regression model, from which adjusted concentrations were derived. The probability models described above for the nucleocapsid were derived based on these adjusted concentrations.

For more information about the CCAHS-2 methodology, please contact jean-francois.naud@statcan.gc.ca

CROATIA

Reporting: **Ksenija Dumičić**

The Croatian Bureau of Statistics completed the first “EU survey on gender-based violence against women and other forms of inter-personal violence” (EU-GBV)

The Croatian Bureau of Statistics (CBS) launched the “EU survey on gender-based violence against women and other forms of inter-personal violence” (EU-GBV), which is being conducted for the first time in the Republic of Croatia, with the goal to collect statistical data that will answer the question to what extent residents feel safe in the environment in which they live and work. These data will help in providing the necessary information for creating social and security policies, in various scientific analyses and international comparisons, and in informing the general public about the state of personal security.

In April 2023, the CBS completed, in cooperation with the research agency Ipsos, West Adria office from Zagreb, the EU-granted survey EU-GBV, which followed the Eurostat harmonized methodology, as given at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/13484289/KS-GQ-21-009-EN-N.pdf/1478786c-5fb3-fe31-d759-7bbe0e9066ad?t=1633004533458.

Prior to that, the pilot survey took place from 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2019, as described at

https://dzs.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/dokumenti/Zavr%C5%A1eni%20projekti%20financirani%20iz%20EU.pdf (p 91-92).

The national EU-GBV survey was conducted from 1 December 2020 to 30 April 2023, https://dzs.gov.hr/vijesti/pocinje-provedba-ankete-o-sigurnosti/1281. It used slightly adjusted survey questions, https://dzs.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/dokumenti/Dokumenti/Projekti%20u%20tijeku%20financirani%20iz%20EU.pdf (p 16.).

The national sample survey was planned in two steps. In the first step, until 31 October 2022, self-administered electronically (online) filled questionnaires were applied. For those that did not fill them, in the second step, from 1 November to 15 February 2023, Ipsos applied CATI.

The sampling frame included individuals aged 18 to 74 in private HH and private apartments according to Census 2021, as found on 31 August 2022. A sample of 42,977 people was selected from the frame (Census 2021), and 22,695 of them were matched with the phone book by address and surname (for fixed phones) or by address, surname, and first name (for mobile phones). Eight strata were defined by statistical regions from the year 2021 (NUTS-2) and by the designation of whether it is an urban settlement or a settlement belonging to the other category.

Stratified systematic sampling with the implicit gender and age-based strata, and the sample allocation proportional to the number of persons in the stratum based on Census 2021 was designed. Only the sample size in the biggest stratum for "City of Zagreb – other" was increased. Documents available at: https://dzs.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/dokumenti/Dokumenti/Projekti%20u%20tijeku%20financirani%20iz%20EU.pdf (p 16.); https://dzs.gov.hr/vijesti/pocinje-provedba-ankete-o-sigurnosti/1281.

All 22,695 respondents received a letter with a link to the questionnaire and an invitation to complete it online, and 2,300 of them did so within the deadline set for the first step. After that, it was switched to CATI, but the option was left for people to fill out the questionnaire online themselves. In the end, 4,112 questionnaires were filled out online, and 2,059 by telephone (CATI).

DENMARK

Reporting: **Martine Friisenbach and Lotte Yssing Jacobsen**

A qualitative look at the respondent journey

Over the past 10 years, more and more respondents complete surveys via their smartphones. At the same time, the response rate on surveys has also been slowly decreasing. In 2022 roughly 80 pct. of surveys were completed via smartphone and the average response rate on surveys were approximately 45 pct. using mix-mode CAWI and CATI. We therefore wanted to take initiatives to improve the respondent experience and raise the response rates. From our prior studies of the invitation letter and the use of incentives using split sample testing on different surveys, we gained valuable knowledge about our communication with the respondents. However, we wanted more knowledge about the perspective of the individual respondents and what works and does not work in the current context. Therefore, we decided to work with a private company that conducts in-depth interviews.

Test set-up

The respondent journey from the first contact with the respondent to the completion of a survey and how we "leave" the respondent was described in detail. This gave us the opportunity to identify the direct contact points we have with the respondents and where we can improve the respondents' experience.

The key points of contact are:

- The invitation (digital post or letter in mail)
- The respondent starting the survey (via direct link)
- The respondent starting the survey via special webpage
- The questionnaire – layout and functionality
- Landing page and how we thank them for their time

A total of 18 respondents were interviewed. Main recruitment criteria were age, family status, education and presumed IT-capabilities.

Test results

As expected, the smartphone is the preferred device to participate in a survey. Respondents aged 75+ also preferred the smartphone, whereas we had expected this age group to use the PC to a greater extent. One respondent aged 75+ commented that she had not used a mouse for a PC in more than 10 years. The preferred device is in general determined by the respondents' expected length of time to participate in the survey. The longer the questionnaire, the more likely the use of an iPad or PC.

Invitations to the survey must be short and easy to read so the respondents can decode the information quickly. This also applies to the layout of the questionnaire; the easier the respondents can get an overview of the question(s) presented, the more likely they are to continue to answer the survey. The focus among the younger respondents is to feel effective while answering. For the older respondents it is important to make them feel that it is easy to answer the questions and progress in the survey. The younger respondents are highly motivated by the subject whereas the older respondents are more likely to participate by the feeling of helping the survey sender.

Actions taken

As a result of the test, we have made changes in the letter of invitation, the questionnaire layout, the closing words after last question is answered and the landing page. The test emphasized the 'mobile first' mindset, which entails adaptions of questions, shortening of introduction to questions and the general functionality of the questionnaire. We have still in favour to see the effect on response rates which can be a bit difficult to measure since due to other changing circumstances.

FIJI

Reporting: **M.G.M. Khan**

Balance of Payment

The Balance of Payment (BOP) unit is working closely with the Reserve Bank of Fiji (RBF) in reviewing and updating the outdated Overseas Exchange Transaction (OET) codes. More codes were proposed to the team for implementation in order to meet the data needs of the external sector statistics compilation.

In addition, the BOP unit is updating the International Investment Survey frame to improve the recording of liabilities in the financial accounts and to reduce/minimize the errors and omissions in the balance of payment statistics. A technical mission is planned later this year by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to review all accounts and provide further support and expert advice for improving the accounts.

The unit is also planning to implement the latest International Visitors Survey (IVS) Report for the years 2016 to 2019 released by the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation in the Fiji's Earning's from Tourism. The IVS reports are used to calculate the Per-diem rates for the tourism earnings release.

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Civil Registration & Vital Statistics (CRVS) Inequality Assessment in Fiji

The objective of the assessment was to ensure no one is left behind; further investigation is needed to understand whose vital events are least likely to be registered. Fiji is one of the first countries, to our knowledge, to embark on an in-depth quantitative inequality assessment, examining differentials by sex, age, ethnicity and mother's marital status. Assessment results will be used to inform future research and policy interventions and to bridge gaps in registration between different populations in the country.

The work was primarily led by the Fiji Bureau of Statistics in coordination with other key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health and Medical Services and other key stakeholders with technical support from UNESCAP and International Consultant Ms. Renee Sorchik.

The report is expected to be released by the end of Quarter 2, 2023.

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Developing Vital Statistics Indicators and Assessing Completeness and Inequalities in the Registration of Births and Deaths

Over the past year, the Fiji Bureau of Statistics worked with the Ministry of Health and Medical Services and the Ministry of Justice to produce a Vital Statistics Report for Fiji covering the period 2016 to 2021.

This project was financially and technically supported by Vital Strategies (Bloomberg Philanthropies – Data for Health Initiative) and the University of New South Wales, Senior Lecturer Dr. Christine Linhart.

The report contains important information regarding levels and trends in fertility and mortality across the country, including cause-specific mortality, life expectancy, and excess mortality. This report is expected to be released by the end of Quarter 2, 2023.

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Household Surveys

Over the years, the Household Survey Division (HSD) has embarked on new innovations of data collection such as the transition from PAPI to CAPI in the 2017 Population and Housing Census. The division embarked on its first survey using a CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interview) system for the Pre-Screening phase of the Secured Transaction Reform Impact Evaluation (STRIE) funded by the Asian Development Bank focused on Small Micro Medium businesses. The STRIE survey is scheduled to conclude by May 2023. With the support of the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the division also conducted the first National Trafficking in Persons Prevalence Survey and was involved with the data processing and analysis using the Network Scale-Up Method (NSUM). Lastly, as per national surveys every five years, the division is preparing the Household Labour Force Survey or the Employment Unemployment Survey (EUS) 2023-24, the first EUS conducted using CAPI with technical support from the International Labour Organisation (ILO), with collection from August 2023 to July 2024.

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FRANCE

Reporting: **Philippe Brion**

The French Health Barometer and its adaptation during the Covid-19 pandemic

The French Health Barometer is a repeated health telephone survey that has been conducted in the general adult French population since 1992 by Santé publique France, the national public health agency, allowing trends in health risk behaviours to be measured.

This survey covers various topics, including: tobacco, alcohol and drug consumption, vaccination, sexual practices, nutrition, physical activity, mental health, etc. The survey design is a random digit dialing sample of landline and cell phones. Interviews are conducted using computer-assisted telephone interviewing, of people living in France, non-institutionalized, and who speak French. Participation is anonymous and voluntary.

More elements on the Health Barometer may be found (in French) at:

https://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/etudes-et-enquetes/barometres-de-sante-publique-france#block-65435

In 2020, the survey had to adapt after the Covid-19 pandemic hit. First, the survey collection relied on interviewers who were gathered at call centres: lockdown made impossible this way of working and the survey collection had to stop. Second, the pursued objectives could not remain the same in this extra-ordinary period, especially regarding health attitudes in a pandemic context. It was then decided to distinguish data collected before and after the first French lockdown, which took place from March 17th to May 10th. The data collected from January 8th to March 16th (before the lockdown) were used to produce the usual indicators. Due to the unexpected halt to the data collection, the sample size was reduced, leading these indicators to be produced only at a national level, and not at a regional level as initially intended. In a second step, a new survey was launched on June 4th, just after the lockdown was finished and featuring a different questionnaire, to obtain timely information on the impact of the pandemic on the health behaviours and on mental health, and also to gather information on the spread of the epidemic itself. This was made possible by the quick development of solutions for the interviewers to work from home, as gathering in confined spaces was not yet permitted.

More elements on this survey may be found (in French) at:

https://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/etudes-et-enquetes/barometres-de-sante-publique-france/barometre-sante-2020

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KENYA

Reporting: **David I. Ojakaa**

Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

This report recapitulates the technical processes of the 2022 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (KDHS), a key and quinquennially recurring sample survey in Kenya as in many developing countries. The intent is to shine the spotlight on innovations/new approaches. The survey neared completion with the release of the key indicators report (KIR) at the end of January 2023; the complete document will be shared later in 2023. Notable transitions were implemented in the survey

processes of sample design, questionnaire development, anthropometric measurement, training, fieldwork, and data processing.

The sampling frame for the survey, baptized the Kenya household master sampling frame (KHMSF) in the current phase, was developed from the 129,067 enumeration areas (EAs) of the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing census. Out of these, 10,000 EAs were selected for the KHMSF. The EAs were then transformed into clusters through household listing and geo-referencing. In a subsequent step, the 47 Kenya counties were stratified into urban and rural areas to yield 92 strata, Nairobi and Mombasa counties both being urban. A two-stage stratified design was applied; in the first step a total of 1,692 clusters being selected through equal probability sampling. In the second stage 25 households were systematically selected in each sampled cluster. This yielded a total of 32,156 interviews among women aged 15-49 years (a quantum leap of 281% from the 2008 survey, and a stabilizing 3.5% increase from the previous, 2014, survey), and 14,453 with men in the 15-54 age range.

To collect the data, eight questionnaires were used: the full and short household questionnaire; the full and short woman's questionnaire; the man's questionnaire; the full and short biomarker questionnaire; the fieldworker questionnaire. The separation into full and short questionnaires aimed at reducing the duration of fieldwork, as well as interviewer and respondent fatigue. To determine nutritional status using anthropometric measures, the weights and heights of children under age five, women aged 15–49, and men aged 15–54 were taken using precision Seca digital scales and Shorr boards respectively.

Training, to ensure data quality, consisted of three steps – training of trainers (TOTs), the pre-test, and field-staff training. This process resulted in a total of 45 trainers and 314 personnel participating in the master, and pre-test cum fieldworker sessions respectively. Collection of data was accomplished by 48 teams categorized mainly by local languages. Every team comprised a supervisor, biomarker technician, three female interviewers, a male interviewer, and a driver. Data collection involved computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI), specifically Android computer tablets programmed with CSpro software.

Note: The views expressed here are those of the author solely and not of KNBS nor of the DHS program.

More information on the survey can be obtained from: directorgeneral@knbs.or.ke; archive@dhsprogram.com. The key indicator report (KIR) can be accessed through the following link: https://www.knbs.or.ke/download/2022-kdhs-key-indicators-report/

THE NETHERLANDS

Reporting: **Deirdre Giesen**

Two programs to increase effectiveness and efficiency

Statistics Netherlands has set up two programs that aim to make statistical processing more effective and efficient. Their common goal is to free up space for innovation. EBN2.x is in the economic division, where EBN is the Dutch acronym for the Division of Economic and Business statistics and National account. KERS is in the social statistics division, where KERS stands for Chain Efficiency Registers Socioeconomic and spatial statistics. The programs involve using office-wide standardized tooling and working methods to enable reusing data, tools, and methods across production systems.

Two of the principles of the renewal program EBN2.x are: we share all our data from the start, and we centrally manage all our (population) frameworks, which are the basis of our statistics. For KERS the aim is to free up time (by realizing efficiency gains) in the processing of registers. Based on best

practices, 'KERS principles' and a 'KERS standard process' promote more flexible and agile processing, more sharing of data, knowledge, ICT and methods. Of the 134 registers that are in scope of the program, 34 are already in progress of implementing the new way of working. Initial results show that the statistical departments are enthusiastic about the new way of working and there will be a gain in maintainability.

For advice and guidance, each of KERS and EBN 2.x has a core team including tool specialists, methodologists, business analysts and representatives from the statistical departments. The duration of both EBN 2.x and KERS is until the end of 2025. For more information on EBN2.x please contact program manager Anita Vaasen amvj.vaasen-otten@cbs.nl ; for KERS you can contact program manager Elia Bleuten e.bleuten@cbs.nl

Official statistics on mobility trends in the Netherlands for small domains using multilevel time series models

The longstanding Dutch Travel Survey (DTS) aims to produce reliable estimates on mobility of the Dutch population on an annual frequency. A multilevel time series model serves to estimate mobility trends at several aggregation levels. The models account for discontinuities induced by three survey redesigns, outliers due to less reliable outcomes in one particular year and the effect of the COVID-19 crisis on mobility. The input for the model is a set of direct annual estimates with their standard errors for the period 1999–2021 for about 700 domains cross-classified using gender, age, transportation purpose and transportation mode. As a result, the model can be considered as a multivariate time series extension of the Fay-Herriot model. The model structure is predominantly based on the required output tables, which implies that temporal and cross-sectional components are included at different aggregation levels. To reduce the risk of overfitting, many effects including discontinuities and COVID-19 effects are modelled as random effects. Using Laplace and Horseshoe distributions, a regularization method employing non-normally distributed random effects both suppresses noisy model coefficients and allows large effects sufficiently supported by the data.

Appropriate transformations for the direct estimates and generalized variance functions to smooth the standard errors of the direct estimates are developed for better model fits. The models are fitted in an hierarchical Bayesian framework using MCMC simulations. Smooth trend estimates are computed at the most detailed domain level. Predictions at higher aggregation levels obtained by aggregation of the most detailed domain predictions result in a numerically consistent set of trend estimates for all target variables, that have been published recently by Statistics Netherlands as official statistics.

Contact persons: Harm Jan Boonstra (hbta@cbs.nl) and Jan van den Brakel jbrl@cbs.nl

Boonstra, H.J. and J.A. van den Brakel. (2022), Multilevel time series models for small area estimation at different frequencies and domain levels. Annals of Applied Statistics. Vol. 16, No. 4, pp 2314-2338

Boonstra, H.J., J.A. van den Brakel and S. Das (2021). Multilevel time series modeling of mobility trends. Journal of the Royal Statistical Society A series. Vol 184, pp. 985-1007

PERU

Reporting: **Leonor Laguna**

Implementation of a Microdata System

El Instituto Nacional de Estadística e Informática (INEI) is in charge of all the statistics produced in Peru. The INEI is currently organizing a System of Microdata for the promotion and diffusion of the research that is carried out.

This system offers both the database and the relevant documentation of the surveys and census carried out by the INEI in recent years.

One of the advantages of this system is to facilitate the research, identification and recovery of the information and documentation of the surveys and census that the INEI carries out. The users can also obtain the information and documentation of the surveys and census in popularly used formats and of wide publication in the market (SPSS, Microsoft Excel, Acrobat Reader).

You may enter to the system of data by following this link: https://proyectos.inei.gob.pe/microdatos/.

The system of data is open to the public in general.

POLAND

Reporting: **Tomasz Żądło**

Poland ranked 2nd in the Open Data Inventory ranking

The Open Data Inventory assesses the coverage and openness of official statistics. In the current ranking (https://odin.opendatawatch.com/Report/rankings) updated March 9, 2023, Poland was ranked 2nd among 192 countries after Singapore and before Finland.

Currently, Statistics Poland gives the open access to the following databases:

- Regional Atlas - a map module that allows the spatial visualization of data concerning regional and local economy (available in English: http://swaid.stat.gov.pl/EN/SitePagesDBW/AtlasRegionow.aspx),

- Local Data Bank - Poland's largest database of information on the economy, society, and environment (available in English: https://bdl.stat.gov.pl/bdl/start),

- Macroeconomic Data Bank - a statistical database providing access to a long-time series of basic macroeconomic indicators (available in English: https://bdm.stat.gov.pl),

- Data Bank Poland - a repository that collects historical data from the Polish official statistics system. The time series, depending on the category, begins in 1946 and ends in 1999 (available in Polish: https://bdp.stat.gov.pl/),

- Polish organisations and institutions abroad and Polish diaspora organisations and institutions database (available in English as xlsx file at the bottom of the page: https://stat.gov.pl/en/topics/population/poles-and-polish-community-abroad/the-polish-organisations-and-institutions-abroad-and-polish-diaspora-organisations-and-institutions-database,1,2.html),

- Decompositions – a database which presents methodology and analyses results that aim to identify regional discrepancies in the degree of economic development, dividing them into subcomponents crucial for socio-economic policy intervention (available in Polish but automatic Google Translation of the website works properly: https://dekompozycje.stat.gov.pl/),

- Database Demographics – a source of statistics about population status and structure, natural movement, and migration (available in Polish: https://demografia.stat.gov.pl),

- Knowledge Databases – it focuses on giving detailed information about 31 different topics, such as Prices, Demography, Education, Public finances, Business and consumer tendency, Science and technology, Labour Market (available in English: https://dbw.stat.gov.pl/en),

- Foreign trade – it provides information on international trade in goods by countries and goods, as well as international trade in services by trading partners (available in English: http://swaid.stat.gov.pl/EN/SitePagesDBW/HandelZagraniczny.aspx),

- Sustainable Development Goals – information on over 120 indicators concerning implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Poland (available in English: https://sdg.gov.pl/en/),

- Public Service Monitoring System – it provides local government units, businesses, and the society with the information necessary to comprehensively evaluate services provided at the local level (available in Polish but automatic Google Translation of the website works properly: https://smup.gov.pl/),

- Statistical Handbook of Local Government – a system created by public statistics to meet the growing information needs of local government units corresponding to their tasks (available in Polish but automatic Google Translation of the website works properly: https://svs.stat.gov.pl/),

- Strateg – a system, updated at least once a quarter, supporting the process of monitoring development and evaluating the effects of actions taken to strengthen social cohesion (available in English: https://strateg.stat.gov.pl).

SWITZERLAND

Reporting: **Georg Lutz and Alina Matei**

linkhub.ch: a project for promoting data linking

The linkhub.ch project aim is twofold: first, to provide the creation of a legal and institutional environment that supports academic and administrative research based on data linking while respecting data security, and second, to ensure dissemination of knowledge about data linking. Created in 2019, the linkhub.ch project is the result of collaboration between several institutions (FORS, TREE - University of Berne, Swiss Network on Fiscal Federalism - University of Basel, Swiss RDL - University of Berne, NCCR on the move - University of Geneva). The project is held by FORS, the Swiss Centre of Expertise in the Social Sciences, hosted at the University of Lausanne and funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation.

A data link usually requires two different data sources. Linking data requires specific procedures because: first, linking datasets is not possible without identifying information, and second, the sensitivity of data and, hence, the potential harm may increase once data is linked.

The Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO) carries out the linking of datasets with at least one dataset coming from the Swiss Federal Administration. Researchers can submit demands for data linking to SFSO upon some conditions: they must sign a data contract that limits the usage of data to a maximum of five years, and data has to be destroyed after the end of a project.

The Federal Statistics Act provides the legal basis for the linkage of data for statistical purposes. However, the linkage of research data and private data is not regulated as for the administrative one. There are no standards or even principles governing how such data should be used for research. Moreover, Switzerland does not have a general strategy to promote and facilitate open data access for research. In its report from 2020, the linkhub.ch project proposes options and suggestions for changes to the legal framework that would facilitate access to data and data linkage. Since the Federal Statistical Act already has a provision on linking data, the current proposal of the linkhub.ch project is to encourage the establishment of a legal framework to make data available to third parties for research purposes in a broader sense, which currently fall outside the Statistical System.

Given that the secondary use of data is becoming an increasingly important topic in many areas, e.g., also around the discussion at the European Union level around data spaces, Switzerland is now also moving towards creating a new legal framework law for the secondary use of data in order to establish a clear legal basis how to use, link and access data from different sources. After approval of the national parliament to work on such a law in June 2023, the federal administration will start the preparatory work in autumn 2023. Linkhub.ch will actively participate in this preparatory phase in order to highlight the importance of the law and the needs of the research community to have good access to existing data within an established legal and institutional framework.

More information: https://linkhub.ch/about/

Contact : https://linkhub.ch/contact/

URUGUAY

Reporting: **Diego Aboal**

Innovations in Uruguay's 2023 Census

Uruguay is performing the 2023 Population, Households and Housing Census (2023 PHHC). It presents innovative features for the Latin America and Caribbean region.

Firstly, the completely digital 2023 PHHC census will take place in two phases: a web phase where households will be able to self-register, and a face-to-face phase with electronic recording of data through 8-inch tablets. Unlike previous censuses, for the 2023 PHHC self-registration is intended as a crucial census strategy and not only as a marginal or recovery strategy. In the region, the only known successful web census, in terms of coverage, is the 2022 Argentine PHHC.

Secondly, in parallel, a census based on administrative records will be conducted. It is the first time that a country, in the region, has carried out such a pilot. It will allow comparisons between a traditional census and a register-based census for some basic variables. In this manner, gaps could be assessed taken into consideration the national plan for moving to a complete register- based census in the future. During the last years, Uruguay has been improving the quality and integration of administrative records. In this sense, Nordic countries are examples that are being followed by Uruguay.

Thirdly, the Uruguayan census is making strong use of administrative records in the pre-census phase. Early results indicate that the correction to office work carried out on satellite images of the census areas will be less than 1%. On the other hand, the count of addresses in the field is yielding similar numbers to the previous count carried out with administrative data based on the number of connections to the electricity service. In Uruguay, electricity coverage reaches 98% of homes and can be georeferenced appropriately. The convenience of such traditional field count in the pre-census phase is an open question. In future it will probably be more efficient to use administrative data during such phase.

The high coverage of the electricity service and the possibility of managing the consumption meters of customers with high precision permits the geo-location of the census data collected through the web. Households responding to the 2023 PHHC via Internet must login with their customer number and the number of their electricity meter. Incentives have been designed for the population to respond through this mechanism with the aim of lowering costs and data collection times: those who respond to the web questionnaire will be able to participate in a lottery for one year of free electricity consumption.

Finally, the Uruguayan census is innovating in another dimension: leveraging technology to flatten the pyramid usually observed in field operations with respect to the information flow to and from the

field. In fact, one of the limitations of the traditional pyramidal structure of census supervision is the distortion of information received by census enumerators and from them up to the survey chiefs. Usually, the vast majority of supervisors are staff with no previous survey experience, so those messages and information flowing through those channels present limitations. Technology can help to overcome this problem.

In the case of Uruguay, a planning and control centre has been established. This center is in permanent contact with the census enumerators and supervisors of the first level in the field directly (all tablets have access to electronic messaging services and have connection to mobile telephone lines) and it is the first reference for conceptual doubts, data collection and other field incidents. The heads of the field work and their assistants are the coordinators of those centers. The centers have access through computer systems to various tools to evacuate the above-mentioned doubts and solve problems in a short time. In addition to being able to monitor the progress of the survey. These centers receive incidents quickly (without distortions from intermediaries), can adequately systematize the information and can give rapid, unified and validated responses by the survey managers to all field staff, thereby improving the quality of the flow of information allowing more timely decisions to be made.

This report was prepared in collaboration with Leonardo Cuello, Lucía Pérez and Federico Segui.

General Information can be found at: www.ine.gub.uy

For further information, please contact daboal@ine.gub.uy

UNITED STATES

Reporting: **Andreea L. Erciulescu**

Toward a Vision for a New Data Infrastructure for Federal Statistics in the 21st Century

Ad hoc committees appointed by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine are developing a vision for the new national data infrastructure to help inform decision makers on matters regarding economy, society, and life in general. For this, virtual public workshops are being held to gather information from key stakeholders and external experts, which is then being disseminated in public reports. The first two reports, on the overall vision for a new national data infrastructure and on using multiple data sources, have already been released. A third report will be produced, on data privacy and confidentiality. More information on the overall project can be found at the following link: Toward a Vision for a New Data Infrastructure for Federal Statistics and Social and Economic Research in the 21st Century | National Academies.

Conferences on survey statistics and related areas

WSC 2023

ISI2023 The *64th ISI World Statistics Congress* will be face-to-face and held in Ottawa, Canada on July 16 - 20, 2023. https://www.isi2023.org/conferences/ottawa-2023/

The program of the upcoming 64th ISI WSC is now available here: https://www.isi2023.org/conferences/15/programme/

IASS 2023 General Assembly

The IASS 2023 General Assembly will be held on Wednesday, 19th July 2023 at 12:10-13:50 pm (EDT - Eastern Daylight Time) during the WSC in Ottawa in ***hybrid* format**.
Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/97827663892.

The proposed agenda for the meeting is:

1. Welcome and Opening
2. President's Communications
3. IASS annual report 2022
4. President's report
5. TSS editor's report
6. Any other business

If you have any other items for discussion, please send an email to natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk.

https://wiki.helsinki.fi/display/BNU/BANOCOSS2023

European Establishment Statistics Workshop 2023

The 2023 European Establishment Statistics Workshop - EESW23 – will be held at Statistics Portugal, in Lisbon, on 20-22 September, 2023. The deadline for abstract submission is past. However, there are **three short courses** that cover a selection of topics of high current relevance to establishment statistics methodologists and practitioners, and delivered by renowned international experts in their fields:

New developments in business data collection methodology, by Sally-Anne Aubrey-Smith, Ger Snijkers and Paulo Saraiva

Business network analysis, by Carolina Mattsson

Quality of multisource statistics, by Arnout van Delden and Sander Scholtus

Lunch and refreshments are included in course fees, and a certificate of attendance can be provided. For fees and registration to a short course, please follow this link

More information: sites.google.com/enbes.org/home/home/news-and-events/eesw23

BigSurv
BIG DATA MEETS SURVEY SCIENCE

Connecting Innovations in Data Science, Survey Research, and the Social Sciences

BigSurv23 The **3rd** international conference on **Big Data Meets Survey Science**

will be held on **October 26-29, 2023**,

at Universidad San Francisco de Quito in **Ecuador**.

The call for abstracts and session proposals is now closed.
Additional information can be found on the BigSurv23 website at https://www.bigsurv.org/

In Other Journals

Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology

Volume 11, Issue 1, February 2023

https://academic.oup.com/jssam/issue/11/1

Survey Methodology

Mail Communications and Survey Response: A Test of Social Exchange Versus Pre-Suasion Theory for Improving Response Rates and Data Quality
Pierce Greenberg and Don Dillman

An Experimental Comparison of Three Strategies for Converting Mail Respondents in a Probability-Based Mixed-Mode Panel to Internet Respondents
David Bretschi, Ines Schaurer, and Don A. Dillman

Can Appended Auxiliary Data be Used to Tailor the Offered Response Mode in Cross-Sectional Studies? Evidence from An Address-Based Sample
Michael T. Jackson, Rebecca L. Medway, and Mahi W. Megra

Sequential and Concurrent Internet-Telephone Mixed-Mode Designs in Sexual Health Behavior Research
Stéphane Legleye and Géraldine Charrance

Predicting Nonresponse in Future Waves of a Probability-Based Mixed-Mode Panel with Machine Learning
Christoph Kern, Bernd Weiß, and Jan-Philipp Kolb

An Experimental Evaluation of Two Approaches for Improving Response to Household Screening Efforts in National Mail/Web Surveys
James Wagner, Brady T. West, Mick P. Couper, Shiyu Zhang, Rebecca Gatward, Raphael Nishimura, and Htay-Wah Saw

Survey Statistics

Imputation Procedures in Surveys Using Nonparametric and Machine Learning Methods: An Empirical Comparison
Mehdi Dagdoug, Camelia Goga, and David Haziza

A Comparative Study of Imputation Methods for Multivariate Ordinal Data
Chayut Wongkamthong and Olanrewaju Akande

Adapting Nearest Neighbor for Multiple Imputation: Advantages, Challenges, and Drawbacks
Rebecca Roberts Andridge and Katherine Jenny Thompson

A Rescaling Bootstrap Approach for Imputed Survey Data
Zeinab Mashreghi and Huiqi Deng

Applications

Multiple Imputation with Massive Data: An Application to the Panel Study of Income Dynamics
Yajuan Si, Steve Heeringa, David Johnson, Roderick J. A. Little, Wenshuo Liu, Fabian Pfeffer, and Trivellore Raghunathan

Volume 11, Issue 2, April 2023

https://academic.oup.com/jssam/issue/11/2

Survey Methodology

How Does Back Translation Fare Against Team Translation? An Experimental Case Study in the Language Combination English–German
Dorothée Behr and Michael Braun

Multi-Project Assessments of Sample Quality in Cross-National Surveys: The Role of Weights in Applying External and Internal Measures of Sample Bias
Piotr Jabkowski, Piotr Cichocki, and Marta Kołczynska

Effects of Address Coverage Enhancement on Estimates from Address-Based Sampling Studies
Michael Jones, J. Michael Brick, and Wendy Van de Kerckhove

Deriving Priors for Bayesian Prediction of Daily Response Propensity in Responsive Survey Design: Historical Data Analysis Versus Literature Review
Brady T. West, James Wagner, Stephanie Coffey, and Michael R. Elliott

Survey Statistics

Bootstrap Estimation of the Conditional Bias for Measuring Influence in Complex Surveys
Jean-François Beaumont, Cynthia Bocci, and Michel St-Louis

Rank-Based Inference for Survey Sampling Data
Akim Adekpedjou and Huybrechts F. Bindele

Inference from Nonrandom Samples Using Bayesian Machine Learning
Yutao Liu, Andrew Gelman, and Qixuan Chen

Calibrated Multilevel Regression with Poststratification for the Analysis of SMS Survey Data
Jonathan Gellar, Constance Delannoy, Erin Lipman, Shirley Jeoffreys-Leach, Bobby Berkowitz, Grant J. Robertson, and Sarah M. Hughes

Fully Bayesian Estimation Under Dependent and Informative Cluster Sampling
Luis G León-Novelo and Terrance D Savitsky

Survey Statistics

Corrigendum to: Fully Bayesian Estimation Under Dependent and Informative Cluster Sampling
Luis G León-Novelo and Terrance D Savitsky

Journal of Official Statistics

Volume 39 (2023): Issue 1 (March 2023)

https://sciendo.com/issue/JOS/39/1

Characteristics of Respondents to Web-Based or Traditional Interviews in Mixed-Mode Surveys. Evidence from the Italian Permanent Population Census
Elena Grimaccia, Alessia Naccarato, Gerardo Gallo, Novella Cecconi and Alessandro Fratoni

A Multivariate Regression Estimator of Levels and Change for Surveys Over Time
Anne Konrad and Yves Berger

Investigating an Alternative for Estimation from a Nonprobability Sample: Matching plus Calibration
Zhan Liu and Richard Valliant

Using Eye-Tracking Methodology to Study Grid Question Designs in Web Surveys
Cornelia E. Neuert, Joss Roßmann and Henning Silber

A Statistical Comparison of Call Volume Uniformity Due to Mailing Strategy
Andrew M. Raim, Elizabeth Nichols and Thomas Mathew

A Two-Stage Bennet Decomposition of the Change in the Weighted Arithmetic Mean
Thomas von Brasch, Håkon Grini, Magnus Berglund Johnsen and Trond Christian Vigtel

Volume 39 (2023): Issue 2 (June 2023)

https://sciendo.com/issue/JOS/39/2

Effects of Changing Modes on Item Nonresponse in Panel Surveys
Oliver Lipps, Marieke Voorpostel and Gian-Andrea Monsch

Adjusting for Selection Bias in Nonprobability Samples by Empirical Likelihood Approach
Daniela Marella

Design and Sample Size Determination for Experiments on Nonresponse Followup using a Sequential Regression Model
Andrew M. Raim, Thomas Mathew, Kimberly F. Sellers, Renee Ellis and Mikelyn Meyers

Estimating Intra-Regional Inequality with an Application to German Spatial Planning Regions
Marina Runge

Constructing Building Price Index Using Administrative Data
Masahiro Higo, Yumi Saita, Chihiro Shimizu and Yuta Tachi

From Quarterly to Monthly Turnover Figures Using Nowcasting Methods
Daan Zult, Sabine Krieg, Bernd Schouten, Pim Ouwehand and Jan van den Brakel

Survey Practice

Vol. 16, Issue 1, 2023

https://www.surveypractice.org/issue/6753

Articles

The Shy Respondent and Propensity to Participate in Surveys: A Proof-of-Concept Study
John Boyle, James Dayton, Randy ZuWallack, Ronaldo Iachan

Null Effects of Framing Welcoming Ordinances
David Doherty, Dana Garbarski, Pablo Guzman Rivera

How Weighting by Past Vote Can Improve Estimates of Voting Intentions
Darren Pennay, Sebastian Misson, Dina Neiger, Paul J Lavrakas

Adapting Clinical Instruments for Population Mental Health Surveillance: Should an Explicit "Don't Know" Response Option Be Given?
Rachel Suss, Tashema Bholanath, Tenzin Yangchen, Dongchung Amber, Levanon Seligson, Christina C. Norman, Sarah E. Dumas

Mail to One or Mail to All? An Experiment (Sub)Sampling Drop Point Units in a Self-Administered Address-Based Sampling Frame Survey
Taylor Lewis, Joseph McMichael, Charlotte Looby

Survey Research Methods

Journal of the European Survey Research Association

Vol 17 No 1 (2023)

https://ojs.ub.uni-konstanz.de/srm/issue/view/233

Articles

Puzzling Answers to Crosswise Questions: Examining Overall Prevalence Rates, Response Order Effects, and Learning Effects
Sandra Walzenbach, Thomas Hinz

Respondents for Nearly Three Decades: How Do Loyal Sample Members Differ From Others?
Nicole D. James

Memory Effects: A Comparison Across Question Types
Tobias Rettig, Annelies G. Blom, Jan Karem Höhne

Religious Involvement Across Europe: Examining its Measurement Comparability
Alisa Remizova, Eldad Davidov, Maksim Rudnev

Ambiguity in the Item Wording, Ambiguity in the Respondents' Comprehension? An Experiment on the 'Immigrants/Foreign Workers' Social Distance Item in Values Surveys
Riccardo Ladini, Ferruccio Biolcati

Using Cognitive Interviews to Evaluate and Improve a Danish Translation of a Compiled Questionnaire on Existential and Spiritual Constructs
Tobias Anker Stripp, Dorte Toudal Viftrup, Ricko Damberg Nissen, Sonja Wehberg, Jens Sondergaard, Niels Christian Hvidt

Hard-to-Survey and Negligible? The Institutionalized Population in Europe
Jan-Lucas Schanze

Other Journals

- **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!

Title	First name	Surname	Country
MR.	Peter	Buwembo	India
PROF	Mahmoud	Torabi	Canada
DR.	Dina	Neiger	Australia
DRS	Luciana	Crosilla	Italy
MS	Camilla	Salvatore	Italy
MR.	Darryl	Creel	United States
PROF	David	Haziza	Canada
DR.	Vilma	Nekrašaitė-Liegė	Lithuania
MR.	Mawdo	Gibba	Gambia
DR.	Jae Kwang	Kim	United States
MR.	Rees	Morrison	United States
PROF	Enrico	Fabrizi	Italy
MS	An-Chiao	Liu	The Netherlands
MR.	José	Zea	Colombia
MRS	Aulia Dini	Rafsanjani	Indonesia
DR.	Eva	Elvers	Sweden
DR.	Daniela	Cialfi	Italy
DR.	Monika	Galambosne Tiszberger	Hungary
DR.	Renata	Benda-Prokeinova	Slovakia
DR.	Bernard	Baffour-Awuah	Australia
PROF. DR.	Reza C.	Daniels	South Africa
PROF	Nicola	Salvati	Italy

IASS Executive Committee Members

Executive officers (2022 – 2024)

President:	Monica Pratesi (Italy)	monica.pratesi@unipi.it
President-elect:	Natalie Shlomo (UK)	natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk
Vice-Presidents:		
Scientific Secretary:	M. Giovanna Ranalli (Italy)	maria.ranalli@unipg.it
VP Finance	Jairo Arrow (South Africa)	jairo.arrow@gmail.com
Liaising with ISI EC and ISI PO plus administrative matters	Natalie Shlomo (UK)	natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk
Chair of the Cochran-Hansen Prize Committee and IASS representative on the ISI Awards Committee:	Nikos Tzavidis (UK)	n.tzavidis@soton.ac.uk
IASS representatives on the World Statistics Congress Scientific Programme Committee:	Natalie Shlomo (UK)	natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk
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	M. Giovanna Ranalli (Italy)	maria.ranalli@unipg.it
IASS Webinars Representatives 2021-2023	Andrea da Silva (Brazil)	andrea.silva@ibge.gov.br
Ex Officio Member:	Ada van Krimpen	an.vankrimpen@cbs.nl

IASS Twitter Account @iass_isi (https://twitter.com/iass_isi)

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

Institutional Members

International organisations:

- Eurostat (European Statistical Office)

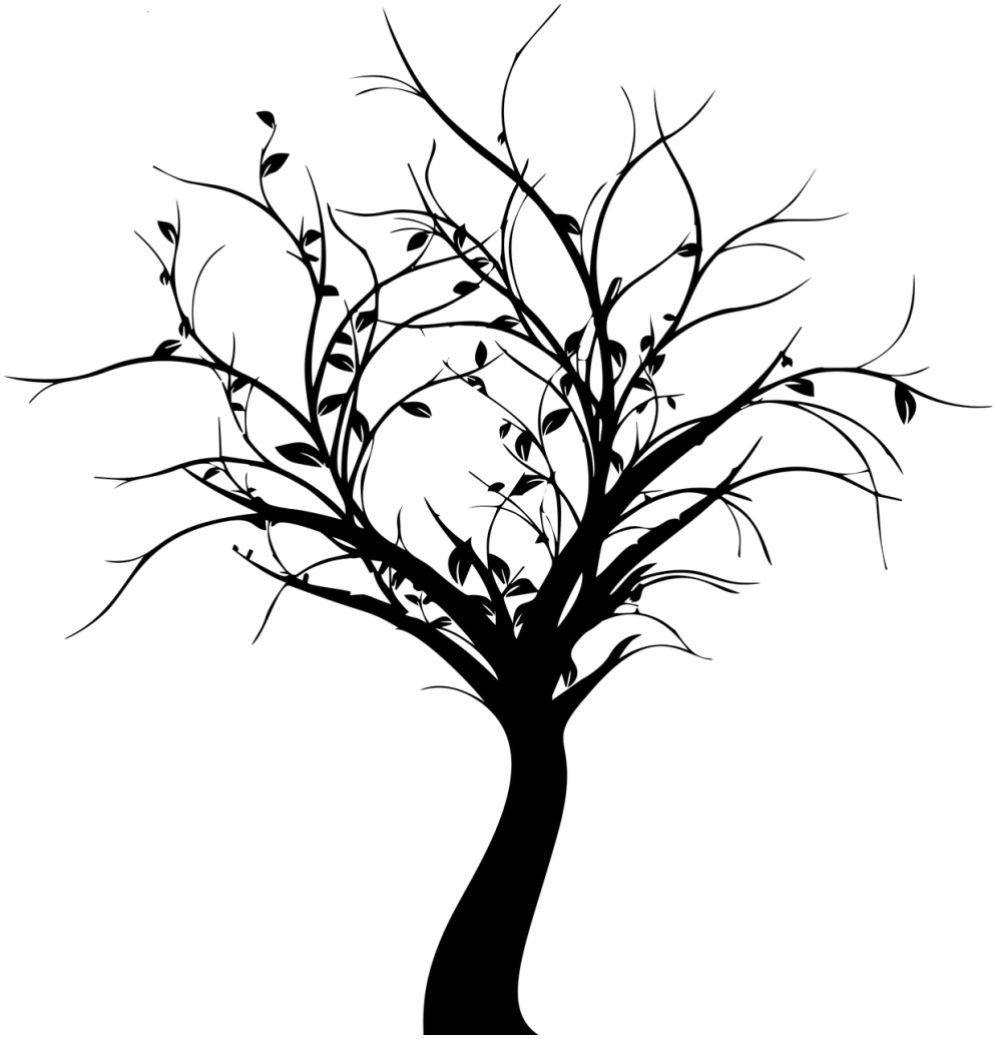
National statistical offices:

- Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australia
- Inst Brasileno de Geografia y Estatistica, Brazil
- Statistics Canada, Canada
- Statistics Denmark, Denmark
- Statistics Finland, Finland
- Statistiches Bundesamt (Destatis), Germany
- International Rel. & Statistical Coordination, Israel
- ISTAT, Italy
- Dept. of Economics and Management, Italy
- Statistics Korea (KOSTAT), Korea, Republic of
- EC Eurostat - Unit 01: External & Inter., Luxembourg
- Dir.dos Serviços de Estatística e Census, Macao, SAR China
- Statistics Mauritius, Mauritius
- INEGI, Mexico
- Statistics New Zealand, New Zealand
- Statistics Norway, Norway
- Inst. Nacional de Estatística (INE), Portugal
- Statistics Sweden, Sweden
- National Agriculture Statistics Service, United States
- WESTAT Inc., United States
- National Center of Health Statistics, United States

Private companies:

- Westat, United States

Read *the Survey Statistician* online!



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