

19 October 2015

World Statistics Day (20-10-2015)

Better Data. Better lives

The number of statistical operations carried out and the data disseminated by the INE increase, and reduces the workload of its informants

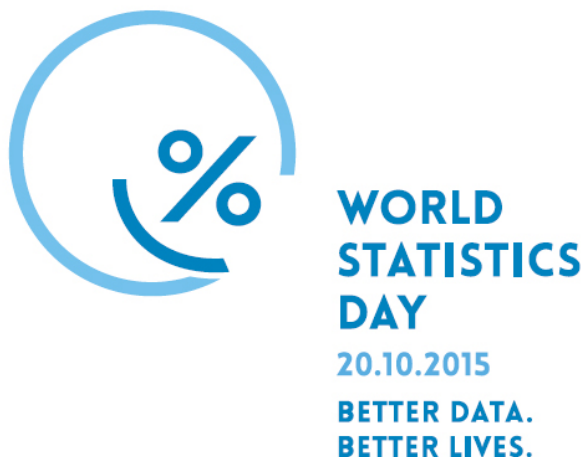
Producing better data to make the lives of everyone better is the motto for the World Statistics Day, which will be held tomorrow, 20 October 2015. In this respect, it should be recalled that political, business, and institutional decisions and, in general, decisions made by all the citizens need every day more and better statistical information, being the statistics an essential element for the proper functioning of a democratic society.

This international event attempts to highlight the importance of the official statistics for today's society. This information's promoting bodies want to reinforce confidence in the field of official statistics via its three fundamental values: Service, integrity and professionalism.

The General Assemble of the United Nations decided that the second World Statistics Day would be 20 October 2015 in its Resolution 69/282 (the first World Statistics Day was held on the same day five years ago; 20 October 2010).

In this Resolution official statistic's long history was recognised, as well as the crucial importance of the existence of a sustainable national statistical infrastructure to produce reliable and appropriate indicators of a country's progress. Besides, it underlined the role played by high quality official statistical information for the analysis and adoption of policy decisions in support of sustainable development.

World Statistics Day logo



Official statistics in Spain

At a national level, the objective of World Statistics Day's celebration is to increase the visibility and credibility of the official statistics in Spain.

In recent years, the Spanish statistical production has registered an important increase, with the goal of answering to the new and increasing harmonised and comparable information requests from national and international users, especially from the European Union.

Thus, since 1993 (when the first National Statistical Plan was approved) the number of statistical operations done by the National Statistics Institute (INE) has increased by 48%.

Results from several statistics carried out were disseminated in recent years, including those of the following:

- Foreclosure Statistics (year 2014).
- Business Turnover Index (year 2014).
- Quality of Life Indicators (year 2014).
- Household Projection (year 2014).
- Continuous Household Survey (year 2014).
- Module on Well-Being of the Living Conditions Survey (year 2014).
- International Trade in Services Survey and Other International Operations (year 2015).
- Survey on the labour market insertion of university qualification-holders (year 2015).
- Survey on the International Mobility of Students (year 2015).

Furthermore, regarding the Tourism Short-Term Trends, it is worth noting the transfer of competences of three important operations to the INE in 2015, which were made by Turespaña. These are the following statistics: FAMILITUR, FRONTUR, and EGATUR.

Aside from the operations mentioned above, it is worth noting two important modifications carried out in already existing statistics in 2014:

- The base change of the Spanish national accounts (new base 2010)
- Population Base change in the EAPS estimates and the updated of new calibration methods.

The National Statistical Plan 2013-2015 adopted as its own the Code of Practice for European Statistics for the first time, as laid down in its article 8. Furthermore the Annual Programs 2014 and 2015 included an article on commitment to statistics quality for state purposes. Thereby, state statistical services are committed to take the necessary measures, in accordance with the Code, to maintain the confidence on the statistics they produce. The second Peer Review exercise organised by Eurostat at European level en the 2013-215 period, through which the level of compliance with the principles of the Code has been analysed, has given very positive results for the situation of our statistical system.

Conscious of the effort made by the informants when filling in the questionnaires, the INE has intensified its strategy to reduce this information workload and facilitate the collaboration. In this respect, the reduction of the workload by the greater use of administrative sources in the elaboration of surveys is one of the main lines of work for the INE. In 2014, 25 statistics were based exclusively on the use of administrative records and 53 more used some administrative record as additional information in different phases of the process.

Besides, the INE has strengthen the use of Internet as a means to collect information. Nowadays, six out of ten questionnaires filled are collected through Internet.

The INE has also promoted the dissemination of statistical information into society. In 2014, 340 Press releases were published, that is 3% more than in 2010. In turn, hits on the INE website increased till 11.2 million visits. Users visited more than 116 million web pages that year. Presently, statistical dissemination systems collect more than 5,300 million data.

The presence of this INE's statistical production in the media is high. Equated to advertising impacts, it reached 371.59 million euros in 2014.

The general assessment of the quality of INE's products and services has increased in each satisfaction survey fulfilled in recent years. Positive and very positive responses increased from 66.1% in 2007 to 70.5% in 2010 and 84% in 2013.

In 2014, with Spain's accession to the new the International Monetary Fund's Special Data Dissemination Standard Plus (SDDS Plus) our country is included in the first group of 8 countries in the world that join this standard, along with France, Germany, Italy, and the United States of America. Furthermore, the INE has obtained the following awards in recent years:

- “Honourable Mention” at the Five Star Awards organised by PSI Alliance (year 2012).
- Fundación Dintel award in Projects Execution and Control in the General State Administration (year 2013).
- CERMI award in Social and Scientific Research category (year 2013).
- Fundación Socioinfo award in ICT- General State Administration (year 2014).

World Statistics Day commemorative events

The INE organises and assists two events to commemorate the World Statistics Day.

The first one consisted in an extraordinary technical session about the use of Big Data and the changes they are causing, that will take place tomorrow 20 October at 12:00 o'clock at the Institute's headquarters.

Secondly, conferences about the future of Demographic Statistics and the Population Census 2021 will be carried out at the Spanish National Research Council's (CSIC) headquarters on 21st and 22nd October. The INE, the CSIC and the Association of Historical Demography (ADEH) will participate in these conferences.

More information about this events could be found in the following link:
http://www.ine.es/diamundesta/diamundesta_2015_programa.pdf

For further information see **INEbase-www.ine.es** All press releases at: **www.ine.es/prensa/prensa_en.htm**

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