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National Statistical Plan (NSP)

The National Statistical Plan includes the production of 395 statistics between 2013 and 2016

47.0% of the statistics will be compiled through the use of previously existing administrative information

The Cabinet of Ministers has passed National Statistical Plan (NSP) 2013-2016, establishing a nucleus of essential statistics that the State Administration must carry out.

The plan includes 395 statistics that must be carried out by the INE and the statistical services of the ministries, the General Council of the Judiciary Branch and the Bank of Spain. 127 of them (32.2%) will be compiled by the INE.

NSP 2013-2016 includes all those statistics required by the European Union, established: in the 2013-2017 Community Statistical Programme and in the Agreement regarding the European Economic Area - Annex XXI - Statistics, in addition to in the specific norms regulating given statistics. 39.4% of the 165 European statistics correspond to the INE.

Statistical secrecy and compulsory response

Worth noting is that all of the identifying personal data obtained in order to prepare the statistics mentioned in the NSP is protected by statistical secrecy. Therefore, in all cases, the statistical services are obligated to avoid disseminating any identifying personal data.

Moreover, the NSP statistics must be answered by the respondents. Said compulsory response involves both individuals and companies, whether domestic or foreign, resident in Spain, as well as all those institutions and public entities of all of the Public Administrations.

In this sense, worth noting is that 32.2% of the 2013-2016 NSP statistics will be obtained through direct data collection from respondents.

In turn, 47.0% will be achieved through the use of previously existing information in administrative sources, which will noticeably reduce the workload for informants.

The remaining statistics will be produced in other ways, basically re-compiling the statistics resulting from the two mentioned media.

Rigorous and flexible plan

The 2013-2016 National Statistical Plan faces a dual challenge: on the one hand, to continue to guarantee the supply, to the State, the European Union, the institutions and users, of the statistical information necessary for decision making, at the appropriate geographical levels, with proper punctuality and in accordance with the previously announced dissemination

calendars, and on the other hand, to do so within a context of permanent improvement of the efficiency of statistical production.

Facing these challenges, the 2013-2016 Plan has conceived a rigorous and flexible plan.

It is rigorous because it is cautious when including new statistics, in the sense that the availability of the means necessary for producing them is not guaranteed, while planning to improve efficiency through the analysis and optimisation of all work phases of statistical production.

It is flexible since the potential freeing of resources, which is a product of this optimisation, or the future increase in means, will enable the incorporation of new statistics into, or modifications to existing statistics in the Plan. This is all with the global objective of a permanent qualitative improvement in official statistics.

Commitment to the "Code of practice"

In order to achieve this, the 2013-2016 Plan establishes the strategic lines to guide the whole of statistical activity during this period. Within the actions expected to carry this out, worth noting are the following:

- a) The commitment to "good practice", whereby the statistical services responsible for the statistics in the 2013-2016 plan adopt the principles established in the "European Statistics Code of Practice" and commit to adopting the measures necessary for maintaining trust in the statistics for state purposes that they produce and to controlling the application of said code.
- b) The definition of a new production process model that is more integrated and standardised, with corporate storage systems, which replaces the current model, in which the different surveys are conducted in accordance with independent processes.

New features

The NSP considers several statistics that will be compiled for the first time within the State statistics services between 2013 and 2016. Worth noting among them are the Repossession Statistics, the Short-Term Stock Survey, the Ongoing Population Survey, the Services Sector Production Index, the Surveys on the Use and Marketing of Phyto-sanitary Products, the Labour Price Index, the Statistics on the Wages of Persons with Disabilities, the Statistics on the Vocational Training Student Body, the Survey on Social Integration and Health, the European Security Survey, the Spanish General Social Survey and the Living Quality Indicators.