

COMMUNICATING (REVISIONS AND) THE TIMING OF REVISIONS TO USERS

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3 goals of the revision calendar

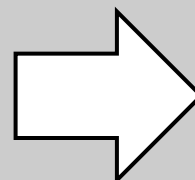
1. *Which statistics are subject to revisions?*

2. *When are provisional and revised results published?*



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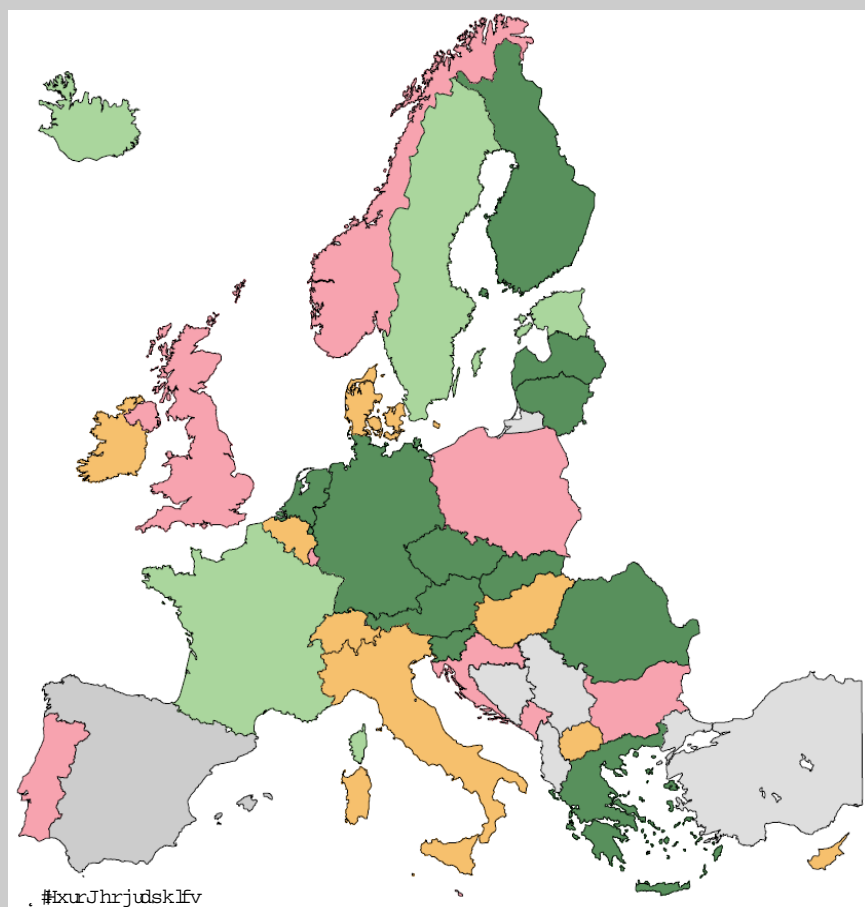
Confused user



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


Happy user

Survey on existing revision calendars within the European Statistical System



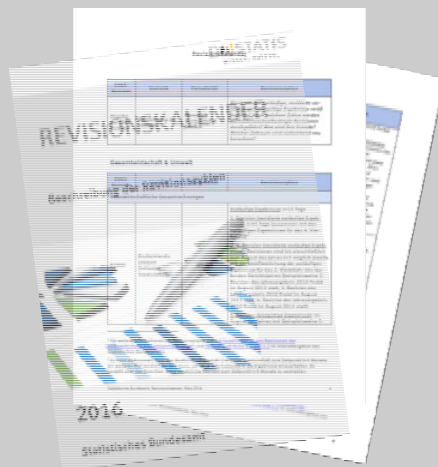
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Main results of the survey* and own research findings:

-  11 Statistical Institutes: a revision calendar or similar exists
-  4 Statistical Institutes: included information on the timing of revisions only in the release calendar
-  8 Statistical Institutes: a revision calendar is currently in the works
-  9 Statistical Institutes: a revision calendar or similar doesn't exist
-  No information available / are not members of the Working Group

* See paper or contact the author for more results or background information on the survey

The revision calendar of the Federal Statistical Office



Published in October 2015
(only in German)

- Provides an overview of all statistics that are subject to revisions (approximately 85 statistics)
- Describes briefly and concisely the respective revision cycle by means of a standardized structure (without giving exact dates)
- Answers the following questions:
 - When are provisional, revised provisional and final results published?
 - What is the timing for methodological revisions?
 - Why are methodological revisions made?
 - For what period are data recalculated?

Extract of the revision calendar

© *Index of new orders in manufacturing (monthly periodicity)*

- *Provisional results: t+37 days*
- *1st Revision (revised provisional results): t+67 days*
- *2nd Revision (final results): in April of the following year*
- *Methodological revisions:*
 - *Implementation of a new base year takes place every 3 years after those reference years ending with 0 and 5 (e.g. switch to the base year 2010 has been implemented in 2013).*
 - *3 years preceding the implementation of a new base year are recalculated (e.g. from 2010 until 2012) and linked with years further back in time (e.g. from 1991 until 2010).*



Why a revision calendar?

- **A large number of users is interested in information on revisions and their timing**
 - Revisions are firmly embedded in the statistics production: Several reasons lead to revisions
 - Revisions aren't a peripheral phenomenon: In the Federal Statistical Office about $\frac{1}{4}$ of all statistics produced are subject to revisions



- **A revision calendar is an important tool to adequately communicate the timing of revisions to users in order to**
 - increase the usability of statistics
 - manifest that revisions are not ad hoc and are not made for political reasons

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

QUESTIONS?

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