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Use of Statistic Information and Challenges for Statistic Information Presentation

Topic 5 – Who uses statistics, what do they need and how should we engage with them?

Keywords: statistic information, stakeholders, statistic data base

Introduction

Correct statistical data and availability of different statistic data sources are on work agenda for statistic information providers and also statistic data users starting from politicians, business people, researchers and academic staff. New technologies provide new scopes and widen practical applications of statistic data inspiring for new developments of data analysis, presentation and use.

Main provider of statistical data in Latvia - Central Statistics Bureau of Republic of Latvia on regular basis keeps contacts with statistic data users to investigate the needs and to offer most of the statistical data for all data users. CSB took the initiative to organise platform to get all statistical information from main statistic data providers in the country – currently there are some institutions which publish their statistics on regular basis (monthly, quarterly, annually) in pdf format which is not convenient for statistical data users.

The aim of the paper is to analyse current co-operation in finding information on needs of statistical data and formats in statistical data supply for users.

Methods / Problem statement

Methods applied: scientific publication studies, information of statistic data providers (Eurostat, international institutions, state statistic bureaus, etc.) studies, interviews, focus group discussions and surveys with statistic data users: politicians, public administrators, entrepreneurs, researchers, non-governmental institutions, teaching staff at higher education institutions and secondary education institutions on statistic data use and needs for statistic information and additional questions to teaching staff on development of tasks for practical real statistic data use.

Information is collected also from scientific conferences with special sessions on data use and with involvement of statistic data providers in the conference report presentations and participation in discussions, as well as session moderations at the conferences.

Results / Proposed solution

Research results have indicated that in Republic of Latvia a lot of attention is paid to information on data availability and recent findings in data use and processing by Central Statistical Bureau, many higher education institutions, Statistics Council, Association of Latvian Statisticians, researchers, teachers. Central Statistics Bureau home page is user – friendly providing information on available information in data bases of CSB, having special information with interesting design for children to increase statistic literacy and involve children in regular statistic data use.

It is required for final works of students (bachelor thesis, master thesis, qualification papers) to make real analysis with statistic data applications and comparisons of respective statistic data of different countries.

New interesting information is available on Statistics Council of Latvia webpage where everyone is informed on current situation and on next steps in statistic information development.

Conclusions

1. Good experience dissemination and sharing information on recent developments of statistical data in publications and new technological solutions in data provision in mass media on regular basis;
2. Good results are reached with regular press releases on recent available statistical information on CSB webpage;
3. Attractive design and useful information for children motivates teachers in regular use of CSB webpage and in belief of children knowledge that there is useful and interesting information available;
4. Co-operation of different stakeholders (researchers, teachers and statistical data providers) in discussion of current developments in statistic readings and scientific conferences initiates unique solutions and be updated in new statistic data availability.