

HUNGARIAN CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

Annual report 2024

Name of the institution: Hungarian Central Statistical Office

Website address of the institution: www.ksh.hu

Registration number
of the institution: 302722

ABOUT US

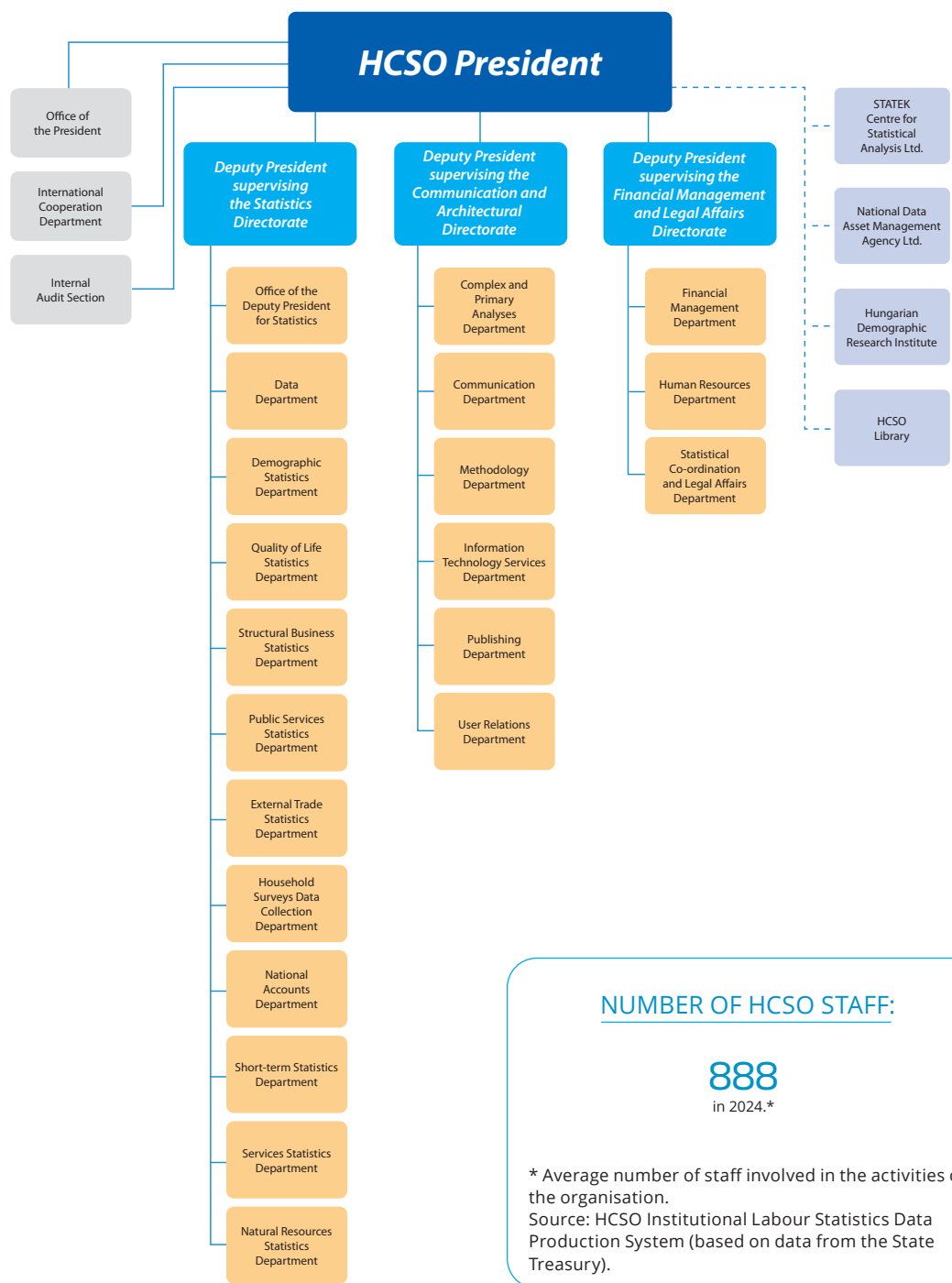
TASKS, PRINCIPLES, VALUES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE HCSO

| | |
|-------------|---|
| WHO WE ARE? | The Hungarian Central Statistical Office (hereinafter: HCSO) is the main government agency under Act CLV of 2016 on Official Statistics (hereinafter: AOC) and the Government Administration Act (GAA), supervised by the Minister heading the Cabinet Office of the Prime Minister. |
| TASKS | In 2024, the HCSO performed its tasks and exercised its powers as defined in the AOC. |
| OBJECTIVES | <p>The aim of the HCSO is to provide a realistic and objective picture of the state of society, the economy and the environment and its changes by publishing statistical information for public authorities, local governments, economic organisations, including financial markets, civil society organisations, academics, the general public, the media and international organisations, in particular the institutions of the European Union.</p> <p>The President of the HCSO is the Chief Statistician of Hungary, responsible for coordinating the activities of the Official Statistical Service and representing Hungarian official statistics in various international fora.</p> |

WHAT WE DO?

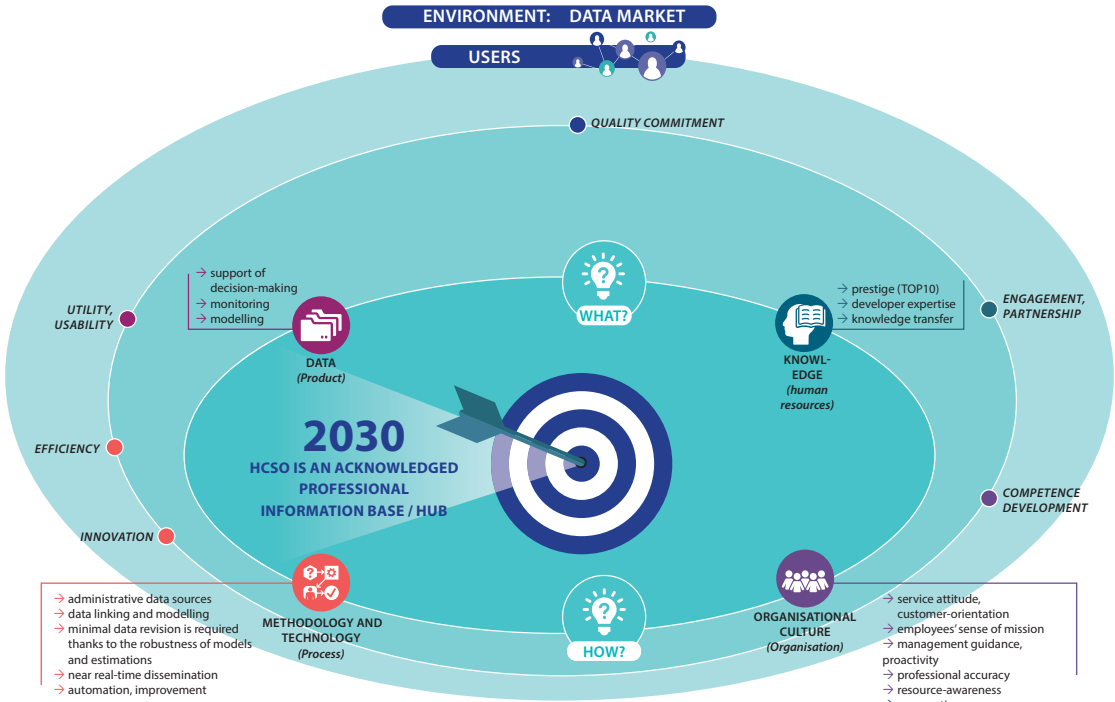
- ▶ We are looking at the data that can support evidence-based decision making and how we can meet user needs.
- ▶ We explore and integrate data sources.
- ▶ We collaborate with other official bodies, with which we form the Official Statistical Service, and together we design and implement the data collection programme.
- ▶ We are developing and improving the methodological background needed to produce the data.
- ▶ The resulting information and knowledge - on the economy, society, population and the environment - is shared.
- ▶ In addition to data, we publish information to support data interpretation, such as analyses, methodological descriptions, graphs, maps.
- ▶ Meanwhile, we protect individual data from disclosure and data reporting entities from identification.
- ▶ We monitor user satisfaction with our products and services.
- ▶ We collaborate with other statistical offices and international statistical organisations to develop our skills and contribute to improvements, for example in methodology or technology.
- ▶ The National Statistics Code of Practice contains further principles and criteria.

HCSO ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES, AIMS

The strategic objective of the HCSO is to become Hungary’s most important information hub by 2030, ranking among the TOP10 in the international arena. The modern operation of the Office is characterised by speed, flexibility, innovation and a culture of cooperation; its managers are characterised by proactivity, a complex approach and resource awareness. Its statistical activity is based on the linking, modelling and high-level interpretation of data from different sources through the application of artificial intelligence.



The strategic objectives focus on 6 target areas based on the strengths and values of the office: quality commitment, utility/usability, innovation, efficiency, engagement/partnership, competence development.

The strategy does not guide the future functioning of the Office in isolation, but in unity with the mission and organisational values. The mission of the HCSO is to support evidence-based decision making, scientific research and dialogue between societal stakeholders by providing credible and reliable data and analysis. This is the driving force behind everything our staff do, and it informs the strategy.



PRINCIPLES

In its official statistical activities, the HCSO is guided by the principles set out in the AOC and the National Statistics Code of Practice:

- ▶ professional independence,
- ▶ impartiality,
- ▶ objectivity,
- ▶ reliability,
- ▶ quality commitment,
- ▶ confidentiality of statistical data,
- ▶ cost-effectiveness.



VALUES

As an organisation, the HCSO is committed to the following values:

- ▶ independence and objectivity,
- ▶ service-oriented operation,
- ▶ quality commitment,
- ▶ tradition and capacity for renewal,
- ▶ research and development,
- ▶ cooperative skills,
- ▶ advanced institutional infrastructure,
- ▶ efficiency.



> For more information
on Statistical legislation:



> For more information
on guidelines:



HCSO ACTIVITIES IN 2024

- **Overview**
- **Featured surveys, programmes**
- **Cooperation with data providers**
- **Developments, innovative solutions**
- **Data strategy, new data sources, efficiency**
- **Dissemination of statistical culture**

In 2024, HCSO published 109 Hungarian, 66 English and 4 bilingual publications. A total of 182 first releases on 17 topics were published in both Hungarian and English. In the Summary Tables (STADAT), 1614 Hungarian and English tables were updated a total of 4454 times. In the Dissemination Database, 1047 data sets were updated, also in Hungarian and English. In 2024, a total of 88 researches were in progress in the Safe Centre of the HCSO.

6773 enquiries were received in 2024 via the “Contact us” section of the website. The HCSO Information Service was contacted by telephone in 2727 cases and in person in 77 cases. In the course of the inquiries, customers rated the HCSO’s administration in 1,096 cases, with an average rating of 4.7 on a scale of 5.

The home page of www.ksh.hu was downloaded 4.4 million times in 2024. As an indication of the data orientation of users, the total number of downloads of the renewed STADAT continued to rise in 2024 and now stands at 7.3 million (in Hungarian and English combined). The number of downloads of the Information database was 505 thousand and the number of downloads of the Census database was 283 thousand.

The 182 first releases published in 2024 were downloaded a total of 639 thousand times. By topic, first releases on the labour market and prices were the most popular, with the latter also showing an increase in downloads in 2024 too.

Among the publications released in 2024, the most popular were the Real Estate Data Warehouse (116 thousand downloads), the Map-Snap, 2022 (17 thousand downloads) and the Census Atlas, 2022 (9 thousand downloads).

In total, 43 597 profiles followed the HCSO’s social media platforms, 7.75% more than in 2023 on an annual basis.

In 2024, the HCSO published more than 30 press releases and received nearly 300 requests from journalists.

In 2024, the international activity of the HCSO was again high, with staff participating in 148 international events and more than 90 online events.

PUBLICATIONS

| | | |
|-----------|---------|-----------|
| 109 | 66 | 4 |
| Hungarian | English | bilingual |

FIRST RELEASES

| | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| 17 | 182 |
| themes | in Hungarian and English |

STADAT TABLES

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| 1,614 | 4,454 |
| English and Hungarian tables | updates |

NUMBER OF DOWNLOADS

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| ksh.hu home page | STADAT Tables |
| 4.4 MILLION downloads | 7.3 MILLION downloads |

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| First release | Dissemination database |
| 639 THOUSAND downloads | 505 THOUSAND downloads |

SOCIAL MEDIA

43,597 followers

+7.75% compared to 2023

COOPERATION WITH DATA PROVIDERS

The HCSO attaches great importance to the continuous provision of information and professional support to its data reporting partners in order to facilitate the completion of the data reporting forms. It is also continuously striving to improve the quality of contacts with data providers and to develop good relations with the organisations involved in data collections. To this end, from 2023, the Office places particular emphasis on cooperation with professional accountancy organisations and the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Accurate measurement of the administrative burden of statistical activity is an indispensable basis for measures to reduce the burden on data providers. To show the impact of transparency and reduction measures, a sub-page is available on the HCSO website, where the evolution of the burden measured in recent years is also visible for data providers.

In the framework of the project for the modernisation of economic statistics data collections, the mapping of options to reduce the burden on data providers and data collectors continued from the third quarter of 2023, and preparations for practical implementation were made. To this end, changes were made in the data collection activities and in the current practices of contacting data providers. From February 2024, new data collection practices were introduced to reduce the burden on data providers, resulting in a significant reduction in the number of data providers contacted for data reconciliation and in the number of reports resubmitted.

The Office has significantly reduced the number of data corrections made by data providers, relying on administrative and other data collection sources for validation where possible. In 2024, it reviewed the error messages of the checks for 13 economic statistics data collections to ensure that corrections of errors on the reporting side are as smooth as possible.

The reporting population for each data collection has been significantly revised, resulting in a significant reduction in the number of designated data providers for several OSAPs.

In order to improve the willingness of organisations to report, the practice of imposing administrative penalties on data providers who fail to comply with their reporting obligations was revived in 2024. The Office has been actively involved in the renewal of the legal framework and in the development of internal processes for the selection of non-performing data providers and for the preparation and launch of administrative procedures.

In addition to the institutional reporting partners, the public is also a very important data provider for the Office. In total, more than 144 thousand questionnaires were completed in the 6 population surveys carried out in 2024. In addition to the traditional face-to-face interview with the interviewer, the Office offers selected respondents several ways to answer the questions, including by telephone or online self-completion. In 2024, 13% of respondents chose the most convenient method of completing the questionnaire, online, for those surveys where this was an option.

> *More information:*

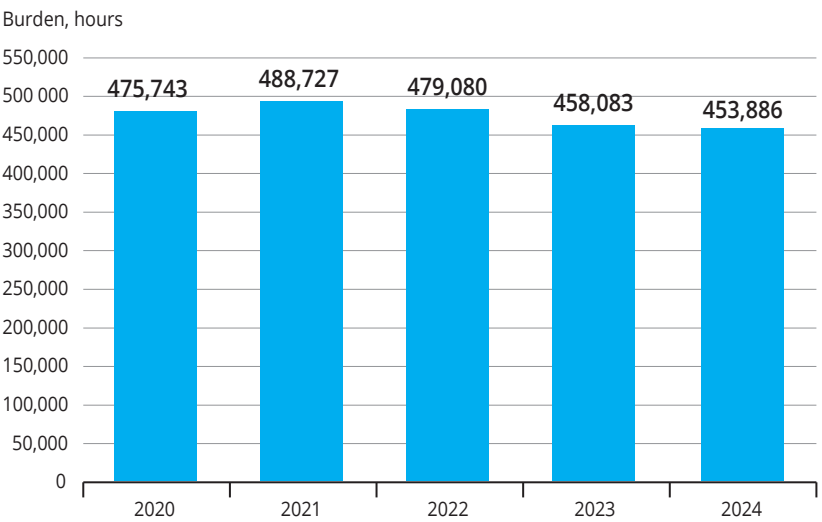


www.ksh.hu/burdens



ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS ON ENTERPRISES ARISING FROM STATISTICAL DATA PROVISION

ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS OF ENTERPRISES ARISING FROM STATISTICAL DATA PROVISION (WORKING HOURS)



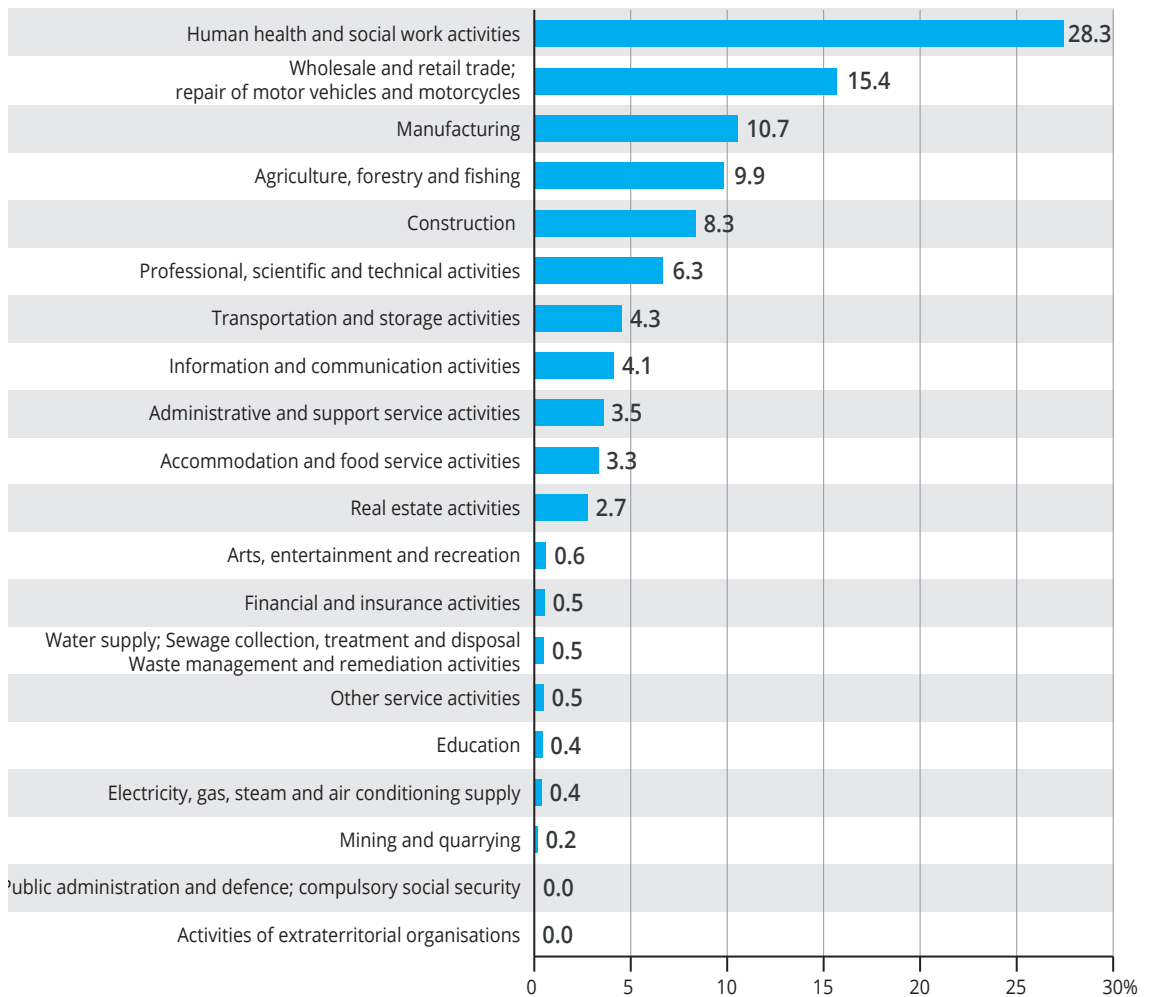
ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN OF ENTERPRISES (WORKING-HOURS) BY STATISTICAL DOMAIN

| Statistical domain | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Sectoral economic statistics | 55,468 | 60,634 | 55,341 | 42,820 | 40,205 |
| Prices | 33,712 | 34,382 | 34,864 | 36,450 | 35,556 |
| Health Care | 12,842 | 10,495 | 11,223 | 12,093 | 12,301 |
| Statistics on business organisations | 119,767 | 122,258 | 126,060 | 126,518 | 127,818 |
| Environment | 3,868 | 3 669 | 3,732 | 4,378 | 4,563 |
| Culture, sport | 911 | 892 | 1,039 | 1,002 | 1,010 |
| External trade and balance of payments | 176,971 | 173,278 | 183,923 | 171,880 | 171,295 |
| Housing, community services | 97 | 97 | 100 | 122 | 113 |
| Register of agricultural and environmental protection units | 250 | 254 | 253 | 257 | 280 |
| Labour Force | 61,399 | 72,227 | 50,829 | 51,837 | 49,390 |
| Social work | 29 | 32 | 29 | 31 | 32 |
| Multidisciplinary statistics on poverty and social issues | 5,953 | 6,712 | 7,144 | 6,497 | 7,924 |
| Science and technology | 4,476 | 3,797 | 4,543 | 4,208 | 3,399 |
| Total | 475,743 | 488,727 | 479,080 | 458,093 | 453,886 |

BREAKDOWN OF THE NUMBER OF ENTERPRISES REPORTING BY HEADCOUNT CATEGORY

| Headcount category | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| No and unknown number of employees | 6,685 | 5,486 | 6,815 | 5,233 | 5,068 |
| Under 10 persons | 78,454 | 71,503 | 69,629 | 70,322 | 65,792 |
| 10–19 persons | 15,328 | 16,280 | 15,951 | 15,738 | 15,678 |
| 20–49 persons | 12,110 | 12,295 | 11,852 | 12,234 | 12,430 |
| 50–249 persons | 5,711 | 5,774 | 5,666 | 5,803 | 5,849 |
| 250 persons and over | 1,120 | 1,114 | 1,087 | 1,117 | 1,144 |
| Total | 119,408 | 112,452 | 111,000 | 110,447 | 105,961 |

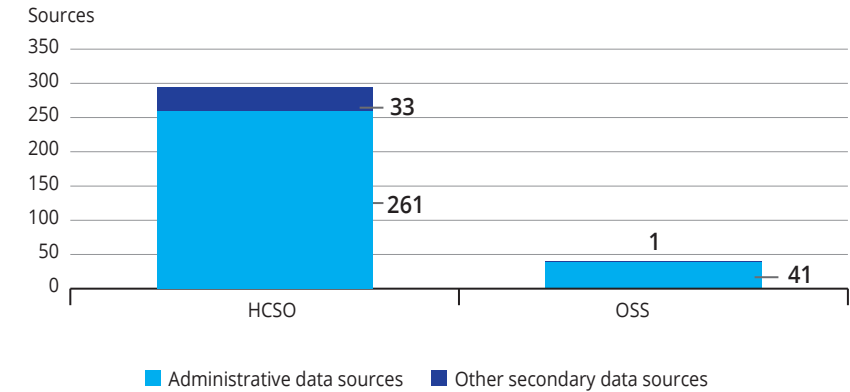
BREAKDOWN BY SECTION OF THE NUMBER OF ENTERPRISES SELECTED FOR PROVIDING STATISTICAL DATA, 2024



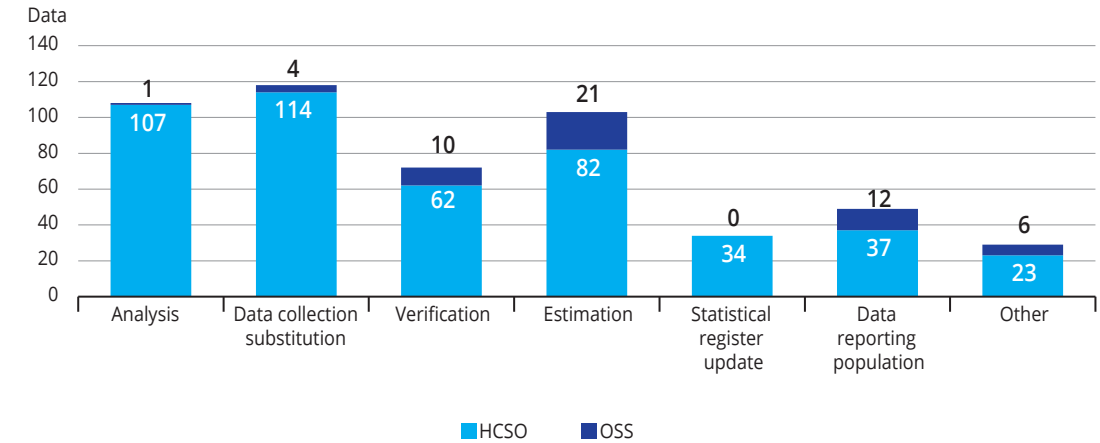
NUMBER OF DATA COLLECTIONS AND DATA TRANSFERS
FOR THE HCSO AND THE OSS

| Denomination | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| HCSO | | | | |
| Data transfers | 267 | 274 | 283 | 294 |
| Data collections | 157 | 156 | 152 | 156 |
| Official Statistical Service (OSS) | | | | |
| Data transfers | 42 | 41 | 40 | 42 |
| Data collections | 89 | 85 | 77 | 77 |
| Total | 555 | 556 | 552 | 569 |

NUMBER OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA SOURCES AND OTHER SECONDARY
DATA SOURCES FOR DATA TRANSFERS, 2024



PURPOSE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA USE FOR DATA TRANSFERS
ORDERED BY THE HCSO AND THE OSS, 2024



DISSEMINATING STATISTICAL CULTURE

HCSO also organised its national statistical competitions in 2024, Stat Wars for secondary school students and Stat Wars Uni for higher education students. The aim of the competitions is to promote statistical culture, to increase the statistical skills and knowledge of the younger generations, to promote statistics among students in higher education and to demonstrate the everyday usefulness of statistics. In addition to these activities, the Office also continued its Stat Academy series of courses.

STAT WARS

In 2024, for the 11th time, the Office organised the “Stat Wars” statistics competition for secondary school students. Some 200 teams entered the competition. Unlike in the past, this year the competition was also extended to include five online regional finals. What remains unchanged is that the top two teams in both age groups are also eligible to take part in the EU-level *European statistics competition*.

The competition, which consists of three online rounds and an attendance final, is open to teams of 4 students in two age groups, from years 9–10 as well as 11 and above in secondary education. This year 398 teams entered the competition. The best 10–10 teams from each of the two age groups go through to the finals.

This year’s competition is called “*Year of Skills, Lifelong Learning*”.

STAT WARS UNI

2024 marked the 7th annual Stat Wars Uni national statistics competition for higher education students, this time organised jointly by HCSO and the National Bank of Hungary (NBH). A record 143 entries were received.

The competition was open to teams of up to 3 students in two categories (BA/BSc and MA/MSc),

who could test their skills in processing and visualising economic, social and spatial statistical data series.

The competition consisted of three online rounds and an in-person final. The teams with the highest scores, consisting of 5 BA/BSc and 5 MA/MSc students, advanced to the final, from which the 3-3 podium winners were selected. Teams were given one hour to work on the task of the finals. Afterwards, they presented their work to a jury of experts from renowned universities in Hungary and from the HCSO and the NBH.

STAT ACADEMY

The mission of the HCSO is to provide information to users of statistical data to help them understand official statistical data, thus supporting the effective use of data and data-driven decision-making. In the spirit of statistical literacy and education, and in order to develop professional contacts, the Stat Academy course series was held for those working in public administration and business.

In total, 20 lectures were given by experts from the HCSO, which were attended by 247 people. Most of the participants came from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Finance, but all major government and public administration departments were represented.