



QUALITY POLICY

The State Statistical Office is committed to ensuring the highest quality with respect to the compilation of statistical information. This commitment to quality is also specified in SSO's mission statement: production and dissemination of official statistical data on the Macedonian economy and society as a basis for the process of decision making based on relevant information. The Quality Policy of the SSO is based on the European Statistics Code of Practice (EU CoP).

This Quality Policy is a starting point for the State Statistical Office's efforts to continuously improve the quality of statistical processes, quality of outputs and organisational quality.

The State Statistical Office is committed to applying the following rules and principles in all its activities, to ensure the quality of official statistics and continuously improve it.

Institutional framework and quality

The relevant characteristics of the institutional environment are: professional independence, coordination and cooperation, mandate for data collection, adequacy of resources, quality commitment, statistical confidentiality, impartiality and objectivity.

The key pillars of quality management are:

- Professional independence, which guarantees the reliability of statistical data, is stipulated in the Law on State Statistics.
- Improvement of data collection using modern technologies.
- Strengthening the professional capacities of employees and managerial skills of the management.
- Consistency in the application of statistical norms and standards by all stakeholders in the national statistical system.
- The SSO guarantees the privacy of data providers, the confidentiality of the information they provide, its use only for statistical purposes and the security of the data.

Quality of statistical processes

The production of statistical data is in accordance with European and international standards, guides and good practice. The basic characteristics of statistical data production are: sound methodology, appropriate statistical procedures, non-excessive burden on respondents and cost effectiveness.

The processes in the SSO are characterised by:

- Implementing appropriate statistical procedures throughout the statistical processes, based upon European and international methodologies and in accordance with international classifications and standards.
- Statistical processes that are transparent and supported by documentation.
- Effective use of resources.
- Standardisation of statistical activities ensured by the use of the Statistical Business Process Model.
- Monitoring response burden and setting targets for its reduction over time.

Quality of statistical outputs

The statistical outputs are impartial, and they are in compliance with five quality dimensions: relevance, accuracy and reliability, timeliness and punctuality, coherence and comparability, and accessibility and clarity.

The published statistical data are in accordance with the following European standards:

- Statistics produced by the SSO meet the needs of users.
- The statistical data are accurate, reliable and timely, and are published in accordance with the Advance Release Calendar.
- Continuous efforts are made to ensure comparability of data over time and space, with special emphasis on comparability at the European level.
- The data are disseminated using modern and generally accessible communication channels.
- The statistical data are published accompanied by reference metadata.