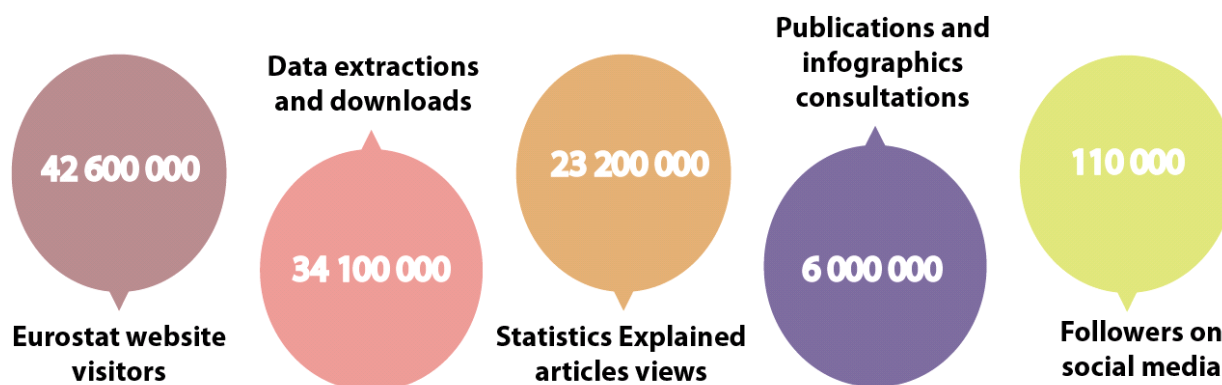


20.10.2017: European Statistics Day



For more than 60 years, the statistical authorities of the European Union's Member States have been working together with **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, in the European Statistical System, to produce reliable and comparable data.

European statistics present two main features which make them irreplaceable. They give comparable data for each Member State and their regions, helping to illustrate the similarities and differences within the EU, and as a result they can provide aggregates for the euro area and the EU. Such European statistics exist across a wide range of fields – public finances, prices, external trade, labour market, living conditions, health, education... Nowadays European statistics are used in many different ways by a growing number of people.



Source: Eurostat - 2016

Tomorrow, European Statistics Day is being celebrated for the second time. With this event, the European statistical community aims at raising awareness of European citizens to the importance, value and power of official statistics.

European statistics from Eurostat play a fundamental role in our modern societies, guiding public policies, supporting business decisions and allowing citizens to assess the progress achieved and compare themselves with their neighbours. Statistics count more and more: by providing an accurate picture and understanding of our societies, they facilitate assessments and allow for more effective action and reaction. *"Official statistics are a marker, a reference point for what we are and where we come from, a compass allowing us to observe, assess and find our bearings"* says Mariana Kotzeva, Acting Director General of **Eurostat**.

The European Statistics Day is organised at the initiative of the European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC) and is supported by the members of the European Statistical System (ESS) and the European System of Central Banks (ESCB).

Power from statistics

The European Statistics Day 2017 is notably marked by the high-level conference “Power from Statistics: Data, Information and Knowledge”, organised in Brussels (18-19 October). With a format inspired from “Davos”, the conference aims at guiding the provision of “official statistics of tomorrow” that will be capable of delivering evidence to the policymakers of the future. The outcome of the discussions at the high-level conference will feed into a “Guidance report”. The report will contain a number of recommendations, setting out a path for how to future-proof official statistics, with a 2030 time perspective.

Eurostat also celebrates the European Statistics Day 2017 with the release of its brand new digital publication **'The life of women and men in Europe – a statistical portrait'** available for the first time in 24 languages. It helps to better understand, through short texts, graphs and interactive visualisation tools, the diversity and characteristics of the life of Europeans.

Background

European official statistics are developed, produced and disseminated through the European Statistical System (ESS). The ESS functions as a network in which Eurostat's role is to lead the way in the harmonization of statistics in close cooperation with the national statistical authorities.

The European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC) is the voice of the user needs in the European Statistical System. Its members are mainly users, respondents, researchers, social partners and representatives of civil society.

The key role that European statistics play in the European Commission's priorities are set out in a short publication from Eurostat, while other recent publications cover key issues for citizens, such as the life of women in men in Europe, energy, the digital economy and society, the situation of the EU regions or the progress made towards the Europe 2020 objectives.

For more information

European Statistics Day website

European Statistical System

European Statistical Advisory Committee

The "Power from statistics" website

Eurostat PDF publications: European Statistics for European Policies, Regional yearbook and Smarter, greener, more inclusive? – Indicators to support the Europe 2020 strategy

Eurostat digital publications: Shedding light on energy in the EU – A guided tour of energy statistics, Digital economy & society – A browse through our online world in figures and The life of women and men in Europe – a statistical portrait

Eurostat website

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