
Data Confidentially

Jamaica

STATIN's Responsibilities

- Under Section 3 of the Act, STATIN is charged with the responsibility:
 - to collect, compile, analyse, abstract and publish statistical information relating to the commercial, industrial, social, economic and general activities and condition of the people;
 - to collaborate with public agencies in the collection, compilation and publication of statistical information including statistical information derived from the activities of such agencies;
 - to take any census in Jamaica; and
 - generally to promote and develop integrated social and economic statistics pertaining to Jamaica and to co-ordinate programmes for the integration of such statistics.
-

STATIN's Mandate

- **Confidentiality** is one of the hallmarks of the operation of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica.
 - The information collected by STATIN is used only for statistical purposes and no other.
 - There are penalties under the Statistics Act for breaches of confidentiality.
-

Requirements of the Act

- **Section 17. (1)** No individual return, and no part of an individual return, made, and no answer to any question put, for the purposes of this Act or of any regulation, shall be published:
 - Provided that the above prohibition shall not apply -
 - (a) in a case where the consent in writing of the person to whom, or of the owner for the time being of the property, business or undertaking to which such return or answer relates has been previously obtained; or
 - (b) in a case of and for the purposes of a prosecution under this Act or under any regulation; or
 - (c) for the purpose of communicating information in accordance with any conditions of an arrangement made under section 3 (2) (c).
-

Requirements of the Act

cont'd

- (2) No information derived from any Government, parochial, municipal or other public records or documents relating to any individual, firm, corporation or association shall be published in such form as to enable any person to identify such information as relating to any individual, firm, corporation or association, except -
 - a) in the case of information relating to an individual or a firm, with the consent in writing of such individual or of all the partners of such firm, as the case may be; and
 - b) in the case of information relating to a corporation or an unincorporated association, after the passing by the directors or other governing body (by whatever name known) of such corporation or unincorporated association, or if there be no such governing body, by the members of such corporation or unincorporated association, of a resolution approving of the publication of such information;
-

Dissemination of Census 2001 Data

- For the dissemination of the 2001 Census data both the micro data and published tables are available at a minimal price.
 - Information requested that could compromise the confidentiality of the data will not be made available at the enumeration district level.
 - The information is available at STATIN through email request or **walk-in visits** to the library.
-

Dissemination of Census 2001 Data

- The census data sets are also available for research at the Derrick Gordon Data Bank at the University of the West Indies, Mona.
 - Some volumes of the Census data are also purchased by other universities on the island.
 - Published tables are also available at the National Library of Jamaica, public libraries and some special libraries across the island.
-

Data Release Form

- Persons requesting micro data are required to complete a data release form.
 - This form outlines the terms and conditions of data use.
 - Agreement in writing shall be made that no third party will be given access to the micro data received.
-

The Way Forward

- STATIN is currently formulating a release policy for all published and unpublished data.
 - The terms and conditions of the policy will be guided by the:
 - Confidentiality clause under the Statistics Act;
 - Other relevant Legislation
 - UN Principles and Guidelines for Managing Statistical Confidentiality and Data Access
 - The intended use or purpose to which the data will be put.
 - Privileges of access will be determined by the category of user.
-

Thank You
