

Development of National Statistical System- Iran

The Statistical Center of Iran's (SCI's) Internet website was first developed in 1999 with the main objectives of: a) introducing the SCI internationally and b) providing visitors with some major statistical figures of the country. Along with the Internet growing popularity, many changes have occurred in content and technological aspects of the SCI's website that could be summarized as follows:

A- Technology

In 1999, the SCI's website consisted of a few number of HTML pages in English and Farsi which provided users with a limited range of statistical information. With no database, the website did not provide the SCI's local news. Installation of CMS brought about a great development in the website technical capabilities; now the site enjoyed a rating facility and contained local news. The next major step taken was developing the SCI's portal in early 2006, which let the information dissemination authorities coordinate all applications used in the SCI accordingly and set long-term strategies for information dissemination activities.

B- Content

Along with progresses in the field of ICT, the targets the SCI's website pursued, and as a result the scope of SCI's statistical data available on the Internet experienced a fast-growing trend. At the moment, major services and statistical data available at the portal could be listed as follows:

1. Publications database

Users may access the SCI's statistical publications as HTML pages or PDF files.

2. Library

By technical facilities of this database users may get to the titles and content summaries of the SCI's library sources as well as those of other Simorgh Network member libraries.

3. National Accounts of Iran

The most recent data on seasonal national accounts, input-output tables, etc. are available on one of the sub-sites of the national statistical portal.

4. News

The most recent local statistical news on, e.g., new publications and statistical surveys are available on this website.

5. Chat room

The chat room of the national statistical portal allows the users interested in statistics to discuss various statistical issues.

6. Education classification database

This database allows users to search for and retrieve different educational classifications.

7. Database of standard statistical concepts and definitions

The main objective of this database is to provide standard definitions of the statistical terminology which could be useful to researchers in a variety of scientific fields and statistical surveys.

8. Search facility

The search facility of the portal allows users to search for various terms in different databases available on the SCI's website or other state websites independently. It is noteworthy that the portal contains further information and services which are beyond this article.