

OFFICIAL STATISTICS ACT

Croatia

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I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

The present Act regulates the fundamental principles of official statistics, the organisation, status, activities and coordination of the official statistics system, the Development Strategy of Official Statistics of the Republic of Croatia, the Programme of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia, the collection, processing and storage of statistical material, statistical registers, the dissemination and use of statistical data, the confidentiality and protection of statistical data, international cooperation in statistics and other issues relevant to official statistics.

Article 2

The present Act concerns all the statistical activities of official statistics implemented by bodies which have been designated by this Act as producers of official statistics.

The present Act does not concern the preparation, collection, production, usage and storage of data for administrative purposes, nor does it concern the collection of data through the method of observation and monitoring for purposes other than statistical ones, that is, for needs other than those of official statistics.

This Act also concerns the data referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article from the moment the data are delivered to the producers of official statistics designated by this Law.

Article 3

The purpose of official statistics is the production and dissemination of statistical data in conformity with the fundamental principles of official statistics.

Official statistics provide to the government, to the economy and to the public, on an impartial basis, reliable statistical data on the economic, demographic, social, health, and environmental situation, and on activities or events that can be measured by using statistical methods, and ensure the meeting by the Republic of Croatia of international obligations concerning the production and dissemination of official statistics.

Article 4

For the purpose of this Act, individual terms mean the following:

1. "Activity of official statistics" is any activity based on the present Act or on the regulations stipulated in Articles 34 and 35 of the present Act, with the application of scientific and professional methods and standards aimed at producing, processing, and disseminating outputs of official statistics.
2. "Producers of official statistics" are the Central Bureau of Statistics, state administration offices within the counties and the Administrative Body of the City of Zagreb authorised for official statistics activities, the Croatian National Bank, and other authorised bodies determined in the Programme of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia.
3. "Development Strategy of Official Statistics of the Republic of Croatia" is a document establishing the development trajectory of official statistics in the Republic of Croatia, which states the key goals of the future multi-year period.
4. "Programme of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia" (hereinafter: Programme) is a document establishing statistical activities for a multi-year period in conformity with the present Act.
5. "Annual Implementing Plan" is a document passed, with the aim of executing the Programme, for each year to which the Programme refers.
6. "Statistical survey" is a method of systematic data collection by which the producers of official statistics collect data directly from the reporting unit for statistical purposes.
7. "Statistical form" is any record made on paper, or the electronic entry of a document, used to collect data from the reporting units.
8. "Collection of data" is an activity that concerns the implementation of statistical surveys, the use of administrative data sources, and the method of observing and monitoring undertaken by the producers of official statistics to collect and process information on statistical units in conformity with the provisions of the present Act.
9. "Reporting units" are legal persons and their constituent parts, natural persons, craftsmen, freelance professionals, households, state bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government, and all other persons on the territory of the Republic of Croatia that provide information exclusively for statistical purposes, in the content and within the timelines established in the Annual Implementing Plan.
10. "Statistical unit" is an unambiguous methodologically determined level in each form of data collection, determined in a manner that enables the reporting unit to present data as they are collected, and the producers of official statistics to aggregate when processing the results of official statistics.
11. "Identifier" is any unequivocally determined feature from which an individual reporting unit may be directly or indirectly recognised.
12. "Official statistical output" is any statistical datum which in content fulfils the purpose of official statistics in the manner stipulated in Article 3 of the present Act, and which is produced, processed and disseminated in conformity with the provisions of the present Act.
13. "Official statistical datum" (hereinafter: statistical datum) is any datum that is produced and disseminated in full conformity with the provisions of the present Act or

in conformity with the regulations stipulated in Articles 34 and 35 of the present Act and which has been declared as such by the authorised producer of official statistics.

14. "Dissemination" is all the activities of official statistics including the presentation of official statistical outputs and the ways and forms of ensuring access to the outputs and methodological bases.
15. "User of data" is any legal and natural person, state body, or body of a local or regional self-government unit, and, in particular, of a scientific institution and international organisation, which uses statistical data.
16. "Statistical registers" are nominal lists of reporting units, which are continuously updated and used only for statistical purposes.
17. "Statistical material" is a group of documents containing: methodological bases, statistical forms, statistical reports, presentations, studies and analyses, summary reviews and results, publications and other documents which are drawn up in performing the official statistics activities.
18. "Administrative data sources" are collections of data drawn up according to special acts, and which are used to determine the rights and obligations of legal and natural persons.

II THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS

Article 5

Official statistics are based on the principles of relevance, impartiality, reliability, transparency, timeliness, professional independence, cost-effectiveness, consistency, publicity, statistical confidentiality, the use of individual data for exclusively statistical purposes, and public accountability.

Article 6

The principles referred to in Article 5 of the present Act carry the following meaning:

1. *Relevance* means that the statistical datum shall meet clearly defined information requirements, which relate to the purpose of official statistics. Statistical data shall be checked periodically, and the relevant needs for statistical data shall be identified in due time.
2. *Impartiality* means the objective manner of laying down methods and definitions in the process of collecting, processing and disseminating statistical data, which is free from any influence.
3. *Reliability* means that the methods and procedures used in collecting, processing and disseminating statistical data shall be determined on the basis of established professional standards, scientific methods and principles of professional ethics, so that the statistical output reflects the observed phenomena as faithfully as possible and with an appropriate level of accuracy.

4. *Transparency* means that the reporting unit shall be informed about the legal obligation of submitting data, the reason for which data are required, and the measures of protecting statistical data. A statistical datum, unless it is an individual datum, must be available to users.
5. *Timeliness* means that the period between the collection and publication of statistical data shall be minimal.
6. *Professional independence* means that the producer of official statistics shall perform the tasks of official statistics based on professional and scientific methods and knowledge and shall be protected from any kind of influence.
7. *Cost-effectiveness* means an optimum use of available resources, so that the invested work and costs required for the production of official statistics shall be proportional to the significance of the output.
8. *Consistency* means that statistical data shall be consistent in terms of content, terminology and period of time. Internationally accepted concepts, terminologies, classifications, definitions and methods shall be applied to achieve the maximum international comparability of statistical data.
9. *Publicity* means that the outputs of official statistics shall be available to all users at the same time.
10. *Statistical confidentiality* implies the protection of statistical data related to an individual statistical unit, collected directly for statistical purposes or indirectly from administrative or other sources, from any violation of confidentiality. Statistical confidentiality also includes the prohibition of using collected statistical data for purposes other than statistical use, as well as the unlawful publication of statistical data. The principle of statistical confidentiality does not extend to statistical data on state bodies.
11. *Use of individual data exclusively for statistical purposes* means that statistical data collected through the performance of statistical activities and which are bound by the provisions on statistical confidentiality shall be used exclusively in conformity with the provisions of the present Act and shall not serve as a basis for determining any rights or obligations of the reporting units.
12. *Public accountability* means that for each published statistical datum the responsible producer of official statistics shall be stated.

III ORGANISATION, STATUS, TASKS AND COORDINATION OF THE OFFICIAL STATISTICS SYSTEM

Article 7

The tasks of official statistics are performed by the following producers of official statistics:

1. The Central Bureau of Statistics as the central body
2. State administration offices within the counties and the administrative body of the City of Zagreb authorised to perform official statistics tasks.
3. The Croatian National Bank

4. Other authorised bodies of official statistics determined by the Programme (hereinafter: authorised bodies).

Pending the acquisition of the status of authorised body referred to in paragraph 1 point 4 of this Article, the Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics shall establish working groups with the participation of all the bodies that may be considered producers of official statistics, with all the rights and obligations of a producer of official statistics, for the drawing up of the proposal of the Development Strategy of Official Statistics of the Republic of Croatia and of the Programme proposal.

The Central Bureau of Statistics

Article 8

The Central Bureau of Statistics is the chief producer, disseminator and coordinator of the official statistics system of the Republic of Croatia.

The Central Bureau of Statistics is a state administration organisation which autonomously performs its tasks, in conformity with the law.

Article 9

The following tasks concerning the field of statistics are under the jurisdiction of the Central Bureau of Statistics:

- drafting a proposal of the Development Strategy of Official Statistics of the Republic of Croatia
- developing an official statistics system
- coordinating, drafting and executing the Programme and the Annual Implementing Plan, as well as the Report on the Execution of the Programme and Annual Implementing Plan
- monitoring the implementation of the principles referred to in Article 6 of the present Act
- establishing, updating and maintaining methodological bases, and ensuring their international harmonisation in cooperation with the producers of official statistics, monitoring the application of these methodological bases, and providing instructions to other producers of official statistics on the application of methodology
- preparing and implementing statistical activities, meeting international obligations in official statistics from the scope of work determined by the Programme
- producing basic indicators and aggregates of official statistics from the scope of work determined by the Programme, using all available sources of data, using administrative data sources, and data obtained through the observation and monitoring method collected by all producers of official statistics
- monitoring and implementing quality control of statistical outputs
- producing analyses and official interpretations of statistical outputs from the scope of the Central Bureau of Statistics
- organising and managing statistical registers and a statistical database
- organising an exchange of outputs and methodological bases of official statistics with other countries and international organisations, unless, in certain cases, authority is

granted to another producer of official statistics, or unless otherwise regulated by a special act

- supervising the implementation of the provisions of the present Act
- performing other tasks placed under its authority.

Article 10

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall be informed about all the legislative and other relevant activities relating to official statistics in due time.

Article 11

No one may give instructions to the Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics that concern the professional and methodological issues of official statistics, and particularly:

- the content and methodology of statistical activities
- the scope and type of data collected, processed and disseminated according to the Annual Implementing Plan.

It is the right of the Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics to prevent the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of statistical data which could lead to non-objective presentation.

The Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics shall have the right to make a public statement in the case of misinterpretation or misuse of statistical data.

Article 12

The funds for performing the tasks of official statistics shall be allocated to the Central Bureau of Statistics from the State Budget of the Republic of Croatia.

The Central Bureau of Statistics may perform its own separate activity which generates income, under the condition that these tasks do not harm the performance of tasks for which it has been established.

The costs of additional activities of collecting, processing and disseminating data shall be borne by the user.

The funds that the Central Bureau of Statistics receives from international donors shall be used to finance the activities of official statistics.

The incomes referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4 of this article shall be the income of the State Budget of the Republic of Croatia.

State administration offices within the counties and the administrative body of the City of Zagreb

Article 13

State administration offices within the counties and the administrative body of the City of Zagreb authorised for tasks concerning official statistics, pursuant to, in the content and within the timelines determined by, the Programme and the Annual Implementing Plan, shall be responsible for the following:

- the collection, production, processing and dissemination of statistical data and the processing of administrative data and data collected through the observation and monitoring method for the territories of the pertaining counties, or of the City of Zagreb, in conformity with the provisions of the present Act.

Croatian National Bank

Article 14

The Croatian National Bank shall perform all the tasks of official statistics in conformity with the present Act and special laws in the content and within the timelines determined by the Programme and the Annual Implementing Plan.

Authorised bodies of official statistics determined by the Programme

Article 15

Authorised bodies, pursuant to, in the content and within the timelines determined by, the Programme and Annual Implementing Plan, shall be responsible for the following:

- the collection, production, processing and dissemination of statistical data, and the processing of administrative data and data collected through the method of observation and monitoring in conformity with the provisions of the present Act.

The Statistics Council

Article 16

Pursuant to the present Act, the Statistics Council of the Republic of Croatia shall be formed within the Central Bureau of Statistics (hereinafter: Council).

The Council shall be an advisory and professional body for strategic issues concerning official statistics, and shall be established with the aim of ensuring the influence of users, science and the general public on the Programme.

Article 17

The tasks of the Council shall be to provide expert opinion and proposals on:

- the proposal of the Development Strategy of Official Statistics of the Republic of Croatia

- the Programme proposal and its amendments and additions, the Annual Implementing Plan, the proposal of the Report on the Execution of the Programme and Annual Implementing Plan
- the need to implement censuses, introduce, revise or terminate extensive statistical surveys, infrastructure projects, and the funds necessary for their implementation
- standpoints and guidelines for the application of the fundamental principles of official statistics
- proposals of acts and other legal documents which concern the activities or producers of official statistics
- cases of nondisclosure of data by bodies that manage administrative data sources, and when the data from these sources are used for the needs of official statistics
- cases where the producers of official statistics do not proceed in conformity with the provisions of the present Act
- the development and promotion of the official statistics system and international cooperation
- other issues of significance for the work of official statistics

Article 18

The Council consists of 13 members

The Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics shall be a member of the Council as a part of his or her official duty.

The other members of the Council shall be the representatives of:

- the Croatian National Bank – one member
- the Ministry of Finance – one member
- the Croatian Parliament (*Sabor*) – one member
- state administration bodies – one member
- the body of local and regional self-government units – one member
- the Croatian Chamber of the Economy – one member
- scientific-professional institutions – two members
- the Employers' Association – one member
- trade unions – one member
- NGOs – one member
- the media – one member.

Article 19

Members of the Council shall be nominated by the institutions and bodies referred to in Article 18 paragraph 3 of the present Act, and shall be appointed by the Government of the Republic of Croatia.

The Council shall have a President elected by the members of the Council from among themselves.

Article 20

The members of the Council shall be appointed for a period of 5 years, with the possibility of being reappointed.

Article 21

The expert opinions and proposals passed by the Council in conformity with the provisions of the present Act shall be published in the official newsletter of the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Article 22

Expert and administrative tasks for the Council shall be carried out by the expert service of the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Article 23

The Council shall pass a Code of Practice of its work.

The funds for the work of the Council shall be provided from the State Budget of the Republic of Croatia.

IV THE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA AND THE PROGRAMME OF STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Article 24

The proposal of the Development Strategy of Official Statistics of the Republic of Croatia shall be drawn up by the Central Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the producers of official statistics referred to in Article 7 of the present Act and with the Council's opinion.

Article 25

The Development Strategy of Official Statistics of the Republic of Croatia shall be passed by the Croatian Parliament (Sabor), and shall be published in the Official Gazette ("Narodne novine").

Article 26

The Programme proposal shall be drawn up by the Central Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the producers of official statistics referred to in Article 7 of the present Act and upon obtaining the Council's opinion.

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall draft a Programme proposal for periods that are identical to the periods defined in the European Statistical Programme of the European Union.

The starting point for the drafting of the Programme proposal referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article is the Development Strategy of Official Statistics of the Republic of Croatia.

Article 27

The Programme shall be passed by the Croatian Parliament (*Sabor*) for a multi-year period.

The Programme shall be published in the Official Gazette ("Narodne novine").

Article 28

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall draw up the Programme proposal by 31 May of the current year preceding the period covered by the Programme.

Article 29

The Programme shall contain:

1. an overview of development goals of official statistics according to the Development Strategy of Official Statistics of the Republic of Croatia
2. an overview of the main official statistics outputs which should be produced and disseminated in each field, harmonised with international requirements and standards
3. the name of the responsible producer of official statistics
4. the level of output dissemination
5. an overview of the most significant infrastructural and developmental activities, such as censuses and large-scale surveys, which will be implemented, or which will be initiated, in the period to which the Programme refers.

The Programme shall also establish an overview of the total resources necessary from the State Budget of the Republic of Croatia.

Article 30

In order to execute the Programme, an Annual Implementing Plan shall be passed for each year to which the Programme refers.

The Annual Implementing Plan proposal shall be drafted by the Central Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the producers of official statistics referred to in Article 7 of the present Act and upon obtaining the Council's opinion.

Article 31

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall draft a proposal of the Annual Implementing Plan by 31 May of the current year for the following year.

The Annual Implementing Plan shall be passed by the Croatian Parliament (Sabor).

The Annual Implementing Plan shall be published in the Official Gazette ("Narodne novine").

Article 32

The Annual Implementing Plan shall lay down:

1. for statistical surveys:
 - a) the producer of official statistics
 - b) the name of the statistical survey
 - c) the periodicity of surveying
 - d) the reporting units
 - e) the method of data collection
 - f) data collection timelines
 - g) the obligation of providing data
 - h) the connection to the outputs or activities in the Programme
 - i) the deadlines and level of publication of outputs
 - j) relevant international standards.
2. for other methods of data collection:
 - a) the producer of official statistics
 - b) the holder of administrative data sources or data obtained through the observation and monitoring method
 - c) the name of the group or list of administrative data sources or data collected through the observation and monitoring method
 - d) statistical units and their demarcation (for which the used sources contain data)
 - e) the periodicity and timelines of data transfer
 - f) the format (paper, electronic support, on-line access)
 - g) a list of identifiers in the case where they are included in the transfer
 - h) classifications/definitions that should be followed by the holder when the data have been prepared for transfer to the producer of official statistics
 - i) reference to the results stated in the Programme
 - j) the obligation of providing data

- k) the connection to the outputs or activities in the Programme
 - l) deadlines and the level of publication of outputs
 - m) relevant international standards.
3. for the development of infrastructural activities, censuses, and other more extensive statistical surveys:
- a) the producer of official statistics
 - b) the name of the activity
 - c) the goals to be achieved in the course of the year.

The Annual Implementing Plan shall also present an overview of the total resources necessary from the State Budget of the Republic of Croatia.

Article 33

With the aim of drafting the Report on the Execution of the Annual Implementing Plan, the producer of official statistics shall submit their reports to the Central Bureau of Statistics by 28 February of the current year for the previous year.

The proposal of the Report on the Execution of the Annual Implementing Plan, following the submission of the Council's opinion, shall be drawn up by the Central Bureau of Statistics by 31 May of the current year for the previous year.

The decision on the Report on the Execution of the Annual Implementing Plan shall be passed by the Croatian Parliament (*Sabor*).

Article 34

The population census and other extensive statistical surveys shall be regulated by a special act and shall be part of the Programme and the Annual Implementing Plan.

Article 35

Pursuant to the decision of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, statistical activities which have not been established by the Annual Implementing Plan shall be conducted in conformity with the provisions of the present Act.

Data obtained by conducting the statistical activities referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be regarded as official statistical data.

The funds for conducting the statistical activities referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be provided from the State Budget of the Republic of Croatia.

V COLLECTION OF DATA

Article 36

The producer of official statistics referred to in Article 7 of the present Act shall have the right to collect data from all available sources.

The producers of official statistics referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall decide on the selection of the source with regard to the quality, timeliness, cost-effectiveness and burden of the reporting units from which these data are collected.

Article 37

The reporting units shall be informed, at the latest by the moment when the data are collected, about:

- the legal grounds for implementing the survey
- the purpose of the survey
- the mandatory or non-mandatory basis of providing data
- the responsible producer of official statistics conducting the official statistical activities
- the use of data exclusively for statistical purposes
- the protection of data

Article 38

In the case where the basis of providing data is mandatory, reporting units shall be bound to provide accurate, complete and updated data on statistical units for the needs of statistical surveying without remuneration, and in the content and form which is determined by the producer of official statistics and within the timelines determined by the Annual Implementing Plan or by the decision of the Government of the Republic of Croatia referred to in Article 35 of the present Act.

In the case where the reporting units participate in implementing statistical surveys on a non-mandatory basis, they are bound to provide accurate, complete and updated data without remuneration for the needs of statistical surveying, in the content and form determined by the producer of official statistics and within the timelines determined by the Annual Implementing plan or by the decision of the Government of the Republic of Croatia referred to in Article 35 of the present Act.

No one shall be bound to provide data if the statistical survey has not been determined by the Annual Implementing Plan, by the Programme, or by the decision of the Government of the Republic of Croatia referred to in Article 35 of the present Act, or if the obligation of providing data does not arise from the present or a special act.

Article 39

If the data stated by the reporting units are not accurate, complete and updated, the reporting units shall be bound to correct them, and/or make additions, in conformity with instructions and within set deadlines.

Article 40

The Central Bureau of Statistics, in conformity with the provisions of the present Act, shall have the right of access to individual data obtained through statistical surveys conducted by other producers of official statistics if such data are necessary for performing the tasks of official statistics within its scope of activity, or for assessing the quality of outputs.

Article 41

For the purpose of performing the tasks of official statistics, the Central Bureau of Statistics shall have the right to use all administrative data sources and data collected through the observation and monitoring method.

Other producers of official statistics shall have the right referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article if this has been provided for in the Annual Implementing Plan.

The holders of administrative data sources and data obtained through the observation and monitoring method shall be bound to provide for use data in conformity with the request of the producer of official statistics.

Article 42

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall not be bound to establish and keep records on compilations of the personal data it collects for official statistical purposes or to ensure the rights of reporting units in conformity with the provisions of the Act on the Protection of Personal Data.

Article 43

The Central Bureau of Statistics, in cooperation with producers of official statistics, shall determine the methodological bases for the implementation of all statistical surveys.

The methodological bases referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article comprise the determination of statistical units, the determination of the content and features of statistical surveys, definitions, nomenclatures, classifications and standards used in implementing statistical surveys and the determination of the reporting units included in each individual statistical survey.

Article 44

In the cases where it is necessary to perform an assessment of the methodology or of the quality of the source of data which are to be collected through statistical surveys, the Central Bureau of Statistics and other producers of official statistics, with the approval of the Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, may conduct pilot-surveys even in cases

where such surveys have not been provided for in the Annual Implementing Plan or by a special act.

Data collected through the implementation of statistical surveys referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be considered as official statistical data and the provisions of the present Act on the publicity and dissemination of data shall not apply to them.

Article 45

Producers of official statistics may entrust the execution of individual tasks related to the activities of official statistics to another natural or legal person through contract.

Producers of official statistics shall have the right and obligation to implement control and shall be accountable for the quality of the obtained outputs referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

The natural or legal persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall, when performing the tasks referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, proceed in conformity with the provisions of the present Act, and in particular in conformity with the provisions on statistical confidentiality.

VI THE PROCESSING AND STORING OF STATISTICAL MATERIAL

Article 46

Producers of official statistics, after inputting, compiling and codifying the collected data or data obtained from administrative sources, and after using these data to update statistical registers, shall be bound to separate the identifiers from the content variables.

Article 47

Producers of official statistics shall be bound to destroy statistical forms in paper format which contain data collected through statistical surveys once the phase of inputting, compiling, codifying and processing the data has been completed.

Article 48

Statistical material shall be documented and stored by the producers of official statistics.

Article 49

Statistical material shall be stored in such a way as to prevent its destruction, misuse, falsification, alienation and unauthorised disclosure.

Article 50

The storing method, and the time, technique and organisation of storing statistical material shall be regulated by the rulebook passed by the Director of Official Statistics, or by the authorised person of another producer of official statistics.

VII STATISTICAL REGISTERS

Article 51

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall be responsible for the organisation and keeping of the following statistical registers:

- the business register
- the register of agricultural holdings
- the register of flats and buildings

The organisation, management and use of data from the statistical registers referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be regulated by the rulebook passed by the Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Article 52

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall use data from administrative data sources, censuses, statistical surveys and data collected through the observation and monitoring method for the purpose of organising and managing statistical registers.

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall have the right to adjust the data obtained from administrative data sources to harmonise them with the definitions and classifications used for the statistical registers that it keeps.

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall allocate a numerical code as a unique identifier for each unit in the statistical register, regardless of the code used by other bodies for their administrative data.

Article 53

The data from the statistical register shall be used exclusively for statistical purposes, that is, for the compilation of aggregate data.

The data from statistical registries shall not be given to users in a form and in a manner which allows for the recognition of the unit to which the data refer.

VIII THE DISSEMINATION AND USE OF STATISTICAL DATA

Article 54

The data collected in conformity with the Programme and Annual Implementing Plan shall be used only for statistical purposes.

Article 55

Statistical data shall be disseminated by the producers of official statistics in an aggregate form and within the timelines determined by the Annual Implementing Plan.

The official statistical data referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be available to all users in an equal way and at the same time.

The disclosure of official statistical data prior to their official dissemination by the person authorised to perform the tasks of official statistics shall be regarded as a serious violation of official duty.

Statistical data shall be accompanied by an explanation in order to facilitate interpretation and to provide expert help to users in the interpretation and evaluation of the data.

The users of statistical data shall state the source of data when using such data.

Article 56

The statistical data referred to in Article 55 paragraph 1 of the present Act may also be disseminated individually in exceptional cases:

- if the reporting unit agrees in writing to this form of dissemination of data
- if the data have been collected from public (universally available) compilations of data
- if they are disseminated in a form and in a way which does not allow for the identification of the reporting unit to which the data refer.

Article 57

The producer of official statistics shall be bound to draft a Calendar of Publication of Statistical Data which includes the dates of publication of statistical data at least three months prior to the period to which the Annual Implementing Plan refers.

Any departure from the timelines stated in the Calendar referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be announced.

Article 58

Producers of official statistics may, on the request of the user, provide data obtained through special processing.

The costs of the special processing referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be borne by the users who have requested such processing.

The terms and ways of providing the data referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, as well as the costs of special processing, shall be determined by the Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, or by the authorised person of other producers of official statistics, by a special act.

IX CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROTECTION OF STATISTICAL DATA

Article 59

For the propose of this Law, statistical data on natural or legal persons, if these data can directly or indirectly be related to the natural or legal person, shall be considered statistically confidential and shall represent an official secret.

Article 60

The provision of Article 59 of the present Act shall apply from the moment the reporting unit makes them available to the producers of official statistics.

The data that are collected from other sources, and that are used only for the purposes of official statistics, are subject to the provisions of Article 59 of the present Act from the moment of delivery to the producers of official statistics.

Article 61

Individual statistical data collected for the needs of official statistics may only be used for statistical purposes and shall be expressed in an aggregate form.

Article 62

The person authorised to collect and process statistical data shall be bound to proceed in conformity with the provision of Article 59 of the present Act.

The persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall not use the individual statistical data obtained when performing the tasks of official statistics for their own needs or for performing tasks for other entities.

The obligation referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall continue after the termination of employment, or after the performance of the tasks referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 63

Persons who are authorised to sporadically perform the tasks of official statistics (takers of surveys, censuses, etc.) shall proceed in conformity with the provisions of the present Act which concern the confidentiality and protection of statistical data.

Article 64

The protection of statistical data collected in conformity with the Programme and the Annual Implementing Plan includes procedures of a technical and organisational nature, as well as other suitable logistic-technical procedures which ensure the premises and information technology, the dissemination of statistical data and the subsequent determination of the processing method, time and purpose.

The manner of protecting statistical data referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined by the Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, or by the authorised person of other producers of official statistics.

Article 65

Producers of official statistics may, on the basis of a written request, provide individual statistical data without identifier for the purpose of performing the activities of scientific research.

The request referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall state the purpose of the use of the statistical data.

A special contract shall be concluded on the use of the statistical data referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, according to which the user shall be held financially and criminally responsible to use statistical data only for the purpose stated in the request, and shall not provide these data for inspection or use to unauthorised persons, and shall destroy such data after use.

Article 66

Producers of official statistics shall keep records on the users referred to in Article 65 of the present Act and on the purpose for which the statistical data have been provided for use.

X INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL COOPERATION

Article 67

In executing international duties the producers of official statistics shall achieve comparability with other European countries, abide to and apply international standards, and actively participate in the development of official statistics at an international level.

Article 68

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall organise an exchange of the outputs and methodological bases of official statistics with other countries and international organisations, unless in certain cases it may grant the authority to do so to another producer of official statistics, or unless differently regulated by a special act.

The Central Bureau of Statistics and other producers of official statistics under the conditions of paragraph 1 of this Article may transfer individual statistical data without identifier, to which the provisions on confidentiality and protection of statistical data of the present Act apply, to the statistical offices of other countries and the statistical services of international organisations if such users guarantee statistical confidentiality.

Each transfer of the statistical data referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be recorded with a statement on the country, or international organisation, to which these data have been delivered.

The statistical office and statistical service of the international organisation which requires the statistical data referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall submit a written declaration confirming that it shall apply the provisions on statistical confidentiality on these statistical data, and that it shall use them exclusively for statistical purposes.

XI PENAL PROVISIONS

Article 69

A legal person shall be fined an amount ranging from HRK 1,000 to HRK 10,000 for a violation if they:

1. fail to provide accurate, complete and updated data in the content and within the timelines (Article 38 paragraph 1)
2. do not allow access to all the administrative data sources, unless differently established by a special law (Article 41)
3. use the obtained statistical data contrary to the present Act (Article 65).

For the violation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the responsible person within the legal person shall also be fined an amount ranging from HRK 1,000 to HRK 3,000.

Article 70

For the violation of Article 69 paragraph 1 of the present Act, a natural person shall be fined an amount ranging from HRK 1,000 to HRK 2,000.

For the violation of Article 69 paragraph 1 of the present Act, the responsible person within the state body or body of the local and regional self-government unit shall be fined an amount ranging from HRK 1,000 to HRK 3,000.

Article 71

An official person and any other natural person within the producer of official statistics referred to in Article 7 of the present Act shall be fined an amount ranging from HRK 1,000 to HRK 5,000 for a violation if he or she proceeds contrary to the provisions of the present Act concerning the confidentiality and protection of statistical data (Articles 59-66).

XII TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 72

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall be bound to draft the first Programme referred to in Article 26 of the present Act by 31 December of the current year which precedes the period to which the Programme refers.

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall be bound to draft the first Annual Implementing Plan for the Programme referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article by 31 December of the current year for the following year.

Article 73

The Central Bureau of Statistics shall ensure the implementation of Article 46 of the present Act until the end of the period to which the first Programme referred to in Article 26 of the present Act refers.

Until the end of the period to which the first Programme referred to in Article 26 of the present Act refers, the Central Bureau of Statistics shall organise the statistical registers referred to in Article 51 of the present Act.

Article 74

The Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, or the authorised person of another producer of official statistics, shall pass the implementing acts referred to in Articles 50 and 64 of the preset **Act** within 12 months from the day when the present Act comes into force.

The Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics shall pass the implementing act referred to in paragraph 2 Article 51 of the present Act by the end of the period to which the first Programme referred to in Article 26 of the present Act refers.

Article 75

On the day when the present Act comes into force, the Law on National Statistics (Official Gazette – “*Narodne novine*” – no. 52/94) shall cease to be in force.

Article 76

The present Act shall come into force on the eighth day following the day of publication in the Official Gazette (“*Narodne novine*”).