STATE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE OF THE REPUBLIC AZERBAIJAN

Confirmed by the decree number 8/02s of the State Statistical Committee dated 19.02.2014.

POLICY OF THE STATE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE ON DISSEMINATION OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS

CONTENT

		page
Ι	General provisions	5
ΙΙ	Data presentation	6
III	Qualitative dissemination of statistical data	8
IV	Work with users	11
V	Regulation for the review of the data on main statistical indicators	12
VI	Data visualization methods	14
VII	Common technical rules for statistical publications	20
VIII	Regional policy	26

I. General provisions

One of the important objectives of the State Statistical Committee is the dissemination of the results of statistical activities. This document explains the policy on dissemination of official statistical data in related field of SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Main definitions:

Official statistics - is activity in the field of production of official statistics, including administrative data;

Official statistical data - is obtained data at the result of summarizing and processing of administrative and preliminary statistical data on quantitative aspects of social economic, demographic, ecology on quantitative aspects of social processes on the base of official statistical methodology by the relevant executive bodies and other government authorities implementing production of official statistical data according to this Law and other legislative acts of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Dissemination of statistical data – is giving to users, regardless of the form and means used access to Official Statistics not subject to statistical confidentiality;

Confidential statistical data – are data obtained for the production of Official Statistics, when they allow statistical units to be identified directly or indirectly, thereby disclosing primary data.

Activity in the field of dissemination of statistical data is important for the provision of quality statistical data to users, as well as, in terms of increasing their confidence on official statistics.

Purpose – is supporting of users with transparency and clear statistical data. Here it is considered access of users to data processed by State Statistical Committee, its methodology, coverage of publications, timeliness, periodicity, graphics, and distribution and etc. information.

Duty – is to meet the need of users in full, complete, scientifically grounded statistical data on socio-economic, demographic, environmental state and other areas of the country according to the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on "Official Statistics".

One of the main goals of the dissemination policy of statistical data is ensure the confidentiality of private data. Statistical confidentiality is a key condition for acquiring and maintaining the confidence of the statistical units involved in statistical surveys and observations. According to the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan article number 17 - confidential statistical data should be used exclusively for the production of Official Statistic or, if they do not allow direct identification, for exceptional scientific purposes ensuring the anonymity of statistical units, in accordance with the provisions of this Law (eliminating means which allow identification).

Dissemination policy of official statistics is the followings:

- Presentation;
- Qualitative dissemination of statistical data;
- Work with users;
- Regulation for the review of the data on main statistical indicators;
- Data visualization methods;
- Common technical rules for statistical publications;
- Regional policy.

II. Data presentation

The key methods of dissemination of statistical data are the followings:

- Provision of mass-media with the data in the form of press-releases;
- Set of the data in the official web page of SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- Dissemination of statistical data in a form of express-data, bulletin and statistical collections;
- Provision of data on the base of post and electronic mail;
- Provision of data on the base of data exchange coordinated between sides;
- Presentation of statistical data on the base of private survey received from natural and legal entities.

Traditional methods of data dissemination

This include monthly publications, collections, yearbooks and etc. statistical products published in a paper form and with sufficiently complete data and analytical framework, which provides users with equal access to socio-economic situation of the country.

For effective presentation of their publications SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan has been defined a single format:

- Format of book-cover;
- Structure of publications (short review, comprehensive analysis, methodological explanation);
- Text and table format.

This format concerns all publications of SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Generally the following publications are published by SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan:

- **Press-Express-data** are the operative statistical data which make on the issue after a short period of time determined by the initial data collection and processing.
- **Statistical Bulletins** are the publications consisting of tables made on the base of current reports. In next publications it is possible to make change to the data given in statistical bulletins.
- **Monthly and quarterly statistical review** These are the statistical data in tables and graphics, along with brief comments and

conclusions of the analytical publications.

- Annual publications

Annual publications carrying out two functions for the users: first, they present more important and significant statistical data; second, they also consist of data of other countries. Dissemination of statistical data by the yearbooks is the final point of dissemination pyramid and as a flagman their main duty is introduce the country inside and outside of the country. During the preparation of yearbooks should pay attention especially to the design of it and meet the needs of users on tables and diagrams, yearbooks as well as placed at the web page.

- - Popular presentations

They are mainly books in a form of handbooks (brochures and booklets). It is intended for the general public and the most necessary data and indicators about the country are given here.

- Publications for internal use

Methodological issues, classifications, standards and etc. themes like this play an important role in these activities. Such issues are constantly discussed; decisions are taken and made corrections to the principles of activity. This kind of discussions and decisions are vitally important for the daily activity of SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan. If the new classification or new methodology is accepting it is immediately published and disseminated among the staff.

Multimedia means on dissemination of data.

One of the efficient methods of data dissemination of SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan is to use special software, e-mail, compact discs and etc. multimedia technologies. The main users of this kind of data are the President Administration, government, ministries and offices, statistical bodies of CIS countries and international organizations.

Internet

In modern world one of the main priorities of the statistical authority is supporting of private users with wide range coverage of data. The level on supporting with data of this type of users has a great impact assessment of the quality of statistical data by public. In this connection, SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan is using from all kinds of information technologies especially from Internet. In spite of this, some basic rules should write in advance and should disseminate between the persons working with internet. For example:

- 1. Calendar of press-releases; how and when renew them;
- 2. Main principles of publication/editing and formatting of press-releases;
- 3. Formats of published tables: Excel, PDF or HTML. Free downloading of tables;
- 4. Presentation of publications in web page in a short review or full text form and etc.

III. Qualitative dissemination of statistical data of the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Favorable policy in the field of dissemination of statistical information depends on timeliness of the prepared statistical data and extent of the reality of these data. In this regard, during the year the preparation and publication of statistical data plays an important role in the development of graphic. Every year the content, scope, preparation and dissemination calendar of the statistical data issued by the SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan is determined on the base of program of statistical works agreed by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan and approved by the board of the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Every year the SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan discusses the Program of Statistical Works with state management bodies, ministries, offices. After receiving comments and after the discussions of them draft of the program presents to the Cabinet of Ministers for coordinating. On the base of Program during the year is determining the graphic of publications published by the SSC. During determination of graphic on presentation and working out statistical data the followings are taken into account:

- preparation and submission of statistical data for the period of the graphic should be consistent with the preliminary data;
- Necessity and duration of reconsideration of statistical information before their distribution for final use and obtained after processing of primary data;
- data dissemination methods (press-release, printing or electron carriers)

The main users of statistical data are the followings:

Internal users

- state and local self-government bodies,
- non-governmental organizations,
- mass-media,
- education and science institutions,
- Citizens.

The official statistical data plays an important role in management decisions, while special attention is given to the work of state agencies and data exchange. The list of users - state administrative authorities and missions of several international organizations in Azerbaijan, who has a right to get for free the statistical information from the department of data dissemination of the Apparatus and other branch departments of the SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan, is coordinated with administration and it is carried out their register. Organizations registered by the register are provided with publications published by the SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan free in charge. Besides that, state bodies have right to get statistical data which is interested them on the base of official inquiry.

Foreign users

- Foreign organizations, Statistical bodies of CIS countries,

- Embassies and diplomatic missions of the country in abroad,
- Others.

Participation in the international statistical relation is a good way for information about the country. Taking this into consideration, SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan is increasing data exchange with different countries and international organizations; in this case in order to ensure inter-country comparisons is using international classifications. Strategy for effective dissemination of statistical information needs of users aimed at different groups and realizes in two levels:

1. Support of the public with a collection of statistical data.

Duty- is provide free access to total collection of statistical data.

Dissemination methods of a collection of statistical data;

- Preparation of press-releases for mass-media;
- Organization of press-conferences;
- Support with publications of public libraries and libraries of high schools;
- Support of free access to the web-page on important data after official publication.

The main important terms of each statistical body for archiving good success is built good relation with mass-media. Without them it is impossible to provide all public with complete, full, actual statistical data. Mass-media plays an important role in the increasing of authority and confidence of SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Traditional model of data dissemination:



Press-releases. Taking into account the special role of press and other mass-media in disseminating statistical data, in order to ensure timely receiving of data to users SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan presents data to them. By this purpose there is a department in the SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan which answers to press and other mass-media, provides economical and social press-releases, prepares them in a special format, as well as, places it in the web page of SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Taking into account the role of the television on provision of population with data SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan provides news programs of the TV with press-releases on economical and social situation of the country. During the preparation of press-releases SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan guided by the followings:

1. Journalists have not enough time for reading long and complex articles. That's why press-releases should be short and simple. They should mainly be one or two pages;

- 2. Titles should be short not more than one line;
- 3. Should be used more important titles;

4. Could be used half-titles. Half-titles is an effective method for strengthen the organization of publications. They can divide the publication into easily manageable and meaningful parts;

- 5. Add tables and graphics to the text for the users;
- 6. Show the date of press-releases;
- 7. Add of some main metadata or link them as a reference;
- 8. Contact information: telephone/e-mail

For the presentation of activities carried out by the SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan as well as highlighting the previous activities (implementation of special statistical researches, publication of special statistical collections) is organized press-conference for the journalists and press by the officials and experts of the Committee. Press-conferences should be devoted more important statistical events. For example, the results of population census, total brief analysis of social economic life of the country and etc. events should be devoted.

There two important rules during the relation with mass-media:

Equal treatment.

All mass-media means should be provide with new statistical data at the same time. In this case, there will be no doubt about the media preferences of the group.

Press-release calendar.

Mass media should be informed about this in advance by compiling calendar. According to this journalists can get certain time for planning/research. It is better to get the calendar as soon as possible. One of the methods of increasing the interests of public on statistical data is the way of presentation. Statistical data are usually presented in

Policy on dissemination of official statistics

"academic" form. That is, at first the methods and methodologies of conduction of any statistical survey, census and etc. are reported, then possible mistakes are indicated and at last the results - essential information, are reported. Such a structure looks like pyramid - reporting of results from the beginning till upper point. The major defect of this method is that only the most interested users will follow till the end, the rests will discontinue following and cannot obtain the last result. This differs from methods of journalists. According to that method firstly should be given the most necessary data- final result, then on the base of this result information is grouping and more deeply penetrates. The main positive aspect is that, if the text is very large, then the fact that half of the final results of the study does not cause any loss of information. This style is also known as pyramid has been turned into quite the reverse.

2. Provide with standardized data of target groups of users.

Legal and natural entities on the basis of individual requests shall have the right to obtain statistical data from SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In this case, the statistical data are provided access to the followings:

- Receiving of publications in a paper form;
- Receiving of data in a base of letter;
- Access to data in electron form (e-mail, electronic carrier)

This kind of services for the users of statistical data could be paid and free of charge. The prices of publications are noted in the catalogue of statistical publications published in a paper form. Paid service could be provided if responses to inquires of legal and natural entities take additional time and cause for spend of labour. Preparation and submission of costs to users of statistical data are included in expenses.

IV. Work with users

By the purpose of supporting users with statistical data and increasing the quality of rendering services SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan carrying out the followings in its practical activity:

- publishes the catalogue of publications published by the SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan during the year;
- introduces the published statistical publications to state management bodies, scientific institutes and high schools, international organizations, different countries and private enterprises;
- receives inquiries with this or other statistical data from users and prepares answers for them;
- Carries out country-wide surveys on studying of the opinion of statistical data users', their assessment on level of belief to official statistics, the identification of future needs.

There is a special importance of library which was created in 2002 in the structure of SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan on quality improvement and dissemination of statistical data in the provision of public access to statistical data. There are many statistical data,

Text books, statistical publications, as well as, the publications of other countries in the fund of library.

Library renders the following services:

- Use of statistical publications in the reading-hall;
- Temporary use of books.

V. Regulation for the review of the data on main statistical indicators

Main procedures for the review of data

Review of data is the correction of data which were before presented for public by the official statistical body.

As part of main activities review of published data is one of the important activities for all countries. Review of data is related process with processing and publication of statistical indicators. In this regard, working out the policy on review of data is important. Necessity on ensure of comparison of data at international level is increasing the demand on review of statistical data.

Main objective of the activity of State Statistical Committee is providing the public with necessary statistical data and as an independent, reliable, frankly and honest organization in a purposeful form increasing its authority inside of the country and at international level. Existence of procedures clear for all on review of data is served only this objective.

Preparation of such policy like this gives opportunity to use the results of controls by users. As main sign of prepared policy in the field of data review the followings are necessary:

Review of data is carrying out on the base of pre-determined graphic and don't make trouble between the users. Primary indicators are made by the statistical body by the purpose of meeting users need. Repetition review of data is concerning to the monthly, quarterly and annually indicators. Determination of data is implementing by the purpose of provide the users with actual and accurate data in maximum extent.

Exactness. Exactness of statistical data is described characteristics or quantity indicators of data reflecting measures taking into account. This conception is multilateral. In practice, the total size of a single common factor or accuracy (criterion) does not exist. According to the evaluations received from sample survey it is possible to measure the exactness by the help of using following indicators: encirclement, errors of sample and errors in answers, errors in processing of data, also, errors of measure or pattern.

Urgency. Urgency of statistical data – reflects the degree of information to users' real needs. At the result of it, demands assessment of urgency, users and evidence of their

Policy on dissemination of official statistics

groups. For the preparation of such program should be determined balance of different needs between available and potential users. Satisfaction surveys carried out by the State Statistical Committee among the users and their results can be as urgency indicator.

Reasons on review of data

As a rule, there are two types of review:

a) Review connected with "normal" statistical procedure:

- add new, more accurate data to the data source used in the calculation of statistical indicators. For ex. Firstly the data is calculated on the base of data on large economy subject, then adjustments are made to the indicators by order of collection of data from small subjects;

-sometimes, current data is not available, that's why primary data is guided to the exploitation of data of previous period, indicator is calculated conditionally by the use of statistical methods. Then adjustments are made to the conditionally calculated indictors;

-renew of seasonal coefficient reflecting impact of seasonal factors.

-changing of the base year is used in the calculation of indices. This is happened due to the changes of special weight coefficient used in the calculation of indices, as well as, separately;

-making changes to the methodology and methods used in the calculation of statistical indicators, changes in the essence, explanation and classification of statistical indicators and data;

-Make changes to the corresponding indicators on inter census period at the result of statistical measures in a republic scale - population census, agricultural census and

economic censuses.

b) Correction of errors during the usage of data received from other sources and errors found in the data of statistical units presented official statistical reports. It is important correction of errors after detecting them.

Review of data on implementation time is grouping as following: Current-adjustments to monthly and quarterly data;

Annual –Adjustments by the year are implemented after data by months or quarters are finished. Annual adjustments usually cover some years.

Large scaled – usually carried out on statistical methods, changes on classifications and covers long-duration period.

Main principles on review of data:

Review of data helps to users, as well as, allows comparing data more realistic at the international level. Review of data based on the following principles:

- 1. Should publish announcement of statistical body on reasons of review of data and its calendar and should be available for the users;
- 2. Should pay attention to the importance of calendar on review of data for the users, review period should be constant on years and should be carried out on time;
- 3. Wide conceptual and methodological changes (application of new classifications and etc.) usually should be carried out after every four-six years because not trouble the users;
- 4. Such corrections should cover some years on availability of dynamic series of indictors connected to each other;
- 5. During primary but also correction accuracy of data should be protected;
- 6. In dynamic lines sequence and unanimity on each statistical indicator should protected;
- 7. Wide information on review of data should be officially noted and should be open for users. Following terms are important as official note: note on primary and reviewed data in statistical issues, explanation of the reason of review, explanation of gaps if it is found impossible to organize consecutive dynamic series.
- 8. Users should inform about the results of review of data on this or other statistical field;
- 9. When carrying out adjustments to the statistical data, it is important to have sufficient financial and administrative resources of the body.

By the purpose of solving the problems on determination of data and not facing unnecessary criticisms should implement transparent and considered policy on the field of determination and review of statistical data. The most important part of the same policy is preparation of statistical data, determination and processing of publication calendar.

Taking into account above mentioned by the purpose of implementation this policy department of the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan prepared rules for processing, review of statistical data and compiled calendar on corresponding branches.

VI. Data visualization

Statistical graph – is representing characteristics of statistical indicators by conditional geometric shapes and used for visualization of quantitative data. This kind of data visualization could graphically demonstrate statistical observation processes by making their more understandable, representing changes of characteristics of phenomena by dynamic time

Policy on dissemination of official statistics

range and shows its main trend. In most cases for statistical publication is recommended to use two dimensional graphs. Main types of used graphs for absolute and relative data:

Linear graph type widely used for visualization different time series data. It is gives visual comparison of dynamics changes of indicators during time periods, which is displayed by curves.



Bar graph type is most simple and popular method of data visualization makes possible to compare indicators by countries, region, sex, age, time and etc.

Example



Number of economically active population,

Also, gives possibility to demonstrate share of different categories in the 100% aggregate.



Pie graph type not encouraged to use for visualization of time series data. This type used for one time period of data and data expressed by percentage.

Example

Example



Structure foreign investments, 2012

Pyramid graph type mainly used for visualization structure of population, makes possible to combine population data by sex and age groups.

Example



Structure of population by age, 2012

Radar graph type is recommended to use for better demonstration dynamic of monthly changes of studied process.

Example



Retail trade turnover, 2012 million manat

Data visualization by thematic maps.

A thematic map is a type of map especially designed to show a particular theme connected with a specific geographic area. These maps can display social, political, cultural, economic, sociological or any other aspects of a city, state, country, region and continent. Combining statistical and geographical information in one thematic map makes possible to avoid using of big tables and improve perception of data. One of advantage of thematic maps is possibility to visualize several statistical indicators in one map. For design of thematic maps are used three main data visualization methods: gradual colors; gradual balls; gradual dots.

Example (visualization by gradual colors)



Crude rate of natural increase of the population in 2012

Example (visualization with gradual colors and balls)



Distributions of population and number of birth in 2012, persons

Example (visualization with gradual colors and dots)



VII. Common technical rules for statistical publications and data visualization methods

Design for title page

"Times New Roman" is recommended font type for all kinds of statistical publication. Requirement for page format of statistical publications are following:

Margins for A4 format (210 mm x297 mm) Top -25 mm Bottom -25 mm Inside -20 mm Outside -25 mm Margins for A5 format (148 mm x210 mm) Top -18 mm Bottom -20 mm Inside -16 mm Outside -19 mm Margins for A6 format (105 mm x148 mm) Top -10 mm Bottom -12 mm Inside -7 mm Outside -14 mm Example The State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan Times New Roman, Times New Roman, bold bold A4 – 21 pt, A4 – 13 pt, A5 – 17 pt, A5 – 9,5 pt, A6 – 10 pt. A6 – 8 pt. NAME OF PUBLICATION Statistical issue Times New Roman, Times New Roman, bold bold A4 - 10 pt,A4 – 13 pt, A5 – 9,5 pt, A5 – 11 pt, A6 - 8 ntA6 – 8 pt. City – year

Design for back side of title page

	Exa
"name of publication" Statistical issue / year – Editor	Times New Roman A4 – 10 pt, A5 – 9,5 pt, A6 – 8 pt
Postal address : Telephones: Fax: E-mail: Location on the website	Times New Roman, bold A4 – 10 pt, A5 – 9,5 pt, A6 – 8 pt
Conventional signs: not applicable «-»	
data are missing (not present negligible magnitude «0.0»	
estimate «*»	
BBK 60.6 P31 P 0702000000/00(05) – 03 İSBN 9965 – 9315 – 2 – 6	Times New Roman, bold A4 – 10 pt, A5 – 9,5 pt, A6 – 8 pt
Times New Roman, italic A4 – 10 pt, A5 – 9,5 pt, A6 – 8 pt.	
	© The State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan, yea

Design for text

Text materials of publication include such sections like "Foreword", "Methodology explanation" and "Analyses". Each publication must have methodological explanations or explanatory notes. Explanatory notes should include short information about published indicators and methods of their computation. Appropriate place for methodological explanations is end part of publication. Introduction part should shortly describe published information. Page numbers should display beginning page 3, by rule even number in left side, odd number in right side.



Design for back side of introduction page



Design for content part

Each publication must have "Content" part, which should start on odd page. "Content" title should be in center on top part of page and marked with bold fonts. After title of "Content" are starting headings and subheadings in accordance to structure of publication.

Example



Design for tables

Statistical table – systemized, numerical, rational, visual description of characteristics for observed process or phenomena.

Tables recommended using in case of necessity in representing precise data; for expressing large data amount of numbers in compact form; for preparation of summary tables; data which is difficult precisely describe by text or picture.

Basic requirements for tables



Design for last page

In case of use abbreviation, on the last page of publication should be section related to all used abbreviations.

	List of abbreviations			
				Example
Decimals	dm	Kilowatt	kwt	
Centimeters	cm	Kilowatt-hour	kwt/h	
Meters	m	Dollar	usd	
Squared meters	m ²	Horse power	hp	
Cubic meters	m ³	Hectares	ha	
Kilograms	kg	Million	mln	
Kilometers	km	Billion	bln	
Ton-kilometers	t-km			

Information about persons who are responsible for published information

List of persons responsible for information used in the yearbook, by sections

Title	Name	telephone

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Exam	Jle

«Name of publication» / Statistic issue /city, year
Times New Roman A4- 10 pt, A5- 9,5 pt, A6- 8 pt.
Responsible Department for release of publication Head of Department
Executive persons:
Contact phone
Volume: conditional printed paper
Printing: copies
make up on computer

VIII. Regional policy

Urban and rural statistical offices during the dissemination of statistical data are carrying out the duties on their obligation.

For this purpose Regional Statistical Office (RSO):

- During the year RSO carrying out the activities taking into account in the programme on statistical works (collection of data, processing, summarizing and presentation in republic level) approved by the Board of State Statistical Committee;
- RSO support the needs of state management bodies and institutions of local government, other regional and local users to the data;
- RSO carrying out surveys on the basis of instructions prepared by the executive authorities of the republic on the basis of the methodology;
- RSO rendering services within their power (preparation of dynamic rows showing the level of social-economic development of the region, preparation of economic reports, collections and bulletins);
- RSO use common format approved and published by the SSC of the Republic of Azerbaijan for more qualitative presentation of their publications

Literature:

- 1. The Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on "Official Statistics", 1994
- 2. Report of the Conference of European Statisticians, UN, 2010
- 3. Dissemination policy of data challenges and recommendations, the EU Commission, 2000
- 4. A convenient presentation of statistical data, Statistics Norway 2009
- 5. The State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan "Regulation for the review of the data on main statistical indicators"
- 6. The State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan "Common technical rules on content stylistics for design of statistical publications"