
Expert Group Meeting to
Review the United Nations Demographic Yearbook System
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**Approaches to the dissemination of demographic statistics in Brazil
and their implication for the *Demographic Yearbook***

By

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A. As a provider

1. In Brazil, data for the United Nations *Demographic Yearbook* are compiled from the three major areas of the Population Department of The Statistical Institute:
 - a) Population estimates
 - b) Vital statistics
 - c) Population census
2. The Statistical Institute has been responding to the data request of United Nations Statistics Division systematically without problems. There are some indicators for which data are not available, such as, population estimates by urban and rural areas of residence and also the net reproduction rate. The *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaires are filled in by clerical staff under the supervision of the demographer responsible for the subject.
3. We believe that the description of the variables in the questionnaires should be improved and that countries should review the type of data being requested.

B. As a user

4. The review of the *Demographic Yearbook* system is a welcomed idea. Our main concern as users relate to the ease of using the tables. The footnotes and data sources are not friendly. Data that do not have the same level of quality should not be on the same table. One suggestion is to organize the tables by the same source of data.
5. The CD ROM with the database should be together with the book. Our experience with data dissemination has been very well accepted and users are more independent.

C. How the Brazilian National Statistics Institute (IBGE) is dealing with dissemination of demographic statistics

6. Brazil has a long tradition on producing demographic statistics. Every year, we calculate and disseminate the main demographic indicators such as the fertility rate, mortality rate, infant mortality, birth rate, and life expectancy as vital statistics in the *Annual Social Indicators Report*. This book comes also with a CD ROM.
7. Another product with demographic statistics is our *Statistical Yearbook*. It presents tables, figures, maps and text showing data about the territory, environment and population. It is updated annually.
8. *Brazil in figures* is our only bilingual product and it can be considered an abridged version of the *Statistical Yearbook*. In each chapter there is comment of a known expert. The periodicity is annual.

9. Another important dissemination of our demographic statistics is the *Demographic Trends* which is updated every 5 years based on census population statistics. This product presents data and analyses at the level of municipality and the state.

10. Our experience with data dissemination on CD ROM is that it has been very well accepted and it gives users more independence in how to use the data. There are two files on the CD, one with the publication in PDF and another with the tables in Excel.