## Brief description of the organisation

- The UNECE is one of five regional commissions of the United Nations, and covers Europe, North America and Central Asia. It was established in 1947 and is based in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The Statistical Division of the UNECE provides the secretariat for, and supports the work of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau.

## Mission

- To work with member countries to strengthen official statistics.

## Fields of Activity/structure

- Main fields of activity - Coordinating international statistical activities in the region through the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) and its Bureau, developing statistical standards and guidelines for the UNECE region, providing mechanisms for statistical offices to exchange experiences on a wide range of topics, helping countries to develop their national statistical systems, providing an on-line statistical database.
- The Statistical Division comprises four sections: Economic Statistics Section, Social and Demographic Statistics Section, Statistical Information Section and Population Unit.

## Mandate

- The Conference of European Statisticians has a mandate to:
  - improve national statistics and their international comparability with regard to the recommendations of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations, the Specialised Agencies and other appropriate bodies as necessary;
  - promote close coordination of the statistical activities in the UNECE region of international organizations so as to achieve greater uniformity in concepts and definitions and to reduce to a minimum the burdens on national statistical offices;
  - respond to any emerging need for international statistical cooperation both within the UNECE region and between the UNECE region and other regions;
  - discuss and adopt statistical standards for the UNECE region.
- The UNECE Statistical Division derives its mandate from that of the Conference of European Statisticians.
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<th><strong>Statistical work programme</strong></th>
<th>- Annual work programme agreed with the Conference of European Statisticians and the Executive Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe. <a href="http://www.unece.org/stats/about.htm">http://www.unece.org/stats/about.htm</a></th>
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| **Number of staff**         | - Statistical Division: 33 permanent posts  
- Statistical work programme in other divisions (Transport, Timber, Population): 3-4 posts |
| **Flagship Publications**   | - UNECE Countries in Figures  
| **Website**                 | [www.unece.org/stats](http://www.unece.org/stats) |

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