

Directory of statistical services of international organisations



United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

<p>Brief description of the organisation¹</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Statistics Division is the central body for statistical activities in the United Nations. It is established within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in New York, USA. Initially the Division was named Statistical Office of the United Nations and in 1993 it assumed its present name - the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). ▪ The work of UNSD is overseen by the United Nations Statistical Commission. The Commission was established in 1947 as the apex entity of the global statistical system. It is the highest decision making body for international statistical activities, especially the setting of statistical standards, the development of concepts and methods and their implementation at the national and international level. It is a Functional Commission of the UN Economic and Social Council.
<p>Mission²</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Statistics Division is committed to the advancement of the global statistical system. UNSD compiles and disseminates global statistical information, develops standards and norms for statistical activities, and supports countries' efforts to strengthen their national statistical systems. UNSD facilitates the coordination of international statistical activities and supports the functioning of the Statistical Commission.
<p>Fields of Activity/ structure</p> <p><i>Statistics</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fields of activity – collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information; standardization of statistical methods, classifications and definitions; technical cooperation programme; and coordination of international statistical programmes and activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provides a global centre for data on international trade, national accounts, energy, industry, environment and demographic and social statistics gathered from national and international sources - Promotes international standards of methods, classifications and definitions used by national agencies - Assists Member States, at their request, to improve their statistical services by giving advice and training - Coordinates international statistical programmes and activities entrusted to the Division by the United Nations Statistical Commission and the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (CCSA) - Provides input and secretarial support to the United Nations Statistical Commission - Facilitates the monitoring of progress toward the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) by leading the Interagency and Expert Group on MDG

¹ Description of the statistics section/department in the organization

² Mission of the statistics section/department of the organization

	<p>indicators and maintaining the global MDG indicator data base.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotes modern surveying and mapping techniques as a tool for growth and development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNSD is organised in five Branches: Economic Statistics, Demographic and Social Statistics, Environment and Energy Statistics, Trade Statistics and Statistical Services; furthermore, the Office of the Director comprises the following three Sections: Statistical Planning and Development, Capacity Development and Office and Technology Management.
Mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The terms of reference of the Statistical Commission are set forth in Economic and Social Council resolution 1566 (L) of 3 May 1971, reaffirming its resolution 8 (I) of 16 February 1946, as amended by resolution 8 (II) of 21 June 1946. ▪ The Statistical Commission during its nuclear session in 1946 recommended that a Central Statistical Unit of the United Nations Secretariat be established to serve the statistical needs of all departments and constituent organs of the United Nations and become an international centre of statistical information.
Statistical work programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multi-year programme of work of the Statistical Commission: The current multi-year programme covers the period 2009-2012 and was approved by the 40th session of the Commission in February 2009. ▪ UNSD functions in a two-year work programme cycle based on the approved multi-year programme of the Commission. ▪ UNSD programme of work for the biennium 2010- 2011 was considered and approved by the 40th session of the Commission in compliance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8). ▪ http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/doc09/2009-27-UNSDProg-E.pdf
Number of staff <i>Total / Statistical division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 123 regular posts, of which 67 professional statisticians.
Flagship Publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Statistical Databases (http://unstats.un.org/unsd/databases.htm) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNdata - http://data.un.org/ - UN Comtrade - http://comtrade.un.org/ ▪ Statistical Yearbook ▪ World Statistics Pocketbook ▪ Monthly Bulletin of Statistics ▪ Publications on statistical standards and methods approved by the Statistical Commission and translated into UN official languages: English, French, Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish ▪ General Statistical Publications in the field of demographic and population statistics, international merchandise trade, national accounts and economic statistics, industrial commodities production, energy, social statistics and indicators, gender statistics and human settlements etc.
Website	http://unstats.un.org

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