



Quality Declaration of Statistics Netherlands

Quality obliges...

The Quality Declaration of Statistics Netherlands describes the quality policy, confidentiality policy and conformity policy of Statistics Netherlands. The Quality declaration is intended for everyone involved in Statistics Netherlands ('stakeholders').

Quality policy

The policy of Statistics Netherlands is to guarantee the quality of the statistical information. This involves all aspects of quality of the output. In case of statistics this concerns:

- Relevance
- Accuracy and reliability
- Timeliness and punctuality
- Coherence, comparability and consistency
- Accessibility and clarity

Statistics Netherlands aims to maintain the continuity and to manage the costs of its statistics by producing them efficiently and by minimising the administrative burden on its respondents and data suppliers.

The quality policy of Statistics Netherlands serves several aims:

- Complying with the mission of Statistics Netherlands
- Maintaining public trust in Statistics Netherlands and its products
- Satisfaction of users and clients

It is Statistics Netherlands' policy to continually improve its quality management system.

Confidentiality policy

The confidentiality policy is that Statistics Netherlands guarantees the privacy of the provider of data (persons, enterprises, governmental services and other respondents). Statistics Netherlands guarantees, moreover, the confidential character of the information they provide and the exclusive use of data for statistical purposes.

Conformity policy

Legislation applies to Statistics Netherlands. For the EU this is the Statistical Law (Regulation (EC) No 223/2009)ⁱ ⁱⁱ and the European Statistics Code of Practiceⁱⁱⁱ. In the ESS Quality Assurance Framework (ESS QAF)^{iv} good practices are elaborated. The document 'Conformity to the European Statistics Code of Practice' describes how Statistics Netherlands complies with the Code of Practice.

Furthermore, the European statistics are based on European legislation. The statistics supplied to the IMF come under the Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF)^v. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)^{vi} applies to Statistics Netherlands too.

Important legislation at the national level are the Act on Statistics Netherlands (*de CBS-wet*). This includes the Government Information Security Regulation (*Voorschrift Informatiebeveiliging Rijksdienst* (VIR))^{vii}, its *Baseline Informatiebeveiliging Rijksdienst* (BIR)^{viii} and the Archive Act^{ix} (*Archiefwet*).

Statistics Netherlands also determines its own frameworks related to the statistical process and its output. One of these frameworks is the series on statistical methods^x. The methods in the series are described and published online.

References

- i Eurostat (2009). [Statistical Law. Regulation \(EC\) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics.](#)
- ii Eurostat (2015). [Regulation 2015/759 amending Regulation 223/2009 on the European Statistics.](#)
- iii Eurostat (2011). [European Statistics Code of Practice](#). Adopted by the Commission for the European Statistical System on 28 September 2011.
- iv Eurostat (2015). [ESS Quality Assurance Framework \(ESS QAF\)](#). Version 1.2.
- v IMF (2006). [Data Quality Assurance Framework \(DQAF\)](#).
- vi EU (2016). [General Data Protection Regulation](#).
- vii Dutch government (2007). [Government Information Security Regulation / Voorschrift Informatiebeveiliging Rijksdienst \(VIR\)](#).
- viii Dutch government (2012). Government Baseline Information Security / Baseline Informatiebeveiliging Rijksdienst (BIR).
- ix Dutch government. [Archive Act / Achiefwet](#).
- x CBS. [Statistical methods](#).. CBS-website.