

Strategic multi-annual programme

2014-2018



Statistics
Netherlands

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Strategic multi-annual
programme
2014-2018

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Introduction

Our users are satisfied with the present range of statistics we produce: partly as a result of recently developed statistics, it satisfies their needs well. However, new information is needed in a number of areas, and users have also expressed wishes with respect to the services provided by Statistics Netherlands, and the accessibility of its information. New developments in the area of data collection also need to be addressed. What continues to be important is the responsibility for the independent supply of statistical information to society in the Netherlands and in Europe. These wishes and needs will have to be fulfilled using fewer resources and resulting in a smaller administrative burden. Statistics Netherlands faces this challenge with confidence. The multi-annual programme presented here sets out our ambitions for the period 2014–2018.

Use of statistics

The task of Statistics Netherlands is to produce and publish reliable and consistent statistical information that is relevant for the needs of society. Users include central, regional and local government, Europe, political actors, research and education institutions, the business community, and the public. Naturally, we have involved all these actors in some way in the composition of our multi-annual programme. We asked them what statistical information they need, and what wishes they have in the area of service and accessibility of information.

Users are satisfied with how the statistics we produce meet their needs. They are positive about the quality and objectivity of the data, and about the reliability and independent position of Statistics Netherlands. They emphasise the increasing importance of the internet and digital data flows.

Statistics Netherlands products are used intensively, among other things to fulfil legal requirements, for policy-making and policy analysis, as input for model calculations and to indicate and observe socio-economic trends. Some users noted that the statistical themes could be expanded in order to place new societal trends in a better context; for example, developments in business, flexibilisation of the labour market, and changing capital positions.

Statistics Netherlands faces a hard task

Under the enabling legislation for autonomous agencies, in 2012 the Minister of Economic Affairs submitted a report on the efficiency of Statistics Netherlands to Parliament. The conclusion of this report was that the output of Statistics Netherlands had increased in the period under review,

2004-2009, and that it had been more widely used. The report states that Statistics Netherlands produces high quality modern statistics that are used and highly valued by varying national and international target groups. Efficiency had also increased. Statistics Netherlands has shown itself to be able to fulfil its core business and to respond to changing needs, in spite of cuts in its funding.

Statistics Netherlands now faces the task of maintaining this high quality, introducing new statistics, and improving access to its data, while at the same time reducing its spending. To cope with the budget cuts, efficiency will be increased further, a small number of statistics will be discontinued, or compiled less often or in a simpler form. To assess the consequences of these measures, we have consulted our main users. In the final selection of statistics to be discontinued, we shall take into account that the consequences for society are restricted as much as possible. We shall also critically examine our publication policy, with a view to cutting costs with the least possible consequences for the reach and quality of the information.



2.

Dominant external developments

Fast technological developments and increasing internationalisation are dominant external developments for Statistics Netherlands. Our organisation must and wants to keep ahead of these developments. In this way we can ensure that we remain relevant, visible and findable in the future.

New source

Enormous volumes of data are recorded electronically every day. As a result, large datasets are constantly becoming available, covering an increasing number of areas in more or less structured ways. For example: internet data, data on financial transactions, data on traffic intensity (from vehicle detection loops). These datasets are important potential sources for new statistics. Data on financial transactions, for example, can help to describe economic relations, monitor cycles and analyse economic chains. They can also be used to collect information for existing statistics faster, more simply and with less administrative burden, for example in the case of transport and logistics statistics. These are key opportunities for Statistics Netherlands. We shall examine the statistical potential of big data and solutions for a number of challenges such as representativeness and structure.

It goes without saying in this respect that privacy and confidentiality of sensitive information are essential for the work of Statistics Netherlands.

New survey methods

Very regularly new ideas emerge for communication and information exchange. As a result the internet has become an almost inexhaustible source of data. To make optimal use of these new sources, we need to remain innovative with respect to survey methods. Statistics Netherlands is investing in this area, for example by using smartphones in personal budget and mobility surveys, internet robots to describe the house market and high quality web panels for general surveys. Use of other survey methods will increase further in the coming years.

International collaboration

As a result of increasing demand for international statistical comparisons, national statistical offices need to collaborate more. Ongoing globalisation, increasing European and worldwide cooperation and a fast developing ICT industry have made the world a smaller place. These developments require ever faster and more intensive cooperation. Alongside these processes, the economic crisis has led to substantial budget cuts for many statistical offices. Working together more intensively could result in more efficiency (economies of scale), and by combining forces we could act more innovatively. It would also help to satisfy the increasing demand for international data.



3.

New statistics

The range of available statistics needs to respond to developments in society. An analysis of users' needs has made it clear that they want extra information about developments in business, labour market flexibilisation and developments in the capital position of households and economic actors.

Business developments

The Dutch economy is in a constant state of flux. These dynamics are caused partly by the nature of the Netherlands as a relatively small open economy. Economic changes in Europe, but also elsewhere, largely determine what happens in the Netherlands. These developments require well-founded policy to strengthen the Netherlands' international competitiveness and the competitive Dutch business climate. Employment and prosperity rely on this. Consistent statistical information and insight into trends and socio-economic consequences of movements within the Dutch economy are essential elements for policymaking in this respect.

As a result of globalisation and digitalisation, geographical features (e.g. national borders) and physical distances have become less important. Trade via the internet means that national borders now hardly play a role for consumers. While the relevance of international economic developments is evident for an open economy like the Dutch one, Dutch competitiveness and the appeal of the Netherlands as a business base is increasingly a regional rather than a national issue. This means that national figures are more and more often an average of very different underlying regions, each with its own strengths and weaknesses. The value of national statistics is thus reduced, increasing the need for figures at a regional level. In the next few years, new regional figures will be developed along these lines.

Developments such as the increasing global demand for available natural resources and rising energy prices will lead to sustainability and green growth becoming more important themes for businesses. In the coming period the range of statistics on sustainability will be extended with the development of new statistics on energy saving by companies and corporate social responsibility.

Labour market flexibilisation

As a result of increasing globalisation and the accompanying fluctuations in demand for goods and services, employers need staff they can employ flexibly. Depending on the market in which they operate, employers use various flexible strategies. There is a need for insight into the extent, structure and nature of the flexible employment shell around companies in relation to various characteristics such as company size, sector of activity, international orientation, and company life stage.

From the perspective of employees, too, flexibilisation is a key concept. The labour market is becoming increasingly fragmented, as a result of which the distinction between employee and self-employed is becoming less clear, and new groups have come into being such as self-employed people without employees and payrollers. New 'groups' on the labour market and the underlying motives of the labour market actors concerned will be described. Insight into these aspects will provide policymakers, researchers and society with a more complete and better insight into how the labour market works.

Within the Netherlands, the theme of labour migration has also led to lively policy debate in recent years. Statistical facts are indispensable in such debates, and it is therefore important to chart the structure, flows and characteristics of labour migration and its consequences for the Dutch labour market and the social security system.

Capital position

The capital position of households and of businesses is affected by among other things economic developments, policy adjustments, changes on the house market, rising retirement ages and changes

in pension entitlement. To gain more insight into the effects of these factors and the potential risks for capital, new statistics will be developed in the next few years. These statistics must give as complete a picture as possible of the capital position of various groups in relation to their status on the house market, life cycle, economic position and labour market status. This will make it clear, for example, how rapidly expanding group of self-employed without employees cover their financial risks and the extent of their financial safety nets.



European statistical programme

The statistical programme is mainly determined by European legislation. Statistics Netherlands supplies figures for the Netherlands to Eurostat and these are combined with figures from other countries to make reliable, comparable and high quality European statistics. These European statistics are necessary to develop, monitor and analyse the policy of the European Union. Statistics Netherlands is obliged by law to implement the European statistical programme 2013–2017.

New European statistics

As a result of the economic crisis, more attention is being paid within Europe to the quality of economic statistics and the development of indicators to predict a potential crisis earlier. Because of the position of the euro, there is an increasing demand for detailed statistical information on monetary policy and for information relating to the enforcement of budget surveillance in the euro area. Other European themes related to the crisis are social exclusion and social cohesion. Policymakers are feeling the need to get a faster and more detailed picture of the effects of the economic crisis on society.

The European statistical programme provides not only in the expansion of statistical information. It also contains proposed measures to reduce the administrative burden for businesses. These relate to making statistics on trade in goods and trade in services more balanced, and in addition the simplification of agricultural statistics. Another measure in this respect is the increase in efficiency of data collection. Statistics Netherlands is one of the initiators of using the internet for data collection among persons and households.

Quality of source data

The European Commission laid down a decision delegating responsibility in 2012, on the basis of the regulation on the effective enforcement of budgetary surveillance in the euro area. Under the decision, the European Commission has access to the accounts of all entities of central, provincial and municipal government, and official institutions governing social security. It is also authorised to carry out inspections. The national statistics offices have also been assigned a role in this respect: their staff are required to provide active assistance

for these inspections, and in doing so have the same authority as the European Commission. The volume of work this will involve cannot yet be quantified. The Commission has yet to evaluate the regulation, and will consider whether other organisations are more suited – in terms of their responsibilities – to carry out this task.



Regular statistical programme

Continuity in the existing programme, keeping up time series, and statistical consistency are self-evident goals in the implementation of the regular statistical programme. The regular programme now also includes the new products developed in programme periods 2004–2008 and 2009–2013.

Recently developed statistics

Statistics Netherlands has been very busy in recent years developing and innovating its work programme, its service levels and its production processes. In addition to discontinuing infrequently used statistics, new statistics have been developed on among other things international economic relations, the regional economy, population ageing, education, care, the housing market, security, sustainability, transport, mobility, well-being, labour dynamics and social dynamics.

To increase the reach and use of our information, the website has been improved, access to the statistical databank StatLine has been made more user-friendly, a Centre for Policy-related statistics has been set up and access to microdata has been improved. All this has resulted in a solid foundation on which Statistics Netherlands can build further.

Themes and dossiers

Both on its website and in StatLine, Statistics Netherlands presents its figures and publications in the same theme-based structure. The themes are: agriculture; construction and housing; education; enterprises; financial and business services; government and politics; health and welfare; income and spending; international trade; labour and social security; leisure and culture; macroeconomics; manufacturing and energy; nature and environment; population; prices; security and justice; trade, hotels and restaurants; and traffic and transport. In addition to the themes, a number of dossiers combine the most relevant data on a specific topic from a number of themes. There are dossiers on among other things the business cycle and population ageing.

Cuts in the programme

Because of the budget reduction, cuts in the programme are inevitable. The final decision of which elements to discontinue was based on their social reach and their significance for users. An overview of the reductions is included in the annex. The programme reduction steps will be detailed in the annual programmes for the years 2014-2018.

Timeliness of statistics

Statistical information has become more timely in recent years, among other things by the earlier release of provisional figures. Further improvement in timeliness remains an important goal. The use of new sources, big data and new ways of surveying are points of departure in this respect. In the process organisation, too, reduction of throughput time and thus more timely results have a high priority. And again: users' wishes will be set against costs and potential effects on administrative burden.



Cooperation

Cooperation serves to improve statistical information, which fulfils users' needs better. Statistics Netherlands therefore invests in relations with users on the one hand and with other data suppliers on the other, both nationally, and – to an increasing extent – internationally.

National partners

Statistics Netherlands collaborates intensively with ministries, national policy analysis institutions, research institutes, trade organisations, and other bodies in the area of data collection, standardisation and statistical development. It also cooperates closely with the Tax Authority, the Dutch central bank and the chambers of commerce. This collaboration has resulted in joint surveys, studies and publications. Moreover, more and more knowledge is shared, for example through the organisation of symposia. For information it supplies to Parliament, Statistics Netherlands works together with the Parliamentary Bureau for Research and Public Expenditure. Cooperation not only provides opportunities to increase quality, but also to reduce the administrative burden.

International partners

International comparability is very important for statistics. Figures for the Netherlands, for example on economic growth, demographics, labour market or the environment, must be able to be compared with those for other countries. Therefore Statistics Netherlands is active in a number of international cooperative bodies, including the United Nations, the OECD and the European Union.

Statistics Netherlands is internationally recognised as a leading knowledge institute and indeed has the ambition to participate actively in and exert influence on European and other international meetings at all levels. In addition to participation at the strategic level, Statistics Netherlands also works actively in the development of professional statistical expertise. Statistics Netherlands leads the way in terms of methodology development, opening up statistics and microdata, and internal quality

audits. This leading position is also apparent from the fact that other national statistical institutes have adopted our innovations; for example: the business cycle tracer, modern survey methods, and a new design for economic statistics.

In addition to input for international agreements and regulations, involvement is also needed to chart the consequences of European legislation for the statistical programme of Statistics Netherlands.

Another reason for international cooperation is the scarcity of resources. Statistics Netherlands cannot respond to the serious challenges it is facing on its own. The international High Level Group for Strategic Developments in Business Architecture in Statistics (HLG-BAS), of which Statistics Netherlands is the chair, steers the various initiatives in this respect to actually gain advantages from working together. Important current topics are big data, standardisation to save costs, improvement of processes, and reduction of the administrative burden. Statistics Netherlands is also an active partner in the consortium of the European Statistical Training Programme (ESTP). Under this programme, various courses are organised for staff of other national statistical institutes. In the context of increasing collaboration with a number of countries in southern Asia, Statistics Netherlands has covenants with South Korea, China and Vietnam. In the case of South Korea this collaboration is in the area of application of information technology and developments in statistical observation.



Service and accessible information

Statistics Netherlands has the ambition to continue to be relevant, visible and findable. It is essential to invest in new forms of service provision and the use of new communication and distribution channels to continue to fulfil the role of national statistical institute.

Accessibility

Further improvement of existing publication channels – the StatLine databank and the website – is high on the agenda. StatLine gives users access to nearly all data of Statistics Netherlands. The findability of data in StatLine will be increased further in the next few years. The search engine and navigation structure of the website will also be improved. Users will be able to find their way more intuitively and effectively to statistical data and reports.

In addition there is an increasing demand for open data. A technical provision will make the open data that are already accessible via StatLine more accessible. Public and private organisations will themselves be able to develop products, services and/or applications on the basis of this technology.

Local authorities in particular have a great need for data at local levels (district and neighbourhood levels). A lot can be gained by making existing information – that can often be presented geographically – more accessible. But we shall also look at whether available information can be further expanded. Another development in this respect is the European harmonisation of geographical data, making it easier to compile statistics on border-crossing regions.

Reduction of administrative burden

In the coming years, businesses will have even better access to relevant data via the website www.cbsvooruwbedrijf.nl. Providing information back to companies is in line with the goal of Statistics Netherlands to increase its level of service. In recent years, Statistics Netherlands has already done a lot of work to reduce the administrative burden for businesses

as much as possible. This policy will be continued in the coming years, in collaboration with businesses and trade organisations. The formulation of questionnaires will be adapted to terms and concepts customary in business administration, making them easier to complete. In addition, Statistics Netherlands is working actively together with other data collectors within the government to realise far-reaching digital data exchange between the government and businesses. This, too, will result in a reduction of the administrative burden experienced by companies.

Customised studies

Conducting customised studies for a fee and providing access to microdata (anonymised data of individual persons and companies) have now become a matter of course at Statistics Netherlands. The results of studies done under both provisions are public, and thus available for everyone.

As a result of access to administrations and registrations of other government organisations, the volume of basic data at the disposal of Statistics Netherlands has increased substantially in recent years. Data from various sources can now be linked, for example making it possible to analyse potentially new relations. This has an added value for users. In addition, it is easier for organisations and institutions to do their own analyses on microdata of Statistics Netherlands. Under certain conditions they can be given access to a restricted set of microdata. Naturally, Statistics Netherlands has taken very strict measures to ensure protection of data confidentiality.

In recent years the number of requests for customised studies and the demand for microdata have grown sharply. To be able to fulfil the growing demand in both areas, the capacity of and services provided by the Centre for Policy-related statistics will be extended. The costs involved will be recovered in the fees charged for the work.



8.

Financial framework

Successful implementation of the 2014–2018 multi-annual programme will require well-trained staff and financial resources. It will be possible, under certain conditions, to implement the multi-annual programme within the financial resources provided by the Ministry of Economic Affairs for the period 2014–2018.

Available funding 2014-2018

Funding from the Ministry of Economic Affairs as presented below takes account of the funding cuts introduced by the previous Cabinet, € 37.2 million from 2015 onwards, and the reduction provided for in the government's 'spring pact': another € 4.4 million from 2018 onwards.

Funding by Ministry of Economic Affairs (million euro)

| | 2012 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|----------|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | x mln euros | | | | | |
| Funding* | 186.9 | 153.5 | 147.2 | 146.1 | 145.8 | 142.8 |

* Excluding compensation for unknown EU obligations.

Statistics Netherlands and the CCS see possibilities to implement the multi-annual programme under certain conditions within the financial constraints set by the Ministry of Economic Affairs. In addition to reductions in the statistical programme, the organisation will work towards improving efficiency further. To realise this extra efficiency, a one-off extra financial contribution of € 15 million will be required in 2018 to invest in process innovation and reduction of administrative costs. The budget reductions will be realised during the entire term of this multi-annual programme, and making use of the organisation's own capital.

Annex: Programme cutbacks

Discontinuation of statistics

Economic developments

International economic relation

1. Observation of employees who live in the Netherlands and work abroad.

Macro-economics

2. Monthly savings statistics. These include figures on bank savings deposits of private households, with a distinction between deposits at notice and deposits on call.
3. Annual statistics on forms of savings. These are figures on savings accounts: the number of accounts and total balance in these accounts on 31 December for each type of account. This will lead to loss of knowledge about the distribution of savings across the various options.
4. Statistics on financial markets: consumer credit and overdrafts. These statistics provide insight into how part of household consumption is financed. One consequence of this will be that statistics of household loan-related debt would only be based on debts on bank-granted consumer credit. Information on consumer credit granted by car dealers, credit card companies etc. would no longer be available.
5. Social Accounting Matrices (SAM). These give an insight into the distribution of income, expenditure and property across

population groups. Information on the relationships between economic developments and the position of various types of households in terms of income and capital will no longer be published.

6. Retrospective recalculation for revisions of National Accounts time series to 1969 (proposal: recalculation back to 1990). This will lead to the availability of fewer or no long time-series, which will reduce the quality of model estimations, and diminish the historical context of developments.
7. Detailed tables in the National Accounts compiled especially for external users. In addition to the packages required on the basis of directives, a number of tables compiled especially for external users will be discontinued:
 - detailed government data on subsidies, social premiums, social benefits, income transfers, capital transfers and income and expenditure of social insurance institutions;
 - data connected to the input-output tables: product-related taxes and subsidies by industry class, exports and re-exports by value, imports by competing industry class;
 - overviews of operational costs of insurance companies and pension funds;
 - overview of construction output by type and purpose;
 - fixed capital formation by purpose, inclusive and exclusive of VAT;
 - consumption by households by detailed goods and services categories.
8. Public issues on the Dutch capital market. This table comprises figures on the issue of shares and bonds by Dutch companies and the Dutch government, including type of security issued, type of issue, subscription date, date of payment, average term of bonds, interest rate on bonds, issue price of bonds, issue price of shares, return on issue of bonds, and amount issued.

Impact ICT

9. Use of social media by government and in business.

Income tax expenditure and tax burden

10. Changes in purchasing power as a result of life events (e.g. marriage, birth, death of partner).
11. 'Local tax calculator'. The household local tax calculator provides information on levels of local taxes. Households can use it to compare the level and composition of taxes for their own living situation with those for other living situations. The local tax rate calculator can be used to compare rates of all local taxes between municipalities, provinces or water board areas.
12. 'Personal tax calculator'. The personal tax calculator consists of two visualisations: the indirect tax calculator and the actual tax calculator. The former sets indirect taxes paid against disposable income, and covers VAT, excise, national motor vehicle tax and environmental tax. The actual personal tax calculator reflects taxes actually paid, which are also compared with gross income. Both visualisations are in a development stage and will be published in the course of 2013.

Business cycle

13. Production of "Economic vanguard" which provides a structured overview of the economy. This is a methodologically based and tested system that presents an overall view of the indicators and sectors which generally show the first signs of change in economic development. The system was developed with the aim of identifying new developments or turning points in the business cycle as quickly and reliably as possible.

14. Branch-of-industry factsheets. These factsheets provide an at-a-glance overview of the state of affairs within a branch of industry, illustrating relations between the statistics concerned. Some components of the factsheet are interactive, i.e. users can click on them and selecting variables and/or periods of time for further analysis. These components concern various facets of the branch of industry concerned, from structural elements such as share in GDP, to more dynamic ones such as short-term statistics and confidence indicators.

Price developments

15. Price of tap water for household use.
16. Daily world market prices. This table presents prices on various world markets as published daily in the Financieel Dagblad. Statistics Netherlands uses the daily prices to calculate average monthly, quarterly and annual prices.

Trade, services, hotels and restaurants

17. Quarterly bulletins on wholesale trade and on retail trade (magazine jointly with trade-branch organisations). Figures are published quarterly in the trade journal Groothandel. In addition, a customised quarterly bulletin is produced and distributed to members.

Manufacturing

18. Manufacturing radar: an instrument to analyse developments in manufacturing output and put them in context. On the basis of six indicators selected on the basis of econometric studies, it shows whether circumstances have developed favourably or unfavourably for the Dutch manufacturing industry.

Research & Development

19. Collaboration by large companies: industry sectors/branches and size of effects by sector. Components of the knowledge module not obligatory under EU directives aimed at increasing insight into annual investment in the knowledge infrastructure of the Dutch economy.

Statistics Netherlands has recently developed a National Accounts satellite account with the aim of illustrating investment in the knowledge infrastructure of the Dutch economy better. The nature of this proposal means discontinuation of the annual compilation of parts of the knowledge module not obligatory under EU legislation, which contain investment in knowledge capital in a broad sense.

Socio-economic and societal developments

Labour and social security

20. Statistics on National Survivor Benefits Act (Anw). In addition to Statistics Netherlands, the Sociale Verzekeringsbank (SVB, the organisation that implements national insurance schemes) also publishes these data. The added value of Statistics Netherlands is on the one hand that benefits can be broken down by personal characteristics that only Statistics Netherlands has at its disposal, and on the other hand that the data can be placed in the context of the labour market, labour participation, poverty trap and social exclusion. It will no longer be possible to examine the group of economically and socially vulnerable persons (approx. 120 thousand) in more detail, to monitor their situation or answer relevant policy-related questions.

Education and science

21. Compilation of micro-datasets and publications on education cohorts up to and including 1999.
22. Statistics on life-long learning and adult education (excl. five-yearly survey of adult education required by the EU).

Security and justice

23. statistics on adoption, divorce, judicial child protection and non-asylum related administrative law.

Quality of life

Health and welfare

24. (Secondary) health and care statistics on pharmacies and thrombosis services.
25. Statistics on persons without medical insurance.
26. Patient satisfaction with care provided.
27. Personal satisfaction and happiness by objective indicators within various quality-of-life dimensions.

Nature and environment

28. Statistics on perceived environment-related pollution, behaviour and awareness among citizens.

Urban issues

Housing market

29. Quality of housing and residential environment.
30. Housing costs.

Frequency reduction of statistics

Economic developments

Price developments

1. From yearly to five-yearly: budget survey, but with a sample of twice its present size.

Trade, services, hotels and restaurants

2. From monthly to three-monthly: statistics on hairdressers and beauty parlours, and on the hotel and restaurant sector. These surveys reflect turnover developments in these branches that are relevant for the business cycle. There is no EU requirement at present to supply these statistics monthly. There is an STS obligation for quarterly statistics. There is an on-going discussion within Europe at present about whether turnover statistics for services sectors should be compiled monthly instead of quarterly.

Socio-economic and societal developments

Education and science

3. From yearly to two-yearly: education cohorts in various education categories (secondary education, senior secondary vocational education, early school-leavers), with updates of current cohorts in the intermediate year using recent education positions and diplomas.

Curtailment of statistics

Economic developments

Income, tax expenditure and tax burden

1. Less analysis in policy administration processing. Analysis is essential for the quality of the employment and earnings statistics. The effect will be a slight reduction in the quality of the statistics and research opportunities (mainly insight into small companies) will come under pressure.

Transport and logistics

2. Less detailed surveying of road transport by removing questions on revenues from carried freight.

Economic target group analysis and business behaviour

3. In the business behaviour project, events and decisions of companies are placed in a demographic framework in which companies are not analysed and published by traditional characteristics

such as size and sector, but by specific characteristics such as successful/unsuccessful, export-oriented or not, etc. The output includes:

- a. reasons for economic growth and recession, successful and unsuccessful;
 - b. Statline tables and other publications on new industry groups, including 'top' sectors, successful companies, export-oriented companies, etc.;
 - c. tables on business dynamics (numbers of companies, broken down by SIC, involved in so-called events: establishments, closures, births, deaths, mergers, takeovers, divisions, dissolutions) and their impact on employment. The international dimension of business dynamics is part of the information produced about the effects of the open economy on employment and economic growth (see also international economic relations).
4. Supplementary surveys in the area of productivity and knowledge economy on the basis of business microdata.

Energy

5. Reduction in statistics on energy imports and exports within international trade statistics. The separate process for compiling statistics on imports and exports of energy can be curtailed. This will result in fewer and poorer quality statistics on international trade in energy. Statistics on energy imports and exports will continue to be published.

Research & development

6. Reduction of level of detail in statistics on R&D in companies by no longer estimating R&D expenditure of small companies on the basis of the Research and development promotion Act (WBSO).

7. The level of detail of the innovation survey will be reduced every other year.

Quality of life

Government and politics

8. Reduction in output of municipal data, including municipal financial data. The proposal includes reducing and sobering down quality reports on municipal financial data, and reducing the number of micro-analyses (checks) on the data. As a result complete publication of individual municipal data will no longer be possible. Individual annual data (from budgets and annual accounts) must be supplied to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations in the context of its supervisory position and the management of the provincial and municipal funds.

