

Role of Singapore Department of Statistics in a Decentralised Statistical System

Singapore Statistical System

Decentralised Statistical System

Department
of
Statistics

**Gazetted
Research &
Statistics Units**

**Non-gazetted
Research &
Statistics Units**

Decentralised Statistical System

Singapore Department of Statistics	National Statistical Office. Responsible for statistics on the Singapore economy and population. Designated as National Statistical Coordinator under Statistics Act.
Gazetted Research and Statistics Units (RSUs)	Responsible for statistics on specific subject matters under the purview of the parent ministry / statutory board. Empowered to collect data under Statistics Act.
Non-Gazetted Research and Statistics Units	Responsible for statistics on specific subject matters under the purview of the parent ministry / statutory board. Collect data under administrative regulations or other legislation.

Department of Statistics

□ As the National Statistical Office

- Collects, compiles and disseminates data
- Analyses and monitors statistical trends
- Develops and maintains national statistical databases
- Provides statistical advice

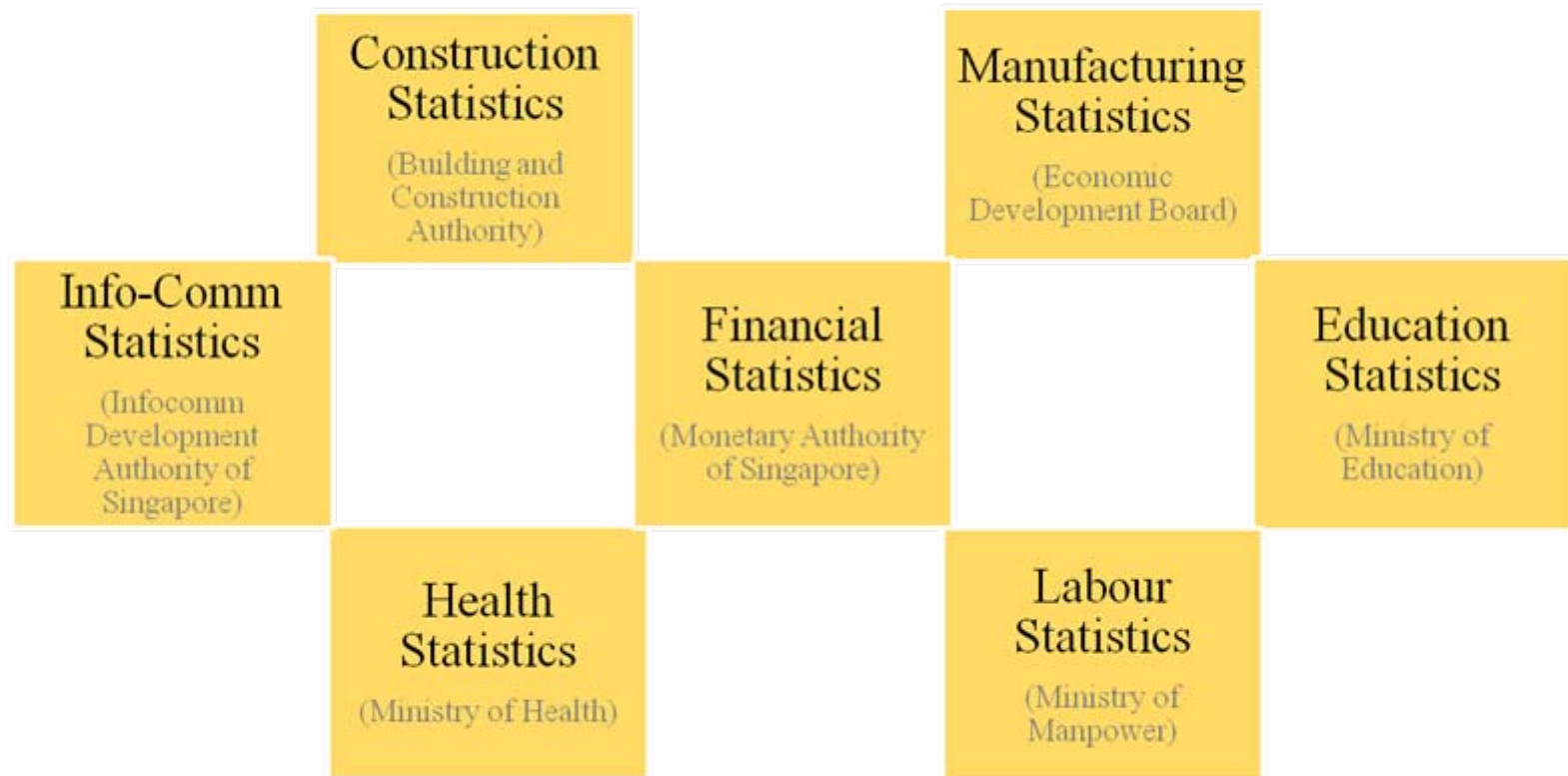
Department of Statistics

□ As the National Statistical Co-ordinator

- co-ordinates statistical activities in public agencies
- advises public agencies in the gathering, compiling, analysis and utilisation of statistics
- develops national statistical standards, classifications, procedures for statistical activities
- promotes the observance of approved national statistical standards by public agencies

Gazetted Research & Statistics Units

- Statistics produced by gazetted RSUs



Non-gazetted Research & Statistics Units

Examples of statistics produced by public agencies

- Immigration, crime, births and deaths
- Employment and wages of CPF members
- Public housing
- External trade
- Visitor Arrivals
- Air Transport and Cargo

Role of Singapore Department of Statistics

Develop and Promote Adoption of National Statistical Classifications

- Develop and review national classifications
 - Industry, occupation, education and other groupings
 - Review relevant international guidelines
 - Participate in international forums and workshops
 - Engage national stakeholders
- Conduct regular workshops
 - Provide advice on applying these classifications
 - Promote adoption of national classifications

Develop and Promote Statistical Principles and Standards

- Statistical guiding principles
 - Principles: Professionalism & Expertise, Relevance, Accessibility, Confidentiality, Timeliness & Reliability, Cost Effectiveness
- Statistical standards and guidelines
 - Basic framework for the Department and RSUs to achieve better data quality and comparability

Coordination with RSUs

- Discussion with statistical community
 - Update latest developments
 - Discuss common challenges
 - Clarify issues on Statistics Act
- Gazette new RSUs to provide better focus on subject matter
 - Ensure proper systems & processes in place
 - Ensure domain properly covered and minimise overlaps with other agencies

Coordinate Statistical Activities

- New statistical activities and changes to administrative databases
- Directory of Data to facilitate search and minimise duplication of surveys
- Regular discussions with public agencies
 - Forums and workshops to facilitate collaboration on data initiatives and share best practices.
 - Opening up training courses to other agencies

Advice on Statistical Activities

- Conduct statistical courses and workshops
 - Survey methodology, time series
- Engage agencies in discussions on specific issues
 - E.g. reconciling differences in data, improving data processes and quality
- Participate in study groups and committees
 - Provide data and statistical analysis
 - Educate users on use of statistics and techniques

Summary

- Challenges of a statistical coordinator in decentralised system
 - Need to keep abreast of latest statistical developments
 - Service increasing demand of users from various agencies
 - Coordinate statistical activities across agencies
- Learn from the best practices in more advanced NSOs and international organisations

Thank You

Our Vision

*A National Statistical System of
Quality, Integrity and Expertise*

Our Mission

*We provide Reliable, Relevant and
Timely Statistics to support Singapore's
Social and Economic Development*