

**Role of
Singapore Department of Statistics
in
Raising Statistical Capabilities
in a
Decentralised 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 government 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 government agencies

Gazetted Research & Statistics Units

- Statistics produced by gazetted RSUs



Non-gazetted Research & Statistics Units

Examples of statistics produced by government 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
in
Raising Statistical Capabilities
Across Government Agencies**

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
 - Tools to help build basic statistical knowledge across agencies

Coordination with RSUs

- Discussion with statistical community
 - Update latest developments
 - Discuss common challenges
 - Clarify issues on Statistics Act
- Gazette and provide guidance to new RSUs
 - 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 government agencies
 - Forums and workshops to facilitate collaboration on data initiatives and share best practices
 - Opening up training courses to other agencies

Training and 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 diversified statistical activities in many agencies
- Learn from the best practices in more advanced National Statistical Officers and international organisations and share knowledge across agencies

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*