

Glossary

1. Census

A census is a complete enumeration of a population or groups at a point in time with respect to well-defined characteristics (population, production).

2. Dissemination

Spread or disperse (something, esp. information) widely.

3. Methodology

It is a body of practices, procedures, and rules used by those who work in a discipline or engage in an inquiry.

4. Non-official statistics

Non-official statistics refers to numerical data collected and published by a variety of public and private organisations (The Rowntree Foundation, for example, publishes statistics on poverty).

5. Official statistics

Official statistics refers to numerical data collected and published by Governments (for example, crime or marriage statistics).

6. Organisation

The people (or committees or departments etc.) who make up a body for the purpose of administering something.

7. Primary sources

Primary or "statistical" sources are data that are collected primarily for creating official statistics, and include statistical surveys and censuses.

8. Register

A register is a database that is updated continuously for a specific purpose and from which statistics can be collected and produced.

9. Scrutiny

It is a close, careful examination or study.

10. Secondary sources

Secondary, or "non-statistical" sources, are data that have been primarily collected for some other purpose (administrative data, private sector data etc.).

11. Sociologist

It is a social scientist who studies the institutions and development of human society.

12. Statistics

Statistics are a form of numerical data, where the objective is to quantify some aspect(s) of an individual, group or society.

13. Statistical survey

A statistical survey or a sample survey is an investigation about the characteristics of a phenomenon by means of collecting data from a sample of the population and estimating their characteristics through the systematic use of statistical methodology.

14. Survey

A gathering of a sample of data or opinions considered to be representative of a whole.

15. Validation

It is a process associated with the collection of information that confirms that this information is important to justify that it does not duplicate an existing requirement and has not been previously satisfied.