Jersey Statistical System

Jersey Code of Practice for Tier 1 Statistics

Guidelines for the production of statistics by public authorities in Jersey

September 2025

Contents

Foreword from the Chief Statistician

Amendments to the Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018 ("the Law") came in to force in February 2025 and increase the independence of Statistics Jersey. Under the amendments, the responsibility for producing a Code of Practice for Tier 1 statistics ("the Code") is attributed to the Chief Statistician (in line with international best practice); and the new Statistics Council is established.

As head of the statistical profession across Jersey public authorities, the Chief Statistician is responsible for supporting statisticians and analysts employed by a public authority to uphold high professional statistical standards.

The law amendments formalise the concept of the Jersey Statistics System ("JSS"), comprising the producers of statistics across public authorities. The amendments also replace the concept of 'official statistics', which could only be produced by Statistics Jersey, with a new concept of 'Tier 1' statistics which, in line with international best practice, could be produced by any public authority.

To be Tier 1 statistics, a statistical report must be produced by a public authority; must represent the economic, demographic, social or environmental situation in Jersey; and must comply with this Code. The detailed criteria to be a Tier 1 Statistic are included in the annex.

Prior to the amendments, the 2018 Law required the Statistics Users Group to produce a code of practice for official statistics. In practice they produced two codes of practice: A code of practice for statistics (which was aimed at all producers of statistics); and a code of practice for official statistics, which only applied to Statistics Jersey. This update to the code of practice:

- Makes changes to the existing codes of practice needed to reflect the amendments to the Law.
- Combines both codes of practice into this single document, for ease of use.

Public authorities must comply with this Code when producing, disseminating or communicating **Tier 1 statistics**, and public authorities that produce other statistics are encouraged to comply with the Code as closely as possible.

This Code is consistent with Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018, the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics[1] and the European Statistics Code of Practice.[2]

[1] United Nations Statistics Division: Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (2006).

[2] Eurostat: European Statistics Code of Practice: For national and community statistical authorities (2005).

Introduction

Statistics are an essential public asset. They provide a window on society, the economy, the environment and on the work and performance of government. They are fundamental to the judgements and decisions made by the public, by the States of Jersey and by an enormous range of other organisations.

This Code plays an essential role in ensuring that statistics published by public authorities command public confidence through demonstrating trustworthiness and providing high quality statistics that enhance public value.

Who is the Code for?

i. The Code benefits all of us, as users of statistics and as citizens. Compliance with the Code can give confidence to all that statistics are of public value, are of high quality and are produced by public authorities that can be trusted. The need to focus on the interests of users of statistics sits at the heart of the Code. The beneficiaries of the Code therefore are users of statistics and citizens more broadly.

ii. This Code applies to public authorities, and is useful for all those within them who produce and use statistics, including statisticians, data scientists, analysts, researchers, policy-makers, communications officers and advisers.

iii. Producers of Statistics are required to comply with this Code when developing producing, disseminating and communicating **Tier 1 statistics**. Producers of other statistics in public authorities are encouraged to apply the Code as far as possible including, in particular:

   a. Ensuring that statistics and analyses add value and are of appropriate quality

   b. Publication of public authority statistics

   c. Pre-announcement of statistical releases via the release calendar [Statistical publications]

   d. Notifying users promptly of errors and revisions.

   e. Separation of statistical Press Releases and statistical reports from ministerial or policy comments on the report.

iv. The release of meaningful statistics into the public domain requires the commitment of not only the statisticians and analysts, but also of ministers, policy and communications colleagues and senior leaders within an organisation.

What is the framework for this Code?

v. The framework for this Code is based on Trustworthiness, Quality and Value. Together, these pillars support public confidence in statistics.

vi. **Trustworthiness** is about the processes, people and systems of government organisations. An organisation should provide testable evidence to demonstrate that it has the interests of the public at heart, by demonstrating competence, honesty and openness. The practices under the Trustworthiness pillar set out the key commitments that must be made to support independent statistics production.

vii. **Quality** is about the data, and how they are processed into statistics. The statistics must be the best available estimate of what is intended to be measured, and should not mislead. To achieve this the data must be relevant, the methods must be sound and the assurance around the outputs must be clear. These aspects of statistical production are at the heart of the practices in the Quality pillar.

viii. **Value** follows the emphasis in the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics on statistics that "meet the test of practical utility". Value defines what statistics must provide for the public. This includes a coherent picture, a focus on users, an emphasis on what questions the statistics answer, and a focus on innovation as the world changes. Trustworthy processes to create high quality data may not be useful to the public if the statistics are not accessible, do not address key questions, are inefficiently produced, and do not add value or provide insight.

ix. The three pillars are conceptually distinct but support each other. A producer of statistics is more likely to be perceived as trustworthy where the data they provide are of high quality. High quality statistics are more likely to provide useful answers for key questions than lower quality statistics. There are also some cross-cutting commitments. All aspects of the Code depend on transparency about processes, methodology and content. Coherence between different statistical outputs, and collaboration between producers, are also crucial and therefore apply across all three pillars.

How should the Code be applied?

x. This Code provides producers of Tier 1 statistics with the detailed practices they should commit to when producing and releasing Tier 1 statistics, and which producers of other statistics should strive to apply.

xi. The Code provides producers of statistics with a framework that can be applied in a proportionate and flexible way to improve public confidence. The practices have been structured under the three pillars so that their purpose is clear. Where there is any question about how to interpret and implement a particular practice, the producer should judge what action best supports the delivery of the pillars and their associated principles.

How can producers of statistics demonstrate compliance?

xii. Producers of Tier 1 statistics should comply with this Code. They do so through their commitments to:

a. Transparency: this is at the core of many of the Code's practices, explaining what judgements producers have made about the data, methods, and their strengths and limitations, as well as what the statistics tell us about the world. These explanations are as important as the numbers themselves.

b. Coherence: to comply with this Code, producers should demonstrate that they do not simply publish a set of numbers, but also explain how statistics relate to other data on the topic, and how they combine with other statistics to better explain the part of the world they describe.

c. Accountability: producers show they comply with the Code by holding themselves accountable to adherence to clear publication policies – for example, to pre-announce statistics and to stick to the publication date; and by notifying users promptly of errors and revisions.

d. Public focus: producers show they comply when they communicate clearly to the public what questions the statistics address and what the statistics show about the world they describe and why.

xiii. Producers can further bring these actions together by making short statements of compliance with the pillars of Trustworthiness, Quality and Value.

How is compliance regulated?

xiv. The Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018 (as amended) gives the Chief Statistician the role of advising public authorities on the gathering, compiling, analysis and use of statistics and the production of statistical reports and in the case of Tier 1 statistics, whether reports comply with the Code.

xv. The Chief Statistician must instigate a programme of reviews of Tier 1 statistics and establish and publish the criteria against which the reviews will be carried out.

Where it is found that the production, dissemination and communication of Tier 1 statistics does not comply with the Code, the Chief Statistician must issue a report setting out the areas of non-compliance and explaining what statistical producers can do to bring the statistics into compliance with the Code.

Code of Practice for Tier 1 Statistics

Wherever words or phrases appear in *blue italics* in this Code, they will have the meanings described in the Annex: Terms and definitions.

Trustworthiness

Confidence in the people and organisations that produce statistics and data.

Trustworthiness is a product of the people, systems and processes within organisations that enable and support the production of statistics and data.

Trustworthiness comes from the organisations that produce statistics and data being well led, well managed and open, and the people who work there being impartial and skilled in what they do.

T1 Honesty and integrity

Statisticians and analysts in organisations that release statistics should be truthful, impartial and independent, and meet consistent standards of behaviour that reflect the wider public good.

T1.1 Everyone who works in organisations producing statistics should handle and use statistics and data with honesty and integrity, guided by established principles of appropriate behaviour in public life.

T1.2 The collection, access, use and sharing of statistics and data should be ethical and for the public good. Those producing and releasing statistics should be free from conflicts of interest, including political and commercial pressures, that might otherwise influence the production, release and sharing of the statistics and data.

T1.3 No action should be taken, nor public statement made, that might undermine confidence in the independence of the statistics when released.

T1.4 Statistics, data and explanatory material should be presented impartially and objectively.

T2 Independent decision making and leadership

Organisations should assign a *Lead statistician or analyst* who is responsible for statistical standards. The *Lead statistician or analyst* upholds and advocates the Code, strives to improve statistics and data for the public good, and challenges their inappropriate use.

T2.1 The *Lead statistician or analyst* should have sole authority for deciding on methods, standards and procedures, and on the content and timing of the release of regular and *ad hoc statistics*. This should include: determining the need for new statistics; ceasing the release of statistics; and developing *experimental statistics*.

T2.2 The *Lead statistician or analyst* should actively advocate the application of the Code pillars of Trustworthiness, Quality and Value to all those involved in producing, publishing and using statistics and data in the organisation.

T2.3 As the principal adviser and responsible officer on statistical matters within the organisation, the views of the *Lead statistician or analyst* should be considered in all matters relating to statistics and data.

T2.4 The *Lead statistician or analyst* should encourage collaboration, harmonisation and innovation with other organisations, both inside and outside government and across professional groups.

T2.5 The *Lead statistician or analyst* should challenge the inappropriate use of statistics and data and reflect upon how further misuse can be prevented. This may include sharing any concerns with the *Chief Statistician*.

T2.6 The *Lead statistician or analyst* should report immediately to the *Chief Statistician* any concerns about professional independence and any accidental or wrongful release of statistics.

T2.7 The *Lead statistician or analyst* should report any concerns about continuing to meet the principles of the Code to the *Chief Statistician*.

T3 Orderly release

Organisations should commit to releasing their statistics in an open and transparent manner that promotes confidence. Producers of statistics should comply with the principle of equality of access.

T3.1 The release of *Tier 1 statistics* must be pre-announced, giving a specific release date at least four weeks in advance where practicable.

a. **Regular or scheduled publications**: The release of all *Tier 1 statistics* outputs must be included in a public release calendar covering at least the next 12 months. A specific release date and time must be given as early as possible and, wherever possible, at least **four weeks in advance**.

b. **Experimental or project-based publications** (including large one-off projects such as the Census): The expected month or period of release should be announced as early as possible, with a specific date provided once the timing is sufficiently certain to ensure publication can proceed as planned. This should normally be at least **two weeks in advance**.

c. All publications must be released at the pre-announced date and time unless an unavoidable change is necessary.

d. In the interests of equality of access to data, *ad hoc statistics*, including those resulting from user requests for additional analyses, should be published.

T3.2 Changes to pre-announced release dates should be announced promptly, explaining the reasons for the change.

T3.3 Access to statistics before their public release should be limited to those involved in the production of the statistics and the preparation of the release, and for quality assurance and statistical production purposes.

T3.4 Where there exists a clearly defined operational need for users to be granted access to *Tier 1 statistics* before their official publication, accurate records of those who have access and the purposes for access should be recorded, maintained and published.

T3.5 Statistics and data should be released on a timely basis and at intervals that meet the needs of users as far as practicable. The statistics should be released as soon as they are considered ready.

T3.6 Statistics should be released to all users in the morning of a standard business day (Monday to Friday excluding bank and public holidays).

T3.7 All *Tier 1 statistics* should be issued at a standard release time for that public authority (10 a.m. for Statistics Jersey releases) and be made available for access on the relevant public authority website immediately upon release.

T3.8 Policy, press or ministerial statements referring to regular or *ad hoc statistics* should be issued separately from, and contain a prominent link to, the source statistics. The statements should meet basic professional standards of statistical presentation, including accuracy, clarity and impartiality. The *Lead statistician or analyst* should advise on the appropriate use of the statistics within these statements.

T3.9 Scheduled revisions or unscheduled corrections to the statistics and data should be released as soon as practicable. The changes should be handled transparently in line with a published policy.

T4 Transparent processes and management

Organisations should have effective business processes and appropriate resources to support their statistical functions and be open about their plans, priorities and progress.

T4.1 Organisations should be transparent about their approach to public engagement with users, potential users, and other stakeholders with an interest in the public good served by the statistics.

T4.2 A work programme should be established and regularly reviewed. Statistics producers should be open about progress towards meeting priorities and objectives. Users and other stakeholders should be involved to help prioritise statistical plans.

T4.3 Public authorities should ensure that sufficient human, financial and technological resources should be provided to deliver statistical services that serve the public good.

T4.4 Good business practices should be maintained in the use of resources. Where appropriate, statistics producers should take opportunities to share resources and collaborate to achieve common goals and produce coherent statistics.

T4.5 Organisations should be open about their commitment to quality and make clear their approach to quality management. They should ensure that the organisational structure and tools are in place to manage quality effectively, and promote and adopt appropriate quality standards.

T4.6 Independent measures, such as internal and external audits and peer review, should be used to evaluate the effectiveness of statistical processes. Statistics producers should be open about identified areas for improvement.

T5 Professional capability

People producing statistics should be appropriately skilled, trained and supported in their roles and professional development.

T5.1 Those involved in producing and releasing statistics and data should demonstrate sound judgement. They should act professionally, work collaboratively, and behave responsibly.

T5.2 The roles and responsibilities of those involved in the production of statistics and data should be clearly defined with supporting guidance provided to help staff carry out their roles.

T5.3 Suitably skilled staff should be recruited using a relevant professional competency framework as appropriate and with consideration given to future organisational needs.

T5.4 All staff involved in the production of statistics and data should be provided with training on secure data handling, quality management and statistical disclosure control.

T5.5 Staff should be provided with the time and resources required to develop their skills, knowledge and competencies.

T5.6 Staff should seek statistical advice and guidance from their *Lead statistician or analyst* or the *Chief Statistician*.

T6 Data governance

Organisations should look after people's information securely and manage data in ways that are **consistent with relevant legislation and serve the public good.**

T6.1 All statutory obligations governing the collection of data, confidentiality, data sharing, data linking and release should be followed. Relevant internationally-endorsed guidelines should be considered as appropriate. Transparent data management arrangements should be established and relevant ethical standards met.

T6.2 The rights of *data subjects* must be considered and managed at all times, in ways that are consistent with the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018. When collecting data for statistical purposes, those providing their information should be informed in a clear and open way about how that information will be used and protected; this information should be included published privacy notices.

T6.3 Organisations, and those acting on their behalf, should apply best practice in the management of data and data services, including collection, storage, transmission, access, and analysis. Personal information should be kept safe and secure, applying relevant security standards and keeping pace with changing circumstances such as advances in technology.

T6.4 Organisations should be transparent and accountable about the procedures used to protect personal data when preparing the statistics and data, including the choices made in balancing competing interests. Appropriate disclosure control methods should be applied before releasing statistics and data.

T6.5 Regular reviews should be conducted across the organisation, to ensure that data management and sharing arrangements are appropriately robust.

Quality

Data and methods that produce assured statistics

Quality means that statistics fit their intended uses, are based on appropriate data and methods, and are not materially misleading.

Quality requires skilled professional judgement about collecting, preparing, analysing and publishing statistics and data in ways that meet the needs of people who want to use the statistics.

Q1 Suitable data sources

Statistics should be based on the most appropriate data to meet intended uses. The impact of any data limitations for use should be assessed, minimised and explained.

Q1.1 Statistics should be based on data sources that are appropriate for the intended uses. The data sources should be based on definitions and concepts that are suitable approximations of what the statistics aim to measure, or that can be processed to become suitable for producing the statistics.

Q1.2 Statistics producers should establish and maintain constructive relationships with those involved in the collection, recording, supply, linking and quality assurance of data, wherever possible.

Q1.3 A clear statement of data requirements should be shared with the organisations that provide that data, setting out decisions on timing, definitions and format of data supply, and explaining how and why the data will be used.

Q1.4 Source data should be coherent across different levels of aggregation, consistent over time, and comparable between geographical areas, whenever possible.

Q1.5 The nature of data sources, and how and why they were selected, should be explained. Potential bias, uncertainty and possible distortive effects in the source data should be identified and the extent of any impact on the statistics should be clearly reported.

Q1.6 The causes of limitations in data sources should be identified and addressed where possible. Statistics producers should be open about the extent to which limitations can be overcome and the impact on the statistics.

Q1.7 The impact of changes in the circumstances and context of a data source on the statistics over time should be evaluated. Reasons for any lack of consistency and related implications for use should be clearly explained to users.

Q2 Sound methods

Producers of statistics and data should use the best available methods and recognised standards, and be open about their decisions.

Q2.1 Methods and processes should be based on international good practice, scientific principles, and established professional consensus.

Q2.2 Statistics, data and metadata should be compiled using recognised standards, classifications and definitions. They should be harmonised to be consistent and coherent with related statistics and data where possible. Users should be provided with reasons for deviations from these standards and explanations of any related implications for use.

Q2.3 Statistics producers should be transparent about methods used, giving the reasons for their selection. The level of detail of the explanation should be proportionate to the complexity of the methods chosen and reflect the needs of different types of users and uses.

Q2.4 Relevant limitations arising from the methods and their application, including bias and uncertainty, should be identified and explained to users. An indication of their likely scale and the steps taken to reduce their impact on the statistics should be included in the explanation.

Q2.5 Producers of statistics and data should provide users with advance notice about changes to methods, explaining why the changes are being made. A consistent time series should be produced, with back series provided where possible. Users should be made aware of the nature and extent of the change.

Q2.6 Statistics producers should collaborate with topic and methods experts and producers of related statistics and data wherever possible.

Q3 Assured quality

Producers of statistics and data should explain clearly how they assure themselves that statistics and data are accurate, reliable, coherent and timely.

Q3.1 Statistics should be produced to a level of quality that meets users' needs. The strengths and limitations of the statistics and data should be considered in relation to different uses, and clearly explained alongside the statistics.

Q3.2 Quality assurance arrangements should be proportionate to the nature of the quality issues and the importance of the statistics in serving the public good. Statistics producers should be transparent about the quality assurance approach taken throughout the preparation of the statistics. The risk and impact of quality issues on statistics and data should be minimised to an acceptable level for the intended uses.

Q3.3 The quality of the statistics and data, including their accuracy and reliability, coherence and comparability, and timeliness and punctuality, should be monitored and reported regularly. Statistics should be validated through comparison with other relevant statistics and data sources. The extent and nature of any uncertainty in the estimates should be clearly explained.

Q3.4 Scheduled revisions, or unscheduled corrections that result from errors, should be explained alongside the statistics, being clear on the scale, nature, cause and impact. A revisions and corrections policy should be maintained.

Q3.5 Systematic and periodic reviews on the strengths and limitations in the data and methods should be undertaken. Statistics producers should be open in addressing the issues identified and be transparent about their decisions on whether to act.

Value

Statistics that support society's needs for information

Value means that the statistics and data are useful, easy to access, remain relevant, and support understanding of important issues.

Value includes improving existing statistics and creating new ones through discussion and collaboration with stakeholders, and being responsible and efficient in the collection, sharing and use of statistical information.

V1 Relevance to users

Users of statistics and data should be at the centre of statistical production; their needs should be understood, their views sought and acted upon, and their use of statistics supported.

V1.1 Statistics producers should maintain and refresh their understanding of the use and potential use of the statistics and data. They should consider the ways in which the statistics might be used and the nature of the decisions that are or could be informed by them.

V1.2 Statistics producers should use appropriate ways to increase awareness of the statistics and data, communicate effectively with the widest possible audience, and support users and potential users in identifying relevant statistics to meet their needs.

V1.3 User satisfaction with the relevance and usefulness of the statistics and data should be reviewed routinely. This should consider the timeliness, accessibility, clarity, and accuracy of the statistics and data.

V1.4 Statistics producers should engage publicly through a variety of means that are appropriate to the needs of different audiences and proportionate to the potential of the statistics to serve the public good. An open dialogue should be maintained using proactive formal and informal engagement to listen to the views of new and established contacts. Statistics producers should undertake public engagement collaboratively wherever possible, working in partnership with policy makers and other statistics producers to obtain the views of stakeholders.

V1.5 The views received from users, potential users and other stakeholders should be addressed, where practicable. Statistics producers should consider whether to produce new statistics to meet identified information gaps. Feedback should be provided to them about how their needs can and cannot be met, being transparent about reasons for the decisions made and any constraints.

V1.6 Statistics producers should periodically review whether to continue, discontinue, adapt, or to provide the statistics through other means, in discussion with users and other stakeholders.

V2 Accessibility

Statistics and data should be equally available to all, not given to some people before others. They should be published at a sufficient level of detail and remain publicly available.

V2.1 Statistics producers must provide free and equal access to regular and *ad hoc statistics*.

V2.2 Statistics, data and related guidance should be easily accessible to users. The needs of different types of users and potential users should be considered when determining ways of presenting and releasing the statistics and data.

V2.3 The needs of people with disabilities must be considered. Statistics and data should be released using accessible communication formats and methods which should work with the most commonly used assistive technologies.

V2.4 Statistics, data and metadata, including those available through data services, should be released at the greatest level of detail that is practicable to meet user needs. They should be consistent with common data standards and protocols wherever possible.

V2.5 Open and transparent information on supplementary statistical services should be made available. Where organisations decide to charge for supplementary analyses, they should make the pricing policy publicly available.

V2.6 Statistics, data and metadata should continue to be publicly available, including when organisational websites are changed, and archived as required in line with relevant legislation.

V3 Clarity and insight

Statistics and data should be presented clearly, explained meaningfully and provide authoritative insights that serve the public good.

V3.1 Statistics, data and explanatory material should be relevant and presented in a clear, unambiguous way that supports and promotes use by all types of users.

V3.2 Statistics should be accompanied by a clear description of the main statistical messages that explains the relevance and meaning of the statistics in a way that is not materially misleading. They should be illustrated by suitable data visualisations, including charts, maps and tables, where this helps aid appropriate interpretation of the statistics.

V3.3 Comparisons that support the appropriate interpretation of the statistics, including within Jersey and internationally, should be provided when useful. Users should be signposted to other related statistics and data sources and the extent of consistency and comparability with these sources should be explained to users.

V3.4 Advice should be given about the appropriate use of the statistics and data. The *Lead statistician or analyst* should be visible and approachable to users, be encouraged to explain the statistics publicly and support their use.

V3.5 Statistics producers should collaborate with experts and producers of related statistics and data to provide a comprehensive and coherent narrative for the statistical topic.

V4 Innovation and improvement

Statistics producers should be creative and motivated to improve statistics and data, recognising the potential to harness technological advances for the development of all parts of the production and dissemination process.

V4.1 Statistics producers should keep up to date with developments that can improve statistics and data. They should be transparent in conducting their development activities, and be open about the outcomes and longer-term development plans.

V4.2 Statistics producers should consider testing and releasing new statistics initially as *experimental statistics*, under the guidance of their *Lead statistician or analyst*.

V4.3 Users should be involved in the ongoing development of statistics and data, exploring and testing statistical innovations, so that the statistics remain relevant and useful.

V4.4 Statistics producers should seek to collaborate with other producers, both in Jersey and internationally, when developing their statistics, overcoming practical obstacles, and sharing best practice.

V4.5 Statistics producers should keep up to date with developments that might improve methods and quality. They should assess the added value of potential improvements and consider the likely impact on the statistics, including in relation to comparability and coherence.

V4.6 Producers should commit to improve data presentation, enhance insight, and better meet the needs of different types of users and potential users in the dissemination of their statistics and data.

V4.7 New and innovative ways to engage users, potential users and other stakeholders should be considered and adopted as appropriate.

V5 Efficiency and proportionality

Statistics and data should be published in forms that enable their reuse. Producers should use existing data wherever possible and only ask for more where justified.

V5.1 Opportunities for data sharing, data linkage, cross-analysis of sources, and the reuse of data should be taken wherever feasible. Recognised standards, classifications, definitions, and methods should be applied to data wherever possible.

V5.2 Statistics producers should make supplementary analyses available for reuse where practicable and consider the release of statistics and data that are the subject of regular queries during statistics planning.

V5.3 The suitability of existing data, including administrative, open and privately-held data, should be assessed before undertaking a new data collection.

V5.4 Voluntary participation in statistical data collection should be sought, rather than using statutory powers, wherever possible.

V5.5 Statistics producers should be transparent in their approach to monitoring and reducing the burden on those providing their information, and on those involved in collecting, recording and supplying data. The burden imposed should be proportionate to the benefits arising from the use of the statistics.

V5.6 Statistics producers should analyse the impact of new data requirements or extending existing collections on those involved in the collection, recording and supply of data, against the potential value of the statistics in serving the public good.

Annex: Terms and definitions

Roles

Chief Statistician

The Chief Statistician is responsible for the processing of data for statistical or research purposes in accordance with the Statistics Law. They are responsible for Statistics Jersey and are head of the statistical profession across Jersey public authorities.

They are responsible for ensuring that statisticians and analysts employed by a public authority uphold high professional statistical standards and are also responsible for upholding the independence of the Jersey Statistical System.

The role of the Chief Statistician is defined in the Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018.

Data subject

Natural living person whose personal data is being processed. Under the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018, data subjects do not include the deceased or those people who cannot be identified or distinguished from others in the data.

Lead statistician or analyst

The officer in the statistics producer organisation who is given executive responsibility for decision making on statistical matters and is professionally accountable for the production of statistical outputs and application of statistical standards.

Statistics

Ad hoc statistics

Statistical analyses produced and released in response to user requests for additional analyses of available statistics, or where there is a pressing need for statistics in the public interest.

Experimental statistics

A subset of newly developed or innovative statistics undergoing evaluation. Experimental statistics are developed under the guidance of the *Lead statistician or analyst* and are published in order to involve users and stakeholders in the assessment of their suitability and quality at an early stage.

Tier 1 Statistics

To be Tier 1 statistics, a statistical report:

(a) must be produced by a public authority;

(b) must represent the economic, demographic, social or environmental situation in Jersey;

(c) must –

(i) be essential to critical decision-making,

(ii) be of high public interest,

(iii) meet expectations of impartiality and statistical quality,

(iv) require long-term data continuity,

(v) allow international comparability; and

(d) must be developed, produced, disseminated and communicated in compliance with the standards set out in the Law, and must comply with this Code.

A list of Tier 1 Statistics will be maintained by the Chief Statistician and lodged with the States Assembly by the Chief Minister.

Types of information

Data

Characteristics of facts or information, usually numerical, such as observations, opinions, events or transactions, from which conclusions may be drawn. They are the product of collecting information (source data). They can also be the subject of statistical processing (processed data).

Data services

Internet-based tools and resources that enable access to a variety of curated data and statistics. The statistics and data made available through data services are often compiled using common data standards, and supported by metadata and other guidance material.

Explanatory material/related guidance

Information that supports the use and understanding of the statistics and data, and is available with the statistics. Describing, for example, the sources, method, quality, analysis, and providing a narrative about the main findings, policy/operational context and use.

Metadata

Information or data that defines and describes other data. This can be to help with the discovery and identification of data, for example, through naming and labelling; by describing different data types, relationships with other data and their characteristics; or to help with data management by indicating when and how it was created, different file types or any other technical information.

Statistical microdata

Sets of records containing information on individual persons, households or businesses which are used in the production of aggregate statistics. Access to microdata is often controlled to protect the confidentiality of individual persons or businesses.

Statistics

A collection of measures about a particular attribute compiled from a set of data. Statistics are used for making generalisations or inferring conclusions about particular attributes, at an aggregate level, for example, about a particular subset of the population.

Types of data

Data may be collected in different ways, including: census, surveys (such as sample surveys of households or businesses), returns from administrative systems, as open data from the large-scale release of government department operational data, and privately-held data from individual private sector organisations (such as business operational data, and data available through web scraping).

Other terms

Common data standards, classifications and protocols

Agreed definitions, procedures and ways of working with statistics and data that facilitate their consistency, comparability, coherence and reuse.

Ethical

In accordance with the rules or standards for right conduct or practice, especially in terms of the standards of a profession.

Ethical standards

Best practice frameworks that address the ethical impact and implications of research and data science. They apply in areas which include, but are not limited to: privacy, anonymity, transparency, trust, responsibility, data collection, curation, analysis and use.

Limitations

Inherent weaknesses in the quality of statistics, data or statistical methods that should be understood in order to ensure their appropriate use and interpretation.

Public good

Adherents to the code should promote and safeguard the production and publication of statistics that serve the public good. This includes informing the public about social economic and environmental matters; assisting in the development and evaluation of public policy; and regulating quality and publicly challenging the misuse of statistics.

Quality standards and guidance

Documentation produced to ensure that statistics and data are produced to consistent and appropriate levels of quality and are suitable for their intended uses.

Relevant legislation

Laws passed by the States of Jersey that have a direct impact upon the design, collection, processing, storage, publication or use of statistics and data.

Scheduled revisions

Planned amendments to published statistics in order to improve quality by incorporating additional data that were unavailable at the point of initial publication.

Security standards

Standards relating to disciplines such as information security, IT service management, IT governance and business continuity, that can be implemented in order to achieve externally assessed and certified compliance.

Statistical services

Include providing information, advice and technical assistance in relation to statistics; providing quality assessment in relation to statistics; conducting statistical surveys and analysis; collecting, adapting and developing data.

Unscheduled corrections

Amendments made to published statistics in response to the identification of errors following their initial publication.