STATISTICS IN WORDS

STATISTICS is known as the science that develops special methodology for data research and processing

Practical activity on collection and processing of mass quantitative data on socio-economic condition of a country, on individual industries, regions, enterprises is called **statistics**

Statistics are said to be a set of numerical indicators describing a phenomenon or a process (or, more simply, figures and numbers)

Official **statistics** plays an important role in forming the information infrastructure of the economy, social sphere and society in general. However, for statisticians, the number is not just a symbol used to record numerical values of phenomena. Several million people begin their daily painstaking work with figures, to make these very figures "speak". The task of statistics is to reflect – as accurately, openly and impartially as possible – in each statistical indicator how the economy functions and what social processes take place in society

This year the state statistics bodies of the Republic of Belarus celebrate their

100th ANNIVERSARY

These years have become the time of evolvement, development and continued improvement of statistical activities

Belarusian **STATISTICS** is committed to the values of the profession, with the openness, competence and objectivity underlying them, and ensures the provision of data that are relevant to the country as a whole and to each citizen

WHAT IS IT LIKE— THE STATISTICS OF BELARUS?

In this brochure, we will look at the word

STATISTICS
differently. We will:

tell you about the history of Belarusian statistics and the people who have engaged their life with it

uncover the fundamental principles and important aspects of our work

describe the processes of statistical production

list the technologies used, innovations introduced and communications carried out

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TOP HISTORICAL FACTS ABOUT US

1835 – Statistical committees established in Vilna, Vitebsk, Grodno, Minsk and Mogilev governorates. The only staff member was a secretary, while the work of the other committee members was voluntary and episodic

1897 – The first general population census conducted. The census additionally collected information on the composition of the population by age, religious affiliation, ethnic group, social class, literacy, size and composition of families. The data were processed using an electric calculating machine (tabulator).

23 August 1920 – The Central Statistical Bureau of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Byelorussia established

1953 – The department of statistics established at the Belarusian State Institute of National Economy named after V.V.Kuibyshev

1967 – A computing center of the Central Statistical Office of the BSSR created, equipped with electronic computing machines, which processed not only statistical data, but also documentation of banks, social security agencies, collective farms, industrial enterprises

1997 – The first Law of the Republic of Belarus "On State Statistics" adopted, establishing the procedure for organizing and maintaining state statistics and regulating relations in the field of the implementation of state statistical activities

2008 – The Ministry of Statistics and Analysis of the Republic of Belarus transformed into the National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus with direct reporting to the Head of State

2013 – The Integrated Information System of State Statistics created, which provides for the submission of reporting in electronic form

2019 – The first electronic population census in the CIS region conducted

2020 – 100th anniversary of Belarusian statistics bodies

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ACCENTS

Legal framework
of the National Statistical System

- Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 345-3 of 28 November 2004 "On State Statistics"

- Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 144-3 of 13 July 2006 "On Population Census"

- Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 445 of 26 August 2008 "On certain issues of state statistics bodies"

- legal acts regulating processes of statistical production

Institutional framework
of the National Statistical System

- National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus (Belstat) – the national body of state administration in the field of statistics

- local state statistics bodies

- government organisations authorized to produce official statistics

- Interagency Council on State Statistics

Methodological framework
of the National Statistical System

- international statistical standards

- Scientific and Methodological Council of Belstat

- national system of statistical classifications

Quality assurance framework
for statistical production

- certified quality management system of Belstat compliant with the ISO 9001-2015 requirements

- quality reports in line with international recommendations

- external sector reviews, assessments

Information exchange framework

- statutory right to use administrative data and other information to produce official statistics

- information exchange agreements

- international agreements on the cooperation in the field of statistics

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TEAM

Priority areas of Belstat's human resource management policy

- staff recruitment and placement
- professional development
- work with junior staff
- implementation of HR technologies

Qualitative staff composition in state statistics bodies

workforce of over 1,700 employees, of which:

- **16%** in the central office
- **84%** in local statistical offices
- **93%** of the staff are women
- Average age of an employee is **42 years**, the youngest employee is **21 years old**
- **91%** of the staff have higher education

Average length of service within the system of state statistics bodies is **14 years**

10% of the staff have been in the civil service over **25 years**

Professional development

- seminars
- courses
- roundtables
- trainings

Work with junior staff

Graduates of the Belarus State Economic University with specialty in "Statistics" are annually provided with the first workplaces, conditions for preserving young employees are created

Implementation of the personnel adaptation programme, maintenance of the prospective personnel reserve list

Participation of young employees of the Belstat system in the corporate social life and sports events

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INDICATORS

Professional independence

- the impermissibility of interference in state statistical activities is enshrined in law

- the head of Belstat bears personal responsibility for performing the tasks assigned to state statistics bodies

- Belstat determines the method for collection, entering and coding of information

Confidentiality of primary statistical data

guaranteed by the legislation

statistical confidentiality obligations are defined by:

- internal documents
- statistical tools

confidentiality protection documents are in place

liability for willful disclosure shall apply

Sound official statistical methodology

- standardization of the processes of statistical production

- implementation of international standards and recommendations

- maintenance of the statistical register

Burden on respondents proportionate to the needs of the users

- reviewing the reporting burden on respondents
- analyzing statistical tools
- searching for the new data sources
- working with administrative data

Relevance, timeliness, objectivity, accessibility and comparability of official statistical information

- the official statistical information:

  - meets user needs
  - furnished with metadata and clarifications
  - made publicly accessible on the Internet resources in machine-readable formats
  - released at the designated time and dates

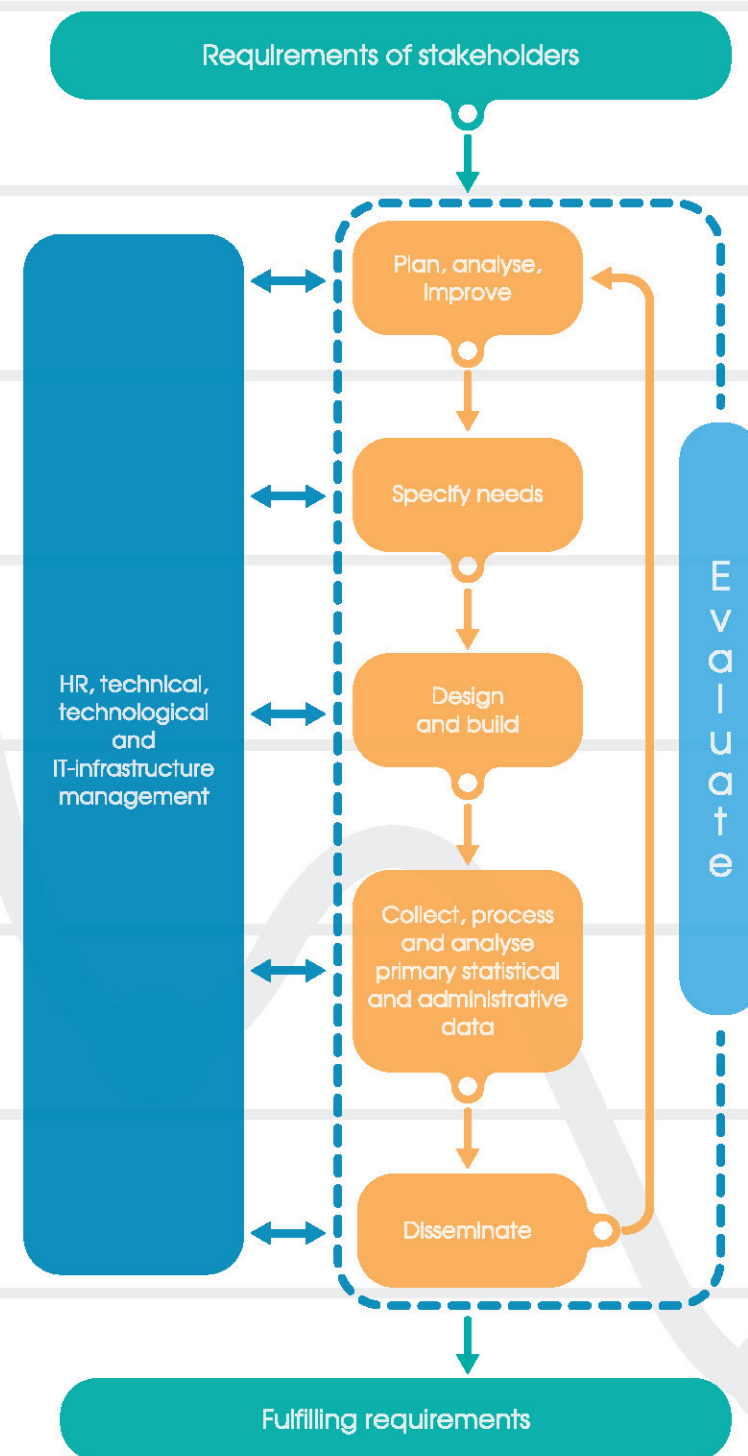- regular survey of user satisfaction and their confidence in official statistical information

- data revision policy

STATISTICAL PRODUCTION

Statistical production processes described based on the GSBPM model

Process approach incorporates PDCA cycle (Plan-Do-Check-Act)

Risk-based thinking applied

Requirements of stakeholders

HR, technical, technological and IT-infrastructure management

Plan, analyse, Improve

Specify needs

Design and build

Collect, process and analyse primary statistical and administrative data

Disseminate

Evaluate

Fulfilling requirements

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TECHNOLOGIES

Official websites of Belstat and local state statistics bodies

Integrated Information System of State Statistics

Multi-functional web portal of Belstat

A set of software and hardware tools for maintaining an electronic archive of state statistical reporting

Information system for maintaining the national classifications of the Republic of Belarus assigned to Belstat

Interactive information-analytical system for dissemination of official statistical information

Information-analytical system of foreign trade statistics

Population statistics database

Personal inflation calculator

National reporting platform for Sustainable Development Goal indicators

Universal data portal on child-related statistics

Online system of access to the final data of the population census of the Republic of Belarus

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INNOVATION

Automation of data collection and processing using tablet computers:

- Population Census
- Statistical survey of prices
- Labour Force Survey
- Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey to assess the situation of children and women (MICS 6)

Use of space and GIS technologiese

Placement of information resources and systems on cloud platforms

Use of BI-platform for self-tuning of information system applications by users without involvement of IT specialists

Use of OnLine Analytical Processing (OLAP) technology to speed up query processing, perform calculations and provide data analysis in various snapshots

18%

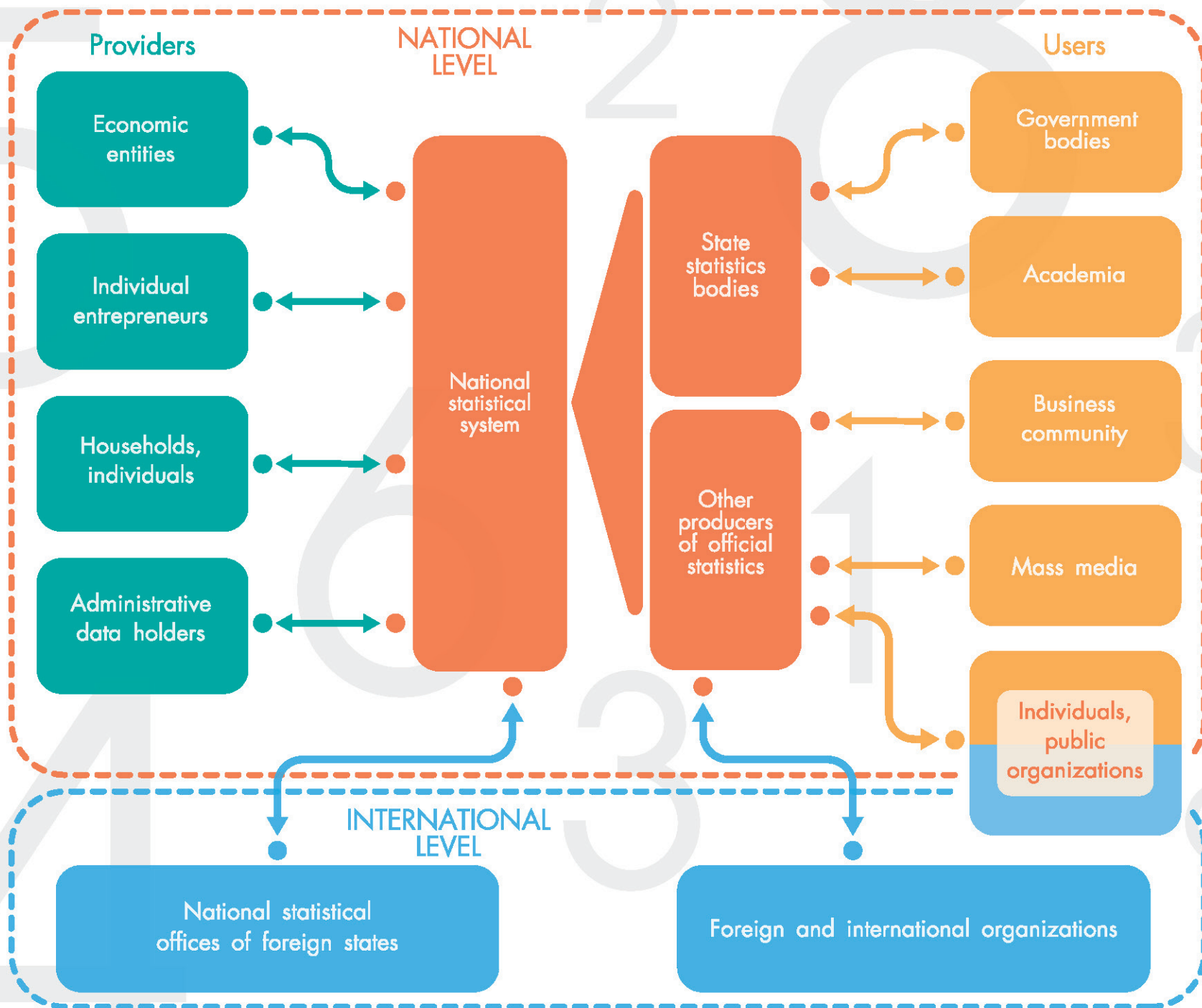Use of interactive visualization tools to visualize data using interactive images, diagrams and charts

Use of SDMX standard for dissemination and exchange of SDG data and indicators

Creation of the quality management system

Implementation of international technical assistance projects

COMMUNICATIONS

Providers

NATIONAL LEVEL

Users

Economic entities

Individual entrepreneurs

Households, individuals

Administrative data holders

National statistical system

State statistics bodies

Other producers of official statistics

Government bodies

Academia

Business community

Mass media

Individuals, public organizations

INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

National statistical offices of foreign states

Foreign and international organizations

SOME FACTS ABOUT BELARUS

AREA: 207.6 thsd km²

- 6th among the CIS countries
- 84th in the world

POPULATION: 9 408.4 thsd

- 6th among the CIS countries
- 94th in the world

POPULATION OF THE CITY OF MINSK: 2 020.6 thsd

- 10th among the European cities

2 PAN-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT CORRIDORS CROSS THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS:

- corridor II (East-West)
- corridor IX (North-South), branch B

IN THE GLOBAL PRODUCTION

- 30% - production of dump trucks
- 16% - production of potassium fertilizers
- 10% - production of tractors
- 0.9% - production of milk
- 0.4% - production of meat

IN THE INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

- **1st** for potato production per capita
- **2nd** for potassium exports
- **3rd** for flax fibre production
- **18th** (out of 166) according to the global SDG Index
- **30th** (out of 189) according to the Education Index
- **47th** (out of 150) according to the Competitive Industrial Performance Index
- **49th** (out of 180) according to the Environmental Performance Index
- **49th** (out of 190) by ease of doing business
- **50th** (out of 189) according to the Human Development Index

4 SITES ON THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST:

- Białowieża Forest National Park
- Mir Castle Complex
- Struve Geodetic Arc
- Architectural, Residential and Cultural Complex of the Radziwill Family at Nesvizh

3 CULTURAL TRADITIONS ON THE UNESCO INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE LIST

- Rite of the Kalyady Tsars (Christmas Tsars)
- Spring rite of Juraŭski Karahod
- Celebration in honor of the Budslaŭ icon of Our Lady (Budslaŭ fest)

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