

201/2016 - 19 October 2016

## 20.10.2016: First European Statistics Day



Tomorrow, [European Statistics Day](#) is being celebrated for the first time.

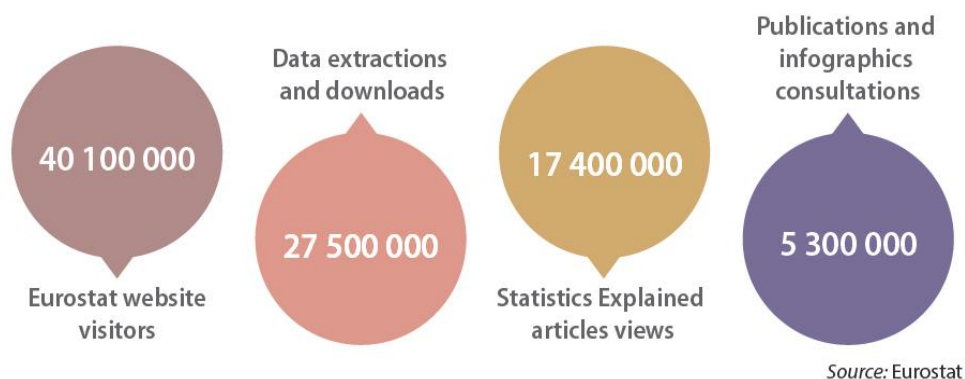
With the European Statistics Day the European statistical community "aims at raising awareness of European citizens to the importance and value of official statistics for our society", says **Walter Radermacher**, Director General of **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. "To function correctly, modern democratic societies must be underpinned by a solid base of reliable, objective statistics. Decision-makers at EU level, in the Member States, in local authorities and in businesses need statistics in order to make better decisions which ultimately improve everyone's lives. More generally, all citizens in a democratic society need statistics to assess the performance of our decision-makers. Independent, impartial, reliable and accessible data free of charge for everyone has thus become an essential feature of European society."

The event will be launched during the second Conference of European Statistics Stakeholders (CESS), which is taking place in Budapest on 20 and 21 October and brings together European methodologists, producers and users of statistics.

The European Statistics Day is organised at the initiative of the European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC) and is supported by the members of the European Statistical System (ESS) and the European System of Central Banks (ESCB).

### Better data for better decisions and ultimately better lives

For more than 60 years the statistical authorities of the Member States have been working together with Eurostat, in the [European Statistical System](#), to produce reliable and comparable data. These European official statistics are used by governments to guide their policy, by enterprises to support their decisions and by citizens to judge government policies and to compare themselves with others. The number of users of these European statistics is still growing.



Continuous efforts are made to improve data sources, to use sound statistical methods, to develop new technologies and to strengthen statistical systems. This leads to better data, which enables better decisions that eventually result in better lives for all of us.

The European Statistics Day will offer European statisticians the opportunity to reach and exchange with a wide public of users of European official statistics: policy makers, businesses, researchers, journalists and citizens. It will be celebrated by the European statistical community through different activities and events, under the slogan "Better data. Better lives."

Eurostat celebrates the day with a [short video](#) and a [special spotlight page](#) on European statistics.



### Background

European official statistics are developed, produced and disseminated through the European Statistical System (ESS). The ESS functions as a network in which Eurostat's role is to lead the way in the harmonization of statistics in close cooperation with the national statistical authorities.

The European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC) is the voice of the user needs in the European Statistical System. Its members are mainly users, respondents, researchers, social partners and representatives of civil society.

The key role that European statistics play in the [European Commission's priorities](#) are set out in a [short publication](#) from Eurostat, while other recent publications cover key issues for citizens, such as [life in cities](#), [energy](#), the situation of the [EU regions](#), the position of the [EU in the world](#) and the progress made towards the [Europe 2020 objectives](#).

### For more information

[European Statistics Day website](#)

[Conference of European Statistics Stakeholders \(CESS\) 2016](#)

[European Statistical System](#)

[European Statistical Advisory Committee](#)

[European Statistics for European Policies](#)

[Urban Europe – Statistics on cities, towns and suburbs](#)

[Shedding light on energy in the EU — A guided tour of energy statistics](#)

[Regional yearbook](#)

[EU in the World](#)

[Smarter, greener, more inclusive? – Indicators to support the Europe 2020 strategy](#)

[Eurostat website](#)

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