



Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia

# annual report 2021







**annual report**  
2021



## Foreword

Dear reader,

Working and personal life challenges had to be faced also during this reporting year. Importance of high-quality and timely statistics in this difficult time grew steadily. Data users needed information on various life aspects having effect on both households in general and their members individually. The Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia worked very hard to meet the data user growing needs. Development of new methods, wider range of technological solutions and competent use of administrative data were the key directions of our activities. By using innovative solutions, Latvian statisticians have proven that we are able to respond to the growing demand for high-quality statistics.

The rules set by the pandemic contributed to faster growth and alteration of the Statistical Bureau daily work. Aiming to maintain high work efficiency, several organisational processes were improved. Former modernization of information technology infrastructure and automation of support processes ensured successful fulfilment of our main functions by using flexible approach in the production of latest statistics that meets current demand for information. Using both funding from structural funds and financial resources allocated to the national priority measures, in 2021 Statistical Bureau continued work on the development of Foreign Trade Statistics Data Processing System and started building new Statistical Business Register and Content Management System for Classifications.

Pandemic has also brought dynamic changes in the production of official statistics. By creating partnerships with administrative data owners and holders and adopting innovative methods, Statistical Bureau was able to meet new data requests promptly and facilitate decision-making process during the emergency. We produced up-to-date data on the spread of pandemic, public vaccination, employment and other important socio-economic subjects.

Latvia is one of the first EU countries who published results of the Population and Housing Census 2021, moreover large part of the information is available in very detailed geographical breakdown. It was achieved by innovative methods used in the Census (for the first time in Latvia it was conducted solely based on administrative data) as well as purposeful work on the development of population estimate method and improvement of data processing taking place since 2012.

This year also work on the Agricultural Census 2020 was completed – we have registered all our agricultural holdings as well as their labour force, farming types, and utilised agricultural area. The results were sent to Eurostat at the end of the year. We express our gratitude to the farmers. We can be proud of the work done, as the information will be great help to the agricultural policy planners and decision makers at both international and regional level.

This difficult period has once again shown that Statistical Bureau employees are its greatest asset – loyal, professional and honest; their rich experience and inexhaustible creativity gives the strongest support in various challenges and changes. Through this report, I would like to express my gratitude to each and every employee of the Statistical Bureau for working responsibly and diligently towards the achievement of our goals and producing up-to-date and high-quality statistics.

The report gives insight into the activities of the Statistical Bureau in 2021 – our work directions and tasks completed, the most significant changes, information on resources available, and priorities set for 2022.



Photo by Vilena Krasņitska

Aija Žigure  
President  
Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

## List of Abbreviations

<b>the Cabinet</b>	Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia
<b>COICOP</b>	UN Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose
<b>CoP</b>	European Statistics Code of Practice
<b>CSB</b>	Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia
<b>CSCC</b>	Cross-Sectoral Coordination Centre of the Republic of Latvia
<b>EBS Regulation</b>	European Business Statistics Regulation. Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics
<b>ECOICOP</b>	European Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose
<b>EDC</b>	electronic data collection
<b>EM</b>	Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia
<b>ERDF</b>	European Regional Development Fund
<b>ESBRs</b>	European System of interoperable Business Registers
<b>ESS</b>	European Statistical System
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b><i>EuroGroups register</i></b>	European statistical register on multinational enterprise groups set up by Eurostat together with EU Member States and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries
<b><i>Eurostat</i></b>	statistical office of the European Union
<b>EU-SILC</b>	European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions survey
<b>FM</b>	Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Latvia
<b>GDP</b>	gross domestic product
<b>GDPR</b>	General Data Protection Regulation. Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data
<b><i>Intrastat</i></b>	system for collecting information and producing statistics on the trade in goods between countries of the European Union
<b>ISDMS</b>	Integrated Statistical Data Management System
<b>MoEPRD</b>	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Republic of Latvia
<b>OCMA</b>	Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs of the Republic of Latvia
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>ONAs</b>	other national authorities. Statistical institutions providing official European statistics
<b>PRODCOM</b>	list of PROducts of the European COMmunity. Annual survey to produce statistics for industrial production in the European Union in terms of value and quantity
<b>SBR</b>	Statistical Business Register
<b>SIA</b>	limited liability company. A private company shares whereof are not publicly traded, it is a legal person
<b>SRS</b>	State Revenue Service
<b>UN</b>	United Nations Organisation
<b>UNECE</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

# Legal Status, Mission, Vision, Values, Priorities, Directions and Aims

## LEGAL STATUS

Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB) is a direct administrative institution operating under the supervision of the Ministry of Economics (EM). The Statistics Law stipulates that CSB is an advisory body of the system of official statistics and functionally subordinates statistical institutions providing official Latvian and European statistics.

## MISSION, VISION, VALUES AND PRIORITIES

**Mission** – production of reliable statistics used for socio-economic analyses and decision-making.

**Vision** – a modern statistical institute being a leader of innovative approach in statistical production.

CSB is working based on the following values:

 <b>Independence</b>	 <b>Professionalism</b>	 <b>Openness</b>
CSB performs its functions single-handed, independently, equally, and fairly.	CSB defends interests of Latvia by professionally contributing to the development of international methodological requirements, EU legislative procedure and work of international organizations. It produces statistics with new and innovative technologies and methods. CSB is not afraid to experiment, seek for and use new data sources, and has undertaken to achieve high quality and efficiency in each stage of its work.	CSB communicates in an open, inquisitive, explanatory manner and listens to the users' needs. It engages in national and international public debate on various aspects of statistical production.

**Overarching strategic goal** – provision of up-to-date statistical information during the strategy period by building partnerships allowing to use new data sources and methods in the statistical production.

### Strategic priorities:

- Higher professionalism, operational efficiency and quality.
- Better cooperation with data providers, owners and users allowing to develop statistical production process.



Independence



Professionalism



Openness

## Legal Status, Mission, Vision, Values, Priorities, Directions and Aims

- Timely production of statistics meeting changing needs of data users and new economic phenomena.
- Production of up-to-date and user-oriented experimental statistics and ensuring sustainability thereof by including in the routine production processes.
- Development of organizational information systems to ensure full life cycle of the data used to produce statistics.
- Strengthening of official statistics system by introducing high-level general quality requirements for Latvian official statistics institutions.

### DIRECTIONS AND AIMS OF CSB ACTIVITIES

To fulfil CSB functions, its activities are organised in four directions according to the aim to be achieved:

Direction	Aim
Development of partnerships to create efficient and secure data ecosystem	Greater integration of various, incl. private, data sources in statistical production
User-oriented approach in production of statistics by expanding its usability	Wider possibilities to publish and use statistics based on the data user demand
Enhancement of institution's technologies and personnel performance	Better working environment in the CSB and higher efficiency of its activities
Coordination of the official statistics system in the country	Improvement of production environment in Latvian official statistics institutions

# STATISTICAL DIMENSIONS



## Statistical Dimensions



### DATA PUBLISHING

28 May 2021 population demography migration	30 July 2021 households and families
24 November 2021 housings	15 June 2022 economic indic- ators education

### EVENTS

1 January 2021 critical moment of the Population and Housing Census	12 May 2021 hackathon <i>Alternative Population and Housing Census</i>
21 May 2021 academic breakfast <i>Role of Census Data in Facing Demographic Challenges</i>	28 May 2022 conference <i>Data as Value for Society in the Digital Age</i>

In 2021 CSB provided different types of data users – general society, decision-makers, researchers – with the latest statistical information. Within the scope of own competence, CSB successfully completed the tasks specified in the Official Statistics Programme approved by the Cabinet as well as worked out Official Statistics Programme 2022–2024 and handed it over for the Cabinet approval.

Being the **advisory body of the system of official statistics**, CSB oversees work of other Latvian statistical institutions providing official European statistics (ONAs), including monitoring of their compliance with the European Statistics Code of Practice (CoP) requirements. Active cooperating with ONAs has resulted in slightly higher value (reaching 91 %) of their compliance with the requirements of the CoP planned in the CSB Strategy 2021. In 2021 CSB organised work of the Statistical Council and remote meetings with Latvian statistical institutions on topical subjects like impact of administrative-territorial reform on statistics, GDPR and statistical confidentiality, publication of statistics and metadata on the official statistics portal, as well as progress and indicators of the Population and Housing Census 2021.

Along with the launch of the shared platform for the publication of official statistics, CSB has been able to satisfy the requirements of both data owners and users more fully by focusing on the timeliness and comprehensibility of the information published. Currently **official statistics portal** is a platform to publish national statistics for various domains, moreover, it features data visualizations and interactive maps that may alter to own needs. CSB website is used for organizational information and respondent support.

Via the portal, users can access **inflation calculator** which is a targeted and innovative product that shows consumer price changes over a selected period by ECOICOP category (up to the sub-class level). As of March 2021, an updated version of the calculator is available. The main update benefit – indexed monetary value function.

Latvian **Population and Housing Census** for the first time was conducted by using solely administrative data (such an approach is used in Northern and some Western Europe countries). Owing to the far-sighted decision made in 2012 on the use administrative data, CSB has managed to provide essential indicators at a time when due to the epidemiological situation no face-to-face interviews were conducted and thus traditional census would not be possible. Such an approach allowed processing and publishing results of the Census 2021 much faster.

Successful administrative data-based Census requires close cooperation with other institutions. In Latvia many registers may be used for the Census needs,

## Statistical Dimensions

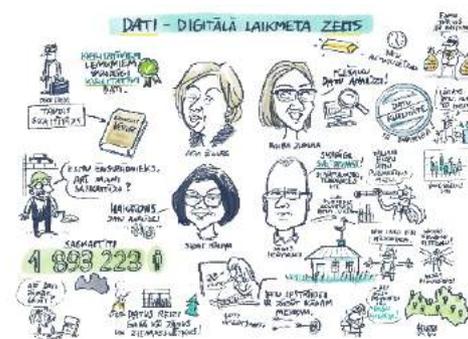
thus reducing the response burden on population. The data for the Census 2021 were drawn from more than 40 various registers and databases. CSB expresses its gratitude to the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, State Revenue Service, State Social Insurance Agency, State Employment Agency, State Land Service, Ministry of Education and Science, and other institutions and companies providing the necessary data.

In 2021 CSB completed development and testing of calculations and algorithms used for all Population and Housing Census 2021 indicators, including ones partly covered by administrative registers (e.g., defining kinship and cohabiting partners, determining place (address) of the main job). To get more accurate housing data for the Census 2021, CSB collected additional information on the maintenance of residential buildings from centralized heat and water supply and sewerage service providers in municipalities.

Latvia is one of the first EU countries who published Census 2021 results, moreover large part of the information is available in very detailed geographical breakdown. In May demographic and migration indicators were published, in July indicators characterizing families and households, and in November housing indicators. To highlight release of the Census 2021 results, CSB used an innovative communication approach and in addition to press releases also published three thematic caricatures.

On 28 May 2021, in cooperation with the University of Latvia, CSB organized Census conference "Data as Value for Society in the Digital Age". Presentations were made by SIA "ZZ Dats", MoEPRD, Latvian Employers' Confederation, University of Southampton, Max Planck Society, Dutch Central Bureau of Statistics, Data State Inspectorate. The conference was preceded by virtual academic breakfast, during which CSB presented Census results and identified researcher needs. In future CSB is planning to organize such networking event for academics and scientists every year, thus having opportunity to discuss topical statistical indicators and surveys as well as take a look at practical tools used in various national and international projects.

In 2021, within the state budget funds allocated additionally for the priority measure, CSB summarised **monitoring of university and professional education institution graduates** of 2017 and submitted it to the Ministry of Education and Science. The information covers graduate labour status, employment and income. Monitoring data are necessary for wide range of users: education policy makers (development and implementation of evidence-based higher and professional education policy), general society and potential/ current



Population and Housing Census progress and conference visualised in caricatures by Gatis Šjuka

## Statistical Dimensions



Reference to the CSB publication on consumer price changes in a newspaper Latvijas Avīze



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students (information about specific field pros and cons) as well as policy makers and accreditation experts (objective information about employment and career development of graduates).

While evaluating compliance of the European Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (ECOICOP) with new **UN COICOP 2018** classifier, CSB used results of the Household Budget Survey 2019 and developed national transition table, at the same time drawing proposals for the questionnaire amendments for the next survey. The data were recalculated at the highest level of detail – from 8 digits of ECOICOP to 5 digits of UN COICOP 2018 (6 digits for food products), in euros. Household Budget Survey data are vital to estimate key macroeconomic indicators, such as gross domestic product (GDP), consumer price index and harmonized index of consumer prices, used to monitor inflation.

This year also one of the most labour-consuming stages of **Agricultural Census 2020** (conducted once in ten years) was concluded: all Latvian agricultural holdings were registered as well as their labour force, utilised agricultural area and farming types.

In 2021 CSB specified and compiled the data collected as well as added administrative information, and provisional Agricultural Census results were announced in a press release already in 12 May. Magazine *Agro Tops*, in response to the industry current event, published a short analysis of the Agricultural Census 2010 results in its June issue.

In total 64 % of the variables in Agricultural Census 2020 were acquired from different administrative sources. E.g., for the first time CSB used Agricultural Data Centre Animal Housing Infrastructure Register data on animal housing, feeding, and manure management which ensured information needed for the respective Agricultural Census 2020 module almost completely.

In November 2021 CSB published a press release providing provisional information on farming types, economic size and land use of agricultural holdings as well as their labour force, farm holders, managers and organic farming. At the same time also key agricultural indicators at national and regional level were published on the official statistics portal. On 17 December 2021 CSB organised online seminar in which presented provisional results of Agricultural Census 2020 to the data users.

With an aim to collect wide range of internationally comparable information on **energy consumption** in households, the regulation on energy statistics

## Statistical Dimensions

provides for conducting survey of energy resources in households every five years. To do that, CSB developed partnerships with the key data users (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economics (EM), Forest and Wood Products Research and Development Institute, Institute of Physical Energetics) and with their assistance worked out the list of survey indicators. As a result, along with the energy consumption in households in 2020, also information on improvement of energy efficiency of buildings, heat pumps, solar collectors, compressed natural gas consumption in road transport, use of electric scooters and bicycles was acquired. In environmental statistics, CSB has taken challenge to assess climate change impact on society habits.

Within the framework of the EU grant project *Growth and Productivity Accounts*, CSB estimated experimental labour and capital productivity indicators and published them along with the reference metadata on the official statistics portal. CSB organized a remote meeting on **national accounts productivity indicators** aiming to promote cooperation and networking with the main users of national accounts data (Bank of Latvia, Ministry of Finance (FM), EM) and use of the national accounts statistics. Productivity and rate of economic growth are among the key economic development indicators used by policy makers.

This year, based on annual data sources, CSB **calculated gross domestic product** (GDP) of 2019 and revised GDP time series. CSB supplemented GDP time series with supply and use tables (impact in 2011–2013 and 2017) as well as made other improvements to the GDP estimate methods and data sources. GDP volume was affected by the inclusion of cooperative societies data (from 1995) as well as self-employment output and individual sectors intermediate consumption (2003–2010) in the GDP time series.

In 2021 CSB updated **macrosimulation model of accrued pension liabilities**. Within the framework of this activity, CSB estimated initial and indexed accrued pension capital for 2019 and 2020 (situation at the end of the year) in breakdown by age and gender group, prepared description of the principles of pension capital estimation process, and updated assumptions and algorithms incorporated in the model. Using the updated macrosimulation model of accrued pension liabilities, CSB re-estimated accrued-to-date pension entitlements of the government-managed pension schemes at the end of 2014–2018 as well as made current estimate for the end of 2019.

To exchange data on intra-EU exports of goods with other EU statistical institutes, starting with the data on 2021 CSB is using **Intrastat** reports to additionally collect individual identification number of the partner and



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information on the country of origin of goods. Respondents are informed about the changes made through the amendments to the instructions for filling out *Intrastat* reports and information about changes in classifications used in the foreign trade statistics.

CSB was also actively working on the improvement of ***Intrastat Helpdesk*** in 2021 – changed its design and added information about the Intrastat system. Updated *Intrastat Helpdesk* gives respondents more information on correct completion of the *Intrastat* reports, e.g., explains calculation of statistical values, contains updated instructions for declaring processing transactions in foreign trade statistics.

With the European Regional Development Fund project “International Trade Statistics Data Processing System” support, in 2021 CSB improved Integrated Statistical Data Management System (ISDMS) functionality by adding **e-address** communication channel that allows sending reminder letters to respondents of enterprise surveys. During the year CSP sent 44 389 invitational letters to electronic addresses included in the ISDMS e-address database (1 853 of which since the beginning of November). In December 2021, out of 24 617 respondents included in the upcoming survey, electronic invitational letters were sent to 22 254 (20 684 of which to e-mail address and 1 570 to e-address), compared to only paper 2 363 letters sent by regular mail.

BUSINESS STATISTICS  
ACCORDING TO  
THE NEW EBS REGULATION



# Business Statistics According to the New EBS Regulation

## BUSINESS STATISTICS

Business statistics is one of the broadest statistical topics that provides data users with detailed information about business in Latvia and throughout the EU. It allows to comprehensively characterise the structure and performance of enterprises in various sectors and groups, to analyse new economic trends, using both monthly, quarterly and annual data on indicators such as production, prices, employment, wages, and to provide data for the calculation of national and regional accounts.

Since 2021, when the new EBS Regulation entered into force, the development, preparation and distribution of statistical information on the economic activity of enterprises is determined by the regulation, which ensures coherence between statistical areas, promoting a uniform approach to ensure the full cycle of business statistics. The new EBS Regulation is based on common methodological principles, definitions and quality criteria to ensure an integrated approach in the field of business statistics in the future.

In the reference year the 5 most important topics are emphasized in the development of business statistics.

## STATISTICAL BUSINESS REGISTER

European statistical business register system (ESBRS), which also includes the statistical business register (SBR) maintained by the CSB, covers all sectors of economic activity and is a basic element that ensures the possibility of organizing and coordinating statistical surveys by preparing a coordinated sampling frame. It is also the main source of information for the statistical analysis of the enterprise population and enterprise demographics, for determination of the scope of surveys and establishment of connection with administrative data sources. The register of SBR and EuroGroups, on the other hand, is the basic infrastructure for data collection and compilation for the needs of European business statistics.

Economic globalisation has posed serious challenges in the preparation of European business statistics. By recording data from multinational business groups, ESBRS lays the foundation for the improvement of large statistics related to globalisation.

In 2021, as part of the development and improvement of ESBRS, the CSB prepared for the reference year 2019 and sent to the *EuroGroups* register a clarifying information on legal entities, enterprises, relationships between legal entities and the interconnection of legal entities and enterprises, as well as sent global group information, where the legal entity of Latvia is the main controlling

## Business Statistics According to the New EBS Regulation

entity of the global group or part of the global group. For the first time the CSB prepared information, where main controlling institutional unit of the group is a natural person, aligning it with the statistics of foreign affiliates for data comparability and quality.

As one of the principles of a successful sustainable development strategy of Latvia is to take into account global trends and capital of Latvia and their use, SBR provides information in the “Interactive Profiling Tool” system maintained by the Eurostat about related legal entities that are registered in Latvia and are part of EU economically significant enterprises.

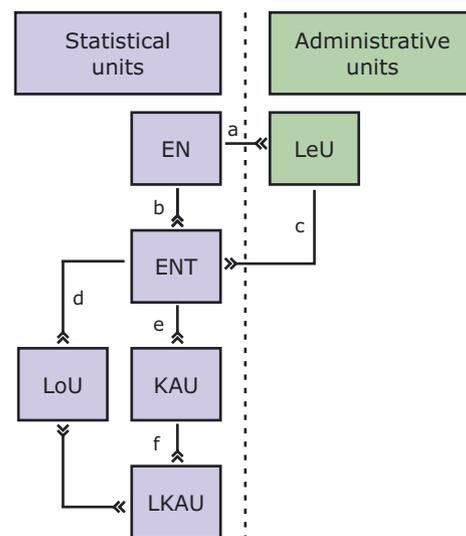
In 2021 the CSB provided in SBR information on statistical unit “enterprise”, “local unit” and “enterprise group”, as well as, in accordance with the EBS regulation, introduced the statistical unit “kind-of-activity unit” and also provided regular methodological support to survey managers in their practical implementation. On the other hand, in order to ensure the correct determination and calculation of the statistical unit “local unit” and “kind-of-activity unit”, SBR obtains information in a special random survey about the “local activity unit” of the enterprise – the current address of the unit and the number of employees at the end of each reference year.

### PRODCOM

In order to ensure up-to-date acquisition of data on production of industrial products and provision of services reflecting the needs of data users and the latest economic trends, including impact of globalization processes and development of outsourcing services, in 2021 the CSB completed the majority of work planned in the EU grant project on the implementation of the EBS Regulation:

- improved the data extraction methodology for obtaining information according to the **industrial production models** used in the enterprise: product manufacturer, industrial service provider, subcontractor and goods manufacturer (factoryless producer<sup>1</sup>);
- the survey form included such **new indicators** as the production manufactured and sold by the subcontractor, the payment received for the production manufactured;

<sup>1</sup> If the enterprise owns the intellectual property (technology, know-how, product design, etc.) used in the production process, but completely outsources the material transformation process (in the same country or abroad) necessary to produce the final product. Control over the output of the production process and ownership, as well as the provision of raw materials, coincide with the economic ownership of the final product.



*ENT or enterprise – a unit producing goods or services, which benefits from a certain degree of autonomy in decision-making, especially for the allocation of its current resources.*

*EN or enterprise group – an association of enterprises bound together by legal and/or financial ties. It may have several centres of decision-making, particularly regarding production, sales and profit policies, and may centralize some aspects of financial management and taxation.*

*KAU or kind-of-activity unit – groups all the parts of an enterprise contributing to the performance of an activity at class level (four digits) of NACE Rev. 1 and corresponds to one or more operational subdivisions of the enterprise.*

*LoU or local unit – an enterprise or a part of it (for example, a workshop, warehouse, office, mine) which is located in a geographically identified place and carries out economic activity in this place or from this place.*

*LKAU or local kind-of-activity unit – a part of a KAU which corresponds to a local unit.*

*LeU or legal unit – legal entities whose existence is recognized by law, regardless of the persons or institutions to which they may belong or whose members they may be, and natural persons who are each separately involved in economic activity.*

## Business Statistics According to the New EBS Regulation

- **data validations** were elaborated in the EDC system, finding automation codes was improved and **a preprint of PRODCOM codes** was created.

To make it easier for the respondents to work with the report and find the necessary codes, the CSB conducted a test of electronic form to check the functionality of the form, during which suggestions and proposals of the data providers were listened to and taken into account to facilitate data entry. For more efficient management of the data collection process, the CSB conducted trainings for statisticians, as well as revised and supplemented the instructions for filling out the "Types of industrial production and services".

In order to reduce respondent burden, the possibility of using additional data sources is constantly being studied. Thus, for example, in 2021 the CSB collected indicators from foreign trade statistics data on 268 enterprises, which is 10 % of the total number of respondents, and also started research of the data available and consultations with SRS on the possibilities of using data on the movement of excise goods.

**The expansion of the digital economy and the increase in the use of information and communication technologies** are among the important drivers of competitiveness and growth, and these statistics provide information on the formation of relevant strategies and policies, including the creation of the Digital Single Market.

In the field of information and communication technology statistics for many years together with interested parties – the Latvian Information and Communication Technology Association, the Latvian Internet Association, MoE, MEPRD – the CSB experts have been actively participating in the evaluation of the Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) and cooperating in the preparation of the methodology and survey forms of the information and communication technology use surveys carried out by the CSB, as well as in explaining the impact of the results on the Digital Economy and Society Index. The CSB annually prepares the latest information available on the performance of the information and communication technology industries for the conference of the Latvian Information and Communications Technology Association.

### STRUCTURAL BUSINESS STATISTICS

Structural business statistics provide extensive data sets at a very detailed level, namely on several hundred economic activities, which data users can use to analyse sectoral structural changes, specialization, productivity, as well as other areas. The data is also available by the size of enterprise, showing the role of both large enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises in the economy,

## Business Statistics According to the New EBS Regulation

which is particularly useful for policymakers and data analysts. Moreover, structural business statistics provide basic information on which interpretation of short-term statistics and business cycle can be based.

Within the framework of the EU grant project on the implementation of the EBS Regulation, in 2021 the CSB started work on the development and inclusion of the validation and transformation module of annual structural statistics data summaries in ISDMS, preparing the necessary documents for the development of a technical solution. As a result of the implementation of the project, the quality of the data will improve and the load for validation and correction of microdata will decrease. Thus, the CSB will store the data required for structural business statistics in the ISDMS database for further use in the appropriate data structure and technical format. The validation section will provide messages with detailed description of errors, warnings and other necessary information. Such an approach will be more efficient and less time-consuming to transform technical data, paying more attention to data quality checks.

On the other hand, within the framework of the EU grant project on the international transfer of business functions, the CSB prepared the national version of the survey questionnaire by creating an electronic form in the EDC system, including data validations. To facilitate the submission of data, a preprint of data on the number of employees is available in the form. In the second half of the year, CSB completed data collection, reaching a 96 % response rate. Within the framework of the project, the CSB identified the main problems regarding time of preparation and availability of reports to member states, the content of methodological documents and solutions offered that could be used in developing this project and developing the requirements of the Commission implementing regulation.

The growing demand for various data on structural business statistics encouraged the development of new data groupings in various fields. Thus, for example, the CSB has started processing data on cultural and creative industries, tourism industries in different groups (transport, land transport, accommodation, food and beverages and car and other rental), knowledge-intensive industries, as well as new service grouping, expanding the number of the existing industries.

### SHORT-TERM BUSINESS STATISTICS

The main advantage of short-term statistics data published monthly or quarterly is its availability very soon after the end of the reference period. For example, data on retail trade turnover is published already 30 days after the reference month, and data on industrial production - after 35 days.



The newspaper Latvijas Avīze reacted to the CSB publication on the rise in prices of building materials

## Business Statistics According to the New EBS Regulation

Taking into account the new requirements of the EBS Regulation in the field of short-term statistics, the CSB has already started the review of the data system and the assessment of improvements for the changes expected and the necessary technical solutions and investments. Until 2021, when the EBS Regulation entered into force, with the support of the EU grant project, the CSB developed and implemented the monthly calculation of the turnover and production volume of service industries at constant prices in accordance with the new methodology. These results, providing a time-series from 2015, are published along with other nine countries in the Eurostat database and Official statistics portal. On the other hand, data on the hospitality industry as an important indicator of economic activity in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic is published in the ESS recovery indicator panel.

In order to ensure the comparability of the data in all business sectors, the requirement to introduce the statistical unit "kind-of-activity unit" in short-term statistics has been established as of 2025, which would ensure greater stability of time-series by sector. In order to have the opportunity to calculate data and perform their seasonal and calendar adjustment during this time, the CSB has started collecting this data in the trade and service sectors in 2021. Until now, data on the statistical unit "kind-of-activity unit" was collected only for enterprises in industrial and construction sectors.

### STATISTICS ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION OF ENTERPRISES

Statistics on innovation, research and development activities are an important source of data for the development and monitoring of policies for improving the competitiveness of Member States and increasing their mid- and long-term smart growth and employment potential. In 2021 the CSB continued activities related to the improvement of the field of research and development statistics in order to clarify the relevance of these data.

In cooperation with the Cross-Sectoral Coordination Centre (CSCC), MoE, Investment and Development Agency of Latvia, the CSB popularized the importance of research, development and innovation statistics, addressed enterprises to promote the completion of the report "On the execution of research and development work in the business sector" and the correct presentation of expenses.

As a result of this cooperation, the Labs of Latvia portal also produced material on the current situation of research and development statistics in Latvia, emphasizing the importance and potential of the private sector in improving research and development indicators. Enterprises such as "Silvanols" Ltd., joint



By reference to the business statistics published by CSB, the caricature published in the newspaper Diena in March

## Business Statistics According to the New EBS Regulation

stock company "Latvijas valsts meži", "Catchbox" Ltd. shared their experience in the implementation of research and development projects, and pointed out the possible benefits, citing increasing consumer confidence, developing new products and strengthening export capacity as the main ones. Also stating that internal research, development and innovation data recording and processing is also important for the enterprise itself in order to make decisions related to the development of the enterprise as quickly and efficiently as possible. In order to promote respondents' interest in providing data, as well as understanding the importance of this data, the CSB created a video "Investment of the enterprise in R&D", which was included in the EDC system and distributed on social networks.

In 2021 the CSB conducted a study of examples of good practice on the acquisition of research, development and innovation statistics data, as a result of which, in cooperation with the Research and Development Community and the Ministry of Finance, it prepared more transparent instructions for completion, evaluated the questions of the form "2-research" in order to facilitate respondents' understanding on them and accordingly reduce the time spent on filling out the form.

In the reference year the CSB prepared proposals on the Government Action Plan for improving research and development indicators on accounting methods of enterprise investments (private sector investments) in research and development, as well as actively cooperated with the MoF on possible additions to regulatory acts for acquiring structured data on investments in research and development from annual reports. As a result of the joint cooperation project of the CSB, MoE, MoF and CSCC, amendments were made to the Law on Annual Reports and Consolidated Annual Reports, supplementing it with detailed information on research and development costs presented in appendices, applying this norm to annual reports and consolidated annual reports, starting with report year 2021.

In 2021 the CSB collected the necessary research, development and innovation data, based on which policymakers will have the opportunity to receive in-depth information about the performance of national research and development work and how enterprises implement innovations. The information obtained will make it possible to make a comparison at the international level, to evaluate the usefulness and efficiency of the existing policy, as well as to develop more appropriate current decisions in the field of research and development.



Has your enterprise already notified CSB on the investment in research and development?



# EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT-DRIVEN CHANGES

## External Environment-Driven Changes

In the reference year the CSB continued its activities in looking for and implementing innovative solutions in the provision of statistics. Supporting the ever-growing changes in data requests, the most important development directions of the CSB work were provision of new, up-to-date data, development of innovative methods and techniques, and competent use of administrative data.

### USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Thanks to the intensive preparation stage during the previous years, the Population and Housing Census 2021 in Latvia for the first time was held using only **administrative data**. As a result of the innovative approach, despite the restrictions of the pandemic, the CSB was able to carry out all the planned census works, as well as to start publishing the census results sooner.

The use of administrative data sources makes it possible to develop a more detailed and timely statistics as well as to provide new statistical indicators, especially in such vitally important sectors of the national economy as energy, agriculture. In order to provide up-to-date data on the use of renewable energy resources, the CSB found an opportunity to obtain data on the types and volumes of biofuels sold in Latvia from the emission reports of fuel suppliers at the disposal of the State Environmental Service. The obtained information made it possible to improve the quality of calculations using the tool for calculating the share of renewable energy sources (SHARES). With the growing interest of citizens in the use of **renewable energy sources**, including obtaining electricity for their own needs from solar panels, the CSB included indicators characterizing the operation of solar panels in the survey on the consumption of energy sources in households in 2020. In the shaping of targeted survey sample the CSB was greatly supported by the information on solar panel users provided by the administrative data holder. As a result, Latvian and international institutions for the first time will receive important data on the production of electricity from solar panels and its use for self-consumption.

Representation of the CSB in the European Commission project with collaborative economy platforms on data exchange related to short-term residence statistics facilitated the centralized receipt of data from the four largest accommodation booking platforms – Airbnb, Booking, Expedia and Tripadvisor. As part of the pilot project, in 2021 the CSB processed data for 2018 and 2019 and published a summary of the analysis in a press release in July 2021. Also in the upcoming years, the data received from collaborative economy platforms will be an important source in the field of short-term visitor accommodation statistics.

In order to promote the **integration of various data sources, including private, in the processes of providing statistics**, close cooperation has been established with one of the largest mobile phone operators. As part of it, the CSB is developing a method that will be used by electronic communications

## External Environment-Driven Changes

merchants when processing location data and preparing the results. Cooperation promotes the creation of know-how, from which benefits not only public administration, but also private sector. The processing of location data opens up prospects for providing new official statistics products and improving the quality of existing products.

For receiving **anonymized location data** from electronic communications merchants – mobile phone operators – for more than two years the CSB worked intensively on the development of the regulatory framework, and on 6 July 2021, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the rules “Procedures by which the Central Statistical Bureau requests and electronic communications merchant provides information for ensuring official statistics”. Work is being continued to include more detailed legal provisions allowing the processing of location data in the Electronic Communications Act.

### DATA COLLECTION

Restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the interruption of in-person data collection, were one of the biggest challenges. In order to **maintain an adequate response rate in surveys for data quality assurance**, face-to-face interviews had to be completely replaced by Internet surveys and telephone interviews. For the successful implementation of these methods the CSB updated survey manuals and guidelines as well as trained interviewers in a targeted manner. During the training, the employees developed the necessary skills for conducting telephone interviews in order to be able to keep the respondent's attention during a long conversation and lead it to the end.

The CSB also highly appreciates the support provided by the OCMA, the state joint-stock company “Road Safety Directorate” and SRS by transferring the information available to these institutions about the contact numbers and e-mail addresses of the natural persons included in the sample of the survey. The possibility of using telephone numbers, as well as the previously provided infrastructure for telephone interviews, made it possible to maintain a high response rate in individual and household surveys, thus ensuring the preparation of high-quality statistics, which was a challenge for many EU countries.

Exploring options for introducing other types of remote interviews, the CSB conducted a survey of respondents on ways of conducting citizen surveys, including a video survey, in order to find out opinion and willingness of citizens to participate in a video interview. However, the survey showed a very low population support for video interviews (7 % of all persons surveyed), and also indicated that respondents mostly do not have access to the technical equipment needed for their conduct.

In order to promote response rate and participation in surveys, as part of the project media campaign, the CSB prepared both special brochures about surveys and video materials for posting on social networks, as well as developed



Interview of the CSB president  
Aija Žīgure for newspaper  
Dienas Bizness

## External Environment-Driven Changes

appealing comics and TV ads.

In order to improve the opportunities for respondents to answer questions in a more convenient way in individual and household surveys, as well as to promote responsiveness, the CSB started the development of an internet-based "small screen-friendly" data entry form (**CAWI-mobile**). This tool will allow respondents to fill out the survey questionnaire in such a way that the questions and answers as well as transitions are transparent and easy to use.

### NEW DATA

Due to the impact of the pandemic, both society and decision-makers increasingly needed data that would characterize the spread of the pandemic and allow to assess its impact on society and the individual. Thus, in response to the spread of COVID-19, in 2021 the CSB started to prepare data on the **incidence of COVID-19 and vaccination against COVID-19**, based on the personal data from the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and the National Health Service as well as the data available to the CSB on the employment, place of residence, relatives, participation in formal education of these persons. These data were prepared by the CSB on a weekly basis and made available for analysis in a pseudonymised form to the Ministry of Health, the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and CSCC.

Anticipating and recognizing the importance of timely data in assessing the impact of COVID-19, the CSB, reorganizing work priorities within the existing resources, also in 2021 continued to provide rapid assessments and **new, detailed indicators** related to COVID-19, such as data on monthly unemployment rate and remote work, preliminary estimates of impact of COVID-19 crisis on the mental health of the population and changes in household income in 2020, monthly press releases on the activity of airport Riga and activity of tourist accommodation establishments, which reflected impact of the pandemic on passenger transport and tourism industry, a compilation of monthly data on freight and passenger transport for the pandemic impact analysis.

Supporting decision-makers during the emergency situation, the CSB was proactive in providing additional indicators. In 2021, the EU-SILC included additional questions on changes in income, the impact of COVID-19 crisis on mental health, opportunities to learn and work remotely. In 2021 the CSB conducted a gender-related violence survey in order to provide both nationally and internationally relevant data on violence, including domestic, childhood, and intimate partner violence.

Ensuring the requirements of national data users, in Adult Education Survey 2022 the CSB will additionally include questions on mother tongue and language used at home. To meet the new demands of data users and to be aware of changes in employment, the Labour Force Survey 2022 will collect data on work related to digital platforms.



By reference to the business statistics published by CSB, the caricature published in the newspaper Diena in December



# QUALITY AND INFORMATION SECURITY MANAGEMENT

## Quality and Information Security Management

Quality management system of the CSB was introduced with an aim to ensure constant compliance of our statistical products and services with the user needs and regulatory requirements via efficient use of options for improvement and resources available. The quality management system is certified to the ISO 9001:2015 standard *Quality management systems – Requirements* since 2018. Scope of certification: development, production and dissemination of official statistics.

Information security management, by devoting particular attention to stability and reliability of information processing systems, is among the key priorities of the CSB. Being a reliable statistical institution, CSB values quality of the services provided and data security. The information security management system is certified to the ISO 27001:2013 standard *Information technology – Security techniques – Information security management systems – Requirements* since 2017. Scope of certification: collection, processing and storage of information and data for functions of the Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia. Provision of statistical information for inland and foreign users.

CSB is constantly working on the improvement of information security and personal data processing by introducing new and updating existing internal regulations and related documentation as well as seeking new security solutions.

To keep up with the continuous development of management systems, CSB quality policy is implemented by highly professional and competent employees fulfilling their duties accurately and responsibly. They are working on the improvement of existing processes, including on the introduction of new digital solutions, e.g., unified customer service centre, Projects and Issues Tracking System.

Efficient use of the business intelligence tool *MicroStrategy* ensures effective management of the CSB human resources based on both data-driven resources planning and workload analysis. Staff management is one of the greatest CSB strengths allowing to produce knowledge-intensive products and provide high-skill services.

In November 2021 both management systems were audited for re-certification. SIA *BM Certification* auditors admitted that CSB is maintaining and improving both management systems successfully. The opinion is also confirmed by the audit results, where no inconsistencies were found. Auditors noted that CSB makes great progress on annual basis by responding to challenging external environmental conditions and achieving the goals set. The digital tools used by the CSB (*ISDMS, Intranet, work plan*), well-organized documentation,



# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



## International Cooperation

Mostly remotely the CSB experts continued participation in international activities. In the context of pandemic and emergency situation international cooperation was of high importance to share experience in various discussion formats on solutions for ensuring continuity in data collection and provision of comparable data for the needs of decision makers.

In more than 200 international meetings CSB experts contributed to solving issues related to elaboration, development and coordination of statistical methodology for preparation of internationally comparable statistics. In the context of pandemic the agenda of the international statistical community also included such issues as preparation of a more timely, more detailed new data using both the existing data sources and knowledge of experts of statistical institutions, and searching for new data sources for the preparation of official statistics needs as much as possible.

Within the framework of the European Statistical System, UN and OECD, the CSB experts have provided an opinion on the continuity of work during the pandemic, discussing the most suitable indicators for the needs of decision makers as well as new data requirements and challenges of official statistics.

In Meetings of the Heads of National Statistical Offices, at strategic level the CSB has contributed to discussions on the further response of European Statistical System to the challenges and recovery measures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the response of the ESS to new data requirements for EU policy monitoring purposes, regarding the new partnerships and access to new data sources to ensure the timeliness of official statistics, as well as on coordinated process and product improvement activities of the ESS innovation programme in the European Statistical System.

Following the request of the UNECE Statistical Division and the Secretariat of the European Conference of Statisticians, already for the third time Aija Žigure assumed an important role and an honourable duty to participate in the election procedure of the Office. As a long-time head of the national statistical institution, Aija Žigure, as part of the Office election procedure, questioned all conference participants about their support for the proposed composition of the Office, explaining both the professional reasons for the selection of certain members and the importance of the Office's work as a whole. Aija Žigure informed on the results of the Office election during the European Conference of Statisticians.

Being aware of the importance of correct legislation for the needs of official statistics, Ieva Začeste, Director of the Legal and Corporate Services Department of the CSB, led a session on access to private data sources at the



Baltic Statisticians Radio Day  
19 March 2021

Radio Day of the Baltic statistics institutions organized on the initiative of the CSB

## International Cooperation

UNECE Meeting on Modernizing Statistical Legislation held on 18-19 November 2021.

In order to strengthen the cooperation between the statistical institutions of the Baltic States, on the initiative of the CSB the Radio Day of the Baltic Statistical Institutions was organized on March 19. Using the Internet radio, colleagues listened to interviews of heads of statistical institutions, sent greetings to colleagues in other institutions and listened to the music of their own choice throughout the day.

In September 2021, responding to the invitation of Statistics Lithuania, the CSB team consisting of 30 members participated in the *EuroStep21* challenge. During the challenge all statistical institutions of the European Union had the opportunity to participate in the achievement of a common goal – to walk 50 million steps! The goal was reached, and even exceeded. CSB colleagues, their relatives and friends also walked and counted their steps for 12 weeks – both during work and daily routines, and while picking mushrooms and travelling outside Latvia. In total the CSB team walked 15.78 million steps, finishing with the honourable 2<sup>nd</sup> place.



Photo collage of *EuroStep21* participants



# COMMUNICATION WITH SOCIETY

# Communication with Society

## PUBLICITY IN MEDIA AND SOCIAL NETWORKS

In 2021, the CSB published 224 news releases and other information on the latest CSB activities. In terms of the audience reached, the most important media were internet portals Delfi, TVnet, Kasjauns.lv, Apollo, LA.lv, nra.lv, skaties.lv, LSM, four radio stations (LR1, LR2, SWH, Skonto) and one television (LTV1), but by the number of mentions – LETA, TVnet, nra.lv, Delfi, Kasjauns.lv, Apollo, LA.lv, Diena.lv, skaties.lv, LSM.

The CSB was mentioned in the media 15 055 times, which is 5 695 or 60 % more than in 2020, and this sharp increase is mainly due to the mention of the population number in COVID-19 statistics (36 %). Since the beginning of the year, with the rapid increase in mentions of population number in relation to the incidence of COVID-19 and vaccination, the distribution in media segments also changed – the share of online media increased sharply (68 %), but of radio (11 %), news agencies (7 %), national (6 %) and regional (5 %) newspaper, TV (2 %) and magazine (1 %) segment – decreased.

In 2021 the population estimated by the CSB in the COVID-19 statistics was the most mentioned in the media – every third or 36 % of all mentions, which was followed by demography (12 %), consumer prices (7 %), employment and unemployment (6 %), surveys (5 %), wages (4 %), GDP (4 %), mortality (4 %), tourism (3 %), households (3 %), foreign trade (3 %), etc.

At the end of 2021, @CSP\_Latvija account had 6 770 followers, @CSB\_Latvia account in English had 3 330 followers, Facebook account had 2 860 followers.

## INFORMATION REQUESTS

In 2021, CSB replied to 1 128 information requests from individuals, public administration institutions and enterprises, and 23 data users received regular tailor made datasets. The CSB also sent answers to 230 media requests/questions. Latvijas Televīzija (39), Latvijas Radio (36), Dienas Bizness (22), TV3 (14), ReTV (13), Re:Baltica (10), Latvijas Mediji (8), Diena (6) were the media requesting statistics or comments from the CSB officials the most often.

## POPULARIZATION OF STATISTICS

“One can get lost in the forest and also – in data, therefore we take care that the data needed is like a compass for everyone who needs them – starting with the pupil to the researcher. Data visualisations, research data sets, geospatial statistics, metadata – this is all what we provide data users with,” said Uldis Ainārs, Director of the Information and Communication Department of the CSB.



Illustration of the CSB President Aija Žigūre from the magazine IR



Baiba Zukula,  
Director of the CSB Social Statistics  
Department

## Communication with Society

Latvijas statistika @CSP\_Latvija • Nov 17, 2021  
Mēs esam gandrīz 1,9 miljoni Latvijas iedzīvotāju.  
Mūsu vidū saskaitāmas pat 165 dažādas tautības.  
Sveicam Latvijas 103. gadskārtā!



Just under 600 views for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter demographics infographic published in November



The annual CSB award for excellent cooperation in providing quality statistics in 2021

On February 23, during the Vidzeme Innovation Week, at an online conference the CSB representatives Uldis Ainārs and Dāvis Kļaviņš presented CSB statistics on densely populated areas and data analysis tool of economic activity of territories [tea.csb.gov.lv](http://tea.csb.gov.lv). The tool provides support for the analysis of economic indicators by resident's place of residence or workplace. Using the tool, it is possible to analyse the geospatial location of workplaces of individuals living in the territory, the economic activities taking place in the territory – to find out the most important sectors in which enterprises of the given territory or individuals living in the territory work.

### STATISTICS PORTAL AND NEW DATA

The CSB website joined the single platform of websites of state and local government institutions, therefore, as of March 12, information about the CSB is published on the institution's website, while all official statistics, press releases, publications, infographics and maps under the responsibility of the CSB are available on the official statistics portal [stat.gov.lv](http://stat.gov.lv).

In response to the rapid increase in mortality, since February the CSB started publishing new statistics – mortality by week. In September, with a sharp increase in the incidence of COVID-19, the CSB started publishing data and maps on Latvian residents fully vaccinated against COVID-19, of which in breakdown by nationalities and age groups. The situation has been recorded since March 2021, and the data is updated once a month. The received data on vaccinated population are analysed in accordance with the number of the population in Latvia estimated by the CSB.

### GRATITUDE FOR PROVIDING THE DATA

Each year the CSB has a tradition to express its gratitude to one enterprise with which there has been an excellent cooperation. The choice is difficult, because there are a lot of enterprises that are disciplined in provision of statistical reports. On December 20, President of the CSB, Aija Žigure, presented online the annual CSB award for excellent cooperation in provision of statistics of high quality in 2021 to the Daugavpils Locomotive Repair Plant (DLRP).

There were many good words about how the cooperation with DLRP is going – mutual understanding, high-quality and timely prepared reports, as a result of which the data ends up in the CSB database and hands of data analysts.

# RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



## Information and Communication Technologies

Due to the restrictions imposed on face-to-face work in the country, employees of the CSB also needed to work and perform all work duties remotely. Complying with the data protection and information system security requirements, the CSB successfully provided all employees with the necessary technical means and solutions to perform work remotely.

At the same time, the CSB has not stopped its work on the development of infrastructure and information systems: technical requirements for the necessary improvements have been prepared, appropriate projects have been implemented, and that ensured both the continuity of institutional activity and compliance of information systems used with current needs. The projects affected a wide thematic range, starting with the purchase of equipment needed by employees, the purchase and installation of equipment necessary for the operation of infrastructure, and ending with the improvement and implementation of statistical data processing systems.

Initiation of the development of Foreign Trade Statistics Data Processing System is among the most important elaborations of information systems, and this will ensure processing data acquired from respondents and national administrative data as well as foreign trade data collected in other EU countries. The CSB developed technical requirements of the Content Management System for Classifications, which will serve as the basis for the development of the system itself in the next reference period. The project on improving the Social Statistics data warehouse system was completed, which made it possible to more conveniently and quickly integrate and process data obtained from various administrative data sources.

The CSB continued developing the infrastructure by purchasing and implementing additional server and disk array systems in order to have data processing power and capacity available for statistical data processing, of which also for the use of the aforementioned newly developed systems as well as for the replacement of outdated server and disk array systems.

Employees were provided with portable computers, equipped with information protection and remote access solutions, thus allowing the absolute use of all necessary systems in the same way as in the office.

# Financial Resources and Performance Indicators

## BUDGET PROGRAMMES IMPLEMENTED BY THE CSB

The CSB budget consists of the following **budget programmes (subprogrammes)**:

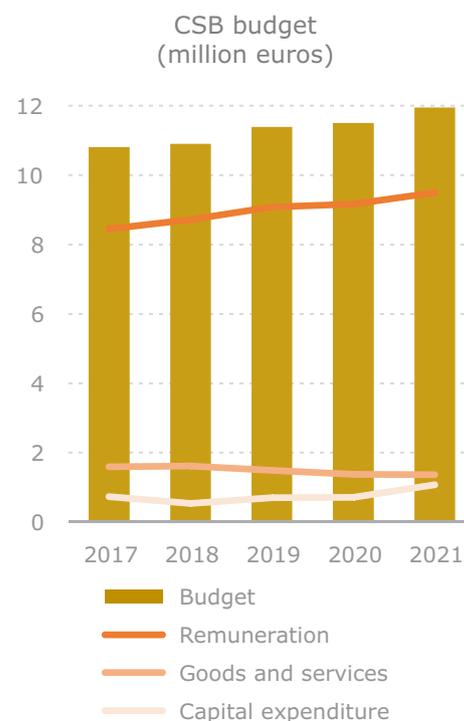
- programme 24.00.00 "Provision of Statistical Information";
- subprogramme 62.07.00 "European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) projects (2014–2020)" of 62.00.00 programme "Implementation of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) projects and activities";
- subprogramme 63.07.00 "Participation in International Researches on Education" of programme 63.00.00 "European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) projects (2014–2020)";
- subprogramme 67.06.00 "European Community Initiative projects" of programme 67.00.00 "Implementation of European Community initiative projects and activities";
- programme 71.06.00 financed by the Norwegian Financial mechanism "Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment (LV-CLIMATE)";
- programme 99.00.00 "Funding for Emergency".

In 2021, within the framework of the budget programmes mentioned, main activities of the CSB were related to the implementation of strategic aim, priorities confirmed and tasks to be done through providing users of statistical information with independent and high-quality official statistics.

## BUDGET OF THE CSB

Revenues from paid services in 2021 comprised EUR 225 043, which compared to 2020 have decreased by EUR 3 695 or 1.6 %. The drop in revenue was due to restrictions caused by the pandemic.

Transfer revenues in 2021 were made up on the basis of the concluded partnership agreement on the implementation of the previously determined project No. LV-CLIMATE-0001 "Integration of Climate Change into National and Regional Policies" of the Norwegian Financial mechanism programme "Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment".



## Financial Resources and Performance Indicators

Subsidy from general revenue comprised EUR 11 704 535 in 2021, which compared to 2020 have increased by EUR 353 882 or 3.1 %. The increase is related to the funding allocated in the programme 24.00.00 "Statistical Information Provision" for the implementation of priority measures for modernization of statistics, reduction of administrative burden of entrepreneurs and promotion of data availability.

General budget of the CSB comprised EUR 11 947 857 in 2021, which compared to 2020 has decreased by EUR 448 397 or 3.9 %.

No.	Financial indicators	2020 actual	2021	
			planned	actual
1.	Financial resources to cover expenses (total)	11 591 130	12 208 744	11 983 678
1.1.	grants	11 350 653	11 941 397	11 704 534
1.2.	revenue from chargeable services and other own revenue	228 738	204 562	225 043
1.3.	transfers	11 739	62 785	54 101
2.	Total expenditure	11 499 460	12 208 744	11 947 856
2.1.	total accommodation costs	10 780 995	10 942 964	10 867 738
2.1.1.	current expenditure	10 546 495	10 936 039	10 860 813
2.1.2.	subsidies, grants and social benefits	-	1 425	1 425
2.1.3.	maintenance costs of transfers	234 500	5 500	5 500
2.2.	Capital expenditures	718 465	1 265 780	1 080 118

## Financial Resources and Performance Indicators

### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic and the emergency situation in the country continued, which led to encounter new challenges, insecurity and changing environment, however, activities of the CSB mostly were proceeded in accordance with the goals and priorities set in the strategy and work plan.

The table summarizes information on the fulfilment of goals and priority tasks as well as achievable performance indicators in 2021 that were set in the operational strategy of the CSB for 2020-2022.

Performance indicator	2020	2021	
	actual	planned	actual
Official Statistics Programme for mid-term has been developed and implemented (number)	1	1	1
Average response (collection) level (%) of enterprise statistics reports has been ensured	90	90	90
Within the framework of data storage, the data from external data providers/users has been integrated (number)	63	70	70
Ensuring the compliance of geospatial statistics download services with the requirements of themes 1 and 10 of Annex III of INSPIRE Directive (service compliance with Inspire requirements %)	100	100	100
Monitoring of graduates of Latvian universities and professional education institutions has been carried out for 10 years since the year of the graduate's exmatriculation (with the issuance of a diploma) (cumulative number of graduates):			
on graduates of Latvian universities	30 000	45 000	45 000
on graduates of Latvian vocational education institutions	8 000	16 000	16 000
Level of communication, culture and professionalism of employees has been assessed in the respondents' satisfaction survey (satisfied and partially satisfied with the work of CSB, %)	95	86	94
ONAs compliance with the requirements of the European Statistics Code of Practice has been achieved and maintained at the level (compliance level %)	91	90	91
Meetings with respondents (entrepreneur associations) for the implementation of new data collection/calculation methodology and/or improvement of the existing methodology have been organized (number of meetings)	4	1	1

## Financial Resources and Performance Indicators

Performance indicator	2020 actual	2021	
		planned	actual
Average response level (%) of enterprise statistics reports has been ensured	90	90	90
Cooperation agreements have been concluded/updated with the most important administrative data holders (number)	2	4	5
Activities in education of data users and promotion of statistics have been implemented (number of conferences, presentations)	6	4	4
Interactive data visualisations have been used in dissemination of CSB data (number)	174	10	10
Innovative statistical products, specific target-oriented innovative solutions for publication of statistics, geospatial statistics produced (number)	1	1	1
Activities for improvement of quality of publicly available information have been introduced ensuring and maintaining feedback with entrepreneurs, main users of indicators of national accounts system and other users of official statistics (number)	4	4	4
Methodology has been elaborated and experimental statistics has been published (number of statistics indicators published)	5	3	3
Submission of e-reports in the EDV system has been ensured (proportion of available electronic forms in the EDV system %)	93	94	94
Function of the leading institution of official statistics provision system has been implemented and working meetings have been organized for Latvian statistics institutions on current operational issues (number of meetings)	4	3	3
Meetings of the Statistical Council have been organized and issues related to the coordination of the official statistics assurance system have been submitted for consideration (number of meetings)	3	4	4
Statistical data acquisition, processing, analysis, and dissemination development projects have been implemented, final reports on the implemented projects have been drawn up (number)	20	15	15

## Personnel and Personnel Management

Highly competent employees and their professionalism are among the greatest CSB advantages. On 31 September 2021 CSB employed 468 people, 257 of which were state officials (55 % of the total staff).

Females constitute the largest share of CSB employees (70 %), moreover among department directors and section heads this proportion is even higher (80.1 %).

Staff loyalty to the CSB is shown by the fact that 22.4 % of them have worked here for more than 20 years.

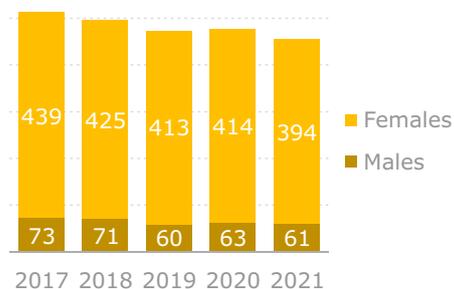
In 2021, CSB attracted 23 new employees, 35 employees took a chance of horizontal career growth and changed their work position to another within the institution, and 49 terminated the employment relationship with the CSB. The employee turnover rate tends to reduce, although it has increased by 3 percentage points compared to 2020 and constituted 10.8 % in 2021.

On 1 January 2022 CSB had 51 job vacancies, 4 of which in leading positions. Some of the vacant positions were waiting for Senior Officer (17), Interviewer (8), Statistician (5), Database Analyst and Programmer (4).

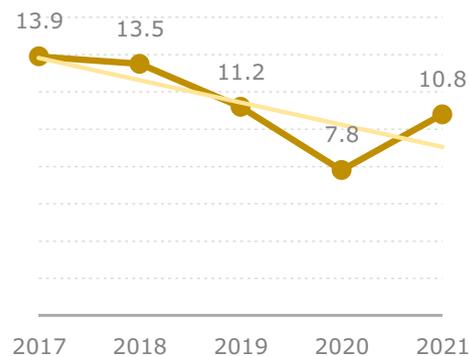
In 2021, CSB announced 83 vacancies (59 posts of state officials and 24 employee positions), and 256 applications to fill the announced vacancies were received. Aiming to improve personnel selection and make it more professional and objective, a uniform and structured criteria for the evaluation of applicants are applied by using a competence-based approach together with practical tasks.

To facilitate integration of new employees, in late May CSB introduced a mentoring programme – a set of unified measures and activities accelerating employee adaptation when both starting work in or changing position within the CSB. Within the framework of the mentoring programme, guidelines for department directors and section heads as well as mentors were developed, institutional guide and introductory programme form were updated. The form serves a useful tool for the new employees as in a structured way specifies the trainings needed and schedule thereof (incl. gaining information by meeting colleagues of several structural levels), introduces to the document management system NAMEJS and Quality Management System, as well as informs about various personnel management-related matters

In 2021, aiming to improve work organization and institutional processes, CSB made a decision on the conduction of functional audit, i.e., analysed time spent



Number of female and male employees



Employee turnover rate in the CSB

## Personnel and Personnel Management

on selected products and interviewed the employees engaged. The activity covered auditing of two core processes of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (data processing and data analysis) and four statistical products thereof (questionnaires 2-LS (crop production) and related products; 2-labour; Labour Force Survey, quarterly; and GDP, quarterly). As a result, a CSB digitalization concept was developed. It serves as a framework and action guide for the next steps towards the CSB operational improvements in the field of digital technologies.

This year, CSB also defined a capability portfolio for two position groups: interviewers and telephone interviewers. The key skills included in the capability portfolio are related to the improvement of communication skills via training programme that incorporates practical exercises for improvement of negotiation techniques. Similar approach was also introduced for the development of data processing skills.

Highly educated and professional staff is the greatest asset of the CSB – 76.4 % of employees have acquired higher education, of which 207 have master's degree and one holds a doctorate. In addition to formal education, CSB employees on regular basis can increase knowledge and improve skills in various trainings. Staff training in CSB is organised both for larger employee groups and individuals by seeking the best solutions for professional development and extension of competences. In 2021, 317 CSB employees participated in 148 different trainings on, e.g., IT, communication competences, professional competences (incl., qualification of support staff). CSB staff attended also European statistician training programme courses organised by Eurostat, acquired English and French as well as took part in various webinars, forums, conferences, workshops, lectures, etc.

CSB values employees who actively engage in institution's activities, initiate improvements, demonstrate extensive knowledge and analytical approach in resolving various issues as well as think outside the box and run an extra mile. The EM likewise recognises professional work, contribution to statistics production and dissemination improvements, application of more effective work methods, as well as introduction of measures of a national significance.

In 2021 the EM certificate of recognition was given to Jolanta Minkevica, Director of the Statistical Methodology and Quality Department, Sigita Šulca, Deputy Directors of the Social Statistics Department in Social Statistics Methodology Section, Baiba Zukula, Director of the Social Statistics Department, and Ilze Januška Deputy Head of the Agricultural Statistics Section of the Agricultural and Environment Statistics Department.

## Personnel and Personnel Management

The EM certificate of gratitude was awarded to Zane Pallo-Mangale, Head of the of the Social Statistics Data Compilation and Analysis Section of the Social Statistics Department, Ieva Paujuka, Head of the Quality Management Section of the Statistical Methodology and Quality Department, Madars Deaks, Deputy Director of the Legal and Corporate Services Department, and Natalja Dubkova, Head of the Consumer Price Indices Section of the Macroeconomic Statistics Department.

This year, CSB certificate of recognition was given to 7 employees and CSB certificate of gratitude to 35 employees.



# ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2022

## Activities Planned for 2022

In 2022 CSB will continue working on the tasks set in the Operating Strategy 2020–2022 by providing data users with reliable high-quality official statistics.

### KEY ACTIVITIES OF 2022

- Implementation of Official Statistics Programme 2022–2024 within the framework of CSB competence
- Holding of informative events on R&D and innovation statistics
- Calculation of producer and import price indices based on the requirements for the level of detail set by the regulation on European business statistics
- Monitoring of university and professional education institution graduates
- Development of technical solutions for Content Management System for Classifications
- Work on a responsive design for ISDMS CAWImobile and tailoring of the survey questions to support small screens
- Production of territorial statistics at a high level of detail (grid data, villages, densely populated areas, city neighbourhoods, municipality rural territories)
- Work on the development of Statistical Business Register
- Creation of application to compile price indices by quarter, thus facilitating estimation of quarterly GDP with double deflation method
- Production of population, migration, birth, death, and marriage statistics time series that meet the Classification of Administrative Territories and Territorial Units 2021
- Publication of Agricultural Census 2020 results at national, regional, municipality, and municipality rural territory level
- Evaluation of Statistical Farm Register functionality, development of register description and suggestions for the register modernisation

## Activities Planned for 2022

- Building a system for more efficient calculation of producer and import price indices by using an automated and updated approach
- Creating a system for processing foreign trade in goods statistics based on interconnected modules and of a subsystem for exchanging micro-data by ensuring safe exchange of confidential information about exports of goods with other EU Member States
- Establishing regional data collection and reporting system to facilitate planning and implementation of regional climate change policy

## **CENTRAL STATISTICAL BUREAU OF LATVIA**

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