

The Source:

OFFICIAL STATISTICS NEWS

The Official
Statistics System



SEPTEMBER 2009



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Welcome

Welcome to the September edition of The Source, the newsletter that reports on statistical news and events from across New Zealand's government sector. In this edition we hear from the Minister of Statistics, Hon Maurice Williamson and his priorities for official statistics. Organising for the The Official Statistics Forum 2010 is in full swing and currently inviting papers, and there are invitations to web stats! seminars, a demography course and an environmental reporting forum too.

If you would like to be added to The Source mailing list or have a story idea, please contact the editorial team oss@stats.govt.nz



2011 Census

Tuesday, 8 March 2011 is the date set for the next New Zealand census. The information collected in the census is used to make a wide range of important decisions such as where to fund and locate hospitals and schools, where electoral boundaries should fall, and how best to provide public transport systems.

[Click here for more](#)



Mapping trends in the Auckland region



Influence of economic fluctuations on business

A new research project on economic fluctuations, business demography and tax revenue collected from New Zealand businesses, will investigate how local businesses' life cycles and taxable revenue are affected by changes in the economic environment. The project is a joint research initiative and will enhance research collaboration between Inland Revenue, Treasury, and Statistics New Zealand. It is funded by the Official Statistics Research programme.

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Meet the Minister

The Hon Maurice Williamson has been in Parliament since 1987 when he won the Pakuranga seat for the National Party. He has held the seat ever since. After the 2008 general election, Mr Williamson was appointed as Minister of Statistics. Having also been Minister of Statistics throughout the nineties, he is in a unique position to recognise the developments that have occurred at Statistics New Zealand over the last ten years.

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Refreshing the OSS

It is six years since the direction for the Official Statistics System (OSS) was established as part of a review of the OSS and Statistics New Zealand. The OSS has made considerable progress over that time, with increased collaboration between partners leading to improved access to information, increased statistical capability across government, and shared tools which reduce the cost to government.

[Click here for more](#)



Measuring New Zealand's progress

Measuring New Zealand's progress using a sustainable development approach: 2008 presents an overarching view of New Zealand's environmental, economic, and social progress over the last 20 years and whether that progress was consistent with sustainable development. There has been increasing demand for broader measures of progress than GDP and this report provides a way to measure progress across the society, economy and environment in one approach.

[Click here for more](#)



Archiving NZCASS

In May this year, the Ministry of Justice and Statistics New Zealand signed

Mapping trends in the Auckland region covers past trends and makes some projections for the region. The report arose from discussions between Statistics New Zealand and the Auckland Regional Council, who were interested in more information about the demographic changes in the Auckland region.

[Click here for more](#)



Demography course

In the last edition of The Source we reported on a short course in Demography held over two mornings at Statistics New Zealand. The course covers a range of topics on demographic issues and theories, population structure, ageing, ethnic diversity, immigration issues, the concept of cohort, standardisation and indices, and life tables. If you are interested in attending this course please email [Denise McGregor](#), Manager Population Statistics.



Free Web Stats! seminars

At the seminar you will discover; how to navigate the new Statistics New Zealand website, how to use our two online tools – Infoshare and Table Builder, and what key statistical information is available about your area. The presentations are informal and the content is designed to benefit everyone, from first-time users of statistics to those with more experience. The seminars are currently being held in various locations all over New Zealand. To find out more or register please visit www.stats.govt.nz/webstats.

The views expressed by individuals in this edition of The Source are not necessarily the view shared by members of the Official Statistics System.

an agreement for data from the New Zealand Crime and Safety Survey (NZCASS) series to be deposited into Statistics New Zealand's Data Archive. The agreement also allows for the data to be made available to researchers through Statistics New Zealand's Data Laboratory.

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Statistical education initiatives build capability across OSS

Since the last edition of The Source statistical upskilling has continued with numerous programmes aimed at building capability throughout the OSS. This October will see the second cohort of candidates on the National Certificate in Public Sector Services (Official Statistics) receive the qualification. Learning State, the state sector industry training organisation host a formal graduation ceremony once a year for all of their state sector qualifications. This will be the first time graduates from the Certificate of Official Statistics have received their awards at the ceremony.

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Call for papers

Every few years the users and producers of official statistics meet to share their knowledge and experience of the Official Statistics System (OSS) and the wealth of information it represents. The Official Statistics Forum will be held in Wellington across two days, 24–25 March 2010. The theme of the forum is realising the value of official statistics, both in the sense of the awareness of that value, and the fulfilment of the potential of that value. We now welcome the submission of papers for the concurrent sessions by those working in any area of official statistics: production, analysis or representation. Submissions must be submitted by Monday 14 September.

[Click here for more](#)



Environmental reporting forum

The Ministry for the Environment, together with Statistics New Zealand, will host the next National Environmental Reporting Forum on Tuesday 20 October 2009. The forum is a national network of people from a broad range of monitoring and reporting organisations, including local and regional government, central government, Crown Research Institutes and iwi/hapū. The Forum continues to provide an update on the many different strands of environmental reporting underway, share best-practice and discuss collaborative solutions to multi party issues.

If you are interested in coming along to the next forum, email [Janine Smith](#), from the Ministry for the Environment or phone 04 439 7542.