

The Interest of Society – the Responsibility of Statisticians

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In our times appears an increasing claim for acquisition and utilization of information. This claim of the information society on the one hand increases the significance of the statistical activity, but on the other hand poses new challenges to the official statistical institutions. One of the projections of these challenges is that the users of the statistical information do not possess the suitable level of statistical literacy and they are not conversant with the relevant methodology. Moreover a considerable part of users formulates some kind of preconception in connection with the content of the statistical papers and they use the statistical information in order to verify this theory. Nowadays several organizations deal with data collection and publishing, but people don't usually distinguish between official statistics institutions and other producers of varying reliability. The official statistical institutions have a crucial role in turning the public's attention to correct statistical information, because all forms of incorrectness harm to the whole profession. In addition statistics and statisticians are usually held responsible for the misuse of correct statistical information and not the institution or person who used it incorrectly. Therefore the business of modern statistics is not only the production and interpretation of data and information, it needs to be augmented by the creation of trust and confidence. The improvement of the statistical literacy and the trust in statistical institutions can result in a change for a better quality of statistical data.

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