

The development and present status of statistics on basic information of cities in China

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Abstract

Statistics on basic information of cities form an important part of the national statistical survey system in China. Cities statistical work in China started in the early 1960s, which was formally incorporated into the national statistical system in 1982. With China's rapid economic development and the advance of China's urbanization development strategy, statistics on basic information of cities have been getting more and more attention. China's National Bureau of Statistics has been committed to building the cities statistics system with scientific methods, open channels and reliable sources. The development of the cities statistical indicator system has gone through a process, progressing from just a few indicators, to more indicators, and then to better though less indicators. The cities statistical indicator system featuring a wide range of indicators, comprehensive contents, and being continually improved, was ultimately formed. Currently, China cities statistics adopt different statistical systems and data collection methods for prefecture-level and above cities and county-level cities. China's cities statistics are subject to limitations of the current administrative system and the statistical system. There are many difficulties and problems that need to be further enhanced and improved.

Key Words: China statistics of cities, statistical contents, data collection, and main shortcomings