

CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY

December, 2022



CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY OF THE CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

The Croatian Bureau of Statistics, as the main producer, disseminator and coordinator of the official statistics system of the Republic of Croatia, continuously provides quality, objective and timely statistical data to all users, while applying the principle of statistical confidentiality as one of the fundamental principles of official statistics.

The principle of statistical confidentiality means the protection of confidential data related to an individual statistical unit, which are obtained directly for statistical purposes or indirectly from administrative or other sources, and implies the prohibition of use for non-statistical purposes of the statistical data obtained and of their unlawful disclosure.

The Confidentiality Policy of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics defines a set of rules and principles that the Croatian Bureau of Statistics applies in the production of official statistics in order to ensure statistical confidentiality and data protection, as well as to preserve the trust of respondents and the public in official statistics. The framework of the Confidentiality Policy is determined by [the Official Statistics Act](#) and [Regulation \(EC\) No. 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European statistics](#).

In accordance with the above-mentioned, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics applies the following rules and principles in the performance of official statistics activities:

1. Data collected from reporting units, as well as from other sources, are statistically confidential and are an official secret. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics ensures the confidentiality of all the collected data and their use exclusively for statistical purposes. The use of collected data for other purposes, that is, to determine any rights and obligations of the reporting units, is strictly forbidden.
2. Statistical data are disseminated in a form in which statistical units cannot be identified either directly or indirectly, apart from exceptional cases determined by the Official Statistics Act.
3. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics processes personal data collected for the production of official statistics for the purpose of exercising the official authority pursuant to the Official Statistics Act and in accordance with [the General Data Protection Regulation](#).

4. All employees of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics and persons authorised to perform certain tasks related to the official statistics activities act in accordance with the regulations governing the confidentiality and protection of statistical data and sign a confidentiality statement in which they undertake to preserve the confidentiality of statistical data during and after the termination of their employment, that is, the performance of the tasks entrusted to them.
5. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics provides access to statistical data that do not allow direct identification of the statistical unit for conducting statistical analyses exclusively for scientific purposes, in accordance with relevant regulations and guidelines.
6. Access to confidential statistical data within the official statistics system is possible only under the condition that it is necessary for the effective development, production, dissemination or to increase the quality of official statistics, in accordance with relevant regulations.
7. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics continuously undertakes all the necessary physical, technical and organisational measures to ensure the physical, technical and logical protection of confidential statistical data.
8. Any violation of statistical confidentiality is punishable, and the Official Statistics Act prescribes penalties for the violation of statistical confidentiality and data protection.

Zagreb, 6 December 2022