



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

INFORMATION ON DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES

LEGAL BASIS OF DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES

The Croatian Bureau of Statistics is the main producer, disseminator and coordinator of the official statistics system of the Republic of Croatia and the main representative of the national statistics system before the European and international statistics authorities.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 43 of the Official Statistics Act (NN, Nos 25/20, 155/23, 124/25 – corr. and 69/26), the Croatian Bureau of Statistics has the right to collect and merge data from all available sources for the purpose of conducting statistical surveys/activities from its scope of work, i.e., the production of official statistics. These surveys/activities are defined by the Annual Implementation Plan of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia or the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Croatia.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 47 of the Official Statistics Act and Article 17a of the Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics, as amended by the Regulation (EU) 2015/759 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2015 and by the Regulation (EU) 2024/3018 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2024 amending Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics (hereinafter referred to as: Regulation (EC) No 223/2009), the Croatian Bureau of Statistics has the right to use all administrative data sources (administrative records) and data collected by the method of observation and monitoring free of charge as well as the right to integrate these administrative records with statistics.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF DATA COLLECTED FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES

In line with the provisions of Articles 63 and 65 of the Official Statistics Act, collected data on natural persons and legal entities, which can be directly or indirectly related to a natural person or a legal entity are statistically confidential and official secret, are used exclusively for statistical purposes, are presented in aggregated form and cannot serve as a basis for determining any rights and obligations of reporting units.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 20 of the Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics uses confidential data exclusively for statistical purposes.

PROTECTION MEASURES FOR DATA COLLECTED FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES

In accordance with the provisions of Article 20(4) of the Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics and the provisions of Article 71 of the Official Statistics Act, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics takes all necessary regulatory, administrative, technical and organisational measures to enable the physical and logical protection of confidential data.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 69 of the Official Statistics Act, persons in charge of collecting and processing data for statistical purposes must comply with the provisions on the protection of confidential data, may not use confidential data to which they have access when performing their tasks for their own needs or for performing tasks for others, and in this regard they sign a statement on keeping confidential data secret.

In line with the provisions of Articles 51 and 52 of the Official Statistics Act, after entering, editing and encoding the collected data and using them for updating statistical registers, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics is obliged to separate the identifiers from the content variables, and to destroy the statistical forms in printed form.

RULES OF DISSEMINATION OF STATISTICAL DATA

In accordance with the provision of Article 58(1) of the Official Statistics Act, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics disseminates statistical data in a form in which the statistical unit cannot be identified either directly or indirectly, in line with the provisions of Articles 18 and 19 of the Regulation (EC) No 223/2009.

Exceptionally, pursuant to the provision of Article 66 of the Official Statistics Act, producers of official statistics may disseminate statistical results which make it possible to identify the statistical unit in exceptional cases laid down in the provision of Article 20(3) of the Regulation (EC) No 223/2009.

RECIPIENTS OF CONFIDENTIAL STATISTICAL DATA

In accordance with the provisions of Article 21 of the Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics and Article 67 of the Official Statistics Act, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics may submit confidential statistical data to other producers of official statistics, if this is necessary for efficient development, production, dissemination or for increasing the quality of official statistics from their scope of work, and to Eurostat.

In addition, pursuant to the provision of Article 23 of the Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics and Article 68 of the Official Statistics Act, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics may, on the basis of a written request, allow scientists or scientific organisations, which carry out statistical analyses for scientific purposes, access to confidential statistical data that do not allow direct identification of the statistical unit.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE FAILURE TO SUBMIT DATA FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES

The provisions of Article 76 of the Official Statistics Act prescribes fines for legal entities, natural persons and responsible persons in legal entities if they fail to submit accurate, complete and up-to-date data in the content and form determined by the producer of official statistics authorised to collect data for the statistical survey and within the deadlines set in the Annual Implementation Plan.

RIGHTS OF DATA SUBJECTS (STATISTICAL UNITS) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

Since it is noticeable from the provisions of Articles 51 and 52 of the Official Statistics Act that the Croatian Bureau of Statistics keeps the collected data in a form in which the statistical unit cannot be identified, Article 33 of the Act on the Implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (NN, No 42/18) provides for a derogation from certain rights of data subjects laid down in the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679), namely the right of access to personal data (Article 15), the right to rectification of personal data (Article 16), the right to restriction of processing of personal data (Article 18) and the right to object to the processing of personal data (Article 21), to the extent necessary to enable the production of official statistics.

The provision of Article 14 of the General Data Protection Regulation, which lays down the obligation to provide the data subject with particular information where personal data have not been obtained from the data subject, also does not apply to the collection of data for statistical purposes where the provision of such information is not possible or would require disproportionate efforts, provided that the Croatian Bureau of Statistics takes appropriate measures to protect the data subject's rights and freedoms and legitimate interests, among other things, by making the information available to the public (Article 14(5)(b) of the General Data Protection Regulation).

Article 17 of the General Data Protection Regulation, which provides for the right to erasure/right to be forgotten, also does not apply when processing data for statistical purposes to the extent that this right is likely to render impossible or seriously impair the production of official statistics (Article 17(3)(d) of the General Data Protection Regulation).

Also, the right to portability of personal data laid down in Article 20 of the General Data Protection Regulation is not applicable to the processing of data for statistical purposes because the Croatian Bureau of Statistics processes data for the purposes of official statistics as a controller for the exercise of official authority laid down in the Official Statistics Act as a special law (Article 20, paragraph 3 of the General Data Protection Regulation).

The Croatian Bureau of Statistics has appointed a Data Protection Officer whom you can contact if you have any questions or concerns about how we handle the data you have provided to us, or if you would like to exercise your rights in terms of processing the said data.

You can contact the Data Protection Officer at the following contact details:

Croatian Bureau of Statistics
Data Protection Officer
Ilica 3
10 000 ZAGREB
E-mail: zastitapodataka@dzs.hr
Phone: (+385 1) 48 06 133

If you consider that any of your rights have been violated, you can file a complaint with the Croatian Personal Data Protection Agency at the following contact details:

Croatian Personal Data Protection Agency
Ulica Metela Ožegovića 16
10 000 ZAGREB
E-mail: azop@azop.hr
Phone: (+385 1) 46 09 000