

Revision Policy

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Revision Policy	2
Three categories of revisions of statistical values.....	2
A. Routine revisions (planned and recurring)	2
B. Revisions due to changes in methods or definitions (planned, and of a one-off nature).....	2
C. Corrections (non-scheduled revisions).....	2

Revision Policy

A revision means that a previously disseminated statistical value is changed.

The revision policy applies to statistics for which Statistics Sweden is responsible, and its purpose is to clarify to users how Statistics Sweden treats and communicates revisions. Both planned and unplanned (non-scheduled) revisions are continually analysed for the purpose of improvement.

Three categories of revisions of statistical values

A. Routine revisions (planned and recurring)

Statistics Sweden disseminates *preliminary statistics* to meet needs for more timely statistics. The preliminary statistics are revised once or several times with more complete information. The last planned revision results in *final statistics*.

For each statistical product concerned, advance information is provided to users about the number of planned revisions and when they will occur. Statistics Sweden always specifies whether the statistics are preliminary or final. To help users, the quality report provides information about the size of previous routine revisions.

B. Revisions due to changes in methods or definitions (planned, and of a one-off nature)

New methods for statistics with unchanged content, for instance due to a new data source or data collection method, may have a systematic impact on the statistical values. Concepts, definitions, or classifications may need to be changed for the content to better illuminate the subject matter. As needed, and if possible, previous final statistics are revised in order to attain coherent time series.

For each statistical product concerned, advance information is provided to users as early on as possible to explain why, how, and when a revision will be made. Statistics Sweden also specifies if, and when back calculations will be made. To help users, the quality report describes the revised statistics.

C. Corrections (non-scheduled revisions)

Occasionally, a need arises to correct the statistical values in preliminary or final statistics as a result of errors or new information. The consequences for the use of the statistics determines if, and when a correction will be made, that is, at the earliest opportunity, or in conjunction with a regular dissemination. Upon the detection of errors or addition of non-routine information, Statistics Sweden promptly evaluates the need to make a correction based on the importance of the statistics and the implications of the error for users. Corrections are presented clearly and accessibly. The reason for the corrections is also provided with due consideration for statistical confidentiality.