



وزارة التخطيط والتطوير والإحصاء
Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF STATISTICS IN THE STATE OF QATAR

OCTOBER 2016



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Forward

Statistics is a cornerstone that helps in building a strong national economy and making sound decisions for the implementation of development plans, through a clear vision of the reality of the various economic sectors and social activities.

Statistics occupies a privileged position in most countries, especially in those that rely on scientific planning to build their economy and prosperity. The strategies of economic and social development plans could not be determined, and the future implementation programs could not be developed, without a base of statistics of relevant scientific significance.

The comprehensive statistical work covers various economic and social activities, since statistical data and indicators contribute in presenting a digital image of each phenomenon of society, which in turn helps to determine the correct tracks for economic and social development process.

The Ministry of Development and Statistics (MDPS) would like to express gratitude and appreciation to all major providers of statistical data, and hopes that this publication would be received with approbation by all related stakeholders.

Finally, MDPS emphasizes its continuous keenness and commitment to development, and welcomes any suggestion that would improve the quality of statistics.

Dr. Saleh Bin Mohammed Al-Nabit
Minister of Development Planning and Statistics

Introduction

Planning and policy-making are closely linked to statistics, which is the mirror that reflects the economic, social and demographic status of the country; namely:

1. It shows the human, material, production and services stock, and the potentials for generating such stock.
2. It shows the progress made by the State in comparison with past points in time.
3. It is the foundation of economic and social development planning and objective decision-making.
4. It is also a mechanism that can predict the future, help the State to carry out its functions and reveal lack of coordination, bottlenecks and areas of misuse of resources in the national economy.

Nowadays, with the expansion of living activities, statistics has become an increasingly important necessity. This requires constant support and ongoing development to keep pace with the world developments.

Through the development and progress witnessed by the State of Qatar, the need arose for statistics that is mandated with the collection and provision of statistical data in various economic, social and demographic domains. Accordingly, this need was crystallized by the issuance of the law on establishment of the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) in 1980 (Law No. 12 dated 27.07.1980).

History of Statistics in Qatar

The Ministry is presenting this booklet reflecting the history of statistics in the State of Qatar

1904: Some researchers (G.Lorimar) estimated the population of the State of Qatar at that time by about 27,000 persons.

1970: The first Population Sample Survey was conducted in 1970, with a population of 111,133 persons as a result of the rapid growth in the country. The number of those in labor force was 48,390, out of which 8,168 were Qataris.

Before 1980

- 1980:**
- The law on the establishment of the Central Statistical Organization, CSO, was issued in 1980 (Law No. 12 dated 27.07.1980).
 - In this year, the Central Statistical Organization compiled the first GDP estimates, then estimated at QR 29,072,000.
- 1981:**
- The Central Statistical Organization published the first issue of the Annual Statistical Abstract, comprising statistics on climatic features, education, health, vital statistics, labor force, transport and communications, electricity and water, trade and hotels, industry and oil, agriculture, banking, insurance and public finance, price indices and foreign trade.
 - CSO also published the first issue of Qatar in Figures.
 - In October of this year, the first Sample Survey on Social and Economic Characteristics was conducted. One of the most important results of this survey was the population figure estimated at 244,534 persons, out of which 155,578 were males and 88,956 were females.
 - The total number of manpower aged 15 years and over reached 165,450, out of which 112,785 were economically active.
- 1982:**
- In this year the first Household Income and Expenditure Survey was conducted. It usually lasts for a year. It was completed in 1983. The results were published in April 1984. Among its most important findings was Qatari per capita expenditure (QR 1,360) and non-Qatari per capita expenditure (QR 1,169). A series of such surveys were conducted in the years 1988, 2001, and most recently in 2013.

- The first bulletin on Energy and Industry Statistics was published. It included data on mining and quarrying activities as well as manufacturing, electricity and water.
- The first bulletin on Foreign Trade (imports) was published.

1984: • CSO conducted the first survey on Employment in the Private Sector. The results were published in a specialized bulletin.

- The first bulletin on Household Income and Expenditure was published.

1985: The first issues of two bulletins on vital statistics (births and deaths) and (marriages and divorces) were published.

1986: On March 16th. of this year, the first comprehensive Census of Buildings, Housing units, Households, Individuals and Establishments was conducted in Qatar. This process was one of the largest statistical operations carried out by CSO. The findings were published in two volumes; the first contained the results of the census of buildings, housing units, households and individuals. The other revealed the results of the establishments census.

The population at that time was 369,079 persons, out of which 247,852 were males and 121 227 were females. It was followed by the 1997 census, 2004 census, 2010 census and finally 2015 simplified census.

- 1988:**
- The first bulletin on Wholesale and Retail Trade activities was published. It included data on wholesale trade, commissions and retail trade.
 - The other publication was the Building and Construction Bulletin, which included data on the general construction of buildings and non-buildings, civil engineering and partial constructions.
- 1989:**
- In this year, the first survey of Employment, Wages and Working Hours was conducted. It included data on total number of establishments and employment, monthly wages, average wages, monthly working hours and wage indices.
 - In this year as well, the first bulletin on Building Permits and Completed Building Statistics, the first bulletin on Banking and Insurance Statistics and the first bulletin on Maritime Navigation Statistics were all published.

- 1990:** In this year, the first bulletin on Social and Personal Services Statistics as well as bulletin of Foreign Trade (exports) were published.
- 1993:** In this year, the second comprehensive Census of Establishments in the State of Qatar was conducted. Also the first bulletin on Employment by Sectors was published.
- 1996:** The Manual of National Classification of Economic Activities (ISIC 3) was issued.
- 1997:** On March 16th. of this year, the second comprehensive Census of Buildings, Housing Units, Households, Individuals and Establishments was conducted. The number of population at that time reached 522,023 of whom 342,459 were males and 179,564 were females. There were 79,549 buildings, 92,302 housing units and 73,342 households .
- 1998:** In this year, the Central Statistical Organization was merged with the Planning Council so as to integrate planning with statistics and to provide necessary technical, human and material support.

- 2001:**
- In this year, the first Agricultural Census was conducted in the State of Qatar, where the number of agricultural holdings amounted to 3,553. This census was conducted in coordination between the Statistics Department of the Planning Council and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture.
 - The first Labor Force Sample survey was conducted in cooperation between the General Secretariat of the Planning Council and the Ministry of Civil Service and Housing Affairs.
- 2002:** In this year, a set of first releases of bulletins were published; namely:
- Business Services Statistics.
 - Transport and Communications Statistics.
 - Restaurants and Hotels Statistics.
 - National Accounts.
 - Price Indices.
 - Labor Force Sample Survey.
- 2003:** A special bulletin was published under the title “Manual of Economic Establishments”.
- 2004:**
- On March 16th. of this year, the third comprehensive Census of Buildings, Housing Units, Households, Individuals and Establishments was conducted. The number of population at that time reached 744,029 persons of whom 496,382 were males and 247,647 were females. There were 99,217 buildings, 126,203 housing units and 102,184 households.
 - The first report on social gender, Women and Men: Statistical Profile was published in cooperation with the Supreme Council for Family Affairs.

2005: The first report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) was published.

2006: • The first report on Sustainable Development Indicators (SDIs) was published.

In this year, a series of important surveys were conducted:

- World Health Survey, in coordination with the National Health Authority.
- Disability Survey, in coordination with the Supreme Council for Family Affairs.
- Transport Survey, in coordination with the Urban Planning Authority.
- Issuance of Annual Bulletin of Economic Statistics, containing statistics of various activities, namely:
 1. Energy and industry.
 2. Building and construction.
 3. Wholesale and retail trade.
 4. Hotels and restaurants.
 5. Transport and communications.
 6. Banking and insurance.
 7. Business Services.
 8. Social and personal services
- The National Accounts Bulletin was published based on the results of the Annual Economic Survey, in addition to data provided by the Ministry of Municipality and Urban Planning, the Ministry of Finance, Qatar Central Bank and the General Administration of Customs.

- 2007:** In this year, the Emiri Decree No. 25, in regard to the establishment of Qatar Statistics Authority (QSA) was issued.
- 2008:**
- In this year, the fourth Census of Establishments as well as the Real Estate Survey were both conducted.
 - The first analytical summary of the results of Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2006-2007, was published.
- 2009:**
- The first analytical summary report on the results of Labor Force Sample Survey was published.
 - The first monthly report on Consumer Price Index was published.
 - The first Foreign Investment Survey was published in cooperation with Qatar Central Bank.

- 2010:**
- On April 20th. of this year, the fourth comprehensive Census of Buildings, Housing Units, Households, Individuals and Establishments was conducted. The number of population then reached 1,699,435 of whom 1,284,739 were males and 414,696 were females. There were 137,424 buildings, 259,066 housing units and 146,707 households.
 - The first flyer on Population and Social Indicators was published.
 - The first chapter on Civil Society Statistics was included in the Annual Statistical Abstract.
 - The first report on Qatar Population and Employment Projections was published.
 - The first analytical summary report on Marriages and divorces was issued.
 - The Producer Price Index of the industrial sector was published on a quarterly basis.
 - The quarterly estimates of GDP by economic activity was published.
- 2011:**
- The first chapter on Sports Statistics was included in the Annual Statistical Abstract after being separated from media, Culture and Tourism chapter.
 - The first chapter on Training Statistics was included in the Annual Statistical Abstract.
 - The first report on Qatar Social Statistics was issued.

- 2012:**
- Implementation of Qatar's first-ever, Time Use Survey.
 - Implementation of Qatar's first-ever survey on the situations of women and children, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, in cooperation with Qatar Foundation, the Supreme Council of Health and UNICEF.
 - Issuance of Sports Statistics Framework.
 - Issuance of the first report on Environmental Statistics.
 - Implementation of the first National Gradual Survey of Risk Factors for Chronic non-Communicable Diseases.
 - Publication of first flyer on Qatar's Sports Day.
 - Publication of first quarterly Bulletin of Foreign Trade Statistics.
 - Publication of first issue of, Window on Economic Statistics of Qatar, on a quarterly basis.
- 2013:**
- Issuance of the Emiri Decree No. 4 of 2013 on the formation of the new government, which included the Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics and the appointment of Dr. Saleh Bin Mohammed Al-Nabit as Minister of Development Planning and Statistics. MDPS was the result of a merger between the formerly known as General Secretariat for Development Planning and Qatar Statistics Authority.

- Implementation of the first Global Survey of Tobacco Consumption Among Adults in cooperation with the Supreme Council of Health.
- Initiation of Labor Force Sample Survey on a quarterly basis.
- Publication of first flyer on Qatar Environment Day.
- Issuance of first monthly report on Foreign Trade Statistics, which included data on exports, imports and re-exports.
- Issuance of Producer Price Index (PPI) on monthly basis.
- Implementation of third Household Income and Expenditure Survey.
- Implementation of second Foreign Investment Survey, in collaboration with Qatar Central Bank.

- 2014:** The first publication of:
- Results of Time-Use Survey
 - Analytical summary of Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
 - Culture Statistics
 - Scientific Research and Development
 - Qatar Monthly Statistics.

2015: • On April 20th, the fifth Population Census was conducted in the State under the title, The Simplified Census of Population, Housing and Establishments 2015. The population at that time reached 2,404,766 persons of whom 1,816,981 were males and 587,795 were females, whereas the number of buildings reached 188,809, the number of housing units reached 246,391 and the number of households reached 201,432.

- Preparation and implementation of a national manual for the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Rev.4).
- Issuance of national accounts figures using a new base year (2013) as well as CPI and PPI for the Industrial Sector.
- Issuance of the first monthly press release on Building Permit Statistics.
- Issuance of the first annual report on Machinery and Equipment Price Index.

2016: • Publication of the report on the Standard of Living in the State of Qatar.

- First publication of the report on Water Statistics in Qatar.

