



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OFFICIAL STATISTICS AUTHORITY 2022

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PREFACE

In 2022, as during the previous two years, the French statistical system had to contend with a highly volatile and shifting health, economic and social context that gave rise to requests for information and insight from a wide range of French and European stakeholders.

This context was, and remains, all the more complex as it required both the pursuit of our analyses of the impact of the health crisis in several dimensions, tracking the strains on production capacity linked to the subsequent recovery, and – very shortly afterwards – a review of the effects of the war in Ukraine: refugee flows, supply difficulties and soaring energy prices, in addition to the inflationary repercussions on all producer and consumer prices, with different consequences for the various categories of households.

On these various points, the Official Statistical Service (SSP), at both INSEE and the Ministerial Statistical Offices (MSOs), has maintained the same speedy and responsiveness services it has been providing since 2020. This has been facilitated by the enhancement of its usual tools (Business Tendency Surveys, Labour-Force Activity and Employment Conditions Surveys, etc.) and the introduction of new instruments, surveys and data-processing operations. The SSP has also developed its insights into social and societal disparities by looking beyond the cyclical aspects to cover more diverse issues (from administrative procedures in a digital environment, cultural practices and sports, to the social polarisation of educational establishments), at a time when the impacts of social inequalities are being felt more acutely, in a variety of forms and in different fields. However, INSEE faced an exceptional technical problem this year, which arose due to the discrepancy between the statistical sources tracking income poverty trends and complicated the formulation of a diagnosis for the year 2020. Lastly, the SSP has made progress in renewing essential statistical systems and developing shared tools, especially with a view to facilitating statistical matching and longitudinal monitoring operations, in which it is uniquely positioned in the multifaceted world of data processing.

The consolidation of the rules of professional independence and the provision of additional and renewed dissemination materials were also continued and extended. In early 2023, these activities led to the adoption of a common reference framework for the dissemination process to be used for all of the SSP's statistical publications, which will lay the foundations for relations with the various interlocutors of official statistics.

However, during the course of 2022, the Authority observed a series of different kinds of events and problems, which required specific responses to ensure the exhaustive implementation of the Code of Practice.

Although, as in 2021, incidents relating to the dissemination of publications were limited in number and elicited a firm response, the Official Statistical service was quite frequently asked to provide methodological or substantive clarifications of certain disputes or challenges. Such disputes are not a new phenomenon and, in a rapidly changing economic situation, traditionally concern indicators such as employment, unemployment and consumer prices, or – since COVID– mortality. However, the field of social networks must now be carefully scrutinised, and while legitimate questions about statistical indicators must be answered transparently, including with regard to their limitations, they must not be used for the primary purpose of discrediting the Official Statistical Service in the eyes of its users.

Media such as the INSEE blog, and the dialogue between statisticians and journalists responsible for "fact-checking" in the media, play a valuable role in this respect, but they do not eliminate the need

for a broader policy of promoting "statistical literacy" among decision-makers, the mainstream media and citizens.

Beyond these incidents and as the Authority has pointed out on several occasions, continuous long-term efforts will be required in order to address a series of structural problems affecting the statistical system, despite the progress observed. The upgrading of certain Ministerial Statistical Offices (MSOs), notably in the justice and defence fields, is one such example. The same applies to enabling MSOs in sectors such as internal security and defence to access the data required for their activities and for the launch of innovative, cross-cutting monitoring projects. The recasting of cause-of-death statistics also requires the consolidation and earmarking of adequate resources for this essential statistical output, which goes beyond the ongoing catching-up process.

Lastly, the events of 2022 illustrated, from fresh perspectives, the need to clarify the positioning of official statistics vis-à-vis general policies on the processing and provision of open access to data. Issues such as recognising certain series of administrative origin as "statistics of general interest", monitoring the conditions under which financial jurisdictions can access data covered by statistical confidentiality, and managing the processes used by MSOs to transmit enhanced data to their government departments of origin, may indeed seem complex and difficult.

In fact, they are indicative of the challenges currently facing official statistics in order to assure citizens of its compliance with the methodological and ethical requirements imposed by its general information remit, while continuing to meet its professional independence obligations.

The President of the Official Statistics Authority

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. L. L.' with a stylized flourish underneath.

OPINION OF THE AUTHORITY ON THE OUTPUT OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS AND ITS COMPLIANCE WITH THE EUROPEAN STATISTICS CODE OF PRACTICE

In 2022, as in the previous two years, the Official Statistical Service (SSP) had to adapt to the health, economic, social and international context in order to meet the different stakeholders' information and analysis needs. In H1, the French Presidency of the European Union also provided opportunities to conclude the framework regulation on agricultural statistics, obtain a consensus on the revision of the provisions concerning the transmission of national accounts, and launch discussions on the revision of Regulation No 223/2009, also known as the "European Statistical Law". However, the reflection process on the European regulation to facilitate access to private data by official statisticians will still require a great deal of time and involvement in the upcoming European negotiations.

As far as the French statistical system is concerned, following the progress made in 2021, the Authority has observed developments in official statistical production that are in line with the implementation of the principles of the Code of Practice, especially with regard to the principles of timeliness and relevance of the statistics produced, the implementation of appropriate statistical procedures, and proven methodological robustness.

The conditions for recovery from the health crisis, and the subsequent problems of sourcing and price rises – particularly for energy – linked to the war in Ukraine, first gave rise to a diversification of requests for information, which the Official Statistical Service (SSP) has striven to meet.

Once again, the SSP's activities in relation to the health crisis played a prominent role in 2022. In addition to the fourth wave of the EPICOV survey, conducted in collaboration with the National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM), DREES (the MSO for the Ministries of Health and Social Affairs) published methodological documents on statistics relevant to the monitoring of mortality and a special report on individuals suffering from severe forms of COVID. Statistical analyses of the economic and social impacts of the crisis continued with examinations of its different aspects: repercussions on student competencies (DEPP, the MSO for the Ministry of Education), local authority finances (MSO for Local Authorities), and performing arts activities (MSO for Culture), but also on employment, working conditions, recourse to teleworking and tensions concerning workforce requirements (DARES, the MSO for the Ministry of Labour and Employment, and INSEE). For the monitoring of living standards and poverty, INSEE made innovative use of bank-account data and conducted a survey of food aid centres. However, it ran into an exceptional technical problem linked to the discrepancy between statistical sources on poverty trends, which called for special efforts to explain the reasons for concluding that this rate was likely to remain stable.

The consideration of the new economic context marked by the war in Ukraine and the upswing in inflation also gave rise to new demands for statistics at both European and

national levels, and a range of initiatives to meet them. The first step consisted in tracking the flows of Ukrainian refugees (MSO for Immigration) and their employment conditions (DARES). The Official Statistical Service was also asked to shed light on the procurement difficulties encountered by enterprises in the industrial and construction sectors (via the INSEE Business Tendency Surveys, and in agriculture (MSO for the Ministry of Agriculture), as well as the impacts of inflation on the costs anticipated by economic agents and public services in the various sectors. Both INSEE and the SDES (MSO for the Ministry of Ecological Transition) placed particular emphasis on monitoring the volumes and prices of energy (gas and electricity) consumed both by companies and households. INSEE conducted analyses of the consequences of the acceleration of inflation for different categories of households (according to their income levels, place of residence, etc.), taking into account the structure of their consumption.

At the same time, the Official Statistical Service continued its in-depth analysis of societal developments and social disparities by looking beyond the purely cyclical dimension: social position indices (IPS) disseminated by DEPP at the school level in order to develop an understanding of the pupils' social status on the basis of their parents' professions and social categories; an overview of the cultural and sporting practices of the French, based on the findings of the MSOs for the Ministries of Culture and Sport; and information from the INSEE "Information and Communication Technology" survey on the completion of administrative procedures online, in view of the ongoing digitalisation of relations with the government.

In addition to extending its insights into the economic and social situation, 2022 saw the Official Statistical Service continue to invest in enhancing essential statistical systems and developing shared tools and resources within the service.

Steps were first taken to make essential improvements to certain important systems. This concerned tourism statistics, which, after a mission conducted by the Inspectorate General of INSEE followed by a deliberation by the Official Statistics Authority (ASP), gave rise to an action plan, accompanied by the appointment of a national manager at INSEE. Another example was the inclusion in statistical surveys of households living in collective residences (known as "non-ordinary households"), with consideration being given to the possible extension of the scope of the Employment survey.

New or renovated structural observation systems have also been developed, with the Official Statistical Service making a significant contribution to these projects. This included the following contributions: the Inser'Sup panel involved in matching the databases of higher education students and graduates with data from the Nominative Social Declaration (DSN) (DARES and SIES, the MSO for the Ministry of Higher Education); the provision of access for researchers to the "Force" system designed to reconstitute job seekers' employment and training trajectories (DARES); the annual "Security Experiences and Perception" (VRS) survey providing key information on victimisation, feelings of insecurity and satisfaction vis-à-vis the security services (MSO for the Ministry of Internal Security – SSMSI). At the same time, the competences of the MSO for the Ministry of Justice and DREES were extended to prison statistics for the former, and child protection statistics for the latter. DREES was also involved, together with the Epidemiology Centre on Medical Causes of Death (CépiDc) at INSERM, in the action plan drawn up to compensate for delays and overhaul the production of cause-of-death statistics, following the ASP's deliberations in November 2021.

Lastly, the work on developing strategic pooled tools for the Official Statistical Service has continued to progress, mainly under the aegis of INSEE: completion of the "non-significant statistical code" (CSNS) project to enable the reconciliation of individual data files, particularly with a view to longitudinal monitoring; consultation with stakeholders and drafting of texts to establish

the RÉSIL "flagship project" to create a Statistical Register of Individuals and Dwellings, and the modernisation of survey processes in order to move towards "multi-mode" interviews. Steps to enrich of the national accounts have also been taken via "augmented" national accounts covering the social and environmental dimensions, on the one hand, and "distributional accounts" designed to ensure the coherence of national accounting and the study of inequalities, on the other. Finally, the MSO for Local Authorities has provided access to local-authority accounts broken down into functions on the basis of a harmonised nomenclature and providing a better understanding of the content of their interventions at different geographical levels.

The Authority has also continued to observe progress in the field of governance and in the SSP's communication, which has reinforced the application of the principles of professional independence, coordination and the relevance of official statistics to users' needs.

Following the 2021 peer review, provisions have been adopted (MSO for Defence) or are in the process of being adopted in the regulatory texts concerning the missions and organisation of DARES, DREES, DEPP and offices undergoing reorganisation such as the MSO for Justice, in order to include statements on their professional independence and the coordinating role played by INSEE. The reorganisation and expansion of statistical offices such as the MSOs for the Ministries of Internal Security, Defence and Justice, which are subject to recommendations made by inspection missions, are also being monitored by the ASP at regular intervals. As recommended by the Authority, these activities are generally accompanied by an intensification and diversification of dialogue with users, within the framework of bodies supporting the preparation of these offices' statistical and study programmes.

For its part, the consultations of the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS) in 2022 focused on the conditions for the acceptability of the RÉSIL project (see above), the revision of the French classification of activities (NAF) and, following a request from the French National Ombudsman, statistical knowledge of discrimination. It held public events on major issues such as individual data matching, and cohorts or panels with a longitudinal dimension.

In addition, INSEE is considering ways to ensure an adequate response to the demands of local actors by combining the improvement of its "standard" dissemination offering with the performance, albeit limited, of "tailor-made" activities involving cost sharing.

The developments observed in 2021, with a view to providing access to the Official Statistical Service's activities in the clearest and most accessible manner, in compliance with the Code of Practice, continued in 2022. In addition to the adaptation of websites and the use of "datavisualisation" techniques, e.g. by the MSO for Agriculture concerning the results of the agricultural census, new publication media were also disseminated (*Informations Rapides* by the MSO for Justice, the *Culture des Territoires* atlas, and the territorial section of the *Tableaux de bord de l'économie française* (French Economy Dashboards)). Various publications also highlighted a series of new studies carried out within the SSP ("Trajectory and Origins" survey by INED and INSEE, "Genèse" survey conducted by the Ministerial Statistical Office for Internal Security – SSMSI), DEPP barometer on the quality of life at work in the national education system, etc.). 2022 also saw the addition of new retrospective overviews, e.g. on the cultural and sporting practices of the French (as part of the *France, portrait social* publication). Efforts have also been made to make methodological documents available (e.g. by DREES on mortality and vaccination statistics), and the INSEE blog has been used on many occasions to explain the findings and compilation methods for "sensitive" statistics, such as those on inflation, energy prices, poverty, and the population in Mayotte. Important symposia were also organised under the aegis of the SSP, bringing together government bodies and researchers, notably on the non-take-up of social benefits and on platform

workers (DARES and DREES), in addition to the statistical methodology conferences organised by INSEE.

A great deal of work was also carried out in 2022 with a view to establishing a common reference framework at the start of 2023 for the dissemination process used for official statistical publications. This reference framework – an eagerly awaited development – has been approved by the Official Statistics Authority which will refer to it in the future. It is accompanied by an update, of the list of beneficiaries of any early access that may be granted to embargoed indicators and reaffirms the very strict deadlines and conditions governing the release of these indicators. It also harmonises the process of disseminating the SSP's "other statistical publications" (all statistics disseminated for general information purposes, with or without commentary), by providing for their prior announcement in provisional calendars, and a precise limitation of possible early access, in terms of both time and scope.

However, during the course of 2022, the Official Statistics Authority (ASP) noted a series of different kinds of events or problems which called for specific responses to ensure the exhaustive implementation of the Code of Practice.

Specific incidents, such as embargo breaches and requests for early dissemination, from actors in the political world or the media, were limited in number, as in 2021, and gave rise to determined responses on each occasion from the Official Statistical Service and/or the ASP, in order to guarantee the rules of dissemination laid down for statistical publications. Another type of incident, concerning the use of the domain name "official statistics" by an unofficial website publishing miscellaneous content, gave rise to a formal notice issued by the support mission for intangible public heritage (APIE), followed by its closure and a transfer of the domain name to the State. This event illustrates the need for vigilance concerning the risks of misuse of the Official Statistical Service's identity by websites that cannot lay claim to upholding the same principles or providing the same guarantees.

On several occasions, the Official Statistical Service has also been required to communicate specifically on the occurrence of certain statistical problems or on the revision of previously published statistics. In particular, these problems concerned: for INSEE, the evaluation of poverty rates in 2020, based on exceptionally divergent statistical sources and employment estimates, following the sharp rise in paid work-study contracts, and for DREES, a substantial revision of the numbers of paramedical professions, given the failure to update the ADELI register on retirements. These events – fortunately limited in number – were accompanied by the provision of accurate and transparent communication to users in accordance with the Code of Practice.

The Official Statistical Service was also asked to provide methodological or substantive responses to certain disputes or challenges concerning the statistical results that it produces and disseminates. There is nothing new about such disputes, but the Official Statistics Authority wishes to take note of them on a regular basis, as they may require even more explanation and transparency on the part of official statisticians. In 2022, these challenges "typically" concerned certain indicators such as employment and inflation trends, most commonly raised by the media or researchers, some of which required specific responses from the SSP, particularly when the neutrality or validity of statistical methods were called into question. In this context, the INSEE blog has proved to be a valuable resource tool, and has also been used to corroborate the population estimates from the Mayotte census, which had been challenged by certain elected officials. Dialogue with journalists responsible for the "fact-checking" sections also plays an important role in ensuring that methodological explanations are understood, and that they are as transparent and accessible as possible.

The ASP will continue to ensure that legitimate questions about the methods used to compile statistical indicators are answered appropriately, but are not used for any means whose primary purpose is to discredit the Official Statistical Service.

In addition to these incidents or disputes, structural difficulties – already mentioned in the Authority's most recent reports – are still being resolved. The Authority sought to follow them up in 2022 by organising a series of hearings, some of which revealed significant prospects for improvement, but also indicate the need to maintain these efforts in the long term.

This applies to **the upgrading and reorganisation of certain Ministerial Statistical Offices (MSOs)**, which are subject to special monitoring by the ASP following general inspection missions. These follow-ups mainly concern the MSOs for the sovereign Ministries of the Armed Forces and Justice, whose ministerial officials will be interviewed again in 2023 to assess the implementation of the inspections' recommendations and the attendant action plans. In both cases, the governance and coordination of statistics within the Ministry, the MSO's effective access to the data required for its activities, and its visibility – both internally and externally – are key issues that will require the Authority's attention.

The question of access to data has also arisen in acute fashion for the Ministerial Statistical Office for Internal Security (SSMSI) which, in order to fulfil its missions, requires access to detailed raw data from the administrative sources of the national police and gendarmerie. Legal questions were raised about such access concerning the gendarmerie. The scope of these issues is under debate, but should be resolved without any ambiguity by an appropriate legislative provision. The ASP has asked the Ministries of the Interior and Justice to propose an appropriate legal solution as soon as possible, especially with a view to enabling the launch of the strategic project on the joint cross-functional monitoring of criminal proceedings, whose interest and necessity have been emphasised by the CNIS and the ASP.

Significant attention was paid in the Authority's previous report to the process of recasting and upgrading cause-of-death statistics . This is a source of constant concern to the ASP, insofar as the French statistical system is in a critical position vis-à-vis its European obligations. An action programme has been jointly launched by DREES and the CépiDc at INSERM, to ensure that these statistics are brought up to date, and is starting to produce results, such as the release of mortality data for 2020 in December 2022, and a provisional estimate for the years 2018 and 2019. The ASP nevertheless considered that the renewal of the certification of cause of death statistics could not be envisaged until all of the planned actions had been implemented and tangible repercussions on the production and dissemination of statistics had been observed. The Authority will remain particularly vigilant to ensure that adequate financial, human and IT resources are consolidated and permanently assigned to this output beyond the current catch-up phase, and that appropriate administrative and financial governance systems are implemented to ensure its long-term operation.

The Authority will also be attentive to the clarification of the legal status of the activities carried out by the Official Statistical Service. Particular attention will be paid to the terms of application of the Order of 23 March 2022 on the financial responsibility of public managing bodies, which requires the drafting of a decree in the Council of State on the rules for statistical confidentiality. In line with the analyses begun in 2022, the ASP will also be investigating transmission arrangements that would enable Ministerial Statistical Offices to provide the administrative departments of their ministries with personal data that has been enhanced by their activities (corrections, adjustments, additional indicators), while ensuring that the liability of the Official Statistical Service cannot be incurred for any use of this data in administrative decision-making with regard to specific persons or enterprises.

At the same time, **as part of its ongoing focus on the place of statistics in general data processing policy, the Authority has pursued the process of "recognising the qualification of statistics of general interest"**, which was launched in 2021. Reinforced by the Ministerial Order of 23 December 2022, this recognition procedure was completed for seven public bodies in 2021 and 2022. The ASP will continue this process, taking into account the characteristics of the bodies contacted with regard to the general openness of data and complementarity with the Ministerial Statistical Offices in their sector. In the autumn of 2023, it will organise a brainstorming seminar with all the bodies involved or likely to participate in the process, INSEE, the Ministerial Statistical Offices and the various bodies involved in regulating the statistical system, in order to consider how to establish appropriate conditions for its generalisation.

Considering the other issues to be monitored and taken into account in the future, the Authority has called for particular vigilance to be exercised concerning the user needs identified by the National Council for Statistical Information. The reflection process in support of the CNIS' next medium-term programme should provide an opportunity to conduct a detailed review of the requests it has made in previous years, and to consider the extent of their consideration by official statisticians. The ASP will also be required to implement the procedure for reporting and processing alerts issued by whistleblowers, for which it was designated in 2022 as the competent external authority in the field of official statistics.

From a longer-term perspective, the ASP will also be considering appropriate responses to the "statistical literacy" needs identified by the report of the interministerial inspection mission, which will be submitted in the spring. It is indeed important for this mission to be followed up by ambitious initiatives designed to increase citizens' ability to understand, interpret and find their bearings in an environment marked by an abundance of numerical information of diverse origin and variable quality.

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REPORT

1 The European and international context

In 2022, the European Statistical System (ESS) was confronted with new statistical information needs, in order to keep assessing the economic and social impacts of the ongoing health crisis and to understand the tensions linked to the recovery, on the one hand, followed, most importantly, by assessing the major impact of the war in Ukraine on European economies, on the other. The reflection on European regulation has continued with a view to considering easier access to private data that may be required by the Official Statistical System, and also to adapting the European statistical regulations to new challenges. In statistical matters, the French Presidency of the European Union successfully concluded the framework regulation on agricultural statistics (SAIO), as well as the easing of provisions relating to revisions of the statistical regulations on national accounts, and initiated reflections on the future revision of Regulation No 223/2009 in order to adapt it to the challenges of digital transformation. For its part, ESGAB made a series of recommendations on the development of this key legislation for European statistics.

1.1 The pursuit of initiatives resulting from the health crisis and the implementation of reporting related to the changing economic context and the war in Ukraine

2022 continued to be marked by an accumulation of shocks in European countries: recovery of economic activity in a context of tensions surrounding production factors, continuation of the COVID-19 epidemic holding back production in the Chinese economy, extreme weather events in the form of droughts or flooding in many countries, and above all, grave repercussions of the war in Ukraine leading to problems in the sourcing of raw materials and energy and a sharp rise in inflation, to which European governments responded by implementing specific measures.

In this context, European actors' requests for statistics were numerous and demanding in terms of their deadlines.

The impacts of the health crisis continued to be monitored and analysed. Statistics on COVID-related deaths are regularly transmitted to Eurostat. The economic impacts of this crisis continue to generate interest and analysis. For example, the latest European survey on "Global Activity Chains" sought to provide information on the fragmentation of production processes, with particular attention being paid to the effects of the health crisis on plans to offshore, or conversely, to inshore economic activities. This first results are expected to be disseminated at the beginning of 2023.

The monthly European Scoreboard, approved in 2020 and disseminated by Eurostat in 2021 and 2022, remains valid in 2023. It comprises 27 indicators covering the main sectors of the economy and the labour market, with an environmental dimension.

The crisis caused by the war in Ukraine has generated a new demand for statistics on the difficulties of sourcing raw materials but also, and first and foremost, on the flows of refugees accommodated by or transiting through European countries. Eurostat has asked each country to provide regular reports, notably on energy, foreign trade and monthly flows of Ukrainian migrants. A dedicated section on these topics was added to the Eurostat website in October 2022.

Two issues are driving the statistical concerns about energy. First of all, the objective of developing a better understanding the origin of European energy supplies has led to numerous discussions, led by Eurostat, between Member States with a view to improving the quality of infra-annual statistics

by increasing the comparability of methodologies and the consistency of data between importing and exporting countries. Concerns over the changes in energy prices and consumption have led to the implementation of new measures designed to improve knowledge of the state of gas stocks (European obligation), document the impact of changes in energy prices on corporate activity, and develop more detailed structural knowledge of the energy consumption of businesses and the public sector. The implementation of statistical reporting has shortened the reporting times to Eurostat.

1.2 Review of the French Presidency of the European Union during H1 2022

In H1 2022, France held the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first time since 2008, with INSEE holding the presidency in the statistical field. On this occasion, the Institute was responsible for the negotiations on European statistical regulations, which were held on two levels:

- within the Council of the European Union's Statistics Group, which defines the negotiating mandate common to all countries in response to a draft text from the Commission;
- in trilogue meetings, where negotiations between the Commission, the Presidency of the Council and the European Parliament take place.

The drafting of a European regulation at the European Commission's initiative, whether statistical or otherwise, is a long process involving many actors and extensive consultation. The three main projects that INSEE was responsible for promoting during the French Presidency had reached different stages of progress in a legislative process that may take several years.

1.2.1 The framework regulation on agricultural statistics (Statistics on Agricultural Input-Output (SAIO))

This framework regulation was adopted by the European Parliament in early October after an agreement with the Council in June 2022. This text is intended to meet the needs of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), fisheries policy and policies related to the environment, food safety and animal welfare.

More specifically, it concerns aggregate statistics on livestock and crop production, raw materials used by farmers, and agricultural prices, and is designed to replace three existing regulations, seven gentleman's agreements and one directive.

One of the most difficult issues concerning this regulation was the establishment of indicators on the use of plant-protection products (pesticides) by farmers in different EU countries. The Green Deal and the Farm to Fork strategy promoted by the European Commission provide for a 50% reduction in the use of these products by 2030, a policy supported by the Parliament, which has called for the establishment of annual monitoring indicators. In order to develop these indicators, a system is required to enable the annual collection of uses, and in order to control the cost, there are plans to base this system on an obligation for farmers to record their pesticide usage electronically. This project has aroused intense debate between environmental non-governmental organisations and professional farmers' organisations. A compromise was finally reached through the implementation of a transitional period for the production of annual statistics on the use of plant-protection products, with a gradual change in the number of crops subject to this obligation. By gradually changing the production methods, the aim is to develop these statistics on pesticide use by using new data sources (harmonised electronic records), while ensuring the quality of the data, which is expected to be published within ever-shorter time frames.

1.2.2 Revisions of the statistical regulations on national accounts

At European level, the national accounts are used to define and monitor EU macroeconomic policies, including each country's public deficit and debt commitments. Gross national income calculated from the national accounts is used as the basis for calculating each country's contribution to the EU budget. The comparability and reliability of these statistics is therefore crucial for the statistical system at European level.

Eurostat has proposed a mid-term review of the European Regulation on the European System of Accounts (ESA), an exercise that is habitually carried out prior to the implementation of a new European system of national accounts, which is expected to be introduced by the end of the decade and is currently under discussion at the United Nations. This more limited mid-term review consists mainly in modifying the Eurostat data-transmission programme by shortening the annual and quarterly account transmission deadlines, requiring the mandatory transmission of certain information, notably concerning the structure of government debt and metadata, and improving consistency with tables transmitted under the "Excessive Deficit Procedure". The Commission had submitted its proposal for revision to the Parliament at the end of 2021. Negotiations began within the Statistics Group chaired by the Director General of INSEE during the FPEU, with a view to proposing a common position to the other 26 Member States. Ultimately, the aim is to manage the increase in the amount of data and metadata to be transmitted and the shorter deadlines for its transmission to the Commission. A request to introduce accounts for European institutions (debt, deficit, etc.) in such a manner as to obtain information on the amount of European public debt, was also considered following a recommendation by the ECOFIN Council of European Ministers for the Economy and Finance.

A compromise with the Member States was reached at the end of the French Presidency of the European Union, which eases the burden on European National Statistical Institutes in relation to the Eurostat proposal and permits derogations in order to allow time for adaptation to any countries that may need it.

1.2.3 Initiation of the revision process for Regulation 223/2009, known as the "European Statistical Law"

Reflection on the revision of Regulation No 223/2009 launched by Eurostat is primarily justified by the issue of access to "private" data, with the aim of implementing a framework to enable the sharing of data for the production of European statistics between enterprises and private bodies, on the one hand, and Eurostat, National Statistical Institutes and other official producers, on the other. This framework does not exist at European level, unlike in France, where Article 3 bis of the 1951 Law provides for the transmission of private data in electronic format for official statistical purposes, subject to very strict justifications.

The revised text should enable the sustainable use of private data for the development and production of European statistics. In addition to this main objective, the revision should cover measures to reinforce the responsiveness of the European Statistical System (ESS) and therefore enable it to produce new statistics in response to emerging demands or in crisis contexts. The revised text also aims to develop data exchanges within the ESS in order to facilitate the production of relevant statistics by Eurostat and National Statistical Institutes for use in comparative studies conducted at European and international level.

Reflections on this review began under the French Presidency in H1 2022. Eurostat organised a public consultation during the summer, which lasted until October 2022, with contributions invited

from various stakeholders in the Official Statistical Service, not only national institutes and other national authorities, but also from representatives of users, professional organisations, etc. This consultation enabled Eurostat to finalise an "impact assessment" report at the beginning of 2023, which was presented to a dedicated body (Regulatory Scrutiny Board). Following the opinion issued by this body, a Commission proposal, followed by an exchange of views within the European Statistical System Committee (ESSC), should finalise the draft revision of the regulation prior to discussions within the Council's Statistics Group and then in the European Parliament.

1.3 Progress in discussions on other EU texts with statistical implications

1.3.1 Community Data Policy regulations

The European Commission adopted a European Data Strategy in February 2020, which aims to develop a "single market" for data, while ensuring the protection of personal data. In this context, the Data Act and the Data Governance Act will indeed have implications for the statistical system.

The discussions and exchanges on the development of the Data Act, which are continuing in 2023, suggest that this draft digital regulation defining the legal framework for access to private data does not meet the needs for permanent access to such data by official statistics. Indeed, the draft currently under discussion restricts the conditions governing access to private data for public use to emergency situations or exceptional needs, and for a limited period of time. These conditions are incompatible with the requirements for the permanent production of statistics. In addition, the text provides for the payment of financial compensation to the holders of private data to cover the cost of making this information available. However, the Council's Statistics Group has reportedly received the assurance that this text is without prejudice to any other provisions in EU or national law, which makes the forthcoming revision of Regulation 223/2009 all the more important.

The Data Governance Act, adopted in May 2022, aims to promote the development of a trusted environment for data sharing in order to facilitate its use for innovation and research. In particular, it aims to create a favourable context for the implementation and submission of data to common European data spaces, but without providing for any new obligations concerning provision. This act will come into force in September 2023.

Reflection on the implementation of these provisions at national level has only just begun. It will include the question of the positioning of the Secure Data Access Centre (CASD) and of the pre-existing national sectoral hubs, such as the Health Data Hubs, and Education Data Hubs.

1.3.2 Statistical regulations

1.3.2.1 The European Statistics On Population (ESOP) framework regulation

This project, which has been under discussion for several years and whose content has changed significantly over time, continues to be discussed extensively by ESS members. Indeed, it requires a common approach combining the practices of countries with population registers and those using survey-based censuses. The project proposed by Eurostat sets out to obtain new annual or even biannual transmissions from European states from 2025 onwards, as well as production at a detailed geographical level.

Eurostat has not yet reached a consensus with the National Statistical Institutes, but wishes to make progress in the negotiations for the draft framework regulation and its secondary legislation

in H1 2023 within the Council of the European Union's Statistics Group. The long-term consistency of the definition and measurement of population are key issues to be addressed by representatives of the French statistical system.

1.3.2.2 Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP)

In its July 2021 policy review, the European Central Bank (ECB) recommended including price indices for owner-occupied housing in the calculation of the Harmonised Consumer Price Index (HICP), as the current price index only takes account of changes in rents.

Eurostat has proposed several possible solutions to be considered in response to the ECB's recommendation, including the publication of an experimental quarterly "Harmonised Index of Household Expenditure" combining the HICP and a price index for owner-occupied housing. A Task Force was established in February 2022 with the remit of continuing the methodological reflections on this point. Its final report was approved by the Price Statistics Working Group (PSWG) in November 2022, and recommends against making legislative provisions for the direct integration of price indices for owner-occupied housing into the calculation of the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices, since this concept is different in nature and rationale.

The HICP has also been subject to methodological reflections following the extremely diverse and sometimes novel measures implemented by the Member States to help households cope with energy price rises in European countries. Eurostat issued a methodological note in July 2022 on the treatment of energy-price-compensation measures in the price index. The inclusion of measures adopted by individual countries should be discussed within the PSWG with a view to ensuring consistency in the statistical treatment of these measures across the European Union. These activities are essential to ensure the effective comparability of price trends in different countries.

1.3.2.3 Revision of the classifications of activities and products (ISIC and NACE)

The revision of the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE) was endorsed in 2019 following the decision by the United Nations to revise the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities in the same year. The changes to be incorporated into the new NACE classification relate to the themes of the digital economy, globalisation and online trade, the bioeconomy, the circular economy and the collaborative economy. The principles of the new NACE and its timetable for adoption were presented to the European Statistical System Committee in February 2022. Legislation is expected in H2 2023, with gradual implementation from 2025 onwards. At the same time, INSEE is working with the MSOs and all stakeholders in a CNIS working group to prepare for the new French Classification of Activities (NAF), which is consistent with the NACE.

1.3.2.4 Environmental economic accounts

Since September 2022, discussions have been held in the Council of the European Union's Statistics Group on a proposed revision of the European Regulation on Environmental Economic Accounts. This revision aims to introduce mandatory reporting on three additional modules: forestry accounts, environmental subsidies and similar transfers, and ecosystems. France's position is generally favourable to this proposal, with the exception of the point concerning the compulsory production of accounts on the monetary valuation of ecosystem services, insofar as neither data nor an established and shared method for making this monetary conversion currently exists.

1.4 The issues raised in the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board (ESGAB)

ESGAB, whose model is partly shared by the French Official Statistics Authority, is an independent advisory board which issues annual reports on the state of the entire European Statistical System, in relation to the Code of Practice. Its 2022 report focuses on the above-mentioned concerns about access to private data for statistical purposes in European regulations, and also concerning data exchanges within the European Statistical System. More generally, it also revisits the conditions for data access and provision, by calling for greater transparency and coordination on the part of Eurostat, and considering these issues as key to the revision of the "European Statistical Law". In this respect, ESGAB proposes a series of amendments to Regulation 223/2009 in the form of recommendations.

As the Data Act has not been sufficiently conclusive in this regard, ESGAB stresses that it would particularly like the "European Statistical Act" to guarantee access to private-sector data for statistical purposes by justifying the purpose of this access, not only for Eurostat but also for all European official statistics producers. This access could be extended to researchers, provided that the owners of the data are notified of the request for access and that the request is clearly justified.

ESGAB is also concerned about the availability of data and insists on the need for transparency through clear and comprehensive documentation and the dissemination of metadata. The next version of the Statistical Law should therefore provide for a new framework for sharing data – notably individual data – among all actors in the European statistical system, and ensure better access to this data for researchers.

ESGAB also encourages the use of innovative methods and the introduction of new statistics on a trial basis and calls for their inclusion in the next version of Regulation 223/2009.

The ESGAB recommendations are also intended to consolidate Eurostat's professional independence through the recruitment and appointment procedures for its Director General, and by extension, all Directors of National Statistical Institutes. It calls for the adoption of transparent procedures for the selection of candidates and, where appropriate, the conditions for ending their mandate prior to its specified term.

ESGAB also believes that Eurostat's coordinating role at Eurostat should be strengthened: Eurostat is required to coordinate not only the statistical outputs of Member States but also of the Directorates-General within the European Commission which contribute to the production of European statistics.

Finally, ESGAB hopes that the status of the Code of Practice will be clarified in the forthcoming EU regulation and that the text on commitments to support official statistics by political authorities – both European and national – will be strengthened in order to increase confidence in European statistics,

2 Official statistics in France in 2022

This list of the activities carried out by the Official Statistical Service in 2022 is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather to highlight what the Official Statistics Authority considers to be the most salient aspects of these developments. It is largely based on the activity reports submitted by INSEE's "Statistical Coordination" task force and by all the MSOs, on the hearings held by the ASP during the year, and on the findings of the general inspectorates' missions that were submitted to the Authority.

In 2022, as in the previous two years, the Official Statistical Service adapted to the health, economic and social context in order to meet the different stakeholders' information and analysis needs. The conditions for economic recovery from the health crisis, and the subsequent problems of sourcing and price rises – particularly for energy – linked to the war in Ukraine, required measures such as the implementation of adequate monitoring schemes. However, the Official Statistical Service has also striven to maintain fundamental investments in strategic tools and new topics, which require long-term approaches.

All of these activities and initiatives conform to the principles of the Code of Practice, regarding the timeliness and relevance of the statistics produced and the coordinated implementation of statistical procedures that are appropriate, methodologically sound and of proven methodological robustness.

2.1 The Official Statistical Service's activities related to the changing economic and social context

2022 saw both the continuation and diversification of requests for information submitted to the Official Statistical Service. The aftermath of the health crisis continued to be specifically analysed with a particular focus on its impacts, but the change in the economic context associated with the resumption of activity followed by the war in Ukraine raised new questions, which required additional adaptations to the existing monitoring measures.

2.1.1 The aftermath of the health crisis

Activities related to the health crisis continued to play a prominent role in the Official Statistical Service's activities in 2022, and covered the collection of information in addition to analyses and publications.

Concerning the effects on young people, DEPP – MSO for the Ministry of National Education, and SIES – MSO for the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, continued to analyse the effects of lockdown on the integration of young people leaving the school system. In particular, DEPP continued to study the impact of periods of lockdown on pupils' competencies and analysed residential migration between two school years.

The effects of the health crisis on local finances in 2021 were studied by the MSO for Local Authorities. At the MSO for the Civil Service, a weekly survey of all departments of the State Civil Service was launched at the beginning of 2022 to monitor teleworking and special leaves of absence linked to COVID-19. For its part, the MSO for Immigration used a survey module included in the longitudinal survey on the integration of newly arrived migrants to study the impact of this

crisis on these people's daily lives. The MSO for Culture sought to estimate the effects of the health crisis, and the subsequent recovery, on activity in the performing arts sector.

In addition to these activities, which illustrate the diversity of the issues addressed, the fields most directly affected by the health crisis and its aftermath continued to be "explored" or studied in greater detail.

2.1.1.1 In the health field:

In 2022, as part of exceptional COVID-related investments, DREES – MSO for the Ministries of Solidarity and Health, extended its health-crisis-monitoring activities, including via the infra-monthly monitoring of screening and vaccine protection activity.

The fourth and final wave of the EpiCov survey conducted in collaboration with INSERM, Santé publique France and INSEE was collected in 2022. In H1 2023, DREES is planning to publish several studies on the results of this operation and all of its "waves", notably concerning mental health and its trends until the autumn of 2022.

Several publications have further analysed the health impacts of the epidemic. A special report on the socio-economic characteristics of individuals suffering from severe forms of COVID-19 was published in Q1 2022. This study was based on an unprecedented operation entailing the matching of data from the SI-VIC reporting system (concerning hospitalised COVID-19 patients) with data from the FIDELI system (INSEE demographic files on housing and individuals). At the end of the year, a co-publication by DREES, Santé publique France and INSERM-CépiDc on COVID-related deaths in 2020 showed that the project to modernise the production of cause-of-death statistics, carried out in a collaboration between DREES and CépiDc, was beginning to produce initial results. This publication and the DREES study of COVID vaccination rates were accompanied by a methodological document, disseminated in October.

These statistics complement the general mortality statistics, which INSEE has continued to disseminate on a monthly basis according to civil registry data.

The SSP has also made an effort to explain these figures and improve their transparency via methodological documents and an article on the INSEE blog explaining the characteristics of the various statistics available on the monitoring of COVID-19-related mortality and the relevant uses of each type.

More generally, in the autumn of 2022, DREES resumed the publication of a statistical overview of the state of health of the population in France, which will be supplemented in 2023 by the dissemination of department-level statistical indicators.

2.1.1.2 In the labour market field

In 2022, DARES – MSO for the Ministry of Labour and Employment, continued to analyse the impact of the health crisis on the labour market, based on a series of surveys.

The collection of the "ACEMO-COVID" survey (short-term monitoring of activity and labour conditions) implemented in April 2020 has been extended to Q1 2022. This survey enabled the rapid and frequent provision of information about changes in the workforce and activity, employment conditions, and preventive measures implemented by enterprises. Given the improvement in the health situation, the survey was completed with the release of the results for March 2022.

A second edition of the "TRACOV" survey on psychosocial risks and working conditions was launched in 2022, in order to shed light on the changes occurring in the post-health-crisis period. It will provide information on this topic prior to the publication of the results of the Working Conditions survey, which has been postponed until 2024. This second edition is modelled on the first one, while only retaining its employee component.

To analyse labour market tensions – another consequence of the health crisis – and with a view to improving the measurement of job vacancies, operations are being conducted as part of the "Essent Big Data - Web scraping job vacancies" European project supported by the European Commission. DARES has launched activities to enable the quarterly publication of aggregate series of job offers by occupation from 2023. Other publications have also provided information about the number of resignations between the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022, and on job vacancies at the beginning of the year.

INSEE has also used the Employment survey to shed light on general labour-market trends, but also on subjects specific to the recent period, such as the development of teleworking.

2.1.1.3 Concerning standards of living and poverty

The standard of living of households is another key issue that has been closely monitored by the Official Statistical Service in the health crisis context, and specific problems have sometimes been encountered with the performance of this monitoring.

In 2022, DREES first continued to disseminate the findings of the monthly monitoring of solidarity benefits introduced during the health crisis.

In October 2022, INSEE then published an *Insee Analyses* on poverty trends in 2020, which mentioned statistical problems ("In 2020, poverty measurement was complicated by the health crisis"), and a blog article ("What were the poverty trends in 2020?"). Indeed, in 2021, the advance estimate calculated by micro-simulation had indicated a stable poverty rate in 2020. The exploitation of administrative sources carried out subsequently in 2022 produced divergent results according to the observation systems used (the "Statistics on Income and Living Conditions" (SRCV) survey and the "Tax and Social Income Survey" (ERFS)). INSEE has presented these discrepancies in a transparent manner in its publications and on its blog, along with the reasons that led it to favour the source concluding in the stability of this rate.

At the end of 2021, INSEE also conducted a one-off survey of food aid centres, which was completed quickly in response to the health crisis. These activities continued in 2022 and initial results were published at the end of June. A special report in "*France, portrait social*" was then published in November. These activities specified the number of people who receiving food aid in kind from associations in 2021.

2.1.2 Consideration of the new context marked by the upswing in inflation and the war in Ukraine

The context of recovery from the health crisis and the subsequent outbreak of war in Ukraine has triggered a series of new requests for statistics on difficulties in the sourcing of raw materials, and different aspects of the energy crisis, starting with the characteristics and consequences of the upswing in inflation, but also concerning information such as refugee flows.

In this context, INSEE has continued to step up its monitoring of the economic situation by publishing more frequent business tendency analyses than prior to the health crisis. These publications combine "traditional" survey data with higher-frequency data.

2.1.2.1 Statistical information on Ukrainian refugees

The MSO for Immigration has been tasked with the transmission of weekly and monthly data on stocks and flows of temporary residence permits to Eurostat and the European Asylum Agency.

In response to new needs expressed at European level, DARES has also introduced a measurement of the employment of Ukrainian refugees using data from the Nominative Social Declaration (DSN), in addition to a measurement of the number of refugees registered at Pôle Emploi (French employment agency).

2.1.2.2 Monitoring of sourcing problems encountered by enterprises

The INSEE business tendency surveys have been adapted in the wake of the crisis and are the main source of information on the subject. In May 2022, a module on sourcing problems specifically related to the war in Ukraine was added to the industry and construction surveys. The question on constraints hampering production is now asked on a monthly rather than quarterly basis.

The extremely pronounced fluctuations in prices in agriculture, both for agricultural products and inputs (fertilisers, animal feed), and the sourcing difficulties in the sector, were also subject to reinforced short-term economic monitoring by the MSO for Agriculture.

2.1.2.3 Repercussions of the energy crisis on the production system

The European Commission, and Eurostat in particular, have asked the Member States to provide statistics in order to ascertain the origin of European energy supplies, but also to improve the understanding of changes in energy consumption and prices.

Several MSOs have been asked by their supervisory ministries to estimate the impact of energy price rises on the expenditure of public institutions or public services in their sectors and on the changes in their consumption, or to shed light on their overall situation. One such example was the MSO for Local Authorities, which was asked to analyse the effects of the upswing in inflation on local government spending.

Work was carried out within the MSO in order to assess the need to supplement existing information systems or conduct new operations to improve the monitoring of public policies and develop a better understanding of the mechanisms at work in price formation.

Beyond the national level, the MSO for Foreign Trade, at the request of the National Assembly, has calculated initial vulnerability indicators (degree of concentration of supplier countries and potential for diversification) for certain energy products.

To monitor energy consumption and prices in France, existing surveys have been consolidated and new ones will be launched. For example, a question about changes in energy consumption practices was added to the INSEE Consumer Confidence Survey. The SDES – MSO for the Ministry of Ecological Transition, is seeking to obtain more accurate and frequent data from energy suppliers on consumption volumes and prices. The existing European survey entitled "Transparency of Gas and Electricity Prices" provides key information about gas and electricity market prices for all

consumers on a twice-yearly basis, but can no longer provide answers to all the current questions, particularly from Eurostat, and will therefore be consolidated.

INSEE also uses high-frequency data on electricity consumption and production. The annual survey on energy consumption in industry, which was launched at the beginning of 2023, has been enriched with questions on the imposition of changes in tariffs and on the activity of enterprises. In addition, a new module designed to enhance knowledge of the exposure of enterprises to price changes was added to the business tendency surveys. These results were used in the Economic Outlook report published in mid-December. An experimental survey of future average contract prices conducted among some 60 electricity suppliers provided information about the expected electricity price rises for enterprises in 2023.

2.1.2.4 The acceleration of consumer prices and its impact on different types of households

The financial situation of households, in a context of diminishing purchasing power linked to the inflation observed since the summer of 2021, was studied in an innovative way using data from bank accounts held at Crédit Mutuel Alliance Fédérale and, for the first time in 2022, at Banque Postale. The effects of inflation on household expenditure were analysed in INSEE's Economic Outlook reports by using the consumer price index divided into household categories and analysing several socio-economic dimensions such as socio-professional category, age, household composition, standard of living, etc. This revealed that inflation does not affect rural or urban, young or old, rich or modest households in the same manner, insofar as energy and food expenses account for different proportions of their budget.

2.1.3 Diversification of statistical analyses of social or societal developments

Despite this crisis context, the Official Statistical Service continued to analyse changes in French society and the associated disparities, from the functioning of the education system to cultural practices and the use of digital tools. Examples are presented below.

Following a request to the Commission for Access to Administrative Documents (CADA), DEPP published the first social position indices (IPS) covering students in secondary schools and in the last year of primary schools. Strictly speaking, this was not a statistical operation, but rather an enhancement of administrative files using an indicator calculated by this MSO and based on information on parents' occupations collected from families at the time of enrolment, which is then weighted by an algorithm derived from the longitudinal statistical monitoring of pupils. These indices inform studies, but are also directly used by the press and the stakeholders in the education system to analyse social diversity in schools, including at local level.

DEPP has also continued to invest in monitoring the school climate and victimisation phenomena in schools. Two surveys, one among secondary school students and another – for the first time – among primary school teachers and headmasters, were conducted in the spring. They improve the understanding of violent phenomena in schools and take the victims' point of view into account.

The MSO for Culture has drawn up a comprehensive overview of French cultural practices based on the results of the 2011 and 2017 Family Budget surveys, which was disseminated in the 2022 edition of *France Portrait Social*. The National Institute for Youth and Popular Education (INJEP) also published studies in this same review on the practice of sport based on the results of the national survey on physical and sporting practices.

INSEE published an *Insee Focus* in May 2022 revealing that "a third of adults gave up performing an administrative formality online in 2021". This study is based on the "Information and Communication Technology" (ICT) and "Statistics on Resources and Living Conditions" (SRLC) surveys.

2.2 Progress on the main flagship operations and strategic tools for the statistical system

In 2022, in addition to the operations undertaken to provide information on emerging subjects, the SSP continued its investments in developing shared tools within the Official Statistical Service and enhancing essential systems.

2.2.1 Flagship operations to improve or enhance information systems

In both 2021 and 2022, the ASP held hearings with general inspection missions or was informed by statistical offices of a series of actions designed to improve certain important statistical systems, on the basis of sometimes quite critical assessments of the situation.

These planned improvements began to materialise in 2022, while innovative operations are also underway within the SSP with a view to enhancing the insights provided on key issues.

2.2.1.1 Significant and much-needed improvements to certain existing schemes

Tourism statistics were examined by a mission conducted by the INSEE General Inspectorate, whose recommendations, reiterated in a deliberation by the ASP, concerned the investment required from INSEE in order to meet international, national and regional needs, and the extension of the sources used to cover this field, while controlling the associated costs. In order to achieve these objectives, it seemed necessary to reinforce coordination within the SSP and with the many external actors that use this data.

Following this mission, INSEE drew up an action plan providing for the appointment of a national "INSEE-Tourism" manager to carry out the necessary coordination role. In this context, the Institute wishes to be able to provide relevant information at international, national and regional levels, but without directly producing infra-regional statistics. The occupancy survey of collective tourist collective accommodation will be overhauled to reduce its cost, and the production of advanced statistics from this source is envisaged. Work on improving international tourism estimates will also continue.

Following an INSEE General Inspectorate mission on the inclusion of "**non-ordinary households**" in INSEE statistics, it was decided to develop methodological coordination on this subject, and to consider broadening the scope of the Employment survey. Indeed, most of INSEE's regular surveys do not cover the entire population, as their samples do not include collective residences. This is problematic when the phenomenon being studied is sensitive to the proportion of young people, elderly persons or people living in extreme poverty, who account for a significant proportion of members of "non-ordinary households".

Finally, in February 2022, the **MSO for Foreign Trade** implemented a statistical survey – the monthly survey on intra-EU trade in goods – which, pursuant to the Code of Practice, enables data collected for statistical purposes to be separated from that collected for fiscal purposes. Its implementation has led to a major overhaul of the system used to produce foreign trade statistics.

2.2.1.2 New or modernised schemes directly involving the Official Statistical service

DARES – the MSO for the Ministry of Labour and Employment, and SIES – the statistical office for the Ministry of Higher Education, have initiated a new longitudinal monitoring project – **"Inser'Sup"** – which matches the databases of students enrolled in or graduating from higher education institutions with data from the Nominative Social Declaration (DSN). The aim is to study the labour-market integration of higher education graduates and the employment of students during their studies.

The **Force** system (data on training, unemployment and employment) implemented by DARES in 2021 and made available in 2022, aims to reconstitute jobseekers' employment and training trajectories in order to help evaluate the Skills Investment Plan (PIC). Research teams undertaking a study or an evaluation of a programme under the PIC can use this information via the Secure Data Access Centre (SDAC).

The scope of DREES' remit changed in 2022, when it was assigned two new missions: the production of child-protection statistics, previously under the responsibility of the observatory of the same name, and the management, in collaboration with CépiDc, of the project to modernise the production of cause-of-death statistics. After an inter-inspectorate mission, followed by a deliberation of the ASP in November 2021, an action plan was indeed drawn up to provide for the involvement of DREES alongside CépiDc in order to compensate for delays in the production of these European statistics. It initially enabled the dissemination, in December 2022, of mortality data for the year 2020 and the production of provisional estimates for 2018 and 2019. A programme to overhaul the coding and operating procedures for statistical applications has also been launched, which will be monitored by the ASP over the long term (see point 2.3.4 below).

For its part, the MSO for the Ministry of Internal Security conducted the **annual "Security Experience and Perceptions" (VRS) survey** for the first time in 2022. This survey provides the actors involved in the public debate with key indicators on victimisation (property crime, personal injury), feelings of insecurity and satisfaction with the security services. In addition, a thematic questionnaire, differing each year, helps to shed light on a specific issue. In 2022, it focused on the interactions between security forces and the population.

Finally, the SDSE – MSO for the Ministry of Justice, completed the resumption of prison statistics in 2022 by finalising the work undertaken on secure custody using data from the GENESIS system (national management of detainees for individual monitoring and security) and publishing quarterly statistics on open custody. The transfer of these prison statistics for general information purposes from the Prison Service Directorate to the MSO was agreed as part of the reorganisation of the Ministry's General Secretariat.

2.2.2 Strategic tools of great importance to the Official Statistical Service

These tools, mainly developed by INSEE, are meant to be used collaboratively to meet the new needs expressed by the entire SSP. In particular, they can reduce the response burden and enable progress to be made on devising innovative schemes that can shed more light on certain economic and social issues.

2.2.2.1 The culmination of the "non-significant statistical code" (CSNS) project

The legal changes brought about by the 2016 Law for a Digital Republic have favoured the implementation of this tool which, while maintaining the confidentiality of personal data, enables the reconciliation of different files containing individual information, particularly for longitudinal monitoring purposes. In addition, the revision, in October 2022, of the "framework decree" on the national registration number (NIR), which defines the categories of actors and the processing purposes for which the use of the NIR is authorised, extends the opportunities for matching with certain sensitive data such as health data, for the benefit of the Official Statistical Service

The possible use of the CSNS is an important strategic factor for the Official Statistical Service, as this tool, whose use is exclusively reserved for the SSP, gives it a central role to play in the construction of information systems with a unique scope. By facilitating matching, this project should also reduce the statistical burden of household surveys and increase the statistical uses of administrative sources.

Since October 2022, the statistical offices that use this service have benefited from direct access to it via a dedicated application. Currently, four MSOs have signed the subcontract and use this service: DARES, DREES, SIES and SDES. At INSEE, it is integrated into key systems such as Fidéli and the All Employees database. In accordance with the commitments made, the matches carried out by INSEE and the MSOs using the CSNS have been reported to the CNIS since 2021.

In 2022, several matching projects were therefore launched using the CSNS: for DARES and SIES, the constitution of the "InserJeunes" panel of students in higher education; for DARES and INSEE, a study of new entrants to the labour market; for SDES, a project to monitor the characteristics and standard of living of road-vehicle owners; and for DREES, two projects relating to beneficiaries of minimum social benefits.

2.2.2.2 The RÉSIL programme

This is one of the major strategic projects undertaken by INSEE over the last few years, with the aim of creating a statistical register of individuals, households and residential premises, which is updated on the basis of various administrative sources.

In 2022, a wide-ranging consultation on the project and its uses, led by the CNIS, brought together actors from different fields (lawyers, sociologists, IT specialists, elected representatives, journalists, etc.), and led to the organisation of a consultation group, whose public report was submitted in October 2022. One of this group's major challenges was to define the conditions required to ensure the social acceptability of the project. Regular, transparent and accessible monitoring, supported by external bodies such as the CNIS and the ASP, must be organised in this respect.

From a legal standpoint, the draft texts (decree and order) defining the processing operations and incorporating the consultation group's recommendations have been sent to the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL). After the CNIL has issued its opinion, the text of the decree will be submitted to the Council of State for its opinion. At the technical level, IT developments and technical experiments designed to optimise matching methods and statistical processing will continue. In this respect, the analysis of the quality of the GMBI (Gérer Mes Biens Immobiliers – online management space for real-estate-related formalities) source of the Public Finances Directorate (DGFIP) marks a crucial advance in this field, as it will replace the housing tax file.

The commissioning of the RÉSIL (Statistical Registers of Individuals and Dwellings) programme is planned for 2025 after a year of "dress rehearsals" in 2024.

2.2.2.3 Modernisation of survey collection processes

The strategic programme to modernise surveys has several objectives: "industrialising" the implementation of the Official Statistical Service's household and business surveys using the Statistical Metadata Standard (RmèS), rationalising the process of designing and managing surveys, and controlling their costs. This programme is consistent with the development of "multi-mode" data collection (face-to-face, telephone, online, etc.) for household surveys conducted by the SSP.

In the spring of 2022, the use of these new tools enabled the collection, by telephone survey, of the responses of households interviewed in the pilot housing survey and in the survey on information and communication technology (ICT) use. Tests have been carried out or are underway on several other surveys: the Family Survey, the Homeless Survey, and the Consumer Confidence Survey (CAMME Survey).

The collection of the 2023-2024 housing survey will therefore be carried out in "multi-mode" format using this new scheme. The collection system used by the MSO for Agriculture will also migrate to this channel proposed by INSEE, which will contribute to the creation of a "survey service offering" targeting MSOs. This scheme should also apply to the "Statistics on Income and Living Conditions" (SRCV) and the Employment survey.

2.2.3 National accounts: towards augmented accounts and distributional economic accounts

While confirming the major interest of national accounts, recent economic developments have led to an sharp increase in calls from their users to enrich these accounts. This involves both the "greening" of national accounts, in order to develop a better insight into the environmental transition and its interactions with the economy, and a clearer understanding of the transformations of the productive system (digitalisation, value chains, etc.), while improving awareness of the production of "distributional" accounts that are likely to establish consistency between national accounting and the study of inequalities, which are generally carried out on the basis of survey data.

In order to increase the capacity of the French national accounts to take account of these structural changes, INSEE intends to implement "augmented" national accounts, which will enhance the social and environmental dimensions of the accounting system beyond its flagship indicator – GDP.

As far as the environmental dimension is concerned, three types of activities are envisaged to facilitate their implementation: improving the methodology for calculating the carbon footprint with the SDES, developing a carbon account linked to the national accounts with a breakdown of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions per production sector and demand item, and establishing an environmental "sustainability" index.

2.2.4 Revision of the French Classification of Activities (NAF)

The revision of the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE), endorsed in mid-2019, has led to the revision of the French classification of activities (NAF), which must be consistent with the NACE structure. This work is being carried out in consultation with professional organisations, under the aegis of the CNIS, with a view to completing this revision in 2023. Its integration into the various directories and information systems is expected to be accomplished between 2023 and 2025.

2.2.5 Provision of local authority accounts according to a harmonised statistical classification

In June 2022, the MSO for Local Authorities published statistics on local authority expenditure by function (health, culture, transport, etc.) for the 2013-2021 period, according to a harmonised classification common to the three levels of authority: municipalities (communes), departments (départements) and regions (régions). These harmonised statistics show the breakdown of local authorities' operating and investment expenditure per function.

These activities were conducted in response to a request submitted by the ASP to the CNIS in 2018, and in line with the latter's efforts to improve responses to users' needs and raise the profile of local government statistics.

2.3 Problems identified by the Official Statistics Authority requiring different types of responses

However, during the course of 2022, the Official Statistics Authority (ASP) observed a number of different kinds of problems which required specific responses to ensure the exhaustive implementation of the Code of Practice.

2.3.1 A limited number of specific incidents requiring a response from the Official Statistical Service or the ASP

Relatively few incidents, such as embargo breaches by public actors in politics or the media, occurred in 2022.

Two embargoes were breached by the newspaper *Les Echos*. The first, which occurred in May, concerned an INSEE publication on the completion by adults of online administrative procedures. The newspaper published an article online a few hours before the embargo expired, and then withdrew it after being contacted by the head of the Director General of INSEE's office, who also sent a letter of clarification. The second embargo breach, once again due to a premature online publication, occurred in December concerning an edition of *Insee Première* relating to the provisional agricultural estimate for 2022. INSEE immediately published the data on its website in order to avoid unequal media treatment.

A request for early access to embargoed statistical information on crime statistics prior to the scheduled date was also issued by the Ministry of the Interior during the months of December 2022 and January 2023. At the very start of January, the Minister's office asked the SSMSI to send it the first results concerning these statistics, which were scheduled for publication on 5 January 2023. The SSMSI notified the ASP of this request and indicated that such a transmission would be impossible, due to the mandatory enforcement of embargo rules and the limitation of advance dissemination pursuant to the European Statistics Code of Practice. The President of the ASP explained to the Minister's Chief of Staff that these embargo rules were equally valid for external dissemination and early access, which must remain an exceptional procedure limited to a handful of recipients and to a few hours before publication. The President of the ASP also stressed that it was perfectly legitimate for statisticians to be given sufficient time to draw up detailed statistics at departmental level, which were scheduled for 31 January, bearing in mind that these statistics include adjustments to inform the Ministry and the public about the locations in which offences were committed, rather than only the places in which they were recorded.

An incident concerning the Ministry of Labour and Employment involved the publication of a statistical estimate on the non-take-up of unemployment benefits. DARES had been asked for such an estimate in order to provide input for a report on this subject to Parliament. This report was transmitted by the government to Members of Parliament and its results received extensive press coverage, even though the statistical estimate itself – drawn up in cooperation with a research team – and its methodological bases had not been published on the DARES website. Indeed, this publication had not been desired at ministerial level, given the simultaneity of the transmission of the report and the parliamentary debates on the law on unemployment insurance. Despite the fact that this was not a standard statistical indicator, the President of the ASP insisted to the Minister's Chief of Staff on the immediate publication of this statistical assessment. It was indeed regrettable that the publication in the press of statistical estimates produced "under the seal" of DARES, a component of the Official Statistical Service, was not accompanied by a detailed presentation of the assumptions and methods upon which the estimates were necessarily based. The corresponding statistical study, similar in theme to those published by DREES on the non-take-up of the earned income supplement (RSA) and the minimum old-age pension, was subsequently released within three days. This incident illustrates the ASP's attention to ensuring that the dissemination of statistics which serve as benchmarks in the public debate is based, when they originate from the Official Statistical Service, on an independent publication specifying the assumptions and methods underlying their preparation, in line with the principles of the Code of Practice.

Finally, a different type of incident was recorded in 2022 when an unofficial website, called "statistiques-publiques.fr", was discovered by chance. This site stated that its aim was to publish information originating from the Official Statistical Service, but it was also disseminating reports and analyses from different sources and with miscellaneous content under the same banner. The Support Mission for Intangible Public Heritage (APIE), to which INSEE turned following this observation, also noted that this website could in some cases include links to commercial offerings, whereas access to public statistics must remain free under all circumstances. With the agreement of INSEE and the ASP, the APIE sent a formal notice to the people running the website, requesting its closure and a transfer of the "domain name" to the State, despite the fact that the SSP had not previously reserved the right to use this name. The website complied with this injunction, in the knowledge that its refusal would have led to legal proceedings and put an end to its owners' anonymity. This event underlines the attention that must regularly be paid to the risks of theft of the Official Statistical Service's identity by websites that cannot lay claim to upholding the same principles or providing the same guarantees with regard to the information they disseminate.

2.3.2 The need for transparent communication by the SSP on the occurrence of certain statistical problems or on the revision of previously published statistics

During 2022, the Official Statistical Service had to communicate specifically on the occurrence of certain problems encountered in its statistical activities or on the corrections made to certain previously disseminated information.

The most significant example concerns the communication on the statistics on poverty trends in 2020, published by INSEE in October 2022. *Insee Analyses*, which presents these results, provided a completely transparent explanation of the statistical problems encountered during this exceptional year, following a discrepancy between the observation sources used, in addition to the reasons that led it to retain the estimate from the "Statistics on Income and Living Conditions" (SRCV) survey. These explanations were also posted on the INSEE blog (see point 2.1.1.3 above).

In June 2022, INSEE also corrected an error detected by a journalist in an *Informations Rapides* publication on employment, concerning the proportion of the increase in employment linked to work-study contracts. The corrected version was published at the earliest possible moment.

In March 2022, a dialogue was entered into on social networks between the Director General of INSEE and a researcher concerning the publication of an *Insee Première* on the concentration of employment in large employment areas. One of the sub-headings used in the publication was a indeed little too succinct and did not adequately reflect the results presented therein. The Director General of INSEE acknowledged the partial inaccuracy of this formulation, while stressing the relevance of the results contained in the publication for the analysis of trends in complex employment concentration phenomena in France.

In July, DREES announced a significant downward revision of the number of paramedical professionals, including an 18% reduction in the number of nurses included in its statistics. This major revision stemmed from the observation of numerous cases of non-deregistration of professionals recorded in the ADELI register, which is used to establish these statistics, following the retirement of these professionals. A communication was issued on the subject to explain the revision of the series, which initially consisted in retaining only nurses who had not reached the legal retirement age, before assessing the use of another directory.

These events, fortunately limited in number, were accompanied by a precise and transparent communication of information to the public and users by the SSP, which paid attention to ensuring compliance with the principles contained in the Code of Practice.

2.3.3 Necessary responses to certain challenges or questions about statistical results

Despite enjoying general credibility among decision-makers and in the public opinion, the Official Statistical Service sometimes faces challenges, or even controversies, about some of the results it disseminates, which may require responses of a substantive or methodological nature.

There is nothing new about such disputes, but the Official Statistics Authority wishes to be informed and to take note of them on a regular basis, insofar as they may require even more detailed explanations and transparency on the part of official statisticians. During the course of 2022, such questions concerned several statistical outputs, notably by INSEE, including the key indicators of employment and inflation trends. Most of these questions were raised by the media or researchers, and some called for specific responses, especially when the neutrality or validity of statistical methods were called into question.

For example, INSEE's neutrality was challenged by a researcher in an article on employment trend indicators, published in *Le Monde* newspaper, on the grounds that the initial estimates published in *Informations Rapides* focused exclusively on the volume of jobs created, without tracking the possible growth of precarious employment situations. INSEE statisticians responded by writing an article in which they outlined the timing and the types of publications that shed light on the different facets of employment and the labour market, and mentioned the fact that the recent upswing in employment was actually characterised by an increase in the proportion of open-ended employment contracts.

In a period of sharply rising inflation, various disputes have also arisen over the consumer price index and the calculation of certain specific prices. An article on the price index, published in the weekly magazine *Marianne* under the title: "Grosse manipulation: ces chiffres qu'on nous cache" ("Serious tampering: the figures they are hiding from us"), took a polemical look at well-established and clearly explained elements, such as the differences between the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), used at European level. To avoid fuelling the

controversy, no direct response to this article was published, but it was preceded and followed by repeated explanations concerning the content, meaning and limitations of the various indicators, notably on the INSEE blog and directed at the media.

INSEE was also widely contacted by the media about the increases in train ticket prices recorded in the price index, which differed from those announced by SNCF. The information provided by INSEE concerned the methodology used to calculate passenger rail price indices, which are based on price quotes for a specified list of journeys over the entire year, whereas the prices estimated by the SNCF take account of consumer behaviour, especially as a result of various fare promotions.

In all cases, the information channels provided by the "fact-checking" sections of the different media play a key role in facilitating the understanding of these necessarily complex methodological explanations, and it is important for them to be as transparent and accessible as possible.

INSEE's response to a challenge to the population figure for Mayotte is also worthy of mention. The Institute was indeed questioned by MPs who estimated that the island's population was not 300,000 but 400,000 or more. The demographic situation in Mayotte seems complex, with many people in irregular situations and significant flows in and out of the territory. INSEE then published a study on its blog to corroborate the estimates from the population census, by comparing figures such as the average consumption of certain key products such as rice with those of neighbouring territories such as the Comoros and Madagascar.

In the future, the ASP will continue to ensure that appropriate answers are given to legitimate questions about the definition of statistical indicators and the methods used to compile them, while also making sure that they are not used for the primary purpose of undermining the credibility of the Official Statistical Service in the eyes of its users.

2.4 Structural problems are still being resolved

Beyond these sporadic incidents or disputes, and despite continued progress in improving the governance of the Official Statistical Service in 2022 (see below, point 2.5), structural problems, already mentioned in the Authority's most recent reports, are still being resolved.

The Authority endeavoured to monitor them in 2022 by organising a series of hearings of inspection missions or Ministerial Statistical Offices, which led to the drafting of resolutions, some of which have noted significant prospects for improvement, but also the need for long-term follow-up measures.

2.4.1 Monitoring the resources of the Official Statistical Service in a context of general development of the policy of processing and opening up access to data

In its deliberation of 31 January 2022, the Official Statistics Authority recommended paying particular attention to ensuring that the desire of government bodies to involve the Official Statistical Service in the general data policy – a welcome development – preserves the resources specifically earmarked for statistical production, in terms of the staff recruited and the resources allocated to it by the various Ministerial Statistical Offices.

The INSEE General Inspectorate's report on changes in the Official Statistical Service's resources and staff, requested by the ASP in September 2021, was also presented to the Authority in April 2022. It shows contrasting changes in resources from one ministry to another. While certain MSOs are facing significant reductions in resources, others are benefiting from increases, having been encouraged to upgrade their statistical production to meet their ministry's needs. The General

Inspectorate's mission proposed monitoring these human and financial resources on a regular basis, including an annual quantitative review and a six-monthly qualitative survey of the heads of MSOs, which would enable them to raise the alert in the event of particular tensions, in light of changes in their activity. As a follow-up to this mission, the ASP sent a letter to the Director General of INSEE, requesting the implementation of this monitoring, as part of his remit of coordinating the Official Statistical Service. It will regularly review the findings of this monitoring.

The Authority also hoped that, following the mission's proposals, consideration would be given to the possibility of introducing a greater pooling of resources within the Official Statistical Service, with particular regard to the provision of platforms and generic tools for collecting surveys, easier access to secure computer platforms for statistical processing, the creation of large databases and methodological tools for statistical purposes that can be used by the various components of the SSP, and, if necessary, the management of "major projects" requiring temporary support from high-level project managers. In 2023, the Authority will examine the findings of the INSEE General Inspectorate mission appointed to examine these issues.

2.4.2 Upgrading and reorganisation of statistical services monitored by the ASP following general inspection missions

This specific monitoring, which the Authority intends to continue over time, mainly concerns the sovereign defence and justice sectors.

In 2021, a joint mission conducted by the INSEE General Inspectorate and the General Inspectorate of the Armed Forces identified several major malfunctions concerning the Economic Observatory for Defence (OED – MSO for Defence). Following the hearing of this mission, the Authority issued a statement containing several recommendations (see ASP Annual Report 2021, point 2.3.2, p. 36). In 2022, the Ministry of the Armed Forces initiated several changes in response to these various recommendations. The MSO raised its profile by becoming an under-directorate, attached to the Directorate of Financial Affairs of the General Secretariat for the Administration. Additional resources have been allocated to it, with staff numbers expected to rise from around ten to approximately 25 posts. A Ministerial Committee on Statistical Information (COMIS) was created in June 2022, with several objectives: facilitating dialogue between the various internal and external users of the statistics and studies produced by the MSO, collecting and prioritising their needs, approving the OED's work programme and ensuring that it has access to the data it requires, and issuing an opinion on the economic studies carried out by the Ministry's other directorates. A hearing of the heads of this office is scheduled for 2023 in order to review the progress made.

Another mission carried out by the General Inspectorates of Justice and INSEE in 2021-2022, concerning the organisation, prospects and challenges of statistics for the Ministry of Justice, presented its findings to the ASP in April 2022. The MSO operates in an environment with several statistic-producing departments operating within the Ministry's operational directorates, which can give rise to various problems such as the emergence of discrepancies or inconsistencies between the different types of information produced unless close coordination is ensured. Difficulties caused by ageing IT and statistical applications and the sharing of data between directorates also come into play. In its deliberation, the Official Statistics Authority highlighted three types of problems, which were identified by the mission in its report: the size of the MSO and its lack of senior management staff; difficulties related to its positioning and organisation, associated with the shortcomings of ministerial governance vis-à-vis the overall management of statistical outputs; and the inadequacy of dialogue between the MSO and the departments in charge of digital technology. The deliberation adopted by the Authority called for an action plan to be drawn up at ministerial level and presented at a hearing of the officials concerned.

This hearing of the Head of the MSO, accompanied by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Justice, was held in November 2022. It showed the willingness of these officials to move forward with the implementation of the mission's recommendations taken up by the ASP. In the deliberations that followed this hearing, the Authority reiterated its wish to see the rapid implementation of measures to solve the above-mentioned problems. It also called for greater cooperation between the MSO for Justice and other components of the SSP, particularly the MSO of the Ministry of Internal Security, with a view to putting in place longitudinal monitoring. Shortcomings were also identified concerning the MSO's effective access to certain data, the organisation of circuits for finalising and disseminating statistical publications, and the overall visibility of the MSO. In this respect, the ASP insisted on the importance of continuing to reflect within the Ministry on the MSO's future positioning, an issue that the Authority will monitor throughout 2023. A further hearing is planned in one year's time to review progress on all actions corresponding to these recommendations.

2.4.3 The completion and long-term consolidation of the processes used to overhaul and catch up on cause-of-death statistics

The issue of cause-of-death statistics, which has placed the French statistical system in a critical position vis-à-vis its European obligations, has previously been extensively covered in the Authority's 2021 Annual Report (see point 2.3.2, p. 36-37). A joint inspection mission by IGESR, IGAS and the INSEE General Inspectorate had noted failures and malfunctions in the production of these statistics by the Epidemiology Centre for Medical Causes of Death at INSERM (CépiDc - INSERM). Following the mission's hearing in November 2021, the Authority considered that an emergency plan should be put in place, involving the Official Statistical Service via DREES, in addition to the Ministry of Research and INSERM. In this context, a high-level project manager has been recruited by DREES to manage the revision of the system, in conjunction with the CépiDc, whose missions have been more clearly defined and whose leadership has been renewed.

Upon the expiry of the quality-labelling of cause-of-death statistics, which had been conditionally granted for five years in November 2017, the Authority received a joint memorandum from the Epidemiology Centre for Medical Causes of Death and DREES in December 2022, mentioning that the renewal of this labelling could not be sought at that time. The memorandum stated that the recommendations made by the inter-inspectorate report of April 2021, followed by a deliberation by the ASP on 30 November 2021, had not been fully implemented. In particular, the structural delay in the production and dissemination of these statistics, which has prevented France from fulfilling its European obligations, had not yet been eliminated.

However, at the hearing on 15 December 2022, the Authority noted that significant progress had been made over the past year, including the release of 2020 mortality data in December 2022, and the preparation of a provisional estimate of causes of death for the years 2018 and 2019, with a final result expected in summer of 2023.

A programme to overhaul the coding of death certificates and the operation of statistical applications has also been initiated, as well as a renewed strategy for matching causes of death to the national health data system (SNDS), in conjunction with the National Health Insurance Fund (CNAM) and INSEE. Actions and specific training to support certifying doctors have also been planned in conjunction with the Directorate General for Health (DGS).

The ASP nevertheless considered that the renewal of the certification of cause of death statistics could not be envisaged until all the planned actions had been implemented and tangible

repercussions on the production and dissemination of statistics had been observed. This process can therefore only be resumed at the end of 2024 at the earliest.

In this respect, the ASP has highlighted three points on which it will exercise particular vigilance: firstly, the consolidation of the financial and human resources permanently assigned to the project, beyond the current catch-up phase concerning the transmission deadlines to the Community authorities; secondly, measures to provide statisticians with accessible IT resources and applications adapted to the operation of modernised statistical production chains; thirdly, the establishment of administrative and financial governance capable of ensuring the stable and sustainable operation of this statistical production.

The Authority plans to interview the project team again at the end of 2023 to assess the progress made and consider the conditions and time frame for a new quality label.

2.4.4 Effective access by Ministerial Statistical Offices to administrative data required for the performance of their activities

As mentioned earlier, this issue has arisen for the MSOs undergoing reorganisation at the Ministries of Defence and Justice, but for different reasons. In the first case, it is a question of speeding up the individual authorisation procedures required for access to classified information; in the second case, it is a matter of guaranteeing effective access to data in an environment in which certain IT applications are unsuitable or being redesigned.

Another major case concerns the Ministerial Statistical Office for Internal Security (SSMSI) which, in order to carry out its missions, must have access to detailed raw data, whose scope is likely to be extended, from the administrative sources of the national police and gendarmerie.

In relation to the national gendarmerie, this access has been hindered by legal questions, whose scope is under debate, regarding the possible application to the Official Statistical Service of the confidentiality of investigation and judicial inquiry, concerning authorised access under the condition of statistical confidentiality. In this respect, it was considered that an appropriate legislative provision would remove any ambiguity in this respect.

The ASP has called upon the Ministries of the Interior and Justice to propose an appropriate legal solution to consolidate this access without delay, notably with a view to the strategic project on the joint longitudinal monitoring of criminal proceedings, whose rapid implementation has been requested by both the CNIS and the ASP. The aim should be to ensure the simultaneous provision of legally secure access to data on criminal proceedings for both MSOs at these ministries, subject to statistical confidentiality and using totally secure processes.

2.4.5 Clarification of the status of the activities carried out by the Official Statistical Service with regard to the rules on statistical confidentiality and data dissemination

Two changes concerning these points should be noted in 2022, which will require further clarification and implementation.

Firstly, the Order of 23 March 2022 on the financial liability of public managers supplemented the first paragraph of Articles 141-5 and 241-5 of the Code of Financial Jurisdictions by indicating that the Court of Auditors and the Regional Chambers of Auditors were authorised to access any documents, data and processing operations required for the exercise of their powers, without obstruction on the grounds of any confidentiality protected by law, including statistical

confidentiality. These provisions have raised a number of questions for the Official Statistics Authority, particularly with regard to the application of European regulations (Regulation No 223/2009 of 11 March 2009 and the GDPR), the potential purposes of the use of such information and the conditions of confidentiality and security likely to govern its transmission.

An amendment to the order was adopted in December 2022 in the context of the discussions held in Parliament on the 2023 Finance Law, which requires the terms of access applicable to this data covered by the different types of confidentiality requirements to be defined in a Council of State decree. As this involves matters of statistical confidentiality, the ASP will, of course, remain attentive to the content of the provisions of this decree, on which it will be asked to issue an opinion.

Secondly, a legal analysis was undertaken within the Official Statistical Service, involving the ASP, on the conditions for the "retrocession" of data enriched by the MSO (coding operations, corrections, adjustments, calculation of additional indicators) to the departments of their ministry from which they obtained the "raw" data, especially with regard to individual data files.

This analysis led to the opportunity for heads of MSOs to "retrocede" some or all of this data if the improvements and enhancements made do not incorporate any additional confidential data and if their future use is not likely to incur the liability of the Official Statistical Service in administrative decision-making with regard to specific persons or enterprises.

This analysis should be further consolidated in 2023 on the basis of concrete examples, insofar as it gives the heads of MSOs both an opportunity to propose an additional service offering for data processing within their ministry, and new responsibilities regarding the choice of variables to be kept under an exclusive statistical regime, i.e. including compliance with statistical confidentiality, for uses specifically related to the missions of official statistics.

2.5 Progress underway and to be continued in the field of governance

The statement on professional independence and INSEE's coordinating role in European statistical production has been included in four new organisational decrees for Ministerial Statistical Offices in 2022, or will be included in 2023.

Consultation with users remains a key issue, as the opportunities to use data and the associated practices are increasing in number and complexity. In 2022, the use of administrative sources combined with survey data was central to the discussions held during two colloquia organised by the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS). The CNIS has also led working groups on issues of significant interest to civil society, such as discrimination, and has followed up on questions relating to the ecological transition.

In addition, ongoing discussions have been launched at INSEE on ways to ensure an adequate response to the demands of local actors, by combining a "standard" improvable dissemination offering with partnership-based activities based on the sharing of costs.

Finally, the ASP gained a new mission in 2022: serving as the external lead authority for whistleblowers on matters relating to official statistics.

2.5.1 Organisational decrees of Ministerial Statistical Offices

In 2021, the Peer Review found that a number of Ministerial Statistical Offices (approximately 6) had not yet included the statement on professional independence and INSEE's coordinating role in the production of European statistics in the organisational decrees of their General Secretariats.

Following the 2021 Peer Review, provisions have been adopted (MSO for Defence) or are in the process of being adopted in the regulatory texts concerning the missions and organisation of DARES, DREES, DEPP and agencies undergoing reorganisation such as the MSO for Justice, in order to include statements on their professional independence and the coordinating role played by INSEE.

2.5.2 The activities of the National Council for Statistical Information on topics of major interest

In 2022, the CNIS focused on five topics within the framework of activities that led to working groups or symposia.

- **Matching operations, notably based on administrative data**, can be used to significantly enhance the existing statistical sources. The CNIS colloquium in January 2022 considered technical issues, international comparisons – especially on the use of administrative data – and demonstrated the need for greater transparency in these types of operations. The CNIS also established a consultation group on the RÉSIL project, composed of various personalities, including specialists in public liberties and data security, lawyers, sociologists and journalists, which highlighted the conditions required to ensure the acceptability of such projects, as well as the precautions to be taken and efforts to be made on transparency for such large-scale operations.

More generally, both the CNIS and the ASP have expressed the desire for statistical services, henceforth, to provide public information on the data matching operations they are planning to perform or are conducting using the non-significant statistical code (CSNS). Panels and cohorts in the CNIS' activities were also addressed at a second colloquium held in May 2022, which placed the emphasis on the fundamental contribution of longitudinal data, which is often derived from matching, to studies of individuals' pathways, and of incoming and outgoing flows relating to public policy schemes. A review of the current situation was presented, from the permanent demographic sample (PDS) to the wide range of epidemiological cohorts used in the health sector.

- **The observation and statistical measurement of discrimination** is another of the key work themes selected by the CNIS in 2022, at the request of the French National Ombudsman. The working group in charge of this subject reviewed the sources and methods used to report on this phenomenon in various fields such as the labour market, access to housing and credit, schools, disability situations, etc. These activities identified information gaps and the priorities on which efforts need to be focused. This working group's report is expected in 2023.
- **Access by official statisticians to private data for general-interest purposes** is a shared concern for the French statistical system and the European authorities alike (see Part I above). For several years, the CNIS has encouraged access to databases held by public and private legal entities in order to produce statistics for general information purposes, in addition to the usual statistical sources. This year, the CNIS paid particular attention to the

monitoring of agricultural practices and the use of plant-protection products in a context of more stringent European regulations requiring new monitoring tools. A working group has therefore been established in order to design a tool for collecting data via the management software that farmers use to manage their production, which needs to be linked to the draft register on the use of these products provided for by Community regulations.

- **Statistical classifications** are currently undergoing revisions whose scope has important implications for users. The joint revision of the international (ISIC) and European (NACE) classifications of activities has led to the creation of a CNIS working group to examine the revision of the French classification of activities (NAF) which will come into force in 2025 and will be linked to the NACE.
- **The ecological transition** and the measurement issues it raises constitute the final major focus of the CNIS's work. This cross-cutting topic involves several of its commissions and discussions have been undertaken with various experts to examine the concepts of ecological transition, green economy and green finance, understand the underlying mechanisms, and monitor the impact of public interventions... A symposium is being organised in May 2023 to reflect on the information and innovation needs of official statistics in this area.

2.5.3 Responses of INSEE Regional Directorates to requests from local actors

Following the questions raised by the Court of Auditors on this point, the Official Statistics Authority questioned INSEE about the changes that should be made to its Regional Directorates' responses to local actors' requests, and in particular about how to strike a balance between the general provision of relevant statistics in order to inform their decisions and work carried out "on request", or "tailor-made" activities.

As a report by the General Inspectorate was drafted on this latter topic, INSEE reaffirmed the Institute's focus on improving its various forms of "standard" dissemination, including in combination with "expert advice" services in order to facilitate their use by local public actors.

"Tailor-made" dissemination should also be maintained, but in a limited manner and within the framework of partnerships involving pooled investments and cost-sharing, on the basis of an updated fee structure.

Before the summer of 2023, this strategy, which has been approved in principle, should give rise to an action plan involving INSEE's Regional Directorates and clarifying the criteria for responding to requests, notably those requiring tailor-made dissemination.

2.5.4 The ASP's involvement in whistleblowing procedures

New laws and regulations concerning whistleblowers were adopted in 2022 in order to reinforce their protection. These measures specify the procedures to be used and the authorities to be notified for the different types of alerts.

Law No 2022-401 of 21 March 2022, for example, bolsters the whistleblower protection regime provided for by the Laws of December 2016 and March 2019. The current applicable legislation gives a broad definition of whistleblowers, which goes beyond the professional sphere and enables whistleblowers to raise an alert externally, either after reporting an issue internally, or by directly alerting the authority designated as competent by a Council of State decree. Alternatively, they may

contact the National Ombudsman, which must direct them towards the relevant authority or authorities.

The Official Statistics Authority was designated by Decree No 2022-1284 of 3 October 2022 as the competent external authority for alerts concerning the entire "official statistics" sector.

A procedure for the reporting and processing of any alerts that may be raised must therefore be put in place by the Commission and published on its website. Under cover of confidentiality, it may involve the various Official Statistics committees (CNIS, Quality-Labelling Committee, Confidentiality Committee) in which the issue raised by the whistleblower may already have been addressed, and enables the INSEE Inspectorate General's expertise to be sought, if necessary.

Once the procedure has been implemented, the regulation provides for the transmission of an annual report on alerts and their handling to the Human Rights National Ombudsman.

2.6 Pursuit of the efforts made on dissemination and communication

In 2022, the Official Statistical Service continued its efforts to provide access to statistical information in an accessible and educational manner, using increasingly diversified media such as data visualisation and videos. New publications have shed more light on certain matters such as territorial issues, while others have disseminated the results of new observations or analyses. In addition to written or digital media, public events have also been held to highlight statistical outputs and organise discussions between statisticians, government bodies and researchers.

In order to guarantee the broader professional independence of statistical services, certain dissemination rules still need to be clarified and harmonised within the Official Statistical Service. A reference framework for the dissemination process to be used for the SSP's statistical publications was proposed to the Authority and approved by the latter in early 2023.

2.6.1 New statistical publications

In 2022, the SSP continued its information-oriented activities by releasing new publications that are clearly identified and differentiated from government communication, while meeting the professional independence requirement.

For example, the MSO for Justice launched a new series of *Infos rapides Justice* publications designed to provide quick access to key indicators on the judicial system. The first issue in July focused on repeat offences after release from prison.

In cultural sector, an *Atlas Culture des Territoires* (Territorial Culture Atlas) presents an overview of the cultural activities carried out within a given area, from the municipal to regional levels, and enables the cross-referencing of this information with socio-economic data.

A "Territories" section was added to the *Tableau de bord de l'économie française* (French Economy Dashboards), published by INSEE in 2022, supplementing the two previous editions covering the national and European economy, and providing a continuously updated overview of the economic, demographic and social situation in France. This is a collective undertaking by the Official Statistical Service, involving all of the MSOs.

2.6.2 Publications exploring new fields

Various publications setting out to promote new survey-processing or matching activities carried out within the SSP were disseminated during the year, including the following examples.

INSEE published an *Insee Focus* in May 2022, which revealed that "a third of adults gave up performing an administrative formality online in 2021". This study is based on surveys examining household uses of "Information and Communication Technology" (ICT) and "Statistics on Income and Living Conditions" (SRLC). In addition, intergenerational mobility on the income scale was assessed for the first time in France by linking the incomes of parents with those of their children over 28 years of age. The Permanent Demographic Sample (EDP) enriched with tax data was used for this analysis. The first results of the "Trajectories and Origins" survey (TeO2) conducted by INSEE and INED were also disseminated in three publications.

DREES published a study on the non-take-up of the minimum old-age pension by single elderly people in 2016. This was the first use of the matching of the DREES inter-regime sample of pensioners with data from tax returns.

In collaboration with a research team, DARES also quantified the non-take-up of unemployment insurance benefits, in order to shed light on the non-take-up phenomenon in this sector and propose possible explanations.

The SSMSI published the first results of its new statistical survey, the GENESE survey, which presents an unprecedented overview of violence in France and lays the foundations for the future "Security Experiences and Perceptions" (VRS) survey.

DEPP has released the first results of the "Occupational Well-Being Barometer Survey of National Education Staff Working in Schools". This survey was conducted for the first time in the spring of 2022 and addresses the different dimensions of quality of life at work.

2022 also saw the publication of new retrospective overviews, e.g. on the cultural and sporting practices of the French, published in *France portrait social* and based on contributions from INJEP – MSO for the Ministry of Youth and Sport, and DEPS – MSO for the Ministry of Culture. Efforts have also been made to provide access to methodological documents, e.g. by DREES on mortality and also on vaccination statistics.

2.6.3 An emphasis on providing access to information in an instructive manner using innovative media

"Datavisualisation" continues to be used to facilitate access to statistics. This is notably the case for the SSMSI, which uses this medium to present time series on crime and insecurity based on more than a hundred monthly, quarterly or annual statistical indicators, for which metadata are presented along with the values. The main indicators of crimes and offences recorded by the police and the national gendarmerie since 2016 are shown at departmental and municipal level.

The MSO for Agriculture also used "datavisualisation" to disseminate the first results of the agricultural census. A dedicated platform has been created and is regularly enriched with data from new studies as they are released.

DARES – the MSO for the Ministry of Labour and Employment, has published computer graphics accessible to the general public on its website to accompany the presentation of its data sources. This instructive visual aid explains the respective contributions of surveys and administrative data,

and is accompanied by concrete examples. It mentions the cross-referencing and matching of different data sources.

Videos are also being increasingly used to shed light on different topics. INSEE has encouraged the use of this tool by inviting the MSOs to make use of its partnership with an agency specialising in enhancing the presentation of general-interest data. INSEE has posted a video series on its YouTube channel, presenting inflation in several sequences: on the market basket, price measurement, the "quality effect", the inflation trend, the difference between measurement and perception, etc. Similarly, the MSO for the Ministry of Ecological Transition (SDES) broadcast a video explaining the definition and measurement of the carbon footprint, which was timed to coincide with the COP27 in November 2022. Other MSOs such as the SSMSI, DARES and INJEP have used this type of medium to promote their studies.

2.6.4 Public events to promote official statistics and organise discussions with government bodies and researchers

Public meetings for different audiences were held throughout 2022, with a view to sharing and discussing statistical data on new issues or in fields of methodological excellence.

At INSEE, several events marked the year: the "Printemps de l'économie", for which the Institute hosted a conference, the "Rendez-vous de l'Histoire" festival in Blois in October, and the "Journées de l'économie (Jéco)" conferences in November. In March, INSEE organised the "Journées de méthodologie statistique" (JMS – Statistical Methodology Days), a flagship event enabling the presentation of around one hundred papers by over two hundred authors. Many MSOs participated in the presentations, including DEPP – the MSO for Defence, and DREES.

At the MSO level, DARES and DREES organised a symposium entitled "Platform work and social protection uses", which extended the research for a call for projects on the collaborative economy launched and jointly monitored by both directorates. In December, DREES organised a conference on the non-take-up of social benefits in France and Europe, in collaboration with the Observatory for the Non-Take-Up of Entitlements and Services (ODENORE).

2.6.5 ASP-approved clarification and harmonisation of rules for the dissemination of statistical publications

The 2021 Peer Review (see ASP Annual Report 2021) had pointed out a lack of harmonisation of the dissemination rules in relation to the embargo rules applied within the different components of the Official Statistical Service for the main statistical indicators. The Official Statistics Authority, for its part, wanted a common reference framework to be drawn up at SSP level, for the dissemination process to be used for all statistical publications, and covering their wide range of content and media.

A working group composed of representatives of MSOs and members of INSEE's Methodology, Statistical Coordination and International Relations Directorate met several times in 2022 and devised a proposal for a common reference framework for the statistical publication dissemination process (see Annexe 5). As recommended by European peers, it is accompanied by an updated list of possible beneficiaries of early access to embargoed indicators, which includes a reduced number of beneficiaries and mentions their functions. This framework also harmonises the dissemination process for the SSP's "other statistical publications" (all statistics disseminated for general information purposes, with or without commentary), by providing for their prior announcement in

the form of provisional schedules. As suggested by the Authority, it makes a clear distinction between the work – with qualified experts – on verifying the accuracy and quality of the information disseminated, and any early access that may be granted to publications that have already been finalised. Such access must, under all circumstances, be very precisely limited in time and scope.

The ASP welcomed the development of this common reference framework and endorsed its content, which will enhance the assertion of the professional independence of all components of the Official Statistical Service, to which the Authority will be referring during the next contacts or hearings scheduled with its various interlocutors.

3 The ASP's activities in 2022

3.1 Sessions of the Authority

The ASP met eight times between March 2022 and January 2023. Most of its meetings were held in both face-to-face and remote mode to promote the largest possible attendance of members.

Session of 14 April 2022

- News items
- News on international issues: ESGAB report on Eurostat, Peer Review follow-up, news items on the French Presidency of the European Union (FPEU)
- Update on the reflections on regulatory texts concerning the ASP and the Quality-Labelling Committee
- Update on the work of the INSEE Inspectorate General's mission on the SSP's staff and resources
- Hearing of the inter-inspectorate mission on "Organisation, prospects and challenges for Ministry of Justice statistics".

Session of 17 May 2022

- News items
- Hearing of SDES, the Ministerial Statistical Office for the Ministry of Ecological Transition and the Environment
- Hearing of the INSEE General Inspectorate mission on tourism statistics
- Reference framework for the statistical publication dissemination process: update on current reflections within the Official Statistical Service

Session of 30 June 2022

- News items and progress on the ASP's activities:
 - News items
 - Legal review on statistical confidentiality
 - Plans to organise a seminar on the "Official Statistics Procedure"
- Hearing of the Mutualité Sociale Agricole on the "Official Statistics Procedure"
- Hearing of the MSO for the Ministry of the Economy and Finance (DGFIP)
- Hearing of the National Sickness Insurance Fund (CNAM) on the "Official Statistics Procedure"

Session of 15 September 2022

- News items and provisional schedule for the next ASP meetings
- A review of the legal aspects of statistical confidentiality
- Opinion on the draft order on the ASP and the Quality-Labeling Committee
- Hearing of FranceAgriMer on the "Official Statistics Procedure"

Session of 27 October 2022

- News items and progress on the ASP's activities:
 - News items
 - Decree on whistleblowers
 - Organisational points
 - A review of the legal aspects of statistical confidentiality
- "Revoyure" (review) of the labelled statistics of the National Old-Age Insurance Fund (CNAV).
- Re-labelling of the State Pension Service (SRE) statistics

Session of 24 November 2022

- News items and progress on the ASP's activities:
- Hearing of the SDSE – MSO of the Ministry of Justice.
- Hearing of ADEME on the "Official Statistics Procedure"

Session of 15 December 2022

- News items and progress on the ASP's activities:
 - News items
 - Organisation and content of the future seminar planned for 2023 on the "Official Statistics Procedure"
- Progress and status of cause of death statistics with a view to re-labelling
- A fresh look at international issues:
 - Contribution to European statistics from producers outside the SSP
 - Developments in European data regulation

Session of 12 January 2023

- News items and progress on the ASP's activities:
 - Legal texts concerning the ASP
 - Urgent issues

- Preliminary programme of ASP meetings from 2023 to January 2024; seminar in September 2023
- Hearing of Mr Patrice Duran, President of the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS);
- Hearing of Mr Jean-Luc Tavernier, Director-General of INSEE.

Deliberations or recommendations were produced in relation to the issues addressed during these sessions, which are covered in the following points (see points 3.2 to 3.4 below).

Pursuant to Articles 1, 1.3 and 4 of amended Decree No 2009-250 relating to the Official Statistics Authority, the ASP also issued the following opinions in 2022:

- Opinion of 5 September 2022 of the Official Statistics Authority on the draft decree amending Decree No 2009-1179 of 5 October 2009 defining the powers and organisational structure of the General Secretariat for the Administration of the Ministry of the Armed Forces
- Opinion of 15 December 2022 of the Official Statistics Authority on the draft decree amending Decree No 93-57 of 15 January 1993 on the organisation of the central administration of the Ministry of Labour, Full Employment and Integration
- Opinion of 15 December 2022 of the Official Statistics Authority on the draft decree amending Decree No 2000-685 of 21 July 2000 on the organisation of the central administration of the Ministry of Employment and Solidarity and the powers of some of its departments

3.2 Hearings of official statistics producers

In addition to the Director General of INSEE, whom it interviews every year, the ASP interviewed three Ministerial Statistical Offices (MSOs) in 2022: SDES – the MSO for the Ministry of Ecological Transition, the MSO for the Directorate General of Public Finance (DGFIP), and the SDSE – the MSO for the Ministry of Justice.

The ASP chooses the hearings it will hold each year according to three criteria: the ongoing restructuring of the department, the recent appointment of new managers, or the fact that the previous hearing was held several years ago. In this way, the Authority monitors the main developments taking place within the Official Statistical Service on a regular and sometimes frequent basis, and deliberates on them.

- **Deliberation following the hearing of the Head of the Data and Statistical Studies Department (SDES – Service des données et des études statistiques) of the Ministry of Ecological Transition**

"On 17 May 2022, the Official Statistics Authority (ASP) interviewed the head of the Ministry of Ecological Transition's Data and Statistical Studies Department.

The ASP noted the very broad scope of the statistics covered by this department, which includes transport and energy, housing and construction, and the environment and sustainable development. Its position within the General Council for Sustainable Development (CGDD) alongside the Research and Innovation Department, which includes Ecolab, a Data-Driven Innovation Laboratory, is an asset in this respect, enabling it to understand the key issues of ministerial policies and promote the consideration of statistical needs in data processing and

administration. The SDES's practices in the production and dissemination of statistical information also reflect its compliance with the principles of professional independence, objectivity and impartiality required by the European Statistics Code of Practice, given that many of the indicators it produces fall under European regulations or international obligations.

Central to the SDES's observation missions are issues giving rise to multiple and growing demands for information from social actors, and which are repeatedly prioritised by the public authorities in a context of constrained resources. Examples include housing and living conditions, and above all, different aspects of environmental problems and the ecological transition, which require new data collections, in addition to efforts to define concepts and classifications adapted to relevant statistical monitoring, with close collaboration between INSEE and SDES.

SDES also operates in an environment in which several other government or public bodies produce and disseminate statistical information in related fields, which makes it crucial – in view of the multiple demands of users – to coordinate the statistics produced and include them in an overall regulation. In this context, it is important for SDES to develop its statistical consultation and coordination role vis-à-vis the various data-producing bodies attached to the Ministry. This role is particularly crucial for data contributing to European and international statistics, whose quality must be validated.

In terms of its own activities, SDES will need to ensure the renewal of old applications, while increasing the scope of its observations on issues such as energy renovation, energy consumption practices, personal mobility, pesticide use, biodiversity, decarbonisation policies and ecosystem monitoring. The responses to these information needs could be usefully enhanced in the future by mobilising private data, which requires the conduct of experiments and the definition of appropriate rules and processing.

However, on the Official Statistical Service side, SDES needs to have a multi-annual framework defining the frequency, the financing method, and the content of surveys of individuals on housing conditions (known as "housing surveys"), in order to be able to programme the use of updating instruments between two surveys and shed more light on certain issues such as fuel poverty.

Finally, the government-wide planning of environmental priorities should give SDES an opportunity to consolidate its observation resources over the next few years – in cooperation with other partners, if necessary – and to launch new monitoring and assessment operations."

- **Deliberation following the hearing of the heads of the Ministerial Statistical Office for "Public Finance"**

"The Official Statistics Authority (ASP) interviewed the Head of the Department of Fiscal Studies and Statistics (DESF) for the Directorate General of Public Finances (DGFIP) on 30 June 2022, in the presence of the Head of the Tax Management (GF) Department to whom he reports.

The Department of Fiscal Studies and Statistics (DESF) comprises a Tax Management Support Unit and a Statistical Unit, which granted Ministerial Statistical Office (MSO) status in 2011. This department is now horizontally positioned within the Tax Management Department, ensuring greater cross-functionality than was previously possible when it was attached to one of the under-directorates.

The MSO's missions focus exclusively on the processing of tax data, through the production of databases, their provision to other components of the Official Statistical Service (SSP) and to researchers, and the public dissemination of statistics via various channels. In this respect, the MSO has redesigned its website and its range of statistical tables, and has introduced two lines of

publications (*DGFiP Statistiques* and *DGFiP Analyses*) since 2021, aimed at decision-makers and the public.

The ASP welcomes the reorganisation of this MSO, which now has 14 grade A managers (including 6 from INSEE bodies), is being consolidated by the addition of two agents, and is playing an active role in the sharing of data within the SSP. The development of its data provision activities is being carried out in compliance with the rules of professional independence stemming from the European Statistics Code of Practice, especially with regard to the dissemination of publications and the embargo rules.

However, the use of new databases in various fields (indirect taxes, urban planning, transfers and inheritance, etc.), and the growing demand from researchers (more than 320 new requests in 2021, compared with 170 in 2017), require the pursuit of efforts to backcast and document data, interact with users, and carry out statistical analysis for the benefit of economic actors and citizens, alongside the studies and calculations carried out by the part of the department outside the official statistics division for the Ministry's departments, e.g. on the revision of rental values.

This sustained demand requires, at the very least, the consolidation of its IT and human resources, in order to recruit and retain staff with the expertise required to develop a common culture shared by statisticians and tax specialists."

- **Deliberation following the hearing of the Head of the Ministerial Statistical Office for the Ministry of Justice**

"The Public Statistics Authority (ASP) held a hearing on 24 November 2022 with the Deputy Director of Statistics and Studies (SDSE), Head of the Ministerial Statistical Office (MSO) for the Ministry of Justice, in the presence of the Secretary General of the Ministry, the Head of the Expertise and Modernisation Department and the Deputy Director's assistant.

The ASP noted the willingness of the MSO and the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Justice to implement the recommendations of the report of the Justice and INSEE General Inspectorates dated February 2022, followed by a deliberation of the ASP on 23 May 2022.

The ASP urges the approval and implementation of the action plan as soon as possible throughout the Ministry. It stresses the need to step up consultations with users inside and outside the Ministry, organise a governance system and an overall management function for the statistical production carried out by the Ministry's various components, and consolidate the MSO's resources on a long-term basis, particularly in terms of senior management. It notes the need for an overhaul of applications and greater coordination of feedback from the courts, with a view to improving the quality and consistency of statistics collection and compilation processes.

The ASP also considers it highly important to increase cooperation between the MSO and other components of the Official Statistical Service (SSP), first and foremost the Ministerial Statistical Office for Internal Security (SSMSI), with a view to establishing joint longitudinal monitoring, and developing its cooperation activities with research.

The ASP is also awaiting a modification of the decree on the organisation of the General Secretariat in order to include references to the independence of the Ministerial Statistical Office and INSEE's coordinating role in the preparation of European statistics.

The ASP has also identified a number of problems with the office's self-assessment in relation to the European Statistics Code of Practice, and requests their resolution in the near future.

These problems include:

- effective access by the SDSE to all data required for statistical production, and especially to data from the "Cassiopée" software program;
- the finalisation and dissemination channels for statistical publications, which, on the one hand, should distinguish more clearly between the inter-administrative work phase that is likely to improve their content and the preparatory phase for publications, and, on the other hand, should significantly reduce the time required for their early dissemination to a limited number of ministerial interlocutors;
- the provision of metadata, systematically for all new statistics and then gradually extended via a comprehensive catching-up process for existing statistics;
- raising the MSO's profile within the Ministry's overall communication channels, notably by disseminating a newsletter highlighting its publications.

Finally, the ASP would like the Ministry of Justice to keep reflecting on the desired future positioning of its statistical office, which the Inspectorate Report recommended should be attached directly to the Ministry's General Secretariat, in order to raise its profile and improve its cross-functionality.

Through regular discussions with the Secretary General and the Head of the MSO, the ASP will monitor the actual content of the changes made, and will invite the officials in charge of this Ministerial Statistical Office to attend a further hearing, by the end of 2023 at the latest, in order to take stock of the improvements implemented."

3.3 Processes associated with the labelling and recognition of the qualification of statistics of general interest ("Official Statistics Procedure")

3.3.1 Labelling of statistics produced from administrative sources

One of ASP's tasks is to attribute a "general interest and statistical quality label" to certain statistics produced by public bodies or bodies with a public service remit on the basis of administrative sources. Its opinions, generally issued for a five-year period, are published in the Official Journal and on its website. The Official Statistics Quality-Labeling Committee is responsible for examining applications for labelling or renewal, by assessing the quality of the statistical information produced and compliance with the recommendations in the Code of Practice.

● **Renewal of the State Pensions Department's statistical quality label**

In 2022, the State Pensions Department (SRE) submitted its third application for renewal of the quality label for series derived from its pension database, which were first labelled in 2012 and again in 2017.

In November 2022, the Authority granted the renewal of this label for a five-year period of five years. In accordance with the recommendations made by the Quality-Labeling Committee, the Authority invited the department to improve the documentation, published on its website, of the changes resulting from the upgrading of the production process and changes in the concepts used, and to disseminate metadata systematically for each statistic published. It encouraged the SRE to keep harmonising these statistics with those of organisations covering the same subjects, to establish a users' committee, and to prioritise the publication of long series. In particular, the Authority hopes that the reconciliation of the statistical series relating to State pensions with those

managed by the Caisse nationale de retraite des agents des collectivités locales (National Pension Fund for Local Authority Employees) will lead to the creation of a set of homogeneous series for the three public services in the near future. Lastly, the Authority considers it important for the department to study the opportunities opened up by the use of the Nominative Social Declaration (DSN) to improve its statistics and harmonise them with those of other operators in the pension system (see Annexe 3).

- **"Review" procedure following the renewal of the quality labelling of the National Old-Age Insurance Fund (CNAV) series.**

The Authority had granted a quality label to the CNAV series in January 2021, accompanied by a request for a "review" based on the comments made by the Quality-Labelling Committee and the Authority, which concerned the documentation and revision of statistical series, the inclusion of the self-employed in these series, and the granting of access to the data by researchers.

After examining the implementation of the Quality-Labelling Committee's recommendations, the Authority issued an opinion in November 2022, noting that CNAV had significantly improved the documentation of the series posted on its website and that it had satisfactorily taken into account the interruption to the series following the integration of the self-employed into the general scheme. The requested study on the consequences of revisions to entitlements has been carried out, and the Authority has recommended that CNAV continue to periodically monitor the impact of the advanced publication of the series on new pensioners and study the methods for releasing definitive series. The Authority has also noted that the terms of access by researchers to CNAV data have improved, although improvements to enable the implementation of more comprehensive, easily usable and documented databases are still required. The Authority will be focusing on these different points at the time of the next relabelling application (see Annexe 3).

- **Suspension of the quality-labelling of cause-of-death statistics**

Upon the expiry of the quality label for cause-of-death statistics, which had been conditionally granted for a five-year period in November 2017, the Official Statistics Authority (ASP) received a joint memorandum from the Epidemiology Centre for Medical Causes of Death (CépiDc-INSERM) and DREES, indicating that the renewal of this quality label could not be sought at that time. This memorandum specifies that the recommendations made in the IGESR-IGAS-INSEE IG Inter-Inspectorate Report of April 2021, followed by an ASP deliberation on 30 November 2021, have not yet been fully implemented. In particular, the structural delay in the production and dissemination of these statistics, which prevents France from fulfilling its European obligations, has not yet been eliminated.

Following the hearing it held with the officials in charge of these statistics on 15 December 2022, the Authority issued a statement declaring that the renewed certification of cause-of-death statistics could not be considered until all of the measures included in the plans devised to overhaul and remedy the shortcomings in these statistics had been implemented and were producing tangible results in terms of the timeliness, regularity and quality of the published statistics. This process can therefore only be resumed at the end of 2024, at the earliest (see point 2.4.3 above and Annexe 3).

3.3.2 Recognition of the qualification of statistics of general interest, known as the "Official Statistics Procedure"

Based on the observation that the environment of the Official Statistical Service includes numerous and diversified official producers of statistical data, the Official Statistics Authority (ASP) announced its intention to launch a measure in 2021 and 2022, initially known as the "Official Statistics Procedure", but now referred to as "recognition of the qualification of statistics of general interest", which rounds off the previously described ongoing "quality-labelling" process.

Some of these official producers play an important role in the dissemination of statistical information, alongside and often in conjunction with the Ministerial Statistical Offices in their sector. They have their own dissemination media and sometimes form part of a broader "open data" policy, sometimes without a clear distinction vis-à-vis the other available data being made clear to users.

As the ASP, under the terms of the Law of 1951 as amended in 2008, is required to regulate all data used "for general information purposes" by government and public bodies, and private organisations with a public-service remit, the Authority therefore wished to launch a progressive, pragmatic procedure designed to improve the involvement of all statistics producers in this regulation, in conjunction with the Official Statistical Service (SSP). This procedure is based on the transmission of the participating organisations' statistical programmes to the CNIS and the provision of an information table illustrating compliance with the principles of autonomy and transparency for the series that they regularly disseminate, with references to detailed documentation on the fields, concepts and methods used. These documents are examined by the Quality-Labelling Committee prior to a hearing and deliberation held by the Authority with a view to qualifying this information as "statistics of general interest".

In 2022, the Official Statistics Authority's procedure was first clarified and reinforced by the publication of the Ministerial Order of 23 December, whose first article specifies that *the Official Statistics Authority may recognise outputs derived from the use of data collected by government and public bodies, and private bodies with a public-service remit, as statistics of general interest*. This Order raises the profile of the procedure, particularly among organisations that have previously remained somewhat remote from the official statistics sector.

The ASP has also actively pursued the ongoing process concerning statistics made available for general information purposes. As a result, four organisations, which may or may not produce quality-labelled series (the National Sickness Insurance Fund – CNAM, the Agricultural Social Insurance Mutual Benefit Fund – MSA, the French office responsible for agricultural and seafood products – FranceAgriMer and the French Environment and Energy Management Agency in charge of the ecological transition – ADEME) have obtained general-interest certification for some of the series published on their websites.

This recognition concerns important information in the social, agricultural or environmental sectors. For the CNAM, this concerns the demographics, fees and activities of self-employed health professionals; for the MSA, the incidence of long-term illnesses and creations of agricultural holdings; for FranceAgriMer, the collection and stocks of cereals and oilseeds, as well as bulk wine listings; for ADEME, it concerns waste monitoring series. For the provision of access to their statistics, these four organisations prioritise the objectives of accessibility and transparency, which are central to the procedure.

During the hearings and deliberations (see Annexe 4), the Authority, backed by the Quality-Labelling Committee's opinions, recommended, where appropriate, improvements to the metadata

provided to users and, in some cases, clarifications concerning the links and complementarity with the statistics produced by the Official Statistical Service. Further hearings of these bodies have been planned in two to three years' time (from the end of 2024) in order to take stock of the improvements made, the opportunity to launch a quality-labelling process for some of these series, and the envisaged enhancement of statistics likely to be eligible for recognition.

In addition to the above-mentioned bodies and those which joined the procedure in 2021 (URSSAF Caisse Nationale, French Civil Aviation Authority – DGAC, Santé publique France – SpF), 2022 saw the Authority prepare for the extension of the list of bodies potentially involved in the "Official Statistics Procedure" by entering into contact with around twenty of them.

Some of these bodies have already implemented a policy of disseminating data of miscellaneous status in "open data" format, in which the statistics are not always specifically identified. Their recognition by the ASP as statistics of general interest would therefore help users to identify items that are relevant to their needs amongst the wealth of different information at their disposal.

Conversely, other organisations possess pre-structured information in the form of statistical series that could be qualified as being of general interest, but have not yet undertaken to disseminate this data using tools that would enable it to be shared with the maximum number of people. The Authority wishes to monitor and support their efforts to open up access to their data in the long term, and therefore enable them to meet the transparency and documentation conditions required for these identified statistics from the outset.

Finally, other organisations may also be grappling with legal issues or policy matters requiring a longer and more iterative dialogue with the Authority, such as the initial chargeable nature of some of the data produced, or the compilation of statistics required for other regulatory purposes.

The positioning of the organisations with which discussions were held in 2022 with a view to broadening the scope of statistics recognised as being of general interest is therefore diverse, which justifies the progressive and pragmatic approach adopted since the launch of the procedure.

In this respect, in order to learn from the first stage launched in 2021 and improve the organisation of widespread implementation resulting from the Order of 23 December 2022, the Official Statistics Authority plans to organise a seminar for reflection and discussion in the autumn of 2023, which will bring together the public bodies already involved or likely to participate in the process, INSEE, the Ministerial Statistical Offices and various bodies involved in regulating the statistical system – notably the CNIS. The aim of this seminar will be to take stock of the ongoing process and its benefits for both producers and users of statistics, in addition to ways of promoting greater cooperation and coordination between the organisations involved in the procedure and the Official Statistical Service. It will also provide an opportunity for a collective discussion on the "target scheme" to be considered for the future, concerning both the development of the general-interest qualification and its links with the labelling process.

3.4 The Authority's deliberations of a general nature or on structural issues

3.4.1 Improving statistical monitoring in specific fields

Comments upon the next two deliberations on statistics in the tourism and justice sectors have previously been made in Sections 2.2.1.1 and 2.4.2 of this report, respectively, following missions carried out by the General Inspectorate.

- **Deliberation on tourism statistics**

Tourism statistics were the subject of an INSEE General Inspectorate mission tasked with improving responses to the needs expressed by stakeholders at different geographical levels (see point 2.2.1.1 above).

"The Official Statistics Authority has taken note of the findings and proposals of the mission carried out by the INSEE General Inspectorate on the current state of tourism statistics and the prospects for their production.

The mission has reviewed the various instruments that contribute to the statistical description of the tourism sector and which, following changes to the Directorate General for Enterprises' missions, are divided between the Banque de France for the Foreign Visitors' Survey (EVE) and INSEE for the Occupancy Surveys of Collective Tourist Accommodation (EFHCT), the Monitoring of Tourist Demand (SDT), and the Tourism Satellite Account (CST).

The ASP has noted the relevance of a cross-cutting overview function for the overall statistical system for tourism, capable of both presenting an overview and promoting dialogue with users, and calls for the establishment of such a function.

The ASP strongly recommends the organisation of a consultation with relevant government bodies and representatives of local authorities in relation to the target statistical system to be developed, in terms of the diversification of statistical sources on tourism and the development of relevant zoning arrangements for the dissemination of these statistics, with the dual objective of ensuring coherence with the national zoning arrangements and taking account of the demand from stakeholders, while supporting efforts to meet their needs.

The reflections undertaken on the use of private data for this purpose and the possibility of producing leading indicators also merit further consideration.

The ASP hopes that INSEE can present the target system selected at the end of these consultations and involving INSEE and other public bodies such as the Ministry of Tourism and Atout France, if necessary, to the Authority by the end of next year."

- **Deliberation on the situation of the Ministerial Statistical Office for the Ministry of Justice**

Prior to the hearing of the MSO for Justice by the ASP in November 2022, a mission carried out by the Justice and INSEE General Inspectorates in 2021-2022, concerning the organisation, prospects and challenges of the Ministry of Justice's statistics, had presented its conclusions to the ASP in April 2022, which gave rise to an initial deliberation by the ASP on 23 May (see point 2.4.2, above).

"The Official Statistics Authority has taken note of the findings and proposals of the joint mission carried out by the General Inspectorates for Justice and INSEE in 2021-2022, concerning the organisation, prospects and challenges of the Ministry of Justice's statistics.

The mission emphasises that the Under-Directorate for Statistics and Studies (SDSE) of the Ministry of Justice operates in an environment that includes several statistic-producing departments positioned within the Ministry's operational directorates, which may, in the absence of appropriate coordination, lead to redundancies or poorly managed divergences. The ageing statistical

applications currently available are a source of problems and need to be modernised in a concerted manner by statisticians and computer specialists, while the means of sharing data between directorates are under discussion.

The Official Statistics Authority has noted three types of problems, which the mission identified in its report:

- the size of the MSO and its lack of senior staff, which reduce its attractiveness and weaken its position vis-à-vis its ministerial interlocutors;
- organisational difficulties at the MSO, combined with weak governance within the Ministry in terms of the overall management of statistical production and the organisation of responses to needs;
- insufficient dialogue between SDSE and the agencies in charge of digital technology, which is detrimental to the consideration of statistical requirements (consistency of concepts and classifications; temporal continuity) in computer applications, and hinders discussions on the sharing of data warehouses and the development of a service offering that is consistent with ministerial data policy.

This observation highlights difficulties that the ASP has already noted concerning other Ministerial Statistical Offices. In addition to organisational measures, and as proposed by the mission in one of its envisaged scenarios, these difficulties could be resolved by increasing the size of the Ministerial Statistical Office and strengthening its positioning in order to enable it to cross a 'critical threshold'.

Whatever choices the ministerial authorities make on this point, the ASP considered it necessary to draw up an action plan by the autumn of 2022 in response to the priorities envisaged by the mission.

Beyond the Ministry's own needs, the Authority would also like this action plan to envisage a broader consultation of external users interested in monitoring the functioning of the justice system, and to take account of the enhancements facilitated by greater cooperation with other components of the Official Statistical Service (SSP). This cooperation particularly concerns the Ministerial Statistical Office for Internal Security (SSMSI), via the implementation of the Classification of Offences and the implementation of joint longitudinal monitoring of criminal proceedings. It could be extended to other offices, concerning employment or the working conditions of professionals in the justice system, for example.

The ASP hopes that this action plan can be presented to it before the end of 2022, at a hearing of the heads of the Ministerial Statistical Office and the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Justice."

3.4.2 Reaffirmations and clarifications of matters of principle related to the official statistics status of certain information made available

Three ASP deliberations contributed to these reaffirmations, which were deemed necessary by the members of the Authority in 2022. One concerns the contribution of French public bodies to the production of European statistics, and the second relates to the adoption of a common reference framework for the dissemination process used for the Official Statistical Service's statistical publications. The third deliberation concerns the unemployment rate estimate, following the Decree of 26 January 2023 on the unemployment insurance scheme, which provides for a change in the maximum duration of benefit payments once this estimate or its variant crosses a threshold.

- **Deliberation on the contribution of French public bodies to the production of European statistics**

The Authority asked INSEE's Quality Unit to draw up a list of the national sources used to produce the statistics transmitted to the European authorities, irrespective of whether they are under the direct responsibility of the Official Statistical Service, and drew the following conclusions from this analysis:

"The ASP has taken note of the overall assessment carried out at its request by the Quality Unit of INSEE's Methodology and Statistical and International Coordination Directorate, on the contribution of French public bodies to the production of European statistics, within the meaning of Regulation 223/2009 on European statistics.

The contributions of French organisations to Eurostat for the compilation of European statistics may indeed:

- be directly produced by INSEE and the "other national authorities"; according to Community terminology, this means the Ministerial Statistical Offices (MSOs) that produce European statistics, in addition to the Secure Remote Access Centre (CASD) and, for causes of death, CépiDc-INSERM;
- be transmitted by these "national authorities" to Eurostat from the colligation of data collected from other public bodies (e.g. social security funds in the case of work-related accidents);
- or, finally, and in more limited cases, be directly transmitted at European level by the body itself (for example, CEREQ for statistics relating to continuing education, and the French Civil Aviation Authority for those relating to air transport).

This also applies to the transmission of statistics provided for by European regulations outside the framework of Regulation 223 ("other statistics" in Community terminology), as in the industrial, agricultural or financial sectors. In the light of this initial assessment, the ASP has asked INSEE to reflect on how to conduct the regular monitoring of contributions to European statistics by the Ministerial Statistical Offices (MSOs) and the other public bodies involved in their preparation, by virtue of its pivotal role in the coordination of European statistics.

This monitoring could be validly based on the rapid provision of access – as called for by the ASP – to the "product catalogue" that Eurostat plans to publish during the course of 2023, which will establish links between the statistical regulations.

It is indeed useful to obtain an overview of the statistics produced at European level, and of the contributions made by the various public bodies or bodies with a public service remit.

In this respect, the Authority draws the attention of the MSOs responsible for collecting data for transmission at Community level to the need for a precise overview of the statistical sources used, to the need to have previously ensured the monitoring, harmonisation and consistency of the information produced from these sources, and to have confirmed the quality of this information in order to ensure its compliance with the principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice.

The ASP considers it necessary for the government and public bodies involved in compiling statistics transmitted at European level, within the meaning of Regulation 223/2009 and other Community regulations, to include them, without delay, in a quality-labelling process or, where appropriate, an application for recognition as statistics of general interest by the ASP."

- **Deliberation on the reference framework for the dissemination process for Official Statistical Service (SSP) statistical publications**

In order to harmonise the dissemination process for statistical indicators subject to embargo and, more broadly, for all statistical publications produced by the Official Statistical Service, a reference framework was drawn up and approved by the Authority in a deliberation held in Q1 2023 (see point 2.6.5 above).

"The Official Statistics Authority has deliberated on the reference framework defined for the dissemination process used for the SSP's statistical publications, whose content is described below.

This reference framework, drawn up following a request from the ASP, is the result of joint work by INSEE and the Ministerial Statistical Offices on harmonising the process of disseminating publications within the Official Statistical Service in accordance with the principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice, while taking into account the specificities of each of these components.

The ASP commends the results of this work and endorses its content.

The Authority observes that it is accompanied by an updated list of potential beneficiaries of early access to embargoed indicators, so as to reduce their number to a strict minimum, in line with the recommendations of the third European Peer Review in 2021. The deadlines¹ and the conditions for the dissemination of these various indicators are also reaffirmed.

The ASP also approves the contribution made by this common frame of reference to harmonising the process of disseminating the SSP's "other statistical publications" (all statistics disseminated for general information purposes, with or without comments), while taking into account the possible variety of their media, electronic or otherwise. In particular, it welcomes the fact that the framework provides for:

- prior announcement of statistical publications as soon as their release period is established and, where possible, based on a three-month advance timetable;
- a clear distinction between work with qualified experts on verifying the accuracy and quality of information disseminated and early access to finalised publications prior to their general release. The provision of such early access, including when it does not concern the above-mentioned list of embargoed indicators, must remain extremely limited in scope and duration, which should generally be less than 48 hours and never exceed one week.

The ASP recommends the operational implementation of this framework within the SSP as soon as possible.

The Authority will refer to it during the hearings it conducts and in its contacts with the various interlocutors involved in official statistics (political decision-makers, journalists, etc.)."

- **Deliberation on the unemployment rate estimate**

Finally, the Authority sought to adopt a deliberation following the publication of Decree No 2023-33 of 26 January 2023 on the unemployment insurance scheme, which provides for the use of the INSEE unemployment rate estimate, as defined by the International Labour Office, and its trend, as indicators for setting the maximum duration of benefit payments.

¹ For the main economic, social or environmental indicators, priority access is limited to the evening before for certain ministerial officials, whose list is published in advance, and to 30 minutes for press agencies.

"The Official Statistics Authority (ASP) has taken note of Decree No 2023-33 of 26 January 2023 on the unemployment insurance scheme, which provides for a change in the maximum duration of benefit payments once the estimate of the unemployment rate (as defined by the International Labour Office (ILO) and published by INSEE for France, excluding Mayotte) or the quarterly variation in this rate, crosses a threshold.

The Authority calls for particular attention to be paid to the strict maintenance of the conditions of professional independence under which the Official Statistical Service, and INSEE in particular, compiles, disseminates and comments upon this indicator, in compliance with the European Statistics Code of Practice.

It notes in this respect that, in application of these best practices, Community statistical regulations and the recommendations of the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS), the ILO unemployment rate estimate published by INSEE is accompanied by an indication of its standard deviation (+/- 0.3 points). Like the usual statistical indicators, it is subject to revisions carried out on a quarterly (to incorporate the results of the non-respondent survey), annual (to include the revised estimate of seasonal variation coefficients and revisions of demographic data from census surveys), and possibly, exceptional, basis.

The ASP also confirms that unemployment as defined by the ILO, and labour market indicators are included in the list of 'main sensitive indicators' subject to the strictest embargo rules for official statistics."

3.5 Communication of the Authority

The Authority considered it important to convene a meeting in the spring/summer of 2022 with the cabinets of newly appointed ministers following the presidential elections. On this occasion, the President of the ASP reiterated and underlined the rules on the independence and dissemination of publications, which apply to the Ministerial Statistical Office within their sphere of responsibility, pursuant to the Code of Practice. She took the opportunity to present the conclusions of the Authority's 2021 Annual Report, and to describe the "Official Statistics Procedure". According to the interlocutors, malfunctions previously observed by the Authority and not yet permanently resolved were also addressed.

The President of the Authority also presented the "Official Statistics Procedure" to statistical teams including those at the URSSAF Caisse nationale. The Authority also plans to organise a seminar in 2023, to enable the various actors involved in trialling this procedure to reflect upon and discuss the lessons learned from the implementation of this "recognition of the status of statistics of general interest", which supplements the quality-labelling approach, and to ensure that it becomes a long-term process (see point 3.3.2 above).

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ANNEXE 1 : Institutional framework and composition of the Official Statistics Authority

Institutional framework

The institutional framework of official statistics in France was amended by the Law on Modernisation of the Economy (LME) of 4 August 2008. In addition, Article 1 of Law No 51-711 of 7 June 1951 on obligations, coordination and confidentiality in statistical matters, as amended by Organic Law No 2010 of 28 June 2010, established the Official Statistics Authority.

The institutional framework of official statistics in France is based on three pillars.

The **National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS)** organises consultation between users and producers of official statistics. In this way, it sheds light on the new needs for information. It organises the programming of official statistics projects and suggests new avenues to explore in order to ensure that official statistics cover societal issues as thoroughly as possible.

The CNIS is chaired by Mr Patrice Duran.

The Official Statistical Service (SSP) drives the conception, production and dissemination of official statistics.

On 31 December 2022, it comprised INSEE and 16 Ministerial Statistical Offices. It is coordinated by INSEE.

INSEE is headed by Mr Jean-Luc Tavernier.

The Official Statistics Authority (ASP) ensures that official statistics are prepared in a professionally independent manner and according to the fundamental principles set out in the “European Statistics Code of Practice”: impartiality, objectivity, relevance and data quality.

It draws up an annual report on official statistical activity, which is submitted to the French Parliament and made public. This report covers 2022, the fourteenth year of the Authority's existence.

Decree No 2018-800 of 20 September 2018 amending Decree No 2009-250 of 3 March 2019 relating to the ASP

Composition of the Official Statistics Authority

At the time of writing, in February 2023, the ASP was composed of the following members:

Ms Mireille Elbaum, President, appointed by a decree of the Council of Ministers of 14 April 2021

Mr Abdeldjellil Bouzidi, appointed by the President of the National Assembly

Mr Denis Badré, appointed by the President of the Senate

Ms Patricia Blanchard, appointed by the President of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council

Mr Charles de la Verpillière, President of the Statistical Confidentiality Committee, appointed by the Vice-President of the Council of State

Ms Lorraine Aeberhardt, appointed by the First President of the Court of Accounts

Mr François Auvigne, appointed by the Department Head of the General Inspectorate of Finances

Mr Antoine Magnier, appointed by the Head of the General Inspectorate of Social Affairs

Ms Martine Durand, appointed by the Minister for the Economy and Finance

Rapporteur: Ms Pascale Pollet

Project Manager: Mr Alain Maurand

See the Official Statistics Authority's website: <https://www.autorite-statistique-publique.fr/>

ANNEXE 2 : Ministerial Statistical Offices as of 31 December 2022

DREES	Ministry of Health and Prevention Ministry of Solidarity, Autonomy and the Disabled Ministry of Labour, Full Employment and Integration Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty Direction de la recherche, des études, de l'évaluation, et des statistiques (Department of Research, Studies, Evaluation and Statistics)
SSP	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty General Secretariat – Statistics and Forecasting Service Regional Directorates for Food, Agriculture and Forestry – agencies with specialised expertise in statistical activities
SDES	Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion Ministry of Ecological Transition General Commission for Sustainable Development Service des données et études statistiques (Statistical Data and Studies Service)
DEPP	Ministry of National Education and Youth Ministry of Higher Education and Research Department for Evaluation, Forward Studies and Performance
SIES	Ministry of Higher Education and Research Directorate General for Higher Education and Professional Integration, and Directorate General for Research and Innovation Under-Directorate for Information Systems and Statistical Studies
DARES	Ministry of Labour, Full Employment and Integration Direction de l'animation de la recherche, des études et des statistiques (Directorate for Research, Studies and Statistics)
Justice	Ministry of Justice General Secretariat Under-Directorate for Information Systems and Statistical Studies
Local authorities	Ministry of the Interior and Overseas France Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion General Directorate for Local Authorities Département des études et des statistiques locales (Department of Local Studies and Statistics)
Public Finances	Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty Direction générale des finances publiques (Directorate General for Public Finance) Département des études et statistiques fiscales (Department of Fiscal Studies and Statistics) Official Statistics Unit
Customs	Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty Directorate General for Customs and Excise Department of Foreign Trade Studies and Statistics

Civil Service	Ministry of Public Transformation and Civil Service Directorate General for the Administration and Civil Service Under-Directorate for Studies, Statistics and Information Systems
Immigration – Integration	Ministry of the Interior and Overseas France Directorate General for Foreign Nationals in France Department of Statistics, Studies and Documentation
Youth and Sport	Ministry of National Education and Youth Directorate of Youth, Popular Education and the Voluntary Sector National Institute for Youth and Popular Education (Surveys, Data and Statistical Studies Mission)
Defence	Ministry of the Armed Forces Directorate of Financial Affairs Under-Directorate for Statistics and Economic Studies
Culture	Ministry of Culture General Secretariat Department of Studies, Forecasting, Statistics and Documentation
Internal Security (SSMSI)	Ministry of the Interior and Overseas France Directorate General for the National Police Force and Directorate General for the National Gendarmerie Service statistique ministériel de la sécurité intérieure (Ministerial Statistical Office for Internal Security)

ANNEXE 3 : Opinions on renewals of quality

Avis et communications

AVIS DIVERS

MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉCONOMIE, DES FINANCES
ET DE LA SOUVERAINETÉ INDUSTRIELLE ET NUMÉRIQUE

Avis du 24 novembre 2022 de l'Autorité de la statistique publique sur le renouvellement de la labellisation des statistiques issues de la base des pensions du service des retraites de l'Etat (SRE)

NOR : ECOO2235166V

Vu l'avis n° 2012-02 de l'Autorité de la statistique publique en date du 7 novembre 2012 ;

Vu l'avis n° 2017-82 de l'Autorité de la statistique publique en date du 14 novembre 2017 ;

Vu le courrier du 6 avril 2022 du directeur du service des retraites de l'Etat (SRE) ;

Vu la note du comité du label de la statistique publique du 20 octobre 2022 ;

Vu le compte-rendu de la séance de l'Autorité de la statistique publique du 27 octobre 2022 approuvé,

L'Autorité renouvelle la labellisation des séries statistiques issues de la base des pensions du service des retraites de l'Etat, pour une durée de cinq ans.

Conformément aux recommandations émises par le comité du label, l'Autorité invite le service à mieux documenter sur son site de diffusion les changements générés par l'évolution du processus de production ou des concepts mobilisés, ainsi qu'à diffuser systématiquement des métadonnées pour chaque statistique publiée.

Concernant la production et la diffusion de ces séries, elle encourage le service à poursuivre l'harmonisation des concepts et des pratiques avec les organismes traitant des mêmes sujets, à mettre en place un comité des utilisateurs pour s'assurer que les statistiques diffusées correspondent aux besoins, et à privilégier la publication de séries longues en fournissant les précisions nécessaires sur d'éventuelles ruptures de séries.

L'Autorité souhaite en particulier que le rapprochement entrepris entre les séries statistiques sur les retraites de l'Etat et celles gérées par la Caisse nationale de retraites des agents des collectivités locales aboutisse, à un horizon rapproché, à la constitution d'un ensemble de séries homogènes pour les trois fonctions publiques, passant à la fois par l'harmonisation des concepts et des termes employés, et la diffusion d'indicateurs communs.

L'Autorité incite également le SRE à poursuivre l'élargissement du périmètre des séries labellisées, concernant notamment les nouveaux indicateurs de stocks, les statistiques relatives aux affiliés et les indicateurs par génération, ainsi qu'à le compléter, le cas échéant, par la diffusion d'indicateurs pertinents au plan économique comme les taux de remplacement, susceptibles d'être proposés à la reconnaissance comme « statistiques d'intérêt général ».

L'Autorité estime enfin important que le service étudie, à l'horizon du prochain renouvellement de la labellisation, les perspectives ouvertes par l'utilisation de la déclaration sociale nominative (DSN) en vue de l'amélioration de ses statistiques et de leur harmonisation avec celles des autres opérateurs du système de retraites.

Le présent avis sera adressé au directeur du service des retraites de l'Etat. Il sera publié au *Journal officiel* de la République française.

Opinion of the Official Statistics Authority dated 29 November 2022 on the renewal of the quality-labelling of the French National Old-Age Ins (CNAV) series.

The Authority has examined the implementation of the recommendations of the Official Statistics Quality-Labelling Committee upon the renewal of the quality-labelling of the series in January 2021. It noted that CNAV had significantly improved the quality of the series posted on its website, and that it had satisfactorily taken account of the series following the integration of self-employed workers' pensions into the general scheme. The requested study on the consequences of the revisions of entitlements has been completed and has demonstrated their limited impact on both the number of pensioners and the amount of pensions. However, the Authority would like CNAV to continue its periodic monitoring of the impact of the advanced publication of the series on new pensioners and to make arrangements for releasing the final series.

The Authority also noted that the conditions of access by researchers to CNAV data have improved and that they are facilitating successful projects and collaborations in the field of their relevant use. However, progress still needs to be made on establishing comprehensive, user-friendly and documented databases. The Authority would like CNAV website to mention the existence of an access procedure and a contact point reserved specifically for researchers.

The Authority will be attentive to the responses to these issues during the next

ANNEXE 4 : Opinions on the nature of official statistics for general information purposes



31 August 2022

Opinion on recognising the statistical series produced by the Mutualité sociale agricole as official statistics for general information purposes

Following the request submitted by the Mutualité sociale agricole (MSA – agricultural social insurance mutual benefit fund), and after obtaining the opinion of the Official Statistics Quality-Labelling Committee, the Official Statistics Authority recognises, within the framework of the "Official Statistics Procedure" currently being tested, the following statistical series as official statistics for general information purposes:

Concerning the follow-up of long-term illnesses:

- prevalence rate of long-term illnesses in the agricultural scheme and number of insured persons concerned;
- incidence rate of long-term illnesses in the agricultural scheme;
- comparative index of prevalence of long-term illnesses in the agricultural scheme.

Concerning the monitoring of newly created agricultural holdings:

- new creations of posts for self-employed agricultural workers;
- renewal rate of managers of farms and agricultural holdings;
- retention rate for newly created holdings at 6 years.

These series are described in the document enclosed in Annexe 1.

The Authority urges the Mutualité Sociale Agricole to take into account the recommendations made in the opinion of the Official Statistics Quality-Labelling Committee, enclosed in Annexe 2, concerning the transparency and accessibility of the statistics produced, whose continuous improvement is key to ensuring that users make proper use of them. These recommendations relate, in particular, to information on the provisional or definitive nature of the series disseminated, to the clarification of the classifications adopted, and to the need to harmonise the metadata on the publishing sites.

The Authority also calls for the MSA to continue its reflection on all statistics likely to be recognised as being of general interest, as proposed by the Quality-Labelling Committee, with a view to gradually extending the scope of statistics that are quality-labelled or that fall within the scope of this recognition. In this regard, the convergence of the list and of the level of disaggregation of the proposed series for the

different social security funds may prove to be a relevant criterion, as may the desire to increase the transparency of data that provides useful information for social actors, such as rebates and reductions in social contributions.

In early 2024, the Authority will hold a further hearing of the Mutualité sociale agricole to review the enhancement of information relating to these statistics, the possible increase in their number and the links with data disseminated by other national funds. This same time frame will also apply to the renewal of the quality-labelling, granted in 2019, of data relating to agricultural employment, beneficiaries of social benefits, work-related accidents and occupational diseases, in addition to expenditure on health care and disability pensions in the fields of agricultural employees and non-salaried workers.

31 August 2022

Opinion on recognising the statistical series produced by the National Sickness Insurance Fund as official statistics for general information purposes

Following the request submitted by the French National Sickness Insurance Fund (CNAM), and after obtaining the opinion of the Official Statistics Quality-Labeling Committee, the Official Statistics Authority recognises, within the framework of the "Official Statistics Procedure" currently being tested, the following statistical series as official statistics for general information purposes:

Concerning the demographics of self-employed health professionals:

- number of self-employed health professionals by age and gender, and per department;
- number of self-employed health professionals by age and gender and per region;
- number of self-employed health professionals by type of practice and per department;
- number of self-employed health professionals by type of practice and per region;
- number of self-employed health professionals by fee-charging sector (secteur conventionnel) and per department;
- number of self-employed health professionals by fee-charging sector and per region;
- number and density of self-employed health professionals per department;
- number and density of self-employed health professionals per region.

Concerning these professionals' fees:

- number of self-employed health professionals working exclusively within the national public health sector (APE – actifs à part entière) by fee bracket per department;
- number of self-employed health professionals (APE category) by fee bracket per region;
- fees of self-employed health professionals (APE category) per department;
- fees of self-employed health professionals (APE category) per region;
- fees of self-employed health professionals per department;
- fees of self-employed health professionals per region.

Concerning the activity and prescriptions of these professionals:

- activity of self-employed medical auxiliaries (APE category) per department;
- activity of self-employed medical auxiliaries (APE category) per region;
- activity of self-employed medical auxiliaries per department;
- activity of self-employed medical auxiliaries per region;
- activity of medical analysis laboratories per department;
- activity of medical analysis laboratories per region;
- activity of self-employed doctors (APE category) per department;
- activity of self-employed doctors (APE category) per region;
- activity of self-employed doctors per department;

- activity of self-employed doctors per region;
- activity of self-employed midwives (APE category) per department;
- activity of self-employed midwives (APE category) per region;
- activity of self-employed midwives per department;
- activity of self-employed midwives per region;
- activity and prescriptions of self-employed dental surgeons (APE category) per department;
- activity and prescriptions of self-employed dental surgeons (APE category) per region;
- activity and prescriptions of self-employed dental surgeons per department;
- activity and prescriptions of self-employed dental surgeons per region;
- prescriptions by self-employed doctors (APE category) per department;
- prescriptions by self-employed doctors (APE category) per region;
- prescriptions by private doctors per department;
- prescriptions of private doctors per region.

These series are described in the document enclosed in Annexe 1.

The Authority urges the National Health Insurance Fund (CNAM) to take into account the recommendations made in the opinion of the Official Statistics Quality-Labeling Committee enclosed in Annexe 2, notably concerning the publication of a provisional timetable for the dissemination of these statistics and the improvement of their transparency and accessibility, via access to updated information on the collection process and on events likely to shed light on their interpretation. The availability of longitudinal data prior to 2016, combined with the necessary explanatory material, would also be particularly useful.

The Authority also considers it essential for CNAM to send its annual statistical work programme to the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS) on a regular basis.

It also calls for the extension, within two years, of the list of statistics proposed for recognition as statistics of general interest, especially data relating to biological analyses (BioLAM system) and long-term illnesses, the "mapping" (recently disseminated) of pathologies and health insurance expenditure, and series relating to occupational risks and associated incident statistics (work-related accidents, commuting accidents and occupational diseases). The pursuit of this approach should seek both convergence with the series proposed by other social organisations (particularly the Mutualité sociale agricole) and clarification of links and complementarity with the statistics drawn up elsewhere by DREES and, concerning pathologies, by Santé publique France.

By the end of 2024, the Authority will hold a further hearing with the National Health Insurance Fund to review the development and enhancement of the information relating to these statistics.

Prior to the autumn of 2023, it will examine the re-labelling of the statistical series produced by the CNAM which were quality-labelled in March 2015 (monthly statistics on expenditure at the date of treatment and expenditure at the date of reimbursement) and in September 2018 (monthly statistics on expenditure on medicines dispensed by pharmacies and reimbursed by the health insurance system), supplemented by the type of risk and associated physical indicators, if necessary. The quality-labelling of series originally labelled in 2015 has been extended until this time.

20 October 2022

Opinion on recognising the statistical series produced by FranceAgriMer as official statistics for general information purposes

Following the request submitted by FranceAgriMer (the office in charge of agricultural and seafood products), and after obtaining the opinion of the Official Statistics Quality-Labelling Committee, the Official Statistics Authority recognises, within the framework of the "Official Statistics Procedure" currently being tested, the following statistical series as official statistics for general information purposes:

Concerning cereals and oilseeds :

- national history on collection, stocks and storage since 2000;
- regional history on collection, stocks and storage since 2000;
- departmental history of collection, stocks and storage since 2000;
- monthly collection with a reminder of the five previous campaigns;
- monthly collection per department with a reminder of the five previous campaigns;
- monthly stocks with a reminder of the five previous campaigns;
- monthly stocks per department with a reminder of the five previous campaigns;
- monthly grain and seed storage stocks with a reminder of the five previous campaigns;
- monthly storage stocks per department with a reminder of the five previous campaigns.

Concerning bulk wine listings:

- monthly campaign monitoring; campaign history;
- history of the national record of average bulk purchase prices (since 2009).

These series are described in the document enclosed in Annexe 1.

The Authority urges FranceAgriMer to send its annual statistical programme to the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS) and to take account of the recommendations contained in the opinion of the Quality-Labelling Committee enclosed in Annex 2, concerning the transparency and accessibility of the statistics produced with a view to their proper adoption by users. These recommendations particularly concern the description of statistical series, the documentation provided, information on the provisional or definitive nature of the series disseminated, the clarification of the classifications adopted, and the enhancement of metadata accompanying the selected series.

The Authority also calls upon FranceAgriMer continue to reflect, as suggested by the Quality-Labelling Committee, on all the statistics that should be recognised as being of general interest, either as part of this

recognition procedure or as part of a quality-labelling process to be undertaken. In this respect, the Authority encourages FranceAgriMer to make available, where possible, data on volumes and prices for the various production sectors, and to propose the prioritisation of statistics transmitted to the European Commission for quality-labelling. The planned overhaul of the "Visionet" website over the next few years is an opportunity to broaden the scope of statistics granted official statistics recognition.

In 2024, the Authority will hold another hearing with FranceAgriMer to assess the possible extension of the procedure and the prospects for labelling certain statistics, particularly for the series transmitted to the European Commission.

05 January 2023

Opinion on recognising the statistical series produced by the French Environment and Energy Management Agency as official statistics for general information purposes

Following a request submitted by the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (Agence de l'environnement et de la maîtrise de l'énergie – ADEME), and after consulting the Official Statistics Quality-Labelling Committee, the Official Statistics Authority recognises the following statistical series, which concern waste monitoring and are derived from the Environment Information and Observation System (Système d'information et d'observation de l'environnement – SINOE) database, as official statistics for general information purposes:

- quantity of household and similar waste (HSW) collected with demolition waste per inhabitant (SINOE01)
- quantity of HSW collected excluding demolition waste per inhabitant (SINOE02)
- quantity of HSW collected by type of waste (SINOE03)
- destination of collected HSW (SINOE04)
- breakdown of HSW tonnages (SINOE05)
- key figures for waste collection centres with demolition waste (SINOE12)
- key figures for waste collection centres excluding demolition waste (SINOE13)
- breakdown of waste collected at waste collection centres (SINOE14)
- destination of waste collected at waste collection centres (SINOE15)

These series are described in the document enclosed in Annexe 1.

Four additional series, which ADEME plans to release shortly, will be further examined by the Quality-Labelling Committee, followed, if necessary, by the updating of this opinion:

- number of processing facilities and incoming tonnages (SINOE18)
- breakdown of incoming waste by type of facility (SINOE19)
- origin of incoming waste by type of facility (SINOE20)
- distribution of outgoing waste by type of facility (SINOE21)

Firstly, and along with this recognition, the Authority requires ADEME to submit an annual statistical programme to the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS), and publish a provisional release schedule for the series in question.

It urges ADEME to take into account the recommendations contained in the opinion of the Official Statistics Quality-Labelling Committee enclosed in Appendix 2, with particular regard to clarifying the concepts used and the fields of the published series, as well as the enhancement of metadata enabling these statistics to be fully exploited.

The Authority also invites ADEME to follow the recommendation of the Quality-Labelling Committee which requires it to clarify, on the data.ademe.fr website, the classification specific to the SINOE database and to pursue the objective of reconciling this classification with that used in the European Waste Catalogue (EWC).

More generally, the Authority stresses the importance of ADEME's role in collecting a wide range of data on environmental issues and ecological transition (financial aid granted, greenhouse gas emission factors, history of companies awarded the "Reconnues garantes de l'environnement" (RGE) environmental quality label, environmental labelling of vehicles, energy performance diagnoses), some of which is used to compile statistical series, either directly by ADEME or under the responsibility of the Official Statistical Service.

In this respect, the Authority has taken note of the open data strategy adopted by ADEME via its "Data Factory" programme, which is reflected by the widespread availability of data on the data.ademe.fr portal. Following its deliberation of 31 January 2022 on the relationship between official statistics and data policies, the Authority encourages ADEME, for the different categories of information published on its website, to specifically mention when reference statistical series are produced and disseminated under the Official Statistical Service's responsibility, and to provide links to them in such cases.

For statistics produced under ADEME's own responsibility, the ASP also urges the French Environment and Energy Management Agency to keep extending the sets of series giving rise to applications for recognition as statistics of general interest. This concerns:

- firstly, statistics derived from the management of Extended Producer Responsibility (Responsabilité élargie du producteur – EPR) channels;
- secondly, in the longer term, and in coordination with the Statistical Data and Studies Service (SDES) of the General Commission for Sustainable Development, other data as the corresponding collection and dissemination applications mature.

The Authority notes that the information provided by ADEME, currently and in the future, is intended both to inform and supplement the statistics produced and disseminated by the SDES. In this respect, the Authority encourages ADEME to increase its complementarity and coordination with this Ministerial Statistical Office, including with a view to extending and improving household surveys on the ecological transition.

In 2024, the Authority will hold a further hearing with ADEME to review the enrichment of information relating to these statistics, the possibility of increasing their number, and links with the activities of the Official Statistical Service.

ANNEXE 5 : Reference framework for disseminating the SSP's statistical publications

Reference framework for the dissemination process used for official statistical publications

2023

▪ The following **legal bases** apply to the dissemination of official statistics:

- Law No 51-711 of 7 June 1951 on legal obligation, coordination and confidentiality in the field of statistics;
- regulation (EC) 223/2009, of which certain articles relate to the European Statistics Code of Practice.

In addition, France has adopted the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS+) established by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which requires the dissemination of data considered most important for the assessment of macroeconomic performance and policy analysis.

▪ These reference texts enshrine professional independence as well as impartiality, objectivity and transparency, as requirements for the design, production and dissemination of official statistics.

They set out several **principles**, including:

- . prior announcement of release dates for statistical publications, with the heads of the statistical offices having sole authority to decide upon the content and release dates of these publications;
- . equal treatment for all users. Advance access prior to an embargoed dissemination shall be limited, sufficiently justified, monitored and made public.

▪ This reference framework specifies the **procedures** to ensure the **application** of these principles to all statistical publications by the Official Statistical Service (SSP), i.e. INSEE and the Ministerial Statistical Offices (MSO).

▪ INSEE and each MSO may specify their own application procedures, which take their specificities into account, in the form of published **dissemination rules**.

Specific dissemination rules apply to the most essential statistical indicators for the economic, social or environmental analysis of an activity sector and for decision making, and /or which are of interest to political decision-makers and the press.² These indicators form a subset of the statistical

² Referred to hereafter as "key economic, social and environmental indicators"

publications of the Official Statistical Service and their list is updated on an annual basis. Their dissemination rules, drawn up in 2017, are posted on the INSEE and MSO websites. They are specified in an annexe.

1. Scope of the reference framework

This reference framework concerns **all statistical publications** by the SSP.

"Statistical publications" by the SSP means books, notes or tables, whether electronic or otherwise, which disseminate statistics, with or without commentary, for general information purposes. These statistics are based on administrative, private or survey data and are compiled using internationally or nationally recognised standards such as concepts, definitions, units and classifications.

2. Advance notice of release dates for statistical publications by the SSP

GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE

1. INSEE and the MSOs set the release dates for statistical publications **independently**.

2. In the interests of transparency and fairness, they notify all their users about these dates. To this end, they publish an easily accessible **timetable** on their websites, providing advance notice of the dates and times of the release of all their forthcoming statistical publications, as defined in this framework.

▪ Statistical publications are subject to **prior announcement** on the INSEE and MSO websites under the conditions described below.

The release dates and times for the "key economic, social and environmental indicators" are announced each month for the next four months. They are firm for the coming month and may be revised for the following months.

Each MSO posts its own timetable on its website. INSEE has posted the common dissemination timetable for the SSP on its website.

"Other statistical publications", whether recurrent or one-off, are announced as soon as their release period is set by the MSO or by INSEE. Users are informed about publications whose release date is known sufficiently in advance by means of a three-month provisional timetable.

When adding one of these publications to the timetable, INSEE or the MSO states the day and time of publication, if possible. Otherwise, it mentions the week or month of dissemination.

The MSOs and INSEE are encouraged to specify the publication dates and times at least 15 days in advance.

Details of other statistical publications:

- In case of uncertainty, the announced date (day, week or month) may be accompanied by the statement "to be confirmed";
- If the initially announced date (day, week or month) needs to be changed or if, exceptionally, an issue has to be cancelled, the correction is reported as soon as possible and the reason is documented.

- The MSOs and INSEE **inform** their users via their websites **of the rules for updating** the statistical publication calendar.

3. Early access

GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE

1. Each statistical publication by INSEE and the MSOs is made **available** to all users at the **same time and under identical conditions**.
 2. The MSOs and INSEE may grant access to a statistical publication prior to its release, for information purposes only. This **early access** is tolerated but shall not become a standard practice. Such access is limited, monitored and published.
-

- Early access can only be granted:
 - to certain political decision-makers and their communication departments (notably members of ministerial cabinets, directors in charge of the sectoral policies concerned by the publications) in order to help them prepare the wording of their announcements;
 - journalists from news agencies and other media, in order to help them prepare their dispatches, articles or stories.

For publications on subjects of shared interest, early access may also be granted to the head of another MSO, the Director General of INSEE, or the INSEE Director concerned by the subject.

The **number of early access authorisations** for a publication should be strictly limited.

The list of **beneficiaries of early access** is drawn up by the head of the MSO or the Director General of INSEE, in accordance with the objectives set out above. Where the head of an MSO is not the publication director, the list of beneficiaries of early access may be drawn up after consultation with the publication director.

- The **deadline for the early release** of "key economic, social and environmental indicators" is specified in the annexe.

For other statistical publications (i.e. not including a first release of one or more "main economic, social and environmental indicators"), the early release period may be longer but generally should not exceed 48 hours and should never be longer than one week.

INSEE and each MSO define the early release period for each of their publications as fairly as possible, taking sole account of the objectives set out above.

▪ To ensure that the **public are fully informed**, INSEE and each MSO publish the following details on their websites:

- the scope of their publications subject to early access;
- the functions of the beneficiaries of the early access authorisations they have granted;³
- the early release periods

Distinctions are made between each publication or type of publication, where necessary.

▪ In the event of early access, INSEE or the MSO place the publication under **embargo** until it is published online.

The beneficiaries of early access are required to conform to a strict embargo: they undertake to refrain from disseminating the information before it has been made public.

In the event of non-compliance with the embargo, sanctions are applied, INSEE or the MSO restore the equality of treatment without delay by lifting the embargo, and notify the Official Statistics Authority.

4. Checks

▪ The MSOs and INSEE may, if they consider it necessary, ask qualified experts of their choice from other offices or bodies to carry out checks to improve the quality and accuracy of the information and data disseminated. These checks may concern aspects relating to the legal or technical context, definitions, and data.

▪ They are carried out before the publication is finalised, during the design or drafting phases, at the time deemed the most appropriate by INSEE or the MSO.

▪ Only information that is absolutely necessary for verification purposes is provided and the provisional status of documents or data is mentioned.

The experts consulted are required to refrain from disclosing the information provided.

³ They provide detailed lists of the functions of each beneficiary for the key economic, social and environmental indicators, and mention their functions generically for the other statistical publications.

Annexe

Dissemination rules for key economic, social or environmental indicators

The rules for disseminating statistical indicators for the Official Statistical Service (INSEE and Ministerial Statistical Offices) are defined on the basis of this framework document. They are individually tailored to the characteristics of the offices' publications and published on their websites.

Pursuant to the principles of impartiality and objectivity set out in the European Statistics Code of Practice, the French Official Statistical Service has undertaken to announce the publication dates and times of the most important statistics in advance, and to give all users access to publications of statistical indicators at the same time and under the same conditions. Any privileged pre-release access granted to any outside user shall be limited, controlled and publicised. It shall be tolerated rather than becoming a standard practice.

The dissemination rules concern the most important statistical indicators for the economic, social or environmental analysis of an activity sector and for decision making, and /or those which are of interest to political decision-makers and the press. These rules apply when these indicators are first released. They do not apply to studies or summary reports.

The list of these indicators is updated and disseminated on an annual basis.

In this context, preferential access prior to the dissemination of the statistical indicators may be granted in a limited manner provided that it is carried out in a properly democratic manner. That is why only the following users can be granted access to the statistical information before it is made public:

- political decision-makers, to enable them to draft the wording of their announcements; this specifically concerns the offices of ministers in charge of topics covered by Ministerial Statistical Offices, the office of the Minister for the Economy, the offices of the Prime Minister, the President of the Republic and the directors of central government responsible for the sectoral policies concerned by the publications; the other government departments cannot benefit from the early transmission of statistical indicators;
- press agency journalists, to enable them to draft their press releases and report on the information in the most reliable manner possible.

These beneficiaries of preferential status are required to conform to a strict embargo: they must not disseminate the information before it has been made public.

If the embargo is breached, it will be lifted promptly in order to restore equal access to information.

Most heads of MSOs also act as publication directors. When this is not the case, publication directors may have preferential access to the statistical indicators prior to their dissemination, to enable them to validate the publications under their responsibility. They are then required to conform to a strict embargo and to refrain from divulging the results prior to their publication.

The list of beneficiaries of early access is published online for each of the indicators concerned.

The early access periods granted depend on the category of indicators.

The Main Economic Indicators (MEI) of the Official Statistical Service are published at 8.45 a.m. They may be transmitted:

- to the ministerial offices and to the director of central government in charge of the sectoral policy in question for the MSOs, and to the Prime Minister's and the President's offices, if necessary, at 6 p.m. on the day before their publication at the earliest;
- to press agencies – on the publication date, no earlier than 30 min before their online publication;
- to journalists for the audio-visual, written and online press, and to all other users – on the actual date and at the designated time of publication.

Indicators which are considered “sensitive” are published at 7.30 a.m. and transmitted:

- to the ministerial offices and, if necessary, to the Prime Minister's and President's offices, as well as to the director of central government in charge of the sectoral policy in question for the MSOs – at 9 p.m. on the day before their publication, at the earliest;
- to press agencies – on the publication date, no earlier than 30 min before their online publication;
- to journalists for the audio-visual, written and online press, and to all other users – on the actual date and at the designated time of publication.

With the exception of the Main Economic Indicators (MEI) of the Official Statistical Service (see above), the other statistical indicators subject to this rule are published by 12 noon at the latest and can be transmitted:

- to the ministerial offices and to the relevant director of central government in charge of the sectoral policy in question for the MSOs – at 6 p.m. on the day before their publication, at the earliest;
- to press agencies – on the publication date, no earlier than 30 min before their online publication;
- to journalists for the audio-visual, written and online press, and to all other users – on the actual date and at the designated time of publication.

The list of these different indicators is updated and disseminated every year.

ANNEXE 6 : Order of 23 December 2022 on the ASP

and the Quality-Labeling Committee

Décrets, arrêtés, circulaires

TEXTES GÉNÉRAUX

MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉCONOMIE, DES FINANCES ET DE LA SOUVERAINETÉ INDUSTRIELLE ET NUMÉRIQUE

Arrêté du 23 décembre 2022 relatif aux vérifications prévues à l'article 1^{er} du décret n° 2009-250 du 3 mars 2009 relatif à l'Autorité de la statistique publique et modifiant l'arrêté du 2 mai 2013 relatif aux modalités d'organisation du comité du label de la statistique publique

NOR : ECOO2237186A

Le ministre de l'économie, des finances et de la souveraineté industrielle et numérique,
Vu la loi n° 51-711 du 7 juin 1951 modifiée sur l'obligation, la coordination et le secret en matière de statistiques ;
Vu le décret n° 2009-250 du 3 mars 2009 relatif à l'Autorité de la statistique publique ;
Vu le décret n° 2009-318 du 20 mars 2009 relatif au Conseil national de l'information statistique, au comité du secret statistique et au comité du label de la statistique publique ;
Vu l'arrêté du 2 mai 2013 relatif aux modalités d'organisation du comité du label de la statistique publique ;
Vu l'avis de l'Autorité de la statistique publique en date du 15 septembre 2022 ;
Vu l'avis du Conseil national de l'information statistique en date du 12 octobre 2022,

Arrête :

Art. 1^{er}. – Au titre des conclusions qu'elle peut rendre publiques conformément au dernier alinéa de l'article 2 du décret du 3 mars 2009 susvisé, l'Autorité de la statistique publique peut reconnaître à des productions issues de l'exploitation de données collectées par des administrations, des organismes publics et des organismes privés chargés d'une mission de service public la qualification de statistiques d'intérêt général.

Art. 2. – L'article 1^{er} de l'arrêté du 2 mai 2013 susvisé est ainsi modifié :

1^o Le premier alinéa du II est ainsi rédigé :

« Le comité du label de la statistique publique examine pour le compte du Conseil national de l'information statistique les projets comportant la collecte d'informations au moyen d'enquêtes statistiques. A cette fin, il comprend trois commissions compétentes concernant respectivement : » ;

2^o Le III est ainsi rédigé :

« III. – Le comité du label de la statistique publique examine pour le compte de l'Autorité de la statistique publique et à la demande de cette dernière, des processus d'exploitation et de diffusion, à des fins d'information générale, de données collectées par des administrations, des organismes publics et des organismes privés chargés d'une mission de service public. A cette fin, il peut, en tant que de besoin s'appuyer sur des experts ou des personnalités compétentes dans le domaine concerné, externes au comité, ou recourir à une commission spécialisée constituée de manière *ad hoc*. A l'issue de cette instruction, il transmet un avis à l'Autorité de la statistique publique qui peut délivrer aux processus examinés un label d'intérêt général et de qualité statistique ou leur reconnaître la qualification de statistiques d'intérêt général. »

Art. 3. – L'article 2 du même arrêté est ainsi modifié :

1^o Le 2^o est ainsi rédigé :

« 2^o Un représentant de la Confédération des petites et moyennes entreprises ; »

2^o Le 4^o est ainsi rédigé :

« 4^o Un représentant du réseau des chambres des métiers et de l'artisanat (CMA France) ; »

3^o Le 10^o est ainsi rédigé :

« 10^o Dans le cas d'un projet relatif aux collectivités territoriales ou aux établissements publics locaux, le directeur en charge de l'action régionale à l'Institut national de la statistique et des études économiques et le chef du service statistique ministériel en charge des collectivités territoriales. » ;

4^o Les 11^o, 12^o et 13^o sont supprimés.

ANNEXE 7 : 2022 Review of the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS)



Montrouge, 7 December 2022 - No 168/H030

2022 Review of the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS)

In 2022, the easing of the health crisis receded, it was possible to return to face-to-face meetings, some of which were held in a hybrid format, while others remained remote, at the discretion of the commission chair. All the meetings were held according to the established schedule and were prepared under satisfactory conditions. Attendance at commission meetings this year seems to have borne little relation to the format of the meeting.

In particular, the Rapporteurs were able to present the work programmes in the usual manner during the spring commission meetings. The commissions' activities focused on more structural issues, in line with the opinions issued for the medium term period in progress, but also on emerging needs. A meeting on individual data matching was held in Bercy on 28 January and also by video conference, in light of the health situation. The Panels and Cohorts colloquium, twice postponed, was finally held as a face-to-face event in May.

The working groups maintained a high level of activity in 2022, with four active groups respectively covering the use of phytopharmaceutical products in agriculture, the observation and measurement of discrimination, the consultation group for the draft Register of Individuals and Dwellings (RÉSIL) following the meeting on matching, and the consultation on the revision of the French nomenclature of activities (NAF), at the most detailed level.

In addition to disseminating the minutes of all its bodies, its working groups' work and reports, and regularly informing the CNIS' audiences via an electronic newsletter, the CNIS published four publications from the "Chroniques" (explanatory articles) collection online in 2022, presenting different works in summary form, for popularisation purposes.

Finally, the start of reflection, this autumn, on the CNIS' next medium term (2024-2028) programme merits a special mention. The different stages of this process will be conducted throughout 2023 and lead to the presentation of opinions to the plenary assembly in early 2024.

This 2022 report is divided into two parts: firstly, it presents a summary of the main cross-cutting focuses of the CNIS' activities during this year, in line with the priorities defined in early 2022. It then reviews the discussions of the CNIS commissions and working groups in 2022, by dividing them into four sectors, namely:

The social domain;

The economic and financial domain;

Sustainable development;

Territories.

I. Main focuses of the CNIS' activities

① Raising the profile of statistics based on administrative data and matching

For several years, the CNIS has noted a sharp increase in recourse by producers of statistics to the matching of individual data derived from administrative management in order to establish more comprehensive and more detailed public statistics. Aware of the risks associated with the processing of large volumes of personal data on individuals and the need to increase the transparency of such large-scale operations, the CNIS organised **a meeting** with INSEE on official statistics practices and projects relating to **matching**. After explanations of the key public-policy-related issues associated with access to multi-thematic data, and presentations of the Non-Significant Statistical Code (CSNS) and Statistical Registers of Individuals and Dwellings (RÉSIL) projects, the discussions first covered uses and practices – particularly international examples – and then considered the ethical dimension of public information and consultation methods. The day's events encouraged the expression of doubts and even fears about the uses of such pairings, showing the need for further efforts to increase the transparency of these operations.

This was followed by the **consultation group on the RÉSIL project**, which met from April to September 2022 under the chairmanship of Jean-Marie Delarue, with specialists in public liberties, data security, lawyers, sociologists and journalists, in order to examine the project from these different perspectives, discuss the choices made by INSEE – the project owner – concerning the data mobilised, and reflect on means of consultation with the general public during and after the implementation of the project. The recommendations of the report, published in November 2022, are addressed to both INSEE and the CNIS, in order to ensure transparency and implement a broad consultation process.

In terms of the longitudinal data required to study pathways, inflows and outflows in systems or categories, the use of administrative data plays a key role and in May, the CNIS held a **Panels and Cohorts** colloquium, which had initially been scheduled for 2020 but postponed due to the health situation. A comprehensive review of the current situation was presented, from the beginnings of the Permanent Demographic Sample (EDP) through to large health cohorts and, in line with the IGAS recommendations, discussions between statisticians and epidemiologists mentioned the benefits of conducting coordinated operations.

Since last year, the CNIS has been asking producers to mention data-matching operations they are carrying out or planning to perform using the Non-Significant Statistical Code (NSSC). Consideration is currently being given to the best way of reporting on these operations and the data sources thereby created on the CNIS website, alongside the other types of sources (official statistics surveys and files from management data). In any case, further developments will have to await the conclusion of the SSP's work on compiling a global catalogue of the administrative sources that it uses and on harmonising the corresponding information.

② Developing the observation and statistical measurement of discrimination

On the basis of the ongoing medium-term reflection on "building a system for observing and measuring different forms of stereotypes and discrimination", the CNIS acceded to the French National Ombudsman's request by establishing **a working group tasked with determining how to statistically interpret the forms of discrimination most likely to undermine social cohesion**. Chaired by Michel Villac, President of the High Council for the Family, Childhood and Age

(HCFEA), and with direct support from INSEE, INED and the National Ombudsman, the group first drew up an inventory of the sources and methods used to account for these phenomena in a diverse range of sectors including the labour market (recruitment, careers), access to housing and credit, schools, and disability situations. At the same time, it conducted a wide-ranging survey of needs, which it will use to identify shortcomings and indicate where efforts should be prioritised. Its report is expected in 2023.

③ Access to private data of general interest: the example of the WG on the Monitoring of Agricultural Practices

For several years, the CNIS has been encouraging access to databases held by public or private legal entities for the production of statistics of general interest, in addition to the statistics traditionally obtained via surveys. The CNIS has recently focused on the monitoring of agricultural practices and the use of plant protection products (PPPs), in particular.

The Enterprise and Market Strategy Committee took stock of this issue in the autumn. The context is marked by a tightening of European regulations, which will have significant impacts on the statistical system used for monitoring agricultural practices. For example, the SAIO (Statistics on Agricultural Input and Output) – a new regulatory framework currently undergoing approval – requires Member States to provide more detailed and more frequent information on farm practices and outputs in order to monitor the implementation of the European Green Deal and the "Farm to Fork" strategy. Another proposed regulation – SUR (*Sustainable Use of Pesticides Regulation*) – aims to reduce the use of PPPs and related health risks, and to improve reporting on their sales. This new regulatory framework requires the implementation of an observation and measurement system compatible with the annual reporting of PPP use on smaller territorial scales, which is not possible using the current system of five-yearly surveys of crop management practices.

In 2021, the CNIS had established a **working group on PPP use in agriculture**, based on the PROPHYL project, led by the MSO for Agriculture, which has been tasked with designing a tool for collecting data via the plot management software used by farmers, and linked to the project to create a centralised register of PPP use, driven by European regulations. **The mobilisation of this software data could be an alternative to questionnaire-based collection, within the framework of Article 3 bis of the Law of 1951.** For more than a year, professional and technical organisations representing farmers, agronomists, software publishers and official statistics offices have been analysing the technical feasibility of the statistical use of this data recorded in farmers' databases, the legal framework for their transmission, and the associated workload. The project is currently in the test phase and the final report which will present the group's recommendations will be published at the end of 2023. The farmers' involvement and consent will be key to the success of this project.

④ Statistical classifications: two fields of study

Following the joint revision of the international (ISIC) and European (NACE) classifications of activity, a CNIS working group was established to prepare for the revision of the French classification of activities (nomenclature d'activités françaises – NAF), which will come into force in 2025 and be nested in the NACE. The aim is to specify the content of any new categories, within the framework specified by the European Statistical System Committee in 2022.

The group, composed of representatives of professional organisations, statisticians from the Official Statistical Service and other public bodies (DGE, ACOSS, Banque de France, etc.) and researchers, will examine how the European classification meets French needs and will consider creating subdivisions of its 651 classes, paying particular attention to data collection and dissemination, as

well as to the additional cost of more detailed information. To this end, the work on creating subdivisions will take place in as many subgroups as there are sectors in the classification. The report is expected to be submitted in the early autumn of 2023.

In addition, noteworthy accomplishments carried out as part of the follow-up to the working group on the recasting of the classification of Professional and Social Categories (PCS)(2019) include additional categorisations, a renovated coding protocol and a dedicated website, which contains the history of the PCS and links with the Operational Directory of Occupations and Jobs (Répertoire opérationnel des métiers et des emplois – ROME) and occupational families (Familles professionnelles – FAP). Surveys are gradually switching over to the new classification and there are plans to incorporate it into the census in 2024.

⑤ Urgency of the ecological transition: significant measurement-related challenges

Several experts at the CNIS plenary session held in early 2022 raised questions about the concepts of ecological transition, green economy and green finance, in order to clarify the underlying mechanisms, the role of public intervention at different levels, and specifically identify the data required to develop, monitor and evaluate these policies. **A colloquium was scheduled for 7 March 2023 in order to explore these issues in greater depth** and call for reflection on the information and innovation needs that official statistics will be required to meet in order to guarantee the independence, relevance and quality of the information disseminated. Three sessions (on macroeconomics and welfare, enterprises and the transformation of production modes, household behaviour: incentives and redistributive effects) were followed by a round-table discussion on the measurement of phenomena and the challenges for official statistics.

In 2022, in the wake of the insights recently provided by the CNIS's activities on the statistical measurement of sustainable development (working group on the SDGs, work on green finance, measurement of emissions, etc.), the Territories and Environment and Sustainable Development (EDD) commissions successively addressed the measurement of soil quality at local level and the development of information on land take, with the objective – now confirmed in the Climate and Resilience Law (2021) – of "zero net land take" by 2050.

At its autumn session, the ESD Commission revisited the "City and Sustainability" topic, seven years after the first meeting was held on this subject, in order to measure progress but also identify any shortcomings.

⑥ Official Statistics Procedure

Finally, it is worth mentioning the first effects – for the CNIS – of the "Official Statistics Procedure" launched by the ASP at the end of 2021, consisting in supporting government bodies that would like the Authority to certify some of their statistics "of general interest". The CNIS now includes these producers' statistical programmes (on a voluntary basis) in its annual reports and also assists them with obtaining official statistics approval for some of their surveys. The discussions held in committee are helping to improve coordination between producers, as evidenced by certain recent survey projects by Santé publique France in relation to DREES' activities. However, the full impact of this new approach to the qualification of administrative statistics will only be felt after a few years.

Examples of more quantitative review items

In 2022, the CNIS managed to hold all its meetings on the scheduled dates, and in varied formats: 100% face-to-face, 100% Zoom, or in hybrid mode.

For example, the meeting on matching at the French Ministry of Finance on 28 January was held in face-to-face format for the speakers (except for the intervention by Statistics Canada) and by Zoom for the public, due to the health crisis. Almost 300 participants logged in.

The Panels and Cohorts colloquium on 18 May was held in 100% face-to-face format (except for one speaker from Singapore) and was attended by nearly 100 people at the French Ministry of Finance, half of whom were members of the Official Statistical Service.

The thematic commissions (14 meetings during the year) were attended by an average of 40 people (excluding the CNIS GS). Attendance remained similar to the years before the health crisis, following the increase in attendance recorded in 2021 at the 100% remotely attended meetings. The National Population Census Evaluation Commission (CNERP) held two meetings in hybrid mode, which are included in this review.

The four working groups (including the RéSIL consultation group) met regularly throughout the year or for part of the year, for a total of 17 meetings in plenary session, plus steering meetings and sub-group meetings.

II - Thematic assessment of the discussions by commissions and in working groups

① Progress and expectations in the social sector

("Employment, Qualification and Earned Income", "Demographics and Social Issues", "Public Services and Services for the Public" Commissions and the National Population Census Evaluation Commission)

During the spring session, the Employment, Qualification and Earned Income Commission examined the analysis of the professional integration of disadvantaged populations (*Medium-Term Opinion No 2 of the Commission*).

DARES presented an **overview of sources**, choosing to focus on young people, people linked to migration, recipients of minimum social benefits, the disabled, poorly qualified people, inhabitants of neighbourhoods identified as priority areas by urban policy, and senior citizens. The Employment survey facilitates the comparison of integration rates between groups of people. In addition, comprehensive sources (social declarations) enable the analysis of employed persons and their remuneration, but the coverage of non-employment remains very limited. Other surveys are used in relation to specific populations: people who have completed certain employment policy schemes; "Génération", the "Entry into the adult world" (EVA) panel and matching of TRAJAM (trajectory of young people matched to active measurements of the employment market) data on the pathways of young people; "Trajectories and Origins" and "Elipa" surveys on immigrants and their descendants.

The INSEE Immigration Unit has studied the role of origins in the persistence of employment and wage inequalities. It seeks to measure the importance of origins in employment and wage inequalities between the first and second generations, based on the Employment survey. A re-weighting method is used to take account of the fact that the descendants of immigrants are, on average, younger, and that education levels vary greatly between people of different origins and generations. The study concludes that inequalities are changing over time rather than decreasing.

The Centre for Studies and Research on Employment and Qualifications (CEREQ), has shed light on the **difficulties of professional integration** based on the first results of the Generation 2017 survey. The National Union of Local Missions (UNML) described **the content and effects of support on young people's access to employment and independence**. Local missions register two million young people (16-25-year-olds) in contact per year, 1 million of whom are supported. The data collected is used to manage the activity and monitor or evaluate the policies implemented. It could also be used for statistical and research purposes.

The discussions highlighted the abundance of sources, but also questioned the current capacity of producers to raise awareness of them, as researchers are not making as much use of them as they could. Another limitation is that few sources cover people not living in ordinary housing, but information is nevertheless produced on the basis of the census.

The CNIS welcomed the efforts made by official statistics to improve knowledge of the professional integration pathways of disadvantaged populations and to monitor them over time. However, it considers that the further attention could be paid to studying the last years of working life before retirement. It reiterated that the specific housing situations of certain

disadvantaged populations mean that they are not always properly represented in statistical surveys.

In the autumn session, the commission examined **the link between career paths and health** (*Medium-Term Opinion No 3 of the Commission*). The available sources are either longitudinal panel surveys, providing detailed results on health and work situations, or cross-sectional surveys, which often contain a retrospective module in order to establish links between career paths and health over time. In this way, for example:

- The Working Conditions and Psychosocial Risks surveys are matched with healthcare consumption data. They show that changing jobs improves psychological well-being and that organisational changes, subject to the conditions under which they are implemented, have an impact on health.
- TRACOV surveys were launched on an emergency basis during the health crisis, providing information about people's activity and a fairly comprehensive Health module.
- SUMER surveys are conducted by occupational health inspectors and concern employees' exposure to various occupational risks. These surveys include longitudinal elements.
- Since 2016, the French National Health Data System (SNDS) has been gathering all data related to non-hospital healthcare consumption reimbursed by the French health insurance scheme (l'Assurance Maladie), hospital stays and medical causes of death, with a temporal depth of 20 years. DREES has created the Health EDP, which cross-references data from the INSEE Permanent Demographic Sample (4.4% of the population) with data from the SNDS.

Work on the links between career paths and health is not exclusively carried out by the Official Statistical Service. Actors in the research and epidemiological sectors are also involved in this field. This applies to the INSERM Constances cohort and the cancer registries.

An INSEE study on the effects of working conditions on health and health care use confirms the impact of physical and psychosocial exposure on general health and well-being. The cross-referencing of reported data with administrative data contributes to the robustness of the results. Occupational exposures also have a positive impact on medical consultations in addition to an impact on the consumption of medication. The results are more ambiguous for hospital admissions, mainly due to the small sample size.

INSEE is using two sources to conduct exploratory analyses of the links between health and employment trajectories: the six consecutive quarterly declarations in the Employment survey in the relatively short term, and information from the Nominative Social Declaration (DSN) relating to declarations of sick leave giving rise to daily allowances, in the longer term (which shows that the longer the period of sick leave in 2018, the higher the probability of not being in employment in 2022).

A researcher presented a research programme consisting of three studies which respectively cover the links between career profiles and health (CNAV source), the links between exposure to arduous conditions during the course of careers and end-of-career outcomes (Constances cohort matched to CNAV), the impact of working conditions on mental health (DARES Working Conditions Survey).

The CNIS welcomed the efforts made by official statistics to develop new sources on the subject and encourages reflection on how to increase the temporal depth of observation of work-related pathways and conditions. It encouraged the establishment of a concerted strategy to coordinate the outputs produced by the Official Statistical Service and

epidemiological researchers, in conjunction with bodies responsible for observing occupational health.

The Demographics and Social Affairs Committee initially examined the statistical monitoring of housing and accommodation problems (Opinions Nos 5 and 9 of the Commission).

INSEE first presented **the National Housing Survey (ENL)**, whose sample of 27,000 dwellings enables detailed cross-referencing but at a high cost and outside the framework of any European regulation. The next edition, scheduled for 2023-2024, will be collected partly online, which will significantly reduce costs. It enables the study of access to housing and poor housing, including for specific sub-populations, and provides an estimate of the mass of imputed rents for the national accounts.

DREES then presented the ES-DS survey of establishments and services for adults and families with social difficulties, and the statistical knowledge of social housing. This concerns accommodation centres and adapted housing establishments throughout France and provides information on the activity of these establishments, their staff and (via some twenty variables) the public accommodated. DREES is investigating the possibility of using other sources to shed light on these issues and a study group on "Quantitative analyses of social housing and the homeless", bringing together researchers, associations and government departments, has been meeting since 2020.

INSEE presented the new edition of the Homelessness survey (SD, 2025) which is part of a global statistical observation system designed to improve the understanding of the problem of poor housing by describing the continuum of situations. The survey sets out to estimate the number of homeless people but also to describe their living conditions and difficulties in accessing housing, and to find out about their life courses.

Discussions with the audience were introduced by the Fondation Abbé Pierre housing charity, which has to estimate the extent of poor housing in France by combining several sources, as the official data is old. The charity favours stable criteria wherever possible in order to ensure the comparability of results, but the surveys on which it relies vary on a regular basis. The Foundation regrets that it is difficult to obtain data at the local level, which is often the relevant level for taking action, and that it is impossible to obtain reliable figures on the demand for access to accommodation.

The CNIS welcomed the renewal of the Housing and Homelessness surveys. It also welcomed innovations designed to improve the respondents' responses, including the switch to multi-mode collection, while stressing the importance of studying the trajectories of poorly housed or homeless people in order to improve the understanding of how people enter into and emerge from poor housing situations, and the persistence of these phenomena.

In the autumn, the Demographics and Social Issues (DQS) Commission considered the **continuity of information about disabled people** (Opinion No 3 of the Commission).

After underlining that disability is a complex concept which can be interpreted in different ways (need for assistance, self-declaration, administrative recognition, etc.), DREES presented its action plan to ensure that disability is measured using methods that take this diversity into account and propose multiple approaches. One of the objectives of the plan is to supplement the observation system by producing new statistical databases dedicated to disability. The implementation of this plan is being discussed by a group of producers who have reached a **consensus on the need for a short, stable series of questions which can be easily used in surveys** (such as the Global Activity Limitation Indicator – GALI).

The Interministerial Committee on Disability considers that it is unacceptable for people with disabilities to be confronted with an inaccessible environment, and public action must be focused on this issue in all sectors concerned (transport, buildings, etc.). It expresses the need for territorialised data in order to carry out a territory-based approach, and emphasises that incorporating the GALI indicator into the surveys constitutes a major advance. The Committee considers that it would be extremely useful to repeat a large general population survey every five years.

In view of the work already undertaken by the Official Statistical Service, the CNIS encouraged the pursuit of efforts relating to information on disability, in particular those enabling the roll-out and use of a disability identification system in non-dedicated statistical sources, or those designed to improve the coordination of outputs and knowledge of the environment of disabled people. The Demographics and Social Issues Committee will liaise with the Territories Committee in order to examine the need for territorialised data. The CNIS has supported the ambitions of the priority research programme on autonomy to promote a data culture by producing documentary resources and holding events, and to eliminate obstacles to the use of official statistics data by the research sector.

During the spring session, the Public Services and Services to the Public Commission examined the statistical monitoring of elderly people's pathways (Medium-Term Opinion No 1).

The Directorate for Research, Studies, Evaluation and Statistics (DREES) of the Ministry of Solidarity and Health presented **an overview of sources covering the loss of autonomy**. Of the 18 million French people over the age of 60, 630,000 live in residential facilities. The Care survey provides a detailed description of limitations and restrictions of activity, living conditions, assistance received, and healthcare consumption. Surveys of residential care facilities for the elderly are in great demand for decision-support purposes. The annual survey of social assistance in French departments is notably used for the annual Social Welfare and Action in France overview. In addition, the Official Statistical Service is putting in place new tools: the Badiane database, which gathers information on the operation, activity and staff of medico-social centres and the people they accommodate, and the national sample of studies on the autonomy and accommodation of senior citizens.

The LEDa-LEGOS laboratory based at Université Paris-Dauphine then presented the **Share Survey** – a European longitudinal tool **for observing the onset of dependency**. Conducted in 28 countries, this is an important tool for international comparisons and policy evaluation. A multidisciplinary academic team is leading this survey, which aims to study the ageing process and the living conditions of seniors as they grow older, but also to provide support for public policy by comparing the situation in different countries. The data is made available in Open Data format subject to academic or institutional affiliation.

A researcher from the Institut des politiques publiques (IPP), described **the monitoring of the human and financial management of loss of autonomy in elderly people, and the outlook**. Numerous actors are involved in the autonomy field and the provision of care is dispersed among several organisations, which complicates the statistical monitoring. Of the 2 million dependent elderly people, 1.3 million are assisted by a professional carer, 840,000 receive the personalised autonomy allowance, and 460,000 are housed in a residence other than a "résidence d'autonomie" (independent-living homes for elderly able-bodied people who wish to maintain their independence while benefiting from certain services). In order to model public decision-making and contextualise elderly people's pathways, data on their care is needed. At present, the temporal depth of the contextual data is insufficient to explain why the determinants of entry into

institutions have changed. The data on autonomy presented by DREES will improve this situation. A partnership between DREES and the IPP should enable the extension of the scope of statistical studies of "old age": direct jobs, private nurses, day-care centres, temporary accommodation, independent living homes, permanent accommodation, etc.

The **debates** underline the importance of diversifying the analyses in order to address the different aspects of elderly people's pathways. Older people's lives entail transitions, such as relocations, which have been studied less frequently than in other age groups. One way to compensate for the lack of research on the elderly is to over-represent them in samples of surveys of the over-50s.

The CNIS commended the progress in the dynamic monitoring of cohorts that is currently being made or has been envisaged, and recommended continuing the ongoing investigations by producers of the European Share survey, the MSO for Health and Solidarity and INSEE, e.g. with a view to performing data matching. It also recommended improving the monitoring of residential mobility in old age and ensuring that this population is adequately represented in the surveys.

The autumn session reported on the development of the information system for security-related data (Medium-Term Opinion No 6).

The Ministerial Statistical Offices for Internal Security (SSMSI) and Justice (SSMJ) presented the **reconciliation of their sources**, with a view to enabling the monitoring of criminal proceedings from the complaint through to the penal response and to improving the reliability of the SSMSI's data. Comparing the data from both offices revealed an overestimation of the SSMSI figures and led to their adjustment. For example, a significant correction was made to the per capita homicide rate. The work carried out shows that the quality of matching has been increasing in recent years. These encouraging results have prompted the offices to examine the technical feasibility of extending the matching to other proceedings.

The Ministry of the Interior then presented the **Digital Criminal Procedure (Procédure Pénale Numérique – PPN)** programme. The advent of the PPN means the abandonment of paper and handwritten signatures in favour of completely computerised files, from the initial investigative act through to the execution of the sentence. An initial service offering is currently being implemented in numerous courts. Once complete, the PPN will enable the creation of a Case File Identifier (Identifiant de Dossier Judiciaire – IDJ): a number assigned to any proceedings at the start of the initial investigative act. This unique IDJ will have a primarily operational and technical purpose: it will improve the reliability and facilitate the monitoring of cases for actors in the criminal justice chain. From a statistical perspective, the IDJ will secure the recording of the number of incidents and their qualification. This will enable the MSO to paint a more complete, accurate and up-to-date picture of crime.

A professor specialising in justice statistics explained how a **unique police-justice identifier will benefit the study of the criminal justice sphere in France**: first and foremost, by enabling the measurement of the judicial outcomes of proceedings initiated by the police. The setting of numerical targets with the introduction of the Organic Law on Finance Laws (loi organique relative aux lois de finances – LOLF) in 2001 was accompanied by a decrease in the number of incidents recorded by the police and an increase in the number of cases solved. On the prosecution side, the number of cases closed has decreased. The unique identifier reveals which cases are subject to an alternative to prosecution rather than a decision to take no further action. Because most measurements of recidivism are based on criminal records, which are not exhaustive, the identifier also improves the reliability of recidivism measurements.

The discussions emphasised the novelty of the project and its exploratory nature, because very few countries link justice and police data. The Ministry of the Interior stresses that the justice identifier does not provide individual data and therefore conveys no information about the sentence handed down at the trial. The project now raises legal issues concerning the MSOs' access to sources. Once the process is secure, both MSOs will be able to assess security policy data more easily.

The CNIS has supported ongoing projects, particularly the matching of police/gendarmerie and justice data. The Council noted that in the future, the unique identifier will help to improve the measurement of crime and the evaluation of public policies. It recommended the rapid release of the data derived from these operations to researchers.

In the spring, the National Population Census Evaluation Commission (CNERP) examined the collection of the census in 2022 after losing a year in 2021 due to the health situation.

The 2022 collection was successful overall and included the generalisation of the "letterbox" protocol to residential buildings (leaving a letter for inhabitants during the reconnaissance round) and collections from mobile homes and homeless people (HMSA) in all municipalities. The online collection rate increased significantly (to 63% compared with 54.4% in 2020), as did the non-response rate (to 4.8%, i.e. +0.7 points compared with 2020).

The CNERP also examined the experiments underway: collection from gendarmeries and ordinary dwellings by enumerators, use of a service provider (La Poste) to carry out enumeration tasks and, finally, pooling of the collection of the "Nuit de la solidarité" (Night of Solidarity) count of homeless people and the homeless census. The CNERP was also informed of the new communication tools planned by INSEE to facilitate data collection and promote essential collaboration with mayors, taking account of their expectations as regularly expressed in committee. The updating of the Address Control List (Répertoire d'immeubles localisés – RIL) in municipalities with more than 10,000 inhabitants is an essential aspect of this collaboration in preparation for collection. This summer, the President of the CNERP wrote to representatives of local authorities to remind them of the importance of their participation in this body, which is designed to act as a forum for information and debate in order to enable the expression of all points of view and the discussion of solutions to difficulties.

Elected representatives present at the CNERP's autumn session expressed their difficulty in understanding the operation of the census and the problems posed by the smoothing of populations over 5 years with regard to financial assistance from the State when the population is growing rapidly, a situation that requires mayors to anticipate the creation of appropriate public facilities. INSEE replied that it was working on this issue with the intention of eventually producing populations at a more recent date than is currently the case.

Finally, the President of the territorial authority of French Guyana asked the President of the CNERP to request the creation of a working group involving the various stakeholders (Guyanese elected representatives, INSEE, the Prefecture, DGOM, etc.) in order to examine the issue of the census in French Guyana. The primary aim will be to improve information about the specificities of French Guyana for the participants and to provide responses, if necessary.

② Progress and expectations in the economic and financial sector

("Enterprises and Market Strategies" and "Financial System and Financing of the Economy" Commissions)

During the spring session, the Enterprise and Market Strategies Commission examined the progress made by business statistics on the observation of the digital economy, four years after the CNIS colloquium (General Medium-Term opinions Nos 3 and 4; Commission opinions Nos 5, 7 and 8).

Business statistics projects are seeking to devise ways to account for the digital practices of businesses in a context of rapid technological change, to ensure that the classifications are able to classify the new activities spawned by the development of the digital economy, and to consider the relevant statistical units for evaluating the market share of the collaborative economy. The current revision of the NACE clarifies the approach to e-commerce, but the questions remain unchanged: what should be the scope? What could improve the observations (collection from businesses or households: case of the collaborative economy and platforms; use of big online data)? **The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Survey) survey is central to the scheme.** It asks companies about all aspects of this subject (infrastructure, content), including organisational. The CIS (Capacity to Innovate and Strategy) surveys provide information about the importance of digital technology for innovation, while the outsourcing and global activity chain surveys provide information about the outsourcing of activities linked to IT services and information technologies. Administrative or private sources on the activities of platforms also warrant further exploration. **E-commerce** is a central form of the digital market economy but its **measurement is complex**. Alongside the ICT survey, INSEE's Annual Sectoral Survey (ESA) provides information on retail trade but not on electronic data interchanges (EDI) and covers online sales in less detail. The professional federation of distance-selling enterprises (FEVAD) produces an e-commerce indicator based on website transactions, but all these sources provide only a "partial" measurement of e-commerce. **The OECD made the same observation and, from an international perspective, highlighted the accelerated spread of digital technology throughout the economy over the past 25 years**, requiring official statistics to interpret an entire, constantly changing field that cuts across activity sectors.

The discussions confirmed that it is not possible to build a comprehensive database that can serve as a single source for studying the digital economy and measuring the importance of the digital sector in GDP. However, this does not mean abandoning the efforts to constantly improve the extent to which economic statistics reflect the digital transformation.

The CNIS has encouraged efforts to harmonise the ICT survey in order to produce robust international comparisons based on a broad conception of the digital economy and shared definitions. It considers it essential for new approaches and data collections (big data on contracts, transactions, etc.) to supplement the coverage and scope of surveys while guaranteeing the statistical quality and durability of the data.

The Enterprise Commission's autumn session discussed **developments in the monitoring of agricultural practices**, five and a half years after the first presentation to the commission. In the meantime, ecological issues have become a driving force in the agriculture sector, to such an extent that it is now commonly referred to as agroecology (*Medium-term opinion No 11 of the Commission*).

The **crop-management survey scheme (PK surveys) (SSP)** provides information about the technical programmes for the main crop outputs and enables the measurement of changes in overall pressures on the environment and per type of practice, including the use of plant-protection products (PPP). An **INRAE** researcher explained that this system, which is unrivalled in Europe, provides a systemic view of the cultivation practices used on plots and documents their development and diversity. Better representation of the diversity of crop-management practices within the sample would be beneficial, as would a greater frequency (at shorter intervals than the current five years).

The **regulatory changes underway at European level, especially with regard to the monitoring of plant-protection products**, will have major impacts on the statistical system for monitoring agricultural practices. The new regulatory framework – SAIO (*Statistics on Agricultural Input and Output*) – currently undergoing approval, will improve knowledge of the practices and outputs of agricultural holdings and therefore contribute to the implementation of the European Green Deal and the "Farm to Fork" strategy. The emphasis has been placed on PPP data.

An observation and measurement system that would be compatible with the annual reports on PPP use on more detailed territorial scales is being considered by the **CNIS working group on PPP use in agriculture**. The aim is to develop a tool for collecting data via farmers' plot management software, linked to the project to create a centralised register of PPP use driven by European regulations. Together with farmers' professional and technical representative bodies, software publishers and official statistics offices, this group is studying the technical feasibility of the statistical use of these data, the legal framework for their transmission and the associated workload.

During the discussions, the importance of monitoring agricultural practices in the context of ecological transition and climate change was underlined by all participants. Despite their depth, the PK surveys are not sufficient to address these issues and the system needs to be strengthened.

The CNIS has encouraged the efforts to develop a system to produce annual reports on PPP use, in response to European requirements, without placing an excessive burden on professionals operating in the sector. With a view to producing operational recommendations, it has urged farmers and their representatives to participate in the working group's activities and has called for a broad dissemination of the findings on crop-management in order to inform the public debate.

In its spring session, the **"Financial System and Financing of the Economy" Commission** first considered **"fintech's"**, and **how to interpret the digital transformation of banking and finance** (Medium-Term Opinion No 5 of the Commission).

There is no shared definition of this activity and discussions on how to stabilise the statistical object are still in progress. A Financial Stability Board memorandum describes fintech as "technological innovation in financial services that could lead to new business models, applications, processes or products, with an associated material effect on financial institutions and markets and on the provision of financial services." Three different groups can be identified: new "fintech" companies operating primarily in financial services (e.g. payment, credit and asset-management services); major, often technology-based companies ("big techs") providing financial services as part of their business; and traditional financial institutions that have altered their business models to accommodate digital innovation. Should they be considered as new activities which will be added to the classifications, or are they the same services as offered by "traditional" financial companies, in which case they are compatible with the existing classifications? The monitoring of "fintechs" is one of the focuses of the Data Gaps Initiative, phase III. **The Banque de France has undertaken to acquire a dynamic tool for detecting and monitoring fintechs** in response to requests from data users: still experimental, this system integrates artificial intelligence, and although holding promise for the future of European official statistics, it remains a costly and time-consuming process.

A researcher from Université de Paris 1 underlined the difficulty in obtaining data from crowdfunding platforms and big techs: future regulations, especially those introducing mandatory reporting, will require greater transparency vis-à-vis fintechs.

This commission then addressed **the measurement of gender discrimination in finance**. The findings of the growing number of research projects and studies on this subject underline that women are subject to the same unequal treatment in the financial sector as in the economy as a whole. By matching multiple sources of data, they seek to identify the causes of such discrimination, and reveal that stereotypes seem to be the main reason for the lower level of investment in funds managed by women.

In the ensuing discussions, the emphasis was placed on the availability and accessibility of the most disaggregated data possible.

The CNIS acknowledged the fact that fintech remains a non-stabilised field and urged stakeholders to design tools capable of informing official statistics downstream and facilitating access to these new data sources for researchers.

To foster the development of research on gender and finance, the CNIS encouraged the matching of innovative data (commercial and administrative) and access to the most disaggregated data possible.

At the autumn session, the Commission examined the **national financial education strategy in France**. The Banque de France presented its "Educfi" strategy as well as the main results of the **OECD survey conducted in 2021 on the financial literacy of the French and entrepreneurs' knowledge and needs**.

This strategy aims to develop budgetary and financial education for young people, provide better support for people in financial difficulty, give all members of the public the key knowledge required to understand economic debates, and improve entrepreneurs' economic and financial expertise.

The first part of the OECD survey deals with the financial culture of the French: their theoretical knowledge is close to the OECD average but their understanding of the effects of inflation and the interest-rate mechanism is insufficient. For the general public, the "mesquestionsdargent" website provides a series of sections providing answers to everyday questions. The second part of the survey concerns the financial knowledge and needs of entrepreneurs (VSEs and SMEs): their level of knowledge is satisfactory and their behaviour is financially well advised, even if they are somewhat overly "short-termist". The priority of the strategy is to provide support for the most isolated and least informed entrepreneurs (educational materials, "myquestionsentrepreneur" portal).

In this respect, **the policy of supporting the managers of VSE-SMEs**, launched in 2016 with the creation of a system of VSE-SME correspondents, aims to support entrepreneurs seeking assistance in the financial field by listening to their needs, understanding them and providing guidance. Of the more than 7,000 requests recorded in 2022 – the vast majority from very small enterprises – more than half concerned business management and development. Specific resources are devoted to start-ups, the financial diagnosis of enterprises and credit mediation.

③ Progress and expectations on the environment and sustainable development

("Environment and Sustainable Development" Commission)

At its spring session, the Environment and Sustainable Development Commission discussed **the measurement of soil quality at local level** (General Medium-Term Opinion No 2 of the Commission).

According to the processes considered and the thresholds adopted in order to define a given deterioration, uncertainties remain concerning the status and measurement of the deterioration

caused. The need for robust and reliable indicators to qualify soil functions, threats, risks and changes over time was raised.

Under the responsibility of the Scientific-Interest Grouping (GIS) on Soils, four national programmes have set out to improve soil knowledge and monitoring, but also to capitalise on the analyses conducted in France. An urban soil analysis database (BDSoIU) has been in place since 2020. All of the GIS Soil data and information are disseminated online and easily accessible on several websites. The same applies to the database of polluted sites and soils managed by the Ministry of Ecological Transition (GEORISQUES portal).

Ecosystem services (goods and services that societies can directly or indirectly obtain from ecosystems) provided by soils are multifunctional. Service-related functions enable the assessment of soil health, i.e. the actual functioning of a soil in relation to a potential baseline scenario. This measurement is complex, as soils have a natural spatial heterogeneity, hence the use of modelling to obtain a diagnostic soil health tool and ultimately envisage a collaborative, multi-actor digital platform.

An illustration of how agricultural activities can promote soil conservation was presented by a geographer whose research focuses on analysing agricultural soil quality in the context of tackling soil erosion in vineyards.

During the discussions, it was pointed out that the measurement of land degradation is also central to the UN 2030 Agenda, whose Indicator 15.3.1, concerning land, has been precisely defined and requires France to provide annual data. Attention was also paid to the type of criteria, safeguards and labels that are required and should be used to characterise French economic activities (including agriculture) within the framework of the European Green Taxonomy: a request for collaboration to establish a network of soil experts was made in committee. This network should include the Scientific-Interest Grouping (GIS) on Soils and the General Commission for Sustainable Development of the Ministry of Ecological Transition.

The CNIS recommended that the various stakeholders concerned by land and soil issues work together within a single, coherent reference framework, in line with international recommendations, in order to promote the comparison and harmonisation of the activities and results. It called for particular attention to be paid to communication with the general public, so that the subject of soil quality does not remain the sole preserve of specialists and experts.

The autumn session was devoted to "**Urbanism and Sustainability**" (CNIS 2019-2023 Medium Term Opinions Nos 1 and 6 for the Commission), in order to take stock of the situation seven years after a previous Commission meeting on this subject.

Eurostat reported on **the data available at European** level and explained how to compare the sustainability of European cities. Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals by the UN in September 2015, Eurostat developed a hundred or so indicators for monitoring the attainment of these SDGs, some ten of which refer to Goal 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities. The effects of urban environments on poverty and social exclusion differ greatly according to different national contexts.

Since **the 2015 Commission**, in addition to the harmonisation activities carried out by Eurostat, progress has been made on the definition of cities, due to the adoption of the new zoning arrangements based on "urban zones of attraction", determined by density and facilitating comparisons at European level. New data is available on carpooling and the devitalisation of urban centres, but also on energy consumption, social diversity, density of use and the circular economy

at local level. The interactive mapping of local sustainability data was welcomed. Other CNIS commissions have considered access to water and its quality, greenhouse gas emissions, the measurement of access times to amenities, etc. However, the data on the presence of vegetation in the urban environment, the identification of informal or unfit housing, and the monitoring of material flows on the scale of the conurbation, continues to be insufficient.

The French version of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) monitoring indicators was then presented by the Statistical Data and Studies Service (SDES) of the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion. At national level, four main indicators have been selected for monitoring Goal 11 on "Sustainable cities and communities", concerning the rate of overcrowding in dwellings, the degree of land take, the processing of municipal waste, and the concentration of fine particulate matter in the air. Twenty-four territorial sustainable development indicators (ITDDs) can also be used to produce territorial summaries on numerous themes. The ODDetT application provides a mapped view of the 126 ITDDs for the whole of France. Maps of urban heat islands, light pollution, noise exposure, and activities relating to the creation of indicators of air quality, the presence of nature in urban environments and access to green spaces have also been developed, with the exception of public spaces.

With regard to the availability of data for studying ecosystem services (supply, regulation, cultural services, etc.), the findings of the IDEFESE research project, led by a multidisciplinary team in partnership with development stakeholders, have been used to produce a map of these services in the Île-de-France region, their previous transformations, and a model of scenarios for future changes to each of them. The maps of eight ecosystem services produced broaden knowledge of the environmental impacts of urban development, by moving away from a binary vision that distinguishes between "natural" and "developed" land, and also identify areas requiring the implementation of priority measures to improve quality of life for urban residents.

The discussions then identified persistent data gaps: on the accessibility of the urban environment to people with reduced mobility, the energy renovation of buildings, and perceived temperatures inside buildings in order to measure their thermal efficiency. The final issue concerned access to the different types of data for the general public: the existence of a large number of platforms has raised concerns about the risk of confusion for users.

The CNIS welcomed the many advances made since 2015 in enabling the public to access sustainability measurement data at the local level, and encouraged agencies with cross-cutting missions to provide access to localised statistics on the sustainability of cities as part of a multi-thematic approach. It also encouraged the development of indicators on the presence of vegetation in urban environments, the identification of informal or unfit housing, the circular economy, etc. In addition to the usual official statistics methodology, the mobilisation of data derived from modelling (e.g. machine learning from satellite images) or from contributory data or private data is a key issue. The standardisation, certification and dissemination of this data by official statistics would be desirable.

④ Progress and expectations in territorial aspects

("Territories" Commission)

During the spring session, the Territories Commission examined **the development of information on land take** (CNIS 2019-2023 Medium-Term Opinion No 6 for the Commission).

The MSO for Agriculture presented **TERUTI**, an annual statistical survey designed to qualify the types of land use (artificial, agricultural and natural) throughout France since 1982 by means of

field surveys. These surveys can be used to characterise socio-economic land uses. In Metropolitan France, developed land accounts for about 9% of total land cover.

The Ministry of Ecological Transition presented the **land take measurement system implemented in pursuit of the target of zero net land take (ZAN)**. Recently defined by Article 192 of the Climate and Resilience Law of 22/08/2021, land take is a lasting alteration to some or all of the ecological functions of soils, notably their biological, hydric and climatic functions, as well as their agronomic potential, through the occupation or use of the land. Achieving zero net land take means striking a balance between current land take and the reversal of land take in a given area and period. A national target has been set by law for 2050, which consists in maintaining a balance between these flows. The measurement scheme can be accessed via the National Land Take Cover Portal (Portal national de l'artificialisation des sols).

The European Environment Agency focused its presentation on the **Copernicus Land Monitoring Service**, consisting of the Urban Atlas presenting high- to very-high-resolution biophysical data layers and the "Corine Land Cover +" scheme which is under development. These regularly updated tools can be used to monitor changes, almost in real time. CEREMA then proposed an overview of **several land-related tools, which are useful for shedding light on soil properties**.

The MSO for Ecology presented the lessons learned from **comparing sources in the departments of Calvados and Gers**. The chairman of the Commission, Professor Pierre-Philippe Combes from Sciences Po, used four series of historical French maps from the period between 1750 and 2020 to illustrate **the use of machine learning to obtain historical data on building stock and land use**. This showed that the building stock virtually doubled between 1860 and 2020, but so did the forests and roads, mainly at the expense of agricultural land. Finally, INSEE Pays de la Loire presented a study on **the identification and characterisation of dedicated economic activity areas in the region**. A reduction in economic activity from the 1970s onwards and a significant expansion of dedicated economic activity areas has been accompanied by the consumption of space.

Discussions with the audience focused primarily on requests for clarification of the status of solar photovoltaic farms, bicycle paths and urban agriculture in the nomenclature of the ZAN implementing decree, but also on technical issues (polygon thresholds) and governance (notably the status and long-term financing of the scheme).

The CNIS noted the existence and availability of a significant volume of data and number of tools for measuring land take on different scales, which are suitable for monitoring the pursuit of the goal of net zero land take. It stressed that particular attention must be paid to the tensions that may be generated locally by the need to reverse land take in certain areas and expand economic production areas.

During the autumn session, the Commission took stock of **local government statistics**. The regional representatives stressed the importance of obtaining data at the most detailed territorial level – often at the inter-municipal level, but also of obtaining data that enables the comparison of regions. The departmental representative returned to the financial data requirements.

The MSO for Local Authorities presented the recent and future progress made in **describing the territorial civil service** (number of jobs, working conditions, etc.) and in **monitoring the roll-out and organisation of inter-municipal entities**. The introduction of the Single Social Report in 2019 should enable the enrichment of the available indicators and reduce the time required to release information. The new **www.open-collectivites.fr portal**, created by the DGCL, is intended

for elected officials, civil servants, journalists, citizens and researchers. It centralises existing statistical information on local authorities on a variety of themes: grants, finance, economy, population, in addition to culture, education, planning, transport, tourism, health, safety, etc.

The Local Public Finance and Management Observatory (Observatoires des finances et de la gestion publique locales – OFGL) demonstrated how its new **"data.ofgl.fr" platform** aims to provide user-friendly access to existing data sets on local government finances, along with tools for building customised databases and datavisualisation. The **OpenDataFrance association** presented tools designed to help local authorities provide open access to their data (compulsory for populations exceeding 3,500 inhabitants). INSEE then proposed an initial interpretation of the available data on **local public-sector enterprises**, which cannot always be directly identified in administrative sources, in order to demonstrate the specificities of this data. Finally, two researchers reported on their studies **of the finances of municipalities**, focusing on the effects of public policies (roll-out of inter-municipal entities, reduction in their overall operating grant, equalisation systems) on municipal finances.

In its opinion, the CNIS states that it will remain attentive to the improvements planned in relation to the centralised collection of the Single Social Report. It recommends the provision of multi-year data sets to facilitate the study of temporal changes, and encourages the provision of new data such as the distribution of transfers between the inter-municipality cooperation institution (établissement public de coopération intercommunale – EPCI) and its member municipalities, and the development of international comparisons on these issues, particularly for cross-border regions.

ACRONYMS USED

ACEMO: Activité et conditions d'emploi de la main d'œuvre (Activity and employment conditions of the workforce)

ADELI: Automatisation des listes – Répertoire national des professionnels de santé (Automation of lists – National Directory of Health Professionals)

APIE: Mission d'Appui pour le patrimoine immatériel de l'Etat (Support Mission for Intangible National Heritage)

ASP: Autorité de la statistique publique (French Official Statistics Authority)

CADA: Commission d'accès aux documents administratifs (Commission on Access to Administrative Documents)

CAP: Common Agricultural Policy

CASD: Centre d'accès sécurisé aux données (Secure Data Access Centre)

CépiDc: Centre d'épidémiologie sur les causes médicales de décès (Epidemiology Centre for Medical Causes of Death)

CGGD: Commissariat général au développement durable (General Commission for Sustainable Development)

CNAM: Caisse nationale d'assurance maladie (French National Health Insurance Fund)

CNAV: Caisse nationale d'assurance-vieillesse (French National Old-Age Insurance Fund)

CNIS: Conseil national de l'information statistique (National Council for Statistical Information)

COMIS: Comité ministériel de l'information statistique (Ministerial Committee for Statistical Information)

CSNS: Code statistique non signifiant (non-significant statistical code)

CST: Compte satellite du tourisme (Tourism Satellite Account)

CPI: Consumer Price Index

CVS: Cadre de vie et sécurité (Living Environment and Security survey)

DARES: Direction de l'animation de la recherche, des études et des statistiques (Directorate for Research, Studies and Statistics)

DEPP: Direction de l'évaluation, de la prospective et de la performance (Department for Evaluation, Forward Studies and Performance)

DESF: Département des études et statistiques fiscales (Department of Fiscal Studies and Statistics)

DGCA: Direction générale de l'aviation civile (French Civil Aviation Authority)

DGAFP: Direction générale de l'administration et de la fonction publique (Directorate General for Government and Civil Service)

DGDI: Direction générale des douanes et des droits indirects (Directorate General for Customs and Excise)

DGFIP: Direction générale des finances publiques (Directorate General for Public Finance)

DGS: Direction générale de la santé (Directorate General for Health)

DREES: Direction de la recherche, des études, de l'évaluation, et des statistiques (Department of Research, Studies, Evaluation and Statistics)

DSN: Déclaration sociale nominative (Nominative Social Declaration)

ECB: European Central Bank

ECOFIN: Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs (Council of the European Union)

EFHCT: Enquête de fréquentation des hébergements collectifs de tourisme (Occupancy Surveys of Collective Tourist Accommodation)

EPICOV: COVID epidemic survey

ERCV: Enquête sur les revenus et conditions de vie (Survey on Income and Living Conditions)

ESA: European System of Accounts

ESGAB: European Statistical Governance Advisory Board

ESOP: European Statistics On Population

ESS: European Statistical System

ESSC: European Statistical System Committee

ESSnet: Network of European experts on different statistical projects in the European statistical system

EVE: Enquête sur les voyageurs étrangers (Foreign Visitors' Survey)

EUROSTAT: Statistical Office of the European Union

FIDELI: Fichiers démographiques sur les logements et les individus (Demographic File on Dwellings and Individuals)

Force: Données sur la FORMation, le Chômage et l'Emploi (Data on Training, Unemployment and Employment)

GDP: Gross domestic product

GENESE: Gender and Security (survey)

GENESIS: National prisoner management system for personalised monitoring and security

GHG: Greenhouse gases

GMBI: Gérer mes biens immobiliers – Online management space for real-estate-related formalities

IGAS: Inspection générale des affaires sociales (General Inspectorate of Social Affairs)

IG INSEE: Inspection générale de l'Insee (INSEE General Inspectorate)

INJEP: Institut national de la jeunesse et de l'éducation populaire (National Institute of Youth and Popular Education)

INSEE: Institut national de la statistique et des études économiques (National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies)

INSERM: Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale (National Institute for Health and Medical Research)

HICP: Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices

ICT: Information and communication technology (survey on the uses of)

ILO: International Labour Office

IPS: Indice de position sociale (Social Position Index)

JMS: Journées de méthodologie statistique (Statistical Methodology Days)

MSA: Mutualité sociale agricole (agricultural social insurance mutual benefit fund)

MSO: Ministerial Statistical Office

NACE: Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community

NAF: Nomenclature d'activités française (French classification of activities)

NIR: Numéro d'inscription au répertoire (National Registration Number)

PFUE: Présidence française de l'Union européenne (French Presidency of the European Union)

PIC: Plan d'investissement dans les compétences (Competency Investment Plan)

PSWG: Price Statistics Working Group

RéSIL: Répertoire statistique des individus et des logements (Statistical register of individuals and dwellings)

RMès: Référentiel de métadonnées statistiques (Statistical metadata repository)

SAIO: Statistics on agricultural input and output

SDES: Service des données et études statistiques (Statistical Data and Studies Service)

SDSE: Under-Directorate for Statistics and Studies

SDT: Suivi de la demande de tourisme (Monitoring of Tourist Demand)

SIES: Sous-direction des systèmes d'information et des études statistiques (Under-Directorate for Information Systems and Statistical Studies)

SI-VIC: Victim-monitoring information system (covering victims of attacks and exceptional health situations)

SNDS: Système national des données de santé (French National Health Data System)

SPF: Santé publique France (French national public health agency)

SRCV: Statistiques sur les ressources et les conditions de vie (Statistics on Income and Living Conditions)

SRE: Service des retraites de l'Etat (State pensions Department)

SSMSI: Service statistique ministériel de la sécurité intérieure (Ministerial Statistical Office for Internal Security)

SSP: Service statistique public (French Official Statistical Service)

TeO2: Trajectoire et origine (Trajectory and origins survey on the impact of origins on living conditions and social trajectories)

TRACOV: Travail et covid (Survey on work during the COVID crisis)

URSSAF: Union de recouvrement de cotisations de sécurité sociale et d'allocations familiales (Social security contribution collection offices)

VRS: Vécu et ressenti en matière de sécurité (Survey on security experiences and perceptions)

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