

Planning Department

24.11.2016

INSTRUCTIONS ON THE RELEASE AND HANDING OUT OF STATISTICS

These instructions cover the release principles of statistics produced by the Finnish Centre for Pensions: the time of release, the release notification in the release calendar, and the concealment of unreleased statistics. As some of the statistics are released in the Official Statistics of Finland (OSF) series, these instructions are based on the instructions of Statistics Finland.

The statistics refer to publically distributed statistics listed in the release calendar on the website of the Finnish Centre for Pensions. The statistics may be published as printed products, as online publications or in statistical databases. The topic-specific partial releases of a statistics, and a statistical release of a statistics (often a so-called compilation publication), may also be listed in the release calendar.

Operational data, summaries and reports of the pension providers submitted to the pension providers are not public statistics as referred to in these instructions. A separate instruction on the handing out of individual-level personal data for research and statistical purposes is available online.

Release of statistics

The statistics are to be released for all users at the same time. As a rule, the statistics releases, database updates and bulletins relating to each release are to be posted on the internet on a weekday by 12 o'clock noon. The statistics are public after being updated on the websites.

Exceptions to the time of release can be made when a statistics is published together with a bulletin or at a press conference.

All statistics published in the OSF series are to be published in Finnish and Swedish. Other statistics are to be published in Finnish and, for the main part, also in Swedish. Central statistics and statistics of international interest are to be published in English. The statistics in the statistical database are to be published in Finnish and Swedish. The central statistics are to be made available also in English.

Release calendar

The release calendar of the statistics is to be posted on the etk.fi website . The calendar is to include the titles and release dates of the statistics that are public. It is also to include direct links to the home page of each statistics.

The release dates of the following year's statistics known in advance are to be published for the users in December of the previous year. At this point, the month in which the statistics will be released is to be stated. Any statistical releases that will cease to be published during the year are to be added to the release calendar as soon as possible.

One month before the stated release date, the calendar is to be updated with information on the week of release, and in the week before the release week, the day of release is to be stated. The time of release is to be agreed on with Communications. If the planned release time changes, it must be noted in the release calendar. Exceptions to the stated release dates will be monitored annually.

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Concealment of data before release

Statistics may be handed out under the embargo principle before the official time of release. In that event, the party requesting the data is to contact Communications at the Finnish Centre for Pensions. Unpublished statistics may be used in the Finnish Centre for Pensions' own statistics and research and in other statutory functions, but the data may not be released before the actual related statistics has been officially released.

Handing out statistics before their release

Statistics may be handed out before their official release to statistics authorities, authorities compiling statistics, other official parties producing statistics and the ministries. This premature handing out of statistics requires that the aforementioned parties need the data to carry out their statutory duties or that a separate agreement on the premature handing out of data has been signed with the concerned party. In that case, the statistics must include a statement to the effect that the statistics are confidential until the Finnish Centre for Pensions has released them.

Before the official release of a statistics, related data can also be handed out to working groups, parties and persons involved in the assessment and planning of the pension system and preparatory work in support of decision-making. In this event, the data must be marked confidential. The premise is that the party that has received the data may not publish it before the Finnish Centre for Pensions has released the statistics. When handing out data, the date on which the data will be public must be stated. The source (Finnish Centre for Pensions), must always be stated when publishing data.