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National Statistics in Slovenia

Annual Report 2011

THE SLOVENIAN
NATIONAL STATISTICS

TRUSTWORTHY
AND USER ORIENTED

Ljubljana, 2013



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA



STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

National Statistics in Slovenia

Annual Report 2011

Ljubljana, 2013

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Publication available at http://www.stat.si/eng/pub_porocila_letni.asp.

Issued by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (SURS), Ljubljana, Litostrojska 54.

Use and publication of the data is allowed provided the source is acknowledged – ISSN 1854-6579.

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The Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia

at its 38th regular session on 24 April 2012

discussed the Report on the Implementation of the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys 2011
and adopted the following

DECISION

»The Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia, at its 38th regular session on 24 April 2012, under item 3 of the agenda, took note of the Report on the Implementation of the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys 2011 and proposed to the Director-General of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia that, taking into account comments by Council members, the Report be adopted.«

Anuška Ferligoj, Ph.D.

President of the Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia



Introduction

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia and authorised producers of national statistics successfully conducted the surveys and implemented the tasks planned with the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys for 2011. Successfully means that the prepared statistical results were of high quality. This is a fact on which Slovenian national statistics is building its development: trustworthy and independent. Therefore, we would like to strengthen this awareness among all users of statistical results, particularly those preparing different strategies and policies. Internationally comparable statistical data and analyses can help us better understand and identify social challenges more correctly; they can also point to possible ways out of the crises. The quality of *trustworthy* is also exceptionally important for our data providers; in dealing with data obtained from reporting units (people, households or enterprises), the Statistical Office and authorised producers respect the highest standards and implement strict security measures.

In 2011, the Statistical Office started to prepare a new medium-term programme of statistical surveys for the 2013–2017 period; in the first part of 2012 the programme will be supplemented by authorised producers. The current medium-term period is running out. National statistics looks back on it with pride, since we will be able to report that the vast majority of strategic objectives have been achieved. One should mentioned here large progress in reducing administrative burdens of people and enterprises, particularly due to extensive use of various administrative data sources, which led to considerable savings. The Statistical Office concluded agreements for more than 50 administrative data sources. It will not be superfluous if we again point out the greatest rationalisation in the operation of the Statistical Office, which was achieved with successful implementation of the register-based census of population, households and housing 2011, for which only administrative data sources and existing data were used. The costs of the register-based census are only about 10% of the costs of the classical census.

Preparation of various statistics and development of individual fields of statistics are determined by user needs. In the past two years several new international initiatives were given, such as recommendations of the Commission for the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress¹, i.e. the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi report, and the Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament – GDP and beyond: measuring progress in a changing world². These initiatives are already being considered by the statistical Office in its developmental work: not only sectoral statistical but also more and more cross-sectoral (multidomain) statistical are being prepared.

For several years the Statistical Office was pointing out its spatial problem. The problem was solved in 2011 and in January 2012 the institution moved into new, appropriate premises. After the relocation the working conditions vastly improved, especially as regards business processes and data security.

This Report was prepared in cooperation with authorised producers of national statistics: Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services, Bank of Slovenia, National Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Finance, Institute of Pension and Invalidity Insurance of Slovenia and Employment Service of Slovenia. The Statistical Office would like to thank all of them for successful cooperation.

The statistical Office would also like to thank all reporting units, both enterprises and households, as well as the keepers of administrative sources for successful cooperation in 2011.



Irena Križman
Director-General of the Statistical Office
of the Republic of Slovenia

¹ Commission Report was prepared by professors Joseph E. Stiglitz, Amartya Sen and Jean-Paul Fitoussi.

See <http://www.ofce.sciences-po.fr/pdf/dtravail/WP2009-33.pdf> (10.8.2012).

² See <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0433:FIN:EN:HTML>, 52009DCo433 (16. 4. 2012).

1 Demographic and social statistics

1.1 Population

SURS conducted the first register-based census of population, households and housing

The implementation of the Register-based population Census in 2011 – i.e. by using administrative and statistical sources and performing complex integration of these sources – was an important **development achievement** of national statistics. By doing this Slovenia joined the few European countries that have been conducting such censuses for a number of years or conducted it for the first time in 2011. The mentioned Register-based Census 2011 was conducted in line with the EU regulation on population and housing censuses³, which stipulated that population censuses should be conducted in 2011. Data collected with this census – contrary to previous censuses – refer to the situation as of 1 January (data collected with censuses since 1931 were conducted in the field and always referred to the situation as of 31 March). In terms of organisation, the main advantages of the register-based method were significantly **lower costs** (we estimated that we saved around EUR 14 million), very **few people involved** (fewer than 10) and **reduced burden of data providers**. The Register-based Census 2011 was implemented in three steps (depending on the availability of individual data sources) and each step was followed by data release:

- At the end of April 2011 (four months after the reference period) dissemination of data on population (structure, number) according to the same methodology as SURS uses for releasing regular population statistics every three months,
- At the end of June 2011 dissemination of data on households and families for total population and data on women by the number of children,
- At the end of December 2011 (release of the last set of census content on the population) dissemination of data on activity status, education and migration and provisional data on occupied dwellings.

SURS's experts presented to professional and general public methodological, organisational and technological difference in implementation of such a statistical survey compared to a classical population census, pointing out care that needs to be taken in comparing data collected with the Register-based Census 2011 and data collected with previous censuses.

On 1 January 2011 an average household in Slovenia had 2.48 members; every third household was a one-person household. The most frequent family type was married couple with children (42%); the average number of children in families with children was 1.56.⁴

Every sixth resident aged 15 or more had at least tertiary education; women were better educated than men.⁵

The mean age of grooms and brides is increasing and has already exceeded 30 years. Average duration of marriage before divorce was 13.4 years.⁶

Net migration of Slovenia was negative for the first time in the last decade.⁷

Modernisation of the statistical survey on divorces simplified the surveying

The statistical survey on divorces is the only demographic survey for which SURS still collects part of the data with a questionnaire. In 2011, the **questionnaire design** was changed and adjusted for optical

³ Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses (32008R0763).

⁴ See Households and families, Slovenia, 1 January 2011 – final data, June 30, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4029 (16.7.2012).

⁵ See Educational attainment, Slovenia, 1 January 2011 - final data, December 29, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4412 (16.7.2012).

⁶ See Marriages and divorces, Slovenia, 2010, June 22, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4003 (16.7.2012).

⁷ See Migration changes, Slovenia, 2010 – final data, July 25, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4064 (16.7.2012).

reading. Even more important was the **subject-matter rationalisation**, since now SURS only collects those data that cannot be obtained from administrative or statistical sources. With the mentioned modernisation the statistical procedure was simplified, since *manual* coding of questionnaires is no longer necessary.

Eurostat prepared new population projections for Slovenia

In 2011, Eurostat prepared new **EUROPOP2010** population projections for the period up to 2060⁸. After consulting with the Working Group for Population Projections, SURS took over these projections as official projections for Slovenia's population. EUROPOP2010 projections are based on assumptions about fertility, mortality and international migration in the coming decades. The least reliable are assumptions about migration, since migration to a large extent depends on economic conditions and they are very difficult to predict. EUROPOP2010 projections are prepared according to the **convergence scenario**, which anticipates that socioeconomic and cultural differences between countries included in the preparation of projections will decrease over longer time. Therefore, in the so-called convergence year 2150 the values of individual demographic components taken into account in the projections will be the same in all countries included in projections.

1.2 Labour market

SURS prepared several new releases with data on the labour force, and data on occupations are shown according to the new Standard Classification of Occupations – SKP-o8

Within structural data of persons in employment⁹, for December 2010 SURS released for the first time data on **disabled persons in employment**. In line with the EU regulation, within the Labour Force Survey the ad-hoc module on the **employment of disabled people**¹⁰ was conducted; results will be published at the end of March 2012.

Data on education, age and occupation of persons in employment in the SI-STAT data portal were supplemented by the 2005-2008 data series. Data on occupation for December 2010 were shown simultaneously according to the previous and the new **Standard Classification of Occupations (SKP-o8)**; the new classification came into force in 2011. The standard was also implemented in the Labour Force Survey.

In disseminating data on labour migrations for 2010 a methodological change was introduced, namely in determining the person's residence first the temporary residence and only later on the permanent residence in Slovenia are taken into account. Within the publication of data on labour migrations the data on foreign daily migrants from neighbouring countries working in Slovenia were also published.

*At the end of 2010, slightly more than 392,000 labour migrants between municipalities were registered in Slovenia, or 49.6% of persons in employment. Municipality Trzin was the most attractive for employment. From neighbouring countries around 2,300 foreigners were coming to work in Slovenia.*¹¹

On 1 July 2011 new forms for registering data on pension and disability insurance, health insurance, parental protection insurance and insurance against unemployment came into force in Slovenia. These forms are the source of data for filling in and updating data in the Statistical Register of Employment

⁸ See Population projections for Slovenia, 2010-2060 - final data, June 17, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3989 (16.7.2012).

⁹ See Structural data of persons in employment, Slovenia, 31.12.2010 - final data, June 28, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4011 (16.7.2012).

¹⁰ Commission Regulation (EU) No 317/2010 of 16 April 2010 adopting the specifications of the 2011 ad hoc module on employment of disabled people for the labour force sample survey provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 (32010R0317).

¹¹ See Labour migrations, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, April 28, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3877 (17.7.2012).

(SRDAP). SURS cooperated in preparing these new forms, which contain fewer data. The old code lists for education were replaced by the Classification System of Education and Training (KLASIUS).

Unemployment and monitoring the labour market policy measures in Slovenia

The **Employment Service of Slovenia (ZRSZ)** conducted all surveys planned with the Annual Programme of statistical Surveys for 2011. The volume of data was partly the result of legislative changes, since in April 2011 the new Employment and Work of Aliens Act came into force, which introduced the category of *foreigners with free access to the labour market*. These foreigners no longer require work permits, so the change had an impact on work permits statistics.

SURS and the ZRSZ cooperated in preparing qualitative information and quantitative data on participants in and expenditure for each individual **labour market policy measure** for 2010. The task arises from the commitment of the Republic of Slovenia to provide data necessary for monitoring the fulfilment of European employment guidelines. Annual reporting covers data on types and characteristic of labour market measures in line with the classification of measured stipulated in Eurostat's LMP (Labour Market Policy) methodology¹². On the basis of the report prepared for Eurostat, SURS prepared for publication the data for 2010¹³ and published them together with relevant methodological explanations in the First Release.

In 2011, SURS again prepared for the OECD data on the *tax-benefit system in Slovenia*, on the basis of which various indicators are calculated¹⁴. According to the OECD methodology, SURS published own calculations of some work incentive indicators¹⁵ for 2010.

In 2011, the growth of registered unemployment was not as pronounced as in the start of the economic crisis. In the first two months of the year a huge jump was recorded, which in February led to the highest number of registered unemployed persons in the past eleven years (115,608). This was followed by several months of gradual decline, which stopped in July. Unemployment increased again in the last three months of the year. The rise was mostly the result of a higher number of unemployed persons whose temporary employment ended and seasonal registration of first job seekers. 2011 was also marked by numerous bankruptcies, particularly in construction and related activities, so the number of newly registered unemployed in the category "registered due to bankruptcy" increased by as much as 44.4%. Despite more favourable trends in the spring and summer months, in 2011 unemployment did not fall below 100,000, at the end of 2011 it stood at 112,754. Total outflow from the unemployment record in 2011 was 96,941 or 1.2% more than in 2010. Due to more demand of employers for workers as well as due to the effects of active employment policy measures, among the deregistered there were 61,010 unemployed persons who either became employed or self-employed, which is 7.0% more than in 2010.

Source: Employment Service of Slovenia

The most sought-after data from the field of labour statistics are data on earnings

SURS published the data on earnings within the planned deadlines. Final data on **the distribution of persons in paid employment by amount of gross and net earnings**¹⁶ for 2009 and provisional data for 2010 were due to increasing demand by users published in the form of absolute figures; which will also be true for future releases.

In 2011, too, data on differences between male and female earnings were calculated by SURS from structure of earnings statistics. In cooperation with AJPES, in 2011 SURS collected missing data for the

¹² See http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/labour_market/labour_market_policy (17.7.2012).

¹³ See Labour Market Policy, Slovenia, 2010 – final data, January 19, 2012, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4469 (17.7.2012).

¹⁴ See http://www.oecd.org/document/3/0,3746,en_2649_34637_39617987_1_1_1_1,00.html (17.7.2012).

¹⁵ See Work incentive indicators, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, May 30, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3911 (17.7.2012).

¹⁶ See Persons in paid employment by amount of gross and net earnings, detailed data, Slovenia, 2009 - final data, October 27, 2011, E-Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4308 (17.7.2012).

2010 structure of earnings survey with a questionnaire. Other data were obtained from existing sources. They will be published at the end of June 2012.

According to provisional data of annual structure of earnings statistics, average monthly gross earnings of women in 2010 were 96.5% those of men, which means they were EUR 55 lower.¹⁷

In 2011, too, SURS was regularly publishing data on average monthly earnings on the basis of the survey on earnings paid by legal persons, which has been conducted for several years in cooperation with AJPES. In 2011, SURS started to regularly publish data on average **earnings of persons** employed by registered **natural persons**. The source of data for these releases was the Tax Administration. Together with data for the first quarter of 2011 the series of data from 2008 on was published.

As in previous years, data on labour disputes were not reported by employers. Due to problems with obtaining data and the resulting bad quality of results, SURS will abandon all activities related to this development task. The mentioned topic was marked as a non-priority at the EU level.

Rationalisation in implementing the survey on the structure of working hours, new releases of labour costs

In 2011, SURS planned to conduct a survey on the **structure of working hours** for 2010, but to reduce the reporting burden this task was postponed to 2013 (data will be collected for 2012). This will not be an independent survey; data will be collected with an additional subject-matter **module** within the four-year survey on **labour costs**.

Together with regular calculation of quarterly data on hours actually worked and with regular publication of these data, SURS calculated and published data on hours worked by cohesion regions (NUTS2) for the period from 1st quarter of 2000 to 4th quarter of 2010.

SURS published data on labour costs¹⁸ for 2008 and 2009, the former as results of the regular survey and the latter as estimates from existing sources. Every quarter SURS calculates and publishes the labour costs index, also from existing sources.

1.3 Education and training

Obtaining available administrative data on education at the level of education institutions is a result of successful interinstitutional cooperation

SURS cooperated with its proposals with the Ministry of Education and Sport (MŠŠ) in preparing changes of the Organization and Financing of Education Act for setting up a central record people participating in education from pre-school education to higher vocational education. However, **SURS's proposals** for supplementing the set of data were **not taken into account**. In autumn 2011 the central record of people participating in education was established, but it includes only a limited set of data. A more comprehensive solution should follow with new legislative bases, so SURS will continue to cooperate with the competent ministry.

SURS was **more successful** with its proposals in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MVZT) is setting up the higher education information system – eVŠ. The system started to operate in the 2011/2012 academic year and will be finally set up in the 2012/2013

¹⁷ See Structure of earnings statistics, Slovenia, 2010 - provisional data, September 29, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4208 (17.7.2012).

¹⁸ See Labour costs (by the Labour Cost Survey), Slovenia, 2008 – final data, Rapid Reports. Available at: <http://www.stat.si/doc/statinf/07-si-287-1101.pdf>. Labour costs, Slovenia, 2010 - provisional data October 27, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4303 (17.7.2012).

academic year. From then on **eVŠ** will be the **only source of data on students and graduates** in Slovenia for SURS.

Within the implementation of the 2011 register-based population census, the data on achieved education of Slovenia's population were published in December 2011. They were obtained from the records of the National Examinations Centre, chambers of crafts, trade, commerce and industry, and SURS's data collections and surveys.

At the end of the 2009/10 school year, 24,229 youth and adults graduated from upper secondary education. Most of the 20,100 upper secondary school pupils finished general programmes (8,311), while technical upper secondary education was finished by 8,015 pupils. At the beginning of the 2010/11 school year, 82,267 students (youth) were enrolled in upper secondary education programmes, most of them in general and technical programmes. In the last few years we have observed that the enrolment in general and professional gymnasiums keeps increasing and in the 2010/11 school year reached 41%, among girls even 50%. On the other hand, the number of pupils enrolled in short-term vocational and vocational programmes is declining and represents only 15.5% of all enrolled pupils.¹⁹

Implementation of two five-year surveys on education harmonised at the EU level

With the Adult Education Survey SURS monitored the participation of population in various forms of formal and non-formal education and informal learning, and with the Continuing Vocational Training Survey studied the policy of enterprises regarding the training of their employees, participation of employees in various forms of vocational training and other aspects related to education and training of employees. The data collected with the mentioned surveys (the reference years was 2010) are expected to be published by June 2012.

Within the implementation of regular annual surveys the **agreement on the rationalisation of monitoring data on accommodation for pupils and students** was signed with the MŠŠ and the MVZT. In the future, SURS will obtain these data from available records in both ministries. The current reporting units (upper secondary school boarding homes and student residence halls) will no longer have to report their data.

International cooperation in preparing EU legislation and ISCED revision

Within the revision of the international standard classification of (levels) of education ISCED 2011 (which was formally adopted by the UNESCO General Assembly at the end of 2011) the **implementation of ISCED** into international data exchange started. In cooperation with the MŠŠ and the MVZT, SURS prepared a preliminary classification of national education programmes/qualifications into the new ISCED 2011 levels; the proposal was discussed by the Advisory Committee for Education and Training Statistics.

SURS transmitted to the OECD the data intended to explain and further break down the existing education system indicators published in OECD's *Education at a Glance*²⁰. The data on short-term student mobility and education of special needs children were transmitted by SURS to Eurostat.

Chapter 5.3 Science, technology and innovation of this document contains information on the survey on careers of doctorate holders and Chapter 6.2 Classification information on activities related to the preparation of classifications from the field of education.

¹⁹ See Upper secondary education for youth and adults, Slovenia, end of the school year 2009/10 and beginning of the school year 2010/11 – final data, April 28, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3871 (17.7.2012).

²⁰ See http://www.oecd.org/document/52/0,3746,en_2649_39263238_45897844_1_1_1_1,00.html (17.7.2012).

1.4 Culture

Development of culture statistics at the EU level will improve data comparability

In autumn 2011 the so-called ESS-net project *culture statistics*²¹ was finished, in which SURS and the Ministry of Culture (MK) participated. The project lasted 24 months and the project result should be **improved methodology and definitions** in existing statistics and proposals for possible additional data collection. On the basis of project results and recommendations, Eurostat will prepare the program of activities in the field of culture statistics in the future years.

*In 2010, 5,621 titles of books and brochures were published, among them 1,315 titles of literature.²²
In 2010, theatrical performances in 34 theatres which reported on their activity were attended by 864,482 people.²³
In 2010, cultural institutions organized 11,121 performances, which was 25% more than a year before. In the same year 3,851 own productions were staged by cultural institutions, which was 710 more than a year before.²⁴*

Interinstitutional cooperation will bring rationalisation of data collection

In line with the agreement between the MK and SURS, in 2011 the **subject-matter harmonisation of questionnaires** between SURS and the ministry was finished. These questionnaires are used by public institutions from the field of culture to report the required data to the ministry. Agreements regarding technical solutions for data transmission from the MK information system (which was updated in 2011) to SURS are being discussed.

In addition to the implementation of regular statistical surveys from the field of culture and preparation of standard quality reports, in 2011 the Adult Education Survey was conducted, a part of which was again (as in 2007) the module on cultural participation. Results will be published at the end of June 2012.

1.5 Health

Intensive international cooperation of the IVZ in various working groups

The National Institute of Public Health (IVZ) cooperated in Eurostat working groups on the development of the European system of health surveys and modules, which are composed of the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS) and the European Health and Social Inclusion Survey (EHSIS). Together with SURS, Eurostat and Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection, the IVZ cooperated in interdisciplinary and interinstitutional **working groups for harmonising data collection** to provide various health and health care indicators. It was also active in the calculation of the structural indicator called *Healthy Life Years*²⁵.

Within Eurostat working group, the IVZ cooperated in harmonising the methodology for setting up the monitoring of occupational diseases and introducing the EODS methodology – at the level of Slovenia a detailed analysis of the data source for setting up the monitoring was performed – and cooperated in two working groups for revising the European standard population and the short list of causes of death.

²¹ See <http://www.essnet-portal.eu/culture-1> (18.7.2012).

²² See Publishing, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, November 4, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4298 (18.7.2012).

²³ See Theatrical activity, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, October 11, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4249 (18.7.2012).

²⁴ See Activity of cultural institutions, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, October 11, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4252 (18.7.2012).

²⁵ See Eurostat, Data explorer. Available at: http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_hlye&lang=en (18.7.2012).

Some data from the OECD publication *Health at a Glance 2011*²⁶:

- Mortality because of a heart attack within 30 days after admission in hospital was in Slovenia compared to other OECD member countries below the average, while mortality because of a stroke within 30 days after admission in hospital was much higher than the OECD average.
- Mortality because of cancer was above average in Slovenia, mostly because of high mortality rates for individual cancer types (prostate cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer).
- The share of overweight people was the same in Slovenia and in OECD member countries.
- Health expenditure per capita was in Slovenia in 2009 below the average for OECD member countries. The share of public spending was the same as the OECD average.

The IVZ is conducting the Survey on the Use of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs

In cooperation with the Ministry of Health, in 2011 the IVZ conducted the first part of the Survey on the Use of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs (tranquilisers and illegal drugs). Despite the importance of this subject, there are not enough data that would present the real situation in Slovenia. The IVZ conducted the survey on the basis of the **harmonised questionnaire** prepared by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). The second part of the survey will be conducted at the end of 2012. By conducting this survey, the IVZ will collect data for international comparisons prepared by the EMCDDA and Eurostat. This will also be the first survey conducted on a large enough sample to enable the preparation of precise estimates on the use of drugs by subpopulation groups.

In 2011, the IVZ again conducted regular surveys on the causes of death, health status and health determinants, health care, operation of pharmacies, health care providers, and absence from work, are prepared results presenting the data source both for national statistics and for reporting to Eurostat and various international organisations.

Preparation of various legal acts as a quality basis for health statistics

In 2011, the Healthcare Databases Act was intensively **prepared**, which will provide high-quality data for national health statistics. At the end of 2011 the Order on the Use of the Australian Modification of the International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems for Statistical Purposes and the Classification of Therapeutic and Diagnostic Procedures was discussed. The new, updated version of the two classifications will provide better monitoring of hospital and other treatment within the health care system. In 2011, the IVZ introduced the **new national code list of types of health activities** into all data collections from the field of health care managed by the IVZ. In the future comparable data on health care activity will be prepared, which are collected and used for various purposes (for managing the system, for financing health care, for statistical purposes, etc.).

Chapter 6.2 Classifications contains more information on the preparation of classifications from the field of health.

Development of national health accounts

Development and preparation of national health accounts for Slovenia continued in 2011. SURS cooperates with the Health Insurance Institute, the IVZ and the IMAD. At international level in 2010 the revised the methodology of the System of Health Accounts (SHA) was adopted.

In cooperation with the ZZZS and the IVZ, SURS was included in the OECD project²⁷ of improving international comparability of **data on health expenditure**. In 2011, the project included the prices of psychiatric hospital treatment and rehabilitation.

²⁶ See *Health at a Glance 2011*, OECD Indicators. Available at: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/6/28/49105858.pdf> (18.7.2012).

²⁷ See http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/comparing-price-levels-of-hospital-services-across-countries_5km91p4f3rzw-en (18.7.2012).

1.6 Level of living and housing statistics

HBS continues to be revised, extended set of indicators for SILC

Together with **regular implementation** of the Household Budget Survey (HBS), SURS continued to **improve** the survey; an analysis of subject-matter revision of the survey was made. The revision will be finished in 2013.

As regards the **Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)**, SURS **extended the set of data** and their publication in the SI-STAT data portal. *Income and poverty indicators from 2005 to 2010*²⁸ are available as well as data explaining the living conditions of people in Slovenia. At the end of the year detailed data on living conditions for 2010²⁹ were published together with results of the ad hoc module on intra-household sharing of resources.

In 2011, SURS participated in two Eurostat task forces on EU-SILC, namely on the revision of the legal basis and on material deprivation indicators.

*In 2009 the average annual quantity of consumed milk per household member was 64.5 litres, cheese 6.5 kg, ice cream 4.0 litres, eggs 100.7 pieces, bread and pastries 37.9 kg, pasta products 5.9 kg, rice 2.5 kg, apples 18.5 kg, potatoes 30.5 kg, lettuce 10.3 kg, poultry 9.9 kg, beef 8.7 kg and pork 10.0 kg.*³⁰

In 2011, the monthly *Consumer Survey* was **technically revised and methodologically improved** in order to improve the quality of data for users. With technical revision the entire process of data processing was optimised and at the end of the year activities to increase the response rate started to be implemented.

*The consumer confidence indicator was 7 percentage points higher than in December 2010 and 5 percentage points higher than last year's average.*³¹

In the Household Finance and Consumption Survey the **Bank of Slovenia** continued the data editing, the most important variables were analysed, and procedures for weighting and data imputation were prepared. The survey was harmonised under the leadership of the ECB and is conducted by all euro area countries.

Housing statistics – a source for the 2011 Register-based population Census

Priorities in 2011 include **taking over and analysing** the data from the Real Estate Register (RER), which SURS obtains from the Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of an agreement and successful cooperation. The RER was also one of the most important data sources for implementing housing statistics within the 2011 Register-based population Census. At the end of 2011 the first (provisional) data on occupied dwellings were published³².

²⁸ See Income and poverty indicators, Slovenia, 2010 - provisional data, September 16, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4177 (18.7.2012).

²⁹ See Survey on living conditions, detailed data, Slovenia, 2010 - provisional data, October 27, 2011, E-Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4305 (18.7.2012).

³⁰ See Household budget survey, Slovenia, 2009 - final data, July 22, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4055 (18.7.2012).

³¹ See Consumer opinion survey, Slovenia, December 2011 - final data, December 23, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4422 (18.7.2012).

³² See Occupied dwellings, Slovenia, 1 January 2011 - provisional data, December 29, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4420 (18.7.2012).

1.7 Social protection

New releases of data on the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS) and institutional protection

Within the ESSPROS methodology, SURS collected and published data for 2009³³, and within the institutional protection, data for 2010 were collected and published in the SI-STAT data portal.

Within the advisory committee on the level of living and social protection statistics, an **initiative** was given **to establish and interinstitutional working group** that will try to find the possibility to provide data for monitoring the situation in the field of long-term care.

As in the previous years, SURS conducted some statistical surveys relating to disability and people with disabilities, e.g. data on beneficiaries of pension and disability insurance (source: ZPIZ), data on enterprises employing people with disabilities and on disabled workers³⁴, data on protégés in centres for protection and training, data on protégés in special social welfare institutions, etc.

In 2010 there were 22,254 people in care or protégés in old people's homes, special social welfare institutions and centres for protection and training, a little less than 70% of them women.³⁵

Modernisation of data collection from administrative records at the ZPIZ

In 2011, the **Institute of Pension and Invalidity Insurance of Slovenia** (ZPIZ) modernised data collection from its administrative records for the purpose of national statistics. Improvements enabled the implementation of additional controls.

Because the originally stipulated start of using the Financial Social Assistance Act was postponed from 1 June 2011 to early 2012, the ZPIZ had to publish some statistical data such as minimum pension support and state pension for a whole year.

At the beginning of July 2011 Slovenia had a population of 2.052.496³⁶ and 569.959 pensioners³⁷ from the obligatory pension and invalidity insurance at the end of June. The share of pensioners from obligatory pension and invalidity insurance in comparison with total Slovenia's population was 27.8%, which is 0.9 of a percentage point more than in June 2010.

1.8 Crime

SURS was very active in preparing various international documents

SURS was intensively cooperating in preparing the EU regulation on the implementation of the **European Safety Survey**; the regulation is expected to be adopted in 2012. SURS also cooperated in preparing the methodology for this survey, which is expected to be conducted in 2013.

Eurostat and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) presented the **proposal of a single classification of crimes**, in which the unit of observation is a crime. According to Eurostat's

³³ See Expenditure and receipt of social protection schemes, Slovenia, 2009 - provisional data, July 22, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4070 (18.7.2012).

³⁴ See Enterprises employing persons with disabilities, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, January 23, 2012, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4471 (18.7.2012).

³⁵ See Public social welfare institutions, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, September 27, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4200 (18.7.2012).

³⁶ See Population, Slovenia, 1 July 2011 - final data, October 28, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4314 (18.7.2012).

³⁷ See http://www.zpiz.si/wps/wcm/connect/7a4810804bd9c057854cbfb1444d7c88/zpiz_ang_2011.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=7a4810804bd9c057854cbfb1444d7c88 (20.7.2012).

Action Plan on Crime Statistics for the 2011–2014 period, it is expected that the mentioned classification will be tested in EU Member States.

SURS transmitted to Eurostat and United Nations agencies data from the field of criminal justice statistics (on registered crimes, on the work of prosecutors and courts, on money laundering), i.e. data by SURS or obtained from other institutions such as the Police, the Prison Administration at the Ministry of Justice, and the Office for Money Laundering Prevention. SURS collected and transmitted for the **first time** the data on **trafficking in human beings** where it cooperated with an interinstitutional working group on the fight against trafficking in human beings.

Interinstitutional cooperation

Criminal registers were informatised by the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia already in 2010 and will be the basis for future reporting of data to SURS in electronic form; however, in 2011 SURS and the Supreme Court did not reach an agreement on the content of the database to satisfy statistical needs and the module for e-reporting to SURS has not yet been set up. Therefore, surveys in 2012 will continue to be conducted according to the established procedure.

The working group for preparing the single methodology of recording and monitoring crime led by the MJU was not active in 2011. This means that the tasks stipulated in the Resolution on the National Plan on the Prevention and Combating of Crime for the 2007-2011 Period will not be realised. A new Resolution on the National Plan on the Prevention and Combating of Crime for the 2012-2016 Period is being prepared, which anticipates SURS's cooperation in two tasks: in electronic exchange of data between policy, prosecutors and courts and in conducting the victimisation study.

In 2010, criminal proceedings against 15,747 adults and 534 juveniles were concluded at district and local courts. 8,093 adults were convicted and 330 juveniles were imposed an educational measure or a sentence. As regards legal persons, 606 were denounced, 55 were charged and 6 were found guilty.³⁸

1.9 Election statistics

National Assembly elections

SURS received from the National Electoral Commission data on extraordinary national Assembly elections conducted in December 2011; the data will be published in March 2012 in the SI-STAT data portal.

Legislation adopted in the field of demographic and social statistics in 2011:

- Employment and Work of Aliens Act, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 26/2011.
- Order providing a uniform coding types of health activities, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 58/2011.
- Rules on the forms for notifying data on pension and invalidity insurance, health insurance, parental protection insurance, insurance against unemployment and on conclusion of employment relationship, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 37/2011.
- Act Amending the Higher Education Act, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 78/2011.
- Resolution on National programme of higher education, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 41/2011.
- Placement of Children with Special Needs Act, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 58/2011.
- Act Amending the Criminal Code, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 91/2011.

³⁸ See Adults, juveniles and legal persons against whom criminal proceedings through a senate have been legally concluded, Slovenia, 2010 – final data, July 25, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4004 (18.7.2012).

- Commission Regulation (EU) No 249/2011 of 14 March 2011 adopting the specifications of the 2012 ad hoc module on transition from work to retirement provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 (32011R0249).
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 88/2011 of 2 February 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 452/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the production and development of statistics on education and lifelong learning, as regards statistics on education and training systems (32011R0088).
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 263/2011 of 17 March 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 458/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European system of integrated social protection statistics (ESSPROS) as regards the launch of full data collection for the ESSPROS module on net social protection benefits (32011R0263).
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 328/2011 of 5 April 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on causes of death (32011R0328).
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 349/2011 of 11 April 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on accidents at work (32011R0349).

2 Macroeconomic statistics

2.1 National accounts

Results of multiannual development work – all requirements of EU legislation are met

In 2011, work on national accounts focused on regular preparation and publication of data in line with the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys. At the same time, methodological development work continued in various areas. The greatest achievement of multiannual development work in the field of national accounts was **publication of data on stocks of fixed assets** (in March 2011). The published data were presented by activities, institutional sectors, products, gross and net value, and at current and constant 2000 prices. With this **SURS fulfilled all requirements of EU legislation** in the field of national accounts and one of the key tasks from the current Medium-Term Programme of statistical Surveys.

Development tasks worth mentioning are: development of the methodology for preparing the full set of quarterly non-financial sector accounts, cooperation in the project the purpose of which is to present disparities in household income and consumption in a national accounts framework, and preparation of data on labour costs by different categories (activity, sex, age and education). Results of development tasks will be available in the future.

The net stock of fixed assets in Slovenia amounted to EUR 129 billion at the beginning of 2010 and was thus 3.7-times higher than the gross domestic product in 2009. Non-financial corporations had in the ownership or financial lease EUR 57 billion in net stock of fixed assets (44.3% of the total net stock), households – mainly due to the ownership of dwellings – EUR 52 billion (40.4% of the total net stock) and the general government sector EUR 17 billion (13.3% of the total net stock).³⁹

Introduction of new standards into national accounts statistics: SKD 2008 and ESA 2010

In May 2011 **first national accounts data** were published according to the Standard Classification of Activities – **SKD 2008**. They covered annual estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) for the period from 1995 on. By the end of the year all other data were published according to the new version of the activity classification: quarterly estimates of gross domestic product with the time series from 1995 on, regional gross domestic product and regional fixed capital formation with the time series from 2000 on, value of stocks of fixed assets with the time series from 2000 on, and supply and use tables for 2008. The **project of introducing** the new classification in national and regional accounts started in 2009 and was **finished a year earlier** than originally planned.

Preparations for the implementation of the changed system of national accounts (ESA 2010) continued, both in terms of methodological changes and in terms of the changed set of national accounts data. Especially capitalisation of R&D expenditure, calculation of pension liabilities, capitalisation of expenditure on weapons systems, different recording of import and export of goods for processing and data on public sector have to be mentioned.

Regional accounts – a new publication was released

In mid-2011 the publication *Regional Accounts of the Republic of Slovenia – sources and methods* was issued. It contains a detailed description of the methodology for compiling regional accounts, namely regional gross domestic product, regional compensation of employees, regional gross fixed capital formation, and regional household accounts.

³⁹ See Stocks of fixed assets, Slovenia, 2000-2010, December 30, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4423 (18.7.2012).

2.2 Financial accounts, money and finance

In 2011, the **Bank of Slovenia (BS)** continued with extensive preparation of monetary and financial statistics at monthly, quarterly and annual level in line with methodological requirements of the European Central Bank (ECB) and according to own needs of the BS. Quarterly financial accounts for the last quarter of 2010 and the first three quarters of 2011 and annual financial accounts for 2010 were compiled. In doing this the BS cooperates with AJPES, which collects on its website most of the data for this statistics. All data were timely (by anticipated dates) published and transmitted to authorised institutions. In 2011, the BS also published *Financial Accounts of Slovenia 2005–2010*⁴⁰ with non-consolidated and consolidated aggregated tables of financial accounts; they also contain the analysis of data on financial accounts by sectors, including a comparison with financial accounts of the euro area and the methodology of compiling financial accounts. The BS prepared data on balance sheets and interest rates of monetary financial institutions (MFI), securities, payment systems, structural data of the banking system and non-monetary financial intermediaries.

In continuation of the expansion of **multipurpose reporting by credit institutions**, which started in the previous year, in June 2011 the statement of comprehensive income (as an accounting and supervisory category) was introduced. Most of the efforts were focused on stabilising the quality of reported multipurpose data.

In cooperation with the Insurance Supervision Agency and the Slovenian Insurance Association, efforts of the Bank of Slovenia to **introduce multipurpose data reporting** in the sub-sector of insurance corporations and pension funds (S.125) continued.

The Ministry of Finance (MF) was conducting surveys in line with the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys, provided input data for other statistical surveys (e.g. VAT Report) and published data within planned deadlines, which is in line with the International Monetary Fund's data dissemination standard.

*The economy's high dependence on foreign sources of debt financing remains one of its key structural traits. Despite the banking system's debt repayments to the rest of the world, net financial liabilities to the rest of the world rose to 38% of GDP in 2010, primarily in the form of debt securities. National savings rate (23% of GDP) remains relatively high compared to the euro area average, although it has declined over the last four years. Owing to the tightened funding conditions in the rest of the world, the ratio of investment to GDP has declined by nearly one third during the crisis. This has a negative impact on more rapid economic growth, which at 1.2% last year was mainly driven by growth in foreign demand and the renewal of inventories, and not by growth in gross investment, which would ensure more stable, higher and sustained economic growth.*⁴¹

2.3 Prices

Methodological changes and improvement in the quality of results

In 2011, the EU Regulation⁴² on minimum standards for the treatment of seasonal products in the Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP) came into force. Because changes had a rather large impact on the total index (not only in Slovenia but even more in some other countries), SURS had to prepare special analyses; the results of these analyses were published by Eurostat on its website⁴³.

⁴⁰ See <http://www.bsi.si/en/publications.asp?Mapald=923> (18.7.2012).

⁴¹ See Financial Stability Review, maj 2011. Available at: <http://www.bsi.si/en/publications.asp?Mapald=784> (18.7.2012).

⁴² Commission Regulation (EC) No 330/2009 of 22 April 2009 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95 as regards minimum standards for the treatment of seasonal products in the Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP) (32009R0330).

⁴³ See http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/hicp/documents_pub/HICP_SP_info_note_annex_2011.pdf (18.7.2012).

In the producer price index, import price index and services producer price index most of the time and attention were focused on **improving the quality of basic sources and results** and optimising some parts of the statistical process.

The total consumer price growth in 2011 was pushed up the most by higher prices in the group food and non-alcoholic beverages (by 0.84 p.p.), followed by housing, water, electricity and other (by 0.66 p.p.), alcoholic beverages and tobacco (by 0.27 p.p.) and transport (by 0.20 p.p.). The total consumer price growth was pushed down the most by lower prices in the group communication (by 0.16 p.p.), followed by clothing and footwear (by 0.13 p.p.) and recreation and culture (by 0.12 p.p.).⁴⁴

Improvement of house price indices continued

In 2011, in the field of price statistics the focus was on work related to house price indices, particularly setting up a special **Owner Occupied Housing Price Index** for the needs of its possible inclusion in Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices. Weights for calculating the indices were prepared and special sub-indices were set up for transaction costs, housing insurance prices and partly for prices of major repairs and home improvement. The data on sub-indices of the House Price Index, which the European Commission selected as one of the 11 indicators for monitoring macroeconomic imbalances (so-called scoreboard), are from 2007 on published in the SI-STAT data portal.

In the last five years the growth of house prices was much higher in Slovenia than in the EU. House prices in Slovenia increased by 38.4% and in the EU by 17.3%.⁴⁵

Regular and development tasks in the field of purchasing power parities

For calculating the purchasing power parities (PPP), in 2011 SURS was conducting several surveys, which provided data on the prices of internationally comparable products, on the basis of which Eurostat calculates the PPP and GDP in purchasing power standards. SURS also cooperated in the International Comparison Program⁴⁶, which is being implemented by Eurostat together with the World Bank and which will be finished in 2013.

2.4 Trade in goods (external trade)

By cooperating in various projects, SURS continues to improve the quality of results

By using VAT recapitulative statements, SURS in cooperation with the Customs Administration of the Republic of Slovenia improved the procedures for checking the **quality** of data for Intrastat and continued to implement the so-called mirror data analyses on the basis of which it identified the possible reasons for some recurrent asymmetries in external trade statistics.

SURS applied for Eurostat's MEETS 2011 project⁴⁷ for the field of external trade statistics within which in 2012 the upgrade, optimisation and automation of some software solutions in the external trade statistics information system will be implemented and additional control procedures for more effective quality control of external trade data will be set up.

⁴⁴ See Consumer price indices, Slovenia, December 2011 - final data, December 29, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4440 (19.7.2012).

⁴⁵ See http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/hicp/documents_meth/OOH_HPI/HPI_Research_paper_2011_11.pdf (19.7.2012).

⁴⁶ See http://siteresources.worldbank.org/ICPEXT/Resources/ICP_2011.html (19.7.2012).

⁴⁷ See http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/MEETS_programme#Modernisation_of_international_trade_statistics (19.7.2012).

New publications with data on the structure of trade in goods by characteristics of exporters and importers

In addition to regular publications, in 2011 SURS issued a publication *Slovenia's Trade in Goods (in the Brochures collection)*, which shows the development of Slovenia's trade in goods in the 2000-2010 period and brings an overview of the structure of Slovenia's trade in goods in 2009 by some important characteristics of exporters and importers, i.e. by activity and enterprise size, and by concentration of trade value. For the first time SURS presented together external trade data and business statistics data.

In 2009, Slovenia's exports in trade with EU Member States and in trade with EU non-member countries were concentrated on a small number of the largest exporters. The five largest exporters generated more than a fifth and the 50 largest exporters almost half of the value of total exports to EU Member States and EU non-member countries.⁴⁸

2.5 Balance of payments and other statistics on cross-border economic relations

In the field of statistics of foreign economic relations, in 2011 **preparations** started for **changing the data sources** due to the fulfilment of the requirements of the future Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6) standard.⁴⁹ These activities cover changes in the aggregation of data on securities, expanding of data sources for the central bank, supplementing the report on providing credits to non-residents (with short-term maturity of long-term instruments) and breaking down of data on goods for processing for the previous period.

The current account balance of Slovenia in 2011 was negative; its value was EUR 168.1 million. In 2010 the current account balance was also negative at EUR 297.3 million. In December 2011 Slovenia had on its current account a deficit of EUR 115.3 million and in December 2010 a surplus of EUR 7.4 million.

In 2011 the deficit in trade balance was EUR 91.7 million higher than in 2010. Export was 12.4% higher and import was 12.2% higher than in 2010. The deficit in trade balance in December 2011 was EUR 238.4 million, which is EUR 36.2 million more than in December 2010. The export import coverage ratio in 2011 was 94.1%.⁵⁰

Legislation adopted in the field of macroeconomic statistics in 2011:

Commission Regulation (EU) No 193/2011 of 28 February 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1445/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the system of quality control used for Purchasing Power Parities (32011R0193).

⁴⁸ See Slovenia's trade in goods, p. 39, October 2011. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/pub_brosure.asp (19.7.2012).

⁴⁹ See <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/bop/2007/bopman6.htm> (19.7.2012).

⁵⁰ See <http://www.bsi.si/iskalniki/pregled-financnih-podatkov-en-vsebinska.asp?VsebinskaId=1046&Mapald=325> (19.7.2012).

3 Business statistics

3.1 Annual and short-term business statistics

Final new annual business statistics data series published according to the SKD 2008

SURS successfully conducted all regular surveys from the field of short-term and annual business statistics.

In the field of **structural business statistics**, a recalculation of data according to the 2008 Standard Classification of Activities (SKD) was published for the 2005–2007 period. In the field of **enterprise demography**, data on enterprise births and survivals for the time series 2004–2007 were recalculated according to the SKD 2008 and published. At the same time for the Europe 2020 Strategy first development data in the field of high.-growth innovative enterprises were prepared.

In 2010, 165,959 enterprises were registered in Slovenia, 46.7% of them were legal persons and 53.3% were natural persons.⁵¹

Activities for the improvement of data quality continued

For improving the quality of data in the field of **short-term trade and services statistics**, SURS analysed the reasons for data revision in enterprises and compared monthly data with annual structural of business statistics. Results were published within annual quality reports⁵².

For the improvement of data in the field of **construction statistics**, SURS analysed and compared data with other sources and started the procedures for introducing automated imputation of missing data for the annual survey. On the basis of successful cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning within the Commission for the Implementation and harmonisation of the Classification of Types of Construction (CC-SI), the **new national Classification of Types of Construction** was published at the end of December.

In 2010 almost 16,000 dwellings were under construction in Slovenia, of which 40% were completed by the end of the year. The average useful floor area of a dwelling completed in 2010 was 129 m²; in one-dwelling buildings it was 168 m², while in multi-dwelling buildings it was 74 m². Almost 58% of completed dwellings have four or more rooms. As in the previous years, most of the dwellings completed in 2010 were obtained by new construction (98%).⁵³

In the **annual industry survey** SURS analysed the existing approaches to the improvement of quality and studied new ones within the BLUE-ETS project⁵⁴. The emphasis was on activities for the improvement of cooperation by reporting units and timeliness of reporting (for more about the project see Chapter 6.11). In monthly industry statistics, a test electronic questionnaire was prepared.

Within the multiannual project of **upgrading and expanding the functionality of the Statistical Business Register (SBR)** as the internal database of individual data on business entities and their units, SURS started to implement the planned activities. The final objective of the project is setting up of the register as an important part of the statistical infrastructure that will serve as support for statistical processes, e.g. for preparing sampling frames, for addressing statistical questionnaires for enterprises, as a basis for satellite registers, etc.

⁵¹ See Enterprises, Slovenia, 2010 – final data, November 25, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4355 (20.7.2012).

⁵² See Annual Quality Reports http://www.stat.si/eng/metodologija_porocila-kakovost.asp (20.7.2012).

⁵³ See Construction of dwellings and dwelling stock, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, September 06, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4152 (20.7.2012).

⁵⁴ See <http://www.blue-ets.istat.it/> (20.7.2012).

Development work and introduction of a new survey via successful cooperation between authorised producers of national statistics

In 2011, the result of successfully implemented development task in 2010 in interinstitutional cooperation between SURS, AJPES and the BS was the **introduction of the Quarterly Survey on the Operation of Business Entities**. This survey replaced *Quarterly Survey of companies for estimation of value added and gross capital formation* which was performed by SURS only for the first two quarters of 2011. Data for the new survey are collected electronically via the AJPES web portal; this is friendlier and less burdensome for reporting units. The methodology and procedures for estimating missing values were set up. SURS will start publishing the data in June 2012.

SURS finished another development task, namely the project of *linking of microdata on international sourcing*. In addition to testing of data linking from different sources, the project enabled comparison of results of operation between the group of enterprises that outsourced work abroad and the group of enterprises that performed their activities entirely in the country.

Employment growth in outsourcing enterprises was lower, while the movement of personnel costs per employee was similar to the non-outsourcing enterprises.⁵⁵

Within the development task, in 2011 SURS studied the sources for setting up methodological bases for calculating a new indicator **manufacturing services index**. First guidelines for calculating this indicator were prepared in line with Eurostat and OECD recommendations.

SURS obtained European funds for improving the quality of the enterprise groups register

SURS was successfully included in the third **exchange of individual data with Eurostat** for the EuroGroups Register (EGR), which provides information on multinational enterprise groups in the EU for statistical purposes only. SURS was successful in applying for European funds for improving the quality of data on enterprise groups and for exchange of data with the EGR. With these funds in 2012–2013 the procedures of updating the enterprise groups register will be optimised and the analytical base will be prepared.

AJPES: successful implementation of the development task for improving the quality of data on activities of business entities

In November and December 2010 the **Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services (AJPES)** checked the data on selected business entities, i.e. on principal activity and other important activities actually performed by business entities and their units. Checking was implemented with the **so-called structural questionnaire**, harmonised with SURS (prepared separately for companies and for individual private entrepreneurs, with an annex for checking parts of business entities). Included were those business entities for which SURS established from other statistical sources that there is a probability that in their record in the Slovenian Business Register (SBR) their principal activity is not correct and/or that not all their parts were entered. AJPES also checked the correctness of the entries on other activities performed by business entities at the same address as the business address. Those business entities for which discrepancies were established were invited by AJPES to correct the data.

AJPES regular work and interinstitutional cooperation

AJPES implemented all planned surveys on **annual accounts** for various business segments. The collected data are – inter alia – an important administrative source for further use in statistical surveys (e.g. national accounts statistics, business statistics).

⁵⁵ See International sourcing and business performance of enterprises, Slovenia, 2000 - 2008 – final data, October 27, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4306 (20.7.2012).

AJPES cooperated with SURS in conducting several statistical surveys in the process of data collection; this was done electronically via the AJPES web portal. Interinstitutional cooperation is important due to the **rationalisation of procedures** by which data reporting is simpler for reporting units and by which higher quality of collected data is achieved. AJPES is also conducting a monthly survey on outstanding obligations of business entities over five days.

BS – development task about the access of enterprises to finance

In autumn 2011 the **Bank of Slovenia** conducted for the first time the **Survey on the Access to Finance for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises**. The data will be processed and published in 2012. Such surveys⁵⁶ are being conducted every two years (2009 and 2011) by the ECB and the European commission in all European countries, but the number of respondents in Slovenia is very low (only 100). The ECB has been conducting the survey on a sample of small and medium-sized enterprises in larger euro area countries every six months since 2009⁵⁷.

3.2 Energy

By setting up a regular survey on final household energy consumption, SURS added the missing piece to the mosaic of energy statistics

In 2011, SURS successfully finished the project on **Household Energy Consumption Survey**, within which the methodology was established for its implementation and as a result the statistics of final household energy consumption by end use were improved. Within the project with the help of the Jožef Stefan Institute the model of household energy consumption was produced, which will serve for preparing recalculations in the next three to five years.

SURS conducted all planned regular surveys with which it collected data on production, consumption, import, export, stocks and prices of electricity, heat, liquid, gaseous and solid fuels and renewable energy sources. Monthly and annual data were first published as provisional. In this way they were available to users in time. Data are intended for domestic and foreign users; the most important among the latter are Eurostat, the IEA and the OECD.

Development work continued in the field of statistics **on renewable energy sources**. SURS reviewed and improved the existing methodologies and already published first data on renewable energy sources. SURS obtained data on geothermal and solar energy from administrative and own data sources.

As regards energy statistics, in 2011, too, SURS cooperated with the Energy Directorate at the Ministry of the Economy (common database for the field of energy), the Environment Agency of the Republic of Slovenia (cooperation in data necessary for calculating climate change, for calculating the amount of greenhouse gas emissions which SURS needs for preparing environmental-economic accounts) and the Jožef Stefan Institute (improving the database on renewable energy sources and active cooperation in the project of household consumption of energy and fuels).

Some data from the data portal SI-STAT- Environment⁵⁸:

In 2010 the domestic production of energy was 19% higher than in 2009. The highest share was that of nuclear energy (39 %).

In 2010 energy consumption in Slovenia was almost 3% higher than in 2009. Most of the energy was consumed in traffic (almost 37%), followed by households with almost 25%.

In 2010, 30% of electricity in Slovenia was produced from renewable sources.

⁵⁶ See: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/finance/data/index_en.htm (20.7.2012).

⁵⁷ Data for euro area are available in the database ECB Statistical Data Warehouse, SDW. See: <http://sdw.ecb.int/> (20.7.2012).

⁵⁸ See: <http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/Database/Environment/Environment.asp> (20.7.2012).

By releasing special publications, SURS promotes energy statistics

In addition to regular publication of energy statistics, which SURS releases every month on its website, at the end of 2011 SURS issued a more popular publication entitled *Environment, Energy and Transport in Figures*⁵⁹ (in the Brochures collection). One of the chapters in this publication is dedicated to energy (it contains data on energy production, energy consumption, energy prices and renewable energy sources).

On the occasion of the European Sustainable Energy Week, SURS prepared a special article on its website.

3.3 Transport

Implementation of regular surveys with minor adjustments for improving the quality of results

In 2011, SURS conducted all regular surveys in line with the adopted programme. The necessary procedures for **preserving and improving data quality** were implemented. SURS provided the necessary releases and thus satisfied the need for data by many domestic and international users, among them Eurostat, the International Transport Forum (ITF) within the OECD and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

Data from the field of transport statistics were published in the publication (in the Brochures collection) entitled *Environment, Energy and Transport in Figures*⁵⁹.

*In the first eleven months of 2011 more than 87,000 road motor vehicles were registered for the first time, which is 3% less than in the same period of 2010. Among them just over 61,000 were passenger cars, which is 6% less than in the same period of 2010.*⁶⁰

Eurostat is revising the existing EU legislation

In 2011, Eurostat within working groups prepared proposals for smaller changes and adjustments of the existing legislation from the field of transport statistics. The main purpose of these changes is to **obtain additional information** with simultaneous **reduction of the burden of reporting units and statistical offices**. In the field of port traffic a Commission decision was being prepared according to which only some additional data will be collected and according to which compulsory reporting of some of the data sets will be abolished. The decision will be adopted in early 2012 and does not bring any significant changes for SURS. In the field of railway transport statistics major changes were proposed, which could have a significant impact on Slovenia, particularly by increasing the threshold for reporting simplified data sets. Planned activities regarding the setting up of unified collection of data on the volume of road transport on the basis of kilometres travelled were not entirely implemented because of problems in adjusting the methodology and changed priorities at Eurostat. Activities in this field are expected to be implemented in the next medium-term period. In 2011 the mandate of the task force studying the possibility of collecting data on transport intermodality and logistics was prolonged.

⁵⁹ See Environment, energy and transport in figures, July 17, 2012, Special release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4851 (20.7.2012).

⁶⁰ See Transport, Slovenia, November 2011 - final data, January 16, 2012, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4456 (20.7.2012).

3.4 Tourism

Harmonisation of surveys with the requirements of the new EU regulation

In mid-2011 a **new regulation concerning European statistics on tourism was adopted** after several years of harmonisation. In line with the mentioned regulation and the implementing regulation, SURS implemented adjustments in data collection according to the new legislation, namely in the survey on tourism travels of domestic population as well as in the survey on accommodation establishments, arrivals and overnight stays of tourists. 2012 will thus be the first year for which results of both mentioned surveys will be completely in line with the requirements of the new regulation.

Implementation of regular surveys and releases accompanied by special releases

In addition to regular releases from the field of accommodation statistics, SURS issues a special publication in the Rapid Reports series (Hotels) with a detailed overview of **data on hotels**⁶¹ for the 2008–2010 period.

In May 2011 results of the triennial survey on **foreign travellers at road border crossings with Croatia**⁶² were published, which was conducted in April, July and August 2010.

In April SURS for the last time published results on **nautical tourism** in Slovenia⁶³, this time with data for 2010. This survey will no longer be conducted due to the implementation of the strategy of reducing administrative barriers.

In eleven months in 2011 over 2,820,000 tourist arrivals and almost than 8,320,000 overnight stays were registered in tourist accommodations. Compared to the same period in 2010, the number of tourist arrivals went up by 7% and the number of overnight stays by 5%.⁶⁴

In 2011, activities were taking place regarding joint collection of data on accommodation statistics. A proposal of the new Residence registration Act was prepared, with which possibilities would open up for collecting these data at the Police. Adoption of the mentioned act was postponed the Ministry of the Interior to 2012.

Legislation adopted in the field of business statistics in 2011:

- Decree amending the Decree on the introduction and application of uniform classification of facilities and on the designation of facilities of national importance, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 109/2011,
- Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2011 concerning European statistics on tourism and repealing Council Directive 95/57/EC (32011R0692).
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1051/2011 of 20 October 2011 implementing Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning European statistics on tourism, as regards the structure of the quality reports and the transmission of the data (32011R1051).
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 830/2011 of 27 July 2011 establishing for 2011 the 'Prodcom list of industrial products provided for by Council Regulation (EEC) No 3924/91 (32011R0830).

⁶¹ See Hotels, Slovenia, 2008–2010 – final data, September 2011, Rapid Reports. Available at: <http://www.stat.si/doc/statinf/21-SI-O16-1101.pdf> (20.7.2012).

⁶² See Survey on foreign travellers at road border crossings with Croatia, April, July–August, October 2010 - final data, May 19, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3909 (20.7.2012).

⁶³ See Nautical tourism, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, April 29, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3867 (20.7.2012).

⁶⁴ See Tourist arrivals and overnight stays, detailed data, Slovenia, October 2011 – final data, December 23, 2011, E-Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4427 (20.7.2012).

4 Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

4.1 Farm structure and typology

Implementation of very demanding processing of data collected from various statistical and administrative sources

Work in 2011 focused on the **editing of statistical data** collected with the agricultural census⁶⁵ and the census of horticulture, and on the **preparation of results for publication**. This processing of statistical data is one of the most demanding at SURS since it covers a large number of linked variables for which SURS obtained data from various sources. SURS has already published provisional results of the agricultural census; detailed production data in March and the data on persons in employment on agricultural holdings in October 2011.

In 2011, SURS and the Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment (MAE) signed the missing technical protocols for taking over administrative data for statistical purposes on the basis of the Agreement on transmission and use of MAE data for statistical purposes with the aim to reduce the burden of reporting units and rationalise statistical surveys at SURS.

According to provisional data of the 2010 Agricultural Census, 74,640 agricultural holdings in Slovenia were involved in agricultural activity with 474,582 hectares of utilised agricultural area and 421,553 livestock units. Additionally, more than 60% of agricultural holdings carried other supplementary activities which are based on agricultural production or other agricultural resources. Most frequently these were forestry activities, rural tourism or activities linked with food processing. All work on agricultural holdings was performed by around 208,000 persons in employment together with a couple of thousand seasonal workers or occasionally employed persons.⁶⁶

4.2 Agricultural income and prices

In statistics of agricultural prices and economic accounts for agriculture the emphasis was on the improvement of quality

In 2011, SURS collected and published data from the field of agricultural prices within the deadlines; at the same time it was improving their quality and prepared the annual quality report (for input and output prices). In the survey on the *sale of agricultural products of private producers on food markets* SURS moved from monthly to annual data collection; with this the burden of reporting units was partly reduced.

In **economic accounts for agriculture** (EAA) SURS was improving the quality; the emphasis was on methodological adjustment of subsidies on products and other subsidies on production with MAE (Agricultural Institute of Slovenia) data. Subsidies on products and other subsidies on production are in the EAA monitored for individual *year of regulation*⁶⁷; this enables accounting according to the accrual basis as one of the basic methodological requirements.

In comparison with 2010, in 2011 the real factor income per annual work unit is estimated to increase in agriculture by 7%. The main reason for the increase is higher output value due to the price increase. The volume of crop production is expected to remain at the previous year level.⁶⁸

⁶⁵ Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 571/88 (32008R1166).

⁶⁶ See Important data on Agricultural Census: labour force on agricultural holdings, Slovenia, 2010 - provisional data, October 05, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4241 (23.7.2012).

⁶⁷ Period subject to a certain subsidy, which is stipulated by national legislation.

⁶⁸ See Real income from agriculture - first estimation, Slovenia, 2011, December 02, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4361 (23.7.2012).

SURS cooperated with Eurostat in presenting the methodological basis for the so-called *bridge table* for Slovenia, which shows the **difference** between the EAA data and national accounts data that refer to agriculture. Both approaches and a comparison of data according to SKD 2008 were presented.

4.3 Crop and animal production

Methodological improvements, shorter time to data release, new releases

Within statistics on the monitoring of agricultural production SURS conducted all planned surveys. It was also active as regards methodological improvements. In monitoring crop production, the coverage of data on areas sown, which SURS monitors with the annual sample survey, was improved. Improvement was carried out on the basis of administrative data produced by the MAE *Direct payments in agriculture*, which cover most of the population of agricultural holdings.

On the basis of the agreement within the EU regulation on livestock and meat statistics⁶⁹, in 2011 SURS started to transmit to Eurostat data on monthly slaughter of pigs outside slaughterhouses (so far only annual estimates were provided). Within the annual monitoring of the number of livestock SURS conducted a smaller sample survey on the basis of which estimates of monthly slaughter of pigs outside slaughterhouses for 2010 were prepared.

In Slovenia, 519,500 tons of milk was purchased in 2010 from agricultural holdings (14% more than in 2000). Such amount of milk could fill up the Stožice football stadium in Ljubljana, which accommodates around 16,000 spectators. The number of agricultural holdings from which milk was purchased decreased from almost 18,000 in 2000 to fewer than 7,200 in 2010.⁷⁰

SURS published a **set of calendar and market food balance sheets**. Meat, eggs, cereals, potato, vegetables, rice, sugar and wine balance sheets for Slovenia were published. They were prepared in cooperation with the MAE and the Agricultural Institute of Slovenia in accordance with the agreement on implementing calendar and market food balance sheets, which SURS and the MAE signed in 2007. The interinstitutional methodological group for balance sheets, which meets as necessary, takes care of improving improve the methodology of the balance sheets; a SURS representative is an active member of this group.

In March SURS presented at a news conference the publication entitled *Supply Balance Sheets of Agricultural Products*⁷¹ from the Rapid Reports collection and in October prepared and published on the website a special article on the occasion of the World Food Day⁷².

The degree of self-sufficiency is higher for animal products than for crop products. A low degree was demonstrated in the 2000-2010 period by supply balance sheets for vegetables (31% in 2010) and cereals (56% in 2010). Every Slovene consumed 121 kg of cereals and 95 kg of meat in 2010.⁷³

In 2011, an interinstitutional working group was established with the aim to design and adopt the Code of Good Business Practice among **Stakeholders in the Agri-Food Chain**. The mentioned group, an active member of which is also a representative of SURS, met regularly.

⁶⁹ Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 concerning livestock and meat statistics and repealing Council Directives 93/23/EEC, 93/24/EEC and 93/25/EEC (32008R1165).

⁷⁰ See Traditional Slovene breakfast, November 17, 2011, Special release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4350 (23.7.2012).

⁷¹ See <http://www.stat.si/doc/statinf/15-si-277-1101.pdf> (23.7.2012).

⁷² World Food Day 2011, October 13, 2011, Special release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4258 (23.7.2012).

⁷³ See <http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/Database/Environment/Environment.asp> (26.7.2012).

4.4 Fisheries and forestry

The United Nations declared 2011 the International Year of Forests

In the International Year of Forests SURS published for the first time a more popular publication of forests and forestry in Slovenia entitled *From Tree to Forest, From Forest to Wood* (in the Brochures collection), which is intended both for the general and professional public. On the basis of statistical data the publication presents the situation of forests, their importance from economic, environmental and social point of view and development opportunities in forestry. The publication was presented at a news conference; at the same time SURS presented the calculation and publication of two economic accounts for forestry: the production account and the primary income account.

The close relationship between man and forest is interestingly reflected in the naming of many Slovenian settlements. Around 11% of the names of settlements originate from common names for forest (gozd, hosta, boršt), type of forest (brezje, hrastje, bukovje, which are names for birch, oak or beech grove) or the shape of forest (gaj, log, which are names for small wood) or the names of tree species (lipa, breza, which are names for lime and birch); among such names the most common are Brezje, Gaberje, Bukovje, Lipa, Log, Hrastje. In the list of Slovenian settlement names, those originating from common names for forest, such as Gozdec, Boršt, Hosta, Log, appear 78-times.⁷⁴

In 2011, the **method of valuation of standing timber was supplemented**, which is a large development progress within the new methodology of integrated accounts. In 2011, the data were published in Slovenia and transmitted to Eurostat.

Due to higher value of standing timber and forestry products, in 2010 the total value of forestry production was EUR 269 million, which was 9.3% more than in 2009.⁷⁵

Collecting data on fisheries in the EU

In line with the EU regulation on aquaculture⁷⁶, SURS already in 2009 in cooperation with the MAE and the Fisheries Research Institute wanted to regulate aquaculture data collection. SURS and the MAE harmonised the draft agreement on cooperation and prepared it for signature; it should be signed in 2012. In 2011, SURS prepared data on marine fishing (landing) according to the new *SDMX* standard, which enables a more transparent comparison of data between countries regarding methodological background of data (metadata).

Legislation adopted in the field of agriculture, forestry and fisheries in 2011:

- Regulation (EU) No 1337/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 concerning European statistics on permanent crops and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 357/79 and Directive 2001/109/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (32011R1337).
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 of 25 February 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and implementing Council Directive 97/78/EC as regards certain samples and items exempt from veterinary checks at the border under that Directive (32011R0142).

⁷⁴ See *From Tree to Forest, From Forest to Wood*, October 20, 2011, E-Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4273 (23.7.2012).

⁷⁵ See <http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/Database/Environment/Environment.asp> (23.7.2012).

⁷⁶ Regulation (EC) No 762/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on the submission by Member States of statistics on aquaculture and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 788/96 (32008R0768).

- Commission Regulation (EU) No 408/2011 of 27 April 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1185/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on pesticides, as regards transmission format (32011R0408).
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 656/2011 of 7 July 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1185/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on pesticides, as regards definitions and list of active substances (32011R0656).

5 Multi-domain statistics

5.1 Business tendencies

Subject-matter completion of business tendency surveys

All regular activities in the field of business tendencies were implemented; in addition, SURS further improved the process of conducting surveys (a new statistical identifier of the reporting unit was designed). The **transition** to the Standard Classification of Activities (**SKD**) **2008** was finished.

In line with the European Commission (DG ECFIN) requirements in the field of conducting a harmonised programme of business and consumer surveys in the EU⁷⁷, a question about capacity utilisation was added to the Business Tendency Survey in Services.

The average value of the sentiment indicator in 2011 was higher 2 percentage points higher than in 2010 and 1 percentage point lower than the long-term average.⁷⁸

5.2 Environment and sustainable development

The set of environmental-economic accounts is expanding

SURS collected and published data on environmental protection expenditure and upgraded the preparation of environmental accounts; in 2011 the legal basis for these accounts was established. In addition to environmental accounts NAMEA air emissions and material flow accounts, **SURS is developing environmental goods and services sector account and environmental taxes accounts.**

In early 2011, SURS successfully finished three projects related to environmental accounts. In the first two projects it completed and adjusted the methodology of calculating air emissions accounts and material flow accounts with the EU guidelines and in the third project it set up the basis for calculating environmental protection expenditure accounts.

At the end of 2011, SURS **finished the first part of the project of preparing *environmental goods and services sector account***, in which it studied the mentioned area, sought possible data sources and established the basis for further development of this area.

SURS cooperated in several working groups and task forces which attempted to set up or complete the framework of further work in the field of energy accounts, environmental protection expenditure accounts, use and management of natural resources accounts and mining waste; the latter are namely not sufficiently taken into account in the already established waste statistics.

Updating of the methodology of regular surveys and intensive interinstitutional cooperation

In 2011, SURS continued to collect and publish basic environmental data on air, water and waste. It was intensively cooperating in developing the survey methodology and strived to improve the quality of results. At the end of 2011, the first phase of the project of revising water statistics was finished. In the first part of the mentioned project SURS studied the possibility of using administrative sources and implemented a detailed analysis of the actual situation. It modernised and revised the existing statistical survey on the *amount of water used for irrigation*. The revision took into account the results of the agricultural census and the requests of users. The project will continue in 2012, when SURS will also modernise other surveys on water and together with competent ministry prepare everything necessary for harmonised reporting of data on water supply and sewage system.

⁷⁷ See http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/db_indicators/surveys/index_en.htm (23.7.2012).

⁷⁸ See http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/Database/Economy/28_business_tendency/28001_tendency_survey/28001_tendency_survey.asp (23.7.2012).

SURS terminated the survey on *damage caused by natural disasters* because in recent years there have been great problems with obtaining and providing quality data.

Within environmental statistics **SURS cooperates** with the *Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia*; in 2007 SURS signed a cooperation agreement on exchanging environmental data and joint collection of data on waste. SURS also cooperates with the *Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment*; in cooperation with this ministry SURS collects data on municipal waste from the public services and waste disposal and is preparing the joint collection of data on public water supply and sewage system. With this cooperation the burden of reporting units has already been somewhat reduced. By establishing cooperation in the field of water, this burden will be further reduced. One of the main conditions for setting up the collection and takeover of data on public water supply and sewage systems is the regulation of legislation in this area, which is expected to be done in 2012.

Some data or calculations from the SI-STAT data portal – Environment area⁷⁹:

- In 2010, 422 kg municipal waste per capita was generated in Slovenia, which is 1.2 kg per capita per day. Compared to 2009 this is a 6% decrease.
- The total quantity of waste recovered in 2009 in Slovenia was 5.968.629 tons, which is 15.9% more than in 2008. Most of it was metal, construction, paper and wood waste.
- The value of environmental protection investment in 2009 was EUR 333.5 million, almost 4% less than in 2008. Almost half of this was invested into wastewater management. The amount of current expenditures in environmental protection in 2009 was EUR 402.8 million, 3% more than in 2008. The highest share (more than 32%) of current expenditure for environmental protection was spent for waste management.
- In 2010, 0.6% more water was pumped in Slovenia than in 2009; consumption from public water supply was 2.4% lower than in 2009. From public sewerage 173.3 million m³ of waste water was discharged, which is 2.9% more than in 2009.
- In 2010, 3.501 hectares of land were irrigated, which is 6% less than in 2009.
- For different intentions in mining, manufacturing, electricity and water supply 7% less water was used in 2010 than in 2009.

In 2011, SURS presented statistical data in popular publications and articles intended for the general public

In addition to regular First Releases of data, which were prepared after every survey, in 2011 SURS issued a publication entitled *Environment, Energy and Transport in Figures⁸⁰* (in the Brochures collection). The booklet presents basic data and information on environmental statistics integrated into a statistical story in which comments are intertwined with charts and tables. With this publication SURS wanted to contribute to better understanding and knowledge of current environmental, energy and transport situation in Slovenia and the European Union.

At various remembrance days⁸¹, e.g. the World Water Day, the World Environment Day, the European Week for Waste Reduction, SURS prepared **special releases** on each of these topics on its website.

5.3 Science, technology and innovation

International cooperation related to planned methodological improvements

In methodological improvements of R&D statistics activities at the EU level related to more detailed monitoring of the internationalisation of R&D activity continued. In 2011, too, a pilot survey was conducted on national public funding of transnationally coordinated research in order to obtain data on financial contributions of the transnational public R&D performers, for Europe-wide transnational

⁷⁹ See <http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/Database/Environment/Environment.asp> (23.7.2012).

⁸⁰ Environment, energy and transport in figures, July 17, 2012, Special release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4851 (23.7.2012).

⁸¹ See http://www.stat.si/eng/tema_splosno_posebnidnevi.asp (23.7.2012).

public R&D programmes and for bi- and multi-lateral public R&D programmes established between member states governments; all this is the basis for calculating the indicator for monitoring the development of the European Research Area (ERA)⁸². The findings will be the basis for proposed changes and supplements of questions in national questionnaires.

Cooperation with main users of data in the modernisation and improvement of surveys

SURS established and led an intersectoral working group which included representatives of the main users of data on R&D for the improvement of the quality of data and rationalisation of the extent of data collection. The plan of activities for the 2012/2013 period includes modernisation and standardisation of the method and extent of data collection, processing and publication.

The main users gave an initiative to **improve the monitoring** and international comparability of **data on government budget appropriations for R&D**. The monitoring of the data should include foreign public funds and funds from EU structural funds, which are not included according to the Frascati methodology⁸³; these data should be presented separately. In view of the mentioned initiative, SURS completed the data collection and in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology completed the data for the final 2010 budget. SURS will transmit the initiative for improving the monitoring of data on government budget appropriations to Eurostat.

SURS conducted regular annual surveys on **R&D activity** by sectors of performance for the reference year 2009 and on government budget appropriations for R&D for 2010 (final budget) and 2011 (provisional budget) and published the data.

The two-year survey on **innovation activity** for the 2008-2010 period was conducted, which included a module of questions related to knowledge and creativity. The data will be published in May 2012.

In 2010, gross domestic expenditure on R&D amounted to EUR 745.9 million, which represented 2.1% of Slovenian GDP.⁸⁴

In 2010, government budget appropriations or outlays on R&D in Slovenia amounted to EUR 217.9 million.⁸⁵

In the 2006-2008 period 50.3% of enterprises were innovation active. In the 2006-2008 period 54.6% of all manufacturing enterprises were innovation active while among enterprises in services 46.1% were innovation active.⁸⁶

In addition to data on innovation activity and R&D, which are regularly transmitted to international institutions, the OECD received the available data on R&D in biotechnology and regional R&D data.

Publication of results of the survey on careers of doctorate holders

In spring 2012, SURS published the results of the survey on careers of doctorate holders, which was conducted for the first time in 2010. Even though Eurostat did not plan this survey in its programme for 2013, SURS will conduct it under the auspices of the OECD and UNESCO-UIS, since users expressed large interest in its results.

An average doctorate holder in Slovenia in 2009 was a man, aged below 54 years, employed in the higher education sector, on average he was satisfied with his job and was employed by his employer for a long time.⁸⁷

⁸² See http://ec.europa.eu/research/leaflets/enlargement/index_en.html (23.7.2012).

⁸³ See http://www.oecd.org/document/6/0,3746,en_2649_34273_33828550_1_1_1_1,00.html (23.7.2012).

⁸⁴ See Research and development activity, Slovenia, 2010 - final data, December 15, 2011, E-Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4411 (23.7.2012).

⁸⁵ See Government budget appropriations or outlays on R&D, final budget, Slovenia, 2010, September 30, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4217 (23.7.2012).

⁸⁶ See Innovation activity in manufacturing and selected services, Slovenia 2006-2008 - final data, September 29, 2010, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3447 (23.7.2012).

⁸⁷ See Careers of doctorate holders, Slovenia, 2009 - final data, May 31, 2011, First Release.

Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3951 (23.7.2012).

5.4 Information society

E-skills, e-government and green ICT were the themes of surveys conducted in 2011

Special themes in the survey on the usage of information and communication technologies (ICT) in enterprises were the use of e-government services and the impact of ICT usage on the environment, i.e. *green ICT*. As regards the survey on the usage of information and communication technologies in households and by individuals, a special theme was e-skills. Data were published in autumn 2011. SURS also prepared an article at the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day⁸⁸ and published it on the website. In 2011, SURS conducted a survey on electronic communications and for the last time the survey on postal services.

In January 2011, 62% of enterprises had in place a policy designed to reduce the amount of paper used in printing or copying. 57% of enterprises had in place a policy with the purpose to reduce the energy consumption of the information-communication technologies (e.g. computers and screens to be turned off, etc.), while designed policies with the purpose to use information-communication technologies (e.g. telephone, web or video conferencing) instead of physical travel were in place in 38% of enterprises.⁸⁹

Intensive cooperation in Eurostat's project groups

In early 2011, final results⁹⁰ of the pilot project with which SURS covered data on **ICT investments in enterprises** were published.

SURS continued to cooperate in Eurostat's project on linking microdata from various sources to establish ICT impact on various areas of the economy, which is expected to be finished in October 2012.

At the end of the year the ESS-net project on **testing and designing questions for the survey on ICT usage** started, the aim of which is to improve the questionnaires for both surveys on ICT usage (households and enterprises). Within this project SURS leads a group the task of which is to test the existing questionnaires on ICT usage in enterprises. For more about the project see Chapter 6.3.

5.5. Regional statistics and geographical/local information

Because SURS is aware of the different needs of users and their different knowledge of statistics, it strives to offer the data in different ways, in different forms and in different media

To facilitate understanding, statistical data on SURS's website are shown in space in different ways: new thematic maps were added to the web application, and the latest data for statistical regions and municipalities are available in the Interactive Statistical Atlas of Slovenia.

For **disseminating** statistical data on **hierarchical grids** and by selected spatial units in combination with various cartographic basis from Google Maps, in 2011 SURS prepared a new product for its users named **KASPeR** – Mapping application of statistical data e-dimensions. Specialised users who have GIS tools were offered free of charge GIS data, i.e. vector layers of georeferenced statistical data appropriate for further processing. Most of the spatially presented regional data can be accessed via a single entry point, the geostatistics portal⁹¹.

⁸⁸ See World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2011, May 16, 2011, Special release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3908 (23.7.2012).

⁸⁹ See Usage of information-communication technologies in enterprises, Slovenia, 2011 - final data, October 05, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=4239 (24.7.2012).

⁹⁰ See ICT purchases and investments in enterprises with 10 or more persons employed, Slovenia, 2009 - final data, January 27, 2011, First Release. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=3704 (24.7.2012).

⁹¹ See <http://www.stat.si/eng/geostatistike.asp> (24.7.2012).

SURS actively cooperated in the European Forum for Geostatistics (EFGS) and in the ESSnet GEOSTAT project. At the annual EFGS conference in Lisbon SURS presented its achievements in disseminating statistical data on hierarchical grids.

Between May 2011, when users obtained access to the geostatistics portal, and December 2011, the website was visited by almost 4,200 users. Users of geostatistics also frequently visited the Interactive Statistical Atlas of Slovenia⁹²; in 2011, about 7,900 visits were recorded.

Source: SURS's own calculations

In the SI-STAT data portal SURS was publishing regional data for those fields of statistics for which such data can be disseminated in terms of quality and confidentiality. Some new content was added in the fields of population, education and labour market.

Legislation adopted in the field of multi-domain statistics in 2011:

- Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2011 on European environmental economic accounts (32011R0691).
- Decree on waste, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 103/2011.
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 937/2011 of 21 September 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 808/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning Community statistics on the information society (32011R0937).
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 31/2011 of 17 January 2011 amending annexes to Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (32011R0031).

⁹² See <http://www.stat.si/eng/iatlas.asp> (24.7.2012).

6 Statistical infrastructure

6.1 Legal framework

Legal basis

During the period covered by the Report, the underlying **national legal bases** for providing the SURS service were the following:

- National Statistics Act⁹³ (Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, Nos. 45/1995 and 9/2001),
- Medium-term Programme of Statistical Surveys 2008–2012⁹⁴ (Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 119/2007),
- Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys for 2011⁹⁵ (Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, Nos. 93/2010 and 71/2011),
- Priorities of the National Statistics in 2011⁹⁶ (discussed by the Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia at its 33rd regular session held on 2 June 2010),
- Regulations concerning standard classifications¹⁰³, SURS's internal acts⁹⁷, and interinstitutional cooperation agreements.

The Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys 2012⁹⁸ (Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 92/2011) was adopted. The Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia discussed the Priorities of National Statistics in 2012⁹⁹ at its 36th regular session on 7 June 2011.

National statistics operates in accordance with **Community legislation**. The **Regulation on European statistics**¹⁰⁰ is the umbrella regulation that regulates the operation of the European Statistical System. In 2011, SURS cooperated in a special working group established by Eurostat to revise the regulation and to prepare basic principles of the so-called commitment of confidence in statistics. In the regulation the articles should be changed that stipulate the principle of independence, use of administrative data sources and coordination role of statistical offices. At the end of 2011 the European Commission (Eurostat) sent the amended regulation to be adopted by the Council and Parliament.

For individual fields of statistics sectoral statistical legislation is in force. In 2011, 35 acts were adopted; in this report their titles are stated at the end of each chapter, while the entire list is published on the Eurostat website¹⁰¹. Operation of the Bank of Slovenia in the ESCB's statistical system is determined by the **regulation concerning the collection of statistical information by the European Central Bank and its amendments**¹⁰².

⁹³ See Legislative framework of Slovenian national statistics. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/drz_stat_zakonski.asp (25.3.2011).

⁹⁴ See Medium-term programme of statistical surveys 2008–2012. Available at: <http://www.stat.si/doc/drzstat/SPSR-ang.pdf> (25.3.2011).

⁹⁵ See Annual programme of statistical surveys for 2011. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/drz_stat_programi.asp (24.7.2012).

⁹⁶ See Priorities of the national statistics in 2011. Available at: <http://www.stat.si/doc/drzstat/priorities2011.pdf> (24.7.2012).

⁹⁷ See Internal acts. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/stat_notranji.asp (24.7.2012).

⁹⁸ See Annual programme of statistical surveys for 2012. Available at: http://www.stat.si/eng/drz_stat_programi.asp (24.7.2012).

⁹⁹ See Priorities of the national statistics in 2012. Available at: <http://www.stat.si/doc/drzstat/priorities2012.pdf> (24.7.2012).

¹⁰⁰ Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics and repealing Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1101/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the transmission of data subject to statistical confidentiality to the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Council Decision 89/382/EEC, Euratom establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programmes of the European Communities (32009R0223).

¹⁰¹ See http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/ess_eurostat/legislation_in_force (24.7.2012).

¹⁰² Council Regulation (EC) No 2533/98 of 23 November 1998 concerning the collection of statistical information by the European Central Bank (31998R2533) and Council Regulation (EC) No 951/2009 of 9 October 2009 amending Regulation (EC) No 2533/98 concerning the collection of statistical information by the European Central Bank (32009R0951).

6.2 Classifications

SURS was updating all valid economic, social and territorial classifications. At the end of 2011 the Classification of Products by Activity – **CPA 2008**¹⁰³ was issued in electronic format, and in early 2012 in printed format. At the end of December 2011 the new national **Classification of Types of Construction** was published. SURS finished the project of implementing the **Standard Classification of Occupations – SKP-o8, which it started in 2009**. In 2011, SURS was intensively cooperating in the introduction and use of the **Slovene version of ISCED – KLASIUS** into various administrative records.

In 2011, the IVZ started to introduce a new national **code list of the types of health activities** into all collections of data from the field of health care which are managed by the IVZ.

6.3 Quality

Preparation and development of standard quality indicators

In 2011, SURS continued to introduce the calculation and dissemination of standard quality indicators, which are the basic tool for objective and systematic monitoring of different dimensions of processes and products and are the basis for preparing quality reports. Theoretical definitions and procedures of calculation for all indicators are given in the methodological manual entitled **Quality Indicators**.

SURS is introducing the **automated system of calculating indicators** for those indicators for which this is feasible; this means that indicators are calculated already during the processing and are available together with statistical results.

Monitoring the quality in statistical surveys

Standard quality reports are an established way of reporting about the quality of conducting statistical surveys. A review of the quality level is necessary in the introduction of measures necessary for its improvement. In 2011, SURS finished the first round of preparing standard quality reports, within which reports were prepared for all surveys for which such reports are appropriate. Standard quality reports are being regularly supplemented by **annual quality reports**¹⁰⁴, which enable the users to have a quick insight into quality indicators. Annual quality reports are also available in the English language.

In 2011, the theoretical framework for preparing **standard quality reports for registers** and larger **administrative data collections** was also prepared.

For several years, SURS has had a **Methodological Council**, members of which are two external experts on statistical methodology. In 2011, the Methodological Council reviewed nine statistical surveys in terms of user needs, data sources used and the provision of transparency and relevance of used (proposed) methodologies.

Revision of the European Statistics Code of Practice

In 2011, the **Sponsorship on Quality**, which was led by Statistics Norway and Eurostat and in which SURS took active part, finished its work and prepared recommendations for further work on quality within the framework of the European Statistical System.

On the basis of these recommendations, Eurostat prepared a **revised version of the European Statistics Code of Practice**¹⁰⁵, which the European Statistical System Committee (ESSC) adopted in

¹⁰³ See <http://www.stat.si/eng/klasje.asp> (24.7.2012).

¹⁰⁴ See http://www.stat.si/eng/metodologija_porocila-kakovost.asp (26.7.2012).

¹⁰⁵ See http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/product_details/publication?p_product_code=KS-32-11-995 (26.7.2012).

September 2011. The Code determines key principles by which the government and national statistical institutions in Member States commit to ensure public confidence in European statistics. The Code is revised in principles referring to professional independence of Eurostat and national statistical offices (e.g. appointment and dismissal of heads of national statistical offices), greater use of administrative sources (e.g. national statistical offices cooperate in designing and providing high-quality administrative data collections) and the harmonisation of the Code with the Regulation of European statistics¹⁰⁶. SURS was actively involved in the preparation of the amended Code. SURS started to promote the revised version of the Code. This activity will intensify at the preparation of the medium-term programme of statistical surveys for the 2013–2017 period in the first half of 2012.

Within the monitoring of the progress in implementing the principles of the Code of Practice, SURS was coordinating activities with authorised producers of national statistics for preparing regular annual reports for Eurostat on the situation regarding the implementation of the plan of improvements for introducing the Code and reporting to the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board (ESGAB).

SURS measured user trust and satisfaction

For better identification of needs and habits of users, at the end of 2010 the **Survey on User Satisfaction** was conducted; data were analysed and published in 2011. The survey covered the following topics: use of statistical data (frequency, fields), general evaluation of SURS, assessment of the quality of statistical data, evaluation of SURS's website and demographic characteristics of respondents. SURS will use the result in future work, especially in upgrading its website and improving the communication with various user groups.

Improvement of statistical questionnaires

To provide high-quality results, the basic condition is high-quality input data. When data cannot be obtained from administrative sources, SURS collects them from reporting units. It is essential that questionnaires are understandable and do not present a large burden for reporting units, be they households, individuals or enterprises. SURS has been paying attention to this issue for many years and has been dealing with this systematically and in-depth for the past two years. In 2010, within the modernisation of the survey the questionnaire for the Household Budget Survey was tested and in 2011 with a **cognitive test**¹⁰⁷ the questionnaire for Adult Education Survey was tested. SURS is introducing a practice of testing new questions or changes on some of the units whenever major changes in the questionnaire or adding of new sets of questions (modules) are introduced.

As mentioned in Chapter 5.4, at the end of 2011 SURS was included in the **ESSnet project**, the purpose of which is to test the existing questionnaires for surveys on ICT usage in enterprises and households and designing and testing of new sets of questions on information society. The project is financed by Eurostat; it involves seven countries and is expected to be finished within 18 months, i.e. by March 2013. It will be implemented in three steps. In the first step the existing questionnaires will be analysed and the problematic questions will be exposed. In the second step cognitive testing of questionnaires in enterprises will be implemented. In the final step of the project proposals of new questions and the model questionnaire will be prepared. For SURS this project means setting up standards for cognitive testing of questionnaires also for other enterprise surveys.

¹⁰⁶ Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics and repealing Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1101/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the transmission of data subject to statistical confidentiality to the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Council Decision 89/382/EEC, Euratom establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programmes of the European Communities (32009R0223).

¹⁰⁷ Using the methods of cognitive testing, a measurement is performed on reporting units (persons or companies) consistently understand survey questions. They have information available to formulate and transmit the response.

6.4 Statistical processes and their improvement

Documentation for modernisation and standardisation of internal processes

In 2011, SURS finished the preparation of the document entitled *Quality Guidelines*, which for the first time in one place provides extensive descriptions of the procedures of conducting statistical surveys together with guidelines for their correct implementation. The document should serve as the basis for introducing the improvement of statistical processes and further standardisation of software tools for their implementation; it will be prepared for public release in 2012.

General software solutions – process standardisation and automation

Development and introduction of general process solutions into individual parts of the process of conducting statistical surveys has been a constant practice at SURS. Such standardisation contributes to more effective use of financial and human resources as well as to better quality of statistical results.

SURS continued the project of introducing e-business

The eSTAT information solution for e-reporting was in 2011 set up in the test information environment of the Ministry of Public Administration. SURS was correcting errors and implementing adjustments of the functionalities of the eSTAT solution. For introducing e-reporting into regular statistical processes, SURS prepared the necessary changes in its organisational and process structure.

Modernisation of procedures for planning and conducting surveys of persons, households and agricultural holdings

SURS started the project of **modernising the CATI studio**; the project includes comprehensive modernisation of procedures for conducting surveys of persons, households and agricultural holdings with the purpose to achieve better cost-effectiveness and optimisation of work. Modernisation of procedures covers upgraded multi-level procedure of selecting interviewers, updating of the interviewers' database, the procedure of interviewer training, procedures of recording interviewers' journeys and time use, analysis of interviewers' journeys and procedures of paying the interviewers. Within the project all tasks will be recorded and advantages and disadvantages of outsourcing data collection will be analysed. The project is expected to be finished by the end of 2012.

Communication with reporting units

Together with the development of new options for data reporting, SURS was preparing the procedures for communicating with reporting units. It was preparing procedures of offering general, methodological and subject-matter assistance to users and developed appropriate information solutions. Reporting units will be able to use the **single entry point for SURS**.

6.5 Reduction of administrative burden

Program to reduce the burden by 25%

Activities to reduce administrative burden by 25% continued at the national and international levels. Within the Government program, the measurement of administrative costs for a certain regulation was followed by the preparation of proposals for changing the regulation with which administrative barriers and burdens would be reduced. With changes in conducting the agricultural census in 2010 and the population census in 2011, SURS has already achieved the required goal, i.e. 25% reduction of administrative burden.

Coordinated sampling and reduction of reporting burden

In 2011, the analysis of the possibility of implementing coordinated sampling in conducting the surveys of business entities was prepared with the aim to reduce the reporting burden, especially for smaller

business entities participating in several surveys. The analysis showed that the introduction of coordinated sampling would bring greater control over the selection of units in different surveys, so in 2012 coordinated sampling will be implemented in all surveys based on the probability sampling plan.

6.6 Data security and protection

In 2010, the Data Protection Committee at **SURS** discussed 258 items (in 2010 199 items). The growing in the number of users' requests for detailed microdata was evident in 2011 too, so the Committee dedicated special attention to providing relevant data to users without increasing the risk of disclosing reporting units.

Within the operation of the Personal Data Protection Committee at the **National Institute of Public Health** as well as within the framework of other activities of the Institute, in 2011 large progress was made in the field of protecting data and information, e.g. the normative regulation in the field of protecting personal data and information was improved, four internal assessments were performed, information protection policies were adopted, and training of staff about data protection was implemented.

In the second half of 2011 a comprehensive information protection policy, prepared by the **Committee for Information Protection Management System** was adopted, which covers the umbrella policy entitled *Information Protection Policy at SURS* and 12 rules regulating individual areas of information security at SURS. In line with the adopted information protection policy, which emphasises personal data protection, **SURS implemented several improvements**: modernisation of the application for translating personal identifiers into statistical identifiers, files with personal data were transferred from local workstations to a secure environment on servers, use access to personal data collections were checked and cleaned, the policy of monitoring access (*auditing*) was improved, the password policy was harmonised with the rules and the domain policy for locking workstations was implemented.

6.7 Important promotion events

The 21st international statistical conference¹⁰⁸ entitled *The Role of Statistics in Managing Economic Imbalances* was held between 7 and 9 November 2011.

In June SURS organized the Round table *Validity of Development Strategies and Trust in Statistical Analyses, Models and Indicators*¹⁰⁹ under the auspices of Dr Danilo Türk, President of the Republic of Slovenia. In the introduction a special publication issued at the jubilee of independent Slovenia entitled *To Slovenia for Its 20th Birthday – Slovenian Statisticians*¹¹⁰ was presented.

6.8 SURS and public relations

In 2011, 16 **press conferences** were organised; at the regular ones SURS presented results of current statistical surveys and announced the most important activities, while with the help of invited speakers at the additional conferences it offered to the media broader interpretation of official statistical data.

¹⁰⁸ See <http://www.stat.si/StatisticniDnevi/?lang=en> (26.7.2012).

¹⁰⁹ See <http://www.stat.si/Brdo2011/eng/Default.aspx?lang=eng> (26.7.2012).

¹¹⁰ See <http://www.stat.si/doc/pub/ANGL-20-let.pdf> (26.7.2012).

As an open institution, in communicating with the media SURS promoted additional cooperation of statisticians in interpreting data for the media in the form of statements and interviews with the aim to present official statistics in the media and thus to the general public as best as possible.

6.9 Data dissemination

In 2011, SURS started the **project of upgrading the website** as the most important information channel for disseminating statistical data and information. The purpose of this project is to improve the user experience on SURS's website, to strengthen SURS's reputation as a producer of statistical data and to increase the use of statistical data. The objective of the upgrade is to improve the clarity of and navigation on the website, to optimise the procedures of publishing data and information, and to improve communication with users and data providers. SURS started the project by assessing the situation and forming possible proposals for the upgrade. The proposal was adopted about comprehensive upgrade, which should be finished in the first half of 2013.

In the **SI-STAT Data Portal**, SURS in 2011 added **new content** (among other things the data on first names and family names, and sustainable development indicators) and updated the existing content with new time points. The use interface for data selection and presentation was also upgraded. At the end of 2011 the SI-STAT Data Portal contained 3,868 tables in Slovene and English for 30 fields of statistics.

In line with the advance release calendar, SURS was regularly publishing statistical data in all collections¹¹¹, both in Slovene and English; most of the 729 publications were published in the collections First Release (520) and Electronic Release (146).

*In addition to printed publications, web versions are becoming increasingly important. In 2011, the page dedicated to publications was accessed by almost 37,000 users; most of them were interested in the Statistical Yearbook (around 29,000), Some Important Statistics on Slovenia (around 8,100) and publications from the collection Rapid Reports (around 6,100). The electronic version of Slovene Municipalities in Figures was accessed by about 12,500 users.
Source: SURS's own calculations*

Access to data of authorised producers of national statistics

Regular releases of statistical data according to the 2010 Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys are also available on the websites of authorised producers of national statistics. In publishing their data, SURS, the Bank of Slovenia and the Ministry of Finance respected the standards of the International Monetary Fund¹¹². These are authorised producers of national statistics and their websites:

Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services:

<http://www.ajpes.si/?language=english>

Bank of Slovenia: <http://www.bsi.si/en/>

Ministry of Finance: <http://www.mf.gov.si/en/>

National Institute of Public Health: <http://www.ivz.si/>

The Institute of Pension and Invalidity Insurance of Slovenia: <http://www.zpiz.si/>

Employment Service of Slovenia: <http://www.ess.gov.si/>

¹¹¹ All publications are available to users on the website under Publications. (under collections of publications) <http://www.stat.si/eng/pub.asp> or in within individual fields. (26.7.2012)

¹¹² See http://www.bsi.si/imf/default_en.asp?Mapald=1020/ (23.8.2012).

6.10 Communication with users

Part of SURS is the Information Centre, which answers users' requests and transmits data. It cooperates with scientific research institutions, government bodies and independent researchers in access to microdata for performing analyses on statistically protected microdata. On its website SURS publishes the conditions for access to microdata¹¹³. Since 2004 SURS has been cooperating in Eurostat's project *European Statistical Data Support* providing support to users in accessing European statistics.

SURS and authorised producers of national statistics transmitted the requested statistical data to Eurostat, the ECB and the OECD, and to other international organisations such as the IMF, the WHO and the ILO.

Cooperation with users via the Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia and statistical advisory committees

The **Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia**¹¹⁴ met three times in 2011 at regular sessions at which it discussed proposals of documents related to the annual programme of statistical surveys and was informed about some of the SURS's activities such as information security, work of statistical advisory committees, the user satisfaction survey and SURS's international cooperation. Information on the role of statistics in the process of enhanced economic supervision must be pointed out. A correspondence meeting was held on the change of the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys for 2011.

In 2011, **23 statistical advisory committees**¹¹⁵ were active at SURS; 13 sessions were organised at which numerous initiatives, recommendations and opinions were given, e.g. taking over data from administrative records, strengthening cooperation between SURS and data users as well as among various institutions. At meetings presentations from the field of data protection at SURS, on obtaining microdata, and on access to data in the SI-STAT Data Portal were organised. At the beginning of 2011 SURS published the updated Rules of Procedure of Statistical Advisory Committees at the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia.

6.11 International cooperation

SURS was active within the **European Statistical System** (ESS) at all levels of operation and decision-making. It was actively participating in discussions on strategic issues of European statistics, which took place at the highest level in the **European Statistical System Committee** (ESSC) and in the **Partnership Group** and was included in activities or the so-called sponsorships for individual fields of statistics. SURS's representatives were active in directors' groups for individual fields of statistics and in various working groups. SURS was regularly involved in the process of preparation, coordination and adoption of European legislation in the field of statistics both within the working bodies of the European Commission (Eurostat) and within the EU Council Working Party on Statistics. SURS was also active in implementing different projects in the field of statistics which are co-financed by the European Commission (Eurostat) and which are aimed at providing support in conducting high-quality statistical surveys and developing different fields of statistics within the ESS. By appointing SURS's Director-General ESS representative in the European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC), SURS was actively involved in the work of this committee which brings together representatives of users of European statistical data.

¹¹³ See http://www.stat.si/eng/drz_stat_mikro.asp (25.3.2011).

¹¹⁴ See http://www.stat.si/eng/drz_stat_svet.asp (26.7.2012).

¹¹⁵ See http://www.stat.si/drz_stat_sosveti.asp (26.7.2012).

In 2011, SURS took over the leading role in the **cooperation of five countries** in the field of statistics, which includes statistical offices of Austria, the Czech Republic Hungary Slovakia and Slovenia.

The Bank of Slovenia participated in plenary sessions of the **Committee on Monetary, Financial and Balance of Payments Statistics (CMFB)**, the main body for harmonising strategic issues of European financial statistics. It was regularly participating in the meetings of the **Statistics Committee of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB)**, its working groups for government finance statistics, monetary and financial statistics, external statistics, general economic statistics, euro area accounts and statistical information systems as well as occasional thematic groups.

The **National Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia** continued to successfully implement various projects in the field of statistics which are co-financed by the European Commission (Eurostat) and which are aimed at harmonising statistics with EU requirements and cooperated in various working groups in the field of health and health care within the European Statistical System.

The **Institute of Pension and Invalidity Insurance of Slovenia** in cooperation with Eurostat transmitted the required statistical data and subject-matter explanations of the Pension and Disability Insurance Act for determining the position of pension parameters for public servants employed in line with Article 83 in EU institutions.

As regards **international multilateral cooperation**, SURS is participating in the work of the **Conference of European Statisticians (CES)** at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the **CES Bureau**, the **United Nations Statistical Commission** and various specialised agencies, including special funds and various United Nations programs. Activity in the panel of experts for preparing the Human Development Report for 2011, a member of which is SURS's Director-General, and cooperation with the **World Bank** have to be pointed out. Upon the invitation by the Vice-President of the World Bank, SURS's Director-General became a member of the invited to serve on the **World Bank high-level Advisory Council on Gender and Development**. SURS also currently fulfils statistical commitments towards the **OECD** and is active within the **OECD Committee of Statistics** and **OECD working groups in the field of statistics**.

SURS cooperated with international scientific associations in the field of statistics, among them the **International Statistical Institute (ISI)** and its section the **International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS)**, which in the 2009-2011 period is led by Ms Irena Križman, SURS's Director-General.

On the basis of signed agreements on cooperation in the field of statistics and within the programme of **bilateral development cooperation of Slovenia**, SURS offered professional assistance in the field of statistics to Western Balkan countries. In 2011, 9 projects of bilateral technical assistance for different fields of statistics were implemented; six for Bosnia and Herzegovina, one for Macedonia, one for Montenegro and one for Serbia.

In 2011, the **Bank of Slovenia** offered professional assistance in the fields of monetary and financial statistics to central banks of Serbia and Montenegro, in the field of balance of payments statistics to the central bank of Montenegro and in the field of statistical information system in the form of expert visits of delegations of central bank's statisticians of these countries.

In 2011, SURS's representatives participated in 310 international events and events in the EU. Of the 360 employees, 140 participated in the mentioned international events, which is 38.9% of all employees, some of them several times (total number of participations was 416).

In 2011, SURS's representatives organised or participated in the organisation of 31 international events in Slovenia. Within the IPA program, SURS successfully implemented three-month training of a representative of the Albanian statistical office in the field of disclosure control and editing of time series; this was the first such experience for SURS.

Of all the international events the most important was the **Work Session on Statistical Data Editing**¹¹⁶, which SURS prepared together with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and which took place in Ljubljana between 9 and 11 May 2011.

SURS is also active in international research projects

In recent years SURS has been actively involved in several international research projects within the Seventh Framework Programme¹¹⁷. As a rule, these programmes involve representatives of statistical offices and universities and cooperating in these project SURS obtains experience with such international activities which are becoming a widespread form of cooperation in the EU:

AMELI project – Advanced methodology for European Laeken indicators¹¹⁸

BLUE-ETS project – New challenges in the field of official business statistics¹¹⁹

Project Data without Boundaries¹²⁰

6.12 Human and financial resources

SURS is organised in nine sectors and five services. At the end of 2011, SURS had 347 employees.

The number was decreasing in organisational units in which due to changes in the technological processes, methods of work and procedures the number of employees exceeded the actual needs and increasing in organisational units in which tasks were being implemented which need to be further strengthened in terms of human resources in order to provide their quality and the timeliness of their implementation. Due to the complexity of its fields of work, SURS strives to improve the educational structure of its employees and offers a wide variety of training courses for its employees and for people employed by authorised producers of national statistics.

The legal bases for financing SURS's activities are acts that apply to the entire state administration. In 2011, SURS received from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia EUR 12,991,711.

Solving the spatial problems for SURS

After very long efforts to solve the spatial problem for SURS, in 2010 there was a shift, since in 2011 was preparing to move into a new building; the move was took place in January 2012. SURS's operations were not interrupted. With the move to a new building SURS obtained a new, secure data centre, a modern library, a CATI studio, an safe and modern premises.

¹¹⁶ See <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2011.05.sde.html> (26.7.2012).

¹¹⁷ See http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html (14.2.2011).

¹¹⁸ See http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=FP7_PROJ_EN&ACTION=D&DOC=1&CAT=PROJ&RCN=88428 (14.2.2011).

¹¹⁹ See <http://www.blue-ets.istat.it/> (14.2.2011).

¹²⁰ See <http://www.dwbproject.org/> (26.7.2012).

List of abbreviations

AJPES	Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services
BPM	Balance of Payments Manual
BS	Bank of Slovenia
CATI	Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing
CES	Conference of European Statisticians
CMFB	Committee on Monetary, Financial and Balance of Payments Statistics
CPA	Classification of Products by Activity
EAA	Economic Accounts for Agriculture
ECB	European Central Bank
EFGS	European Forum for Geostatistics
EGR	EuroGroups Register
EHIS	European Health Interview
EHSIS	European Health and Social Integration Survey
EMCDDA	European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
EODS	European Statistics on Occupational Diseases
ESA	European System of Accounts
ESAC	European Statistical Advisory Committee
ESCB	European System of Central Banks
ESGAB	European Statistical Governance Advisory Board
ESS	European Statistical System
ESSC	European Statistical System Committee
ESSPROS	European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics
EU	European Union
GDP	gross domestic product
GIS	Geographic Information System
HICP	Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices
HBS	Household Budget Survey
HPI	House Price Index
HS	Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System
IAOS	International Association for Official Statistics
ICP	International Comparison Program
IEA	International Energy Agency
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMAD	Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPA	Instrument for pre-accession assistance
ISCED	International Standard Classification of Education
ITF	International Transport Forum
IVZ	National Institute of Public Health
KLASIUS	Classification System of Education and Training
LMP	Labour Market Policy
MAE	Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment
MEETS	Modernisation of the European Enterprise and Trade Statistics
MF	Ministry of Finance
MFI	monetary financial institutions

MJU	Ministry of Public Administration
MK	Ministry of Culture
MŠŠ	Ministry of Education and Sport
MVZT	Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology
MZ	Ministry of Health
NAMEA	The national accounting matrix including environmental accounts
NUTS	Nomenclature des Unites Territoriale pour Statistique
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PPP	purchasing power parities
RER	Real Estate Register
R&D	Research and Development
SBR	Slovenian Business Register
SDMX	Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange
SHA	System of Health Accounts
SILC	Statistics on Income and Living Conditions
SI-STAT	SURS's data portal
SKD	Standard Classification of Activities
SKP	Standard Classification of Occupations
SRDAP	Statistical Register of Employment
SURS	Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations
UNESCO-UIS	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
VAT	value added tax
WHO	World Health Organization
ZPIZ	Institute of Pension and Invalidity Insurance of Slovenia
ZRSZ	Employment Service of Slovenia
ZZZS	Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia