Act on Statistics Denmark

Consolidated act No. 599 of June 22, 2000

Unauthorised translation

Section 1. An institution designated Statistics Denmark shall be established as the central authority for Danish statistics.

This institution
1) will collect, process and publish statistical information on social and economic conditions, possibly in collaboration with municipal authorities and other statistical bodies,
2) may undertake the collection, processing and publication of statistical information for municipal authorities, organisations and private enterprises, etc.,
3) will supervise or assist in the establishment and utilisation of central public registers which serve to perform administrative duties for the public sector, business and industry, and which can be used for statistical purposes,
4) may assist committees and commissions in statistical matters,
5) may prepare statistical analyses and forecasts,
6) will undertake tasks relating to international statistical co-operation.

Subsection 2. Statistics Denmark shall, as directed by the Minister for Economic Affairs, also be responsible for the provision of statistical information for the use of the central government administration and the legislature.

Subsection 3. If the collection and processing of statistical information is being contemplated by a public authority or institution, Statistics Denmark shall be informed with a view to negotiation on co-ordination.

Section 2. Statistics Denmark is an independent institution under the direction of a Board of Directors consisting of the National Statistician as chairman, and six other members with insight into social and economic conditions, including business, industrial and labour conditions. The six members will be appointed by the Minister for Economic Affairs for maximum individual terms of four years. The Board will establish its own rules of procedure.

Subsection 2. The National Statistician shall be appointed by the King. The recommendation of the Minister for Economic Affairs shall be submitted after consultation with the Board.

Section 3. The Board will decide the working programme for Statistics Denmark in accordance with the provisions in Section 1, subsection 1, and will establish rules for treatment of the co-ordination matters referred to in Section 1, subsection 3, and of matters concerning the co-ordination of public and non-public statistics.

Subsection 2. The Board will decide on the extent to which and the manner in which the information referred to in Section 3a and Sections 8-12 shall be collected. However, the Minister for Economic Affairs may establish restrictions with regard to the procurement of information in accordance with Sections 8-12 which the Statistical Department was not authorised to demand under the acts or administrative provisions which existed at the time the present Act entered into force.

Subsection 3. In agreement with the Danish National Bank, The Board may leave it to the Danish central bank to collect, process and publish statistical information within the area of finances. The Board can likewise instruct firms within the area of finances to submit at the request of the Danish central bank the information mentioned in section 8, subsection 1 no. 3.
5.1 Act on Statistics Denmark

Subsection 4. Budget proposals for Statistics Denmark shall be approved by the Board and submitted to the Minister for Economic Affairs. The Board will also make decisions in questions of major financial significance, including the establishment of payment guidelines for the tasks undertaken on behalf of municipal authorities, organisations, private enterprises, etc. referred to under Section 1, subsection 1 (2).

Subsection 5. The Board may establish advisory committees.

Subsection 6. The Board shall also consider questions submitted by the National Statistician.

Section 3a. At the recommendation of the Board, the Minister for Economic Affairs may establish the necessary rules for the implementation or application in Denmark of the European Community’s legislative acts on the collection and processing of statistical information.

Subsection 2. At the recommendation of the Board, the Minister for Economic Affairs may establish provisions on departure from rules contained in legislative acts to the extent that such departure is permitted therein.

Subsection 3. With regard to questions within the legislative acts which fall within the jurisdiction of other ministries, the authority granted under subsections 1 and 2 shall be exercised by the relevant minister.

Section 4. The professional and administrative management of Statistics Denmark rests with the National Statistician.

Subsection 2. Staff matters relating to Statistics Denmark fall within the jurisdiction of the Minister for Economic Affairs.

Subsection 3. Cases within the business sphere of Statistics Denmark, the decision of which rests by law with the Minister for Economic Affairs, shall be submitted by the National Statistician directly to the Minister.

Section 5. The Minister for Economic Affairs may establish a committee to assist the co-operation between Statistics Denmark and other public authorities and institutions. The Minister for Economic Affairs will determine the rules of procedure for this committee after consultation with the Board.

Section 6. Within the framework of the working programme adopted by the Board, public authorities and institutions shall supply such information as they possess when called upon to do so by Statistics Denmark.

Subsection 2. Exchange of documents containing statistical information between Statistics Denmark and the Danish central bank in connection with the compilation of statistics on financial transactions and with compilation of Denmark’s foreign assets and liabilities does not in itself imply that the documents are subject to the right of access to documents according to the law on open administration.

Section 7. (Abolished)

Section 8. All businessmen shall, when requested by Statistics Denmark, supply information about the following:

1) the nature, location and ownership of the enterprise, land use, plant and equipment, personnel, working conditions and wages, production (including transportation performed) and other services provided, or der volume and movements therein, turnover and prices, wage bill, commodity purchases, other operating expenditure, capital expenditure and stocks,

2) in addition, for agriculture, horticulture and forestry, information on crop yield, livestock and fur-bearing animals,

3) in addition, for financial institutions:
   a) the nature and extent of and the terms for granted or arranged credits and received deposits
   b) information relating to which debtor groups credits were extended and from which creditor groups deposits were made, and
   c) information monitoring financial and monetary conditions in general, including balance- and cost entries, entries divided among types of instruments and characteristics, about the size of business with and terms
for different customer groups and the
issue and reserves of securities
4) in addition, for commercial banks and
saving banks, information on the nomi-
nal value of mortgage deeds pledged as secu-
rities for building loans.

Subsection 2. Societies, associations, etc.
which do not carry on commercial activities
shall, at the request of Statistics Denmark,
supply information on the nature of their
activity, location and ownership, land use,
personnel, working conditions and wages,
income, capital expenditure, and assets and
liabilities and movements therein.

Subsection 3. In addition to the information
that shall be supplied according to sub-
sections 1 and 2, schools and other
educational institutions shall at request of
Statistics Denmark supply information on
the education of individual pupils and
students, their field and level of study and
completed examinations.

Subsection 4. In addition to the information
that shall be supplied according to sub-
sections 1 and 2, institutions for children,
young people, senior citizens, the sick and
handicapped etc. shall at the request of
Statistics Denmark supply information on
the kind of services, the enrolled persons
and their space conditions.

Subsection 5. If a nationwide organisation of
businessmen requests statistical information
beyond that referred to in subsection 1 to be
provided within the branch in question, the
Minister for Economic Affairs may, at the
recommendation of the Board, direct such
information to be supplied to Statistics
Denmark.

Section 9. When international imports and
exports, and trade between Greenland, the
Faroe Islands and Denmark are not covered
by European Community legislative acts on
collection and processing of statistical in-
formation, consignees and consignors shall
supply information on the value, nature and
quantity of the imports or exports, country of
purchase, country of shipment, country of
origin, country of destination, and mode of
transport. If the import, export or said trade
is undertaken by persons other than the
actual consignees or consignors, eg. by
customs clearance agents or shipping agents,
such persons shall furnish details of the
names and addresses of the actual con-
signees or consignors.

Subsection 2. Detailed provisions governing
the furnishing of the information referred to
in subsection 1 will be established by the
Minister for Taxation after recommendation
by the Board.

Section 9a. Businessmen, who sell services
to customers abroad or buy services abroad
shall at the request of Statistics Denmark
supply information on the value of the
services, on their nature and on which
country the services have been delivered to
or received from.

Section 10. For use in compiling the ex-
ternal balance of payments, and foreign
assets and liabilities, any person having
financial transactions with other countries
shall furnish Statistics Denmark on request
with details of income from and payments to
other countries, along with details of ex-
ternal debts and receivables.

Section 11. Owners and tenants of dwellings
and of premises used for commercial pur-
poses shall furnish Statistics Denmark on
request with details of rent, tenant’s deposit,
location, size, facilities and usage for all
dwellings and premises. In the case of dwel-
lings, the number of occupants shall also be
notified.

Subsection 2. Owners and tenants of dwell-
lings shall, on request, furnish Statistics
Denmark with such further information as is
necessary for calculation of the net price
index.

Section 12. For use in compiling income
statistics, businessmen shall furnish
Statistics Denmark on request with informa-
tion on turnover, commodity purchases,
costs, calculation of profit margins, depre-
ciation and write-offs, provisions and trans-
fers, dividends, interest received and paid,
revenue and expenditure in respect of sup-
plementary activity, and paid or estimated
taxes and duties.
Subsection 2. For analysis of investments and capital, businessmen also shall furnish Statistics Denmark on request with information on assets and liabilities and movements therein.

Section 12a. For use in compiling statistics on the registration of vendor mortgage deeds, any person filing for registration a mortgage deed which represents a part-payment of the purchase price at the sale of property shall endorse the document with the wording »Vendor Mortgage Deed« (sælger-pantebrev).

Section 13. Persons who, within the time stated, fail to furnish the information requested in pursuance of Section 3a, Sections 8-12a, or European Community legislative acts on the collection and processing of data, or who knowingly or through gross negligence furnish incorrect information, shall be punishable by fine.

Subsection 2. Companies, societies etc. (the legal entitled person) can be enjoined liability to punishment according to the rules in the penal code chapter 5.

Subsection 3. In cases concerning the information referred to in Section 9, a fine may be imposed under the provisions of the Tariff Act.

Subsection 4. Non-compliance with time-limits for submission of information required under European Community regulations on statistics dealing with exchange of goods between the member states will not be punishable except when such non-compliance is intentional or the result of gross negligence. However, the person responsible for furnishing the information will be liable to an administration charge of DKK 500. This administration charge, plus costs, may be recovered by distraint on the goods.

Ministry of Economic Affairs, June 22, 2000

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