Diversified services of social protection statistics in Hungary – challenges + answers = good practice?

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Abstract

The Hungarian Central Statistical Office has a wealthy warehouse of social protection statistics. In this field the statistical work to a great extent relies on data deriving from organizations, institutions and persons providing basic and specialized social, child welfare and child protection services. Thirteen full scope data collections with 100% response rate ensure that good quality, comparable data are available on different groups of population, especially on the most vulnerable ones (e.g. elderly, children, disabled, homeless). Due to the challenges we face HCSO has to maintain and continuously develop diversified, customer-oriented services, which can be considered as a good practice. The paper presents the diversified services of social protection statistics that contribute to evidence-based policy making, the reducing of the burden on respondents, the better understanding of data and the increase of statistical literacy.

Keywords: social protection statistics, encouraging evidence-based policy, reducing burden on respondents, statistical literacy