



From primary data producer to derived statistics and beyond: the experience of the Brazilian Statistical Office in a changing world

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The aim of the paper is to share the experience of the Brazilian Statistical Office in facing increasing demands for statistics since its creation in the 1930s. Based on its history, we recover some of the major debates on the production agenda of the institution in the past decades to focus the turning points in its statistical production along its trajectory. We point out that the institution has been well succeeded in moving from a position of producer of decennial censuses to become also a producer of a large range of official information, including short-term indicators. This movement implied the adaptation of its managerial and technological structure to respond to the new demands for statistics, following the pace of social and economic development of the country. As a public institution, it depends mostly on budgetary resources, and although such dependence had been questioned in the 1990s, following the liberal reforms of the State at that time, nowadays the role of the State in financing the production of official statistics is well accepted. The reputation of the Brazilian Statistical Office is high and the credibility in its products well praised by the domestic and international investors.

Key words: Statistical Production, Brazilian Statistical Office, Decentralization