



About The Central Bureau of Statistics in Israel

The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), a professional organization responsible for the official statistics of the State of Israel, is committed to providing updated, qualitative and independent statistical information, for a wide variety of users in Israel and abroad. It collaborates with government agencies and local authorities who, under the Statistics Ordinance, are also authorized to produce official statistics.

The CBS has the legal authority to collect data from the population of households, businesses and any other party for performing statistical operations. The strict confidentiality of all individual data is ensured.

There are two main sources of data: the administrative data generated by the different government offices, and the data gathered by CBS surveys.

Child Statistics based on administrative data

Statistics on children in Israel is based mostly on administrative data in the fields of education, health, welfare, etc. The databases contain information on demographic and socio economic characteristics of children and their parents, such as infant mortality rates, educational participation and achievement, children in poverty, children in welfare, juvenile criminal records and convictions, teenage pregnancies (births and abortions), family structure, parental education and income, etc.

Surveying youth through Israel's new longitudinal survey of households

Israel is now developing its first longitudinal panel survey of families which will follow some 7000 households over a long period of time. The survey, similar to panel surveys all over the world, will study a wide range of socio-economic subjects including incomes,

welfare, poverty, employment, education, health and the like. While the survey will be a survey of families there will be a wealth of information on children. All children under the age of 15 will be surveyed by proxy and youth aged 15-17 will be surveyed directly as long as their parents agree. As part of the overall survey there will be a special questionnaire filled out by youth which asks them questions about their family, school and social situations.

The survey will measure the impact of parents' education on the chances of the child being in poverty. There will be the opportunity to study the child's well-being through children's own subjective point of view, in the context of education, health, income of parents, health of parents, family structure, etc.

It is planned to link the survey results to administrative data files which will enhance the database as well. For example we can link high school matriculation exam results with welfare/ poverty status.

The survey will go to the field for the first time in 2012.