

Law No. (28) of 2015
Concerning the
Dubai Statistics Centre¹

We, Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai,

After perusal of:

Law No. (3) of 2003 Establishing the Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai;

Law No. (23) of 2006 Establishing the Dubai Statistics Centre;

Law No. (27) of 2006 Concerning Management of the Government of Dubai Human Resources and its amendments;

Law No. (35) of 2009 Concerning Management of the Public Funds of the Government of Dubai and its amendments;

Law No. (2) of 2015 Concerning Human Resource Management of Executive Directors/ Chief Executive Officers in the Government of Dubai; and

Executive Council Resolution No. (39) of 2015 Regulating Poll Studies Firms Operating in the Emirate of Dubai,

Do hereby issue this Law.

Title of the Law
Article (1)

This Law will be cited as “Law No. (28) of 2015 Concerning the Dubai Statistics Centre.”

Definitions
Article (2)

The following words and expressions, wherever mentioned in this Law, will have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

UAE: The United Arab Emirates.

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¹Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict, the Arabic text will prevail.

Law No. (23) of 2006 Concerning the Dubai Statistics Centre

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| Emirate: | The Emirate of Dubai. |
| Ruler: | His Highness the Ruler of Dubai. |
| Executive Council: | The Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai. |
| DSC: | The Dubai Statistics Centre. |
| Executive Director: | The executive director of the DSC. |
| Advisory Board: | The advisory board of the DSC. |
| Data Sources: | In respect of the data relating to the Emirate, this refers to Government Departments, authorities, public corporations, free zone authorities such as the Dubai International Financial Centre Authority, and any other entity affiliated to the Government of Dubai; this also includes charitable and civil societies and foundations; establishments, companies, and individuals in the Emirate; Federal ministries, authorities, and public corporations; and international organisations and agencies. |
| Statistics: | Collecting statistical data and information from Data Sources, and analysing, categorising, and disseminating the same in the form of statistical indicators and reports. |
| Statistical Surveys: | The methods of collecting statistical data and information from the community targeted by a research or a study whether through a complete count or a sample count as determined based on scientific methods. |
| Poll Study: | Survey of opinions; measurement of trends; and collection of data, information, and Statistics on a particular matter during a specific period of time through various direct and indirect techniques and methods. |

Scope of Application Article (3)

This Law will apply to the Dubai Statistics Centre established pursuant to the above-mentioned Law No. (23) of 2006 as a public corporation, which has legal personality and the legal capacity required to undertake all acts and dispositions that ensure the achievement of its objectives. The DSC is hereby affiliated to the Executive Council.

Head Office of the DSC

Article (4)

The head office of the DSC will be located in the city of Dubai. The DSC may establish branches within and outside of the Emirate.

Official Source for Statistics

Article (5)

- a. The DSC is the official source for Statistics at the level of the Emirate, responsible for compiling, classifying, and analysing statistical data and information; preparing and disseminating statistical indicators and reports; and regulating statistical work and Poll Studies.
- b. A non-Government entity may only conduct a Poll Study for third parties after first obtaining a Permit from the DSC to conduct the Activity of conducting Poll Studies. The Permit will be issued in accordance with the relevant conditions and procedures adopted by the DSC.

Objectives of the DSC

Article (6)

The DSC aims to achieve the following:

1. to contribute to pushing forward the economic and social development in the Emirate;
2. to establish an advanced and efficient statistical system in the Emirate;
3. to provide statistical support to decision makers for the purpose of drafting development policies, creating plans, and measuring strategic performance;
4. to regulate and develop statistical work in the Emirate, and achieve transparency in statistical dissemination; and
5. to ensure the proper and accurate conduct of Poll Studies in the Emirate in accordance with the relevant recognised scientific methodologies and practices.

Functions of the DSC

Article (7)

- a. For the purpose of achieving its objectives, the DSC will have the duties and powers to:
 1. prepare statistical work plans and programmes in support of the Dubai Strategic Plan and the economic, social, and other development plans, programmes, and projects;

2. collect the statistical data and information relating to the Emirate from Data Sources, and update, process, categorise, and protect the same;
3. design and conduct demographic, social, and economic statistical studies and Statistical Surveys at the level of the Emirate;
4. create and manage a modern and comprehensive statistical system for the compilation, analysis, processing, and dissemination of the official statistical data, information, and indicators;
5. prepare and provide high quality statistical data and information to decision makers, Government entities, business community, media outlets, researchers, individuals, and the international community;
6. disseminate the statistical information and indicators using the most advanced methods available, without prejudice to the confidentiality of data under this Law;
7. prepare, based on the best practices, demographic, economic, and social statistical indicators as reference indicators at the level of the Emirate;
8. set the bases and rules regulating statistical work, and standardise the methods, standards, definitions, and classifications related to Statistical Work in the Emirate, in accordance with the local, regional, and international methodologies and with statistical work requirements;
9. design and conduct the general census of population, housing, and establishments in the Emirate;
10. represent the Emirate before local, regional, and international entities in matters relating to Statistics, and participate in statistical projects and programmes, and Statistical Surveys at the level of the UAE;
11. raise awareness about Statistics, and educate all segments of the community on the importance of statistical work;
12. organise and participate in academic conferences, symposia, workshops, programmes, and activities related to Statistics within and outside of the UAE;
13. provide statistical consultation and technical support to Government entities in all areas related to statistical work;
14. conduct Poll Studies on the population, social, economic, health, educational, and other phenomena;
15. regulate the work of the non-Government entities working in the field of Poll Studies in the Emirate, and issue the required Permits in accordance with the relevant adopted rules and conditions;
16. audit the entities authorised to conduct Poll Studies, and take the necessary action against violating entities in accordance with the relevant legislation in force; and
17. perform any other duties required for the achievement of its objectives.

- b. In performing the duties assigned to it under this Law, the DSC may, as it deems appropriate, seek assistance from experts and specialists.

Data Sources

Article (8)

Data Sources must provide the DSC with the statistical data and information it requires, in accordance with the technical requirements, standards, and methods determined by the DSC and in a manner that ensures an accurate and effective flow of such data.

Confidentiality of Statistical Data

Article (9)

Personal Data and information obtained through any Statistics, census, or Poll Study are deemed confidential and may only be disclosed or divulged to any individual or entity by the DSC with a written authorisation of its owner or upon the request of the competent judicial entities. Such data and information may not be disseminated for other than statistical purposes, relied on to establish a tax burden, or used as evidence to prove a crime or as a basis for any legal action. However, it may be used as evidence against any Person who provides the DSC with any false data or information.

Dissemination of Statistical Information

Article (10)

The DSC will, in line with the recognised methods, disseminate the statistical information and the outcomes of census, Statistical Surveys, and Poll Studies, excluding personal statistical data and information, via the appropriate electronic and print media.

Conducting Statistical Surveys by Data Sources

Article (11)

- a. An individual or private entity may conduct field or non-field Statistical Surveys only after first obtaining the relevant Permit from the DSC. This Permit will be issued in accordance with the relevant conditions and procedures adopted by the DSC.
- b. A public entity may conduct field Statistical Surveys only after first obtaining the relevant Permit from the DSC. Non-field Statistical Surveys must be conducted in coordination with the DSC.

**Appointment of the Executive Director
and Determining his Functions
Article (12)**

- a. An Executive Director will be appointed to the DSC by a resolution of the Chairman of the Executive Council.
- b. The employment rights of the Executive Director will be determined in accordance with the above-mentioned Law No. (2) of 2015 and the resolutions issued in pursuance thereof.
- c. The Executive Director will have the duties and powers to:
 - 1. draft the general policy, strategic plans, project plans, and programmes of the DSC and submit the same to the Executive Council for approval;
 - 2. draft the strategic plans for statistical work in the Emirate, and submit the same to the Executive Council for approval;
 - 3. approve and supervise the implementation of the operational plans of the policies and strategic objectives of the DSC;
 - 4. prepare the draft annual budget and the final accounts of the DSC, and submit the same to the competent entities for approval;
 - 5. propose the organisational structure of the DSC, and the resolutions and bylaws regulating statistical work in the Emirate, and submit the same to the Executive Council for approval;
 - 6. submit the annual performance reports on the activities of the DSC to the Executive Council;
 - 7. supervise the work and follow up the performance of the executive body of the DSC;
 - 8. represent the DSC before third parties and conclude the contracts and agreements required for the achievement of the objectives of the DSC; and
 - 9. perform any other duties required for the achievement of the objectives of the DSC.

**Formation of the Advisory Board
Article (13)**

The DSC will have an Advisory Board comprised of a chairman, a vice chairman, and a number of members with experience and specialisation in the fields of planning and Statistics from within and outside of the DSC, who are appointed pursuant to a decree of the Chairman of the Executive Council. Members of the Advisory Board are appointed for a renewable term of three (3) years.

Functions of the Advisory Board

Article (14)

The Advisory Board will have the duties and powers to:

1. provide advice on the main statistical requirements and priorities of the Emirate to help the DSC fulfil the same as part of its short-, medium-, and long-term plans;
2. provide technical advice on the statistical policies and plans in support of the Strategic Plan of the Emirate;
3. provide technical advice on, and standardisation of, statistical methodologies and concepts at the level of the Emirate;
4. provide technical opinion on the statistical projects implemented by the DSC;
5. provide technical proposals aimed to achieve continued development of statistical work, and to keep abreast of the latest relevant technical and technological developments; and
6. perform any other duties assigned to it by the Executive Director.

Fees

Article (15)

The DSC will charge, in return for issuing the Permits and providing services, the fees prescribed by a resolution issued by the Chairman of the Executive Council.

Penalties

Article (16)

Without prejudice to any stricter penalty stipulated in any other legislation,

1. any Person who breaches the confidentiality of any statistical data and information; uses it for other than its intended purposes; changes or adds to it; or sells, distributes, prints, or disseminates any of such data and information without obtaining the authorisation stated in Article (9) of this Law, will be punished by imprisonment for up to six (6) months or a fine not exceeding one hundred thousand Dirhams (AED 100,000.00), or by both penalties; and
2. any Person who:
 - a. wilfully disrupts any statistical work or census;
 - b. refuses to provide required data or provides false data related to statistical work or census. Any partial provision of required data within prescribed timeframes is deemed refusal to provide the required data, unless such delay is proven to be for a legitimate excuse;

- c. obtains or attempts to obtain confidential data relating to any Statistics or census without being authorised to do so;
- d. knowingly disseminates or causes the dissemination of false Statistics or false outcomes of a census;
- e. intentionally provides misleading data to any of the employees assigned to conduct census; or
- f. conducts Statistical Surveys without a Permit issued by the DSC,

will be punished by imprisonment for up to three (3) months or by a fine not exceeding fifty thousand Dirhams (AED 50,000.00), or by both penalties.

3. The Chairman of the Executive Council will determine, by a resolution issued by him, the violations and fines related to regulating the conduct of the Activity of conducting Poll Studies in the Emirate.

Law Enforcement

Article (17)

Employees of the DSC nominated by a resolution of the Executive Director will have the capacity of law enforcement officers to record the acts committed in breach of the provisions of this Law and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof. For this purpose, they may issue the relevant violation reports.

Financial Resources of the DSC

Article (18)

The financial resources of the DSC will consist of:

1. the support allocated to the DSC in the general budget of the Government of Dubai;
2. fees and charges for the services provided by the DSC; and
3. any other resources approved by the Executive Council.

The Financial Year of the DSC

Article (19)

In regulating its accounts and records, the DSC will follow the principles and rules of government accounting. The financial year of the DSC will commence on 1 January and will end on 31 December of each year.

**Applicability of the Government Human Resources Management Law
Article (20)**

Employees of the DSC will be subject to Law No. (27) of 2006 Concerning Management of the Government of Dubai Human Resources and its amendments.

**Cooperating with the DSC
Article (21)**

All Data Sources must fully cooperate with the DSC and those authorised by it to conduct census and Statistical Surveys to enable the DSC to achieve its objectives.

**Seeking Assistance from Government Entities
Article (22)**

For the purposes of performing the duties and powers assigned to it under this Law and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, the DSC may seek assistance from the competent Government entities, including police personnel. Upon request, such entities must provide support and assistance to the DSC.

**Issuing Implementing Resolutions
Article (23)**

The Chairman of the Executive Council will issue the resolutions required for the implementation of the provisions of this Law.

**Repeals
Article (24)**

- a. This Law supersedes the above-mentioned Law No. (23) of 2006.
- b. Any provision in any other legislation will be repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Law.

**Publication and Commencement
Article (25)**

This Law comes into force on the day on which it is issued, and will be published in the Official Gazette.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Ruler of Dubai

Issued in Dubai on 18 November 2015

Corresponding to 6 Safar 1437 A.H.