

PRESS RELEASE

on setting up the Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing Centre and improvement of the method for collecting survey data of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics

Within the process of modernisation of the data collection system in the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, the Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) Centre has been set up. The Centre is aimed at enabling the conduct of complex interview surveys through telephone interviewing, which provides for multiple fund savings as well as for faster and more rational collecting of data for numerous statistical surveys. It primarily relates to interview surveys on households, which are becoming ever more important in the European Statistics System.

The Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing Centre has been equipped by using the EU funds, which provided for the purchase of contemporary information and communication equipment, development of a number of computer applications and training of employees. This enabled the implementation of the computer assisted telephone interviewing as well as of all standards used in statistics offices in the EU Member States. The whole CATI system was successfully tested in the period from September 2014 to January 2015 through three full-sampled surveys on agricultural holdings in the area of crop production.

After successfully conducted testing stage of the system, this year the Croatian Bureau of Statistics is planning to extend the implementation of the telephone interviewing of households method first to surveys in the area of agricultural statistics and then to other interview surveys as well, in line with the Annual Implementation Plan. The surveys that are in the course of preparation for the implementation of this method are the Labour Force Survey, the Survey on Tourist Activity of the Population of the Republic of Croatia and the Survey on the Implementation of Information and Communication Technologies in Households.

Having in mind that these statistical surveys prescribed by the European Statistics System are complex, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics will keep collecting data for certain surveys by using the field interviewing method (interviewers' visits to households). Private households, that is, citizens of the Republic of Croatia who have been selected for the participation in the survey, either by telephone or field interviewing, will be informed in writing on the regular conduct of household surveys and will receive a notification letter for each survey.

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