



## Vision and Policy Intent

The Federated State of Micronesia (FSM) National Strategy for Development of Statistics (NSDS) 2019–2023’s full implementation was scheduled to start in early 2020 but was delayed by the pandemic and by lack of government endorsement.

The FSM PARIS 21 [National Statistical System \(NSS\) Assessment report 2017](#) outlined the NSDS framework vision for the development of statistics:

- consistent with the FSM national development priorities and plans,
- costed action plan for the production and dissemination of statistics over a period of 5 to 10 years, and
- capacity development needs
- institutional and statistical infrastructure needs.

Other national policies and vision relevant to FSM National Statistics Office (NSO) and NSDS include:

- [FSM 2023 Action Plan](#)
- [FSM Strategic Development Plan \(2004–2023\)](#)



## National Statistical System

The FSM Division of Statistics (DOS), operating under the [FSM Statistics and Census Act Public Law 1988](#), is the lead statistics agency, managed by the Assistant Secretary.

Under the Statistics and Census Act 1988, the FSM DOS – as a division of the Department of Resources and Development across the four state governments (Yap, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Kosrae) – is responsible for:

- compiling and collecting state level statistics for both state level use and transfer to the central office for national data aggregation, and
- managing the state operations of major national statistical collections (population and housing censuses and household survey).

Statistical activities are also undertaken by other federal government agencies including:

- Departments of Education and Health & Social Affairs,
- Immigration and Customs, and
- National Oceanic Resources Management Authority.



## Key Features

The FSM DOS, guided under the Statistics and Census Act 1988, is enacted to:

- develop an integrated and comprehensive statistical and census information system
- guarantee the confidentiality of data collected
- promote cooperation between the national and state government on recording and reporting of statistics.

**Data collection** – most recent: [FSM 2013–2014 HIES: education](#) published in 2016.

**Dissemination** – main publications, economics, and social statistics, other statistics, census and surveys.

**Statistical Infrastructure** – FSM has tools such as [FSM PopGIS3](#) which provide statistical mappings supported by SPC. PopGIS3 is currently updated with 2010 Census data.



## Coordination

The FSM DOS coordinates the statistical work of all national government departments with specific emphasis on:

- avoidance of duplication in data collection,
- attainment of data combability,
- adherence to statistical standards,
- integration of statistics compiled by national government departments and agencies, and
- utilisation of statistical data.

The Statistics and Census Act 1988, although containing provisions that point to statistical coordination and collaboration, does not specify establishment of a Statistics Advisory Committee to provide governance and accountability in the FSM NSS. This was highlighted in the NSS Assessment report 2017.



## Challenges, priorities and opportunities

**Key challenges** affecting FSM DOS performance as outlined in the FSM NSS Assessment Report 2017 include:

- **outdated FSM Statistics legislation** (Statistics and Census Act of 1988), Public law 577,
- **resource constraints** – Limited staff and budgetary constraints,
- **lack of timely data transfers** from state to national agencies,
- **incomplete Datasets**,
- outdated means of data dissemination, and
- statistical offices overload with national collections

**Priorities** as specified in the FSM NSS Assessment Report 2017 include:

- review and update the current Statistics and Census Act 1988,
- empower Division of Statistics to develop data-integrity checks to address incomplete data,
- address understaffing issues,
- address data gaps at state level, and
- develop websites for state data storage.