



**Conseil national
de l'information statistique**

Rapport



Cnis medium-term recommendations for 2024-2028

February 2024 - n° 165 (English version)



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Foreword

This document presents the CNIS medium-term agenda for 2024-2028. It expresses, in the form of recommendations addressed to official statistics, society's expectations in terms of statistical information on subjects it considers to be of major importance.

To gather these expectations, the CNIS has mobilised several channels. Firstly, it relied on its seven thematic committees as forums for discussion between producers and users of official statistics. Each committee regularly takes stock of the various observation systems designed to deal with the subjects in its area of competence, an assessment which, in particular, reveals unsatisfied expectations. The CNIS has carried out an assessment of its activities for the period 2019-2023. CNIS has also drawn lessons from the conferences and meetings it has organised on topics at the heart of current social debates: the ecological transition, panels and statistical cohorts, individual data matching, and the questionnaire and dissemination of the population census. It also based its work on the recommendations of the RESIL consultation group (statistical register of individuals and housing project).

Finally, the CNIS gave Internet users the opportunity to have their say, by posting a questionnaire on its website inviting them to identify subjects that they consider important and that they would like to see included in the medium-term programme. Those who wished to do so could leave their contact details, and two focus groups were set up with them on the themes of ecological transition and social statistics.

The recommendations set out in the following pages owe much to the results of this consultation and the discussions that took place in the focus groups. They take the form of recommendations, which were formally adopted by the CNIS at its plenary assembly held on 23 January 2024.

The ten or so often ambitious recommendations on each committee's agenda for the next five years are not an exhaustive list of the themes that the committee will address. Each committee must be flexible enough to adapt to unforeseen events that may arise, as was the case during the health crisis of 2020-2021, but also to continue to follow the work well underway as part of the previous medium-term agenda on issues just as important as those selected for the period 2024-2028.

The challenge of this medium-term programme is to meet the expectations of all those who, in a world overloaded with information, need high-quality statistics that answer their questions and on which they can rely with complete confidence.

General recommendations

In recent decades, a number of major transformations have taken place in the French economy and society, as in most other countries. Official statistics must be able to grasp these changes and provide the information needed to shed light on the issues at stake and their impact. This may mean adapting existing observation tools, benchmarks and statistical metrics to give a better account of these phenomena.

The ecological transition is a major challenge involving profound changes in many areas in order to meet the challenges posed by the climate emergency, the accelerated degradation of the biosphere and the difficulty of sustaining our lifestyles.

The digitisation of the economy is influencing production processes, work, education, communication and consumption patterns, among other things. This widespread technical progress is of great benefit to society on the one hand, but it is also a source of concern, as evidenced by the debates on generative artificial intelligence, the digital divide or the protection of privacy.

The globalisation of economies encourages trade and opens up new markets, but it also creates interdependencies between countries and can weaken economies in the event of a crisis. It also makes it more difficult to monitor the location of activities and trade.

Like most developed economies, French society is having to rethink the way it functions as a result of an ageing population, which raises issues of intergenerational equity.

These structural changes have been compounded in recent years by global health and geopolitical crises, which have increased the need for rapid information in a variety of areas.

Faced with an increasingly complex society, users are also looking for quantitative insights. Although existing data and statistics cover a wide range of subjects, and their accuracy and scope are steadily increasing, some subjects, such as the measurement of inflation, living standards and inequalities, are still the subject of debate and even misunderstanding. In this respect, it is important for statistics to be able to shed light on various aspects of a phenomenon if they are to remain relevant.

In addition, more and more issues are emerging that require a cross-disciplinary approach in the way public policies tackle them (disability, abuse, the difficulties faced by young people, etc.) and no doubt also in the way statistics are used.

In the face of these challenges, official statistics have a number of strong points. They produce and disseminate information that is consistent in space and time for different audiences. During the health crisis, it demonstrated its ability to adapt and continue to produce useful statistics, and its responsiveness in shedding light on sudden and major phenomena.

However, it is now challenged with a proliferation of alternative information and data. In this context, the quality of official statistics must be reaffirmed. At the same time, it is important that these statistics can take advantage of the opportunities offered by the use of new data sources (private data, connected objects, etc.) to better meet expectations, while strictly respecting privacy.

The Council is committed to independent official statistics that have the means to contribute to public debate. It affirms its desire to contribute to increasing the relevance and transparency of official statistics by strengthening dialogue between all producers and users.

It points out that the adequacy of resources to meet statistical requirements is one of the 15 principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice and calls for budgetary and human resources to enable the official statistical service to fulfil its functions.

For the period beginning with the CNIS 2024-2028 programme, one of the major challenges for official statistics will be to remain the benchmark source of information for public debate and for informing policies and decisions.

CNIS, for its part, must place its action within a transversal vision of statistics and assert its role at the heart of the systems put in place to observe and document the themes that generate new or renewed information needs and are the subject of national or sub-national public policies.

Reporting on a changing world

Recommendation 1. Measuring the ecological transition and reporting on its economic and social challenges

The Council welcomes the work carried out by official statistics to monitor the ecological transition and the measures taken to limit the effects of global warming. It stresses the need to continue this work and to supplement current statistics with a systemic approach.

The Council calls for macroeconomic statistics to take greater account of environmental damage, over and above economic performance, within a conceptual framework consistent with national accounts. It recommends enhancing environmental economic accounts.

It also wishes public statistics to shed light on the differences in the situation and behaviour of economic agents (companies, households, public players) and territories with regard to the ecological transition (CO₂ emissions, cost and benefits of the transition, etc.) and provide permanent benchmarks to inform public and private choices.

Recommendation 2. Measuring the digital transformation of the economy and society

Digital processes are profoundly changing economic and social exchanges, making certain metrics obsolete, such as sector-based statistical approaches to the digital economy.

The Council recommends public statistics to be used to monitor the digitisation of the economy and its impact, within an internationally harmonised framework. In particular, it calls for macroeconomic statistics to be expanded to include new digital goods and services, and for the digital transformation of businesses to be monitored. It also encourages the measurement of people's digital skills and the impact of digital technology on well-being and living conditions, as well as on access to public services.

Recommendation 3. Placing official statistics in an international perspective

The global phenomenon of economies in crisis and environmental issues increase the need to place the work of official statistics in a broader, European or even international perspective.

Official statistics must continue to play an active role in international and European work leading to the definition of statistical standards binding on producers. In this context, the Council wishes the needs of users of national and European statistics to be taken into account to a greater extent in the development of European statistical programmes.

The Council recommends deepening and broadening the scope of European or international comparisons and, to this end, ensuring that the comparability of statistics on a European or even international scale is improved and documented.

Recommendation 4. Reporting generational issues in statistics

The ageing of the population has repercussions for society as a whole and for the economy. At the other end of the scale, young people (including children) have borne the full brunt of the health crisis, with repercussions for their living conditions, their progress through the education system and their integration into working life.

The Council is calling for in-depth studies to be carried out on young people and the elderly, from senior citizens to the very old, and for statistics to be used to study issues such as poverty among young people (particularly students), living conditions by age, work among senior citizens, health and dependency. It would also like to see the economic, social and societal consequences of an ageing population better documented.

It recommends that statistics should provide better coverage of the young and elderly populations, in particular through more systematic inclusion of people living in collective housing (medico-social establishments, university residences, etc.).

Shedding light on debates in a complex society

Recommendation 5. Enriching work on inequality and discrimination

The Council welcomes the progress made in observing inequalities at both macroeconomic and microeconomic levels.

The Council recommends continuing and developing the measurement of inequalities of all kinds, with particular emphasis on inequalities of access (access to public services, facilities, healthcare, the digital divide, etc.) as well as on the compounding of different types of inequality, their evolution over time and reproducing inequalities across generations.

The Council will closely monitor the conclusions of the CNIS working group on the observation of discrimination.

Recommendation 6. Better inform debates on measures of inflation and living standards

The measurement of inflation by the main statistical indicator, the consumer price index, is often misunderstood by the public. While the international conventions on which it is based are not open

to question, a single indicator alone cannot sum up the diversity of consumption patterns, nor their evolution.

The Council would like official statistics to be able to provide complementary approaches to the measurement of inflation in order to shed light on subjects under debate, in particular the composition of the basket of selected goods and services and changes in consumption (ecological transition, digitisation of the economy) or the differentiated individual impacts of inflation on living standards (according to financial situation, household composition, type of consumption, location, type of housing, etc.).

Recommendation 7. Take better account of social needs in terms of health statistics and strengthen coordination between producers to address them

The health crisis has heightened the need for reliable, rapid and consistent data on the population's state of health and healthcare provision. More generally, noting the difficulty users have in understanding all the information produced by the various players in official statistics, epidemiological research and other government departments, and how it is linked together, the Council will launch a specific consultation or working group following the stocktaking exercise carried out by the European Statistical System, with a view to clarifying the role of official statistics in coordinating health statistics, increasing the visibility of existing data, identifying insufficiently covered statistical needs and making proposals to meet them.

Recommendation 8. Regional data by and for the territories

The Council notes with satisfaction the progress made in the development of tools that make it possible to provide richer information at finer local levels with a sufficient quality, while being aware of the challenges of respecting confidentiality.

The Council recommends efforts to be pursued to produce statistics more systematically at fine geographical scales that do not necessarily follow administrative divisions, with a sufficient quality.

In order to better compare territories, the Council invites national and local producers of statistics to coordinate and improve the quality of the data produced (particularly in terms of coverage and harmonisation), and supports the sharing of good practice between producers.

The Council recommends that particular attention be paid to statistical monitoring of the ecological transition in the regions.

Innovating to better meet needs

Recommendation 9. Provide a framework for the statistical use of new data sources

The health crisis has reinforced the importance of mobilising all available data, and in particular private sources, to produce appropriate and relevant statistics in a reactive manner.

The CNIS asks that government departments that disseminate statistics of general interest coordinate with the official statistical service in terms of methods and good practice.

It also invites the official statistical system and private data holders to establish partnerships for sharing these data with a view to developing new statistics where necessary. It recommends an appropriate framework to be put in place to ensure the continued use of private sources in the context of changing European regulations. The Council will help to ensure high-quality upstream consultation on the relevant needs and uses of data.

Recommendation 10. Develop a reference framework and a code of ethics adapted to the matching of individual data

Encouraged for a long time by the CNIS, the use of information from administrative sources and the matching of individual data is now a way of developing and enriching the statistical information system, with multiple benefits for knowledge (cross-referencing of themes, longitudinal monitoring, increased accuracy, etc.).

The Council calls for matching methods to be harmonised and standardised with a view to improving quality.

Against a backdrop of increasing technical ease in matching exhaustive sources, which can present risks for the security of personal data, it recommends defining and implementing a reference framework and a code of ethics adapted to such data processing, to ensure a high level of security and good public information, following on from the recommendations of the RESIL (Statistical register of individuals and housing) consultation group.

Recommendation 11. Make it easier for users to find their way around the available statistics and continue efforts to educate the public

In a context of abundant quantitative information and growing competition on the information market, official statistics must have reference value and also be sufficiently visible and accessible.

The Council wants users to be able to find their way around the range of official statistics available, according to their needs and uses.

To increase public confidence in official statistics, it also encourages pro-active communication aimed at non-experts.

Committee recommendations

Demographics and Social Issues Committee

Most of the recommendations issued by the Demographics and Social Issues Committee are in line with the concerns expressed in the general recommendations. They are sorted under five main headings: "living conditions, ecological transition and inflation", "inequalities", "generational issues", "monitoring vulnerabilities" and "families".

The first two recommendations examine the impact of the ecological transition on living conditions and the links between inflation and household lifestyles and consumption patterns. The latter recommendation encourages official statistics to also analyse the effects of digital transformation on household consumption.

Inequalities, a perennial theme for the committee but one that still requires further development, will be addressed from the perspective of social inequalities in health (Recommendation 3), inequalities in income and wealth (Recommendation 4), and the intergenerational transmission of inequalities (Recommendation 5).

The recommendations on generational issues follow on from General recommendation 4 and suggest looking at the living conditions of young people (Recommendation 6) and senior citizen (Recommendation 7).

The theme of "observing vulnerability" suggests looking at two topical subjects that have not yet been addressed in the CNIS's work: abuse of vulnerable people (Recommendation 8) and knowledge of family carers (Recommendation 9), subjects on which statistical knowledge needs to be improved. For these two recommendations, it is advised the debate to be opened up to all those involved in these fields and that the relevant statistics be coordinated. The final Recommendation (No. 10) calls for the changes that have recently taken place in the family field to be documented.

Living conditions, ecological transition and inflation

Recommendation 1. Monitor the impact of the ecological transition on household behaviour and living conditions

The ecological transition has and will have repercussions on household lifestyles.

The Council would like to have the necessary statistical information to shed more light on the link between the ecological transition and the behaviour of households and the individuals who make up them, through their consumption, cultural and leisure practices, residential choices and their living conditions in general. It also recommends highlighting the costs and benefits of the ecological transition for households.

Recommendation 2. A better understanding of the links between inflation and changes in lifestyles and household consumption patterns

Rising food, housing and transport prices affect households differently, depending in particular on their composition and location, but also on their standard of living, age and lifestyle.

The Council recommends shedding light on how the inflation shock observed since 2021 is distributed across the different categories of households and how households are arbitrating in the face of this shock (giving up, shifting consumption, changes in the use of food aid, etc.).

The Council recommends documenting changes in household consumption patterns, in connection with the digital transformation (online sales, international purchases, intermediation platform services, increased activity, dissaving, debt, etc.) and changes in environmental standards, as well as their impact on the consumer price index.

The Council recommends that the instruments used to measure inflation and the cost of living be discussed before and when the consumer price survey will be submitted to the committee for an opportunity statement.

Inequalities

Recommendation 3. Monitoring social inequalities in health

Social inequalities in health are "systematic, avoidable and significant differences in health" between social groups. They result from the unequal distribution of a multitude of socio-demographic determinants such as gender, country of birth, social origin, socio-professional category, income, place of residence, etc.

The Council welcomes the statistical work carried out to measure the influence of social, family and regional determinants on health on the one hand, and to monitor changes in health inequalities on the other, and recommends this work to be continued.

The Council will discuss the potential of matching existing sources to produce more frequent data on a sub-national scale, as well as putting this work into a European or international context.

The Council will examine the possibilities of clarifying morbidity and mortality statistics, particularly with regard to avoidable mortality or morbidity and mortality by occupation.

Recommendation 4. Monitoring inequalities in income and wealth

The Council welcomes the work carried out by INSEE on producing distributed household income accounts and by the Banque de France on producing distributed wealth accounts. This work provides an overall view of the redistributive nature of the transfer system and a comprehensive approach to redistribution. It calls for these results to be placed in a time perspective.

More broadly, the Council recommends continuing and deepening work on measuring inequalities in income and wealth at both household and individual level, their evolution and the links between these two dimensions.

The Council recommends that methodological work be carried out to examine the relevance of monetary and non-monetary wealth indicators, which would be the counterparts of poverty indicators.

Recommendation 5. Continue to improve knowledge of the intergenerational transmission of inequalities

The Council welcomes the work carried out on the intergenerational transmission of social inequalities in the areas of income and education and believes it is important to take this work further. It calls for this work to be extended to other types of inequality (health, culture, leisure, sport, heritage, etc.) and for it to be documented from different angles, including gender.

Generational issues

Recommendation 6. Better measurement of young people's living conditions and incomes

The changes and crises affecting society as a whole have a particular impact on the living conditions of young people.

Against this backdrop, many stakeholders would like official statistics to consolidate its information system in order to develop and update knowledge about the living conditions and trajectories of young adults in various dimensions: employment status, resources, poverty, young people's place in society, physical and mental health, lifestyles, family situation, exposure to sexist and sexual violence, etc.

The Council recommends better representation of young people, particularly students or those living in residential accommodation, in statistical sources.

Recommendation 7. Monitoring the living conditions of senior citizens and adapting society to an ageing population

As the population ages, the Council stresses the importance of better monitoring the living conditions of senior citizens, their resources, their assets, their state of health and the assistance they receive.

The Council recommends making the most of the many existing sources, including those outside the scope of official statistics, which shed light on the living conditions of senior citizens, and regularly updating the available statistics. It recommends that the scope of the surveys be extended to include the population of elderly people living in institutions, in order, in particular, to monitor the residential trajectories of senior citizens.

The Council considers it essential to be able to estimate the consequences of population ageing on society, and, on the basis of existing information, to identify the ways in which the statistical system needs to be supplemented to provide a complete diagnosis of this issue.

Monitoring vulnerability

Recommendation 8. Throw light on the phenomenon of abuse of vulnerable people

According to the law of 7 February 2022, abuse concerns "any person in a vulnerable situation when a gesture, word, action or failure to act compromises or undermines their development, rights, fundamental needs or health, and when this undermining occurs in a relationship of trust, dependency, care or support".

Acknowledging the large number of players and sources that can shed light on this issue, the Council recommends an inventory of existing sources to be drawn up to identify the different types of abuse, their frequency and severity according to the categories of victims and perpetrators.

The Council invites the various players involved to work together to define the data needed to monitor abuse.

Recommendation 9. Improve knowledge of family carers and their contribution to supporting vulnerable people

The ageing of the population draws attention to the situation of family carers, whether they look after the elderly or people with disabilities. The Council welcomes the work carried out by official statistics and academics, which sheds light on this population, estimated at more than 9 million people, whose future prospects are uncertain.

The Council wishes the parties involved to coordinate their efforts to provide statistical data to improve understanding of family carers: level of demand on family carers, type of carer, nature of the family relationship with the person being cared for, professional situation, problems encountered, etc., as well as to assess their contribution (in physical, psychological and financial terms) to the care of vulnerable people and how this has changed over time.

Families

Recommendation 10. Develop knowledge about changes in families

The Council is calling for the necessary information to be gathered in order to identify, measure and shed light on current changes in families: knowledge of same-sex couples, union patterns, cohabitation, fertility and work organisation within couples, etc.

The Council recommends using the new tools and matching the various existing data sources to enhance longitudinal monitoring of families (particularly following a birth or adoption, a break-up or a change in employment status) and better estimate the impact of life events on the various family members, particularly children.

The Council calls for statistics on divorces to be re-established following the introduction of divorce without a judge, and for better knowledge of PACS break-ups and child custody following break-up.

Employment, Skills and Incomes Committee

The recommendations of the Employment, Skills and Incomes Committee are divided into four main themes: "generational issues", "working conditions", "ecological transition, digital transformation, employment and training" and "developing sectors". They echo General recommendations 1 ("Measuring the ecological transition and reporting on its economic and social challenges"), 2 ("Measuring the digital transformation of the economy and society") and 4 ("Reporting generational challenges in statistics"). The committee's Recommendation no. 1 adds another dimension to the observation of young people, from the angle of monitoring the pathways of young people from the educational system to entry into working life. This Recommendation will be dealt with in joint session with the committee for Public Services and Services to the Public. Recommendation 2 will complement Recommendation 9 of the "Demography and Social Issues" committee by tackling the issue of older people from the angle of employment of senior citizens and the transition from work to retirement.

The theme of "working conditions" explores the impact of teleworking on working conditions, particularly in Recommendation 3, which takes up the theme of disability, a theme addressed in the 2019-2023 programme, and calls for a more in-depth analysis of the professional integration of people with disabilities. Recommendation 4 deals with teleworking and the wider impact of digital transformation on working conditions. Recommendation 5 explores and sheds light on the phenomenon of unpaid work.

Recommendations 6 and 7 look at the transformation of professions as a result of digital and ecological change, the resulting skills needs and the training system's response to these needs. Recommendation 8 addresses the issue of new forms of employment, including employment on digital platforms, and calls for the work carried out as part of the 2016 Gazier report to be completed.

Finally, the Committee proposes exploring two evolving sectors: the social economy (Recommendation 9) and personal services (Recommendation 10), which require work to clarify their scope and take stock of existing sources in order to better measure employment and activities in all their diversity.

Generational issues

Recommendation 1. Monitoring young people's progress through the education system and their transition to the working world

The Council reaffirms the importance of shedding more light on the diversity of routes taken by pupils, apprentices and students through the education system and the different situations they find themselves in, right up to their transition to the world of work. To this end, it encourages the construction of cohorts of pupils, apprentices and students, based on the National Pupil Identifier (INE).

The Council recommends that a more detailed study be made of the integration of young people according to their educational pathway, and that particular attention be paid to monitoring young people who are neither in education, employment nor training (Neet). The Council notes the progress made in monitoring young people's paths between education and the world of work. The Council will pay close attention to the proper coordination of producers in order to take advantage of the complementary nature of administrative and survey data.

This Recommendation will be dealt with in joint session with the Public Services committee.

Recommendation 2. Employment of senior citizens and the transition from work to retirement

The Council welcomes the work done to gain a better understanding of the employment situation of senior citizens in the years before and after retirement age.

It recommends this work to be continued and sources of information to be mobilised to describe the trajectories in the last years of working life: gradual cessation of activity, combining work and retirement, unemployment. It also encourages the development of international comparisons in the analysis of integration/reintegration.

Working conditions

Recommendation 3. Disability, the labour market and working conditions

The Council welcomes the progress made in monitoring the career paths of people with disabilities. It reiterates the importance of making progress in understanding people with disabilities from different angles, in particular their integration into the labour market.

It encourages further work on the integration of people with disabilities into the labour market and their working conditions, in particular the use of teleworking.

Recommendation 4. Teleworking and other changes in working conditions linked to the health crisis

Working conditions have undergone and are undergoing changes as a result of the health crisis (development of teleworking) or linked to climate change. The Council welcomes the work carried out during the health crisis through the DARES TRACOV survey.

The Council recommends continuing to mobilise and consolidate available sources of information to describe the changes underway, the opportunities (work-life balance, reduced travel, etc.) and the risks to employees (disconnection from the work group, psychosocial risks, arduous work, etc.) and to measure their evolution over time.

Recommendation 5. Measuring unpaid work

The Council stresses the need to gain a better understanding of unpaid work and to measure its extent.

It recommends identifying sources of information that can be used to monitor the different types of unpaid work (in line with the International Labour Organisation's definition), assess its scale (voluntary work, domestic work, collaborating spouses, carers, unpaid internships, etc.) and place the French results in an international perspective.

Ecological transition, digital transformation, employment and training

Recommendation 6. Identify the digital and environmental skills linked to the transformation of occupations

The digital and ecological transformations are having an impact on the content of occupations.

The Council would like to see the development of a cross-sectoral statistical approach to monitor changes in digital and environmental skills in all occupations, including those that are specifically digital or environmental. It urges that the scope of these occupations be better defined.

Recommendation 7. Responses of the training system to the needs of the production system

The Council considers it necessary to shed light on the question of how the training system responds to the changing needs of the labour market. On the one hand, it welcomes the forward-looking studies that provide an overview of occupations up to 2030 and, on the other, those aimed at adapting the reference framework of occupations and skills.

The Council encourages data producers to pool their sources in order to assess whether the initial and continuing training system is able to meet the needs of the production system.

Recommendation 8. New employment forms, including employment on digital platforms

The digital economy is contributing to the emergence of new employment forms.

In 2016, the report on the diversity of employment forms (Gazier report) described these new employment forms. The Council would like to see a review of the Gazier report's recommendations.

It suggests that the definition of platform workers be reviewed to take account of developments in this area.

It recommends that the available data be consolidated and cross-referenced, and that a watch be kept on the emergence of new observation channels in order to provide food for thought on the impact of the phenomenon of “platformisation” on occupations and employment.

Developing sectors

Recommendation 9. Observing the social and solidarity-based economy

The social and solidarity-based economy (SSE) is an area that meets needs that the market is struggling to satisfy in the fields of care, personal services, etc. A prospective study on careers in 2030 indicates that there is and will continue to be a shortage of jobs in the care sector in the years to come.

The Council considers that it is important to better define the statistical scope of the SSE and to clarify the criteria for inclusion.

It recommends listing the sources of information on the scope of the SSE, whether they be public statistics or private sources. It suggests that the various players coordinate their efforts to provide a consolidated view of employment in this field.

Recommendation 10. Monitoring employment and working conditions in the personal services sector

The individual employers and personal services sector employs around 1.3 million people, and in the coming years it will undergo changes as many of them retire.

A CNIS working group on knowledge of jobs in the personal services sector put forward recommendations in 2012. The Council calls for an assessment of these recommendations, as well as of the studies carried out by official statistics on this sector.

It also suggests that the various players coordinate their efforts to list the sources made available by official statistics, and identify the extent to which this sector is taken into account or requires regular collection of information in the same way as other sectors.

Business and Market Strategies Committee

The recommendations of the Business and Market Strategies Committee are organised around three main chapters: "Ecological transition, digital transformation and traceability", "Value chains and vulnerability of businesses" and "Sectoral observation of businesses". The first group of recommendations helps to respond to two general recommendations: General recommendation no. 1 on ecological transition and General recommendation no. 2 on digital transformation. It sheds different light on the issue of the ecological transition: Recommendation 1 proposes to explore the role of businesses in the ecological transition, Recommendation 2 focuses on the transformations of the agricultural system and agri-food industries in response to the ecological transition, and Recommendation 3 tackles this issue from the point of view of the R&D and innovation efforts of private players in favour of the ecological transition. Recommendation 4, for its part, will contribute to the reflection proposed in General recommendation no. 2 on digital transformation. It suggests looking at the determinants of changes in business productivity, taking into account the impact of digital transformation.

Two recommendations relate to the theme of "value chains and business vulnerability". Recommendation 5 proposes to develop European work on multinational companies and in particular on the strategies of these companies and their impact on the French economy. Recommendation 6 suggests improving knowledge of companies' production strategies and the vulnerability of supplies.

The "sectoral observation of companies" theme covers three recommendations. Recommendation 7 takes up a theme from the previous medium-term programme on knowledge of the social and solidarity-based economy and could be linked with Recommendation 9 from the Employment, Skills and Earnings committee. Recommendation 8 deals with a new theme: the blue economy. Knowledge of this area requires work to define its scope before its importance can be measured. Recommendation 9 proposes documenting the impact of the change in nomenclatures (and the adoption of NAF 2025) on business statistics.

Finally, most of the recommendations issued by the Enterprise and Market Strategies Committee adopt an international perspective and thus respond to General recommendation no. 3.

Ecological transition, digital transformation and traceability

Recommendation 1. Clarifying the role of businesses in the ecological transition (environmental impacts, economic costs and benefits)

The activities of businesses have an impact on the environment, and the ecological transition underway concerns all economic agents, in terms of both causes and consequences.

The Council recommends mobilising and developing tools to measure the environmental impact of companies in terms of environmental pressure (greenhouse gas emissions, pollution, consumption of resources, impact on biodiversity, etc.) and to identify what companies can do to limit this impact, in relation to their economic results. It encourages work to define and identify "green" investments.

It supports the exploration of data sources from social and environmental reporting, which is mandatory for large companies, and the reconciliation of environmental pressure data with companies' economic data.

Recommendation 2. Monitor changes in the agricultural system and agri-food industries in response to the ecological transition

Current environmental and climate issues are major in agriculture (soil use, water management, greenhouse gases other than CO₂, imported deforestation, etc.).

The Council stresses the need for a vision of how the agricultural system and agri-food industries are transforming to meet and contribute to the ecological transition.

It recommends mobilising information, particularly on product traceability (inputs), to assess the environmental impact of agricultural and food production methods, and to monitor marketing strategies (labels, labelling, etc.).

Recommendation 3. Measure the R&D and innovation efforts of private-sector players in favour of the ecological transition

Research and development has a major role to play in business innovations that are likely to have a favourable impact on the environment and that will enable them to meet the challenges of climate and environmental change.

The Council welcomes the initiatives aimed at enriching the surveys with questions that make it possible to monitor environmental R&D and its dissemination process.

It recommends these efforts to be pursued in order to provide a more detailed description of the R&D efforts of private-sector players in favour of the transition.

Recommendation 4. Understanding the determinants of changes in business productivity

The Council stresses the need for a better understanding of the causes of productivity trends in French businesses, which differ from those observed in comparable countries.

In particular, the Council recommends exploring the impact of digital transformation in companies on production processes, the skills required (changes in professions), forms of organisation and working conditions, and more generally on the attractiveness of work.

It recommends looking more broadly at the criteria for measuring the performance of companies in its various dimensions, and their ability to respond to crises.

Value chains and business vulnerability

Recommendation 5. Develop European work on multinational companies

The Council reiterates the importance of understanding the organisational strategies of multinational groups and their consequences for their activity, employment, etc. It notes with satisfaction the progress made at European level, which will provide access to data on large companies subject to financial and non-financial reporting obligations from 2023. It welcomes the participation of the official statistical system in European work on enterprise groups.

It calls for these new data sources to be used to understand the strategies of multinational companies and their impact on the French economy.

Recommendation 6. Business production strategies and supply vulnerability

The Council considers that progress needs to be made in understanding the production strategies of companies (industry, services, agri-food), the vulnerability of their supplies and their impact on the country's strategic autonomy (pharmaceutical industry or food sovereignty, for example).

To this end, the council calls for the mobilisation of existing data sources (survey on global value chains, in particular) and experimentation with the use of new sources (electronic invoicing between companies, for example).

It recommends improving knowledge of supply channels for raw and agricultural materials and finished products, and helping to map France's dependence on industrial inputs.

Sectoral observation of companies

Recommendation 7. Improve knowledge of the social and solidarity-based economy

The social and solidarity-based economy is significant and meets needs that the market is struggling to satisfy in the areas of care, personal services, etc., but its definition remains unclear and its knowledge fragmented.

The Council reiterates the need to make progress in understanding this economic field and its economic and social issues. It supports the efforts of official statistics to clearly define the scope of the social and solidarity economy and would like them to continue their work to describe and characterise the entire field and its impact on the economy. To this end, it suggests to extend the scope of certain business surveys to include associations.

Recommendation 8. Improve knowledge of blue economy businesses

The blue economy encompasses all sectors of activity linked to the oceans, seas and coasts. It represents a significant part of the economies of the French overseas departments and territories. The activity nomenclature criterion is not sufficient to identify companies in this sector.

The Council calls for the scope of the blue economy to be defined and for the criteria for inclusion in this sector to be identified, as well as the sources that can be used to describe the activities of the companies in this sector.

Recommendation 9. Document the impact of the adoption of NAF 2025 on business statistics

The new version of the French classification of economic activities (NAF) was adopted in December 2023 and will come into force in 2025. Producers must prepare for the introduction of this new nomenclature into their operations.

The Council undertakes to document the work leading to the use of this new NAF and to list the changes that the application of the new nomenclature represents in the various components of business statistics and the disruptions that it is likely to generate.

It commends the quality of the consultation carried out as part of the revision of the NAF. It invites those involved to continue this consultation in order to develop an educational approach for users of business statistics.

Environment and Sustainable Development Committee

All the recommendations of this committee will respond from different perspectives to the General recommendation no. 1 on the ecological transition. They will also provide food for thought on inequalities (General recommendation no. 5) and health (General recommendation no. 7) and, for the most part, include a dimension of sub-national (General recommendation no. 8) or international (General recommendation no. 3) territorial analysis.

These recommendations are divided into three main themes: "environmental accounts and carbon footprint", "state of the environment", and "human activities and climate change". The issue of environmental accounts and the carbon footprint will be addressed from two angles: the accounting approach of national accounts and the measurement of the carbon footprint of the various players (Recommendation 1) and the physical approach of environmental economic accounts (Recommendation 2).

The state of the environment will address the issue of monitoring the state of biodiversity (Recommendation 4) and measuring the state of water resources (Recommendation 5).

The theme of "human activities and climate change" proposes tackling the issue of ecological transition through the functions of life: eating and consuming, getting around, building and housing, producing and working.

Recommendation 5 tackles the new theme of sobriety. Recommendation 6 invites the official statistical system to measure the energy renovation of buildings. Two recommendations deal with mobility: the development of goods transport (Recommendation 7) and the mobility of people (Recommendation 8). Finally, two recommendations deal with the effect of climate change on socio-economic inequalities (Recommendation 9) and on health (Recommendation 10).

Environmental accounting and the carbon footprint

Recommendation 1. Measuring the carbon footprint at different scales

The Council reiterates the importance of measuring the carbon footprint from both a macroeconomic approach (France's carbon footprint) and a microeconomic approach (the carbon footprint of economic agents).

The Council recommends continuing work to improve the measurement of the macroeconomic carbon footprint using national accounting data and foreign national accounts, and to develop synthetic indicators reflecting the trade-off between carbon emissions and economic activities.

It recommends making progress in analysing the footprint by household category and encourages consolidation of the methodology for calculating this footprint.

The council recommends the data needed to establish these footprints to be made available to researchers in compliance with statistical confidentiality.

It stresses the importance of having internationally comparable results.

Recommendation 2. Improving environmental economic accounts

The Council welcomes the international work carried out under the aegis of the United Nations, which includes the physical accounting of natural ecosystems as a complement to the standard system of environmental economic accounting. It hopes that official statistics will continue to participate in this work and in the European work in progress.

The Council recommends that indicators on the state of ecosystems, material flow accounts and pressure measurements be strengthened and that methodological work on the valuation of natural capital be continued, encouraging a diversity of approaches. It encourages closer collaboration between researchers and French official statistics with a view to drawing up ecosystem accounts. It stresses the importance of ensuring consistency between the macroeconomic approach and the environmental accounting of economic agents.

The Council also encourages macroeconomic statistics to take greater account of the environment in all its dimensions, including biodiversity.

State of the environment

Recommendation 3. Monitor the state of biodiversity

Beyond its intrinsic value, biodiversity provides irreplaceable goods that are indispensable to our daily lives. Natural ecosystems provide food, materials and energy, regulate water supplies and the climate, and are a source of well-being and tourism. Alongside the fight against climate change, preserving biodiversity is a moral imperative and a major challenge for the ecological transition.

The Council stresses the need for better knowledge and monitoring of the state of biodiversity in territories, the pressures exerted on it by human activity and the impacts on the services it provides.

The Council recommends regular monitoring that is as extensive as possible, broken down and harmonised by territory, to assess changes in ecosystem services, paying particular attention to the interconnections between the various components of biodiversity. It stresses the need to gather data that will enable the differential contributions of Nature-based Solutions (NBS) to be characterised statistically in relation to other possible solutions.

It encourages the pursuit of coordination between public bodies and associations in order to gain an overview of all the factors that interact to affect biodiversity in a given area.

Recommendation 4. Document trends in water resources

Water is essential to the preservation of ecosystems and agricultural production. It is at the heart of interactions between human and natural systems, through pollution and gross and net withdrawals.

The Council affirms the importance of documenting the issue of water resources, in terms of water quality, uses, quantity, access to and allocation of water, and of improving the robustness of data to assess the evolution of this resource in the context of climate change.

The Council wishes this work, involving numerous data sources, to continue.

The Council calls for the extension of the list of internationally comparable indicators that could be produced on a regular basis to monitor water resources.

Human activities and climate change

Recommendation 5. How can we measure sobriety?

Sobriety is one of the keys to the transition to a sustainable society, particularly with regard to climate and biodiversity issues. However, the statistical measurement of sobriety is not yet complete.

In this context, the Council invites official statistics to carry out work to define sobriety and quantify changes in the sobriety behaviour of different categories of households, businesses and public authorities.

Recommendation 6. Measuring energy renovation in buildings

Energy renovation of buildings is one way of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption. The Council stresses the importance of having statistics available to assess the effectiveness of energy renovation measures and policies.

The Council encourages producers to combine all available data sources (survey data, administrative sources, private energy consumption data) to better measure the impact of energy renovation.

Recommendation 7. Monitor developments in freight transport

Decarbonising the transport sector is a major challenge in the fight against climate change.

Given the importance of freight transport, the Council encourages work aimed at better measuring the development of multimodality in this sector, as well as logistics flows and their evolution (particularly in the context of the e-trade development). In this respect, the exploration of new data sources, including private data, such as digital traces and the digitisation of loading documents, is encouraged, as is the analysis of experiences in other countries.

Recommendation 8. Monitor passenger mobility and its impact on CO2 emissions

The decarbonisation of transport must be achieved by changing modes of transport and passenger mobility flows.

The Council would like all available sources of information to be mobilised to observe people's mobility practices and to calculate the associated CO2 emissions. It stresses the importance of taking the social and territorial dimensions into account in this work, insofar as mobility policies must necessarily take these two dimensions into account.

It also recommends producing statistics needed for cost-benefit analyses for households of the ecological transition in transport (in particular through the development of electric cars, cycling, etc.) be produced.

Recommendation 9. Socio-economic inequalities, climate change and biodiversity

Fighting climate change and preserving biodiversity require consideration of the objectives of environmental efficiency, economic efficiency and equity, which are sometimes difficult to reconcile.

Biodiversity loss and climate disruption have unequal repercussions for different categories of households. Ecological transition policies are likely to lead to inequalities between households. It is important for the statistical system to be able to provide sufficient information to highlight these redistributive stakes of the ecological transition in its various dimensions.

The Council therefore recommends explicit the link between the environment, the ecological transition and the socio-economic and geographical situation of individuals from different perspectives: exposure to natural risks, environmental inequalities, contributions to CO₂ emissions, impacts of transition measures by household category, ability to finance expenditure linked to the climate transition, in particular. The Council supports the work on distributional analysis of the carbon footprint (see Recommendation 3 of the committee).

Recommendation 10. Health and the environment

The environment is a major determinant of human health, through various factors: the quality of environments (air, water, etc.), pollution, nuisance (noise, unhealthiness, etc.), climatic variations, etc. Human activities can also have an impact on health, particularly industrial and urban activities and technological developments.

The Council recommends using statistical information to document the impact of the environment on people's health, with particular emphasis on socio-economic and territorial inequalities and the professions most at risk (farmers, machine operators, construction workers, etc.).

The council encourages producers and users of statistical data on human health, animal health and environmental health to work together as part of the international "One Health" approach.

Public Services and Services to the Public Committee

The recommendations of the "Public Services and Services to the Public" Committee are divided into four main themes: "health and social services", "young people", "justice and security" and "access to and quality of public services". They will contribute to the discussion of several themes in the general recommendations: health (General recommendation no. 7), generational issues (General recommendation no. 4) and inequalities (General recommendation no. 5). The recommendations on the "health and social" theme will focus on inequalities in health (Recommendation 1) and the monitoring of the lives of the elderly and their care by public policies (Recommendation 2).

The issue of young people will be considered from two angles: the path taken by young people through the education system up to their entry into working life (Recommendation 3, which will be dealt with in joint session with the Employment, Skills and Income from Work Committee) and the path taken by young people in the justice system (Recommendation 4).

The "Justice and Security" theme proposes official statistics to consolidate information systems relating to people's pathways through the criminal justice system (Recommendation 5) and delinquency (Recommendation 6).

Finally, four recommendations will document access to and quality of public services from different angles: the territorial angle in Recommendation 7, which suggests harmonising and consolidating local public services. This recommendation will respond to General recommendation no. 8 (data by and for the territories); the angle of inequalities in access for Recommendation 8; the angle of public service staff and their working conditions (Recommendation 9). Recommendation 10 takes up a recommendation from the previous medium-term programme and invites producers of official statistics to define quality indicators for public services.

Health and social care

Recommendation 1. Assessing inequalities in health in relation to the supply and quality of the healthcare system

The Council reiterates the importance of developing information on inequalities, particularly in health. It supports work aimed at improving knowledge of conditions of access to and use of healthcare and of social and territorial inequalities in this area: information available, accessibility, but also quality of services provided (including waiting times) and cost. In particular, this will involve using existing data to assess the capacity of the healthcare system in all its dimensions (hospital, general practice, healthcare professionals, medico-social sector) to meet the needs of local residents.

Recommendation 2. Tracking the pathways of the elderly and their care through public policies

The Council believes that there is a need to provide a clearer picture of the integration of the elderly into society and to monitor how they are cared for under public policies, whether at home or in serviced residences that may go as far as nursing homes. It supports projects to set up cohorts of elderly people and recommends that all available sources (surveys or administrative sources) be mobilised and, if necessary, developed to contribute to this longitudinal analysis.

Young people

Recommendation 3. Monitoring young people's progress through the education system and their transition to the working world

The Council reaffirms the importance of shedding more light on the diversity of routes taken by pupils, apprentices and students through the education system and the different situations they find themselves in, right up to their transition to the world of work. To this end, it encourages the construction of cohorts of pupils, apprentices and students, based on the National Pupil Identifier (INE).

The Council recommends that a more detailed study be made of the integration of young people according to their educational pathway, and that particular attention be paid to monitoring young people who are neither in education, employment nor training (NEET). The Council notes the progress made in monitoring young people's paths between education and the world of work. The Council will be attentive to the need for good coordination between producers in order to take advantage of the complementary nature of administrative and survey data.

This Recommendation will be discussed in a joint session with the Employment, Skills and Earnings Committee.

Recommendation 4. Tracking the trajectories of young people in trouble with the law

The CNIS encourages work on tracking the trajectories of young people caught up in the justice system. It recommends that the panel of young people caught up in the justice system be made permanent and that its scope be gradually broadened by means of matches aimed at enriching it and adding to the knowledge of trajectories (data on education, health, employment, child welfare, etc.). The aim of this work will be to study the trajectories of these young people before they come into contact with the law and, after the criminal justice response, the follow-up of their trajectory.

Justice and security

Recommendation 5. Consolidate the information system relating to people's criminal record

With a view to improving the quality of monitoring indicators and knowledge of individual trajectories from the initial reports to the court decision and its enforcement, the Council supports work on monitoring people's criminal trajectories, in particular by matching data between the Justice MSS (Ministry Statistical Service) and the Homeland Security MSS. It notes the progress made in data matching between the two MSSs.

It encourages further exploration of the use of the unique identifier for each procedure/case (justice identifier: IDJ) to facilitate the implementation of a system for monitoring criminal procedures/cases, victims and defendants.

Recommendation 6. Consolidate the information system on crime

In order to measure, in particular, victimisation and the rate at which complaints are lodged, as well as the population's concerns about safety and recommendations regarding the actions of the

security forces, the Council recommends that specific thematic surveys (new or periodic) be continued in addition to the core questionnaire of the "Experiences and Perceptions of Safety" survey (VRS). It also encourages the enrichment of the information system on delinquency through matches between administrative sources or with data from victimisation surveys, and by exploring and making reliable the use of new data sources.

Access to and quality of public services

Recommendation 7. Harmonise and consolidate statistics on local public services

The Council stresses the need to take better account of the territorial dimension in measures to better identify the issue of territorial inequalities. It encourages the improvement of feedback from local public services on schemes such as the personalised autonomy allowance (APA), support for recipients of the active solidarity income (RSA), social assistance for accommodation, social assistance for children, school and university catering, etc. This improvement will focus in particular on the number and quality of data provided by local public services. This improvement will focus in particular on the completeness of information and the harmonisation of information from the various local public services.

Recommendation 8. Monitoring inequalities in access to public services

The Council encourages the continuation of work aimed at gaining a better understanding of the conditions of access to public services in their various components: geographical access, ability to complete administrative procedures in the context of their dematerialisation (literacy, illiteracy, etc.), renunciation for financial reasons (access to health, education, care for the elderly or disabled, etc.), mismatch between supply and needs, potential discrimination, etc. It also supports the continuation of work on the non-use of social rights and their extension to dimensions that have not yet been fully explored, such as the non-use of certain public services.

Recommendation 9. Consolidate data on working conditions for public service staff

The Council considers that it is necessary to improve knowledge of the working conditions and activities of public service staff and their impact on the quality of service and its development. More broadly, this will involve assessing the attractiveness of public services in terms of employment, remuneration and activity, in the light of the legitimacy accorded to public service staff, the recognition of their missions and the meaning they give to their work. To this end, the Council encourages the continuation of surveys, as well as the mobilisation and matching of administrative sources.

Recommendation 10. Defining quality indicators for public services (from the point of view of users)

The Council notes the multiplicity and heterogeneity of data or barometers on the quality of public services. It reaffirms the importance it attaches to official statistics taking up this issue in order to clarify concepts and identify appropriate indicators. The Council encourages broad consultation on this subject.

Financial System and Financing of the Economy Committee

The recommendations of the "Financial System and Financing of the Economy" Committee are divided into four main themes, three of which echo four general recommendations: "Economy, ecological transition and digital transformation" responds to the general recommendations on ecological transition (General recommendation no. 1) and digital transformation (General recommendation no. 2); "Observing a globalised economy" will contribute to General recommendation no. 3 on the international dimension of official statistics; "Measuring inequalities" contributes to General recommendation no. 5 on this theme. The final theme is "analysing the business cycle".

Recommendations 1 to 4 address the ecological transition from different points of view: the inclusion of the environment in macroeconomic statistics (Recommendation 1, which echoes Recommendation 1 of the Environment and Sustainable Development Committee), the financing of the ecological transition (Recommendation 2), green investments (Recommendation 3) and the measurement of financial risks related to climate change (Recommendation 4). Recommendations 5 and 6 address the issue of digital transformation: measuring the contribution of digital technology to growth and understanding fintech.

Two recommendations contribute to the observation of a globalised economy: Recommendation 7 proposes measuring the impact of the internationalisation of the economy on the measurement of growth and Recommendation 8 suggests improving the comparability of macroeconomic statistics at international level and over time.

Recommendation 9 addresses the issue of inequality through distributional accounting and the distribution of household income and wealth by household category.

Finally, Recommendation 10 calls on official statistics to explore the use of alternative data sources for the purposes of business cycle analysis and forecasting.

Economy, ecological transition and digital transformation

Recommendation 1. Taking the environment into account in macroeconomic statistics

In the context of monitoring the ecological transition, the Council stresses the importance of completing national accounting by integrating the environmental dimension.

In particular, the Council recommends continuing work to improve the measurement of the macroeconomic carbon footprint using national accounting data so that economic activity can be compared with its impact on the environment. It encourages the development of synthetic indicators integrating these dimensions. The Council invites the official statistical system to place its work in an international context and to take an active part in the 2025 SNA (System of National Accounts) implementation and in the new Data Gaps Initiative led by international organisations.

The Council would like to be kept regularly informed of the progress of this work, which is essential for monitoring the ecological transition.

Recommendation 2. Monitoring the financing of the ecological transition

The ecological transition will have unequal repercussions on the investments to be made by economic agents.

The Council recommends information to be mobilised to provide an overall view of the financing of the ecological transition and the contribution of economic agents to this financing, in particular the different categories of households.

Recommendation 3. What type of green investment?

Channelling savings into the investments needed for the ecological transition will be a major financial challenge in the coming years.

The Council welcomes the extensive work carried out by public bodies, academics and NGOs at French and European level to list and identify assets conducive to the ecological transition.

It recommends continuing this work and placing it in a European and international context in order to propose a typology of green investments consistent with the taxonomies developed by international organisations, in particular Eurostat. It recommends bringing together and harmonising the numerous but sometimes incomplete data sources to make them available to users of statistics at the finest possible level.

The council recommends observing investments according to a categorisation that is representative of their performance in terms of GHG emissions, and linking physical data and monetary data in order to infer unit costs.

Recommendation 4. Measuring the financial risks of climate change

Climate change poses risks to the valuation of assets and may entail greater commitments than anticipated for the financial sector.

The Council recommends developing a methodology for macroeconomic estimation of the costs associated with these risks, in line with the recommendations of the Data Gaps Initiative.

Recommendation 5. Measuring the contribution of digital technology to growth

While digital technology is generating more and more activity, it is still difficult to take account of it in national accounts because of the dematerialised nature of the services provided. In addition, services that are completely free of charge are not included in the national accounts, even though they add value for users.

The Council is asking producers to carry out methodological work aimed at better measuring the contribution of digital technology to growth. It suggests that the information disseminated by various operators be assessed.

It recommends mobilising existing data sources or collecting the information needed to draw up a thematic digital account.

Recommendation 6. Monitor the development of fintech

Fintech is described as a new financial industry that has recently developed and have been deploying digital tools to provide new financial services. It encompasses devices that enable new players to compete with traditional banks, such as loans between individuals, but also payment systems (e.g. mobile payments, verification of financial transactions) and crypto-assets.

The Council welcomes the work done by the Banque de France to develop a tool for detecting and monitoring fintech, and notes that this is not yet a stabilised field, but one that is evolving rapidly and giving rise to new tools in the making.

The Council recommends that the various players design these tools in such a way that they feed downstream into official statistics and that access to these new data sources is facilitated for researchers.

Observing a globalised economy

Recommendation 7. Measuring the impact of the internationalisation of the economy on the measurement of growth

Multinational companies are playing an increasingly important role in our economies. Through their strategies for setting up and trading between entities located in France and those located abroad, multinationals pursue tax avoidance objectives in particular. These strategies have an impact on the measurement of GDP and the balance of payments.

The Council welcomes the work carried out to document the internationalisation of economies and measure the share of intra-group trade in international trade. It recommends continuing these investigations and mobilising existing data sources to consolidate and make statistical indicators more reliable.

It supports initiatives aimed at exploring the accounting data of multinationals and grouping them together to gain a better understanding of the phenomenon of globalisation.

Recommendation 8. Improving the comparability of macroeconomic statistics at international level and over time

The Council supports the active participation of INSEE and the Banque de France in international initiatives aimed at developing macroeconomic statistical standards to take account of changes in economies: Data Gaps Initiative, 2025 System of National Accounts (2025 SNA) or Balance of Payments Manual 7th edition. In addition to the development of these standards, constant coordination of methods and convergence of practices between countries is necessary, as demonstrated by the example of the evaluation of non-market production during the health crisis.

The Council encourages work aimed at adapting the production of macroeconomic and financial statistics to the new standards that will come into force, in order to harmonise them with those of other countries. It supports work that can facilitate producers' access to individual data that is consistent at European level, and also recommends backcasting series (as far as possible) to ensure that statistics are consistent over time.

Measuring inequality

Recommendation 9. Distributing household income and wealth accounts

Measuring growth through gross domestic product (GDP) says nothing about the distribution of wealth between individuals.

The Council welcomes the work carried out by INSEE on producing distributed household income accounts and encourages its continuation, as well as the work of the Banque de France on producing distributed wealth accounts. This work breaks down the main national accounting variables (income, consumption, wealth) according to household characteristics and provides an overall view of the redistributive nature of the transfer system.

The Council encourages the regular production of distributed accounts. This is necessary in order to make international comparisons of living standards and monitor changes in inequality in different countries.

It encourages collaboration between producers of public data and researchers on these subjects.

Analysing the economic situation

Recommendation 10. Facilitating the use of alternative data to improve economic forecasts and diagnoses

The 2020 health crisis confirmed, if needed, the usefulness of nowcasting to help public decision-makers adapt to the economic and social situation.

The Council welcomes the research carried out by official statistics during the health crisis to use new data sources to improve the rapid diagnosis of certain economic variables.

It encourages the consolidation of work on the use of high-frequency data to complement survey data and administrative sources. It recommends that these data should be systematically compared with official statistics and their concepts, and that validation studies should be carried out for those data that have more long-term potential.

The Council also encourages closer links between producers, better coordination of their respective sources and the pursuit of cross-sectional studies to enrich macroeconomic analyses with individual data. It would like these studies and their results, once consolidated, to be made public and easily accessible. It encourages reflection on how these data can be made available to researchers.

Territories Committee

While territories are the subject of General recommendation no.8, the committee's recommendations are entirely in line with this recommendation, but also echo the recommendations of other committees which propose a territorial approach to their subject. They also provide a territorial perspective on other issues covered by the general recommendations: knowledge of inflation (General recommendation no. 6), inequalities (General recommendation no. 5) and the ecological transition (General recommendation no. 1).

The recommendations of the "Territories" committee are divided into four main themes: "observing the diversity and specific features of territories", "knowledge of local and regional authorities", "living and travelling in territories" and "better understanding territorial economies".

The first theme addresses the issue of inequalities between regions, from the angle of the vulnerability of regions to the consequences of climate change (Recommendation 1) and the disparities between regions according to the different types of region (Recommendation 2). There are two other recommendations on this theme: Recommendation 3 on the development of statistics on overseas territories, which follows on from a recommendation in the previous 2019-2023 programme, and Recommendation 4 on the observation of cross-border territories and cross-border comparisons.

The theme of knowledge of local and regional authorities is served by a recommendation on improving knowledge of the actions of local and regional authorities by means, in particular, of budgetary data by local and regional authority function.

Three recommendations address the theme of "living and travelling in local areas": Recommendation 6 looks at estimating the population present in a local area and extends a recommendation from the 2019-2023 programme. Recommendations 7 and 8 deal with the mobility of people and changes in residential trajectories, and analyse the issues for territories.

Lastly, two recommendations explore knowledge of local economies: Recommendation 9 calls for better knowledge of prices and consumption at sub-national levels, and Recommendation 10 proposes describing local property markets.

Observing the diversity and specific characteristics of territories

Recommendation 1. Monitor the vulnerability of regions to the consequences of climate and environmental change

The climatic and environmental transformations underway affect the country as a whole, but their impact varies from one region to another because of their geography or economy.

The Council recommends that criteria be defined (areas subject to flooding or submersion, areas subject to high levels of atmospheric pollution, areas with high levels of vulnerability in terms of biodiversity and water, etc.) to determine the degree of vulnerability of a given area. It encourages stakeholders to pool their statistical information in order to enhance the analysis of this vulnerability and its evolution, and to better characterise the populations and businesses concerned in the relevant areas.

Finally, the Council recommends that inventory and carbon footprint data be made available at sub-national level.

Recommendation 2. Improve the analysis of disparities between types of territory

Analysing territorial disparities requires considering territorial breakdowns other than administrative ones. In particular, there is a great need to analyse disparities between rural, urban and peri-urban areas, and to measure the centrality of an area. These territorial disparities manifest themselves in a number of areas: income disparities, economic dynamism, access to services and facilities, environmental amenities, etc.

Following the work that led to a new definition of rural areas, the Council recommends disseminating a greater number of indicators based on this definition, by type of area and according to different dimensions: disparities and complementarities in access to services and facilities, economic and social weaknesses and strengths.

It stresses the necessity of considering these disparities at sub-municipal level, particularly in relation to the neighbourhoods covered by the urban policy (QPV), by disseminating more sources at this level (census data, for example).

To make it easier to analyse these disparities, the Council recommends that the contextual data provided in household surveys be enhanced with information describing the area of residence (unemployment rate, poverty rate, facilities and services, etc.).

Recommendation 3. Improving statistical information on French overseas territories, particularly on issues specific to these territories

The Council notes the development of statistical work on French overseas territories in recent years, in particular INSEE's annual document on "public statistics in overseas departments and regions and overseas governments". It encourages producers to add to the information available and to finalise the extension of data collection to all the overseas departments and regions in order to gain a deeper understanding of the overseas territories, both in economic terms (knowledge of the micro-businesses fabric, insight into the blue economy) and in social (analysis of poverty, quality of housing, health, insecurity, personal mobility, etc.) and environmental terms.

It also recommends maintaining specific operations aimed at providing better coverage of issues where the challenges faced by the overseas territories differ from those faced by other French territories.

Recommendation 4. Observe border territories and conduct cross-border comparisons

To understand the economic and social dynamics of French border territories, it is necessary to define and characterise what makes border territories function in a specific way and what their specific issues are.

The Council supports work aimed at quantifying the number of outgoing and incoming border workers. It recommends that methodological work be carried out to facilitate the analysis of border areas and that existing sources be mobilised to ensure the long-term production of data on border workers (in particular the country of origin of their income) and, more generally, on the inhabitants of these areas.

The Council recommends carrying out comparative studies of border territories with their European neighbours (for example, better knowledge of incomes on both sides of the border) and shedding light on the issues facing these territories by placing them in their geographical context (land markets and residential mobility, health service provision, labour shortage on the French side due to the attractiveness of the neighbouring European territory, etc.).

Knowledge of local and regional authorities

Recommendation 5. Improve knowledge of the initiatives undertaken by local and regional authorities

The Council notes the efforts made by national and local public bodies to give greater visibility to their work on knowledge of local and regional authorities. It recommends making progress in harmonising the data produced by the various players and developing common frameworks with local and regional authorities.

It also recommends making greater use of the statistics already available on expenditure by function (e.g. social action expenditure), and supporting the development of new statistics (green budgets, etc.) in order to better measure the disparities between local authorities, particularly according to their size, and to shed light on local public policies in favour of the ecological transition (food policies, circular economy, waste, water, etc.).

The Council invites producers to continue to mobilise sources enabling the characteristics and activities of local public enterprises (LPEs) to be identified and monitored, in consultation with the federation of elected representatives of local public enterprises.

Living and travelling in the regions

Recommendation 6. Estimate the population present in the territory

The Council notes that measuring the resident population alone is not enough to capture the dynamics and attractiveness of an area, the use of its facilities and the use of its resources. In this context, the Council would like to see all public and private data mobilised to measure the population present in an area at different times of the day, different days of the week or different months of the year.

Recommendation 7. Documenting people's mobility and the issues for regions

People's mobility is at the heart of regional planning issues. It involves the transport systems that structure the region and the implementation of accessibility and planning policies.

The Council takes note of the existence of numerous sources of data on commuting. It recommends to collect more data on long-distance commuting and non-working trips. The mobility of students, pensioners and tourists should be better documented. It suggests mobilising existing data sources, including private data, and identifying the information that needs to be collected in order to take account of all flows of people and be able to shed light on the impact of mobility on local public action for regional planning.

It reiterates its call for better availability and harmonisation of data on the transport infrastructure and services offered in each area, in particular infrastructure dedicated to active or shared modes

(car-sharing, car-pooling, self-service bicycles, etc.), to enable better monitoring of the effects of local public policies aimed at decarbonising mobility.

Recommendation 8. Monitor changes in the residential trajectories of households

The development of teleworking, accelerated by the health crisis, affects professions and regions in different ways. Certain categories of households, for whom teleworking is a possible option, may be inclined to adopt residential strategies that will have repercussions on the balance and complementarity between regions. Other factors also influence these residential choices: transport provision, interest rates, land prices, initial training provision, attractiveness of local labour markets, etc.

The Council welcomes the work of the official statistical system in monitoring the development of teleworking and the residential trajectories of households since the health crisis. It recommends that existing data sources be mobilised and enhanced to identify areas experiencing demographic growth or decline, and to measure the economic and environmental impacts of these trajectories.

Better understanding of local economies

Recommendation 9. Gain a better understanding of prices and consumption at sub-national levels

Rising food, housing and transport prices affect households differently, depending in particular on their location.

The Council welcomes INSEE's work on spatial price comparisons and encourages the use of all available data (including cash register data and data from gas and electricity suppliers) to compare prices by territory at a more detailed level.

It recommends that work be undertaken to draw up household budgets and to observe household consumption, particularly energy consumption, on a regional scale.

Recommendation 10. Describing local property markets

The Council calls for the official statistical service to continue its efforts to measure the purchase prices of residential and commercial buildings and land.

It reaffirms the need for statistical indicators to analyse the functioning of local rental markets.

It encourages the production of the statistics needed to measure the impact of laws aimed at combating the net artificialisation of land (known as the ZAN law), and fuel poverty (taking the most energy-intensive homes off the rental market) on the prices of homes for sale or rent.

Population Census Evaluation Committee

The Council approves the following recommendations issued by the *Commission nationale d'évaluation du recensement de la population* (CNERP).

Recommendation 1. Enhancing the partnership between INSEE and the municipalities

CNERP notes with satisfaction the progress made in consolidating the partnership between INSEE and the municipalities and encourages the continuation of educational and communication work aimed at municipalities on the census method and the use of its results. It appreciates the greater number of annual meetings organised at departmental level, which will enable the concepts, methods and data produced to be better understood by the elected representatives and departments concerned.

Recommendation 2. Develop communication initiatives aimed at citizens

CNERP welcomes the redesign of the www.le-recensement-et-moi.fr website and the development of communication tools on social networks.

It recommends that an assessment be made of the initiatives undertaken and that these educational initiatives be continued to ensure greater visibility.

Recommendation 3. Reduce the burden on local authorities and INSEE

CNERP welcomes the work recently carried out to reduce the burden on municipalities, in particular the experiment allowing municipalities to use a service provider to recruit census-takers and the Recens'smart project to produce a questionnaire adapted to all IT media (computer, smartphone, tablet), encouraging the development of online data collection.

CNERP recommends that the experiment of using a service provider be extended to all municipalities wishing to do so.

It points out that municipalities can also lighten the burden and reduce costs by pooling their resources within inter-municipal bodies.

Recommendation 4. Continue methodological work to improve results

CNERP will pay close attention to the development of the Statistical directory of individuals and housing project (RESIL), to the links that will be forged between RESIL and the census, and to the benefits that may be derived from its use.

CNERP would like the RESIL project to be presented to it before it goes live in 2025.

CNERP encourages the continuation of work on the use of artificial intelligence for the automatic coding of the nomenclature of Professions and Socioprofessional Categories (PCS).

Finally, in line with the forthcoming adoption of the European Esop regulation, CNERP supports the regular production of gridded data harmonised at European level on the basis of the census and the possibility of disseminating it at a finer scale in urban areas.

Recommendation 5. Adapting the census to user demands and European requirements

CNERP notes with interest the efforts made to take greater account of the needs of external users. It recommends changes to the housing sheet to better document the characteristics of housings and buildings, important information for the ecological transition, and the introduction of questions on the parents' place of birth, teleworking and disability (Global activity limitation indicator) in the individual bulletin.

CNERP supports the implementation of the Family Survey as part of the population census, in order to update statistics on family situations and family life paths. It suggests that the results of this survey, as well as those relating to the new questions, be shared with the other CNIS committees likely to be concerned by these issues, in particular the "Demography and Social Issues" and "Employment, Skills and Earnings" committees.

Finally, CNERP would like to be informed of the impact of the implementation of the future European Statistics on Population (ESOP) regulation on the implementation and dissemination of population census results. With this in mind, it recommends facilitating the dissemination of the results of annual census surveys.

Recommendation 6. Bringing forward the date of publication of the results of the population census

CNERP recommends that the timetable for publication of the results of the population census and the conditions for its implementation be brought forward to meet the demands of elected representatives.

Appendix

List of acronyms used in the report

APA	Allocation personnalisée d'autonomie (Personalised autonomy allowance)
BTP	Buildings and public works
Cnerp	Commission nationale d'évaluation du recensement de la population (French National Population Census Evaluation Committee)
Cnil	Commission nationale de l'informatique et des libertés (French Data Protection Authority)
CNIS	Conseil national de l'information statistique (National Council for Statistical Information)
CO2	Carbon dioxide
Dares	Direction de l'animation de la recherche, des études et des statistiques (Directorate for research, studies and statistics – Ministry of Labour)
Esop	European statistics on population (and housing)
ESS	Social and solidarity economy
Gali	Global activity limitation indicator
IAA	Industries agro-alimentaires (Food & Beverage Industries)
INE	Identifiant national élève (National pupil identifier)
Insee	Institut national de la statistique et des études économiques (French National Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies)
NAF	French Nomenclature of Activities
Neet	Neither in employment nor in education or training
Pacs	Civil solidarity pact
PCS	Profession and socio-professional category
QPV	Quartier de la politique de la ville (Urban policy districts)
Resil	Répertoire statistique des individus et des logements (Statistical directory of individuals and housing (Insee project))
R&D	Research and development
RSA	Revenu de solidarité active (Solidarity minimum income)

SCN System of national accounts (SNA)

SFN Nature-based solution

SSM Ministerial Statistical Services (MSS)

SSMSI Internal Security Statistical Office

Tracov Survey of experiences of work and unemployment during the Covid 19 health crisis

ZAN Zero net artificialisation objective

Cnis medium-term recommendations for 2024-2028

Every five years, the French National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS) carries out a forward-looking analysis of the need for statistical information and the themes that will guide the work of its committees, but also motivate the working groups for the period 2024-2028. They reflect the fundamental issues currently affecting French society and economy and need to be informed by reliable, high-quality statistics.

Almost all of the committees will be tackling a number of issues with major statistical implications. These include digital transformation, inequalities and sub-national or international territorial analysis. The treatment of certain recommendations by one committee may be echoed in the work of another, forming a mosaic that will give an overall picture of the issue addressed. For example, the topic of young people will draw on the work of the «Demography and Social Issues», «Employment, Skills and Incomes» and «Public Services and Services to the Public» committees.

This document presents the recommendations adopted at the January 2024 plenary assembly for the period 2024-2028. The first part presents the general recommendations under three headings: «Reporting on a changing world», «Informing debates in a complex society» and «Innovating to better meet needs». The second part lists the recommendations of the seven thematic committees and the Population census evaluation committee.