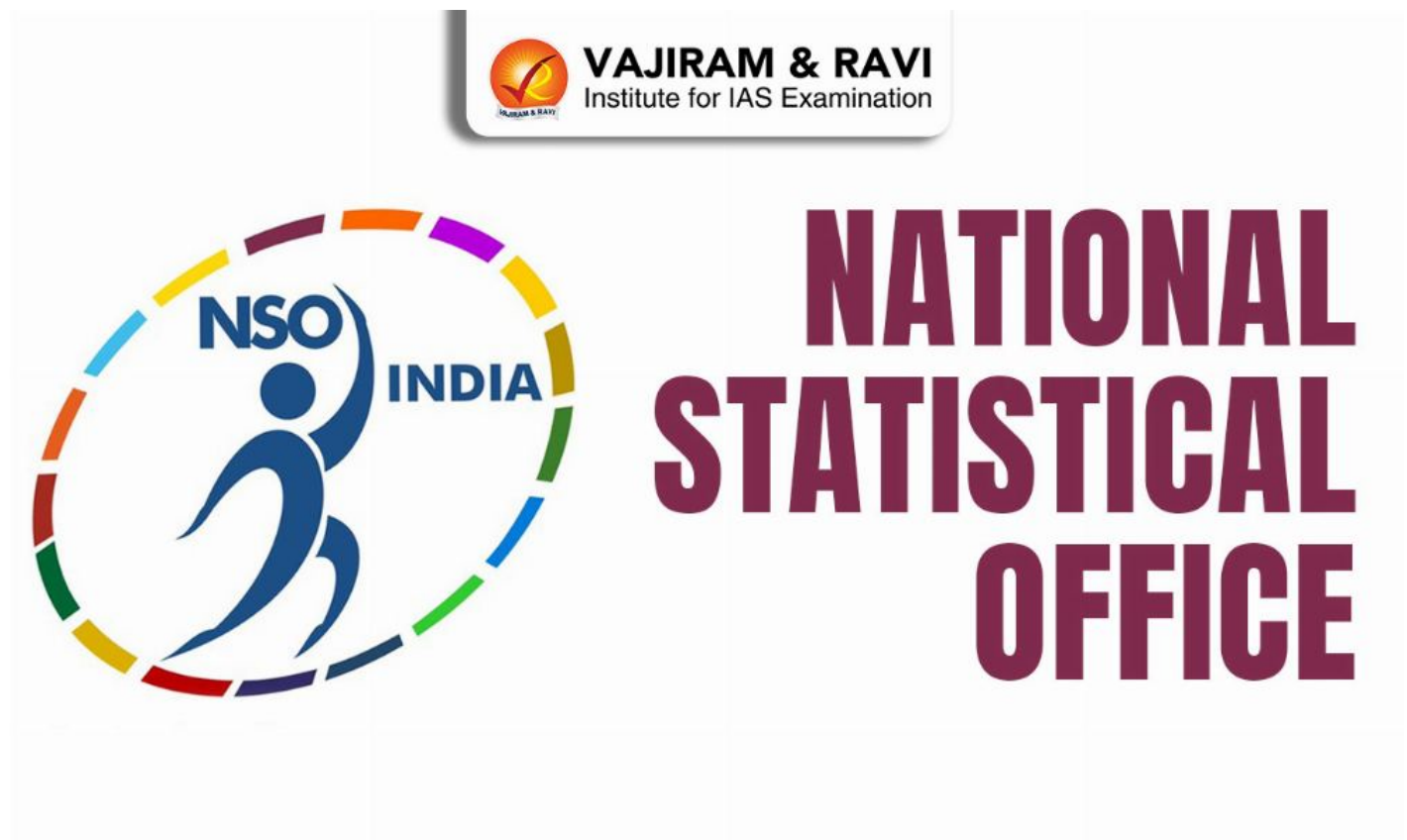


National Statistical Office (NSO), Structure, Functions, Reports

August 1, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



The National Statistical Office (NSO) is the central statistical agency of India responsible for collecting, processing, and disseminating official statistical data. It functions under the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** and plays a crucial role in evidence-based policymaking, planning, and governance. The NSO was formed in 2019 by merging two key statistical bodies to improve efficiency, coordination, and data quality in India's statistical system.

Structure of National Statistical Office

The National Statistical Office (NSO) is structured to ensure efficient collection, processing, and dissemination of statistical data across India.

- The NSO is headed by the **Chief Statistician of India (CSI)**, who oversees all statistical activities and ensures coordination between departments.
- The **Economic Statistics Division (ESD)** handles national income accounts, GDP estimation, industrial production, and economic indicators.

- The **Social Statistics Division (SSD)** focuses on social sector data such as health, education, employment, gender statistics, and human development indicators.
- The **Field Operations Division (FOD)** is responsible for conducting nationwide surveys, collecting primary data from households, enterprises, and institutions.
- The **Data Processing Division (DPD)** manages data entry, validation, processing, and tabulation using advanced statistical tools and software.
- The **Survey Design and Research Division (SDRD)** develops methodologies, sampling techniques, and survey frameworks to improve the quality and reliability of data.
- The NSO ensures coordination between central ministries, state governments, and international statistical organizations for standardization of data.

National Statistical Office Functions

The National Statistical Office performs a wide range of functions that are essential for economic planning, governance, and policy formulation. It acts as the backbone of India's statistical system by providing reliable and timely data to various stakeholders.

- Conducts large-scale national surveys on employment, consumption, health, education, and socio-economic conditions.
- Compiles and releases **national income statistics**, including **GDP**, GNP, and per capita income.
- Collects and analyzes data related to industries, agriculture, and services sectors.
- Publishes official statistical reports, databases, and periodic publications for public and government use.
- Develops statistical standards, concepts, definitions, and classifications to maintain uniformity across data systems.
- Provides technical guidance and support to state statistical departments and other government agencies.
- Ensures data quality, accuracy, and reliability through proper validation and verification processes.
- Promotes the use of modern technology and digital tools in data collection and analysis.

Major Reports and Publications by NSO

The National Statistical Office regularly publishes a wide range of reports and datasets that are crucial for understanding India's economic and social conditions. These publications are widely used by policymakers, researchers, economists, and students.

- **National Accounts Statistics (NAS):** Provides comprehensive data on GDP, sector-wise growth, savings, and capital formation in the economy.
- **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS):** Offers detailed information on employment, unemployment rates, and labour force participation in both rural and urban areas.
- **Consumer Expenditure Survey:** Highlights spending patterns of households, which helps in assessing poverty levels and consumption trends.
- **Annual Survey of Industries (ASI):** Covers industrial performance, production levels, employment, and investment in the manufacturing sector.

- **Index of Industrial Production (IIP):** Measures short-term changes in industrial output across various sectors.
- **Statistical Year Book of India:** A comprehensive compilation of data across sectors like agriculture, health, education, and infrastructure.
- **Energy Statistics:** Provides data on production, consumption, and distribution of energy resources in India.
- **Social Consumption Reports:** Focus on sectors like health and education, providing insights into access and utilization of services.

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/national-statistical-office-nso/>

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