Covid-19 Crisis
Communicating New Products

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Aadjustments to the New Reality

Dealing with the pandemic
• Israel successfully dealt with the 1st wave (March-April) but is having a hard time dealing with the 2nd wave (June-these days)

Reorganization
• The ICBS had to adapt a new operation: to conduct phone surveys instead of face-to-face surveys; to reduce the work-force to 35% of employees at the beginning and 65% later; to work according to new government instructions (wearing masks, keeping distance, work in capsules)

Operational Concept
• In addition to it’s regular activities, the ICBS made all the necessary changes to the work processes, in order to provide required, reliable and up-to-date data related to the crisis
New Surveys
Performed Due to the Coronavirus Crisis

Survey of businesses during the coronavirus crisis (8 waves so far)
- Examining the situation of businesses in terms of activity, employment, turnover, bank credits etc., as a consequence of the pandemic
- Businesses with 5+ employees from the high-tech industry, manufacturing, construction, retail trade, financial services, insurance, restaurants, ...

Civil Resilience during the coronavirus crisis (3 waves so far)
- Providing a snapshot of vital data regarding civilian resilience, emotional situation, economic condition, welfare, trust, etc., following the crisis
- All residents, Age 21+ (Population register)
New Data/ Current Data
Influenced by the Coronavirus Crisis

Labor Force Survey
• Flash estimations of unemployment, temporarily absence from work, unpaid vacation, etc., every two weeks

Consumer Confidence Survey
• Flash estimation every 2 weeks

All press releases (Consumer Price Index, National Accounts,...)
• Detailed reference to the economic and social effects
• Detailed explanations to methodological adjustments done according to market activities and lockdown
Communication Strategy

• Demonstrating flexibility and adapting products to the situation
• Gathering all related data in one place (special web page)
• Updating stakeholders and users (newsletters, videos)
• Initiating daily media briefings (phone/ WhatsApp/mail)
• Providing interviews to the media
• Using all social media platforms
• Cooperating and coordinating with other offices bureaus
Challenges

- High frequency of publishing data
- High awareness to every data release
- Balancing between working fast and publishing flash estimations VS waiting to final estimations and working under Advance Release Calendar
- Competition between offices on releasing numbers (The National Insurance Institute, The Employment Service)

opportunities

- The crisis emphasizes the need for data
- The crisis emphasizes the value of official statistics: objective and independent
- The crisis emphasizes how vital and relevant we are!
Special Coronavirus Web Page

Official Statistics During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Crisis

The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) currently operates according to government decisions regarding emergency regulations.

New Surveys Performed Due to the Coronavirus Crisis
- Survey of Businesses in Israel during the Crisis
  - Economic Consequences of the Crisis
    - Survey of Businesses in Israel during the Crisis
    - Survey of Businesses in Israel during the Crisis
  - Survey of Businesses in Israel during the Crisis

At this time, extraordinary arrangements have been made for the conduct of household surveys which have been replaced by telephone interviews.

Have there been changes in CBS operations as a result of the crisis?

- There may be changes in the Release Calendar.
- The crisis might affect current data published by the CBS.

Israel central bureau of statistics

Special Publication
Social and Economic Consequences of the Coronavirus Pandemic - Summary
The National Statistician Updates

Media Interviews
Thank you!