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Topic (i): The impact of data warehousing on the management of statistical offices

**DEVELOPMENT OF DATA WAREHOUSING IN THE STATISTICAL SYSTEM
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

Submitted by the National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia*

Contributed paper

SUMMARY

1. Statistics have undergone considerable changes in Armenia during the transition from a planned to a market economy. This period has witnessed a switch from data processing on mainframes to the use of personal computers. There have also been changes in the structure of the National Statistical Service. An Information Technology Section was created in 1994 and later transformed into the Information Technology Department. This body has furthermore developed a unified information technology policy.
2. Since 1994, with the assistance of international organizations, steps have been taken to enhance the National Statistical Service's technical facilities and increase the number of personal computers. To ensure more convenient and rapid processing of data and output of information, the decision was taken to use new technology for the creation of databases. The operating system chosen was WINDOWS.xx. As regards network operating systems we are using Novell 4.10 and WINDOWS NT. We have selected Microsoft software products (EXCEL, ACCESS, SQL, Visual Basic, Visual C++) and SPSS. The National Statistical Service is currently operating 45 local databases, which cover its main fields of activity: industry, finance, capital construction, etc.

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3. A second important phase of the IT Department's work has been the development, as from 1999, of the "Statistics" data warehouse of the National Statistical Service. This will ensure the supply of more reliable data and facilitate and expedite access thereto, in turn contributing to appropriate decision-making. It is proposed to store information relating to all fields of statistics, including both macrodata and microdata. A system of metadata is being developed in parallel to accompany the micro- and macrodata.

4. A third area of the Department's work has been the development of a Web site (armstat.am) and user output via the Internet. The user can gain access to macrodata and metadata using a flexible search system.
