

Analysing National Statistical Data: Methodological Issues



Speaker

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Professor Lui received his Ph.D. in Economics from The University of Hong Kong and is now Professor and Head of the Department of Marketing and International Business in Lingnan University. He worked for a few years as marketing executive in retail industry and as Statistician in the civil service before joining the University. His consulting experience is mainly in the area of market research and analysis and his research interests include labour economics, applied marketing research, and Hong Kong economy.

With the advancement of information technology, national statistical databases are widely available in the internet. In April 1996, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) established the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDR) to guide member countries in the dissemination of national statistics to the public. The subsequent SDDR Plus clearly specifies the monitorable elements in respect of access, integrity, and quality emphasizes transparency in the compilation and dissemination of statistics. This major move made international comparative studies much easier. However, researchers should note that international acceptable statistical methodologies do allow certain degree of flexibility which makes international comparison NOT as straightforward as one would expect. This workshop discusses the methodological issues of analysing national statistical data with special reference to Hong Kong and International statistical databases.