

# Country Profile of Bangladesh

**Bangladesh** is officially named as “**the People’s Republic of Bangladesh**” and has a population of more than 150.0 million. Bangladesh emerged as a sovereign state after a long bloody ‘Liberation War’ of nine months’ against Pakistani Rule. The country lies in the south-east part of South Asia between 20°34’ and 26°38’ north latitude and 88°01’ and 92°41’ east longitude. The country borders India on three sides – west, north and part east. Myanmar lies along south & a part east border. The Bay of Bengal is lies along the southern side of the country. The geographic area of the country is 1,47,570 sq. Kilometers. Except hilly regions in north-east and south-east and also some high lands in north-west, the country is a fertile flat delta formed by a network of over 250 rivers and their tributaries. The mightiest rivers are the Ganges, the Brahmaputra, the Jamuna and the Meghna. Much of the delta land mass is in Ganges-Brahmaputra basin. The vast landscape has predominantly alluvial soils enriched every year by silt-deposits following wide-spread flooding caused by heavy rains during monsoon season. The country has subtropical climate. The annual average rainfall is over 2,410 mm. The weather undergoes relatively a small range of temperature variation around the year. Dhaka is the capital city of the country. It has 7 divisions, 64 districts and 534 sub-districts. Mostly people talk in ‘Bangla’ language and literate persons can speak in English as the second official language of the country. Bangladesh has its own ancient cultural history of 2500 years ago. Tribal populations are closely associated with the mainstream of the national tradition, culture and language with their own existence of tradition & culture.

## **Main statistical agency name**

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)

## Web address

[www.bbs.gov.bd](http://www.bbs.gov.bd)

## Position in the government

Ministry of Planning, Statistics & Informatics Division (SID)

## Organizational structure and finance

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics was created in 1974 by merging four agencies, namely (i) The Bureau of Statistics (ii) The Bureau of Agriculture Statistics (iii) The Agriculture Census Commission (iv) The Population Census Commission

Statistics Division was established in 1975, but it was abolished in 2002 and merged with Planning Division. Again it was revived in 2010 and it was renamed as Statistics and Informatics Division in 2012

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics work under Statistics and Informatics Division of the Ministry of

Planning and is composed of Regional Statistical Offices and Upazila Offices (sub districts). In the headquarter BBS has 8 (Eight) functional wings of which 5 (Five) are subject matter wings, 2 (Two) are service and 1 (One) administrative wings.

**The 5 (five) are subject matter wings are as follows**

- Census Wing
- National Accounting Wing
- Demography and Health Wing
- Industry and Labor Wing
- Agriculture Wing

**The 2 (two) service and 1 (one) administrative Wing as follows**

- Computer Wing
- Statistical Staff Training Institute (SSTI)
- Finance, Administration and Management Information System (FA&MIS)

One Director is responsible for each wing. They work under the control and guidance of the Director General, BBS who is assisted by a Deputy Director General. The Upazila Offices collect data under the guidance of the regional offices and send those data in the subject matter wings for further processing.

**Main functions & duties**

**The functions of Census Wing**

- To conduct periodic census of population, agriculture and economic activities and to publish the reports ;
- To provide all technical and administrative assistances in conducting the censuses ;
- To identify the data gaps in the field of population and demography and suggest ways and means for improvement ;
- To undertake critical studies of different approaches to population projection and recommend method suitable for the country.

**The functions of National Accounting Wing**

- To explore ways and means to standardize concept, coverage and methodology for balance of payments data, trade, and foreign trade statistics ;
- To compile data for estimation of GDP, GNP, GNI on a regular basis and publish reports ;
- To compile CPI on a regular basis and publish reports ;
- To examine the present system of indices of industrial production and estimation of other derived statistics and suggest improvements ;
- To make a critical appraisal of the present National Income series and identify data ;
- To recommend a phased program for establishing integrated system of National Accounts following SNA-2008.

**The functions of Demography and Health Wing**

- To conduct inter-censal demographic surveys on vital-events, fertility, life expectancy, disability, nuptiality etc
- To evaluate and to generate data on people's prevalence of morbidity, health expenditure and awareness of HIV/AIDS
- To Conduct surveys aiming to generate data on health conditions, prevalence of nutrition among the vulnerable section of people suffering from extreme poverty;
- To conduct various socio-economic surveys;
- To prepare gender statistics;
- To prepare demographic indicators;
- To conduct Post Enumeration Check (PEC) Surveys measure to the quality of censuses and to estimate coverage and content errors ;
- To collect data on health statistics through periodic surveys ;
- To publish reports on SVRS on yearly basis and publish PEC reports ;
- To initiate research on survey techniques suited to Bangladesh environment, particularly in the field of health and demography.

### **The functions of Industry and Labor Wing**

- To identify the data gaps in the field of industry and labor and suggest alternative approaches to fill in these gaps keeping in view of the manpower and resource constraints ;
- To evolve suitable survey designs for launching Industrial & Labor force survey and collect data and publish reports ;
- To conduct Survey of Manufacturing Industries, Economic, Institutional and Enterprise Surveys and Labour Force Surveys ;
- To examine the BSIC and reconcile it with ISIC with a view to ensuring international comparability and standardization ;
- To conduct child labor survey ;
- To update BSCO and reconcile it with ISCO and to update BCPC in light of CPC.

### **The functions of Agriculture wing**

- To undertake agricultural surveys for major and minor crops for estimation of production, to take appropriate measures how best quality statistics on timely and on a sustained basis can be generated with existing manpower and other resources ;
- To provide data on land utilization, classification and to take initiative for improvement ;
- To provide data on non-crop statistics (i.e. livestock, forestry and fisheries) ;
- To provide data on agriculture products and to take measures for improvements.

### **The functions of Computer wing**

- Data capture using OMR and OCR technology
- To suggest suitable electronic method of data processing and to build up technical and skill manpower on data processing providing proper training and using electronic equipment ;

- To help in the development of questionnaire and tabulation plan ;
- To process all filled in questionnaires and schedules of census and survey through electronic mechanisms ;
- To record, store and preserve data for further use ;
- To suggest means for developing a uniform geo-coding system for the country and ensure its eventual adoption by all government and nongovernment agencies.

### **The functions of Statistical Staff Training Institute (SSTI)**

- Providing regular training courses in SSTI for the officers and staffs of BBS;
- Providing special training courses in SSTI and other training institutes such as Regional Public Administration Training Centre (RPATC), National Academy of Planning & Development (NAPD), Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) Institute of Statistical Research and Training (ISRT) etc. ;
- Nominating the officers and staffs of BBS in the training courses conducted by RPATC, NAPD, BCC, ISRT etc. ;
- Arranging special training course as per the instruction of Secretary, Statistics and Informatics Division and Director General, BBS ;
- Arranging presentation sessions for sharing knowledge and experience gathered by the officers of BBS in foreign tour/training/workshop/ meeting etc. ;

### **The functions of Finance, Administration and Management Information System (FA & MIS)**

- Human Resource management and administration of BBS ;
- To prepare budget estimates and proper maintenance of Accounts for BBS ;
- Publication of all reports and Documentation in RDP Section ;
- To make liaison with different wings and development projects of BBS and act as a coordinator with different government and non-governmental organizations ;
- Responsible for recruitment, posting and transfer of BBS staffs and officers ;
- To facilitate common service and transportation ;
- To perform annual audit of BBS on regular basis ;
- To update PDSs of BBS's officers and staffs ;
- Administration, co-ordination and monitoring of field offices ;
- Facilitate local and international training for the BBS personnel's to develop human resource of BBS ;
- Responsible for printing, publication, documentation, library and archiving ;
- To innovate library automation system of BBS ;
- To make the library of BBS as digital library ;
- To ensure institutional repository.

### **Brief history and other relevant background Information**

Bangladesh has a centralized official statistical system named the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). After independence in December 1971, Bangladesh owned a weak and disintegrated official statistical system. Agencies producing statistics were many and all these agencies were working independent of one another and pursuing statistical programs that had limited scopes and objectives. Data generated by them were inadequate and in many areas incomplete and as such, could not provide satisfactory basis for formulation of plans and framing policies of the new nation. Need for an integrated national official statistical system therefore, was felt extremely urgent after independence and paid due attention to by government.

Accordingly in August 1974, the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) was created by the government by merging four relatively larger statistical agencies of the provincial and central governments, namely, the Bureau of Statistics, the Bureau of Agriculture Statistics, the Agriculture Census Commission and the Population Census Commission.

A Director General was also appointed by the government to head of the BBS and a follow-up plan for reorganizing the Bureau into an efficient centralized national institution in the field of official statistics was resolved to be taken up for implementation.

About a year later in July 1975, the Statistics Division was created and placed under the Ministry of Planning in order to control the BBS at Ministry level, provide it policy guidance and also co-ordinate, develop and carry out all programs of training in official statistics. The Statistics Division was headed by a Secretary who was also the Directory General of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

In 2002, the Statistics Division was abolished and merged with Planning Division and BBS was placed under the Statistics Wing of the Planning Division. Statistics Division was reinstated in 2010 and in 2012 it was renamed as Statistics and Informatics Division.

Statistics and Informatics Division is responsible for providing technical and administrative guidance to the Bureau in matters of all official statistics programmes and the implementation of all programmes of official statistics of Bangladesh. Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) is the only National Statistical organization (NSO) responsible for collecting, compiling and disseminating statistical data of all the sectors of the Bangladesh economy to meet and provide the data-needs of the users for the national planning and formulating policies by the government. The role of the BBS is providing the necessary statistics for preparing the various national plans and policies for the overall development of the country.

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics has a decentralized network for implementation its activities with its head office in Dhaka. There are 64 District Statistical Offices located in the 64 greater districts and 489 Upazila/Thana Offices in Bangladesh.

#### Other producers of official statistics

- Bangladesh Bank
- National Board of Revenue
- BANBEIS

#### Statistical advisory bodies

The Statistics and Informatics Division works under the guidance and Supervision of Secretary of Statistics and Informatics Division.

Data collection

Most recent

Economic Census-2013 from 31 March, 2013 to 31 May, 2013

Data dissemination

❖ **Survey on Sample Vital Registration System**

- Survey on Sample Vital Registration System, 1993 & 1994
- Survey on Sample Vital Registration System, 1997-98 & 1999-2001
- Survey on Sample Vital Registration System, 2005-06 , 2007, 2008-2009, 2010

❖ **Household Expenditure Survey**

- Survey on Household Income & Expenditure Survey, 2010
- Survey on Household Income & Expenditure Survey, 2005

❖ **Labor Force Survey**

- Survey on the Labor Force Survey, Bangladesh, 1999-2000
- Survey on National Child Labor Survey, 2002-03
- Survey on Baseline Survey on Child Workers in Welding Establishments, 2002-03
- Survey on Baseline Survey on Working Children in Automobile Establishment, 2002
- Survey on the Working Children in Metropolitan Cities of Bangladesh, 2002-03
- Survey on Baseline Survey on street Children in Bangladesh, 2002-03
- Survey on the Baseline Survey on Child Workers in Road Transport Sector, 2002-03
- Survey on the Baseline Survey on Child Workers in Battery Recharging/Recycling Sector, 2002-03
- Baseline Survey for Determining Hazardous Child Labor Sectors in Bangladesh, 2005
- Survey on Labor Force Survey, 2005-06
- Survey on Labor Force Survey, 2010
- Informal Sector Survey 2010

### ❖ **Child Nutrition Survey**

- Anemia Prevalence Survey of Urban Bangladesh and Rural Chittagong Hill Tracts, 2003
- Child and Mother Nutrition Survey of Bangladesh, 2005
- Progotir Pathay, 2006, Vol-I & Vol-II
- Child and Mother Nutrition Survey (MICS), 2009.

### ❖ **Agriculture Statistics**

- Farm poultry and livestock Survey in Bangladesh, 1988-89, 2010
- Survey on Crop Survey (Aman-1994-95, Wheat-1995-96, Potato-1996-97 and Sugarcane-1996-97
- Household based Livestock and poultry Survey-2009
- Survey on the cost of production of Aman.2008-09, Wheat, 2008-09, Aus, 2008-09, Boro 2008-09, Jute, 2008-09
- Survey on the cost of production on Onion crop-2009
- Survey on the cost of production of Potato-2009
- Survey on the cost of production of Pulses-2009
- Survey on the cost of production of Oil seeds-2009
- Survey on the cost of production of Maize-2009.

### ❖ **Food for Workers and Vulnerable group feeding**

- Survey on Vulnerable group Development (VGD)-1990
- Survey on Vulnerable group Development (VGD)-1991.

### ❖ **Health, Demographic Survey and Social Statistics**

- Contraceptive Prevalence, November' 1995
- Prevalence of Smoking of Bangladesh, November' 1995
- Population, Health, Social & Household Environment Statistics, 1996
- Gender Statistics in brief, 1996
- Survey on Prevalence of Disability, 1996

- Survey on Marriage, Divorce and Separation in Bangladesh, 1996
- Survey on Coverage of Immunization, 1995
- Child & Mother Nutritional Survey 2012
- Health & Demographic Survey 1996, 2000, 2012
- National Tobacco Survey 2012

❖ **Small area community level and poverty related statistics**

- Analysis of Poverty on Basic Needs Dimension, Vol-I.
- Analysis of Basic Needs Dimension of Poverty, Vol-II & Vol-III
- Urban Poverty Monitoring Survey, 1998
- Rural Poverty Monitoring Survey, 1998
- Survey on the Poverty Monitoring Survey, May-1999 & 2004.

❖ **Sectorial Statistics**

- Survey on private health service Establishment 1997-98
- Survey on private Education services in Bangladesh, 1997-98
- Survey on selected Economic Activities, 1995-96
- Survey on Private Non-profit Institution in Bangladesh 1996-97
- Survey on Bangladesh Manufacturing Industries (CMI), 1992-93, 1993-94, 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98
- Bangladesh Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic activities-2001 (BSIC- 2001)
- Annual Establishments & Institution Survey 1993-94, 1995-96 & 1996-97
- Annual establishments and Institutions Survey, 2002-03
- Survey on Private Education Institutions, 2007
- Survey on Private Health Service Establishments, 2007
- Survey on Non-profit institutions Serving Household, 2007
- Bangladesh Survey of 2001-02
- CMI Manufacturing Industries, 2005-06 (SMI)



### ❖ **Special Surveys**

- Survey on Volunteerism in Bangladesh, 2010
- Private Commercial Mechanized Transport Survey 2009
- The Bangladesh Literacy Survey-2008
- Decent Work Indicators pilot Survey-2005
- Pilot Wage Survey-2007
- Welfare Monitoring Survey-2009
- Monitoring of Employment -2009
- Bangladesh Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities-2008
- Compendium of Environment Statistics of Bangladesh-2009
- Special Need based Projections in Bangladesh, May-2006
- Bangladesh Central Product Classification-2012
- Bangladesh standard classification of occupation-2012.

Languages of main publications:  
English

How are data disseminated:  
Data are disseminated via

- Paper
- CD Rom
- Website
- online databases

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