PUERTO RICO INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

REGULATION OF THE STATISTICS COORDINATION COMMITTEE



Approved: February 1, 2008

Amended: April 14, 2026

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Article 1 – Title

This Regulation shall be known as the "Regulation of the Statistics Coordination Committee of the Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics."

Article 2 – Legal Basis

This Regulation is adopted pursuant to the provisions of Article 6(f) of Act No. 209-2003, of August 28, 2003, as amended, known as the Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics Act, which authorizes the Institute to adopt and promulgate regulations it deems necessary and proper for the exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties under said law. Likewise, it is established in harmony with Act No. 38-2017, as amended, known as the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act of the Government of Puerto Rico (LPAU), which establishes the requirements for content and form, as well as the procedure for its approval and filing.

Article 3 – Purpose, Executive Summary, and Cost-Benefit Analysis

The purpose of this Regulation is to establish the provisions that will govern the efficient and effective operation of the Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC) of the Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics (Institute). It defines the composition and executive management of the Committee, the procedures for the designation and separation of its members, the duties of the heads of government entities, attendance and participation in meetings, the creation of specialized working groups, and the applicable compliance standards.

This Regulation organizes the regulatory framework that governs the Statistics Coordination Committee as an advisory and coordinating body responsible for guaranteeing the continuity, quality, and access of statistical information produced by government entities. To this end, it provides clear rules regarding the functions of the members, interagency collaboration, and coordination mechanisms with the Institute. It also includes provisions on compliance, administrative sanctions, and the potential preparation of management reports, thereby ensuring transparency, comparability—including the statistical breakdown by sex, as provided by Act No. 190-2007—and the effectiveness of the statistical system of Puerto Rico, in compliance with the principles of transparency and access to public information that govern government management.

It is certified that, after the corresponding analysis, the approval and implementation of this Regulation does not generate any additional fiscal impact for the Institute of Statistics, government entities, or the citizenry. Its adoption responds to a legal mandate and does not imply new expenses for the treasury or additional administrative burdens. The review and update of this Regulation, which had not been comprehensively reviewed since 2008, constitutes a necessary measure to strengthen institutional efficiency and the quality of the public statistical function in Puerto Rico, further reaffirming the commitment to periodic review pursuant to the applicable provisions of the LPAU.

Article 4 – Scope and Applicability

This Regulation shall apply to all government entities and agencies of the Government of Puerto Rico, including municipal governments. For interpretation purposes, 'government entity or agency' shall be understood as provided in Article 5 of this Regulation.

Article 5 – Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following terms shall have the meanings expressed below:

1. **Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC)**: means the government body responsible for ensuring the flow and continuity of statistical data and information, elucidating problems regarding access to statistical data and information, and proposing solutions to problems related to the operation of statistical units.
2. **Confidentiality**: means the guarantee that data that could identify natural or helical persons will not be disclosed and that, in the process of collection, processing, and administrative registration of any statistical product or information, it is ensured that the use given to the data is solely for the purpose for which they were requested. Any other disclosure, use, or publication is strictly prohibited. Likewise, confidentiality implies that the data provided cannot be used against people in administrative or judicial proceedings, except when the

information has been obtained independently of the statistical process and without knowledge of the protected disclosure. Information established of law as 'public information' or 'public document' is excepted.

3. **Breakdown by gender**: presentation of statistical data disaggregated by sex/gender for quality, comparability, and analysis purposes.
4. **Executive Direction**: refers to the person responsible for administering, executing, and ensuring compliance with the public policy established by the Institute's Board of Directors. In the context of this Regulation, it is responsible for the direction and supervision of the Statistics Coordination Committee.
5. **Public employee**: refers to people who hold offices or employment in government entities, who are not invested with part of the sovereignty of the State, and comprises regular or irregular public employees, those with temporary appointments, and those who are in a probationary period.
6. **Government entity or agency**: means any department, board, commission, bureau, office, agency, administration or body, public corporation, or political subdivision of the Government of Puerto Rico, including municipal governments.
7. **Public official or head of a government entity**: refers to people who hold offices or employment in government entities, such persons being

invested with part of the sovereignty of the State, and therefore intervene in the formulation and implementation of public policy.

8. **Working group**: a group of persons designated by the Executive Direction of the Institute of Statistics, or its delegate, constituted on a temporary or permanent basis, to address specific tasks, resolve concrete problems, or formulate proposals in priority areas of the statistical system. Working groups may be composed of members of the SCC, technical personnel from government entities, and, when necessary, invited external experts.
9. **Continuing violation**: Continuing violations shall be considered those actions or omissions whose occurrence extends over time through the persistence or reiteration of the same infringing conduct, after the party has been formally notified of its non-compliance. For the configuration of this violation, the concurrence of the following constituent elements shall be necessary: first, an initial non-compliance with the obligations provided in Act No. 209 of 2003, as amended, its regulations, or any order, requirement, or subpoena issued by the Institute; second, the mediation of a formal notification by the Institute through requirement orders, compliance schedules, or official communications warning of the non-compliance and granting a period for correction; third, the persistence in the non-compliance by the obligated subject once the granted term has expired; and, finally, the temporal continuity of the

conduct, maintaining the state of violation for additional periods following the notification and the expiration of the granted term.

10. **Board**: refers to the Board of Directors of the Institute.
11. **Information Officer**: servant designated by each entity to manage requests and routine disclosure of public information, as well as the coordination of SCC publications in accessible formats.
12. **Statistical product**: means the set of quantitative results obtained from a systematic process of capturing, gathering or collecting, processing, analyzing, and disseminating data obtained from various natural and helical persons, objects, or events, regarding relevant facts for the study of phenomena of an economic, social, demographic, environmental, and any other nature.
13. **Statistical production service**: means the set of activities and data produced for the elaboration of the statistical product developed by the statistical units of government entities.
14. **Statistical Unit**: means any program, assistant secretariat, area, bureau, division, office, or any other administrative division of government entities responsible to produce statistics.

Article 6 – Composition of the Statistics Coordination Committee

The heads of the statistical units of government agencies shall belong to this Committee (Article 18, Act 209-2003, as amended).

The Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC) was created by Article 18 of Act No. 209-2003, as amended, as the body responsible for ensuring the flow and continuity of statistical data and information, elucidating problems regarding access to statistical data and information, and proposing solutions to problems related to the operation of statistical units.

The SCC shall function as an advisory, coordinating, and participatory government body of the Statistical Production Service, composed preferably of the heads of the statistical units of government entities.

The SCC shall be convened by and shall carry out its work under the authority and supervision of the Executive Direction of the Institute, or its delegate. The organization of the SCC and its meetings shall be conducted under the terms provided by Act 209-2003, as amended, and this Regulation. Attendance at meetings called by the Executive Director, or his delegate, by mandate of the Law, shall be mandatory and non-delegable.

Meetings must be convened with at least five (5) business days' notice, except in cases of justified emergency. The SCC shall validly deliberate with a simple majority of its current members, and any determination shall be adopted by the majority of those present. Minutes shall be taken for each meeting, which will be kept in custody of the Secretariat of the Institute and will be available in compliance with the provisions of Act No. 141-2019 on transparency and access to public information.

Article 7 – Responsibilities and Duties of the Heads of Government Entities

The heads of government entities shall have the following duties and responsibilities before the Institute of Statistics and the Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC):

1. Designation of the head of the entity's statistical unit:
    a. Comply with the obligation to designate the head of the statistical unit of their entity or agency before the SCC within the timeframes established in this Regulation.
    b. If a formal statistical unit does not exist within the entity, or if the designated individual is not the head of the statistical unit, a waiver must be requested using the official form, justifying the reasons.
    c. Notify of any change in the designation (termination, resignation, or appointment) within a term not to exceed fifteen (15) calendar days from the date the change occurs.
    d. Use the official form prepared by the Institute for any designation or notification of changes.
2. Collaboration and Communication:
    a. Maintain continuous communication with the Institute and with the designated individual, guaranteeing the flow of the entity's statistical information.

b. Facilitate coordination between the government entity and the Institute in the processes of collection, validation, analysis, and dissemination of official statistics and data.

3. Provision of Information and Data:
    a. Comply with the requests and requirements for information, data, and statistics requested by the Institute through the designated head of the statistical unit within the established timeframes.
    b. Guarantee that the data provided complies with the principles of statistical quality adopted by the Institute.
    c. Certify, when applicable, the nonexistence of data in a required period, notifying the Institute immediately.
4. Support to the Designated Person:
    a. Provide the time, resources, and institutional support necessary for the designated SCC members to perform their duties effectively.
    b. Timely channel to their designee all notices, requests, and communications coming from the Institute
5. Regulatory Compliance:
    a. Establish internal administrative procedures that ensure compliance with the public policy and standards provided by Act No. 209-2003, as amended, and this Regulation.

b. Ensure that the entity's statistical production complies with the quality criteria, nomenclature, standards, and procedures adopted by the Institute.
c. Support and cooperate with the audits, evaluations, and investigations conducted by the Institute regarding the entity's statistical production.

6. Accountability:
    a. Inform the Institute of any reorganization or structural change within the entity that could affect statistical production or coordination with the SCC.
    b. Guarantee the transparent disclosure of the statistical information produced, in accordance with applicable legal and regulatory provisions.

Article 8 – Procedure for the Designation of SCC Members

1. Each government entity must submit the official designation of the person appointed to the Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC) within a term of thirty (30) calendar days from:
    a. The effective date of this Regulation.
    b. The occurrence of a vacancy or termination of the previous designee.
    c. The receipt of a Request for Designation.

2. The designation shall be made using the official form prepared by the Institute, which will include a certification of compliance with the requirements established in this Regulation.
3. The Institute shall maintain an Official Registry of SCC Members, which will be updated each time a designation is approved. If an official designation is not received within the required period, the Institute of Statistics will notify a notice of non-compliance and grant a term of ten (10) calendar days to remedy the omission. Upon expiration of said term without receiving the designation, the Institute may issue a Certification of Non-Compliance with Designation. This information may be published as part of the Institute's routine disclosures and referred to the applicable compliance procedure pursuant to this Regulation and the UAPA (LPAU).

Article 9 – Request for Designation of SCC Members

1. Authority of the Institute:

   The Institute of Statistics may require the head of any government entity to designate a member to represent their entity on the Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC), pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 209 of 2003, as amended, and this Regulation.
2. Notice of Request:
   a. The request shall be made in writing, through an official communication from the Executive Direction of the Institute, or its

designee, and shall include the timeframe to comply with the designation and the warning of consequences for non-compliance.

b. Said communication may be issued in physical format, personally, by certified mail, or through electronic format, and shall be considered valid from the moment it is received by the government entity.

3. Timeframe for Designation:

   The head of the government entity shall have a term of thirty (30) calendar days from the notice of request to submit the designation to the Institute. An extension may be requested for just cause prior to the expiration of the timeframe.

4. Filing Method:

   a. The designation shall be made using the official form provided by the Institute.

   b. The form shall include a certification stating that the designated individual holds the position of head of the statistical unit, or the corresponding waivers and proof of compliance with the requirements established in this Regulation.

   c. The designation may be sent in electronic format.

5. Registry and Validation:
    a. The Institute shall evaluate compliance with the requirements of the designated person and may require corrections within a term of ten (10) calendar days.
    b. The Institute shall maintain an Official Registry of SCC Members, which will be updated each time a designation is approved.
6. Non-compliance:

    If the official designation is not received within the provided timeframe, the Institute shall issue a Notice of Non-Compliance and grant an additional term of ten (10) calendar days to remedy the omission. Upon expiration of this term without receiving the designation, the Institute may issue a Certification of Non-Compliance with Designation, publish said information as part of its routine disclosures, and refer the matter to the applicable compliance and sanctions procedure pursuant to this Regulation and the UAPA (LPAU).

Article 10 – Term of the Designation of SCC Members

1. The appointment of the members of the SCC shall be permanent, and the appointee shall remain in office until the head of the corresponding government entity notifies the Institute of the appointment of a replacement.
2. In the event of a vacancy due to resignation, separation, incapacitation, death, or any other cause, the head of the entity shall immediately notify

the Institute and make a new appointment within a period not exceeding fifteen (15) calendar days.

3. During any prolonged absence exceeding sixty (60) days, the head of the entity shall appoint an interim replacement to the SCC to assume the duties of the position until the return of the incumbent or the appointment of a new permanent member.

Article 11 – Requirements to be Designated as a Member of the Statistics Coordination Committee and Disqualification Process

The person designated as a member of the Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC) shall meet the following requirements:

1. Hold a position with direct access to the head of the government entity;
2. Be responsible for the production of statistics generated by their government entity;
3. Have competence in any of the fields of statistics, mathematics, computer science, or in areas where extensive use of statistics is made, such as economics, planning, demography, epidemiology, biostatistics, criminology, sociology, public policy, public administration, business administration, or other related areas;
4. Be a person of recognized professional capability, personal integrity, and objectivity;

5. Comply with the Organic Act of the Office of Government Ethics of Puerto Rico, Act No. 1 of January 3, 2012, as amended, and its regulations;
6. Comply with all legal and regulatory requirements to hold a public office in the Government of Puerto Rico;
7. Not have held any elective public office for at least five (5) years prior to their designation; and
8. Not present, in fact or appearance, a conflict of interest with the Executive Direction or the Board of Directors of the Institute.

The Executive Direction of the Institute shall ensure strict compliance with these requirements and shall have the authority to disqualify any public servant who fails to meet them. Likewise, the Executive Direction of the Institute shall have the power to waive any of the requirements for SCC members, provided there is just cause to do so. Upon disqualifying a member or denying a waiver for any requirement, the Executive Direction shall notify its determination to the person designated as a SCC member and to the head of the government entity so that a new designation may be made.

If the SCC member disagrees with the disqualification determination, they may file a request for reconsideration with the Executive Director within a term of twenty (20) calendar days from the date of notice. At this stage, the matter shall be considered in harmony with the provisions of Act No. 38-2017, as amended,

known as the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act of the Government of Puerto Rico.

Article 12 – Functions of the Members of the Statistics Coordination Committee

The Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC) shall have the following functions:

1. Ensure the continuous flow of statistical data and information in such a way as to comply with the provisions of this Act;
2. Provide the information, data, and statistics requested by the Institute;
3. Elucidate and resolve problems related to the flow of and access to statistical data and information that may affect the operations of government agencies;
4. Keep government agencies informed of matters related to the Statistical Production Service;
5. Resolve problems of a technical and/or communication nature related to statistical information;
6. Coordinate statistical information activities involving more than one government agency;
7. Propose solutions to administrative problems related to the operation of statistical units;
8. Examine and report on the budgetary and training needs of statistical units;

9. Analyze and report on methodological problems of statistical units;
10. Evaluate and adopt the standards, methods, procedures, rules, and regulations established by the Institute for the Statistical Production Service;
11. Study and follow the regulations of the Institute, including any established statistical plan;
12. Serve as a forum of first instance to elucidate disputes related to methods, procedures, data, and disclosure of statistical information, prior to bringing them to the consideration of the Institute; and
13. Advise the Executive Director when so required (Article 19, Act No. 209-2003, as amended).

Article 13 – Responsibilities and Duties of the Members of the Statistics Coordination Committee

The members of the Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC) shall comply with the following responsibilities and duties:

1. Attend the meetings, whether in person or virtual, to which they are convened by the Executive Direction of the Institute, or its designee;
2. Serve as a liaison between their government entity and the Institute;
3. Be responsible for sending to the Institute (annually, quarterly, monthly, or weekly, or as required by the frequency of the statistic or the frequency of the statistical revision) all statistics produced by their government entity. If no statistics have been produced during any period

in which the production of statistics was required, they must immediately certify and notify such facts to the Executive Direction of the Institute of Statistics;

4. Keep the head of the government entity and the personnel in charge of its statistical production informed about the work carried out within the SCC and the requirements made by the Institute;
5. Ensure that the government entity's statistics comply with the quality criteria for data collection and statistical systems required by the Institute;
6. Ensure that their government entity complies with the standards and nomenclature for statistical products, as well as the standardization of processes and methods that are to govern statistical activities, as provided by the Institute;
7. Identify opportunities to improve their entity's statistical systems using new technologies, advanced data analysis, digital tools, and emerging methodologies, among others;
8. Stay up to date on statistical and methodological techniques by participating in training, workshops, or educational programs;
9. Support and cooperate with the Institute in its evaluations, audits, and investigations;
10. Strictly comply with the information petitions, requests, and requirement orders of the Institute;

11. Facilitate the exchange of information and cooperation among government entities when statistical coordination is required;
12. Respond promptly to the Institute's requests in situations of emergency, natural disaster, public health crisis, or any other event requiring urgent statistical information;
13. Strictly comply with all executive memoranda and communications from the Executive Director of the Institute;
14. Strictly comply with all public policies established by the Institute and/or its Board of Directors;
15. Ensure that their entity's statistical systems and processes are compatible with the integration and standardization methodologies promoted by the Institute (e.g., official classifications, nomenclatures, data exchange standards);
16. Submit suggestions and recommendations to the Institute to improve the quality of data collection systems; and
17. Comply with the agreements and the work plan agreed upon during the SCC meetings.

Article 14 – Grounds for Separation of Functions

1. The Executive Direction may separate a SCC member from their functions (office) for the following grounds:
2. Immoral or unlawful conduct, or violating the provisions of Act No. 209-2003, as amended, or of this Regulation;

3. Manifest incompetence or professional inability in the performance of their functions and duties;
4. Conviction for any felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
5. Unjustified absence from three consecutive meetings or from more than 25% of the annual meetings;
6. Repeated failure, without justification, to submit statistics, reports, or information required by the Institute;
7. Disclosing, manipulating, or improperly using protected statistical information;
8. Participating in SCC decisions while in a conflict-of-interest situation without having made the proper disclosure or recusal;
9. Failing to comply with the agreements, technical guidelines, or public policy established by the Institute;
10. Having received a final sanction from the Office of Government Ethics, the Comptroller, or any other authority with jurisdiction that affects the suitability to exercise public functions;
11. Unjustified refusal to cooperate with investigations, audits, or evaluations conducted by the Institute, or obstructing or refusing to provide required information or documentation; and
12. Manifest abandonment of their duties, as evidenced by prolonged inactivity or repeated neglect of responsibilities.

Article 15 – Meetings of the Statistics Coordination Committee

The Executive Director of the Institute shall have the authority to convene the full Committee whenever they deem it necessary (Article 18, Act No. 209, as amended).

The full Committee shall hold at least one meeting quarterly during the fiscal year. Attendance at Committee meetings shall be mandatory and non-delegable (Article 19, Act No. 209-2003, as amended).

The Executive Direction may authorize participation through virtual meeting mechanisms, pursuant to Act No. 38-2017 (UAPA/LPAU), provided that the identification of the participants, simultaneous participation, and the integrity of the deliberations and voting are guaranteed.

Article 16 – Working Groups of the Statistics Coordination Committee

1. Working Groups of the Statistics Coordination Committee:

   The (Executive) Director of the Institute shall have the authority to convene, whenever they deem it necessary, any working group organized to comply with any activity related to the Statistical Production Service (Article 18, Act No. 209-2003, as amended).

2. Definition and Creation:

   a. The SCC working groups are specialized teams established by the Executive Direction of the Institute, or its designee, to address

specific tasks, resolve concrete problems, or develop proposals in priority areas of the statistical system.

b. The Executive Direction shall have the authority to establish temporary or permanent working groups, according to the operational and strategic needs of the system.

c. Any SCC member may request the creation of a working group; the final decision shall rest with the Executive Direction, which will determine its relevance, objectives, and composition.

3. Temporality:

   a. Temporary groups: created to resolve specific matters, with a defined timeframe of operation and automatic dissolution upon achieving their objective.

   b. Permanent groups: established to address recurring or continuous matters, with an indefinite duration, and whose composition may evolve as determined by the Executive Direction.

4. Composition:

   a. Working groups shall be composed of SCC representatives, personnel from the statistical units of government entities, and/or any other personnel authorized by the Executive Direction.

   b. The Executive Direction may invite external experts to provide technical knowledge on specialized topics.

5. Delegable Functions:

Working groups may perform the following within the matters specifically delegated to them:

a. Resolution of technical and methodological problems.
b. Inter-institutional coordination for the exchange of statistical information.
c. Development and standardization of statistical methods.
d. Evaluation of data and process quality.
e. Preparation of regulatory and methodological proposals.
f. Analysis of disputes regarding statistical procedures or results prior to bringing them before the full SCC.

6. Thematic Areas:

Specialized working groups may be established in the following areas, among others:

a. Statistical methodology.
b. Data quality.
c. Technology and digital innovation.
d. Training and professional development.
e. Regulations and standardization.
f. Sectoral topics (e.g., Economy, Health, Education, Justice, Environment, Security).

7. Operation and Best Practices:
    a. Each working group must define from its inception the problem to be addressed, its objectives, timeframes, and deliverables.
    b. Its meetings and agreements must be systematically documented and sent to the Executive Direction.
    c. They must periodically report on their progress to the full SCC.
    d. Realistic schedules shall be established, considering the workload of the members.
    e. The Institute shall promote the use of collaborative digital platforms and the creation of information repositories that ensure the preservation of the knowledge generated.
    f. Their determinations shall have the character of technical recommendations and must be submitted to the full SCC and/or the Executive Direction for validation.
8. Monitoring and Evaluation:
    a. The Executive Direction may establish performance indicators to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the working groups.
    b. Upon the closing of a temporary group, a final report detailing its findings, recommendations, and results must be submitted.
    c. Permanent groups may be required to submit an annual management report whenever deemed necessary.

Article 17 – Duty to Comply with the Provisions of this Regulation

1. This Regulation has mandatory regulatory force and binding character, pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 209-2003, as amended, and Act No. 38-2017, known as the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act of the Government of Puerto Rico (UAPA/LPAU).
2. The members of the Statistics Coordination Committee and those who hold the positions of heads of government entities have the duty to faithfully comply with the provisions of this Regulation.
3. The Executive Direction of the Institute may petition the Courts to request the issuance of an injunction to prevent the violation of the provisions of this Regulation, or a writ of mandamus to enforce its provisions; this shall be without prejudice to any other administrative or civil action contemplated by the legal framework, particularly the aforementioned Act No. 209-2003.

Article 18 – Administrative Fines and Sanctions

1. Non-compliance with the provisions of this Regulation shall give rise to administrative sanctions imposed by the Institute.
2. Sanctionable non-compliance includes, among others:
    a. Failure to designate a representative within the established timeframe.
    b. Failure to submit required information or statistics within the fixed deadlines.

c. Failure to attend or participate in convened meetings without just cause.

d. Committing continuing violations.

3. Sanctions may include:

a. Written warning.

b. Administrative fine imposed on the responsible government entity, following notice and proceedings pursuant to the UAPA (LPAU), which may range from five hundred ($500) to one thousand ($1,000) dollars per event.

c. The proceeds from the fines shall be deposited into the Special Fund of the Institute created by Article 20 of Act No. 209-2003, to finance projects for methodological improvements, statistical processes, or statistical products.

Article 19 – Annual Compliance Report

1. The Executive Director may prepare and publish an Annual Compliance and Management Report, which shall include, but not be limited to:

a. A list of entities with active designations and participation.

b. Statistics on meeting attendance.

c. Entities in compliance and in non-compliance.

2. The Annual Report may be published on the official portal of the Institute, in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 141-2019, as amended, concerning transparency and access to public information.

Article 20 – General Provisions

1. Attendance at meetings convened by the Institute and the work performed by the members of the Statistics Coordination Committee (SCC) shall be considered for all legal purposes as official business or duties.
2. The Executive Direction may delegate part or all of its powers and functions to any public service employee it deems appropriate, except those that by provision of law are non-delegable. The functions and responsibilities performed by said person shall be considered, for all legal purposes, as if they were performed by the Executive Director.
3. SCC members shall not receive compensation for their services as such, but they shall be entitled to have their respective government entities pay them per diem, mileage, and expense reimbursements, when and as applicable, in accordance with the regulation promulgated to that effect by the Department of the Treasury, or the applicable regulations of the entity they represent.
4. The Executive Direction may establish information exchanges or collaboration agreements with the Legislative and Judicial Branches in order to promote a policy of mutual benefit and thus advance the objectives and public policy established by Act No. 209-2003, as amended.
5. In furtherance of the public policy promoted by Act No. 209-2003, as amended, SCC members shall maintain strict political-partisan neutrality

in the performance of their functions. No member may use their office, the Institute's resources, or the information obtained within the SCC for political-partisan purposes, nor participate on behalf of the Committee in activities of a political-partisan nature. The foregoing does not limit the constitutional rights of the members to participate, in their personal capacity and pursuant to current regulations, in electoral processes or political activities outside the scope of their official duties.

6. The Institute shall be responsible for the custody and administration of the documents and reports generated in the course of the SCC's functions, in compliance with Act No. 141-2019.

Article 21 – Dispute Resolution

The Board of Directors of the Institute is responsible for administering and executing the established public policy. In the event of a conflict with the provisions, the SCC delegate and the heads of the government entities may request a hearing with the Executive Director. If an agreement is not reached, the matter may be escalated to the Board of Directors of the Institute.

Article 22 – Severability Clause

If any word, subsection, sentence, article, section, or part of this Regulation were to be declared unconstitutional or void by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remaining provisions thereof. The effect of the decision shall be limited to the word, subsection,

sentence, article, section, or part specifically declared unconstitutional or void, without affecting its application or validity in any other distinct case.

Article 23 – Repeal Clause

This Regulation repeals the Regulation of the Statistics Coordination Committee of the Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics, Regulation No. 7482, filed with the Department of State on March 24, 2008, as well as any other rule, circular letter, standard, or procedure currently in effect within the Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics that is in conflict with the provisions of this Regulation.

Article 24 – Effectiveness

This regulation shall take effect thirty (30) days after its filing with the Department of State, pursuant to the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act of the Government of Puerto Rico, Act No. 38-2017, as amended.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, on April 14, 2026.

Javier Hernández Acosta
President
Board of Directors

Orville M. Disdier Flores
Executive Director
Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics