

REGINA: Statistics Sweden's web service for management and dissemination of administrative geographies

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Statistics Sweden is responsible for the management of regional administrative areas, including the establishing and coordination of numeric codes that identifies each region. The responsibility also includes dissemination of the result, for both current and historical divisions.

The information is stored in a geographic database; with a time series that stretches all the way back to 1952 for some of the divisions. Because only a few people have access to the database, Statistics Sweden used to get many questions about the code, name or geographic division of a certain area. Several of the questions required a tailor made withdrawal from the database. At Statistics Sweden's website, long lists of codes and names for divisions were published as Excel and PDF files.

In order to make the system more available to the users, Statistics Sweden has now created a web application called REGINA. There you may search for a division's code, name or geography, displayed as current state or as changes through the years. Since 2017, there is a view service connected to REGINA, where the user can see the geographies of each division, sorted by type of division and reference years. The application is open and free of charge for all. It provides a better service to users and releases resources from those who used to manage the tailor made withdrawals from the database.