



Recommended population and housing census topics

Session 6

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Factors determining the selection of topics

- ❑ Reference: P&R para 4.1 onwards
- ❑ Based on the outputs expected to be produced by the census
 - ❑ User requirements
- ❑ Furthermore
 - ❑ National priority at national, sub-national and local level
 - ❑ International comparability
 - ❑ Sensitivity of topics and respondent's burden
 - ❑ Technical competence of the enumeration process – i.e. suitability of topics
 - ❑ Resources for conducting a census
 - ❑ Availability of information in alternative sources
 - ❑ Usefulness of historical continuity



Classification of topics

- ❑ All topics are classified in the following classes
 - ❑ **Core topic – direct** refers to the topic that is internationally recommended for collection through the population and housing census and have to appear on the census schedule/questionnaire as a specific question
 - ❑ **Core topic – derived** refers to the topics that is internationally recommended for collection through the population and housing census but values for which are derived from information on a core topic already collected – for example the figure for total population
 - ❑ **Additional topic – direct** refers to the topic that is internationally recognized as being implemented in a number of censuses and should be considered for inclusion
 - ❑ **Additional topic – derived** refers to the topics that is internationally recommended for collection through the population and housing census but values for which are derived from information on a core topic already collected – for example the figure for births in the past 12 months derived from a core topic **date of birth of the last child born alive**



Population census topics

- ❑ Reference: para 4.21
- ❑ Eight categories
 - ❑ Geographic and internal migration characteristics
 - ❑ International migration characteristics
 - ❑ Household and family characteristics
 - ❑ Demographic and social characteristics
 - ❑ Fertility and mortality
 - ❑ Educational characteristics
 - ❑ Economic characteristics
 - ❑ Agricultural characteristics



Geographic and internal migration characteristics

- Nine topics in this class**
 - Place of usual residence – core**
 - Place where present at time of census – core**
 - Place of birth – core**
 - Duration of residence – core**
 - Place of previous residence – core**
 - Place of residence at a specified date in the past – core**
 - Total population – core derived**
 - Locality – core derived**
 - Urban and rural – core derived**



International migration characteristics

- ❑ **Four topics in this class**
 - ❑ **Country of birth – core**
 - ❑ **Country of citizenship – core**
 - ❑ **Year or period of arrival – core**
 - ❑ **Acquisition of citizenship - additional**



International migration characteristics

Handbook on Measuring International Migration through Population Censuses – Table of content

- Concepts and definitions
- Data sources for measuring international migration
- Key information and measurement
- Aspects of planning and design of the census of importance in measuring international migration
- Collecting data on stocks of population related to immigration
- The challenges of measuring emigration
- Estimating recent migration and net international migration from population censuses
- Tabulations, statistics and indicators of international migration obtainable from the census
- Using international migration data from the census with other data sources



International migration characteristics

From censuses:

- Population stocks related to international migration:
 - Stocks of foreign-born
 - Stocks of foreigners
 - Stock of returned migrants
 - Stock of first (second) generation immigrants
 - Stock of emigrants (?? Maybe only the characteristics?)
- Socioeconomic situation and geographic location of immigrants
- Intercensal net migration
- Some indication of recent migration flows



International migration characteristics

- Core and additional topics in the UN 2020 Census Recommendation:
 - Country of birth
 - Country of citizenship
 - Year or period of arrival
 - Citizenship acquisition (additional)
- Other topics:
 - Ever-resided abroad – for returned migrants
 - Country of birth of parents – for second generation immigrants
 - Household members resided abroad – for emigrants



International migration characteristics

Country of birth

For countries defining place of birth as the geographic unit in which the birth actually occurred:

Where was (person) born?

- This country, specify province [or state, region] and municipality [or national-relevant second-level civil division]
 - o Province: _____ province unknown
 - o Municipality: _____ municipality unknown
- Another country, specify country according to present borders:
 - o Country: _____
- Unknown
- Country of birth unknown

For countries defining place of birth as where the mother of the individual resided at the time of the person's birth:

Where did _____'s mother reside when she gave birth to him/her?

- This country, specify province [or state, region] and municipality [or national-relevant second-level civil division]
 - o Province: _____ province unknown
 - o Municipality: _____ municipality unknown
- Another country, specify country according to present borders:
 - o Country: _____
- Unknown
- Country of birth unknown



Household and family characteristics

- ❑ **Three topics in this class**
 - ❑ **Relationship to the reference person in the household – core**
 - ❑ **Household and family composition – core derived**
 - ❑ **Household and family status - additional**



Demographic and social characteristics

- ❑ **Nine topics in this class**
 - ❑ **Sex – core**
 - ❑ **Age – core**
 - ❑ **Marital status – core**
 - ❑ Ethno-cultural characteristics – additional
 - ❑ Religion – additional
 - ❑ Language – additional
 - ❑ Ethnicity – additional
 - ❑ Indigenous people - additional
 - ❑ **Disability status - core**



Fertility and mortality

❑ **Nine topics in this class**

- ❑ **Children ever born alive – core**
- ❑ **Children living – core**
- ❑ **Date of birth of last child born – core topic**
- ❑ Births in the past 12 months – additional derived
- ❑ Deaths among children born in the past 12 months – additional derived from a follow-up question on date of birth of last child born on whether the child is still alive – see paragraph 4.240
- ❑ Age, date of duration of first marriage – additional
- ❑ Age of mother at birth of first child born alive – additional
- ❑ **Household deaths in the past 12 months – core**
- ❑ Maternal or paternal orphanhood



Educational characteristics

Four topics in this class

- Literacy – core**
- School attendance – core**
- Educational attainment – core topic**
- Field of education and training and educational qualifications - additional**



Economic characteristics

Nine topics in this class

- Labour force status – core**
- Status in employment – core**
- Occupation – core topic**
- Industry – core**
- Place of work – additional
- Institutional sector of employment – additional
- Working time – additional
- Participation in own-use production of goods – core**
- Income - additional



Agriculture

Two topics in this class

- Own-account agriculture production - additional
- Characteristics of all agricultural jobs during the last year – additional



Population census topics summary

- Total number of topics: 48**

- Core topics – 26
- Core derived – 5
- Additional – 15
- Additional derived - 2



Comparison with the previous revision

- ❑ **Number of topic categories in 2010 – 9**
- ❑ **Number of topic categories in 2020 – 8**
 - ❑ The category “Disability characteristics” that had only one topics (core) on “Disability status” was removed and the core topic transferred in the Demographic and Social Characteristics category
- ❑ **Core topics in 2010 – 25**
- ❑ **Core topics in 2020 – 26**
 - ❑ This is due to the fact that the topic “Participation in own-use production” in the group of Economic Characteristics is introduced as a core topic in this revision as a consequence of the changes in the definition of economic activity



Comparison with the previous revision

- ❑ Non-core topics in 2010 – 18
- ❑ Non-core topics in 2020 – 22
 - ❑ Topic “Acquisition of citizenship” has been added as an additional topic in the International Migration Section
 - ❑ Topic “Ethno-cultural characteristics” has been added as an additional topic in the Demographic and Social Characteristics Section
 - ❑ Topic “Own-account agriculture production” has been added as an additional topic in the Agriculture Section
 - ❑ Topic “Characteristics of all agricultural jobs during the last year” has been added as an additional topic in the Agriculture Section



Comparison with the previous revision

- ❑ Major change refers to the concept and definition of “work”
- ❑ Measurement of the economic characteristics of the population is based on conceptual framework for work statistics
- ❑ In this framework, work is defined for reference purposes as “any activity performed by persons of any sex and age to produce goods or to provide services for use by others or for own use
- ❑ Concept of work is aligned with the general production boundary as defined in the System of National Accounts
- ❑ All *work* or *productive activity* are thus included, irrespective of their formal or informal character or the legality of the activity



Comparison with the previous revision

Intended destination of production	For own final use		For use by others				
Forms of work	Own-use production work		Employment (work for pay or profit)	Unpaid trainee work	Other work activities (by prisoners, unpaid military, ordered by courts...)	Volunteer work	
	of services	of goods				in market and non-market units	in households producing
Relation to 2008 SNA			Activities within the SNA production boundary				
			Activities inside the SNA General production boundary				



Comparison with the previous revision

- ❑ In overviewing 2010 censuses' contents, two set of non P&R topics identified

- ❑ Some correspondence with P&R topics
 - ❑ emigration; ever-lived abroad; country of birth of mother/father; country of previous residence; reason for arrival/return; remittances
 - ❑ reason for changing previous place of residence; reason of absence/presence on census night; duration of absence/presence
 - ❑ de facto union status
 - ❑ age of mother at birth of first child born alive
 - ❑ Level/grade and type of educational institution (public/private) currently attending; location of school
 - ❑ cause of disability



Comparison with the previous revision

- ❑ In overviewing 2010 censuses' contents, two set of non P&R topics identified

- ❑ No correspondence with P&R topics
 - ❑ commuting to work and/or school (main mode of transportation; length of commute time; commute start time; frequency of commute)
 - ❑ health insurance coverage
 - ❑ birth registration/birth certificate
 - ❑ information and communications technologies (ICTs) at the individual level—particularly with reference to access/use of the internet, computer and mobile phone



Housing census topics

- ❑ Reference: Paragraph 4.419 onwards

- ❑ Total of 40 topics
 - ❑ 21 core topics for either a housing unit, collective living quarters, building or household
 - ❑ Topics differ depending on the unit of enumeration
 - ❑ For housing unit - 14 core topics
 - ❑ For collective living quarters – 3 core topics, one of which overlaps with housing unit and refers to the number of occupants, a core topic for both
 - ❑ For buildings – 2 core topics, one of which overlaps with housing unit and refers to the construction material of outer walls, a core topic for both
 - ❑ For households – 4 core topics



Housing census topics

- Core topics for housing unit as the unit of enumeration
 - Occupancy status
 - Ownership
 - Rooms – number of
 - Water supply system
 - Drinking water – main source of
 - Toilet – type of
 - Sewage disposal
 - Solid waste disposal
 - Bathing facilities
 - Kitchen – availability of
 - Fuel used for cooking
 - Lighting and/or electricity
 - Occupants – number of
 - Construction material for outer walls – a core topic for building as well



Housing census topics

- Core topics for collective living quarters as the unit of enumeration
 - Living quarters – type of
 - Location of living quarters
 - Occupants, number of – a core topic for the housing unit as well
- Core topics for building as the unit of enumeration
 - Building, type of
 - Construction material of outer walls – a core topics for the housing unit as well
- Core topics for household as the unit of enumeration
 - Occupancy by one or more households
 - Age and sex of the reference person of the household
 - Tenure
 - ICT devices – availability of



Comparison with the previous revision

Main revisions

- ❑ Two new topics – additional (non-core) topics
 - Position of dwelling in the building
 - Accessibility to dwelling

- ❑ Revisions in the classification of
 - Bathing facilities
 - Building by type
 - Construction materials of outer walls, roof and floor
 - Tenure



Comparison with the previous revision

Position of dwelling in the building – non- core topic

The following classification of dwellings by position in the building is recommended:

1. Dwelling on one floor only
 - 1.1 Dwelling below the ground floor
 - 1.2 Dwelling on the ground floor of the building
 - 1.3 Dwelling on the 1st or 2nd floor of the building
 - 1.4 Dwelling on the 3rd or 4th floor of the building
 - 1.5 Dwelling on the 5th floor of the building or higher

2. Dwellings on two or more floors
 - 2.1 Dwelling on the ground floor of the building or below ground level
 - 2.2 Dwelling on the 1st or 2nd floor of the building
 - 2.3 Dwelling on the 3rd or 4th floor of the building
 - 2.4 Dwelling on the 5th floor of the building or higher

For dwellings on two or more floors, information should be provided with reference to the lowest floor level of the dwelling.



Comparison with the previous revision

Accessibility to dwelling - non-core topic

The following classification of accessibility to the front door of the dwelling/housing unit is recommended, based on the presence of ramps, steps, and lifts:

1. Access with no steps or ramp
2. Access by ramp
3. Access by disabled stair lift
4. Access using lift only (though the building may have staircases as well)
5. Access by using only steps
6. Access only by using both lift and steps



Comparison with the previous revision

Classification of bathing facilities (Core topic)

The recommended classification of housing units by availability and type of bathing facilities is as follows:

1. With fixed bath or shower within housing unit
2. Without fixed bath or shower within housing unit
 - 2.1 Fixed bath or shower available outside housing unit
 - 2.1.1 For exclusive use
 - 2.1.2 Shared
 - 2.2 No fixed bath or shower available

Alternatively, the following classification may be more appropriate in certain circumstances:

1. Separate room for bath or shower within the housing unit
2. No separate room for bath or shower but bathing space available within the housing unit (for example it may be in an open area around the well within the housing unit, in the courtyard)
3. Bathing room available but outside the housing unit for exclusive use
4. Shared bathing room outside the housing unit
5. No specific bathing room available



Comparison with the previous revision

Buildings by type (Core topic)

1. Residential buildings

1.1 . Buildings containing a single housing unit

1.1.1 Detached

1.1.2 Attached

1.2 Buildings containing more than one housing unit

2.2.1 Up to 2 floors

2.2.2 From 3 to 4 floors

2.2.3 From 5 to 10 floors

2.2.4 Eleven floors or more

1.3 Buildings for persons living in institutions

1.4 Other residential buildings

2. Non-residential buildings

➤ Additional categories for non-residential buildings



Comparison with the previous revision

Tenure (core topic)

1. Household owns housing unit
2. Household rents all or a part of housing unit
 - 2.1 As a main tenant
 - 2.2 As a subtenant
3. Household occupies housing unit partly free of rent
4. Household occupies housing unit wholly free of rent
5. Household occupies housing unit under some other arrangement

- **Simplification of the exiting categories – member of household owns housing unit or rents housing unit**
- **New category for distinguishing partly or wholly free of rent**