

Demographic review

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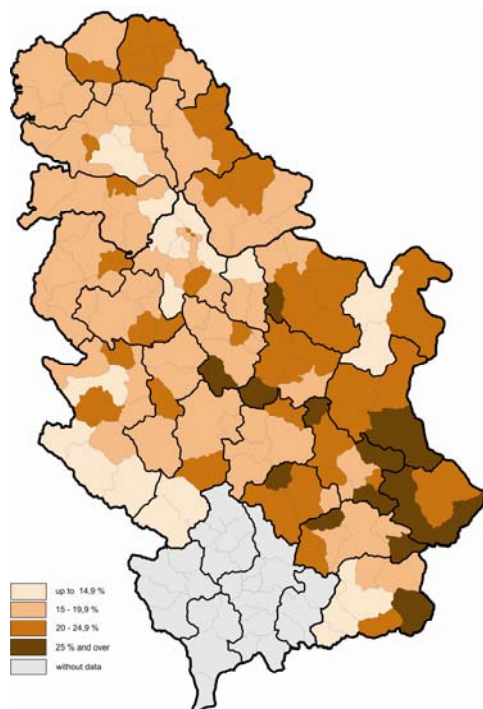


Towards the Population, Households and Dwellings Census in 2011

Population, households and dwellings censuses present the most massive and the most complex statistical actions, mainly conducted in ten-years periodic. In the last census decade, that, according to UN recommendations, relates to the period from 2005 until 2014, all member states should conduct at least one census, so that census data could be comparable, not only methodologically and by contents but also by time period included.

From census to census one can notice more and more distinct need for new information, especially for empirical explanations and migratory and socio-economic features of population. There will also be collected bigger number of data on households, especially on varieties of relatives' relationships and family composition inside a household. In the same way, we will collect information on dwellings and residential conditions, which were not present in the contents of earlier censuses.

Map 1. Share of aged households in the total number households, Census 2002



According to that, it is completely certain that the approaching Census will leave behind all previous censuses by its scope of contents and by performing of series of new indicators from original topics. This trend of broadening of statistical information spectrum from census to census, typical of all modern societies, becomes regular because in all contemporary conditions rational establishing and managing of any policy (population, economic, housing, health, etc.) can not be imagined without reliable statistical data. Anyhow, Population, Households and Dwellings Census presents the most important statistical source of certain data on one country's population. To dispose of quantity data on population, from the smallest spatial unit, through settlement and municipality, up to the state level, is an essential assumption of contemporary decision-making and governing on all levels.

Results of the approaching Census in Serbia are extremely significant, not only from the aspect of the complex demographic and socio-economic phenomena monitoring in our society, but also from the aspect of monitoring of successfulness of strategic goals completion, adopted by the Government of Serbia (National Strategy on ageing, Strategy of even regional development, Strategy of development of adults' education, Strategy of improvement of disabled persons' position, Strategy of employment development, Strategy of agriculture development, etc.). Besides, results of the Population, Households and Dwellings Census in 2011 are important also because of continuity and comparability with the results from the previous censuses, but also as a heritage, that we are obliged to provide to present and future generations on basic demographic, economic, ethnical, educational, migrational and other features of population of Serbia at the beginning of the second decade of the 21st Century.

International recommendations for censuses

In July 2005, Economic and Social Council of UN (ECOSOC) adopted a Resolution no. 2005/13, by which member states of UN organizations were stimulated to conduct population, households and dwellings census and to disseminate census results "as an essential source of information for small-area, national, regional and international planning and development; and to provide census results to national stakeholders as well as the United Nations and other

appropriate intergovernmental organizations to assist in studies on population, environment, and socio-economic development issues and programmes".¹

Upon request of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES), recommendations for ECE states have been developed by European Commission of UN for Europe (UNECE), in cooperation with Eurostat. First recommendations for population censuses were adopted in 1959, for censuses around 1960, and then for censuses around 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000. Accordingly, by recommendations for censuses around 2010, the 50th anniversary of the first recommendations creating has been marked out.

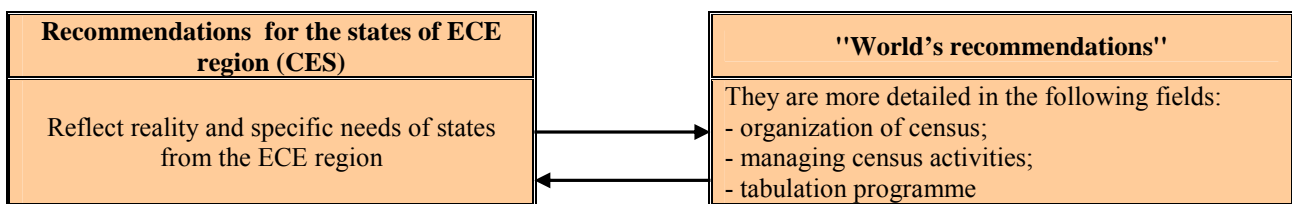
¹ Recommendations for the 2010 Censuses of Population and Housing.

The process of making CES recommendations ran parallel with the process of revision of Principles and recommendations for population and households censuses (so called world's recommendations).

Basic goals of recommendations for population, households and dwellings censuses are:

1. to provide methodological instruction and support to states in planning and conduction of censuses;
2. to facilitate and improve data comparability on regional and international level through selection of core topics group and definitions and classifications harmonization.

Table 1. Recommendations for censuses: two parallel processes



States are stimulated to use these two sets of recommendations, that, in fact, are harmonized and complete, while the "world's recommendations" are wider respecting selection of thematic fields, and CES recommendations are more specific in use of some definitions and classifications.

Census advantages and ways of its conducting

Advantages, respectively specific characteristics of census in relation to other statistical methods of individual data collection on population, households and dwellings (sample, register, etc.) reflect in the following:

1. individual enumeration – the term census indicates that each census unit (person, household and dwelling) is being separately enumerated;
2. simultaneousness - each census unit is enumerated in relation to in advance established unique time period (critical moment, census night ...);
3. universality – census is being conducted uniformly on precisely defined territory;
4. data for the lowest territorial units – by census, data on number and basic features of census units for the smallest territorial units in the scope of a state are being collected, according to legal regulations on citizens' personal data protection;
5. defined periodicity – censuses are being conducted in regular time intervals in order to maintain data comparability. Time series which are obtained from census provide the past, the presence to be investigated, but they also present the basis for making of estimates and projections.

By all means, the fact that census results are the most reliable basis for selection of very wide range of samples should be added to this.

We can generally speak about two ways of census conduction:

1. *traditional form*: complete coverage of census units, regardless if questionnaires are being submitted to inhabitants by mail (USA), or if questionnaires are being filled in by enumerator in the field (Serbia, Spain, Greece, Italy, Portugal) or they are being delivered by enumerators, and population fill in them and return them by mail to the census organizer (Slovenia);
2. *mixed form*: enumeration is based on population register, and socio-demographic features are being collected from other administrative resources (Holland, Sweden, etc.).

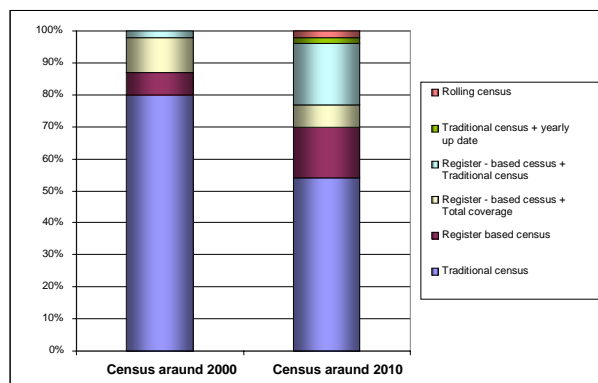
Traditional census form sometimes leads to the mixed form, in situations when states conduct traditional census, but they update data, during the time, by data from the population register (Austria, Belgium, Luxemburg, Switzerland).

It is interesting to mention practice of USA and France, states that developed new approaches in data collection. From 2005, the Bureau for Census, USA, conducts survey on a sample of smaller number of addresses (American Community Survey). The survey contains around 40 questions about population and housing fund and in fact, it is a substitution for a form "long form" from the census, while the census will be conducted on the form with smaller number of questions (short form). With beginning from 2004, France collects in the so called "rolling" census data in the way that it conducts every year in one fifth of municipalities with less than 10.000 inhabitants a classical census, while these same data are also being collected on 8% sample of municipalities with bigger number of inhabitants.

In the graph, one can clearly notice shift from traditional approach to census towards increased use of

administrative registers, samples and other ways of census conduction.

Graph 1. Method of data collection – practice and plans in the scope of ESE region



Contents of approaching Census in Serbia in the context of international recommendations and national needs

In order to provide data comparability on regional and global level, in the scope of international methodological recommendations, set of topics is being given (together with definitions and classifications), which inclusion has been recommended for the approaching Population, Households and Dwellings Census. Depending on importance, the topics are classified into: core topics and non-core topics. The **core topics** are topics of vital interest, for the countries of the region, as well as on the world's level, so the recommendation is that all countries should include them into census, if they can't provide data on them in another way, in order to provide minimum of international comparability. The **non-core topics** can be included into census, depending on the needs of individual countries, but it is very hard to provide international comparability on the world's level for them, because every country decides to, in dependence of its priorities, performs selective inclusion of topics into census. Beside core and non-core topics, the contents of the census is also made of **derived topics**, on which data are not being collected directly, during enumeration itself, but they are obtained afterwards, by additional processing of data collected, most usually by combining answers on two or more questions.

What topics will be included into the following Census in Serbia?

Contents of the Population, Households and Dwellings Census shall be, due to more and more diverse and complicated requests from many users, extremely complex, comprehensive and in the greatest extent harmonized with international recommendations. Degree of the contents' harmonization of the approaching Pilot Census 2009 in our country, recommended for the states of the ECE region,

illustrates in the best way comparative tabular review or with other words "list of topics" in continuation of this text (page 4).

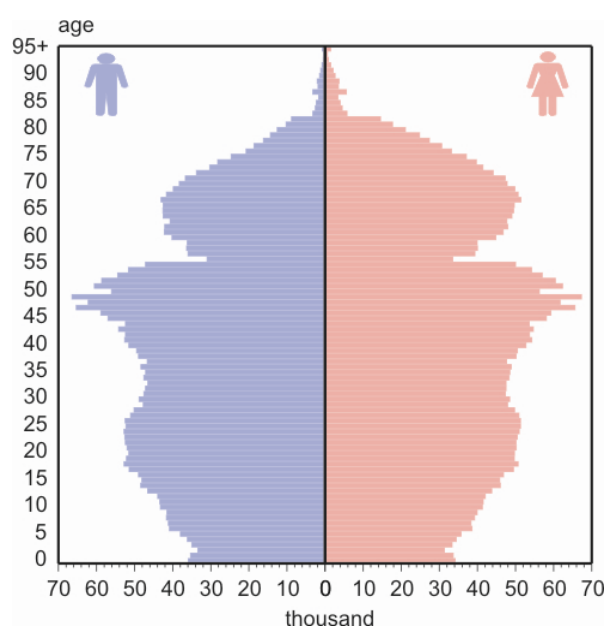
Importance of the Pilot Census 2009 for successful preparation of the Population, Households and Dwellings Census 2011

The Population, Households and Dwellings Pilot Census will be conducted in the period from 1st until 15th April 2009, on the representative sample of 250 enumeration districts, by which approximately 25 thousands of households will be included as well as around 70-75 thousands of persons.

The goal of the Pilot Census is to check, through stimulation of all census activities, all prepared methodological and organizational solutions in order to all possible shortcomings could be removed and also in order to train statistical and IT staff for conduction of the Census 2011.

Also, one of the crucial goals of the Census will be identification linking of the Population, Households and Dwellings Census with the approaching Census of Agriculture (Census of Agriculture was conducted last time in 1960). Namely, if the Census of Agriculture will be conducted in a short time period after the Population Census, according to UN and FAO recommendations, it is predicted to, during the field conduction of the Population Census, identify households with agricultural funds which will be included by the complete Census of Agriculture, all with aim to, in the most rational way, use existing stuff resources, IT equipment and financial means.

Graph 2. Population of the Republic of Serbia by sex and age, Census 2002



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List of recommended core topics, non-core topics and derived topics for population, households and dwellings censuses around 2010 (recommendations for states of the ECE region) and list of topics that are included in the Population, Households and Dwellings Pilot Census 2009 in Serbia

CORE TOPICS	NON-CORE TOPICS	CONTENTS OF THE PILOT CENSUS 2009
Population to be enumerated		
Place of usual residence <i>Total population (derived)</i>		Place of usual residence <i>Total population (derived)</i>
Geographic characteristics		
<i>Locally (derived)</i> Location of place of work	<i>Urban and rural areas (derived)</i> Location of school/faculty/university Mode of transport to work/ school/faculty/university Mode of transport to job/ school/faculty/university Distance of job/educational institution and time needed for travelling	<i>Locally (derived)</i> Location of place of work /School <i>Urban and rural settlements (derived)</i> Frequency of returning into the place of usual residence
Demographic characteristics		
Sex Age Legal marital status	De facto marital status Total number of children born alive Date of getting into legal marriage Date of the beginning of the consensual union of women having ever been in consensual union: first consensual union and current consensual union	Sex Age Legal marital status Does a person live in consensual union Number of live births Years of children's birth
Economic characteristics		
Current activity status Occupation Industry (branch of economic activity) Status in Employment	Usual activity status Performing of non-paid services, volunteers Sector of ownership Informal employment Type of place of work Time usually worked Time related underemployment Duration of unemployment Number of persons working in local org. of the unit of institution Main source of livelihood Income <i>Socio-economic groups (derived)</i>	Current activity status Occupation Industry Status in Employment Sources of income Is a person dependant Status of supporter
Educational characteristics		
Educational attainment	Educational qualifications Field of studying – education Attendance of a school Literacy Computer literacy	Educational attainment Acquired vocation Is a person literate School which he/she attends
International and internal migration		
Country/place of birth; Mother's usual place of residence in time when person was born Citizenship Ever reside abroad and year of arrival in the country Previous place of usual residence and date of arrival into the current place	Country of previous usual residence abroad Total duration of residence in the country Place of usual residence 5 years prior to the census Main reason of migration Country of parents' birth Citizenship acquisition <i>Persons with foreign/national background (derived)</i> <i>Population groups relevant to international migrations (derived)</i> <i>Population with refugee background (derived)</i> <i>Internally displaced persons (derived)</i>	Country/place of birth; Mother's place of residence in time when person was born Citizenship Have you ever lived abroad and year of arrival to Serbia Previous place of usual residence and year of arrival into the current place Reason of migration <i>Population with refugee background (derived)</i> Internally displaced persons Country of work/stay abroad Length of work/stay abroad
Ethnic-cultural characteristics		
	Ethnic and national affiliation Mother tongue /main language/ knowing of language Religion	National affiliation Mother tongue Religion
Disability		
	Disability	Does a person due to some long-lasting disease, disability or age have difficulties in performing everyday activities (at home/at job/in school) What is the main reason of these difficulties (chronic disease, disability, age, other reasons)
Household and family characteristics		
Relationships between household members <i>Household status (derived)</i> <i>Family status (derived)</i> <i>Type of family nucleus (derived)</i> <i>Size of family nucleus (derived)</i> <i>Type of a private household (derived)</i> <i>Size of private household (derived)</i> Tenure status of households	<i>Same sex partnership</i> <i>Extended family status (derived)</i> <i>Type of reconstructed family (derived)</i> <i>Type of extended family (derived)</i> <i>Generational composition of private household (derived)</i> Single or shared occupancy Rent Durable consumer goods possessed by the household Number of cars used by a household Availability of car parking Telephone and Internet connection	Relationships between household members <i>Household status (derived)</i> <i>Family status (derived)</i> <i>Type of family nucleus (derived)</i> <i>Size of family nucleus (derived)</i> <i>Type of private household (derived)</i> <i>Size of private household (derived)</i> Tenure status of households
Agriculture		
	Own-account agricultural production Characteristics of all agricultural jobs during the last year (individual level)	Totally disposable land of household -of which agricultural land Has a household been engaged in the last year in crop production (cereals, industrial and fodder crops...) and sown areas Does a household own areas with pastures, fishponds and forests Does a household own livestock, poultry, bees Is a household engaged in agricultural production Is somebody of household members enrolled in the Register of agricultural holdings of the Ministry of Agriculture
Dwellings		
Housing arrangements Type of living quarters Location of living quarters Dwelling occupied/ non-occupied Type of ownership Number of occupants Useful floor space and/or number of rooms of housing units <i>Density standard (derived)</i> Water supply system Toilette facilities Bathing facilities Type of heating Dwellings by type of building Dwellings by period of construction	Availability and characteristics of secondary, seasonal or empty dwelling Occupancy by number of private households Type of rooms Hot water Type of sewage disposal system Kitchen Cooking facilities Main type of energy used for heating Electricity Gas pipeline Air conditioning Position of dwelling in the building Accessibility to dwelling Lift Dwellings by number of floors in building Dwellings by materials of which specific parts of the building are constructed Dwellings by state of repair of the building	Type of living quarters Type of collective housing utility Use of dwelling Dwelling area Number of rooms in dwelling Kitchen's area Toilette in dwelling Latrine in dwelling Installations in dwelling (water supply system, sewage system, central floor heating, gas pipeline) Dwelling's ownership Floor on which dwelling is situated Year of building's construction Dwelling is only on one floor (level) Material of building's external walls Type of building where dwelling is situated