

Table 1: A comparison of the Census 2011, CS 2016 questions, 2020 round of Censuses UN recommended core topics for Population and Housing Censuses & African countries core recommended questions

Topic	Data items/variables			
	Census 2011	CS 2016	UN recommended core topics: Census 2020 round	Core & African recommendations
Cover page/details on location	Questionnaire type (type of living quarters)	Questionnaire type (type of living quarters)	Questionnaire type (type of living quarters)	Questionnaire type (type of living quarters)
	EA type (Urban/rural)	EA type (Urban/rural)	EA type (Urban/rural)	EA type (Urban/rural)
	Province, main place, sub-place of enumeration (Locality)	Province, main place, sub-place of enumeration (Locality)	Province, main place, sub-place of enumeration (Locality)	Province, main place, sub-place of enumeration (Locality)
	Physical address of dwelling unit (Location of living quarters)	Physical address of dwelling unit (Location of living quarters)	Physical address of dwelling unit (Location of living quarters)	Physical address of dwelling unit (Location of living quarters)
	Number of persons in the household (Total population, number of occupants)	Number of persons in the household (Total population, number of occupants)	Number of persons in the household (Total population, number of occupants)	Number of persons in the household (Total population, number of occupants)
	Number of households at the dwelling unit	Number of households at the dwelling unit	Number of households at the dwelling unit (Occupancy by one or more households)	Number of households at the dwelling unit (Occupancy by one or more households)
Demographics	Sex	Sex	Sex (includes sex of household head)	Sex (includes sex of household head)
	Age in completed years	Age in completed years	Age (includes age of household head)	Age (includes age of household head)
	Date of birth	Date of birth		
	Relationship to head of household	Relationship to head of household	Relationship to the reference person in the household	Relationship to the reference person in the household
	Marital status	Marital status	Marital status	Marital status
	Spouse/partner person no.			
	Population group	Population group		
	Language spoke most often in household - First & Second	Language spoke most often in household		
	Religious affiliation			
	Christian denomination			
Migration	Province of birth	Province of birth	Place of birth	Place of birth
	Country of birth	Country of birth	Country of birth	Country of birth
	Year moved to SA	Year moved to SA	Year or period of arrival	Year or period of arrival
	South African citizenship (Y/N)			
		Country of citizenship	Country of citizenship	Country of citizenship

Topic	Data items/variables			
	Census 2011	CS 2016	UN recommended core topics: Census 2020 round	Core & African recommendations
	Usual residence (Y/N)	Usual residence	Place of usual residence Place where present at time of the census)	Place of usual residence (Place where present at time of the census)
	Province of usual residence	Province of usual residence	Province of usual residence Place where present at time of the census)	
	Municipality/Magisterial district of usual residence	Local/metropolitan municipality of usual residence	Local/metropolitan municipality of usual residence (Place where present at time of the census)	
	City/Town of usual residence	City/town/traditional area of usual residence	City/town/traditional area of usual residence Place where present at time of the census)	
	Since 2001 (Living here)	Since 2011	Since 2011 (Duration of residence)	Since 2011 (Duration of residence)
	Month and year moved	Year moved	Year moved (Duration of residence)	Year moved (Duration of residence)
	Province of previous residence	Province of previous residence	Place of previous residence	Place of previous residence
	Municipality/Magisterial district of previous residence	Municipality/Magisterial district of previous residence		
	City/Town of previous residence	City/Town of previous residence		
		Main reason for leaving previous residence		
	Health & functioning – type & intensity (disability status)	Health & functioning – type & intensity (disability status)	Health & functioning – type & intensity (disability status)	Health & functioning – type & intensity (disability status)
Assistive devices and medication	Assistive devices			
Parental survival	Mother Alive	Mother Alive		Mother alive (maternal & dual orphanhood)
	Mother person no.	Year of death of mother		
	Father Alive	Mother person no.		
	Father person no.	Father Alive		Father alive (paternal & dual orphanhood)
		Year of death of father		
	Father person no.			
Education	School attendance	School attendance	School attendance	School attendance
	Type of educational institution	Type of educational institution		
	Public/Private	Public/Private		

Topic	Data items/variables			
	Census 2011	CS 2016	UN recommended core topics: Census 2020 round	Core & African recommendations
		Mode of transport used to educational institution		
		Time taken to travel to educational institution		
	Highest level of education	Highest level of education	Educational attainment	Educational attainment, & Education qualifications
	Field of education	Field of education		Field of education
	Literacy		Literacy	Literacy
Employment	Employment status: Work for a wage/salary	Employment status: Work for a wage/salary	Status in employment	
	Employment status: Run business	Employment status: Run business	Status in employment	
	Employment status: Unpaid work	Employment status: Unpaid work	Status in employment	
	Temporary absence from work	Temporary absence from work	Labour force status, activity status	Labour force status, activity status
	Looking for work	Looking for work/ trying to start a business	Labour force status, activity status	Labour force status, activity status
	Liked to work	Liked to work	Labour force status, activity status	Labour force status, activity status
	Reasons for not working	Reason for not wanting to work/start a business in the last week	Labour force status, activity status	Labour force status, activity status
		Reason for not trying to find work/start a business in the last four weeks	Labour force status, activity status	Labour force status, activity status
	Available to work	Available to work	Labour force status, activity status	Labour force status, activity status
		How soon can you start work/a business	Labour force status, activity status	Labour force status, activity status
		Reason for not being available to work or start a business in the last week	Labour force status, activity status	Labour force status, activity status
	Occupation	Occupation	Occupation	
	Main task/duty	Main task/duty		
	Industry	Industry	Industry	
Main goods/services	Main goods/services			
Type of sector	Type of sector		Type of sector	

Topic	Data items/variables			
	Census 2011	CS 2016	UN recommended core topics: Census 2020 round	Core & African recommendations
		Sources of income		
Income & social grants	Income category	Income category		
		Type of social grant		
Fertility	Children ever born (Y/N)	Ever given birth	Children ever born alive	Children ever born alive
		Total children surviving	Children living	Children living
		Total surviving boys		
		Total surviving girls		
	Total surviving and living in the household			
	Total boys surviving and living in the household			
	Total girls surviving and living in the household			
	Total surviving and living elsewhere			
	Total boys surviving and living elsewhere			
	Total girls surviving and living elsewhere			
	Age at first birth			Age of mother at DOB of first child born alive
	Total children no longer alive	Total children no longer alive		
	Total boys no longer alive	Total boys no longer alive		
	Total girls no longer alive	Total girls no longer alive		
	Total children ever born	Total children ever born		
	Total boys ever born	Total boys ever born		
	Total girls ever born	Total girls ever born		
	Last child born DOB	Last child born DOB	Births in last 12 months	Births in last 12 months
	Date of death of last child born	Date of death of last child born	Date of birth of last child born alive & deaths amongst births in last 12 months	Date of birth of last child born alive & deaths amongst births in last 12 months
Sex of last child born	Sex of last child born			
Last child born alive	Last child born alive	Births in 12 months	Births in last 12 months	

Topic	Data items/variables			
	Census 2011	CS 2016	UN recommended core topics: Census 2020 round	Core & African recommendations
		Breastfeed last child		
		Duration of breastfeeding last child		
Housing, household goods & services & crime		Person responding to household questions		
		Problems/difficulties facing the municipality		
		Problems facing the household		
		Satisfaction with basic services		
		Improving the standard of living of the household		
		Type of living quarters		
		Type of main dwelling	Type of main dwelling	Type of dwelling (Type of building)
		Construction material		Construction material of outer walls
				Construction material of floor & roof
		Number of rooms		Number of rooms
		Tenure status	Tenure status	Tenure
				Type of ownership
			Monthly rent paid in past month	
			Monthly rent estimated	
			Total rent include water, electricity, etc.	
			Title deed for dwelling	
			RDP/government subsidised dwelling	
			Quality of RDP/government subsidised dwelling	
			Estimated value of property	
			Age of property	
	Source of water	Source of water	Main source of drinking water	
		Distance to main source of water		

Topic	Data items/variables			
	Census 2011	CS 2016	UN recommended core topics: Census 2020 round	Core & African recommendations
	Access to piped water	Access to safe and reliable drinking water		
		Water supplier	Water supply system	Water supply system
	Reliability of water supply	Reliability of municipal water supply		
		Duration of water interruptions		
	Interruptions in water supply more than two days	Interruptions in water supply more than two days		
			Bathing facilities	Bathing facilities
			Availability of kitchen	Availability of kitchen
	Alternative water source	Alternative water source		
	Toilet facilities	Toilet facilities	Type of toilet facility	Type of toilet facility
			Sewage disposal	Sewage disposal
		Location of toilet facility		
		Shared toilet facility		
		Responsibility for maintenance of sanitation facility		
		Access to electricity		
		Electricity supplier		
		Electricity interruptions		
		Duration of electricity interruptions		
		Saving energy in the household		
	Energy/fuel for cooking/heating/lighting	Energy/fuel for cooking/heating/lighting	Fuel used for cooking and lighting	Fuel used for cooking and lighting
		Expenditure on energy sources per month		
	Refuse disposal	Refuse disposal	Main type of solid waste disposal	Main type of solid waste disposal
	Household goods and services	Household goods		
	Access to internet	Internet services	Availability of information and communication devices	Availability of information and communication devices

Topic	Data items/variables			
	Census 2011	CS 2016	UN recommended core topics: Census 2020 round	Core & African recommendations
		Postal/mail services	Availability of information and communication devices	Availability of information and communication devices
		Perception of safety when walking alone when it is dark		
		Perception of safety when walking alone during the day		
		Experience of crime in past 12 months		
		Experience of crime		
Agricultural activities		Involvement in agricultural activities		
	Place of agricultural activities	Place of agricultural activities		
		Main purpose of agricultural activity	Participation in own-use production of goods	
	Type of agricultural activity	Type of agricultural activity	Participation in own-use production of goods	
		Type of farming practice for crop production		
		Current livestock/poultry		
		Current quantity of livestock/poultry		
		Run out of money for food		
		Frequency of running out of money to buy food		
		Skipped meals in past 12 months		
	Frequency of skipping meals in past 12 months			
Emigration		Any member who left SA		
		Name of emigrant		
		Sex of emigrant		
		Age of emigrant		
		Country of current residence of emigrant		
		Year emigrant moved out of SA		

Topic	Data items/variables			
	Census 2011	CS 2016	UN recommended core topics: Census 2020 round	Core & African recommendations
Mortality	Death occurred	Death occurred	Household deaths in the past 12 months	Household deaths in the past 12 months
	Number of deaths	Number of deaths		
	Name of deceased	Name of deceased		
	Sex of deceased	Sex of deceased		
	Age of deceased	Age of deceased		
	Month and year of death	Month and year of death		
	Natural or unnatural death			
	Pregnant at time of death	Whether pregnant at the time of death/died during birth/died within the postnatal period		
	Death during birth			
	Postnatal death			
Final result code for household	Final result code	Final result code	Final result code (Occupancy status)	Final result code (Occupancy status)

Table 2: Possible inclusion of data items that assist in measuring National Development Programme (NDP) 2030

Data item	Related NDP goal
Population group	Transforming society and uniting the country
Crime/safety *	Building safer communities
Public transport *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving infrastructure Reversing the spatial effects of past imbalances
Adequate nutrition *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality healthcare for all Improving the quality of education, training and innovation
Poverty and social protection *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social protection Transforming society and uniting the country

**Inclusion of these items would depend on outcomes of discussions with DPME and other government departments. It will also depend on whether there are other sources of this data and whether the data is required at lower levels of geography.*