



**Statistics
South Africa**

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Census 2011 user consultations on data items

Census 2011

February–May 2008

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Millennium Development Goals	5
Expectations from the workshop.....	8
Section A – Core questions and their uses	9
Section B – Housing.....	15
Section C – Definitions and classifications	17
Section D – Housing.....	26
Conclusion	28

Introduction

Statistics South Africa will be conducting a national population census in October 2011. The *UN Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (UNP&R) (Revision 2)* underscores the following factors determining the selection of topics to be investigated in population censuses:

- a) The needs of a broad range of data users in the country;
- b) Achievement of the maximum degree of international comparability, both within regions and on a worldwide basis;
- c) The probable willingness and ability of the public to give adequate information on the topics; and
- d) The total national resources available for conducting a census.

The UNP&R further stipulates that census takers should avoid collecting information that is no longer required simply because it was traditionally collected in the past, but rather focus on key demographic, social and socio-economic variables.

It becomes necessary, therefore, in consultation with a broad range of users of census data, to review periodically the topics traditionally investigated and to re-evaluate the need for the series to which they contribute, particularly in the light of new data needs and alternative data sources that may have become available for investigating topics hitherto covered in the population census. It is against this background that Statistics South Africa will be conducting user consultations scheduled for February-May 2008 after the release of some of the Community Survey products. However, some groundwork in relation to core questions recommended by all countries in Africa has been done. This document shares this work with you.

Census 2011 comes at a crucial time when over 200 governments – including South Africa – have signed a declaration towards the eradication of poverty by 2015. The 2006 Africa Symposium on Statistics Development (ASSD) 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses was held in Cape Town, South Africa, to listen to the African position and to make amendments to the draft *UN Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (Revision 2)*. Web address: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/census/census3.htm>.

Follow-up meetings in Mozambique and Rwanda have been held to refine the UNP&R. Another meeting is scheduled to be held in Ghana in December 2007.

A population and housing census provides data needed to facilitate informed decision-making as far as policy formulation and implementation are concerned, as well as to monitor and evaluate their programmes at the smallest area level possible. It is therefore important that Statistics South Africa, a schedule 3 government department mandated under the Statistics Act (Act No. 6 of 1999) collect statistical data that comply with the United Nations recommendations and other relevant stakeholder needs. In line with users' meetings, the crucial demands of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) should also be met. It is also imperative that Stats SA meet the demands of the users that require **small area data**. Stats SA will therefore conduct user consultations throughout the nine provinces to solicit user needs that fall within the scope of the census. The final output emanating from these user/stakeholder consultations will be a questionnaire, a technical committee for formation of content, and a tabulation plan. Questionnaires play a central role in the data collection process. They have a major impact on data quality and on the image that Statistics South Africa projects to the public. The technical committee on the other hand, will represent other user/stakeholder interests at questionnaire design stage. The content and products component will have the questionnaire ready by March 2009 to allow for printing in preparation for the pilot that is scheduled for October 2009.

Millennium Development Goals

There are eight millennium development goals (MDGs) that require close monitoring by government. The census can only contribute to the monitoring of five of them, namely goals 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, by supplying relevant information to planners and policy-makers.

Goals and targets	Indicators
Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger <i>Target 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than US\$1 a day</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of the population earning below US\$ 1 a day • Poverty gap ratio (incidence, times, depth of poverty) • Share of poorest quintile in national consumption
<i>Target 2: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevalence of underweight children (under five years) • Proportion of the population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption
Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education <i>Target 3: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net enrolment rate in primary education • Proportion of pupils starting Grade 1 who reach Grade 7 • Literacy rate of 15–24-year-olds
Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women <i>Target 4: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratio of boys to girls in primary, secondary and tertiary education • Ratio of literate females to males among 15–24-year-olds • Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector • Proportion of seats held by women in the national parliament

Goals and targets	Indicators
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality <i>Target 5:</i> Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the mortality rate among children under five	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under-five mortality rate • Infant mortality rate • Proportion of one-year-old children immunised against measles
Goal 5: Improve maternal health <i>Target 6:</i> Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maternal mortality ratio • Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel
Goal 6: Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases <i>Target 7:</i> Have halted by 2015, and begin to reverse, the spread of HIV and AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV prevalence among 15–24-year-old pregnant women • Contraceptive prevalence rate • Number of children orphaned by HIV and AIDS
<i>Target 8:</i> Have halted by 2015, and begin to reverse, the incidence of malaria and other major diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevalence and death rates associated with malaria • Proportion of the population in malaria-risk areas using effective malaria prevention and treatment measures • Prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis • Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under Directly-Observed Treatment Short Courses (DOTS)
Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability <i>Target 9:</i> Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes, and reverse the loss of environmental resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in land area covered by forest • Land area protected to maintain biological diversity • GDP per unit of energy use • Carbon dioxide emissions (per capita)
<i>Target 10:</i> Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of the population with sustainable access to an improved water source • Proportion of the population with access to improved sanitation
<i>Target 11:</i> Have achieved, by 2020, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slum population as percentage of urban population

Goals and targets	Indicators
Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development <i>Target 12:</i> Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system (includes commitment to good governance, development, and poverty reduction – both nationally and internationally)	Target and indicators are not presently being measured in South Africa
<i>Target 13:</i> Address the special needs of the least developed countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official development assistance (ODA)
<i>Target 14:</i> Address the special needs of landlocked countries and small island developing states	Target and indicators do not apply to South Africa
<i>Target 15:</i> Deal comprehensively with debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long run	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services
<i>Target 16:</i> In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment rate of 15–24-year-olds, by each sex and in total
<i>Target 17:</i> In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries	Measurement of target not available for South Africa (free primary health care for all)
<i>Target 18:</i> In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone lines and cellular subscribers • Personal computers in use per 100 of the population

Expectations from the workshop

- Interrogate the core questions and rank them by order of importance according to your requirements.
- Mark core questions that are not relevant for South Africa and justify with reasons.
- Investigate the best source of data for the goal.
- Identify data gaps within the scope of the census and motivate

Section A – Core questions and their uses

Geographical and internal migration characteristics

Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place of usual residence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross-tabulated with 'Place of birth', one can determine the localities that lost or gained people due to internal or international migration Useful in the measurement of resource allocation Planning in terms of service delivery The best choice for calculation of locality total population
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place where present at the time of census (de facto) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures everyone that spent a night in the country is counted Cross-tabulated with 'Place of usual residence', it measures people mobility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place of birth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of policies related to migration Investigation of internal and international migration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration of residence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplements information given on place of birth to determine internal migration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place of previous residence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigation of migration Planning in terms of service delivery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place of residence at a specified date in the past 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides statistics for analysing internal and international migration for a specified period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informs decision-makers about the size of the population as per census night Determines intercensal growth rates Input to population projections Used by decision-makers to compare with other growth rates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective and efficient service delivery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban and rural 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Important background variable in census data analysis

International migration	
Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country of birth (see place of birth) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distinguishes the native-born from foreign-born population
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizenship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For classification purposes of citizens and non-citizens Informs decision-makers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year or period of arrival in the country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes migration trends Planning in terms of service delivery
Household and family characteristics	
Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship to head or other reference member of household 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes household structure Informs decision-makers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household and family composition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determines the extent of family nuclei or extended families. Uses may range from calculation of housing needs to determining extent of dependency burden
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household and family status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies how persons relate to other households or family members

Demographic and social characteristics	
Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning in terms of service delivery Policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation Input in population projections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning in terms of service delivery Provides information regarding educational requirements, health and social services Provides information on economic aspects such as child dependency ratios Provides population structure, i.e. how many are children, youth and elderly Provides basis for actuarial analysis Input in population projections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marital status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information regarding relationship status of individuals in relation to the marriage laws of the country Provides useful information on studies of fertility Provides information on studies pertaining to family structures
Fertility	
Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children ever born 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on lifetime fertility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Date of last child born alive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information for estimation of current fertility Information obtained can be used to derive both national and subnational fertility estimates Data obtained can be used to estimate number of live births in the last twelve months for the estimation of current fertility levels Provides information on current age-specific rates and other fertility measures

Mortality	
Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children living 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes indirect estimates for infant and child mortality • Provides information on conditions of living
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household deaths in the past 12 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides information to estimate the level and pattern of mortality • Indicator of health performance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orphanhood(maternal/paternal or dual orphaned) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used in indirect estimates of adult mortality indicators. Used in both national and international programmes to assist orphans and vulnerable children. Useful in measuring social conditions of a country
Educational characteristics	
Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides information on literacy rates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School attendance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides information for planning purposes. Monitors progress in terms of full attendance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational attainment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides information to identify level or grade each person has obtained • Produces statistics on educational attainment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field of education and educational qualifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For human resource planning. Can be used to analyse the demand and supply of human resources by various skill levels and fields of study

Economic characteristics	
Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic activity of persons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on current economic activities of the population
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on the type of work according to International Standard Classifications of Occupation (ISCO) Provides information for planning Generates information used for international comparison
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on the branch of economic activity within which the activity is performed from municipal to national levels Assists in identifying which branch of the economy absorbs more people Obtains information that helps in classifying different areas of the economy Provides information for purposes of international comparison as required by the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status in employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on the type of employment for purposes of International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional sector of employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relates to the legal organisation and principal functions, behaviour and objectives of the enterprise with which a job is associated (SNA is recommended)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment in the informal sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information where the informal sector activities play an important role in employment creation and income generation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child labour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures the general use of children's time and the effect on their health, education and normal growth

Disability	
Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on allocation of grants Provides information for planning purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability framework and terminology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides improved estimates for the measurement of disability. The International Classification of Functioning and Health (ICF) and the World Programme of Action concerning disabled persons (WPA) frameworks

Section B – Housing

Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of living quarters/main dwelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning purposes in terms of housing Describes housing situation Formulation of housing programmes and policies Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare Provides information on housing conditions of households (classification purposes – distinguishing between conventional and non-conventional dwellings)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location of living quarters (address, locality, urban or rural) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demarcation of EAs Mapping Listing Tabulation purposes Planning purposes Preparation of census control lists Monitoring and control of enumeration exercise Identifies dwellings for possible call-back and post-enumeration surveys or any other post-censal enquiries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupancy status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies whether a dwelling is occupied or vacant at the time of census Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare Provides information on housing conditions of households
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning purposes Formulation of housing programmes and policies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on housing conditions of households Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare Planning purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of bedrooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on privacy as well as overcrowding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning purposes in terms of water supply Establishes living conditions

Core question	Importance/use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main source of drinking water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes standard of living/peoples' welfare Monitors the MDGs – 'sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation'
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare Planning purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sewage disposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare Planning purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bathing facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of kitchen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare Planning purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy used for cooking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare Planning purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy used for lighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare Planning purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solid waste disposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies standard of living/peoples' welfare Planning purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupancy by one or more households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on housing conditions of households
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of occupants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on housing conditions of households
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the types of buildings that are characteristic of the country
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction material of outer walls, floor, roof 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies standards of living/peoples' welfare
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age and sex of household head 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family composition Planning purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determines the type of ownership of household dwelling
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and Communication Technology (ICT) devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determines access to communication facilities

Section C – Definitions and classifications

Geographical and internal migration characteristics

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place of usual residence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usual residence is defined as the place at which the person lives at the time of the census, and has been there for some time, or intends to stay there for some time. A threshold of twelve months continuous stay (excluding temporary absences for holidays or work assignments) is recommended
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place where present at the time of census (de facto) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The place where present at the time of the census is, in theory, the geographical place at which each person was present on the day of the census, whether or not this was his or her place of usual residence. In practice, the concept is generally applied to the place where the person slept on the night preceding the census day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place of birth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The place of birth is the civil division in which the person was born or, for those born in other countries, the country of birth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration of residence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The duration of residence is the interval of time up to the time of census, expressed in completed years, during which each person has lived in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The locality that is his or her usual residence at the time of the census; and (b) The major or smaller civil division in which that locality is situated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place of previous residence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The place of previous residence is the major or smaller division, or foreign country, in which the individual resided immediately prior to migrating into his present civil division of usual residence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place of residence at a specified date in the past 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The place of previous residence is the major or smaller division, or foreign country, in which the individual resided at a specified date preceding the census

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For census purposes, the total population of the country consists of all the persons falling within the scope of the census. Total may comprise either all usual residents of the country (<i>de jure</i>) or all persons present at the time of census (<i>de facto</i>) population
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For census purposes, a locality is defined as a distinct population cluster in which the inhabitants live in neighbouring sets of living quarters and that has a name or a locally recognised status. It includes suburbs, tribal areas, villages, town, cities, mining camps, etc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban and rural 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definition differs from country to country. Countries are advised to set specific criteria for definition of urban/rural areas, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Legal/administrative requirements b) Population size and population density c) Availability of facilities such as schools, health institutions, etc. d) Socio-economic facilities and amenities, e.g. electricity, piped water e) Main economic activity, i.e. proportion of labour force in non-agricultural activities

International migration

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country of birth (see place of birth) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The country in which the person was born
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizenship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The particular legal bond between an individual and his/her state
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year or period of arrival in the country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The calendar year and month of arrival of a foreign born person. Or the number of completed years between the time of arrival in the country and the time of enquiry

Household and family characteristics

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A household may be either – <p>(a) A one-person household, that is to say, a person who makes provision for his or her own food or other essentials for living without combining with any other person to form a multi-person household; or</p> <p>(b) A multi-person household, that is to say, a group of two or more persons living together who make common provision for food or other essentials for living</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head of household or other reference member of the household 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A person selected by the household according to specified criteria for choosing such a person Stats SA's definition: The head or acting head is the person who is the main decision-maker in the household. If two or more people are equal decision-makers, take the oldest person
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship to head or other reference member of the household 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 01 Head/acting head 02 Husband/wife/partner 03 Son/daughter 04 Adopted son/daughter 05 Stepchild 06 Brother/sister 07 Parent(mother/father) 08 Parent-in-law 09 Grand/great-grandchild 10 Son/daughter-in-law 11 Brother/sister-in-law 12 Grandmother/father 13 Other relative 14 Non-related person

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household and family composition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Households are classified as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>One-person household</i>; b) <i>Nuclear household</i> defined as a household consisting of married couple family with or without children; partner in consensual union with or without children; father with children; mother with children; c) <i>Extended household</i> defined as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a single family nucleus and other persons related to the nucleus; (ii) two or more family nuclei related to each other; (iii) two or more family nuclei related to each other plus other persons related to at least one of the nuclei; and (iv) two or more persons related to each other, none of whom constitute a family nuclei; d) <i>Composite household</i> is defined as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a household consisting of a single family nucleus plus other persons, some of whom are related to the nucleus and some of whom are not; (ii) a single family nucleus plus other persons, none of whom is related to the nucleus; (iii) two or more family nuclei related to each other plus other persons, some of whom are related to at least one of the nuclei and some of whom are not related to any of the nuclei; (iv) Two or more family nuclei related to each other plus other persons, none of whom is related to any of the nuclei; (v) Two or more family nuclei not related to each other, with or without any other persons; (vi) Two or more persons related to each other, but none of whom constitute a family nucleus, plus other unrelated persons; and (vii) Non-related persons only; and e) <i>Other/unknown</i>

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household and family status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons are classified by household status as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Persons in a household with at least one family nucleus can be a husband, wife, partner in a consensual union (cohabiting partner), lone mother and father and a child living with both parents or with a lone mother or father. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If not a member of a family nucleus, person can be classified as living with relatives or living with non-relatives Persons in a household with no family nucleus can be a person living alone or living with others, including siblings, other relatives or non-relatives Persons are classified by family status as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A spouse, this can refer to a husband with child(ren) or without a child, a wife with child(ren) or without a child A lone male or female parent A child with both parents, or a lone parent (lone father or mother) Not a member of a family nucleus <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If relative of husband or wife, a person can be classified as a parent of husband or wife, sibling of husband or wife, or as other relative of husband or wife A person can also be classified as non-relative

Demographic and social characteristics

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Male or female
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age is the interval of time between the date of birth and the date of the census, expressed in completed solar years

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marital status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marital status is the personal status of each individual in relation to the marriage laws and customs of the country. The categories of marital status used in South Africa are the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Never married Married civil/religious Married traditional/customary Polygamous marriage Living together as married partners Separated Divorced Widower/widow
Fertility and mortality	
Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anybody's son or daughter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children ever born 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children born alive (excluding foetal deaths) during the lifetime of a woman concerned up to the census date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children living 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The surviving children ever born during the lifetime of a woman concerned up to the census date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Date of last child born alive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The day, the month and the year of the last child born alive
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household deaths in the past 12 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total deaths of household members occurring during the 12 months preceding enumeration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orphanhood (maternal/paternal or dual orphanhood) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether or not the natural mother or father of the person enumerated is still alive at the time of the census

Educational characteristics	
Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to both read and write (with understanding) a short, simple statement in any language
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School attendance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School attendance is defined as regular attendance at any regular accredited educational institution or programme, public or private, for organised learning at any level of education at the time of the census or, if the census is taken during the vacation period at the end of the school year or during the last school year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational attainment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational attainment is defined as the highest grade completed within the most advanced level attended in the educational system of the country where education was received
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field of education and educational qualifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualifications are degrees, diplomas, certificates, professional titles and so forth that an individual has acquired, whether by full-time or part-time study or private study, whether conferred in the home country or abroad, and whether conferred by educational authorities, special examining bodies or professional bodies. Field of study refers to the title of the highest certificate, diploma or degree received
Economic characteristics	
Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An economically active person is a person who is either employed, or unemployed but actively looking for a job
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupation refers to the type of work done in a job by the person employed (or the type of work done previously if the person is unemployed) irrespective of the industry or the status in employment in which the person should be classified. Type of work is described by the main tasks and duties of the work

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry (branch or economic activity) refers to the kind of production or activity of the establishment or similar unit in which the job(s) of the economically active person (whether employed or unemployed) was located during the time-reference period established for data on economic characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status in employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status in employment refers to the explicit and implicit contract of employment with other persons or organisations that the economically active person has in his/her job
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional sector of employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional sector of employment refers to the organisational and principal functions, behaviour and objectives of the enterprise with which job a job is associated. Institutional sectors can be distinguished into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) <i>Corporation</i>, which comprises non-financial and financial corporations and quasi-corporations, as well as non-profit institutions such as hospitals, schools and colleges that charge fees to cover their current production costs; (b) <i>General government</i>, which comprises central, state and local government units together with social security funds imposed or controlled by those units, and non-profit institutions engaged in non-market production controlled and financed by government, or by social security funds; (c) <i>Non-profit institutions serving households</i>, which include churches, professional societies, sports and cultural clubs, charitable institutions and aid agencies that provide non-market goods and services for households (those free or at prices that are not economically significant) and whose main resources are from voluntary contributions; and (d) <i>Households</i>, which also include unincorporated households owned by households, and comprises unincorporated enterprises directly owned and controlled by members of private and institutional households (made up of those staying in hospitals, retirement homes, convents, prisons and so forth, for long periods of time), either individually or in partnership with others. These partners may be members of the same household or from different households

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment in the informal sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment in the informal sector refers to an activity in which a person performs work for pay, profit or family gain in a business or organisation not registered for income tax or VAT or not registered under relevant forms of national legislation or on the non-registration of its employees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child labour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons under the age of 15 years who are employed for payment of any kind
Disability	
Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An umbrella term for impairments, activity limitations and participation restrictions. Persons with disabilities are defined as those persons who are at greater risk than the general population for experiencing restrictions in performing specific tasks or participating in role activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability framework and terminology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Refers to a structure/system of describing a set of disability concepts/terminology and classifications of the contextual components associated with disability including both participation and environmental factors. The system is divided into two parts, each with two components (and they all interact) which includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Functioning and disability (systems) which includes the components – body functions and body structures (impairments) as well as limitations in activities and restrictions in participation; and 2) Contextual factors (systems) which includes the components – environmental factors and personal factors

Section D – Housing

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living quarters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living quarters are separate and independent places of abode, constructed, built, converted or arranged for human habitation and that are occupied at the time of the census. In the case of improvised housing units or collective living quarters, they should be occupied at the time of census. Those not intended for habitation but are actually in use for such a purpose at the time of the census
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The locality, for example 'city, town, township or tribal area'
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether the dwelling is occupied or vacant at the time of census
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether the living quarters are owned by the public sector (state). Whether the living quarters are privately owned (households, private corporations, housing associations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A room is defined as a space in a housing unit or other living quarters enclosed by walls reaching from the floor to the ceiling or roof covering, or to a height of at least two metres, of an area large enough to hold a bed for an adult
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bedrooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A bedroom is defined as a room equipped with a bed and used for night rest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Piped water, spring, borehole, dam/pool, river/stream, water vendor, rainwater tank
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main source of drinking water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe drinking water
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An installation for the disposal of human excreta
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sewage disposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flush toilet connected to sewage system; dry toilet facility, pit toilet, (with or without ventilation), chemical toilet, bucket system, no toilet
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bathing facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of a fixed bath or shower within the housing unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of kitchen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A kitchen is defined as a space that conforms in all respects to the criteria for a room, and is equipped for the preparation of the principal meals of the day and intended primarily for that purpose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy used for cooking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity, gas, paraffin, wood, coal, cow dung, solar

Core question	Definition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy used for lighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity, gas, paraffin, candles, solar
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solid waste disposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refers to the usual manner of collection and disposal of solid waste and garbage generated by occupants of the housing unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of occupants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each person usually residing in a housing unit or a set of collective living quarters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A building is any independent, free-standing structure comprising one or more <i>rooms</i> or other spaces covered by a roof and usually enclosed within external walls or dividing walls that extend from the foundation to the roof
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age and sex of household head 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age in completed years and whether household head is male or female
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenure refers to the arrangements under which the household occupies the whole or part of a housing unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and Communication Technology (ICT) devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of radio, television set, fixed line telephone, mobile cellular telephone, personal computer, Internet from home, access to Internet from elsewhere other than home, and households without access to the Internet
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupancy by one or more household 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupancy is by either one household or more than one household
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction material (outer wall) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The predominant type of material used for the construction of the outer walls
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenure refers to the arrangements under which the household occupies the whole or part of a housing unit. Classifications are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Owned and fully paid off 2. Owned but not fully paid off 3. Rented 4. Occupied rent-free 5. Other (specify)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and Communication Technology (ICT) devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classifications include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Household having radio 2. Household having television set 3. Household having fixed line telephone 4. Household having mobile cellular telephone(s) 5. Household having personal computer(s) 6. Household accessing Internet from home 7. Household accessing the Internet from elsewhere other than home 8. Household without access to the Internet

Conclusion

The main focus of a population and housing census is to take stock and produce a total count of the population without omission or duplication. Another major focus is to be able to provide accurate demographic and socio-economic characteristics pertaining to each individual enumerated. Apart from individuals, the focus is on collecting accurate data on housing characteristics and services.

Accuracy of data depends on a well-designed questionnaire that is short and to the point. The interview to complete the questionnaire should not take longer than 18 minutes per household. Accuracy also depends on the diligence of the enumerator and honesty of the respondent.

On the other hand, disadvantaged populations, owing to their small numbers, are best covered in the census and not in household sample surveys.

Variables such as employment/unemployment, religion, income, and language are more accurately covered in household surveys than in censuses.

Users'/stakeholders' input in terms of providing information in the planning phase of the census is crucial in making it a success. However, the information provided should be within the scope of the census.

Contact details:

AngelaN@statssa.gov.za
KwenaM@statssa.gov.za
LesegoL@statssa.gov.za
margareta@statssa.gov.za
nomathembaph@statssa.gov.za
XoliswaN@statssa.gov.za

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