

Statistics Division - United Nations
Demographic Statistics Section - Questionnaire on Population Estimates

DESCRIPTION OF POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR LATEST YEAR
GIVEN IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

In order that the description of national population estimates on file in the Statistics Division of the United Nations is accurate and complete, it is desirable to provide the method of their construction for confirmation or revision. The questions below relate to coverage of data, and method of estimation. It is required that a check mark (X) be entered in the box following the words which best describe the estimates in terms of these questions.

1. COVERAGE OF DATA

In conformity with definition given in general instructions (see sheet titled "Instructions"), estimates should relate to de facto population. In order to clarify the exact composition of the population, please indicate in the following check box with an "X" the exact disposition of each group listed, i.e. whether it was included, excluded or population group not applicable. Specify years to which description refers to:

Population Group	Estimated total population for year 20__		
	Included	Excluded	Not applicable
(a) Nomads.....			X
(b) Persons living in remote areas.....			X
(c) Military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located outside the country.....	X		
(d) Merchant seamen and fishermen resident in the country but at sea at the time of the census (including those who have no place of residence other than their quarters aboard ship).....	X		
(e) Civilian residents temporarily in another country as seasonal workers.....	X		
(f) Civilian residents who cross a frontier daily to work in another country.....	X		
(g) Civilian residents other than those in (c), (e), and (f) working in another country.....		X	
(h) Civilian residents other than those in (c)-(g), temporarily absent from the country.....		X	
(i) Foreign military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located in the country.....		X	
(j) Civilian aliens temporarily in the country as seasonal workers.....		X	
(k) Civilian aliens who cross a frontier daily to work in another country.....	X		
(l) Civilian aliens other than those in (i), (j), and (k) working in another country.....	X		
(m) Civilian aliens other than those in (i)-(l), temporarily in country.....		X	
(n) Transients on ships in harbour at the time of the census.....			X

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2. METHOD OF ESTIMATION

a) Total population

Estimates of total population for a country as a whole may be constructed by a variety of means. Please indicate by a check mark [X] the method used in constructing the latest population estimate for (date) _____, indicating the source of "base data" and the "method of time adjustment". If there are publications readily available with the description of methods used, please include them in reply to this questionnaire.

Base Data

- 1- Continuous population register []
- 2- Complete census taken (date) _____ []
 - i) population actually enumerated []
 - ii) population adjusted to take account of _____ % underenumeration
- 3- Sample survey taken (date) _____ []
- 4- Partial census taken or partial registration (date) _____
(Please describe) _____

- 5- Non-censal count of (date) _____ []
(describe method) _____

- 6- Conjectural estimate derived by means other than counting []
(describe method) _____

Method of time adjustment

- 1- Base data secured annually by population register []
- 2- Applying statistics of births and deaths (natural increase), and migration
 - i) Registered vital statistics []
 - ii) Vital statistics adjusted for incompleteness []
- 3- Applying statistics of births and deaths (natural increase), but no account taken of migration
 - i) Registered vital statistics []
 - ii) Vital statistics adjusted for incompleteness []
- 4- Extrapolating mathematically from censuses taken (dates) _____, _____,
and _____. Please give formula: _____

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5- Applying an assumed rate of increase, not derived by mathematical extrapolation or interpolation but based on:

- i) Assumption with respect to mortality, fertility, migration []
- ii) Assumption with respect to mortality, fertility, but no account taken of migration []
- iii) Other assumed rate []

If (i), (ii) or (iii) is checked, please give rate used, and describe how obtained: _____

6- No time adjustment (base figure held constant) []

7- Other (explain) _____

b) Population by age and sex

Estimates of population according to age and sex are assumed to be constructed on the same base data as are the total estimates. However, certain additional factors may affect age distributions estimated from census enumerations or from sample surveys. Please indicate below the adjustment(s) made in the basic age distribution used to construct estimates shown in Tables 2 and 4.

Adjustments in base

- 1) None-based on population actually enumerated at various ages or estimated from survey results []
- 2) Enumerated population or population estimated from survey results adjusted to take account of underenumeration at various age []
- 3) Base age distribution "smoothed", i.e., adjusted to remove effects of digit preference in age reporting []

Method of time adjustment

Distribution of estimated population according to age and sex may also be made by same methods as used to obtain the projection of the total figure, or it may be derived by distributing the estimate according to the percentage of population in each age-sex group at time of census. Please indicate below the method used in constructing the age-sex distribution of the latest estimate shown in Table 2.

- 1- Applying actual or assumed natural increase and migration []
- 2- Applying actual or assumed natural increase alone []
- 3- Distributing the total estimate according to percentage of population in each age-sex group at time of census of sample survey []
- 4- By other means (describe) _____

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Disposition of unknown age

If frequency in unknown age category of tables 2 and 4 is zero, please indicate below whether;
 in the preparation of the estimates:

- 1- An age has been assigned to persons for whom age did not appear in the census or sample survey []
- 2- Frequency in unknown age category has been distributed proportionately among known ages []
- 3- The frequency of unknown age appearing in the census or survey was zero []

c) Urban and rural population, and the population of cities

Post-censal estimates of the urban and rural population, or the population of individual cities, can be made in various ways. In some countries continuous population registers permit the up-dating of local population estimates according to registered balances of births, deaths, and changes of residence. In some countries, perhaps, periodic surveys permit the up-dating of urban or city population estimates. In some countries, in relation to post-censal estimates of total population, estimates of urban, or city population may be determined by an extrapolation of the percentage of urban in total, or city in urban, population. In some countries, urban and city population may be determined on the basis of rates of growth of urban or city, population observed over a past period, by assuming such rates of growth to continue. Other methods are also possible. Please indicate below the method used in making post-censal estimates of urban and rural, or of city population.

	Urban population	City population
1- Population registers.....	[]	[]
2- Surveys, other than a census.....	[]	[]
3- Extrapolation of percentage.....	[]	[]
4- Observed rate of growth, assumed to continue..	[]	[]
5- By other means (describe) _____		

