

## Preface

The 2020 Population and Housing Census (The 2020 Census) is conducted decennially in accordance with Article 10 of the Statistics Act and the Census Plan with YuanTaiTsai No.1090175070 as of May 26 of 2020. The census is designed to collect the socioeconomic characteristics of population, family composition, school enrollment and working status, housing status and other related information. Data compiled are used as a major reference for the formulation of government policies and implementation of national infrastructures. The first census was launched in 1956. The first four censuses were carried out by the Ministry of the Interior in conjunction with the Population Census Office of the Executive Yuan. After the amendment of Household Registration Law in 1997 and abandonment of Population Census Law in 1999, the responsibility of conducting the 5<sup>th</sup> census had been transferred to the Department of Census, Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (DGBAS), Executive Yuan. The 2020 Census was the 7<sup>th</sup> Census and completed in November of the same year.

Population is the foundation of a nation. Its composition, distribution, development and migration were all related to the national development and social welfare. According to the United Nations, more than 90% of the countries conducted the Population Census around 2020. The Census is one of the most paramount policies of a nation. As the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic threatened the global during this period, many countries were impacted by it and either postpone the Census date or extend the operation period, including the United States of America, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines and Indonesia, etc. To facilitate the conduction of the 2020 Census, the Department of Census, DGBAS adjusted the Census operation to November (scheduled in September). The interviewees were asked to report online earlier to keep the health and safety of both interviewees and census workers. The census staff were also required to implement epidemic prevention measures during interview. The pandemic was gradually getting better. The Census was successfully completed.

The 2020 Census continued to adopt the Register and Survey Integrated Census by integrating official registration files and linking these files with the data collected from the sampling survey to compile key population statistics. Geographic Information System (GIS) was used to set up nearly 80 thousand digital enumeration areas (about 1200 thousand households). A total of 15% enumeration areas were sampled by adopting the "Random Stratified Cluster Sampling". Each person, household and housing unit within the sampled enumeration area was fully interviewed. The group quarters were specifically interviewed by the authorities in charge of the businesses.

In order to design the questionnaire contents, the Department of Census, DGBAS had reviewed the historical censuses and the core items recommended by the United Nations, consulted with the National Development Council, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the Ministry of Culture and related organizations, invited scholars and experts to make a review and advise. A preview test

and two times of the Census tests had been performed to examine the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of questionnaire design and contents, roster compilation, workload arrangement, interview procedure, data processing and other related administrative operations to enhance the quality and efficiency of the Census. A multiple ways of data collection were provided to the public for their convenience including personal interview or internet through PC, cell phone or pad.

To meet the public demand for census, the statistical results were disseminated in two stages as scheduled. The preliminary statistical tables and analysis have been compiled by abstracting key items from the Census and released both on the web and in a paper form in August, 2021 after reviewed by experts and scholars as well as approbated by the Executive Yuan, including age, marital status, language usage, children nurture care, long-term care of the resident population, family household and housing and other basic items. Due to the large amount of the comprehensive data and the detailed items need to be reviewed thoroughly and linked with the official registration files such as handicapped population, indigenous population, total floor area, completion year of construction, the General Report, the Abstract Summary Report, the County and City Report, the Summary Report were compiled in the second stage for public use and reference, including education, working, commuting to work or school, migration, indigenous people, housing and living arrangement, etc.

The Census was accomplished successfully primarily contributed to the efforts devoted by all levels of census participating workers as well as the cooperation and full support from the interviewees and the public. The Department of Census, DGBAS also gratefully acknowledges the comprehensive review and recommendations contributed by the experts, scholars and the Census Evaluation Committee.

## Explanatory Note

1. The Report is compiled based on the data of “2020 Population and Housing Census”.
2. Census data are processed by computer. Figures in the Report may not add up to the total due to rounding.
3. Symbols in the Report are defined as follows :

0 : less than a half-unit

– : not available