

## About Population and Housing Census

The Census is conducted decennially in accordance with Article 4, 5, 10 and 11 of the Statistics Act, and Article 10 to 15 of the Enforcement Rules of the Statistics Act. The operation is summarized as follows:

**1. History :** The population and housing census is one of basic national censuses. The first census was launched in 1956 after the government relocated to Taiwan and had conducted seven times so far. The prior four censuses were carried out by the Ministry of Interior in conjunction with the Population Census Office of the Executive Yuan. Since the fifth census of 2000, the responsibility of conducting the census had been transferred to the Department of Census, Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (DGBAS), Executive Yuan. In order to plan the census comprehensively, the authority had reviewed past census experiences, invited scholars and experts of demographical, statistical and social studies to review and make advise on the census plan, collected census documents of the United Nations (Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses) and absorbed the experiences of worldwide countries, evaluated the quality of the official registration files and current national conditions. Census tests had been performed to examine the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of both census and administrative operations. The detailed census operational plans and the census form had been finally implemented. The 2010 Census and the 2020 Census were operated as the Register and Survey Integrated Census.

### **2. Methodology :**

- (1) Digital enumeration areas for sampling : GIS was used to integrate registered addresses with household registration data to set up digital enumeration areas covering cities and counties. The enumeration area was clear, steady and homogeneous in terms of both boundary and household characteristics. Therefore, it was an appropriate unit for sampling. The enumeration area was also relatively decent to be used as a reference to assign workloads to reduce missing and duplicates.
- (2) the Register and Survey Integrated Census : With the rapid changing of socio-economic environment and considering of the well-developed computerized official registration system, the Department of Census, DGBAS had conducted the census by integrating official registration files and linking these files with the data collected from the sampling survey to compile population and housing census statistics. Both data quality and operations efficiency were further enhanced. About 15% of enumeration areas were sampled and each household and person in these areas was visited. However, group quarters and population with specific features such as servicemen on active duty, dormitory students of junior college or higher level, inmates of detention centers were fully interviewed by the authorities in charge of the businesses.
- (3) Enumeration operation: Enumeration was conducted by multiple ways including personal interview, leave-out/pick-up and Internet. These are arranged and used flexibly by area characteristics.

### **2. Statistics compilation :**

- (1) The data were mainly processed by electronic computing system and personal computer. Some questionable and unresolved cases were handled by staff and data clerks. The Preliminary Report was compiled for basic important census items prior to the release of the General Report in accordance with the Statistics Act and the Census Plan and publicized both on the web and in a paper form timely for public use.
- (2) The General Report was compiled for more of the detailed statistics by linking census data with the official registration files. All statistics and analyses were reviewed by the Census Evaluation Committee. All reports were published and publicized both on the web and in a paper form for public use after approved by the Executive Yuan.