

The 2010 Indonesia Population Census

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Introduction

Indonesia is the world's largest archipelago consisting of five major islands and roughly 13,700 islands scattered over 5,120 kilometers. Fifty six percent of islands are unnamed and only seven percent of them are inhabited. Transportation and communication links are very limited between islands. There are more than 300 ethnic groups and more than 250 languages are spoken in Indonesia.

According to the 2000 Population Census the population of Indonesia was 205.1 million people in June 2000. The population scattered unevenly across the archipelago. Java which is only about 6.6 per cent of the land size is populated by almost 60 per cent of Indonesia's population (121 million). This is an indication that the development plan is still focused on Java region. Based on this census the population density of Indonesia in 2000 was 108 people per square kilometer, in which for Java Island the population density was 951 people per square kilometer.

History of the Census

BPS-Statistics Indonesia has had a long experience in undertaking national Population Censuses, besides the responsibility of collecting, interpreting and disseminating other fields of statistics. The Population Censuses of Indonesia were conducted for the years 1961, 1971, 1980, 1990 and 2000. The 2000 Population Census was the fifth decennial census undertaken since the independence of Indonesia in 1945.

The importance of Census data was also recognized by the Dutch colonial government in Indonesia which conducted several censuses, although only those of 1920 and 1930 were considered proper censuses in terms of the objective and the method used. The forthcoming Population Census of Indonesia will be conducted in 2010.

The most recent Population Census which was undertaken in June 2000 has been used extensively in the preparation and monitoring of the Five-year Indonesia Medium Plans (2000 – 2004). The *de jure* and *de facto* approach was adopted in the 2000 Census whereby all persons on Census Day (30th June 2000) were enumerated according to their place of usual residence. Enumeration was undertaken during the period of 1st to 30th June 2000. All persons including foreigners who had stayed or intended to stay in Indonesia for six months or more in the year 2000 were included in the Census.

The 2010 Population Census

The 2010 Population Census has been designed to meet various data needs, including as (1) the basis for updating population data bases up to the lowest level of administrative unit (village); (2) valuable input in monitoring the progress for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); (3) the basis for preparing small area statistics; (4) basis for preparing population projection; (5) the basic data in developing sampling frame for various surveys conducted between 2010-2020.

During the 2010 Population Census it is estimated that the population of Indonesia would be around 232 million people who live in about 65 million households. Considering the huge number of population to be recorded the field enumeration will require more than 650.00 field workers, which consist about 450.000 enumerators, 150.000 team coordinators, and 15.000 field coordinators. Data collection is designed to be undertaken in groups, each group (team) consist of four persons, i.e. three numerators and one team coordinator. All field workers would have undertaken a three-day training before hand.

The peak of census operations will be during the months of May 2010 where field enumeration will be taking place simultaneously overall the geographical area of Indonesia. May 15 will be designated as the Census Date of the 2010 Population Census, therefore on the 15 of May 2010 the homeless and nomadic population will be canvassing.

Updating population data is a very crucial issue in the upcoming population census, in the sense that since the implementation of decentralization in 2001 the number of administrative units in the regions (province, district, sub district, and village) have been increasing tremendously, such that statistical measures could not appropriately follows the changes. Prior to decentralization the number of provinces was 27, districts 297, sub districts 4.200, and villages about 65.000. At present the number of provinces is 33, districts 497, sub districts about 7.000, and villages about 75.000.

Questionnaires

In the modern context there is always an increasing demand for data and information, and this is not an exception for the census as well. A census being a huge national undertaking incurring substantial amount of money, while the resources are always constrained and limited. The choice of topic to be covered in a census mainly depends upon the user needs. However, as society becomes complex the demand of population data for development plans is not only increasing but the level of such information is switching to smaller administrative levels, while census being a complex and large operation has its own limitations in meeting all the demands of data users. Another main consideration for determining census topic is to maintain comparability and continuity of the census information.

There are three kind of questionnaires will be used in the 2010 Population Census, namely C1 (42 questions) for enumerate regular household who live in the areas that are covered in the mapping, C2 (14 questions) for enumerate population who live in the areas which are not included in the mapping such as remote areas,

Indonesia corps diplomatic who live abroad and L2 (number and sex) for enumerate homeless people, boat people, and tribes.

The questionnaires hopefully can accommodate the data required for the compilations of MDG Indicators, which is essential for national policy making and monitoring. The census questionnaires are presently being developed taking into considerations of the relevant United Nation recommendations as well as the suitability of the items collected to meet local conditions.

In the past population censuses, data were collected basically by face-to-face interviews, where enumerators visited all households to interview persons therein one by one. In light of the changing lifestyle of big cities people and advancement of technology, new and additional means for data collection from the households will be introduced in the 2010 Population Census. Under the new multi-modal data collection approach, e-census on the Internet and self-enumeration will be rolled out, along with the traditional “interviewer” method.

Training of the field workers

Training for the census staff was carried out in multi stage ways. The first stage was aimed to train the national instructors by the master instructors. The second stage was aimed to train the regional instructors and field coordinators by the national instructors, and the third stage was the training of the team coordinators and enumerators by the regional instructors. The first stage was held by the head office, while the second and the third stages was carried out by the BPS Province or BPS Regency/Municipality Offices.

Data Processing

The processing of data collected in a census constitutes one of the most important and challenging activities that have to be undertaken efficiently and expeditiously in order to justify the immense resources invested in a census. This activity entailed several processes: manual editing of the questionnaires after enumeration, data capture, data cleaning and validation, and finally tabulation. Intelligence character recognition (ICR) technology will be employed for data capture.

Government’s commitment to provide provisional results within two and half months after enumeration and final results within another six months greatly influenced the strategies and actions adopted at every stage of data processing in order to adhere to the commitment.

Census Result for Program Targeting

From this census it would be available accurate data of population and their socio-economic aspects for all level of administrative units, down to village level, or even below village level (neighborhood). The census data would be able to directly

show among others: number (and sex, age, address) of disable persons, number of school age children who are not currently at school, number of population who are still illiterate, number of labor force who are not have job, number of children born in the last 4 years, number of population deaths in the last 4 years, and number of household living in low quality of dwelling.

One main potential and very important benefit of the 2010 census data is the possibility to categorize individual household to their socio-economic (welfare) level. There are several variables of the 2010 census which might indicate the welfare level of every household, such as educational attainment (of the head/spouse of household), literacy, employment status (whether currently employed, main industry), and some variable of housing condition. A combination of the 2010 Census data with consumption/expenditure information available in the National Socio-Economic Survey data is expected to produce a reliable estimation of the population welfare at the household level, or at least at the village level.

When the estimate welfare at household level could be realized, a highly valuable database for various program targeting, especially related to poverty alleviation will come true. If the household data could be classified for example, into five classes (quintile), or even into 10 classes (decile) of their welfare level, then the government and other concern parties may focus their programs into the lowest quintile or decile of the population. With the availability of household data classified into their welfare level, then it would be possible to integrate many kinds of poverty programs by using single data source.

Meanwhile if the census data could only produce reliable estimate at village level, then the allocation of resources might be based on geographic targeting. Through GIS presentation it would be possible to create such education map, employment map, fertility map, poverty map, and many others, down to village level.

Conclusion

The 2010 Population Census in Indonesia is a massive and complex statistical undertaking covering 33 provinces and 497 districts/municipalities scattered all over Indonesia, employing about 650,000 enumerators and supervisors. Questionnaire design and data collection strategy will be developed to match various domestic needs and internationally comparison purposes. New technology for data capture, employing Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR System) will decrease the number of staff members for data entry and timeliness of data dissemination.