

# Advancing Population and Housing Censuses in the 2030 Round

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## **The Evolving Census Landscape: Lessons from the 2020 round and anticipated trends for the 2030 round**

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# Outline

- Findings from UNSD surveys
- Key lessons from the 2020 census round
- Anticipated trends for the 2030 census round
- Revision of global guidelines for the 2030 census round



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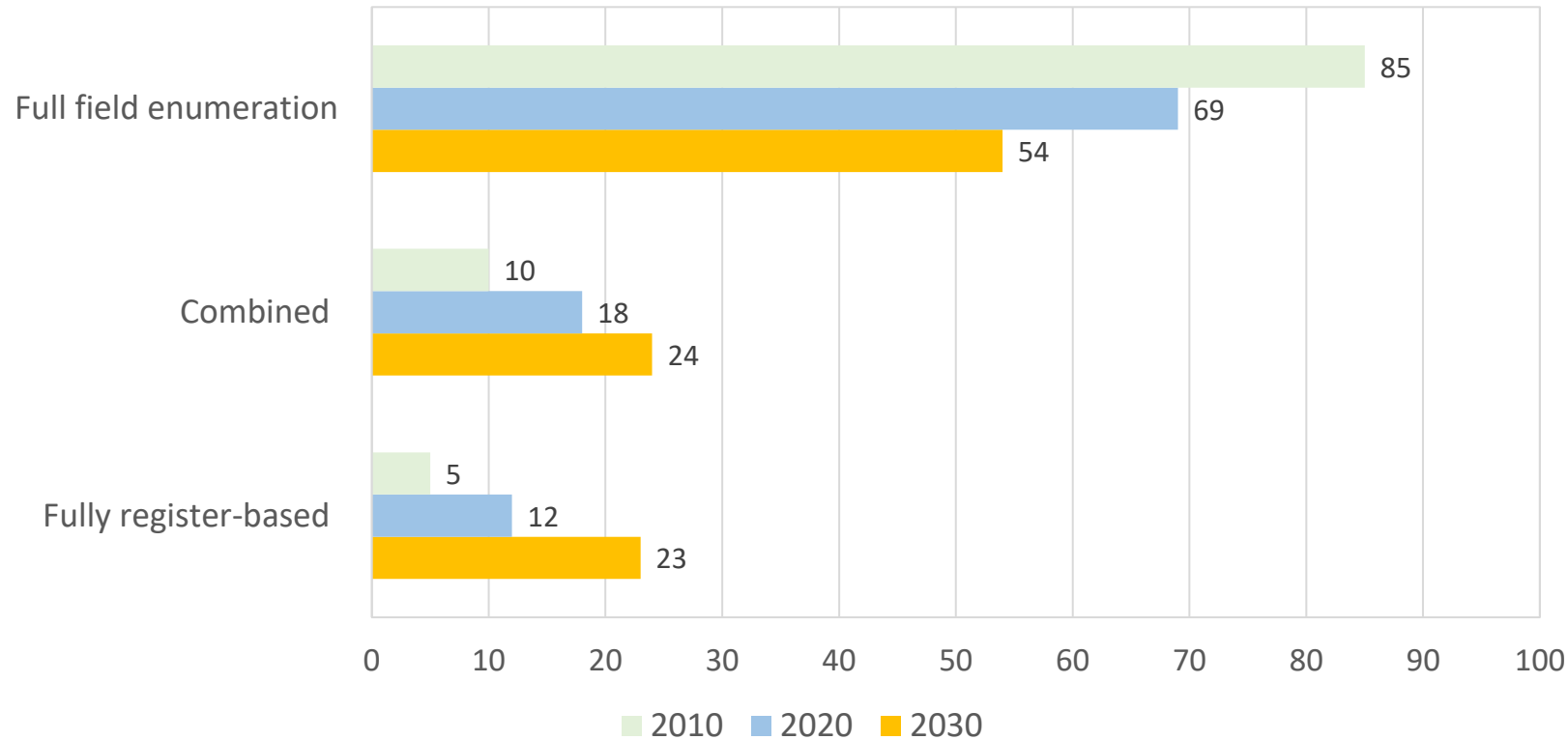
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# Findings from UNSD surveys

Proportion of countries by census methodology  
(2010, 2020, 2030 rounds)



- A growing number of countries plan to change census methodology from the traditional to other approaches involving the use of administrative data sources, mainly because of:
  - high costs
  - increasing non-response
  - demand for more timely information
- Significant progress observed in use of administrative data sources, due to:
  - Improving coverage and quality of registers
  - Enhanced legal provisions for use of admin data

Sources: UNSD surveys conducted in 2013 (126 responses) and 2024 (155 responses)



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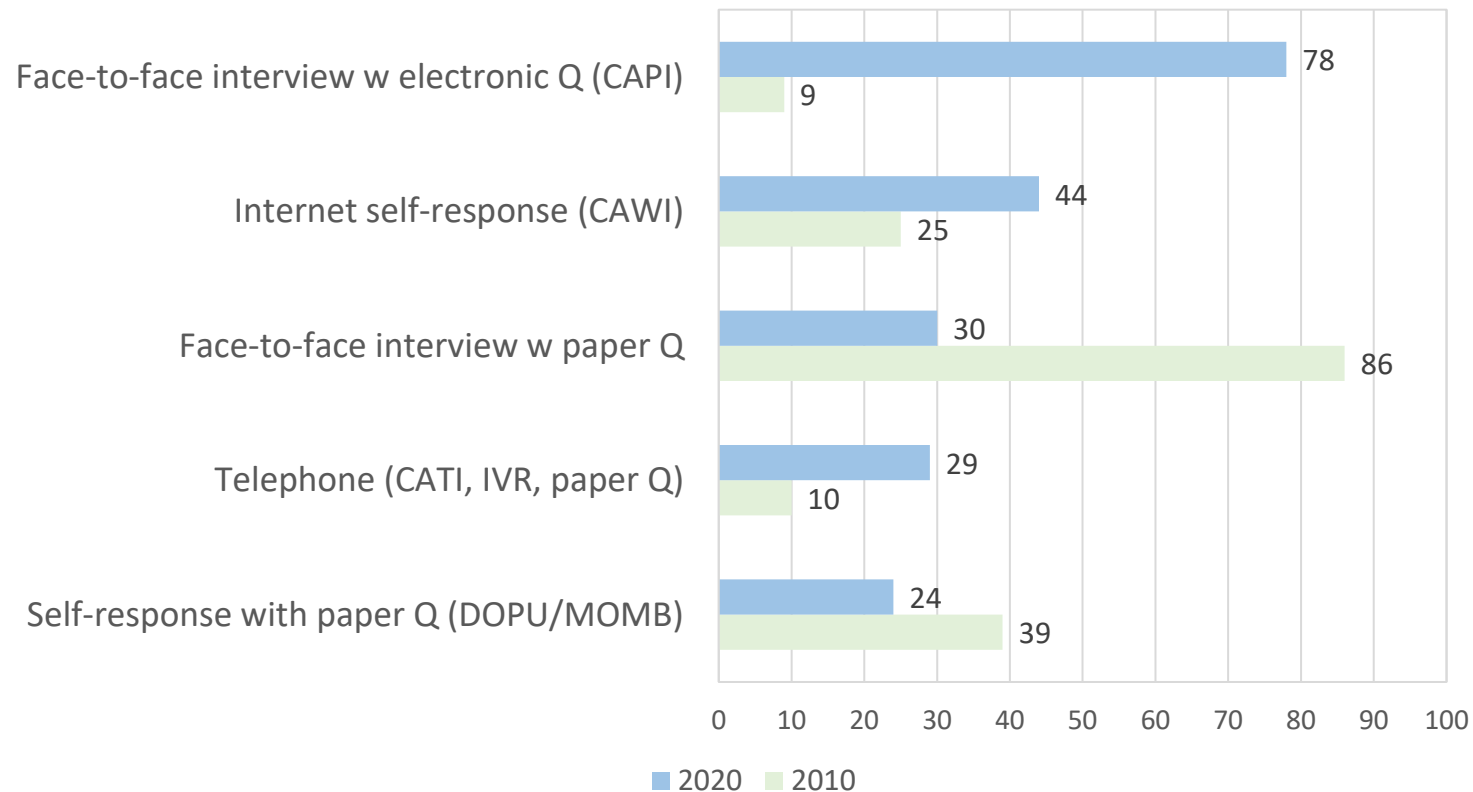
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# Findings from UNSD surveys

Proportion of countries by enumeration method  
(2010, 2020 rounds)



In 2020 round:

- Nearly 80% of countries used tablets or smart phones (CAPI) for data collection
- Almost half of countries adopted Internet based self response (CAWI)

PAPI - Paper questionnaire with face-to-face interview

CAPI - Computer-assisted personal interview

CAWI - Computer- assisted self-interview

PASI - Paper questionnaire with self-interview

CATI - Computer- assisted telephone interview

Source: UNSD surveys conducted in 2013 (126 responses) and 2024 (155 responses)



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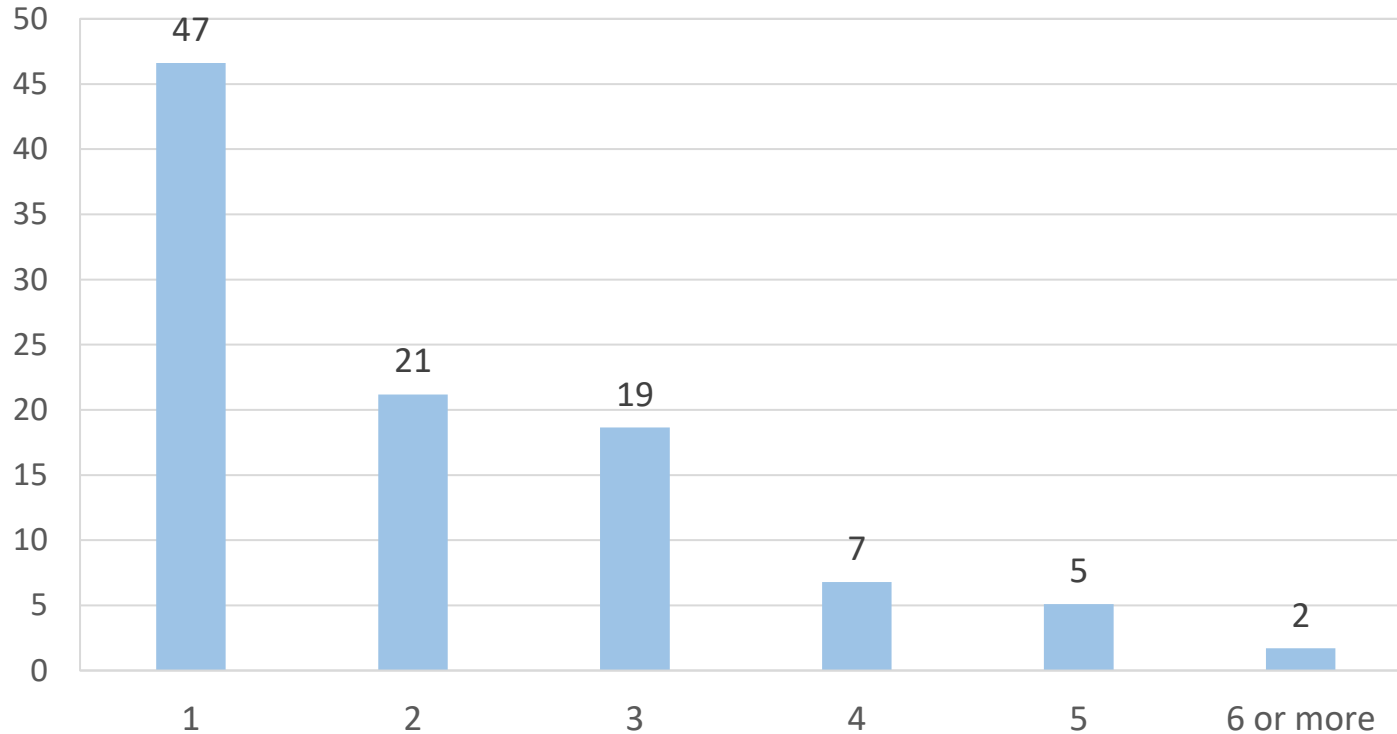
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# Findings from UNSD surveys

Number of modes of enumeration used  
(proportion of countries, 2020 round)



In 2020 round:

- In most countries, multi-mode data collection was used, whereby electronic questionnaires (CAPI or CAWI) were used in combination with paper questionnaires (PAPI or PASI) and/or CATI

Source: UNSD survey conducted in 2024 (155 responses)



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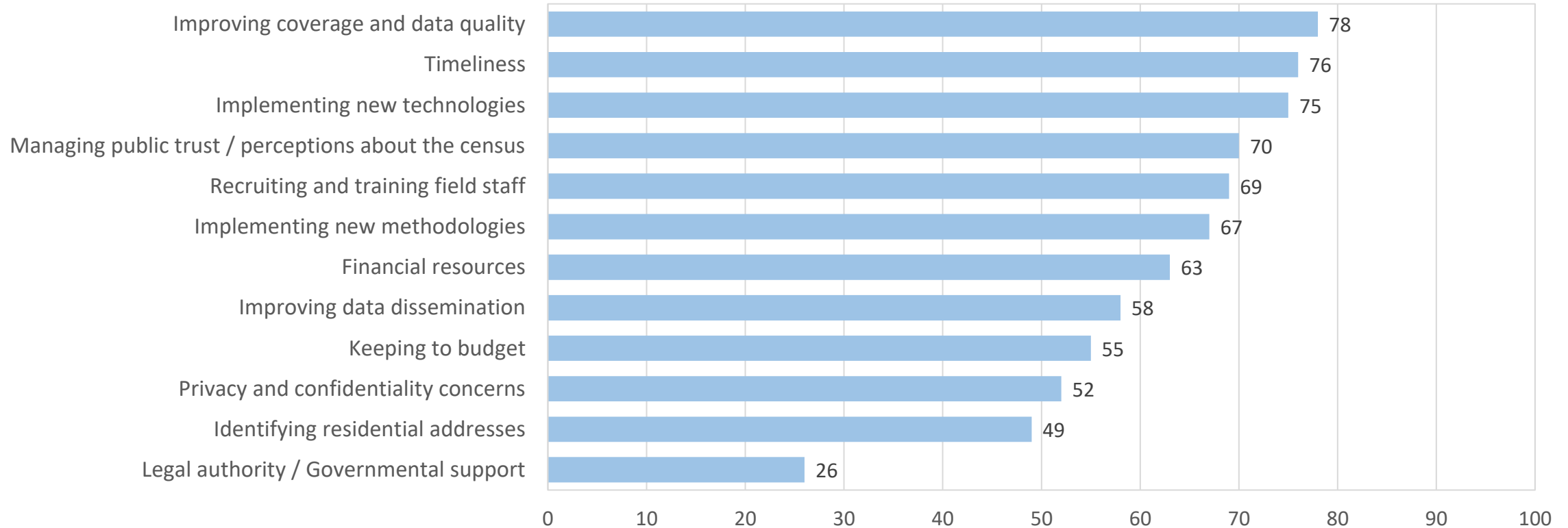
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# Findings from UNSD surveys

## "Significant" or "Moderate" Challenge (proportion of countries, 2020 round)



Source: UNSD survey conducted in 2024 (155 responses)



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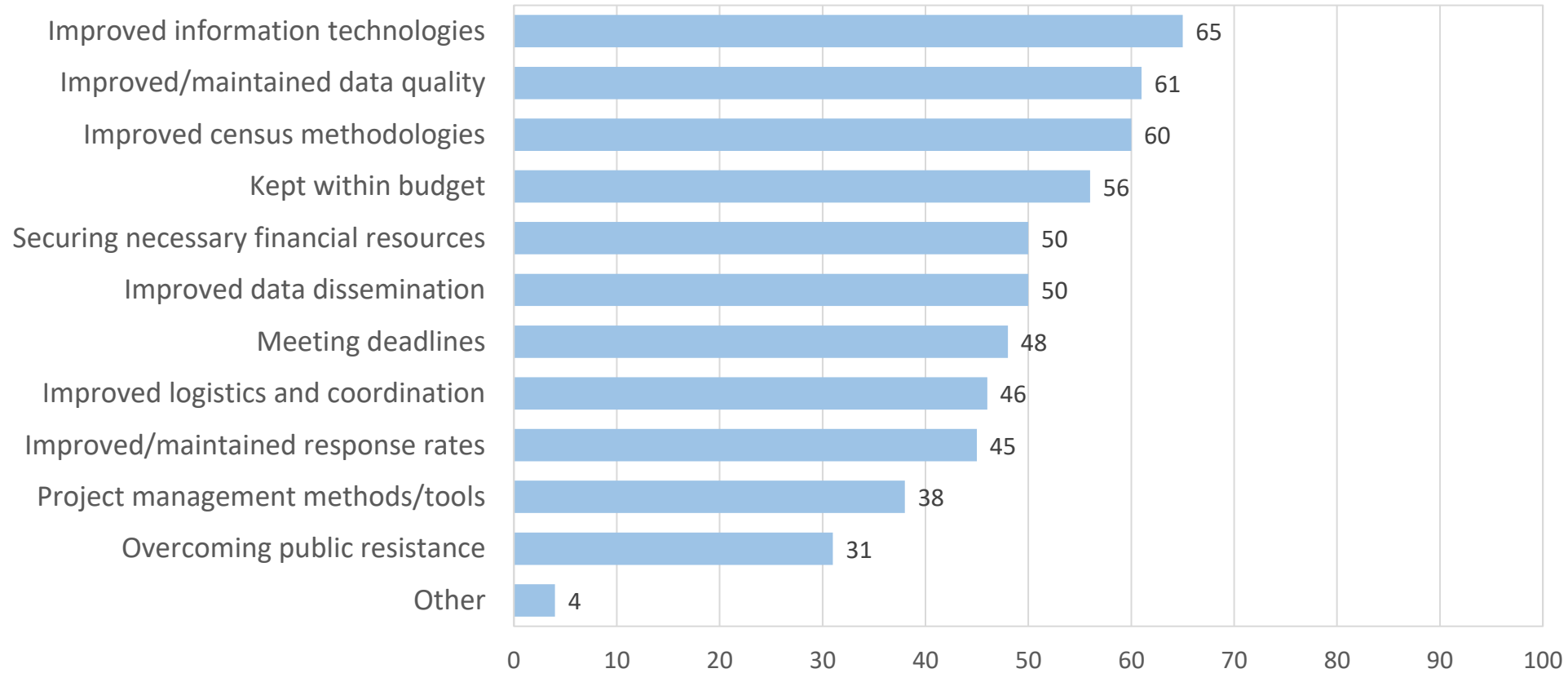
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# Findings from UNSD surveys

## Success

(proportion of countries, 2020 round)



Source: UNSD survey conducted in 2024 (155 responses)



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# Key lessons from 2020 round

## ❖ Census methodology

- no one-size-fits-all solution; balance cost-effectiveness, time, efficiency, respondent burden, data quality

## ❖ Project management

- robust contingency planning, flexibility to adjust timeline and operational plans

## ❖ Technology

- robust IT infrastructure, security measures to protect sensitive data, testing, early attention to development of IT

## ❖ Geospatial information

- leveraging geospatial information improves efficiency of census operations, data quality

## ❖ Communication and public engagement

- robust communication strategies for public trust and encourage participation

## ❖ Capacity building

- investing in training of staff essential for successful census

## ❖ Innovation

- continuous culture of innovation



# Anticipated trends for the 2030 census round

❖ The 2030 round is expected to witness further methodological/technological transformations:

- Increased adoption of digital-first, multi-mode methods (CAWI, CAPI, CATI)
- Increased role of geospatial information/tools
  - planning and conducting field operations
  - analysis and dissemination of geocoded census results
- Increased leveraging of administrative data sources
  - as a data source
  - to support field-based operations
- Lessons from COVID-19 (emergency preparedness and contingency planning)
- Further advancement of population data systems (with PHC as pillar)



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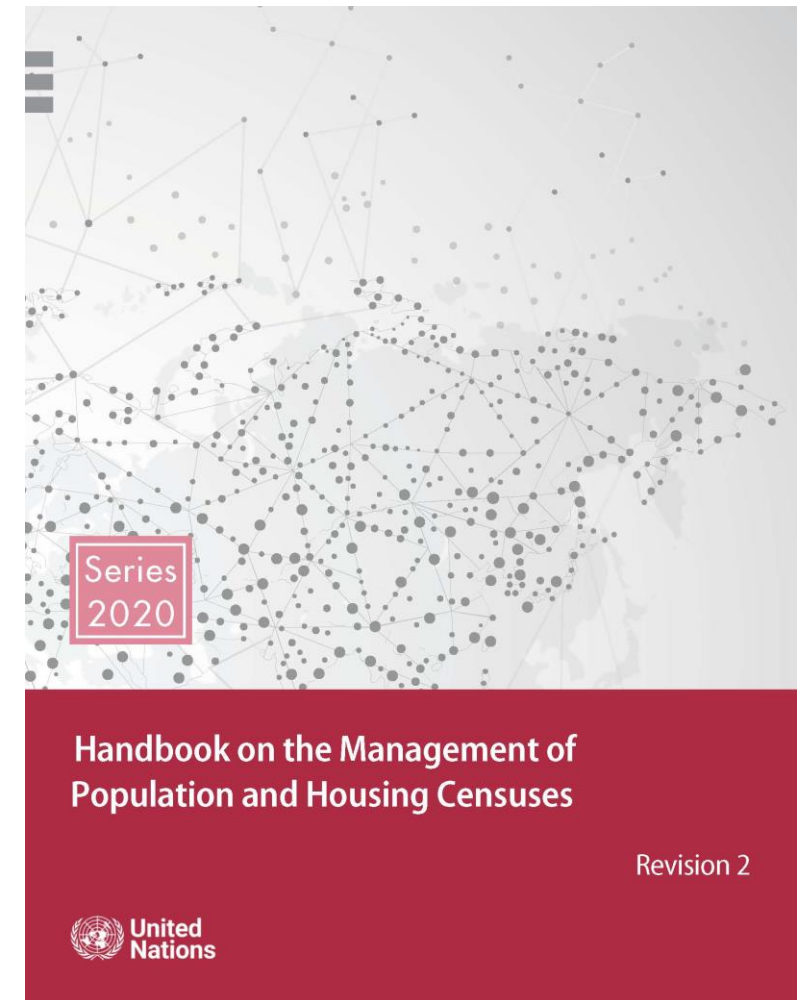
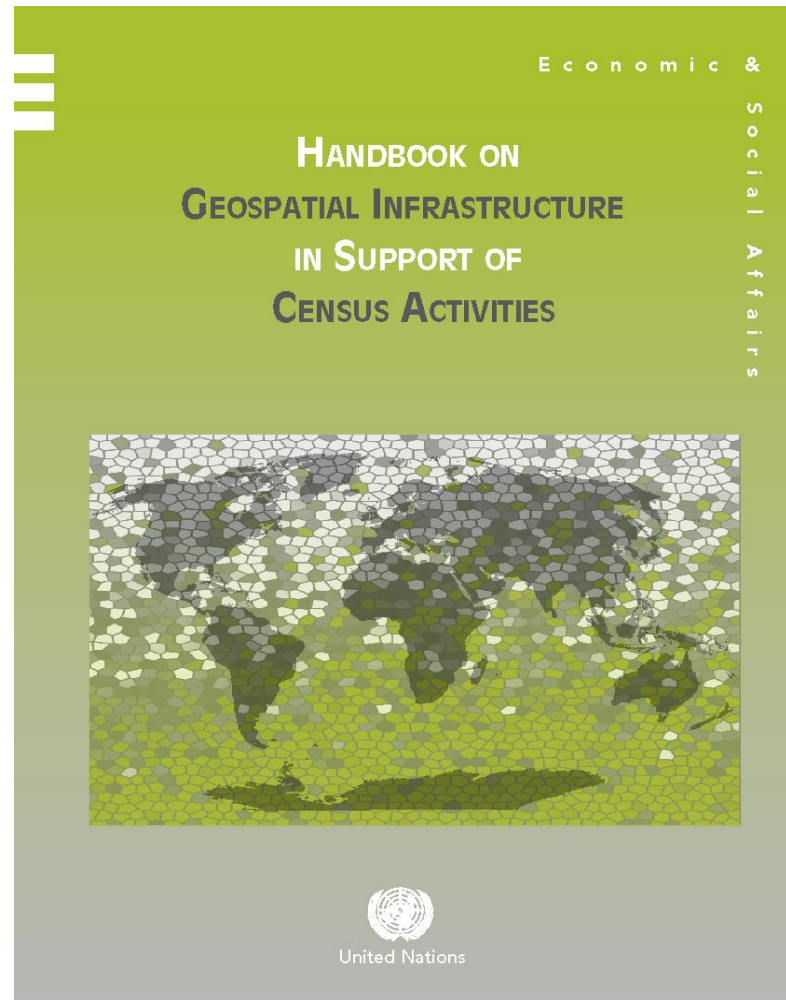
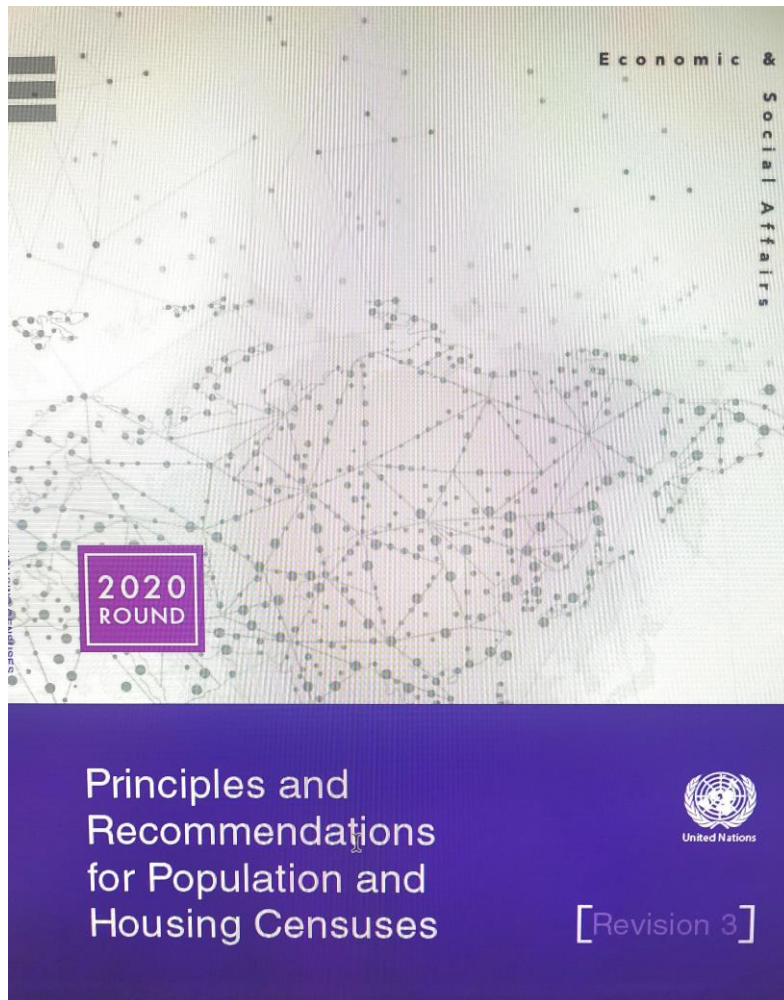
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# Revision of global guidelines for the 2030 census round



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**Thank You**



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