



Census Advisory

In this issue

- [2011 – a challenging year!](#)
- [Future censuses](#)
- [2011 Tokelau Census provisional counts](#)
- [2011 Population Association of New Zealand conference](#)
- [Need help finding information?](#)

2011 Population Association of New Zealand conference

The biennial 2011 PANZ conference will be held at the University of Auckland on 28 and 29 November 2011.

Statistics New Zealand will have a number of speakers at this conference, which will include census-specific topics.

Mike Berry (Census Programme User Needs Consultant) will be talking about census-taking in the Pacific – a case study of Tokelau

There will also be a session about future censuses from senior staff at Statistics NZ.

Please go to www.population.org.nz for more information and to register for the conference.

Need help finding information?

Outreach, Information, and Liaison teams are ready to help you find the information you are after. Each team offers services designed to support your information needs, like free workshops and presentations on how to extract online data.

You'll find more about the services each team offers and about how to get in touch on our [outreach and liaison](#) page.

Know anyone interested in subscribing?

[Refer your friend or colleague](#) and we will invite them to subscribe to *Census Advisory*.

More about census

See the [Statistics New Zealand website](#) for more information about census, including previous censuses.

Personal assistance

For personal assistance please contact our Information Centre.

Phone: 0508 525 525 (toll free within New Zealand).

2011 – a challenging year!

2011 has been quite a year for us here at Statistics New Zealand.

At the beginning of this year, we were gearing up for the five-yearly census to be held in March. However, as we all now know, the 2011 Census was called off after just one week in the forms-delivery phase, following the February earthquake in Christchurch. This was an unprecedented event in the more than 100-year history of running the census in New Zealand.

After the decision was made to cancel the 2011 Census, the census team consulted with users. Feedback from this consultation helped Government to decide when to hold the next census.

We provided [alternative sources of data for 2011 Census variables](#) to help with the data gap between censuses.

In May, Statistics NZ welcomed the announcement from the Government that the next census would be held on **5 March 2013**.

Since that announcement, we have made significant progress on the 2013 Census programme.

- Mapping and printing requirements have been confirmed.
- IT and telecommunications systems are being reviewed for over 140 field offices.
- Advertising for four regional managers is complete. They will be on board early 2012 and will be an integral part of the field operation, that will ultimately involve more than 7500 field staff by early 2013.
- The census advocate programme expansion is well under way with new advocates on board from District Health Boards and universities.

2012 will be a busy year for us all in the 2013 Census team. We look forward to keeping you updated on developments.

Future censuses

Statistics NZ is developing its vision for the future of the census and other official population and social statistics. This work is being progressed through the Tomorrow's Official Population and Social Statistics (TOPSS) programme. The aim of the TOPSS programme is to determine the priority and information needs for social and population statistics. The programme also includes a plan to transform the delivery of these statistics.

Senior Statistics NZ staff met with the Ministers of Statistics and Finance in September 2011. A decision was made to separate out the census funding request from the detailed TOPSS Business Case, which will be presented to Government at the end of November 2011. The Government has asked us to present a cabinet paper on a Census Transformation Strategy and a supporting Census Transformation Issues paper in March 2012. Statistics NZ has decided to fund this initial investigative work on census transformation internally.

Thank you to all who participated in census engagement with data users late in 2011, either by attending meetings or by email response. We received a lot of comments from around the country, which helped us make these important decisions and provided valuable input for our March 2012 papers to Government. The Business Case for the next census after 2013 will be submitted to Government in 2013.

Statistics NZ will be hosting the 2012 meeting of the International Census Forum in Wellington in February. Senior census managers from the UK, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Ireland, and Canada will be meeting to share experiences from the current round of censuses, and discuss plans for future censuses.

Information papers about the future censuses are available on the [Statistics New Zealand website](#).

2011 Tokelau Census provisional counts

On Tuesday, 18 October 2011, in the midst of a national emergency

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caused by a shortage of fresh water, Tokelau successfully held its five-yearly population census, revealing a provisional census-night population of 1,205.

This figure compares with the final 2006 Tokelau census-night population count of 1,151 people. The census-night population has increased by 5 percent.

Statistics NZ staff have played a key role in running this census. They worked very closely with the Office for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau during the emergency to ensure the census was undertaken with as little impact on the water situation as possible.

A count of people who usually live in Tokelau will be released in December 2011.

See [2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings](#) for information from the Tokelau Census.

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