المركز الإحصائي
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دائرة الإحصاء والتنمية المجتمعية
Department of Statistics & Community Development

Expert Group Meeting on the Revision of the Principles & Recommendations for Population & Housing Censuses

23 - 25 May 2023

Virtual meeting

Session 6 - Recommended housing topics

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The session will discuss the implementation of housing census topics as recommended in the current version of the P&R. The session will assess which of the core- and non-core housing topics in the current list need to be revised (or removed) in terms of concept, definition and classification. The session will also discuss potential new topics that should be considered for inclusion in the list of core- or non-core topics to

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Housing Unit

Typically, is designed to serve as a residence for one or more people. Houses can be made of various materials, such as wood, brick, concrete, or stone, and can range in size from small cottages to large mansions. They typically contain one or more bedrooms, bathrooms, a kitchen, a living room, and possibly other rooms such as a dining room, a family room, or a home office.

Houses can be standalone structures or part of a larger building complex, such as an apartment building or a townhouse. They can be owned or rented, and can be used as primary residences, vacation homes, or investment properties.

Housing Data

Housing data is an important component of population census because it provides critical information about the living conditions and housing characteristics of the population.

Housing information includes data on :

- The number and type of housing units in a given area,
- The number and type of rooms in the housing units,
- The tenure status (rented or owned) of the housing units,
- The number of people living in each housing unit,
- The age and condition of the housing units, and the availability of basic amenities such as water supply, electricity, and sanitation facilities.

The information is used by:

- Governments,
- Researchers,
- Policymakers

The information is used to:

- ✓ Analyze housing trends and patterns,
- ✓ Identify areas of housing need, formulate housing policies and programs,
- ✓ And monitor the effectiveness of existing housing programs.
- ✓ Housing data is also important for businesses and real estate developers as it provides information about the demand for housing in a given area, which can help them make informed decisions about investment and development opportunities.

House by Type:

There are several types of houses, each with its own unique features and architectural style. Here are some of the most common types of houses:

House by Type:

1. Single-family detached house.
2. Townhouse
3. Condominium
4. Duplex
5. Bungalow
6. Ranch-style house
7. Colonial-style house
8. Victorian-style house
9. Contemporary-style house

Building

Generally, refers to information about the physical structure that is designed and constructed to provide shelter, protection, and a functional space for human activities. Buildings can be of various sizes and shapes and can be used for a wide range of purposes, such as residential, commercial, institutional, or industrial.
Building data is an important component of the population and housing census. The census aims to provide a comprehensive picture of the population and housing characteristics of a given area or country. Building data, such as the number of housing units, their types, sizes, and conditions.

In summary, housing data is a subset of building data that specifically pertains to residential dwellings and their occupants, whereas building data encompasses information about all types of buildings, including residential, commercial, and industrial structures.

Housing data and building data:

Are related but have some differences. Housing data typically refers to information about residential dwellings; building data, on the other hand, refers to information about the physical structure of a building, including its materials, design, construction.

Conclusion:

Based on the current recommendations, there is a vast amount of data related to housing, such as housing types, building materials, and amenities.

It is very difficult to compare housing data across all countries, as housing varies greatly around the world. Therefore, measuring and comparing such data requires standardized and consistent criteria. It is possible to identify some key elements that can be used to compare housing data in different countries, such as:

Conclusion Continued:

1. Type of housing:
   The type of housing, such as apartments, villas, or townhouses, can be identified and compared between countries.
2. Space:

   The size of the housing can be measured and compared between countries.

3. Basic facilities:

   These include factors such as the availability of clean drinking water, sanitation, electricity, and gas, and can be compared between countries.

Conclusion Continued:

4. Equipment:

   The available equipment in the housing can be identified and compared between countries. However, it should be noted that these factors do not cover all aspects of housing and cannot be used equally in all countries as housing challenges and conditions vary in each country.

Conclusion Continued:

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Therefore:

1. Housing data for each region can be identified separately, and then this data can be compared between countries in the same geographic region, such as Arab countries or European countries, to identify differences.
2. It is suggested to develop a standardized form to be distributed to member countries, inquiring about the latest housing census data and the relevant housing information collected, including the data source.

Small Area

1. Enumeration Areas (EAs):

Are areas used for collecting census data. They are designed to contain around 200 to 300 dwellings. EAs are created to ensure that all households, dwellings, and other structures are covered by the census, and are updated for each census cycle.

Small Area Continued

2. Mesh Blocks:

A Mesh Block is the smallest geographic area. It is a small, regularly shaped area, typically containing around 30 to 60 dwellings, and is designed to be an integral building block for larger statistical areas such as Statistical Areas Level 1 and 2.

Mesh Blocks are used to collect and present a wide range of statistical data, including population, employment, and housing characteristics, and are updated every five years after each census.

They are designed to be small, standardized geographic units that can be easily aggregated to form larger geographic areas. Mesh blocks are typically defined based on physical features such as roads, rivers, and other natural or man-made boundaries.

Mesh Blocks and Enumeration Areas are both geographic areas used for collecting and presenting statistical data. However, there are some differences between the two.

In Summary:

Mesh Blocks are used for general statistical purposes, while Enumeration Areas are used specifically for collecting census data. Mesh Blocks are smaller than Enumeration Areas and are used as building blocks for larger statistical areas.

Mesh blocks are typically smaller and more uniform in size and shape compared to enumeration areas.

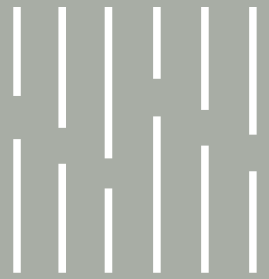
Recommendation:

- Mesh blocks and enumeration areas are both geographic units used for collecting and analyzing census and survey data.
- In contrast, enumeration areas are geographic units used by many countries, including the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, to collect and analyze census data. Enumeration areas are typically defined based on population density and can vary in size and shape depending on the local geography and population distribution.
- Using mesh blocks as a small geographic unit instead of enumeration areas can have some advantages. Mesh blocks are more standardized in size and shape, which can make it easier to compare data across different geographic areas. They can also be more easily updated and maintained than enumeration areas, which can change over time due to changes in population and infrastructure.

Recommendation Continued:

However, using mesh blocks can also have some disadvantages. Because they are smaller than enumeration areas, they may not be suitable for collecting data on some population subgroups, particularly in areas with low population density. Mesh blocks can also be more difficult to define in areas with complex or irregular geography.

Ultimately, the choice of geographic unit will depend on the specific needs of the census or survey and the local context. In some cases, mesh blocks may be a better choice, while in other cases enumeration areas may be more appropriate.



Thank You