

Table 13

Table 13 presents the number of households by type of living quarters, urban/rural location and cities for the latest available year between 1995 and 2010.

Definitions

Household: The concept of household is based on the arrangements made by persons, individually or in groups, for providing themselves with food and other essentials for living. A household may be either (a) a one-person household, that is to say, a person who makes provision for his or her own food and other essentials for living without combining with any other person to form a multi-person household or (b) a multi-person household, that is to say, a group of two or more persons living together who make common provision for food and other essentials for living. The persons in the group may pool their resources and may have a common budget; they may be related or unrelated persons or constitute a combination of persons both related and unrelated.

This concept of household is known as the "housekeeping concept". It does not assume that the number of households and housing units are or should be equal. Although the concept of housing unit is a separate and independent place of abode that is intended for habitation by one household, but that may be occupied by more than one household or by a part of a household (for example, two nuclear households that share one housing unit for economic reasons or one household in a polygamous society routinely occupying two or more housing units).

Although the general concept of a household falls within the boundaries listed above, national definitions differ. For a detailed list, please see section on General Notes.

Living quarters are structurally separate and independent places of abode. They may:

(a) Have been constructed, built, converted or arranged for human habitation, provided that they are not used wholly for other purposes and that, in the case of non-conventional housing units and collective living quarters, they are occupied ; or

(b) Although not intended for habitation, actually be in use for such a purpose.

A *housing unit* is a separate and independent place of abode intended for habitation by a single household¹ or one not intended for habitation but occupied as living quarters by a household. Thus it may be an occupied or vacant dwelling, an occupied non-conventional housing unit or any other place occupied as living quarters by a household. This category includes housing of various levels of permanency and acceptability and therefore requires further classification in order to provide for a meaningful assessment of housing conditions.

A *conventional dwelling* is a room or suite of rooms and its accessories in a permanent building or structurally separated part thereof which, by the way it has been built, rebuilt or converted, is intended for habitation by one household and is not, , used wholly for other purposes. It should have a separate access to a street (direct or via a garden or grounds) or to a common space within the building (staircase, passage, gallery and so on). Therefore, there are four essential features of a conventional dwelling:

(a) It is a room or suite of rooms;

(b) It is located in a permanent building;

(c) It has separate access to a street or to a common space;

(d) It was intended to be occupied by one household.

Collective living quarters include structurally separate and independent places of abode intended for habitation by large groups of individuals or several households and occupied. Such quarters usually have certain common facilities, such as cooking and toilet installations, baths, lounge rooms or dormitories, which are shared by the occupants.

¹ Although intended for habitation by one household, a housing unit may, , be occupied by one or more households or by a part of a household.