Experiences of the 2016 Iranian National Population and Housing Census

Statistical Centre of Iran

48th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission
7-12 March 2017
New York
In the Name of Allah
The Compassionate,
The Merciful
1. Historical Backgrounds
2. Planning for 2016 Population and Housing Census
3. Quick facts about Iran
According to the Law, the Statistical Centre of Iran was bound to carry out the national population and housing census once each decade. So far, six censuses have been implemented in a 10-year interval, during the years 1956, 1966, 1976, 1986, 1996 and 2006.

With respect to the changes occurred in age structure and increasing youth population in the country; in 2007, Council of Ministers approved the census to be implemented in a five-year interval in the next stage, accordingly, the seventh and eighth Iranian national census of population and housing were implemented in 2011 and 2016.
Planning for the 2016 National Population and Housing Census
Lessons learnt from the 2011 Population and Housing Census and need for the change in the census method

| High number of absent households | Low cooperation with the enumerators by respondents | Difficulties with training of the enumerators | High expense of implementation process |

According to the national needs, the only way for solving challenges of the 2011 census was changing *census method*
CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF the 2016 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS

Social conditions
- Tendency for keeping individual privacy
- Lack of collaboration in data provision
- Increase in the number of absent households

Financial conditions
- Increase in the census costs due to population growth

Statistical conditions
- Successful experience of using tablets in surveys and agriculture census
- Possibility of using administrative data in censuses with regard to using electronic registration of data in recent years
- Increase in the literacy level of the population and penetration rate of the Internet accelerated the Internet method.
Planning for the 2016 census started as of the beginning of 2013. The Planning Group focused on:

- **Preconditions for modern census, register-based census**
- **Preparing address file**
- **Using the internet for data collection and designing the electronic form**
- **Preparing for the first census test in 2014**
## A Brief look at the Census (1)

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Period of Design</strong></td>
<td>More than two years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Designing Structure</strong></td>
<td>More than 20 working committees and Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Designing Team</strong></td>
<td>More than 170 staffs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Activities</strong></td>
<td>More than 700 activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Trainers</strong></td>
<td>More than 5200 trainers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Workforce involved in executing the Census</strong></td>
<td>More than 40000 people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Brief look at the Census(2)

| Executive levels, including enumerators, 36 executive levels, senior experts | 36 executive levels |
| Census enumerators by sex | 52.2% males & 47.8% females |
| Manpower saving | we need 65000 people if we used traditional methods |
| Per capita cost | Less than 0.5 dollar |
| Software for management | 32 softwares |
| Implementation of the Census | More than 40000 people |
Organizational Structure of Population and Housing Unit 2016

Members of the headquarter

The National Census Headquarter

Coordination and Integration Council

Security Committee

Secretariat of Headquarters, Supervision and Documentation

Plan Preparation Group
- Forms and Handbook Committee
- Training Committee
- Editing and Imputation Committee
- Tabulation and Publication Preparation Committee
- Statistical Maps and Address File Committee
- System Designing Committee
- Extraction Committee
- Technical support Committee
- Database and Registers data Committee
- Credits committee
- Logistics and supply committee
- Organization Committee
- Publicity Committee
- Information dissemination committee
- Post-enumeration committee

Group of Supervision over Census Implementation
- Supervision over implementation Committee
Innovations in the 2016 Population and Housing Census

Simulations Editing when completing questionnaire during field operation

Using mixed methods in data collection including tablet, internet and telephone

Synchronizing internet-based data and tablet data

Using back up files on the tablets
Innovations in the 2016 Population and Housing Census

Using internet website and telephone-assisted enumeration for absent households

Using Paperless questionnaire

Monitoring and supervising Census operation through designing and establishing control room
Pilot Census for 2016 Census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The first pilot census was in 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In 2014, the first pilot census was taken in two cities: Shar-e-Majlesi and Foolad Shahr for the following reasons:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Evaluation and comparison of the results through self-administration and face to face interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Evaluation of address file and household coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Checking data with other administrative sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Checking data with agriculture census</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Checking data with 2006 and 2011 censuses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Field study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Telephone-assisted survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Checking data with targeted subsidies data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The second pilot census was in 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In 2015, the second and main pilot census was implemented through two following mixed methods namely: internet and face to face interview. Main areas for test:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Address file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Internet self-completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Software of household questionnaire on the tablet</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Evaluation of the questions on religion</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Time for completion of the household questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Evaluation of access methods to absent households</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Using back up data on the tablets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Using register data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Evaluation of the enumerator’s work load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Group Organization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
questionnaire completion and data processing in last censuses

Data Processing

questionnaire completion


OMR
OCR
ICR

Mixed Method

2016

Statistical Centre of Iran
Methods of questionnaire completion
Internet

1 - Completion of the questionnaire by households through the internet and receiving statistical codes through mobile
In I.R Iran, for the first time, internet-based census was taken successfully in 2016. Over 47 percent of the households completed the online questionnaires.
First page of the Internet-based Census Portal and instructions for filling out e-Questionnaire

Average Registration Time: 17 Minutes
46.4 percent Households Contribution
### پروتکل مصاحبه مقدماتی

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>محتوای مصاحبه</th>
<th>پرسش‌ها</th>
<th>پاسخ‌ها</th>
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<tr>
<td>نام</td>
<td>نام خانوادگی</td>
<td>نام خانوادگی</td>
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<td>شماره ملی</td>
<td>شماره ملی</td>
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<td>جنس</td>
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<td>سال تولد</td>
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<td>ماه تولد</td>
<td>ماه تولد</td>
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وضعیت فعالیت برای افراد ۱۰ ساله و بیشتر

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<th>پاسخ‌ها</th>
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<td>وضع فعالیت</td>
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</table>

وضعیت ناهل برای افراد ۱۰ ساله و بیشتر

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<th>پاسخ‌ها</th>
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وضعیت فرزند آمیز برای زنان ۱۰ ساله و بیشتر (حداقل یک بار ازدواج کرده)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>وضعیت فرزند</th>
<th>پاسخ‌ها</th>
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<td>آنا تاکنون ۲۵۰ روز گذشته ۱۰ زنده بیان دنبای اورده است؟ بله</td>
<td>آنا تاکنون ۲۵۰ روز گذشته ۱۰ زنده بیان دنبای اورده است؟ بله</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>تعداد کل فرزندان</td>
<td>تعداد کل فرزندان</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>تعداد فرزندان در حال حاضر رزنه</td>
<td>تعداد فرزندان در حال حاضر رزنه</td>
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</table>

وضعیت فرزند آمیز برای مردان ۱۰ ساله و بیشتر

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<td>آنا در ۲۵۰ روز گذشته ۱۰ زنده بیان دنبای اورده است؟ بله</td>
<td>آنا در ۲۵۰ روز گذشته ۱۰ زنده بیان دنبای اورده است؟ بله</td>
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وضع مهاجرت

<table>
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<tr>
<td>آنا در آبان ماه ۱۳۹۰ تاکنون شهر با وب</td>
<td>آنا در آبان ماه ۱۳۹۰ تاکنون شهر با وب</td>
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<td>مدت زنگی در همین شهر با آبادی</td>
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<td>محل زنگی قبیل</td>
<td>محل زنگی قبیل</td>
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<td>استان محل زنگی قبیل</td>
<td>استان محل زنگی قبیل</td>
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<td>شهرستان محل زنگی قبیل</td>
<td>شهرستان محل زنگی قبیل</td>
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<td>شهر محل زنگی قبیل</td>
<td>شهر محل زنگی قبیل</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>کشور محل زنگی قبیل</td>
<td>کشور محل زنگی قبیل</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Completion of the Census

Your information was successfully recorded:
Statistical code L773096245888

- Registering town and village of residence
- Controlling the accuracy of data
- The minimum number of digits
- Coding
- Impossibility to produce or guess
Challenges of Internet based census Portal

- The First Experience in the Country and various risks of the Project
- Variety of the Targeted Users (2 to over 40 percent)
- High Expectations of the population
- Sharp Reduction of Users motivations in Case of facing difficulty in using the Portal
- Simultaneous provision of 5 Internet Services as well as Telephone-assisted Registration Service
- Obtaining Data for 52 Census Items from one-person household
- Checking 222 Rules and formatting in the Portal
- Security
Services provided by Internet Based System (2)

- **11148762 households**
  - Volunteer Household Registration

- **208782 households**
  - Absent Household Registration

- **116511 households**
  - If you need to correct the information, click

- **147258 households**
  - If you don’t have your statistical code, click

- **152417 households**
  - If you have received statistical Code as well as Absent Code, click

- **Telephone-assisted Registration**

- **www.sarshomari95.ir**
Methods of questionnaire completion
1-Completion of the questionnaire by households through the internet

- **Preparation**
  - To start questionnaire completion through internet via the census website: www.sarshomari.ir.95
  - Sending statistical code and Thank you SMS to the mobile number announced by the household
  - Controlling relationships of the questions and warning when necessary
  - Access to e-questionnaire for completing it
  - Reception of statistical code
  - Delivery of statistical code to the household

- **Technical support through a Call Centre**

- **Convincing households to participate in the Internet-based Census**

- **From 24 Sept. to 21 Oct. for all households**
  - From 22 Oct. to 20 Nov. for absent households

In case of missing statistical code, it can be retrieved in a determined time.

When necessary, the questionnaire can be revised in a determined deadline.
Telephon and Internet base system Data collection Results

- 11448000 Households
- 38313000 People
- 46.4 percent Households Contribution
- Average Registration Time: 17 Minutes

www.sarshomari95.ir
Browsers and devices used

**Browser used**
- Chrome, 45.25%
- Firefox, 45.44%
- Safari, 4.08%
- IE, 4.9%
- Others, 0.35%

**Devices used**
- Desktop, 77%
- Mobile, 23%
Methods of questionnaire completion

Tablet

2- Enumerator's Face to Face Interview by Using Tablet
General Processes of E-Census by use of Tablet

1. Defining implanters
2. Formation of administrative organization
3. Allocation of working unit
4. Taking the working unit
5. Installation of data collection software on tablet devices
6. Collecting data by enumerator
7. Uploading working unit to the tablet
8. Transferring working unit to the tablet
9. Sending collected data
10. Reviewing work unit information by technical and executive senior expert
11. Map expert re-takes work unit with returned questionnaire
12. Correcting work unit based on feedbacks received from the map expert and technical and executive senior expert
13. Servers upload working unit to the server

APK

Servers
Upload working unit to the server

Technical and executive senior expert
Map expert

Re-taking work unit with returned questionnaire

Correcting work unit based on the feedbacks received from the map expert and technical and executive senior expert

Technical and executive senior expert
Map expert

Collecting data by enumerator

Sending collected data

Uploading working unit to the tablet

Transferring working unit to the tablet
Methods of questionnaire completion

Telephone

Completion of the questionnaire by the telephone enumerator for absent households from 22 October to 20 November
Contents of the questionnaire

Population information
- Name and family name of the head of the household
- Citizenship
- National ID
- Number Foreign Nationals' ID code
- Relationship to the head of the household
- Date of birth
- Month and year of birth
- Estimated age
- Residence status
- Religion
- Health insurance card
- Has he/she changed his/her place of residence (city or village) since 22 October 2011?
- Duration of residence in this city or village
- Place of previous residence
- Previous province
- Previous sub-province
- Previous city
- Country of previous residence
- Is he/she currently attending school?
- Literacy status
- Educational attainment/degree
- Activity status
- Marital status

- Has she had any children born alive?
- Total number of children born alive
- Total number of children born alive (still living)
- Has she had any live birth during the last 365 days?
- Total number of children born alive during the last 365 days

Housing information
- Type of household
- Residence place
- Type of the residential unit tenure
- Floor area (Square meter)
- Type of residential unit skeleton
- Material used in construction of residential unit
- Number of children born alive during the last 365 days (still living.)
In person training: Centralized and decentralized. Distance training: in addition to in person training, distance training was also used during the 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} phase of training.
Map Display and Correction tools in the SIJAD Map Module

Statistical Blocks Edition Tools:
- Creating blocks
- Delete blocks
- Integrating blocks
- Disintegrating blocks

Functional Tools:
- Search of blocks
- Selection of blocks
- Map guide
In order to provide an equal opportunity for applicants intending to participate in the census activities, the system of manpower recruitment for the Population and Housing Census 2016 was designed and launched. Call for registering in Recruitment System for Census workforce was made two months prior to the census execution period through the Census portal. It was assigned that recruitment of the workforce needed for the Census be done through the system, only.

With respect to the conditions assigned in the census organization guidelines and other qualifications announced, it was decided to select the applicants based on the determined qualifications. These applicants were trained and employed after passing the census examination.
Developing web-based monitoring forms with the following specification:

- Online Monitoring of the smallest area of administrative levels (block and village)
- Online Monitoring all enumerators
- Online Monitoring Of progress
- Online and on-time precise reporting
## Control Room

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>کل گسور</th>
<th>تعداد مکان</th>
<th>تعداد ساکن</th>
<th>تعداد مکان‌های مراجعه‌شده</th>
<th>پرواز خانوار 95</th>
<th>خانوار 90</th>
<th>رست‌پذیری شده</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
Telephone-based census

Telephone-based Census Portal

User name

Password

* Rewrite security code

Enter

91000 households
270000 person

640 Operators
1. Meeting with Supreme leader, President, First Vice President, Parliament Speaker Foreign Minister

2. Mass media (TV, radio and press programmes)

3. Outdoor promotion (designing and publishing Banners, Placards, Trakets, wall poster, leaflets, use of the enumerator’s vest and Bag, use of official paper on which census logo was printed)
4. Supplying information for students through designing Census Assistant Card for elementary schools and wall newspaper for high schools

5. Government Agencies Support through inclusion publicity message on LED and organization’s WEBSITE
6. Use of SMS

7. Preparation of census logo and sticking on public passages

8. …
Meeting of Census Officials with Supreme leader
Meeting of Census Officials with President
Meeting of Census Officials with President and his participation in the Internet-based Census
Meeting of Census Officials with Parliament speaker
Meeting of the Census official with First Vice President
Meeting of Census Officials with Foreign Minister
Meeting of Census Officials with Foreign Minister and his participation in the Internet-based Census
Visiting the Census Headquarter by Vice President in Women’s Affairs
Visiting the Census Headquarter by Special Assistant of President
Visiting the Census Headquarter by ICT Minister
Visiting the Census Headquarter by Actors
برای اداره در کشور برنامه‌های زیر لازم است و برای برنامه‌های زیر درست، داشتن آمار دقیق برای مستندات کشور مهم می‌باشد.

سرشماری عمومی نفوس و مسکن ۱۳۹۵
کارت همبار سرشماری
ویزه دانش آموزان انتخابی

۱- روش اینترنتی: در این روش خانواده‌ها می‌توانند از ۲۴ تا ۳۰ مه ماه سال گذشته از طریق اینترنت در سامانه سرشماری www.sarshomari95.ir اینترنتی به اطلاعات و مدارک ضروری وارد نمایند. این روش اینترنتی به شماره "کد آموزش" در فرم سرشماری گذاری می‌شود.

۲- روش مصاحبه حضوری: مدارس سراسر کشور به کودکان و تکمیل کرده است، مدارس سراسر کشور فقط "کد آموزش" را در شاخص اینترنتی و اطلاعات زندگی کودکان به شکل سفارشی می‌دهد.

لطفاً مراحل زیر را به روش صحیح انجام دهید:

۱. داشتن آموز عضوی، خروش‌گذار
۲. داشتن آموز انتخابی
۳. داشتن آموز انتخابی

www.sarshomari95.ir
Wall posters

2016 National Population and Housing Census

24 September - 15 October 2016

I exist. Count me in.

By registering your information on the Census website, help us and win a prize by lot from the Statistical Centre of Iran

www.sarshomari95.ir

2016 National Population and Housing Census

Face to Face Census
16 October - 15 November 2016

Let’s Cooperate with the Enumerators of the 2016 National Population and Housing Census.

Cooperation in the Census, Prerequisite for the Development of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

www.sarshomari95.ir

The Census is our future, don’t leave the future blank.

Let’s Cooperate with the Census Enumerators.

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Statistical Centre of Iran
How to have access to census data

- CD
- Publications of detailed and general results
- SCI’s website address: www.amar.org.ir

Primary results: till the end of March, 2017
Detailed results and preparation of publications: September, 2017
Achievements and challenges of the 2016 census

**Achievements**

- Unprecedented welcome from online questionnaire completion
- Success in questionnaire completion with Tablet Device
- Reduce the burden to respond
- Improve census quality

**Challenges**

- Incompleteness of address file
- Difficulties related to working with tablet
## Selected Population and Housing Results in Iran (1956-2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of sub-provinces</th>
<th>Number of villages</th>
<th>Total population of the country by the census year</th>
<th>Urbanization ratio (%)</th>
<th>Sex ratio</th>
<th>Household size</th>
<th>Population growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>132</td>
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<td>18954704</td>
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<td>79892004</td>
<td>74</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
With respect to the accessibility to existing administrative data in the country and promotion of statistical system, implementation of register-based census will be the main goal for the next census. To achieve this goal, the following prerequisites are:

1- improving population information bank,
2- Completing and updating address file
3- Linking national code to place code.
Thank you for your attention

STATISTICAL CENTER OF IRAN

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