



**Side-event of the 53rd Statistical
Commission on the 2020 World
Programme on Population and
Housing Censuses**

**2021 Ghana PHC: Changes Introduced
in the Processes Due to Covid-19**

Owusu Kagya
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**GHANA
STATISTICAL SERVICE**

Outline

1. Introduction
2. Initial plans for the 2021 PHC
3. Postponement of the Census
4. Changes in the 2021 PHC plans
5. Potential adjustments to census questions due to Covid-19

Introduction

**Censuses
in Ghana**

1

Ghana has conducted 12 censuses almost every ten years since 1891. Adopted the UN recommendation for decennial censuses after independence

**Population and
Housing
Censuses**

2

Ghana added Housing Census from 2000, and 2021 is first Ghana's E-Census

**Goal of the
2021 PHC**

3

Complete coverage and quality data

Initial plans for the 2021 PHC

- Cartographic mapping: completed pre-Covid
- Recruitment of Field Staff: online application with in-person screening
- Training of Field Staff: in-person
- Method of data collection: in-person
- Duration of data collection: 7 days of listing and 14 days of enumeration

Postponement of the Census

- The Census had been scheduled for March 2020 per the Statistical Service Act (Act 1003)
- Postponed as a result of the Covid-19 and the associated restrictions; with mixed impact
 - Burden:
 - Requirement of additional resources
 - Modification of instruments (no change in information collected) and strategies
 - Benefits:
 - Procurement - Tablets
 - Extra development time – e.g. ISCO/ISIC codes, map production

Changes in PHC Plans due to Covid-19

- Recruitment and training
 1. Recruitment of Field Staff: online application with in-person screening
 2. Hybrid of training methods - virtual self-learning, virtual training for all levels of trainers to complement face-to-face training
 3. Virtual technical working group meetings
 4. Virtual meetings with regional and district teams
- Method of data collection
 - In-person with Covid-19 protocols (mask wearing and 2 metres social distance between persons)
- Duration for training extended
- Census publicity/communication – webinars for stakeholders; social media public education campaign; live streaming of in-person publicity, education and advocacy events with limited participants

Potential adjustments to census questions (1/2)

- Reduce the number of questions?
 1. No change in the instruments and the amount of information collected
 2. 14 days of enumeration – Less number of days means reduction of questions
 3. In anticipation of Covid-19 related hesitancy,
 - Publicity, education and advocacy used to raise awareness of the importance of census data for targeted policies such as for pandemic response
 - Enumerators were provided with PPEs and trained on maintaining social distance
 4. Use of an enumeration tracking dashboard for real-time data checks
 5. DQM set up - edits to detect errors for correction while in the field

Potential adjustments to census questions (2/2)

- Additional guidance to support respondents in answering questions in the context of the pandemic
 1. Internal migration
 2. Emigration
 3. Economic activities
 4. Fertility
 5. Mortality



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