

## **CENSUS OF POPULATION 2011**

### **A NOTE ON METHODOLOGY**

#### **I. Aim of the Census of Population**

The aim of the Census of Population was the enumeration of the entire population, the households and the dwellings and the collection of information on the demographic and social characteristics of the population and the households, on the size and amenities of the dwellings as well as the geographical distribution of the population, the households and the dwellings. The Census was conducted according to the relevant EU Regulation (Regulation (EC) No. 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council) and it covered the Government-controlled area of Cyprus. The Census of Population is one of the main sources of statistical data which is used in policy development in fields such as education, health, employment, housing, rural development etc.

#### **II. Reference Date**

The reference date of the Census was the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2011.

#### **III. Coverage**

As regards the population, all the persons who had their usual residence in Cyprus for a period of at least one year, or who had arrived in the last twelve months (prior to the reference date of the Census) with the intention of residing in Cyprus for a period of at least one year, were enumerated. As regards living quarters, all the places which were used as a place of usual residence (the conventional dwellings and the occupied non-conventional dwellings) and all the unoccupied conventional dwellings were enumerated.

#### **IV. Organisation of the Census of Population**

The Census of Population enumerated the entire population and housing units in the Government-controlled area of Cyprus.

The entire Government-controlled area was delimited in clear geographical boundaries, as follows: each district had been subdivided in the greater urban and rural area, according to the definition provided by the Department of Town Planning and Housing. A further delimitation was conducted with regard to municipalities, communities and quarters (where this delimitation exists) and moreover, a further delimitation in enumeration blocks took place. In urban areas, the enumeration blocks had a maximum area of less than one square kilometre ( $< 1 \text{ km}^2$ ) and had below 300 usual residents per enumeration block, according to the results of the 2001 Census of Population.

With the geographical delimitation in enumeration blocks, a better organisation of the Census was achieved. Moreover, the collection of data to a very detailed level was made possible, so that an accurate reference to each geographical subdivision could be made, and so as to avoid possible double-counting or omissions.

Each enumerator had the responsibility to enumerate one or more enumeration blocks. In each enumeration block, s/he had to record all the conventional dwellings (whether occupied or unoccupied), the non-conventional dwellings (only those which were occupied), the households and the population, according to the definitions provided in part VI. Additionally, each enumerator was obligated to record all the institutions in the enumeration block that was

assigned to him/her. When assigning an enumeration block to an enumerator, s/he was also given a road map of the enumeration block in question, which displayed the streets and the geographical boundaries of the enumeration block.

## **V. Census Questionnaire**

The collection of data was conducted using the CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) method, using netbook computers on which the Census of Population Questionnaire was installed. The questionnaire that had to be completed for each housing unit was subdivided into four parts, as follows:

### **Part A: Questionnaire for the Housing Unit**

This part comprises questions on the housing units, both occupied and unoccupied. More specifically, the questions refer to the type of living quarter and the type of building. For the occupied housing units, the questionnaire also includes questions on the number of rooms, the size of the housing unit (in square metres) and the various amenities that are available in the housing unit (kitchen, bathroom, heating, etc.).

### **Part B: Household Questionnaire**

This part comprises questions referring to the tenure status (owner-occupied, rented, free lodging etc.) and the rent of the housing unit, for those housing units which were rented, as well as a question about whether the household has a personal computer, internet access etc.

### **Part C: List of Household Members**

This comprises the list of names of the members of the household as well as the relationship of each household member with the head of the household.

### **Part D: Personal Questionnaire**

This part comprises questions for each person residing in the household, such as his/her marital status, citizenship, religion, educational attainment, employment etc. This particular questionnaire was filled in for each individual member of the household.

## **VI. Definitions**

1. **Population:** Persons who had their usual residence in Cyprus on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011, i.e. persons who resided permanently in Cyprus for one year or longer, or persons who had come to Cyprus during the last twelve months (prior to the reference date of the Census) with the intention of residing in Cyprus for a period of at least one year.
2. **Housing Unit:** In this category are included all the living quarters which are used as usual residence. A housing unit is separate and independent, and it has been built/rebuilt/converted with the intention to be used as the usual residence of one or more households, or if it was not originally intended for habitation, it was in fact used for that purpose on the reference date of the Census, e.g. a shop which was used by someone as his/her usual residence. Dwellings which were originally intended for habitation, yet on the reference date of the Census were used exclusively for other purposes and not for habitation, e.g. a conventional dwelling which was used as a company's office, a laboratory etc., were not considered as housing units and were not enumerated.

3. **Household:** A household comprises one or more persons, irrespective of relationship, who live together in the same housing unit, have common catering arrangements and share at least one main meal a day. A household could fall under one of the following two cases:
  - (a) Two or more persons living together, who have common catering arrangements and share at least one main meal a day. A household may comprise only members who are related to each other, or only members who are not related to each other, or by a combination of these two cases.
  - (b) Every person who resides alone in a separate housing unit, or who resides with other persons in a housing unit but who is not related to them, i.e. does not share meals with them, so as to be considered as a member of their household.

In the majority of cases, the terms household and family (or family nucleus) are identical, i.e. a household comprises one family. There are cases, however, in which the definition of a household is broader than that of the family (e.g. a household may comprise a father, mother, children and grand-parents).
4. **Institution:** This is a place intended for the housing of persons bound by a common public objective or a common personal interest. An institution may be a separate building, part of a building, or a series of buildings which are intended to house a large group of people who are bound by a common objective or interest. This category includes homes for the elderly, hospitals, clinics, psychiatric institutions, monasteries, prisons etc. The population of institutions covers the persons who were placed in the institution and lived there for one year or longer or intended to reside there for a period longer than a year (on the reference date of the Census).
5. **Conventional Dwelling** is defined as a room or suite of rooms in a permanent building which, by the way it has been built/rebuilt/converted, is designed for habitation by one or more households all the year round and is not, at the time of the Census, used wholly for non-residential purposes. It should have direct access to the street, either via a garden or grounds or a common space within the building (staircase, passage, gallery etc.) *The conventional dwellings were enumerated regardless of whether or not they were occupied on the reference date of the Census, (unless they were used for non-residential purposes, in which case they were not enumerated).*
6. **Non-Conventional Dwelling:** This is a housing unit which was either built with the intention of habitation, however it was built out of crude materials (and consequently is not included in the category of conventional dwellings), or it was not originally intended for habitation but it was nevertheless used for this purpose on the reference date of the Census (e.g. a shop which was used by someone for habitation). In this category are also included the residence places besides the housing units (collective living quarters). The non-conventional dwellings were enumerated only if they were inhabited (as a place of usual residence by one or more persons) on the reference date of the Census.
  - a) **Improvised Housing Unit:** This is an independent, improvised shelter or structure built of crude materials, without a predetermined plan, for the purpose of habitation by one or more persons. The housing units of this category were enumerated only if they were used as a usual place of residence on the reference date of the Census.
  - b) **Other Housing Units not intended for habitation** include premises in permanent buildings such as barns, garages, warehouses etc., which have not been built/rebuilt/converted or otherwise arranged for habitation, but were actually used as living quarters at the time of the Census. The housing units in this category were enumerated only if they were used as a place of usual residence on the reference date of the Census.

**c) Collective Living Quarters other than Housing Units:** These are permanent structures which provide lodging either on a fee basis or not. In this category were included rooms in hotels and hotel apartments which were rented or offered free of charge as permanent residences. Moreover, this category includes rooms in institutions (such as boarding houses, clinics, homes for the elderly), which were offered as a usual residence to persons who had their usual residence there on the reference date of the Census, without them being persons placed in the institution.

7. **Type of building in which the dwelling is located (for conventional dwellings only):** The term building refers to every permanent and independent building which has walls and a roof and comprises one or more rooms or other spaces (it has to have a surface area greater than four square metres).

**a) Single House/ Single Dwelling:** This is a structure containing one dwelling, built on a separate plot of land with direct access to the street. If the dwelling was adjoined to a shop or office on the ground floor, the dwelling was still classified as a single house.

**b) Semi-detached or duplex:** This is a building on one plot of land but comprising two independent dwellings attached to each other either vertically or horizontally. These dwellings could have direct access to the street or via a common space within the building. If part of the building comprises shops, the building is also classified as semi-detached.

**c) Row houses:** These are attached dwellings having at least one wall or part of a wall in common. Such constructions were common in the old parts of towns and in villages.

**d) Back-yard house:** This is a dwelling located on the same plot of land with another principal house, with direct access to the street or through the yard. Usually it is built at the far end of the yard.

**e) Apartment Block:** This is a structure built on a single plot of land comprising three or more dwellings and at least one storey, with direct access to the street or via a common place in the building.

**f) Dwellings in a partly residential building:** These are dwellings located in a building comprising both dwellings for habitation and other units for other uses such as for business and commercial purposes (e.g. offices and shops).

8. **Year of Construction (completion) of the dwelling:** This refers to the year (or period) during which the dwelling was constructed. More specifically, we refer to the year (or period) in which the dwelling was completed, that is the time period during which the dwelling was ready for habitation by the first residents.

9. **Occupancy Status:**

**a) Housing Units used as usual residence by one or more persons:** This category comprises all living quarters which were occupied and were used as a usual place of residence by a household(s) on the reference date of the Census. The living quarters in this category may be of permanent built or improvised shelters not designed for habitation, provided that they were inhabited on the Census date.

**b) Vacant:** This category comprises all the conventional dwellings which were vacant on the reference date of the Census.

**c) Dwelling reserved for seasonal or secondary use:** This category comprises conventional dwellings which were not used as usual residence but were used as second or holiday homes.

**d) Dwelling used as a tourist apartment:** This category comprises all the tourist apartments and houses which were not certified by the Cyprus Tourism Organisation (CTO) and which are usually rented for the vacation of other persons (not their owners').

**e) For Demolition/Other Use:** This category comprises the conventional dwellings which were not used as the usual residence of a household but which were vacant and were intended to be demolished. It also comprises the dwellings which were abandoned (which were nevertheless in a condition in which they could be inhabited by one or more persons), as well as other dwellings which did not belong to any one of the previous categories.

- 10. Tenure Status:** This refers to whether the housing unit is owner-occupied, rented, of free lodging or if another form of tenure status applies.

**a) Owner-occupied:** The housing unit belongs to one of the members of the household.

**b) Rented:** The tenant of the housing unit (or some other person or company etc.) pays rent to the owner of the housing unit.

**c) Free lodging:** This refers to the case where the housing unit is offered for free lodging to relatives or other persons (without the person residing in the housing unit having to pay rent to the owner).

**d) Other tenure status:** This refers to the cases where the tenure status cannot be described by one of the previous categories.

- 11. Broadband internet connection** is the connection which offers uninterrupted access to the internet as well as very high connection speeds.

- 12. Marital Status:** The marital status of the respondent was recorded, in one of the following categories: married, widowed, divorced or single. The legal marital status of the person was recorded (e.g. the persons who were separated and who were not yet divorced, were recorded as being married).

- 13. Country of birth:** The country in which the respondent's mother had her usual residence when she gave birth to him/her was recorded as the respondent's country of birth. The same definition applied for the country of birth of the father and of the mother of the respondent.

- 14. Citizenship:** The respondent was asked of his first and second citizenship (if this applied). The persons who had stated the Cypriot citizenship as either their first or second citizenship appear in the relevant tables as Cypriots.

- 15. Language:** The language that the respondent speaks best was recorded. (For infants, the language that the mother speaks best was recorded).

- 16. Place of usual residence one year prior to the Census:** This refers to the country and the municipality/community (if in Cyprus) where the respondent had his/her usual residence one year prior to the reference date of the Census, i.e. on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, 2010.

- 17. Permanent residence abroad:** This refers to the members of the population who had their usual residence abroad for a period longer than twelve months, however not as students. (An exception to this rule comprised the persons who had been born abroad and came to Cyprus for permanent settlement before they had completed the first year of their lives; the latter *have been included* in the category in question.)

18. **Educational Attainment:** For each respondent who was 15 years of age or older, the highest level of education which s/he had *completed* on the reference date of the Census, was recorded.
19. **Literacy Level:** This refers to whether the respondent (who was 15 years of age or older) was able to read and write simple sentences.
20. **Literate:** This refers to the person (aged 15 and over) who can read and write simple sentences.
21. **Illiterate:** This refers to the person (aged 15 and over) who cannot read nor write simple sentences.
22. **Employed Persons** are considered those who were 15 years of age or older (on the reference date of the Census), who during the week which preceded the week of the interview, worked for at least one hour for pay, profit, or as unpaid family helper. It also includes persons who had a job but who happened not to work during that particular week because they were on leave, sick leave etc.
23. **Unemployed Persons** are those aged 15 years or older (on the reference date of the Census) who were not employed during the week prior to the interview, but were actively looking for full-time or part-time work, were available for work and were also able to work.
24. **Economically Active Persons** comprised all persons aged 15 and over who during the week prior to the interview were either employed or unemployed (as defined above).
25. **Not Economically Active Persons** comprised all persons (aged 15 and over) who during the week prior to the interview were neither employed nor unemployed. More specifically, it comprised persons who, during the reference week were either students, housewives, retired, disabled or chronically ill, or persons who were income recipients.
26. **Occupation:** The persons who were employed during the week prior to the interview were asked what their main occupation was (in other words, if the respondent stated that s/he had more than one occupation, s/he had to state his/her main occupation, that is the occupation at which s/he spent more time during the week prior to the interview). Moreover, persons who were unemployed but who had worked in the past were asked about their main occupation during the last position they had before they became unemployed. The information was collected in descriptive form, and afterwards codification of the occupations was conducted based on the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO '08) of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The classification in question is a tool that is used for the grouping and classification of occupations according to the duties that the employees are called to undertake as well as the qualifications (experience and educational attainment) which are required for the particular work positions. The classification ISCO '08 is now used on an international and European level. The Statistical Service of Cyprus is fully harmonised with the new classification system which is already used in all the surveys which collect data on occupation.
27. **Branch of Economic Activity:** The persons who were employed during the week which preceded the interview, as well as the persons who were unemployed but who had worked before, were asked in what type of organisation or company they worked. This information, which refers to the branch of economic activity in which the respondent was employed, was collected in descriptive form and was consequently codified based on the European Union classification system NACE Rev. 2, which

comprises the statistical classification of the economic activities in the European Union. The NACE classification provides the framework for the collection and presentation of a broad range of statistical data regarding the economic activity. The statistics produced based on the NACE classification are comparable on a European and, in general, on an international level. The use of the classification in question is mandatory within the European Statistical System.

**a) Primary Sector:** This sector includes Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, Mining and Quarrying.

**b) Secondary Sector:** This sector includes Manufacturing, Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply, Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities, and Construction.

**c) Tertiary Sector:** This sector includes Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles; Transportation and Storage; Accommodation and Food Service Activities; Information and Communication; Financial and Insurance Activities; Real Estate Activities; Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities; Administrative and Support Service Activities; Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security; Education; Human Health and Social Work activities; and other service provision activities.

- 28. Family Nucleus** is defined as two or more persons within a household who are related as husband and wife, as cohabiting partners, or as parent and child. Thus, a family nucleus comprises a couple without children, a couple with one or more children, or a lone-parent family (a lone-parent with one or more children).

## **VII. Data Confidentiality**

The Statistical Service of Cyprus is obligated, according to the Statistics Law 15(I)/2000, to keep the data which has been collected as strictly confidential. The answers given by respondents are used exclusively for statistical purposes.