

TRANSFORMING FROM TRADITIONAL TO COMBINED POPULATION CENSUS IN ARMENIA

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METHOD USED FOR RA POPULATION CENSUS IN 2020 ROUND

- ▲ The Population Census in Armenia will be conducted in October, 2022.
- ▲ For the 2022 RA Census ARMSTAT will transform from traditional to register based *combined census method*.
- ▲ *Administrative data from the State population register* will be used to obtain the minimum set of variables of the population census.
- ▲ *A sample survey* will be conducted to collect all the *variables* defined by the census program.



STATE POPULATION REGISTER (SPR)

- ▲ Includes information on all the citizens of the Republic of Armenia according to their place of residence. Those RA citizens who have not permanent residence in Armenia and are mostly residing in foreign countries, are registered in the SPR with their place of residence in foreign countries.
- ▲ Foreigners with RA residency status, as well as asylum seekers and refugees are registered in SPR upon their appeals for registration.
- ▲ The internal movements are registered upon the appeals for the registration/ de-registration.
- ▲ The concept of usual residence is put in the ideology of the register, but it is not always the case, as the respective mechanisms are not completely elaborated.
- ▲ The events of births and deaths are automatically transformed from the Civil Status Acts Register to SPR.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE DATA TO BE USED FOR POPULATION CENSUS

1. State Population Register

- ▲ Personal ID code – the public service number;
- ▲ name, surname and patronymic, if certified documents are presented;
- ▲ status (residence status or refugee status);
- ▲ actual registration address; citizenship;
- ▲ date of birth: date, month, year; birth place, sex.



2. Border management Information System (BMIS)

- ▲ The information in this system is elaborated through registrations from all boarder checkpoints of Armenia (in and out) and is based on the data from the scanned passports of persons crossing the borders of Armenia.
- ▲ In order to update the data of the State population register in the census context, they are combined with the BMIS at the personal identification level to identify whether the person is in or out of the country.

THE SAMPLE SURVEY FOR THE COMBINED POPULATION CENSUS

- ▲ 25% of the addresses from the SPR will be covered by the sample survey,
- ▲ The survey will cover all census variables defined for the census program through field enumeration of the population and will be collected by tablets,
- ▲ The RA Address register which is designed by the Cadaster Committee of RA is not finalized yet.
- ▲ The information on the coverage of **birth and death** registrations in households by the Civil registration system is included in the Population Census program.
- ▲ The completeness of birth registration of children under 5 years in Civil registration system comprised 99.3% according to the results of ADHS, 2015-16.

Pilot Population Census, October 2019

- ▲ Before the general census, a Pilot Population census was conducted to test the *methodological, organizational principles, processing programs and technology*.
- ▲ It was carried out in October 3-12, 2019 in 2 Marzes (regions) of the RA (Kotayk and Shirak), covering 1% of population.
- ▲ The base information was received from the Population Register, which was then updated with the information available from the BMIS and other available registers, combined with the data collected through 25 % sample population, using tablets.

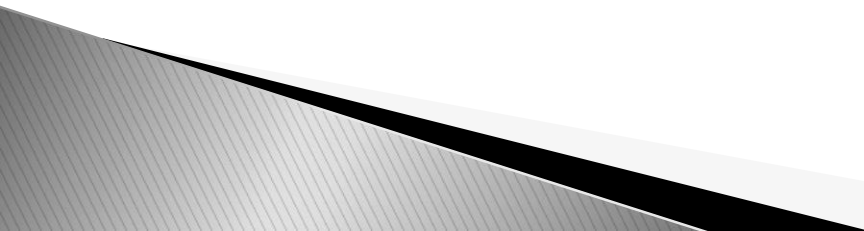
CURRENT STATUS OF THE CENSUS ACTIVITIES

- ▲ The experience of pilot Census conducted in October 2019 revealed that it is necessary to develop and introduce a system consisting of software and server means for the combination of Population Register and Border Management Information System for the conduction of 2022 Population census in the Republic of Armenia.

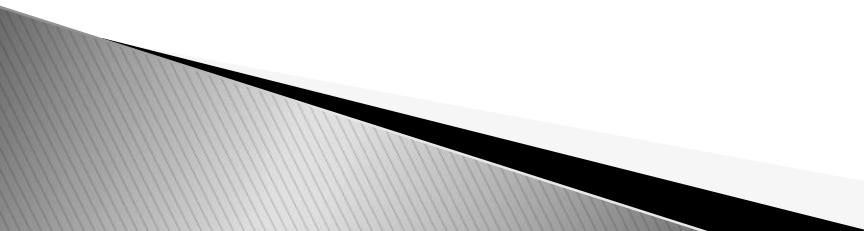


- ▲ Since the beginning of 2020, ARMSTAT, with the support of the partners maintaining these administrative registers, initiated the development of the technical task for the procurement of the Software Development Services and then the procurement process itself.

Combination of Population Register & Border Management Information System

- ▲ Currently the program is finalized and ARMSTAT has access to the information database from the population register, matched with the data from the border management information system.
 - ▲ This developed system enables to access the quantitative indicators of the population of the Republic of Armenia from the Population Register, as well as foreigners and citizens of the Republic of Armenia, including the nominal data available in the SPR on characteristics by gender, age distribution and others.
 - ▲ The main program has been launched, but there are still works to be done, mainly for the cases when persons' status in the country is not identified.
 - ▲ To improve the system all other administrative sources and registers that are not yet connected to the general system are used.
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POPULATION CENSUS PROGRAM & OUTPUT

- ▲ At present ARMSTAT is in the phase of designing census dataset based on *the combined administrative data and survey database* .
 - ▲ The census questionnaire is also revised after the pilot census. It was discussed by various institutions and stakeholders, as well as with development partners.
 - ▲ Expert assistance was expected in 2020, especially with some technical issues of the CSPro software and sampling, but due to the pandemic it was postponed.
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CONCLUSION

The 2020 Census round (2015–2024) provides a great opportunity to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely, and reliable data disaggregated by different characteristics relevant in National and International contexts.



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Side-Event
2nd Ministerial Conference on CRVS
16-19 November 2021, UN ESCAP