The 2021 Census of Population and Housing

Modernization and Innovation

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Outline

- Key facts about Malta
- The Start: Overview of the 2021 Census
- Step Back: Lessons Learnt from the 2011 Census
- Moving Forward: Modernising Data Collection
- Operations: An overview of the Census business process
- Expectations: Desired Outcomes
Key facts about Malta

- The 2021 Census - the 18th national census to be carried out in Malta since 1842
- Figures from the last Census in 2011:
  - Total population: 417k (now estimated at 550k)
  - Dwelling Stock: 224k (now estimated at over 250k)
  - 300 institutions
- Around 8000 streets spread across 985 Enumeration Areas
- Budget of around €3.1m
- Census night: 21 November 2021
- Slogan: “Everyone Matters”
Lessons learnt from 2011 and 2020
Lessons learnt from 2011 and 2020

- Public wellbeing: COVID-19
- Mobility and urbanisation
- More flexible data collection
- Smarter approach to achieving goals
- Specialised training and staff
- More use of geocoding
- Process automation
- Timeliness
- Thematic analyses
Operations

Initiation
- Census Officer
  - Two Deputies

Definition and Planning
- Census Office team [32]
- Enumerators [Nearly 1200]
- NSO staff [70]

Execution
- NSO staff [10]

Monitoring and Control

Reporting
Definition and Planning

- Public consultation process
- Census questionnaire

Topics at **Individual** level:
- Demographics and vital statistics
- Nationality, race and religion
- Health
- Education
- Labour and economic status

Topics at **Dwelling** level:
- Building structure
- Tenure status
- Facilities
- Secondary dwellings
- Vacant dwellings
Definition and Planning

- Thorough procurement process
  - Branding and design
  - IT hardware, software and consultancy services
  - Merchandising
  - Venues for training of field officers
  - Website development [https://census2021.gov.mt/]
Definition and Planning

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  - Branding and design
  - IT hardware, software and consultancy services
  - Merchandising
  - Venues for training of field officers
  - Website development [https://census2021.gov.mt/]
  - Translation services
  - Promotional campaign
  - Freephone customer care service
  - Creation of the 2021 Census mailing register
  - Formation of all Enumeration Areas
Definition and Planning

- First pilot study
  - November 2018
  - Testing of online form
  - Among 1200 dwellings

- Second pilot study
  - June 2021
  - Testing of questionnaire, field operations and IT tools
  - Among 200 dwellings
  - Spread over 6 localities

- Fine tuning of questionnaire
Operations

Initiation

Definition and Planning

Execution

Monitoring and Control

Reporting
Execution

- Recruitment of over 1200 staff (July/August 2021)
- Training of staff
- Enumeration of over 10k persons residing in institutional dwellings and other non-conventional dwellings
- Distribution of Enumeration Areas
- Constant support through the freephone service
- Data collection among private dwellings through:
  - An online self-response form
  - Telephone
  - Enumerator visits
  - Traditional paper self-response form
Executive

Mailing of Census letters
- To over 220k dwellings
- Combination of multiple registers
- Basic Census details
- Credentials to access online form

Freephone service
- Assistance at all levels
- Mon to Sun (8am-10pm)

Online form
- Quick and easy
- Multilingual, including Italian and French
- Developed in Blaise 5.9.4

Enumerator assistance and Canvassing
- Interviews through: - Telephone
  - Tablet
  - Paper questionnaire
- Canvassing

First week of October
1 October – 30 November
1-31 October
8-28 November
In order to access and fill-in the Census questionnaire, you need to refer to the details included in the official notification letter that was mailed to your address. In this letter you will find the Reference Number and Password assigned to your dwelling.

Whilst thanking you in advance for your time to participate in the 2021 Census, the Office assures that all information is being requested in accordance with the Malta Census Act of 1948 and the Data Protection Act – Cap 588 of the Laws of Malta implementing the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). All information provided shall remain confidential and used for statistical purposes only.
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Monitoring and Control
Operations

Initiation

Definition and Planning

Execution

Monitor and Control

Reporting
### Reporting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 2022</td>
<td>Preliminary population count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2022</td>
<td>Preliminary report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July-Sept 2022</td>
<td>Post-enumeration process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2022</td>
<td>Final population count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2022</td>
<td>First data transmission to Eurostat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Dec 2023</td>
<td>Publication of thematic reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2024</td>
<td>Final data transmission to Eurostat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expectations

- Enhanced data security
- People support and wellbeing
- Low environmental impact
- Pragmatic approach that encourages public participation
- Real time data capture leading to faster results
- Better data quality
- Minimal burden on respondents
Thank you for your attention

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https://census2021.gov.mt/