



**THE INTERSTATE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES
(STATCOMMITTEE OF THE CIS)**

The 2020 population census round in the CIS region: outcomes, challenges, prospects

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The 2020 population census round in the CIS countries

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<u>Azerbaijan</u> 1-10/10	<u>Kyrgyzstan</u> 23/03-1/04	<u>Kyrgyzstan</u>	<u>Kyrgyzstan</u> 25/03-3/04		<u>Moldova</u> 04
<u>Belarus</u> 4-30/10	<u>Kazakhstan</u> 1-30/10	<u>Kazakhstan</u> 1/09-30/10	<u>Uzbekistan</u> 1-25/11	<u>Uzbekistan</u> 1-25/11	
	<u>Russia</u> 1-31/10	<u>Russia</u> 15/10-14/11	<u>Turkmenistan</u> 17-27/12		
	<u>Armenia</u> 18-27/10	<u>Armenia</u> 14-23/10	<u>Armenia</u> 13-22/10		
	<u>Tajikistan</u> 1-15/10				



Population topics (1)

	AZ	ARM	BEL	KAZ	KYR	RUS	TAJ	TURK	UZ
Permanent residence, geography and migration topics									
Country of birth and place of birth	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Citizenship	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
— stateless	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
How long have you been living in this settlement?	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Place of previous residence	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Have you ever lived in another country for 1 year or longer			•	•	•	•		•	•
Purpose of your arrival into the country for permanent residence)	•	•	•	•	•			•	
Working location	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Temporary residence	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Temporary absence	•	•	•	•	•	•			•
Refugee or displaced person	•	•	•		•				•
Demography, household and family topics									
Relationship to the person listed first in your household	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sex	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Date of birth (age)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Marital status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Number of children born	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•



Population topics (2)

	AZ	ARM	BEL	KAZ	KYR	RUS	TAJ	TURK	UZ
Economy topics									
Sources of livelihood	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Main source of livelihood	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Producing goods for in-house consumption	•		•		•	•	•	•	•
Do households get cash from relatives and family members (residing abroad)	•	•		•	•		•	•	•
Income-generating employment or other sources of income for a certain period before the census	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Status in employment	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
If unemployed, have you looked for a job in the last month (in the last 4 weeks)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
If you were offered a suitable job, would you take it the next 2 weeks	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Education									
Level of education	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ability to read and write	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Education at an educational institution	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Type of educational institution	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Preschool education of a child	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•



Population topics (3)

	AZ	ARM	BEL	KAZ	KYR	RUS	TAJ	TURK	UZ
Ethnocultural topics									
Ethnicity	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Religion		•		•			•		
Native language	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Other languages	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Disability									
Challenges experienced by respondents: challenged vision, hearing, locomotor system, memory and/or attention concentration, self-care, communication	•	•		•	•		•	•	
Housing topics									
Year when the building was erected	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•
Number of storeys				•	•		•	•	
Exterior wall material	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•
Type of dwelling	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Total dwelling area size	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Living area size	•			•	•		•	•	•
Number of living rooms	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Types of dwelling improvement	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Internet access	•	•			•	•	•	•	•



Population topics (4)

	AZ	ARM	BEL	KAZ	KYR	RUS	TAJ	TURK	UZ
Persons temporarily residing in the country but permanently residing abroad									
Sex	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Date of birth	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Country of birth	•	•	•	•	•	•			
Citizenship	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Country of permanent residence	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Ethnicity	•	•		•	•	•	•		
Date of arrival into the country		•		•	•	•			•
Purpose of arrival	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•



Census methods in the CIS countries

Percentage

	2010	2020		
	Population survey using a paper census questionnaire	Population Survey using:		an online census questionnaire
		a paper census questionnaire	a digital census questionnaire	
Azerbaijan	100	100	-	-
Armenia		-	100*/25	-
Belarus		-	76/2*	22
Kazakhstan		-	60	40
Kyrgyzstan		-	100	-
Moldova		-		
Russia		-	77/5*	18
Tajikistan		60	25	15
Turkmenistan		-	100	-
Uzbekistan		-	-	

* Public administration sources

Census duration and enumerator's burden

Countries	Number of census days		Average number of people per 1 enumerator	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Azerbaijan	10	10	450	300
Armenia	10	10	320/270*	380/310*
Belarus	11	27	250	675/510*
Kazakhstan	10	60	300/350*	833
Kyrgyzstan	10	10	400	300/250*
Moldova	14		300/350*	
Russia	12	31	400	550
Tajikistan	10	15	350/400*	750P - 380B
Turkmenistan	12	11	n/a	320/350*
Uzbekistan	-	25	-	450/350*

* Urban / rural area



Some preliminary findings and prospects (1)

- At the initiative of the CIS Statistical Committee, the Council of the CIS Heads of State decided in 2016 to conduct population censuses in the Commonwealth region. Based on the decision, a set of harmonized indicators was agreed to measure the labor market and migration in the Commonwealth region.
- Most of the CIS countries (6 countries) had population censuses 2 years before the end of the 2020 round. Another 4 countries have to organize their censuses in the remaining period. Uzbekistan will make its national population census in 2022: a first population census since 1989.
- COVID-19 significantly challenged the preparation and organization of the census:
 - 4 countries had to postpone their censuses in 2020 and postponed them to subsequent years;
 - it was necessary to adjust all the preparatory activities, including the public awareness raising campaigns;
 - interaction with the population was much more complicated;
 - measures had to be taken to ensure safety of the census staff (primary vaccination, procurement of PPE (face masks, gloves, sanitizers));
 - the census data processing time extended in some countries.



Some preliminary findings and prospects (1)

- It is important to note the active efforts of international organizations (UNFPA, the statistical departments of the UN and UNECE, the CIS Statistical Committee), which fully cooperated with the National Statistical Services (NSS):
- procurement of personal protective equipment, promotion of public awareness;
 - holding conferences and meetings, consultations with the NSS specialists (online and offline), drafting reviews;
 - organizing a UNFPA monitoring mission to visit a pilot population census in the Republic of Uzbekistan (the mission included the representatives from the National Statistical Services of Belarus, Greece, Italy, the USA, the CIS Statistical Committee, UNHCR, UNFPA, and international experts);
 - organizing a UN mission to assist the State Statistical Committee of Turkmenistan in conducting a blanket population and housing census in 2022 (the mission included the representatives of the statistical departments of the UN, UNECE, the CIS Statistical Committee, and UNFPA);
 - organizing a mission of the representatives of the CIS Statistical Committee to the population censuses in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.



Some preliminary findings and prospects (2)

- The 2020 census round in the CIS region can be described as a watershed in terms of pre-existing traditional practices. Key points:
 - using the Internet: enabling the population to take part in the census and to self-enumerate themselves and their families (households);
 - a practically total abandonment of paper census questionnaires and active application of tablets for interviewing the population and for collecting data;
 - using **personal** smartphones of census takers with a pre-installed mobile app as a technical means for collecting respondents' answers. This approach has not been widely applied internationally; therefore, the practice of Kyrgyzstan deserves closer attention;
 - faster data processing and publications of census outcomes thanks to technological innovations;
 - expanded engagement of population registers / public administration data for collecting population data.



Some preliminary findings and prospects (3)

- It is **important** that the NSS specialists analyze the **census data** in terms of identifying the impact of innovations on data quality, reduced or increased financial costs, prospects for the development of national statistical systems, etc.

- **Issues to be discussed in preparation for the 2030 round:**
 - Interdependencies between census methodologies, organization and technology. How do new technological solutions impact the methodological and organizational aspects of the census?
 - Should the approaches to the census organization and methodology change when the population is surveyed by specially trained census takers and through online self-enumeration of the population (untrained census data collection), and if so, then what should change?
 - Census data quality: quality assurance of total population coverage and elimination of data duplication. What quality assurance methods should be applied, especially in the context of different modalities of data collection?



Some preliminary findings and prospects (4)

➤ **Issues to be discussed in preparation for the 2030 round** (continued):

- Consolidation of data arrays. What challenges did the NSS face, and how did they address the challenges?
- The option of using personal devices of census takers (smartphones, tablets) for conducting population surveys. What are the pros and cons of this approach?
- What population cohorts should be measured in a census for national and international benchmarking?
- How should censuses take into account the high mobility of the population caused by various reasons (high mobility can be both long-term and short-term)?
- What should be the frequency of censuses in the context when data become obsolete very rapidly?
- Should census outcomes be published on paper or will it be enough to post tables and databases on the open-access NSS websites?



Some preliminary findings and prospects (4)

- **Issues to be discussed in preparation for the 2030 round (continued):**
- Will the population census retain its defining role or will other sources of information (i.e. BIG DATA) replace it? Is it needed today, and if so, then how to explain “why a population census is needed” to the population and the authorities?

Thank you for your attention!

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