

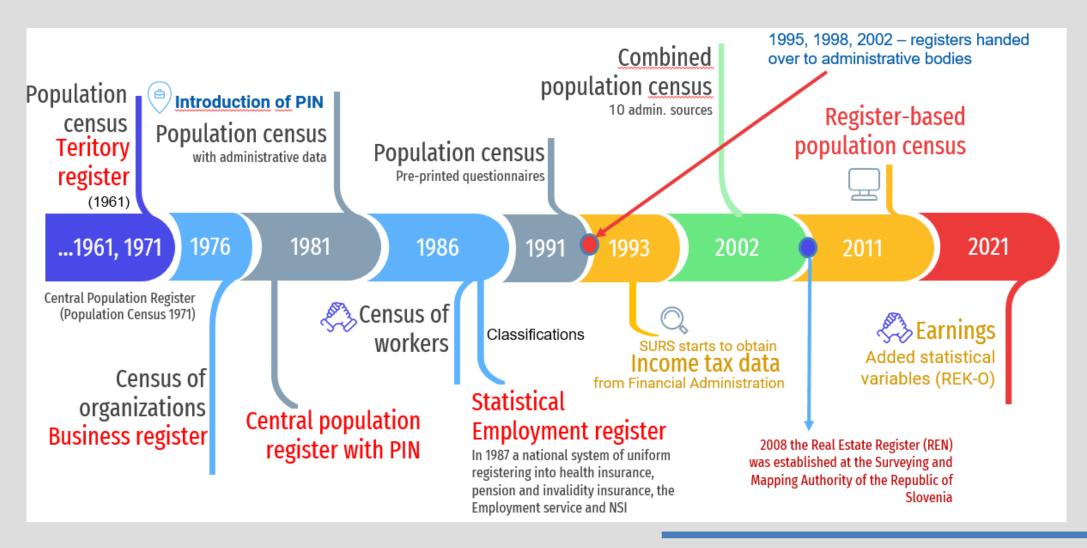
Which came first: register-based census or register-based population statistics?

Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses Geneva, 2-4 October 2024

Tina Žnidaršič, Barica Razpotnik Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia Demography and Level of Living



Administrative sources timeline





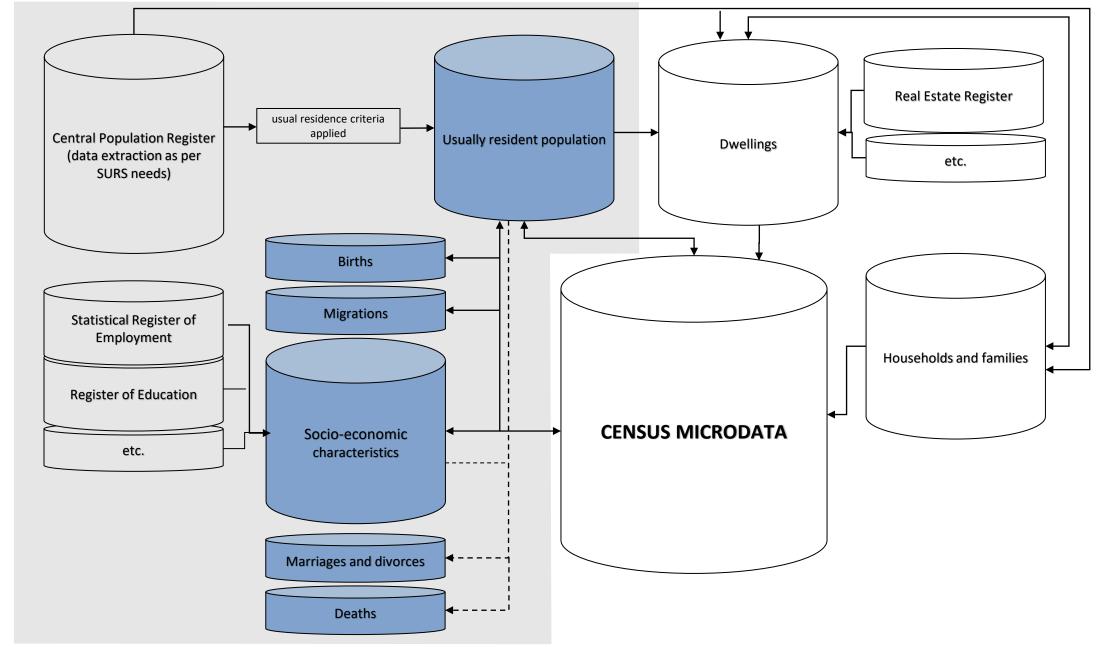
Towards register-based demography (1)

- 1970: Basic Register of Population
- 1971: Central Register of Population CRP (based on Census)
 - following Nordic model
 - leading role of the Statistical Office
- More registers in the 1970s
- 1980: introduction of PIN
 - verifying PIN in 1981 Census (80% coverage)
- 1986: register-based data on population stocks published
- 1991: PIN and name pre-printed on Census questionnaires
- 1998: CRP taken over by the Ministry of the Interior



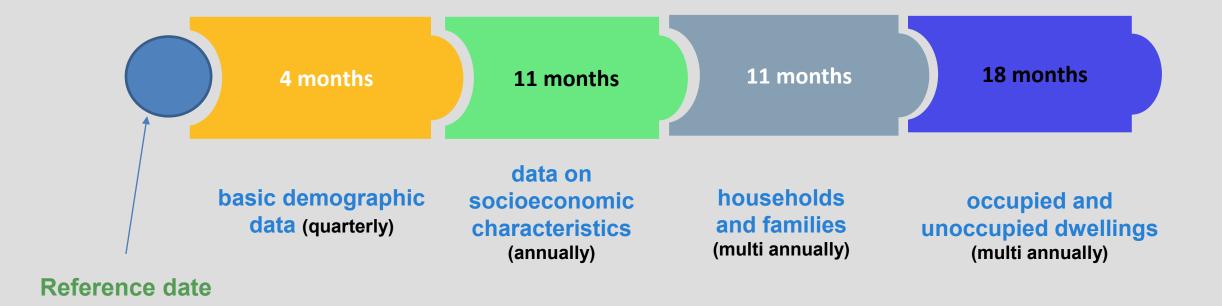
Towards register-based demography (2)

- 2002: more use of registers in the Census
 - Pre-printed personalised questionnaires (PIN, name, address, indicator, whether certain variables have already been collected from various registers and databases)
 - Population census and register-based population stock data still separate
- Mid 2000s: completely register-based population statistics
 - population stocks
 - vital events (data on births, deaths and divorces supplemented by additional data from other institutions)
 - migrations
- 2008: usual residence concept fully introduced in all population statistics
- 2011: first register-based census
 - Complete convergence of population census and register-based population statistics
 - Some traditional census topics now derived annually
- 2015, 2018, 2021: later register-based censuses





Dissemination (1)





Dissemination (2)

No "census" topic on SURS website or SiStat Database

Topics

- demographic data
- migration
- fertility
- activity status
- education
- households
- families
- quality of life dwellings

Territorial levels

- national level
- NUTS 2
- NUTS 3
- municipalities (LAU 2)
- settlements
- grid cells



You win some, you lose some

Advantages

- One figure for one data point
- Minimal cost
- ➤ Reduction of the number of people involved in the production (same team works on "census" and population statistics)
- Data on some topics available more frequently
- More timely data
- Usually resident population used for sampling frame for sample-based surveys
- Harmonized demography data
- Uniform and controlled methodological approach

Challenges

- Difficulty assessing over- and under-registration
- Almost no influence on the statistical office management and the administrative sources
- ► Keeping in touch with new developments is key
- ▶ Unavailability of some data in administrative sources in Slovenia various self-declared data were collected with field census (e. g. ethnicity, religion, mode of travel to work)
- More complex data processing
- Convergence in dissemination may confuse some older data users (no "Census" topic)



Census – the future, if?

- In the past: Census a trademark of Statistical Office
- Now: Complete incorporation into the programme of regular statistical surveys without any special publicity
- The term Census only used in the international context: (quote from the footnote in releases and tables)

"Data on population as of 1 January 2021 in Slovenia are produced also according to the Commission Regulation (EU) No. 2017/712 of 20 April 2017 establishing the reference year and the programme of the statistical data and metadata for population and housing censuses provided for by Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council."