

## 2. ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Legal mandate and history

In March 2008, the Government of the Cayman Islands approved the planning, preparation and implementation of the 2010 Census of Population and Housing for the Cayman Islands (2010 Census). The preparation culminated in the approval by the Cabinet in Council in February 2010 of the drafting of the Census Order and Census Regulations. The Census Order mandated the Economics and Statistics Office (ESO) to conduct the 2010 Census which shall be taken as at Census Day. The Census Day, or the reference day for counting the population, is the 10th of October, 2010. The Census Regulations comprised a list of particulars or questions in the Census questionnaire.

The 2010 Census is the latest in the census history of the Cayman Islands which started in 1802. Since then, censuses were done in 1891, 1911, 1921, 1934, 1943, 1960, 1970, 1979, 1989 and 1999.

The 2010 Census also complies with the United Nations recommendation that all countries should carry out a population and housing census every tenth year and that the 2010 round of censuses should be carried out during the period 2005-2014.



2010 CENSUS

*“We need to know  
where we are  
to know where  
we are going”*

be counted!

National Hero the Hon. Sybil McLaughlin



## 2.2 Census objectives

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The main objective in conducting the 2010 Census is to provide statistics on the population's demographic, social and economic characteristics and household and housing characteristics. The need for such information can never be overemphasized in view of the dynamism of the country's population. This is a primary consideration in planning and providing public services during the ensuing decade.

In addition, the 2010 Census also has the following secondary objectives:

- a) To update enumeration area maps, and build a registry of households of good quality. These will enable the ESO to improve its sample surveys after the Census, such as the Labour Force Survey conducted at least once a year or the Household Budget Survey conducted every 5 years. The Census was also expected to build the capacity of the ESO, such as IT-structure and staff training. Thus, the 2010 Census was also a capacity building exercise which included hundreds of non-ESO staff who worked as enumerators and field supervisors.
- b) To raise awareness on the importance of official statistics among the residents of the Cayman Islands. Official statistics is critical in providing useful information for decision-making within the public and business sectors and for knowledge-based debates as part of the democratic process. Hence, another objective of census management is to disseminate the Census results in a user-friendly manner primarily through this main report and other subsequent analytical reports. The Census data sets for public use are available to the general public through the ESO website [www.eso.ky](http://www.eso.ky).

## 2.3 Basic approach

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A population census can be done in two different ways. One method is to count the population who usually lives in the country ("residents"); this is called a de jure census. The other method is to count all the people present in the country at the census time; this is called a de facto census. The new UN manual calls the two methods, population present count (corresponding to the de facto census) and usual resident population count (corresponding to de jure).

For the Cayman Islands, the aim was to count the usual resident population, i.e. residents or persons staying in the Cayman Islands for more than six months or intending to stay for at least six months.

The main argument for the usual resident population count is that this offers better information for planning and policy purposes on the demand for services, on households and on internal migration. In the 1999 census, the main results concern the resident population. Hence, comparability with the 1999 census was ensured.

### 2.4 Preparation and consultation process

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The preparation of the Census Regulations and the census questionnaire was aided by a consultation process through the Census Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC was convened in June 2008 to provide advice to the prioritization and relevance of questions to be included in the Census questionnaire, and in other key areas. In addition to ESO, it comprised senior representatives from the Departments of Planning; Education; Children and Family Services; Labour and Employment Relations; the Ministry of Finance, Tourism and Development; the Ministry of District Administration, Works and Gender Affairs; and the District Commissioner for the Sister Islands. The private sector through the Chamber of Commerce Executive Director was also represented in the Committee.

Other Departments within the Cayman Islands Government assisted the ESO and CAC, particularly the Government Information Services with regards to publicity and promotion and the Lands and Survey and the Planning Departments with regards to the preparation of enumeration area maps. The Legal Drafting Department was extensively involved in preparing amendments to the Statistics Law (1996 Revision) to strengthen the safety and confidentiality of the Census data collection process, the Census Order and the Census Regulations.



The Census Advisory Committee has established relevant sub-committees that met regularly in earnest to keep the preparation on schedule. These sub-committees were: Mapping, Publicity and Logistics, and Documents and Training.

The 2010 Census was widely publicized, mainly due to the Census Spokespersons who volunteered their services, led by Cayman's National Hero Mrs. Sybil McLaughlin and the 2010 Young Caymanian Leader, Mr. Colin Anglin.

## 2.5 Field work and data processing

Data collection for the 2010 Census was conducted from October 10, 2010 to December 16, 2010. Field work comprised of the completion of visitation records (VRs) and interviewing of households. The VRs recorded the number of buildings, dwelling units and households in each enumeration area, and the number of members in each household by sex. Household interviews were conducted using the census questionnaire (see Appendix 1).

In all, there were 277 enumeration areas spread across the six (6) districts of the Cayman Islands, with each enumeration area consisting of approximately 100 households.

District	No. of EAs	
	1999	2010
<b>Total</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>277</b>
George Town	99	149
West Bay	37	50
Bodden Town	20	45
North Side	7	10
East End	6	6
Sister Islands	10	17

*Source: Lands and Survey Department*

Field work was a massive operation managed by the ESO and involved a team of 273 enumerators, 67 field supervisors and nine area coordinators. Area coordinators were assigned to each district, with George Town having four while West Bay had two. A field

supervisor was assigned to an average of five enumerators, while an enumerator was assigned one enumeration area with few exceptions.

Each census worker undertook training sessions and evaluations prior to signing a service agreement with the ESO with strict confidentiality clauses. The one-week training sessions for area coordinators was conducted in the first week of September 2010 with technical assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA-Caribbean Office). The enumerators' 6-day training sessions were conducted for all districts during the third and fourth weeks of September 2010. Field supervisors were selected from those who attended the enumerators' training and had an additional one-day training. All training sessions were based on the approved Census Manual (see <http://www.eso.ky/file.php?path=docum395.pdf>).



On field, approximately 30,000 dwelling units were visited by the census enumerators. These included 4,706 units that were vacant; 566 units with no contact with the occupant households after 4 attempts were made; and 2,289 were temporary second homes/short term rentals. The count of population in this final report was based from responses of 22,760 households.

After the completion of field work, the major activities comprised of editing, coding, data capture and processing. Editing was conducted by nine trained census workers in addition to ESO staff. Coding was undertaken by trained ESO staff using various international classification systems: International Standard Industrial Classification (Revision 4) and the International Standard Classification of Occupations (2008).



A computer-assisted system was used to minimize human errors and improve the accuracy of data capture. This was specifically conducted by trained ESO survey staff and nine (9) additional census verifiers using the Teleform Cardiff scanning and verification system with technical assistance from a specialist-consulting firm (Xsomo International, Ltd.). Further data processing was also conducted in-house by ESO staff using Census and Survey Processing System (CSPro) and the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

### **2.6 Census expenditure**

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Backing-up the various phases of census-taking was the census budgetary appropriation which was approved by Cabinet and the Legislative Assembly as part of the budget of the Ministry of Finance, Tourism and Development and specifically that of the ESO. The total direct expenses during Fiscal Year 2010-11 for all census activities amounted to \$1,228,884.44, of which approximately 85 percent was for field work and post-field work data processing. The rest of the expenses were for training, supplies, logistics and publicity.