

Q&A: Introduction to Census 2020

1. Who and when was the planning for Census 2020 mandated? Planning for the Cayman Islands' 2020 Census of Population and Housing (Census 2020) was approved by the Cabinet on August 6th, 2018 in accordance with Sections 3 and 5 of the Statistics Law (2016 Revision).

2. When is Census 2020? The next population and housing census in the Cayman Islands will be conducted in October 2020, and the proposed Census Day is October 10, 2020. (The Census Day is the date of reference for counting residents and housing units in the Cayman Islands).

3. Why are you planning so early? The United Nations Statistical Commission recommends that all countries should carry out a population and housing census at least every ten years, and that preparation should take place at least two years before the actual census. The last census in Cayman (2010) was also prepared two years ahead of the actual conduct.

4. Why is Census 2020 important? Similar to Census 2010, Census 2020 is expected to reflect the dynamism of the country's population which is a primary consideration in policy-making and the efficient planning and running of public services during the ensuing decade. To cite a few examples, the results of Census 2010 have been used in several important initiatives such as:

- the review of the electoral boundaries;
- preparing the life tables of residents of Cayman Islands (male and female) for pension actuarial tables and other purposes;
- education sector planning, such as projecting the number of classrooms and other resources;
- business planning by private sector entities;
- roads and transport planning;
- strategic planning for the elderly;
- strategic planning for persons with disabilities; and
- national energy policy.

5. Who will be counted in Census 2020? Census 2020 will be similar to the 1999 and 2010 censuses which are *de jure* where only persons who usually live in the jurisdiction ("residents") are counted. (The other type of census is *de facto* where all the people physically present in the country during census time are counted regardless of the country where they usually reside which would therefore include tourists).

6. What type of questions will be asked? Similar to the 1999 and 2010 censuses the broad type of questions will cover:

- ✚ demographic characteristics, such as age, sex, country of birth;
- ✚ socio-economic characteristics including education, health and labour force questions; and
- ✚ housing characteristics.

The questions in Census 2010 will be the main basis for Census 2020; however, some may be revised while new ones may be introduced depending on their relevance to the main census data users.

7. Who oversees the preparation of Census 2020? The Economics and Statistics Office is in charge of the Islands' censuses in accordance with the Statistics Law (2016 Revision).

8. How are the residents consulted? The residents are formally consulted through the Census Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC was convened on October 10, 2018. Members of the CAC include representatives from key users of census data who are expected to advise ESO on the relevance of the census topics and questions in their respective sector/s:

- Chamber of Commerce
- Cabinet Office
- District Administration
- Government Information Service
- Ministry in charge of Education
- Ministry in charge of Health
- Ministry in charge of Human Resources
- Land and Surveys Department
- National Roads Authority
- National Council for Persons with Disability
- Planning Department

9. What are the key things involved in the Census 2020 preparation? The following are the most important activities in preparing for Census 2020:

- **Mapping** – about 300 enumeration area maps will be prepared, with each map comprising of about 100 households, based on a review of the Census 2010 maps and an updated listing of household addresses (the ESO Household Register).
- **Questionnaire preparation.** There were 67 questions in Census 2010 which need to be reviewed. Additional questions will also be considered depending on their relevance to Cayman. The proposed maximum number of questions is 75; the maximum was set in order to avoid respondents' fatigue.

- **Pilot Census** – scheduled in October 2019, this is intended to test the draft questions and the questionnaire on tablet, using a sample of about 1,500 households.
- **Training and recruitment** – approximately 300 enumerators and 70 field supervisors will be trained and assigned throughout the Cayman Islands, to assist the ESO in administering the census. There will be extensive recruitment including Caymanians outside the civil service who will be invited for training provided that they are at least high school graduates, proficient in the use of tablets, have their own means of transportation and with health insurance.
- **Census education campaign** – this is meant to raise awareness on how the community can make use of census data, and be able to help in implementing Census 2020. There are 3 key messages in the education campaign:
 - **The census is coming;**
 - **The census is important and useful; and**
 - **The census is safe (confidentiality)**

10. What is the legal basis for the preparation and conduct of Census 2020?

- Census preparation is in accordance with the Statistics Law (2016 Revision) Sections 5 and 6.
- In accordance with Sections 4 to 6 of the Statistics Law, a Census Order and Regulation shall be issued and gazetted prior to the field work in October 2020. These will respectively state the particulars of the census questionnaire and the duties of census workers. These documents should be gazetted by August 2020.

11. When were the Islands’ prior censuses conducted, and what were the estimated population? Earlier population censuses in Cayman Islands have been conducted in 1802, 1891, 1911, 1921, 1931, 1943, 1960, 1970, 1979, 1989, 1999 and 2010 (10 October). The estimated population is shown below:

