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Planning, and the implementation of such plans, requires full Knowledge and a clear vision of today's realities. This will enable us to continue on the path that leads to comprehensive development.

**Qaboos Bin Said**  
30/11/1993



# CENSUS

A monthly bulletin issued by the Department of General Census of Population, Housing and Establishments, Ministry of National Economy.

## Interview with an Official



**Dr. Rajiha Bint Abdel Ameer Bin Ali,**  
Minister of Tourism,

In her interview with the 2010 Census Newsletter, Her Excellency Dr. Rajiha bint Abdel Ameer bin Ali, Minister of Tourism, commended the 2010 Population, Housing and Establishments' monthly Newsletter issued by the Census Administration at the Ministry of National Economy. H.E. stated that the 2010 Census Newsletter contains diverse subjects and information on the census implementation progress, and a stock of the various activities

carried out by the Ministry during this key stage of census preparations leading to the April 2010 census enumeration.

The importance of population census need not be over emphasized as there is consensus from all countries on the census importance. This is due to the pivotal role the census results play in the governance of the social and economic affairs of a country. Data and information collected, processed and disseminated about the population, their size, structure, geographic distribution, and characteristics forms a solid bench mark for the equitable distribution of national income and public services such as education, health, housing, paving roads and networks and the rest of services among the various population groups and governorates, regions and wilayats.

In addition to the above-mentioned, the census provides sampling frames required for conducting the various household sample surveys, without which would be rather impossible to provide reliable statistics. Moreover, statistical indicators calculated from the census results allow the country to undertake regional and global comparisons, and accordingly determine the achievements and place of the Sultanate on human socio-economic development map compared to other countries.

Aware of the importance of Population, Housing and Establishments' Census, the Government of the Sultanate of Oman carried out the first census in 1993, followed by the

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## Foreword

### The Census:

#### A tool for Development not for implementation

It is humanly possible that some people may ponder about the aim of conducting censuses and its usefulness or may question results of previous census or may have doubts about the census undertaking.

Fact is that growing interest of nationals and expatriates in the census, which is expressed in the growing interactions with and messages to the Census Administration through various means of communication gives assurance of the mass support to the census.

The Census Administration is in receipt of multitude of messages from nationals and expatriates either with suggestions or just to express their support for the census.

This indicates the well awareness of people, across various social and economic classes, in the value of population, housing and establishments census.

It also underlines people's knowledge of the value of the census as the main provider of information for development planning carried out by the concerned authorities in Oman with the aim of uplifting the living conditions, the equitable distribution of services and the optimal application of health and social programmes and the appropriate locations for establishing services, constructing roads, and other services.

This is in addition to manpower development, securing jobs and reducing unemployment, and articulating policies aiming at creating qualitative and quantitative equilibrium between national and expatriate manpower, and articulating housing policies for improving housing levels and conditions.

Careful examination of the 2003 census results along with economic, social and development achievements, would truly realize the invaluable importance of the census as the benchmark against which effective development of various spheres is placed.

Census results aids sustainable human development, it does not build houses, nor does it pave roads or create jobs by



itself. Rather, development planning has its principles, factors, conditions, and capacities.

Realizing societal welfare is not an overnight endeavor. Census does not necessarily lead to individual aspiration. Collective aspirations however, are realized based on census results and its use in development planning.

To those who may doubt the 2003 census results we say that the role of the Census Administration is to collect the information disclosed by yourselves without changing it.

Accordingly, the responsibility for providing accurate and correct information rests with the people themselves is no less than the responsibility that rests with the Census Administration.

The people's contribution to the success of this national effort is by providing the correct and accurate information.

We all aim at having our national hopes and aspirations realized. For development planners to be able to articulate effective development plans responsive to our national and societal aspirations, they require accurate and correct information that you the people provide.

## Gulf news

Qatar launched, by mid December, the field listing operations for listing and numbering the buildings as part of the field operations of the population, housing and establishments > census planned for April 2010 .

130 data collectors and their supervisors are engaged in this activity that lasts for 40 days. PDA units with GPS capability are used for this operation in order to identify coordinates of each building.

Digital maps for areas and blocks with its corresponding coordinates, along with other details such as streets names and numbers, physical boundaries and other identifiers such as schools, hospitals, clinics, mosques and gardens are loaded on the PDA's for ease of identifying work areas.

As the norm of the Statistics Office, field workers will underwent a five-day intensive training averaging 4 hours daily of combined theoretical and applied training using the PDA's.

This operation will be followed by the listing of housing units and establishments by mid February 2010, and thereafter by the population census commencing on the 21st of April 2010.

## Local News

◆ Commencing on the 6th of March and lasting for 12 days, the upcoming listing update field operation entails the use of hand-held computer loaded with the listing information and digital map of the area assigned to be covered by the census supervisor. The field supervisor is identified by carrying a visible official identification card around the neck displaying the person's name, position and the census emblem. There is no need for the supervisor to enter the housing unit for collecting the required information, as these can be obtained at the home entrance.

To ensure the quality and proper implementation of this listing update field operation, and to ease the burden on the nationals and expatriates and ensure their spontaneous cooperation without fail, the Census Administration wishes to inform the people both nationals and expatriates of the listing update approach and methodology as well as the questions to be addressed to the respondents, and how to identify the census staff, as this will improve the quality of the data obtained. The following questions will be addressed as follows:

### Questions / data to be updated about the building:

- Type of the building;
- Number of units within the building;
- Location of the unit (Floor within the apartment building);
- Type of the Unit;
- Building and/or Unit's occupancy (occupied, closed, unoccupied);
- Reason for non-occupancy (for rent, for sale, seasonally vacant, abandoned, under construction, or any other reason);
- Use of the building and/or the unit (for housing, for work, for both housing and work);

### Questions / data respect the «Household»:

- Number of households in the housing unit;
- Nationality of the household head;
- Full name of the household head (given name, father's and grandfather's names for all, and name of the tribe for Omani's);
- Number of household members (Omani, Expatriate);
- Household Ownership of the housing unit (owned, rented unfurnished, rented furnished, in return of work, help, other);

## Dear Citizen / Expatriate

You are the object of the sustainable human development, and its tool. You are a direct beneficiary of developmental achievements and services it provide. Your positive and unfailing cooperation with the census staff carries direct personal and societal benefits. For census results are utilized by development planners in all spheres of life such as planning for new schools, hospitals, road networks, town planning, and planning of all other services. Census results will also contribute to inviting investments into the country, a matter most beneficial to our beloved Oman.

# CENSUS 2010

- Does the household wish to respond to the census questions by the internet?;
- Name of the person that can be contacted;
- Telephone number (fixed line and mobile).

## Questions / data respect the « Establishment »:

- Number of Establishments in the unit;
- Name of the Establishment as per the sign board;
- Type of the Establishment;
- Status of the Establishment (operational, closed, out of business);
- Commercial registration number;
- Municipal Permit number;
- Name of Establishment as in the Commercial Register;
- Economic activity of the Establishment as recorded in the sign board;
- Main economic activity of the Establishment;
- Specifics of the Establishment (single, head office, branch without its own book keeping, branch with book keeping);
- Number of workers in the Establishment;
- Does the Establishment use the computer?;
- Does the Establishment use the internet for business;
- Telephone and fax numbers of the Establishment;
- Does the Establishment maintain book keeping.

To ensure total quality, the household and/or the Establishment may receive a Call by the «Census Quality Control and Call Center» staff for response verification and total quality purposes.

The people are urged to prepare the accurate responses to these questions and make it readily available at home or the establishment, and to urge household members or the responsible person at the establishment to cooperate with census staff by providing the responses.

◆ Census Administration initiated selection of the candidates for the posts of census «Assistant controller» and «Supervisor» among Government employees recommended by their respective agencies and applicants responding to local newspapers adds.

◆ Later this month, announcements in local newspapers shall be made by the Census Administration soliciting qualified candidates for the post of «Census Enumerators» among Secondary School graduates mastering English language.

◆ Since November, candidates recommended by their respective ministries and Governmental agencies for the census post of «Census controllers» were subjected to census orientation programme. This orientation programme, averaging a day per month, aims at upgrading their administrative, organizational and public communication skills, as well as providing them with in-depth knowledge of census methodology, including definitions and classifications used in the census.

## Interview with an Official (Cont. from page1)

second census in 2003. Data and information made available by these two census had a clear impact on the effective five-year development planning starting with the fifth five-year development Plan (1996 – 2000), and on the comprehensive assessing of the plans and its success in meetings its stated goals effective the Fourth Five-year Development Plan (1990 – 1995).

The Ministry of National Economy has gained experience from conducting the 1993 census, and employed that experience in the effective planning of the second population census of 2003, the use of highly advanced technologies for data collection by means of the hand-held computers (Personal digital Assistants-PDA) in Muscat Governorate, condensed training of census cadre and the realization of census results in a record short time.





It is noticed that 2010 Census Administration is committed to using the most advanced technology and methodology in conducting the 2010 Census.

Specifically, hand-held computers (PDA) will be used for collecting the census data nation-wide, electronic communication network linking the various governorates and regions with the Census headquarters for data transfer and exchange, in order to produce the census final results in a very short time after the completion of the census field work.

The upcoming Population, housing and Establishments' Census has special importance being the first harmonized census at the GCC Countries level, a matter that will solidify the Gulf Cooperation endeavour in general, and the statistical cooperation in particular.

Conducting harmonized censuses in the GCC countries gives wide opportunity for realizing increased cooperation and coordination in this vital area, and exchange of expertise and lessons learned among Statistical organizations and the varied national expertise in the GCC Countries. It will also entice those interested in undertaking comparisons between the various data sets of the GCC Countries, and help the GCC to articulate strategies based on accurate information.

**The 2010 Population, Housing and Establishments' Census is of great interest to the Tourism sector as follows:**

- Census results about population size and age and sex characteristics guide the locations and quality for touristic projects. At the same time, such data are key for investment decisions by private sector investors;
- Census results empowers the Ministry and private sector tourist establishments to specifically obtain detailed information respect tourism sector education and training institutions' enrolment levels and outcome. This assists the Ministry and private tourism establishments plan its immediate and future manpower needs more accurately;
- The results of the Establishments Census yields invaluable statistics and information for the Ministry of Tourism respect the number and size of tourism establishments along with its regional distribution and the national and expatriate manpower working at these establishments;

- Census results yields the sampling frame needed for conducting dedicated complete or sample surveys for completing the tourism database; and

- Population size and its distribution by age, sex and location is a key determinant for demand on services, including touristic services and facilities. This gives the population census its great importance.

**I hope that the great effort exercised by the Ministry of National Economy represented by the Census Administration throughout the preparatory stage of this important national project be met with success.**

## Toward Development Horizons

### 2010 Population and Housing Census is Central to Articulation of Social Sectoral Strategies

In compliance with H.M. the Sultan's decree, Ministry of National Economy is implementing the Sultanate's Population and Housing Census, which coincides with the Census of other Gulf Countries in the year 2010.

Census moment is set for the midnight of the 3rd/4th of April 2010. This is Oman's 3rd Census, as the first was conducted in 1993 and the second in 2003.

Information made available by census and household surveys (Labor Force and Household Income and Expenditure survey) forms a solid database allowing the initiation of articulating sectoral social policies specific to housing, population, health, education and employment.

Information in the area of housing for example, allows contemplating with housing loans' policies. It sheds light on housing density, services and facilities available, including electrical appliances.

Data also provide number of population using internet or those with mobile phones. Such data reflects the levels of environmental health and the extent to which society relies on modern technology.



## Important News:

Stay tuned in the coming days, the birth of two new systems!!!  
Turn to local news papers for more information.

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Information related to population supports calculation of population growth rates for nationals and expatriates. Data also facilitates calculation of fertility rates for national women along with its trends and implications on population growth for nationals, and consequently to invoke efforts and plans for improving the health of women and household members, and for cementing women's educational development.

Population census is the only reliable source of data for calculating educational enrollment rates by age and sex, as the census provides information on currently enrolled age-specific students and for the general population.

The data also sheds light on the distribution of educational units (schools) by the various areas and governorates, thus aiding the appropriate student distribution. This is in addition to calculating the return of educational effort based on information respect educational status of population by their educational attainment.

Population Census is a main source for the labor force characteristics, particularly its distribution by nationality, occupation, employment, sector, occupation and other principle information for articulating employment policy.

The census also provides information on nationals seeking jobs, to push the policy of Omanization forward and to link educational outputs to market needs.

It is of great importance to state that the census remains the only source for providing information at the smallest administrative level, a matter that sample surveys cannot provide. Data at small administrative unit allows to show developmental gaps and differentials, thus allowing for development programmes to bridge the developmental gaps between regions.

Accordingly, the 2010 Census will yield the basic information required for articulating sectoral social policies. The importance of initiating sectoral social policies is amplified by the availability of census data coupled with available survey information.

What is required is the utilization of the 2010 census in updating the available sectoral social policies particularly in the areas of health, education, and environment. Equally important, is to elaborate additional social policies particularly in the areas of labor force, civil service, social development and housing.

It is worth mentioning that the Ministry of National Economy has initiated the articulation of the integrated social development strategy for Oman. This initiative contributes to articulating sectoral social strategy and aims at identifying areas of linkages between the sectoral social policies, so that a "Social Vision" compliments the "Economic Vision".

**Dr. Geroge Ksaifi,**  
**Social Policies Advisor**

## Census Definitions

### **Census:**

Is the total operation for collecting, processing, evaluating, analyzing, and disseminating demographic, social and economic data about all individuals in a specific country or well delineated part of the country at a specified time.

### **Individual counting:**

Is the listing of each individual covered by the census along by his or her characteristics separately from other members of the household.

### **Coverage:**

Is the inclusion of each and every individual present or residing in a territory covered by the census without omission and/or duplication.

### **Household:**

A person or group of persons, living together in a housing unit during the census operations, sharing meals and other living arrangements, and as such forming together one household sharing expenses of consumables, goods and services, from the collective income of the household members, whether the source of this income is a single household member or more than one member.

Household maids and the like are members of the household as long as they are provided with lodging, clothing and meals like any other member of the household.

### **Establishment:**

Institution practicing economic activity (for profit establishment) or non-economic activity (not for profit establishment) in a fixed building or part of the fixed building. Examples of establishments are factory, store, service office, private and public school, public housing (hotel, hospital, prison), governmental public administration (police station or Wally's office) and the like.

## Census around the world

### **Mali 2009 Census**

Mali has launched its fourth Population and Housing Census. Data collection began on 1 April 2009 throughout the territory and should be completed no later than April 14 evening.





Government and technical and financial partners (UNFPA, Swedish, Canadian and Dutch cooperation agencies...) have made significant efforts to improve the demographic and social statistics and to use them effectively in the planning process. The first Population and Housing Census was conducted in 1976, the second in 1987 and the third in 1998.

Known as the General Census of Population and Housing (RGPH, the acronym in French), the operation will be conducted for the fourth time since 1976. It is entrusted to the National Directorate of Statistics and Informatics (DNSI) and more specifically to the Central Bureau of Census (BCR).

To ensure the success of the process, the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Commerce and the DNSI have called on the departments, responsible for education and defense, for the mobilization of teachers and the military. The DNSI also receives assistance from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) for the proper conduct of the operation. Thus, the Easter holidays have been shifted to enable teachers to participate fully in the operation.

24,707 agents were recruited, the majority of whom are teachers plus some officials and young unemployed graduates: 20,237 enumerators, 3,992 team leaders, 371 "arrondissement" controllers, 55 "circle" supervisors, 24 regional supervisors, and 28 national supervisors.

The operation will cost a total of 5.6 billion CFA francs of which the partners will provide 4.4 billion CFA francs. The Census concerns the whole population, all Malians and foreigners who have been living in Mali during the last 6 months or are intending to reside for more than 6 months in accordance with the Principles and Recommendations of the United Nations.

The aim of the operation is to enable the Government and the partners to adapt their developmental policies to new circumstances in connection with the implementation of the Project for the Economic and Social Development (PDES), the Strategic Framework for Growth and poverty reduction (CSCR), the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the National Population Policy (PNP).

The Census provides an opportunity for elected officials to know the socio-demographic and economic characteristics of populations living in their districts and to identify urgent needs (drinking water, electricity, sewage, education, employment, health).

The results of the 4th Census will not be useful only to the elected officials, but they will also help economic operators conduct market research in order to provide services to the districts in need.

The 4th Census is characterized by the traditional method for data collection - with direct door-to-door interview of the population. The enumeration is exhaustive - it has a policy of

counting all persons resident or present in the country at a given moment, without omission or overlap.

The preparatory activities for the census, including mapping activities and training of personnel (enumerators, team leaders, controllers and supervisors) were finalized at the end of March. The development of a geographic information system (GIS), the preparation of thematic maps at the smallest geographical levels will also be produced at the end of the operation.

Field operations began on 28 March throughout the identification list of enumeration sections and the numbering of concessions inhabited and for residential use. Awareness campaigns have started in recent weeks. The Central Bureau of Census requires the cooperation of all.

For the first data collection day, the Minister of Economy in charge of Planning has "censed" the Head of Government who reminded citizens to pay the exercise the best possible way, since the operation is national in scope and interest.

The Population and Housing Census will collect demographic, economic, social and cultural data, but also data on housing units, maternal mortality, fertility and migration.

More specifically, the information will allow having the distribution of population by sex and age at the smallest administrative level, household characteristics (family relationship, marital status), economic activities (Professional situation), the education, literacy, population movements and housing characteristics.

The operation will determine the levels and trends of fertility, mortality and migration and natural increase and the overall population. The results of the 4th Census will be available in two years, but the DNSI plans to provide preliminary results on the volume of the population, distribution by sex, status of residence and by region within the next few months.



## Dear Citizen / Expatriate

Please be assured of the strict and utmost confidentiality of your personal information and that of the establishments. Census results will be made available at the aggregate level for statistical purposes. Census and all other statistical data collected are governed by the confidentiality clause of the Statistical Act issued by the Royal Decree number (29/2001). Success of the Housing, Population and Establishments Census is contingent on your full and positive cooperation; so stand tall and contribute to the success of this national undertaking. We urge you not to hesitate in furnishing the required information with care and diligence and encourage those who represent you at home or establishment to do so on your behalf and to cooperate fully with the census staff. May all our collective efforts be met with full success.

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## World's Statistics

### Most Populated Countries in 2008 (million people)

China	1,3300,0
India	1,080,0
USA	295.7
Indonesia	241.9
Oman	2.9

### Countries with Highest Life Expectancy (2008 Indication)

Andorra	83.5
San Marino	81.8
Japan	81.2
Singapore	80.7
Australia	80.4
Oman	71.6



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