



A census of population and housing is designed to give a comprehensive count of the resident population and its housing stock. With respect to information content, it should show a good balance between demographic, social and economic characteristics and be in accord with international standards regarding the capture of basic data items. As such, Bermuda's questionnaire was designed in accordance with the United Nations' guidelines for the conduct of the 2000 round of population and housing censuses.

The content of the 2000 Census questionnaire was determined after consultations with government departments and other users. This process served to assure the inclusion of vital data items with identified uses in the area of policy formulation and evaluation, and programme management.

The population and housing questionnaires (see Appendix 1) include a total of 97 questions that may be grouped in twelve broad sections for discussion purposes:

- Geographic and population identifiers
- Demographic characteristics
- Marital status
- Birthplace, migration and Bermudian status
- Child care
- Education and training
- Economic activity
- Journey to work

- Fertility
- Health
- Income
- Housing

Geographic and Population Identifiers

This group includes questions P1-P14B and records information inclusive of parish, constituency, census district and town or city. Unique household numbers and person numbers are also included. The information in this section is necessary for deriving tabulations by parish, constituency, household composition and census district, and is essential for mapping applications of the data.

Demographic Characteristics

Questions P6-P21 record information on size and composition of the household as well as seek details on an individual's relationship to the household reference person, sex, age, racial group, ancestry, religion, and the size and type of household.

The questions on age and sex are the key questions in the population questionnaire. Distributions by age and sex are necessary for most of the detailed tabulations since many other characteristics of the population vary according to age and sex. In addition, many of the quality tests of census data relate to the age and sex distributions of the enumerated population.

The question on ancestry sheds light upon the various cultural groups in Bermudian society.

Information on religion was obtained by recording the religious denomination to which respondents indicated an affiliation. The questionnaire provides for 19 pre-identified religious groups. These include the five major denominations of Anglican (Church of England), Roman Catholic, African Methodist Episcopal, Seventh-Day Adventist and non-denominational faiths, which are included as a separate category for the first time.

The questions on relationship to household reference person, household type and size of household enable analysis of household composition and provide benchmark data on the number and characteristics of lone parent households in Bermuda.

Marital Status

Questions P22-P25 of the population questionnaire relate to marital status and are directed to persons 15 years and older. Marital status is a basic social indicator for analysis of the population, particularly as it relates to fertility and household formation.

The main question in this section refers to present marital status and it has six response categories: never married, married – first time, which is a new category, re-married, widowed, divorced and legally separated.

Questions on age at first marriage, length of the present marriage and whether or not the partner is Bermudian are also included in this section.

Birthplace, Migration and Bermudian Status

Questions P26-P29 and P58-P60 provide the information for this section. This information allows for tabulations on the Bermuda-born population, foreign-born persons and those with Bermudian status. It also shows the major countries of birth for the foreign-born population as well as the year or period when such persons entered Bermuda. The information in this section is useful in the formulation and examination of population policy and related issues.

Child Care

Question P30 on child care was asked for the first time in a census. The item sought information on how children who were aged between 0 and 5 years and were not attending primary school were cared for during working hours. There were six types of care categories that included various situations of care in the home and various arrangements of care outside the home.

Education and Training

Questions P31-P41 of the population questionnaire provide information about the level of formal schooling and educational achievement, and the extent of certified job-related training in Bermuda's adult population.

The questions are straightforward but care should be taken so as not to confuse highest level of educational attainment (P36) with highest academic qualification (P37).

Information on the highest level of educational attainment refers to the level at which an individual's formal schooling stopped, irrespective of whether or not the full programme of study was completed. Thus if an individual began senior secondary school but did not graduate, the correct response for this individual would still be 'senior secondary'. Information on highest level of educational attainment provides a very broad indicator of the literacy level in Bermuda.

Turning to the question of highest academic qualification, this refers to an individual's success at public or external examinations which is verified by receipt of a certificate, diploma or a degree. The range of academic achievement extends from 'no exams passed' to 'post-graduate' degrees. Only the highest level in respect of each individual (16 years and older) is recorded.

New in the education section is a question as to whether those individuals who were attending school at the time of the Census were enrolled in a public or private institution. This will not only unfold the extent of private school attendance in Bermuda, but also will provide a demographic profile of attendees.

The questions on specialized training (P38-P41) seek to find the extent of specific job skills held by or being developed by Bermuda's adult population. The training refers to structured and specialized programmes that lead to certification. Asked for the first time is the year of expected completion of the training for persons whose training was ongoing.

Economic Activity

The purpose of this section (questions P42-P50) is to identify statistically those persons who comprise Bermuda's labour force and to develop a profile of them in terms of such factors as:

- main economic activity
- number of months worked
- number of jobs held
- number of hours worked
- occupation
- industry (sector of employment)

This section is directed to persons 12 years and over. The minimum age for respondents to this section was lowered from 16 years in 1991 in order to get benchmark data on the extent of afternoon and weekend work by school children between the ages of 12 and 15.

The key question in this section is question P43, which refers to main activity during the reference week of 13th –19th May, 2000. From the responses to this question, we derive measures of the labour force (i.e. the working population and the unemployed population), retirees, and those engaged in voluntary work and other non-market activities.

Other information from this section enables the production of detailed occupational listings and sector analysis of the economy by employment levels.

Journey to Work

Questions P51-P53 are asked of the working population aged 16 years and older in order to collect data on work starting time, modes of travel to work and work location. The section supplies information on times and direction of morning rush-hour traffic flows. The data may be used in the formulation of strategies to reduce traffic congestion.

Fertility

Questions P54-P57 capture information on the fertility behaviour of females 15 years and over. The key questions seek information on the number of live births and the age of the mother at her first and last live birth. This information is used for the study of fertility patterns and for the development of population forecasts, both of which inform national population policy.

Health

This section of the population questionnaire (P61-P65) first seeks to develop a baseline of information on that segment of the non-institutional population with physical or mental health conditions that have lasted for longer than six months. Persons reporting such a condition or conditions are then asked whether there are any resultant limitations in any activities of daily life. These activities include working, attending school, taking care of personal needs such as bathing and cooking, and leaving home alone. Persons reporting a limitation were asked, for the first time, whether they received hired care for their condition(s). There was also a question that was asked of everyone on the type, if any, of health insurance coverage. This was also a new question.

Income

The income section covers questions P66-P70. Income from the main job is collected separately from income from all other sources, unlike in 1991 when respondents were asked for income from all sources combined. A separate question on pension income is also new. Income is an important economic indicator in its own right and is very useful in the analysis of social issues related to family assistance, employment and housing. The questions were asked of all persons 12 years and over, with the exception of the pension question, which was limited to those 55 years or older.

Census Night

Question P71 asks all persons whether they spent Census Night in Bermuda or abroad. The purpose of the question is to obtain a de facto count of the population; i.e., a count of the population who were physically present in Bermuda on the night of 20th May, 2000.

Housing

There are 26 questions in the housing section and the purpose is to provide a statistical profile of the size and quality of the residential housing stock.

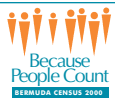
The key questions in the housing section relate to factors such as:

- type of dwelling
- condominium or not
- number of bathrooms
- year of construction
- number of rooms
- number of bedrooms
- type of tenure
- ownership of other dwellings
- rent payments

There were eight new housing questions as follows:

- year moved into dwelling
- whether there is a personal computer in the household and if so whether it has internet access
- whether rent is subsidised
- whether rented accommodation is under rent control
- whether the dwelling unit is publicly or privately owned
- expected selling price of home if it were on the market
- monthly mortgage and/or loan commitment

The above data can be cross-classified for the analysis of particular housing issues including correlations of household income with rental payments.



THE QUESTIONNAIRE

