

6. Basic census definitions

The most basic census definitions appear hereunder. Compared to previous censuses, certain changes have been implemented to clarify the relationship between different units and concepts. Despite these formal differences, there are only two main variations compared to 1991:

The elimination of the concept *non-resident*, and consequently, of the *de facto population*; and, as an estimate of the *genuine population load* in each municipality, the concept *linked population* has been included as an innovation to the 2001 operation.

The concept household becomes household-dwelling, and no longer requires inhabitants to *share common expenses*, as this did not adapt appropriately to the close relationship between register and census data foreseen for these Censuses.

Population census

Series of operations that compile, summarise, assess, analyse and publish demographic, cultural, economic and social data on all the inhabitants of the country and its political-administrative divisions, referred to a specific moment or period. This operation considers all persons that live in *dwelling*s, be they *family dwelling*s or *group dwelling*s.

The basic unit used in the Population census is the *resident person*, but the identification is not individual, as it is necessary to consider the relationships of coexistence; therefore, the *family*, the *household* and the *family nucleus* also appear as additional basic units.

Housing Census

Series of operations that compile, summarise, assess, analyse and publish data on all the places used for human habitation that have been conceived as such, and list those that were not conceived for that use but are employed for this purpose.

Resident

Individual whose regular residence is located in Spain when the census is performed¹.

The ensemble of residents in a specific political-administrative division is designated the **resident population** (concept totally equivalent to the former *de jure population*) or, simply, **population**.

The census no longer considers *Non-residents* (in other words, persons who are in the Spanish territory when the census is performed but do reside within). Consequently, the concept *de facto population* disappears, alongside the removal of the term non-resident from the Register of inhabitants.

Nevertheless, a new concept has been introduced in this census in order to calculate a better estimate of the *real population load* in each municipality, for example

¹ Replacing the concept inhabitant, used in previous censuses, which, as well as residents, included *non-residents*, in other words, persons who were in the Spanish territory when the census was performed although they did not reside within.

that is an advantage, in this sense, considering the disappearance of the de jure population. It is called **linked population**, and defined as the ensemble of persons that can be considered in the census (i.e. who regularly reside in Spain) that have a regular connection with the municipality in question, because they live, work or study there, or -if it is not their regular residence- because they spend certain periods of time (holidays, public holidays, weekends.) there ¹.

Dwelling

Structurally separate and independent venue that, given how it was constructed, reconstructed, transformed or adapted, is conceived to be inhabited by persons or, even though this is not the case, is used as a person's regular residence. As an exception, dwellings will not include venues that, despite being initially conceived for human habitation, at the time of the census are dedicated totally to other purposes (for example, those used exclusively as commercial premises).

A venue is considered *separate* if it is surrounded by walls, fences, gates..., it is covered by a roof and allows a person, or group of persons, to be isolated from others, in order to prepare and eat food, to sleep and to find shelter from the weather and the environment.

The venue will be considered *independent* if it can be accessed directly from the street or public or private area, either common or individual, or from a staircase, corridor..., that is to say, when the persons in the dwelling can enter and exit it without having to go through a venue occupied by other persons.

In any case, the survey considers the current situation of the venue-dwelling and not the primitive state of the construction. Therefore, the groupings or subdivisions of the dwellings consider as many units as resulted from the transformation processes, as long as they fulfil the aforementioned conditions, and regardless, therefore, of the initial state of the construction.

There are two types of dwellings: *group dwellings* (also known as group establishments) and *family dwellings*. Inside the group of family dwellings, there is a subtype called *accommodation*. The definitions for each of these concepts appear below.

Group dwelling²

Dwelling designed to be inhabited by a group of persons subjected to a common authority or scheme that is not based on family ties or specific coexistence schemes. The group dwelling may occupy only part of the building or, most frequently, the whole of the construction.

¹ This definition will be clarified via questions regarding place of work or study, availability of a second dwelling, and use made of it. Chapter 8 explains each one.

² In this case we have preferred *group dwelling*, as used in the 1981 Census, to stress it responds to the definition of *dwelling*, regardless of whether the whole of the building is dedicated to this purpose or not.

For census purposes, this includes both actual group dwellings (convents, barracks, institution, student halls, workers residences, hospitals, prisons, etc.), and hotels, guest houses and similar establishments.

When there are family dwellings (see next definition) in a group dwelling, which are normally used for the establishment's managerial, administrative or cleaning personnel, these will be considered family dwellings and be included in a different part of the census.

Family dwelling

Dwelling designed to be inhabited by one or several persons, who are generally but not necessarily members of the same family, and do not compose a group, according to the previous definition.

Family dwellings¹ are included in the Housing Census, regardless of whether they are inhabited or not when the census is performed. Conversely, this does not include venues constructed initially to be used as dwellings which are currently used exclusively for other purposes (dwellings that have been transformed to accommodate offices, workshops, warehouses..., which appear in the census as commercial premises).

Although they do not strictly comply with the definition, *accommodations* are also considered family dwellings, and are defined below. In order to distinguish between family dwelling and accommodation, the former will appear alongside the adjective *conventional*, in line with international regulations.

Accommodation

A family dwelling that presents the particular feature of being mobile, semi-permanent or improvised, or a space that was not designed with a residential purpose, although it is used as the residence of one or more persons when the census is performed (therefore, empty accommodations are not included in the census).

Accommodations can be *permanent*, or:

- Semi-permanent dwellings which, are similar to family dwellings in certain aspects, but are only used during a limited period of time (usually under 10 years).
- Certain premises conceived as dwellings that are constructed without pillars and using waste material (tins, boxes...): huts or shacks...
- Others premises, that were not conceived as dwellings, and that have not been refurbished or reformed to be used as such, but that are used as a residence by the people living within; for example, areas located in stables, barns, windmills, garages, warehouses, commercial premises, as well as caves and other natural shelters that have been fitted out to live in them.

¹ The adjective *family* does not imply that the inhabitants of the dwelling have to related. It would be more precise to use an adjective related to the *household*, instead of to the *family*, but the census maintains the traditional denomination so that respondents will not think this concept has been changed, as this is not the case.

or *mobile*, in other words, those constructed to be transported or that compose a mobile venue, and are used as a residence for one or several persons, such as tents, boats, yachts, trailers... Sections reserved for passengers in group means of transport (boats, trains...) are not mobile accommodations.

Household

Group of persons resident in the same family dwelling¹.

Family

Group of persons resident in the same family dwelling (therefore composing a household) that are related, by blood ties or by law, regardless of the degree².

The differences between household and family are:

- a) The household can be composed by a single person, whilst the family has to have at least, two members.
- b) The members of a multi-person household do not have to be related, whilst the members of a family do.

Family nucleus

Intermediate hierarchical unit between the resident and the family. The notion of the family nucleus corresponds to a restricted conception of the family, that is limited to the closest degrees of kinship. There are four types of family nuclei:

- a) Married couple or couple without children.
- b) Married couple or couple with one or more children.
- c) Father with one or more children.
- d) Mother with one or more children.

To be part of the nucleus, a child must be single and not have a partner³. So as to determine the nuclei, the following aspects should be considered:

¹ Compared to 1991, the 2001 Census has removed the condition that established they had to *share certain expenses*. It was hard to apply this condition in practice in the Censuses, especially as they are based on Register data, which do not include this option. The number of dwellings considered to accommodate more than one household was very small, and furthermore, the comparison of the practical application of this definition between the 1991 Census and the Sociodemographic Survey proved to be too arbitrary (often, the Census considered two households, whilst the Survey only considered one, and vice versa).

Although from a sociological point of view it would have been convenient to limit the notion of kinship, in view of the definition of *family* it is easier to work with a concept that is as vast as possible and that, on the other hand, does not distort reality.

³However, economic dependence is not required: the persons simply have to reside in the same dwelling as the parents

- The father (mother)-child relationship has preference over the child-father (mother) relationship;
in other words, if a single child without a partner is also the father of a single child without a partner, both form a type c) nucleus and, therefore, the former, although he is single and does not have a partner is not part of his parents' nucleus.
- The relationship between a couple has preference over the child-father (mother) relationship.

Commercial premises

Venues that are structurally separated and independent (in the same sense used to define dwellings) that are not used exclusively as family dwellings and in which the economic activities of a company or institution may be carried out. The premises should be situated in a building, occupying it totally or partially.

Economic activity means any production activity resulting from a concurrence of resources (equipment, labour, manufacturing process, products), that lead to the creation of goods or the rendering of services. Activities can be profit- or non-profit making.

A **company** is any legally defined organisation, with independent accounting, subordinated to a governing activity, which can be a legal or physical person, and created with a view to perform in one or several places one or several activities involving the production of goods or the rendering of services.

Some examples of commercial premises:

- Open-plan venues in the ground floors of the buildings that are under construction or have been constructed recently, where divisions have not yet been made for rent or sale, will be considered as a single venue.
- A block of buildings, as defined below, will be considered as a single venue if the economic activities performed within are carried out by a single company.
- As regards the permanent stands at markets, each one will be considered a venue, although they will be included jointly in the census as a complex of commercial premises (see subsequent definition) located in the market building.
- In buildings with a group dwelling, either hotel establishments or other types of establishments, such as hospitals, barracks, prisons, convents,... there should be at least one commercial premise, where the activity associated to the aforementioned group dwelling is performed. If there is more than one group dwelling in the building, each of their corresponding premises will be considered individually.
- When in the same building (or building complex) multiple services are rendered performed by the same or by different Public Administrations, the census will include as many venues (or series of venues) as there are units with autonomy regarding the management of personnel, authorisation, that provide services in said location.
- A venue that has a single access from outside may be considered in the census as a family dwelling and a premise, if part is used as a dwelling and part for performing economic activities, as long as they can be identified from the outside and the public can access them easily.

Examples of venues performing economic activity that **not considered commercial premises**:

- Mobile units or units without a permanent installation (travelling sales persons, stands at fairs) and those located in areas that cannot be considered buildings (open air activities, in provisional installations.).
- Those located in subterranean passages (for example, in underground stations, areas used to cross large avenues in cities, others premises located under public land not below buildings...), as well as those located in squares, pavements or outside leisure areas or any other venue not included in the definition of building (kiosks or stands selling beverages, newspapers...). However, it does include premises located in the interior areas of buildings.
- Premises that just serve a building or building complex exclusively, and those that accommodate boilers, air conditioning machinery, machinery for lifts and the like.
- Garages for private parking, that are not part of the economic activity of a company. However, it does include garages operated for a financial profit by a company, and public car parks located in buildings.
- Small venues used by owners to leave personal belongings or private parking areas, that do not yield economic profit even though they are located in a building that is not the dwelling where the owner lives.
- Economic activities carried out inside family dwellings that cannot be identified from the outside and the public cannot access freely, or when one or several areas of the dwelling are not used exclusively for the economic activity in question.

Public Administrations are analysed separately since it is difficult to apply the definition of company in this sector, and also of the dependence of the premises. For census purposes, the following will be considered companies:

- Each Ministry, Autonomous Community Government Departments, Councils, Inter-island councils, Association of municipalities or Councils.
- Superior institutional units higher of the Legislative Power and the Judiciary (Legislative assemblies, High courts.).
- Superior institutional units higher of the Executive Power not organically included in any of the previous section, such as Governing Councils, Vice-Presidencies...
- Institutional units of the Social Security System (institutes or management organs), of the State and the Autonomous Communities.
- Each Autonomous Administrative Institution.

Complex of premises

Ensemble of premises of the same type, located in the same building, that share at least one common access from the street.

Only the following 4 primary categories of question D.2 are considered to determine if all the premises are of the same type, in other words: public facility, commercial premises (including offices and other services), industrial premises, agricultural premises.

The most characteristic example are shopping centres. Other examples are ensembles of offices in a building used for said purpose, or commercial galleries located on the ground floor of certain buildings.

However the following are not considered to be a complex of premises, but simply one: a large warehouse, a hypermarket, a supermarket, as in these cases there is no physical separation between the different stands where articles are sold in the venue.

Each complex of premises appears in the census as a single census unit, although the number of venues contained is included.

Space

Operative unit used in the census agent's Itinerary Notebook corresponding, depending on the use, to a dwelling or to commercial premises. Specifically, in the Itinerary Notebook each space is classified depending on whether it is a: family dwelling (making a distinction between conventional family dwelling and accommodation), group dwelling, active premises, inactive premises.

Building

Permanent construction, separate and independent, that has been designed to be used as a dwelling or for agricultural purposes, for industrial issues, to render services or, in general, to develop any kind of activity (administrative, commercial, industrial, cultural.).

A construction is *permanent* if it has been conceived and constructed to answer needs that have an indefinite duration and that, therefore, will be in the same place for over ten years.

It is *separate* if it is limited by façades or party walls and covered by a roof.

It is *independent* if it can be accessed directly from the street or from public or private grounds.

A *building* can be accessed via a main or independent entrance, or by secondary or accessory entrances.

In the case of constructions composed by blocks or terraced buildings, or buildings that are enclosed by common fencing, the census will consider as many buildings as main, independent entrances as there are. It is important that they are main and independent entrances, although this does not exclude the fact that there may be secondary or accessory entrances to one same building.

It is important to note that the building is defined in terms of the independent nature of the access; therefore, a homogeneous construction will compose as many buildings as main and independent entrances there are.

The independence of the access refers to the impossibility of accessing dwellings other than those corresponding to the main entrance. Communications via the garage, terraces or common lumber rooms, as well as exceptional communications that can be installed for fire protection, or in case the lift breaks down are excluded.

If a construction has a single entrance and there are several different staircases that provide access to as many groups of dwellings that are only communicated via ground floor, it will be considered a single building.

Constructions with entrances at different levels through two different streets, with buildings communicated via a certain level, compose a single building.

The following are not considered buildings: constructions located in squares, underground areas, pavements or leisure areas, that sell beverages, tobacco and newspapers, such as kiosks.

Building complex

Group of buildings located in a limited area (that may or may not be enclosed) that are used exclusively or mainly either to perform the different stages, operations or needs of the economic activity of a single organism, entity or company, or as a group dwelling.

A building complex is not an group of buildings that is used mainly or exclusively as a family dwelling.

For census purposes, each building complex will be considered as one unit.