

Annex II. Investigation of persons resident in group establishments

As reported in chapter 8, persons resident in groups will only need to fill in/check their register data.

The other main option would have been to design a specific, individual questionnaire for each resident, which included the personal questions on the reverse of the household questionnaire (marital status, level of studies, relation with activity) and the individual questionnaire (occupation, studies in progress). This second option would have meant higher costs, meaning that if it had been chosen, the additional benefits expected would also have needed to have been significant. It was decided that this was not the case:

- The number of persons resident in groups according to the 1991 Census only just reached 250 thousand, just 0.6 percent of the total population.
- According to the register data on 1st January 1998, the number of persons registered in group establishments is even less than in 1991.
- The largest group by far, consists of those persons who live in old peoples homes (almost half the total in 1991); for them, a similar questionnaire to that sent to residents of family dwellings would not provide any additional information.
- The groups for whom it is worth collecting more information (those that are registered in hotels, workers or student residences) do not even reach 10 percent of those persons resident in group establishments, which means less than 0.5 percent of the total population.
- To this we need to add the special problems of completing the questionnaire for residents of group establishments. In this way, in 1991, the percentage of questionnaires not collected or those that needed particular attention when entering the details was way above the percentage recorded in family dwellings.

Due to these reasons and given that:

- One of the questions most needed (the level of studies) can be deduced reasonably precisely from the register data on academic qualifications
- The Census will provide a group directory and residents in groups ideal for carrying out more precise sectorial studies

it has been decided that the use of a specific questionnaire for residents in group establishments is not in keeping with the pragmatic and thrifty focus of these Censuses, meaning that it is better to take statistical advantage of the register data.