# Spain 2021. Why will this Census have more quality than the previous one?
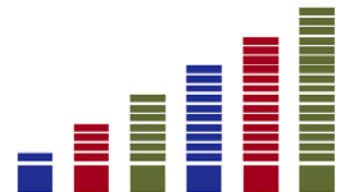
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**Outline**

1. Introduction. A bit of history.

2. Specific aspects of the 2021 Census.
   2.1 Details of the chosen methodology.
   2.2 Advantages of the new model.
   2.3 Problems in the previous system that will be overcome.

3. Conclusions.

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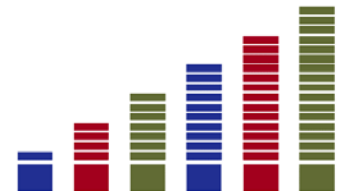
1. **Introduction. A bit of history.**

Census methodology depends on the specific situation in each country.
For example: Spain…

1991. Traditional census.

2001. Combined census: exhaustive enumeration and slight use of registers.

2011. Combined census: 10% survey and more intense use of registers.
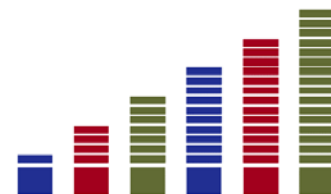
2021. Mostly register based Census.

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## 2.1 Specific aspects. Details of the methodogy.

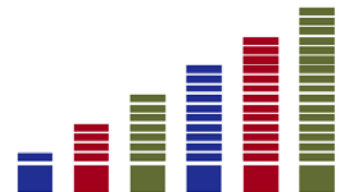Integration of data sources of different nature:

- Population register. Padron. Started in 1996. High quality. Unfortunately few variables (basic demographic and migration).

- Other registers related to population. Social Security contributors. Public servants. Unemployed people. Pensioners. Tax Office. Qualifications. Vital statistics. Education.

- Previous Censuses. Useful to solve partial lack of information. Only use if we have the certainty that is still up to date.

- Existing surveys. Difficulties to obtain a limited number of variables directly from register.

- Territorial registers. Cadaster. Electrical companies. Padron.

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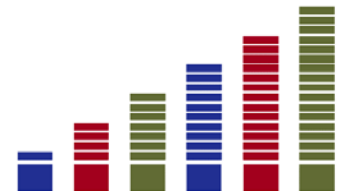## 2.2 Specific aspects. Advantages of the new model.

- Relevance. Census can offer users much more information.

- Frecuency. Periodicity does not need to be ten years.

- Punctual and up-to-date information. Reduce the time to release the data.

- Universality. Data for the whole population.

- Comparability. Better comparation among the sources.

- Financial cost. Savings (not only in the short term…).

## 2.3 Specific aspects. Problems previous system

- Logistics. Fieldwork operation is always a challenge: recruitment of enumerators, development of IT tools, follow-up of the project…

- Little potential reuse of technology. Every census operation needs to be planned virtually from zero.

- Hard to find people. Reticence of the public to respond statistical forms.

- Problems with forms in the Census

     - Information collected is always limited by the questionnarie.

     - Measuring specific phenomena accurately.
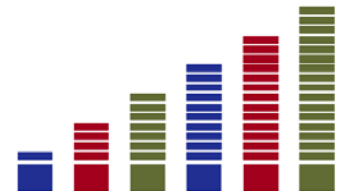
     - Proxy effect.

## 3 Conclusions

Spain is in a good position to carry out a register-based Census in 2021.

Huge amount of work has been done and will be done in the near future.

Up to now... successful trials, but only trials.

We need maximum coordination among institutions as we approach 2021.

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**Thank you very much for your attention!**