



THE NATIONAL POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS 2024

RELIGIOUS LEADERS INFORMATION KIT



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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE CENSUS....

1. What is a Population Census?

A population Census is the process of counting all persons within the territorial boundaries of a given state at a given period of time. The count captures both the numbers and the characteristics of the persons. Of recent, Population Censuses are also used for capturing the housing conditions of the people, hence the naming of the National Population and Housing Census (NPHC).

2. Is the census for only Ugandan citizens?

The census is about all persons (Ugandans and non-Ugandans) who will have spent the night in the boundaries of this country on the 'Census Night'. The census questionnaire will take the nationality of an individual as stated by the respondent.

3. How often is a National Population and Housing Census carried out in Uganda?

- **In Uganda, a Census is normally carried out after every 10 years.**

Most important to note is that:

- The 2024 Census is the 11th Census to be carried out in Uganda.
- 6th post-Independence Census.
- 3rd Census to be undertaken by UBOS.
- 1st digital / paperless census to be conducted in Uganda.

4. Why should we carry out a Census?

A Census is carried to generate benchmark data for planning at the national and lower levels. Government needs an accurate count of the population to keep track of the following aspects:

- A. **How many people are living in Uganda; and what are their demographic characteristics such as their age, sex, education etc**
- B. **Where the people live such as in the Districts, Urban, semi-Urban or Rural areas.**
- C. **How the people live such as, in permanent or semi-permanent or temporary housing units and other dwelling characteristics such as lighting sources and cooking utensils etc**
- D. **What the people own such as, assets i.e vehicles, bicycles, television, radios etc**
- E. **Where the people access basic social services from; for instance, the distance to the nearest school, tarmac road, police station, health facility etc.**

Monitoring of the above aspects also helps in evaluating the efficacy of government policies at both local and central government levels; and informs remedial interventions to close the gaps going forward.

5. Is a Census rooted in Religious History?

YES. For instance; With regard to the Bible;

In the Old Testament; the Priestly writers used two census lists in the Book of Numbers (Num 1.1–46; 26.1–51) to underline the functions of the tribe of Levi and to preface the allotment of the Promised Land to the individual tribes. Therefore, Censuses have historically been essential in enabling the provision of social services to the people.

In the New Testament; St Luke mentions two Roman censuses, the first in connection with the birth of Christ, and the other as occasioning the short-lived

rebellion led by Judas the Galilean (Acts 5.37).

With regard to the Quran;

The first census was ordered by the Prophet Mohammed (Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) to assess the numbers of the Muslims for defensive purposes. In a hadith found in both Bukhari and Muslim with differing wording, the Companion Hudhayfa (Allah be pleased with him) said:

"We were with the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) when he said, 'Count for me how many people profess Islam.' So we asked, 'O Messenger of Allah, are you afraid for us, while we are between 600 to 700 strong in number'. From the foregoing, Censuses have been crucial in Islamic history in establishing the numbers of worshipers and persons in general.

6. Will the Census 2024 questionnaire ask about our Religion?

Religion is one of the central fabrics of society. Classification of the different Religions helps in defining the various denominations, the growth rates in the capacity of Worshipers and how they enable and or / affect the access and delivery of social services in their communities of jurisdiction.

7. What is the relevance of Census Questions on Religion?

- Religion is an important means through which people form and identity within society. It affects human behaviour, reinforces cultural values of wider society and fosters a sense of community belonging.
- Religion affects population groups (the youth, the married and older persons) differently. In turn, this creates an impact on how they appreciate

development programs e.g environmental health and sanitation, education, family planning messages etc. For instance, several studies on family planning have shown how certain population groups or religious denominations have resisted some family planning methods and also the adoption of certain hygienic practices.

- Religion is therefore one of the critical guiding factors in determining how development projects and programs can be implemented at the national and community levels. It also serves as a way of segmenting society for various national purposes such as immunization and other public health programs.

8. When does Census enumeration begin?

The night of 9th May 2024 has been gazetted as the Census Night. The Census Night is the reference night for the 2024 National Population and Housing Census. The 10th of May 2024, will be the first day of enumeration and has been gazetted as a national public holiday by government.

9. Do I have to stay home on the days of Census enumeration?

No, you do not have to stay home on the Census enumeration dates. Data about you will be captured from where you spent the census night. HOWEVER, the person who is left at home should be knowledgeable to respond to all the Census questions. In the event that no

one is found at home, the enumerator will return at another time / day during the Census enumeration period.

10. How is the privacy of respondents protected?

The UBOS ACT of 1998 provides for confidentiality on all data collected from any respondent. All persons carrying out a census exercise must therefore swear an oath of secrecy, to ensure that the information collected is used purely for statistical purposes.

11. Who is enumerated during census?

All persons who will spend the Census Night in the boundaries of Uganda whether citizens or not will be enumerated and data captured. No myths should be accepted as death being a result of being counted.

12. What happens if I do not respond?

Although the law makes it a crime not to answer the census questions, and a fine can be imposed in this case, UBOS views this approach as a last resort. Rather than emphasizing or seeking the imposition of penalties, we encourage response by explaining the importance of the questions we ask and how the information benefits the community.

13. Why do we have a census night and yet the Census will take 10 days? Is the enumeration going to be done at night?

There will be no counting at night; the '**Census Night**' is only a reference point. Enumeration will take place during day but we will be asking for the persons that slept at a given household on the 'Census Night'. However, since we cannot reach all the households in Uganda in one day, the enumeration will take ten days i.e from 10th – 19th May 2024.

14. Do I get paid when I accept to be enumerated?

No, your participation is required by law. There is no monetary benefit in being enumerated. It is a constitutional obligation of every person who will be in the boundaries of this country on the Census Night.

15. When will results from the Census 2024 be available?

The provisional results for the National Population and Housing Census 2024 will be produced within two months after the enumeration as required by law. This report will show the apportionment population counts by district. The final results come out after six months.

16. So, what is expected of Ugandans?

The Uganda Bureau of Statistics appeals to all Ugandans to continue to embrace all the Census 2024 activities up to completion.

- Every Ugandan is encouraged to participate positively by giving accurate information at the time of enumeration, so as to enable the collection and processing of quality data to support planning, policy formulation and decision making at the national and sub national levels.
- The Census is for all, and **IT MATTERS TO BE COUNTED.**



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