



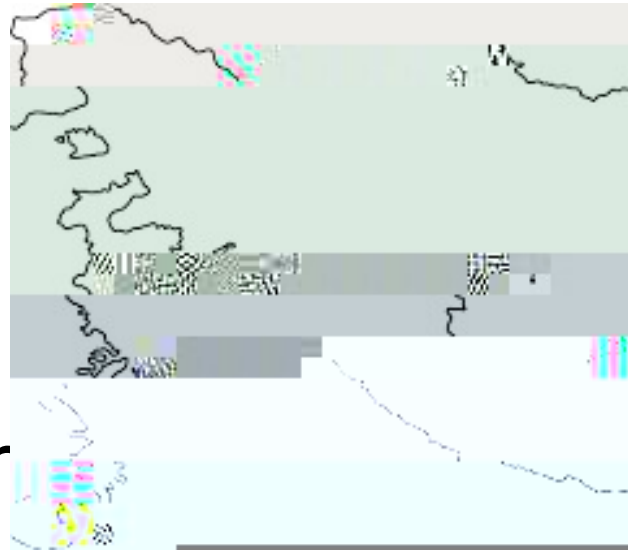
CENSUS DATA COLLECTION IN MALTA

Dorothy Gauci
Head of Unit
Population and Migration
Statistics

30 November 2016

Overview

- Background
- Methodology
- Focus on migration
- Conclusion



BACKGROUND

Malta has a Census Act separate to the Statistics Act which governs the census process.

The Government nominates a Census Officer who oversees the census process.

Historically, censuses followed a decennial cycle with two census periods being 1995 and 2005.

To harmonise with new EU regulation the census process as conducted in 2011. Decennial cycles continue from 2021 onwards.

METHODOLOGY

Questionnaire

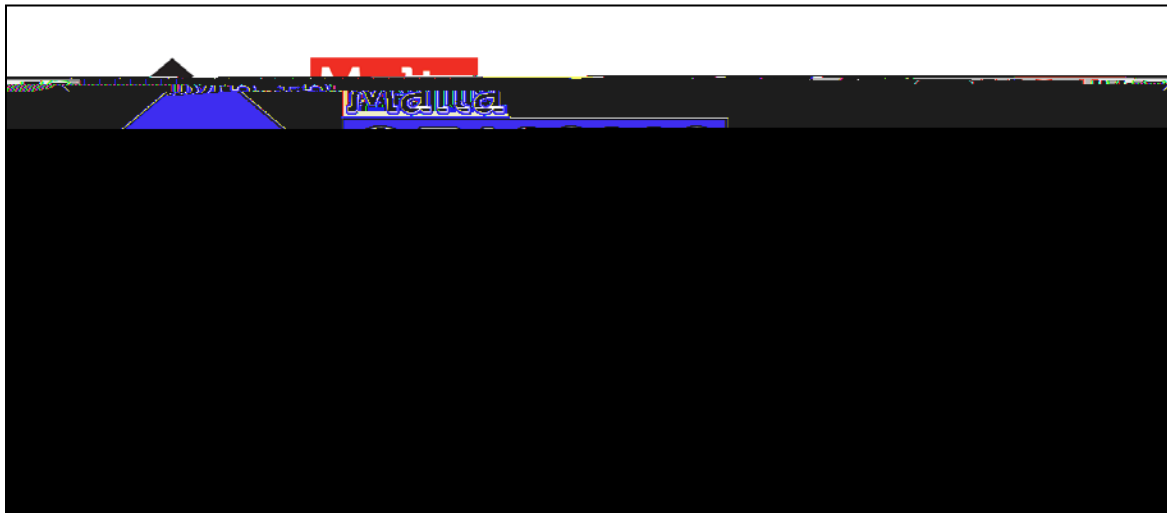
Regulation framework but variables included across countries with respect to the census.

Apart from this survey questionnaire developed after

- Assessment of user needs
- Appreciation of the political scenario to preempt policy needs

Prioritisation to ensure respondents kept to the minimum

Available in MT and EN





Data Collection

Postcensus

Overall response was >90% however census extensive post conducted to capture that remaining 10%.

- Continuous follow up, up to 9 months post census to reach options exhausted, even legal).
- Minority of persons assigned residence status through a (administrative registries etc).

FOCUS ON MIGRATION

Questionnaire

Questions specific to migration were those recommended in the regulation

1. Country of birth
2. Maltese citizenship
3. Method to gain Maltese citizenship
4. National citizenship
5. Resident outside Malta last 12 months
6. Year of arrival in Malta

Data Collection

Data collection procedures did not vary.

For migrants there was great need to have:

- Translators
- In rare cases proxies to fill in questionnaire
- In rare cases sourcing data from institution databases.



Lessons Learnt



CONCLUSION

Census approach provided an accurate stock take at a single point in time ensuring good coverage of the population with no previously highlighted limitations of administrative data.

The present drawback is that detailed analysis of the data is only available for the census year.

Improving coverage and data collection from administrative data is the target; as the trend moves towards register-based data beyond the next census cycle (2021).



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE

Lascaris, Valletta.

Malta/MT2000

 +356 25 854

 dorothy.gauci@gov.mt
