

Bangladesh - Bangladesh Population Census 1981

BANGLADESH BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER
BGD-BBS-BPC-1981-v01

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION

PRODUCTION DATE
1984-08-21

Overview

ABSTRACT

Population censuses in the area now constituting Bangladesh have been taken over one hundred years. The first census of population in the area was taken in 1872 as part of the census of British India. In 1881 the census was again conducted and since then censuses had been carried out every ten years until 1961. After independence of Bangladesh, the first census of population of the country, scheduled in 1971, was delayed due to the war of liberation. It was taken in 1974. For returning to the decennial periodicity as adhered to traditionally, the second population census of the country was conducted in 1981. A successful census taking in Bangladesh is rather a difficult task, especially because of high population density and low literacy rate. The problems which are commonly faced concern coverage error, quality respondent response and timely data processing. Without a very well planned logistics and backstopping, it is indeed impossible to overcome coverage error in situation of very high density of population and wide spread illiteracy among people. High illiteracy rate is a great constraint in eliciting reliable response in enumeration unless easily understandable, thoroughly verified questionnaires are adopted in field inquiries. Processing data of the census in time is another real hurdle encountered in view of a large population size. In order to accomplish the objective of carrying out a very precise census of population in 1981, very elaborate and intensively scrutinised procedures were worked out and a complete comprehensive plan for the census was developed and followed. Contrary to the tradition, the census plan operational approach emphasis was on executing field enumerations in two phases with first phase devoted to full or 100 percent enumeration of households and individuals and second phase to sample enumeration. This dual enumeration scheme for the census was resolved on solemn determination to achieve the following goals In full enumeration programme, ensure the counting of every individual of the country and precisely determine distribution of population; account for each and every household across all parts of the country; generate reliable data of selected basic characteristics of individuals and households; and present enumeration results on expeditiously finishing data processing work. Obtain from sample enumeration phase detailed information about socio-economic and demographic characteristics of population.

KIND OF DATA
Census/enumeration data [cen]

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
BANGLADESH BUREAU OF STATISTICS	

FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
Statistics and Informatics Division	SID	

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
BANGLADESH BUREAU OF STATISTICS	BBS	Statistics and Informatics Division	Documentation of the study

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2019-09-01

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 1

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI-BGD-BBS-BPC-1981-v01

Sampling

No content available

Questionnaires

Overview

The short questionnaire canvassed for the main census contained basic household and individual characteristics. In all 10 household and 9 individual characteristics outlined below were covered nation wide through the questionnaire and data collected during field enumeration.

(A) HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

Household address
 Use of main structure
 Wall material of main structure
 Roof material of main structure
 Source of drinking water supply
 Ownership of the homestead
 Whether the household owns farm land, country boat or bullock-cart
 Types of household / cottage industry the household operates for sale of products
 Whether the household belongs to tribal group
 Religion of head of household

(B) INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS

Name
 Age
 Relationship with head of household
 Sex
 Marital status
 Literacy
 Whether attending any educational institution
 Highest grade passed
 Main activity

Each questionnaire had space for registering maximum 10 members on one sheet. The questionnaire format had been made amenable to optical mark reading (OMR).

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
1981-03-06	1981-03-08	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

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Data Collectors

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
BANGLADESH BUREAU OF STATISTICS	SID	Ministry of Planning

Data Processing

No content available

Data Appraisal

No content available