

Outline of National Economic Census 2018 of Nepal

1. What is economic census?

Economic census is the census of economy through counting all entrepreneurial units in the country.

2. Purpose of the Census

The National Economic Census 2018 (hereafter the Census) aims:

- a. to provide with the fundamental statistics on the current status of the business activities of the establishments and enterprises including the financial aspects;
- b. to provide statistics to central, provincial and local governments for the formulation of plan and policy-making;
- c. to provide statistics to strengthen national accounting system;
- d. to make a base for statistical business register;
- e. to provide statistics of related field to the business man or experts, researchers and other statistics users to formulate plans and policies for the prosperity of their business;
- f. to provide with the directories of establishments and enterprises for the sampling frame of various sample surveys on businesses.

3. Reference date of the Census

The Census is taken as of 14th April 2018. The confirmation of Enumeration Area, the establishment listing, e-Census, and the enumeration are simultaneously conducted within two month period from 14th April to 14th June 2018.

Enumeration should be completed within 46 days starting from 14 April to 29 May 2018, but if any establishments refused to provide data or if respondents are not found, the enumeration of such establishments should be completed by 14th June with the help of supervisors.

3.1. Area of the Census

The Census covers all areas throughout the country.

4. Legal basis of the Census

The Census is taken on the basis of the following legislation:

- a) Statistics Act 1958;
- b) Approved by the Council of Ministers on 12th January 2018;
- c) Directives of National Economic Census 2018 on 15th March 2018.

5. Coverage of the Census

The Census covers all establishments which exist at the reference date in the territory of Nepal.

The following establishments, however, are excluded:

- a) Non-registered establishments classified into “Section A, Agriculture, forestry and fishing” specified in the United Nations International Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities, Revision 4 (ISIC),
- b) Establishments classified into “Section O, Public administration and defense; compulsory social security” specified in the ISIC,
- c) Establishments classified into “Section T Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods-and services-producing activities of households for own use” specified in the ISIC,
- d) Establishments classified into “Section U, Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies” specified in the ISIC.

6. Enumeration units

The establishment as an enumeration unit for the Census is defined as follows, according to UN definition:

The establishment can be defined as an economic unit that engages, under a single ownership or control - that is, under a single legal entity - in one, or predominantly one, kind of economic activity at a single physical location – for example, a mine, factory or workshop.

In addition, movable establishments such as street business which are doing business at the same place are included.

7. Organization

- a) Chain of command

[Census Line]

Director General of CBS → District Census Officers → Area Census Officers → Supervisors → Enumerators

- b) District Census Officer

District Census Officers are appointed among from Directors or senior officers of Statistics Offices (SOs) in districts.

- c) Area Census Officer (Local Level Economic Census Supervisor)

Area Census Officers are assigned not more than 45 officers from among the staff of CBS or SO.

- d) Supervisor

The supervisors are employed temporarily for the Census. Each supervisor is assigned several enumerators to accomplish their duties which are described in Supervisor’s Manual.

- e) Enumerator

The enumerators are employed temporarily for the Census. Each enumerator is assigned one enumeration area which have been demarcated to accomplish their duties which are described in Enumerator’s Manual.

8. Method of the census enumeration

- a) Response through Internet, that is, e-Census;
- b) Door to door canvass by enumerator, identify targeting establishments based on the definition mentioned in the above 6, interview the representative of the identified establishment, and fill in Form B (or enter responses through electronic Form B on a tablet computer);

The individual enumeration is carried out through the method that an enumerator visits each establishment within a certain enumeration area, interviews the owner or manager of the establishment or his/her substitute who is entitled to represent the establishment, and fill in the census form. In addition to this, the self-enumeration method can be applied to the establishment, which requests to fill in the form by themselves. In case that the enumeration does not finish due to reason of establishments until 29th May 2018, supervisors and census officers follow up the enumeration.

9. Pretest

- a) Two pretests for individual enumeration were carried out in selected some EAs in September and October 2016.
- b) The pretest aimed to test form-designing, enumeration methods, instructions to be included in the enumerators' manual and so on, and the results have been utilized for making appropriate plans for the 2018 Economic Census.

10. Pilot survey

- a) The survey will be carried out as of 14th April 2017 (one year before the Census date) within two and half months from 14th April to 31st May 2017 in selected Enumeration Areas.
- b) The pilot survey aims:
 - (a) to test the final draft of the Census form and other documents;
 - (b) to test work procedure of every stage of enumerators, supervisors, district statistics office, and CBS.