

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

The collection and analysis of social and economic data requires a clear presentation of the major concepts and definitions employed in the process. This chapter explains some basic terminology used in the census and the definitions should be borne in mind when using the census data, especially since some concepts may also have popular or everyday meanings which may differ from the way the term was used in the census process.

Some of the more important concepts include population, labour force, household, head of household, dwelling unit, institution, income and a range of terms describing different types of household, for example, lone parent, extended family and so on.

Population

The term "population" as used in most of the tables in this report refers to the civilian non-institutional population normally resident in Bermuda on May 20, 1991. It excludes persons who were in prisons, hospitals for extended lengths of stay, detention centres, homes for the aged and children's homes, and foreign armed forces personnel living off-base. However, it includes persons who were temporarily away on May 20, 1991 and this extends to students attending overseas schools, colleges and universities. Hence, Bermuda's 1991 census count may be described as a de jure count in that it counted persons normally resident in an area. This contrasts with the de facto approach which counts the persons physically present in an area on census day; a modified de facto approach was employed in the 1980 census.

Resident Population

The resident population includes the civilian non-institutional population, the institutional population and foreign armed forces personnel and their dependants living off base. Visitors to Bermuda are excluded.

Institutional Population

The institutional population refers to the inmates of prisons and youth detention centres, persons in homes for the aged, long-stay hospital patients, persons in hospices and those in adult shelters and children's homes.

Civilian Population

The civilian population includes all persons ordinarily resident in Bermuda: Bermudians (including Bermudian students overseas), non-Bermudian workers and other civilian residents.

Bermudian Population

This is a sub-group of the civilian non-institutional population and includes only those persons who have or are deemed to have Bermudian status either by birth, grant or marriage. Persons in this sub-group include persons born in Bermuda (local born) as well as persons born in other countries (foreign born) but who have acquired Bermudian status.

Non-Bermudian Population

This is another sub-group of the civilian non-institutional population and refers to all those persons who do not have Bermudian status; users should note that the laws pertaining to Bermudian status are complex and it is possible for a person to have been born in Bermuda but not have acquired Bermudian status. The non-Bermudian population largely comprises guest workers on contract and citizens of other countries with residency permits.

Economically Active Population

This term refers to the body of persons, typically between the ages of 16 and 64 years, who furnish the supply of labour for the production of economic goods and services. It includes persons in the civilian labour force as well as those serving in the domestic armed forces.

The term labour force may be used interchangeably with economically active population but it includes only those persons aged 16 years or older who were either employed or seeking work during the week preceding Census Day, May 13-19, 1991.

Hence the labour force is a combination of two groups : those who were employed (the working population); and, those who were seeking work (the unemployed population). First-time job seekers were not differentiated from other job seekers in the 1991 Census.

Household

For purposes of the 1991 Census, a household is a person or group of persons living together in a private dwelling unit. In most cases the members of a household are related by family ties but there are three main variations:

- i) a servant who sleeps in the same dwelling unit as his/her employer, i.e. does not have separate quarters equipped with cooking and sleeping facilities, etc., is taken as a member of the employer's household;
- ii) a boarder or lodger, i.e. a person who sleeps in the dwelling and takes meals with the household is considered a member of the household; and,
- iii) a household could consist of a group of unrelated persons.

Head of Household

The head of the household is the person, male or female and typically aged 18 years or older, who carries the main responsibility in the affairs of the household. The head of household was taken as that person whom other members of the household acknowledged as such.

Lone Parent Household

The lone parent household consists of either a male or female adult living with one or more of his/her children of any age and no one else in the household. It is important to note that such households will include adult children living with a parent. However, there are also cases where a lone parent may have a live-in partner and it is possible to differentiate these in census tabulations.

Two Parent Household

The two parent household (the classic nuclear family) consists of two parents living with their natural or adopted children.

Extended Family

The extended family consists of combinations of adults and children linked by blood relation, marriage or adoption: grandmothers, grandfathers, brothers, aunts, sisters, etc. in the same household.

Adult Couple

This consists of two persons of the opposite sex sharing living quarters.

Private Dwelling Unit

A private dwelling unit is a room or group of rooms used, or intended to be used, for living purposes and is further characterized by :

- i) its own separate access to the street or common landing or staircase; and,
- ii) its own cooking, living, sleeping and sanitary facilities which the occupants of the dwelling do not have to share with any persons other than their own household members.

From a structural perspective a private dwelling may be contained within a single family cottage, a house comprising a main unit and one or more apartments, an apartment building, or within part of a building which is used for residential as well as business or other purposes.

Group Dwelling

This describes a situation where the occupants of a building live collectively for disciplinary, health, custodial, work or other reasons and share the cooking, sleeping and sanitary facilities with other occupants.

Examples of group dwellings include hotel staff quarters, nurses hostels, police barracks, hotels and rooming houses catering for six or more paying guests.

Institutions

These are group dwellings such as prisons, hospices, hospitals, youth detention centres, children's homes and senior citizens' homes.

Vacant (dwelling)

This is a habitable dwelling which was not occupied by a household at the time of the Census. Instances of the occurrence include:

- unoccupied dwelling available for rent or lease;
- unoccupied dwelling available for sale;
- a dwelling unit that is held empty pending the settlement of litigation;
- a dwelling unit held empty for other reasons.

Dwelling units whose occupants were temporarily away/abroad at the time of the census were not classified as "vacant", and nor were the empty homes/apartments of non-resident owners classified as such.

Income

Income includes regular and recurring receipts from the following sources: wages, salaries, commissions, bonuses, tips, net earnings from self-employment, pensions, annuities, interest, dividends, net rents and regular allowances such as alimony, social assistance, rental allowances/subsidies and scholarships.

However, as used in the 1991 Census, income excludes lump-sum receipts such as gambling or lottery winnings (including the football pools), inheritances, capital gains from the sale of real or financial assets and life insurance settlements.