



2013 Census definitions and forms



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1 Introduction

2013 Census definitions and forms provides definitions of terminology used in outputs from the 2013 Census of Population and Dwellings, held on Tuesday, 5 March 2013. It is part of a reference series for census data users that provides information about the data produced.

The first part provides definitions of output variables and terms used in 2013 Census outputs. The definitions are presented in six groups: personal, family, household, dwelling, geographic, and general. Within each group, the items are in alphabetical order.

The final chapter, Census questions, dates, and forms, provides links to an index of questions asked in the census over time, a list of dates when national and provincial censuses were held, and images of the forms from the 2013 Census and censuses dating back to 1906, where available.

This guide was prepared by the Census Statistics business unit of Statistics New Zealand.

2 Personal definitions

Absentee

An absentee is identified on the census dwelling form as someone who usually lives in a particular dwelling, but has not completed a census individual form there – because the person was elsewhere in New Zealand or overseas on census night. Such a person may have completed a census individual form elsewhere in New Zealand.

Included as absentees in the census are children away at boarding school, people away on business or holiday, in hospital, and so on.

Excluded are long-term hospital patients and tertiary (including university) students who live away from the dwelling for most of the year.

Actively seeking work

To be actively seeking work, a person must search for a job other than by reading job advertisements. Examples of actively-seeking-work activities are:

- writing, phoning, sending email, or applying in person to an employer
- contacting a private employment agency
- contacting a careers adviser or a vocational guidance officer
- contacting Work and Income New Zealand to look for a job
- placing an advertisement to find a job
- asking friends or relatives for help in finding a job
- taking steps to set up a business.

The variable 'actively seeking work' contributes to the derivation of the work and labour force status; it only applies to a person aged 15 years and over who was not employed on census day.

See also 'Job search methods' in this chapter.

Age

Age is the length of time a person has been alive, measured in complete, elapsed years. It is measured as the difference between 'date of birth' and 5 March 2013.

Age imputation

Age imputation supplies an age in years where age is missing (that is, age cannot be calculated from the response to the date-of-birth question).

Age is imputed using various other responses, for example, a person's legally registered relationship status, and using the known distribution of ages in the population.

See also 'Imputation' in this chapter.

Availability for work

Availability for work refers to whether a person would have started a paid job in the week ended 3 March 2013, if a job had been available. This question only applies to people aged 15 years and over who are not employed.

Availability for work is one of the variables that contribute to the derivation of labour force status.

Birthplace

Birthplace refers to the country where a person was born, and uses the name of the country at the time of the census. Country is the current, short or official name of a country, dependency, or other area of particular geopolitical interest. The term is defined to include:

- independent countries recognised by the New Zealand Government
- units that are recognised geographic areas
- administrative subdivisions of Australia and the United Kingdom
- overseas dependencies, or external territories of independent countries.

Census night address

Census night address is the physical location of the dwelling where a person was located on census night. For passengers on overnight trains and buses, the recommended census night address is the destination of the passenger.

Census night population count

The census night population count of New Zealand is a count of all people present in New Zealand on a given census night. This includes visitors from overseas who are counted on census night, but excludes residents who are temporarily overseas on census night.

The census night population count of an area in New Zealand (subnational count) is a count of all people present in that area on a given census night. This count includes visitors from elsewhere in New Zealand and visitors from overseas who are counted in that area on census night, but excludes residents of that area who are temporarily elsewhere in New Zealand or overseas on census night.

For example, the census night population count of Auckland region includes all people present and counted in Auckland region on census night. It includes residents present, visitors from elsewhere in New Zealand and visitors from overseas. It excludes people who usually live in Auckland region but were not in Auckland region on census night.

Census usually resident population count

The census usually resident population count of **New Zealand** is a count of all people who usually live in, and were present in New Zealand on census night.

Excluded are:

- overseas visitors
- New Zealand residents temporarily overseas.

The census usually resident population count of **an area** is a count of all people who usually live in that area and were present in New Zealand on census night.

Excluded are:

- visitors from overseas
- visitors from elsewhere in New Zealand
- residents temporarily overseas on census night.

For example, a person who usually lives in Christchurch city and is visiting Wellington city on census night will be included in the census usually resident population count of Christchurch city.

Cigarette smoking behaviour

Cigarette smoking refers to the active smoking of one or more manufactured or hand-rolled tobacco cigarettes, from purchased or home-grown tobacco, per day, by a person aged 15 years and over.

The term 'smoking' refers to active smoking behaviour, that is, the intentional inhalation of tobacco smoke. Smoking does not refer to, or include, passive smoking (the unintentional inhalation of tobacco smoke).

Cigarette smoking does not include:

- smoking of tobacco in cigars, pipes, and cigarillos
- smoking of any other substances such as herbal cigarettes or marijuana
- consumption of tobacco products by other means, such as chewing.

Questions about cigarette smoking behaviour are cyclical: they were first asked in the 1976 Census, and repeated in the 1981, 1996, and 2006 Censuses.

Civil union

A civil union is a legal relationship between two people as an alternative to marriage, with equivalent legal status. To be joined in a civil union, a couple must go through a formal ceremony and registration process. A civil union may be entered into by same-sex or opposite-sex couples. The Civil Union Act 2004 came into force in New Zealand on 26 April 2005, with the first ceremonies celebrated on 29 April 2005.

De facto relationship

A de facto relationship is between two people who usually reside together as a couple in a relationship in the nature of marriage or civil union, and who are not married to, or in a civil union with, each other.

Employed

A person was employed if they were part of the working-age population (15 years and over) and if, during the week ended 3 March 2013, they:

- worked for one hour or more for pay or profit in the context of an employee/employer relationship or self-employment, or
- worked without pay for one hour or more in work that contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business, or professional practice owned or operated by a relative, or

- had a job but were not at work due to:
 - their illness or injury
 - personal or family responsibilities
 - bad weather or mechanical breakdown
 - direct involvement in an industrial dispute
 - being on leave or holiday.

Full-time employment means usually working 30 or more hours per week.

Part-time employment means usually working fewer than 30 hours per week.

Ethnicity/ethnic group

Ethnicity is the ethnic group or groups a person identifies with or has a sense of belonging to. It is a measure of cultural affiliation (in contrast to race, ancestry, nationality, or citizenship). Ethnicity is self-perceived and a person can belong to more than one ethnic group.

An ethnic group is made up of people who have some or all of the following characteristics:

- a common proper name
- one or more elements of common culture that need not be specified, but may include religion, customs, or language
- a unique community of interests, feelings, and actions
- a shared sense of common origins or ancestry
- a common geographic origin.

Ethnic group (grouped total responses)

In ethnic group (grouped total responses) a person belonging to more than one ethnic group is counted once in each group. For example, at level one of this classification, a person of Samoan, Tongan, and German ethnicity would be counted once in the category of Pacific peoples and once as European.

See also 'Total responses' in chapter 7, General definitions.

Grouped total personal income

Grouped total personal income combines the total income from people to provide personal income information about small geographic areas (meshblocks, area units, or user-defined combinations of these) or subpopulations. The classification is:

- \$5,000 or less
- \$5,001–\$10,000
- \$10,001–\$20,000
- \$20,001–\$30,000
- \$30,001–\$50,000
- \$50,001 or more
- not stated.

See also 'Total personal income' in this chapter; 'Total household income' in chapter 4, Definitions for households; 'Meshblock' and 'Area unit' in chapter 6, Geographic definitions; and 'Income bands' in chapter 7, General definitions.

Highest qualification

Highest qualification is derived for people aged 15 years and over, and combines highest secondary school qualification and post-school qualification to obtain a single highest qualification by category of attainment.

See also 'Qualification' in this chapter.

Highest secondary school qualification

This is the highest secondary school qualification gained by category of attainment, and is collected for people aged 15 years and over.

See also 'Highest qualification' and 'Qualification' in this chapter.

Hours worked in employment

Hours worked in employment is the total number of hours usually worked in employment each week by a person aged 15 years and over who:

- worked one hour or more for pay, profit, or payment in kind, in a job, business, farm, or professional practice, or
- worked one hour or more without pay in work that contributed directly to the operation of a business, farm, or professional practice operated by a relative, or
- had a job or business they were temporarily absent from.

See also 'Employed' and 'Labour force status' in this chapter.

Imputation

Imputation is the replacement of missing information with what is expected to be true information when looking at other questionnaire responses. For the 2013 Census, four variables were imputed where a valid response was missing:

- age
- sex
- usual residence
- work and labour force status.

See also 'Age imputation', 'Sex imputation', 'Usual residence imputation', and 'Work and labour force status imputation' in this chapter.

Industry

Industry is the type of activity undertaken by the organisation, enterprise, business, or unit of economic activity that employs one or more people aged 15 years and over.

Internal migrants

Internal migrants include all people aged five years and over who are usually resident in New Zealand, who had changed their usual (permanent) address, and had moved between geographic areas in the period between 5 March 2008 and 5 March 2013. These people specified a different New Zealand residential address for both dates.

Internal migration

Internal migration is the change of people's usual residence within the national boundaries of a country. It relates to people aged five years and over who are usually resident in New Zealand but at the time of the 2013 Census lived in a different subject geographic area than at 5 March 2008.

Excluded are people who did not specify a usual New Zealand address for 5 March 2013 or 5 March 2008, those who were classified as having 'no fixed abode', had an 'overseas' address, or a 'New Zealand not further defined' address.

Iwi

Iwi are the focal economic and political units of the Māori people of New Zealand. Iwi are based on the traditional Māori descent and kinship-based hierarchy of:

Waka (founding canoe)

 Iwi (tribe)

 Hapū (sub-tribe)

 Whānau (family).

Job

A job is a set of tasks performed or designed to be performed by one person in employment (including self-employment) in return for payment or profit.

See also 'Occupation' in this chapter.

Job search methods

Job search methods are all the methods used by a person aged 15 years and over, to look for paid work in the four weeks before the census. They include:

- looking at job advertisements
- writing, phoning, sending email, or applying in person to an employer
- contacting Work and Income New Zealand to look for a job
- contacting friends or relatives for help in finding a job
- contacting a careers adviser or a vocational guidance officer
- other methods that might result in finding a job, for example:
 - contacting a private employment agency
 - placing advertisements to find a job
 - taking steps to set up a business.

See also 'Actively seeking work' in this chapter.

Labour force participation rate

The labour force participation rate is the percentage of the working-age population (people aged 15 years and over) who were either employed or unemployed. The calculation for labour force participation rate excludes people with a work and labour force status of 'unidentifiable'.

Labour force status

Labour force status classifies people aged 15 years and over as 'employed' or 'unemployed', depending on whether they were in the labour force or not during the week ended 3 March 2013.

Language spoken

Language spoken provides information on which languages, and how many, a person can speak or use.

This includes New Zealand Sign Language.

Living arrangements

Living arrangements describe a person's relationships to all other people (family or not) with whom they usually share a residence.

Main means of travel to work

Main means of travel to work is the method a person aged 15 years and over used to travel the longest distance to their place of employment on census day (for example, by bicycle, bus, walking, or jogging).

Māori descent

A person has Māori descent if they are the descendent of a person of the Māori race of New Zealand.

Māori ethnic group population

The Māori ethnic group population comprises those people who specified 'Māori' as either their sole ethnic group, or as one of several ethnic groups, in the 2013 Census.

Not in the labour force

Not in the labour force means any person of working age (15 years and over) who was neither employed nor unemployed. This category includes people for whom any of the following applied:

- were retired
- had personal or family responsibilities, such as unpaid housework and childcare
- attended at least one educational institution
- were permanently unable to work due to physical or mental disabilities
- were temporarily unavailable for work in the week ended 3 March 2013
- were not actively seeking work.

Number of children born alive

The number of children born alive is the number of children ever born alive to each female aged 15 years and over, who usually resides in New Zealand. Foetal deaths and stillborn children are not included. Stepchildren, adopted children, foster children, and wards of the State are also not included.

The question on number of children born alive is cyclical. It was first asked in the 1981 Census, and repeated in the 1996, 2006, and 2013 Censuses.

Occupation

An occupation is a set of jobs that require the performance of similar or identical sets of tasks by employed people aged 15 years and over.

See also 'Job' in this chapter.

Overseas visitor population

The overseas visitor population comprises people who were in New Zealand on census night but usually reside overseas.

Partnered

A partnered person is related to another person through:

- marriage or civil union
- a de facto relationship.

Civil unions and de facto relationships include both same-sex couples and opposite-sex couples.

See also 'Civil union' and 'De facto relationship' in this chapter.

Post-school qualification

Post-school qualification is the highest qualification a person aged 15 years and over has gained over and above any school qualifications. Included are qualifications awarded by educational and training institutions, as well as those gained from on-the-job training. Post-school qualification data is produced as category of attainment and by field of study.

See also 'Qualification' below.

Qualification

A qualification is a formally recognised award for educational or training attainment, where formal recognition means that the qualification is approved by one of the following (or their predecessors):

- New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA)
- Universities New Zealand – Te Pōkai Tara
- Association of Polytechnics of New Zealand
- Association of Colleges of Education in New Zealand
- approval bodies that have been recognised by NZQA

- the recognised overseas authority of a secondary school, profession, academic discipline, or trade.

A qualification is defined as requiring full-time equivalent study of three months or more. Study time is an estimate of the typical time it takes a learner to achieve the learning outcomes of the qualification. This includes direct contact time with teachers and trainers, as well as time spent in studying, assignments, and assessment.

See also 'Highest qualification', 'Highest secondary school qualification', 'Post-school qualification', and 'Study participation' in this chapter.

Reference person

The reference person is the individual who completed the dwelling form on census night. Any relationship(s) information collected on the census dwelling form refers to the relationship an individual has to the reference person.

Relationship status

Relationship status is a person's reported status with respect to the marriage laws or customs of the country. It is collected for any person aged 15 years and over, who usually resides in New Zealand.

There are two types of relationship status:

- legally registered relationship status (previously known as legal marital status): a person's status with respect to registered marriage or registered civil union
- partnership status in current relationship (previously known as social marital status): a person's status with respect to their current relationship – either partnered or non-partnered.

See also 'Civil union' and 'Partnered' in this chapter.

Relationship to reference person

Relationship to reference person indicates the kind of relationship each person in a defined group of people, family or not, has to the reference person (for example, father, boarder).

See also 'Reference person' in this chapter.

Religious affiliation

Religious affiliation is the self-identified association of a person with a religion, denomination, or sub-denominational religious group.

A religion is a set of beliefs and practices that usually involves acknowledgement of a divine or higher being or power, and that guides people's conduct and morals.

A denomination is the church or religious sect that forms a subgroup of a religion. Denominations of a particular religion share the same principles but differ from each other in aspects such as the form of worship, or how they are governed.

Sector of ownership

The sector of ownership identifies the part of the economy that owns an organisation, enterprise, business, or unit of economic activity. Examples are central or local government, or private ownership.

Sex

Sex is the distinction between males and females based on the biological differences in sexual characteristics.

In responding to a question on sex, most people are able to classify themselves as either male or female. A person who has undergone sex reassignment is classified to that sex. A person who was of indeterminate sex and who has undergone sex assignment is classified to the assigned sex. Someone who is currently undergoing such procedures and living as the sex that they are taking steps towards is classified as that sex.

Sex imputation

Sex imputation supplies a sex where the response to the sex variable question is not a single response, or if a response is missing. If available, information such as the name of the person or their relationship to others in the household may be used to impute a value.

If these are not available, a value is assigned randomly, with 49 percent being imputed as male.

See also 'Imputation' in this chapter.

Sources of personal income

Sources of personal income identifies all the various sources from which a person aged 15 years and over received income in the 12 months ending 5 March 2013.

In the census, it is generally only realistic to collect information on money income. This is income that a person can normally recall or can readily retrieve from their financial records. Money income is money flow from the deployment of one's labour, entrepreneurial skills, and assets; and from transfers received. So the concept of money income relies on identifying its sources.

Excluded are income in kind, imputed income, unrealised income, and contingent income (contingent income depends on the unknown outcome of a course of action, for example, to sue). Excluded also is money received by borrowing, making withdrawals from savings, and receiving repayments of loan principal; and also tax credits and reimbursements of expenses.

See also 'Sources of extended family income' and 'Sources of family income' in chapter 3, Definitions for families; and 'Sources of household income' in chapter 4, Definitions for households.

Status in employment

Status in employment classifies employed people aged 15 years and over according to whether they were working for themselves or for other people in their main job.

Study participation

Study participation measures those attending, studying, or enrolled at school or anywhere else. It is grouped into full-time study (20 hours or more a week), part-time study (less than 20 hours a week), and those not studying.

Tenure holder

Tenure holder describes whether a person owns or partly owns the dwelling they usually live in.

See also 'Tenure of household' in chapter 4, Definitions for households.

Total personal income

Total personal income received is the before-tax income of a person in the 12 months ended 31 March 2013. The information is collected as income bands rather than in actual dollars.

Total personal income can be combined with other income information from the same family/household to provide:

- combined parental income for couples with child(ren)
- grouped combined parental income for couples with child(ren)
- grouped total extended family income
- grouped total family income
- grouped total household income
- grouped total personal income
- total extended family income
- total family income
- total household income.

See also 'Grouped total personal income' in this chapter; and 'Income bands' in chapter 7, General definitions.

Unemployed

An unemployed person is in the working-age population (15 years and over) and, during the week ended 3 March 2013, was without a paid job but was available for work, and:

- had actively sought work in the four weeks ended 3 March 2013, or
- had a new job to start within the next four weeks.

If a person's only job search method was to read job advertisements then they are not considered to be actively seeking work.

See also 'Actively seeking work' in this chapter.

Unemployment rate

The unemployment rate gives the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the labour force.

Unpaid activities

Unpaid activities covers activities performed in the four weeks before 5 March 2013, without payment, for people living either in the same household, or outside.

Usual residence

Usual residence is the address of the dwelling where a person considers themselves to usually reside.

It is recommended that these guidelines be followed in cases where usual residence is not self-defined.

- Dependent children, who board elsewhere to attend primary or secondary school, and return to the home of their parent(s) or guardian(s) for the holidays, usually reside at the address of their parent(s) or guardian(s).
- Tertiary students usually reside at the address where they live while studying. If they give up their usual residence in the holidays (eg terminate the lease on a flat or give up their hostel room) and return to the home of their parent(s)/guardian(s) during the holidays, their usual residence over that period would be the home of their parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Children in shared care usually reside at the place where they spend more nights, or if they spend equal amounts of time at each residence, they usually reside at the place where they were on census night.
- People who are in rest homes, hospitals, prisons, or other institutions usually reside where they consider themselves to live; this may include the institution.
- A person whose home is on any boat, ship, or vessel permanently located in any harbour shall be deemed to usually reside at the wharf or landing place (or main wharf or landing place) of the harbour.
- A person from another country who has lived the 12 months before 5 March 2013 in New Zealand, or has the intention of living in New Zealand for 12 months or more, usually resides at his or her address in New Zealand (as in external migration).
- People who spend equal amounts of time residing at different addresses, and cannot decide which address is their usual residence, usually reside at the address they were at on census night.
- If none of the above guidelines apply, the person usually resides at the address where they were on census night.

Usual residence five years ago

Usual residence five years ago is a person's usual residence on 5 March 2008.

Usual residence five years ago indicator

The usual residence five years ago indicator is a person's usual residence five years ago in relation to their usual residence on 5 March 2013. It provides information on the migration of people within New Zealand and of those who have arrived from overseas.

Usual residence five years ago summary

Usual residence five years ago summary provides high-level geographic information, such as the count of people that now live in a different usual residence in the same

regional council area. The summary combines the 'usual residence five years ago indicator', and the 'usual residence five years ago', with the 'usual residence' on census night.

Usual residence imputation

Imputation is necessary if usual residence on census night is missing, so that everyone is assigned to a specific meshblock. This allows electoral populations to be calculated on the basis of usual residence. Any person initially coded to a level higher than the meshblock will have a meshblock imputed for usual residence.

See also 'Imputation' in this chapter; and 'Meshblock' in chapter 6, Geographic definitions.

Usual residence indicator

The usual residence indicator describes the relationship between a person's usual residence and their census night address. The categories for usual residence indicator are:

- same as census night address
- elsewhere in New Zealand
- overseas
- no fixed abode.

Usual residents

Usual residents are people who usually live in the surveyed dwelling.

There are two types of usual residents: people who usually live in the dwelling and were present on census night, and those who usually live there but were absent at census night (absentees).

There are two types of absentees: those who were elsewhere in New Zealand on census night and those who were overseas then.

Usual residents in non-private occupied dwellings

Usual residents in non-private occupied dwellings are people who gave a non-private dwelling as their usual residence on census night.

See also 'Occupied non-private dwelling' in chapter 5, Definitions for dwellings.

Usual residents in occupied dwellings

Usual residents in occupied dwellings are people who gave a private or non-private occupied dwelling as their usual residence on census night, or people who were recorded as absent from a private occupied dwelling.

Usual residents in private dwellings

Usual residents in private dwellings are people who were surveyed at home in a private occupied dwelling on census night or who were recorded as absent from a private occupied dwelling.

Usually resident population

See 'Census usually resident population count' in this chapter.

Visitor

A visitor to a dwelling is a person who was present in a dwelling on census night but does not usually reside there.

See also 'Dwelling' in chapter 5, Definitions for dwellings.

Work and labour force status

Work and labour force status classifies a person aged 15 years and over by their inclusion in or exclusion from the labour force. For an employed person, it distinguishes between full-time employment (30 hours or more per week) or part-time employment (fewer than 30 hours per week). A person who was not employed is classified as either 'unemployed' or 'not in the labour force'.

See also 'Employed' in this chapter.

Note that the definitions of 'employed', 'unemployed', and 'not in the labour force' are based on those of the International Labor Organization, as set down at the 13th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 1982.

Work and labour force status imputation

Work and labour force status imputation supplies a value for work and labour force status of a person, where this cannot be derived from the information they supplied. This imputation uses whatever labour force information has been given, and various other responses from a person (such as age and income). A work and labour force status is then imputed to match the known work and labour force status of a similar person.

See also 'Imputation' in this chapter.

Working-age population

The working-age population comprises the usually resident population of New Zealand who are aged 15 years and over on census night.

Workplace

A workplace is a person's place of paid employment, except for people working unpaid in a family business (in which case it is the place where that unpaid work was done).

Workplace address

Workplace address is the physical location of a workplace; distinguishing details can include the building name; street number, name and type; suburb or rural locality; and city, town, or district.

See also 'Meshblock' in chapter 6, Geographic definitions.

Year of arrival in New Zealand

Year of arrival in New Zealand is the year a person born overseas first arrived in New Zealand as a permanent or long-term resident.

Years at usual residence

Years at usual residence is the number of completed years up to census night that a person has lived at their usual residence. Short-term absence may be ignored, but long-term absence of more than 12 months is excluded.

Years since arrival in New Zealand

Years since arrival in New Zealand is the number of completed years up to census night, since a person born overseas first arrived to live in New Zealand as a permanent or long-term resident. This includes any intervening absences, whether temporary or long term.



3 Definitions for families

Adult child

An adult child is a 'child in a family nucleus' who is aged 15 years or over and employed full time, or a 'child in a family nucleus' who is aged 18 years or over. This group is made up of all dependent young people and all non-dependent children.

See also 'Child in a family nucleus', 'Dependent young person', and 'Non-dependent child' in this chapter; and 'Employed' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Child in a family nucleus

To be a 'child in a family nucleus' a person must usually reside with at least one parent, and have no partner or child(ren) of their own living in the same household.

Note that 'child in a family nucleus' can apply to a person of any age. There are four subgroups: 'dependent child under 18', 'dependent young person' (aged 18–24 years), 'non-dependent child', and 'child of unknown dependency status'.

See also 'Dependent child under 18', 'Dependent young person', 'Non-dependent child', and 'Parent' in this chapter.

Combined parental income for couples with child(ren)

Combined parental income for couples with child(ren) is derived by taking the sum of the median personal income of both people in the couple.

See also 'Grouped combined parental income for couples with child(ren)' in this chapter; and 'Total personal income' and 'Sources of personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Couple

A couple comprises two people who are partnered only with each other. The three types of couples are: opposite-sex, male, and female.

See also 'Partnered' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Dependent child under 18

A dependent child under 18 is a 'child in a family nucleus' aged under 15 years, or aged 15–17 years and not employed full time.

See also 'Child in a family nucleus' in this chapter; and 'Employed' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Dependent young person

A dependent young person is a 'child in a family nucleus' aged 18–24 years and not employed full time.

Extended family

An extended family is a group of related people who usually reside together:

- either as a family nucleus with one or more other related people, or
- as two or more related family nuclei, with or without other related people.

Included are people who were absent on census night but who usually live in a particular dwelling and are members of an extended family in that dwelling, as long as they were reported as being absent by the reference person on the dwelling form.

See also 'Absentee', 'Usual residence', and 'Usual residents in private dwellings' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Family relationship

In a familial relationship, a person is related to another person by birth/biology, or by registered marriage or civil union, de facto relationship, fostering, or adoption.

Family nucleus

A family nucleus comprises a couple with or without child(ren), or one parent and their child(ren) whose usual residence is in the same household; the children do not have partners or children of their own living in that household.

Included are people who were absent on census night but who usually live in a particular dwelling, and are members of a family nucleus in that dwelling, as long as they were reported as being absent by the reference person on the dwelling form.

See also 'Absentee', 'Usual residents', and 'Usual residents in private dwellings' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Family type

Family type classifies family nuclei according to the presence or absence of couples, parents, and children.

Grouped combined parental income for couples with child(ren)

Combined parental income for couples with child(ren) can be grouped for the output of small geographic areas (meshblocks, area units, or user-defined combinations of these) or subpopulations to provide useful information. The classification is:

- \$30,000 or less
- \$30,001–\$50,000
- \$50,001–\$70,000
- \$70,001–\$100,000
- \$100,001 or more
- not stated.

See also 'Combined parental income for couples with child(ren)' in this chapter; and 'Sources of personal income' and 'Total personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Grouped family income

Total family income can be grouped for the output of small geographic areas (meshblocks, area units, or user-defined combinations of these) or subpopulations to provide useful information. The classification is:

- \$20,000 or less
- \$20,001–\$30,000
- \$30,001–\$50,000
- \$50,001–\$70,000
- \$70,001–\$100,001 or more
- not stated.

See also 'Total family income' in this chapter, and 'Total personal income' and 'Sources of personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Grouped total extended family income

Total extended family income can be grouped for the output of small geographic areas (meshblocks, area units, or user-defined combinations of these) or subpopulations to provide useful information. The classification is:

- \$30,000 or less
- \$30,001–\$50,000
- \$50,001–\$70,000
- \$70,001–\$100,000
- \$100,001 or more
- not stated.

See also 'Total extended family income' in this chapter; and 'Sources of personal income' and 'Total personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Non-dependent child

A non-dependent child is a 'child in a family nucleus' who is either aged 15–24 years and employed full time, or is aged 25 years or over.

Non-familial relationship

In a non-familial relationship, a person is not related to another person in the relationship by birth/biology, registered marriage, civil union, de facto relationship, fostering, or adoption.

Number of children

The number of children identifies the number of 'children in a family nucleus'; it is derived from other responses.

Number of dependent children

The number of dependent children identifies the number of 'dependent children under 18' in a family nucleus; it is derived from other responses.

Parent

A parent is the mother or father (birth-/biological, step-, adopted, or foster), or a 'person in a parent role' of a 'child in a family nucleus'.

Parent role

A 'person in a parent role' is not the mother or father (birth-/biological, step-, adopted, or foster) of the child, yet usually resides with the child. This child does not have a partner or child of their own and does not usually reside with their mother or father (birth-/biological, step-, adopted or foster).

Related

Related people have a familial relationship.

See also 'Familial relationship' in this chapter.

Same-sex partners

Same-sex partners are two people of the same sex who are in a civil union or de facto relationship.

Sole parent

A sole parent is the parent in a one-parent family.

For census purposes, children in joint custody usually reside at the place where they spend the majority of nights; but if they spend equal amounts of time at different residences, their usual residence is where they were on census night.

Some children classified as being in one-parent families may have two active parents in different households.

Sources of extended family income

Sources of extended family income identifies the various sources from which all extended family members aged 15 years and over received income in the 12 months ending 5 March 2013.

In the census, it is generally only realistic to collect information on money income. This is income that a person can normally recall or can readily retrieve from their financial records. Money income is money flow from the deployment of one's labour, entrepreneurial skills and assets, and from transfers received. So the concept of money income relies on identifying its sources.

Excluded are income in kind, imputed income, unrealised income, and contingent income (contingent income depends on the unknown outcome of a course of action, for example, to sue). Excluded is money received by borrowing, making withdrawals from savings, and receiving repayments of loan principal; and also tax credits and reimbursements of expenses.

See also 'Sources of family income' in this chapter; and 'Sources of personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions; and 'Sources of household income' in chapter 4, Definitions for households.

Sources of family income

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See also 'Sources of extended family income' in this chapter; 'Sources of personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions; and 'Sources of household income' in chapter 4, Definitions for households.

Total extended family income

Total extended family income is derived by taking the sum of the median personal income of all members aged 15 and over of the extended family.

See also 'Grouped total extended family income' in this chapter, and 'Total personal income' and 'Sources of personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Total family income

Total family income is derived by taking the sum of the median personal incomes of all members aged 15 and over of the family nucleus.

See also 'Grouped family income' in this chapter, and 'Total personal income' and 'Sources of personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Type of couple

Type of couple is a derived variable indicating that a couple or a person is in an opposite-sex or same-sex (male or female) couple.

Unrelated

Unrelated people have a non-familial relationship.

See also 'Non-familial relationship' in this chapter.



4 Definitions for households

See the definition of 'Household' below.

Access to telecommunication systems

Access to telecommunication systems is the ability of residents in a private dwelling to communicate, through cellphone, telephone, fax, or the Internet, with people outside the dwelling and to use services provided through these media. The device(s) and connection(s) must be in working order.

Family trust

A family trust legally protects the assets of a person and/or family, and holds them for the future. The assets are put into the control of nominated trustees, who may or may not be family members. The trustees' aim is to preserve the assets in the interests of nominated beneficiaries who may be living, and/or future family members.

Grouped total household income

Total household income can be grouped for the output of small geographic areas (meshblocks, area units, or user-defined combinations of these) or subpopulations to provide useful information. The classification is:

- \$20,000 or less
- \$20,001–\$30,000
- \$30,001–\$50,000
- \$50,001–\$70,000
- \$70,001–\$100,000
- \$100,001 or more
- not stated.

See also 'Total household income' in this chapter; 'Total personal income' and 'Sources of personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions; and 'Grouped total extended family income' and 'Grouped family income' in chapter 3, Definitions for families.

Household

A household is either one person who usually resides alone, or two or more people who usually reside together and share facilities (such as for eating, cooking, or a living area; and bathroom and toilet) in a private dwelling. Included are people who were absent on census night but usually live in a particular dwelling and are members of that household, as long as they were reported as being absent by the reference person on the dwelling form.

See also 'Household composition' in this chapter; and 'Absentee', 'Usual residents, and 'Usual residents in private dwellings' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Household characteristics

A general term including details of a household, such as number of household members, household composition, number of children in the household by age, and total and grouped total household income.

See also 'Household composition'.

Household composition

Household composition classifies households according to the relationships between usually resident people. The classification is based on how many and what type(s) of family nuclei were present in a household, and whether or not there were related or unrelated people present.

See also 'Household' in this chapter; 'Absentee', 'Usual residents', 'Usual residents in private dwellings' in chapter 2, Personal definitions; and 'Family nucleus', 'Familial relationship', 'Non-familial relationship', 'Related', and 'Unrelated' in chapter 3, Definitions for families.

Number of motor vehicles

This number refers to motor vehicles that are available for private use by the usual residents of private dwellings. These vehicles must be mechanically operational, but not necessarily licensed or with a current warrant of fitness.

Motor vehicles include:

- business vehicles available for private use by people in the dwelling
- cars, four-wheel drive vehicles, station wagons, trucks, vans, and other vehicles used on public roads
- hired or long-term leased vehicles
- vehicles temporarily under repair.

They do not include:

- farm vehicles not licensed for road use
- motorbikes or scooters
- vehicles used only for business
- vehicles that belong to visitors
- vehicles occasionally borrowed from another household.

Sector of landlord

Sector of landlord refers to the type of organisation or person from whom households rent or lease private occupied dwellings. It can be the private sector (for example, private person, trust, or business) or the state sector (for example, Housing New Zealand Corporation).

A rented private dwelling is a dwelling that is not owned by the usual resident(s) and for which the usual resident(s) makes rent payments.

A leased private dwelling is a rented dwelling for which the owner has granted another person or group of people exclusive possession for an agreed time period.

Sources of household income

Sources of household income identifies the various sources from which all household members aged 15 years and over received income in the 12 months ending 5 March 2013.

In the census, it is generally only realistic to collect money income. This is income that a person can normally recall or can readily retrieve from their financial records. Money income is money flow from the deployment of one's labour, entrepreneurial skills and assets, and from transfers received. So the concept of money income relies on identifying its sources. Excluded are income in kind, imputed income, unrealised income, and contingent income (contingent income depends on the unknown outcome of a course of action, for example to sue). Excluded is money received by borrowing, making withdrawals from savings, and receiving repayments of loan principal; and also tax credits and reimbursements of expenses.

See also 'Sources of personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions; and 'Sources of extended family income' and 'Sources of family income' in chapter 3, Definitions for families.

Tenure of household

Tenure of household indicates whether a household in a private dwelling rents, owns, or holds that dwelling in a family trust; and whether payment is made by the household for the right to reside in that dwelling.

Tenure of household does not refer to the tenure of the land on which the dwelling is situated. A dwelling held in a family trust is owned by the family trust, so the household does not directly own the dwelling.

See also 'Tenure holder' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Total household income

Total household income is derived by taking the sum of the median personal income of all members of the household who are aged 15 years and over.

See also 'Total personal income' and 'Sources of personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions.

Weekly rent paid by households

Weekly rent paid by households is the total amount of money spent weekly by households on obtaining shelter in a private dwelling. This sum normally excludes payments for the use of furniture and utilities (such as electricity, gas, and water) and for the provision of special services such as washing or cooking.



5 Definitions for dwellings

See definition of 'Dwelling' below.

Dilapidated buildings

Dilapidated buildings are not counted as dwellings if they are unoccupied when census data is collected. If being used for shelter, and therefore occupied during census night, then they are counted as dwellings.

Dilapidated buildings are defined as buildings that are in an advanced state of deterioration, to the point of being uninhabitable by current social norms.

Indicators may include:

- doors or windows broken or not secure
- essential services have been cut
- evidence of vandalism
- extensive exterior deterioration
- interior is bare and deteriorating
- roof is not weather-proof
- surroundings unkempt or overgrown.

A dwelling may show some signs of neglect without being classed as dilapidated, provided these signs are relatively minor. Examples are a lack of maintenance (paint flaking off) or repairs (for example boarded-up windows), or other jobs that are overdue (untidy garden or section) that do not amount to severe overall deterioration.

Dwelling

A dwelling is any building or structure – or its parts – that is used, or intended to be used, for human habitation. Dwellings can be permanent or temporary and include structures such as houses, motels, hotels, prisons, motor homes, huts, and tents.

There can be more than one dwelling within a building; for example, in an apartment building each separate apartment or unit is considered a dwelling.

Dwelling occupancy status

Dwelling occupancy status classifies each dwelling according to whether it is occupied, unoccupied, or under construction when census data is collected.

See also 'Dwelling under construction', 'Occupied dwelling', and 'Unoccupied dwelling' in this chapter.

Dwelling type

Refer to 'Occupied dwelling type' in this chapter.

Dwelling under construction

Dwelling under construction includes each house, apartment, flat, or group or block of flats being built. An existing dwelling that is being altered, repaired, or extended and is

unoccupied is coded as an 'empty dwelling'. A new dwelling that is under construction and is occupied is coded as 'occupied'.

Fuel types used to heat dwelling

Fuel types used to heat dwelling measures the type of fuel used for heating an occupied private dwelling. More than one fuel type may be used; for example, electricity, gas, coal, and wood. Insulation is not a fuel type.

Non-private dwelling

See 'Occupied non-private dwelling' in this chapter.

Number of bedrooms

A bedroom is defined as a room that is used, or intended to be used, for sleeping in.

- A room is considered to be a bedroom if it is furnished as a bedroom even if it is not being used when census data is collected. A bedroom should include a sleeping facility such as a bed or mattress, and could include items such as a dresser or chest of drawers. It is counted as a bedroom, even if it is not being used on census night.
- A one-roomed dwelling (for example, a bed-sitting room) is counted as having one bedroom and therefore, one total room.
- A sleepout adjacent to a private dwelling should be counted if it is furnished as a bedroom and, if used, is used by members of the same household as those living in the dwelling.
- A caravan adjacent to a private dwelling should be counted only if it is used as a bedroom by members of the same household as those living in the dwelling.
- Another room (such as a living room) that is used as a bedroom at night, either short term or long term, should only be counted as a bedroom if there are no bedroom facilities elsewhere in the dwelling.

Number of occupants

Number of occupants on census night is the number of people who were present in a particular dwelling in New Zealand and who completed their individual form at that dwelling on census night.

Included in the number of occupants are people who were present in the dwelling on census night and usually:

- live in the dwelling, or
- reside overseas, or
- reside elsewhere in New Zealand.

Excluded from number of occupants are people who usually live in the dwelling but were absent on census night.

Number of rooms

A room is defined as a space in a dwelling that is used, or intended to be used, for habitation and is enclosed by walls reaching from the floor to the ceiling or roof covering, excluding service areas.

The number of rooms includes each attic, bedroom, dining room, games room, habitable cellar, hobby room, kitchen, living room, lounge room, studio, and study. Service areas such as bathrooms, corridors, garages, hallways, laundries, pantries, spa rooms, toilets, verandas, and walk-in wardrobes should not be counted as rooms.

If a dwelling is built in an open-plan style, then room equivalents are counted as if they had walls between them. Room equivalents do not apply to a one-roomed dwelling; for example, a bed-sitting room is counted as one room only.

Occupied dwelling

For census use, a dwelling is defined as occupied if it is:

- occupied at midnight on the night of census data collection, or
- occupied at any time during the 12 hours following midnight on the night of census data collection unless the occupant(s) completed a questionnaire at another dwelling during this period.

This includes occupied dilapidated dwellings and occupied dwellings under construction.

Occupied dwelling type

Occupied dwelling type classifies all occupied dwellings according to their structure and function.

Occupied non-private dwelling

Occupied non-private dwellings provide short or long-term communal or transitory type accommodation. They are generally available to the public for reasons of employment, study, special need, legal requirement, or recreation.

Occupied non-private dwellings include:

- backpackers, guest accommodation, hotels, motels, youth hostels
- camps, communal staff quarters, hospitals, and institutional complexes
- bed-and-breakfasts, farm stays, and home stays that are mainly intended to be used as facilities for paying guests.

Occupied private dwelling

An occupied private dwelling accommodates a person or group of people and is not generally available for public use. The main purpose of a private dwelling is as a place of habitation; it is usually built (or converted) to function as a self-contained housing unit.

Occupied private dwellings may be considered part of housing stock, or not part of housing stock.

Dwellings that are considered part of housing stock include:

- houses, flats, units, townhouses and apartments (these may be stand alone or joined together). Generally they will be fully self-contained but there may be exceptions, for instance where several flats share a toilet, laundry, or kitchen
- independent self-care units in retirement complexes
- private dwellings within a non-private dwelling structure or complex
- residences attached to a business or institution.

Dwellings that are not considered part of housing stock include:

- dwellings in a motor camp. These include any caravan, campervan, house bus, cabin, unit, tent, or improvised dwelling in a motor camp that has permanent residents and is therefore not generally available for public use
- mobile dwellings. These include any mobile dwelling, on water or land, that is not in a motor camp, such as houseboats, campervans, mobile homes, house buses, house trucks, caravans, and tents. They are intended to be transportable and movable but may be fixed in one location
- improvised dwellings. These include dwellings or shelters not necessarily erected for human habitation but which are occupied. The structure will support a roof of some kind, no matter how roughly fashioned or makeshift, and will lack some or all of the usual household amenities such as electric lighting, piped water, bathroom, toilet, and kitchen/cooking facilities. For example, shacks, garages, and private vehicles other than those designed as, or converted into, dwellings
- places of habitation with no dwelling. These include public or outdoor areas, not intended for human habitation but which are occupied, including public parks, bus shelters, under bridges, on beaches, in caves, train stations, doorways, and private property such as car parks, and farm land are included in the roofless or rough sleeper category
- vehicles lived in
- vessels lived in.

People may offer board or lodging to paying guests in their own homes (such as bed-and-breakfast, farm stay, home stay, or families hosting foreign students or boarders). Such homes are counted as private dwellings unless their main intent is to house boarders or paying guests.

Private dwelling

See 'Occupied private dwelling' in this chapter.

Unoccupied dwelling

For census use a dwelling is defined as unoccupied if it is unoccupied at midnight and at all times during the next 12 hours following midnight on the night of the data collection.

Unoccupied dwellings may be classified as 'empty' or 'residents away'.

An unoccupied dwelling is classified as 'empty' if it clearly had no current occupants and new occupants are not expected to move in on, or before, census night. Unoccupied dwellings that are being repaired or renovated are defined as empty dwellings. Unoccupied baches or holiday homes are also defined as empty dwellings.

A dwelling is classified as having 'residents away' where occupants of a dwelling are known to be temporarily away and are not expected to return on, or before, census night.



6 Geographic definitions

Area unit

Area units are aggregations of meshblocks. They are non-administrative geographic areas that are in between meshblocks and territorial authorities in size. Area units must either define, or aggregate to define, regional councils, territorial authorities, and urban areas.

Area units within urban areas normally contain a population of 3,000–5,000 people. See also 'Meshblock', 'Territorial authority', 'Regional council', 'Urban area', 'Main urban area', 'Secondary urban area', and 'Statistical area' in this chapter.

City

A city is defined in the Local Government Act 1974 as an area that must have a population of at least 50,000 people, have a mostly urban character, be a distinct entity, and be a major centre of activity within the region.

See also 'Territorial authority' in this chapter.

Community board

The purpose of community boards is to administer the affairs of communities with a population of 1,500 or more people within rural, urban, or metropolitan areas of a territorial authority. A community board's functions, powers, and duties are at the discretion of its parent territorial authority, so these may differ between community boards. The majority of territorial authorities use community boards; the Auckland territorial authority refers to them as local boards. The provision to create community boards was set up at the time of the 1989 local government restructuring. The boundaries of community boards may be reviewed before each triennial local government election; this is provided for in the Local Electoral Act 2001.

See also 'Territorial authority' and 'Local boards' in this chapter.

Constituency

Constituencies were established in November 1989. They are subdivisions of regional council areas that are created on population-based criteria, to serve as voting areas within regional councils.

Regional council constituencies and Māori constituencies are defined at meshblock level, and do not coincide with area units. Constituencies are required to reflect communities of interest and their boundaries must, so far as is practicable, coincide with those of territorial authorities or wards.

The Local Electoral Act 2001 provides for the boundaries of regional council constituencies to be reviewed before each triennial local government election.

See also 'Regional council', 'Meshblock', 'Area unit', 'Territorial authority', and 'Ward' in this chapter.

District

A district is a territorial authority area governed by a district council as a second-tier local government unit in New Zealand. Districts were formed as a result of local government reforms in 1989. A district council serves a combination of rural and urban communities.

See also 'Territorial authority' in this chapter.

Electorate boundaries

The boundaries of New Zealand's parliamentary electorates are defined, reviewed, and redrawn by the Electoral Representation Commission, an independent body. Membership of the Representation Commission is specified in legislation. It includes four ex-officio members (the Surveyor-General, the Government Statistician, the Chief Electoral Officer, and the Chairperson of the Local Government Commission) and two political representatives.

The Government Statistician is required by section 35(6) of the Electoral Act 1993 to "...report the results of the census and his or her calculations of the Māori electoral population...".

Electorates must have similar numbers of people living in them, regardless of their geographic area. The Government Statistician calculates the electoral population of all electorates. The Representation Commission decides the electorate boundaries using demographic, cultural, and geographic criteria set in law.

See also 'Electorates' in this chapter.

Electorates

General and Māori electorates, also known as electoral districts, are constituted in terms of the Electoral Act 1993, after each census. Electorate boundaries are defined at meshblock level.

The number of electorates and the electoral population size for each electorate is controlled by the Electoral Act. When setting the boundaries, the Representation Commission must also consider existing boundaries, community of interest, facilities for communications, topographical features, and any projected variation in the electoral population of those districts during their existence.

See also 'Electorate boundaries' and 'Meshblock' in this chapter.

Local boards

Local boards were introduced as part of the new local government arrangements for Auckland in 2010. Local boards share governance with a council's governing body and each has complementary responsibilities, guaranteed by legislation. Local boards can propose bylaws and they gather community views on local and regional matters. Local legislation enacted in 2012 allows for the establishment of local boards in areas of new unitary authorities that are predominantly urban and have a population of more than 400,000 people. The boundaries of local boards cannot be abolished or changed except through a reorganisation process.

See also 'Community board' in this chapter.

Main urban area

Main urban areas are very large urban areas centred on a city or major urban centre, with a minimum population of 30,000.

See also 'Urban area' in this chapter.

Meshblock

A meshblock is the smallest geographic unit for which Statistics New Zealand collects statistical data. Meshblocks vary in size, from part of a city block to large areas of rural land. Each meshblock borders on another to cover all of New Zealand, extending out to the 200-mile economic zone (approximately 320 kilometres). Meshblocks are aggregated to build larger geographic areas, such as area units, territorial authorities, and regional councils. At the time of the 2013 Census, there were 46,637 meshblocks in New Zealand.

See also 'Area unit', 'Territorial authority', 'Regional council', 'Urban area', 'Main urban area', 'Secondary urban area', 'Minor urban area', 'Community board', 'Local boards', 'Ward', and 'Statistical area' in this chapter.

Minor urban area

Minor urban areas are urbanised settlements (outside main and secondary urban areas), centred around smaller towns with a population between 1,000 and 9,999 people. This complies with the international definitions of 'urban' population that includes towns with over 1,000 people.

See also 'Urban area' in this chapter.

New Zealand

For statistical purposes, the term 'New Zealand' refers to 'geographic New Zealand'. In addition to the North, South, Stewart, and Chatham islands, geographic New Zealand includes the following offshore islands: Kermadec Islands, Three Kings Islands, Mayor Island, Motiti Island, White Island, Moutohora Island, Bounty Islands, Snares Islands, Antipodes Islands, Auckland Islands, and Campbell Island. The Taranaki and Southland oil rigs are also included in New Zealand. For the purposes of the 2013 Census, counts of the number of males and females at Ross Dependency were recorded, but questionnaires were not collected from these people. Geographic New Zealand does not include the Cook Islands, Niue, or the Tokelau Islands.

Regional council

Regional councils were established in November 1989 after the abolition of the 22 local government regions. The Local Government Act 2002 requires the boundaries of regions to conform as far as possible to one or more water catchments. When determining regional boundaries, the Local Government Commission gave consideration to regional communities of interest when selecting water catchments to be included in a region. It also considered factors such as natural resource management, land use planning, and environmental matters.

Regional councils are defined at meshblock and area unit level. Regional councils cover every territorial authority in New Zealand with the exception of the Chatham Islands territory. The seaward boundary of the regions is the 12-mile (19.3km) New Zealand territorial limit. Generally, regional councils contain complete territorial authorities. Where territorial authorities straddle regional council boundaries, the affected area has been statistically defined in complete area units.

See also 'Area unit', 'Meshblock', and 'Territorial authority' in this chapter.

Rural area

The rural areas of New Zealand are those that are not specifically designated as 'urban'. They include rural centres, and district territories where these are not included in main, secondary, or minor urban areas; and inlets, islands, inland waters, and oceanic waters that are outside urban areas.

See also 'Rural centre' and 'Urban area' in this chapter.

Rural centre

Rural centres have no administrative or legal status but are statistical units defined by complete area units. Established during the 1989 review of geo-statistical boundaries, they have a population between 300 and 999 people. Identifying these settlements enables the separation of rural dwellers living in true rural areas from those living in rural settlements or townships.

See also 'Area unit' and 'Rural area' in this chapter.

Secondary urban area

Secondary urban areas were established at the 1981 Census. They have a population between 10,000 and 29,999 people and are centred on the larger regional centres.

See also 'Urban area' in this chapter.

Statistical area

Statistical areas are broad geographic regions that do not conform to any legal or administrative boundaries and do not have any predetermined population size. There are 13 statistical areas and many of these conform to the old provincial districts. Statistical areas include islands that are outside regions but are part of 'geographic New Zealand'; their main importance is in the historical comparability of data from these areas.

Territorial authority

A territorial authority is defined under the Local Government Act 2002 as a city council or district council. There are 67 territorial authorities comprising 12 cities, 53 districts, Auckland Council and Chatham Islands territory). Auckland Council was formed as part of new local government arrangements in 2010. Seven councils (Rodney district, North Shore city, Waitakere city, Auckland city, Manukau city, Papakura district, and Franklin district) were amalgamated to form the new council. When defining the boundaries of territorial authorities in 1989, the Local Government Commission placed considerable weight on the 'community of interest'. While the size of the community was a factor, the relevance of the components of the community to each other and the capacity of the unit to service the community in an efficient manner, were the factors on which the commission placed most emphasis.

Territorial authorities are defined at meshblock and area unit level.

See also 'Area unit', 'Regional council', 'Ward', 'City', 'District', and 'Meshblock' in this chapter.

Unitary authority

A unitary authority is a territorial authority (district or city) which also performs the functions of a regional council. New Zealand has five unitary authorities: Gisborne district, Nelson city, Tasman district, Marlborough district, and the new Auckland Council.

Chatham Islands council is not usually considered a unitary authority, although it acts as a regional council for the purposes of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Urban area

Urban areas are statistically defined areas without administrative or legal basis. Their hierarchical subdivision is into:

- main urban areas
- secondary urban areas
- minor urban areas.

Together, the populations in main, secondary, and minor urban areas comprise the statistically defined 'urban' population of New Zealand. The urban area classification is designed to identify concentrated urban or semi-urban settlements without the distortions of administrative boundaries.

See also 'Main urban area', 'Minor urban area', 'Rural area' and 'Secondary urban area' in this chapter.

Ward

Wards are divisions of some territorial authorities for electoral purposes. The ward system was designed to allow communities within a territorial authority to be recognised, and to increase community involvement in local government.

The boundaries of wards and their parent territorial authorities may be reviewed in the year before triennial local government elections take place. The review is conducted by the territorial authority under the Local Electoral Act 2001. Ward boundaries are defined at meshblock level, but are not definable in area units. The following nine territorial authorities do not have wards: Rotorua district, Kawerau district, Wairoa district, Wanganui district, Upper Hutt city, Nelson city, Kaikoura district, Chatham Islands territory, and Invercargill city.

See also 'Territorial authority' in this chapter.



7 General definitions

Don't know

The category 'don't know' may be a legitimate response to certain questions, especially in household surveys.

Income bands

The information currently used to collect income bands is gross annual income. This is defined as income received by a person, family, or household before the deduction of income tax, levies, or withholding payments. Income includes income from wages and salaries, self-employed income, property and rental income, dividends and investments, social insurance, superannuation, government assistance schemes, and private transfers, such as child support. Excluded are social transfers in kind such as public education or government-subsidised health care services; reimbursement of expenses, money received from borrowing, contingent income, unrealised income; and irregular payments, such as lump sum inheritance payments.

See also 'Grouped total personal income' and 'Total personal income' in chapter 2, Personal definitions; and 'Grouped combined parental income for couples with child(ren)', 'Grouped total extended family income', and 'Grouped family income' in chapter 3, Definitions for families; and 'Grouped total household income' in chapter 4, Definitions for households.

Not elsewhere classified

Not elsewhere classified (nec) is a residual category for responses that have no appropriate category, because they are infrequent or unanticipated.

Not elsewhere included

Not elsewhere included (nei) is used in some outputs for a combination of residuals, such as 'not stated', 'response outside scope', 'response unidentifiable', 'refused to answer', and 'don't know'. This item should have a footnote indicating its composition.

Not further defined

Not further defined (nfd) is a residual category used for responses that have insufficient detail for a lower level of a classification in the hierarchy. This item can be classified in a less detailed category, higher up the hierarchy.

Not stated

The category 'not stated' is used exclusively where a person has not given any response to the question asked.

Refused to answer

The category 'refused to answer' is used only when it is known that a person has purposefully chosen not to respond to the question.

Residual category

Residual categories are universal classification categories that capture particular types of survey responses. This includes non-response (common to all surveys), for which a standard residual category descriptor may be used, such as 'not stated'.

See also 'Don't know', 'Not stated', 'Refused to answer', 'Response outside scope', and 'Response unidentifiable' in this chapter.

Response outside scope

The category 'response outside scope' applies if the meaning and intent of the response are clear (so-called 'positively identified') but clearly fall outside the scope of the classification/topic as defined.

Response unidentifiable

The category 'response unidentifiable' is used when there was a response given but it was:

- illegible
- unclear in meaning or intent. This most commonly occurs when the response being classified contains insufficient detail, is ambiguous, or is vague and contradictory (for example, when the tick boxes 'yes' and 'no' have both been ticked)
- clear and seemingly within the scope of the classification, yet it cannot be coded as a suitable existing option in the classification or code file (such as 'not elsewhere classified' or 'not further defined').

Single and combination

Several census questions invite multiple responses. Single and combination output tables have categories for single responses, as well as combination categories for multiple responses. People are counted only once in the category that applies to them. For example, ethnic group categories may include Māori, European/Māori, and Māori/Pacific. Because a single and combination table counts a person in only one category, the sum of responses matches the total population number.

Single and combination categories are available for:

- ethnic group
- fuel type used to heat dwellings
- language spoken.

Total responses

Several census questions invite multiple responses, and each response is counted individually in tables presenting total responses. The sum of responses will be greater than the usual subject population for that variable, because people may be counted more than once.

Output on the basis of total responses applies to:

- access to telecommunication systems
- ethnic group

- fuel type used to heat dwellings
- iwi
- job search methods
- language spoken
- religious affiliation
- sources of extended family income
- sources of family income
- sources of household income
- sources of personal income
- unpaid activities.

Some multiple responses are also reported as a combination of response categories; see 'Single and combination' in this chapter.



8 Census questions, dates, and forms

Census questions over time

The [Index of historical census questions](#) is a summary of the questions asked about individuals and dwellings in the European, Māori, and general New Zealand censuses since 1851. The index is made up of four tables: European censuses from 1851 to 1945; Māori censuses from 1858 to 1945; individual form from 1951 to 2013; and dwelling form from 1951 to 2013. See our website at www.stats.govt.nz/Census/about-2013-census/intro-to-nz-census/history/questions-index.

Dates of national and provincial censuses

[Dates of New Zealand censuses since 1851](#) lists the dates of national and provincial censuses and provides an interactive timeline that highlights important dates in New Zealand census history. See our website at www.stats.govt.nz/Census/about-2013-census/intro-to-nz-census/history/historic-census-dates.

Census forms

See images of [individual and dwelling forms](#) from 2013 Census and censuses dating back to 1906, where available.