



## 2011 CENSUS

# HOUSEHOLDS

The population and housing census is the only source of exhaustive information on the households in the country.

Household are considered persons living together, no matter relatives or not or living together in a collective under a common regime.

As of 1.02.2011 there are 3 006 376 households in Bulgaria - private and institutional. Nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  (73.3%) of them are urban ones.

### 1. Households, persons in them and average number of members per household by residence as of 1.02.2011

Residence	Total	Private households	Institutional households
<b>Total for the country</b>	<b>3006376</b>	<b>3005589</b>	<b>787</b>
Persons in the households	7327855	7296459	31396
Average number of members per household	2.4	2.4	39.9
<b>Urban</b>	<b>2203007</b>	<b>2202498</b>	<b>509</b>
Persons in the households	5309673	5287323	22350
Average number of members per household	2.4	2.4	43.9
<b>Rural</b>	<b>803369</b>	<b>803091</b>	<b>278</b>
Persons in the households	2018182	2009136	9046
Average number of members per household	2.5	2.5	32.5



Private households are part of all the censuses after the Liberation and can be traced between the censuses.

A private household consists of two or more persons living in a dwelling or part of dwelling and sharing common budget, no matter relatives or not. One person living in a dwelling, separate room or part of room on his/her own budget also is considered a household.

The institutional households, as well as the number and persons living in them are observed up to 1946. During the next five censuses, only persons living in such households are observed. Following the UN and Eurostat recommendations, the institutional households are once again included in the census programme in 2001, thus creating possibility to trace the changes occurred in their number and average size between the last two censuses (2001 and 2011).

An institutional household consists of persons permanently living in a collective, having common budget and respecting a common regime. Members of institutional households are considered persons living in boarding-houses, convalescent homes, homes for medico-social cares for children, social homes, monasteries, penal institutions, institutions for temporary stay of homeless and other.

## PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS<sup>1</sup>

Since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the number of households has increased 4.5 times and the population living in them - 2 times.

The average size of household decreases from 5.6 persons in 1900 to 2.4 persons in 2011. In urban areas the decrease registered is from 4.4 to 2.4 persons. More considerable decrease is observed in rural areas - from 6.0 persons in 1900 to 2.5 persons during the last census.

Dynamics of the households' number, size and structure is determined by number of demographic and social-economic factors. The demographic factors (changes in population number, fertility and mortality, number of marriages and divorces, population age structure, etc.) directly influence the changes in the households' number and structure. There are migration processes observed after the 1985 census, caused by number of social-economic factors. As a result, changes are observed mainly in the households' structure.

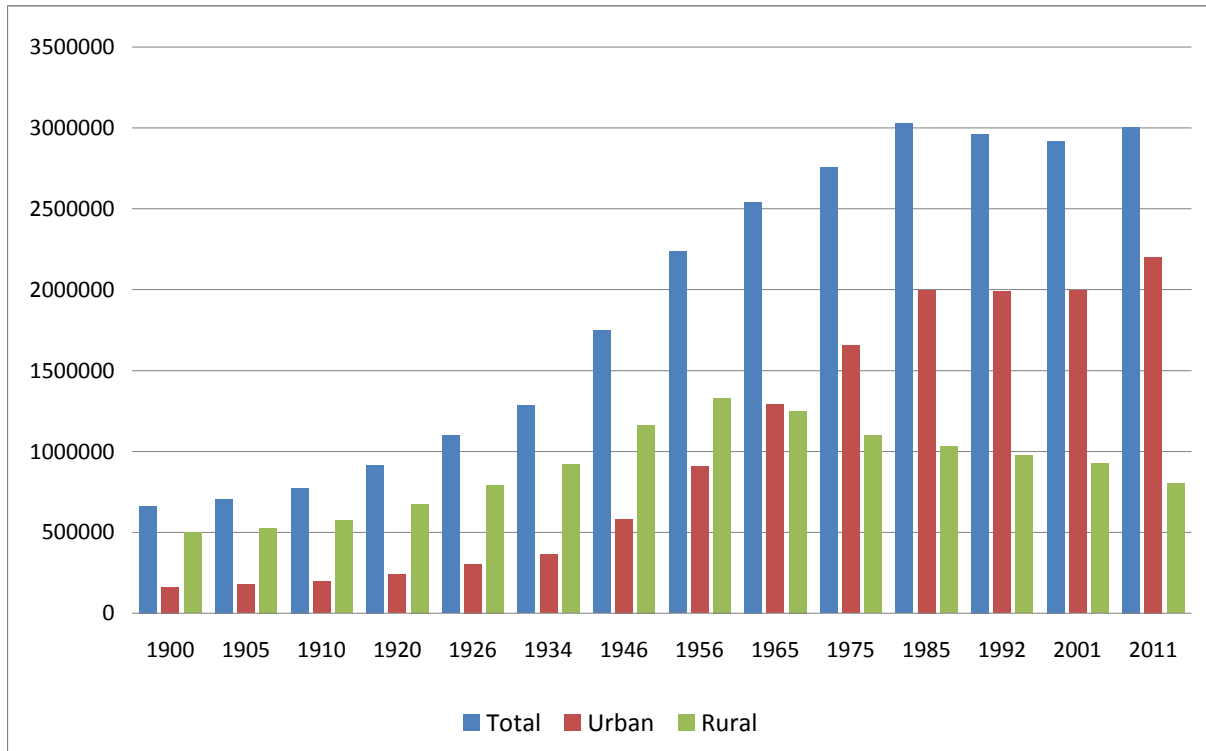
Decrease of the rural population after 1946 due to the internal migration influences the share of rural households. In 1900 the rural households represent 75.4% of the country households. The respective share of rural households in 1956 is 59.5%, and as of 1.02.2011 - 26.7%.

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<sup>1</sup> Hereafter the term "private household" is replaced by "household". Where the information concerns the institutional households it is explicitly pointed.



**Figure 1. Households by residence and census years**



There are some differences in the changes of households' number by districts. These are due to the districts peculiarities connected mainly to: the demographic processes intensity - fertility and mortality, the size and direction of migration flows - internal and external, as well as to the differences in their economic development.

Within the period 2001 - 2011 the households number decreases in 21 districts. Most considerable decrease is observed in districts Vratsa - 13 320 and Montana - 8 550 households less. The households' number increases in 7 districts. Most considerable increase is observed in districts Sofia cap. and Varna - 112 745 and 22 444 households respectively.

The households number increases by 83 702 between the last two censuses and the population number decreases by 564 331 persons. The increasing number of households in parallel to the decreasing population number shows that the process of fragmentation of households continue and leads to increase of the number of one and two-person households on the behalf of multi-person households. More than half (59.2%) of the households in Bulgaria in 2011 are one or two-person households.

Data show more considerable absolute and relative increase of the one-person households. Their number increases from 662 853 in 2001 to 925 385 in 2011. The share of one-person households for the same period increases by 8.1 percentage points (from 22.7% to 30.8%).

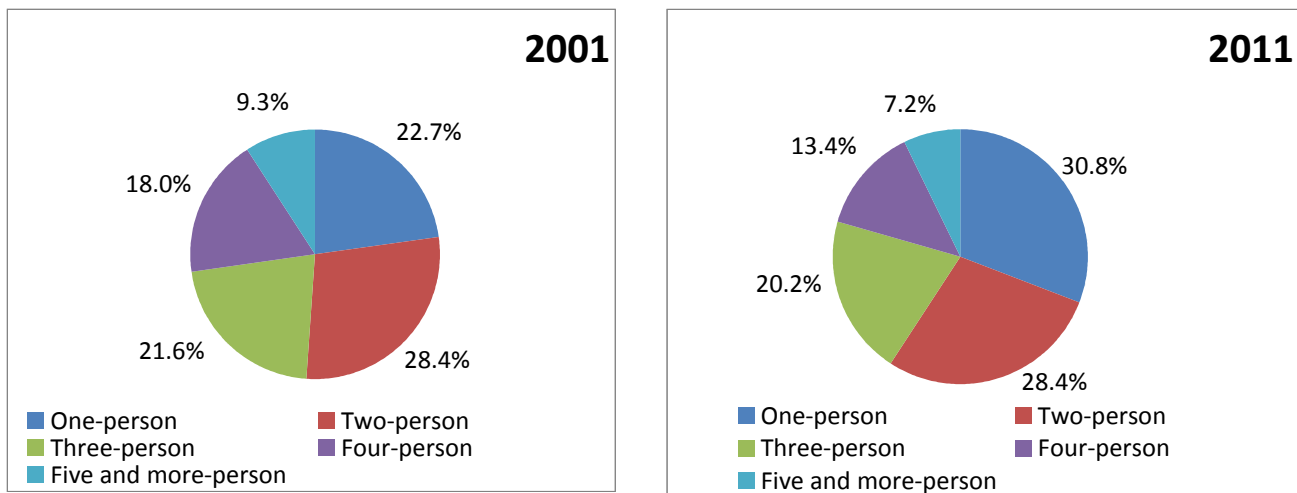
Highest is the share of one-person households in districts Veliko Tarnovo - 38.6% and Sofia cap. - 36.5%, and lowest in district Kardzhali - 22.4%.

Two-person households are 853 735, or 28.4% of the total households number. Between the last two censuses the number of two-person households increases by 22 932.

Within the period 2001 - 2011 the three-person households decrease by 22 577 and at present their number is 606 613. These households represent 20.2% of the total households' number.

Absolute and relative decrease is observed for all four and more-person households. Their share decreases between the last two censuses by 6.7 percentage points.

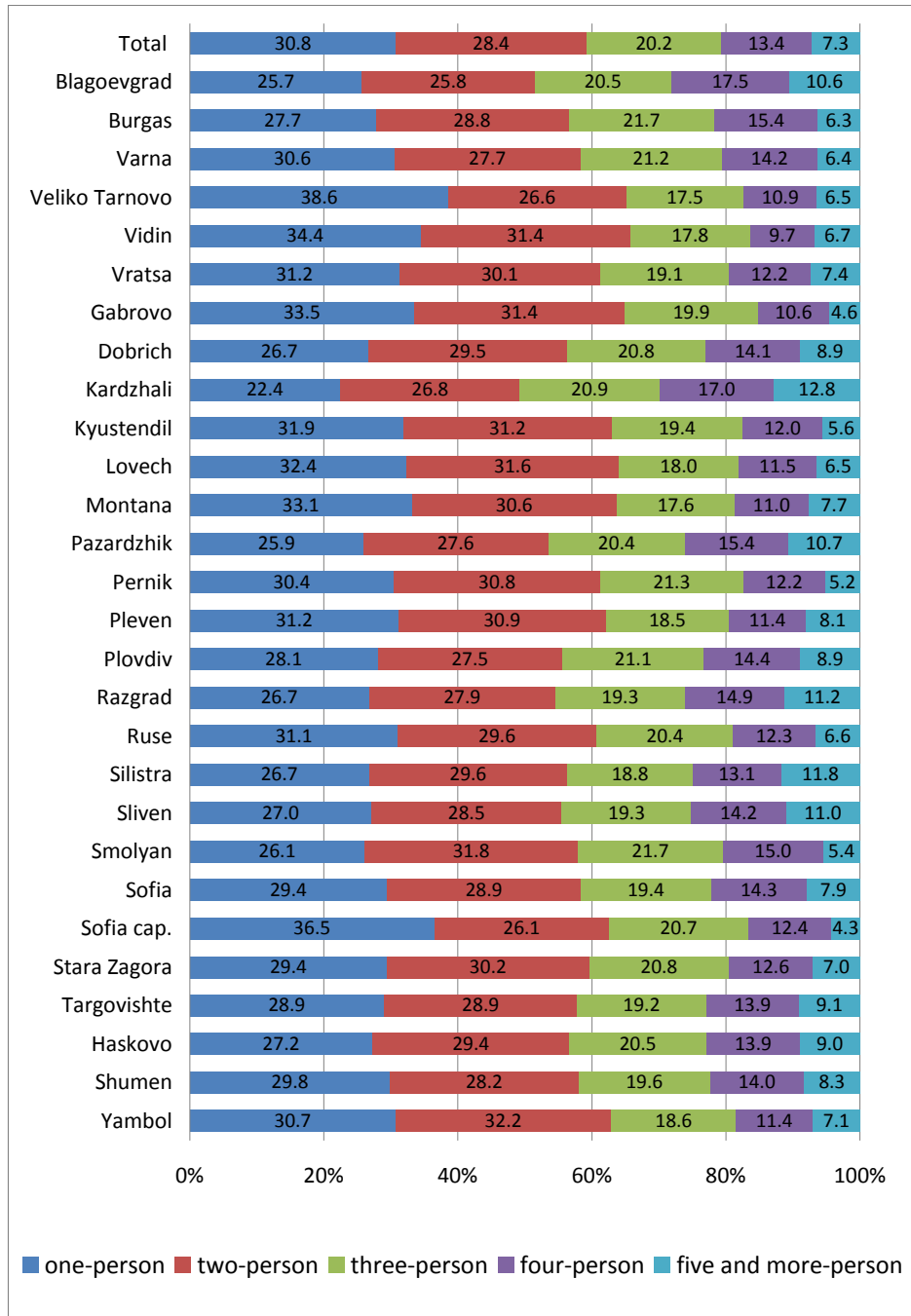
**Figure 2. Households structure by number of members in 2001 and 2011**



Highest share of multi-person households during the last census is observed in districts Kardzhali (29.8%) and Blagoevgrad (28.1%).



Figure 3. Households structure by number of members per household and by districts





The tendency of increase of the absolute number and share of households without children under 16 years of age continue between the last two censuses. Population ageing and connected to it decrease and ageing of the fertile contingent, the influence of number of economic factors and migration processes influence negatively the structure of households by number of children under 16 years of age. For ten-year period, the number of households without children under 16 years increases by 211 136. The number of households with children under 16 years of age decreases by 127 434. 75.5% of the country households (74.8% in urban areas and 77.5% in rural) have no children under 16 years in 2011.

## 2. Households structure by residence, number of children under 16 years of age and census years (Percent)

Residence Number of children under 16 years	Census years			
	1985	1992	2001	2011
<b>Total for the country</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Without children	59.2	64.2	70.5	75.5
One child	19.4	18.1	18.0	15.6
Two children	18.1	15.1	10.0	7.5
Three children	2.5	2.0	1.1	1.0
Four children and more	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.5
<b>Urban</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Without children	55.5	60.6	68.0	74.8
One child	22.3	21.0	20.7	16.8
Two children	19.7	16.3	10.1	7.3
Three children	1.9	1.6	0.9	0.7
Four children and more	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3
<b>Rural</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Without children	66.2	71.5	75.9	77.5
One child	13.7	12.1	12.3	12.2
Two children	15.0	12.7	9.6	7.9
Three children	3.7	2.7	1.6	1.5
Four children and more	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.8

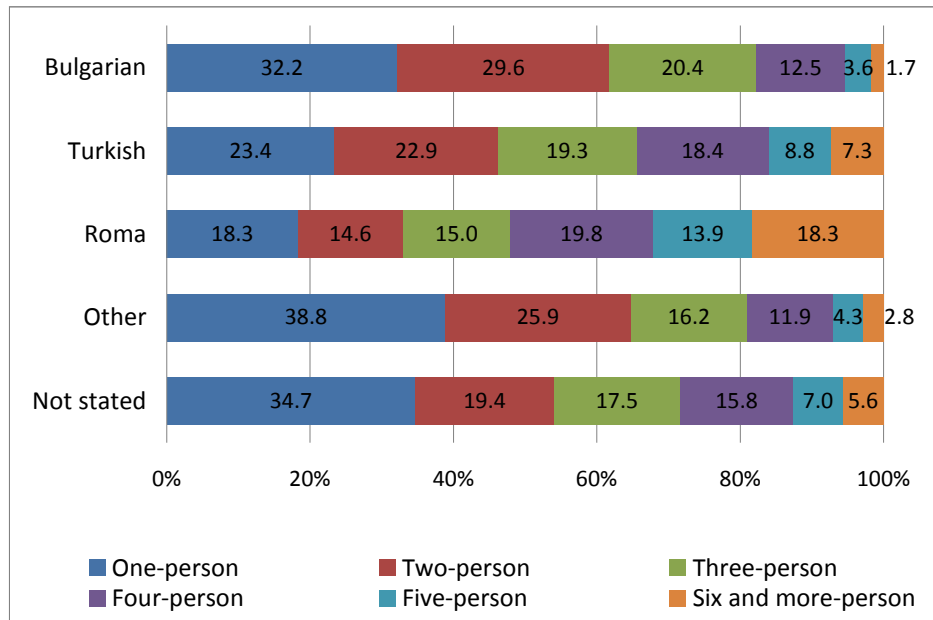
The peculiarities of county districts define the differences between them in respect the indicator “number of children under 16 years in the household”. About 80% of the households in districts Gabrovo, Vidin and Veliko Tarnovo have no children under 16 years of age. Lowest is the share of these households in districts Kardzhali - 70.1% and Sliven - 71.3%.

Distribution of households by ethnic groups is done based on the answer of the household head. In 2 456 596 households (88.4%) the household head determine him/her-self to the Bulgarian ethnic group; in 203 517 households (7.3%) - to the Turkish ethnic group and in 86 385 households (3.1%) - to the Roma ethnic group. In 7.5% of the households, the household head did not answer to the question on ethnic group.

Households in which the household head belongs to the Bulgarian ethnic group consist mainly of one, two or three persons. More than half (52.1%) of the households in which the household head belongs to the Roma ethnic group are multi-person households - with four children and more.



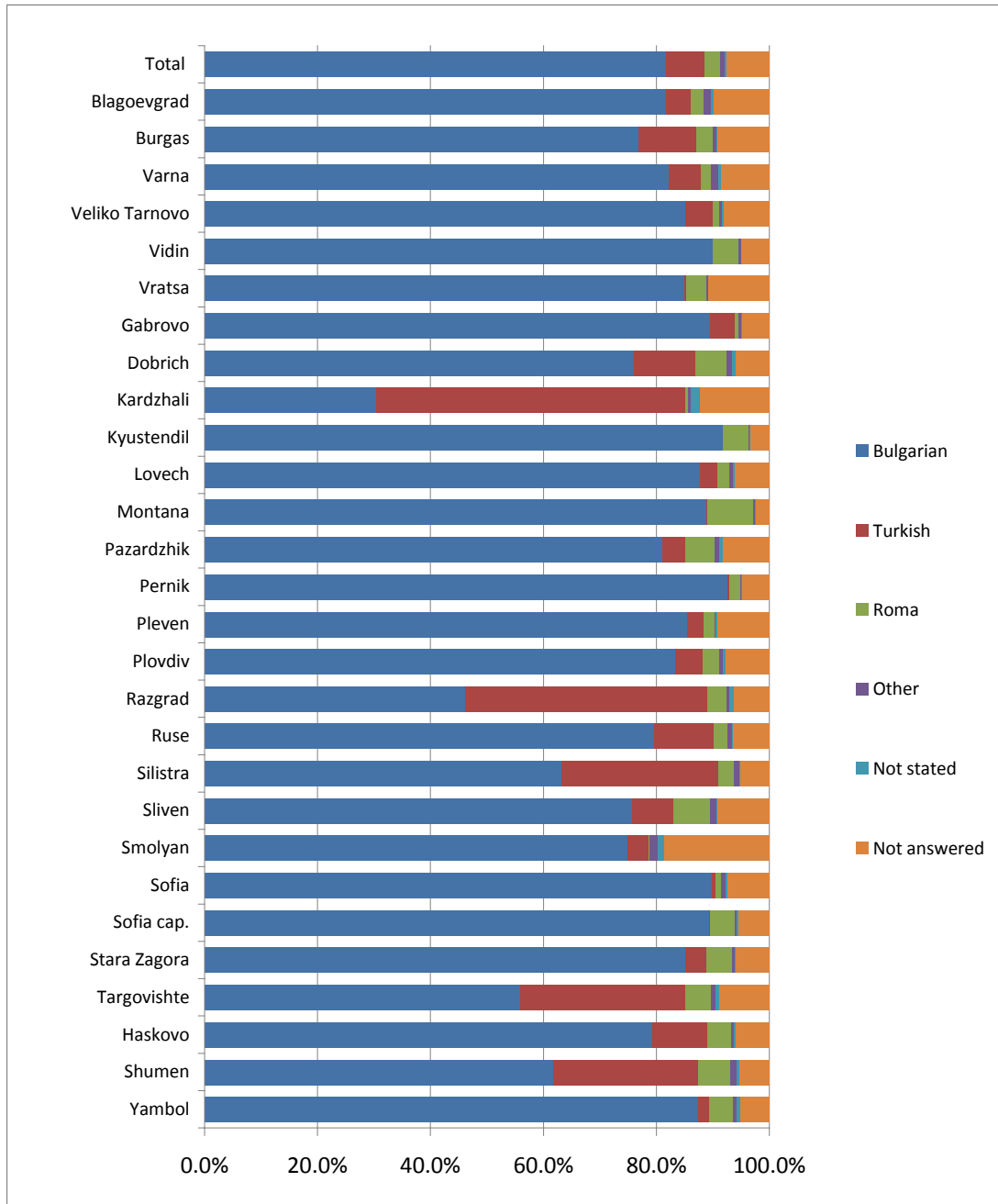
**Figure 4. Households structure by the ethnic group declared by the household head and by number of members**



Highest is the share of households which head belongs to the Bulgarian ethnic group in districts Pernik (92.6%) and Kyustendil (91.8%), and lowest in district Kardzhali (30.3%). In the last, highest is the share of households which head belongs to the Turkish ethnic group.



**Figure 5. Households structure by ethnic group of the household head and by districts**







## Institutional households

As of 1.02.2011 there are 787 institutional households in Bulgaria with 31 397 persons living in them, which represents 0.7% of the country population. The average number of persons living in such households is 39.9. In urban areas are situated 57.7% of the institutional households and 71.3% of persons living in institutional households.

Within the period 2001- 2011 the number of institutional households decreases by 5.0% fully due to the closure of 1/5 of the rural institutional households. At the same time, the number of institutional households in urban areas increases by 31.

Persons living in institutional households decrease between the last two censuses by 24 303. The decrease in urban areas is by 17 382, and in rural - by 6 921 persons.

The average number of members per institutional household varies according to the household type. Highest (61.1 persons) is the average number of persons living in "other" institutional households - penal institutions, shelters for waifs and strays, protected homes, etc. Lowest number of members (5.4) is registered in the religious institutional households, main parts of which are monasteries.

### 3. Institutional households by residence and household type

Types of institutional households Residence	2001			2011		
	total	persons in the households	average number of members per household	total	persons in the households	average number of members per household
<b>Total for the country</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>55699</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>31396</b>	<b>39.9</b>
Educational	437	27866	63.8	145	5210	35.9
Health	173	12454	72	248	9391	37.9
Homes for elderly	72	5051	70.2	154	6189	40.2
Religious	76	427	5.6	73	395	5.4
Other	70	9901	141.4	167	10211	61.1
<b>Urban</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>39732</b>	<b>83.1</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>22350</b>	<b>43.9</b>
Educational	267	19910	74.6	103	3722	36.1
Health	75	6249	83.3	142	4370	30.8
Homes for elderly	46	3889	84.5	97	4543	46.8
Religious	31	172	5.5	27	230	8.5
Other	59	9512	161.2	140	9485	67.8
<b>Rural</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>15967</b>	<b>45.6</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>9046</b>	<b>32.5</b>
Educational	170	7956	46.8	42	1488	35.4
Health	98	6205	63.3	106	5021	47.4
Homes for elderly	26	1162	44.7	57	1646	28.9
Religious	45	255	5.7	46	165	3.6
Other	11	389	35.4	27	726	26.9



Considerable changes are observed in the different types of institutional households between the last two censuses. The share of educational households decreases sharply from 52.8% in 2001 to 18.4% in 2011. The number of religious households also decreases within the same period. The number of the rest types of institutional households increases.

*Publication of detailed information on the households in Bulgaria is forthcoming. Data for the country, by districts, municipalities and settlements will be published in Volume 1 “Population”, book 4 “Households”, as well as in the 28 books of volume III “Districts”.*

Data on Households is published at the NSI web site, section 2011 Census:  
<http://www.nsi.bg/census2011/pageen2.php?p2=179&sp2=219>



## METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

### Private household

Private household is:

- one person living in a detached dwelling, separate room or part of it on his/her own budget;
- two or more persons living in a dwelling or part of dwelling and sharing common budget, no matter relatives or not.

“Common budget” means that persons living together have common expenditure, i.e. take meals together and share the expenditure on bringing up children or other persons without income. It is not obligatory the resources of all household members to be spent together in order to consider that persons are sharing a common budget.

Persons who do not share a common budget and do not take meals together are not considered a household, no matter living together and even inhabit one and the same room.

Persons permanently living in students or workers hostels also constitute a private household (one-person or multi-person household).

**Household head** is considered the person providing the main means for living or the person recognized by the household as such. The household head should usually live in the dwelling.

### Institutional household

An institutional household consists of persons permanently living in a collective, having common budget and respecting a common regime. Members of institutional households are considered persons living in boarding-houses, convalescent homes, homes for medico-social cares for children, social homes for bringing up children without parents, homes for elderly, establishments for disabled, psychiatric and pulmonary institutions, monasteries, penal institutions, institutions for temporary stay of homeless and other. Boarding-schools are also included.

Types of institutional households:

- educational - homes for bringing up children without parents, boarding-houses, convalescent homes, religious schools, boarding-schools and others;
- health - homes for medico-social cares for children, establishments for disabled, psychiatric and pulmonary hospitals and dispensaries;
- homes for elderly - homes for retired persons or elderly without families;
- religious - monasteries and other religious institutional households;
- other - penal institutions, pedagogic boarding-houses, institutions for temporary stay of homeless, protected dwellings and other not classified above.