

2021 Population Census and Housing Census in the Republic of Bulgaria Act

Promulgated, SG No. 20/8.03.2019

Text in Bulgarian: Закон за преброяване на населението и жилищния фонд в Република България през 2021 г.

Chapter One GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. This Act is intended to govern the preparation, organisation and conducting of the population census and the housing census in the Republic of Bulgaria in 2021, hereinafter referred to as the "census".

Article 2. (1) The purpose of the census is to collect comprehensive, reliable, detailed and comparable data on the population and housing in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) Data shall be collected in accordance with the principles of scientific independence, transparency, impartiality, objectivity, reliability, statistical confidentiality and cost-effectiveness.

(3) Personal data shall be collected for statistical purposes only and appropriate and specific measures to protect the fundamental rights and interests of the data subject shall be applied when said data are processed.

Article 3. (1) The census process covers the preparation, conducting, processing and dissemination of census data.

(2) The census shall start at 0.00 a.m. on 22 January 2021 and shall be completed at 8.00 p.m. on 15 February 2021.

(3) Population and housing data collected during the census shall refer to 0.00 a.m. on 22 January 2021, hereafter referred to as the "critical time".

Chapter Two CENSUS BODIES

Article 4. The National Statistics Institute (NSI) and the Central Census Commission (CCC), jointly with Regional governors and mayors of municipalities, shall organise the population census and the housing census.

Article 5. The bodies conducting the census shall be:

1. the National Statistics Institute;
2. the Central Census Commission;
3. the territorial statistics offices;
4. the regional census commissions;
5. the municipal census commissions.

Article 6. The National Statistics Institute shall:

1. ensure the overall guidelines and a uniform methodology during the preparation and conducting of the census in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;

2. develop a Programme of the 2021 population and housing census hereinafter referred to as "census programme";

3. develop the statistical toolkit for the implementation of the census and organise its

printing and dissemination;

4. develop a communication strategy and conduct a national awareness campaign to inform the population about the purposes and tasks of the census;

5. organise and provide training to the census bodies, controllers and enumerators;

6. determine the households in which sample-based statistical surveys accompanying the census shall be performed;

7. collect, process, publish, distribute and keep the census data;

8. prepare a report on the implementation of the activities;

9. provide the European Commission (Eurostat) with final, validated and aggregate data and with data and metadata relating to quality.

Article 7. (1) The Central Census Commission is a temporary body comprising a chairperson, a deputy chairperson, a secretary and not more than 20 members.

(2) The CCC shall consist of representatives of:

1. the National Statistics Institute;

2. government bodies and departments that create and maintain registers or databases containing information on objects covered by the census;

3. the National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria (NAMRB), non-governmental organisations, the mass media and the academic community.

(3) The Chairperson of the NSI shall be the chairperson of the CCC.

(4) The Central Census Commission shall be appointed by the Prime Minister on a proposal by the Chairperson of the NSI and the time period of the Commission's activity shall be determined in the order for its appointment.

(5) The Central Census Commission shall:

1. discuss and adopt the Census Programme and all documents relating to the organisation, preparation and conducting of the census;

2. coordinate the activities of the central government bodies and departments responsible for conducting the census among certain population categories;

3. discuss and propose remedial measures for rectification of omissions and errors in the work of the census bodies, controllers and enumerators;

4. set up temporary census points in the period specified in Article 3(2) if a justified need to do so exists;

5. accept the reports of the regional census commissions on the results from the census conducted;

6. adopt a report on the implementation of the census activities and the main results of the census.

(6) The commission shall operate under the guidance of its Chairperson.

Article 8. (1) The territorial statistics offices shall:

1. provide the general methodological guidance for the census on the territory concerned;

2. coordinate and participate in the activities relating to the preliminary rounds and the compilation of census lists;

3. organise, jointly with the regional and municipal census commissions, explanatory work among the population on the goals and objectives of the census;

4. allocate the required census materials by municipalities and settlements;

5. deliver training to the census bodies in the regions, municipalities and settlements;

6. organise, jointly with the regional and municipal census commissions, inspections of the progress of the census in municipalities and settlements;

7. organise the receipt of census materials and exercise control over their completion;

8. organise the entering and processing of census data.

(2) The territorial statistics offices shall co-operate with the territorial structures of the central government administration in the territory of the corresponding region in connection with the use of registers and databases maintained by said structures for the purposes of the census.

Article 9. (1) A temporary regional census commission comprising a chairperson, a secretary and not more than 7 members shall be established in each administrative region.

(2) The regional census commission shall consist of representatives of:

1. the regional administration;
2. the municipalities in the region;
3. the territorial statistics office;
4. the territorial units of the central government administration.

(3) At the discretion of the regional governor, representatives of non-governmental organisations and the media may be included in the commission.

(4) The regional census commission shall be chaired by a Deputy Regional Governor of the corresponding region, designated on the proposal of the Regional Governor.

(5) A representative of the relevant territorial statistics office shall act as a secretary of the regional census commission.

(6) Regional census commissions shall be appointed by an order of the Chairperson of the NSI at the proposal of the regional governor no later than 6 months before the census critical time. The appointment order shall determine the time period of the commission's activity.

(7) The regional census commission shall:

1. support the appropriate conducting of the census in the region in compliance with the Census Programme, the instructions of the Chairperson of the NSI and the decisions of the CCC;
2. take remedial measures for rectification of omissions and errors in the work of the census bodies, controllers and enumerators in the region;
3. advise the NSI and the CCC on the preparation and progress of the census in the region;
4. accept the reports of the municipal census commissions on the census conducted in the territories of the municipalities covered by the respective region;
5. draw up a report to the CCC on the transmission of all census materials to the relevant department of the territorial statistics office.

(8) The regional census commission shall operate under the guidance of its chairperson.

Article 10. (1) A temporary municipal census commission comprising a chairperson, a secretary and not more than 7 members shall be established in each municipality. In towns and cities with districts, a municipal census commission shall be set up for each district.

(2) The municipal census commission shall comprise:

1. two representatives of the municipal administration;
2. at least one representative of mayoralties;
3. a representative of the NSI.

(3) The representatives of the municipal administration and of the mayoralties shall be appointed by the municipal mayor and the representatives of the NSI shall be appointed by the Director of the territorial statistics office.

(4) The secretary of the municipality or of the district shall act as a chairperson of the municipal census commission.

(5) A representative of the NSI proposed by the relevant Director of the territorial statistics office shall act as a secretary of the municipal census commission.

(6) The municipal census commission shall be appointed by an order of the Chairperson of the NSI at the proposal of the municipal or district mayor no later than 6 months before the

census critical time. The appointment order shall determine the time period of the commission's activity.

(7) The municipal census commission shall:

1. organise the preparation and conducting of the census in the municipality in compliance with the Census Programme, the instructions of the NSI and the decisions of the regional census commission;

2. organise and conducts recruiting of controllers and enumerators;

3. organise jointly with the territorial statistics office the training of controllers and enumerators, as well as of the persons involved in the preliminary round;

4. advise the regional census commission on the preparation and progress of the census in the municipality;

5. coordinate the activities related to the use of the data from registers and other databases required for the census;

6. transmit all census materials to the territorial statistics office and draw up a report to the regional census commission.

(8) The commission shall operate under the guidance of its chairperson.

Chapter Three

OBJECT OF THE CENSUS AND DATA

Section I

Object and Units of Surveying

Article 11. The object of the census is the population that usually resides on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and the temporarily present population as well as the housing stock.

Article 12. (1) Units of surveying during the census shall be:

1. Bulgarian citizens usually resident in the Republic of Bulgaria regardless of whether, at the census critical time, they are in the territory of the settlement in which they usually reside or of any other settlement in the Republic of Bulgaria or outside the country;

2. Bulgarian citizens usually resident in the Republic of Bulgaria who, at the census critical time, are commissioned to stay abroad by the Bulgarian state, its institutions or organisations, as well as the accompanying family members of such Bulgarian citizens;

3. citizens of the European Union and members of their families who are usually resident in the Republic of Bulgaria at the census critical time;

4. foreigners who have been granted a residence permit for the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria pursuant to Article 23(1)(2) to (4) of the Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria Act prior to the critical time, as well as stateless persons;

5. persons to whom protection has been granted under the Asylum and Refugees Act prior to the census critical time;

6. Bulgarian citizens who usually reside outside the Republic of Bulgaria but temporarily reside on its territory at the census critical time;

7. foreigners who have been granted a residence permit pursuant to Article 23(1)(1) of the Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria Act prior to the census critical time, as well as stateless persons;

8. persons with respect to whom proceedings for granting protection under the Asylum and Refugees Act have been initiated as at the census reference time.

(2) The population usually resident in the Republic of Bulgaria shall consist of the persons set out in subparagraphs 1 to 5 of paragraph 1 that has been enumerated.

(3) The persons set out in subparagraphs 6 to 8 of paragraph 1 are temporarily present persons.

Article 13. Units of surveying shall be residential buildings, including buildings which, as at the census critical time, are not used for residential purposes, as well as mixed use buildings.

Article 14. (1) The following dwellings shall be units of surveying:

1. dwellings in residential buildings which are occupied at the census critical time;
2. unoccupied dwellings in residential buildings;
3. dwellings in non-residential buildings which are occupied at the census critical time;
4. dwellings in mixed use buildings which are occupied at the census critical time.

(2) Other housing units such as huts, cabins, shacks, shanties, caravans, houseboats, barns, mills, as well as any other shelter used for human habitation at the census critical time shall also be units of surveying.

Article 15. Households shall be units of surveying during the census.

Article 16. The following shall not be units of surveying during the census:

1. Bulgarian citizens usually residing in another country, except for the persons specified in Article 12(1)(6);

2. foreign citizens — personnel of foreign diplomatic and consular representation offices in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the members of their families;

3. officers of inter-state and inter-governmental organisations in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the members of their families;

4. foreign military personnel in the Republic of Bulgaria and their accompanying family members;

5. foreign river and sea ships crews to be found at the ports or in the territorial waters of the Republic of Bulgaria, nor the passengers on board of said ships;

6. foreign aircraft crews and passengers to be found in airport areas in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Section II

Data

Article 17. (1) The following data shall be collected with regard to individuals:

1. given name, patronymic and surname;

2. Personal Identification Number (PIN) in respect of Bulgarian citizens and foreigners who have been granted residence permits for the Republic of Bulgaria pursuant to Article 23(1)(3) and (4) of the Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria Act as well as in respect of foreigners who have been granted a refugee status and a humanitarian status in accordance with the Asylum and Refugees Act;

3. Personal Number of a Foreigner (PNF) in respect of foreigners who have been granted a residence permit pursuant to Article 23(1)(2) of the Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria Act;

4. Personal Number (PN) of a citizen of the European Union;

5. date of birth;

6. gender;

7. relationships between household and family members;

8. permanent and current addresses;

9. citizenship;

10. residence status;
11. country and place of birth;
12. marital status;
13. number of live births;
14. level of education completed;
15. literacy;
16. participation in education;
17. ethnic group;
18. religion;
19. mother tongue;
20. status in employment — economically active or inactive;
21. profession and/or position;
22. name of enterprise or organisation and economic activity of the legal entity;
23. location of the place of work or the educational establishment;
24. transport means used to travel to the place of work or to the educational establishment;
25. internal and external migration of persons;
26. degree of permanently reduced working capacity or degree of disability.

(2) The data set out in subparagraphs 1 to 6, 8 and 9 shall be collected with regard to the persons referred to in Article 12(1)(6) to (8).

(3) The questions relating to the data set out in paragraph 1 are contained in the census card on households and household members.

(4) With respect to households, information regarding the number of persons and the number of temporarily present persons shall be collected.

Article 18. (1) The following data shall be collected with regard to residential buildings:

1. address of the building;
2. type of building;
3. location of the building;
4. year of construction;
5. type of building structure;
6. number of floors;
7. elevator availability;
8. number of dwellings in the building;
9. existence of other units in the building used for non-residential purposes;
10. accessibility of the building.

(2) The questions relating to the data set out in paragraph 1 are contained in the census card on residential buildings.

(3) With respect to residential buildings, data regarding the geographic coordinates of the entrances of the building shall also be collected.

Article 19. (1) The following data shall be collected with regard to dwellings:

1. address of the dwelling;
2. type of dwelling;
3. tenure status of the dwelling;
4. type of ownership;
5. total floor space;
6. number of premises and/or rooms;
7. kitchen and ancillary premises;
8. energy supply;

9. water supply and sewerage;
10. sanitary premises;
11. energy efficiency;
12. material provision and services.

(2) The questions relating to the data set out in paragraph 1 are contained in the census card on dwellings.

Chapter Four

DATA SOURCES

Article 20. (1) The data necessary for the census shall be collected directly from the natural persons who are units for surveying by the census, as well as from registers and databases.

(2) Natural persons are obliged to provide the data set out in Article 17(1), Article 18(1) and Article 19(1) except for the data set out in subparagraphs 17 to 19 and 26 of Article 17(1).

(3) Public authorities that keep registers and databases shall provide free of charge to the NSI the individual data and metadata necessary for the purposes of the census.

(4) Legal entities that provide public services pursuant to a statutory instrument and keep registers and databases shall provide free of charge to the NSI the individual data and metadata necessary for the purposes of the census.

(5) The information obtained from the registers and databases referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 shall be used to verify and ensure the scope and quality of the information collected.

Article 21. Data referred to in Articles 17 and 19 shall be collected by an enumerator using the census cards referred to in Article 17(3) and Article 19(2) or by completing an electronic census card on the Internet, and data referred to in Article 18 shall be collected by an enumerator using census cards referred to in Article 18(2).

Chapter Five

CENSUS PREPARATION AND CONDUCTING

Section I

Census Preparation

Article 22. (1) The National Statistics Institute shall organise, coordinate, conduct and control a preliminary round for collecting and updating information regarding residential buildings and addresses in order to zone the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria into control areas and census sections and compile the census lists.

(2) The preliminary round shall be conducted no later than 4 months before the census.

(3) Municipal census commissions shall participate in the preparation and conducting of the preliminary round in the territory of the municipality concerned.

(4) The Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Agency shall assist the implementation of the activities relating to the preliminary round by providing to the NSI up-to-date spatial data and related metadata from the cadastral map and the cadastral registers for the purposes of zoning and georeferencing of the addresses.

(5) The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry shall assist the implementation of the activities relating to the preliminary round by providing to the NSI the up-to-date digital

orthophoto map of the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and the metadata related to the map for the purposes of zoning and georeferencing of the addresses.

Article 23. After the preliminary round is completed, the NSI shall compile census lists and zone the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria into control areas and census sections in accordance with a methodology approved in advance.

Article 24. (1) The National Statistics Institute shall conduct a pilot census to verify the organisation and test the statistical toolkit for the census.

(2) The Chairperson of the NSI shall determine the settlements for the pilot census and shall coordinate them with the regional governors, mayors and deputy mayors.

(3) Regional governors, mayors and deputy mayors shall provide assistance for the organisation and conducting of the pilot census.

(4) The pilot census shall be conducted no later than 6 months before the census critical time.

Section II

Controllers, Enumerators and Escorts

Article 25. (1) The NSI shall conclude contracts with natural persons for the purposes of the census in compliance with the Obligations and Contracts Act.

(2) The contracts referred to in paragraph 1 shall be concluded by the Chairperson of the NSI or the Director of the territorial statistics office.

Article 26. (1) For the purpose of capturing certain categories of persons, enumerators appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Justice shall be used.

(2) The heads of medical treatment facilities and the managers of accommodation centres and social services, including those provided by licensed and/or registered providers, shall assist the Directors of territorial statistics offices in selecting enumerators and conducting the census in the sites concerned.

Article 27. (1) Controllers shall manage, control and assist enumerators in their respective areas and shall be responsible for the completeness of the data entered into the census cards.

(2) While performing their obligations, controllers shall comply with the Census programme and the instructions of the Chairperson of the NSI and in case of arising problems shall seek guidance from the municipal census commissions.

(3) Upon census closing controllers shall accept the census cards and documents from enumerators, prepare summarised tables containing data about the control area and submit them to the municipal census commissions.

Article 28. (1) Enumerators shall perform the primary data collection work and shall complete census cards in accordance with the instructions of the Chairperson of the NSI.

(2) Enumerators shall collect only the information regarding the units of surveying under this Act.

(3) Enumerators shall perform only the tasks assigned to them by the contracts.

Article 29. (1) If necessary, in settlements where enumerators encounter difficulties in their work, mayors or deputy mayors shall appoint escorts.

(2) Escorts shall assist enumerators and act upon their instructions.

Article 30. (1) The NSI shall issue to each controller, enumerator or escort an official card containing their names, official number, period of validity and photograph.

(2) A sample official card shall be publicised on the NSI's website and in the mass media.

(3) When visiting dwellings, controllers, enumerators and escorts must present their official cards.

(4) Official cards referred to in paragraph 1 shall be handed over together with the completed census cards and the census materials.

Article 31. (1) The regional structures of the Ministry of Interior shall assist controllers and enumerators when the latter perform their duties.

(2) The managers or chairpersons of the management boards of buildings or individual entrances under condominium ownership arrangements as well as the natural or legal persons who have been granted powers of condominium management boards or condominium managers in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Condominium Ownership Management Act shall also provide assistance.

Article 32. Controllers and enumerators shall attend training organised by the territorial statistics offices and the municipal census commissions.

Section III

Conducting the Census

Article 33. Persons shall be covered by the census as per place of usual residence.

Article 34. (1) The census by completing an electronic census card shall take place on the Internet between 0.00 a.m. on 22 January 2021 and 12.00 p.m. on 31 January 2021.

(2) The census through personal visits of enumerators to households, buildings and dwellings shall take place between 8.00 a.m. on 1 February 2021 and 8.00 p.m. on 15 February 2021.

Article 35. Controllers and enumerators shall visit all dwellings and buildings in their designated control areas and census sections every day between 8.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m.

Article 36. (1) The data set out in Article 17(1) and (4) shall be provided by the individuals interviewed during the census.

(2) Exceptions shall only be made for:

1. underage and minor household members;
2. persons placed under prohibitory injunction;
3. persons seriously ill;
4. military personnel participating in international operations and missions outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
5. persons temporarily absent.

(3) Data regarding persons referred to in paragraph 2 may be provided by the head of the household or another household member of age, the trustee or guardian.

(4) The data set out in Article 18(1) and Article 19(1) shall be provided by the head of the household or another household member of age.

Article 37. During the census, sample-based statistical surveys shall be conducted with respect to:

1. birth rate and reproductive behaviour of the population;
2. migration and migration behaviour of the population;
3. time budget.

Article 38. The National Statistics Institute shall conduct sample-based control surveys to verify if the registered data are accurate and if the units of surveying are fully covered.

Chapter Six

CONFIDENTIALITY OF DATA AND SECRECY

Article 39. (1) Individual data collected during the census constitute statistical secrecy and can only be used for statistical purposes.

(2) Individual data obtained for the purposes of the census may not be used as evidence before executive and judiciary authorities.

Article 40. (1) Persons involved in the preparation and conducting of the census, including persons involved in entering and processing data, may not disclose or provide any individual or aggregate data obtained during the census.

(2) The obligation of the persons referred to in paragraph 1 to maintain the secrecy shall also continue after the data has been processed.

(3) The persons referred to in paragraph 1 shall sign declarations of confidentiality.

Article 41. The National Statistics Institute shall ensure the protection of individual data by taking appropriate organisational and technical measures.

Article 42. The data subjects of personal data collected during the census may not enjoy the rights provided for in Articles 15, 16, 18 and 21 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (OJ, L 119/1 of 4.5.2016).

Chapter Seven

PROVISION OF CENSUS STATISTICS

Article 43. (1) The National Statistics Institute shall make the results of the census available to the public through the media, its website and its own publications or by any other appropriate means.

(2) The information collected during the census may not be provided or distributed in any manner whatsoever prior to the official announcement of the census results by the NSI.

(3) The census bodies may not disclose or provide:

1. individual statistics;

2. aggregate statistics which may be linked so as to identify a particular statistical unit.

(4) The information obtained in accordance with Article 20(3) and (4) shall not be provided to third parties.

Article 44. (1) The National Statistics Institute shall provide free of charge aggregate census data according to the List of Standard Statistical Indicators approved by the Chairperson of the NSI.

(2) Census statistics shall be provided free of charge to international statistical organisations if this is provided for in an international treaty to which the Republic of Bulgaria is a party.

(3) Statistics relating to spatial data shall be provided free of charge according to the List of Standard Statistical Indicators.

(4) Anonymised individual census data can be provided only for scientific purposes in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No. 557/2013 of 17 June 2013 implementing Regulation (EC) No. 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European Statistics as regards access to confidential data for scientific purposes and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No. 831/2002 (OJ, L 164/16 of 18.1.2013).

Chapter Eight

FUNDING

Article 45. (1) The costs necessary for the preparation, organisation, conducting, processing and publishing of the census results shall be covered from the central budget.

(2) The Council of Ministers shall adopt an estimate of the costs referred to in paragraph 1 at a proposal from the Chairperson of the NSI.

(3) The expenditure for the corresponding year shall be allocated according to the procedure laid down in Article 109(3) of the Public Finance Act.

Article 46. The Chairperson of the NSI shall prepare and present to the Ministry of Finance annual reports concerning the resources utilised on the preparation, conducting, processing and publishing of the census results.

Chapter Nine

ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY PROVISIONS

Article 47. Any person who refuses to provide to an enumerator the data set out in Articles 17 to 19 shall be penalised by a fine of BGN 160.

Article 48. Any controller, enumerator or other official involved in the census who fails to perform his or her obligations under this Act shall be penalised with a fine of between BGN 500 and BGN 1 000.

Article 49. Any official with access to individual census data who provides or uses said data to any purposes other than those specified in Article 39 shall be penalised with a fine of between BGN 2 000 and BGN 6 000 if the act does not constitute an offence.

Article 50. (1) Statements ascertaining violations shall be drawn up and served by the secretary of the municipal census commission.

(2) In pursuance of the statements drawn up, the Chairperson of the NSI or officials authorised thereby shall issue and serve penalty decrees.

(3) The drawing up of the statements, the issuance, appeal and execution of penalty decrees shall follow the procedure laid down in the Administrative Violations and Sanctions Act.

Article 51. Fines shall be paid as a revenue of the state budget.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

§ 1. (1) Any administrative-territorial and territorial changes are forbidden from the beginning of the preliminary round until the end of the census through enumerators.

(2) During the time period specified in paragraph 1, the Directorate General of Civil Registration and Administrative Services at the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works shall send to the NSI on a daily basis information about any changes made to the classifier of localisation units.

§ 2. Within the meaning given by this Act:

1. "Anonymised data" shall mean separate statistical records which, in line with the existing best practice, have been modified to minimise the risk of the statistical units to which they refer being directly or indirectly identified.

2. "Time budget" shall mean a study aimed at gathering data on the average time spent by people on different activities in their everyday lives.

3. "Temporarily absent persons" shall mean persons who are usually resident in the enumerated dwelling but are absent at the census critical time for less than one year and are staying in the territory of another settlement in the Republic of Bulgaria or abroad for purposes of holidays, visits to friends and relatives, recreation, business, medical treatment, religious pilgrimage, etc.

4. "Temporarily present persons" shall mean persons who are usually resident in the territory of another settlement in the Republic of Bulgaria or abroad but are present at the census critical time in the dwelling, hotel, holiday place, medical treatment facility, etc. subject to enumeration for less than one year for purposes of holidays, visits to friends and relatives, recreation, business, medical treatment, religious pilgrimage, etc.

5. "Geographic coordinates" shall mean information regarding the geographic latitude, the geographic longitude and the altitude in a given geographic coordinate system used to determine the location of a particular object on the surface of the Earth.

6. "Head of the household" shall mean the person acknowledged by the household members as a head of the household or the person who provides the basic means of existence.

7. "Household" shall mean a person who lives alone in a separate dwelling, room or part of a room and has a separate budget. Household shall also mean a group of two or more persons who live in a dwelling or part of a dwelling and have a common budget, regardless of whether said persons have or do not have a family relationship.

8. "Dwelling" shall mean a structurally separate and independent housing unit which is suitable for human habitation, consists of one or several premises (residential and ancillary) and has one or more independent exits to a publicly accessible part (staircase, common corridor, yard or directly to the street).

9. "Housing stock" shall mean living quarters and buildings, as well as the housing conditions and the relationship between the population and the living quarters at national, regional and local level.

10. "Residential building" shall mean a building which, according to its initial construction or through redevelopment, is intended for permanent human habitation and consists of one or more dwellings that occupy at least 60 per cent of its gross floor space.

11. "Individual data" shall mean data concerning an individual statistical unit, including personal data.

12. "Stateless person" shall mean a person who is not deemed a citizen of any state in accordance with said state's law.

13. "Material provision and services" shall mean movable and immovable property or services intended for household use that are used by the household.

14. "Population" shall mean the national, regional and local population at its usual residence at the census critical time.

15. "Non-residential building" shall mean a building which, according to its initial construction, is not intended for permanent human habitation. Non-residential buildings can be industrial, administrative (public-service), resort and other.

16. "Usual residence" shall mean the place where a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences for purposes of holidays, visits to friends and relatives, recreation, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage.

17. "Census lists" shall mean the addresses of the dwellings and buildings in the census section which are designated for a visit by the enumerator.

18. "Building" shall mean a permanent building that contains living quarters designed for human habitation, or conventional dwellings that are reserved for seasonal or secondary use or

that are vacant.

19. "Mixed use building" shall mean a building which, according to its initial construction, includes both residential and non-residential units.

20. "Statistical toolbox" shall mean a set of all documents and technical media required for the preparation, organisation and conducting of the census.

21. "Educational establishment" shall mean any school according to the Pre-school and School Education Act and the Higher Education Act.

§ 3. (1) This Act ensures the implementation of Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/712 of 20 April 2017 establishing the reference year and the programme of the statistical data and metadata for population and housing censuses provided for by Regulation (EC) No. 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ, L 105/1 of 21.4.2017).

(2) The provisions of this Act shall apply subject to the requirements of the implementing acts adopted by the Commission pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses (OJ, L 218/14 of 13.8.2008).

FINAL PROVISIONS

§ 4. The Chairperson of the NSI shall:

1. submit the Census Programme for approval by the Council of Ministers within three months of the entry into force of this Act;

2. issue instructions on the completion of the census cards and documents required for the census;

3. draw up a report on the main census results by 31 December 2021.

§ 5. The Prime Minister, on a proposal by the Chairperson of the NSI, shall appoint the Central Census Commission within two months of the entry into force of this Act.

§ 6. The implementation of this Act is entrusted to the Chairperson of the NSI.

This Act was passed by the 44th National Assembly on 21 February 2019, and the Official Seal of the National Assembly has been affixed thereto.