

The possible use of a person's identity number (PIN) allowed to combine information on the person existing in different registers, increased the accuracy of the census data, decreased the number of questions asked and the census costs.

From 11 May to 10 June 2000, an important activity to ensure the quality of the Population Census - the post-enumeration survey was conducted covering 1% of all census enumeration areas. The requirement to organise a sample survey for evaluation of the census coverage and census data quality is involved in the Recommendations of the UN ECE and "Eurostat". The analysis of the post-enumeration survey indicated insignificant differences if compared with the data obtained in the general census. Due to that the final census results were not corrected, and the results of the post-enumeration survey were reflected in the Census documentation and given for information of researchers.

CENSUS DATA PROCESSING IN THE CSB OF LATVIA

In order to accelerate the processing of census data compared with the traditional methods (as it was done at the previous population censuses), an up-to-date data entry and processing system and software basing on the technology of optical reading of characters were developed. In order to ensure the operation of this system at the envisaged speed and with a minimum level of errors, high requirements were put to the enumerators.

Using high-capacity, fast-acting scanners, information from 820 thsd Household questionnaires and over 2.100 thsd Person's questionnaires was entered into the computing system in 2 months.

At the same time, using the most recent developments in information technology and the corresponding provision with software, electronic archives for the storage of the basic census documents were developed.

The data processing system developed within the framework of the 2000 Population Census and used also for the processing of data in other statistical surveys shall be regarded as a lasting, secure investment. It will be useful also for short-term entry and processing of other large-scale data arrays.

CENSUS DATA PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION

In November 2000, the Report on activities performed for the Census preparation and carrying out together with the first most important provisional Census data were passed to the Government of Latvia and presented in the form of a press release to all interested parties and the general public.

At the beginning of April 2001, i.e., only 11 months after the census field operations had finished, the provisional results of the 2000 were published in a special bulletin.

In February 2002 all 578 municipalities of Latvia received a standardised set of more than 40 tables each with the census data of their municipality. These tables