

INFORMATIVE NOTE (multilingual version)
PERMANENT POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS 2021

October sees the start of the new edition of the permanent Census of Population and Housing, which takes place every year from October to December.

As of 2018, it is annual rather than ten-yearly and is carried out on a random basis, exclusively online.

In 2021, the sample consists of 2,472,400 households in 4,531 Italian municipalities.

The Census makes it possible to know the main structural and socio-economic characteristics of the population living in Italy, at national, regional and local level; to compare them with those of the past and of other countries.

Thanks to the integration of the data collected by the Census with those coming from administrative sources, Istat is able to return continuous and timely information, representative of the whole population, but also to guarantee a strong containment of costs and a reduction of the burden on households.

Participating in the Census is a legal obligation and violation of the obligation to respond carries a penalty.

How the Census is carried out

The households selected each year by ISTAT to take part in the Census can be involved in two different surveys:

- A) "Sample households" who receive a letter containing information about the Census and their access credentials will have to fill in the online questionnaire themselves, by accessing the ISTAT website directly.

They can request free assistance at the Istat toll-free number 800.188.802, or at one of the municipal survey centres.

- B) On the other hand, households living in "sample territories", where a municipal surveyor is expected to pass through, will be notified by a poster and an unnamed Census letter. These households will only have to participate with the support of the municipal surveyor, who will be able to give them information, fill in the online questionnaire together or indicate a municipal survey centre where they can be interviewed by an operator.

What does the questionnaire contain?

- A list of household members, i.e. all persons who have their usual residence in the dwelling, even if they are absent on the date of the survey.
- An "Accommodation" section, with questions about the characteristics of the house, the building and the availability of a car and parking space.
- A "Final Information" section containing questions on how to fill in and on communication channels.

Find out more about:

www.istat.it

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