

TECHNICAL NOTES

I. Introduction

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) conducted the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH) in September 2020, with 01 May 2020 as reference date.

The 2020 CPH was the 15th census of population and 7th census of housing that was undertaken in the Philippines since the first census in 1903. It was designed to take inventory of the total population and housing units in the country and collect information about their characteristics.

The Philippine Standard Geographic Codes as of March 2022 was used for the disaggregation of geographic levels of the 2020 CPH.

II. Data Collection

Information on marital status contained in this report is based on the responses of the household respondents in the 2020 CPH. Hence, these may be different from the figures in the 2020 Vital Statistics Report released by the PSA, wherein the number of registered marriages refers to the actual registration of marriage certificates, as recorded by the Local Civil Registrars (LCRs) and transmitted to the PSA.

The statistics presented in this report were based on the information provided by the respondent or any responsible household member who may provide accurate answers to the questions and give correct information about all the household members; hence, it should be used with caution.

III. Methodology

The population and housing censuses in the Philippines are conducted on a “de jure” basis, wherein a person is counted in the usual place of residence or the place where the person usually resides. The enumeration of the population and collection of pertinent data in the 2020 CPH referred to all living persons as of 01 May 2020.

IV. Concepts and Definition of Terms

A **household** is a social unit consisting of a person living alone or a group of persons who sleep in the same housing unit and have a common arrangement in the preparation and consumption of food.

Household population comprises of persons who belong to a household.

Institutional living quarter (ILQ) is a structurally separate and independent place of abode intended for habitation by large groups of individuals. Such a quarter

usually has certain common facilities such as a kitchen and dining room, toilet and bath, and lounging area which are shared by the occupants.

Institutional population comprises of persons who are found living in ILQs.

Sex is the biological and physiological reality of being a male or female.

Age refers to the interval between the person's date of birth and his/her last birthday before the census reference date. It is expressed in completed years or whole numbers.

Marital status refers to the personal status of an individual in accordance with the marriage laws or customs of the country. It is the same as civil status, the term usually used in official and private records, documents, and transactions in the country. The person's marital status shall be as of the date of visit. The categories of marital status are as follows:

- a) Single – a person who has never been married;
- b) Married – a person married in a religious, civil ceremony or tribal rites, either living with his/her spouse at the time of visit or temporarily living apart because his/her spouse is employed elsewhere (as in the case of a person whose spouse is an overseas worker, or works in the Armed Forces and residing somewhere else);
- c) Common-law/Live-in – a person cohabiting or living consensually with another person as husband and wife without the benefit of a legal marriage;
- d) Divorced – a person who is permanently separated from his/her spouse, legally or through mutual consent; also applicable for a person whose marriage with another person has been annulled or dissolved and can, therefore, remarry; and
- e) Unknown – a person whose marital status is unknown to the respondent or whose marital status is being concealed by the respondent/person himself/herself.

Highest grade/year completed refers to the highest grade or year completed in school, college, or university as of 01 May 2020. This may be any one of the specific grades or years in elementary, high school, K to 12 Program, and college. It may also be special needs education program, second-chance education program, or any of the post-secondary, short-cycle tertiary, college, and post baccalaureate courses.

Simple literacy is the ability of a person to read and write a simple message. As such, a person is said to be literate if he/she can both read and write a simple message in any language or dialect. A person who cannot read and write a simple message, such as "I CAN READ" is considered illiterate. Moreover, a person is still considered illiterate if he/she is capable of reading and writing only his/her own name or numbers. Similarly, a person is illiterate if he/she can read but not write or he/she can write but not read.

A person who knows how to read and write but at the time of the census can no longer read and/or write due to some physical defect or illness is still considered literate. Example of this is an aged person who knows how to read and write but can no longer perform these activities due to poor eyesight or hand injury. Persons with disability who can read and write through other means such as the use of Braille are considered literate.

Ethnicity is a primary sense of belonging to an ethnic group based on descent/blood relation/consanguinity. Ethnic group is consanguineous in nature, meaning, the ties are reckoned by blood and traced through the family tree. Thus, ethnicity refers to the household member's identity, by descent/blood relation/consanguinity and not by mere choice nor by adoption or confirmation by any ethnic group primarily the Indigenous Peoples (IPs).

Religious affiliation refers to a particular system of beliefs, attitudes, emotions, and behaviors constituting man's relationship with the powers and principalities of the universe. Moreover, religion is either defined as:

- a) religious or spiritual belief of preference, regardless of whether or not this belief is represented by an organized group, or
- b) affiliation with an organized group having specific religious or spiritual tenets.

V. Dissemination of Results

The 2020 CPH Press Release and statistical tables are publicly available at the PSA website, <https://psa.gov.ph/population-and-housing>.