

Scoping study for a Brazilian Rolling Census: options to spread data collection over time

Alvaro de Moraes Frota
IBGE, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil – alvaro.frota@ibge.gov.br

Andrea Diniz da Silva
IBGE, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil – adiniz@ibge.gov.br

Abstract

Over its 80 years of existence IBGE has been improving its methodologies and its work processes. For the population and housing censuses, the institution has to take into consideration the increasing demand for more current information than those produced every ten years, in addition to reduced respondent's cooperation and to the need to reduce costs. Seeking alternatives to help meet both the old and the new challenges, IBGE started a scoping study on new methodologies of census. The scoping study was concluded in 2014 and provided information on the impacts of the application of the rolling census methodology in Brazil. One of the important aspects considered was how to spread the data collection over time. The study took into consideration the aim of obtaining a good balance between quality of the estimates and cost of the operation. Six alternative ways of spreading data collection over time are presented in this paper.

Keywords: Census methodology, Brazilian census, rolling census, data collection.