



## What is a census: a register-based view

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Statistics Netherlands produced the tables for the Dutch Census 2011 by combining existing register and sample survey data. Since the last census based on a complete enumeration was held, in 1971, the willingness of the population to participate has fallen sharply. Statistics Netherlands no longer uses census questionnaires and has found an alternative in the register-based census, using only existing data. The register-based census is cheaper and more socially acceptable. The table results of the Netherlands are not only comparable with earlier Dutch censuses, but also with those of the other countries in the 2011 European Census Round. Statistics Netherlands plans to conduct a 2021 Census conform the relevant United Nations Census Recommendations.

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