

# Using The Census In Teaching Sociology

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## **Abstract.**

Data from the country's population census are of great importance in teaching sociology. In our republic, scientific information is very necessary for teaching sociology and studying the state of demographic processes. Using the example of the national census, the article examines methods of teaching sociology in New Uzbekistan as an important source of facts about demographic processes. The traditional purpose of the study is to express an opinion on the historical and modern stages of the official census using new scientific methods in historical demography. Undoubtedly, the participation of the people of the republic in this event is considered a necessary condition for democracy. At the end of the article, recommendations are presented for conducting a national census in New Uzbekistan.

**Key words:** census, program data, five or ten years, first census, primary source, principle, voluntary recruitment, snapshot of the population at a specific point in time, sociology, teaching methods, historical and demographic process, microlist, civil marriage, road map, statistical agency, Internet, tablet and paper methods, individual basis, person, individual information.

## **Introduction .**

In our independent state, where citizens, especially the younger generation, have the opportunity to think freely and critically, it is imperative to teach contemporary methods of sociology that align with modern demands. This article has been created precisely to address this need. In Uzbekistan, the national census serves as a crucial source for teaching sociology.

A modern individual cannot navigate life without understanding the social conditions of their environment. Every citizen has the right to express his or her thoughts freely and to be a contributing member of society. Consequently, a sociologist must be well versed in all data from the national population census. The participation of the republic's populace in the census, alongside the sociologist's role in data collection, is essential for democracy. In contemporary Uzbekistan, the national census serves as an indispensable resource for understanding the social fabric and informing sociological research. Historically, sociology was marginalized under previous regimes, but post-independence, there has been a resurgence in its application, particularly through demographic data analysis. This paper examines the role of the national census in shaping sociological inquiry and public policy, highlighting the pivotal contributions of scholars and legislative efforts aimed at modernizing census practices. The active involvement of sociologists in the preparation and execution of the population census is a significant scientific event, providing a foundation for studying historical and demographic processes. Therefore, the purpose of the first national population census is to comprehensively cover all stages of the official census, employing scientific methods of sociology in Uzbekistan.

In numerous countries, legal frameworks have been strengthened to regulate the census. To enhance scientific research, including sociology, a nationwide census in Uzbekistan is planned for 2025-2026. The census regulations clarify which categories of citizens, households, enterprises, and institutions are subject to registration, who will collect the data, and the format of the questionnaires. Additionally, rules for recruiting census takers, their responsibilities, and census procedures are being developed.

**Literature review.** Based on the literature review it should be noted, that based on the study of scientific works, professors N.S. Alikorieva, R.T. Ubaidullaeva, M.Kh. Ganieva, A.Ya. Kholbekova, K. Kalonova, B.A. Farfiyeva [2], R.A. Ubaidullaeva, M.B. Bekmurodova, O.B. Ata-Mirzaeva [3], M. Kyrgyzboeva [4] obtained the necessary and significant data on the subject of sociology. They argue that

under the previous regime, sociology was initially denied and later marginalized despite its global significance. For example, in the work of Anthony Giddens, one of the largest sociologists of the 20th century, who also analyzed these problems in his works and proved that, indeed, modern Sociology as a science is a mirror of society [5].

Under the totalitarian regime in Uzbekistan, no sociology textbooks or teaching aids were created, and highly qualified specialists were not trained. Only after gaining independence did it become possible to create such textbooks and teaching aids as the works of I. Negmatov [6], M.N. Normamatova [7], G.G. Tagieva [8], M.B. Sherov [9], D.Kh. Bakhrieva [10], M.U. Tangirova [11] and R.K. Yusupov [12] which emerge, enriching the scientific and educational literature with new materials. Thanks to the research conducted by the above authors, scientific and educational literature in Uzbek, Russian and Tajik languages on sociology has been replenished with new textbooks, teaching aids, brochures and scientific articles. In the new Uzbekistan, a great number of conferences were held on sociology and sociological research [13], however, during the years of independence, the population census as the most important primary source was still not carried out.

According to the adopted laws and regulations, the population census was to be carried out throughout the entire territory of Uzbekistan. Or a population census for individual regions had to be carried out every five or ten years. During the period of population censuses, where personal data is collected to determine the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population in the established procedure for their processing. The main goal of the census is to obtain reliable information about the state of the social structure of the population and the dynamics of population development in Uzbekistan, necessary for determining and implementing state policy priorities in the field of socio-economic and socio-political development [14].

### **Methods and results**

This research utilizes a qualitative approach, reviewing literature from prominent Uzbek sociologists and analyzing legislative documents related to the national census. The study also incorporates historical census data to contextualize current demographic trends and socio-economic conditions. Methodological frameworks from international standards, such as those proposed by the United Nations, are applied to assess the robustness of the upcoming census.

The analysis indicates that the absence of a comprehensive census since 1989 has posed significant challenges to demographic research in Uzbekistan. However, the planned national census for 2025-2026, supported by recent legislative measures, is poised to fill this gap. The regulations specify the categories of citizens to be included, the structure of data collection instruments, and the responsibilities of census personnel. This complete agenda is expected to yield reliable demographic data crucial for policy development.

### **Main part.**

In the context of independence, a population census was not conducted in Uzbekistan despite the fact that it is imperative to take into account the population of a country, region, city or district, it is necessary to know age, gender, national and religious composition, birth rates, mortality and natural increase, age at marriage, and divorce information collected during population censuses. In each country, the government, regional, city, district authorities and its local statistical bodies usually cope with the issues how many people are born and die per year, what is the population growth, how many people move and leave (migrate) annually. Population surveys are conducted through a comprehensive census or ongoing records, covering a range of demographic and social data. Current population records include records of births, deaths, arrivals and departures for each year.

The census, conducted on a large scale, collects detailed information on households, including year of birth, gender, social origin, nationality, native language, and more. Furthermore, the number of people living in the household, year of birth, gender, social origin, nationality, native language, social status, number of children, age and other data has to be thoroughly analyzed. Most countries conduct censuses every five or ten years. The census program covers age, nationality, language skills, education, living conditions, sources of income and other issues. The survey is conducted in the national language, and respondents who do not speak the state language can participate in the survey in their native language or another freely chosen language of communication. The final registration data will be open to legal entities and individuals, published in the media and posted on the official website of the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The research methodology was analyzed in the works of R.T. Ubaydullaeva [15] and P.L. Berger [16]. These works widely use the problems of demographic development of society, which had their reflections, current social processes in the public consciousness for scientific, educational and methodological purposes. Also the scientific article by M.Kh. Ganieva "Sociology in Uzbekistan: state and prospects" [17] was widely used methodologically. This article, opinions on the priority directions and prospects for the development of sociological science in Uzbekistan are of particular importance.

It is noteworthy that the last complete population census in Uzbekistan was conducted in 1989. The annual census and the current population count must be closely linked, as fertility, mortality, immigration and emigration rates have changed in recent years. This study also used an analysis of sources at the intersection of historical demography and methods of teaching sociology.

The United Nations has issued guidelines for global census preparation and implementation. An annual demographic summary and a report on the world population census are published, highlighting the importance of these events in collecting and analyzing comprehensive demographic data, which are crucial for the socio-economic development of each country. A population census is an event carried out during a certain period of time, during which all information about the population is collected, the data is assessed, analyzed and the results are published. The census collects demographic, economic and social data by interviewing every person in the country. The purpose of the census is to collect data on population size, composition, location and social status. These data play an important role in the economic and social life of each country [8].

According to sources, by the 19th century the population census had expanded significantly. Statistical organizations were created in a number of European countries, and population censuses were carried out based on scientific programs. At the end of the 19th century, 21 percent of the world's population was registered in the census, and at the beginning of the 20th century, 54 percent of the total world population was covered by the census.

After World War II, the census system was improved. The modern stage of the population census began in the middle of the 20th century. Population censuses were conducted in a number of Asian and African countries. In the 1970s, populations were first recorded in countries such as Yemen, the UAE and Saudi Arabia. By the end of the 20th century, the population census covered almost all regions of the world. Currently, almost all countries in the world conduct a population census.

When studying demographic processes in our Republic of Uzbekistan, population census data is of great importance. The first population census on the territory of Uzbekistan was carried out in 1897, when some of the population of our country was part of the Turkestan General Government. These data helped to create an idea of the demographic processes of Uzbekistan at the end of the 19th century, such as the number of families, age and gender, ethnic composition, fertility and mortality of the population. Population censuses were conducted in Uzbekistan in 1926, 1939, 1959, 1970, 1979 and 1989. 35 years have passed since the last population census, which has created difficulties in studying the real lifestyle of the population and providing them with practical assistance.

In the modern era, on June 10, 2015, the UN adopted a resolution on "Principles and Recommendations for the Conduct of the 2020 Population and Housing Census." According to it, UN member states were required to conduct a population and housing census at least once. In the CIS countries, including the new Uzbekistan, preparations for this process have begun.

According to this, the Presidential Decree of February 5, 2019 "On approval of the concept of conducting a population census in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2022" [19] and the law "On the population census", signed on March 16, 2019 [20], which began to serve legal basis in this regard. The law regulates relations in the field of population census on the territory of Uzbekistan, and it is aimed at obtaining the necessary official statistical information about the population. According to the law, the collection of personal data about the population, their processing, the formation of demographic, economic and social information, analysis, generalization and dissemination are carried out according to certain rules [20]. It is important to emphasize that, according to the adopted and approved regulatory acts in Uzbekistan, participation of the population in the census is mandatory [19].

During the period of preparation and conduct for the population census in 2023, a resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures for the preparation and conduct of the 2023 population census in the Republic of Uzbekistan" was adopted [21]. It states that one of the goals of the

census is to compare population census data with the results of previous censuses, determine the dynamics of changes in population size and demographic characteristics, and create a database for comparative analysis.

**Conclusion.** In conclusion, organizing and conducting a population census requires substantial resources. As Uzbekistan prepares for the 2025 census, regulations, forms, and instructions have been developed, and census personnel are being trained. Public awareness campaigns emphasize the census's importance, with international cooperation providing valuable experience and methodological support.

The population census is crucial for socio-economic development, offering reliable data on population characteristics, which underpin effective decision-making and public policy in socio-economic and demographic spheres. The 2025 census in Uzbekistan represents a significant step toward enhancing governance and improving citizens' living conditions. Measures were taken to explain to the population the importance and necessity of participating in the census. In this regard, cooperation with international organizations such as the UN, the World Bank and the WTO (World Trade Organization) is of particular importance to use their experience and methodological assistance in conducting the population census.

The population census is of great importance for ensuring the socio-economic development of the country. The data collected during the census can be widely used and make it possible to obtain reliable information about the size, qualitative composition and characteristics of the population, which is the basis for making effective management decisions and implementing public policy in the field of socio-economic, demographic and socio-political development. Conducting a population census in Uzbekistan in 2025 will be an important step towards improving the quality of governance and improving the living conditions of the population.

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