

Overview of the importance of PHCs and evolution of census approaches over time

Part I

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Outline

- ❑ 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses
- ❑ UNSD methodological framework
- ❑ Overview of trends in the use of technology in census operations
- ❑ Findings from UNSD survey on 2020 round censuses
- ❑ Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on PHCs



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2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme

- ❑ The 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme was approved by the Statistical Commission at its 46th session and adopted by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on 10 June 2015 (in resolution E/RES/2015/10)

- ❑ The 2020 Word Programme:
 - ❖ Urges Member States:
 - conduct at least one PHC in the period from 2015 to 2024
 - take into account international and regional recommendations relating to PHC
 - give attention to advance planning, cost efficiency, timely dissemination & easy access to census results
 - set quality standards for PHC to uphold the integrity, reliability, accuracy & value of PHC results
 - take into account the importance of PHC for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
 - ❖ Mandates UNSD:
 - prepare international statistical standards, methods and guidelines for the conduct of PHCs
 - coordinate activities among stakeholders in assisting Member States to plan and carry out PHCs
 - monitor and regularly report to the Statistical Commission on implementation of the Programme
 - provide technical assistance to countries in conducting PHCs



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UNSD methodological framework for PHC

Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 3
(2015)

Handbook on Management of Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2
(2016)

Technical Report on Post Enumeration Surveys (2010)

Handbook on GIS in support of Census Activities (2009)
Under review

Handbook on Measuring Economic Activity (2010)
Revised under E-learning course

Handbook on Measuring International Migration through censuses (2017)
NEW

Guidelines on the use of registers and administrative data for population and housing censuses (ECE 2018)
NEW

Guidelines on the Use of Electronic Data Collection Technologies in Population and Housing Censuses (2019)
NEW

Handbook on Editing for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2 (2019)
NEW

Technical Report on Measuring SDG Indicators through Population and Housing Censuses and Civil Registration Data (2021)
NEW

Handbook on Registers-based Population and Housing Censuses (2022)
NEW



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UNSD methodological framework for PHCs

- ❑ **New Handbook - Registers-based Population and Housing Censuses**
 - Objective - to provide advice and guidance to national statistical authorities that are considering changing census methodology from traditional census to other approaches involving the use of administrative registers and/or administrative data sources
 - It discusses the process of transitioning from the traditional census to a combined or fully register-based censuses
 - Consists of five chapters:
 - ✓ Introduction
 - ✓ Moving to a register-based approach
 - necessary preconditions, census-specific preconditions, difficulties and challenges
 - ✓ Types of administrative sources
 - base registers and specialized registers
 - ✓ Transforming administrative data into census data
 - creating a statistical population register and integrated registers for census information
 - ✓ Quality assessment
 - source quality, input quality, process quality and output quality
 - Link: https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/session_53/documents/BG-3e-Handbook-E.pdf



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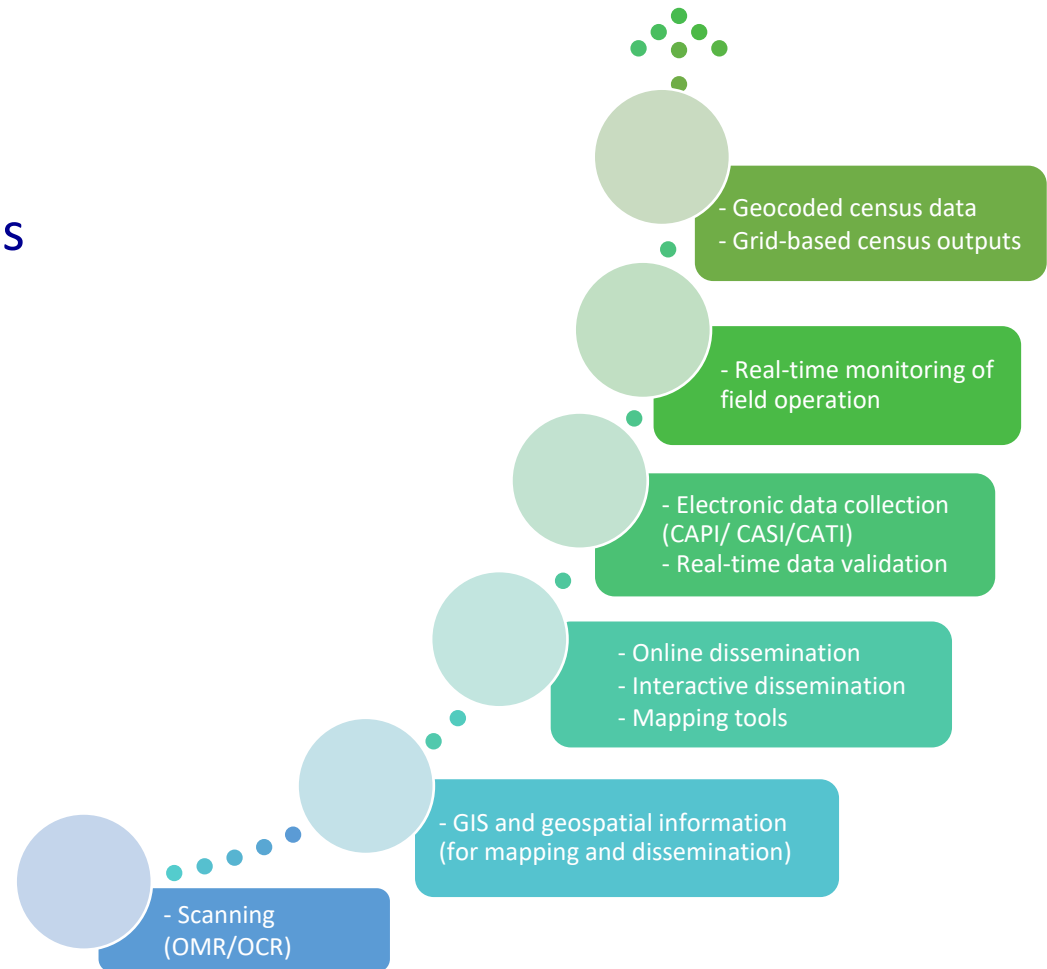


Overview of trends in the use of technology in PHC

- ❖ Mapping
- ❖ Data collection
- ❖ Management and monitoring of field operations
- ❖ Dissemination

Impact of technology on quality of census results:

- Improved accuracy of data
- Improved timeliness of census results
- Enhanced dissemination and accessibility of data
 - Online dissemination
 - Interactive databases
 - Mapping tools



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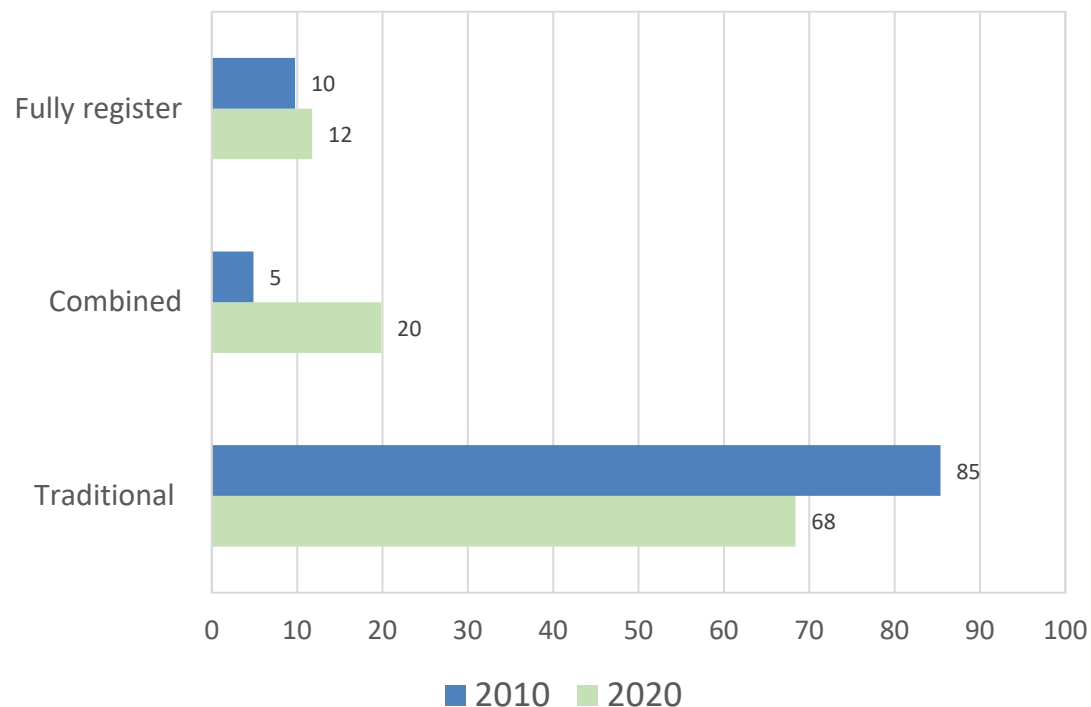
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Findings from UNSD survey on 2020 round censuses

Proportion of countries by census methodology (%)
(2010 and 2020 census rounds)



- A growing number of countries plan to change census methodology from the traditional to other approaches involving the use of administrative data sources, mainly because of:
 - high costs
 - increasing non-response
 - request for more timely information
- Significant progress observed in terms of:
 - coverage of birth and death registers
 - providing legal identity for all
- These developments create opportunities for planning to change census methodology from the traditional to other approaches using registers

Sources: UNSD surveys conducted in 2013 (126 responses) and 2022 (137 responses)



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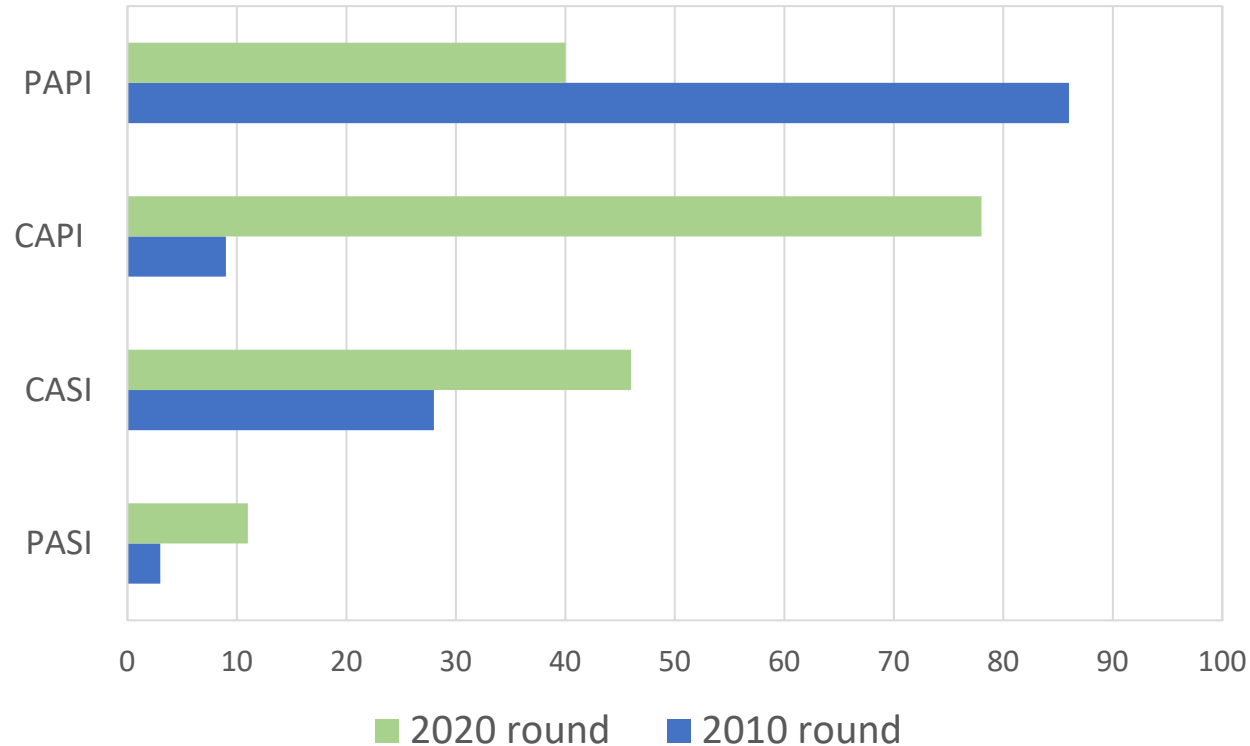
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Findings from UNSD survey on 2020 round censuses

Proportion of countries by mode of data collection (%)
(2010 and 2020 census rounds)



In 2020 round:

- Nearly 80% of countries used tablets or smart phones (CAPI) for data collection
- Almost half of countries adopted online questionnaire (CASI)
- In most countries, multi-mode data collection is used, whereby electronic questionnaires (CAPI or CASI) are used in combination with paper questionnaires (PAPI or PASI)

PAPI - Paper questionnaire with face-to-face interview

CAPI - Computer-assisted personal interview

CASI - Computer-assisted self-interview

PASI - Paper questionnaire with self-interview

Source: UNSD surveys conducted in 2013 (126 responses) and 2022 (137 responses)



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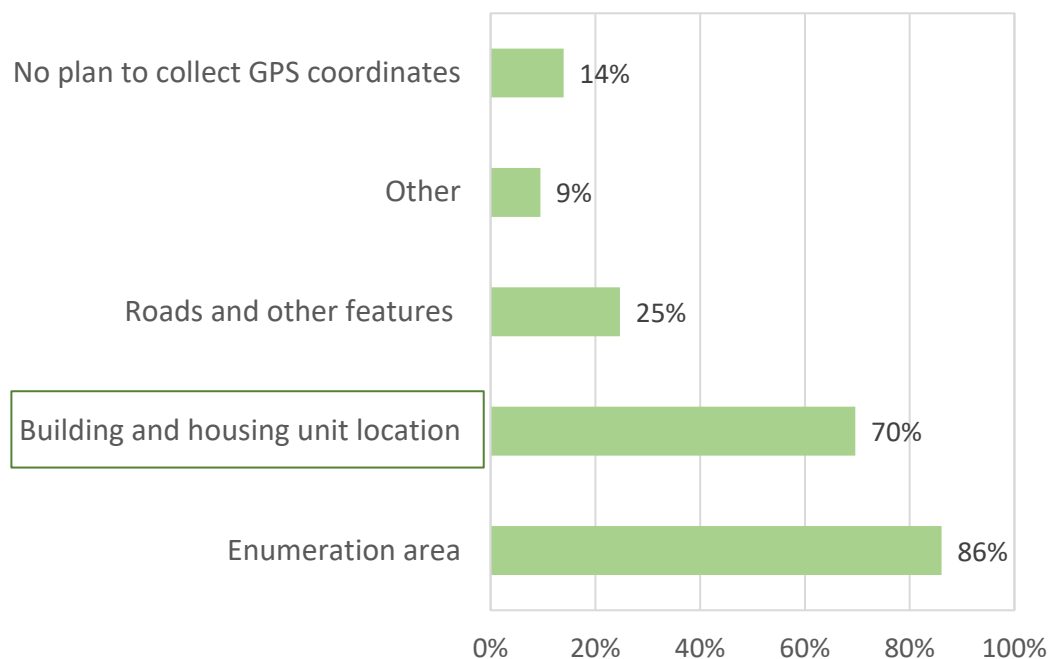
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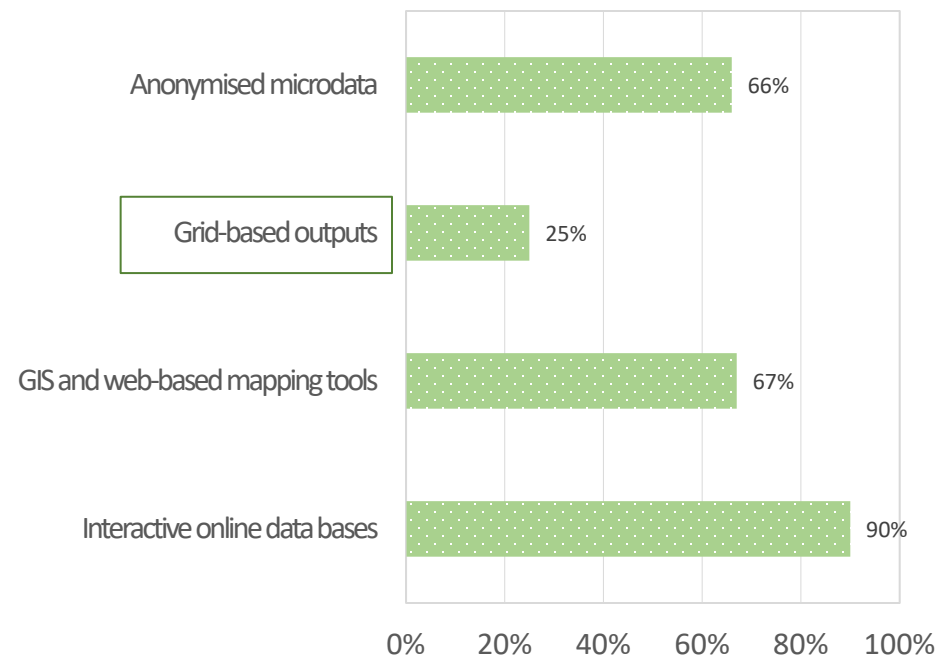


Findings from UNSD survey on 2020 round censuses

Proportion of countries that collected or planned to collect geographic coordinates (%)



Proportion of countries that developed or planned to develop specific dissemination tools (%)



Source: UNSD survey conducted in 2019 (138 responses)



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UNSD activities on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on censuses

- ❖ On 11 March 2020, WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic

- ❖ UNSD, as secretariat of the 2020 World Programme recognized the need to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on PHCs and conducted a series of activities:
 - Conducted four surveys to monitor the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic
 - ✓ March 2020; September 2020; December 2020-January 2021; Sept-Dec 2022)
 - Issued a technical guidance notes on Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for Census (UFPA and UNSD) (September 2020)
 - 1st EGM (virtual) on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on conducting censuses and on census data quality concerns (9-12 February 2021)
 - Launched a dashboard to monitor the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic (April 2021)
 - UN/DESA Policy Brief #118, Policy Implications of the disruption of the implementation of the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme due to the COVID-19 pandemic (October 2021)
 - 2nd EGM (virtual) on the impact of Covid-19 on conducting PHCs and on census data quality concerns (2-5 Nov 2021)
 - 3rd (final) EGM on the impact of Covid-19 on PHCs and data quality (planned for 12-14 Dec 2022)



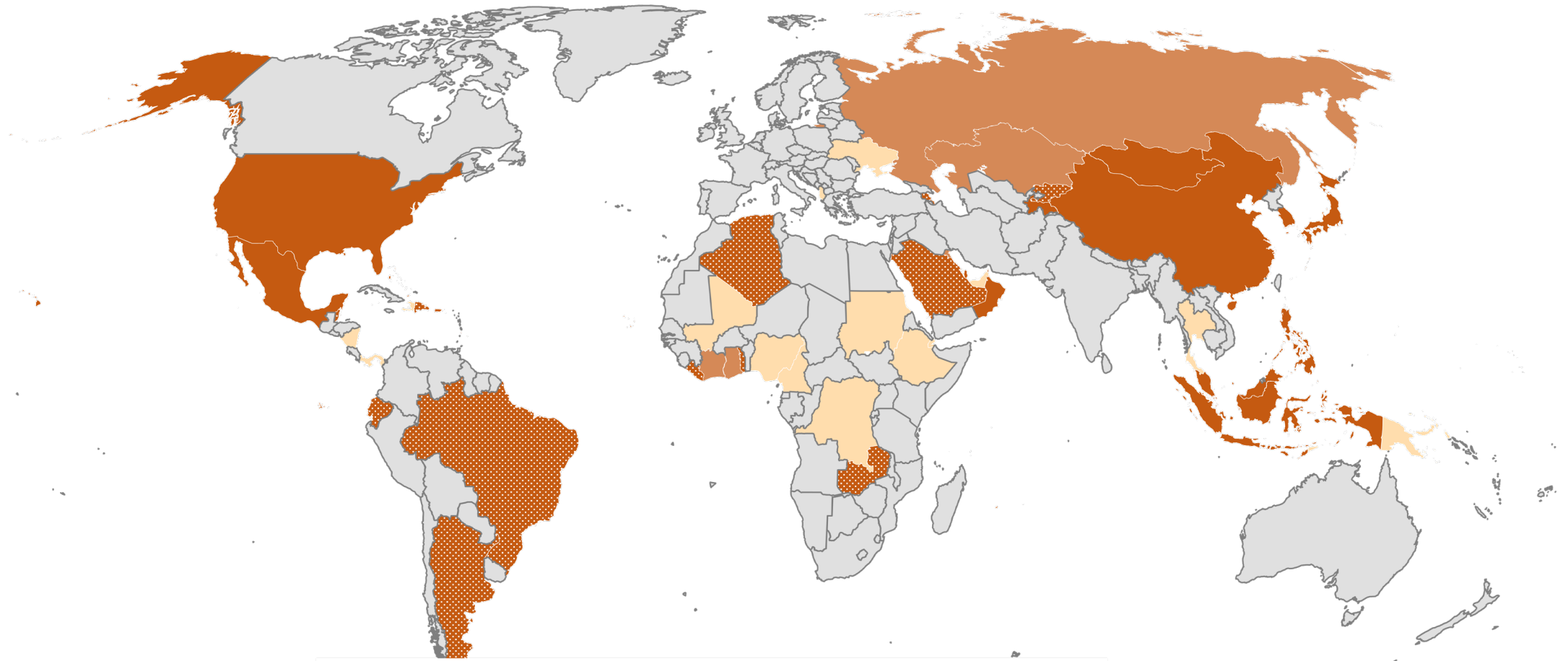
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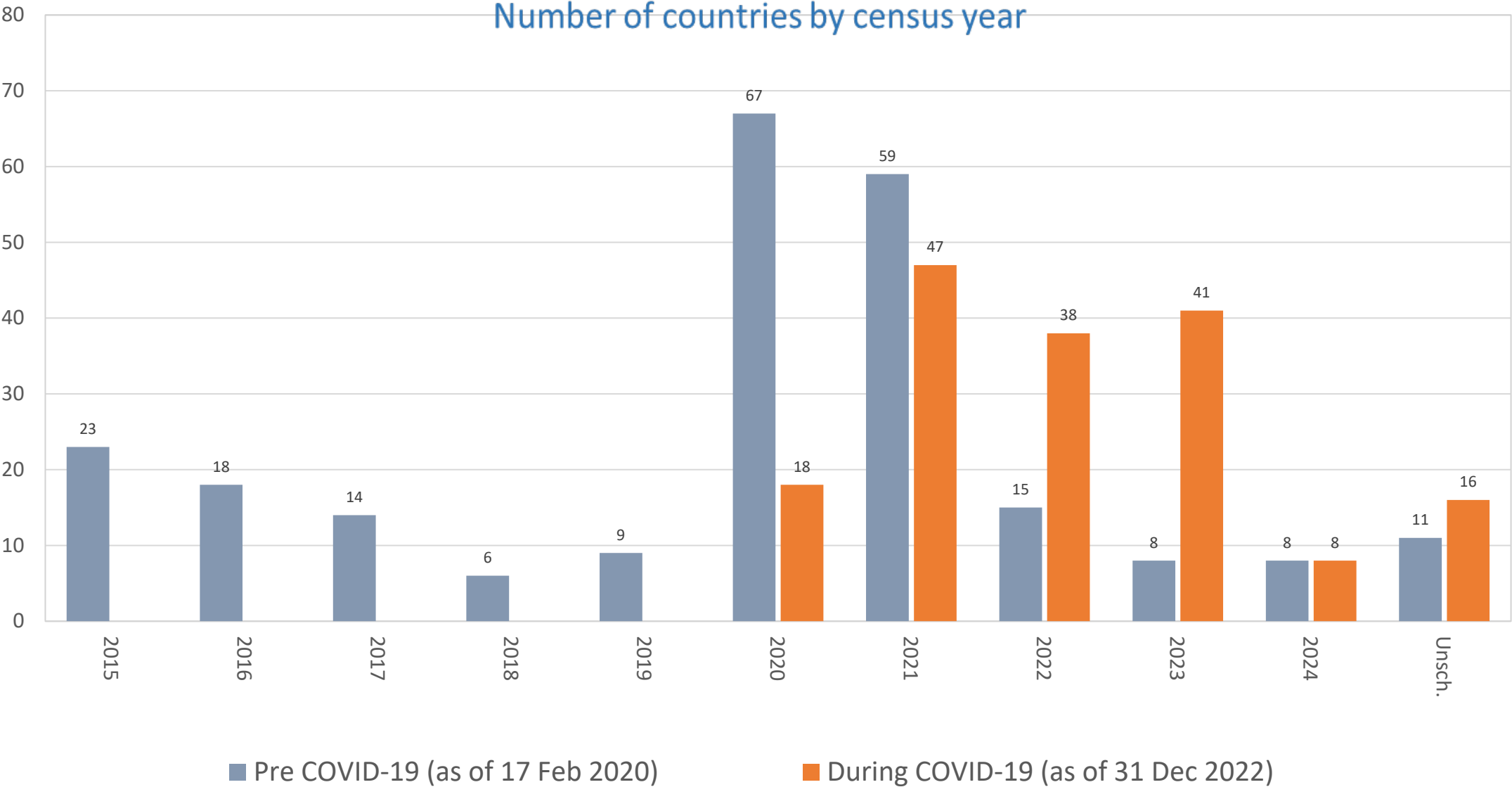


Impact of COVID-19 on censuses scheduled in Year=2020



- Census scheduled/expected in 2020, conducted in 2020
- Census scheduled/expected in 2020, conducted in 2021
- Census scheduled/expected in 2020, conducted in 2022
- Census scheduled/expected in 2020, planned for 2023 or beyond

Impact of COVID-19 on the 2020 round census schedule (2015-2024)



- 238 countries/areas monitored.
- Only the earliest census (first census in the decade) is considered for countries that conduct more than one census per decade (eg. Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, etc).
- Countries that compile census statistics from registers (ie. no field operations) were not significantly affected by COVID (which is the case for several European countries in 2021).