What is a Census?
A census is a count of all people in the country. It also provides information about the demographic, social and economic characteristics of the population.

Why take a Census?
Every country needs a Census to plan ahead. How many of us live in this country, town or locality? How many are men, women and children? How many are old enough to vote? What kind of jobs are we doing? How many have moved out to live in other parts of the country? The Census helps to answer these questions and many others.

Who uses Census data?
The information collected is used by policy makers to make plans for improving the living conditions of the people, for building houses, roads, schools and training centres, health centres, baby care centres, old people’s homes and industrial estates, etc... The census thus helps to respond to the needs of the population and to improve their living conditions.

Other users include private sector, academia, students, NGO’s, media and international organisations.

Is my participation compulsory?
Participation at the Census is compulsory by law.

Is the Census safe for me?
Statistics Mauritius will not share your individual information with anyone, including government and non-government agencies. Census Officers as well as other officers having access to the questionnaires have taken oath of non-disclosure and will keep your answers confidential. The law provides penalties, including imprisonment, regarding any breach of confidentiality.

How do I recognize a Census Officer?
A Census Officer holds a special identity card issued by the office with his/her photo on it. The card is signed by the Acting Director of Statistics and it bears the stamp of Statistics Mauritius.

Qui est-ce qu’un recensement?
Le recensement est une opération qui permet de compter la population résidant au pays. Il fournit des informations sur le nombre d’habitants et sur leurs caractéristiques démographiques, sociales et économiques.

À qui sert le recensement?

Le recensement éclaire les décisions publiques en matière de construction des maisons, des routes, des écoles et centres de formation, des centres de santé, des maternités, des hospices pour les personnes âgées, des zones industrielles, etc... Le recensement permet donc de mieux répondre aux besoins de la population et d’améliorer leur quotidien.

Les autres utilisateurs incluent le secteur privé, le milieu universitaire, les étudiants, les ONG, les médias et les institutions internationales.

Suis-je obligé d’y participer?
Participer au recensement est une obligation légale.

Le recensement est-il sécurisé pour moi?
D’après la législation, Statistics Mauritius ne communiquera vos réponses individuelles à personne, ce qui inclut les organismes gouvernementaux et non-gouvernementaux. Les agents recenseurs, ainsi que toutes les personnes ayant accès aux formulaires, ont fait le serment qu’ils garderont vos réponses confidentielles. Ceux qui enfreignent la loi sont passibles d’une amende, allant jusqu’à l’emprisonnement.

Comment reconnaître l’agent recenseur?
L’agent recenseur détient une carte d’identification spéciale émise par le bureau avec sa photo dessus. La carte est signée par le Directeur des Statistiques par intérim et porte le sceau de Statistics Mauritius.

HOTLINE 800 8500
http://statsmauritius.govmu.org

Important to Remember
Census Night is the night of 3-4 July 2022.
Historical timeline of population censuses in Mauritius:

- **1786**: Ordinance passed for censuses to be taken on 1st January every year.
- **1830-1831**: Last annual census taken.
- **1846**: First complete census for the Island of Mauritius, then known as Isle de France, taken under the governorship of Mahé de Labourdonnais.
- **1851**: First annual census taken after the passage of the ordinance.
- **1861**: Actual enumeration of inhabitants in the Island of Mauritius for the first time.
- **1871**: Housing Census was also conducted.
- **1891**: Seychelles was separated from Mauritius in administration and its results were released separately.
- **1901**: Census due in 1941 postponed to 1944 due to outbreak of the Second World War.
- **1952**: First census undertaken by the office after its creation in 1945.
- **1972**: First census conducted after Mauritius gained its independence in 1968.
- **1983**: First census conducted after Mauritius gained its independence in 1968.
- **2022**: Statistics Mauritius goes green with census data collection done on tablets for the first time.

**Censuses:**

- **1830-1831**: Last annual census taken.
- **1846**: First complete census for the Island of Mauritius, then known as Isle de France, taken under the governorship of Mahé de Labourdonnais.
- **1851**: First annual census taken after the passage of the ordinance.
- **1861**: Actual enumeration of inhabitants in the Island of Mauritius for the first time.
- **1871**: Housing Census was also conducted.
- **1891**: Seychelles was separated from Mauritius in administration and its results were released separately.
- **1901**: Census due in 1941 postponed to 1944 due to outbreak of the Second World War.
- **1952**: First census undertaken by the office after its creation in 1945.
- **1972**: First census conducted after Mauritius gained its independence in 1968.
- **1983**: First census conducted after Mauritius gained its independence in 1968.
- **2022**: Statistics Mauritius goes green with census data collection done on tablets for the first time.

**Population Highlights:**

- **1851-1931**: Censuses were taken every ten years.
- **1830-1831**: Around 374,000 persons were enumerated and classified as:
  - Europeans, whites, mixed and coloured
  - Africans
  - Indians and Chinese

**Key Events:**

- **1851-1952**: Censuses were taken every ten years.
- **1952-1972**: From 1851 to 1931, censuses were taken every ten years.
- **1983**: Census was scheduled for 1982 was postponed to 1983 because of parliamentary elections in 1982.
- **1990**: Data processing done at office for the first time using micro computers.
- **2011**: Scanning technology was used for the first time.
- **2022**: Digital census, a key feature of the 2022 round, will save the country from the printing of some 800,000 questionnaires.