

Pre-requirement for a register-based census

Examples from Population and housing censuses in Norway

Regional Training

Producing Register-based Population Statistics in developing countries

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Framework for a register-based census

Exactly the same as for register-based statistics in general

- Legal base
- Public approval
- Unified identification system
- Comprehensive and reliable register systems
- Cooperation with register owners

- What element are most important in a census?

Typical for censuses

- Covering the total population
- Units: Persons, families, households and dwellings/housing units
- Persons and dwellings must be linked
- Many variables from different sectors
 - Demography, migration, education, labour market, income, family and household characteristics, housing
- Consistency between variables
- Necessary to combine data from several statistical registers for the total population

Legal base

- Statistics act
- Special legislation for censuses

Public approval

- Data bases with a large number of variables
- Data protection is a critical issue
- The associations when using the word “census”?

Unified identification system

- Available for all parts of register system?
- Necessary to link persons and dwellings

Comprehensive and reliable register systems

- Main challenge for register-based census
- Base registers must exist or be established: Population register and dwelling register
- Register systems covering all census variables
 - Alternative: Combined census
- Possible to use sample surveys for some variables?
 - Existing survey (labour force survey, household survey)
 - Sample survey as a part of census operation
- Are there variables that will never be available in registers?
 - Ethnicity, literacy?

Registers/register systems used in Census 2011 in Norway

- Population register
 - Place of living, demography, migration, families, households
- Register of addresses, buildings and dwellings
 - Housing, geographical characteristics
- Business register
 - Self-employment, place of work, industry
- Job registers
 - Current activity status (employment), occupation, status in employment
- Register of unemployment
 - Current activity status (unemployment)

Registers/register systems used in 2011 Census in Norway (cont)

- Register of education
 - Educational attainment, current activity status (students)
- Pensions registers
 - Current activity status (pensions)
- Income registers
 - Income, current activity status (self-employed, capital income)
- Register of vehicles
 - Private cars in household

Norwegian Censuses 1960 - 2011

- 1960: Last fully traditional census
 - Census data used to establish CPR (in 1964)
- 1970 Census: Mainly traditional
 - Census used to
 - Check and update CPR
 - Establish Register of Education (in SN)
- 1980 Census: Questionnaires shortened and sent by mail
 - Registers used to rationalise data collection: Mail out – mail back
 - ◆ No enumerators
 - Demographic variables taken from CPR

Norwegian Censuses 1960 – 2011 (2)

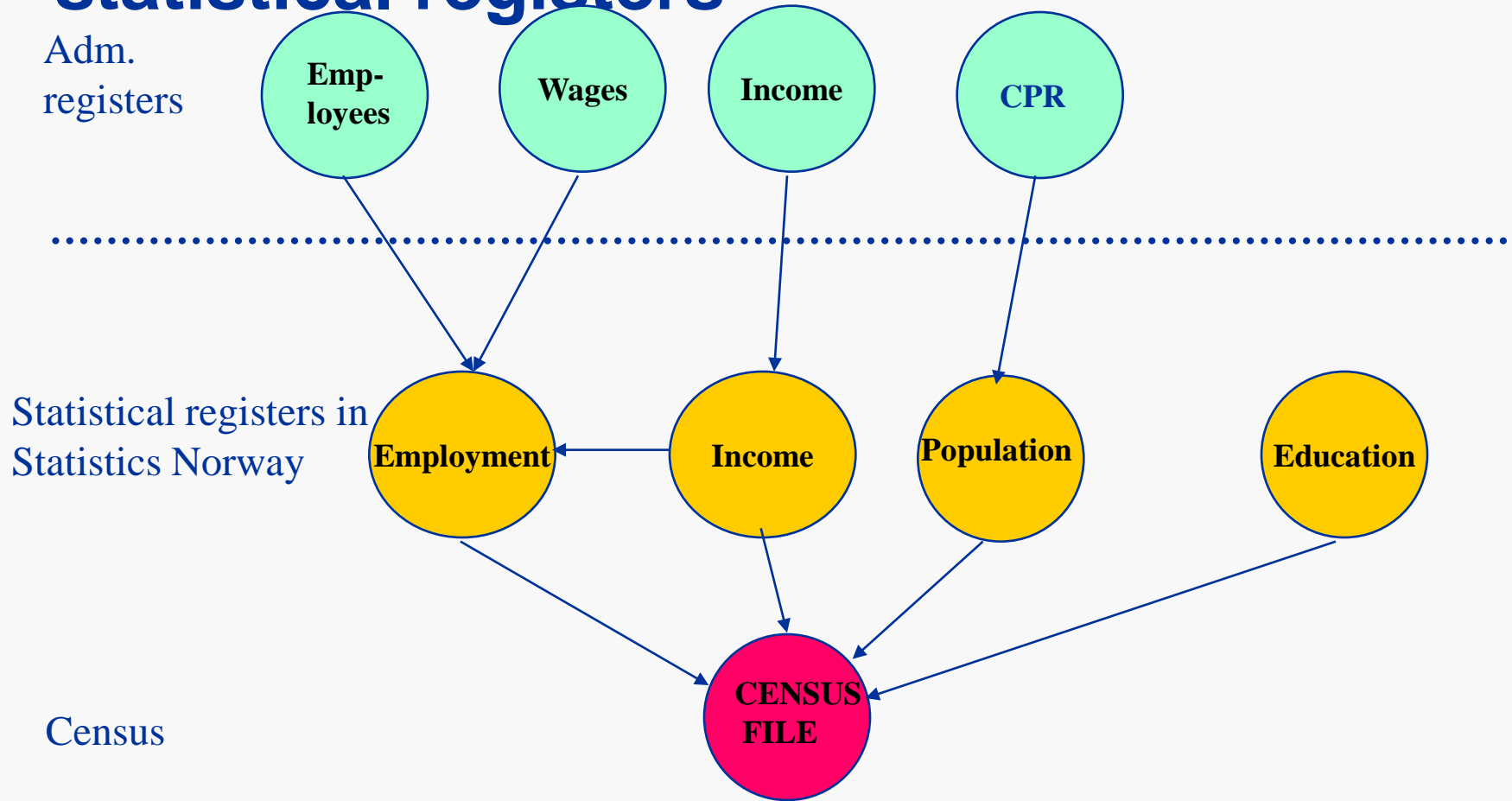
- 1990 Census
 - Register data on demography, education, income, geographical characteristics
 - Questionnaires for data on labour market, households and housing
 - ◆ Sample survey
 - ◆ Labour market register used in estimation
- 2001 Census
 - All data on persons from registers
 - Data on families and households based on registers and questionnaires
 - Housing data based on questionnaires
 - Full coverage survey (all households)
- 2011 Census: Totally register-based

Development of register-based censuses

Two main trends:

1. Extensive use of census data in establishing registers
2. Step-by-step development
 - Subject matter statistics tested and published in different areas
 - Register data introduced in censuses when quality is sufficient
 - Time from register established to data used in census may vary
 - Census is an integrated part of a register-based statistical system

Census data from registers – re-use of statistical registers



What is needed to conduct a register-based census?

- Access to register data on an individual level
 - Aggregated data from registers is not enough
- Possibility to link data
- Establish a statistical register system
- Data for all sectors must be available

Register based census is not the start of the process, it is the end!

Thank you for your attention !