

SRI LANKA

Department of Census and Statistics, Ministry of Finance and Planning

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## Census of Population and Housing -1971

Study Documentation

November 6, 2009

# Metadata Production

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Production Date	November 23, 2009
Version	Version 1.0 (February 2008).
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**SRI LANKA (1970-1971)**  
**Census of Population and Housing -1971 (CPH 1971)**

Overview	
Type	Population and Housing Census [hh/popcen]
Identification	LKA-DCS-CPH-1971-v1.0
Version	Production Date: 2009-03-23 v1.0: Full edited dataset, original version for internal DPD use.
Series	Sri Lanka has a long history of census taking. The first scientific census was conducted in 1871. Since then censuses have been conducted once in ten years with certain exceptions. The 1971 Census of Population is particularly significant in the history of regular census taking in Sri Lanka in that it is the century year of population censuses. The census was conducted on the 9th of October 1971 and it was the 11th of the series. The previous census was conducted in 1963. The census 1971 is significant for two reasons. Firstly it was taken one hundred years after the first census. Secondly it reverts to the tradition of taking the census in the year ending in 1 which had been maintained until 1931. It is hoped that this tradition and the decennial interval could be maintained in the future.
<p><u>Abstract</u></p> <p>A Census of Population and Housing is the single most extensive statistical undertaking of a country. In order to plan and implement programmes and activities, statistics are needed by the Government administrators of various levels, private users, research organizations and the general public.</p> <p>The 1971 Census was conducted under the Census Ordinance N0. 9 of 1900. (Chapter 143) According to that it shall be lawful for the Minister from time to time by order published in the Gazette, to direct that a census be taken of the population, agriculture (including animal husbandry ) trade, labour, industry or commerce or such other matters as he may deem necessary for ascertaining the social, civil or economic conditions of the inhabitants of Ceylon. The CPH 1971 has been designed to collect various information about the characteristics of the population and the households in Sri Lanka.</p> <p>The CHP1971 provides</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reliable and detailed benchmark statistics on the size, distribution and composition of population.</li> <li>Information pertaining to the characteristics of the housing units.</li> <li>Information on the characteristics of the households</li> </ol>	
Kind of Data	Census/enumeration data [cen]
Unit of Analysis	(1) Individuals (2) Households

## Scope & Coverage

### Scope

In CPH1971, two types of schedules were used to collect information. The population schedule and the housing schedule.

The scope of CPH 1971 includes the following :-

- (a) Information on population
- (b) Information on household

#### (a) Information on population

- Name
- Relationship to head of household
- Sex
- Date of birth
- Marital status
- Religion
- Ethnic group
- Citizenship
- Literacy
- Attendance at school or other educational institution
- Educational attainment
- Type of activity
- Principal occupation
- Kind of industry
- Employment status
- Whether actually at work
- Whether actively seeking work

#### (b) Information on household

- Description of unit
- Is the unit occupied or vacant
- Type of structure
- Principal material of outer wall
- Principal material of roof
- Principal material of floor
- Year of construction of unit

#### Information of housing unit

- Water supply
- Bathing facilities
- Toilet facilities
- Principal type of lighting
- Number of rooms
- Floor space
- Cooking facilities
- Tenure
- Rent
- Number of families and persons occupying unit
- Number of households in the unit

Topics

employment [3.1], compulsory and pre-school education [6.2], housing [10.1], censuses

## Census of Population and Housing -1971 - Overview

	[14.1], migration [14.3]
<u>Geographic Coverage</u> National coverage	
<u>Universe</u> CPH 1971 covered all residents in each household and all units in each census block.  Population census did not cover diplomats.	

Producers & Sponsors	
Primary Investigator(s)	Department of Census and Statistics, Ministry of Finance and Planning , ,
Funding Agency/ies	Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL)

Data Collection	
Data Collection Dates	First Pilot Census: single 1970-01 Second Pilot Census: start 1970-07 Second Pilot Census: end 1970-12 Final Census ( 5 P.M. to 11 P. M.): start 1971-10-09 Final Census ( 5 P.M. to 11 P. M.): end 1971-10-09
Data Collection Mode	Face-to-face [f2f]
<u>Data Collection Notes</u> <p>Training classes</p> <p>Training classes were organized for the Census Supervisors and for the large number of enumerators. A few Master Trainers drawn from the permanent cadre of Statisticians and Statistical Officers of the Department were first given training on the various aspects of the Census work. These Master Trainers were then sent to the various districts to impart the necessary training to Supervisors. Each Supervisor in turn conducted a training class for the Enumerators assigned to his circle. Training classes for Supervisors were held during the period 16-31st August 1971. The training of Enumerators was carried out during the first two weeks of September 1971.</p> <p>Training</p> <p>The training of the Census staff was a three tiered process. In the first tier, the master trainers were trained. They were the senior officers of the DCS in the ranks from Statisticians to Deputy Directors.</p> <p>The second tier was the training of the trainers by the master trainers. The trainers were the statistical officers of the DCS and who were entrusted with the task of training all supervisors and enumerators. The third tier was the training of supervisors and about 120,000 strong army of enumerators.</p> <p>The census was carried out in 4 stages,</p> <p>Stage-1) Mapping Operation - (From January to December 2000) GN divisions (Grama Niladhari) are the lowest administrative units in the country. To avoid omissions or duplications of building units or any individuals GN maps were drawn with clear boundaries. As the GN divisions are too large to handle in a census operation they were subdivided into smaller area units called the 'Census Block'. Around 60 housing units and /or other building units in the rural sector and around 80 housing units and/or other building units in the urban sector comprised a census block. In the mapping operation the census block maps were also marked in the GN division maps.</p>	

#### Stage-2) Listing Operation (February and March 2001)

Based on the maps prepared, a building unit or part of a building unit is identified and categorized as follows:

- (1) Housing Unit
- (2) Collective living quarter
- (3) Institution
- (4) Non-housing unit

All of the above categories were listed in a Pre-Listing Form (F1) during the listing operation together with additional information such as number of residents, whether there is agricultural activity or a business is going on and so forth. This list with additional information would provide the basic frame for the censuses and various surveys, which will be conducted by the Department of Census and Statistics, during the next ten years.

#### Stage-3) Preliminary Census (From 25th June to 5th July 2001)

In this stage, the enumerators collected information pertaining to every individual who usually live in the household using the Population and Housing Schedule. Each 'Census Block' was assigned to an enumerator. There were around 120,000 enumerators throughout the country. In addition to the population data, information on housing and household were also collected from each housing unit and collective living quarter on a 100 percent basis.

At the time of recording a persons' individual information to the 'Population and Housing Schedule (F3)', if a physically or mentally disabled person were found in the household, enumerator completed 'Schedule for Disabled Persons(F4)' for that person after completing population and housing schedule for the household.

#### Stage-4) The Final Census (17th July 2001, 6.00 p.m. to 12.00 mid night)

The time of census taking was adjusted in certain areas depending on the prevailing ground situation in that area. The referred date for the final census is the final date and all information relating to each individual was collected from 6.00 pm on the 17th July 2001.

The final census enumeration was carried out as a direct check on the persons enumerated in the preliminary census, in order to ensure that no person is missed or enumerated more than once. In particular a person found in any unit is classified into:

- 1). A usual resident and actually present
- 2). A usual resident but temporarily absent (excluding those who were abroad)
- 3). A household member but currently abroad
- 4). A non-usual resident but temporarily present on the census night.

If the enumerator finds a person in a household belonging to a category (4), then his/her particulars are recorded in the census schedule pertaining to that household.

Special arrangements were made to enumerate people staying outdoors on the final census night. Places like barracks/camps of forces, hospitals, large hostels etc. were covered by officers selected for the purpose from their own places.

The method of enumeration was "de facto" basis.

#### Questionnaires

A main area for the advance preparations for the 1971 Census was the redesigning of Population and Housing schedules in order to minimize the time required for coding the data. One of the reasons for the delay in tabulation of information from the earlier censuses particularly the 1953 and 1963 censuses was the inordinately long time taken at the Head Office to code the information before punching the information on cards. With a view to avoiding such delays it was decided to have as much of the coding as possible done in the field itself by the enumerators. Topics such as Sex, Marital Status, Religion, Ethnic Group etc; which consist of a few well defined categories could be easily entered on the schedules in the form of codes. A schedule designed for the purpose of was tested at the first Pilot Census. In this schedule, however, the codes for each category were shown at the bottom of the



schedule and hence the enumerator had to frequently shift his eyes up and down between the cage in which the entry was to be made and the section at the bottom of the schedule showing the codes. This proved to be the somewhat strenuous and time consuming. Some of the codes were easily remembered by the enumerator e.g. Male 1, Female 2. But in the case of other items like Ethnic Group & Marital Status which contain more than 4 or 5 categories, the possibility of some mixing up of codes existed, leading to inaccuracy. On the basis of experience of the first Pilot Census, the schedule was redesigned and the codes were shown against the question in respect of which answers were sought from the respondents and the enumerators required to indicate the answers by circling the appropriate code. This layout of the schedule eliminated errors resulting from marking of a wrong code which was possible in the case of schedules used at the first Pilot Census.

A similar procedure, however, could not be adopted in respect of such topic as educational attainment, occupation and industry, in respect of which the number of possible entries were quite large. In these cases the enumerator wrote down the answers and the coding was done later, in the office, by specially trained coding staff. The Housing schedule was also designed on the same basis.

The schedule which contained the item in respect of which information was collected from all persons in the country was called the Population Schedule (General) and was printed on white paper to distinguish it from the Population Schedule (Special) printed on pink paper. The Population Schedule (Special) contained in addition to those on the Population Schedule (General) items which were to be collected from a sample only. The Housing Schedule was printed on blue paper.

Data Collector(s)	
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#### Supervision

A number of Census Blocks grouped together according to contiguity and compactness formed a Census Circle, each of which was placed in charge of a Supervisor. Only persons possessing administrative capacity and of high integrity and education were chosen as Supervisors. Generally, government or local government officers of intermediate grades were so appointed. The supervisor was responsible for the supervision of the census arrangements and the work of the census enumeration within his circle.

## Data Processing & Appraisal

### Data Editing

The Census Schedules, on receipt in the Head Office, were checked for any possible shortages and then edited and coded where necessary by specially trained staff, prior to being passed on to the Data Processing Division, for punching and tabulation.

#### Computer Editing

Before the punched cards were transferred to the computer room for processing, certain manual checks for control figures and sight checks were carried out administrative regions. A comprehensive editing procedure was done on the computer. The computer program which checked the records comprised of five basic edits.

They were :

1. Checking to ensure that all data was numeric
2. Checking the validity of numerical codes entered for descriptive data
3. Checking the range of codes
4. Checking the consistency of related data
5. Checking and imputation of a limited amount of data for omissions.

Editing to ensure that all data was numeric enabled the detection of errors occurring due to punching and verifying machine faults. All the other edits provided a complete check for validity and consistency of the records. Only records which satisfied all edit checks were written on tape while the error records were appropriately printed by districts. These error lists were referred to the appropriate division for correction. The corrected records were re-punched and passed through the edit program again. This procedure was adopted for each district until no errors were printed. At the commencement of processing 4 error lists for each district were referred back, but with experience gained in the correction of error lists, the reference was cut down to two lists

### Other Processing

It was in respect of the 1971 Population Census that an electronic computer was used for the first time in Sri Lanka to process census data. As IBM System/360 Model 25 installed in 1970 was inadequate, the system was enlarged in 1972 to cope with the voluminous work involved.

#### Data Preparation

Work on punching and verifying commenced in August 1972. Twenty IBM 024 punchers and nineteen IBM 056 verifiers were used for punching and verifying over 12 million cards. Verifying was done on a quality control basis and averaged about 10 percent to 25 percent of the records. For 17 months machines were used on a double shift. The data preparation work took approximately 21 months.

#### Computer Processing

The basic approach of the systems design was to create sub master files for groups of tables containing variables that were required only that particular set of tables. This enable the creation of short records with subsequent advantages in processing. Processing was done at district level except for four tables where aggregations were done at D.R.O. and G.S. Division levels. The processing programs created aggregated records for each table which were updated as each district was processed. On completion of the last district the aggregated records for each table gave the all island figures which were formatted and printed. Thus the programming was in four stages.

- a. Programs which created sub-masters
- b. Programs which processed the data by districts and created summaries by districts.
- c. Programs which processed the district summaries to create the all island summaries
- d. Programs which printed out the summary figures.

In all 76 programs were written in Assembly and Report Program Generator Languages. At the beginning all programs were written in Report Program Generator Language so that the programs could be written in a short period of time. The processing time of such programs, however, was found to be too long. Hence, as the work progressed, the programs were written in Assembly Language to minimize the processing time. The processing of

all data from enumerators' abstracts, ten percent sample schedules and hundred percent general schedules, was completed in approximately twenty months.

Accessibility	
Access Authority	Director General (Department of Census and Statistics) , <a href="http://www.statistics.gov.lk">http://www.statistics.gov.lk</a> , <a href="mailto:dgcensus@sltnet.lk">dgcensus@sltnet.lk</a>
Contact(s)	Director, Information Unit (Department of Census and Statistics) , <a href="http://www.statistics.gov.lk">http://www.statistics.gov.lk</a> , <a href="mailto:information@statistics.gov.lk">information@statistics.gov.lk</a> Census Division (Department of Census and Statistics) , <a href="http://www.statistics.gov.lk">http://www.statistics.gov.lk</a> , <a href="mailto:census@statistics.gov.lk">census@statistics.gov.lk</a>
<p><u>Confidentiality</u></p> <p>Under the Census Ordinance, micro data cannot be released with identifications for public use. Procedures are in place to ensure that information relating to any particular individual person, household or undertaking will be kept strictly confidential and will not be divulged to external parties. Information on individual or individual Household/establishment will not be divulged or published in such a form that will facilitate the identification of any particular person or establishment as the data have been collected under the Census Ordinance, according to which the information at individual level cannot be divulged and such information is strictly confidential.</p>	
<p><u>Access Conditions</u></p> <p>The dataset has been anonymized and is available as a Public Use Dataset. It is accessible to all for statistical and research purposes only, under the following terms and conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The data and other materials will not be redistributed or sold to other individuals, institutions, or organizations without the written agreement.</li> <li>2. The data will be used for statistical and scientific research purposes only. They will be used solely for reporting of aggregated information, and not for investigation of specific individuals or organizations.</li> <li>3. No attempt will be made to re-identify respondents, and no use will be made of the identity of any person or establishment discovered inadvertently.</li> <li>4. No attempt will be made to produce links among datasets provided by the Department or among data from the Department and other datasets that could identify individuals or organizations.</li> <li>5. Any books, articles, conference papers, theses, dissertations, reports, or other publications that employ data obtained from the Department will cite the source of data in accordance with the Citation Requirement provided with each dataset.</li> <li>6. An electronic copy of all reports and publications based on the requested data will be sent to the Department</li> </ol> <p>The following rules apply to micro data released by the Department of Census and Statistics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only the requests of Government Institutions, Recognized Universities, Students, and selected international agencies are entertained. However, the Data users are required to strictly adhere to the terms stipulated in the agreement form.</li> <li>• All the data requests should be made to Director General (DG) of the DCS as the sole authority of releasing data is vested with the DG of the DCS. The DCS of Sri Lanka reserves sole right to approve or reject any data request</li> </ul>	

made depending on the confidential nature of the data set and intended purpose of the study or analysis.

- Requests for micro data should be made through the agreement form designed by DCS for this purpose (Form D.R.1). The agreement form should be filled in triplicate and the Study/project proposal should accompany the filled agreement form. If requests are made for the micro data of more than one survey, a separate agreement should be signed.
- If the data request is from a student a letter from the respective Dept. Head/Dean/Supervisor, recommending the issue of data, should also be accompanied.
- If the request is approved only 25% of the data file is released at the first stage. The release of the total data file is considered only after reviewing the draft report prepared on the basis of the 25% sample data file.
- The released Data file should be used only for the specific study/Analysis mentioned in the agreement form and shall not be used for any other purpose without the prior approval of the Director General of the DCS. Moreover, Copies of the micro-data file, obtained from the DCS, shall not be given to anyone else without the prior written approval of the Director General of the DCS.
- The draft report of the Study/Analysis should be submitted to the DCS and the concurrence of the DG of the DCS, should be obtained before publishing it. Once published, a copy of the final report should be submitted to the DCS.

Source : [http://www.statistics.gov.lk/databases/data%20dissemination/DataDissaPolicy\\_2007Oct26n.pdf](http://www.statistics.gov.lk/databases/data%20dissemination/DataDissaPolicy_2007Oct26n.pdf)

[Department : The Department of Census and Statistics]

#### Citation Requirements

"Department of Census and Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 1971, Version 1.0 of the public use dataset, March 2009, provided by the National Data Archive, Data Processing Division, [www.statistics.gov.lk](http://www.statistics.gov.lk)"

### Rights & Disclaimer

#### Disclaimer

The Department of Census and Statistics bears no responsibility for any results or interpretations arising from the secondary use of the data.

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## Files Description

Dataset contains 1 file(s)

POP71	
# Cases	12618543
# Variable(s)	39
<u>File Content</u> The file contains the data related to the Population Schedule (General) (Form "F" 10).	
<u>Producer</u> Department of Census & Statistics.	

# Variables List

Dataset contains 39 variable(s)

File POP71							
#	Name	Label	Type	Format	Valid	Invalid	Question
1	<a href="#">REC\$TYPE</a>	-	discrete	character-1	12618543	0	-
2	<a href="#">DISTRICTQ_0</a>	District	discrete	numeric-2.0	12618543	0	-
3	<a href="#">SECTORQ_1</a>	Sector	discrete	numeric-1.0	12618543	0	-
4	<a href="#">DRO_DIVQ_2</a>	DRO Div	discrete	numeric-2.0	12618543	0	-
5	<a href="#">ELECTORATEQ_3</a>	Electorate	discrete	numeric-3.0	12618543	0	-
6	<a href="#">CENSUSBLOCKQ_4</a>	Census Block Number	discrete	numeric-2.0	12618465	78	-
7	<a href="#">GSDIV_MCUCQ_5</a>	GSDIV/MCUC/TC	discrete	numeric-2.0	12618543	0	-
8	<a href="#">VILLAGE_WARDQ_6</a>	Village/Ward	discrete	numeric-2.0	12617945	598	-
9	<a href="#">VILLAGE_COUNCILQ_7</a>	Village Council	discrete	numeric-2.0	9775082	2843461	-
10	<a href="#">Blank</a>	Blank	discrete	numeric-2.0	1045	12617498	-
11	<a href="#">SERIALNOOFFQ_8</a>	2. Serial Number of the Person	discrete	numeric-3.0	12617721	822	-
12	<a href="#">SEXQ_10</a>	5. Sex	discrete	numeric-1.0	12618543	0	-
13	<a href="#">DATEOFBIRTHQ_11</a>	6. Age	discrete	numeric-2.0	12616791	1752	-
14	<a href="#">MARITALSTATUSQ_12</a>	3.0. Marital Status	discrete	numeric-1.0	12618542	1	-
15	<a href="#">RELIGIONQ_13</a>	8. Religion	discrete	numeric-1.0	12575809	42734	-
16	<a href="#">ETHNICGROUPQ_14</a>	9. Ethnic Group	discrete	numeric-1.0	12567722	50821	-
17	<a href="#">CITIZENSHIPQ_15</a>	10. Citizenship	discrete	numeric-2.0	12618543	0	-
18	<a href="#">LITERECYQ_16</a>	11. Literacy	discrete	numeric-1.0	9301216	3317327	-
19	<a href="#">ATTENDENCEQ_17</a>	12. School Attendance	discrete	numeric-1.0	5877870	6740673	-
20	<a href="#">EDUCATIONALATTAINMENTQ_18</a>	13. Educational Attainment	discrete	numeric-2.0	8396514	4222029	-
21	<a href="#">TYPE_OF_ACTIVITYQ_19</a>	14. Type of activity	discrete	numeric-1.0	10227381	2391162	-
22	<a href="#">PRINCIPAL_OCCUPATIONQ_20</a>	15. Principal Occupation	discrete	numeric-3.0	3647860	8970683	-
23	<a href="#">KIND_OF_INDUSTRYQ_21</a>	16. Kind of Industry	discrete	numeric-4.0	3661690	8956853	-
24	<a href="#">EMPLOYMENTSTATUSQ_22</a>	17. Employment Status	discrete	numeric-1.0	3670974	8947569	-
25	<a href="#">WHEATHERACTUALLYATWORKQ_23</a>	18. Whether actually at work	discrete	numeric-1.0	3478063	9140480	-
26	<a href="#">WHEATHERACTUALLYSEEKINGWORKQ_24</a>	19. Whether actively seeking work	discrete	numeric-1.0	803147	11815396	-
27	<a href="#">PLACE_OF_BIRTHQ_25</a>	20. Place of birth	discrete	numeric-2.0	1188892	11429651	-
28	<a href="#">USUAL_RESIDENCEQ_26</a>	21. Usual residence	discrete	numeric-2.0	1166801	11451742	-
29	<a href="#">DURATION_OF_STAY_AT_USUAL_RESIDENCEQ_27</a>	22. Duration of stay at usual residence	discrete	numeric-1.0	1128551	11489992	-
30	<a href="#">PREVIOUS_RESIDENCEQ_28</a>	23. Duration of stay at previous residence	discrete	numeric-2.0	294049	12324494	-
31	<a href="#">AGE_AT_FIRST_MARRIAGEQ_29</a>	24. Age at first marriage	discrete	numeric-2.0	185942	12432601	-

Census of Population and Housing -1971 - Variables List

File POP71 (cont.)							
#	Name	Label	Type	Format	Valid	Invalid	Question
32	<a href="#">DURATION_OF_FIRST_MARRIAGE</a>	243 The duration of first marriage	discrete	numeric-2.0	178448	12440095	-
33	<a href="#">IF_MARRIED_MORE_THAN_ONCE</a>	244 If married more than once, duration of subsequent marriage	discrete	numeric-2.0	17302	12601241	If married more than once, duration of subsequent marriage/marriages
34	<a href="#">NO_OF_CHILDREN_EVER_BORN_ALIVE</a>	245 No of children ever born alive	discrete	numeric-2.0	150955	12467588	-
35	<a href="#">NO_OF_CHILDREN_NOW_LIVING</a>	246 No of children now living	discrete	numeric-2.0	147863	12470680	-
36	<a href="#">AGE_OF_LAST_CHILD_IN_MONTHS</a>	247 Age of last child in Months	discrete	numeric-2.0	89153	12529390	-
37	<a href="#">RI_CODEQ_35</a>	RI code	discrete	numeric-1.0	1206780	11411763	-
38	<a href="#">BLANK2</a>	Blank2	discrete	numeric-13.0	0	12618543	-
39	<a href="#">JOB_CODEQ_36</a>	jobcode	discrete	numeric-2.0	0	12618543	-

# Variables Description

Dataset contains 39 variable(s)

## File POP71

#1 REC\$TYPE			
Information		[Type= discrete] [Format=character] [Missing=*]	
Statistics [NW/ W]		[Valid=12618543 /-] [Invalid=0 /-]	
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
1		12618543	100.0%
Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.			

#2 DISTRICTQ_0: District			
Information		[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-22] [Missing=*]	
Statistics [NW/ W]		[Valid=12618543 /-] [Invalid=0 /-]	
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
1	Colombo	2672225	21.2%
2	Kalutara	729494	5.8%
3	Kandy	1187925	9.4%
4	Matale	243467	1.9%
5	Nuwara Eliya	450278	3.6%
6	Galle	735153	5.8%
7	Matara	586443	4.6%
8	Hambantota	340254	2.7%
9	Jaffna	701603	5.6%
10	Mannar	77780	0.6%
11	Vavuniya	95243	0.8%
12	Batticaloa	256721	2.0%
13	Amparai	272605	2.2%
14	Trincomalee	188245	1.5%
15	Kurunegala	1025633	8.1%
16	Puttalam	378430	3.0%
17	Anuradhapura	388770	3.1%
18	Polonnaruwa	163653	1.3%
19	Badulla	615405	4.9%
20	Moneragala	193020	1.5%
21	Ratnapura	661344	5.2%
22	Kegalle	654852	5.2%
Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.			



# Census of Population and Housing -1971 - Variables Description

## File POP71 (cont.)

### #3 SECTORQ\_1: Sector

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-3] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12618543 /-] [Invalid=0 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
1	Urban	2844459	22.5%
2	Rural	8673170	68.7%
3	Estate	1100914	8.7%
Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.			

### #4 DRO\_DIVQ\_2: DRO Div

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-15] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12618543 /-] [Invalid=0 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
1		1293954	10.3%
2		1589395	12.6%
3		1628038	12.9%
4		1463157	11.6%
5		1275869	10.1%
6		1261657	10.0%
7		937573	7.4%
8		387761	3.1%
9		455204	3.6%
10		494359	3.9%
11		376875	3.0%
12		1177759	9.3%
13		91083	0.7%
14		85080	0.7%
15		100779	0.8%
Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.			

### #5 ELECTRORATEQ\_3: Electrorate

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-145] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12618543 /-] [Invalid=0 /-]
Frequency table not shown (145 Modalities)	

### #6 CENSUSBLOCKNUMBERQ\_4: CensusBlockNumber

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 0-22] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12618465 /-] [Invalid=78 /-]		

## File POP71 (cont.)

## #6 CENSUSBLOCKNUMBERQ\_4: CensusBlockNumber (cont.)

Frequency table not shown (73 Modalities)

## #7 GSDIV\_MCUC\_TCQ\_5: GSDiv/MCUC/TC

Information [Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-93] [Missing=\*]

Statistics [NW/ W] [Valid=12618543 /-] [Invalid=0 /-]

Frequency table not shown (71 Modalities)

## #8 VILLAGE\_WARDQ\_6: Village/Ward

Information [Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-40] [Missing=\*]

Statistics [NW/ W] [Valid=12617945 /-] [Invalid=598 /-]

Frequency table not shown (59 Modalities)

## #9 VILLAGE\_COUNCILQ\_7: Village Council

Information [Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-16] [Missing=\*]

Statistics [NW/ W] [Valid=9775082 /-] [Invalid=2843461 /-]

Frequency table not shown (57 Modalities)

## #10 Blank: Blank

Information [Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Missing=\*]

Statistics [NW/ W] [Valid=1045 /-] [Invalid=12617498 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		34	3.3%
1		764	73.1%
2		33	3.2%
3		31	3.0%
4		4	0.4%
6		4	0.4%
8		19	1.8%
31		150	14.4%
54		1	0.1%
80		5	0.5%
Sysmiss		12617498	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

# Census of Population and Housing -1971 - Variables Description

## File POP71 (cont.)

### #11 SERIALNOOFPERSONQ\_9: 2.Serial Number of the Person

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-942] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12617721 /-] [Invalid=822 /-]

### #12 SEXQ\_10: 5.Sex

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-2] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12618543 /-] [Invalid=0 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
1	Male	6495043	51.5%
2	Female	6123499	48.5%
4		1	0.0%

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #13 DATEOFBIRTHQ\_11: 6.Age

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 0-99] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12616791 /-] [Invalid=1752 /-]

Frequency table not shown (101 Modalities)

### #14 MARITALSTATUSQ\_12: 7.Marital Status

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-6] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12618542 /-] [Invalid=1 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
1	Never Married	7823039	62.0%
2	Married (Registered)	3531934	28.0%
3	Married (Customary)	798105	6.3%
4	Widowed	424639	3.4%
5	Legally Seperated	20705	0.2%
6	Divorced	20120	0.2%
Sysmiss		1	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #15 RELIGIONQ\_13: 8.Religion

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-6] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12575809 /-] [Invalid=42734 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0	0	28	0.0%

# Census of Population and Housing -1971 - Variables Description

## File POP71 (cont.)

### #15 RELIGIONQ\_13: 8.Religion (cont.)

Value (cont.)	Label	Cases	Percentage
1	Buddhist	8471961	67.4%
2	Hindu	2196768	17.5%
3	Muslim	897223	7.1%
4	Roman Catholic	896706	7.1%
5	Christian	104895	0.8%
6	Other	8228	0.1%
Sysmiss		42734	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #16 ETHNICGROUPQ\_14: 9.Ethnic Group

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-8] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12567722 /-] [Invalid=50821 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0	0	14	0.0%
1	Low Country Sinhala	5395681	42.9%
2	Kandyan Sinhala	3666449	29.2%
3	Ceylon Tamil	1413319	11.2%
4	Indian Tamil	1138421	9.1%
5	Ceylon Moor	822841	6.5%
6	Indian Moor	26841	0.2%
7	Bugher/Eurasian	45298	0.4%
8	Malay	43369	0.3%
9	Other	15489	0.1%
Sysmiss		50821	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #17 CITIZENSHIPQ\_15: 10.Citizenship

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 2-99] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=12618543 /-] [Invalid=0 /-]

Frequency table not shown (66 Modalities)

### #18 LITERECYQ\_16: 11.Literacy

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-2] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=9301216 /-] [Invalid=3317327 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		1	0.0%

## File POP71 (cont.)

## #18 LITERECYQ\_16: 11.Literacy (cont.)

Value (cont.)	Label	Cases	Percentage
1	Literate	7312033	78.6%
2	Illiterate	1989182	21.4%
Sysmiss		3317327	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

## #19 ATTENDENCE\_AT\_SCHOOLQ\_17: 12.School Attendance

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-2] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=5877870 /-] [Invalid=6740673 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
1	Attended regular classes	2708373	46.1%
2	Did not attend regular classes	3169497	53.9%
Sysmiss		6740673	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

## #20 EDUCATIONALATTAINMENTQ\_18: 13.Educational Attainment

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 0-65] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=8396514 /-] [Invalid=4222029 /-]
Frequency table not shown (56 Modalities)	

## #21 TYPE\_OF\_ACTIVITYQ\_19: 14.Type of activity

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-8] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=10227381 /-] [Invalid=2391162 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		12	0.0%
1	Employed Regular	3622176	35.4%
2	Employed Seasonal	848032	8.3%
3	Underemployed	2325351	22.7%
4	Student	111484	1.1%
5	Income receiptent/retired	2084505	20.4%
6	Engaged in home duties	448977	4.4%
7	Not seeking work	695280	6.8%
8	Other	91564	0.9%
Sysmiss		2391162	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

## File POP71 (cont.)

## #22 PRINCIPAL\_OCCUPATIONQ\_20: 15.Principal Occupation

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= -20-999] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=3647860 /-] [Invalid=8970683 /-]
Frequency table not shown (491 Modalities)	

## #23 KIND\_OF\_INDUSTRYQ\_21: 16.Kind of Industry

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 111-9000] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=3661690 /-] [Invalid=8956853 /-]
Frequency table not shown (394 Modalities)	

## #24 EMPLOYMENT\_STATUSQ\_22: 17.Employment Status

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-4] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=3670974 /-] [Invalid=8947569 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		90	0.0%
1	Employer	2264935	61.7%
2	Employee	117084	3.2%
3	Worker on own account	988476	26.9%
4	Unpaid family worker	300297	8.2%
5	5	62	0.0%
6	6	23	0.0%
7	7	4	0.0%
9	9	3	0.0%
Sysmiss		8947569	
Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.			

## #25 WHEATHER\_ACTUALLY\_AT\_WORKQ\_23: 18.Wheather actually at work

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-5] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=3478063 /-] [Invalid=9140480 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		13	0.0%
1	Worked at usual job	3164488	91.0%
2	Worked at another job	58139	1.7%
3	Did not work due to illness vacation or temporary disorganisation of work	62641	1.8%
4	Did not work as he/she works only during season	130832	3.8%
5	Did not work as no work was available	61891	1.8%
6		51	0.0%

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## File POP71 (cont.)

### #25 WHEATHER\_ACTUALLY\_AT\_WORKQ\_23: 18.Wheather actually at work (cont.)

Value (cont.)	Label	Cases	Percentage
7		5	0.0%
9		3	0.0%
Sysmiss		9140480	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #26 WHEATHER\_ACTIVELY\_SEEKING\_WORKQ: 19.Wheather actively seeking work

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-6] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=803147 /-] [Invalid=11815396 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		164	0.0%
1	Not actively seeking employment	271483	33.8%
2	Actively seeking employment for less than 6 months	41737	5.2%
3	Actively seeking employment for 6-12 months	38988	4.9%
4	Actively seeking employment for 1 year	79670	9.9%
5	Actively seeking employment for 2 years	110084	13.7%
6	Actively seeking employment for 3 years or more	260999	32.5%
7		5	0.0%
8		4	0.0%
9		13	0.0%
Sysmiss		11815396	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #27 PLACE\_OF\_BIRTHQ\_25: 20.Place of birth

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-31] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=1188892 /-] [Invalid=11429651 /-]
Frequency table not shown (75 Modalities)	

### #28 USUAL\_RESIDENCEQ\_26: 21.Usual residence

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 0-12] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=1166801 /-] [Invalid=11451742 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		1152672	98.8%
1		3864	0.3%
2		771	0.1%
3		1160	0.1%
4		203	0.0%

## File POP71 (cont.)

## #28 USUAL\_RESIDENCEQ\_26: 21.Usual residence (cont.)

Value (cont.)	Label	Cases	Percentage
5		678	0.1%
6		764	0.1%
7		626	0.1%
8		295	0.0%
9		1139	0.1%
10		183	0.0%
11		132	0.0%
12		207	0.0%
13		142	0.0%
14		139	0.0%
15		689	0.1%
16		349	0.0%
17		299	0.0%
18		130	0.0%
19		867	0.1%
20		89	0.0%
21		452	0.0%
22		949	0.1%
42		1	0.0%
93		1	0.0%
Sysmiss		11451742	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

## #29 DURATION\_OF\_STAYQ\_27: 22.Duration of stay at usual residence

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-5] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=1128551 /-] [Invalid=11489992 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		9	0.0%
1	Upto one year	817703	72.5%
2	1-2 years	54986	4.9%
3	2-3 years	64807	5.7%
4	3-4 years	51778	4.6%
5	4-5 years	139267	12.3%
6	5 years and above	0	0.0%
8		1	0.0%
Sysmiss		11489992	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.



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## File POP71 (cont.)

### #30 PREVIOUS\_RESIDENCEQ\_28: 23.Duration of stay at previous residence

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 0-18] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=294049 /-] [Invalid=12324494 /-]		
Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		3594	1.2%
1	Upto one year	67331	22.9%
2	1-2 years	17387	5.9%
3	2-3 years	30415	10.3%
4	3-4 years	4847	1.6%
5	4-5 years	12024	4.1%
6	5 years and above	19286	6.6%
7		19355	6.6%
8		6949	2.4%
9		9690	3.3%
10		968	0.3%
11		1531	0.5%
12		3163	1.1%
13		2488	0.8%
14		2003	0.7%
15		25885	8.8%
16		8632	2.9%
17		6007	2.0%
18		2033	0.7%
19		15591	5.3%
20		2495	0.8%
21		14502	4.9%
22		17872	6.1%
81		1	0.0%
Sysmiss		12324494	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #31 AGE\_AT\_FIRST\_MARRAIGEQ\_29: 24a.Age at first marraige

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 14-34] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=185942 /-] [Invalid=12432601 /-]
Frequency table not shown (66 Modalities)	

### #32 DURATION\_OF\_FIRST\_MARRIGEQ\_30: 24b.The duration of first marriage

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 0-50] [Missing=*]		
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=178448 /-] [Invalid=12440095 /-]		

## File POP71 (cont.)

## #32 DURATION\_OF\_FIRST\_MARRIGE\_Q\_30: 24b.The duration of first marriage (cont.)

Frequency table not shown (83 Modalities)

## #33 IF\_MARRIED\_MORE\_THAN\_ONCE\_Q\_31: 24c.If married more than once, duration of subsequent marriage

Information [Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 11-20] [Missing=\*]

Statistics [NW/ W] [Valid=17302 /-] [Invalid=12601241 /-]

Literal question If married more than once, duration of subsequent marriage/marriages

Frequency table not shown (74 Modalities)

## #34 NO\_OF\_CHILDREN\_EVER\_BORN\_ALIVE\_Q\_24d.No of children ever born alive

Information [Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-9] [Missing=\*]

Statistics [NW/ W] [Valid=150955 /-] [Invalid=12467588 /-]

Frequency table not shown (41 Modalities)

## #35 NO\_OF\_CHILDREN\_NOW\_LIVING\_Q\_33: 24e.No of children now living

Information [Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 0-8] [Missing=\*]

Statistics [NW/ W] [Valid=147863 /-] [Invalid=12470680 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
0		3042	2.1%
1		24456	16.5%
2		24873	16.8%
3		22649	15.3%
4		19598	13.3%
5		16509	11.2%
6		13183	8.9%
7		9533	6.4%
8		6618	4.5%
9		3892	2.6%
10		2078	1.4%
11		856	0.6%
12		371	0.3%
13		136	0.1%
14		42	0.0%
15		14	0.0%
16		8	0.0%
17		3	0.0%
18		1	0.0%

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## File POP71 (cont.)

### #35 NO\_OF\_CHILDREN\_NOW\_LIVINGQ\_33: 24e.No of children now living (cont.)

Value (cont.)	Label	Cases	Percentage
21		1	0.0%
Sysmiss		12470680	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #36 AGE\_OF\_\_LAST\_ChILD\_IN\_MONTHS: 24f.Age of Last Child in Months

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 0-55] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=89153 /-] [Invalid=12529390 /-]
Frequency table not shown (62 Modalities)	

### #37 RI\_CODEQ\_35: RI code

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Range= 1-1] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=1206780 /-] [Invalid=11411763 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
1		1206779	100.0%
8		1	0.0%
Sysmiss		11411763	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #38 BLANK2: Blank2

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=0 /-] [Invalid=12618543 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
Sysmiss		12618543	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

### #39 JOBCODEQ\_36: jobcode

Information	[Type= discrete] [Format=numeric] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=0 /-] [Invalid=12618543 /-]

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
Sysmiss		12618543	

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

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## Reports and analytical documents

Census of Population Sri Lanka 1971 - General Report, Sri Lanka [lka], English [eng],  
"Documents\Reports\Census1971\_Rep001.pdf"

Study Documentation of Census 1971 Project, Sri Lanka [lka], English [eng], "Documents\Reports\Study  
Documentation of Census 1971 Project.pdf"

## Questionnaires

Pre Listing Form ( F1 ), "Documents\Questionnaires Used\Form F1.pdf"

Population Schedule General - Form F10, "Documents\Questionnaires Used\Form F10.pdf"

Population Schedule Special ( Form F23 ), "Documents\Questionnaires Used\Form F23.pdf"

Housing Schedule ( Form F12 ), "Documents\Questionnaires Used\Form F12.pdf"

## Technical documents

Instructions for Listing and Numbering of Housing Units Living Quarters Other than Housing Units and Non-Housing  
Units, "Documents\Technical Documents\Instructions for Listing.pdf"

Instructions for General Enumerators, "Documents\Technical Documents\Instructions for General Enumerators.pdf"

Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities, "Documents\Technical Documents\Standard Industrial

Classification Codes.pdf"

Instructions to Grama Sevake for the Preparation of Lists of Estates, "Documents\Technical Documents\Instruction to Grama Sevaka.pdf"

Instruction Pamphlet IP 1, "Documents\Technical Documents\Instruction Pamphlet IP1.pdf"

Data Dictionary, "Documents\Technical Documents\Data Dictionary.pdf"

## Other documents

Census Label, "Documents\Labels\Census Label.pdf"