

Worksheet: What is the Census?

Task 1

Read this text.

Q. What is the Census?

The Census of Population and Housing counts the number of people in Australia, and collects important facts about them, like age, sex and country of birth. It also collects facts about the households people live in.



Q. When is the Census?

Tuesday, 10 August 2021, is Census night in Australia. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) holds the Census every five years.



Q. Is everyone counted?

Everyone in Australia is counted, including children, international students and visitors.



Q. Do I have to complete the Census?

Yes. The Census is compulsory. Everyone who is in Australia on Census night must take part.



Q. How can I be sure that my information is kept private?

Your personal information is kept private. By law, no personal information is given to anybody outside the ABS. The police, Department of Home Affairs, Services Australia (Centrelink), Australian Taxation Office, Department of Housing, Department of Social Services, Department of Employment or any other government agency will not see your answers.



Q. Can I get help to complete the Census?

The ABS will assist anyone who needs help with the Census. There will be information in different languages. You could ask your family or friends to help you fill in your Census form. If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450.



Task 2

Circle any words in task 1 that you are not sure of. Discuss these with your teacher or classmates.

Task 3

Answer these questions



1. What is the Census?

2. What are three things that the Census wants to find out?

3. Who is counted in the Census?

4. When do you need to complete the Census?

5. Do you have to do the Census?

6. How often is the Census held?

7. The police or Department of Home Affairs can find out information about you from the Census form.

- True False

8. How can you get help with the Census?

Teachers

To extend your students:

- get them to write questions for their classmates, either as a written questionnaire or to ask verbally
- try one of the further activities on page 22 of the lesson guides.

