

COSTA RICA

Region: Americas

Income group: Upper-middle income

Summary: Costa Rica has reported only the *National Census of Population and Housing* as one metadata source, which collects information on international labour migration statistics. It is carried out by the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses.

Geographically the census covers whole country, however different population groups such as:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living abroad,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living and working abroad,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country,*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country,*
- *Refugees, and*
- *Asylum seekers.*

The *Population and Housing Census* was last processed in 2011. The five essential demographic characteristics covered by the census are age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, and household size.

International migration characteristics covered by the census are country of birth, country of previous residence for foreigners, and country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned. And the Census asks information about household members who left to live, work or study abroad, and questions about remittance including remittance sent and remittance received.

Labour related characteristics that can be found in the census include employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, and disability.

Definitions of “*international migrant workers*”, “*nationals living abroad*”, and “*employment*” are applied in the census.

To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education both nationally and internationally adapted classifications are used in the census.

Micro data is available for research and analysis outside the agency.

Metadata sources:

Type of source	Name of the source	Agency Responsible	Periodicity of data collection	Year the source started	Year of the last source
Q1. Population Census	National Census of Population and Housing	National Institute of Statistics and Censuses	-	-	2011

Findings:

The latest *National Census of Population and Housing* was processed in 2011 by the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses, covering the whole country. There are eight population groups examined in the census such as:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living abroad,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living and working abroad,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country,*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country,*
- *Refugees, and*
- *Asylum seekers.*

The census obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of these population groups, such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, and household size. The questions raised in the assessment on the topic of international migration related characteristics are:

- Country of birth,
- Country of previous residence for foreigners, and
- Country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned.

In addition to the characteristics, the *National Census of Population and Housing* asks information about household members who left to live, work or study abroad and questions about remittance including remittance sent and remittance received. It also covers labour related characteristics of all current household members aged 12 years old and over, such as:

- Employment status,
- Occupation,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Status in employment, and
- Disability.

"*National living abroad*" refers to people born in Costa Rica who are living in another country for a period of 6 months or more or who, living less than 6 months, intend to stay for 6 months or more in that country. "*Employment*" refers to the development of an economic activity the System of National Accounts of 1993 (SNA93). To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education, both internationally and nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- National adaptation of ISCO (COCR 2011) (where four digits are used to release the data);
- National adaptation of ISIC (CAECR 2011) (where four digits are used to release the data);
- ICSE-1993; and
- ISCED-2011.

Micro data are available for research and analysis outside the agency.

Q1. Population Census

SOURCE

Title of source: National Census of Population and Housing

Year of last census: 2011

Agency responsible: National Institute of Statistics and Censuses

COVERAGE

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, nationals (citizens) living abroad, nationals (citizens) living and working abroad, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, refugees, asylum seekers

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, nationals (citizens) living abroad

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size

International migration related characteristics: Country of birth, country of previous residence for foreigners, country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned

- **Coverage for international migration related characteristics:**
 - Country of birth: All persons
 - Country of previous residence for foreigners and country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned: Not for all
- **Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:**
 - Exceptions for country of previous residence for foreigners and exceptions for country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned: Persons 5 years and over, who are asked about the residence 5 years ago

Information about household members left to live abroad: Yes

- **Information refers to the last time the person left:** Yes
- **Limited to certain age or work status:** No
- **Limited to those who left the household abroad within the last X years and have not returned:** No
- **Characteristics of persons who left to live abroad:** N.A.

Labour related characteristics of all current household members: Employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, disability

- **Age coverage:** 12 years old and over

Remittances related characteristics: Remittance sent, remittance received

Information on immigrants and return migrants: No

- **Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained:** N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: It does not use specific term for it.

Definition of national (citizen) living abroad: It refers to people born in Costa Rica who are living in another country for a period of 6 months or more or who, living less than 6 months, intend to stay for 6 months or more in that country.

Definition of employment: It refers to the development of an economic activity by the System of National Accounts of 1993 (SNA93).

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: National adaptation of ISCO (COCR 2011)

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** 4

Classification used for industry: National adaptation of ISIC (CAECR 2011)

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 4

Classification used for status in employment: ICSE-1993

Classification used for status in education: ISCED-2011

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face interview by census enumerator using paper questionnaire (PAPI)

Compulsory participation of households: No

Official estimate of under-coverage rate: Yes

- **Under-coverage rate of total population:** 6,2%

Dissemination of results: Printed publications (There are several publications; electronic format (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, diskettes, etc.); Web site (www.inec.go.cr))

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: Yes

- **Limitations:** Only for online processing
- **Cost of obtaining micro-data:** N.A.