

BUREAU OF STATISTICS AND PLANS
(Bureau of Planning)

Government of Guam



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Alberto "Tony" Lamorena V
Director

JAN 09 2008

Mr. Frank Vitrano
Chief, Decennial Management Division
United States Department of Commerce
Economic and Statistics Administration
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington, DC 20233-0001

Hafa Adai Mr. Vitrano:

Our office is in receipt of the proposed questionnaire for the 2010 Census of Guam and the other Pacific Island Areas. Thank you for incorporating Guam's subject recommendations into the questionnaire including remittances sent abroad, telephone service (access to cell phones and other mobile devices), and computer ownership and internet use. We are also pleased to see new questions regarding health insurance coverage, disability, and service-connected disability rating. The existing and the proposed new census questions will provide valuable housing and population information to meet the growing challenges and changes facing Guam and the Pacific Island Areas.

Upon review of the proposed questionnaire, Guam's 2010 Census Interagency Committee makes the following recommendations:

POPULATION

- A) **Military Dependence** – Question 27. "Is this person a dependent of an active-duty or retired member of the Armed Forces of the United States or of the full-time military Reserves or National Guard?" At its current position on the questionnaire, question 27 is asked for persons 15 years and over. Military dependency should be asked for all persons in the household. We recommend moving question 27 to a section of the questionnaire that is asked for all persons;
- B) **Health Insurance Coverage** - Question 17, item d. Recommend removing "medical assistance" from the category. By using the term "medical assistance", respondents may liken item d with item g. We recommend rephrasing item d to read "Medicaid or any kind of federal government assistance plan for those with low incomes or a disability". Retain wording for item g;

Comments to the Proposed 2010 Content for the Pacific Island Areas - Guam

If receiving caregiver service(s), go to question 4. If not receiving such service(s), go to question 5.

4. Is this person's caregiver being paid for the service?

Yes

No

5. *(Next question on the proposed 2010 Census questionnaire)*

F) Industry – Question 39 and Question 40. Recommend including additional blank lines to allow for respondent entry;

G) Occupation – Question 42 and Question 43. Recommend including additional blank lines to allow for respondent entry;

HOUSING

H) Rooms – Question H5a. “How many separate rooms are in this living quarters?” *Rooms must be separated by built-in archways or walls that extend out at least 6 inches and go from floor to ceiling.* We recommend removing number of inches from criteria to now read: *Rooms must be separated by built-in archways or walls that extend out from floor to ceiling;*

I) Telephone Service - We are in receipt of the recent change to the proposed questionnaire via email regarding telephone service. We agree with the detailed breakdown of telephone service availability by cell or mobile phone use, landline, and usage of both cell or mobile phone and landline.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide input in this important step in preparing for Guam's 2010 Census. We look forward to your favorable consideration in this matter. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or Ms. Monica Guerrero via telephone at (671) 472-4201/2/3 or facsimile at (671) 477-1812. You can also contact me via email at tlamorena@gmail.com or Ms. Guerrero at mjguerrero28@yahoo.com.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase',



ALBERTO A. LAMORENA V

Director

cc: Ms. Idabelle Hovland, Chief, Puerto Rico, Island Areas and Overseas Enumeration Branch, Decennial Management Division, U.S. Census Bureau



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26 MAR 2007

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Mr. Charles Louis Kincannon
Director, U.S. Census Bureau
United States Department of Commerce
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington, D.C. 20233-0001

Re: Subject Recommendations for the 2010 Guam Census

Dear Mr. Kincannon:

Hafa Adai! Planning and preparations for the 2010 Guam Census are underway. We understand that among the first actions in the census planning phase is to determine subject matter content/topics for the Census. Since May 2006, Guam's 2010 Census Interagency Committee has been working to develop and propose subject matter content/topics for consideration and inclusion in the 2010 Census questionnaire.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Ms. Idabelle Hovland, Chief, Puerto Rico, Island Areas and Overseas Enumeration Program and Ms. Julia Buckley-Ess, Survey Statistician, Puerto Rico and Island Areas Program, Decennial Management Division, for meeting with Guam's Interagency Committee last year and again in mid-March 2007 to formulate the groundwork for the upcoming Census and to address concerns regarding subject matter topics and issues affecting the people of Guam.

Based on the findings of Guam's Interagency Committee, we are enclosing Guam's proposed list of questionnaire subjects for the 2010 Census and the required justifications for any new subjects. The census subjects are much the same as in 2000 with a few additions: remittances sent abroad, caregiver service delivery, general means of transportation, and computer ownership and internet use. In order to keep interview time to a minimum, reduce respondent burden, and maintain cost effectiveness, we are willing to eliminate two (2) subject areas and one (1) question from existing census questionnaire: Place of Work, Journey to Work, and Date of Birth of Last Child Born to Person.

Because the census is conducted on Guam every ten years, essential housing and demographic information must be captured. With Guam's ever-growing and changing housing and population make-up and with the anticipated military expansion of military personnel and their families to

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Subject Recommendations for the 2010 Guam Census

Guam in the upcoming years, we must be ready to respond and make available critical programs and services to the community. Policymakers and community leaders use census information to warrant use of local and federal funds to implement policies and program measures for purposes of addressing Guam's immediate needs and to effectively plan for the future. Through this cooperative effort and partnership with you and your staff, we can ensure improved coverage and accuracy to achieve a complete housing and population count on Guam.

Your favorable consideration in the matter is much appreciated. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Alberto A. Lamorena V, Director, Bureau of Statistics and Plans or Ms. Monica Guerrero, Planner, Bureau of Statistics and Plans by telephone at (671) 472-4201/2/3 or by facsimile at (671) 477-1812. You may also contact Mr. Lamorena via email at tlamorena@gmail.com or Ms. Guerrero at mjguerrero28@yahoo.com.

Sinseru yan Magåhet,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Felix P. Camacho', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'Låhen Guahan
Governor of Guam

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Idabelle Hovland, Chief, Puerto Rico, Island Areas and Overseas Enumeration Program
Ms. Julia Buckley-Ess, Survey Statistician, Puerto Rico and Island Areas Program

PROPOSED CENSUS SUBJECTS FOR THE 2010 CENSUS

GUAM

Basic Subjects

Household relationship
Sex
Age
Race/ethnicity

Tenure (whether the home is owned or rented)
Vacancy characteristics

Detailed Subjects

Population

Marital Status
Place of birth, citizenship, and year of entry
Father's Birthplace
Mother's Birthplace
Fertility
School Enrollment and Educational Attainment
Vocational Training
Migration (Residence in 2005)
Reason for Migration
Language spoken at home
Frequency of English usage
Veteran Status
Military Dependency
Disability
Grandparents as caregivers
Labor force status
Occupation, industry, and class of worker
Work status in 2009
Income in 2009
Remittances sent abroad
Caregiver service delivery
Means of transportation

Housing

Value of home or monthly rent paid
Units in structure
Year structure built
Number of rooms
Number of bedrooms
Year moved into residence
Plumbing and kitchen facilities
Telephone service including land line, cellular
and mobile use
Vehicles available
Source of water
Sewage disposal
Condominium status
Materials used for walls / roof / foundation
Battery operated radio
Air conditioning
Business / medical office on this property
Utilities, mortgage, taxes, insurance, and
fuel costs
Computer ownership and internet use

Proposed Deletions include:

- 1) Place of Work and Journey to Work [Questions 24(a), 24(b) and 26(a), 26(b)] and
- 2) "What was the date of birth of the last child born to this person?" [Question 20b]

PROPOSED NEW SUBJECTS AND DELETIONS FOR THE 2010 GUAM CENSUS

I. Additions

A. Population

1) Remittances Sent Abroad – Census results showed a strong migrant population on Guam. This is clearly evident for Philippine-born and Micronesian-born persons living on Guam. In 1990, there were 39,681 foreign-born (excluding U.S. born) persons living on Guam. By 2000, there were 52,595 foreign-born persons living on Guam, or 33 percent of Guam’s total population. Majority of Guam’s foreign-born population come from the Philippines, making up close to 80 percent of all foreign-born persons living on Guam.

The implementation of the 1986 Compact of Free Association also contributed to the growth in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) migration to Guam. The Compact allows FSM and RMI citizens to freely settle in Guam and the United States to work, reside, and go to school for an unlimited period of time.

With the anticipated military expansion and movement of thousands of military personnel and federal hire to Guam, Guam’s migrant population is expected to increase dramatically. The influx of foreign laborers, military personnel, and entry of individuals and families seeking better opportunities will alter Guam’s population structure come 2010. Currently, the Census questionnaire collects remittances on “monies received from outside the household or in the military.” With the mobile military population and the growth of Micronesian, Asian and foreign-born migrants to Guam, monies are expected to be sent off-island to family members and friends. Information on remittances sent abroad provides government policymakers and legislators with a useful measurement on Guam’s economic situation and economic impact on the resident population.

2) Caregiver Service Delivery – As more long-term care is provided in the home and in community-based programs, reliance on family and caregiver service delivery has become more evident than years before. In our efforts to support policy and program development services to assist Guam’s chronic ill, elderly and disabled population, critical information is required to determine type of care needed, utilization and availability of caregiver and/or personal attendant services. Information will be used to guide policymakers to justify funds for caregiver and long-term support services, improve resources to meet caregiver needs, promote education and skills training, and to ensure the overall delivery of quality health care to Guam’s elderly population and persons with disabilities.

3) Means of Transportation – Intended to address general means of transportation. Data derived from the census reports means of transportation to work (private vehicle, public bus, taxicab, motorcycle, etc.) for persons 15 years and over. With the anticipated military build-up in the next few years and the rise in gas prices, private and public transportation service is expected to increase. Persons with disabilities and senior citizens also have special needs and use transit services for medical visits and treatment purposes, grocery shopping and for general transportation needs. We recommend moving Means of Transportation to Work from the labor force section [Questions 25(a), 25(b)] and situate near the disability section of the Census questionnaire. Data will provide useful information in infrastructure development, highway planning, and will contribute towards improved transportation service delivery for the elderly and persons with disabilities.

B. Housing

1) Telephone Service – The 2000 Census questionnaire asks whether there is a working telephone in the house, apartment, or mobile home that allows the respondent both to make and receive calls. Recommendation for the 2010 Census is to include access to cell phones and other mobile devices. Today, many of Guam’s households own or have access to a cell phone or other mobile devices. With the advancement of the telecommunications industry, more and more households are relying on cell phone use to keep in touch with family, business associates, to send data, and to gain access to email. Since cell phones and mobile units have become more affordable and easy to use, it may not be surprising if households use such units as their primary form of communication. From personal communication to access to emergency services, it is essential to determine households who have access telephones, cell phones and/or mobile devices.

2) Computer Ownership and Internet Use – Include Computer Ownership and Internet Use on the Housing section of the Census questionnaire. Computer and internet use/access serves as a major form of communication and dissemination of information. The rise of the technological industry has enabled individuals to conduct on-line banking and seek better economic and employment opportunities via the internet. From internet communication to individuals locally and worldwide, to access to news, weather, government programs, and education services, the data will provide essential information on the characteristics of Guam’s population that have access to information, specific uses of the internet, and how technology impacts society and the lives of the community.

II. Deletions

1) Place of Work and Journey to Work [Questions 24(a), 24(b) and 26(a), 26(b)] – Place of Work and Journey to Work data have not been shown in the 1990 and 2000 Censuses to have much value for planning use on Guam. Government officials use other data sources such as traffic counters to assess traffic flows and congestion patterns on Guam.

2) “What was the date of birth of the last child born to this person?” [Question 20b] – Because the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services maintains complete birth registration statistics, there is no need to retain this question.