

Topics to be included in the March 2017 Census Test forms: 2018 Census Programme recommendations

Purpose

This document outlines the topics recommended by the 2018 Census Programme to be included in the individual and dwelling questionnaire forms for the March 2017 Census Test. The intention is to enable decision makers to make informed decisions on content topics to be included in this census test. It will also enable other census operational projects to progress work on the March 2017 Census Test.

Context

In order to reflect and best meet the data needs of customers, the 2018 Census content team has done a full review of existing and potential census content. It has tested a number of new and changed topics for Census 2018 in conjunction with Questionnaire Methodology & Development, the 2018 Census Respondent Interaction project and other internal and external stakeholders.

The March 2017 Census Test marks a major milestone for the 2018 Census programme and for the content that will be included in the 2018 Census. It will be the first test of

- near final census content across modes and in bilingual format
- full online functionality of the internet form including auto suggestion for write in fields
- end-to-end processes for a number of variables resulting in products being produced in conjunction with the CPSA programme.

The table below outlines

- Recommended existing content (that was not considered for exclusion)
- Recommended content (that was considered for addition, change or exclusion)
- Content not recommended for inclusion.


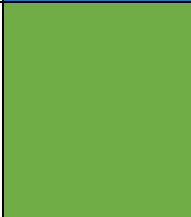

Content with minor quality improvements to questions, that did not affect the concept collected or output categories, were not put through the content determination rating process.

New topics recommended for inclusion have been italicised.

For some of the topics considered for inclusion on the individual form, there have been a number of stages leading to these recommendations. The first column indicates the content teams status following the July 2016 Census Test, with amber variables being identified as having issues needing to be resolved prior to recommendation. The second column indicates content recommendations following reassessment of the amber variables. The third column indicates the recommendations from the 2018 Census Programme.

It should be noted that the topics of Second Residence and Sexual Orientation were initially recommended for inclusion in the March 2017 Census Test by the content team. Following concerns raised over the total amount of content on the individual form, as well as the issues identified in testing for these topics, they have not been recommended for inclusion.

Individual form topics	Status			
Name Age Usual residence Census night address Birthplace Years since arrival in New Zealand Ethnicity Languages spoken Maori descent Religious affiliation Living arrangements (and the existing range of derived family and household variables) Partnership status in current relationship Tenure holder Highest secondary school qualification Post-school qualification (tick box addition) Study participation Sources of personal income Total personal income Work and labour force status Status in employment Occupation Sector of ownership Industry Workplace address Hours worked per week				Recommended existing content (that was not considered for exclusion)
Sex (addition of third response option) Iwi affiliation (no addition of Hapu and Marae) Main means of travel to work (change from census day) Number of children born alive Cigarette smoking behaviour <i>Main means of travel to education</i> <i>Educational Institution address</i> Years at usual residence <i>Usual residence one year ago</i> Unpaid activities Highest qualification (including overseas qualification indicator) Legally registered relationship status Disability/activity limitations				Recommended content (that was considered for addition, change or exclusion)
Sexual orientation Second residence Usual residence five years ago* (to be produced from admin data) Step-families Gender Identity Industry training Ownership of other dwellings Paternity Well-being indicator Language proficiency Region of birthplace Citizenship Generational Attachment Veteran population				Content not recommended for inclusion

Dwelling form topics	Status	
Dwelling address Dwelling counts and types of unoccupied dwellings (note – this isn't just from the dwelling form, it also requires information from the field) Number of occupants on census night Relationship to reference person (and the existing range of derived family and household variables) Weekly rent paid by household Number of bedrooms Number of rooms Tenure of household		Recommended existing content (not considered for exclusion)
Sector of landlord Type of heating (previously fuel types) <i>Housing quality – access to basic amenities, dampness, mould</i> Occupied dwelling type Access to telecommunication systems (fax category dropped) Number of motor vehicles (output change)		
License to occupy Internet connection quality Mortgage payment amount		Content not recommended for inclusion.