



**SADA**

**South African Data Archive**

**Population Census, 1970**

**Statistics South Africa**

**CODEBOOK**

**SADA 0072**

As agreed upon in the signed 'User Undertaking' that accompanied data collection:

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Statistics South Africa. *Population Census, 1970*. [Computer file]. S0072. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa [producer], 1970. Pretoria: South African Data Archive, National Research Foundation [distributor], 2000.

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The Archive and the depositor of the dataset supplied to the user bear no legal responsibility for its accuracy or comprehensiveness.

POSTAL ADDRESS    South African Data Archive  
                          National Research Foundation  
                          P.O. Box 2600  
                          Pretoria  
                          0001

Telephone            +27 12 481- 4192  
Fax number          +27 12 481- 4020  
Electronic mail      sada@nrf.ac.za  
World Wide Web     <http://www.nrf.ac.za/sada>

## STUDY DESCRIPTION

SADA 0072

**TITLE:** Population Census, 1970

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:** Statistics South Africa

**DEPOSITOR:** Statistics South Africa

**ORGANISATION HOUSING THE DATA:**

Statistics South Africa

Private Bag x44

Pretoria , 0001

South Africa

Tel: +27 (0) 12 310 8911

Fax: +27(0) 12 322 3374

Website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

**SERIES DATA:**

Series name:	Principal Investigator:	Currently available:
Census	Statistics South Africa	1991
Census	Statistics South Africa	1985
Census	Statistics South Africa	1980
Census	Statistics South Africa	1970
Census	Statistics South Africa	1996: 10% Sample
Census	Statistics South Africa	2001: 10% Sample

**ABSTRACT:**

The 1970 South African Population Census was enumerated on a de facto basis, that is, according to the place where persons were located during the census. All persons who were present on Republic of South African territory during census night were enumerated and included in the data. Visitors from abroad who were present in the RSA on holiday or business on the night of the census, as well as foreigners (and their families) who were studying or economically active, were not enumerated and included in the figures. Likewise, members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps of foreign countries were not included. However, the South African personnel linked to the foreign missions including domestic workers were enumerated. Crews and passengers of ships were also not enumerated, unless they were normally resident in the Republic of South Africa. Residents of the RSA who were absent from the night were as far as possible enumerated on their return and included in the region where they normally resided. Personnel of the South African Government stationed abroad and their families were, however enumerated. Such persons were included in the Transvaal (Pretoria).

**GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION:** South Africa

**IMPORTANT VARIABLES :**

Particulars of dwellings- type of dwelling, number of rooms, and ownership; Particulars of person- relationship within household, sex, age, marital status, population group, birthplace, country of citizenship, duration of residence at normal dwelling, religion/denomination, languages and literacy, level of education, sport and recreation, occupation, work status, identity of employer, economic sector and income; Particulars of the family including children at boarding school, university or undergoing military training.

**UNIVERSE :**

The 1970 census covered the so-called white areas of South Africa, i.e. the areas in the former four provinces of the Cape, the Orange Free State, Transvaal, and Natal. It also covered areas in the following so-called National States of Ciskei, KwaZulu, Gazankulu, Lebowa, Qwaqwa, Kangwane, Kwandebele, Transkei and Bophuthatswana.

**DATE OF FIELDWORK:** 7 May 1970

**METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION :**

- ❖ In most cases the boundaries of the census districts corresponded with those of the magisterial districts. However, in some cases the boundaries did not correspond, particularly in the areas in and around the "National States". This was to facilitate the administration of the census and to make it easier to exclude figures of the "National states" from provincial totals.
- ❖ The RSA was divided into 400 census districts with a census supervisor in charge of enumeration in each such area. The enumeration procedures differed by area. The procedure in white urban areas was as follows: Prior to the night of the census, every enumerator whose ESD fell within the limits of any municipality or other urban area, delivered the applicable questionnaires to every dwelling in the ESD. Thus for part of the country the 1970 Census was conducted by way of distributing census questionnaires beforehand and collecting the completed returns after the census day. In cases where the enumerator was requested to, as well as where the respondent was unable to complete the questionnaire, the census enumerator assisted in the completion thereof.
- ❖ In white non-urban areas, questionnaires were not distributed before census day except to hotels. On census day the enumerator had to hand the questionnaires to the householder for immediate return.
- ❖ In black residential areas, enumerators carried out a comprehensive door-to-door survey. The particulars of all persons were entered on the appropriate questionnaire. Particulars were filled out by the enumerator except where the respondent indicated that s(he) wanted to fill out the questionnaire him(herself). Questionnaires were not distributed before census day.
- ❖ Every household was enumerated on a separate questionnaire.
- ❖ For the purpose of the 1970 census urban area was defined as areas with some form of local authority. Industrial and mine towns without any form of local authority and other areas not included under urban was defined as non-urban.

**UNITS OF OBSERVATION:** Persons were used as units of analysis.

**EXTENT OF DATA COLLECTION**

- ❖ 6 data files in SPSS, hardcopy documentation and hardcopy questionnaire.

	Asians	Blacks	Coloureds	Whites	House	Dwelling
Number of cases	630 622	751 892	2 050 937	3 792 848	1 403 466	1 389 394
Number of records	630 622	751 892	2 050 937	3 792 848	1 403 466	1 389 394
Number of records per case	1	1	1	1	1	1
Logical record length	80	80	80	80	80	80
Number of variables	32	21	32	32	20	57
Number of kilobytes	43, 133	27, 552	123, 339	256, 799	46, 539	108, 851

**PUBLICATIONS:**

Central Statistical Service Report No. 02-80-02. 1970. Population Census, 1970. Pretoria: Central Statistical Service.