

PORTUGAL CONTA CONNOSCO. NÓS CONTAMOS CONSIGO.

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## 2011 CENSUS

### INFORMATION FOR CITIZENS

**In March/April, Statistics Portugal, with the support of local councils and commune offices, will be holding the 2011 Census.**

The purpose of the 2011 Census is to enumerate all citizens and households, residing or only present in the Portuguese territory, regardless of their nationality, as well as all residential dwellings and buildings.

Data collection is simultaneous across the whole national territory and responses are mandatory under the law.

The clearly identified enumerators will provide all explanations and any support necessary for completing the questionnaires.

Individual data collected will only be used for statistical purposes, and since being subject to statistical confidentiality, they cannot be disclosed. All the professionals involved in the Census are bound by secrecy according to the Law and, in case of infringement (which has never happened), they may be held civilly or criminally liable.

Responses to the 2011 Census must be given in March/April, with reference to 21 March («census moment»).

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## **The 2011 Census has a new feature: online responses, the e-census**

For the first time ever in Portugal, the population may answer the questionnaires over the internet, not only by completing them in the traditional paper format.

### **How will fieldwork be conducted?**

All residences are contacted by an enumerator, who will deliver the documentation regarding the operation in question: the paper questionnaires and a closed envelope containing access codes for secure online response.

If residents are absent, the documentation will be left in the mailbox.

You may answer the Census as of 21 March 2011.

If you choose to answer over the internet the enumerator will not contact you again, for you will receive an sms notification indicating that your answers have already been provided.

Should you choose to fill in the paper questionnaires the enumerator will return to collect them.

As answers are given, in some of the country's communes a small sample of the population is subject to further face-to-face interviews for quality control. In those cases, contact will also be made by a duly identified enumerator from Statistics Portugal, who will provide all explanations.

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### **Fieldwork**

The 2011 Census fieldwork will take place from 7 March to 24 April 2011, being extended for quality control purposes if necessary.

Fieldwork will be undertaken in the following stages:

**Stage 1:** From 7 to 20 March: **Distribution of the documentation to citizens**

**Stage 2:** From 21 to 27 March: **Online responses only**

**Stage 3:** From 28 March to 10 April: **Online and paper-based responses**

**Stage 4:** From 10 to 24 April: **Paper-based responses only**

The **Helpline 800 22 2011** (toll-free call) will be available on business days from 9 am to 8 pm, between 1 March and the end of the collection process.

### **Answering the Census is easy, quick and safe**

Answers must always be given with reference to 21 March 2011.

To answer over the internet you must:

- Go to the website [www.census2011.pt](http://www.census2011.pt) (as of 21 March)
- Enter the secure access codes as indicated in the envelope, as well as the codes relating to the dwelling, which can be found on the respective paper questionnaire (the enumerator will deliver all these documents at your house);
- Answer the questionnaires;
- Press «Send».

At the end you will be provided a proof of successful sending.

If it is not possible for you to answer over the internet, you may fill in the paper questionnaires. The enumerator will return to your house to collect them.

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### Information for the foreign population

Foreign population residing in Portugal for more than one year or intending to stay in the country for at least one year is considered as resident in Portugal, and hence must also answer the 2011 Census questionnaires.

Foreign citizens are enumerated as national citizens, and may answer the Census:

Online at [www.census2011.ine.pt](http://www.census2011.ine.pt)

By filling in the paper questionnaires

Please refer to the 2011 Census questionnaires, which have been translated into English, Chinese, Russian and Romanian at [www.census2011.ine.pt](http://www.census2011.ine.pt)

For more information, please contact:

Helpline 800 22 2011 (toll-free call) on business days from 9 am to 8 pm, as of 1 March 2011.

You may also obtain further information from your local council or commune office.

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### **Why is it important to answer the Census?**

Population and Housing Censuses – the so-called Census – are the greatest statistical operation held in any country in the world, and their output is instrumental for the knowledge of population and the housing stock.

Census information is vital for central, regional and local governments, enterprises, other public and private entities, researchers and citizens in general.

Censuses provide a comprehensive and detailed information framework; this unique statistical operation allows for the enumeration and characterisation of all people, living quarters and residential buildings in the country.

Information obtained from the Censuses is thus of great use for defining regional and local policies and for planning infra-structures and services deemed essential to the population.

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### **Answering the Census is exercising active citizenship**

Answering the Census is simultaneously a right and a duty of citizenship, whereby citizens are including themselves in a “picture” of the population and the housing stock. It will only be a high-quality picture if it mirrors the reality of each and everyone. By not answering, you will be jeopardising the accuracy and completeness of such portrait and of the measures that would be taken based on it.

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**It is time to take part!**

**Do not be left out of the greatest national statistical operation.**

**As of 21 March provide your answers to the 2011 Census over the internet or, if this is not possible, fill in the paper questionnaires.**

If you do not receive the questionnaires or if these are not duly collected – in case you have used the paper-based method – please contact your commune office.

**For your safety, always ask enumerators for their identification. In case of doubt, please contact the Helpline and confirm the accuracy of the information.**

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**For further explanation:**

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**2011 Census**

**Portugal is counting on us. We are counting on you.**

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**Statistics Portugal, February 2011**