



Census of Bermuda

23rd October 1960

Report of Census & Statistical Tables
Compiled in accordance with the Census Act, 1950

Published by The Bermuda Government

1961

Price 10/-

BERMUDA CENSUS 1960

Legal Authority. The Census 1960 was carried out under the provisions of the Census Act 1950 and subsequent Regulations made by His Excellency the Governor-in-Council under the Census Act 1950, these being known as the Census Regulations 1960.

The Census Order 1960 made by His Excellency the Governor under the Census Act, 1950 named the 23rd October as the time at which the Census should be taken.

Census Committee. A Census Committee charged with the responsibility of taking the Census was appointed by His Excellency the Governor under the Chairmanship of The Hon. Edmund Gibbons, and consisted of the following members:-

The Hon. Hal Butterfield, C. B. E.
Cecil Dismont, Esq.
Robert Outerbridge, Esq. M. C. P.
E. T. Richards, Esq. M. C. P.

Mrs. Dudley Butterfield
Mrs. G. B. McPhee
John R. Plowman, Esq. O. B. E.

Census Staff. Dr. Simon Frazer, Director of Health Services, was appointed Superintendent of the Census and Mr. Park Breck Assistant Superintendent of the Census for the purpose of supervising the work involved in the actual taking of the Census. Mrs. Joy Lusher acted as Executive Secretary to the Committee and clerical assistance was employed as required.

Census Office. The Headquarters Office for the Census was opened at the Medical & Health Department where all work in connection with the Census was carried out.

Phase 1. Preliminary. Requests were sent to Government Boards, Parish Vestries, other official groups and private organizations asking them if they had any particular detail they would like embodied in the Census return. A provisional Census form was designed based on these requests and previous questions asked, and was discussed by the Superintendent of the Census with officials of International Computers & Tabulators, Ltd. in London and the two Census Forms, "A" for residents and "B" for visitors and transients, were approved.

Publicity. With the co-operation of the local press the Census was widely advertised in the newspapers. Dr. Simon Frazer and Mr. Park Breck appeared on the Television and gave the public instruction on how to complete their form and discussed queries that might arise. This programme was also broadcast through Z. B. M.

Phase 2. Pre-Census and the count. Appointment of supervisors and enumerators.

Supervisors. 14 Supervisors were appointed. In some cases two or three were required for the larger Parishes, and were divided as follows:-

Parish of St. George	Mr. James A. Smith
Town of St. George	Mr. Sydney Stallard
Hamilton Parish	Mr. William Cox
Smith's Parish	Mr. Charles Lewis
Devonshire Parish	Lt. Cmdr. H. G. Middleton
Pembroke East	Mr. Robert Clark
Pembroke West	Mr. Ronald Doidge
City of Hamilton	the late Mr. C. Gladstone Hinson
Paget Parish	Capt. F. Q. Champness
Warwick Parish	Messrs. E. Harley Barnes, T. N. Tatem
Southampton Parish	Mr. Dudley Cooper
Sandys Parish	Messrs. E. Dias, George Ratteray, Sr.

Each supervisor was issued with printed instructions and meetings were held at which they, and the enumerators, were advised as to the procedure which they were to follow.

Enumerators. In July, 1960, advertisements were placed in the newspapers requesting applications from persons who wished to be employed as Enumerators, and 227 such persons were engaged for this duty. Several meetings were held in each district as a means of instructing the Enumerators, and they were supplied with a copy of the Enumerator's Memorandum, "Aids to Completion of Form A", and Instruction Book and a small map of their particular area.

Letters of Appointment. Letters of Appointment were issued to each Supervisor and Enumerator and each person engaged on the taking of the Census was called upon to sign a form of acceptance of appointment, and required to take a prescribed oath before a Justice of the Peace.

Enumerators' Areas. It was decided that 50 Households was the maximum number which could be handled efficiently by a single Enumerator, and in dividing the districts, an endeavour was made to see that each Enumerator had approximately this number of households to visit. However, as a total of 12,516 households were found, many Enumerators had more than their estimated figure.

Preliminary Enumeration. Enumerators were allowed to begin their preliminary enumeration on Sunday, 9th October, 1960 and were required to visit every household prior to Census day and leave a Household Schedule, an "Aids to Completion of Form A", and a Visitors Schedule, where this was required. They were further advised that the form could be filled in prior to Census Day where there was every possibility that no change would be made in the intervening period.

Final Enumeration. Final enumeration began early Sunday, 23rd October, 1960 and was completed by approximately mid-night. The Supervisors of each District waited for their Enumerators to hand in the completed forms and blue books, then relayed the figures in their Parish to Dr. Simon Frazer, who was in the Census Office with his Assistant throughout the day and night.

Announcements. By 9.30 a. m. Monday, 24th October, 1960 a provisional figure of 55,622 was submitted to the Colonial Secretary and released to the public.

Phase 3. Checking and Coding. While the standard of enumerating was high, there were a few instances owing to ill-health or lack of appreciation of the task on which re-checking was done and where areas were re-worked. Coding started immediately the forms were in, a staff of six, working in teams of two being employed for this purpose. As soon as a district coding was completed it was sent to London by air. The first district, which was perhaps the hardest, was sent with the view of comments from International Computers & Tabulators, Ltd. on any short-comings. Criticisms from London were examined and procedure modified accordingly. The very complicated task of coding requiring continuous and concentrated application, was well done and after a few minor misunderstandings, very few mistakes were made. The coding of all districts was completed by mid-March.

Franchise. The Superintendent was asked if he could prepare detailed figures by zones, by race and by age groups 21 and over, 25 and over, in each district. This involved a consultation with I. C. T. and the figures were extracted from the data available, but this did cause a delay in the compilation of other data in London. The data so obtained will be of considerable use to Government if the system of Constituencies for voting purposes is adopted.

Phase 4. Compilation, abstracts and proof reading were carried out by the Superintendent, Dr. Simon Frazer, and Mrs. Joy Lusher. Appreciation is due to Mr. W. Laidlaw and Miss L. Massey of I. C. T. for their amiable co-operation in preparing the data required, and their personal interest and advice in the many problems involved.

Cost. The sum of £8,000 was voted by the Legislature in 1959 as an initial amount to cover the Census cost. This was found, as was anticipated, to be inadequate and a subsequent grant of £8,000, making a total of £16,000 in all, was voted.

The Committee is satisfied that, insofar as is humanly possible, a detailed and accurate Census was taken. This satisfactory result was very largely due to the industry, initiative and ability of Dr. Simon Frazer, his assistant, Mr. Park Breck, and Executive Secretary, Mrs. Joy Lusher. The Committee also desire to express their thanks to the Supervisors and Enumerators who efficiently discharged their considerable responsibilities. The public, too, are to be thanked for their valuable co-operation and assistance.

