

# **Experiences in Conducting the 2005 Population Census and Strategies for the 2010 Census**

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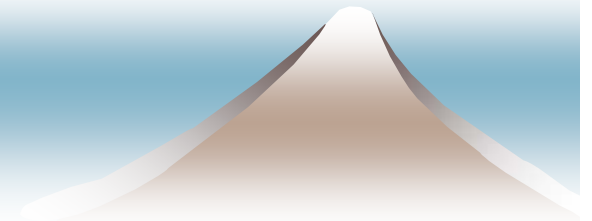
# 2005 Population Census

## Outline of the Census

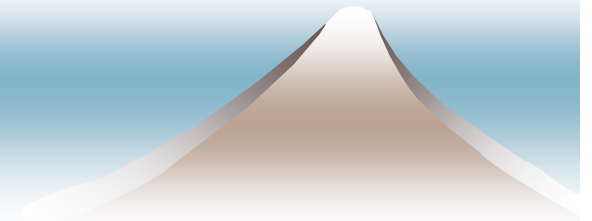
- ◆ The recent Census was conducted as of 1 October 2005.

- ◆ 17 topics

Name, Sex, Age, Marital status, Nationality, Education, Type of activity, Industry, Occupation, Employment status, Place of work, Source of household income etc.



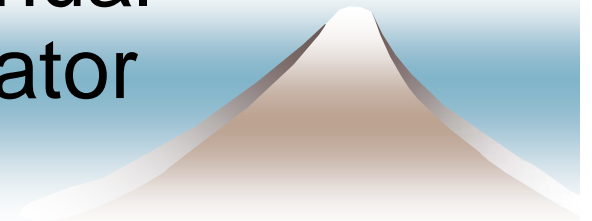
- ◆ Field work of the census were managed in cooperation with the local governments (prefectures and municipalities).
- ◆ 90,000 supervisors and 830,000 enumerators
- ◆ Census questionnaire forms were delivered by enumerators, filled in by households and collected by enumerators.
- ◆ The budget for the 2005 Census is about 65 billion yen(54 million US dollars) in FY 2005.



## Measures taken for the 2005 Census

### < Confidentiality of personal information >

- ◆ The Act on the Protection of Personal information was enforced in April 2005.
- ◆ Consideration on the sensitivity of privacy of households
- ◆ Envelops to contain the completed forms for submission
- ◆ Revised personal information confidentiality protection manual distributed to every enumerator



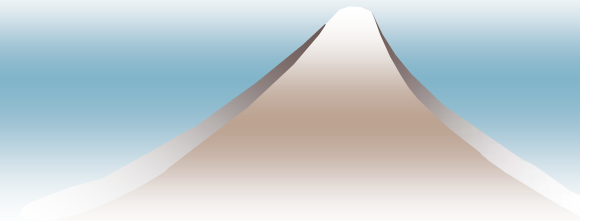
## <Areas where enumeration anticipated difficult>

Requests for cooperation in the Census to the caretakers of apartments, especially apartments equipped with self-locking systems at the entrance

### < Improved publicity >

Publicity aimed at younger people

- i) Specially-targeted posters
- ii) Internet, cellular phones and street displays



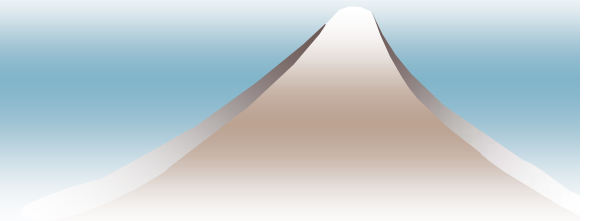
# Operation of the 2005 Census

## < Increasing problems >

- ◆ Households away from home increased.
- ◆ Households who did not cooperate increased.
- ◆ Non-response to certain topics such as Name of the Establishment for which one works increased.
- ◆ Households who made a complaint against the Census.
  - “Ending up with being enumerated by hearing” increased  
1.7% in 2000 to 4.5% in 2005.

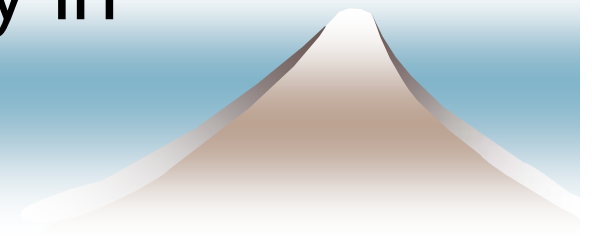
# Factors underlying these problems (1)

- ◆ People's consciousness of privacy
- ◆ Increase in the households tending to be away from home
  - e.g. Double harness households, single households
- ◆ Increase in the households living in apartments, especially apartment buildings with self-locking systems at the entrance.
- ◆ People become more cautious about security



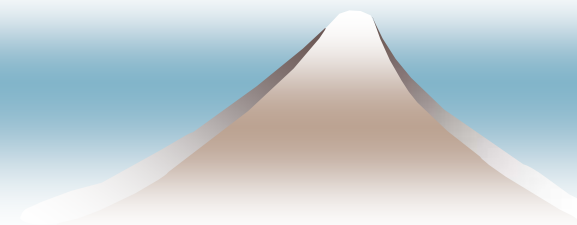
## Factors underlying these problems (2)

- ◆ An increasing number of younger generation do not understand the meaning of the Census.
- ◆ The meaning of Census topics and people's obligation to comply with the Census are not well known.
- ◆ Communities which used to recommend their citizens as Census enumerators have weakened, resulting in difficulty in recruiting enumerators.



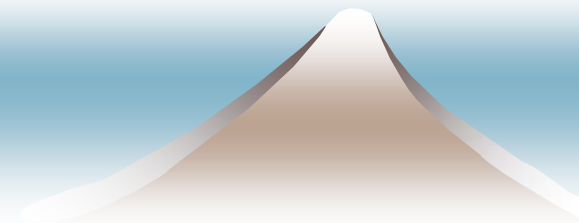
# Release and Dissemination

- ◆ Schedule for release of results
  - 2005 Dec. Preliminary counts
  - 2006 Jun. One percent sample tabulation
  - 2006 Oct. Final counts on the population
- ◆ Most of the released data are disseminated through the Internet
- ◆ Small area data with geographical maps using GIS



# Strategies for the 2010 Census

- ◆ A Committee of academics and specialists on the Population Census to make recommendations to solve the problems in the 2005 Census was set up in January 2006.
- ◆ In July 2006, the Council made the Report regarding the strategies for the 2010 Census.



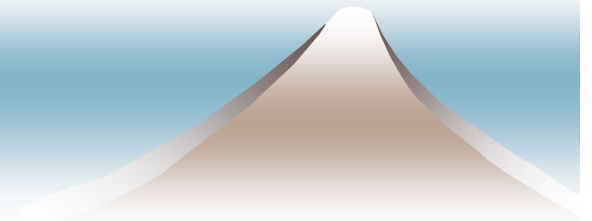
# The Report reaffirms :

## 1. Complete enumeration

Conforming to

the UN Principles and Recommendation

- Individual enumeration
- Universality within a defined territory
- Simultaneity
- Defined periodicity



## Furthermore :

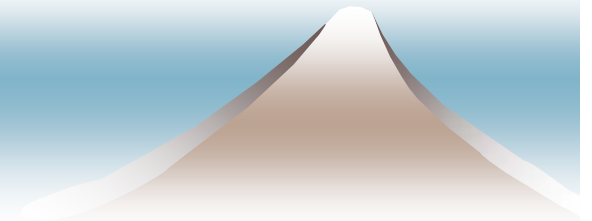
- ◆ To produce the national sampling frame for sample surveys on persons and households, and benchmark figures for ratio estimation
- ◆ To produce statistics for smaller areas



## 2. Field enumeration

Register-based census is not feasible/suitable.

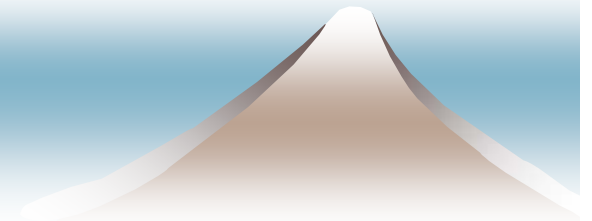
- ◆ Administrative information is limited in content.
- ◆ The common identification codes essential to link different types of administrative information do not exist.
- ◆ It is difficult under current circumstances to obtain a national consensus regarding the integration of personal information.



# Improvements for the 2010 Census

## 1. Modification of the field work

- A Delivery of questionnaire forms by enumerators
- B Multiple means of collection of questionnaire forms
- C Assigning skilled enumerators to areas where difficulties are anticipated
- D Protecting the confidentiality of personal information
- E Reduction of the total number of enumerators
- F Employment of the private sector
- G Public announcement in publicity
- H Review of the topics

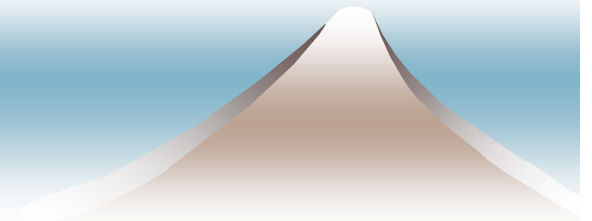


## A Delivery of questionnaire forms by enumerators

Questionnaire forms should be delivered to households by enumerators in principle.

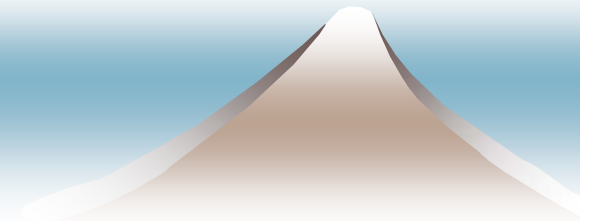
Advantage:

- ◆ Minimizes omission and duplication
- ◆ Visiting by enumerators may provide households with more of an incentive to cooperate in the census



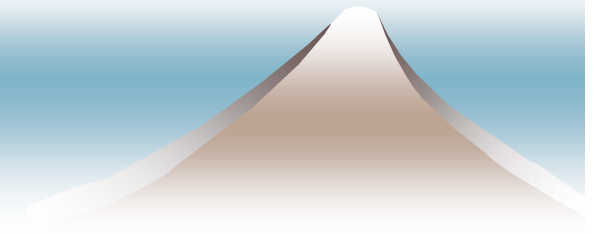
## B Multiple means of collection of questionnaire forms

- ◆ In principle the questionnaire forms should be collected by mail.
- ◆ Other means of submission of forms are allowed.
  - Submission through the Internet
  - Submission to the enumerator in person
  - Submission to the municipal office
- ◆ Enumerators should investigate the households who have not responded as a follow up enumeration



## C Assigning skilled enumerators to areas where difficulties are anticipated

- ◆ Apartments buildings equipped with self-locking systems at the entrance
- ◆ One-room apartments and apartments with no caretaker
- ◆ Areas with a large number of foreign-born people who have difficulty in speaking in Japanese



## D Protecting the confidentiality of personal information

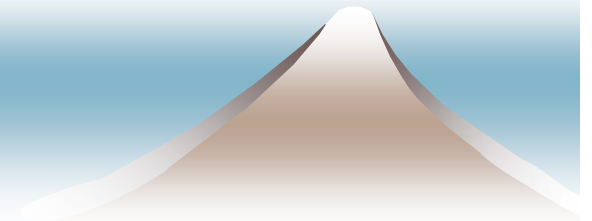
Penalty clauses need to be added to prevent people pretending to be Census enumerators with the intention of obtaining personal information.

## E Reduction of the total number of enumerators

- i) Reviewing the enumeration methodologies
- ii) improving the efficiency of the enumerators

## F Promotion of efficiency of census work

- ◆ Using administrative information as well as IT to draw up household lists and maps of enumeration districts
- ◆ Using private call centers to deal with inquiries, complaints
- ◆ Entrusting apartments management companies with the enumeration work

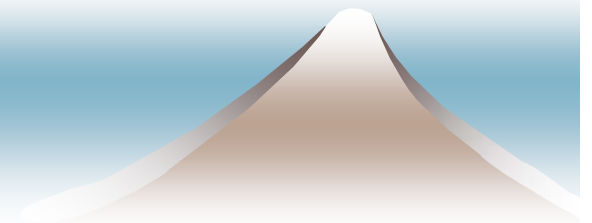


## G Public announcement in publicity

Promotion of publicity to announce explicitly and intensively for the Census

## H Retaining even sensitive topics

- i) Topics which households are likely to be reluctant to respond should still be maintained.
- ii) Better choices and methodologies for completion should be developed.



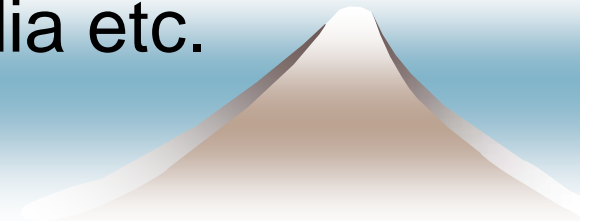
# Efforts toward Realization of the Strategies

## 1. Planning by a Discussion Group

A Discussion Group consisting of experts will design the pilot surveys, analyze their results, and discuss specific plans for the 2010 census

## 2. Consultation Body

A Consultation Body will be set up consisting of various members of the community such as local governments, users, academic societies, consumer associations, the media etc.



### 3. Pilot Surveys

#### Focus of pilot surveys

- Effectiveness of the new Census methodologies
- Development of a system at both central and local government levels to deal with the new methodologies
- Alleviation of the enumerator's workload
- Review of methodology for compilation of Census topics

#### Time schedule

- July 2007                      1<sup>st</sup> pilot survey
- middle of 2008                2<sup>nd</sup> pilot survey
- middle of 2009                Full dress survey

