

# **Population Census of China: Planning for the 2010**

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# **I. General Approach for Census Taking in China**

# 1. History of Population Census in China

**First Census: 1953      Population: 594.53 million**

**Second Census: 1964      Population: 694.58 million**

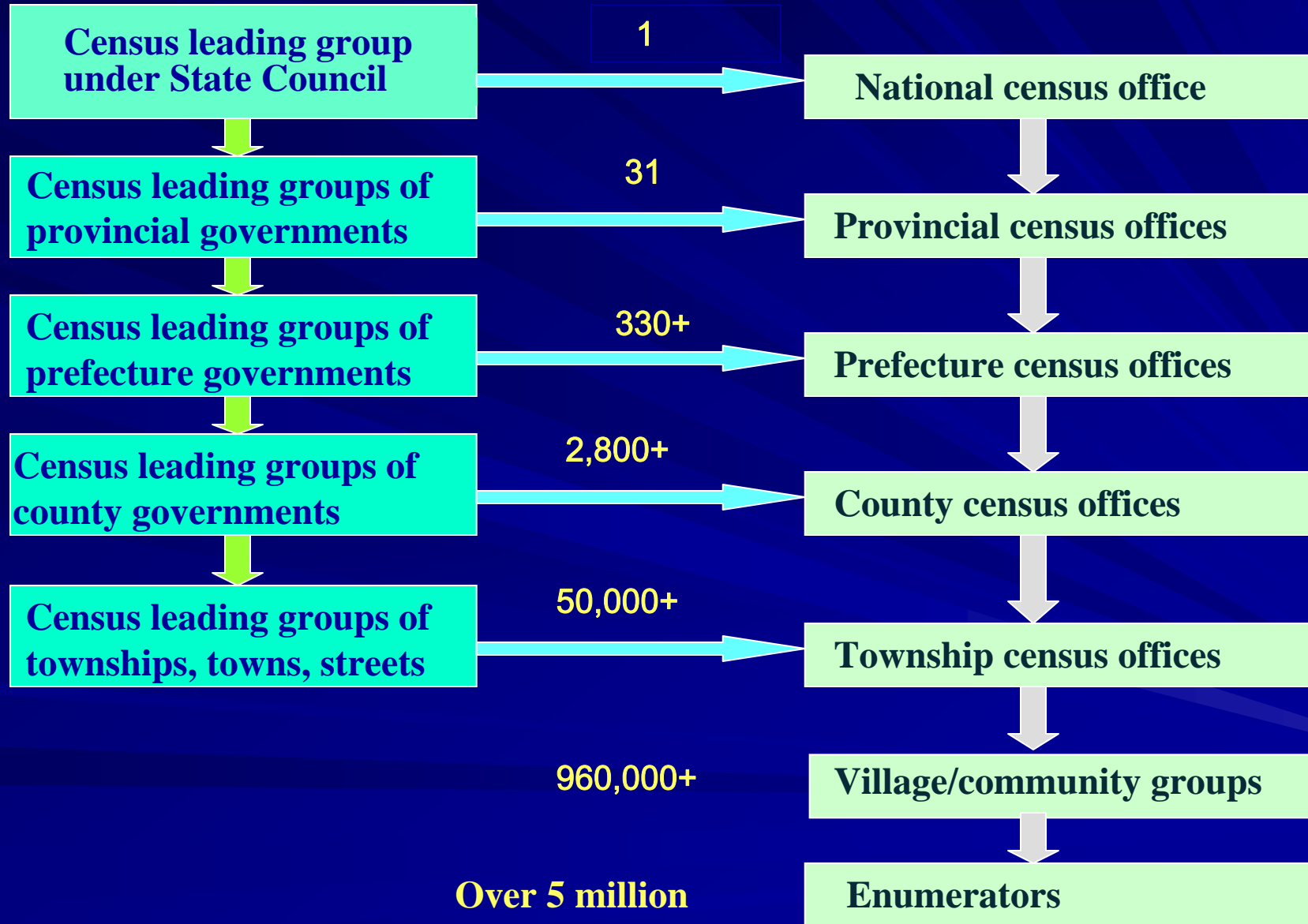
**Third Census: 1982      Population: 1008.18 million**

**Fourth Census: 1990      Population: 1133.68 million**

**Fifth Census: 2000      Population: 1265.83 million**

**Sixth Census: 2010      Population: ???**

# 2. Census Organization



# Census Organization

- **Establishment of census leading group: Formulate and harmonize relevant policies, consider and make decisions on major issues, and conduct general mobilization**
- **Close cooperation of relevant departments: public security, publicity, finance, family planning, housing and urban and rural construction, human resources and social security**
- **Mobilization of society**

# 3. Process of 2000 Census

- Field registration (Nov.1-10,2000 **10days**)
- Call back (Nov.11-20,2000, **10days**)
- Post enumeration survey  
(Dec. 2000, **after 1 month**)
- Advance tabulation  
(Dec. 2000-Jan. 2001, **2 months**)
- Release of Communiqué  
(Mar. 28,2001, **after 100 days**)
- Coding (Jan.----May, 2001, **3 months**)
- Data processing (Mar.-----Dec., 2001)
- Data utilization (Apr.2001 -----2003)

# 4. Recruitment of Enumerators

## Sources :

- Local government employees
- Workers and staff of enterprises and institutions
- Secondary and primary school teachers  
Students of senior high schools and colleges
- Township and village community workers

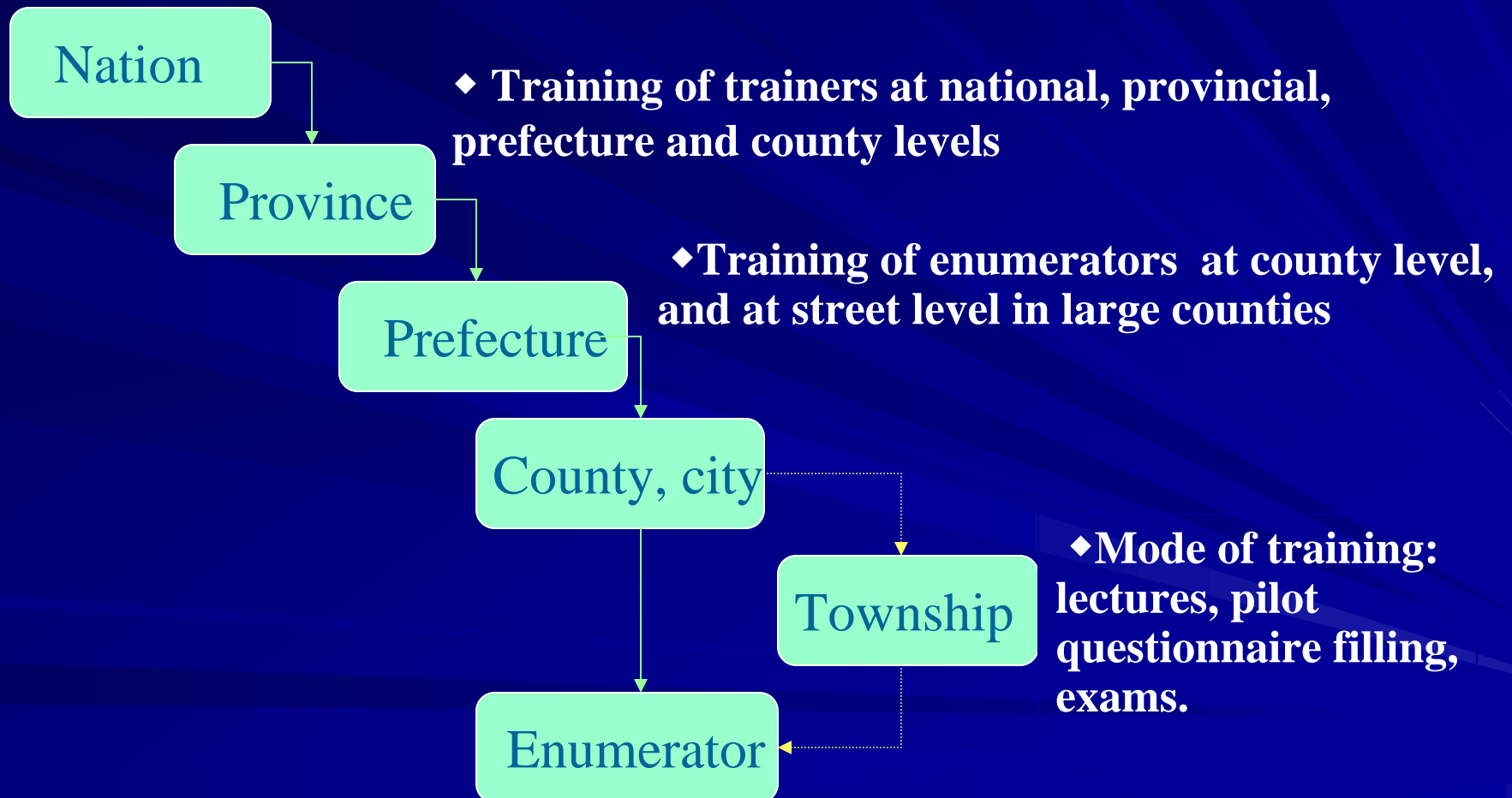
## Numbers of Enumerators :

- One enumerator for each census block covering 250-300 population
- 5 million census blocks in China
- 1/5 stand-by enumerators

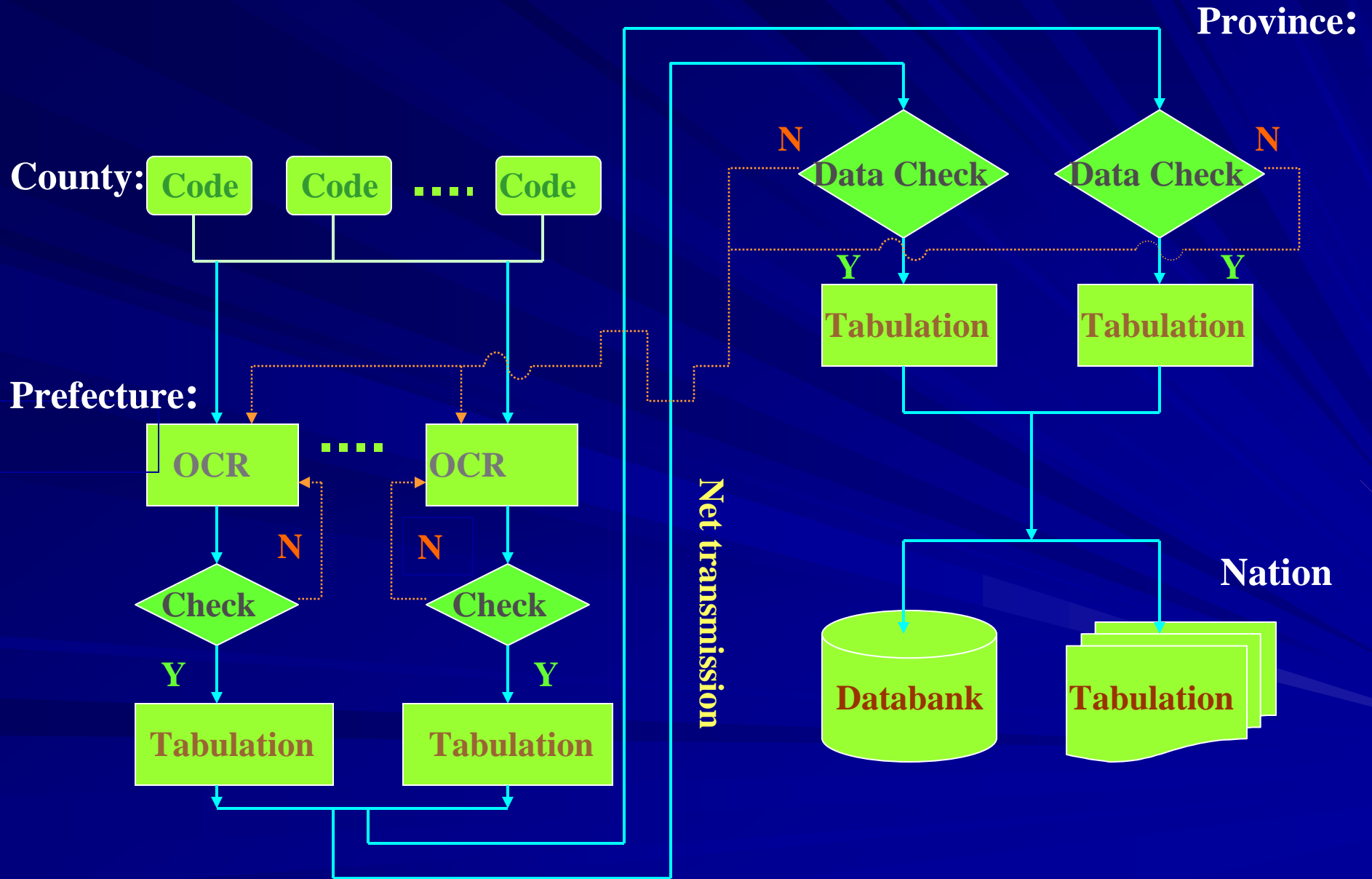
**No salaries but living subsidies**

# 5. Training

Top-down model :



# 6. Decentralized Data Processing



# 7. Dissemination and Utilization

- Data dissemination
- Compendium series
- Thematic studies
- International cooperation
- Census seminars
- GIS and Atlas

# **II. Difficulties Facing 2010 Census**

# Difficulties for 2010 Census

- **Situation for population and housing are more complex:**
  - **Unstable residences of migrant people**
  - **Greater people-residence separation**
  - **Multiple residences**
  - **Under-reporting of unplanned births**

# Difficulties for 2010 Census

- Difficulty to recruit enumerators
- Lower level of public cooperation
- Greater data intervention: performance  
evaluation

# **III. 2010 Census Plan**

# III. 2010 Census Plan

## General principles:

- Carry on the successful experience of previous censuses
- Conduct census according to law
- Plan activities according to national conditions
- Draw on the successful experience of other countries in census

# 1. New Census Legislation

- Existing Statistics Law vs. new legislation
- New Regulation on Population Census

focusing on:

- Coverage (include international migration)
- Recruitment of enumerators
- Quality control: independent census taking  
confidentiality of individual  
information

# 1. New Census Legislation

- **Census budget**
- **Policy-related issues to remove:**
  - **Concern of migrant population about being sent home**
  - **Concern of families about penalty for births beyond family planning programme**
  - **Concern of local officials about performance assessment**

## 2. Census Coverage

- Usual residents in the People's Republic of China
- Targets of previous five censuses were people with the nationality of the People's Republic of China
- 2010 census will cover foreigners who have resided in China for some time

## 2. Census Coverage

- **Spot registration: existing people + people outside native place**

- **Purpose: Ensure total headcount**

**Census workers can operate better**

- **Computers are used to judge, pool and publish permanent population**

# 3. Selection of Enumerators

- Sources: government organs, enterprises, public institutions, villagers committees, community residents committees, local residents, **public recruitment**
- Have fairly high levels of education and are familiar with local conditions
- Receive formal training and pass tests before beginning to work
- Offer appropriate allowance to census workers

# 4. Content of Questionnaire

- Use of short form and long form

- Short form: basic information

*household items <10 , individuals items <10*

- Long form: basic information, migration, education in detail, economic activity, marriage and fertility, housing, mortality, etc.

*household items: 20, individual items:25*

# 5. Registration Methods

- Intensify publicity to make census known to everybody
- Household visits by enumerators will remain the prevailing method
- Self-enumeration where conditions permit and after experiment is conducted

# 6. Data Processing

- Advance results on key items through manual tabulation: 100 days after reference time
- Data capturing: OCR or OMR
- Decentralized mode of data capturing and processing
- Data processing completed in 1 year
- Use of GIS mainly for data presentation

**Thank you!**