



What's new ? Census Methods Used by Countries in Asia and the Pacific

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I. 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses (2005-2014)

- Launched by the UN Statistical Commission in 2005
- Three essential goals are:
 - to agree on international principles and recommendations to conduct a census
 - to urges Member States to carry out a population and housing census at least once in the period 2005-2014
 - to disseminate the census results in a timely manner

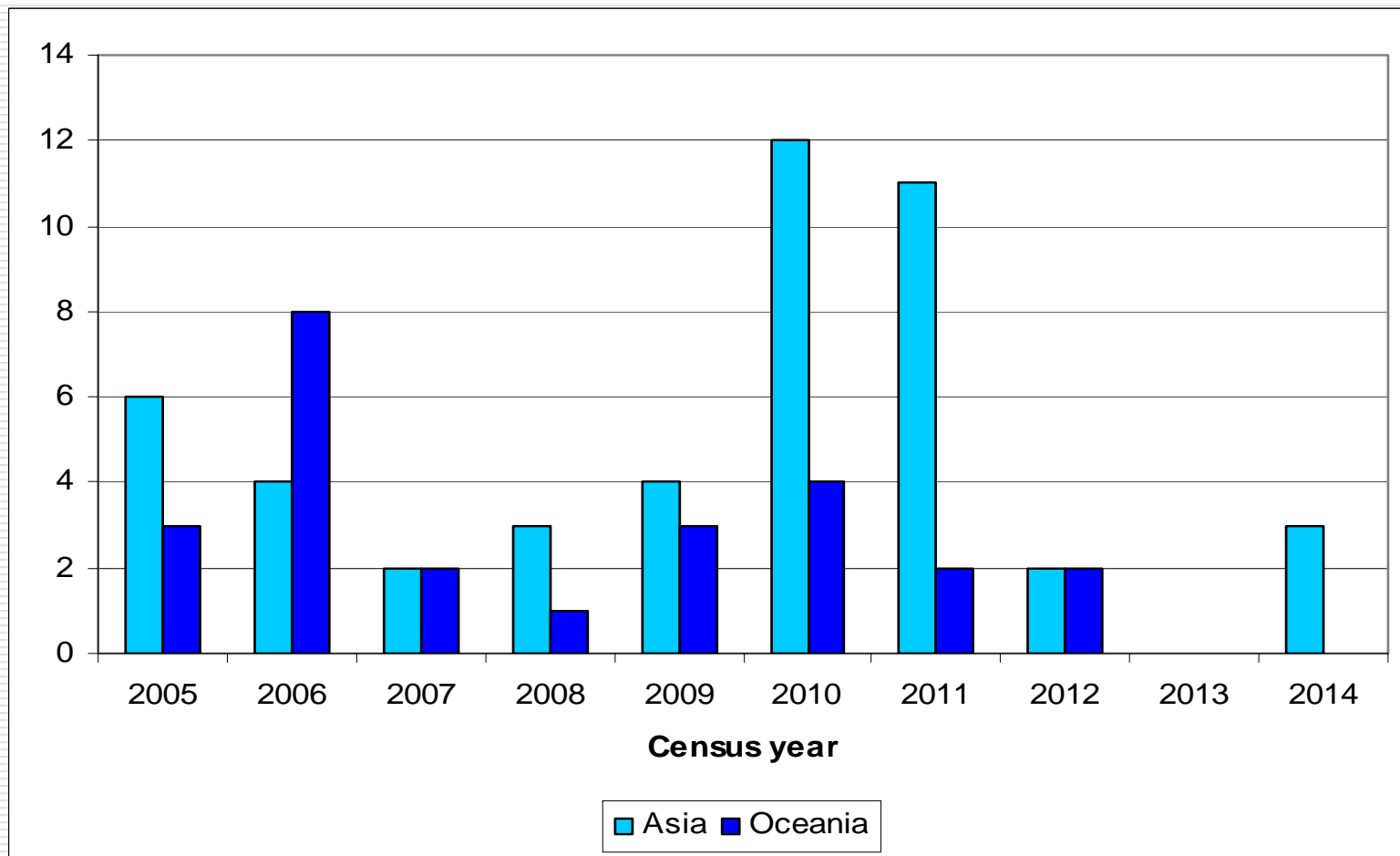


Progress in the implementation of 2010 round of censuses

- Since the start of the 2010 round in 2005, 141 countries worldwide have already carried out a census (out of 233), having enumerated an estimated 80% of the world's population.
- In Asia and the Pacific region, 52 countries have already had a census (as of 1 May 2011).
- Relative to the 2000 round, the participation in census programme by countries has increased. Only two countries (Lebanon Myanmar) which have not yet formally planned a census in the region.



Censuses taken or scheduled in AP region: Since 2005, 52 countries or areas had a census





II. UNSD's survey on census methods for 2010 census round

- 28 questions on 1) source of census data; 2) cartography; 3) methods of enumeration; 4) census evaluation; 5) data processing; 6) data dissemination; 7) census budget and source of funding; and 8) technical assistance required and areas of expertise
- questionnaire sent to 233 countries or areas
- completed questionnaires were received from 138 countries, with 59% response rate (May 2009-January 2010)
- responses show regional variation:
 - 75+% in **Asia**, Europe and Northern America
 - 50% in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean
 - very low (20%) in **Oceania**



1) Sources of population and housing census data

- At the global level

Traditional census is the main source of census data in 115 of the 138 countries (83%).

- At the regional level

- 40 out of 44 countries and areas conduct a **traditional census**.
- 2 countries (Bahrain, Singapore) use **registers** as the main source.
- 2 countries (Israel, Turkey) combine registers with partial enumeration and/or sample surveys.



2) Census cartography

- At the global level
 - 122 out of 138 countries (88%) planned to use or used maps for demarcating enumeration areas.

- At the regional level
 - 41 countries use census maps, among them:
 - 24 countries use digitised maps only
 - 11 countries use different types of maps, which supplement sketch or digitized maps with aerial photography and satellite imagery
 - 32 countries use GPS/GIS technology. Use of GPS/GIS has become quite common.



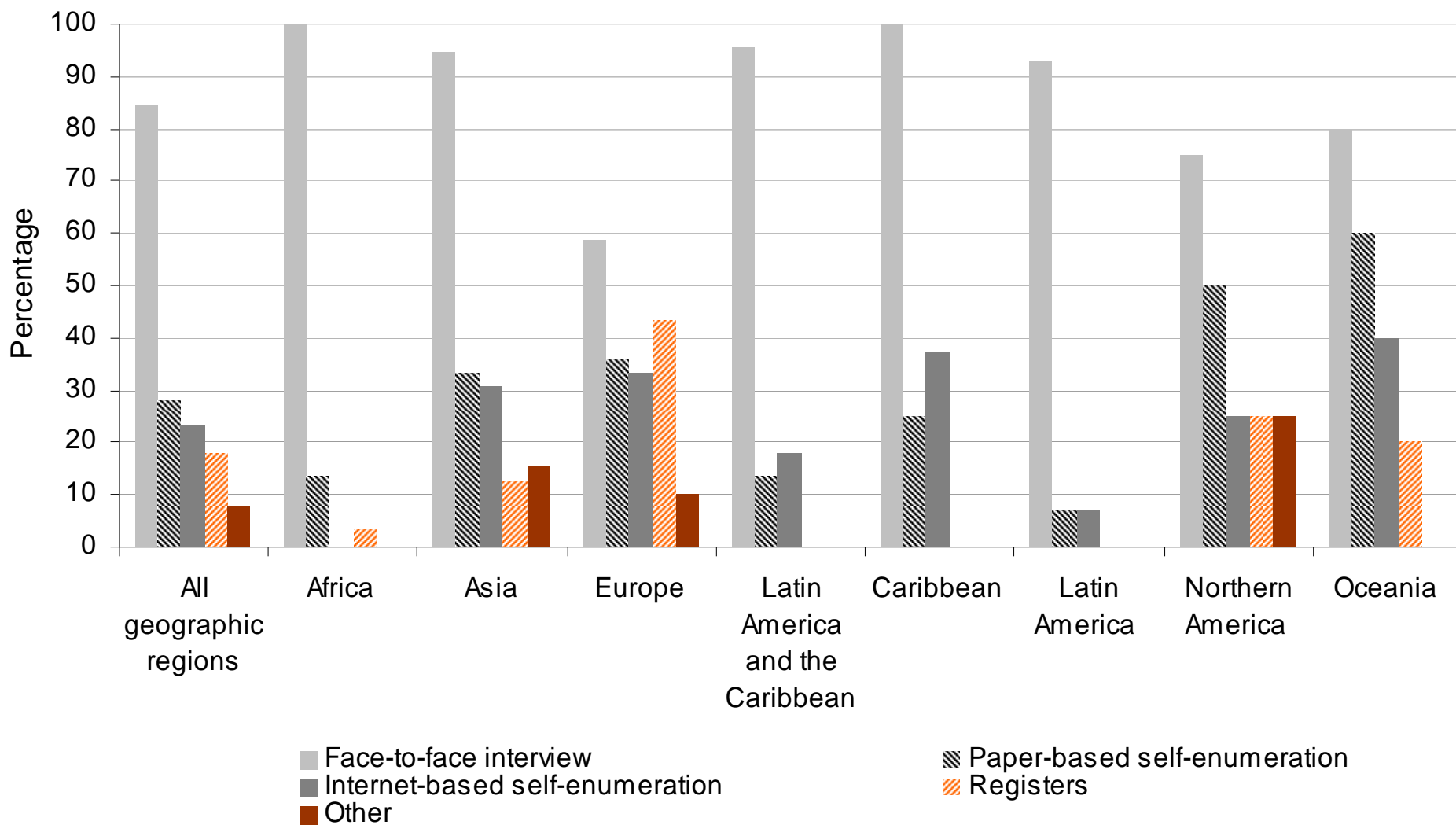
3) Mode of enumeration

- At the global level
 - used in 117 out of the 138 countries (85%), **face-to-face interviewing** is the most common mode of enumeration

- At the regional level
 - 41 countries use **face-to-face interviewing**
 - 16 countries use **self-enumeration using paper-based questionnaire**
 - **Internet-based self-enumeration** used by 14 countries
 - Many countries use more than one mode of enumeration. *(ex. Among 41 countries that use face-to-face interviews, 22 countries combined them with others such as self-enumeration or registers)*



Mode of enumeration by region (continued)





4) Census evaluation

Errors do occur at all stages of the census operation
(Coverage errors, Content errors)

- At the global level
 - 126 countries (91%) carry out census evaluation

- At the regional level
 - 38 countries carry out census evaluation
 - PES** (post enumeration survey) and **demographic analysis** are the two most common methods used
 - 9 countries used the evaluation results to adjust census data.



5) Data capturing methods

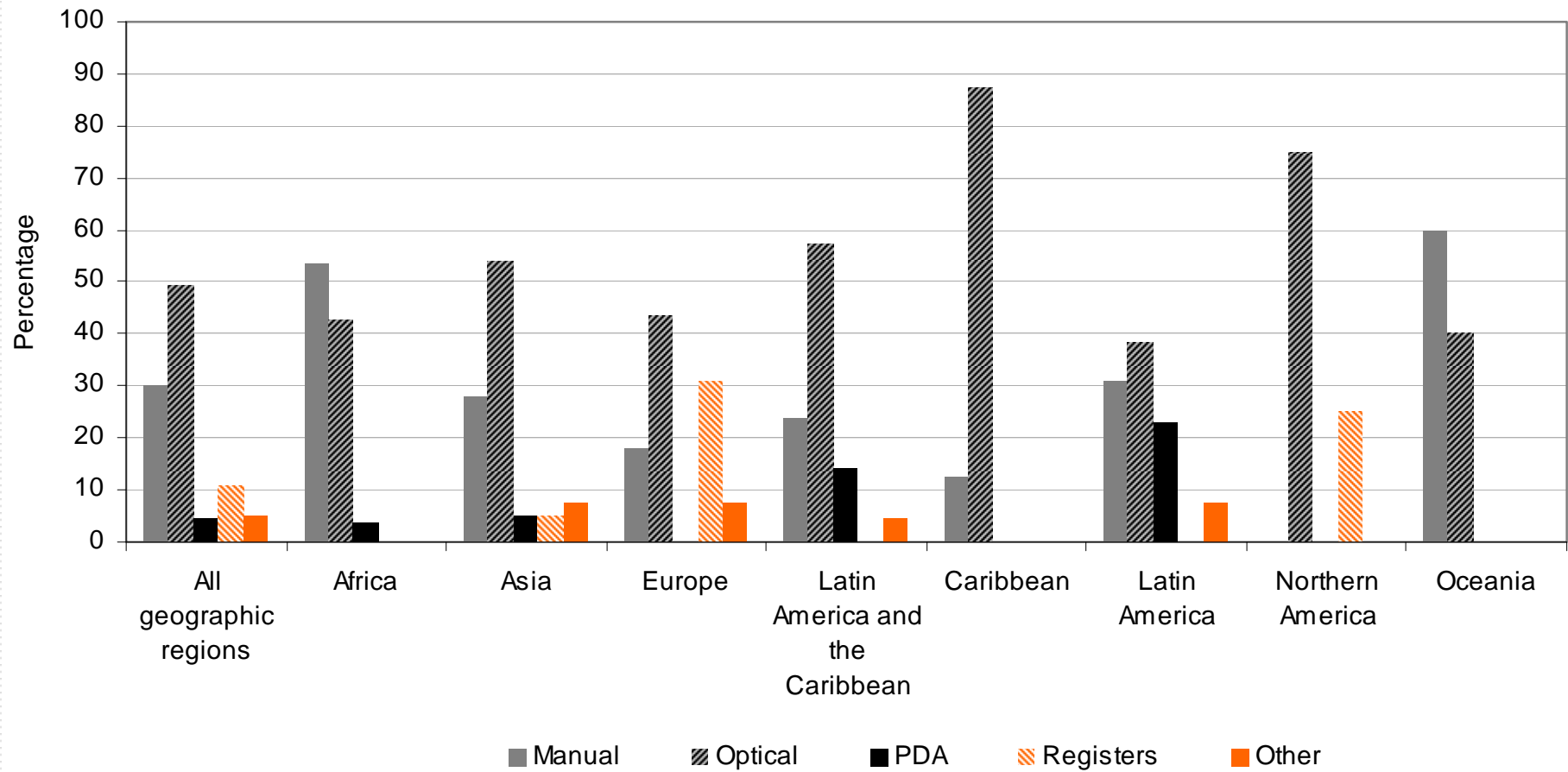
New technologies are playing a significant role in changing data capture methodology, with potential for reducing the cost and duration of data processing.

- At the global level
 - **Optical data capture** (OMR, OCR or ICR) is the most common method employed, often in combination with other methods.

- At the regional level
 - 23 countries use **optical data capture** method either alone or in combination with others.
 - Yet, **Manual data** capture is still used in 13 countries
 - Use of PDAs is limited in the region.



Percentage of countries or areas by method of data capture and geographic region





6) Census data dissemination

- At the global level
 - Virtually all countries use a combination of **print** and **electronic media** (CD-ROM/DVD, web, online database, GIS-tools, etc)

- At the regional level
 - 42 countries use both **print** and **electronic media**
 - Use of **CD-ROM/DVD** and **website** are more common, than **online database** or **GIS based tools**.
 - 26 out of 44 countries disseminate **microdata**, while applying confidentiality rules.



III. Challenges in conducting PHC

- 28 countries (72%) in Asia, and 3 countries in Oceania indicated that they require additional assistance at least in one phase or aspect of the census operation. Primarily on:
 - Analysis and dissemination
 - New technologies (scanning for data capture, GIS/GPS, PDA, hand-held mobile technology for monitoring and control of field operations, etc)
 - Quality assurance
 - Cartography

- 15 countries require “funding” assistance.



IV. Summary and conclusion

Having passed the mid-point for 2010 census round, the majority of countries and areas in Asia and the Pacific region will complete a census by the end of 2011.

- In terms of methods, traditional census remain as the main source of census data in this round.
- The main innovations of the 2010 round are seen in the use of technology. Countries have adopted new technologies or used existing technologies more innovatively to improve the quality and timeliness of census results.



IV. Summary and conclusion (con'd)

- There is increased use of GIS in different phases of the census operation. Internet-based self-enumeration are also on the rise. There are significant refinements in the data capturing technology.
- The modes of census data dissemination have diversified, ranging from print, CD-Rom, database, to GIS tools.

Census methodology is constantly changing and advancing, and many countries are facing challenges to keep abreast of innovative technologies. Further technical assistance and exchange of national experiences should be facilitated, so as to contribute to the effective and timely dissemination of census operations.



Thank You !