
COLOMBIA

1. Name and address of the organisation responsible for the last census:

Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística (DANE), Avenida El Dorado CAN, Bogotá.

2. Population censuses conducted since 1945 (years):

1951, 1964, 1973 and 1985. The present description relates mainly to the 1985 population census, but reference is also made to earlier censuses (cf. para. 8), as well as to the next census (cf. para. 9).

3. Coverage of the census:

(a) *Geographical scope:* Whole country, except a few villages in various municipalities, which were not covered by the census because of problems in public order, inaccessibility and other difficulties. This represents an omission of approximately 3 250 dwellings, or 0.4 per cent of the total number of dwellings.

(b) *Persons covered:* All persons of all ages. The questions relating to the economically active population, employment and unemployment were investigated to the extent of a 10 per cent sample of the population in private dwellings, and therefore excluded persons in collective dwellings. The "enlarged" form was used.

4. Reference period:

The reference period used when asking questions on the economically active population, employment and unemployment is a short period, i.e. the week preceding the census (from 7 to 13 October 1985).

5. Main topics:

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| (a) Total population, by sex and age: | yes |
| (b) Economically active population, by sex and age group: | yes |
| (c) Economically active population, by industry and by sex: | no |
| (d) Economically active population, by occupation and by sex: | no |
| (e) Economically active population, by status in employment and by sex: | yes |
| (f) Hours of work: | no |
| (g) Other information collected relating to persons' economic activity: | yes |

Re. (a) The age is defined in terms of age at last birthday.

Re. (e) The economically active population by status in employment and by sex is investigated for persons in private dwellings including indigenous populations.

Re. (g) This refers to the duration of employment, measured in terms of the number of months during 1985 in which the person worked for pay or in a family business.

6. Concepts and definitions:

(a) *Economically active population:* It comprises all persons aged 10 years and over who, during the reference week, were either employed or unemployed, according to the definitions given below. Professional members of the armed forces and conscripts on military or civilian service are covered by the definition.

(b) *Employment:* Considered as "employed" are all persons aged 10 years and over who, during the reference week, worked, or did not work but had a job. Also included are the following categories:

- (i) persons doing unpaid work in family firm or business;
- (ii) employed persons, temporarily absent from work;
- (iii) working students with a part time job;

- (iv) seasonal or occasional workers;
- (v) multiple job holders;
- (vi) apprentices and trainees.

(c) *Unemployment*: Considered as "unemployed" are all persons aged 10 years and over who, during the reference week, did not work but were seeking work (whether they had worked before or were first-time jobseekers).

7. Classifications used:

Only persons living in indigenous populations were classified by industry. Both persons living in private dwellings and in indigenous populations were classified by status in employment. This census did not obtain more information on the labour force, because since 1970 there has been a quarterly household survey which covers the main cities in the country and used 41 questions to investigate the characteristics of the economically active and inactive population, including the informal sector. Also, in 1988 a household survey was made in the rural areas of the country.

(a) *Industry*: This was investigated only as regards the indigenous populations. To determine industry group, questions were asked on the main and secondary activities in the previous year. The form classifies the declared industries in 6 groups: agriculture, stockbreeding or grazing; hunting or fishing; mining and quarrying or vegetable growing; handicrafts; commerce; and service paid for in cash or kind. These groups are compatible with the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC-68, rev. 2).

(c) *Status in employment*: To determine status in employment persons were asked what position they held at work. This variable was coded in 6 groups for persons living in private dwellings (manual workers or day labourers; non-manual workers; owners or employers; self-employed workers or workers on own account; unpaid family workers; and private domestic servants), and in 4 groups for persons resident in indigenous communities (manual workers or day labourers; self-employed workers or workers on own account; unpaid family workers; sharecroppers or tenant farmers). The status of these persons in their secondary employment was also coded.

8. The previous population censuses:

The censuses before 1985 show certain variants. The 1964 census investigated the occupation and industry, and the number of days worked during the previous month. The 1973 census investigated the economic variables (occupation and industry followed by the enterprise) only for employed persons. It also obtained data on the income during the previous month of all persons of working age.

9. The next population census:

It has not yet been decided whether or not a population census will be conducted during the period 1989-95.