

# Nationality and ethnic data in Hungarian censuses

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# What is a census? What kind of data source is it?

*„The traditional census is among the most complex and massive peacetime exercises a nation undertakes.” „The population and housing census represents one of the pillars for data collection on the population of a country.”<sup>[1]</sup>*

A **population and housing census** is the total process of collecting, compiling, evaluating, analysing and publishing or otherwise disseminating demographic, economic and social data pertaining, at a specified time, to all persons and living quarters in a country or in a well-delimited part of a country.

<sup>[1]</sup> Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses  
Revision 2

# Essential features of a population and housing census

1. **Individual enumeration:** each individual and each set of living quarters is enumerated separately and that the characteristics thereof are separately recorded
2. **Universality within a defined territory:** the census should cover a precisely defined territory (for example, the entire country or a well-delimited part of it)
3. **Simultaneity:** each person and each set of living quarters should be enumerated as of the same well-defined point in time and the data collected should refer to a well-defined reference period
4. **Defined periodicity:** censuses should be taken at regular intervals so that comparable information is made available in a fixed sequence.

# Collecting nationality data in the Hungarian censuses, historical view

4 types of question regarding nationality:

**Nationality:** from 1941 till 1990 the same methodology used, in 2001 different in the number of the answers

**Nationalities' cultural values and traditions:** asked for the first time in 2001

**Mother tongue:** since 1880 in every Hungarian censuses

**Language spoken with family members or friends:** asked for the first time in 2001

# Collecting nationality data in the last, 2001 Hungarian census

Questions on nationality and used languages:

23.1 Which of these nationalities do you think you belong to?

23.2 Which of these nationalities' cultural values and traditions do you feel affinity with?

23.3 What is your mother tongue?

23.4 In which languages do you speak with family members or friends?

The method of collecting nationality data was chosen after consultations with the organizations of nationalities and various sociologists, statisticians and other experts of the topic.

Difficulties: Data Protection Act, Act on Nationalities



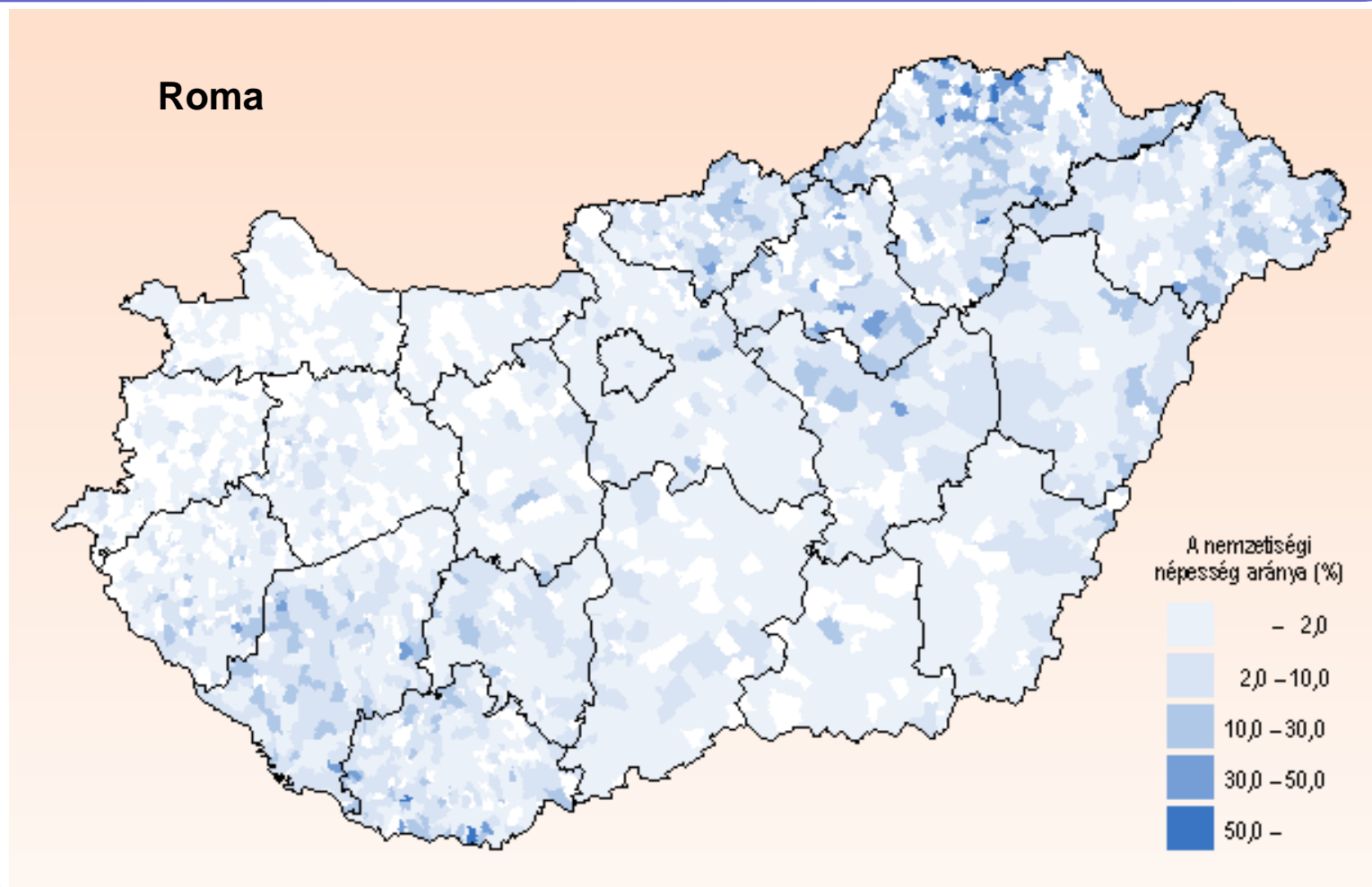
# Results of 2001 nationality questions

Questions on nationality and used languages	Total	Definitive	Average definitive answers per 1000 persons	Gave one answer	Gave two answers	Gave three answers	Did not answer
	answers						
Nationality	10 316 723	9 746 186	956	9 510 631	115 886	1 261	570 537
Nationalities' cultural values and traditions	10 349 808	10 349 808	953	9 423 111	142 259	4 617	628 328
Mother tongue	10 239 552	9 698 446	951	9 616 410	40 361	438	541 106
Language spoken with family members or friends	10 337 821	9 779 575	959	9 505 691	129 250	5 128	558 246

# Main data of nationalities in Hungary

Nationalities in Hungary	By mother tongue		By nationality		By nationalities' cultural values and traditions	By language spoken with family members or friends
	1990	2001	1990	2001	2001	2001
Bulgarian	1 370	1 299	..	1 358	1 693	1 118
<b>Roma</b>	<b>48 072</b>	<b>48 685</b>	<b>142 683</b>	<b>190 046</b>	<b>129 259</b>	<b>53 323</b>
Greek	1 640	1 921	..	2 509	6 140	1 974
Croatian	17 577	14 345	13 570	15 620	19 715	14 788
Polish	3 788	2 580	..	2 962	3 983	2 659
German	37 511	33 792	30 824	62 233	88 416	53 040
Armenian	37	294	..	620	836	300
Romanian	8 730	8 482	10 740	7 995	9 162	8 215
Serbian	2 953	3 388	2 905	3 816	5 279	4 186
Slovak	12 745	11 816	10 459	17 692	26 631	18 056
Slovenian	2 627	3 187	1 930	3 040	3 442	3 119
Rusin	674	1 113	..	1 098	1 292	1 068
Ukrainian		4 885	..	5 070	4 779	4 519

# Territorial distribution of Roma population



## Distribution by sex

Nationality	Hungarian	Distribution (%)	Roma	Distribution (%)
Male	4 564 260	47,4	104 402	50,7
Female	5 062 797	52,6	101 318	49,3
Total	9 627 057	100,0	205 720	100,0



# Distribution by educational attainment

Nationality, ethnic minority	Total	Not even the 1 <sup>st</sup> grade of general (primary) school completed	General (primary) school				Secondary school			University, high school, etc.	
			1-3 <sup>rd</sup>	4-5 <sup>th</sup>	6-7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	without general or professional certificate	without general, with professional certificate	with general certificate	without diploma	without diploma
			grade completed								
Hungarian	8 980 521	139 810	402 971	388 434	849 971	2 370 590	393 418	1 501 406	1 850 201	200 830	882 890
Roma	169 658	16 706	23 043	21 910	25 409	64 016	4 210	10 355	2 870	307	832
Distribution (%)											
Hungarian	100,0	1,6	4,5	4,3	9,5	26,4	4,4	16,7	20,6	2,2	9,8
Roma	100,0	9,8	13,6	12,9	15,0	37,7	2,5	6,1	1,7	0,2	0,5

# Plan for the topics in the 2011 Hungarian census

## **Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on Population and Housing Censuses**

- Censuses in the countries of the European Union in 2011
- Free to choose method meet with the essential requirements of a census
- Data transmission to Eurostat within 27 month of the end of the reference year
- Compulsory topics to be covered in all countries

Hungary wants to meet with EU requirements

Topics based on the EU regulation

Inclusion of other topics depends on the agreement with governmental agencies and social organizations

# Population topics in the EU regulation

Obligatory topics for geographical level NUTS 3, LAU 2 (county, locality)	Obligatory topics for geographical level NUTS 1, NUTS 2 (country, region)
<p><i>Non-derived topics:</i> place of usual residence, sex, age, legal marital status, country/place of birth, country of citizenship, previous place of usual residence and date of arrival in the currant place; or place of usual residence one year prior to the census, relationships between household members,</p> <p><i>Derived topics:</i> total population, locality, household status, family status, type of family nucleus, size of family nucleus, type of private household, size of private household</p>	<p><i>Non-derived topics:</i> place of usual residence, sex, age, legal marital status, country/place of birth, country of citizenship, previous place of usual residence and date of arrival in the currant place; or place of usual residence one year prior to the census, relationships between household members, location of place of birth, current activity status, occupation, industry (branch of economic activity), status in employment, educational attainment, ever resided abroad and year of arrival in the country (from 1980), tenure status of households</p> <p><i>Derived topics:</i> total population, locality, household status, family status, type of family nucleus, size of family nucleus, type of private household, size of private household</p>

# Housing topics in the EU regulation

Obligatory topics for geographical level  
NUTS 3, LAU 2 (county, locality)

*Non-derived topics:*

type of living quarters, location of living quarters, occupancy status of conventional dwellings, number of occupants, useful floor space and/or number of rooms of housing units, dwellings by type of building, dwellings by period of construction

*Derived topics:*

density standard

Obligatory topics for geographical level  
NUTS 1, NUTS 2 (country, region)

*Non-derived topics:*

type of living quarters, location of living quarters, occupancy status of conventional dwellings, number of occupants, useful floor space and/or number of rooms of housing units, dwellings by type of building, dwellings by period of construction, housing arrangements, type of ownership, water supply system, toilet facilities, bathing facilities, type of heating

*Derived topics:*

density standard

# Methodological possibilities to examine different social phenomena by censuses

The population and housing census is the pillar for data collection of the population of a country.

It provides, at regular intervals, the benchmark for population count at national and local level. For small geographical areas or sub-populations, it may represent the only source of information for certain social, demographic and economic characteristics.

- Many different type of data to the entire population
- These data can be combined with each other
- Possibility to create different indexes
- Possibility to give data to very small geographical areas.