



Official statistics are expected to capture the essential information needs of any society. They should deliver quantitative information concerning development trends. They should also give a comprehensive picture of the society and thus cover all sectors and all aspects and conditions.

Statistical results should be distributed in easy access and understand forms to be used by all interested parties in society. Hence, another objective of census management is to disseminate the Census results in a user-friendly manner.

The Economics and Statistics Office aims to produce high-quality data from the 2021 Census which is relevant, timely, and accurate. Extensive efforts were placed on the census form design, data collection, and data processing procedures to achieve this outcome.

## **2.3 BASIC APPROACH**

A population census can be done in two different ways. One method is to count the population who usually lives in the country (“residents”); this is called a *de jure* census. The other method is to count all the people present in the country at the census time; this is called a *de facto* census. The new UN manual calls the present population count (corresponding to the *de facto* Census) the usually resident population (corresponding to *de jure*).

For the Cayman Islands, the aim was to count the usually resident population, i.e. residents or persons staying in the Cayman Islands for more than six months or intending to stay for at least six months.

The main argument for the usual resident population count is that this offers better information on the demand for services, households, and internal migration for planning and policy purposes. In the 1999 and 2010 censuses, the main results concern the resident population. Hence, comparability with previous censuses is ensured.

The scope of the census questions was similar to the 1999 and 2010 censuses as follows: (a) demographic characteristics; (b) socio-economic characteristics, including core labour force questions; and (c) housing characteristics. Some questions under each subject area in Census 2010 were revised, while new ones were relevant to the primary census data users. These questions were tested in a Pilot Census in October 2019 and modified based on the pilot results.