

NSCB EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESULTS OF THE REFERENDUM
on the Approval of the Proposed Data Items
for the 2010 Census of Population and Housing

1. Summary of the results

Of the 26 members of the NSCB Executive Board:

On data items to be covered by the 2010 CPH		
26*	Approved of NSO's proposal on the data items as concurred by the TCPHS	All Board members

On maternal mortality		
25*	Approved of the TCPHS recommendation to include maternal mortality in CPH Form 2 for all households	All Board members, except DOJ
1	Did not approve of the TCPHS recommendation and expressed preference for maintaining maternal mortality in CPH Form 3	DOJ
16*	Approved of the TCPHS recommendation that should the inclusion of maternal mortality in CPH Form 2 prove not to be feasible due to resource constraints, the variable should be excluded from the census	BSP DOST DA DPWH DBM DSWD DENR LCP DepEd NEDA DFA NSCB DOF NSO DOLE TUCP

* Including four Board members (DBM, DENR, LCP, and NSO) who did not submit the referendum form by the extended deadline of 9 October 2009 and were thus considered to have affirmed the TCPHS recommendations, per follow-up e-mail of the TCPHS Secretariat on 9 October 2009.

2. Comments of the Board members on the TCPHS recommendations

BSP	<p>On maternal mortality</p> <p>The inclusion of maternal mortality in 2010 CPH is important; thus, this variable should be included in CPH Form 2. However, one should consider that maternal mortality is a rare event (108 for every 100,000 live births in 2002) and information on this cannot be gathered by asking a single question. A series of probing questions should be administered to get the needed information. Given that this information will be asked from all households, the manpower resources of the agency administering the</p>
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	<p>survey and the corresponding budgetary requirements should be taken into account. Interviewer and respondent's fatigue should likewise be taken into consideration as these factors have effects on the quality of the household's responses. Questions to be included in the questionnaire should likewise be thoroughly pretested to ensure that the interviewers and the respondents can fully understand the concepts involved and to ascertain how they can be operationalized and implemented during the conduct of the census. Given this scenario, including the said variable in CPH Form 2 may not be feasible for the 2010 CPH.</p> <p>Should the inclusion of the maternal mortality variable prove not to be feasible given the resources and time constraints, the NSO <u>may</u> consider enhancing the coverage of the National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) to include questions on maternal mortality. The sample size for the survey should likewise be expanded to come up with a reliable estimate for the said variable.</p>
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DND	<p>1. On maternal mortality</p> <p>Maternal mortality is a major health indicator and a major gender concern. Including it in Form 2 would enable the government to generate relevant, timely, and accurate data that will aid the formulation of policies that are more responsive to women's concerns.</p> <p>2. On population count for danger areas/zones</p> <p>It may be appropriate to link this up with the work of the Interagency Committee on Security Sector Statistics (IACSSS). The IACSSS may identify conflict-affected areas and study the correlation, if any, between the census-generated data on population and housing with other demographic data, as inputs to policy and strategy formulation. This may be done as an after-census activity. Moreover, there is an ongoing effort to develop the "hazard map" of the Philippines, showing the vulnerabilities of various regions/provinces in terms of disasters, such as typhoons, earthquakes, landslides, and others. Data on population and housing will be very critical in the formulation of policies and disaster management plans.</p>
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