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CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Joint ECE-EUROSTAT work session  
on Population and Housing Censuses <sup>1</sup>  
(Dublin, Ireland, 9-11 November 1998)

Study topic 1

**DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY, ENUMERATION CONTENTS AND PILOT SURVEY<sup>2</sup>**

Supporting paper prepared by the National Statistical Institute  
(ISTAT), Italy

**Summary**

1. The collection of 2001 Italian Census data will be based on the traditional compilation of questionnaires by respondents (helped by especially designated enumerators), even though in combination with the use of Population Registers (i.e. information on the households taken from the Population Register will be used to guide enumerators). Anyway, the direct enumeration will be enriched and partially innovated as for contents, techniques and execution processes.

2. As far as contents innovations are concerned, the more substantial changes of the 14th Census of Population and Housing will be:

- the compilation, besides the traditionally compiled figure for the *total usually resident population* (which is used for determining the *legally resident population*), of a figure for the *present on the territory (present-in-area)* population: this requires that some people will have to fill two forms, one in the "legal residence" and one in the "temporary

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1 The papers which are prepared for this work session will be treated in the same manner, as papers that are prepared for seminars.

2 Prepared by A. Ferruzza and R. Vivio.

- the introduction of the *building* as a unit of enumeration: this requires the adoption of a "building form" or, in alternative, the introduction of a "building section" in the household form.

3. As for technical and process' innovations, the more substantial changes will regard:

- CENSUS2000, the territorial database of ISTAT for the year 2000 round censuses: it is now under consideration the enlargement of the digital cartography accomplished on the occasion of 1991 Census. 2001's territorial areas will have to unify and integrate information collected also through complete surveys other than the Census.
- The adoption of innovative technologies for data capturing and coding.

4. This paper will describe the organizational frame, the collection methodology, the contents and the process innovation. The preliminary phase (Pre-test and Pilot Surveys) will also be described.