

Government Press Office
Grand Turk
Turks and Caicos Islands
Ph: (649) 946-2801 Ext: 40132
Email: TCIGPressRelease@gov.tc
Web: www.gov.tc

NEWS RELEASE

PRELIMINARY 2012 TCI CENSUS DATA PUBLISHED

The population of the Turks and Caicos Island is 31,458 persons according to the preliminary findings of the 2012 TCI Government Population and Housing Census published on Thursday August 2, 2012.

The initial assessment of data collected during the 2012 census undertaken by the Government's Strategic Policy and Planning Unit (SPPU) reveals:

- The population of the TCI grew from 19,886 in 2001 to 31,458 persons in 2012
- There are 16,037 males and 15,421 females living on the Islands
- Providenciales has the largest population of any Island with 23,769 persons, nearly five times larger than the next biggest, Grand Turk with 4,831
- The population of each of the family islands is:
- Providenciales: 23,769 (+82.5% on the 2001 census)
 - Grand Turk: 4,831 (+21.5% on the 2001 census)
 - South Caicos: 1,139 (+7.1% on the 2001 census)
 - North Caicos: 1,312 (-2.6% on the 2001 census)
 - Middle Caicos: 168 (-44.2% on the 2001 census)
 - Parrot Cay: 131 (+125.9% on the 2001 census)
 - Salt Cay: 108 (-10% on the 2001 census)

Statistics show that in the census period since 1960, Providenciales and Grand Turk are the only two Islands never to experience a net loss of people

- TCI has a population density of 214 persons per square mile

- Grand Turk is the most densely populated island at 700 people per square mile, up from 576 in 2001
- Middle Caicos is the least densely populated island at 4 persons per square mile
- Providenciales, the most populated island, has a density of 634 persons per square mile
- 42.5% of the population in 2012 are Belongers, 57.5% non-Belongers. In 2001, 52% were Belongers and 48% non-Belongers

- 73.7% of the 2012 population is aged 18 years or over

“The Census is an extremely important piece of research conducted for the benefit of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands,” said His Excellency Governor Ric Todd. “It provides empirical data, both now and historically, that allows Government to make better informed decisions about every area of its operations. Its factual assessment improves the ability to make policy; informs where future spending is directed across the board, for example in education, health and social policy; gives evidence to shape the Government’s approach on long term issues such as immigration, pensions, capital investment and transport policy; and facilitates action to address the challenges of changing populations across the Islands.

“I was personally involved in the launch of the census earlier in the year and have followed its progress with interest. I would like to thank everyone who took the time to contribute to it and the hardworking and dedicated enumerators and other Government staff for a job well done.”

Census Enumeration commenced on January 25th 2012 and continued throughout all of the islands for a period of three months. Census Day was January 25th 2012. This is the reference point for which all the statistics provided by members of private households and institutions in response to questions contained in the Census Questionnaires relate.

The Census Order for the conduct of the 2012 Census of Population and Housing was made by Governor Todd in January 2012 in accordance with the Census Ordinance of the revised laws of the Turks and Caicos Islands 2011. The Statistical Office started pre-census planning one year earlier in 2011

The 2012 Population and Housing Census was undertaken as part of the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Census in the region. The Turks and Caicos Islands is a member of the Regional Census Coordinating Committee. Through this mechanism, participating countries have agreed to collaborate with regard to census methodology and procedures and the type of tables and statistics to be disseminated.

The final Census report will be prepared after all information in the questionnaires is edited, verified for consistency, coded, scanned and processed for tabulation. The editing and verification phase is currently on-going. It is expected that the final report will be submitted to the Governor by November, 2012.

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