

Intercensal population estimates

Annual data on population size and basic population characteristics (age and sex) are essential for a country's well-functioning. Not only for general purpose government, but also for well-planned decision making on government services, utility services and allocating retail establishments among other things. It is also important for producing time series statistics such as per capita income, births per capita and incidence rates of certain illnesses. According to the United Nations¹¹ in countries where censuses are taken periodically and where there are accurate records of births, deaths and migration, the best method of making population estimates is to add these changes to the population at the last census date.

As this is the case for Aruba, intercensal population estimates are based on the latest held census and the flow data from the Population Registry Office.

Population growth in Aruba is highly dependent on migration, which poses a disadvantage when estimating intercensal population. Specifically the persons who leave the country without de-registering and therefore presenting a lower emigration rate than what it actually is. Therefore after each census, the Central Bureau of Statistics reviews the population estimates and make adjustments for the number of emigrants based on the new population count. On top of that, a re-run of the flow data in the intercensal years is made to capture the so-called 'nagekomenmeldingen', the delayed recordings.

In table 1 is presented the updated estimated intercensal population based on the censuses 1991, 2000 and 2010, adjusted emigration and updated flow data of the Population Registry Office.

- During the 2010 Census a total of 101,484 persons were counted.
- By the end of 2011 the population increased with 2,020 persons; the natural growth being 459 persons and the net migration 1,127 persons. Still one should keep in mind that there are 127 births in the flow data for which there is no data and that there may be delayed recordings in the number of births.
- The major growth is seen for the age group of 50 plus and those aged between 20-24 years.

Table 1. Updated estimated intercensal population

	Livebirths	Deaths	Domiciliation	Adjusted Departures	Revised End of year Population	Revised mid-year population
Census 1991, 06 october					66,687	
31/12/1991	296	103	962	460	67,382	65,896
31/12/1992	1,292	424	4,469	2,091	70,629	69,006
31/12/1993	1,337	402	7,279	2,101	76,741	73,685
31/12/1994	1,315	431	3,287	2,463	78,449	77,595
31/12/1995	1,419	504	4,094	2,299	81,160	79,804
31/12/1996	1,452	469	4,950	2,210	84,882	83,021
31/12/1997	1,457	497	4,007	2,130	87,719	86,301
31/12/1998	1,315	505	3,416	2,762	89,183	88,451
31/12/1999	1,251	561	3,344	3,082	90,135	89,659
Census 2000, 14 october	976	438	2,809	2,976	90,506	
31/12/2000	414	93	726	513	91,040	90,588
31/12/2001	1,263	435	3,386	3,416	91,837	91,439
31/12/2002	1,228	492	3,076	3,339	92,311	92,074
31/12/2003	1,244	501	3,516	2,623	93,946	92,493
31/12/2004	1,193	502	3,858	2,165	96,330	94,084
31/12/2005	1,263	482	3,756	1,929	98,939	95,625
31/12/2006	1,359	539	2,387	2,274	99,871	96,909
31/12/2007	1,339	533	2,199	2,450	100,427	98,378
31/12/2008	1,319	554	2,926	2,711	101,406	100,172
31/12/2009	1,254	629	2,846	3,075	101,802	100,837
Census 2010, 29 september	832	443	1,866	2,573	101,484	
31/12/2010	365	176	660	415	101,918	101,860
31/12/2011	1,092	633	3,466	2,339	103,504	102,711

Source: Population and Housing Census 2000 & 2010 of the Central Bureau of Statistics and the Population Registry Office

Table 2. Population by age and sex

	Census 2010			End of year 2010			End of year 2011		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-4 yrs.	3,329	3,183	6,512	3,356	3,175	6,531	3,221	3,039	6,260
5-9 yrs.	3,600	3,443	7,043	3,585	3,448	7,033	3,551	3,444	6,995
10-14 yrs.	3,803	3,700	7,502	3,805	3,705	7,510	3,818	3,743	7,561
15-19 yrs.	3,779	3,524	7,303	3,799	3,564	7,363	3,868	3,688	7,556
20-24 yrs.	2,727	2,554	5,281	2,767	2,609	5,375	2,881	2,691	5,572
25-29 yrs.	2,555	2,925	5,480	2,574	2,933	5,507	2,638	2,973	5,611
30-34 yrs.	2,903	3,505	6,408	2,904	3,512	6,417	2,976	3,562	6,539
35-39 yrs.	3,512	3,962	7,474	3,475	3,925	7,399	3,354	3,826	7,179
40-44 yrs.	3,827	4,434	8,262	3,853	4,457	8,310	3,914	4,585	8,499
45-49 yrs.	4,354	4,890	9,244	4,316	4,881	9,198	4,216	4,850	9,066
50-54 yrs.	3,879	4,530	8,409	3,929	4,551	8,480	4,106	4,684	8,790
55-59 yrs.	3,197	3,699	6,896	3,213	3,740	6,953	3,323	3,908	7,232
60-64 yrs.	2,349	2,787	5,136	2,381	2,819	5,199	2,520	2,962	5,482
65-69 yrs.	1,720	2,020	3,740	1,737	2,053	3,789	1,803	2,213	4,016
70-74 yrs.	1,244	1,691	2,934	1,255	1,687	2,942	1,321	1,688	3,009
75-79 yrs.	810	1,165	1,976	813	1,190	2,003	835	1,287	2,121
80-84 yrs.	412	683	1,095	427	689	1,116	488	731	1,219
85-89 yrs.	171	327	498	176	333	509	170	341	511
90-94 yrs.	56	160	217	55	158	213	61	147	208
95+ yrs.	14	60	74	15	58	72	12	67	80
Total	48,241	53,243	101,484	48,433	53,485	101,918	49,075	54,429	103,504

Source: Population and Housing Census 2010 of the Central Bureau of Statistics and the Population Registry Office

¹¹ United Nations (1952). *Manual I: Methods for estimating total population for current dates* (United Nations Publications, Sales No. 52.XIII.5).

- Table 3 shows as if the numbers of registered births to teenage mothers decreased for the first quarter of 2011 compared to the numbers in 2009 and 2010.
- However, as a percentage of the total births their share went from 13.5% in 2009 to 14.8% in 2010 and back to 13.5% in 2011. (These numbers may still increase with a re-run on the flow data)
- The illegitimacy rate for the first quarters show a dramatic increase over these last 4 years. In 2008 53.8% of the births in the first quarter were born out of wedlock. In 2009 it dropped to 40.8%, but in 2010 and 2011 it increased to respectively 63.3% and 62.5%.
- The majority of births out of wedlock are of mothers between the ages of 20 to 24 years.
- The Crude Death Rate during the last two decades in Aruba fluctuates between 5 to 6 persons per 1,000 inhabitants.
- According to the latest life table based on the Census 2010, 92.8% of men have chance of reaching age 60 and women 95.6%. The overall life expectancy is 73.9 years for men and 79.8 years for women.
- In the last decennia there has been a lot fluctuation in the number of persons registering and de-registering. The average immigration rate during the intercensal years was at 32 persons per 1,000 inhabitants.
- From 2000 thru 2005 the immigration rate was well above the average; even reaching 41 persons per 1,000 in 2004.
- In 2006, with the introduction of the so-called 'Swiss model' migration policy, there has been a sharp decline in the number of persons registering, reaching its lowest point in 2007 with 22 persons per 1,000.
- Even with an increase to 30 per 1,000 in 2008, in the subsequent years the immigration rate did not reach the average of 32 persons per 1,000 it used to be. It even dropped to 24.8 per 1,000 in 2010.
- In 2011 however, there is a sharp increase to 33.8 persons per 1,000 inhabitants.
- The emigration rate on the other hand showed a decreasing trend before the introduction of the new policy. Since 2006 the emigration rate has been slowly but constantly increasing up until 2009.
- And even though there is an downward trend in the number of persons leaving the island, one should keep in mind that these are unadjusted numbers of emigrants, as not all persons leaving the island go through the Population Registry Office.

Table 3. Livebirths by age of mother

	1st Qtr				End of year 2011
	2008	2009	2010	2011	
< 15 yrs.	1	1	0	1	3
15-19 yrs.	33	47	40	32	144
20-24 yrs.	84	78	71	55	254
25-29 yrs.	59	90	52	55	262
30-34 yrs.	72	86	67	65	248
35-39 yrs.	49	45	34	31	141
40-44 yrs.	12	8	7	5	38
45-49 yrs.	0	0	0	0	2
50+ yrs.	0	0	0	0	0
Not reported	0	0	0	0	0
Total	310	355	271	244	1,180

Source: Population Registry Office

Table 4. Deaths by age

	1st Qtr				End of year 2011
	2008	2009	2010	2011	
< 1 yrs.	0	0	0	2	7
1-49 yrs.	19	15	14	12	69
50-59 yrs.	14	21	24	30	83
60-69 yrs.	23	23	26	40	114
70-79 yrs.	47	45	40	38	155
80-89 yrs.	36	32	40	36	149
90+ yrs.	8	15	9	16	56
Total	147	151	153	174	633

Source: Population Registry Office

Table 5. Domiciliation by nationality and place of birth

	1st Qtr				End of year 2011
	2008	2009	2010	2011	
Dutch born on Aruba/Neth. Ant.	129	147	149	170	764
Dutch born in the Netherlands	115	116	105	111	547
Dutch born elsewhere here	36	47	25	49	213
Foreign-born	401	511	262	339	1,890
Unknown	16	24	14	9	39
Total	697	845	555	678	3,453

Source: Population Registry Office

Table 6. Departures by nationality and place of birth

	1st Qtr				End of year 2011
	2008*	2009*	2010**	2011***	
Dutch born on Aruba/Neth. Ant.	165	222	218	230	1,293
Dutch born in the Netherlands	57	79	89	74	498
Dutch born elsewhere here	44	59	48	63	246
Foreign-born	58	108	66	63	302
Unknown	1	0	0	0	0
Total	325	468	421	430	2,339

Source: Population Registry Office and Central Bureau of Statistics
 * Adjusted number of departures based on the Census 2010
 ** January-September adjusted number of departures based on the Census 2010, October-December unadjusted
 *** Unadjusted number of departures