

2011 Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in the Republic of Serbia Book 22: Number and the Floor Space of Housing Units

In the book "Number and the Floor Space of Housing Units" the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia publishes the final results of the 2011 Census of Population, Households and Dwellings¹⁾ on the housing units of the Republic of Serbia according to the type of the housing units and by occupancy status.

The 2011 Census was carried out during the period from 1st to 15th October, 2011, in compliance with the Law on the Census of Population, Households and Dwellings ("The Official Gazette of the RS," no. 104/09 and 24/11). The 2011 Census is financially supported by the European Union which has participated in the total costs with 60%.

A total of 3,231,931 dwellings were enumerated in the Republic of Serbia. In addition to the dwellings, there are 13,198 housing units which do not meet the definition of a dwelling but were used at the time of the Census for permanent habitation, as well as 702 collective housing units.

The total number of dwellings was increased by 9.3% in comparison to the 2002 Census. The most significant growth was marked in the municipalities of Cajetina, 44.1%, Novi Sad, 37.6%, Zvezdara, 35%, Vrnjacka Banja, 31.2%, and Rakovica, 30.5%. In 39 municipalities the number of dwellings went down from 0.1% to 5%. The biggest decline was marked in the municipalities of Trgoviste, 12.1%, Zitoradja, 8.3%, Kursumlija, 8.1%, Topola, 7.1%, and Razanj, 6.8%.

Table 1. Housing units in the Republic of Serbia

	2011	2002	Growth/decline
Dwellings – total	3 231 931	2 956 516	275 415
Dwellings for permanent habitation	3 012 923	2 743 996	268 927
Dwellings used occasionally	201 519	201 045	474
Dwellings used only for performing activities	17 489	11 475	6 014
Other housing units	13 900	18 729	-4 829
Occupied business premises	5 563	8 709	-3 146
Premises occupied from necessity	7 635	9 212	-1 577
Collective housing units	702	808	-106

Out of the total number of dwellings, 93.2% are dwellings for permanent habitation, while the remaining 6.8% (219,008 dwellings) are used occasionally, for vacation and recreation, as well as during seasonal agricultural works.

¹⁾ The 2011 Census was not carried out on the territory of the AP Kosovo and Metohia, while the coverage of the census units in the municipalities of Presevo and Bujanovac and partially in the municipality of Medvedja was decreased owing to the boycott by the majority of the Albanian ethnic community.

The number of dwellings for permanent habitation was increased by 9.8% in comparison with the 2002 Census. The Census included both occupied and unoccupied dwellings. According to the international recommendations²⁾, occupied dwellings are those that were at the time of the Census used as dwellings for the permanent habitation of at least one person. There is a total of 2,423,208 occupied dwellings or 80.4% of the dwellings intended for permanent habitation.

Table 2. Occupancy of the dwellings for permanent habitation in the Republic of Serbia

	Dwellings for permanent habitation – total	Occupied dwellings	Unoccupied dwellings
Belgrade region	702 775	586 337	116 438
Vojvodina region	806 402	677 559	128 843
Sumadija and West Serbia region	817 916	648 371	169 545
South and East Serbia region	685 830	510 941	174 889
Kosovo i Metohija region

Looking by the regions, most of the occupied dwellings are in the Vojvodina region, 677,559 of them, which is 84% of the total number of dwellings for permanent habitation in that region. The biggest number of unoccupied dwellings is in the South and East Serbia region, 174,889 dwellings. More than a quarter of dwellings in that region are temporarily unoccupied or abandoned.

Table 3. Average floor space of the dwellings for permanent habitation in the Republic of Serbia

	Number of dwellings	Floor space of the dwellings in m ²	Average dwelling floor space in m ²
Republic of Serbia – total	3 012 923	217 849 058	72.3
Urban settlements	1 790 542	123 326 284	68.9
Other settlements	1 222 381	94 522 774	77.3

The average dwelling in the Republic of Serbia has the floor space of 72.3 m². In urban settlements, where most of the dwellings are in buildings with three or more dwellings, the average floor space is somewhat less and amounts to 68.9 m², while in the other settlements, where the buildings are mostly with one or two dwellings, the Census enumerated dwellings with the average floor space of 77.3 m².

²⁾ Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2010 Census of Population and Housing, UN, New York and Geneva, 2006

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