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## **CGD Migration Data Report Card**

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This report card provides a simple overview of the extent to which countries in the world meet one of the five recommendations of *Migrants Count: Five Steps Toward Better International Migration Data*, the report of the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research and Policy. The report card is a research product of the Center for Global Development and has not been reviewed or endorsed by the Commission.<sup>1</sup>

The scores are given in two sections:

1. The first section reflects data on the “2010 round” of censuses, many of which are set to occur somewhat before and somewhat after the year 2010. As of November 2008, when our data on these censuses were collected, 60 countries had completed a census in the 2010 round, and information on 48 of those censuses was available to be analyzed. For these 48 censuses, we give a grade of A (best) through F (worst). The “F” represents performance on census questions only, and does not reflect overall performance on the collection and dissemination of migration-related data; some countries that score an “F” for census data do much better with other forms of data.
2. The second section provides information on other countries, whose census from the 2010 round was not yet completed at the time of the analysis or not available to be analyzed. These scores are based on the 2000 census round. Here, we present information only on countries that received a grade of A or B. Countries that receive a grade of C or F based on their 2000-round census are not listed, since some of them may have already planned big improvements for the 2010 round.

The source for the underlying data on which these scores are based is the United Nations Population Division. Note well that the underlying data were current as of November 2008 only.

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<sup>1</sup> These scores should only be attributed to the author and not to the Commission itself or to its members. Further, the scores represent the degree of compliance with only one of the Commission’s five recommendations, though it is a particularly salient and relatively easy recommendation to implement.

The first recommendation of the Commission is that all countries ask three questions on their national census—country of birth, country of citizenship, and country of residence either one year ago or five years ago—and release public tabulations of the answers with a separate count for each foreign country of birth or prior residence. This is only possible if the census form is designed to record all possible countries of birth and previous residence. For this reason, countries that only allow partial responses (such as boxes to check for only five foreign countries, plus a catch-all “other” category) are not considered to comply with the recommendations.

Countries receive one point if they ask what specific country each person was born in. They receive one point if they ask what country the person resided in one year ago. They receive one point if they ask what country the person resided in five years ago. They receive half a point if they ask in which country a person resided prior to the present year, other than one or five years ago (such as two years ago, ten years ago, etc.). No data on the “country of citizenship” question were available to be analyzed so that question is not included in the score.

The grades are given as follows:

- A score of 3 points earns an “A”
- A score of 2.5 points earns an “A–”
- A score of 2 points earns a “B”
- A score of 1.5 points earns a “B–”
- A score of 1 point earns a “C”
- A score of 0.5 points earns a “C–”
- A score of 0 points earns an “F”

## 2010 Census Round

Data for 48 countries that had completed a census in the 2010 Round, as of November 2008

Country	Country of birth	Residence 1 yr ago	Residence 5 yrs ago	Other previous residence	Points total	Grade
Australia	1	1	1	0	3.0	A
Canada	1	1	1	0	3.0	A
Cook Islands	1	1	1	0	3.0	A
Malta	1	1	1	0	3.0	A
Samoa	1	1	1	0	3.0	A
Tonga	1	1	1	0	3.0	A
Algeria	1	0	1	0.5	2.5	A-
Cameroon	1	0	1	0.5	2.5	A-
Burkina Faso	1	1	0	0	2.0	B
China: Macao SAR	1	0	1	0	2.0	B
Colombia	1	0	1	0	2.0	B
France	1	0	1	0	2.0	B

Country	Country of birth	Residence 1 yr ago	Residence 5 yrs ago	Other previous residence	Points total	Grade
French Guiana	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
French Polynesia	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Guadeloupe	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Ireland	1	1	0	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Kiribati	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Maldives	0	1	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Martinique	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
New Zealand	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Nicaragua	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Niue	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Palau	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Peru	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Réunion	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Tokelau	1	0	1	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
United States*	1	1	0	0	2.0	<b>B</b>
Lesotho	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	<b>B-</b>
Bhutan	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Cambodia	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
China: Hong Kong SAR	0	0	1	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Congo, Republic of the	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
El Salvador	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Fiji	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Iran (Islamic Republic)	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Isle of Man	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Korea, DPR	0	0	1	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Liberia	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Mexico**	0	0	1	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Nigeria	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Palestinian Territory	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Saint Helena	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Sudan	0	1	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Swaziland	1	0	0	0	1.0	<b>C</b>
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0.0	<b>F</b>
Ethiopia	0	0	0	0	0.0	<b>F</b>
Japan	0	0	0	0	0.0	<b>F</b>
Malawi	0	0	0	0	0.0	<b>F</b>
Philippines**	0	0	0	0	0.0	<b>F</b>

\* The US has replaced the “long-form” 2010 census with the annual American Community Survey.

\*\* Note that these scores represent performance with respect to only one of the Commission’s recommendations. Mexico and the Philippines are salient examples of a countries that, although they do not meet the Commission’s recommendation on census questions, perform well on other recommendations made by the Commission. Two other recommendations, for example, pertain to the public release of anonymized microdata from Labor Force Surveys, and the inclusion of migration-related questions on nationally-representative household surveys. Both Mexico and the Philippines are leaders in meeting these other recommendations.

## 2000 Census Round

Data for 87 countries that 1) are not covered in the table above for the 2010 census round, and 2) received a grade of “B–” or higher. **Countries that received a lower grade than “B–” in the 2000 census round are not included below, since many may improve in the 2010 round. Countries for which a 2010 round census was analyzed above are likewise not included in this table.**

Country	Country of birth	Residence 1 yr ago	Residence 5 yrs ago	Other previous residence	Points total	Grade
Central African Rep.	1	1	1	0	3	A
Greece	1	1	1	0	3	A
Korea	1	1	1	0	3	A
Mozambique	1	1	1	0	3	A
Namibia	1	1	1	0	3	A
Samoa	1	1	1	0	3	A
Suriname	1	1	1	0	3	A
Trinidad and Tobago	1	1	1	1	3	A
Wallis & Futuna Islands	1	1	1	0	3	A
Albania	1	1	0	0.5	2.5	A-
Botswana	1	1	0	0.5	2.5	A-
Timor-Leste	1	0	1	0.5	2.5	A-
Turks & Caicos Islands	0	1	1	0.5	2.5	A-
American Samoa	1	0	1	0	2	B
Argentina	1	0	1	0	2	B
Bolivia	1	0	1	0	2	B
Brazil	1	0	1	0	2	B
Burkina Faso	1	1	0	0	2	B
Chile	1	0	1	0	2	B
Costa Rica	1	0	1	0	2	B
Côte d'Ivoire	1	1	0	0	2	B
Cyprus	1	1	0	0	2	B
Czech Republic	1	1	0	0	2	B
Dominican Republic	1	0	1	0	2	B
Guam	1	0	1	0	2	B
Haiti	1	0	1	0	2	B
Honduras	1	0	1	0	2	B
Indonesia	1	0	1	0	2	B
Israel	1	0	1	0	2	B
Italy	1	1	0	0	2	B
Kenya	1	1	0	0	2	B
Liechtenstein	1	0	1	0	2	B
Lithuania	1	1	0	0	2	B
Luxembourg	1	0	1	0	2	B
Malaysia	1	0	1	0	2	B
Micronesia, Fed. States	1	0	1	0	2	B
Nepal	1	0	1	0	2	B
Northern Ireland	1	1	0	0	2	B
Northern Mariana Island	1	0	1	0	2	B
Paraguay	1	0	1	0	2	B

Country	Country of birth	Residence 1 yr ago	Residence 5 yrs ago	Other previous residence	Points total	Grade
Puerto Rico	1	0	1	0	2	B
Scotland	1	1	0	0	2	B
Senegal	1	0	1	0	2	B
Slovenia	1	1	0	0	2	B
Swaziland	1	0	1	0	2	B
Switzerland	1	0	1	0	2	B
Tanzania	1	1	0	0	2	B
Tunisia	1	0	1	0	2	B
Turkey	1	0	1	0	2	B
Tuvalu	1	0	1	0	2	B
United Kingdom (Eng.)	1	1	0	0	2	B
USA	1	0	1	0	2	B
US Virgin Islands	1	0	1	0	2	B
Uruguay	1	0	1	0	2	B
Venezuela	1	0	1	0	2	B
Wales	1	1	0	0	2	B
Zambia	1	1	0	0	2	B
Estonia	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Guatemala	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Lao	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Monaco	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Mongolia	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Montenegro	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
New Caledonia	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Portugal	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Qatar	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Serbia	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Sierra Leone	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Spain	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-
Zimbabwe	1	0	0	0.5	1.5	B-

## Number of countries receiving each grade, by census round

Points	Grade	2010 round (as of November 2008)	2000 round
3.0	A	6	12
2.5	A-	2	4
2.0	B	19	52
1.5	B-	1	19
1.0	C	16	71
0.5	C-	0	0
0.0	F	5	20
	<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>178</b>