

24th December 2021

Press Release

Status Update on the 2021 Mid-Term Population and Housing Census

On **10th December 2021** Stats SL started the enumeration for the 2021 Mid-Term Population and Housing Census. His Excellency the President Dr Julius Maada Bio's household was enumerated on the same day and counting also started after full deployment of enumerators and supervisors across all the districts of Sierra Leone.

Data Collection, Transmission and Syncing

Stats SL is very pleased to report that effective data collection in all districts, transmission and syncing of those data to the servers at HQ in Freetown are ongoing. This is as a result of trained supervisors and enumerators deployed across the districts. There has been a surge in data collection and greater willingness among the population to be counted in many parts of the country especially in the urban areas.

Challenges to the Enumeration Process

Stats SL wants to state that despite ongoing efforts to mobilise and register the population, enumeration work in few chiefdoms and zones in the western areas has been hindered by challenges including slow deployment of enumeration staff in some hard-to-reach communities, misinformation on the process and slow pace of participation in certain communities.

Official End Date and Extension of Enumeration Period

Stats SL reports that yesterday, **23rd December 2021**, was the initial official end date of the enumeration. However, the above highlighted challenges have necessitated the extension of the enumeration by an additional **7 days** which

will take the process to the **30th December 2021**, followed by a mopping up exercise.



This extension will enable Stats SL to intensify enumeration in outstanding communities where enumeration has been either slow or not carried out yet.

Appreciation

We appreciate the Sierra Leone public and all sectors of society, including traditional and religious authorities, civil society organizations, the security forces and the media, that have supported and continue to assist the successful implementation of the 2021 Mid-Term Population and Housing Census in diverse ways.

Stats SL's Appeal

Stats SL and stakeholders are working round the clock to deliver what was promised the people of Sierra Leone, which is **Credible Data for National Development**. We continue to appeal to Sierra Leoneans and other citizens to cooperate and exercise patience with Stats SL to bring this exercise to a speedy conclusion.



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