

About the Twelfth Inquiry

In 1994, Member States attending the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo agreed that “population-related goals and policies are integral parts of cultural, economic and social development” and recommended that actions be taken “to measure, assess, monitor and evaluate progress towards meeting the goals of its Programme of Action”. The year 2019 will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Cairo conference and adoption of the ICPD Programme of Action, which continues to provide crucial guidance for addressing the fundamental development challenges facing the world today. Population issues are also at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in 2015.

The United Nations Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development (the “Inquiry”) gathers critically important data for monitoring the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and other international agreements, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Inquiry, mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 1838 (XVII) of 18 December 1962, has been conducted by the Secretary-General at regular intervals since 1963. The most recent Inquiry, the Eleventh, was implemented in 2014.

The results of the Inquiry have been disseminated through the World Population Policies database, which is updated biennially. The database provides information pertaining to Member States and non-member States of the United Nations on policies related to population and development issues: ageing and social security, reproductive health care, international migration, urbanization and sustainable development. Data gathered through the Inquiry also inform the work of the Commission on Population and Development.

The Twelfth Inquiry consists mostly of multiple-choice questions and is divided into three thematic modules: Module I on population ageing and urbanization; Module II on fertility, family planning and reproductive health; and Module III on international migration. The Government is requested to forward the three modules to relevant ministries or departments.

The Inquiry modules can be completed either through an online questionnaire or a fillable questionnaire in PDF. Both are available at <https://esa.un.org/poppolicy/Inquiry.aspx>. Responses to the modules in PDF format should be returned to the United Nations Secretariat at the address below. The deadline for responding to the Inquiry is **28 February 2019** for Modules I and II (attached), and **31 December 2018** for Module III (previously sent), considering the earlier timeline to include the information on international migration for Sustainable Development Goal indicator 10.7.2, on countries with well-managed migration policies. Many thanks in advance for your understanding and attention.

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