

SURVEY OF HISTORICAL DATABASES

WITH LONGITUDINAL MICRO-DATA

For more information about this questionnaire or questions about entering specific information, please contact Kees Mandemakers (kma@iisg.nl) and/or Tatiana Moisseenko (tatiana.moisseenko@iisg.nl)

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The questionnaire comprises three sections:

Section A includes the questions related to the most general and important information identifying the content, scope and provenance of the databases and the information about their creators.

Section B contains more specific and detailed questions about databases, such as the period(s) of observation, sampling design and procedures, data collection, linkage process and others.

Section C contains detailed questions about sources used for the databases: their type, scope, content, state of preservation, etc.

Section A

I. General (identifying) information about the database

1. Title of the database	Cohort Analysis Integral History Project Groningen
1.a. Subtitle , which brings meaning to the title (scope, place, time period):	Life courses of persons born around 1811, 1830, 1850 and 1870 in the Groningen Clay Area and the city of Groningen.
2. Abbreviation	GRIH

3. Links to website(s):	
3.a. Homepage	
3.b. Get to data	

<p>4. Abstract: describes content of the database. Max. length: 300 words Please indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Scope and main goal ◦ Time and territory covered by data ◦ Sample strategy ◦ Main sources 	<p>The original aim in 1987 was to get insight in the life of ordinary people and in this way add to a so-called "Integral History" for Groningen city and nearby countryside for the period 1770-1914. For this NWO (Dutch research Council) funded project lead by prof. dr. Pim Kooij, other databases were created covering provincial and municipal accounts and census data on households 1830-1910. A selected sample of births in 9 of the 36 municipalities in the Groningen clay area (about half the province of Groningen) and a double sample for the city of Groningen were taken. For every municipality the first 120 births were chosen from 1 August 1811, 1 January 1830, 1 January 1850 and 1 January 1870 onwards (5,280 persons). These</p>
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	<p>persons were first followed within the municipality and neighbouring municipalities until 1918 using information from civil registration (birth, death and marriage records), and dynamic Population Registers (from 1850 onwards). Information on parents at birth, occupations, place of settlements (migration), marriage and personal details of the marriage partner, birth of children and moment when they left the parents were assembled.</p> <p>After 1995 the Integral History Project survived for nearly 10 year as a small joint NWO-funded project with some Russian universities to stimulate demographic research, resulting in two books. The database for the rural 9 municipalities for the years 1830, 1850 and 1870 (3,240 persons) was further improved for a different NWO-funded project in 1996-1997 on 'family strategies' to cover also all migrations within the whole of the province of Groningen until 1920 while more information on the history of the parents was added, and in the period 2003-2007 for a PHD-project to also cover all migrations inside the Netherlands as a whole until 1940. Consequently there are only very few missing values in the database.</p>
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<p>5. Keywords: Please use the recommended keywords if they are applicable: <i>demography, life course, census, church register, civil certificates, population register, history, social science, genetics, migration, occupations.</i></p>	Demography, life course, history, social science, civil certificates, population register, migration, occupations
Please add your own keywords, if you have data not covered by the recommended terms.	

6. Citation: Indicate how you want others to cite your database.	Cohort Analysis Integral History Project Groningen, 1830, 1850, 1870
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7. IDS compatible: Indicate with <i>Yes</i> or <i>No</i> whether the database is IDS compatible, if <i>Yes</i> , please specify.	No, however, it is the aim to make it IDC compatible in the near future.
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8. Has the database already been completed or it is still under construction?	
8.a. If completed, please indicate the years of its construction?	
8.b. If under construction, please indicate, when it is planned to complete it?	
8.c. Please add a brief description of future plans for the database.	

II. Contact information

1. Name of institute or organisation	University of Groningen, Faculty of Arts, Economic and Social History – Research Centre of Historical Studies.
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1.a. Website	http://www.rug.nl/
1.b. Location: city, country	Groningen, The Netherlands
1.c. Postal address	Oude Kijk in 't Jatstraat 26 9712 EK Groningen, The Netherlands
1.d. Phone	

2. Name of primary responsible person	Richard Paping
2.a. His/her email address	r.f.j.paping@rug.nl
2.b. Postal address	
2.c. Phone	+31(0)50-3637252 [secretary history: +31(0)50-3638986]

3. Administrative information	
3.a. When this form was filled?	January 2015
3.b. Who did it?	Richard Paping

4. Main economic funding (Name of organization(s) who made the grants /sustain it)	NWO, Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek [Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research]: paid partly for creation of the database. Faculty of Economics, University of Groningen: paid partly for creating the database. Faculty of Arts, University of Groningen: paid for improving the database and hosting it.
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III. Sources: core characteristics

1. Type of the sources.					
Indicate how many sources were used for the database and what kind (register, census, certificates ...). Please enter <i>Yes</i> or <i>No</i> and the time period for the main sources. In case of other sources, not listed below, please add their type and specify their main characteristics.					
Detailed questions about the characteristics of all core sources are in section C.					
	<i>Type of source</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>	<i>Start year</i>	<i>End year</i>	<i>Explanations:</i>
1.	Baptisms	Y	1811	1820	Limited: to compare with information from civil records
2.	Marriages from church registers	N			
3.	Burials	N			
4.	Population registers, maintained by church or state	Y	1850	1940	
5.	Civil birth certificates	Y	1811	1906	Birth certificates after 1906 were not yet public by that time
6.	Civil marriage certificates	Y	1811	1931	Idem
7.	Civil death certificates	Y	1811	1960	Idem
8.	Population Census	Y	1830	1840	Afterwards population register
9.	Nominative lists	N			Not systematically
10.	Military draft records	Y	1811	1900	If available in the appendices of the marriage certificates, not systematically
11.	Municipal taxes	Y	1811	1920	If available, not systematically
12.	Other: departure lists for USA	Y	1846	1900	
13.	Other: genealogies	Y	1811	1960	If available, to find lost persons
14.	Other: several internet	Y	1811	1960	Limited: to find lost persons

sources				
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IV. The database: core characteristics

1. Period covered by data: give first and last year of date, if possible		1770-1914		
2. Territory covered by data		The Groningen Clay Area and the city of Groningen.		
3. Geographical characteristic: local, regional, national, cross-national				
4. Units of observation. Please enter <i>Yes</i> or <i>No</i> for each unit, which forms the sample, the number of units and write explanations/comments. Add other units if they are not listed below, for them explanations are especially important.				
	Units of observation:	Yes /No	Number of units	Explanations:
1.	Individuals	Y	5,280	Sample of individuals (from birth records)
2.	Married couples	Y	7,600	About 2,600 couples : Consisting of research person and spouse (data from civil registration and Population Registers); 5,000 couples of parents of the research persons (data from civil registration and some from Population Registers: not followed)
3.	Families	Y	2,600	Only observed when research person creates his own family (see before). Data are from Population Registers. A family is broad defined (including more generations).
4.	Households	Y	Scanty	The forms contain some information on households, however, this is not very complete, and also has not been digitalized. Data are from Population Registers.
5.	Farms	N		
6.	Institutions	N		
7.	Other			

5. Variables per unit included in the database	
<p><u>On individuals:</u> <i>Data of birth and dead, age, gender, marital status, religion, occupation, migration, relationship, etc.</i> Please add more variables, if they are not in the list</p>	<p>The database has been constructed from the perspective of the sample members and contains the following variables. It has to be noted that the rural cohorts of 1830, 1850 and 1870 (3,240) are of a much higher quality than the cohort of 1811 and of the cohorts of the city of Groningen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -name of the sample person -birth date of the sample person -birth place of the sample person -death date of the sample person -death place of the sample person -date of leaving parental home of sample person -date when leaving observation with cause (death, migration outside the Netherlands, too old – nearly only for the 1870 cohort -, or lost without trace) -migration history (dates and places) -indication of having been unmarried live-in servant in life -occupation before marriage -occupation a few years after marriage -occupations later in life (usually not very well dated) -name of the father (not digitalised) -birth place of the father -birth date of the father, or an indication of that. -death place of the father (if before the marriage of the sample person)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -death date of the father (if before the marriage of the sample person) -occupation of the father at time of the birth of the sample person -occupation of the father some 15 year after the birth of the sample person -ability of father to write a signature at the birth certificate or in the marriage register -name of the mother (not digitalised) -birth place of the mother -birth date of the mother, or an indication of that. -death place of the mother (if before the marriage of the sample person) -death date of the mother (if before the marriage of the sample person) -occupation of the mother at time of the birth of the sample person -occupation of the mother some 15 year after the birth of the sample person -ability of mother to write a signature in the marriage register -date of marriage of parents -municipality of marriage of parents -date marriage of the sample person (to a maximum of 2 have been digitalised) -place marriage of the sample person -ability to write a signature on the marriage certificate of the sample person -name of marriage partner sample person (not digitalised) -birth place marriage partner -birth date marriage partner -death place marriage partner -death date marriage partner -ability to write a signature on the marriage certificate of the marriage partner -occupation of the marriage partner upon marriage -occupation of the marriage partner a few years after marriage (and later occupations) -children: names (not digitalised), birth dates, birth places (not digitalised), death dates (if still living at home)
<p><i>On households: Type of household, children present, age and number of children, etc.</i></p> <p>Please add more variables, if they are not in the list</p>	<p>The information on the composition of the household of the sample person at any date is not very complete, and is not digitalised.</p>

6. Kinship relations:	
6.a. How is kinship recorded in the database?	The database is constructed around the sample persons and the other persons are always related to this sample person.
6.b. How deep (number of generations) is kinship information going?	Three generations: parents, sample persons and children (although these were only taken into account when still at home). Siblings of the sample person are not included.

7. Completeness	
7.a. Are all variables from the sources included in the database?	No, the database was originally constructed using paper forms, on which the most important information in the sources was noted. Not all the information was taken over, for instance on witnesses, and information that was already on the form. Part of the information mentioned on these papers was later on

	digitalised.
7.b. Are all individuals who lived in the households of the sample recorded?	No, the information in the Population Register on the household structure was very unsystematically transcribed, and because of this was not digitalised. Also, the information in the Population Registers was often incomplete due to the existence of separate servant registers.
8. Current data representation: Database Software (e.g. MySQL, MsSql, Access, please specify)	The database is in Excel as a spreadsheet. Actually, information in several spreadsheets relate to the same sample person. Originally the database was in Reflex, however in 1995 it was converted in Excel. We are now busy making it suitable for an IDS-structure.
9. Access conditions:	
9.a. How does a user get access to the database?	A user should contact the primary responsible person personally. In the near future we want to make the database available on a website
9.b. What are the conditions and restrictions?	In the near future we want to make the database public, without any limitations, except for mentioning the source. At the moment we are busy preparing the database for making it available on a website.

V. Publications and reports

1. Main publications about the database itself (max. 5)
 - P. Kooij (red.) *Dorp naast een stad. Hoogkerk 1770-1914* (Van Gorcum: Assen 1993).
 - P. Kooij (ed.) *Where the twain meet. Dutch and Russian regional development in a comparative perspective 1800-1917 [Historia Agriculturae 28]*. (NAHI: Groningen 1998).
 - R. Paping, 'Gezinnen en cohorten: arbeidsstrategieën in een marktgerichte agrarische economie: de Groningse kleigebieden 1830-1920'. In: J. Kok, A. Knotter, R. Paping en E. Vanhaute, *Levensloop en levenslot. Arbeidsstrategieën van gezinnen in de negentiende en twintigste eeuw [Historia Agriculturae 29]* (NAHI: Groningen/Wageningen 1999) 17-88.
 - P. Kooij and R. Paping (eds.), *Where the twain meet again. New results of the Dutch-Russian project on regional development 1750-1917 [Historia Agriculturae 34]* (NAHI: Groningen/Wageningen 2004).
2. Main or exemplary publications on research based on the database (max. 5)
 - R. Paping, 'Family strategies concerning migration and occupations of children in a market-oriented agricultural economy', *The History of the Family. An International Quarterly*, 9 (2004) 159-191.
 - P. Kooij, *Uit de klei getrokken: de levensloop van migranten uit de Oost-Groninger geboortecohorten Beerta en Winschoten 1830 en 1870*. In: T. Engelen, O. Boonstra en A. Janssens, *Levenlopen in transitie: liber amicorum bij het afscheid van prof. dr. Paul M.M. Klep* (Nijmegen: Valkhof Press 2011)

Section B

contains more specific and detailed questions about databases, such as the period(s) of observation, sampling design and procedures, data collection, linkage process and others.

VI. Observations

1. How do individuals enter observation?	Sample persons enter observation upon birth
2. How do individuals leave observation?	Sample person leave observation: 1. When they were lost (for the cohort 1811 and 1830 there was no Population Registers, so some were leaving observation in their youth, also because of the incompleteness of Population Registers some were lost: considerable research activities were undertaken for the rural 1830, 1850 and 1870 cohorts to again find them, and complete their life); 2. When they died (because of juvenile mortality more than one third of the ample persons were only in observation for a relatively short period); 3. When they left for foreign countries (for the 1811 and urban cohorts when they left the province), usually the United States of America (especially happening to a large extent for the 1870 cohorts).
3. How do households enter observation?	
4. How do households leave observation?	
5. Are some entry or exit dates unknown?	<p>Most dates were known exactly (births, deaths and marriages), although sometimes baptism dates (for parents) replace birth dates. A problem is that during the old digitalising procedure (due to the old-fashioned program) some of the dates were digitalised in such a way that they are not completely precise, but indicative (2 January, can also mean 1 January or 3 January). We are busy solving this problem, which actually for analysis is not really a problem, because of the only very slight differences. Unknown dates we sometimes come across with migration, as the Population Register (only from 1850 onwards) often does not give a date, and the migration can be concluded from showing up in a different municipality. At the moment the migration date is in that case usually a best guess of the responsible researcher in-between the dates were the sample person was observed in the different places. Sometimes also only months or even years are given for the migration date, then the exact date in the database was set in the middle. For the variable date of leaving home (which implied often a migration inside the municipality due to the lifecycle live-in servant system), usually the age was set at 15 (differences between estimated dates and exact dates can be made) which was often not recorded in the municipal register.</p> <p>The quality of dating of occupations is low. The digital version gives the occupations at some ages (20, 40), at the marriage certificate, and gives an indication of the sample person had been live-in servant. For parents the occupation is usually only available at the moment of birth of the sample person, although there is a variable giving the occupation about 15 years later. The search process was rather unsystematically, as the parents were not followed in the Population Register themselves.</p>
6. Are some entry or exit dates estimated?	
7. Can observations be linked to geographic locations?	Yes: in every case the municipality is mentioned were something is happening (births, deaths, marriages, migration) and there is

	also a considerable amount of more detailed information on the villages within the municipalities. House numbers as mentioned in the Population Register were noted on the forms, but they are not easy to relate to specific geographical places (the house ordering also changed over time).
8. Are the dates and locations of movements within the observation area recorded?	Yes: see previously. All the migrations are dated (or a date was estimated) inside the Netherlands. The locations are usually mentioned on a municipal level, even often on a village level.
9. Are all individuals who lived in selected households recorded? (Selection on basis of the sample or because sampled individuals are living in households)	On the forms this information is given to a limited extent (quality is rather low: the interest was mainly in the children). In the digital version there is no information on the household structure that the sample members lived in.
10. Are there related observations that are not included in the database?	

VII. Sampling design and procedures: how was sample(s) defined?

<p>1. Source(s): Which source forms the basis for the sample</p>	<p>Civil birth certificates: the first 120 births from 1 August 1811, 1 January 1830, 1850, 1870 onwards were transcribed on a form: name child, name parents, occupation parents, signature father, date of birth, date of certificate and number, place of birth (municipality and village). Stillborns reported in the civil birth registration were not taken into account. The 1811 cohort starts 1 August, because at this date the civil registration started in the province of Groningen, before that date you have to search in baptism registers which give far less information (for instance no occupation). A problem with the 1811 cohort is also that the surnames were often not correct, as a lot of Dutch people (especially in the countryside) only chose a surname in the years around 1811, and they also did not always use them. Actually, this was a major problem with the construction of the 1811 cohort, resulting in quite a lot of people leaving no trace except for the birth certificate. For some villages the baptism records were inspected, as they sometimes give other extra information on names.</p> <p>For the sample persons marriage and death certificates in the civil registration were searched for individually in the province of Groningen. At that time this was rather time consuming as every municipality had a ten year index (making searching easier, but not that easy), and overall indices were missing (at the moment excerpts of the whole civil registration of the province of Groningen have been digitalised: allegroningen.nl, and the same is the case for large parts of the rest of the Netherlands, for instance: wiewaswie.nl. This makes searching for lost people much easier than at the moment the database was generally constructed)</p> <p>The relevant information in these certificates was transcribed and put on a form. Also the sample persons and their family were looked for in the available censuses (usually 1830 and 1840) in the municipalities of birth. After 1850 for most of the municipalities a dynamic Population Register is available, which was renewed every 10 year (but not always, some Population Registers even stretched over 40 years: for instance 1860-1900). The information and changes in this information in the Population Register were also taken over on the form. Especially the names and birth dates of children of sample persons were taken over from the Population Register, and only controlled using the birth and death registration (especially to find the registration of stillborns and mortality of babies after a few days that was missing in the Population Register). Sample persons were followed after migration in the Population Register of the municipality of settlement (usually in Groningen, for the rural cohorts 1830, 1850 and 1870 also in the rest of the Netherlands). Migration to the USA (not always reported in the Population Registers) was also controlled using the available departure registers of the province of Groningen from 1846 onwards (which were, however, also not complete).</p>
<p>2. Sampling units: Households, individuals, regions...</p>	<p>Individual sample persons were followed through their life. Nine rural municipalities were chosen for the selection procedure scattered rather evenly across the region. Zuidhorn and Hoogkerk in Westerkwartier district (west), Leens, Uithuizen and Bedum in Hunsingo district (northwest), Appingedam and</p>

	Stedum in Fivelingo district (northeast), Beerta and Winschoten in Oldambt district (east). However, both rural centres (Appingedam and Winschoten) were selected. A double sample was taken for the large city of Groningen: 240
3. Variables used for selection: Age, gender, marital status, other	All children born irrespective of gender.
4. Selection method: Random, stratified random, total count, clustered, other	Clustered (see before).

VIII. Data collection

1. Data collection period: When the data was collected and transcribed?	Most of the data was collected in the period 1988-1993. Major additional improvements were being made in the period 1996-1997 and in 2002-2006. Only some limited additions were being made since 2006.
2. Data collection method: Public digital register, transcription, other	Transcription by hand on forms of relevant information. Transcription was largely done by hired research assistants, PHD-students and Postdocs, but also some initially by Master students history.
2.a. If transcription, how was the transcription done: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ By individuals ◦ From scanned sources ◦ From LDS's microfilms ◦ Automatic controls 	By individuals Sources were usually on microfilm (civil registration and Population Registers), although sometimes also the archival source was used (Population Registers)
2.b. How was the checking of the transcription done? For example, by proof reading?	No separate systematic checking of the transcriptions happened.
2.c. When was it done?	Some checking was done during the whole research process, and a general check on consistency on the rural parts was done 1996-1997.
2.d. Purpose of the transcription: please indicate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ LDS ◦ Research ◦ Genealogy 	The database was created for research reasons. The life course of ordinary people was researched for sake of creating an integral history of the area in the long 19 th century. That's why it is called Integral History Database.
3. Control methods by researcher: e.g. Internal consistencies such as a death cannot happen before a birth of the same person	Later on for the digitalised database some computer controls were done on the consistency of the data. Also the information in the database was continuously controlled during the search, as a lot of sources give partly the same information. However, this control was not done in a systematic way.
4. Data collection staff: Please indicate the number of people and their position (member of the project, free-lancer, other)	Last years no staff is involved anymore structurally in collection, although a senior lecturer has done some minor improvements, and in 2015 a paid Reseach master student-assistant is updating the digital outlook of the database. In the period 1988-1993 a considerable number of people worked on collection: -a professor (supervision, but also digitalisation) -a paid researcher -a paid PHD-student -continuously one or more paid student-assistants -two students doing research In 1996-1997 -A paid Postdoc

	In 2002-2006 -A paid PHD-student
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IX. Linkage process

1. Linkage: Which sources and units of observation have been linked: (e.g. birth/baptisms and death/burials...)?	For the sample persons: birth registers, deaths registers, marriage registers and Population Registers have been linked.
2. Documentation of linking:	
2.a. Programme, manually, ...	The linking was done manually using the name and age as primary keys. The linking was not separately documented, as these variables were usually clear enough to see if we were dealing with the same person.
2.b. Name of software if used (and its parameters)	No software used for linking
3. What are the rules for linking? Flags definition (list them: age, name, extra knowledge ...)	The linking was first on name, and then information on relatives (parents, partners), than on age, on birth place, and on other information. Actually, the linking was usually not a big problem, because of the wealth of information in the sources used there was not much confusion. Linking to tax registers and for instance departure records was usually done using the name, the place of settlement, and the occupation.
4. How each reconstructed person is traceable to the original sources /transcribed data?	A paper documentation on form is made for every sample person, containing indication of the sources used. Actually, because of the official sources used, it is often beforehand clear what is the origin of the information: civil registration (that is very systematic) and Population Registers (indication of pages on forms).
5. How is linkage represented in the database? For example, do all occurrences of an individual include a universal identification number (ID)? Or are records linked in another way?	At the moment the only persons that have a provisional separate identification number are the sample persons in the database. This means that other persons can show up in the database on different place (although this is rare, taking into account the way the database is constructed). However, in the 1830 sample some persons in small municipalities have the same parents (as it sometimes took two years to have 120 births), and also there are of course twins. At the moment parents, partners and children are only linked to the sample person. In the digital version their name is still missing, making linking rather difficult.
6. Linkage percentage	Rural 1830, 1850, 1870: 99%: nearly always parents were traced, and children were traced, while the number of sample persons leaving observation without a reason known (death, migration) is extremely limited. For the other cohorts (urban and 1811): a considerable number of persons (max. 5%) only show up in birth records, and also a large number has not been well linked to parents, partners and children (I guess some quarter of all cases).
7. Quality of linkage (own evaluation)	1830, 1850, 1870 rural: Extremely good. Urban and 1811: Good quality (for the links available), perhaps a few mistakes in it, as they have not been controlled

		anymore since about 1997.
8. What reference/coding systems have been linked to the data? For example, occupational titles (like HISCO), locations (including geo-referenced systems). Please indicate the name of the system and how it was used. (Yes, No, Partly).		
Y/N/P	Reference system	Explanations:
	Occupational titles:	The implementation of HISCO and Hisclass is work in progress at the moment (May 2015)
	Locations (including geo-referenced systems):	Names of locations have been standardized on the level of the municipality, no other georeferencing codes have been use until now
	Religion, civil status etc.:	Religion has been standardized. Civil status has been standardized.
	Other:	

Section C

contains detailed questions about sources used for the databases: their type, scope, content, state of preservation, etc.

Please answer the questions about all the sources used for the database, but do it in a separate form for every type of the source.

X. The main characteristics of the source (per every type of the source)

1. Burgerlijke Stand/Civil Registration

1. Official name of the source and its English translation	Burgerlijke Stand/Civil Registration
2. Purpose of the source:	
2.a. Why was this source created?	This systematic registration was created by the government to get control of the population, and also to replace the religious marriage and baptism registers, which were kept quite poorly, and give only a limited amount of information, while in the Dutch province of Groningen systematic registration of deaths was missing until the start of 1806 (although numerous death registers on a local level have survived)
2.b. Who created it?	It was officially created by Napoleon, starting August 1811. It was part of the governmental integration of the Netherlands in the French Empire (some parts are even in French language). However the registration was actually done by the local municipal government. In the countryside the major or a secretary was usually responsible for keeping the records, in larger municipalities civil servants. Two copies have been made, one for the collection of the provincial government, while the other one was kept in the municipality.
3. Scope: What group of the population was documented in this source?	All people born, dying or marrying in a certain municipality. When people had their official residence somewhere else, a copy of the certificate was sent to that municipality.
4. Time period: When the information of the sources was recorded? Please indicate the start and the end date.	The registration starts, as mentioned 1 August 1811, and goes on until nowadays. Official birth and death certificates were made only one to usually not more than three days after the event, with only a few exceptions. Marriage certificates were made up the same day as they were signed by both bride and groom.
5. Geographical area: What territory is covered by the source?	The civil registration covers the whole territory of the Netherlands, in some southern parts it starts even a few years later.
6. Content: What was recorded?	Birth certificate: mentions the name of the mother (sometimes age and occupation, especially in the case of illegitimate children); the name of the father who is usually declaring the birth, and in that case his age and occupation is also mentioned; the name of the child, the birth date and hour (often different from the date of the certificate: a well-know source of small mistakes), the locality (villages) where the child is born (sometimes even an address), the names, occupations, ages and place of residence of two (nearly always male) witnesses (and their relation to child born). In

	<p>absence of the father the birth could be declared by a midwife. Until well after 1850 it was quite usual in the Groningen countryside to not only mention the family-name but also the patronymic name (in the first decade or so after 1811 numerous people did not have a family-name, and accepted it years later, causing confusion and identification problems). The person who declares the birth and the witnesses signs the certificate (if able). NB: in the database the witnesses were not recorded and also not the hour, the signature of the father was recorded.</p> <p>Death certificate: mentions the name of the deceased, age, sex and occupation and place of birth and nearly always also the name of the parents (in the first decade or two they are sometimes missing, and there are also numerous mistakes in their names), and sometimes also information where they lived and what occupation they had at that moment or previously (the occupational information is not very systematic). Next to this, the names, ages and occupations of the two witnesses who declare the death are reported. It is mentioned in what relation they stand to the deceased (often neighbours or the village policeman). The witnesses sign the certificate (if able). NB: again the names of the witnesses were not covered in the database.</p> <p>Marriage certificate: mentions next to the marriage date and place, the names, age (sometimes even birth date), birth place, occupations, place of residence, names of parents (and where they live and what occupation they have, and if they give consent) of the bride and the groom. Sometimes additional information is supplied, for instance on military service, on grandparents and on the death of death of the parents (only in the first decades of the nineteenth century). For four witnesses information is given on the names, age, occupation and residence, and also their relation to the bride or groom. The certificate is signed by bride, groom, present parents and witnesses (if able).</p>
7. Language of written material: original sources and documentation	Usually in Dutch, only in 1811-1813 in rare cases in French.
8. Preservation and storage:	
8.a. Completely preserved	In Groningen, completely preserved, thanks to the double system just mentioned, one copy in the Municipal Archives, and one copy in the Provincial Archives (Groninger Archieven).
8.b. Partially destroyed by personnel according to systematic criteria	
8.c. Partially destroyed or damaged for other reasons	
8.d. Reorganized by producer of the source	
8.e. Reorganized by record linkage procedures	
8.f. Where the original records are stored (name of the archive or institution)?	
9. Documentation:	
9.a. Completely documented and accessible by:	
9.b. Partially documented and accessible by:	The source has been digitalised, and lately also largely been scanned (scans publicly available on internet:

	www.alle.groningers.nl), the scans are connected to an index, that gives much but not all information in the sources.
9.c. No documentation, but accessible by:	

2. Dutch Population Registers from 1850 onwards

1. Official name of the source and its English translation	Bevolkingsregisters/Population Register
2. Purpose of the source:	
2.a. Why was this source created?	It was created by the government to get more control of the population, and to know who were actually living in a municipality.
2.b. Who created it?	It was officially created by the Dutch government, starting January 1850 (using the information of the census of end 1849). However, the registers were kept by the local municipal government. Usually in the countryside the major or a secretary was responsible for keeping the records, in larger municipalities a civil servants. Only one copy has been made. In some rural municipalities of Groningen for-runners of the Population Registers area available for some periods, especially from 1826 onwards, however they only have been kept for a short period.
3. Scope: What group of the population was documented in this source?	All the people having their official residence in the municipality.
4. Time period: When the information of the sources was recorded? Please indicate the start and the end date.	New books were usually made every 10 year, straight after the census, although this might differ per municipality. Some municipalities used the same book for 20 to even 40 years. The system survived until 1920 and sometimes 1940, although slightly adapted (for instance not all the people living in a household were recorded anymore when a lot of municipalities changed to a family centred way of registration. Already around 1860 a lot of municipalities kept separate books for live-in servants. After 1940 a different more individual system of people administration came into being ('persoonsbewijzen') in the Netherlands, which has not been used for this database.
5. Geographical area: What territory is covered by the source?	The Population Registers cover the whole territory of the Netherlands.
6. Content: What was recorded?	Usually ordered geographically (but also sometimes alphabetically taking into account the name of the head of the household) the households were recorded supplying names of all persons living in one joint household (live-in servants were after 1860 often missing as they were listed separately, making it difficult to establish the number of live-in servants). Every household page gives also information on the household address (changes within the municipalities are unfortunately not dated). For each person information on the name, birth date, birth place, relation to the head of household, civil status, religion and occupation are given. Also changes taking place in the household were recorded, information on new people being added. Changes in some of the characteristics of persons were also recorded, but not dated. Changes in occupation or religion were very poorly registered between census data (every ten years), but the information was updated after the census. Changes related to migration outside the municipality (stating also the place of

	destination), marriages and death were usually dated, although for migration not always. In a lot of cases people moved without notifying the local government. Especially in the period 1850-1860 registration of migrations are very poor. Also the registration of the movements of the numerous young juvenile live-in servants was far from complete. Changes were made with a pencil in a way, that the former information could still be read, making it possible to reconstruct developments.
7. Language of written material: original sources and documentation	In Dutch.
8. Preservation and storage:	
8.a. Completely preserved	
8.b. Partially destroyed by personnel according to systematic criteria	
8.c. Partially destroyed or damaged for other reasons	Preservation depends on the municipality. For the city of Groningen, they have completely survived. For Bedum they start around 1860, while there are also a few municipalities where they survived only from 1880 or very rarely even 1900 onwards in the Municipal Archives, where they should have been kept. The reasons for the disappearance is unclear and must have been local. Outside Groningen, sometimes parts of Population Registers have been destroyed in World War 2 or because of other disasters. They were very vulnerable as there is only one copy.
8.d. Reorganized by producer of the source	
8.e. Reorganized by record linkage procedures	
8.f. Where the original records are stored (name of the archive or institution)?	
9. Documentation:	
9.a. Completely documented and accessible by:	
9.b. Partially documented and accessible by:	
9.c. No documentation, but accessible by:	Most of the Population Registers have been filmed several decades ago for the period 1850-1900 by the Mormons. A copy of these old films has been converted in fiches, and made available in the 'Groninger Archieven'. The information has not been digitalized yet. See also: A. Knotter (ed.). De gemeentelijke bevolkingsregisters 1850-1920 (Broncommentaren 2, 1995) http://resources.huygens.knaw.nl/pdf/Broncommentaren/voorlopig/Broncommentaren_2-075_116.pdf

3. Dutch Census lists 1815, 1829/30 and 1839/40

1. Official name of the source and its English translation	Volkstellingen, Volkstellingslijsten/ Census lists
2. Purpose of the source:	
2.a. Why was this source created?	It was created by the government to count the population, and to try to get some information on the characteristics of this populations
2.b. Who created it?	It was the Dutch government who ordered these censuses to be held in 1815, end of 1829 and end of 1839. Local municipal governments seems to have been in responsible to

	actually make up these lists. Usually we find long lists in the municipal archives. Only rarely the original forms have survived (Hoogkerk), suggesting that these long lists are based on separate households forms, at least in 1839/40.
3. Scope: What group of the population was documented in this source?	All the people being present in the municipality at the moment of the census, often partly taking into account those who had their residence in the municipality.
4. Time period: When the information of the sources was recorded? Please indicate the start and the end date.	Censuses were held end 1814, early 1815, end of 1829 and end of 1839. Other censuses were held earlier, but usually no census lists have survived. There was also a census end 1849, but their results show up in the Population Registers from 1850 onwards.
5. Geographical area: What territory is covered by the source?	The census registers could in theory cover the whole of the Netherlands, and even Belgium before 1830, however, they have survived only partly.
6. Content: What was recorded?	Usually ordered geographically (per village) the households were recorded giving the names of all persons living in one joint household, both family and servants. Usually, we find long lists with names ordered per household, supplying also information on the household address. For each person information on the name, birth date, birth place, (sometimes stating the relation to the head of household, but usually this can be concluded from the ordering within the household), civil status, religion and occupation are given. Information on occupations other than heads of households, adult males and servants are limited.
7. Language of written material: original sources and documentation	In Dutch
8. Preservation and storage:	
8.a. Completely preserved	
8.b. Partially destroyed by personnel according to systematic criteria	
8.c. Partially destroyed or damaged for other reasons	Preservation depends on the municipality. Only, a limited number of census lists have survived, mostly for 1840, fewer for 1830 and even less for 1815. For the city of Groningen, 1830 and 1840 are available. The reasons for the disappearance is unclear and must have been local. They were very vulnerable as there seems to be only one copy left. Duplicates must have been kept at a provincial or national level, but did not survive as far as I know.
8.d. Reorganized by producer of the source	
8.e. Reorganized by record linkage procedures	
8.f. Where the original records are stored (name of the archive or institution)?	
9. Documentation:	
9.a. Completely documented and accessible by:	
9.b. Partially documented and accessible by:	Most of the census registers have been filmed several decades ago for the period before 1850-1900 by the Mormons. A copy of these old films has been converted in fiches, and made available in the 'Groninger Archieven'. The information has not been digitalized yet, except for the city of Groningen, for which an index is available for censuses and the Population Registers 1830-1920.
9.c. No documentation, but accessible by:	

