

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

1. Official name of the source and its English translation	Burgerlijke stand + bevolkingsregister (Vital registration of births, marriages and deaths + population register)
2. Purpose of the source:	Public administration
2.a. Why was this source created?	To keep track of changes in the population and for tax and national security reasons
2.b. Who created it?	Belgian state
3. Scope: What group of the population was documented in this source?	Everybody who officially resided in the covered area.
4. Time period: When the information of the sources was recorded? Please indicate the start and the end date.	1846-1920. The register of 1910 (stretching to 1920 and sometimes beyond) is covered. Later registers are not yet transcribed due to privacy restrictions.
5. Geographical area: What territory is covered by the source?	Antwerp district
6. Content: What was recorded?	Information on all households and its individuals (first and last name, address, occupation, sex, birth date), relations to the head of household, vital events of members of the household (in- and out-migration, death). On the marriage certificates there is information on the birth and living location of bride and groom, the living location of the parents of the bride and groom and of the marriage witnesses. The occupations of the couple, their parents and the witnesses are recorded. It is all recorded whether the bride, groom, parents and the witnesses were able to sign the certificate, and if not why. The relation of the witness are defined in relation to the bride and the groom (kin, friend, other).
7. Language of written material: original sources and documentation	Dutch and French
8. Preservation and storage:	
8.a. Completely preserved	Almost completely preserved, with one exception. See below.
8.b. Partially destroyed by personnel according to systematic criteria	-
8.c. Partially destroyed or damaged for other reasons	Only the registers of Merksem were destroyed, during the war
8.d. Reorganized by producer of the source	The registers were constantly updated if important life events occurred (birth, marriage, death, migration). After a new census was carried out a new register was opened (usually after 10 years).
8.e. Reorganized by record linkage procedures	
8.f. Where the original records are stored (name of the archive or institution)?	The population registers are well preserved in the archives of the different municipalities. Photocopies of the sampled household registers are saved on the university server.
9. Documentation:	
9.a. Completely documented and accessible by:	Documentation is found in the publications on the database. For users extra documentation is provided with the data itself.

9.b. Partially documented and accessible by:	
9.c. No documentation, but accessible by:	