



# CENSUS 2023

DATA PROCESSING



# DAVID CLARKE

- Career Software Developer
- Microsoft stack
- Pascal, C, C++, C#, JavaScript, Java, SQL, Python
- My Honesty Box [www.myhonestybox.co.nz](http://www.myhonestybox.co.nz)
- Zebra Crossing [www.zebracrossing.co.nz](http://www.zebracrossing.co.nz)



# BACKGROUND

- 2018 Census not entirely successful
- Census Development squad dispersed
- August 2022 new team assembled
- Census date 3 March 2023



# OUTLINE

- Inputs and Outputs
- Tools and frameworks
- Classifications
- Data Sourcing and Imputation
- Specifications
- Demo



# INPUT AND OUTPUTS

## Inputs

- Response store with individual and dwelling responses as JSON via HTTP
- Admin and historical data SQL Server
- Location data SQL Server



# INPUTS AND OUTPUTS

## Outputs

- Individuals table ~4,900,000 rows, 292 columns
- Dwellings table ~2,040,000 rows, 74 columns
- Household table ~1,900,000 rows, 23 columns
- Family table ~1,170,000 rows, 28 columns
- Extended Family table ~121,000 rows, 8 columns
- Supporting “Extra” tables including intermediate and input columns



# INPUTS AND OUTPUTS

- All data treated as strings
- 280 specs/processing modules
- Census Processing takes 60+ hours to complete



# TOOLS AND FRAMEWORKS

- Python 3.8 and a small C++ module
- Pandas and Numpy everywhere
- Behave and pytest
- Mypy
- Poetry
- Visual Studio Code
- Python Notebooks
- Azure Data Studio/SQL Server Management Studio



## CLASSIFICATIONS

- Aria  
<https://aria.stats.govt.nz/aria/>
- E.g. main types of heating used
- qcyomC7wufic8HZJ

## Census main types of heating used V2.0.0

Overview Browse Advanced Usage Discussion

- > 0 No heating used (1)
- > 1 Heat pump (1)
- > 2 Electric heater (1)
- > 3 Fixed gas heater (1)
- > 4 Portable gas heater (1)
- > 5 Wood burner (1)
- > 6 Pellet fire (1)
- > 7 Coal burner (1)
- > 8 Other types of heating (1)
- ✓ 9 Not elsewhere included (3)
  - 77 Response unidentifiable
  - 88 Response outside scope
  - 99 Not stated

# CLASSIFICATIONS

- Derivations
- Census main types of heating used - single/combinationV2.1.0
- kXrpegiKTUFysYWU

## Census main types of heating used - single/combination V2.1.0

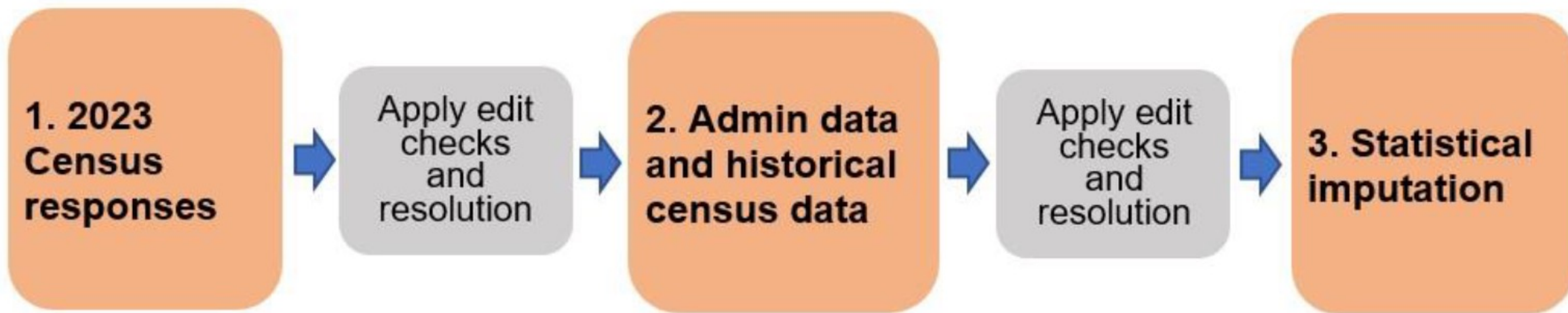
[Overview](#) [Browse](#) [Advanced](#) [Usage](#) [Discussion](#)

- > 000 No heating used {1}
- > 011 Heat pump only {1}
- > 012 Electric heater only {1}
- > 013 Fixed gas heater only {1}
- > 014 Portable gas heater only {1}
- > 015 Wood burner only {1}
- > 016 Pellet fire only {1}
- > 017 Coal burner only {1}
- > 018 Other main type of heating only {1}
- > 021 Heat pump and electric heater {1}
- > 022 Heat pump and fixed gas heater {1}
- > 023 Heat pump and wood burner {1}
- > 024 Electric heater and fixed gas heater {1}
- > 025 Electric heater and portable gas heater {1}
- > 026 Electric heater and wood burner {1}
- > 029 Other combinations of two main types {1}
- > 031 Heat pump, electric heater, and wood burner {1}
- > 039 Other combinations of three or more main types {1}
- > 999 Not elsewhere included {2}

# DATA SOURCING AND IMPUTATION

- Editing, data sourcing, and imputation: Planned approach for the 2023 Census
  - <https://www.stats.govt.nz/assets/Methods/Editing-data-sourcing-and-imputation-Planned-approach-for-the-2023-Census/Editing-data-sourcing-and-imputation-Planned-approach-for-the-2023-Census-.pdf>

**Figure 1: Hierarchy of data sources**





# DATA SOURCING AND IMPUTATION

## 2. Admin data and historical census data

Sources of information about the individual or dwelling other than a 2023 Census form:

- Historical (2013 or 2018) census responses – information provided from a previous census form. Only information from an actual response is included.

Imputed or alternatively sourced values within those previous census files will not be considered as historical census information.

- Admin data – information taken from an admin data source, such as birth registrations or tax data. This may also include a small amount of information from other Stats NZ surveys.





# DATA SOURCING AND IMPUTATION

## 3. Statistical imputation

- Within-household donor imputation – for example, in 2018, the person closest in age to the respondent in the respondent's usual residence household is selected as a donor. This is most likely to be used for cultural variables, such as ethnicity, Māori descent, religious affiliation, and language. Other implementations of within-household donor imputation could also be considered.
- Deterministic imputation – the attribute is derived from other available variables. In previous censuses, sex was imputed based on name, and Māori descent (electoral) was imputed based on iwi affiliation.
- Donor imputation – information is taken from a similar record, with donors found using nearest-neighbour imputation methodology (NIM).



# DATA SOURCING AND IMPUTATION

Editing is used to identify and resolve erroneous and suspicious data. Common errors that are the subject of edits include:

- basic errors in form filling, such as ticking multiple boxes on a single-response question
- illegible or ambiguous marks
- inconsistent responses, such as a person saying they have no sources of income, and yet they had an income of \$50,000
- suspicious responses, for example, if somebody says that they are 16 years old but have a master's degree.



# DATA SOURCING AND IMPUTATION

Donor imputation will be applied in CANCEIS (the CANadian Census Editing and

Editing, data sourcing, and imputation: Planned approach for the 2023 Census Imputation System).

CANCEIS is Stats NZ's standard corporate tool for statistical imputation and is also used internationally by several statistical agencies



# MANUAL INTERVENTION

- Input data exists
- Unable to code, Response Unidentifiable
- Data reviewed/updated by staff
- Minimise requirement for MI





# SPECIFICATIONS

- Written by analysts
- Word documents
- Input variables and classifications
- Output variables and classifications
- Pseudo code processing instructions



# SPECIFICATIONS

## Census main types of heating used

Input variable	Classification
dwell_nbr	
d_heating_predefined	
d_heating_text	
d_heating_code_ics	

Output variable	Classification
d_heating_predefined_code	
d_heating_code_data_source	



DEMO