

Technical File N° 3 (05/00)
RIERDEN Preliminary Results
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In its presentation of CICRED, in 1973, the journal *Population* said: "Its originality consists [...] of its role to create a new link among diverse national institutes which, often, do not know one another well, or among which information circulates slowly. Likewise, one cannot overemphasize its role as a promoter and stimulator of research. Its action should [...] constitute a fruitful and permanent contact among the national institutes of the whole world" (*Population*, no. 3, 1973).

Twenty-seven years later, CICRED is pursuing these same objectives. First, the number of Centres affiliated with the Committee has been steadily increasing. At the time of its creation in 1973, CICRED had 160 member Centres. In its 1985 Directory, the Committee counted 225 Centres, and in the 2000 Directory, their number has reached 687 (cf., Fig. 1). The geographic distribution of Centres by continent has changed since CICRED's founding:

1973			2000		
Africa	13	8%	Africa	146	21%
North America	22	14%	North America	73	11%
Latin America and the Caribbean	24	15%	Latin America and the Caribbean	84	12%
Asia	59	37%	Asia	157	23%
Europe	40	25%	Europe	211	31%
Oceania	2	1%	Oceania	16	2%
Total	160	100%	Total	687	100%

Source: ACERD 2000

CICRED now has a database, resulting from its RIERDEN survey, which allows description of the study and research activities of the affiliated Centres, and measurement of human, technical, documentary, and computer resources. We would like to thank the 189 Centres which have already participated in this considerable operation of cooperation among Centres.

The representativeness of these 189 Centres must be considered: they represent a self-selected group from among the 687 Centres enumerated in the *Annuaire des Centres d'Etudes et de Recherches Démographiques (ACERD)* (Directory of Demographic Research and Study Centres). Some small research teams may, out of modesty, have chosen not to fill out the RIERDEN survey, based on the notion that their research does not have an international scope. This choice is respectable, although it clearly does not reflect the spirit of RIERDEN.

At the other end of the spectrum, some very large Centres, perhaps put off by the heavy task of filling out the RIERDEN survey for their Centre, are not included among the first 189 Centres to have responded to the survey. However, these Centres will be added to the data base in the near future.

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The goal here is not the representativeness of the data base but rather its pertinence and completeness. We are thus only at an early stage of the process, but the proposed product is henceforth available for wide usage.

This data base can be consulted at the Committee's Web site: <http://www.cicred.ined.fr> . Here are the initial results:

I. INFORMATION ABOUT THE CENTRES

Administrative status of the Centres affiliated with CICRED

The following seven categories were used to classify the Centres:

- Department or head office of another organization;
- Public institution or organization (dependent on government);
- Branch with private status or joint private-public status organization;
- Association or foundation dependent on another organization;
- Independent private company;
- Independent association or foundation;
- Other.

Each of the first two categories accounts for 41% of the Centres, for a total of 82% (cf., Fig. 2). In most cases these Centres are part of an organization in higher education (two thirds of the first category and half of the second). Overall, nearly half of the Centres affiliated with CICRED are attached to a university. A bit more than 70% of the Centres are in the public sector.

The size of the Centres affiliated with CICRED

Thirty-five percent of the Centres that responded to the RIERDEN survey are small (fewer than 10 full-time equivalent persons). According to the ACERD data (687 Centres), this proportion is over 40%. This result suggests that there is not too much of a problem with small Centres being less inclined than medium-sized Centres to fill out the RIERDEN questionnaire. The small-sized Centres are frequent in university or ministry research units. A non-negligible proportion (20%) of the Centres with more than 50 people are national statistical institutes (cf., Fig. 3).

Publications of the Centres

Among the Centres that responded to the RIERDEN survey, 11% publish newsletters on the demographic situation, and 31% publish a scientific journal.

Connection to the Internet of the Centres affiliated with CICRED

All analyses are in agreement on the important growth of Internet connections in developing countries. CICRED's data illustrate this same trend since 1997 (cf., Table 1 and Fig. 4).

Electronic mail (E-mail) is becoming widespread, and it is clearly establishing itself as the pre-eminent communication tool. Connection to the Internet by the Centres has progressed a great deal in the past three years, going from 47% in 1997 to 67% in 2000.

Inequalities in access to this means of communication remain substantial among the regions of the world, but they have tended to diminish between 1999 and 2000. All of the Centres of Oceania are connected to the Internet, and more than 90% of those in North America are as

well. But in Africa the figure is only 40%. However, the situation there shows clear progress (25% in 1997, 31% in 1999).

As of the beginning of the year 2000, having a Web site is still a characteristic of only a minority of Centres. CICRED enumerated only 278 Centres with this efficient means of making one's organization known and diffusing research results (cf., Table 1 and Fig. 5). However, progress in this area is very rapid: in 1999, only 138 Centres had indicated that they had a server.

II. INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESEARCH

Now we present the results pertaining to the research activities of the Centres – the activities that are an ultimate concern of CICRED and its RIERDEN survey. A common nomenclature of research themes is used to produce two series of results.

The first series describes the overall scientific activity of each Centre and its areas of scientific interest, without there necessarily being a substantial current research activity on each subject.

The second series provides information on substantial research currently being undertaken, as indicated by the Centres. Several projects may deal with the same theme within a given Centre. In total, 746 projects were cited and described.

Main Subjects of study and research activities of the Centres

Not surprisingly, the principal research activities declared by the Centre Directors are the following: "Population, Age, Sex, Ethnic Groups" then "Fertility, Family Planning" and "Migration", followed by "Household, Family," "Morbidity, Mortality", and "Population Dynamics" (cf., Fig. 6).

Differences by continent are evident in the interests and motivations specific to each region: in Africa and Asia, the study of "Fertility, Family Planning" comes well ahead of "Migration", which is a prominent theme in Europe, America, and Oceania (cf., Table 2).

Research projects in population

Two principal themes are clearly in evidence: "Population, Age, Sex, Ethnic Groups", and "Fertility, Family Planning". By contrast, "Theories of Population" is an infrequent theme – this is an area that is limited to a relatively few specialists (cf., Fig. 7).

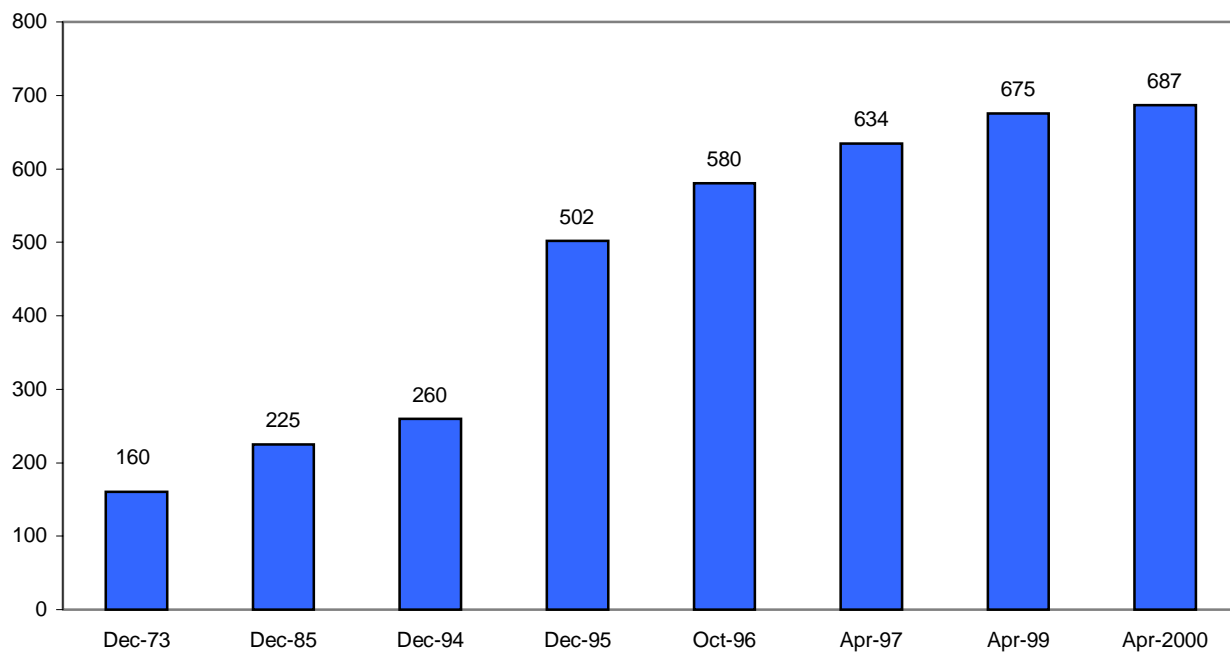
As before, the results reveal differences linked to the dominant preoccupations of Centres from different regions (cf., Table 3).

CONCLUSION

Eventually, the RIERDEN data base will allow the description and analysis of the structures and tendencies of demographic research in the world. At the moment, there is a strictly utilitarian bent. A Centre administrator or a researcher seeking to exchange information with a foreign colleague can, by this means, find colleagues who are specialists in the theme in which he is interested. In consulting the CICRED server, he can choose the key word and the geographic area of interest, and consult the files of the Centres or the projects which are related to his interest.

The RIERDEN team (May 5, 2000)

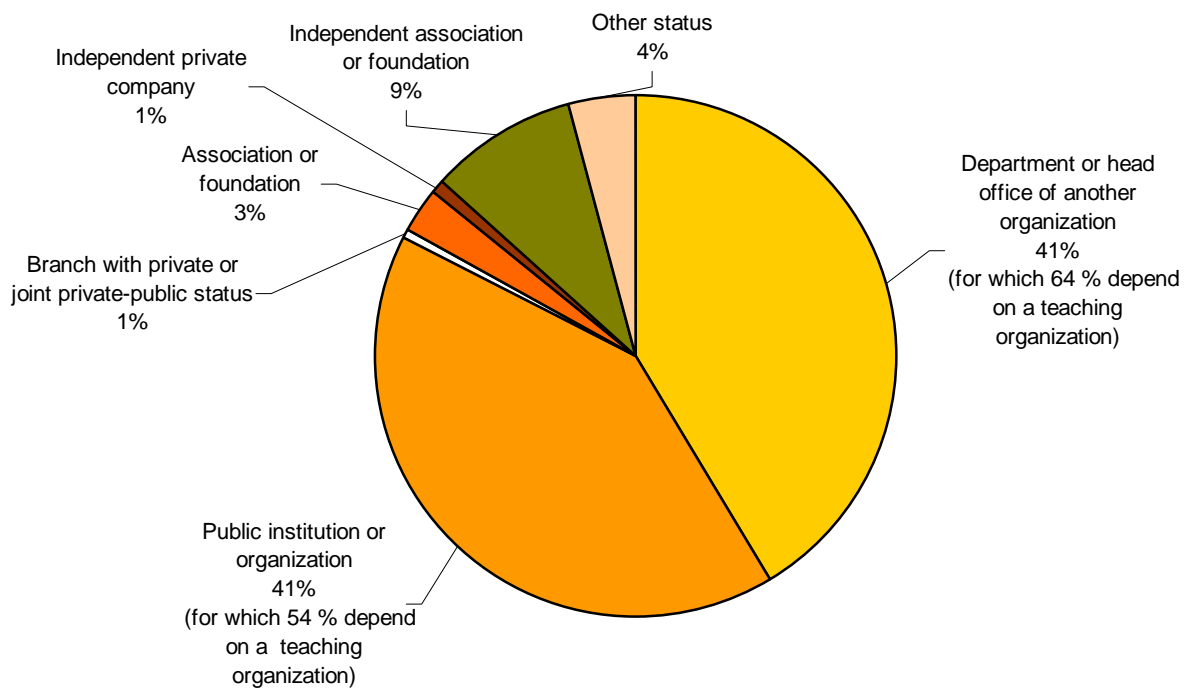
Figure 1 : Number of Centres Affiliated with CICRED



Source : ACERD

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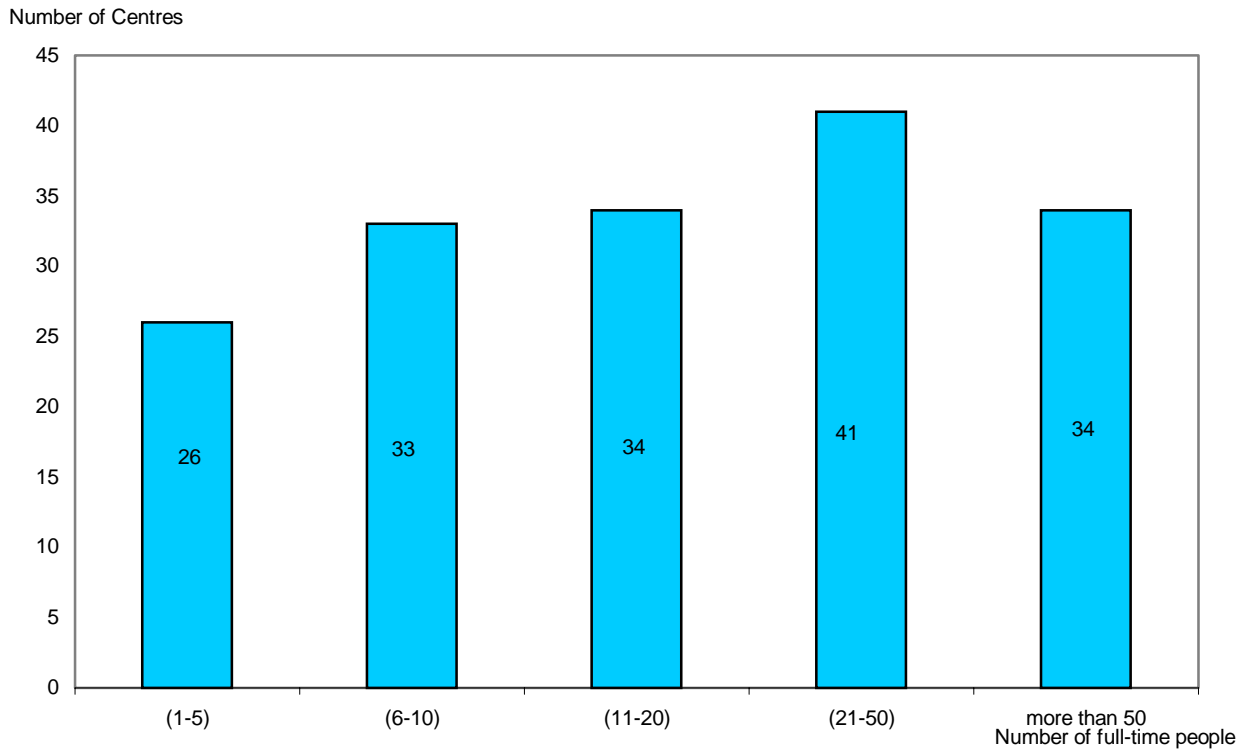
Figure 2 : Administrative Status of Centres Affiliated with Cicred



Source : RIERDEN 98-99 (189 centres)

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Figure 3 : Distribution of Centres Affiliated with Cicred, by Size



Source : RIERDEN 98-99 (189 centres)

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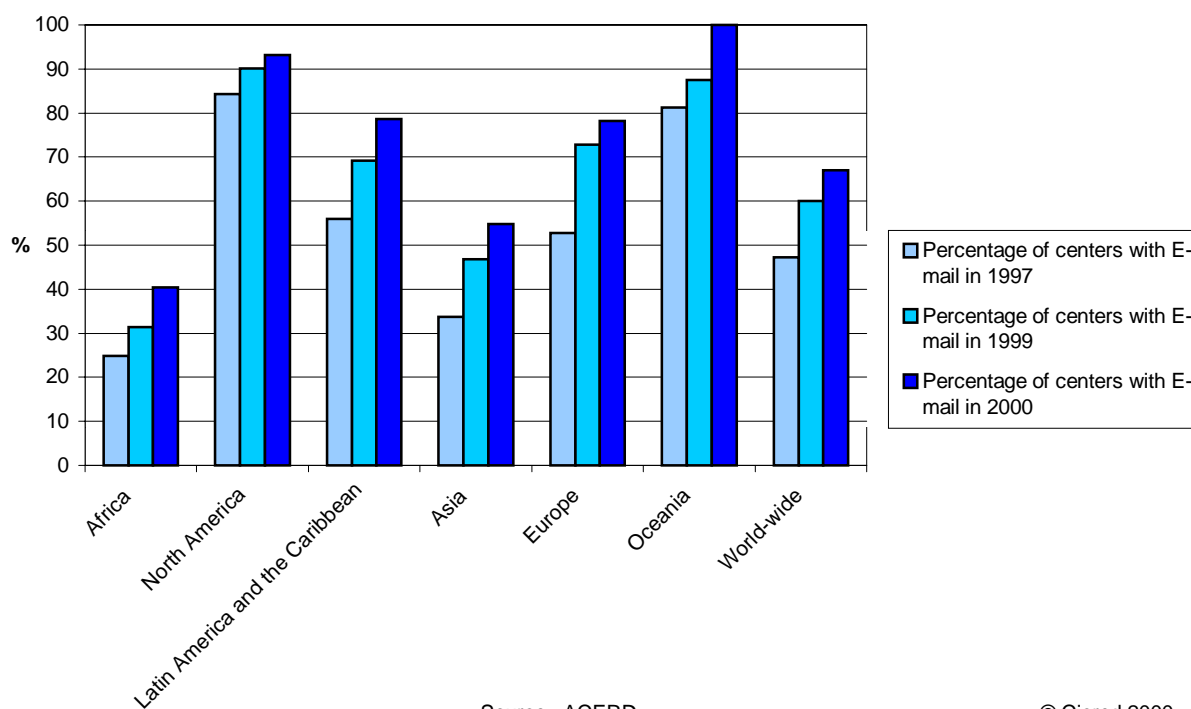
Table 1 : Demographic Centres with Access to Internet via an E-mail Address or a Website

Continent	Number of Centres			Number of Centres with E-mail			Number of Centres with a Website		Percentage of Centres with E-mail			Percentage of Centres with a Website	
	1997	1999	2000	1997	1999	2000	1999	2000	1997	1999	2000	1999	2000
Africa	129	140	146	32	44	59	5	24	24.81	31.43	40.41	3.57	16.44
Eastern Africa	33	36	36	11	15	15	2	8	33.33	41.67	41.67	5.56	22.22
Middle Africa	17	18	19	2	4	6	0	1	11.76	22.22	31.58	0.00	5.26
Northern Africa	27	31	33	5	8	13	2	7	18.52	25.81	39.39	6.45	21.21
Southern Africa	9	10	10	4	4	7	1	3	44.44	40.00	70.00	10.00	30.00
Western Africa	43	45	48	7	13	18	0	5	16.28	28.89	37.50	0.00	10.42
Northern America	70	71	73	59	64	68	38	61	84.29	90.14	93.15	53.52	83.56
Latin America and Caribbean	75	81	84	42	56	66	15	40	56.00	69.14	78.57	18.52	47.62
Caribbean	9	9	9	2	3	6	0	1	22.22	33.33	66.67	0.00	11.11
Central America	19	20	21	10	12	16	3	9	52.63	60.00	76.19	15.00	42.86
South America	47	52	54	30	41	44	12	30	63.83	78.85	81.48	23.08	55.56
Asia	148	154	157	50	72	86	14	46	33.78	46.75	54.78	9.09	29.30
Eastern Asia	44	42	43	8	15	20	3	12	18.18	35.71	46.51	7.14	27.91
South-central Asia	45	51	52	17	25	30	2	11	37.78	49.02	57.69	3.92	21.15
South-eastern Asia	40	41	42	14	17	21	6	12	35.00	41.46	50.00	14.63	28.57
Western Asia	19	20	20	11	15	15	3	11	57.89	75.00	75.00	15.00	55.00
Europe	199	210	211	105	153	165	58	97	52.76	72.86	78.20	27.62	45.97
Eastern Europe	42	42	42	20	26	31	1	6	47.62	61.90	73.81	2.38	14.29
Northern Europe	43	46	47	31	39	43	19	31	72.09	84.78	91.49	41.30	65.96
Southern Europe	38	44	44	12	32	32	11	19	31.58	72.73	72.73	25.00	43.18
Western Europe	76	78	78	42	56	59	27	41	55.26	71.79	75.64	34.62	52.56
Oceania	16	16	16	13	14	16	8	10	81.25	87.50	100.00	50.00	62.50
Australia-New Zealand	13	13	13	12	12	13	7	9	92.31	92.31	100.00	53.85	69.23
Melanesia	3	3	3	1	2	3	1	1	33.33	66.67	100.00	33.33	33.33
Micronesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Polynesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
World-wide	637	672	687	301	403	460	138	278	47.25	59.97	66.96	20.53	40.47

Source : ACERD 2000 (687 centres)

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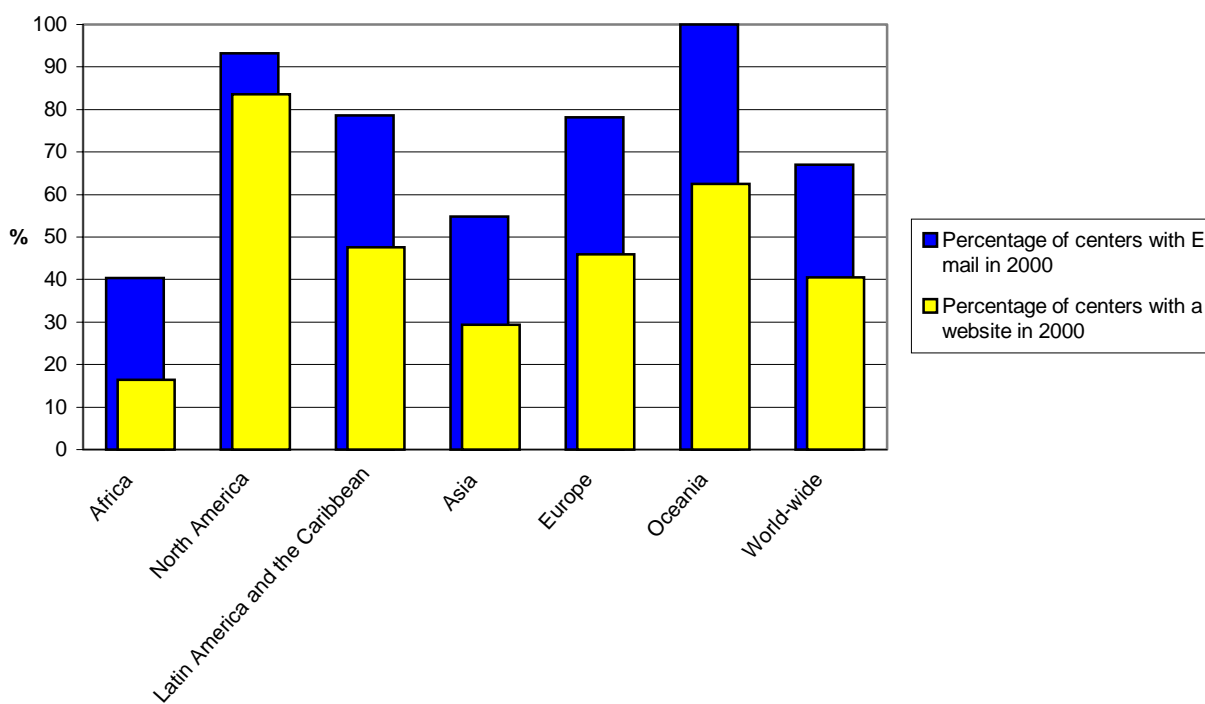
Figure 4 : Proportion per Continent of Centres with an E-mail Address in 1997, 1999 and 2000



Source : ACERD

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Figure 5 : Proportion per Continent of Centres with an E-mail Address or a Website in 2000



Source : ACERD 2000 (687 centres)

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**Table 2 : Main Research Activities of Centres
Affiliated Centres having declared each study and research activity**

Research Activities	Africa	Northern America	Latin America and Caribbean	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Total
Population. Age. Sex. Ethnic Groups	16	21	19	30	46	4	136
Fertility. Family Planning	23	15	14	32	39	3	126
Migration	18	17	17	27	42	4	125
Household. Family	19	11	15	28	37	5	115
Morbidity. Mortality	16	13	10	32	34	3	108
Population Dynamics	17	12	10	30	34	4	107
Population Distribution	16	12	15	22	26	4	95
Labor Force. Employment	14	11	13	21	26	3	88
Health. Life	16	7	12	26	25	0	86
Nuptiality	11	4	6	22	24	3	70
Culture. Education. Information	12	5	8	16	7	1	49
Social Organization	8	5	11	7	13	0	44
Population Theories	4	6	1	16	17	0	44
Economy	7	8	6	14	8	0	43
Administration. Legislation. Government Policy	3	5	7	6	18	1	40
Other	1	2	5	6	7	0	21
Psychological Factors	3	1	1	7	7	0	19

Source : RIERDEN 98-99 (189 centres)

Read : 19 affiliated centres among 189 declared they work on the following subject : " Psychological Factors ". 3 of them are situated in Africa.

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**Table 3 : Keywords defining the Research Projects
(Results per subcontinent)**

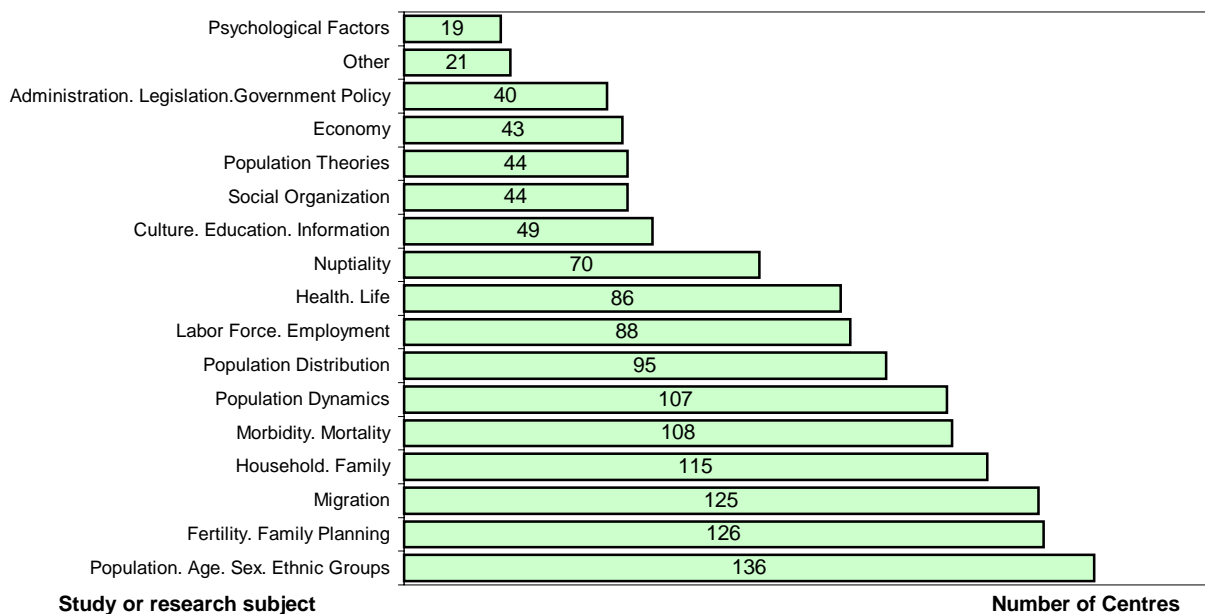
Keyword	Africa					America			Asia				Europe				Oceania		World
	Southern	Middle	Northern	Western	Eastern	Northern	Central and Caribbean	South	South-central	South-eastern	Western	Eastern	Southern	Western	Eastern	Northern	Australia-New Zealand	Melanesia	TOTAL
Population. Age. Sex. Ethnic Groups	1	4	5	9	12	14	16	22	16	37	4	4	31	64	11	12	10	5	277
Fertility. Family Planning	1	3	9	10	8	24	9	10	34	24	2	5	24	37	7	17	3	6	233
Migration	0	0	4	6	7	11	9	14	4	15	3	3	26	27	8	16	10	5	168
Population Distribution	0	7	4	6	6	10	13	19	7	17	4	1	25	27	6	5	3	5	165
Morbidity. Mortality	2	2	4	7	7	16	6	10	16	15	1	2	23	27	8	7	1	5	159
Household. Family	0	3	4	6	9	5	11	10	4	9	0	6	18	40	7	7	8	5	152
Labor Force. Employment	0	2	4	6	7	5	13	18	3	12	1	1	16	32	3	6	4	5	138
Health. Life	1	3	4	5	3	12	4	7	17	27	0	3	9	25	0	8	1	5	134
Population Dynamics	0	0	4	2	7	22	5	11	2	5	2	2	22	25	12	3	1	5	130
Social Organization	0	2	6	6	7	8	6	15	7	6	0	2	10	32	4	4	3	5	123
Culture. Education. Information	0	1	3	6	7	6	10	13	6	13	0	2	17	24	4	3	2	5	122
Nuptiality	0	0	4	6	8	1	7	5	1	5	1	2	15	36	6	8	3	5	113
Economy	0	1	5	5	5	9	5	11	11	10	0	0	8	28	2	1	5	5	111
Administration. Legislation. Government Policy	1	0	2	4	3	6	2	10	3	8	0	7	8	22	2	6	2	5	91
Psychological Factors	0	0	4	3	5	7	3	10	5	12	0	0	5	19	2	6	0	0	81
Population Theories	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	12	2	0	0	5	25

Sources : RIERDEN 98-99 (189 centres)

Read : 25 projects among 746 declared by the affiliated centres are related to the subject " Population Theories ". 12 of them are situated in Europe.

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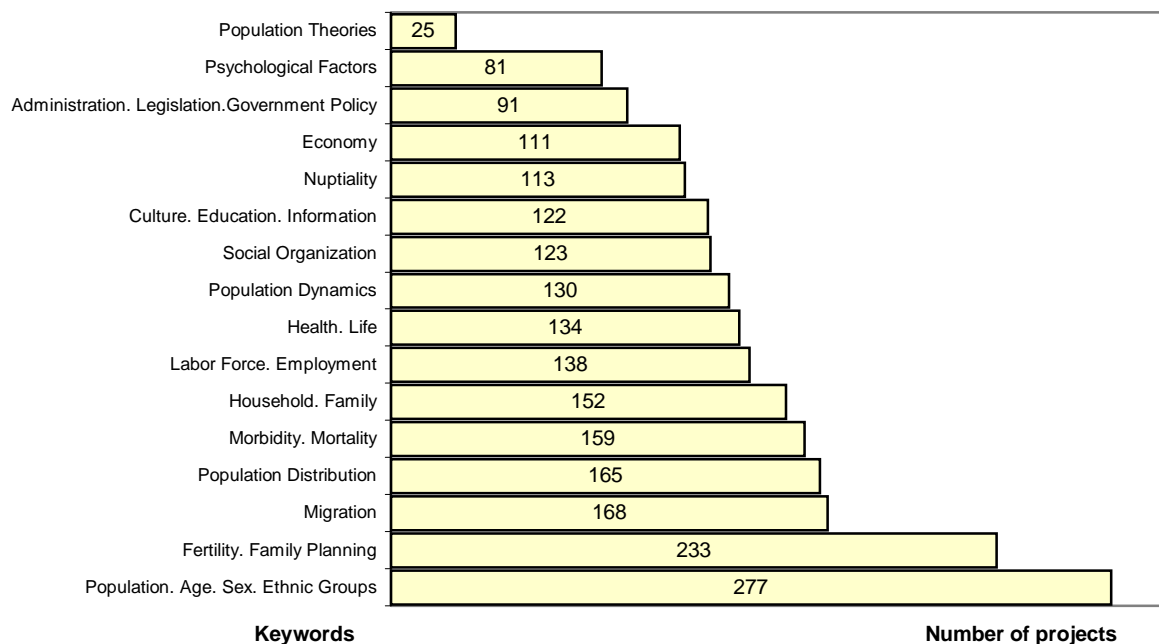
Figure 6 : Main Research Activities of Centres
Affiliated Centres having declared each study and research activity



Sources : RIERDEN 98-99 (189 centres)

Read : 19 affiliated centres among 189 declared they work on the following subject " Psychological Factors " © Ciced 2000

Figure 7 : Keywords defining the Research Projects



Sources : RIERDEN 98-99 (189 centres)

Read : 25 projects among 746 declared by the affiliated centres are related to the subject « Population Theories ». 12 of them are situated in Europe.

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