

# LAND REPORT

Iceland

## STATISTICS

- The Icelandic population is now 370.000 compared to 351.000 in April 2019.
- There are now 133.000 access addresses in Iceland, there of 122.121 have been located with a geographic point, or 91,8%.
- Approximately 4.250 new addresses have been added and located since our last meeting in 2019. Averaging 2.125 per year.
- There are 21.666 thoroughfare names registered.
- Nearly every residential and recreational housing is located with an address point – in total 87.500 addresses – with only around 40 missing address point.
- 99,5% of all registered building have association with a located access address.

## COORDINATING ADDRESS REGISTER WITHIN REGISTERS ICELAND

Registers Iceland started connecting the registration of homes to access addresses in 2018. We currently maintain separate registration for access addresses and another one for legal domiciles. In places where the two databases do not match the mismatches have involved discrepancies in registration e.g. spelling, expression of address names, where there was only one home address registered in the national registry that could be related to number of access addresses – and the other way around.

In just under a year, from 2018 to 2019, 2100 discrepancies were resolved or sent to the relevant municipality for further processing. 9800 letters were sent to registered persons residing in housing with a discrepancy in registration and 2200 letters to registered owners. The project was interdisciplinary within Registers Iceland and experts from most fields worked at the project. Coordinating address registration is now under constant monitoring and the goal is to catch new discrepancies immediately and resolve them.

## DATA QUALITY

We have not been focusing enough on data quality of the access address data since the database was created 15 years ago. The quality checks that we monitor on regular basis are:

1. If data has been entered into all columns,
2. If all registered apartments/dwellings have a coordinate attached to the address
3. We point out discrepancies between the access address database and the legal domiciles database to the municipalities and ask them to fix it.

Most of our focus these 15 years has been to increase the number of addresses with coordinates in the database and we have been very successful in that area.

This last winter we developed one data quality project. It involved creating a webpage that listed all thoroughfare names (street-, farms and place names) grouped by municipality and local neighborhoods (a criteria for the

registration of new street names). Many street names had multiple entries in the database, each with a slight differences. Those could be for example due to misspellings or suffixes as part of the street names. This web page made it possible for an address expert to assign registered addresses to a different street name entry in the database with relative ease as each entry had a unique id number. The project, which is still ongoing, has already resulted in about a 1.000 duplicate thoroughfare names being removed from the database (5%).

## PROJECT: PERSONS REGISTERED WITHIN APARTMENT

Registration of persons to an apartment was legalized in Iceland with the legislation of the Act on Legal Domicile and Residence no. 80/2018. Work on the implementation of such a registration had already begun at Registers Iceland. The aim of the project was that every individual should be placed within an apartment in the national registry. This was done by using the information and data already gathered by Registers Iceland such as rental contracts, deeds, ownership information etc. This project is completed and now when people are registering a new domicile, they are registered to an apartment in most cases. By the end of 2020, 92,25% were registered to an apartment.

## POST CODES NOW MAINTAINED BY POST AND TELECOM ADMINISTRATION IN ICELAND

The Post and telecom administration in Iceland (PTA) operates today the postcode system instead of privately operated Iceland Post after a bill on postal services no. 98/2019 went through Alþingi in June 2019:

Article 15: The Post and Telecom Administration determines the geographical boundaries of postal codes and publishes the postal code register and the geographical coverage of postal codes. Changes to the postal code register shall not be made without consultation with Registers Iceland.

The results for Register Iceland is that we do no longer maintain postcodes as an integral part of the national registry. After coordinates have been assigned to an access address, the coordinates find their postcode by asking the postcode layer serviced by PTA within which postcode area it is.

An access address without coordinates is “selvfølgelig” without postcode. These addresses are mostly land without registered buildings. 99,5% of all registered buildings have association with an access address with a coordinate.

## FUTURE GOALS / PROJECTS

We need to understand our users better – and their intended use of our data.

We need to coordinate with main stakeholder in a better and more practical way, focusing on common goals and understanding (road administration, municipalities, owners).

There may be a need to improve the current regulation.