



Research Methodology

May 2012

Technical Note 6

2011 CENSUS RESULTS

A population count or Census has taken place once a decade in England and Wales since 1801 (except 1941). The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is responsible for the census in England and Wales, and carried out the most recent in March 2011. Due to the breadth and depth of the 2011 Census results, the statistics on the usual resident population will be released in four stages – the first of which will be in July 2012.

Why is Census data important in Sandwell?

Accurate data of the population and its characteristics underpins the way Local Authorities plan and target their services:

- Local education needs – e.g. where to site new schools
- Local transport planning and traffic modelling
- Planning housing demand and location
- Local Authority development plans to ensure that development happens at the right locations, and;
- Community support services, including home help and home care.

Population data also provide the means for councils to monitor and evaluate their performance, and is also crucial in Local Authority funding.

Overview of Planned Outputs

Release	Date	Outputs
First	July 2012	Age and sex, and occupied households estimates for England and for Wales
Second	November 2012 – February 2013	Key and Quick statistics
Third	March 2013 – June 2013	Local Characteristics
Fourth	July 2013 – October 2013	Detailed Characteristics, Detailed Theme and Armed Forces



All releases of Census data will be accompanied by the following:

- Statistical commentary - this will provide description and context around each topic, provide comparability to the 2001 Census outputs, and highlight further sources of information where applicable.
- A statistical bulletin.
- Appropriate reference material to ensure that terms and concepts are defined and data are placed in context.
- Changes in the population will be shown through ONS data visualisations – these provide an easily accessible way to identify key changes and compare results across geography and/or through time.

First Release

The first release of statistics from the 2011 Census is scheduled for July 2012, and will be made available via the [ONS website](#). Sandwell data and analysis will be available on [Sandwell Trends](#). The statistics will include:

- usually resident census population estimates for England, Wales, and for England and Wales, at single year of age, and sex.
- usually resident census population estimates for England and for Wales at regional level, and local authority level, by five year age bands and sex.
- estimates of occupied households for England and for Wales at country, regional and local authority level.

ONS will provide an animated population pyramid alongside the first release of 2011 Census statistics. This will allow users to browse statistics, comparing age and sex distributions across England and across Wales, and to compare two areas simultaneously. Population pyramids will be available for England and Wales combined, England and Wales separately, and sub-national layers. Users will be able to interactively:

- explore the size and structure of each area
- actively interrogate age bands
- and track change from 2001

The accompanying population and household estimates statistical bulletin will highlight any key changes from 2001, for example changes in fertility and mortality rates, and changes in the age structure of the population.

Second Release

The second release of 2011 Census statistics will take place between November 2012 and February 2013. *Quick* and *Key Statistics*¹ will be released in three phases, according to geography. Each of the phases will be released via the [ONS website](#) and the [Neighbourhood Statistics website](#). Sandwell data and analysis will be available on [Sandwell Trends](#).

¹ The statistics in the second release will correspond to the 2001 Census Key Statistics tables, Univariate tables and headcounts.



1. The first phase of this release will include data for output areas, lower layer super output areas (LSOAs) and middle layer super output areas (MSOAs)². The statistics will also be available for regions, unitary and local authorities and at country level.
2. The second phase will be at ward level.
3. The third phase will be at the remaining geographies. This includes parishes (England) and communities (Wales), parliamentary and National Assembly for Wales constituencies, health areas, postcode sectors, and national parks.

Examples of tables which will be made available include:

- Usual resident population
- Age structure
- Living arrangements
- Marital and civil partnership status
- Country of birth
- Ethnic group
- Religion
- Health and provision of unpaid care
- Economic activity
- Hours worked
- Main language
- Passports held
- Household language
- National identity
- Length of residency in the UK

The majority of 2001 Census outputs will be repeated in 2011 - this is for comparability and continuity purposes. This release will also include postcode estimates (numbers of people by sex in each postcode), and estimates of the number of occupied households in each postcode.

Third Release

The third release of 2011 Census statistics will take place between March and June 2013. *Local Characteristics*³ tables will be released in three phases, again according to geography as outlined in the second release. Each of the phases will be released via the [ONS website](#) and the [Nomis website](#). Sandwell data and analysis will be available on [Sandwell Trends](#).

Examples of tables which will be made available include:

- Age by sex and resident type
- Sex and age by ethnic group
- Sex and age by economic activity
- Sex and age by general health and provision of unpaid care
- Country of birth by age and sex
- Sex and occupation by age
- Dwelling type and accommodation type by household space type

The release will support the output area hierarchy and wards, and statistics will also be available at unitary and local authority level, regional, national and health areas.

² Census Output Areas are grouped together to form Super Output Areas (SOAs), which are a geography designed for the collection and publication of small area statistics. There are 2 levels of Super Output Areas (SOAs), each nesting inside the layer above.

³ The statistics in the third release will generally correspond to the 2001 Census Area Statistics tables.



Fourth Release

*Detailed Characteristics*⁴ and *Detailed Themes* statistics will be released between July and October 2013. These statistics will be made available for higher level geographies including MSOAs, wards, unitary and local authorities, regions, country, health areas, and national parks. They will not be produced for output areas or LSOAs. These will be released via the [ONS website](#) and the [Nomis website](#). Sandwell data and analysis will be available on [Sandwell Trends](#).

Examples of theme tables which will be made available include:

- Equality
- Main language
- Ethnic National Identity
- Households and proficiency in English

Subsequent data releases (at a date not yet published) will include migrant and workplace tables.

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⁴ The statistics in the fourth release will correspond to the 2001 Census standard tables, standard and CAS theme tables and armed forces tables.