Lone parent families with dependent children

Purpose:
To provide 2001 Census based information about lone parent families with dependent children.

Definition of indicator and its variants:
Lone parent families with dependent children.
A dependent child is a person in a household aged 0-15 (whether or not in a family) or a person aged 16-18 who is a full-time student in a family with parent(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>Organisation (see glossary)</th>
<th>Current data</th>
<th>Trend data</th>
<th>File-worksheet name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number and percent</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>0-18</td>
<td>E&amp;W, E, GOR, ONS area, SHA, LA, PCO, CTY</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td></td>
<td>01S_019VS_01_V3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Data for PCOs have been produced from “best fit” of Output Areas.

Numerator:

Numerator data - Numbers of all lone parent families and lone parent families with dependent children.

Source of numerator data - ONS: Standard Table 06 (S06). Data were originally processed by the Department of Health (DH). Corrected data were downloaded via Census Area Statistics on the Web (Casweb).

Comments on numerator data - The ONS Area Classification values for Census indicators are computed from Local Authority (LA) data.

For the purposes of this table, a lone parent is defined as an adult with a dependent child living in a household with no other persons (whether related to that dependent child or not). Lone parents can be classified as married (or re-married) if they denote their marital status as married (or re-married), but have no spouse or partner identified in the relationship matrix.

Family units in a household were determined on the basis of the age, sex, marital status, long-term illness, and relationship in household of every resident in the household. A family comprises one of the following groups: married couple family (a married couple with or without their never-married children including childless couples); cohabiting couple family (two persons of the opposite sex living together as a couple with or without their never-married children, including childless couples); lone parent family (a mother or father together with her/his never-married children).

Grandparents residing with their grandchildren were counted as a family if the grandchildren's parents were not resident in the household. Households consisting entirely of persons aged under 16 were not grouped into families.

Denominator:

Denominator data - The total number of families in the sample, total number of families with dependent children in the sample, and total number of dependent children in families in the sample.

Source of denominator data - ONS: Standard Table 06 (S06). Data originally processed by the Department of Health (DH). Corrected data were downloaded via Census Area Statistics on the Web (Casweb).

Comments on denominator data - For those absent households for which no completed Census form was received by ONS, certain data were imputed.

Statistical methods:
Census data for PCOs were produced by ONS on the basis of best fit using two different methods. The 2001 Census Key Statistics tables were produced on the basis of best fit of Output Areas to PCOs, and Standard tables (which are...
generally the more detailed tables, showing cross-tabulations between different variables) for health areas were produced on the basis of best fit of wards. The “two-method approach” used by ONS is a problem, in that the same variables for health areas appear as different totals in the Key Statistics and Standard tables. Some of these differences are also “significant”. For a more detailed explanation see: http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/cn_96.asp

Disclosure protection measures applied by the ONS to 2001 Census output for England and Wales are in place in order to prevent the inadvertent release of information about identifiable individuals. As a result, totals may sometimes not add up. For more details about disclosure control methods see: http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/op5.asp

Percentages of all families that are lone parents with dependent children were obtained by dividing numbers of lone parent families with dependent children by the total number of families. Percentages of families with dependent children that are lone parent families were obtained by dividing numbers of lone parent families with dependent children by the total number of families with dependent children. Percentages of dependent children in families that are lone parent families were obtained by dividing the number of dependent children in lone parent families by the total number of dependent children in families.

**Interpretation of indicators:**

*Quality of indicator* - Annex 12 describes the criteria that should be used to judge the quality of this indicator. The application of the criteria is dependent on the context (e.g. describing a single organisation, comparing several organisations) and the level (e.g. national / regional with large numbers of events, local with small numbers of events) at which the data are to be used.

**Further reading:**


**Updated:** August 2010