Ethnic group and country of birth

Purpose:
To provide 2001 Census based information about the ethnic composition of resident populations.

Definition of indicator and its variants:
Residents whose ethnic group was:
- White - British, Irish, Other;
- Mixed - White and Black Caribbean, White and Black African, White and Asian, Other Mixed;
- Asian or Asian British - Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Other Asian;
- Black or Black British - Black Caribbean, Black African, Other Black;
- Chinese or other ethnic group - Chinese, Other Ethnic Group.

Also number of residents by country of birth - Great Britain & Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Other European Union (EU) (as at 29/02/2001), Rest of the World.

<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 of residents</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>E&amp;W, E, GOR, ONS area, SHA, LA, PCO, CTY</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td></td>
<td>01L_012VS_01_V2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Numerator:

*Numerator data* - Numbers of residents by ethnic group and country of birth.

Source of numerator data – Office for National Statistics (ONS): Key Statistics Tables 05 and 06 (KS05 and KS06). Data processed by the Department of Health (DH).

Comments on numerator data - The ONS Area Classification values for Census indicators are computed from Local Authority (LA) data. Strategic Health Authority (SHA) values are computed from Primary Care Organisation (PCO) data rather than LA.

Ethnic group is based on the ethnic or racial group to which the person considered they belonged. The question provided for sixteen responses (as detailed above). Those replying "Other White", "Other Mixed", "Other Asian", "Other Black", or "Other - Other Ethnic Group" were asked to describe the group to which they belonged and some of these were reallocated to one of the other categories in tables.

Country of birth outside the UK was based on writing in the present name of the country in which the person's birthplace is situated.

Denominator:

*Denominator data* - The total number of residents in the area.

Source of denominator data - ONS: Key Statistics Table 02 (KS02). Data processed by DH.

Comments on denominator data - None.

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 were obtained by dividing numbers in each group by the total number of residents in the area.

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:


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