Dependent children in households

Purpose:
To provide 2001 Census based information about dependent children and types of households.

Definition of indicator and its variants:
Dependent children in resident households;
- Lone parent families (with dependent children);
- Dependent children in resident households which were without central heating;
- Dependent children in resident households which were overcrowded (with more than one person per room).

Note: A dependent child is a person in a household aged 0 to 15 (whether or not in a family) or a person aged 16 to 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>01N_014VS_01_V2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Numerator:

* Nominator data - Numbers of dependent children in households with particular characteristics.

Source of nominator data – Office for National Statistics (ONS): Standard Tables 04, 06 and 54. Data processed by the Department of Health (DH).

Comments on nominator 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.

For the purposes of this indicator, lone parent households 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, and overcrowded households are those with more than one person per room (where the count of rooms excluded bathrooms). The occupancy rating assumes that every household, including one person households, requires a minimum of two common rooms (excluding bathrooms).

A household is without central heating if no living rooms or bedrooms are centrally heated.

In general a household’s accommodation is defined as an unshared dwelling if all the rooms are behind a door that only that household can use.

Denominator:

* Denominator data - The total number of dependent children in resident households.

Source of denominator data – ONS: Standard Tables – 04, 06 and 54. Data processed by DH.

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 PCO 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:

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:

Percentages were obtained by dividing numbers of dependent children in households with the relevant characteristic 
by the total number of dependent children in households.

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:

   http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/

Updated: December 2009