Composition of the Census count of resident population

Purpose:

To provide 2001 Census based information about household status of resident population.

Definition of indicator and its variants:

The Census count of resident population and the percentage who were present and resident in households and resident in communal establishments.

<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 in households</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>01H_006VS_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 in each of the component groups.

Source of numerator data – Office for National Statistics (ONS): Key Statistics Table 1 (KS01). 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.

Denominator:

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

Source of denominator data - ONS: Key Statistics Table 1 (KS01). Data processed by DH.

Comments on denominator data - The count of resident population in households and communal establishments is based on statistics relating to where people usually live.

The following two groups of enumerated persons were separately identified:

- Resident in households - persons enumerated as resident in a household;
- Resident in communal establishments - persons enumerated in a communal establishment, which was recorded as being their usual residence.

In addition to these two groups enumerated by the Census, the resident population of an area included the following group: Imputed residents in households - for those absent households for which no completed census form was received by ONS, certain data were imputed. The imputed items were those that were fully processed for 100% of records. The method of deriving these data was to draw on information from similar absent households in the same neighbourhood for which completed forms were returned. Appropriate matches were identified by using basic information about the households collected by enumerators.

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 of residents in each of the component groups 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:


Updated: December 2009