

QS601EW - Economic activity

Overview

Table population	All usual residents aged 16 to 74
Reference	QS601EW
Source	Census 2011
Keywords	Economic activity, Economically active, Economically inactive, Employed (in employment), Employee, Full-time working, Long-term unemployed, Main job, Part-time working, Self-employed, Students, Schoolchildren, Unemployed, Usual Resident
Coverage	England and Wales
Units	Persons
Latest data	2011
Last updated	2013-01-30 09:30:00
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Dataset metadata

This dataset provides 2011 estimates that classify usual residents aged 16 to 74 in England and Wales by economic activity. The estimates are as at census day, 27 March 2011.

The census concept of economic activity is compatible with the standard for economic status defined by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). It is one of a number of definitions used internationally to produce accurate and comparable statistics on employment, unemployment and economic status. The data will be used by local and regional authorities, central government departments, other public sector bodies, academics and research institutions to understand, and develop policies for local labour markets, employment and unemployment.

Similar estimates from the 2001 Census were provided in table UV28.

Statistical Disclosure Control

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information from the 2011 Census, there has been swapping of records in the Census database between different geographic areas, and so some counts will be affected. In the main, the greatest effects will be at the lowest geographies, since the record swapping is targeted towards those households with unusual characteristics in small areas.

More details on the ONS Census disclosure control strategy may be found on the [Statistical Disclosure Control](#) page on the ONS web site.

Variables

geography

The following types of geography are available:

NHS area teams, clinical commissioning groups, built-up areas including subdivisions, built-up areas, national assembly for wales electoral regions 2010, postcode areas, postcode districts, postcode sectors, national assembly for wales constituencies 2010, parishes 2011, 2011 local health boards, 2011 primary care trusts, 2011 strategic health authorities, 2011 wards, 2011 super output areas - middle layer, 2011 super output areas - lower layer, 2011 output areas, local enterprise partnerships (as of April 2017), parliamentary constituencies 2010, former metropolitan counties, local authorities: county / unitary (prior to April 2015), local authorities: district / unitary (prior to April 2015), regions, countries

Rural Urban

This classification can only be used with the following geographies:

- | Country
- | Region
- | Local Authority: District / Unitary
- | Local Authority: County / Unitary

2011 Rural-Urban Classification (England and Wales)

This classification allows summary outputs to be produced by rural-urban type at local authority, region and country level (it will not work with other geography types).

The outputs are based on a rural-urban classification of output areas. The 2011 classification is a revised version of the one created after the 2001 Census with additional detail in the urban domain.

Output areas are treated as *urban* if they were allocated to a 2011 built-up area with a population of 10,000 or more people. The urban domain is sub-divided into three broad morphological types based on the predominant settlement component. As with the previous version of the classification, the remaining *rural* output areas are grouped into three broad morphological types based on the predominant settlement component.

The classification also categorises output areas based on context - i.e. whether the wider surrounding area of a given output area is sparsely populated or less sparsely populated.

The classification of output areas and a User Guide which provides further details about the methodology can be downloaded from the [Open ONS Geography Portal](#) under the Download Products tab.

The following Rural Urban are available:

- | Total
- | Urban (total)
- | Urban major conurbation
- | Urban minor conurbation
- | Urban city and town
- | Urban city and town in a sparse setting
- | Rural (total)
- | Rural town and fringe
- | Rural town and fringe in a sparse setting
- | Rural village
- | Rural village in a sparse setting
- | Rural hamlet and isolated dwellings
- | Rural hamlet and isolated dwellings in a sparse setting

Economic Activity

Economic activity relates to whether or not a person who was working or looking for work in the week before census.

Rather than a simple indicator of whether or not someone was currently in employment, it provides a measure of whether or not a person was an active participant in the labour market.

A person's economic activity is derived from their 'Activity last week'. This is an indicator of their status or availability for employment - whether employed, actively looking for work, waiting to start a new job, available to start a new job, or their status if not employed or not seeking employment. Additional information included in the economic activity classification is also derived from information about the number of hours a person works and their type of employment - whether employed or self-employed.

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The following Economic Activity are available:

- | All categories: Economic activity
- | Economically active: Total
- | Employee: Part-time
- | Employee: Full-time

- | Self-employed with employees: Part-time
- | Self-employed with employees: Full-time
- | Self-employed without employees: Part-time
- | Self-employed without employees: Full-time
- | Unemployed
- | Full-time student
- | Economically inactive: Total
- | Retired
- | Student (including full-time students)
- | Looking after home or family
- | Long-term sick or disabled
- | Other