

# KS103EW - Marital and civil partnership status

## Overview

Table population All usual residents aged 16 and over

Reference	KS103EW
Source	Census 2011
Keywords	Marital status, Civil partnership status, Usual Resident
Coverage	England and Wales
Units	Persons
Latest data	2011
Last updated	2013-02-01 09:30:00

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## Dataset metadata

This table provides information that classified usual residents aged 16 and over by marital and civil partnership status, for England and Wales as at census day, 27 March 2011.

This classification takes account of the Civil Partnership Act which came into force on 5 December 2005, providing information about civil partnership status for the first time in census results.

### 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

There is no further information about geography.

### Rural Urban

This classification can only be used with the following geographies:

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

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.

## Marital Status

### Marital and civil partnership status

Marital and civil partnership status classifies an individual according to their legal marital or registered same-sex civil partnership status as at census day, 27 March 2011.

This topic is the equivalent of the 2001 Census topic 'Marital status', but has undergone significant revision to take account of the Civil Partnership Act which came into force on 5 December 2005.

Marital and civil partnership states include:

- | married/in a registered same-sex civil partnership,
- | separated (but still legally married/in a registered same-sex civil partnership),
- | divorced/formerly in a registered same-sex civil partnership, or
- | widowed/surviving same-sex civil partner.

Although the term 'single' is widely used to cover people in a number of states such as divorced or separated it is not a legally recognised status and was not an option on the census questionnaire. In census results the term 'single' is used to refer only to someone who has never been married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership, which were options on the census questionnaire.