

# KS209EW - Religion

## Overview

Table population All usual residents

Reference	KS209EW
Source	Census 2011
Keywords	Religion, 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 table provides information that classifies usual residents by religion, for England and Wales as at census day, 27 March 2011.

### 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

### 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.

## Religion

The voluntary question on religion in the 2011 Census was intended to capture people's religious affiliation and identification at the time of the Census irrespective of whether they practised or believed in that religion or how important it was in their lives. If a person had no religion then the first of a series of tick boxes could be selected. Care should be taken when using these data not to infer, or allow the inference by others, that the practice of a religion or specific religious activities that are expected of believers has been measured. Unlike other census questions where missing answers are imputed, this question was voluntary, and where no answer was provided the response is categorised as 'not stated'.

Due to an error in the processing of census data, the number of usual residents in the 'Religion not stated' category has been overestimated by a total of 62,000 for three local authorities: Camden, Islington and Tower Hamlets. More information from the [Census issues and corrections](#) page.