

AF001EW: Members of the Armed Forces by residence type by sex by age

2011 Statistical Geography Hierarchy

Confidentiality - Data Treatment (1)

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 at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/census/2011/census-data/2011-census-prospectus/new-developments-for-2011-census-results/statistical-disclosure-control/index.html>

Definition (1)

This dataset provides 2011 Census estimates that classify usual residents aged 16 and over who are members of the armed forces by residence type (household or communal resident), by sex and by age. The estimates are as at census day, 27 March 2011.

To protect the confidentiality of individuals personal information, this dataset provides data only for districts that have a minimum of 150 armed forces members (224 districts in total).

Quality (1)

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is committed to providing its users with information about the methods used to produce the statistics and the quality of its data. This is consistent with the requirements of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, which states the requirement to ensure that users are informed about the quality of statistical outputs?

Quality and Methodology Information reports (previously known as ?Summary Quality Reports?) are overview notes not specific to each release of data. They pull together qualitative information on the six Eurostat criteria of quality (relevance, accuracy, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, comparability and coherence) and address relevant Key Quality Measures. They also provide a summary of methods used to compile outputs and describe the methods' impact on the quality of estimates produced.

The [Quality and Methodology Information](#) report for the 2011 Census is available to view or download from the ONS website.

Comprehensive data quality information for variables used to produce the published statistics will be published only soon in the 2011 Census index of variables, with additional information, and links to relevant classifications and datasets. Data quality information that is relevant to specific datasets will be added gradually to the metadata for each individual dataset over time.

Statistical Population: All usual residents aged 16 and over who are members of the Armed Forces

Definition (2)

The main population base for statistics from the 2011 Census is the usual resident population as at census day, 27 March 2011. Although the population base for enumeration included non-UK born short-term residents, this population is analysed separately and is not included in the main outputs from the 2011 Census. All statistics, unless specified, are produced using only usual residents of the UK.

For 2011 Census purposes, a usual resident of the UK is anyone who, on census day, was in the UK and had stayed or intended to stay in the UK for a period of 12 months or more, or had a permanent UK address and was outside the UK and intended to be outside the UK for less than 12 months.

For information about the main population base for statistics, how other population sub-groups are counted, and all variable definitions, see information about variables and classifications:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/census/2011/census-data/2011-census-user-guide/information-by-variable/index.html>

A person aged 16 and over and in employment in the week before the census is a member of the armed forces if they have an occupation code ? Officers in Armed forces? or ?NCOs and other ranks?. This means that civilians working for the armed forces are not classified as a member of the armed forces.

In some census results armed forces personnel are further classified as either members of the 'Home armed forces' or 'Foreign armed forces' (determined by the industry code of 'Foreign armed forces').

Topic and Topic Items

Residence Type

Definition (1)

This defines the type of residence that a person lives in. It categorises people as living in a household or living in a communal establishment.

Sex

Definition (1)

Sex is the classification of a person as either male or female.

2011 Statistical Geography Hierarchy

Comparability - Over time (1)

The output area building block policy was also used to produce results from the 2001 Census. To maintain as much consistency and comparability with 2001 Census results, and with other national statistics, the 2001 output area boundaries have been preserved wherever possible for 2011.

A small number have been modified, based on 2011 Census population estimates in instances where the population has undergone significant change since 2001. Other modifications have also been made to align OAs with local authority boundaries that have changed since the 2001 OAs were created, and to improve the social homogeneity of some areas.

In total, for the 2011 output areas, there are 171,372 OAs in England and 10,036 in Wales. 2.6 per cent of 2001 OAs have been modified as a result of the 2011 Census.

Super output areas have undergone similar modifications made to output areas for 2011. Again stability wherever possible was maintained, but a small number of SOAs were modified where a significant population change occurred between 2001 and 2011 that caused a threshold to be breached.

There are now 34,753 LSOAs and 7,201 MSOAs in England And Wales. 1.1 per cent of LSOAs and 0.1 per cent of MSOAs. have been modified as a result of the 2011 Census.

Confidentiality - Data Treatment (1)

To prevent the disclosure of individuals information, some datasets that provide very detailed information use only part of the statistical hierarchy. These datasets provide estimates for MSOAs, or region, and higher areas only. The majority of these datasets are the Detailed Characteristics, but a small number of other tables also use only the higher levels of the statistical hierarchy.

Definition (1)

The 2011 statistical geography hierarchy is made up of areas specifically designed for the production of statistics. The lowest level is the output area (OA) - the smallest geographic unit for which outputs from the census are published. Output areas were introduced for the 2001 Census to provide a stable small area geography for the production of local area statistics. To ensure the confidentiality of data published for OAs, each OA has at least 40 resident households and 100 resident people.

Groups of OAs form the next two layers in the hierarchy - middle layer super output areas (MSOAs) and lower layer super output areas (LSOAs) - each are aggregations of adjacent OAs and each layer nests inside the layer above. Similar to OAs, there are minimum thresholds that an area in each layer must contain, but for MSOAs there are also upper threshold limits.

The upper layers of the statistical hierarchy are made up of metropolitan and non-metropolitan districts, and unitary authorities, the boundaries of which OAs align to, as well as regions.

All areas use the nine character codes introduced 01 January 2011 when the GSS Coding and Naming Policy was implemented.

Further Notes and Information (1)

Further information about the geographic methods and principles used to produce statistics are available from [ONS Geography](#).

Boundary data and output area to higher area look-up files, which specify the 'best-fit' that has been used for a range of geographical hierarchies, are available from the [Open Geography portal](#).

Age

Definition (1)

Age is derived from the date of birth question and is a person's age at their last birthday, at 27 March 2011. Dates of birth that imply an age over 115 are treated as invalid and the person's age is imputed. Infants less than one year old are classified as 0 years of age.

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Source: ONS