Census 2021

What to expect and when
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What we will cover

- ONS release plans
- Considerations
- UK Data Service products
ONS Release plans

Based on discussion with ONS and their publications on 19th September 2022
Phased release over a year

1. Population estimates by age and sex at local authority level
   - Topic summaries
   - Area profiles

2. Multivariate data
   - Flexible table builder (ONS site)
   - Small populations (short-term residents)

3. Alternative population bases
   - Small populations
   - Flow data
   - Microdata


Northern Ireland first release 24th May 2022 but slower schedule for release of the data

Scotland census a year later and extended by a month due to low number of returns – expect to be at least a year later

UK wide census release to follow all data being available
Phase 1 – topic summaries

Mainly univariate data released every two to three weeks throughout autumn and winter 2022

- demography and migration
- ethnic group, national identity, language, and religion
- UK armed forces veterans
- health, disability, and unpaid care
- housing
- labour market and travel to work
- sexual orientation and gender identity
- education
### Geographical data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boundary data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administrative</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.g. Local authority, Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Electoral</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>e.g. constituency, ward</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Statistical</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>areas built on output areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Boundary data now available from ONS open geography portal and UK Data Service (web site redesign for access scheduled imminently)
**Output area geography**

Output area minimum 40 households and 100 residents, average target 125 households, maximum 250 households and 625 people

- introduced in 2001
- aim for more homogeneous population through matching characteristics of population
- but try to minimise changes

Built into larger super output areas

- lower level super-output areas (LSOAs) minimum 400 households and 1,000 people, maximum 1,200 households and 3,000 people – used in published statistics e.g. IMD, recorded crime
- Mid-level super output areas (MSOAs) minimum 2,000 households and 5,000 people, maximum 6,000 households and 15,000 people – used in published statistics e.g. educational attainment, Covid cases

All boundaries constrained within local authorities
Area profiles (release autumn to winter 2022)

**Population**
- Sex, Age
- Legal partnership status
- Residence type
- Country of birth
- Length of residence in UK
- Household composition

**Housing**
- Household size
- Tenure
- Car or van availability
- Accommodation type
- Central heating

**Work**
- Economic activity
- Hours worked
- Industry
- Occupation

**Education**
- In full time education
- Highest qualification

**Identity**
- Ethnicity
- National identity
- Religion
- Language

**Health**
- General health
- Long term health problem or disability
- Provision of unpaid care
Phase 2 (early 2023)

Short-term population (intend to stay in the UK less than 12 months)

Defined sets of tables including two or more variables at different geographical scales through ONS interface

Flexible table builder (incorporating statistical disclosure control)

The variable categories will vary between univariate and multivariate tables based on statistical disclosure control. This is likely to lead researchers to need to balance geographical scale and the level of detail available.
Phase 3 (from spring 2023)

- Alternative population bases
- Small populations
- Detailed migration data
- Flow data
- Microdata
Alternative population bases

• Workplace
• Workday
• Out-of-term
• Second address
Small populations

Write-in categories for univariate analysis depending on statistical disclosure control (including breakdown by five year age bands by sex for selected ethnic groups and countries of birth):

- Ethnic group
- Country of birth
- Religion
- National identity

... with a commitment to produce datasets including Cornish, Jain, Kashmiri, Nepalese, Ravidassia and Sikh (to MSOA level) and ...

... consideration of including British Sign Language, Romanian, Somali, Turkish Cypriot
Flow data

Providing origin destination data covering

• Migration flow
• Workplace flow
• Second address flow
• Student flow
Microdata samples

Safeguarded data includes

- Individual 5% samples including regional or combined local authority geography
- Household 1% sample
- Submission of 1% individual sample to University of Minnesota international database

Secure data

- Individual 10% sample
- Household 10% sample
Considerations
Issues to consider

- Impact of Covid-19 on e.g. employment, place of residence, work and education: – ONS report will include some consideration in first release with more detailed report to follow

- Learning from the quality assurance process with local authorities – some information will be published

- Coverage and statistical imputation

- Changing geography

- General trust and unwillingness to disclose some characteristics
UK Data Service products
Census products

UKDS versions

(alternatives provided by ONS, NOMIS and potentially others)
Data

Likely to also be available from other sources
• Aggregate data – interface to select variables (allowed combinations)
• Geographical data – boundaries used in census outputs

Likely to only be available from UK Data Service
• Flow data
• Microdata
Targeted for specific audiences

Key audiences

Academic (research and teaching)

Public sector (national departments, local health, councils …)

Students (HE, FE and schools)

Voluntary and Community sector
Training

• Awareness raising (like this session)
• How to … sessions
  • Aggregate data
  • Boundary data
  • Flow data
  • Microdata
  • Techniques and substantive areas of interest

Contextual background
• Statistical disclosure control
• Modifiable areal unit problem
• Coverage and imputation
• Implications of Covid-19
Training and materials

... and engaging targeted audiences in planning and research design
• first workshops on 21\textsuperscript{st} June and 19\textsuperscript{th} July fully booked
• a further workshop on 27\textsuperscript{th} September 2022
• using census data for teaching
• tools for using Excel to analyse census data
Support

- Documents providing updates on release schedules
- Video materials supporting training
- Explainer for key census variables
- Help Desk
Thank you.
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