

Census Bulletin

What is the Census?

Issue 1

What is the Census, and why have one?

The Census is a count of all people and households in England and Wales (E&W). It is the biggest survey that takes place within E&W and provides the most complete information on the population. A Census has taken place every ten years from 1801, except for 1941. The most recent Census was held on 29 April 2001.

As the questions in the Census are the same across E&W, and are asked at the same time, comparison across different areas is possible.

The Census provides invaluable information on:

- **population** - age, sex and socio-economic make up of the population
- **health** - general health, illness and carers
- **housing** - identifies overcrowding and inadequate housing
- **employment** - industry, occupation and employment status
- **transport** - travel to and from work, availability of cars
- **ethnicity** - this information helps central and local government to allocate resources and plan programmes to take account of the needs of minority groups

What has been released?

So far, Census key statistics have been released for local authorities, wards, output areas and health areas. Key statistics give the main information in simple categorisations, as counts and percentages. Output areas, the basic building block of the Census, are on average made up of 150 households.

Standard tables, which give the most in depth information and cross tabulate variables, have been released for local authorities and wards.

Census populations (One Number Census) for local authorities and Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), as well as the County, are given in the table below. Bulletin 2 in this series looks at the Census population data in more depth.

Census area statistics will be released shortly for output areas. These will include cross tabulations like those for standard tables but will not be in as much detail so as to protect confidentiality.

Also available are standard tables for health areas and Census area statistics for parishes.

Data can be found at:

<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/>

Response rates

In E&W response rates, identified by interviewing a sample of the population after the Census, through a Census Coverage Survey, fell by 2% from the 1991 to the 2001 Census. Figure 1 shows response rates in West Sussex by age and sex for the recent Census. The response rates of males and females were very similar. The lowest response rates occurred in the 20-24 age group.

Crawley had the lowest response rate of all local authorities in West Sussex at 91%. All the other local authorities had responses rates of 96 or 97 per cent.

Figure 1: Average response rates in West Sussex for 2001 Census by age and sex



Local Authority (Population)	Primary Care Trust (Population)
Adur (59,625)	Adur, Arun and Worthing (215,187)
Arun (140,787)	Crawley (99,744)
Chichester (106,445)	Horsham and Chantconbury (101,056)
Crawley (99,754)	Mid Sussex (130,243)
Horsham (122,078)	Western Sussex (207,384)
Mid Sussex (127,383)	
Worthing (97,540)	
West Sussex (753,612)	

Who will produce these bulletins?

There is a Census Joint Working group that will produce regular bulletins. The group is made up of members of the Public Health Observatory based at Adur, Arun and Worthing Teaching Primary Care Trust (tPCT) and demographers from West Sussex County Council.

What is a PCT?

PCTs (Primary Care Trusts) were formed following radical restructuring within the NHS. They are led by a mixture of frontline professionals, local people and specialist managers and are responsible for assessing the health needs of their local people, improving health and providing health services. They hold 75% of the budget for local health services and have overall responsibility for services provided by GPs, dentists, opticians, pharmacists and community services provided by nurses and health visitors. More information can be found at: <http://www.healthinaaw.nhs.uk>

There are five PCTs within West Sussex:

- Adur, Arun and Worthing tPCT
- Crawley PCT
- Horsham and Chanctonbury PCT
- Mid Sussex PCT
- Western Sussex PCT

Mid Sussex PCT came into being in April 2001. The rest of the PCTs within West Sussex formed in April 2002.

Which council covers which area in West Sussex?

There are a number of different councils working across West Sussex. There is a county council and seven district or borough councils. These are

- West Sussex County Council
- Adur District Council
- Arun District Council
- Chichester District Council
- Crawley Borough Council
- Horsham District Council
- Mid Sussex District Council and
- Worthing Borough Council

District and borough councils have the same responsibilities. The table below shows the responsibilities of district/borough councils and county councils and the map below shows the PCT and local authority boundaries:

County Councils	District/Borough Councils	Divided
Education	Local Planning	Recreation
Social Services	Housing	Cultural Matters
Transport	Local Highways	
Strategic Planning	Building Regulation	
Fire Services	Environmental Health	
Consumer Protection	Refuse Collection	
Refuse Disposal		
Smallholdings		
Libraries		

PCT boundaries (from April 2002) and Local Authority boundaries in West Sussex

