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The 2011 Census

The census is an unrivalled source of information and now is the perfect time to take advantage of it.

A census of the population takes place every ten years and the last one was in March 2011 when the Office for National Statistics (ONS) sent questionnaires to around 26m addresses in England and Wales. The information has been processed and data has started to be published by the Office for National Statistics covering everything from the number, sex and ages of the population, to our living conditions, health, occupations, whether we have more than one address, how we travel to work and our educational qualifications.

Why census statistics are so special

- **Detailed information about local areas:** One great advantage of census statistics is that they are available down to very small geographical areas. So, as well as information about the population at a national level, you can also drill down to individual local authorities and even to postcodes.
- **Free of charge:** Another advantage is that census data is free of charge. Only when someone needs a specific result that does not form part of the standard range of statistical output tables will any charge be levied.

Getting the latest 2011 Census statistics is easy. There are two ways to access census statistics but the easiest way is online.

1. **Dedicated census site online:** Explore the range of census data, visit the Office for National Statistics website at www.ons.gov.uk/census

Census results: More than just data

While dozens of statistical tables are derived from the census, help is available when it comes to finding the information that you need. Alongside the statistics themselves, ONS publishes Statistical Bulletins that summarise the key issues for each set of figures published.

Census analysis: The stories behind the data

There are also a number of 'short stories' that offer some analysis of some themes such as general health, disability, the provision of unpaid care, migrants, ethnicity, languages, religion, families and households.

Census interactive: Understand your local community

There is a selection of interactive maps and graphics that bring to life the data and enables the visualisation of topics across areas and time.

2. **Census Customer Services:** Contact on 01329 444972 or Census.CustomerServices@ons.gsi.gov.uk