

2007 Census Test: Evaluation of the Census Test questionnaire in England and Wales

Office for National Statistics, December 2008

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1. Introduction

The 2007 Census Test was designed to test innovations to the Census design prior to the 2011 Census. There were three areas of primary evaluation:

- Testing the feasibility of asking individuals (usual residents) about the sources and level of their income.
- Testing the feasibility of posting-out questionnaires via a postal service provider rather than using the traditional method of employing enumerators to hand-deliver them.
- Testing the feasibility of outsourcing recruitment, training and pay to a recruitment agency.

This paper concerns the evaluation and analysis of the responses given to questions in the Census Test in England and Wales. The paper particularly focuses on the new/modified questions from the 2001 Census. Note that many questions have evolved since the Test took place and this paper does not provide an update on those changes.

The effects of including income questions in the 2007 Test are covered in a separate paper entitled '2007 Census Test: The effects of including questions on income' which is available on the National Statistics website at:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/census/2011-census/2011-census-project/2007-test/income-evaluation/index.html>

The other key aims are discussed in separate papers all of which will be available on the National Statistics.

2. Objectives

The main objectives of analysing responses to the questionnaire are as follows:

- Examine the performance of new or modified questions from the 2001 Census
- Examine question non-response rates
- Check for routing error
- Examine evidence from the Census Test Evaluation Survey (CTES)
- Examine any anecdotal evidence from questionnaire follow up and Census helpline enquiries.
- Take into consideration all evidence and provide a level of risk for continuing with questions in their present format.

3. Background

3.1 2007 Census Test

The Census Test took place on 13 May 2007. A split sample of approximately 100,000 households were selected for participation: around half received Census questionnaires that included income questions and the remainder received questionnaires without.

The households were selected from five local authorities (LAs):

- Bath and North East Somerset
- Camden
- Carmarthenshire
- Liverpool
- Stoke-on-Trent

These LAs were purposively selected in order to satisfy a range of criteria including:

- an overall 'representative' sample of LAs found within England and Wales
- only LAs with a combination of a high number of people from difficult-to-enumerate groups (e.g. young men)
- at least one LA in Wales
- at least one LA with rapid population movement and
- at least one LA with rapid development.

The 2007 Census Test was voluntary. A number of questions from the 2001 Census which are planned for inclusion in 2011, were not included because they were broadly unchanged and there was no evidence to suggest that they were not working. Additionally a number of completely new questions were tried for the first time and some of the questions were revised from the 2001 Census.

The questions on the Test questionnaire which were new or have been revised from the 2001 Census are listed below in table 3.1.

Table 3.1 2007 Census Test questionnaire differences from the 2001 Census

Question	New or revised
Count of usual residents	New
Visitor information	Revised
State of repairs	New
Marital and civil partnership status	Revised
Month/year of entry into the UK	New
General health	Revised
Nature of disability	New
National Identity	New
Ethnicity	Revised
Language matrix	New
Welsh frequency of use	New
Second address	New
Economic activity status	Revised
Qualifications	Revised
Sources of income	New
Income	New

Separate tests were conducted in Northern Ireland and Scotland. More information on these tests can be found on the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency's website at:

http://www.nisranew.nisra.gov.uk/census_test.html

and on the General Register Office for Scotland's website at:

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/census/censushm2011/2006-census-test/index.html>

3.2 The 2007 Census Test questionnaire

The questionnaires used in the 2007 Test were slightly different in England and Wales. The Welsh version had an additional question on Welsh frequency of use at question 16. It also had some slight variation in the wording or order of words where 'Welsh/Wales' was more applicable than 'English/England'.

Copies of the 2007 Census Test household questionnaires are available in PDF format from the National Statistics website:

Household questionnaire – England

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census/pdfs/2007_test_H1_form.pdf.

Household questionnaire – Wales (English language version)

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census/pdfs/2007_test_H2_form.pdf

Household questionnaire – Wales (Welsh language version)

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census/pdfs/2007_test_H3_form.pdf

3.3 Census Test Evaluation Survey

From June to July 2007, a sample of 2007 Census Test households who returned valid 2007 Census Test questionnaires ('respondents' – see section 4.1 for explanation of valid questionnaire) and a sample of households who did not return a questionnaire ('non-respondents') were asked to participate in the Census Test Evaluation Survey (CTES). One individual from each household that agreed to participate (preferably the individual who completed the household section and, failing that, their own individual section) was interviewed.

Respondents were asked a number of questions equivalent to those asked in the 2007 Census Test and what they thought about the questions asked in the 2007 Test. Non-respondents were asked different questions such as why they were unable to return their 2007 Test questionnaire.

1,697 Census Test respondents were asked to participate in the CTES of whom 992 respondents were drawn from households who had returned their questionnaires fairly promptly and the remaining 705 were drawn from households who had returned their questionnaires late. 752 (76 per cent) of the 'early respondents' and 471 (67 per cent) of the 'late respondents' agreed to participate. Of the 653 non-respondents asked to participate in the CTES, 247 (38 per cent) agreed to do so.

Analysis of the results of the CTES together with analysis of the Census Test was used to assess the overall quality of question responses.

4. Analysis of responses

4.1 Response rates

The response rate refers to the number of questionnaires returned that passed the 'two-of-four rule', as a percentage of the number of households that had questionnaires successfully delivered to them during the delivery and follow-up phases (follow-up enumerators distributed questionnaires to any households they found in their area that had not had a questionnaire previously delivered to them). For a household to pass the two-of-four rule at least one individual on the questionnaire must have answered two out of four key demographic questions:

- 1) Name (a 'valid' response - for more detail see Annex 1).
- 2) Sex (any response valid).
- 3) Date of Birth (a 'valid' response - for more detail see Annex 1).
- 4) Marital Status (any response valid).

The two-of-four rule was designed to remove spurious data, for example where individuals had scored through pages that were not applicable to them, inadvertently 'ticking' response boxes.

See Annex 1 for more detail on the calculation of response rates.

4.2 Overall response rate

The overall response to the voluntary Test was 48 per cent. Response was lower than in the equivalent 1997 Test prior to the 2001 Census, reflecting not only the trend in pre-census tests over the past 30 years for declining public participation but also the fact that the areas chosen were biased towards those that are particularly hard to enumerate and where response was, therefore, expected to be lower than average. Nevertheless, this was sufficiently high for valid statistical evaluations to be made.

4.3 Key demographics of respondents

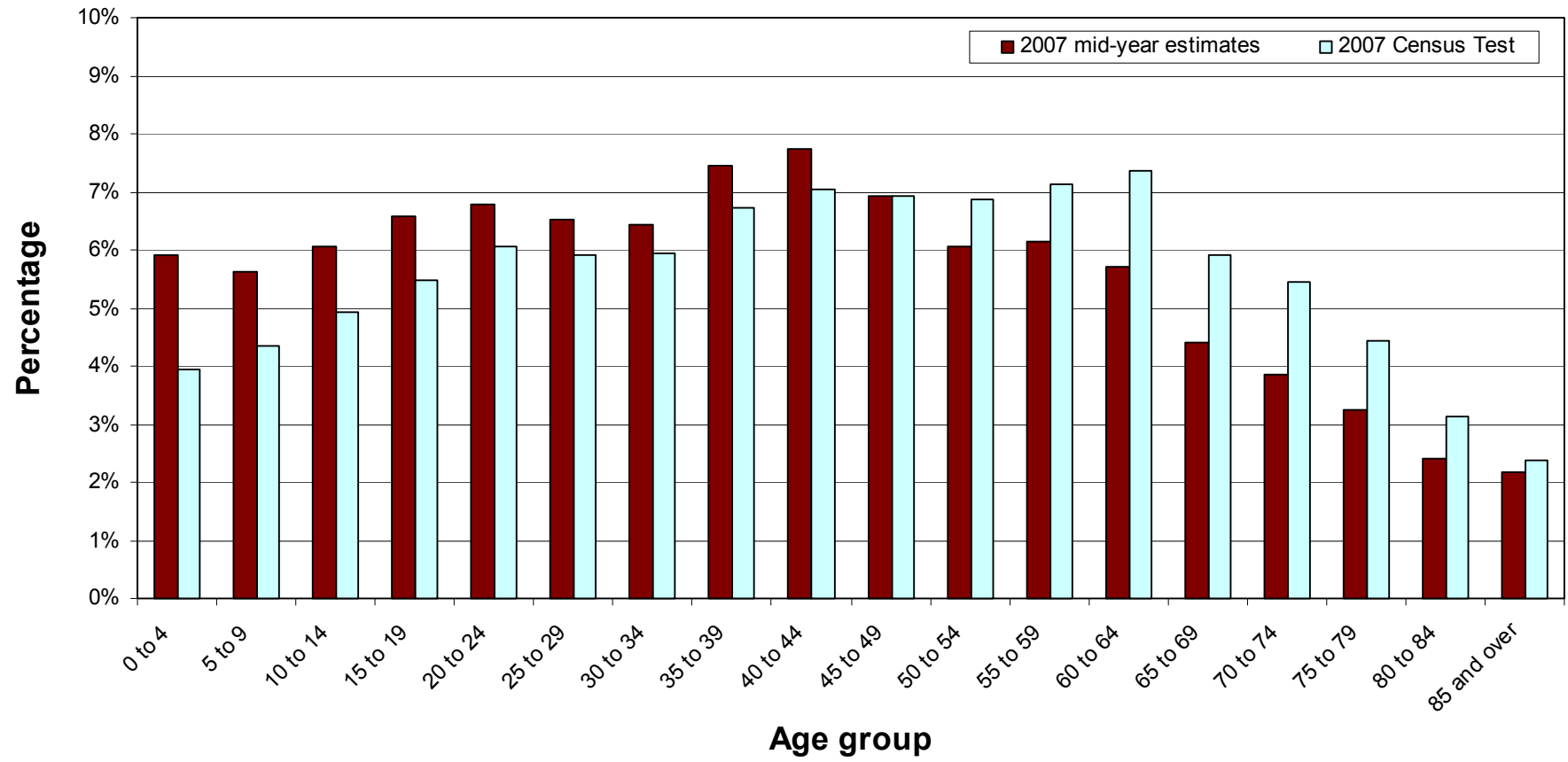
Overall 52.7 per cent of respondents to the Test were female and 47.3 per cent were male (excluding non-response and multi-ticked responses).

The following chart in figure 4.1 below shows the age profile of the respondents to the 2007 Census Test compared to that of the actual population in England and Wales (according to mid-2007 population estimates).

Compared to the mid-2007 population estimates, the Census Test is under representative of population age groups aged '40 to 44' and younger and over representative of population age groups aged '50 to 54' and older. In general, older age groups tend to be more compliant than younger age groups when completing Censuses, questionnaires and surveys.

Any interpretation of the results should take into consideration the demographics of the respondents in this Test. The sample for the Census Test and the respondents are not fully representative of the population of England and Wales as a whole and therefore the results of the Test should only be used as a general indicator as to how people would respond in the Census.

Figure 4.1: Age distribution of respondents in the 2007 Census Test compared to Mid 2007 population estimates



4.4 Question non-response

Question non-response (i.e. where a respondents has failed to tick an answer or provide a written response) is an important indicator as to whether a question is understood by respondents.

The following two sections show the non-response rates to the household and individual questions for the 2007 Census Test. They also show the non-response rates from the 2001 Census for comparison. The comparison should be used as a guide only as the two non-response rates are not directly comparable. This is because questions in the 2007 Census Test are in some cases different to those used in the 2001 Census and also because the 2007 Census Test data has had a less comprehensive level of data cleansing and processing than in 2001.

4.4.1 Question non-response: household questions

Table 4.1 below shows the percentage of people not answering the household questions in the 2007 Census Test.

Table 4.1 Non-response to the household questions

2007 Census Test			2001 Census
Question No.	Question	Non-response rate %	Non-response rate %
*	Declaration	5.2	:
H2	Count of usual residents	26.5	:
H4	Names of usual residents	4.9	:
H6	Type of accommodation	3.1	3.0
H7	Self-contained	3.4	3.9
H8	Number of rooms	3.0	5.4
H9	Central heating	2.2	2.2
H10	State of repairs	4.4	:
H11	Tenure	3.4	3.4
H12	Type of landlord	0.8	2.9
H13	Number of cars or vans	2.8	2.7

* This did not have a question number

: Not applicable, either non-response rates were not produced or the question was not included in the 2001 Census.

The above table shows that many of the non-response rates for the 2007 Census Test compare favourably with the 2001 Census; however there are some questions which remain a concern.

It is important for respondents to sign the declaration on the front of the questionnaire. This is because it is a legal requirement to complete a Census and a signature is the declaration from the householder that the Census has been completed accurately. Given this importance, a non-response rate of just over 5 per cent is relatively high. Some respondents may have chosen not to sign the questionnaire in the knowledge that it was a test and not a legal obligation. Nevertheless, the results suggest that some respondents are not noticing, or choosing to ignore, the declaration.

The count of usual residents question returned by far the highest non-response rate. This suggests that some respondents may not be noticing the write-in box in which they are asked to record their answer, possibly as a result of the considerable length of the question.

Given the importance of obtaining an accurate count of usual residents, further work is necessary to improve this response rate.

4.4.2 Question non-response: individual questions

Table 4.2 shows the percentage of people not answering the individual questions in the 2007 Census Test.

Table 4.2 Non-response to the individual questions

2007 Census Test			2001 Census
Question No.	Question	Non-response rate %	Non-response rate %
1	Name	1.2	:
2	Sex	0.7	0.4
3	Date of Birth	0.8	0.5
4	Marital and civil partnership status	4.7	0.8
5	Schoolchild or student	10.4	1.3
6	Term-time address	1.7	:
7	Country of birth	1.3	2.5
8	Month and year of arrival to the UK	5.5	:
9	General health	1.3	3.1
10	Nature of disability	7.5	:
11	Long-standing illness or disability	15.4	3.9
12	National identity	1.8	:
13	Ethnicity	3.8	2.9
14	Religion	7.3	7.6
15	Language matrix	3.1	:
16	Welsh frequency of use	3.2	5.5
17	Second address	6.1	:
18	Second address purpose	2.8	:
19	Second address time	3.7	:
20	Address one year ago	5.9	4.5
22	Activity last week	7.5	2.1
23	Looking for work	5.4	:
24	Available for work	8.8	:
25	Waiting to start work	8.5	:
26	Reason for not working	5.9	6.6
27	Qualifications	8.6	6.2

: Not applicable, either non-response rates were not produced or the question was not included in the 2001 Census.

The question on long-standing illness had the highest non-response rate (15.4 per cent) for the individual questions. Further analysis of the non-respondents has shown that there appears to be a correlation between those not answering this question and the preceding question on nature of disability.

Of the people who didn't respond to the question on nature-of disability, 41.5 per cent also failed to answer the question on long-standing illness. This compares with 17.5 per cent for those who ticked 'No I do not have a long-standing condition' to the nature of disability question and only 4.5 per cent for those who did indicate the nature of their disability. These differences suggest that some respondents may be viewing the nature of disability and long-standing illness

questions as a pair and skipping the long-standing illness question if they have not already recorded a nature of disability.

Should questions on nature of disability and long-standing illness be proposed for inclusion in the 2011 Census, further testing would be required to consider the order of the questions and how they work together.

Marital and civil partnership status had quite a high non-response rate (4.7 per cent) compared to the 2001 Census (0.8 per cent). Further analysis of the non-response rate to marital status has shown that the non-response rate decreases to 1.5 per cent when those aged under sixteen years of age are excluded (sixteen is the legal minimum age a person can marry or form a civil partnership in England and Wales).

The 2007 Census Test did not test a relationship question which is used to indicate how people who share a household are related to each other. Cohabitants of the opposite sex may therefore have been confused by the marital and civil partnership question as there would have been nowhere on the questionnaire for them to record their living arrangements. The 2007 Census Test also had a lot more response options than the 2001 Census as it incorporated Civil Partnerships which were introduced in December 2005.

A high number of respondents (10.4 per cent) failed to answer the 'schoolchild or student question'. Many adults may have thought the question was irrelevant and therefore left it out. Indeed further analysis of this non-response rate has shown that for those aged twenty-five or under (this age group is the most likely to be either a schoolchild or student), the non-response rate is 4.7 per cent. Further work is recommended to try and improve response rates to this question.

Questions 22 to 26 regarding employment all had relatively high non-response rates. Further analysis of these non-responses shows that much of this can be attributed to people of State Pension age (males aged 65 and over and females aged 60 and over).

Of the 7.5 per cent of non-responses to the question on activity last week, 56.8 per cent were made up of people of State Pension age. For questions on looking for work, available for work, waiting to start work and reasons for not working the percentage of non-responders of State Pension age were 26.2 per cent, 34.7 per cent, 39.1 per cent and 33.1 per cent respectively.

It is possible that respondents in this age group do not believe the employment questions apply to them or they consider the answers to be obvious. This is something that has been demonstrated in other tests. However these questions are designed to meet International Labour Organisation (ILO) definitions of economic activity/inactivity and need to be asked to all those who were not working in the previous week.

4.5 Routing error

There are a number of routing instructions in the questionnaire. These instruct respondents to answer specific questions dependent on their answers to other questions. It is important that these instructions are followed to ensure that data collected from the Census is reliable and accurate. Table 4.3 below shows the number of respondents not following routing instructions.

Table 4.3 Respondents who failed to follow the questionnaire routing instructions.

Question No.	Question	Routing error description	Error rate %
5	Schoolchild or student	Answered 'No' to the schoolchild or student question but answered term-time address question in error.	0.8
6	Term-time address	Answered 'No, I live elsewhere during school/college/university term' but then answered the country of birth question in error.	22.7 ¹
7	Country of birth	Answered either 'England', 'Wales', 'Scotland' or 'Northern Ireland' but then answered the year/month of arrival question in error.	0.3
17	Second address	Answered 'No, I do not stay at another address for part of the week or year' but then answered the second address reason question in error.	0.7 ¹
21	Age filter	Aged 15 or under but then answered the activity last week question in error.	10.7 ¹
22	Activity last week	Answered one of 'working as employee', 'on a Government training scheme', 'self-employed', 'working paid or unpaid for own or family business', 'away from work' or 'doing other paid work' but then went on to answer the looking for work question in error.	27.3 ¹

¹ Further questions are also dependent on this routing instruction but only the first question following the routing has been examined.

The questions with the highest routing error are the activity last week, term-time address and age filter questions with error rates of 27.3, 22.7 and 10.7 per cent respectively.

While these routing errors are a useful indicator to how well respondents understand how to answer the questionnaire they are not as important as question non-response rates. The answers from these routing errors can be omitted when processing of the Census data takes place.

4.6 Write in boxes

Analysis was conducted on some of the questions to see whether the number of write-in boxes was sufficient.

For the question asking for first and last name, there were 16 write in boxes each. Analysis has shown that this is enough space for 99.7 and 99.8 per cent of respondents to fill in their name.

In the case of the second address question, there were 55 write in boxes available for respondents to use (excluding postcode) and this was enough space for 98.8 per cent of respondents to write in.

For the address one year ago question, there were again 55 write boxes available and this was enough space for 99.3 per cent of respondents to write in.

4.7 Response frequencies

Responses frequencies to each question category can be an indicator as to whether the question is working, whether the responses are as expected and whether there are problems with respondents multi-ticking. Frequency tables are included at Annex 2 for reference.

4.8 Performance of the new and modified questions

4.8.1 Count of usual residents

The count of usual residents is arguably the most important question on the Census. It is used to provide a count of the population and also denotes who should complete the individual questions. It has already been shown that non-response to this question was high. Table 4.4 below shows, for those households that provided a number, how that compares with the number of names provided of usual residents.

Table 4.4 Comparison of the number of usual residents recorded in question H2 and the number of names provided in question H4, names of usual residents

H2 No. of usual residents	H4 – No. of persons named as usual residents ¹						Total
	Missing	1	2	3	4	5	
Missing	14.5	32.5	29.8	11.3	7.6	4.4	100.0
Illegible	12.0	44.0	12.0	12.0	16.0	4.0	100.0
0	48.9	47.7	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
1	3.1	96.2	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.1	100.0
2	0.5	0.9	98.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	100.0
3	0.3	0.5	1.3	97.3	0.6	0.1	100.0
4	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.7	98.2	0.4	100.0
5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.2	97.9	100.0
6 or more ²	1.0	4.8	3.2	0.8	1.6	88.6	100.0

¹ Figures in bold represent the matches between questions H2 count of usual residents and H4 number of names of usual residents written in.

² Households of 6 or more people would have had to request a continuation questionnaire. It is only possible to show up to the first five names they entered on their original household questionnaire.

Overall responses to the count of usual residents question and the names of usual residents question matched for 71.2 per cent of questionnaires (31,314 from 43,959 questionnaires). Of the 28.8 per cent that didn't match, 22.6 percentage points are made up of respondents who didn't provide an answer to the count of usual residents question but did to the names of usual residents question.

Even where respondents didn't give an answer to the count of usual residents, 85.6 per cent still provided a list of names. There is also some evidence that where the count of usual residents question has been completed, the resident numbers may be higher than the numbers of names subsequently given.

4.8.2 Visitor information

An accurate count of visitors on Census night is also important in obtaining an accurate count of the population.

Table 4.5 below shows the total number of visitors in the Census Test after removal of obvious errors (such as "N/A", "none" or "not applicable" from the list

of first names or surnames), the number of visitors whose name appears in the listing of usual residents and the proportion of visitors who gave information in each of the questions asked of visitors. In total 2,175 visitors were recorded, of which 31.3 per cent also appeared in the list of usual residents.

Table 4.5 Total number of visitors and information given about each visitor.

	Number	Percentage %
Total Visitors	2,175	
<i>Visitors who appear in the list of usual residents</i>	680	31.3
<i>Genuine Visitors</i>	1,495	68.7
Information available (Genuine visitors only) for:		
First Name	1,488	99.5
Last Name	1,437	96.1
Sex	1,401	93.7
Address	1,251	83.7
Postcode	1,083	72.4
Address and Postcode	1,079	72.2
Year of birth	1,313	87.8
Month of birth	1,306	87.4
Day of Birth	1,303	87.2
Full birth date	1,291	86.4
Resident abroad	217	14.5
No usual address	19	1.3

The 2,175 visitors counted exclude the following:

- Messages left on the questionnaire (e.g. "not applicable" or "none") and similar errors that were read as information;
- Respondents who failed to include enough information – this was done through a series of logical tests. In practical terms, it excluded:
 - Visitors with no first name and no last name;
 - Visitors with no first name or no last name and that did not possess address and postcode;
- Partial information from respondents who realised they were filling the visitor's section by mistake – it was common to find that the scanner read through information that had been struck through.

Visitors were also matched against the list of usual residents. This was done to provide an estimate of the number of genuine visitors. Just over 31 per cent of visitors also appeared on the household questionnaire. Households may have been confused by the visitor section being located before the individual section and may have begun filling it out in error. Examining a random sample of questionnaire images where visitor questions were incomplete suggests that either some respondents had begun to fill in details for usual residents already named in the previous question before realising their mistake or respondents included visitors as usual residents. Further work will need to be conducted to ensure this does not happen in the 2011 Census.

As for information available, most people see no problem in giving the sex or date of birth of their visitors (over 93 per cent gave the sex and over 86 per cent gave the full date of birth) but other details have lower response rates, in particular

only 72.2 per cent of visitors provided some address information and postcode. It should be noted that here by address we mean any text in the space provided, not necessarily a full UK address.

This evidence suggests that consideration needs to be given to the location and distinction between sections for the count of usual residents and visitor questions.

4.8.3 Marital and civil partnership status

Responses to the marital and civil partnership status question indicate that compared to the known rates in UK population, there was a very high proportion of respondents who indicated that they are (or have ever been) in a civil partnership.

Table 4.6 Responses to the marital and civil partnership status question

Response	Frequency	Percentage¹ %
Missing tick/no response	4,388	4.7
Never married	35,112	37.8
Married	36,110	38.9
Separated	1,572	1.7
Divorced	6,730	7.2
Widowed	6,725	7.2
Civil partnership	1,749	1.9
Separated from a civil partnership	73	0.1
Legally dissolved civil Partnership	122	0.1
Surviving partner from a civil partnership	145	0.2
Ticked multiple responses	172	0.2
Total responses	92,898	100.0

¹ Percentages may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

There were around 18,400 civil partnerships formed in England and Wales between December 2005 (when they were introduced) and the end of March 2007. Assuming that there may be 25,000 civil partnerships by the time of the Census Test, this gives 50,000 individuals who will have ever formed a civil partnership. Using this figure, the proportion of the population who have ever formed a civil partnership would be 0.1 per cent. The results from the Test indicate that this figure is 2.3 per cent. Despite the possible impact of minor issues such as the immigration of civil partnered individuals, it is likely that respondents mistakenly indicated a civil partnership.

This may be due to respondents choosing civil partnership when they were actually part of a male and female cohabiting couple relationship. The 2007 Census Test did not test a relationship question which would show how people who share a household are related to each other. This would have given respondents the opportunity to indicate that they shared a household with a partner. Respondents may have instead mistakenly indicated this in the marital status question by choosing civil partnership.

For the 2011 Census, inclusion of a question on relationship and better public awareness of civil partnerships should reduce any errors. The question on relationships will also enable the Office for National Statistics to correct any obvious anomalies.

4.8.4 Month and year of arrival to the UK

The new question on month and year of arrival to the UK generally appeared to work well with 86.0 per cent of people providing a valid month and year of arrival.

Overall 7.1 per cent (769) of respondents provided a year of arrival but not a month of arrival. Of these 94.5 per cent arrived before 2000 and 99.7 per cent arrived before 2007.

People's memory of when they arrived in the UK is likely to diminish over time, but this will not reduce the utility of the data collected. The month of arrival is most important for those people that arrived in the previous year, so it is encouraging that the majority of recent migrants are able to provide month as well as year of arrival (99.3 per cent of people stating they arrived in 2007 also provided a valid month).

4.8.5 National identity

The new question on national identity also appeared to work well and had low non-response rate (1.8 per cent). Of the 4,116 respondents who ticked the 'Other' national identity box only 0.7 per cent failed to write in their national identity. The reverse situation was much more common; of the 3,635 respondents that didn't tick any of the boxes (including the 'Other' box), 55.5 per cent nevertheless wrote in a national identity. This is a common response and can be easily dealt with when the data is processed.

Table 4.7 Non-response to the national identity question by ethnic group response¹

A. White			
Ethnic Group Response	Responses	National Identity non-response numbers	National Identity non-response percentage² (%)
<i>English or Welsh³</i>	68,436	153	0.2
<i>Other British</i>	4,780	26	0.5
<i>Irish</i>	1,335	6	0.5
<i>Any other, write in</i>	3,155	9	0.3
Total	77,706	194	0.3
B. Mixed			
<i>White and Black Caribbean</i>	339	10	3.0
<i>White and Black African</i>	337	16	4.8
<i>White and Asian</i>	508	13	2.6
<i>Any other, write in</i>	286	7	2.5
Total	1,470	46	3.0
C. Asian or Asian British			
<i>Indian</i>	860	53	6.2
<i>Pakistani</i>	663	48	7.2
<i>Bangladeshi</i>	1,217	104	8.6
<i>Chinese</i>	814	29	3.6
<i>Any other, write in</i>	716	20	2.8
Total	4,270	254	6.0
D. Black or Black British			
<i>Caribbean</i>	355	27	7.6
<i>African</i>	1,498	144	9.6
<i>Any other, write in</i>	40	3	7.5
Total	1,893	174	9.2
E. Other ethnic group			
<i>Arab</i>	297	18	6.1
<i>Gypsy/Romany/Irish Traveller</i>	8	0	0.0
<i>Any other, write in</i>	238	8	3.4
Total	543	26	4.8
No ethnic group recorded			
<i>Missing</i>	5,317	912	17.2

¹ Does not include 650 respondents who provided a multi-ticked answer.

² Percentages may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

³ Answer was dependent of whether it was the England or Wales version of the questionnaire. English selected by 59,724 (87.3 per cent) respondents in England and Welsh selected by 8,712 (12.7 per cent) in Wales.

Table 4.7 above shows non-response to the national identity question by ethnic group as selected in the questionnaire.

Non-response rates to the national identity question was highest amongst the 'Black or Black British' and 'Asian or Asian British' ethnic groups at 9.2 per cent and 6.0 per cent respectively.

4.8.6 Ethnicity

The ethnicity question appeared to work well with a low non-response rate and level of incorrect multi-ticked responses. Overall the level of multi-ticking between the ethnicity tick boxes was 0.7 per cent (683 responses). This excludes any cases where respondents had written in a response and ticked a box other than the 'Any other background' tick boxes.

Of these 683 multi-tick responses, the most common combinations were:

- 'English' & 'Other British' (9.7 per cent);
- 'English' & 'Any other white' (7.7 per cent);
- 'English' & 'Irish' (5.8 per cent);
- 'Other British' & 'African' (3.8 per cent).

These combinations may in part be because the question included an 'English/Welsh' tick box and an 'other British' tick box. These options may have been treated as another opportunity to express national identity for example identifying as English and British or Black British.

There appears to be some consistency between the answers given to the national identity and ethnicity questions. 71 per cent of those who stated that their ethnicity was English also stated that their national identity was English. Around 17 per cent stated that their national identity was British and 11 per cent that it was English and British.

Among those who stated that their ethnicity was Welsh, 83 per cent also said that their national identity was Welsh, 10 per cent said that it was Welsh and British and 5 per cent that it was British.

Around 69 per cent of people who stated that their ethnicity was Bangladeshi stated that they were British as did 56 per cent of those who stated their ethnicity was Pakistani and 50 per cent who stated their ethnicity was Caribbean.

There were 6,127 written responses for the ethnicity question, the types of responses are summarised below:

Other White

Among those (4.7 per cent) who said that their ethnicity was 'Other White', 96 per cent wrote in a response. The most common responses were 'American' (9 per cent), followed by 'European' (7 per cent) and 'French' (6 per cent).

One fifth (21 per cent) of respondents who wrote in their response but did not tick a box did so under this category. The most common responses were 'European' (6 per cent), 'Italian' (6 per cent) and 'Polish' (4 per cent).

Three tenths (30 per cent) of those who ticked more than one box provided a write-in response under this category. The most common write in responses were 'Italian' (7 per cent), 'Chinese' (6 per cent) and 'Asian' (5 per cent).

Other Mixed background

Among those (0.4 per cent) who said their ethnicity was 'Other Mixed', 93 per cent wrote in a response. The most common responses were 'White and Arab' (3 per cent) followed by 'White and Chinese', 'Portuguese' and 'White/Arab' (each 2 per cent).

Other Asian background

Among those (1.1 per cent) who said their ethnicity was 'Other Asian', 98 per cent wrote in a response. The most common responses were 'Filipino' (21 per cent) followed by 'Japanese' (20 per cent) and 'Sri Lankan' and 'Thai' (each 5 per cent).

Other Black background

Among those (0.2 per cent) who said their ethnicity was 'Other Black', 81 per cent wrote in a response. The most common responses were 'Black British' (21 per cent) followed by 'Somali' (7 per cent).

Any other

Among those (0.2 per cent) who said their ethnicity was 'Any other', 98 per cent wrote in a response. The most common responses were 'Jewish' (10 per cent) followed by 'Kurdish' and 'Iranian' (each 7 per cent).

4.8.7 Language

The design of the language question was complex and asked respondents to state their language ability in English, Welsh, British Sign Language and one other language and sign language of their description, if they had one. The table below shows the error rate associated with each of those sections.

Table 4.8: Error rate for each section of the language question.

Section	Non-response frequency	Invalid responses	Total invalid responses	Number of possible responses	Error rate¹ %
English ²	5,511	1,522	7,033	91,849	7.7
Welsh ³	65,047	374	65,421	91,849	71.2
Other language ⁴	:	5,082	5,082	15,165	33.5
British sign language ⁵	56,388	86	56,474	91,849	61.5
Other sign language ⁶	:	309	309	588	52.6

: Not applicable, leaving this section blank is a valid response.

¹ Error rate calculated as the percentage of 'Total valid responses' divided by the 'Number of possible responses'.

² Invalid responses defined those who ticked 'No ability' but also ticked either 'understand spoken', 'speak', 'read' or 'write' English.

³ Invalid responses defined as those who ticked 'No ability' but also ticked either 'understand spoken', 'speak', 'read' or 'write' Welsh.

⁴ Invalid responses defined as those who wrote in another language but failed to tick an ability in either 'understand spoken', 'speak', 'read' or 'write' for that language.

⁵ Invalid responses defined as those who ticked 'No ability' but also ticked either 'understand spoken' or 'speak' British Sign Language.

⁶ Invalid responses defined as those who wrote in another sign language but failed to tick an ability in either 'understand spoken' or 'speak' for that sign language.

It can be seen from Table 4.8 that the error rates for this question are quite high. The English section of the question had the lowest error rate of the five sections but was still relatively high at 7.7 per cent.

The Welsh section of the language question had the highest error rate at 71.2 per cent. The majority of this can be attributed to the high number of non-responses. Many of these non-responses 99.2 per cent (64,518) were from the English areas of the Census Test.

For the people who provided a write in response to the 'Other language' section, 33.5 per cent failed to indicate their ability in this language. The sign language sections also had high error rates, the 'British Sign Language' section had a 61.5 per cent error rate and the 'Other sign language' section had 52.6 per cent. A large proportion of the British Sign Language error is again down to many people failing to provide a response to the question.

While there are a high number of non-responses for English, Welsh and British Sign Language, it is probable that these blank responses were consistent with respondents having no ability in these languages. The high error rates associated with this question indicate that many respondents failed to understand this question and that it needs to be redesigned.

In the CTES a similar question was asked to respondents with an expanded list of languages to choose from. Table 4.9 below shows the responses to that language question. As would be expected the most common language across all four disciplines is English, with 65 per cent or over of respondents being able to understand, speak, read or write.

The next most common language was French with between 8.9 per cent and 9.9 per cent of people selecting this language across the four disciplines. Welsh had between 4.4 per cent and 6.7 per cent across the four disciplines.

Table 4.9: CTES question: What languages can you: understand when spoken / speak / read / write?

Response	Understand when spoken		Speak		Read		Write	
	Frequency	Percentage of question responses %	Frequency	Percentage of question responses %	Frequency	Percentage of question responses %	Frequency	Percentage of question responses %
English	1,173	64.4	1,172	67.3	1,171	67.6	1,165	71.6
French	172	9.4	160	9.2	171	9.9	145	8.9
Welsh	122	6.7	96	5.5	83	4.8	72	4.4
German	67	3.7	57	3.3	59	3.4	44	2.7
Spanish	49	2.7	43	2.5	43	2.5	35	2.2
Italian	39	2.1	33	1.9	35	2.0	26	1.6
Urdu	18	1.0	16	0.9	15	0.9	15	0.9
Arabic	16	0.9	15	0.9	16	0.9	8	0.5
Hindi	12	0.7	10	0.6	7	0.4	6	0.4
Polish	12	0.7	13	0.7	11	0.6	12	0.7
Other languages	141	7.7	126	7.2	122	7.0	99	6.1
Total	1,814	100.0	1,730	100.0	1,721	100.0	1,621	100.0

In the CTES a question on Welsh proficiency was asked of the respondents living in the Carmarthenshire test area. Table 4.10 below shows a comparison of the responses given to this question to those for the Welsh language proficiency part of the language matrix question in the Census Test. Of the 254 respondents to this question in the CTES, 42.9 per cent (109) had no ability in Welsh and 29.5 per cent (75) could understand, speak, read and write Welsh. When compared to the answers they gave in the Census Test in May 2007, 17.3 per cent (44) said they had no ability in Welsh and 7.9 per cent (20) said they could understand, speak, read and write Welsh. Overall 27.2 per cent answered the same way in both the Census Test and the CTES. Of the 72.8 per cent of people who didn't answer the same, 22.0 per cent points of the 72.8 per cent is made up of people moving from not ticking a box in the Census Test to ticking 'No ability' in the CTES.

Table 4.10: Comparison of Welsh proficiency responses in the CTES and 2007 Census Test: Can you understand, speak, read or write Welsh?

Census Test Evaluation Survey							Census Test, May 2007 results						
No ability	Understand when spoken	Speak	Read	Write	Frequency	Percentage of responses¹ %	No ability	Understand when spoken	Speak	Read	Write	Frequency	Percentage of responses¹ %
					14	5.5						73	28.7
			✓	✓					✓
	✓				32	12.6				✓		6	2.4
	✓			✓			✓			7	2.8
	✓		✓				✓	✓		6	2.4
	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	39	15.4
	✓	✓			14	5.5		✓				26	10.2
	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	
	✓	✓	✓	✓	75	29.5		✓		✓	✓
✓					109	42.9		✓	✓			18	7.1
								✓	✓	✓	
								✓	✓	✓	✓	20	7.9
							✓					44	17.3
							✓		✓	✓	✓
							✓	✓			
							✓	✓	✓		
							✓	✓	✓	✓	
Total					254	100.0	Total					254	100.0

.. Information for frequencies under 5 are not shown.

¹ Percentages may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

The lack of consistency between respondents answering in the same way in both the Census Test and CTES is an indication that the matrix question did not work well. Further work will need to be conducted in order to improve the accuracy of responses.

4.8.8 Second address

It has already been shown that the second address question had a relatively high non-response rate. Further to this, of the 4,023 respondents who indicated they had a second UK address, 5.1 per cent did not provide an address and postcode. A further 17.1 per cent of respondents provided an address but did not provide a postcode and 0.6 per cent provided a postcode but not an address. It is anticipated that this will still be of sufficient quality to help understand increasingly complex living patterns. It is also possible that in the 2011 Census when completion of the questionnaire is compulsory, completion of the address information will be better.

Of those who ticked to say they stayed at an address abroad, 2.8 per cent of respondents failed to provide a write in of the country of their second residence abroad.

4.8.9 Address one year ago

One of the data errors in the 2001 Census was that a disproportionate amount of people ticked 'No usual address one year ago' (0.8 per cent of respondents). In the Census Test, 0.9 per cent (805) of respondents ticked the 'No usual address one year ago' box. Of these 58.1 per cent were aged under one and so correct, however 12.4 per cent were aged 20-29 and 10.3 per cent were aged 30-39 years old of which a significant proportion of these may be incorrect. It may be necessary to revisit the user requirements for information on people with no usual address one year ago and consider whether the question could be redesigned to overcome these issues.

4.8.10 Qualifications

The addition of a 'foreign qualifications' tick box was one of the changes to this question from the 2001 Census. Overall 6.4 per cent (4,944) of respondents ticked to say they had a foreign qualification, of these 85.7 per cent (4,237) were born outside the UK and 41.2 per cent (2,038) only ticked foreign qualifications. Table 4.9 below shows the number of people ticking foreign qualifications and any of the other qualifications tick boxes.

Table 4.9: Frequency of foreign qualifications and any other qualifications ticked.

Qualification	Frequency of selection	Percentage¹ of responses %	Percentage¹ of respondents %
1+ O level/CSEs/GCSEs (any grades), Basic Skills	572	9.2	11.6
NVQ Level 1, Foundation GNVQ	141	2.3	2.9
5+ O levels (any grade)/CSEs (grade 1) / GCSEs (grades A*-C), School Certificate, 1+ A levels/AS levels/VCEs	727	11.7	14.7
NVQ Level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma	262	4.2	5.3
Apprenticeships	99	1.6	2.0
2+ A levels, 4+ AS levels, Higher School Certificate	662	10.6	13.4
NVQ Level 3, Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma	174	2.8	3.5
First degree (e.g. BA, BSC), Higher degree (e.g. MA, PhD, PGCE)	1,873	30.1	37.9
NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher Level	107	1.7	2.2
Professional qualifications (eg teaching, nursing, accountancy)	1,013	16.3	20.5
Other vocational/work related qualifications	586	9.4	11.9
No qualifications	15	0.2	0.3
Total	6,213	100.0	n/a

¹ Percentages may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

The most frequent UK qualifications to be recorded alongside "foreign qualifications" were 'first or higher degrees' with 37.9 per cent, 'professional qualifications' with 20.5 per cent and '5+ O levels/CSEs/GCSEs etc.' with 14.7 per cent.

The qualifications question has been expanded to better record all academic and vocational qualifications and therefore the question is longer than that used in 2001. In order to investigate whether a shortened version of the question would be adequate, the qualifications question was re-asked in the CTES with a reduced number of categories, to see if the same quality of data could be collected.

Table 4.10 below gives a comparison of the responses given in the Census Test and CTES.

Table 4.10: Which of these qualifications or their equivalents do you have?

Census Test Evaluation Survey			Census Test, May 2007 results			
Response	Frequency	Percentage of responses ¹ %	Frequency ²	Percentage of responses ¹ %	Difference Frequency	Difference Percentage %
1+ O-levels/CSE s/GCSE s (any grades), NVQ Level 1, Foundation GNVQ, Basic Skills or equivalent.	262	12.3	359	15.7	-97	-27.0
5+ O-levels (any grades), CSE s (grade 1), GCSE s (grades A*-C), School Certificate, 1+ A-Level/AS-levels, NVQ level 2, intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, or equivalent.	418	19.7	510	22.3	-92	-18.0
Apprenticeship	61	2.9	57	2.5	4	7.0
2+ A-levels, 4+ AS-levels, Higher School Certificate, NVQ level 3, Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, or equivalent.	313	14.7	330	14.4	-17	-5.2
First Degree (e.g., BA, BSc), Higher Degree (e.g., MA, PhD, PGCE), NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, or equivalent.	300	14.1	296	12.9	4	1.4
Professional qualifications (e.g., teaching, nursing, accountancy)	191	9.0	216	9.4	-25	-11.6
Other vocational/work-related qualifications	205	9.7	173	7.5	32	18.5
No Qualifications	374	17.6	351	15.3	23	6.6
Total	2,124	100.0	2,292	100.0	-168	-7.3

¹ Percentages may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

² Five people couldn't be matched.

In comparison to the Census Test, there has been an overall reduction in the number of responses given by 168 (7.3 per cent). The most notable reductions are for '1+O-levels...', '5+O-levels...' and 'professional qualifications' with reductions of 27.0 per cent, 18.0 per cent and 11.6 per cent respectively. In terms of the responses given for 'no qualifications' there was an increase in responses of 6.6 per cent.

Overall only 36.5 per cent of people gave the same answers in both the Census Test and the CTES. It could be concluded that the respondents had difficulty in identifying their qualifications as there was a reduction in the number of responses in the CTES from the Census Test.

To see if the Census Test was missing any qualifications that a high percentage of people may have, respondents were asked a supplementary question in the CTES which asked them to freely list all the qualifications they held. Table 4.11 below gives the results of this question which indicates that there does not appear to be significant qualifications missing from the Census Test. However, this list will be reviewed as the question is further developed.

Table 4.11: Please can you tell me what individual qualifications you have?

Qualification	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Access to HE	296	16.2
Entry Level Qualifications (Wales)	291	15.9
Degree level qualifications	278	15.2
Other Higher Education qualifications below degree level	252	13.8
Standard/Ordinary O Grade (Scotland)	161	8.8
International Bacculaureate	104	5.7
RSOCR	91	5.0
GCSE/Vocational	54	3.0
SCOTVEC, SCOTEC or SCOTBEC	49	2.7
GNVQ/GSVQ	33	1.8
BTECEC/TEC/Edexcel	32	1.7
Teaching qualifications	31	1.7
National Qualifications (Scotland)	26	1.4
HNC/HND	25	1.4
Diploma in Higher Education	23	1.3
NVQ/SVQ	13	0.7
Nursing or other medical qualifications.	12	0.7
Key skills	12	0.7
ONC/OND	11	0.6
O-Level or equivalent	6	0.3
A-Level or equiv.	5	0.3
Welsh Bacculaureate (Wales)	5	0.3
AS-level or equivalent	5	0.3
YT Certificate	5	0.3
Other	9	0.5
Total	1,829	100.0

¹ Percentages may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

5. Census Test Evaluation Survey

5.1 Respondents to the 2007 Census Test

This section details responses given to questions in the Census Test Evaluation Survey (CTES) from respondents to the 2007 Census Test.

Table 5.1: How did you feel about the time it took to complete the household section of the form? It...

Response	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Took far too long	34	2.9
Took a little bit too long	68	5.8
It took a reasonable amount of time	1,041	88.1
Other please specify	38	3.2
Total	1,181	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

The majority of people (88.1 per cent) thought that the household part of the questionnaire took a reasonable amount of time to complete. The 'Other' reasons given by 38 people (3.2 per cent) have been summarised in Table 5.2 below. There were 42 people who did not give a response.

Table 5.2: 'Other' responses

Response¹	Frequency	Percentage² of responses %
Quick/not long	15	41.7
Can't remember	11	30.6
Other	12	31.6
Total	38	100.0

¹ Summarised comments into general categories, not individual's verbatim responses.

² Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

Table 5.3: How did you feel about the time it took to complete the individual section of the form. It...

Response	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Took far too long	31	2.6
Took a little bit too long	85	7.2
It took a reasonable amount of time	1,037	87.6
Other please specify	31	2.6
Total	1,184	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

The majority of people (87.6 per cent) thought that the individual part of the questionnaire took a reasonable amount of time to complete. The 'Other' reasons given by 31 people (2.6 per cent) have been summarised in Table 5.4 below. There were 39 people who did not give a response.

Table 5.4: 'Other' responses

Response¹	Frequency	Percentage² of responses %
Quick/not long	11	37.9
Can't remember	7	24.1
Other	13	41.9
Total	31	100.0

¹ Summarised comments into general categories, not individual's verbatim responses.

² Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

The Test questionnaire included four pages of questions per person and it is encouraging that few respondents thought it took too long to complete.

Table 5.5: What did you think about the appearance of the form when you first saw it?

Response	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Simple	377	19.8
Easy to understand	572	30.1
Informative	37	1.9
Nice colour	64	3.4
Too much text, too wordy	48	2.5
Difficult to understand	51	2.7
Form frightening, daunting to look at	170	8.9
Print too small	7	0.4
Did not like colour	5	0.3
It was okay	325	17.1
No Opinion	33	1.7
Not enough space to answer some of the questions	8	0.4
Other Specify	205	10.8
Total	1,902	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

Of the responses given 1,375 (72.3 per cent) were of a positive nature ('simple', 'easy to understand', 'informative' and 'nice colour'), the most common being that the questionnaire was easy to understand (30.1 per cent). There were 282 responses of a negative nature (14.8 per cent), the most common being that the questionnaire looked 'frightening, daunting to look at' (8.9 per cent).

Table 5.6: Were there any questions you found particularly difficult to answer?

Response	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Yes	130	11.0
No	981	82.7
Can't remember	75	6.3
Total	1,186	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

The majority of people (82.7 per cent) found that there weren't any questions that they found particularly difficult to answer. There were 130 people (11.0 per cent)

who found there were questions that were particularly difficult to answer. There were 35 people who did not give a response.

Table 5.7: Which questions did you find particularly difficult to answer?

Question	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Individual questions	102	72.3
Count of usual residents	7	5.0
Names of usual residents	7	5.0
Names and addresses of visitors	7	5.0
Other household questions	18	12.8
Total	141	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

Of the people that responded to say that they had a difficulty with some of the questions, only a minority of responses (27.7 per cent) indicated that this was with the household questions. The majority, (72.3 per cent) had difficulty with the individual questions and this is summarised in Table 5.8 below.

Table 5.8: Now thinking about the questions asked of individuals, which questions did you find particularly difficult to answer?

Question	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Qualifications	21	11.5
Language	20	11.0
Ethnicity	17	9.3
Nature of disability	16	8.8
National identity	15	8.2
Other Specify	15	8.2
Amount of income	10	5.5
Marital and civil partnership status	8	4.4
Religion	8	4.4
Sources of income	8	4.4
None of the above	8	4.4
Second address	5	2.7
Available for work	5	2.7
Other individual questions	15	8.4
Total	182	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

Of the 182 responses that indicated difficulty with the individual questions, the top three were for qualifications (11.5 per cent), languages (11.0 per cent) and ethnicity (9.3 per cent). When further questioned on why they found the qualifications question difficult many people explained that they couldn't see how their qualifications mapped to the choices given, this included people with foreign qualifications.

In respect of languages most respondents found it to be badly worded and in other comments, many explained they didn't know the level of expertise required.

In the case of ethnicity, many people who had difficulty with this explained that they had trouble identifying with a single ethnic group when from a mixed background.

Table 5.9: Were there any questions you felt particularly unhappy about answering?

Response	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Yes	124	10.4
No	1,007	84.8
Can't remember	56	4.7
Total	1,187	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

The majority of people (84.8 per cent) did not feel unhappy about answering particular questions in the Test. There were 35 people who did not give a response.

Table 5.10: Which questions were you particularly unhappy about answering?

Question	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Individual questions	113	86.3
Household questions	18	13.7
Total	131	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

From table 5.10 above there were only a small number of responses indicating that people were unhappy with answering the household questions, the majority of responses indicated people were unhappy about answering the individual questions (86.3 per cent) and this is summarised below.

Table 5.11: Now thinking about the questions asked of individuals, which questions were you particularly unhappy to answer?

Question	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Amount of income	60	32.1
Sources of income	50	26.7
Ethnicity	17	9.1
Religion	12	6.4
National identity	8	4.3
General health	5	2.7
Other individual questions	35	18.7
Total	187	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

Of the 186 responses received for this question, the majority (58.8 per cent) were concerned with the two income questions (source and amount of income). When questioned further, 60 people felt that these questions were too personal and 56 thought they were too intrusive. The other main questions that people were unhappy in answering were ethnicity (9.1 per cent of responses) and religion (6.4 per cent).

5.2 Non-respondents to the Census Test

This section details the responses given to questions in the CTES from non-respondents to the 2007 Census Test.

Table 5.12: Why weren't you able to send the completed census form to us?

Response	Frequency	Percentage¹ of responses %
Too busy	45	26.3
Don't feel it's important	11	6.4
Questions(s) too intrusive	7	4.1
Don't like to disclose personal details generally	7	4.1
Respondent has sent form in	7	4.1
Started it but then forgot	5	2.9
Other Specify	95	52.0
Total	159	100.0

¹ Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

Apart from 'Other' the main reason given for not returning a completed questionnaire was that 'they' were 'Too busy' 26.3 per cent. 'Other' had the largest response with 52.0 per cent selecting it and these responses are summarised in Table 5.13 below.

Table 5.13 'Other' responses

Response¹	Frequency	Percentage² of responses %
Didn't want to	16	14.4
Thought it was junk mail	13	11.7
Forgot	11	9.9
Away from home	11	9.9
Didn't receive it/don't remember receiving it	11	9.9
Couldn't do it/too difficult	13	11.7
Not enough time	10	9.0
Lost it	8	7.2
Other	18	16.2
Total	111	100.0

¹ Summarised comments into general categories, not individual's verbatim responses.

² Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

6. Partial response follow-up small scale test

6.1 Background

The 2007 Partial Response Follow-Up Small Scale Test (PRFU-SST) was a follow-up, by telephone, of a sample of respondents who had not completed all of the questions on their questionnaire.

The specific aims of the PRFU-SST were to:

- validate the high-level requirements for Partial Response Follow-up (PRFU)
- to gain experience of public reaction to completing parts of the questionnaire by phone and whether this differed by the number of questions initially completed on the return and if it differed by whether they provided their phone number
- assess how many questions, on average, the respondent was willing to answer before it became a burden and intrusive
- inform preparation of scripts for the 2011 Census PRFU
- assess levels of refusals and length of calls for initial 2011 census planning purposes.

For the PRFU-SST, questionnaires were selected randomly from differing levels of completeness ('low', 10 per cent of questions completed; 'medium', 11 to 89 per cent; and 'high', 90+ per cent). Completeness was derived from the number of questions answered and the person count on the questionnaires returned.

During the PRFU-SST, 444 contacts were made with 431 completed calls (completed calls are where the respondent answered at least one additional question from their questionnaire), 13 declined to participate. From these completed calls, 91 per cent of respondents answered all the follow-up questions asked of them, 8 per cent answered more than one question and 1 per cent answered one question.

Of the questionnaire respondents contacted, 78 per cent had provided a telephone number on their questionnaire (including respondents who may have entered their telephone number incorrectly or omitted their area code). Where a telephone number had not been included on the questionnaire, names and addresses were matched to telephone numbers using several databases. Where the telephone number on the questionnaire was illegible a directory enquiry service was used.

Although it was not a specific aim to assess the public response to the Test questions in the PRFU-SST, it was nonetheless inevitable that by asking the public to answer questions they had missed, an insight into how respondents felt about answering the questions would be gained. These findings are outlined below.

6.2 Respondent's views

The anecdotal evidence from the interviewees was that the public reaction to providing answers to outstanding questions from their questionnaires was positive; that the majority were willing to answer all the questions they were asked; and that the level of completeness on return or whether they provided a telephone number had no bearing on response.

The categories of residents with lower questionnaire completeness rates in the PRFU-SST were found by the Telephone Unit interviewees to be (in no particular order): multi-resident households; respondents where English is not the first language; parents/guardians missing off children under 16; and the elderly.

It may be more appropriate to use the categorisation of 'retired' instead of 'elderly' given that the majority of questions not answered by this group of people were around employment (questions 22, 23, 24, 25, 26). On the Test

questionnaire, a retired respondent had to answer one 'none of the above' and three 'Nos' on the employment questions before they came to the question where they could tick that they were retired.

The majority of parents/guardians who did not answer any individual questions on behalf of their children did count them (ie they included them in the household table).

The questions on general health, nature of disability and long standing illness were often not completed. It appeared that if the respondent said they had 'very good' or 'good health' in response to the general health question they would omit answers to the nature of disability and long standing illness as these relate to 'poor' health and they had stated they had good health.

The language question was often partially answered, with the sign language question often not completed. When the interviewers asked respondents this question it often generated confusion, with both parties grappling with what *level* of understanding/ speaking/ reading/ writing was implied.

6.3 Telephone interviewers views

The telephone interviewers found the language question problematic to ask respondents for the reason given above.

The interviewers felt that the visitors question should have a yes/no box to indicate whether the household had visitors.

The interviewers' scripts specified that they ask to speak to the person who filled in the Census questionnaire or another resident adult over 16 years old. This was a successful approach with no significant issues. By not asking for a named person it increased the likelihood of the questionnaire being completed on that contact attempt. Those who had not completed the questionnaire seemed willing to complete the missing information whether it related to them, or another member of the household. The interviewers did express some doubt as to whether a 16 year old was equipped to answer some of the questions, particularly around income. There was no evidence in the PRFU-SST to support their view but it was widely held nonetheless.

Splitting the telephone number box by area code / telephone number could be considered because it was found that respondents would omit their area code or write it above the specified box.

7. Helpline

From 23 April to 25 June 2007, a telephone helpline was in operation in order to assist questionnaire recipients with any questions they might have regarding the 2007 Census Test.

In total there 1,577 enquiries relating to the questionnaire, of which 14.1 per cent (222) were specifically regarding the answering of questions on the questionnaire. Table 7.1 below gives a breakdown of the calls received for each question on the Test.

Table 7.1: Queries received by the Census Test helpline.

Question No.	Question ¹	Number of queries	Percentage ¹ of queries %
17	Second address	17	7.7
10	Nature of disability	16	7.2
4	Marital and civil partnership status	14	6.3
15	Language matrix	14	6.3
H5	Visitor information	13	5.9
22	Activity last week	12	5.4
27	Qualifications	11	5.0
12	National identity	10	4.5
13	Ethnicity	9	4.1
H11	Tenure	8	3.6
9	General health	8	3.6
H1	Who should fill in the questionnaire	6	2.7
5	Schoolchild or student	6	2.7
7	Country of birth	6	2.7
30	No more questions instruction	6	2.7
H4	Names of usual residents	5	2.3
H8	Number of rooms	5	2.3
H12	Type of landlord	5	2.3
14	Religion	5	2.3
	Other questions	46	20.7
Total		222	100.0

¹ Does not include 26 queries relating to the two income questions.

² Percentage may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

The highest amount of queries was for the second address question (7.7 per cent) followed by nature of disability (7.2 per cent) and marital and civil partnership status (6.3 per cent). This table can only give an indication of where problems with questions may have occurred as the full nature of the call was not recorded.

8. Conclusions

Results and analysis from the Census Test can only be used as a guide as to what respondents would do in the actual Census. This is because of the voluntary nature of the Test and possible sampling error. However, used with other quantitative and qualitative testing, it does give us a useful indication as to how people would answer the Census and highlight areas of risk for the successful completion of the questions.

8.1 Conclusion tables

Tables 8.1 and 8.2 below give a breakdown of each of the household and individual questions on the Census Test questionnaire and rates them according to the risk of non-completion or inaccurate responses based on the Red-Amber-Green (RAG) rating system. In this instance red, amber and green mean:

Red – High risk of non-completion or inaccurate responses. It is advised the question should be redeveloped and retested as necessary.

Amber – Medium risk of non-completion or inaccurate responses. Some rewording or redesign may be needed, followed by further testing.

Green – Low risk of non-completion or inaccurate responses. None or minor issues with the question identified. Continue to monitor in any planned quantitative and qualitative testing.

Table 8.1: Household questions summary table

Question No.	Question	Issues arising from Census Test analysis	RAG status
:	Declaration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response to this question 	Amber
H2	Count of usual residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High non-response rates mean there is a high risk of people not being counted correctly. 	Amber
H4	Names of usual residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates and combined with the answers to question H2 there is a risk of people not being counted correctly. 	Amber
H5	Visitor information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence suggests that usual residents were including themselves in the visitors section in error. This increases the risk of people not being counted correctly. 	Red
H6	Accommodation type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working. 	Green
H7	Self-contained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working. 	Green
H8	Number of rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working. 	Green
H9	Central heating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working. 	Green
H10	State of repairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-response relatively high Relatively high percentage of multi-tick responses compared to other household questions 	Amber
H11	Tenure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working. 	Green
H12	Landlord type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working. 	Green
H13	Number cars or vans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working. 	Green

: Not applicable

Table 8.2: Individual questions summary table.

Question No.	Question	Issues arising from Census Test analysis	RAG status
1	Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
2	Sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
3	Date of Birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
4	Marital and civil partnership status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rate although much of this attributable to under 16 year olds Indication that there is an over count of Civil Partnerships 	Amber
5	Schoolchild or student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rate 	Amber
6	Term-time address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
7	Country of birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
8	Month and year of arrival to the UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates 	Amber
9	General health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
10	Nature of disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates Evidence from the CTES that people found this question difficult to answer 	Amber
11	Long-standing illness or disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High non-response rates Evidence suggests that locating this question after the question on nature of disability meant that people with no long-standing conditions didn't feel the need to answer. 	Amber
12	National identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
13	Ethnicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
14	Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates but the question is voluntary. 	Green
15	Language matrix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High error rates associated with this question. Evidence from the CTES that respondents found this question difficult to answer Anecdotal evidence from PSFU-SST that respondents found this question difficult to answer 	Red
16	Welsh frequency of use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to 	Green

Question No.	Question	Issues arising from Census Test analysis	RAG status
		suggest this question isn't working	
17	Second address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates 	Amber
18	Second address purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
19	Second address time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No evidence from the Test to suggest this question isn't working 	Green
20	Address one year ago	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates 	Amber
22	Activity last week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates although evidence suggests that this may be due to retired respondents 	Amber
23	Looking for work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates although evidence suggests that this may be due to retired respondents 	Amber
24	Available for work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates although evidence suggests that this may be due to retired respondents 	Amber
25	Waiting to start work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates although evidence suggests that this may be due to retired respondents 	Amber
26	Reason for not working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates 	Amber
27	Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively high non-response rates 	Amber

Overall the majority of questions can be judged to have worked well in the Census Test. Only a few have been highlighted as having a high-risk of non-completion. Many of the questions have a fairly low non-response rate and the responses in Annex 2 are in line with what would generally be expected.

From the CTES it can be seen that the majority of people found that the questionnaire took a reasonable amount of time to complete and had a positive opinion on the design of the form.

8.2 Further work

Many of the issues highlighted in this paper have been addressed in subsequent questionnaire development. Further questionnaire testing took place between August 2007 and July 2008, in the form of cognitive testing and a small scale postal test. The results of these along with previous testing and further consideration of user requirements were used to finalise a questionnaire for the 2009 Census Rehearsal.

The 2009 Census Rehearsal will be a final opportunity to test Census questions on a large scale, along with all the processes necessary to run the Census in 2011. Analysis will be conducted on the Rehearsal data and an equivalent report to this will be produced after the Rehearsal has been completed. The 2009 Census Rehearsal questionnaire is available to view on the National Statistics website at:

<web link>

Annex 1: Definition of the Return and Response Rates for the 2007 Census Test

The response rate is the proportion of returned questionnaires out of the number of questionnaires delivered.

Numerator: For a questionnaire to be part of the numerator, it had to:

- Be included as part of the analysis i.e. the questionnaire considered for that household and have a valid status (see cases below).
- Have a check-in time - this indicates that the questionnaire has been returned.
- Pass the two-of-four rule - where at least one person on the questionnaire must have answered two out of four key demographic person questions:
 - 1) Name (valid response = any response in the first and second name boxes).
 - 2) Sex (any response valid).
 - 3) Date of Birth (For households - valid response = any response in the day and month columns and the year is between '1895' and '2007') (For individuals - valid response = any response in the day and month columns and the year is between '1895' and '2007' or between '00' and '99' excluding '19' and '20' .
 - 4) Marital and Civil Partnership Status (any response valid).

Denominator: For a questionnaire to be considered part of the denominator, it has to be:

- Included as part of the analysis i.e. the questionnaire considered for that household and have a valid status (see cases below).

Cases (Questionnaires) included

The definition was based on the available data. Only one questionnaire per household was considered in the rate. The cases for analysis were chosen based on an order of priority:

- Valid return over non-valid return.
- Household questionnaire over Individual questionnaire.
- Returned questionnaire over non-returned questionnaire.

Cases removed

- Questionnaires relating to new households identified during enumeration are excluded from the analysis.
- The Operational Intelligence System 'deactivated' some cases. A case was included or excluded in the response rate analysis depending on the reason for its 'deactivation'.

Reason for Deactivation	Include/Excluded analysis	from
<i>Reasons reported by Field Staff or Contact Centre</i>		
▪ Address Split (container/parent address not required)	Excluded	
▪ Building Demolished or Not Yet Built	Excluded - both	
▪ Communal Establishment or Non Residential	Excluded - both	
▪ Couldn't Find	Excluded	
▪ In Transit	Included	
▪ Manual	Excluded (ambiguous)	
▪ Not in Test Area	Excluded	
▪ Questionnaire Damaged (Contact Centre or Field)	Excluded - both	
<i>Reasons reported by Royal Mail</i>		
▪ Addressee Gone Away or Unknown	Excluded - both	
▪ Address Inaccessible	Excluded	
▪ Address Incomplete or No Such Address	Excluded - both	
▪ No Answer	Included	
▪ Not Called For	Included	
▪ No Postal Service Provider Information Provided	Excluded	
▪ Refused	Included	

Annex 2: Frequency tables

A2.1 Household questions

Percentages in these tables may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

H6 Accommodation type

H6 What type of accommodation does your household occupy?

A whole house or bungalow that is:

- Detached
- Semi-detached
- Linked by a garage
- Terraced (including end-terrace)

A flat, maisonette or apartment that is:

- In a purpose-built block of flats or tenement
- Part of a converted or shared house (including bed-sits)
- In a commercial building (for example, in an office building, hotel, or over a shop)

A mobile or temporary structure:

- A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,383	3.1
Detached	5,263	12.0
Semi-detached	11,686	26.6
Linked by garage	233	0.5
Terraced	12,467	28.4
Purpose built block of flats	8,110	18.4
Part of shared house	3,845	8.7
Commercial building	286	0.7
Caravan or temporary structure	14	0.0
Ticked multiple responses	672	1.5
Total responses	43,959	100.0

H7 Self-Contained Accommodation

H7 Is your household's accommodation self-contained?

- ◆ This means that all the rooms, including the kitchen, bathroom and toilet, are behind a door that only your household can use.
- Yes, all the rooms are behind a door that only our household can use
- No

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,476	3.4
Yes	41,803	95.1
No	673	1.5
Ticked multiple responses	7	0.0
Total responses	43,959	100.0

H8 Number of Rooms

H8 How many rooms do you have for use only by your household?

- ◆ Do not count bathrooms, toilets, halls or landings, or rooms that can only be used for storage such as cupboards.
- ◆ Count all other rooms, for example kitchens, living rooms, bedrooms, utility rooms and studies.
- ◆ If two rooms have been converted into one, count them as one room.

Number of rooms

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,307	3.0
Unrecognised responses	38	0.1
0 rooms	10	0.0
1 room	608	1.4
2 rooms	1,823	4.1
3 rooms	5,285	12.0
4 rooms	8,820	20.1
5 rooms	10,987	25.0
6 rooms	8,134	18.5
7 rooms	3,312	7.5
8 rooms	1,854	4.2
9 rooms	858	2.0
10 rooms	461	1.0
11 rooms	194	0.4
12 rooms	106	0.2
13 rooms	52	0.1
14 rooms	44	0.1
15+ rooms	66	0.2
Total responses	43,959	100.0

H9 Central Heating

H9 Does your accommodation have central heating?

- ◆ If you have central heating available, tick 'Yes' whether or not you use it.
- ◆ Central heating includes:
 - gas, oil or solid fuel central heating
 - night storage heaters
 - warm air heating
 - underfloor heating

- Yes, in some or all rooms
- No

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	971	2.2
Yes	40,155	91.3
No	2,833	6.4
Ticked multiple responses	0	0.0
Total responses	43,959	100.0

H10 State of Repairs

H10 Does your accommodation need any repairs?

- No, only regular maintenance is needed (for example, painting, clearing guttering)
- Yes, minor repairs are needed (for example, replacing a broken roof tile or pane of glass)
- Yes, major repairs are needed (for example, replacing a boiler, electrical rewiring)

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,945	4.4
Regular maintenance	30,146	68.6
Minor repairs	7,970	18.1
Major repairs	3,488	7.9
Ticked multiple responses	410	0.9
Total responses	43,959	100.0

H11 Tenure

H11 Does your household own or rent the accommodation?

◆ Tick one box only.

- Owns outright → Go to **H13**
- Owns with a mortgage or loan → Go to **H13**
- Pays part rent and part mortgage (shared ownership) → Go to **H13**
- Rents
- Lives here rent free

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,488	3.4
Owns outright	13,586	30.9
Owns with a mortgage	12,034	27.4
Pays part rent & part mortgage	186	0.4
Rents	15,612	35.5
Lives rent free	985	2.2
Ticked multiple responses	68	0.2
Total responses	43,959	100.0

H12 Type of Landlord

H12 Who is your landlord?

- Council (Local Authority)
- Housing Association, Housing Co-operative, Charitable Trust, Registered Social Landlord
- Private landlord or letting agency
- Employer of a household member
- Relative or friend of a household member
- Other

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	129	0.8
Council	5,768	34.8
Housing association	5,621	33.9
Private landlord	4,379	26.4
Employer of household member	77	0.5
Relative of household member	466	2.8
Other	132	0.8
Ticked multiple responses	25	0.2
Total responses	16,597	100.0

H13 Number of Cars or Vans

H13 How many cars or vans are owned, or available for use, by one or more members of your household?

◆ Include any company car or van if available for private use.

None

One

Two

Three

Four or more, write in number


Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,224	2.8
None	16,356	37.2
One	17,786	40.5
Two	7,019	16.0
Three	1,284	2.9
Four or more	282	0.6
Ticked multiple responses	8	0.0
Total responses	43,959	100.0

A2.2 Individual Questions

Percentages in these tables may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

1 Name

1 What is your name?

- ◆ Use black or blue ink.
- ◆ Use CAPITAL LETTERS.
- ◆ If you make a mistake, fill in the box like this  or **ROBERT SMITH**

First name

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Last name

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Blanks – both first & last name	1,096	1.2
First name blank	23	0.0
Last name blank	585	0.6
Unrecognised response – both first & last name	23	0.0
Unrecognised response – first name	42	0.0
Unrecognised response – last name	7	0.0
Names entered	91,122	98.1
Total responses	92,898	100.0

2 Sex

2 What is your sex?

Male Female

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	662	0.7
Male	43,590	46.9
Female	48,609	52.3
Ticked multiple responses	37	0.0
Total responses	92,898	100.0

3 Date of Birth

3 What is your date of birth?

Day Month Year

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Blanks – day, month & year	786	0.8
Day blank	56	0.1
Month blank	50	0.1
Year blank	100	0.1
Blanks in a combination of 2 fields	54	0.1
Unrecognised response – day	40	0.0
Unrecognised response – month	63	0.1
Unrecognised response – year	0	0.0
Unrecognised response – more than 1 field	18	0.0
Incorrect day entered	5	0.0
Incorrect month entered	30	0.0
Incorrect year entered	71	0.1
Total blank entries/symbols/incorrect entries	1,273	1.4
Entries where age could be calculated	91,885	98.9
Total responses	92,898	100.0

4 Marital Status

4 On the 13 May 2007, what is your legal marital or same-sex civil partnership status?

- Never married and never formed a civil partnership
- Married
- Separated, but still legally married
- Divorced
- Widowed
- In a civil partnership
- Separated, but still legally in a civil partnership
- Formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved
- Surviving partner from a civil partnership

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	4,388	4.7
Never married	35,112	37.8
Married	36,110	38.9
Separated	1,572	1.7
Divorced	6,730	7.2
Widowed	6,725	7.2
Civil partnership	1,749	1.9
Separated from civil partnership	73	0.1
Legally dissolved civil partnership	122	0.1
Surviving partner civil partnership	145	0.2
Ticked multiple responses	172	0.2
Total responses	92,898	100.0

5 Schoolchild or Student

5 Are you a schoolchild or student in full-time education?

Yes → Go to **6**

No → Go to **7**

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	9,677	10.4
Yes	16,524	17.8
No	66,693	71.8
Ticked multiple responses	4	0.0
Total responses	92,898	100.0

6 Term-time Address

6 Only answer this question if you have answered 'Yes' to Question 5.
Do you live at the address shown on the front of this questionnaire during the school, college or university term?

Yes, I live at this address during the school/college/university term → Go to **7**

No, I live elsewhere during the school/college/university term → Go to **30**

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	287	1.7
Yes	15,444	93.5
No	788	4.8
Ticked multiple responses	5	0.0
Total responses	16,524	100.0

7 Country of Birth

7 What is your country of birth?

England → Go to **9**

Wales → Go to **9**

Scotland → Go to **9**

Northern Ireland → Go to **9**

Republic of Ireland

Elsewhere, write in the current name of the country

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,176	1.3
England	67,723	73.7
Wales ¹	9,622	10.5
Scotland	1,083	1.2
Northern Ireland	410	0.4
Republic of Ireland	971	1.1
Elsewhere	10,849	11.8
Ticked multiple responses	15	0.0
Total responses	91,849	100.0

¹In Wales, 'Wales' was the first response option and 'England' was the second response option

8 Month and year of arrival to the UK

8 If you were not born in the United Kingdom, when did you most recently arrive to live here?

◆ Do not count returning from holidays or short visits overseas.

Month Year

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	597	5.5
Month blank (year correct)	769	7.1
Year blank (month correct)	4	0.0
Incorrect / unrecognised response - month & year	58	0.5
Incorrect / unrecognised response - month (correct year)	69	0.6
Incorrect / unrecognised response - year (correct month)	17	0.2
Correct entries	9,335	86.0
Total responses	10,849	100.0

9 General health

9 How is your health in general?

- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Bad
- Very bad

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,159	1.3
Very good	38,958	42.4
Good	29,568	32.2
Fair	15,102	16.4
Bad	5,443	5.9
Very bad	1,477	1.6
Ticked multiple responses	142	0.2
Total responses	91,849	100.0

10 Nature of disability

10 Do you have any of the following long-standing conditions?

- ◆ Include problems which are due to old age.
- ◆ Tick all boxes that apply.
- Deafness or severe hearing impairment
- Blindness or severe visual impairment
- A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting or carrying
- A learning difficulty
- A long-standing psychological or emotional condition
- Other, including any long-standing illness
- No, I do not have a long-standing condition

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	6,911	7.5
Deafness	1,479	1.6
Blindness	290	0.3
Substantially limits	6,870	7.5
Learning difficulty	751	0.8
Psychological	1,641	1.8
Other	6,478	7.1
No	57,911	63.1
Ticked multiple responses	9,518	10.4
Total responses	91,849	100.0

11 Long-standing illness

11 Does a long-standing health problem or disability mean you have substantial difficulties doing day-to-day activities?

◆ Include problems which are due to old age.

Yes No

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	14,169	15.4
Yes	15,212	16.6
No	62,434	68.0
Ticked multiple responses	34	0.0
Total responses	91,849	100.0

12 National identity

12 What do you consider your national identity to be?

◆ Tick all boxes that apply.

- English
 Welsh
 Scottish
 Northern Irish
 British
 Irish
 Other, write in

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,619	1.8
English	46,972	51.1
Welsh ¹	7,976	8.7
Scottish	596	0.6
Northern Irish	170	0.2
British	18,259	19.9
Irish	1,067	1.2
Other	6,132	6.7
Ticked multiple responses	9,058	9.9
Total responses	91,849	100.0

¹In Wales, 'Welsh' was the first response option and 'English' was the second response option

13 Ethnicity

13 What is your ethnic group?

- ◆ Choose one section from A to E, then tick the box to show your ethnic group.

A White

- English
 Other British
 Irish
 Any other white background, write in

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B Mixed

- White and Black Caribbean
 White and Black African
 White and Asian
 Any other Mixed background, write in

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

C Asian or Asian British

- Indian
 Pakistani
 Bangladeshi
 Chinese
 Any other Asian background, write in

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D Black or Black British

- Caribbean
 African
 Any other Black background, write in

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E Other ethnic group

- Arab
 Gypsy/Romany/Irish Traveller
 Any other, write in

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Response		Frequency	Per cent %
Missing Tick/No Response		3,451	3.8
White	English	59,724	65.0
	Welsh ¹	8,712	9.5
	Other British	4,780	5.2
	Irish	1,335	1.5
	Other	4,343	4.7
Mixed	White & Black Caribbean	339	0.4
	White & Black African	337	0.4
	White & Asian	508	0.6
	Other	391	0.4
Asian or Asian British	Indian	860	0.9
	Pakistani	663	0.7
	Bangladeshi	1,217	1.3
	Chinese	814	0.9
	Other	1,031	1.1
Black or Black British	Caribbean	355	0.4
	African	1,498	1.6
	Other	141	0.2
Other ethnic group	Arab	297	0.3
	Gypsy/Romany/Irish Traveller	8	0.0
	Other	362	0.4
Ticked multiple responses		683	0.7
Total responses		91,849	100.0

¹In Wales, 'Welsh' replaced 'English' as the first response option.

14 Religion

14 What is your religion?

◆ This question is voluntary.

◆ Tick one box only.

None

Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)

Buddhist

Hindu

Jewish

Muslim

Sikh

Any other religion, write in

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Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	6,663	7.3
None	17,512	19.1
Christian	60,013	65.3
Buddhist	549	0.6
Hindu	512	0.6
Jewish	1,530	1.7
Muslim	3,478	3.8
Sikh	57	0.1
Other	1,451	1.6
Ticked multiple responses	84	0.1
Total responses	91,849	100.0

15 Language

15 What languages can you understand, speak, read or write?

◆ Tick all boxes that apply.

	No ability	Understand spoken	Speak	Read	Write
English	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other language, write in	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No ability	Understand sign	Sign		
British Sign Language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other sign language, write in	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

English		
	Frequency	Per cent %
Non-response	5,511	6
No ability	4,760	5.2
Understand spoken only	2,242	2.4
Speak only	1,504	1.6
Read only	101	0.1
Write only	154	0.2
Understand spoken, speak, read and write	43,552	47.4
Speak, read and write	28,495	31
Other multi-tick combinations (excluding 'No ability')	4,008	4.4
Multi-ticked 'No ability' and any other tick box(es)	1,522	1.7
Total	91,849	100.0

Welsh¹		
	Frequency	Per cent %
Non-response	65,047	70.8
No ability	15,373	16.7
Understand spoken only	348	0.4
Speak only	255	0.3
Read only	49	0.1
Write only	33	0.0
Understand, Speak, read and write	6,027	6.6
Speak, read and write	3,782	4.1
Other multi-tick combinations (excluding 'No ability')	561	0.6
Multi-ticked 'No ability' and any other tick box(es)	374	0.4
Total	91,849	100.0

Other language (write in)		
	Frequency	Per cent %
Non-response / no ability	81,696	88.9
Understand spoken only	525	0.6
Speak only	348	0.4
Read only	151	0.2
Write only	19	0.0
Understand, Speak, read and write	5,131	5.6
Speak, read and write	1,955	2.1
Other multi-tick combinations	2,024	2.2
Total	91,849	100.0

British Sign Language		
	Frequency	Per cent %
Non-response	56,388	61.4
No ability	33,384	36.3
Understand sign only	954	1.0
Sign only	285	0.3
Understand and sign	752	0.8
Multi-ticked 'No ability' and any other tick box(es)	86	0.1
Total	91,849	100.0

Other sign language (write in)		
	Frequency	Per cent %
Non-response / no ability	91,511	99.6
Understand sign only	85	0.1
Sign only	39	0.0
Understand and sign	214	0.2
Total	91,849	100.0

¹ In Wales, 'Welsh' was the first response option and 'English' was the second response option.

16 Welsh frequency of use (asked in Wales only)

16 How often do you speak Welsh?

◆ Tick one box only.

- Daily
- Weekly
- Less often
- Never

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	366	3.2
Daily	4,479	38.6
Weekly	815	7.0
Less often	1,425	12.3
Never	4,510	38.9
Ticked multiple responses	8	0.1
Total responses	11,603	100.0

17 Second address

17 Do you stay at another address for part of the week or year?

◆ Count:

- another parent/guardian address for children
- an address you use when you work away from home
- a student's home address
- a holiday home
- a member of the armed forces' base address

◆ You do not have to be the owner of this property.

◆ Do not count investment properties which you do not stay in.

No, I do not stay at another address for part of the week or year [→ Go to **20**](#)

Yes, write in second address below

Postcode

or Outside the UK, write in country

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Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	5,582	6.1
No	80,907	88.1
Yes	4,023	4.4
Outside the UK	624	0.7
Ticked multiple responses	713	0.8
Total responses	91,849	100.0

18 Second address purpose

18 Why do you stay at this other address?

- I stay there with another parent/guardian
- I stay there when I work away from home
- I stay there when I'm not at university/
boarding school
- It is my holiday home/second home
- I stay there when I'm on duty
(armed forces)
- Other

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	132	2.8
Another parent	889	19.1
Work away from home	438	9.4
Not at university	650	14.0
Holiday home	1,549	33.3
Armed forces on duty	75	1.6
Other	825	17.8
Ticked multiple responses	89	1.9
Total responses	4,647	100.0

19 Second address time

19 How long do you stay at this other address?

- Less than half the time
- About half the time
- More than half the time

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	172	3.7
Less than half the time	3,416	73.5
About half the time	648	13.9
More than half the time	411	8.8
Ticked multiple responses	0	0.0
Total responses	4,647	100.0

20 Address one year ago

20 One year ago, what was your usual address?

◆ If you were a child at boarding school or a student one year ago, give the address where you were living during the school/college/university term.

- Same as Person 1
- The address shown on the front of this questionnaire
- No usual address one year ago (including babies not born one year ago)
- Another address in the UK, write in below

Postcode

or Outside the UK, write in country

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	5,432	5.9
Same as person 1	25,825	28.1
Address on front of questionnaire	5,589	49.6
No usual address	805	0.9
Another address in UK	6,000	6.5
Outside UK	913	1.0
Ticked multiple responses	7,285	7.9
Total responses	91,849	100.0

22 Activity last week

22 Last week were you:

- ◆ Tick all boxes that apply.
- ◆ Include any paid work, including casual or temporary work, even if only for one hour.
- working as an employee? → Go to **27**
- on a Government sponsored training scheme? → Go to **27**
- self-employed or freelance? → Go to **27**
- working paid or unpaid for your own or your family's business? → Go to **27**
- away from work ill, on maternity leave, on holiday or temporarily laid off? → Go to **27**
- doing any other kind of paid work? → Go to **27**
- none of the above

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	5,804	7.5
Employee	30,544	39.3
Training scheme	324	0.4
Self employed	4,934	6.3
Family's business	932	1.2
Ill/maternity/holiday	1,986	2.6
Other paid work	619	0.8
None of the above	31,409	40.4
Ticked multiple responses	1,173	1.5
Total responses	77,725	100.0

23 Actively looking for work

23 Were you actively looking for any kind of paid work during the last four weeks?

Yes No

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,688	5.4
Yes	2,581	86.4
No	27,140	8.2
Ticked multiple responses	0	0.0
Total responses	31,409	100.0

24 Available to start work

24 If a job had been available last week, would you have been willing and able to start it within two weeks?

Yes No

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	2,760	8.8
Yes	3,307	80.7
No	25,333	10.5
Ticked multiple responses	9	0.0
Total responses	31,409	100.0

25 Waiting to start work

25 Last week, were you waiting to start a job already obtained?

Yes No

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	2,681	8.5
Yes	209	90.8
No	28,519	0.7
Ticked multiple responses	0	0.0
Total responses	31,409	100.0

26 Reason for not working

26 Last week were you:

◆ Tick all boxes that apply.

- retired (whether receiving a pension or not)?
- a student?
- looking after home or family?
- long-term sick or disabled?
- other

Response	Frequency	Per cent %
Missing tick/no response	1,854	5.9
Retired	14,612	46.5
Student	3,208	10.2
Looking after home	3,402	10.8
Long term sick	3,819	12.2
Other	2,213	7.0
Ticked multiple responses	2,301	7.3
Total responses	31,409	100.0

27 Qualifications

27 Which of these qualifications do you have?

- ◆ Tick all of the boxes that apply if you have any of the qualifications listed.
 - ◆ If your qualification is not listed, tick the box that contains its nearest equivalent.
 - ◆ If you have qualifications you gained abroad, tick the 'Foreign qualifications' box.
-
- 1+ O levels/CSEs/GCSEs (any grades), Basic Skills
 - NVQ Level 1, Foundation GNVQ
 - 5+ O levels (any grade)/CSEs (grade 1)/GCSEs (grades A*-C), School Certificate, 1+ A levels/AS levels/VCEs
 - NVQ Level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, BTEC First/General Diploma, RSA Diploma
 - Apprenticeship
 - 2+ A levels, 4+ AS levels, Higher School Certificate
 - NVQ Level 3, Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, CNC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma
 - First degree (eg BA, BSc), Higher degree (eg MA, PhD, PGCE)
 - NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher Level
 - Professional qualifications (eg teaching, nursing, accountancy)
 - Other vocational/work-related qualifications
 - Foreign qualifications
- or No qualifications

Response	Frequency	Percentage of all responses %	Percentage of respondents %
Missing Tick/No Response	6,721	4.3	8.6
1+ O level/CSEs/GCSEs (any grades), Basic Skills	21,635	13.9	27.8
NVQ Level 1, Foundation GNVQ	4,197	2.7	5.4
5+ O levels (any grade)/CSEs (grade 1) / GCSEs (grades A*-C), School Certificate, 1+ A levels/AS levels/VCEs	25,235	16.2	32.5
NVQ Level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma	8,673	5.6	11.2
Apprenticeships	3,804	2.4	4.9
2+ A levels, 4+ AS levels, Higher School Certificate	14,349	9.2	18.5
NVQ Level 3, Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma	6,018	3.9	7.7
First degree (e.g. BA, BSC), Higher degree (e.g. MA, PhD, PGCE)	14,857	9.6	19.1
NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher Level	2,448	1.6	3.1
Professional qualifications (eg teaching, nursing, accountancy)	10,842	7.0	13.9
Other vocational/work related qualifications	11,293	7.3	14.5
Foreign qualifications	4,944	3.2	6.4
No qualifications	20,343	13.1	26.2
Total responses	155,359	100.0	N/a