

Summary of user requirements for Census topics on individual pages

General Topic	Specific topic	User requirement	User need score from 2005 census topics consultation*
Population	Usual Residents	Fundamental base for enumeration and output of data. Entire Census output is determined by this information, affecting national and local resource allocations.	Not scored
	Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forms part of the population base for the 2011 Census • Local authorities require counts of visitors to allow more effective planning of service provision. 	Not scored
	Student/student address	Used to accurately measure the usual resident population	Not scored
	Second Residence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will help to understand and adjust for differences between Census and Mid Year Population Estimates • Will help to explain difference between Census count of households and administrative lists (e.g. Council Tax) • To inform coverage adjustment calculations • To allow the flexibility to produce outputs under different residence definitions. • To allow local authorities to better inform planning and policy decisions e.g. to gain a better understanding of the fluidity of the population and how this has an effect on the demand for housing. 	69
Migration	Country of birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify longer term international migrants who are not identified by the question on address one year ago • For use in combination with data on ethnicity and religion to get a much finer level of detail of people's cultural background at local areas • Central and local government resource allocation • To profile the large numbers of migrants from EU accession countries. • To analyse trends in migration and forecasting of future migration patterns • Analysis of health status of people born in and out of the UK • Assessment of diversity and community cohesion 	79
	Address one year ago	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For analysis of internal (within UK) migration and international migration • To feed into local level population and household projections/estimates and inform service provision, local economic development strategies and spatial planning and neighbourhood policy development. • Required by ONS to produce inter-censal mid-year population estimates, to distribute estimates of international in-migrants to LA level 	73
	Year and month of arrival for non UK born	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To obtain a more accurate picture of trends in migration to the UK plus better understanding of the proportion of recent in-migrants that remain in UK • To allow reconciliation of stock and flow estimates of migration • For estimating and forecasting international migration trends at local level to assess the implications for local labour markets and the wider local economy, and to assist in the planning of local services such as housing. • Providing a measure of international in-migration flows over time to highlight any significant trends from particular countries and so inform planning of specific services such as education • To better identify shorter-term migrants (as requested through the Inter-Departmental Taskforce on Migration) and temporary foreign workers, particularly from EU-Accession countries. • To help reconcile and explain differences between census and mid year population estimates 	52
	Citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To measure the populations of citizens of other EU countries at local level, in particular citizens of recent accession countries • To permit more comprehensive international comparative research into the origins and destinations of migrants (the UK is one of only three OECD countries that do not collect Census information on citizenship). • Used in conjunction with country of birth it allows further analysis of the complexity of British society in which there are UK-born British citizens, naturalised people born abroad, EU citizens born outside the EU, etc. • Would be used by electoral services to calculate what proportion of the population eligible to vote actually register to vote • Service planning and targeting of resources for housing, health, education and social services. • In analysing community cohesion at local levels e.g. cross-tabulation with ethnicity, religion and language to get a better understanding of socio-ethnic 'mix' within the population. • For use in combination with information on year/month of arrival, to understand better the characteristics and needs of newer and more established communities from abroad. 	65
	Intention to stay in UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To help meet more recent requirements for information on short-term migration and ensure that Census 2011 can provide information on appropriate bases • To provide estimates of short-term migrants from the 2011 Census (to supplement ONSCD experimental statistics on numbers of short-term migrants and administrative sources such as National Insurance Number allocations) • To provide information on temporary foreign workers, particularly those 	Not scored

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		from EU accession countries and their impact on local labour markets and their demand for local services.	
Demographics and social composition of households	Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational variable 	Not scored
	Sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key demographic variable required to produce breakdown by sex of the census population and for producing population estimates 	Not scored
	Date of birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key demographic variable used across all the other census outputs to disaggregate and analyse by age. Used by ONSCD to produce population estimates which are used for central government resource allocation 	Not scored
	Marital/civil partnership status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To produce national population estimates by marital status and both national and regional household projections, which are then used to inform resource allocation. To assess the future need for services and housing. To support the social inclusion agenda by providing evidence of differences in experience for people associated with their marital/civil partnership status. To support the government's aim of giving equal treatment to those in a civil partnership 	90
	Relationship matrix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To derive information on household and family relationships To inform central government resource allocation and planning of services which varies between different types of households and families. Used for policy development, particularly in relation to housing. The identification of concealed households is particularly important for assessing the current and future demand for dwellings. Information on household and family relationships also informs social structure analysis and enables monitoring of changes in types of household composition. 	92
Ethnicity, identity, religion and language	Ethnic group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enables public bodies to meet statutory obligations under the Race Relations Act (1976) the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and Equal Opportunities legislation. In the formulae for grant allocation by central and local government To inform policy development and monitoring To provide public bodies with a better understanding of the communities they serve. 	91 (ethnic group & national identity scored as one)
	National identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet ONS' public commitment to include a national identity question in response to the 2001 campaign for a Welsh tick box in Wales, To allow people with a white British background to express their affiliation with one of the devolved UK administrations To allow British-born ethnic minorities to identify as British, English, Welsh or Scottish independently of the ethnic group question which evidence shows can improve response to the ethnic group question and provide better quality data. Allowing people to first declare they are British makes it more likely they will go on to identify by colour in the ethnic group question which is a key requirement in order to monitor visible minority groups Providing a better understanding of local populations and communities Providing a measure of community cohesion 	91 (ethnic group & national identity scored as one)
	Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central and local government resource allocation to address the needs of specific faith groups To allow public bodies to assess and tackle discrimination and social exclusion, specifically in relation to the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and other equality legislation e.g. Equality Act 2006 Policy development and monitoring aimed at assessing the needs of sections of minority groups NHS and local government service provision to determine how best to cater and plan for peoples religious backgrounds, e.g. hospitals, care homes and schools and to decide where religious buildings are required. 	72
	Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could be used by central government, local authorities and NHS for resource allocation and service provision for non-English speakers e.g. English teaching and translation services (suggested to be a better proxy than country of birth to indicate additional cost to authorities of providing services to people whose first language is not English To allow central and local government to meet statutory duties under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 To understand the impact of English (or Welsh) language ability on employment and other social inclusion indicators Information on the number of BSL users will inform service planning and assist in developing policies to address the deaf community's needs To monitor the uptake of minority national languages To better understand the ethno-religious diversity of the UK population Main interest is in ability to speak/understand spoken English, mother tongue/first language, main language spoken at home and preferred spoken language for communicating with authorities. 	76
	Welsh language proficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To inform policy development and monitoring e.g. used by the Welsh Language Board for policy formulation and review, and to guide strategic operations and developments To inform local government resource allocation and allocation of grants to 	71

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> external bodies by the Welsh Language Board To help public bodies to meet their statutory duties under the Welsh Language Act 1993. 	
Health	General Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central and local government resource allocation. Service provision - poor self-reported health is a strong predictor of higher utilization of health service resources. Policy development and monitoring, in relation to the delivery of health care, assessment of progress towards better population health, and reduction of health inequalities. Analyses of deprivation - to identify health inequalities, enabling areas to bid for funding for projects to address these inequalities 	82
	Long tem illness/Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central government resource allocation Local government service provision - long-term illness is a strong predictor of higher utilisation of health service resources Equality monitoring and policy development/monitoring - in relation to delivery of health care, assessment of progress towards better population health, and reduction of health inequalities. Information on disability is useful for devising policies to improve access to services, such as adult education and leisure facilities. Enable public bodies to meet statutory requirements e.g. Disability Discrimination Act, Equality Impact Assessments, Relevance Reviews, Recruitment and Employment Policies, Accessibility Strategy etc. 	82
	Carers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of unpaid care is a key indicator of the care needs in defined populations and geographical areas, and has important implications for the planning and delivery of health and social care services. Local government resource allocation e.g. carers breaks To allow local government to assess duties under legislation such as the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000 To develop national and local policies to support carers effectively To allow Social Services departments and NHS Trusts to meet statutory responsibilities to identify carers, offer them assessments of their needs and to provide support services and advice to enable them to continue in their caring roles. To analyse the possible burden that could be placed on social care services if unpaid carers were not available. Used alongside other measures of health to identify local health inequalities. Certain areas bid for funding based on this information. 	74
Labour Market. NS-SEC and qualifications	Economic activity status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on economic activity status (employed, unemployed and economically inactive) it is using International Labour Organisation (ILO) definitions Required by central and local government, researchers and other organisations to understand local labour markets and to develop and monitor policies at the local and regional levels It is used to identify deprived areas, to allocate community and economic development funding and for housing and transport planning purposes. strong requirement among labour market analysts (including those within ONS, HM Treasury, Bank of England and DWP for a count of 'temporary foreign workers' 	83
	Job title and job description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To code occupation using Standard Occupational Classification (SOC). Central and local government resource allocation SOC is critical variable required for the derivation of NS-SEC. Required by local government to understand economic performance and analyse local labour markets and to inform local development frameworks and economic and community development strategies. For housing, transport and land use planning. 	76
	Name and activity of employer or business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To code industry using UK Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities (UKSIC). Required to help the coding of certain occupations. Without this information there will be an effect on the quality of occupation coding and a knock-on effect on the quality of NS-SEC. Required at a local level to understand economic performance and analyse local labour markets, To inform policy development and monitoring e.g, monitoring economic development strategies and reporting on PSA targets on regional competitiveness Used by local government for land use, transport and housing planning To inform forecasts of employment (by sector, occupation and industry) and for transport planning 	70
	NS-SEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central and local government resource allocation NS-SEC used by central government, local and regional authorities, other public sector bodies, academics and research institutions to understand social patterns, local labour markets, employment and unemployment and to develop policies in these areas especially at local and regional levels. To understand how social positions are linked to other policy areas covered by the census, such as health, ethnicity etc and for local area deprivation analysis, measuring local change in the skills base of the workforce and for the provision and targeting of services. 	80

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	Self-employed/employee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required to determine employment status which is a variable required for the derivation of NS-SEC Employment status used for analysis of labour market trends, transport planning, employment forecasting, reviewing quality of jobs by industry and to formulate policies on enterprise and entrepreneurship. 	61
	Supervisor status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required to determine employment status which is a variable required for the derivation of NS-SEC (see above) 	60
	Size of workplace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required to derive NS-SEC using full derivation method To inform development of regional and local economic policy 	53
	Part-time/full time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify working patterns in local areas and target resources To identify potential labour supply An indicator of deprivation. Local government policy development and monitoring 	64 (hours worked was scored)
	Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information required on all academic and vocational qualifications, to derive highest qualification so as to understand educational achievement and labour market participation across the population Central and local government resource allocation For evidence based policy making, especially in relation to disadvantaged population groups, educationally deprived areas and promoting equal opportunity To determine "hot-spots" in the population where learning provision is required, which is vital to ensure the success of the Government's education policies and targets e.g. Leitch Review of Skills Used for the derivation of the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC), which is in turn used in the derivation of NS-SEC. 	85
	Workplace address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central and local government resource allocation To inform local and national transport services and policies e.g. regarding transport accessibility and reduction in private car usage. For purposes of transport planning and modelling Home Office emergency planning To allow flexible population outputs 	84
	Travel to work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home Office emergency planning To allow flexible population outputs 	75
Income	Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central and local government resource allocation To gain a better measure of deprivation and to identify the causes of poverty To develop, implement and monitor a whole range of local policies, which may be led by local authorities or regional development agencies. To allow targeted service delivery by central and local government To evaluate social exclusion on a range of indicators such as poor housing conditions and poor educational outcomes. Required by business users to estimate local market sizes, code customer databases, plan market research, and to analyse, segment and target different markets. To measure affluence and to identify areas of prosperity 	70

* NB - User need scores reflect the relative priority of topics from a user perspective following the 2005 census topics consultation and do not reflect ONS' current view of topic priorities