

**Census Advisory Groups\Papers\2000****Advisory Group Paper (00)21****CODING OF OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY**

1 Paper AG(00)14 informed Advisory Group members about the Census Offices' decision to restrict the extent of coding of occupation and industry information to all people aged between 16 and 64 who worked in the week before the Census or who last worked in 1996 or later. It had previously been agreed in principle to code industry and occupation for those aged between 16 and 74 and who had worked in the last 10 years.

2 The decision recorded in AG(00)14 was taken to ensure that the number of cases coded would fall close to the limit of 30 million set out in the contract with Lockheed Martin. Any additional work which took the numbers much above 30 million would have proved prohibitively expensive within the Census budget.

3 During the October round of meetings a range of views was expressed by Advisory Group members. Several users wished to ensure that all currently employed people were coded whilst others were concerned to carry out socio-economic analyses on a wider coverage of the retired population.

4 ONS and GROS have decided in the light of these discussions to extend the coding frame by adding people aged 65 – 74 who are currently in work. These are estimated to number around 350,000, not the figure of 700,000 which can be deduced from the table in Annex A of paper AG(99)17. This means that everyone aged 16 to 74 in the currently working population will be coded. People outside this age range are not required to supply employment data on the 2001 Census form.

5 In addition, everyone in the 1% Longitudinal Study and members of their households in England and Wales will be coded to SOC2000. This extra group will provide a small sample of the otherwise excluded groups: those aged 16 - 64 who have not worked since before 1996 and non-working 65 - 74 year olds. It is not intended to impute values for these groups: they will be shown as 'not coded' in the main Census outputs. Similar coding will be carried out for Scotland although at present there is no Longitudinal Study.

6 Although about 32m people fall within the groups to be coded, ONS estimates that the numbers will fall within the desired levels for the LM contract after allowing for likely rates of item non-response and undercoverage of individuals and households.

7 At a later stage, there is a possibility of carrying out further coding for a sample of the remaining people who answer the questions on occupation and industry, that is those aged between 65 to 74 not working in the week before the Census and those below 65 who last worked before 1996. This might, for example, be done for the Samples of Anonymised Records but will be subject to the availability of funds.

8 To summarise, the groups to be coded are shown in the following table:

	Age	Approx. <b>numbers</b>
	16 - 64	65 – 74
Original intention	Worked in last 10 years	Worked in last 10 years 36m
September paper	Worked in last 5 years	- 31.5m
Current proposal	Worked in last 5 years + LS sample of those who last worked over 5 years ago	Currently working + LS sample of those not currently working 32m
With SAR extension (if funds permit)	Worked in last 5 years + LS and SAR samples of those who last worked over 5 years ago	Currently working + LS and SAR samples of those not currently working 32.4m

**9 Members are invited to note these changes.**

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