Chapter 9: Summary of results

Introduction

9.1 This chapter brings together some analysis and commentary from the 2011 Census to give a feel for the richness and variety of the census as a data source. It is not intended to provide a fully balanced summary of the census output programme as a whole.

Demography

Population

9.2 The population of England and Wales in 2011 was 56.1 million, the largest this population had ever been; of the total, 53.0 million people (94.5 per cent) lived in England and 3.1 million people (5.5 per cent) lived in Wales. There were 27.6 million men and 28.5 million women.

9.3 Since 2001 the England and Wales population had increased by 3.7 million, an increase of 7.1 per cent. This was the largest growth in population numbers in a 10-year period since the first census in 1801 (figure 9.1).

9.4 The population of England had increased by 3.6 million (7.2 per cent) since the estimate of 49.5 million in 2001; the increase in Wales was 153,000 (5.3 per cent).

Figure 9.1 Population, 1801-2011, England and Wales

Note: No census was held in 1941 due to the Second World War.
Population density

9.5 In England and Wales there were 371 residents per square kilometre compared with 239 in 1911, 305 in 1961, and 347 in 2001. If the figures for the London region were excluded, the average population density for the rest of England and Wales was 321 people per square kilometre.

9.6 However, population density varies geographically. When the average population densities for England and Wales are calculated separately, there were 407 and 148 residents per square kilometre respectively for the two countries.

9.7 The difference between the two countries is in part due to the very high population density of the London region with 5,199 residents per square kilometre, or 14 times the England and Wales average. All other regions in England had population densities ranging between 222 and 500 residents per square kilometre, with the average being 349 people per square kilometre in England excluding London.

9.8 The 19 most densely populated local and unitary authorities in England and Wales were all London boroughs (figure 9.2). The only non-London area in the top 20 was Portsmouth. The least densely populated London area was Bromley, with 2,061 residents per square kilometre; this was still over five times the population density of England and Wales as a whole.

Figure 9.2 Population density, 2011 England and Wales local and unitary authorities
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Short-term residents

9.9 In 2011 there were an estimated 195,000 short-term residents (STRs) in England and Wales on census day, (the equivalent of 35 STRs per 10,000 usual residents). A STR was defined as anyone living in England and Wales who was born outside the UK and who intended to stay in the UK for a period of between three and 12 months, for any reason. The 2011 Census was the first time these data were recorded.

9.10 The age breakdown of this population is much younger than the usual resident population, with nearly 70 per cent aged 15 to 29 compared with 20 per cent of usual residents (figure 9.3).

9.11 The top 10 countries of birth for STRs in England and Wales accounted for 52 per cent of the total STR population. The highest ranking countries were India and China with 11 per cent of STRs being born in each country, followed by the United States and France with 5 per cent each (figure 9.4). Together, these four countries contributed nearly a third of the STR population in 2011.

Figure 9.3 Age distribution of non-UK born short-term residents compared with usual residents in England and Wales, 2011
Sex and age structure

9.12 People in England and Wales were living longer in 2011 than they did 100 years ago. This can be seen in figure 9.5 which shows the decreasing proportion of the population aged under 15 and the increasing proportion aged 65 and over. The percentage of residents aged 65 and over (16.4 per cent or one in six) was the highest seen in any census of England and Wales.
9.13 There were 430,000 residents aged 90 and over in 2011, compared with 340,000 in 2001 and 13,000 in 1911.

9.14 In 2011 there were 3.5 million children under five in England and Wales, 406,000 more than in 2001.

9.15 The change in the broad composition of the population from younger to older can also be seen in the rise of the median age of the population, from 25 years in 1911 to 35 in 1961, and to 39 in 2011. In 2011 the median age for men was 38 and 40 for women. The rise in median age would have been more marked if there had not been growth in the younger age groups as a result of migration.

9.16 The structure of the population as defined by its age and sex can be visualised using a population pyramid. The overall shape of the pyramid for 2001 and 2011 (figure 9.6) confirms an ageing population as shown for example, by the numbers of people aged 85 and over being generally higher in 2011 than in 2001, particularly for males.

Figure 9.6 Population by age and sex, 2001 and 2011, England and Wales

Regional change

9.17 Between 1991 and 2001, seven of the nine regions in England grew in population size, while the North East and North West declined. Between 2001 and 2011 all regions experienced population growth. Indeed, the population size of all regions, apart from the North East and the North West, increased every 10-year period between 1981 and 2011 (figure 9.7).

9.18 The highest population growth between 2001 and 2011 was in the London region, which gained more than 850,000 residents, an increase of 11.6 per cent. The South East of England also experienced large growth: 611,000 residents (7.6 per cent). The lowest increase was in the North East, which nonetheless gained 56,600 residents in the 10 years since the last census, an increase of 2.2 per cent.
9.19 In 1981 the South East had the largest population, and the second largest was the North West. By 2001 the population of London was larger than that of the North West. In 2011, the South East remained the region with the largest population, while the North East had the smallest population throughout.

9.20 These differences in rates of growth may relate to the movement both of international and internal migrants towards London and the South East. Furthermore, areas with older populations are likely to have relatively more deaths and fewer births (figure 9.7).

**Full-time students**

9.21 In 2011, seven per cent (3.7 million) of usual residents aged 16 to 74 reported that they were full-time students. This is a two percentage point increase from 2001, when there were 2.6 million students.

9.22 In the census, students are considered to be resident where they live during term-time. In all regions, except London, between five and seven per cent of usual residents aged 16 to 74 were full-time students. In London, however, this figure was nine per cent (700,000).

9.23 Students can be either economically active (employed or unemployed) or economically inactive (not looking for work). In 2011 some 29 per cent (1.1 million) of full-time students aged 16 to 74 reported that they were employed; nine per cent (334,000) reported that they were unemployed, and 62 per cent (2.3 million) were economically inactive.

**Marital and civil partnership status**

9.24 The introduction in 2005 of civil partnerships in England and Wales, led to a change in the profile of marital status data since 2001. In analyses of marital and civil partnership status users should note that the categories shown in figure 9.8 are not
wholly comparable between 2001 and 2011. However, because the number of civil partnerships at the time of the 2011 Census was relatively few the overall patterns of change are not significantly affected.

9.25 Some 47 per cent (21.2 million) of the resident adult population were either married or in a civil partnership in 2011. This was a decrease of four percentage points by comparison with the 2001 Census estimate of 51 per cent (21.2 million). In 2011 there were 105,000 (0.2 per cent) adults in civil partnerships.

9.26 Of all the marital status categories the greatest increase between 2001 and 2011 was for single people. Single people (those never married or never in a civil partnership) numbered 15.7 million (35 per cent) in 2011, an increase from 12.5 million (30 per cent) in 2001.

**Figure 9.8** Marital and civil partnership status of the resident adult population in England and Wales, 2001 and 2011

9.27 The only status category to show a numerical decline was widowed or surviving civil partner (falling by 8.8 per cent between 2001 and 2011); a possible explanation for this may lie with rising life expectancy, especially for males.

*Living arrangements*

9.28 In 2011, 46 per cent of the household population aged 16 or over (20.4 million) were living together as a married couple, a decrease from 51 per cent (20.6 million) in 2001. Such couples comprised 96 per cent of the total married household population in 2011 compared with 98 per cent in 2001.

9.29 In 2011, some 3.7 per cent of those who were married or in a civil partnership in households (785,000) were not living with their partner. Of these, 82 per cent (640,000) reported that they were not living in a couple, while the remaining 18 per cent (145,000) were cohabiting with a different partner.

9.30 Figure 9.9 shows the difference in age distribution between those who were married and living together and those who were married and not living together as a couple. Those cohabiting with someone other than their spouse are excluded. Those married and not living together as a couple have a younger age structure: 38 per cent were under 40, compared with 21 per cent of those who were living in a couple. This may reflect the incidence of people living separately for employment purposes.
Figure 9.9  Age distribution of the adult household population who were married or in a civil partnership, by living arrangement, in England and Wales, 2011

9.31 Figure 9.10 shows by local authority, the percentage of the married adult population not living in a couple. The highest concentrations of those either married or in a civil partnership and not living as a couple were in London, with the highest percentage in the City of London (17 per cent). Slough, Manchester, Leicester and Luton were the highest ranking areas outside London, with Cardiff ranking highest in Wales.

9.32 These large urban areas are likely to have high proportions of married people living apart from their partner due to work. Some of these areas, such as Newham, Brent and Leicester, also have high proportions of their population born in South Asia who have migrated to the UK, but whose spouses may still live abroad. Some 23 per cent of people in Newham were born in Southern Asia (indeed, a total of 54 per cent of the population living there were born abroad), while 16 per cent of people in Brent were born in Southern Asia (and where a total of 55 per cent of the population were born abroad).
Figure 9.10  Percentage of the married population aged 16 and over who were not living in a couple (not separated), by local authorities, 2011

Cohabitation

9.33 In 2011, cohabiting couples accounted for 12 per cent (5.3 million) of the adult household population in England and Wales (5.3 million), compared with 9.8 per cent (4.1 million) in 2001.

9.34 In both 2011 and 2001 the largest cohabiting group was those aged 25 to 29 (figure 9.11). However the proportion of all cohabiting people who are in this age group declined from 22 per cent (862,000) in 2001 to 19 per cent (1.0 million) in 2011, as a result of increasing proportions in older age groups.
Figure 9.11  Age distribution of the adult household population who were cohabiting in England and Wales, 2001 and 2011

Table 9.1 lists the 10 local authorities with the highest and lowest proportions of persons cohabiting in the adult household population. The local authorities with the highest proportions of the population cohabiting were Norwich, and Brighton and Hove (both at 16 per cent), with the rest distributed across England. These areas correspond closely with the high proportions of persons reporting ‘no religion’ in the census. Eight of the 10 areas with the lowest proportions were London boroughs, and these areas tended to have low levels of people reporting ‘no religion’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest ranked local authorities (proportion cohabiting)</th>
<th>Percentage of adults cohabiting</th>
<th>Percentage of population reporting no religion</th>
<th>Lowest ranked local authorities (proportion cohabiting)</th>
<th>Percentage of adults cohabiting</th>
<th>Percentage of population reporting no religion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Norwich</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>1 Harrow</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Brighton and Hove</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>2 Redbridge</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Lincoln</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>3 Newham</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Corby</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>4 Brent</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Kingston upon Hull</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>5 Barnet</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Ipswich</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>6 Endfield</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Islington</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>7 Chiltern</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>23.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Wandsworth</td>
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<td>27.0</td>
<td>8 East Dorset</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>24.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Hastings</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>36.6</td>
<td>9 Ealing</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Cannock Chase</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>10 Hillingdon</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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One-person households

9.36 There were 23.4 million households in England and Wales in 2011 with an average of 2.4 residents per household. Some 7.1 million (30 per cent) consisted of one-person households. This is an increase from 2001 when there were 21.7 million households, with 6.5 million (30 per cent) consisting of one-person households.

9.37 The regional profile of one-person households is shown in figure 9.12, which distinguishes between those aged 65 and over, and under 65. The regional variation in the proportion of all one-person households ranged from 28 per cent in the East of England to 32 per cent in the North West. London had the lowest proportion of persons living alone aged 65 and over (9.6 per cent of all households) and, conversely, the highest proportion of persons living alone aged under 65 (22 per cent). The South West, Wales, and the North East also have high proportions of those living alone aged 65 and over, approaching 14 per cent.

Figure 9.12 One-person households as a percentage of all households, divided into those aged 65 and over and those aged under 65, for English regions and Wales, 2011

9.38 The national distribution of the 65 and over population living alone across England and Wales can be seen in figure 9.13; the lowest levels are found in London, Leicester, Nottinghamshire, Manchester and the Thames Valley. The very high levels of age 65 and over living alone in the coastal areas of England and Wales are apparent, reflecting the high concentrations of older people living in these locations.
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Figure 9.13  Percentage of all households made up of lone persons aged 65 and over, England and Wales, 2011

Lone-parent households

9.39  In 2011 there were 2.5 million lone parent households. Some 1.7 million (7.2 per cent of all households) consisted of a lone parent with dependent children. Both the numbers and proportions have increased from 2001 where comparable figures were 2.1 million lone parent households of which 1.4 million (6.5 per cent of all households) included dependent children.

9.40  Figure 9.14 shows the national distribution of lone parent households with dependent children. Higher levels were reported in London and other conurbations (Bristol, Birmingham, Nottingham/Derby, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Tyneside/ Wearsid and Teesside) and also South East Wales and North Kent. Barking and Dagenham (14 per cent) and Knowsley (12 per cent) were the local authorities with the highest concentrations. The lowest levels of lone parent households were generally in the more rural areas. Some of these areas also have a higher proportion of older people, thus lowering the relative proportion of younger people with dependent children generally.
Ethnicities, identity, language and religion

Ethnic group

9.41 England and Wales has become more ethnically diverse, with increasing numbers of people identifying with minority ethnic groups in 2011.

9.42 The census has shown that 86.0 per cent of the population identified themselves as ‘White’ (48.2 million) (figure 9.15). This represented a proportionate decrease from 91.3 per cent in 2001 and 94.1 per cent in 1991. Within this ethnic group, ‘White British’ was the largest group at 45.1 million (80.5 per cent).
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Figure 9.15  Ethnic groups, England and Wales, 2011

Figure 9.16  Ethnic Groups, 2001–2011, England and Wales
9.43 ‘Indian’ was the next largest ethnic group with 1.4 million people (2.5 per cent) followed by ‘Pakistani’ (2.0 per cent). This is consistent with census findings on international migration, which found that South Asian countries (India, Pakistan and Bangladesh) continued to rank highly within the most common non-UK countries of birth. The remaining ethnic groups each accounted for up to 2 per cent of the population in 2011.

9.44 There were two new tick boxes in the 2011 Census: ‘Gypsy or Irish Traveller’ and ‘Arab’. ‘Arab’ accounted for 240,000 usual residents (0.4 per cent of the population), while ‘Gypsy or Irish Traveller’ accounted for 58,000 usual residents (0.1 per cent of the population), making it the smallest ethnic category (with a tick box) in 2011, as shown in figure 9.16.

9.45 ‘White British’ and ‘White Irish’ both decreased proportionately between 2001 and 2011. The remaining ethnic groups increased, with ‘Any other White background’ showing the largest increase of 1.1 million (1.8 percentage points - figure 9.16). This includes people with Poland as a country of birth, who were the second largest group of non-UK-born residents in 2011 and increased by 0.5 million (a nine-fold increase) between 2001 and 2011. Some caution is needed, however, when comparing ethnic responses between the two censuses due to the changes to the wording of the questions and the increase in the number of tick box response categories.

9.46 The ‘Asian/Asian British’ ethnic group categories had some of the largest increases between the 2001 and 2011 Censuses. People identifying as ‘Indian’ and ‘Pakistani’ each increased by around 0.4 million (0.6 percentage points and 0.5 percentage points respectively).

9.47 Across the English regions and Wales, London was the most ethnically diverse area, and Wales the least (figure 9.17).
National identity

9.48 The 2011 Census introduced a question on national identity for the first time. This resulted from an increased interest in national consciousness and demand from people, particularly in Wales, to acknowledge their national identity. National identity is multi-dimensional, so the 2011 Census respondents were able to tick more than one national identity.

9.49 Some 91.0 per cent of the population identified with at least one UK national identity (English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, or British). English (either on its own or combined with other identities) was the most common response, with 37.6 million people (67.1 per cent) identifying in this way. English as a sole identity (that is, not combined with other identities), was chosen by 32.4 million people (57.7 per cent).

9.50 British identity (either on its own or combined with other identities) was chosen by 16.3 million people (29.1 per cent). Of these, 10.7 million people (19.1 per cent) identified themselves as British only.

9.51 Welsh identity (either on its own or combined with other identities) was chosen by 2.4 million people (4.3 per cent). Of these, 2 million people (3.7 per cent) identified themselves as Welsh only.

9.52 Some 5.5 million people (9.8 per cent) reported a national identity which was classed as 'Other'.

9.53 A person’s national identity can depend on many factors such as where they live, country of birth and ethnicity. For example, 70.1 per cent of people residing in England identified themselves as English (either on its own or combined with other identities), while 65.9 per cent of people in Wales similarly said they were Welsh (figure 9.18).

9.54 The highest percentage of the population who stated an English identity (on its own or combined with other identities) was found in the North East (80.5 per cent), a region with one of the highest proportions of ‘White’ population.

9.55 The highest percentage (38.3 per cent) of the population with a British identity (either on its own or combined with other identities) was found in London, an ethnically diverse area. London also had the highest percentage of people self-reporting an ‘Other’ national identity (26.4 per cent) and the lowest with an English identity (43.7 per cent).
Main language

9.56 The 2011 Census collected information for the first time on main language. It showed that 49.8 million (92.3 per cent) people aged three and over reported English (or English or Welsh for people living in Wales) as their main language.

9.57 Some 4.2 million people (7.7 per cent) reported some other main language. Polish was the most common with 546,000 people (1.0 per cent) reporting this as their main language (figure 9.19).

9.58 London was the region with the highest proportion of people with a main language other than English (22.1 per cent).

9.59 The local authority with the highest proportion of people with English (English or Welsh in Wales) as their main language was Redcar and Cleveland (99.3 per cent). The London Borough of Newham had the lowest proportion (58.6 per cent). Half (10,800) of those who reported Pakistani Pahari (with Mirpuri and Potwari) as their main language lived in Birmingham. Three quarters (3,000) of those who reported Yiddish as their main language were in the London Borough of Hackney (figure 9.20).
9.60 The 2011 Census was also the first to ask how well people could speak English if it was not their main language. While 7.7 per cent of the population (4.2 million) aged three and over in England and Wales had a main language other than English, only 1.3 per cent of the population (726,000) reported that they could not speak English well, and 0.3 per cent (138,000) reported that they could not speak English at all. These proportions were highest in London with nearly 4.1 per cent of the population (320,000 people) unable to speak English well or not at all, followed by the West Midlands (2.0 per cent). The North East had the lowest proportion of people who were unable to speak English well or not at all, reflecting its low level of ethnic diversity.

9.61 Across local authorities, the percentage of people who could not speak English well or not at all was highest in the London Borough of Newham (8.7 per cent).

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1. ‘All Other Chinese’ is an aggregate of Chinese languages and excludes those that wrote in Mandarin Chinese and Cantonese Chinese.

Proficiency in English

Figure 9.19  Top 10 main ‘Other’ languages in England and Wales, 2011
Figure 9.20  Main language in England and Wales, 2011
Welsh language in Wales

9.62 As in all censuses since 1891, the 2011 Census included (in Wales only) a question on the Welsh language. The 2011 question was the same as asked in 2001, ‘Can you understand, speak, read or write Welsh?’

9.63 Between 2001 and 2011, there was a decrease in the number and proportion of people aged three and over able to speak Welsh. The decrease was due to demographic changes in the population (including fewer children, more older adults and the loss of older cohorts with higher levels of Welsh speakers), migration and changes to people’s skills between the two censuses. The proportion of people able to speak Welsh decreased from 582,000 (20.8 per cent) in 2001 to 562,000 (19.0 per cent) in 2011. The decline continues a long-term trend since 1911 interrupted by an increase in 2001 (figure 9.21).

9.64 Differences between 2001 and 2011 varied by age group, with considerable increases for younger children (aged 3 to 4), a slight increase for adults 20-44, and decreases for other age groups (figure 9.22).

9.65 The proportion of people aged three and over able to speak Welsh decreased in nearly all local authorities. The largest decreases were in areas with the higher proportions of Welsh speakers.

Figure 9.21 Number of people aged three and over able to speak Welsh in Wales, 1911-2011

Note: Due to the Second World War, no census was taken in 1941
Source: Wales statistical bulletin, 11 December 2012
Figure 9.22 Proportion of people able to speak Welsh in Wales, by age group, 1991-2011

Source: Wales statistical bulletin, 11 December 2012

Religion

9.66 Christianity was the largest religious group reported in the census: some 33.2 million people (59.3 per cent of the population). The second largest religious group were Muslims with 2.7 million people (4.8 per cent); see figure 9.23.

9.67 Some 14.1 million people, around a quarter of the population, reported that they had no religion in 2011.

9.68 The religion question was the only voluntary question on the 2011 Census questionnaire and 7.2 per cent of people did not answer the question.

9.69 Between 2001 and 2011 there had been a decrease in the number of people who identified themselves as Christian (from 71.7 per cent to 59.3 per cent) and an increase in those reporting no religion (from 14.8 per cent to 25.1 per cent). There were increases in the other main religious group categories, with the number of Muslims increasing the most (from 3.0 per cent to 4.8 per cent).

9.70 London was the most diverse region in terms of religious affiliation with over a fifth of the population identifying with a religion other than Christian. London had the highest proportion of Muslims at 12.4 per cent, followed by the West Midlands, and Yorkshire and the Humber (both under 7 per cent). London also had the highest proportion of other religious groups including Buddhist, Hindu and Jewish (figure 9.24).
Figure 9.23  Religious affiliation, England and Wales, 2011

Figure 9.24  Religious affiliation, English regions and Wales, 2011

9.71 Christians formed the majority religion across most local authority areas in England and Wales (figure 9.25). In over nine out of ten areas, the proportion of people who were Christian was over 45 per cent. It was the largest religious group in all local
authorities except the London Borough of Tower Hamlets where there were more people who identified as Muslim.

9.72 The 13 local authorities with the highest proportions of the population reporting to be Christian were all in the North West, with the highest in Knowsley at 80.9 per cent. Tower Hamlets was the lowest at 27.1 per cent. Leicester, Camden, Redbridge, Harrow and Hackney all had proportions under 40 per cent.

9.73 The proportion of people identifying themselves as Christian has decreased in all local authorities in England and Wales since 2001, with the largest drop of 16.8 percentage points in Kingston upon Hull.

9.74 Norwich had the highest proportion of people reporting ‘no religion’ with 42.5 per cent, closely followed by Brighton and Hove with 42.4 per cent (figure 9.26). In Wales, Caerphilly had the largest increase since 2001, from 16.7 to 41.0 per cent. Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Torfaen also saw large increases of ‘no religion’ with 16.0, 15.5 and 15.4 percentage points respectively.

9.75 In London, the boroughs of Newham, Harrow, Brent and Redbridge had the lowest proportions of the population reporting ‘no religion’. Other areas under 15 per cent included Slough in the South East, and Knowsley, Blackburn with Darwen, Copeland, Ribble Valley, and St Helens in the North West.
Figure 9.25 Christian population, 2011, England and Wales, by local and unitary authorities
In 2011, 81.2 per cent of people in England and Wales reported their general health as either ‘Very good’ or ‘Good’; in England it was 81.4 per cent and in Wales it was 77.8 per cent (figure 9.27). The general pattern of better health in London and the South East region and worse health in the Northern regions, which had been reported in 2001, was maintained in 2011.

People living in London and the South East regions had the highest percentages of ‘Very good’ or ‘Good’ general health; Wales and the North East region had the lowest.
9.78 There was a 15.5 percentage points gap between local authorities reporting the highest (Hart, 88.1 per cent) and lowest (Blaenau Gwent, 72.6 per cent) percentages of ‘Very good’ and ‘Good’ general health.

9.79 Some traditionally deprived local authorities experienced a notable improvement in 2011, specifically Newham, Tower Hamlets, Hackney and Manchester.

**Figure 9.27  General health, 2011**

*Long-term illness or disability*

9.80 More than 10 million people reported that they were limited in their daily activities through a long-term health problem or disability in 2011.

9.81 The percentage of people with activity limitations had fallen slightly since 2001, by 0.3 of a percentage point in England and 0.6 of a percentage point in Wales. However, prevalence remains 5 percentage points higher in Wales (figure 9.28).

9.82 The number of people whose activities are ‘limited a lot’ because of a health problem or disability was more than 3 percentage points higher in Wales (11.9 per cent) than in England (8.3 per cent) in 2011.

9.83 Across English regions there was a general north-south divide with percentages of people limited ‘a lot’ or ‘a little’ in daily activities lower in the south and higher in the north. The North East region (21.6 per cent) had the highest overall percentage of activity limitations, and London (14.2 per cent) the lowest.
Figure 9.28  Activity-limiting health problem or disability English regions and Wales, 2011

9.84 The ten English local authorities with the lowest percentage of activity-limiting health problems or disabilities were located exclusively in London and the South East.

9.85 London and other large urban conurbations in England such as Manchester experienced the greatest reductions in activity limitations since 2001, while rural local authorities, such as East Lindsey in Lincolnshire, experienced the greatest rise in prevalence.

Unpaid care

9.86 There were approximately 5.8 million people providing unpaid care in 2011, representing just over one tenth of the total population.

9.87 The absolute number of unpaid carers had grown by 600,000 since 2001; the largest growth (an additional 272,000) was among those providing 50 or more hours’ care per week. The number of additional carers providing 1 to 19 hours care was 109,000 and in the 20 to 49 hours category there were an additional 202,000 carers. The percentages of the population providing such care in the English regions and Wales are shown in figure 9.29.
If it is assumed that people were, on average, providing towards the mid-range of hours per week in the 1 to 19 or 20 to 49 hour categories, and 50 hours in the 50 hours or more category, then this amounts to approximately 3.4 million working weeks of care provided (based on a standard 37 hours working week) in a given week in 2011.

As with general health and disability, a clear north-south divide exists in England, with the highest percentages of care provision being in the North West, North East, East and West Midlands. The only exception to this was Yorkshire and the Humber having a lower percentage than the South West. The relatively older age structure of the South West population was also likely to influence the underlying need for care compared with other southern regions such as the South East and London (figure 9.30).

The proportion of people providing care had increased between 2001 and 2011 in Wales and across all English regions other than London and the North East, where it had decreased.

Most local authorities experienced increases in the level of unpaid care provided between 2001 and 2011. Those authorities with higher percentages of their population who are ‘limited a lot’ in their daily activities also tended, not surprisingly, to have higher levels of unpaid care provided.
Figure 9.30 Percentage change in provision of total unpaid care between 2001 and 2011, English regions and Wales

Migration

Country of birth and citizenship (passport held)

9.92 In 2011, 13 per cent (7.5 million) of the resident population of England and Wales were born outside the UK.

9.93 The overall increase in the non-UK born population (from 9 per cent in 2001 to 13 per cent in 2011) has been the result of a range of distinct migrations from a wide variety of different countries. Figure 9.31 shows the top ten non-UK countries of birth recorded in each Census since 1951. Key points include:

- The Republic of Ireland was the top non-UK country of birth for foreign born in each census from 1951 until 2001, but the numbers of Irish-born declined after 1961
- In 1951, India was the third highest non-UK country of birth. The number of people born in India then increased and almost doubled between 1961 and 1971. From 1961 until 2001 Indian-born was the second highest ranking non-UK country of birth and in 2011 became the largest foreign born population
- The Pakistani-born population saw a noticeable rise between 1961 and 1971 (and to a lesser extent 1971 to 1981), and has continued to increase since then, ranking third in 1981 and subsequent censuses
- In 1951 Poland was the second highest non-UK country of birth; however this population did not grow again substantially until a new influx of Polish-born migrants in the period following Poland’s accession to the EU before the 2011 Census, when the Polish-born were once again the second
highest non-UK born group, although with a much larger number of residents

Figure 9.31 Top ten non-UK countries of birth for the resident population in England and Wales; 1951-2011

9.94 Almost half (46 per cent, 3.4 million) of the non-UK born usually resident population held a UK passport in 2011; of those born abroad who held a foreign passport, 11 per cent (383,000) were Indian-born, followed by 10 per cent (332,000) Pakistani-born. Those holding only a foreign passport accounted for 51 per cent (3.8 million) of non-UK born usual residents. There were also 4 per cent (269,000) who reported having no passport.
9.95 The most common non-UK citizenship was Polish (558,000 residents); this was followed by Irish (372,000) and Indian (315,000). These three countries together accounted for 30 per cent (1.2 million) of all foreign nationals and 22 per cent (1.7 million) of the non-UK born (figure 9.32).

9.96 The non-UK born population was younger than the UK-born, with 36 per cent (2.7 million) aged 25 to 39, compared with 20 per cent (11.3 million) in the usually resident population as a whole. For non-UK passport holders (non-UK nationals) this was even higher, with 43 per cent (1.8 million) aged 25 to 39.

Figure 9.32 Top 10 non-UK passports held as a percentage of non-UK-born residents, 2011

Table 9.2 Top 10 non-UK passports held compared with country of birth, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest ranking country of passport held</th>
<th>Passport holders</th>
<th>Country of birth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Poland</td>
<td>558,000</td>
<td>579,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Ireland</td>
<td>372,000</td>
<td>407,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 India</td>
<td>315,000</td>
<td>694,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Italy</td>
<td>155,000</td>
<td>135,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Pakistan</td>
<td>149,000</td>
<td>482,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 France</td>
<td>146,000</td>
<td>130,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 United States</td>
<td>126,000</td>
<td>177,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Germany</td>
<td>125,000</td>
<td>274,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Portugal</td>
<td>118,000</td>
<td>88,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Nigeria</td>
<td>112,000</td>
<td>191,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.97 Table 9.2 compares the top 10 non-UK passports held with the country of birth data. India was ranked first for non-UK country of birth (694,000), but third in terms of non-UK passports (315,000). This difference was similar for the Pakistani-born with 482,000 compared to just 149,000 Pakistani passport holders. This is due to the more established nature of migrants from India and Pakistan, many of whom came to the UK from the 1960s onwards, and have since gained British citizenship.

9.98 The Polish were the highest ranking foreign passport holders (558,000), and there were a similar number of UK residents who were born in Poland (579,000). This is likely to be due to the free movement rights of EU citizens: Polish nationals, unlike
many non-EU nationals, do not need to acquire UK citizenship in order to live and work in the UK.

9.99 Figure 9.33 shows the proportion of UK passports held for the top 10 non-UK countries of birth. The largest proportion holding a UK passport from the top 10 countries of birth were the Jamaican-born with 73 per cent (117,000), followed by Bangladeshi-born with 72 per cent (153,000), and Pakistani-born with 69 per cent (332,000). These three countries also feature in the top 10 listing of proportions holding a UK passport in Table 9.2.

9.100 By contrast, only five per cent (29,000) of Polish-born residents held a UK passport. This is likely to be due to a more recent migration pattern (92 per cent arrived after 2001) and EU passport holders having similar rights to UK passport holders. Nigeria was also lower with 42 per cent (80,000) holding a UK passport, but this may be a result of recent migration from that country over the last decade (58 per cent), which has not yet led to a larger uptake of UK citizenship acquisition.

**Figure 9.33** Proportion of UK held passports held for the top 10 non-UK countries of birth, 2011

![Proportion of UK held passports held for the top 10 non-UK countries of birth, 2011](image)

*Year of (most recent) entry into the UK*

9.101 Whereas some people born overseas had recently migrated to the UK, others had been resident in the UK for many years. Half (50 per cent or 3.7 million) of the non-UK born usually resident population had lived in the UK for 10 years or more, while, just over a quarter (26 per cent, 1.9 million) had been resident in the UK for 5 to 10 years.

9.102 Non-UK born usual residents who last arrived since 2001 accounted for 3.8 million people. This number can be further divided into: 10 per cent (786,000) who first arrived during the period 2001 to 2003; 15 per cent (1.2 million) during 2004 to 2006; 16 per cent (1.2 million) during 2007 to 2009; and 8 per cent (613,000) in 2010 to 2011.

9.103 There will be a bias in the census data towards more recent years of arrival, because these groups will have been less affected by mortality, or onward or return migration.
Figure 9.34, which shows the year of arrival for the top 10 non-UK countries of birth, therefore refers only to those who were still alive and resident in England and Wales on census day rather than illustrating the historic trend of arrivals.

9.104 There are clear differences in the timing of migration patterns from those countries shown in figure 9.34. Polish-born residents were dominated by arrivals since 2001 (92 per cent). Poland is the largest accession country, and Polish arrivals in the decade 2001 to 2011 represent 57 per cent of all arrivals from accession states. By contrast 65 per cent of Irish-born residents had arrived before 1981. Historically there has never been a need for Irish citizens to acquire UK citizenship in order to reside here, or indeed have a passport in order to travel to the UK.

**Figure 9.34 Year of arrival for the top ten non-UK countries of birth for usual residents in England and Wales, 2011**

9.105 German-born residents arrived in a more historically consistent pattern, probably because many German-born are actually the children of UK service personnel stationed in Germany.

9.106 Countries from the rest of the world show different patterns for arrivals. Over half of all residents born in Nigeria, South Africa and the United States arrived since 2001. For residents born in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh the decade 2001 to 2011 also had the highest percentage of arrivals, although Indians and Pakistanis also experienced earlier peaks in migration before 1981. By contrast 60 per cent of Jamaican-born residents arrived before 1981.

**Qualifications**

9.107 The qualifications classification used in the census enables figures to be produced for the percentage of the population obtaining the highest level of qualifications. Although not a new question in 2011, some of the qualification data are not directly comparable with 2001. This is due to several factors including changes in the level assigned to some qualifications, and the addition of a foreign qualification tick-box.
In 2011, 27 per cent (12.4 million) of usual residents aged 16 and over had achieved Level 4 or above qualifications in 2011. This was more than those who had reported no qualifications (23 per cent, 10.3 million, figure 9.35). However those who reported having no qualifications included those aged 16 and over who, at the time of the census, were still studying and thus had not yet completed their education.

Over half of the population aged 65 and over (52.9 per cent) had no qualifications. This was the only age group with a higher proportion of people reporting no qualifications than those with at least one qualification. Up to the age of 50, there were a higher proportion of men with no qualifications than women, whereas for those aged 50 to 64 there were more women (27.0 per cent) than men (23.2 per cent) with no qualifications.

There were 4 per cent of people aged 16 to 64 (1.1 million) with an apprenticeship as their highest level of qualification. Among men aged 16 to 64, some 5.3 per cent reported apprenticeship as their highest level of qualification compared with 0.9 per cent of women. Apprenticeships were generally more common among men than women across all age groups, because they were mostly found in male dominated occupations such as skilled trades.

Under the age of the 50, proportionately more women than men reported having a degree level or above qualification.

Blaenau Gwent (27.1 per cent) and Merthyr Tydfil (26.2 per cent) in Wales were the local authorities with the highest proportions of their population aged 16 to 64 reporting no qualifications. In contrast, local authorities in the south of England had the lowest proportions reporting no qualifications.
9.113 Great Yarmouth (15.7 per cent) and Corby (16.1 per cent) were the local authorities with the lowest proportions reporting degree level or above qualification. The five local authorities with the highest proportions were all in the London region.

9.114 The North East of England had the highest proportion of people reporting apprenticeships as their highest level of qualification, with Barrow-in-Furness in the North West having the highest proportion across all local authorities. Conversely, local authorities in London accounted for the 20 lowest proportions; the three lowest proportions were the City of London, and Kensington and Chelsea (both with 0.6 per cent) and Westminster (0.7 per cent).

Labour market and travel to work

Economic activity

9.115 Among the 45.5 million usual residents aged 16 and over, 26.7 million were in employment during the week before the census, 2.1 million were unemployed and 16.7 million were economically inactive.

9.116 More than 8 out of every 10 of those in employment were employees (85 per cent), while the rest (15 per cent) were classified as self-employed, either working on their own or employing other staff.

9.117 Of the 16.7 million people aged 16 and over who were economically inactive more than half (58 per cent) reported that they were retired, while 14 per cent were students, 11 per cent were looking after the home/family, and a similar proportion reporting long-term sick or disabled. The remaining 6 per cent were economically inactive for other reasons.

9.118 Across England and Wales there were 8.4 million people aged 16 to 64 who were economically inactive, representing 23 per cent of the 16 to 64 population. There were a higher proportion of females who were inactive (28 per cent) than males (18 per cent) primarily because females were more likely to be ‘looking after the family or home’, while for males the primary reason for inactivity was being a ‘student’.

9.119 There were 25.7 million people across England and Wales who were aged between 16 and 64 years in employment on census day 2011 – representing an employment rate of 71.0 per cent.

9.120 Figure 9.36 highlights the differences in male and female employment types among 16 to 74 year olds. In 2011, almost four times as many women as men were part-time employees – 4.4 million women (33 per cent) compared with 1.2 million men (8 per cent).
The level of unemployment varied across the English regions and Wales, from 8 per cent (103,000) of those economically active aged 16 to 64 in the North East to 5 per cent (126,000) in the South West (figure 9.37).

9.121

Figure 9.36 Economic activity by sex, England and Wales, 2011

Figure 9.37 Unemployment, England regions, Wales, 2011
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**Hours worked**

9.122 The number of hours worked by employed persons aged 16 to 74 decreased overall between 2001 and 2011. In 2001, 16 per cent (3.8 million) of this group worked 49 hours or more. This decreased by three percentage points to 13 per cent in 2011. Similarly in 2001, 59 per cent (14.0 million) worked 31 to 48 hours, but this decreased by one percentage point to 58 per cent (15.3 million) in 2011.

9.123 Figure 9.38 below shows a distinct difference between males and females in the numbers of hours worked.

**Figure 9.38  Hours worked per week by sex, England and Wales, 2011**

![Graph showing hours worked by sex, England and Wales, 2011](image)

**Occupation and industry**

9.124 In 2011, for those aged 16 to 74, the broad occupation group with the highest number of respondents was the ‘Professional’ group (17 per cent, 4.6 million). ‘Process, plant and machine operatives’ was at the opposite end of the scale (7 per cent, 1.9 million). These occupation groups are based on the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification.

9.125 The largest industry sector (based on the 2007 Standard Industrial Classification) was ‘Public administration, education and health’, in which over a quarter (28.4 per cent) of workers were employed. This sector was also the largest employer of women, in which two out of every five employed women worked.

9.126 At every census from 1841 the percentage of people working in agriculture and fishing has declined. In 1841, 22 per cent of people worked in this sector, but 170 years on this had fallen to less than 1 per cent (figure 9.39).

9.127 Manufacturing was the most dominant industry in 1841 accounting for over a third (36 per cent) of the workforce, followed closely by services at 33 per cent. The expansion of services and decline in manufacturing meant that by 2011 only 9 per cent worked in manufacturing while 81 per cent worked in services.

9.128 Women are more likely to work in the service sector than men are and, in 2011, 92 per cent of employed women worked in the service sector. This compared with 71 per cent of employed men.
Travel to work

9.129 In the 2011 Census, driving to work was reported as the most common form of commuting, with 15.3 million people (57.5 per cent of the working population) taking to the road. Of these, 882,000 stated that they worked mainly at, or from, home.

9.130 Commuting as passengers in a car decreased from 6.3 per cent in 2001 to 5.0 per cent in 2011. Consequently, the vehicle occupancy rate for cars and vans decreased from 1.11 in 2001 to 1.09 in 2011.

9.131 But the pattern of change in driving to work varied across England and Wales. In 2001, London had by far the lowest proportion of workers driving to work (33.5 per cent). This had reduced to 26.3 per cent by 2011. In absolute terms, the number of drivers fell by 58,000. Five of the English regions and Wales experienced an increase in the proportion of workers who drove to work, with the North East having the largest growth (3.5 per cent, figure 9.40).

9.132 A proportional decrease in passengers was seen across each of the nine English regions and Wales. Wales (2.4 percentage points) and the North East (2.3 percentage points) experienced the largest decreases.

9.133 Boston was one of only five local authorities to have had an increase in the proportion of commuters travelling to work as car or van passengers (3.2 percentage points). This increase is likely to be related in part to eastern European migrants employed in agricultural work. Such work may involve communal transport to various locations (figure 9.40).
9.134 Other local authorities with high passenger rates in 2011 are in areas that have traditionally had large single-site employers. For example, the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing site in Copeland, Cumbria employs over 10,000 people. A single site with a large number of employees is more conducive to car sharing than multiple employers spread across a larger area. This may explain why Copeland has the fifth highest rate of passenger commuting out of the 348 local authorities in England and Wales, at 9.4 per cent of workers.

9.135 Some 4.3 million people (16 per cent) commuted to work by public transport, while 2.8 million people (11 per cent) walked and 760,000 (3 per cent) cycled to work (Figure 9.41).

9.136 While 214,000 people (0.8 per cent) commuted to work by motorcycle, moped or scooter, taxis and minicabs were used by 138,000 people (0.5 per cent) as their main means of travel to work, and 171,000 people (0.6 per cent) commuted by other methods (such as a ferry).
The average distance travelled to work increased from 13.4 km in 2001 to 15.0 km in 2011. This is estimated using only those workers making a regular commute between their enumeration address and their workplace address.

On average, workers resident in the East of England had the longest commute (17 km) while those in London had the shortest (11 km); see figure 9.42.

In both 2001 and 2011, males commuted further than females. In 2001, 39 per cent of males and 25 per cent of females commuted more than 10 km. By 2011, the rates of commuting such distances had increased to 42 per cent for males and 30 per cent for females.

Full-time workers commuted longer distances in 2011 than their part-time counterparts. While 55 per cent of part-time workers commuted less than 5 km, only 38 per cent of full-time workers did so.
Figure 9.42 Average distance travelled to work, England and Wales, local authorities, 2011

Housing

Type of accommodation

9.141 The relative proportions of types of accommodation remained broadly the same between 2001 and 2011. The percentage of households living in purpose-built flats, maisonettes or apartments in a block of flats or tenements rose by two percentage points from 14 per cent (3.1 million households) in 2001 to 16 per cent (4.0 million) in 2011.

9.142 The England regions and Wales showed similar percentages of households residing in the different types of accommodation, with the exception of London which had the smallest percentage (48 per cent, 1.6 million) of households residing in houses or bungalows (figure 9.43). The percentage of households residing in terraced houses varied from 21 per cent (407,000) in the East Midlands to 30 per cent (359,000) in the North East.
The four most frequently reported tenure types for households in 2011 were ‘Owned with a mortgage or loan’, followed by ‘Owned outright’, ‘Renting from a private landlord or letting agency’, and then ‘Renting from the council’.

Ownership with a mortgage or loan had decreased six percentage points from 39 per cent (8.4 million households) in 2001 to 33 per cent (7.6 million households) in 2011. Ownership outright had increased by two percentage points from 29 per cent (6.4 million) in 2001 to 31 per cent (7.2 million) in 2011.

Renting from the council had decreased four percentage points from 13 per cent (2.9 million) in 2001, to nine per cent (2.2 million) in 2011. Renting from a private landlord or letting agency increased six percentage points from 9 per cent (1.9 million) in 2001 to 15 per cent (3.6 million) in 2011. The decline in rental from a council reflects in part the policy of transferring housing stock from councils to housing associations.

In 2011 there was an average of 5.4 rooms per household, an increase of 0.1 on the measure of 5.3 in 2001.

This ranged from 4.7 in London (the only region with an average of less than 5.3 rooms), to 5.6 in the East Midlands, East of England, South East and South West. Wales had the highest average number of rooms per household, 5.7.

The average number of bedrooms per household in England and Wales was 2.7. There was little variation across England and Wales, with London reporting the
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lowest average, 2.5 bedrooms per household, and all other England regions with an average of either 2.7 or 2.8. Wales had an average of 2.9.

9.149 The occupancy ratings of rooms and bedrooms are indicators of deprivation and overcrowding in a household. An occupancy rating of -1 implies that there is one room too few for the number of people living in the household. In 2011, some 9 per cent of households (2.0 million) in England and Wales had an occupancy rating of -1 or less for rooms. This is an increase of two percentage points on 2001, when seven per cent (1.5 million) of households in England and Wales had an occupancy rating of -1. Five per cent (1.1 million) had an occupancy rating of -1 or less for bedrooms.

Central heating

9.150 Nearly all households in England and Wales in 2011 reported that they had central heating (97 per cent, 22.7 million). In 2001, the proportion was five percentage points lower at 92 per cent (19.8 million). Houses built in the intervening 10 years tended to have central heating as a standard feature.

Car or van availability

9.151 The number of cars and vans available to households in England and Wales increased from 23.9 million in 2001 to 27.3 million in 2011. The increase of 3.4 million cars and vans is proportionately similar to the overall increase in the usually resident population (3.7 million) over the same period. In 2001 there were on average 1.1 cars per household whereas in 2011 there were 1.2 cars.

9.152 In London there was a decrease of 0.1 cars or vans available per household. The percentage of households with no cars or vans increased from 37 per cent (1.1 million) in 2001 to 42 per cent (1.4 million) in 2011.

9.153 Figure 9.44 shows that London was the only region in 2011 with fewer cars and vans (2.7 million) than there were households (3.3 million).

Figure 9.44  Average number of cars or vans per household, England regions, Wales, 2001 and 2011
Second address

9.154 The 2011 Census was the first to collect information on second addresses. The question was included primarily to better understand and determine the concept of ‘place of usual residence’ for those people who live or stay at more than one address during the year.

9.155 At the time of the 2011 Census, 1,570,228 usual residents in England and Wales (2.8 per cent of the usual resident population) reported having a second address in another local authority in England and Wales that they use for 30 days or more in the year.

9.156 Some 47,733 usual residents (around 0.1 per cent) had a second address in either Scotland or Northern Ireland, while 820,814 usual residents (1.5 per cent of the usual resident population) had a second address outside the United Kingdom.

9.157 Some 12 per cent (188,837) of second addresses were for work and 11 per cent (165,095) were for holiday, but the majority were for a purpose other than work or holiday, such as the home address of students. Over three quarters of second addresses (77 per cent, 1,216,296) were used for some other purpose (figure 9.45).

9.158 More than half of all usual residents with a second address in England and Wales were male. This was most prevalent for second addresses used for work, where there were 2.6 males with a second address to every female with a second address.

Figure 9.45  Percentage of second addresses in England and Wales by type

Communal establishments

9.159 Communal establishments provide managed residential accommodation; examples include sheltered accommodation units, student halls, large hotels, hospitals and prisons. The 2011 Census estimated that 98 per cent (55.1 million) of usual residents in England and Wales lived in households. Two per cent (1.0 million) lived in communal establishments – slightly more people (858,000) but the same proportion as in 2001.
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9.160 In 2011, 57 per cent (572,000) of all communal establishment residents in England and Wales resided in non-medical establishments, including large hotels, student halls or prisons. This was an increase of three percentage points on the 2001 Census figure (54 per cent, 460,000).

9.161 Forty two per cent (420,000) of communal establishment residents were in medical and care establishments; 38 per cent (383,000) of this group were in care homes and four per cent (38,000) were in other medical establishments.

9.162 The percentage of communal establishment residents in non-medical establishments varied across the England regions and Wales from 51 per cent (23,000) in the North East to 58 per cent (58,000) in London. The percentage of communal establishment residents in care homes ranged from 33 per cent (33,000) in London to 44 per cent (20,000) in the North East.

Sources of data

9.163 This chapter of the General Report provides only a summary review of the main results that emerged from the 2011 Census and some comparisons with 2001. More details of the analyses from which these summary points have been taken are available on the ONS website in the following documents:


• Ethnic group

• National Identity

• Main language

• Proficiency in English

• Welsh language in Wales

• Religion

• General health

• Long-term illness or disability

• Unpaid care

• Country of birth and citizenship (passport held)

• Year of (most recent) entry into the UK

• Qualifications
- Economic activity

- Hours worked

- Occupation and industry

- Travel to work

- Type of accommodation

- Rooms and occupancy rating

- Car or van availability

- Second address

- Communal establishments