

Census 2021 outputs consultation and next steps

An ONS update for the WSLC, 3 February 2022

Census 2021 outputs consultation

From 13 July 2021 to 5 October 2021, the Office for National Statistics invited views on our proposals for the content design and release of Census 2021 outputs for England and Wales. The consultation questions covered all phases of the release schedule. These phases are:

- phase one (from late spring 2022): population estimates cross tabulated by age and sex, household estimates and other univariate data published as part of topic summaries or area profiles
- phase two (from autumn 2022): multivariate data for the usual resident, household and communal establishment population bases
- phase three (from winter 2022/2023): alternative population bases, small populations, origin-destination and microdata
- beyond spring 2023: UK data and more complex analysis

Census 2021 outputs consultation proposals document [In English](#) | [In Welsh](#)

Consultation response: part one

On 16 December, we published part one of our consultation response. In this response, we focused on user feedback related to phase one of the Census 2021 release schedule. We provide:

- planned changes to our proposals for phase one of our releases based on users' feedback
- descriptions of the user needs' that led to the changes to our proposals
- a summary of how we encouraged users to respond and who responded
- information about how we're evaluating the responses for all phases

For example, included in our wider discussion of users' feedback to phase one proposals, we discuss:

- **Topic summaries:** We aim to ensure information on the total number of Welsh speakers is available in Welsh areas.
- **Area profiles:** We will add information on main language and ability to speak Welsh to the areas profile specification.
- **Parishes or communities smaller than output areas (OAs):** We will produce basic information on the number of residents and households for all parishes and communities small than OAs. Where these areas have at least 50 people, we will assess the feasibility of producing profiles continuing a reduced set of variables, including ability to speak Welsh, economic activity, age, sex and number of available cars and vans.

Census 2021 outputs consultation response: part one document [In English](#) | [In Welsh](#)

[‘Census 2021 outputs: phase one plans’ webinar](#)

On 20 and 24 January 2022, we ran a [webinar](#) introducing our plans for the products we will be publishing during phase one of the Census 2021 outputs release schedule. We also highlighted changes we are making to these products based on the feedback received from the consultation. If you would like a copy of the slides, please contact: census.outputs@ons.gov.uk

Next steps

[Census 2021 outputs consultation response: part two](#)

In early 2022, we will publish part two of our response addressing feedback about the remaining phases of the Census 2021 outputs release schedule. We will publish this on the [consultation website](#) alongside moderated versions of each response we received.

[Census 2021 outputs release schedule and product catalogue](#)

Before Census 2021 first results are published in late spring 2022, we will be updating our the [Census 2021 outputs webpages](#) on the ONS website to include the breadth of our Census 2021 product catalogue. In it, we will provide detailed descriptions of the outputs and analysis we plan to produce during phase one of the release schedule. This includes a detailed phase one release schedule, descriptions of the outputs and analysis we plan to produce, and information on how we will produce phase one products and to what geographies. As we progress through the phases of the release schedule, we will update these webpages with more detailed information about products to be released in later phases of the release schedule.

[‘Census 2021 outputs: phase two plans’ webinar](#)

Following on from January’s phase one plans webinar, we will run further engagement events in 2022. In these, we will introduce the products we will be publishing during later phases of the Census 2021 outputs release schedule.

[Late spring 2022](#)

We will publish the first results from Census 2021.

Contact us

If you have any questions about the Census 2021 outputs consultation or upcoming plans, please contact: census.outputs@ons.gov.uk