

**census**  
2021

**The safety  
of your  
information is  
our top priority**

## What is the Office for National Statistics (ONS)?

We are the UK's largest independent producer of official statistics. We are trusted to collect and protect data. We report directly to the UK Parliament, but we do not work for any political parties.

At the ONS, we plan and run the census in England and Wales.

## What is the census?

The census happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales.

Census 2021 was a fantastic success. The results will give us the richest picture of society across England and Wales. We have turned millions of census forms that you completed into statistics that we can all use.

By filling in your Census 2021 questionnaire, you played your part in building a better picture of us all.

## The safety of your information is our top priority

You cannot be identified in the statistics we publish. The personal information you provided is protected by law.

You can be confident that:

- we handle your information securely, in line with UK government standards
- we use physical and IT security measures to protect your information
- we process your information in the UK, which means it's subject to UK data protection legislation
- when we publish census statistics, they're completely anonymous and you cannot be identified
- your information cannot and will not be used by the government to impact benefit claims, a residency application, immigration status or taxes
- private organisations and individuals such as landlords will not have access to your personal information
- census records are kept secure for 100 years



# Your personal census information is protected by law

All our systems, staff and suppliers must protect your confidentiality by law. Laws in place that cover protection of your data include the:

- Data Protection Act 2018
- UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Census Act 1920
- Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007

You can find out more about how we keep your data safe on the Census 2021 website at [www.census.gov.uk/privacy-and-data-protection](https://www.census.gov.uk/privacy-and-data-protection)

## Contact us

For more information, contact the Census Customer Services team.

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