

# QS205EW - Proficiency in English

## Overview

Table population All usual residents aged 3 and over

Reference	QS205EW
Source	Census 2011
Keywords	Proficiency in English, Usual Resident
Coverage	England and Wales
Units	Persons
Latest data	2011
Last updated	2013-01-30 09:30:00

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## Dataset metadata

This dataset provides 2011 estimates that classify usual residents aged 3 and over in England and Wales by their proficiency in English. The proficiency in English classification corresponds to the tick box response options on the census questionnaire. The estimates are as at census day, 27 March 2011.

This is the first time this information has been available from the census. Estimates are used to help central government, local authorities and the NHS allocate resources and provide services for non-English speakers. It also helps public service providers effectively target the delivery of their services. For example, translation and interpretation services and material in alternative languages.]

### Statistical Disclosure Control

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information from the 2011 Census, there has been swapping of records in the Census database between different geographic areas, and so some counts will be affected. In the main, the greatest effects will be at the lowest geographies, since the record swapping is targeted towards those households with unusual characteristics in small areas.

More details on the ONS Census disclosure control strategy may be found on the [Statistical Disclosure Control](#) page on the ONS web site.

## Variables

### geography

The following types of geography are available:

NHS area teams, clinical commissioning groups, built-up areas including subdivisions, built-up areas, national assembly for wales electoral regions 2010, postcode areas, postcode districts, postcode sectors, national assembly for wales constituencies 2010, parishes 2011, 2011 local health boards, 2011 primary care trusts, 2011 strategic health authorities, 2011 wards, 2011 super output areas - middle layer, 2011 super output areas - lower layer, 2011 output areas, local enterprise partnerships (as of April 2017), parliamentary constituencies 2010, former metropolitan counties, local authorities: county / unitary (prior to April 2015), local authorities: district / unitary (prior to April 2015), regions, countries

### Rural Urban

This classification can only be used with the following geographies:

- | Country
- | Region
- | Local Authority: District / Unitary
- | Local Authority: County / Unitary

#### 2011 Rural-Urban Classification (England and Wales)

This classification allows summary outputs to be produced by rural-urban type at local authority, region and country level (it will not work with other geography types).

The outputs are based on a rural-urban classification of output areas. The 2011 classification is a revised version of the one created after the 2001 Census with additional detail in the urban domain.

Output areas are treated as *urban* if they were allocated to a 2011 built-up area with a population of 10,000 or more people. The urban domain is sub-divided into three broad morphological types based on the predominant settlement component. As with the previous version of the classification, the remaining *rural* output areas are grouped into three broad morphological types based on the predominant settlement component.

The classification also categorises output areas based on context - i.e. whether the wider surrounding area of a given output area is sparsely populated or less sparsely populated.

For more details see the [Rural-Urban Classification 2011 User Guide](#) (1.5 MB zip).

The following Rural Urban are available:

- | Total
- | Urban (total)
- | Urban major conurbation
- | Urban minor conurbation
- | Urban city and town
- | Urban city and town in a sparse setting
- | Rural (total)
- | Rural town and fringe
- | Rural town and fringe in a sparse setting
- | Rural village
- | Rural village in a sparse setting
- | Rural hamlet and isolated dwellings
- | Rural hamlet and isolated dwellings in a sparse setting

## Proficiency in English

#### Proficiency in English language

Proficiency in English language classifies people whose main language is not English (or not English or Welsh in Wales) according to their ability to speak English. A person is classified in one of the categories:

- | can speak English very well,
- | can speak English well,
- | cannot speak English well, or
- | cannot speak English.

The following Proficiency in English are available:

- | All categories: Proficiency in English
- | Main language is English (English or Welsh in Wales)
- | Main language is not English (English or Welsh in Wales): Can speak English very well
- | Main language is not English (English or Welsh in Wales): Can speak English well
- | Main language is not English (English or Welsh in Wales): Cannot speak English well
- | Main language is not English (English or Welsh in Wales): Cannot speak English