

# QS408EW - Occupancy rating (rooms)

## Overview

Table population All households

Reference	QS408EW
Source	Census 2011
Keywords	Household, Occupancy rating, Rooms
Coverage	England and Wales
Units	Households
Latest data	2011
Last updated	2013-01-30 09:30:00

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## Dataset metadata

This dataset provides 2011 estimates that classify households in England and Wales by occupancy rating based on the number of rooms in the household. The estimates are as at census day, 27 March 2011.

This information is used to provide a measure of under-occupancy and over-crowding to allow central and local government to develop appropriate housing policies and plan future housing provision.

Similar estimates from the 2001 Census were provided in table UV59.

### 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.

The classification of output areas and a User Guide which provides further details about the methodology can be downloaded from the [Open ONS Geography Portal](#) under the Download Products tab.

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

## Occupancy Rating

Occupancy rating provides a measure of whether a household's accommodation is overcrowded or under occupied. There are two measures of occupancy rating, one based on the number of rooms in a household's accommodation, and one based on the number of bedrooms. The ages of the household members and their relationships to each other are used to derive the number of rooms/bedrooms they require, based on a standard formula. The number of rooms/bedrooms required is subtracted from the number of rooms/bedrooms in the household's accommodation to obtain the occupancy rating. An occupancy rating of -1 implies that a household has one fewer room/bedroom than required, whereas +1 implies that they have one more room/bedroom than the standard requirement.

The following Occupancy Rating are available:

- | All categories: Occupancy rating (rooms)
- | Occupancy rating (rooms) of +2 or more
- | Occupancy rating (rooms) of +1
- | Occupancy rating (rooms) of 0
- | Occupancy rating (rooms) of -1
- | Occupancy rating (rooms) of -2 or less