

Scotland's Census 2022

Census outputs update

Webinar 09 May 2024



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Agenda

- Introduction from Director of Census Statistics
- Update on census outputs schedule
- Accessing census data from Scotland's Census website
- What is SDC and why do we do it?
- What SDC means for numbers in census tables
- Q&A



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Introduction

- Census since first outputs
- Confidence in our statistics
- Releasing detailed census statistics
- Continuing theme from first outputs
- Looking ahead



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Update on census outputs schedule

- Next release will be published 21 May 2024 at 9:30
- This will include
 - Unrounded population and household estimates
 - Census variables from the topic Ethnic group, national identity, language and religion



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Update on census outputs schedule

This is the first release in our topic data phase. This will include census tables for the following variables:

- Ethnic group
- National identity
- Multiple ethnic groups
- Country of birth
- Religion
- Passports held
- Main Language
- Gaelic language skills
- Scots language skills
- English language skills
- British Sign Language

We plan to publish each of these variables by age and sex.

We will publish most detailed version of variables at higher level geographies.

Publish down to output area including as much detail as possible in line with our SDC strategy

Update on census outputs schedule

Topic data	
21 May 2024	Ethnic group, national identity, language and religion
June 2024	Armed Forces veterans
June 2024	Sexual orientation and trans status or history
August 2024	Demography and migration
August 2024	Housing
September 2024	Education, labour market and travel to work
September 2024	Health, disability and unpaid care

Winter 2024/25	Multivariate census outputs - combining multiple topic variables in the same table. Published at all geographies down to output area
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Analysis products

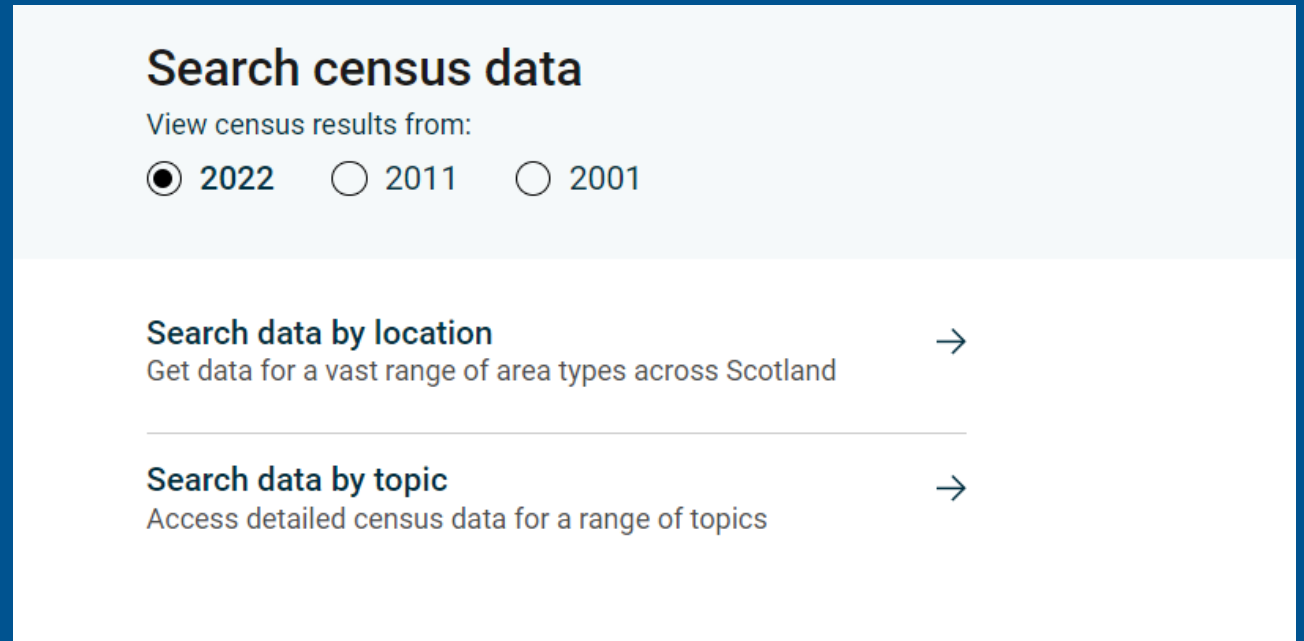
2025	Analytical reports - further analysis of key census topics
	Microdata - samples of anonymised census records. Made available to accredited researchers in secure settings
	Origin-destination data - statistics describing the movement of people, including migration and travel to work or study
	Workplace and daytime population data - census data published using alternative population bases



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Accessing census data from Scotland's Census website

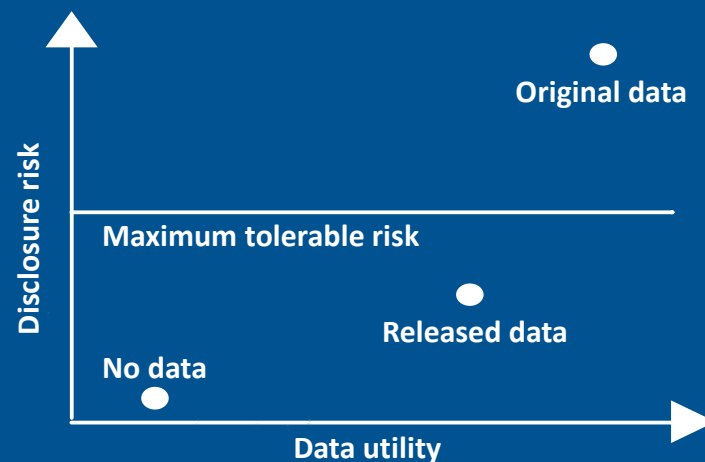
- The new publications will use the existing user journeys for accessing 2001 & 2011 census data.
- Tables will be listed under each topic. And this will be updated throughout the summer
- Some tables will have multiple versions so they can be viewed for all geographies



What is SDC and why do we do it?

Statistical Disclosure Control is the name given to the processes and methods we apply to census data before it is published.

Aim - minimise the risk of disclosure to an acceptable level while publishing as much information and detail as possible



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What is SDC and why do we do it?

- Prevent the release of any information about an individual, household or enterprise that involves or could lead to:
 - their identification, or
 - the disclosure of confidential information about them
- Legal responsibility:
 - Census (Confidentiality) Act 1991
 - Data Protection Act 1998
 - The Census (Scotland) Regulations 2010
 - GDPR
 - UK Stats Authority Code of Practice

What is SDC and why do we do it?

Targeted Record Swapping – identifying households that stand out in the data, and swapping them with a similar record in the local area (running this process now)

Cell Key Perturbation - adding 'noise' by making small changes to the numbers in tables (applied by table builder)

Table builder rules – restricting what data users can see e.g. how many variables can be added to a table etc. (applied by table builder)

Working with SDC protected Census data

Example of Cell Key Perturbation in census tables

	All people	Female	Male
All people	83	46	39
0 - 15	27	11	16
16 – 64	48	27	20
65 and over	10	7	3

Tables published may not always add up to the row/column total in the table

In this example perturbation has occurred meaning that the female total and the all people total don't match the sum of individual values



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Working with SDC protected Census data

	All people	Female	Male
All people	83	46	39
0 - 15	27	11	16
16 – 64	48	27	20
65 and over	10	7	3
Sum of individual values	85 (+2)	45 (-1)	39

Sum of individual values
85 (+2)
27
47 (-1)
10



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Working with SDC protected Census data

- We aim to keep perturbation light touch
- Users will be made aware that perturbation has been applied to all census outputs through the table builder
- Supporting information will be published alongside the census outputs
- As every cell is perturbed independently use the sub total values when reporting census data



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Questions



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Thank you for attending

If you have any further questions, please contact:

communications@nrscotland.gov.uk



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