

Response ID ANON-9XT3-EASY-A

Submitted to 2021 Census Outputs Consultation Questionnaire

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Section 1.1: About you

Please provide your contact details.

Your name: Prof David Martin

Are you answering this questionnaire on behalf of an organisation or as an individual?

Organisation - please specify:

Organisation:

UK Data Service

Consent

Yes, I consent to my name being published with my response

Section 1.2: Your usage of census data

Usage of Census data

1 Have you or your organisation used data or analysis produced by NISRA from previous censuses?

Yes

2 Which topic areas would you access 2021 Census data or analysis products on?

Demography (including aging),

Communal establishments,

Ethnic group, national identity, language, and religion,

Sexual orientation,

Health, disability and unpaid care,

Housing,

Education,

Labour market,

UK Armed Forces veterans,

Travel to work/place of study,

Migration

3 Are there any specific topics, areas or population groups you need data for?

Yes, topics (e.g. ethnic group),

Yes, areas (e.g. Causeway Coast and Glens),

Yes, population groups (e.g. a specific country of birth)

If you selected 'Yes', please list the topics, areas and/or population groups in priority order:

The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. Over time, our users are interested in every census question and topic and we need to be equipped to assist them

Section 2.1: Methods of dissemination

Two main methods of dissemination

4 Do you plan to access 2021 Census results via the 'ready-made' tables system and/or the 'build-your-own' tables system?

Ready-made tables,

Build-your-own tables,

Other means of accessing 2021 Census data (such as the NISRA Research Support Unit)

- 5 Does the plan to release the 2021 Census results via “flat files” of information meet your requirements?

Yes

If you selected ‘No’, please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

- 6 Into which analysis software do you plan to import 2021 Census results?

Other

If you selected ‘Other’, please tell us which analysis software you plan to use:

The UK Data Service has its own suite of census access software tools, through which we provide onward data dissemination to users. Our primary concern is therefore that we are able to consume data from all three UK Census agencies into our own systems. We expect to be able to handle any standard file formats and are also interested in API access. However, we generally favour open, non-proprietary formats such as CSV over use of any proprietary (e.g. Excel) formats.

Section 2.2: Release schedule

Pre-defined tables

- 7 Does the proposed list of ready-made tables for releases one, two and three meet your requirements?

Yes

If you selected ‘No’, please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

In general, our requirement is to service and support end users of the data, so we are driven by an overall aim to provide timely data rather than internal business need for

census releases in a specific order. Our greatly value consistency of approach between the UK Census agencies.

- 8 Does the proposal to publish all topics in the second and third releases simultaneously meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

- 9 Does the list of topics that will be included in the second and third releases meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

- 10 Do the proposed release dates for releases one, two and three meet your requirements?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please explain why and provide your requirements:

N/A

Flexible table builder

- 11 Do the proposals for the release of data in the flexible table builder meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please explain why and provide your requirements:

We welcome the flexible table builder proposals, and again welcome coordination efforts between ONS and NISRA in this development. Our user base includes many researchers

with a whole-UK perspective for whom each step towards greater consistency represents time and cost savings.

Final staged releases

12 Does the proposed list of multivariate, ready-made tables meet your requirements?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Commissioned table service

13 Have you or your organisation used the commissioned table service from previous censuses?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us what information you have previously requested via this service:

N/A

14 Do the proposals for the 2021 Census commissioned table service meet your data user needs?

N/A - no user need for commissioned tables

If you selected 'No', please explain why, and provide your requirements:

In general, UK Data Service would encourage end users who cannot obtain what they need from the standard outputs and flexible table builder to commission tables directly rather than acting as an intermediary

Grid Square

15 Have you or your organisation used grid square statistics from previous censuses?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us which grid square products you have used previously:

The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. Our users have expressed interest in all previous grid square products from NISRA.

16 Do the proposals for a 2021 Grid Square product meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information. Please also include any extra variables you require in addition to those available in 2011:

N/A

Workplace/Place of Study

17 Have you or your organisation used any of the microdata products from previous censuses?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us which microdata products you have used previously:

The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. We have played a central role in the specification and support of previous census microdata products and been involved with users of every product.

18 Do the proposals for 2021 Census microdata products meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

We would welcome continued involvement in any working groups and consultations to assist with further specification and access details of 2021 microdata products, both with individual agencies and at the UK level.

Ireland and Northern Ireland microdata product

19 If available, would you use an Ireland and Northern Ireland microdata product?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the additional analysis that you plan to do, and the value of undertaking this research. Please also indicate the sample size and which variable(s) you would like in this dataset:

The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. We consider this to be a valuable and exciting development, and anticipate that a proportion of our user base would be of interest. As above, we would value continued engagement with the specification and access arrangements for any new product, so that these can be integrated with our overall support of UK products.

Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study incorporation of Census 2021

20 Have you or your organisation used NILS data in the past?

No

21 Do the proposals for the NILS incorporation of Census 2021 data meet your needs?

N/A - no user need for NILS data

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

UK Data Service is not directly involved in support or access to NILS but our staff have used NILS in other roles and the census aspects fall within our broad census support remit. We would direct interested users to the NILS-RSU and NISRA, but will continue to welcome engagement with these developments due to the close connections with our own work.

Administrative Data Research Northern Ireland (ADR NI) - availability of 2021 data

22 Have you or your organisation used any ADR NI data in the past?

No

23 Do the proposals for the availability of 2021 data within ADR NI meet your data user needs?

N/A - no user need for ADR NI data

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

UK Data Service is not directly involved in support or access to ADR NI data, but our staff have used admin data in other roles and the census aspects fall within our broad census support remit. We would direct interested users to ADR NI and NISRA, but will continue to welcome engagement with these developments due to the close connections with our own work - in particular, we are interested in the future production of census-like data products from admin data sources.

Ireland and Northern Ireland census report

24 Have you or your organisation used data or analysis from the Census 2011 Ireland and Northern Ireland report?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us which data from the Ireland and Northern Ireland report you have used previously:

N/A

25 Do you or your organisation have any needs for Ireland and Northern Ireland data for the 2021 and 2022 Censuses?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us what information or key statistics you require and explain why you need this:

N/A

Section 2.3: Standard Variables

New variables in 2021

26 Do you require any additional output categories in the renewable energy systems classification?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Analysis of renewable energy systems

27 Do you require any additional cross-tabulations for renewable energy systems?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Sexual orientation

28 Do you require any additional output categories in the sexual orientation classification?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

We appreciate this is a new question and the ability to create further classifications from write-in answers is not yet fully determined. The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. We anticipate a high level of researcher interest in the new sexual orientation question and therefore support the maximum level of detail possible, even if only available for coarse geographical aggregation. Collapsed output classification

29 Does the collapsed output classification for more detailed cross-tabulations on sexual orientation meet your needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please tell us why the collapsed output classification does not meet your needs:

N/A

Analysis of Sexual Orientation

30 Do you require any additional cross-tabulations for sexual orientation?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

Frequency of speaking Irish and Ulster-Scots

31 Do you require any additional cross-tabulations for Irish and Ulster-Scots?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

UK Armed Forces veteran

32 Does the proposed output classification for UK Armed Forces veteran meet your needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please tell us why the output classification does not meet your needs:

N/A

Analysis of UK Armed Forces veterans

33 Do you require any additional cross-tabulations for UK Armed Forces veterans?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Other standard variables in 2021

34 Aside from 'current religion' and 'religion/religion brought up in', do you have any additional needs for further religion outputs?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Full-detail tables

35 Do the proposals to produce full-detail tables in the same way as in 2011 meet your needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

36 Do you have any data needs for a full-detail table on Sexual Orientation?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the analysis you would undertake and why the analysis is needed:

The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. We anticipate a high level of researcher interest in the new sexual orientation question and therefore support the maximum level of detail possible.

Section 2.4: Proposals for new derived variables

Education and employment

37 If available, which of the proposed new variables on education and employment would you have data needs for?

Route to highest level of education,

Adult Students,

Not in employment, education or training (NEETs),

Temporarily away from work,

Key/critical Worker,

Skills mismatch,

Economic risk created by the coronavirus pandemic indicator

If you indicated that you would use one or more of the new variables, please describe the additional analysis that you plan to do using the variable(s) and the value of undertaking this research:

The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. We do not undertake our own analyses as part of our core service function. We anticipate high levels of user interest in these new policy-relevant variables and would support creation of as rich a dataset as possible from the outset.

Health and living arrangements

38 If available, which of the proposed new variables on health and living arrangements would you have data needs for?

COVID-19 health risk,

Houses in multiple occupation (HMO),

Multigenerational households,

Living together/apart

If you indicated that you would use one or more of the new variables, please describe the additional analysis that you plan to do using the variable(s) and the value of undertaking this research:

The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. We do not undertake our own analyses as part of our core service function. We anticipate high levels of user interest in these new policy-relevant variables and would support creation of as rich a dataset as possible from the outset. We particularly welcome any attempts to derive Covid-19 related insights from the census dataset.

Accommodation type

39 If available, would you have any data needs for a “Care home resident” variable?

Yes

If you selected ‘Yes’, please describe the analysis you would undertake and why the analysis is needed. :

The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. We do not undertake our own analyses as part of our core service function. We anticipate high levels of user interest in this new policy-relevant variable and would support creation of as rich a dataset as possible from the outset.

Additional data needs

40 Are there any new derived variables you require that have not been discussed in this consultation?

No

Specifics on additional derived variables required:

N/A

Section 2.5: Population base specifications

Workplace population

41 Do the proposals for workplace population outputs meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Daytime population

42 Do the proposals for daytime population outputs meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Out-of-term population

43 Do the proposals for out-of-term population outputs meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Small populations

44 Do you have any requirement for census information for a small population group?

Yes

Specific requirements for census information for a small population group:

The UK Data Service provides support and data access to a very wide range of (especially, but not exclusively) education and research users of UK Census data. Over time, our users are interested in every census question and we therefore commend the production of as much detail as possible from the outset, even though we do not directly undertake analyses as part of our core service function.

Section 2.6: Taking a census during a period of change

Place of residence

45 Do you anticipate needing any additional data on place of residence to supplement 2021 Census data?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

Covid-19 has had demonstrated substantial impacts on student residential choices, and we anticipate that there will be strong user demand for any additional data fields describing the places of enumeration and any processes applied by NISRA to transfer students into alternative term-time residential locations.

46 Are there any existing data sources that may meet your needs for place of residence data, either separately or in combination?

No

If you selected 'Yes, fully' or 'Yes, partially', please list the data sources and describe how they could meet your needs:

N/A

47 Is there any new analysis of place of residence you are planning to use census data for due to the current period of social and economic change?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the planned analysis and how it would be used:

N/A

Economic activity and employment

48 Do you anticipate needing any additional data on economic activity and employment to supplement 2021 Census data?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

There is going to be huge interest in interpretation of the entire range of 2021 census workplace questions due to disruption caused by Covid-19, including furlough, temporary and permanent changes to labour market structure and likely difficulties interpreting the census questions. The temporarily away from work ill, on holiday or temporarily laid off' is likely to be essential for researchers to begin to tease out the relative contribution of these factors to the overall labour market picture revealed by 2021 census

49 Are there any existing data sources that may meet your needs for economic activity and employment data, either separately or in combination?

No

If you selected 'Yes, fully' or 'Yes, partially', please list the data sources and describe how they could meet your needs:

N/A

50 Is there any new analysis of economic activity and employment you are planning to use census data for due to the current period of social and economic change?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the planned analysis and how it would be used:

There is going to be huge interest in interpretation of the entire range of 2021 census workplace questions due to disruption caused by Covid-19, including furlough, temporary and permanent changes to labour market structure and likely difficulties interpreting the

census questions. We anticipate additional researcher interest in Brexit impacts on the NI economy and pandemic impacts on employment, furlough and place of work.

Travel to work/school

51 Do you anticipate needing any additional data on travel to work/school to supplement 2021 Census data?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

Any cross-tabulation which might indicate the extent of working at home being different from usual place of work (employer address, other temporary working at home indicators) would be extremely valuable, otherwise the raw 2021 census travel to work data will likely be a very problematic basis for subsequent analyses on commuting, journey to work, energy use, time use etc.

52 Are there any existing data sources that may meet your needs for travel-to-work/school data, either separately or in combination?

No

If you selected 'Yes, fully' or 'Yes, partially', please list the data sources and describe how they could meet your needs:

N/A

53 Is there any new analysis of travel to work you are planning to use census data for due to the current period of social and economic change?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the planned analysis and how it would be used:

The very large community of UKDS users will be interested in every census question and topic. We anticipate a considerable effort on the part of the research community to attempt to disentangle Brexit and pandemic effects on census results.

Workplace zones

54 Do you require data published using the workplace zone geography?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

Workplace-zones have provided a more consistent UK view of working patterns/economic geography and also been highly effective in enabling a richer analysis of daytime population distributions and classification of workplaces. We anticipate continued user demand for these outputs.

Impacts on other outputs

55 Do you anticipate needing any additional data to supplement 2021 Census data?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

N/A

Section 2.7: Paradata

Paradata refer to information about how we collected the census.

56 If available, which of the proposed paradata for the 2021 Census would you use?

Household return rate,

Individual response rate,

Mode of completion (online, paper, telephone),

Language of completion (English, Irish, Ulster-Scots)

If you indicated that you would use one or more of the paradata, please describe the additional analysis that you plan to do using the variable(s) and the value of undertaking this research:

The very large community of UKDS users are interested in every census question and topic. We have seen use of mode of completion, particularly, used as an input to understanding of digital exclusion and area classification.

Section 2.8: Statistical Output Geography

Revision of statistical output geography

57 Other than the current local government districts, do you have any requirements for census statistical outputs aligned with any other geographies?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us which additional geographies you need census statistical outputs to align with. Please also explain why you need this, including the analysis that you plan to do and the value of undertaking this research:

There will be interest in (at least) an official NISRA lookup table or best-fit table to permit best-fitting of 2021 and 2001/11 geographies for analysis of small area change. This does not necessarily require another set of boundaries, but a single reference source for estimating the overlaps between the old and new small area geographies.

Section 3: Any other comments

58 Do you have any data or analysis needs related to any of the areas listed below that will not be met and you have not been able to note elsewhere in this consultation?

Taking a census during a period of change

If you selected "Other", please provide more information about the topic area for which you have unmet data needs:

Anticipate a need for topic report (or other outputs) specifically addressing the question of census enumeration during time of Covid-19, which brings together all the many impacts on enumeration and interpretation of census questions, to serve as reference point for users. Could/should include potential additional metadata on how NISRA have made Covid-19 specific adaptations to data outputs.

59 Describe your unmet data needs

Please provide your requirements and explain why you require this. For example, what policy or planning decisions would the results effect? Please make it clear what variables and geographies you would need in relation to each of your additional unmet needs:

None provided

60 If you have any further comments on the content of this consultation, please provide these below.

Further comments on the content of the consultation:

None provided