

# Scotland's Census is on Sunday 27 March

Everyone's included

Fill in the questionnaire and you can help shape Scotland's future



Find out more at  
[www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk)



Scotland's  
Census 2011  
Shaping our future

The 2011 Census on Sunday 27 March will shape the lives of everyone in Scotland. It gathers information which helps to plan and provide our future services, like housing, hospitals and schools.

Everyone needs to be included on a census questionnaire on or around census day. All personal information is kept strictly confidential. It is used to help us all to get the public services we need.



## What is the census?

The census is the official count of Scotland's people and households, which takes place every 10 years. It asks questions about the population, our backgrounds and our health - and your answers are used to compile national and local statistics.



## Why do we have a census?

The census helps to plan and provide a wide range of public services, from health and education to housing and transport. For example, to provide

an effective school system, we need to know how many children there are.



## How do I fill in the census questionnaire?

The questionnaire should be filled in by the householder and shouldn't take long. There is space on the paper questionnaire for the details of up to five people. If your household is bigger than that you can ask for a continuation questionnaire. When you have finished, return it in the envelope provided. If you have a census internet access code you can fill it in online.



## When do I fill it in?

You can fill in your census questionnaire as soon as it arrives – provided your answers cover the people living or staying with you on the night of 27 March.



## Is it a legal requirement to fill in the census?

Yes. People who try to avoid taking part may be fined up to £1,000.



## Is my information protected?

Yes. We do not share or publish information that would reveal personal information about you or the place you live. So your personal information is not shared with local councils, government departments, the tax office, the police or marketing agencies. We keep your personal information confidential for 100 years.

