

**Scotland's Census 2011
People with a learning disability or
developmental disorder –
Summary of published analytical notes**

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A National Statistics publication for Scotland

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Summary

In collaboration with National Records of Scotland, the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory has investigated the demographic characteristics of people in Scotland reported in Scotland's Census 2011 as having a learning disability or a developmental disorder. The objective was to make comparisons of the characteristics of these two groups with those of the general population. This will help build a better understanding of the health inequalities experienced by people with a learning disability or with a developmental disorder.

Data collected in the 2011 Census on people with learning disabilities or with a developmental disorder and people with autism were analysed for Scotland, Council Area and Health Board geographies. Amongst many other variables of interest, data on general health, long-term health conditions, long-term health problem or disability, provision of unpaid care, age, sex, ethnic group, and wider life circumstances, such as housing, employment and educational attainment, were analysed. Data were tabulated separately for Scotland, as well as for each Council and Health Board area. These outputs are presented graphically on the [Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory website](#), which acts as a platform for sharing visually engaging and easily accessible information about the lives of people with a learning disability or a developmental disorder. This information is aimed at a diverse audience, including academics, policy makers, third sector organisations and people with disabilities and their families.

Scotland's 2011 Census information is an invaluable source of data, as it provides a unique insight into characteristics of population subgroups, which can be often particularly prone to experiencing health inequalities. Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory (SDLO) researchers work on a number of projects concerned with health inequalities for people with learning disabilities and people with autism living in Scotland. In its work, the SDLO utilises a number of large administrative datasets governed by public authorities and the Scottish Government to build a picture of the health and health inequalities experienced by people with learning disabilities and people with autism. The Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory is a strategic partner of the Scottish Government's learning disabilities and autism policy team. Therefore, our work is guided by the Keys to Life Strategy and the Scottish Strategy for Autism as well as relevant research in the field of disabilities across the UK and abroad.

Published analytical notes

To date, a set of eight Scotland's 2011 Census analytical notes on people with learning disabilities and people with a development disorder have been published on the Scotland's Census website. Details of the analytical notes (and the supporting tables, which are available in the [Data Warehouse](#) section of the Scotland's Census website, under the Health topic) are listed below.

18 November 2015 – age, sex, and health characteristics – Scotland level

Analytical note:

http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical_reports/Scottish_Learning_Disabilities_Observatory_Summary.pdf

(Supporting tables: AT_298_2011 to AT_319_2011)

7 January 2016 – age, sex and health characteristics – Council and Health Board areas

http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical_reports/Scottish_Learning_Disabilities_Observatory_council_areas_and_health_boards.pdf

(Supporting tables: AT_320_2011 to AT_355_2011)

26 April 2016 – residence type, area deprivation (SIMD), employment and other circumstances – Scotland level

http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical_reports/Scottish_Learning_Disabilities_Observatory-National_Summary_Part_2.pdf

(Supporting tables: AT_356_2011 to AT_405_2011)

21 June 2016 – characteristics of young people (aged 13 to 24) – Scotland level

http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical_reports/Scottish_Learning_Disabilities_Observatory_Batch_4_summary_ER.pdf

(Supporting tables: AT_406_2011 to AT_420_2011)

12 July 2016 – age, health characteristics and other circumstances of people with learning disability and autism – Scotland level

http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical_reports/Scottish_Learning_Disabilities_Observatory_Batch_6_summary.pdf

(Supporting tables: AT_421_2011 to AT_451_2011)

1 December 2016 – residence type, area deprivation (SIMD), employment status and other circumstances – Council and Health Board areas

http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical_reports/Scottish_Learning_Disabilities_Observatory_Batch_5_summary.pdf

(Supporting tables: AT_453_2011 to AT_530_2011)

22 March 2017 – household deprivation, carers in household, adults in household in employment and other circumstances – Scotland level

http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical_reports/Scottish_Learning_Disabilities_Observatory_Batch_7_summary_ER.pdf

(Supporting tables: AT_531_2011 to AT_573_2011)

19 June 2017 – household deprivation, employment and other characteristics – Council and Health Board areas

http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical_reports/Scottish_Learning_Disabilities_Observatory_Batch_8_summary.pdf

(Supporting tables: AT_580_2011 to AT_631_2011)

Background Notes

General

1. National Records of Scotland¹ (NRS) is responsible for carrying out the 2011 Census in Scotland. Simultaneous but separate censuses took place in England & Wales and Northern Ireland. These were run by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) respectively.
2. The census provides estimates of the characteristics of all people and households in Scotland on census day, 27 March 2011.
3. In Scotland, the aim of the 2011 Census was to achieve a full census return for all people who were usually resident in Scotland for six months or more. In 2011, a full census return was therefore required for people from outside the UK who had stayed or intended to stay in the UK for a total of six months or more. Anyone with a permanent UK address who was outside the UK on census day was also to be included in the census questionnaire for their UK address, if they intended to be outside the UK for less than 12 months. This is defined as the **population base for enumeration**. The **main outputs population base** for the 2011 Census statistics is defined to be usual residents of the UK, that is anyone who, on census day, was in the UK and had stayed or intended to stay in the UK for a period of 12 months or more, or had a permanent UK address and was outside the UK and intended to be outside the UK for less than 12 months. (NRS made no specific adjustment for the presence of 6-12 months migrants among the persons counted in the census – [link for further details.](#))
4. The coverage of the population in an area is those who are usually resident there. A person's place of usual residence is in most cases the address at which they stay the majority of the time. For many people this will be their permanent or family home. Students are treated as being resident at their term-time address. Members of the armed forces were largely recorded at their permanent or family address rather than their base address; determining where they are considered usually resident is not straightforward.
5. As in 2001, adjustments for census under- and over-enumeration were built into the census process and as such the 2011 Census statistics represent the full population. Similar adjustments were not made in the censuses prior to 2001. Further

¹ National Records of Scotland (NRS) was created by the amalgamation in April 2011 of the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) and the National Archives of Scotland (NAS).

information on the quality assurance processes for Scotland's Census 2011 are available [here](#).

Designation as National Statistics

6. The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics. This means they are produced to the high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are produced free from any political interference.

Protecting personal census information

7. Personal census information is kept confidential by NRS, and is protected by law. Census records are not released for 100 years.

8. The census results are provided in aggregate format; no attributes of individuals can be identified from the information published.

9. Information on the measures taken to protect the confidentiality of personal census information is published on the [Scotland's Census website](#).

Further information

Please contact our Customer Services if you need any further information. Email: statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk

If you have comments or suggestions that would help us improve our outputs or our standards of service, please contact:

Kirsty Maclachlan
Senior Statistician
National Records of Scotland
Room 1/2/3
Ladywell House
Ladywell Road
Edinburgh
EH12 7TF

Phone: 0131 314 4242
Email: kirsty.maclachlan@nrscotland.gov.uk

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