



Census 2021
and
Leicester Household Survey 2021

Lead director: Miranda Cannon, Director of Delivery,
Communications, and Political Governance

Useful information

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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 Census 2021 and the Leicester Household Survey 2021 are important sources of information for understanding Leicester and will be used by Leicester City Council and its partners to inform decisions and plan services. This report provides the Overview Select Committee with an overview of both data sources and details for how to access them.

2. Summary

- 2.1. Results of the Census 2021 started to be published in June 2022. Further results will be published in 2023.
- 2.2. Results of the Leicester Household Survey 2021 have been published and are now accessible to Leicester City Council services, city partners, and the public.
- 2.3. Together, Census 2021 and the Leicester Household Survey 2021 provide detailed insights into Leicester's population which will be used to shape the services provided by Leicester City Council its partners.

Census 2021

- 2.4. The census takes place every ten years. It provides a detailed snapshot of personal and household characteristics at census day, which was 23 March 2021.
- 2.5. Every household in England and Wales should complete a census form, and only small changes are made to the questionnaire with each iteration. This makes it highly comparable across local authorities and smaller geographies such as middle-layer-super-output areas (MSOAs), and an important tool for understanding long-term changes.
- 2.6. The census is a core dataset for understanding Leicester's residents and households. Statistics provided by the census are generally considered the highest quality source of information available for topics such as population, demography, and ethnicity. It forms the baseline for many statistical products which will be used for the next decade, including future population estimates and projections.
- 2.7. Census results are used by central and local government to develop policy, plan services, and to allocate and apply for funding. Voluntary, community sector and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations also use census data to apply for funding.

- 2.8. Leicester City Council will use census data to inform decisions on many of its services including planning, transport, social care and education, and public health. Census data also helps the city council to understand how well it is meeting its equality and diversity commitments.
- 2.9. Census 2021 is the first to ask questions on UK armed forces veterans and gender identity and sexual orientation. It is the first time reliable local-level estimates for either of these topics have been produced. The question on previous service in the UK armed forces was included specifically to enable local authorities and third-sector organisations to ensure they are fulfilling the demands of the Armed Forces Covenant.

Census data release schedule

- 2.10. Census data is published in phases. The first phase provides data tables for only one characteristic of a person or household at various levels of geography (country, local authority, output area). The release schedule for topic summaries is provided below.

Topic summary	Date of publication
Population and household estimates	28 June 2022
Demography and migration	2 November 2022
UK armed forces veterans	8 November 2022
Ethnic group, national identity, language, and religion	29 November 2022
Labour market and travel to work	8 December 2022
Housing	5 January 2022 (provisional)
Sexual orientation and gender identity	6 January 2022 (provisional)
Education	10 January 2022 (provisional)
Health, disability, and unpaid care	19 January 2022 (provisional)

- 2.11. Beginning in early 2023, the Office for National Statistic (ONS) will begin the next phases of census data publication. Phase two will run throughout 2023 and include short-term resident data and multivariate data (i.e. ethnicity by age). The ONS will also publish an interactive ‘build an area profile’ tool. Phase three begins in Spring 2023 and will include detailed migration data, origin-destination flows, and outputs on small populations such as Kashmiri, Nepali, Sikh.
- 2.12. Headlines from the census so far are presented in Appendix A. Analysis of census data is currently limited by the availability of only single characteristic data tables. Once multivariate data tables and the ONS’ other query tools become available, more in depth analysis will be possible.

Where to find census data

- 2.13. Selected Leicester-specific tables are published on the open data platform to make them more accessible to LCC services, local VCSEs, and residents. Search ‘Census’ at <https://data.leicester.gov.uk/>

- 2.14. National datasets and tools are published by the ONS:
- Topic summary datasets
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/aboutcensus/censusproducts/topicssummaries>
 - Interactive census data maps
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps>
 - How the Population changed where you live interactive article
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/interactivecontentfromcensus2021firstresults>

Leicester Household Survey 2021

- 2.15. The Leicester Household Survey took place in Autumn 2021. Initial insights were presented to the Overview Select Committee in June 2022.
- 2.16. The survey was designed to capture information on the composition, characteristics, attitudes, and behaviour of private households and individuals to help shape council services, make decisions based on evidence about the local population, and to gain a better understanding of the needs of residents.
- 2.17. The specific aims of the survey were to:
- better understand local characteristics alongside census data
 - meet local government needs for relevant data to support decision making
 - allow wellbeing and financial circumstances within households to be analysed
 - be understandable and useful to stakeholders and partners
- 2.18. 3,272 valid responses, age 18+ with a Leicester postcode, were collected. Around 40% were collected by fieldworkers and 60% online. The sample was reasonably representative of Leicester's adult population.
- 2.19. The survey asked questions on the following themes:
- Personal characteristics
 - About your household
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Money and finances
 - Digital access and internet use
 - News and information
 - Leicester City Council and you
- 2.20. The survey is a valuable strategic intelligence tool and contributes to the council and its partners' understanding of the city. As well as broad insights about the city overall, the survey allows comparison between subgroups such as ethnicity, age, and housing tenure. The survey's focus on topics which are not typically covered by other sources of intelligence makes it unique as a tool available to Leicester City Council and its partners. It enriches the view of the city provided by the census and provides immediately usable insights on topics such as how different groups would like to hear from the council.
- 2.21. Survey insights will be used in combination with the census as evidence to support bids and strategic needs assessment, identify inequalities, and plan

services.

Where to find Leicester Household Survey 2021 results

- 2.22. The findings of the Leicester Household Survey are available online in two formats:
- **Headline findings report** - Overall findings of the survey will be made available in a report on the Leicester City Council website.
 - **Open data platform** - Results broken down by age, ethnicity, and housing tenure can be downloaded or viewed online using the Response Analysis tool. Search 'Leicester Household Survey' at <https://data.leicester.gov.uk/>
- 2.23. Survey results were presented to local businesses, VCSEs, and partners including the NHS and Leicester universities at an event on 12 December 2022.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Note the ongoing release of Census 2021 data.
- 3.2 Note the publication of Leicester Household Survey 2021 results.
- 3.3 Consider how data from both the Leicester Household Survey and the census could inform the work of Leicester's scrutiny commissions.

4. Financial, legal and other implications

4.1 Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
Martin Judson, Head of Finance.

4.2 Legal implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from these surveys
(Kamal Adatia, City Barrister, ext 37 1401)

4.3 Climate Change and Carbon Reduction implications

There are no climate emergency implications directly associated with this report.
Aidan Davis, Sustainability Officer, Ext 37 2284

4.4 Equalities Implications

Whilst there are no direct equality implications arising from this report, it is important to note that equality considerations need to be taken into account when looking at the Census 2021 and Leicester Household survey 2021 outcomes with regard to the protected characteristics.

Protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

Equality monitoring of our services should provide us with further information on who is /who is not accessing our services and carrying out Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) will help to identify any areas of concern and put in place mitigating actions as appropriate.

Sukhi Biring, Equalities Officer, 454 4175

4.5 Other Implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)

7. Background information and other papers:

N/A

8. Summary of appendices:

One document is appended to this item:

- Appendix A – Leicester Household Survey and Census 2021 briefing slides

9. Is this a private report (If so, please indicated the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)?

No

10. Is this a “key decision”?

No

11. If a key decision please explain reason

In determining whether it is a key decision you will need consider if it is likely:

- to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates.
- to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working *in two or more wards in the City*.

Expenditure or savings will be regarded as significant if:

- (a) In the case of additional recurrent revenue expenditure, it is not included in the approved revenue budget, and would cost in excess of £0.5m p.a.;
- (b) In the case of reductions in recurrent revenue expenditure, the provision is not included in the approved revenue budget, and savings of over £0.5m p.a. would be achieved;
- (c) In the case of one off or capital expenditure, spending of over £1m is to be committed on a scheme that has not been specifically authorised by Council.

In deciding whether a decision is significant you need to take into account:

- Whether the decision may incur a significant social, economic or environmental risk.
- The likely extent of the impact of the decision both within and outside of the City.
- The extent to which the decision is likely to result in substantial public interest
- The existence of significant communities of interest that cannot be defined spatially.