

200 years of the Census in...

LINCOLNSHIRE

(includes Humberside from 1981 onwards)

March 10th 2001 marks the bicentenary of the modern Census in Britain.

For 200 years the Census has been the cornerstone of planning in Britain. The first Census in 1801 was taken amidst fears that Britain's growing population might outstrip the country's supply of food. It asked 5 questions and counted 10 million people living in two million households. The 2001 Census, which takes place on the 29th April, will count almost 60 million people who live in approximately twenty four million households. It will ask 40 questions and generate 2 billion pieces of information to allocate more than £50 billion of public spending each year.

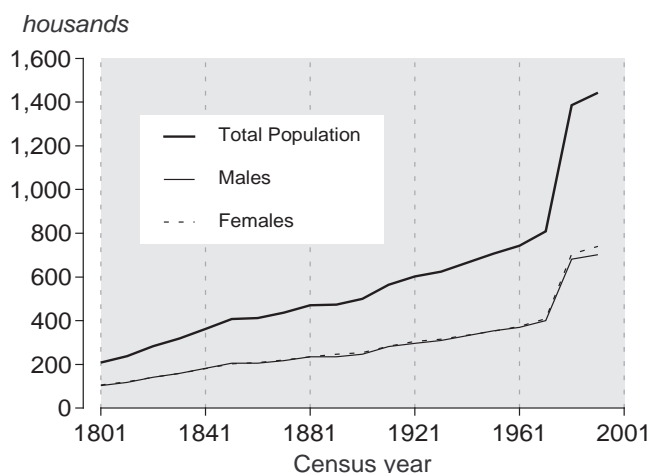
The Census is not only useful for planning. Two centuries of census taking have produced a record of remarkable changes in British society. For example, 90% of the population lived in urban areas in 1991 compared with just 16% in 1831. The average size of households has fallen by half in the past 100 years from 4.6 persons in 1901 to approximately 2.4 persons in 1991. We are also living longer. In 1821 almost half of the population was under 20 years of age compared with just over a quarter under 20 years of age today.

The value of the Census is that it provides detailed information at a local as well as a national level. This pamphlet - one of a series for various areas in England and for Wales - describes the changes in society measured by the Census between 1801 and 1991.

The information from censuses has continued to evolve and grow since the first reports in 1801. The questions and results are on issues relevant to a particular time and change cannot always be tracked exactly over the two centuries. Boundaries of counties also shift over time. The figures and graphs in this pamphlet are the best approximation in the circumstances and are to help paint the picture of change. A full list of the topics covered in the census since 1801 is available in an accompanying document 'Census Topics 1801-2001', and details on how to obtain further information on historical census statistics are given on the back page of this monitor.

THE POPULATION AND AREA SIZE OF LINCOLNSHIRE

This table and chart show the various increases and decreases in area size and population, and numbers of males and females. There have been several changes in the boundaries and size of Lincolnshire over the years. The apparent sudden increase in Lincolnshire's population between 1971 and 1991 is due to the inclusion of figures for Humberside, which came into existence in 1974 as part of the Local Government Re-organisation.



Year	Area Size (Acres)	Total Population	Males	Females
1801	na	208,577	102,445	106,112
1811	na	237,891	117,022	120,869
1821	na	283,058	141,570	141,488
1831	1,663,850	317,465	158,858	158,607
1841	1,663,850	362,602	181,758	180,844
1851	1,776,738	407,222	205,083	202,139
1861	1,775,457	412,246	204,644	207,602
1871	1,767,962	436,599	216,762	219,837
1881	1,767,879	469,919	235,219	234,700
1891	1,694,907	473,912	234,036	239,876
1901	1,696,332	500,022	245,773	254,249
1911	1,705,293	563,960	281,279	282,681
1921	1,705,293	602,202	296,524	305,678
1931	1,705,293	624,589	309,637	314,952
1951	1,704,385	705,822	353,374	352,448
1961	1,704,385	743,596	369,386	374,210
1971	1,704,110	809,148	399,750	409,398
1981	2,329,403	1,386,226	681,088	705,138
1991	2,329,898	1,442,405	702,256	740,149

na = not available

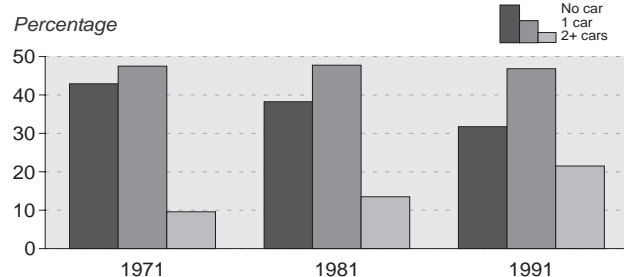
Households and Amenities

At the end of the Second World War (1939-45) it was vital to assess the overall housing situation in Great Britain. Consequently the 1951 Census had a number of questions on housing needs. These were met in the post-war housing programmes, and significant improvements were evident in subsequent Censuses. In 1971 only 7,405 households in Lincolnshire were without a WC, compared to 58,483 households in 1951. By 1981, only 4,966 households were without a fixed bath.

The 2001 Census will ask questions relevant now, such as availability of central heating and the lowest floor level of accommodation.

Amenities	1951	H/Holds %
H/Holds without piped water	46,163	22.7
H/Holds without WC	58,483	28.7
H/Holds without fixed bath	46,572	22.9
H/Holds without kitchen sink	41,970	20.6
H/Holds without cooking stove	3,505	1.7
H/Holds with all five of the above.	89,190	43.8

(Total Households in 1951 = 203,665)



Car Availability 1971 – 1991

A question on car availability was asked for the first time in 1971, by which time almost 58 per cent of households in Lincolnshire already had a car. At the time of the 1991 Census this had increased by a further 11 percentage points to 69 per cent of households. There has also been a big increase in households with two or more cars since 1971.

OCCUPATIONS

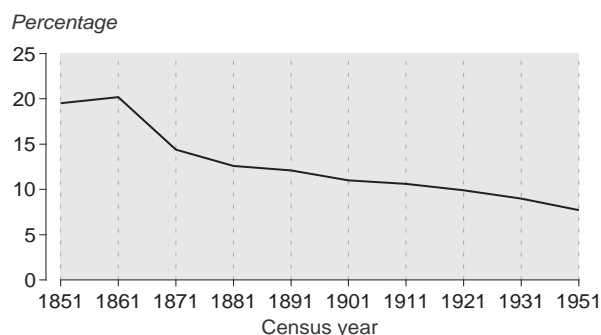
Agriculture

A general decline in the number of people employed in agriculture is common to many counties. In Lincolnshire the number of agricultural labourers fell from 42,035 in 1861 to 36,754 in 1931, a decrease of 12%. Several counties experienced decreases of around 60% during the same period.

By 1991, the number of farmers and agricultural labourers accounted for 2% of Lincolnshire and Humberside's population.

N.B. This analysis is based upon the number of people employed in agriculture as a percentage of the total population, not just the working population..

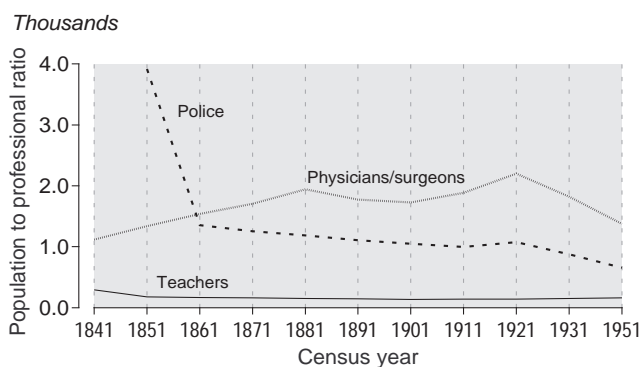
Percentage of people employed in agriculture in Lincolnshire



Professionals

This chart is based on a comparison between three professional occupations (physicians/surgeons, teachers and the police), and the total population of Lincolnshire, 1841-1951.

There have been changes in definition in what is included in each of these professions over the years.



Early figures for physicians and surgeons may be overstated as they included people employed in 'apothecary' (chemists) and medical students. Figures for the Police in 1841 have not been included in the graph as there were so few of them in Lincolnshire at that time.

The number of people per physician/surgeon appears to have risen and fallen, whilst the numbers of people per policeman/woman and teacher has fallen. For example, there was one police officer per 3986 people in 1851, dropping to 656 people in 1951.

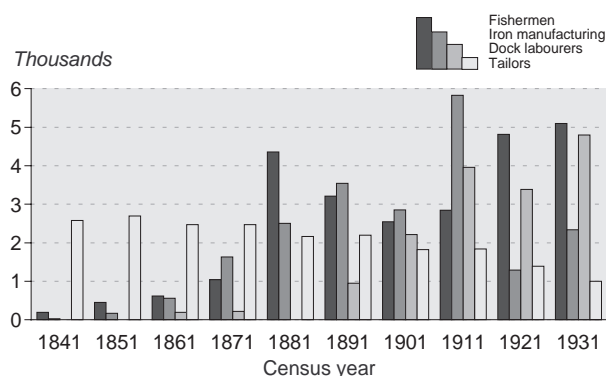
By 1991, there was one teacher per 78 people, one physician/surgeon per 747 people and one police officer per 428 people.

N.B. Figures between 1951 and 1991 have not been included due to problems with the availability and comparability of data between these years.

Key Occupations

The chart highlights four of the main occupations in Lincolnshire, past and present, and trends over the years.

The biggest increases between 1841 and 1931 occurred in the iron manufacturing industry, and in fishing. Iron manufacture reached its peak during 1911 with 5,830 employed, and fishing during 1931 employing 5,097 people. The only occupation on the chart to experience a fall in employment between 1841 and 1931 was tailors, with a drop of 38% during the period.



N.B. Analyses are only shown to 1931 because of difficulties in making comparisons with more recent statistics.

Numbers of dock labourers in 1841, 1851 and 1881 were not available.

Did you know ?

- The population of Lincolnshire increased seven-fold between 1801 to 1991.
- In 1991, one in five households in Lincolnshire and Humberside did not have central heating, which matched the 1991 GB average.
- Between 1851 and 1901, the number of people employed on the railways in Lincolnshire (excluding construction) increased nine-fold – from 683 people to 6,043 people.
- In 1881, 10% of Lincolnshire’s female population were employed as indoor domestic servants. Over 5 times as many females were domestic servants as males.
- In 1851, there were 8 chimney sweeps aged between 5 and 9 in Lincolnshire.
- In 1891 there were 2,887 blacksmiths in Lincolnshire, whilst the highest number of boot and shoemakers recorded for Lincolnshire was 4,178 in 1851.
- There was a rise in the population density of Lincolnshire from 0.2 people per acre in 1831, to 0.6 people per acre in Lincolnshire and Humberside in 1991. This was below the GB average of almost 1 person per acre in 1991.
- The numbers of people per household has decreased over the last 200 years. In 1801 the average household in Lincolnshire contained 5 people, compared to 2.5 for Lincolnshire and Humberside in 1991, which equalled the national average.

The Census reports also contain interesting explanatory notes:

1841 - *“The increase of population in the Parish of Skegness is attributed to the residence of visitors for sea-bathing.”*

1851 - *“Parish of Great Grimsby - the great increase of population arises from the employment of a large number of workmen in the construction of the Grimsby Docks and the consequent improvement of trade in the Town.”*

1901 - *“The increase in population in Scunthorpe is due to development of ironstone mining and steel works - from 3481 people in 1891 , to 6750 people in 1901.”*

1901 – *“1901 saw a dramatic increase in the numbers of agricultural machine attendants in England and Wales, of which Lincolnshire had the highest numbers enumerated for any County – 694.”*

Further information

These monitors have been produced to show county level information. Often, there is more interest in information for lower geographical areas e.g. parishes. Many good reference libraries hold census volumes to enable individuals to carry out their own research. The ONS London library (details below) which is open to the public also contains a full set of census volumes back to 1801. From 10th March 2001 there will be additional information made available on our website www.statistics.gov.uk. Further advice and limited research can be also carried out by Census Customer Services.

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