

200 years of the Census in...

RUTLAND

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.

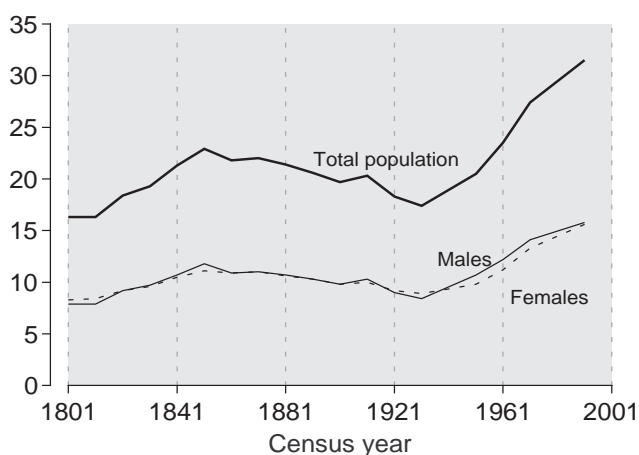
The value of the Census is that it provides detailed information at a local as well as a national level. This pamphlet - one of a series for various areas in England and for Wales - describes the changes in society measured by the Census between 1801 and 1991.

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 RUTLAND

This table and chart show the various increases and decreases in area size and population, and numbers of males and females. Despite a number of small changes in the boundaries and size of Rutland over the years, the population has been more or less unaffected, and has continued to increase steadily. As part of the Local Government Re-organisation of 1974, Rutland ceased to exist as a County. It was re-instated as a Unitary Authority in April 1997. 1991 Census statistics for Rutland UA are contained within a New Local Government Area Monitor KPS97/1 available on request from Census Customer Services.

Thousands



| Year | Area Size (Acres) | Total Population | Males | Females |
|------|-------------------|------------------|--------|---------|
| 1801 | na | 16,356 | 7,978 | 8,378 |
| 1811 | na | 16,380 | 7,931 | 8,449 |
| 1821 | na | 18,487 | 9,223 | 9,264 |
| 1831 | 97,500 | 19,385 | 9,721 | 9,664 |
| 1841 | 97,500 | 21,302 | 10,721 | 10,581 |
| 1851 | 95,805 | 22,983 | 11,801 | 11,182 |
| 1861 | 95,805 | 21,861 | 10,900 | 10,961 |
| 1871 | 94,889 | 22,073 | 11,038 | 11,035 |
| 1881 | 94,889 | 21,434 | 10,764 | 10,670 |
| 1891 | 97,273 | 20,659 | 10,323 | 10,336 |
| 1901 | 97,273 | 19,709 | 9,849 | 9,860 |
| 1911 | 97,273 | 20,346 | 10,314 | 10,032 |
| 1921 | 97,273 | 18,376 | 9,080 | 9,296 |
| 1931 | 97,273 | 17,401 | 8,446 | 8,955 |
| 1951 | 97,273 | 20,537 | 10,720 | 9,817 |
| 1961 | 97,273 | 23,504 | 12,290 | 11,214 |
| 1971 | 97,271 | 27,469 | 14,153 | 13,316 |
| 1981 | na | na | na | na |
| 1991 | 97,271 | 31,489 | 15,830 | 15,659 |

na = not available

Households and Amenities

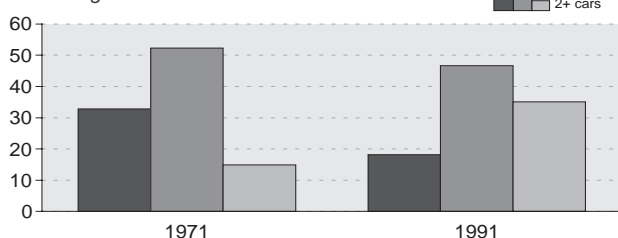
At the end of the Second World War (1939-45) it was vital to assess the overall housing situation in Great Britain. Consequently the 1951 Census had a number of questions on housing needs. These were met in the post-war housing programmes, and significant improvements were evident in subsequent Censuses. In 1971 only 145 households in Rutland were without a WC, compared to 2,671 households in 1951. By 1971, only 705 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 | 2,494 | 44.1 |
| H/Holds without WC | 2,671 | 47.3 |
| H/Holds without fixed bath | 3,249 | 57.5 |
| H/Holds without kitchen sink | 1,425 | 25.2 |
| H/Holds without cooking stove | 224 | 4.0 |
| H/Holds with all five of the above | 1,755 | 31.1 |

(Total Households in 1951 = 5,651)

Percentage



Car Availability 1971 – 1991

A question on car availability was asked for the first time in 1971, by which time 68 per cent of households in Rutland already had a car. At the time of the 1991 Census this had increased by a further 14 percentage points to 82 per cent of households. There has also been a big increase in households with two or more cars since 1971.

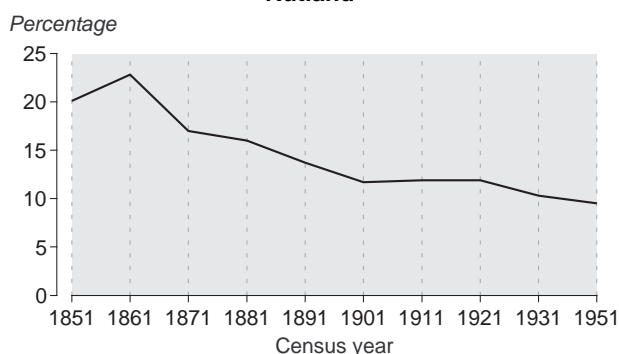
OCCUPATIONS

Agriculture

A general decline in the number of people employed in agriculture is common to many counties. In Rutland the number of agricultural labourers fell from 2,746 in 1861 to 1,108 in 1931, a decrease of 59%. By 1951, only 9.5% of the population were employed in agriculture compared with 23% during 1861.

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..

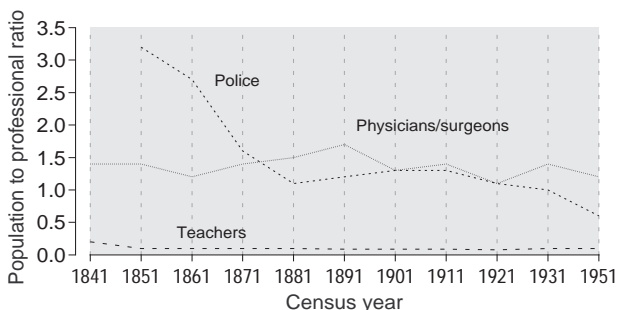
Percentage of people employed in agriculture in Rutland



Professionals

This chart is based on a comparison between three professional occupations (physicians/surgeons, teachers and the police), and the total population of Rutland, 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 Rutland at that time.

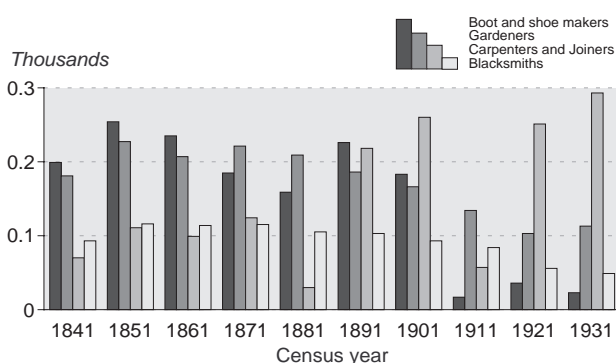
Generally the numbers of people to each professional has fallen over the period. For example, there was one police officer per 3,283 people in 1851, dropping to 685 people in 1951.

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 Rutland, past and present, and trends over the years.

All four of Rutland's key occupations appear to have experienced radical ups and downs between 1841 and 1931.



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

Did you know ?

- The population of Rutland increased two-fold between 1801 to 1991.
- In 1991, one in ten households in Rutland did not have central heating, which compared to a GB average of one in five.
- Between 1851 and 1901, the number of people employed on the railways (excluding construction) increased fivefold – from 29 people to 146 people
- In 1881, 13% of the female population were employed as indoor domestic servants. Over two times as many females were domestic servants as males.
- There were 5 chimney sweeps between the ages of 5 and 9 in 1851.
- In 1851 there were 116 blacksmiths, 254 boot and shoe makers and 166 mason and stonecutters in Rutland.
- The rise in the population density of Rutland has been modest. There were 0.2 people per acre in 1831, compared to 0.3 people per acre in 1991. This was well below the GB average of 0.97 people per acre in 1991.
- Household size has decreased over the last 200 years. In 1801 the average household in Rutland contained 5 people, compared to 2.6 in 1991. This was slightly higher than the 1991 GB average of 2.5 people per household.

The Census reports also contain interesting explanatory notes:

- 1831 – *“The Parish of Greetham experienced a decreasing of population attributed to Typhus Fever.”*
- 1851 – *“The return of Oakham Lordshold contains the following institutions. The County Gaol containing 14 persons in 1841 and 30 in 1851; and the Oakham Union Workhouse which contained 81 inmates in 1841 and 103 in 1851.”*
- 1851 – *“The decrease of population in Whissendine parish is attributed to the removal of labourers employed on railway works.”*
- 1861 – *“The decrease of population in Rockingham parish is attributed to a reduction of the establishment at the Castle.”*
- 1901 – *“15 persons were returned as Blind, 3 from childhood; 8 returned as Deaf and Dumb, 7 from childhood; 11 returned as Deaf, 1 from childhood; 32 returned as Imbecile or Feeble-Minded, 11 from childhood.”*

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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