

# Census 2001

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## One Number Census Quality Assurance information: Quality Assurance themes

### Foreign Armed Forces

#### Problem

In some LADs, the ONC estimates for males and females aged up to 39 were well below the diagnostic range. Often these areas contained foreign armed forces (FAF) bases. The QA panel reviewed these areas to assess the impact of the presence of Foreign Armed Forces on the ONC estimate. This work involved looking at a sample of images to see whether FAF personnel were coded correctly and their forms completed correctly. Conversely, in some EAs, there were Foreign Armed Forces present in areas that had no military bases.

#### Results

When comparing the ONC estimates with coding adjustment to the 2001 MYEs it was agreed that the census had counted FAF personnel and dependants (and hence they were on the database) but that they had not necessarily been coded as FAF personnel and dependants. Many had been classified as home armed forces. The ONC estimates with coding adjustment therefore looked acceptable and it was agreed that no adjustment would need to be made for FAF. The PEU received correspondence from some areas expressing the view that the MYEs had been too high. This correspondence dated back to 1992 and was based on the view that the adjustment made for foreign armed forces in the 1991 census was too high. This will have contributed to the issue. It was also noted that much of decline in the estimate of FAF between 2000 MYE and the ONC estimates was due to a significant reduction in FAF based in England and Wales. This was particularly the case in Forest Heath.