

Update on 2001 Census Progress

2001 Census (UK)

- Largest peacetime operation
- 80,000 fieldstaff
- 33 million forms
- 2 billion standard output counts

Census Response Rates (1)

- Expect response to equal 1991 (98%)
 - 88% forms posted back (72% forms posted back, US 2000)
 - 7% collected by enumerators
 - expect remainder to be predominantly vacant dwellings and second homes
- Response will vary from area to area

Census Response Rates (2)

- Current response rates are estimates
- No information on sub-national response rates
- Response rates will vary => One Number Census / Census Coverage Survey
- First results August 2002

Census Coverage Survey (CCS) (UK)

- Postcode based survey, re-enumerating entire postcodes
- 370,000 households within 19,500 postcodes
- 5,000 fieldstaff

CCS Response Rates (UK)

- CCS response:
 - 91% in England and Wales
 - 95% in Scotland
 - 92% in Northern Ireland
- Response rates are estimates

One Number Census

- Simulations based on:
 - 95% Census
 - 90% CCS
- Response rates are encouraging

Processing

Lockheed Martin

- scanning and coding

Downstream Processing

- edit and imputation
- ONC matching
- data validation
- disclosure control
- derived variables

Data Quality

- Early indications:
 - forms completed well
 - accuracy of data capture high
 - coding quality is good
- From small sample of early data:
 - over 99% capture accuracy on tick-box answers and questions such as date of birth and address

Summary

- Too early to provide precise or sub-national figures on response rates
- Early indications are that response rates are sufficient for ONC to achieve desired result
- Data quality appears high