

# Do you believe in numbers?

1. a) In 2001 the population of England was 49,138,831 and the population of Wales was 2,903,085. These figures are taken from the Census 2001 results.

[http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/press\\_release\\_uk.asp](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/press_release_uk.asp)

State reasons why you think this figure may not be accurate.

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- b) In 2008 the populations of England and Wales were estimated as 51,446,000 and 2,990,000 respectively. These figures are from the Office for National Statistics' website

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=1352>

	<i>thousands</i>					
	2008	2013	2018	2023	2028	2033
<b>United Kingdom</b>	61,393	63,498	65,645	67,816	69,832	71,623
<b>England</b>	51,460	53,332	55,252	57,209	59,051	60,715
<b>Wales</b>	2,990	3,056	3,137	3,219	3,290	3,347
<b>Scotland</b>	5,169	5,271	5,360	5,442	5,505	5,544
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	1,775	1,839	1,896	1,946	1,986	2,016

Projected populations of the constituent countries of the UK

The population of England in 2010 is given as 51,447,052 and that of Wales in 2010 is 2,900,000 according to the True Knowledge website

<http://www.trueknowledge.com> (type in your question).

Do you think the populations of England and Wales for 2010 are correct?

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If not, why not?

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2. The most popular names in England and Wales of boys and girls for different years are:

Year	Boys	Girls	Source of Data
2010	Jack	Olivia	Sample of 3,000 expectant parents
2009	Jack	Holly	Sample of 10,000 expectant parents
2008	Jack	Olivia	ONS official results
2007	Jack	Grace	ONS official results

Taken from <http://www.baby-names-guide.co.uk/top-100-baby-names.php>

How do you think the ONS get their data for these names?

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Who may find this data useful?

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3. Here are some results from the Census 2001.

[http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/quick\\_pictures.asp](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/quick_pictures.asp)

Results	England	Wales
The highest percentage of single persons (never married)	Lambeth 55.8 %	Cardiff 37.7 %
The most people who are separated or divorced	Blackpool 15.2 %	Denbighshire 11.5 %
The highest percentage of houses without heating	Isles of Scilly 40.4 %	Gwynedd 21.6 %
Highest percentage of households without a car	London 62.0 %	Merthyr Tydfil 35.2%

Referring to the table above:

a) What do you think the definition of a single person is?

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b) What effect on the community do you think having the highest number of people who are separated or divorced may have?

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c) Why do you think the Isles of Scilly has such a high percentage of households with no central heating?

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d) Would this be the same reason for Gwynedd (Snowdonia National Park is in Gwynedd)?

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4. "A survey of more than 11,000 Australians, Chinese and Germans proved pet-owners enjoy better levels of health. In five years, they made 15 – 20 % fewer annual visits to the doctor than non pet-owners."

Bruce Headey, Australia, 10th International Conference on Human-Animal Interactions, October 2004

<http://www.uk.cesar.com/KeepHimHappy/>

Do you believe this statement?

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What other characteristics or life styles could dog walkers/pet-owners have in common that could account for fewer annual visits to the doctor?

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