

Dependent children with second parental address, 2011 census

Summary

At the time of the census in 2011, 3.2% of the dependent children were resident in England and Wales had a second address that was home to another parent or guardian. Low proportions were seen in and around London and other large cities such as Birmingham and Manchester. This may relate to higher proportions of the population reporting Asian ethnicity, in these areas, reflecting different cultural attitudes towards marriage, divorce and cohabitation. It may also be influenced by the local housing market.

In the Lancashire-14 area, there were 11,841 dependent children with a second parental address, which represented 3.8% of all dependent children.

Introduction

This short article contains results for dependent children with a second parental address from the 2011 Census of Population. A dependent child is one aged 0 to 15 in a household or aged 16 - 18 and in full-time education. This was the first time such a question was included in the census. The figures have been downloaded from the [Office for National Statistics](#) website and complement a range of other census data sets that have been added to our website.

The question was asked because with an increase in the proportion of adults who are divorced and an increase in cohabiting couples (who are more likely to separate) it is increasingly likely that dependent children will be sharing their time between two different parental addresses.

The Lancashire results in a national context

In 2011, 3.2% (386,000) of the 12.1 million dependent children who were resident in England and Wales had a second address that was the residence of another parent or guardian. Low proportions were seen in and around London and other large cities such as Birmingham and Manchester. This may relate to higher proportions of the population reporting Asian ethnicity, in these areas, reflecting different cultural attitudes towards marriage, divorce and cohabitation. It may also be influenced by the local housing market.

The 2011 census results

In the Lancashire-14 area, there were 11,841 dependent children with a second parental address. They represented 3.8% of all dependent children. 9,800 of these children lived within the Lancashire-12 area, and they represented 4% of all resident dependent children there.

Table 1 Dependent children with second parental addresses in Lancashire local authority areas

	All dependent children	Dependent children with second	% of dependent children with second	Second address within the	Second address	Second address abroad
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		parental address	parental address	resident area	elsewhere in UK	
Burnley	19,591	703	3.6	447	248	8
Chorley	22,434	1,052	4.7	592	451	9
Fylde	13,925	689	4.9	368	304	17
Hyndburn	19,064	699	3.7	423	267	9
Lancaster	25,907	1,103	4.3	883	203	17
Pendle	20,852	666	3.2	415	238	13
Preston	30,466	828	2.7	479	311	38
Ribble Valley	12,079	691	5.7	417	265	9
Rossendale	15,257	674	4.4	396	265	13
South Ribble	22,906	1,090	4.8	642	446	2
West Lancashire	23,269	688	3.0	388	282	18
Wyre	20,116	917	4.6	567	337	13
Lancashire- 12	245,866	9,800	4.0	6,017	3,617	166

Blackburn with Darwen	39,059	998	2.6	681	299	18
Blackpool	28,842	1,043	3.6	715	309	19
Lancashire-14	313,767	11,841	3.8	7,413	4,225	203

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census

Across all of England and Wales, the rate of resident children with a second parental address was highest in Ribble Valley (5.7%). In other areas across Lancashire rates were above 4% in Fylde, South Ribble, Chorley, Lancaster and Wyre.

These areas with the highest rates of children with second parental addresses are the more affluent areas of the county. It may be that affluence, in some way, contributes to sustained post relationship contact between children and the non-resident parent. Within Lancashire rates were lowest by far in Preston (2.7%) and also low in West Lancashire (3%).

The number of children with a second parental address was highest in Lancaster, South Ribble and Chorley (over 1,000 in each district).

The rate of children with a second parental address in Blackburn with Darwen was low (2.6%). In Blackpool the rate was 3.6%. The number of children in each of these areas was similar (998 and 1,043 respectively).

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