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2011 Census: Second Address Estimates for Local and Unitary Authorities in England and Wales


Questions 5 and 6 of the 2011 Census form asked about second addresses.

Question 5 asked: “Do you stay at another address for more than 30 days a year?”

Question 6 asked: “What is that address?” The possible answers were:
- armed forces base address
- another address when working away from home
- student’s home address
- student’s term time address
- another parent or guardian’s address
- holiday home
- other

Most of the questions in the 2011 Census had been asked in earlier censuses but some were new: this is one of the new questions. This second address information was not collected in any previous Census: this is the first time this data is available.

Overall, 1,570,224 usual residents in England and Wales (2.8 per cent) listed themselves as using a second address for more than 30 days a year, and which was located in a local or unitary authority other than the one in which they usually lived. Of these, 12 per cent said that the second address was for work and 11 per cent for holiday purposes; the remaining 77 per cent included students, children of separated parents, and those classed as ‘other’.

In the list of local and unitary authorities with the twenty highest percentages of ‘usual residents elsewhere with a second address in this authority (for all reasons)’ four are in Wales. The city of London has the highest percentage (18.5 per cent) followed by the Isles of Scilly (12.1 per cent). The four in Wales are:
- Gwynedd (9.9 per cent, 4th in the list)
- Isle of Anglesey (7.3 per cent, 9th)
- Pembrokeshire (6.9 per cent, 11th)
- Ceredigion (6.7 per cent, 15th)

It is important to make the direction of the percentage clear. It means that of the people who do not usually live in Gwynedd, 12,012 people said that they had a second address in Gwynedd (for some reason), which is 9.9 per cent of the 121,874 usual residents of Gwynedd.

Almost half of all second addresses used for holidays (49 per cent) are within 20 local or unitary authorities. The local authorities with the largest number of second addresses used for holidays are Cornwall (10,169) and Gwynedd (7,784). Gwynedd has the highest proportion of second addresses that are used for holidays at 6.4 per cent of the usual resident population.
In the list of local and unitary authorities with the twenty highest percentages of ‘usual residents elsewhere with a holiday second address in this authority’ five are in Wales. The five in Wales are:

- Gwynedd (6.4 per cent, 1st in the list)
- Isle of Anglesey (4.1 per cent, 6th)
- Pembrokeshire (3.5 per cent, 9th)
- Ceredigion (3.0 per cent, 13th)
- Conwy (2.8 per cent, 14th)

Again it is important to make the direction of the percentage clear. It means that of the people who do not usually live in Gwynedd,  7,784 people said that they had a holiday second address in Gwynedd, which is 6.4 per cent of the 121,874 usual residents of Gwynedd.

**Further information**

Office for National Statistics website: 2011 Census: Number of people with second addresses in local authorities in England and Wales, March 2011

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