

Glossary

This document includes the definitions of terms used within Colchester Counts. These definitions are provided by the Office for National Statistics and are used in conjunction with the 2001 Census.

Definitions are listed in alphabetical order and will be updated with further releases of data.

[Notes to tables.](#)

Age

Age is derived from the date of birth question in the 2001 Census and is the age at a person's last birthday.

Amenities

Amenities include central heating, bath/shower and toilet.

Area

The area in hectares.

Cohabiting

Two people are described as cohabiting if they are living together as a couple but are not married to each other. This includes people living with a partner of the same sex. A cohabiting person might be married (to someone not resident in the household) but will not be shown as married or separated in the living arrangements tables.

Dependent Child

A dependent child is a person aged 0 to 15 in a household (whether or not in a family) or aged 16 to 18 in full-time education and living in a family with his or her parent(s). An adult in a household is any person who is not a dependent child.

Economic Activity

The Economic Activity questions in the Census only apply to those aged between 16 and 74. They relate to whether or not a person was working or looking for work in the week before Census.

Economically Active

All people who were working in the week before the Census are described as economically active. In addition, the category includes all those who were not working but were looking for work and were available to start work within 2 weeks. Full-time students who are economically active are included but are identified separately in the classification.

Economically Inactive

Specific categories of Economic Inactivity are: Retired, Student (excludes those students who were working or in some other way were economically active), Looking after family/home, Permanently sick/disabled and Other. A person who is looking for

work but is not available to start work within 2 weeks is counted as Economically Inactive.

Employed

Any person who did paid work in the week before the Census, whether as an employee or self-employed, is described as employed or in employment. 'Paid work' includes casual or temporary work, even if only for one hour; being on a government-sponsored training scheme; being away from a job/business ill, on maternity leave, on holiday or temporarily laid off; or doing paid or unpaid work for their own or family business.

Ethnic Group

The Ethnic Group question records each person's ethnic group as perceived by the individual themselves.

Family

A family comprises a group of people consisting of a married or cohabiting couple with or without child(ren), or a lone parent with child(ren). It also includes a married or cohabiting couple with their grandchild(ren) or a lone grandparent with his or her grandchild(ren) where there are no children in the intervening generation in the household. Cohabiting couples include same sex couples. Children in couple families need not belong to both members of the couple.

Full-time student

A full-time student is a person of any age who has indicated that they are a schoolchild or student in full-time education.

Full-time working

Working full-time is defined as working 31 hours or more a week.

General Health

A self-assessment of a person's general health over the 12 months before the Census.

Household

A household comprises one person living alone, or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address with common housekeeping – that is sharing either a living room or sitting room, or at least one meal a day.

Household Composition

Households consisting of one family and no other people are classified according to the type of family and the number of dependent children. Other households are classified by the number of dependent children or whether all student or all pensioner. Household composition takes no account of the relationships between people.

Industry

The industry in which a person works is determined by the responses to the question asking for a description of the business of the person's employer (or own business if self-employed). The responses are coded to a modified version of the UK Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities 1992 – UK SIC (92). Available from www.statistics.gov.uk

Limiting Long-term Illness

A self assessment of whether or not a person has a limiting long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits their daily activities or the work they can do, including problems that are due to old age.

Living Arrangements

The living arrangements classification combines the responses to the question on legal marital status and whether people are, or are not, living as a couple. It applies only to people in households.

Lone Parent Family

Usually, a lone parent family is a father or mother with his or her child(ren) where the parent does not have a spouse or partner in the household and the child(ren) do not have a spouse, partner or child in the household. It also includes a lone grandparent with his or her grandchild(ren) where there are no children in the intervening generation in the household. (There is no age limit on the term child).

Long-term Unemployed

A person is defined as being long-term unemployed at Census if the year they last worked was 1999 or earlier.

Migrant

A migrant is a person with a different address one year before the Census to that on Census Day. The migrant status for children under one in households is determined by the migrant status of their next of kin.

Owned

This includes accommodation that is either owned outright, owned with a mortgage or loan, or shared ownership (paying part rent and part mortgage).

Part-time Working

Working part-time is defined as working 30 hours or less a week.

Pensioner

This term is used in some tables as shorthand for 'person of pensionable age.' Pensionable age is 65 and over for males and 60 and over for females.

Permanently sick/disabled

This is a sub-category of 'economically inactive.' There is no direct connection with limiting long-term illness. See also Economically inactive, Limiting Long-term illness.

Population Base

The 2001 Census has been conducted on a resident basis. This means the statistics relate to where people usually live, as opposed to where they are on Census night. Students and schoolchildren studying away from the family home are counted as resident at their term-time address. Residents away from home on Census night were required to be included on the Census form at their usual/resident address. Wholly absent households were legally required to complete a Census form on their return.

Population Density

Number of residents per hectare.

Private Rented

This includes accommodation that is rented from a private landlord or letting agency, employer of a household member, relative or friend of a household member, or other non social rented.

Provision of Unpaid Care

A person is a provider of unpaid care if they give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of a limiting long-term physical or mental health or disability, or problems related to old age. There is no specific reference to whether care is provided within the household or outside the household.

Self-employed

The distinction between employee and self-employed is determined by the response to the question 'Do (did) you work as an employee or are (were) you self-employed?' It relates to the person's main job in the week before Census.

Social Rented

This includes accommodation that is rented from a council (Local Authority) or a Housing Association, Housing Co-operative, Charitable Trust, Non-profit housing company or Registered Social Landlord.

Tenure

The tenure of a household is derived from the response to the question asking whether the household owns or rents its accommodation and, if rented, from the response to the question asking who is the landlord.

Unemployed

A person is defined as unemployed if he or she is not in employment, is available to start work in the next 2 weeks and has either looked for work in the last 4 weeks or is waiting to start a new job.

Working age

Working age is defined as 16 to 64 for males and 16 to 59 for females.

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