

Briefing Note

To: Directors/Leadership Team /Cabinet

Date: November 2022

Subject: Census First Release

Purpose

To provide an outline of the First Topic summary of the Census – Armed Forces & Veterans.

Overview

The 2021 Census in England and Wales was the first Census to ask people if they had previously served in the UK armed forces. People aged 16 years and over were asked whether they had previously served in the regular or reserve UK armed forces, or both. People currently serving in the UK armed forces and those who had never served were both advised to tick "no".

The Census figures revealed that almost 1 in 25 people aged 16 years and over in England and Wales was a veteran of the UK armed forces. The England and Wales average of UK armed forces veterans was 2.9% ex Regular, 0.7% ex Reserve and 0.2% had served in both. There were 1.7 million households (7.0% of all households) with one or more persons who had served in the UK armed forces.

The areas with the highest proportion of UK armed forces veterans tended to be near existing armed forces bases, South West, North East, East Midlands and Yorkshire & The Humber. The local authorities with the highest proportion of veterans included Gosport (12.5%), North Kesteven (10.2%) and Richmondshire (9.5%) in England, and Conwy (5.9%) in Wales.

Doncaster has the highest % proportion of UK armed forces veterans in S Yorks:

Place	Previously served (%)	Previously served (Actual)
Doncaster	5.1%	12,865
Sheffield	2.9%	13,093
Rotherham	3.8%	8,212
Barnsley	4.2%	8,381
North Lincs	5.5%	7,651
North East Lincs	5.5%	7,034
Kingston Upon Hull	4.7%	10,079
East Riding of Yorkshire	6.2%	17,732
Selby	4.9%	3,700
Wakefield	4.1%	11,723
North East Derbyshire	4.1%	3,528
Chesterfield	4.2%	3,615
Bolsover	4.2%	2,798
Bassetlaw	5.1%	4,924
York	4.3%	7,384
Harrogate	5.2%	7,076
Leeds	3.1%	20,401
Bradford	2.9%	12,391
Kirklees	3.4%	11,791
Calderdale	3.9%	6,557

More detailed data and analysis on UK armed forces veterans will be published in the coming months by Census 2021, alongside the release of multivariate data. This will enable breakdowns of the UK armed forces veterans' population by other census variables, such as age, health and labour market characteristics.

PIC November 22