# CITY & COUNTY OF SWANSEA RESEARCH AND INFORMATION UNIT 2011 CENSUS: RELEASE OF INITIAL RESULTS

## **Summary results for Swansea**

On Monday 16 July 2012, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published the first results of the 2011 Census, which included national and local authority population totals and an age/sex breakdown of the population (rounded) by five-year age groups.

The figures show that the estimated population of the City & County of Swansea on Census Day (Sunday 27 March 2011) was **239,000**, comprising of 118,100 males and 120,900 females. This is approximately 6,500 people (2.8%) more than the most recent official Mid-Year Estimate figure for Swansea (for mid-2010, as published June 2011), and 15,500 (6.9%) higher than the published 2001 mid-year estimate. Swansea now has the second largest local authority population in Wales (behind only Cardiff and now above Rhondda Cynon Taf) and accounts for 7.8% of its total population.

Figure 1 below shows the latest three decennial Census population totals for Swansea (1991, 2001, 2011), with the blue line showing the current series of published mid-year estimates for 1991 through to 2010. Reversing the trend of the 1990s, the current annual estimates show a steady increase in Swansea's population since 2001, with an average growth of approximately 1,000 people (+0.5%) per annum. However, the 2011 Census figure suggests an acceleration of this general trend.

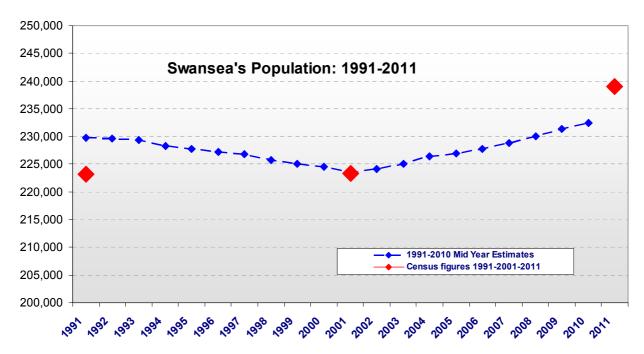


Figure 1: Population Change in Swansea 1991-2011

The 2011 mid-year estimates – the first to be based on the latest Census results – are scheduled to be published in September 2012, with the mid-year population estimates for 2002 to 2010 due to be revised (re-based using 2011 Census data) in spring 2013.

### **Results for Wales**

The 2011 Census reports that the population of Wales has risen to 3,063,500. This is around 57,100 (1.9%) higher than the estimate for mid-2010 and 153,300 (5.3%) higher

than the 2001 estimate. Between 2001 and 2011, 21 of Wales' 22 local authorities recorded population growth; the highest being Cardiff (up by around 36,000 or 11.6%), with Bridgend and Pembrokeshire (both +8.2%) and Monmouthshire (+7.4%) the only other Welsh authorities with a growth rate above that of Swansea. Meanwhile, only one authority recorded population loss – Blaenau Gwent (-0.3%). Full detail for all local authorities in Wales, with the figures ranked by level of population growth between 2001 and 2011, is provided in Appendix 1.

The 2011 Census population estimate for England and Wales is 56,075,900 – an increase of around 3.7 million (+7.1%) in the 10 years since the last census. However, there are no figures yet available for the United Kingdom or Great Britain, due to the later release of Census data in Scotland.

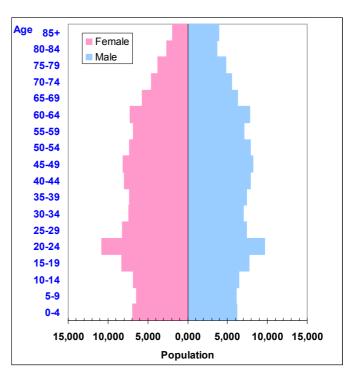
# Population by age

The initial Census results published provide rounded population data for local authorities by sex and five year cohort. The full results for Swansea are detailed in Appendix 2, together with equivalent percentages for Wales, plus an indication of change between 2001 and 2011 in Swansea for each age cohort.

# Figure 2: Swansea population by age and sex, 2011

The initial 2011 Census results by sex and age cohort is illustrated by the population pyramid in Figure 2 opposite. The pyramid provides an immediate illustration of the established 'spike' in the Swansea population in the 20-24 cohort (8.6% of the population total, well above the 6.9% figure for Wales as a whole), which reflects in part the large local student population.

A view of recent trends can be provided via an initial analysis of the main changes to the structure of Swansea's population over the ten-year period since 2001.



### Change by age group, 2001-2011:

- **Aged under-5**: a significant growth of around 1,100 (+8.8%), likely to be mostly attributable to an increasing number of births in the latter part of the decade.
- **Aged 5-14 years** (school-age): a decline of 1,600 (-6.0%), probably due in large part to reductions in the number of births recorded in the late 1990's / early 2000's.
- **15-19** age group: an increase of around 1,200 (+7.8%). This could mainly reflect the increasing inflow of 18 and 19 year olds to Swansea's universities.
- 20-24: a pronounced growth of almost 5,000 (+31.8%) over the ten-year period, again linked to increasing levels of student in-migration and initial retention, including those from elsewhere in Wales, the UK and (to some extent) overseas.

- **25-29**: a significant increase in the population of this cohort over the period by 3,100 (+24.5%). This growth could be attributable to a number of factors, including economic in-migration and the retention of graduates.
- **30-39**: a moderate decrease of 1,200 (-3.8%).
- **40-49**: an increase of 9.7% (+2,900), possibly linked to the 1960s 'baby boom'.
- **50-64**: a steady increase of 8.5% (+3,500), again slightly higher than the equivalent overall rate of population increase for Swansea over the period (+6.9%).
- Older population (all aged 65+): an increase of 1,900 (+4.6%), indicative of an ageing population, in line with established national trends. However, population growth in the older groups has been most dramatic in the population aged over 85, which is estimated to have increased in Swansea by 900 (+18.8%) over the tenyear period from around 4,900 in 2001 to 5,800 in 2011.

However, the 2011 mid-year estimates and (in particular) the later phases of Census data should enable a fuller understanding of the factors behind recent demographic change in Swansea.

### Further statistics and information from the 2011 Census

The first release of Census data also included a range of additional information, including:

- Local response and return rates.
- The number of occupied households.
- Estimates of short-term UK residents by local authority and region (i.e. those outside the 'usual resident' definition used for Census purposes).
- The various comparators used by ONS in the quality assurance process, and information on confidence intervals.
- The components of the process used by ONS to translate the counts (those people completing a questionnaire) into published Census population estimates.

Further analysis of this information will follow in due course.

### **Conclusions**

Detailed results from the 2011 Census, including data for local areas (below local authority level) and further information on local population characteristics, are not scheduled to become available until future Census release phases begin in November 2012. The full significance and interpretation of these figures will require analysis of the more detailed Census information and the revised mid-year Estimates, which will follow in 2013.

The 2011 Census figures will have significant implications for the Council and its partners in a number of respects, including the Revenue Support Grant settlement, performance measurement, planning policy and other key strategies across a range of service areas.

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Appendix 1 2011 CENSUS RESULTS FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN WALES

Local Authority	2011 population	change 2001-2011 (%)	change 2010-2011 (%)
Cardiff	346,100	+36,000 (+11.6%)	+5,000 (+1.5%)
Swansea	239,000	+15,500 (+6.9%)	+6,500 (+2.8%)
Bridgend	139,200	+10,500 (+8.2%)	+4,600 (+3.4%)
Carmarthenshire	183,800	+10,100 (+5.8%)	+3,100 (+1.7%)
Pembrokeshire	122,400	+9,300 (+8.2%)	+5,300 (+4.5%)
Caerphilly	178,800	+9,300 (+5.5%)	+5,700 (+3.3%)
Newport	145,700	+8,100 (+5.9%)	+4,400 (+3.1%)
Vale of Glamorgan	126,300	+7,000 (+5.9%)	+1,300 (+1.0%)
Powys	133,000	+6,600 (+5.2%)	+1,700 (+1.3%)
Monmouthshire	91,300	+6,300 (+7.4%)	+3,200 (+3.6%)
Wrexham	134,800	+6,300 (+4.9%)	+1,200 (+0.9%)
Conwy	115,200	+5,500 (+5.0%)	+4,300 (+3.9%)
Neath Port Talbot	139,800	+5,400 (+4.0%)	+2,400 (+1.7%)
Gwynedd	121,900	+5,100 (+4.4%)	+2,900 (+2.4%)
Flintshire	152,500	+3,900 (+2.6%)	+2,800 (+1.9%)
Merthyr Tydfil	58,800	+2,600 (+4.6%)	+3,100 (+5.6%)
Rhondda Cynon Taf	234,400	+2,500 (+1.1%)	+100 (+0.0%)
Isle of Anglesey	69,700	+1,900 (+2.8%)	+1,100 (+1.6%)
Denbighshire	93,700	+600 (+0.6%)	-3,000 (-3.1%)
Ceredigion	75,900	+500 (+0.7%)	-1,000 (-1.3%)
Torfaen	91,100	+200 (+0.2%)	+600 (+0.7%)
Blaenau Gwent	69,800	-200 (-0.3%)	+1,400 (+2.0%)
Wales	3,063,500	+153,300 (+5.3%)	+57,100 (+1.9%)

Appendix 2 **SWANSEA'S 2011 CENSUS POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX** 

Age group	Males	Females	Total (% of all)	Wales %	Swansea change: 2001-11
0-4	6,900	6,200	13,100 (5.5%)	5.8%	+1,100 (+8.8%)
5-9	6,400	6,100	12,400 (5.2%)	5.3%	-700 (-5.1%)
10-14	6,800	6,400	13,200 (5.5%)	5.8%	-1,000 (-6.9%)
15-19	8,300	7,700	16,100 (6.7%)	6.5%	+1,200 (+7.8%)
20-24	10,800	9,700	20,500 (8.6%)	6.9%	+5,000 (+31.8%)
25-29	8,200	7,400	15,600 (6.5%)	6.1%	+3,100 (+24.5%)
30-34	7,400	7,000	14,400 (6.0%)	5.7%	-100 (-0.7%)
35-39	7,300	7,400	14,700 (6.2%)	6.0%	-1,100 (-6.7%)
40-44	8,000	7,900	15,900 (6.7%)	7.0%	+400 (+2.8%)
45-49	8,100	8,200	16,300 (6.8%)	7.2%	+2,400 (+17.5%)
50-54	7,300	7,900	15,200 (6.4%)	6.6%	-500 (-3.1%)
55-59	6,800	7,100	13,900 (5.8%)	6.1%	+700 (+5.4%)
60-64	7,200	7,800	15,000 (6.3%)	6.7%	+3,200 (+27.6%)
65-69	5,700	6,300	12,000 (5.0%)	5.4%	+900 (+8.2%)
70-74	4,600	5,500	10,100 (4.2%)	4.4%	-100 (-0.5%)
75-79	3,800	4,800	8,600 (3.6%)	3.5%	-100 (-1.3%)
80-84	2,600	3,700	6,300 (2.6%)	2.6%	+200 (+3.6%)
85+	1,900	3,900	5,800 (2.4%)	2.4%	+900 (+18.8%)
All ages	118,100	120,900	<b>239,000</b> (100%)	100%	+15,500 (+6.9%)

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), © Crown copyright 2012. Note: Comparison with 2001 and 2010 is based on the rounded mid-year population estimates for those years.