Data collection and publication guidance

Ethnic Group

Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Data collection and publication guidance - Ethnic Group

Contents

Introduction

The Equality Act 2010 (the 2010 Act)[1] protects people from discrimination because of their race. The legislation covers areas including education, employment, the provision of goods and services to the public and the exercise of public functions. The 2010 Act also introduced a public sector equality duty[2] which came into force on 5 April 2011. The duty requires public authorities, including the Scottish Ministers, to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations. The duty covers nine protected characteristics,[3] including race.

In addition to the public sector equality duty, Scottish Ministers have the power to supplement the public sector equality duty by placing specific duties on certain Scottish public authorities, and have done so by means of the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012[4].

It is recommended that all public authorities follow good practice in gathering and using relevant evidence and information. Ethnic group statistics are important for monitoring discrimination and inequality. Good quality ethnic group data will help with understanding the issues faced by people of varying ethnic groups, allowing for intersectional analysis with other socio-

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[1] Equality Act 2010 (legislation.gov.uk)

[2] Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (legislation.gov.uk)

[3] The duty only applies to the protected characteristic of marriage and civil partnership in relation to eliminating unlawful discrimination etc. relating to work under Part 5 of the 2010 Act.

[4] The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012 (legislation.gov.uk), as amended (link to original version, with subsequent amendments not yet incorporated).

demographic characteristics, including those protected by the 2010 Act. The information may also be used to inform policy formulation and service delivery.

In order to promote more consistency, the Scottish Government developed harmonised questions for use in surveys in Scotland. The guidance, originally published in 2012, was reviewed in 2021, and this document sets out the revised guidance.

Ethnicity is a complex issue. There is no consensus about what constitutes an 'ethnic group'. Research shows that it means different things to different people, which can depend on the context or situation, and understanding of the term evolves over time. It encompasses aspects of identity, race, ancestry, history, culture, and it is very diverse. We have provided this guidance to help you use the questions and classifications to help you get the best quality information on ethnic group.

Background

In 2002 the then Communities Minister promised to review the way that Scottish surveys classify ethnicity, to ensure that they reflect modern circumstances, meet users' information needs and have broad community support.

This followed recommendations by the Race Equality Advisory Forum (REAF) in 2001 and some community concerns about the classification used in Scotland's Census 2001 - in particular the different use of colour and geography across ethnic group categories.

The Scottish Government (SG) worked in partnership with the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) (now the National Records of Scotland (NRS)) to

conduct the review. The review identified benefits in separating out issues around ethnic group and national identity and developing a separate national identity question for use in the census and relevant Scottish Official Statistics. When used with the ethnic group classification this would allow people to self-express their 'Scottishness', 'Britishness' or any other national identity, more fully, before they go on to express their ethnic origin or heritage.

The original version of the new ethnicity classification was finalised in July 2008 and was recommended for Scotland's Census 2011 and relevant Scottish Official Statistics. Details of the background to the development of the classification together with the wide ranging evidence (including research, consultation and question testing) are set out in the detailed report 'Scotland's New Ethnicity Classification for Scottish Official Statistics and Recommended for Scotland's 2011 Census'.[5]

The classification was discussed by Members of the Scottish Parliament during considerations of the 2011 census in Scotland and was subsequently amended for use in the census. Details of the committee discussions can be seen in the Official Reports of the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee (9th and 12th meetings).[6] [7]

After further consultation and consideration, the Scottish Government has revised the ethnicity classification for use in Scottish Official Statistics to be

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[5] Scotland's New Ethnicity Classification for Scottish Official Statistics and Recommended for Scotland's 2011 Census - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)
[6] The Scottish Parliament - Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee Official Report (9th meeting)
[7] The Scottish Parliament - Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee Official Report (12th meeting)

consistent with Scotland's new census 2022 question. NRS, in consultation with stakeholders and data users, have undertaken extensive research and testing to ensure Scotland's Census 2022 asks the right questions, including those on national identity and ethnic group. In developing questions, NRS considered:

- how acceptable questions are to the public

- how to ask questions in a way that produces reliable answers

- whether other ways of collecting the information already exist

Details of Census 2022 ethnic group question development can be found on the Scotland's Census website.[8] [9] [10] Information about comparing data collected with the updated question to data collected using previous census questions or wider UK surveys can be found in these documents.

Recommended questions

The recommended questions set out in this guidance note are identical to the question in Scotland's Census 2022[11] aside from the addition of 'refusal' and 'prefer not to say' options, and the numbering of the sub-categories, included here as they may be of use to interviewers.

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[8]Ethnic group topic report | Scotland's Census (scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

[9]Ethnic group and religion question development update | Scotland's Census (scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

[10] Ethnic group question update September 2019 | Scotland's Census (scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

[11] : The Census (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2020 (legislation.gov.uk)

Question:	What is your ethnic group?
Answer:	Choose **ONE** section from A to F, then tick **ONE** box which **best describes** your ethnic group or background

A. White
    1. Scottish
    2. Other British
    3. Irish
    4. Polish
    5. Gypsy / Traveller
    6. Roma
    7. Showman / Showwoman
    8. Other white ethnic group, please write in

B. Mixed or multiple ethnic groups
    9. Any mixed or multiple ethnic groups, please write in

C. Asian, Scottish Asian or British Asian
    10. Pakistani, Scottish Pakistani or British Pakistani
    11. Indian, Scottish Indian or British Indian
    12. Bangladeshi, Scottish Bangladeshi or British Bangladeshi
    13. Chinese, Scottish Chinese or British Chinese
    14. Other, please write in

D. African, Scottish African or British African
    15. Please write in (for example, NIGERIAN, SOMALI)

E. Caribbean or Black
    16. Please write in (for example, SCOTTISH CARIBBEAN, BLACK SCOTTISH)

F. Other ethnic group
    17. Arab, Scottish Arab or British Arab
    18. Other, please write in (for example, SIKH, JEWISH)

G.
    19. Refusal (spontaneous only)
    20. Prefer not to say (non-interviewer led questionnaires only)

Alternative online formatting

The online questionnaire version of Scotland's Census 2022 will feature a two-part question. Respondents will be presented with the top level categories first, with the relevant sub-categories revealed upon selection[12]. A two-stage ethnic group question performed well in testing. Only the above single-part question has been tested for paper surveys. There is some difference in language between the single-part question and multi-part question detailed below.

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[12] [The Census (Scotland) Regulations 2020 (legislation.gov.uk)](#)

Question 1

Question:	What is your ethnic group
Answer:	The respondent is required to select one option only. The next question asks the respondent about their ethnic group in more detail.

A. White
(including Gypsy, Traveller, Roma, Showman / Showwoman) *Feeds into 2a*

B. Mixed or multiple ethnic groups
(including any mixed or multiple ethnic groups)
Feeds into 2b

C. Asian, Scottish Asian or British Asian
(including any Asian ethnic group) *Feeds into 2c*

D. African, Scottish African or British African
(including any African ethnic group) *Feeds into 2d*

E. Caribbean or Black
(including Scottish Caribbean, Black Scottish) *Feeds into 2e*

F. Other ethnic group
(any other ethnic group including Arab, Sikh, Jewish)
Feeds into 2f

G.
19. Refusal (spontaneous only)
20. Prefer not to say (non-interviewer led questionnaires only)

Question 2a

Question:	Which one best describes your white ethnic group or background?
Answer:	The respondent is required to select one option only. If the respondent selects "Other" they are required to enter their other white ethnic group in the box provided.

1. Scottish
2. Other British
3. Irish
4. Polish
5. Gypsy / Traveller
6. Roma
7. Showman / Showwoman
8. Other white ethnic group
   A write in box must be provided where "Other" is selected

Question 2b

Question:	What are your mixed or multiple ethnic groups?
Answer:	The respondent is required to provide their ethnic groups.

9. *A write in box must be provided*

Question 2c

Question:	Which one best describes your Asian, Scottish Asian or British Asian ethnic group or background?
Answer:	The respondent is required to select one option only. If the respondent selects "Other" they are required to enter their other Asian ethnic group in the box provided.

10. Pakistani, Scottish Pakistani or British Pakistani
11. Indian, Scottish Indian or British Indian
12. Bangladeshi, Scottish Bangladeshi or British Bangladeshi
13. Chinese, Scottish Chinese or British Chinese
14. Other
    A write in box must be provided where "Other" is selected

Question 2d

Question:	What is your African, Scottish African or British African ethnic groups or background?
Answer:	The respondent is required to enter their African ethnic group or background (for example, Nigerian, Somali) in the box provided.
	15. *A write in box must be provided*

Question 2e

Question:	What is your Caribbean or Black ethnic groups or background?
Answer:	The respondent is required to enter their Caribbean or Black ethnic group or background (for example, Scottish Caribbean, Black Scottish) in the box provided.
	16. *A write in box must be provided*

Question 2f

Question:	Which one best describes your other ethnic group or background?
Answer:	The respondent is required to select one option only. If the respondent selects "Other" they are required to enter their other ethnic group (for example, Sikh, Jewish) in the box provided.
	17. Arab, Scottish Arab or British Arab 18. Other (for example, Sikh, Jewish) *A write in box must be provided where "Other" is selected*

Additional guidance for interviewers

Instructions and 'prefer not to say'

Instructions should be given at the beginning of the interview/survey saying why all of the questions are being asked, that they are all voluntary and, if a respondent does not wish to answer any of the questions, they do not have to. This ensures all questions are treated the same.

Testing by the ONS has shown that provision of a 'prefer not to say' option results in an increase in non-responses in telephone/face-to-face interviews. As such the recommendation is that this should only be included in online and paper surveys where refusal is not otherwise possible with the caveat that this may increase the rate of non-response to this question.

If a 'prefer not to say' option is added to this question then it should be added to all questions. In interviewer-led surveys clear instruction at the beginning should advise people that they do not have to answer any question that they do not wish to.

Making changes to the questions and categories

The ethnic group question has been developed to be acceptable to both respondents and users. It is very strongly recommended that you retain it in its entirety and using the exact format.

Presentation of the questions

The words used in the question have been carefully selected to be acceptable so far as possible to respondents, to aid understanding of what is being asked and to provide the most reliable data for users. If the wording is changed then people may not answer or may answer with a less suitable response. The

capitalisation and bold font are used to emphasise the instructions and therefore reduce response errors.

Length of the ethnic group question

Due to the complex nature of ethnicity this question is much longer than other survey questions. The number and description of the categories has been selected carefully to best represent the Scottish population and to improve response rates by making the question acceptable to respondents. Removing categories could result in people answering with a less suitable response and your data will not be directly comparable with other information. It may also result in your question being less acceptable to some people and consequently this could affect response rates. We strongly recommend using the full question as it is. If this is not possible, for example, because your survey is very short and cannot be extended or you require information on people not listed then **please contact us directly for advice**.

Write in boxes

The list of categories is by no means definitive and as a result write in boxes are present in each section and under 'Other' at the end so that people can identify in another way if they wish. These write in boxes are very important to the acceptability of the question. Removing these could have implications for the response rate and acceptability of your survey. Ethnic group is a self-defining concept and people should be able to identify as they wish. We would strongly recommend that you retain them. If resources are not available to process and output the write in responses and you need to reduce their number, **please contact us directly for advice.**

Single tick response of the ethnic group question

Respondents are requested to answer the ethnic group question with a single response only. It is strongly advised that you adhere to this. The length of the ethnic group question means the number of combinations that could be produced by multiple responses would make it difficult to output usable data and it would be extremely difficult to cross reference ethnic group data with other data (for example on health, education or housing) to obtain information about inequalities.

The Scottish censuses in 2011 and 2001 had single tick responses. If multi tick responses are used, the data will not be comparable with previous census data. Consequently changes over time cannot be explored.

How to deal with multiple ticking of the ethnic group question

Despite respondents being asked to answer the ethnic group question with a single response, inevitably there will be a few who give multiple responses, either within a section or across categories.

Due to the significance of ethnic group data and the small numbers that can be associated with some of the categories in Scotland, it is important that information is available at the most specific level possible. Therefore, the general rule is where more than one box has been ticked the more specific or smaller category should be retained. This will show if a specific ethnic group is more likely to be experiencing discrimination or has specific service needs.

For example, where multiple responses occur:
- if two non-overlapping responses are given in the same section, the smaller population ticked should be retained
- if boxes have been ticked in two different sections, then the tick that occurs in the section with the smallest population size should be used

- if a respondent has ticked a category and then provided a write in response to an 'Other' box, then the write in answer should be used as this information is most likely to reflect their ethnic group
- if boxes have been ticked in three or more sections the response should be recorded as 'unknown'

Information on population size can be obtained from the NRS website.[13]

If you require help when dealing with multiple responses **please contact us directly.**

National Identity and Religion

The ethnic group question has been developed so that it can be used as a standalone question, however sometimes it is desirable to collect more specific information on national identity, particularly in relation to 'British' identities.

National identity is a self-defining concept in which a person expresses what country or countries, nation or nations, they feel most connected to and like ethnicity it involves a range of concepts.

Recommended National Identity question

The Scottish Government and NRS developed a national identity question for use in the census alongside the ethnic group question. It is recommended that this question is asked wherever feasible and is asked *before* the ethnic group question. The census 2022 topic reports on the development of the national identity and ethnic group questions provide more details on the benefits of

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[13] National Records of Scotland | Preserving the past, Recording the present, Informing the future (nrscotland.gov.uk)

asking a national identity question.[14] [15] This question remains unchanged from the 2011 question on national identity.

Question:	What do you feel is your national identity
Answer:	Tick **ALL** that apply 1. Scottish 2. English 3. Northern Irish 4. Welsh 5. British 8. Other, please write in 9. Refusal (spontaneous only) 10. Prefer not to say (non-interviewer led questionnaires only)

Recommended Religion question

It is recommended that a question on religion should be asked along with the ethnic group question as religion and ethnicity are closely related concepts. In order to get a better understanding of how these two concepts interact, these two questions should be asked and analysed together. It should be noted that this question is voluntary in the census. For more information on asking questions on religion, please refer to the guidance on asking questions on religion.[16]

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[14] National identity topic report | Scotland's Census (scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

[15] Ethnic group topic report | Scotland's Census (scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

[16] Collecting equality data - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

Question:	What religion, religious denomination or body do you belong to?
Answer:	1. None
	2. Church of Scotland
	3. Roman Catholic
	4. Other Christian, please write in
	5. Muslim, write in denomination or school
	6. Hindu
	7. Buddhist
	8. Sikh
	9. Jewish
	10. Pagan
	11. Another religion or body, please write in
	12. Refusal (spontaneous only)
	13. Prefer not to say (non-interviewer led questionnaires only)

Data collection method

There are a number of considerations to be made when deciding on the mode of data collection. When a survey is administered by an interviewer, it is important to remind the interviewer to provide the respondents with clear instructions to read or listen to the whole question before answering and to respond with a single answer on the ethnic group question, although multiple responses can be given for the national identity question. Having an interviewer present means that extra guidance can be provided to respondents who are having difficulty understanding the question. If show cards are being used, they should reflect the questions as they are published here, with all the categories and in the same order.

Using a computer, either for self or interviewer completion, can limit the respondent to a single tick for the ethnic group question as the script can be moved to the next question after one box has been completed. When using computers to administer surveys or when employing an internet based survey,

it is especially important that the bold font and capitalisation of the question are adhered to.

When conducting a telephone interview, it is important that all the response options are read out before the respondent gives an answer.

For postal surveys and other data collections administered using paper forms, it is important that the form is clearly designed, easy to read and the ethnic group question is presented as published here.

Proxy responses

These questions are designed to collect information on a person's self-defined ethnic group and national identity and should be addressed directly to the respondent. Where the respondent is unable to provide an answer another member of the household, or the person's carer, can be asked to give a response on the respondent's behalf.

This should be a last resort and the interviewer should record that a proxy response was given. It is very important that interviewers, administrative staff or anyone other than the individual's family member or carer does not provide an answer on behalf of the respondent.

The questions were designed and tested with adults, but changes should not be made when asking children. If possible the response should be provided by the child although a proxy response may be needed, especially if they are under the age of 12. Proxy responses should only be accepted from a parent or guardian. Extra guidance may be needed for parents when the child is under 12. If you require help with extra guidance **please contact us directly.**

Analysis and presentation of results

Combining categories

Data should be analysed and presented in a way that is most useful to users of the data, with consideration of what kind of analysis would be most likely to reveal any inequalities that require action. In Scotland, many ethnic groups are small in number which could lead to statistical unreliability when analysing data and hinder publication of figures because of the need to avoid identification of individuals.

The problem of small numbers can be overcome by combining categories under a section heading, for example combining the counts of people who responded "Arab, Scottish Arab or British Arab" and "Other, please write in (for example, SIKH, JEWISH)" category within Section F. This is not an ideal solution as it can hide inequalities that occur between each of the separate categories.

If it is necessary to combine categories B, C, D E and F, or a subset thereof, you must label the combined results as "Minority Ethnic" and provide a footnote detailing which ethnicities have been included in this grouping. For example, in an analysis providing breakdowns for "White - Scottish", "White - Other British", "White - Other" and "Minority ethnic groups" the footnote should be to the effect of:

> For the purposes of the analysis presented here, 'White: Other' includes 'Irish', 'Polish', 'Gypsy/Traveller', 'Roma', 'Showman/Showwoman' and 'other white ethnic groups'. 'Minority ethnic groups' includes 'Mixed or multiple ethnic groups', 'Asian, Scottish Asian or British Asian', 'African, Scottish African or British

African', 'Caribbean or Black', 'Arab, Scottish Arab or British Arab'
or any other ethnic groups

Where an analysis provides breakdowns for "White – Scottish", "White – Other British" and "Minority ethnic groups" the footnote should be to the effect of:

For the purposes of the analysis presented here, 'Minority ethnic groups' includes 'Irish', 'Polish', 'Gypsy/Traveller', 'Roma', 'Showman/Showwoman', 'other white ethnic groups', 'Mixed or multiple ethnic groups', 'Asian, Scottish Asian or British Asian', 'African, Scottish African or British African', 'Caribbean or Black', 'Arab, Scottish Arab or British Arab' or any other ethnic groups

'Minority ethnic' is preferred over terms such as 'other ethnicities', 'ethnic minority' or 'BAME/BME'. [17] This is because these terms can imply that minority ethnic individuals are a homogeneous group, or focus on the perceived 'non-whiteness' of the word 'ethnic', whereas several groups categorised as 'White' could be considered minority ethnic groups in certain contexts, including Irish, Polish and Gypsy/ Travellers.

Additionally, the term 'Black' is controversial with many stakeholders, particularly in the African community. As such care should be taken to use the full "Caribbean *or* Black" label, and not just "Black" or "Caribbean *and* Black". This is because there are some people who find the term Black offensive, and others who feel very strongly that their ethnic group is Black and take pride in that term. It is important that data are presented in a way that is respectful of both these points of view.

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[17] Race Equality Toolkit 2006.pdf - Universities Scotland (yumpu.com)

It is important that the results should be presented in as much detail as possible. It is better to list all of the categories and where possible the figures. If the numbers are too small to publish then suppress the figures for that category with an explanation of why this has been done, taking care to ensure that if only one figure is suppressed, that figure can then not be calculated by simple subtraction from the totals displayed. Consideration should be given to increasing sample sizes by aggregating several years of data where that can be done.

Comparing data across question versions

The categories are slightly different across different versions of the question. The previous iteration of this guidance provided methods for combining groups to compare data collected between the 2001 and 2011 census questions. This is detailed in an annex at the end of this document. Similar guidance on comparing between the current version and previous version is not yet available but may be provided in the future.

Intersectionality

An intersectional analysis gives an insight into how a combination of socio-demographic characteristics might relate to specific forms of disadvantage. For example disadvantage for a young minority ethnic woman may be different to an older minority ethnic man.

There is an increasing awareness that taking an intersectional approach to research, policy making and operational decisions is important. This is because intersectionality can give insight into the experiences of different groups in society, and how particular characteristics can combine to impact on an individual's experiences. However, there is not always disaggregated data available to support such an approach. This is likely to mean that the

information on which important decisions are made is not fully representative of the population it is intending to measure.

For example, data on demographic characteristics may be collected by a public body, but not disaggregated in an intersectional way due to issues around sample size and risk of disclosing an individual's identity. In these cases, organisations should not risk disclosing information about an individual's ethnicity.

Where sample size and quality allows, data should be disaggregated, including by sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, age, disability, and sexual orientation, where combinations of these factors can result in discrimination, disadvantage and inequality. Being able to identify cases where combinations of factors are resulting in disadvantage enables policies to be developed and action taken to address these issues.

Contact us

This document has been provided to help people collect information on ethnic groups in Scotland. We welcome any comments you have on this guidance note. It will be revised and updated periodically.

social-justice-analysis@gov.scot

February 2022

Annex 1: comparing 2011 ethnicity data with data collected using the 2001 classification

This annex was part of the previous guidance note on collecting data on ethnicity. It has been included here to provide context on how the categories have changed over time.

Due to the changes in the classification, new data will not be directly comparable to the 2001 Census data and a number of considerations will have to be taken into account when you are looking at trends over time. It will still be possible to compare the data at the 'White', 'Mixed or Multiple', 'Asian', 'African and Caribbean or Black combined', and 'Other' level. The differences in the data collected from the 2011 question and that collected from the 2001 Census for each section are described below:

'White' category.

At category level, total counts of 'White' should be broadly comparable. However, some people identifying as 'Gypsy/Traveller', 'Polish' and to some extent other people from Central and Eastern European countries may have responded in the previous classification using the 'Other ethnic background' category. At tick box level only the 'Scottish' 'Other British' and 'Irish' tick boxes are directly comparable although the 'Other British' category in 2001 may have included people who will now identify using the 'Gypsy/Traveller' category. The 'Any other White Background' (2001) is broadly comparable with the sum of the new 'Any other White ethnic group' and 'Polish' tick box.

'Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups' category.

Total counts of this category are broadly comparable. However, some people identifying as, for example, 'Indian Scottish' or 'African British' (who answered using the 'Mixed' category in the previous classification) may now answer using the new 'Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British' tick boxes or the 'African, African Scottish or African British' or 'Caribbean or Black' tick boxes.

'Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British'

At category level, total counts should be broadly comparable. However, as detailed above, we may expect some who responded using the 'Mixed' category in the previous classification to identity as, say, 'Indian Scottish' in this category using the new 'Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British' tick box' for example. The same applies to all the 'Asian' groups listed in the new classification.

'African, African Scottish or African British' and 'Caribbean or Black'.

In 2001 categories E and F were presented as one category. It is therefore necessary to combine 'African, African Scottish and African British' and 'Caribbean or Black' together to get a total which allows comparison with data from 2001. Once again, some respondents who previously responded using the 'Mixed' category may now identify as, say, 'African Scottish' in this category using the new 'African, African Scottish or African British' tick box. It is also possible that some people who would have previously identified as 'African' under the 'White' section will now identify

under the 'African, African Scottish or African British'. Comparisons are not recommended at tick box level given the differences between the 2001 and the 2011 classifications.

Changes affecting all the above categories.

An analysis of responses from people identifying as 'Arab' in the 2001 Census, shows that 47 per cent did so under 'Any other ethnic background', 22 per cent under the 'Asian' category, 13 per cent under the 'Mixed' category, 7 per cent under the 'White' category, 1 per cent under the 'Black' category and 9 per cent gave multiple responses across several categories. The inclusion of the new 'Arab' tick box in the 'Other Ethnic Group' category means that most of these people are now likely to respond here instead. This will reduce somewhat the total counts of each of the above categories.

'Other Ethnic Group'.

At category level, total counts should be broadly comparable. However, as detailed above, the inclusion of the new 'Arab' tick box should mean that more people identifying as 'Arab' use this category (with the possible exception of the people identifying as say 'Arab Scottish' or 'Arab British' who may continue to identify using the 'Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group' category). As detailed above, we may expect fewer people from Central and Eastern Europe to identify using this category than under the previous classification, because the inclusion of the new 'Polish' tick box under the 'White' category is likely to encourage such respondents

to give their answers here instead. The same is true to some extent of people identifying as 'Gypsy/Traveller'.

UK data comparisons

It is important to some data users that there are UK and GB level figures and that Scottish data can be compared to that of the other UK or GB countries. Scotland has different user requirements for ethnic group data and a different ethnic group profile than the other UK countries and as a result there are differences in the categories in the Scottish census question and those of England and Wales and Northern Ireland. It will not be possible to directly compare the Scottish data at the category level with that of the other UK or GB countries but it can be compared at the section level (although the 'African, African Scottish or African British' and the 'Caribbean or Black' categories will need to be combined) and a UK and GB count can be achieved for the section level.

Annex 2: 2011 question

Below is the question as it read for the 2011 census and the previous version of this guidance. **It is provided only as a reference and should not be used.**

Question: What is your ethnic group

Answer: Choose **ONE** section from A to F, then tick **ONE** box which **best describes** your ethnic group or background

A. White
1. Scottish
2. Other British
3. Irish
4. Gypsy/Traveller
5. Polish
6. Other white ethnic group, please write in

B. Mixed or multiple ethnic groups
7. Any mixed or multiple ethnic groups, please write in

C. Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British
8. Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British
9. Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British
10. Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British
11. Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British
12. Other, please write in

D. African
13. African, African Scottish or African British
14. Other, please write in

E. Caribbean or Black
15. Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish, or Caribbean British
16. Black, Black Scottish or Black British
17. Other, please write in

F. Other ethnic group
18. Arab, Arab Scottish or Arab British
19. Other, please write in

Annex 3: 2001 question

Below is the question as it read for the 2001 census and the previous version of this guidance. **It is provided only as a reference and should not be used.**

Question: What is your ethnic group

Answer: Choose **ONE** section from A to F, then tick the appropriate box to indicate your cultural background.

A. White
>   1. Scottish
>   2. Other British
>   3. Irish
>   4. Any other White background, please write in

B. Mixed
>   5. Any Mixed background, please write in

C. Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British
>   6. Indian
>   7. Pakistani
>   8. Bangladeshi
>   9. Chinese
>   10. Any other Asian background, please write in

D. Black, Black Scottish or Black British
>   11. Caribbean
>   12. African
>   13. Any other Black background, please write in

E. Other ethnic background
>   19. Any other background, please write in