

Census Workshop – Handout

This handout accompanies the ‘*Successful census detecting: Reading and interpreting census records for family history*’ workshop held at Family Tree Live on 26 and 27 April 2019.

England and Wales Census Data

Census Year	Date of Census	Census Reference	Population
1841	6 June	HO107	15,914,000
1851	30 March	HO107	17,929,000
1861	7 April	RG9	20,066,000
1871	2 April	RG10	22,723,000
1881	3 April	RG11	25,974,000
1891	5 April	RG12	28,000,725
1901	31 March	RG13	32,527,000
1911	2 April	RG14	36,000,000

Where to find census returns

Ancestry (www.ancestry.co.uk) – use keywords to search in more detail; include other relations expected in household

FindMyPast (www.findmypast.co.uk) – use specific record set for each census to search by address or occupation

TheGenealogist (www.thegenealogist.co.uk) – high quality images especially for 1841 census

FreeCen (www.freecen.org.uk) – transcription of census that is available for free

FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org) – transcription of census including USA, Canada

SoG library and local family history societies – indexes for census returns that have been compiled by local people who recognise local places and names – often better than transcripts on big websites

Where to find out more

SoG Research Guide Guide Three: Census Records (England and Wales)
(<http://www.sog.org.uk/learn/help-getting-started-with-genealogy/guide-four/>)

The National Archives – Census Research Guide
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/census-records/>

SoG Quick Tip - Researching Ancestors in Irish Censuses – check on CRA computer
(http://www.sog.org.uk/uploads/Quick_Tips/Researching_Ancestors_in_Irish_Censuses.pdf)

ScotlandsPeople – Guide to Census Returns in Scotland
(<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/census-returns>)

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