

28 June 2013

## Welsh language households and transmission

### Key points

Key results on language transmission in the home are presented for one-family households with children aged 3-4 (this represented 92 per cent of 3-4 year olds in 2011). The transmission rate is defined as the proportion of 3-4 year olds within a family type able to speak Welsh.

Previous statistical bulletins have noted that the number of 3-4 year olds able to speak Welsh increased from 13,329 in 2001 to 16,495 in 2011 (an increase from 18.8 per cent to 23.3 per cent).

- The transmission rate for couple households, where two adults could speak Welsh remained stable between 2001 and 2011 at around 82 per cent(1).
- The transmission rate for couple households, where one adult could speak Welsh increased from 40 per cent in 2001 to 45 per cent in 2011.
- The transmission rate for lone parent households, where one adult can speak Welsh was 53 per cent. This compares with 55 per cent in 2001.
- The transmission rate for couple households with one adult able to speak Welsh was higher in cases where the Welsh speaking adult was a female rather than a male (49 and 40 per cent respectively). (New sentence added 12 July 2013).
- The transmission rate for lone parent households with one adult able to speak Welsh was higher in cases where the Welsh speaking adult was a female rather than a male (54 and 42 per cent respectively). (New sentence added 12 July 2013).

### Welsh speakers by household size in 2011

- There was a decrease in the proportion of households containing at least one person who could speak Welsh, from 28 per cent in 2001 to 26 per cent in 2011.
- Of the over 555,000 people who could speak Welsh who lived in households, nearly 230,000 (41 per cent) lived either by themselves or in households where everyone could speak Welsh. In 2001, the equivalent figure was 45 per cent.
- The proportion of households that were entirely Welsh-speaking decreased from 11.1 per cent in 2001 to 9.4 per cent in 2011.

The 2011 Census question asked 'Can you understand, speak, read or write Welsh?' – answered by ticking one or more of five boxes (one for each category and one for 'None of these') in any combination. This question was only asked in Wales, and results are presented for those aged 3 and over. The Census did not collect information on fluency levels or on frequency of use.

### Note

(1) 2011 figures include children living in households where more than two adults were able to speak Welsh (eg two parents and older non-dependent sibling)

### Contact

Tel: 029 2082 5088

E-mail: [stats.popcensus@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stats.popcensus@wales.gsi.gov.uk)