



### 2001 Question

#### 16 Which of these qualifications do you have?

✓ all the qualifications, or their equivalents, that apply.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> GCSE (grades D-G), CSE (grades 2-5)   | <input type="checkbox"/> NVQ Level 1, GNVQ Foundation   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-4 CSEs (grade 1), 1-4 GCSEs (grades A-C), 1-4 'O' Level Passes                  | <input type="checkbox"/> NVQ Level 2, GNVQ Intermediate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ CSEs (grade 1), 5+ GCSEs (grades A-C), 5+ 'O' Level Passes, Senior Certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> NVQ Level 3, GNVQ Advanced     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 'A' Level, 1-3 AS Levels, Advanced Senior Certificate                           | <input type="checkbox"/> NVQ Level 4, HNC, HND          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2+ 'A' Levels, 4+ AS Levels   | <input type="checkbox"/> NVQ Level 5                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Degree  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Degree   | <input type="checkbox"/> No qualifications              |

### 2011 Question

#### 27 Which of these qualifications do you have?

- Tick every box that applies if you have any of the qualifications listed.
- If your UK qualification is not listed, tick the box that contains its nearest equivalent.
- If you have qualifications you gained outside the UK, tick the box that indicates this and the nearest UK equivalents (if known).
- 1-4 O Levels/CSEs/GCSEs (any grades), Entry Level, Foundation Diploma
- NVQ Level 1, Foundation GNVQ, Basic/Essential Skills
- 5+ O Levels (passes)/CSEs (grade 1)/GCSEs (grades A\*-C), School Certificate, 1 A Level/ 2-3 AS Levels/VCEs, Higher Diploma
- NVQ Level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, BTEC First/General Diploma, RSA Diploma
- Apprenticeship
- 2+ A Levels/VCEs, 4+ AS Levels, Higher School Certificate, Progression/Advanced Diploma
- NVQ Level 3, Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma
- Degree (for example, BA, BSc), Higher degree (for example, MA, PhD, PGCE)
- NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher Level, Foundation degree
- Professional qualifications (for example, teaching, nursing, accountancy)
- Other vocational/work-related qualifications
- Qualifications gained outside the UK
- No qualifications

NILS Representativeness in 2001*	Census 2001 Published		NILS Members		Representativeness Ratio <sup>1</sup>
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	
All persons aged 16-74	1187079		314015		
No Qualifications	494277	42%	133186	42%	1.02
Level 1	204478	17%	53751	17%	0.99
Level 2	194265	16%	51808	16%	1.00
Level 3	106548	9%	26354	8%	0.94
Level 4	129741	11%	33868	11%	0.99
Level 5	57770	5%	15048	5%	0.99

Source: Census 2001: <http://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/>

NILS: bespoke table created 220814

\*Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

<sup>1</sup> Representativeness ratio = 1 if the proportion in the population is the same as the proportion in the NILS. If the ratio is greater than 1 then the proportion in the NILS is higher than the proportion in the population. If the ratio is lower than 1 then the proportion in the population is higher than the proportion in the NILS.

NILS Representativeness in 2011*	Census 2011 Published		NILS Members		Representativeness Ratio
All persons 16 +	1431540		375657		
No Qualifications	416851	29%	111061	30%	1.02
Level 1	164798	12%	43709	12%	1.01
Level 2	213570	15%	56285	15%	1.00
Level 3	176110	12%	44400	12%	0.96
Level 4 and above	338544	24%	88617	24%	0.99
Other Qualifications (incl. Apprenticeship)	121667	8%	31585	8%	0.99

**Source: Census 2011:** <http://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/>

**NILS:** bespoke table created 220814

**\*Note:** Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

### Highest Qualification Transition (2001 to 2011) for those alive at both 2001 and 2011

The following table shows the transitions of highest qualification of NILS members alive at both censuses and aged 16 -74 in 2001 or aged 26 – 84 in 2011.

		2011 Census Information (All persons aged 26-84)						
		All aged 26-84	No Qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4 and above	Other Qualifications (includes Apprenticeship)
2001 Census Information (All persons aged 16-74)	All persons	262494	85787	29671	34488	25848	64882	21818
	No Qualifications	107634	74484	6306	5491	3350	5200	12803
	Level 1	46649	6152	16973	9320	4617	5018	4569
	Level 2	43855	2919	4732	15883	6743	10978	2600
	Level 3	22184	918	984	2559	9028	7751	944
	Level 4	29455	873	466	962	1754	24723	677
	Level 5	12717	441	210	273	356	11212	225

**Source:** **NILS:** bespoke table created 220814

### **Highest level of qualification in the 2011 Census Quality Survey**

The Census Quality Survey (CQS) was an independent voluntary survey targeted at a random sample of households that had responded to the Census to assess the level of quality of census responses. The actual responses reported in the Census regarding highest level of qualification aligned with that reported in the CQS in 67.3% of cases. More detail is available at [http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/census/2011/census\\_quality\\_survey.pdf](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/census/2011/census_quality_survey.pdf)

### **Qualification Imputation Rates**

Variables/Questions are considered 'Imputed' if the comparison of the original scanned response (with the basic edit checks completed) to the final census database (used for published outputs and for the NLS variables) show a difference.

2001 Imputed/Edited/Missing Rate – 6%

2011 Imputed/Edited/Missing Rate – 6%

### **Discussion**

The 2001 and 2011 distributions of the Highest Qualification variables within the NLS are representative of the overall population as published by Census Office.

Of those who reported having no qualifications in 2001, 69% described themselves as having no qualifications a decade later.

Of those who reported having no qualifications in 2001, approximately 5% described themselves as having Level 4 or above qualifications a decade later.

Of those who reported having level 4 and level 5 qualifications in 2001, 85% described themselves as having level 4 and above qualifications a decade later.

Of those who reported themselves as having between Level 1 and Level 5 qualifications in 2001, approximately 6% described themselves as having 'Other' qualifications a decade later. Other qualifications include vocational qualifications such as apprenticeships.

It can be observed that some individuals have reported a decrease in the highest level of qualification achieved between the 2001 and 2011 Censuses. It should be noted that these figures should be treated with care as they include imputed values which may influence this effect and the questionnaire may have been completed by different people on the 2001 and 2011 Census date. For example, a parent may have completed the Census on behalf of the household in 2001 and the 2011 Census return may then reflect the variation in the self reporting of highest qualification when completed by the named individual.

**NISRA**

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