

Bulletin 3: Health characteristics

New questions on general health and longstanding conditions were introduced for the 2021 census.

The analysis presented in this bulletin includes residents of all ages, including residents of communal establishments.

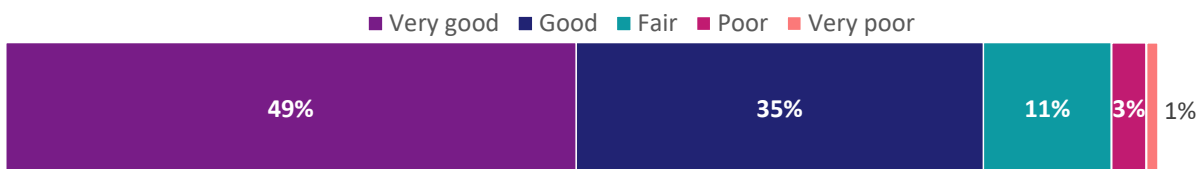
Self-assessed general health

A question on self-assessed general health was asked for every resident in private households and communal establishments. The question asked was 'How is your health in general?'; the possible responses were 'very good', 'good', 'fair', 'poor' and 'very poor'.

Self-assessed health brings together a person's perception of all aspects of their health and wellbeing and is a useful indicator of general wellbeing and health-related quality of life.

The majority (85%) of the population rated their health as either 'very good' or 'good', whilst 4% rated their health as either 'poor' or 'very poor' (4,255 residents). Around 1% of the population (983 residents) stated that their health was 'very poor' (See Figure 1).

Figure 1: Self-assessed general health



Percentages do not sum to 100 due to rounding

The number of people rating their health as 'poor' or 'very poor' increased with age (see Figure 2 and Table 2). Around one in ten (10%) residents aged 65+ rated their health as 'poor' or 'very poor'.

Figure 2: Self-assessed general health, by age

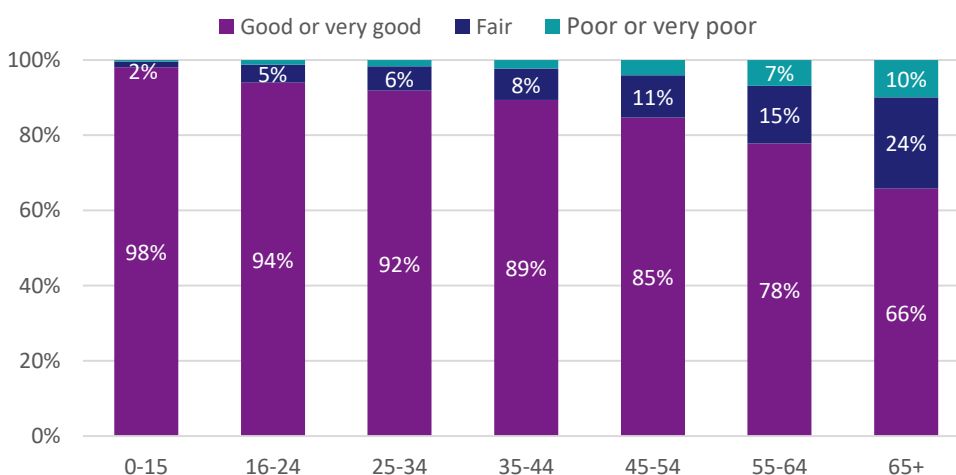


Table 2: Self-assessed general health, by age

	0 – 15	16 – 24	25 – 34	35 – 44	45 – 54	55 – 64	65 +	All
Very good	13,277	6,530	7,016	7,161	7,005	5,672	4,293	50,954
Good	2,877	2,663	4,433	6,134	6,584	5,922	8,037	36,650
Fair	261	472	805	1,239	1,806	2,280	4,545	11,408
Poor	43	98	171	277	504	784	1,395	3,272
Very poor	18	20	33	64	141	241	466	983
Total	16,476	9,783	12,458	14,875	16,040	14,899	18,736	103,267

Longstanding physical or mental health conditions or illnesses

Residents were then asked whether they had any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses, lasting or expecting to last 12 months or more. The response categories were ‘yes’ or ‘no’.

The majority of residents (79%) stated that they did not have a longstanding physical or mental health condition or illness. Around one in five residents (21,382 people) reported that they did have a longstanding condition.

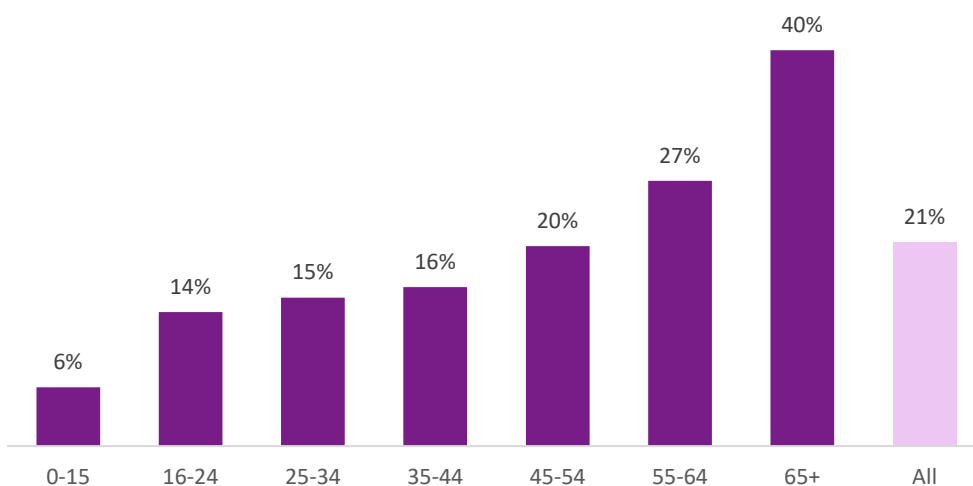
The number of people with a longstanding condition increased by age (see Table 3).

Table 3: Longstanding physical or mental health conditions or illness, by age

	0 – 15	16 – 24	25 – 34	35 – 44	45 – 54	55 – 64	65 +	All
Yes	983	1,331	1,875	2,401	3,253	4,010	7,529	21,382
No	15,493	8,452	10,583	12,474	12,787	10,889	11,207	81,885
Total	16,476	9,783	12,458	14,875	16,040	14,899	18,736	103,267

Figure 3 shows the proportion of residents with a longstanding condition by age group. The proportion ranged from 6% of children aged 15 or under to 40% of residents aged 65 or over.

Figure 3: Proportion of population with longstanding physical or mental health conditions or illnesses, by age



Activity limiting health condition or illness

Residents who answered that they had a longstanding physical or mental health condition or illness were asked a supplementary question: ‘Do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?’.

The response options were ‘yes, a lot’, ‘yes, a little’ or ‘no’. The response ‘yes, a lot’ could indicate a person usually needs regular, continuing support from family, friends, or personal social services for a number of normal daily activities¹.

In total, 15,782 residents reported that they were limited in their daily activities (either ‘a little’ or ‘a lot’). This represents 15% of Jersey’s population (see Figure 4). One in twenty (5%) residents reported that their activities were limited ‘a lot’ (5,153 people).

Figure 4: Activity limiting health condition or illness, proportion of all residents (percent)

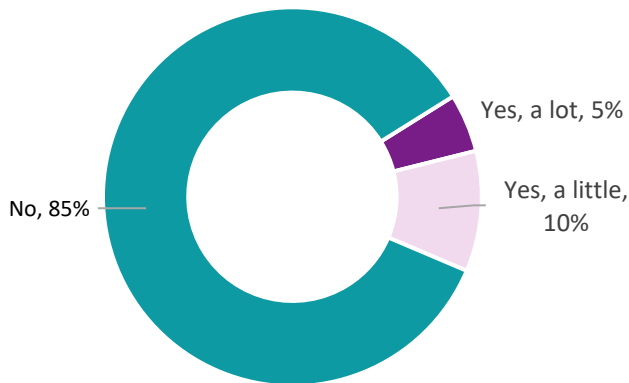


Table 4 presents the responses only for those residents who had stated that they had a longstanding physical or mental health condition or illness, by age group.

Around a quarter (24%) of residents with a longstanding condition or illness reported that their day-to-day activities were limited ‘a lot’, while a further 50% reported they were limited ‘a little’.

Table 4: Day-to-day activities limited by health conditions or illnesses, (only those that had a longstanding physical or mental health condition or illness), by age

	0 – 15	16 – 24	25 – 34	35 – 44	45 – 54	55 – 64	65 +	All
Yes, a lot	256	246	289	407	662	993	2,300	5,153
Yes, a little	499	759	1,079	1,320	1,664	1,875	3,433	10,629
No	228	326	507	674	927	1,142	1,796	5,600
Total	983	1,331	1,875	2,401	3,253	4,010	7,529	21,382

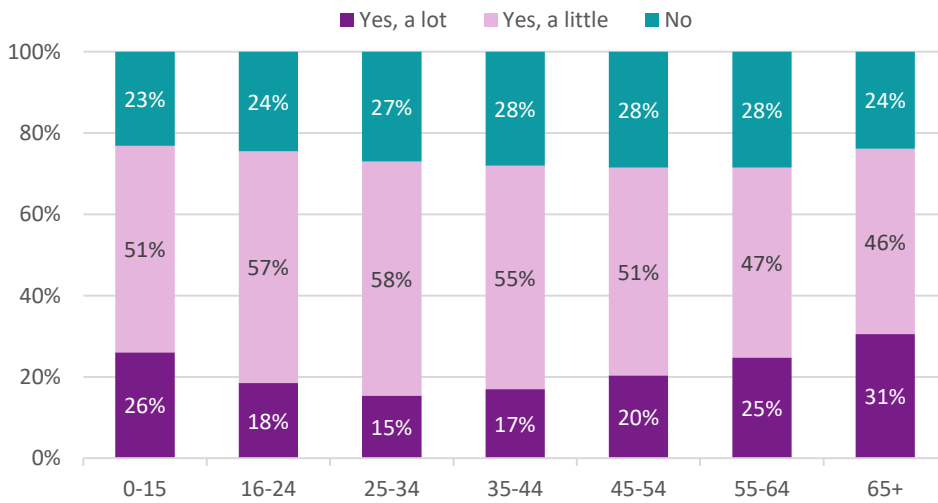
¹ Office for National Statistics census report ‘Disability in England and Wales: 2011 and comparison with 2001

Figure 5 illustrates the distribution of responses for residents with a longstanding condition or illness, by age group.

The proportion who stated their day-to-day activities were not limited by their physical or mental health condition or illness was broadly similar across age groups (ranging from 23% for children aged 15 or under, to 28% for adults aged 35-64 years).

Almost a third (31%) of residents aged 65 or over with a longstanding condition or illness reported that it affected their day-to-day activities ‘a lot’.

Figure 5: Do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day to day activities? by age (only those that had a longstanding physical or mental health condition or illness), percent



Acknowledgements

The 2021 Jersey census project was undertaken by Statistics Jersey. We would like to thank everyone who has been involved in delivering the Jersey Census, particularly Islanders for responding so positively; the field staff who supported Islanders who needed help; and the members of the census office team.

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Notes

Pandemic context

- The 2021 Census was run during the Covid-19 pandemic; as such, a number of restrictions were in place.
- At the time of the census all travel destinations were classified Red under Jersey's Safer Travel Policy. This had been introduced for UK destinations on 22 December 2020, and for all other destinations on 16 January 2021.
- This meant that all arrivals had to isolate for ten days and be PCR tested on arrival and at days five and ten. The return to a Red, Amber, Green classification for UK regions only, with differing restrictions, occurred on 26 April 2021. International destinations, including the Republic of Ireland, remained classified Red.
- The restriction preventing household mixing was lifted on 15 March 2021.
- Eat-in hospitality re-opened on 22 February 2021, with drinks-only hospitality re-opening on 2 April 2021.
- The recommended public health guidance at the time of the census was to work from home whenever possible, although this was not a legal requirement.

Who was included

- Information was collected for everyone who was resident in Jersey on Census Day (Sunday 21 March 2021). A resident included anyone who was staying or intending to stay in Jersey for at least one month. People who were usually resident in Jersey, but temporarily away on Census Day, were also included.
- Limited information was also obtained for visitors (anyone intending to stay for less than one month) who were present in the Island on Census Day.
- People living in households, temporary accommodation, those without a permanent address, as well as people living in communal establishments such as hotels, care homes and the hospital were all included in the census.

Fieldwork

- Four separate address lists were matched and combined to produce an initial list of all residential addresses in the Island. The lists used were: the Jersey Land and Property Index (JLPI), the Jersey Postal Address File (PAF), Jersey Parish Rates address list, Jersey Electricity list of residential dwellings.
- The resulting list was verified by census staff in advance of the census in late 2020 – i.e. all addresses were visited and checked, including identifying unlisted and temporary properties. If there was any doubt as to whether a dwelling should be included (e.g. properties under construction) they were left in the address list.
- Any new addresses added to the JLPI in the intervening period between the address checking fieldwork and Census Day were also added to the address list. This resulted in a list of over 50,000 residential addresses.
- The majority of questionnaires were delivered by post, with around 4,000 hand-delivered by census enumerators. The hand-delivered questionnaires were targeted to “hard to reach” addresses identified during the address checking fieldwork. This included dwellings such as lodging houses and flats with shared mailboxes.
- Non-responding households were sent a reminder letter, then a replacement questionnaire, before being visited, multiple times where required, until the end of June.

Data processing

- The 2021 Census was carried out entirely on-Island, including processing and validation of the census returns.
- This approach allowed use of local knowledge and expertise throughout the entire census project and, particularly, enabled follow up of non-responding households to continue for several months after Census Day.
- Completed paper questionnaires were posted back to Statistics Jersey.
- Questionnaires were bar-coded to speed up the processing of the returns; bespoke software, designed in-house, was used to process the returns and to ensure data-entry and validation was efficient and accurate; vigorous quality assurance processes were put in place to maximise data quality.

Methodological changes for the 2021 Census

- An online completion option was available for the first time. All households received a paper questionnaire containing a unique Household Access Code to complete the census online. 31% of households completed their census online.
- The majority of census questionnaires were delivered by Jersey Post, rather than by Census Enumerators. This meant that a much smaller census field team was engaged on and around Census Day, and there was minimal household contact as part of our Covid-safe measures.

Undercount

- The 2021 Jersey census has incorporated the undercount into the census results. Jersey moved to this “one number” approach for the first time in 2011. (UK moved to this approach in 2001).
- 256 households failed to return a census questionnaire in 2021 and were classified as “Undercount” households; such households represented 0.5% of the total number of households.
- Reported numbers for 2021 represent all residents living in Jersey in 2021, including the small undercount
- Non-responding households are included by identifying the number and characteristics of such households and subsequently amending the census results.
- Administrative data, additional information collected by field staff and the application of statistical techniques were used to compile sufficient information on the characteristics of non-responding households to enable their inclusion.

Validation and quality assurance

- A rigorous process of quality assurance took place, for example: internal consistency checks (eg. children older than parents), identifying duplicate households or people, ensuring visitors staying overnight at other addresses had been included at their usual residence, identifying outliers and missing data. In some instances households were contacted by phone to provide missing information.
- A careful process of validation was carried out against available administrative sources, to ensure the final reported census numbers were consistent with the known populations of:
 - births
 - preschool age
 - school age
 - working age
 - pension age
- Validation was also carried out on an individual level using administrative data sources through a process of automated and manual matching. Datasets used included:
 - Birth registrations (CLS / Office of the Superintendent Registrar)
 - Pre-school children (Dept of Health and Community Services)
 - School-age children (Dept of Children, Young People, Education and Skills)
 - Social Security registrations and contributions (Customer and Local Services, CLS)
 - Manpower returns (Population Office)