The release of 2011 Census data on 11 December 2012 includes a range of key statistics for local authority districts. This briefing note covers the information provided so far for Sheffield on Housing and Accommodation.

Dwellings and Household Spaces

For the Census, a dwelling is defined as ‘a unit of accommodation in which all rooms - including the kitchen, bathroom and toilet - are behind a door that only that household can use’. A household space is accommodation available for use by a single household.

A dwelling may be classified as shared or unshared. A dwelling is shared if:

- the household spaces it contains have the accommodation type ‘part of a converted or shared house’
- not all of the rooms (including kitchen, bathroom and toilet, if any) are behind a door that only that household can use, and
- there is at least one other such household space at the same address with which it can be combined to form the shared dwelling.

There are only 163 dwellings out of 236,811 counted in the 2011 Census in Sheffield that meet this definition of a shared dwelling. This is very similar to the national proportion. Most of these are in the Central, Broomhill and Nether Edge wards.

Out of 237,387 household spaces identified in Sheffield, 7,459 had no usual residents on Census date. Many of these will be vacant, but some may be second homes and some may be occupied by short-term residents. This represents around 3% of household spaces, although in Central ward the proportion is more than double this at 7%.

Property Types

The 2011 Census divides household spaces into a number of different property types. The chart above shows the breakdown for Sheffield. More than 36% of Sheffield domestic properties are semi-detached houses or bungalows, with a further 27% terraced. Both are a little higher than the national average; nationally there is a greater proportion of detached properties.

Almost half of the dwellings in Hillsborough ward are terraced, and more than 40 percent in Crookes and Gleadless Valley wards. Dore and Totley and Beighton have the highest proportions of detached houses or bungalows. Almost two-thirds of dwellings in Central ward are purpose-built flats.
Rooms, Bedrooms and Central Heating

Almost all households in 2011 have central heating – 98.3% in Sheffield, one percent higher than the national average.

The average household size in Sheffield is 2.3 people. These households have on average 5.2 rooms and 2.7 bedrooms available to them. Rooms include kitchens, but not bathrooms, halls or landings. On average, there are more bedrooms than there are people in Sheffield homes.
The ONS uses the concept of ‘occupancy rating’ to identify households with less rooms or bedrooms than they need. This rating is calculated based on the number of people in the household and their ages, genders and relationships to each other. A rating of -1 implies that a household has one less room, or bedroom, that it is felt to need.

More than 21,800 households in Sheffield, around 9.5%, were deemed to have at least one less room than they need, whilst 1 in 20 households had at least one less bedroom than they require. On this basis, over 40 percent of dwellings in Central ward are deemed to be overcrowded, although the open plan design of modern purpose-built flats may have a bearing on this.

Tenure
The chart on the previous page shows the tenure by which Sheffield households occupy their homes.

Over 58% of households are owner-occupiers, with more than a quarter owning their homes outright. The social rented sector accounts for a further quarter of households, whilst 15.6% rent privately.

The social rented sector has contracted a little since 2001, particularly those renting from the Council as a wider range of social landlords now share the market. The proportion of owner-occupiers has fallen marginally, although the proportion with a mortgage has reduced more markedly. The biggest growth has been in renting from a private landlord, in Sheffield, regionally and nationally.

In eight of Sheffield’s 28 wards, more than three-quarters of households are owner-occupiers. Owner-occupation is lowest in Central, with only 18% buying their homes. More than 40 percent of households are social renting in Manor Castle, Firth Park, Arbourthorne and Southey wards. In Central ward, more than half of households are renting privately.

**Further Information**

Future releases will provide more information on these topics. Similar data to that provided in this briefing note will be published for smaller geographies – wards, LSOAs, OAs – on 30 January. Further breakdowns and cross-tabulations with other Census variables will not be published until the spring/summer of 2013.

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