

FOI DOF/2024-0174

Request

We are seeking information regarding the number of households within the Super Output Areas of Gortin and Owenkillew; within the electoral District Area of Mid Tyrone in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area. And where information specific to the village of Gortin is available, we would be grateful to receive this breakdown.

For Mid Tyrone electoral district, the SOAs of Gortin and Owenkillew; and the village of Gortin, the information specifically sought is:

1. The total number of households in Mid Tyrone, Gortin; in Owenkillew, and in the village of Gortin as currently recorded.
2. Any available breakdown of household types within these areas as listed above in point 1 (e.g., single occupancy, family units, etc.), if available.
3. The yearly change in the total number of households in the areas listed, over a period of 25 years, ending with most recently available year.
4. The average household size in the areas listed, shown over time, preferably over the past 25 years.
5. The total current number of households within the areas listed which are classified as 'rural' i.e. outside defined settlement limits, and the total number of households classified as being within 'village, hamlet, or small settlement'.

DoF response

I can confirm the department holds the information requested.

The response to each specific item is outlined below, with links to the published information. It should be noted that Census 2021 figures are not available for Super Output Areas (SOAs). Census 2021 has introduced new output geographies that replaced SOAs. Detail on these new geographies can be found on our [Census output geography](#) page. The [Census Area Explorer](#) provides a useful insight to these new geographies.

The [Mid Tyrone A](#) and [Mid Tyrone B](#) Super Data Zones (SDZs) offer a similar area to the Gortin and Owenkillew SOAs. Therefore, the parts of the request that mention SOAs have been answered using these SDZs since that is the most relevant information available from Census 2021. (These areas are mapped in **ANNEX B**)

FOI Exemption Section 21 (Information accessible by other means) applies to Q1, Q3 and Q4, together with part of Q2. for this request. This information is accessible from the NISRA website, please see the links available below. With regards to Q2, Section 44 (Disclosure is already prohibited under another Statute) also applies, see details below.

1. The total number of households in Mid Tyrone, Gortin; in Owenkillew, and in the village of Gortin as currently recorded.

- Statistics for Gortin settlement are available in the published table [CT0046](#) (374 persons in 167 households)
- Statistics for [Mid Tyrone A](#) SDZ are available in the published tables [MS-A01](#) and [MS-E01](#) (2,963 persons in 1,007 households)
- Statistics for [Mid Tyrone B](#) SDZ are available in the published tables [MS-A01](#) and [MS-E01](#) (2,878 persons in 1,000 households)
- Statistics for [Mid Tyrone](#) DEA are available in the published tables [MS-A01](#) and [MS-E01](#) (17,590 persons in 6,138 households)

2. Any available breakdown of household types within these areas as listed above in point 1 (e.g., single occupancy, family units, etc.), if available.

A breakdown of household composition is available for Gortin settlement, however, due to the small settlement size and disclosure control rules in place for Census 2021, this information is exempt under FOI Exemption 44(1)(a) (Disclosure is prohibited by other legislation).

Section 13(1) of the Statistics and Registration Services Act 2007 states that ‘the person producing any official statistics which are designated under Section 12 as National Statistics must ensure that the Code of Practice for Statistics (Section 10 of the Act) continues to be complied with in relation to the statistics. Section 13(2) states that ‘Failure to comply with Subsection (1) in relation to any statistics means that the designation of the statistics as National Statistics may not be confirmed under Section 14 (but no action shall lie in relation to any such failure).’

Principle T6 of the Code of Practice relates to data Governance and states that *“Organisations should look after people’s information securely and manage data in ways that are consistent with relevant legislation and serve the public good.”* Specifically, T6.4 includes that: *‘Appropriate disclosure control methods should be applied before releasing statistics and data’.*

Section 44 is an absolute exemption and therefore the department does not have to conduct a Public Interest Test.

The information is available from the Census Flexible Table Builder for the other geographies:

- Mid_Tyrone_A and Mid_Tyrone_B SDZs at this [link](#)
- Mid_Tyrone DEA at this [link](#)

3. The yearly change in the total number of households in the areas listed, over a period of 25 years, ending with most recently available year.

Northern Ireland census data are available every 10 years and therefore do not allow for calculation of annual change. In addition, there is no consistent geography available over this period that would allow for this to be robustly created. Census 2011 data are available for:

- Gortin settlement (table [CT235NI](#) – 412 persons in 168 households)
- Mid_Tyrone DEA (table [KS101NI](#) and table [KS401NI](#) – 17,053 persons in 5,525 households)

Similar data are not available from the 2001 census as the geographical areas have changed.

4. The average household size in the areas listed, shown over time, preferably over the past 25 years.

As above, there is no consistent geography available over this period that would allow for this to be robustly created. Census data are available for:

- Census 2011: Mid_Tyrone DEA (table [KS403NI](#) – average household size 3.07)
- Census 2021: Mid_Tyrone DEA (table [MS-E02](#) – average household size 2.85)

Similar data are not available from the 2001 census as the geographical areas have changed.

5. The total current number of households within the areas listed which are classified as ‘rural’ i.e. outside defined settlement limits, and the total number of households classified as being within ‘village, hamlet, or small settlement’.

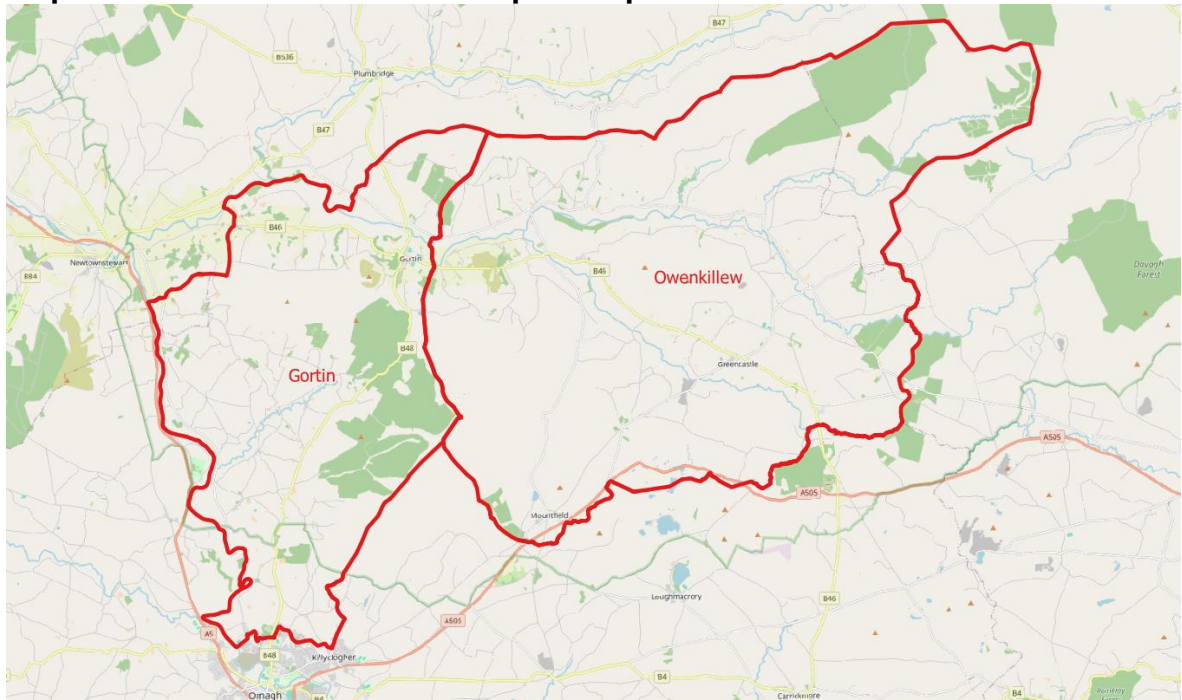
The information below utilises the classification for Urban and Rural according to the published [Review of the Statistical Classification and Delineation of Settlements](#) and relates to data from Census 2021.

- In Mid_Tyrone_A SDZ, all 1,007 households are in a ‘rural’ area – i.e. within ‘Band H’ (settlements with populations of less than 1,000 or open countryside).
- In Mid_Tyrone_B SDZ, all 1,000 households are in a ‘rural’ area – i.e. within ‘Band H’ (settlements with populations of less than 1,000 or open countryside).
- In Mid_Tyrone DEA, 731 of the 6,138 households are in an ‘urban’ area – i.e. within ‘Band C’ (Large Town, population 18,000+) and the remaining 5,407 are

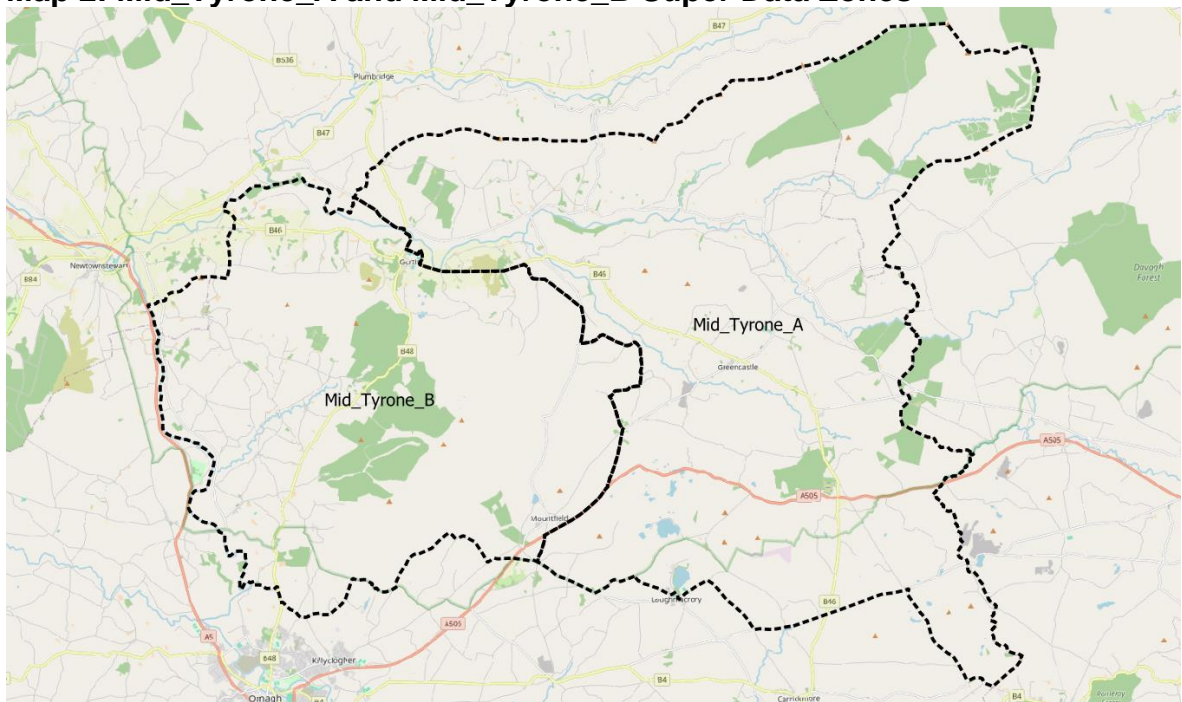
in a 'rural' area – i.e. within 'Band H' (settlements with populations of less than 1,000 or open countryside).

If you have any queries about these data Census Office customer services are happy to help via Email: census@nisra.gov.uk

Map 1: Gortin and Owenkillew Super Output Areas



Map 2: Mid_Tyrone_A and Mid_Tyrone_B Super Data Zones



Map 3: Overlay of Map 1 and Map 2

