

# First Release Datganiad Cyntaf

SDR 25/2012 22 February 2012

# **Dwelling Stock Estimates for Wales, 2010-11**

This annual statistical release presents estimates of the number of dwellings in Wales by tenure and for each local authority, as at 31 March 2011.

Estimates of the total number of dwellings are based on data from the population censuses. Estimates from the censuses are updated annually to take account of new house building and demolitions. The breakdown of dwelling stock estimates by tenure shown in this release is estimated from 2001 Census information, and information from the Labour Force Survey, local authority returns and registered social landlord (RSL) returns. Definitions of all terms used can be found in the glossary, alongside the key quality information at the end of this release.

The information provides an estimate of the number of residential dwellings by each tenure type and by local authority, at the end of March each year and is used as evidence in policy making by both central and local government. The data is used by the Welsh Government, local authorities and other housing organisations to help monitor trends in the overall level of Welsh housing stock, as well as any changes in its tenure distribution over time.

### **Key results:**

- It is estimated that the total number of dwellings in Wales continues to grow steadily, with an estimated 1.35 million dwellings at the 31 March 2011, which represents an increase of 6 per cent since 2000-01.
- The majority of dwellings within Wales continue to be owner occupied<sup>1</sup> (70 per cent of all dwellings); however the number of owner occupied dwellings has fallen slightly in recent years.
- It is estimated that the number of private sector dwellings has increased steadily over the last ten years. This is largely due to the increase in the number of privately rented dwellings which were estimated to account for 14 per cent of all dwellings at 31 March 2011.
- In the social sector, whilst it is estimated the number of dwellings rented from local authorities has decreased by more than half since 2000-01, the number rented from Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) has more than doubled over the same period. Overall though, there has been a general fall in proportion of social sector dwellings which were estimated to account for 16 per cent of all dwellings at 31 March 2011.

Statistician: Rhiannon Caunt Tel: 029 2082 5055 E-mail: stats.housing@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Next update: February 2013 (provisional)

**Twitter:** www.twitter.com/statisticswales | www.twitter.com/ystadegaucymru

Cyhoeddwyd gan Y Gwasanaethau Gwybodaeth a Dadansoddi Llywodraeth Cymru, Parc Cathays, Caerdydd, CF10 3NQ Ffôn – Swyddfa'r Wasg **029 2089 8099**, Ymholiadau Cyhoeddus **029 2082 3332** 

www.cymru.gov.uk/ystadegau

Issued by Knowledge and Analytical Services
Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ
Telephone – Press Office **029 2089 8099**, Public Enquiries **029 2082 5050**www.wales.gov.uk/statistics



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes intermediate tenures and other tenures not socially or privately rented.

# **Total number of dwellings in Wales**

• The overall number of dwellings in Wales continues to grow steadily, with an estimated 1.35 million dwellings at the 31 March 2011, which represents an increase of 6 per cent since 2000-01. Over the same period the number of households in Wales has been increasing at a rate of roughly one per cent per year, with the latest figures showing that the number of estimated households in Wales grew to 1.34 million at the 30 June 2011¹. Whilst it is estimated that the number of households' has grown more rapidly than the number of dwellings, the estimated number of dwellings is currently still around 1 per cent higher than the number of households in Wales.

Rented from Local Authorities Rented from Registered Social Landlords Owner-occupied Privately rented 1,200,000 1,000,000 800,000 600,000 400,000 200,000 0 2002-03 004-05 003-04 2010-11 2000-01

Chart 1 - Dwelling stock estimates by tenure (r)

Source: Welsh Government

(r) Revised January 2012. See Key Quality Information for further details

- The majority of dwellings within Wales continue to be owner occupied, accounting for 70 per cent of all dwelling stock at 31 March 2011. However it is estimated that the number of owner occupied dwellings has been falling since 2006-07 before rising slightly over the last year.
- The tenure distribution of the rest of the dwelling stock in Wales has changed over the last ten years. The overall number of social sector dwellings, rented from local authorities or Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), is estimated to have dropped by 8 per cent since 2000-01 whilst the number of private sector dwellings increased by 9 per cent over the same period.
- The decline in the level of new house building in recent years, due to the economic downturn, has impacted on the level of all dwelling stock but this has been particularly apparent within the private sector (owner occupied, private rented sector, intermediate and other tenures). Between 2000-01 and 2007-08 there were around 8,000 new private sector dwellings completed each year but between 2008-09 and 2010-11 this had dropped to around 5,400 each year. Whilst the majority of new build activity continues to be carried out by the private sector, the number of new social sector dwellings completed has increased over recent years rising from around 560 each year between 2000-01 and 2007-08 to around 860 each year between 2008-09 and 2010-11. Almost all of the social sector new house building was carried out by RSLs and therefore may be affected by the availability of capital grants funding which is estimated to decrease over the next two years.

<sup>1</sup> Based on the 2008 Household projections produced by the Welsh Government.

Table 1 – Dwelling stock estimates by tenure, as at 31 March (a)

									TVUITIDEI
	Rented from local authorities (b) (c)		9			cupier and ures (e) (f)	Privately rented (f)		Total
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number (r)	Per cent (r)	Number (r)	Per cent (r)	Number
2000-01	187,855 (r)	15 (r)	54,999	4	924,963	73	106,683	8	1,274,500
2001-02	182,957 (r)	14 (r)	56,687	4	950,074	74	92,021	7	1,281,739
2002-03	176,401 (r)	14 (r)	57,165 (r)	4 (r)	937,221	73	118,488	9	1,289,275
2003-04	162,276	13	64,498 (r)	5 (r)	956,094	74	114,089	9	1,296,957
2004-05	158,005 (r)	12 (r)	65,091 (r)	5 (r)	964,766	74	117,545	9	1,305,407
2005-06	155,768	12	65,665 (r)	5 (r)	973,935	74	118,107	9	1,313,475 (r)
2006-07	154,412	12	66,632 (r)	5 (r)	984,146	74	117,575	9	1,322,765 (r)
2007-08	131,524	10	89,397 (r)	7 (r)	975,782	73	134,653	10	1,331,356 (r)
2008-09	113,013 (r)	8 (r)	106,927 (r)	8 (r)	957,377	72	161,150	12	1,338,467 (r)
2009-10	110,575 (r)	8 (r)	110,459 (r)	8 (r)	941,258	70	182,133	14	1,344,425 (r)
2010-11	88,723	7	133,640	10	945,003	70	182,269	14	1,349,636

Number

Source: Welsh Government

#### **Private sector dwellings**

Private sector dwellings cover all dwellings that are owner occupied (whether owned outright or bought with a mortgage), rented from private landlords, intermediate and other dwellings that are not at social rents.

- Within the private sector, whilst owner occupied<sup>2</sup> still accounted for over two thirds of all housing at 31 March 2011, both the number and proportion of privately rented dwellings have increased substantially since 2000-01. Between 2000-01 and 2010-11 the number of privately rented dwellings increased by around 71 per cent and now accounts for 14 per cent of all dwelling stock. In contrast, the number of owner-occupied dwellings increased only slightly (2 per cent) over this period and as a proportion of all dwelling stock dropped by 3 percentage points.
- The rise in the number of privately rented dwellings may have been influenced by an increased
  uptake of buy-to-let mortgages during the period as well as the decrease in affordability of owner
  occupation. Whilst housing has become slightly more affordable in recent years following the
  economic downturn, there is the added difficulty of there being fewer mortgage products available
  particularly to first time buyers.

<sup>(</sup>a) Due to rounding, the percentages may not equal 100% and the total column may not equal the sum of the different tenures

<sup>(</sup>b) Data has been affected by the large scale voluntary stock transfers of local authority stock. For further details see Key Quality Information section.

<sup>(</sup>c) Prior to 2008-09 data was taken from the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy (HRAS) second advance form. For 2008-09 onwards, data is provided via the annual Social Housing Stock return from local authorities.

<sup>(</sup>d) Prior to 2008-09 data was taken from the annual RSL1 to 4 forms from registered social landlords. For 2008-09 onwards, data is provided via the annual Social Housing Stock return from registered social landlords.

<sup>(</sup>e) Includes owner-occupied, intermediate and other tenures.

<sup>(</sup>f) The tenure split between owner-occupied and privately rented dwellings has been calculated for 1996-97 onwards using information from the Labour Force Survey.

<sup>(</sup>r) Revised January 2012. See Key Quality Information for further details

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Includes intermediate tenures and other tenures not socially or privately rented.

## Social sector dwellings

Social sector dwellings cover all dwellings rented from local authorities and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) at social rents.

- Within the social sector, whilst it is estimated that there has been a steady fall in the number of dwellings rented from local authorities since 2000-01 (falling from 15 per cent to 7 per cent of all dwellings), in contrast the number of dwellings rented from Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) has more than doubled (increasing from 4 per cent to 10 per cent of all dwellings). This has been predominantly influenced by the large scale voluntary transfers of stock from local authorities to RSLs³, with approximately 22,000 dwellings transferring from three local authorities (Gwynedd, Blaenau Gwent and Neath Port Talbot) to RSLs during 2010-11.
- The decrease in the number of local authority dwellings has also been influenced by the transfer of housing into the private sector through Right to Buy and other schemes. Between 1 April 2000 and 31 March 2011, a total of 27,200 local authority dwellings have transferred to the private sector via Right to Buy and other sales. The amount of new house building by local authorities has also declined over recent years with only 195 new local authority dwellings completed between 2000-01 and 2010-11, whilst there were 6,900 new RSL dwellings completed during the same period.

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Further details on the stock transfers can be found in the 'Key Quality Information' section at the end of this release.

Table 2 - Dwelling stock estimates by tenure and local authority, at 31 March 2011

Number

103,445

25,741

75,826

32,219

39,701

39,444

63,070

1,349,636

Owner-occupied, Rented from privately rented, Rented from local registered social intermediate and authorities (a) landlords (a) (b) other tenures Total Isle of Anglesey 3,809 687 32,373 27.877 Gwynedd 0 8.512 49.795 58.307 Conwv 0 5,966 47,374 53.340 Denbighshire 3,463 43,564 2.132 37.969 Flintshire 7,432 2,378 64,093 54,283 Wrexham 11,309 1,713 45,644 58,666 Powys 5,429 2 651 60,561 52.481 Cerediaion 3,208 31,581 34,789 Pembrokeshire 5.696 2.460 48.935 57,091 Carmarthenshire 9,145 2,904 69,977 82,026 Swansea 13,629 6,824 85,571 106,024 Neath Port Talbot 12.145 63.664 n 51,519 Bridgend 0 8,521 50,697 59,218 The Vale of Glamorgan 4,180 2,332 47,579 54,092 Cardiff 13,689 142,382 10,980 117,713

Source: Welsh Government

Rhondda Cynon Taf

Merthyr Tydfil

Blaenau Gwent

Monmouthshire

Caerphilly

Torfaen

Newport

Wales

(a) Data are taken from the annual Social Housing Stock return for local authorities and registered social landlords. Data has been affected by the large scale voluntary stock transfers of local authority stock. For further details see Quality Information section. Excludes intermediate and other tenures not at social rents.

0

0

0

0

0

0

88,723

10,943

• Since 2000-01 the overall number of dwellings in Wales at 31 March 2011 was estimated to increase by 6 per cent. However across Wales this varied from less than 3 per cent in Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent, Flintshire and Gwynedd to 12 per cent in Cardiff.

15,297

5,778

3,483

7,879

9,762

5.250

12,777

133,640

88.148

19,963

61,400

24,340

29,939

34.194

50,293

1,127,272

- By 31 March 2011, 11 of the 22 local authorities in Wales had transferred their dwelling stock to RSLs; however this would not affect the overall number of social sector dwellings within the areas.
   Generally the proportion of socially rented stock continues to be lower in rural authorities than for other local authorities in Wales. Across Wales, the valley authorities of Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent had the highest proportion of social housing at 25 and 24 per cent respectively, whilst the lowest proportion was seen in the rural authority of Ceredigion at 9 per cent.
- Whilst at an all Wales level the estimated number of dwellings at 31 March 2011 was higher (1 per cent) than the projected number of households<sup>4</sup> this was not the case in 10 of the 22 authorities. The difference between the estimated number of dwellings and the number of households varied from around 3 per cent (1,800) less dwellings than households in Flintshire to around 10 per cent (5,300) more dwellings than households in Gwynedd.

<sup>4</sup> Based on the 2008 Household projections produced by the Welsh Government.

<sup>(</sup>b) Includes Abbeyfield Societies, Almshouse Charities and Co-ownership Societies, Excludes rented stock owned by English registered social landlords. For see the Key Quality Information section.

# **Key Quality Information**

1. In addition to the information below, further information can be found in the <u>Housing Statistics</u> Quality Report which is available on our website.

## **Policy and Operational Context**

2. The dwelling stock estimates are used as evidence in policy making by both central and local government. The information provides an estimate of the number of residential dwellings by each tenure type and by local authority, at the end of March each year. The data are used by the Welsh Government, local authorities and other housing organisations to help monitor trends in the overall level of Welsh housing stock, as well as any changes in its tenure distribution over time.

# Quality

- 3. Official Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political reference. The dwelling stock estimates are official statistics but are not currently classified as National Statistics.
- 4. Welsh housing statistics adhere to the Welsh Government's <u>Statistical Quality Management Strategy</u>, and this is in line with the European Statistical System's six dimensions of quality, as listed in Principle 4 of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Further detail on how these are adhered to can be found in the <u>Housing Statistics Quality Report</u>, which covers the general principles and processes leading up to the production of our housing statistics. The report covers various topics including definitions, coverage, timeliness, relevance and comparability.
- 5. More detailed quality information relating specifically to dwelling stock estimates, which is not included in the quality report, is given below.
- 6. The source of the dwelling counts for these estimates is the 2001 Census. Following publication of the 2001 Census, an undercount of the population was identified in some areas across England and Wales. Whilst the subsequent mid-year population estimates were adjusted to account for the undercount, the 2001 Census data, including the number of dwellings, was not revised. Although DCLG have estimated the impact the undercount had on the number of dwellings in England no similar work has been undertaken within Wales.
- 7. Information on the accuracy and quality of the other data sources used to provide the tenure profile can be found in the separate statistical releases for each source. See the 'Data Source and Coverage' section for a list of these sources and web inks to each.

## **Data Source and Coverage**

8. This release draws on information from a range of data sources in order to compile a coherent set of statistics on the total number of dwellings and the tenure profile of the stock. The statistical sources used are listed below.

Census 2001 (Office for National Statistics) http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/census/census-2001/index.html

Labour Force Survey (Office for National Statistics) http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/surveys/list-ofsurveys/survey.html?survey=%27Labour+Force+Survey%27

New House Building Completions (Welsh Government) <a href="http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/111214/?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/111214/?lang=en</a>

Demolitions data (Welsh Government)

http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/110824/?lang=en

Local authority stock and registered social landlord stock (Welsh Government) <a href="http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/111116/?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/111116/?lang=en</a>

# **Large Scale Voluntary Transfers**

9. The proportion of social housing stock managed by registered social landlords will have been influenced by the large scale voluntary transfers of local authority stock as shown below.

Local authority	Date of transfer	Registered social landlord	
Bridgend	12 September 2003	Valleys to Coast	
Rhondda Cynon Taf	10 December 2007	RCT Homes	
Monmouthshire	17 January 2008	Monmouthshire Housing	
Torfaen	01 April 2008	Bron Afon Community Housing	
Conwy	29 September 2008	Cartrefi Conwy	
Newport	09 March 2009	Newport City Homes	
Merthyr Tydfil	20 March 2009	Merthyr Valleys Homes	
Ceredigion	30 November 2009	Tai Ceredigion	
Gwynedd	12 April 2010	Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd	
Blaenau Gwent	26 July 2010	Tai Calon Community Housing	
Neath Port Talbot	05 March 2011	NPT Homes	

# Methodology

- 10. Estimates of the total dwelling stock are calculated based on data from the population censuses. The estimates shown in this release are produced by using the dwelling count from the most recent 2001 census as a baseline. This count is then projected forward using information collected on annual changes to the dwelling stock through new build completions plus any gains or losses through conversions and demolitions.
- 11. For further information on how dwellings are defined in the 2011 Census and how this differs to the definition used in the 2001 Census please refer to the document titled '2011 Census Definition of Dwellings' published alongside this release, which was produced by colleagues in the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

# Total number of dwellings in Wales

12. During a census year the total number of dwellings in Wales is taken directly from the Census. Between censuses the total number of dwellings is estimated as follows:

Total number of dwellings and Wales = Number of dwellings in previous year  For example:	+ Number of dwellings - Number of completed during the year (including conversions) - Number of residential demolitions
Total number of dwellings (2001 Census) <b>Plus</b>	1,274,500
Number of completions during 2001-02	8,273
Minus	
Number of demolitions during 2001-02	1,034
Equals	
Total number of dwellings as at 31 March 2002	1,281,739

# Total number of dwellings by tenure

## Local authority dwellings

- 13. The breakdown of stock estimates by tenure shown in this release is estimated from 2001 Census information, information from the Labour Force Survey, local authority returns and registered social landlord (RSL) returns. This information takes into account any changes in tenure through sales and acquisitions. For further details, please see below.
- 14. The data on local authority housing stock are taken from the annual returns from the 22 local authorities which is published in the following release: http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/111116/?lang=en

The full data set is available on our StatsWales interactive web site at: <a href="http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx">http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx</a>

- 15. This data is used directly in the dwelling stock tenure split and include all self-contained and non self-contained dwellings but exclude intermediate and other tenures which are not at social rents, which are included in the owner-occupied, privately rented and other tenures category.
- 16. The data for local authorities includes all stock wholly owned and rented, whether Welsh funded or otherwise as at 31 March 2011. The data excludes all non-residential properties and excludes any dwellings leased to temporarily house the homeless and any dwellings that are managed as a social lettings agency.
- 17. As the annual returns collect the number of non self-contained bed spaces rather than dwellings, it is assumed on average that 3 non self-contained bedspaces is equal to one dwelling. Information on the number of non self-contained units for intermediate and other tenures is not collected; therefore the same calculation cannot be applied for these tenures.
- 18. Therefore the total number of local authority dwellings is calculated as follows:

Total number of LA self-contained dwellings	88,672	Includes general needs, supported
Plus		including sheltered and extra care
Number of LA non self-contained dwellings/3	154/3	
Equals		
Total number of LA dwellings as at 31 March	88,723	Excludes intermediate and other
		tenures

## **Registered Social Landlord dwellings**

19. The data on registered social landlord stock are taken from the annual returns from all Welsh registered social landlords which is published in the following release: <a href="http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/111116/?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/111116/?lang=en</a>

The full data set is available on our StatsWales interactive website at: http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx

20. This data is used directly in the dwelling stock tenure split and include all self-contained and non self-contained dwellings but exclude intermediate and other tenures which are not at social rents, which are included in the owner-occupied, privately rented and other tenures category. It includes information from Abbeyfield Societies, Almshouses Charities and Co-ownership Societies but excludes socially rented stock owned by English registered social landlords.

- 21. The data for registered social landlords includes all stock wholly owned and rented, whether Welsh funded or otherwise as at 31 March 2011. The data excludes all non-residential properties and excludes investment properties for those RSLs that are registered charities. It also excludes any dwellings leased to temporarily house the homeless and any dwellings that are managed as a social lettings agency. The data shown for RSLs also excludes 466 units of rented stock owned by English registered social landlords. These dwellings appear in the owner-occupied, privately rented and other tenures category.
- 22. As the annual returns collect the number of non self-contained bed spaces rather than dwellings, it is assumed on average that 3 non self-contained bedspaces is equal to one dwelling. Information on the number of non self-contained units for intermediate and other tenures is not collected; therefore the same calculation cannot be applied for these tenures.
- 23. Therefore the total number of RSL dwellings is calculated as follows:

Total number of RSL self-contained dwellings	132,004	Includes general needs, supported
Plus		including sheltered and extra care
Number of RSL non self-contained dwellings/3	4,909/3	_
Equals		
Total number of RSL dwellings as at 31 March	133,640	Excludes intermediate and other
		tenures and stock owned by
		English RSLs

## **Private sector dwellings**

24. Private sector dwellings are calculated by subtracting the number of local authority dwellings and RSL dwellings from the total number of dwellings in Wales.

Number of private = Total number of - dwellings in Wales	Number of local authority dwellings	- Number of RSL dwellings
For example:		
Total number of dwellings at 31 March 2011 <b>Minus</b>	1,349,636	
Number of local authority dwellings at 31 March 2011	88,723	
Minus		
Number of RSL dwellings at 31 March 2011	133,640	
Equals		
Number of private sector dwellings at 31 March 2011	1,127,272	

25. Whilst private sector stock covers both owner-occupied<sup>5</sup> and private rented dwellings, there is no direct measure of these tenures due to the difficulty of collecting information on the private sector and the relatively fluid interchange between these two parts of the private dwelling stock.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Includes intermediate tenures and other tenures not socially or privately rented

# Owner occupied and private rented dwellings

- 26. In order to estimate the number of private sector dwellings that are privately rented the current methodology estimates what proportion of the private sector are privately rented using information from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). The owner-occupied tenure is then calculated as the residual after the other tenures have been removed.
- 27. Whilst the LFS provides estimates for the private rental sector it only covers occupied dwellings, therefore no account is taken of vacancy rates in producing the split. Also there is currently insufficient information available from the LFS to provide a separate percentage breakdown for privately rented stock at a local authority level within Wales. The split between privately rented and owner-occupied stock is therefore only calculated at an all Wales level.
- 28. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a survey of households living at private addresses in the UK (therefore NHS accommodation, prisons and army barracks are excluded). The purpose of the LFS is to provide the information on the UK labour market required by the European Statistical Office (EuroStat) under the Treaty of Rome. The LFS collects a wide variety of information from labour market situation to education, health, place of residence and work and household and family characteristics.
- 29. The main contacts for the LFS in the Welsh Government are the Economic and Labour Market Statistics Team. For further information on the LFS please contact the Economic and Labour Market Statistics Team or see the ONS published guidance here:

  <a href="http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/user-guidance/labour-market-statistics/index.html">http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/user-guidance/labour-market-statistics/index.html</a>
- 30. Calculation of privately rented dwellings:

Number of privately rented	= Percentage of privately rented	x Total number of
dwellings	stock taken from LFS	dwellings
For example:		

Percentage of privately rented stock taken from LFS for 2010-11

Multiply by

Number of private sector dwellings at 31 March 2011

14 per cent (rounded)

1,349,636

Equals

Number of privately rented dwellings at 31 March 2011 **182,269** 

31. Calculation of owner-occupied dwellings:

Number of owner occupied = Number of private sector - Number of privately dwellings contact - dwellings

For example:

Number of private sector dwellings at 31 March 2011 1,127,272

Minus

Number of privately rented dwellings at 31 March 2011 182,269

Equals

Number of owner occupied dwellings at 31 March 2011 945,003

#### **Users and Uses**

- 32. The dwelling stock estimates provide annual base line information on the overall amount of housing stock at a Wales and local authority level. It is used as evidence for policy making by both central and local government. The data are used by the Welsh Government, local authorities and other housing organisations to help monitor trends in the overall level of Welsh housing stock, as well as any changes in its tenure distribution over time. The data are also used by the Welsh Government in the calculation of local government standard spending assessments.
- 33. Local authorities use dwelling stock information to develop their Local Housing Market Assessments; for benchmarking; for evidencing how housing need and demand is being met locally and for assessing future requirement and need in order to plan and allocate resources effectively. Outside of government the dwelling stock estimates are used by the finance and investment industries, for example to help develop a picture of demographic trends.
- 34. Generally the information is used for:

Policy development

Advice to Ministers

Informing debate in the National Assembly for Wales and beyond

Geographic profiling, comparisons and benchmarking.

There are a variety of users of these statistics including national and local government, researchers, academics and students. For further information on the users and uses please refer to the <a href="Housing Statistics Quality Report">Housing Statistics Quality Report</a>.

## **Symbols**

- 35. The following symbols may have been used in this release:
  - negligible (less than half the final digit shown)
  - . not applicable
  - .. not available
  - not yet available
  - \* disclosive or not sufficiently robust for publication
  - p provisional
  - r revised

#### Comparability

- 36. Prior to 2008-09 the data for local authority dwellings shown in this release was taken from the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy (HRAS) second advance form. For 2008-09 onwards data are from the annual Social Housing Stock return for local authorities. The annual Social Housing Stock return is completed by all local authorities.
- 37. Prior to 2008-09 the data for registered social landlords shown in this release are from the annual RSL 1 to 4 returns. For 2008-09 onwards data are from the annual Social Housing Stock return for registered social landlords. The annual Social Housing Stock return is completed by all Welsh registered social landlords including Abbeyfield societies, Almshouse Charities and Co-ownership societies.
- 38. The data presented within this release for local authority and RSLs will differ from that shown in the release 'Social Housing Stock Lettings and Vacancies 2010-11' as this release presents information on the number of dwellings whereas the social housing stock release present information on the number of housing units where non self-contained bedspaces are counted as individual housing units.

#### **Revisions**

# Revisions to Labour Force Survey (LFS) data

39. The tenure split between owner-occupied and privately rented dwellings in terms of both numbers and percentage of total stock has been calculated for 1996-97 onwards using information from the Labour Force Survey. These figures were revised in January 2012. The following tables provide a comparison of the revised figures with those published previously for each year. These revisions do not affect the overall total stock figures for each year nor do they affect the numbers and percentages of total stock for local authority and registered social landlord dwellings.

		er tenures (a) (b)				
		Number	•	Per cent of all dwellings Revised January		
	Re	evised January				
	Previous	2012	Difference	Previous	2012	Difference
2000-01	922,616	924,963	2,346	72	73	0.2
2001-02	949,602	950,074	472	74	74	0.0
2002-03	936,004	937,221	1,217	73	73	0.1
2003-04	953,956	956,094	2,138	74	74	0.2
2004-05	961,454	964,766	3,312	74	74	0.3
2005-06	974,715	973,935	-780	74	74	-0.1
2006-07	978,407	984,146	5,739	74	74	0.4
2007-08	974,732	975,782	1,050	73	73	0.1
2008-09	955,419	957,377	1,957	71	72	0.1
2009-10	940,977	941,258	281	70	70	-0.1

Source: Welsh Government

<sup>(</sup>b) Includes, owner-occupied, intermediate and other tenures.

	Privately rented (a)						
	Number			Per cent of all dwellings			
	Re	evised January		R	Revised January		
	Previous	2012	Difference	Previous	2012	Difference	
2000-01	109,165	106,683	-2,481	9	8	-0.2	
2001-02	92,534	92,021	-513	7	7	0.0	
2002-03	118,707	118,488	-218	9	9	0.0	
2003-04	116,002	114,089	-1,913	9	9	-0.1	
2004-05	121,428	117,545	-3,883	9	9	-0.3	
2005-06	117,230	118,107	877	9	9	0.1	
2006-07	123,317	117,575	-5,742	9	9	-0.4	
2007-08	135,824	134,653	-1,170	10	10	-0.1	
2008-09	163,183	161,150	-2,033	12	12	-0.2	
2009-10	182,214	182,133	-81	14	14	0.0	

Source: Welsh Government

<sup>(</sup>a) At 31 March. Data are not National Statistics

<sup>(</sup>a) At 31 March. Data are not National Statistics

# Revisions to new house building and demolition statistics

40. Following a data cleansing exercise the total new house building completions data for 2005-06 and 2009-10 as well as the demolitions data for 2006-07 were revised in January 2012. These revisions will have led to a change in the overall number of dwellings for these years and will have impacted on the overall number of dwellings for subsequent years. The following table provides a comparison of the revised figures with those published previously for each year. These revisions do not affect the numbers and percentages of stock for local authority and registered social landlord dwellings.

			Number		
	Total stock				
	Re				
	Previous	2012	Difference		
2000-01	1,274,500	1,274,500	0		
2001-02	1,281,739	1,281,739	0		
2002-03	1,289,275	1,289,275	0		
2003-04	1,296,957	1,296,957	0		
2004-05	1,305,407	1,305,407	0		
2005-06	1,313,483	1,313,475	-8		
2006-07	1,322,788	1,322,765	-23		
2007-08	1,331,379	1,331,356	-23		
2008-09	1,338,490	1,338,467	-23		
2009-10	1,344,439	1,344,425	-14		

Source: Welsh Government

(a) At 31 March. Data are not National Statistics

# Revisions to local authority and registered social landlord stock

41. Since the previous publication, there have been updates to housing stock information received from social landlords. We have also undertaken a data cleansing exercise on our database since the previous publication. This has resulted in some changes to data for some landlords.

#### Revisions to data published on StatsWales

42. The data published in the StatsWales tables has also undergone a data cleansing exercise following the revisions listed above. The data in these tables has been marked appropriately to highlight the revisions made.

# **Accessibility**

43. A full set of data on dwelling stock estimates in Wales, including information by individual local authority is available to download from our StatsWales interactive website at the following link: <a href="http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx">http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx</a>

## **Coherence with Other Statistics:**

- 44. There are several alternative sources of data on total dwelling stock in Wales, including the council tax system. The Welsh Government collect and publish annual information on dwellings under the council tax system which is provided by the 22 Welsh local authorities. The latest information is available via the following link:
  - http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx
- 45. The Welsh Government collect information on social housing stock which is based on annual stock returns collected from the 22 Welsh local authorities and all Welsh registered social landlords. The total local authority and registered social landlord stock figures are published in the release <u>'Social</u>

<u>Housing Stock, Vacancies and Lettings, 2010-11'</u> however, will differ from the figures shown in this release which assumes 3 bed spaces of a non self-contained unit is equivalent to 1 dwelling and do not include intermediate and other tenures not at social rents. In this release intermediate and other tenures appear in the owner-occupied, privately rented and other tenures category.

- 46. Information on local authority dwelling stock is also collected by the Welsh Government on the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy (HRAS) claim forms. The information is used in calculating the annual Housing Revenue Account Subsidy (Wales) Determination which provides the basis of calculating a local authority's Housing Revenue Account Subsidy for the year. More information is available at the following link:

  <a href="http://wales.gov.uk/legislation/subordinate/nonsi/housingwal/2011/4822471/?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/legislation/subordinate/nonsi/housingwal/2011/4822471/?lang=en</a>
- 47. New house building completions are the one of the most important factors affecting the annual change in the size of the dwelling stock. The Welsh Government publishes a quarterly release covering new build starts and completions based on the reports of local authority building inspectors and the National House Building Council (NHBC) which is a private approved inspector (PAI). The latest house building statistics can be found via the following link: <a href="http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/111214/?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/111214/?lang=en</a>
- 48. The number of dwellings demolished is also an important factor affecting the annual change in the total dwelling stock. Data on demolitions is collected annually by the Welsh Government from all 22 local authorities in Wales. The statistics on demolitions cover all demolitions of residential dwellings of which the local authority is aware. They also include dwellings demolished which are to be rebuilt afterwards. The latest published information can be found via the following link: <a href="http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/110824/?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2011/110824/?lang=en</a>
- 49. The 2008 based household projections for 2011 used within this release were produced by the Welsh Government. Household projections provide estimates of future numbers of households. The assumptions are generally based on past trends. Projections done in this way do not make allowances for the effects of local or central government policies on future population or household levels, distribution and change. Further information can be found via the following link: <a href="http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2010/100929/?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2010/100929/?lang=en</a>

#### **Related Statistics for Other UK Countries**

50. Each of the countries of the UK produces its own statistics on Dwelling Stock Estimates.

#### **England**

- 51. The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) is responsible for collecting and publishing data for England. DCLG apply a similar methodology to produce their annual dwelling stock estimates using the dwelling count from the 2001 census as a baseline. The count is projected forward using information on net annual changes to the housing stock, which is also collected and published by the DCLG in the <a href="Net supply of housing statistics">Net supply of housing statistics</a>. The same methodology (census + net additions) is used to produce estimates at the national, regional and local authority levels.
- 52. The data on local authority housing stock are taken from the DCLG's housing strategy statistical appendix (HSSA), which is completed and returned every year by local authorities. These data are used directly in the dwelling stock tenure split. Information on housing association stock comes from the Tenant Services Authority (TSA) Regulatory and Statistical Return (RSR).
- 53. Private sector stock is split into owner-occupied and privately rented by using information from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and English Housing Survey (EHS). Estimates of the privately rented stock are taken from the LFS and smoothed using a weighted average of the previous year. As the

LFS data only includes occupied dwellings data on vacancy from the EHS is used to make an adjustment to give an estimate of the total privately rented sector including vacant. The owneroccupied tenure is then calculated as the residual after the other tenures have been removed. Further information is available in the latest release published by DCLG in November 2011 available at the following link:

http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/housingstock2011

#### **Scotland**

- 54. In Scotland, dwelling stock estimates up to 2000 are based on the 1991 Census. Estimates from 2001 onwards are based on the 2001 Census, council tax records and exemptions, social sector stock counts, and private tenure splits from the Scottish Household Survey and are not strictly comparable with earlier figures.
- 55. Dwelling stock estimates for Scotland are produced by National Records of Scotland (NRS). They are published in May each year in 'Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland, which is a National Statistics publication available on the NRS website. The Scottish Government's Housing Statistics team produces a breakdown of dwelling stock by tenure for Scotland. As a starting point, they use the council tax based dwelling estimate produced by NRS and adjust it from September back to 31 March. Local authority and housing association stock at March each year are subtracted to give an estimate of the privately owned stock. Vacant dwelling stock estimates for March each year are based on NRS vacant dwelling counts. From these local authority and housing association vacant stock counts at March each year are subtracted to leave an estimate for the privately owned vacant stock including second homes. This is then subtracted from the privately owned stock to give an estimate for the privately owned, occupied stock. Scottish Household Survey figures are used to estimate the proportion of privately owned, occupied property that is privately rented. This is subtracted to give an estimate of the number of owner occupied stock.
- 56. Further information is available at the following link: http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/HSfS/KeyInfo A paper called Household and Dwelling Estimates Across the UK gives information on the methods used to produce estimates of households and dwellings in the four UK countries and is available on the General Register Office for Scotland website at the following link: http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/households/estimates/index.html

#### **Northern Ireland**

57. Northern Ireland, like Scotland, uses administrative data from a tax system for total stock. Data for the social rented sector are sourced from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and the Housing Associations Branch of the Department for Social Development (DSD). The figures for the private sector, i.e. owner-occupied and private rented/other dwellings, are based on information supplied by the Land & Property Services agency (LPS). LPS now includes the Rates Collection Agency and the Valuations and Lands Agency. The methodology used to adjust the owner-occupied and private rented sectors to account for the number of properties paying rates separately from rent has been revised. It has not been possible to apply this revised methodology to figures prior to 2002. Further information is available at the following link:

http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/housing\_stats

# **Glossary**

#### **Bedsits**

Bedsits are a combination bedroom and sitting room.

# **Dwelling**

As defined in the 2001 Census, a dwelling is a self-contained unit of accommodation. A self-contained dwelling is accommodation occupied by a household with exclusive use of bath/shower, inside WC and some cooking facilities. A dwelling can therefore house a single household or a number of households which share at least one of the basic facilities but do not share living accommodation.

#### Intermediate and other tenures

This includes properties developed for sale (including shared ownership and flexible tenure) where ownership of the freehold (or head-leasehold) remains with the landlord; and wardens' and caretakers' accommodation and all dwellings owned by the landlord but managed by another landlord. This excludes fully stair-cased shared ownership dwellings and properties where the social landlord has sold the leasehold through right to buy but retains the freehold.

# Non self-contained dwelling

A non self-contained dwelling is accommodation occupied by a household, which lacks exclusive use of bath/shower or WC or some cooking facilities. These usually take the form of:

- bedsit;
- shared housing; or
- hostel or hostel-type accommodation in which each bedspace is normally considered a non
- self-contained dwelling.

## Self-contained dwelling

A self-contained dwelling is accommodation occupied by a household with exclusive use of bath/shower, inside WC and some cooking facilities.

#### **Tenure**

The main tenure categories are:

- owner-occupied. This includes accommodation that is owned outright or bought with a mortgage;
- rented privately;
- rented from registered social landlords; and
- rented from local authorities.

'Other tenures' includes intermediate and other tenures not at social rents, dwellings rented with farms or business premises and those occupied by virtue of employment.

# **Further information**

Further information is available from the statistics web site: <a href="http://www.wales.gov.uk/statistics">http://www.wales.gov.uk/statistics</a>

More detailed data, including dwelling stock estimates by tenure, local authority and over time, are available on the StatsWales website: <a href="www.statswales.gov.uk">www.statswales.gov.uk</a>

We actively encourage feedback from our users. If you have any comments please complete our feedback form.

If you require any further information regarding the release, contact details are as follows: Judy David

Environment, Sustainability and Housing Statistics

E-mail: stats.housing@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Tel: 029 2082 5055