



Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Headline Findings

For the first time in 2021, voluntary questions on gender identity¹ and sexual orientation² were included in the Census. The aim being to provide better quality information for monitoring purposes, to support anti-discrimination duties under the Equality Act 2010, to aid allocation of resources and help support policy development. Summary headlines are set out below.

Sexual orientation

- The question on sexual orientation was voluntary and asked those aged 16 and over; *"Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?"*.
- 93.9% (682,171) of Staffordshire residents answered this question, of which:
 - The majority said they were 'Straight or Heterosexual' (655,414 or 97.5%).
 - 2.5% (16,757) identified with an LGB+³ orientation; a lower proportion than in England (3.4%).
 - The most common LGB+ sexual orientations were gay or lesbian (8,504 or 1.2%) followed by bisexual (6,779 or 1.0%).
 - The district and boroughs with the highest proportions of those with LGB+ orientations were Newcastle-under-Lyme (3.2%) and Stafford (2.7%) and the lowest Staffordshire Moorlands (1.9%) and South Staffordshire (1.8%).

Gender identity

- The gender identity question was voluntary and asked those aged 16 and over; *"Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?"*.
- 95.1% (690,905) of Staffordshire residents answered this question, of which:
 - The majority identified with the same gender as the sex they were registered with at birth (688,500 or 99.7%).
 - 0.3% (2,405) did not identify with the sex stated at birth; a lower proportion than in England (0.6%).
 - The most common of these were trans man (471 or 0.07%) and trans woman (464 or 0.07%).
 - The district and boroughs with the highest proportions of those who did not identify with the same sex as registered at birth were East Staffordshire (0.5%) and Newcastle-under-Lyme (0.5%) and the lowest South Staffordshire (0.2%) and Staffordshire Moorlands (0.2%).

Access to the ONS data tables can be found [here](#).

¹ Gender identity refers to a person's sense of their own gender, whether male, female or another category such as non-binary – Office for National Statistics (ONS)

² Sexual orientation is an umbrella term covering sexual identify, attraction and behaviour - ONS

³ LGB+ orientation refers to "Gay or Lesbian", "Bisexual" or "Other Sexual Orientation" - ONS