Number of people aged three or older able to speak Welsh, 2001 to December 2022



Source: Annual Population Survey and population census

A: Changed to phone interviews only

What The Graph 37: teacher notes

Notes/comments

- This comes from a report published by the Welsh Government about the use of the Welsh language.
- What is odd about the x-axis? It does appear to have roughly accurate numbers, but these don't align with the markings. Weird.
- The blue line shows the figures from the annual population survey. This uses a sample and extrapolates for everyone aged 3 or older. The triangles show the response to exactly the same-worded question from the Census (every 10 years). Why are they different?
- The dotted line shows when the annual survey changed to being by phone only (rather than with interviews as previously). Does that explain the drop?
- The 'annual' population survey starts with what looks like a dot each year. That makes sense because it's an annual survey. Why is there a line thereafter?
- Presumably the number at the left end of the blue line refers to 2001. The right-hand number is (from the text accompanying the graph) for 2022. What is the middle one doing? It doesn't appear to align with the 2011 census.
- In the text it says: "For the year ending 31 December 2022, the Annual Population Survey estimated that 29.5% of people aged three or older were able to speak Welsh. This figure equates to around 900,600 people." Is it reasonable to give this to 4 significant figures? How many people are there in Wales aged 3 and over?

Source:

https://www.gov.wales/welsh-language-data-annual-population-survey-2022