

**Subject:** Request for information relating to questions in 1991 and 2001 Census.

**FOI reference:** FOI/19/00816

**Date received:** 20 March 2019

**Date responded:** 28 March 2018

**Information requested:**

“In the 1991 and 2001 Scottish Censuses:

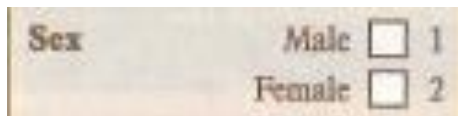
- What question was asked on sex?
- Was sex given a definition?
- What guidance if any was given to transgender people?”

**NRS Response:**

The answer to your question is:

**Sex question**

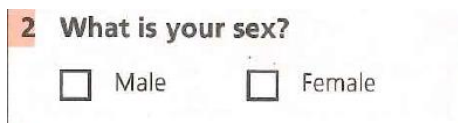
In 1991 the sex question appeared on the Census questionnaire as follows:



Sex

Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>	2

In 2001 the sex question appeared on the Census questionnaire as follows:



2 What is your sex?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female
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**Definition**

No definition of sex was provided in 1991 or 2001.

**Guidance for transgender people**

Guidance was not provided for transgender people in Scotland in 1991 or 2001.

In December 1998, a letter from the Office of National Statistics (in response to an enquiry from Press For Change campaigner Paula Thomas) provided guidance for how trans people could answer the sex question in the 2001 Census in England and Wales.

Pages 7 and 8 of the following document [Equality Impact Assessment Screening 2011 Census](#) provide the ONS letter and information from the Press for Change website.