THE EARLY ENGLISH CENSUSES

E.A. WRIGLEY

CHAPTER 5 WRITTEN JOINTLY WITH MAX SATCHELL

Published for THE BRITISH ACADEMY
by OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
Contents

Foreword v
List of figures and tables xi

Preface xv

1. The early English censuses 1
   Preliminary remarks 1
   Census deficiencies 8
   Improving the census 10
   An exceptional feature of the early censuses 15
   The tables published in this volume 18
      The first group 18
      The second group 23
   Conclusion 28

2. Correcting errors and standardising census units 31
   Securing internal consistency 32
   Missing data 38
   Standardising the areas covered by census units 42
      The traditional units of the first five censuses 1801–41 42
      Preliminary comments 42
         1. The parish and the extra-parochial place 49
         2. The hundred 55
         3. The county 57
      The new system introduced in 1851 59
         1. The parish 61
         2. The registration subdistrict 61
         3. The registration district 64
         4. The registration county 65
5. The country
Conclusion

3. Accounting for those who were missing from the main census tables
The militia
The undercounting of infants
Accounting for others missing from the early censuses
Conclusion

4. Linking the new series with estimates for earlier periods
County populations 1600–1801
Hundred populations 1761–1801
Conclusion

5. Areal data (written jointly with Max Satchell)
Defining the area of each census unit
  Preliminary points
  The GIS base
  Limits to the accuracy of areal data
Some characteristics of the ‘ancient’ and ‘modern’ administrative units
The ancient administrative units
  1. The parish
  2. The hundred
  3. The county
The modern administrative units
  1. The registration subdistrict
  2. The registration district
  3. The registration county
  4. The country
Conclusion

Appendices
1. Information about the tables on the CD attached to this volume
2. Notes to the tables printed in appendix 4 and to those on the CD attached to this volume
Contents

3. Abbreviations describing the character of a census place 165
4. Population tables 167
5. Specimen pages from the first six censuses 302

Bibliography 312

Index 317