

Product Summary

[Broad Rental Market Areas](#) (BRMAs) are boundaries that determine Local Housing Allowances (LHA) rates used by local housing officers to calculate housing benefit for tenants renting from private landlords.

BRMA Lookups is a data collection that includes:

- all live postcode units in Great Britain matched to corresponding BRMAs,
- Census 2011 small area geographies (OA, LSOA and DZ) matched to BRMAs,
- a combined spatial dataset of BRMA boundaries for England, Scotland and Wales, and
- a combined table of LHA rates for each BRMA from April 2011 to present.

Data quality statement

The BRMA Lookups data collection has been compiled from input data published or provided directly by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), Rent Service Scotland and Rent Officers Wales for re-use under an open licence. Output files include additional data from Ordnance Survey, ONS and the Scottish Government, also re-used under an open licence.

Datadaptive has taken reasonable care in preparing and cleansing the data. However the accuracy and currency of the data is dependent on the input sources. BRMA boundaries were established several years ago following a [review programme](#). Ongoing reviews from April 2011 are on a “care and maintenance” basis. To the best of Datadaptive’s knowledge the boundaries in this data collection are those currently in use for official purposes.

Matches in the Postcode to BRMA Lookup file were calculated using a GIS “point in polygon” process and should be consistent with results from VOA’s [online LHA rate search facility](#), subject to any differences in versioning of the input postcode dataset.

Data formats

Tabular data is normally supplied in CSV format. Spatial data is normally supplied in unstyled ESRI Shapefile format with the National Grid (OSGB36) projection. However we are happy to prepare the data in other suitable formats.

Licensing

Data supply is subject to our standard [notice for supply of open data work products](#). Once supplied the data may be re-used under the [Open Government Licence](#). The OGL is an [open data](#) licence, which means it is perpetual, royalty-free, non-exclusive, and allows almost unrestricted re-use of the data.

Attribution

Following is an attribution statement that acknowledges the intellectual property rights of the third-party providers of open data used in the data collection. You must include this statement if you publish or redistribute the data.

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Pricing

£750 one-off supply fee for the Postcode to BRMA Lookup

£600 one-off supply fee for the Census 2011 (OA/LSOA/DZ) to BRMA Lookups

£300 one-off supply fee for the BRMA Boundaries GB and LHA Rates File

Or £1,200 one-off supply fee for the complete data collection

Contact details

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File Specifications

Postcode to BRMA Lookup

File name: CP_MAY_2017_BRMA
Record count: 1,694,859
Geographic coverage: England, Scotland and Wales
File format: CSV

This file is a table of all postcode units in the May 2017 release of OS Code-Point Open matched with a code and name for the Broad Rental Market Area that contains the centroid of the postcode. Postcodes are also attributed with a code and name for the local authority district that corresponds to the postcode.

Please note that the single CSV file is about 121 MB and may be too large for practical use in Excel or similar spreadsheet programmes. We are happy to provide the data as a series of files, for example by government region or postcode district, to suit your preferences.

Following is a table of the fields provided for each postcode unit.

Field	Type	Description
UNIT	Text	Postcode unit (from OS Code-Point Open, May 2017)
BRMAID	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) identification number
BRMANAME	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) name
LADCODE	Text	Administrative district code (from OS Code-Point Open, May 2017)
LADNAME	Text	Administrative district name (from ONS Register of Geographic Codes, February 2017)
COUNTRY	Text	Country name (derived from LADCODE)
DQIND	Integer	Data quality indicator (see separate table)

Following is a table of the possible codes in the DQIND field, with record counts.

Code	Record	Description
1	1,693,897	Postcode centroid located within a BRMA polygon in same country as administrative district
2	544	Postcode centroid located within a Welsh administrative district but within an English BRMA polygon
3	0	Not used in this version of the file
4	39	Postcode centroid located outside any BRMA polygon but matched to nearest BRMA polygon
5	137	Non-geographic postcode allocated manually to BRMA polygon by general association
6	0	Not used in this version of the file
7	242	Postcode centroid located within an English administrative district but within a Welsh BRMA polygon

Census 2011 OA to BRMA Lookup

File name: OA11_BRMA
 Record count: 227,759
 Geographic coverage: England, Scotland and Wales
 File format: CSV

This file is a table of all live Census 2011 Output Area (OA) centroids matched with a code and name for the Broad Rental Market Area that contains the OA centroid. OAs are also attributed with a code and name for their parent Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) or Data Zone (DZ).

Following is a table of the fields provided for each OA.

Field	Type	Description
OACODE	Text	Output Area code
BRMAID	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) identification number
BRMANAME	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) name
LSOACODE	Text	Lower Layer Super Output Area code (parented to OA in ONS Register of Geographic Codes, February 2017; OAs in England and Wales only)
LSOANAME	Text	Lower Layer Super Output Area name (parented to OA in ONS Register of Geographic Codes, February 2017; OAs in England and Wales only)
DZNAME	Text	Data Zone code (parented to OA in ONS Register of Geographic Codes, February 2017; OAs in Scotland only)
DZCODE	Text	Data Zone name (parented to OA in ONS Register of Geographic Codes, February 2017; OAs in Scotland only)
DQIND	Integer	Data quality indicator (see separate table)

Following is a table of the possible codes in the DQIND field, with record counts.

Code	Records	Description
1	227,752	OA centroid located within a BRMA polygon
2	0	Not used in this version of the file
3	0	Not used in this version of the file
4	7	OA centroid located outside any BRMA polygon but matched to nearest BRMA polygon
5	0	Not used in this version of the file

Census 2011 LSOA to BRMA Lookup

File name: LSOA11_BRMA
Record count: 34,753
Geographic coverage: England and Wales
File format: CSV

This file is a table of all live Census 2011 Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) population weighted centroids matched with a code and name for the Broad Rental Market Area that contains the LSOA centroid.

Following is a table of the fields provided for each LSOA.

Field	Type	Description
LSOACODE	Text	Lower Layer Super Output Area code (from ONS Register of Geographic Codes, February 2017)
LSOANAME	Text	Lower Layer Super Output Area name (from ONS Register of Geographic Codes, February 2017)
BRMAID	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) identification number
BRMANAME	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) name
DQIND	Integer	Data quality indicator (see separate table)

Following is a table of the possible codes in the DQIND field, with record counts.

Code	Records	Description
1	34,752	LSOA centroid located within a BRMA polygon
2	0	Not used in this version of the file
3	0	Not used in this version of the file
4	1	LSOA centroid located outside any BRMA polygon but matched to nearest BRMA polygon
5	0	Not used in this version of the file

Census 2011 DZ to BRMA Lookup

File name: DZ11_BRMA
Record count: 6,976
Geographic coverage: Scotland
File format: CSV

This file is a table of all live Census 2011 Data Zone (DZ) population weighted centroids matched with a code and name for the Broad Rental Market Area that contains the DZ centroid.

Following is a table of the fields provided for each DZ.

Field	Type	Description
DZCODE	Text	Data Zone code (from ONS Register of Geographic Codes, February 2017)
DZNAME	Text	Data Zone name (from ONS Register of Geographic Codes, February 2017)
BRMAID	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) identification number
BRMANAME	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) name
DQIND	Integer	Data quality indicator (see separate table)

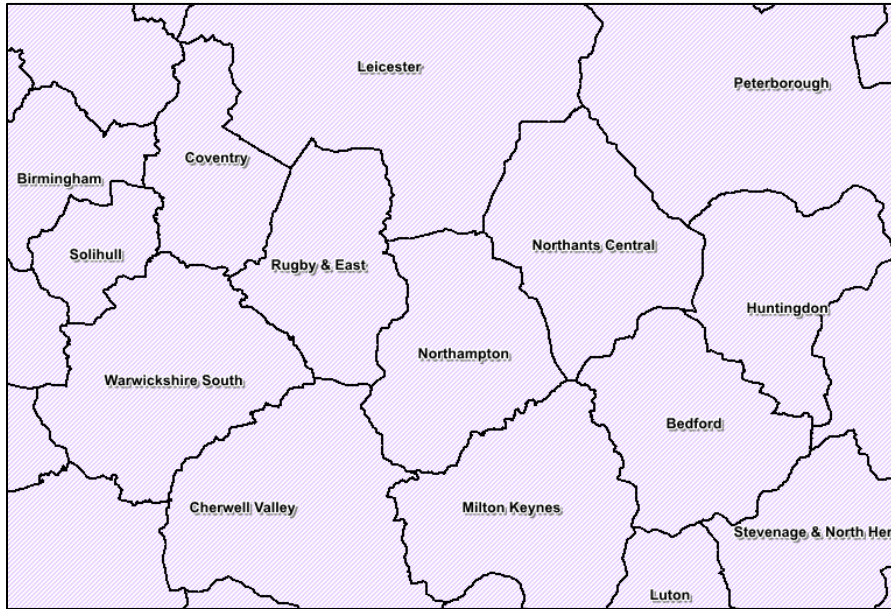
Following is a table of the possible codes in the DQIND field, with record counts.

Code	Records	Description
1	6,976	DZ centroid located within a BRMA polygon
2	0	Not used in this version of the file
3	0	Not used in this version of the file
4	0	Not used in this version of the file
5	0	Not used in this version of the file

BRMA Boundaries GB

File name: BRMA_GB
Record count: 192
Geographic coverage: England, Scotland and Wales
File format: SHP

This file is a spatial dataset containing polygons for all Broad Rental Market Areas (BRMAs) in Great Britain.



Following is a table of the attributes attached to each BRMA polygon.

Field	Type	Description
BRMAID	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) identification number
BRMANAME	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) name

LHA Rates File

File name: LHA_RATES_2011_04_2018_03
Record count: 3,456
Geographic coverage: England, Scotland and Wales
File format: CSV

This file is a table of published Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates in effect from 01/04/2011 to 31/03/2018 with a separate record for each possible period of change for each BRMA. LHA rates were subject to monthly revision in the year from 01/04/2011 to 31/03/2012 and have been subject to annual revision from 01/04 in subsequent years.

Following is a table of the fields in each record.

Field	Type	Description
BRMAID	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) identification number
BRMANAME	Text	Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA) name
COUNTRYB	Text	Country name (based on BRMA responsibility)
VALIDFROM	Date	Start date of LHA rate period
VALIDTO	Date	End date of LHA rate period
PWROOM	Decimal	Per week LHA rate for a room in shared accommodation
PW1BED	Decimal	Per week LHA rate for a room in one bedroom accommodation
PW2BED	Decimal	Per week LHA rate for a room in two bedroom accommodation
PW3BED	Decimal	Per week LHA rate for a room in three bedroom accommodation
PW4BED	Decimal	Per week LHA rate for a room in four (or more) bedroom accommodation
PMROOM	Decimal	Per calendar month LHA rate for a room in shared accommodation
PM1BED	Decimal	Per calendar month LHA rate for a room in one bedroom accommodation
PM2BED	Decimal	Per calendar month LHA rate for a room in two bedroom accommodation
PM3BED	Decimal	Per calendar month LHA rate for a room in three bedroom accommodation
PM4BED	Decimal	Per calendar month LHA rate for a room in four (or more) bedroom accommodation

Note: Rates per calendar month have been calculated from the corresponding per week rates using the following Excel formula: =ROUND([Per week rate]/7*365/12,2).