



2011 Census: population & household estimates for Herefordshire

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Population and households in 2011

- The 2011 Census estimated that **183,500 people were usually resident in Herefordshire on 27th March 2011**. The definition of usual residence counts people intending to be in the UK for at least six months at the place they consider their main home, with some exceptions – particularly relevant to Herefordshire is that students are counted at their term-time address.
- The census estimate is in line with indicative figures published by the Office for National Statistics in November 2011 that suggested the county's population was about 3,500 higher in 2010 than officially estimated, due to significantly more international migration than estimated¹.
- The population of Herefordshire **grew by 4.9%** in the decade since the 2001 Census (8,600 more residents than the 174,900 then), compared to 7.1% in England & Wales overall (+3.7 million people).
- Unlike nationally, which saw the fastest growth since the census began in 1801, the 4.9% growth in Herefordshire's population between 2001 and 2011 was **much slower than in the previous two decades** (9.1% from 1981 to 1991; 9.4% from 1991 to 2001).
- **Population density** in Herefordshire in 2011 was 84 persons per square kilometre, the 20th lowest of all unitary and district authorities in England & Wales.
- The usually resident population lived in **78,300 households** (i.e. one person living alone or a group of people sharing living accommodation), giving a slightly lower average household size (2.34 persons per household) than nationally (2.40). This was only slightly smaller than average household size in the county in 2001 (2.35).
- 2,900 Herefordshire residents were living (for six months or more) in **communal establishments** such as nursing or residential homes. This equated to 1.6% of the total population, slightly lower than the 1.9% of the total population of England & Wales. The number of communal establishment residents had grown by 600 since 2001, when it was 1.3% of the county's population.
- Also recorded on 27th March 2011 were **1,300 short-term residents**, i.e. people staying in the county for between three and six months. Almost two-thirds (800 people) of them were male.

¹ See www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/1847.aspx for more information.

Age structure of the population

- Figure 1 shows how much **older the age structure of Herefordshire is compared to England & Wales** as a whole, with higher proportions of residents in all age groups from 45-49 upwards.
- The population structure is ageing nationally: one in six people in England & Wales was aged 65 or over in 2011 (16.4% of the total) – the highest seen in any census. In Herefordshire **one in five people was aged 65 or over** (21.3%), although this is not as high as in some areas, particularly along the coast in the South West, South East, and East of England regions (see figure 2).
- There were 1,800 residents of Herefordshire **aged 90 or over in 2011, almost 40% more than in 2001** (when there were 1,300). In England & Wales overall the number grew by 25%.
- There were **fewer children in Herefordshire in 2011** than in 2001. There were 13% more under 5s in England & Wales in 2011 than in 2001; locally there were 100 fewer children (9,500 under 5s). The number of 5-15 year-olds in Herefordshire fell from 23,300 in 2001 to 19,700 in 2011 (-12%).

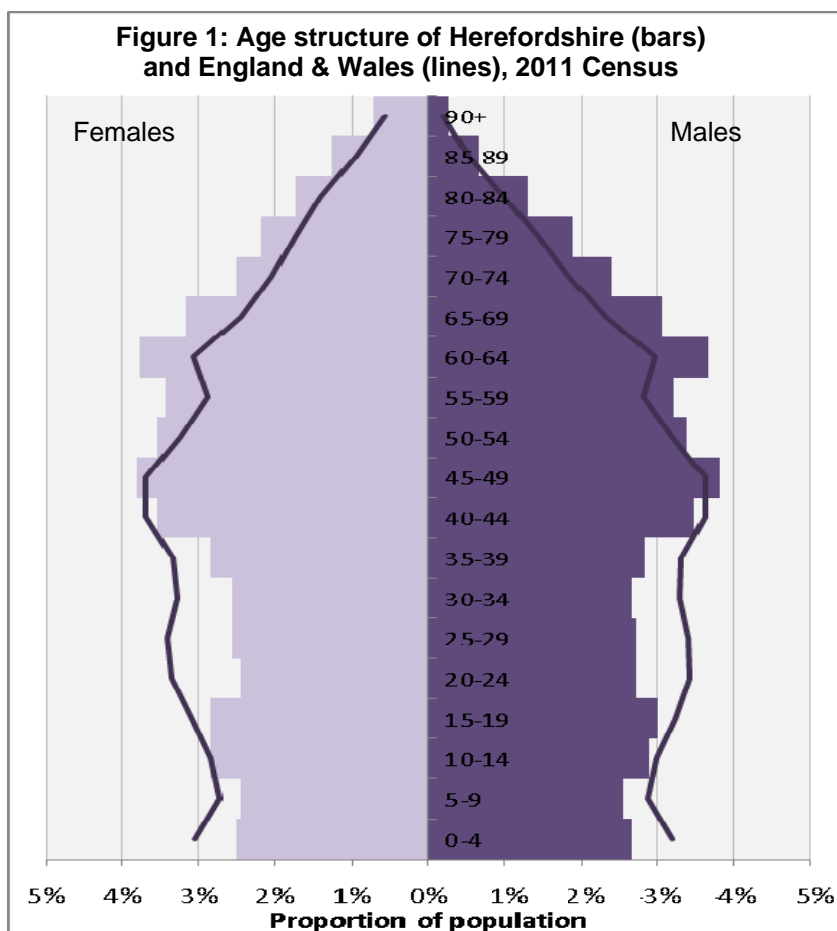
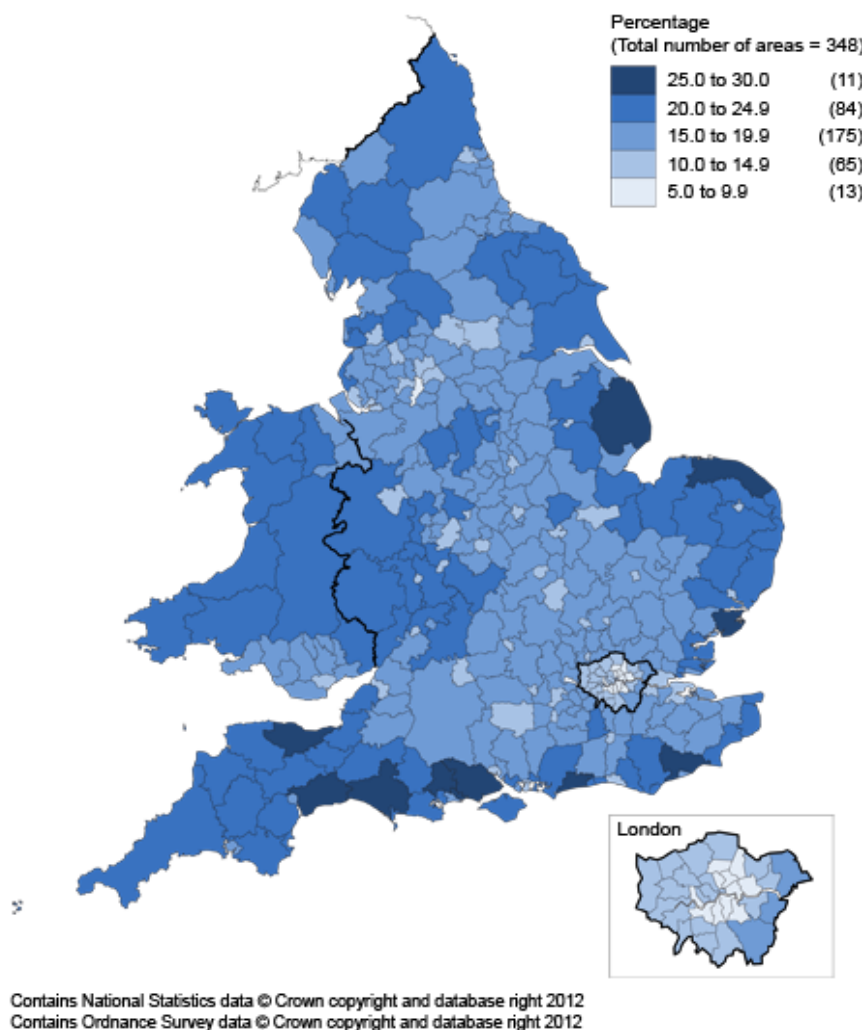


Figure 2: Population aged 65 and over by local authority in England & Wales, 2011 Census



What's next?

The only information due to be published before November 2012 are these local authority level estimates of households and population by five-year age and sex, along with quality assurance information about how census estimates were derived from the census returns.

More detailed census statistics will be published in the second release of data, between November 2012 and February 2013. This will include **populations of small areas**, and data tables of **key characteristics** of the population - including household types, people with limiting long-term illness, and ethnicity.

More information on the release schedule can be found in the 2011 Census Prospectus: www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/census/2011/census-data/2011-census-prospectus/index.html

Where to find out more

Results for Herefordshire can be found on the [Facts & Figures about Herefordshire](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/facts-figures) website, but the full set of results and supporting papers are all published at: www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/2011-census/population-and-household-estimates-for-england-and-wales/index.html

For any queries about the Herefordshire census results, contact the Research Team on 01432 260498 or researchteam@herefordshire.gov.uk.