

2021 Census housing headline results for Herefordshire

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) published a housing topic summary on 05 January 2023. This document presents the headline results for Herefordshire.

Other topic-based headline summaries for Herefordshire are available to download from the [Census 2021](#) page on Understanding Herefordshire.

Communal establishments



In 2021, there were around 2,400 usual residents in Herefordshire (1.3% of all usual residents) who lived in communal establishments, compared with 184,700 (98.7%) who lived in households. The number had fallen by around 500 since 2011.

Just under two-thirds (64%) lived in care homes, compared with a third 33% nationally, slightly more without nursing (34%) than with (31%).

Accommodation type

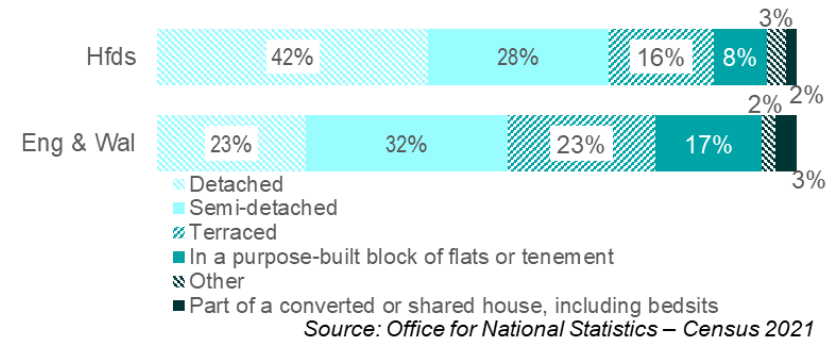
At 42 per cent, the proportion of detached dwellings is high, compared to England and Wales (23 per cent) and is amongst the highest 10% of local authorities in England & Wales, while flatted & terraced properties are less well represented.

This is consistent with the county having a higher proportion of properties in the most expensive Council Tax Bands E-H than regionally or nationally.

Just over two thirds of the County's housing stock comprises family-sized housing with three or more bedrooms. There is a higher proportion of smaller stock in Hereford city, Ledbury and Leominster.

The proportions of households in different types of accommodation remained very similar across the decade from 2011 to 2021.

Although a relatively very small number, households that lived in a caravan, or other mobile or temporary structure increased by 136 since 2011 to 836 in 2021 (1% of households).



Tenure

Around two-thirds (67%) of households in Herefordshire own their own home (either outright or with a mortgage, loan or shared ownership) which was higher than in England & Wales (63%). Higher home ownership rates are generally seen in areas with an older population profile like Herefordshire, as 'baby boomers' reaching retirement age are able to pay off their mortgages and secure outright ownership.¹

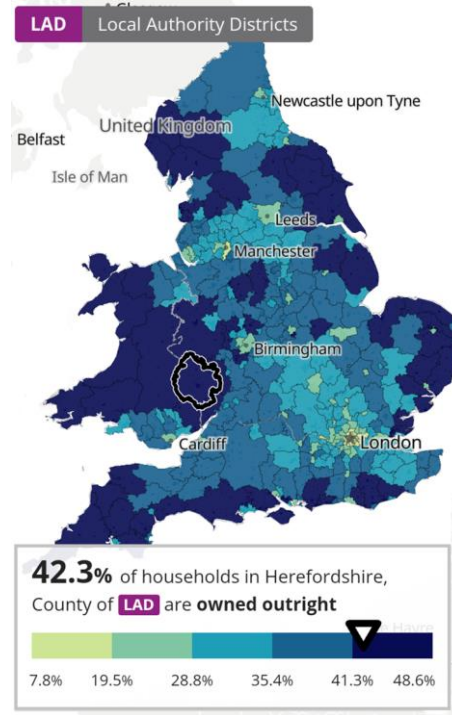
¹ [English Housing Survey 2021 to 2022: headline report](#). The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. December 2022

As can be seen in the map below, Herefordshire had one of the highest rates of households who own their home outright in England & Wales (amongst the top 15% of local authorities).

While outright home ownership had increased slightly, both locally and nationally, overall home ownership had decreased due to fewer households owning their home with a mortgage or loan – in 2021, 24% of households in Herefordshire own their home with a mortgage or loan, compared with 29% nationally (compared with 28% and 33% in 2011). Rates of home ownership with a mortgage or loan have fallen over the decade due to rising house prices in the face of significantly lower than national average earnings.

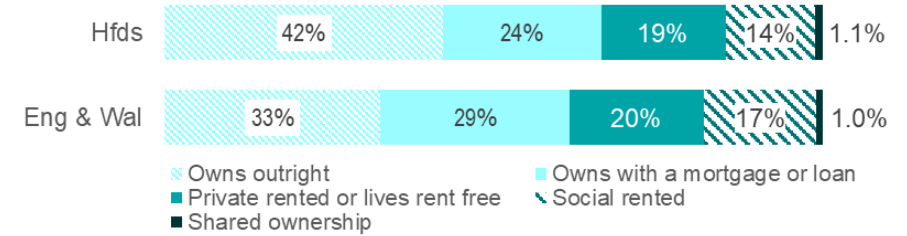
On the other hand, renting from a private landlord or letting agent increased slightly - from 14% of households in 2011 to 16% in 2021, similarly to nationally.

Households renting in the social sector remained at 14% of households since 2011; lower than in England & Wales (17%).



Source: Office for National Statistics – Census 2021

Overall, just under a third (32%) of households rent their home (whether private, social or rent free) than in England & Wales (37%).

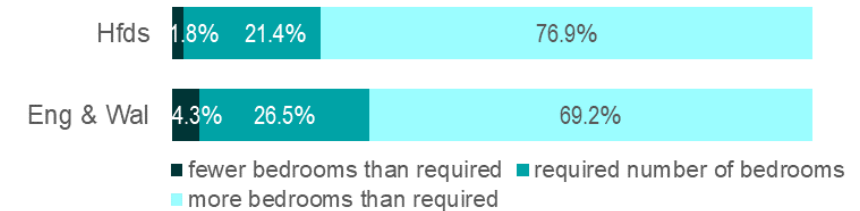


Source: Office for National Statistics – Census 2021

Overcrowding and under-occupancy

The level of overcrowding had decreased - 1.8% of households (1.5K) had at least one fewer bedroom than required, down from 2.9% (4.1K) in 2011; this is lower than nationally (4.3%).

The proportion of households that had more bedrooms than required was higher in Herefordshire (77%) than nationally (69%). The remaining 21% of households had the required number of bedrooms; compared with 27% nationally.



Source: Office for National Statistics – Census 2021

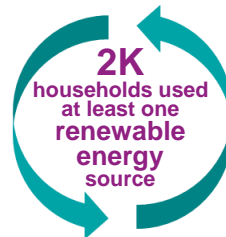
Central heating



The vast majority of households reported that they had central heating in 2021. However, 1.5K households (1.9%) did not have any form of central heating – a lower proportion than in 2011 (3.8%). Herefordshire sits just within the highest 20% of rates of households without central heating nationally.

The most common form of central heating was mains gas, with just over half of households (54%), compared with three-quarters of households nationally (74%). This was followed by oil only (16%); compared with 3% nationally; then two or more types of central heating (not including renewable energy) (12%); compared with 9% nationally.

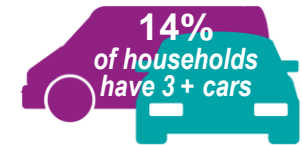
For the first time, Census 2021 recorded whether a household's central heating used renewable energy sources. Overall, 2.3% of households (2K) used at least one renewable energy source and sits just within the highest 20% of rates nationally. Around half of these households reported using renewable energy alongside another type of central heating, and the remaining half used only renewable energy sources.



Car or van availability

Herefordshire households were less likely to not have a car or van than nationally (14% vs. 23%), although this was only just in the top third of local authorities across the country. Both nationally and locally, the proportions of households with no car/van and just one car/van fell slightly from 2011, whilst the proportions with more increased.

Households in the county were some of the most likely to have three or more cars (14% - amongst the top 15% of all local authorities).



People with second addresses

Around 8K usual residents in Herefordshire (4.3% of the population) stayed at a second address for more than 30 days a year, the same number as in 2011 (4.5% of the population in 2011). Around 2K of these had a second address outside the UK.

As with nationally, the most common type of second address in 2021 was "Another parent or guardian's address", selected for children whose parents were separated or lived apart - around 3K of people in Herefordshire (1.5% of the usual resident population). The next largest group was around 1K people who had a holiday home.

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