



First results from Census 2021 in England and Wales – Population and Household Estimates¹

In Summary

- The usual resident population in the Black Country area was 1,213,200 on Census Day (21st March 2021), an increase of 6.4% (+73,419) when compared with Census Day 2011. England-wide the population increased by 6.6% to 56,489,800 on Census Day 2021. Notably, Sandwell increased by 33,837 – 18th highest increase out of 331 areas.
- The Black Country area followed the national trend where there were declines in five age bands; aged 4 years and under, 15-19 years old, 20-24 years old, 40-44 years old and 45-49 years old. In contrast, the Black Country area had the highest percentage increases for those aged 55-59 years old, aged 90 years and over and those aged 50-54 years old.
- The Black Country area at 3,399 residents per square kilometre are significantly above the England-wide figure of 434 residents per square kilometre.

Full Briefing

- The usual resident population in the Black Country area was 1,213,200 on Census Day (21st March 2021), an increase of 6.4% (+73,419) when compared with Census Day 2011. England-wide the population increased by 6.6% to 56,489,800 on Census Day 2021. The Black Country population can be split by 617,800 females (+6.8%, +39,190 since Census Day 2011) and 595,300 males (+6.1%, +34,129 since Census Day 2011). In England, there were 28,833,500 females (+7.0%) and 27,656,300 males (+6.1%).
- The usual resident population in Dudley was 323,500 on Census Day 2021, an increase of 3.4% (+10,575) when compared with Census Day 2011. There were 164,500 females, an increase of 3.4% (+5,394) and 159,000 males where there was an increase of 3.4% (+5,181) since Census Day 2011.
- The usual resident population in Sandwell was 341,900 on Census Day 2021, an increase of 11.0% (+33,837 – 18th highest increase across all areas) when compared with Census Day 2011. There were 173,600 females, an increase of +10.9% (+17,129) and 168,200 males where there was an increase of 11.0% (+16,608) since Census Day 2011.
- The usual resident population in Walsall was 284,100 on Census Day 2021, an increase of 5.5% (+14,777) when compared with Census Day 2011. There were 145,400 females, an increase of +6.1% (+8,396) and 138,700 males where there was an increase of 4.8% (+6,381) since Census Day 2011.
- The usual resident population in Wolverhampton was 263,700 on Census Day 2021, an increase of 5.7% (+14,230) when compared with Census Day 2011. There were 134,300 females, an increase of +6.6% (+8,271) and 129,400 males where there was an increase of 4.8% (+5,959) since Census Day 2011.

¹ Source: Office for National Statistics - [Population and household estimates, England and Wales: Census 2021](#) – released June 2022



Breakdown of usual resident population on Census Day 2021 and change since Census Day 2011:

	All persons	All persons % Change since 2011	All persons Num. Change since 2011	Females	Females % Change since 2011	Females Num. Change since 2011	Males	Males % Change since 2011	Males Num. Change since 2011
Dudley	323,500	3.4%	10,575	164,500	3.4%	5,394	159,000	3.4%	5,181
Sandwell	341,900	11.0%	33,837	173,600	10.9%	17,129	168,200	11.0%	16,608
Walsall	284,100	5.5%	14,777	145,400	6.1%	8,396	138,700	4.8%	6,381
Wolverhampton	263,700	5.7%	14,230	134,300	6.6%	8,271	129,400	4.8%	5,959
Black Country	1,213,200	6.4%	73,419	617,800	6.8%	39,190	595,300	6.1%	34,129
West Midlands Region	5,950,800	6.2%	348,953	3,023,000	6.5%	184,340	2,927,700	6.0%	164,513
England	56,489,800	6.6%	3,477,344	28,833,500	7.0%	1,890,192	27,656,300	6.1%	1,587,152

- In the Black Country area there were 484,600 households with at least one usual resident. This can be broken down by 137,100 in Dudley, 130,200 in Sandwell, 112,200 in Walsall and 105,100 in Wolverhampton on Census Day 2021.

Population Age Breakdown

- As seen in the following table, the Black Country area followed the national trend where there were declines in five age bands; aged 4 years and under, 15-19 years old, 20-24 years old, 40-44 years old and 45-49 years old.

Age breakdown on Census Day 2021 compared to Census Day 2011:

	Black Country 2021	Black Country % Change since Census Day 2011	Black Country Num. Change since Census Day 2011	England 2021	England Change % since Census Day 2011
All persons	1,213,200	6.4%	73,419	56,489,800	6.6%
Aged 4 years and under	74,900	-2.2%	-1,696	3,077,000	-7.3%
Aged 5 to 9 years	81,600	17.3%	12,059	3,348,600	12.6%
Aged 10 to 14 years	81,300	15.8%	11,067	3,413,100	10.8%
Aged 15 to 19 years	72,500	-2.7%	-1,978	3,218,900	-3.6%
Aged 20 to 24 years	69,400	-6.8%	-5,026	3,414,400	-5.0%
Aged 25 to 29 years	78,000	0.4%	331	3,715,400	1.8%
Aged 30 to 34 years	84,800	18.0%	12,921	3,952,600	12.6%
Aged 35 to 39 years	82,100	10.0%	7,484	3,795,400	6.9%
Aged 40 to 44 years	76,900	-8.4%	-7,081	3,580,400	-7.9%
Aged 45 to 49 years	76,700	-5.4%	-4,403	3,602,600	-7.1%
Aged 50 to 54 years	83,900	21.6%	14,913	3,907,700	14.9%
Aged 55 to 59 years	77,400	25.2%	15,589	3,806,300	27.0%
Aged 60 to 64 years	65,300	3.7%	2,321	3,256,100	2.6%
Aged 65 to 69 years	55,400	1.7%	926	2,767,500	10.3%
Aged 70 to 74 years	53,000	13.3%	6,221	2,796,600	36.8%
Aged 75 to 79 years	41,500	9.5%	3,595	2,038,800	22.1%
Aged 80 to 84 years	30,600	8.3%	2,352	1,427,900	13.4%
Aged 85 to 89 years	18,400	13.3%	2,157	872,200	12.4%
Aged 90 years and over	9,600	22.6%	1,767	498,200	23.4%

- The Black Country area had the highest percentage increases for those aged 55-59 years old (+25.2% - highest number increase +15,589), those aged 90 years and over (+22.6%) and those aged 50-54 years old (+21.6% - 2nd highest number increase +14,913).



Population Density

- Since Census Day 2011, across the Black Country area the number of residents per square kilometre increased in all the local authorities.
- The Black Country area at 3,399 residents per square kilometre are significantly above the England-wide figure of 434 residents per square kilometre.

Population Density on Census Day 2011 and Census Day 2021:

	Population density Census Day 2011 (number of usual residents per square kilometre)	Population density Census Day 2021 (number of usual residents per square kilometre)
Dudley	3,194	3,302
Sandwell	3,601	3,996
Walsall	2,590	2,732
Wolverhampton	3,593	3,798
Black Country	3,193	3,399
West Midlands Region	431	458
England	407	434