Bradford in figures

At a glance:
- 534,300 people live in Bradford District
- Bradford is the fifth largest local authority by population (after Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield and Manchester)
- Life expectancy rates at birth are 77.6 years for men and 81.3 years for women
- 83% of the District’s population were born in the UK and 17% were born elsewhere
- 46% of the District’s population is Christian, 25% is Muslim and 21% have no religion
- More than 34,000 (8%) people aged 17+ are diagnosed with diabetes
- More than 10,000 patients are registered with cancer
- Nearly 52,000 people have no qualifications at all
- Bradford has the lowest employment rate in the region (67.2%)
- Bradford has higher percentages of people employed in elementary occupations, skilled trades and caring professions that regional or national figures and lower percentages of people employed in professional occupations and as managers, directors and senior officials

Existing population

The latest population figures from the Government’s Office for National Statistics (ONS) shows that there are 534,300\(^1\) people living in Bradford District.

The population increased by 3,100 (0.6%) between 2015 and 2016 which is lower than the England average (0.9%). From 2003 – 2011 Bradford experienced a steady rate of growth of around 5,000 people (1.1%) each year. From 2012 to 2014 the annual rate of growth slowed to 0.3%, but has increased to 0.6% between 2014 and 2016. This trend is broadly similar for the region and the other West Yorkshire councils. Bradford’s population change is probably due to more people moving out of Bradford to other parts of the UK and fewer international migrants coming to live here.

\(^1\) ONS 2016 Mid-Year Population Estimate, published 22 June 2017
51% of the total population is female and 49% is male. There are generally similar numbers of men and women until the 70–74 age group when the female population (54%) begins to outnumber the male population (46%). The difference in the numbers of men and women in each age group increases as people get older.

In 2016 the population with the largest numbers was children aged 0 – 4 and 5 – 9. It is thought that the introduction of Working Tax Credit may have some bearing on the recent increased birth-rate. There is also a decrease in the number of people aged 20 – 24 and men aged 25 – 29. This is probably due to people leaving Bradford to work or live elsewhere.

The life expectancy rates in 2013-15 for men and women at birth\(^2\) show that males can expect to live to 77.6 years and females can expect to live to 81.3 years. Rates for males have remained static since 2011-13 and rates for females have decreased since 2012-14. This is similar to regional and national trends. Although the gap between male and female life expectancy is decreasing, there are still more women than men surviving into old age.

**Working age population**

The working age population accounts for more than 60% of the District’s population. Over the last ten years it has increased by more than 10%, a faster rate than the regional or national average. The most recent population projections indicate that the rate of growth of the working age population is projected to decrease over the next ten years, from 1,250 more people in 2016 to 520 more people by 2025\(^3\). To maintain Bradford’s current employment rate of 65%, an additional 10,000 people will need to find employment by 2021\(^4\).

**Population by ethnicity**

The results of the 2011 Census showed that the 64% of the District’s population identified themselves as White British – the largest proportion of the population. 20% were Pakistani – the highest rate in England and Wales. 3.6% were Other White, 2.6% were Indian, 2.5% were of Mixed heritage. 1.9% were Bangladeshi, 1.8% were Black and 3.6% were from other ethnic groups.

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\(^2\) ONS Life expectancy at birth by local areas in England and Wales 2013 - 2015, published 29 Nov 2016  
\(^3\) ONS 2014 based Subnational Population Projections published May 2016  
\(^4\) ‘Understanding Bradford District’ published September 2013
Splitting the population into three broad age groups: children and young people, working age population and people over 65 by ethnicity reveals that: the White British population forms the largest proportion of all three age groups, followed by the Pakistani ethnic group. Other ethnic groups form less than 5% of each age group.

The Pakistani community has a large population of children and young people.

Looking at the age groups proportions for each ethnic group: the Mixed, Bangladeshi and Pakistani groups have similar proportions of children and young people, and working age populations.

All other groups have a working age population which is more than twice as big as the population for children and young people. Only the White population has a significant proportion of older people aged 65+

Country of birth
82.8% of the District’s 2011 population were born in the UK and 17.2% were born elsewhere. Bradford has the lowest rate for people born in the UK in West Yorkshire.

The number of people born in the EU Accession countries has increased by 10,000 since 2001 - 2.3% of the District’s population. The number of people born in Poland has increased by nearly 5,000 since 2001 - 1.1% of the District’s population.

The number of people born in South Asia has increased by nearly 15,000 since 2001 - 9.9% of the District’s population. This figure includes more than 12,500 people born in Pakistan.

Population by religion
The question about religion in the 2011 Census was voluntary and 6% of the District’s population chose not to give an answer. 46% of the population were Christian – the largest group, but a decrease from 60% in the 2001 Census. Nearly one quarter of the population were Muslim – an increase from 16% in 2001. 1% were Hindu and 1% were Sikh – similar for both religions to the 2001 census figures. More than 20% had no religion an increase from 13% in 2001, but lower than regional or national figures. Lower proportions were Buddhist or Jewish than regionally or nationally.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bradford 2001</th>
<th>Bradford 2011</th>
<th>West Yorkshire</th>
<th>Yorkshire &amp; Humber</th>
<th>England</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No religion</td>
<td>62,226</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>108,027</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
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<td>Christian</td>
<td>281,236</td>
<td>60.1</td>
<td>239,843</td>
<td>45.9%</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
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<td>Buddhist</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindu</td>
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<td>1.0</td>
<td>4,882</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
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<td>0.1</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>75,188</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>129,041</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4,748</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>5,125</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Any other religion</td>
<td>996</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1,686</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion not stated</td>
<td>37,921</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>32,549</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2011 Census: KS209EW

**Sexual orientation and civil partnerships**

It is difficult to get accurate figures for sexual orientation. Based on national figures, the Bradford Equity Partnership estimates that there are between 33,400 and 47,800 people in the District who identify themselves as LGB.

For the first time the 2011 Census collected information on civil partnerships. In the Bradford District there were 3,000 people (0.8%) of the adult population living in a same sex civil partnership or cohabiting. This is just below the average for England of 0.9%.

**Health and disability**

The 2011 Census asked people whether they had a long term health problem or disability and how much this limited their daily activities – a lot, a little or not at all. 8% said they were limited a lot, 9% were limited a little and 83% were not limited by a long term health problem or disability.

There is a difference between people’s perception of their general health and what their health is actually like. Other factors which need to be taken into account when assessing the health of the District’s population are:

- The prevalence of diabetes in Bradford is rising and above the England average. In 2014/15 more than 34,000 (8%) people aged 17+ in Bradford District were diagnosed with diabetes – higher than the England average of 6.4%. The area covered by Bradford City CCG has the highest prevalence of diabetes in the country, and the area covered by Bradford District CCG has the third highest prevalence in the country. Prevalence increases with age and is higher in certain ethnic groups.
- Admissions to hospital for substance misuse and alcohol related harm are both on the increase and above the England average. In 2013-14 there were 3,700 admissions to hospital for alcohol-related conditions in the District with a rate of 787 per 100,000 population, compared to 645 per 100,000 for England.

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5 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2016
- The number of people registered with cancer will continue to increase as the population grows and more people survive for longer. In 2014/15 there were more than 10,000 patients registered with cancer in the District. There are approximately 500 deaths per year due to cancer in the under 75s. Although mortality rates have been falling, they are still above the average for England. In 2012 – 2014 the age standardised mortality rate for cancer in the under 75s was 149.2 deaths per 100,000 population compared to the England average rate of 141.5 per 100,000 population.

- The mortality rate for Coronary Heart Disease has fallen since 2001 reflecting both regional and national trends, but Bradford's rate is still higher than both and the gap widened between the Bradford and England rates from 2001 to 2010. Mortality rates for CHD remain higher in the most deprived parts of the District, particularly City, Little Horton and Tong and are lowest in the least deprived areas, particularly Craven, Ilkley and Wharfedale.

Life expectancy has increased in the last 20 years, both nationally and locally although the rate for Bradford is lower than that for England and Wales. The average life expectancy at birth for people in Bradford is still higher for women at 81.3 years than for men at 77.6 years.

Girls born in the most deprived areas can expect to live an average of 7 years less than the average and for boys it is nearly 10 years less.

The urban inner city wards of Manningham, Bradford Moor, Bowling and Barkerend, Keighley Central and Tong have the lowest life expectancies, whereas the outer rural wards of Worth Valley, Baildon, Ilkley and Wharfedale have the highest life expectancies.

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6 ONS Life Expectancy at birth by local areas in England and Wales published 29 November 2016
Although women have higher life expectancies, they are more likely to have a lower proportion of healthy life. Bradford has lower percentages than regional or national figures for women, although the percentage for men is higher than both the regional and national figure.

Women are also more likely to have a lower proportion of disabled-free life than men. Bradford has lower percentages than both regional and national for women, but higher percentages than both regional and national figures for men.

**Percentage of life spent in good health at birth**

2013-2015

**Percentage of life spent disability free at birth**

2013-2015

**Population projections**

The Office for National Statistics produces a series of population projections at local authority level every two years. The figures are based on past trends and are projected forward to give an indication of the future population. Although the 2014 based rates have been projected to 2039, the figures overleaf are only shown up until 2026 as ONS caution that the projections are increasingly uncertain the further they are projected forward.
Population projections from 2016 to 2026\(^7\) show that the total population of the District is expected to increase by nearly 23,300 (4.3%) – this is lower than previous projections. The working age population is anticipated to increase by just under 2% (6,300 people).

The population of children and young people is expected to increase by decrease by 0.1% (-200).

The most striking increase is in the population aged 65 and older which is expected to increase by more than 22% (17,000) – this group includes people born in the post Second World War population boom.

\(^7\) ONS 2014 based Sub-national Population Projections, published 23 May 2016
Nearly two-thirds of the projected increase in the working age population will be men. The projected working age population for women is estimated to increase by one-third.

Some age groups show a projected decrease and this is more marked for women than men with the 25 – 29 and 45 – 54 age groups all showing a decrease for women.

Qualifications
Qualification levels in Bradford are lower than regional or national averages\(^8\). Nearly 52,000 people have no qualifications at all. The proportion of people educated to Level 4 (degree or equivalent level) is lower than the national average, as is the number of people educated to Level 2 – which is considered to be the minimum entry level by most employers.

\[^8\] 2011 Census
Looking at the qualifications of younger men and women, it is interesting to note that larger proportions of women hold formal qualifications than men and that a larger proportion of younger men have no qualifications.
Looking at the total percentages for qualifications by ward – the rural wards of Ilkley, Wharfedale, Bingley, Baildon and Craven generally have the lowest proportions of people with no qualifications and the highest proportions of people with Level 4 and above qualifications. The urban wards of Bradford Moor, City, Little Horton and Manningham have the highest proportions of people with no qualifications and the lowest proportions of people with Levels 1 – 4 qualifications and apprenticeships, although these wards have higher proportions of people with “Other”
Looking at the numbers of each ethnic group with no qualifications – the White community has the highest number of people with no qualifications followed by the Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities. There is a similar pattern for the different levels of qualification. Looking at the proportions of each ethnic group by highest level of qualification level shows that the Bangladeshi community has the highest proportion of people with no qualifications and the lowest with a level 4+ (equivalent to a degree) qualification. The Pakistani community has broadly similar proportions. Although the Black, Indian and Chinese communities all how low proportions of people with no qualifications and high proportions of people with a level 4+ qualification these figures should be treated with caution as the communities are fairly small.
Despite improvements in recent years, Bradford’s employment rate at 67.2% is still below pre-recession levels and is well below the regional and national averages as well as being the lowest in West Yorkshire\(^9\).

Rates of employment are lowest among Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities as well as the smaller Gypsy and Irish traveller populations. Conversely the highest employment rates are seen among the Other White (white includes European migrants), Indian and White British groups.

Other groups with low employment rates include those with low or no qualifications, people with an illness or disability (particularly those with mental health problems), lone parents and those with caring responsibilities.

Bradford has a higher proportion of employees working part-time than the national average and since the start of the recession the District has seen a significant increase in the proportion who work part-time, particularly men.

Looking at occupations by socio-economic classification\(^{10}\), Bradford has a lower proportion of people employed at management, professional, associated professional and technical and administrative and secretarial than the national average and higher numbers of people employed in the low-skill low wage caring and leisure industries and in elementary occupations.

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\(^{9}\) Annual Population Survey 2016/7, Nomis  
\(^{10}\) Annual Population Survey 2016/7, Nomis
Employment by occupation April 2016-March 2017

Bradford | Yorks & Humber | England
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Elementary occupations | 12.7 | 10.6 | 12.3
Process, plant and machine operatives | 9.6 | 6.3 | 7.8
Sales and customer service occupations | 7.8 | 6.9 | 7.4
Caring, leisure and other service occupations | 9.8 | 9.6 | 9.1
Skilled trades occupations | 13.4 | 11.7 | 10.2
Administrative and secretarial occupations | 10.4 | 10.2 | 9.7
Associate prof & tech occupations | 14.4 | 12.5 | 10.2
Professional occupations | 20.4 | 17.1 | 18.3
Managers, directors and senior officials | 11.0 | 9.7 | 9.2

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