Office of the Chief Executive

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council Intelligence Bulletin

22nd February 2023



2021 Census

Key facts about Bradford District

At a glance:

- Bradford District has a total population of 547,000
- 56.7% of Bradford's population identify as "White British" and 25.5% identify as "Pakistani or British Pakistani"
- The average age of Bradford's population is 36, the national average is 41
- 2.3% of the population identify as Gay or Lesbian, bisexual or a different sexual orientation
- 80.6% of the District's residents describe their health as good or very good
- 9% provide unpaid care for other people

Population

- Bradford District's population grew by 4.6% from 2011 to 2021. The mid-2021 population total is 547,000. Bradford is the fifth largest local authority in England in terms of population (after Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield and Manchester).
- Around three-quarters of residents live in urban areas including Bradford, Keighley and Shipley
- Population density in the district ranges from 93 people per hectare in Toller ward to just over 2 people per hectare in Worth Valley ward

ONS published the mid-2021 population estimates on 21 December 2022 and this data updates the population estimates from the 2021 Census.

Ethnicity

- **56.7%** of Bradford District's population identify as "White English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British"
- The three largest minority ethnic groups in the district are "Pakistani or British Pakistani (25.5% of residents), "Indian or British Indian" (2.6%) and Bangladeshi or British Bangladeshi" (2.3%)

Age profile

- The average age of Bradford's population in March 2021 is **36.** The 2011 average age is **34** (the average age of the regional and England population in March 2021 is **41**)
- 15% (83,000) of Bradford's population are aged 65 and older (13% in 2011)
- **34%** (187,195) of Bradford's population are under 25 **(36%** in 2011)

Sexual orientation and gender identity

- 88.9% of Bradford residents identify as straight or heterosexual
- 2.3% of Bradford residents identify as Gay or Lesbian, bisexual or have a different sexual orientation

 91.7% of Bradford residents said their gender is the same as the sex registered at birth and 0.7% confirmed it is not

Health, disability and care

- **80.6%** (440,800) said they have good or very good health (**80.4%** in 2011)
- **1.4%** (7,580) said they have very poor health (**1.3%** in 2011)
- 17.1% said they have a disability, slightly lower than the average for West Yorkshire (17.6%)
- 34.1% or just over one in three households in Bradford District include at least one disabled person
- **5.1%** (25,776) of Bradford District residents aged 5 and older provide 20 hours or more unpaid care per week in 2021 (**3.9%** in 2011)

The Census took place during the coronavirus (Covid 19) pandemic. This may have influenced how people perceived and rated their health and managed their provision of unpaid care. This may, therefore, have affected how people chose to respond.

Housing

- 37% of Bradford's households live in semi-detached houses or bungalows, 33% live in terraced housing
- 23% of households live in private rented accommodation (was 17% in 2011)
- 4% of households (9,029) are overcrowded due to insufficient bedrooms

Education

- 24% of Bradford District residents have no qualifications (28% in 2011) (21% in West Yorkshire in 2021)
- 27% of Bradford District residents have at least a "Level 4" qualification (e.g. degree) (22% in 2011) (30% for West Yorkshire in 2021)

Business and employment

- The top five industries for employment in Bradford District (March 2021) are: Wholesale and retail (18%), Human health and social work (15%), Education (11%), Manufacturing (9%) and Construction (7%)
- 9.5% run their own business (West Yorkshire average 9.1%)

Data sources and further information

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2021 Census for England and Wales

Link: www.ons.gov.uk/census

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