



A profile of Bradford District

Bradford Metropolitan District covers an area of 366 square kilometres. In addition to the city of Bradford itself, the District comprises a mixture of diverse neighbourhoods, towns and villages. In contrast to the urban and rural settlements the remaining two-thirds of the district is rural and comprises parks, farmland, woods and moorland.

Bradford is connected to the national motorway and rail networks and enjoys a close proximity to Leeds Bradford International Airport.



Population profile

The latest population estimates¹ from the Government's Office for National Statistics (ONS) show that 547,000 people live in Bradford District. Bradford is the fifth largest local authority by population (after Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield and Manchester). The District's population has increased by 23,900 (4.6%) since 2011 and by 76,200

(16.2%) since 2001. These rates are slightly higher than regional and national averages.

Bradford has a youthful population – 22.8% of the District’s population is aged 15 or younger – the highest percentage in West Yorkshire and the fourth highest in England (after the London borough of Barking and Dagenham, Slough and Luton Councils).

The population is 51.5% female and 48.5% male. There are generally similar numbers of males and females in each five-year age group, apart from the 30-34 and 35-39 age groups and age 70 onwards when the number of females is larger than the number of males. In 2021, the population with the largest numbers was young people aged 10-14. There is also a decrease in the numbers of people aged 20-24 and 25-29 – this has been a traditional pattern in the population as young people leave Bradford to study or work elsewhere.

Median age

The median age is the mid-point where half the population is older and the other half is younger. Bradford’s median age is 36.7 – the lowest in West Yorkshire, due to the high numbers of young people in the district. Calderdale, by contrast has the highest median age in West Yorkshire (42.4) and this is higher than both the national figure (40.5) and the regional figure (40.7).

Population density

As the population increases the density (usually measured as the number of people per square kilometre) increases. Bradford has had the highest population density in West Yorkshire since 2004, followed closely by Leeds. Calderdale has the lowest population density in West Yorkshire (38% of the Bradford figure) and the national and regional rates are lower still.

Number of people per square kilometre						
	2004	2007	2011	2013	2016	2021
Bradford	1,324	1,370	1,428	1,435	1,453	1,493
Calderdale	536	547	561	566	574	568
Kirklees	972	997	1,035	1,047	1,065	1,061
Leeds	1,310	1,338	1,361	1,379	1,416	1,466
Wakefield	938	949	964	974	995	1,045
Yorkshire & Humber	329	335	343	346	352	356
England	385	394	408	413	424	434

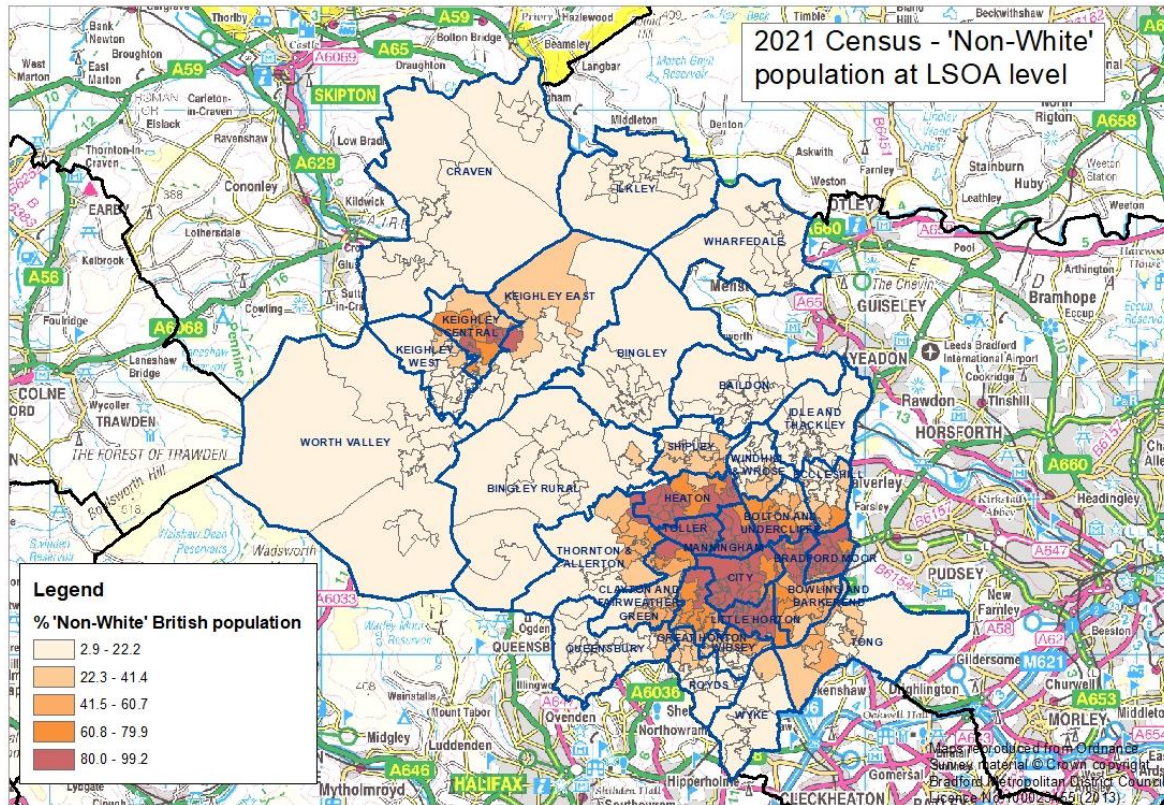
Ethnic group and religion profile

The results of the censusⁱⁱ found that the Asian or British Asian population of Bradford had increased from 26.8% in 2011 to 32.1% in 2021 and the White British population had decreased from 63.9% in 2011 to 56.7% in 2021. Bradford has the second highest percentage of people nationally who identify as Pakistani (25.5%). 2.6% identify as Indian, 2.3% identify as Bangladeshi, 2.7% identify as Mixed or

Multiple ethnic groups, 2% identify as Black. The census included a new category, Roma and 1,583 (0.3%) of the District's population identify as Roma.

Main ethnic groups in Bradford District and England				
		Bradford District - total	Bradford District %	England %
	Total population	546,412	100%	100%
White	White	334,004	61.1%	81.0%
	British	309,912	56.7%	73.5%
	Irish	2,139	0.4%	0.9%
	Gypsy or Irish Traveller	849	0.2%	0.1%
	Roma	1,583	0.3%	0.2%
	Any other White background	19,521	3.6%	6.3%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	15,006	2.7%	3.0%
	White and Asian	6,458	1.2%	0.8%
	White and Black African	1,196	0.2%	0.4%
	White and Black Caribbean	4,426	0.8%	0.9%
	Any other Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	2,926	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Asian British	Asian or Asian British	175,664	32.1%	9.6%
	Bangladeshi	12,403	2.3%	1.1%
	Chinese	1,345	0.2%	0.8%
	Indian	14,429	2.6%	3.3%
	Pakistani	139,553	25.5%	2.8%
	Any other Asian background	7,934	1.5%	1.7%
Black, Black British, Caribbean or African	Black, Black British, Caribbean or African	10,978	2.0%	4.2%
	African	7,061	1.3%	2.6%
	Caribbean	2,614	0.5%	1.1%
	Any other Black, Black British or Caribbean background	1,303	0.2%	0.5%
Other ethnic group	Other ethnic group	10,760	2.0%	2.2%
	Arab	2,734	0.5%	0.6%
	Any other ethnic group	8,026	1.5%	1.6%

The following map at Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) shows that the largest percentages of the 'Non-White' British population live in the urban areas of Keighley and Bradford City itself.



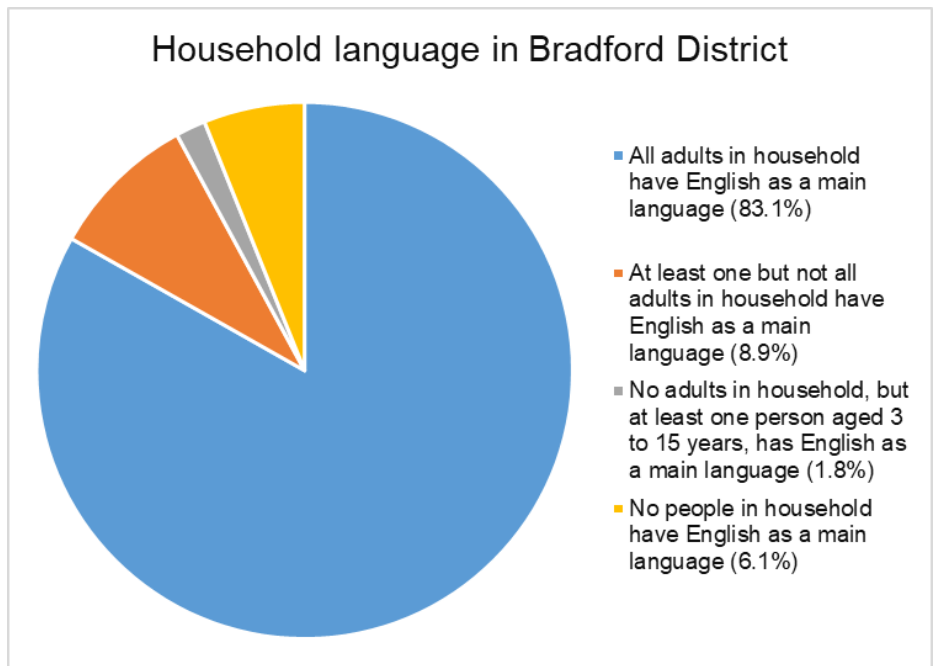
The question about religion in the 2021 Census was voluntaryⁱⁱⁱ. 33.4% of the District's population identified as Christian, 30.5% identified as Muslim, 0.9% identified as Sikh, 0.9% identified as Hindu, 28.2% of the population said that they had no religion and 5.5% chose not to provide an answer

Main religions in Bradford and England			
	Bradford District total number of people	Bradford District %	England %
Christian	182,566	33.4%	46.3%
Buddhist	959	0.2%	0.5%
Hindu	4,757	0.9%	1.8%
Jewish	254	0.0%	0.5%
Muslim	166,846	30.5%	6.7%
Sikh	4,834	0.9%	0.9%
Other religion	2,074	0.4%	0.6%
No religion	154,305	28.2%	36.7%
Religion not stated	29,816	5.5%	6.0%

Main language spoken

The census asked all residents aged 3 and over about their main language^{iv} and how well they could speak English. The main results show that 87.6% had English as their main language, 7.2% speak a South Asian language as their main language

(2.6% speak Panjabi, 2.9% speak Urdu, 0.7% speak Bengali) 1.1% speak Polish as their main language, 0.1% use Sign Language and 4% speak other languages.



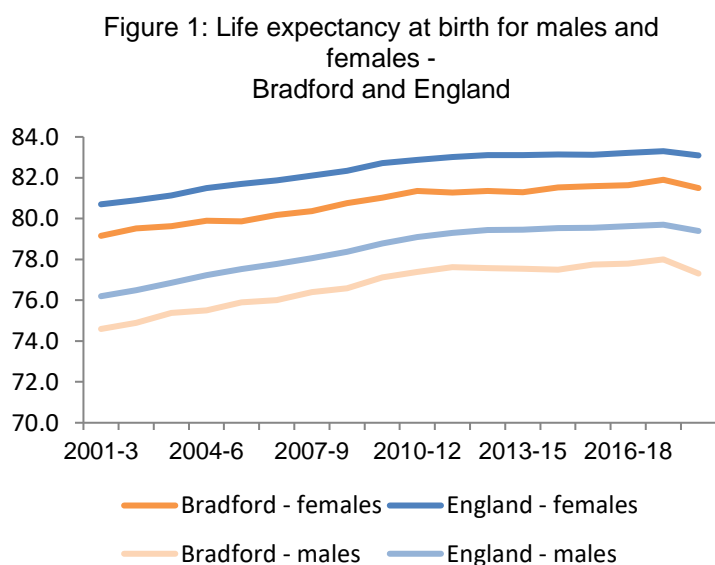
Looking at the data for households shows that in 83.1% of Bradford households all the adults have English as a main language. This is the lowest rate in West Yorkshire and lower than the national average of 89.3%.

Bradford also has the highest rate (1.8%) for households where no adults, but a child aged between 3 and 15 has English as a main language.

6.1% of Bradford households have no one with English as a main language, the national rate is 5%.

Health profile

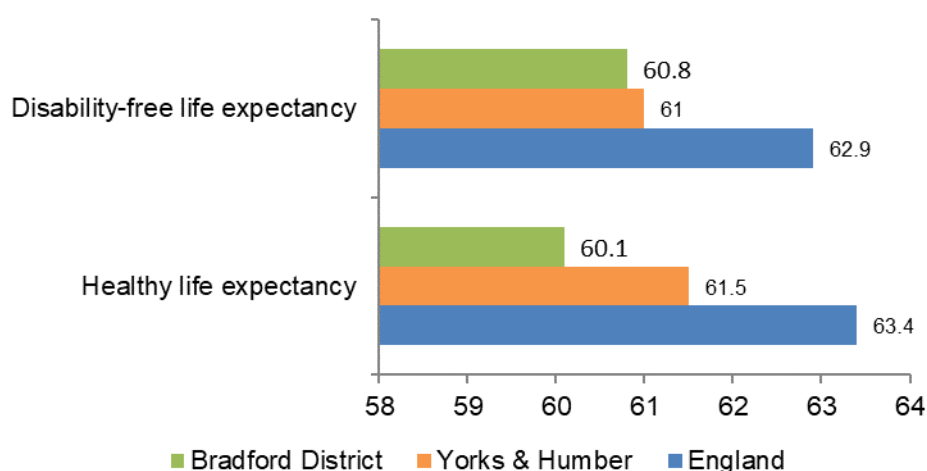
Life expectancy at birth in Bradford District^v is 77.3 for males and 81.5 for females. This is lower than the rates for England of 79.4 for males and 83.1 for females.



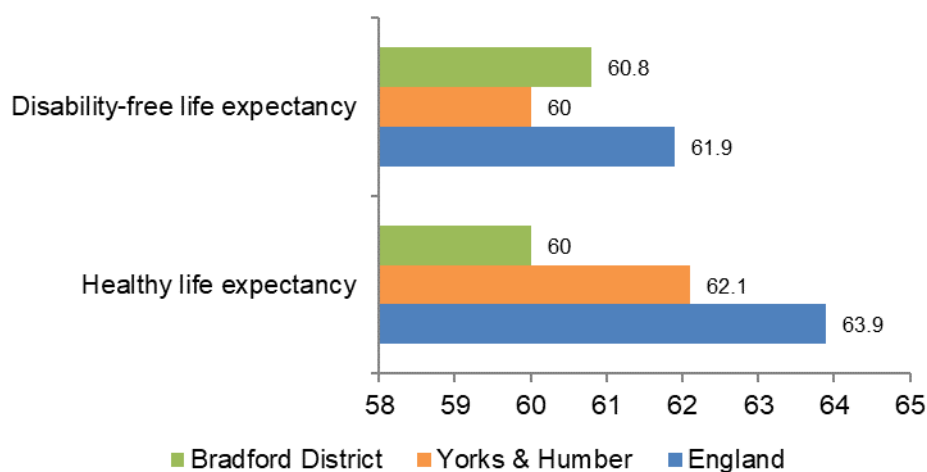
Bradford has the joint (with Wakefield) lowest life expectancy at birth figures for men in West Yorkshire and the second lowest (after Wakefield) life expectancy at birth figures for women in West Yorkshire.

Since 1991-3 rates for life expectancy at birth have increased by 5.1 years for males and 3.5 years for females in Bradford District. Males living in Bradford District also have lower disability-free life expectancies and lower healthy life expectancy than regional and national averages. Females have lower healthy life expectancies than regional and national averages; although females in Bradford have slightly higher disability-free life expectancies than the regional average, but lower than the national average.

Males - disability-free life expectancy and healthy life expectancy 2017-19



Females - disability-free life expectancy and healthy life expectancy 2017-19



An examination of life expectancy by national deprivation profiles^{vi} shows that males living in the 20% most deprived areas of Bradford have a life expectancy of 75.7

whereas males living in the 20% least deprived areas have a life expectancy of 83.3 years.

Females living in the 20% most deprived areas have a life expectancy of 79.8 years and females living in the 20% least deprived areas have a life expectancy of 86.1 years.

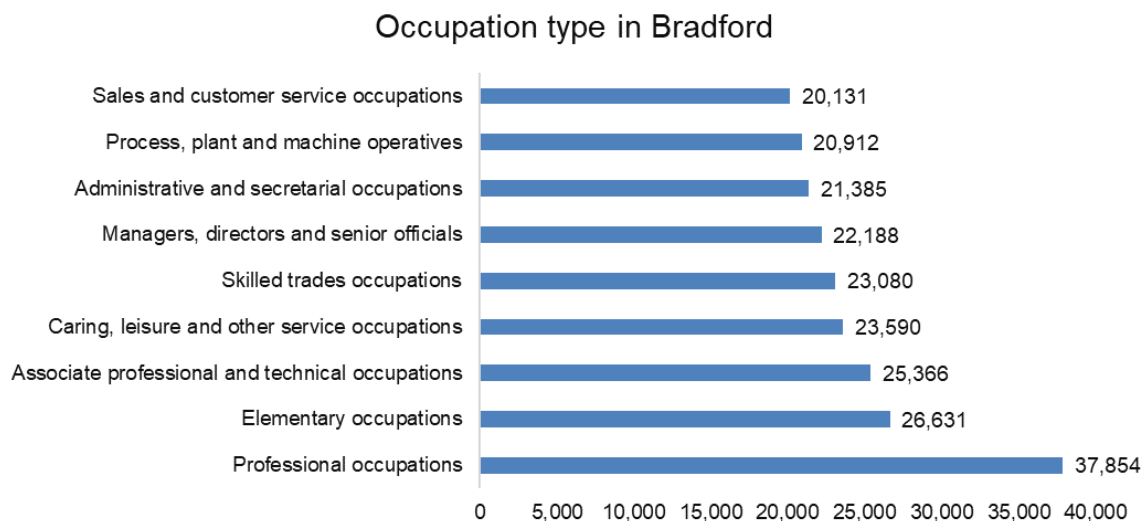
Employment profile

The results from the 2021 census found that 50.9% of people aged 16 and over in Bradford District (excluding full-time students) are in employment^{vii} and 3.6% were unemployed at the time the census was carried out.

43.2% of the population aged 16 and over are economically inactive – this is higher than the national average (39.1%) and the third highest rate in the region. 18.9% of Bradford residents stated that they are retired – this is lower than the national average of 21.5% and the second lowest rate in the region after the city of Hull.

Bradford District has the highest percentage of people looking after their home or family (8.1%) in the region. This is higher than the national average of 4.8%.

The largest percentage of people in employment (17.1%) gave their occupation as 'professional', followed by elementary occupations (12%) and associate, professional and technical (11.5%).



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- ⁱ Office for National Statistics (ONS), Mid-2021 population estimates, 21 December 2022
 - ⁱⁱ ONS, 2021 Census, Table TS021 Ethnic group, 29 November 2022
 - ⁱⁱⁱ ONS, 2021 Census, Table TS030 Main religion, 29 November 2022
 - ^{iv} ONS, 2021 Census, Table TS024, Main language spoken (detailed), 29 November 2022
 - ^v ONS, Life expectancy estimates, all ages, UK, 23 September 2021
 - ^{vi} ONS, English indices of Deprivation 2019, 26 September 2019
 - ^{vii} ONS, 2021 Census, Table TS066 Economic activity status, 8 December 2022