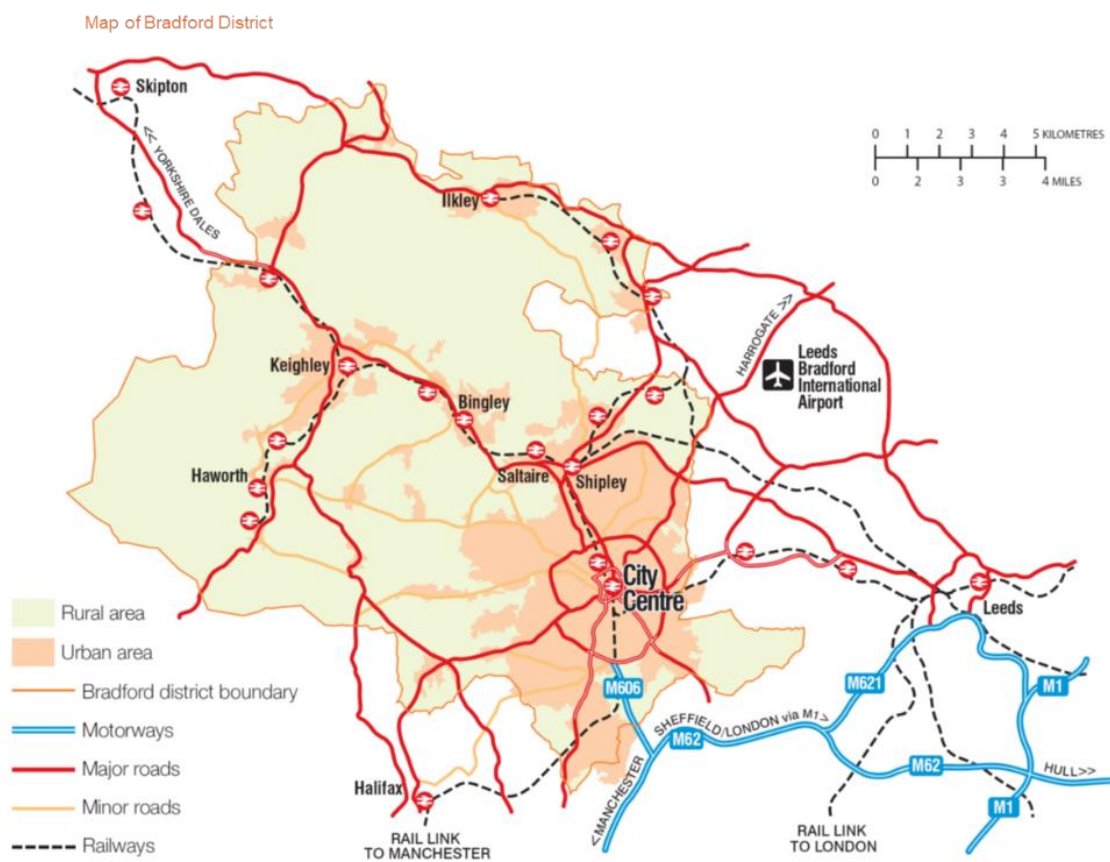




A profile of Bradford District 2024

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 560,200 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 7,600 (1.4%) since 2022.

Bradford has a youthful population – 27.9% of the District's population is aged under 20 – the highest percentage in West Yorkshire and the seventh highest in England (after the London borough of Barking and Dagenham, Slough Borough Council,

Luton Borough Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, Oldham Borough Council and Birmingham City Council).

The population is 51% female and 49% male.

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 36.8, lower than the Regional (40.5) and England average (40.4%). Only Leeds has a lower median age (36.3) in West Yorkshire.

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.

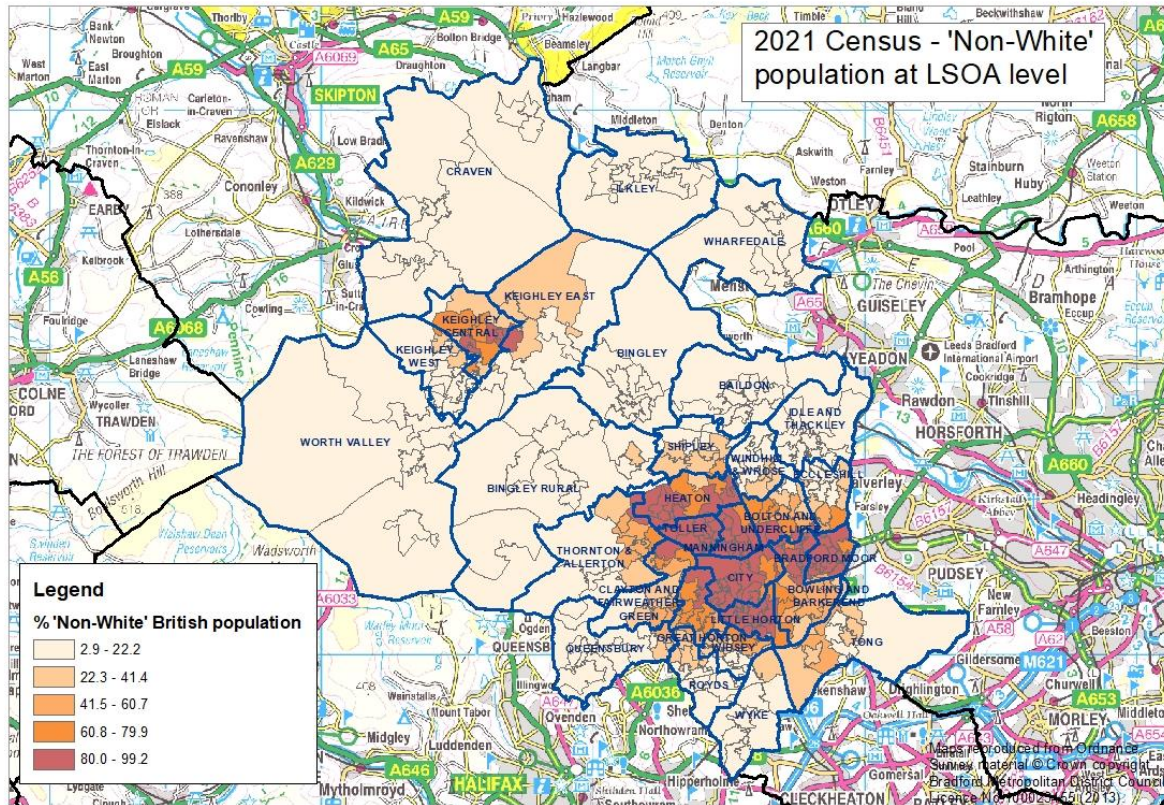
Number of people per square kilometre						
	2004	2007	2011	2013	2016	2022
Bradford	1,324	1,370	1,428	1,435	1,453	1,508
Calderdale	536	547	561	566	574	571
Kirklees	972	997	1,035	1,047	1,065	1,071
Leeds	1,310	1,338	1,361	1,379	1,416	1,491
Wakefield	938	949	964	974	995	1,056
Yorkshire & Humber	329	335	343	346	352	360
England	385	394	408	413	424	438

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.



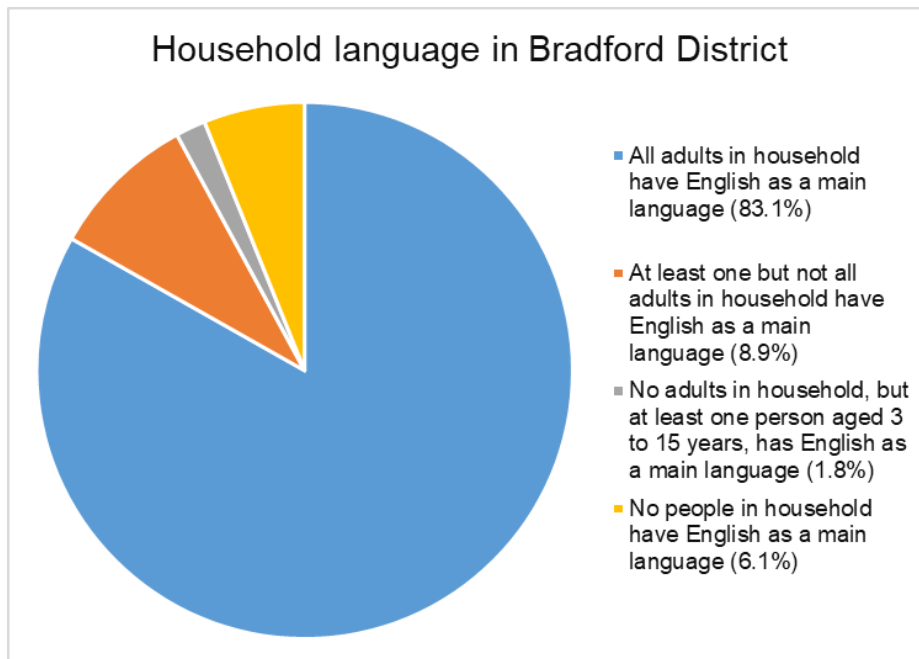
The question about religion in the 2021 Census was voluntaryⁱⁱⁱ. 33.4% of the District's population identified as Christian, 30.5% identified as Muslim, 0.9% identified as Sikh, 0.9% identified as Hindu, 28.2% of the population said that they had no religion and 5.5% chose not to provide an answer

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.

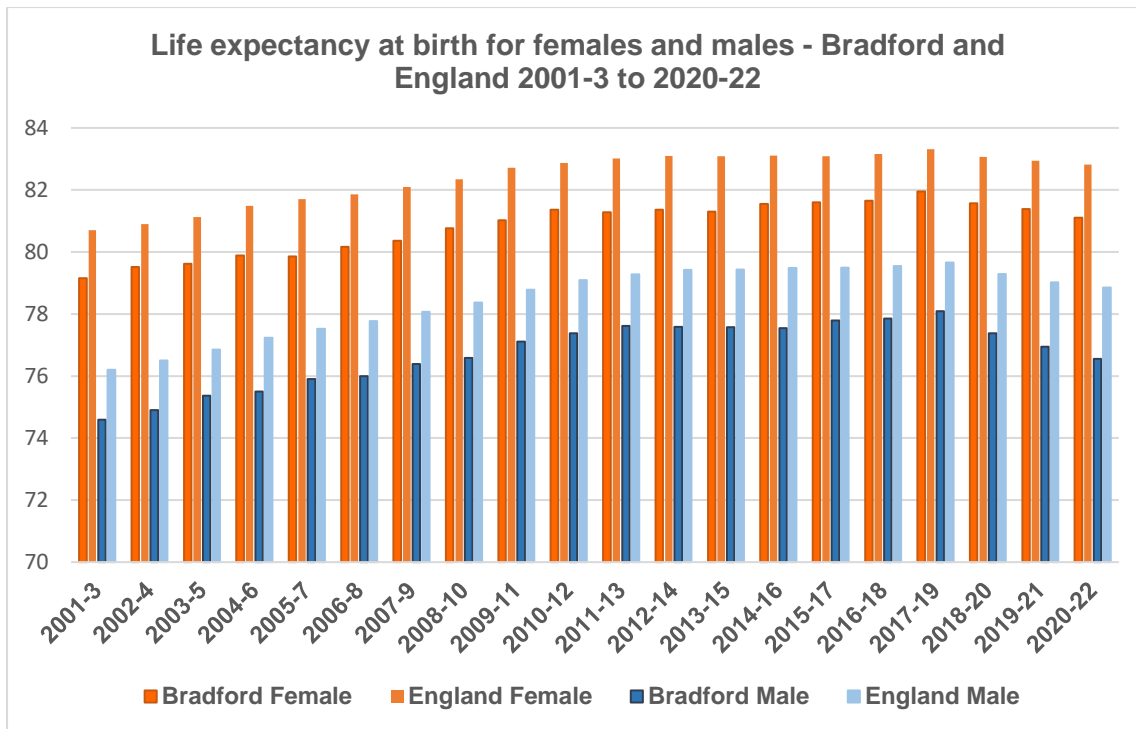
6.1% of Bradford households have no one with English as a main language, the national rate is 5%.

Health profile

Life expectancy at birth in Bradford District^v is 76.6 for males and 81.1 for females. These are lower than the rates for England of 78.9 for males and 82.8 for females.

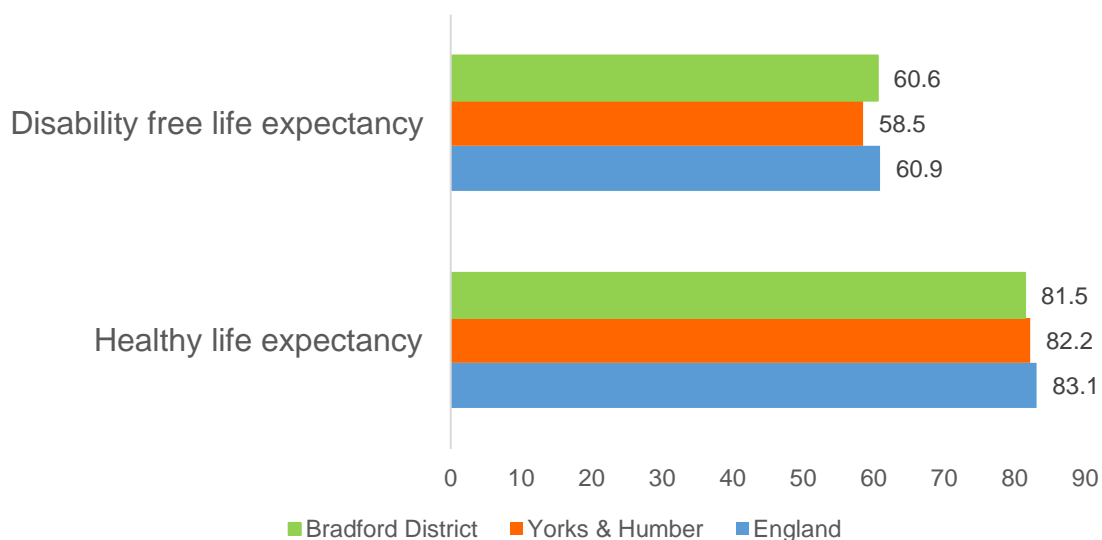
Since 2001-3 rates for life expectancy at birth have increased by 2 years for males and 1.9 years for females. Although the gap between male and female life expectancy narrowed from 2003-6 to 2017-19, reaching the lowest figure of 3.7 years in 2011-13; by 2020-22 the gap had increased to 4.6 years, the same gap as in 2001-3.

Bradford has the joint lowest life expectancy rates for males and the second lowest life expectancy rates for females in West Yorkshire.

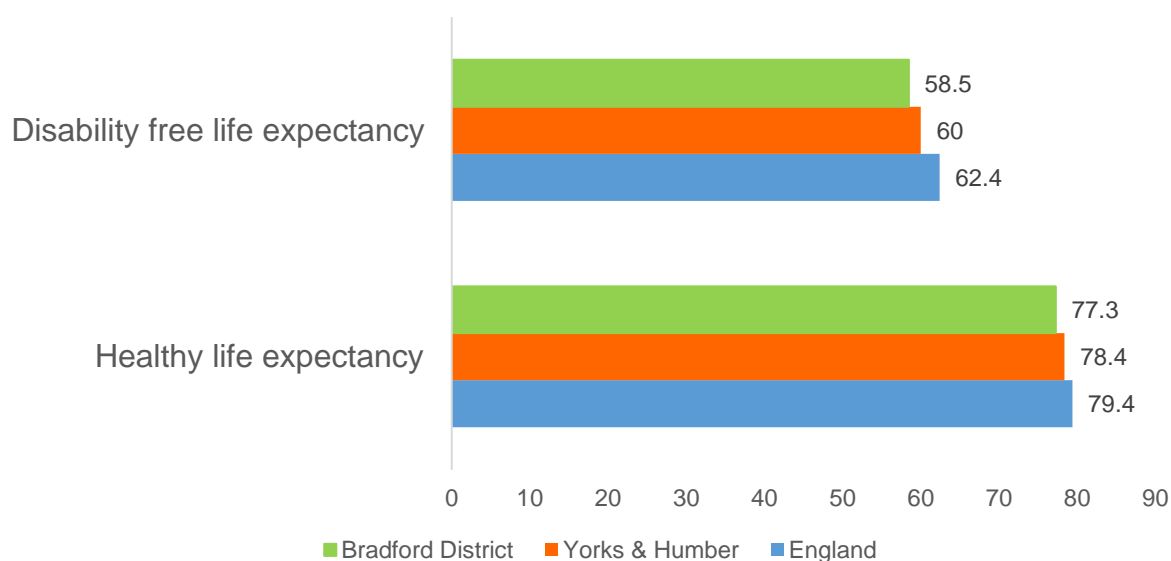


Females in Bradford have lower healthy-life expectancies than regional and national averages. Interestingly females in Bradford have slightly higher disability-free life expectancies than the regional average, but lower than the national averages. Males in Bradford are more likely to have lower healthy life expectancies and disability-free life expectancies than both regional and national figures.

Females - disability free life expectancy and healthy life expectancy 2018-20



Males - disability free life expectancy and healthy life expectancy 2018-20



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 April 2023 – March 2024 Annual Population Survey found that 67.4% of people aged 16 and over in Bradford District (excluding full-time students) are in employment^{vii} and 5.2% were unemployed.

27.1% of the population aged 16 and over are economically inactive – this is higher than the national (21.4%) and regional (24.3%) averages. The largest proportion of economically inactive people aged 16-64 are long-term sick (24.8% of the total), followed by Students (23.6%) and people looking after the family or home (21.9%).

The largest percentage of people in employment (26%) gave their occupation as 'professional', followed by associate professional occupations (16.3%).

Qualifications

37.5% of the Bradford District population aged 16-64 are qualified at level RQF4 (Higher apprenticeship, HNC, level 4 NVQ) or above – this is lower than the regional (41.2%) and national (47.3%) averages.

11.8% of people have no qualifications – higher than the regional (7.6%) and national averages (6.6%)

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ⁱ Office for National Statistics (ONS), Mid-2023 population estimates, 15 July 2024

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, 11 January 2024

^{vi} ONS, English indices of Deprivation 2019, 26 September 2019

^{vii} ONS, Annual Population Survey April 2023 – March 2024