



Population report 2021 Census

At a glance:

- The results from the 2021 census show that there are 546,400 people living in Bradford District
- This is an increase of 4,300 people since the mid-2020 population estimates were published in June 2021 and 23,950 more people since the last Census in 2011
- Bradford is the fifth largest metropolitan borough council in England in terms of population (after Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield and Manchester)
- Children and young people under the age of 15 form 21.4% of the District's population – the largest percentage in the region
- There are 209,900 households – an increase of 5.3% since the last Census
- Bradford District has a population density of 1,491 people per sq km – the highest rate in West Yorkshire.

Introduction

The first set of results from the 2021 Census were published on 28th June 2022 and show that the total population for Bradford District is 546,400. This is an increase of 4,300 since the mid-2020 population estimates were published in June 2021. and an increase of 23,950 people since the 2011 Census.

Population increase since the 2011 Census

Bradford's population has increased by 23,950 people (4.6%) since 2011. Children and young people under the age of 15 have seen the smallest population increase (1.9%) since 2011. Older people aged 65 to 84 have seen the largest increase (20.4%). The percentage of very old people aged 85 and over increased by 14.5% and the percentage of people aged 15 to 64 increased by 2.4%.

Population breakdown

A large part of Bradford's population is dominated by the younger age groups. The under-15 population forms 21.4% of the District's population. This is the fourth highest percentage in England after the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, Slough Borough Council and Luton Borough Council and the largest percentage in the region.

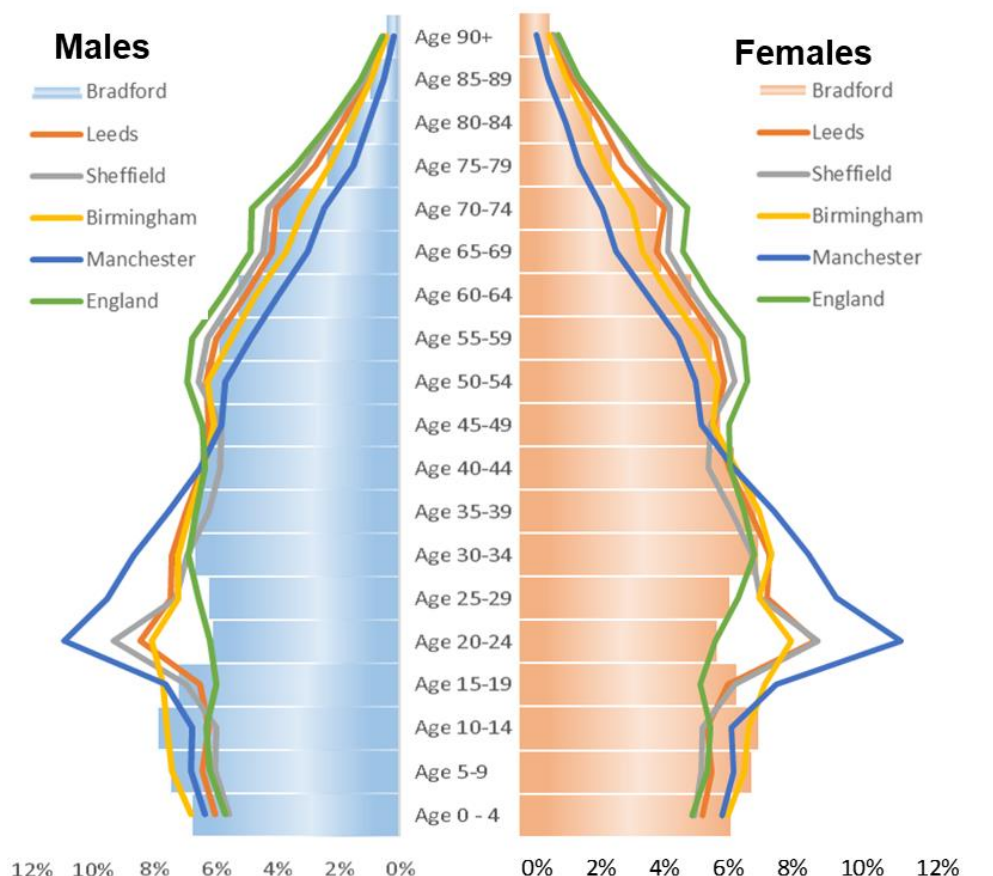
63.4% of the District's population is aged between 15 and 64 and 15.2% is aged 65 and over.

Since the last Census in 2011 there has been an increase of nearly two percentage points in the number of people aged 65 and over and a decrease in the percentage of young and working age people.

Bradford compared with other local authorities in England

Bradford is the fifth largest metropolitan borough council in England in terms of population (after Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield and Manchester). The chart below compares the 2021 Census data for the percentages in each five-year age group for Bradford with that for England, Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield and Manchester (each shown as a line).

This shows that Bradford has a largest proportion of children aged 10-14. There is a marked difference for young adults, particularly for the 20 to 29 age group, with Manchester experiencing the highest percentages. In contrast, there are broadly similar proportions for middle aged and old people.

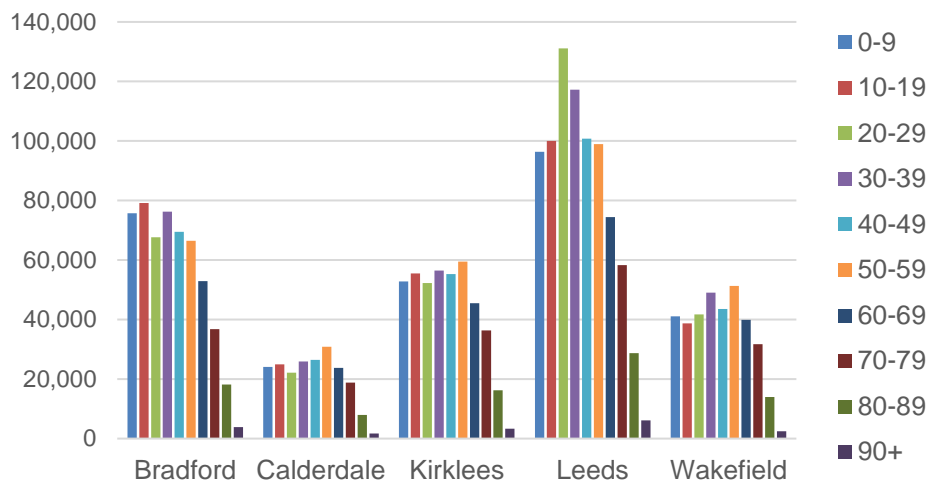


Bradford compared with other local authorities in West Yorkshire

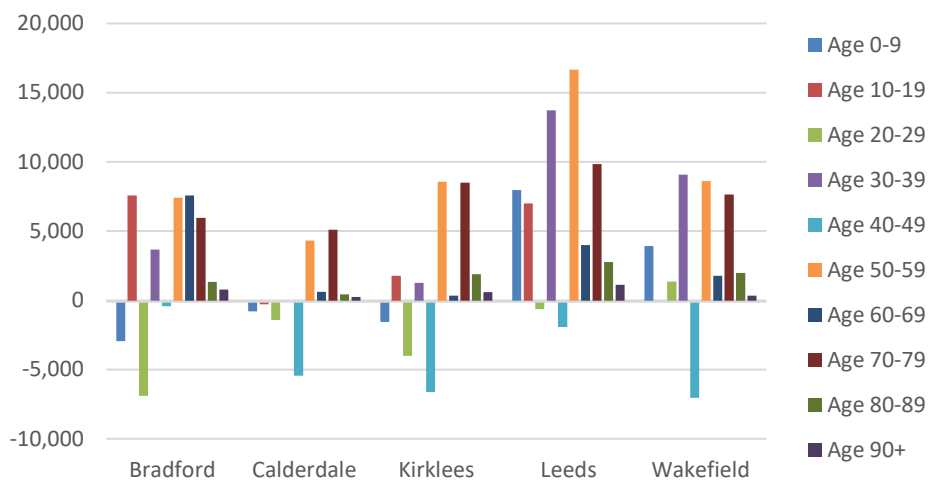
The first chart on the following page shows the population by ten-year age groups for each of the West Yorkshire local authorities. This shows Bradford's largest population comprises children and young people aged 10-19 and Leeds' largest population group is people aged 20-29 mainly due to the large student population. The largest population group for the three other local authorities in West Yorkshire (Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield) is people aged 50-59.

The second chart shows how the ten-year age groups have changed since the 2011 Census was carried out. The largest increases for Bradford were in the 10-19 and 50-69 age groups and the largest fall in the 20-29 age group. Calderdale experienced the largest increase in the 70-79 age group and the other local authorities saw the largest increase in their 50-59 age groups and the largest decrease in their 40-49 age group.

2021 Census population



Population change 2011 to 2021



Households

Bradford has a total of 209,900 households, an increase of 10,604 (5.3%) since the 2011 Census. Birmingham has the largest number of households. The following table compares Bradford with the other West Yorkshire authorities and the authorities with a larger population total. Only Leeds and Wakefield have seen a larger percentage increase in the number of households since the last Census.

Local authority	2011 Census total households	2021 Census total households	% increase
Bradford	199,296	209,900	5.3%
Birmingham	410,736	423,500	3.1%
Calderdale	88,621	90,500	2.1%
Kirklees	173,525	178,000	2.6%
Leeds	320,596	341,500	6.5%
Manchester	204,969	214,700	4.7%
Sheffield	229,928	232,000	0.9%
Wakefield	140,414	153,100	9.0%

Population density

The District has a population density of 1,491 people per sq km – this is an increase of 63 people per sq km since the 2011 Census and the highest rate in West Yorkshire. The average for England is 434 people per sq km and for Yorkshire and The Humber is 356 per sq km.

It is worth noting that Bradford's figure is lower than Birmingham (4,275), Manchester (4,773) and Sheffield (1,513) and that a large number of the Inner London boroughs have higher rates – the Borough of Tower Hamlets has a population density of 15,695 people per sq km.

The first set of results from the 2021 Census of England and Wales were published on 28th June 2022. The data is available at District level and above and comprises the total population by sex and five-year age bands, the total number of households and population density.

ONS will be publishing other main data from the Census within two years of the Census data. The data will also become available at Ward, LSOA and MSOA level. On-the-day alerts and briefing notes will be produced as soon as the information at these levels becomes available

Data sources and further information

The next bulletin in this series will be published when the next set of data are released

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

Link: www.ons.gov.uk/census



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