



Census shows increase in population in the East of England

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Coverage: England & Wales **Theme:** Population

The population of the East of England on census day (27 March 2011) was more than 5.8 million, an increase of 8 per cent from 2001 when it was 5.4 million. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) published the first results from the 2011 Census today.

By comparison the population across the whole of England and Wales increased by 7 per cent to 56.1 million, the largest growth in population in any 10-year period since census taking began in 1801.

Jil Matheson, National Statistician said:

"I'd like to thank everyone in the East of England for their support. The 2011 Census has been a resounding success and I am proud of the incredible effort that has been put in. It is a rich source of information about the population and its characteristics. Across England and Wales around 19 out of 20 people responded and we have excellent statistical methods for ensuring we have a complete estimate of the whole population. These statistics will provide valuable information for planners, policy-makers and the public for years to come."

Most local authorities in the region increased in population since 2001, although Tendring had a small decrease (0.6 per cent). Peterborough grew the most with a population increase since 2001 of 26,200 (17 per cent).

The largest local authority in the East of England by population was Central Bedfordshire with 254,000 people, an increase of 20,400 (9 per cent) between 2001 and 2011.

Forest Heath was the local authority with the fewest people (59,700).

Luton was the most densely populated with almost 4,700 people per square kilometre, which equates to around 47 people on a rugby pitch. The least densely populated was Breckland, with 100 people per square kilometre.

The local authority with the largest proportion of people aged 65 and over was North Norfolk with 29 per cent; the smallest proportion was in Luton (12 per cent). Conversely, Luton had the largest proportion of people aged 19 and under (28 per cent) and North Norfolk the smallest (19 per cent).

Across England and Wales there has been a 13 per cent increase in the number of children under five, with over 400,000 more than in 2001. In the East of England there were 40,000 more under-fives compared to 2001, an increase of 12 per cent. Luton had the largest proportion in this age group with 8 per cent, with the smallest proportion in North Norfolk (4 per cent).

The total number of households in the East of England was 2.4 million. Luton had the highest average household size with 2.7 people, with the lowest in Norwich (2.1).

Glen Watson, Census Director said:

"The whole operation has worked well. We met our targets both for response and quality. We've had fantastic support from the public, and also from voluntary groups, community groups and local authorities throughout England and Wales. I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone involved, including the 35,000 people who worked on the data collection and helped to make the census a success."

<u>East of England</u>	2011 population	2001 population	Change 2001-2011 (per cent)
Central Bedfordshire	254,400	234,000	8.7
Luton	203,200	185,900	9.3
Peterborough	183,600	157,400	16.6
Basildon	174,500	165,900	5.2
Southend-on-Sea	173,600	160,400	8.2
Colchester	173,100	156,000	11.0
Huntingdonshire	169,500	157,200	7.8
Chelmsford	168,300	157,300	7.0
Thurrock	157,700	143,300	10.0
Bedford	157,500	148,100	6.3
South Cambridgeshire	148,800	130,500	14.0
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	147,500	135,600	8.8
Braintree	147,100	132,500	11.0
Dacorum	144,800	137,800	5.1
St Albans	140,600	129,200	8.8
Tendring	138,000	138,800	-0.6
East Hertfordshire	137,700	129,100	6.7
Ipswich	133,400	117,200	13.8
Norwich	132,500	122,400	8.3
Breckland	130,500	121,600	7.3
North Hertfordshire	127,100	117,100	8.5
Epping Forest	124,700	121,000	3.1
Broadland	124,700	118,800	5.0
Suffolk Coastal	124,300	115,200	7.9
South Norfolk	124,000	110,800	11.9
Cambridge	123,900	109,900	12.7
Waveney	115,300	112,500	2.5
St Edmundsbury	111,000	98,300	12.9
Welwyn Hatfield	110,500	97,600	13.2

North Norfolk	101,500	98,500	3.0
Hertsmere	100,000	94,500	5.8
Great Yarmouth	97,300	90,900	7.0
Mid Suffolk	96,700	87,000	11.1
Fenland	95,300	83,700	13.9
Broxbourne	93,600	87,200	7.3
Watford	90,300	80,400	12.3
Castle Point	88,000	86,700	1.5
Babergh	87,700	83,500	5.0
Three Rivers	87,300	82,900	5.3
Stevenage	84,000	79,800	5.3
East Cambridgeshire	83,800	73,400	14.2
Rochford	83,300	78,700	5.8
Harlow	81,900	78,800	3.9
Uttlesford	79,400	69,000	15.1
Brentwood	73,600	68,500	7.4
Maldon	61,600	59,600	3.4
Forest Heath	59,700	56,100	6.4

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Visit: www.ons.gov.uk/census for more detailed analysis and information

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BACKGROUND NOTES

1. The census provides the most accurate estimate possible for the population of England and Wales and has been carried out every 10 years since 1801, apart from 1941, by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The information provided to ONS is used solely for the census, is anonymised and protected for 100 years. Census day was on 27 March 2011. All census population numbers refer to that day.
2. Government uses the census statistics to allocate funding for services such as education, transport and health. Policy makers in central and local government use the census to identify the needs of different communities and they are also used by commercial enterprises. It also provides the benchmark for future population estimates and for sample surveys.
3. The 'median' is the value halfway up an ordered list of numbers. The median age is the age that half of the population are older than and half are younger than.
4. For the first time every census questionnaire form could be filled out and returned on-line and 16 per cent of census returns were completed on-line.

5. The 2011 Census figures will be used to base the 2011 population mid-year estimates which are due for release in September 2012. In due course the mid-year population estimates for 2002-2010 will be rebased.
6. National statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.
7. The second release, due between November 2012 and February 2013, will feature more detailed statistics including national identity, ethnicity, marital and civil partnership status, and religion.
8. The regions referred to conform to standard statistical regions.
9. For the latest on census, follow us on Twitter@2011censusinfo
10. Some facts about the collection of census data:
 - The 25 million 32-page (16 sheets of paper) questionnaires sent to households in England and Wales were printed at the rate of eight questionnaires per second
 - Stacked up, they would be 200 times the height of The Shard
 - Questionnaires were processed at a rate of 170,000 per day
 - Questionnaires were printed on paper from sustainable sources and 1,700 tonnes were destroyed and recycled after processing