

# Main language of households in Lancashire, 2011 Census of Population

## Summary

Of all the households in England and Wales, in 91% all people aged 16 and over had English as a main language. In the North West this was true in 94% of households. In England and Wales 4% of households had at least one person with English as a main language, as did just over 2% in the North West.

Nationally and regionally less than 1% of households were reliant upon a child with English as a main language. Nationally there were over 4% of households where nobody had English as a main language. The percentage was slightly lower in the North West (at almost 3%).

The number of households in the Lancashire-14 area was 618,019 in the 2011 Census. In 95% of these households all the people aged 16 and over had English as a main language. A further 2.6% (almost 16,000) had at least one adult with English as a main language. 2,600 households (less than 1%) were reliant upon a child as the only person with English as a main language. Almost 16,000 (2.5%) had nobody with English as a main language.

The number of households in the Lancashire-12 area was 496,299 in the 2011 Census. In 95% of these households all the people aged 16 and over had English as a main language. Just over 2.0% (almost 11,000) had at least one adult with English as a main language. 1,700 households (less than 1%) were reliant upon a child as the only person with English as a main language. 10,500 (just over 2%) had nobody with English as a main language.

Within Lancashire-12, the lowest percentages of households where all members had English as a main language were Preston (88.5%), Pendle (90%), Hyndburn (93%) and Burnley (93.5%). The converse was that they also had the highest percentage of households where nobody had English as a main language.

There are 17 wards where more than 10 percent of households had nobody with English as a main language. The wards are spread across the five local authority areas of Blackburn with Darwen (seven wards), Preston (six wards), Pendle (two wards), Burnley and Hyndburn (one ward in each).

## Introduction

The following article uses key statistics for local authorities from the second release first phase, of the 2011 Census of Population downloaded from the [Office for National Statistics](#) website. The dataset was published in December 2012. This report presents selected information from this dataset for the Lancashire authorities.

Demographic details of a local population are very important and are used by public and private sector organisations to allocate resources and plan services. The figures are also used as denominators in the calculation of rates, indicators and ratios, such as unemployment rates.

## Definitions

The main population base for outputs from the 2011 Census is the usual resident population as at census day 27 March 2011. A usual resident of the UK is anyone who, on census day, was in the UK and had stayed or intended to stay in the UK for a period of 12 months or more, or had a permanent UK address and was outside the UK and intended to be outside the UK for less than 12 months.

A household is defined as one person living alone, or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address who share cooking facilities and share a living room or sitting room or dining area. A household must contain at least one person whose place of usual residence is at the address. A group of short-term residents living together is not classified as a household, and neither is a group of people at an address where only visitors are staying.

Household language classifies households by the combination of adults and children within a household that have English as a main language. Household language uses the alternate definition of an adult and child that are used in a small number of census results. Language refers to a person's first or preferred language.

## **The national and regional context**

Of all the households in England and Wales, in 91% all people aged 16 and over had English as a main language. In the North West this was true in 94% of households. In England and Wales 4% of households had at least one person with English as a main language, as did just over 2% in the North West.

Nationally and regionally less than 1% of households were reliant upon a child with English as a main language. Nationally there were over 4% of households where nobody had English as a main language. The percentage was slightly lower in the North West (at almost 3%).

## **The Lancashire perspective**

The number of households in the Lancashire-14 area was 618,019 in the 2011 Census. In 95% of these households all the people aged 16 and over had English as a main language. A further 2.6% (almost 16,000) had at least one adult with English as a main language. 2,600 households (less than 1%) were reliant upon a child as the only person with English as a main language. Almost 16,000 (2.5%) had nobody with English as a main language.

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**Table 1 English as a main language in households**

area	All households	All people aged 16 and over in household have English as a main language		At least one but not all people aged 16 and over in household have English as a main language		No people aged 16 and over in household but at least one person aged 3 to 15 has English as a main language		No people in household have English as a main language	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Burnley	37,550	35,115	93.5	1,174	3.1	230	0.6	1,031	2.7
Chorley	44,919	44,019	98.0	449	1.0	70	0.2	381	0.8
Fylde	34,885	34,114	97.8	345	1.0	49	0.1	377	1.1
Hyndburn	34,341	32,062	93.4	1,165	3.4	194	0.6	920	2.7
Lancaster	57,822	55,609	96.2	953	1.6	118	0.2	1,142	2.0
Pendle	37,348	33,483	89.7	2,181	5.8	299	0.8	1,385	3.7
Preston	57,567	50,969	88.5	2,496	4.3	468	0.8	3,634	6.3
Ribble Valley	24,045	23,649	98.4	224	0.9	19	0.1	153	0.6
Rosendale	29,058	28,194	97.0	502	1.7	90	0.3	272	0.9
South Ribble	46,102	45,264	98.2	437	0.9	54	0.1	347	0.8
West Lancashire	45,381	44,375	97.8	406	0.9	59	0.1	541	1.2
Wyre	47,281	46,615	98.6	382	0.8	28	0.1	256	0.5
<b>Lancashire-12</b>	<b>496,299</b>	<b>473,468</b>	<b>95.4</b>	<b>10,714</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>10,439</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Blackburn with Darwen	57,353	48,183	84.0	4,299	7.5	808	1.4	4,063	7.1
Blackpool	64,367	62,275	96.7	762	1.2	120	0.2	1,210	1.9
<b>Lancashire-14</b>	<b>618,019</b>	<b>583,926</b>	<b>94.5</b>	<b>15,775</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2,606</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>15,712</b>	<b>2.5</b>
North West	3,009,549	2,836,200	94.2	71,725	2.4	14,917	0.5	86,707	2.9
England and Wales	23,366,044	21,313,812	91.2	868,431	3.7	181,729	0.8	1,002,072	4.3

Source Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census

Within Lancashire county council area, the lowest percentages of households where all members had English as a main language were Preston (88.5%), Pendle (90%), Hyndburn (93%) and Burnley (93.5%). The converse was that they also had the highest percentage of households where nobody had English as a main language. In Preston this was the case in more than 6% of households (over 3,600) and in almost 4% of households (almost 1,400) in Pendle.

In between 3 and 6% of households in Preston, Pendle, Hyndburn and Burnley not all adult members but at least one had English as a main language. Several hundred households in each of these districts (always less than 1% of all households) were dependent upon a child as the only person with English as a main language.

The percentage of households where all members had English as a main language is low in Blackburn with Darwen at 84%. Conversely, the percentage of households where nobody has English as a main language was high at 7% (over 4,000 households). In an additional 7% of households (over 4,000) not all adult members had English as a main language and over 1% households (800) were dependent upon a child as the only person with English.

Alongside the published data, Office for National Statistics also ranked the 348 local authorities within England and Wales for each measure. A rank of 1 for households where no people have English as a main language means it has the highest percentage of households in England and Wales without English. Blackburn with Darwen and Preston fell into the first quartile (87) of authorities with the highest percentage of households with no English in England and Wales. Pendle was just outside of this quartile. In addition to these three authorities, Burnley, Hyndburn and Lancaster were also in the first half of authorities with the highest percentage of households with no English. At the other extreme, Wyre ranked 328 on this measure.

## **English as a main language by ward**

At the time of the census, there were 302 wards across the Lancashire-14 area. Table 2 lists the 17 wards where more than 10 percent of households had nobody with English as a main language. The wards are spread across the five local authority areas of Blackburn with Darwen (seven wards), Preston (six wards), Pendle (two wards), Burnley and Hyndburn (one ward in each).

Please click here to view [the ward-level interactive maps.](#)

**Table 2 Wards where more than 10% of households had nobody with English as a main language**

Local authority	Ward	All households	Households where nobody had English as a main language	
		Number	Number	% of population
Blackburn with Darwen	Bastwell	2,123	554	26.1
Blackburn with Darwen	Shear Brow	2,352	547	23.3
Burnley	Daneshouse with Stoneyholme	1,828	422	23.1
Blackburn with Darwen	Audley	3,141	666	21.2
Preston	Deepdale	1,970	384	19.5
Preston	Town Centre	3,902	686	17.6
Preston	St George's	2,344	405	17.3
Blackburn with Darwen	Wensley Fold	2,980	482	16.2
Hyndburn	Central	1,855	286	15.4
Pendle	Whitefield	1,206	178	14.8
Blackburn with Darwen	Queen's Park	2,467	346	14
Preston	St Matthew's	3,295	437	13.3
Preston	Fishwick	2,254	272	12.1
Blackburn with Darwen	Little Harwood	2,432	289	11.9
Blackburn with Darwen	Corporation Park	2,234	262	11.7
Preston	Riversway	3,080	342	11.1
Pendle	Bradley	2,451	254	10.4

Source Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census

Conversely, there were 26 wards where, in more than 99% of households, all members had English as a main language. In almost half of all wards (148), in more than 98% of households, all members had English as a main language.

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