

Unpaid Care, 2011 Census of Population

This short article contains unpaid care results from the 2011 Census of Population. The figures have been downloaded from the [Office for National Statistics](#) (ONS) website and complement a range of other census data sets that have been added to our website.

The provision of unpaid care in England and Wales is becoming more common as the population ages. Unpaid care is a significant social policy issue because it makes an important contribution to the supply of care, but is also likely to impact on the employment, social and leisure opportunities of carers.

The 2011 Census asked whether you provided unpaid care to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of long-term physical or mental ill health or disability, or problems related to old age and for how many hours per week.

On the day of the census, March 27th 2011, the vast majority of residents in the Lancashire-14 area, 1,295,205 provided no unpaid care, but a total of 165,288 stated that they did provide some form of care for between one and over 50 hours per week, Just over 100,000 performed one to 19 hours of care per week, whilst for over 41,500 Lancashire-14 residents, it involved a substantial 50 hours or more.

Table 1, 2011 Census: unpaid care by hours per week

Area	Population	None	1-19 hours per week	20-49 hours per week	50 hours or more
Burnley	87,059	77,204	5,861	1,379	2,615
Chorley	107,155	94,837	7,937	1,652	2,729
Fylde	75,757	66,570	5,907	1,131	2,149
Hyndburn	80,734	71,811	5,193	1,220	2,510
Lancaster	138,375	123,760	9,261	1,819	3,535
Pendle	89,452	79,206	6,432	1,412	2,402
Preston	140,202	126,063	8,490	2,198	3,451
Ribble Valley	57,132	50,591	4,758	617	1,166
Rossendale	67,982	60,348	4,864	988	1,782
South Ribble	109,057	96,565	8,169	1,558	2,765
West Lancashire	110,685	97,259	8,242	1,812	3,372
Wyre	107,749	93,912	8,263	1,886	3,688
Lancashire-12	1,171,339	1,038,126	83,377	17,672	32,164
Blackburn with Darwen	147,489	131,733	8,769	2,691	4,296
Blackpool	142,065	125,746	8,635	2,592	5,092
Lancashire-14	1,460,893	1,295,605	100,781	22,955	41,552
North West	7,052,177	6,270,205	469,493	113,003	199,476
England and Wales	56,075,912	50,275,666	3,665,072	775,189	1,359,985

Source: 2011 Census of Population

Table 2 indicates that in percentage terms, 89.7% of residents in England and Wales performed no unpaid care. This was slightly above the Lancashire-12 and Lancashire-14 averages of 88.6% and 88.7% respectively. At the

local authority level, the percentages ranged from 89.9% in Preston that had no unpaid care responsibilities to 87.2% in Wyre.

For those people in the community who spend 50 hours or more on unpaid care, they account for 3.0% or more of local residents in Burnley, Hyndburn, West Lancashire and Wyre.

Table 2, 2011 Census: unpaid care by hours per week (percentages)

Area	None	1-19 hours per week	20-49 hours per week	50 hours or more
Burnley	88.7	6.7	1.6	3.0
Chorley	88.5	7.4	1.5	2.5
Fylde	87.9	7.8	1.5	2.8
Hyndburn	88.9	6.4	1.5	3.1
Lancaster	89.4	6.7	1.3	2.6
Pendle	88.5	7.2	1.6	2.7
Preston	89.9	6.1	1.6	2.5
Ribble Valley	88.6	8.3	1.1	2.0
Rossendale	88.8	7.2	1.5	2.6
South Ribble	88.5	7.5	1.4	2.5
West Lancashire	87.9	7.4	1.6	3.0
Wyre	87.2	7.7	1.8	3.4
Lancashire-12	88.6	7.1	1.5	2.7
Blackburn with Darwen	89.3	5.9	1.8	2.9
Blackpool	88.5	6.1	1.8	3.6
Lancashire-14	88.7	6.9	1.6	2.8
North West	88.9	6.7	1.6	2.8
England and Wales	89.7	6.5	1.4	2.4

Source: 2011 Census of Population

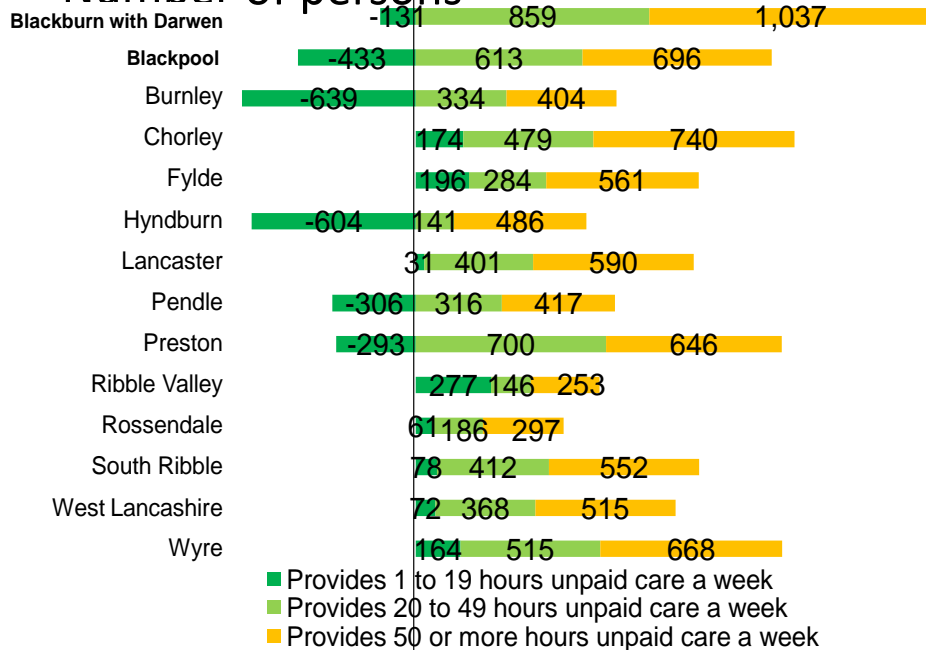
Changes in Unpaid Care, 2001 to 2011

Figure 1 displays the changes in unpaid care numbers between 2001 and 2011 in the 14 Lancashire authorities. It is noticeable that six of the 14 saw reductions in the number of people providing unpaid care for 1 and 19 hours per week. These included reductions of over 600 in Burnley and Hyndburn. In contrast, the largest increase of 277 was recorded in Ribble Valley, which in 2011 was the authority with smallest population total in Lancashire.

For the 20-49, and 50 plus, hours per week groups, the substantial increases in Blackburn with Darwen and Preston, contrasted with the declines in these two authorities in the 0-19 hours group. These were the two Lancashire authorities with the largest population totals at the time of the 2011 Census.

Providing unpaid care – change 2001-2011

- Number of persons



Local Characteristics on Health and Unpaid Care, 2011 Census

In August 2013, the office for national statistics published [local characteristics tables on health and unpaid care](#) of two or more topics down to the output area level. The Nomisweb site also has details for the [provision of unpaid care](#) by age.