

Living arrangements, 2011 Census of Population

Summary

The Lancashire-14 area had a slightly higher percentage of people married or in a same-sex civil partnership (46.6%) than the national average (45.9%). In the Lancashire-12 area the figure was 47.7%. Fylde, Ribble Valley and Wyre had rates in excess of 51% whilst in Blackpool there was a very low rate of 38.3%.

The single category is therefore slightly lower in Lancashire-14 (24.0%) and Lancashire-12 (23.4%), than the England and Wales average (25.8%). Rates below 20% were recorded in Ribble Valley and Wyre, whilst Preston had a much higher rate of 30.2%.

Just over 9% of adults are separated or divorced in Lancashire-14. Rates are highest in Blackpool (12.5%) and Burnley and Hyndburn (at just over 10%).

The proportion of adults who are widowed or the remaining partner from a civil partnership was 7% in Lancashire-14. The proportion of adults who are in this category is undoubtedly connected to the age profile of local authority areas. The highest rates are in Fylde and Wyre.

During the decade to 2011 figures show a decrease in the proportion of adults who are married or in a civil partnership. In the county council area and the wider Lancashire area this decrease was just over 5%. Conversely, the rate of adults cohabiting has risen in the last decade in Lancashire-14 by 2.4 percentage points. The rate of adults who are single and have never been married, increased over the decade, nationally by 2.8 percentage points to 25.8% (Lancashire-14 = 24.0%).

Introduction

This report presents living status data for the Lancashire authorities and wards. At local authority level some comparisons are made with 2001 Census data.

The complementary [marital and civil partnerships article](#) has a number of similarities, but there are some minor percentage variations between the two articles, noticeable in the married or registered same sex civil partnership category, as a result of small variations between the numbers who fully completed each census question. The article is unable to identify cohabiting couples which is possible in this living arrangements report.

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. Although the population base for enumeration included non-UK short-term residents, this population is analysed separately and is not included in the main

outputs from the 2011 Census. The living arrangements dataset is based on all usual residents aged 16 and over who are in households.

The national and regional context

In England and Wales almost 46% of adults were married or in a same-sex civil partnership. In the North West the percentage was just slightly lower at 44.2%. In both areas just under 12% of adults were cohabiting.

In total in England and Wales just over 42% of adults were not living in a couple. In the North West the figure was a little higher at 44%. The majority of adults who are not living in a couple are single, never having been married or in a same-sex civil partnership. This applies to just over a quarter of adults nationally and regionally.

In the North West just over 9% of adults were separated or divorced, slightly above the national rate of 8.7%. The proportion of adults who are widowed was almost 7% regionally, a little above the national rate of 6.3%.

The Lancashire perspective

The Lancashire -14 area had a slightly higher percentage of people married or in a same-sex civil partnership (46.6%) than the national average (45.9%). In the Lancashire-12 area the figure was 47.7%. Fylde, Ribble Valley and Wyre had rates in excess of 51% whilst in Blackpool there was a very low rate of 38.3%.

Rates of cohabitation are under 10% in Fylde and West Lancashire, whilst Rossendale recorded a rate of 14.4%. At just under 12%, the figures for Lancashire-12 and 14 areas were almost identical to the England and Wales average.

Linked to the pattern of the married or in a same-sex civil partnership category, the single category is slightly lower in Lancashire-14 (24.0%) and Lancashire-12 (23.4%), than the England and Wales average (25.8%). Rates below 20% were recorded in Ribble Valley and Wyre, whilst Preston had a much higher rate of 30.2%. To some extent this may be connected to the age profiles of the population in districts. For example, Preston had a high proportion of people aged 15 to 24 years, who are less likely to be married simply as a result of their young age. However, it can only be part of the story as the same young age profile in Lancaster did not appear to be having the same impact upon rates of marriage and singleness there.

The living arrangements table also is able to identify the percentage of people who are classified as married, or in a civil partnership, but are not living in the same household. This small category accounts for just 1.4% at the national level and 1.2% in Lancashire-14. At the local authority level rates of 1.8% were recorded in both Pendle and Blackburn with Darwen; two authorities with high rates of ethnic minorities which may be a factor behind this small anomaly.

Table 1 Living Arrangements 2011 Census (all usual residents aged 16 and over)

Area name	All categories	Married or registered same sex civil partnership	Cohabiting	Single - never married /registered same sex partnership	Not living in a couple: Married or registered same sex civil partnership (1)	Not living in a couple: separated, divorced	Not living in a couple: widowed/surviving partner from same-sex civil partnership
	Number	%	%	%	%	%	%
Burnley	68,995	43.6	12.8	25.1	1.4	10.4	6.8
Chorley	84,670	50.7	12.8	20.9	0.7	8.6	6.2
Fylde	62,064	51.0	9.5	20.5	0.9	9.6	8.5
Hyndburn	63,454	44.5	12.9	24.5	1.3	10.2	6.6
Lancaster	106,820	45.3	12.3	25.2	1.1	9.1	7.0
Pendle	70,543	46.2	12.5	23.3	1.8	9.6	6.7
Preston	107,625	41.5	11.7	30.2	1.5	9.0	6.1
Ribble Valley	45,531	54.6	10.2	19.2	0.9	8.0	7.2
Rossendale	54,102	45.8	14.4	23.1	1.0	9.5	6.3
South Ribble	88,337	50.9	12.1	21.4	0.8	8.2	6.6
West Lancashire	88,722	50.2	9.9	24.0	0.8	8.3	6.8
Wyre	88,765	51.5	11.0	19.5	1.0	8.5	8.4
Lancashire-12	929,628	47.7	11.8	23.4	1.1	9.1	6.9
Blackburn with Darwen	111,628	45.9	10.9	26.0	1.8	9.2	6.0
Blackpool UA	112,758	38.3	13.8	26.5	1.0	12.5	7.9
Lancashire-14	1,154,014	46.6	11.9	24.0	1.2	9.4	6.9
North West	5,606,088	44.2	11.9	26.8	1.2	9.2	6.8
England and Wales	44,533,150	45.9	11.9	25.8	1.4	8.7	6.3

Source: 2011 Census. (1) A person 'not living in a couple' can be classified as married or in a same-sex civil partnership if they denote their marital status as married or in a same-sex civil partnership but have no spouse or same-sex partner resident in the household. This may include people working away from where the rest of their family live for an extended period of time.

Just over 9% of adults are separated or divorced in Lancashire-12 and 14 areas. Rates are highest in Blackpool (12.5%) and Burnley and Hyndburn (at just over 10%).

The proportion of adults who are widowed or the remaining partner from a civil partnership was 7% in both Lancashire areas. The proportion of adults who are in this category is undoubtedly connected to the age profile of local authority areas. The highest rates are in Fylde and Wyre.

Table 2 Change between 2001 and 2011

Area name	Married or registered same sex civil p'ship	Married	Cohabiting	Cohabiting	Single - never married/registered same sex p'ship	Single - never married	Not in a couple: separated, divorced or widowed	Not in a couple: separated, divorced or widowed
	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001
Burnley	43.6	49.7	12.8	10.7	25.1	21.2	17.2	17.4
Chorley	50.7	55.5	12.8	9.8	20.9	19.8	14.8	14.5
Fylde	51.0	56.3	9.5	7.8	20.5	17.7	18.1	17.6
Hyndburn	44.5	50.6	12.9	11.7	24.5	20.1	16.8	16.5
Lancaster	45.3	49.2	12.3	9.5	25.2	23.6	16.1	17.1
Pendle	46.2	50.9	12.5	10.9	23.3	20.2	16.3	16.4
Preston	41.5	47.6	11.7	9.4	30.2	26.5	15.1	15.6
Ribble Valley	54.6	59.2	10.2	8.0	19.2	18.0	15.2	14.3
Rossendale	45.8	51.8	14.4	11.3	23.1	20.5	15.8	15.8
South Ribble	50.9	57.0	12.1	8.6	21.4	19.3	14.8	14.7
West Lancashire	50.2	55.2	9.9	7.5	24.0	21.6	15.1	15.2
Wyre	51.5	56.2	11.0	8.2	19.5	17.4	16.9	17.5
Lancashire-12	47.7	52.9	11.8	9.4	23.4	20.9	16.0	16.1
Blackburn with Darwen	45.9	50.7	10.9	8.8	26.0	23.0	15.2	16.2
Blackpool UA	38.3	45.0	13.8	10.8	26.5	22.1	20.4	21.4
Lancashire-14	46.6	51.9	11.9	9.5	24.0	21.2	16.3	16.6
England and Wales	45.9	50.7	11.9	9.8	25.8	23.0	15.0	15.5

Source: 2011 and 2001 Censuses, NOMIS.

Since the 2001 Census, civil partnerships have been introduced. Figures show that there were almost 2,400 adults in Lancashire-12 and just over 3,100 in Lancashire-14 who were in civil partnerships. Despite these being included in the same category as married in this dataset for 2011, figures for the decade to 2011 still show a decrease in the proportion of adults who are married or in a civil partnership. In Lancashire-12 and Lancashire-14 this decrease was just over 5%. This compares to a drop nationally of just less than 5%. The fall in the rate of people who are married or in a civil partnership was greatest in Blackpool (6.7%) and also in Burnley, Hyndburn, Preston and South Ribble (6.1% in each).

Conversely, the rate of adults cohabiting has risen in the last decade in both Lancashire-12 and 14 areas rose by 2.4 percentage points.

The rate of adults who are single and have never been married, increased over the decade, nationally by 2.8 percentage points. The rate in Lancashire-14 was the same as the national rate. The increase in the proportion of adults who are single was greatest in Hyndburn (4.4 percentage points) and Burnley (3.9 percentage points).

There was little change during the decade in the rates of people who are separated, divorced or widowed. However the proportion of adults in this category rose a little in Ribble Valley and fell a little in both Lancaster and Blackburn with Darwen.

Ward analysis

The wards of Slyne-with-Hest and Silverdale in Lancaster had the highest rate of adults who are married or in a same-sex civil partnership at 64%. In total there were twenty five wards within the wider Lancashire area where the proportion is above 60%. These wards were spread across the ten local authority areas of Blackburn with Darwen (1 ward), Chorley (3 wards), Fylde (2), Lancaster (3), Pendle (2), Preston (2), Ribble Valley (6), West Lancashire (3) and Wyre (1).

There were seventeen wards where the proportion of adults who are single and have never been married was above a third. There were spread across just five districts; Blackpool (3 wards), Burnley (1 ward), Lancaster (4), Preston (7) and West Lancashire (2). Not surprisingly, the high rate of adults who are single is associated with a high number of young adults in the age structure of the population. The rate was highest in University ward in Preston and Duke's in central Lancaster.

Although rates or the number of adults are not particularly high, there are eleven wards where the rate of adults who are married or in a civil partnership but who are not living with their spouse was above 3%. The wards were in Blackburn with Darwen (4 wards), Burnley (1), Hyndburn (1), Pendle (3) and Preston (1). As noted earlier in the district level analysis, it appears that there is some connection with the ethnicity profile of an area and higher proportions of adults in this category.

Across the Lancashire-14 area, 7% of adults were divorced or formerly in a civil partnership now legally dissolved. Rates were 10% or above in twenty one wards. Interestingly, almost half of these wards were in Blackpool.

The proportion of adults who were widowed across Lancashire-14 was just under 7%. Rates were 10% or above in fifteen wards. Many wards were in coastal or rural locations in Blackpool (2 wards), Fylde (5 wards), Lancaster (2), Ribble Valley (1) and Wyre (5 wards). This category also has obvious links with high numbers of older people.

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