

# Lancashire's population, 2011

## Summary

The 2011 Census usual resident population figure for Lancashire-14 area was 1,460,900. This represented an increase of 46,200 people or a population growth rate of 3.3% since the last census in 2001. That was well below the England and Wales increase of 7.8%.

The usual resident population of the county council area was 1,171,300, an increase of 36,300 people or a population growth rate of 3.2%.

Within the Lancashire-12 area, the districts of Preston and Lancaster had the largest usual resident populations of 140,200 and 138,400 respectively. Preston recorded the largest numerical increase in usual residents of more than 10,000 people since the last census. It also had by far the greatest growth rate within the county of 8%, which is greater than the England and Wales rate. Chorley also had an increase of almost 7%.

In Burnley the usual resident population had fallen since the 2001 Census by 2,500 people or almost 3%. The 2011 Census estimate was 87,000 usual residents. This is not so great a decrease as had been given by the most recent mid-year population estimate in year 2010 when the population was given as 85,300.

The population in Hyndburn had remained almost static in the decade to year 2011. The 2011 Census population was 80,700, which was 800 people fewer than in year 2001. Similarly in Pendle there had been very little change. The 2011 Census population was 89,500, up just 250 people since 2001.

In Ribble Valley and South Ribble the population grew by 5.8% and 5% respectively, between years 2001 and 2011. In Rossendale and Fylde the population increase was lower, at 3.6% and 3.5%. Finally, in West Lancashire and Wyre the population increase was around 2%.

In Blackpool the 2011 Census usual resident population was 142,100, a decrease of around 200 people on year 2001. However in Blackburn with Darwen there had been an increase of over 10,000 people and the 2011 Census population numbered 147,500. The authority's population growth rate since the last census was 7.3%, almost on a par with the England and Wales rate. The most recent population estimates for mid-year 2010 had under-estimated the Blackburn with Darwen population by about 7,500 people.

In comparison with the England and Wales average, Lancashire-14 reveals a slight bias towards higher proportions of people in the two oldest broad age groups of 45-64 year-olds and 65+. It is in the 25-44 middle working age group where there is a smaller proportion than the England and Wales average. Additionally within Lancashire-12, there was a slight under-representation of the 0-14 year-olds compared to nationally.

The non-UK short-term resident population in Lancashire-14 was 3,600. Most of these short-term residents (3,400 people) were within Lancashire-12. By far the greatest numbers were in Preston (1,700) and Lancaster (1,000).

The number of households in the Lancashire-14 area was 618,000. This is an increase of 5% since the previous census. This compares to a national increase of almost 8%. In Lancashire-12, the number of households was 496,300, an increase of almost 6%. There has been a particularly high increase in households in Chorley, most likely attributable to the Buckshaw development.

## Introduction

The following article uses the first release data from the 2011 Census downloaded from the [Office for National Statistics](#) website. This release provides three datasets, the usual resident population for the national level by single year of age and sex, and for local authorities by five-year groupings by age and for local authorities by sex; the non-UK short term resident population by sex for local authorities; and the number of households with at least one resident.

This report presents selected information from these three datasets for the Lancashire authorities with comparisons to the previous census in 2001.

The population numbers 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

For 2011 Census purposes, 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 non-UK short-term resident is anyone born outside the UK who has stayed or intends to stay in the UK for a period of three months or more but less than twelve months.

The 2011 Census estimate of households is the total number occupied by at least one usual resident.

## Usual resident population

### The national and regional context

The usual resident population for England and Wales was 56.8 million people at the time of the 2011 Census. This is an increase of 4 million people since 2001, a growth rate of 7.8%. In the North West, the population grew by 4.8% between years 2001 and 2011 to 7.1 million.

### The Lancashire perspective

The usual resident population of the Lancashire-14 area was 1,460,900 in the 2011 Census. This represented an increase of 46,200 people or a population growth rate of 3.3% since the last census.

The usual resident population of the Lancashire-12 area was 1,171,300, an increase of 36,300 people or a population growth rate of 3.2% since 2001.

**Table 1 Usual resident population**

Area	2001	2011	Change 2001 - 2011	
			Total	%
Burnley	89,500	87,000	- 2,500	- 2.8
Chorley	100,400	107,200	6,800	6.8
Fylde	73,200	75,800	2,600	3.6
Hyndburn	81,500	80,700	- 800	- 1.0
Lancaster	133,900	138,400	4,500	3.4
Pendle	89,300	89,500	200	0.2
Preston	129,600	140,200	10,600	8.2
Ribble Valley	54,000	57,100	3,100	5.7
Rossendale	65,700	68,000	2,300	3.5

Area	2001	2011	Change 2001 - 2011	
			Total	%
South Ribble	103,900	109,100	5,200	5.0
West Lancashire	108,400	110,700	2,300	2.1
Wyre	105,600	107,700	2,100	2.0
<b>Lancashire-12</b>	<b>1,135,000</b>	<b>1,171,300</b>	<b>36,300</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Blackburn with Darwen	137,500	147,500	10,000	7.3
Blackpool	142,300	142,100	- 200	-0.1
<b>Lancashire-14</b>	<b>1,414,800</b>	<b>1,460,900</b>	<b>46,100</b>	<b>3.3</b>
North West	6,729,800	7,052,200	322,400	4.8
England and Wales	52,041,900	56,075,900	4,034,000	7.8

Source Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census

In Burnley the usual resident population had fallen since the 2001 Census by 2,500 people or almost 3%. The 2011 Census estimate was 87,000 usual residents.

The population in Hyndburn had remained almost static in the decade to year 2011. The 2011 Census population was 80,700, amounting to a fall of 800 from year 2001. Similarly in Pendle there had been very little change. The 2011 Census population was 89,500, up just a few hundred people since 2001.

Within the Lancashire-12 area, the districts of Preston and Lancaster had the largest usual resident populations of 140,200 and 138,400 respectively. Preston recorded the largest numerical increase in usual residents of more than 10,000 people since the last census. The Preston inter-censal greatest growth rate is the largest within the county at 8%, which is greater than the England and Wales rate. Chorley also had an increase of almost 7%.

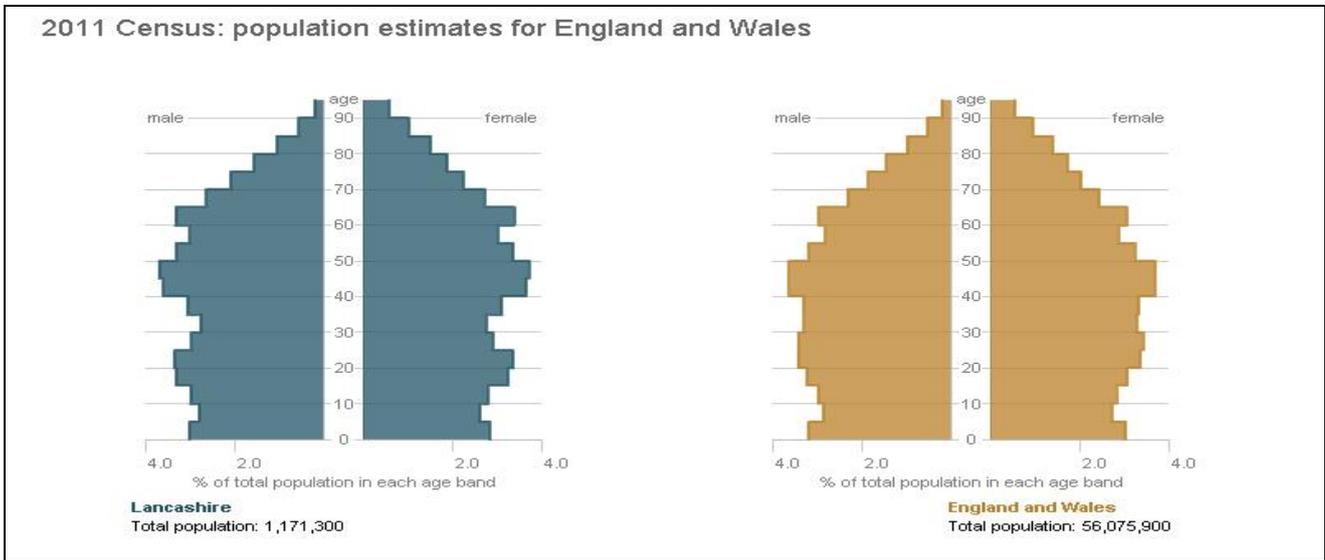
In Ribble Valley and South Ribble the population grew by 5.8% and 5% respectively, between years 2001 and 2011. In Rossendale and Fylde the population increase was lower, at 3.6% and 3.5%. Finally, in West Lancashire and Wyre the population increase was around 2%.

In Blackpool the 2011 Census usual resident population was 142,100, a decrease of around 200 people on year 2001. However in Blackburn with Darwen there had been an increase of over 10,000 people and the 2011 Census population numbered 147,500. The authority's population growth rate since the last census was 7.3%, almost on a par with the England and Wales rate.

### Usual resident population by sex

Nationally, regionally and across the Lancashire-14 and Lancashire-12 areas, the gender split in the population is 49% male and 51% female. There is little variation within Lancashire local authority areas. In Lancaster and Wyre the population was 52% female, most probably attributable to the elderly age groups in Wyre.

### Figure 1 Lancashire-12 area age and gender groups, comparison with England and Wales



Source: [Office for National Statistics website](#)

### Usual resident population by age group

The population varies much more greatly by gender by age groups. Broad age group data for local authorities in Lancashire is presented in Table 2. More detailed data, for five year age groups by gender is presented in [maps of Lancashire](#) and in [population pyramids](#) produced by Office for National Statistics. The pyramids allow comparisons to be made between one local authorities' age and gender structure in year 2011 with the national pattern or with other local authorities.

In comparison with the England and Wales average, Lancashire-14 reveals a slight bias towards higher proportions of people in the two oldest broad age groups of 45-64 and 65+. It is in the 25-44 middle working age group where there is a smaller proportion than the England and Wales average.

Within Lancashire-12, the same age groups were over and under-represented. Indeed, the over-representation of those aged 45 – 64 was a little higher. Additionally there was a slight under-representation of the 0-14 year-olds compared to nationally.

At the district level, the figures reveal that in the youngest broad age group (0-14 years), two east Lancashire districts, Hyndburn and Pendle, had the highest proportions (both with 19%) of residents in this category. In Blackburn with Darwen the proportion of the population in this category (almost 22%) was well above the England and Wales rate. Presumably these trends reflect the [above average fertility rates](#). In comparison, the percentage of 0-14 year-olds was less than 15% in both Fylde and Wyre.

At the other end of the age spectrum, Fylde and Wyre had by far the highest rates (both with 25%) for the oldest 65+ broad age group. These proportions were well in excess of the Lancashire-14 area (18%) and England and Wales (16%) averages, and reflected the attraction of these two districts to retired inward migrants. Although not to the same extent as Fylde and Wyre, Ribble Valley and West Lancashire also had above average proportions in this age group. The general attractiveness of these areas to older age groups is first seen in the 45 to 64 years broad age group where proportions are above the national average.

In the unitary authorities Blackpool had more people than average in the age group 65 and over. Conversely Blackburn with Darwen had a much lower proportion than nationally. Within Lancashire-12, Preston had the lowest proportions of residents in the oldest broad age group. Preston together with Lancaster had high proportions of young people aged 15-24 years, reflecting the fact that these two districts contain sizeable universities. It is noticeable in the rural areas, for example in Fylde, Wyre and Ribble Valley that there are fewer people aged 25 to 44 years.

**Table 2 Usual resident population by age group**

Area	Age band:	Total
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		0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	
Burnley	no.	16,000	11,100	22,700	22,900	14,200	87,000
	%	18%	13%	26%	26%	16%	
Chorley	no.	18,300	12,200	28,600	30,200	17,900	107,200
	%	17%	11%	27%	28%	17%	
Fylde	no.	11,200	7,500	16,700	22,100	18,300	75,800
	%	15%	10%	22%	29%	24%	
Hyndburn	no.	15,400	10,300	21,700	20,600	12,900	80,700
	%	19%	13%	27%	26%	16%	
Lancaster	no.	21,400	24,500	32,400	34,900	25,300	138,400
	%	15%	18%	23%	25%	18%	
Pendle	no.	17,300	11,200	23,700	23,000	14,400	89,500
	%	19%	13%	26%	26%	16%	
Preston	no.	25,100	24,600	38,900	32,400	19,200	140,200
	%	18%	18%	28%	23%	14%	
Ribble Valley	no.	9,800	6,300	12,600	17,100	11,600	57,100
	%	17%	11%	22%	30%	20%	
Rossendale	no.	12,300	8,200	17,900	19,100	10,500	68,000
	%	18%	12%	26%	28%	15%	
South Ribble	no.	18,600	12,800	28,100	30,100	19,300	109,100
	%	17%	12%	26%	28%	18%	
West Lancashire	no.	18,600	14,900	25,200	31,100	20,900	110,700
	%	17%	13%	23%	28%	19%	
Wyre	no.	16,000	12,000	22,600	30,700	26,600	107,700
	%	15%	11%	21%	29%	25%	
<b>Lancashire-12</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>200,100</b>	<b>155,500</b>	<b>290,700</b>	<b>314,100</b>	<b>211,300</b>	<b>1,171,300</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>18%</b>	
Blackburn with Darwen	no.	32,100	19,900	41,800	34,600	19,100	147,500
	%	22%	13%	28%	23%	13%	
Blackpool	no.	23,700	17,100	35,500	38,400	27,100	142,100
	%	17%	12%	25%	27%	19%	
<b>Lancashire-14</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>255,900</b>	<b>192,500</b>	<b>368,000</b>	<b>387,100</b>	<b>257,500</b>	<b>1,460,900</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>18%</b>	
North West	no.	1,236,700	946,400	1,861,100	1,836,700	1,171,100	7,052,200
	%	18%	13%	26%	26%	17%	
England and Wales	no.	9,891,200	,346,600	15,351,800	14,263,400	9,223,000	56,075,900
	%	18%	13%	27%	25%	16%	

Source Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census

## Population by ward

At the time of the 2011 census, there were 302 wards across the Lancashire-14 area. In 14 wards more than a quarter of the population were aged 0 to 14 years old. These wards were spread across the five local authority areas of Hyndburn, Pendle and Preston (two wards each), Burnley (one ward) and Blackburn (seven wards). The more populous of these wards in Blackburn had more than 2,000 people in this age group.

The population aged 15 to 24 years is highest (around 2 to 3,000) in wards around the universities. Namely, University, Ellel and John O'Gaunt in Lancaster, University and St George's in Preston and Derby ward in West Lancashire.

Six wards, mainly in Preston, had more than a third of the population who were aged 24 to 44 years old. In addition, there were 32 wards, where 45 to 64 year olds made up more than a third of the population. Many of these wards were in rural areas of West Lancashire (seven wards), Ribble Valley (six wards), Chorley (four wards) and Fylde (three wards).

The over 65 year old population makes up over a third of the population in four wards. They are Cabus and Jubilee wards in Wyre, Clifton in Fylde and Bare in Lancaster. An additional 36 wards had between a quarter and a third of the population in this age group. These wards were in Wyre (11 wards), Fylde (eight wards), Lancaster (five wards), Blackpool (four wards), South Ribble (three wards), West Lancashire (two wards), Ribble Valley (two wards) and Pendle (one ward).

### Non-UK short-term resident population

The non-UK short-term resident population in the Lancashire-14 area was 3,600. Most of these short-term residents (3,400 people) were within Lancashire-12. By far the greatest numbers were in Preston (1,700) and Lancaster (1,000). Some short-term residents were also recorded in Wyre and West Lancashire (200 in each) and in South Ribble, Ribble Valley and Fylde (100 each), although rounding does impact upon the data more noticeably at this level.

### Households

**Table 3 Number of households with at least one resident, 2001 and 2011**

Area	2001	2011	% change
Burnley	36,796	37,600	2.2
Chorley	41,027	44,900	9.4
Fylde	32,369	34,900	7.8
Hyndburn	32,976	34,300	4.0
Lancaster	55,839	57,800	3.5
Pendle	35,958	37,300	3.7
Preston	52,970	57,600	8.7
Ribble Valley	22,209	24,000	8.1
Rossendale	27,113	29,100	7.3
South Ribble	42,728	46,100	7.9
West Lancashire	43,586	45,400	4.2
Wyre	45,295	47,300	4.4
<b>Lancashire-12</b>	<b>468,866</b>	<b>496,300</b>	<b>5.9</b>
Blackburn with Darwen	53,407	57,400	7.5
Blackpool	63,940	64,400	0.7
<b>Lancashire-14</b>	<b>586,213</b>	<b>618,100</b>	<b>5.4</b>
North West	2,812,789	3,009,600	7.0
England and Wales	21,660,475	23,366,000	7.9

Source Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census

The number of households in Lancashire-14 was 618,000. This is an increase of 5% since the previous census. This compares to a national increase of almost 8%. In Lancashire-12 the number of households was 496,300, an increase of almost 6%. There has been a particularly high increase in households in Chorley, most likely attributable to the Buckshaw Village development.