

Census 2011: Cambridgeshire Snapshot

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Produced by Research and Performance Team, Cambridgeshire County Council, Aug 2012.

Every 10 years the Office for National Statistics (ONS) carries out a national census in order to gather information about the population of the UK.

This document aims to provide a snap-shot of the data on the population of Cambridgeshire from the first release of census data, July 2012.

Population

In 2011 the population of England and Wales was 56,075,900. 621,200 of these people were living in Cambridgeshire. Huntingdonshire accounts for the largest proportion of Cambridgeshire's population, with 27.3% of people living in the district.

Table 1: Total population, 2011.

Rank	District	2011 Census population	Share of Cambridgeshire
	Cambridgeshire	621,200	
1	Huntingdonshire	169,500	27.3%
2	South Cambridgeshire	148,800	24.0%
3	Cambridge	123,900	19.9%
4	Fenland	95,300	15.3%
5	East Cambridgeshire	83,800	13.5%

Absolute population growth

Between the 2001 and 2011 census the population of Cambridgeshire grew from 552,700 to 621,200 people (12%). Table 2 shows that the five Cambridgeshire districts experienced different levels of growth.

The largest absolute net growth was in South Cambridgeshire where the population grew by 18,700 people between 2001 and 2011. East Cambridgeshire experienced the smallest absolute net growth, with an increase of 10,600 people.

Relative population growth

Analysing relative population growth demonstrates a different perspective on the population change. Most notably, although East Cambridgeshire experienced the smallest absolute net growth in population, this was the largest relative change out of all the districts.

Table 2: Change in population, 2001-2011.

District	2001 census	2011 census	Absolute change 2001-2011	Rank	Relative change 2001-2011	Rank
Cambridgeshire	552,700	621,200	68,500		12.4%	
South Cambridgeshire	130,100	148,800	18,700	1	14.4%	2
Cambridge	108,900	123,900	15,000	2	13.8%	4
Huntingdonshire	157,000	169,500	12,500	3	8.0%	5
Fenland	83,500	95,300	11,800	4	14.1%	3
East Cambridgeshire	73,200	83,800	10,600	5	14.5%	1

Cambridge, East Cambridgeshire, Fenland and South Cambridgeshire are all within the top 40 districts across England and Wales for population growth (relative), making them some of the fastest growing districts.

Population change by age group

Cambridgeshire showed similarities to population trends seen in England and Wales and East of England. Notably, the three broad age groups experienced growth and the most substantial growth occurred in the over 65+ years age group. However, as Table 3 demonstrates, the rate of growth in Cambridgeshire was markedly higher than both the national and regional growth.

In England and Wales the 0-19 year age group grew by 3% between 2001 and 2011. In Cambridgeshire this figure was 7.2%, demonstrating a larger relative growth for this age group.

Figures for the 20-64 year age group showed an 8.2% increase for England and Wales, compared to a 10.7% increase in this age group for Cambridgeshire.

England and Wales and the East of England both saw most growth in their 65+ years age group (11% and 15.5% respectively). This was also true for Cambridgeshire, however the value for Cambridgeshire exceeded national and regional data with a population increase of 22.6% compared to 2001.

Table 3: Population change by age group, 2001-2011.

District	2001-2011 Population Change (%)		
	0-19	20-64	65+
Cambridgeshire	7.2	10.7	22.6
Cambridge City	13.4	14.2	0.0
East Cambridgeshire	11.8	12.7	17.4
Fenland	6.0	12.5	21.4
Huntingdonshire	-1.7	6.1	34.3
South Cambridgeshire	11.4	10.6	28.6
East of England	4.5	7.6	15.5
England & Wales	3.0	8.2	11.0

Working age population

In this instance working age is considered as the population aged 15-64 years.

66.9% of the population of Cambridgeshire is of working age, which is fairly consistent with the average of 66% across England and Wales. However, the proportion of the population that are of working age varies between 63.4% and 74.8% across the Cambridgeshire districts. Interestingly, Cambridge was the first ranked city across England and Wales for its high percentage of working age population (74.8%).

Table 4: Working age population, 2011.

Rank	District	Working age Population	Percentage of district population
	Cambridgeshire	415,400	66.9%
1	Cambridge	92,700	74.8%
2	Huntingdonshire	111,900	66.0%
3	South Cambridgeshire	96,600	64.9%
4	East Cambridgeshire	54,100	64.6%
5	Fenland	60,400	63.4%

Non-UK short-term residents

A non-UK short-term resident is defined as someone who is born outside the UK who intends to stay in the UK for between three and twelve months.

Table 5: Non-UK short-term residents, 2011.

Rank	District	Total	Percentage of district population
	Cambridgeshire	4,100	0.7%
1	Cambridge	3,300	2.7%
2	South Cambridgeshire	400	0.3%
3	Huntingdonshire	200	0.1%
4	East Cambridgeshire	100	0.1%
4	Fenland	100	0.1%

In 2011 there were a total of 195,100 non-UK short-term residents in England and Wales. 15,800 of these were living in the East of England and 4,100 resided in Cambridgeshire. 81% of Cambridgeshire's non-UK short-term residents resided in Cambridge City.

Households

Table 6: Number of Households, 2001-2011.

District	2001	2011	Absolute change 2001-2011	Rank	Relative change 2001-2011	Rank
Cambridgeshire	222,900	251,200	28,300		12.7%	
South						
Cambridgeshire	52,200	60,000	7,800	1	14.9%	3
Huntingdonshire	63,100	69,300	6,200	2	9.8%	4
Fenland	35,200	40,600	5,400	3	15.3%	2
East						
Cambridgeshire	29,800	34,600	4,800	4	16.1%	1
Cambridge	42,700	46,700	4,000	5	9.4%	5

Cambridgeshire has experienced growth in the number of households across each of its five districts.

Absolute housing growth

Between the 2001 and 2011 census the total number of households in Cambridgeshire grew from 222,900 to 251,200. The largest absolute net growth was in South Cambridgeshire where the household numbers grew by 7,800 between 2001 and 2011. Cambridge City experienced the smallest absolute net growth, with an increase of 4,000 households. No districts experienced a net fall in their household numbers.

Relative household growth

Analysing relative household growth demonstrates a slightly different perspective on the growth of household numbers experienced across Cambridgeshire. Most notably, although East Cambridgeshire was ranked 4th for its absolute increase in household numbers, this district was ranked 1st for its relative change in household numbers. Fenland, South Cambridgeshire, and East Cambridgeshire are amongst the top twenty local authorities in terms of the growth in households between 2001 and 2011.

Population Density

The population density for Cambridgeshire is 2 persons per hectare, this varies between districts. The district with the lowest population density (least persons per hectare) was East Cambridgeshire (1.3 persons per hectare). The urban area of Cambridge is considerably more densely populated, with a rate of 30 persons per hectare.

Table 7: Population Density, 2011.

Rank	District	Population	Area (Ha)	Persons per Hectare
	Cambridgeshire	621,200	305,402	2.0
1	Cambridge	123,900	4,070	30.4
2	Huntingdonshire	169,500	91,255	1.9
3	Fenland	95,300	54,736	1.7
3	South Cambridgeshire	148,800	90,169	1.7
5	East Cambridgeshire	83,800	65,172	1.3

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About the Cambridgeshire County Council Research and Performance Team

The Research and Performance Team is the central research and information section of Cambridgeshire County Council. We use a variety of information about the people and economy of Cambridgeshire to help plan services for the county. The Research and Performance Team also supports a range of other partner agencies and partnerships.

Subjects covered by the Research and Performance Team include:

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- Housing
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