

**Census 2011: Health and provision of unpaid care –
Cambridgeshire summary**

December 2012

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) published the second release of data from the 2011 Census on 11th December 2012, providing local authority-level data on a range of themes, including health.

This report summarises the health data for Cambridgeshire and its districts, comparing data across the county, with the England average, and with figures from the 2001 Census where possible. The data on health cover three topics: general health, long-term health problems and disability, and provision of unpaid care. All data relate to the usual resident population.

Data for Cambridgeshire on themes other than health are being analysed by Cambridgeshire County Council's Research and Performance Team:

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/research/populationresearch/census2011/default.htm>

More detail on the 2011 Census is available on the ONS website:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/census/2011/index.html>

KEY POINTS

GENERAL HEALTH:

- 84% of Cambridgeshire residents reported they were in good or very good health, above the national average.
- Within Cambridgeshire, all districts except Fenland (77%) had higher than the national average percentage reporting good or very good health.

LONG-TERM HEALTH PROBLEMS OR DISABILITY:

- 15% of the population of Cambridgeshire reported a long-term activity-limiting illness, below the England average. 10% of Cambridgeshire's working age population reported a long-term activity-limiting illness, below the national average.
- Within Cambridgeshire, Fenland was the only district where the percentage reporting long-term activity-limiting illness was higher than the national average.
- The number of people affected by a long-term activity-limiting illness in Cambridgeshire increased by 18% between 2001 and 2011, consistent with a growing and ageing population.

UNPAID CARE:

- 10% of Cambridgeshire residents provide unpaid care, similar to the national average.
- Within Cambridgeshire, the district with the highest percentage of people providing unpaid care was in Fenland (11%) and the lowest Cambridge (8%).
- Among those that provide care, a greater percentage of Fenland residents provide more than 50 hours of care per week compared with the other districts.

General health

Residents were asked to answer the question “How is your health in general?” on the scale: very good, good, fair, bad, very bad. Numbers and percentages for Cambridgeshire, its districts and England are presented in Table 1 and Table 2.

84.1% of the population of Cambridgeshire reported themselves to be in good or very good health, higher than the average for England of 81.4% (Figure 1). However, this percentage varied within the county with only 77.3% of people in Fenland reporting good or very good health; all other districts had percentages above the national average. Among those that did report good or very good health in Fenland, the proportion reporting very good health was smaller compared with the other districts.

The structure of this question in the 2011 Census was different to that used in 2001. In 2001, the question used a three-point response scale (good, fair, not good) and so figures are not comparable. The data do, however, show the same pattern within the county and compared with England in 2011 as in 2001 (data not shown).

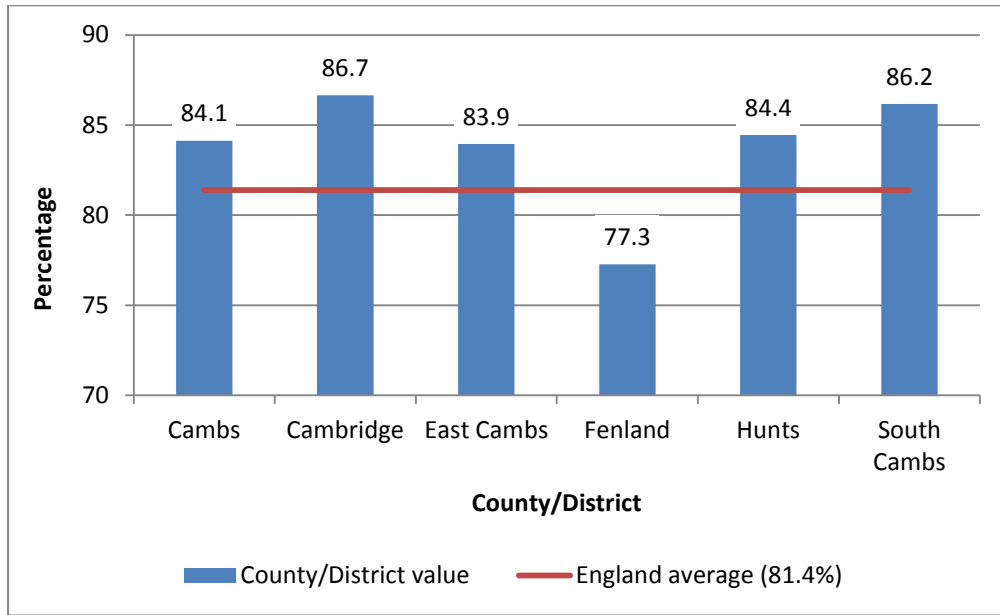
Table 1. Self-reported health status – number of people, Cambridgeshire, 2011

Local authority	Health status (Number of people)					Total
	Very good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very bad	
Cambridge	67,743	39,600	12,021	3,533	970	123,867
East Cambridgeshire	40,874	29,487	10,131	2,614	712	83,818
Fenland	37,577	36,042	15,760	4,590	1,293	95,262
Huntingdonshire	82,675	60,470	19,682	5,239	1,442	169,508
South Cambridgeshire	78,041	50,147	15,792	3,739	1,036	148,755
Cambridgeshire	306,910	215,746	73,386	19,715	5,453	621,210
England	25,005,712	18,141,457	6,954,092	2,250,446	660,749	53,012,456

Table 2. Self-reported health status – percentage of population, Cambridgeshire, 2011

Local authority	Health status (%)					Total
	Very good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very bad	
Cambridge	54.7	32.0	9.7	2.9	0.8	100.0
East Cambridgeshire	48.8	35.2	12.1	3.1	0.8	100.0
Fenland	39.4	37.8	16.5	4.8	1.4	100.0
Huntingdonshire	48.8	35.7	11.6	3.1	0.9	100.0
South Cambridgeshire	52.5	33.7	10.6	2.5	0.7	100.0
Cambridgeshire	49.4	34.7	11.8	3.2	0.9	100.0
England	47.2	34.2	13.1	4.2	1.2	100.0

Figure 1. Percentage of the population reporting good or very good health, Cambridgeshire, 2011



Long-term health problems or disability

Data on long-term health problems or disability were collected via the question “Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months? (Include problems related to old age)”.

Among all Cambridgeshire residents, 15.3% (95,027 residents) considered themselves to have a long-term activity-limiting illness, below the average for England of 17.6% (Table 3 and Figure 2). This percentage varied by district, with 21.0% reporting long-term activity-limiting illness in Fenland but just 13.0% in Cambridge; Fenland was the only district in Cambridgeshire with a percentage higher than the national average.

Among the working age population (aged 16-64 years), 10.3% of Cambridgeshire’s population reported a long-term activity-limiting illness, again below the England average of 12.7% (Table 4 and Figure 3). The variation across the districts was very similar to that for all ages.

In contrast to the slight decrease seen nationally, the percentage reporting a long-term activity-limiting illness in Cambridgeshire was slightly higher in 2011 compared with 2001 (15.3% v 14.6%) (Table 3 and Figure 2).¹ This trend was true across all districts except for Cambridge.

The trend comparing 2011 with 2001 was very similar among the working age population, except that in addition to Cambridge, the percentage also decreased slightly in East Cambridgeshire (Table 4 and Figure 3).²

The number of people affected by long-term activity-limiting illness in Cambridgeshire increased by nearly 15,000 residents between 2001 and 2011, an increase of 17.6% (in England, numbers increased by 6.2%). The percentage increase in numbers with long-term activity-limiting illness was higher than Cambridgeshire’s population growth of 12.4%, consistent with an ageing, as well as growing, population.

Data on long-term health problems and disability are strongly influenced by the age structures of populations, with older populations likely to have higher percentages with long-term activity-limiting illness, and so comparisons over time and between areas should be made with caution. Future releases of Census data will allow age-standardisation and more valid comparison.

¹ The Census question on long-term health problems and disability was re-phrased from the equivalent question asked in 2001 but valid comparisons can still be made with the 2001 data.

² In the 2001 Census, the working age population was defined as age 16 to 64 years for men and age 16 to 59 years for women, so some caution is required when making comparisons to 2011.

Table 3. Number of people and percentage of population with a long-term activity-limiting illness – all ages, Cambridgeshire, 2001 and 2011

Local authority	2001			2011		
	Number	%	Population	Number	%	Population
Cambridge	14,945	13.7	108,863	16,064	13.0	123,867
East Cambridgeshire	11,110	15.2	73,214	12,902	15.4	83,818
Fenland	16,185	19.4	83,519	20,030	21.0	95,262
Huntingdonshire	21,263	13.5	156,954	25,303	14.9	169,508
South Cambridgeshire	17,268	13.3	130,108	20,728	13.9	148,755
Cambridgeshire	80,771	14.6	552,658	95,027	15.3	621,210
England	8,809,194	17.9	49,138,831	9,352,586	17.6	53,012,456

2001 data refer to 'long-term limiting illness'.

2011 data are the results for 'Limited a lot' and 'Limited a little' combined (see Table 5).

Table 4. Number of people and percentage of population with a long-term activity-limiting illness – working age population, Cambridgeshire, 2001 and 2011

Local authority	2001			2011		
	Number	%	Population	Number	%	Population
Cambridge	7,004	9.2	76,463	8,049	8.8	91,406
East Cambridgeshire	4,642	10.4	44,807	5,328	10.0	53,174
Fenland	7,019	14.4	48,845	8,690	14.7	59,163
Huntingdonshire	9,763	9.9	98,916	11,364	10.3	109,857
South Cambridgeshire	7,211	8.8	81,572	8,546	9.0	94,640
Cambridgeshire	35,639	10.2	350,778	41,977	10.3	408,240
England	4,014,005	13.3	30,203,198	4,376,822	12.7	34,329,091

2001 data refer to 'long-term limiting illness' among men aged 16-64 years and women aged 16-59 years.

2011 data are the results for 'Limited a lot' and 'Limited a little' combined among men and women aged 16-64 years.

The population figures for 2001 are estimated based on the number and percentage with a long-term activity

Figure 2. Percentage of the population with a long-term activity-limiting illness – all ages, Cambridgeshire, 2001 and 2011

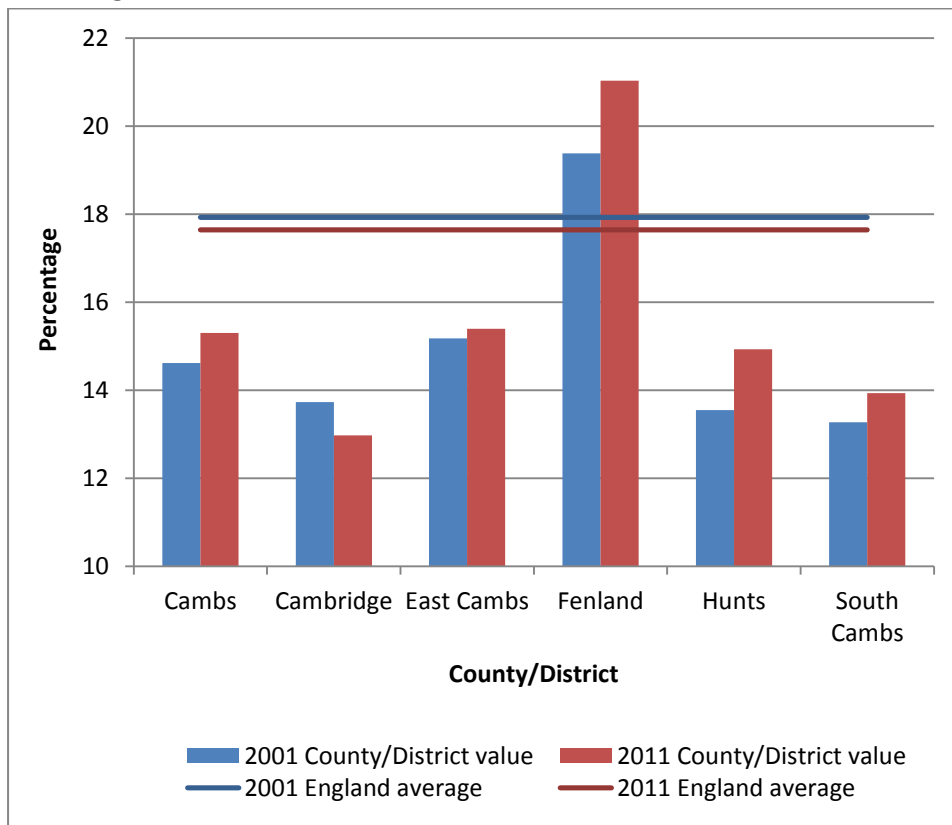
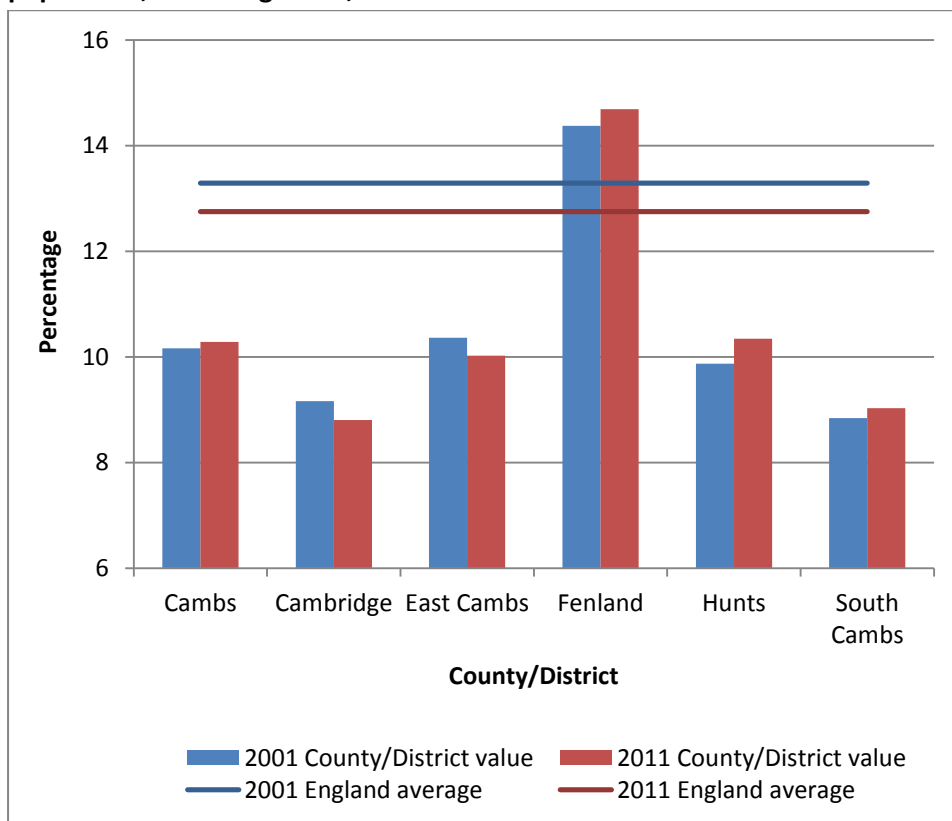


Figure 3. Percentage of the population with a long-term activity-limiting illness – working age population, Cambridgeshire, 2001 and 2011



Extent of limitation

In answering the question on long-term activity-limiting illness, residents were asked to indicate the extent to which their day-to-day activities were limited: 'Limited a lot' or 'Limited a little'.

Among all residents with a long-term activity-limiting illness, the percentage whose activities were limited a lot was lower in Cambridgeshire compared with the national average (42.7% v 47.1%) (Table 5). Among the districts, this percentage ranged from 39.9% in South Cambridgeshire to 47.3% in Fenland.

Among the working age population in Cambridgeshire with long-term activity-limiting illness, the percentage whose activities were limited a lot was smaller (38.8%) (Table 6). Comparisons with the national average and across the districts were very similar to those for all ages.

Data were not collected on extent of limitation in 2001.

Table 5. Extent to which day-to-day activities are limited among those with a long-term health problem or disability – all ages, Cambridgeshire, 2011

Local authority	Limited a little		Limited a lot		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
Cambridge	9,266	57.7	6,798	42.3	16,064
East Cambridgeshire	7,479	58.0	5,423	42.0	12,902
Fenland	10,554	52.7	9,476	47.3	20,030
Huntingdonshire	14,650	57.9	10,653	42.1	25,303
South Cambridgeshire	12,457	60.1	8,271	39.9	20,728
Cambridgeshire	54,406	57.3	40,621	42.7	95,027
England	4,947,192	52.9	4,405,394	47.1	9,352,586

Table 6. Extent to which day-to-day activities are limited among those with a long-term health problem or disability – working age population, Cambridgeshire, 2011

Local authority	Limited a little		Limited a lot		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
Cambridge	5,070	63.0	2,979	37.0	8,049
East Cambridgeshire	3,346	62.8	1,982	37.2	5,328
Fenland	4,798	55.2	3,892	44.8	8,690
Huntingdonshire	6,972	61.4	4,392	38.6	11,364
South Cambridgeshire	5,523	64.6	3,023	35.4	8,546
Cambridgeshire	25,709	61.2	16,268	38.8	41,977
England	2,452,742	56.0	1,924,080	44.0	4,376,822

Provision of unpaid care

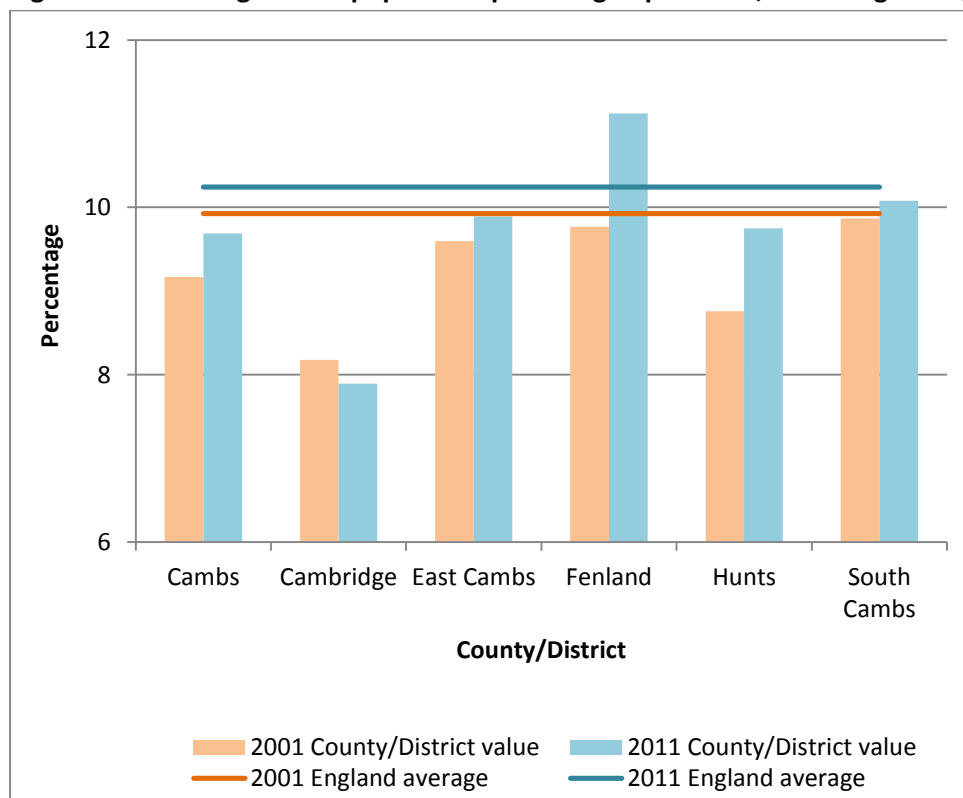
Residents were asked about their provision of unpaid care via the question “Do you look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either: long-term physical or mental ill-health/disability or problems related to old age?”

9.7% (60,176) of Cambridgeshire residents provide some level of unpaid care, similar to the national average of 10.2% (Table 7 and Figure 4). This percentage varied a little by district within the county: the lowest percentage providing unpaid care was in Cambridge (7.9%) and the highest in Fenland (11.1%), the only district with a percentage higher than the national average.

Table 7. Number of people and percentage of population providing unpaid care, Cambridgeshire, 2001 and 2011

	2001			2011		
	Number	%	Population	Number	%	Population
Cambridge	8,901	8.2	108,863	9,777	7.9	123,867
East Cambridgeshire	7,026	9.6	73,214	8,289	9.9	83,818
Fenland	8,159	9.8	83,519	10,594	11.1	95,262
Huntingdonshire	13,750	8.8	156,954	16,525	9.7	169,508
South Cambridgeshire	12,837	9.9	130,108	14,991	10.1	148,755
Cambridgeshire	50,673	9.2	552,658	60,176	9.7	621,210
England	4,877,060	9.9	49,138,831	5,430,016	10.2	53,012,456

Figure 4. Percentage of the population providing unpaid care, Cambridgeshire, 2001 and 2011



Compared with data from 2001, the percentage providing unpaid care was slightly higher in Cambridgeshire in 2011 (9.7% v 9.2%), in line with the national trend. The percentages increased in 2011 compared to 2001 in all districts except for Cambridge, though the numbers did still increase, consistent with population growth and/or ageing.

Hours of care provided

In responding to the question on unpaid care, residents were asked to indicate the number of hours of care provided per week: 1 to 19, 20 to 49 or 50 or more hours. Numbers and percentages among those that provide care, for Cambridgeshire, its districts and England, are presented in Table 8 and Table 9.

Among those that provide unpaid care, the percentage providing 50 or more hours of care per week in Cambridgeshire was 20.1%, lower than the England average of 23.1% (Figure 5). This varied by district within the county with 27.8% of those that provide care in Fenland providing 50 or more hours per week but just 16.3% in both Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire.

Greater percentages of the population are providing 20 or more hours of care per week in 2011 compared with 2001 – this is true for Cambridgeshire as a whole and each district, and is in line with the national trend.

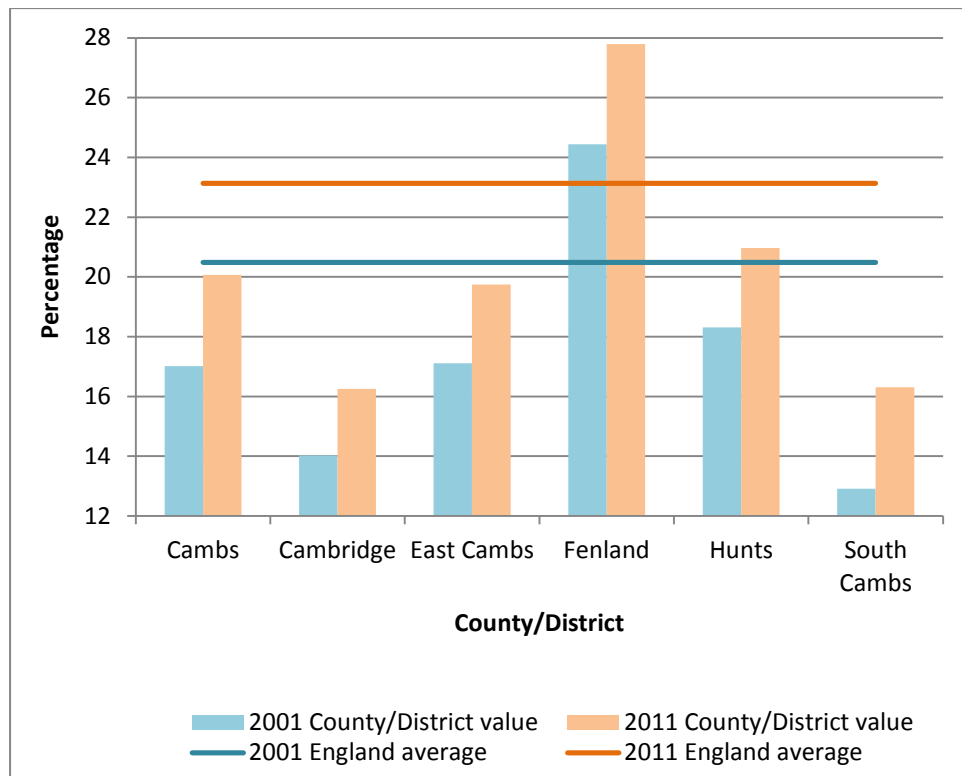
Table 8. Hours of care provided among those that provide unpaid care – number of people, Cambridgeshire, 2001 and 2011

Local authority	2001				2011			
	Hours provided per week			Total	Hours provided per week			Total
	1-19	20-49	50 or more		1-19	20-49	50 or more	
Cambridge	6,889	763	1,249	8,901	7,146	1,042	1,589	9,777
East Cambs	5,249	575	1,202	7,026	5,725	927	1,637	8,289
Fenland	5,272	893	1,994	8,159	6,154	1,496	2,944	10,594
Hunts	10,009	1,223	2,518	13,750	11,150	1,911	3,464	16,525
South Cambs	10,220	960	1,657	12,837	11,138	1,409	2,444	14,991
Cambs	37,639	4,414	8,620	50,673	41,313	6,785	12,078	60,176
England	3,347,531	530,797	998,732	4,877,060	3,452,636	721,143	1,256,237	5,430,016

Table 9. Hours of care provided among those that provide unpaid care – percentage of population, Cambridgeshire, 2001 and 2011

Local authority	2001				2011			
	Hours provided per week			Total	Hours provided per week			Total
	1-19	20-49	50 or more		1-19	20-49	50 or more	
Cambridge	77.4	8.6	14.0	100.0	73.1	10.7	16.3	100.0
East Cambs	74.7	8.2	17.1	100.0	69.1	11.2	19.7	100.0
Fenland	64.6	10.9	24.4	100.0	58.1	14.1	27.8	100.0
Hunts	72.8	8.9	18.3	100.0	67.5	11.6	21.0	100.0
South Cambs	79.6	7.5	12.9	100.0	74.3	9.4	16.3	100.0
Cambs	74.3	8.7	17.0	100.0	68.7	11.3	20.1	100.0
England	68.6	10.9	20.5	100.0	63.6	13.3	23.1	100.0

Figure 5. Percentage of the population providing 50 or more hours of unpaid care per week, Cambridgeshire, 2001 and 2011



Sources

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2011 Census, Key Statistics for Local Authorities in England and Wales: Table KS301EW Health and provision of unpaid care, local authorities in England and Wales.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/2011-census/key-statistics-for-local-authorities-in-england-and-wales/index.html>

Further information

For further information please follow the web links on page 1 or contact:

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