



# 2011 Census: headline results for Herefordshire



A wide range of 'key and quick statistics' for local authorities were published at the end of 2012. This document summarises the key headlines for Herefordshire. All of the underlying data for the county compared to England and Wales (and 2001) is available in a single [Key Statistics Profile for Herefordshire](#) – click the Census logos throughout this document to go to the relevant section of the profile.

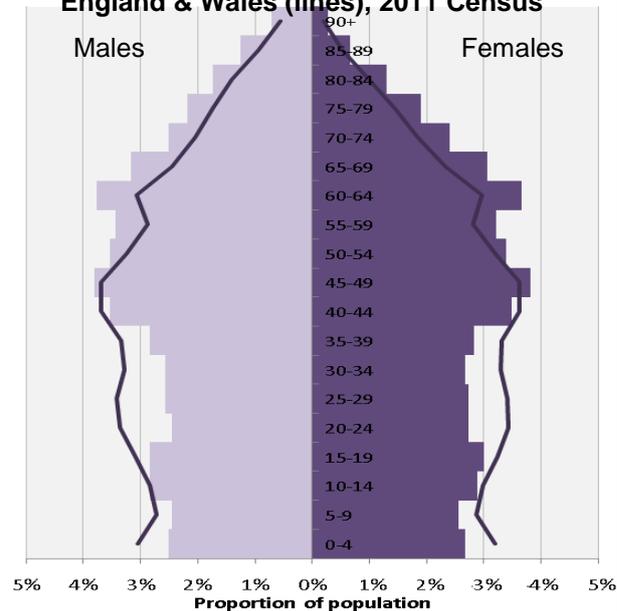
A richer understanding of the results will come with topic-specific analysis of the key statistics for small areas published at the end of January and the more detailed cross-tabulations of 'local characteristics' due between March and July. Latest analysis can be accessed from [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/census](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/census).

## Population

The 2011 Census estimated that 183,500 people were usually resident in Herefordshire on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011. The definition of usual residence counts people intending to be in the UK for at least six months at the place they consider their main home, with some exceptions – particularly relevant to Herefordshire is that the 3,000 students studying away from home are counted at their term-time address and members of the armed forces at their home address.



Age structure of Herefordshire (bars) and England & Wales (lines), 2011 Census



The census confirmed that immigration to Herefordshire had been significantly underestimated by official estimates during the last decade. This meant that there were several thousand more people living in the county than previously thought – particularly young adults (aged 25-34).

The number of children fell less quickly over the decade than estimated (31,400 <16s in 2011; 500 more than expected but still 2,700 fewer than in 2001), and the number of older people did not grow as quickly as thought (39,400 65+s in 2011; 1,700 fewer than expected but still 5,800 more than in 2001).

These results had little impact on the county's overall age structure though – it still had a higher proportion of older residents than nationally (21% aged 65+ vs. 17%).

The census population is analysed in more detail in: [2011 Census - population & household estimates for Herefordshire](#), and you can find the latest population figures at [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures) (2011 mid-year estimates were published in September 2012).

Also recorded in Herefordshire on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011 were 1,300 visitors to the UK, i.e. people staying in the country for between three and six months. Almost two-thirds (800 people) of them were male, and it is likely that many were seasonal agricultural workers.



Click where you see the icon to see the data behind the summary

[www.herefordshire.gov.uk/census](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/census)

## Ethnicity, identity, language and religion

The 2011 Census was the first opportunity to accurately quantify the impact that the expansion of the European Union in 2004 had had on Herefordshire's population. Estonia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia joined in 2004; Romania and Bulgaria in 2007.

*Ethnic makeup has changed dramatically:*

**6.3%**

*not 'white: British'*

- Ethnic makeup had changed dramatically since 2001, when only 2.5% (4,300) of the population were not 'white: British'. In 2011, the figure was 6.3% (11,600 people) – although this was still very low in national terms (19.5%).

**360** people

*said they were 'white: Gypsy or Irish Traveller'*

- People of 'white: other' origin (i.e. not British; Irish; Gypsy or Irish Traveller) made up the largest single minority group in the county: 3.9% of the population, and this group grew the most rapidly over the decade. This proportion was amongst the highest third across all authorities in the country.

- 360 people identified themselves as 'white: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' - a relatively small minority (0.2%) of the population, but just outside the highest 10% in the country.

- Of the 12,250 county residents who were born outside the UK, 53% arrived after the expansion of the EU in 2004. Nationally this figure was 40%, which highlights how much more of an impact the recent migration had had locally.

**53%** of non UK-born residents have arrived since EU expansion

**5,000**

*residents (2.8%) born in EU Accession states*

- Just over five thousand residents in 2011 (2.8%) were born in countries that joined the EU during the last decade - over half (3,000) in Poland. Unsurprisingly then, Polish was the most common language in the county other than English – it was the main (i.e. first or preferred) language of 2,900 residents (1.6% of people aged 3+).

- Other main languages of county residents included south and east Asian languages (almost 700 residents); Lithuanian (550), Slovak, Portuguese, Hungarian (each just under 300) and other European languages (1,100)<sup>^</sup>; and Russian (200).

**2,000** residents

*(1.1%) can't speak English well*

- Almost 1,700 households (2.1%) didn't have any residents who spoke English as their main language, and another 160 only had a child (or children) who did – although this doesn't mean that people in them were unable to speak English, just that it wasn't their preferred language. The key point is that in total, almost 2,000 residents (1.1% of people aged 3+) could not speak English well – 340 of them not at all.

**2,900** residents whose main language is Polish (1.6%)

- As nationally, Christianity remained the largest religion in Herefordshire – although numbers had fallen since 2001: from 79% of the population to 68%.

**68%** Christian

**560**

*Buddhists – 2<sup>nd</sup> largest religion*

- Unlike nationally, where Muslims were the second largest group, Buddhists remained the second largest (0.3%; 560 people). The number of Muslims and Hindus had more than doubled though – to 360 and 230 residents respectively.

- The proportion reporting they have no religion increased from 13% to 23%, just slightly lower than the proportion nationally (25%).

<sup>^</sup> Note correction from earlier versions which under-reported the number of speakers of European languages in total.



## Homes and tenure

- 2,900 Herefordshire residents (1.9%) were living (for six months or more) in 297 **communal establishments** such as residential homes or halls of residence. The majority (60%) lived in care homes; slightly more without nursing (34%) than with (26%). The number of establishments increased by 86 from 2001, with 600 more residents.

**5.3%**

*vacancy rate:  
now higher than  
nationally*

- In addition to these communal establishments, the census recorded 82,500 residential dwellings in Herefordshire – 5,600 more than in 2001 (+7%). Within these dwellings were spaces for 82,700 households (some dwellings have space for more than one household), but 5.3% were vacant (including because they were second homes or holiday accommodation) – now a higher proportion than nationally (4.4%), and more than in 2001 (3.5%\* vs. 3.9% in E&W).

**82,700**  
household  
spaces

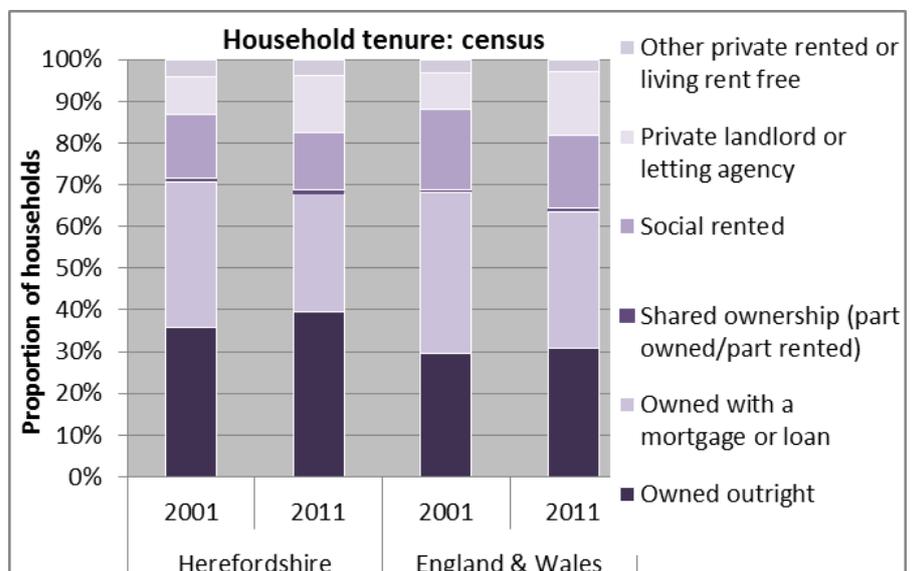
- The usually resident population not living in communal establishments made up 78,300\* households - i.e. one person living alone or a group of people (related or not) who share living accommodation). The average household size was 2.34 persons per household - slightly lower than nationally (2.40), and very similar to the average household size in the county in 2001 (2.35).

**78,300**  
households

- Although more than two-thirds of households were still owner occupied, there had been a substantial fall in those owned with a mortgage: from 35% in 2001 to 28%. Conversely, renting from a private landlord or letting agent was now far more common: 14% of households compared to 9% in 2001. Similar changes were seen nationally.

- Three thousand households (3.8%) didn't have any form of central heating in 2011 – amongst the highest 15% of rates nationally, although a much lower proportion than in 2001 (8.9%).

- The level of overcrowding had increased slightly, with 5.3% of households (4,100) deemed to have one fewer room than required based on the number and relationships of household members compared to 4.1% in 2001 – although still lower than nationally (8.5%).



*\* please note corrections from earlier version which had stated there were 79,800 households and the vacancy rate in 2001 was 2.6%. This was the proportion of household spaces that were completely vacant in 2001 – i.e. excluding those that were second homes or holiday accommodation so not comparable with the 2011 figure.*



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[www.herefordshire.gov.uk/census](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/census)



## Relationships and living arrangements

**52%** of adults are married

- Herefordshire adults were more likely to be living as a couple than nationally (63% vs. 58%) – particularly as a married couple. Co-habiting was more common than in 2001 (up from 9% to 12%).

- The majority (52%) of adults in the county were married – but this had fallen since 2001 (56%), whilst the proportion who were single (never married or in a civil partnership) had risen (from 24% to 28%).

- Almost 300 people in Herefordshire were living in a registered same-sex civil partnership - the same proportion of adults as nationally (0.2%).

**300**  
civil partnerships

**1 in 4**  
households have child(ren)

- The number of households with dependent children was the same as in 2001: 20,700; just over a quarter of households. There were now 7,400 households with grown-up children living at home – an 11% increase (although as a proportion of all households this hadn't really changed).

- The proportion of lone parent households had stayed fairly steady, but the number had increased by 10% to 6,700. Lone parents were more likely to be males in Herefordshire than elsewhere (just outside the top ten local authority districts), although were still a minority (12.5%).

**1 in 8** lone parents are male

**1 in 7**  
adults live alone

- There had been little change in the proportion of single-person households over the decade, with 15% of adults living alone. Across the county, there were now 11,200 pensioners (aged 65+) living alone – 700 more than in 2001 (+7%). This equated to three in every ten pensioners.



## Health and care

**19%** have a limiting long-term illness or disability

- 37,400 people (19%) said that they had some form of limiting long-term health problem or disability – a similar proportion to 2001 (18%), and similar to nationally (18%).

- Self-reported general health levels were similar to the national picture, with almost half of all residents (46%) in very good health and only 5% in bad or very bad health.

- Just over 3,000 more people said they looked after or gave help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of long-term ill-health or disability or problems related to old age in 2011: 20,700 people were providing at least an hour of unpaid care a week. This represented 11% of the population – just slightly higher than nationally (10%), although Herefordshire residents were no more likely to be providing higher amounts of care than across the country generally. The number providing 50+ hours a week had increased by 1,000 from 2001.

**4,300**  
people provide unpaid care for 50+ hours a week





## Working

- Economic activity rates had increased slightly since 2001 and remained slightly above the national rate: 71% of Herefordshire residents aged 16-74 were either working or seeking work in the week before the census (up from 68%).
- Part-time working had increased slightly (15% of all 16-74 year-olds, up from 14%), but was no longer notably higher than nationally since rates had increased elsewhere (see map of the change across the country [here](#)).
- The rate of self-employment in Herefordshire (14% of all 16-74 year-olds) was amongst the highest 10% of local authorities across England and Wales (the national rate was 10%). The rate had grown slightly both nationally and locally since 2001.
- Herefordshire's working residents were more likely than those across the country as a whole to work in agriculture, forestry and fishing (5% vs. 1% - the 11<sup>th</sup> highest rate in the country) and manufacturing (13% vs. 9% - amongst the highest 20%). They were *less* likely to be employed in financial and insurance activities (2% vs. 4%); information and communication (2% vs. 4%); and transport and storage (3% vs. 5%).
- Just fewer than 1,200 usual residents of Herefordshire were employed in the Armed Forces; all but 50 living in private households.

**1 in 7**

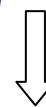
self-employed:  
one of highest  
rates in country

**11<sup>th</sup> highest**

rate of employment in  
agriculture in England  
& Wales (5.4%)

**16%** work in skilled  
trades: one of highest  
rates in England & Wales

- A relatively high proportion of residents worked in skilled trade occupations (16% - amongst the highest 10% of local authorities in the country), but a relatively *low* proportion worked in administrative and secretarial or professional occupations (10% and 15% respectively - both amongst the lowest 15% in the country).
- Levels of qualifications were almost identical to the national picture. More than a quarter (27%) of adults (16+) had at least a degree, although more than a fifth (22%) had no formal qualifications at all. In total, just over a third (36%) did not have the equivalent of five GCSEs grades A\*-C (defined as Level 2 qualifications).
- The proportion of households with no adults in employment and dependent children fell slightly from 2001 both nationally and locally, and remained lower in Herefordshire than across England and Wales (2.7% compared to 4.2%). In absolute terms, this equated to 2,100 households in 2011 - a fall of almost 400.



**400** fewer  
workless households  
with dependent  
children than in 2001

**2 in 3**

lone parents  
in employment

- Lone parents were more likely to be employed than not (34% not employed) – and less likely to be out of work than nationally (41%). They were more likely to be employed part-time (39%) than full-time (27%).





## Transport & travel

**12%** of households have 3+ cars

- Herefordshire households were less likely to not have a car or van than nationally (16% vs. 26%), although this was only just in the top third of local authorities across the country. Both nationally and locally, the proportions of households with no car/van and just one car/van fell from 2001, whilst the proportions with more increased. Households in the county were some of the most likely to have three or more cars (12% - amongst the top 20% of all LAs).
- The number of cars in the county increased by 14,700 (+15%) in the 10 years between censuses, a similar rate of growth to the national picture. In 2011 there were more than 111,800 cars in the county.
- \* The number of people working at or from home increased disproportionately to the number of workers, up by a quarter over the decade to 15,600. At 17% of workers, Herefordshire has a relatively higher rate of home-based working; the rate for England was 11%.
  - Of those that travelled to work, three quarters still either drove or were a passenger in a car or van, and the proportion driving increased slightly (70%\* - up from 68%). More people walked than in 2001 (15%, up slightly from 14%), and this remained more common than nationally (11%). Two hundred\* fewer people cycled than in 2001 (4% of commuters), and the number using a bus / minibus or coach fell by nine hundred\* – more than a third (to 2% of commuters). Information on how far, and where, people travel to work is scheduled for later publication by the Office for National Statistics.

**3 in 4**

commute by car or van

*\* please note corrections from earlier versions which stated that the number of people working at or from home had gone down; that 69% drove; 100 fewer cycled and 800 fewer used a bus. Changes to the way that answers to this question were coded between 2001 and 2011 meant that these original statements were not based on a like-for-like comparison.*

## Where to find out more

Results for Herefordshire can be found on the [Facts & Figures about Herefordshire](#) website, as can links to the ONS website for further analysis and raw data.

For any queries about the Herefordshire census results, contact the Research Team on 01432 261944 or [researchteam@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:researchteam@herefordshire.gov.uk).

If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format or language, please call the Research Team or e-mail [researchteam@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:researchteam@herefordshire.gov.uk).

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