

POPULATION DATA TO SUPPORT HEREFORDSHIRE'S RESPONSE TO THE UKRAINE CONFLICT

Version 1.0

Herefordshire Council Intelligence Unit

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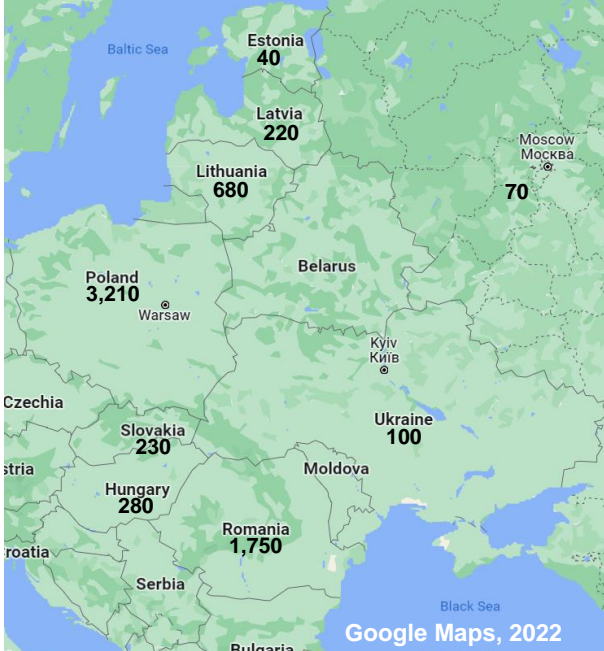
Migration from Eastern Europe – particularly Poland - has played an important role in Herefordshire's population growth since the expansion of the European Union in 2004. There were 12,250 people who were born outside the UK living in Herefordshire in the 2011 Census, over half of whom had arrived after 2004. Several thousand seasonal workers travel to the county's farms each summer, many of whom return year after year.

There isn't a single robust and up-to-date source of information on the local population from this part of the world. This document summarises what we do know using relevant data on ethnicity, identity and language.

There were 100 people born in Ukraine living in Herefordshire in March 2021, and almost 6,500 from neighbouring or relevant countries.

The Office for National Statistics have recently published [preliminary counts from the 2021 Census](#) to help planning of the local and national emergency response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

The table shows the number of people living in Herefordshire recorded in the 2021 Census who were born in Ukraine or neighbouring or relevant countries: a total of 6,600, most (49%) of whom are from Poland, followed by (27%) from Romania. The other columns include data from other local sources to provide further insight.



Country	2021 Census	Registered to vote in 2020	First language of child (School Census 2020)
Hfds total	193,600	150,200	23,640
Total	6,600	4,770	1,390
Poland	3,210	2,620	850
Romania	1,750	950	180
Lithuania	680	550	140
Hungary	280	240	60
Slovakia	230	190	40
Latvia	220	190	40
Ukraine	100	0	10
Russia	70	0	70
Estonia	40	30	0
Belarus	0	0	0
Moldova	0	0	0

Note that Figures are rounded to the nearest 10

Around 0.3% of all people born in these countries who are now living in England and Wales are living in Herefordshire – which falls within the top 30% of all 331 local authorities in England and Wales (ranked in order from the highest to lowest proportion).

Note that these figures have not yet been through all of the ONS' census processing and quality assurance. The final census estimates will change. It should be noted, that for some people, their country of birth is not necessarily the same as their nationality or national identity. Furthermore, these figures may exclude children who were born in the UK to nationals of these countries. According to the School Census, the first language of around 1,400 (6%) school children is Ukrainian or of a neighbouring or relevant country. Most (61%) of whom speak Polish, followed by Romanian (13%) and Lithuanian (10%).

Farms expect to employ an additional several hundred seasonal workers from Ukraine's neighbours this summer

Herefordshire's farms rely on seasonal workers from this part of the world with the majority who come from Bulgaria and Romania. The remaining workers largely come from non-EU countries, including Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Barbados and Nepal.

It is likely that Polish people still make up the largest non UK-born group in Herefordshire, but the Romanian population has grown substantially in the last decade

All of the data on ethnicity, country of birth and language from 2011 indicated that people from Poland and Lithuania made up the largest non UK-born groups in Herefordshire. The preliminary 2021 data combined with local administrative data suggests that people from Romania are likely to make up the second biggest group, after Poland.

According to the 2011 Census:

- 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.
- 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 to 2011. This proportion was amongst the highest third across all authorities in the country. Just over five thousand residents in 2011 (2.8%) were born in countries that joined the EU after 2004 (which includes all of Ukraine's neighbours, except for Russia, Belarus and Moldova) - over half (3,000) from Poland.
- There were 6,600 people (aged 3+) whose main language was not English. Polish was the first language of 44% of them, followed by 8% Lithuanian. At that time, Romanian was the first language of only 2%.



References: relevant sources of data

Preliminary counts of country of birth by local authority data from the 2021 Census - [CT21_0001 - Selected countries of birth based on Census 2021 responses](#). Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright Reserved.

Census 2011 table ([QS203EW - Country of birth \(detailed\)](#)) Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright Reserved.

Census 2011 table ([QS204EW-Main language \(detailed\)](#)) Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright Reserved.

2020 Electoral Register data on nationals registered to vote in Herefordshire (only includes those aged 16+, although voting age is 18+, it is possible to register at 16).

School Census, Spring 2020. Herefordshire Council.

[Seasonal workers from overseas on farms in Herefordshire 2021 \(Farm Survey\)](#). Herefordshire Council's Intelligence Unit, May 2021.

Preliminary data from Seasonal workers from overseas on farms in Herefordshire 2022 (Farm Survey). Herefordshire Council's Intelligence Unit, unpublished.



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