

# 2001 Census of Population Briefing Note

## Oldham's Key Statistics

### Introduction

This briefing provides an introduction to the 2001 Census Key Statistics released by the Office for National Statistics on 13 February 2003. It presents key results, at Local Authority level, about Oldham's population, families, ethnicity, religion, health, economic activity, qualifications, housing and travel and transport. Results for Greater Manchester, the North West and England are also provided to allow comparisons to be made. A much more detailed analysis, providing comparisons with the 1991 Census where available, will be produced in the near future.

### Population

The population of Oldham has fallen by 0.6% since 1991, whilst across England the population has increased by 2.6%. Females make up over half (51.7%) of Oldham's population, as is the case nationally. Oldham has a younger age structure than England, with under 16s making up 23% of the population in Oldham compared with 20.2% nationally. People aged 75 and over make up 6.8% of Oldham's population compared with 7.5% of England's population.

**Table 1: Population**

<b>Population</b>	<b>Oldham no.</b>	<b>Oldham %</b>	<b>Greater Manchester %</b>	<b>North West %</b>	<b>England %</b>
Total	217273				
Change since 1991	-1200	-0.6	-2.9	-1.7	2.6
Males	105036	48.3	48.7	48.4	48.7
Females	112237	51.7	51.3	51.6	51.3
People aged 0 to 15	49992	23.0	21.2	20.7	20.2
People aged 16 to 74	152602	70.2	71.8	71.9	72.3
People aged 75 & over	14679	6.8	7.0	7.4	7.5

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

## People and families

Oldham has a lower proportion of single (never married) adults (28%) than England (30%) and Greater Manchester (32%). Just over half of those aged 16 and over in Oldham are married or remarried people (51%), in line with the national average. However, a relatively high proportion of people in Oldham are separated or divorced (11.8%), compared with 10.6% in England, with Oldham ranking 53<sup>rd</sup> out of 376 Local Authorities in England and Wales. There is a higher proportion of widowed people (9.1%) in Oldham compared with England (8.3%).

**Table 2: Marital status (all people aged 16 and over)**

Marital status	Oldham no.	Oldham %	Greater Manchester	North West	England
Single people (never married)	46884	28%	32.2%	30.1%	30.2%
Married or re-married people	85496	51.1%	47.6%	49.8%	50.9%
Separated or divorced	19713	11.8%	11.3%	11%	10.6%
Widowed	15188	9.1%	8.8%	9%	8.3%

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

In Oldham the proportion of lone parent households with dependent children (8.3%) is higher than in England (6.4%) with Oldham ranking 37<sup>th</sup> out of 376 Local Authorities across England and Wales. A further 3.2% of households in Oldham are lone parent households with non-dependent children only. This figure, along with the proportions of one person (29.5%), married couple (36.8%), and cohabiting couple (8.9%) households in Oldham are in line with averages for England (3%, 30.1%, 36.5% and 8.3% respectively).

**Table 3: Composition (all households)**

Composition	Oldham no.	Oldham %	Greater Manchester	North West	England
One person households	25918	29.5%	32%	30.9%	30.1%
Married couple households	32325	36.8%	34.2%	35.9%	36.5%
Cohabiting couple households	7820	8.9%	8.6%	7.9%	8.3%
Lone parent households:					
-with dependent children	7271	8.3%	8%	7.7%	6.4%
-with non-dependent children only	2851	3.2%	3.5%	3.5%	3%
All other households	11639	13.3%	13.6%	14.2%	15.6%

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

## Ethnicity and religion

The proportion of white people in Oldham (86.1%) is lower than in England (90.9%). The largest minority ethnic group in Oldham is Pakistani (6.3%), followed by Bangladeshi (4.5%), both groups making up a higher proportion of Oldham's population than nationally (1.4% and 0.6% respectively). By contrast Indian people (0.7%) and black people (0.6%) make up a lower proportion of Oldham's population than is the case across England (2.1% and 2.3% respectively). In Oldham 1.1% of the population are of mixed origin compared with 1.3% in England. The size of Oldham's minority ethnic population has increased from 8.8% in 1991 to 13.9% in 2001. It should be noted that the results from the 2001 Census are not strictly comparable with those from the 1991 Census because classifications have changed, particularly with the introduction of the mixed origin category.

**Table 4: Ethnic group**

<b>Ethnic group</b>	<b>Oldham</b>	<b>Oldham %</b>	<b>England %</b>
<b>All people</b>	217,273		
<b>White</b>			
British	183,297	84.4	87.0
Irish	1,962	0.9	1.3
Other White	1,903	0.9	2.7
	<b>187,162</b>	<b>86.1</b>	<b>90.9</b>
<b>Mixed</b>			
White and Black Caribbean	1,287	0.6	0.5
White and Black African	187	0.1	0.2
White and Asian	686	0.3	0.4
Other Mixed	291	0.1	0.3
	<b>2,451</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>
<b>Asian or Asian British</b>			
Indian	1,562	0.7	2.1
Pakistani	13,754	6.3	1.4
Bangladeshi	9,817	4.5	0.6
Other Asian	674	0.3	0.5
	<b>25,807</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Black or Black British</b>			
Caribbean	931	0.4	1.1
African	182	0.1	1.0
Other Black	122	0.1	0.2
	<b>1,235</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Chinese or other ethnic group</b>			
Chinese	408	0.2	0.4
Other Ethnic Group	210	0.1	0.4
	<b>618</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

The 2001 Census findings closely match OMBC's Population Projections for 2001 which projected a population of 86.8% white, 6.7% Pakistani, 4.4% Bangladeshi, 0.9% black, 0.7% Indian and 0.5% 'Other'.

A higher proportion of Oldham's population (91.8%) were born in the UK than of England's population (90.7%). The same proportion of Oldham's population (6.9%) as England's population were born outside the European Union.

**Table 5: Place of birth (all people)**

Place of birth	Oldham no.	Oldham % Manchester	Greater Manchester	North West	England
Born in UK	199546	91.8%	92.8%	94.9%	90.7%
Born elsewhere in EU (inc Rep Ireland)	2727	1.3%	2.1%	1.6%	2.3%
Born outside EU	15000	6.9%	5.2%	3.5%	6.9%

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

The 2001 Census was the first to ask a question on religion. The question was voluntary and 6.5% of people in Oldham did not state their religion, compared with 7.7% in England. The proportion of people stating their religion as Christian in Oldham (72.6%) was slightly higher than the figure for England (71.7%). After Christians, Muslims made up the second largest religious group in Oldham (11.1%) and in England (3.1%), with Oldham ranking 16<sup>th</sup> out of 376 Local Authorities in relation to the proportion of Muslims. Hindus made up 0.6% of Oldham's population. In Oldham 8.9% of people stated they had no religion, compared with 14.6% of people in England.

**Table 6: Religion (all people)**

Religion	Oldham no.	Oldham % Manchester	Greater Manchester	North West	England
Christian	157793	72.6%	74.1%	78%	71.7%
Buddhist	241	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
Hindu	1333	0.6%	0.7%	0.4%	1.1%
Jewish	91	0%	0.9%	0.4%	0.5%
Muslim	24039	11.1%	5%	3%	3.1%
Sikh	67	0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.7%
Other	266	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
No religion	19375	8.9%	11.3%	10.5%	14.6%
Religion not stated	14068	6.5%	7.4%	7.2%	7.7%

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

## Health

People in Oldham are less healthy than nationally. One fifth (20.3%) of people in Oldham had a limiting long-term illness<sup>1</sup> compared with 17.9% of people in England. The proportion of people stating that their health was 'not good' was higher in Oldham (11.2%) than in England (9%), with Oldham ranking 60<sup>th</sup> out of 376 Local Authorities in England and Wales.

The 2001 Census was the first to ask a question about the provision of unpaid care.<sup>2</sup> The proportion of people providing unpaid care is higher in Oldham (10.8%) than nationally (9.9%), with 2.4% of people in Oldham providing care for 50 or more hours a week (2% nationally).

**Table 7: Health (all people)**

Health	Oldham no.	Oldham %	Greater Manchester	North West	England
Limiting long-term illness	44064	20.3%	20.4%	20.7%	17.9%
General health 'not good'	24410	11.2%	11.1%	11%	9%
People providing unpaid care	23556	10.8%	10.4%	10.8%	9.9%
Providing unpaid care 50 or more hrs/wk	5305	2.4%	2.3%	2.4%	2%

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

## Economic status

Of people aged 16 to 74 in Oldham, 59% are employed compared with 60.9% in England. A slightly higher proportion (3.7%) are unemployed in Oldham than in England (3.3%). However, in Oldham 7.7% of people aged 16 to 74 are permanently sick or disabled compared with 5.3% across England, with Oldham ranking 55<sup>th</sup> out of 376 Local Authorities in England and Wales. Oldham ranks 52<sup>nd</sup> in relation to the proportion of 'Other inactive' people, the figures being 3.8% compared with 3.1% in England.

The proportion of people aged 16 to 74 who are long-term unemployed (1%), retired (13%) or looking after home/family (6.7%) are all similar to the averages for England (1%, 13.5% and 6.5% respectively).

<sup>1</sup> Any long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits daily activities or work

<sup>2</sup> Looking after, giving help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of long-term physical or mental ill-health or disability or problems relating to old age

**Table 8: Economic status (all people aged 16-74)**

	Oldham no.	Oldham % Manchester	Greater Manchester	North West	England
<b>Economic status</b>					
Employed	90102	59%	58.2%	57.7%	60.9%
Unemployed	5632	3.7%	3.5%	3.6%	3.3%
Long-term unemployed	1599	1%	1.1%	1.1%	1%
Student (economically active)	3269	2.1%	2.6%	2.5%	2.6%
Retired	19869	13%	13.1%	14.3%	13.5%
Student (economically inactive)	6027	3.9%	5.1%	4.6%	4.7%
Looking after home/family	10151	6.7%	6.1%	6.1%	6.5%
Permanently sick or disabled	11721	7.7%	7.8%	7.7%	5.3%
Other inactive	5831	3.8%	3.5%	3.3%	3.1%

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

In Oldham 6% of people aged 16 to 74 are students, compared with 7.3% in England. Almost four out of ten (37.7%) people aged 16 to 74 in Oldham have no qualifications compared with around three out of ten (28.9%) in England. Oldham ranks 34<sup>th</sup> out of 376 Local Authorities in England and Wales. Only around one in eight (12.9%) people in Oldham have qualifications at degree level or higher, compared with one in five (19.9%) in England.

**Table 9: Qualifications (people aged 16 to 74)**

Qualifications	Oldham no.	Oldham %	Greater Manchester %	North West %	England %
No qualifications	57,523	37.7	32.7	31.9	28.9
Highest qualification attained level 1*	26,719	17.5	16.6	16.7	16.6
Highest qualification attained level 2**	27,265	17.9	18.8	19.4	19.4
Highest qualification attained level 3***	9,301	6.1	7.9	7.8	8.3
Highest qualification attained level 4/5#	19,722	12.9	17.0	17.2	19.9
Other qualifications / level unknown	12,072	7.9	6.9	7.1	6.9

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

Notes: \* 1+ 'O' level passes; 1+ CSE/GCSE any grades; NVQ level 1; Foundation GNVQ.

\*\* 5+ 'O' level passes; 5+ CSEs (grade 1's); 5+ GCSEs (grades A-C); School Certificate; 1+ 'A' levels/'AS' levels; NVQ level 2; Intermediate GNVQ.

\*\*\* 2+ 'A' levels; 4+ AS levels; Higher School Certificate; NVQ level 3; Advanced GNVQ.

# First degree; Higher degree; NVQ levels 4 and 5; HNC; HND; Qualified Teacher Status; Qualified Medical Doctor; Qualified Dentist; Qualified Nurse; Midwife; Health Visitor.

## Housing

Population density is higher in Oldham (15.3 people per hectare) than in England (3.8), though lower than the average for Greater Manchester (19.5). Average household size (2.45) is also higher than the figure for England (2.36) and

Greater Manchester (2.35) and the North West (2.35). Oldham ranks 41<sup>st</sup> out of 376 Local Authorities in England and Wales in relation to household size. The proportion of vacant household spaces (3.9%) is higher than that for England (3.2%). The level of owner occupancy in Oldham (68.4%) is similar to the national level (68.7%).

**Table 10: Housing (all households)**

Housing	Oldham no.	Oldham % Manchester	Greater Manchester	North West	England
Number of households with residents	87824				
Number of people per hectare	15.3	15.3	19.5	4.8	3.8
Average household size	2.45	2.45	2.35	2.35	2.36
Vacant household spaces	3529	3.9%	4.6%	4.2%	3.2%
Owner-occupied	60090	68.4%	65.4%	69.3%	68.7%
Without central heating	6380	7.3%	8.5%	11.8%	8.5%
Without own bath/shower & toilet	208	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%
Overcrowding indicator	6403	7.3%	6.4%	5.4%	7.1%

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

The proportion of households without central heating (7.3%) and the proportion without their own bath/shower and toilet (0.2%) is lower in Oldham than across England (8.5% and 0.5% respectively). Oldham ranks 62<sup>nd</sup> out of 376 Local Authorities in relation to overcrowding, the figure being 7.3% in Oldham compared with 7.1% in England.

## Transport and travel

Low levels of car ownership are viewed as an indicator of deprivation. Over one third (34.4%) of all households in Oldham are without a car/van. This is considerably higher than the average for England which is just over one quarter (26.8%). Oldham ranks 47<sup>th</sup> out of 376 Local Authorities in England and Wales.

The proportion of households owning one car or van (43.6%) is almost the same as the average for England (43.7%). Just over one fifth (22.1%) of households in Oldham had two or more cars/vans, compared with three out of ten (29.5%) households in England.

Almost two thirds (65.4%) of employed people (aged 16 to 74) in Oldham travel to work by car. This is higher than the average for England of 61%. Conversely, a lower proportion (12.9%) travel to work by public transport in Oldham than nationally (14.9%).

**Table 11: Transport and travel**

	Oldham no.	Oldham %	Greater Manchester	North West	England
<b>Transport (all households)</b>					
Households without car/van	30189	34.4%	32.8%	30.2%	26.8%
Household with 1 car or van	38261	43.6%	43%	43.5%	43.7%
Household with 2 or more cars/vans	19374	22.1%	24.2%	26.3%	29.5%
<b>Travel to work</b> (all people aged 16-74 in employment)					
Travel to work by car	60662	65.4%	65%	65.9%	61%
Travel to work by public transport	11922	12.9%	13.5%	11%	14.9%

Source: Key Statistics for Local Authorities, 2001 Census, © Crown Copyright 2003

**A more in-depth analysis of the Borough level 2001 Census Key Statistics for Oldham will be produced by the Inclusion and Research Team in the near future.**

**Further Briefings and Summary and in-depth topic Reports will be produced as more 2001 Census data is released. The next set of data, Key Statistics at ward level, is due to be released in March/April 03.**

**Further information on the 2001 Census can be found on the National Statistics website: [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk).**

**For further information: Inclusion and Research Team, Chief Executive's Department, 9115186 or 9113183**

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