

BRIEFING PAPER

2011 Census: Key statistics for Oldham

**Corporate Research and Intelligence Team,
Oldham Council**

14 December 2012



Oldham
Council

Introduction

This briefing presents 2011 Census Key Statistics for Oldham about ethnic group composition, religion, economic activity, qualifications, health, housing, transport and families, including comparisons with regional and national, and some comparisons with 2001 Census. Supplementary information about Oldham's population (already included in earlier briefings) is provided at the end of this briefing for reference.

More detailed analyses, including more comparisons with the 2001 Census, will be produced as soon as possible.

Summary

Key findings for Oldham are as follows:

- **Ethnic Minority** (non-white) population share increased from 13.9% (2001) to 22.5% (2011), a significantly greater change than nationally. Oldham has relatively large Pakistani (10.1%) and Bangladeshi (7.3%) populations, but other groups are proportionately smaller than nationally.
- Less than 2% of the population were **born in the EU** (excluding the UK and Ireland), a lot lower than the national average (3.7%). Oldham has over 1,000 Polish residents, but few residents from the rest of Eastern Europe, with smaller but significant numbers of residents born in Ireland, Germany and Italy. As well as having significant numbers of residents born in Pakistan and Bangladesh, smaller but still significant numbers of residents were born in India, Nigeria, Kenya, Zimbabwe, China and Hong Kong.
- The majority of residents are **Christian** (59.7%), markedly lower than in 2001 (72.6%). In 2011, 17.7% of residents were **Muslim**, and 16.1% had **No Religion**.
- Oldham has low rates of **employment** (58.3%), **full-time employment** (36.6%) and **self-employment** (7.8%), compared with England (62.1%, 38.6% and 9.8% respectively).
- Despite excellent improvements in school and college outcomes, the proportion of residents with degree-level **qualifications** (18.6%) has fallen further behind national rates (27.4%). The proportion of residents with no qualifications has dropped and the gap between Oldham and England has narrowed however we still have 29.6% with no qualifications.
- **Overcrowding** has increased slightly (7.5% of all households) since 2001 (7.3%).
- **Private rented** accommodation has doubled since 2001 to reach 12.2% in 2011, probably due to the increase in buy-to-let.
- **Health** indicators are still significantly poorer than for England.
- **Car ownership** is low, one third of residents do not own a car (or van). This may impact on service accessibility.
- The proportion of **lone parent households** is relatively high (13.1% of all households), and has increased since 2001 (11.5%).

Ethnicity and religion

The size of Oldham's non-white minority ethnic population has increased from 13.9% in 2001 to 22.5% in 2011, a significantly greater change than nationally.

The largest minority ethnic group in Oldham is Pakistani (10.1%) followed by Bangladeshi (7.3%), both groups making up a higher proportion of Oldham's population than nationally (2.1% and 0.8% respectively). By contrast Indian (0.7%), Black (1.2%) and mixed heritage (1.8%) groups are relatively under-represented in Oldham.

Table 1: Ethnic group

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
White	174,326	77.5	83.8	90.2	85.5
Pakistani	22,686	10.1	4.8	2.7	2.1
Bangladeshi	16,310	7.3	1.3	0.7	0.8
Indian	1,555	0.7	2	1.5	2.6
Black (African / Caribbean)	2,797	1.2	2.8	1.3	3.4
Mixed	4,057	1.8	2.3	1.6	2.2
Other ethnic groups	3,166	1.4	3.1	2.0	3.2
All Ethnic Minorities (non-white)	50,571	22.5	16.3	9.8	14.3

Source: ONS Census 2011 KS201

A higher proportion of Oldham's population (88.2%) were born in the UK than England-wide (86.2%). The proportion of Oldham's population (9.8%) born outside the European Union is similar to the England-wide proportion (9.4%), and higher than the proportions for the North West (5.5%) and Greater Manchester (8.6%).

Table 2a: Place of birth

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
UK	198,396	88.2	87.9	91.8	86.2
Ireland	1,211	0.5	1	0.7	0.7
Other EU countries (2001)	1,418	0.6	1	0.8	1.7
EU countries (since 2001)	1,781	0.8	1.4	1.2	2
Other countries	22,091	9.8	8.6	5.5	9.4

Source: ONS Census 2011 KS204

Table 2b shows more detailed information about country of birth. This shows the size of the Polish community (over 1,000 residents) in Oldham, but does not evidence further significant economic migrations from Eastern Europe. There are small but significant communities of German and Italian origin and of residents born in Ireland.

As well as having significant numbers of residents born in Pakistan and Bangladesh, smaller but still significant numbers of residents were born in India, China and Hong Kong.

Oldham has small but significant population groups from some African countries (especially Nigeria, Kenya and Zimbabwe), and from the Philippines and Jamaica, and these might indicate some language and other support needs.

Note that these tables (as produced nationally) do not include every country. (There may potentially be some other countries of birth with high population numbers.)

Table 2b: Country of Birth, selected countries

Only countries with over 100 residents are shown. In some cases continental or sub-continental figures are shown where this is thought to be helpful.

2001 EU Nations	
<i>Ireland</i>	1,211
<i>Germany</i>	535
<i>Italy</i>	235
<i>Portugal</i>	122
Post-2001 EU Nations	
<i>Poland</i>	1,045
<i>Lithuania</i>	101
Africa	
North Africa	110
Central and West Africa	610
<i>Nigeria</i>	237
South and East Africa	1,147
<i>Kenya</i>	217
<i>Zimbabwe</i>	290
<i>South Africa</i>	190
Middle East and Asia	
Middle East	486
<i>Iran</i>	148
Eastern Asia	484
<i>China</i>	249
<i>Hong Kong</i>	211
South Asia	17,306
<i>Pakistan</i>	9,430
<i>Bangladesh</i>	6,883
<i>India</i>	784
South-East Asia	573
<i>Philippines</i>	136
Americas	778
<i>USA</i>	139
<i>Jamaica</i>	192
Australasia	
<i>Australia</i>	110

Source: ONS Census 2011 QS203

Religion was first a question in the 2001 Census: the question is voluntary and 5.6% of people in Oldham did not state their religion.

Christians still form the majority of residents (59.7% - falling from 72.6% in 2001) in line with England as a whole. Muslims make up the second largest religious group (17.7%), well above England (5.0%), increased from 11.1% and 3.1% respectively in 2001, as would be expected given changes in ethnicity. In Oldham 16.1% of people stated they had no religion, compared with 24.7% of people in England (increasing from 8.9% and 14.6% respectively in 2001).

Table 3: Religion (all people)

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Christian	134,167	59.7	61.8	67.3	59.4
Buddhist	371	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.5
Hindu	1,233	0.5	0.9	0.5	1.5
Jewish	108	0	0.9	0.4	0.5
Muslim	39,879	17.7	8.7	5.1	5.0
Sikh	70	0	0.2	0.1	0.8
Other religion	406	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
No religion	36,169	16.1	20.8	19.8	24.7
Religion not stated	12,494	5.6	6.1	6.2	7.2

Source: ONS Census 2011 KS209

Employment and skills

(All figures in this section refer to residents aged 16-74)

Employment patterns in Oldham in Census 2011 are broadly in line with expectations from DWP (Department of Work and Pensions) figures, with low employment and high unemployment compared to national figures. The employment rate has fallen by 0.7 percentage points since 2001, whilst across England it has increased by 1.2 percentage points.

The proportion of people working part-time has increased since 2001 (from 11.6% to 13.9%), broadly in line with the England figures. There is notably less self-employment in Oldham (7.8%) than nationally (9.8%).

High proportions of residents are permanently sick or disabled (5.8%, England 4.0%) with Oldham ranking 48th out of 348 local authorities in England and Wales (with 1 being highest sickness/disability rates). Oldham also has a higher proportion of residents who look after home/family (5.7%) compared to the England average (4.4%).

Table 4: Economic status (all people aged 16-74)

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Employed	93,015	58.3	59.1	59.6	62.1
Employed Full-time	58,410	36.6	38.1	37.5	38.6
Employed Part-time	22,171	13.9	13.2	13.9	13.7
Self employed	12,434	7.8	7.8	8.2	9.8
Unemployed	8,661	5.4	5.0	4.7	4.4
Long-term unemployed	3,225	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.7
Student (economically active)	4,722	3.0	3.8	3.5	3.4
Retired	22,426	14.0	13.1	14.8	13.7
Student (economically inactive)	8,135	5.1	6.5	5.6	5.8
Looking after home/family	9,038	5.7	4.3	3.9	4.4
Permanently sick or disabled	9,209	5.8	5.8	5.6	4.0
Other inactive	4,559	2.9	2.4	2.2	2.2

Source: ONS Census 2011 table KS601

Attainment levels at Oldham schools have improved consistently and dramatically over the last 10 years. Census figures show, however, that while qualification levels have improved, there is still a large gap between Oldham and England figures. This inconsistency is likely to be a result of residents with higher levels of qualifications moving out of Oldham to live elsewhere.

Three in ten (29.6%) people aged 16 to 74 in Oldham have no qualifications, compared with around two in ten (22.5%) in England. The gap to England has decreased since 2001 (37.7% and 28.9% respectively).

Fewer than two in ten (18.6%) people in Oldham have qualifications at degree level or higher, compared with nearly three in ten (27.4%) in England. In 2001 these figures were 12.9% and 19.9% respectively. Whilst there have been significant improvements, Oldham has fallen further behind national rates.

Table 5: Qualifications (all people aged 16-74)

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
No qualifications	51,620	29.6	25.0	24.8	22.5
Highest qualification attained level 1*	25,251	14.6	13.7	13.6	13.3
Highest qualification attained level 2**	27,578	15.8	15.5	15.8	15.2
Highest qualification apprenticeship	7,325	4.2	3.6	3.9	3.6
Highest qualification attained level 3***	20,422	11.7	12.8	12.9	12.4
Highest qualification attained level 4+	32,458	18.6	24.3	24.4	27.4
Other qualifications	9,514	5.5	5.1	4.5	5.7

*Level 1: GCSE grade D-G, CSE or equivalent. Level 2, GCSE grade A-C or equivalent. Level 3, A level or equivalent. Level 4, Degree or equivalent.

Source: ONS Census 2011 table KS501

Housing

Population density is higher in Oldham (15.8 people per hectare) than in England (4.1), though lower than that for Greater Manchester (21). This has increased marginally since Census 2001 (15.3). Average household size (2.5) is also higher in Oldham than in England (2.4), Greater Manchester (2.3) and the North West (2.3). Oldham ranks 17th highest out of 348 local authorities in England and Wales in relation to household size.

The number of vacant household spaces has reduced by 207 since Census 2001 (-5.9%). The current proportion of vacant household spaces (3.6%) is lower than that for England (4.3%).

The number of owner occupied households in Oldham has dropped by 1,360 since 2001, but the proportion of owner-occupied households (64.9%) is still higher than comparators. This is likely to be due to the rapid increase in private rented accommodation, which has doubled since 2001: this in itself may be due to increased availability of buy-to-let accommodation.

The proportion of overcrowded households in Oldham (7.5%) is comparable with the proportion in the 2001 Census (7.3%). The current proportion is lower than the national (8.7%) and Greater Manchester (8.2%) levels. Oldham ranks 95th highest out of 348 local authorities in England and Wales in relation to overcrowding.

Table 6: Housing (all households)

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Number of households with residents	89,703	96.4	96.2	95.5	95.7
Number of people per hectare	15.8	15.8	21	5	4.1
Vacant household spaces	3,322	3.6	3.8	4.5	4.3
Owner-occupied	58,259	64.9	60.2	64.5	63.4
Private Rented	10,944	12.2	16.1	15.4	16.8
Without central heating	1,739	1.9	2.5	3.1	2.7
Overcrowding indicator	6,772	7.5	8.2	6.2	8.7
Average household size	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.4

Source: ONS Census 2011 – several KS tables

Health and carers

People in Oldham are less healthy than nationally. The health of 6.9% of Oldham residents was reported as 'bad' or 'very bad' compared with 5.4% across England.

One fifth (19.7%) of people in Oldham had a limiting long-term illness, health problem or disability compared with 17.6% of people in England.

The current proportion of people providing unpaid care in Oldham (10.8%) is unchanged since Census 2001 and is comparable to both the national (10.3%) and Greater Manchester (10.5%) levels. The number of people providing care for 50 hours or more has increased by 840 (15.8%).

Table 7: Health and unpaid care (all people)

	Oldham	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Limiting long-term illness	224,897	19.7	19.4	20.3	17.6
General health 'bad' or 'very bad'	15,606	6.9	6.7	6.8	5.4
People providing unpaid care	24,322	10.8	10.5	11.1	10.3
Providing unpaid care 50 or more hrs/week	6,145	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.4

Source: ONS Census 2011 table KS301

Transport

Nearly one third (31.2%) of all households in Oldham have no car/van, considerably higher than the England-wide proportion (25.8%). The proportion of households owning one car or van (42.9%) is almost the same as the average for England (42.2%). However, just over one quarter (26.0%) of households in Oldham have two or more cars/vans, compared with nearly a third (32.1%) households in England.

Table 8: Transport

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Households without car and van	27,954	31.2	30.6	28.0	25.8
Households with 1 car and van	38,521	42.9	42.7	42.5	42.2
Households with 2 or more cars and vans	23,228	26.0	26.8	29.5	32.1

Source: ONS Census 2011 table KS404

These low car ownership rates are positive in terms of reducing Oldham's impact on climate change however they do imply low levels of service accessibility for many residents.

People and families

A quarter of Oldham residents are single. More than half of those aged 16 and over in Oldham live as a couple (56.6%) either married, in a civil partnership or co-habiting, in line with the national average.

A relatively high proportion of people in Oldham (9.3%) are separated or divorced compared with England (8.6%), but in line with Greater Manchester (9.2%).

Since 2001, the proportion of single, separated and widowed adults has decreased in Oldham and in England.

Table 9: Living Arrangements (all people aged 16 and over)

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Living in a couple: Total	97,649	56.6	54.4	56.1	57.8
Living in a couple: Married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership	77,152	44.7	41.7	44.2	45.9
Living in a couple: Cohabiting	20,497	11.9	12.7	11.9	11.9
Not living in a couple: Total	75,086	43.4	45.5	44	42.2
Not living in a couple: Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	43,934	25.4	28.6	26.8	25.8
Not living in a couple: Married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership	3,168	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.5
Not living in a couple: Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)	4,676	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.1
Not living in a couple: Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	11,377	6.6	6.8	7	6.5
Not living in a couple: Widowed or surviving partner from same-sex civil partnership	11,931	6.9	6.3	6.8	6.3

Source: ONS Census 2011 KS104

The proportions of one person households (29.9%), married couple households (32.8%) and cohabiting households (10.1%) are broadly in line with the averages for England. The proportion of married couple households has decreased since 2001 whilst the proportion of cohabiting couple households has increased both in Oldham and nationally.

The proportion of lone parent households with dependent children in Oldham (9.1%) is significantly higher than in England (7.1%). A further 4.0% of households in Oldham are lone parent households with non-dependent children only, which is also higher than the England average (3.5%). Numbers of lone parents overall have risen by almost 2 percentage points since 2001, moving further ahead of national rates.

Table 10: Household composition (all households)

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
One person households	26,790	29.9	32.3	32.2	30.3
Married couple households*	29,481	32.8	30.3	31.7	33.2
Cohabiting couple households	9,158	10.1	10.6	9.7	9.8
Lone parent households:	11,762	13.1	12.6	12	10.6
with dependent children	8,148	9.1	8.6	8.1	7.1
with non-dependent children only	3,614	4	4	3.9	3.5
All other households	12,512	14	14.3	14.3	16.1

* Includes married or same sex civil partnerships

Source: ONS Census 2011 KS105

Population

Oldham's population has risen by 3.5% since 2001. This is lower than the rate of growth across the North West (4.8%) and considerably lower than the growth in the national population (7.9%).

There has been little change in the population structure by gender since Census 2001. Females continue to make up over half (51%) of Oldham's population, this is comparable to Greater Manchester, North West and national figures (50.6%, 50.9%, 50.8% respectively).

Oldham has a younger age structure than England, with under 16s making up 22.4% of the population in Oldham compared with 18.9% nationally. People aged 75 and over make up 6.5% of Oldham's population compared with 7.8% of England's population.

Table 11: Population

	Oldham (n)	Oldham (%)	GM (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Total	224,897				
Change since 2001	7,624	3.5	N/A	4.8	7.9
Males	110,155	49.0	49.4	49.1	49.2
Females	114,742	51.0	50.6	50.9	50.8
People aged 0-15	50,459	22.4	20.0	18.6	18.9
People aged 16-74	159,765	72.4	73.5	73.4	73.4
People aged 75 and over	14,673	6.5	6.6	7.7	7.8

Source: ONS Census 2011 table KS101/2

Future briefings

Briefings containing more detailed analyses- including more comparisons with the 2001 Census where appropriate- will be produced as soon as possible. ONS will be releasing Key Statistics data for wards and lower levels of geography on 30 January 2013, and more detailed outputs from March to June 2013. Further briefings and thematic reports for Oldham will be produced as Census outputs become available.

Further information

For further information on what the 2011 census tells us about Oldham, email bis@oldham.gov.uk, or see http://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200632/profile_of_oldham/1588/research_and_statistics_about_oldham