



## 2011 Census: Population

### About this 2011 Census Digest

The Second Release of 2011 Census Results by Office for National Statistics were released on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012. This release contained the complete set of Key Statistics tables and selected Quick Statistics tables for higher level geographies, including Local Authorities.

The tables and charts below provide a summary of the resident population in Shropshire. Some of this information e.g. religion ethnicity are detailed more fully in other reports produced by the Intelligence and Research Team.

### Resident Population Change 2001 - 2011

Table 1 Population				
	2011	2001	Change	Percentage Change
Total residents	306,129	283,173	(22,956)	8.1%
Residents in households	298,183	274,747	(23,436)	8.5%
Residents in communal establishments	7,946	8426	(-480)	-6.0%
Students **	4905	4092	(813)	19.9%

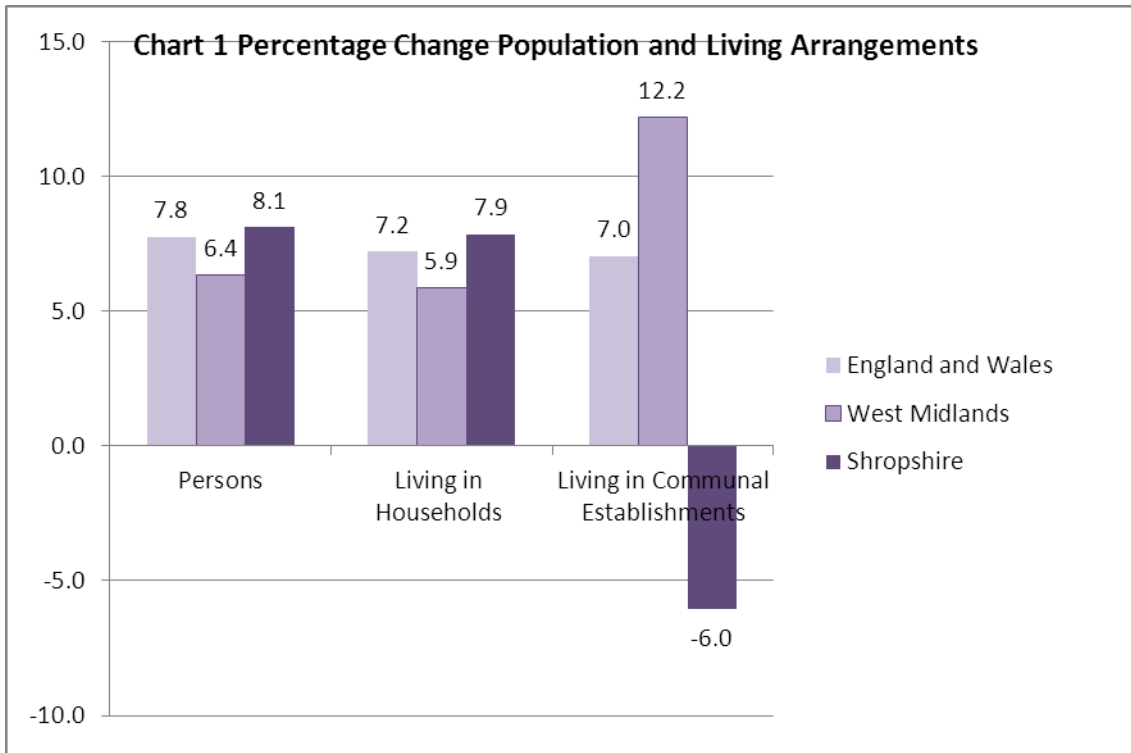
Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census, © Crown Copyright 2012

**\*\* Number of students away from home' is number of students and schoolchildren in full-time education who would reside in the area when they not living away from home in term-time.**

At the time of the 2011 Census there were 306,129 people living in Shropshire, this is an (8.1%) increase from 283,173 in 2001. This was a greater rise than expected. The mid-year population estimates 2010 estimated the population of Shropshire to be 293,400. Shropshire's growth in population can be attributed to migration of people moving into the county.

In total (97.4%) or 298,183 of the resident population lived in households. This is an increase of (8.5%), compared to 274,747 in 2001. There was also a (6.0%) fall in the number of people living in communal establishments. This represents (2.6%) of the population, a lesser proportion than (3.1%) in 2001.

The number of students living away from home in term time represents (1.6%) of the total population. Compared to (1.4%) in 2001. This has increased by (19.9%) since 2001.



The total population rise of (8.1%) has been greater in Shropshire compared to the West Midlands (6.4%) and (7.8%) in England and Wales. We will be able to explain this more clearly when further information releases follow from the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

The percentage increase in the number of people living in households, (7.9%), has been greater than a rise of (5.9%) in the West Midlands and (7.2%) nationally. In contrast Shropshire has seen a decline of (6%) in the number of people living in communal establishments, compared to a rise of (5.9%) in the region and (7.0%) nationally.

There are a variety of possible reasons why there has been a rise in the number of people living in households and a corresponding fall in the number living in communal establishments. Males are living longer which means that people are staying in couples longer. This may mean that couples are able to care for one another for longer in their own homes. People are living for longer and often have better health than in the past which allows them to live for longer in their own home. Social Services encourage the policy of enabling people to stay in their own homes by supporting adaptations, care packages and care equipment.

The number of people living in communal establishments is also affected by the movement of military personnel. Shropshire has 4 military bases the location of troops on census day can also affect the number of people recorded as living in communal establishments. This is a similar situation for the prison population at the time of the census.

\*a communal establishment is defined as establishment providing managed residential accommodation. Managed means full or part time. In most cases (for example, prisons, large hospitals, hotels) communal establishments can be easily identified.

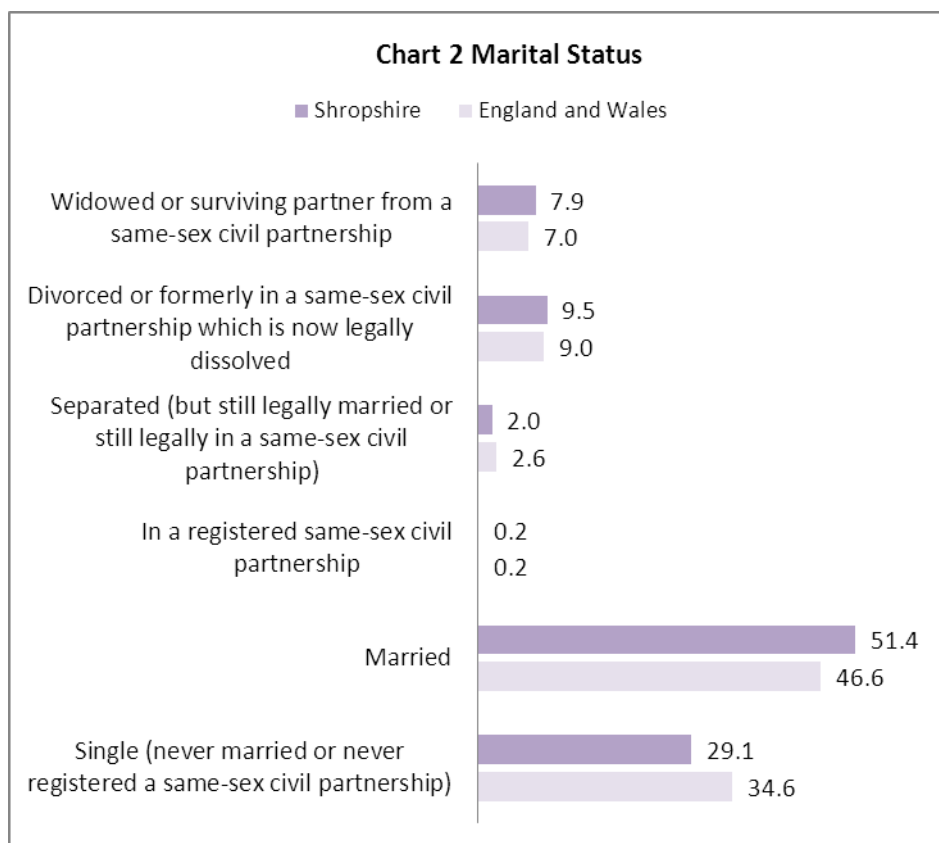
## Marital Status

Table 2	All categories: Marital and civil partnership status	Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	Married	In a registered same-sex civil partnership	Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)	Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership
<b>Shropshire</b>	252,979	73,492	129,928	436	5,105	24,122	19,896
West Midlands	45,496,780	15,730,275	21,196,684	104,942	1,195,882	4,099,330	330,293
England and Wales	4,507,405	1,517,613	2,141,698	7,242	117,396	393,163	3,169,667

\*All usual residents aged 16 and over

In Shropshire fewer people are single than the national average (29.1%) compared to (34.6%) nationally. There are more people married in the county (54.4%) compared to (46.6%) nationally. This can be explained by Shropshire having an older population. There a marginally more people widowed (7.9%) compared to (7.0%) nationally this could be due to the ageing population in Shropshire.

The divorce rate is similar to the national average (9.5%) compared to (9.0%) nationally. There were 436 (0.2%) people in same sex civil partnerships at the time of the 2011 Census. This is a new category for the 2011 Census reflecting the changes in the law and in society in the last decade.



<b>Table 3</b> <b>Shropshire Percentage Change since the 2001 Census</b>	<b>% change</b>
Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	24.4
Married	1.5
In a registered same-sex civil partnership	no data
Separated or divorced (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)	31.7
Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership	-0.2

Since 2001 the number of people divorced or separated accounted for (9.7%) of the total population, similar to (9.5%) in 2011. The number of people divorced or separated has risen by (31.7%) from 22,188 in 2001 to 29,227 in 2011. This shows that there has been no real rise in the divorce rate.

The most notable change is the rise in the number of single people since 2001. At the time of the last Census single people represented (25.1%) of the population compared to (29.6%) of the population in 2011. The number of single people has risen by (24.4%) from 59,062 in 2001 to 73,492 in 2011.

## Living Arrangements

<b>Table 4</b>	All People aged 16 and over in households	Living in a couple: Married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership	Living in a couple: Cohabiting	Not living in a couple: Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	Not living in a couple: Married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership	Not living in a couple: Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)	Not living in a couple: Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	Not living in a couple: Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership
<b>Shropshire</b>	245,878	126,812	29,677	49,919	2,248	3,862	16,100	17,260
West Midlands	4,418,309	2,065,043	505,264	1,118,430	61,788	92,948	279,550	295,286
England and Wales	44,533,150	20,429,310	5,310,090	11,475,890	640,114	941,885	2,922,463	2,813,398

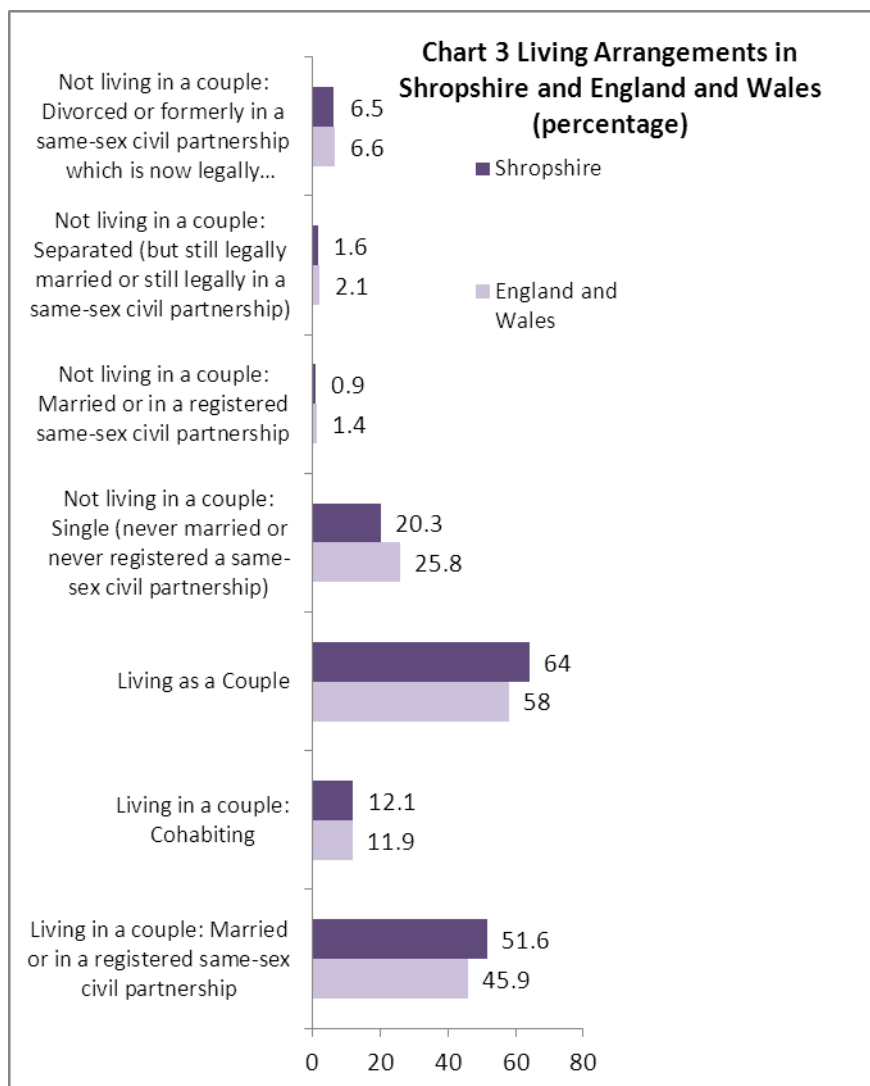
The results for living arrangements are produced using data from the questions on marital status and the relationship matrix. This means that a person living as part of a cohabiting couple could in fact be married (to someone else) but will not appear as married or separated in this classification.

The results for Shropshire show that (64%) of people live in a couple and (81%) of people living in a couple are married or in a same sex civil partnership and 12.0% of people are co-habiting. In England and Wales there are less people living as couples (58%) of which (79.3%) are married. This figure is slightly less in the West Midlands where (58%) of people were living in a couple, (80.3%) of these were married

The most significant difference nearly (6%) between Shropshire and England and Wales is people who are married and living in a couple. Shropshire has a higher number of people who are married or in a registered same sex civil partnership (51.6%) compared to (45.9%) in England and Wales. This means that the institution of marriage is stronger in Shropshire than in England and Wales. The percentage of people who are married has reduced in Shropshire from (56.8%) in 2001.

Shropshire has fewer people (20.3%) compared to (25.8%) nationally who are not living in a couple and single or never married or registered into a same sex civil partnership. This has risen in Shropshire and nationally since 2001 from (18.6%) and (23.0%). This means there is a growth in the number of people living alone and single person households.

Interestingly Shropshire has a higher proportion of people living as a couple but not cohabiting (64%) compared to (58%) nationally. This could mean that more people are choosing or having to live apart due to work, family or financial circumstances even though they are a couple.



## Density

The population density of Shropshire has risen from 0.88 people per hectare in 2001 to 0.96 in 2011. Shropshire remains one of the least dense populations in England and Wales and far lower than average levels regionally and nationally. Shropshire is the 6<sup>th</sup> most sparsely populated County in England, with Northumberland being the lowest at 0.6.

## Population by Sex and Age

Table 5 Age group Shropshire	Numbers 2011			Percentage of total population	
	Males	Females	Total	2011	2001
0-4	8,009	7,689	15,698	5.1%	5.4%
5-14	16,942	16,605	33,547	11.0%	12.4%
15-19	10,035	8,916	18,951	6.2%	6.3%
20-29	17,226	15,012	32,238	10.5%	10.0%
30-44	27,799	27,559	55,358	18.1%	21.2%
45-59	32,237	32,501	64,738	21.1%	20.9%
60-64	10,798	11,502	22,300	7.3%	5.7%
65-74	16,541	17,671	34,212	11.2%	9.6%
75-84	9,288	11,392	20,680	6.8%	6.3%
85+	2,731	5,676	8,407	2.7%	2.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>151,606</b>	<b>154,523</b>	<b>306,129</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

In Shropshire 49.5% of the population were male and 50.5% were female.

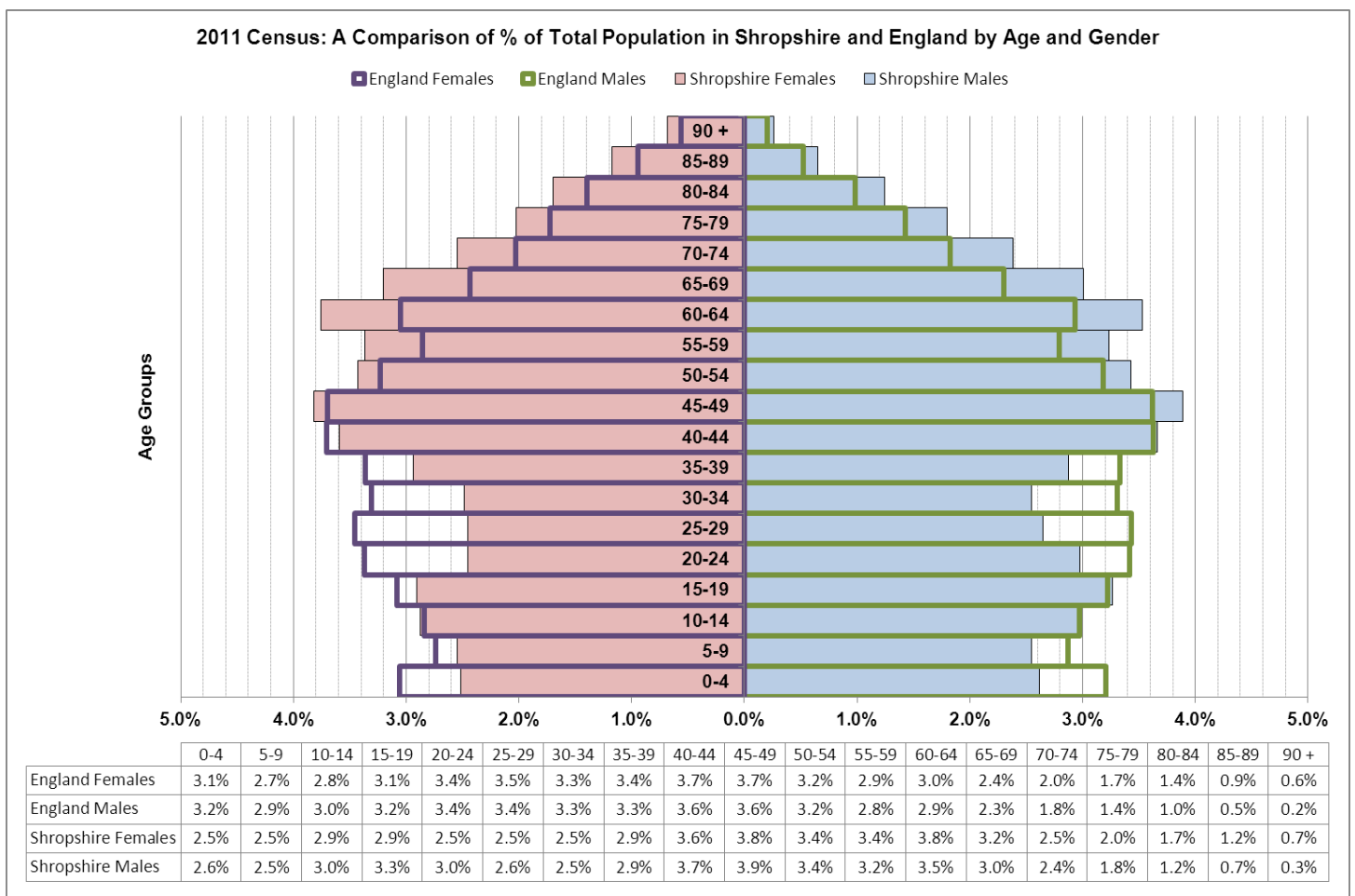
The 45-59 age bands accounted for the largest proportion. All age bands aged 45 and over saw a proportional increase compared to 2001, whereas age bands younger than this saw proportions remain about the same or fall. This indicates how the overall population is getting older. There are double the number of females than males aged 85 and over in Shropshire.

The median age in Shropshire was 44 in 2011 compared to 39 in the region and nationally. This has risen since 2001 from 41 years.

Table 6 Age group England and Wales	Percentage of total population	
	2011	2001
0-4	6.0%	5.9%
5-14	11.4%	12.9%
15-19	7.0%	6.0%
20-29	13.9%	12.6%
30-44	20.8%	22.5%
45-59	19.5%	18.9%
60-64	6.0%	4.9%
65-74	8.5%	8.4%
75-84	4.9%	5.6%
85+	1.5%	1.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Age group West Midlands	Percentage of total population	
	2011	2001
0-4	6.3%	6.1%
5-14	11.9%	13.4%
15-19	6.6%	6.5%
20-29	13.0%	12.1%
30-44	19.8%	21.9%
45-59	19.2%	19.1%
60-64	6.0%	5.1%
65-74	9.0%	8.5%
75-84	5.7%	5.6%
85+	2.2%	1.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Chart 5



The 45-59 age bands accounted for the largest proportion of the population 64,800 people or (21.1%) of the total population. The overall largest age band was 45-49 with 23,600 people accounting for (7.7%) of the total population. This age group were born in the 'baby boom' of the 1960's. The improvement in family planning contributed to reduced birth rates from the 1970's. It is worth considering that this population will retire in the next 10 – 15 years placing increased demands on resources.

All age bands aged 45 and over saw a proportional increase compared to 2001, whereas age bands younger than this saw proportions remain about the same or fall. This indicates how the overall population is getting older. There are double the number of females than males aged 85 and over in Shropshire, illustrated in the population pyramid above.

The median age in Shropshire was 44 in 2011 compared to 39 in the region and nationally. This has risen since 2001 from 41 years. This ageing population will create challenges in resource and service provision now and increasingly in future years.

### **Retirement Age and Over**

The number of people aged 65 years and over in Shropshire accounts for (20.6%) of the total population, greater than (16.4%) nationally. Since 2001 the proportion of 65 years and over has risen noticeably from 18.1%.

Shropshire has a greater number of older people aged 85 plus, (2.7%) compared to (1.5%) nationally and (2.2%) in regionally. This figure has risen since 2001 when the proportion was (2.2%). If Shropshire's population were to match the national average there would be around 13,500 fewer people of retirement age within the County.

### **Children**

The number of children aged 0-4 years in Shropshire was 15,698 or (5.1%) of the total population. This is less than regionally and nationally where the proportions were (6.3%) and (6.0%). The proportion of children aged 0-4 has fallen slightly since 2001 when the proportion was 5.4%. Nationally and in Shropshire there has been a long term decline in birth rates. This appeared to increase in 2010 but it is yet to be seen if this is the start of a long term trend.

In Shropshire the 0-14 year age group accounts for (16.1%), 49,200 of the total population. This is significantly less compared to regional and national proportions of (18.2%) and (17.4%). This proportion has fallen slightly since 2001 when (17.8%) of the population were aged 0-14 years. If Shropshire's resident population were to match the age structure of England and Wales there would be an around 5,000 additional 0-14 year olds in the county.

### **Other**

In comparison to England, Shropshire has a noticeably smaller percentage of population aged 0-9 years and 20-29 years. The smaller percentage of 20-29 year olds is likely to reflect young people seeking higher education and employment opportunities outside of Shropshire. The percentage of 10-19 year olds in the county is broadly similar to England, although there are fewer females in the 15-19 age group (2.9%) compared to England (3.1%).

## **Migration**

In 2011 more people were born in the UK (95.3%) compared to nationally (86.6%). It is interesting to compare Shropshire to some other more diverse parts of the UK, for example Tower Hamlets where just (56.9%) of the population are UK born.

In total, 14,387 people living in Shropshire, at the time of the 2011 Census, were born outside of the UK. The majority of these people had arrived in the UK between the ages of 0-4 years, 3,357 or (23.3%) of the total number of people born outside the UK. In total 5784 or (40%) of arrivals come to the UK before the age of 14. A large number of arrivals, 6182 or (43.0%) arrived in the UK between the ages of 20 and 44.

Table 8 shows how long migrants have been in the country. The majority of migrants living in Shropshire, 7622 or (2.5%) had been resident in the UK for 10 years or more. There was a sizeable number, 4545 (1.5%) who had been resident in the UK for 2 years but less than 10 years. This number would include the migrants from the new EU accession states.



Table 8 Migration		
	Number	Percentage
All categories: Length of residence in the UK	306129	XXX
Born in the UK	291742	95.3%
Resident in UK: Less than 2 years	2220	0.7%
Resident in UK: 2 years or more but less than 10 years	4545	1.5%
Resident in UK: 10 years or more	7622	2.5%

**Length of residence in the UK** - The length of residence in the UK is derived from the date that a person last arrived to live in the UK. Short visits away from the UK are not counted in determining the date that a person last arrived. Length of residence is only applicable to usual residents who were not born in the UK. It does not include usual residents born in the UK who have emigrated and since returned - these are recorded in the category 'Born in the UK'.

All categories: Year of arrival in the UK	306,129	XXX
Born in the UK	291,742	95.3%
Arrived: Prior to 1981	4,546	1.5%
Arrived: Between 1981 but before 2001	2,979	1%
Arrived: Between 2001 up until 2011	6,862	2.2%

## Country of birth

In Shropshire (87.9%) of the population were born in England and (5.7%) were born in Wales. Since the 2001 Census this had slightly fallen from 89.2%. As is the case nationally there has been a slight rise in the number of people born in other EU countries from (0.7%) in 2001 to (0.9%) in 2011. There has also been a rise in the number of people born in other countries outside the EU from (1.7%) to (2.3%).

Table 9 All categories: Country of birth	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	United Kingdom not otherwise specified	Ireland	Other EU: Member countries in March 2001	Other EU: Accession countries April 2001 to March 2011	Other countries
Shropshire	306,129	268,958	1,330	3,828	17,598	28	1,200	2,819	3,188
Shropshire %	87.9	0.4	1.3	5.7	0.0	0.4	0.9	1.0	2.3

## Population Characteristics

There are separate information sheets on ethnicity, religion and health available which provide more in depth analysis.

## Ethnicity

In 2011 (98%) of the population in Shropshire were classed as white, slightly less than (98.8%) in 2001. There is a separate information sheet on ethnicity which provides more in depth analysis.

## Religion

In 2011 (68.7%) of the population in Shropshire described their religion as Christian. The second largest response was people describing themselves as having no religion. There is a separate information sheet about religion which provides more in depth analysis.

## Health

In 2011 (18.6%) of the population described themselves as having a limiting long term illness. In total (35%) of people thought their health was good, (13.5%) fairly good and (5.0%) bad/very bad. There is a Separate information sheet on health which provides more in depth analysis.

If you require any further information, or have any other research requests, please contact:

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