

Central Bedfordshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

Chapter 1 - Demographics

Contents

- 1.1 Population
- 1.2 Ethnicity
- 1.3 Life Expectancy
- 1.4 Healthy Life Expectancy
- 1.5 Population Density

Appendix

Key Points

Geographical Disparity

Growth is spread out across Central Bedfordshire with Northhill ward having the oldest median age of 51 years with slow growth of 2.3%. Conversely Biggleswade North ward shows the greatest growth of 44.3% with a lower median age of 36 years. Cranfield and Marston Moretaine ward has the lowest median age of 34 years and growth of 33.1% over the last ten years.

Service Pressure for under 16s & over 65 years old

Under 16s now account for 20% of the Central Bedfordshire population, and 17.9% over 65s. Central Bedfordshire's dependency ratio has maintained the same level since previous year with 0.58 dependents : 1 working age adults in 2020 (England 0.58). There are estimated to be 16,400 additional over 60s by 2031.

Drivers of Growth

Central Bedfordshire's internal and international migration has been net positive over the last 10 years. Central Bedfordshire is attracting people both from other parts of the United Kingdom (UK) and internationally. On average, this is 2,505 per annum from the UK, and 707 internationally per annum over the last five years.

Overall, the population has grown by an annual average of 4,335 over the last five years.

Maps reproduced from Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. © Crown copyright and database rights 2022 Ordnance Survey 100049028. You are not permitted to copy, sub-license, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form.

Population

294,096

ONS mid year est 2020



Female

149,217

50.7%

(England 50.5%)



Male

144,879

49.3%

(England 49.5%)

1. Under 5s

18,161

6.2%

(England 5.7%)

2. 5-15s

40,638

13.8%

(England 13.5%)

3. 16-64s

182,665

62.1%

(England 62.3%)

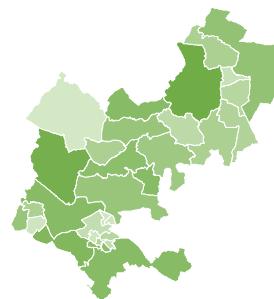
4. Over 65s

52,632

17.9%

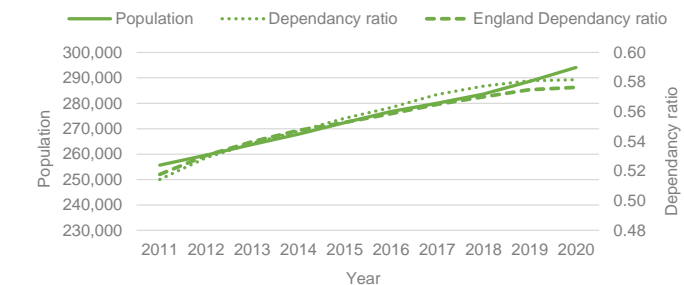
(England 18.5%)

Median Age by Ward

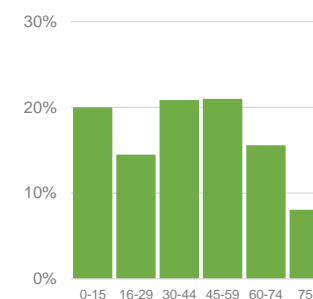


Ward Name	Median Age	Estimated Population	Change vs 2011
Northhill	51	4,511	2.3%
Aspley and Woburn	50	4,872	5.5%
Eaton Bray	48	4,561	12.6%
Barton-le-Clay	47	4,972	-0.7%
Heath and Reach	47	4,550	14.3%
Caddington	47	10,001	12.1%
Houghton Conquest and Haynes	47	3,337	23.1%
Dunstable-Watling	46	9,456	-0.1%
Westoning, Flitton and Greenfield	46	4,800	1.8%
Potton	45	8,476	8.5%
Linslade	44	12,230	3.4%
Toddington	44	9,922	1.5%
Amphill	44	13,872	16.6%
Silsoe and Shillington	43	5,917	39.7%
Arlsey	41	16,547	12.3%
Flitwick	41	14,033	5.7%
Leighton Buzzard North	41	15,352	7.7%
Sandy	41	13,814	9.2%
Dunstable-Central	40	5,809	19.9%
Stotford and Langford	40	16,427	28.4%
Biggleswade South	39	11,715	24.7%
Dunstable-Icknield	39	9,056	17.1%
Shefford	38	10,757	12.4%
Dunstable-Manshead	37	5,747	10.1%
Houghton Hall	37	9,272	17.4%
Biggleswade North	36	10,433	44.3%
Leighton Buzzard South	35	15,621	35.0%
Parkside	35	5,437	8.3%
Tithe Farm	35	5,064	13.3%
Dunstable-Northfields	35	11,011	20.6%
Cranfield and Marston Moretaine	34	16,524	33.1%
Total		294,096	15.0%

Population Over Time



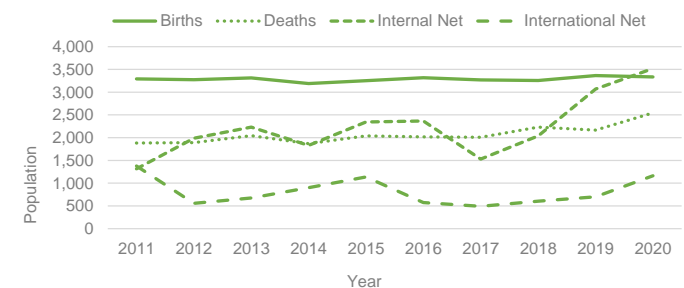
Population Age Profile



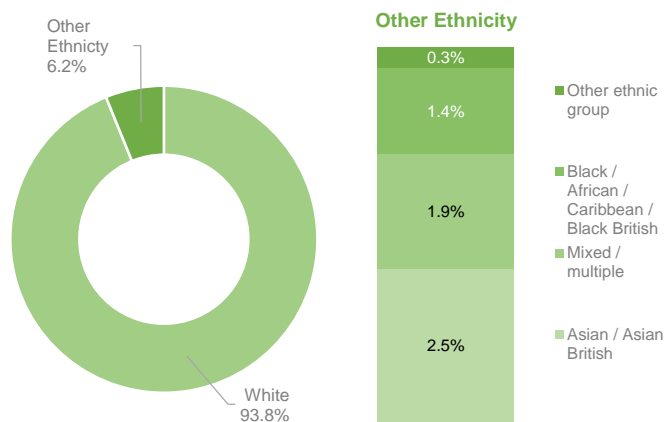
Projections by Age Range

Age	10 Year pop change (2031)	10 Year pop % change (2031)
0-19	1,373	2.0%
20-39	-2,189	-3.1%
40-59	4,382	5.4%
60-79	9,255	16.0%
80+	7,167	51.7%
All ages	19,988	6.8%

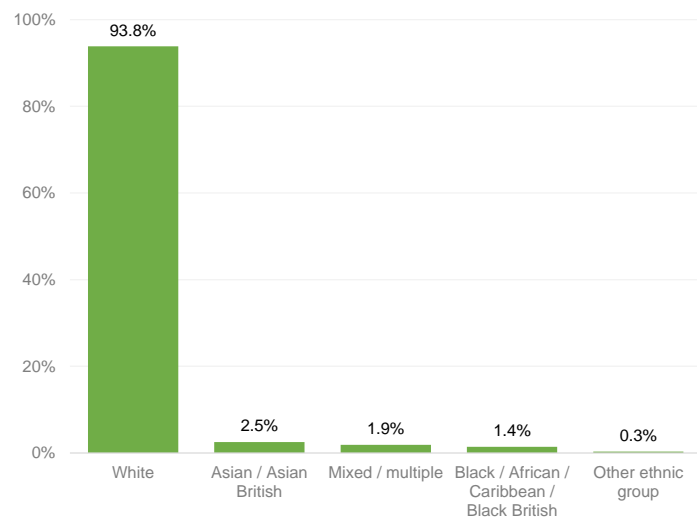
Population Change



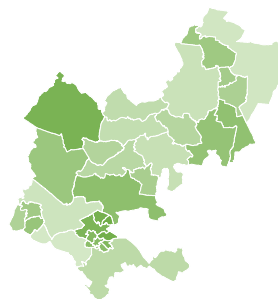
Ethnic Composition (Census 2011)



Population % by Ethnicity



Ethnic Minority by Ward



Ward Name	Other than White %	Other than White Number	White Number
Parkside	16.4%	818	4,162
Dunstable-Icknield	13.0%	1,005	6,708
Tithe Farm	12.8%	569	3,875
Cranfield and Marston Moretaine	12.6%	1,552	10,789
Houghton Hall	10.7%	837	7,022
Dunstable-Manshead	10.0%	518	4,675
Dunstable-Northfields	8.3%	758	8,321
Dunstable-Central	7.8%	377	4,440
Dunstable-Watling	7.1%	667	8,784
Toddington	6.0%	588	9,152
Stotfold and Langford	6.0%	769	11,954
Arlesey	5.6%	815	13,757
Leighton Buzzard South	5.4%	619	10,831
Aspley and Woburn	5.0%	232	4,373
Sandy	4.7%	596	12,007
Leighton Buzzard North	4.6%	653	13,581
Biggleswade North	4.6%	329	6,878
Barton-le-Clay	4.6%	228	4,764
Biggleswade South	4.5%	420	8,924
Linslade	4.4%	524	11,261
Flitwick	4.3%	568	12,666
Shefford	4.2%	393	8,932
Westoning, Flitton and Greenfield	4.0%	189	4,511
Caddington	4.0%	360	8,569
Houghton Conquest and Haynes	3.9%	106	2,607
Amphill	3.7%	440	11,458
Silsoe and Shillington	3.4%	142	4,086
Northill	3.4%	152	4,258
Heath and Reach	3.1%	123	3,852
Potton	2.6%	205	7,584
Eaton Bray	2.6%	107	3,941
Total	8.3%	15,659	238,722

Key Points

Geographical Diversity

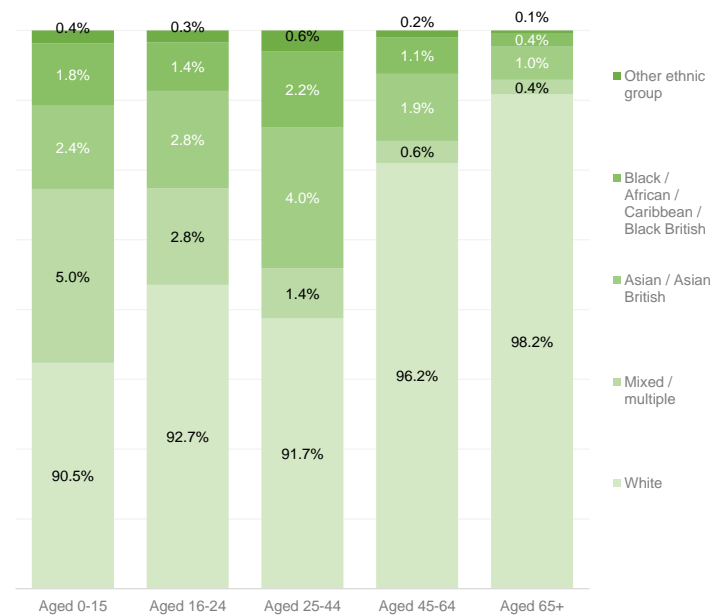
Ethnic composition varies widely by geographic area. Central Bedfordshire has 6.2% of residents other than White, notably Parkside ward has 16.4% and Dunstable Icknield ward with 13%.

93.8% of the population are from a White ethnic group. This increases across the age groups with 98.2% aged 65 plus.

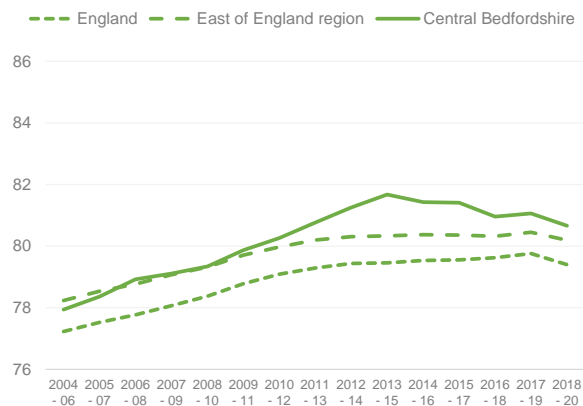
Diverse Youth

Ethnic diversity decreases by age group with 9.5% of 0-15s from a non-white ethnic group. For 65 plus this is just 1.8%

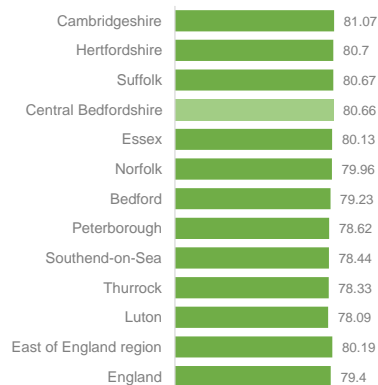
Ethnicity % by Age Group



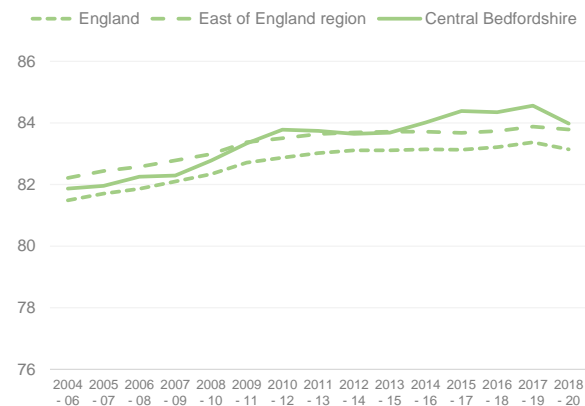
Male Life Expectancy (at birth)



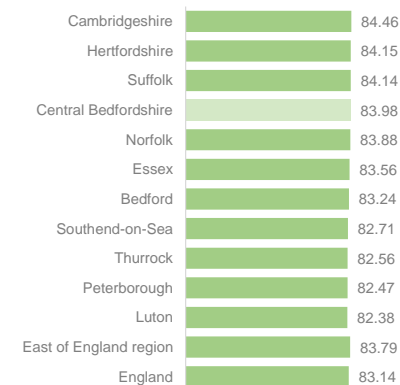
East of England Comparison



Female Life Expectancy (at birth)



East of England Comparison



Key Points

Male Life Expectancy

Estimated life expectancy for males is 80.7 years, compared to 79.4 for England as a whole. Contrasted to women within Central Bedfordshire, males are expected to live 3.3 fewer years on average.

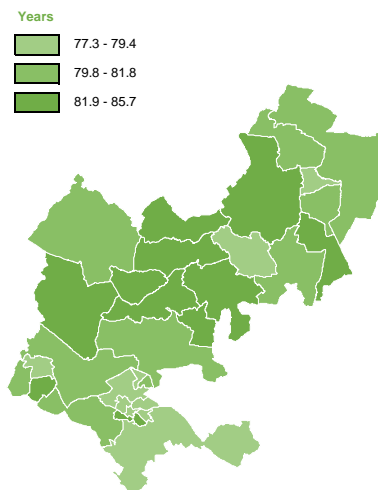
Recent Decline

Male life expectancy has dropped since a peak in 2013-15 at 81.7 years it has been following a similar trend to England's life expectancy.

Geographic Inequality

Male life expectancy differs widely across Central Bedfordshire, with a range of 8.4 years, with the lowest in Houghton Hall ward at 77.3 years and highest in Barton-le-Clay ward with 85.7 years, two of the most and least deprived areas within Central Bedfordshire.

Male Life Expectancy by Ward



Key Points

Female Life Expectancy

Estimated life expectancy for females is 84.0 years, compared to 83.1 for England as a whole. Contrasted to men within Central Bedfordshire, females are expected to live 3.3 years longer on average.

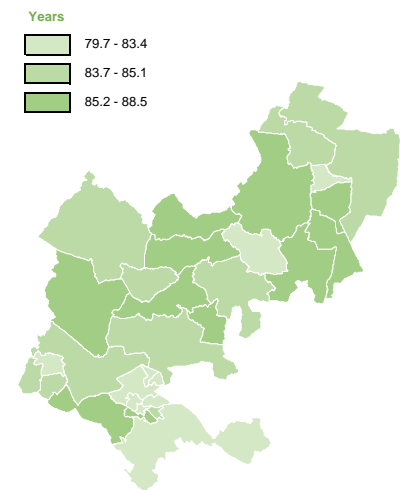
Recent Decline

Similarly to male life expectancy, there has been a drop since a peak in women's life expectancy in 2017-19 with 83.6 years, similar to England's life expectancy, and following a similar trend above England.

Geographic Inequality

Female life expectancy differs widely across Central Bedfordshire, with a range of 8.8 years, with the lowest in Houghton Hall ward at 79.7 years and highest in Aspley and Woburn ward with 88.5 years, two of the most and least deprived areas within Central Bedfordshire.

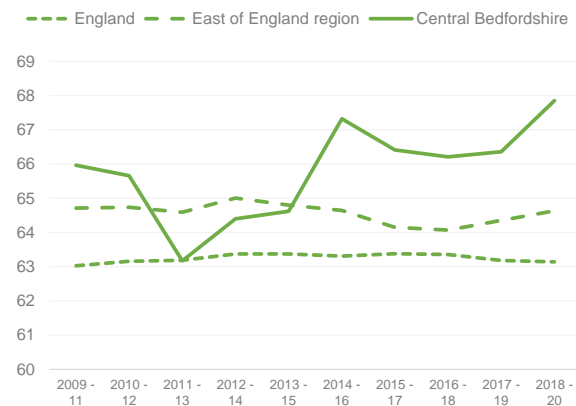
Female Life Expectancy by Ward



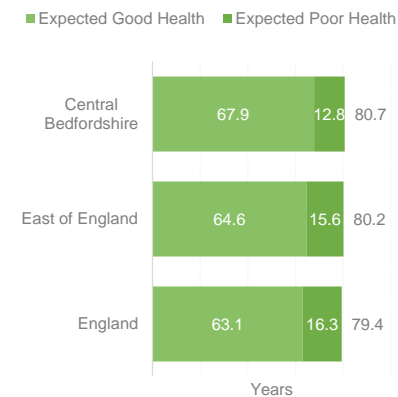


Healthy life expectancy is an estimate of how many years a person can expect to live in good health. It is commonly used to try and assess whether ageing populations - including Central Bedfordshire's - will be vibrant and independent, or suffer from great chronic ill-health and poor quality of life

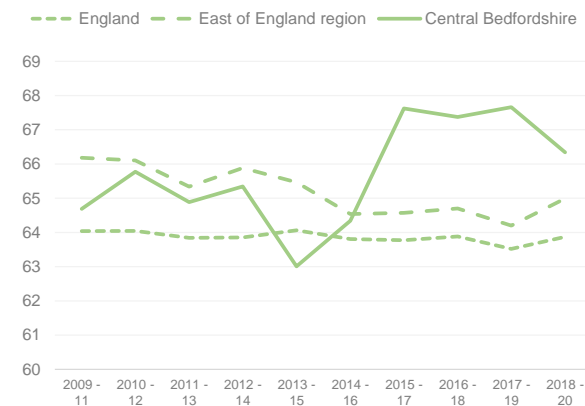
Male Healthy Life Expectancy (at birth)



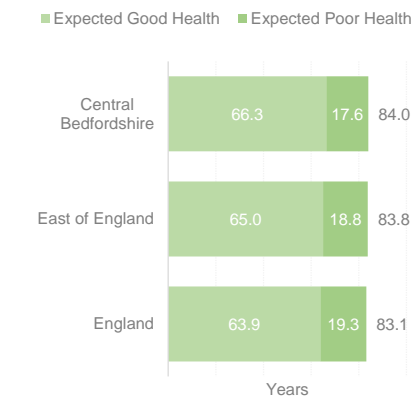
Years of Poor Health Comparison



Female Healthy Life Expectancy (at birth)



Years of Poor Health Comparison



Key Points

Male Healthy Life Expectancy

Healthy life expectancy for males has increased to 67.9 years, compared to 63.1 for England as a whole. It remains that, on average, a male in Central Bedfordshire can expect to live 12.8 years of their lives in poor health.

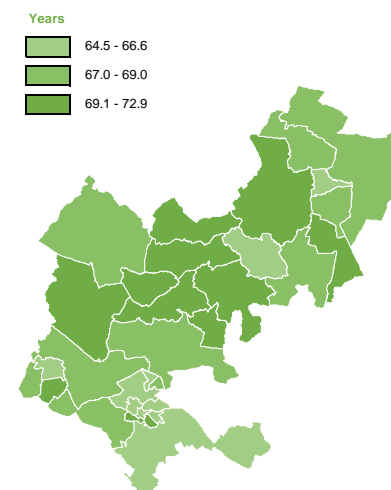
Highest within the East of England region

Central Bedfordshire males have the highest healthy life expectancy of the East of England region and they can expect to live 4.7 greater years in good health compared to England.

Geographical Inequality

Male healthy life expectancy differs widely across Central Bedfordshire, with a range of 8.4 years, with the lowest in Houghton Hall ward at 64.5 years and highest in Barton-le-Clay ward with 72.9 years, two of the most and least deprived areas within Central Bedfordshire.

Male Healthy Life Expectancy



Key Points

Female Healthy Life Expectancy

Healthy life expectancy for females in Central Bedfordshire is 66.3 years, compared to 63.9 for England as a whole. It means that woman can expect to live 17.6 years in poor health.

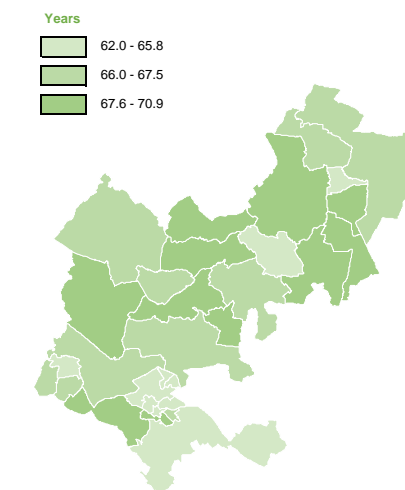
Second Highest within the East of England region

Central Bedfordshire females have the second highest healthy life expectancy of the East of England region and they can expect to live 2.5 greater years in good health compared to England.

Geographical Inequality

Female healthy life expectancy differs widely across Central Bedfordshire, with a range of 8.9 years, with the lowest in Houghton Hall ward at 62 years and highest in Aspley and Woburn ward with 70.9 years, two of the most and least deprived areas within Central Bedfordshire.

Female Healthy Life Expectancy

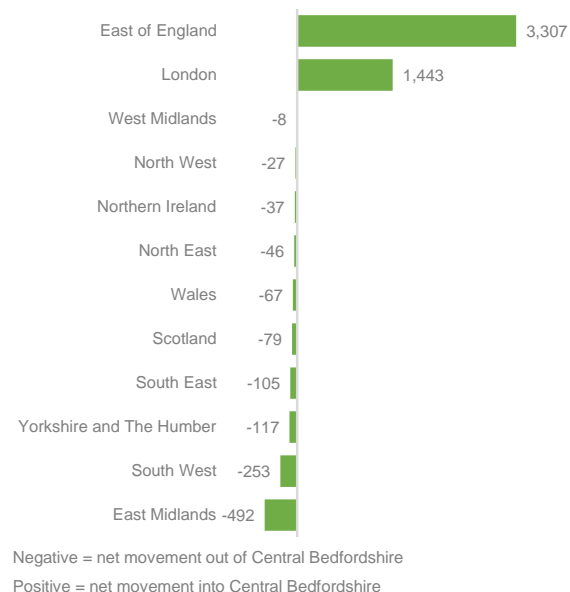


Internal Net Migration Estimates (persons)

Central Bedfordshire Net Moves by Age

Ages	2018	2019	2020
00-04	441	434	510
05-09	100	204	186
10-14	56	49	140
15-19	-893	-770	-777
20-24	515	912	934
25-29	514	561	745
30-34	792	930	827
35-39	526	495	508
40-44	212	232	257
45-49	35	190	108
50-54	-40	91	82
55-59	-60	-54	43
60-64	-52	-93	-25
65-69	-73	-65	-12
70-74	-47	-40	-20
75-79	10	21	4
80-84	-8	16	12
85-89	3	-7	-19
90+	7	-35	17

Regional Net Moves into and out of Central Bedfordshire



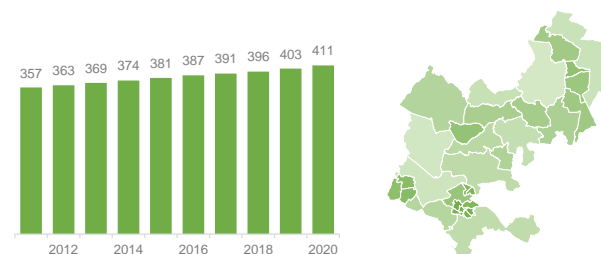
Key Points

Where, and at what time of life, people move in / out of Central Bedfordshire

The chart above highlights the key ages at which movement into or out of Central Bedfordshire occurs, showing population counts.

The peak age is late teens (15-19), linked to university and work. 20-24s and young families had the highest numbers of inward migration: returning from study, due to employment or the access to affordable housing. As people age beyond their 60s there is a slight net flow out of Central Bedfordshire

Population Density Estimates (people per square km)



Population Density by Age & Ward (people per square km)

Ward Name	0-15	16-29	30-44	45-59	60-74	75+	Total
Dunstable-Northfields	1,383	914	1,422	1,060	686	326	5,790
Dunstable-Central	988	885	1,366	1,081	868	601	5,789
Dunstable-Manshead	1,048	706	924	833	595	366	4,471
Dunstable-Watling	631	561	719	846	739	436	3,932
Parkside	893	658	933	744	479	159	3,865
Dunstable-Icknield	670	595	732	690	451	305	3,444
Tithe Farm	857	550	759	619	405	187	3,378
Leighton Buzzard South	720	433	829	524	326	148	2,978
Leighton Buzzard North	560	380	599	583	484	262	2,868
Linslade	343	253	404	410	358	180	1,947
Biggleswade North	381	305	439	317	232	122	1,796
Filtwick	178	154	202	220	157	74	985
Houghton Hall	214	143	234	194	126	53	964
Biggleswade South	181	141	208	176	126	66	898
Stotfold and Langford	179	100	178	173	121	61	812
Sandy	121	95	119	134	101	46	614
Shefford	117	80	118	111	73	35	532
Amphill	103	73	91	129	85	50	530
Arlesey	103	70	111	116	80	39	519
Barton-le-Clay	79	62	74	117	83	53	468
Cranfield and Marston Moretaine	50	47	52	45	29	13	237
Eaton Bray	38	25	32	46	44	24	209
Westoning, Flitton and Greenfield	37	25	36	50	40	18	205
Toddington	35	28	34	46	32	18	193
Caddington	30	19	31	38	37	19	174
Silsoe and Shillington	36	20	31	37	28	14	166
Houghton Conquest and Haynes	25	17	22	31	27	15	137
Potton	21	14	21	26	22	9	114
Heath and Reach	20	13	20	26	22	12	114
Aspley and Woburn	14	10	15	22	18	12	90
Northill	11	9	11	17	17	10	75
Total	82	60	86	86	64	33	411

Dark Green = above Central Bedfordshire, Grey = similar, Light Green = below Central Bedfordshire

Key Points

Ward Density

Dunstable-Northfields ward is the most densely populated ward with 5,790 persons per square kilometre, and Northill ward the least densely populated area with 75 persons per square kilometre.

Central Bedfordshire is classed as an 'Affluent England' area (2011 Census Area classification).

Central Bedfordshire averages 411 people per square kilometre, below the England average of 434 persons per square kilometre.

Clustered Children

Dunstable-Northfields ward is the most densely populated with 1,383 children per square kilometre, followed by Dunstable-Manshead ward (1,048). Dunstable-Central ward (988) and Parkside ward (893).

This highlights the geographic disparity across Central Bedfordshire. For instance Dunstable-Manshead ward at 1,048, is 95 times more densely populated with children than Northill ward with 11 per square kilometre.

What inequalities can density entail?

It can mean increased demand and competition for services, such as school placements, reduced access to greenspaces and public facilities, greater exposure to crime and risk from socially transmitted pathogens (such as COVID-19). These are more likely to be in densely populated urban areas that have better access to services than the lesser populated areas.



Data Sources

Population

Office for National Statistics Mid-Year Population estimates: ONS Mid Year Estimate (2020)
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates>
The Census 2021 is due to be released shortly and that its data will be included in future versions as it is published nationally

Ethnicity

NOMIS - official census and labour market statistics: Census (2011)
<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census>
The Census 2021 is due to be released shortly and that its data will be included in future versions as it is published nationally

Life Expectancy

Office for Health Improvement & Disparities: Fingertips - Public health data
<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles>
<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/local-health>

Healthy Life Expectancy

Office for Health Improvement & Disparities: Fingertips - Public health data
<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles>
<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/local-health>

Internal Migration

Office for National Statistics Internal Migration of Moves by Local Authority and Region
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/migrationwithintheuk/datasets/matricesofinternalmigrationmovesbetweenlocalauthoritiesandregionsincludingthecountriesofwalesscotlandandnorthernireland>
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/migrationwithintheuk/datasets/internalmigrationmovesbylocalauthoritiesandregionsinenglandandwalesby5yearagegroupandsex>

Population Density

Office for National Statistics - Standard Area Measurements (2020) combined with ONS population estimates (2020)
<https://geoportal.statistics.gov.uk/datasets/d6cc711f662940c59f1c7284448b52f6/about>

Contact

If you have any queries please feel free to contact us via email
askpublichealth@bedford.gov.uk

Maps

Several maps appear throughout this document, to which the following applies:

Maps reproduced from Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. © Crown copyright and database rights 2022 Ordnance Survey 100049028. You are not permitted to copy, sub-license, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form.