

Jason Teal

**BRIEFING NOTE: Summary of 1st
release of data from 2011 Census.
(July 2012)**

Research, Consultation and Performance
Strategic Support Unit
West Berkshire Council
westberks.gov.uk/research

July 2012

This briefing note summarises key messages from the first release of data by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) of the 2011 Census.

This initial release by the ONS provides population figures by quinary (5 year) age bands, by gender, as well as summary household estimates at the local authority level.

Further releases (scheduled from November 2012 to February 2013) will include the more detailed census statistics – including socio-demographic characteristics as well as at smaller (ward and SOA level) areas.

The data is published on the ONS' website, as well as, at westberks.gov.uk/research.

Sections

1. Nos of people living in West Berkshire
2. Change in population
3. Age structure
4. Change in age structure 2001-2010
5. Change in number of people (broad age groups)
6. Change in number of people (quinary age groups)
7. Number of households
8. Key messages



Nos of people living in West Berkshire

The 2011 Census puts the population of West Berkshire at 153,800 people. This compares to the latest 2010 population *estimate* for West Berkshire of 154,000.

Change in population

The previous (2001) census counted the population of West Berkshire to be 144,483. Therefore, the population of West Berkshire has grown by 6% over the last decade (or just over 9,000 people).

This compares with an 8% increase across Berkshire as a whole. However, this county-wide figure is skewed slightly by the increase in population in Slough (18%). If Slough was removed from the Berkshire total, then the rate of increase would fall to 6%.

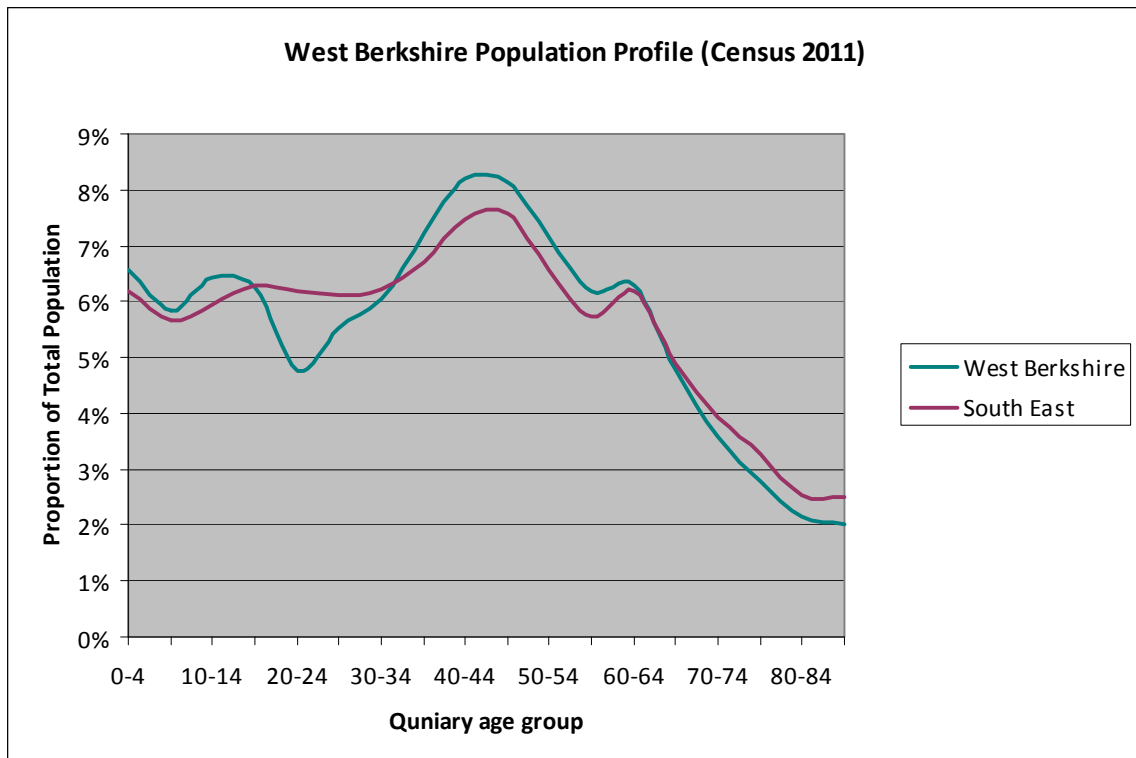
West Berkshire's population growth is around 1.5 percentage points below that for the South East more generally, and nationally

Population change 2001-2010	2011	Change in population	
		Number	Percent
Bracknell Forest	113,200	+3,583	+3.3%
Reading	155,700	+12,604	+8.8%
RB of Windsor and Maidenhead	144,600	+10,974	+8.2%
Slough	140,200	+21,133	+17.7%
West Berkshire	153,800	+9,317	+6.4%
Wokingham	154,400	+4,171	+2.8%
Berkshire	861,900	+61,782	+7.7%
South East	8,634,800	+634,250	+7.9%
England & Wales	56,075,900	+4,033,984	+7.8%

Age structure

The graph below shows the population profile for West Berkshire, compared to that for the South East.

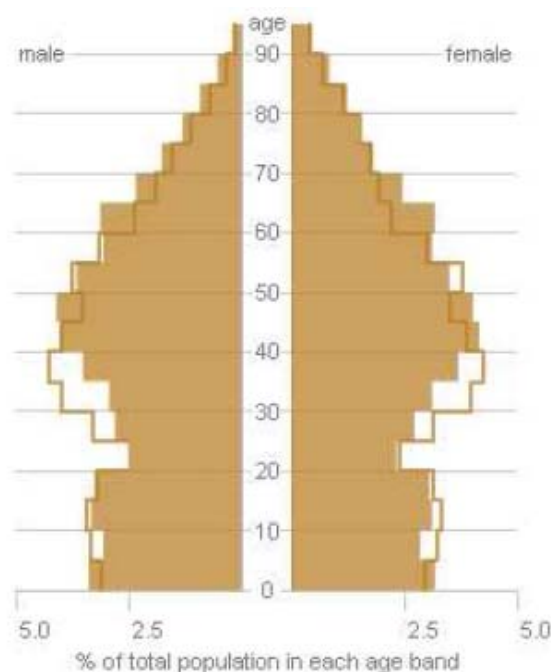
The proportion of young people in West Berkshire is broadly comparative to the region more generally, if slightly below. However, West Berkshire has significantly lower proportion of residents aged 20-35 than regionally, but a higher proportion of older, working age residents (i.e. aged 45-65). The proportion of residents over 65 age in West Berkshire is less than that seen in the South East more generally.



Change in age structure 2001-2010

Population in West Berkshire has grown by 6% (or 9,000 people) in the last decade. This growth, however, is not universal across all age groups.

The graph below shows the population pyramid for West Berkshire for 2011 (shaded bars), compared with that for 2001 (outline).



BRIEFING NOTE: Summary of 1st release of data from 2011 Census.

This shows the relative size of different age bands in relation to one another – and how they compare to the profile in 2001. At a glance, this most obviously shows a significant reduction in the relative proportion of younger people of working age (i.e. 25-39) compared to 2001. This is counterbalanced by the growth in people aged over 60 as a proportion of the total population.

Change in number of people (broad age groups)

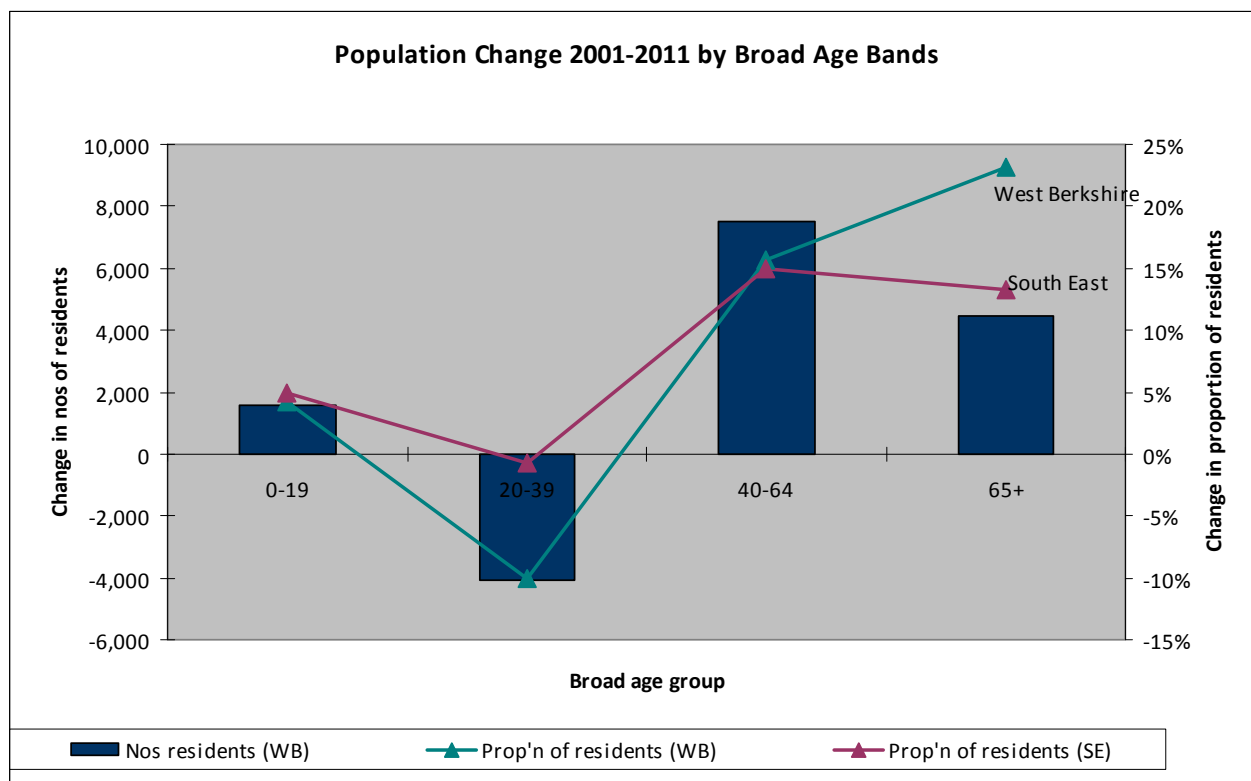
The graph below shows the absolute change in broad age groups between 2001 and 2011, plotted against the proportionate change for West Berkshire and the South East. (NB: this is separate to the population pyramid above, which shows the relative size of the age band, as a proportion of the population as a whole, rather than the rate of change.)

The first bar shows a rise of just over 1,500 people aged 0-19 between 2001-2011 – representing a 4% increase in the number of people of this age group (green line). This compares with the regional average of a 5% increase (red line).

Perhaps more significantly, the second bar shows the decline in the number of people aged 20-39 living in West Berkshire of just over 4,000 (or 10%). The South East as a whole saw a decline of 1%.

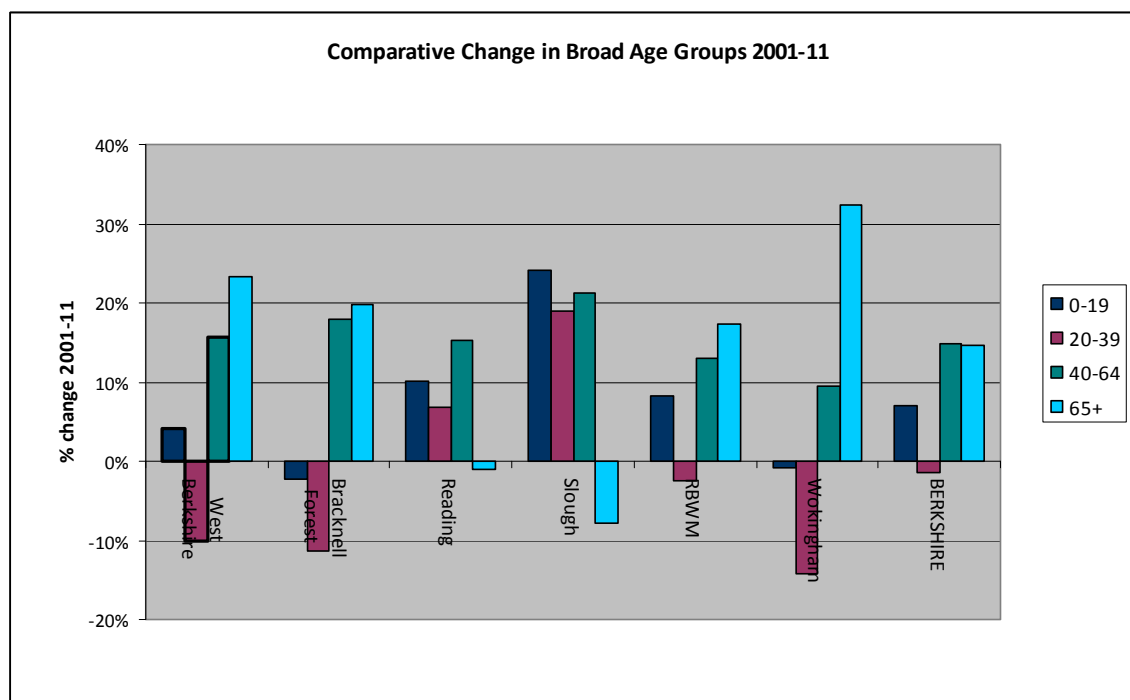
The last decade has seen the number of people of older working age (i.e. 40-64) increase by some 7,500 (or 16%). This is broadly in line with the regional average of 15%.

However, the number of people aged over 65 has risen by just under 4,500 (or 23%). This compares with a 13% increase in the South East more generally.



BRIEFING NOTE: Summary of 1st release of data from 2011 Census.

The graph below compares the rate of change in each of the broad age bands, across Berkshire more generally.



This shows a marked difference in the changing populations between Reading and Slough on the one hand and Bracknell, Windsor and Maidenhead, Wokingham and West Berkshire on the others. Wokingham has seen the wildest swings in population with a 14% fall in the number of 20-39 years, but a 32% increase in the number of people aged over 65.

Change in number of people (quinary age groups)

The table below breaks the above analysis for West Berkshire down more comprehensively by quinary age groups and compares with the regional and English average.

More specifically, this shows how West Berkshire's greater than average decrease in younger age groups of working age compares regionally, and in relation to England as a whole.

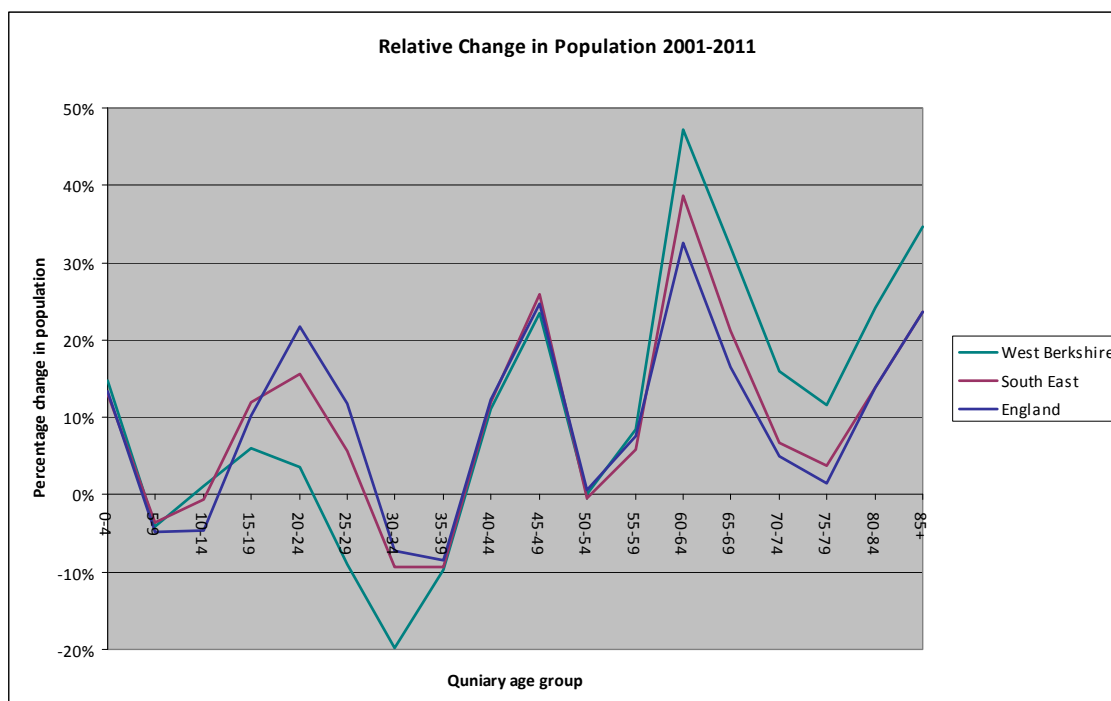
Expanding out the 20-39 bars in the graphs above, we can see West Berkshire has experienced a 9% reduction in the number of people aged 25-29, compared to a 6% increase in the South East, or a 12% increase across England. Equally, there has been a drop of 20% (1 in 5) in people aged 30-34 compared to a 9% decrease across the South East and 7% nationally.

Looking at older age groups, the table shows a greater than average increase in numbers of older people within each of the quinary age groups.

BRIEFING NOTE: Summary of 1st release of data from 2011 Census.

West Berkshire: population change 2001-2011	2011	Change in population			
		Number (WB)	Percent (WB)	Percent (SE)	Percent (Eng)
0-4	10,100	1,295	15%	13%	13%
5-9	9,100	-399	-4%	-4%	-5%
10-14	9,900	118	1%	-1%	-5%
15-19	9,700	544	6%	12%	10%
20-24	7,300	246	3%	16%	22%
25-29	8,500	-838	-9%	6%	12%
30-34	9,300	-2,289	-20%	-9%	-7%
35-39	11,100	-1,189	-10%	-9%	-9%
40-44	12,600	1,249	11%	12%	12%
45-49	12,500	2,371	23%	26%	25%
50-54	11,000	16	0%	0%	1%
55-59	9,500	744	8%	6%	8%
60-64	9,700	3,107	47%	39%	33%
65-69	7,400	1,795	32%	21%	16%
70-74	5,500	759	16%	7%	5%
75-79	4,300	445	12%	4%	1%
80-84	3,300	644	24%	14%	14%
85+	3,100	799	35%	24%	24%

The graph below simply presents the final 3 columns from this table more visually, comparing how the proportionate change in West Berkshire's population across the different age bands compares with the South East and England as a whole.



Number of households

The 2011 Census states that the number of households with at least one usual resident in West Berkshire is 62,300. This is a 9% increase on 2001. This compares to an 8% increase for the South East and nationally.

Key messages

- The population of West Berkshire has grown by 6% since the last census. This equates to just over 9,000 people.
- This is slightly lower than the regional and national rate of growth and broadly similar to the Berkshire average.
- West Berkshire has (compared to the SE):
 - comparable proportion of young people
 - a lower proportion of 20-30 year olds
 - higher proportions of 35-60 year olds
 - slightly lower proportion of people aged over 65.
- West Berkshire has seen a significant decline in the number of younger people of working age (20-39) of around 4,000 (-10%), compared to a 1% reduction for the South East.
- The number of people aged over 65 has risen by around 4,500 since 2001. This means that there are 23,600 people of pensionable age now living in West Berkshire – which equates to an increase of 23%, compared to 13% across the South East more generally.
- The number of people aged over 85 in West Berkshire has increased by 35%.
- Further, more detailed analysis on the census data will be undertaken once subsequent datasets are released by the ONS, over the winter 2012-13, and published at westberks.gov.uk/research.

Jason Teal
Strategic Support Unit

July 2012