



Introduction

Key findings from the 2001 census have now been released. This report gives an overview of the findings for South Lakeland, and highlights some of the most frequently requested results. It does not cover everything that the census provides, and there will be other more detailed reports made available over the coming months.

Guidance for comparing results to previous studies

Where possible, figures have been included from the 1991 census. Although they have been included, any comparisons **must** be treated with caution as the comparison of results between census' are complicated by a number of issues. Firstly, there are a number of differences in definitions and the information collected. Secondly, the results of the 2001 census have been adjusted for under enumeration. The results of the 1991 census were not subject to the same methodology so caution must be used at all times. As a result, it is often more appropriate to compare percentages rather than the difference between actual counts.

One of the most important results the census shows is the total population. However, the 2001 census information was collected only on usual residents. This contrasts to the 1991 census, which measured both usual residents and visitors who were present on census night. This can create difficulties in comparing the change in population. To address this, it is more appropriate to compare census 2001 population figures to the revised Mid-Year Estimates of population for 1991 as this follows a much similar methodology.

If you require further help or assistance in comparing census figures please contact us. Details of how to do this can be found at the end of the report.

Population and Density

South Lakeland's population, as measured by the 2001 census, stood at 102,301. In 1991, the revised Mid Year Estimate of population was 98,300. This means that throughout this time, the population of South Lakeland has increased by 4001, or 4.1%. The total population of England & Wales has increased by 2.5% throughout this time, whilst the population of the North West region has decreased by 1.7%. Cumbria's total population has increased marginally by 0.3%.

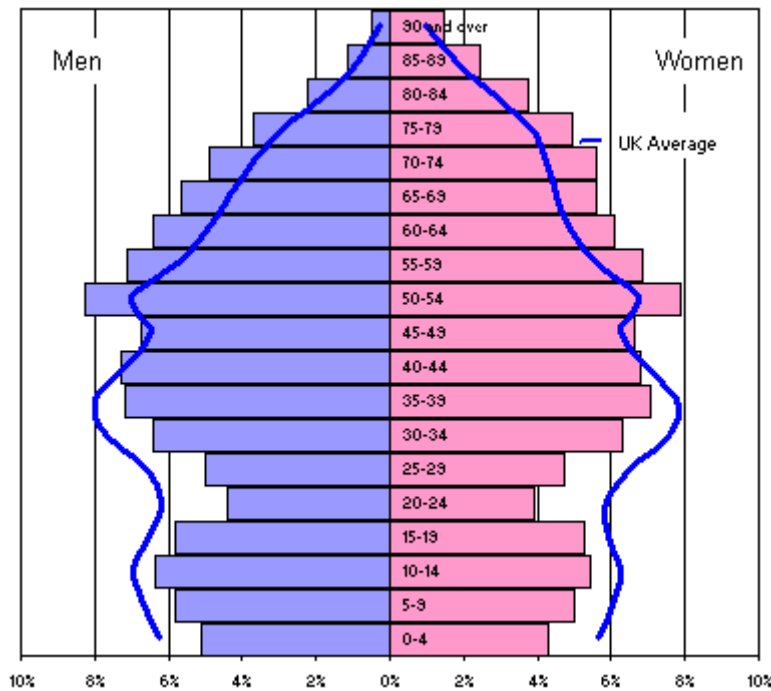
Of the total population of South Lakeland, 98,925 were residents in households (96.7%), whilst the remaining 3,376 lived in communal establishments (3.3%).

**CENSUS KEY STATISTICS
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FOR SOUTH LAKELAND**



Cumbria remains one of the most sparsely population counties in England & Wales, and has an area of 676,780 hectares. This equates to 0.7 persons per hectare. South Lakeland makes up 153,404 hectares, and has 0.7 persons per hectare.

Figure 1



Source: Census 2001, Office of National statistics, Crown Copyright

Figure 1 gives an indication of the age profile of the residents of South Lakeland, compared to that of the whole of the UK.

It can be seen that South Lakeland has a very different age profile to the national picture. The younger age groups have proportionately less residents than the national average, up until the 35-39 age group. From 40 onwards, there are proportionately more of South Lakeland's residents falling into these age groups than the whole of the UK. In particular, there are significantly more in the 50-54 age group for both males and females.

Households and Household Composition

In 2001 there were 49,675 household spaces in South Lakeland. Of these, 44,129 had residents (88.8%) with 1,715 or 3.5% being vacant. A further 7.7% were second residences or holiday homes. The average household size in South Lakeland is 2.2 people. This is slightly less than the average for the county, which is 2.3 people.

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Of all the households with residents in South Lakeland, 13,254 or 30% were 'pensioner households'. Of these, 7,490 or 17% were lone pensioners. Overall, there are a greater proportion of pensioner households in South Lakeland than in Cumbria as a whole, which stood at 26.7%

There are 1,645 households in South Lakeland, that consist of a lone parent with dependent children. This is equivalent to 3.7% of total households, and is lower than the county average of 5.5%.

Housing Tenure

Table 1 shows the tenure in percentage terms for all households in South Lakeland and for Cumbria as a whole. The table shows that the majority of households in South Lakeland are owner occupied (75.2%). There are 7.8% of households that are rented from local authorities – slightly less than the proportion for the whole of the county, which was 9.1%. A further 12.3% are rented from housing authorities or private landlords. In 1991, 73.8% were either owned outright or in the process of being bought with a mortgage or loan. 11.8% were rented from local authorities.

Table 1

	Cumbria %	South Lakeland%
Owner Occupied	71.8	75.2
Rented from LA	9.1	7.8
Rented from HA or private landlord	14.8	12.3
Rented: Other	4.3	4.7

Office of National Statistics, Census 2001, Crown Copyright

Living Arrangements

Table 2

	Cumbria %	South Lakeland%
Single (never married)	25.5	24.2
Married	47.2	48.1
Re-married	7.8	8.4
Separated (but still legally married)	1.9	1.7
Divorced	8.2	7.9
Widowed	9.5	9.8

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CENSUS KEY STATISTICS SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FOR SOUTH LAKELAND



Table 2 shows the marital status of the residents of South Lakeland, and for Cumbria as a whole. Just under half of the residents aged 16+ of South Lakeland are married, slightly more than the 47.2% proportion for the whole of the county. A further 8.4% are remarried, and 7.9% are divorced.

Car ownership is often used to give an indication of the measure of deprivation in people's lives. Whilst this can be a useful indicator, it is worth bearing in mind that in many parts of rural Cumbria, having a car is a pre-requisite for obtaining work.

In South Lakeland, 17.1% of households had no access to a car or van. This is lower than the figure for the whole of Cumbria, which stood at 24.4%. 48.6% had access to one car or van, with 27.6% having access to two and a further 6.7% having access to three or more. In 1991, 23.2% of households did not have access to a car or van, 50.2% had access to one, with a further 22% having access to two. The remaining 4.6% had access to three or more cars.

Amenities

The presence of central heating can also be used as an indicator of deprivation. In South Lakeland, 9.9% of households do not have central heating. This is lower than the figure for the whole of Cumbria, which stands at 12.4%. In 1991, the proportion of households that did not have central heating was 22.4%.

Ethnicity & Religion

South Lakeland's population is predominately white, with 99.2%. This is slightly lower than the proportion for the whole of Cumbria, which is 99.3%. Of the 0.8% of the population that are non-white, the largest ethnic minority group is Chinese. However, this group only makes up 0.1% of the total population of South Lakeland. Although the ethnic minority population of South Lakeland remains very small, the proportion has doubled since 1991, when only 0.4% were non-white.

For the first time in the 2001 census, a question was included on religion. This was a voluntary question, and respondents were not obliged to answer the question if they preferred not to.

In South Lakeland, 79.1% of respondents indicated that they were Christian. This is lower than the corresponding figure for the whole of Cumbria, which stood at 82.6%. 13.3% of respondents indicated that they followed no religion, while a further 6.8% did not indicate which religion they followed.

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Health

The census asks two questions on the general health of the population. Firstly, respondents are asked to indicate if they have a limiting long-term illness. This can be any disability, health problem or illness that limits daily activities or work. In South Lakeland, 18.5% of respondents indicated that they had a limiting long-term illness. This is lower than the corresponding figure for the whole of the county, which stands at 20%. Looking specifically at those respondents who are 16-74, 12.2% indicated that they had a limiting long-term illness. Again, this is lower than the county average, which is 15%.

Respondents were asked to indicate if their general health was good, fairly good or not good. Table 3 below shows the results for South Lakeland and for the whole of Cumbria. The general health of the majority of the residents of South Lakeland is good, with 69.2%. A further 22.2% indicated that their health was fairly good, while the remaining 8.6% indicated that their health was not good.

Table 3

	Cumbria %	South Lakeland%
Good	67.1	69.2
Fairly Good	22.9	22.2
Not Good	10.0	8.6

Office of National Statistics, Census 2001, Crown Copyright

Work

The total population of South Lakeland between 16-74 is 74,227. Table 4 shows the breakdown of the working status of people in this group for South Lakeland and Cumbria as a whole.

Table 4

	Cumbria %	South Lakeland%
Part Time Employees	13.6	13.3
Full Time Employees	36.9	35.9
Self Employed	9.9	13.9
Unemployed	3.4	2
Full Time Student	2.0	2.4
Economically Inactive*	34.2	32.5

Office of National statistics, Census 2001, Crown Copyright

*Consists of retired, students, looking after home/family, permanently sick/disabled and other.

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It can be seen that South Lakeland has 35.9% of its working population who are in full time employment. 13.3% work part-time, whilst a further 13.9% are self-employed. This is higher than the overall county figure of 9.9%.

The industry of employment in South Lakeland with the greatest proportion of the population aged 16-74 is 'Wholesale & Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles' with 17.7%. More information on the work force of each of Cumbria's districts will be available soon.

54.5% of the South Lakeland workforce travel to work by driving a car or van. This is marginally less than the overall figure for the county, which is 55.1%. 15.1% of people work from home, and a further 16.1% travel to work by foot.

Further Information

For further information on any of the topics contained in this report, please contact the Policy & Performance team, at the details below. Alternatively, visit the county council website (www.cumbria.gov.uk). The census 2001 pages will build up over the coming months to contain a library of reports designed to give both an overview of results, and detailed commentaries in particular areas.