

Briefing

Population at Census Day 2021

Cumbria and Districts

Aim

This briefing aims to present the first results from the 2021 Census in relation to Cumbria and districts; the usual resident population as at Census Day (21 March 2021).

Key Points

At Census Day 2021:

- The usual resident population of England & Wales was 59.6 million; an increase of 3.5 million (+6.3%) since 2011.
- Cumbria's usual resident population was 499,800; a decrease of 100 people (-0.02%) since 2011.
- Three of Cumbria's six districts had experienced decreases in population since 2011; Copeland (-5%), Barrow-in-Furness (-2.5%) and Allerdale (-0.3%).
- Inversely, the remaining three districts in Cumbria had experienced increases in population since 2011; Eden (+4.1%), Carlisle (+2.3%) and South Lakeland (+0.8%).
- Copeland and Barrow-in-Furness had the 3rd and 7th greatest proportional decreases in population in England respectively.
- Compared to the national average, Cumbria and all of the county's districts had older age profiles; with lower proportions of younger residents and higher proportions of older residents, South Lakeland had the 4th smallest proportion of 0-14 year olds in England.
- Numbers of 0-14 year olds in Cumbria have decreased since 2011 (-3.7% vs. +4.7% nationally), Copeland experienced the 8th greatest proportional decrease in England (-8%).
- Numbers of 15-64 year olds in Cumbria have also decreased since 2011 (-4.9% vs. +3.3% nationally), Copeland experienced the 4th greatest proportional decrease in England (-10.6%).
- Finally, numbers of residents aged 65+ in Cumbria have increased since 2011 (+18.3% vs. +20% nationally), with the greatest proportional increase in the county seen in Eden (+25%).

Background

Every ten years the Office for National Statistics (ONS) carries out a census to find out more about the population of England and Wales, and about the make-up of local communities. The most recent census took place on Sunday the 21st of March 2021.

The results of the Census are used to plan for, and allocate resources to, services such as transport, healthcare and education. Census data on population also informs decisions about the allocation of local authority funding.

Census results require significant quality assurance work to ensure accuracy including statistical adjustment for people who have not completed the Census questionnaire. Due to the breadth and depth of the information collected in the 2021 Census, results are being released in three phases.

The ONS began phase one by releasing the first results from Census 2021 on Tuesday the 28th of June 2022. The first results are estimates of the number of people and households in England and Wales as at Census Day (21 March 2021) by sex and age at local authority level. The following briefing provides an analysis of the usual resident population of Cumbria and districts based on the 2021 census first results.

Total Population

Figure 1: Resident Population at Census Day:

	Resident Population		Numerical Change	Proportional Change
	2011	2021	2011-2021	2011-2021
England & Wales	56,075,900	59,597,300	3,521,400	+6.3%
Cumbria	499,900	499,800	-100	-0.02%
Allerdale	96,400	96,100	-300	-0.3%
Barrow-in-Furness	69,100	67,400	-1,700	-2.5%
Carlisle	107,500	110,000	2,500	+2.3%
Copeland	70,600	67,100	-3,500	-5.0%
Eden	52,600	54,700	2,100	+4.1%
South Lakeland	103,700	104,500	800	+0.8%

Source: 2021 Census, Office for National Statistics, figures may not sum due to rounding.

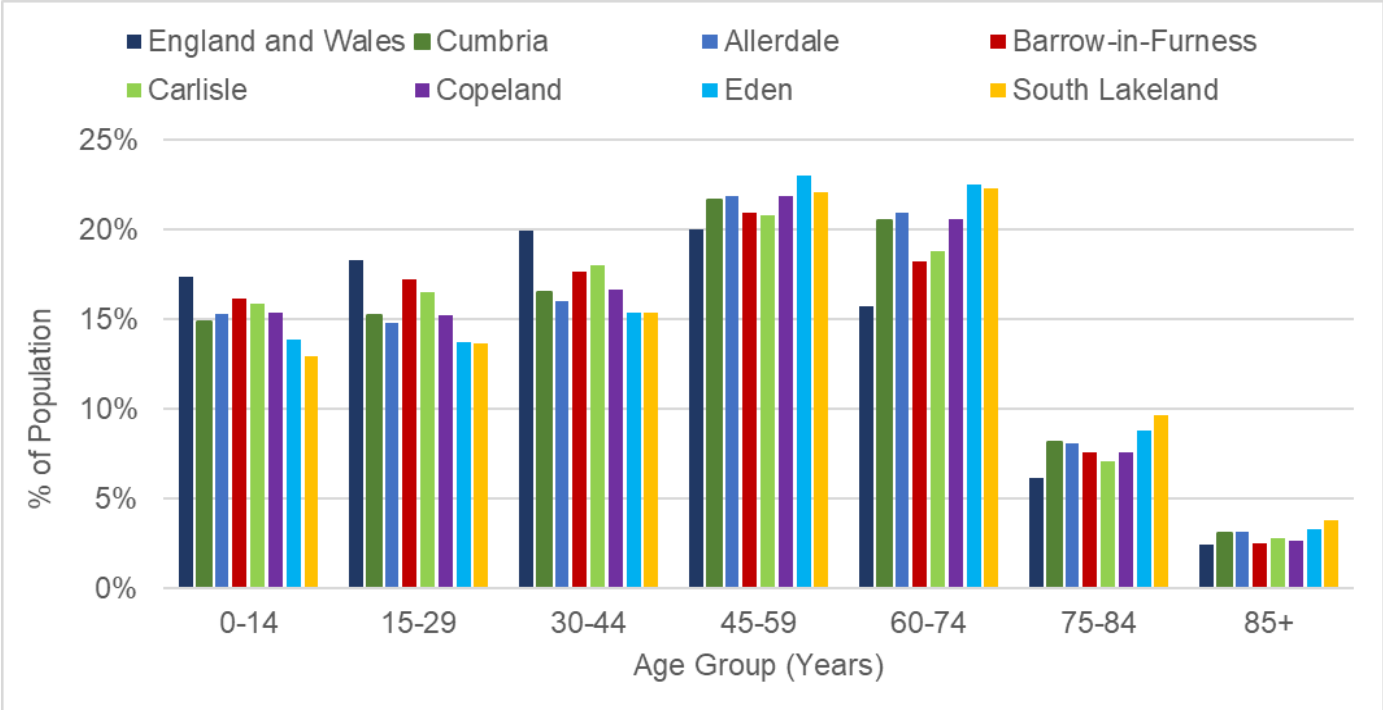
The usual resident population of England & Wales at Census Day 2021 was 59.6 million, an increase of 3.5 million people (+6.3%) since 2011.

Cumbria's usual resident population at Census Day 2021 was 499,800; a decrease of 100 people (-0.02%) since 2011.

Three of Cumbria’s six districts experienced decreases in population between 2011 and 2021; Copeland (-5.0%), Barrow-in-Furness (-2.5%) and Allerdale (-0.3%). Inversely, the remaining three districts in Cumbria experienced increases in population between 2011 and 2021; Eden (+4.1%), Carlisle (+2.3%) and South Lakeland (+0.8%). Copeland and Barrow-in-Furness had the 3rd and 7th greatest decreases in population in England respectively.

Population by Age

Figure 2: Resident Population: 2021:

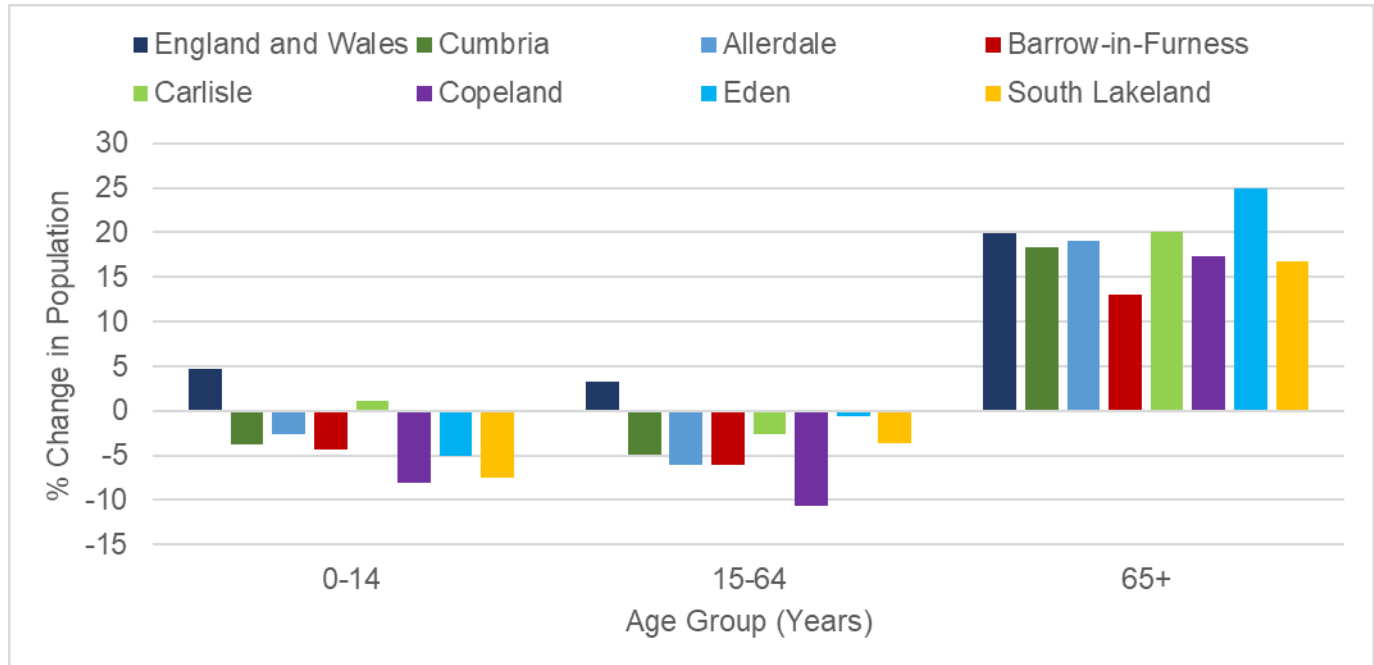


Source: 2021 Census, Office for National Statistics, figures may not sum due to rounding.

Compared to the national average, Cumbria and all of the county’s districts had older age profiles in 2021; with lower proportions of younger residents and higher proportions of older residents. However, there was some variation between the districts.

Compared to the county average, Barrow-in-Furness and Carlisle had higher proportions of residents in all three of the under 45 age groups. Inversely, Eden and South Lakeland had greater proportions of residents in all four of the over 45 age groups. Furthermore, South Lakeland had the 4th smallest proportion of 0-14 year olds in England.

Figure 3: Population Change: 2011-2021:



Source: 2021 Census, Office for National Statistics, figures may not sum due to rounding.

Between 2011 and 2021:

- Numbers of 0-14 year olds in Cumbria decreased (-3.7%); nationally this age group increased (+4.7%).
- All of Cumbria’s districts experienced a decrease in 0-14 year olds except Carlisle. The greatest proportional decrease was in Copeland (-8%); the 8th greatest proportional decrease in England. In Carlisle 0-15 year olds increased by 1.2%.
- Numbers of 15-64 year olds in Cumbria also decreased (-4.9% vs. +3.3% nationally).
- All of Cumbria’s districts experienced a decrease in 15-64 year olds. The greatest proportional decrease was again in Copeland (-10.6%); the 4th greatest proportional decrease in England.
- Finally, numbers residents aged 65+ in Cumbria increased (+18.3% vs. +20% nationally).
- All of Cumbria’s districts experienced an increase in 65+ year olds. The greatest proportional increase was in Eden (+25%).

Further information

The ONS plan to release all the main 2021 Census results within two years of Census Day. Please check the Cumbria Intelligence Observatory website over the coming months for further 2021 Census briefings and statistics as results are published:

<http://www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk/>

For more information:

Email: info@cumbriaobservatory.org.uk