

2021 Census Data Release Headlines - Population & Households

28 June 2022

The ONS has released the first data from the 2021 Census

The five published datasets contain population and household estimates for England and for Wales, rounded to the nearest 100, at local authority level.

These are:

- usual resident population by sex
- usual resident population by 5-year age group
- usual resident population by sex and 5-year age group
- usual resident population density
- number of households

The following slides contains key headlines and graphics taken from the ONS's interactive page on the Census - [How the population changed in Slough, Census 2021 - ONS](#)



Resident population & households

Slough population: 158,500



Females
80,000



Males
78,500



52,400 Households
3 people per Household

Slough's population at the time of the Census was 158,500 – an increase of 13.0%, from around 140,200 in 2011. This growth is markedly higher than the national average of 6.6%.

This confirms our assumption that there are a greater number of residents in the borough than has previously been included in recent ONS estimates (149,577 as of mid 2020).

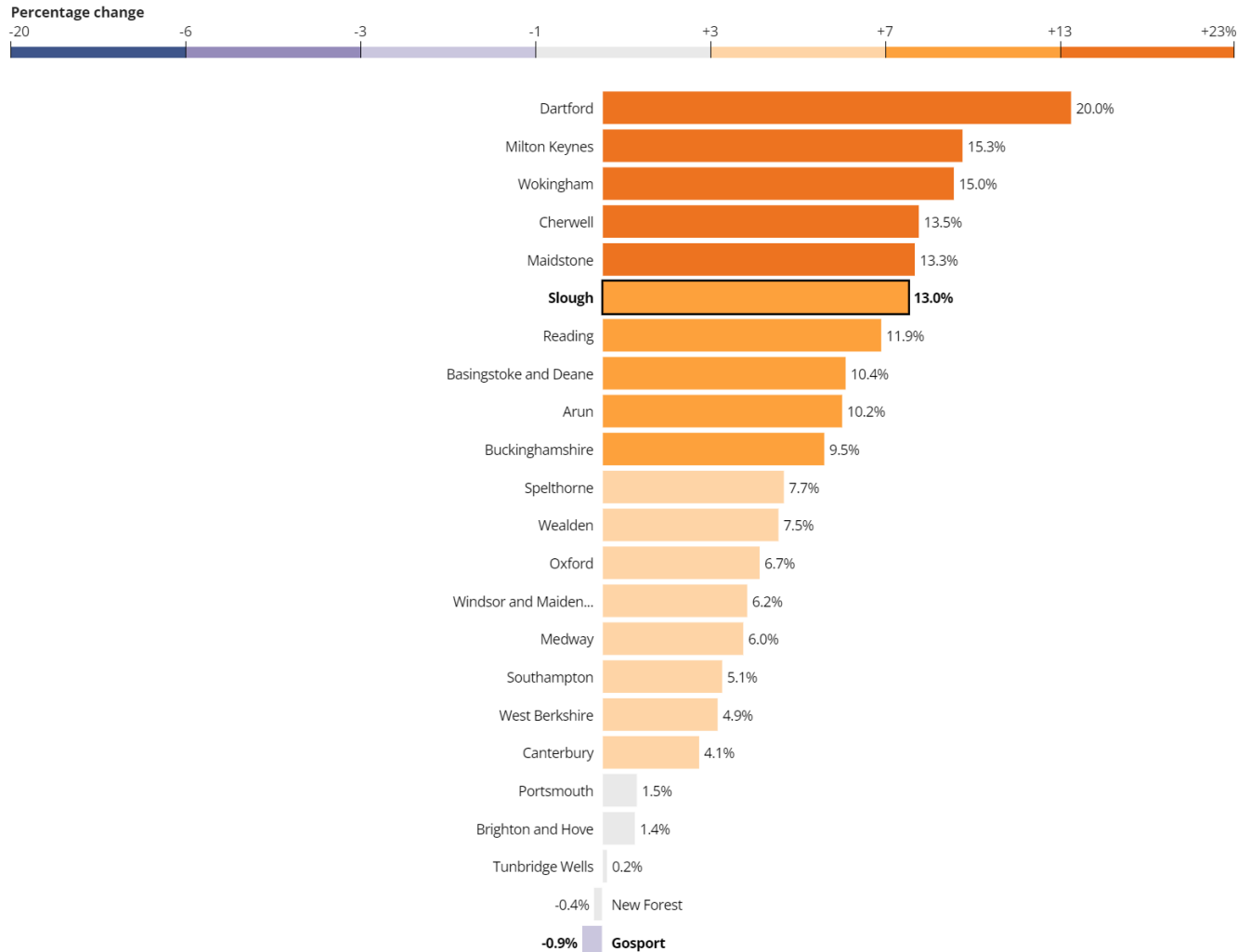
There are now an estimated 52,400 households in Slough containing at least one person – a growth of only 3.2% on 2011, compared to 6.1% in England and Wales.

This would imply a mean size of 3 people per household, compared to a mean of 2.4 in England and Wales, and would constitute the second largest proportion nationally. It will be important to review future census data releases to fully understand the context behind this headline.



Resident population & households

Population change of selected local authority areas in the South East between 2011 and 2021



This 13% population growth is also higher than the South East average of 7.5% and than our immediate neighbouring authorities:

- Buckinghamshire - 9.5%
- Hillingdon – 11.7%
- Spelthorne – 7.7%
- Windsor & Maidenhead – 6.2%

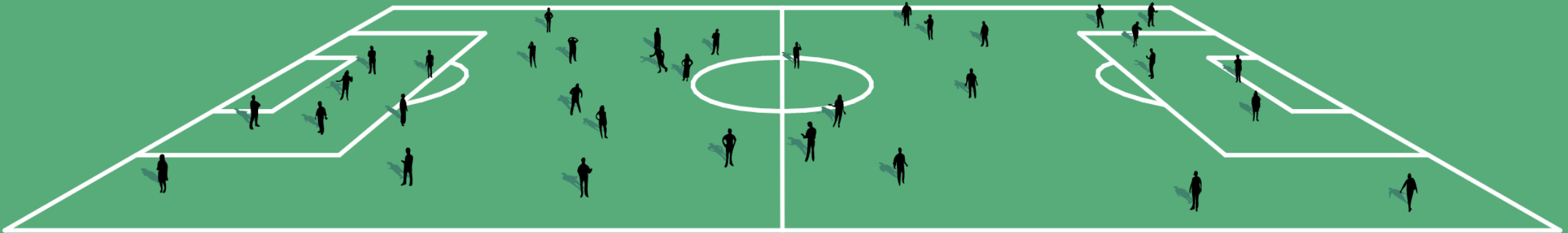
Slough is now the 127th largest local authority by total population size, up 13 places from 2011.



Population density

Slough is the third most densely populated LA in the South east, with 4,871 usual residents per square kilometre (48.7 per hectare compared to 45.8 in 2011).

This is the equivalent of around 35 people living on each football pitch-sized area of land, compared to an average of just 3 across England.





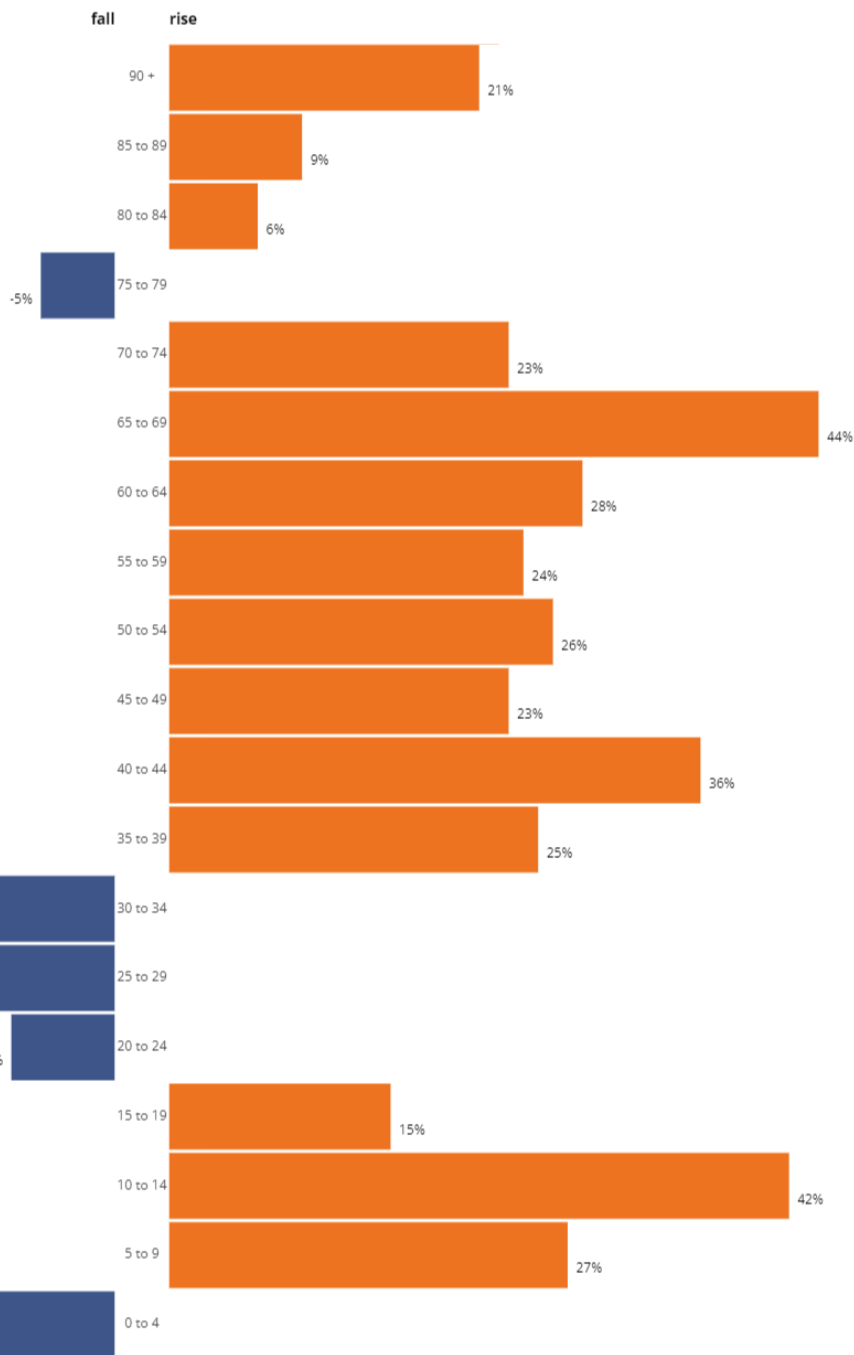
Resident population by age

The census has confirmed our understanding of the youthful nature of Slough's population. 23.5% of Slough's residents are aged under 15.

This is the second highest proportion in England and Wales behind only Barking and Dagenham

There has been an increase of:

- 19.3% in people aged 65 years and over
- 10.7% in people aged 15 to 64 years
- 17.3% in children aged under 15 years.



The next data sets are due to be released by the ONS between October and the end of 2022, and are expected to cover:

- demography and migration
- ethnic group, national identity, language, and religion
- UK armed forces veterans
- housing
- labour market and travel to work
- sexual orientation and gender identity
- education
- health, disability, and unpaid care