
2021 Census Release 1: Total Population and Household Estimates

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1. Main points

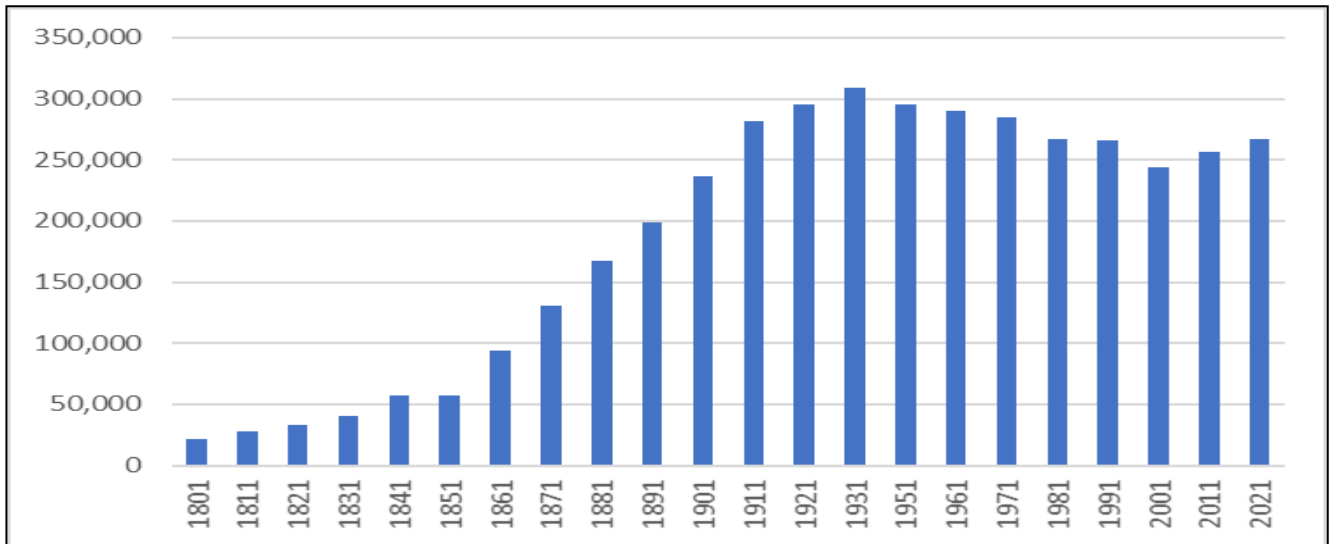
- 1.1 On Census Day, 21 March 2021, the size of the usual resident population in Hull was 267,100.
- 1.2 In terms of total population, this makes Hull the 60th largest local authority area in England (out of 309), which is a fall of five places in a decade.
- 1.3 The population of Hull grew by 10,700 (4.2%) since the last census in 2011, when the population was 256,400.
- 1.4 This is lower than the overall growth for England (6.6%), but higher than the increase for Yorkshire and the Humber (3.7%).
- 1.5 There were 133,800 women (50.1% of the overall population) and 133,300 men (49.9%) in Hull.
- 1.6 In Hull, there were approximately 50,000 children and young people aged under 15 years (18.7%), 176,100 people aged 15 to 64 years (65.9%) and 40,800 people aged 65 years and over (15.3%).
- 1.7 Compared to 2011, there has been an increase of 10.4% in children aged under 15 years, an increase of 0.4% in people aged 15 to 64 years, and an increase of 14.2% in people aged 65 years and over.
- 1.8 As of 2021, Hull has 3,731 residents per square kilometre - the same as around 27 people living on each football pitch-sized area of land.
- 1.9 This makes Hull the most densely populated of Yorkshire and the Humber's 21 local authority areas.
- 1.10 There were 115,500 households in Hull on Census Day; the number of households increased by approximately 2,900 since 2011 (2.6%), when there were 112,600 households.

2. Total Population

2.1 On Census Day, 21 March 2021, the size of the usual resident population in Hull was 267,100.

2.2 This was the largest population recorded through a census in Hull since the 1971 Census.

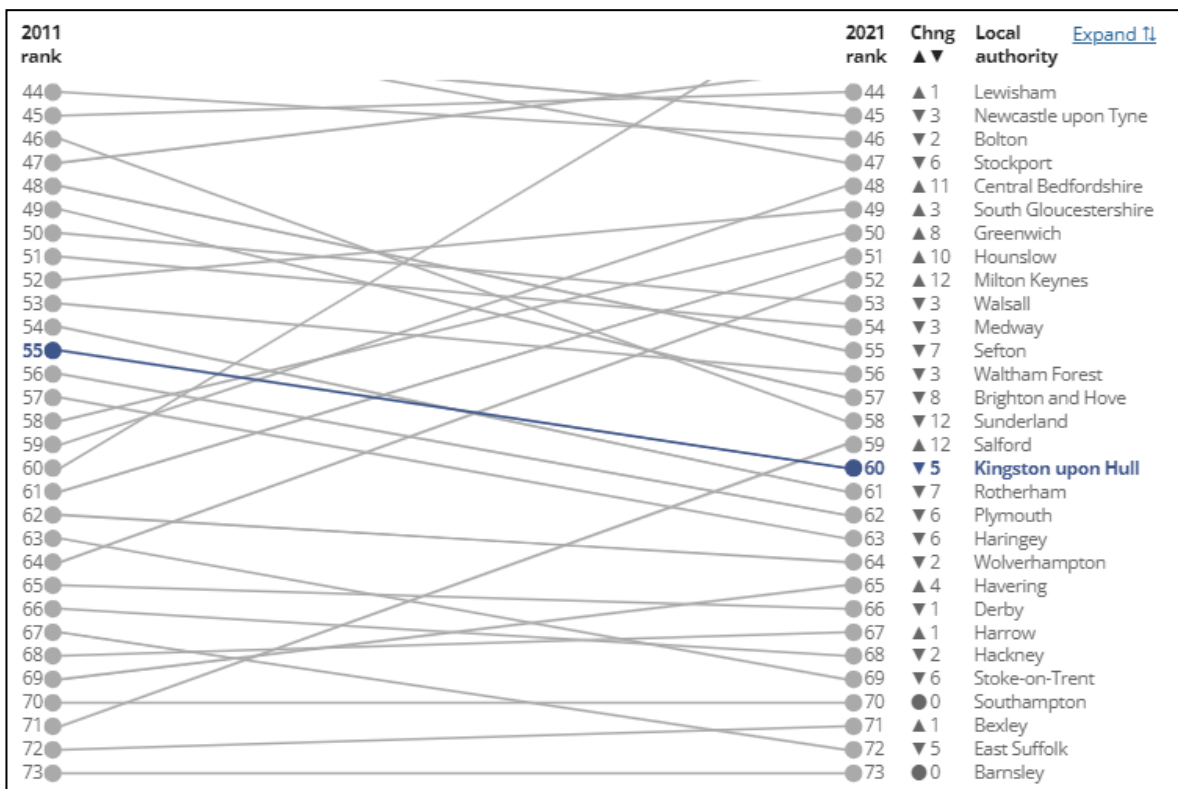
Chart 1: Hull Population in Census Years



2.3 In terms of total population, Hull is the 60th largest local authority area in England.

2.4 This is a fall of five places since 2011, when Hull was the 55th largest local authority area in England.

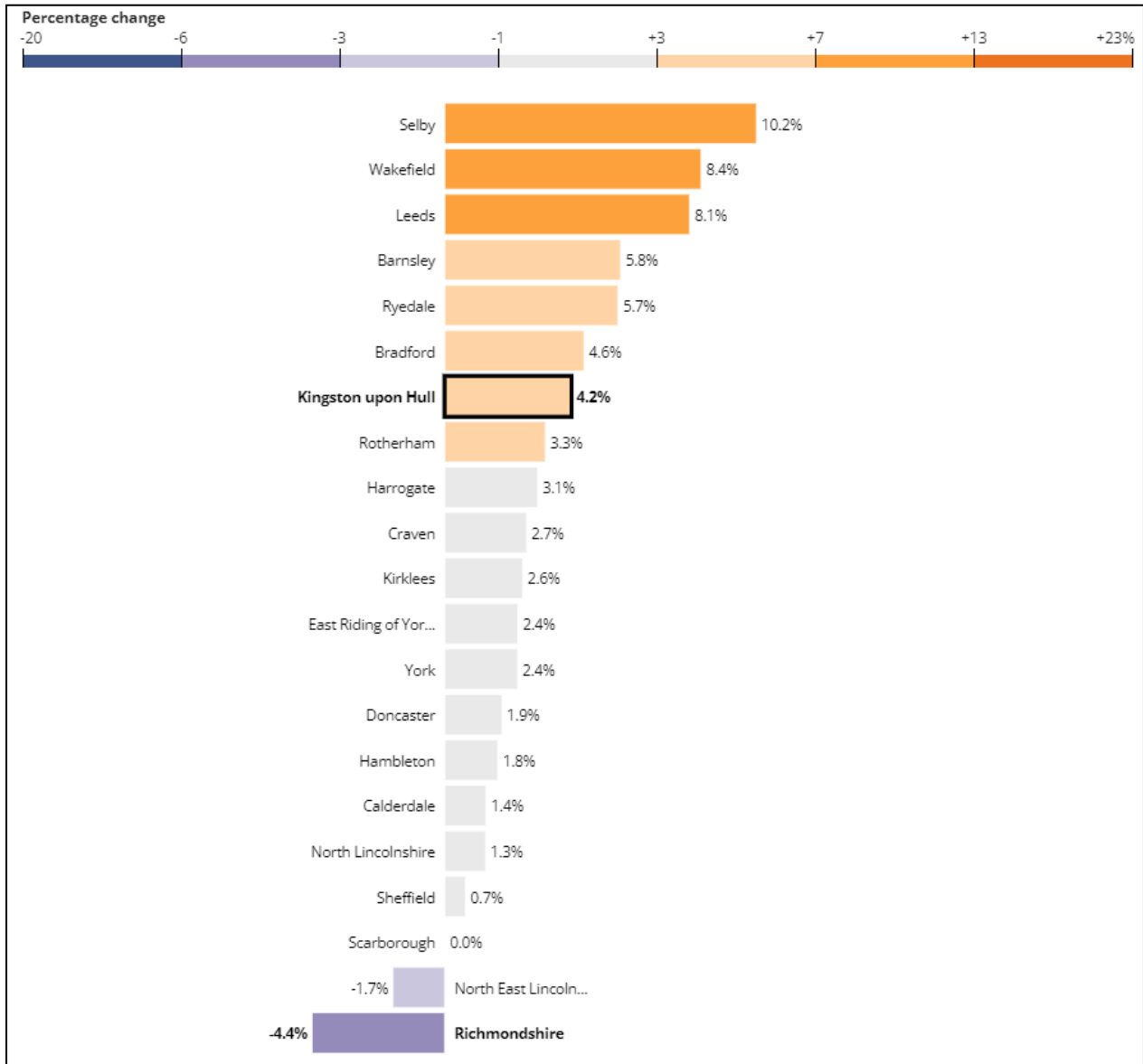
Chart 2: Population rank at time of the 2011 and 2021 Censuses



3. Population Growth

- 3.1 The population of Hull grew by 10,700 (4.2%) since the last census in 2011, when the population was 256,400.
- 3.2 This is lower than the overall growth for England (6.6%), but higher than the increase for Yorkshire and the Humber (3.7%).

Chart 3: Population Change of Local Authorities in Yorkshire and Humber, 2011 - 2021



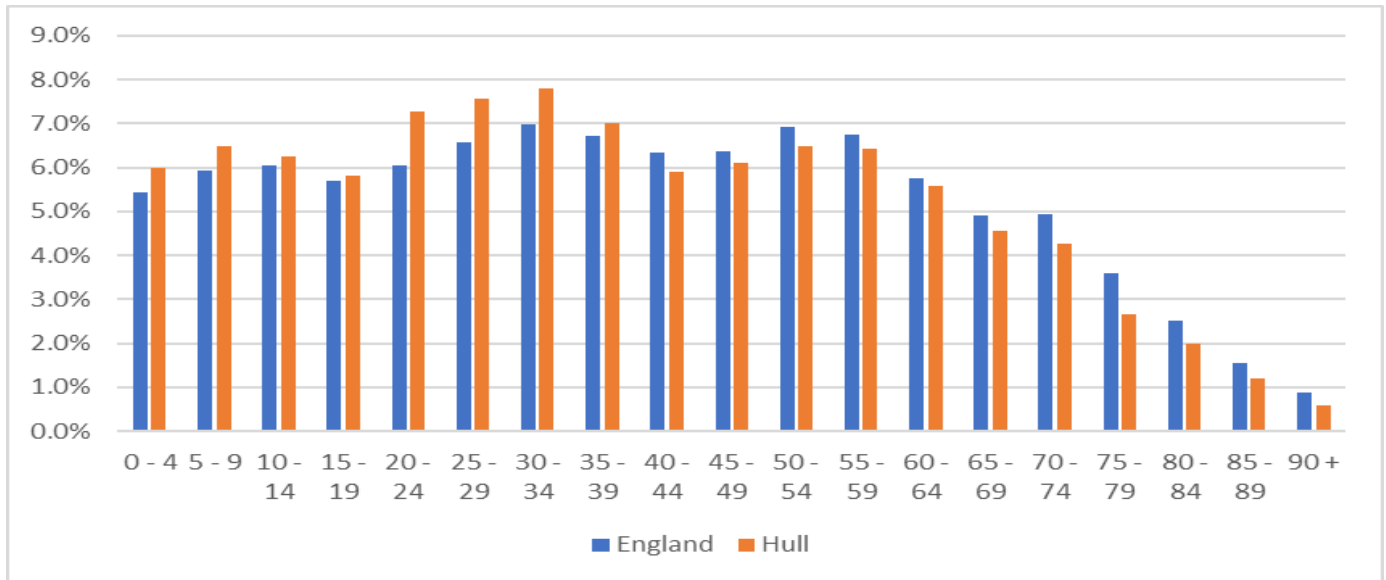
- 3.3 The rate of population growth in Hull over the last decade has decreased slightly compared with the rate between 2001 and 2011, when the population grew by 12,800 or 5.3%.
- 3.4 However, this is the second consecutive census to record a population increase, following a prolonged period of population decline recorded in each census between 1951 and 2001.
- 3.5 Since the first census in 1801, the rate of population growth in Hull was highest between 1851 and 1911, when the population grew by 31.2% on average each decade.
- 3.6 The largest population decline in Hull occurred between 1991 and 2001, when the population fell by nearly 22,600 (8.5%).

4. Age and Sex of Population

4.1 Overall, there were 133,800 women (50.1% of the overall population) and 133,300 men (49.9%) in Hull.

4.2 There are now more women in Hull than men, contrary to 2011 when 49.9% of the local population was female and 50.1% were male.

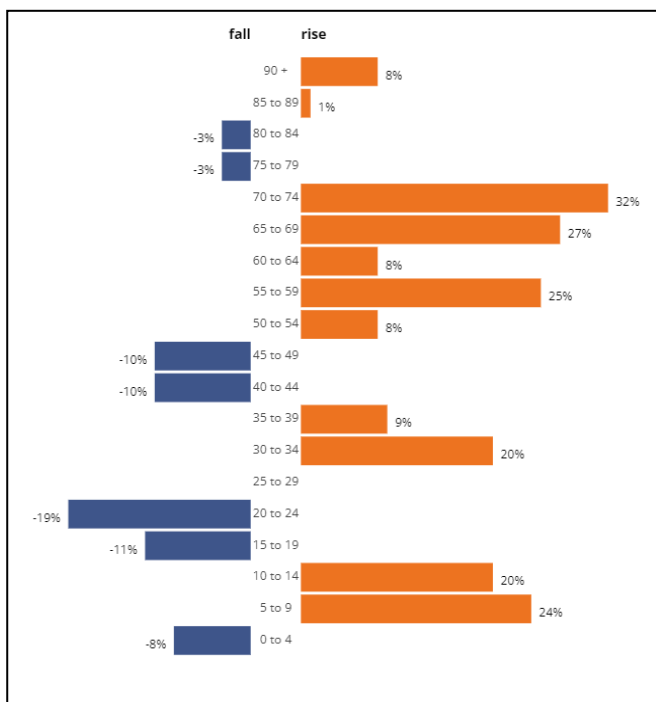
Chart 4: % Population by Age Range, 2021



4.3 In Hull, there were approximately 50,000 children and young people aged under 15 years (18.7%), 176,100 people aged 15 to 64 years (65.9%) and 40,800 people aged 65 years and over (15.3%).

4.4 Hull has a relatively young population. There is a larger proportion of every age group under 40 years in Hull compared to nationally; particularly those aged 20 – 34 years. Conversely, there is a lower proportion of every age group 40 years and above compared to nationally.

Chart 5: Population Change, Hull 2011 - 2021



4.5 Compared to 2011, there has been an increase of 10.4% in children aged under 15 years, an increase of 0.4% in people aged 15 to 64 years, and an increase of 14.2% in people aged 65 years and over.

4.6 This compares to increases nationally of 5.0%, 3.6% and 20.1% nationally.

4.7 While Hull's population is not aging at the same rate as nationally, large increases in those aged 65 to 74 years mean the population aged 65 years and over is currently at its highest level.

4.8 There is also a significantly growing number of 50- to 59-year-olds.

4.9 Other population growth in Hull over the last decade appears to focus on young families; specifically those aged 30 to 39 years with children aged 5 to 14 years.

4.10 Historically, these age groups have been in decline due to large levels of outward internal migration to the East Riding. However, recent and ongoing work in Hull building new houses, creating new jobs, improving the public realm, and improving educational attainment continues to create a city and neighbourhoods which attract people (particularly young families) to live and work here.

4.11 Conversely there is a high level of population decline amongst young adults aged 15 to 24 years, working age adults aged 45 to 44 years and very young children aged 0 to 4 years.

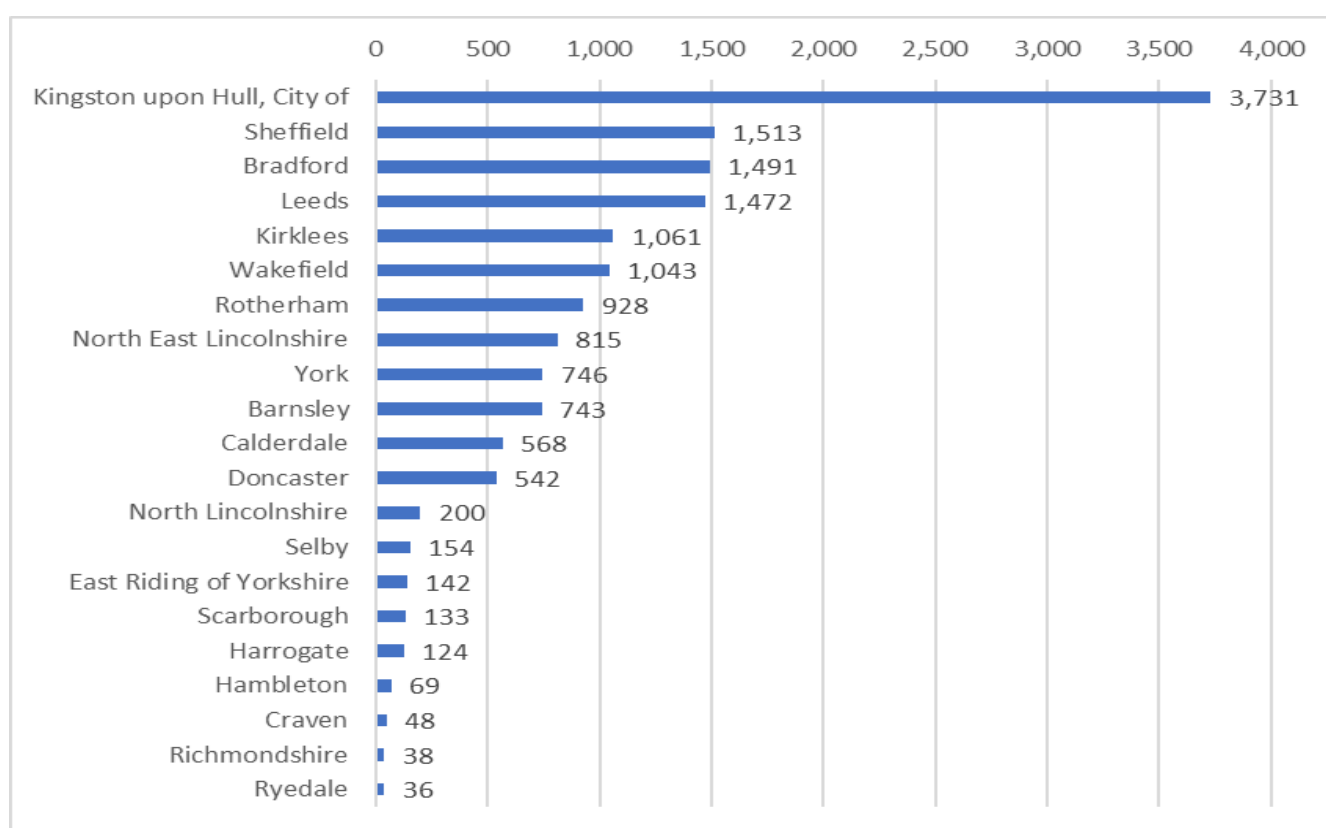
5. Population Density

5.1 As of 2021, Hull has 3,731 residents per square kilometre - the same as around 27 people living on each football pitch-sized area of land.

5.2 This is an increase from 3,582 residents per square kilometre in 2011.

5.3 Hull is the most densely populated of Yorkshire and the Humber's 21 local authority areas.

Chart 6: Residents per Square Km, Yorkshire and the Humber, 2021



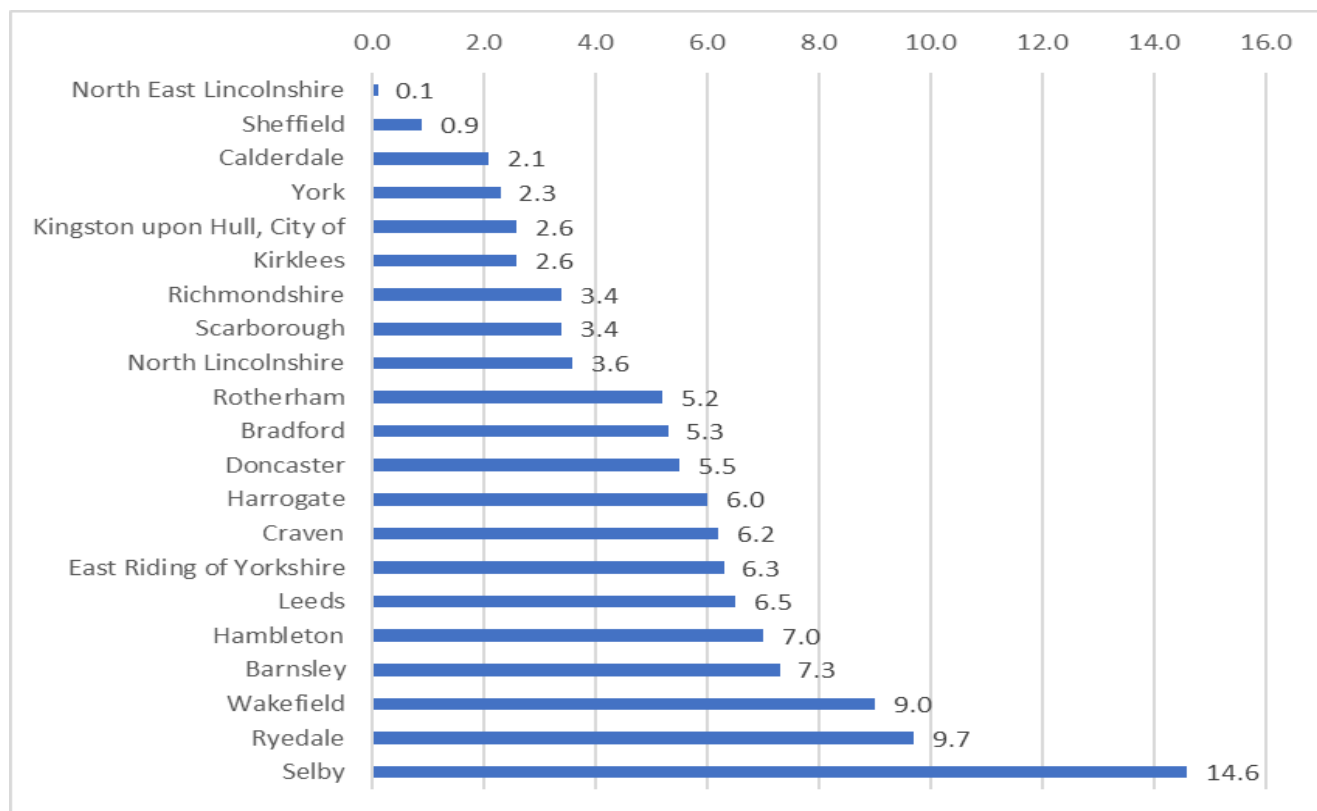
5.4 In fact it is over twice as densely populated as other major cities in the region such as Sheffield, Bradford and Leeds.

5.5 Overall, Hull is the 45th most densely populated local authority in England, the 17th most densely populated local authority outside of London, and the 4th most densely populated local authority in the North of England (after Manchester, Liverpool and Blackpool).

6. Number of Households

- 6.1 There were 115,500 households in Hull on Census Day.
- 6.2 The number of households increased by approximately 2,900 since 2011 (2.6%), when there were 112,600 households.
- 6.3 This increase in households was lower than both England (6.2%) and Yorkshire and the Humber (5.1%).
- 6.4 Unlike the trends seen with changes in population size, the increase in households in Hull was actually one of the lowest of all 21 local authorities in the region.

Chart 7: % Change in Households, Yorkshire and Humber, 2011 - 2021



- 6.5 Typically those authorities which experienced the largest population increase between 2011 and 2021 (Selby, Wakefield, Leeds, Barnsley and Ryedale) also had the largest increase in household number.
- 6.6 On average, in these authorities, the creation of one additional household increased the population by 1.99 people.
- 6.7 However, despite Hull's large population increase, the increase in household numbers is relatively small.
- 6.8 In Hull, the creation of one additional household increased the population by 3.68 people.
- 6.9 This could be the result of Hull increasing the occupancy of existing properties and / or building new houses specifically for larger families (which in turn would explain the increase in families discussed earlier).

7. Key Considerations: Comparison with the Mid-Year Estimates

- 7.1 Between censuses, the Office for National Statistics produce annual midyear estimates of the resident population, by age and gender, at local authority level.
- 7.2 These are calculated by updating the latest census base; aging on the population each year by one year, accounting for births and deaths, and estimating the level of internal and international immigration and emigration (based on the levels seen over the previous 5 years).
- 7.3 These estimates are used by, amongst others:
- Hull City Council, to design and deliver services
 - national government, to allocate capital and revenue funding
 - various public and charitable / voluntary organisations to create bids for, and to allocate, funding
 - private business, when making decisions about where to invest
- 7.4 The mid 2020 estimate suggested that there were 259,100 people living in Hull and that, between 2019 and 2020, Hull experienced its second consecutive significant population decrease.
- 7.5 However, the 2021 Census estimate is 8,000 higher than 2020 mid-year estimate.
- 7.6 This suggests that the mid-year estimates have likely significantly undercounted Hull's population, particularly in recent years.
- 7.7 This undercount has largely occurred in the working age population; with approximately 6,000 fewer 15- to 64-year-olds counted in the 2020 mid-year estimate compared to the 2021 census.
- 7.8 It is likely that ONS will bring out revised midyear estimates for the period 2011 – 2020, which will bring them in line with the latest census estimate.
- 7.9 However, it is worth considering the validity of the midyear estimates in future inter census years, and the impact this has on the organisation both in terms of designing / delivering services and accessing funding streams it is entitled to.

8. Future Releases

- 8.1 The next phase will see univariate census data released, between now and autumn, in eight stages:
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. demography and migration | 5. labour market & travel to work |
| 2. ethnicity, nationality, language, & religion | 6. sexual orientation & gender identity |
| 3. health, disability, & unpaid care | 7. education |
| 4. housing | 8. UK armed forces veterans |
- 8.2 It is expected that these topic summaries will be released using a staggered approach, every two to three weeks. You can find out more about the release schedule and our dissemination plans [here](#).

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