



2011 Census Key Messages North Warwickshire

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Background

Run by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), the Census is conducted every 10 years and is a count of all people and households in the UK.

The Census questionnaire asks about a range of topics which in turn provides the council and others with a valuable insight into local populations; who we are, how we live and what we do. This information will help public services and other agencies identify need and plan future service delivery.

Keep up to date

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Access to Census Material

More than any other census, there is greater opportunity to access 2011 Census data on a self-service basis, free of charge, from the ONS and Nomis websites.

Warwickshire Observatory is working to ensure the council derives as much value as possible from the available data. Our role is identifying key messages from the material and providing data and information in more easily accessible formats.

Our Area Profiling Tool enables users to create area based census profiles (Including Warwickshire Wards, Localities, Parishes, Lower Super Output Areas) covering a range of census data.

Selected datasets are published on the Observatory's website as they become available.

We welcome any comments from colleagues using census data at research@warwickshire.gov.uk

Introduction

What the 2011 Census can tell us

The following paper identifies some of the key messages for North Warwickshire from the 2011 Census. It also considers the possible implications of these emerging trends for public services and local residents.

The Census makes a major contribution to our knowledge about communities in North Warwickshire; their changing age structure, ethnic make-up, work and travel patterns, education and health status etc. In turn, this information provides an important early indication of issues which may emerge in the future.

What the 2011 Census doesn't tell us

Numbers alone will not provide the full story of change in North Warwickshire. Predicting the impact of changing populations needs to be further enhanced with information about people's likely attitudes, values, behaviours and other circumstances. These additional factors are likely to impact on the changing numbers; for example, the impact of being an unpaid carer will vary depending on things like economic circumstances and additional support networks. Similarly, the impact of more young families in the county will be different if this is combined with higher levels of deprivation among them. In short, there is a need to draw together data which combines changing numbers but also changing characteristics, preferences and household types to get a fuller, and richer, understanding of likely future issues.

Population Change

A growing older population but a decline in numbers of younger people

- Overall, North Warwickshire's population grew by just 152 people in the last 10 years or 0.2%.
- Population change has, however, varied between different age groups. The absolute number of pre-schoolers (0-4 years old), children (5-15 years old) and those of working age (16-64 years old) has declined since 2001.
- The only percentage increases in population have been seen in the older age categories; over 85s grew by 39% in the last 10 years.

Local variations:

North Warwickshire has proportionately fewer 0-4 year olds than the county average. However, higher proportions of 0-4 year olds are evident in some smaller areas (LSOAs*) notably, Ansley Common and Birchley Heath, New Arley West and Old Arley, New Arley East, Hill Top and Ansley and Atherstone Central.

Implications for North Warwickshire

- Increasing numbers of older people, like elsewhere in Warwickshire, is likely to continue to influence and shape the future provision of all services. Across the public sector, the proportion of customers from older age groups will rise as the population rises. However, while there may be higher costs in some of these areas relating to health and social care needs, there may also be economic and social opportunities created in others.
- While the demands on services relating to children and young people are likely to remain fairly static or reduce in the short term, there may be localised pockets of demand in childcare, school places etc. where declining numbers have not been so marked. For other services, predicting need on the basis of population alone is more complex and subject to other factors such as levels of deprivation in an area.
- More broadly, these changing demographics highlight the increasing need to better understand customers across the public sector – to understand their characteristics, preferences and likely service needs. By utilising more detailed 2011 Census data as it emerges along with other data sources and tools to profile local populations, the more effective future service planning will be.

*Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) were designed by the Office for National Statistics for the reporting of small areas statistics. LSOAs typically contain below 1,200 households.

Household growth

Household growth below the county average but there are increasing numbers of one person households

- The number of households in North Warwickshire grew by 2.5% since 2001 – an increase of around 640 households. This is below the county average of 9.5% growth.
- Since 2001, almost 80% of new households i.e 500 of the 640 households were single occupancy.
- Just over a quarter of all households are now single occupancy and of these 46% are aged 65+. This falls in line with county trends.
- The number of households with dependent children where no adult is in employment has declined over the past 10 years from 871 to 705 households.
- Lone parent household numbers have increased by almost 20%, from 1,260 to 1,508 families. This is below the county rate of increase of 33%. Lone parent households account for just under 6% of all households.

Implications for North Warwickshire

- Household growth will generally place a range of localised infrastructure and environmental pressures around the borough although these are likely to be less marked than elsewhere in the county as household growth is comfortably below the county average.
- The trend towards higher numbers of one person households, including more 65+ lone households, carries with it a number of implications for the demand for appropriate housing and the delivery of a range of services.
- An awareness of North Warwickshire's changing household composition will enable services to better meet needs across the borough. Additional 2011 Census data expected to be released later in 2013 will help to provide a more detailed picture of household change.

Local variations:

Atherstone Central (Central) LSOA records a rate of single household occupancy of 45%, compared to a North Warwickshire average of 26%.

Health and Care

Lower than average levels of 'good' health and more carers caring for longer

- The 2011 Census asked residents to rate their own health on a scale of 'very good' to 'very bad'. In North Warwickshire, 79.9% of residents described their health as 'good' or 'very good'. This is below the county average of 82%.
- Similarly, residents were asked to rate the degree to which their daily activities were limited by health and/or disability. At 9.3% of residents, North Warwickshire records proportionately more people whose activities are 'limited a lot' compared with the county average of 7.7%.
- The proportion of the population providing unpaid care has increased slightly in the last 10 years to 12.1% (or 7,519) of residents. In addition, carers appear to be providing more care based on hours per week. The highest levels of growth were in those caring for over 19 hours per week. More than a third (or 1,798) of those recording that they provided unpaid care each week did so for more than 50 hours per week.

Implications for North Warwickshire

- North Warwickshire generally performs less well than the national and county averages against a range of health indicators. These variations in performance around the county have been widely documented elsewhere. The demand and need for health improvement, care and support services is more evident here than some other parts of the county.
- As the population ages the role of unpaid carers is likely to continue to grow with implications for the support and needs of carers generally.
- There is evidence to suggest that the hours of care provided each week by carers has an impact on their own health and wellbeing. Evidence suggests they are less likely to prioritise their own health appointments and more likely to experience difficulties relating to the physical and emotional strain that caring can bring. There will be a need to ensure that services reach out to those providing 50 hours or more care a week, as they are at greater risk of their own health and well being deteriorating. Further 2011 Census releases will provide an opportunity to find out more about carers in Warwickshire including their age and ethnic background. In turn, this can inform service development to better meet the needs of this population.

Local variations:

The LSOA of Atherstone North St. Georges and Carlyon records the highest rate of residents 16+ indicating their day to day activities are 'limited a lot' at 16% compared with an average of 9.3% in the borough as a whole.

Ethnicity, Country of Birth, Religion and Language

Slight shifts in diversity....but remains one of the least diverse populations in the county

- The 'White British' group accounted for 95.9% of the population in 2011, a fall from 97.2% in 2001.
- North Warwickshire's next largest ethnic group is the 'Other White' category at 1.1% of the population followed by 'White Irish' at 0.7% and then the 'Indian' community who make up 0.6% of the population.
- Both the 'Other White' category and 'Indian' group have experienced increases in numbers over the last 10 years. The 'Other White' category increased by 64% to 707 people while the number of people identifying as 'Indian' increased by just over 50% to 360 people.
- The 'White Irish' community experienced a decline in numbers over the last 10 years from 488 to 458 people although it remains the second largest ethnic group in the borough .

Local variations:

The most prevalent non-UK country of birth in North Warwickshire is Ireland followed by Poland. Residents whose country of birth is Poland have increased from 25 to 256 people.

Below the county trend for non-UK born residents

- In North Warwickshire, 3.9% of residents were born outside of the UK compared with 2.3% in 2001. The current rate is below the county average of 8.3%. Of those born overseas, almost 38% arrived in the last 10 years – again falling behind the county trend of almost 50% suggesting North Warwickshire has experienced less migration from residents born overseas than other parts of Warwickshire.

Main languages spoken in North Warwickshire

- After English, which is the main language of 98.9 % of the population, the second language most widely spoken by residents in the borough is Polish with 231 residents recording this as their main language. Punjabi is the main language of around 50 people in the borough.
- In North Warwickshire 130 residents are recorded as not being able to speak English well or at all.

Ethnicity, Country of Birth, Religion and Language continued..

A decline in Christian religious affiliations and an increase in those stating they have “no religion”

- The proportion of people stating that their religion was Christian decreased by almost 11 percentage points from 2001 to 2011 to 70.3% of the population. This is slightly below the level of decrease experienced in Warwickshire as a whole.
- North Warwickshire along with Stratford-on-Avon District have the highest proportion of their populations stating ‘Christian’ as their religious affiliation.
- The size of the group stating that they had ‘no religious’ affiliation increased by almost 11 percentage points over the last 10 years, in line with the county trend.
- The largest religious group after Christian in North Warwickshire is Sikh who account for 0.4% of the population - an increase of 0.2 percentage points since 2001.
- Other religious affiliations also increased very slightly but absolute numbers are relatively small. Religions other than ‘Christian’ accounted for less than 2% of the population and while all except ‘Jewish’ showed small increases in absolute numbers in the last 10 years, all increases were of less than 0.2 percentage points.

Implications for North Warwickshire

- The extent to which changes in the ethnic background, religion or country of birth of the borough’s population will shift patterns of service demand is a complex one to predict with accuracy. In North Warwickshire, these changes are currently relatively small scale yet still evident. It is worth noting that being part of a minority ethnic group in an area where there is little diversity may present its own challenges in terms of inclusion, access to services and participation in community life generally and is therefore still relevant to service providers and policy makers locally.
- The Public Sector Equality Duty of the Equality Act 2010 places a number of duties on authorities to pay due regard to the statutory responsibilities relating to equalities. The purpose of the duty is to provide a framework to improve equality performance which is proportionate and evidence led. Knowledge about the changing composition of the borough’s communities from the 2011 Census material will enable Warwickshire County Council and partners to do this.

Local variations:

Religions other than Christianity are recorded by just 1.4% of the resident population in North Warwickshire.

Housing Tenure

More homes owned outright and more private renting but fewer mortgaged properties

- Almost 35% of households in North Warwickshire are owned outright; just over one in three. This is an increase of 4.4 percentage points on 10 years ago and is the largest rate of increase compared with other boroughs and districts in Warwickshire.
- The number of mortgaged properties in the borough has fallen by 6.8 percentage points since 2001 to 37.5% of households. While this decline follows the county and national trend, it is slightly less marked than elsewhere in the county.
- The number of households privately renting their homes has seen a marked increase in the last 10 years. The number of privately rented houses is up by 65% in North Warwickshire from 1,594 to 2,635 homes and now accounts for 10% of all households.

Local variations:

Rates of private renting are considerably higher than the borough average of 10% in the LSOAs of Atherstone Central Centre and Fillongley and the Packingtons at 25% and 22% respectively.

Implications for North Warwickshire

- North Warwickshire has broadly followed county and national trends regarding shifts in the pattern of housing tenure. North Warwickshire's ageing population combined with low interest rates may account for the higher than average increase in households which are owned outright as mortgage terms come to a natural end.
- The decline in the number of mortgaged households nationally is widely attributed to the economic downturn. The corresponding increase in privately rented accommodation is similarly linked to rising house prices and tighter lending requirements since the recession. Issues around rent levels, security of tenure and housing quality become pertinent for a growing number of households.
- Further information from the 2011 Census will provide more detailed information on the characteristics of those living in owned, mortgaged or rented households providing a more comprehensive picture of housing tenure in North Warwickshire. The Observatory will look at these issues in more detail in the 2013 Quality of Life report.

Car Ownership and Travel to Work

Car ownership increases overall

- The last 10 years have seen a 10.7% rise in the number of cars in North Warwickshire – an additional 3,623 cars since 2001. This is a lower rate of increase when compared to the county but car ownership levels are generally higher in North Warwickshire than the county as a whole.
- Nearly 45% of households in North Warwickshire have two or more cars – slightly higher than the county average.
- Around 1 in 10 households in the borough have 3 or more cars
- The proportion of households without a car/van has decreased over the last 10 years from 17.9% to 15.9%. The current rate is lower than the county average of 17.6%.

Local variations:

North Warwickshire has the highest rate of travel to work by car in the county. Almost 80% of the working population travel to work by car by driving or as a passenger.

Travel to work patterns mostly in line with county averages but lower public transport use

- In 2011, driving to work was by far the most common form of commuting with almost three quarters of the working population aged 16 -74 years travelling to work this way. This is higher than the county average of 68.8% using this method. Of these, 1,386 people stated in the workplace address question that they worked mainly at or from home.
- A further 1,882 people or 6% of the working population recorded travelling as a passenger in a car/van as their main mode of travel to work giving a vehicle occupancy rate** of 1.08 per vehicle – in line with the county average.
- In 2011, 4.6% of the working population used public transport to get to work; considerably lower than the national average of 16.4% and slightly lower than the county average of 5.4%.
- Just over 7% of people walked to work in 2011 while 1.2% cycled. Both of these are slightly below county averages.

*The denominator for all percentages in this section is the population aged 16-74 who were working during the week before the census day.

** Vehicle Occupancy Rate is the sum of drivers and passengers divided by drivers.

Changes in Travel to work patterns*

Patterns of travel to work have changed very little between 2001 and 2011

- There has been an increase in the proportion of people working from home from 9.6% in 2001 to 11.4% in 2011. This rate of increase is lower than the county average.
- Some 3,552 people report working mainly from home although this does not mean that no travel is involved as part of their job. Indeed, 40% of people who stated in the workplace address questions that they worked from home went on to select 'travel by car/van' as their travel to work method.
- Driving to work has increased by 2.2 percentage points across the borough in the last 10 years.
- Overall, rates of public transport use and walking and cycling rates have shifted only slightly over the last 10 years – all changes in rates are one percentage point or less.

Implications for North Warwickshire

- Rising numbers of cars generally, along with more cars per household, is likely to place additional pressures on communities and local infrastructure. The more rural nature of North Warwickshire where access to facilities may be more limited by other transport is likely to explain both relatively high levels of car ownership in the borough and high levels of car use for work purposes. An increase in car travel for work may reflect changes in work patterns locally i.e traveling further to work or shift patterns that make alternatives less accessible.
- This, combined with the slight decline in walking and cycling rates overall, suggests that wider environmental and health concerns, particularly relating to air quality and physical activity levels are likely to continue to be present issues in some areas.
- Although homeworking figures indicate an increase in the proportion of people who work mainly from home, its impact on travel patterns remains somewhat unclear. In the 2011 Census, people working mainly from home could, for example, still record a mode of travel to work - acknowledging that working from home may still involve travel for work purposes.
- More information on where people are travelling to work ('flow data') will be released by ONS in February 2014 and will provide further insight into commuting patterns across the borough.

Labour Market

More men are working part-time and more women are in the job market

- Economic activity rates for men are slightly lower than those of 10 years ago. Fewer men are working full-time; North Warwickshire has seen a decline in the number of men aged 16 – 74 years working full-time from 56.2% to 50.3% in 2011 roughly in line with county trends.
- Although the number of men working part-time is still a relatively small proportion of the working age male population, it is notable that the number of men working part-time hours has risen by around 86% since 2001.
- More women (aged 16-74 years) are now recorded as 'economically active' – an increase of 4.4 percentage points from 62.1% in 2001 to 67.1% in 2011. The proportion of women working part-time increased slightly more than those working full-time which remained broadly similar to 2001.
- There has been a sharp fall in the number of women who record 'Looking after home/family' as their occupation in the last 10 years from 2,518 to 1,385 women. The figure for men remains very similar to that of 2001.
- There have been small increases in those recording that they are self employed in the last 10 years, both for men (1.2 percentage points) and women (1.1 percentage points).
- In terms of hours worked, there has been decline in the number of people working 49+ hours per week. The decline is proportionally greater than that experienced at county level. In turn, there has been rise of 3.4 percentage points in the number working less than 30 hours per week – a figure in line with the county average.

Qualification levels are below the county and national average. Student numbers are up by a third

- Almost 28% of residents in North Warwickshire aged 16 or over are recorded as having no qualifications. This is higher than the county average of 21.6%.
- The proportion of those aged 16+ recording level 4 (degree or higher) qualifications is 9 percentage points lower than the county average of 28.8%.
- The number of people aged 18-74 years recorded as a full-time student in North Warwickshire rose by a third in the last 10 years from 905 to 1,211 people.

Implications for North Warwickshire

- North Warwickshire broadly reflects the national picture of changing work patterns for men and women brought about by a combination of changing social and economic circumstances. The current economic climate and restriction of job opportunities may explain the shift in the balance of full and part time work patterns for men and, indeed, the slight increases in self employment.
- Qualification and skill levels in North Warwickshire, however, remain below the county average and this is likely to result in reduced opportunities for residents to access certain types of employment.