

## Chapter 1: Overview

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### Demographics

- 1.1 Population
- 1.2 Diversity
- 1.3 Language
- 1.4 Deprivation

### Health & Wellbeing

- 1.5 Life Expectancy
- 1.6 Healthy Life Expectancy

### Appendix



# 1.1 Population

## Key Points

### Population Structure

The population structure of Sandwell is relatively young. Compared with England, there is a larger proportion of those aged under 20 in Sandwell, and a much larger proportion aged 30 to 49. Smethwick Town is much younger than elsewhere in the Borough, whilst Rowley and Wednesbury Towns have older populations.

### Services Pressure for under 16s and over 65s

Under 16s now account for 22.2% of the Sandwell population, and over 65s, 14.6%. Sandwell's dependency ratio has continued to rise with 0.61 dependants : 1 working age adult in 2020 (England 0.6). There are estimated to be 11,550 additional over 60s by 2033.

### Drivers of Growth

Since 2009, internal migration has been net negative: Sandwell's population is growing largely from births and international migration. Sandwell is attracting more people from outside the UK, accounting for 2060 pop p.a. (5yr average). Births have remained largely stable, with a slight reduction since 2016.

Net population growth is an estimated 1,970 p.a. (5yr average).

## Town

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Oldbury      | Tipton        |
| Rowley Regis | Wednesbury    |
| Smethwick    | West Bromwich |

Population  
**341,822**

**Female**  
173,558  
50.77%

**Male**  
168,264  
49.23%

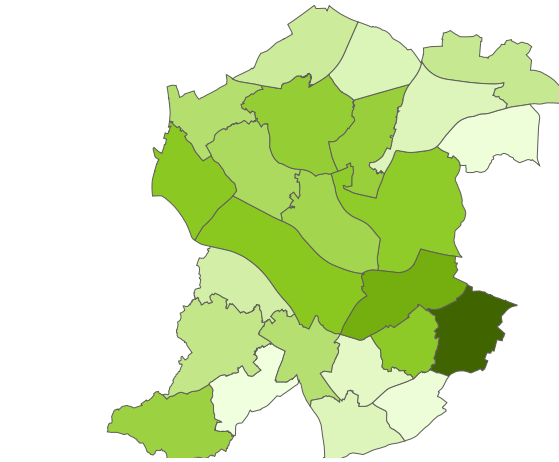
Age Group  
**1. Under 5**  
22,153  
6.48%

**2. 5-15**  
53,615  
15.69%

**3. 16-64**  
216,356  
63.29%

**4. 65 & over**  
49,698  
14.54%

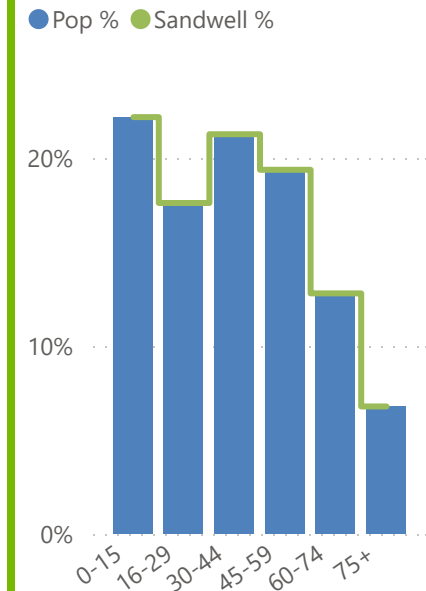
## Population 2021 by Ward



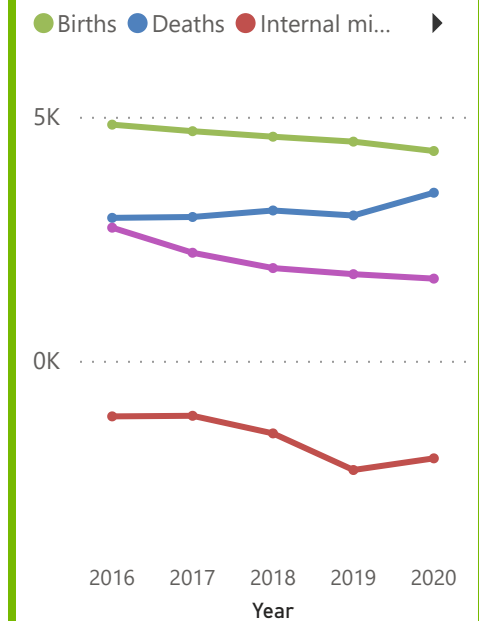
| Ward                       | Median Age | Population 2021 | Change since 2011 |
|----------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Abbey                      | 36         | 12,186          | 3.7%              |
| Blackheath                 | 40         | 12,060          | -1.9%             |
| Bristnall                  | 39         | 12,519          | 3.0%              |
| Charlemont with Grove Vale | 40         | 12,710          | 6.2%              |
| Cradley Heath and Old Hill | 37         | 14,961          | 10.3%             |
| Friar Park                 | 36         | 12,790          | 1.3%              |
| Great Barr with Yew Tree   | 38         | 13,509          | 7.2%              |
| Great Bridge               | 36         | 14,426          | 11.3%             |
| Greets Green and Lyng      | 34         | 14,723          | 25.1%             |
| Hateley Heath              | 36         | 15,120          | 6.3%              |
| Langley                    | 36         | 14,085          | 8.6%              |
| Newton                     | 39         | 12,146          | 5.1%              |
| Old Warley                 | 39         | 12,721          | 6.8%              |
| Oldbury                    | 34         | 15,604          | 14.7%             |
| Princes End                | 33         | 14,140          | 8.9%              |
| Rowley                     | 36         | 13,669          | 16.0%             |
| Smethwick                  | 34         | 15,472          | 9.4%              |
| Soho and Victoria          | 29         | 19,629          | 30.5%             |
| St Pauls                   | 31         | 16,720          | 17.5%             |
| Tipton Green               | 35         | 15,559          | 21.2%             |
| Tividale                   | 37         | 13,082          | 3.7%              |
| Wednesbury North           | 36         | 13,318          | 5.0%              |
| Wednesbury South           | 37         | 15,227          | 21.7%             |
| West Bromwich Central      | 36         | 15,426          | 16.1%             |

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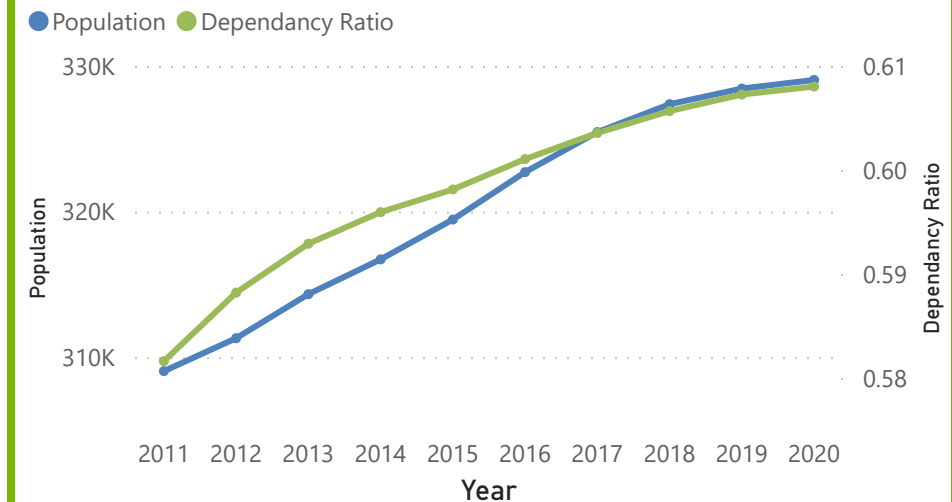
## Population Age Profile



## Population Change



## Population over time



**Key Points**

**Sandwell Overview**

In Sandwell, the majority of residents are White British, making up 52% of the population. Asian and Asian British residents make up the next largest proportion of the population (26%), with people with Indian and Pakistani backgrounds being the largest portion of this group.

**Change in ethnic populations**

Since the 2001 Census, within Sandwell the proportion of non-White ethnic groups have increased, and the proportion of White (British and other) has decreased by 13%. From 2001 to 2021, Asian & Asian British populations have increased by 120%, the number of people with Mixed ethnicities has increased by 145%, Black and Black British populations have increased by 175% and the number of people from other ethnic groups has increased by 2549%.

Overall, the population of Sandwell has increased by 21% since 2001.

**Controls**

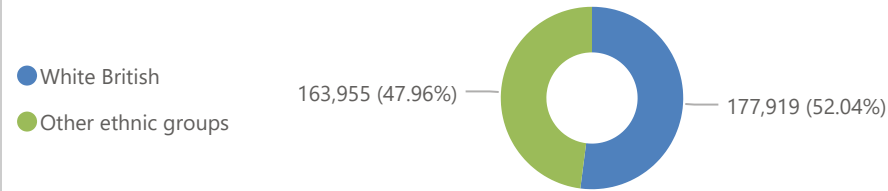
Ethnicity

All

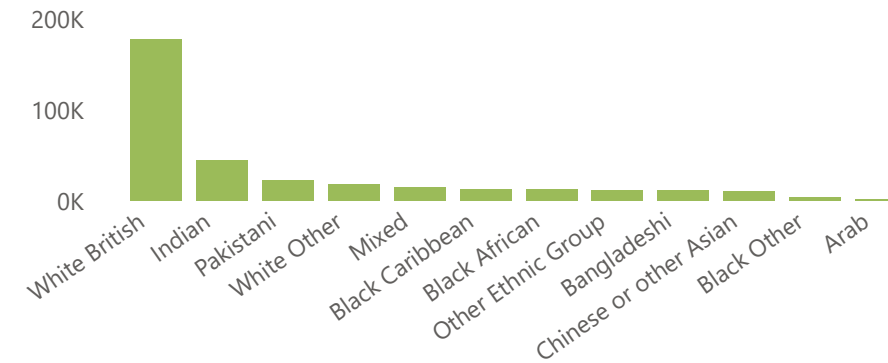
Age group

All

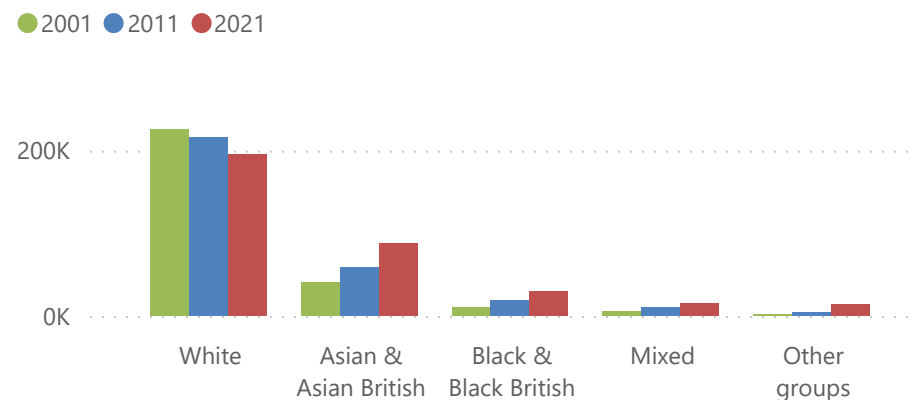
**Population by ethnicity**



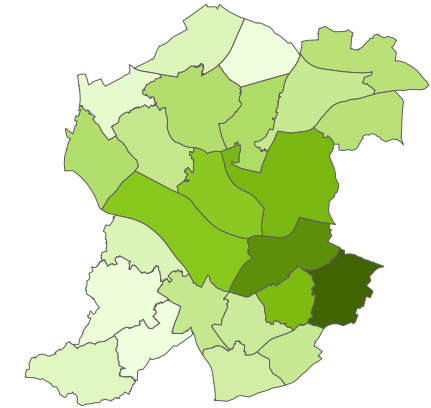
**Population by ethnicity**



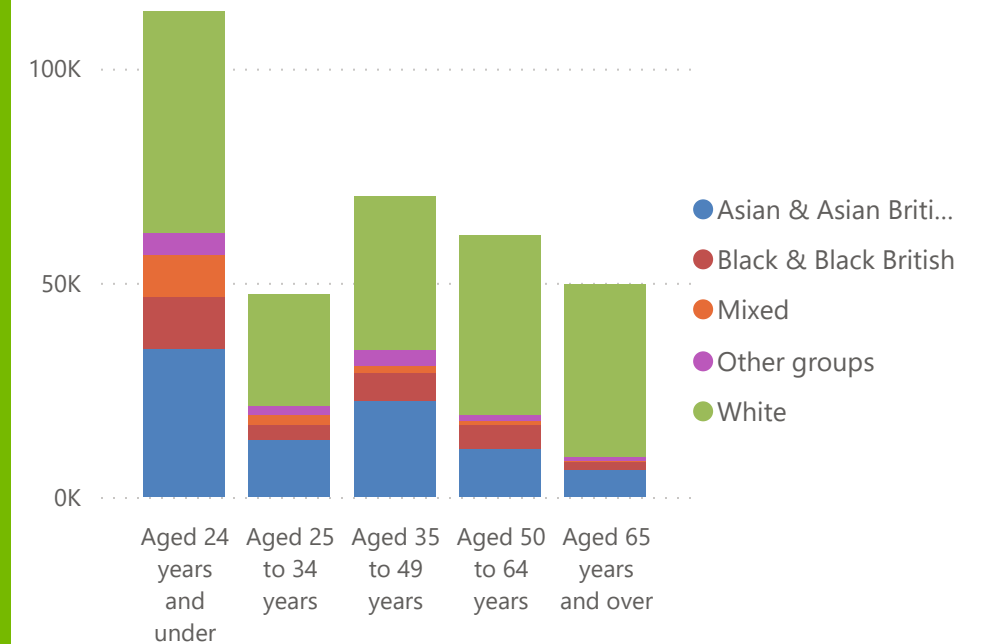
**Population by ethnicity per year**



**All Ethnicities other than White British**



**Ethnicity by age**



**Key Points**

**Sandwell Overview**

In 2021, 83.6% of Sandwell residents, aged 3 & over, had English as a main language, compared with 90.8% in England. The Sandwell figure is down from 88.0% in 2011.

In Sandwell, a further 5.2% (17,230) were proficient in English (saying they speak it very well) but did not speak it as their main language.

**Language**

The most common main languages spoken in Sandwell, other than English were: Panjabi (6.4%), Polish (1.7%), Bengali (1.0%) and Urdu (1.0%).

In 2021, 11.3% (14,750) of households consisted of members who had different main languages.

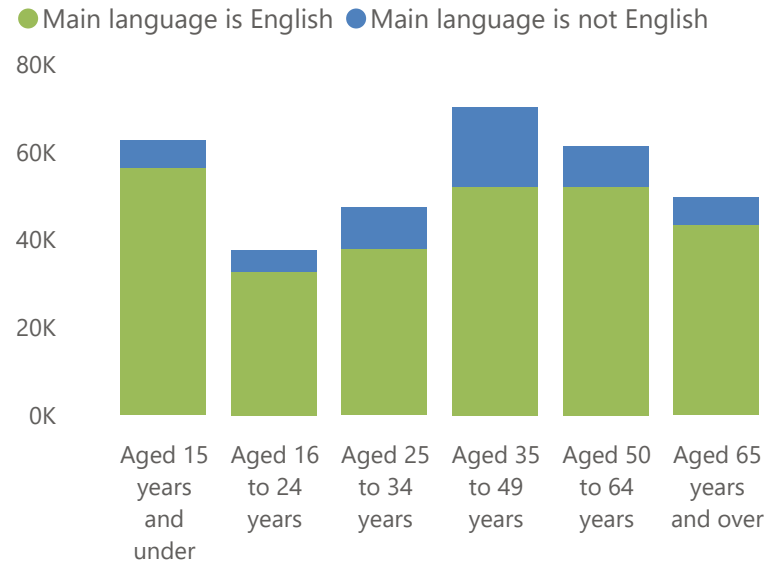
For those whose main language is not English, 45.7% aged 50 to 64 and 62.6% of those aged 65 & over, cannot speak English or can't speak it well.

The wards with the highest proportions of households where no people have English as a main language are in Smethwick and West Bromwich towns. 20.7% of households in St. Pauls ward have no people with English as a main language.

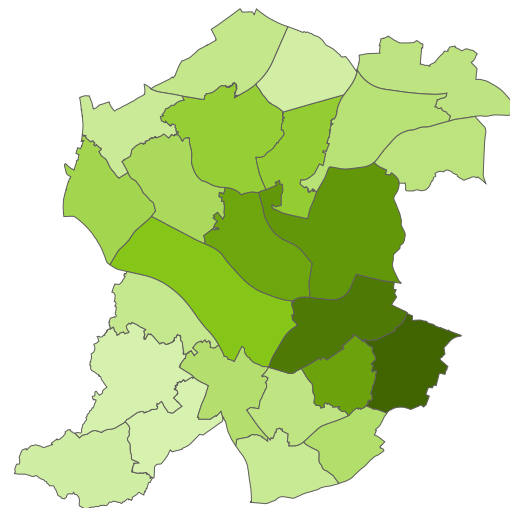
**Area**

- England
- Sandwell
- West Midlands

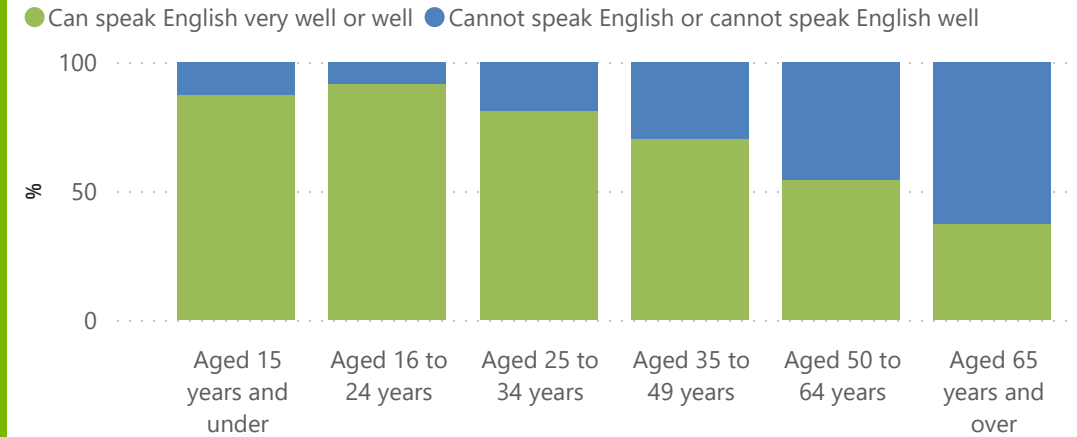
**Main language by age 2021 - Sandwell**



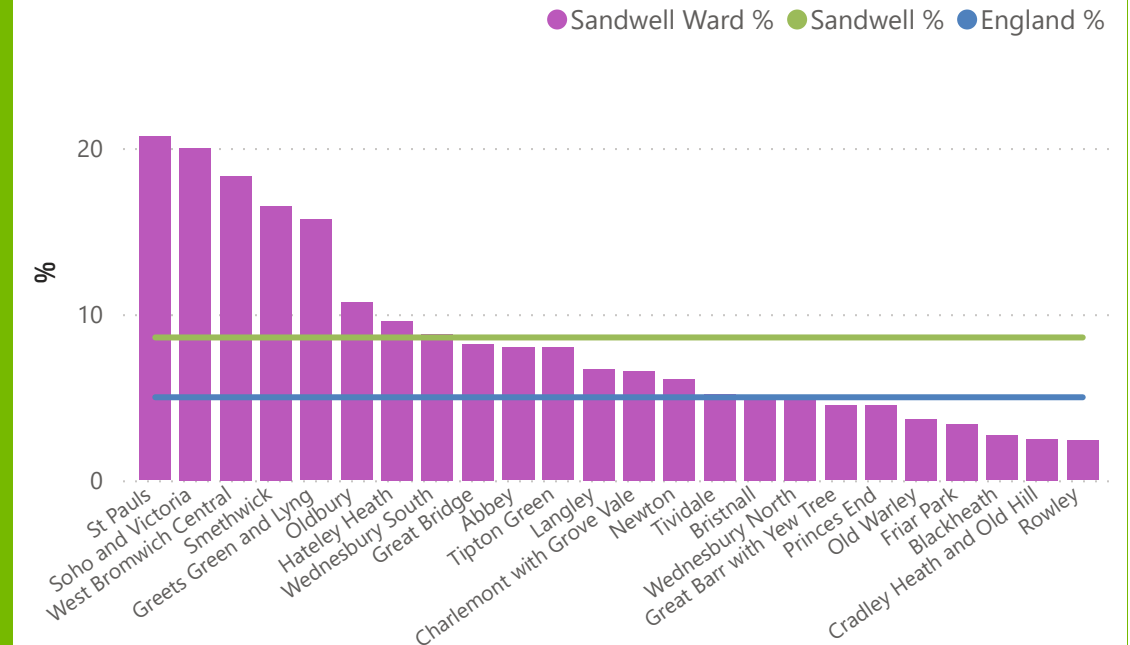
**Main language is not English by Ward 2021**



**Main language by age 2021 - Sandwell**



**% of households where no people have English as a main language**



**Key Points**

**Sandwell Overview**

Sandwell's average IMD score has declined slightly since 2015, falling one place to become the 12th most deprived local authority out of a total of 317 (where 1 is the most deprived). However, this does not necessarily mean that deprivation in the borough has declined since 2015 – only that it has declined relative to other areas. On most of the IMD measures, Sandwell is the most deprived local authority within the Black Country and Sandwell's deprivation is spread across the borough rather than being concentrated in certain hotspots.

**Local areas**

[Definitions](#)

Of all Sandwell's LSOAs, 60.2% are within the worst 20% nationally (in deciles 1 & 2), while there are none among the least deprived 20% in England. In 2019, the most deprived LSOA was in Princes End (Tipton town), and the least deprived was in Cradley Health & Old Hill (Rowley Regis town). The Town with the lowest average rank (most deprived) is Wednesbury and the town with the highest average rank (least deprived) is Rowley Regis.

**Domains**

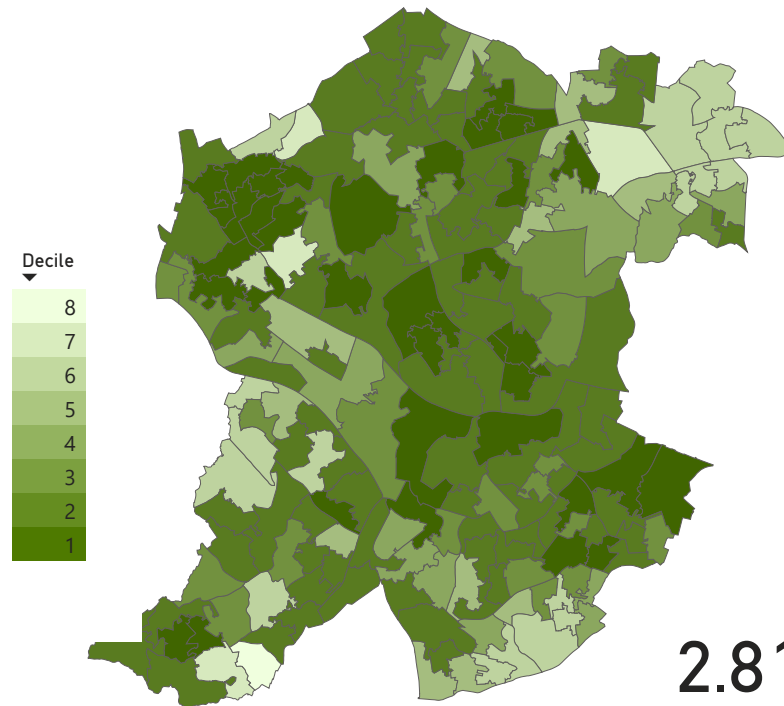
**Controls**

Domain

Ward

2015

**Relative deprivation by LSOA**



| LSOA code | LSOA name    | Ward       | Year | Rank  | Decile |
|-----------|--------------|------------|------|-------|--------|
| E01009928 | Bearwood 1   | Abbey      | 2019 | 8946  | 3      |
| E01009926 | Bearwood 2   | Abbey      | 2019 | 17042 | 6      |
| E01009921 | Bearwood 3   | Abbey      | 2019 | 10721 | 4      |
| E01009922 | Bearwood 4   | Abbey      | 2019 | 9488  | 3      |
| E01009927 | Bearwood 5   | Abbey      | 2019 | 10435 | 4      |
| E01009925 | Bearwood 6   | Abbey      | 2019 | 16714 | 6      |
| E01009924 | Bearwood 7   | Abbey      | 2019 | 16905 | 6      |
| E01009932 | Blackheath 1 | Blackheath | 2019 | 3858  | 2      |
| E01009930 | Blackheath 2 | Blackheath | 2019 | 5557  | 2      |

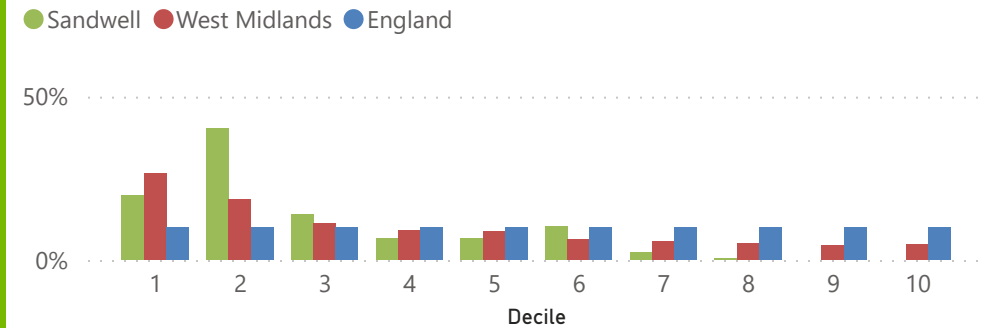
**Index of multiple deprivation (IMD)**

The IMD combines seven domains to give an overview of deprivation in the borough. One domain, income, contains a further two subdomains, IDAC1 and IDAOPI. The category can be changed using the dropdown menu at the bottom left of the page. It is important to note that the IMD only shows deprivation in relation to other areas and is not an indication of absolute deprivation.

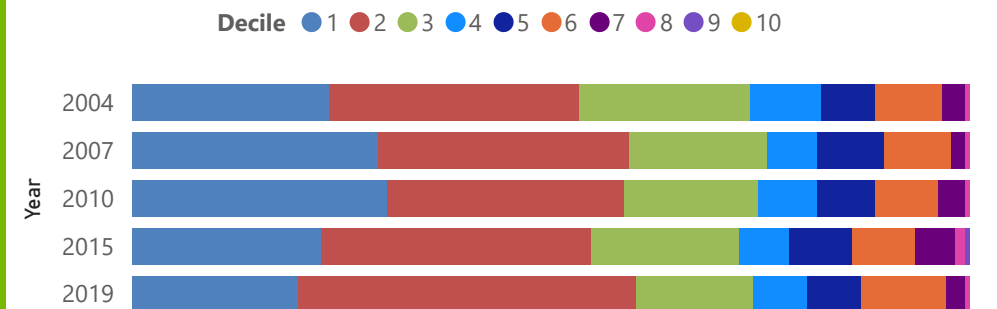
| LSOA           | 2015 rank | 2019 rank | Change | Category |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|--------|----------|
| Least deprived | 26601     | 24740     | -1861  | IMD      |
| Average        | 8020      | 7402      | -618   | IMD      |
| Most deprived  | 311       | 146       | -165   | IMD      |



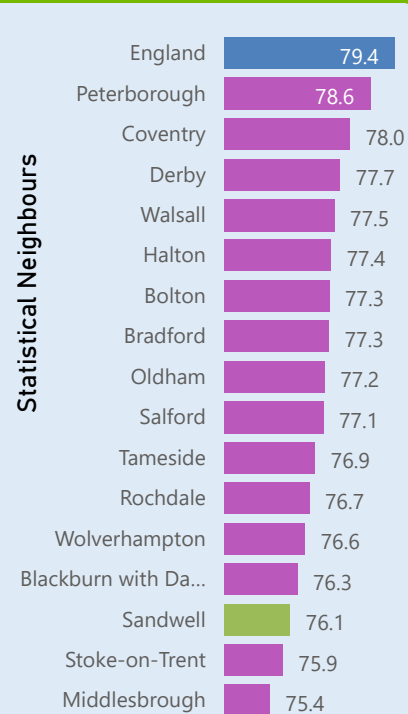
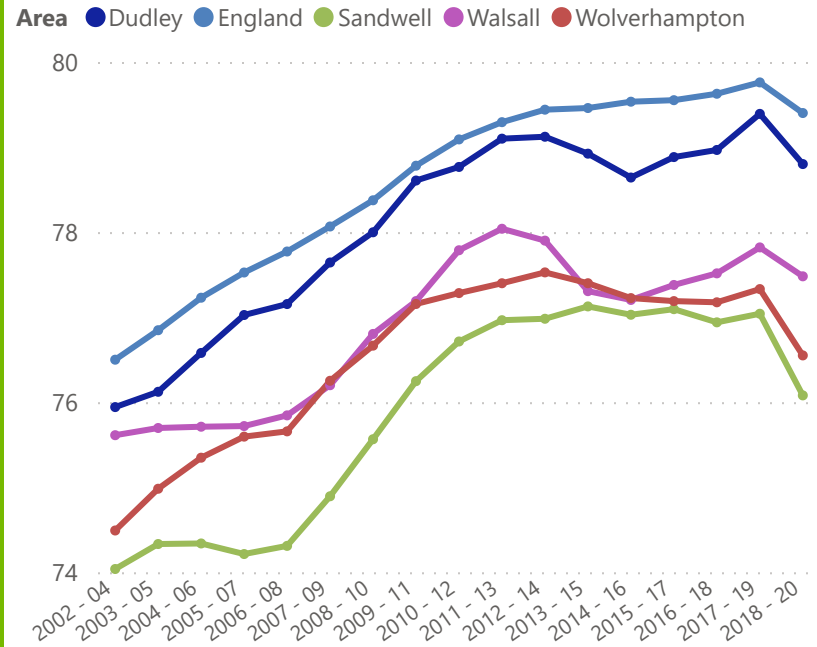
**Proportion of LSOAs by decile: Area comparison**



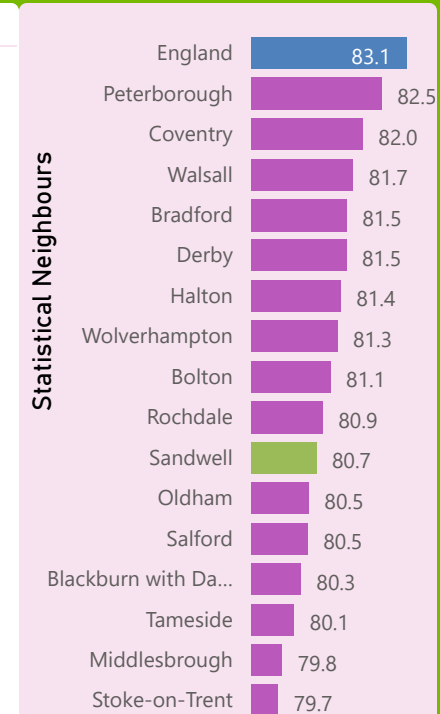
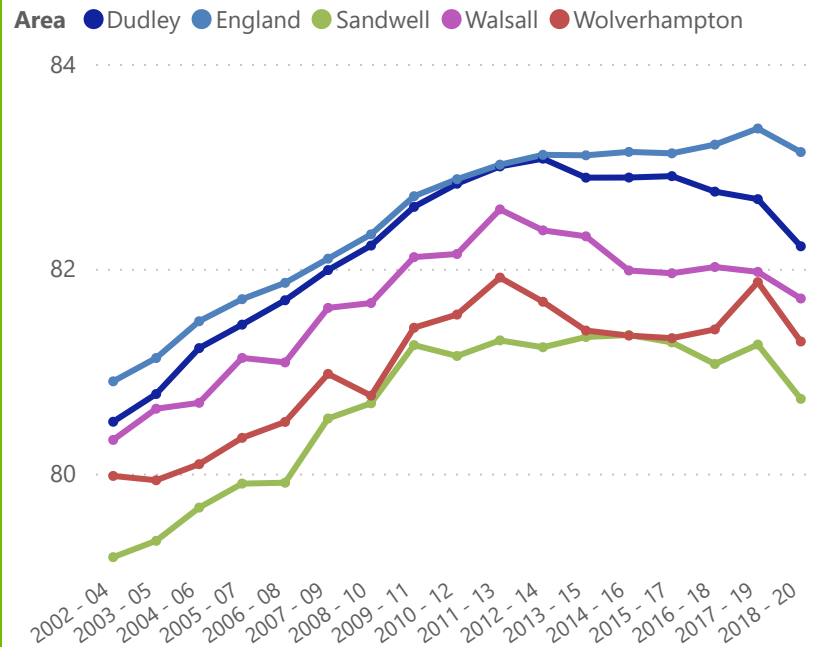
**Proportion of Sandwell LSOAs by decile**



**Male Life Expectancy at Birth**



**Female Life Expectancy at Birth**



**Key Points**

**Male Life Expectancy**

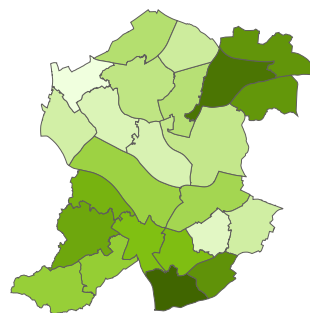
Estimated life expectancy for males is 76.1 years, compared to 79.4 for England as a whole. In contrast to females within Sandwell, males are expected to live 4.7 fewer years on average.

Male life expectancy has increased markedly since 2006-08, rising from 74.3 years to a peak of 77.1 years in 2013-15. The level has since remained stable for Sandwell until the most recent figures, which has seen a decline across England and all Black Country boroughs. The gap between England and Sandwell has now grown to 3.3 fewer years for a male in Sandwell as of 2018-20.

**Geographic Inequality**

Male life expectancy differs widely across the borough, ranging 6.7 years, with the highest in Old Warley (80.5 years) to the lowest in Princes End (73.7 years).

**Male LE at Birth**



**Key Points**

**Female Life Expectancy**

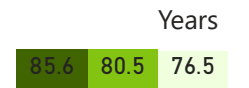
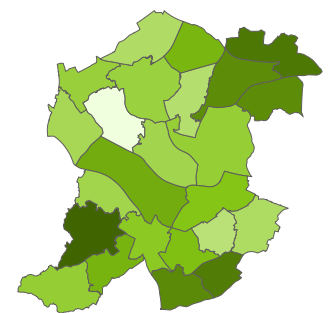
The estimated life expectancy for females is 80.7 years, compared to 83.1 for England as a whole. Compared to the Borough's 15 statistical neighbours (areas socioeconomically similar), Sandwell females fare slightly better than Sandwell men.

As for males, female life expectancy has increased markedly since 2006-08, rising from 79.9 years to a peak of 81.4 years in 2014-16. The level has since remained fairly stable for Sandwell until the most recent figures, which has seen a decline across England and all Black Country boroughs. The gap between England and Sandwell has now grown to 2.4 fewer years for a female in Sandwell as of 2018-20.

**Geographic Inequality**

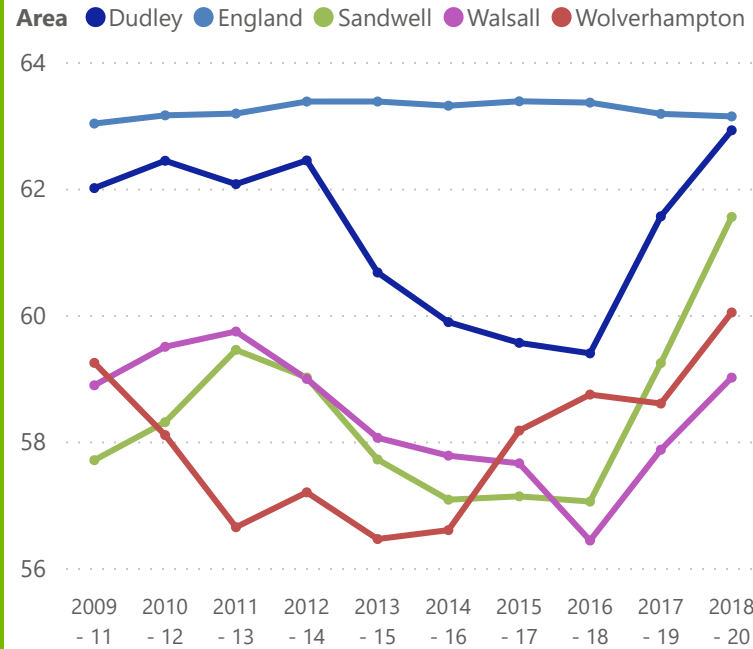
Female life expectancy differs widely across the borough, ranging 9.2 years, with the highest in Rowley (85.6 years) to the lowest in Great Bridge (76.5 years).

**Female LE at Birth**

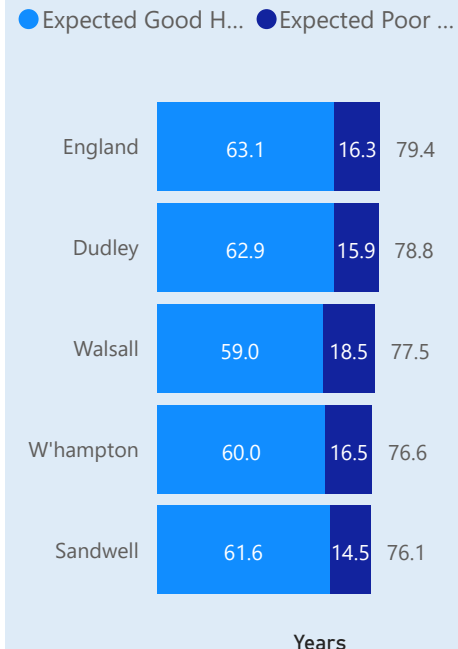




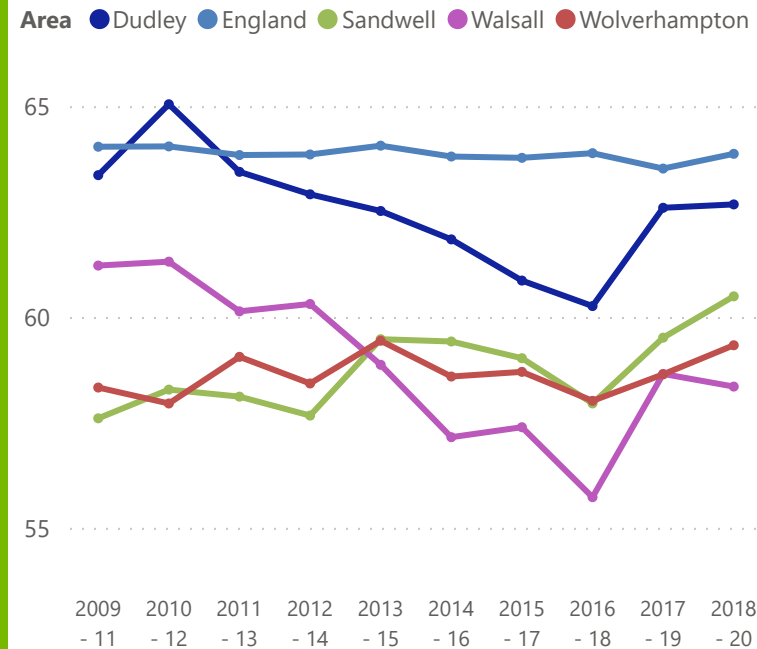
**Male Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth**



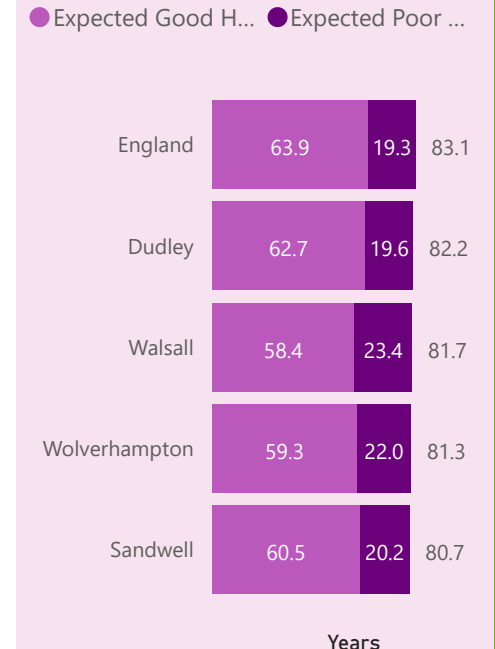
**Years in Poor Health Comparison**



**Female Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth**



**Years in Poor Health Comparison**



**Key Points**

**Male Healthy Life Expectancy**

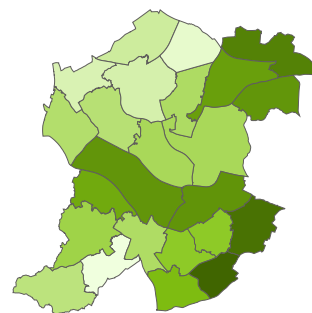
Healthy life expectancy for males has been rising since 2016-18, reaching a peak of 61.6 years in 2018-20. However, this is lower than the England average of 63.1.

Sandwell males have the second highest healthy life expectancy of the Black Country Boroughs, and the lowest number of years in poor health. However, this is coupled with the lowest life expectancy overall compared to the rest of the Black Country. On average, a male in Sandwell can expect to live 14.5 years, or 19.1% of their lives, in poor health.

**General Health**

In 2021, 80.6% of Sandwell males reported good or very good health, compared with 83.2% in England. At a local level, Abbey and Soho & Victoria wards have almost 85% of males reporting good or very good health, whilst Blackheath and Friar Park only have around 77%.

**Male General Health**



**Key Points**

**Female Healthy Life Expectancy**

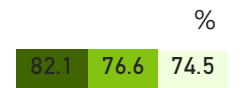
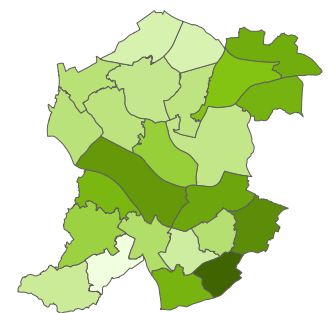
Healthy life expectancy for females in Sandwell is 60.5, compared to 63.9 for England as a whole (3.4 fewer years in good health). Females in Sandwell can expect to live 20.2 years, or 25.1% of their lives, in poor health.

Sandwell females have the second highest healthy life expectancy of the Black Country Boroughs, and the second lowest number of years in poor health. However, this is coupled with the lowest life expectancy overall compared to the rest of the Black Country.

**General Health**

In 2021, 77.5% of Sandwell females reported good or very good health, compared with 81.2% in England. Within the Borough, Abbey and Soho & Victoria wards have over 80% of females reporting good or very good health, whilst Blackheath has less than 75%.

**Female General Health**



# Appendix: Chapter 1 - Overview

## Data Sources

### Population

Borough, town & ward population data: NOMIS 2021 Census  
Population Components of Change & over time: ONS mid-year population estimates

### Ethnicity

NOMIS 2001, 2011 & 2021 Census

### Language

NOMIS 2021 Census, Table TS025 & TS029

### Deprivation

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government: English Indices of Deprivation 2015 & 2019

### Life Expectancy

Public Health England: Fingertips Public Health Profiles

### Healthy Life Expectancy

Public Health England: Fingertips Public Health Profiles

### Years in Poor Health

Public Health England: Fingertips Public Health Profiles 2018-2020

### General Health

ONS: 2021 Census

## Contact

If you have any queries or comments please contact the Public Health Research and Intelligence Team:

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