

Chapter 1: Overview

Demographics

- 1.1 Population
- 1.2 Diversity
- 1.3 Language
- 1.4 Religion
- 1.5 LGBTQ+

Deprivation

- 1.6 Area Deprivation
- 1.7 Low Income Households

Health & Wellbeing

- 1.8 Life Expectancy
- 1.9 Healthy Life Expectancy

Appendix



Sandwell JSNA

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%

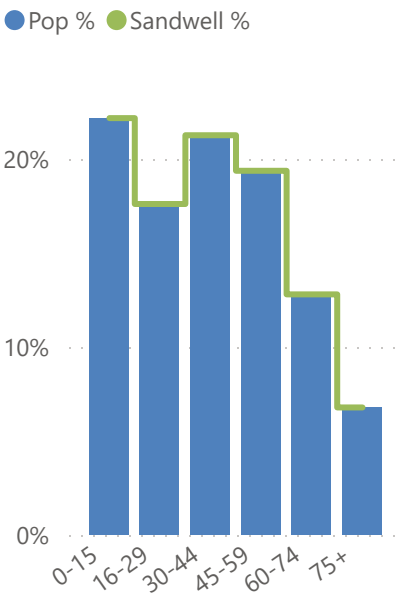
Population 2021 by Ward

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%

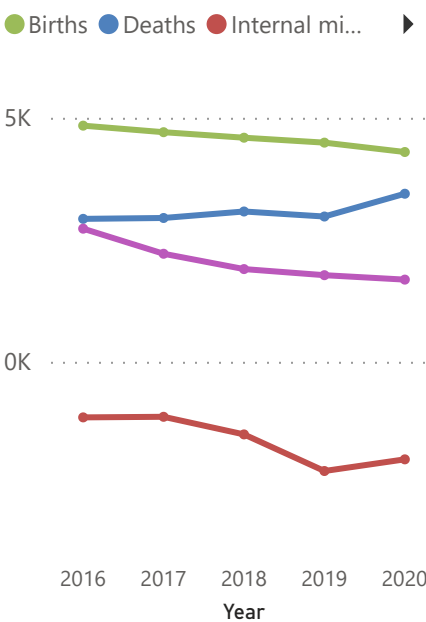
Return to Index



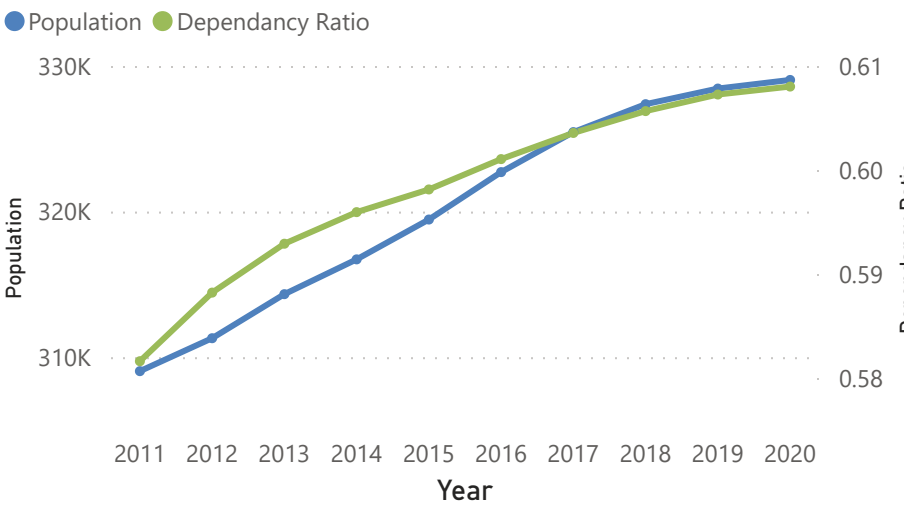
Population Age Profile



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

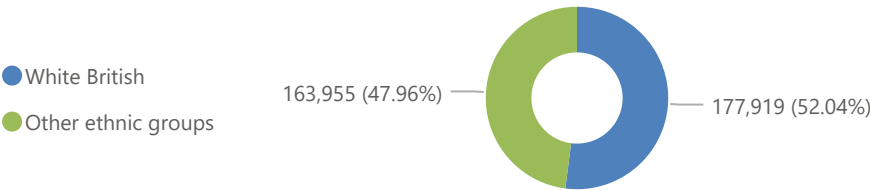
Ethnicity

All

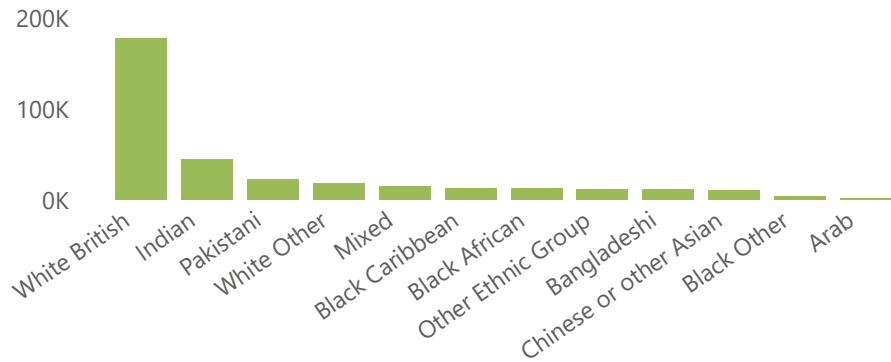
Age group

All

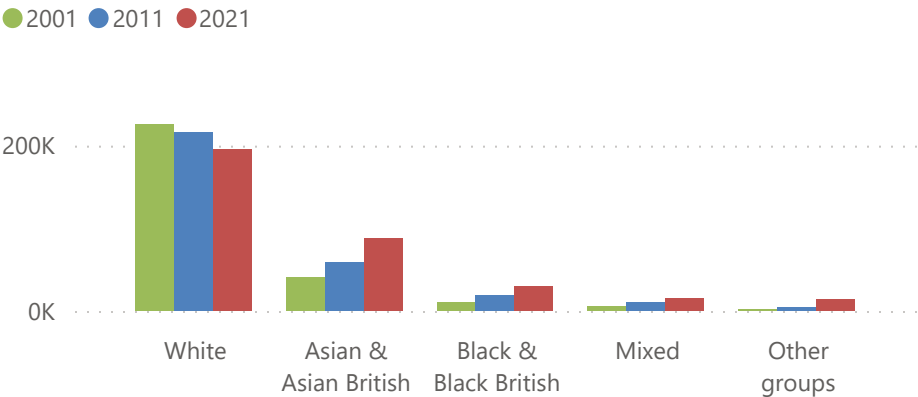
Population by ethnicity



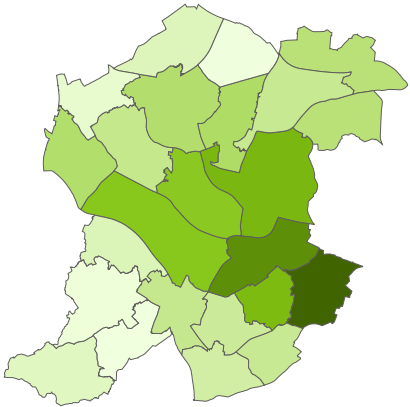
Population by ethnicity



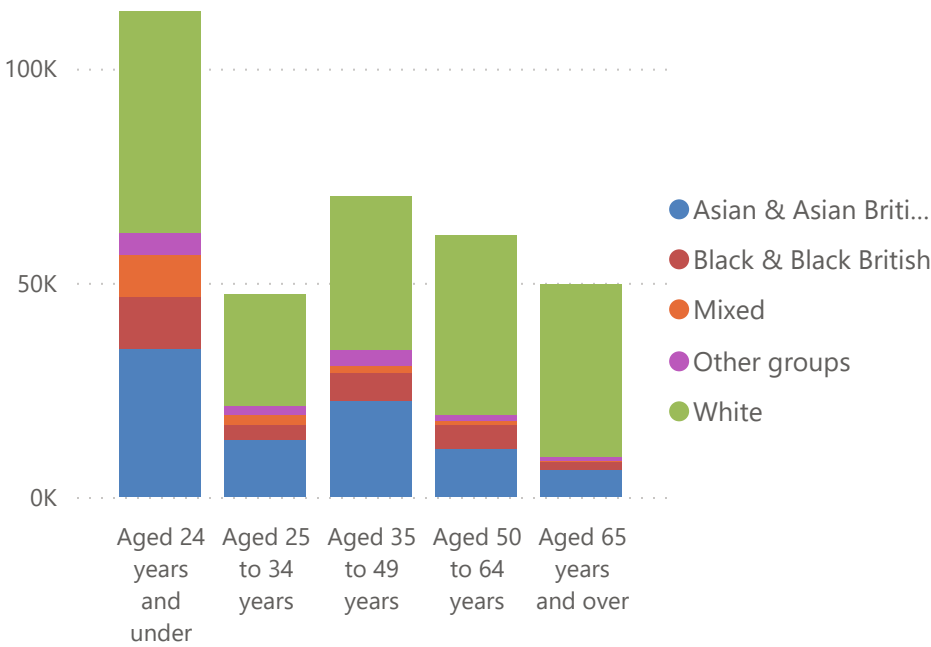
Population by ethnicity per year



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.

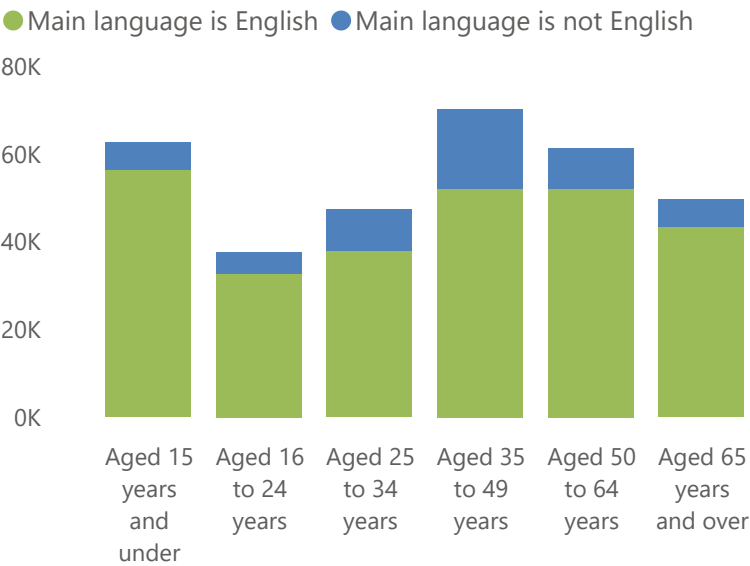
For those whose main language is not English, 45.7% aged 50 to 64 and 62.6% of those aged 65 & over, cannot speak English or can't speak it well.

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.

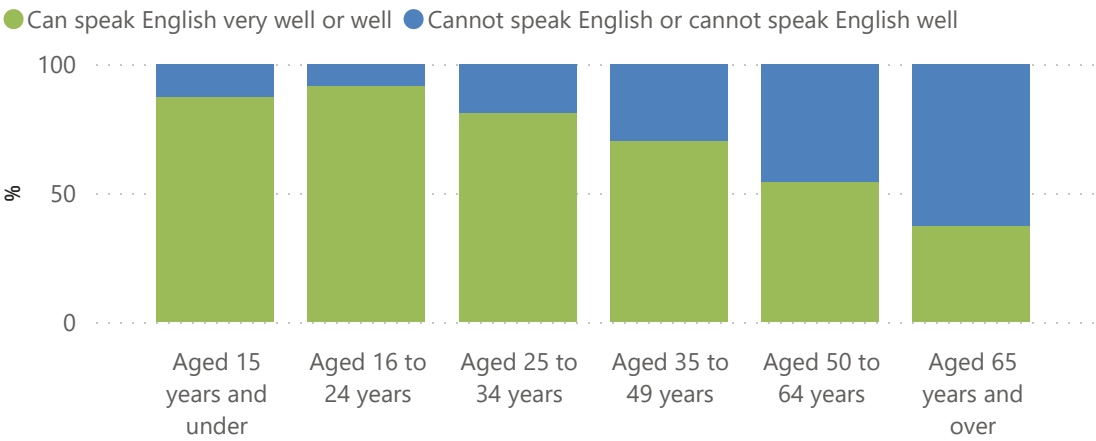
Area

- England
- Sandwell
- West Midlands

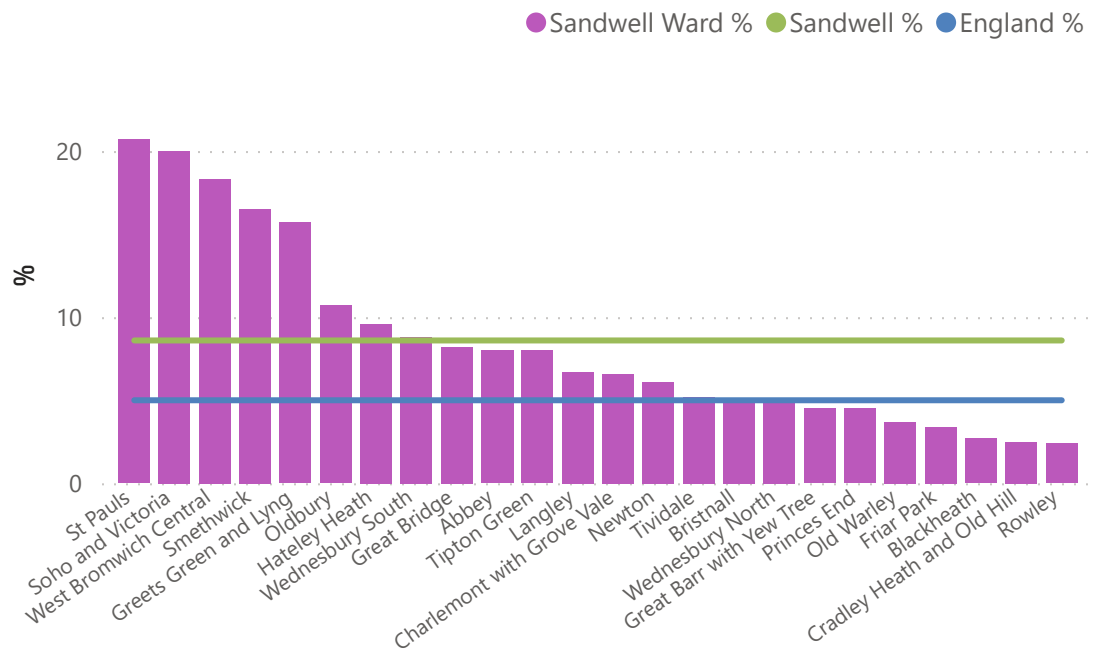
Main language by age 2021 - Sandwell



Main Language is not English: Proficiency in English 2021 - Sandwell



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





Key Points

Sandwell Overview

In Sandwell 39.9% (136,350) residents described themselves as Christian in 2021, compared with 55.2% (170,075) in 2011. Despite this decrease, Christian remained the most common response to the religion question.

“No religion” was the second most common response in Sandwell, increasing by 7.4 percentage points to 26.1% (89,100) from 18.7% (57,720) in 2011.

There were increases in the number of people who described themselves as Muslim (45,760, 13.4% in 2021, up from 25,250, 8.2% in 2011) and Sikh (39,250, 11.5% in 2021, up from 26,930, 8.7% in 2011).

Both Muslim & Sikh residents are concentrated within 3 Smethwick wards and Greets Green, Oldbury & West Bromwich Central, whilst other religions are more widely spread.

Christian residents tend to have an older age profile than other religions.

Controls

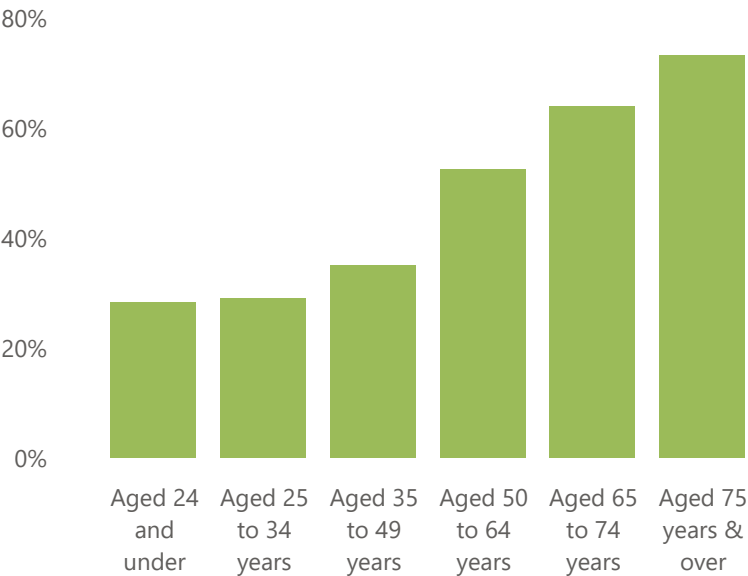
Religion

Christian

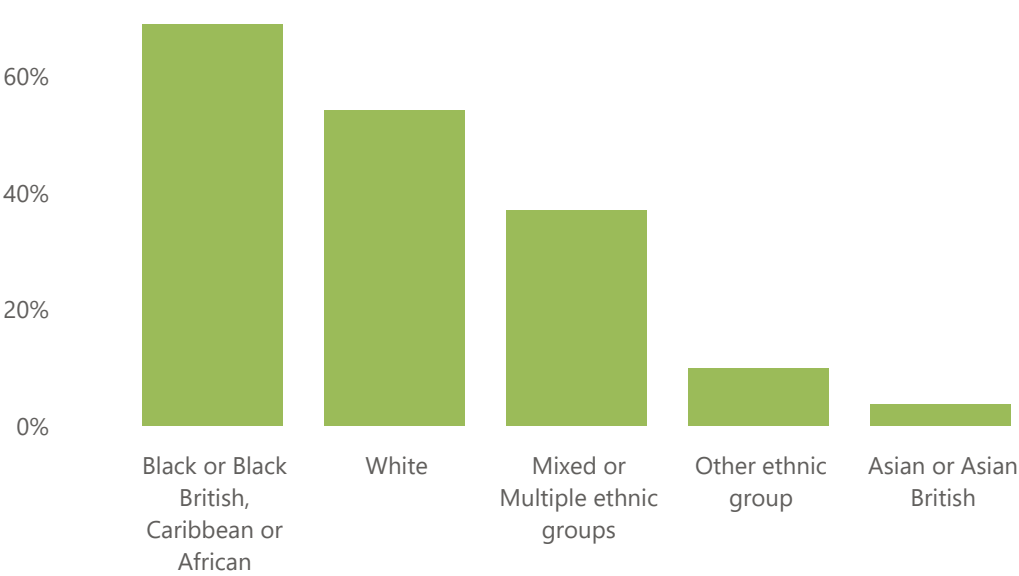
Area

Sandwell

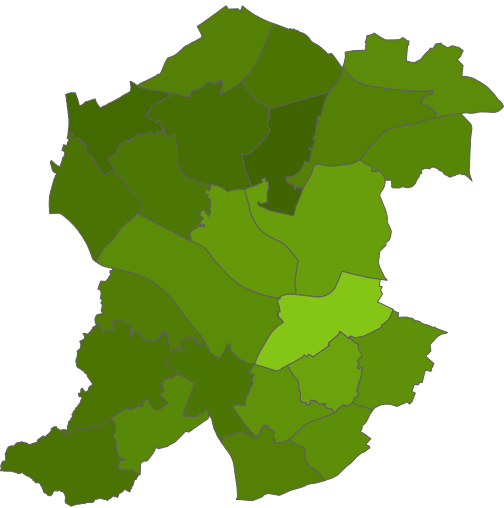
Religion by age - Sandwell



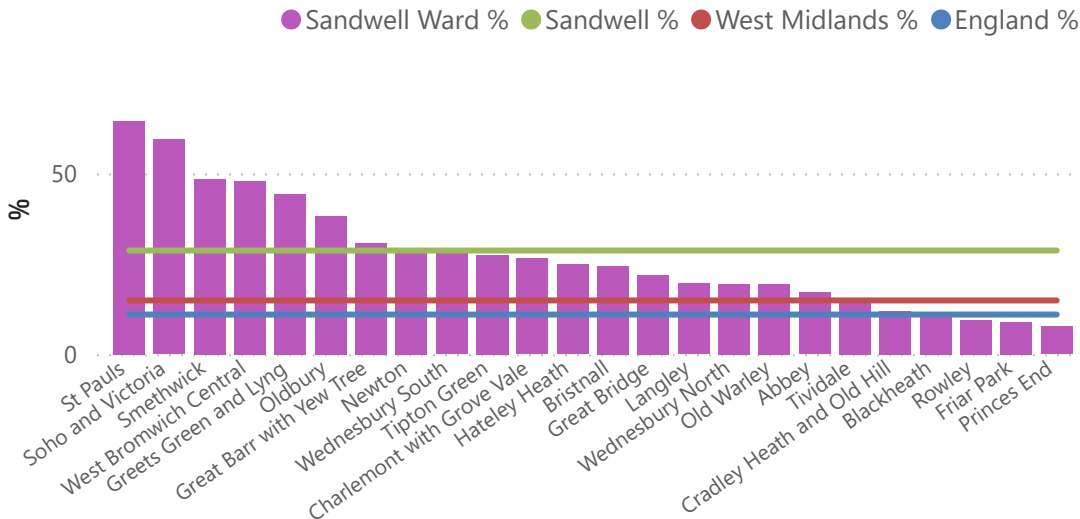
Religion by ethnicity - Sandwell



Religion by Ward 2021



% of residents with a religion other than Christian





Key Points

Sandwell Overview

There is national evidence that the LGBTQ+ community has disproportionately worse health outcomes and experiences of healthcare.

Gender identity refers to a person’s sense of their own gender, whether male, female or another category such as non-binary. This may or may not be the same as their sex registered at birth. The question on gender identity was new for Census 2021 and asked “Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?”.

In total, 244,450 (91.9%) of Sandwell residents answered “Yes” and 1,970 (0.7%) answered “No”.

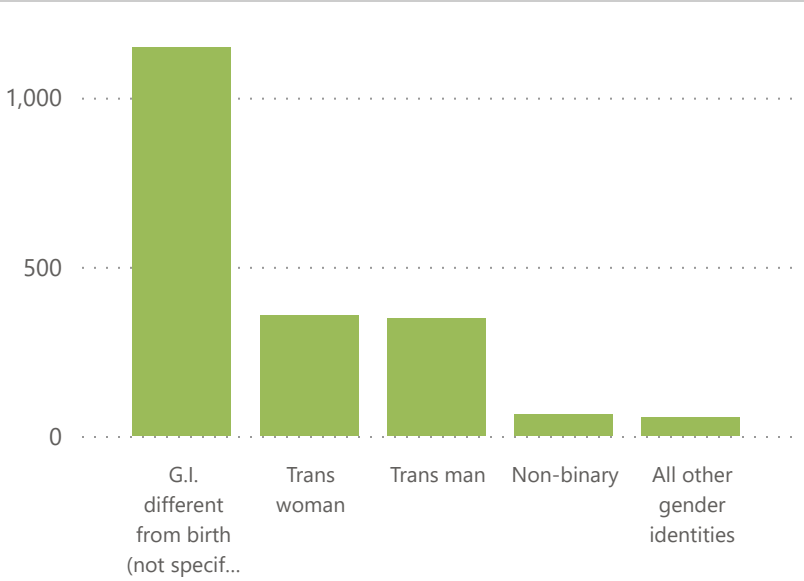
Sexual orientation is an umbrella term covering sexual identity, attraction, and behaviour. The 2021 Census found that in Sandwell, 237,540 people (89.3%) identified as straight or heterosexual.

Around 6,100 people (2.3%) identified with an LGB+ orientation (“Gay or Lesbian”, “Bisexual” or “Other sexual orientation”).

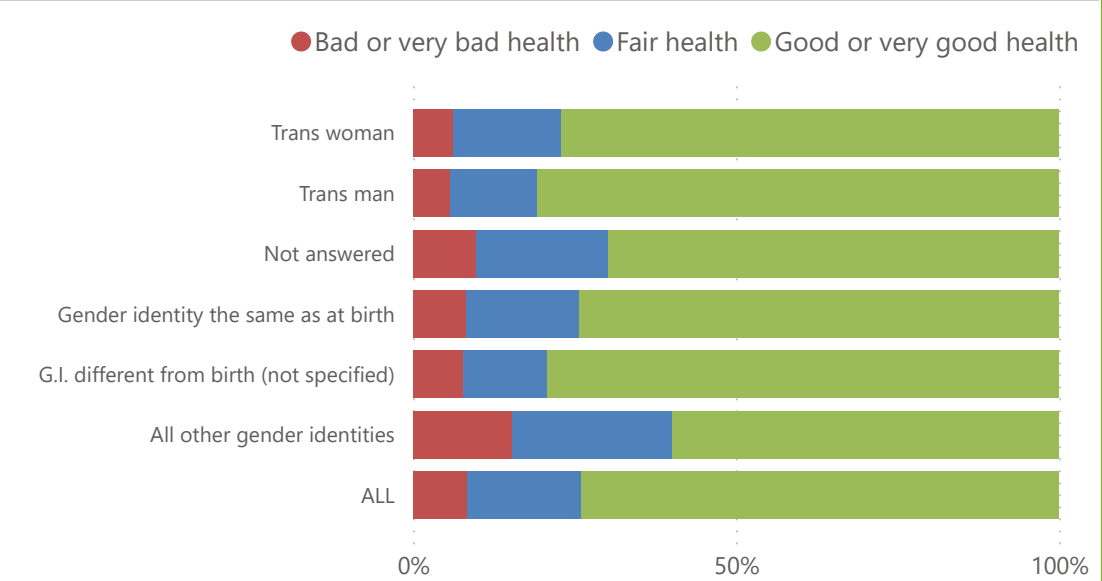
Area

- Sandwell
- West Midlands
- England

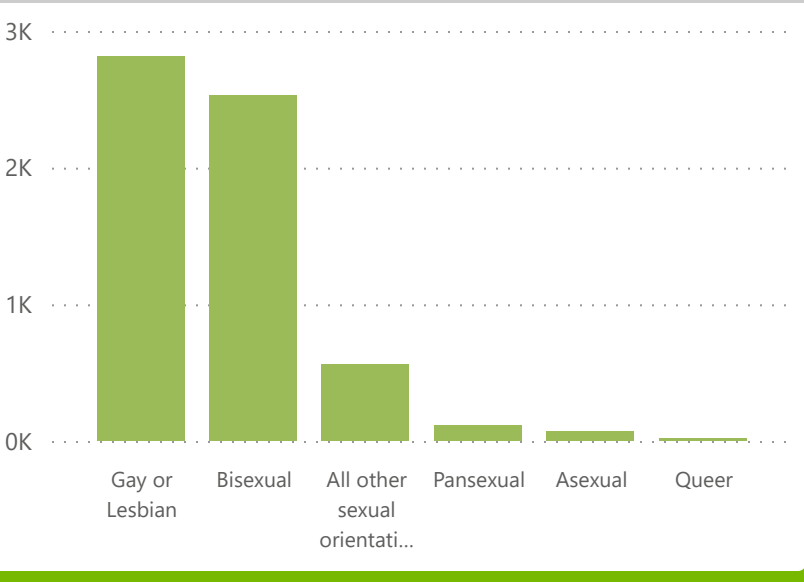
Gender identity different from birth - Sandwell



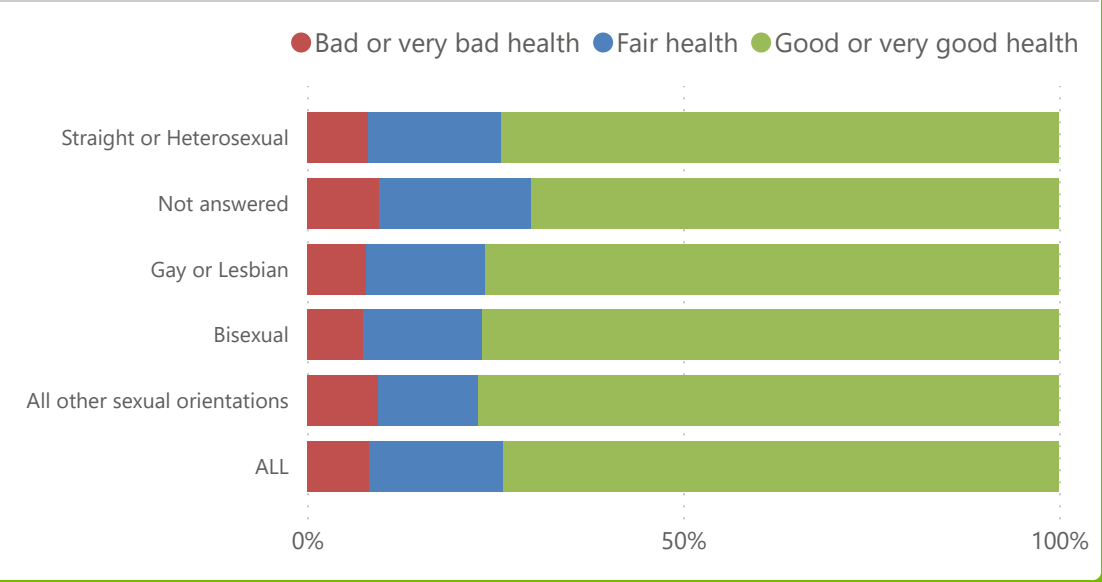
General health by gender identity - Sandwell



Sexual orientation other than heterosexual - Sandwell



General health by sexual orientation - Sandwell



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

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 Heath & 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.

Controls

Domain

IMD

Ward

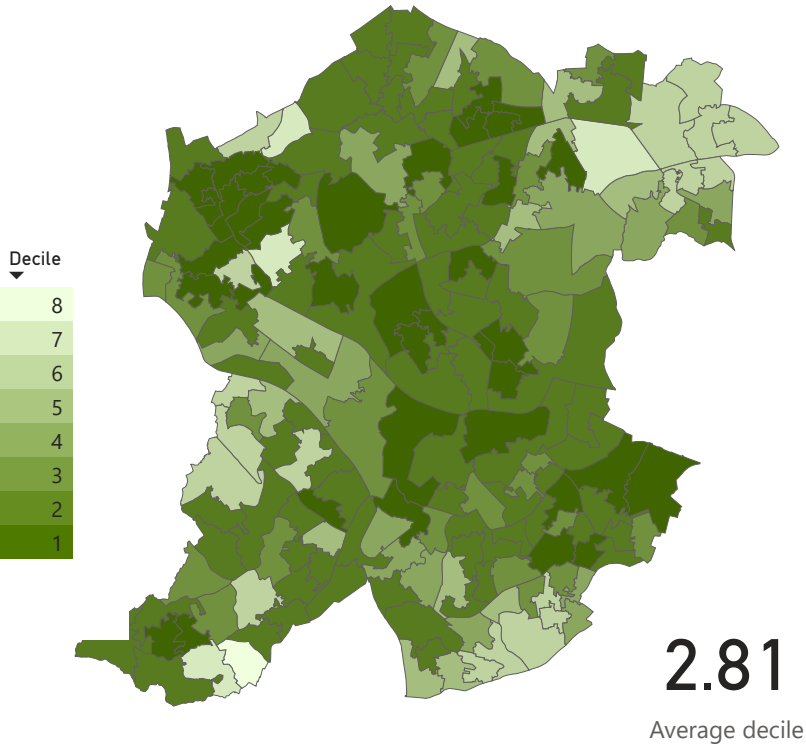
All

2015

2019

Definitions

Relative deprivation by LSOA



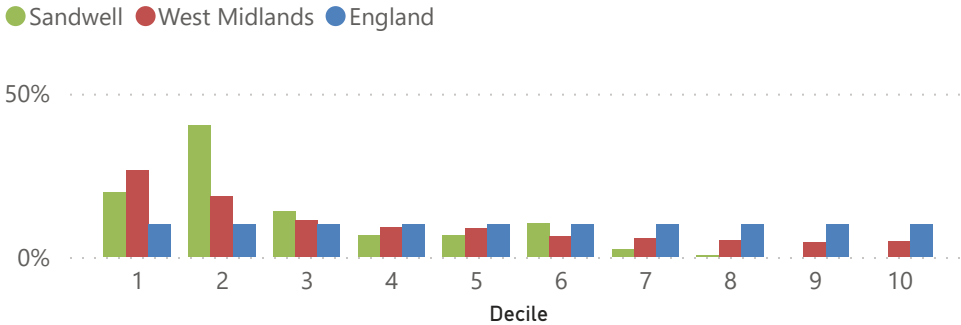
LSOA code	LSOA name	Ward	Year	Rank	Decile
E01009928	Bearwood 1	Abbey	2019	8946	3
E01009926	Bearwood 2	Abbey	2019	17042	6
E01009921	Bearwood 3	Abbey	2019	10721	4
E01009922	Bearwood 4	Abbey	2019	9488	3
E01009927	Bearwood 5	Abbey	2019	10435	4
E01009925	Bearwood 6	Abbey	2019	16714	6
E01009924	Bearwood 7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

Index of multiple deprivation (IMD)

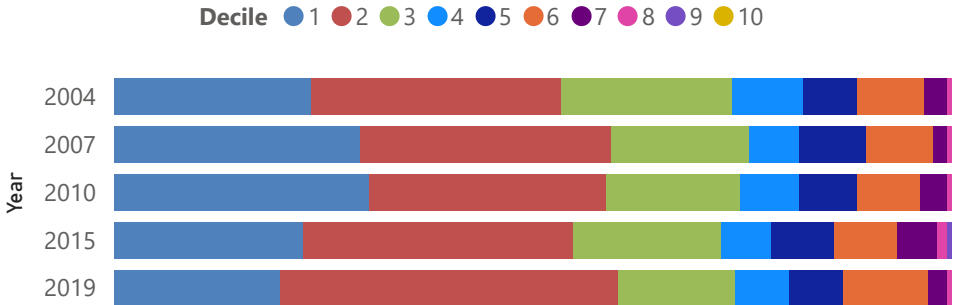
The IMD combines seven domains to give an overview of deprivation in the borough. One domain, income, contains a further two subdomains, IDACI and IDAOPI. The category can be changed using the dropdown menu at the bottom left of the page. It is important to note that the IMD only shows deprivation in 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





Key Points

Employment deprivation

Of the 130,243 households in Sandwell, 18% were employment deprived in 2021. This means that one or more members of the household was unable to work or was economically inactive as a result of long-term sickness or disability. This is much higher than the proportion in the West Midlands and England (13% and 12% respectively).

West Bromwich has the highest number of employment deprived households with 5,592 and Smethwick has the second highest with 4,280. Wednesbury has the lowest number of employment deprived households at 3,003.

Note: a household is classed as employment deprived if one person in the household meets the criteria and does not consider the total number of individuals living in a household who may be unemployed or economically inactive. **For income deprivation relating to individuals including children and older people please see page 1.6 Area Deprivation.**

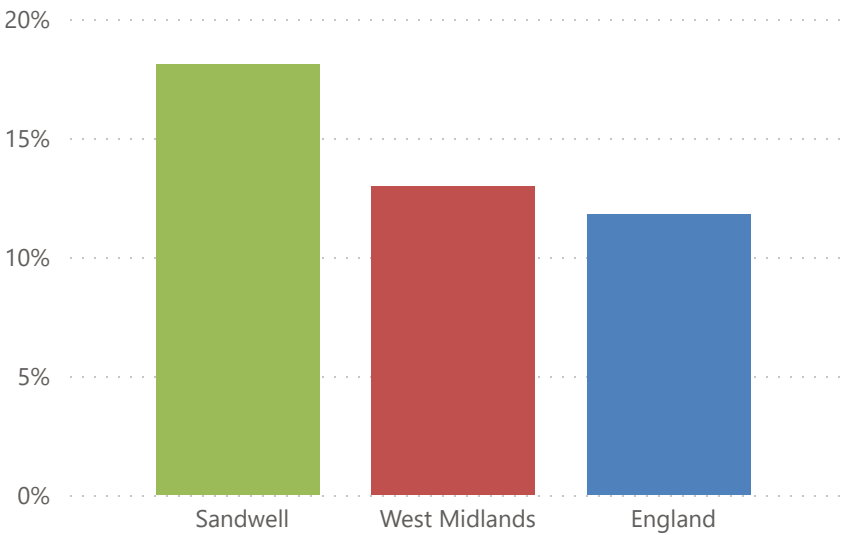
Children in low income families

While the percentage of children in relative low income families has continued to rise across the country, the rate of increase is higher for Sandwell than the West Midlands and the UK.

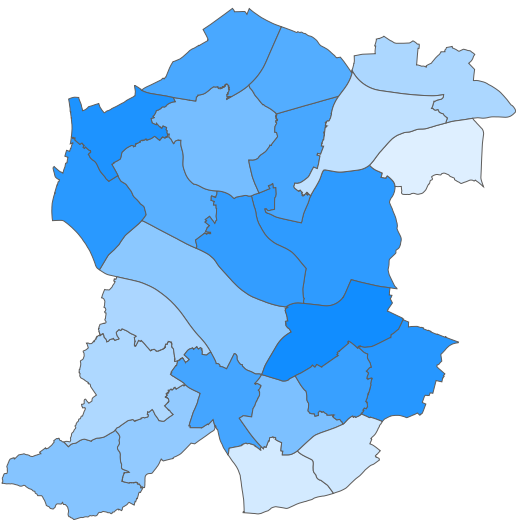
In 2022 the Sandwell ward with the highest number of children living in low income families is Soho & Victoria (2,533 children or 49% of the total children). Charlemont with Grove Vale has the lowest number of children in low income families at 590 or 24.9% of the total children. The average proportion for the UK in 2022 was 20.1% and for the West Midlands was 27%.

For more on Low income households please see Core JSNA Chapter 5 Place

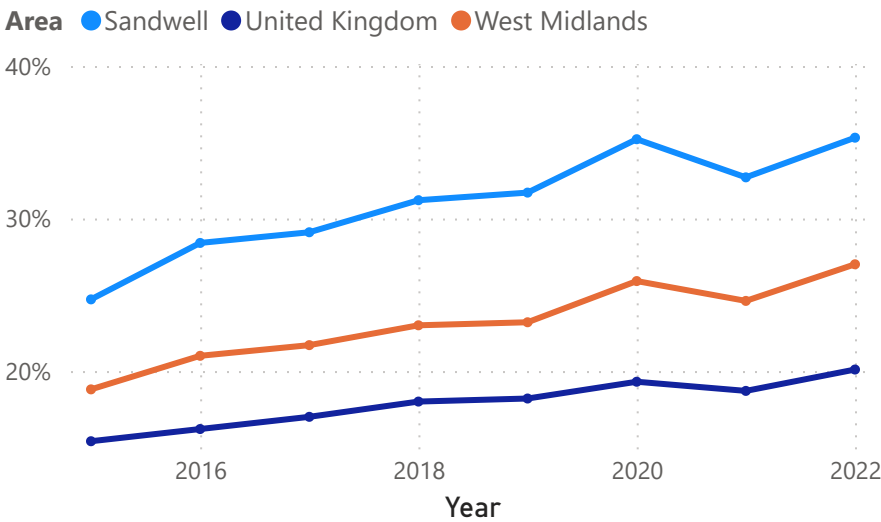
Percent of Households that are Employment Deprived



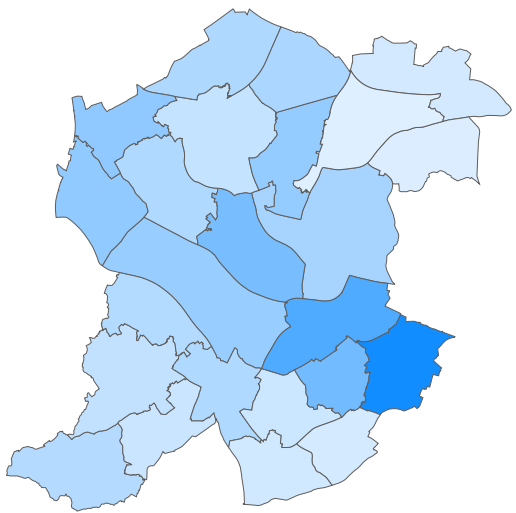
Percent of Households that are Employment Deprived



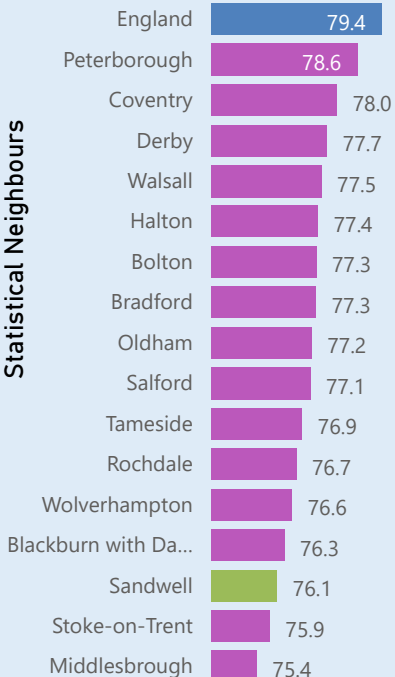
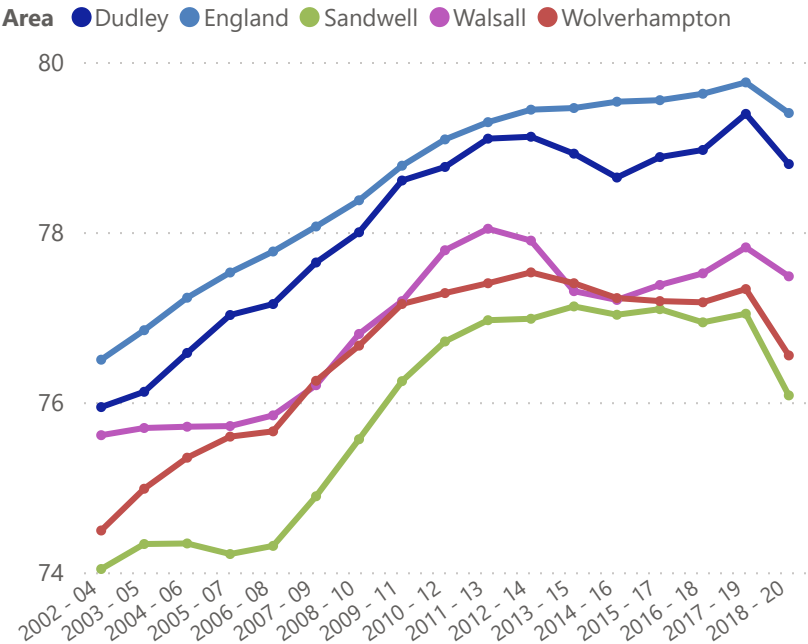
Percent of Children who live in Low Income Families



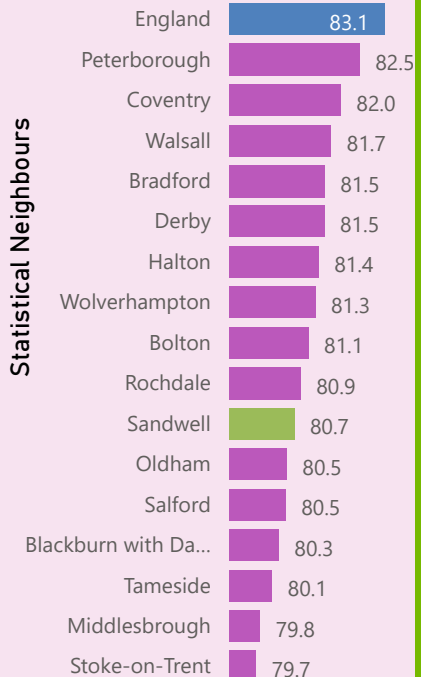
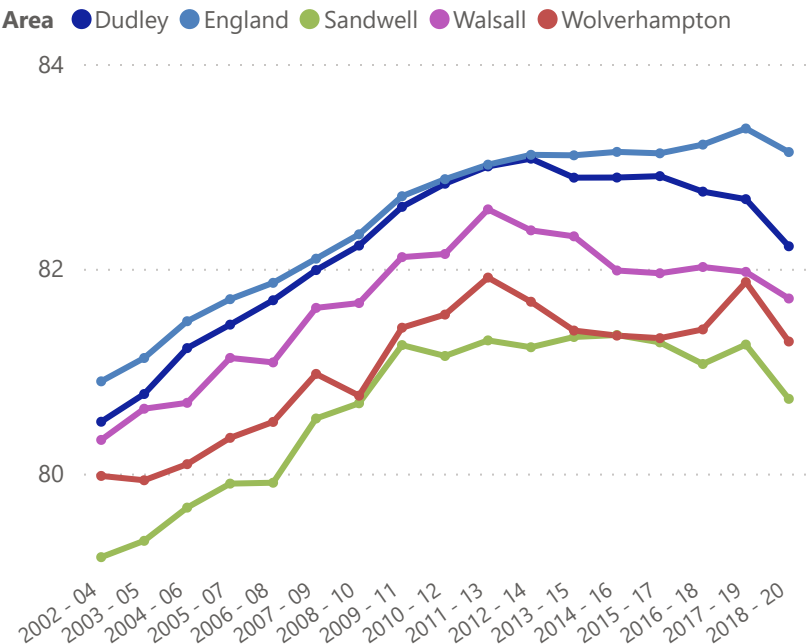
Number of Children who live in Low Income Families



Male Life Expectancy at Birth



Female Life Expectancy at Birth



Key Points

Male Life Expectancy

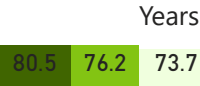
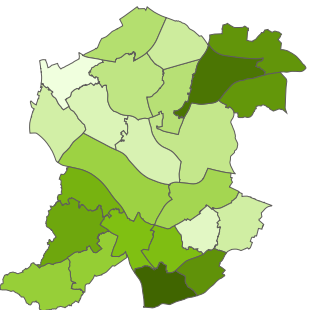
Estimated life expectancy for males is 76.1 years, compared to 79.4 for England as a whole. In contrast to females within Sandwell, males are expected to live 4.7 fewer years on average.

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

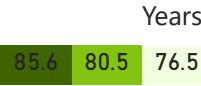
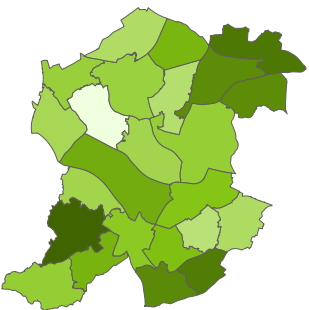
The estimated life expectancy for females is 80.7 years, compared to 83.1 for England as a whole. Compared to the Borough's 15 statistical neighbours (areas socioeconomically similar), Sandwell females fare slightly better than Sandwell men.

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

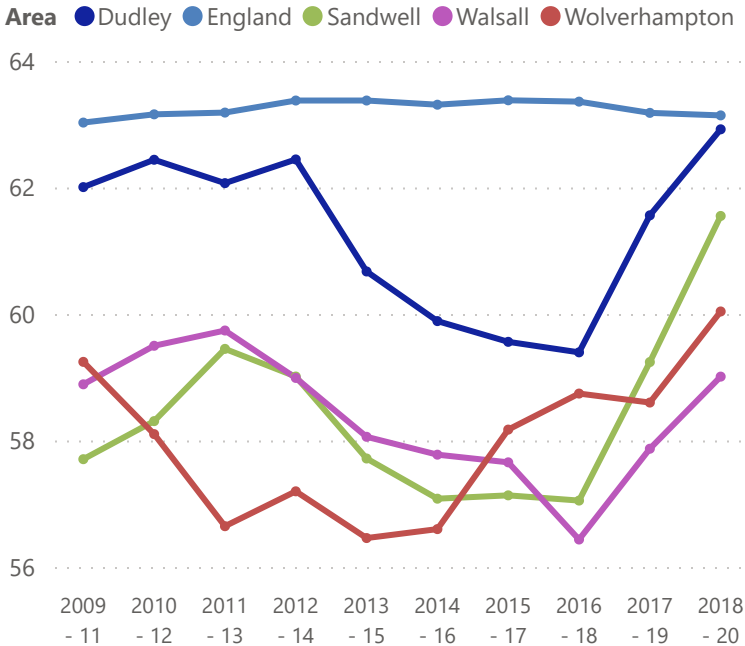
Female life expectancy differs widely across the borough, ranging 9.2 years, with the highest in Rowley (85.6 years) to the lowest in Great Bridge (76.5 years).

Female LE at Birth

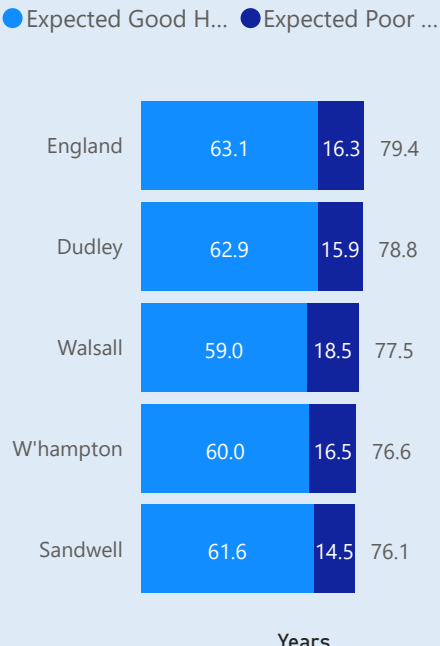




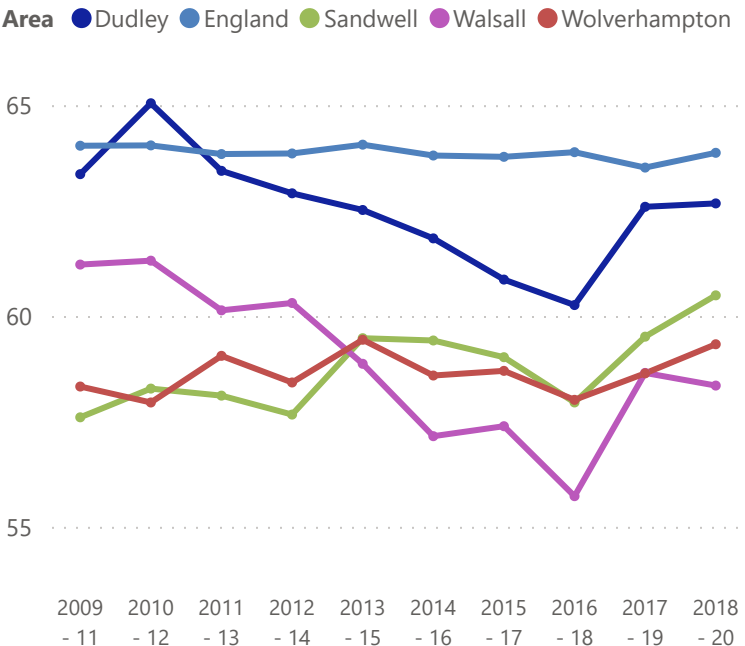
Male Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth



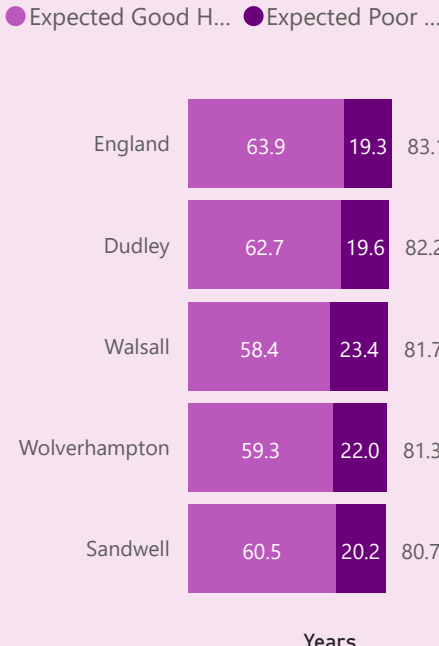
Years in Poor Health Comparison



Female Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth



Years in Poor Health Comparison



Key Points

Male Healthy Life Expectancy

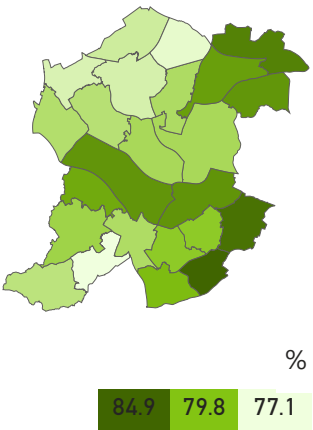
Healthy life expectancy for males has been rising since 2016-18, reaching a peak of 61.6 years in 2018-20. However, this is lower than the England average of 63.1.

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

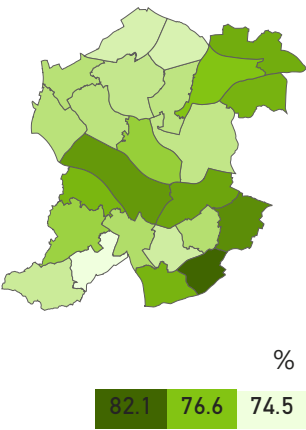
Healthy life expectancy for females in Sandwell is 60.5, compared to 63.9 for England as a whole (3.4 fewer years in good health). Females in Sandwell can expect to live 20.2 years, or 25.1% of their lives, in poor health.

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

Religion

NOMIS 2021 Census, Table TS030, RM118 & RM031

LGBTQ+

NOMIS 2021 Census, Table TS070, TS079, RM039 & RM126

Deprivation

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

Low Income Households

2021 Census and Public Health England: Fingertips Public Health Profiles

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:
research_sandwell@sandwell.gov.uk



Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council