

# Cambridgeshire's Population in 2001

## *Implications of the 2001 Census*

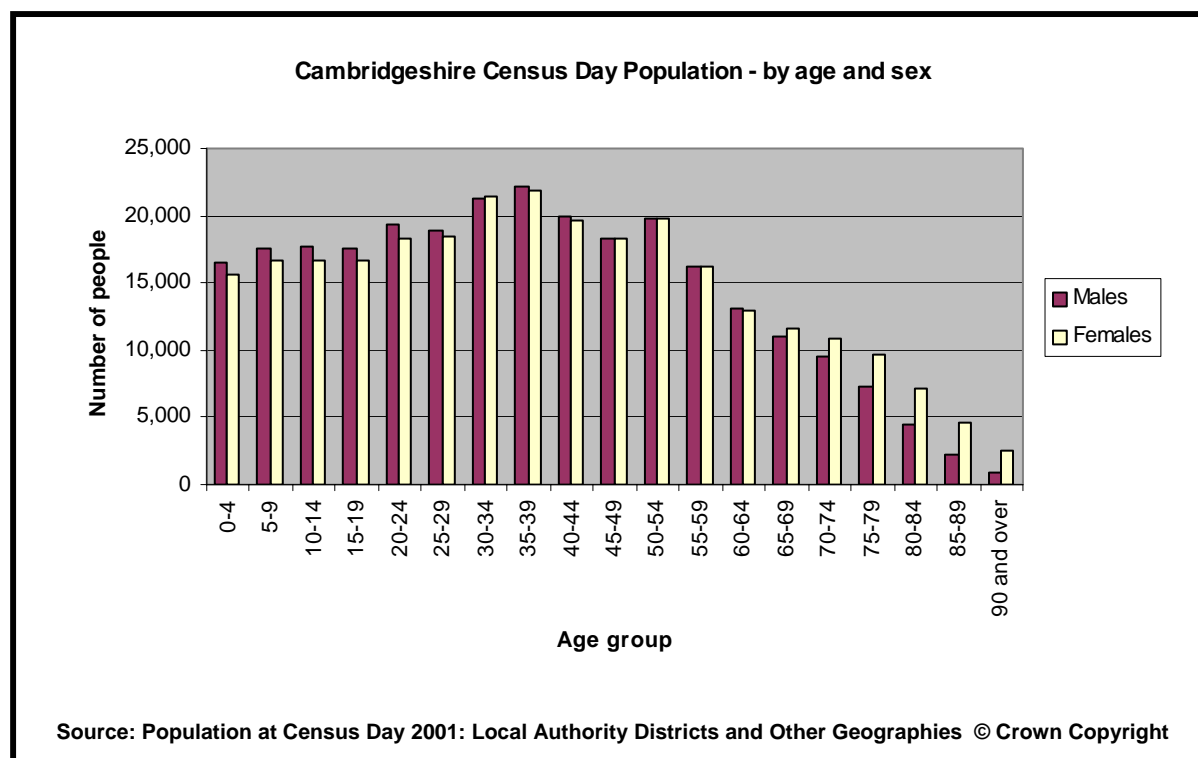
The first population counts from the 2001 Census have been released by the Registrars General for England and Wales, for Scotland and for Northern Ireland, providing information on the resident population, split by age and sex, for England and Wales and constituent Local Authority Districts and Unitary Authorities, as at Census Day, 29 April 2001.

The new figures show the population of the United Kingdom on Census Day was 58,789,194, 4.3% higher than in mid 1981. The population of Cambridgeshire was 552,655, 21.3% higher than mid 1981, confirming its place as the fastest growing shire county in the country. The Census day population for Peterborough was 156,060, showing growth of 16.6% since mid 1981.

### Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Census Day Population, 2001:

	Census Day Population	Estimated increase since mid-1981 (%)
Cambridge City	108,879	7.8
East Cambridgeshire	73,216	35.7
Fenland	83,523	25.6
Huntingdonshire	156,950	25.3
South Cambridgeshire	130,087	19.4
<b>Cambridgeshire</b>	<b>552,655</b>	<b>21.3</b>
<b>Peterborough</b>	<b>156,060</b>	<b>16.6</b>
East of England	5,388,154	11.0
United Kingdom	58,789,194	4.3

Source: Population at Census Day 2001: Local Authority Districts and Other Geographies © Crown Copyright



The 2001 Census provides the most accurate population information available. No Census can cover 100 per cent of the population but the 2001 Census 'One Number Census' project aimed to overcome this. Shortly after the Census, a large door-to-door survey (called the Census Coverage Survey) was undertaken, covering over 330,000 households and including every local authority in the country. This provided information on who had been missed from the Census - for example, young babies, elderly people, young adults and ethnic minority communities. Full details of the missing people, based on the characteristics recorded by the Census Coverage Survey, have been added to the Census database, so that the Census represents the whole population.

The 2001 Census shows around one million fewer people nationally than was expected on the basis of the government's population estimates over the last ten years. Given the accuracy of the Census methodology the explanation for the discrepancy is that there has been more migration out of the country, especially by young men, than had been assumed. The Census also counted fewer people in Cambridgeshire than suggested by previous estimates, which can be seen by comparing recent mid year population estimates.

### Office for National Statistics Mid-2001 Population Estimates

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid-2001 population estimates, published on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2002, are based on the Census Day population, adjusted to allow for births, deaths and migration between Census Day and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2001. Because mid year estimates relate to 30<sup>th</sup> June each year, the ONS mid-2001 estimates can be compared with the County Council's own mid-2001 estimates, produced before the Census results were released, and historical mid year estimates from ONS.

### Mid year population estimates for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough:

	ONS mid-2001 population	ONS mid-2000 population*	Cambridgeshire County Council mid-2001 population estimate
Cambridge City	108,800	124,400	111,600
East Cambridgeshire	73,400	74,600	70,000
Fenland	83,700	82,600	84,500
Huntingdonshire	157,200	158,800	160,700
South Cambridgeshire	130,500	133,300	132,500
<b>Cambridgeshire</b>	<b>553,600</b>	<b>573,700</b>	<b>559,300</b>
<b>Peterborough</b>	<b>156,500</b>	<b>156,500</b>	<b>156,500</b>

Sources: Office for National Statistics mid-2000 and mid-2001 population estimates.

Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group mid-2001 population estimates.

\* These figures will be revised in light of the 2001 Census.

The ONS new mid-2001 estimates are, with the exception of Fenland and Peterborough, lower than their mid-2000 estimates, and are overall more in line with the County Council's own estimates of the population. The reduced ONS estimates do not imply that the population of Cambridgeshire has fallen, they merely support what was already believed: that ONS has been overestimating the County's population. Most of the overestimation took place in Cambridge: the mid-2001 population is over 15,000 lower than was estimated by ONS in mid-2000. This difference is thought to have occurred largely because ONS attributed a high level of international migration into Cambridgeshire, and Cambridge in particular, which our local knowledge does not support.

### **Summary of information available:**

**2001 Census: Population at Census Day 2001: Local Authority Districts and Other Geographies.** Total population counts for local authority district, by 5-year age group and sex. Full results are available from [www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001) and for just Cambridgeshire and Peterborough from [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/sub/resrchgp/rgindex.htm](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/sub/resrchgp/rgindex.htm).

**ONS Mid-2001 Population Estimates.** Estimated population by local authority district, available in flexible age groups. Full results are available from [www.statistics.gov.uk/popest](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/popest) and for just Cambridgeshire and Peterborough from [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/sub/resrchgp/rgindex.htm](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/sub/resrchgp/rgindex.htm). A revised series of district mid year estimates from 1991 will be published by ONS on February 13<sup>th</sup> 2003.

**Key Statistics for Local Authority Districts Part 1.** These give summary results for a variety of topics, such as ethnicity, household characteristics and economic activity, at district level. The full results are available from [www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001) and are summarised for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/sub/resrchgp/rgindex.htm](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/sub/resrchgp/rgindex.htm).

### **Timetable for the release of further results from the 2001 Census:**

Key Statistics for Local Authority Districts Part 2 will be released in April and will give the first information for wards and smaller areas. Standard Tables and Census Area Statistics, giving more detailed results and for more topics, are due to be released during April and May. Migration and commuting flows are currently scheduled for release in September 2003.

All 2001 Census results will be available on the Office for National Statistics website [www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001) as they are published and can be searched by geographical area on <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>.



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