

Equality Profile of North Herts

by the nine protected characteristics

- Age • Disability • Gender Reassignment
- Race • Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)
- Sex • Sexual Orientation
- Pregnancy and Maternity • Marriage and Civil Partnership

Population

The latest 2021 Census estimated usual resident population of North Hertfordshire is 133,200. By mid-2043, the total population of North Hertfordshire is projected to be 140,326 (ONS, 2018-based projection). At the point of finalising this Profile, various elements of the Census 2021 data have not been published. The data on health, disability, unpaid care, ethnicity, and religion is expected to be published in 2023. This profile will be updated to reflect this in future reviews following data publication.

Age

The below table shows the usual population of North Hertfordshire at March 2021, by age group.

Age Group	Number of North Hertfordshire Residents	Percentage of North Hertfordshire Residents
0 - 4	7,500	5.6%
5 - 9	8,200	6.2%
10 - 14	8,300	6.2%
15 - 19	6,700	5.0%
20 - 24	5,900	4.4%
25 - 29	7,600	5.7%
30 - 34	8,700	6.5%
35 - 39	9,000	6.8%
40 - 44	9,400	7.1%
45 - 49	9,500	7.1%
50 - 54	9,500	7.1%
55 - 59	9,400	7.1%
60 - 64	7,800	5.9%
65 - 69	6,500	4.9%
70 - 74	6,700	5.0%
75 - 79	5,000	3.8%
80 - 84	3,700	2.8%
85-89	2,500	1.9%
90 +	1,400	1.1%

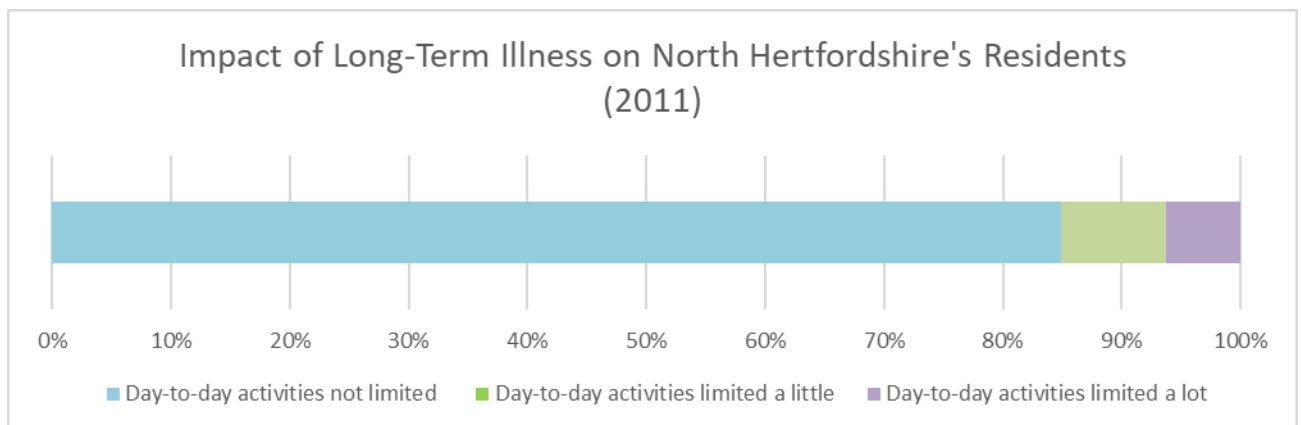
Source: ONS, Census 2021

In 2021 (ONS Census), out of the total population of North Hertfordshire, 24,000 (18%) were children aged under 15; 83,500 (62.7%) were adults aged between 15-64, and 25,800 (19.4%) were aged 65 and over. 3900 (2.9%) of the resident population were aged 85 and over.

Over the last ten years in North Hertfordshire there has been an increase of 18.8% in people aged 65 years and over. This is lower than the 20.1% increase in this age group seen across England. North Hertfordshire has seen an increase of 1.5% in people aged 15 to 64 years (significantly less than the 4% increase of this age bracket across England), and an increase of 3.9% in children aged under 15 years.

Disability

The 2011 census recorded that out of the 127,114 usual residents of North Hertfordshire, 8,017 people had a disability that limited their day-to-day activities a lot (6.3%) and 11,165 people had a disability that limited their day-to-day activities a little (8.8%). This totals 15.1% of North Hertfordshire residents experiencing some level of limitation on their day-to-day activities as a result of a disability



Source: ONS Census, 2011 Table KS301UK¹

Of those who's day-to-day activities were limited a lot by long term illness, 34.3% were aged between 16-64 and 44.7% of those who's day-to-day activities were limited a little by long term illness were aged between 16-64.

Gender Reassignment

At present, there is not enough robust data to accurately estimate the UK transgender population locally or nationally. Although there has been work on estimating the number of transgender people within the UK population, there is no publicly available statistical data on which to make reliable estimates.

In 2018, the Government Equalities Office tentatively estimated that there were between 200,000 – 500,000 transgender people living in the UK. This would make up between 0.3%-0.8% of the UK population.

The 2021 census has given a new and voluntary option regarding gender, allowing individuals to state if the gender they identify with is the same as sex registered at

birth, with an option to state gender identity beneath. It is hoped that this change will lead to stronger data on those that are transgender and non-binary within the UK.

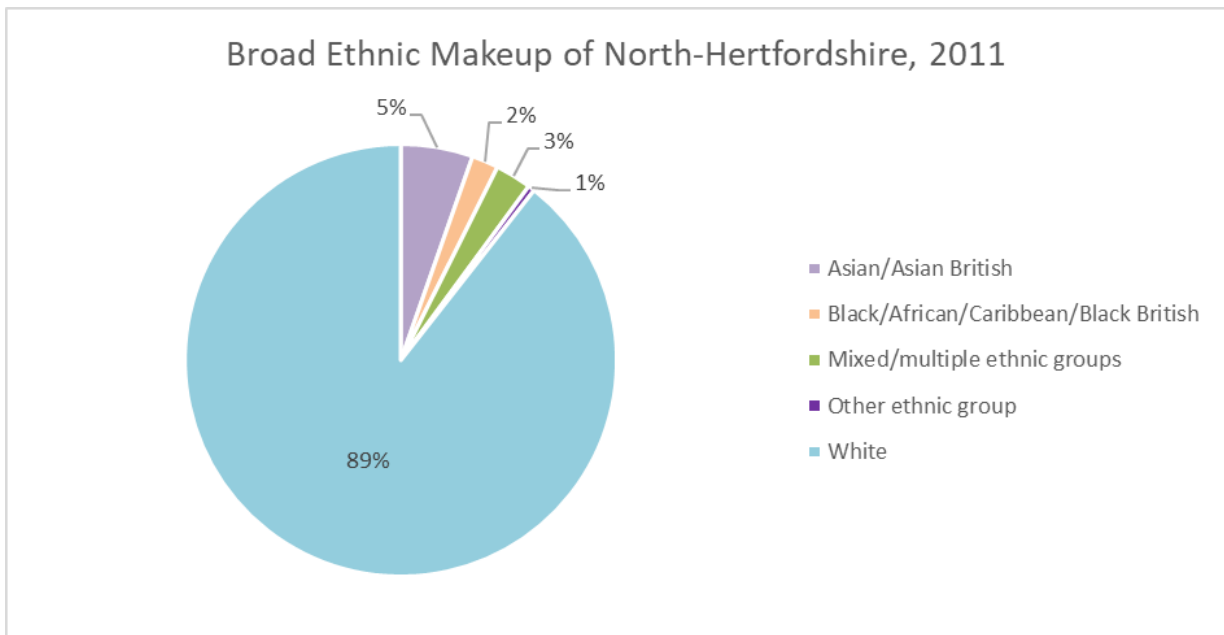
Race

The main source of detailed ethnic group population data is the 2011 National Census. Further data from the 2021 census is due to be published in the near future. In the 2011 Census, 15.1% of the North Hertfordshire population were from an ethnic minority background (defined as non-white-British), compared to 10.65% in 2001.

Ethnic Makeup of North Hertfordshire

Ethnicity	Number	%
White – British	107,889	84.9
White – Irish	1,398	1.1
Gypsy	33	0
Other White	4,435	3.5
White and Black Caribbean	1,481	1.2
White and Black African	309	0.2
White and Asian	912	0.7
Other Mixed	674	0.5
Indian	3,464	2.7
Pakistani	424	0.3
Bangladeshi	495	0.4
Chinese	808	0.6
Other Asian	1,630	1.3
Black African	859	0.7
Black Caribbean	1,344	1.1
Other Black	288	0.2
Arab	146	0.1
Any other ethnic groups	525	0.4

Source: ONS Census 2011: Table KS201EW



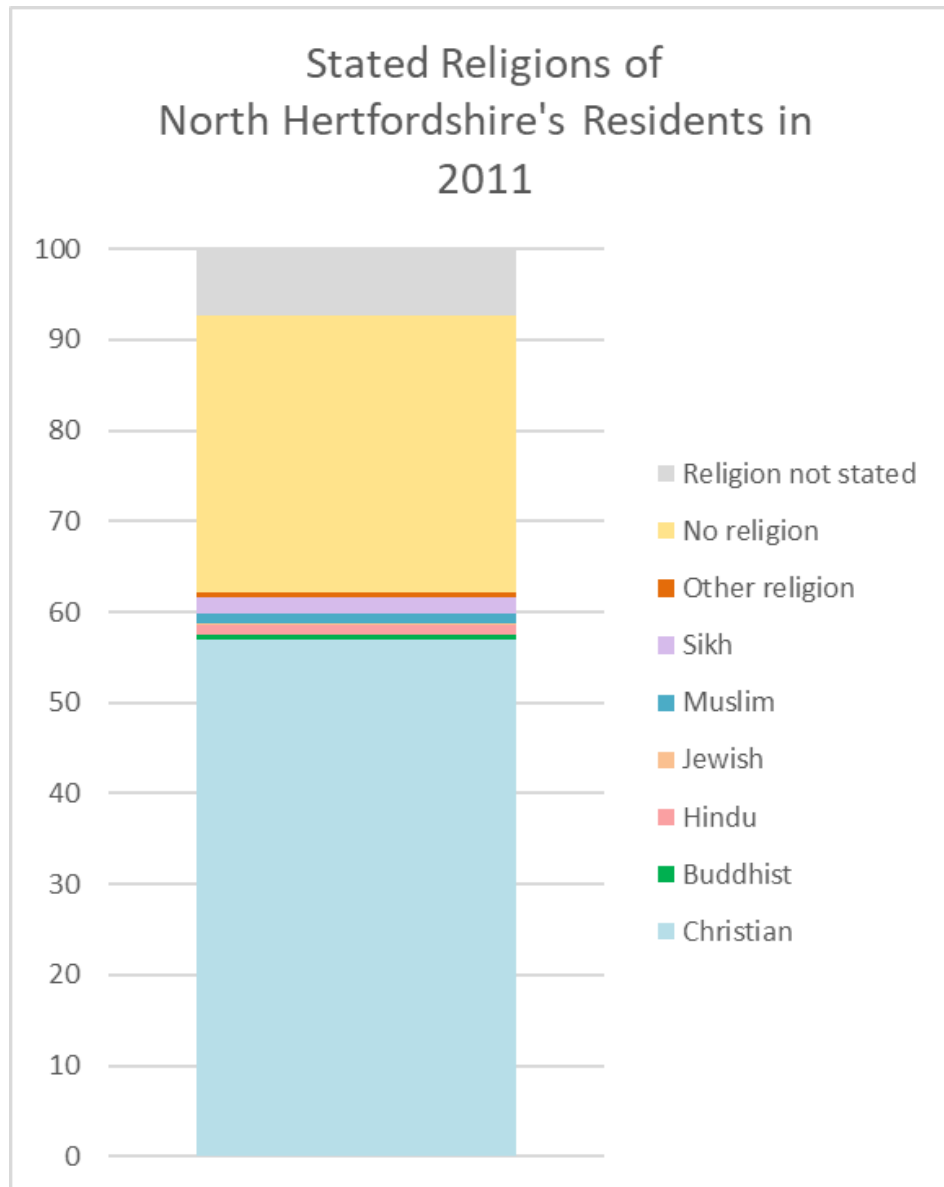
Source: ONS Census 2011: Table KS201EW

In the Herts Residents' Survey (2018), 83% of North Hertfordshire residents agreed (strongly or tend to) that people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together in the local area. This is higher than the 80.3% of residents throughout Hertfordshire that agreed with the statement.

Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)

The main source of detailed religion or belief population data is the 2011 National Census. Further data from the 2021 census is due to be published in the near future.

In the 2011 census, 57% of North Hertfordshire residents identified themselves as Christian. 30% stated themselves to have no religion and over 7% did not state a religious stance, with the next most prominent belief being Sikhism, with 1.9% of residents identifying themselves as Sikh.

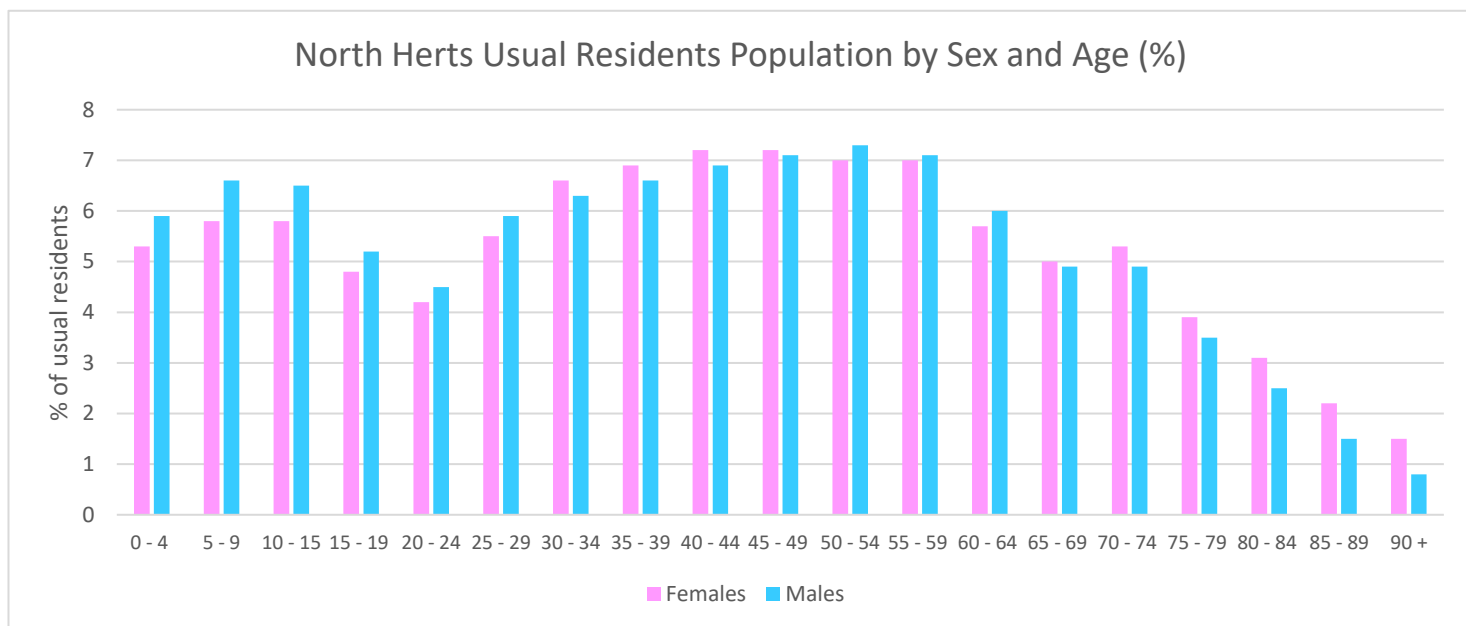


Source: ONS Census 2011, Table KS209EW

Sex

In 2021 (ONS Census), of the 133,200 people in North Herts, 68,500 (51.4%) were women and 64,800 (48.6%) were men.

The below table shows a break down of North Hertfordshire’s usual population by age and sex.



Source: ONS, Census 2021

Sexual Orientation

At present, there is no localised data on sexual orientation, and this is only available at a regional level. For the first time, the 2021 census included questions on sexual identity. This has the potential to enable a better understanding of the LGBTQ+ community within North Hertfordshire when the results are published in 2022.

The table below presents sexual identity data recorded at national and regional level in 2020. It is worth noting that these figures vary between areas. Therefore, without more localised data, it cannot be presumed the regional data will directly reflect the population of North Hertfordshire.

Sexual Orientation	England	East of England
Heterosexual or straight	93.3%	95.5%
Gay or lesbian	1.8%	1.3%
Bisexual	1.3%	1.0%
Other	0.6%	0.4%
Don't know or refuse to answer	2.9%	1.8%

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, 2020

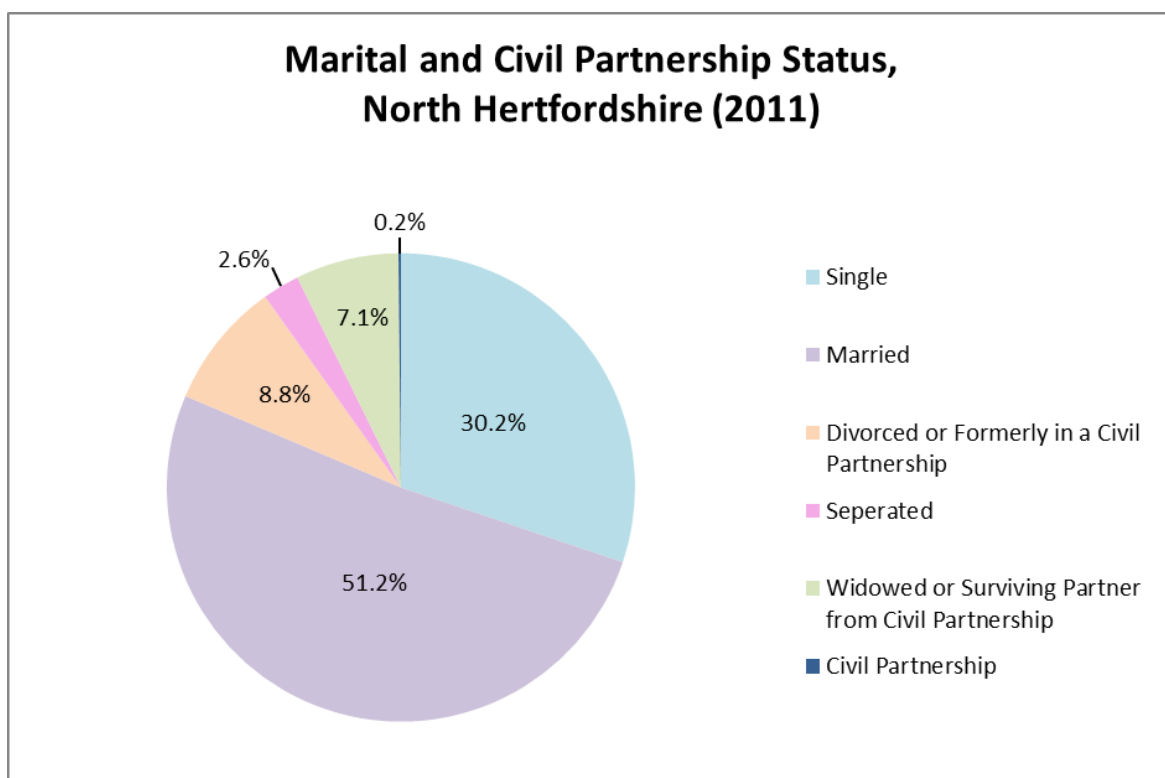
According to the [ONS](#), across the UK, the proportion of people, aged 16 years and over, openly identifying as lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) has been increasing, recording an increase from 1.6% in 2014 to 3.1% in 2020. Young people aged between 16-24 years continue to be the most likely to identify as LGB in 2020 (8.0%) and this reflects an increasing trend for this age group since 2014.

Pregnancy and Maternity

In 2020, there was a total of 730 live births in North Hertfordshire (ONS, Live Births).

Marriage and Civil Partnership

The below chart indicates the marital and civil partnership status of residents in North Hertfordshire aged 16 and over in 2011. It is worth noting that in 2011, marriage was not yet legalised for same-sex couples and civil partnerships were not yet legalised for mixed-sex couples. Within the district, 51.2% of the population was married and 0.2% were in civil partnerships, which compared to the national average of 46.6% and 0.2% respectively.



Source: ONS Census 2011, Table KS103EW

Among those identifying as LGB in 2020, 72.5% had never been married or in a civil partnership, whilst 23.7% were married or in a civil partnership; this may reflect that the legislation for same-sex civil partnerships and marriage is relatively recent as well as higher proportions of the LGB population in younger age brackets.