

2016 Mid-Year Population Estimates: Total population of Kent authorities

Related information

The [Population and Census](#) web page contains more information which you may find useful.

Population change presents a time-series of population estimates and an analysis of population growth

Population forecasts presents the latest thinking about future population levels

2011 Census provides information of the characteristics of the population

NOTE: within this bulletin 'Kent' refers to the Kent County Council (KCC) area which excludes Medway

Contact details

Strategic Business Development & Intelligence
Kent County Council
Invicta House
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

Email:
research@kent.gov.uk

Tel: 03000 417444

This bulletin presents the 2016 Mid-Year Population Estimates (Census based) as published by the Office for National Statistics on 22 June 2016. Annual population change between 2015 and 2016 is also presented.

Summary of findings

- Kent's population grew by +17,200 people (+1.1%) between 2015 and 2016. This rate of growth is higher than both the national and regional growth rate of +0.9%.
- This annual rate of population growth is lower than the previous year when Kent's population grew by 14,400 people (+1.0%) between 2015 and 2016
- Kent remains the largest non-metropolitan local authority area in England with a resident population of 1,541,900 people in mid-2016.
- There are 4.3 people per hectare in Kent, making Kent less densely populated than the regional average (4.4) but slightly higher than the national average (4.2).
- Maidstone has the largest population of all Kent districts with a population of 166,400 in mid-2016 whilst Dartford has the smallest population with 105,500 people.
- Dartford is Kent's most densely populated district with 14.5 people per hectare and Ashford is the least densely populated district (2.2 persons per hectare).
- Swale saw the largest population increase both in real and percentage terms, increasing by an additional 2,600 people (+1.8%) between 2015 and 2016.

Summary of findings continued

- All of the Government Regions experienced an increase in population between 2015 and 2016. London experienced the largest growth both in real and percentage terms (+114,200 people equivalent to +1.3%). The South East saw the second highest real increase (+78,400 people, equivalent to +0.9% increase).
- Of the counties in the South East region, Kent experienced the highest increase in population in real terms between 2015 and 2016 (+17,200 people, equivalent to +1.1%).

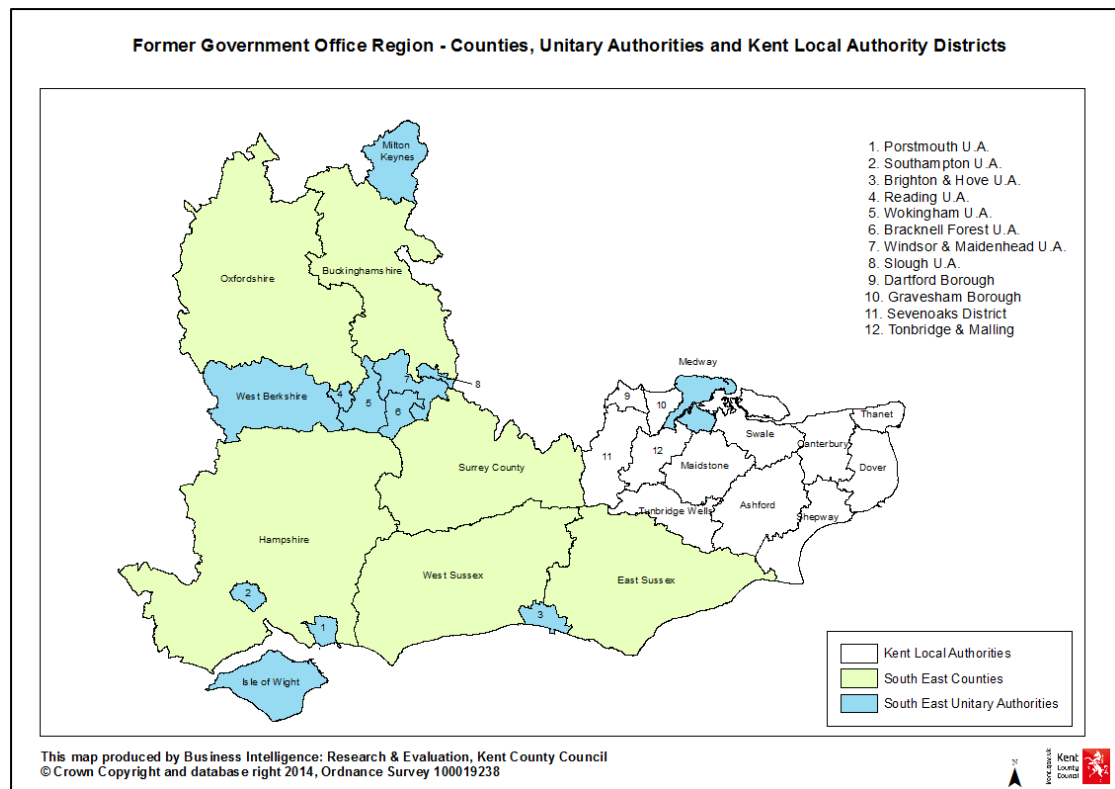
This bulletin presents the national population estimate with the population of each of the former Government office regions in England. It then focuses specifically on the South East region and compares Kent's population alongside other counties within the South East region. It ends by looking at the total population of each of the Kent local authority districts. Only total population estimates are presented here but further details from the 2016 estimates are available on the Kent County Council website in the bulletins and excel toolkits listed below:

- '2016 Mid-Year Population Estimates: Age and gender profile' presents the age and gender profile of each local authority district in Kent in the form of tables and population pyramids.
- 'Time-series of Mid-year population estimates 1996-2016' presents total population between 1996 and 2016.
- 'What's causing Kent's population growth?' examines the reasons behind the changes in population.
- 'Interactive population estimates Excel toolkit' allows access to population estimates for any chosen age group for all 12 Kent local authority districts and Kent County as a whole between 1992 and 2016.

Note on the data

It is ONS policy to present all estimates rounded to the nearest hundred. Within this bulletin all numbers have been individually rounded and therefore may not sum. Percentages have been calculated using unrounded numbers. The data in this bulletin will be updated in summer 2018 when the 2017 mid-year population estimates will be released

Geographical reference map



Total population of England and each of the former Government Office Regions

The 2016 mid-year population estimate for England is 55,268,100. This is +481,700 people (+0.9%) higher than the 2015 mid-year population estimate.

The South East region has the largest population with 9,026,300 people. The region with the smallest population is the North East with 2,636,800 people.

The London region saw the largest real and percentage increase in population between 2015 and 2016, growing by +114,200 people (+1.3%). This increase brought the population of London to over 8.7 million.

The South East region has shown the second largest population growth in real terms, increasing by an additional +78,400 people (+0.9%) between 2015 and 2016. The East Midlands region has experienced the second largest growth in percentage terms with a 1.0% increase, equivalent to an extra 47,400 people between 2015 and 2016.

London is the most densely populated region with 55.9 people per hectare and the South West region the least densely populated with 2.3 people per

hectare. Within the South East region there are 4.7 people per hectare. Population change between 2015 and 2016 for England and each of the former Government Office regions is presented in Table 1 and Chart 1.

Table 1: 2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: Former Government Office Regions & England

2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: Former Government Office Regions & England						
	2015 MYPE	2016 MYPE	2015-2016 change		Area (Hectare)	2016 MYPE density (people per Ha)
			Number	%		
England	54,786,300	55,268,100	481,700	0.9%	13,027,843	4.2
East	6,076,500	6,130,500	54,100	0.9%	1,910,838	3.2
East Midlands	4,677,000	4,724,400	47,400	1.0%	1,560,642	3.0
London	8,673,700	8,787,900	114,200	1.3%	157,215	55.9
North East	2,624,600	2,636,800	12,200	0.5%	857,317	3.1
North West	7,173,800	7,219,600	45,800	0.6%	1,410,535	5.1
South East	8,947,900	9,026,300	78,400	0.9%	1,906,965	4.7
South West	5,471,200	5,516,000	44,800	0.8%	2,383,736	2.3
West Midlands	5,751,000	5,800,700	49,700	0.9%	1,299,832	4.5
Yorkshire & The Humber	5,390,600	5,425,700	35,200	0.7%	1,540,764	3.5

Source: 2016 Mid Year Population Estimates published 22 June 2017 Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright

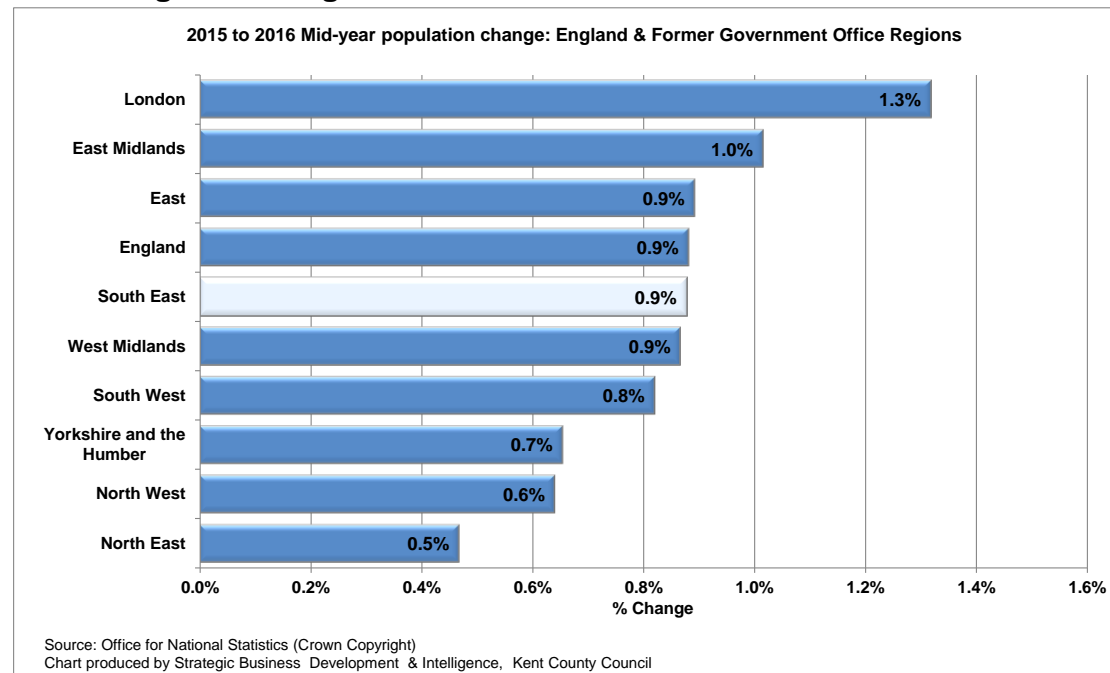
2015 Mid Year Population Estimates published 23 June 2016 Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright

Presented by Strategic Business Development & Intelligence, Kent County Council

All figures are separately rounded to the nearest hundred and therefore may not sum.

Percentages and densities are calculated using unrounded numbers

Chart 1: 2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: Former Government Office Regions & England



Total population of counties (excluding Unitary Authorities) in the South East Region

The 2016 mid-year population estimates show that Kent is the most populous county council area in the South East region with a population of 1,541,900 people. This population also means that the Kent remains the largest non-metropolitan local authority area in England.

Hampshire is the second largest county in the South East with a population of 1,360,400. Buckinghamshire is the smallest county in the South East region with a population of 534,700

Of the counties in the South East region, Kent experienced the largest increase in population in real terms between 2015 and 2016 growing by +17,200 people (+1.1%). Buckinghamshire experienced the greatest percentage increase in population with a rise of +1.2% although the total increase was less than half of Kent's with an increase of +6,300 people.

Surrey is the most densely populated county in the South East region with 7.1 people per hectare, which is higher than the average density for the South East region (4.7 people per hectare). Kent is the second most densely populated county with 4.4 people per hectare. Oxfordshire is the least densely populated county in the South East with 2.6 people per hectare.

Population change between 2015 and 2016 for each of the counties in the South East region is presented in Table 2 and Chart 2.

Table 2: 2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: South East Counties

2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: South East Counties						
	2015 MYPE	2016 MYPE	2015-2016 change		Area (Hectare)	2016 MYPE density (people per Ha)
			Number	%		
South East region	8,947,900	9,026,300	78,400	0.9%	1,906,965	4.7
Buckinghamshire	528,400	534,700	6,300	1.2%	156,495	3.4
East Sussex	544,100	547,800	3,700	0.7%	170,855	3.2
Hampshire	1,353,000	1,360,400	7,400	0.5%	367,895	3.7
Kent	1,524,700	1,541,900	17,200	1.1%	354,353	4.4
Oxfordshire	677,800	683,200	5,400	0.8%	260,492	2.6
Surrey	1,168,800	1,176,500	7,700	0.7%	166,250	7.1
West Sussex	836,300	843,800	7,500	0.9%	199,049	4.2

Source: 2016 Mid Year Population Estimates published 22 June 2017 Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright

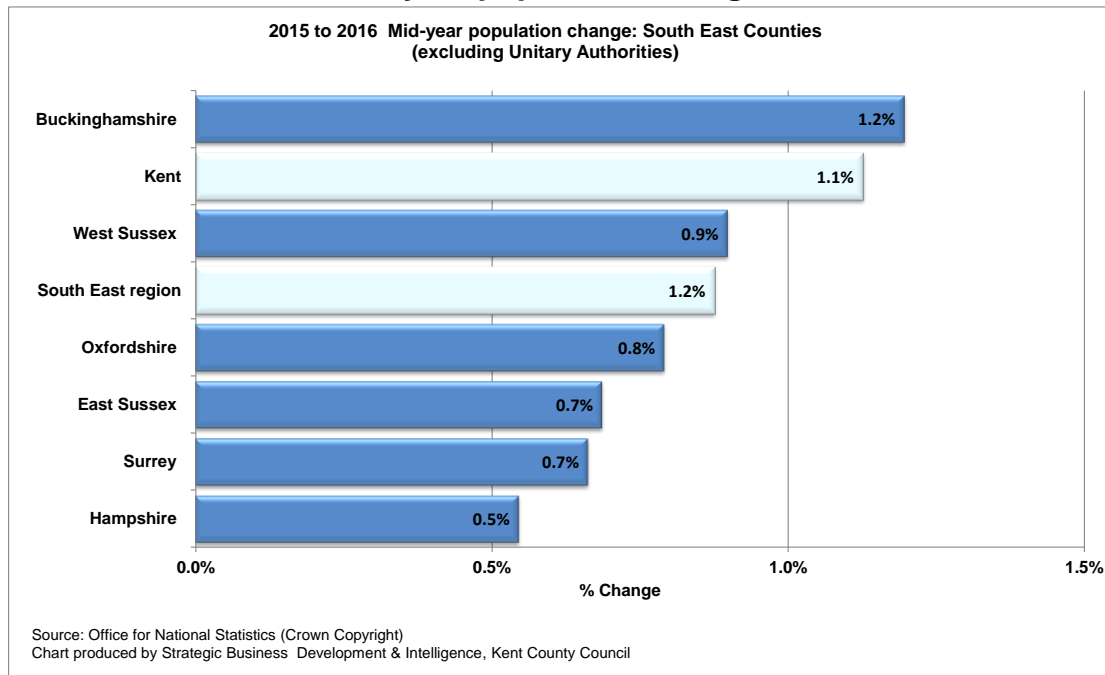
2015 Mid Year Population Estimates published 23 June 2016 Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright

Presented by Strategic Business Development & Intelligence, Kent County Council

All figures are separately rounded to the nearest hundred and therefore may not sum.

Percentages and densities are calculated using unrounded numbers

Chart 2: 2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: South East counties



Total population of unitary authorities in the South East Region

Brighton & Hove is the largest unitary authority in the South East region with a population of 289,200 people according to the 2016 mid-year population estimates. Medway is the second largest unitary authority with a population of 278,500. Bracknell Forest has the smallest population with 119,400 people.

Portsmouth is the most densely populated unitary authority in the South East region with 53.2 people per hectare, which is considerably higher than the average density for the South East region (4.7 people per hectare). West Berkshire is the least densely populated unitary authority with 2.2 people per hectare. Within Medway there are 14.5 people per hectare.

Of the unitary authorities in the South East region, Southampton has experienced the largest increase in population in real terms between 2015 and 2016 each growing by +4,700 people. This figure equates to a +1.9% increase for Southampton.

The population of Medway increased by +2,100 people (+0.7%) Population change between the 2015 and 2016 for each of the unitary authorities in the South East region is presented in Table 3 and Chart 3.

Table 3: 2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: South East Unitary Authorities

2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: South East Unitary Authorities						
	2015 MYPE	2016 MYPE	2015-2016 change		Area (Hectare)	2016 MYPE density (people per Ha)
			Number	%		
South East region	8,947,900	9,026,300	78,400	0.9%	1,906,965	4.7
Bracknell Forest	119,000	119,400	500	0.4%	10,939	10.9
Brighton and Hove	285,300	289,200	3,900	1.4%	8,267	35.0
Isle of Wight	139,400	139,800	400	0.3%	38,016	3.7
Medway	276,500	278,500	2,100	0.7%	19,203	14.5
Milton Keynes	261,800	264,500	2,700	1.0%	30,863	8.6
Portsmouth	211,800	214,800	3,100	1.5%	4,041	53.2
Reading	161,700	162,700	900	0.6%	4,040	40.3
Slough	145,700	147,200	1,400	1.0%	3,254	45.2
Southampton	249,500	254,300	4,700	1.9%	4,989	51.0
West Berkshire	156,000	156,800	800	0.5%	70,417	2.2
Windsor and Maidenhead	147,700	148,800	1,100	0.7%	19,651	7.6
Wokingham	160,400	161,900	1,500	0.9%	17,898	9.0

Source: 2016 Mid Year Population Estimates published 22 June 2017 Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright

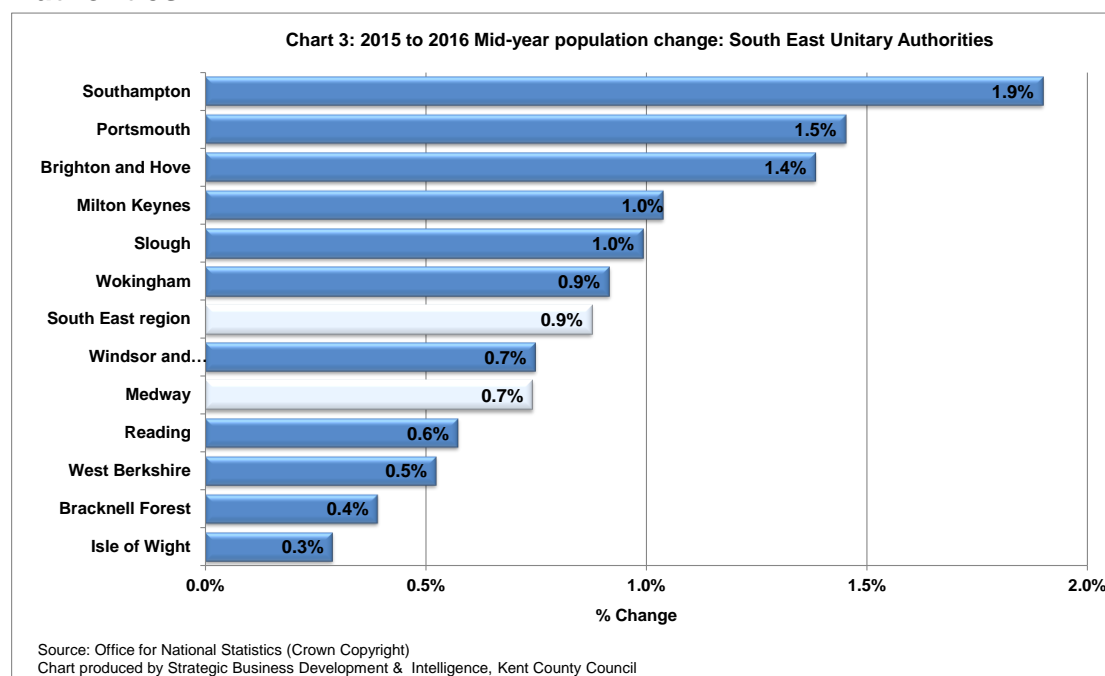
2015 Mid Year Population Estimates published 23 June 2016 Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright

Presented by Strategic Business Development & Intelligence, Kent County Council

All figures are separately rounded to the nearest hundred and therefore may not sum.

Percentages and densities are calculated using unrounded numbers.

Chart 3: 2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: South East Unitary Authorities



Total population of the Kent County Council Area and local authority districts within Kent

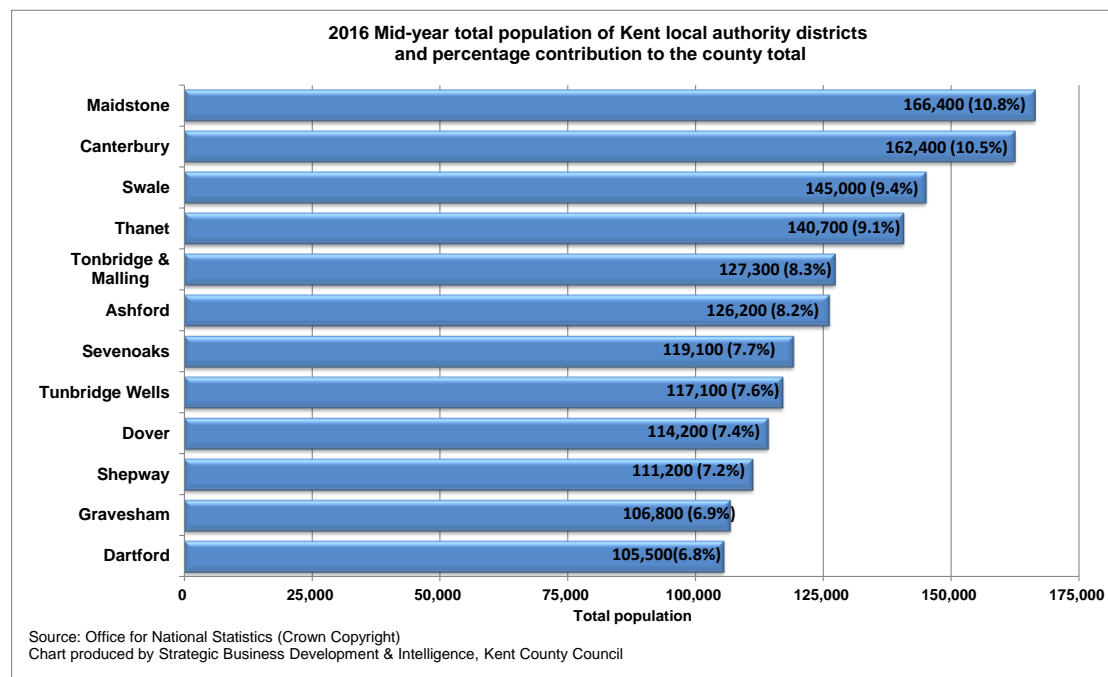
The total population of the KCC area is 1,541,900 people according to the 2016 mid-year population estimates.

Maidstone has the largest population with 166,400 people, which is equivalent to 10.8% of Kent's total population.

Dartford has the smallest population in Kent with 105,500 people, which is equivalent to 6.8% of Kent's total population.

The total population of each of the Kent local authority districts according to the 2016 mid-year population estimates and the proportion each contributes to the population of Kent as a whole is presented in Chart 4.

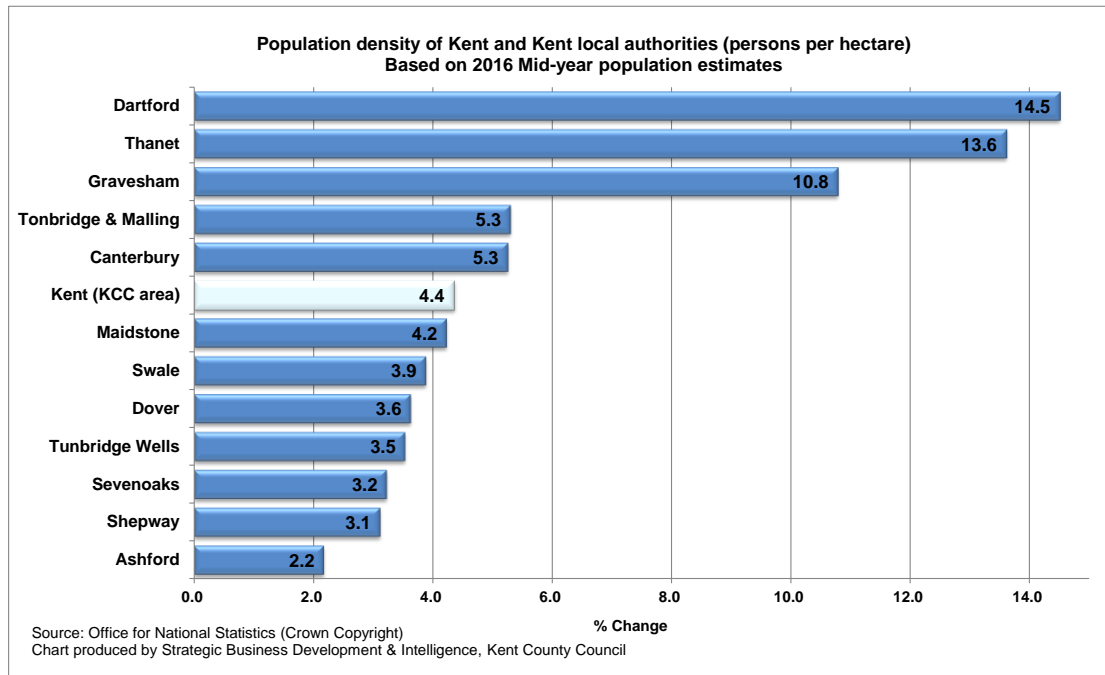
Chart 4: 2016 Mid-year population estimate and percentage contribution to the Kent total



Dartford is Kent's most densely populated local authority district with 14.5 people per hectare. Ashford is the least densely populated with 2.2 people per hectare.

The population density of Kent local authority districts is presented in Chart 5

Chart 5: Population density of Kent and local authorities (persons per hectare) Based on 2016 Mid-year population estimates



The population of Kent grew by +1.1% between 2015 and 2016 which was a faster rate of growth than the national average and South East average.

Of the local authority districts in Kent, Swale has seen the largest increase in population in both real and percentage terms. Between 2015 and 2016 Swale's population increased by +2,600 people, which is equivalent to a +1.8% increase.

Gravesham experienced the smallest increase in population in both real and percentage terms between 2015 and 2016 growing by 500 people (+0.5%)

The population change between the 2015 and 2016 mid-year population estimate for Kent as a whole and each of the local authority areas within Kent is presented in Table 4 and Chart 6.

Table 4: 2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: Kent and local authority districts

2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: KCC Area and districts						
	2015 MYPE	2016 MYPE	2015-2016 change		Area (Hectare)	2016 MYPE density (people per Ha)
			Number	%		
Kent (KCC area)	1,524,700	1,541,900	17,200	1.1%	354,353	4.4
Ashford	124,300	126,200	1,900	1.5%	58,062	2.2
Canterbury	160,000	162,400	2,500	1.5%	30,885	5.3
Dartford	103,900	105,500	1,700	1.6%	7,277	14.5
Dover	113,200	114,200	1,000	0.9%	31,485	3.6
Gravesham	106,300	106,800	500	0.5%	9,902	10.8
Maidstone	164,500	166,400	1,900	1.1%	39,333	4.2
Sevenoaks	118,400	119,100	700	0.6%	36,920	3.2
Shepway	110,000	111,200	1,200	1.1%	35,670	3.1
Swale	142,400	145,000	2,600	1.8%	37,339	3.9
Thanet	139,800	140,700	900	0.6%	10,334	13.6
Tonbridge & Malling	125,700	127,300	1,600	1.3%	24,014	5.3
Tunbridge Wells	116,200	117,100	800	0.7%	33,133	3.5

Source: 2016 Mid Year Population Estimates published 22 June 2017 Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright
 2015 Mid Year Population Estimates published 23 June 2016 Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright
 Presented by Strategic Business Development & Intelligence, Kent County Council
 All figures are separately rounded to the nearest hundred and therefore may not sum.
 Percentages and densities are calculated using unrounded numbers

Chart 6: 2015 to 2016 Mid-year population change: Kent and local authority districts

