

# 2021 Census: Cultural Diversity in Kent

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Census 2021 release date:  
28 June 2022

**NOTE:** Within this bulletin “Kent” refers to the Kent County Council area which excludes Medway

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**On 28 June 2022 the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published 2021 Census data on total population by ethnic group, national identity, language and religion for England & Wales. Collectively these tables provide a snapshot of current cultural diversity within the country. This bulletin presents this information for Kent, the South East and England & Wales.**

## Headline findings

- In Kent the ethnic minorities population has increased from 3.1% in 2001 to 10.6% in 2021.
- In Kent a higher proportion of the white population are aged 35 and above (60.6%) whereas a higher proportion of the ethnic minorities population are aged under 35 (56.3%).
- The largest increase in where Kent residents are born are people born in Non-EU countries with a 92.1% increase in the last ten years.
- The largest proportion of Kent’s migrant population arrived in the UK between 2011 and 2021 (38.4%).
- In Kent the Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim religions have seen the greatest increases in real and percentage terms over the last ten years ranging between a 28.6% and 83.9% increase.

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## Introduction

The 1991 Census was the first census to include a question about ethnic background. Originally this question was introduced to help to enable private and public organisations to monitor equal opportunities / anti-discrimination policies and to plan for the future through resource allocation and provision of services.

Over the last three decades England & Wales has become more ethnically diverse, and the task of measuring this diversity means looking at other aspects such as religion, country of birth and national identity as well as ethnicity.

As a result, the national census has been used to ask more questions relating to ethnicity and national identity. The 2001 Census saw the introduction of the questions on religion and country of birth.

The 2011 Census saw the introduction of questions about National Identity. The answers to these questions provided us with information about:

- Length of residency in the UK
- Year of arrival in the UK
- Age of arrival in the UK
- Type of passport held
- Household language

In addition to household language question, the 2021 Census asked for information about multiple main languages in households. This data is presented in this report along with main language (high level groups).

More information about how questions were developed for the 2021 Census can be found on the [ONS Census pages](#).

The first section of this bulletin will present the 2021 Census results for ethnicity followed by a basic comparison with the 2001 and 2011 censuses.

The sections on country of birth and religion will include a 2011 to 2021 comparison.

Other sections included are length of residence, and year and age of arrival in the UK.

In this report, we have grouped the population into two ethnic groups, the white ethnic group and the ethnic minorities group. The white ethnic group includes:

- White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British
- White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- White: Irish
- White: Other White
- White: Roma

The ethnic minorities group includes:

- Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh
- Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African
- Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups
- Other ethnic group

The 2021 Census took place on 21 March 2021. All figures used in the report are correct as at the time of the Census.

Figures in tables may not sum due to individual figures being rounded at source.

## Ethnicity

The 2021 Census provides us with 19 separate ethnic categories which have been aggregated into 5 broad ethnic groups. These are:

- White
- Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh
- Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African
- Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups
- Other ethnic group

A list of the 19 ethnic categories is available on the [ONS website](#) and is presented in this report in table 5c on page 15.

In this report, we have grouped the population into two ethnic groups, the white ethnic group and the ethnic minorities group. The white ethnic group includes:

- White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British
- White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- White: Irish
- White: Other White
- White: Roma

The ethnic minorities group includes:

- Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh
- Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African
- Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups
- Other ethnic group

The 2021 Census shows us that the white ethnic group is the largest group in Kent, the South East and England & Wales. Over 1.4 million Kent's residents are from the white ethnic group which accounts for 89.4% of the total population. This is a higher proportion than the South East figure of 86.3% and the national figure of 81.7%.

167,063 (10.6%) of Kent residents belong to the other four broad ethnic groups identified as ethnic minorities. This is a lower proportion than the regional figure of 13.7% and the national figure of 18.3%.

Out of the twelve local authority districts within Kent, Dartford has the highest number and proportion of residents from ethnic minorities, with 29,818 total residents, accounting for just over a quarter of the districts population (25.5%). This is higher than the regional (13.7%) and national (18.3%) proportions.

Gravesham has the second highest ethnic minorities population with 25,009 residents, a proportion of 23.4%. Maidstone is third with 17,917 residents (10.2%). Dartford, Gravesham, Ashford and Canterbury have a higher proportion of residents from the ethnic minorities group compared to the Kent average of 10.6%.

Of the twelve local authority districts within Kent, Dover has the lowest number (5,992) and proportion (5.1%) of residents from the ethnic minorities group.

Table 1 shows the number and proportion of the total population who are from the white ethnic group and those from the ethnic minorities group.

**Table 1: 2021 Census: White and ethnic minorities population in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	White* Number	White* %	Ethnic minorities* Number	Ethnic minorities* %
England & Wales	59,597,542	48,699,249	81.7%	10,898,293	18.3%
South East	9,278,063	8,009,380	86.3%	1,268,683	13.7%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,409,006</b>	<b>89.4%</b>	<b>167,063</b>	<b>10.6%</b>
Ashford	132,747	116,896	88.1%	15,851	11.9%
Canterbury	157,429	140,473	89.2%	16,956	10.8%
Dartford	116,754	86,936	74.5%	29,818	25.5%
Dover	116,411	110,419	94.9%	5,992	5.1%
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	101,614	92.6%	8,145	7.4%
Gravesham	106,902	81,893	76.6%	25,009	23.4%
Maidstone	175,781	157,864	89.8%	17,917	10.2%
Sevenoaks	120,515	111,005	92.1%	9,510	7.9%
Swale	151,677	142,341	93.8%	9,336	6.2%
Thanet	140,587	130,719	93.0%	9,868	7.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	123,287	93.3%	8,914	6.7%
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	105,562	91.5%	9,752	8.5%
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	235,747	84.3%	44,026	15.7%
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	1,644,753	88.6%	211,089	11.4%

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

\*White includes English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British; Irish; Gypsy or Irish Traveller; Roma; Other White

\*Ethnic minorities includes Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh; Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African; Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups; Other ethnic group

Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

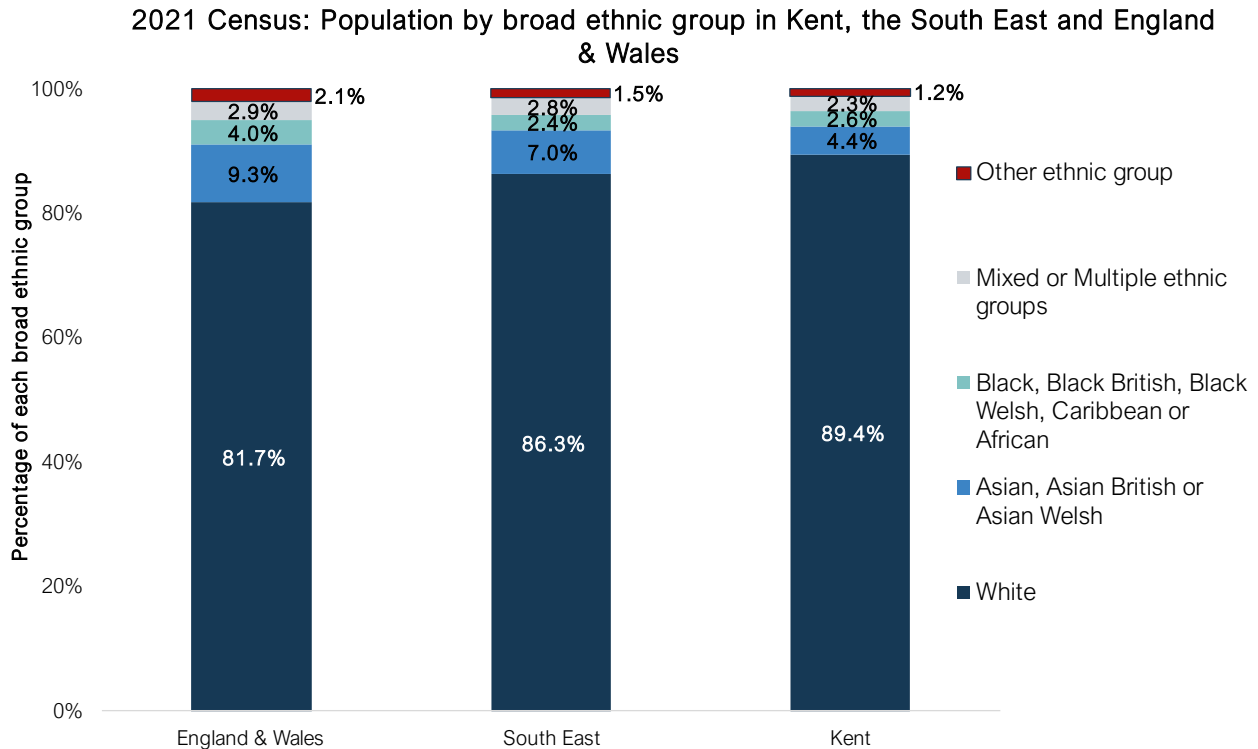
The Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh ethnic group is the second largest ethnic group after the white ethnic group in Kent. 69,939 of Kent's residents are from this ethnic group which equates to 4.4% of the total population.

The third largest ethnic group is the Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African ethnic group with a population of 41,036 people. This accounts for 2.6% of Kent's total population.

The Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups account for 2.3% of the total Kent population. This is equivalent to a total of 36,766 people. The smallest ethnic group is the Other ethnic group which accounts for 1.2% of Kent's total population with a total of 19,322 people.

Chart 1 presents the Kent population by the five broad ethnic groups compared to that of the South East region and England & Wales.

## Chart 1: 2021 Census: Population by broad ethnic group in Kent, the South East and England & Wales



Source: 2021 Census TS021 Ethnic group, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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Of the 12 local authority districts within Kent, Canterbury has the highest number of residents from the Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups with 4,316 people. This equates to 2.7% of the total population of Canterbury.

Dartford has the highest number and proportion of residents from the Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African ethnic group with 12,282 people. This equates to 10.5% of the total population of Dartford.

Gravesham has the highest number and proportion of residents from both the Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh ethnic group and the Other ethnic group. 11,999 Gravesham residents belong to the Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh ethnic group, which is equal to 11.2% of its total population, whilst 3,230 residents belong to the Other ethnic group which is equal to 3.0% of the total population of Gravesham.

Table 2 on the following page presents the Kent local authority district population by the five broad ethnic groups compared to that of Kent, the South East region and England & Wales.

**Table 2: 2021 Census: Population by broad ethnic group in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	White Number	White %	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh Number	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh %	Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African Number	Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African %	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups Number	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups %	Other ethnic group Number	Other ethnic group %
England & Wales	59,597,542	48,699,249	81.7%	5,515,420	9.3%	2,409,278	4.0%	1,717,976	2.9%	1,255,619	2.1%
South East	9,278,063	8,009,380	86.3%	650,545	7.0%	221,584	2.4%	260,871	2.8%	135,683	1.5%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,409,006</b>	<b>89.4%</b>	<b>69,939</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>41,036</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>36,766</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>19,322</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
Ashford	132,747	116,896	88.1%	7,668	5.8%	3,424	2.6%	2,877	2.2%	1,882	1.4%
Canterbury	157,429	140,473	89.2%	6,377	4.1%	3,906	2.5%	4,316	2.7%	2,357	1.5%
Dartford	116,754	86,936	74.5%	11,513	9.9%	12,282	10.5%	3,638	3.1%	2,385	2.0%
Dover	116,411	110,419	94.9%	2,402	2.1%	837	0.7%	1,754	1.5%	999	0.9%
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	101,614	92.6%	4,271	3.9%	682	0.6%	2,108	1.9%	1,084	1.0%
Gravesham	106,902	81,893	76.6%	11,999	11.2%	6,952	6.5%	2,828	2.6%	3,230	3.0%
Maidstone	175,781	157,864	89.8%	8,213	4.7%	3,606	2.1%	4,013	2.3%	2,085	1.2%
Sevenoaks	120,515	111,005	92.1%	3,484	2.9%	1,932	1.6%	3,181	2.6%	913	0.8%
Swale	151,677	142,341	93.8%	2,312	1.5%	3,487	2.3%	2,741	1.8%	796	0.5%
Thanet	140,587	130,719	93.0%	3,259	2.3%	1,481	1.1%	3,420	2.4%	1,708	1.2%
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	123,287	93.3%	3,876	2.9%	1,314	1.0%	2,943	2.2%	781	0.6%
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	105,562	91.5%	4,566	4.0%	1,131	1.0%	2,949	2.6%	1,106	1.0%
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	235,747	84.3%	16,484	5.9%	15,723	5.6%	7,859	2.8%	3,960	1.4%
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	1,644,753	88.6%	86,423	4.7%	56,759	3.1%	44,625	2.4%	23,282	1.3%

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

\*White includes English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British; Irish; Gypsy or Irish Traveller; Roma; Other White

Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council



Tables 3 and 4 on the following pages present the full 19 ethnic classifications by number and proportion for Kent districts and Medway Unitary Authority compared to Kent, the South East and England & Wales.

The majority of Kent residents are from 5 detailed ethnic categories, the largest of which is the White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British ethnic category. Just over 1.31 million residents (83.2%) belong to this group. This proportion is higher than the South East figure of 78.8% and the national figure of 74.4%.

In order of population size the next largest ethnic groups in Kent are:

- White: Other White
- Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: African
- Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Indian
- Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Other Asian

79,335 people or 5.0% of Kent's residents are from the White: Other White ethnic group. This proportion is lower than the regional figure of 6.3% and the national figure of 6.2%.

30,140 people or 1.9% of Kent's population identify themselves as Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: African. This ethnic group's proportion of the Kent population is slightly higher than the South East figure of 1.6% though lower than the national figure of 2.5%.

26,440 people or 1.7% of Kent's population identify themselves as Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Indian and 25,812 people, 1.6% of Kent's residents, class themselves as being Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Other Asian.

The proportion of Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Indian in Kent is lower than both the South East and national figures of 2.6% and 3.1%. The proportion of Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Other Asian in Kent is equal to the national proportion and slightly lower than the regional proportion of 1.7%.

The remaining 14 ethnic categories account for between 0.1% and 1.0% of Kent's total population.

**Table 3a: 2021 Census: Population by detailed ethnic category in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	White: Irish	White: Other White	White: Roma	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Bangladeshi	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Chinese	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Indian	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Other Asian	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Pakistani
England & Wales	59,597,542	44,355,038	67,768	507,465	3,667,997	100,981	644,881	445,619	1,864,318	972,783	1,587,819
South East	9,278,063	7,315,058	16,748	78,219	586,569	12,786	39,881	64,329	241,537	159,487	145,311
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,311,093</b>	<b>5,473</b>	<b>10,850</b>	<b>79,335</b>	<b>2,255</b>	<b>5,334</b>	<b>7,656</b>	<b>26,440</b>	<b>25,812</b>	<b>4,697</b>
Ashford	132,747	109,673	686	776	5,682	79	336	578	1,720	4,630	404
Canterbury	157,429	129,887	391	1,311	8,694	190	431	1,357	1,994	2,054	541
Dartford	116,754	78,557	309	812	7,100	158	1,052	1,165	5,123	3,413	760
Dover	116,411	105,111	247	648	4,170	243	162	303	550	1,346	41
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	96,590	146	765	3,976	137	196	358	490	3,013	214
Gravesham	106,902	73,030	320	699	7,493	351	690	352	8,136	1,978	843
Maidstone	175,781	144,114	1,009	994	11,474	273	649	655	2,145	4,196	568
Sevenoaks	120,515	103,116	460	1,085	6,272	72	236	765	1,326	905	252
Swale	151,677	134,385	925	855	5,999	177	406	328	776	656	146
Thanet	140,587	122,796	185	1,145	6,213	380	254	448	941	1,344	272
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	116,787	462	849	5,114	75	376	665	1,547	999	289
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	97,049	333	913	7,148	119	548	681	1,692	1,278	367
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	218,953	749	1,866	13,710	469	1,962	1,273	7,693	3,431	2,125
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	1,530,046	6,222	12,716	93,045	2,724	7,296	8,929	34,133	29,243	6,822

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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**Table 3b: 2021 Census: Population by detailed ethnic category in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: African	Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: Caribbean	Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: Other Black	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: Other Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Asian	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black African	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean	Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	Other ethnic group: Arab
England & Wales	59,597,542	1,488,381	623,119	297,778	467,113	513,042	249,596	488,225	923,775	331,844
South East	9,278,063	150,540	43,523	27,521	72,045	62,087	38,633	88,106	106,109	29,574
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>30,410</b>	<b>5,958</b>	<b>4,668</b>	<b>9,981</b>	<b>9,151</b>	<b>5,695</b>	<b>11,939</b>	<b>16,517</b>	<b>2,805</b>
Ashford	132,747	2,504	572	348	766	775	438	898	1,584	298
Canterbury	157,429	2,928	647	331	1,264	983	661	1,408	1,682	675
Dartford	116,754	9,812	1,141	1,329	931	1,004	723	980	2,131	254
Dover	116,411	546	176	115	500	411	297	546	863	136
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	385	203	94	575	554	303	676	965	119
Gravesham	106,902	5,235	847	870	715	787	535	791	3,103	127
Maidstone	175,781	2,567	643	396	1,108	978	611	1,316	1,836	249
Sevenoaks	120,515	1,332	370	230	842	655	337	1,347	755	158
Swale	151,677	2,541	452	494	755	814	415	757	669	127
Thanet	140,587	859	453	169	893	1,042	591	894	1,461	247
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	873	278	163	816	670	416	1,041	612	169
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	828	174	129	818	478	368	1,285	859	247
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	11,266	2,552	1,905	1,882	2,425	1,394	2,158	3,508	452
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	41,676	8,510	6,573	11,863	11,576	7,089	14,097	20,025	3,257

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

**Table 4a: 2021 Census: Percentage of population by detailed ethnic category in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	White: Irish	White: Other White	White: Roma	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Bangladeshi	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Chinese	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Indian	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Other Asian	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Pakistani
England & Wales	100.0%	74.4%	0.1%	0.9%	6.2%	0.2%	1.1%	0.7%	3.1%	1.6%	2.7%
South East	100.0%	78.8%	0.2%	0.8%	6.3%	0.1%	0.4%	0.7%	2.6%	1.7%	1.6%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>83.2%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	82.6%	0.5%	0.6%	4.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	1.3%	3.5%	0.3%
Canterbury	100.0%	82.5%	0.2%	0.8%	5.5%	0.1%	0.3%	0.9%	1.3%	1.3%	0.3%
Dartford	100.0%	67.3%	0.3%	0.7%	6.1%	0.1%	0.9%	1.0%	4.4%	2.9%	0.7%
Dover	100.0%	90.3%	0.2%	0.6%	3.6%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.5%	1.2%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	88.0%	0.1%	0.7%	3.6%	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	2.7%	0.2%
Gravesham	100.0%	68.3%	0.3%	0.7%	7.0%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%	7.6%	1.9%	0.8%
Maidstone	100.0%	82.0%	0.6%	0.6%	6.5%	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	1.2%	2.4%	0.3%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	85.6%	0.4%	0.9%	5.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.6%	1.1%	0.8%	0.2%
Swale	100.0%	88.6%	0.6%	0.6%	4.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.4%	0.1%
Thanet	100.0%	87.3%	0.1%	0.8%	4.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.7%	1.0%	0.2%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	88.3%	0.3%	0.6%	3.9%	0.1%	0.3%	0.5%	1.2%	0.8%	0.2%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	84.2%	0.3%	0.8%	6.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.6%	1.5%	1.1%	0.3%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	78.3%	0.3%	0.7%	4.9%	0.2%	0.7%	0.5%	2.7%	1.2%	0.8%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	82.4%	0.3%	0.7%	5.0%	0.1%	0.4%	0.5%	1.8%	1.6%	0.4%

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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**Table 4b: 2021 Census: Percentage of population by detailed ethnic category in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: African	Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: Caribbean	Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: Other Black	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: Other Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Asian	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black African	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean	Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	Other ethnic group: Arab
England & Wales	100.0%	2.5%	1.0%	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	0.4%	0.8%	1.6%	0.6%
South East	100.0%	1.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.8%	0.7%	0.4%	0.9%	1.1%	0.3%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	1.9%	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%	0.6%	0.3%	0.7%	1.2%	0.2%
Canterbury	100.0%	1.9%	0.4%	0.2%	0.8%	0.6%	0.4%	0.9%	1.1%	0.4%
Dartford	100.0%	8.4%	1.0%	1.1%	0.8%	0.9%	0.6%	0.8%	1.8%	0.2%
Dover	100.0%	0.5%	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	0.7%	0.1%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%	0.6%	0.9%	0.1%
Gravesham	100.0%	4.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.5%	0.7%	2.9%	0.1%
Maidstone	100.0%	1.5%	0.4%	0.2%	0.6%	0.6%	0.3%	0.7%	1.0%	0.1%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	1.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.7%	0.5%	0.3%	1.1%	0.6%	0.1%
Swale	100.0%	1.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.4%	0.1%
Thanet	100.0%	0.6%	0.3%	0.1%	0.6%	0.7%	0.4%	0.6%	1.0%	0.2%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	0.7%	0.2%	0.1%	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.8%	0.5%	0.1%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	0.7%	0.2%	0.1%	0.7%	0.4%	0.3%	1.1%	0.7%	0.2%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	4.0%	0.9%	0.7%	0.7%	0.9%	0.5%	0.8%	1.3%	0.2%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	2.2%	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%	0.6%	0.4%	0.8%	1.1%	0.2%

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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## Change between the 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census

The question on ethnicity has become an integral part of the census form and the results have always been eagerly awaited. Since 1991 attitudes to the question regarding ethnicity have changed, so too has the question itself. Consequently, the number of possible categories has increased to take into account the growing mixed and multiple ethnic groups.

The 2001 Census presented the population by 16 separate categories which were aggregated into 5 broad ethnic groups. Table 5a shows the 5 broad ethnic groups for the 2001 Census and the ethnic categories in each group.

**Table 5a: Ethnic categories and groups used in 2001 Census**

Ethnic Groups	Ethnic Categories
White	British
White	Irish
White	Other: White
Mixed	White and Black Caribbean
Mixed	White and Black African
Mixed	White and Asian
Mixed	Other Mixed
Asian or Asian British	Indian
Asian or Asian British	Pakistani
Asian or Asian British	Bangladeshi
Asian or Asian British	Other Asian
Black or Black British	Black African
Black or Black British	Black Caribbean
Black or Black British	Other Black
Chinese or Other ethnic group	Chinese
Chinese or Other ethnic group	Other ethnic group

The 2011 Census provided us with 18 separate ethnic categories which have been aggregated into 5 broad ethnic groups. The ethnic groups and categories used in the 2011 Census are shown in table 5b.

**Table 5b: Ethnic categories and groups used in 2011 Census**

<b>Ethnic Groups</b>	<b>Ethnic Categories</b>
White	English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, British
White	Irish
White	Gypsy or Irish Traveller
White	Other White
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	White and Black Caribbean
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	White and Black African
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	White and Asian
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	Other Mixed
Asian or Asian British	Indian
Asian or Asian British	Pakistani
Asian or Asian British	Bangladeshi
Asian or Asian British	Chinese
Asian or Asian British	Other Asian
Black, African, Caribbean or Black British	African
Black, African, Caribbean or Black British	Caribbean
Black, African, Caribbean or Black British	Other Black, African, Caribbean
Other ethnic group	Arab
Other ethnic group	Other ethnic group

The 2021 Census provides us with 19 separate ethnic categories which have been aggregated into 5 broad ethnic groups. These are:

- White
- Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh
- Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African
- Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups
- Other ethnic group

Table 5c shows the 5 broad ethnic groups and the ethnic categories within each broad group used in the 2021 Census.

**Table 5c: Ethnic categories and groups used in 2021 Census**

Ethnic Groups	Ethnic Categories
White:	English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British
White:	Gypsy or Irish Traveller
White:	Irish
White:	Other White
White:	Roma
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh:	Bangladeshi
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh:	Chinese
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh:	Indian
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh:	Other Asian
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh:	Pakistani
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African:	African
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African:	Caribbean
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African:	Other Black
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	Other Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	White and Asian
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	White and Black African
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	White and Black Caribbean
Other ethnic group	Any other ethnic group
Other ethnic group	Arab

The result is that it is difficult to compare results from all three censuses without presenting the figures in the simplest form.

For comparison, as throughout this report, we have grouped the individual groups from each of the censuses into two groups as previously described: white (which includes white ethnic minorities), and ethnic minorities.

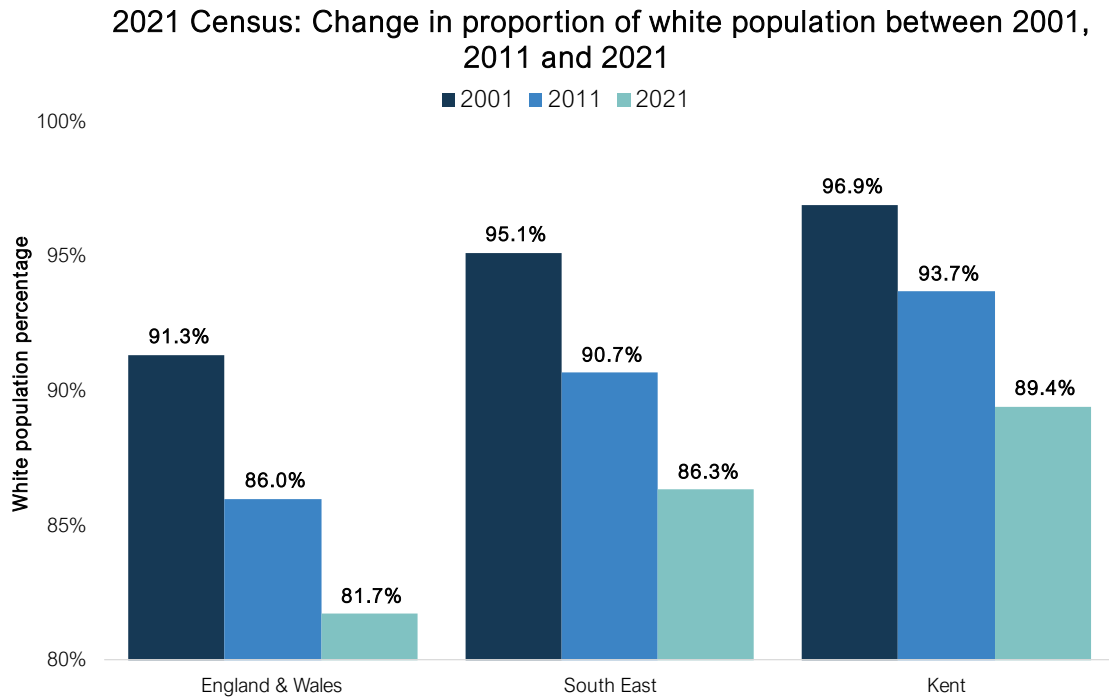
Charts 2 and 3 overleaf present the change in white and ethnic minorities population in Kent compared to the South East region and England & Wales between 2001, 2011 and 2021.

The proportion of residents from the white ethnic group in Kent has decreased from 96.9% in 2001 to 89.4% in 2021. The proportion in Kent in 2021 is higher than seen in the South East region (86.3%) and in England & Wales (81.7%). There has been a similar change regionally and nationally, where the proportion of the white population has decreased every 10 years.

In comparison there has been a rise in the proportion of ethnic minorities population in Kent, the South East and England & Wales. In Kent the proportion has increased from 3.1% in 2001 to 10.6% in 2021. The proportion of this population group in Kent in 2021 is lower than seen regionally and nationally (13.7% and 18.3%).

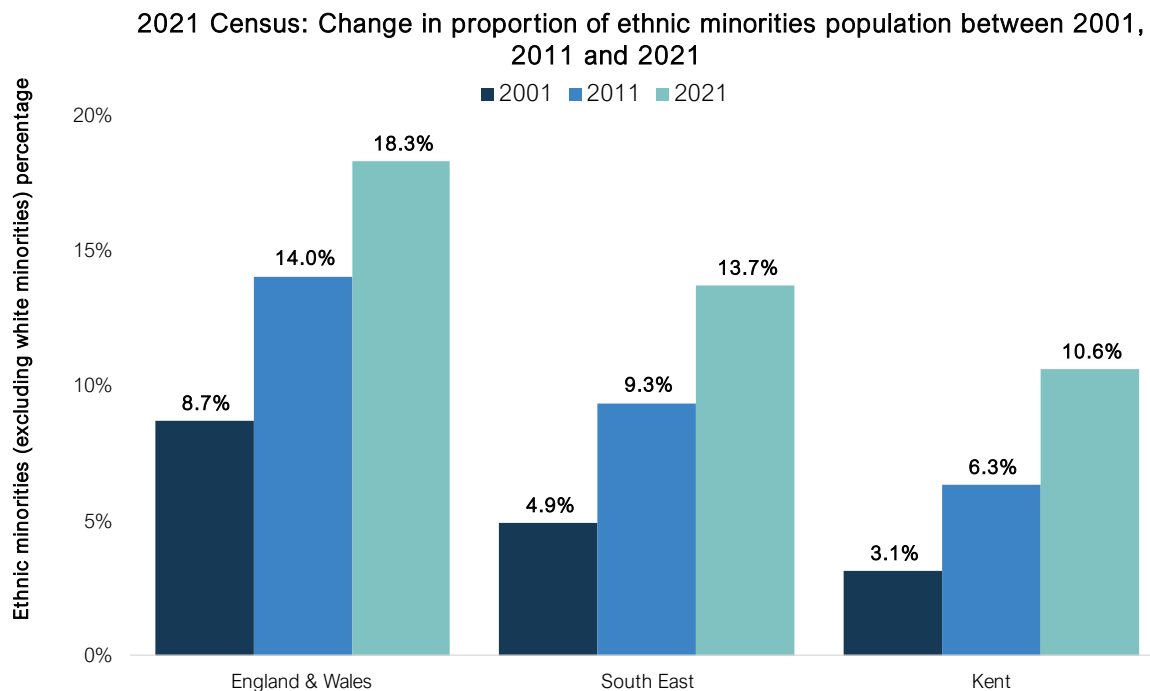


## Chart 2: 2021 Census: Change in proportion of white population between 2001, 2011 and 2021



Source: 2021 Census TS021 Ethnic group; 2011 Census KS201EW Ethnic group; 2001 Census KS006 Ethnic group  
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## Chart 3: 2021 Census: Change in proportion of ethnic minorities population between 2001, 2011 and 2021



Source: 2021 Census TS021 Ethnic group; 2011 Census KS201EW Ethnic group; 2001 Census KS006 Ethnic group  
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Tables 6 and 7 present the change in the white and ethnic minorities groups between the 2001, 2011 and 2021 censuses.

Kent's white population has increased by 9.4% over twenty years. This is equal to an extra 120,822 people and the rate is higher than seen regionally (+5.3%) and considerably higher than seen nationally (+2.5%).

Within the local authority districts Gravesham is the only area to see a fall in white population between 2001 and 2021. Canterbury, Folkestone & Hythe, Gravesham and Tunbridge Wells all saw a decrease in the white population between 2011 and 2021, the largest fall being in Tunbridge Wells (-3,677 people, -3.4%).

Kent's ethnic minorities population has increased by 302.2% over the past twenty years. This is equal to an extra 125,529 people and is higher than regional figure of 223.9% and the national rate of 141.1%.

Half the districts in Kent saw a higher rate of growth in the ethnic minorities group over the last 20 years than the Kent average.

Ashford has seen the highest growth of +532.3% compared to the lowest in Gravesham of +149.6%. This is due to Gravesham having a considerably higher ethnic minorities population than other Kent districts in 2001.

**Table 6: 2021 Census: White population change in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales between 2001, 2011 and 2021**

Area	2001	2011	2021	10 year Number change between 2001 and 2011	10 year % change between 2001 and 2011	10 year Number change between 2011 and 2021	10 year % change between 2011 and 2021	20 year Number change between 2001 and 2021	20 year % change between 2001 and 2021
England & Wales	47,520,866	48,209,395	48,699,249	688,529	1.4%	489,854	1.0%	1,178,383	2.5%
South East	7,608,989	7,827,820	8,009,380	218,831	2.9%	181,560	2.3%	400,391	5.3%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,288,184</b>	<b>1,371,102</b>	<b>1,409,006</b>	<b>82,918</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>37,904</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>120,822</b>	<b>9.4%</b>
Ashford	100,154	110,520	116,896	10,366	10.4%	6,376	5.8%	16,742	16.7%
Canterbury	130,700	140,620	140,473	9,920	7.6%	-147	-0.1%	9,773	7.5%
Dartford	81,183	85,070	86,936	3,887	4.8%	1,866	2.2%	5,753	7.1%
Dover	103,023	107,966	110,419	4,943	4.8%	2,453	2.3%	7,396	7.2%
Folkestone & Hythe	93,633	102,215	101,614	8,582	9.2%	-601	-0.6%	7,981	8.5%
Gravesham	85,697	84,226	81,893	-1,471	-1.7%	-2,333	-2.8%	-3,804	-4.4%
Maidstone	135,262	145,996	157,864	10,734	7.9%	11,868	8.1%	22,602	16.7%
Sevenoaks	107,072	110,029	111,005	2,957	2.8%	976	0.9%	3,933	3.7%
Swale	120,516	131,155	142,341	10,639	8.8%	11,186	8.5%	21,825	18.1%
Thanet	123,770	128,194	130,719	4,424	3.6%	2,525	2.0%	6,949	5.6%
Tonbridge & Malling	105,714	115,872	123,287	10,158	9.6%	7,415	6.4%	17,573	16.6%
Tunbridge Wells	101,460	109,239	105,562	7,779	7.7%	-3,677	-3.4%	4,102	4.0%
Medway Unitary Authority	236,065	236,579	235,747	514	0.2%	-832	-0.4%	-318	-0.1%
Kent & Medway	1,524,249	1,607,681	1,644,753	83,432	5.5%	37,072	2.3%	120,504	7.9%

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group, 2011 Census KS201EW - Ethnic group, 2001 Census KS006 - Ethnic group The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

\*White includes English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British; Irish; Gypsy or Irish Traveller; Roma; Other White

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**Table 7: 2021 Census: Ethnic minorities population change in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales between 2001, 2011 and 2021**

Area	2001	2011	2021	10 year Number change between 2001 and 2011	10 year % change between 2001 and 2011	10 year Number change between 2011 and 2021	10 year % change between 2011 and 2021	20 year Number change between 2001 and 2021	20 year % change between 2001 and 2021
England & Wales	4,521,050	7,866,517	10,898,293	3,345,467	74.0%	3,031,776	38.5%	6,377,243	141.1%
South East	391,656	806,930	1,268,683	415,274	106.0%	461,753	57.2%	877,027	223.9%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>41,534</b>	<b>92,638</b>	<b>167,063</b>	<b>51,104</b>	<b>123.0%</b>	<b>74,425</b>	<b>80.3%</b>	<b>125,529</b>	<b>302.2%</b>
Ashford	2,507	7,436	15,851	4,929	196.6%	8,415	113.2%	13,344	532.3%
Canterbury	4,578	10,525	16,956	5,947	129.9%	6,431	61.1%	12,378	270.4%
Dartford	4,728	12,295	29,818	7,567	160.0%	17,523	142.5%	25,090	530.7%
Dover	1,543	3,708	5,992	2,165	140.3%	2,284	61.6%	4,449	288.3%
Folkestone & Hythe	2,605	5,754	8,145	3,149	120.9%	2,391	41.6%	5,540	212.7%
Gravesham	10,020	17,494	25,009	7,474	74.6%	7,515	43.0%	14,989	149.6%
Maidstone	3,686	9,147	17,917	5,461	148.2%	8,770	95.9%	14,231	386.1%
Sevenoaks	2,233	4,864	9,510	2,631	117.8%	4,646	95.5%	7,277	325.9%
Swale	2,285	4,680	9,336	2,395	104.8%	4,656	99.5%	7,051	308.6%
Thanet	2,932	5,992	9,868	3,060	104.4%	3,876	64.7%	6,936	236.6%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,847	4,933	8,914	3,086	167.1%	3,981	80.7%	7,067	382.6%
Tunbridge Wells	2,570	5,810	9,752	3,240	126.1%	3,942	67.8%	7,182	279.5%
Medway Unitary Authority	13,423	27,346	44,026	13,923	103.7%	16,680	61.0%	30,603	228.0%
Kent & Medway	54,957	119,984	211,089	65,027	118.3%	91,105	75.9%	156,132	284.1%

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group, 2011 Census KS201EW - Ethnic group, 2001 Census KS006 - Ethnic group The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

\*Ethnic minorities includes Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh; Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African; Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups; Other ethnic group. Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

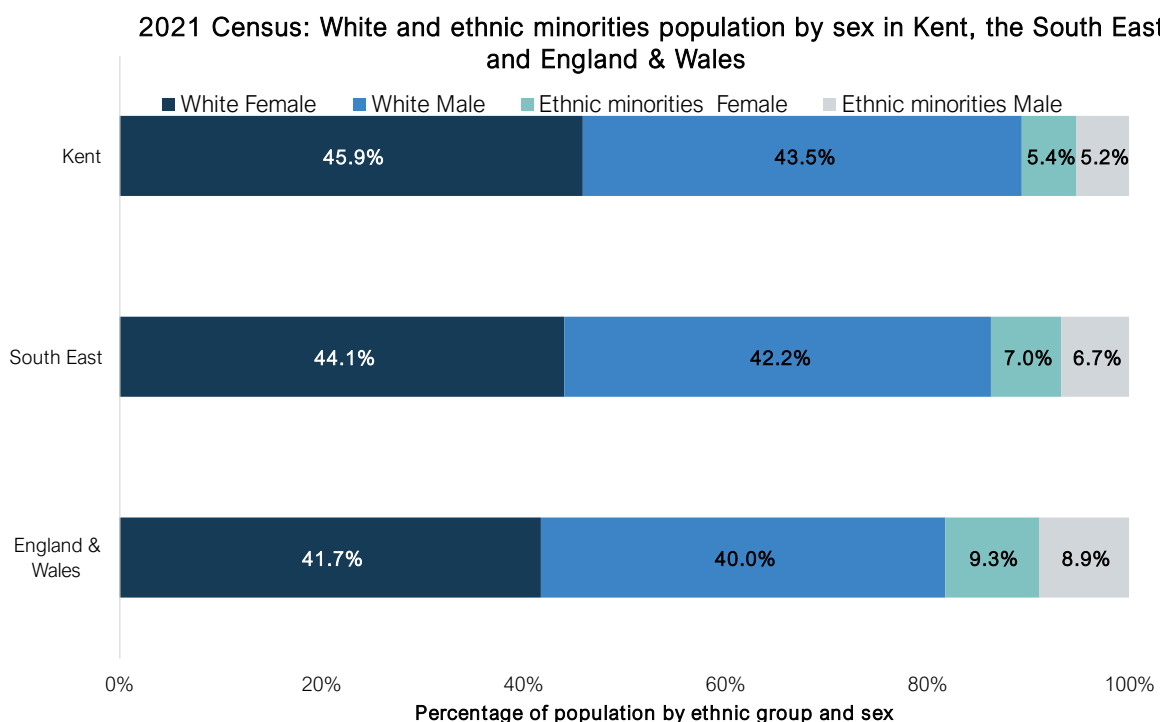
## Ethnic group by sex

The 2021 Census shows there are more females than males in both the white and ethnic minorities groups in Kent, the South East and England & Wales. Kent has similar proportions that are male or female in each of the two ethnic groups as seen regionally and nationally though has slightly higher proportions in the white population group, and lower proportions of those in the ethnic minorities ethnic group for both males and females.

There is a slightly higher percentage of white females (45.9%) in Kent than white males (43.5%). There is also a slightly higher percentage of ethnic minorities females in Kent (5.4%) than ethnic minorities males (5.2%). This was also true of all Kent districts except Folkestone and Hythe, Maidstone and Swale where there were more males than females in the ethnic minorities group.

Chart 4 shows the resident white and ethnic minorities population by sex in Kent, the South East and England & Wales. The male and female proportions for each ethnic group are percentages of the total population. Table 8 shows the white and ethnic minorities population by sex in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales.

### Chart 4: 2021 Census: White and ethnic minorities population by sex in Kent, the South East and England & Wales



Source: 2021 Census TS021 Ethnic group, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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**Table 8: 2021 Census: White and ethnic minorities population by sex in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	White* Total Number	White* Female Number	White* Female % of all people	White* Male Number	White* Male % of all people	Ethnic minorities* Number Total	Ethnic minorities* Female Number	Ethnic minorities* Female % of all people	Ethnic minorities* Male Number	Ethnic minorities* Male % of all people
England & Wales	59,597,542	48,699,249	24,851,911	41.7%	23,847,341	40.0%	10,898,293	5,568,291	9.3%	5,329,998	8.9%
South East	9,278,063	8,009,380	4,092,637	44.1%	3,916,744	42.2%	1,268,683	646,187	7.0%	622,499	6.7%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,409,006</b>	<b>722,986</b>	<b>45.9%</b>	<b>686,020</b>	<b>43.5%</b>	<b>167,063</b>	<b>84,698</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>82,366</b>	<b>5.2%</b>
Ashford	132,747	116,896	60,083	45.3%	56,813	42.8%	15,851	8,070	6.1%	7,780	5.9%
Canterbury	157,429	140,473	72,971	46.4%	67,501	42.9%	16,956	8,876	5.6%	8,077	5.1%
Dartford	116,754	86,936	44,395	38.0%	42,541	36.4%	29,818	15,209	13.0%	14,616	12.5%
Dover	116,411	110,419	56,580	48.6%	53,838	46.2%	5,992	3,028	2.6%	2,961	2.5%
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	101,614	52,214	47.6%	49,401	45.0%	8,145	3,969	3.6%	4,173	3.8%
Gravesham	106,902	81,893	42,123	39.4%	39,768	37.2%	25,009	12,541	11.7%	12,465	11.7%
Maidstone	175,781	157,864	79,970	45.5%	77,894	44.3%	17,917	8,852	5.0%	9,072	5.2%
Sevenoaks	120,515	111,005	57,227	47.5%	53,777	44.6%	9,510	5,085	4.2%	4,430	3.7%
Swale	151,677	142,341	71,910	47.4%	70,429	46.4%	9,336	4,454	2.9%	4,885	3.2%
Thanet	140,587	130,719	67,966	48.3%	62,754	44.6%	9,868	4,959	3.5%	4,906	3.5%
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	123,287	63,234	47.8%	60,053	45.4%	8,914	4,615	3.5%	4,301	3.3%
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	105,562	54,316	47.1%	51,246	44.4%	9,752	5,051	4.4%	4,706	4.1%
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	235,747	120,181	43.0%	115,564	41.3%	44,026	22,458	8.0%	21,561	7.7%
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	1,644,753	843,167	45.4%	801,584	43.2%	211,089	107,156	5.8%	103,927	5.6%

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright, ONS Create a custom dataset tool

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

\*White includes English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British; Irish; Gypsy or Irish Traveller; Roma; Other White

\*Ethnic minorities includes Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh; Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African; Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups; Other ethnic group

Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Dover has the highest proportion of the total population of females in the white population group (48.6%) and Dartford has the lowest (38.0%), whereas Swale has the highest proportion of males (46.4%). Dartford also has the lowest proportion of males with 36.4%.

The highest proportion of the total population of females in the ethnic minorities group can be seen in Dartford with 13.0%, with the lowest in Dover (2.6%). The highest proportion of males similarly can be seen in Dartford (12.5%) and the lowest in Dover (2.5%).

## Ethnic group by age

In Kent the age profile of the white population differs from the ethnic population. In Kent a higher proportion of the white population are aged 35 and above (60.6%) than the ethnic population (43.7%). The ethnic population has a younger profile with a higher proportion aged under 35 (56.3%) than the white population (39.4%). This is a similar picture to that seen regionally and nationally.

In Kent, the South East and England & Wales those aged 65 and over make up the largest percentage of the white ethnic group population. In Kent this equates to 309,759 people. The second largest age group is those aged 50 to 64, followed by those aged 35 to 49, 25 to 34 then aged 15 and under.

The lowest proportions in all areas were in the 16 to 24 age group. The number and proportion of the white ethnic group aged 16 to 24 in Kent is 130,359 people or 9.3%, the proportion being slightly lower than in the South East and England & Wales whereas the proportion of the largest age group (aged 65 and over) in Kent is slightly higher than seen regionally and nationally.

In the ethnic minorities group, England & Wales have higher proportions than in Kent and the South East in the age groups 16 to 34 and 50 over.

The highest proportions for each area in the ethnic minorities group above all other age groups are those aged 15 and under. Kent has a higher proportion of those aged 15 and under (28.7%) than seen regionally and nationally (27.9% and 27.0%).

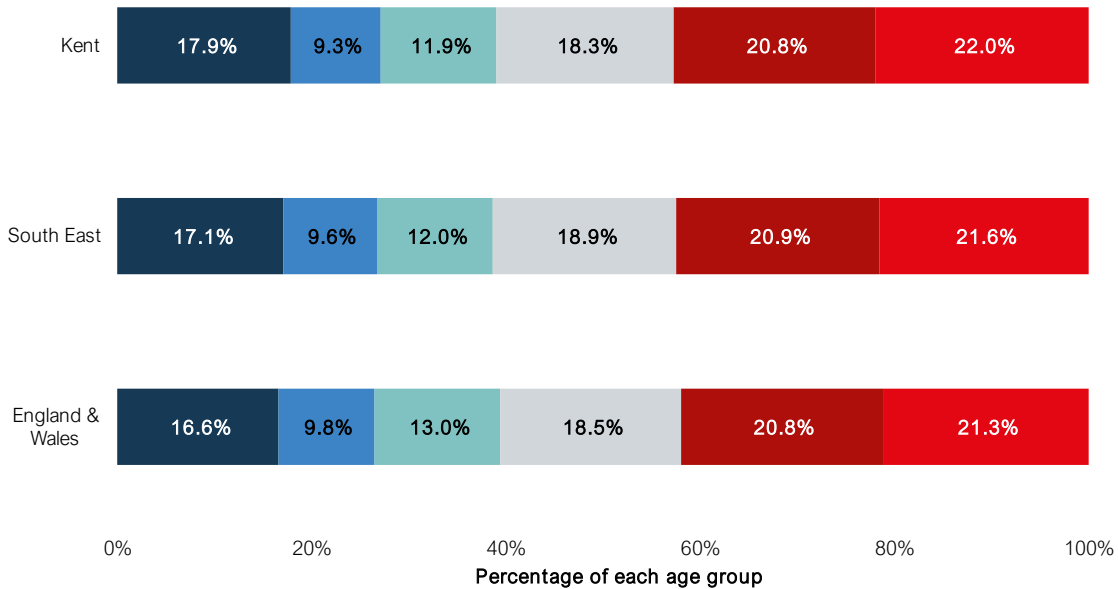
The second largest age group in all areas is those aged 35 to 49. In Kent the proportion of those aged 35 to 49 in relation to the total ethnic minorities group is 24.6%. The smallest age group in all areas is those aged 65 and over, in Kent being 5.7%.

Charts 5 and 6 show the proportion of white and ethnic minorities groups by broad age group in Kent, the South East and England & Wales. The charts show that the proportions in each age group for each ethnic of the two ethnic groups are very similar in Kent to those in the South East and England & Wales.

## Chart 5: 2021 Census: White population by age group in Kent, the South East and England & Wales

2021 Census: White population by age group in Kent, the South East and England & Wales

■ Aged 15 and under ■ Aged 16 to 24 ■ Aged 25 to 34 ■ Aged 35 to 49 ■ Aged 50 to 64 ■ Aged 65 and over

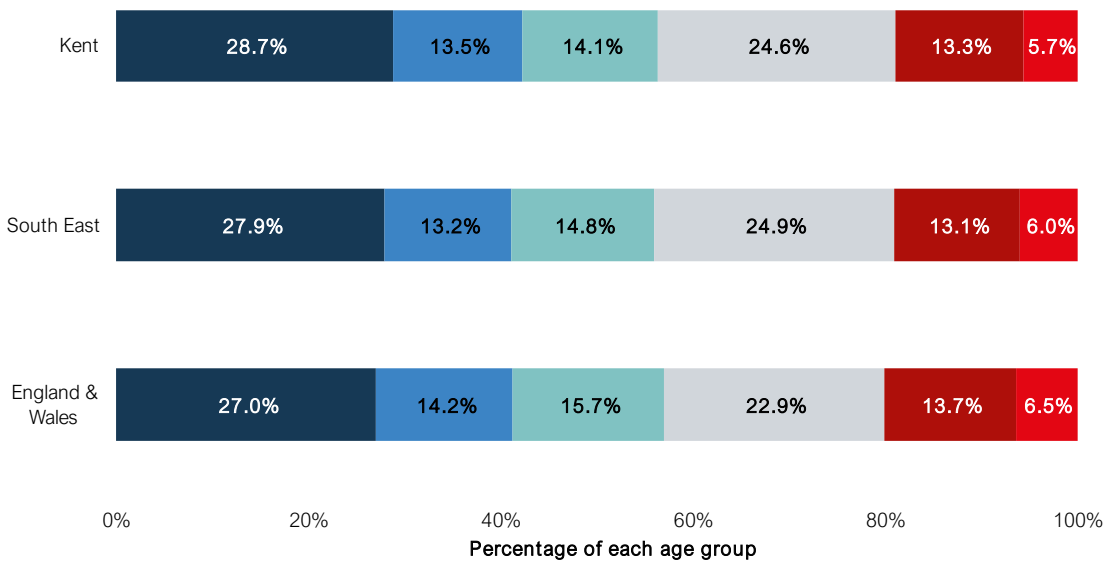


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## Chart 6: 2021 Census: Ethnic minorities population by age group in Kent, the South East and England & Wales

2021 Census: Ethnic minorities population by age group in Kent, the South East and England & Wales

■ Aged 15 and under ■ Aged 16 to 24 ■ Aged 25 to 34 ■ Aged 35 to 49 ■ Aged 50 to 64 ■ Aged 65 and over



Source: 2021 Census TS021 Ethnic group, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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Tables 9 and 10 show the number and proportion that are in the white ethnic group by broad age group in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales. Tables 11 and 12 show the same for the ethnic minorities group.

Maidstone has the highest number of people aged 15 and under, and 25 to 64 in the white ethnic group. Canterbury has the highest number of people aged 16 to 24, and 65 and over.

The lowest number of people in the white ethnic group that are aged 24 and under, and 35 to 64 are in Gravesham. Folkestone & Hythe has the least number of people in this ethnic group aged 25 to 34 and Dartford has the least aged 65 and over.

Dartford has the most people in the ethnic minorities group aged 15 and under, and 25 to 49, and Gravesham has the highest number aged 50 and over. Canterbury has a young age profile due to its two universities and the highest number of people aged 16 to 24, as seen also in the white ethnic group. Dover has the lowest number of people in the ethnic minorities group in all of the six age groups.

**Table 9: 2021 Census: White population number by age group in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	White* Number Total	White* Number Aged 15 and under	White* Number Aged 16 to 24	White* Number Aged 25 to 34	White* Number Aged 35 to 49	White* Number Aged 50 to 64	White* Number Aged 65 and over
England & Wales	48,699,249	8,085,747	4,774,570	6,334,786	9,031,010	10,117,733	10,355,406
South East	8,009,380	1,369,791	766,080	961,320	1,510,433	1,673,581	1,728,176
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,409,006</b>	<b>251,560</b>	<b>130,359</b>	<b>167,707</b>	<b>257,193</b>	<b>292,428</b>	<b>309,759</b>
Ashford	116,896	21,718	10,586	14,103	21,224	24,356	24,909
Canterbury	140,473	21,244	20,184	15,081	22,813	27,593	33,557
Dartford	86,936	16,301	7,848	13,417	17,668	16,904	14,798
Dover	110,419	18,507	9,275	12,587	18,253	24,266	27,530
Folkestone & Hythe	101,614	16,314	8,146	10,706	17,007	22,630	26,812
Gravesham	81,893	15,334	7,477	10,736	15,195	16,583	16,566
Maidstone	157,864	28,559	13,795	20,536	30,436	32,080	32,458
Sevenoaks	111,005	20,846	8,993	11,254	20,895	23,627	25,389
Swale	142,341	26,834	13,343	18,512	26,285	28,912	28,453
Thanet	130,719	22,283	11,150	14,937	22,541	27,245	32,564
Tonbridge & Malling	123,287	23,840	10,724	14,273	23,969	25,686	24,795
Tunbridge Wells	105,562	19,777	8,838	11,567	20,907	22,545	21,928
Medway Unitary Authority	235,747	44,256	23,076	32,550	45,022	47,424	43,417
Kent & Medway	1,644,753	295,816	153,435	200,257	302,215	339,852	353,176

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright, ONS Create a custom dataset tool

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

\*White includes English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British; Irish; Gypsy or Irish Traveller; Roma; Other White

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**Table 10: 2021 Census: White population percentage by age group in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	White* Number Total	White* Number Aged 15 and under	White* Number Aged 16 to 24	White* Number Aged 25 to 34	White* Number Aged 35 to 49	White* Number Aged 50 to 64	White* Number Aged 65 and over
England & Wales	100.0%	16.6%	9.8%	13.0%	18.5%	20.8%	21.3%
South East	100.0%	17.1%	9.6%	12.0%	18.9%	20.9%	21.6%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>11.9%</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	<b>20.8%</b>	<b>22.0%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	18.6%	9.1%	12.1%	18.2%	20.8%	21.3%
Canterbury	100.0%	15.1%	14.4%	10.7%	16.2%	19.6%	23.9%
Dartford	100.0%	18.8%	9.0%	15.4%	20.3%	19.4%	17.0%
Dover	100.0%	16.8%	8.4%	11.4%	16.5%	22.0%	24.9%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	16.1%	8.0%	10.5%	16.7%	22.3%	26.4%
Gravesham	100.0%	18.7%	9.1%	13.1%	18.6%	20.2%	20.2%
Maidstone	100.0%	18.1%	8.7%	13.0%	19.3%	20.3%	20.6%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	18.8%	8.1%	10.1%	18.8%	21.3%	22.9%
Swale	100.0%	18.9%	9.4%	13.0%	18.5%	20.3%	20.0%
Thanet	100.0%	17.0%	8.5%	11.4%	17.2%	20.8%	24.9%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	19.3%	8.7%	11.6%	19.4%	20.8%	20.1%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	18.7%	8.4%	11.0%	19.8%	21.4%	20.8%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	18.8%	9.8%	13.8%	19.1%	20.1%	18.4%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	18.0%	9.3%	12.2%	18.4%	20.7%	21.5%

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright, ONS Create a custom dataset tool

\*White includes English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British; Irish; Gypsy or Irish Traveller; Roma; Other White

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**Table 11: 2021 Census: Ethnic minorities population number by age group in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	Ethnic minorities* Number Total	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 15 and under	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 16 to 24	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 25 to 34	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 35 to 49	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 50 to 64	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 65 and over
England & Wales	10,898,293	2,945,419	1,543,743	1,715,758	2,495,086	1,490,344	707,939
South East	1,268,683	353,694	167,493	188,248	316,400	166,770	76,081
<b>Kent</b>	<b>167,063</b>	<b>47,943</b>	<b>22,606</b>	<b>23,583</b>	<b>41,173</b>	<b>22,190</b>	<b>9,569</b>
Ashford	15,851	4,260	1,696	2,703	3,767	2,337	1,087
Canterbury	16,956	3,409	6,478	1,997	2,747	1,631	691
Dartford	29,818	9,753	2,538	4,368	8,545	3,380	1,241
Dover	5,992	1,770	765	836	1,442	806	370
Folkestone & Hythe	8,145	1,886	1,203	1,328	1,799	1,310	616
Gravesham	25,009	7,010	2,885	3,412	6,095	3,756	1,848
Maidstone	17,917	5,087	2,001	2,901	4,570	2,298	1,067
Sevenoaks	9,510	3,067	966	1,120	2,491	1,332	539
Swale	9,336	2,844	1,002	1,381	2,329	1,321	462
Thanet	9,868	2,886	1,170	1,344	2,281	1,491	693
Tonbridge & Malling	8,914	2,835	914	919	2,484	1,254	510
Tunbridge Wells	9,752	3,131	990	1,274	2,631	1,284	447
Medway Unitary Authority	44,026	12,759	5,736	6,156	10,575	6,161	2,632
Kent & Medway	211,089	60,702	28,342	29,739	51,748	28,351	12,201

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright, ONS Create a custom dataset tool

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

\*Ethnic minorities includes Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh; Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African; Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups; Other ethnic group

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**Table 12: 2021 Census: Ethnic minorities population percentage by age group in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	Ethnic minorities* Number Total	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 15 and under	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 16 to 24	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 25 to 34	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 35 to 49	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 50 to 64	Ethnic minorities* Number Aged 65 and over
England & Wales	100.0%	27.0%	14.2%	15.7%	22.9%	13.7%	6.5%
South East	100.0%	27.9%	13.2%	14.8%	24.9%	13.1%	6.0%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>28.7%</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>24.6%</b>	<b>13.3%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	26.9%	10.7%	17.1%	23.8%	14.7%	6.9%
Canterbury	100.0%	20.1%	38.2%	11.8%	16.2%	9.6%	4.1%
Dartford	100.0%	32.7%	8.5%	14.6%	28.7%	11.3%	4.2%
Dover	100.0%	29.5%	12.8%	14.0%	24.1%	13.5%	6.2%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	23.2%	14.8%	16.3%	22.1%	16.1%	7.6%
Gravesham	100.0%	28.0%	11.5%	13.6%	24.4%	15.0%	7.4%
Maidstone	100.0%	28.4%	11.2%	16.2%	25.5%	12.8%	6.0%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	32.3%	10.2%	11.8%	26.2%	14.0%	5.7%
Swale	100.0%	30.5%	10.7%	14.8%	24.9%	14.1%	4.9%
Thanet	100.0%	29.2%	11.9%	13.6%	23.1%	15.1%	7.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	31.8%	10.3%	10.3%	27.9%	14.1%	5.7%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	32.1%	10.2%	13.1%	27.0%	13.2%	4.6%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	29.0%	13.0%	14.0%	24.0%	14.0%	6.0%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	28.8%	13.4%	14.1%	24.5%	13.4%	5.8%

Source: 2021 Census TS021 - Ethnic group The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright, ONS Create a custom dataset tool

\*Ethnic minorities includes Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh; Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African; Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups; Other ethnic group

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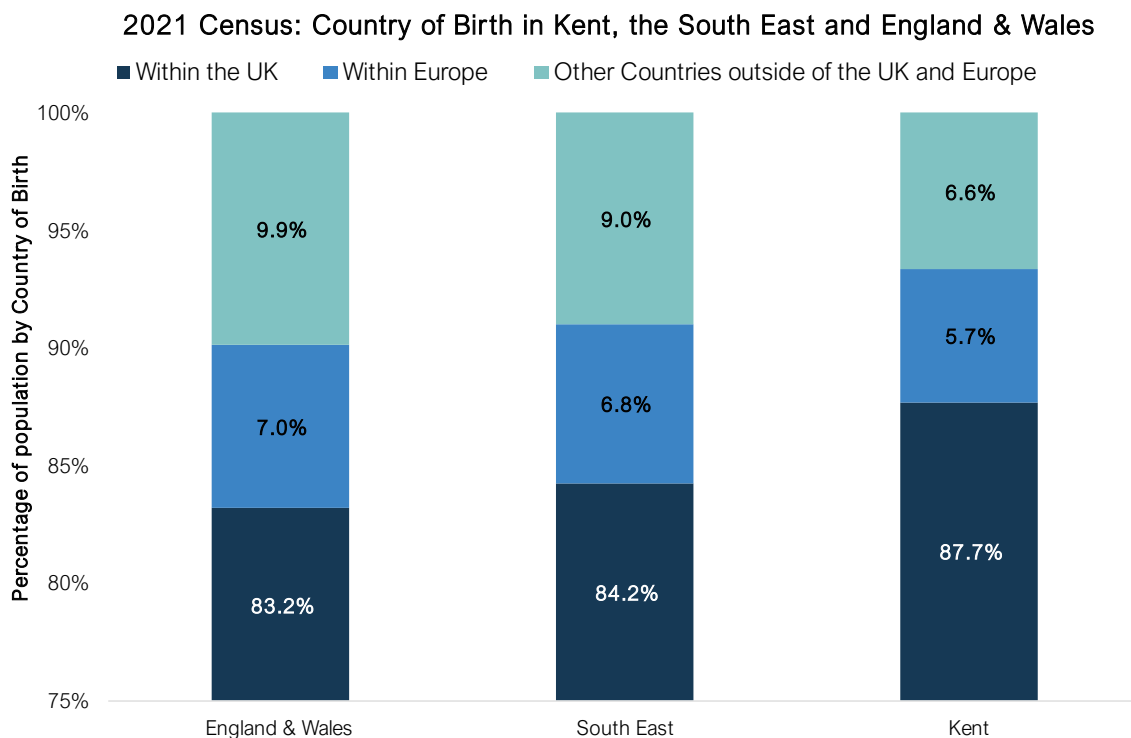
## Country of Birth

In 2021 over 1.38 million of Kent residents were born within the UK. This equates to 87.7% of the total population and is a higher proportion than the national figure of 83.2% and the regional figure of 84.2%. Of those Kent residents not born in the UK, 104,735 people (6.6%) were born in countries outside Europe, 79,497 people (5.0%) were born in EU countries and 9,854 people (0.6%) were born in Non-EU countries.

Chart 7 presents the proportion of population by country of birth in Kent compared to the South East region and England & Wales in 2021. Kent has lower proportions of those born within Europe and other countries outside of the UK and Europe than seen in the South East and England & Wales.

Table 13 overleaf shows the number and proportion of residents by country of birth in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales.

### Chart 7: 2021 Census: Country of Birth in Kent, the South East and England & Wales



Source: 2021 Census TS004 Country of birth, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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**Table 13: 2021 Census: Number and proportion of residents by Country of Birth in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Europe: United Kingdom	Europe: United Kingdom	Europe: EU countries	Europe: EU countries	Europe: Non-EU countries	Europe: Non-EU countries	All other countries	All other countries
England & Wales	59,597,542	49,579,570	83.2%	3,643,242	6.1%	499,732	0.8%	5,874,998	9.9%
South East	9,278,063	7,815,950	84.2%	558,693	6.0%	68,196	0.7%	835,226	9.0%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,381,983</b>	<b>87.7%</b>	<b>79,497</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>9,854</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>104,735</b>	<b>6.6%</b>
Ashford	132,747	114,942	86.6%	5,677	4.3%	691	0.5%	11,438	8.6%
Canterbury	157,429	137,129	87.1%	8,581	5.5%	1,256	0.8%	10,463	6.6%
Dartford	116,754	93,777	80.3%	7,098	6.1%	1,028	0.9%	14,850	12.7%
Dover	116,411	106,575	91.6%	4,969	4.3%	412	0.4%	4,454	3.8%
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	98,281	89.5%	4,567	4.2%	471	0.4%	6,438	5.9%
Gravesham	106,902	86,328	80.8%	8,164	7.6%	850	0.8%	11,558	10.8%
Maidstone	175,781	151,237	86.0%	11,191	6.4%	1,476	0.8%	11,876	6.8%
Sevenoaks	120,515	107,235	89.0%	4,900	4.1%	813	0.7%	7,565	6.3%
Swale	151,677	139,533	92.0%	6,487	4.3%	634	0.4%	5,023	3.3%
Thanet	140,587	126,862	90.2%	7,119	5.1%	876	0.6%	5,730	4.1%
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	120,359	91.0%	4,412	3.3%	621	0.5%	6,815	5.2%
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	99,728	86.5%	6,329	5.5%	726	0.6%	8,527	7.4%
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	241,119	86.2%	15,239	5.4%	1,937	0.7%	21,478	7.7%
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	1,623,102	87.5%	94,736	5.1%	11,791	0.6%	126,213	6.8%

Source: 2021 Census TS004 - Country of birth, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

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Within the Kent local authority districts, Swale has the highest proportion of population born in the United Kingdom with 92.0% of residents. This equates to a total of 139,533 people. Dartford has the lowest proportion of population being born in the United Kingdom, with 93,777 residents accounting for 80.3% of its population.

Gravesham has the highest proportion of residents from EU countries whilst Dartford has the highest proportion of residents from Non-EU countries. Maidstone has the highest number of residents from EU and Non-EU countries (11,191 people and 1,476 people).

Dartford has the highest number and proportion of residents from all other countries outside of the United Kingdom and Europe, with 14,850 residents from other countries (12.7% of its population).

### **Change between the 2011 and 2021 Census**

The number of Kent residents born outside of the UK has increased by 45.1% between 2011 and 2021. This is higher than the rise seen in the South East (40.1%) and in England & Wales (33.5%).

Four Kent districts have seen a higher increase in residents born outside of the UK than in Kent overall in the 10-year period; Dartford, Maidstone, Ashford and Swale. The highest is seen in Dartford where the number of people born outside of the UK has more than doubled (109.2%).

Table 14 shows the number of people born in the UK and born outside of the UK in 2011 compared to 2021 in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales. Table 15 shows the number and percentage change of all people, those born in the UK and the those born outside of the UK between 2011 and 2021.

Country of Birth data has only been available since the 2011 Census so only a 10 year change can be shown.



**Table 14: 2011 and 2021 Census number of people born in and outside of the UK**

Area	2011 All People	2011 Born in the UK	2011 Born outside of the UK	2021 All People	2021 Born in the UK	2021 Born outside of the UK
England & Wales	56,075,912	48,570,902	7,505,010	59,597,542	49,579,570	10,017,972
South East	8,634,750	7,591,430	1,043,320	9,278,063	7,815,950	1,462,115
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,463,740</b>	<b>1,329,988</b>	<b>133,752</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,381,983</b>	<b>194,086</b>
Ashford	117,956	106,993	10,963	132,747	114,942	17,806
Canterbury	151,145	134,587	16,558	157,429	137,129	20,300
Dartford	97,365	86,384	10,981	116,754	93,777	22,976
Dover	111,674	103,507	8,167	116,411	106,575	9,835
Folkestone & Hythe	107,969	97,987	9,982	109,759	98,281	11,476
Gravesham	101,720	87,419	14,301	106,902	86,328	20,572
Maidstone	155,143	140,745	14,398	175,781	151,237	24,543
Sevenoaks	114,893	105,522	9,371	120,515	107,235	13,278
Swale	135,835	128,044	7,791	151,677	139,533	12,144
Thanet	134,186	122,657	11,529	140,587	126,862	13,725
Tonbridge & Malling	120,805	112,529	8,276	132,201	120,359	11,848
Tunbridge Wells	115,049	103,614	11,435	115,314	99,728	15,582
Medway Unitary Authority	263,925	236,589	27,336	279,773	241,119	38,654
Kent & Medway	1,727,665	1,566,577	161,088	1,855,842	1,623,102	232,740

Source: 2021 Census TS004 - Country of birth, 2011 Census Quick Statistics Table 203: Country of birth - detailed

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Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

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**Table 15: 2011 and 2021 Census number of people born in and outside of the UK**

Area	Number change All People	% change All People	Number change Born in the UK	% change Born in the UK	Number change Born outside of the UK	% change Born outside of the UK
England & Wales	3,521,630	6.3%	1,008,668	2.1%	2,512,962	33.5%
South East	643,313	7.5%	224,520	3.0%	418,795	40.1%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>112,329</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>51,995</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>60,334</b>	<b>45.1%</b>
Ashford	14,791	12.5%	7,949	7.4%	6,843	62.4%
Canterbury	6,284	4.2%	2,542	1.9%	3,742	22.6%
Dartford	19,389	19.9%	7,393	8.6%	11,995	109.2%
Dover	4,737	4.2%	3,068	3.0%	1,668	20.4%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,790	1.7%	294	0.3%	1,494	15.0%
Gravesham	5,182	5.1%	-1,091	-1.2%	6,271	43.9%
Maidstone	20,638	13.3%	10,492	7.5%	10,145	70.5%
Sevenoaks	5,622	4.9%	1,713	1.6%	3,907	41.7%
Swale	15,842	11.7%	11,489	9.0%	4,353	55.9%
Thanet	6,401	4.8%	4,205	3.4%	2,196	19.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	11,396	9.4%	7,830	7.0%	3,572	43.2%
Tunbridge Wells	265	0.2%	-3,886	-3.8%	4,147	36.3%
Medway Unitary Authority	15,848	6.0%	4,530	1.9%	11,318	41.4%
Kent & Medway	128,177	7.4%	56,525	3.6%	71,652	44.5%

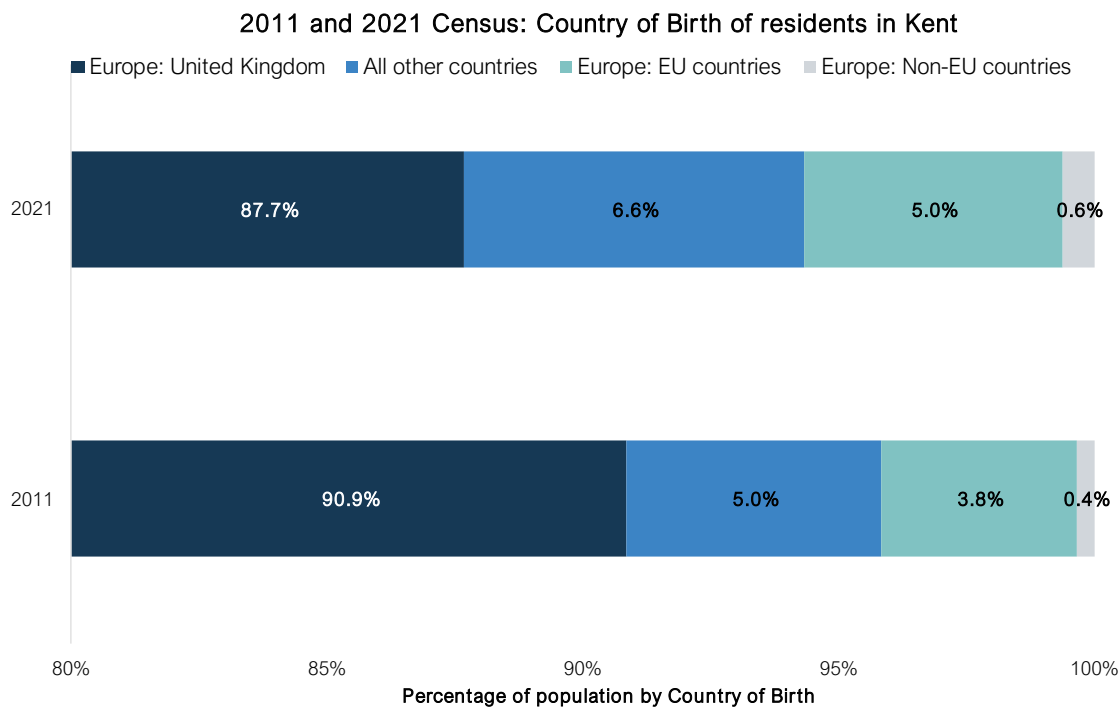
Source: 2021 Census TS004 - Country of birth, 2011 Census Quick Statistics Table 203: Country of birth – detailed  
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Data from the 2011 Census has been grouped using the 2021 country categories presented in this report; UK, EU countries, Non-EU countries and all other countries.

Changes in the number of countries which belong to the European Union (EU) between 2011 and 2021 mean that a direct comparison is not possible for the EU between censuses. A list of the current EU countries can be found on the [gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk).

Chart 8 shows that the proportion of residents in Kent born in the United Kingdom has declined from 90.9% in 2011 to 87.7% in 2021. Kent residents born in EU, Non-EU and all other countries account for a greater proportion of the population in 2021. The largest change was residents born in all other countries, increasing by 1.7% since 2011. Those born in EU countries has risen by 1.2% followed by those born in Non-EU countries increasing by 0.3%.

## Chart 8: 2011 and 2021 Census: Country of Birth of residents in Kent



Source: 2011 Census Quick Statistics Table 203: Country of birth detailed, 2021 Census TS004 Country of birth, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

Table 16 shows the number of people by Country of Birth from the 2011 Census compared to the 2021 Census and table 17 shows the number and percentage change as to where residents are born between the two censuses.

In Kent, the largest percentage increase is in residents who are born in Non-EU countries. In 2011 there were 5,130 Kent residents born in Non-EU countries compared to 9,854 in 2021, a 92.1% increase. This is higher than the national proportion of +78.8% though lower than the regional proportion of +96.1%. Whereas Maidstone has the highest number of residents born in Non-EU countries in 2021, Canterbury had the highest number (848 people) in 2011.

The increase in residents in Kent born in EU countries (42.7%) is slightly lower than seen in the South East (+45.7%) and England & Wales (47.6%). Maidstone has seen the largest number change with 5,113 more Kent residents being born in EU countries, and Dartford has seen the highest percentage increase at 85.6%.

The percentage change of Kent residents born in all other countries (+43.6%) is considerably more than seen in the South East and England & Wales (33.6% and 23.5% respectively). The largest number and percentage change of Kent residents born in all other countries are in Dartford with 8,037 more residents (+118.0%).

**Table 16: Number of people by Country of Birth 2011 and 2021 Census**

Area	2011 Europe: United Kingdom	2011 Europe: EU countries	2011 Europe: Non-EU countries	2011 All other countries	2021 Europe: United Kingdom	2021 Europe: EU countries	2021 Europe: Non-EU countries	2021 All other countries
England & Wales	48,570,902	2,469,027	279,428	4,756,555	49,579,570	3,643,242	499,732	5,874,998
South East	7,591,430	383,373	34,780	625,167	7,815,950	558,693	68,196	835,226
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,329,988</b>	<b>55,696</b>	<b>5,130</b>	<b>72,926</b>	<b>1,381,983</b>	<b>79,497</b>	<b>9,854</b>	<b>104,735</b>
Ashford	106,993	4,015	375	6,573	114,942	5,677	691	11,438
Canterbury	134,587	6,783	848	8,927	137,129	8,581	1,256	10,463
Dartford	86,384	3,824	344	6,813	93,777	7,098	1,028	14,850
Dover	103,507	3,941	254	3,972	106,575	4,969	412	4,454
Folkestone & Hythe	97,987	4,076	342	5,564	98,281	4,567	471	6,438
Gravesham	87,419	5,468	416	8,417	86,328	8,164	850	11,558
Maidstone	140,745	6,078	568	7,752	151,237	11,191	1,476	11,876
Sevenoaks	105,522	3,538	344	5,489	107,235	4,900	813	7,565
Swale	128,044	4,068	295	3,428	139,533	6,487	634	5,023
Thanet	122,657	6,174	629	4,726	126,862	7,119	876	5,730
Tonbridge & Malling	112,529	3,080	305	4,891	120,359	4,412	621	6,815
Tunbridge Wells	103,614	4,651	410	6,374	99,728	6,329	726	8,527
Medway Unitary Authority	236,589	10,585	918	15,833	241,119	15,239	1,937	21,478
Kent & Medway	1,566,577	66,281	6,048	88,759	1,623,102	94,736	11,791	126,213

Source: 2021 Census TS004 - Country of birth, 2011 Census Quick Statistics Table 203: Country of birth - detailed. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

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**Table 17: Number and percentage change between the 2011 and 2021 Census by Country of Birth**

Area	Number change Europe: United Kingdom	Number change Europe: EU countries	Number change Europe: Non-EU countries	Number change All other countries	% change Europe: United Kingdom	% change Europe: EU countries	% change Europe: Non-EU countries	% change All other countries
England & Wales	1,008,668	1,174,215	220,304	1,118,443	2.1%	47.6%	78.8%	23.5%
South East	224,520	175,320	33,416	210,059	3.0%	45.7%	96.1%	33.6%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>51,995</b>	<b>23,801</b>	<b>4,724</b>	<b>31,809</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>42.7%</b>	<b>92.1%</b>	<b>43.6%</b>
Ashford	7,949	1,662	316	4,865	7.4%	41.4%	84.3%	74.0%
Canterbury	2,542	1,798	408	1,536	1.9%	26.5%	48.1%	17.2%
Dartford	7,393	3,274	684	8,037	8.6%	85.6%	198.8%	118.0%
Dover	3,068	1,028	158	482	3.0%	26.1%	62.2%	12.1%
Folkestone & Hythe	294	491	129	874	0.3%	12.0%	37.7%	15.7%
Gravesham	-1,091	2,696	434	3,141	-1.2%	49.3%	104.3%	37.3%
Maidstone	10,492	5,113	908	4,124	7.5%	84.1%	159.9%	53.2%
Sevenoaks	1,713	1,362	469	2,076	1.6%	38.5%	136.3%	37.8%
Swale	11,489	2,419	339	1,595	9.0%	59.5%	114.9%	46.5%
Thanet	4,205	945	247	1,004	3.4%	15.3%	39.3%	21.2%
Tonbridge & Malling	7,830	1,332	316	1,924	7.0%	43.2%	103.6%	39.3%
Tunbridge Wells	-3,886	1,678	316	2,153	-3.8%	36.1%	77.1%	33.8%
Medway Unitary Authority	4,530	4,654	1,019	5,645	1.9%	44.0%	111.0%	35.7%
Kent & Medway	56,525	28,455	5,743	37,454	3.6%	42.9%	95.0%	42.2%

Source: 2021 Census TS004 - Country of birth, 2011 Census Quick Statistics Table 203: Country of birth - detailed. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

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## Note on UK residency information in this bulletin

The results presented in this bulletin show the number and proportion of non UK born residents by the length of time they have been resident in the UK, the year of arrival and finally by their age when they arrived.

These three single characteristics of our immigrant population are presented separately so, the information in this bulletin will tell us the proportion of non UK born residents who have been living here for more than 10 years, the average age of people upon arrival and how the number of our immigrant population has fluctuated over the years.

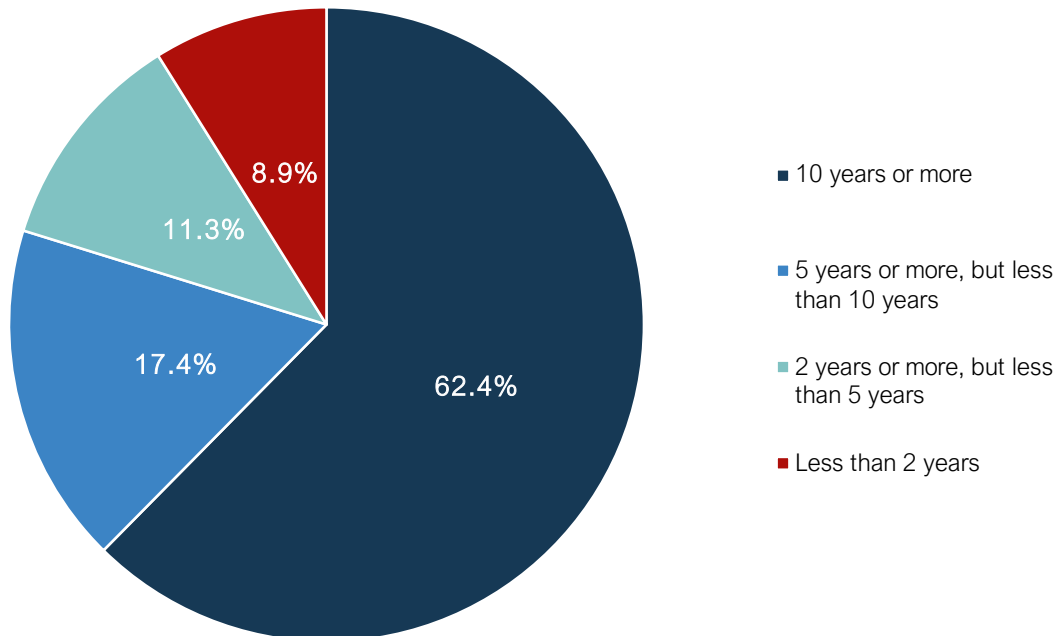
## Length of residence

The numbers of residents who were not born in the UK are grouped into four categories. Those who have been resident for less than 2 years, for 2 years or more but less than 5 years, 5 years or more but less than 10 years and those who have been resident for 10 years or longer.

62.4% of Kent residents born outside of the UK have been resident in the UK for 10 years or more. The proportion of population declines with the shorter length of stay with those who have been resident in the UK for less than 2 years making up the smallest proportion of Kent's migrant population (8.9%). Chart 9 overleaf shows the length of residence in the UK of Kent residents.

## Chart 9: 2021 Census: Length of residence in the UK: Kent residents born outside of the UK

2021 Census: Length of residence in the UK: Kent residents born outside of the UK



Source: 2021 Census TS016 Length of residence, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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Within Kent, Canterbury has the highest number and proportion of people who were not born in the UK and have been resident for less than 2 years. A total of 3,567 people, which is equal to 17.6% of Canterbury's migrant population, belong to this group. The high numbers of the relatively short length of stay residents is primarily due to the high student population living in the area.

Maidstone has the highest number and proportion of residents from outside of the UK who have been UK residents for 2 to 5 years. A total of 3,387 people or 13.8% of Maidstone residents belong to this group.

Dartford has the highest number of residents from outside of the UK who have been resident for over 10 years. A total of 14,797 people or 64.4% of Dartford migrants belong to this group. Dover has the highest proportion of migrant population who have been resident for over 10 years. A total of 6,754 people or 68.7% of Dover's migrants belong to this group. Tables 18 and 19 present the number and proportion of migrant population by length of residency for the Kent local authority districts, Kent, the South East region and England.

**Table 18: 2021 Census: Number of people by length of residence in the UK in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Born in the UK	Born outside of the UK	10 years or more	5 years or more, but less than 10 years	2 years or more, but less than 5 years	Less than 2 years
England & Wales	59,597,542	49,579,570	10,017,972	5,834,889	1,735,314	1,322,160	1,125,609
South East	9,278,063	7,815,950	1,462,115	879,764	245,603	180,428	156,320
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,381,983</b>	<b>194,086</b>	<b>121,097</b>	<b>33,761</b>	<b>21,962</b>	<b>17,266</b>
Ashford	132,747	114,942	17,805	10,784	3,101	2,269	1,651
Canterbury	157,429	137,129	20,300	10,762	3,250	2,721	3,567
Dartford	116,754	93,777	22,976	14,797	4,211	2,366	1,602
Dover	116,411	106,575	9,835	6,754	1,560	876	645
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	98,281	11,477	7,732	1,672	1,258	815
Gravesham	106,902	86,328	20,572	13,105	3,933	2,196	1,338
Maidstone	175,781	151,237	24,548	13,715	5,059	3,387	2,387
Sevenoaks	120,515	107,235	13,279	8,891	1,959	1,397	1,032
Swale	151,677	139,533	12,144	7,834	2,183	1,351	776
Thanet	140,587	126,862	13,725	9,102	2,295	1,261	1,067
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	120,359	11,845	7,968	1,856	1,131	890
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	99,728	15,582	9,653	2,681	1,752	1,496
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	241,119	38,654	25,051	6,354	3,831	3,418
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	1,623,102	232,740	146,148	40,115	25,793	20,684

Source: 2021 Census TS016 - Length of residence, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

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**Table 19: 2021 Census: Proportion of people by length of residence in the UK in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Born in the UK	Born outside of the UK	10 years or more	5 years or more, but less than 10 years	2 years or more, but less than 5 years	Less than 2 years
England & Wales	100.0%	83.2%	16.8%	58.2%	17.3%	13.2%	11.2%
South East	100.0%	84.2%	15.8%	60.2%	16.8%	12.3%	10.7%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>87.7%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>62.4%</b>	<b>17.4%</b>	<b>11.3%</b>	<b>8.9%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	86.6%	13.4%	60.6%	17.4%	12.7%	9.3%
Canterbury	100.0%	87.1%	12.9%	53.0%	16.0%	13.4%	17.6%
Dartford	100.0%	80.3%	19.7%	64.4%	18.3%	10.3%	7.0%
Dover	100.0%	91.6%	8.4%	68.7%	15.9%	8.9%	6.6%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	89.5%	10.5%	67.4%	14.6%	11.0%	7.1%
Gravesham	100.0%	80.8%	19.2%	63.7%	19.1%	10.7%	6.5%
Maidstone	100.0%	86.0%	14.0%	55.9%	20.6%	13.8%	9.7%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	89.0%	11.0%	67.0%	14.8%	10.5%	7.8%
Swale	100.0%	92.0%	8.0%	64.5%	18.0%	11.1%	6.4%
Thanet	100.0%	90.2%	9.8%	66.3%	16.7%	9.2%	7.8%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	91.0%	9.0%	67.3%	15.7%	9.5%	7.5%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	86.5%	13.5%	61.9%	17.2%	11.2%	9.6%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	86.2%	13.8%	64.8%	16.4%	9.9%	8.8%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	87.5%	12.5%	62.8%	17.2%	11.1%	8.9%

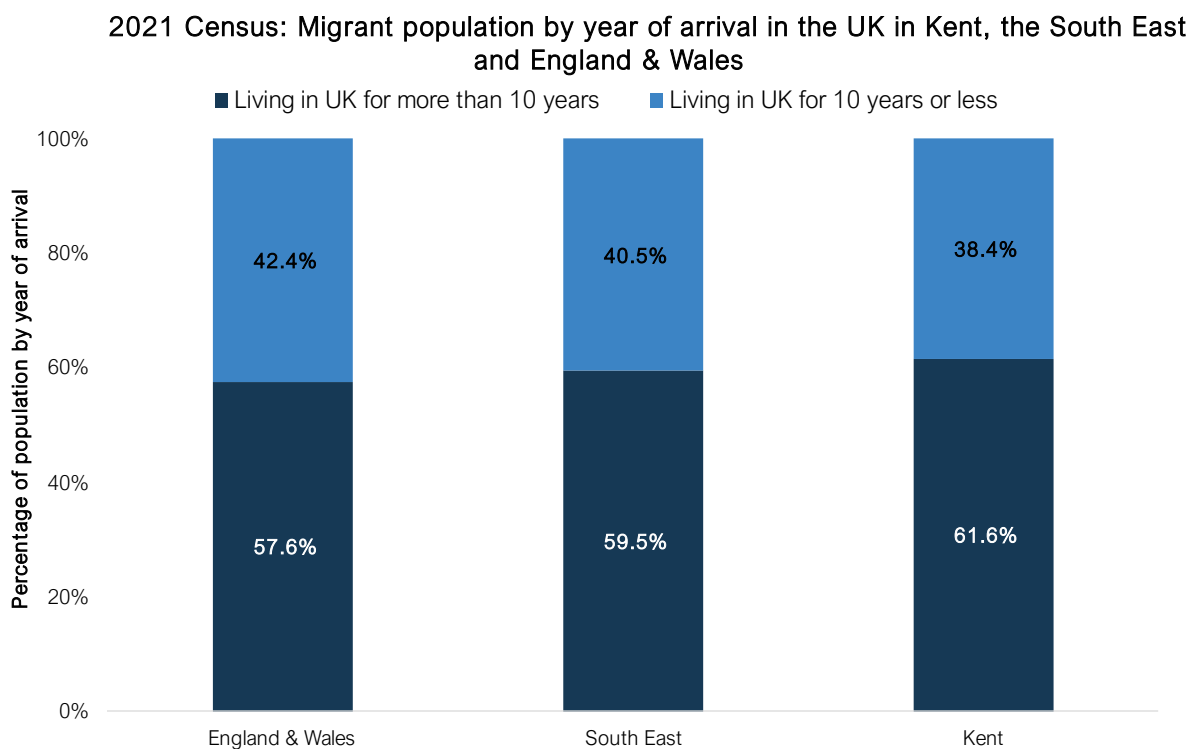
Source: 2021 Census TS016 - Length of residence, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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## Year of Arrival

61.6% of Kent's migrant population of 194,086 people arrived before the year 2011 whilst just under two fifths arrived in the past decade. This pattern is similar to the national and regional figures, though slightly less have lived in the UK for more than 10 years in the South East (59.5%) and England & Wales (57.6%).

Chart 10 presents the proportion of migrants who have lived here for less or more than 10 years in Kent, the South East and England & Wales.

### Chart 10: 2021 Census: Migrant population by year of arrival in the UK in Kent, the South East and England & Wales

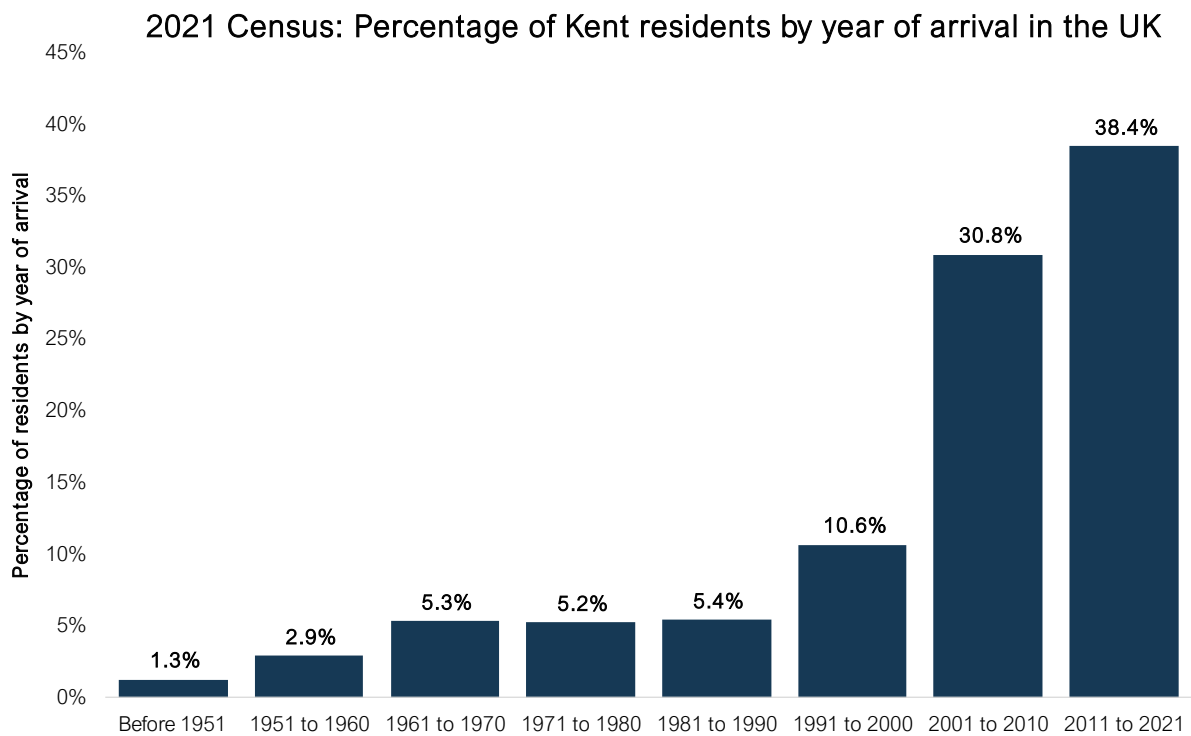


Source: 2021 Census TS015 Year of arrival in UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

The number and proportion of Kent's migrant population almost doubled between 1981 to 1990, and 1991 to 2000. The number and proportion of the migrant population arriving in Kent then almost tripled between 2001 and 2010 (59,820 people, 30.8%). The largest proportion of Kent's migrant population arrived in the UK between 2011 and 2021, during which time 74,494 people arrived (38.4%).

Chart 11 presents the proportion of Kent residents by year of arrival from before 1951 to 2021.

**Chart 11: 2021 Census: Percentage of Kent residents by year of arrival in the UK**

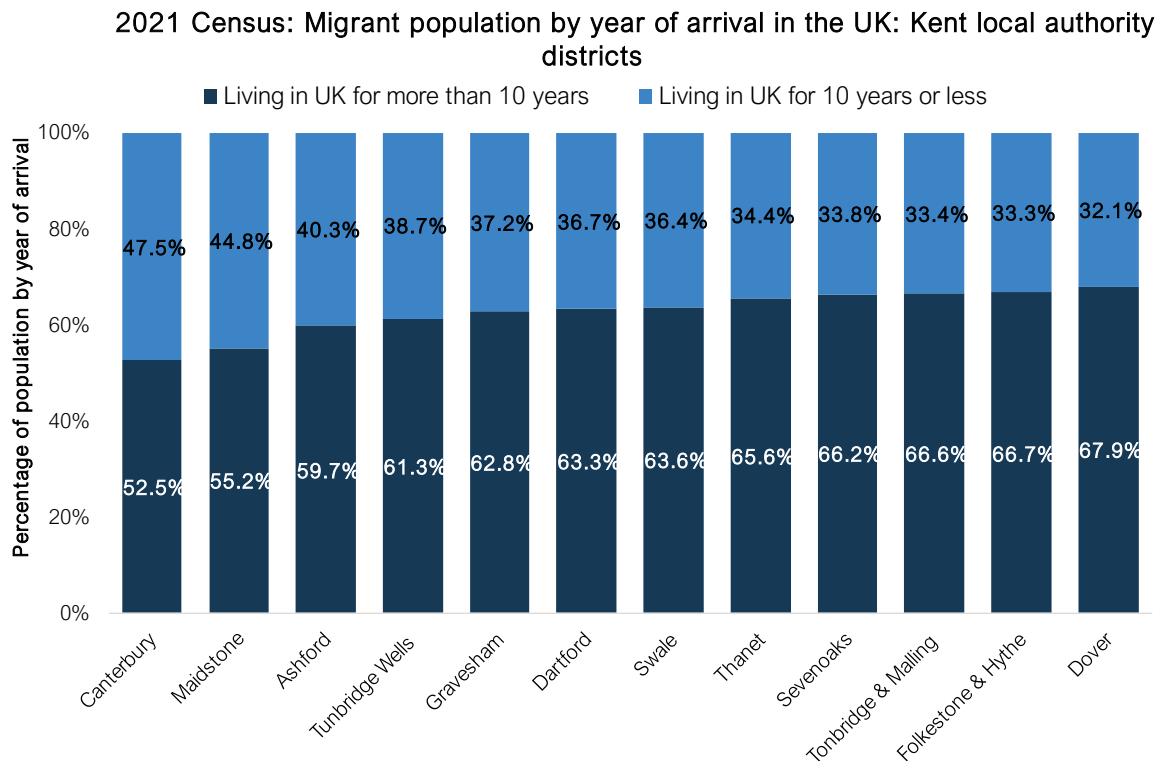


Source: 2021 Census TS015 Year of arrival in UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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Within Kent, nearly half of Canterbury’s migrant population (47.5%) arrived here in 2011 or later, being the highest proportion of Kent districts and is equal to 9,636 residents born outside of the UK. Dover has the highest proportion (67.9%) of migrants who arrived before 2011.

Chart 12 shows the proportion of migrant population in Kent districts having lived in the UK for more than 10 years, and 10 years or less.

## Chart 12: 2021 Census: Migrant population by year of arrival in the UK: Kent local authority districts



Source: 2021 Census TS015 Year of arrival in UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Tables 20 and 21 present the number and percentage of population by year of arrival in the UK for the Kent local authority districts, Kent, the South East region and England & Wales.

**Table 20: 2021 Census: Number of residents by year of arrival in the UK in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Born in the UK	Born outside of the UK	Arrived before 1951	Arrived 1951 to 1960	Arrived 1961 to 1970	Arrived 1971 to 1980	Arrived 1981 to 1990	Arrived 1991 to 2000	Arrived 2001 to 2010	Arrived 2011 to 2021
England & Wales	59,597,542	49,579,570	10,017,972	74,538	233,840	540,232	554,640	580,298	1,089,094	2,696,364	4,248,966
South East	9,278,063	7,815,950	1,462,115	17,258	39,382	81,190	81,253	79,995	152,062	418,769	592,206
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,381,983</b>	<b>194,086</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>5,657</b>	<b>10,364</b>	<b>10,180</b>	<b>10,507</b>	<b>20,628</b>	<b>59,820</b>	<b>74,494</b>
Ashford	132,747	114,942	17,807	219	407	752	749	716	1,803	5,992	7,169
Canterbury	157,429	137,129	20,300	278	593	949	992	954	1,871	5,027	9,636
Dartford	116,754	93,777	22,976	117	329	785	897	1,079	2,496	8,833	8,440
Dover	116,411	106,575	9,834	225	458	741	724	620	1,049	2,860	3,157
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	98,281	11,476	231	523	856	751	714	1,291	3,289	3,821
Gravesham	106,902	86,328	20,571	108	441	1,380	1,089	1,097	2,178	6,630	7,648
Maidstone	175,781	151,237	24,545	233	559	972	1,023	991	2,177	7,586	11,004
Sevenoaks	120,515	107,235	13,279	248	479	752	797	913	1,768	3,840	4,482
Swale	151,677	139,533	12,145	142	438	698	646	738	1,330	3,732	4,421
Thanet	140,587	126,862	13,724	211	588	891	834	837	1,450	4,187	4,726
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	120,359	11,844	166	423	761	754	814	1,431	3,535	3,960
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	99,728	15,581	257	419	827	921	1,033	1,784	4,309	6,031
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	241,119	38,654	378	1,086	2,517	2,167	2,215	4,104	12,324	13,863
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	1,623,102	232,740	2,814	6,743	12,881	12,347	12,722	24,732	72,144	88,357

Source: 2021 Census TS015 - Year of arrival in UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

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**Table 21: 2021 Census: Proportion of residents by year of arrival in the UK in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Born in the UK	Born outside of the UK	Arrived before 1951	Arrived 1951 to 1960	Arrived 1961 to 1970	Arrived 1971 to 1980	Arrived 1981 to 1990	Arrived 1991 to 2000	Arrived 2001 to 2010	Arrived 2011 to 2021
England & Wales	100.0%	83.2%	16.8%	0.7%	2.3%	5.4%	5.5%	5.8%	10.9%	26.9%	42.4%
South East	100.0%	84.2%	15.8%	1.2%	2.7%	5.6%	5.6%	5.5%	10.4%	28.6%	40.5%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>87.7%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>30.8%</b>	<b>38.4%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	86.6%	13.4%	1.2%	2.3%	4.2%	4.2%	4.0%	10.1%	33.6%	40.3%
Canterbury	100.0%	87.1%	12.9%	1.4%	2.9%	4.7%	4.9%	4.7%	9.2%	24.8%	47.5%
Dartford	100.0%	80.3%	19.7%	0.5%	1.4%	3.4%	3.9%	4.7%	10.9%	38.4%	36.7%
Dover	100.0%	91.6%	8.4%	2.3%	4.7%	7.5%	7.4%	6.3%	10.7%	29.1%	32.1%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	89.5%	10.5%	2.0%	4.6%	7.5%	6.5%	6.2%	11.2%	28.7%	33.3%
Gravesham	100.0%	80.8%	19.2%	0.5%	2.1%	6.7%	5.3%	5.3%	10.6%	32.2%	37.2%
Maidstone	100.0%	86.0%	14.0%	0.9%	2.3%	4.0%	4.2%	4.0%	8.9%	30.9%	44.8%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	89.0%	11.0%	1.9%	3.6%	5.7%	6.0%	6.9%	13.3%	28.9%	33.8%
Swale	100.0%	92.0%	8.0%	1.2%	3.6%	5.7%	5.3%	6.1%	11.0%	30.7%	36.4%
Thanet	100.0%	90.2%	9.8%	1.5%	4.3%	6.5%	6.1%	6.1%	10.6%	30.5%	34.4%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	91.0%	9.0%	1.4%	3.6%	6.4%	6.4%	6.9%	12.1%	29.8%	33.4%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	86.5%	13.5%	1.6%	2.7%	5.3%	5.9%	6.6%	11.4%	27.7%	38.7%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	86.2%	13.8%	1.0%	2.8%	6.5%	5.6%	5.7%	10.6%	31.9%	35.9%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	87.5%	12.5%	1.2%	2.9%	5.5%	5.3%	5.5%	10.6%	31.0%	38.0%

Source: 2021 Census TS015 - Year of arrival in UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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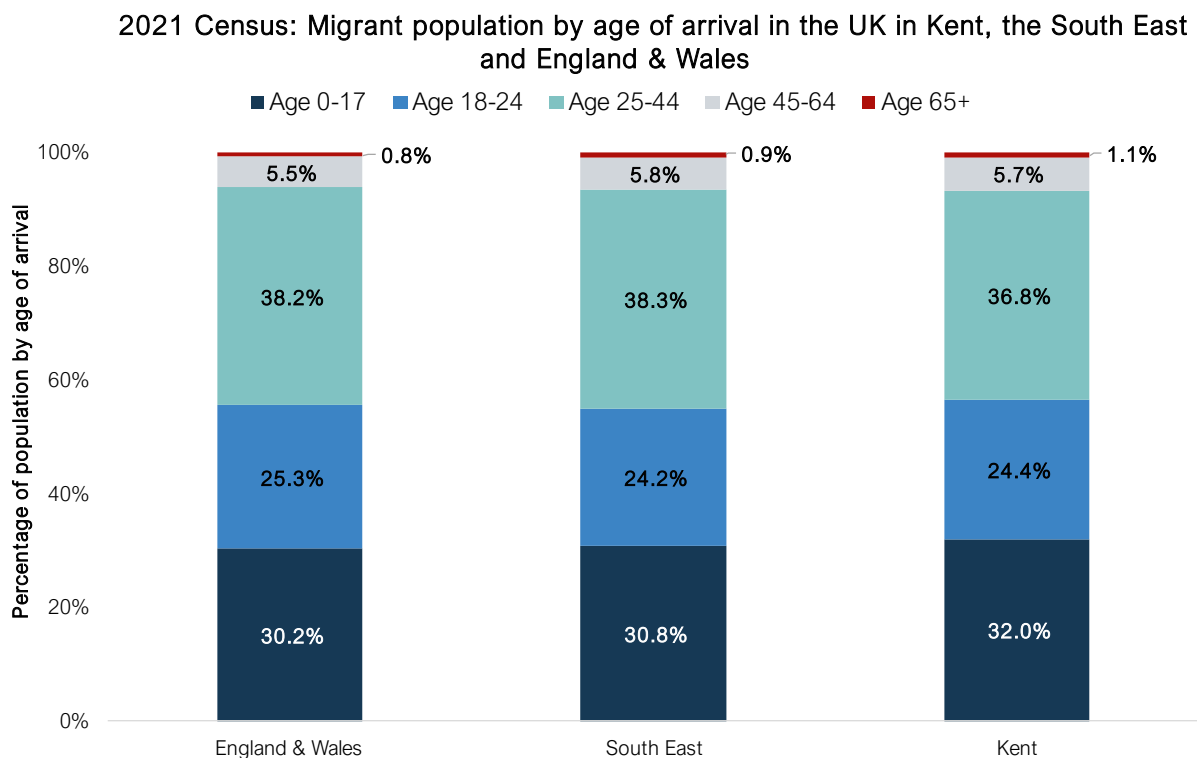
## Age of Arrival

The majority of Kent's migrant population were aged 44 and younger when they arrived in the UK. The largest proportion of migrants arrived here between the ages of 25 to 44. 71,447 Kent residents were within this age group when they arrived in the UK. This is equivalent to 36.8% of the total migrant population.

62,112 Kent residents were aged 0-17 when they arrived in the UK. This is equivalent to 32.0% of the total migrant population. It is likely that people from this age group and those aged 25 to 44 arrived together as families. The proportion of each age group in Kent are similar to those in the South East and England & Wales.

Chart 13 presents the migrant population by age of arrival in Kent, the South East and England & Wales.

### Chart 13: 2021 Census: Migrant population by age of arrival in the UK: Kent, the South East and England & Wales



Source: 2021 Census TS018 Age of arrival in the UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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Tables 22 and 23 present the population by age of arrival in the UK for the Kent local authority districts, Kent, the South East region and England & Wales.

**Table 22a: 2021 Census: Number of residents by age of arrival in the UK in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Born in the UK	Born outside of the UK	0 to 4 years	5 to 7 years	8 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 years	16 to 17 years	18 to 19 years	20 to 24 years
England & Wales	59,597,542	49,579,570	10,017,974	1,154,369	439,930	272,889	632,299	141,751	387,970	648,596	1,888,704
South East	9,278,063	7,815,950	1,462,118	190,324	63,902	39,011	86,779	18,720	51,074	87,880	266,502
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,381,983</b>	<b>194,089</b>	<b>26,293</b>	<b>8,662</b>	<b>5,347</b>	<b>11,736</b>	<b>2,702</b>	<b>7,372</b>	<b>11,914</b>	<b>35,411</b>
Ashford	132,747	114,942	17,805	2,189	786	480	1,135	224	664	899	2,838
Canterbury	157,429	137,129	20,304	2,843	1,002	638	1,425	362	1,222	1,807	3,494
Dartford	116,754	93,777	22,977	2,347	912	536	1,265	300	855	1,300	4,734
Dover	116,411	106,575	9,835	1,847	482	303	660	137	349	554	1,558
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	98,281	11,477	1,827	551	307	691	178	428	918	1,895
Gravesham	106,902	86,328	20,573	2,147	877	572	1,481	304	908	1,373	4,154
Maidstone	175,781	151,237	24,545	2,789	919	577	1,217	296	822	1,679	5,211
Sevenoaks	120,515	107,235	13,280	2,157	601	388	757	165	393	585	2,225
Swale	151,677	139,533	12,142	1,686	541	348	672	174	376	800	2,406
Thanet	140,587	126,862	13,723	2,060	704	438	866	217	484	765	2,201
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	120,359	11,846	2,020	552	340	644	165	374	548	2,044
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	99,728	15,585	2,384	735	420	923	184	498	686	2,651
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	241,119	38,654	4,891	1,821	1,146	2,619	575	1,408	2,370	7,309
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	1,623,102	232,743	31,184	10,483	6,493	14,355	3,277	8,780	14,284	42,720

Source: 2021 Census TS018 - Age of arrival in the UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

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**Table 22b: 2021 Census: Number of residents by age of arrival in the UK in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Born in the UK	Born outside of the UK	25 to 29 years	30 to 44 years	45 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 to 74 years	75 to 84 years	85 to 89 years	90 years and over
England & Wales	59,597,542	49,579,570	10,017,974	1,715,162	2,111,582	489,075	57,006	58,929	16,684	2,255	773
South East	9,278,063	7,815,950	1,462,118	248,246	311,608	74,681	9,624	10,461	2,801	393	112
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>1,381,983</b>	<b>194,089</b>	<b>31,820</b>	<b>39,627</b>	<b>9,790</b>	<b>1,358</b>	<b>1,591</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>12</b>
Ashford	132,747	114,942	17,805	2,904	3,906	1,113	247	332	80	7	1
Canterbury	157,429	137,129	20,304	2,860	3,473	910	101	118	39	7	3
Dartford	116,754	93,777	22,977	4,675	4,917	872	88	135	34	5	2
Dover	116,411	106,575	9,835	1,371	1,820	562	81	82	24	3	2
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	98,281	11,477	1,435	2,258	660	126	167	29	7	0
Gravesham	106,902	86,328	20,573	3,393	4,192	907	109	121	31	4	0
Maidstone	175,781	151,237	24,545	4,219	5,022	1,323	192	219	49	11	0
Sevenoaks	120,515	107,235	13,280	2,283	2,886	658	81	73	27	1	0
Swale	151,677	139,533	12,142	2,060	2,376	553	75	52	22	1	0
Thanet	140,587	126,862	13,723	2,026	2,975	776	85	101	23	1	1
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	120,359	11,846	1,969	2,392	593	83	97	22	3	0
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	99,728	15,585	2,625	3,410	863	88	94	20	2	2
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	241,119	38,654	6,607	7,913	1,553	190	181	65	5	1
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	1,623,102	232,743	38,427	47,540	11,343	1,548	1,772	465	59	13

Source: 2021 Census TS018 - Age of arrival in the UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

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**Table 23a: 2021 Census: Proportion of residents by age of arrival in the UK in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Born in the UK	Born outside of the UK	0 to 4 years	5 to 7 years	8 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 years	16 to 17 years	18 to 19 years	20 to 24 years
England & Wales	100.0%	83.2%	16.8%	11.5%	4.4%	2.7%	6.3%	1.4%	3.9%	6.5%	18.9%
South East	100.0%	84.2%	15.8%	13.0%	4.4%	2.7%	5.9%	1.3%	3.5%	6.0%	18.2%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>87.7%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	86.6%	13.4%	12.3%	4.4%	2.7%	6.4%	1.3%	3.7%	5.0%	15.9%
Canterbury	100.0%	87.1%	12.9%	14.0%	4.9%	3.1%	7.0%	1.8%	6.0%	8.9%	17.2%
Dartford	100.0%	80.3%	19.7%	10.2%	4.0%	2.3%	5.5%	1.3%	3.7%	5.7%	20.6%
Dover	100.0%	91.6%	8.4%	18.8%	4.9%	3.1%	6.7%	1.4%	3.5%	5.6%	15.8%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	89.5%	10.5%	15.9%	4.8%	2.7%	6.0%	1.6%	3.7%	8.0%	16.5%
Gravesham	100.0%	80.8%	19.2%	10.4%	4.3%	2.8%	7.2%	1.5%	4.4%	6.7%	20.2%
Maidstone	100.0%	86.0%	14.0%	11.4%	3.7%	2.4%	5.0%	1.2%	3.3%	6.8%	21.2%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	89.0%	11.0%	16.2%	4.5%	2.9%	5.7%	1.2%	3.0%	4.4%	16.8%
Swale	100.0%	92.0%	8.0%	13.9%	4.5%	2.9%	5.5%	1.4%	3.1%	6.6%	19.8%
Thanet	100.0%	90.2%	9.8%	15.0%	5.1%	3.2%	6.3%	1.6%	3.5%	5.6%	16.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	91.0%	9.0%	17.1%	4.7%	2.9%	5.4%	1.4%	3.2%	4.6%	17.3%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	86.5%	13.5%	15.3%	4.7%	2.7%	5.9%	1.2%	3.2%	4.4%	17.0%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	86.2%	13.8%	12.7%	4.7%	3.0%	6.8%	1.5%	3.6%	6.1%	18.9%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	87.5%	12.5%	13.4%	4.5%	2.8%	6.2%	1.4%	3.8%	6.1%	18.4%

Source: 2021 Census TS018 - Age of arrival in the UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

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**Table 23b: 2021 Census: Proportion of residents by age of arrival in the UK in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Born in the UK	Born outside of the UK	25 to 29 years	30 to 44 years	45 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 to 74 years	75 to 84 years	85 to 89 years	90 years and over
England & Wales	100.0%	83.2%	16.8%	17.1%	21.1%	4.9%	0.6%	0.6%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
South East	100.0%	84.2%	15.8%	17.0%	21.3%	5.1%	0.7%	0.7%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>87.7%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	86.6%	13.4%	16.3%	21.9%	6.3%	1.4%	1.9%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Canterbury	100.0%	87.1%	12.9%	14.1%	17.1%	4.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Dartford	100.0%	80.3%	19.7%	20.3%	21.4%	3.8%	0.4%	0.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Dover	100.0%	91.6%	8.4%	13.9%	18.5%	5.7%	0.8%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	89.5%	10.5%	12.5%	19.7%	5.8%	1.1%	1.5%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%
Gravesham	100.0%	80.8%	19.2%	16.5%	20.4%	4.4%	0.5%	0.6%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Maidstone	100.0%	86.0%	14.0%	17.2%	20.5%	5.4%	0.8%	0.9%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	89.0%	11.0%	17.2%	21.7%	5.0%	0.6%	0.5%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Swale	100.0%	92.0%	8.0%	17.0%	19.6%	4.6%	0.6%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Thanet	100.0%	90.2%	9.8%	14.8%	21.7%	5.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	91.0%	9.0%	16.6%	20.2%	5.0%	0.7%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	86.5%	13.5%	16.8%	21.9%	5.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	86.2%	13.8%	17.1%	20.5%	4.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	87.5%	12.5%	16.5%	20.4%	4.9%	0.7%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: 2021 Census TS018 - Age of arrival in the UK, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

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Within the Kent local authority districts, Dover has the largest proportion of migrants who arrived between the age of 0 and 17 (38.4%), Maidstone has the largest proportion arriving between the age of 18 and 24 (28.1%) and 41.7% was the largest proportion arriving between the age of 25 and 44 in Dartford.

Ashford has the largest proportion of migrants who arrived at the age of 45 or over. 1,780 residents were within this age group which is equal to 10.0% of all migrants in Ashford.

## Language

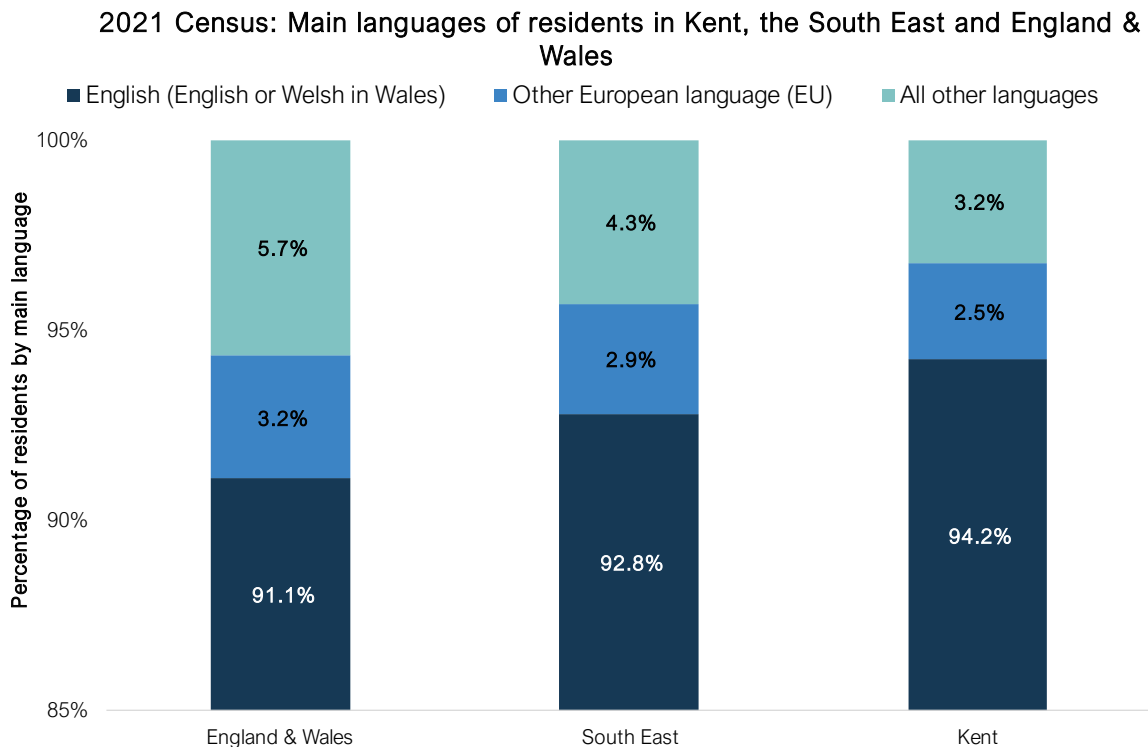
### Main language

The majority of Kent residents' main language is English (English or Welsh in Wales), equating to 94.2% or 1,437,219 residents. The proportion is higher than that in the South East (92.8%) and England & Wales (91.1%).

Of the other 21 main language categories, the second highest number and proportion of residents in Kent's main language is Other European language (EU). This is equal to 38,511 residents, or 2.5%, which is a slightly lower proportion than seen nationally (3.2%) and regionally (2.9%).

All other main languages combined account for 3.2% of the main languages spoken in Kent. Chart 18 shows the main languages spoken by residents in Kent, the South East and England & Wales, grouped by English (English or Welsh in Wales), Other European language (EU) and all other languages.

## Chart 14: 2021 Census: Main languages of residents in Kent, the South East and England & Wales



Source: 2021 Census TS024 - Main language, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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Maidstone has the highest number of residents, 156,418, whose main language is English (English or Welsh in Wales) whilst Tonbridge & Malling has the highest proportion (96.9%).

There are 6,632 residents in Maidstone whose main language is Other European (EU) which is the highest number seen of the Kent local authority districts, though Gravesham has the highest proportion (5.0%).

While Other European language (EU) is the second largest main language in Kent, the South East, England & Wales and majority of the Kent local authority districts, in Ashford and Folkestone & Hythe the main language with the second largest number and proportion is the South Asian language.

Tables 24 and 25 show the number and proportion of residents by main language in Kent, the South East and England & Wales.

**Table 24a: 2021 Census: Number of residents by main language (high level groups) in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All usual residents aged 3 years and over	English (English or Welsh in Wales)	Welsh or Cymraeg (in England only)	Other UK language	French	Portuguese	Spanish	Other European language (EU)	Other European language (non EU)	Other European language (EU and non-EU)	Other European language (non-national)	Russian
England & Wales	57,704,270	52,569,816	7,349	4,239	120,259	224,719	215,062	1,858,314	74,653	18,006	5,516	91,255
South East	8,989,837	8,340,941	866	422	14,814	33,089	27,003	261,508	8,095	3,247	25	14,011
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,525,271</b>	<b>1,437,219</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>2,222</b>	<b>2,501</b>	<b>2,267</b>	<b>38,511</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2,678</b>
Ashford	128,379	119,669	5	3	279	170	149	2,372	107	22	0	144
Canterbury	153,463	145,109	9	7	400	295	404	3,433	171	63	0	182
Dartford	111,826	101,365	3	4	178	329	255	4,016	156	15	0	303
Dover	113,122	109,088	5	4	173	94	105	2,060	37	12	0	142
Folkestone & Hythe	106,771	101,622	11	10	164	105	110	1,606	61	11	0	69
Gravesham	103,039	90,755	4	13	117	324	91	5,149	128	7	0	405
Maidstone	169,699	156,418	7	4	213	457	293	6,632	295	57	1	351
Sevenoaks	116,649	112,707	5	4	185	162	240	1,733	72	27	0	181
Swale	146,482	140,922	2	7	71	103	79	3,642	53	11	1	305
Thanet	136,272	129,876	11	8	120	80	139	3,476	81	52	0	290
Tonbridge & Malling	127,825	123,859	8	9	122	146	147	1,603	40	34	0	174
Tunbridge Wells	111,754	105,831	4	1	200	234	255	2,784	70	29	0	134
Medway Unitary Authority	269,653	252,098	8	9	295	533	365	8,026	173	51	3	657
Kent & Medway	1,794,924	1,689,317	80	79	2,517	3,034	2,632	46,537	1,450	389	5	3,335

Source: 2021 Census TS024 - Main language (detailed), The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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**Table 24b: 2021 Census: Number of residents by main language (high level groups) in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All usual residents aged 3 years and over	Turkish	Arabic	West or Central Asian language	South Asian language	East Asian language	Oceanic or Australian language	North or South American language	Caribbean Creole	African language	Sign language	Other language
England & Wales	57,704,270	112,978	203,998	219,402	1,374,141	361,709	1,722	68	1,778	205,002	26,738	7,546
South East	8,989,837	10,144	17,197	17,888	163,940	54,567	405	14	426	16,373	3,544	1,318
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,525,271</b>	<b>1,934</b>	<b>1,676</b>	<b>2,387</b>	<b>23,540</b>	<b>5,599</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2,080</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>137</b>
Ashford	128,379	133	251	146	4,233	399	0	0	1	220	57	19
Canterbury	153,463	277	376	295	1,208	945	1	0	8	211	53	16
Dartford	111,826	198	139	202	3,479	681	0	0	14	434	34	21
Dover	113,122	65	90	116	753	277	1	0	0	40	57	3
Folkestone & Hythe	106,771	85	77	153	2,240	310	4	1	0	66	51	15
Gravesham	103,039	147	55	379	4,828	273	4	0	0	295	45	20
Maidstone	169,699	237	148	519	3,263	521	2	0	3	203	64	11
Sevenoaks	116,649	96	61	38	436	465	0	0	3	193	35	6
Swale	146,482	160	111	77	477	276	3	0	1	107	70	4
Thanet	136,272	305	148	207	765	443	0	0	0	88	173	10
Tonbridge & Malling	127,825	122	85	55	884	367	0	0	0	120	40	10
Tunbridge Wells	111,754	110	135	204	982	648	1	0	4	94	32	2
Medway Unitary Authority	269,653	487	194	332	4,522	1,067	8	0	8	674	122	21
Kent & Medway	1,794,924	2,421	1,870	2,719	28,062	6,666	22	1	41	2,754	835	158

Source: 2021 Census TS024 - Main language (detailed), The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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**Table 25a: 2021 Census: Proportion of residents by main language (high level groups) in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All usual residents aged 3 years and over	English (English or Welsh in Wales)	Welsh or Cymraeg (in England only)	Other UK language	French	Portuguese	Spanish	Other European language (EU)	Other European language (non EU)	Other European language (EU and non-EU)	Other European language (non-national)	Russian
England & Wales	100.0%	91.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	3.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
South East	100.0%	92.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%	0.3%	2.9%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>94.2%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	93.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	1.8%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Canterbury	100.0%	94.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	2.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Dartford	100.0%	90.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	3.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
Dover	100.0%	96.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	95.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	1.5%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Gravesham	100.0%	88.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	5.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
Maidstone	100.0%	92.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	3.9%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	96.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	1.5%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Swale	100.0%	96.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Thanet	100.0%	95.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	2.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	96.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	94.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	2.5%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	93.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	3.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	94.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	2.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%

Source: 2021 Census TS024 - Main language (detailed), The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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**Table 25b: 2021 Census: Proportion of residents by main language (high level groups) in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All usual residents aged 3 years and over	Turkish	Arabic	West or Central Asian language	South Asian language	East Asian language	Oceanic or Australian language	North or South American language	Caribbean Creole	African language	Sign language	Other language
England & Wales	100.0%	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	2.4%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
South East	100.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	1.8%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	3.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Canterbury	100.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.8%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Dartford	100.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	3.1%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Dover	100.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.7%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	2.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Gravesham	100.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.4%	4.7%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Maidstone	100.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	1.9%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Swale	100.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Thanet	100.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.6%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.7%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.9%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	1.7%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	1.6%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: 2021 Census TS024 - Main language (detailed), The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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## Household language

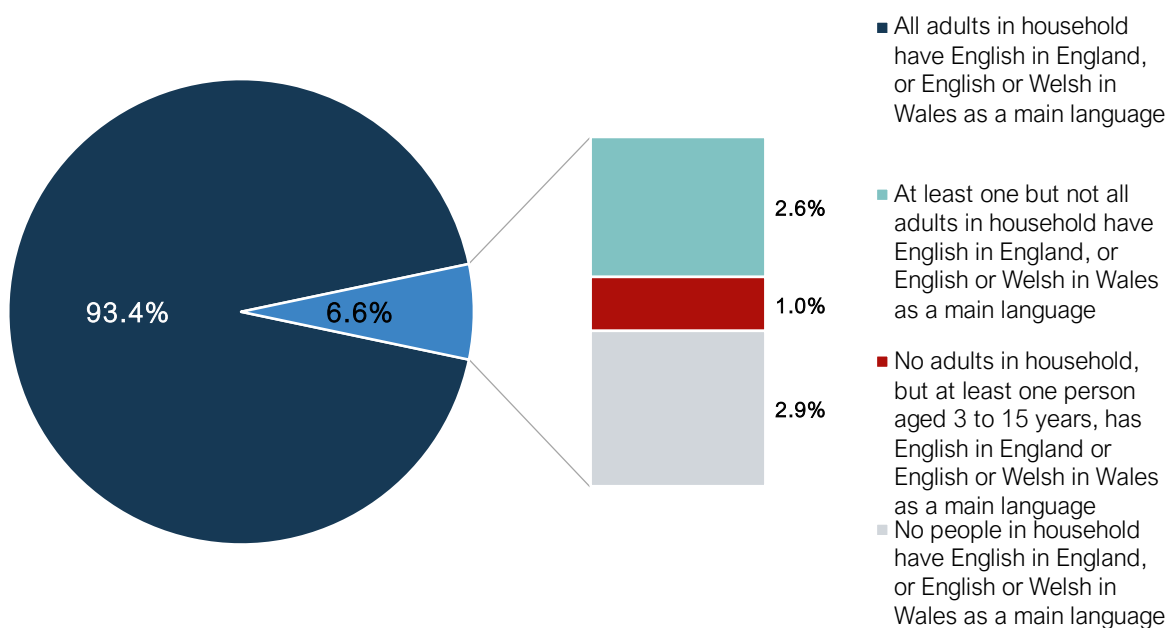
The 2021 Census shows us the proportion of households that have at least one resident who has English as their main language.

In Kent, there are 605,641 households in which all adults in that household have English (in England), or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language. This is equivalent to 93.4% of all households in Kent. This proportion is higher than the national figure of 89.6% and the South East regional figure of 91.4%.

Of the 6.6% Kent households in which not all occupants have English as their main language, 2.9% of households have no residents whose main language was English. Chart 15 presents the proportion of households by main language in Kent.

### Chart 15: 2021 Census: Main language in households in Kent

2021 Census: Main language in households in Kent



Source: 2021 Census TS025 Household language, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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Within the 12 Kent local authorities Maidstone has the highest number of households (65,277) where all adults have English as their main language, which equates to 91.7% of all households within Maidstone. Tonbridge & Malling has the highest proportion of all local authorities in Kent with 95.9%.

Maidstone also has the highest number of households (2,994) with no occupants who have English as their main language. This equates to 4.2% of all households within Maidstone. Gravesham has the highest proportion of all local authorities in Kent with 6.4%.

Tables 26 and 27 present the number and proportion of households by main language in Kent local authority districts, Kent, the South East and England & Wales.

**Table 26: 2021 Census: Number of residents by household language in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All Households	All adults in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	At least one but not all adults in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	No adults in household, but at least one person aged 3 to 15 years, has English in England or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	No people in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language
England & Wales	24,783,199	22,215,902	1,036,736	330,002	1,200,559
South East	3,807,966	3,481,554	138,797	44,590	143,025
<b>Kent</b>	<b>648,393</b>	<b>605,641</b>	<b>17,136</b>	<b>6,605</b>	<b>19,011</b>
Ashford	53,585	49,710	1,514	607	1,754
Canterbury	63,795	59,731	1,955	472	1,637
Dartford	45,696	40,653	1,761	1,021	2,261
Dover	50,550	48,433	873	345	899
Folkestone & Hythe	48,336	45,883	1,017	303	1,133
Gravesham	41,724	36,099	2,076	860	2,689
Maidstone	71,208	65,277	1,962	975	2,994
Sevenoaks	49,011	46,720	1,229	371	691
Swale	60,495	57,937	956	366	1,236
Thanet	62,199	58,854	1,218	494	1,633
Tonbridge & Malling	53,573	51,386	1,123	338	726
Tunbridge Wells	48,223	44,958	1,452	454	1,359
Medway Unitary Authority	111,458	102,839	3,427	1,393	3,799
Kent & Medway	759,851	708,480	20,563	7,998	22,810

Source: 2021 Census TS025 - Household language, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

**Table 27: 2021 Census: Proportion of residents by household language in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All Households	All adults in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	At least one but not all adults in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	No adults in household, but at least one person aged 3 to 15 years, has English in England or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	No people in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language
England & Wales	100.0%	89.6%	4.2%	1.3%	4.8%
South East	100.0%	91.4%	3.6%	1.2%	3.8%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>93.4%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	92.8%	2.8%	1.1%	3.3%
Canterbury	100.0%	93.6%	3.1%	0.7%	2.6%
Dartford	100.0%	89.0%	3.9%	2.2%	4.9%
Dover	100.0%	95.8%	1.7%	0.7%	1.8%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	94.9%	2.1%	0.6%	2.3%
Gravesham	100.0%	86.5%	5.0%	2.1%	6.4%
Maidstone	100.0%	91.7%	2.8%	1.4%	4.2%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	95.3%	2.5%	0.8%	1.4%
Swale	100.0%	95.8%	1.6%	0.6%	2.0%
Thanet	100.0%	94.6%	2.0%	0.8%	2.6%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	95.9%	2.1%	0.6%	1.4%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	93.2%	3.0%	0.9%	2.8%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	92.3%	3.1%	1.2%	3.4%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	93.2%	2.7%	1.1%	3.0%

Source: 2021 Census TS025 - Household language, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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## Multiple main languages

In Kent, the majority of households (439,079) have household members with the same main language. This equates to 67.7% of Kent households and is slightly higher than the regional proportion of 66.4% and the national proportion of 63.8%.

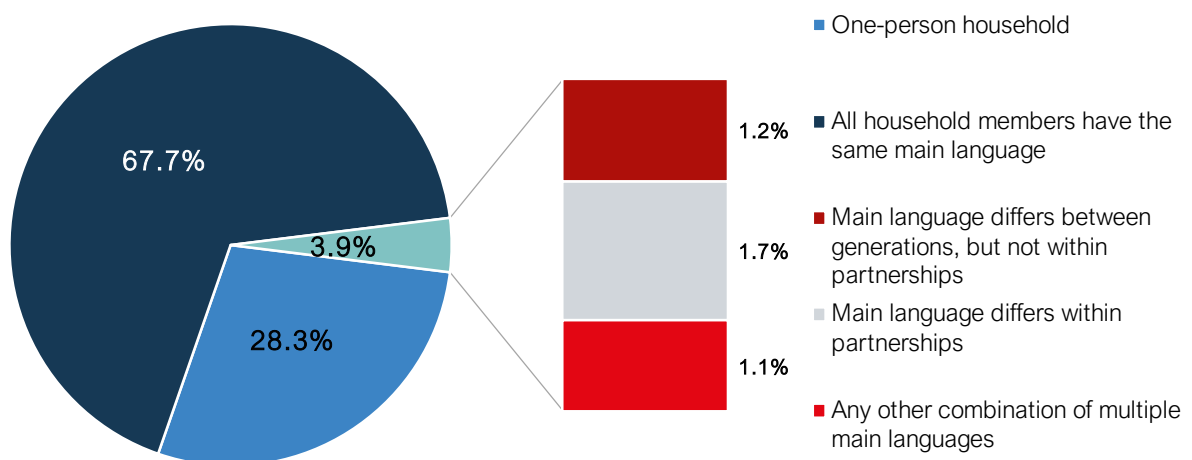
The second largest proportion of households in Kent are one-person households, accounting for 28.3%.

Of the 648,393 households in Kent, in 1.2% of households the main language differs between generations, but not within partnerships, and in 1.7% of households the main language differs within partnerships.

Chart 16 presents the proportion of households by multiple main languages in Kent.

### Chart 16: 2021 Census: Multiple main languages in households in Kent

2021 Census: Multiple main languages in households in Kent



Source: 2021 Census TS026 Multiple main languages in household, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Tables 28 and 29 present the number and proportion of households by multiple main languages in Kent local authority districts, Kent, the South East and England & Wales.

**Table 28: 2021 Census: Number of residents by multiple main languages in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All Households	One-person household	All household members have the same main language	Main language differs between generations, but not within partnerships	Main language differs within partnerships	Any other combination of multiple main languages
England & Wales	24,783,199	7,481,788	15,821,402	480,381	534,271	465,357
South East	3,807,966	1,081,739	2,529,011	55,840	82,428	58,948
<b>Kent</b>	<b>648,393</b>	<b>183,814</b>	<b>439,079</b>	<b>7,855</b>	<b>10,709</b>	<b>6,936</b>
Ashford	53,583	13,861	37,465	772	887	598
Canterbury	63,792	19,046	42,131	562	1,060	993
Dartford	45,697	11,827	30,880	1,170	1,100	720
Dover	50,548	15,658	33,609	382	584	315
Folkestone & Hythe	48,338	15,728	31,220	418	652	320
Gravesham	41,724	11,212	27,374	1,116	984	1,038
Maidstone	71,208	18,800	49,178	1,073	1,198	959
Sevenoaks	49,012	12,990	34,352	406	920	344
Swale	60,492	15,957	43,032	404	615	484
Thanet	62,200	20,839	39,495	612	842	412
Tonbridge & Malling	53,573	13,698	38,350	420	776	329
Tunbridge Wells	48,223	14,198	31,990	520	1,092	423
Medway Unitary Authority	111,458	30,462	75,794	1,744	1,917	1,541
Kent & Medway	759,851	214,276	514,873	9,599	12,626	8,477

Source: 2021 Census TS026 - Multiple main languages in household, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

**Table 29: 2021 Census: Proportion of residents by multiple main languages in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All Households	One-person household	All household members have the same main language	Main language differs between generations, but not within partnerships	Main language differs within partnerships	Any other combination of multiple main languages
England & Wales	100.0%	30.2%	63.8%	1.9%	2.2%	1.9%
South East	100.0%	28.4%	66.4%	1.5%	2.2%	1.5%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>28.3%</b>	<b>67.7%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	25.9%	69.9%	1.4%	1.7%	1.1%
Canterbury	100.0%	29.9%	66.0%	0.9%	1.7%	1.6%
Dartford	100.0%	25.9%	67.6%	2.6%	2.4%	1.6%
Dover	100.0%	31.0%	66.5%	0.8%	1.2%	0.6%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	32.5%	64.6%	0.9%	1.3%	0.7%
Gravesham	100.0%	26.9%	65.6%	2.7%	2.4%	2.5%
Maidstone	100.0%	26.4%	69.1%	1.5%	1.7%	1.3%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	26.5%	70.1%	0.8%	1.9%	0.7%
Swale	100.0%	26.4%	71.1%	0.7%	1.0%	0.8%
Thanet	100.0%	33.5%	63.5%	1.0%	1.4%	0.7%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	25.6%	71.6%	0.8%	1.4%	0.6%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	29.4%	66.3%	1.1%	2.3%	0.9%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	27.3%	68.0%	1.6%	1.7%	1.4%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	28.2%	67.8%	1.3%	1.7%	1.1%

Source: 2021 Census TS026 - Multiple main languages in household, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council



In Kent local authority districts, Maidstone has the highest number of households (49,178) where all household members have the same main language. Tonbridge & Malling has the highest proportion of 71.6%.

Dartford has the highest number of households (1,170) where the main language differs between generations, but not within partnerships whereas Maidstone has the highest number of households where main language differs within partnerships (1,198 households).

Gravesham has the highest number and proportion of households with any other combination of multiple main languages, with 1,038 households equating to 2.5% of Gravesham's population.

## Religion

The religion question was a voluntary question in the 2021 Census questionnaire and 5.8% of Kent residents chose not to answer. This is slightly lower than the national figure of 6.0% and the regional figure of 6.1%.

In 2021, Christianity remains the largest religion in Kent. A total of 763,716 Kent residents said that they were Christians. This is equivalent to almost half (48.5%) of the total population which is a higher proportion than in the South East (46.5%) and in England & Wales (46.2%).

The second largest religion in Kent is Muslim with 25,614 people which equates to 1.6% of the total population.

However, the second highest proportion of the population claimed to have no religion. This is equal to 40.9% or 644,190 Kent residents.

Tables 30 and 31 present the number and proportion of the population by religious belief in Kent local authority districts compared to that of Kent, the South East region and England & Wales.

**Table 30: 2021 Census: Number of residents by religion in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religion	No religion	Religion not stated
England & Wales	59,597,542	27,522,672	272,508	1,032,775	271,327	3,868,133	524,140	348,334	22,162,062	3,595,589
South East	9,278,063	4,313,319	54,433	154,748	18,682	309,067	74,348	54,098	3,733,094	566,279
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,576,069</b>	<b>763,716</b>	<b>8,749</b>	<b>19,242</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>25,614</b>	<b>12,307</b>	<b>9,572</b>	<b>644,190</b>	<b>90,629</b>
Ashford	132,747	63,197	1,341	2,717	142	2,110	147	1,533	54,002	7,558
Canterbury	157,429	73,413	961	1,297	310	2,875	279	1,145	66,087	11,062
Dartford	116,754	56,172	691	4,433	91	4,100	2,014	465	42,581	6,205
Dover	116,411	57,768	591	723	113	734	73	649	49,302	6,457
Folkestone & Hythe	109,759	52,653	1,074	1,625	146	1,107	46	973	45,890	6,242
Gravesham	106,902	52,565	347	1,491	76	3,326	8,560	664	34,353	5,517
Maidstone	175,781	86,589	1,341	2,477	164	3,332	270	1,123	70,501	9,984
Sevenoaks	120,515	62,479	464	805	234	1,088	288	416	47,639	7,102
Swale	151,677	71,562	406	587	118	1,529	208	672	68,784	7,811
Thanet	140,587	65,654	598	803	268	2,129	103	866	62,054	8,115
Tonbridge & Malling	132,201	64,406	451	1,167	163	1,381	240	508	56,516	7,369
Tunbridge Wells	115,314	57,258	484	1,115	224	1,904	81	558	46,480	7,207
Medway Unitary Authority	279,773	126,097	999	3,172	217	7,636	4,363	1,705	120,309	15,273
Kent & Medway	1,855,842	889,813	9,748	22,414	2,267	33,250	16,670	11,277	764,499	105,902

Source: 2021 Census TS030 - Religion, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding at source

Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

**Table 31: 2021 Census: Proportion of residents by religion in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religion	No religion	Religion not stated
England & Wales	100.0%	46.2%	0.5%	1.7%	0.5%	6.5%	0.9%	0.6%	37.2%	6.0%
South East	100.0%	46.5%	0.6%	1.7%	0.2%	3.3%	0.8%	0.6%	40.2%	6.1%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>48.5%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>40.9%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	47.6%	1.0%	2.0%	0.1%	1.6%	0.1%	1.2%	40.7%	5.7%
Canterbury	100.0%	46.6%	0.6%	0.8%	0.2%	1.8%	0.2%	0.7%	42.0%	7.0%
Dartford	100.0%	48.1%	0.6%	3.8%	0.1%	3.5%	1.7%	0.4%	36.5%	5.3%
Dover	100.0%	49.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0.1%	0.6%	0.1%	0.6%	42.4%	5.5%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	48.0%	1.0%	1.5%	0.1%	1.0%	0.0%	0.9%	41.8%	5.7%
Gravesham	100.0%	49.2%	0.3%	1.4%	0.1%	3.1%	8.0%	0.6%	32.1%	5.2%
Maidstone	100.0%	49.3%	0.8%	1.4%	0.1%	1.9%	0.2%	0.6%	40.1%	5.7%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	51.8%	0.4%	0.7%	0.2%	0.9%	0.2%	0.3%	39.5%	5.9%
Swale	100.0%	47.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	1.0%	0.1%	0.4%	45.3%	5.1%
Thanet	100.0%	46.7%	0.4%	0.6%	0.2%	1.5%	0.1%	0.6%	44.1%	5.8%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	48.7%	0.3%	0.9%	0.1%	1.0%	0.2%	0.4%	42.8%	5.6%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	49.7%	0.4%	1.0%	0.2%	1.7%	0.1%	0.5%	40.3%	6.2%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	45.1%	0.4%	1.1%	0.1%	2.7%	1.6%	0.6%	43.0%	5.5%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	47.9%	0.5%	1.2%	0.1%	1.8%	0.9%	0.6%	41.2%	5.7%

Source: 2021 Census TS030 - Religion, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Within the local authority districts in Kent, Sevenoaks has the highest proportion of Christian residents. A total of 62,479 people stated that their religion was Christianity which is equal to 51.8% of Sevenoaks' total population.

Dartford has the highest proportion of Muslims with 3.5% of the population having stated that they were Muslim which equates to 4,100 people. Dartford also has the highest proportion of Hindu residents with 3.8%, a total of 4,433 people.

The Sikh religion accounts for the second largest proportion of Gravesham residents with 8.0% which is equal to 8,560 people.

Maidstone has the largest number of people (70,501) that said they have no religion, which is equal to 40.1% of the population. Canterbury has the largest proportion of people who did not answer the question, at 7.0% equal to 11,062 residents.

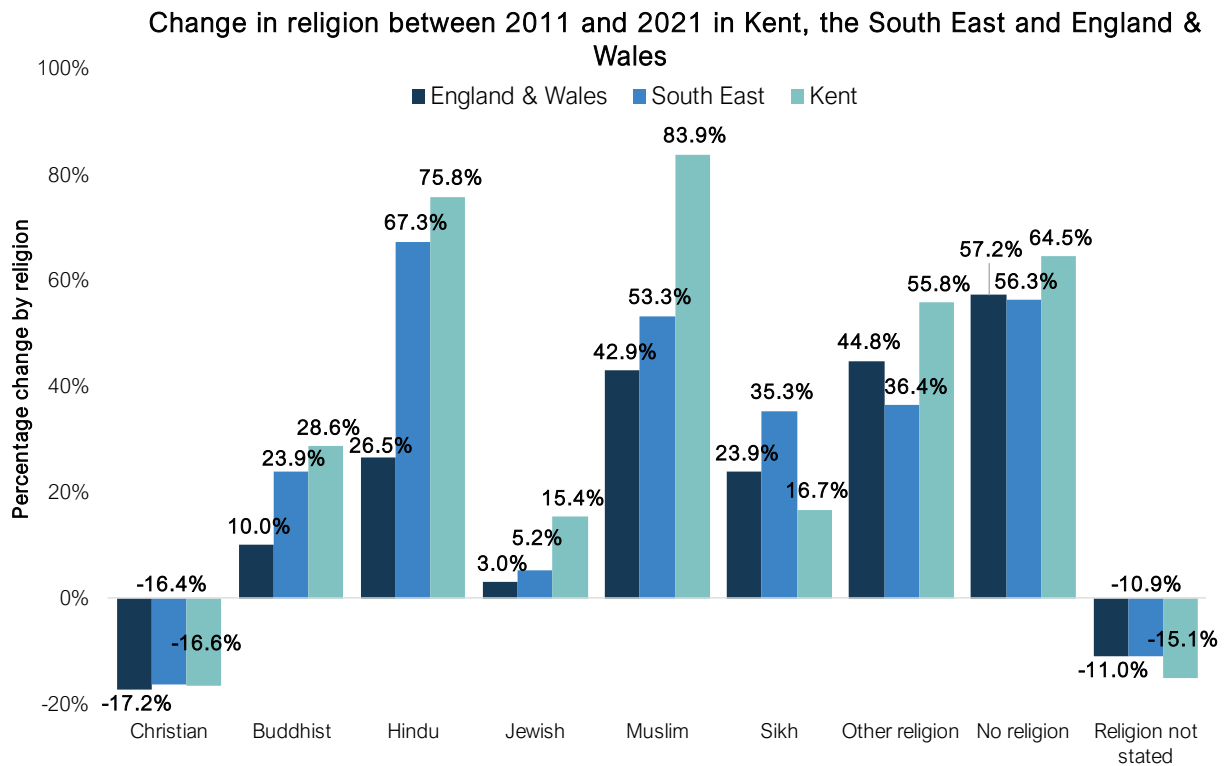
### **Change between the 2011 and 2021 Census**

Between 2011 and 2021 there has been a decline in the number of people who identify themselves as being Christian. The 2011 Census shows that 62.5% of Kent residents said that they were Christians. This is a fall of -16.6% in the Christian population between 2011 and 2021.

In Kent the Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim religions have seen the greatest increases in real and percentage terms. The largest number and percentage increase is in those who identify themselves as Muslim with 11,682 more people (+83.9%).

Chart 17 presents the 2011 to 2021 change in religious belief of the resident population in Kent compared to the South East region and England & Wales.

## Chart 17: Change in religion between 2011 and 2021 in Kent, the South East and England & Wales



Source: 2021 Census TS030 Religion, 2011 Census Table KS209EW, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Within the local authority districts in Kent, Dartford has seen the smallest percentage decrease of Christian residents between the censuses whilst Folkestone & Hythe has seen the largest decrease.

Swale has seen the highest increase in population who say that they have no religion. This group saw a 76.0% increase compared to 2011 which is equal to +29,697 residents.

Dover saw the largest fall in the proportion of people who did not answer the question on religion. This group saw a -25.7% decrease compared to 2011 which is equal to 2,231 less residents not answering the question.

Tables 32 and 33 present the 2011 number and proportion of the population by religious belief in Kent local authority districts compared to that of Kent, the South East region and England & Wales, whilst table 34 presents the 2011 to 2021 change.

**Table 32: 2011 Census: Number of residents by religion in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religion	No religion	Religion not stated
England & Wales	56,075,912	33,243,175	247,743	816,633	263,346	2,706,066	423,158	240,530	14,097,229	4,038,032
South East	8,634,750	5,160,128	43,946	92,499	17,761	201,651	54,941	39,672	2,388,286	635,866
<b>Kent</b>	<b>1,463,740</b>	<b>915,200</b>	<b>6,802</b>	<b>10,943</b>	<b>1,777</b>	<b>13,932</b>	<b>10,545</b>	<b>6,145</b>	<b>391,591</b>	<b>106,805</b>
Ashford	117,956	74,253	803	1,282	116	1,019	95	432	30,984	8,972
Canterbury	151,145	91,122	880	1,055	267	1,838	245	760	43,117	11,861
Dartford	97,365	59,045	382	1,547	86	1,566	1,543	319	26,486	6,391
Dover	111,674	71,541	523	682	97	521	50	525	29,047	8,688
Folkestone & Hythe	107,969	67,296	962	1,551	78	796	34	506	28,575	8,171
Gravesham	101,720	61,891	333	942	54	1,894	7,743	606	21,862	6,395
Maidstone	155,143	97,578	901	1,492	163	1,685	176	612	41,493	11,043
Sevenoaks	114,893	75,169	367	385	196	600	180	348	28,939	8,709
Swale	135,835	85,535	275	368	93	792	158	499	39,087	9,028
Thanet	134,186	82,447	491	639	273	1,230	94	690	38,383	9,939
Tonbridge & Malling	120,805	76,920	441	539	122	750	169	412	32,996	8,456
Tunbridge Wells	115,049	72,403	444	461	232	1,241	58	436	30,622	9,152
Medway Unitary Authority	263,925	152,637	937	2,756	208	5,169	3,846	1,392	78,995	17,985
Kent & Medway	1,727,665	1,067,837	7,739	13,699	1,985	19,101	14,391	7,537	470,586	124,790

Source: 2011 Census, Table KS209EW - Religion, Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright)  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

**Table 33: 2011 Census: Proportion of residents by religion in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales**

Area	All People	Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religion	No religion	Religion not stated
England & Wales	100.0%	59.3%	0.4%	1.5%	0.5%	4.8%	0.8%	0.4%	25.1%	7.2%
South East	100.0%	59.8%	0.5%	1.1%	0.2%	2.3%	0.6%	0.5%	27.7%	7.4%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>26.8%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>
Ashford	100.0%	62.9%	0.7%	1.1%	0.1%	0.9%	0.1%	0.4%	26.3%	7.6%
Canterbury	100.0%	60.3%	0.6%	0.7%	0.2%	1.2%	0.2%	0.5%	28.5%	7.8%
Dartford	100.0%	60.6%	0.4%	1.6%	0.1%	1.6%	1.6%	0.3%	27.2%	6.6%
Dover	100.0%	64.1%	0.5%	0.6%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	26.0%	7.8%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	62.3%	0.9%	1.4%	0.1%	0.7%	0.0%	0.5%	26.5%	7.6%
Gravesham	100.0%	60.8%	0.3%	0.9%	0.1%	1.9%	7.6%	0.6%	21.5%	6.3%
Maidstone	100.0%	62.9%	0.6%	1.0%	0.1%	1.1%	0.1%	0.4%	26.7%	7.1%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	65.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%	25.2%	7.6%
Swale	100.0%	63.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.6%	0.1%	0.4%	28.8%	6.6%
Thanet	100.0%	61.4%	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%	0.9%	0.1%	0.5%	28.6%	7.4%
Tonbridge & Malling	100.0%	63.7%	0.4%	0.4%	0.1%	0.6%	0.1%	0.3%	27.3%	7.0%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	62.9%	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%	1.1%	0.1%	0.4%	26.6%	8.0%
Medway Unitary Authority	100.0%	57.8%	0.4%	1.0%	0.1%	2.0%	1.5%	0.5%	29.9%	6.8%
Kent & Medway	100.0%	61.8%	0.4%	0.8%	0.1%	1.1%	0.8%	0.4%	27.2%	7.2%

Source: 2011 Census, Table KS209EW - Religion, Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright)  
Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

**Table 34a: Number and percentage change of residents by religion in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales between 2011 and 2021**

Area	All People Number	All People % change	Christian Number	Christian % change	Buddhist Number	Buddhist % change	Hindu Number	Hindu % change	Jewish Number	Jewish % change	Muslim Number	Muslim % change
England & Wales	3,521,630	6.3%	-5,720,503	-17.2%	24,765	10.0%	216,142	26.5%	7,981	3.0%	1,162,067	42.9%
South East	643,313	7.5%	-846,809	-16.4%	10,487	23.9%	62,249	67.3%	921	5.2%	107,416	53.3%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>112,329</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>-151,484</b>	<b>-16.6%</b>	<b>1,947</b>	<b>28.6%</b>	<b>8,299</b>	<b>75.8%</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>11,682</b>	<b>83.9%</b>
Ashford	14,791	12.5%	-11,056	-14.9%	538	67.0%	1,435	111.9%	26	22.4%	1,091	107.1%
Canterbury	6,284	4.2%	-17,709	-19.4%	81	9.2%	242	22.9%	43	16.1%	1,037	56.4%
Dartford	19,389	19.9%	-2,873	-4.9%	309	80.9%	2,886	186.6%	5	5.8%	2,534	161.8%
Dover	4,737	4.2%	-13,773	-19.3%	68	13.0%	41	6.0%	16	16.5%	213	40.9%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,790	1.7%	-14,643	-21.8%	112	11.6%	74	4.8%	68	87.2%	311	39.1%
Gravesham	5,182	5.1%	-9,326	-15.1%	14	4.2%	549	58.3%	22	40.7%	1,432	75.6%
Maidstone	20,638	13.3%	-10,989	-11.3%	440	48.8%	985	66.0%	1	0.6%	1,647	97.7%
Sevenoaks	5,622	4.9%	-12,690	-16.9%	97	26.4%	420	109.1%	38	19.4%	488	81.3%
Swale	15,842	11.7%	-13,973	-16.3%	131	47.6%	219	59.5%	25	26.9%	737	93.1%
Thanet	6,401	4.8%	-16,793	-20.4%	107	21.8%	164	25.7%	-5	-1.8%	899	73.1%
Tonbridge & Malling	11,396	9.4%	-12,514	-16.3%	10	2.3%	628	116.5%	41	33.6%	631	84.1%
Tunbridge Wells	265	0.2%	-15,145	-20.9%	40	9.0%	654	141.9%	-8	-3.4%	663	53.4%
Medway Unitary Authority	15,848	6.0%	-26,540	-17.4%	62	6.6%	416	15.1%	9	4.3%	2,467	47.7%
Kent & Medway	128,177	7.4%	-178,024	-16.7%	2,009	26.0%	8,715	63.6%	282	14.2%	14,149	74.1%

Source: 2021 Census TS030 - Religion, 2011 Census Table KS209EW - Religion, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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**Table 34b: Number and percentage change of residents by religion in Kent districts, the South East and England & Wales between 2011 and 2021**

Area	All People Number	All People % change	Sikh Number	Sikh % change	Other religion Number	Other religion % change	No religion Number	No religion % change	Religion not stated Number	Religion not stated & change
England & Wales	3,521,630	6.3%	100,982	23.9%	107,804	44.8%	8,064,833	57.2%	-442,443	-11.0%
South East	643,313	7.5%	19,407	35.3%	14,426	36.4%	1,344,808	56.3%	-69,587	-10.9%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>112,329</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>3,427</b>	<b>55.8%</b>	<b>252,599</b>	<b>64.5%</b>	<b>-16,176</b>	<b>-15.1%</b>
Ashford	14,791	12.5%	52	54.7%	1,101	254.9%	23,018	74.3%	-1,414	-15.8%
Canterbury	6,284	4.2%	34	13.9%	385	50.7%	22,970	53.3%	-799	-6.7%
Dartford	19,389	19.9%	471	30.5%	146	45.8%	16,095	60.8%	-186	-2.9%
Dover	4,737	4.2%	23	46.0%	124	23.6%	20,255	69.7%	-2,231	-25.7%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,790	1.7%	12	35.3%	467	92.3%	17,315	60.6%	-1,929	-23.6%
Gravesham	5,182	5.1%	817	10.6%	58	9.6%	12,491	57.1%	-878	-13.7%
Maidstone	20,638	13.3%	94	53.4%	511	83.5%	29,008	69.9%	-1,059	-9.6%
Sevenoaks	5,622	4.9%	108	60.0%	68	19.5%	18,700	64.6%	-1,607	-18.5%
Swale	15,842	11.7%	50	31.6%	173	34.7%	29,697	76.0%	-1,217	-13.5%
Thanet	6,401	4.8%	9	9.6%	176	25.5%	23,671	61.7%	-1,824	-18.4%
Tonbridge & Malling	11,396	9.4%	71	42.0%	96	23.3%	23,520	71.3%	-1,087	-12.9%
Tunbridge Wells	265	0.2%	23	39.7%	122	28.0%	15,858	51.8%	-1,945	-21.3%
Medway Unitary Authority	15,848	6.0%	517	13.4%	313	22.5%	41,314	52.3%	-2,712	-15.1%
Kent & Medway	128,177	7.4%	2,279	15.8%	3,740	49.6%	293,913	62.5%	-18,888	-15.1%

Source: 2021 Census TS030 - Religion, 2011 Census Table KS209EW - Religion, The Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright  
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## Related documents

Information can be found on our [Population & Census](#) webpages about the population and the 2021 Census.

These include information about:

- Population
- Population change
- Population forecasts
- Census