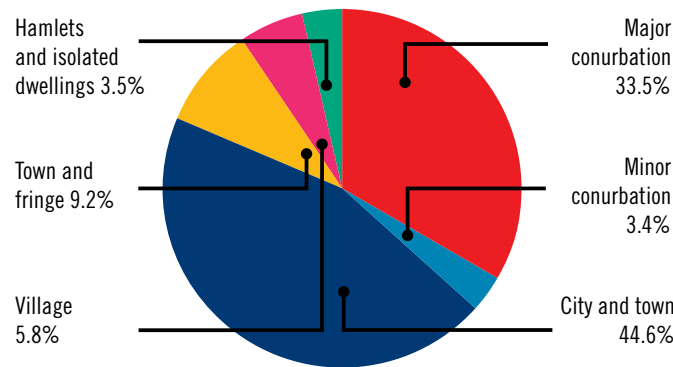


THE UK BY NUMBERS RURAL AND URBAN

We present an at-a-glance overview of the key issues in Britain today. In this issue our focus is on rural and urban population. All statistics are from the ONS 2011 Census Analysis published in 2014 unless otherwise stated

Resident population

For the rural subgroups, the 'Rural town and fringe' category accounted for the greatest population at 9.2 per cent, with 5.8 per cent resident in the 'Rural village' category and 3.5 per cent in the 'Rural hamlet and isolated dwelling' group.



“Clearly, then, the city is not a concrete jungle, it is a human zoo” Desmond Morris



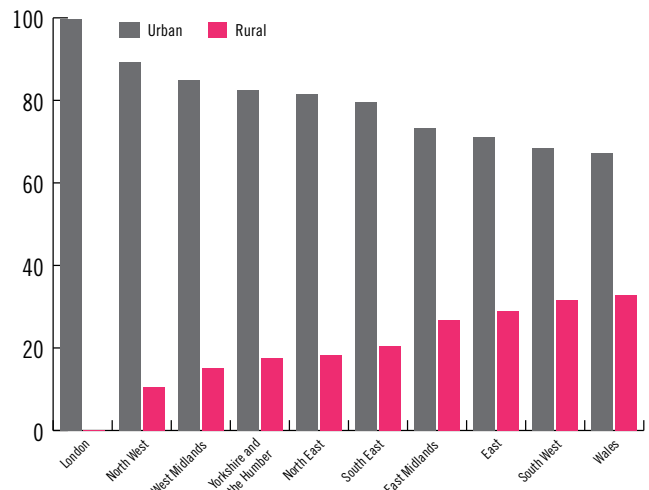
“God made the country, and man made the town” William Cowper

- 82%** In 2011, 81.5 per cent (45.7 million) of the usually resident population of England and Wales lived in urban areas
- 95%** Residents of rural areas are more likely to be born in the UK (94.9 per cent compared with 84.7 per cent for urban areas)
- 74%** Owner-occupied households are more common in rural areas (74.1 per cent) than in urban areas (61.2 per cent)

Areas classified as rural in 2001 grew by 6.4 per cent in population by 2011, while areas classified as urban grew by 8.1 per cent. The median age rose from 42 to 45 years in rural areas and from 36 to 37 in urban areas. During this period, rural areas experienced an increase in the proportion of usual residents with an activity limiting health problem or disability. The proportion of residents with 'White British' ethnicity fell from 85.2 per cent to 77.2 per cent in urban areas; the proportion of urban households renting privately increased from 12.0 per cent in 2001 to 18.9 per cent in 2011.

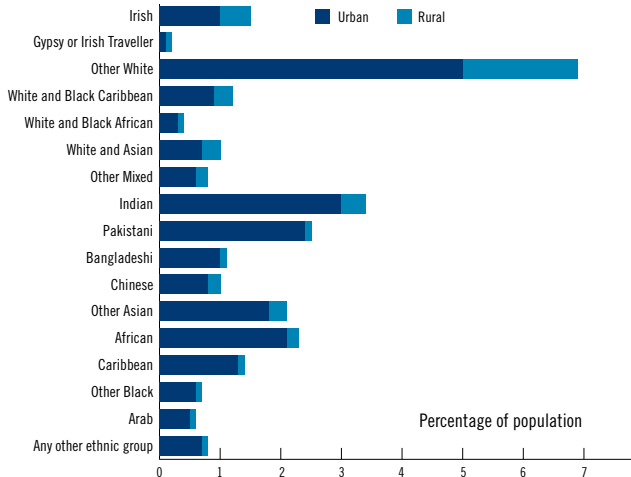
Population by region

London's population is almost entirely resident in urban areas (99.8 per cent). This is ten percentage points larger than the North West which at 89.4 per cent has the second highest percentage of usual residents in urban areas. Wales (67.2 per cent) has the lowest proportion of its population living in urban areas.



Ethnicity

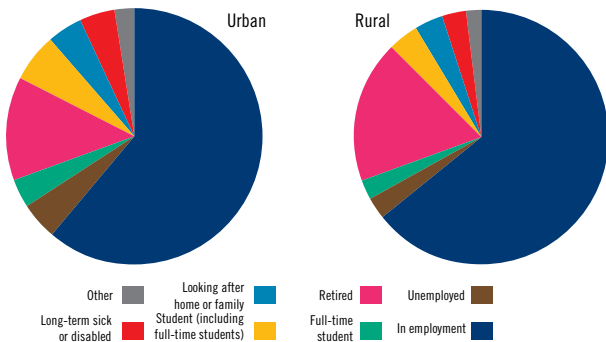
Pakistanis were the third most common ethnic minority in urban areas comprising 2.4 per cent of the population but comprised just 0.1 per cent of the rural population.



“Suburb: a place that isn’t city, isn’t country, and isn’t tolerable” Mignon McLaughlin

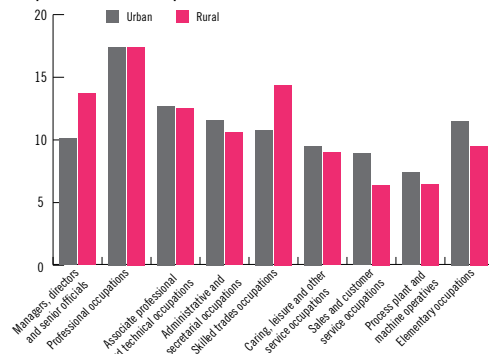
Economic activity

Residents aged 16 to 74 were as likely to be economically active in urban areas (69.7 per cent) as they were in rural areas (69.5 per cent). Rural residents were more likely to be in employment (64.3 per cent compared with 61.3 per cent in urban areas).



Occupation

Rural areas have a larger percentage of residents employed in skilled trade occupations than urban areas (14.4 per cent compared with 10.8 per cent) and managers, directors and senior officials (13.7 per cent compared with 10.1 per cent).



Qualifications

Residents aged 16 and over in urban areas were more likely to have no qualifications than their rural counterparts. Rural residents were more likely to have an apprenticeship as their highest qualification.

