

The Berkshire Unitary Authorities

Joint Strategic Planning Unit

2001 Census: First population statistics

Bracknell Forest Borough Council | Reading Borough Council |
Slough Borough Council
West Berkshire Council | The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead |
Wokingham Unitary

2001 Census: First population statistics

Berkshire Census Briefing 2003-1

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The contents of this publication were produced under a contract with the Greater London Authority managed on behalf of the six Berkshire Unitary Authorities by Bryan Lyttle.

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Population by age

The 2001 Census population of the former county of Berkshire is 800,118. This compares with the latest mid-year estimate for 2001 of 800,277. This is close to the Census figure. The last pre-Census estimate was 802,800 in 2000. The unitary authority population totals are given in Table 1.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) have published a range of information on their website, and some of the more interesting facts are:

Nationally a larger proportion of the population is aged 60+ than under 16 for the first time.

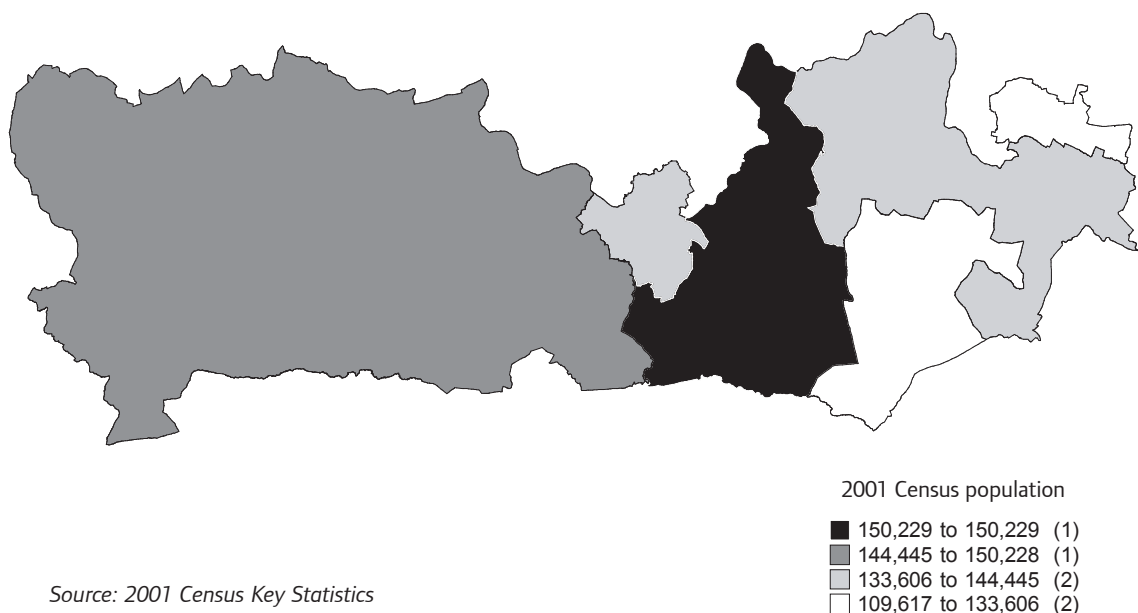
There are more women than men in the UK in all age groups above 21.

There has been a big increase in the number of people aged 85 and over, now over 1.1 million in the UK.

Within Berkshire the proportion of the population aged under five was high in Bracknell Forest, with just over 7 per cent which ranks 13th out of 376 local authority districts in England. Slough also ranked very high - 18th in England with 6.9 per cent. These compare with the largest proportion in the country - 8.5 per cent in the London Borough of Newham. The mean age of the population of Slough is just 34.84 years, the tenth lowest in the country. This rises to a mean age of 38.91 in Windsor and Maidenhead.

The top 20 rankings for under 5s are shown in Table 2.

Map 1 Total population, 2001 Census



Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics

Map 2 Percentage of residents aged under 5, 2001 Census



Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics

Table 1 2001 Census: population of districts in Berkshire

District	Persons All ages
Bracknell Forest UA	109,617
Reading UA	143,096
Slough UA	119,067
West Berkshire UA	144,483
Windsor and Maidenhead UA	133,626
Wokingham UA	150,229
Berkshire	800,118

Source: 2001 Census, Key Statistics Table KS01

Table 2 Percentage of population aged under 5

	% under 5
Bracknell Forest UA	7.02
Reading UA	6.20
Slough UA	6.90
West Berkshire UA	6.09
Windsor and Maidenhead UA	6.13
Wokingham UA	6.08
Berkshire	6.36
England	5.96

Source: 2001 Census, Key Statistics Table KS02

Table 3 Mean and median ages

	Mean	Median
Slough	34.84	33
Bracknell Forest	35.44	35
Reading	35.70	32
Wokingham	37.09	37
West Berkshire	37.76	37
Windsor and Maidenhead	38.91	38
<hr/>		
Berkshire	36.71	35
England	38.60	37

Source: 2001 Census, Key Statistics Table KS02

Table 4 Percentage of population aged 60 or over

Bracknell Forest	14.58
Reading	16.39
Slough	15.19
West Berkshire	17.82
Windsor and Maidenhead	20.31
Wokingham	16.58
<hr/>	
Berkshire	16.91
England	20.76

Source: 2001 Census, Key Statistics Table KS02

Map 3 Percentage of population aged 60 or over, 2001 Census



Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics

It is not unexpected therefore, that the areas with large percentages of children would have relatively small proportions of people over 60. Bracknell Forest and Slough have relatively low proportions of people aged 60 or over - with 14.58 and 15.19 per cent respectively. West Berkshire and Windsor and Maidenhead both have a larger proportion than the national average of their population aged 60 or over.

Only Windsor and Maidenhead of the six authorities has anything like the national average proportion of people aged 85 and over. The lowest proportion is in Slough, at 1.21 per cent, with Reading having a slightly larger proportion at 1.23 per cent.

Table 5 Percentage of the population aged 85 and over

	% 85+
Bracknell Forest	1.23
Reading	1.70
Slough	1.21
West Berkshire	1.59
Windsor and Maidenhead	1.93
Wokingham	1.38
<hr/>	
Berkshire	1.52
England	1.94

Source: 2001 Census, Key Statistics Table KS02

Measures of change

It should be relatively easy to give an indication of population change over the last decade, but because of the doubts ONS have raised about the series of mid-year estimates and about the adjustments made for under-enumeration in the 1991 Census it is not straightforward. ONS originally only published change between 1981 and 2001 on their website, which is not what most users are interested in, although they have now added change between mid-1991 and the 2001 Census.

There are a number of valid comparisons that could be made to measure population change between 1991 and 2001. A straight comparison of the 1991 and 2001 Censuses seems obvious, except that the 2001 Census resident base is now the same as the population base used for the mid-year estimates and differs from the 1991 Census resident base (mainly in the treatment of where students are regarded as usually resident). There have also been boundary changes in Berkshire between 1991 and 2001. A second valid comparison could be with the 1991 mid-year estimates, except that there is some doubt about the reliability of the adjustments made for under-counting in the 1991 Census that were incorporated into the 1991 mid-year estimates. ONS now say that the adjustments were too high in some areas, and have re-issued the mid-year estimates back to 1991 and will then extend this back as far as 1982 in the next few months.

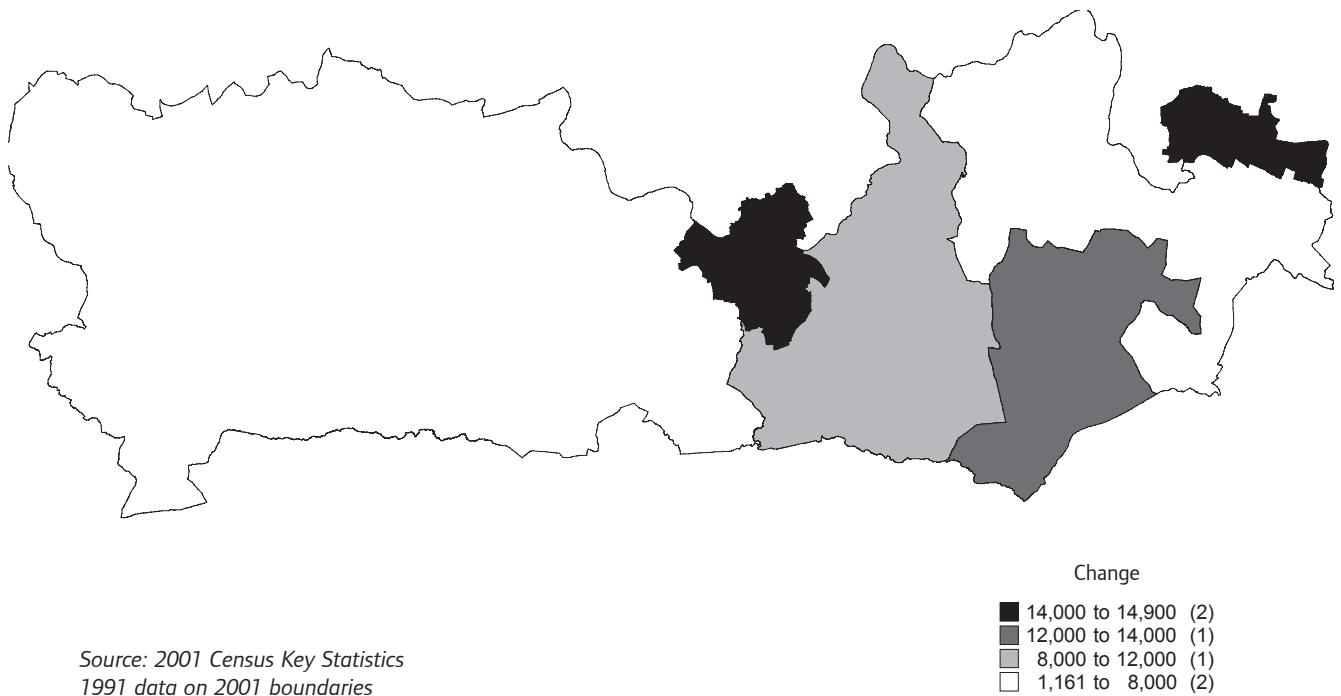
The best measure of change available ought to be obtained by comparing the 2001 Census figures with the revised 1991 mid-year estimates - but this will not lessen the shock of the 2001 Census figures to those areas which have seen the official estimates of their populations reduced dramatically and suddenly. The effects of this are not as large in Berkshire as in many other parts of the country, but the financial effects will still be felt in the areas with loss of population.

Table 6 Measures of population change

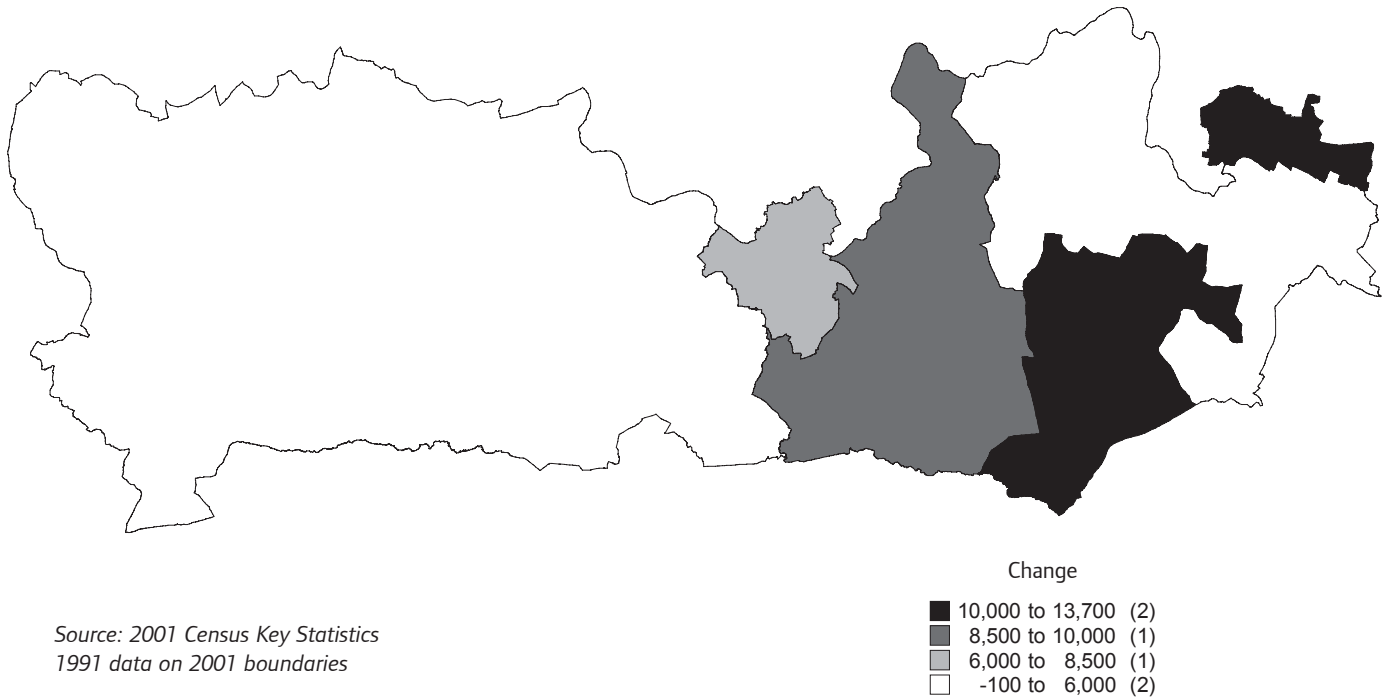
	2001 Census/ 1991 MYE (2001 bdys)	2001 Census/ 1991 Census (2001 bdys)	2001 Census/ 2000 MYE
Bracknell Forest	11,517	13,668	-1,483
Reading	8,296	14,219	-4,604
Slough	13,667	14,839	7,967
West Berkshire	5,683	7,783	183
Windsor and Maidenhead	-74	1,161	-8,974
Wokingham	9,129	11,040	4,229
Former county of Berkshire	48,218	62,710	-2,682

Source: 2001 Census, Key Statistics Table KS01, Office for National Statistics Mid-Year Estimates

Map 4 Population change between 1991 and 2001 Censuses

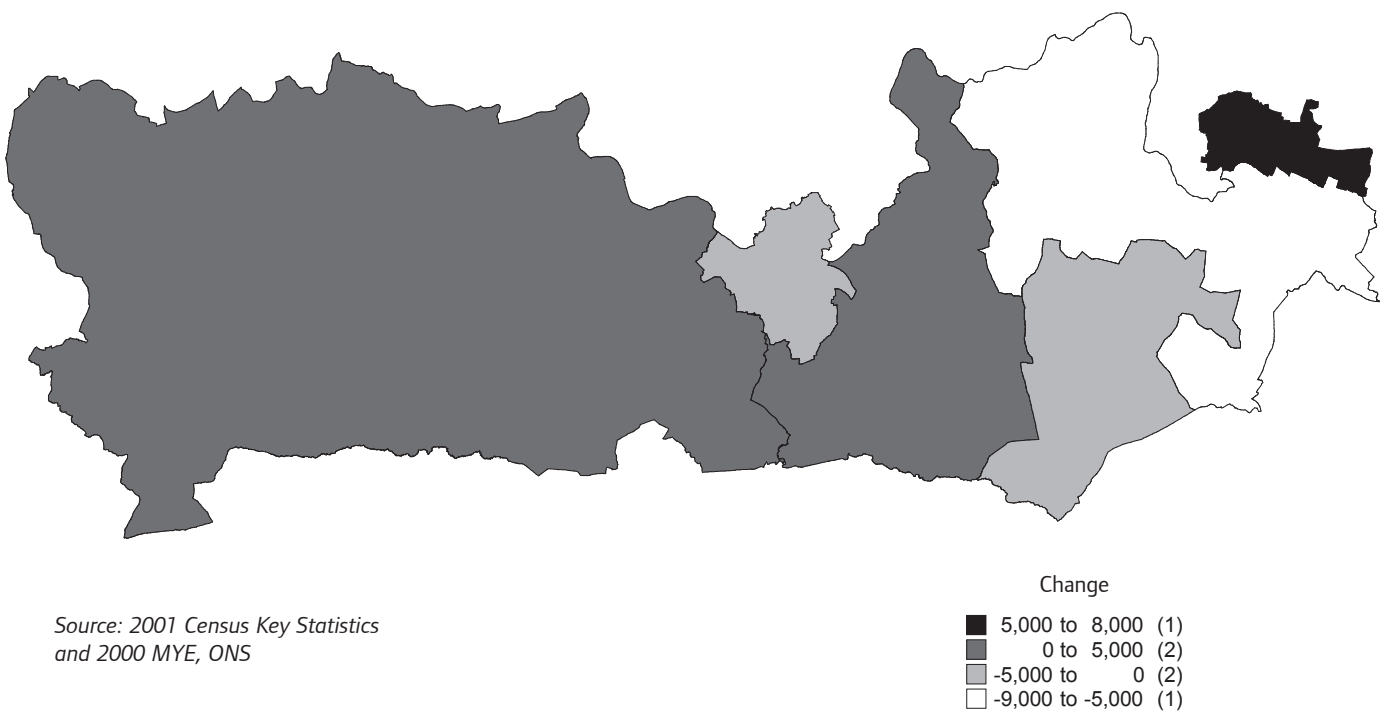


Map 5 Population change between 1991 mid-year estimate and 2001 Census



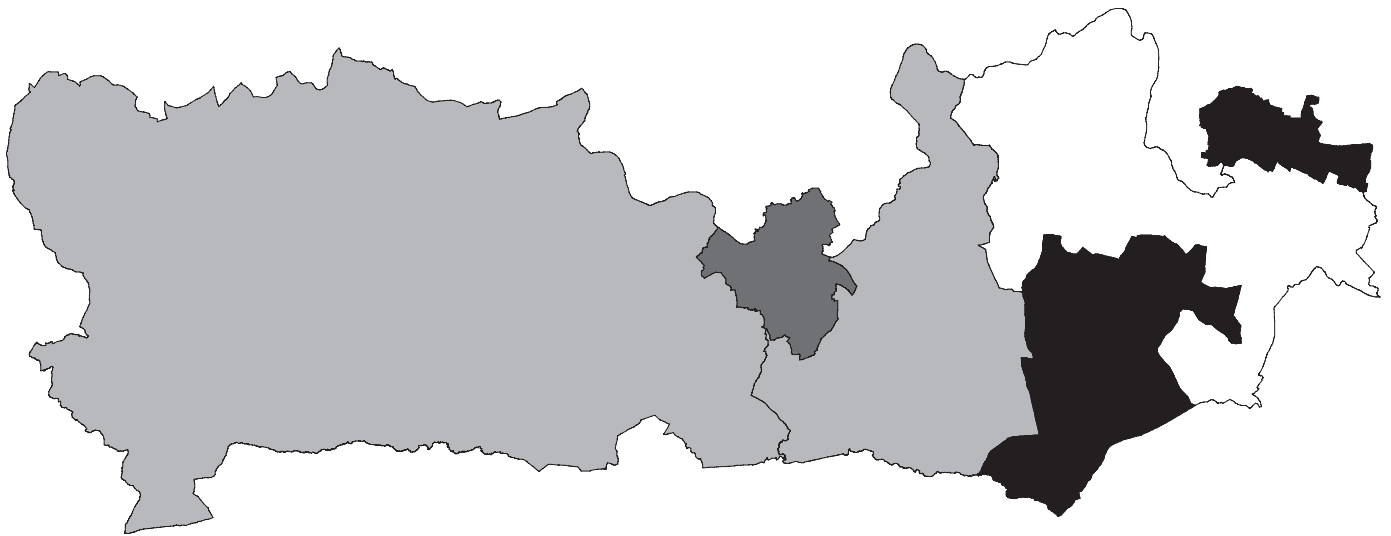
Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics
1991 data on 2001 boundaries

Map 6 Difference between 2000 Mid-Year Estimate and 2001 Censuses



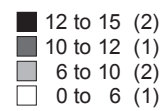
Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics
and 2000 MYE, ONS

Map 7 Percentage change between 1991 and 2001 Censuses

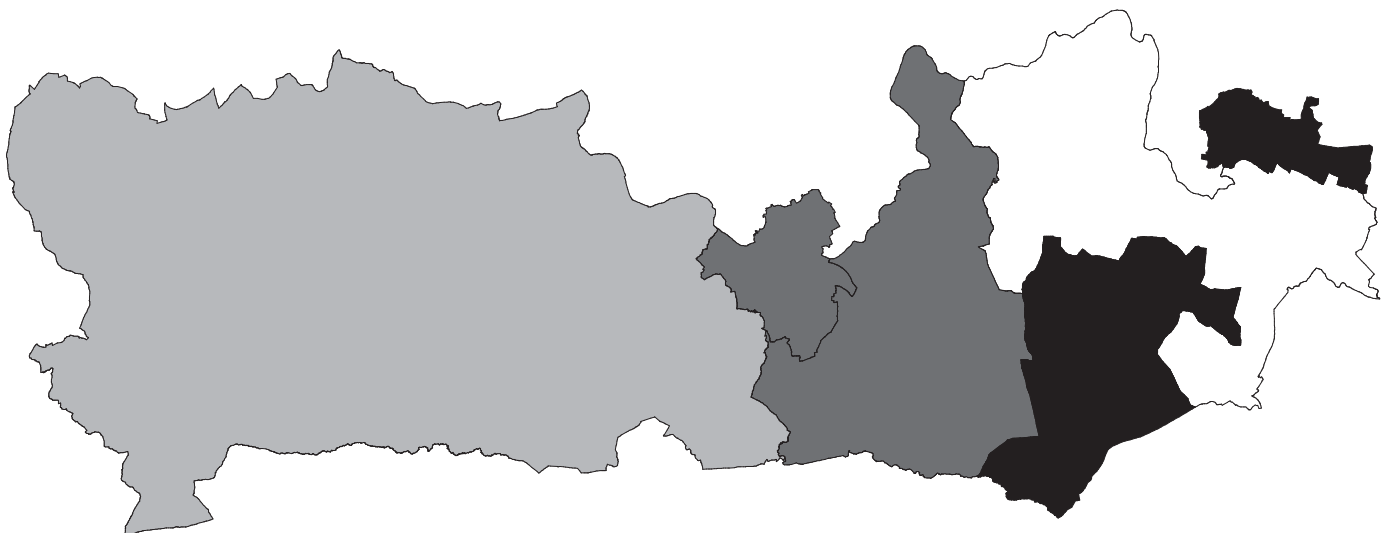


Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics
1991 data on 2001 boundaries

Percentage change



Map 8 Percentage change between 1991 mid-year estimates and 2001 Census



Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics
1991 data on 2001 boundaries

Percentage change

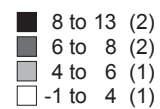


Table 7 Measures of percentage change

	2001 Census/ 1991 MYE (2001 bdys)	2001 Census/ 1991 Census (2001 bdys)	2001 Census/ 2000 MYE
Bracknell Forest	11.74	14.25	-1.33
Reading	6.15	11.03	-3.12
Slough	12.97	14.24	7.17
West Berkshire	4.09	5.69	0.13
Windsor and Maidenhead	-0.06	0.88	-6.29
Wokingham	6.47	7.93	2.90
Former county of Berkshire	6.41	8.50	-0.33

Source: 2001 Census, Key Statistics Table KS01, ONS Mid-Year Estimates

Map 9 Percentage difference between 2000 mid-year estimate and 2001 Census



Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics and 2000 MYE, ONS

Percentage change

- 3 to 8 (2)
- 0 to 3 (1)
- -4 to 0 (2)
- -7 to -4 (1)

Figure 1 Population change between the 1991 Census (using 2001 boundaries) and the 2001 Census

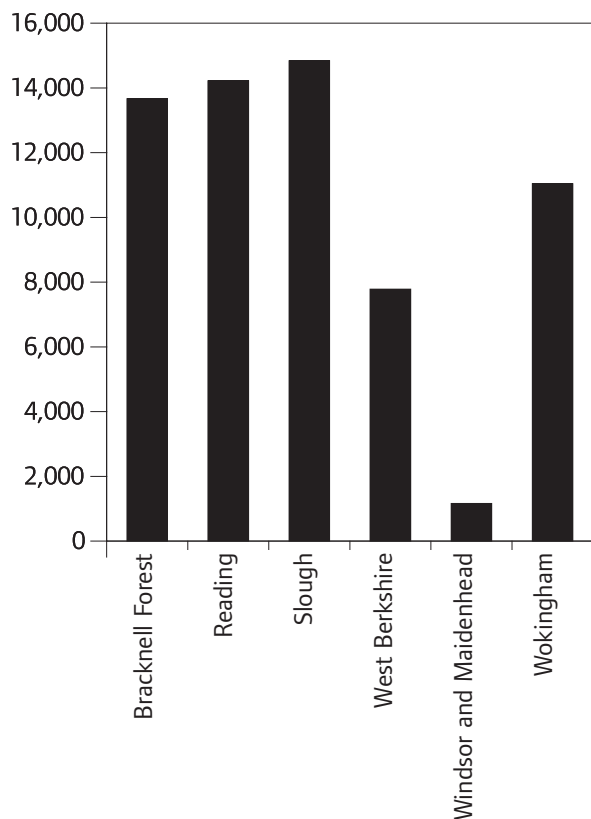


Figure 2 Population change between the 1991 mid-year estimates and the 2001 Census

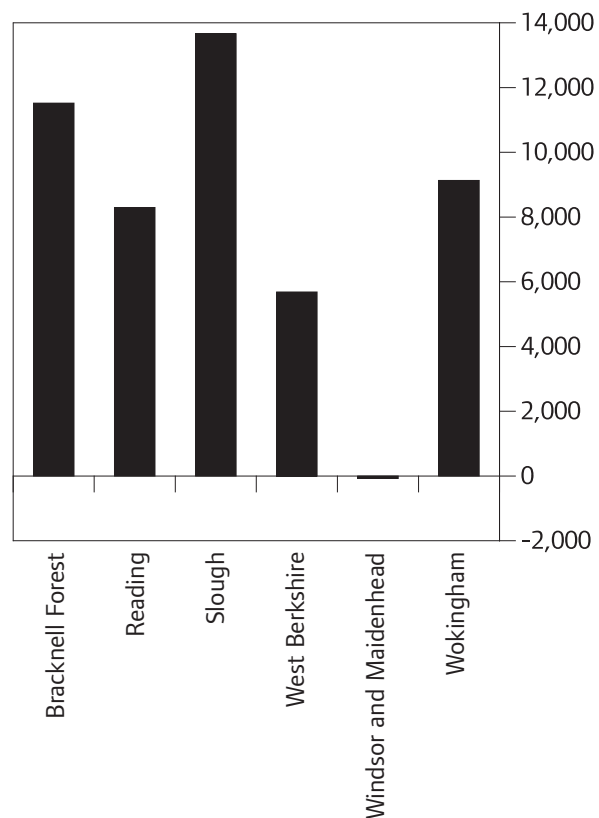


Figure 3 Population difference between the 2000 mid-year estimates and the 2001 Census

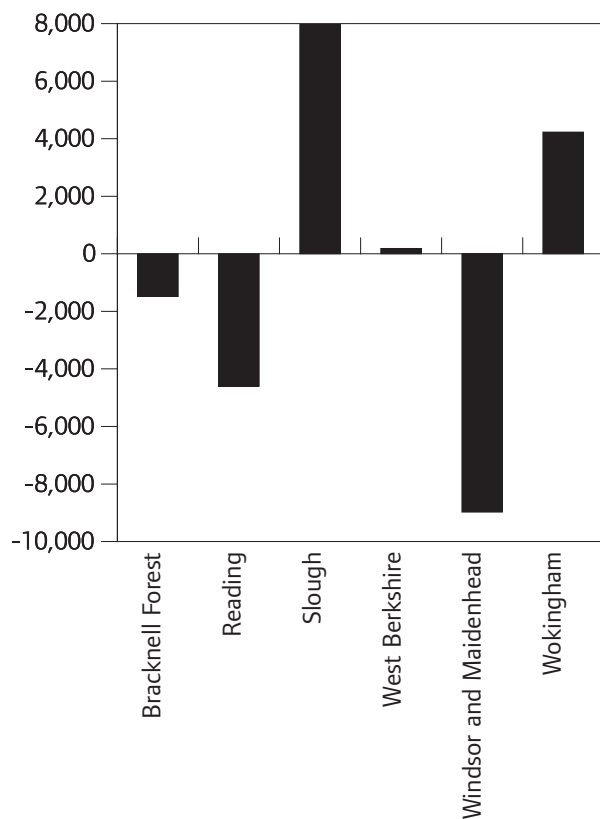


Figure 4 Percentage change between the 1991 Census (2001 boundaries) and the 2001 Census

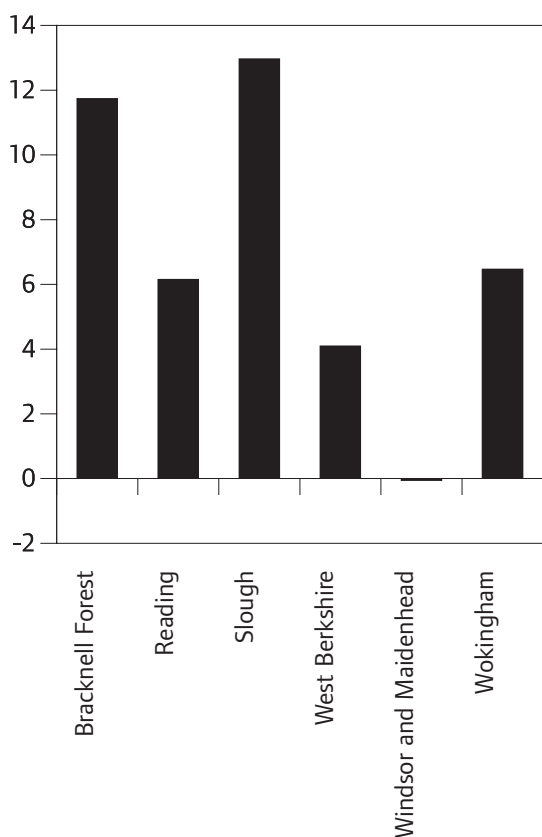


Figure 5 Percentage change between the 1991 mid-year estimates (2001 boundaries) and the 2001 Census

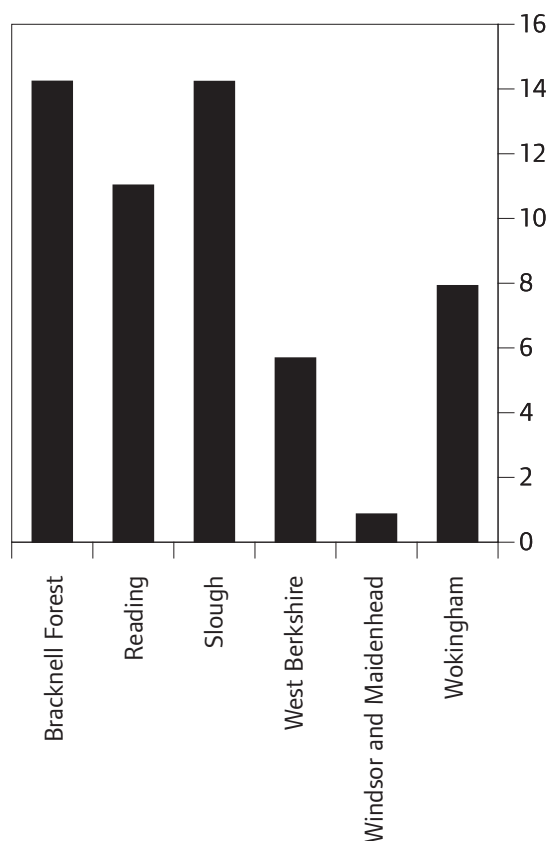
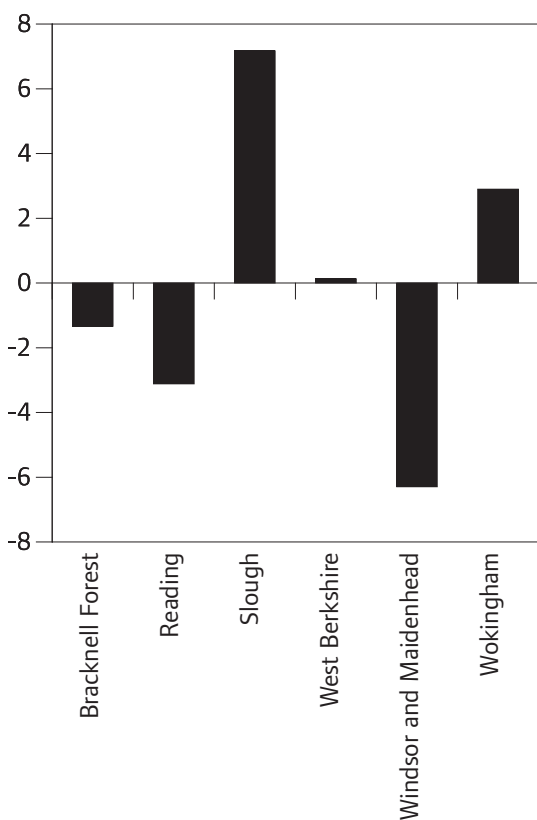


Figure 6 Percentage difference in population between the 2000 mid-year estimates and the 2001 Census



Density

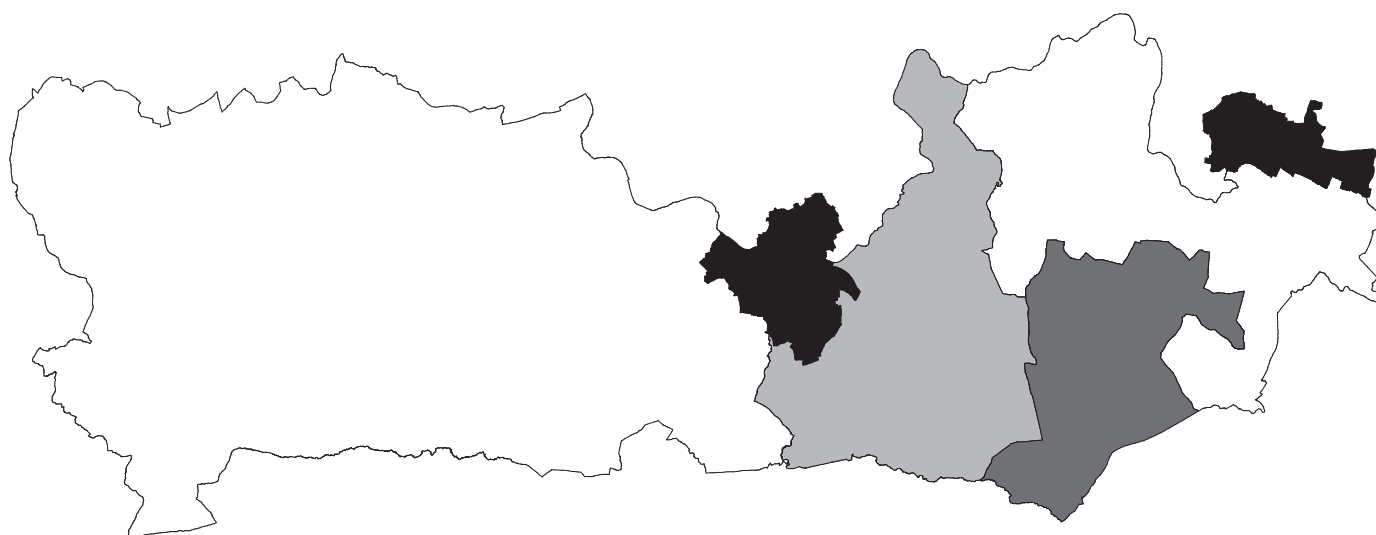
The 10 most densely populated local authority districts in the UK are all in Inner London, but Slough and Reading have the highest densities in Berkshire.

Table 8 Persons per hectare

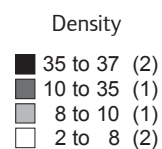
Bracknell Forest	10.02
Reading	35.42
Slough	36.60
West Berkshire	2.05
Windsor and Maidenhead	6.80
Wokingham	8.39
Former county of Berkshire	6.34
England	3.77

Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics, Table KS01

Map 10 Persons per hectare



Source: 2001 Census Key Statistics



Coverage

ONS have published response rates on their website. These are measures of the percentage of people estimated to have been included on a Census form. In England and Wales 94 per cent of people were included on a Census form. Of the remainder 4 per cent were thought to be from identified households and 2 per cent from wholly missed households.

These response rates are lower than we had expected, but there is more information available than anticipated at this stage. More work will be done looking at response rates by age and sex and a further briefing will be produced on this topic.

The figures for London could be regarded as another shock measure - with the lowest response rate being 64 per cent in Kensington and Chelsea. Havering had the highest response rate with 97 per cent of people included on a Census form.

Table 9 gives the response rates.

Table 9 Percentage of people included on a Census form

Area	%		
	Persons	Males	Females
Bracknell Forest	94.96	94.49	95.43
Reading	92.86	91.30	94.45
Slough	84.87	83.71	86.03
West Berkshire	97.12	96.70	97.63
Windsor and Maidenhead	96.44	95.92	96.95
Wokingham	95.02	94.35	95.68
Former county of Berkshire	94		

Source: ONS, 2001 Census Response Rate spreadsheet published 30 September 2002

Table 10 Summary - population from various sources

	1991					
	Census			Revised		
	1991	1991	2001	1991	2000	2001
	Census	Census	Census revised in	MYEs	MYEs	MYEs
	1995 bdys	1999 bdys	(2001 bdys)	Key Stats 2001 bdys		
Bracknell Forest	98,800	111,500	95,949	109,617	98,100	111,100
Reading	136,200	147,300	128,877	143,096	134,800	147,700
Slough	105,600	111,100	104,228	119,067	105,400	111,100
West Berkshire	139,300	144,600	136,700	144,483	138,800	144,300
Windsor and Maidenhead	134,200	141,200	132,465	133,626	133,700	142,600
Wokingham	142,000	144,800	139,189	150,229	141,100	150,354
Former county of Berkshire	756,200	756,200	737,408	800,118	751,900	802,800

Source: Office for National Statistics, General Register Office for Scotland and Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. © Crown Copyright 2001. All extracts from ONS data are Crown Copyright and are reproduced by permission.

Berkshire Census Briefings

The following briefings have been produced by the Greater London Authority for the Joint Strategic Planning Unit and the Berkshire Unitary Authorities. They are in addition to the briefings, including the Census Information Notes, produced for the consortium of the Greater London Authority, Transport for London, the Metropolitan Police Authority and Service, the London Development Agency, the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, the 33 London Boroughs and the Joint Strategic Planning Unit and the Berkshire Unitary Authorities.

Published

Berkshire Census Briefing 2003-1	2001 Census: First population statistics
Berkshire Census Briefing 2003-2	2001 Census Key Statistics: Initial summary of results
Berkshire Census Briefing 2003-3	2001 Census Key Statistics: Household variables
Berkshire Census Briefing 2003-4	2001 Census: Response rates for Unitary Authorities in Berkshire

Forthcoming

Means of travel to work
Cultural variables
Housing issues
Labour market statistics
Families and households

Further topics to be added as more data is published.

For further details please contact Bryan Lyttle at the address listed inside the front cover.

Unitary authorities in Berkshire

