

## Solihull Population Estimate 2023

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) estimates that Solihull's resident population was 218,793 in mid-2023. This represents a five-year increase of 3,892 (1.8%) since 2018 and a one-year increase of 1,009 (0.5%) since 2022.

The ONS estimates that there are 112,382 female Solihull residents and 106,411 male.

This note uses this ONS mid-year estimate to compare the Solihull population to that of England and the West Midlands and how the Solihull population has changed over recent years. Sub-borough population data relating to the 17 Solihull wards is taken from the ONS sub-borough estimates for the year 2022.

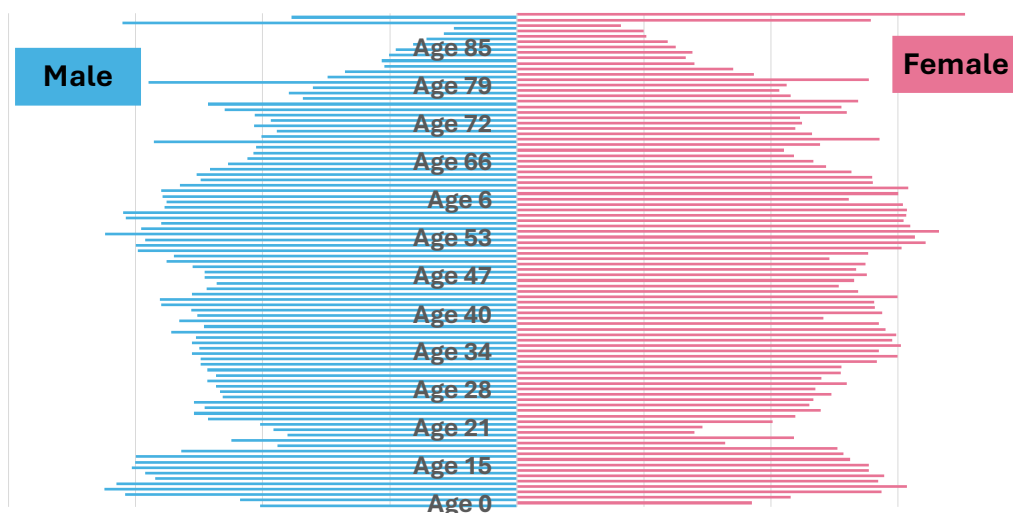
### Age Structure

The chart below is an age pyramid of Solihull's population. Each line in the pyramid represents a single year of age in the population. The size and make-up of the population is determined by births, deaths and migration that have taken place in previous years.

Some Key points from the pyramid are:

- An increase in the number of children aged 6 through to 16 years.
- The number of residents reduces sharply during the ages 18-22, most likely caused by students leaving to go to university.
- Substantial spikes in the population are evident for both females and males in their late 40s to mid-50s.
- A further spike is evident among both males and females in their mid-70s.

### Solihull Mid-Year 2023 Population



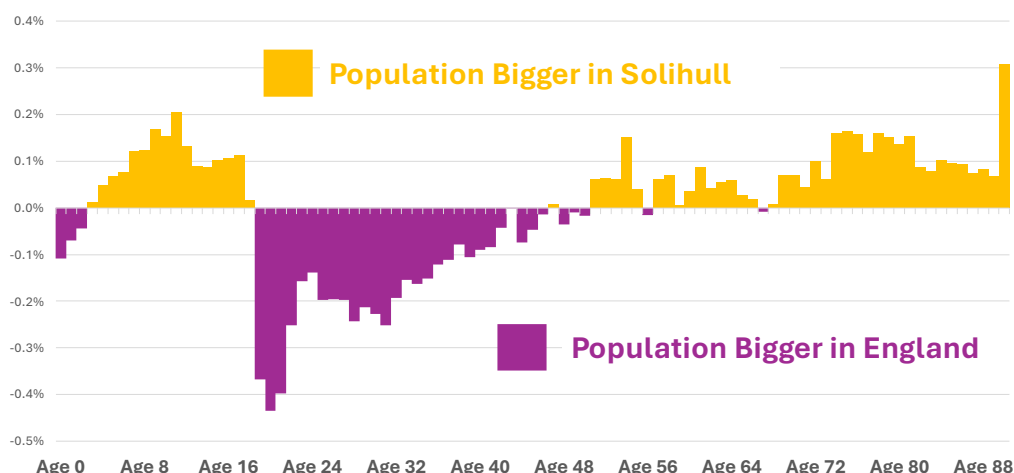
As the table below shows compared with both England and the West Midlands region Solihull has a relatively high proportion of older people aged 65+ (21.3%). The proportion of Solihull children aged 0-15 years is higher than England, but in-line with the West Midlands average, whereas the working age population is lower than the national and regional average.

Population by Broad Age Group 2023						
	Solihull		England		West Midlands	
	Count	% Total	Count	% Total	Count	% Total
Aged 0- 15	42,935	19.6%	10,648,350	18.5%	1,176,804	19.3%
Aged 16-64	129,321	59.1%	36,258,886	62.9%	3,757,887	61.7%
Aged 65+	46,537	21.3%	10,783,087	18.7%	1,150,996	18.9%
All People	218,793		57,690,323		6,085,687	
Source: ONS Mid-2023 population estimates						

The chart below shows the Solihull population relative to the England average by single year.

- Solihull has a below England average among those under 3 years old and among all ages from 19 to 50 years.
- These population deficits are particularly evident among those aged 19-22 years (students) and among those aged 28 to 31 years.
- Solihull has an above average population among almost all years aged 51 and over.
- The above average Solihull population is particularly evident from ages 72 through to 81 years.

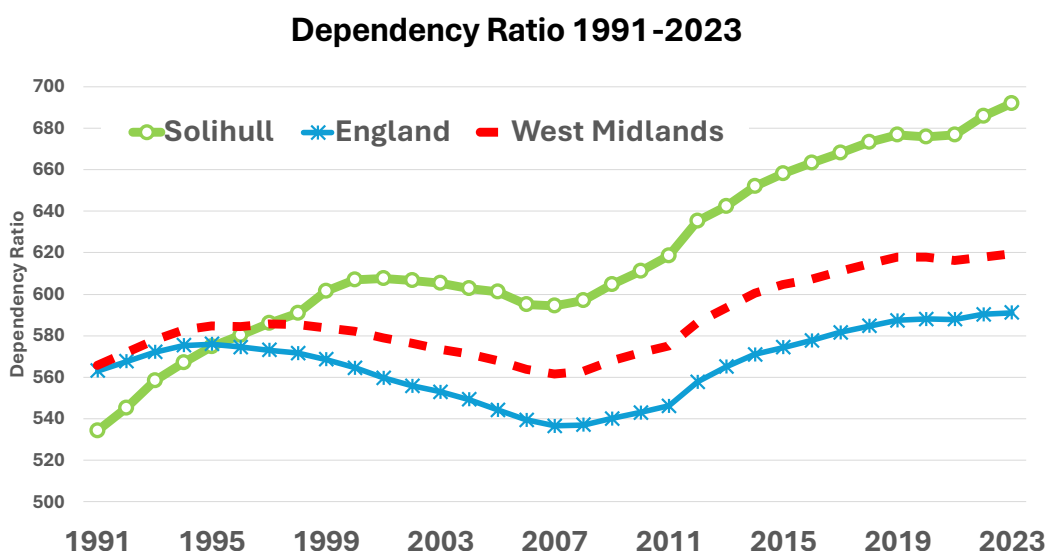
### Solihull Population Relative to England Average



The dependency ratio summarises the age distribution of a population. It compares the number of dependents (children and pensioners) with the working age population and is expressed per thousand population.

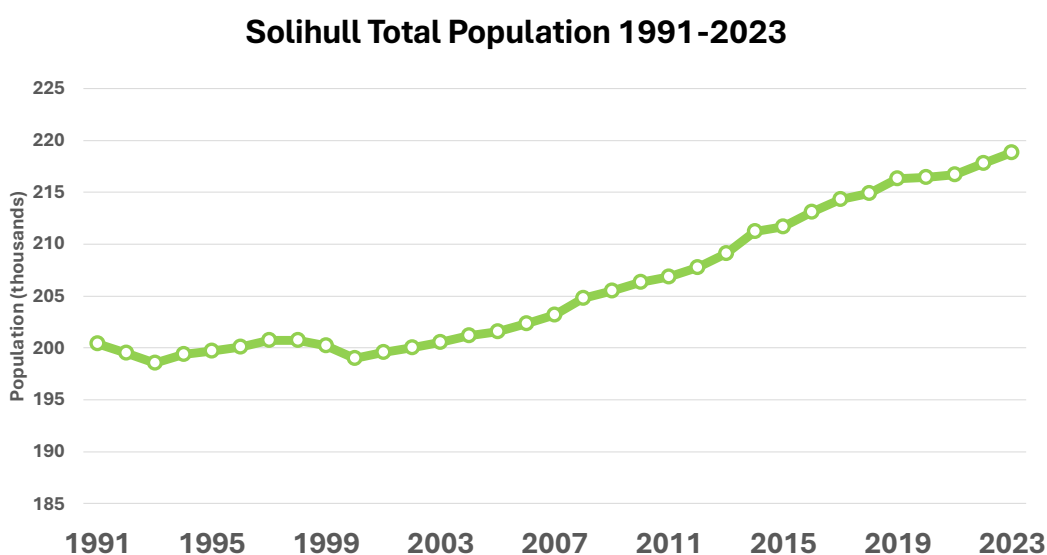
- In 2023 the dependency ratio in Solihull was, at 692 per 1,000, 17% greater than the England average (591 per 1,000) and 12% greater than that for the West Midlands (619 per 1,000).
- Solihull's dependency ratio has been above the England average since the mid-1990s. The gap between Solihull and England has increased steadily over the last 20 years and is now higher than at any point since data became available in 1991.
- The Solihull dependency ratio has been rising consistently over the last 15 years, with a total increase of 16% between 2008 and 2023. This increase in Solihull is consistent with,

albeit more pronounced than those recorded across the West Midlands (+10%) and England (+10%) over this period.



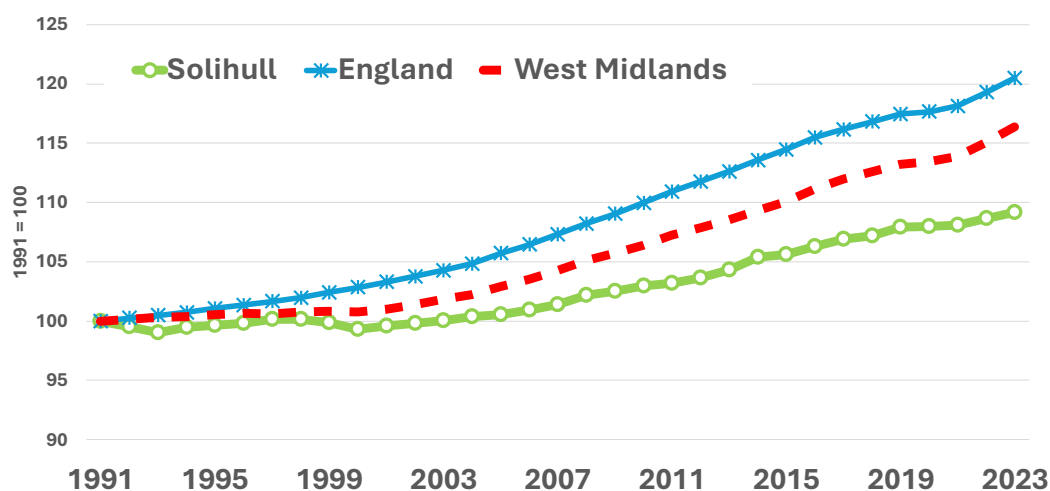
## Population Change

Despite some fluctuations resulting in small spikes in the late 1980s and late 1990s the Solihull population was virtually unchanged between 1981 and 2000. Solihull's population has increased in every year since 2000.



Population growth in Solihull has been lower than that for England or the West Midlands. Between 2000 and 2023 the Solihull population grew by 9.9% (+19,780 people) compared to increases of 17% for England and 15.5% for the West Midlands.

## Total Population Index 1991-2023



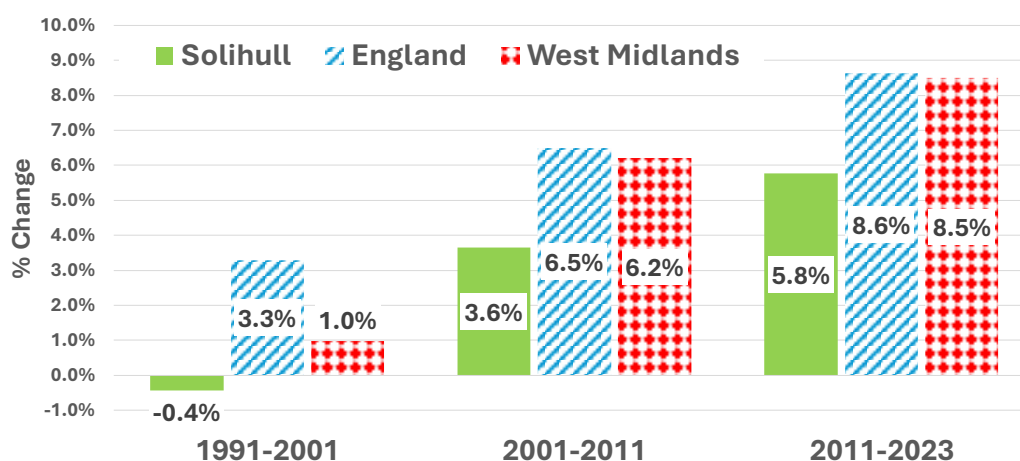
Dividing the years 1991 to 2023 into of 3 periods (one period of 10 years, two periods of 11 years) shows that population growth in Solihull has accelerated from -0.4% in the 10-years 1991-2001 to +5.3% between 2012 and 2023.

In each of these periods population growth in Solihull has been lower than both the England and West Midlands averages. However, the difference between the growth rates recorded in Solihull and the benchmarks has narrowed over time.

Population Change 1991-2023 by Time Period				
Time Period	Change in Solihull	% Change		
		Solihull	England	West
1991-2001	-858	-0.4%	3.3%	1.0%
2001-2012	+8,155	4.1%	8.2%	6.8%
2012-2023	+11,064	5.3%	7.8%	7.9%

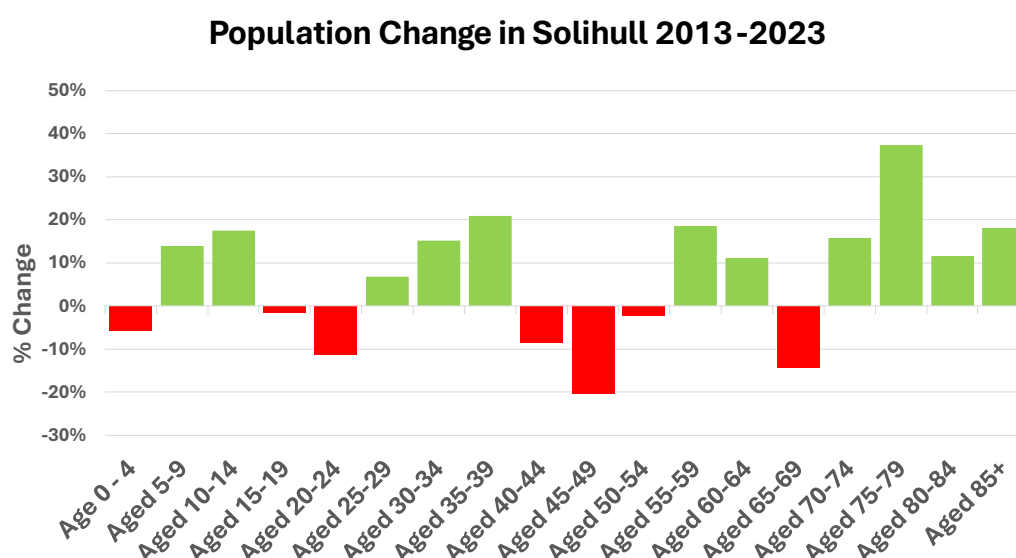
*Source: ONS mid-year population estimates*

## Population Change



The chart below (and the table in appendix 3) shows the population Change in Solihull over the last 10 year for five year age groups.

- Population increases are evident across the age spectrum. Notable increases from a service delivery perspective include the rise in the number of school children aged 5-14 years (+3,902, +16%) and, at the other end of the spectrum, a rise in the number of residents aged 70-79 years (+4,368, +36%).
- The number of Solihull residents aged 85 and over increased by 18% (+1,083 people).
- There was a significant fall in the number of 15-24 years olds over this period, most notably among those aged 20-24 years (-1,278, -11%).
- There was a substantial fall in the number of 40-49 year olds over this period, most notably among those aged 45-49 years (-3,288, -20%).

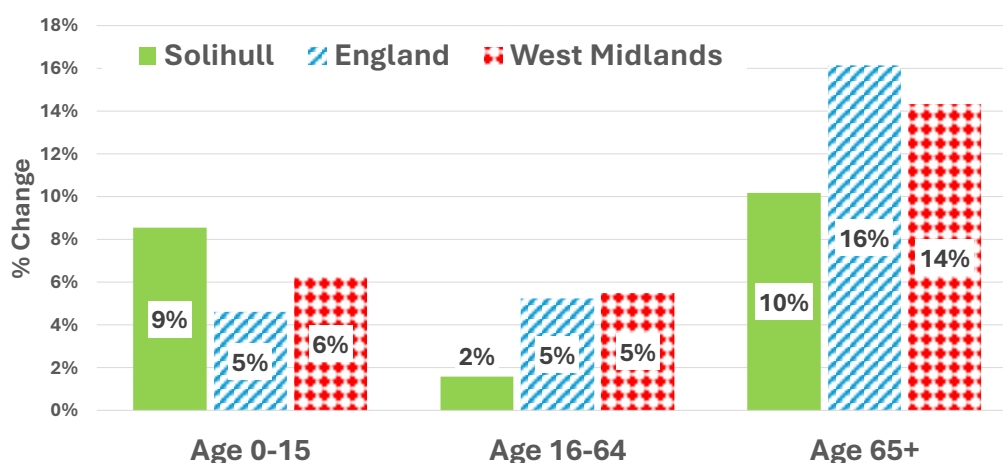


In the 10-years 2013-2023 the number of Solihull children aged 0-15 years increased by more than the England or West Midlands averages (8.6% Solihull; 4.6% England; 6.2% West Midlands). By contrast, the Solihull working age population only grew by 1.6% much slower than England (+5.2%) or the West Midlands (+5.5%).

The fastest growing section of the Solihull population were those aged 65 and over, with the number of residents increasing by 10.2% (+4,297) in the 10 years to 2023. However, growth among those aged 65+ in Solihull was lower than the England (16.1%) or West Midlands (14.3%) averages.

	Population Change 2013-2023			
	Change in Solihull	% Change		
		Solihull	England	West Midlands
All Ages	9,678	4.6%	7.0%	7.2%
Children (0-15 years)	3,384	8.6%	4.6%	6.2%
Working Age (16-64)	1,997	1.6%	5.2%	5.5%
Older People (65+)	4,297	10.2%	16.1%	14.3%
Source: ONS Mid-2023 population estimates				

## Population Change 2013-2023



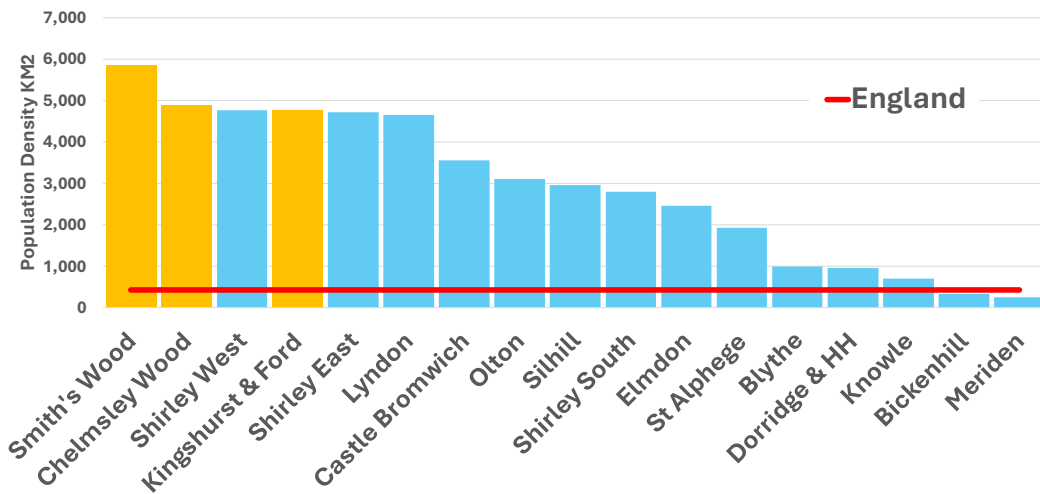
### Solihull Wards

The ONS produces sub-borough mid-year population statistics for a range of small area geographies. In Solihull this comprises the 17 wards, 29 Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs) and the 134 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs). The latest data available for the sub-borough geographies is from 2022, except for the population density data, which is from the 2021 census.

18% of the Solihull population live in the three North Solihull wards of Chelmsley Wood, Kingshurst & Fordbridge and Smith's Wood (39,409 people) and 82% in the rest of the Borough (178,269 people). Three of the four most densely populated Solihull wards are in North Solihull, with parts of Shirley Lyndon, Olton, Castle Bromwich and Silhill also highly urbanised.

Solihull Ward Population Density 2021		
Ward	Population	Population Density
Smith's Wood	12,987	5,845.9
Chelmsley Wood	13,278	4,876.6
Shirley West	13,037	4,764.5
Kingshurst & Fordbridge	13,324	4,763.2
Shirley East	12,017	4,714.4
Lyndon	13,871	4,649.7
Castle Bromwich	11,461	3,563.5
Olton	12,330	3,099.6
Silhill	12,559	2,965.3
Shirley South	12,244	2,806.5
Elmdon	12,322	2,460.7
St Alphege	13,256	1,931.5
Blythe	15,611	992.6
Dorridge & Hockley Heath	11,068	960.8
Knowle	11,150	696.0
Bickenhill	13,010	328.7
Meriden	12,705	245.4
Source: ONS Census 2021		

## Ward Population Density 2021



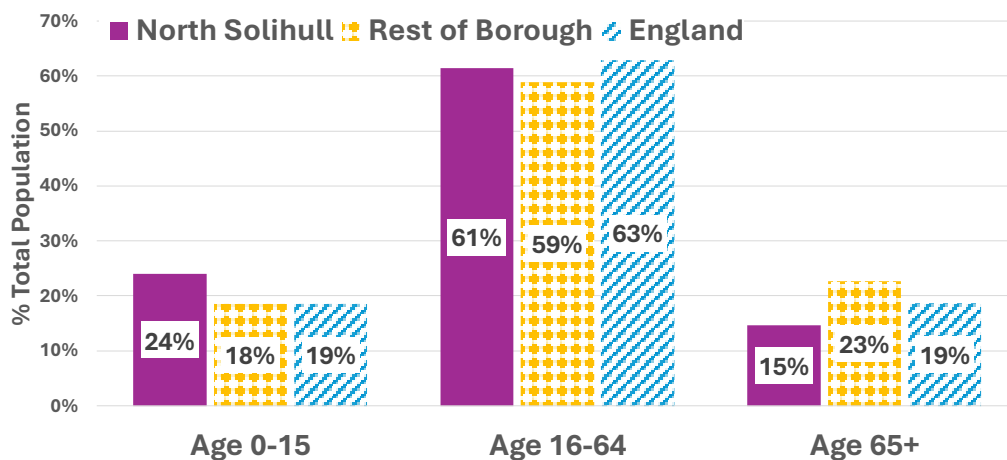
The North Solihull population is notably younger than the rest of the borough, with a higher proportion of the population aged 0-15 years (24% vs 18% rest of borough) and fewer aged 65 and over (15% vs 23% rest of borough).

The three north Solihull wards also have a younger age profile than England as a whole.

Population by Age Group 2022				
Age Group	North Solihull	Rest of Borough	Solihull	England
Aged 0-15	24%	18%	19%	19%
Aged 16-64	61%	59%	59%	63%
Aged 65+	15%	23%	21%	19%

Source: ONS Census 2022

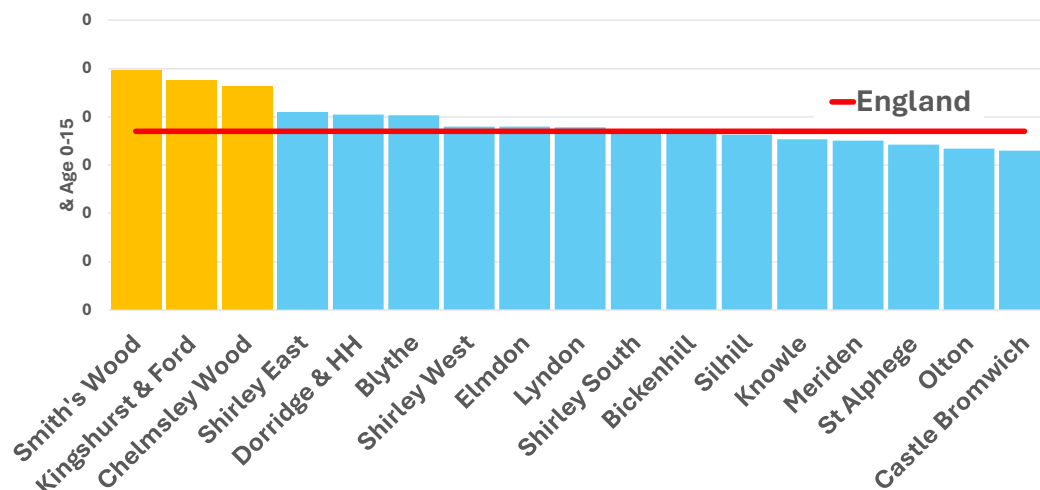
## Population 2022



The three north Solihull wards have the highest proportion of children aged 0-15 years in the borough – with a considerable gap between Smith’s Wood (24.9%) and Shirley East (20.4%, the ward with the 4<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of children in Solihull).

At the other end of the spectrum, relatively few children live in St Alphege (17.1% of total), Olton (16.7%) and Castle Bromwich (16.5%).

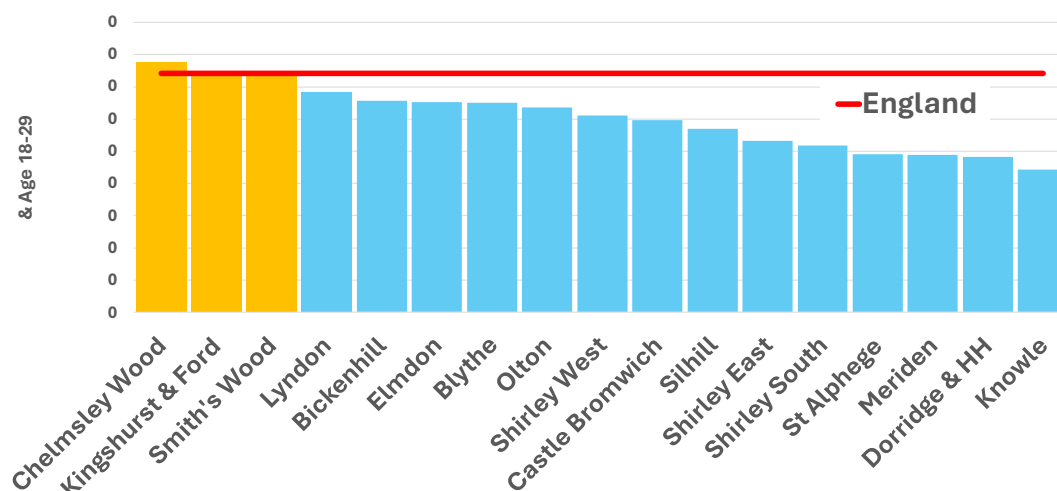
### Population of Children Aged 0-15 Years 2022



A similar pattern is evident in relation to young adults aged 18-29 years. The three north Solihull wards have the highest proportion of young adults in Solihull (Chelmsley Wood 15.5%; Kingshurst & Fordbridge 14.9%; Smith’s Wood 14.9%).

At the other end of the spectrum relatively few young adults live in Meriden (9.8% of total), Dorridge & Hockley Heath (9.6%) or Knowle (8.9%).

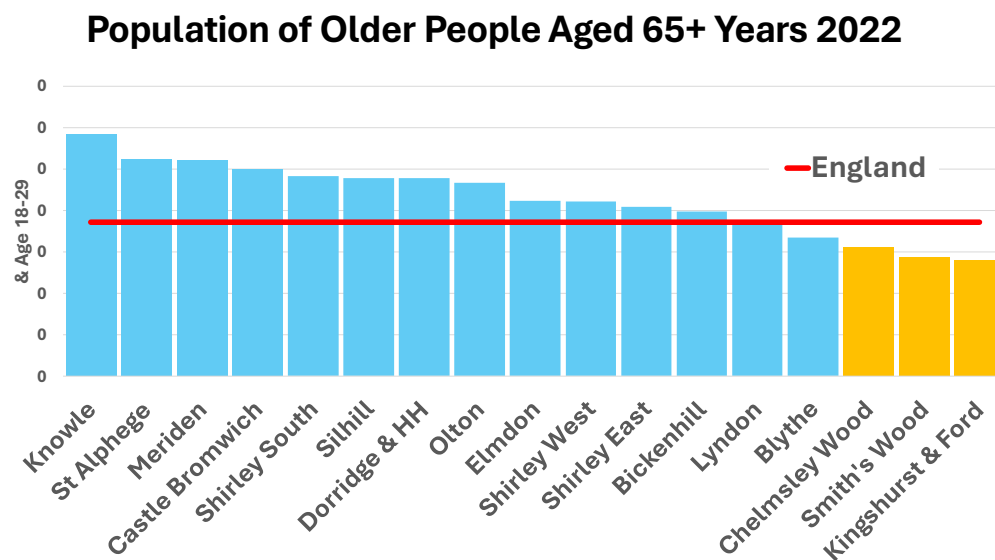
### Population of Young Adults Aged 18-29 Years 2022





Knowle has by far the largest proportion of people aged 65 and over living in the ward (29.3% of total) with relatively high rates also evident in St Alphege (26.2%) and Meriden (26.1%).

The fewest number of older people aged 65+ live in the three north Solihull wards (Chelmsley Wood 15.5%; Smith's Wood 14.4%; Kingshurst & Fordbridge 14%). Although it should be noted that these three as well as Blythe are the only four wards in Solihull with a lower 65+ population than England.



## Appendix 1

### How Are Population Estimates Calculated

The basis for population statistics is the Census, which is carried out every 10 years. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) produces population estimates annually during the period between Censuses. Estimates are produced for each local authority. They show the composition of the population by age and sex. They relate to the position at the end of June, and so are termed Mid-Year.

The resident population of an area includes all people who usually live there, whatever their nationality. However, short-term residents are not included. A student is counted as resident at their term-time address. The population estimates are produced by the 'cohort component' method. This takes the population at the previous mid-year and adds a year to the age of each resident. The new population is estimated by:

- Adding births during the year.
- Subtracting the number of residents who died during the year.
- Adding in-migrants into the area and deducting out-migrants.

Data on births and deaths are basically reliable. There is no system for recording migration. Migration within the UK is estimated using data from registrations with NHS General Practitioners. It is believed that some groups, such as young men, are likely to delay re-registering after a change of address. This may affect university cities, where students may remain on a GP's register after leaving the area. Data on international migration is calculated using the International Passenger Survey (ISP). These estimates are supplemented by administration sources. Migration statistics are the least reliable component of population estimates.

## Appendix 2

### Solihull Population by Age Group 2023

	Solihull Population by 5 Year Age Group 2023				
	Number			% Total	
	Total	Male	Female	Male	Female
All People	218,793	106,411	112,382		
Age 0 - 4	11,265	5,769	5,496	5.4%	4.9%
Aged 5-9	13,922	7,182	6,740	6.7%	6.0%
Aged 10-14	14,846	7,624	7,222	7.2%	6.4%
Aged 15-19	12,846	6,780	6,066	6.4%	5.4%
Aged 20-24	10,087	5,358	4,729	5.0%	4.2%
Aged 25-29	12,039	6,010	6,029	5.6%	5.4%
Aged 30-34	13,058	6,168	6,890	5.8%	6.1%
Aged 35-39	13,743	6,384	7,359	6.0%	6.5%
Aged 40-44	13,711	6,620	7,091	6.2%	6.3%
Aged 45-49	12,809	6,133	6,676	5.8%	5.9%
Aged 50-54	15,152	7,420	7,732	7.0%	6.9%
Aged 55-59	15,004	7,350	7,654	6.9%	6.8%
Aged 60-64	13,744	6,619	7,155	6.2%	6.4%
Aged 65-69	11,184	5,465	5,719	5.1%	5.1%
Aged 70-74	10,772	4,983	5,789	4.7%	5.2%
Aged 75-79	10,700	4,909	5,791	4.6%	5.2%
Aged 80-84	6,817	2,976	3,841	2.8%	3.4%
Aged 85+	7,064	2,661	4,403	2.5%	3.9%
Broad Age Groups					
Aged 0 to 15	42,935	22,091	20,844	20.8%	18.5%
Aged 16 to 64	129,321	63,326	65,995	59.5%	58.7%
Aged 65+	46,537	20,994	25,543	19.7%	22.7%
All People	218,793	106,411	112,382		
Source: ONS Mid-2023 Population Estimates					

## Appendix 3

### Solihull Population Growth by Age Group 2013-2023

	10-Year Population Growth by Age Band			
	Change in Number Solihull	% Change 2013-2023		
		Solihull	England	West Midlands
Aged 0-4	-699	-5.8%	-9.8%	-7.1%
Aged 5 - 9	1,695	13.9%	5.1%	6.6%
Aged 10 - 14	2,207	17.5%	18.8%	19.3%
Aged 15 - 19	-216	-1.7%	4.4%	4.3%
Aged 20 - 24	-1,278	-11.2%	-4.7%	-4.5%
Aged 25 - 29	759	6.7%	3.3%	4.0%
Aged 30 - 34	1,710	15.1%	8.5%	13.0%
Aged 35 - 39	2,380	20.9%	16.2%	20.5%
Aged 40 - 44	-1,274	-8.5%	-0.8%	-2.9%
Aged 45 - 49	-3,288	-20.4%	-12.9%	-15.0%
Aged 50 - 54	-335	-2.2%	5.0%	6.5%
Aged 55 - 59	2,351	18.6%	24.0%	23.6%
Aged 60 - 64	1,369	11.0%	18.2%	14.7%
Aged 65 - 69	-1,861	-14.3%	-1.0%	-3.0%
Aged 70 - 74	1,462	15.7%	23.2%	17.7%
Aged 75 - 79	2,906	37.3%	37.3%	33.2%
Aged 80 - 84	707	11.6%	13.9%	16.5%
Aged 85+	1,083	18.1%	17.3%	19.9%
All Ages	9,678	4.6%	7.0%	7.2%
Source: ONS Mid-year population estimates				