

## Solihull Population Estimate 2024

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) estimates that Solihull's resident population was 221,242 in mid-2024. This represents a five-year increase of 4,919 (2.3%) since 2019 and a one-year increase of 1,532 (0.7%) since 2023.

The ONS estimates that there are 113,739 female Solihull residents and 107,503 male.

This note uses this ONS mid-year estimate to compare the Solihull population to that of England and the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) 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.

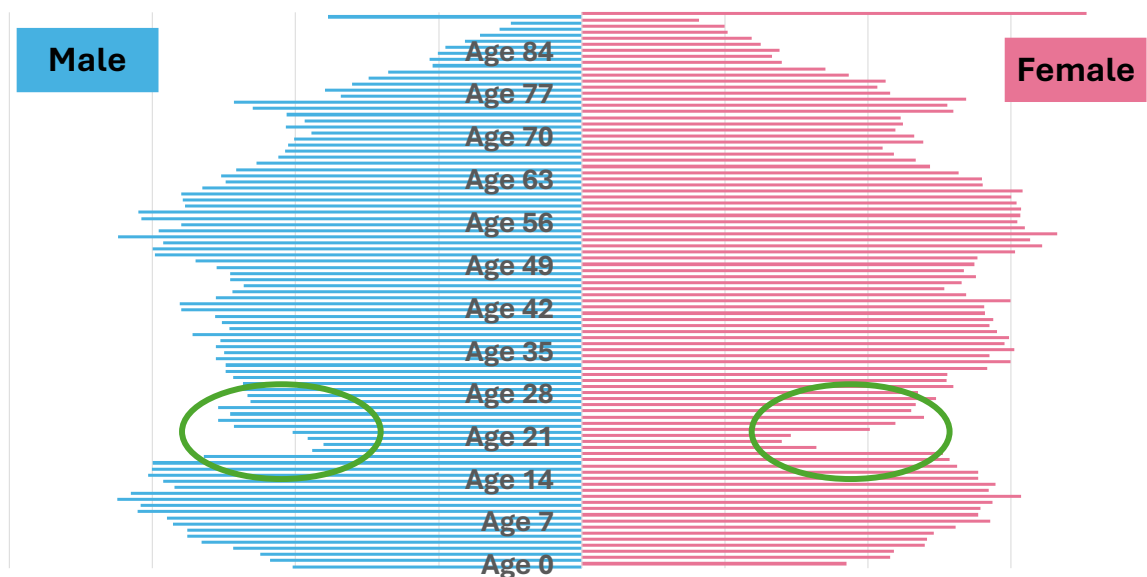
### Age Structure

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:

- Higher numbers of children aged 7 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 2024 Population

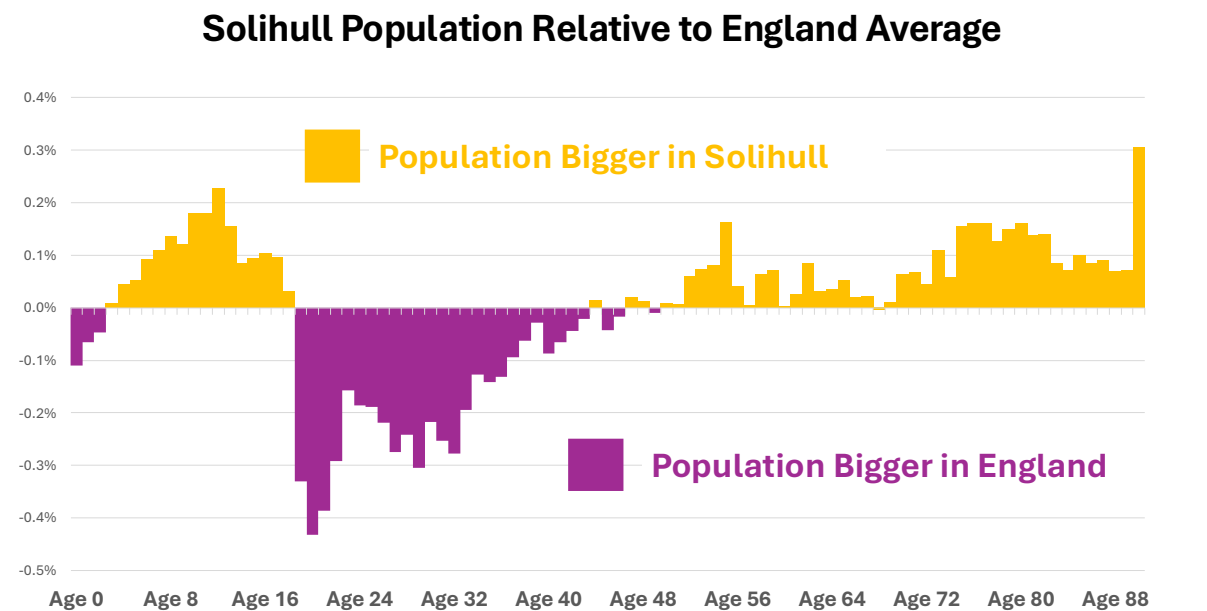


As the table below shows compared with both England and the WMCA Solihull has a relatively high proportion of older people aged 65+ (21.3%). The proportion of Solihull children aged 0-15 years is higher than England, but lower than that of the WMCA, whereas the working age population is lower than the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

	Population by Broad Age Group 2024					
	Solihull		England		WMCA	
	Count	% Total	Count	% Total	Count	% Total
Aged 0- 15	43,444	19.6%	10,768,248	18.4%	643,336	21.2%
Aged 16-64	130,773	59.1%	36,870,761	62.9%	1,926,526	63.4%
Aged 65+	47,025	21.3%	10,981,092	18.7%	466,743	15.4%
All People	221,242		58,620,101		3,036,605	
Source: ONS Mid-2024 population estimates						

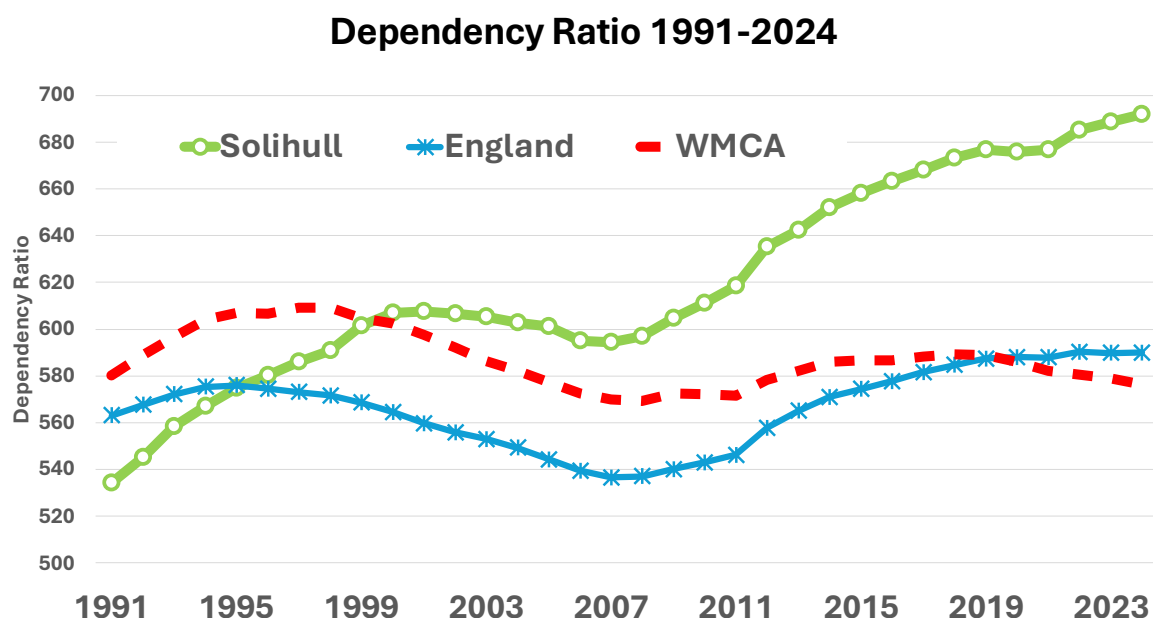
The chart below shows the Solihull population relative to the England average by single year.

- Solihull has a below England average among those under 3 years old and among all ages from 19 to 49 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 children aged 4 through to 18 years and then amongst all years aged 50 and over.
- The above average Solihull population is particularly evident among children aged 10-13 years and then again from ages 75 through to 82 years.



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.

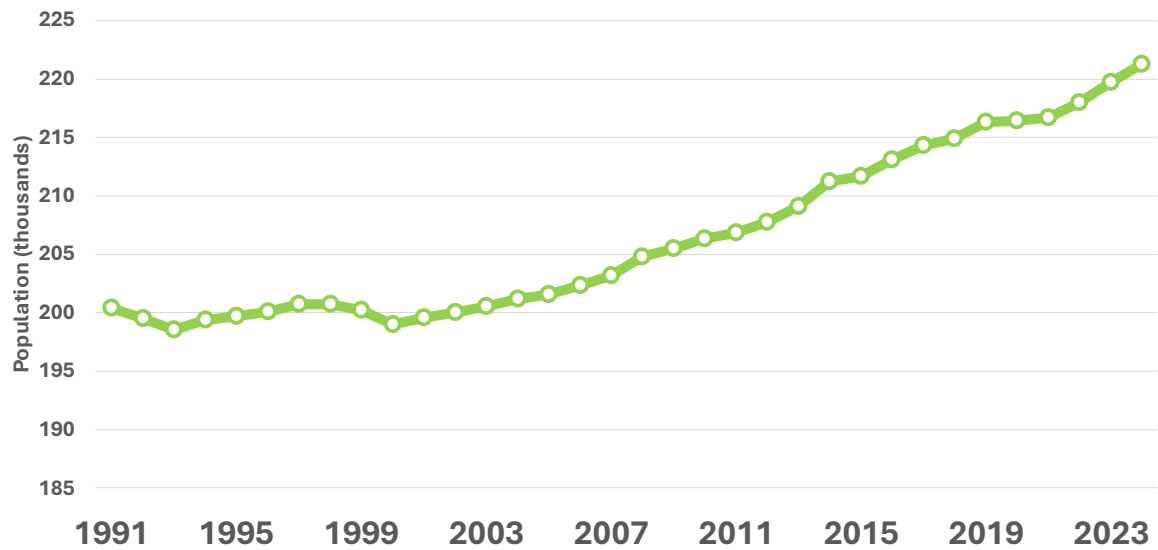
- In 2024 the dependency ratio in Solihull was, at 692 per 1,000, 17% greater than the England average (590 per 1,000) and 20% greater than that for the WMCA (676 per 1,000).
- Solihull's dependency ratio has been above the England average since the mid-1990s. The gap between Solihull and England has 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 2024. This increase in Solihull is more pronounced than that for England (+10%) and is markedly different from the negligible increase recorded across the WMCA (+1%) over this period.



## Population Change

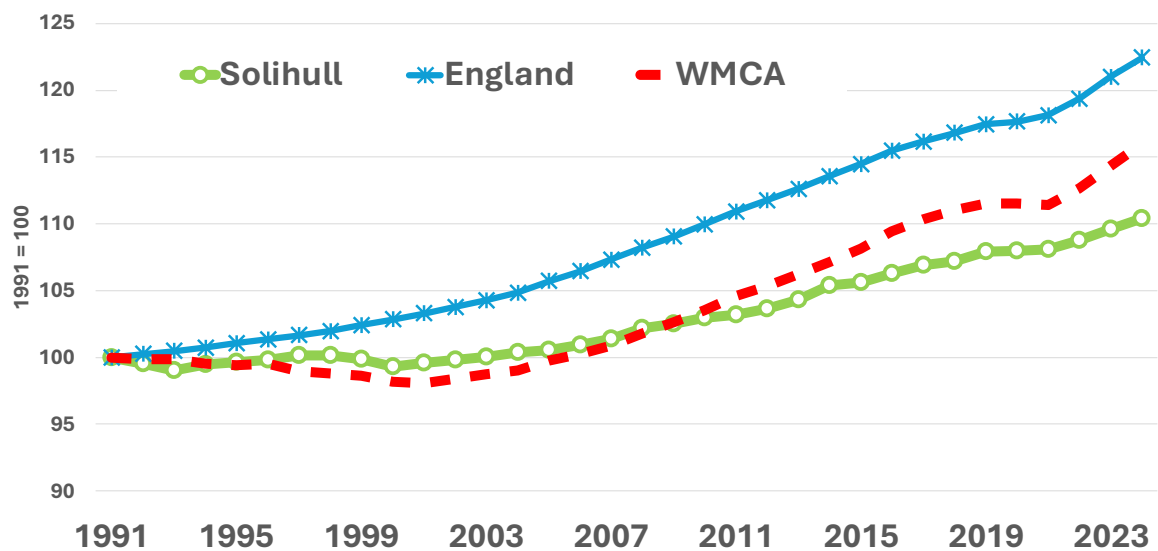
Despite some fluctuations resulting in small spikes in the late 1980s and late 1990s the Solihull population was virtually unchanged between 1981 and 2000. Solihull's population has increased in every year since 2000.

## Solihull Total Population 1991-2024



Population growth in Solihull has been lower than that for England or the West Midlands. Between 2000 and 2024 the Solihull population grew by 10% (+20,800 people) compared to increases of 22% for England and 16% for the WMCA.

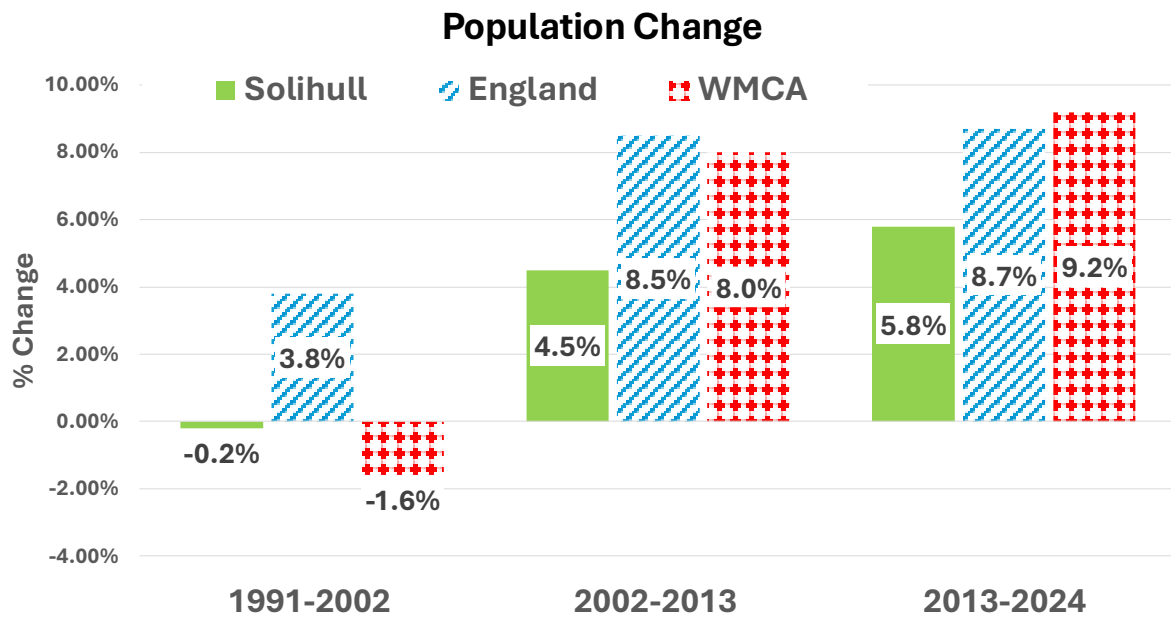
## Total Population Index 1991-2024



Dividing the years 1991 to 2024 into of 3 periods of 11 years shows that population change in Solihull has accelerated from -0.2% in the 11-years 1991-2002 to +5.8% between 2013 and 2024.

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

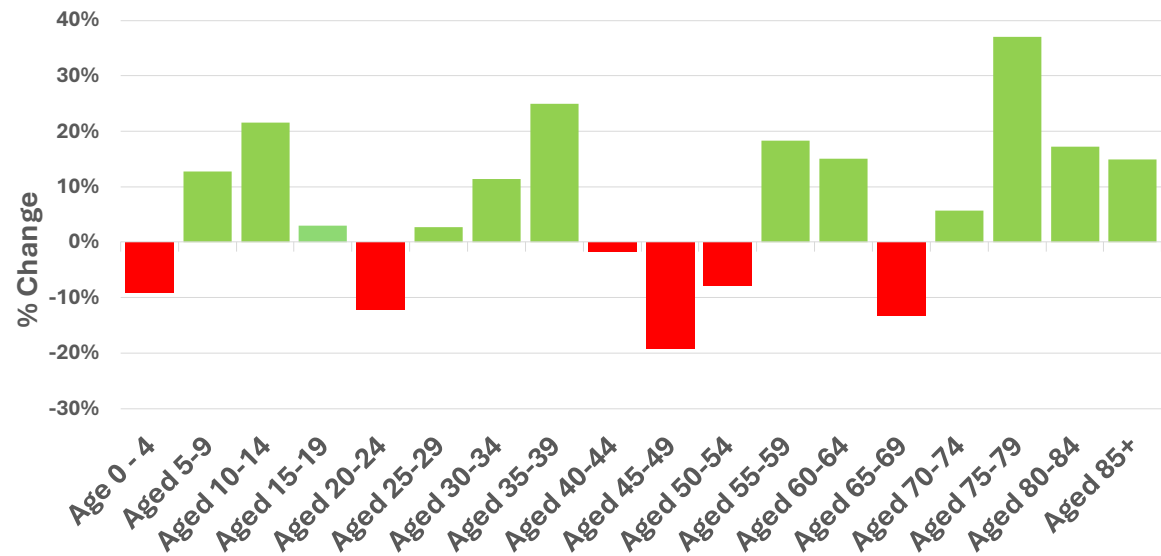
Population Change 1991-2024 by Time Period				
Time Period	Change in Solihull	% Change		
		Solihull	England	WMCA
1991-2002	-404	-0.2%	3.8%	-1.6%
2002-2013	+9,087	4.5%	8.5%	8.0%
2013-2024	+12,127	5.8%	8.7%	9.2%
Source: ONS mid-year population estimates				



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 (+4,308, +17%) and, at the other end of the spectrum, a rise in the number of residents aged 75 years and over (+4,924, +24%).

### Population Change in Solihull 2014-2024



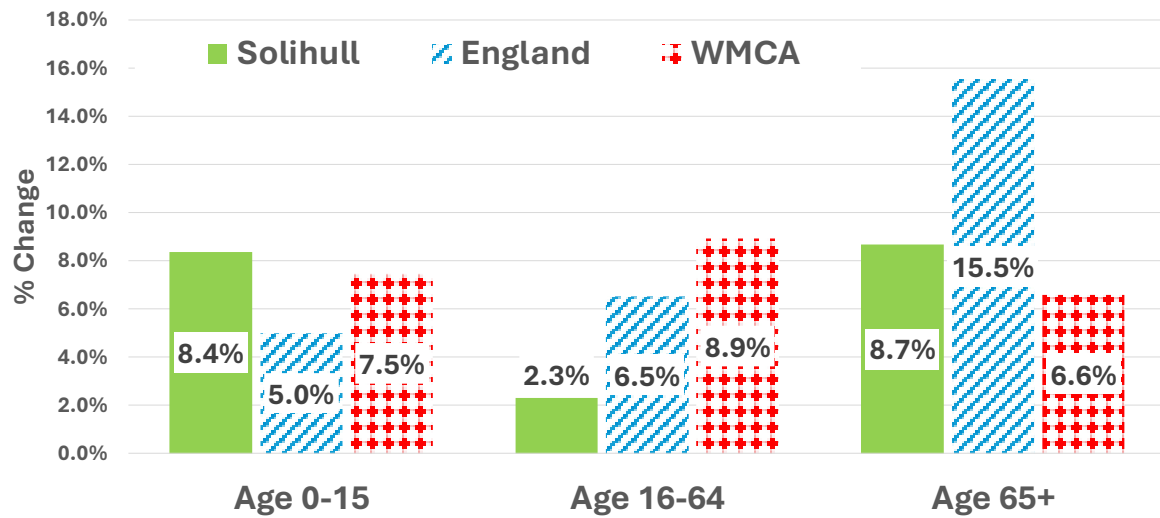
In the 10-years 2014-2024 the number of Solihull children aged 0-15 years increased by more than the England or WMCA averages (8.4% Solihull; 5.0% England; 7.5% WMCA).

By contrast, the Solihull working age population only grew by 2.3% much slower than England (+6.5%) or the WMCA (+8.9%).

The fastest growing section of the Solihull population were those aged 65 and over, with the number of residents increasing by 8.7% (+3,757) in the 10 years to 2024. However, growth among those aged 65+ in Solihull was lower than the England average (15.5%).

	Population Change 2014-2024			
	Change in Solihull	% Change		
		Solihull	England	WMCA
All Ages	10,037	4.8%	7.8%	8.2%
Children (0-15 years)	3,349	8.4%	5.0%	7.5%
Working Age (16-64)	2,931	2.3%	6.5%	8.9%
Older People (65+)	3,757	8.7%	15.5%	6.6%
Source: ONS Mid-2024 population estimates				

## Population Change 2014-2024



### Solihull Wards

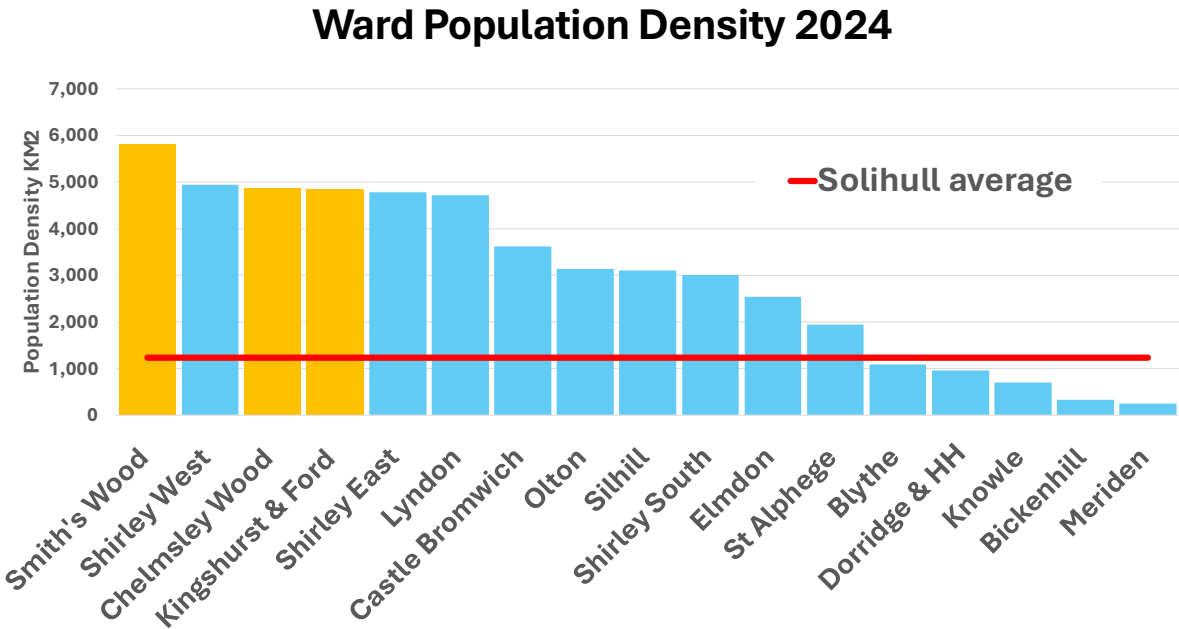
The ONS produces sub-borough mid-year population statistics for a range of small area geographies. In Solihull this comprises the 17 wards, 29 Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs) and the 134 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs).

In 2024 18% of the Solihull population lived in the three North Solihull wards of Chelmsley Wood, Kingshurst & Fordbridge and Smith's Wood (39,770 people) and 82% in the rest of the Borough (181,472 people).

Population density data shows that three of the four most densely populated Solihull wards are in North Solihull, with parts of Shirley, as well as the suburbs of Lyndon, Olton, Castle Bromwich and Silhill also highly urbanised.

Solihull ward population density (people per km <sup>2</sup> ) 2024			
	Population	KM <sup>2</sup>	Population density
Smith's Wood	12,922	2.22	5,816.6
Shirley West	13,554	2.74	4,953.4
Chelmsley Wood	13,267	2.72	4,872.6
Kingshurst & Fordbridge	13,581	2.80	4,855.1
Shirley East	12,186	2.55	4,780.7
Lyndon	14,090	2.98	4,723.1
Castle Bromwich	11,655	3.22	3,623.8
Olton	12,458	3.98	3,131.8
Silhill	13,143	4.24	3,103.2
Shirley South	13,143	4.36	3,012.6
Elmdon	12,693	5.01	2,534.8
St Alphege	13,343	6.86	1,944.2
Blythe	17,107	15.73	1,087.7

Dorridge & Hockley Heath	11,140	11.52	967.1
Knowle	11,145	16.02	695.7
Bickenhill	13,174	39.58	332.8
Meriden	12,641	51.77	244.2
Source: ONS Small area population estimates 2024			



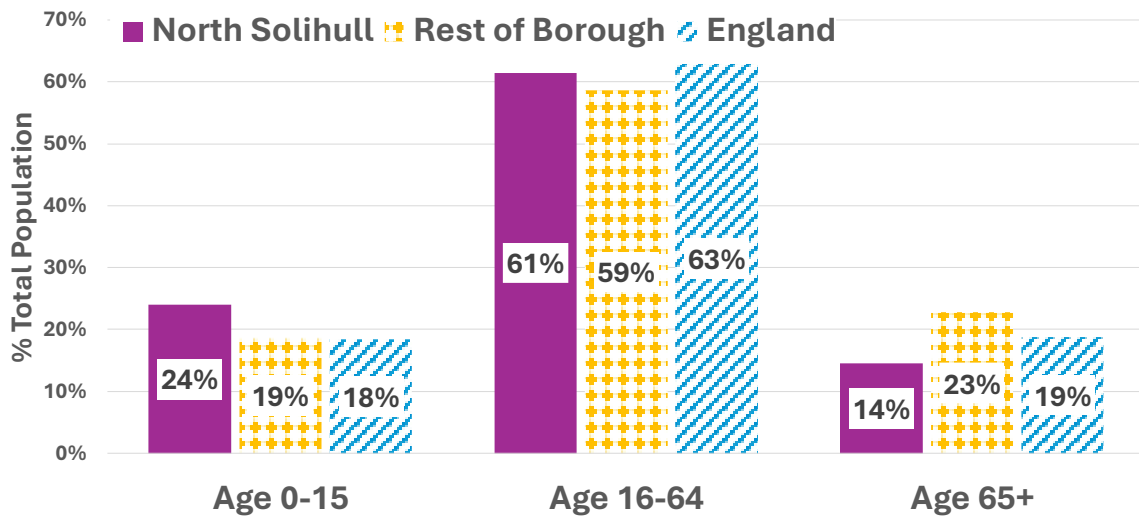
The North Solihull population is notably younger than the rest of the borough, with a higher proportion of the population aged 0-15 years (24% vs 19% rest of borough) and fewer aged 65 and over (14% vs 23% rest of borough).

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

Population by Age Group 2024				
Age Group	North Solihull	Rest of Borough	Solihull	England
Aged 0-15	24%	19%	20%	18%
Aged 16-64	61%	59%	59%	63%
Aged 65+	14%	23%	21%	19%
Source: ONS population estimates 2024				



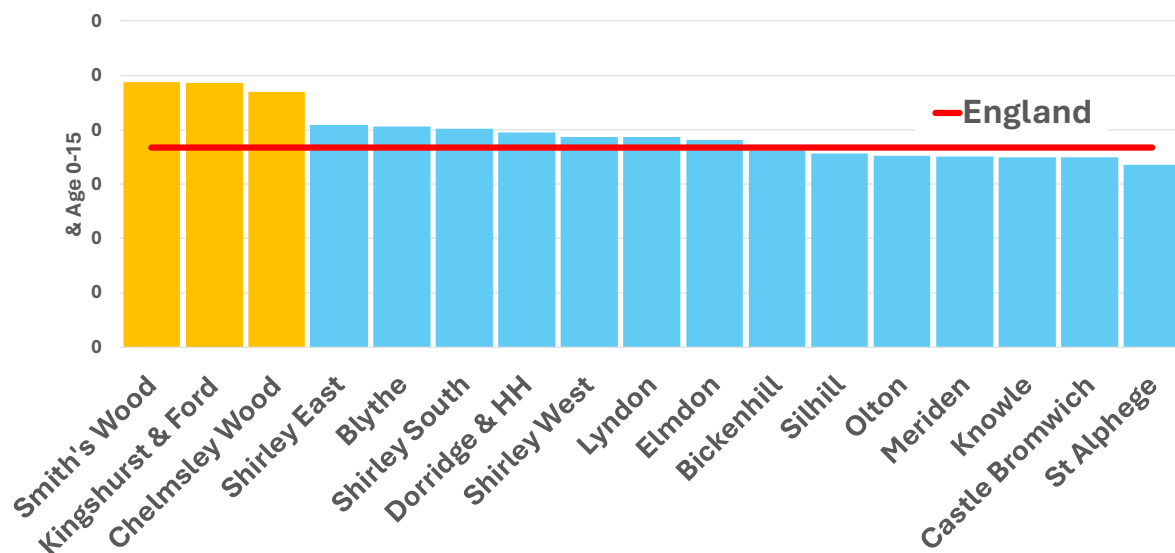
## Population 2024



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 (24.4%) and Shirley East (20.3%, 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 (16.8% of total), Castle Bromwich (17.4%), Knowle (17.5%) and Meriden (17.5%).

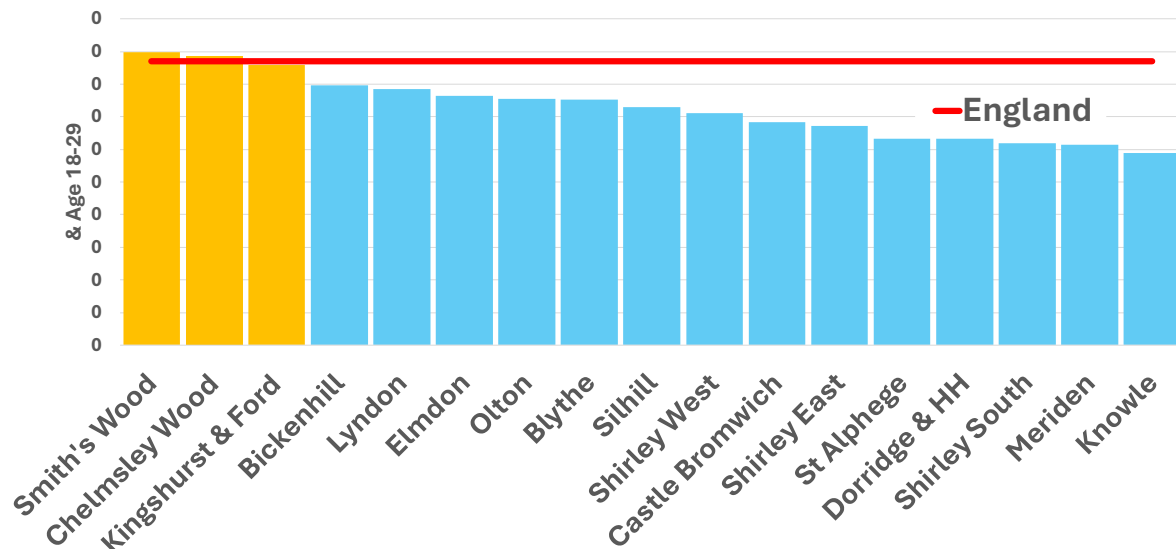
## Population of Children Aged 0-15 Years 2024



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 (Smith’s Wood 17.9%; Chelmsley Wood 17.7%; Kingshurst & Fordbridge 17.2%).

At the other end of the spectrum relatively few young adults live in Knowle (11.8% of total), Meriden (12.3%) or Shirley South (12.4%).

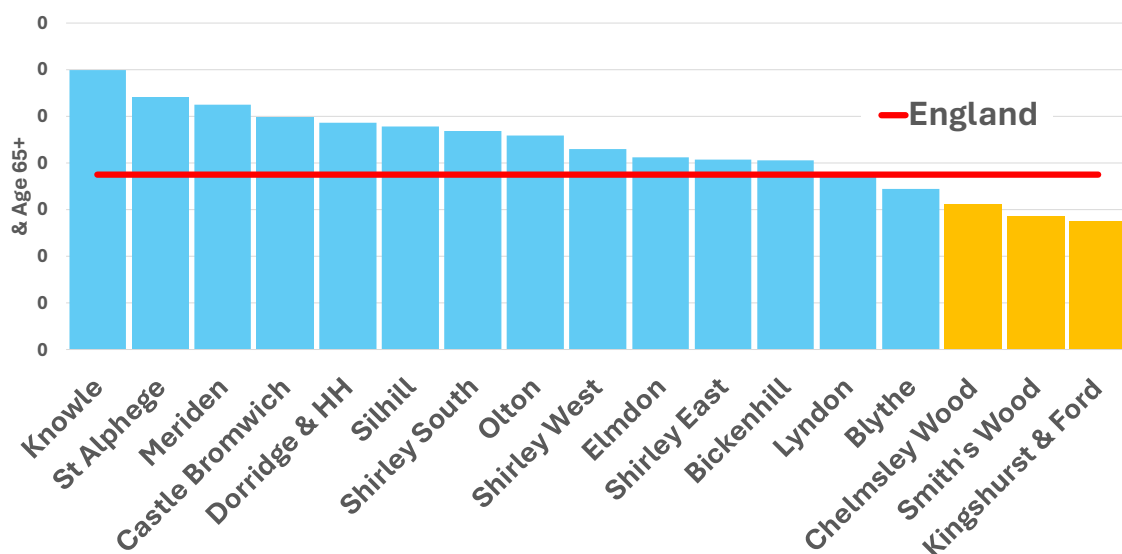
## Population of Young Adults Aged 18-29 Years 2024



Knowle has by far the largest proportion of people aged 65 and over living in the ward (30.0% of total) with relatively high rates also evident in St Alphege (27.0%) and Meriden (26.3%).

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.

## Population of Older People Aged 65+ Years 2024



## 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 MidYear.

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 2024

	Solihull Population by 5 Year Age Group 2024				
	Number			% Total	
	Total	Male	Female	Male	Female
All People	221,242	107,503	113,739		
Age 0 - 4	11,223	5,781	5,442	5.4%	4.8%
Aged 5-9	13,971	7,219	6,752	6.7%	5.9%
Aged 10-14	15,350	7,949	7,401	7.4%	6.5%
Aged 15-19	13,240	7,040	6,200	6.5%	5.5%
Aged 20-24	10,092	5,354	4,738	5.0%	4.2%
Aged 25-29	11,947	5,994	5,953	5.6%	5.2%
Aged 30-34	13,111	6,131	6,980	5.7%	6.1%
Aged 35-39	14,361	6,669	7,692	6.2%	6.8%
Aged 40-44	14,101	6,685	7,416	6.2%	6.5%
Aged 45-49	13,056	6,276	6,780	5.8%	6.0%
Aged 50-54	14,582	7,086	7,496	6.6%	6.6%

Aged 55-59	15,335	7,543	7,792	7.0%	6.9%
Aged 60-64	13,848	6,627	7,221	6.2%	6.3%
Aged 65-69	11,363	5,593	5,770	5.2%	5.1%
Aged 70-74	10,454	4,818	5,636	4.5%	5.0%
Aged 75-79	10,861	4,922	5,939	4.6%	5.2%
Aged 80-84	7,144	3,094	4,050	2.9%	3.6%
Aged 85+	7,203	2,722	4,481	2.5%	3.9%
<b>Broad Age Groups</b>					
Aged 0 to 15	43,444	22,441	21,003	20.9%	18.5%
Aged 16 to 64	130,773	63,913	66,860	59.5%	58.8%
Aged 65+	47,025	21,149	25,876	19.7%	22.8%
All People	221,242	107,503	113,739		
<i>Source: ONS Mid-2024 Population Estimates Numbers may not add due to rounding</i>					

## Appendix 3

### Solihull Population by Growth by Age Group 2014-2024

	<b>10-Year Population Growth by Age Band</b>			
	Change in Number Solihull	% Change 2014-2024		
		Solihull	England	West Midlands
Aged 0-4	-1,128	-9.1%	-9.6%	-7.2%
Aged 5 - 9	1,577	12.7%	4.3%	6.3%
Aged 10 - 14	2,731	21.6%	20.5%	23.7%
Aged 15 - 19	387	3.0%	8.7%	13.2%
Aged 20 - 24	-1,405	-12.2%	-3.2%	5.7%
Aged 25 - 29	320	2.8%	5.5%	6.6%
Aged 30 - 34	1,345	11.4%	9.9%	10.0%
Aged 35 - 39	2,871	25.0%	18.5%	21.8%
Aged 40 - 44	-244	-1.7%	3.1%	7.3%
Aged 45 - 49	-3,110	-19.2%	-11.8%	-8.4%
Aged 50 - 54	-1,254	-7.9%	0.0%	2.4%
Aged 55 - 59	2,372	18.3%	21.1%	20.4%
Aged 60 - 64	1,818	15.1%	22.5%	18.5%
Aged 65 - 69	-1,735	-13.2%	-0.5%	1.3%
Aged 70 - 74	568	5.7%	17.6%	6.4%
Aged 75 - 79	2,939	37.1%	36.9%	12.0%
Aged 80 - 84	1,051	17.2%	18.0%	5.9%
Aged 85+	934	14.9%	17.0%	10.9%
All Ages	10,037	4.8%	7.8%	8.2%
<i>Source: ONS Mid-year population estimates</i>				