

## **Local Authorities**

'Local authorities' is the umbrella term used to describe London boroughs, metropolitan boroughs, non-metropolitan boroughs, and district and unitary authorities. This is an administrative geography and is the geographical level at which a lot of data are published. It is important that we can classify them on rural-urban scale.

There were some boundary changes for local and unitary authority districts in April 2009, when some local authorities became unitary authorities. Before 2009 there were 354 districts in England, and since then there have been 326. Because of this there are two classifications for each set of districts.