



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Statistical Digest of Rural England

January 2015 Edition



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rural.statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk

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Introduction

The Statistical Digest of Rural Statistics is a collection of statistics on a range of social and economic subject areas. The statistics are split by rural and urban areas, allowing for comparisons between the different rural and urban area classifications. The Digest includes high level statistics which present an overall picture for England. However, there is likely to be considerable variation in individual towns, villages and hamlets.

The Digest starts with a section on the rural and urban populations in England. This is followed by a rural economy section containing indicators on economic activity, earnings, productivity as well as a selection of indicators relating to economic growth. The Rural accessibility section includes data on transport, measuring accessibility to services and broadband. The final section of the Digest includes a selection of rural living statistics on housing, household expenditure, poverty, education, health and crime.

It should be noted that it is only practicable to update certain sections of the Digest in each update. Those sections updated in this edition are:

- Earnings
- Private rental affordability
- Secondary education
- Infant mortality

Official Statistics

These statistics have been produced to the high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, which sets out eight principles including meeting user needs, impartiality and objectivity, integrity, sound methods and assured quality, frankness and accessibility.

More information on the Official Statistics Code of Practice can be found at <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html>.

This publication has been compiled by the Rural Statistics Team, within the Rural Communities Policy Unit in Defra:

Stephen Hall
Melanie Riley
Matthew Dray
Leigh Riley

rural.statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk

There is a special Census 2011 version of the Digest which looks at the data from the 2011 census and where possible makes comparisons to the 2001 census results.

This can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2011-census-results-for-rural-england>

Defining rural areas

Wherever possible, the Rural-Urban Classification is used to distinguish rural and urban areas. The Classification defines areas as rural if they fall outside of settlements with more than 10,000 resident population.

Census Output Areas - the smallest areas for which data are available from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses - are assigned to one of four urban or six rural categories:

Urban: Major conurbation
Urban: Minor conurbation
Urban: City & town
Urban: City & town in a sparse setting

Rural: Town & fringe
Rural: Town & fringe in a sparse setting
Rural: Village
Rural: Village in a sparse setting
Rural: Hamlets & isolated dwellings
Rural: Hamlets & isolated dwellings in a sparse setting

Those described as “in a sparse setting” reflect where the wider area is remotely populated.

When data are not available at a small enough geographical scale, it may be possible to apply the Rural-Urban Local Authority Classification. This classification currently categorises districts and unitary authorities on a six point scale from rural to urban. It is underpinned by rural and urban populations as defined by the Classification. A new 2011-based rural-urban classification was published on 18 December 2014.

In the context of areas the size of local and unitary authorities, the Local Authority Classification also considers some urban areas as Hub Towns (with populations of between 10,000 and 30,000). These Hub Towns have met statistical criteria to be considered hubs for services and businesses for a wider rural hinterland and their populations are therefore classified as effectively rural for the purposes of the Local Authority Classification. Under the classification each Local Authority District is assigned to one of six categories on the basis of the percentage of the total resident population accounted for by the combined rural and Hub Town components of its population and its 'conurbation context'. The categories are:

- Mainly Rural (rural including Hub Towns accounts for $\geq 80\%$ of the population)
- Largely Rural (rural including Hub Towns accounts for $\geq 50\%$, $< 80\%$ of the population)
- Urban with Significant Rural (rural including Hub Towns accounts for $\geq 26\%$, $< 50\%$ of the population)

- Urban with City and Town (rural including Hub Towns accounts for <26% of the population)
- Urban with Minor Conurbation (rural including Hub Towns accounts for <26% of the population)
- Urban with Major Conurbation (rural including Hub Towns accounts for <26% of the population).
- When categories of the six-way classification are combined to produce overall rural and urban estimates, Mainly Rural and Largely Rural are combined to produce “Predominantly rural” areas. Urban with Major Conurbation, with Minor Conurbation and with City and Town are grouped together under “Predominantly urban”. Urban with Significant Rural areas remain the same, and separate from the other two categories.
- Predominantly rural: areas with $\geq 50\%$ of their population living in rural areas or Hub Towns
- Predominantly urban: areas with <26% of their population living in rural areas or Hub Towns.

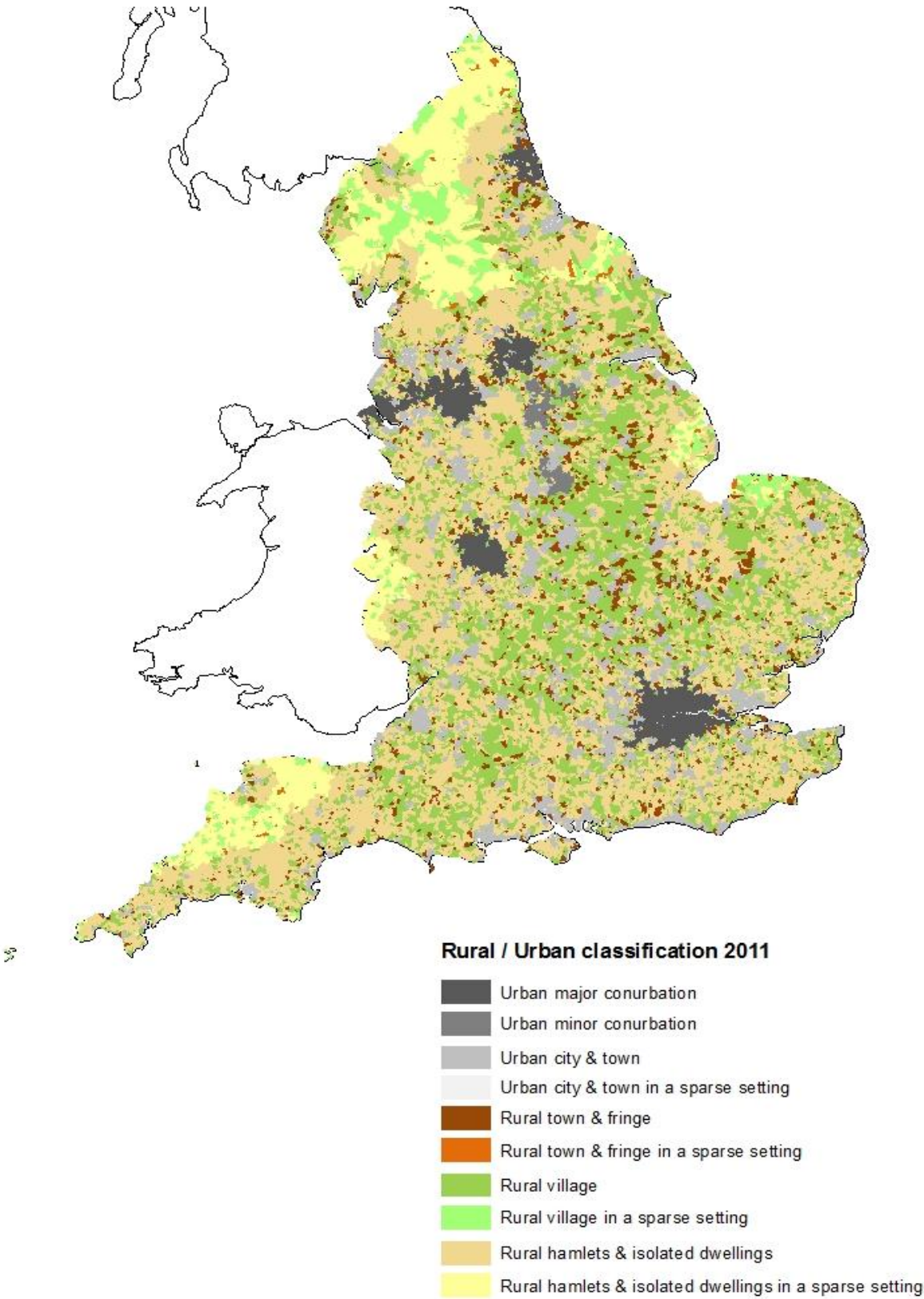
These groupings can be also used when data are available at a higher (larger) geographical level. This higher level classification uses the same methodology as the Local Authority Classification.

Only certain sections of the Digest have currently been updated with the new classifications so far. Older sections will refer to the previous 2011 classification.

More information on the classifications can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/series/rural-urban-definition>

2011 Census Output Areas: Rural-Urban Classification for England



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Rural population and migration

- In 2011 the population of England was 53.0 million, of which 43.7 million (82.4 per cent) lived in urban areas and 9.3 million (17.6 per cent) lived in rural areas.
- Within the rural areas, 0.5 million people lived in sparse settings.
- There are proportionately more older people living in rural areas – over 50 per cent of the population in rural areas were aged 45 and above, compared with around 40 per cent in urban areas.

2011 Census Population

	Population	Proportion (%)
All Urban	43,668,600	82.4
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	<i>88,900</i>	<i>0.2</i>
All Rural	9,343,900	17.6
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	<i>481,400</i>	<i>0.9</i>
Urban major conurbation	18,783,700	35.4
Urban minor conurbation	1,906,100	3.6
Urban city & town	22,978,800	43.3
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	<i>88,900</i>	<i>0.2</i>
Rural town & fringe	4,657,000	8.8
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	<i>186,300</i>	<i>0.4</i>
Rural village	2,930,500	5.5
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	<i>157,700</i>	<i>0.3</i>
Rural hamlet	1,756,400	3.3
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	<i>137,400</i>	<i>0.3</i>
England	53,012,500	100.0

- 9.3 million people, or 17.6 per cent of the population, live in rural areas. Around 570,000 people, or 1.1 per cent of the population live in settlements in a sparse setting

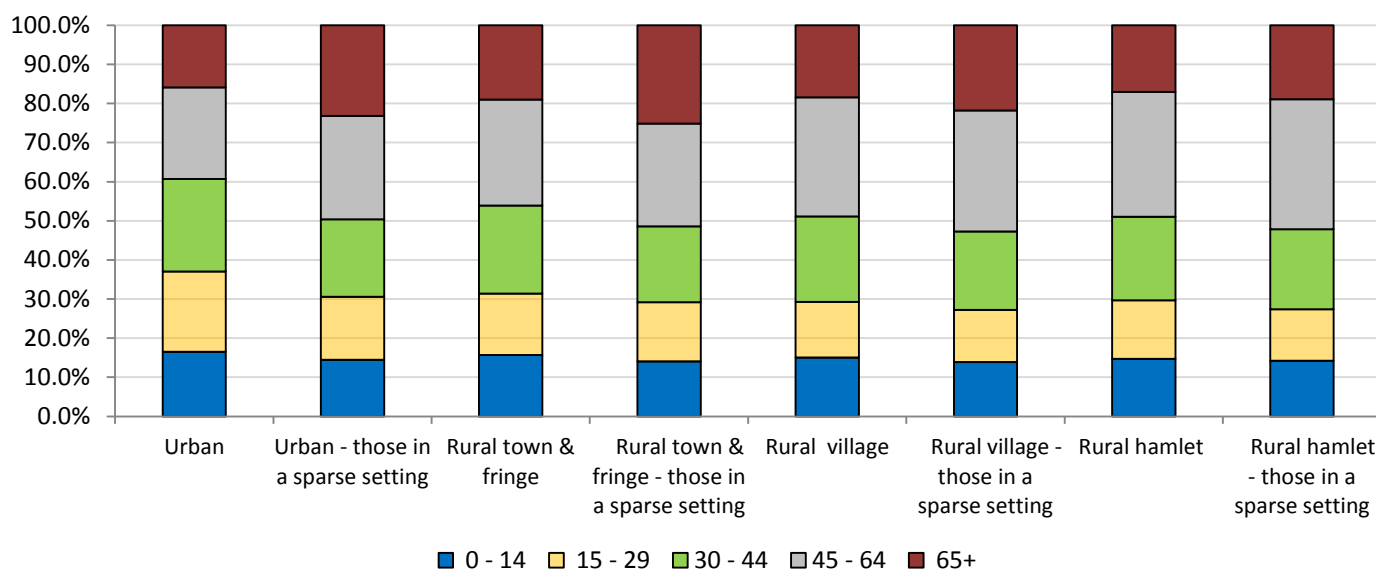
Notes: The resident population of an area includes all people who usually live there, whatever their nationality. Members of UK and non-UK armed forces stationed in the UK are included and UK forces stationed outside the UK are excluded.

Students are taken to be resident at their term time address.

Source: ONS, 2013. 2011 Census Data at Output area level. This data uses the RUC2011.

Population by age

2011 Census population by age



- Less than 50 per cent of those living in rural areas are aged below 45 years, compared with 60 per cent in urban areas, and overall there are proportionately fewer younger people in sparse areas.
- In urban areas 21.2 per cent of the population are aged 15 to 29 years, but in rural areas this falls to 14.6 per cent of the population.
- Differences between age bands in rural and urban areas will be reflecting a variety of effects such as younger people moving to urban areas to study and work, and for older people moving to rural areas.

Age groups as a percentage of total 2011 Census population

	0 - 14 years old	15 - 29 years old	30 - 44 years old	45 - 64 years old	65 + years old
All Urban	18.0	21.1	21.3	24.3	15.3
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	14.8	16.0	16.2	28.1	25.1
All Rural	16.2	14.7	17.7	30.4	21.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	14.2	13.8	15.6	31.4	25.0
Urban major conurbation	18.6	22.3	22.6	23.0	13.4
Urban minor conurbation	17.3	22.6	20.0	24.4	15.7
Urban city & town	17.5	20.0	20.3	25.4	16.9
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	14.8	16.0	16.2	28.1	25.0
Rural town & fringe	16.7	15.4	18.7	28.3	20.9
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	14.7	15.1	16.5	27.9	25.8
Rural village	15.9	13.8	17.1	31.7	21.4
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	13.8	12.7	15.4	32.5	25.6
Rural hamlet	15.2	14.5	16.2	33.5	20.6
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	13.7	13.3	14.7	35.0	23.2
England	17.7	20.0	20.6	25.4	16.3

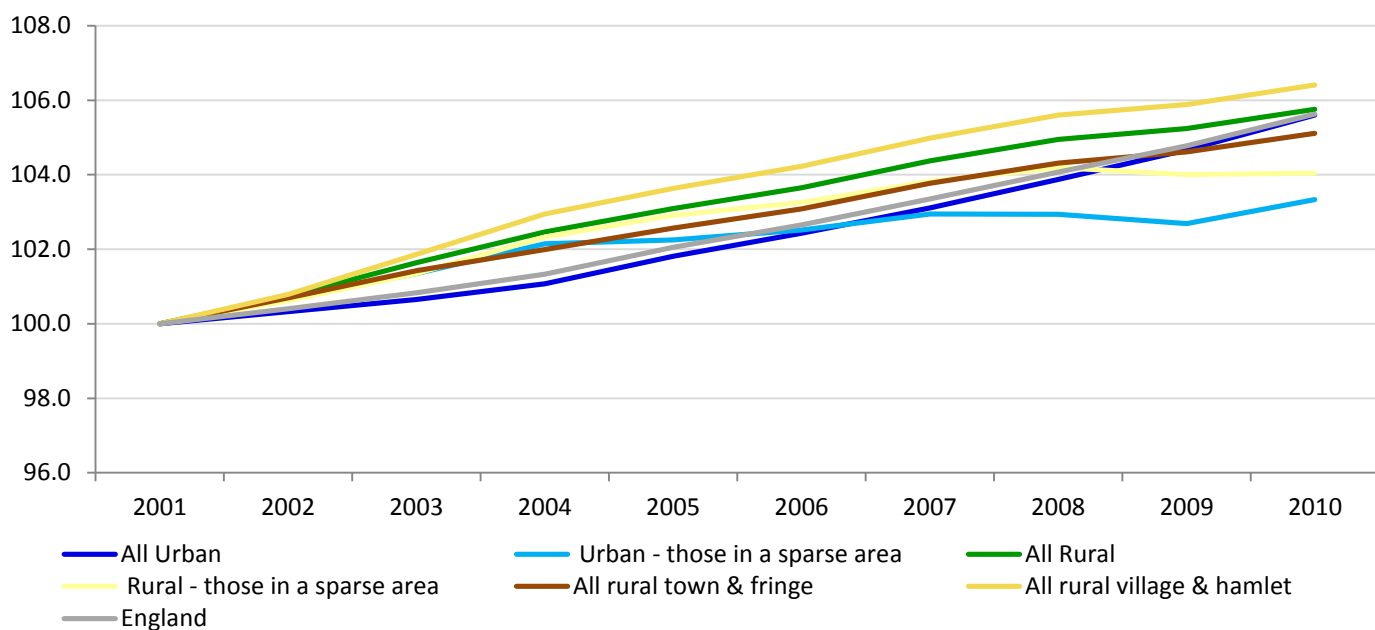
Notes: The resident population of an area includes all people who usually live there, whatever their nationality. Members of UK and Non UK armed forces stationed in the UK are included and UK forces stationed outside the UK are excluded. Students are taken to be resident at their term time address.

Source: ONS, 2013. Census Data 2011 at Output area level. This data uses the RUC11.

Population change

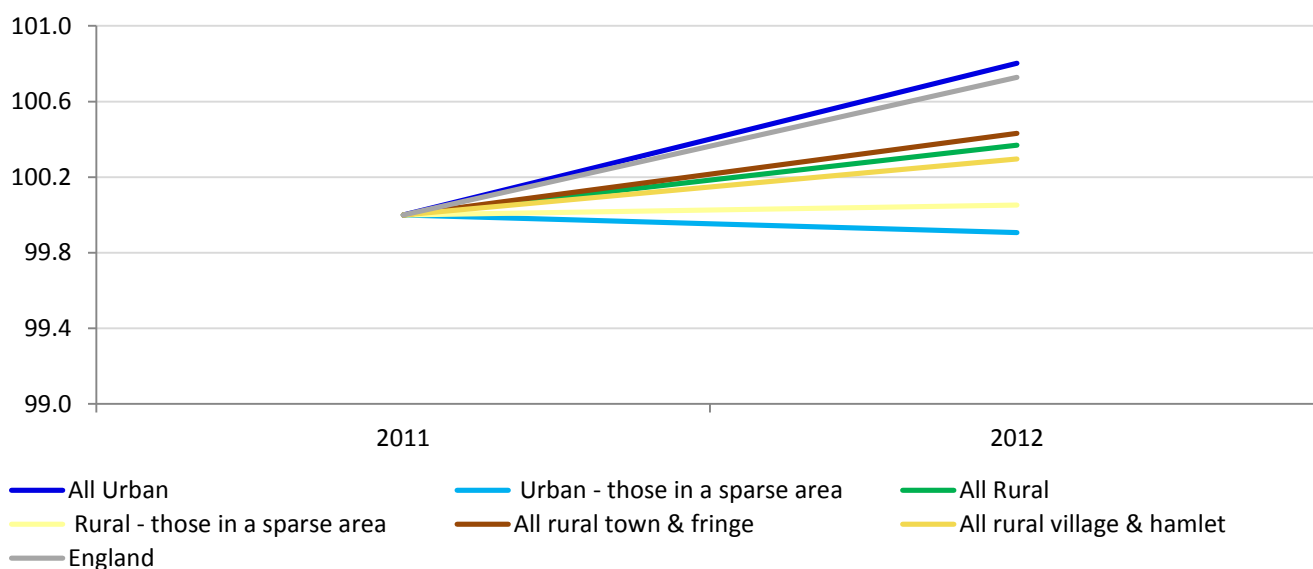
Index of population change, 2001 to 2010

2001=100



Index of population 2011 – 2012

2011 = 100



- It is not possible here to show the degree of population change from 2001 to 2011 by settlement type, as in the 2011 rural-urban classification some settlements will have been reclassified, and this will affect the overall populations in each settlement type. To track change from 2001 to 2010, the population of each area type in 2001 has been taken as the base year (and set to 100) on which the population figures for each of the subsequent year are compared. Data for 2011 and 2012, based on the 2011 Rural-Urban Classification, and has been recalibrated to have 2011 as the base year and set to 100.
- Between 2011 and 2012 the greatest rate of population increase was in *urban areas*, with a fall in population in *urban areas in a sparse setting*.
- In rural areas, between 2011 and 2012 the greatest rate of population increase was in *rural town and fringe areas*.

Index of population change, 2001 to 2012

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
All Urban	100.0	100.3	100.6	101.1	101.8	102.4	103.1	103.7	104.7	105.6	100.0	100.8
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	100.0	100.7	101.3	102.2	102.2	102.5	102.9	102.9	102.7	103.3	100.0	99.9
All Rural	100.0	100.7	101.6	102.5	103.1	103.6	104.4	104.9	105.2	105.8	100.0	100.4
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	100.0	101.4	102.3	102.9	103.3	103.8	104.2	104.0	104.0	104.0	100.0	100.1
All rural town & fringe	100.0	100.7	101.4	102.0	102.6	103.1	103.8	104.3	104.6	105.1	100.0	100.4
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	100.0	100.8	101.5	102.3	103.0	103.4	104.3	104.9	105.0	105.4	100.0	100.1
All rural village & hamlet	100.0	100.8	101.9	102.9	103.6	104.2	105.0	105.6	105.9	106.4	100.0	100.3
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	100.0	100.5	101.3	102.3	102.8	103.1	103.5	103.7	103.4	103.2	100.0	100.0
England	100.0	100.4	100.8	101.3	102.1	102.7	103.3	104.0	104.8	105.6	100.0	100.7

2001 = 100; rebased from 2011; 2011 = 100

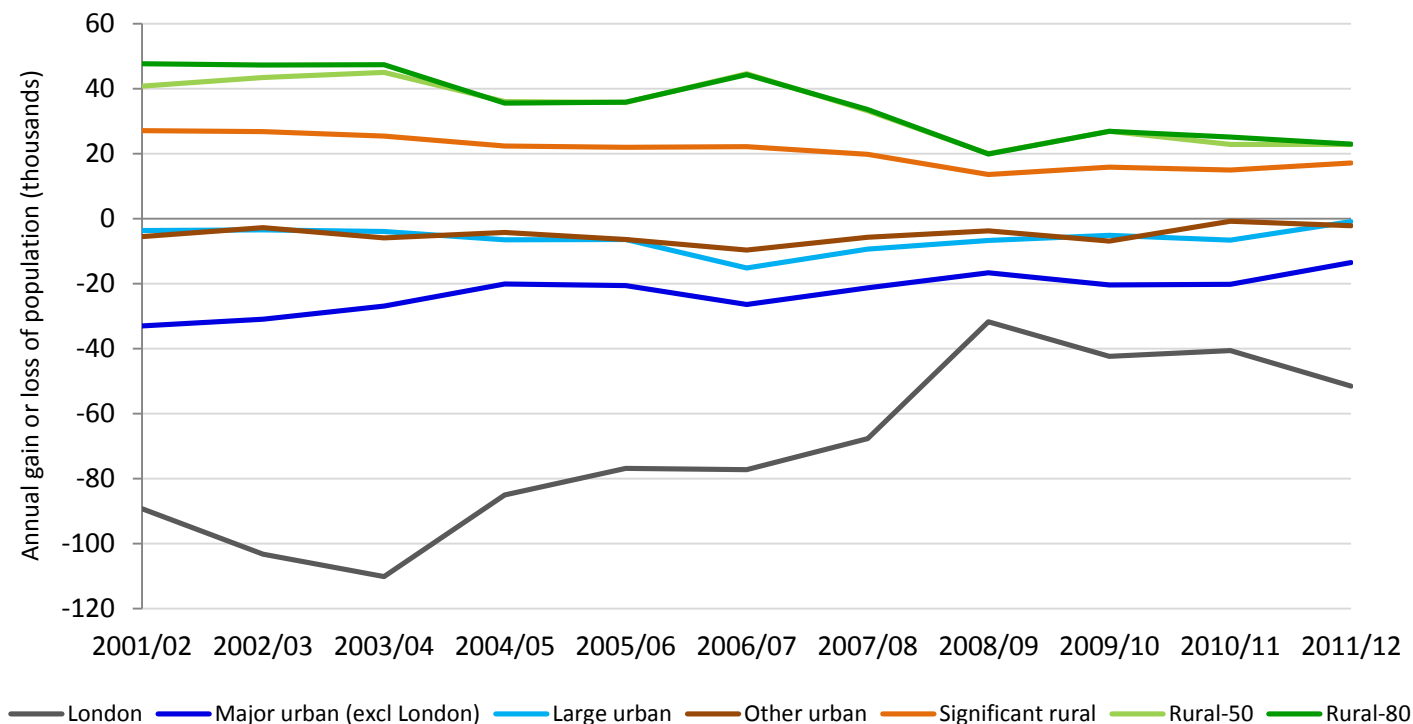
Notes: The estimated resident population of an area includes all people who usually live there, whatever their nationality. Members of UK and non-UK armed forces stationed in the UK are included and UK forces stationed outside the UK are excluded. Students are taken to be resident at their term time address.

Source: ONS, 2013. Mid-2012 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tc%3A77-320861>

Internal migration

Internal migration, 2001/02 to 2011/12



- Between 2000/01 and 2003/04 the general trend for migration between places in England was of net migration to predominantly rural areas from predominantly urban areas.
- Whilst this overall trend has continued since 2003/04 the extent of net migration to predominantly rural areas has been decreasing.
- *Rural-80 areas* saw net inward migration of 23,000 people and *Rural-50 areas* saw net internal migration of 22,900 in 2011/12.
- In contrast, *major urban areas* lost more residents to internal migration, with a net decrease of 65,000 in 2011/12.
- Population change has many drivers and whilst the evidence presented here does not point directly to these causes, changes in the extent of internal migration over recent years suggests a causal link with the economic downturn of the same period. It is likely that economic recession and subsequent suppressed housing market have both acted to reduce the extent of movements between rural and urban areas.

Internal migration, 2001/02 to 2011/12, thousands

	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12
Major urban	-	-	-	-	-97.4	-	-89.0	-48.3	-	-	-
Large urban	122.1	134.1	137.0	105.1	-6.4	103.6	-9.4	-6.7	62.8	60.8	65.0
Other urban	-3.6	-3.4	-3.9	-6.5	-6.4	-15.2	-9.4	-6.7	-5.1	-6.6	-0.9
Significant rural	-5.5	-2.8	-5.9	-4.2	-6.4	-9.7	-2.5	-3.7	-6.9	-0.8	-2.2
Rural-50	27.1	26.8	25.4	22.4	22.0	22.2	19.3	13.6	15.9	15.0	17.1
Rural-80	40.8	43.4	45.0	36.1	35.8	44.6	32.8	20.0	26.9	22.9	22.9
	47.7	47.3	47.4	35.6	35.9	44.3	32.8	19.9	26.9	25.1	23.0
Predominantly urban	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-58.7	-	-	-
Predominantly rural	131.3	140.3	146.8	115.8	110.2	128.5	102.9	74.8	68.2	68.1	
	88.5	90.7	92.4	71.7	71.7	88.9	65.6	39.9	53.8	48.0	45.9

Notes: Estimates for internal migration movements are based on the movement of NHS doctors' Patients between Health Authority areas. In 2010 ONS adopted a new approach for collecting data from the NHS GP lists that form the basis of these internal migration figures. This change has inconsequential impacts on the figures, but improves efficiency for ONS and NHS. From mid- 2010 figures onwards this newer approach will be used as standard

Source: ONS, 2012. Internal Migration within the United Kingdom during the year to June 2012.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Migration+within+the+UK>

**People (thousands) moving to
another local authority classified as:**

		Rural-80	Rural-50	Significant rural	Other urban	Large urban	Major urban	Elsewhere in UK		Total	
Moving from	Rural-80	59.9	49.2	40.2	55.3	33.4	41.3	14.6		293.9	
	Rural-50	50.8	36.1	40.2	44.0	46.8	49.0	13.1		280.0	
	Significant rural	46.2	42.3	45.0	50.2	47.3	70.7	14.2		315.9	
	Other urban	63.4	46.9	52.3	54.7	46.0	83.6	14.5		361.4	
	Large urban	34.4	51.0	49.8	41.9	129.0	82.2	16.3		404.6	
	Major urban	51.3	62.5	90.4	98.6	86.9	646.2	33.1		1069.0	
	Elsewhere in UK	13.2	11.4	13.4	13.6	16.1	32.7	3.9		104.3	
						.					
	Total	319.2	299.4	331.3	358.3	405.5	1005.7	109.7		2829.1	

Percentage of people moving to
another local authority classified as:

Moving from		Rural-80	Rural-50	Significant rural	Other Urban	Large urban	Major urban	Elsewhere in UK		Total	
	Rural-80	20	17	14	19	11	14	5		100	
	Rural-50	18	13	14	16	17	18	5		100	
	Significant rural	15	13	14	16	15	22	4		100	
	Other urban	18	13	14	15	13	23	4		100	
	Large urban	9	13	12	10	32	20	4		100	
	Major urban	5	6	8	9	8	60	3		100	
	Elsewhere in UK	13	11	13	13	15	31	4		100	
						.					
	Total	11	11	12	13	14	36	4		100	

- The highest number of people moving in 2012 was people originally living in a local authority classified as *major urban*; moving to a different local authority classified as *major urban* (646 thousand people). Of these, 358 thousand people moved from one London borough to another.
- A third of those people moving from predominantly rural areas moved to another predominantly rural area; whilst over two thirds of those moving from predominantly urban areas moved to another predominantly urban area.

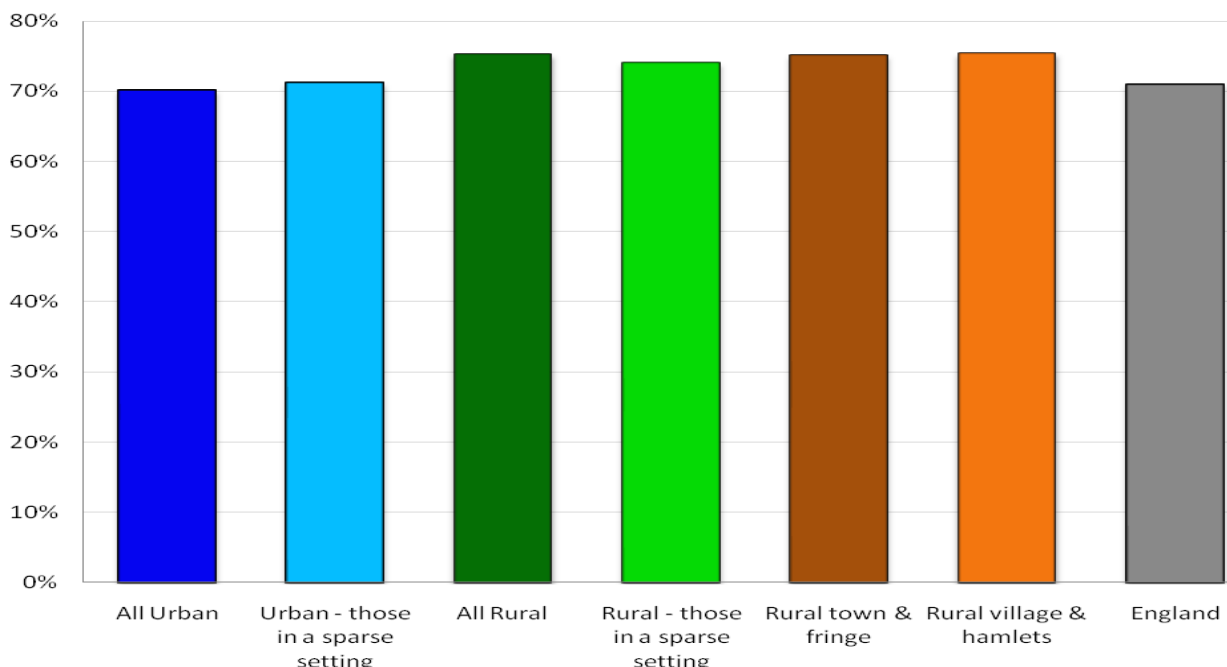
Rural economy

Employment and earnings

- **Employment:** The percentage of working age people in employment (*employment rate*) in 2012 was **70.1 per cent in urban settlements** and **75.2 per cent in rural settlements**. This employment rate is based on where people live and not where they work. People living in rural settlements may travel to work in larger urban settlements and vice versa for urban residents.
- **Full time employment:** The percentage of working age people in employment who were working full time (as opposed to part time) in 2012 was **74.7 per cent** for those living in **urban settlements** and **71.9 per cent** for those living in **rural settlements**.
- **Unemployment:** The percentage of economically active working age people who were unemployed (*unemployment rate*) in 2012 was **8.6 per cent in urban settlements** and **5.0 per cent in rural settlements**.
- **Economic inactivity:** The percentage of working age people who are not available for work or not seeking work (*economic inactivity rate*) in 2012 was **23.3 per cent in urban settlements** and **20.9 per cent in rural settlements**.
- **Workplace based annual earnings** (recorded where the employee works) and **residence based annual earnings** (recorded where the employee lives) are **consistently highest in major urban areas**, and lowest in **Rural-80 areas**.

Employment rate

Employment as a percentage of working age population (age 16 to 64 years), by settlement type in England, 2012



- The employment rate in 2012 was higher in all rural settlement types compared with all urban settlement types. The employment rate was highest in rural village & hamlets settlement types at 75.3 per cent.
- The employment rate was lower in rural settlements in a sparse setting, compared with other rural settlements.
- Employment is crucial for economic growth and social wellbeing. For England overall there was a steady decrease in the employment rate from 2007 to 2011, but there has been a small upturn in the rate of employment observed in 2012 at 70.9 per cent.
- The latest England employment rate for July to September 2013 was 71.9 per cent up 0.2 percentage points on April to June 2013 and up 0.4 percentage points on a year earlier¹. It is not yet possible to analyse these later figures in terms of settlement type.

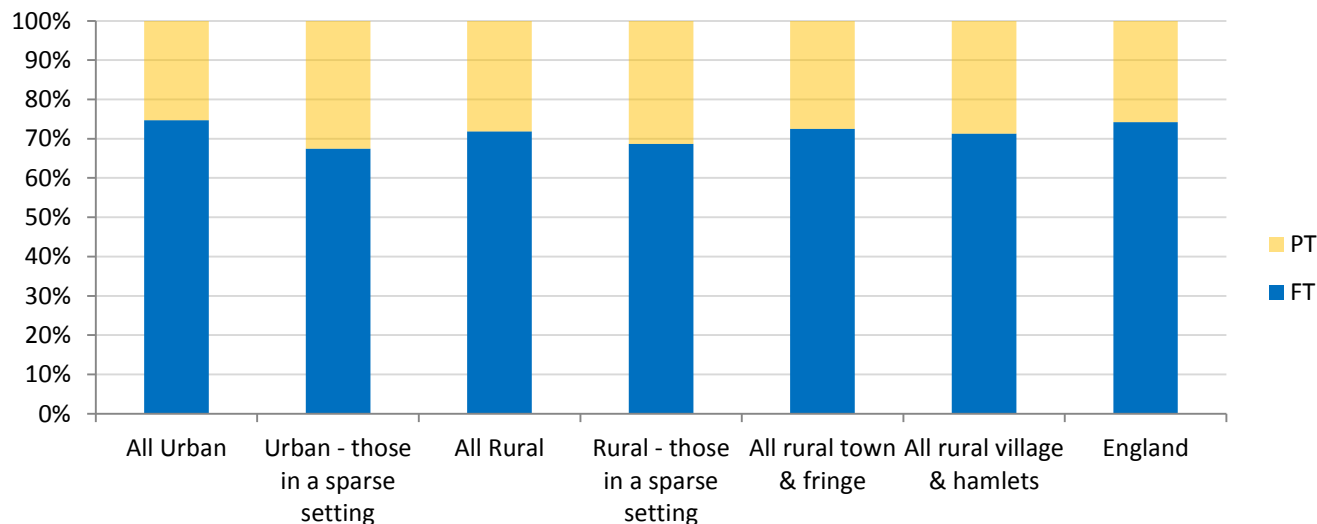
Percentage of working age population (age 16 to 64 years) who are employed, by settlement type in England, 2006 to 2012

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
All Urban	71.8	71.8	71.4	69.8	69.4	69.3	70.1
those in a sparse setting	71.7	69.2	71.9	68.2	72.9	71.2	71.1
All Rural	76.2	76.0	76.3	75.2	74.8	74.5	75.2
those in a sparse setting	72.2	73.4	76.1	74.4	73.7	72.2	74.0
All rural town & fringe	76.4	76.3	76.0	75.2	74.0	74.2	75.0
All rural village & hamlets	76.0	75.7	76.5	75.2	75.6	74.7	75.3
England	72.6	72.6	72.3	70.8	70.4	70.2	70.9

See note 2 for an explanation of Rural Urban Classification and its application to the analysis

Full time and part time workers

Full and part time workers as a percentage of all employed people of working age (16 to 64 years), by settlement type in England, 2012



- There is little difference between rural and urban settlement types in terms of the split of full time and part time employment, with roughly three quarters of employed people in full time jobs and one quarter in part time jobs.
- Workers living in urban settlements had a slightly higher level of full time employment at 74.7 per cent compared with 71.9 per cent for those living in rural settlements in 2012.
- The split of full time and part time workers has remained almost static from 2006 to 2012 in both urban and rural settlement types.
- There was a slightly higher proportion of part time workers in 2012 living in rural settlements in a sparse setting at 31.3 per cent, compared with rural areas more generally, at 28.1 per cent.

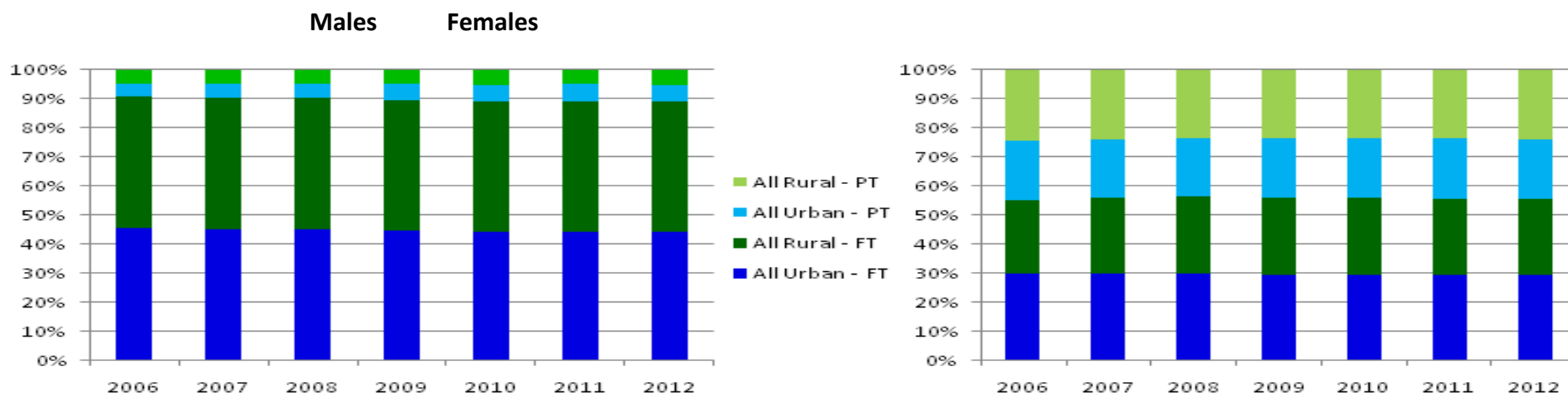
Full time and part time workers as a percentage of all employed people of working age (16 to 64 years), by settlement type in England, 2006 to 2012

	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT
All Urban	76.3	23.7	76.1	23.9	76.0	24.0	75.1	24.9	74.7	25.3	74.7	25.3	74.7	25.3
those in a sparse setting	72.9	27.1	73.7	26.3	67.1	32.9	69.6	30.4	72.7	27.3	69.3	30.7	67.5	32.5
All Rural	72.3	27.7	72.6	27.4	73.0	27.0	72.8	27.2	72.6	27.4	72.5	27.5	71.9	28.1
those in a sparse setting	71.5	28.5	70.7	29.3	70.7	29.3	72.8	27.2	72.4	27.6	72.3	27.7	68.7	31.3
All rural town & fringe	72.9	27.1	73.3	26.7	74.0	26.0	73.6	26.4	73.6	26.4	72.9	27.1	72.5	27.5
All rural village & hamlets	71.8	28.2	72.0	28.0	72.2	27.8	72.0	28.0	71.9	28.1	72.0	28.0	71.2	28.8
England	75.5	24.5	75.5	24.5	75.4	24.6	74.6	25.4	74.3	25.7	74.3	25.7	74.2	25.8

See note 2 for an explanation of Rural Urban Classification and its application to the analysis

FT= Full Time, PT = Part Time

Male and female full and part time workers as a percentage of all employed people of working age (16 to 64 years), by settlement type in England, 2006 to 2012



- There is a clear difference between the sexes when it comes to full and part time working, with females being more likely to work part time than males, regardless of settlement type. However, there are some subtle differences between the rural and urban splits of male and female full time and part time workers.
- The proportion of males living in rural settlements and employed full time is consistently slightly higher than it is for males living in urban settlements. In 2012, 89.6 per cent of males living in rural settlements were employed full time compared with 88.4 per cent of males living in urban settlements. The proportion of males working full time has decreased between 2006 and 2012 for both rural and urban settlements.
- The proportion of females living in rural settlements and employed full time in 2012 was 52.2 per cent compared with 58.8 per cent of females living in urban settlements.
- The proportion of females living in rural settlements and working full time has increased slightly by 1.4 percentage points between 2006 and 2012, whereas for females living in urban settlements it has decreased slightly, by 0.6 percentage points.

Male and female full and part time workers as a percentage of all employed people of working age (16 to 64 years), by settlement type in England, 2006 to 2012

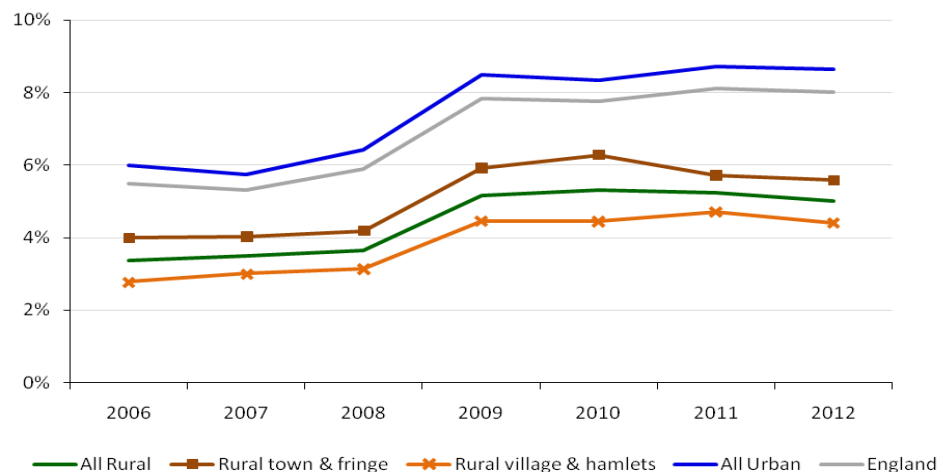
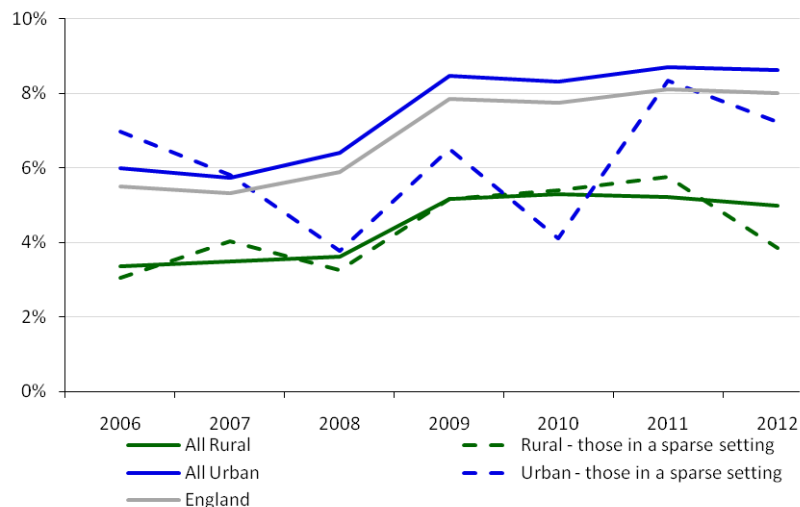
	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
All Urban – Full time	90.6	59.4	90.2	59.6	90.1	59.4	89.2	58.7	88.3	58.9	88.4	58.7	88.4	58.8
All Urban – Part time	9.4	40.6	9.8	40.4	9.9	40.6	10.8	41.3	11.7	41.1	11.6	41.3	11.6	41.2
All Rural – Full time	90.7	50.8	90.5	51.8	90.3	53.2	90.2	52.8	89.7	53.1	90.0	52.5	89.6	52.2
All Rural – Part time	9.3	49.2	9.5	48.2	9.7	46.8	9.8	47.2	10.3	46.9	10.0	47.5	10.4	47.8
England – Full time	90.6	57.7	90.2	58.1	90.1	58.2	89.4	57.5	88.6	57.7	88.7	57.6	88.6	57.6
England – Part time	9.4	42.3	9.8	41.9	9.9	41.8	10.6	42.5	11.4	42.3	11.3	42.4	11.4	42.4

See note 2 for an explanation of Rural Urban Classification and its application to the analysis

Unemployment rate

Unemployment as a percentage of economically active working age population (age 16 to 64 years), by settlement type in England, 2006 to 2012

a) Rural and Urban overall & showing those in a sparse setting b) Rural and Urban overall & showing the rural breakdown



- In 2012 the unemployment rate overall in rural settlements was 5.0 per cent.
- The movement of the unemployment rate has followed a similar pattern in rural and urban areas. There was a marked increase in unemployment at the start of the recession between 2007 and 2009, and it has since stabilised at around 8.0 per cent nationally.
- The unemployment rate has tended to be highest in urban settlement types and lowest in rural settlements in a sparse setting. (The trends for sparse settlements show greater fluctuations and this may be owing to the small sample populations rather than genuine changes).
- The latest England unemployment rate for July to September 2013 was 7.6 per cent down 0.2 percentage points on April to June 2013 and down 0.1 percentage points on a year earlier¹. It is not yet possible to analyse these later figures in terms of settlement type.

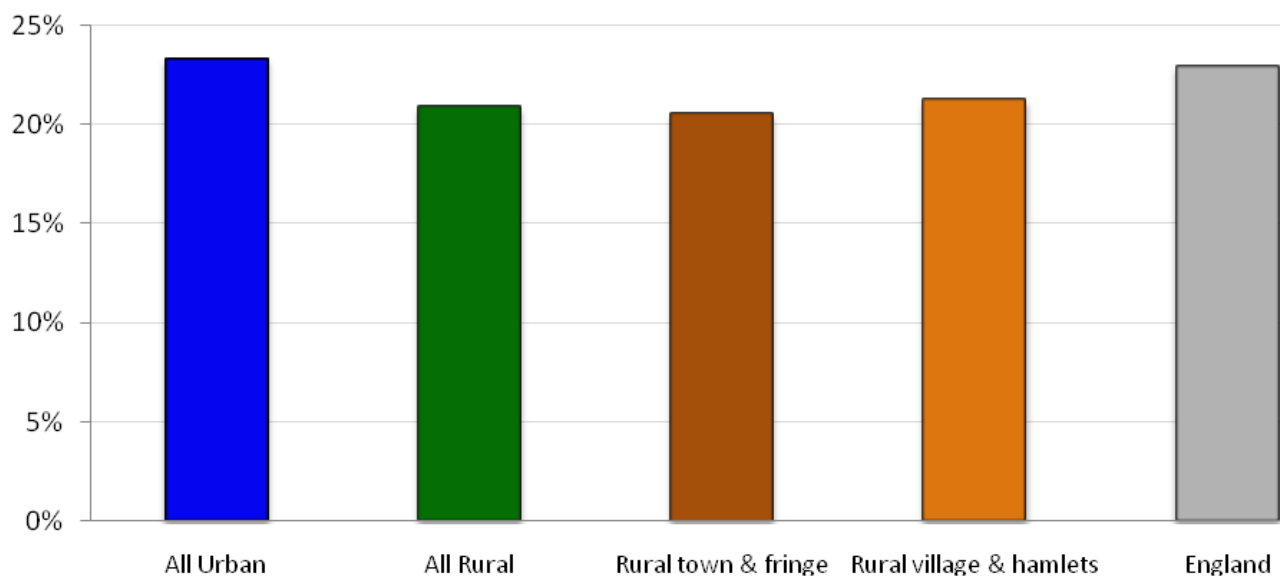
Percentage of economically active working age population (age 16 to 64 years) who are unemployed, by settlement type in England, 2006 to 2012

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
All Urban	6.0	5.7	6.4	8.5	8.3	8.7	8.6
those in a sparse setting	7.0	5.8	3.8	6.5	4.1	8.3	7.2
All Rural	3.4	3.5	3.6	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.0
those in a sparse setting	3.1	4.0	3.3	5.2	5.4	5.8	3.9
All rural town & fringe	4.0	4.0	4.2	5.9	6.3	5.7	5.6
All rural village & hamlets	2.8	3.0	3.1	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.4
England	5.5	5.3	5.9	7.8	7.8	8.1	8.0

See note 2 for an explanation of Rural Urban Classification and its application to the analysis

Economic inactivity

Percentage of working age population (16 to 64 years) who are economically inactive, by settlement type in England, 2012



- In 2012, the highest percentage of economic inactivity in rural areas was in settlements in a sparse setting (23.0 per cent), though it was slightly higher in urban settlements (23.3 per cent).
- People who are economically inactive are not available for work or not seeking work. Included are students, retirees and those unable to work due to sickness or disability. People who are officially unemployed are considered to be economically active. In general, lower rates of economic inactivity are desirable, although this may not be the case if increases are driven by reductions in those in full time education.

Percentage of working age population (age 16 to 64 years) who are economically inactive, by settlement type in England, 2006 to 2012

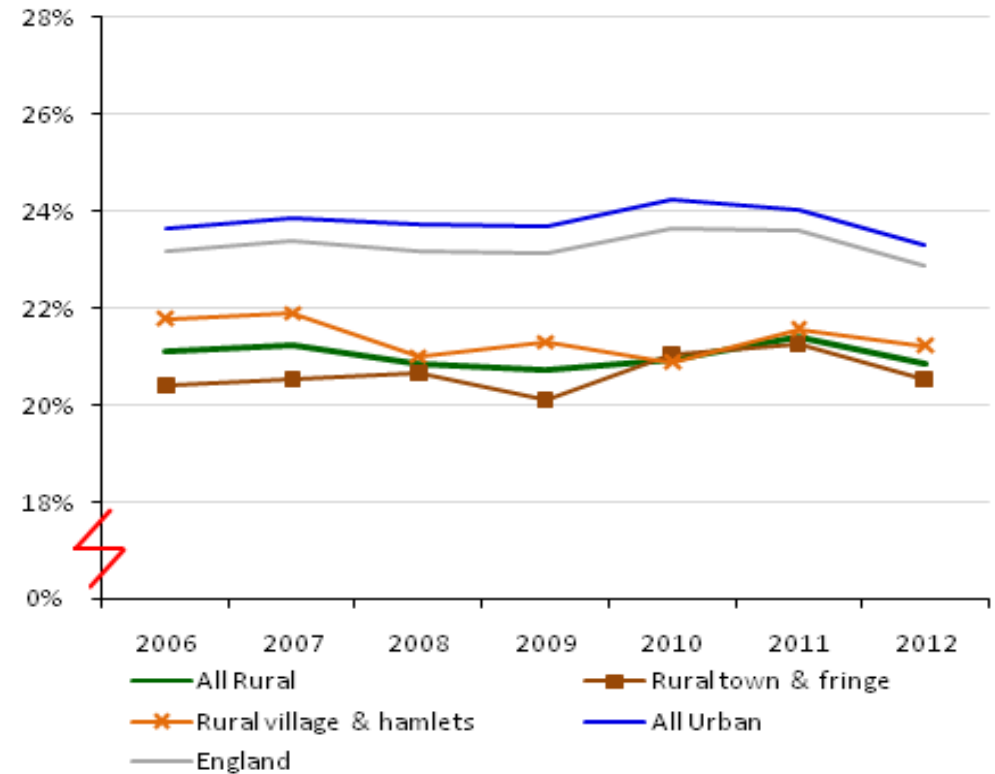
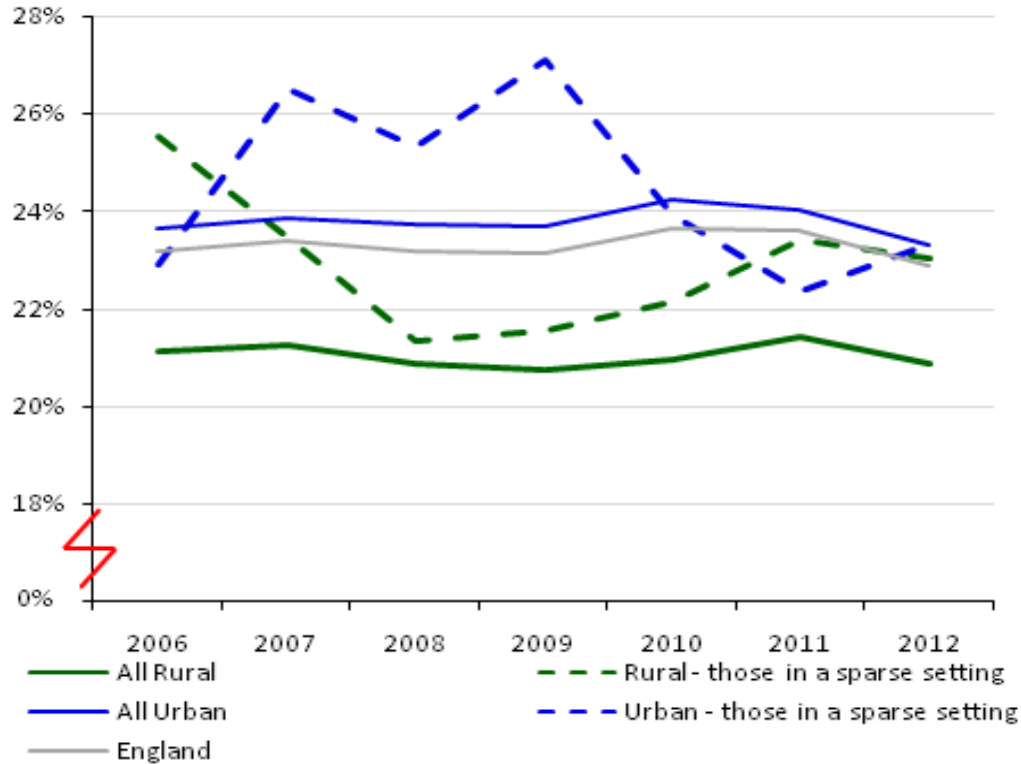
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
All Urban	23.7	23.9	23.7	23.7	24.3	24.0	23.3
those in a sparse setting	22.9	26.5	25.3	27.1	23.9	22.4	23.3
All Rural	21.1	21.2	20.8	20.7	21.0	21.4	20.9
those in a sparse setting	25.5	23.5	21.3	21.6	22.1	23.4	23.0
All rural town & fringe	20.4	20.5	20.7	20.1	21.0	21.3	20.5
All rural village & hamlets	21.8	21.9	21.0	21.3	20.9	21.6	21.2
England	23.2	23.4	23.2	23.2	23.6	23.6	22.9

See note 2 for an explanation of Rural Urban Classification and its application to the analysis

Economic inactivity as a percentage of working age population (age 16 to 64 years) in rural areas in England, 2006 to 2012

a) Rural and Urban overall & showing those in a sparse setting

b) Rural and Urban overall & showing the rural breakdown



- Economic inactivity as a percentage of working age population was stable over the period 2006 to 2012. Overall, the gap between urban and rural areas increased slightly between 2006 and 2010, owing to a slight increase in urban areas and a slight decrease in rural areas, but the gap has narrowed since 2011 and was 2.4 percentage points in 2012.
- The latest England inactivity rate for July to September 2013 was 22.0 per cent, down 0.1 percentage points on April to June 2013 and down 0.3 percentage points on a year earlier¹. It is not yet possible to analyse these later figures in terms of settlement type.
- The recession could have caused some people struggling to find a job to remove themselves from the job market by retiring or returning to study. Conversely, some people who were previously economically inactive may have decided to go back to work to cover for lost income elsewhere in their household.

Notes:

1) ONS Labour Market Statistics Regional and International summary, seasonally adjusted figures for July to September 2013
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/november-2013/table-a01.xls>

2) The RUC01 has been applied to all data up to and including 2010. From 2011 onwards the RUC11 has been applied to the data for analysis purposes. Although a key difference between the 2001 version of the classification and the 2011 version is that a distinction between major conurbations, lesser conurbations and other urban areas has been introduced, the urban categories are comparable, as the 'Major conurbation', 'Minor conurbation', and 'City and town' categories in the 2011 classification can be aggregated to be compared with the 2001 'Urban less sparse' category. Similarly the rural 2001 and 2011 categories are directly comparable for the purposes of analysis unless otherwise stated.

3) In 2009 and before, working age was defined as 16-64 for males and 16-59 for females. In September 2010 the definition for working age was altered to be 16-64 for both males and females. The statistics shown here have been adjusted to this new definition for all years shown.

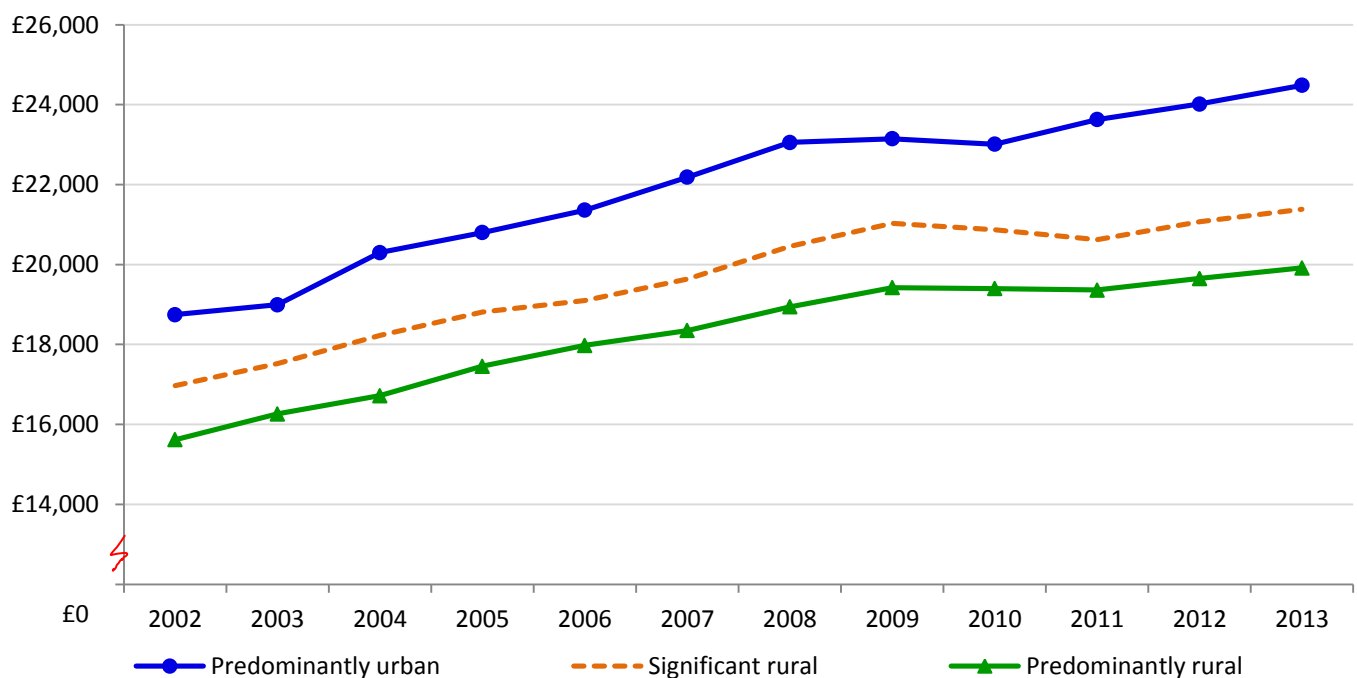
Unemployment rate is expressed as a percentage of the economically active working age population, whereas the employment rate is expressed as a percentage of the entire working age population. Therefore the unemployment rate and employment rate should not be expected to sum to 100%.

Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Business Inquiry via abi2@ons.gov.uk

Earnings

- **Average annual employee earnings** (based on the median value, or middle of the earnings distribution) give an indication of living standards people are able to enjoy through their disposable income (see Expenditure).
- As people do not necessarily work in the same settlement as they live, workplace and residence based average earnings may differ.
- For example, **average residence based earnings are lower than workplace based earnings in major urban areas**, whilst **average residence based earnings in rural areas are higher than workplace earnings** because people living in rural areas may work in urban areas.
- Average workplace based earnings remained the lowest in *Rural-80 areas* and the highest in major urban areas.
- All areas have seen an increase in workplace-based median earnings on 2012, with a 2.0 per cent increase in predominantly urban areas and a 1.4 per cent increase in predominantly rural areas.

Workplace based median gross annual earnings, 2002 to 2013



- Median workplace-based earnings were highest in *major urban areas* (£26,900) and lowest in *Rural-80 areas* (£19,700)
- Between 2002 and 2013 median workplace based earnings increased for all settlement types. The rate of increase was greatest for workplaces in *major urban areas*, increasing by 31.0 per cent, closely followed by *Rural-80 areas* (30.7 per cent).
- The rate of increase was lowest in *Rural-50 areas* where median earnings increased by just over 25.3 per cent in the same period.

Workplace based median gross annual earnings, (£), 2002 to 2013

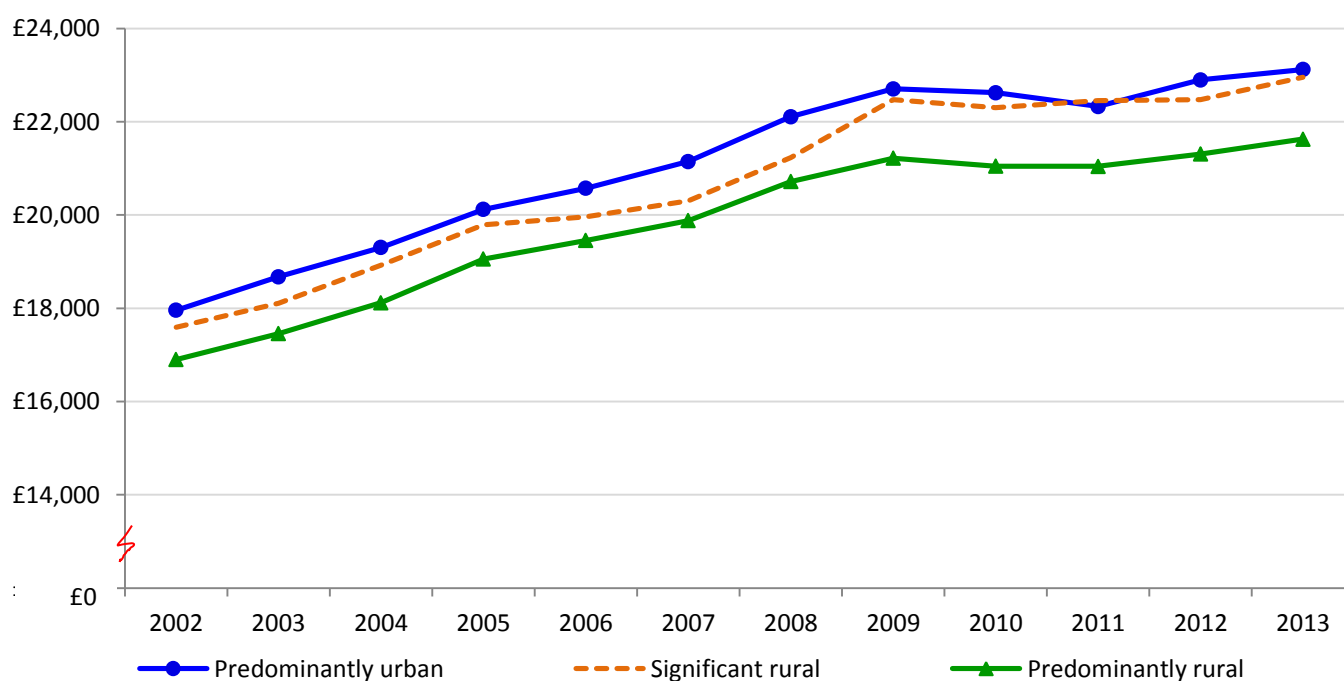
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Major urban	20,500	20,400	22,500	22,800	23,400	24,400	25,300	25,000	25,000	26,100	26,500	26,900
Large urban	16,400	17,000	17,400	18,100	18,800	19,400	20,100	20,600	20,400	20,400	20,700	21,300
Other urban	17,000	17,800	18,100	18,900	19,400	19,900	20,900	21,300	21,000	21,000	21,400	22,000
Significant rural	17,000	17,500	18,200	18,800	19,100	19,600	20,500	21,000	20,900	20,600	21,100	21,400
Rural-50	16,000	16,400	16,900	17,700	18,200	18,400	19,000	19,500	19,500	19,500	19,900	20,100
Rural-80	15,100	16,100	16,500	17,200	17,700	18,200	19,000	19,300	19,300	19,200	19,400	19,700
Predominantly urban	18,700	19,000	20,300	20,800	21,400	22,200	23,100	23,100	23,000	23,600	24,000	24,500
Predominantly rural	15,600	16,300	16,700	17,500	18,000	18,300	18,900	19,400	19,400	19,400	19,700	19,900
England*	17,300	17,800	18,500	19,300	19,800	20,300	21,200	21,700	21,600	21,500	21,800	22,200

Results for England are not comparable with the data for the rural – urban categories presented above. Results for rural – urban categories have been weighted by the number of people employed aged 16-64 based on Annual Population Survey and Annual Population Survey – workplace analysis:

<http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/751.aspx> Results for England come from the original ONS publication (table 7.7a):

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/ashes/annual-survey-of-hours-and-earnings/2013-provisional-results/2013-provisional-table-7.zip>

Residence-based median gross annual earnings, 2002 to 2013



- Median residence based earnings were highest in *major urban areas* (£24,600), followed by *significant rural areas* (£23,000).
- Median residence based earnings in England increased by 28.9 per cent between 2002 and 2013. The percentage increase was lowest in *Rural-80 areas*, an increase of 25.1 per cent and highest in *significant rural areas*, with an increase of 30.5 per cent.

Residence based median gross annual earnings, (£), 2002 to 2013

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Major urban	19,000	19,800	20,500	21,500	21,800	22,600	23,600	24,300	24,200	23,800	24,400	24,600
Large urban	16,600	17,100	17,700	18,500	18,900	19,200	20,000	20,500	20,500	20,300	20,900	21,100
Other urban	16,900	17,600	18,200	18,700	19,400	19,800	20,800	21,200	21,100	21,100	21,400	21,700
Significant rural	17,600	18,100	18,900	19,800	20,000	20,300	21,200	22,500	22,300	22,500	22,500	23,000
Rural-50	17,000	17,400	18,100	19,000	19,600	20,100	20,700	21,700	21,400	21,400	21,700	22,000
Rural-80	16,900	17,500	18,100	19,100	19,300	19,600	20,800	20,600	20,600	20,600	20,700	21,100
Predominantly urban	18,000	18,700	19,300	20,100	20,600	21,100	22,100	22,700	22,600	22,300	22,900	23,100
Predominantly rural	16,900	17,500	18,100	19,100	19,500	19,900	20,700	21,200	21,000	21,000	21,300	21,600
England*	17,600	18,300	19,000	19,800	20,200	20,700	21,600	21,700	21,600	21,500	21,800	22,200

* Results for England are not comparable with the data for the rural – urban categories presented above. Results for rural – urban categories have been weighted by the number of people employed aged 16-64 based on Annual Population Survey and Annual Population Survey – workplace analysis:

<http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/751.aspx> Results for England come from the original ONS publication (table 8.7a):

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/ashes/annual-survey-of-hours-and-earnings/2013-provisional-results/2013-provisional-table-8.zip>

Notes: 2002 – 2012 figures are revised, 2013 are provisional.

Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings: Table 7: Place of Work by Local Authority and Table 8: Place of Residence by Local Authority: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcm%3A77-328216>

Figures in the tables have been rounded to the nearest £100. Results for rural – urban categories have been weighted by the number of people employed aged 16-64 based on Annual Population Survey and Annual Population Survey – workplace analysis: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/751.aspx>

Productivity measured by Gross Value Added (GVA)

Productivity measures are often used to indicate how well a country can use its human and physical resources to generate economic growth. Strong economic growth will generally mean an improvement in living standards. However, productivity alone does not tell us everything about the economic wellbeing of different areas. The potential of any given place depends on the mix of industries, the infrastructure and the size of settlements there. Based on these circumstances, even an area with low productivity might be performing as well as it can.

Gross Value Added (GVA) measures the contribution to the economy of each individual producer, industry or sector. Simplistically it is the value of the amount of goods and services that have been produced, less the cost of all inputs and raw materials that are directly attributable to that production.

A new 2011-based Local Authority Rural-Urban Classification has been published alongside updated GVA estimates. The classification reflects the more detailed rural-urban classification published last year (based on the 2011 Census) and some local authorities that were previously classed as predominantly rural are now classed as urban, owing primarily to population increases in some of their settlements. This means that the GVA estimates for predominantly rural areas is lower than under the previous classification. It does not mean that productivity has fallen only that the GVA of some local authorities has been reclassified and is no longer contributing to the GVA of predominantly rural areas. The impact on the GVA figures is discussed below under the heading 'Assessing the impact of the new Local Authority Classification on GVA'.

In keeping with UK National Accounts commitment to meeting the European Commission definition of Gross National Income and European System of Accounts 2010, the Office for National Statistics has revised its estimates of GVA in the National Accounts which were published in December 2014 (http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_388340.pdf). The estimates below reflect these revisions.

- In 2013, Gross Value Added (GVA) from Predominantly Rural areas contributed 16% of England's GVA, and was worth an estimated £210bn. This compares with 72% from Predominantly Urban areas (including London) (£936bn) and 12% from Urban with Significant Rural areas (£152bn).
- 'Distribution; transport; accommodation and food' and 'Public administration; education; health' each contributed roughly one fifth of GVA in both Predominantly Rural and Predominantly Urban areas. Around 2% of the GVA from Predominantly Rural areas came from 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing'.
- Productivity levels (GVA per workforce job) are highest in London areas and lowest in Mainly Rural areas.
- In 2013, the nominal GVA per workforce job was £65,000 in London and £40,000 in Mainly Rural areas.

Contribution to England's Gross Value Added (GVA)

Contribution to England's Gross Value Added (GVA), by 2011-based local authority rural-urban classification in England (data broadly at county level apportioned at local district level), 2013 (provisional)

2011 local authority classification	GVA (£m)	share	Broader classification	GVA (£m)	share
London	338,476	26%	London	338,476	26%
Urban with Major Conurbation	224,994	17%	Predominantly Urban excl. London	597,802	46%
Urban with Minor Conurbation	38,707	3%			
Urban with City and Town	334,101	26%	Urban with Significant Rural	151,784	12%
Urban with Significant Rural	151,784	12%	Predominantly Rural	209,602	16%
Largely Rural	119,663	9%			
Mainly Rural	89,939	7%			
England	1,297,665	100%	England	1,297,665	100%

- Predominantly urban areas, excluding London, make the largest contribution, estimated at £598bn (46%), to England's GVA, followed by London's £338bn (26%). Predominantly Rural areas contributed an estimated £210bn (16%) in 2013.
- These GVA figures are based on GVA at broadly county level apportioned at local district level to provide a more refined analysis of GVA across the local authority classification. The total GVA for rural and urban areas in the table above is different to the industry breakdown following this, which is less finely detailed being based on data at broadly county level.

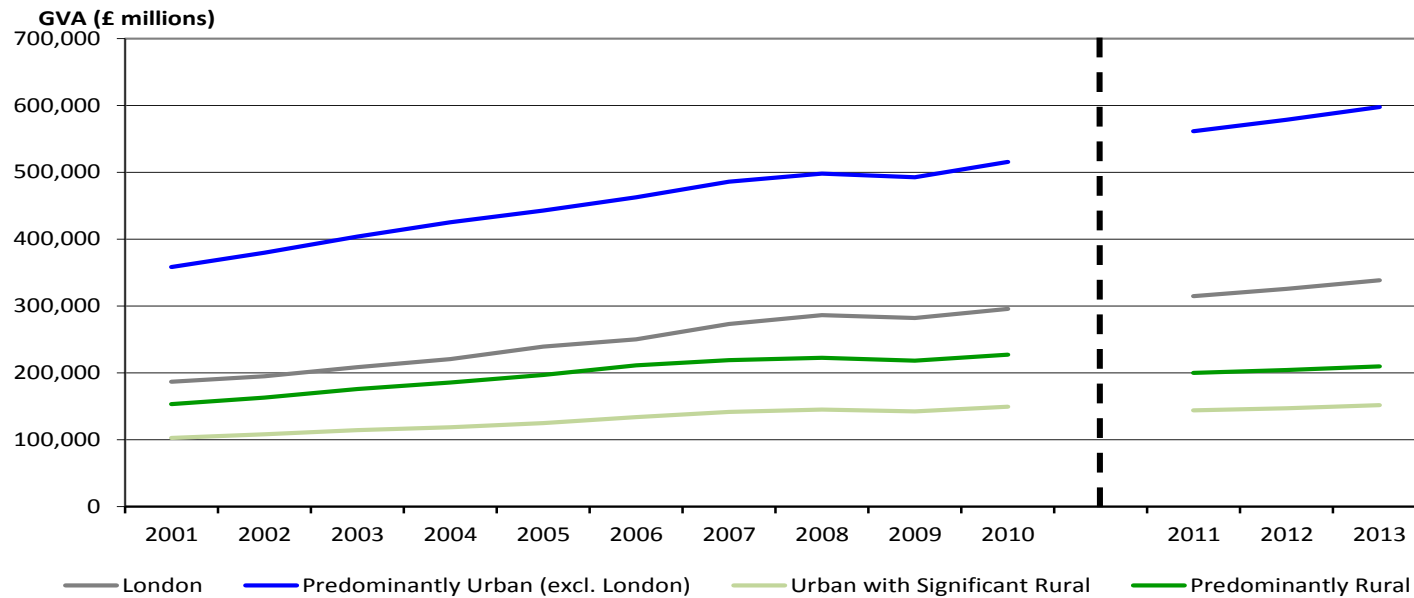
Gross Value Added (GVA) by Local Authority Classification 2001 to 2013

	GVA £ millions											2011	2012	2013
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010				
London	186,744	195,014	208,373	220,380	239,121	250,320	273,161	286,296	282,100	295,658	314,905	325,613	338,476	
Predominantly Urban (excl. London)	358,179	379,819	404,032	425,083	442,811	462,485	486,083	498,073	492,641	515,369	561,503	578,626	597,802	
Urban with Significant Rural	102,744	108,024	114,173	118,770	124,790	133,763	141,660	145,180	142,232	149,186	143,866	147,210	151,784	
Predominantly Rural	153,063	163,127	175,941	185,525	196,657	211,311	219,135	222,432	218,289	227,149	199,878	204,316	209,602	
England	800,729	845,984	902,519	949,758	1,003,379	1,057,878	1,120,039	1,151,981	1,135,261	1,187,363	1,220,152	1,255,765	1,297,665	

Note: 2001 to 2010 data use Local Authority Classification 2001 as in previous publications but and have been revised to take account of new estimates of GVA

2011 to 2013 data use the 2011-based local authority classification

Gross Value Added (GVA) by Local Authority Classification, 2001 to 2013



Assessing the impact of the new Local Authority Classification on GVA

When looking at the GVA of rural and urban areas, the Local Authority Classification has to be used because data for smaller level geographies are not available. As the GVA for the whole authority is used, whether or not GVA is regarded as 'rural' depends on the classification of the authority. A new Local Authority Classification has been published on 18 December 2014 based on the 2011 Census and the detailed 2011 rural-urban classification of Census Output Areas (published in 2013) and this replaces the previous 2001-based Local Authority Classification.

The new Rural Urban Local Authority Classification 2011, or RUCLAD11, has fewer Local Authorities categorised as being largely or mainly 'rural'. This is due to an overall increase in population, plus an expansion of certain settlements and the density of those built up areas. The classification is based on the proportion of people living in settlements defined as 'rural' (below 10,000 population) or in certain 'hub towns' (populations between 10,000 and 30,000) that have been identified as having the potential to serve the wider rural areas. The impact of population changes and settlement patterns is that fewer settlements are defined as 'rural' when compared with the previous Census, and hence proportionately fewer people are regarded as living in rural areas. In some cases this means that Local Authorities which were regarded as 'rural' in the previous classification are no longer classed as 'rural'.

When we analyse GVA, at a national level the total is the same, but when we aggregate the underlying data into the rural and urban classed local authorities, with fewer 'rural' authorities the GVA contribution from 'rural' local authorities is reduced. It does not mean that the rural economy is necessarily doing less well than before, it is simply that some areas which were counted as 'rural' are now counted as 'urban'. It does mean though that it is difficult to compare the GVA over time owing to these changes in the classification.

The table below shows the 2001-based Local Authority Classification and its categories on the left, and the new 2011-based Local Authority Classification 2011 on the right to show how the categories align for comparison of figures.

2001-based Local Authority Classification	Broader classification	2011-based Local Authority Classification	Broader classification
London	London	London	London
Major Urban	Predominantly Urban excl. London	Urban with Major Conurbation	Predominantly Urban excl. London
Large Urban		Urban with Minor Conurbation	
Other Urban		Urban with City and Town	
Significant Rural	Significant Rural	Urban with Significant Rural	Urban with Significant Rural
Rural-50	Predominantly Rural	Largely rural	Predominantly Rural
Rural-80		Mainly rural	
England	England	England	England

The impact of using the new Local Authority Classification can be observed by comparing the 2011 figures with the 2001 and 2011 based Local Authority Classifications. These show how the GVA is split differently under the two classifications between areas.

2011 GVA, by 2001-based Local Authority Classification, for England

2001 Local Authority Classification	GVA (£m)	Share	Broader classification	GVA (£m)	Share
London	314,905	26%	London	314,905	26%
Major Urban	197,472	16%	Predominantly Urban excl. London	521,239	43%
Large Urban	147,901	12%			
Other Urban	175,866	14%			
Significant Rural	150,687	12%	Significant Rural	150,687	12%
Rural-50	134,541	11%	Predominantly Rural	233,322	19%
Rural-80	98,781	8%			
England	1,220,152	100%	England	1,220,152	100%

2011 GVA, by 2011-based Local Authority Classification, for England

2011 Local Authority Classification	GVA (£m)	Share	Broader classification	GVA (£m)	Share
London	314,905	26%	London	314,905	26%
Urban with Major Conurbation	211,361	17%	Predominantly Urban excl. London	561,503	46%
Urban with Minor Conurbation	36,963	3%			
Urban with City and Town	313,179	26%			
Urban with Significant Rural	143,866	12%	Urban with Significant Rural	143,866	12%
Largely Rural	114,656	9%	Predominantly Rural	199,878	16%
Mainly Rural	85,222	7%			
England	1,220,152	100%	England	1,220,152	100%

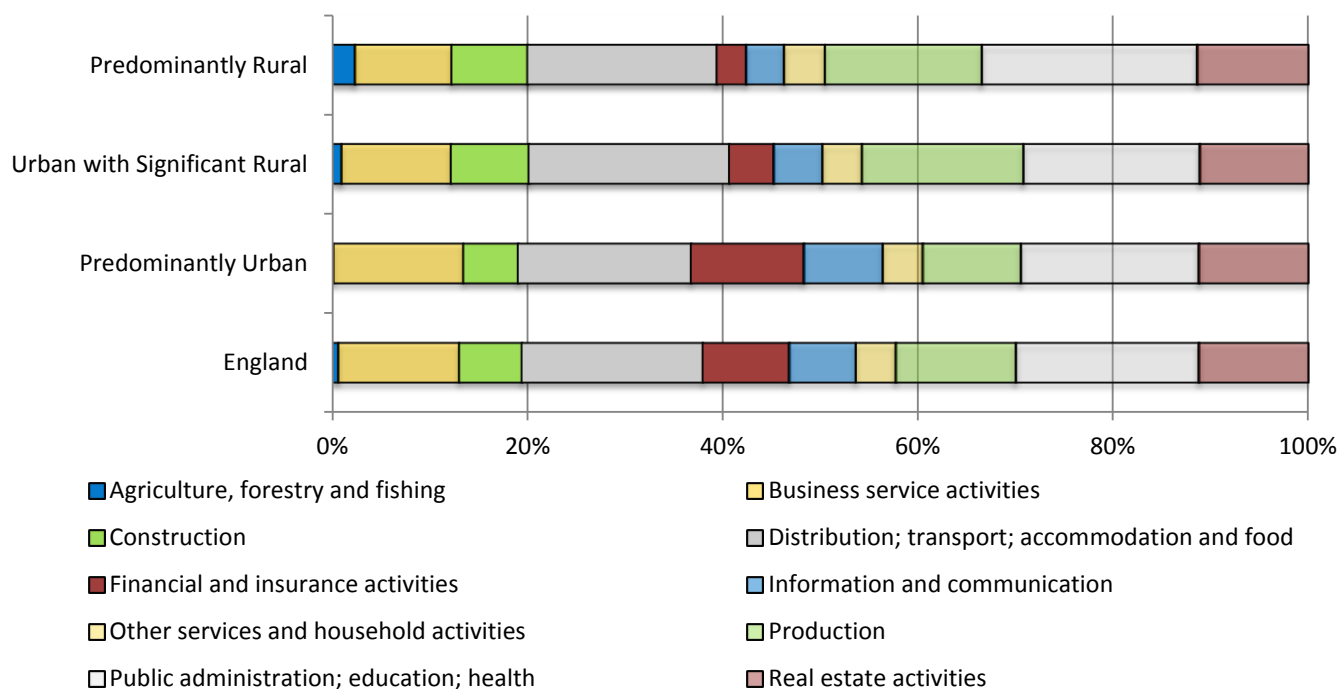
- The figures for London do not change between classifications, which remains urban, however other urban and rural areas differ quite significantly.
- Using the 2001 classification and previous estimates of GVA, the GVA for Predominantly Rural areas was £233bn in 2011 and accounted for 19% of England's GVA.
- Using the 2011 Local Authority Classification and revised estimates of GVA, the Predominantly Rural areas had an estimated GVA of £200bn in 2011 and accounted for 16% of England's GVA.
- The total GVA for England in 2011 remains the same at £1,220bn. The difference in the rural GVA is simply due to how that total GVA is divided up based on a revised classification of urban and rural areas.

Source: Office for National Statistics, Gross Value Added at NUTS3, and NUTS4 from Annual Business Inquiry via abi2@ons.gov.uk.

These GVA figures are based on GVA at broadly county level apportioned at local district level to provide a more refined analysis of GVA across the local authority classification. Data for 2001 to 2010 use the Local Authority Classification for 2001. Data for 2011 onwards use the Local Authority Classification for 2011. Data are provisional estimates. <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/regional-accounts/regional-gross-value-added--income-approach-/december-2014/rft-nuts3.xls>

Productivity by industry

Percentage breakdown of GVA by industry, and by 2011-based local authority classification in England, 2012



- The industrial breakdown is broadly similar across rural and urban areas with ‘Distribution; transport; accommodation and food’ and ‘Public administration; education; health’ each contributing about a fifth of GVA in each area type.
- The main differences are the contributions by ‘Financial and insurance activities’ (12% in Predominantly Urban, 3% in Predominantly Rural), ‘Information and Communication’ (8% in Predominantly Urban, 4% in Predominantly Rural), and ‘Production’ (10% in Predominantly Urban, 16% in Predominantly Rural).

Gross Value Added (GVA) by industry: percentage breakdown by 2011-based Local Authority Classification (using data broadly at county level), 2012

	Predominantly Rural		Urban with Significant Rural		Predominantly Urban		England	
	GVA (£m)	%	GVA (£m)	%	GVA (£m)	%	GVA (£m)	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	4,328	2%	2,630	1%	1,147	0%	8,105	1%
Production	17,230	10%	30,597	11%	110,044	13%	157,871	12%
<i>of which</i> Manufacturing	12,658	8%	19,947	8%	43,819	6%	76,424	6%
Construction	34,538	19%	56,350	21%	141,666	18%	232,554	19%
Distribution; transport; accommodation and food	5,482	3%	12,583	5%	89,869	12%	107,934	9%
Information and communication	7,424	4%	13,536	5%	64,795	8%	85,755	7%
Financial and insurance activities	7,380	4%	11,118	4%	33,595	4%	52,093	4%
Real estate activities	29,116	16%	44,340	17%	82,043	10%	155,499	12%
Business service activities	23,223	13%	36,961	14%	62,041	8%	122,225	10%
Public administration; education; health	38,779	22%	47,573	18%	145,857	18%	232,209	19%
Other services and household activities	21,079	11%	31,596	11%	94,649	11%	147,324	11%
Total GVA	178,014	100%	270,270	100%	807,484	100%	1,255,768	100%

- GVA in Predominantly Rural areas comes from a range of industries. A noticeably smaller proportion of Predominantly Rural GVA is contributed by the combination of 'Business service activities', 'Financial and insurance activities' and 'Information and communication' (17%) compared with Predominantly Urban areas (33%) in 2012.
- Whilst these types of highly specialised businesses do exist in Predominantly Rural areas, they are more prevalent in cities and larger towns.
- Even in Predominantly Rural areas, 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' contributes one of the smallest shares of GVA of any category (2% in 2012) (though this likely to under-estimate the value of agriculture owing to data collection issues).
- The industry breakdown is based on the lowest level of geography available which is broadly at county level. **The totals for GVA for rural and urban areas in the table above are different to the headline figures for GVA earlier in this section. This is because the data above are based at county level and a coarser classification of rural and urban areas**

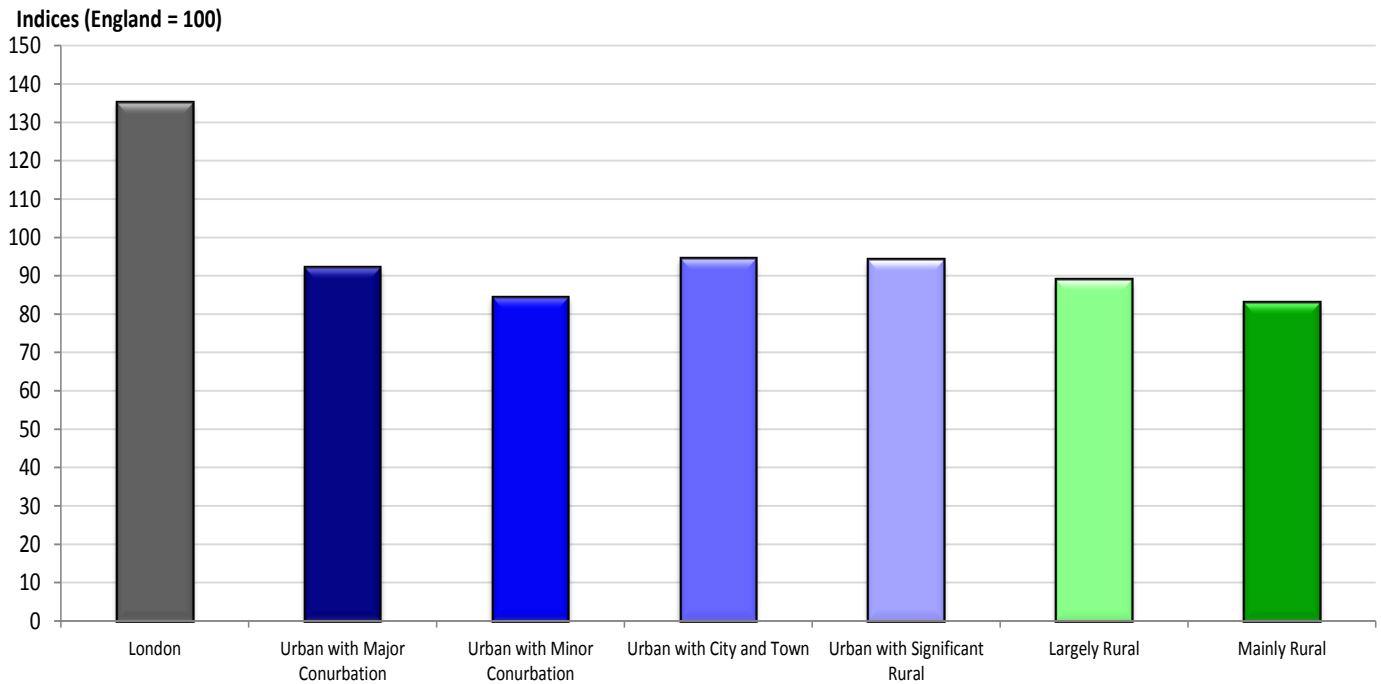
Notes: Gross Value Added measures the contribution to the economy of each individual producer, industry or sector in the country. However there are some gaps in the coverage of the Annual Business Survey; agriculture for example is only partially covered and self employment is not included in the data. This may lead to underestimations of economic value. Gross Value Added data by industry is only available at NUTS3 (broadly county) level, and so a three-way rural-urban classification is applied. Predominantly Rural areas are those with at least half of their population living in rural settlement or large market towns.

Source: Office for National Statistics, Gross Value Added data at NUTS3, table 3:4.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/regional-accounts/regional-gross-value-added--income-approach-/december-2014/rft-nuts3.xls>

Gross Value Added (GVA) per workforce job

Gross Value Added per workforce job, by 2011-based Local Authority Classification in England, 2013



- Productivity levels are, on average, much higher in London than in other areas. After London, Urban with City and Town and Urban with Significant Rural areas have the highest productivity per job (94.5 and 94.2 respectively) relative to the English average, and Mainly Rural areas have the lowest (83.1).

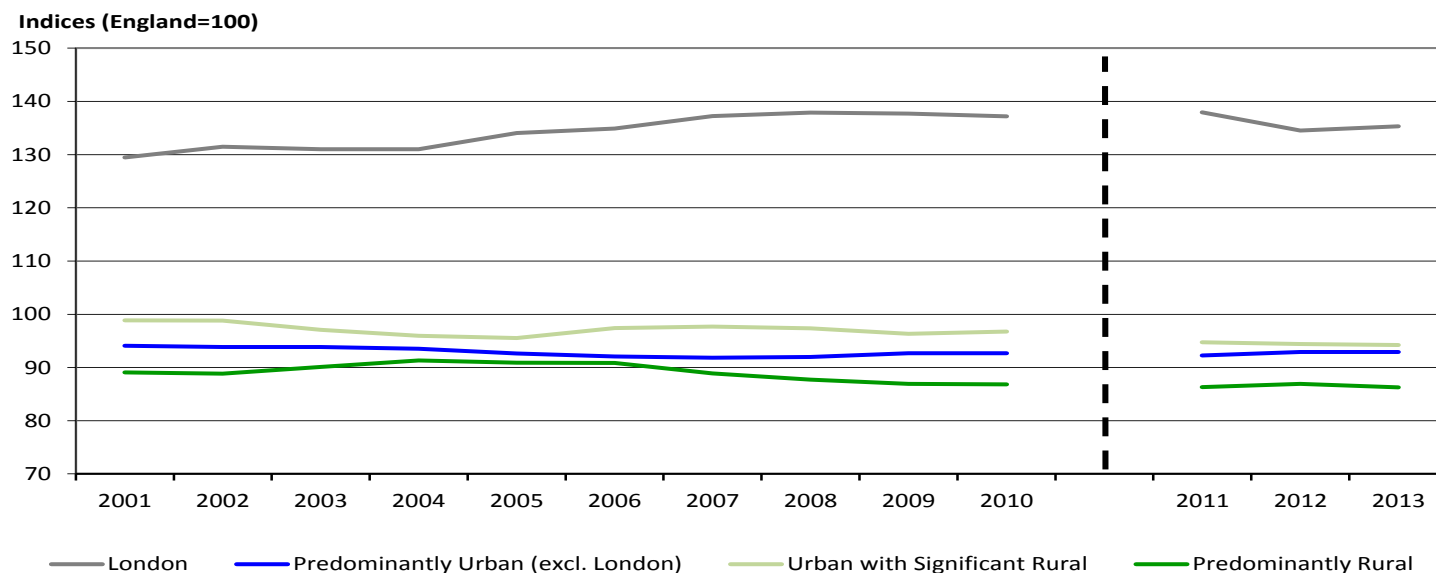
Gross Value Added (GVA) per workforce job indexed to England=100, by Local Authority Classification, 2001 to 2013

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
London	129.5	131.5	131.0	131.0	134.0	134.9	137.2	137.9	137.7	137.2	138.0	134.5	135.3
Urban with Major Conurbation (excl. London)	94.5	93.0	92.2	92.6	91.7	91.9	91.4	90.7	92.7	91.1	91.4	91.8	92.2
Urban with Minor Conurbation	92.3	93.1	94.0	93.0	91.7	90.7	90.9	92.8	92.8	93.9	84.0	85.3	84.3
Urban with City and Town	95.1	95.4	95.6	94.9	94.5	93.4	93.0	92.7	92.6	93.4	94.0	94.7	94.5
Urban with Significant Rural	98.8	98.8	97.1	95.9	95.5	97.4	97.7	97.3	96.3	96.8	94.7	94.4	94.2
Largely Rural	89.8	91.9	91.7	93.9	93.3	91.8	89.6	88.1	86.5	87.4	88.3	89.5	88.9
Mainly Rural	88.0	84.8	88.0	87.9	87.7	89.5	87.9	87.1	87.4	86.1	83.8	83.7	83.1
England	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note: 2001 to 2010 data use Local Authority Classification 2001 as in previous publications but and have been revised to take account of new estimates of GVA

2011 to 2013 data use the 2011-based local authority classification

Output per job, by Local Authority Classification in England, 2001 to 2013 (England=100)



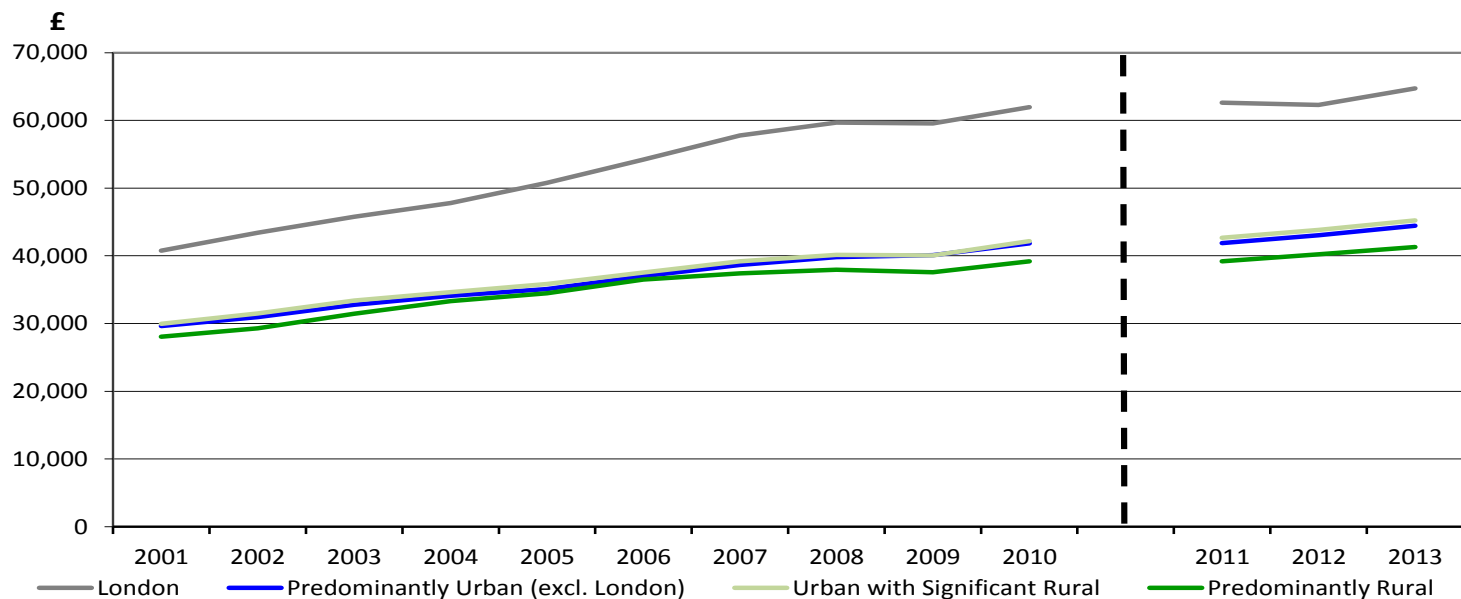
Nominal Gross Value Added (GVA) per workforce job (£), by Local Authority Classification in England, 2001 to 2013

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
London	40,765	43,394	45,756	47,784	50,801	54,217	57,775	59,682	59,565	61,944	62,630	62,283	64,743
Urban with Major Conurbation (excl. London)	29,759	30,698	32,199	33,778	34,748	36,953	38,489	39,243	40,102	41,140	41,484	42,528	44,099
Urban with Minor Conurbation	29,059	30,732	32,828	33,923	34,753	36,443	38,286	40,171	40,147	42,379	38,146	39,498	40,320
Urban with City and Town	29,952	31,498	33,403	34,629	35,820	37,546	39,173	40,129	40,042	42,187	42,667	43,836	45,240
Urban with Significant Rural	31,125	32,616	33,909	34,994	36,202	39,158	41,120	42,130	41,673	43,686	43,009	43,721	45,080
Largely Rural	28,282	30,325	32,013	34,229	35,363	36,914	37,747	38,143	37,429	39,457	40,103	41,456	42,524
Mainly Rural	27,723	27,974	30,743	32,071	33,222	35,989	37,003	37,713	37,802	38,854	38,029	38,736	39,743
England	31,488	33,002	34,929	36,472	37,898	40,198	42,105	43,280	43,260	45,147	45,398	46,306	47,851

Note: 2001 to 2010 data use Local Authority Classification 2001 as in previous publications but and have been revised to take account of new estimates of GVA

2011 to 2013 data use the 2011-based local authority classification

Nominal GVA per workforce job (£), by Local Authority Classification in England, 2001 to 2013



- The nominal GVA per workforce job is highest in London than other areas, at around £65,000 per workforce job in 2013. After London, Urban with City and Town and Urban with Significant Rural areas have the highest values per workforce job (around £45,000 each respectively). Mainly Rural areas have the lowest GVA per workforce job, at around £40,000.

Notes: This analysis takes the number of workforce jobs as an input measure and gross value added (GVA) as an output measure, and indexes productivity scores such that England=100.

Nominal GVA per workforce job is a measure of GVA divided by the workforce number.

It is important to note that there is currently no official way of deflating these nominal GVA figures to reflect underlying differences in price levels between places. This means that these figures may exaggerate the variation in real GVA per job between different areas because we would expect prices (property and other living expenses) to be highest in areas of high productivity such as London.

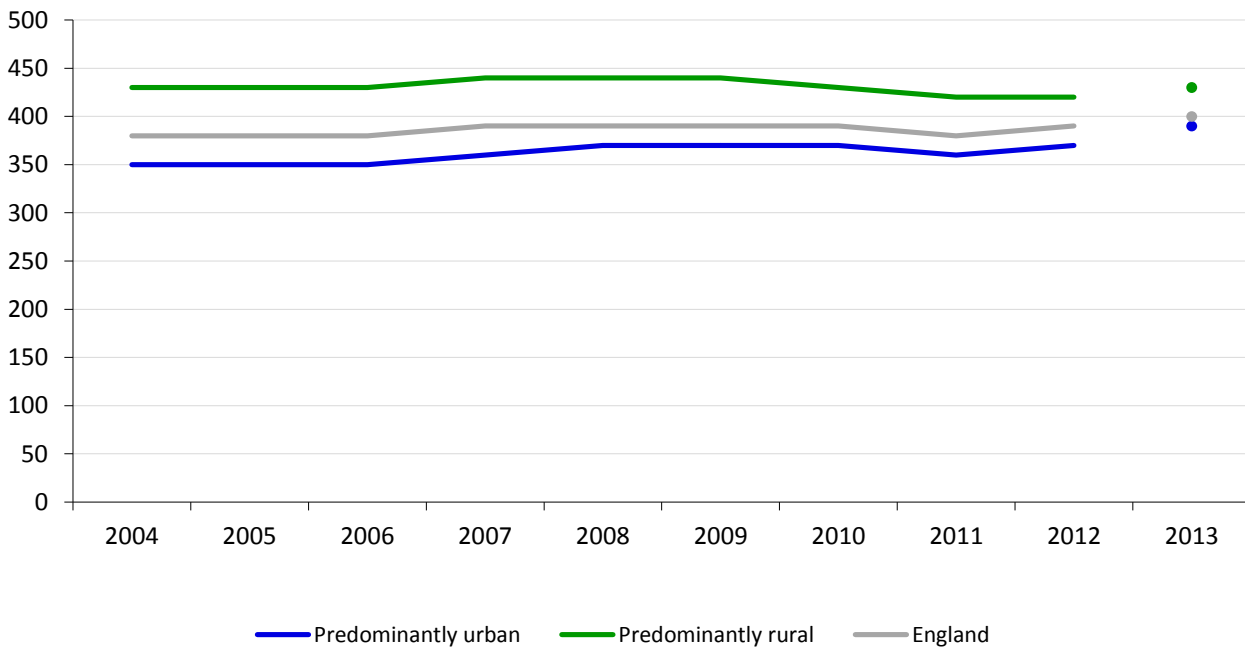
Source: Workforce jobs series via Nomis (<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/Default.asp>).

Businesses

- There are more registered businesses per head of population in *predominantly rural areas* than in *predominantly urban areas*, reflecting there being more smaller businesses in rural areas.
- Since 2008, business start-ups per head of population have been higher in *predominantly urban areas* than in *predominantly rural areas*.
- Turnover per person employed is higher in urban areas than in rural areas.
- ‘Agriculture, forestry & fishing’ accounts for 16.3 per cent of registered businesses in rural areas overall.

Business count

Registered businesses per 10,000 population by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004 to 2013



- The number of registered businesses per head of population is higher in *predominantly rural areas* than in *predominantly urban areas*, reflecting there being more small businesses in rural areas.
- Between 2009 and 2011 there was a decrease in the number of businesses per head in both predominantly rural and urban areas. Since then, *predominantly urban areas* have seen an increase, whilst there has been little change in *predominantly rural areas*.

Registered businesses per 10,000 population by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004 to 2013

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Urban with Major Conurbation	370	370	380	390	400	410	410	400	410	430
Urban with Minor Conurbation	320	320	330	330	330	330	320	320	320	280
Urban with City and Town	310	320	320	330	330	330	320	320	320	350
Urban with Significant Rural	410	410	410	420	430	430	420	410	420	430
Largely Rural	400	410	410	420	420	420	420	410	410	410
Mainly Rural	470	470	470	470	460	460	450	440	440	450
Predominantly urban	350	350	350	360	370	370	370	360	370	390
Predominantly rural	430	430	430	440	440	440	430	420	420	430
England	380	380	380	390	390	390	390	380	390	400

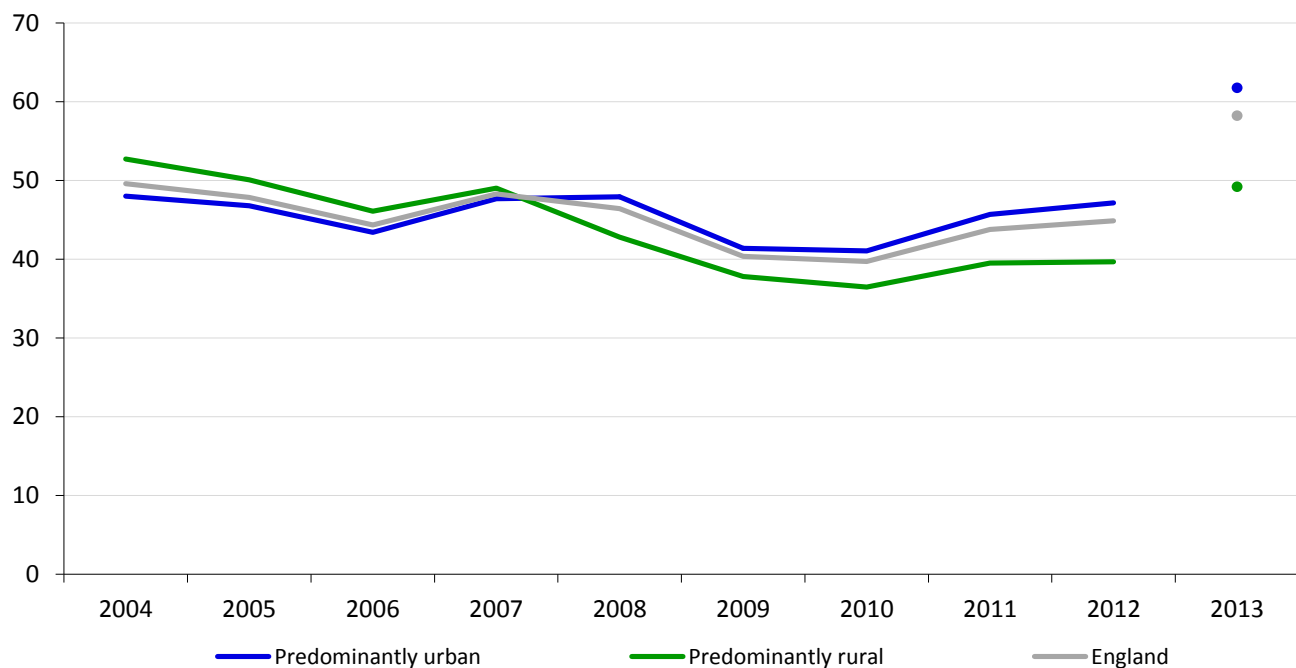
Note: 2004 to 2012 data use Local Authority Classification 2001. 2013 data use the 2011-based local authority rural-urban classification.

Notes: The data come from Business Demography, which includes businesses that are PAYE registered but not VAT registered. Registered businesses are based on the location of the registered head office, if in multiple locations. Source: ONS - VAT Registrations and De-Registrations, ONS - Business Demography 2013: Enterprise Births, Deaths and Survivals, Tables 1.1 and 3.1

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/bus-register/business-demography/2013/index.html>

Business start-ups

Registered business start-ups per 10,000 population by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004 to 2013



- Between 2007 and 2010, there was a general decrease in rate of registered business start-ups per head, reflecting the economic downturn, but the rates across all area types have since become stable or have increased.
- Since 2008 there have been more business start-ups per head of population in *predominantly urban areas* than in *predominantly rural areas*.

Registered business start-ups per 10,000 population by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004 to 2013

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Urban with Major Conurbation	53	51	48	53	56	48	48	54	56	73
Urban with Minor Conurbation	43	42	39	42	38	32	32	36	36	39
Urban with City and Town	42	41	37	41	40	35	33	36	37	50
Urban with Significant Rural	51	49	46	50	46	40	39	42	43	55
Largely Rural	50	48	44	47	43	37	37	39	40	48
Mainly Rural	57	53	49	52	43	39	36	40	40	50
Predominantly urban	48	47	43	48	48	41	41	46	47	62
Predominantly rural	53	50	46	49	43	38	36	40	40	49
England	50	48	44	48	46	40	40	44	45	58

Note: 2004 to 2012 data use Local Authority Classification 2001. 2013 data use the 2011-based local authority rural-urban classification.

Note: The 2004 – 2013 data come from Business Demography, which includes businesses that are PAYE registered but not VAT registered.

Source: ONS - VAT Registrations and De-Registrations, ONS - Business Demography 2013: Enterprise Births, Deaths and Survivals, Tables 1.1 and 3.1

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/bus-register/business-demography/2013/index.html>

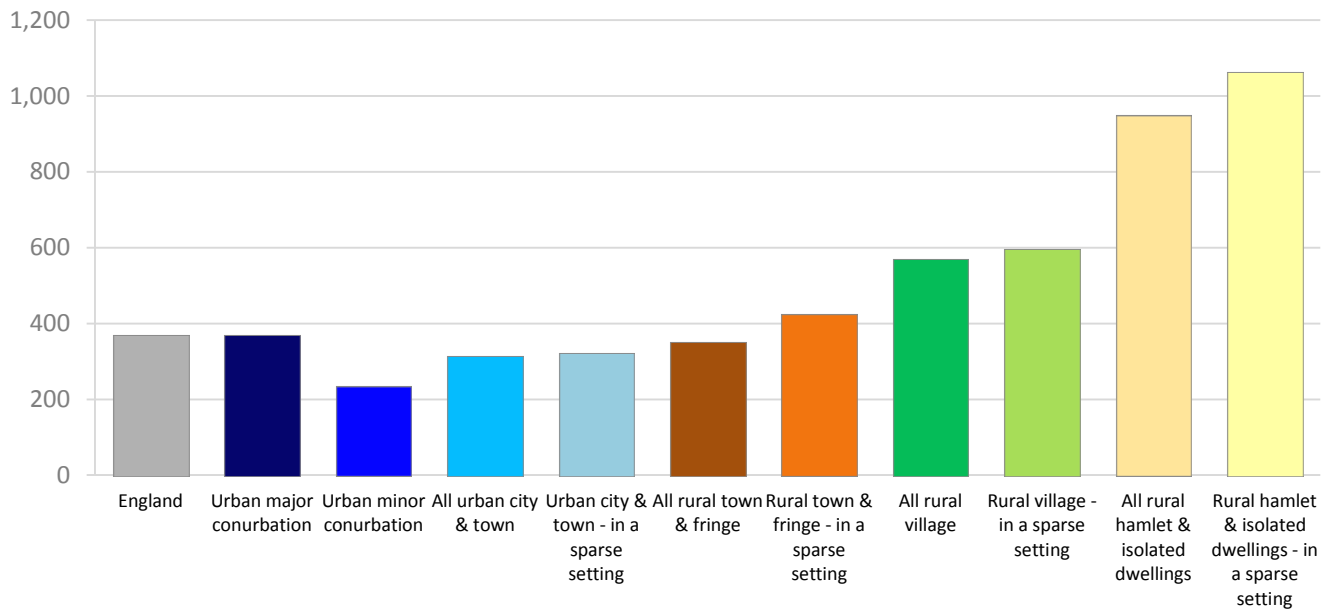
Research on 'Drivers of rural business employment growth, decline and stability' can be found at the following link:

<http://randd.defra.gov.uk/Default.aspx?Menu=Menu&Module=More&Location=None&Completed=0&ProjectID=18782#Description>

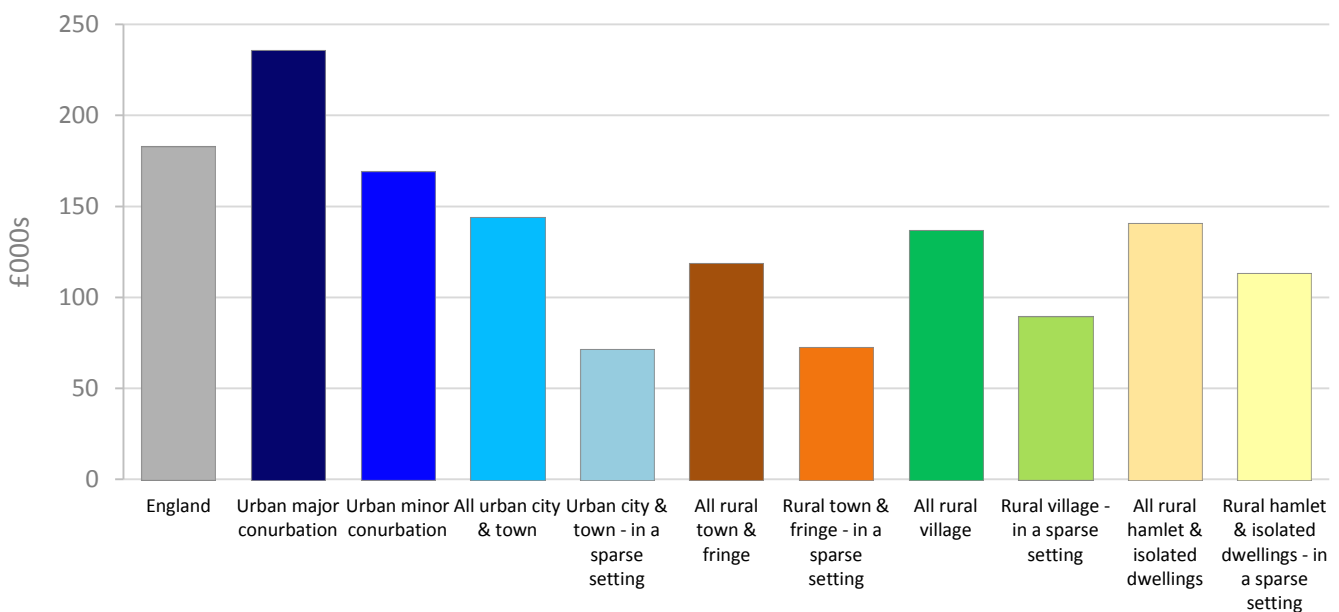
Business composition

Important note: 'Business composition' is based on Enterprises, which is the level at which businesses are registered for Value Added Tax. In the case of a business operating at only one address, it will be registered at that address, but for businesses operating in several locations, it will be the location of the headquarters that is registered. If a business has outlets in rural areas, but the headquarters are registered within an urban area, then the statistics for all the outlets will be registered at the headquarters, and not counted as "rural". The later sections on 'Businesses by industry type' and 'Businesses by size band' are based on Local Unit data, which distinguishes the location of branches.

Number of registered businesses (single-site or headquarters) per 10,000 population, by rural-urban classification, in England, 2013/14



Average turnover per person employed, by rural-urban classification, in England, 2013/14



- There are more registered businesses (single-site or headquarters) per head of population in rural areas than in urban areas. The more 'rural' an area is, the higher the number of registered businesses per head of population.
- However, the average turnover per person employed is greater in urban areas, especially *urban conurbations*, and lower in rural areas, especially those in a *sparse setting*.

Registered businesses (single-site or headquarters), by rural-urban classification, in England, 2013/14

	Count of Enterprises	Number of People Employed 000s	Total Turnover £m	Count of Enterprises per 10,000 population	Average Turnover per enterprise £000s	Average Turnover per person employed £000s
All Urban	1,453,805	21,121	4,017,674	333	2,764	190
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	2,845	20	1,458	320	513	71
All Rural	496,225	2,925	384,143	531	774	131
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	31,880	136	12,153	662	381	89
Urban major conurbation	691,500	10,426	2,460,378	368	3,558	236
Urban minor conurbation	44,580	794	134,134	234	3,009	169
All urban city & town	717,725	9,901	1,423,162	312	1,983	144
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	2,845	20	1,458	320	513	71
All rural town & fringe	163,315	1,064	126,322	351	773	119
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	7,905	59	4,297	424	544	73
All rural village	166,205	885	120,805	567	727	136
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	9,395	34	3,042	596	324	89
All rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	166,710	976	137,016	949	822	140
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	14,580	43	4,814	1,061	330	113
England	1,950,030	24,046	4,401,816	368	2,257	183

Note: On the IDBR, the enterprise is the statistical unit that most closely equates to a business. It holds aggregated information gathered from administrative and statistical sources within that enterprise to give an overall picture of what is going on in the business. An enterprise carries out one or more activities at one or more locations. An enterprise may be a sole legal unit.

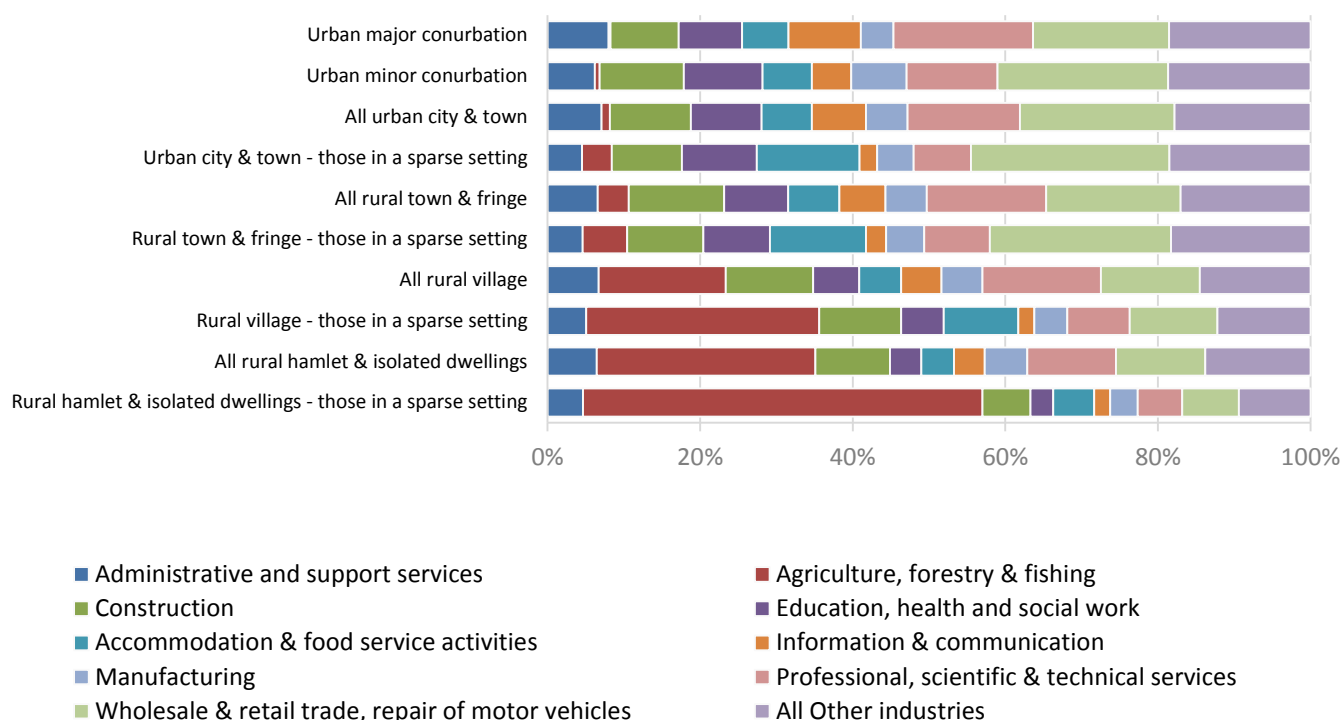
Further information: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/products-and-services/idbr/index.html>

Source: ONS, Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), 2013/14

Businesses by industry type

Important note: 'Businesses by industry type' and 'Businesses by size band' are based on Local Unit, which is a departure from previous analyses which reported on Enterprises. This better reflects the make-up of rural businesses as there may be many local business units in rural areas whose headquarters are elsewhere (although this can apply vice versa).

Percentage of local units of registered businesses by industry and rural-urban classification, in England, 2013/14



- 'Agriculture, forestry & fishing' accounts for 4.3 per cent of the local units of registered businesses in England, but they are dominant industries in *rural hamlets* and *rural villages*. In *rural hamlets & isolated dwellings in a sparse setting*, more than half the registered businesses are in these industries.
- 'Agriculture, forestry & fishing' accounts for 16.3 per cent of the local units of registered businesses in rural areas overall (33 per cent in *rural areas in a sparse setting*). Other dominant sectors in rural areas are: 'Professional, scientific & technical services' (14.3 per cent of businesses), 'Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles' (14.2 per cent) and 'Construction' (11.3 per cent).
- Since 2012/13, there has been an increase of 2.3 per cent in the number of local units of registered businesses in all rural areas, compared with increases of 4.6 per cent in all urban areas and 4 per cent in England.
- In all areas the industry sector that showed the highest increases in local units of registered business numbers between 2012/13 and 2013/14 was 'Mining, quarrying and utilities' (increase of 27.6 per cent in rural areas and 39.7% in urban areas). Other sector increases were: 'Professional, scientific and technical' (5.7 per cent in rural areas and 8.4% in urban areas), 'Administrative and support services' (5.1 per cent in rural areas and 8.9 per cent in urban areas) and 'Information and communication' (5 per cent in rural areas and 8.8% in urban areas). The 'Finance' and 'Manufacturing' sectors decreased in both rural and urban areas, 'Finance' by 2.9 and 1.3 per cent respectively and 'Manufacturing' by 2.6 and 2.3 per cent respectively.

Numbers of local units of registered businesses by industry and rural-urban classification, in England, 2013/14

	All Urban	Urban - those in a sparse setting	All Rural	Rural - those in a sparse setting	Urban major conurbation	Urban minor conurbation	All urban city & town	Urban city & town - those in a sparse setting	All rural town & fringe	Rural town & fringe - those in a sparse setting	All rural village	Rural village - those in a sparse setting	All rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings - those in a sparse setting	England
Administrative and support services	133,385	175	35,595	1,695	65,945	3,545	63,895	175	12,295	460	11,900	520	11,400	715	168,980
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12,110	150	87,970	11,745	2,060	345	9,705	150	7,600	585	29,610	3,130	50,760	8,025	100,080
Arts, entertainment and recreation	52,630	145	15,005	980	28,175	1,515	22,940	145	4,900	335	5,015	295	5,090	355	67,640
Construction	175,485	355	60,930	3,070	73,750	6,300	95,435	355	23,260	1,000	20,355	1,105	17,320	965	236,415
Education, health and social work	157,660	380	33,675	1,900	68,295	5,885	83,480	380	15,665	870	10,765	570	7,245	460	191,340
Finance	48,860	80	7,450	320	24,285	1,490	23,085	80	3,545	220	1,940	40	1,965	60	56,315
Accommodation & food service activities	113,130	520	29,870	3,090	50,260	3,700	59,170	520	12,540	1,260	9,720	1,005	7,610	825	143,000
Information and communication	144,645	90	27,795	800	77,940	2,935	63,770	90	11,245	265	9,465	215	7,090	320	172,440
Manufacturing	88,890	185	29,515	1,500	35,500	4,135	49,260	185	10,130	500	9,490	440	9,895	555	118,410
Mining/quarrying and utilities	8,835	30	4,215	270	3,710	340	4,785	30	1,000	50	1,465	60	1,750	160	13,045
Professional, scientific & technical services	290,005	290	77,390	2,590	150,570	6,800	132,635	290	29,165	860	27,615	840	20,610	890	367,390
Public admin and defence; other services	85,025	205	21,125	1,205	36,300	3,065	45,660	205	9,600	565	6,370	335	5,155	310	106,150
Real estate activities	69,290	125	16,895	790	36,095	1,965	31,230	125	5,905	335	5,475	205	5,515	250	86,185
Transport and storage	58,960	125	17,220	950	24,100	2,265	32,595	125	6,775	330	5,490	315	4,955	305	76,180
Wholesale, retail & repair of motor vehicles	342,140	1,005	76,670	4,695	147,040	12,770	182,330	1,005	32,925	2,375	23,055	1,180	20,685	1,140	418,805
Total	1,781,045	3,865	541,330	35,595	824,025	57,055	899,960	3,865	186,550	10,005	177,730	10,255	177,050	15,335	2,322,375

Percentage of local units of registered businesses by industry and rural-urban classification, in England, 2013/14

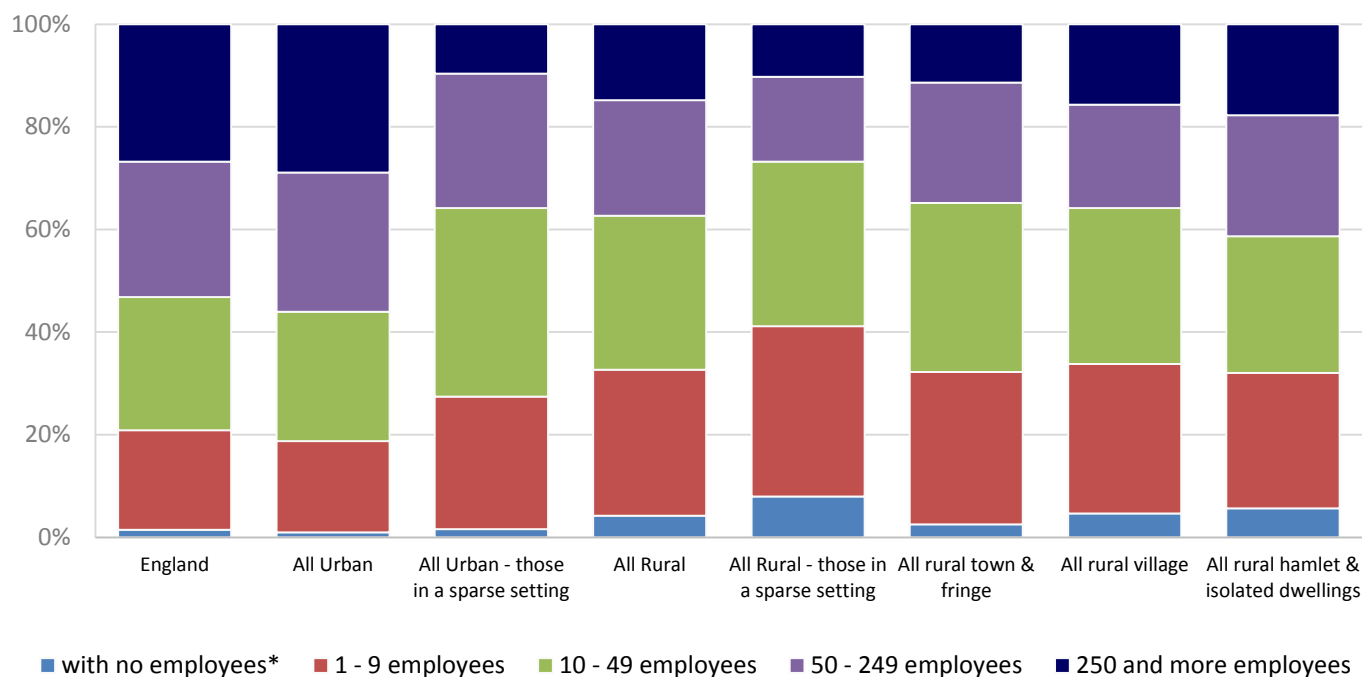
	All Urban	Urban - those in a sparse setting	All Rural	Rural - those in a sparse setting	Urban major conurbation	Urban minor conurbation	All urban city & town	Urban city & town - those in a sparse setting	All rural town & fringe	Rural town & fringe - those in a sparse setting	All rural village	Rural village - those in a sparse setting	All rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings - those in a sparse setting	England
Administrative and support services	7.5	4.5	6.6	4.8	8.0	6.2	7.1	4.5	6.6	4.6	6.7	5.1	6.4	4.7	7.3
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	0.7	3.9	16.3	33.0	0.2	0.6	1.1	3.9	4.1	5.8	16.7	30.5	28.7	52.3	4.3
Arts, entertainment and recreation	3.0	3.8	2.8	2.8	3.4	2.7	2.5	3.8	2.6	3.3	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.3	2.9
Construction	9.9	9.2	11.3	8.6	8.9	11.0	10.6	9.2	12.5	10.0	11.5	10.8	9.8	6.3	10.2
Education, health and social work	8.9	9.8	6.2	5.3	8.3	10.3	9.3	9.8	8.4	8.7	6.1	5.6	4.1	3.0	8.2
Finance	2.7	2.1	1.4	0.9	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.1	1.9	2.2	1.1	0.4	1.1	0.4	2.4
Accommodation & food service activities	6.4	13.5	5.5	8.7	6.1	6.5	6.6	13.5	6.7	12.6	5.5	9.8	4.3	5.4	6.2
Information and communication	8.1	2.3	5.1	2.2	9.5	5.1	7.1	2.3	6.0	2.6	5.3	2.1	4.0	2.1	7.4
Manufacturing	5.0	4.8	5.5	4.2	4.3	7.2	5.5	4.8	5.4	5.0	5.3	4.3	5.6	3.6	5.1
Mining/quarrying and utilities	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.6
Professional, scientific & technical services	16.3	7.5	14.3	7.3	18.3	11.9	14.7	7.5	15.6	8.6	15.5	8.2	11.6	5.8	15.8
Public admin and defence; other services	4.8	5.3	3.9	3.4	4.4	5.4	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.6	3.6	3.3	2.9	2.0	4.6
Real estate activities	3.9	3.2	3.1	2.2	4.4	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.1	2.0	3.1	1.6	3.7
Transport and storage	3.3	3.2	3.2	2.7	2.9	4.0	3.6	3.2	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.1	2.8	2.0	3.3
Wholesale, retail & repair of motor vehicles	19.2	26.0	14.2	13.2	17.8	22.4	20.3	26.0	17.6	23.7	13.0	11.5	11.7	7.4	18.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Businesses by size band

The number of **employees** refers to the number of people working within the business under a contract of employment in return for a wage or salary. A business can have no employees, if all the business is conducted by people classed as being working proprietors (i.e. sole traders or partnerships).

The number of people **employed** is a sum of employees and self-employed people who run the business.

Percentage of people employed within local units by size bands of registered businesses and rural-urban classification, in England, 2013/14



* 'With no employees' comprises mainly sole proprietorships and partnerships. This category also includes around 14,400 businesses classed as 'Other' – with no employees and no employment (about 0.6 per cent of the total business count).

- In urban areas 28.9 per cent of people employed in the local units of registered businesses are employed in those businesses with 250 or more employees overall, and in rural areas the proportion is 14.8 per cent.
- In regard to smaller businesses, in urban areas 18.8 per cent of people employed in local units of registered businesses are employed in those with up to 9 employees overall, whilst in rural areas the proportion is 32.6 per cent.

The statistics are based on individual business units rather than the location of the headquarters of the enterprise. There may be many local business units in rural areas whose headquarters are elsewhere, and vice versa.

Source: ONS, IDBR 2013/14.

Number of local units of registered businesses with percentage by size of the registered business overall and rural-urban classification, in England, 2013/14

	with no employees*		1 - 9 employees		10 - 49 employees		50 - 249 employees		250 and more employees		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
All Urban	172,615	9.7	1,289,350	72.4	253,145	14.2	56,975	3.2	8,960	0.5	1,781,045	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	445	11.6	2,620	67.9	690	17.8	95	2.5	10	0.2	3,865	100.0
All Rural	112,330	20.8	364,260	67.3	55,155	10.2	8,570	1.6	1,010	0.2	541,330	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	11,110	31.2	20,645	58.0	3,440	9.7	375	1.1	25	0.1	35,595	100.0
Urban major conurbation	77,515	9.4	610,985	74.1	106,955	13.0	24,455	3.0	4,120	0.5	824,025	100.0
Urban minor conurbation	5,720	10.0	38,910	68.2	9,745	17.1	2,315	4.1	370	0.6	57,055	100.0
All urban city & town	89,385	9.9	639,450	71.1	136,450	15.2	30,205	3.4	4,470	0.5	899,960	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	445	11.6	2,620	67.9	690	17.8	95	2.5	10	0.2	3,865	100.0
All rural town & fringe	26,445	14.2	135,095	72.4	21,435	11.5	3,275	1.8	300	0.2	186,550	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	1,410	14.1	6,870	68.7	1,525	15.3	190	1.9	10	0.1	10,005	100.0
All rural village	37,985	21.4	119,730	67.4	17,345	9.8	2,345	1.3	320	0.2	177,730	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	3,130	30.5	6,060	59.1	985	9.6	80	0.8	5	0.0	10,255	100.0
All rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	47,905	27.1	109,430	61.8	16,375	9.2	2,950	1.7	390	0.2	177,050	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	6,580	42.9	7,715	50.3	930	6.1	105	0.7	10	0.1	15,335	100.0
England	284,945	12.3	1,653,610	71.2	308,305	13.3	65,545	2.8	9,970	0.4	2,322,375	100.0

* 'With no employees' comprises mainly sole proprietorships and partnerships. This category also includes around 14,400 businesses classed as 'Other' – with no employees and no employment (about 0.6 per cent of the total business count).

Number and percentage of people employed in local units of registered businesses by size band* of the registered business overall and rural-urban classification, in England, 2013/14

	with no employees*		1 - 9 employees		10 - 49 employees		50 - 249 employees		250 and more employees		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
All Urban	205,330	1.0	3,667,980	17.8	5,205,920	25.2	5,603,095	27.1	5,963,215	28.9	20,645,540	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	610	1.6	9,865	25.8	14,030	36.8	10,000	26.2	3,675	9.6	38,180	100.0
All Rural	154,475	4.2	1,038,685	28.4	1,098,865	30.1	821,665	22.5	542,425	14.8	3,656,110	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	16,385	7.9	68,410	33.2	66,195	32.1	34,075	16.5	21,110	10.2	206,180	100.0
Urban major conurbation	91,540	1.0	1,654,690	18.0	2,186,310	23.7	2,409,125	26.2	2,871,000	31.2	9,212,665	100.0
Urban minor conurbation	6,775	0.8	121,310	14.4	204,220	24.2	226,290	26.8	286,175	33.9	844,770	100.0
All urban city & town	107,020	1.0	1,891,975	17.9	2,815,385	26.6	2,967,680	28.0	2,806,040	26.5	10,588,105	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	610	1.6	9,865	25.8	14,030	36.8	10,000	26.2	3,675	9.6	38,180	100.0
All rural town & fringe	33,430	2.6	388,515	29.7	431,365	32.9	307,480	23.5	148,660	11.4	1,309,455	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	1,890	2.4	24,675	31.2	30,080	38.0	17,510	22.1	5,045	6.4	79,195	100.0
All rural village	52,330	4.6	327,775	29.1	342,240	30.4	226,875	20.1	176,955	15.7	1,126,175	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	4,590	7.7	19,405	32.4	18,320	30.6	7,515	12.6	9,990	16.7	59,825	100.0
All rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	68,710	5.6	322,395	26.4	325,255	26.6	287,310	23.5	216,810	17.8	1,220,485	100.0
<i>those in a sparse setting</i>	9,910	14.8	24,330	36.2	17,795	26.5	9,050	13.5	6,075	9.0	67,165	100.0
England	359,805	1.5	4,706,665	19.4	6,304,785	25.9	6,424,760	26.4	6,505,640	26.8	24,301,650	100.0

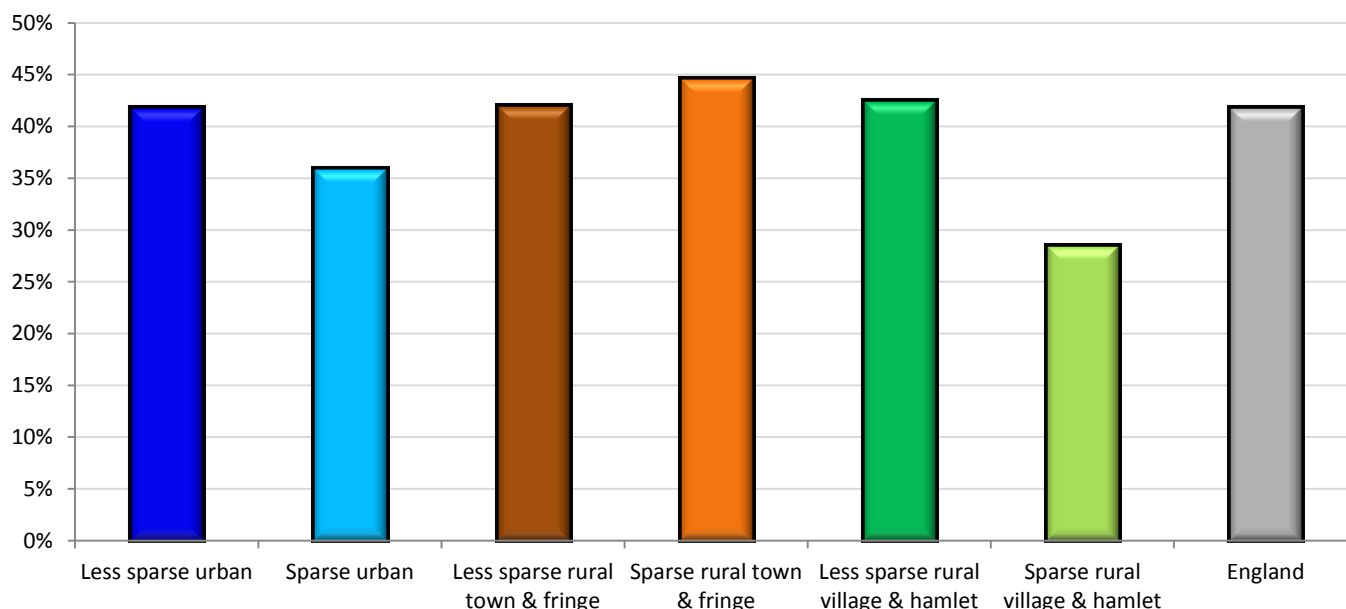
* 'With no employees' comprises mainly sole proprietorships and partnerships. Businesses classed as 'Other' (about 0.6 per cent of the total business count) are excluded from this table as they have no employees and no employment.

Innovation and investment

Businesses engaged in innovation

- Between 2008 and 2010, around 42 per cent of both urban and rural businesses surveyed were involved in broader innovation activities (for example new or significantly improved products, processes, structures, or concepts, specific innovation projects, research and development etc.)
- This suggests that innovation is not affected directly by whether the business is located in an urban or rural settlement.
- However, businesses located in *rural village & hamlets* within sparsely populated areas were less likely to be involved in innovation activities than businesses in equivalent settlements but within *less sparse areas*.

Proportion of businesses in England engaged in broader innovation related activities, 2008-2010



- Overall, the proportion of businesses involved in innovation activities were the same for urban and rural areas, with around 42 per cent of businesses surveyed.
- The lowest proportion of businesses involved in innovation activities was for those in *rural village & hamlets within a sparse area*, with around 29 per cent of businesses surveyed.

Proportion of businesses engaged in broader innovation related activities, 2008 to 2010

	% Engaged in innovation	
	Yes	No
Less sparse urban	42%	58%
Sparse urban	36%	64%
Less sparse rural town & fringe	42%	58%
Sparse rural town & fringe	45%	55%
Less sparse rural village & hamlet	43%	57%
Sparse rural village & hamlet	29%	71%
Rural	42%	58%
Urban	42%	58%
England	42%	58%

Notes: Data source: BIS UK Innovation Survey 2011 covering innovation activity during 2008 to 2010.

These results are based on the un-weighted sample of businesses surveyed for England only (therefore the England percentage totals may not match the weighted results published by BIS). The sample mainly includes Enterprise units (i.e. headquarters of businesses) but also has a small number of Local Units. BIS sampling methodology is described in their report and accompanying statistics: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-innovation-survey-2011-first-findings>. The BIS sample was stratified according to region, 25 SIC code divisions and 4 business sizes. Owing to the small sample sizes achieved after application of the rural urban definition, this analysis has been presented as the un-weighted results from the sample surveyed. The sample sizes for less sparse rural town & fringe and sparse rural village & hamlet were under-represented so these results should be treated with caution. Furthermore, England percentage totals may not match those published by BIS due to minor discrepancies with post code data.

The description of innovation activity in the chart and table above includes businesses which were engaged in any of the following:

1. Introduction of a new or significantly improved product (good or service) or process;
2. Engagement in innovation projects not yet complete or abandoned;
3. New and significantly improved forms of organisation, business structures or practices and marketing concepts or strategies
4. Activities in areas such as internal research and development, training, acquisition of external knowledge or machinery and equipment linked to innovation activities

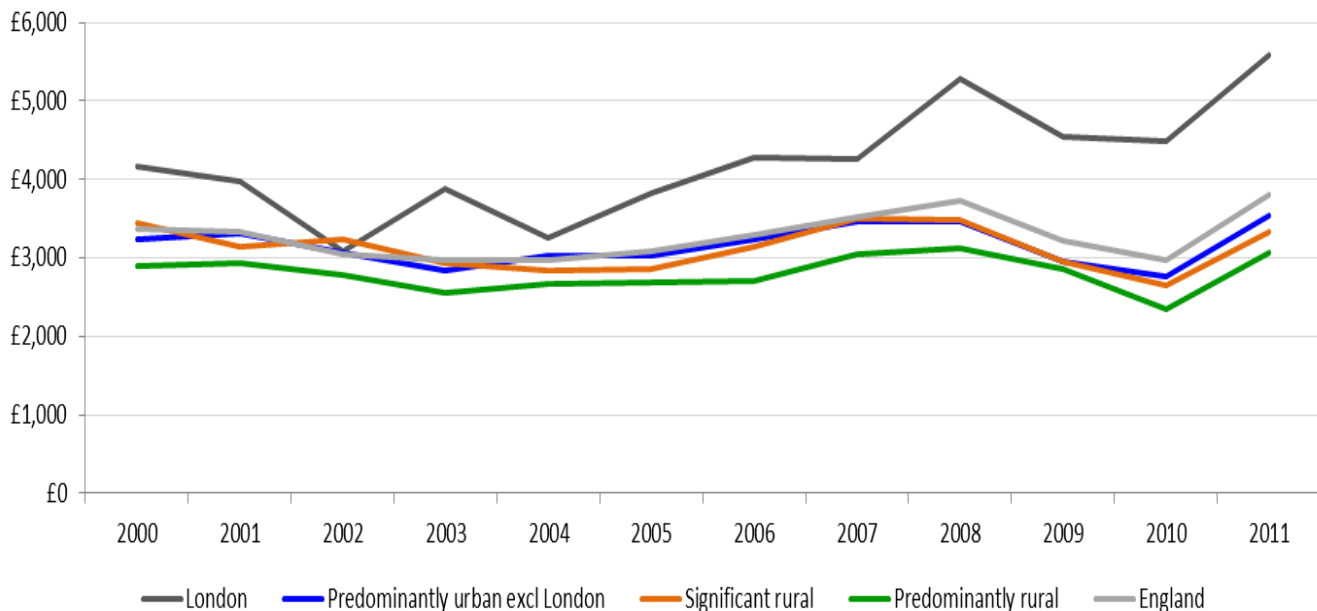
A business that has engaged in any of the activities 1 to 4 is defined as a 'broader innovator'.

Data from the 2011 survey are not directly comparable with the 2009 survey due to the survey mode, changes in the methodology including the move to SIC 2007, plus changes in sampling approach and questionnaire design. Furthermore, the 2011 sample was based on 4 rather than 3 business size classes. An additional change was due to the rotation of bringing in new businesses into the survey which had a negative impact on response rate.

Capital investment per employee

- Capital investment is where companies spend money on fixed assets (typically land, buildings or machinery) with the expectation that productivity will increase as a result of the investment.
- In 2011, **capital investment per employee** was highest in London, followed by *other urban areas* and was lowest in *predominantly rural areas*
- In 2011 capital investment per employee increased in all areas. The greatest increase (35 per cent) was in *large urban areas*, whilst the smallest increase (23 per cent) was in *major urban areas (excluding London)*

Capital investment per employee (at current prices) (£000), by local authority classification in England, 2000 to 2011



- For *Rural-50 and Rural-80 areas*, investment per head was consistently lower than in other areas.
- In 2011 investment was £5.6k per head in London and £3.5k in *predominantly urban areas* outside of London, compared with £3.1k in *predominantly rural areas*.
- All types of area saw a decrease between 2008 and 2010, but in 2011 investment increased in all areas.

Capital Investment per employee (£000), by local authority classification, 2000 to 2011

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
London	4.2	4.0	3.1	3.9	3.3	3.8	4.3	4.3	5.3	4.6	4.5	5.6
Major Urban (excl London)	2.9	3.4	3.0	2.6	2.7	2.6	3.0	3.0	3.5	2.7	2.5	3.1
Large Urban	3.4	3.1	2.7	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.9	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.7	3.6
Other Urban	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.7	4.0	3.5	3.3	3.1	4.0
Significant Rural	3.4	3.1	3.2	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.0	2.7	3.3
Rural-50	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.8	3.1	3.2	2.8	2.4	3.1
Rural-80	3.0	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.3	3.1
Predominantly Urban (excl London)	3.2	3.3	3.1	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.5	2.9	2.8	3.5
Predominantly Rural	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.3	3.1
England	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.2	3.0	3.8

Notes: Total net capital investment is calculated as total proceeds from disposals subtracted from the total cost of acquisitions. The data is at current prices so it has already taken account of inflation.

Caution should be taken when interpreting this measure as capital investment is difficult to attribute at Local Authority District level. The estimates are produced by taking data at a higher geographical level and apportioning it at local authority level based on employment levels. As ONS are not wholly confident that there is a sufficient correlation between investment and employment, they do not release the data as a National Statistic below National level.

London has been separated out to allow a fair comparison of major urban against all other area classifications.

Source data: Bespoke data request from Annual Business Inquiry, ONS.

Rural accessibility

Transport and accessibility to services

- In 2008/12 (average results over a 5 year period) people living in the most rural areas travelled 50 per cent further per year than those in England as a whole and 63 per cent further than those living in urban areas.
- In 2008/12 a greater percentage of total distance travelled was made using a car in the most rural areas (59 per cent) than in urban areas (48 per cent).
- In 2012 11 per cent of households in rural areas had no access to a car or van compared with 28 per cent in urban areas.
- In 2012 49 per cent of households in the most rural areas had a regular bus service close by compared with 96 per cent of urban households.

Travel behaviour

Average number of trips, time spent travelling, trip length and distance travelled, per person per year, by settlement type, in England, 2002/06 and 2008/12

	Trips per person		Travelling time (hours) per person		Trip length (miles) per person		Distance travelled (miles) per person	
	2002-06	2008-12	2002-06	2008-12	2002-06	2008-12	2002-06	2008-12
All Urban	1,034	959	383	366	6.4	6.4	6,644	6,158
All rural town & fringe	1,061	1,002	387	378	8.3	8.7	8,777	8,763
All rural villages, hamlets & isolated dwellings	1,085	990	424	394	9.8	10.2	10,680	10,057
England	1,041	966	386	369	6.9	7.0	7,141	6,725

- The average number of trips and travelling time per person in rural areas are only slightly higher than the national average. This is despite much higher average trip distances for people living in *rural villages, hamlets & isolated dwellings* and in *rural town & fringe areas*. These results give a picture of travel behaviour in which those living in *rural areas* travel much further than those living in *urban areas*, but that these trips take a similar amount of time to complete.
- Between 2002/06 and 2008/12 the number of trips, time spent travelling and distance travelled per person decreased in both rural and urban areas. However, the average trip length increased in *rural town & fringe* and *rural villages, hamlets & isolated dwellings*, but remained the same in *urban areas*.

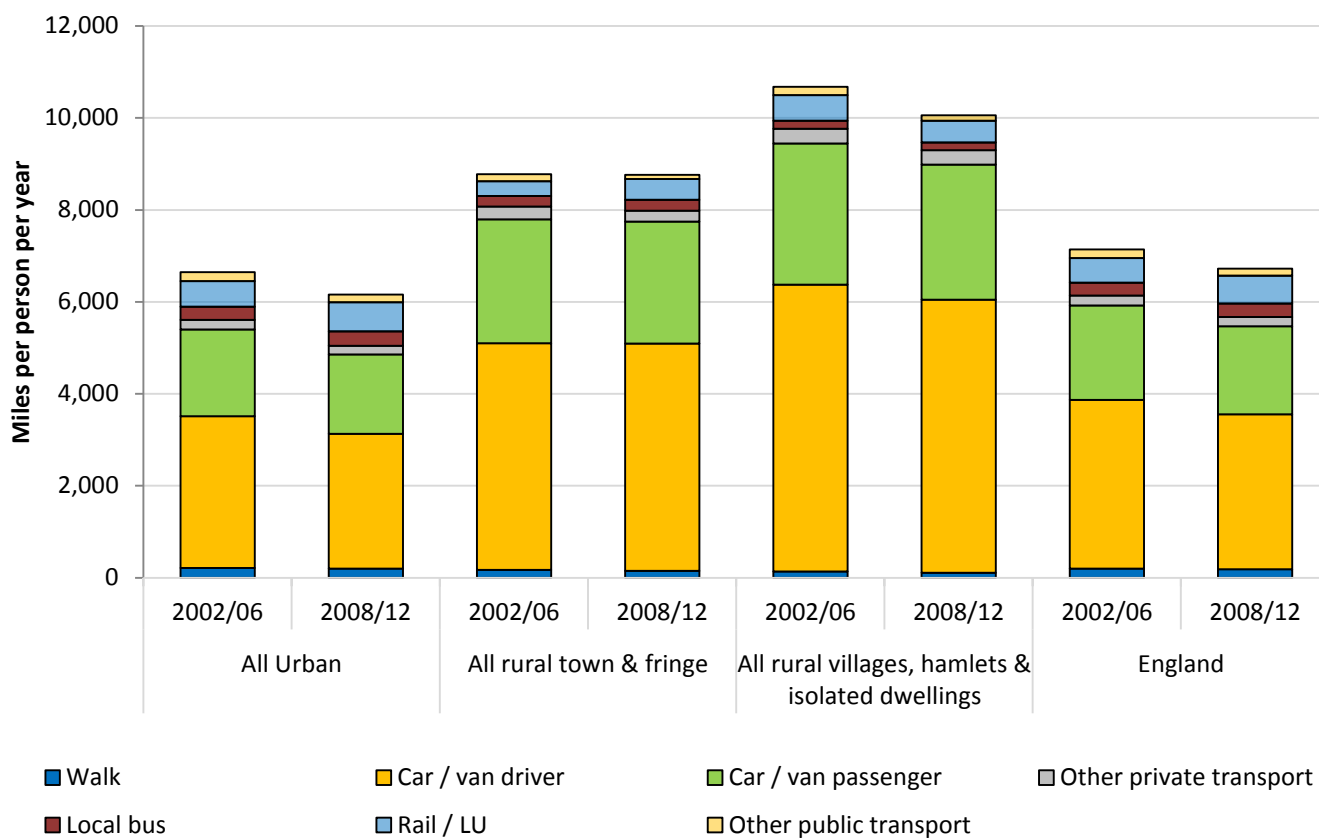
Notes: The sample size for one year is too small to produce robust results so this analysis combines data from five years. Trips include those made on foot, by private car or van as both a driver and passenger, by bicycle, motorcycle, private hire bus and other modes of private transport, by local bus, by rail and London Underground, and by non-local bus, taxi / minicab and other modes of public transport (air, ferries and light rail). The results are weighted. Weights are applied to adjust for non-response to ensure the characteristics of the achieved sample match the population and for the drop off in trip recording. The survey results are subject to sampling error.

Source: DfT, National Travel Survey, Email: national.travelsurvey@dft.gsi.gov.uk

Further information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-travel-survey-statistics>

Distance travelled

Average distance travelled, per person per year, by mode and settlement type, in England, 2002/06 and 2008/12



- In 2008/12 people living in *rural villages, hamlets & isolated dwellings* travelled around 10,000 miles per year on average, compared with around 6,200 miles per year in urban areas.
- In all areas driving a car makes up the bulk of annual distance travelled but represents a greater proportion in the most rural areas (59 per cent) than in urban areas (48 per cent). When travel as both a car driver and passenger are taken together, 88 per cent of travel in *rural villages, hamlets & isolated dwellings* was made by car compared with 76 per cent in urban areas and 79 per cent in England as a whole.
- From 2002/06 to 2008/12 the average annual distance travelled by person decreased in all area types. However, the relative proportion of annual distance travelled as a car driver slightly decreased in urban areas and slightly increased in *rural villages, hamlets & isolated dwellings*.

Average distance travelled, per person per year, by mode and settlement type, in England, 2002/06 and 2008/12

		<i>Miles per person per year</i>						
		Walk	Car / van driver	Car / van passenger	Other private transport	Local bus	Rail / LU	Other public transport
All Urban								
	2002/06	211	3,301	1,890	205	288	557	193
	2008/12	202	2,930	1,727	186	312	634	168
All rural town & fringe								
	2002/06	172	4,930	2,695	279	230	317	156
	2008/12	152	4,944	2,647	243	233	455	89
All rural villages, hamlets & isolated dwellings								
	2002/06	137	6,240	3,065	323	173	558	184
	2008/12	109	5,942	2,934	314	168	471	119
England								
	2002/06	202	3,669	2,050	220	274	537	189
	2008/12	189	3,368	1,913	202	293	603	156

Notes:

The sample size for one year is too small to produce robust results so this analysis combines data from five years.

Distance by mode is based on stage distance.

Other private transport includes: bicycle, motorcycle, private hire bus and other modes of private transport.

Other public transport includes non-local bus, taxi / minicab and other modes of public transport (air, ferries and light rail).

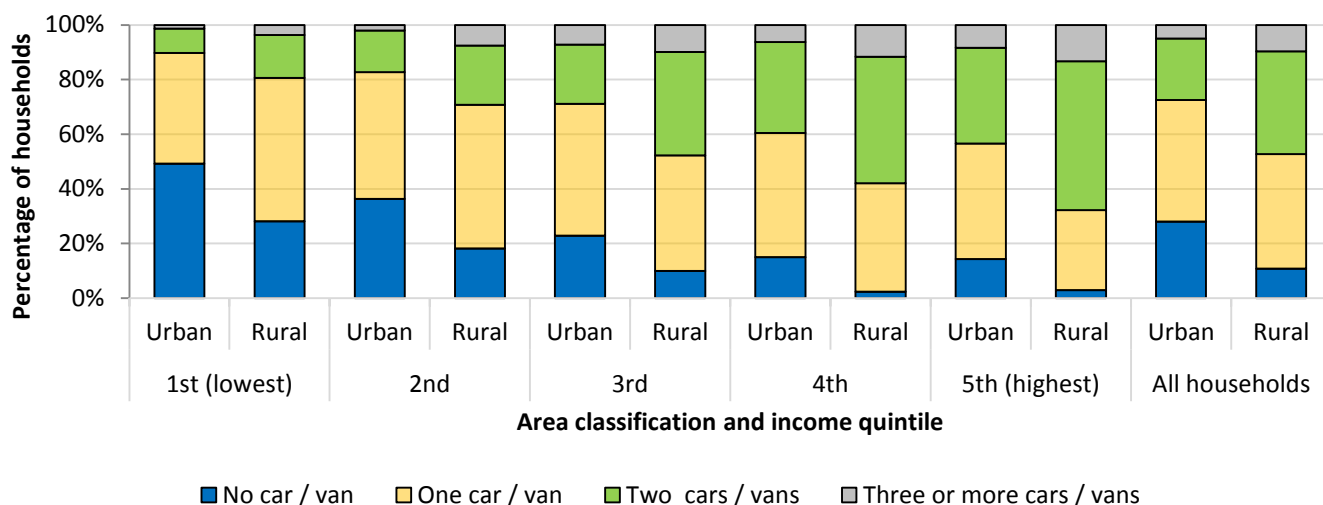
The results are weighted. Weights are applied to adjust for non-response to ensure the characteristics of the achieved sample match the population and for the drop off in trip recording. The survey results are subject to sampling error.

Source: DfT, National Travel Survey, Email: national.travelsurvey@dft.gsi.gov.uk

Further information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-travel-survey-statistics>

Car availability

Household car availability by household income quintile* and settlement type, in England, 2012



- In 2012 the percentage of households with no access to car or van was lower in rural areas than in urban areas. That was true at all income levels.
- The percentage of households with one car or van is slightly higher in urban areas. However, households in rural areas are more likely to have 2 or more cars or vans than in urban areas.

Household car availability by household income quintile* and settlement type, in England, 2012

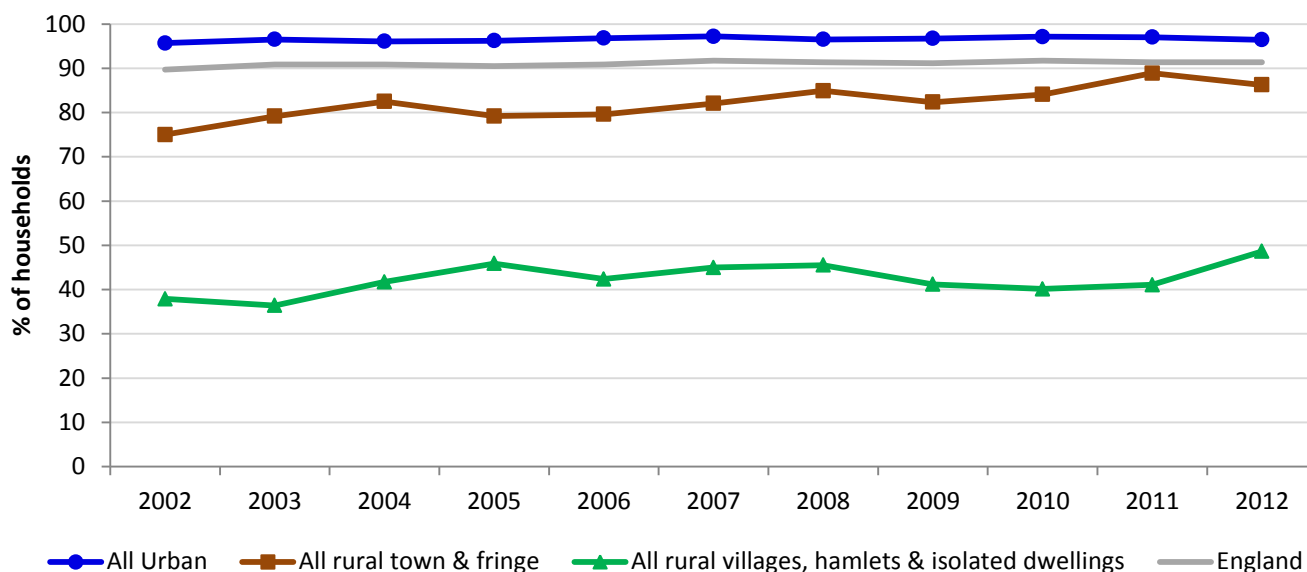
Percentage

	No car / van	One car / van	Two cars / vans	Three or more cars / vans
All Urban	28	45	22	5
Lowest real income level	49	41	9	1
Second level	36	46	15	2
Third level	23	48	22	7
Fourth level	15	45	33	6
Highest real income level	14	42	35	8
All Rural	11	42	38	10
Lowest real income level	28	53	16	4
Second level	18	53	22	8
Third level	10	42	38	10
Fourth level	2	40	46	12
Highest real income level	3	29	55	13
England	25	44	25	6
Lowest real income level	46	42	10	2
Second level	33	47	16	3
Third level	20	47	25	8
Fourth level	13	44	36	7
Highest real income level	12	39	39	9

* Income quintiles refer to England

Bus availability

Bus availability indicator by settlement type, in England, 2002 to 2012



- Bus availability is expressed as the percentage of households where nearest bus stop is within 13 minutes walk and has a service at least once an hour.
- Between 2002 and 2012 bus availability in *rural villages, hamlets & isolated dwellings* increased from 38 per cent to 49 per cent, with a sharp increase of 8 percentage points between 2011 and 2012. Although bus availability in *rural town & fringe* increased from 75 to 86 per cent between 2002 and 2012, there was a decrease of 3 percentage points between 2011 and 2012.
- Since 2002 bus availability in urban areas has remained at a stable level of 96 – 97 per cent of households.

Bus availability indicator by settlement type, in England, 2002 to 2012

	Percentage										
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
All Urban	96	97	96	96	97	97	97	97	97	97	96
All rural town & fringe	75	79	82	79	80	82	85	82	84	89	86
All rural villages, hamlets & isolated dwellings	38	36	42	46	42	45	46	41	40	41	49
England	90	91	91	90	91	92	91	91	92	91	91

Notes: The results are weighted. Weights are applied to adjust for non-response to ensure the characteristics of the achieved sample match the population and for the drop off in trip recording. The survey results are subject to sampling error.

Source: DfT, National Travel Survey, Email: national.travelsurvey@dft.gsi.gov.uk

Further information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-travel-survey-statistics>

Measuring accessibility to services

- Being able to access key services is important in terms of benefiting from that service, but also in terms of social exclusion.
- Generally, **people living in rural settlements have lower overall accessibility to key services** compared with people living in urban settlements, and those people living in rural areas in a sparse setting usually have the lowest overall accessibility.
- The percentage of users with 'reasonable' access by cycling to shops that sell groceries was lowest for users living in *rural villages & hamlets in a sparse setting* at 27 per cent, compared with 59 per cent of users in *all rural town & fringe settlements* and 62 per cent in *all urban settlements*.
- The percentage of children living in rural settlements with 'reasonable' access by cycling to a secondary school was 28 per cent, compared with 56 per cent of children in all urban settlements.

Measuring accessibility

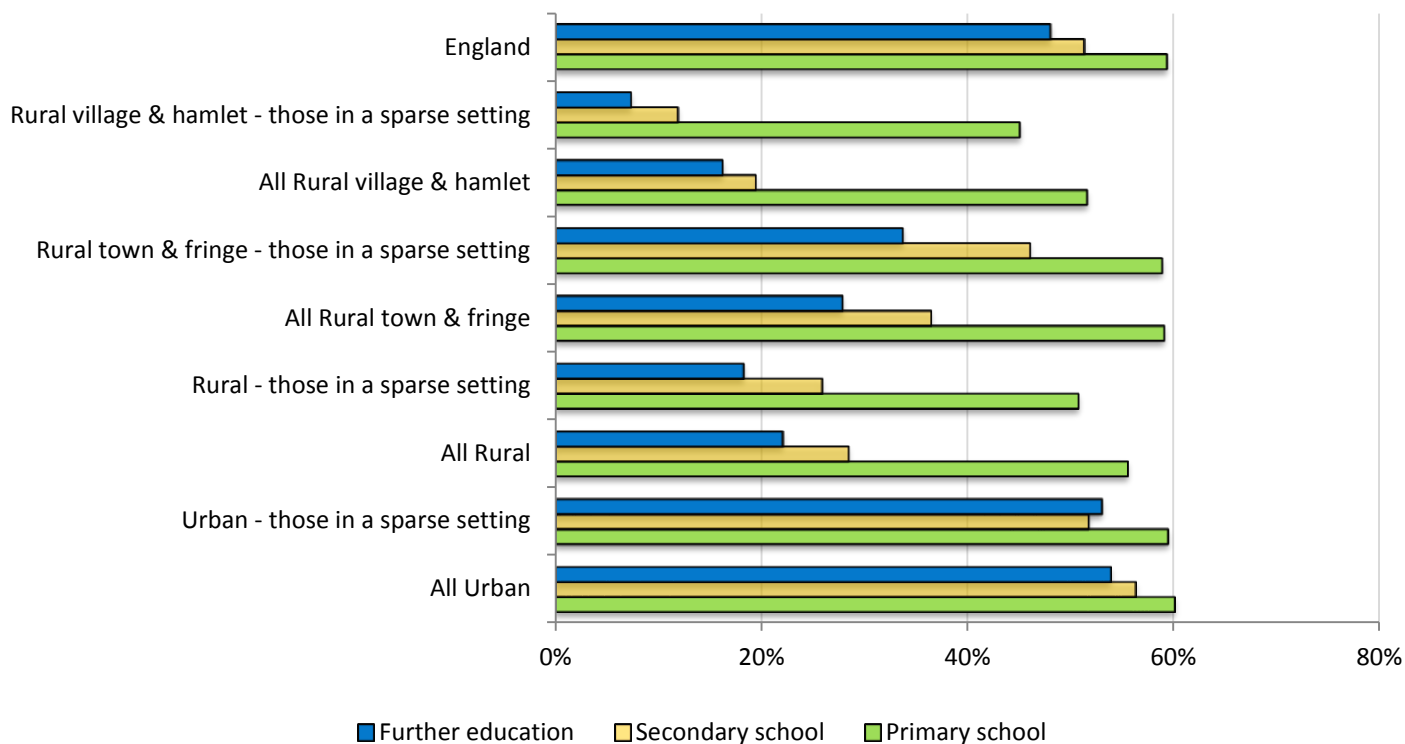
'Accessibility' has been calculated from Department for Transport's (DfT's) accessibility indicators for eight key services: employment centres, primary and secondary schools, further education colleges, GPs, hospitals, town centres and shops selling groceries. These are vital services which offer health services, job and education opportunities and basic retail services. For each service DfT calculate the percentage of target users within the resident area for the relevant service (for example for primary schools the target users would be children aged 5 to 10) who have 'reasonable' access to the given service by different modes of transport. 'Reasonable access' is a measure of accessibility which takes into account the sensitivity of users to the travel time for each service. It therefore takes into account how likely they are to travel to the given service by different modes of transport, given the time it will take and the user's willingness to undertake the journey. This gives an estimate of the accessibility of services from any given type of area.

The accessibility figures in this publication are for travel by cycling. The Department for Transport have not produced updated figures for walking or using public transport for 2012. The latest rural accessibility statistics for walking and public transport can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rural-accessibility>.

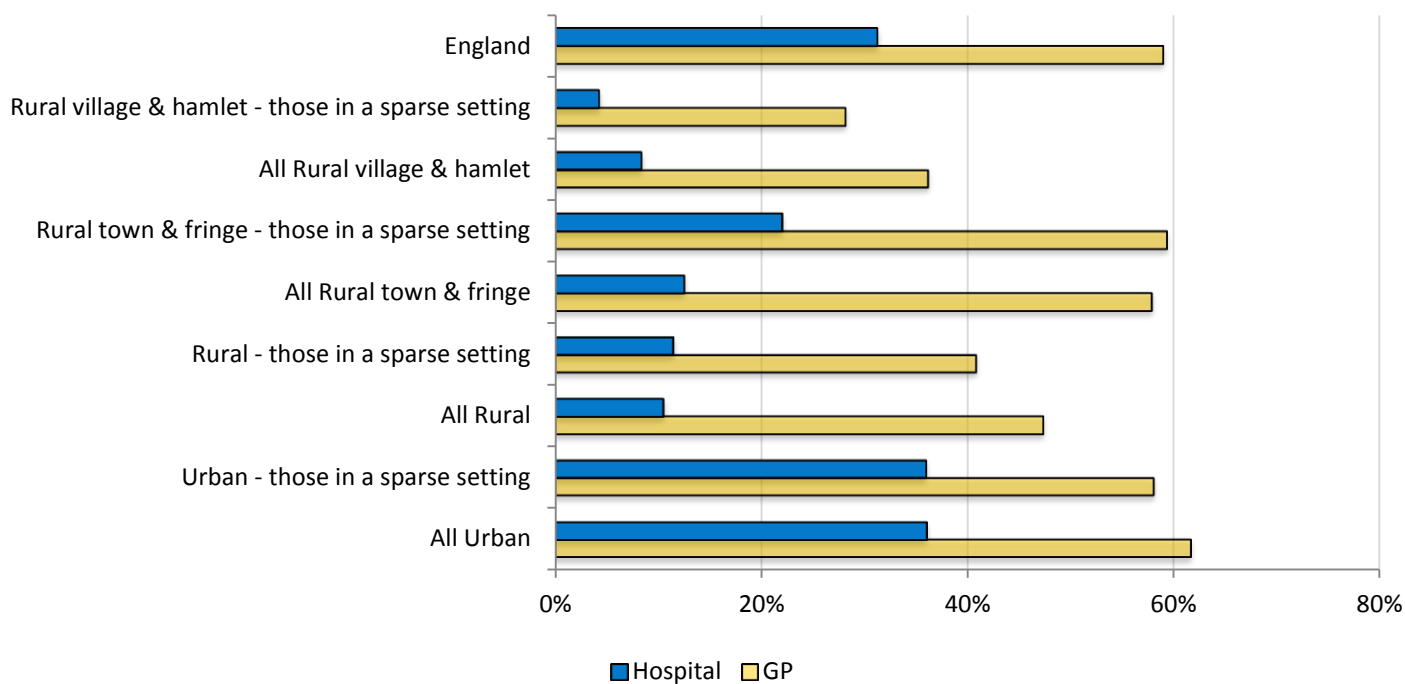
The calculations used in this section are based on the actual travel time multiplied by a factor which indicates how likely someone is to make the journey. People are generally more willing to undertake a longer journey for essential services that they need to access, such as for their work. Services in rural settlements are likely to serve a larger geographical area than for those in urban settlements, in part due to the fact that rural areas have low population densities. This in turn is likely to impact on travel time and the likelihood that people are to make journeys to the services.

Service accessibility by cycle

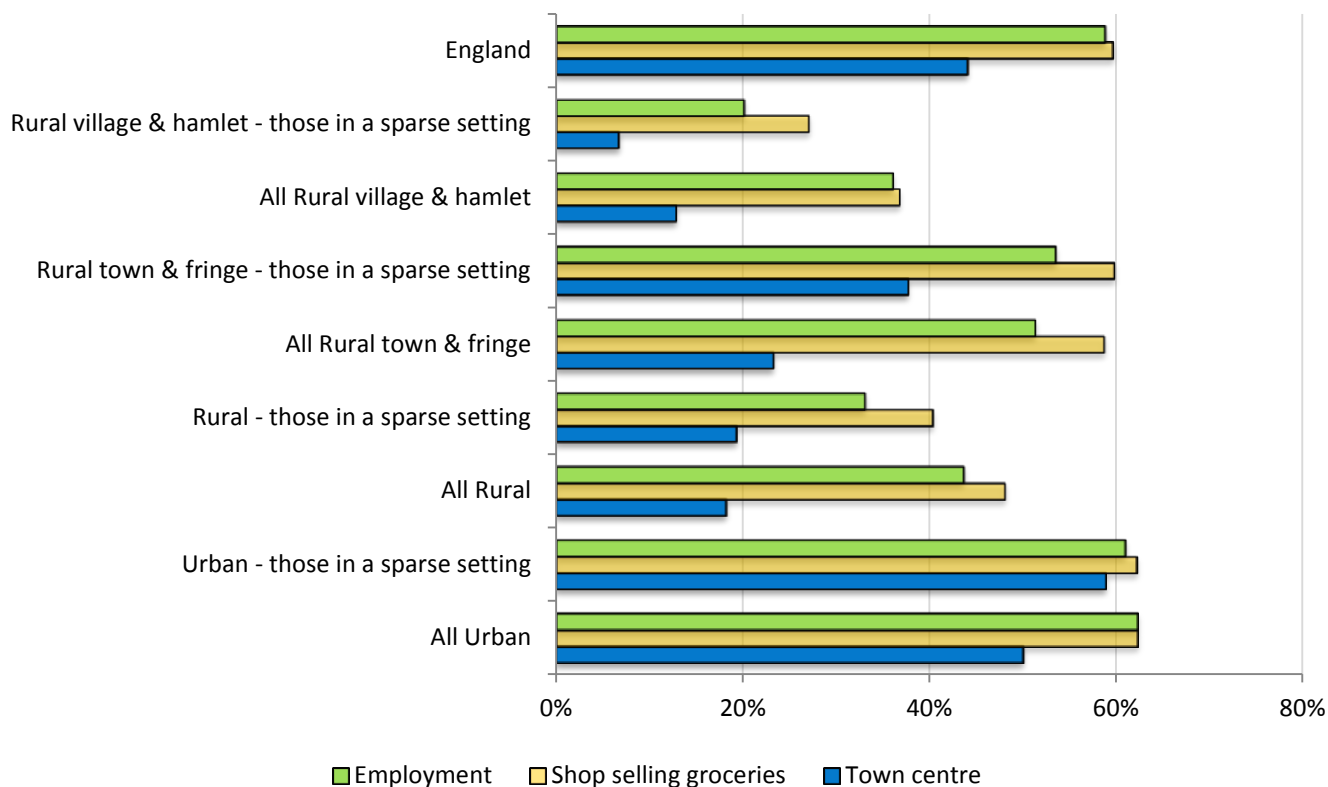
Percentage of target population with 'reasonable' access to education services by cycle, 2012



Percentage of target population with 'reasonable' access to health services by cycle, 2012



Percentage of target population with 'reasonable' access to employment centres, towns and shops that sell groceries by cycle, 2012



- People living in rural settlements generally have lower accessibility to key services than those living in urban settlements, but that level of accessibility varies from service to service.
- In rural settlements for example, 55.5 per cent of the target population have 'reasonable' access to primary schools by cycling, compared with 60 per cent in urban settlements, an 'accessibility gap' of 4.5 percentage points. The 'accessibility gap' widens for other services such as for access to shops that sell groceries (14 percentage points); employment centres (18.6 percentage points) and further education (38.1 percentage points).

Percentage of the target population with 'reasonable' access by cycling to schools and further education, health services, employment centres, shops selling groceries and town centres, by settlement type, 2012

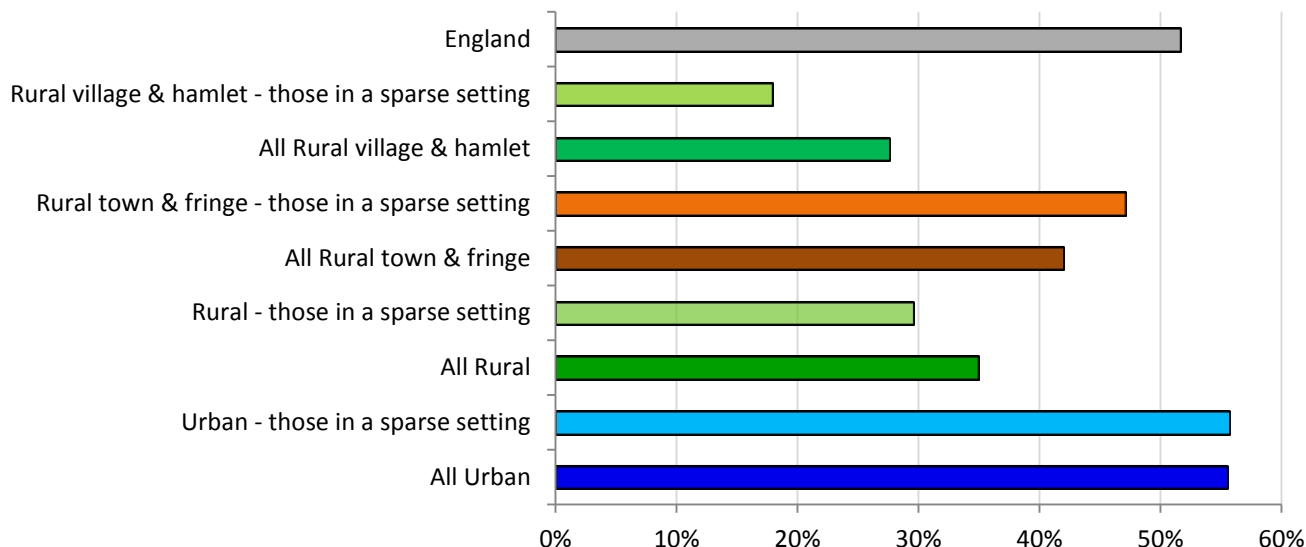
	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education	GP	Hospital	Employment centres	Shops that sell groceries	Town centres
All Urban	60.0	56.2	53.8	61.6	35.9	62.2	62.2	49.9
those in a sparse setting	59.4	51.6	53.0	58.0	35.9	60.9	62.1	58.8
All Rural	55.5	28.4	22.0	47.3	10.5	43.6	48.0	18.1
those in a sparse setting	50.7	25.8	18.2	40.8	11.4	33.0	40.3	19.2
All rural town & fringe	59.0	36.4	27.8	57.8	12.5	51.2	58.6	23.2
those in a sparse setting	58.8	46.0	33.7	59.3	21.9	53.4	59.7	37.6
All rural village & hamlet	51.5	19.4	16.2	36.1	8.3	36.0	36.7	12.8
those in a sparse setting	45.0	11.8	7.3	28.1	4.2	20.1	27.0	6.7
England	59.2	51.2	48.0	58.9	31.2	58.7	59.6	44.0

Source: DfT core accessibility indicators at LSOA level (tables ACS0501-0508) at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/statistics/releases/accessibility-statistics-2012>. For further methodological information and guidance see <http://www.dft.gov.uk/statistics/series/accessibility>.

The RUC01 has been applied to the data at LSOA level.

Average overall accessibility

Proportion of target population with 'reasonable' access to all services by cycling: composite measure, 2012



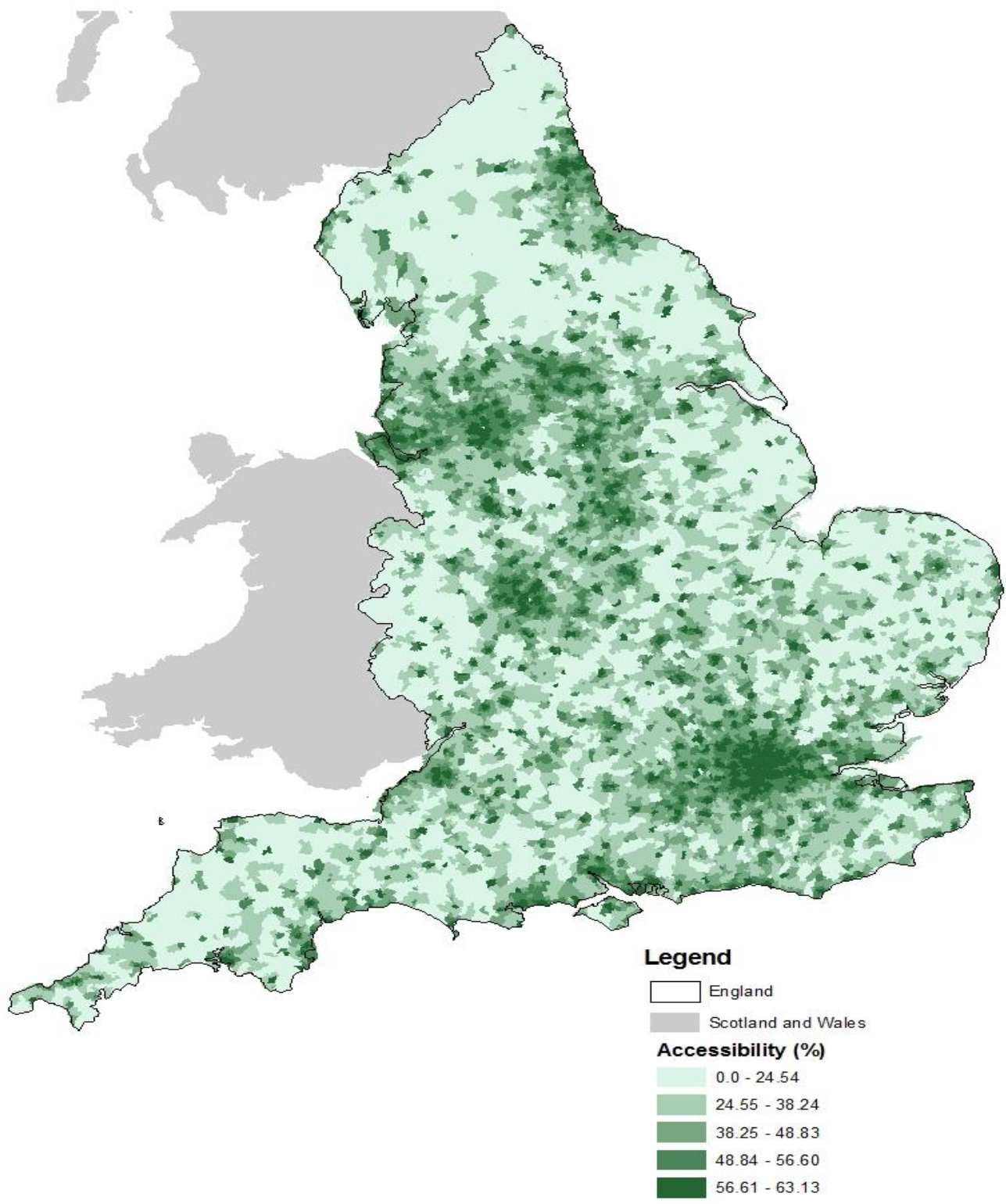
This indicator gives a statistical estimate of the general accessibility by cycling for target populations living in different settlement types rather than being a measure of actual accessibility to any one particular service.

- Nationally, around 51.6 per cent of the target population live within 'reasonable' access of key services. For people living in urban settlements this figure is slightly higher at 55.5 per cent, however for people living in rural settlements it is 34.9 per cent. Accessibility is lowest in *rural villages & hamlets in a sparse setting* at 17.8 per cent.
- This means that people living in rural settlements, particularly those living in a sparse setting, may have to choose other alternative methods of transport to access key services where long travel times and long distances prove prohibitive for cycling as the chosen method of transport.

Percentage of the target population with 'reasonable' access to a range of services by cycling: composite measure of accessibility, 2012

	Average accessibility
All Urban	55.5
those in a sparse setting	55.7
All Rural	34.9
those in a sparse setting	29.6
All rural town & fringe	41.9
those in a sparse setting	47.1
All rural village & hamlet	27.5
those in a sparse setting	17.8
England	51.6

Composite measure of Accessibility, by cycling, 2012



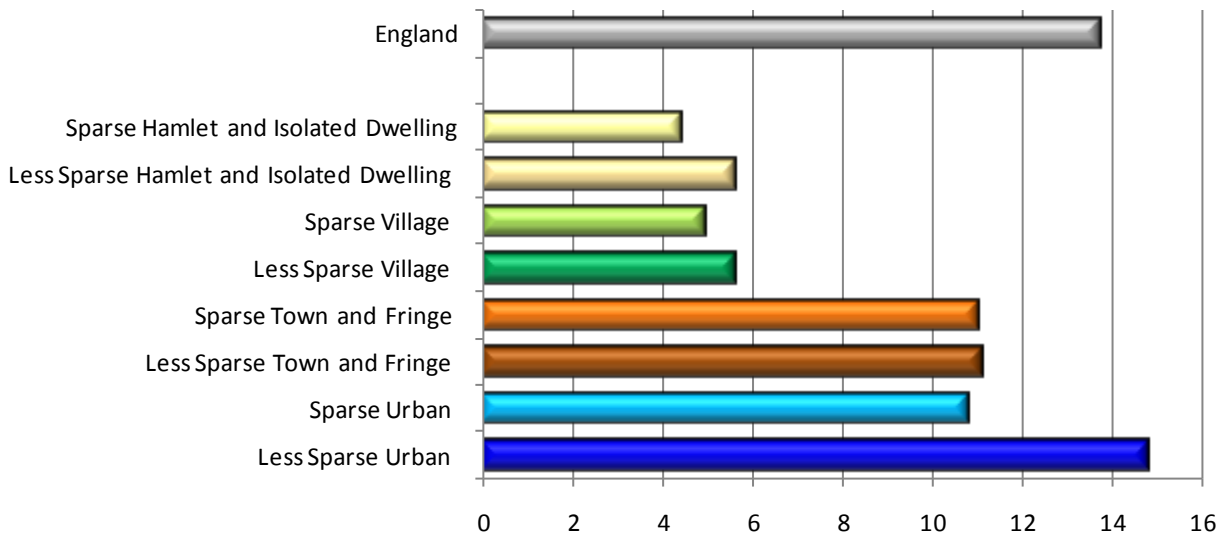
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Broadband

- The average broadband speeds in rural areas are considerably lower than speeds in urban areas. In 2012 the average broadband speed in *sparse hamlets & isolated dwellings* was 4.4 Mbit/s compared with 14.8 Mbit/s in *less sparse urban areas*.
- Speeds vary because it is harder for network operators to recoup the fixed costs necessary for upgrading exchanges and cabinets in rural areas, where there are lower population densities, and therefore fewer end subscribers.
- Access to broadband is increasingly important for economic development, access to services and social activities. A Government programme to roll out broadband to rural areas will mean average speeds will increase significantly.

Broadband speed

Average Broadband Speed (Mbit/s), by settlement type, in England, 2012



- In 2012, the average broadband speed was highest in *less sparse urban areas* at 14.8 Mega bit per second (Mbit/s).
- The average broadband speed in rural areas varied between 4.4 Mbit/s in *sparse hamlet & isolated dwelling* to 11.1 Mbit/s in *less sparse town & fringe*.

Figures are based on OFCOM postcode level data on average speeds for fixed broadband weighted by the number of premises. Where the average speed was shown as greater than 30 Mbit/s, but not specified, it was assumed to be 30 Mbit/s for the purposes of determining an average.

Source: OFCOM, www.ofcom.org.uk

Average broadband speed, by settlement type, in England, 2012

	Average Speed (Mbit/s)
Less sparse urban	14.8
Sparse urban	10.8
Less sparse town & fringe	11.1
Sparse town & fringe	11.0
Less sparse village	5.6
Sparse village	4.9
Less sparse hamlet & isolated dwellings	5.6
Sparse hamlet & isolated dwellings	4.4
England	13.7

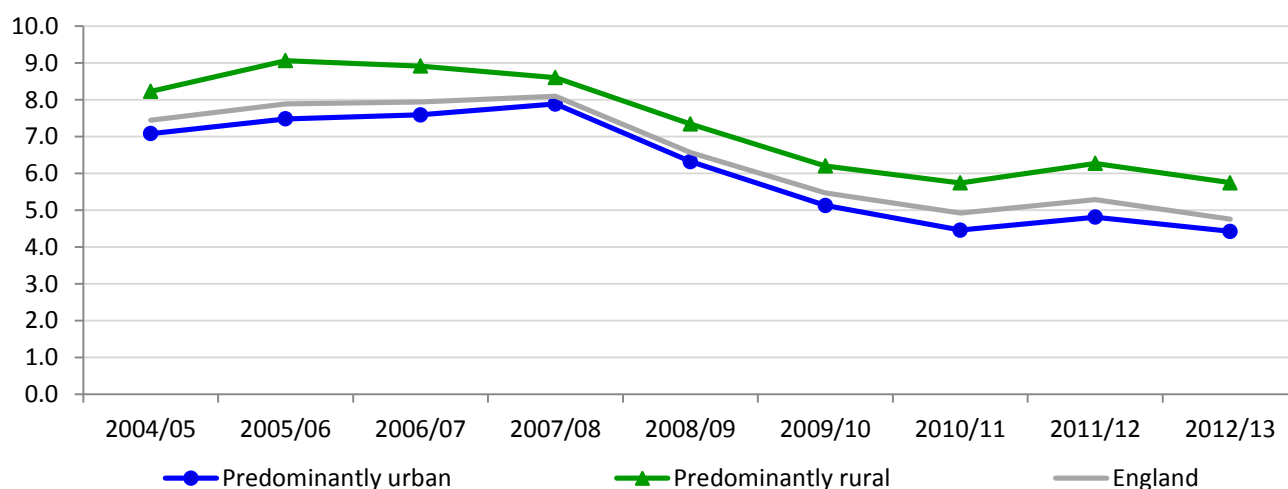
Rural living

Housing

- There is a higher rate of house-builds started and completed in *predominantly rural areas* than in *predominantly urban areas* and compared with the national average.
- Between 2010/11 and 2011/12 the rate of house-builds being started and completed decreased in all area types with the biggest decrease observed in *significant rural areas*.
- There are proportionally fewer homeless people and people in temporary accommodation in rural areas than in urban areas.
- Housing is less affordable in *predominantly rural areas* than *predominantly urban areas*. In 2012, the average lower quartile house price was 7.9 times the average lower quartile earnings in *predominantly rural areas*. This compares with 7.1 in *predominantly urban areas* and 7.4 in England as a whole.
- Average Private Registered Provider rents per week are similar in rural areas to those in urban areas outside of London.

House building

Permanent dwellings completed per 1,000 households, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2012/13



- In 2012-13 the rate of house building starts and completions per 1,000 households was highest in *predominantly rural areas* (5.6 and 5.7 respectively). This compares with 4.1 starts and 4.4 completions per 1,000 households in *predominantly urban areas*.
- There was a stable rate of building starts and completions until 2007-08, when there was a sharp downturn. This is likely to reflect the economic downturn and later recession. After the 2009-10 the rates of starts and completions began to recover but they are still well below the levels observed up to 2007/08.

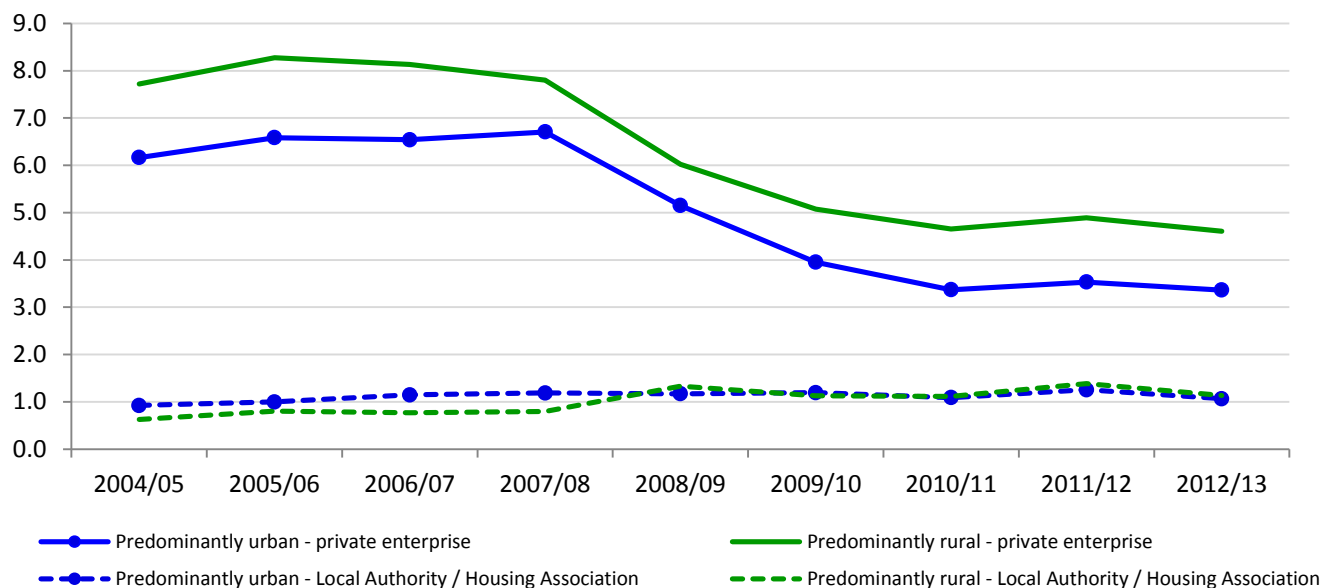
Permanent dwellings started, by tenure and Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2012/13

		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
		Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs
Private Enterprise	Major urban	32	6.5	38	7.0	32	6.0	36	6.1	15	2.5	16	2.7	20	3.1	21	3.4	22	3.1
	Large urban	12	5.6	15	6.8	16	7.6	15	6.4	8	2.9	7	2.6	8	3.1	7	3.1	7	2.6
	Other urban	23	8.4	26	9.1	25	8.6	21	7.7	8	3.0	11	3.9	11	4.3	12	4.2	11	3.9
	Significant rural	20	7.5	20	7.3	19	7.7	16	6.7	8	2.9	9	3.8	10	3.9	10	3.9	10	3.4
	Rural-50	20	8.5	21	8.1	18	7.5	20	7.3	9	3.3	8	3.9	11	4.1	11	4.3	12	4.4
	Rural-80	17	9.0	18	9.0	17	8.5	17	8.5	9	4.3	10	4.5	12	5.4	10	5.3	9	4.8
	England	122	7.4	138	7.7	127	7.4	124	6.9	57	3.0	61	3.4	71	3.8	72	3.9	72	3.5
Local Authority/Housing Association	Major urban	6	1.2	8	1.4	6	1.1	6	1.1	5	0.9	7	1.1	10	1.6	8	1.3	7	1.1
	Large urban	1	0.7	1	0.6	1	0.7	1	0.6	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.6	1	0.6	2	0.6
	Other urban	3	1.2	4	1.5	4	1.4	4	1.3	4	1.3	3	1.1	3	1.1	3	0.9	3	0.9
	Significant rural	2	0.7	3	1.0	2	0.9	3	1.3	3	1.1	3	1.1	3	1.1	3	1.0	2	0.8
	Rural-50	2	0.7	2	0.8	2	0.7	3	1.0	2	0.9	2	0.9	3	1.1	3	1.1	3	1.1
	Rural-80	2	0.8	2	1.0	2	0.9	3	1.3	3	1.2	2	1.1	3	1.4	2	1.3	2	1.0
	England	16	0.9	20	1.1	17	1.0	20	1.1	18	1.0	18	1.0	24	1.3	20	1.1	19	0.9
All	Major urban	37	7.7	44	8.1	38	7.0	42	7.2	21	3.4	22	3.9	30	4.7	29	4.6	30	4.2
	Large urban	13	6.3	17	7.4	16	7.6	16	7.0	9	3.4	8	3.1	9	3.6	9	3.7	8	3.2
	Other urban	26	9.6	30	10.6	29	10.0	24	9.0	12	4.3	14	4.9	14	5.4	15	5.2	14	4.8
	Significant rural	21	8.1	22	8.2	22	8.6	19	7.9	10	4.0	12	4.9	12	5.0	12	4.9	13	4.1
	Rural-50	21	8.8	23	8.9	20	8.2	22	8.3	11	4.2	10	4.8	14	5.2	14	5.4	15	5.4
	Rural-80	18	9.8	19	9.9	19	9.4	20	9.8	12	5.4	12	5.6	15	6.8	13	6.6	12	5.8
	England	137	8.3	156	8.8	143	8.3	144	8.0	75	4.0	78	4.4	95	5.0	92	5.0	91	4.5

Permanent dwellings completed, by tenure and Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2012/13

		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
		Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs	Number (000s)	Rate per 1,000 HHs
Private Enterprise	Major urban	30	6.1	34	6.3	30	5.6	35	6.1	31	5.0	22	3.9	19	3.1	20	3.1	23	3.2
	Large urban	10	5.0	12	5.3	14	6.9	15	6.4	13	4.7	8	3.3	8	3.1	7	3.0	8	3.2
	Other urban	19	7.1	23	8.3	23	8.0	22	8.4	16	5.8	13	4.8	11	4.3	15	5.0	11	3.9
	Significant rural	18	6.9	19	6.8	17	6.8	17	7.1	12	4.9	11	4.3	10	4.3	11	4.3	11	3.7
	Rural-50	17	7.3	21	8.2	19	7.8	20	7.4	14	5.4	10	4.7	12	4.4	12	4.5	12	4.3
	Rural-80	16	8.2	17	8.4	17	8.6	17	8.3	14	6.8	12	5.4	11	5.0	10	5.4	10	5.0
	England	110	6.7	126	7.1	121	7.0	127	7.0	101	5.3	76	4.3	72	3.8	74	4.0	75	3.7
Local Authority/Housing Association	Major urban	6	1.1	6	1.1	7	1.3	7	1.2	7	1.2	8	1.3	8	1.3	10	1.5	9	1.3
	Large urban	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.6	2	0.8	2	0.6	1	0.5	1	0.5	2	0.7	2	0.7
	Other urban	2	0.9	3	1.2	4	1.3	4	1.5	4	1.6	4	1.6	3	1.1	3	1.1	3	0.9
	Significant rural	2	0.6	2	0.7	2	0.8	2	1.0	3	1.3	3	1.4	3	1.2	4	1.4	3	0.9
	Rural-50	1	0.5	2	0.8	2	0.8	2	0.7	3	1.0	2	1.0	3	1.1	3	1.3	3	1.1
	Rural-80	1	0.8	2	0.9	2	0.8	2	0.9	4	1.8	3	1.3	3	1.1	3	1.5	2	1.1
	England	13	0.8	16	0.9	17	1.0	19	1.1	23	1.2	22	1.2	21	1.1	25	1.3	21	1.1
All	Major urban	35	7.3	39	7.2	37	6.9	42	7.3	38	6.3	30	5.2	28	4.4	29	4.6	32	4.4
	Large urban	11	5.4	13	5.8	14	7.0	17	7.2	14	5.4	10	3.8	9	3.6	9	3.7	10	3.9
	Other urban	22	8.0	27	9.4	27	9.3	26	9.8	20	7.4	18	6.3	14	5.4	18	6.2	14	4.9
	Significant rural	20	7.5	20	7.5	19	7.7	19	8.0	16	6.2	14	5.8	13	5.4	14	5.7	14	4.6
	Rural-50	18	7.6	23	8.9	21	8.5	22	8.2	17	6.4	12	5.7	15	5.4	15	5.8	15	5.5
	Rural-80	17	9.0	18	9.3	19	9.4	19	9.2	18	8.5	14	6.7	13	6.1	13	7.0	12	6.1
	England	123	7.4	140	7.9	137	7.9	145	8.1	124	6.6	98	5.5	92	4.9	99	5.3	97	4.8

House-Building: permanent private enterprise and Local Authority / Housing Association dwellings completed per 1,000 households, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2012/13



- In 2012-13, 4.5 house-builds were started by private enterprise per 1,000 households in the most rural areas, a decrease of 0.2 compared with the previous year.
- The private sector was affected more immediately by the economic downturn of 2008, with a sharp downturn in house-builds started. The Local Authority/Housing Association starts do not show as strong an impact, which in part may reflect the rate of builds being much lower than private enterprise house building.
- In 2012-13, 4.6 house-builds were completed by private enterprise per 1,000 households in the most rural areas, a decrease of 0.3 on the previous year. Private enterprise dwelling completions have been relatively steady between 2009-10 and 2012-13.
- Between 2011-12 and 2012-13, most areas showed a decrease in the rate of house-build completions except private enterprise completions in *major urban* and *large urban areas*.
- The rate of Local Authority/Housing Association completions remained much lower than private house building.

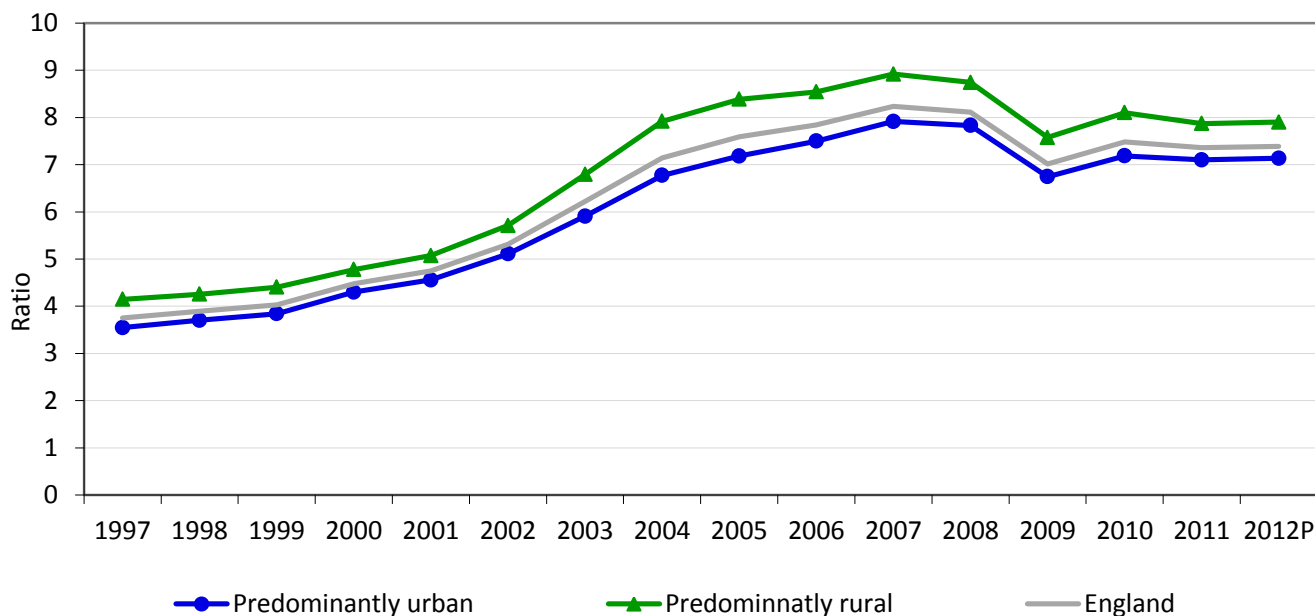
Notes: Figures on housing starts and completions are from records kept for building control purposes. It is sometimes difficult for data providers to identify whether a dwelling is being built for a housing association or for a private developer. This may lead to an understatement of housing association starts and completions recorded in these tables, and a corresponding overstatement of private enterprise figures. This problem is more likely to occur with starts than completions. Further information available from: <https://www.gov.uk/house-building-data-notes-and-definitions-includes-p2-full-guidance-notes-and-returns-form>

The figures exclude a significant number of Local Authorities for which data on building starts and completions is not available. The number of missing Local Authorities varies from 29 in 2012/13 to 58 in 2004/05. The total England figures do not include estimates for missing data. Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, Live Tables on House Building - Table 253 Housebuilding: permanent dwellings started and completed, by tenure and district, 2012/13, <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-house-building>

Housing and accommodation affordability

Housing affordability

Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 1997 to 2012



This series looks at the ratio between the lowest quartile (25 per cent) house prices and the lowest quartile earnings. It gives an indication of whether someone in the lower earnings band could afford to buy a house. In 2012, in *Rural-80 areas* the average lower quartile house price was 8.4 times the average lower quartile earnings. This will underestimate affordability in instances where a household has more than one income from earnings – for example when a couple combine their earnings to buy a house.

Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile workplace-based earnings, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 1997 to 2012

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012P
Major urban	3.7	3.9	4.1	4.7	5.0	5.6	6.3	7.2	7.5	7.9	8.4	8.4	7.2	7.7	7.7	7.8
Large urban	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.8	4.1	4.6	5.4	6.3	6.8	7.0	7.4	7.2	6.2	6.6	6.4	6.3
Other urban	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.9	4.1	4.6	5.4	6.3	6.9	7.1	7.4	7.2	6.1	6.5	6.4	6.4
Significant rural	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.8	5.1	5.6	6.7	7.6	8.1	8.3	8.6	8.3	7.3	7.8	7.6	7.6
Rural-50	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.9	5.4	6.5	7.5	7.9	8.2	8.5	8.3	7.3	7.8	7.5	7.5
Rural-80	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.9	5.3	6.1	7.2	8.5	8.9	9.0	9.5	9.3	8.0	8.6	8.4	8.4
Predominantly urban	3.5	3.7	3.8	4.3	4.6	5.1	5.9	6.8	7.2	7.5	7.9	7.8	6.7	7.2	7.1	7.1
Predominantly rural	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.8	5.1	5.7	6.8	7.9	8.4	8.5	8.9	8.7	7.6	8.1	7.9	7.9
England	3.7	3.9	4.0	4.5	4.7	5.3	6.2	7.1	7.6	7.8	8.2	8.1	7.0	7.5	7.4	7.4

- The ratio of lower quartile house prices to earnings is a useful indication of housing affordability. Workplace based earnings data are used because residence based earnings data are not available at district level before 2002. As a result this doesn't take into account non-earned income and the assumption that earners would want to buy a house where they work which isn't necessarily the case.
- The data shows that housing in the most rural areas is, on average, less affordable than in other types of area. The ratio between house prices and earnings decreased between 2007 and 2009. This was almost certainly due to the recession negatively impacting on house prices. Because earnings did not decrease at the same rate the ratio is seen to drop.
- The pattern of change over the past years has been broadly similar across all area types. The gap between the ratio in *predominantly rural areas* and the ratio in *predominantly urban areas* was greatest in 2007, but since then has reduced. Although the gap has reduced in recent years, housing is, on average, less affordable in rural areas than other areas and compared with the England average.

Notes: The housing affordability ratio is calculated by dividing the average lower quartile house price by the average lower quartile earnings.

2012 are provisional.

The 'lower quartile' property price/earnings is determined by ranking all property prices/incomes in ascending order. The lowest 25 per cent of prices/earnings are below the lower quartile; the highest 75 per cent are above the lower quartile.

Workplace earnings is the earnings measure used by Communities and Local Government in their calculations of the ratio between earnings and house price. It is used because residence based earnings estimates are only available back to 2002.

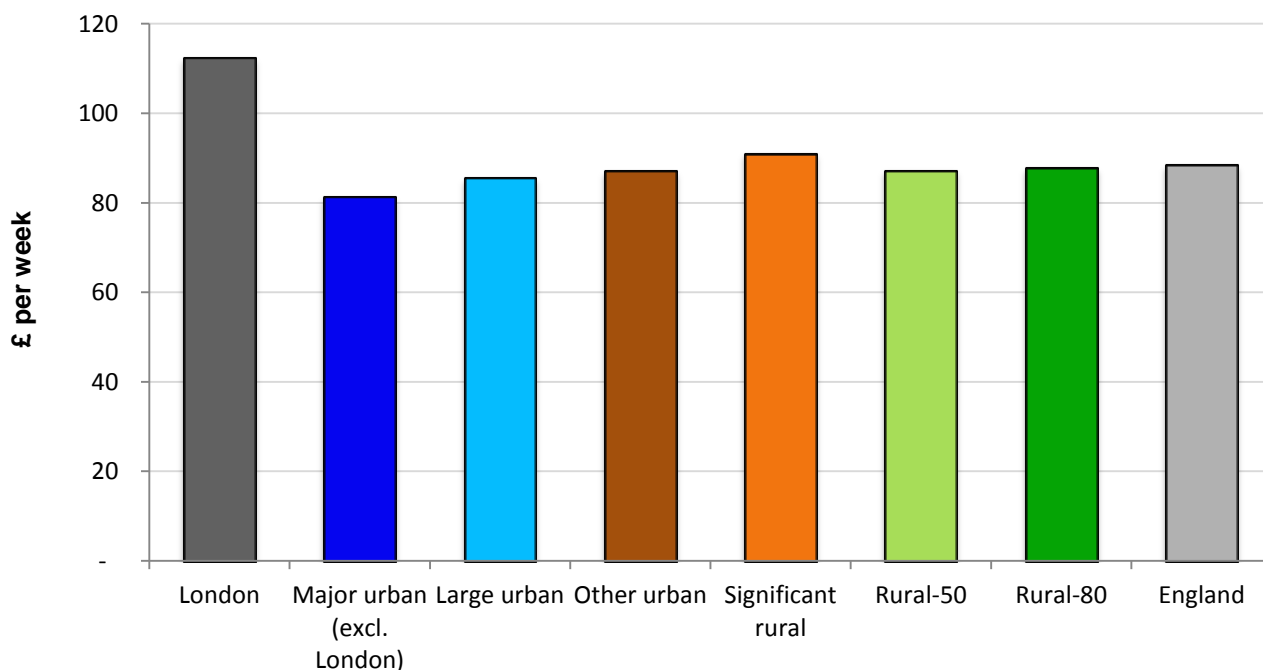
The figures for England have been calculated by weighting district level ratios by the number of households.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, Live tables on housing market and house prices: Table 576, Ratio of lower quartile house price to lower quartile earnings, by district, from 1997:

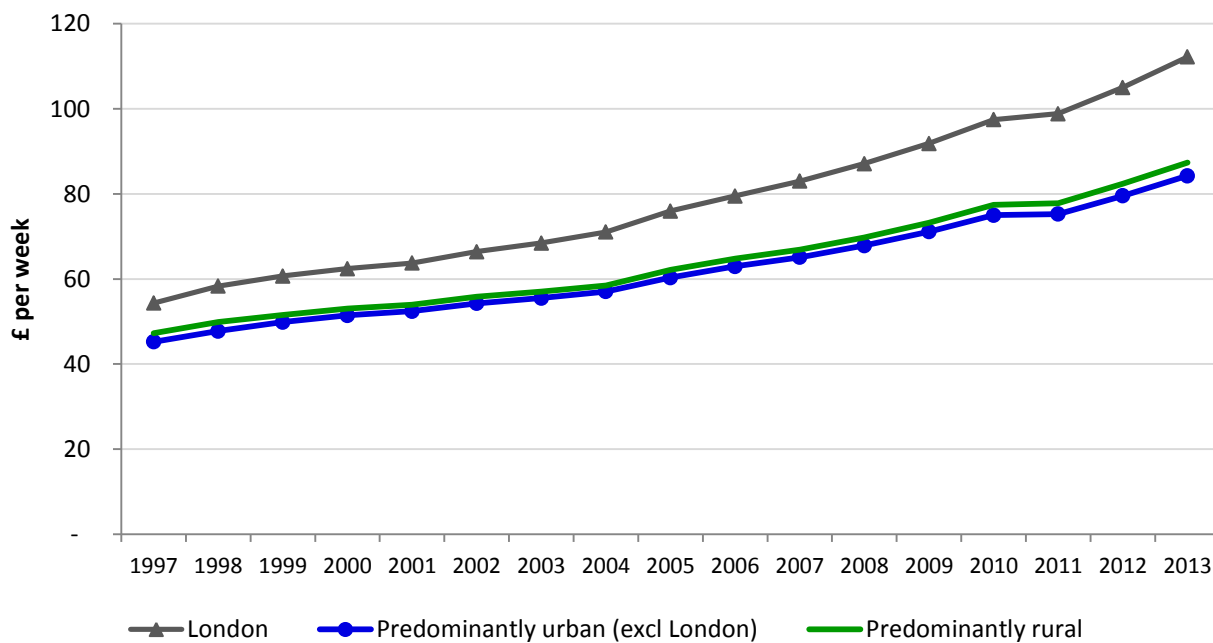
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-housing-market-and-house-prices>

Private rental affordability

Average private registered provider (PRP) rents, £ per week, by Local Authority Classification, in England, Mar 2013



Average private registered provider (PRP) rents, £ per week, by Local Authority Classification, in England, Mar 1997 to Mar 2013



- The average private registered provider rents per week are highest in London, but very similar for all other areas.
- Costs have steadily increased between 1997 and 2013, with the national average rental cost at £88 per week in March 2013.
- Affordability, however, will be affected by average incomes in those areas, and lower earners may choose to rent where they cannot afford to purchase a property.
- Average earnings for individuals who work or live in urban areas are generally slightly higher than for individuals who work or live in rural areas, which may result in lower affordability in rural areas.

Average private registered providers (PRP) rents £s per week, by Local Authority classification, in England, Mar 1997 to Mar 2013

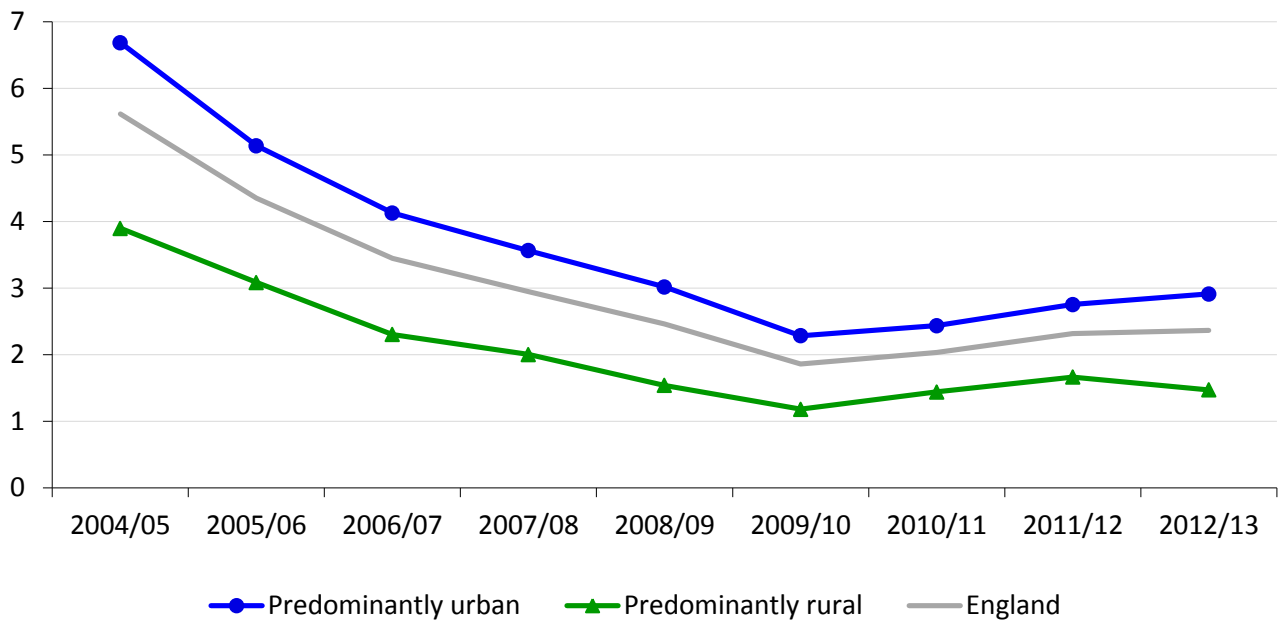
	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13
London	54	58	61	62	64	66	68	71	76	80	83	87	92	97	99	105	112
Major urban (excl. London)	42	45	47	49	50	52	53	54	57	60	63	65	68	72	73	77	81
Large urban	47	50	52	54	54	56	58	59	62	65	66	69	72	76	76	80	85
Other urban	47	50	52	53	54	56	57	59	62	65	67	70	74	78	78	82	87
Significant rural	48	51	53	55	55	57	59	60	63	66	69	72	76	80	81	86	91
Rural-50	47	50	51	53	54	56	57	59	62	65	67	70	73	77	77	82	87
Rural-80	48	50	52	53	54	55	57	58	62	64	67	70	74	78	78	83	88
Predominantly urban (excl London)	45	48	50	51	52	54	56	57	60	63	65	68	71	75	75	80	84
Predominantly rural	47	50	52	53	54	56	57	58	62	65	67	70	73	77	78	82	87
England	47	50	52	53	54	56	57	58	61	64	67	70	74	78	78	83	88

Notes: The average private registered provider rents have been calculated by weighting district level average figures from the ONS mid-year population estimates.

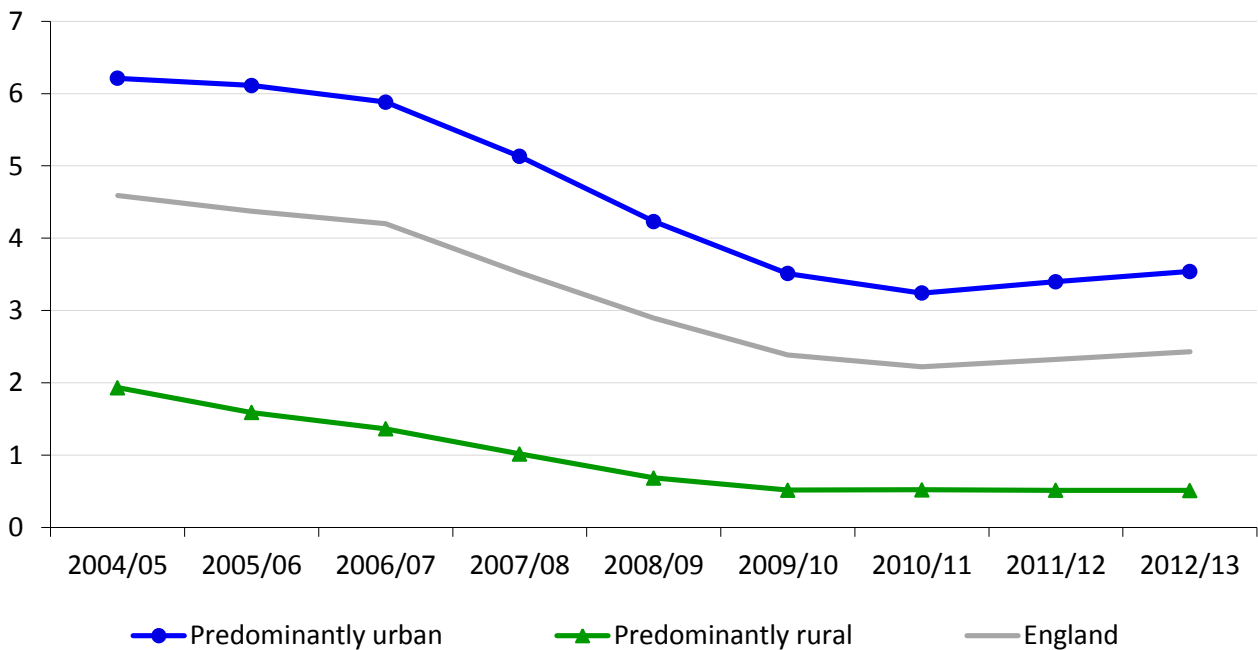
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, Table 704 Rents: Private Registered Provider (PRP) rents, by district, from 1997 <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-rents-lettings-and-tenancies>

Homelessness and Temporary Accommodation

Homeless and in priority need per 1,000 households, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2012/13



Households in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2012/13



- In 2012/13 the proportion of people who are homeless and in priority need of assistance in securing permanent settled accommodation, as a rate per 1,000 households, was 2.9 in *predominantly urban areas* and 1.4 in *predominantly rural areas*.
- The proportion of households in temporary accommodation, per 10,000 households, was 3.5 in *predominantly urban areas* and 0.5 in *predominantly rural areas*.
- The rate of homeless and in priority need of assistance increased for all area types between 2009-10 and 2011-12, but then slightly decreased in 2012/13 in all area types with the exception of *major urban* and *other urban areas*.

People who are homeless and in priority need per 1,000 households, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2012/13

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Major urban	7.5	5.8	4.9	4.2	3.6	2.7	2.9	3.2	3.6
Large urban	6.0	4.6	3.4	2.9	2.5	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.2
Other urban	5.5	4.2	3.2	2.8	2.2	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.1
Significant rural	3.8	3.2	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.4
Rural-50	4.4	3.5	2.5	2.1	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.5
Rural-80	3.3	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.4
Predominantly urban	6.7	5.1	4.1	3.6	3.0	2.3	2.4	2.8	2.9
Predominantly rural	3.9	3.1	2.3	2.0	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.5
England	5.6	4.3	3.4	2.9	2.5	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.4

Households in Temporary Accommodation per 10,000 Households, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2012/13

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Major urban	8.8	9.3	9.3	8.1	6.7	5.7	5.2	5.4	5.6
Large urban	2.1	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0
Other urban	4.0	3.4	2.6	2.0	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2
Significant rural	2.0	1.9	1.5	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Rural-50	1.9	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Rural-80	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Predominantly urban	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.1	4.2	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.5
Predominantly rural	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
England	4.6	4.4	4.2	3.5	2.9	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.4

Further information: <https://www.gov.uk/homelessness-data-notes-and-definitions>

The figures exclude a significant number of Local Authorities, which did not supply the data. The number of missing Local Authorities varies from 0 in 2009/10, 2010/11 and 2011/12 to 30 in 2005/06. The total England figures do not include estimates for missing data.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, Live tables on homelessness: table 784 Local authorities' action under the homelessness provisions of the Housing Acts: financial year 2012/13.

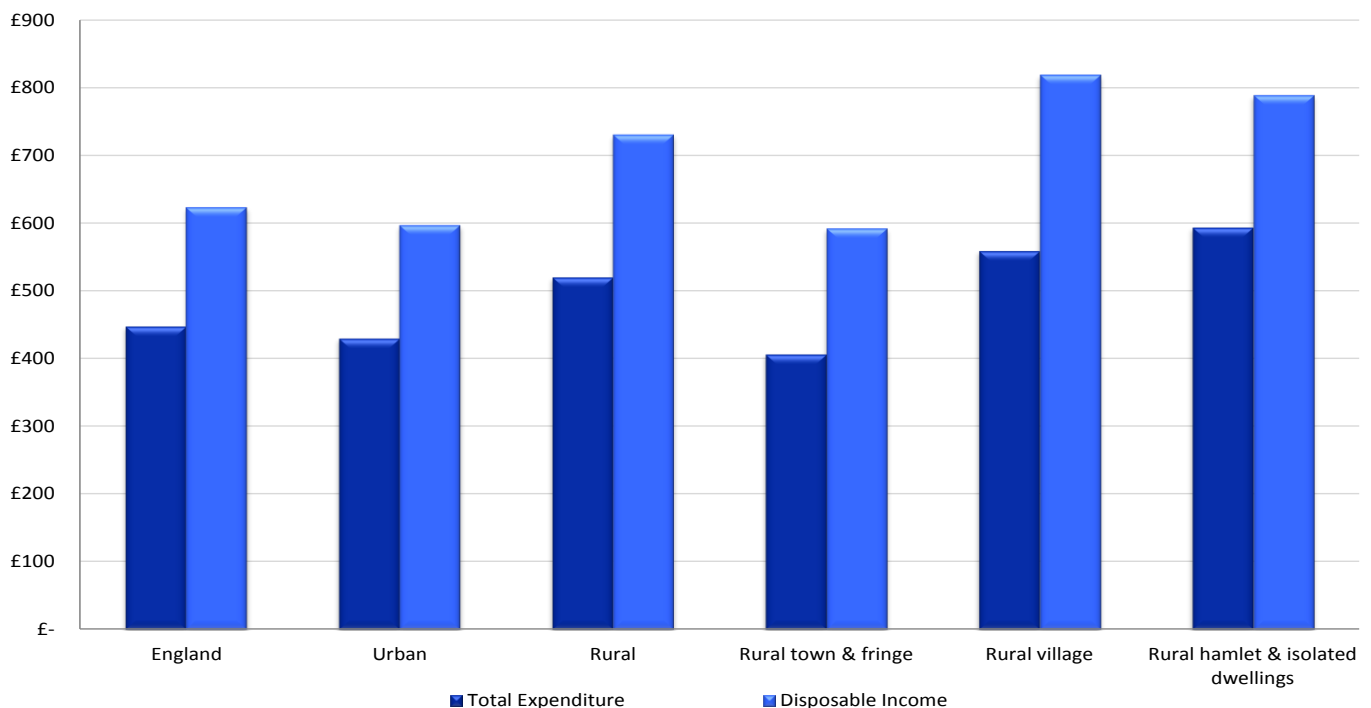
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness>

Household expenditure

- Levels of household expenditure are unsurprisingly closely related to disposable income.
- However there are differences in absolute and proportional spending patterns, appearing to reflect where households live.
- These differences may illustrate where changes in price or spending patterns would have the greatest impacts.
- In 2013, households in *rural villages* had the highest disposable incomes, whereas households in *rural hamlet and isolated dwellings* had the highest levels of expenditure. Households in *rural town and fringe* areas had the lowest levels of both expenditure and disposable income.

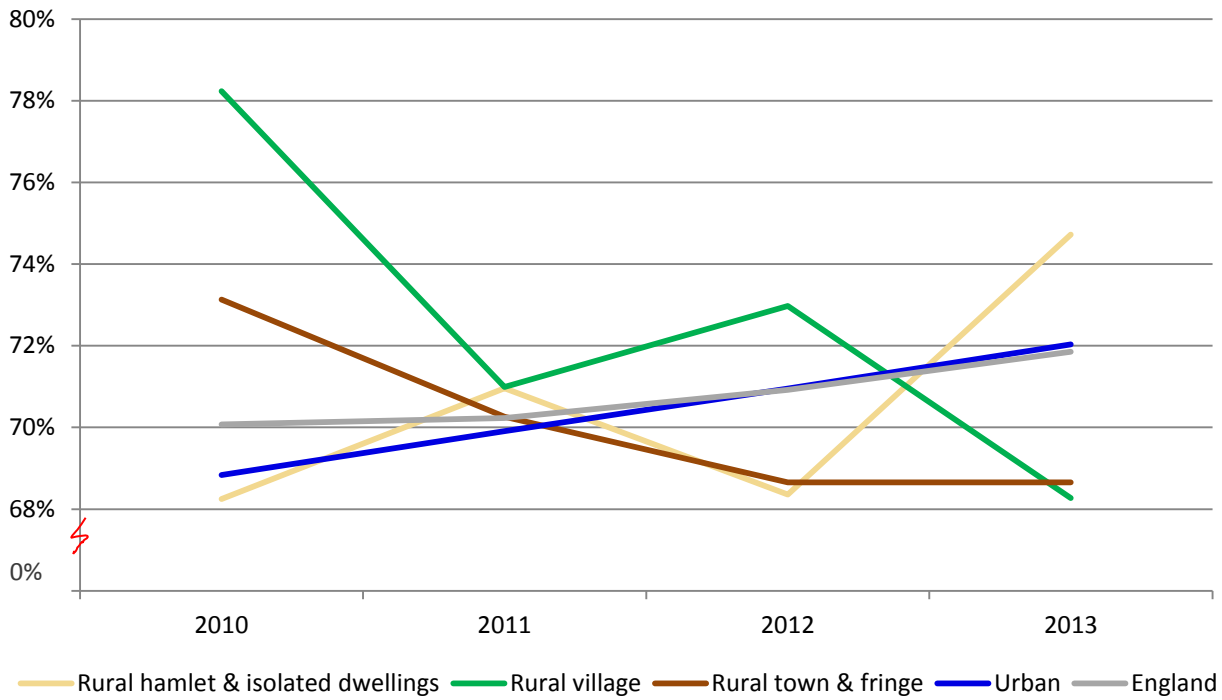
Nominal expenditure and disposable income

Weekly household expenditure and disposable income, rural-urban classification, England, 2013



- Average household expenditure as a proportion of disposable income ranges from the lowest at 68% in *rural villages* to the highest at 75% in *rural hamlet & isolated dwellings*.
- For *rural hamlet & isolated dwellings*, weekly household expenditure is £164 more than the *urban* average, but their disposable incomes are also higher than *urban* households by £192 on average.
- Households in *rural villages* have the highest disposable incomes at £818 on average, which is around £222 more than the *urban* average.

Annual expenditure as a percentage of disposable income, rural-urban classification, England, 2010-2013



- Over the past four years, total expenditure has generally risen at a higher rate than disposable incomes for all settlement types except *rural village* and *rural town and fringe areas*. Between 2010 and 2013 overall expenditure rose by 10% in *rural village* settlements whilst there was a 26% rise in average disposable income. Over the same period, in *rural hamlet & isolated dwellings*, total expenditure rose by 15%, whilst disposable income rose by 4%.

Expenditure on commodity or service groups

Weekly household expenditure, as a percentage of disposable income, rural-urban classification, England, 2013

Commodity or Service	England		Urban		Rural		Rural town & fringe		Rural village		Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	
	(£) ¹	% ²	(£) ¹	% ²	(£) ¹	% ²	(£) ¹	% ²	(£) ¹	% ²	(£) ¹	% ²
Housing, water & fuels	76.70	12.3	77.60	13.0	73.30	10.0	57.20	9.7	76.00	9.3	91.30	11.6
Transport costs	69.90	11.2	64.60	10.8	91.20	12.5	71.70	12.1	95.80	11.7	97.70	12.4
Recreation	65.00	10.4	60.40	10.1	83.40	11.4	64.70	10.9	87.50	10.7	88.50	11.2
Food & non-alcoholic beverage	58.70	9.4	56.90	9.5	66.40	9.1	57.00	9.6	71.10	8.7	72.30	9.2
Restaurants and hotels	40.70	6.5	39.60	6.6	45.30	6.2	36.30	6.1	48.30	5.9	57.20	7.3
Miscellaneous goods and services	39.80	6.4	38.00	6.4	46.80	6.4	38.20	6.5	49.20	6.0	58.70	7.4
Furnishings & household equipment	33.90	5.4	31.50	5.3	43.50	6.0	25.40	4.3	50.80	6.2	52.50	6.7
Clothing and footwear	22.10	3.5	21.50	3.6	24.70	3.4	19.60	3.3	27.40	3.3	26.80	3.4
Communication	14.50	2.3	14.40	2.4	14.70	2.0	12.40	2.1	15.30	1.9	15.00	1.9
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	11.70	1.9	11.30	1.9	13.20	1.8	12.70	2.1	13.50	1.6	14.00	1.8
Education ^a	8.10	1.3	8.20	1.4	7.70	1.1	5.30	0.9	11.70	1.4	^a 4.40	^a 0.6
Health expenditure	6.50	1.0	5.70	1.0	9.60	1.3	5.80	1.0	12.10	1.5	15.10	1.9
Total expenditure, and expenditure as a % of disposable income	447.60	71.9	429.70	72.0	519.80	71.2	406.30	68.7	558.70	68.3	593.50	75.3

1 Expenditure as a value (£)

2 Expenditure as a percentage of disposable income

a The level of spending on education by households in rural hamlet & isolated dwellings should be used with caution, as they are based on a sample of less than 20 households.

Transport costs include the purchase and operation of personal vehicles and fares paid on public vehicles. All journeys are recorded within the transport section. Recreation costs include for example sports equipment, admission charges, audio-visual equipment, the purchase of CDs, computer equipment and games, pets and horticultural equipment.

For further details see: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171766_385729.pdf

- *Rural* households spend a higher proportion of their disposable income on ‘transport’ and ‘recreation’ than they do on ‘housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels’. This is in contrast to *urban* areas where households on average spend the highest proportion of their income on ‘housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels’.
- In 2013, average weekly transport costs for those in *rural hamlets and isolated dwellings* were around £98 which accounted for 12.4% of their weekly disposable income, which was £33 higher than for *urban* areas.
- Total expenditure as a percentage of disposable income is highest in *rural hamlet & isolated dwellings* at 75%. This is due to higher average levels of spending in areas such as ‘transport’, ‘recreation’ and ‘furnishings & household equipment’.
- The amount spent on commodities and services by households in *rural villages* and *rural hamlet & isolated dwellings* is generally greater than the equivalent spend in other settlement types. However, both these settlement types also have the highest average disposable incomes.

Notes: The measure of income used here does not include withdrawal of savings, loans and money received in payment of loans, receipts from maturing insurance policies and proceeds from the sale of assets.

Source: Office for National Statistics, Living Costs and Food Survey (<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/family-spending/family-spending/2014-edition/rft-table-a1.xls>)

Poverty

- Households Below Average Income (HBAI) statistics give an insight into the standard of living of the household population of England. HBAI assumes that all individuals in the household benefit equally from the combined income of the household.
- Individuals are said to be in **relative low income** if they live in a household with an income below a percentage (60 per cent in this case) of median income (the income earned by the household in the middle of the distribution in a given year), before or after housing costs. Relative low-income levels fall if income growth at the lower end of the income distribution outstrips overall income growth.
- Individuals are said to be in **absolute low income** if they live in a household with an income below a threshold of median income (in this case 60 per cent of median income) in a specific year adjusted for inflation, before or after housing costs. Absolute low-income levels fall if low-income households are seeing their incomes rise faster than inflation.
- The percentage of people living in relative and absolute low income is lower in rural areas than in urban areas, but nevertheless many thousands of individuals living in rural areas are in households below average income.

Percentage of households, working-age people, children and pensioners, in relative and absolute low income, before and after housing costs, in 2011/12, by rural and urban areas in England

	Relative or absolute low income	Rural		Urban	
		Before Housing Costs	After Housing Costs	Before Housing Costs	After Housing Costs
Households	Relative low income	13	15	18	23
Working-age people	Relative low income	11	15	16	23
Children	Relative low income	11	17	19	30
Pensioners	Relative low income	14	12	17	14
Households	Absolute low income	15	17	19	24
Working-age people	Absolute low income	12	15	17	24
Children	Absolute low income	12	18	21	32
Pensioners	Absolute low income	15	14	19	16

Relative Low Income in 2011/12

- **Households:** The percentage of households in rural areas in relative low income was 13 per cent before housing costs, and 15 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of households in urban areas in relative low income was 18 per cent before housing costs, and 23 per cent after housing costs.
- **Working-age people:** The percentage of working-age people in rural areas in relative low income was 11 per cent before housing costs, and 15 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of working-age people in urban areas in relative low income was 16 per cent before housing costs, and 23 per cent after housing costs.
- **Children:** The percentage of children in rural areas in relative low income was 11 per cent before housing costs, and 17 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of children in urban areas in relative low income was 19 per cent before housing costs, and 30 per cent after housing costs.
- **Pensioners:** The percentage of pensioners in rural areas in relative low income was 14 per cent before housing costs, and 12 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of pensioners in urban areas in relative low income was 17 per cent before housing costs, and 14 per cent after housing costs.

Absolute Low Income in 2011/12

- **Households:** The percentage of households in rural areas in absolute low income was 15 per cent before housing costs, and 17 per cent after housing costs. The percentage of households in urban areas in absolute low income was 19 per cent before housing costs and 24 per cent after housing costs.
- **Working-age people:** The percentage of working-age people in rural areas in absolute low income was 12 per cent before housing costs, and 15 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of working-age people in urban areas in relative low income was 17 per cent before housing costs, and 24 per cent after housing costs.
- **Children:** The percentage of children in rural areas in absolute low income was 12 per cent before housing costs, and 18 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of children in urban areas in absolute low income was 21 per cent before housing costs, and 32 per cent after housing costs.
- **Pensioners:** The percentage of pensioners in rural areas in absolute low income was 15 per cent before housing costs, and 14 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of pensioners in urban areas in absolute low income was 19 per cent before housing costs, and 16 per cent after housing costs.

Dashboard showing an increase or decrease in the percentage of households, working-age people, children and pensioners, in relative and absolute low income, before and after housing costs, between 2010/11 and 2011/12, by rural and urban areas in England

	Relative or absolute low income	Rural		Urban	
		Before Housing Costs	After Housing Costs	Before Housing Costs	After Housing Costs
Households	Relative low income	↓	-	-	-
Working-age people	Relative low income	↓	-	-	-
Children	Relative low income	↓	↓	-	-
Pensioners	Relative low income	↓	-	-	-
Households	Absolute low income	-	-	↑	↑
Working-age people	Absolute low income	-	-	↑	↑
Children	Absolute low income	↓	↓	↑	↑
Pensioners	Absolute low income	↓	↑	-	-

Key: ↑ increase in the percentage in low income ↓ decrease in the percentage in low income

- percentage in low income stayed the same

This dashboard shows the direction of change over the last year and is provided to give an indication only and may not represent a clear improvement or deterioration. Indication of change is based on a ± 1.0 per cent threshold. Not all the figures have been checked for significance.

- **Rural area trends:** Between 2010/11 and 2011/12 there was an increase in the percentage of *pensioners* in *rural* areas in *absolute low income*, after housing costs. All other categories for *rural* areas either stayed the same or showed a decrease in the percentage in relative or absolute low income, before and after housing costs.
- **Urban area trends:** Between 2010/11 and 2011/12 there was an increase in the percentage of *households*, *working-age people* and *children* in *urban* areas in both *relative and absolute low income*, before and after housing costs. All other categories stayed the same.

Technical note:

This report presents figures on the percentage living in relative and absolute low income for households overall, and separately for working-age adults, children and pensioners. These statistics are one of the measures used to assess changes to living standards by examining low income, income inequality and poverty. Figures are presented as before and after housing costs.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) reports that **Before Housing Costs**¹ measures allow an assessment of the relative standard of living of those individuals who were actually benefiting from a better quality of housing by paying more for better accommodation, and income growth over time incorporates improvements in living standards where higher costs reflected improvements in the quality of housing.

After Housing Costs¹ measures allow an assessment of living standards of individuals whose housing costs are high relative to the quality of their accommodation, and income growth over time may also overstate improvements in living standards for low-income groups, as a rise in Housing Benefit to offset higher rents (for a given quality of accommodation) would be counted as an income rise.

These rural statistics are based on 'relative low income' and 'absolute low income'². DWP also report on measures of 'low income and material deprivation' and 'persistent poverty'.

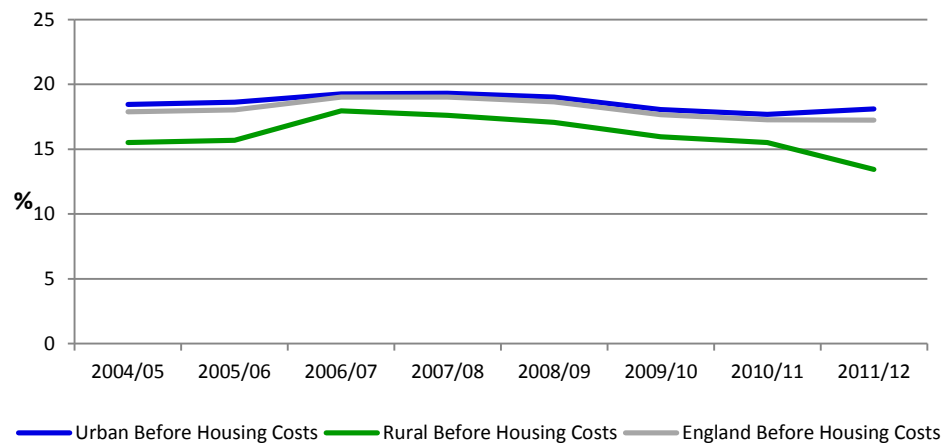
¹See Note (a) for explanation of what is included in Before and After Housing Costs.

²See Note (b) for detailed explanation of 'relative low income' and 'absolute low income'.

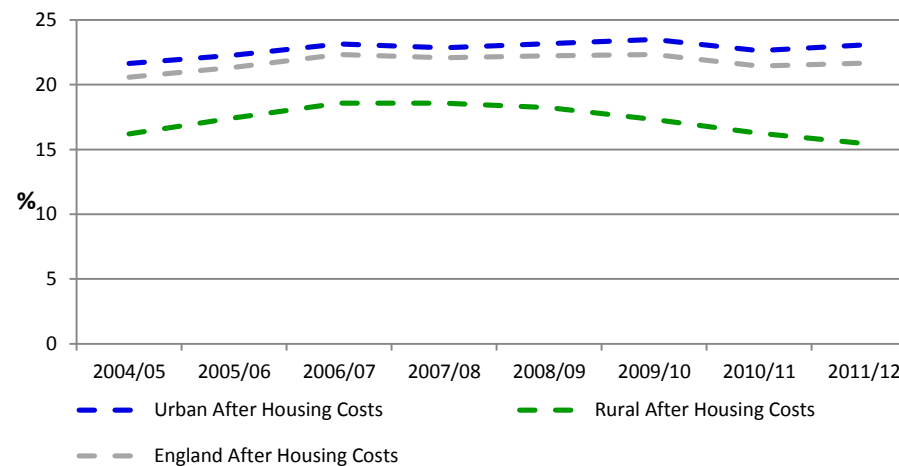
Percentage of households in low income

Percentage of households in relative low income, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

i) Before Housing Costs

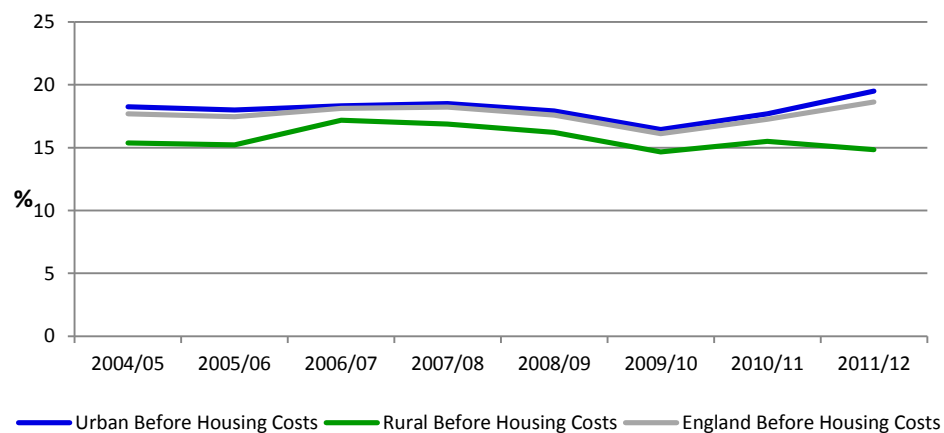


ii) After Housing Costs

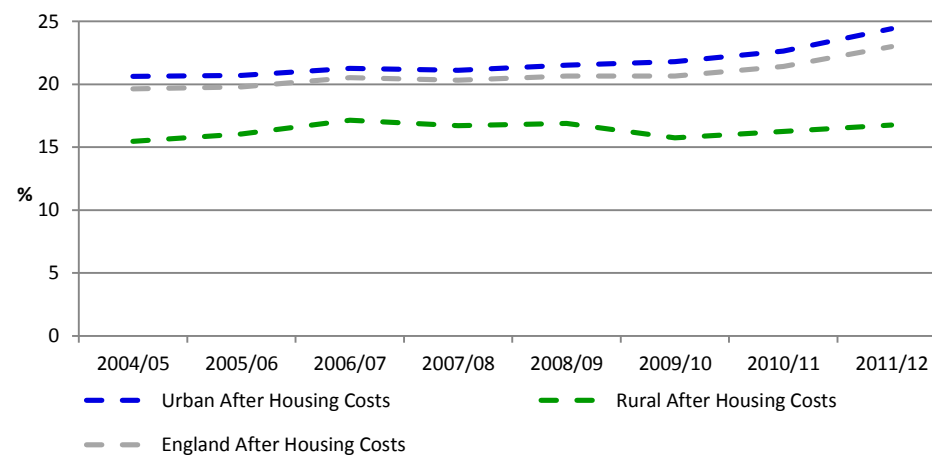


Percentage of households in absolute low income, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

i) Before Housing Costs



ii) After Housing Costs



- Both before and after housing costs measures can be used to examine relative and absolute low income for households.
- **Relative low income:** In 2011/12, the percentage of *households* in rural areas in *relative low income* was 13 per cent before housing costs, and 15 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of households in urban areas in *relative low income* was 18 per cent before housing costs, and 23 per cent after housing costs.
- **Absolute low income:** In 2011/12, the percentage of *households* in rural areas in *absolute low income* was 15 per cent before housing costs, and 17 per cent after housing costs. The percentage of households in urban areas in absolute low income was 19 per cent before housing costs and 24 per cent after housing costs.
- The percentage of households in urban areas in absolute low income, for both before and after housing costs, increased between 2010/11 and 2011/12. In comparison, the percentage of households in rural areas in absolute low income before housing costs, decreased although the percentage in absolute low income after housing costs increased.

Percentage of **households in relative low income**, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

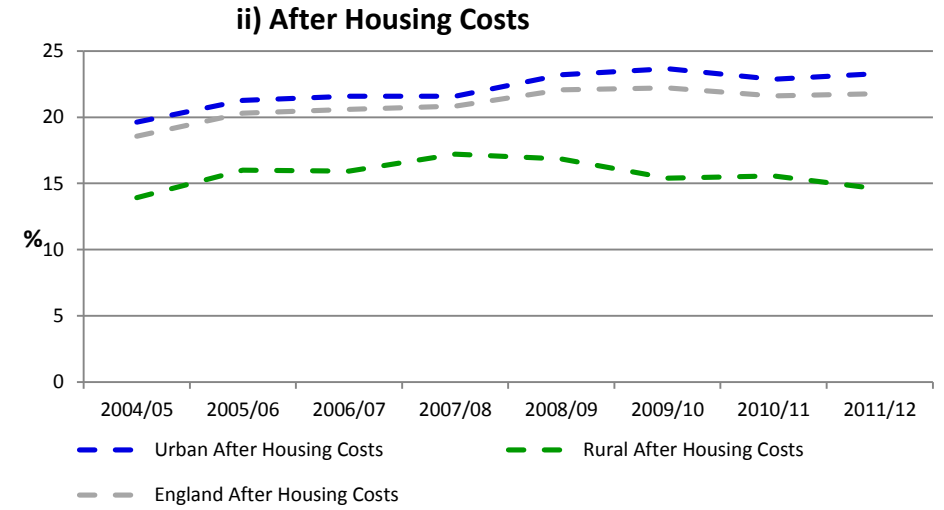
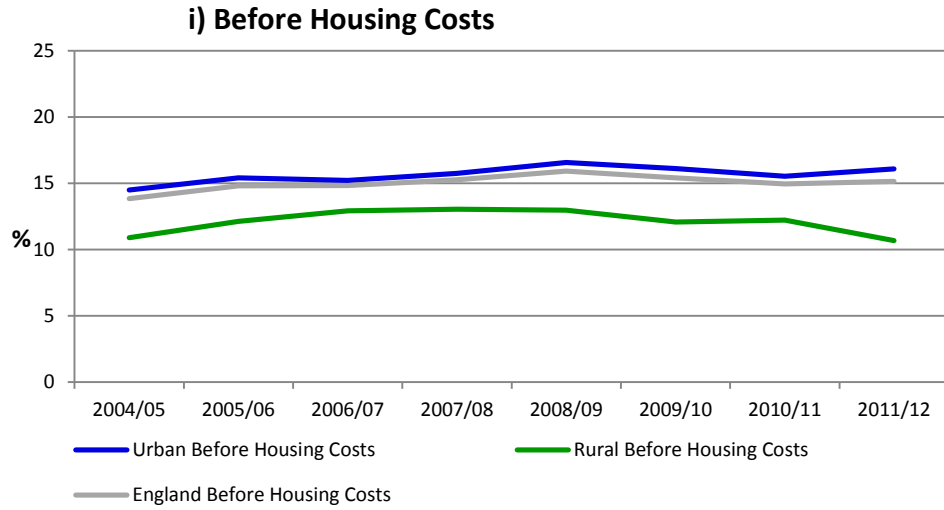
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Urban Before Housing Costs	18	19	19	19	19	18	18	18
Urban After Housing Costs	22	22	23	23	23	23	23	23
Rural Before Housing Costs	16	16	18	18	17	16	16	13
Rural After Housing Costs	16	17	19	19	18	17	16	15
England Before Housing Costs	18	18	19	19	19	18	17	17
England After Housing Costs	21	21	22	22	22	22	21	22

Percentage of **households in absolute low income**, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

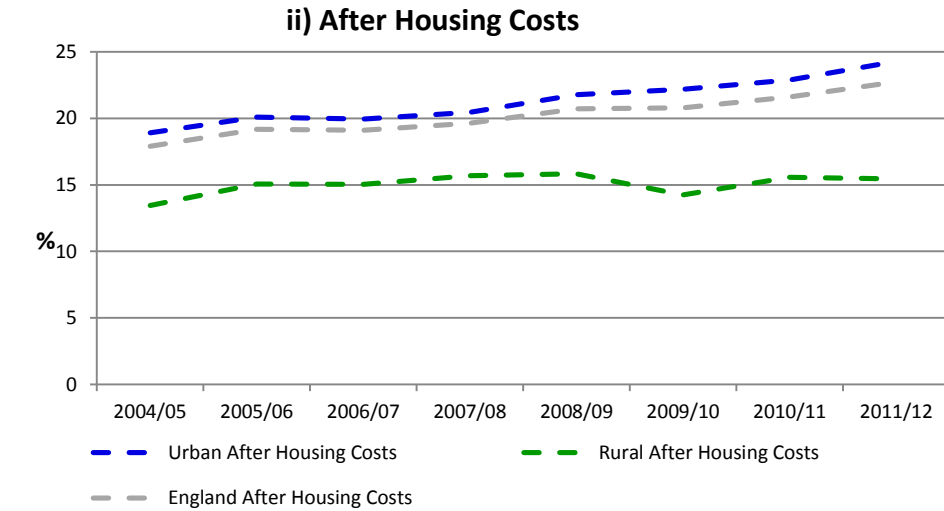
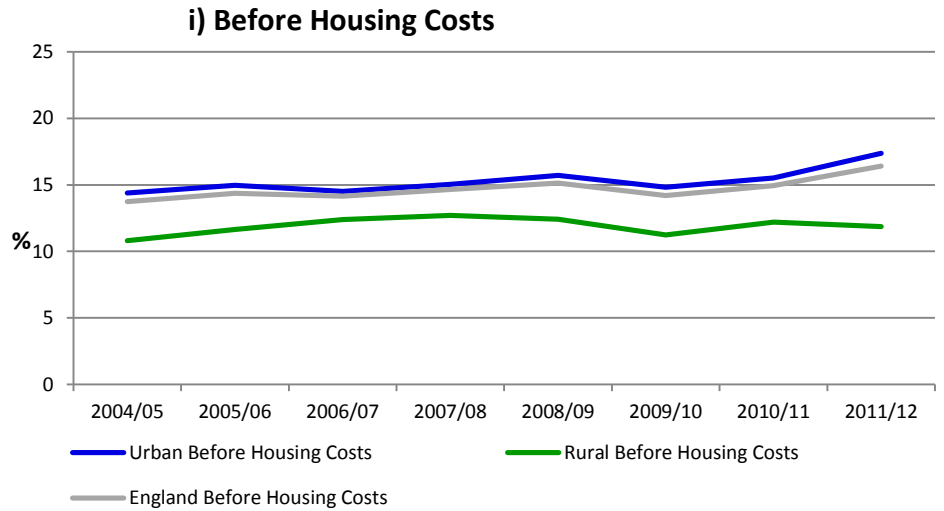
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Urban Before Housing Costs	18	18	18	19	18	16	18	19
Urban After Housing Costs	21	21	21	21	22	22	23	24
Rural Before Housing Costs	15	15	17	17	16	15	16	15
Rural After Housing Costs	15	16	17	17	17	16	16	17
England Before Housing Costs	18	17	18	18	18	16	17	19
England After Housing Costs	20	20	21	20	21	21	21	23

Percentage of working-age people in low income

Percentage of working-age people in relative low income, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12



Percentage of working-age people in absolute low income, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12



- DWP report that the preferred measure to examine relative and absolute low income for the working-age-population (those aged between 16 and 64) is before housing costs, as after housing costs measures can underestimate the true living standard of families who choose to spend more on housing to attain a higher standard of accommodation.
- **Relative low income:** In 2011/12, the percentage of *working-age people* in rural areas in *relative low income* was 11 per cent before housing costs, and 15 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of *working-age people* in urban areas in *relative low income* was 16 per cent before housing costs, and 23 per cent after housing costs.
- **Absolute low income:** In 2011/12, the percentage of *working-age people* in rural areas in *absolute low income* was 12 per cent before housing costs, and 15 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of *working-age people* in urban areas in *relative low income* was 17 per cent before housing costs, and 24 per cent after housing costs.
- The percentage of working-age people in urban areas in absolute low income, for before and after housing costs, increased between 2010/11 and 2011/12. In comparison, the percentage of working-age people in rural areas in absolute low income, Before Housing Costs, stayed the same, whereas the percentage in absolute low income, after housing costs, decreased.

Percentage of **working-age people in relative low income**, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

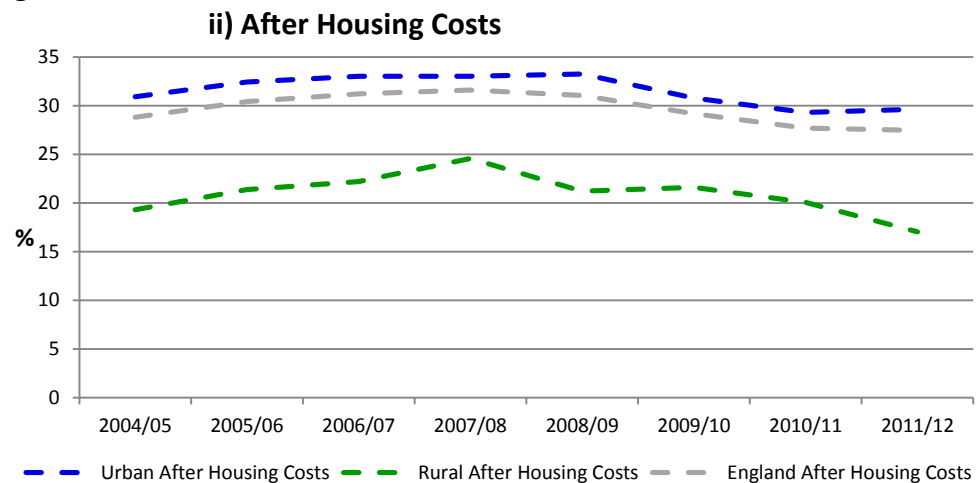
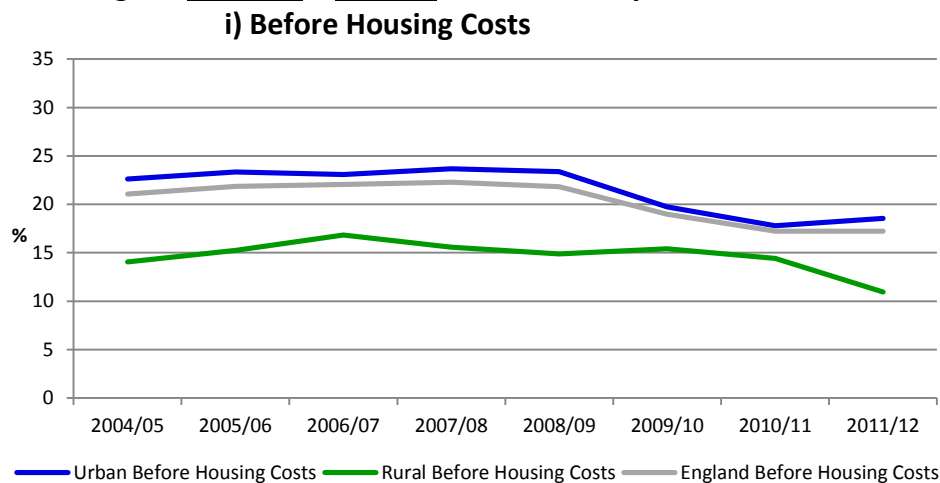
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Urban Before Housing Costs	14	15	15	16	17	16	16	16
Urban After Housing Costs	20	21	22	22	23	24	23	23
Rural Before Housing Costs	11	12	13	13	13	12	12	11
Rural After Housing Costs	14	16	16	17	17	15	16	15
England Before Housing Costs	14	15	15	15	16	15	15	15
England After Housing Costs	19	20	21	21	22	22	22	22

Percentage of **working-age people in absolute low income**, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

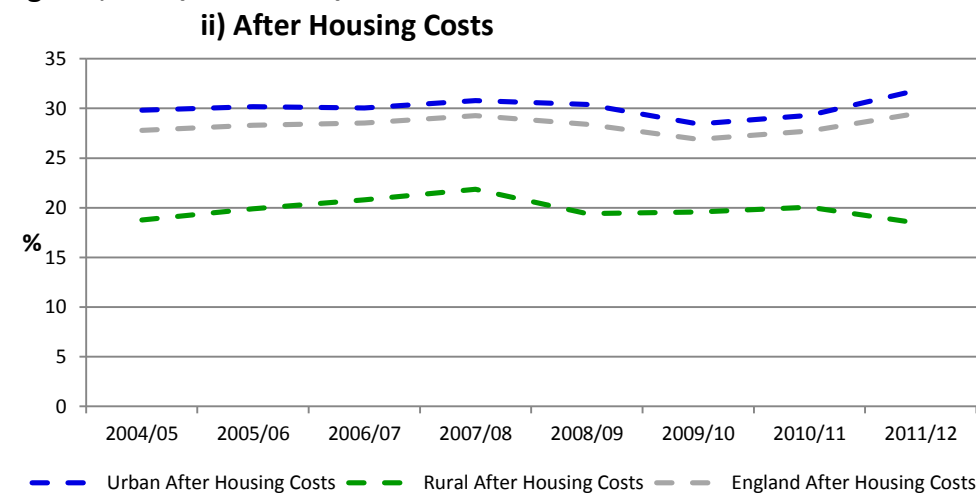
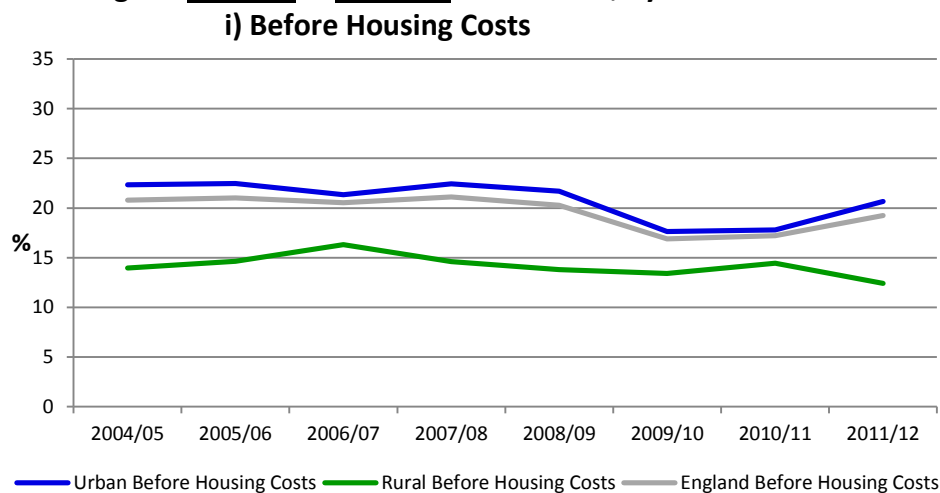
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Urban Before Housing Costs	14	15	15	15	16	15	16	17
Urban After Housing Costs	19	20	20	20	22	22	23	24
Rural Before Housing Costs	11	12	12	13	12	11	12	12
Rural After Housing Costs	13	15	15	16	16	14	16	15
England Before Housing Costs	14	14	14	15	15	14	15	16
England After Housing Costs	18	19	19	20	21	21	22	23

Percentage of children in low income

Percentage of children in relative low income, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12



Percentage of children in absolute low income, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12



- DWP report that the preferred measure of low income for children is based on incomes measured before housing costs, as after housing costs measures can underestimate the true living standard of families who choose to spend more on housing to attain a higher standard of accommodation.
- **Relative low income:** In 2011/12, the percentage of *children* in rural areas in *relative low income* was 11 per cent before housing costs, and 17 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of *children* in urban areas in *relative low income* was 19 per cent before housing costs, and 30 per cent after housing costs.
- **Absolute low income:** In 2011/12, the percentage of *children* in rural areas in *absolute low income* was 12 per cent before housing costs, and 18 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of *children* in urban areas in *absolute low income* was 21 per cent before housing costs, and 32 per cent after housing costs.
- The percentage of children in relative and absolute low income after housing costs is higher than for working-age people and pensioners. **The Child Poverty Act 2010** sets out the government's national Child Poverty Strategy. The Act contains four income-based UK-wide targets to be met by 2020. The target relating to the percentage of children in 'relative low income' is less than 10 per cent by 2020 (this is based on before housing costs measures). This target measures whether the incomes of the poorest families are keeping pace with the growth of incomes in the economy as a whole.

Percentage of **children in relative low income**, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Urban Before Housing Costs	23	23	23	24	23	20	18	19
Urban After Housing Costs	31	32	33	33	33	31	29	30
Rural Before Housing Costs	14	15	17	16	15	15	14	11
Rural After Housing Costs	19	21	22	25	21	22	20	17
England Before Housing Costs	21	22	22	22	22	19	17	17
England After Housing Costs	29	30	31	32	31	29	28	27

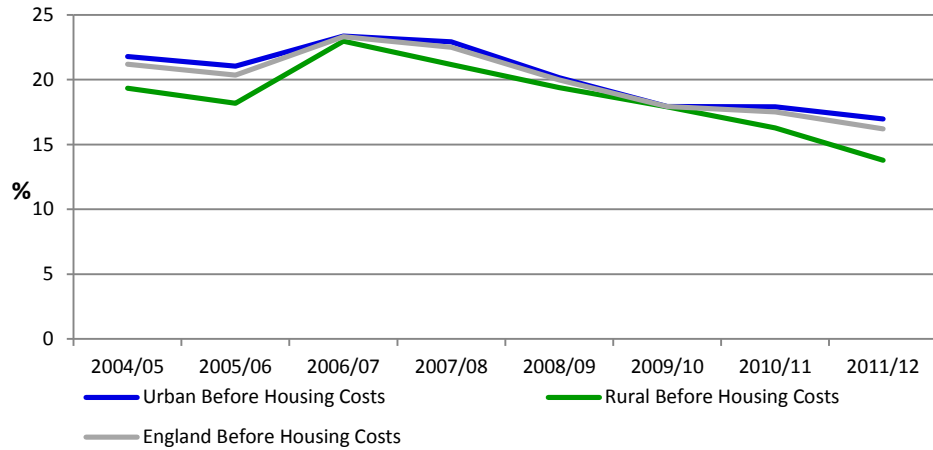
Percentage of **children in absolute low income**, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Urban Before Housing Costs	22	22	21	22	22	18	18	21
Urban After Housing Costs	30	30	30	31	30	28	29	32
Rural Before Housing Costs	14	15	16	15	14	13	14	12
Rural After Housing Costs	19	20	21	22	19	20	20	18
England Before Housing Costs	21	21	21	21	20	17	17	19
England After Housing Costs	28	28	29	29	28	27	28	30

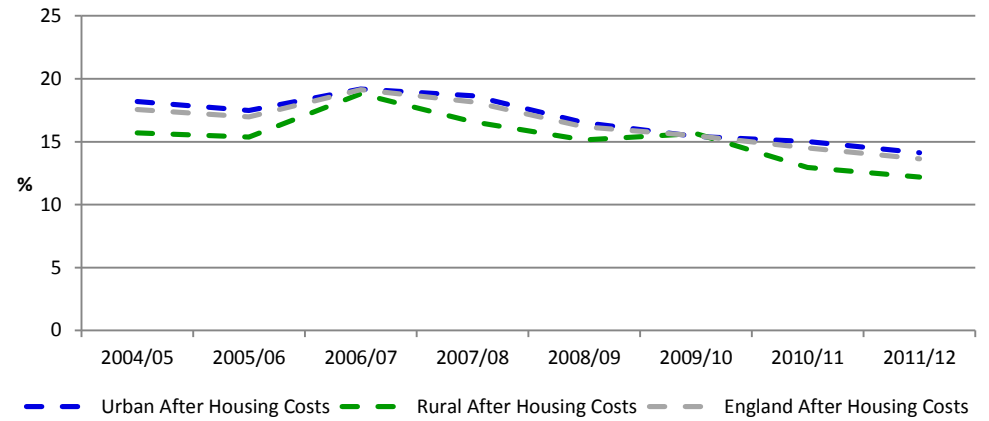
Percentage of pensioners in low income

Percentage of pensioners in relative low income, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

i) Before Housing Costs

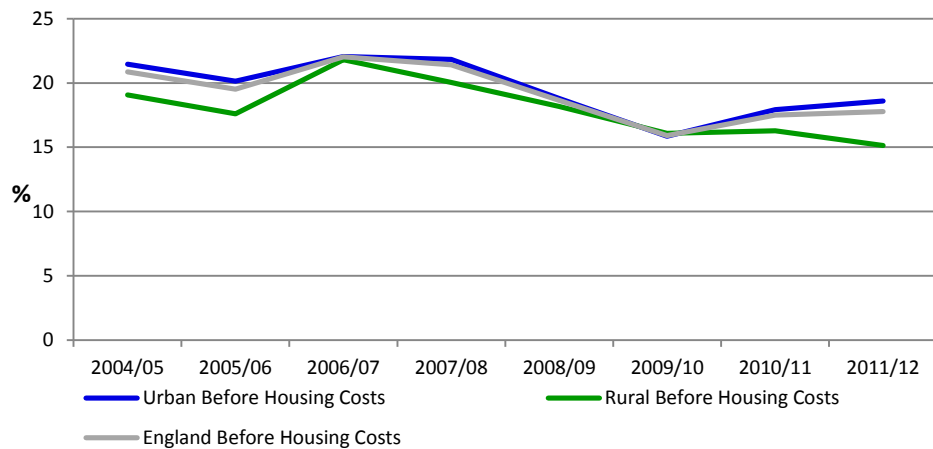


ii) After Housing Costs

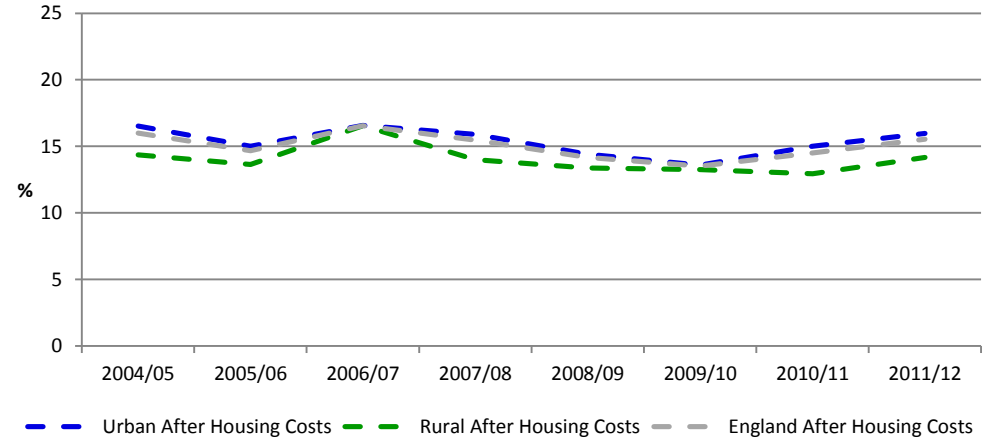


Percentage of pensioners in absolute low income, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

i) Before Housing Costs



ii) After Housing Costs



- DWP report that the preferred measure of low income for pensioners is based on incomes measured after housing costs, as a significant percentage of pensioners own their own home. The figures for both urban and rural areas show that the percentage of pensioners in relative or absolute low income was lower after housing costs, than before housing costs.
- **Relative low income:** In 2011/12, the percentage of *pensioners* in rural areas in *relative low income* was 14 per cent before housing costs, and 12 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of *pensioners* in urban areas in *relative low income* was 17 per cent before housing costs, and 14 per cent after housing costs.
- **Absolute low income:** In 2011/12, the percentage of *pensioners* in rural areas in *absolute low income* was 15 per cent before housing costs, and 14 per cent after housing costs. In comparison, the percentage of *pensioners* in urban areas in *absolute low income* was 19 per cent before housing costs, and 16 per cent after housing costs.
- Between 2010/11 and 2011/12, the percentage of pensioners in relative low income decreased for both urban and rural areas both before and after housing costs. This is not the case for absolute low income measures where the situation has worsened overall for pensioners except those living in rural areas before housing costs.

Percentage of **pensioners in relative low income**, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Urban Before Housing Costs	22	21	23	23	20	18	18	17
Urban After Housing Costs	18	17	19	19	17	15	15	14
Rural Before Housing Costs	19	18	23	21	19	18	16	14
Rural After Housing Costs	16	15	19	17	15	16	13	12
England Before Housing Costs	21	20	23	23	20	18	18	16
England After Housing Costs	18	17	19	18	16	15	15	14

Percentage of **pensioners in absolute low income**, by urban and rural areas in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Urban Before Housing Costs	21	20	22	22	19	16	18	19
Urban After Housing Costs	17	15	17	16	14	14	15	16
Rural Before Housing Costs	19	18	22	20	18	16	16	15
Rural After Housing Costs	14	14	17	14	13	13	13	14
England Before Housing Costs	21	20	22	21	19	16	18	18
England After Housing Costs	16	15	17	15	14	14	15	16

Source: Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), bespoke data request.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/206778/full_hbai13.pdf

Notes:

(a) HBAI Statistics – background information

Households Below Average Income (HBAI) uses net disposable weekly household income, after adjusting for the household size and composition, as an assessment for material living standards - the level of consumption of goods and services that people could attain given the net income of the household in which they live. In order to allow comparisons of the living standards of different types of households, income is adjusted to take into account variations in the size and composition of the households in a process known as equivalisation. The unit of analysis is the individual.

Housing costs are made up of: rent (gross of housing benefit); water rates, community water charges and council water charges; mortgage interest payments (net of tax relief); structural insurance premiums (for owner occupiers); and ground rent and service charges.

Further information on DWP HBAI statistics can be found at:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/households-below-average-income-hbai--2>
- https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/206850/first_release_1112.pdf
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/households-below-average-income-hbai-199495-to-201112>

(b) HBAI Statistics – definitions of relative and absolute low income

Relative low income sets the threshold as a percentage of the average income, and moves each year as average income moves. It is used to measure the number and percentage of individuals who have incomes a certain percentage below the average.

The percentage of individuals in relative low income will increase if:

- the average income stays the same, or rises, and individuals with the lowest incomes see
- their income fall, or rise less, than average income; or
- the average income falls and individuals with the lowest incomes see their income fall more than the average income.

The percentage of individuals in relative low income will decrease if:

- the average income stays the same, or rises, and individuals with the lowest incomes see
- their income rise more than average income; or
- the average income falls and individuals with the lowest incomes see their income rise, or fall less, than average income, or see no change in their income.

Absolute low income sets the low income line in a given year, then adjusts it each year with inflation as measured by variants of the RPI*. This measures the percentage of individuals who are below a certain standard of living in the UK (as measured by income).

- The percentage of individuals in absolute low income will increase if individuals with the lowest incomes see their income fall or rise less than inflation.
- The percentage of individuals in absolute low income will decrease if individuals with the lowest incomes see their incomes rise more than inflation.

* HBAI uses variants of RPI to adjust for inflation to look at how incomes are changing over real time in real terms. In accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, the Retail Price Index and its derivatives have been assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and found not to meet the required standard for designation as National Statistics. A full report can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website.

(c) The Child Poverty Act 2010, Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission

- The Child Poverty Act 2010, relative low income target: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/9/contents>

(1)The *relative low income* target is that less than 10% of children who live in qualifying households live in households that fall within the relevant income group.

(2)For the purposes of this analysis, a household falls within the relevant income group, in relation to a financial year, if its equivalised net income for the financial year is less than 60% of median equivalised net household income for the financial year.

Notes continued:

(c) State of the Nation 2013 Report:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/251213/State_of_the_Nation_2013.pdf

(d) Statistical Significance

In the tables, figures are rounded to the nearest 1.0 per cent whereas the dashboard shows change based on a ± 1.0 per cent threshold. Increases or decreases in figures between years as noted in the tables and dashboard may therefore not match and these changes may not represent a clear improvement or deterioration. Not all the figures have been checked for significance.

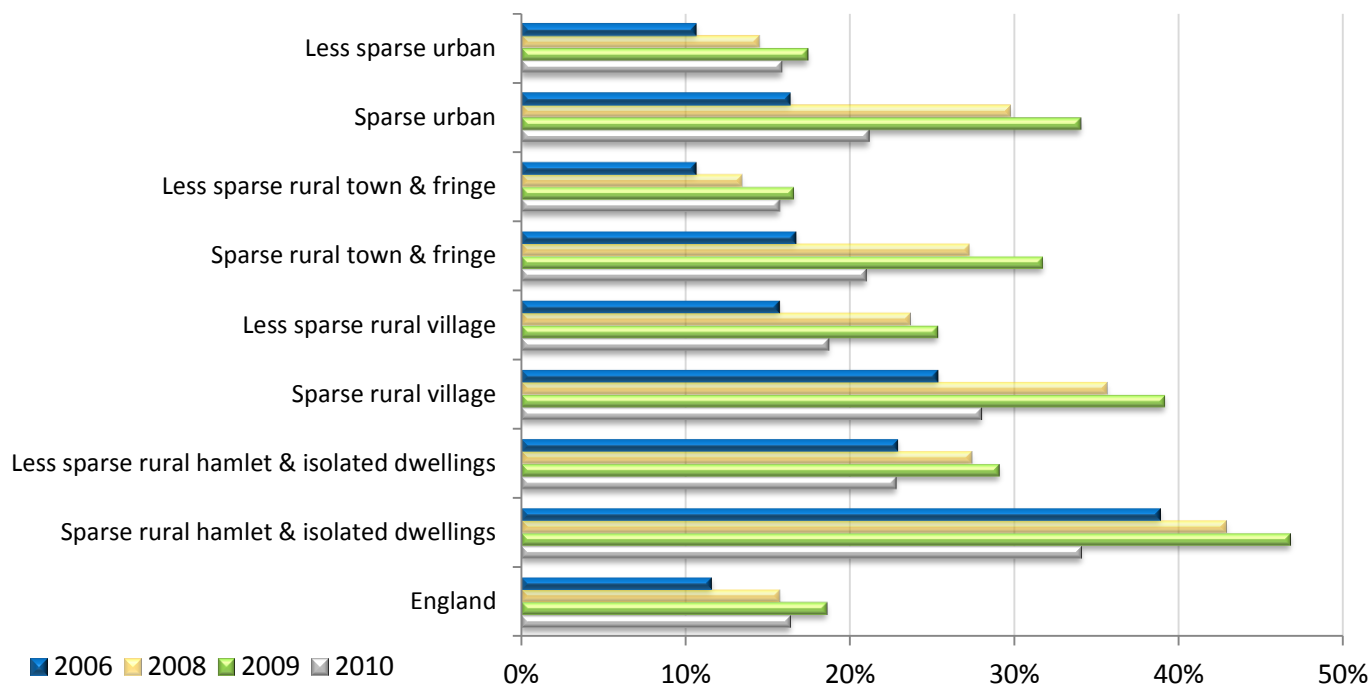
Fuel poverty

Households in fuel poverty are those that are at risk of being unable to afford to heat their homes to an adequate standard. They may also be less able to spend money on other necessities. A household is said to be in fuel poverty if it needs to spend more than 10 per cent of its income on fuel to maintain an adequate level of warmth (usually 21 degrees for the main living area, and 18 degrees for other occupied rooms). It is not based on what is actually spent. Fuel poverty rates are influenced by household incomes, fuel usage and fuel prices. In addition it may be affected by ability to take up energy saving initiatives.

- Proportionally more households in rural areas are in fuel poverty than the national average.
- In 2010, around 18 per cent of households in rural areas were in fuel poverty compared with 16 per cent of those in urban areas.
- There was proportionally more fuel poverty in *sparse villages & hamlets* than in *rural towns* and *urban areas*, where rates of fuel poverty are very similar.
- Households in sparse areas are more likely to be in fuel poverty, but the greatest decreases in the proportions of households in fuel poverty between 2009 and 2010 were in sparse areas.
- Households in rural areas are more likely to be off the gas grid (i.e. not connected to mains gas), and hence reliant on potentially more expensive fuels (such as heating oils and solid fuels), than those in urban areas (36 per cent compared with 8 per cent of households).

Fuel poverty rate

Percentage of households in fuel poverty, by settlement type in England, 2006 to 2010



Percentage of households in fuel poverty, by settlement type in England, 2006 to 2010

	2006	2008	2009	2010
Less sparse urban	10.6	14.5	17.4	15.9
Sparse urban	16.4	29.8	34.0	21.1
Less sparse rural town & fringe	10.6	13.4	16.6	15.7
Sparse rural town & fringe	16.7	27.3	31.7	21.0
Less sparse village	15.7	23.7	25.3	18.7
Sparse village	25.3	35.6	39.1	28.0
Less sparse hamlet & isolated dwellings	22.9	27.4	29.1	22.8
Sparse hamlet & isolated dwellings	38.9	42.9	46.8	34.1
Urban	10.7	14.5	17.5	15.9
Rural	15.3	20.5	23.0	18.4
England	11.6	15.7	18.6	16.4

- There were higher rates of fuel poverty in rural areas than urban areas, and as rurality increases, so does fuel poverty.
- There were also higher rates of fuel poverty in *sparse areas* than in *less sparse areas*.
- The percentage of households in fuel poverty fell between 2009 and 2010 in England by 2.2 percentage points. The largest contribution to this change came from rising incomes.
- The greatest reductions were seen in rural areas such that in 2010 the gap in the percentage of households in fuel poverty between urban and rural areas was 2.6 percentage points compared with 5.5 percentage points in 2009.
- The maps on the following page show that there appears to be a relationship between sparse areas (dark green on the left-hand map) and higher rates of fuel poverty (dark blue, right-hand map).
- The proportion of people with income below the poverty threshold is lower in rural areas than in urban areas, but the proportion of people in rural areas in fuel poverty is higher than in urban areas. It may be that the costs of heating a home to an adequate standard of warmth are higher in rural areas than in urban areas, not least because a higher proportion of rural households are off the gas grid and hence may be dependent on more costly fuels.

Notes: A household is said to be in fuel poverty if it needs to spend more than 10 per cent of its income on fuel to maintain an adequate level of warmth (usually 21 degrees for the main living area, and 18 degrees for other occupied rooms). It is not based on what is actually spent.

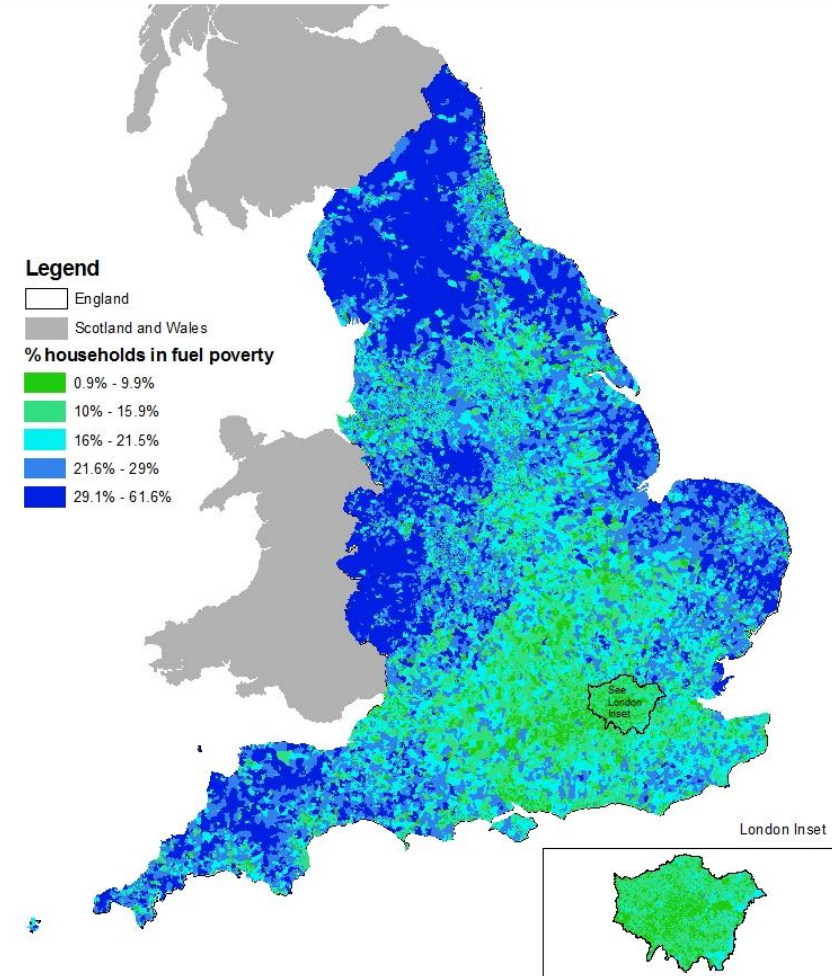
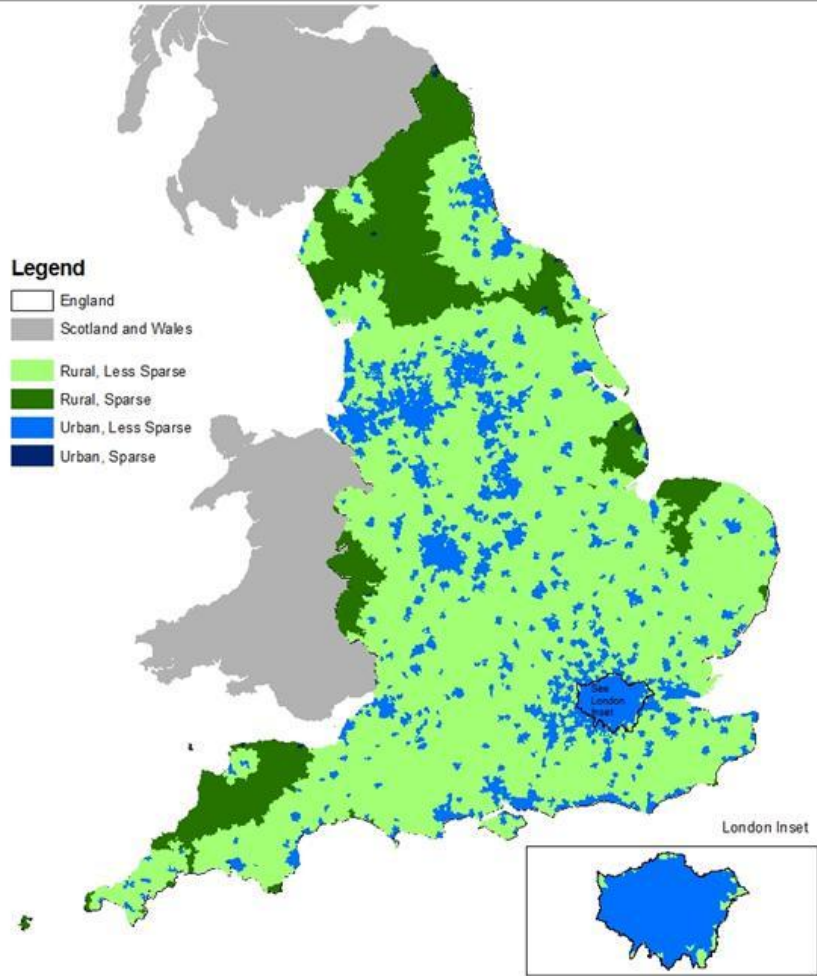
Because these statistics are based on modelled estimates, they may differ slightly from DECC's headline published figures. Around 3.5 million households in England were in fuel poverty in 2010.

Source: DECC modelled fuel poverty estimates at census output area level, 2010

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/fuelpov_stats/regional/regional.aspx

In March 2012, Professor John Hills presented his final report to Government on his independent review of Fuel Poverty. In that report he proposed a new way to define fuel poverty. The report can be viewed at:

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/funding/Fuel_poverty/Hills_Review/Hills_Review.aspx. DECC are in the process of studying the Final Report ahead of consulting on an alternative definition for fuel poverty.



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Rural Statistics Unit
Room 311, Foss House, York
Tel: 01904 455251
rural_statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk

0 20 40 80 Miles

Source: rural-urban area classification 2004, based on census 2001 population estimates

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Rural Statistics Unit
Room 311, Foss House, York
Tel: 01904 455251
rural_statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk

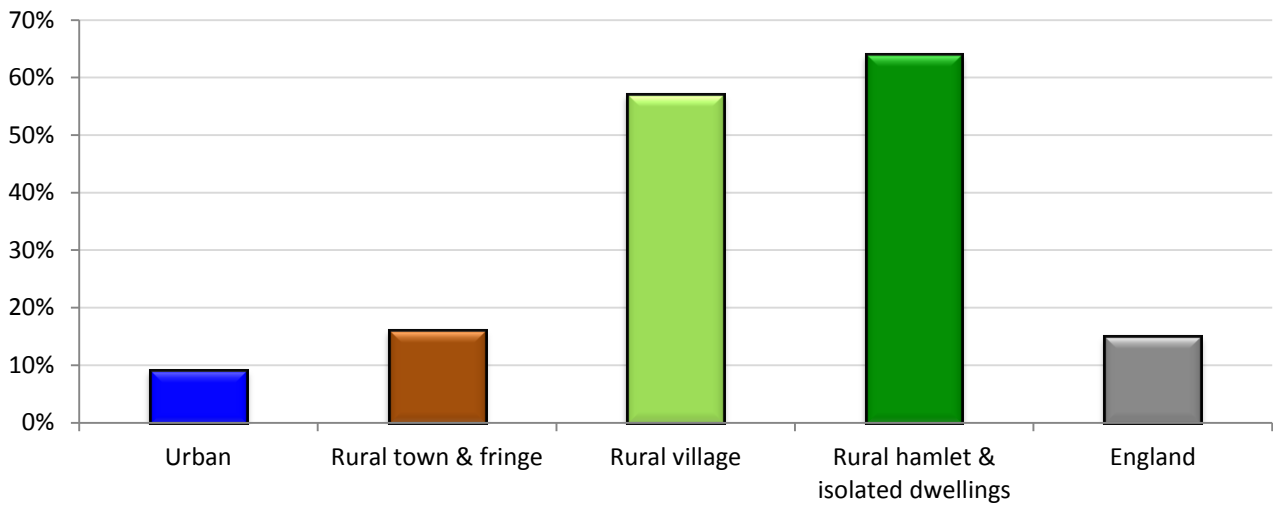
0 20 40 80 Miles

Source: modelled fuel poverty estimates at census super output area level, DECC.

Notes: a household is currently defined as being in fuel poverty if it would need to spend more than 10% of its income on maintaining an adequate standard of warmth.

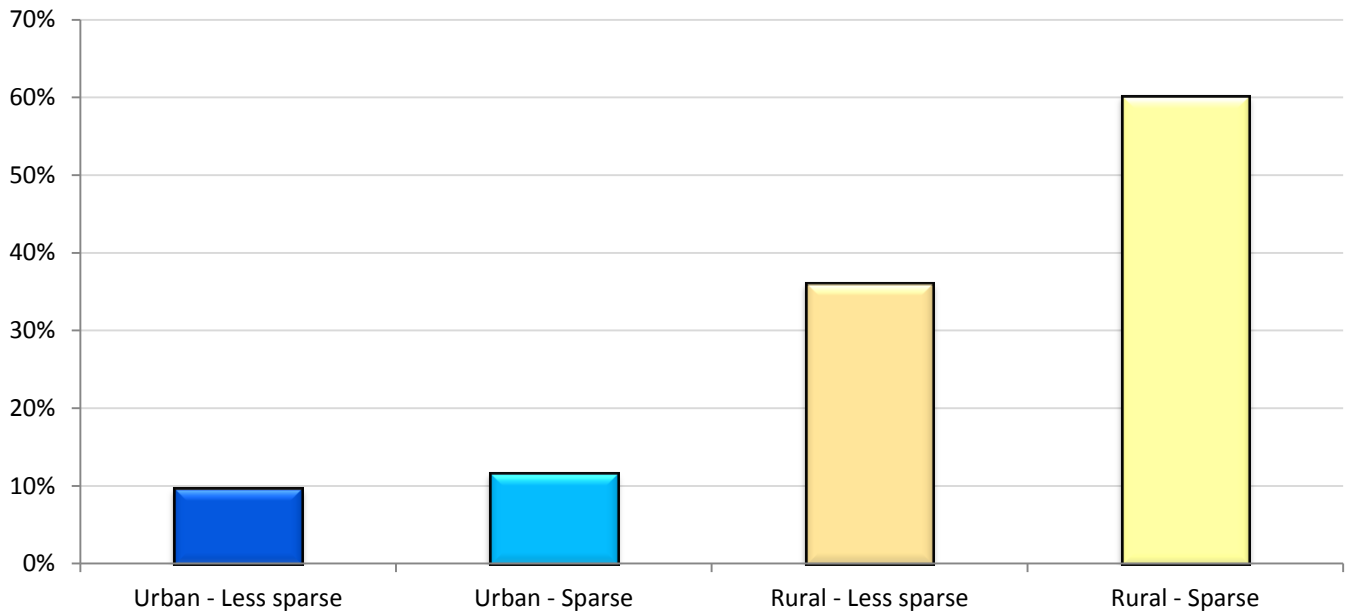
Household energy supply

Percentage of households off the gas grid, by settlement type in England, 2009



Note: AEA Technology modelled data based on DECC LSOA estimates

Percentage of households off the gas grid, by sparsity in England, 2009

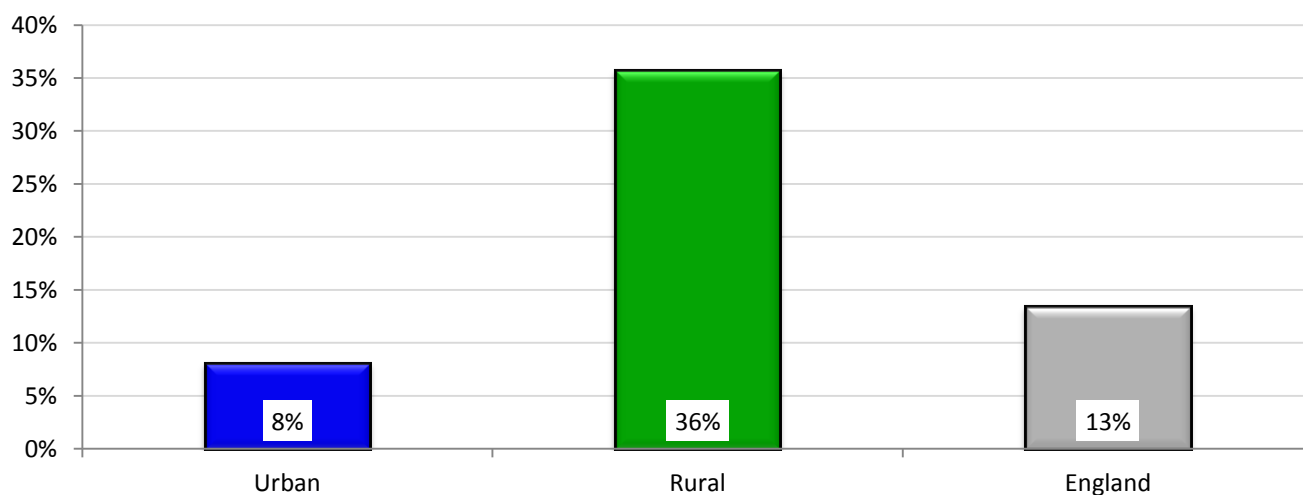


Note: AEA Technology modelled data based on DECC LSOA estimates

Percentage of households off the gas grid by house type, 2009

	All House Types	Detached	Semi Detached	Terrace	Flat	Other
Urban	9	9	8	9	13	19
Rural	38	46	35	29	27	52
Rural town & fringe	16	17	15	16	17	29
Rural village	57	60	55	50	50	63
Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	64	68	62	49	52	55
England	15	23	13	12	14	36

Percentage of households off the gas grid, for urban and rural areas in England, 2010



Note: Sourced from English House Survey (household sample) - data are not directly comparable with 2009 modelling from AEA Technology.

- A higher proportion of households in rural areas, and in particular *rural villages & hamlets*, are not connected to the mains gas grid, and hence are dependent on other fuels, which are potentially more costly.
- In *rural sparse areas*, 60 per cent of households were off the gas grid in 2009.
- In 2010, 36 per cent of households in rural areas overall were off the gas grid compared with 8 per cent in urban areas and 13 per cent across England.

Notes: 2009 AEA Off gas-grid statistics are modelled based on DECC's LSOA level statistics estimates and they therefore may not be consistent with DECC's published estimates of the number of households off the gas grid. Other off-gas grid statistics are derived from DCLG's English Housing Survey (household sample). The % totals for urban and rural may differ slightly because data are being compared at different spatial levels and groupings may be different.

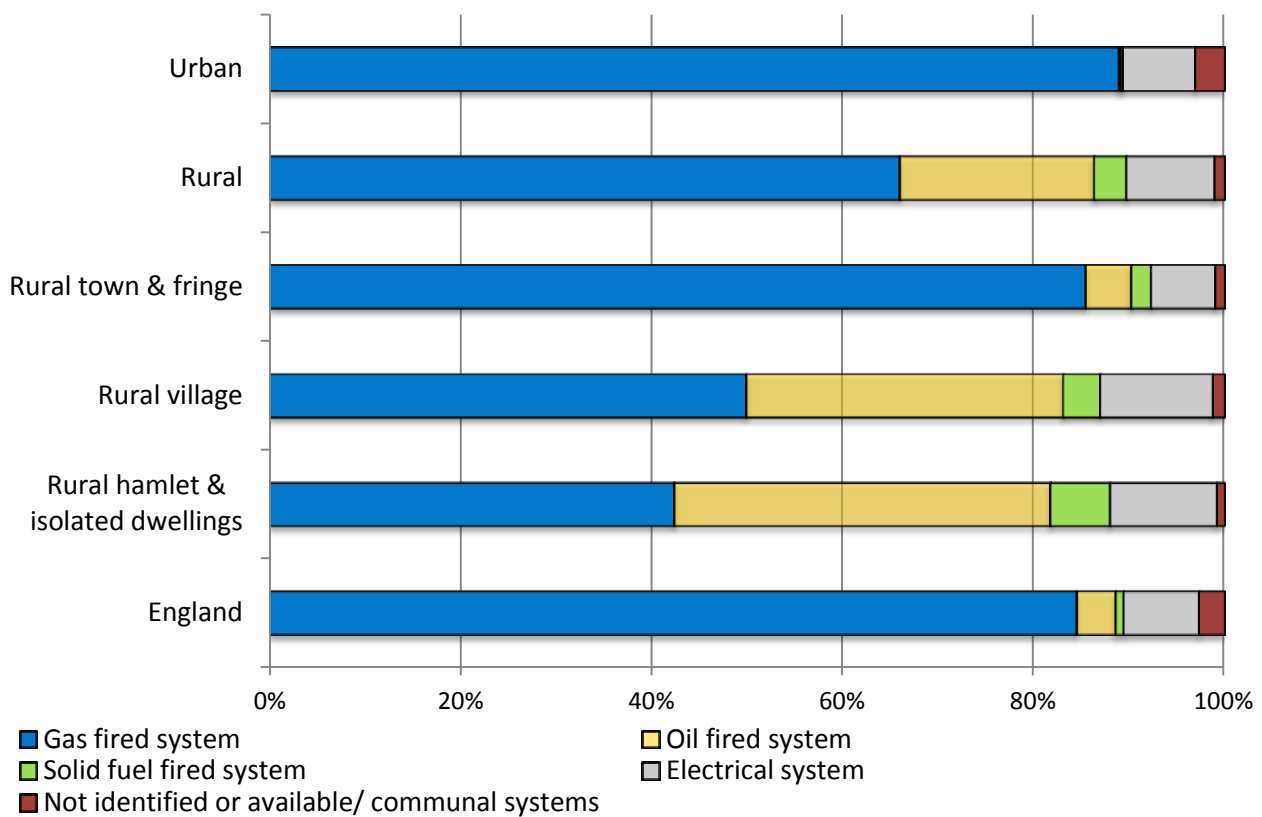
http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/fuelpov_stats/regional/regional.aspx

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6757/2173775.xls#DA2202!A1

'Other' house types include caravans and other mobile or temporary structures.

Source: Off gas grid data: 2009 AEA Technology modelled data based on DECC LSOA estimates, and English Housing Survey 2010 (household sample).

Percentage of households by main fuel type used, by settlement type in England, 2010



- The majority of urban homes use gas as their main fuel type. However in rural areas, particularly *villages & hamlets*, a large proportion of households use oil fired heating systems.
- The overall distribution of household fuel type has not changed substantially in rural and urban areas between 2007 and 2010.

Notes: Main heating fuel types have been grouped together. For example, 'Gas fired systems' is made up from 'Gas – Mains', 'Gas – Bulk/LPG' and 'Gas – Bottled'. Figures may therefore differ from DCLG published data.

Source: DECC, English Housing Condition survey, 2007, energy.stats@decc.gsi.gov.uk, DCLG, English Housing Survey 2009 and 2010

(https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6757/2173775.xls#DA2202!A1)

For more discussion of fuel poverty statistics see <http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/11/stats/fuel-poverty/5270-annual-report-fuel-poverty-stats-2012.pdf> though note this does not contain any rural-urban analysis. For statistics on energy costs from the Expenditure and Food Survey see <http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/statistics/source/prices/qep262.xls>.

Percentage of households by main fuel type, by settlement type, 2007, 2009 and 2010

	Main fuel type					Total
	Gas fired system	Oil fired system	Solid fuel fired system	Electrical system	Not identified/ communal systems	
2007						
Urban	89.3	0.4	0.7	7.8	1.7	100
Rural	64.9	19.6	4.3	10.6	0.6	100
Rural town & fringe	84.6	4.4	2.0	8.1	0.8	100
Rural village	48.6	30.9	6.9	13.3	0.3	100
Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	39.1	42.9	5.5	11.9	0.6	100
England	84.4	4.3	1.4	8.4	1.5	100
2009						
Urban	89.4	0.2	0.3	7.9	2.3	100
Rural	65.2	20.0	3.4	10.3	1.1	100
Rural town & fringe	84.1	4.6	1.6	8.1	1.6	100
Rural village	47.9	33.9	4.7	12.8	0.6	100
Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	44.4	37.5	6.5	11.3	0.3	100
England	84.6	4.1	0.9	8.3	2.1	100
2010						
Urban	89.0	0.2	0.3	7.6	2.9	100
Rural	66.0	20.4	3.4	9.2	1.0	100
Rural town & fringe	85.4	4.8	2.1	6.6	1.0	100
Rural village	49.9	33.2	3.9	11.7	1.2	100
Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	42.4	39.4	6.3	11.1	0.8	100
England	84.5	4.1	0.9	7.9	2.6	100

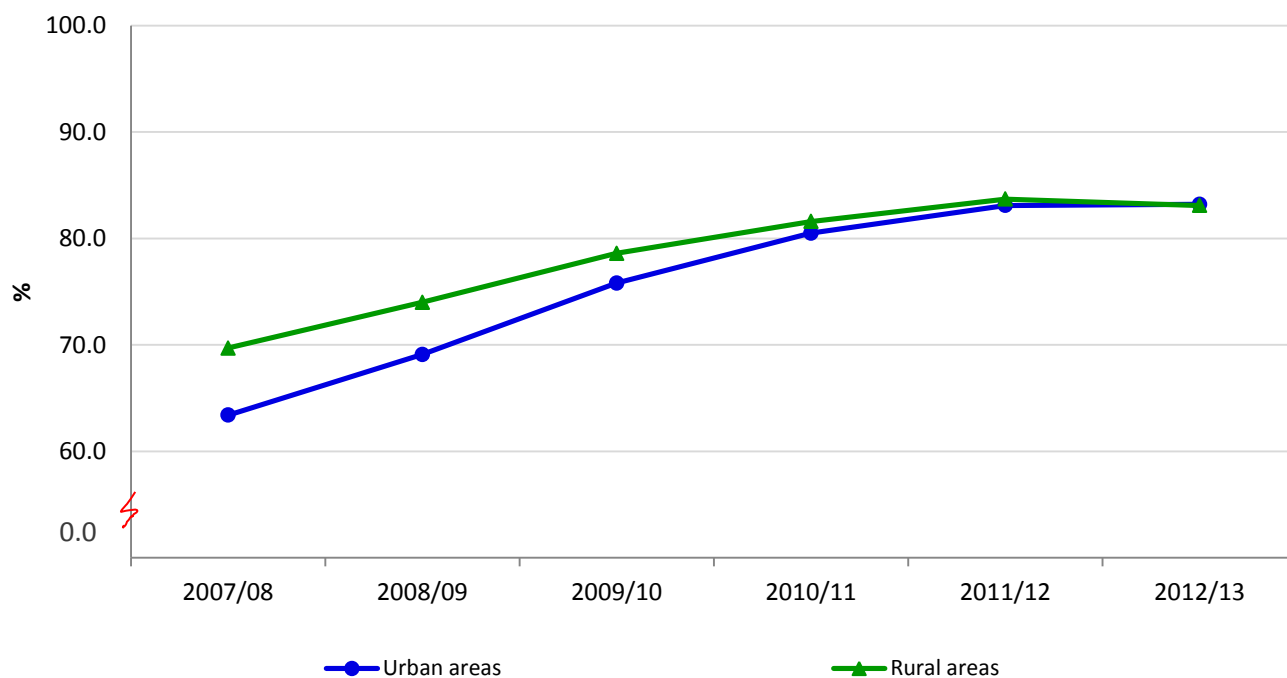
Education and skills

Secondary education

- In the 2012/13 academic year 83.1% of pupils living in rural areas left school with 5 or more A* - C GCSEs, very similar to the proportion in urban areas and England overall (83.2%).
- In 2012/13 the proportion of pupils attending schools in rural areas who left school with at least 5 A* - C GCSEs was lower than the percentage of pupils achieving those grades who attended schools in urban areas.

Pupils leaving school with 5+ A* - C at GCSE level, based on residency of pupils

Percentage of pupils achieving 5 A* - C grades at GCSE, based on residency of pupils, by settlement type, in England, 2007/08 to 2012/13

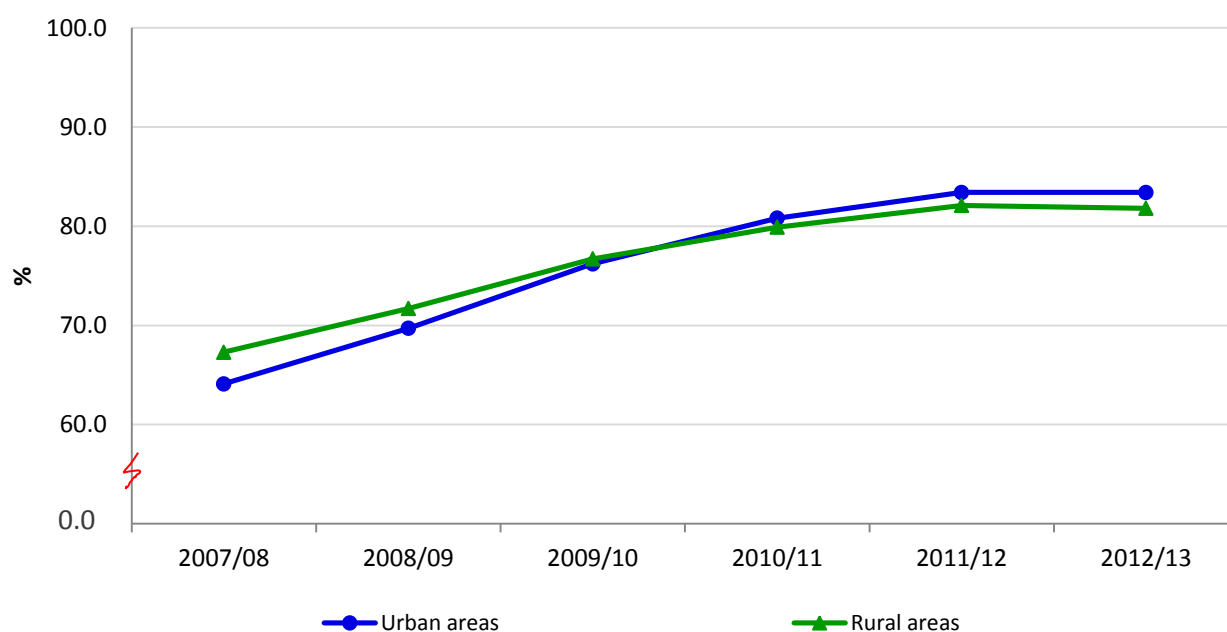


Percentage of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 leaving school with 5 A* - C GCSEs, based on residency of pupils, by settlement type, in England, 2007/08 to 2012/13

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Urban areas	63.4	69.1	75.8	80.5	83.1	83.2
Rural areas	69.7	74.0	78.6	81.6	83.7	83.1
Rural town & fringe	67.1	72.0	77.4	80.7	82.8	82.6
Rural village	71.6	75.4	79.3	82.1	84.2	83.2
Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	74.2	77.2	81.0	83.2	85.4	84.7
England	64.6	70.0	76.3	80.7	83.2	83.2

Pupils leaving school with 5+ A* - C at GCSE level, based on location of school

Percentage of pupils achieving 5 A* - C grades at GCSE, based on location of school, by settlement type, in England, 2007/08 to 2012/13



- The proportion of pupils achieving 5 or more A* - C grades in their GCSEs at the end of Key Stage 4 was steadily increasing between 2007/08 and 2011/12. However, in 2012/13 it remained at a similar level to 2011/12.
- Until 2009/10 a higher proportion of pupils at schools located in rural areas achieved 5 or more A* - C grades at GCSE than pupils at schools in urban areas.
- Since 2010/11 the proportion of pupils at rural schools achieving 5 or more A* - C grades has been lower compared with those attending schools in urban areas with the gap widening every year.
- There will be differences between residency and location of school as pupils living in rural areas may travel to schools in urban areas and vice versa.

Percentage of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 leaving school with 5 A - C GCSEs, based on location of school, by settlement type, in England, 2007/08 to 2012/13*

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Urban areas	64.1	69.7	76.2	80.8	83.4	83.4
Rural areas	67.3	71.7	76.7	79.9	82.1	81.8
Rural town & fringe	67.7	72.0	77.1	80.4	82.5	82.5
Rural village	67.3	71.4	76.3	79.2	82.0	80.9
Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	64.9	70.1	75.1	78.0	79.6	79.1
England	64.5	70.0	76.3	80.7	83.2	83.1

Notes: Includes pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 in each academic year, also includes international GCSEs (iGCSEs), England percentages for school-location and pupil-location are not the same, because pupils with a missing or incorrect residential postcode have been excluded. There are also a small number of pupils resident in Scotland or Wales who attend a school in England – these are included in the location of school analysis, but not in the location of the pupil analysis.

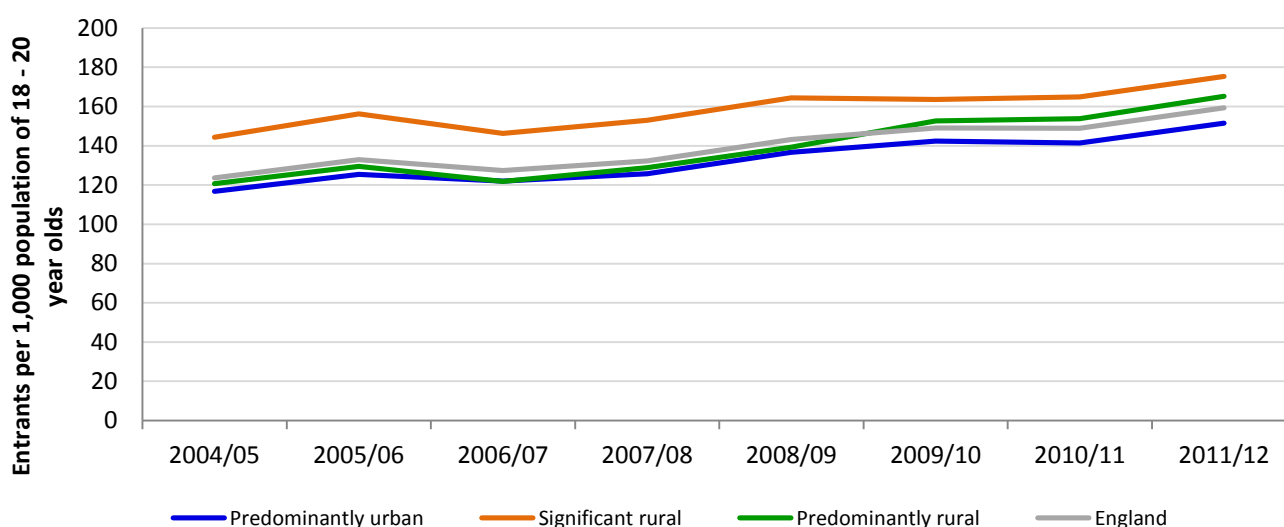
Source: Department for Education: 'GCSE and equivalent attainment by pupil characteristics: 2012 to 2013: residency and school location based tables, tables A2, A4 , B1, B2: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-and-equivalent-attainment-by-pupil-characteristics-2012-to-2013>

Higher education

- In 2011/12 there were 165 full time entrants to higher education institutions per 1,000 18-20 year olds from *predominantly rural areas* compared with 159 in England overall. This was an increase from 121 per 1,000 in 2004/05.
- In 2011/12 there were 10 part time entrants to higher education per 1,000 18 – 20 year olds in *predominantly rural areas*, compared with 8 in England overall.

Full time entrants to higher education

Full Time entrants to higher education per 1,000 population of 18 – 20 year olds, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12



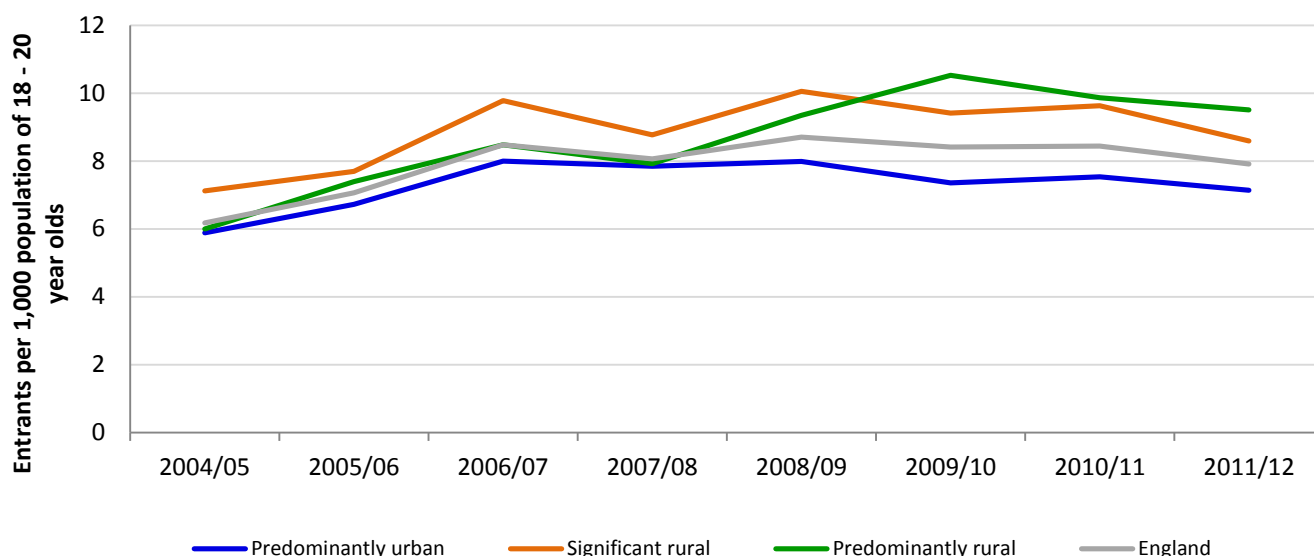
- The rate of 18 – 20 year olds enrolling for full-time courses at higher education institutions has increased in England between 2004/05 and 2011/12.
- The rate was higher for 18 – 20 years olds who were living in *significant rural areas* prior to starting university than the England average.
- *Predominantly urban areas* have a consistently lower rate than other areas
- This does not take account of the location of the higher education institutions, only where the student was originally resident prior to attending the institution.

Full Time entrants to higher education per 1,000 population of 18-20 year olds, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Predominantly urban	117	125	122	126	137	142	141	151
Significant rural	144	156	146	153	164	164	165	175
Predominantly rural	121	129	122	129	139	153	154	165
England	124	133	127	132	143	149	149	159

Part time entrants to higher education

Part-Time entrants to higher education per 1,000 population of 18 – 20 year olds, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12



- In England the rate of 18 – 20 year olds enrolling for part –time courses at higher education institutions has decreased since 2008/09.
- The rate was higher for 18 – 20 years olds living in *significant rural areas* until 2009/10, when the rate has since been higher for 18 – 20 year olds living in *predominantly rural areas*.
- *Predominantly urban areas* have consistently had a lower rate than other areas.
- This does not take account of the location of the higher education institutions, only where the student was originally resident prior to attending the institution.

Part-Time entrants to higher education per 1,000 population of 18-20 year olds, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2004/05 to 2011/12

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Predominantly urban	6	7	8	8	8	7	8	7
Significant rural	7	8	10	9	10	9	10	9
Predominantly rural	6	7	8	8	9	11	10	10
England	6	7	8	8	9	8	8	8

Notes: Data are shown at LEA level as Ward level data has been discontinued. Data backdated to 2004/05 and a classification for LEA has been produced for analysis purposes.

Data are presented as the rate per 1,000 18-20 year olds as at Census 2001.

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student Records.

Skills

Having qualifications is good for the economy as it gives people a wider range of opportunities available to them and potentially increases their earning potential and a strong skills base is also key to the economic success and social wellbeing of the country.

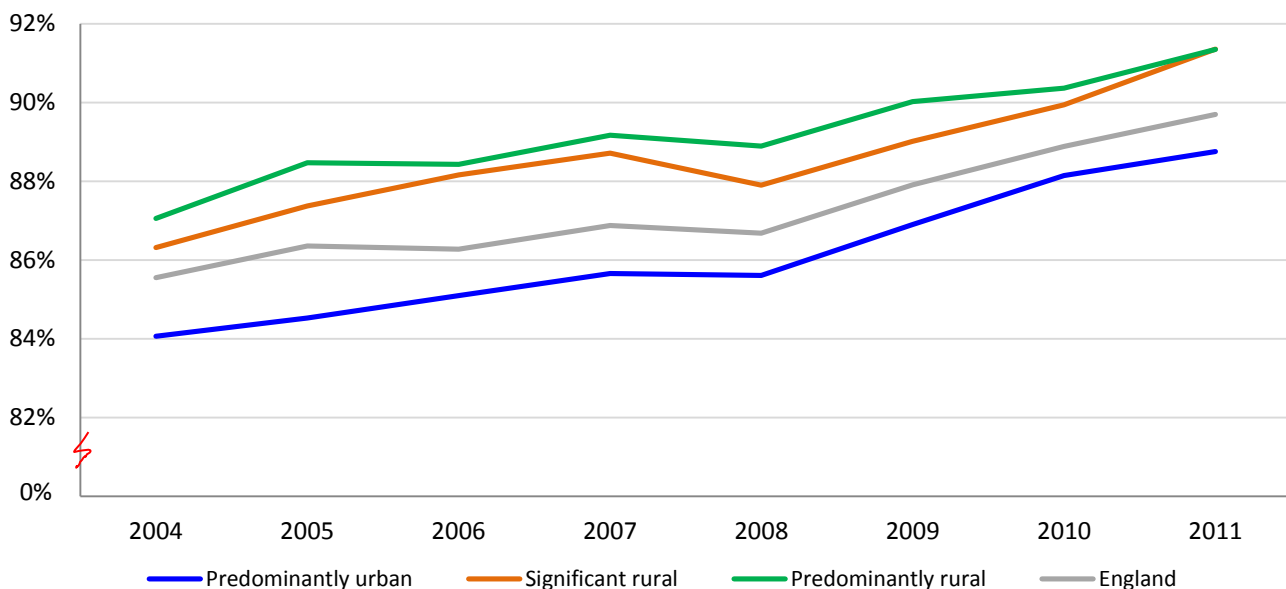
The skills looked at are National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 2 and above – which is equivalent to 5 General Certificates of Secondary Education (GCSE) at Grade A-C, NVQ4 and above –which measures qualifications at Higher National Certificate (HNC), Higher National Diploma (HND) or degree level and people with at least one qualification- including GCSEs at Grade D or E.

Residence based skills

The first section looks at skills based on where individuals live, but this will not accurately reflect the true differences in the knowledge base between different settlement types. Many people who live in rural areas will travel to urban areas for work and so the skills that these people have will not be used in rural areas.

- The proportion of working age population with at least one qualification was consistently highest for people living in rural areas. In 2011, 91.3 per cent of working age people living in *predominantly rural areas* had at least one qualification.
- The proportion of working age population with NVQ2 or above was consistently higher for people living in rural households than for those living in urban households. However for those with NVQ4 and above the proportions was similar regardless of where people lived.

Proportion of working age population with at least one qualification (residence based), by local authority classification in England, 2004 to 2011



- The proportion of working age population that have at least one qualification was higher in *predominantly rural areas* than in *predominantly urban areas*, 91.3 per cent and 88.8 per cent respectively.
- For all rural classifications, the proportion was higher than the average England proportion of 89.7 per cent.
- The proportion of working age population with at least one qualification has risen in all areas since 2004.

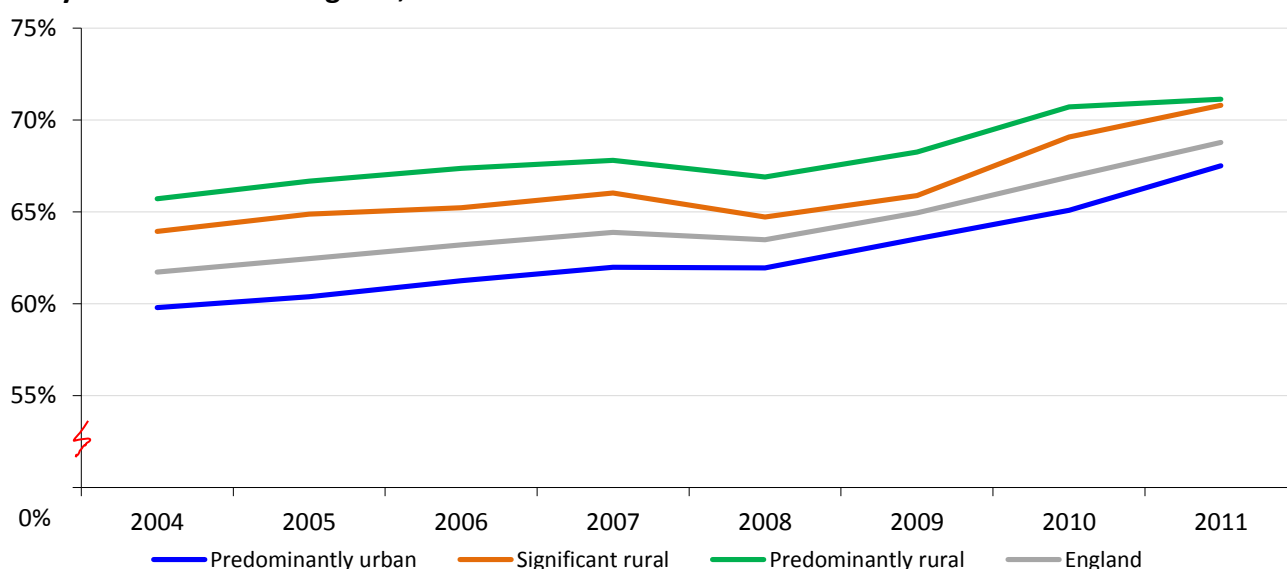
Proportion of working age population with at least one qualification (residence based), by local authority classification in England, 2004 to 2011

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Major urban	83.5	83.8	84.1	84.9	85.0	86.3	87.8	88.7
Large urban	84.6	85.2	86.2	86.5	86.2	87.5	88.2	88.9
Other urban	85.0	85.5	86.4	86.8	86.5	87.7	88.8	88.8
Significant rural	86.3	87.4	88.2	88.7	87.9	89.0	90.0	91.4
Rural-50	86.8	88.3	88.1	89.0	88.8	90.1	90.7	91.4
Rural-80	87.4	88.7	88.8	89.4	89.0	90.0	89.9	91.3
Predominantly urban	84.1	84.5	85.1	85.7	85.6	86.9	88.2	88.8
Predominantly rural	87.1	88.5	88.4	89.2	88.9	90.0	90.4	91.3
England	85.6	86.4	86.3	86.9	86.7	87.9	88.9	89.7

Notes: In 2010 the classification of working age population changed to include females aged 60- 64, who had previously been excluded; this change was incorporated in this data and backdated to 2004.

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey, NOMIS

Proportion of working age population with NVQ2 (or equivalent) and above (residence based), by local authority classification in England, 2004 to 2011



- The proportion of working age population with qualifications at NVQ Level 2 (or equivalent) and above was consistently highest for people living in *predominantly rural areas* and above the England average.
- In 2011, the proportion of working age people with qualifications at NVQ Level 2 or above was 71.6 per cent for people living in *Rural-50 areas* and 67.7 per cent for people living in *major urban areas*.

Proportion of working age population, with NVQ level 2 (or equivalent) and above (residence based), by local authority classification in England, 2004 to 2011

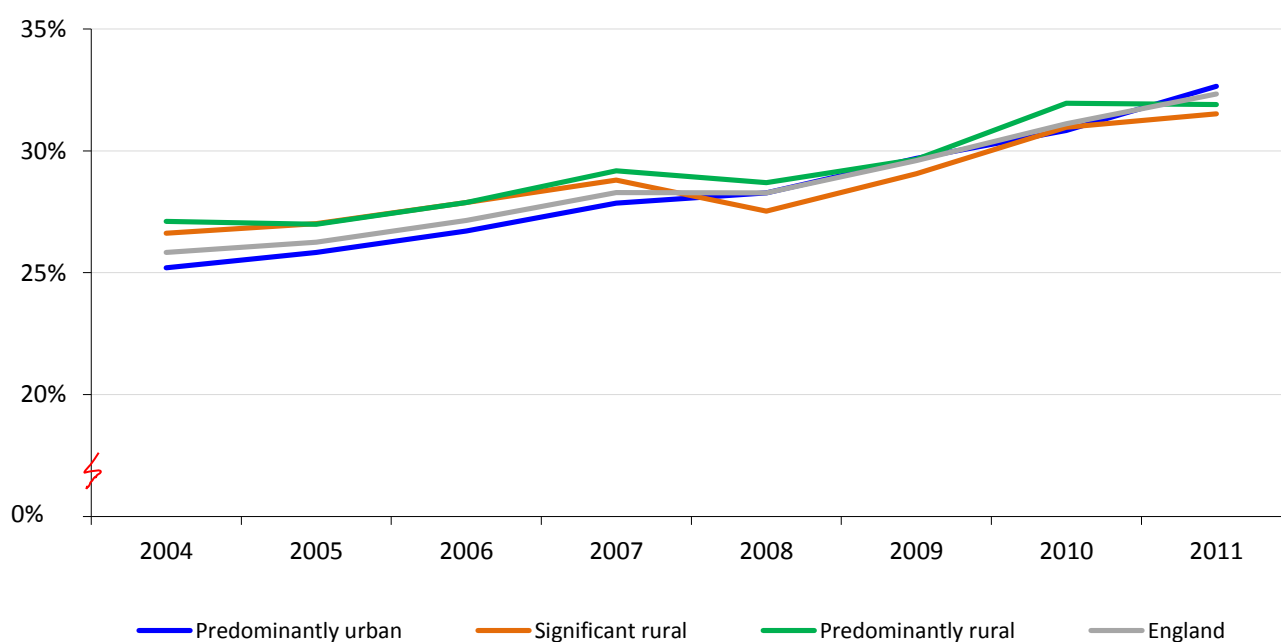
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Major urban	58.4	59.3	60.0	60.9	60.9	62.4	63.5	67.7
Large urban	63.2	62.6	63.9	65.1	65.1	66.6	67.9	68.2
Other urban	60.0	60.8	61.8	61.6	61.5	63.5	66.1	66.4
Significant rural	63.9	64.9	65.2	66.0	64.7	65.9	69.1	70.8
Rural-50	65.0	65.9	66.6	66.9	66.3	67.6	70.2	71.6
Rural-80	66.7	67.7	68.4	69.1	67.7	69.2	71.4	70.5
Predominantly urban	59.8	60.4	61.3	62.0	62.0	63.6	65.1	67.5
Predominantly rural	65.7	66.7	67.4	67.8	66.9	68.3	70.7	71.1
England	61.7	62.5	63.2	63.9	63.5	65.0	66.9	68.8

Notes: In 2010 the classification of working age population changed to include females aged 60 – 64, who had previously been excluded; this change was incorporated in this data and backdated to 2004.

This indicator has been amended from previously, and is now recorded for Working Age Population for consistency with other indicators.

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey, NOMIS.

Proportion of working age population with NVQ4 (or equivalent) and above (residence based), by local authority classification in England, 2004 to 2011



- The proportion of working age population with qualifications at NVQ Level 4 (or equivalent) and above is broadly similar in all areas and has increased since 2004 to 2011. However, the proportion in *major urban areas* increased above other areas in 2011 to 35.5 per cent.
- In 2011, 31.8 per cent of working age people living in *Rural-80 areas* had NVQ4 equivalent or above.

Proportion of working age population with NVQ level 4 (or equivalent) and above (residence based), by local authority classification in England, 2004 to 2011

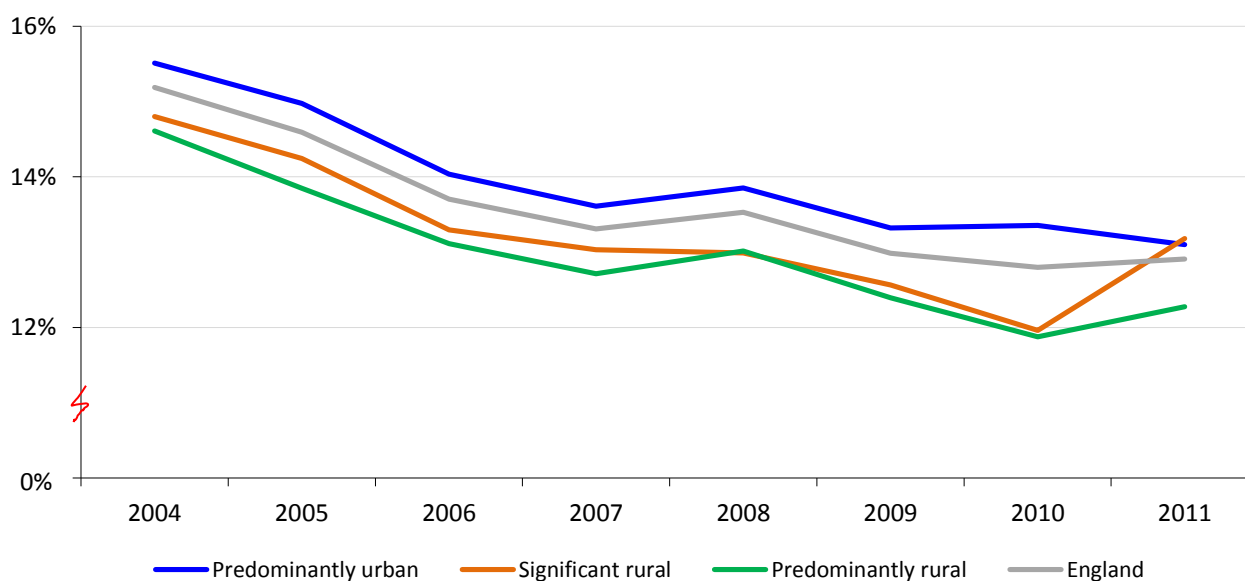
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Major urban	26.0	27.1	28.1	29.5	29.8	31.5	32.5	35.5
Large urban	25.5	25.3	26.5	27.9	27.8	28.5	29.9	30.5
Other urban	23.0	23.3	23.8	24.2	25.2	26.5	27.8	28.3
Significant rural	26.6	27.0	27.9	28.8	27.5	29.1	31.0	31.5
Rural-50	26.5	26.6	27.2	28.3	28.3	29.5	31.5	32.0
Rural-80	27.9	27.5	28.8	30.3	29.2	29.9	32.5	31.8
Predominantly urban	25.2	25.8	26.7	27.8	28.3	29.7	30.8	32.6
Predominantly rural	27.1	27.0	27.9	29.2	28.7	29.7	32.0	31.9
England	25.8	26.3	27.1	28.3	28.3	29.6	31.1	32.3

Notes: In 2010 the classification of working age population changed to include females aged 60 – 64, who had previously been excluded; this change was incorporated in this data and backdated to 2004.

This indicator has been amended from previously, and is now recorded for Working Age Population for consistency with other indicators

Source data: ONS, Annual Population Survey, NOMIS

Proportion of employees and self-employed of working age receiving on the job training in last 4 weeks (residence based), by local authority classification in England, 2004 to 2011



- On the job training is when employees receive training at their workplace and is typically used for vocational work.
- The proportion of people receiving job-related training was lower for people living in *predominantly rural areas* than those living in *predominantly urban areas*.
- In 2011 there was an increase in the proportion of people who were living in either *predominantly rural* or *significant rural areas* who had received on the job training in the previous 4 weeks. The proportion for people living in *predominantly urban areas* had decreased.
- A refocusing of Government resources supporting apprenticeships and training in 2010 may have contributed to the increase in uptake of on the job training in all but *major urban areas* in 2011.

Proportion of employees and self employed that received on the job training in last 4 week, (residence based), by Local Authority Classification in England, 2004 to 2011

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Major urban	15.3	14.4	13.7	13.3	13.3	13.0	13.2	12.5
Large urban	16.3	15.7	14.4	14.5	14.8	13.7	13.3	13.8
Other urban	15.2	15.6	14.5	13.5	14.1	13.6	13.7	13.8
Significant rural	14.8	14.2	13.3	13.0	13.0	12.6	12.0	13.2
Rural-50	15.0	14.1	13.6	13.1	12.8	12.7	12.3	12.9
Rural-80	14.1	13.5	12.5	12.2	13.3	12.0	11.4	11.5
Predominantly urban	15.5	15.0	14.0	13.6	13.9	13.3	13.4	13.1
Predominantly rural	14.6	13.8	13.1	12.7	13.0	12.4	11.9	12.3
England	15.2	14.6	13.7	13.3	13.6	13.4	12.8	12.9

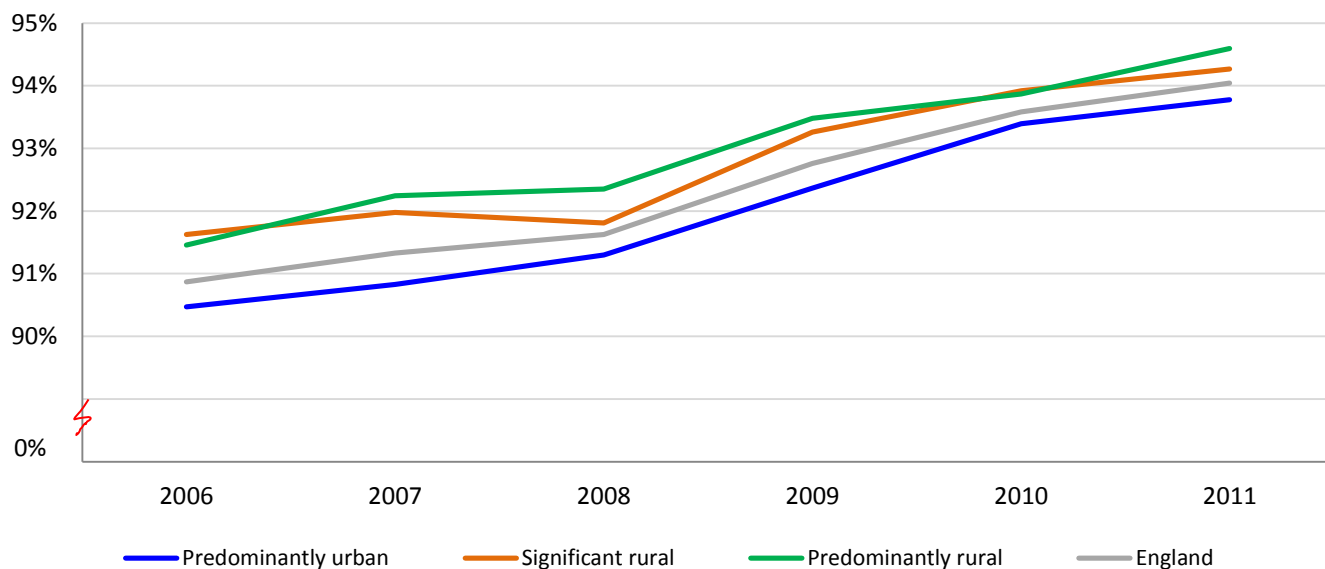
Notes: This indicator was previously reported for Working Age Population so included people who were economically active but not in employment so who were not able to have On the Job Training, so has been revised to just include people who are in employment, so proportions here are higher than those previously reported.

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey, Nomis

Workplace based skills

- When these skill levels are looked at from a workplace based perspective, a higher proportion of people working in *predominantly urban areas* have qualifications at NVQ4 or above than those working in *predominantly rural areas*. One reason for this is that businesses that can utilise these skills are based in urban areas where they can benefit from better infrastructure and a larger potential workforce.
- The proportion of working age population with at least one qualification was generally higher for those working in *predominantly rural areas* than those working in *predominantly urban areas*, 94.6 per cent and 93.8 per cent respectively.
- In 2011, the proportion of working age population with NVQ Level 2 or above working in *predominantly rural areas* was 76.2 per cent and 75.0 per cent respectively, which was lower than *predominantly urban areas*.
- In 2011, the proportion of working age population with NVQ Level 4 or above working in *predominantly rural areas* was 35.8 per cent, which was lower than the 39.8 per cent of people working in *predominantly urban areas*
- In 2011, the proportion of employees, self-employed people and trainees who had received on the job training in the previous 4 weeks working in *predominantly rural areas* was 12.8 per cent.

Proportion of working age population with at least one qualification (workplace based), by Local Authority Classification in England, 2006 to 2011



- The proportion of people with at least one qualification has increased in all areas since 2006
- The gap between people working in *predominantly rural areas* and *predominantly urban areas* has increased in 2011.

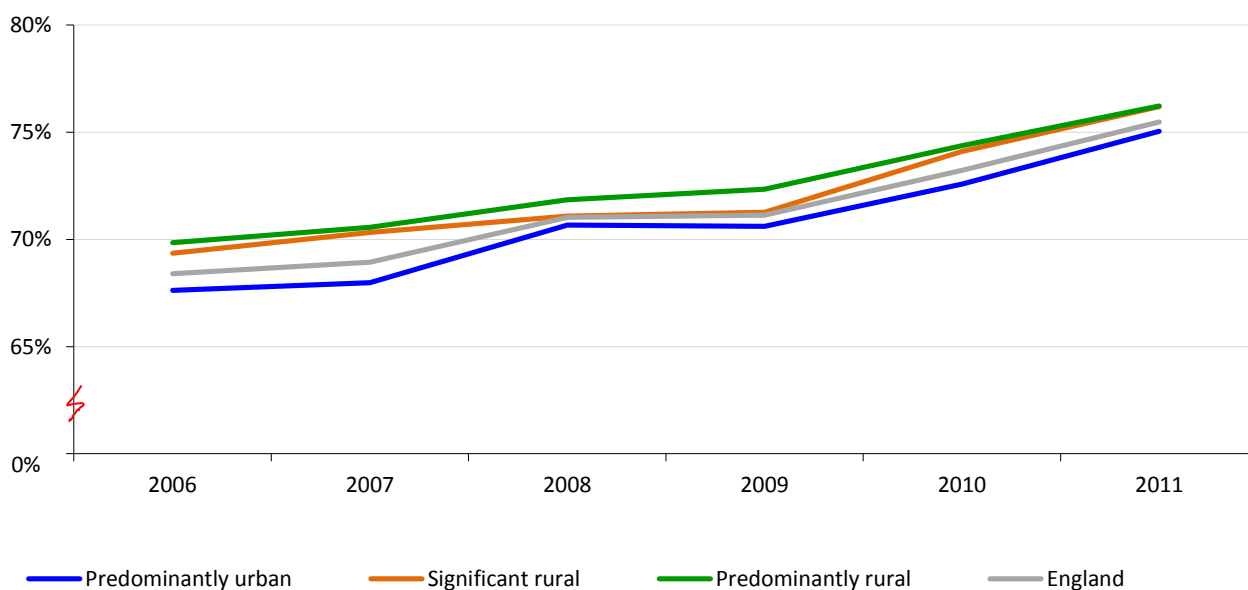
Proportion of working age population with at least one qualification (workplace based), by Local Authority Classification in England, 2006 to 2011

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Major urban	90.3	90.8	91.1	92.1	93.4	93.9
Large urban	90.3	90.5	91.7	92.7	93.2	93.6
Other urban	90.9	91.1	91.3	92.6	93.5	93.7
Significant rural	91.6	92.0	91.8	93.3	93.9	94.3
Rural-50	91.4	92.2	92.6	93.6	94.2	94.8
Rural-80	91.5	92.3	92.0	93.3	93.4	94.3
Predominantly urban	90.5	90.8	91.3	92.4	93.4	93.8
Predominantly rural	91.5	92.2	92.3	93.5	93.9	94.6
England	90.9	91.3	91.6	92.8	93.6	94.0

Notes: In 2010 the classification of working age population changed to include females aged 60- 64, who had previously been excluded; this change was incorporated in this data and backdated to 2006.

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey

Proportion of working age population with NVQ2 (or equivalent) and above (workplace based), by local authority classification in England, 2006 to 2011



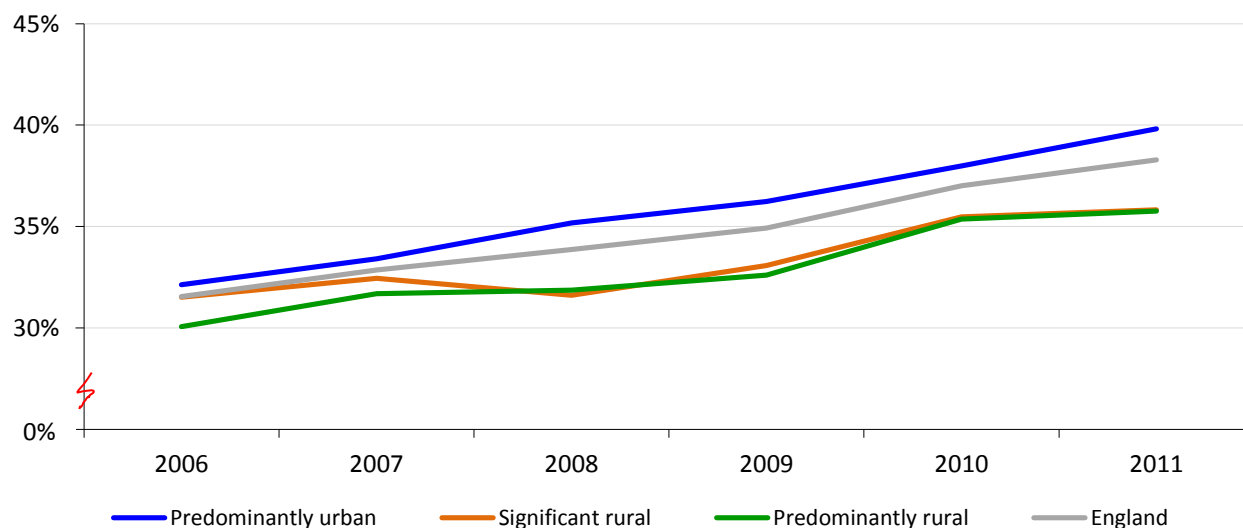
- A higher proportion of people working in *predominantly rural areas* have NVQ Level 2 or above, than people working in *predominantly urban areas*.
- In 2011 in *predominantly rural areas* the proportion was 76.2 per cent in 2010, compared with 75.0 per cent in *predominantly urban areas*.

Proportion of working age population with NVQ level 2 (or equivalent) and above (workplace based), by Local Authority Classification in England, 2006 to 2011

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Major urban	68.1	68.6	71.2	70.9	72.9	76.0
Large urban	67.0	67.9	71.3	71.2	72.5	74.6
Other urban	67.1	66.7	68.9	69.5	72.0	73.4
Significant rural	69.4	70.3	71.1	71.3	74.1	76.2
Rural-50	70.2	70.8	72.4	73.0	75.3	77.1
Rural-80	69.4	70.3	71.1	71.4	73.1	75.1
Predominantly urban	67.6	68.0	70.7	70.6	72.6	75.0
Predominantly rural	69.9	70.6	71.9	72.3	74.4	76.2
England	68.4	68.9	71.0	71.1	73.2	75.5

Notes: In 2010 the classification of working age population changed to include females aged 60 – 64, who had previously been excluded; this change was incorporated in this data and backdated to 2006.
Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey.

Proportion of working age population with NVQ4 (or equivalent) and above (workplace based), by Local Authority Classification in England, 2006 to 2011



- The proportion of working age population with NVQ Level 4 or equivalent is much higher for people working in *predominantly urban areas*, than those working in rural areas.
- In *predominantly urban areas* the proportion with NVQ Level 4 or equivalent was 39.8 per cent compared with 34.8 per cent in *predominantly rural areas*.

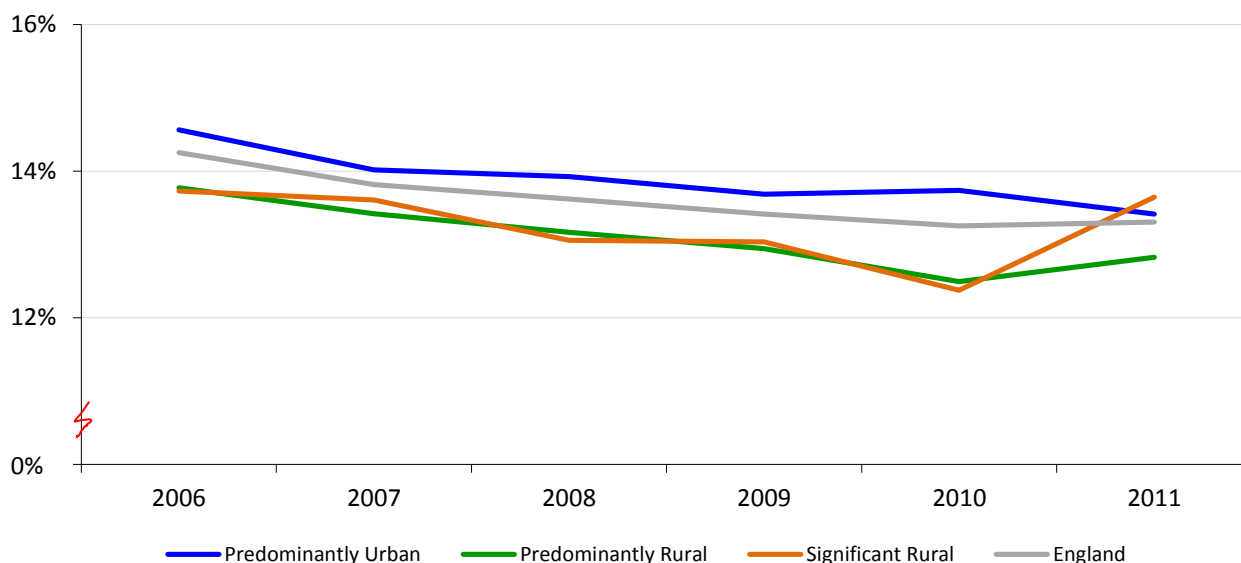
Proportion of working age population with at least NVQ level 4 (or equivalent) (workplace based), by Local Authority Classification in England, 2006 to 2011

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Major urban	35.5	36.9	38.8	40.0	41.7	44.3
Large urban	28.9	30.8	32.0	32.4	34.2	35.5
Other urban	27.8	28.2	30.3	31.5	33.1	33.8
Significant rural	31.5	32.4	31.6	33.1	35.5	35.8
Rural-50	30.3	31.8	32.5	33.5	36.2	36.5
Rural-80	29.8	31.5	31.1	31.4	34.2	34.8
Predominantly urban	32.1	33.4	35.2	36.2	38.0	39.8
Predominantly rural	30.1	31.7	31.9	32.6	35.4	35.8
England	31.5	32.9	33.9	34.9	37.0	38.3

Notes: In 2010 the classification of working age population changed to include females aged 60 – 64, who had previously been excluded; this change was incorporated in this data and backdated to 2006.

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey.

Proportion of employees and self-employed of working age receiving on the job training in last 4 weeks (workplace based), by local authority classification in England, 2006 to 2011



- A higher percentage of people working in urban areas received on the job training than people working in rural areas
- There was an increase in the proportion of people receiving on the job training for those working in *predominantly rural* or *significant rural* areas in 2011.
- For every £1 spent on apprenticeships, there is an £18 return¹. This may be an incentive for employers to provide apprenticeships, which has seen an increase of on-the-job training in 2011 in some areas.
- ¹Source: National Audit Office

Proportion of employees, self-employed and trainees receiving on the job training in last 4 weeks (workplace based), by Local Authority Classification in England, 2006 to 2011

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Major urban	14.2	13.8	13.5	13.4	13.6	12.9
Large urban	14.8	14.6	14.6	14.0	13.5	14.0
Other urban	15.1	14.0	14.2	14.0	14.2	14.1
Significant rural	13.7	13.6	13.1	13.0	12.4	13.6
Rural-50	14.3	13.7	13.0	13.2	12.8	13.4
Rural-80	13.1	13.1	13.4	12.7	12.0	12.0
Predominantly urban	14.6	14.0	13.9	13.7	13.7	13.4
Predominantly rural	13.8	13.4	13.2	12.8	12.5	12.8
England	14.3	13.8	13.6	13.4	13.3	13.3

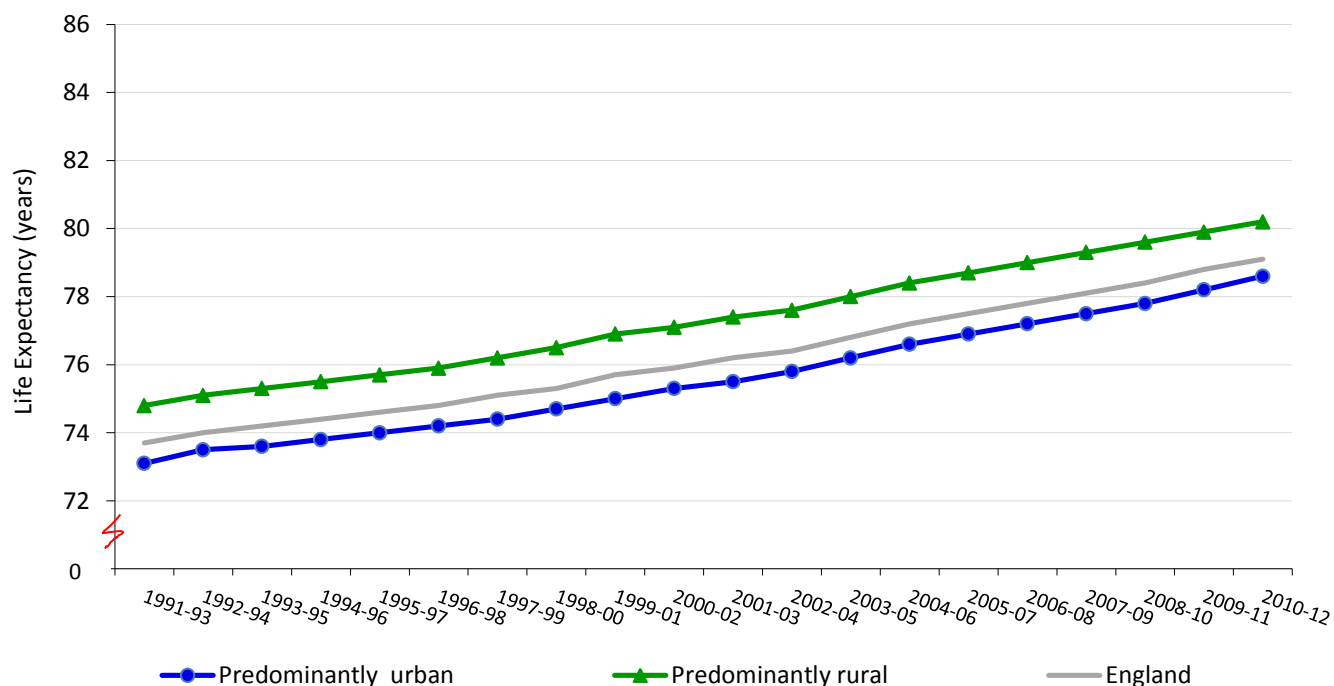
Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey.

Health

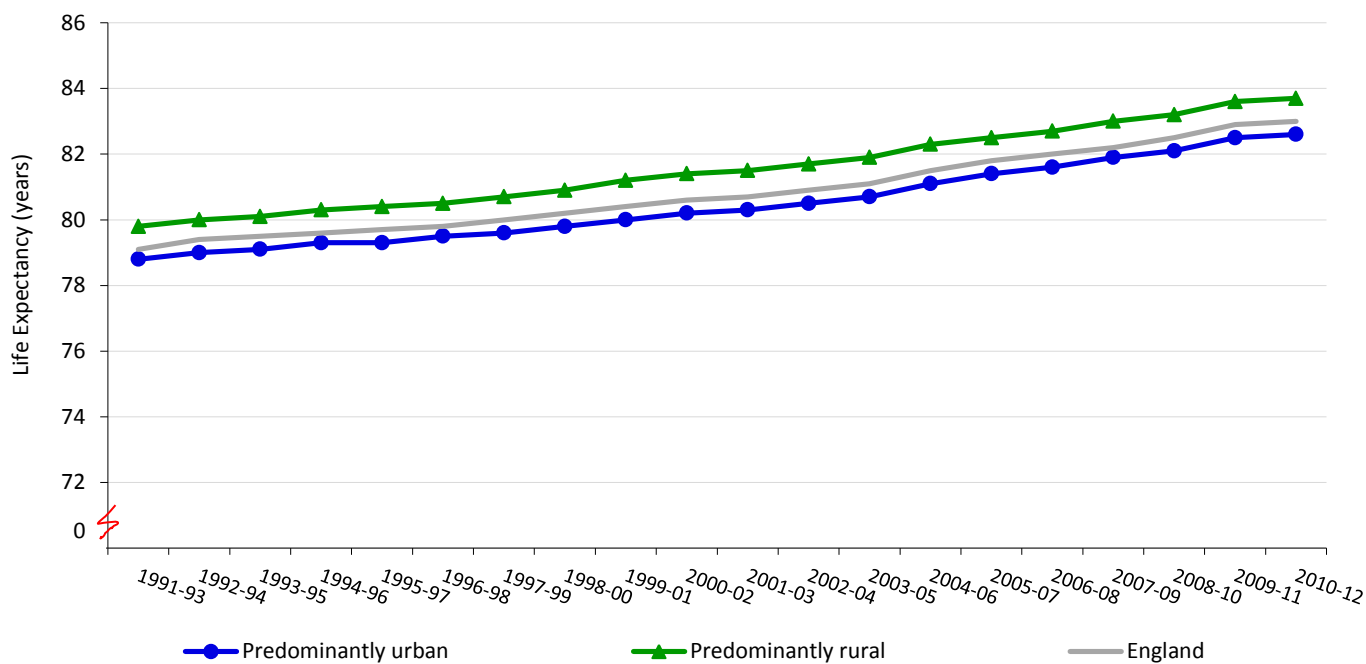
- **Overall health outcomes are more favourable in rural areas than urban areas:** life expectancy (the number of years of life a person is expected to live) is higher, infant mortality rate lower and potential years of life lost from common causes of premature death lower in rural areas than in urban areas.
- **Average life expectancy is highest in Rural-80 areas:** On average, males born in *Rural-80 areas* in 2010-12 are expected to live two years longer than males born in *major urban areas* and on average females born in *Rural-80 areas* in 2010-12 are expected to live one and a half years longer than females born in *large urban areas*.
- **Infant mortality is lower in rural areas than in England as a whole:** In 2012, the infant mortality rate in rural areas was 3.6 deaths per 1,000 live births, compared with the England average of 4.1 deaths per 1,000 live births.
- **Potential years of life lost (PYLL) from common causes of death such as cancers, Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) and stroke is lower in rural areas.** This means that fewer people living in rural areas are dying prematurely than those living in urban areas. For example PYLL from cancer in *predominantly rural areas* in 2010-12 was 128.7 years per 10,000 people - over fifteen years lower than the 144.5 years per 10,000 people in *predominantly urban areas*. PYLL from Coronary Heart Disease in *predominantly rural areas* in 2010-12 was 31.8 years per 10,000 people and lower than the 44.3 years per 10,000 people in *predominantly urban areas*. In 2010-12, PYLL from stroke or related diseases in *predominantly rural areas* was 11.0 years per 10,000 people and lower than the 14.6 PYLL per 10,000 people in *predominantly urban areas*.

Life expectancy

Male life expectancy at birth, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 1991-93 to 2010-12



Female life expectancy at birth, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 1991-93 to 2010-12



- Life expectancy has increased in all areas across England.
- In 2010-12 life expectancy for men was 79.1 years and 83.0 years for women. This means that a newborn baby boy born in England can expect to live to 79.1 years of age, if mortality rates stay the same throughout his lifetime. Likewise, for a newborn baby girl, they can expect to live to 83.0 years of age.
- Life expectancy was higher for people born in rural areas compared with urban areas. This means that if mortality rates do not change, people born in rural areas can expect to live longer than people born in urban areas.
- Life expectancy was highest in *Rural-80* areas with men born in these areas expected to live until 80.4 years of age and women expected to live until 84.0 years.
- Life expectancy was lowest in *major urban areas* for men and in *large urban* and *other urban areas* for women.
- Men born in *Rural-80* areas were expected to live two years longer than men in *major urban areas*.
- Women in *Rural-80* areas were expected to live almost one and a half years longer than women born in *large urban areas*.

Male life expectancy at birth in years, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2000-02 to 2010-12

	2000-02	2001-03	2002-04	2003-05	2004-06	2005-07	2006-08	2007-09	2008-10	2009-11	2010-12
Major urban	75.0	75.2	75.6	76.0	76.4	76.7	77.0	77.4	77.8	78.2	78.5
Large urban	75.6	75.7	76.0	76.3	76.8	77.0	77.3	77.5	77.9	78.3	78.6
Other urban	75.6	75.9	76.1	76.5	76.8	77.1	77.4	77.6	77.9	78.3	78.6
Significant rural	76.8	77.1	77.2	77.5	77.9	78.3	78.6	78.9	79.2	79.6	79.9
Rural-50	76.9	77.1	77.4	77.8	78.2	78.5	78.8	79.1	79.4	79.7	80.0
Rural-80	77.4	77.7	77.9	78.3	78.6	79.0	79.2	79.5	79.9	80.2	80.4
Predominantly urban	75.3	75.5	75.8	76.2	76.6	76.9	77.2	77.5	77.8	78.2	78.6
Predominantly rural	77.1	77.4	77.6	78.0	78.4	78.7	79.0	79.3	79.6	79.9	80.2
England	75.9	76.2	76.4	76.8	77.2	77.5	77.8	78.1	78.4	78.8	79.1

Female life expectancy at birth in years, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2000-02 to 2010-12

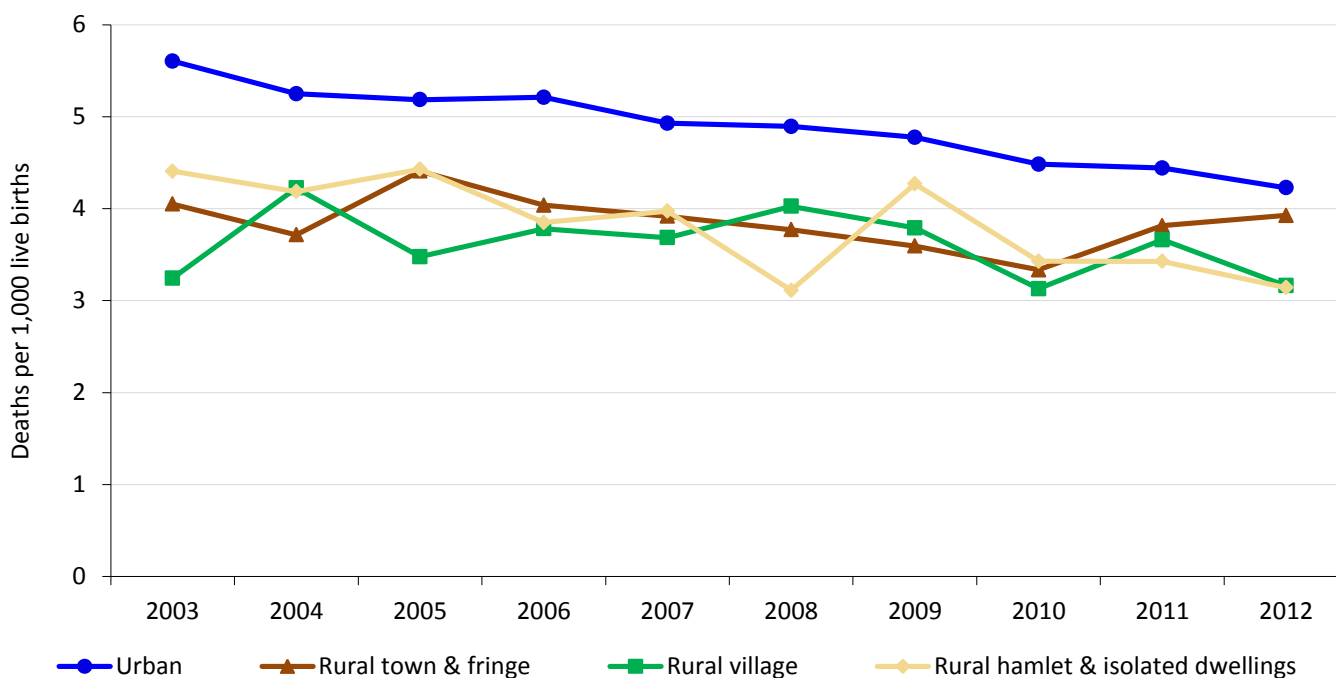
	2000-02	2001-03	2002-04	2003-05	2004-06	2005-07	2006-08	2007-09	2008-10	2009-11	2010-12
Major urban	80.1	80.2	80.4	80.6	81.0	81.3	81.5	81.9	82.1	82.5	82.6
Large urban	80.4	80.4	80.6	80.8	81.2	81.4	81.5	81.8	82.0	82.4	82.5
Other urban	80.3	80.4	80.6	80.8	81.2	81.4	81.6	81.9	82.1	82.5	82.5
Significant rural	81.2	81.3	81.4	81.6	82.0	82.2	82.4	82.7	82.9	83.3	83.5
Rural-50	81.2	81.3	81.5	81.6	82.0	82.3	82.5	82.8	83.0	83.4	83.5
Rural-80	81.8	81.8	81.9	82.2	82.6	82.9	83.0	83.2	83.5	83.9	84.0
Predominantly urban	80.2	80.3	80.5	80.7	81.1	81.4	81.6	81.9	82.1	82.5	82.6
Predominantly rural	81.4	81.5	81.7	81.9	82.3	82.5	82.7	83.0	83.2	83.6	83.7
England	80.6	80.7	80.9	81.1	81.5	81.8	82.0	82.2	82.5	82.9	83.0

Notes: Figures for 2000/02 – 2008/10 have been revised by ONS following publication of mid-year sub-national population estimates. Weighted average is calculated using Census 2001 population by Local Authority. The life expectancy calculation is based on the mortality rate, so if a life expectancy is high, the mortality rate is low for younger age groups.

Office for National Statistics (ONS): 'Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 for local areas in England and Wales, 2010 – 12', Available from: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/reference-tables.html?edition=tcm%3A77-326676>

Infant mortality rate

Infant mortality rate, by settlement type in England, 2004 to 2012



- The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is the number of infant (under one year old) deaths per 1,000 live births.
- In 2012, the IMR was lower in rural areas at 3.6 deaths per 1,000 live births than the England average of 4.1 per 1,000 live births.
- The IMR has been decreasing in England overall. However the IMR for rural areas fluctuates more than urban areas and there is no clear trend in the data shown owing to the smaller populations involved. There are many factors that are shown to influence the IMR, including birth weight, mothers' age, and socio-economic status.

Infant deaths (aged under 1 year) per 1,000 live births, by settlement type in England, 2003 to 2012

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Urban	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.2
Rural	3.8	4.0	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.3	3.7	3.6
Rural town & fringe	4.1	3.7	4.4	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.3	3.8	3.9
Rural village	3.2	4.2	3.5	3.8	3.7	4.0	3.8	3.1	3.7	3.2
Rural hamlet & isolated dwellings	4.4	4.2	4.4	3.9	4.0	3.1	4.3	3.4	3.4	3.1
England	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.3	4.1

Notes: Infants are defined as less than one year old

Source: ONS, Mortality@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Potential years of life lost (PYLL)

Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) is the difference between the actual age of death due to a particular condition or disease and the expected age of death if that person had not suffered from that disease. If the PYLL is low, it means that there is a low degree of premature death due to that particular condition. This could be due to a number of reasons, including fewer people suffering from that condition or sufferers making a full recovery.

Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) is the most common cause of premature death in England; **Cancer** is the second and **Stroke** the third. Even though CHD is the most common, PYLL from cancer is substantially higher than PYLL in CHD. This is because more people suffer from cancer at a younger age than people who develop CHD. People typically suffer a stroke later in life.

Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) due to **suicide or undetermined injury** is the difference between the actual age of death due to suicide and the expected age of death if this incident had not occurred. PYLL from suicides is used as a measure of mental health.

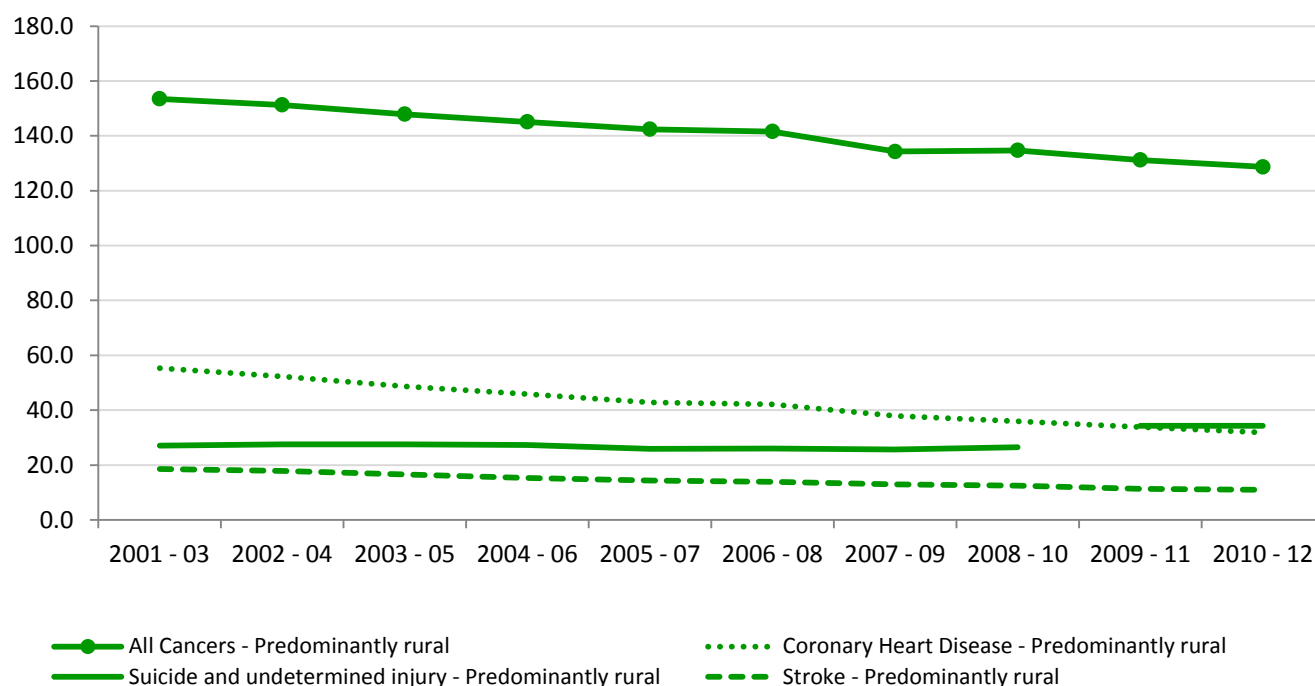
Potential years of life lost per 10,000 population by selected causes and Local Authority classification, in England, 2010-12

	All Cancers	Coronary Heart Disease	Suicide and Undetermined Injuries	Stroke
Major urban	142.6	44.9	30.6	15.1
Large urban	146.8	43.0	32.9	13.7
Other urban	146.7	44.2	36.4	14.2
Significant rural	134.6	35.5	30.9	11.6
Rural-50	129.5	33.2	35.2	11.3
Rural-80	127.5	29.7	32.9	10.6
Predominantly urban	144.5	44.3	32.5	14.6
Predominantly rural	128.7	31.8	34.3	11.0
England	139.4	40.2	32.7	13.3

Notes: The average number of years a person would have lived had he or she not died prematurely (under age 75), per 10,000 European standard population. Uses Standardised years life lost rate (SYLL) as this is age standardised. Weighted by Census 2001 and Census 2011 population at Local Authority level.

Source: Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC): <https://indicators.ic.nhs.uk/webview/>

Potential years of life lost per 10,000 population by selected causes in predominantly rural areas, in England, 2001-03 to 2010-12*



* PYLL from suicide and undetermined injury is not directly comparable between 2001/03 – 2008/10 and 2009/11 - 2010/12. This is because of the updates to the definition of mortality from suicide and injury undetermined from 2010 onwards. One of the changes is that in 2009/11 and 2010/12 the rate covered people aged 15-74 years whereas in previous years it also included registrations for under 15s.

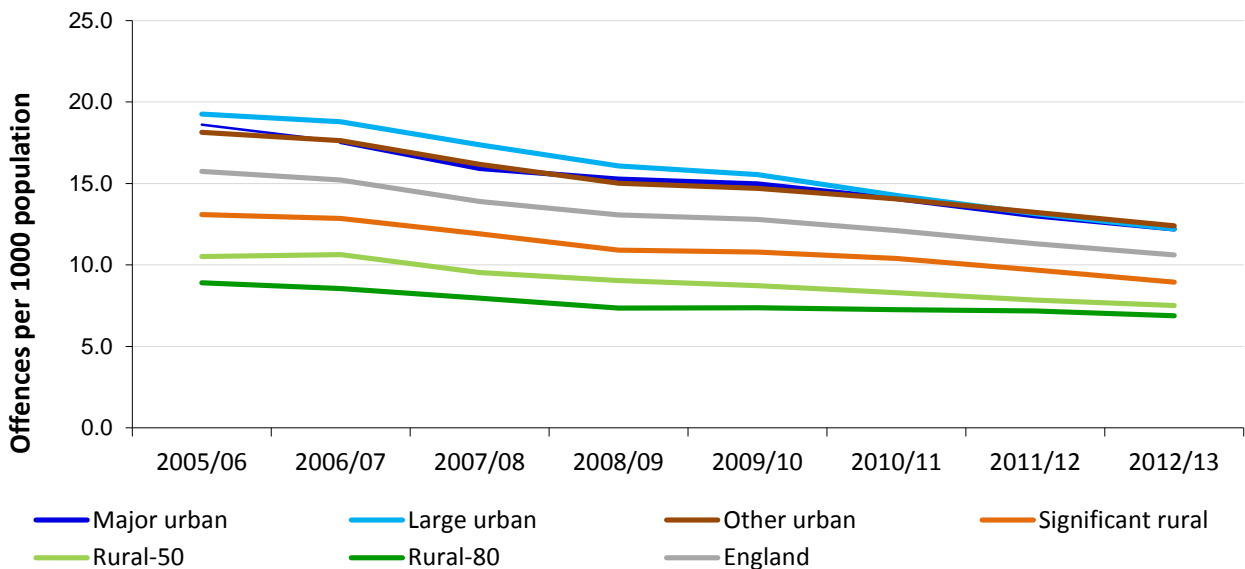
- Between 2001-03 and 2010-12 PYLL from cancer, Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) and stroke has decreased in both *predominantly urban* and *predominantly rural* areas. PYLL from suicide and undetermined injuries is not directly comparable due to changes in methodology.
- PYLL from cancer, CHD and stroke has been lower in *predominantly rural* areas than in *predominantly urban* areas. In general, it decreases with a local authority's rurality. PYLL from suicide and undetermined injuries is only slightly different in *predominantly rural* and *predominantly urban* areas, which suggests that there is no clear relationship between deaths due to suicide and settlement types.
- In 2010-12, PYLL from **cancer** was lowest in *Rural-80* areas: 127.5 years per 10,000 people. This means that 127.5 years of life was lost from people prematurely dying from cancer for every 10,000 people living in *Rural-80* areas. The highest PYLL was in *large urban* areas: 146.8 per 10,000 population.
- PYLL from **Coronary Heart Disease (CHD)** was lowest in *Rural-80* areas at 29.7 years per 10,000 people. This compares to 44.9 in *major urban* areas.
- PYLL due to **suicide or undetermined injuries** in 2010-12 was lowest in *major urban* areas at 30.6 and highest in *other urban* areas at 36.4 years per 10,000 population.
- The PYLL from **stroke and related diseases** was lowest for *Rural-80* areas (10.6 years per 10,000 population) and highest in *major urban* areas (15.1 years).

Crime

- Average crime rates are lower in rural areas than urban areas.
- In 2012/13, the rate of violence against the person was 7.2 per 1,000 people in *predominantly rural areas* compared with 12.3 per 1,000 people in *predominantly urban areas*.
- The rate of sexual offences in *predominantly urban areas* was 1.1 per 1,000 in 2012/13, compared with 0.7 per 1,000 in *predominantly rural areas*.
- The rate of recorded crime was also higher in urban areas than rural areas for crimes such as robbery, domestic burglary and vehicle offences (theft of, theft from or vehicle interference). For example, there were 8.4 vehicle offences per 1,000 people in *predominantly urban areas* and 4.2 per 1,000 people in *predominantly rural areas* in 2012/13.
- Overall, the rate of crime has been decreasing between 2005/06 and 2012/13 for all types of crime in both rural and urban areas.

Violence against the person offences

Police recorded violence against the person offences per 1,000 population, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13



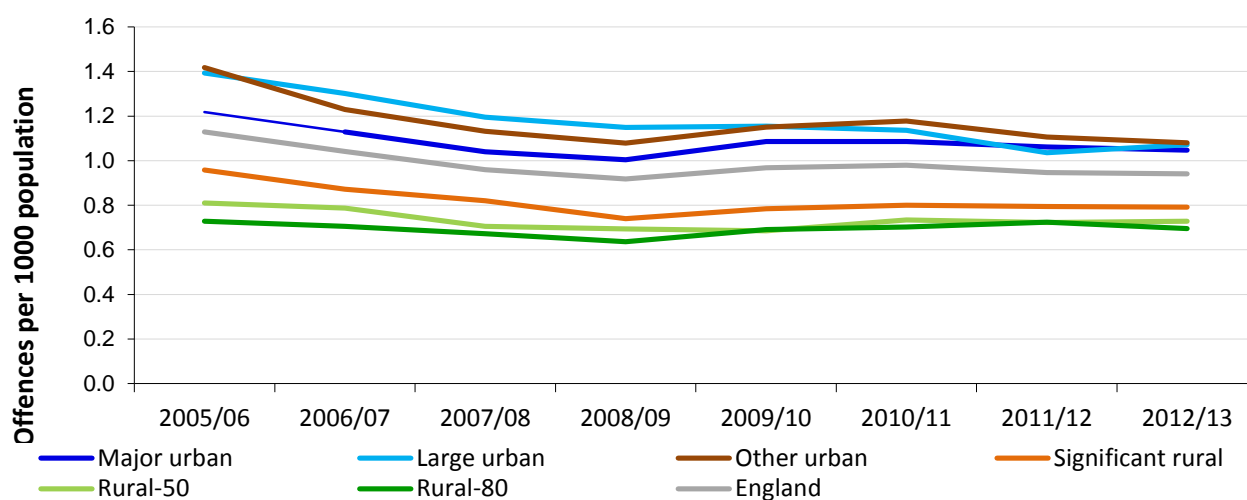
- Since 2005/06 the rate of violence against the person offences has been much higher in *predominantly urban areas* than *predominantly rural areas*. For all rural classifications, the rate of violent offences has been lower than the average England rate.
- In 12 months ending in March 2013, the rate of violence against a person was lowest in *Rural-80 areas*, where there were 6.9 recorded acts of violent crime per 1,000 people, considerably lower than the rate in *major urban, large urban and other urban areas* where the rate was between 12.2 to 12.4 recorded acts of crime per 1,000 people.

Police recorded violence against the person offences per 1,000 population, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Major urban	18.6	17.6	15.9	15.3	15.0	14.1	13.0	12.2
Large urban	19.3	18.8	17.4	16.1	15.5	14.3	13.2	12.2
Other urban	18.1	17.6	16.2	15.0	14.7	14.1	13.2	12.4
Significant rural	13.1	12.8	11.9	10.9	10.8	10.4	9.7	8.9
Rural-50	10.5	10.6	9.5	9.0	8.7	8.3	7.8	7.5
Rural-80	8.9	8.5	8.0	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.2	6.9
Predominantly urban	18.6	17.8	16.3	15.4	15.0	14.1	13.1	12.3
Predominantly rural	9.8	9.7	8.9	8.3	8.2	7.9	7.6	7.2
England	15.7	15.2	13.9	13.1	12.8	12.1	11.3	10.6

Sexual offences

Police recorded sexual offences per 1,000 population, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13



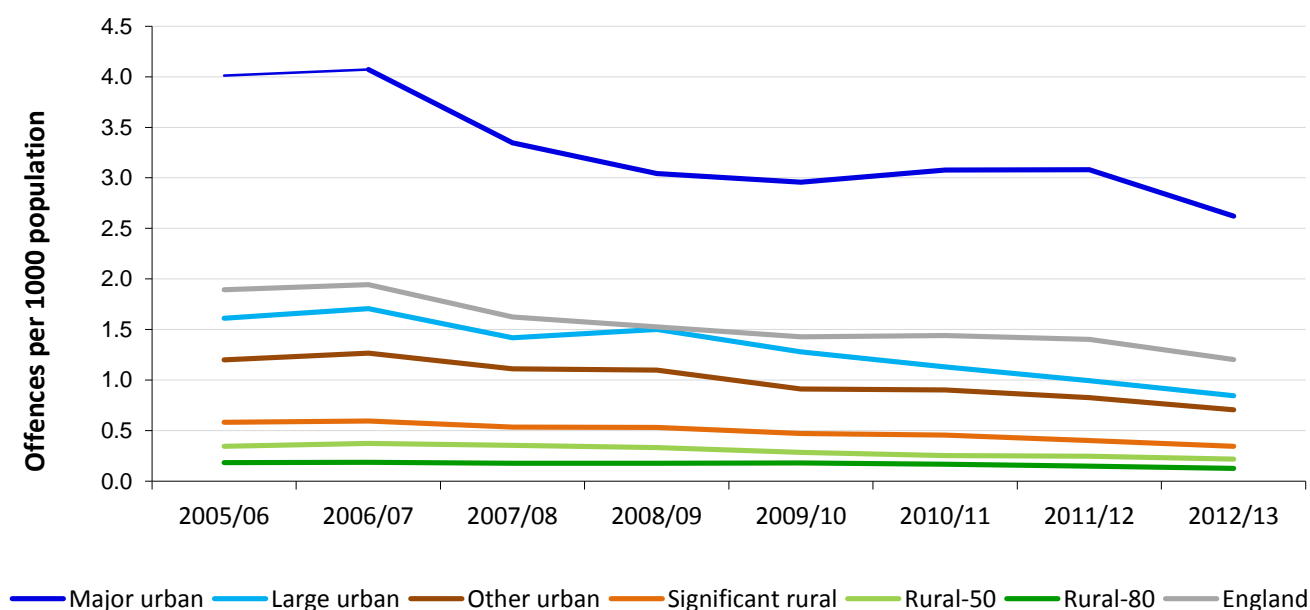
- Since 2005/06, the rate of sexual offences in *predominantly rural areas* has been lower than in *predominantly urban areas*.
- In 2012/13, the rate of recorded sexual offences in *predominantly rural areas* was 0.7 per 1,000 population, 0.4 lower than the rate in *predominantly urban areas*.

Police recorded sexual offences per 1,000 population, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Major urban	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Large urban	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1
Other urban	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1
Significant rural	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Rural-50	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Rural-80	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Predominantly urban	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Predominantly rural	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
England	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9

Robbery offences

Police recorded robbery offences per 1,000 population, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13



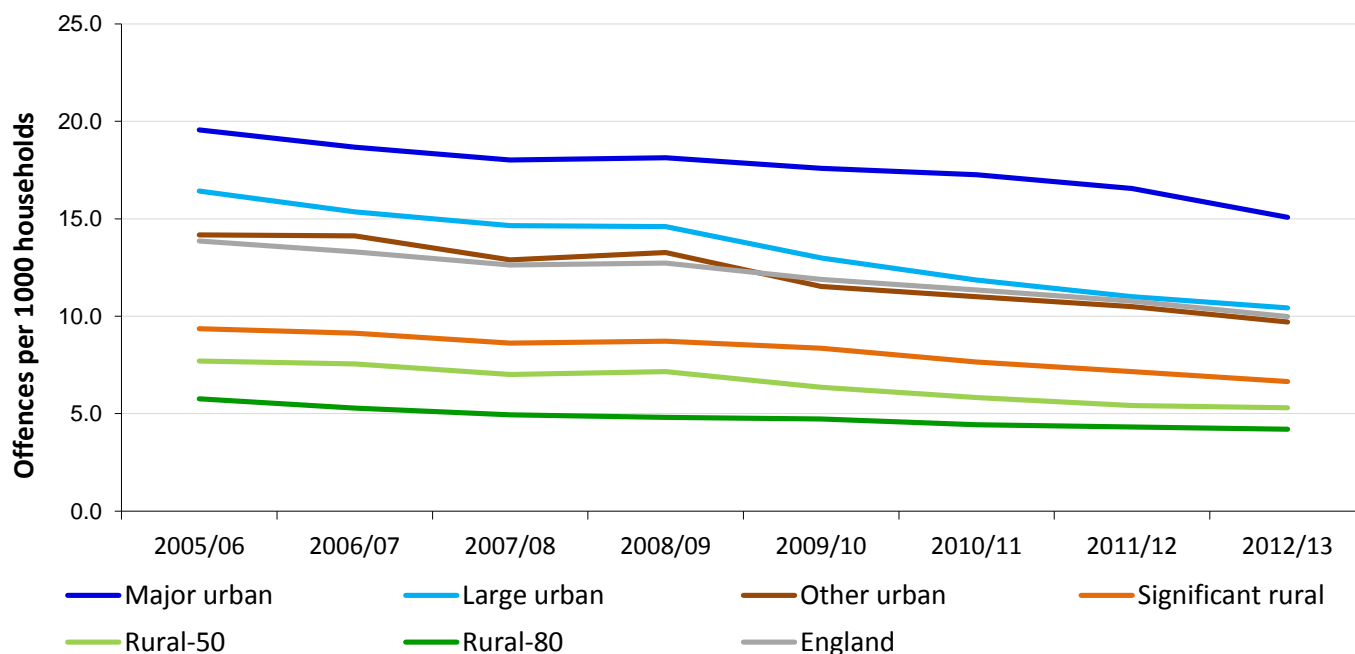
- Robbery offences occurred at a substantially higher rate in *major urban areas* than any other type of settlement in England.
- The rate of recorded robbery offences in 2012/13 in *major urban areas* was 2.6 per 1,000 population, 0.5 lower than in 2011/12.
- The rate in *predominantly urban areas* was 9 times the rate observed in *predominantly rural areas*.

Police recorded robbery offences per 1,000 population, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Major urban	4.0	4.1	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	2.6
Large urban	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.8
Other urban	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7
Significant rural	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3
Rural-50	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Rural-80	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Predominantly urban	2.8	2.9	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.8
Predominantly rural	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
England	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2

Domestic burglary offences

Police recorded domestic burglary offences per 1,000 households, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13



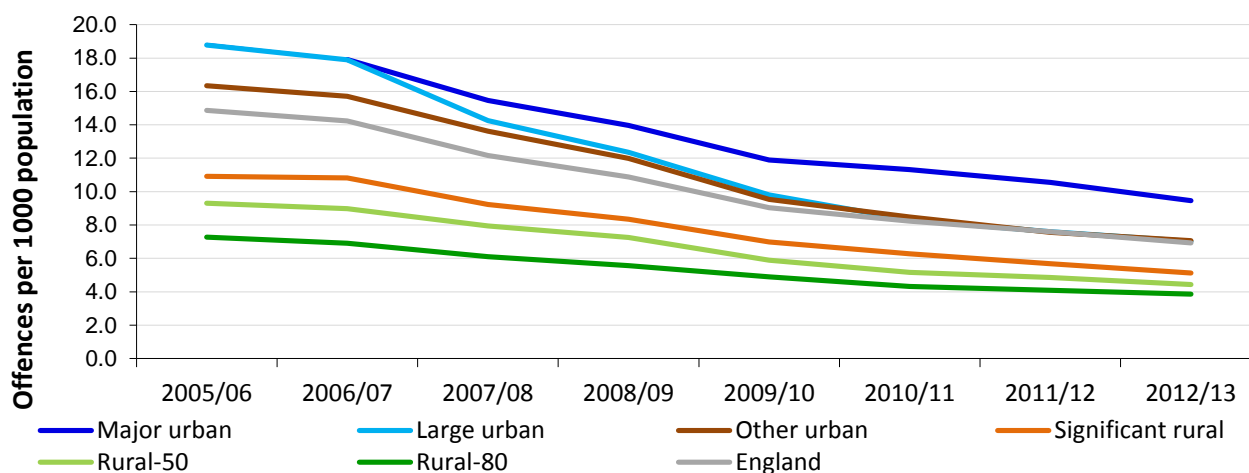
- Since 2005/06 the rate of domestic burglary offences has been higher in *predominantly urban areas* than *predominantly rural areas*;
- In 2012/13 the rate of domestic burglary in *major urban areas* was more than three times the rate recorded in *Rural-80 areas*.

Police recorded domestic burglary offences per 1,000 households, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Major urban	19.6	18.7	18.0	18.1	17.6	17.3	16.6	15.1
Large urban	16.4	15.4	14.6	14.6	13.0	11.9	11.0	10.4
Other urban	14.2	14.1	12.9	13.3	11.5	11.0	10.5	9.7
Significant rural	9.4	9.1	8.6	8.7	8.4	7.7	7.2	6.7
Rural-50	7.7	7.6	7.0	7.2	6.4	5.8	5.4	5.3
Rural-80	5.8	5.3	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.2
Predominantly urban	17.6	16.8	16.0	16.2	15.1	14.6	13.9	12.8
Predominantly rural	6.9	6.6	6.1	6.2	5.7	5.2	4.9	4.8
England	13.9	13.3	12.6	12.7	11.9	11.3	10.8	10.0

Vehicle offences

Police recorded vehicle offences per 1,000 population, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13



- In 2012/13 the rate of vehicle offences (theft of, theft from or vehicle interference) in England fell to 6.9 per 1,000 population, less than half the rate in 2005/06.
- The rate was higher in *predominantly urban areas* than *predominantly rural areas*.
- The rate was highest in *major urban areas*, where there were 9.5 vehicle offences per 1,000 people compared with 3.9 offences recorded in *Rural-80 areas*.

Police recorded vehicle offences per 1,000 population, by Local Authority Classification, in England, 2005/06 to 2012/13

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Major urban	18.8	17.9	15.5	14.0	11.9	11.3	10.6	9.5
Large urban	18.8	17.9	14.3	12.4	9.8	8.3	7.6	7.0
Other urban	16.3	15.7	13.6	12.0	9.5	8.5	7.6	7.1
Significant rural	10.9	10.8	9.2	8.4	7.0	6.3	5.7	5.1
Rural-50	9.3	9.0	7.9	7.3	5.9	5.2	4.9	4.4
Rural-80	7.3	6.9	6.1	5.6	4.9	4.3	4.1	3.9
Predominantly urban	18.2	17.4	14.8	13.1	10.9	10.0	9.2	8.4
Predominantly rural	8.5	8.1	7.2	6.5	5.5	4.8	4.5	4.2
England	14.9	14.2	12.2	10.9	9.0	8.2	7.6	6.9

Source: ONS, *Recorded crime data at Community Safety Partnership / Local Authority level from 2002/03' – Supplementary Excel tables to 'Crime Statistics, period ending March 2013*, available from: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcn%3A77-322086>

Unlike the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW), recorded crime figures do not include crimes that have not been reported to the police or incidents that the police decide not to record. It was estimated in 2012/13 that around 44 per cent of CSEW comparable crime was reported to the police, although this proportion varied considerably for individual offence types.

See <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/crime-statistics-methodology/user-guide-to-crime-statistics.pdf> (Chapter 3) for more information.

Crime rates are calculated using the mid-year population / household numbers for the year immediately prior to the crime reporting period.