

2011 Census Theme Report

People Aged 65+ Living in Milton Keynes

Introduction

This report outlines the key facts around people aged 65+ living in Milton Keynes from 2011 Census data.

Wherever possible the 65+ population has been split into the smaller age groups of 65-74, 75-84 and 85+ to enable greater analysis.

Key Points

- 27,500 people in Milton Keynes were aged 65+, accounting for 11.1% of the population compared with 16.3% in England.
- The population aged 65+ is not evenly spread across the borough. Rural and more established areas tend to have the highest proportion and newly developed areas tend to have very small numbers.
- The number of people aged 65+ has grown significantly. Between 1981 and 2011 the number of people aged 65+ increased from 11,300 to 27,500.
- People aged 65+ were more likely to be living alone than those aged under 65.
- A smaller proportion (10.1%) of the population aged 65+ were from a black & minority ethnic group compared with the population aged under 65 (28.1%).
- Residents aged over 65+ were much more likely to state that their day-to-day activities were limited due to a health problem than those aged under 65.
- Residents aged 65+ were much more likely to own their home outright and less likely to live in private rented accommodation than those aged under 65.
- 3,150 people aged 65+ were in employment, accounting for 2.5% of the total number of people in employment.

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Milton Keynes has a younger age profile than England as a whole with a smaller proportion of the population aged 65+ than England.



11.1% of the Milton Keynes population were aged 65+ in 2011, compared with 16.3% in England. Compared with all other local authorities in England, Milton Keynes is within the 10% of local authorities with the smallest proportion of people aged 65+.

Table 1 shows the number and percentage of people in the 65+ age groups in Milton Keynes and England. It outlines that 27,500 people in Milton Keynes were aged 65+ with 3,550 of those aged 85+.

Table 1: Population Aged 65+: Milton Keynes and England 2011

Age	Milton Keynes		England	
	People	%	People	%
65 to 74	15,467	6.2	15,467	8.6
75 to 84	8,494	3.4	8,494	5.5
85+	3,550	1.4	3,550	2.2
Total Aged 65+	27,511	11.1	166,300	16.3

The population aged 65+ is not evenly spread across the borough. Rural and more established areas tend to have the highest proportion and newly developed area tend to have very small numbers.

Rural areas and more established areas within the city such as Bletchley, Stony Stratford, Great Linford, and Woughton had high proportions of people aged 65+. New development areas and the city centre had the lowest proportions. Table 2 shows the ten estates with the highest and lowest proportion of population aged 65. They outline that newly developed estates such as Oakridge Park, Oakhill, Broughton Gate, Newton Leys, Oxley Park and Monkston Park have very few people aged 65+.

Table 2: Ten Estates with the Highest and Lowest Proportion of the Population Aged 65+: 2011

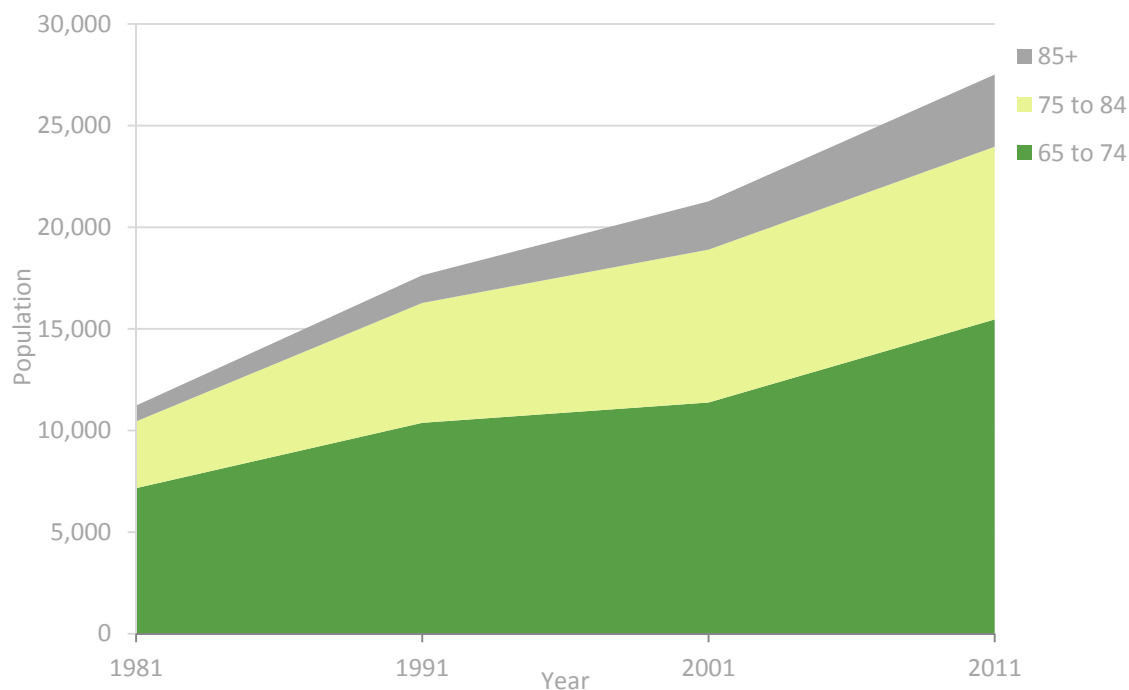
Estate	All Ages			Aged 65+			
	People	People	%	People	People	%	
Willen Park	1,232	370	30.0	Oakridge Park	470	4	0.9
Denbigh East	376	108	28.7	Oakhill	541	6	1.1
Ravenstone	209	58	27.8	Broughton Gate (EEA)	2,172	25	1.2
Lathbury	156	43	27.6	Newton Leys	412	5	1.2
Woughton Park	160	42	26.3	Oxley Park	2,425	30	1.2
Old Wolverton	502	129	25.7	Monkston Park	1,621	25	1.5
Simpson	650	158	24.3	Granby	275	5	1.8
Stoke Goldington	575	134	23.3	Wolverton Mill	414	8	1.9
North Crawley	736	169	23.0	Broughton & Atterbury	3,074	61	2.0
Stony Stratford	4,920	1,113	22.6	Kingsmead	1,472	31	2.1

The number of people aged 65+ has grown significantly. Between 1981 and 2011 the number of people aged 65+ increased from 11,300 to 27,500.

There has been significant growth in the overall population of Milton Keynes and coupled with increases in life expectancy this means there has been a large increase in the size of the population aged 65+. The population aged 65+ grew faster than the population aged under 65; between 1981 and 2011 it grew by 145% compared with 97% for the under 65 age group.

Graph 1 outlines how the 65+ age groups grew between 1981 and 2011. It shows that the total number of people aged 65+ increased from 11,300 to 27,500. The largest percentage increase occurred in the population aged 85+; it increased by three and a half times from 780 residents to 3,350.

Graph 1: Population Aged 65+: Milton Keynes 1981-2011



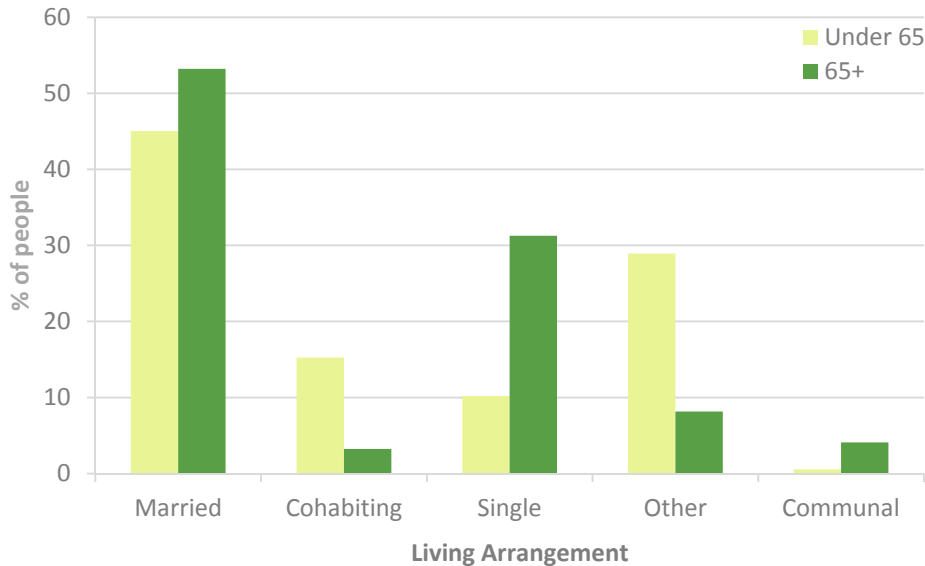
People aged 65+ were more likely to be living alone than those aged under 65.

8,600 people aged 65+ in 2011 were living alone in Milton Keynes, this is almost a third (31.3%) of residents aged 65+ compared with just 10.2% of those aged under 65. However the proportion of those aged 65+ living alone decreased from 38.1% to 31.3% between 2001 and 2011 (this is still an increase of 500 people). The Office for National Statistics¹ suggests that the decrease may be due to increased life expectancy, resulting in less people becoming widowed. Another factor may be the decrease in the large number of widows created by the Second World War who are now reaching the end of their lives.

¹ Office for National Statistics (2013) 'What Does the 2011 Census Tell Us About Older People?' available at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/2011-census-analysis/what-does-the-2011-census-tell-us-about-older-people-/what-does-the-2011-census-tell-us-about-older-people--short-story.html>

Those aged 65+ were also more likely to be living within a married couple (53.2% compared with 45.0%) but less likely to be living within a cohabiting couple (3.2% compared with 15.3%). Those aged 65+ were much less likely to be living in 'other' households (e.g. sharing with friends) than those aged under 65 (8.2% compared with 28.9%). 1,150 residents aged 65+ lived in a communal establishment, this is 54.5% of all communal establishment residents and 4.1% of those aged 65+.

Graph 2: Living Arrangements of the Population Aged 65+ and Under 65: Milton Keynes 2011



A smaller proportion (10.1%) of the population aged 65+ were from a black and minority ethnic group compared with the population aged under 65 (28.1%).

Graph 3 shows that 10.1% of the population aged 65+ classified themselves within a black and minority ethnic group (BME). This compares to 28.1% for those aged under 65. The 85+ age group in particular had a low proportion of BME groups with just 210 residents or 5.8% of the age group.

Graph 3: Ethnic Group of the Population Aged 65+ and Under 65: Milton Keynes 2011

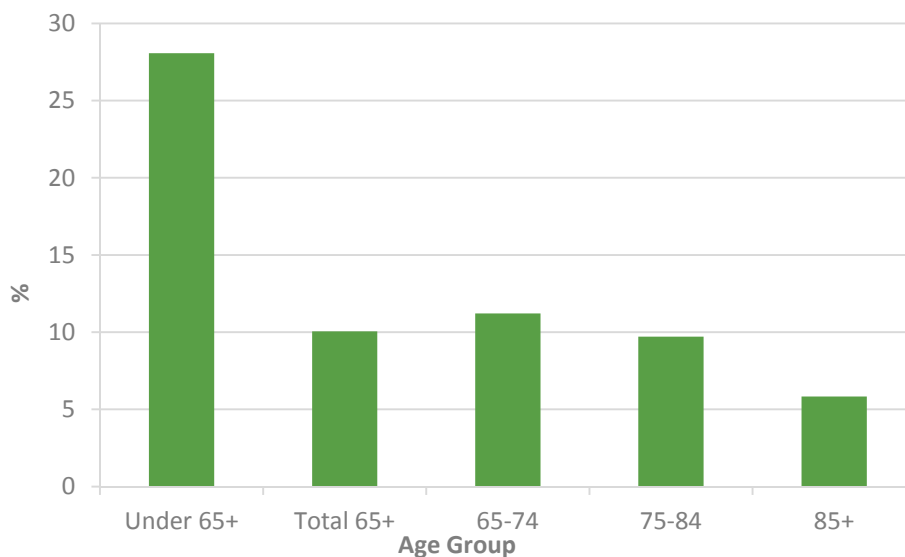


Table 3 shows the percentage of each age group by ethnic group. It details that the largest BME group in the 65+ age group was White: Irish, accounting for 2.4% of the population (650 people). This is the only BME group with a larger proportion in the 65+ age group than the under 65 age group. The next largest BME groups in the 65+ age group were White: Other (2.2% or 600 people) and Indian (1.6% or 450 people). Black Caribbean residents accounted for 0.9% (250 people) of the 65+ population, a similar proportion to the population aged under 65 (1.0%).

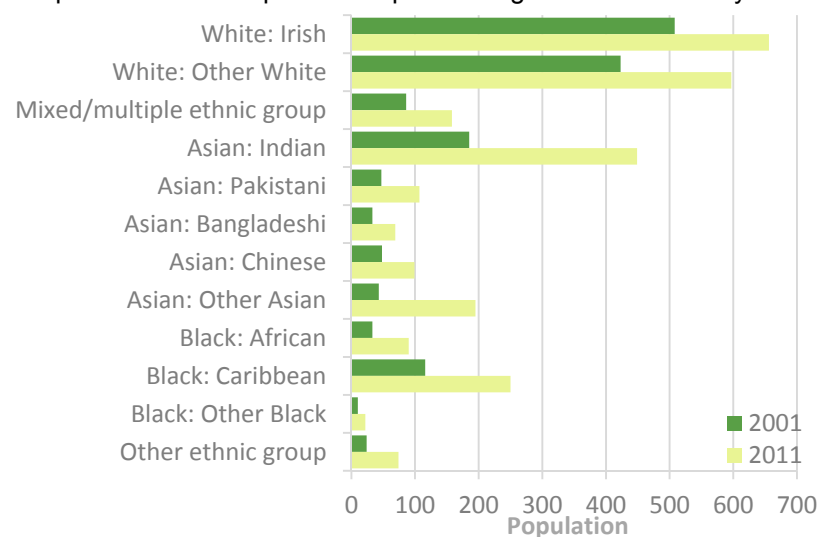
Table 3: Ethnic Group of the Population Aged 65+ and Under 65: Milton Keynes 2011

Ethnic Group	Total	Under				Total 65+
		65	65-74	75-84	85+	
White: British	73.9	71.9	88.8	90.3	94.2	89.9
BME Total	26.1	28.1	11.2	9.7	5.8	10.1
White: Irish	1.0	0.8	2.6	2.3	1.5	2.4
White: Other White	5.1	5.5	2.1	2.3	2.1	2.2
Mixed/multiple ethnic group	3.3	3.6	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.6
Asian: Indian	3.3	3.5	1.9	1.5	0.7	1.6
Asian: Pakistani	1.5	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.4
Asian: Bangladeshi	0.8	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3
Asian: Chinese	1.1	1.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4
Asian: Other Asian	2.5	2.7	0.9	0.6	0.2	0.7
Black: African	5.2	5.9	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3
Black: Caribbean	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.3	0.9
Black: Other Black	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other ethnic group: Total	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3

The number of residents aged 65+ within a BME group increased from 1,550 residents to 2,750 between 2001 and 2011.

7.3% of the population aged 65+ classified themselves in a BME group in 2001, by 2011 this had risen to 10.1%. All BME groups experienced an increase over that period, however groups which had the highest growth include; Indian (185 to 450), Other Asian (40 to 195) and Black Caribbean (115 to 250).

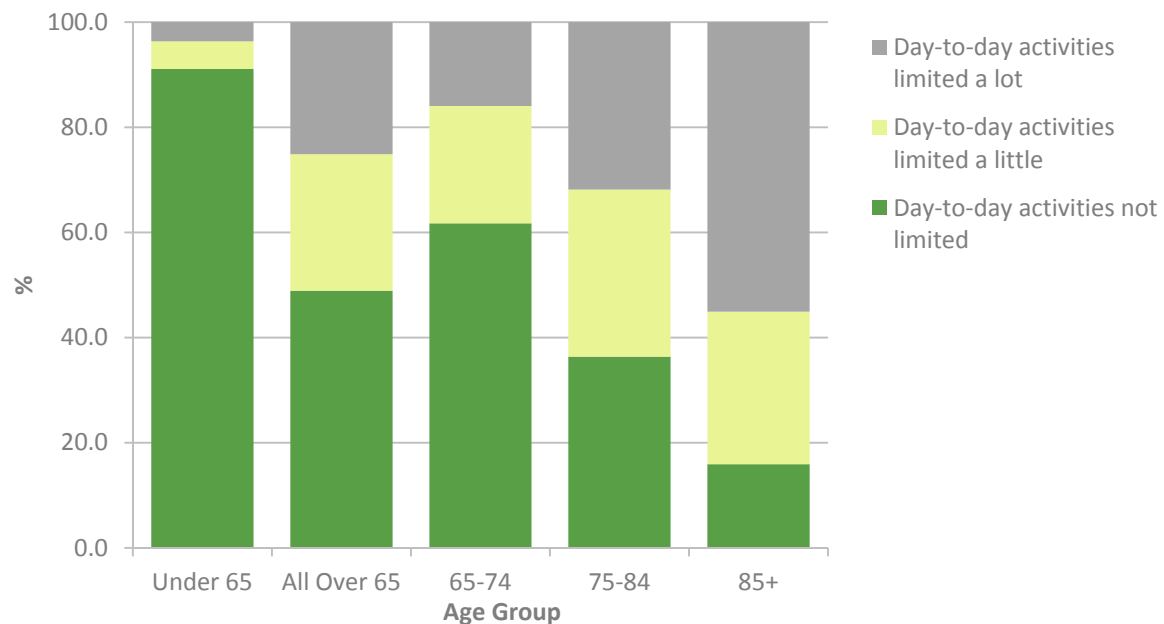
Graph 4: Ethnic Group of the Population Aged 65+: Milton Keynes 2001 and 2011



Residents aged over 65+ were much more likely to state that their day-to-day activities were limited due to a health problem than those aged under 65.

13,500 people aged 65+ stated that their day-to-day activities were limited due to health, this is 51.1% of the 65+ population compared with 8.9% of the under 65 population. Graph 4 outlines that poor health is highly correlated with age with 84.1% of residents aged over 85 stated they had a limiting illness compared with 38.3% of those aged 65-74.

Graph 4: Health of the Population Aged 65+ and Under 65: Milton Keynes 2011



Household reference persons aged 65+ were much more likely to own their home outright and less likely to live in private rented accommodation.

58% of household reference persons² (HRP) aged 65+ owned their home outright compared to just 13.3% of those aged under 65. However they were much less likely to own their house with a mortgage. Just 1,000 HRPs aged 65+ rented privately, this is 5.7% of the population compared with 21% of those aged under 65. Almost a quarter (23.6%) of 65+ HRPs were in the social rented tenure compared to 16.8% of the under 65s.

² The Household Reference Person (HRP) is a concept that allows the production of statistics for a whole household based on the characteristics of one person. The HRP is chosen based on their age and economic activity, and is the oldest full-time worker in most households. Where nobody works full-time, other economic activity statuses are used.

Graph 5: Tenure of HRPs Aged 65+ and Under 65: Milton Keynes 2011



3,150 people aged 65+ were in employment accounting for 2.5% of the total number of people in employment.

Table 4 shows that the vast majority (88.2%) of those aged 65+ were economically inactive, including retired (85.2%), long term sick or disabled (1.1%) and other (1.9%). 3,150 people aged 65+ were in employment, this is 11.5% of the 65+ population and 2.5% of the total number of people in employment. The majority (54.7%) of those aged 65+ in employment were employed in part time jobs.

Table 4: Economic Activity of Population Aged 65+ and Under 65: Milton Keynes 2011

	Over 65		Under 65	
	People	%	People	%
Economically Active	3,234	11.8	81.3	
In Employment	3,163	11.5	75.4	
Full Time	1,432	5.2	57.2	
Part time	1,731	6.3	18.2	
Inactive	24,277	88.2	18.7	
Retired	23,439	85.2	3.8	
Long-term sick or disabled	312	1.1	3.4	
Other	526	1.9	11.4	

Further Information

2011 Census Results: <http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/page.aspx?id=1924&siteID=1026>

Population Projections by Age: <http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/page.aspx?id=1914&siteID=1026>