

Milton Keynes Theme Report - 2011 Census

Economic Activity in Milton Keynes

Introduction

This report outlines the key facts around economic activity in Milton Keynes from the 2011 Census. Wherever possible the data in the report refers to the 16-64 year old age group. However due to the format that some of the tables have been released at by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) some data may refer to different age groups.

Key Points

- A higher proportion (75.4%) of Milton Keynes residents aged 16-64 were in employment compared with England (71.2%).
- There has been a significant rise in part time employment. Between 2001 and 2011 the number of people aged 16-64 in part time employment rose by 62.1% from 18,600 to 30,100.
- 85.4% of Milton Keynes residents in employment were employed in the service sector compared with 8.0% in the manufacturing sector.
- Milton Keynes had a slightly larger proportion (5.9%) of people aged 16-64 who were unemployed than England (5.8%).
- Younger age groups had a higher unemployment rate than older age groups.
- The Other Black and Black African groups have the highest unemployment rates. They had two and a half times the rate of the White British population.
- Unemployed people were more likely to have no qualifications.
- Milton Keynes had a smaller proportion of the 16-64 population who were economically inactive than England.
- A higher proportion (24.3%) of female residents aged 16-64 in Milton Keynes were economically inactive compared to males (13.0%).
- Economic inactivity varies by ethnic group. The Bangladeshi ethnic group had the highest economic inactivity rate with 32.6% of those aged 25-49 economically inactive.

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Economic Activity

The working age population (16-64) can be broken down into three main categories:

1. Those in employment
2. Those who are unemployed
3. Those who are economically inactive

ONS¹ used the following definitions for unemployed and economically inactive in the 2011 Census:

‘A person aged 16 and over is classified as unemployed if they are not in employment, are available to start work in the next two weeks, and either looked for work in the last four weeks or are waiting to start a new job.’

‘A person aged 16 and over is described as economically inactive if, in the week before the census, they were not in employment but did not meet the criteria to be classified as ‘Unemployed’. This includes a person looking for work but not available to start work within two weeks, as well as anyone not looking for work, or unable to work - for example retired, looking after home/family, permanently sick or disabled.’

Table 1 outlines that in Milton Keynes 75.4% of the 16-64 year old population were in employment and 5.9% were unemployed. 31,000 people were economically inactive; this is 18.7% of the 16-64 year old population.

Table 1: Economic Activity 16-64 year old Population: Milton Keynes 2011

	People	%
Economically active	134,946	81.3
In employment	125,075	75.4
Unemployed	9,871	5.9
Economically inactive	30,972	18.7
Retired	6,331	3.8
Student	7,123	4.3
Looking after home or family	8,297	5.0
Long-term sick or disabled	5,663	3.4
Other	3,558	2.1

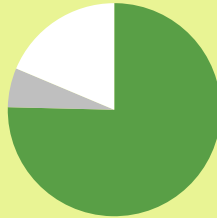
The rest of this report looks at the three main groups in more detail.

¹ Office for National Statistics (2014) ‘2011 Census Glossary of Terms’ available at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/census/2011/census-data/2011-census-user-guide/glossary/index.html>

FOCUS ON: Employment

A higher proportion (75.4%) of Milton Keynes residents aged 16-64 were in employment compared with England (71.2%).

125,100 people aged 16-64 in Milton Keynes were in employment



75.4%

Of the 16-64 Milton Keynes population

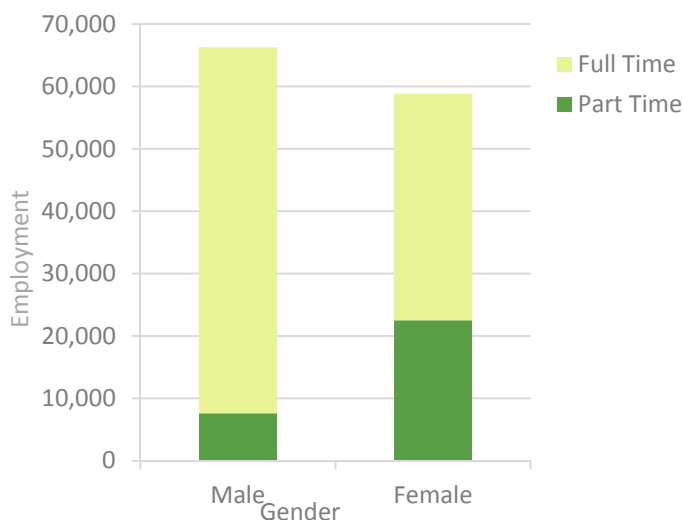
125,100 Milton Keynes residents aged 16-64 were in employment in 2011. This is 75.4% of the age group, a higher proportion than England as a whole (71.2%). Out of all 326 local authority districts in England Milton Keynes had the 124th highest employment rate.

There has been a significant rise in part time employment. Between 2001 and 2011 the number of people aged 16-64 in part time employment rose by 62.1% from 18,600 to 30,100.

There were 30,100 people aged 16-64 working part time in 2011, this is 24.1% of all those in employment. Females were much more likely to work part time than males. 23,400 females (38.3%) worked part time compared to just 8,450 males (11.5%).

94,900 people aged 16-64 in Milton Keynes were in full time employment and males (88.5%) were much more likely to be in full time employment than females (61.7%).

Graph 1: Employment Type by Gender: Milton Keynes 2011



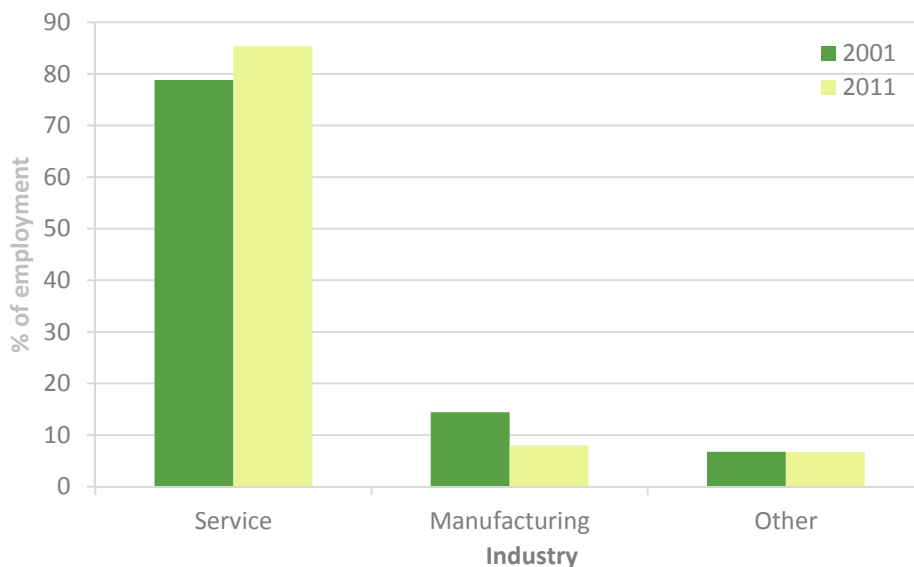
Between 2001 and 2011 there was substantial growth in people employed in part time jobs. The number of people aged 16-64 in part time employment rose by 62.1% from 18,600 to 30,100. The number of people in full time employment rose more slowly at 12.0%. Therefore part time employment increased from 18.0% of those aged 16-64 in employment in 2001 to 24.1% in 2011.

85.4% of Milton Keynes residents in employment were employed in the service sector compared with 8.0% in the manufacturing sector.

106,800 Milton Keynes residents aged 16-64 were employed in the service sector. This is 85.4% of employment. 10,000 Milton Keynes residents in employment were employed in the manufacturing sector; this is 8.0% of those in employment. A smaller proportion of residents were employed in 'other' industries such as agriculture and construction in Milton Keynes compared with England.

The proportion of employees working in the manufacturing sector has declined from 14.4% in 2001 to 8.0% in 2011. This is a decline of 35.4% or 5,500 people.

Graph 2: Industry of Employment 2001 and 2011: Milton Keynes



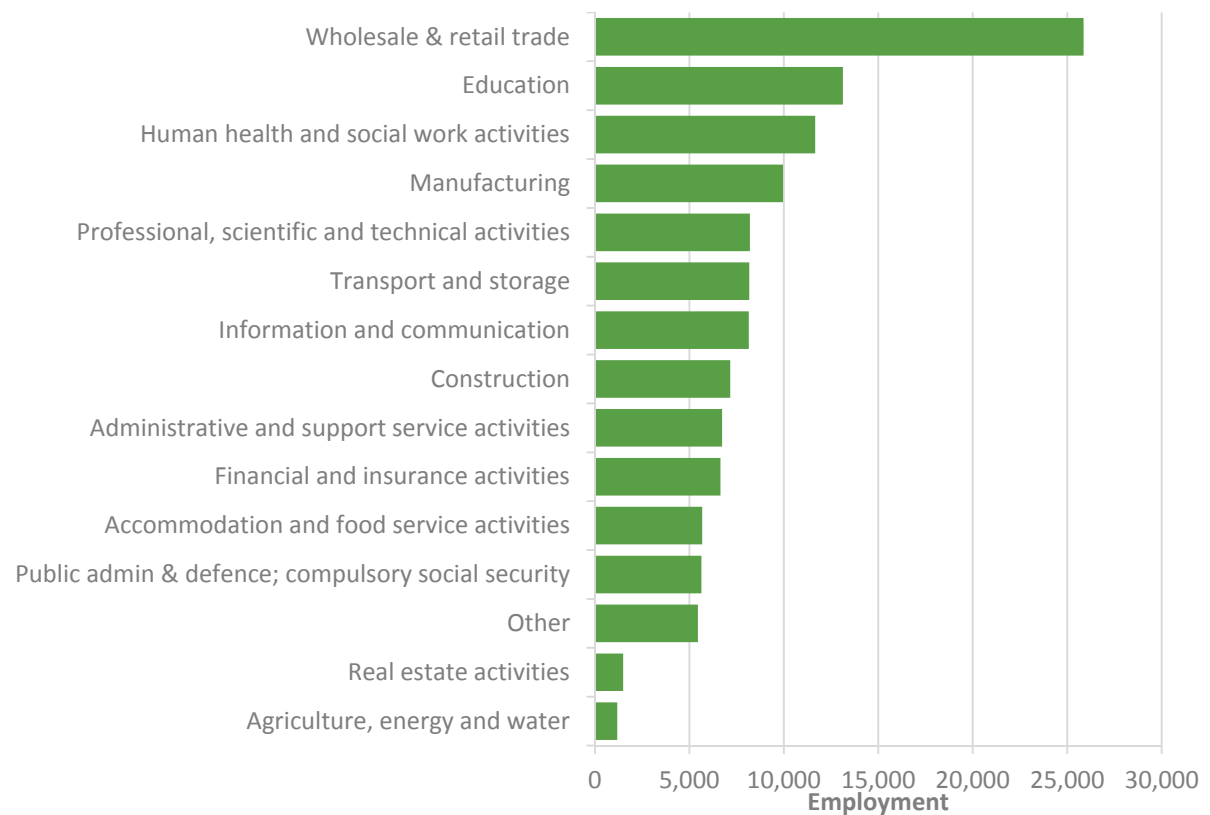
The wholesale and retail trade industrial sector is the largest employer of Milton Keynes residents.

Graph 3 provides more detail on the industry of employment in Milton Keynes. It shows that the wholesale and retail trade is the largest employer of residents in Milton Keynes. 25,900 residents were employed in this sector; this is 20.7% of people in employment. Education, health and social work and public administration, defence and compulsory social security employed 30,400 people (24.3%).

The transport and storage and information and communication sectors in Milton Keynes were larger in Milton Keynes than England as a whole. The construction,

accommodation and food services and human health and social work were in smaller proportions compared with England.

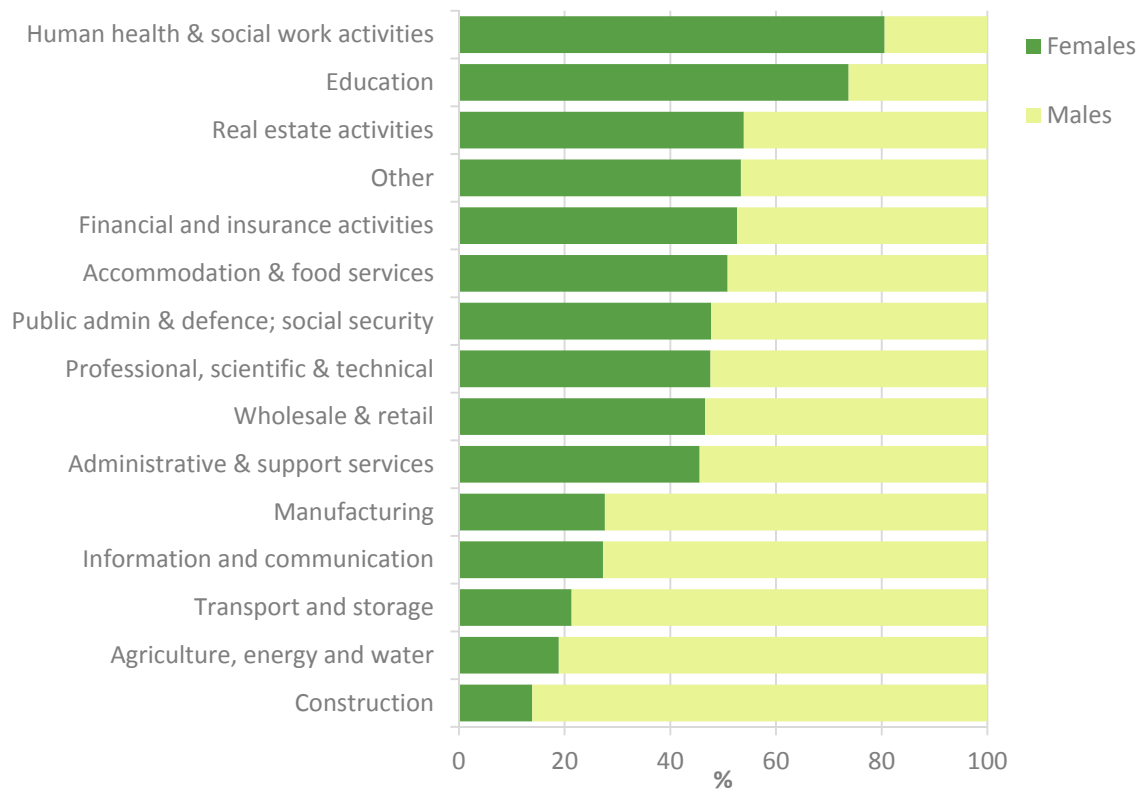
Graph 3: Industry of Employment 16-64 year olds: Milton Keynes 2011



Different industrial sectors had different gender profiles.

Industries have different gender profiles, some industries have a majority of male employment and some have a majority of female employment. The health and social work sector had the highest female employment rate with 80.5% of those employed in the sector being female. The second highest proportion is the education sector with 73.7% female employment. The construction sector had the lowest proportion of female employment (13.9%) followed by agriculture, energy and water (18.9%) and transport and storage (21.3%).

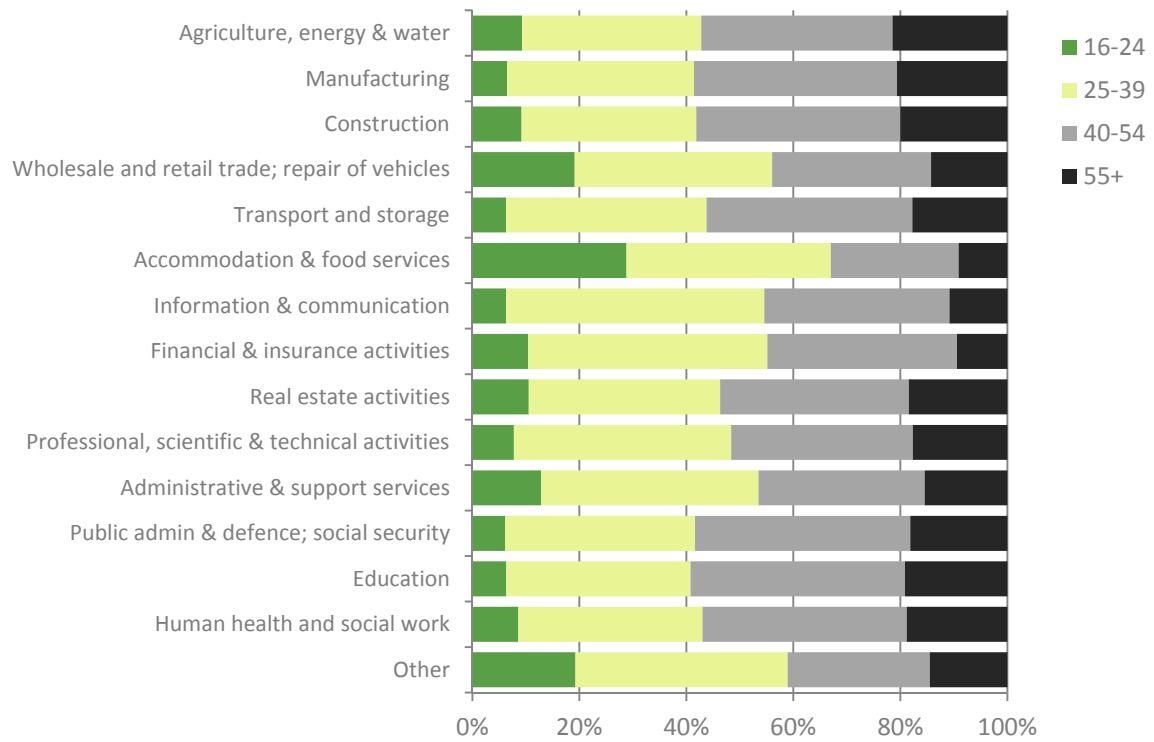
Graph 4: Industry of Employment by Gender: Milton Keynes 2011



Different industrial sectors have different age profiles. The accommodation and food services industry has the youngest age profile.

Graph 5 outlines that industrial sectors have different employee age profiles. The agriculture, energy and water, manufacturing, construction, public admin, education and health and social work sectors had the oldest age profiles. Whilst the accommodation and food, information and communication, finance and Insurance and wholesale and retail sectors had the youngest age profiles. Around 20% of people employed in agriculture, energy and water, manufacturing and construction were aged 55+ compared to just 9.1% in the accommodation and food service activities sector.

Graph 5: Age of People Employed in Each Sector: Milton Keynes 2011



FOCUS ON: Unemployment

Milton Keynes had a slightly larger proportion (5.9%) of people aged 16-64 who were unemployed than England (5.8%).

The 2011 Census found 9,900 people aged 16-64 unemployed in Milton Keynes. This is 5.9% of the population aged 16-64 compared with 5.8% in England.

Out of all 326 local authorities in England the Milton Keynes unemployment rate was ranked 103rd highest, it therefore falls within the highest third.

Younger age groups had a higher unemployment rate than older age groups.

In March 2011 there were 1,700 people aged 16-19 who were unemployed, this is 14.6% of the 16-19 year old population and compares to 4.9% of the 35-49 year old population. There were 1,700 unemployed people aged 50-64; this is 3.9% of the age group.

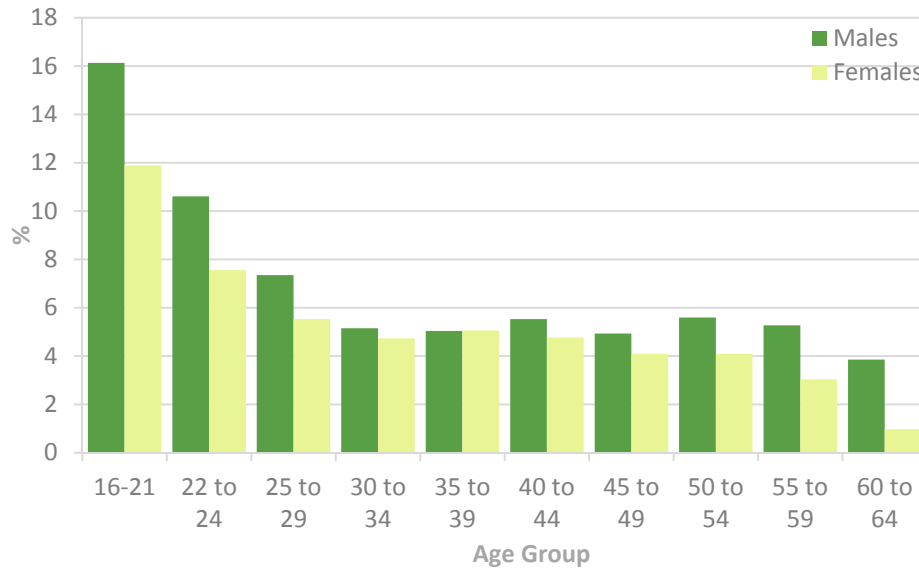
Table 2: Unemployed People by Age - 16-64 year olds: Milton Keynes 2011

Age	People	% of age group	% of unemployed
16-19	1,677	14.6	17.0
20-34	3,747	6.9	38.0
35-49	2,775	4.9	28.1
50-59	1,358	4.5	13.8
60-64	314	2.4	3.2
Total 16-64	9,871	5.9	100

Males had a higher unemployment than females, although the size of the difference varied by age.

Males had a higher unemployment rate compared with females. 6.8% of males aged 16-64 were unemployed compared with 5.1% of females. Graph 6 outlines how the unemployment rate compares for each age group by gender. It outlines that the greatest differences between the genders occurred in the youngest and oldest age groups. The rates for those aged 30-49 were more similar, and females had a slightly higher unemployment rate (5.1% compared with 5.0%) in the 35-39 year old age group.

Graph 6: Age and Gender of Unemployed People by Age 16-64 year olds: Milton Keynes 2011



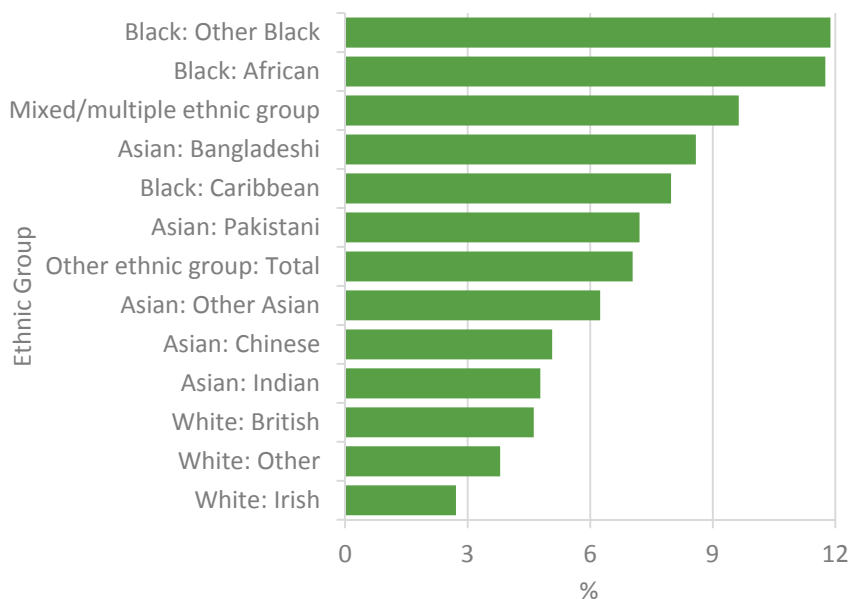
The Other Black and Black African groups had the highest unemployment rates. They had two and a half times the rate of the White British population.

ONS only released data on the ethnic group of unemployed people for the 16+ age group. So the following analysis refers to the 16+ population rather than 16-64.

Unemployment rates vary by ethnic group. The Black: Other Black ethnic group had the highest employment rate with a rate of 11.9%, although the numbers are relatively small with just 100 unemployed people. There were 950 people within the Black: African ethnic group who were unemployed, this is a rate of 11.8%.

The White: Irish ethnic group had the lowest unemployment rate (2.7%) followed by White: Other 3.8%.

Graph 7: Ethnic Group of Unemployed People aged 16+: Milton Keynes 2011



As ethnic groups have different age profiles and unemployment is correlated with age it is judicious to look at unemployment by ethnic group and by age. Table 3 outlines that the Asian: Bangladeshi ethnic group had the highest unemployment rate for aged 16-24 with 17.8% followed by Black: African (17.1%). The highest unemployment rate for those aged 24-49 occurred in the Black: Other Black (11.4%) and Black: African (10.8%) groups. The Black: African group also had the highest unemployment rate for the 50+ population (10.7%).

Table 3: Ethnic Group & Age of Unemployed People: Milton Keynes 2011

Ethnic Group	16-24	25-49	50+	16+	16-24	25-49	50+	16+
White: British	2,293	3,175	1,346	6,814	12.0	4.7	2.2	4.6
White: Irish	8	32	23	63	6.9	3.8	1.7	2.7
White: Other	97	256	52	405	7.7	3.4	2.8	3.8
Mixed/multiple ethnic group	166	161	24	351	14.8	8.4	4.0	9.6
Asian: Indian	53	194	55	302	9.1	4.6	3.7	4.8
Asian: Pakistani	61	105	12	178	13.9	6.5	2.8	7.2
Asian: Bangladeshi	53	48	6	107	17.8	6.2	3.3	8.6
Asian: Chinese	25	45	50	120	10.3	3.3	6.4	5.1
Asian: Other Asian	68	193	25	286	12.5	5.9	3.4	6.2
Black: African	221	655	95	971	17.1	10.8	10.7	11.8
Black: Caribbean	36	91	40	167	16.4	8.2	5.3	8.0
Black: Other Black	31	58	7	96	16.7	11.4	6.2	11.9
Other ethnic group: Total	17	57	8	82	12.5	7.5	3.0	7.0
Total	3,129	5,070	1,743	9,942	12.2	5.2	2.5	5.1

People who identified themselves as Muslim had the highest unemployment rate of all religious groups. 9.3% of Muslims aged 16+ were unemployed compared with 5.1% for all people. People with no religion had the second highest unemployment rate with 6.5%. Jewish (3.5%) and Christian (4.2%) groups had the lowest unemployment rate.

Table 4: Religion & Age of Unemployed People: Milton Keynes 2011

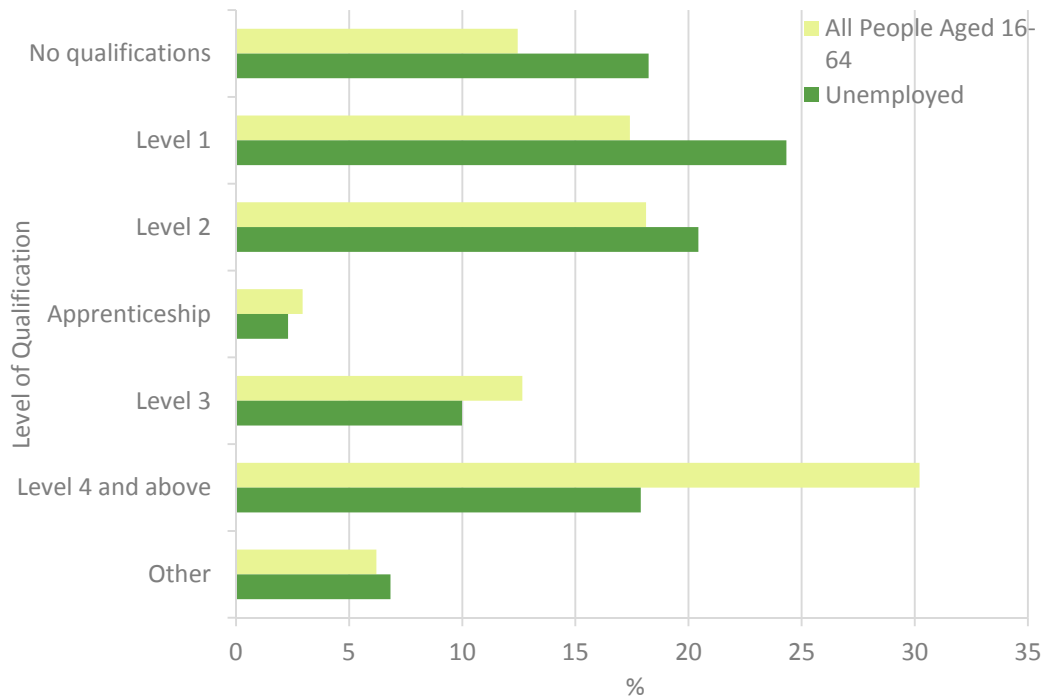
Religion	16-24	25-49	50+	Total Aged 16+
Christian	10.9	4.8	2.1	4.2
Buddhist	4.9	5.4	6.1	5.6
Hindu	9.6	4.4	3.6	4.7
Jewish	13.9	3.7	1.5	3.5
Muslim	16.2	8.5	4.7	9.3
Sikh	9.2	5.5	4.8	5.8
Other religion	8.6	5.3	3.3	4.9
No religion	13.6	5.5	3.3	6.5
Religion not stated	10.8	5.1	2.6	4.8
Total	12.2	5.2	2.5	5.1

Unemployed people were more likely to have no qualifications than all people aged 16-64.

Of the 9,900 people aged 16-64 who were unemployed in 2011 1,800 had no qualification. Graph 8 outlines that this is 18.2% compared to 12.5% for all people

aged 16-64. 17.9% of unemployed people had a level 4 or above qualification² compared to 30.2% of all people aged 16-64.

Graph 8: Qualifications of Unemployed People and All People: Milton Keynes 2011



² **Definitions: Level 1 qualifications:** 1-4 GCSEs or equivalent. **Level 2 qualifications:** 5+ GCSEs Level (A*-C) or equivalent; **Level 3 qualifications:** 2+ A Levels or equivalent; **Level 4+ qualifications:** Degree and higher or equivalent.

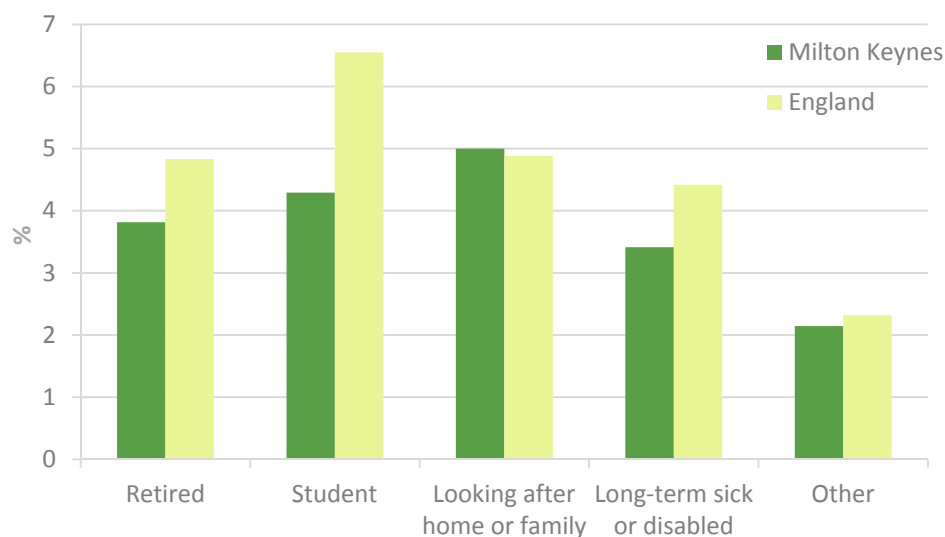
FOCUS ON: Economically Inactive

Milton Keynes had a smaller proportion of the 16-64 population who were economically inactive than England.

There were 31,000 economically inactive people aged 16-64 in Milton Keynes in 2011. This is 18.7% of the 16-64 population compared with 23.0% in England as a whole. Graph 9 shows this is due to three main factors.

1. A smaller proportion of the 16-64 year old population were retired (3.8% in Milton Keynes, 4.8% in England).
2. A smaller proportion of the 16-64 year old population were long-term sick or disabled. (3.4% in Milton Keynes, 4.4% in England).
3. A smaller proportion of the 16-64 year old population were students not in or looking for work (4.3% in Milton Keynes, 6.5% in England).

Graph 9: Economically Inactive People aged 16-64: Milton Keynes and England 2011



A higher proportion (24.3%) of female residents aged 16-64 in Milton Keynes were economically inactive compared to males (13.0%).

20,200 females aged 16-64 were economically inactive, accounting for almost a quarter (24.3%) of the female population aged 16-64. This compares to 10,700 males or 13.0%.

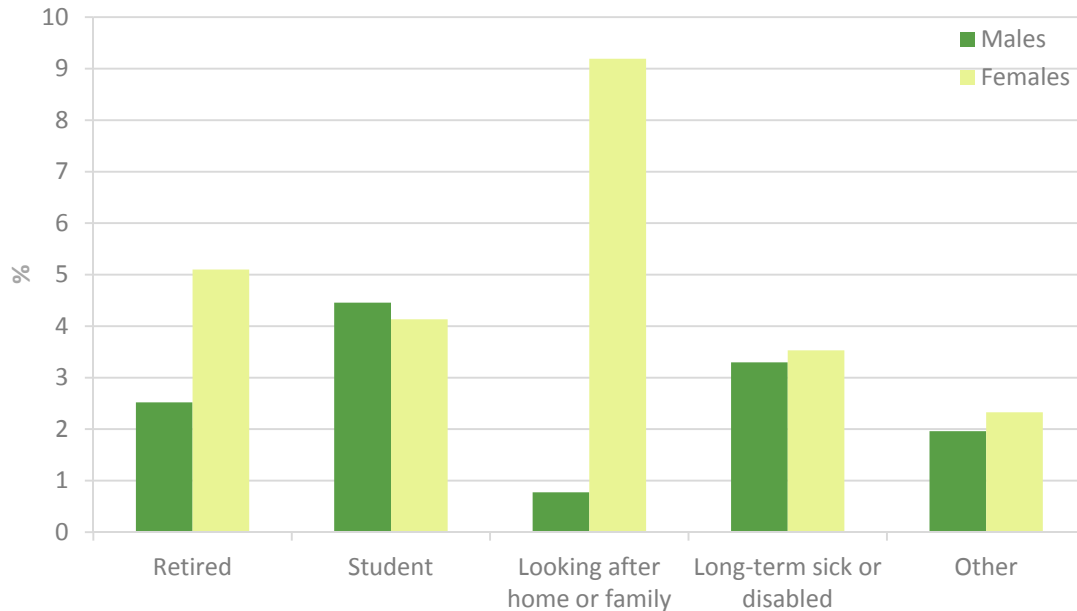
There were two main reasons why females were more likely to be economically inactive than males.

1. Females were far more likely to be economically inactive looking after the home or family than males. There were 7,700 females who were economically

inactive looking after the home or family compared to just 640 males. This is 9.2% of the female population aged 16-64 compared to 0.8% for males.

2. Females aged 16-64 were twice as likely to be retired as males (5.1% compared with 2.5%).

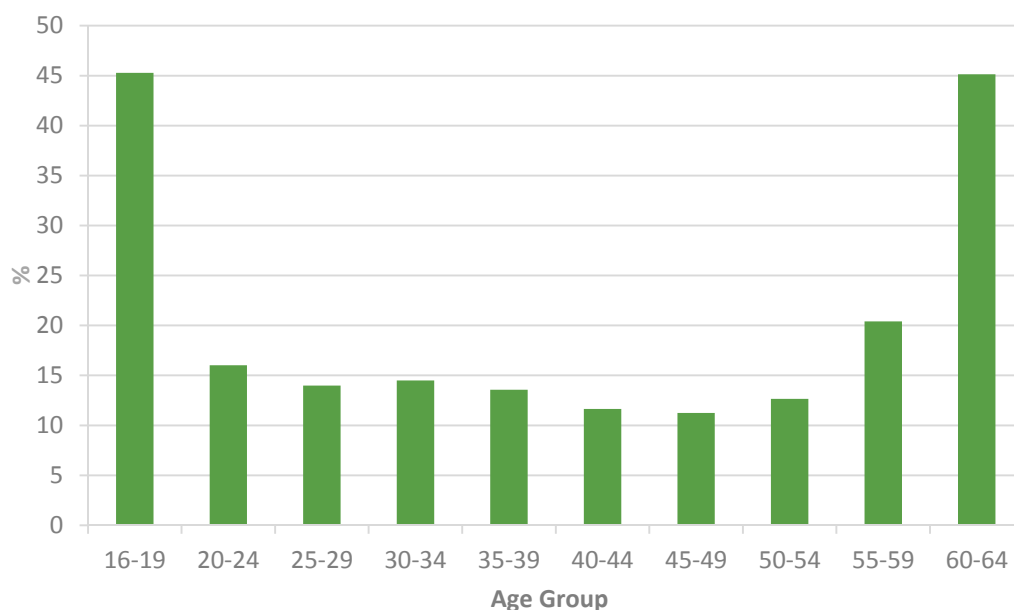
Graph 10: Economically Inactive People aged 16-64 by Gender: Milton Keynes 2011



The oldest and youngest age groups in Milton Keynes were more likely to be economically inactive.

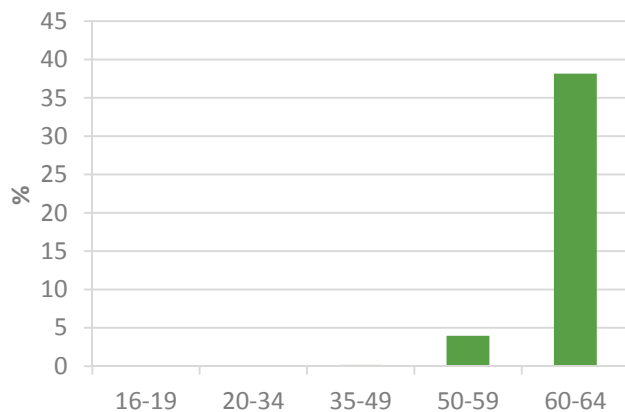
Graph 11 outlines that 45% of both the 16-19 and 16-64 year old age groups were economically inactive. The lowest economically inactive rate (11.2%) occurred in the 45-49 year old age group.

Graph 11: Economically Inactive People aged 16-64 by Gender: Milton Keynes 2011

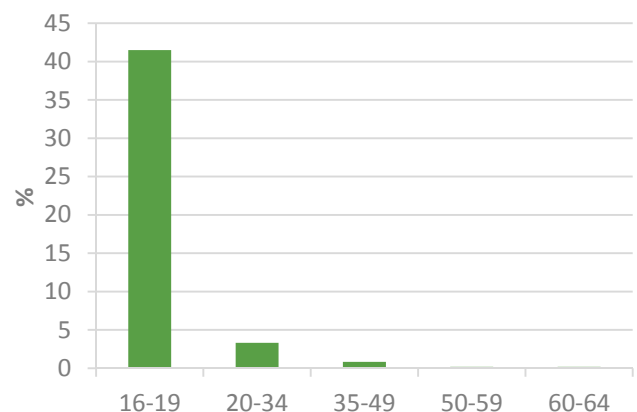


Graphs 12 to 15 outline the different reasons why a person may be economically inactive. It outlines that the reasons were highly correlated with age. Those that were students were most likely to be in the 16-19 age group, those that were looking after the home or family in the 20-34 age group, those that were economically inactive due to ill health in the 50-59 year old age group and those that were retired were most likely to be in the 60-64 age group.

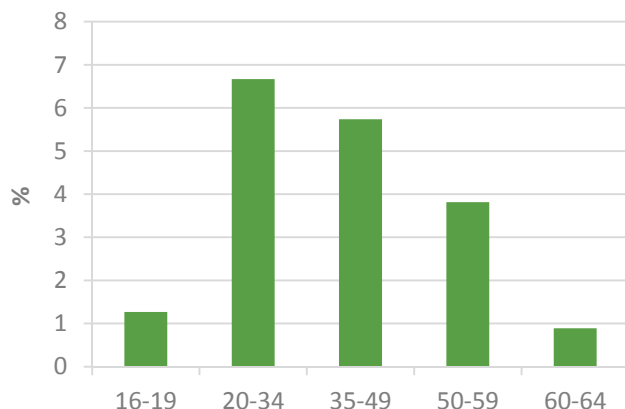
Graph 12: Retired People: Milton Keynes 2011



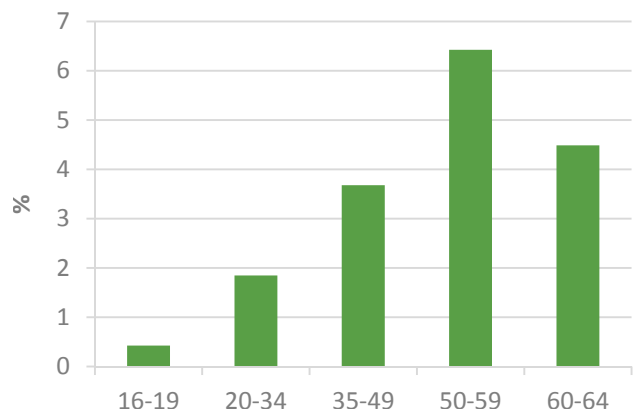
Graph 13: Students: Milton Keynes 2011



Graph 14: Looking After the home: Milton Keynes 2011



Graph 15: Ill Health: Milton Keynes 2011



Economic inactivity varies by ethnic group. The Bangladeshi ethnic group had the highest economic inactivity rate with 32.6% of those aged 25-49 economically inactive.

Table 5 shows the percentage of people aged 25-49 who were economically inactive by ethnic group. The 25-49 age group is used instead of all people aged 16-64 to account for the different age profiles of the ethnic groups.

The Asian: Bangladeshi ethnic group had the highest economic inactivity rate. 32.5% of Bangladeshi's aged 24-49 were economically inactive compared with just 6.4% in Milton Keynes as a whole. This is, in the main, caused by the high level (21.2%) of people looking after the home or family compared with the total in Milton Keynes (6.4%). The Asian: Pakistani population aged 25-49 also had a high economic

inactivity rate mainly caused by a high level of people looking after the home or family.

The White British and Mixed ethnic groups had the highest percentage (3.6%) of people aged 24-49 who were economically inactive due to being long term sick or disabled.

Overall the Black: Caribbean (10.2%) and the White: Other White (10.5%) ethnic groups had the lowest economic inactivity rates.

Table 5: Ethnic Group of Economically Inactive People aged 24-49: % Milton Keynes 2011

Ethnic Group	Economically inactive	Retired	Student	Looking after home or family	Long-term sick or disabled	Other
White: British	11.4	0.1	0.7	5.5	3.6	1.5
White: Irish	13.2	0.1	1.8	5.9	3.1	2.3
White: Other White	10.5	0.0	2.0	5.7	1.1	1.7
Mixed/multiple ethnic group	15.4	0.1	2.4	6.3	3.6	3.1
Asian: Indian	12.4	0.0	2.0	7.5	0.8	2.1
Asian: Pakistani	30.4	0.0	2.1	20.4	2.6	5.4
Asian: Bangladeshi	32.6	0.0	2.1	21.2	3.0	6.4
Asian: Chinese	16.4	0.2	3.0	10.2	0.8	2.2
Other Asian	27.0	0.4	5.2	14.4	1.3	5.6
Black: African	18.5	0.0	5.5	6.0	0.9	6.0
Black: Caribbean	10.2	0.1	1.5	2.7	2.9	3.0
Black: Other Black	17.3	0.0	3.7	8.3	2.8	2.6
Other Ethnic Group: Total	19.3	0.3	3.5	10.3	1.7	3.5
Total	13.0	0.1	1.5	6.4	2.9	2.2