

2011 Census Ward Profile No.1 – Demographics

The release of 2011 Census data on 11 December 2012 includes a range of key statistics for local authority districts. This briefing note covers the information provided so far for Sheffield wards on demographics, looking specifically at changes in populations since 2001, the significant differences between the wards the city averages and the population in households and communal establishments.

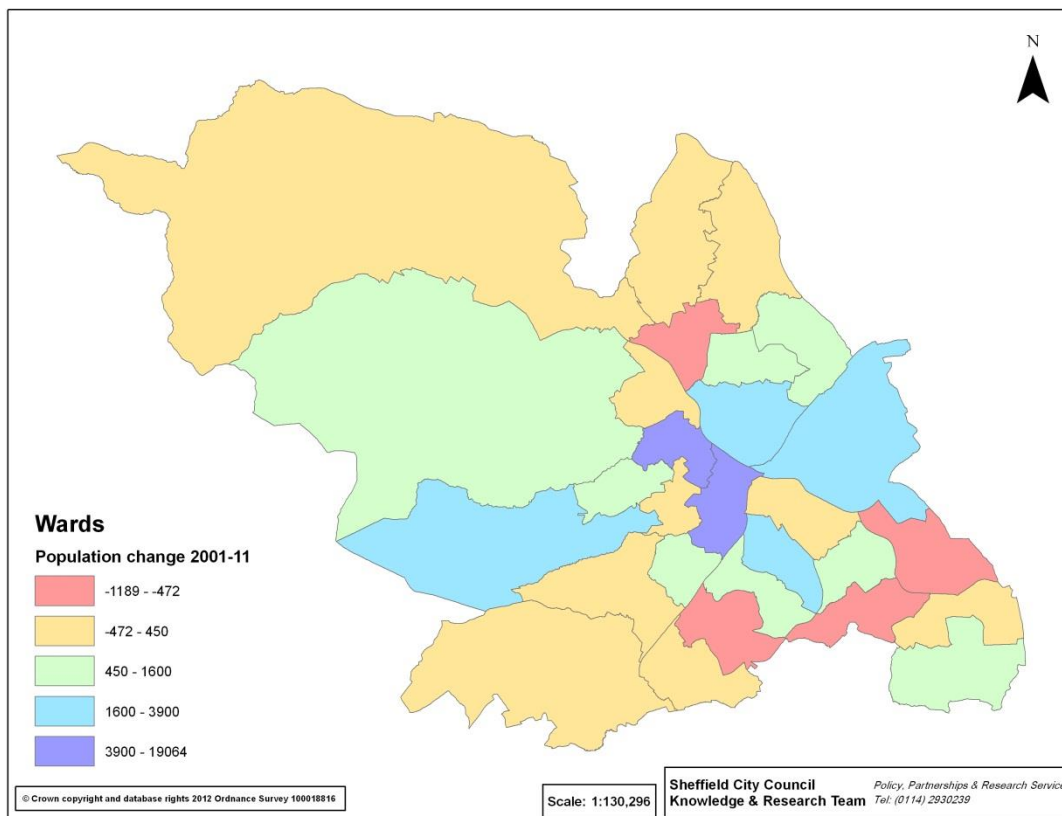
Ward Population Estimates

Ward Size

The average population of wards in Sheffield is 19,739, increasing from around 18,300 in 2001. At that time, the difference between Burngreave as the largest ward and Fulwood as the smallest was 8,600 people. Since this time, population growth has not been uniform across the city. The difference between the largest (Central) and smallest (Graves Park) is now wards is now 19,700 people, the equivalent of a whole extra ward. This is mostly due to the growth of Central Ward, which has more than doubled in the ten years between the Censuses to 36,412 in 2011.

21 of Sheffield's 28 wards have seen population growth by varying degrees since 2001, whilst the remaining 7 have seen some level of population decline. The map below shows the changes in population across the city.

Population Change by Ward 2001-2011



Central, Walkley and Fulwood wards have had significant increases in student accommodation since 2001. There has been other new housing development in Central and Arbourthorne, whilst large numbers of Council tenants were moved from Park Hill into Gleadless Valley. Increases in Burngreave, Darnall and Firth Park are largely due to natural change. All three of these wards have large and relatively young Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities.

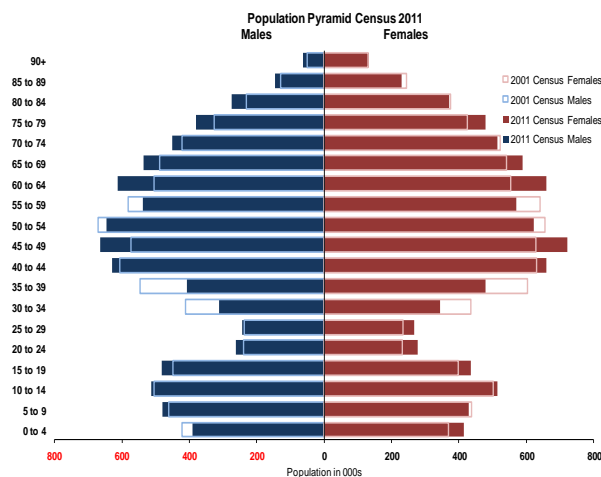
By contrast, Birley and Southey wards have had large scale clearance of Council housing, which has seen them experience the most significant decline in population since 2001. Replacement housing had either not yet been occupied or not built at the time of the 2011 Census.

Age Structure

Sheffield's overall age structure, when represented by a pyramid chart, with males on the left and females on the right, bulges out to around age 40-44 and then reduces to a curved point at the top, rather like a beehive. There are more females than males in the older age groups from 65 upwards. The 20-24 age group stands out proud from this overall shape in Sheffield, as it represents the city's large student population. This pattern is typical of large university English cities and similar pyramids are seen in places such as Leeds or Birmingham.

Not all of Sheffield's wards follow this pattern, but many of the wards with large Council estates do, although with a less pronounced step at the 20-24 age group. These include Arbourthorne, Gleadless Valley, Richmond, Shiregreen and Brightside and Southey.

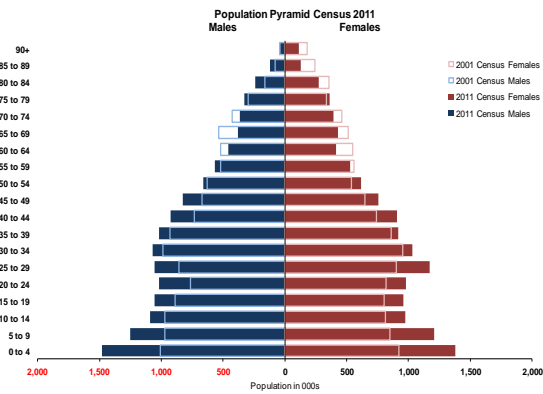
There are four other distinct shapes to the ward population pyramid files :



The Hourglass: a typical example is Dore & Totley. Other wards that follow this general pattern are Beauchief & Greenhill, Birley, Ecclesall, Graves Park, Stannington, Stocksbridge & Upper Don, West Ecclesfield and Woodhouse.

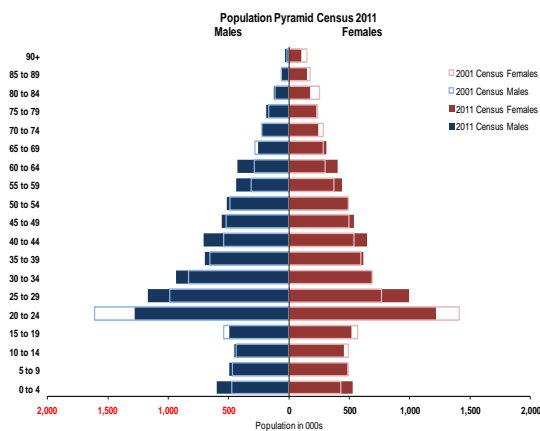
The common feature is a low number of people in the 20-39 age groups, and much higher numbers of people in the older age groups than other wards. This is representative of very settled middle class wards, with lots of families and older people

living on their own or in couples after their children have left home. A large proportion of young adults from these wards will leave for other university areas, and these wards are far from universities hence the dip in the young adult age groups.



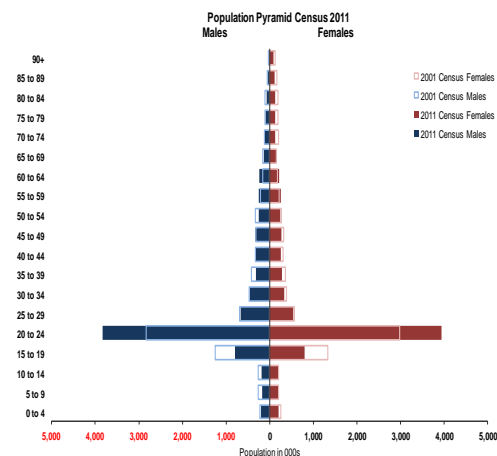
The Classic Pyramid: This pyramid shows Burngreave, but Darnall and Firth Park also follow this general pattern.

These wards have large numbers of children and then taper fairly evenly to a small number of older people at the top. These wards have high minority ethnic populations, with larger families and lower numbers of middle-aged and older people.



The Christmas Tree: the best example is Nether Edge ward, but Beighton, East Ecclesfield, Manor Castle, Mosborough and Hillsborough also follow this general pattern to some degree.

It is typified by relatively low numbers of children and young people, a large number of younger adults then immediately tapering to a point at the top.



The Spinning Top: Broomhill is a good example of this type of population structure. Central, Crookes, Fulwood and Walkley also follow this pattern.

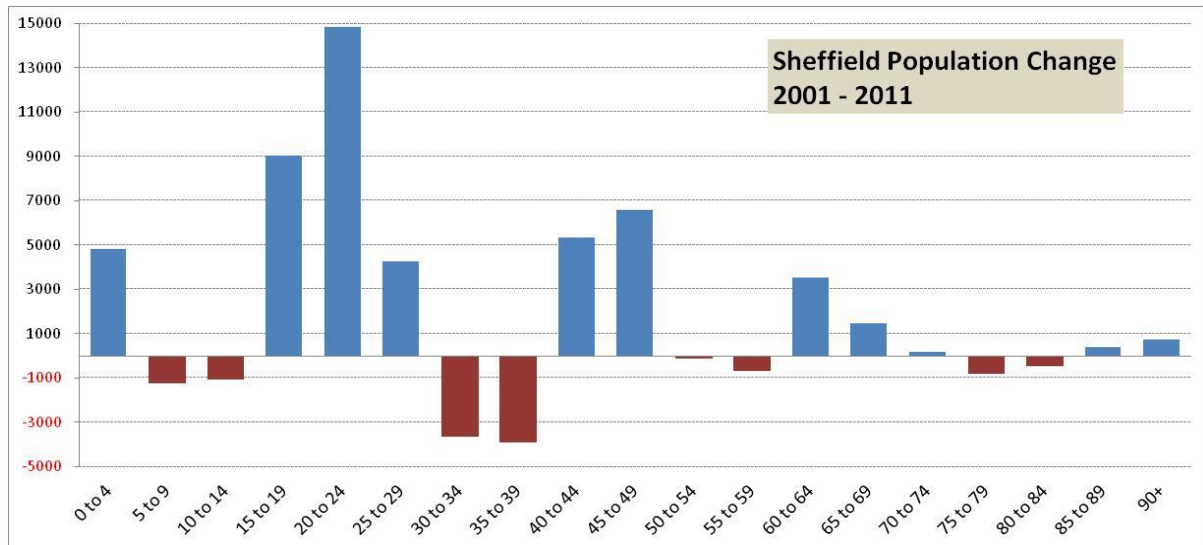
These wards have very large numbers of students, most of whom are in the 20-24 age group. These wards have a much less balanced age structure than most of the rest of Sheffield. This is a distinctly 2011 pattern, caused by the large increase in students and young adults attracted to these areas

These varying age patterns are often transitory and many areas change in character over time, perhaps moving between these different patterns. The wards with the 'spinning top' will perhaps be more stable in future, as their age structure is dominated students and young adults and their populations are more transitory.

The age structure in the city has changed significantly since 2001. This is due to a number of factors:

- Natural change, as bulges in the age structure progress through the age range (e.g. the 60's baby boomers now moving into their 60s.)

- Immigration to the city, particularly of overseas and UK students
- An increased birth rate in the last few years
- Increasing life expectancy



There are some notable differences in the wards from this pattern of change:

- Whilst the 15 – 19 age group has increased significantly across the city, it reduced by 978 in Broomhill ward. This is largely due to the closure of the former student halls of residence, mostly occupied by first-year students, with the building of the Endcliffe student village in Fulwood ward
- The large increase in the 20-24 age group occurred largely in Central ward and to a lesser degree in Broomhill and Walkley. These three wards attract second and subsequent year students and overseas students to the large number of flats and shared houses.
- The pattern of change in Central, Burngreave and Darnall wards was different to the others. All age groups up to 49 years old in these wards, and to 59 in Central and Burngreave, increased. These wards have a much younger age profile and relatively low life expectancy. The number of people older than these age groups reduced over the ten year period.
- There has been a large increase in the number of people aged 85 and over, although the numbers decreased in three wards: Broomhill, Burngreave and Nether Edge. This reflects a distinct demographic change in these wards, with few people aged 60 and over to replace the reducing 85+ age group. Housing left by this older group are often taken by younger adults and families.
- There were reductions overall in the 75 to 84 age group, with Beighton and West Ecclesfield the main exceptions. The reduction was more marked in the more deprived wards such as Burngreave, Manor Castle, Richmond and Southey. This was predictable, as the post-war WW1 baby boomers would have been in this age group in 2001 but have moved up to the 85 and over group in 2011. Lower life expectancy may account for the greater reductions in the more deprived wards.

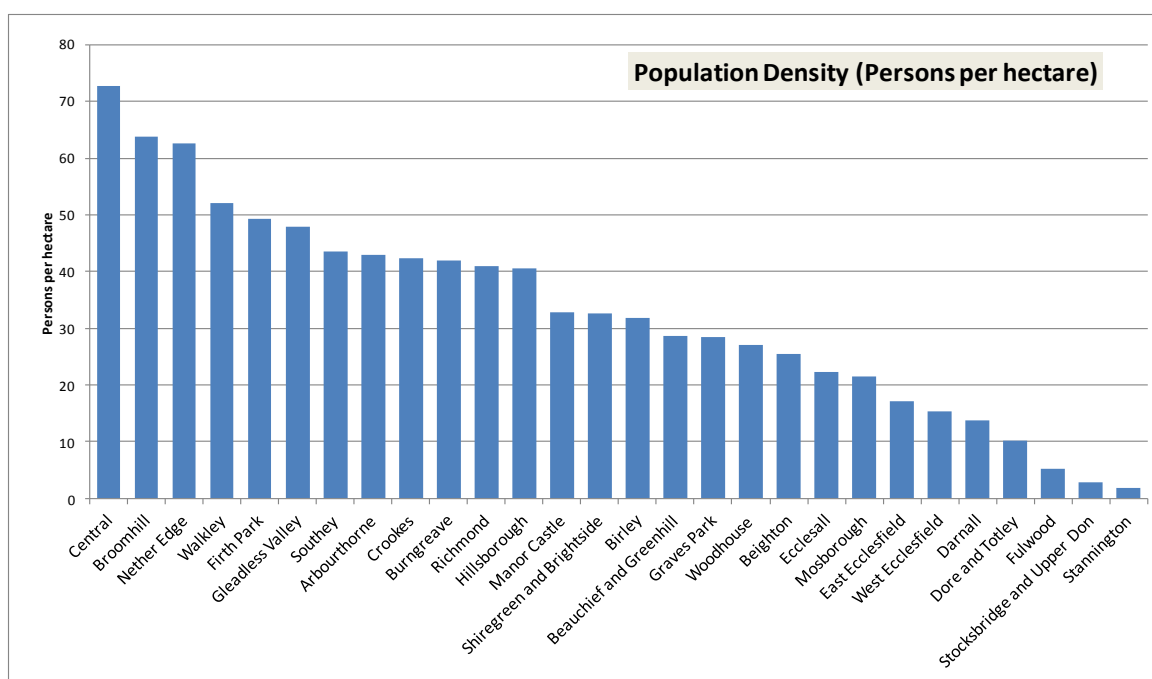
The 2011 Census counted 229,928 households in Sheffield, with 539,064 residents. This gives an average household size of 2.3 persons. This is much the same as in 2001. There are 13,634 Sheffield usual residents in communal establishments. These include student halls of residence, hospitals and care homes, hotels and boarding houses.

Central ward has the largest number of households at 12,967; Broomhill has the lowest at 5,708. Most wards vary between 7,000 and 9,000. Broomhill has the highest average household size at 2.9 people per household. This must reflect the number of shared student houses. Other wards that are significantly above the Sheffield average are Burngreave (2.7) and Darnall (2.6). This is largely due to the large households in the Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities in those wards.

The wards with the highest populations in communal establishments are Central, Fulwood and Walkley. These three wards include most of the communal student accommodation in the city.

Population Density

The household table in the November release also defines the areas in hectares and provides population densities. The chart below shows the variation in population densities across the city.



The four wards with the lowest population densities all include parts of Sheffield's rural area and the Peak District National Park. Density figures in these wards are misleading in that the majority of the population is concentrated in a small part of the ward's area. The density figures for smaller geographies will give a more realistic picture.

Further Information

Future releases from the census will provide more information on these topics. Further breakdowns and cross-tabulations with other Census variables will be published in summer of 2013.