

Appendix B - Knowing our communities

North Hertfordshire Community Profile 2016

North Hertfordshire is 1 of 10 districts within the county of Hertfordshire, located to the north side of Hertfordshire. Hertfordshire can be found in the East of England, bordering Greater London to the south, and Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire to the north.

North Hertfordshire covers 37,538 hectares and represents 22.85% of the total area of the county of Hertfordshire.

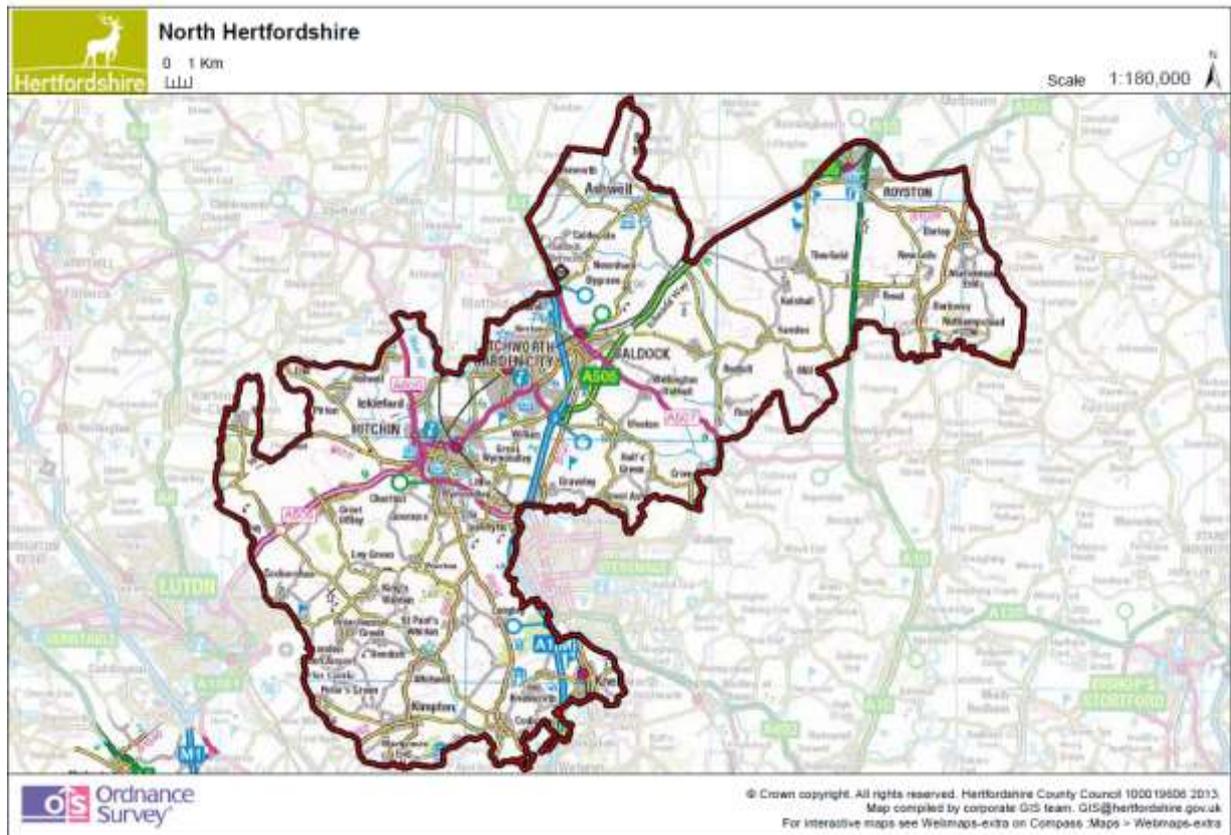
The district was formed on 1st April 1974 by the amalgamation of the urban districts of Baldock, Hitchin, Letchworth, Royston and the Hitchin Rural District. In addition to this, North Hertfordshire also includes most of the development of Great Ashby, north-east of Stevenage.

The following information will provide you with a snapshot of the socio-economic and demographic situation of North Hertfordshire and a small glimpse into life within North Hertfordshire.

Location

North Hertfordshire is made up of 24 wards, the largest of which geographically is Hitchwood, Offa and Hoo, making up 27.36% of the North Hertfordshire area. Found in the South East of England, officially under the area of 'East England', North Hertfordshire itself borders the neighbouring districts of Central Bedfordshire, South Cambridgeshire, East Hertfordshire, Stevenage, Welwyn Hatfield and St Albans.

94% of residents in North Hertfordshire are satisfied with the area as a place to live (Sept 2012).



Population

There are two main sources of population data, the 10 yearly national census¹ and the annual mid year population estimates.

The latest national census was in 2011. The latest mid year population estimates are for mid-2015, estimates for County and District Geographies were published on 23rd June 2016. Those for Super Output Area (LSOA² and MSOA), Output Area Ward, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Parliamentary Constituency Geographies were published on 26th October 2016.

Estimates for Electoral Divisions and Large Settlements are derived from the Output Area level estimates. North Hertfordshire is covered by 398 Output areas.

¹ Census date is measured by Output areas (OA). The OA is the lowest geographical level at which census estimates are provided. OAs were introduced in Scotland at the 1981 Census and in all the countries of the UK at the 2001 Census.

² Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are a sub-ward geography averaging approximately 1,600 people.

Mid Year Population Estimates³

Estimates of population are produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) each year in between Censuses. These "mid year" estimates are initially based on the previous census figures and are calculated using numbers of birth and deaths in an area and estimates of migration within the UK and to and from the UK. Estimates are produced by gender and five year (quinary) age groups. Estimates are produced at County, District and Unitary Council levels, for Health areas and for higher geographies. At these levels the estimates are classified as "National Statistics".

The latest (mid-2015) estimate puts the population of North Hertfordshire District at 131,700 (64,600 males and 67,100 females).

As at mid-2015, the estimated total population of North Hertfordshire District had increased by approximately 4,600 (3.6%) since the 2011 Census.

Using figures from the latest Census 2011, North Hertfordshire has a population of 127,114 (131,700 according to mid-2015 statistics) and is home to 11.4% of all residents in Hertfordshire.

Hitchin Bearton is the ward with the largest population at 6.68% of the total population of North Hertfordshire, Baldock East being the ward most densely populated, with 40.60 persons per hectare. The least densely populated ward is Weston and Sandon at 0.30 persons per hectare.

The number of households in North Hertfordshire was 53,426 in 2011, with 65.6% of residents owning their own home, compared to an average of 63.4% for England. The Council currently collects council tax from almost 57,250 homes in the district.

³ Mid year population estimates data is Crown copyright.

Dwellings, Households and Families

A dwelling is a unit of accommodation in which all rooms (including the kitchen, bathroom and toilet) are behind a door that only that household can use. A dwelling may comprise one or more household spaces.

A household space is the accommodation used or available for the use by an individual household. A household is defined as one person living alone, or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address who share cooking facilities and share a sitting room or dining area. A household must contain at least one person whose place of usual residence is at the same address.

A family is defined as a group of people who are either:

- A married, same –sex civil partnership, or cohabiting couple, with or without child(ren)
- A lone parent with child(ren)
- A married, same-sex partnership, or cohabiting couple with grandchild(ren) but no children present from the intervening generation, or
- A single grandparent with grandchild(ren) but no children present from the intervening generation

Dwellings

Between 2001 and 2011 the number of dwellings in North Hertfordshire District changed from 49,870 to 54,962. In 2016 the figure was estimated as 56,430.

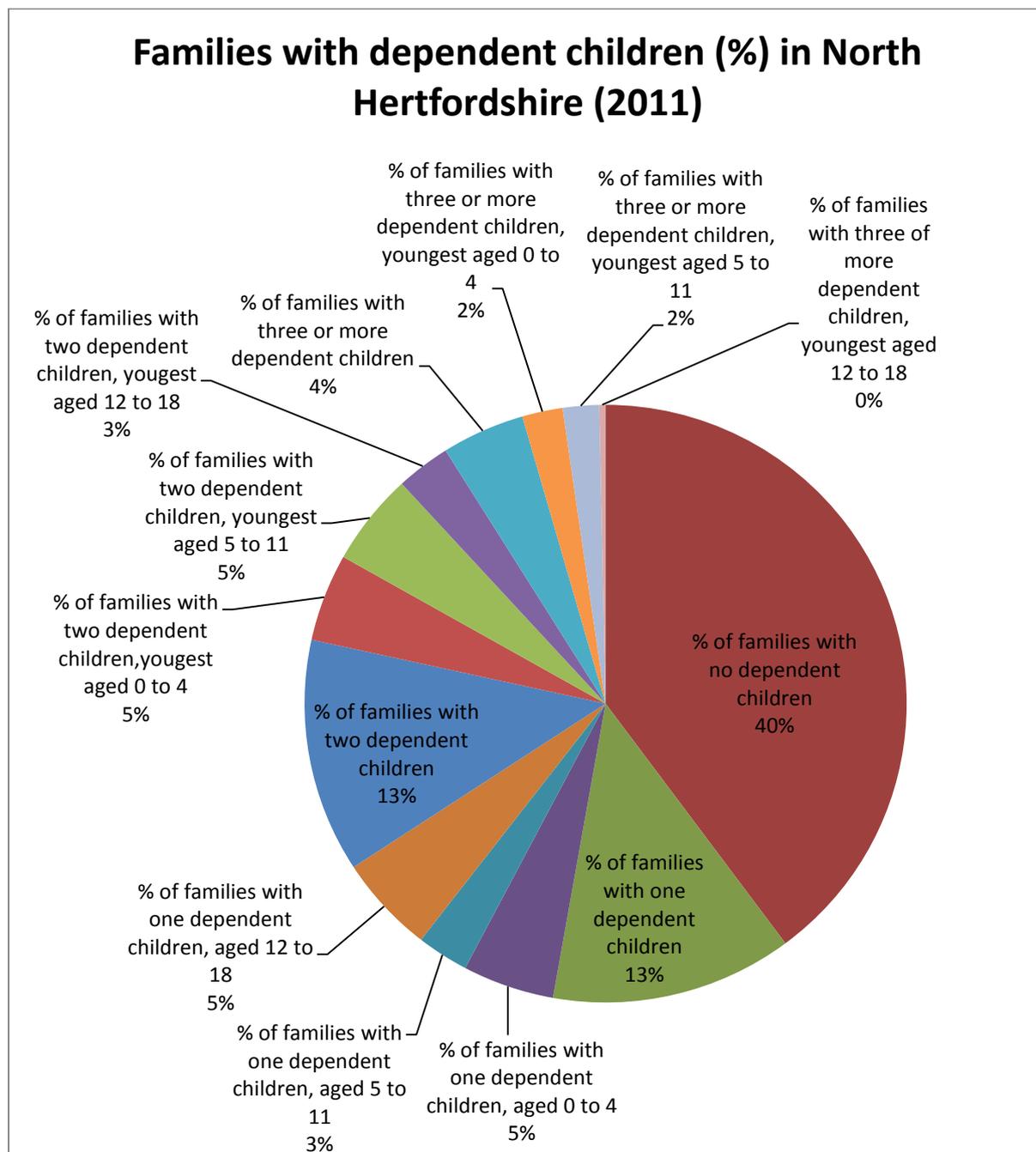
Households

Households, Household residents and Communal Establishment residents in North Hertfordshire District at 2011				
	North Hertfordshire	Hertfordshire	East of England	England
Households with at least one usual resident	53,426	453,817	2,423,035	22,063,368
Average household size	2.35	2.43	2.37	2.36
Household usual residents	125,817	1,101,351	5,748,605	52,059,931
% of household usual residents	98.98	98.68	98.32	98.20
Communal establishment usual residents	1,297	14,711	98,360	952,525
% of communal establishment usual residents	1.02	1.32	1.68	1.80

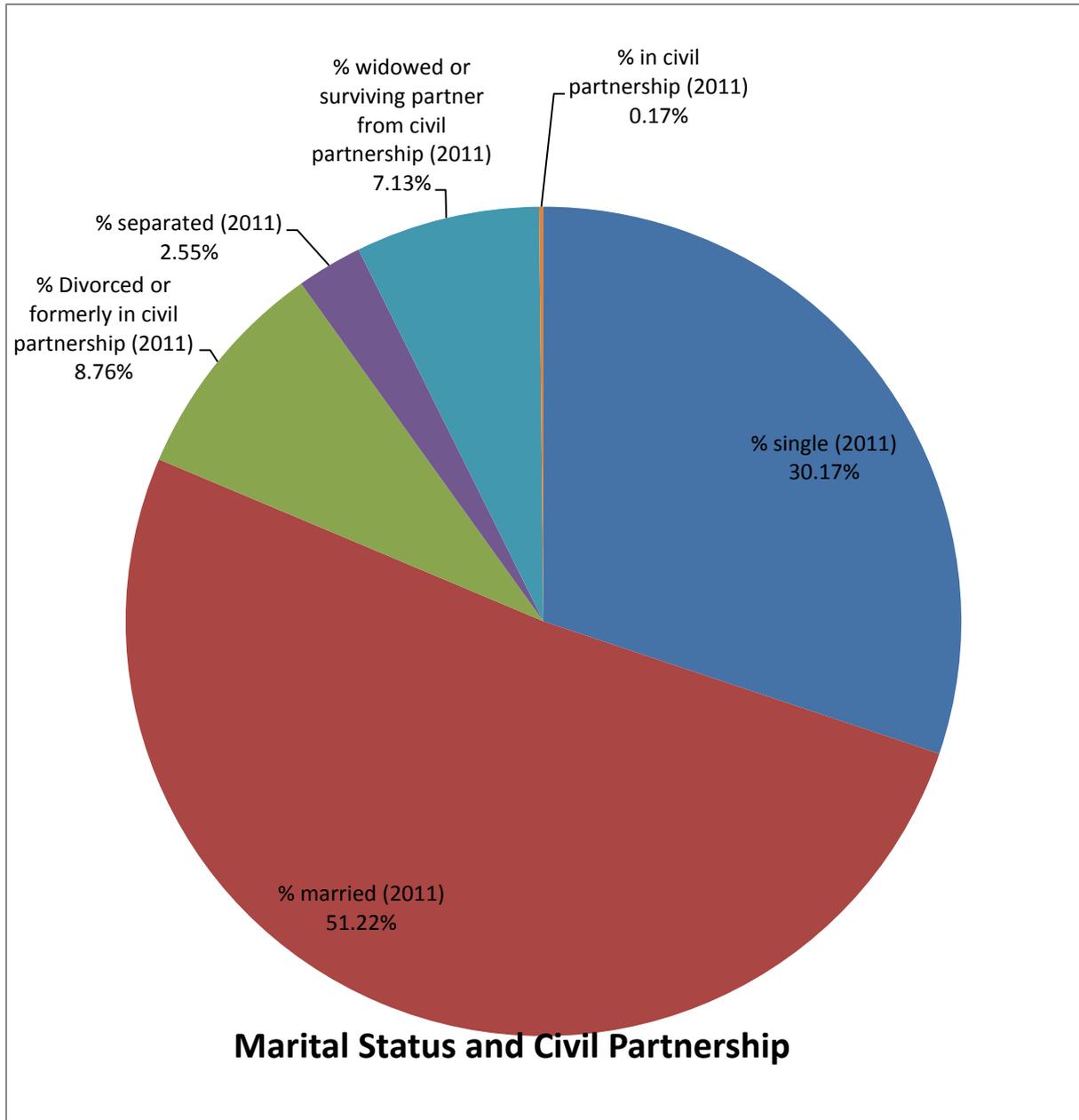
In 2011, 98.98% of residents in North Hertfordshire lived in households. In Hertfordshire this figure was 98.68% and in the East of England this figure was 98.32%. Residents who don't live in households, live in communal establishments such as hospitals, care homes, prisons, army barracks, hotels or other types of managed accommodation.

Families

Families with dependent children (%) in North Hertfordshire (2011)



Family composition

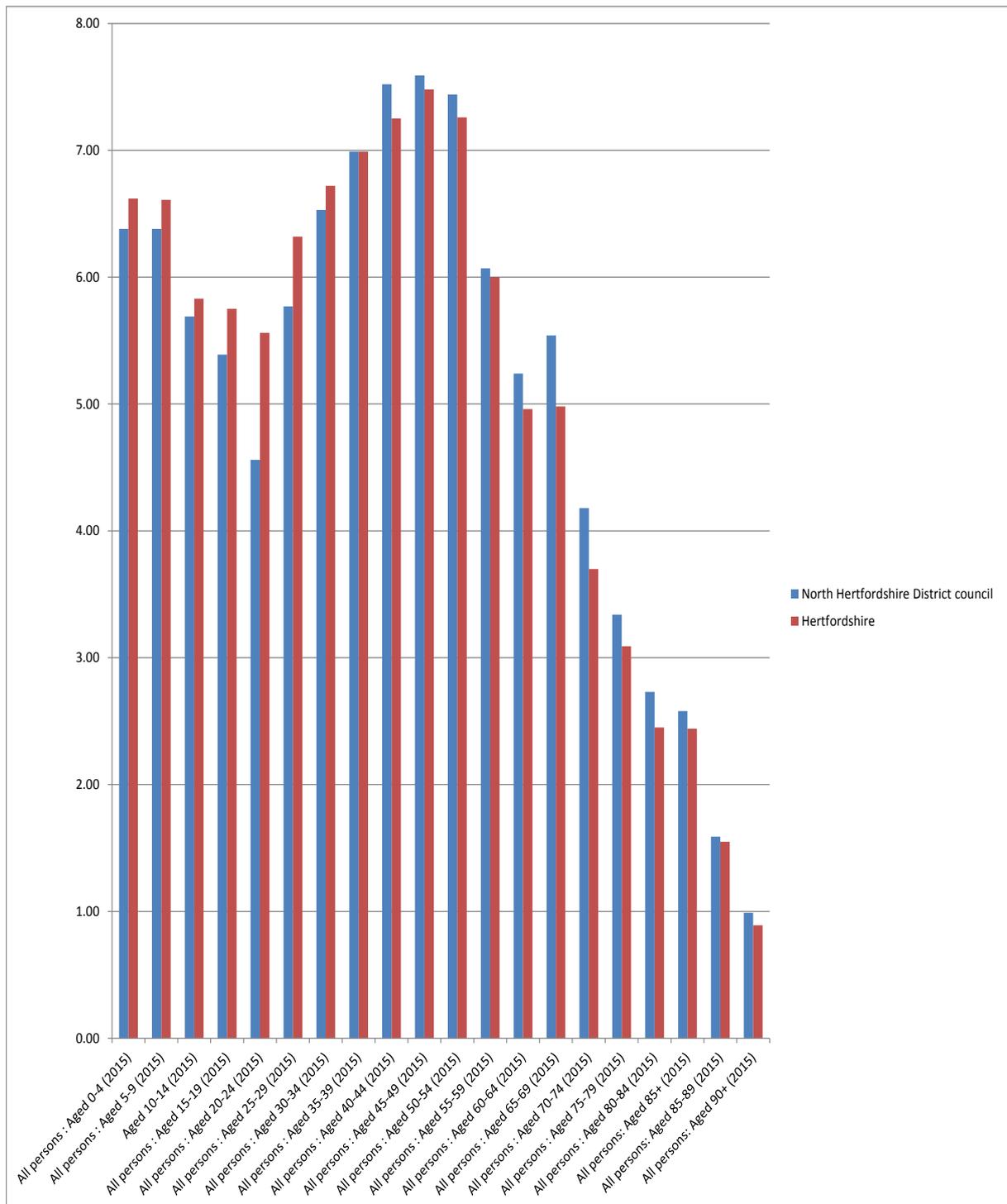


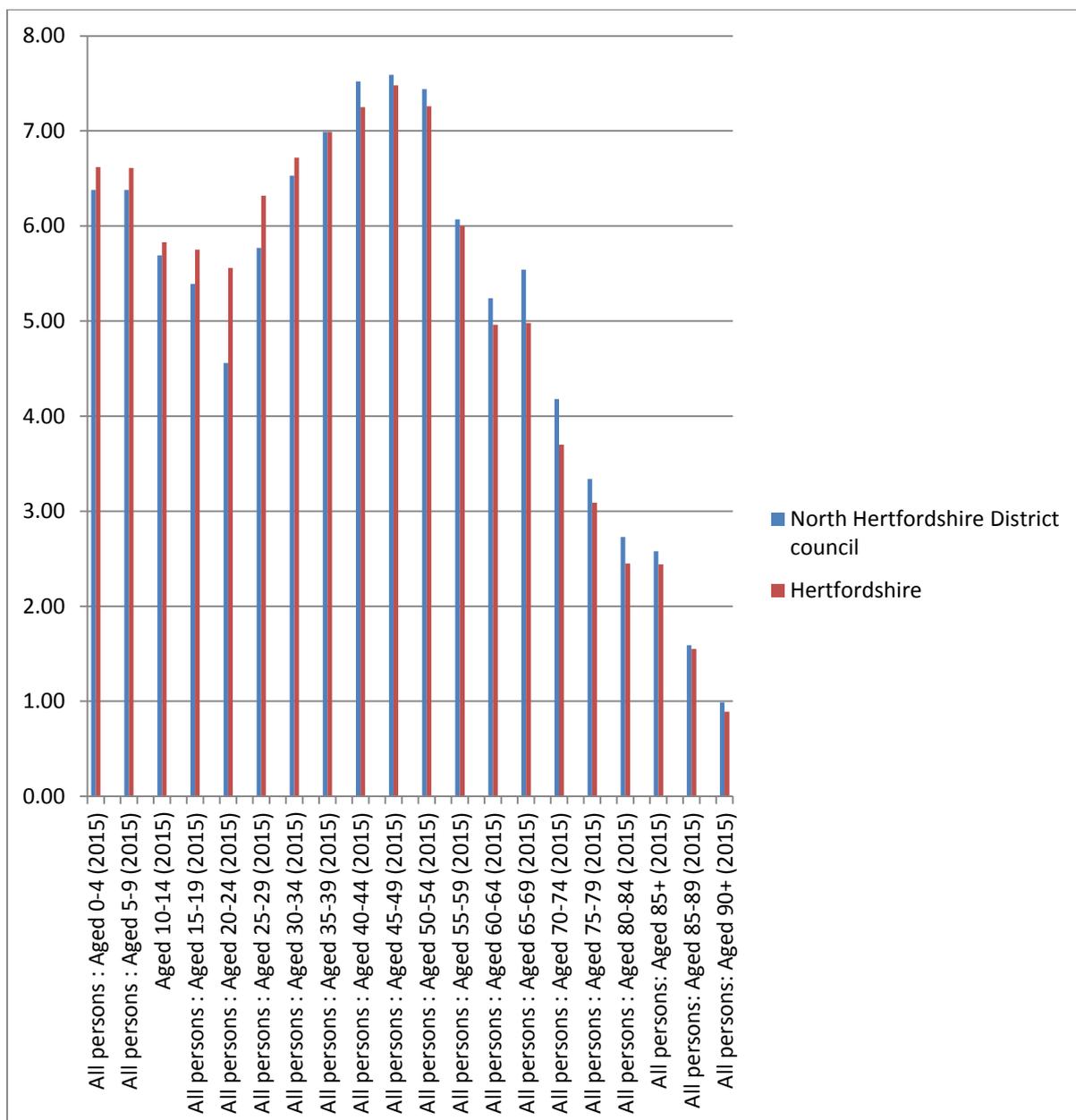
Within the district, 51.21% of the district population is married, 0.17% in civil partnerships, which compares to the national average by 46.59% and 0.23% respectively.

The average household size is 2.35 in North Hertfordshire, which is similar to the national average for England at 2.36.

Age

The mean age in North Hertfordshire is 40 years old (39 in England) based on the figures of the 2011 census available to us. However, according to the Government Office for Science, the mid-2015 estimates reports that the median age of the UK population exceeded 40 for the first time, up from 33.9 in 1974.





The predominant age band for North Hertfordshire is Age 45-49 years old, which represents 7.59 % of the local population.⁴

Due to improved standards of living and better medical intervention, the older population continues to grow across the UK with 17.8% of the UK population aged 65 and over, 2.3% of this aged 85 and over. In North Hertfordshire, latest (mid-2015) estimate states that that the percentage of 65+ is 20.95%. For those over 85 this is approximately 2.58% of the population (3,400 residents). It is estimated that 1.59% are aged 85-89 and those aged 90+ are 0.99 of the population. There are a number of economic, social and political challenges the UK faces as the dependency of older citizens on those of working age continues to increase.

⁴ Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid Year Population Estimates. Figures rounded to the nearest 100 have been used to calculate these percentages

Back in 1901, life expectancy at birth in the UK was around 45 for men and 49 for women. Today it is 78 for men and 82 for women, with around a third of children born in the UK in 2012 expected to survive to see in their 100th birthday. North Hertfordshire in particular, can expect increases of around 60% in the number of people aged 75 by 2025.

Projected Population - 2014-based Projection

The Office for National Statistics 2014-based subnational population projections were published on 25th May 2016, these are based on the mid-2014 population estimates published on 25th June 2015. The projections are a 25 year projection (2014 to 2039) and superseded the 2012-based population projections. The population projections suggest an increase of approximately 32,600 (24.89%) in population in North Hertfordshire District over the 25 year period from 2014 to 2039

Ethnicity

The main source of detailed ethnic group population data is the National Census. In the 2011 Census, the published ethnic groups were slightly different to those used in the 2001 Census, the Chinese ethnic group is now found under the Asian broad ethnic group and there is a new Arab ethnic group under Other broad ethnic group⁵. In 2011, 15.1% of the North Hertfordshire population were from an ethnic minority background (defined as non white-British), compared to 10.65% in 2001.

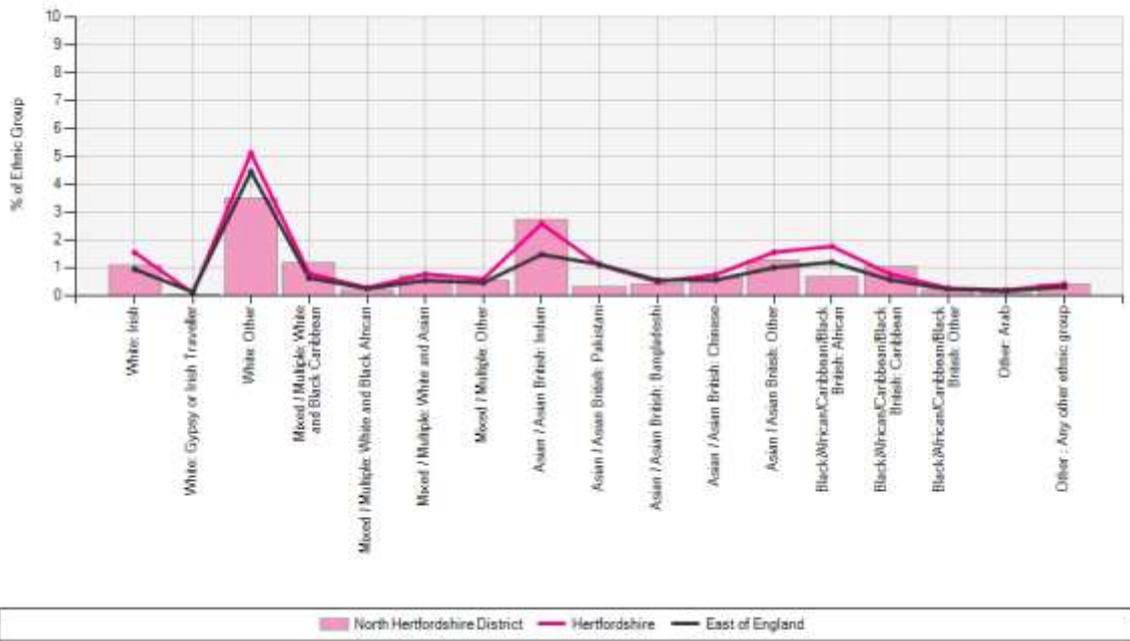
Ethnic group percentages for those living in North Hertfordshire District at 2011				
	North Hertfordshire	Hertfordshire	East of England	England
% of White: English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British (2011)	84.88	80.82	85.28	79.75
% of white: Irish	1.1	1.55	0.95	0.98
% of White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.026	0.103	0.1397	0.01036
%of White: Other	3.49	5.11	4.45	4.58
% of mixed or multiple ethnic group: White and Black Caribbean	1.17	0.8	0.64	0.78
% of mixed or multiple ethnic group: White and Black African	0.24	0.29	0.26	0.3
% of mixed or multiple ethnic group: White and Asian	0.72	0.78	0.55	0.63
% of mixed or multiple ethnic group: Other	0.53	0.6	0.47	0.53
% of Asian or Asian British: Indian	2.73	2.58	1.48	2.63
% of Asian or Asian British: Pakistani	0.33	1.1	1.13	2.1
% of Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi	0.39	0.5	0.56	0.82
% of Asian or Asian British: Chinese	0.64	0.76	0.57	0.72
% of Asian or Asian British: Other	1.28	1.56	1.01	1.55
% of Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: African	0.68	1.77	1.2	1.84

⁵ Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census, Table KS201EW.

*The White British ethnic category includes those who classify themselves as "White: English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British"

% of Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Caribbean	1.06	0.78	0.57	1.11
% of Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Other	0.23	0.27	0.24	0.52
% of Other ethnic group: Arab	0.11	0.21	0.18	0.42
% of Other ethnic group - Any other Ethnic group	0.41	0.42	0.32	0.62
% of Any other than White British	15.12	19.18	14.72	20.25
% of Any other than White	10.5	12.4	9.2	14.6

Ethnicity (other than White British)* of those living in North Hertfordshire District at 2011 (%)



Proficiency in spoken English

The main source of detailed data on languages spoken is the national census, the 2011 Census was the first in which people were asked about their main spoken language and the proficiency in speaking English. In 2011, 95.88% of residents in North Hertfordshire District used English as their main language, in Hertfordshire this figure was 93.94% and in East of England this figure was 94.47%.

Proficiency in spoken English(percentage) in North Hertfordshire District at 2011				
	North Hertfordshire	Hertfordshire	East of England	England
Main language - English	95.88	93.94	94.47	92.02
Main language - not English, can speak English very well	1.99	2.90	2.31	3.31
Main language - not English, can speak English well	1.42	2.23	2.10	3.01
Main language - not English, cannot speak English well	0.60	0.80	0.95	1.39
Main language - not English, cannot speak English	0.11	0.13	0.17	0.26

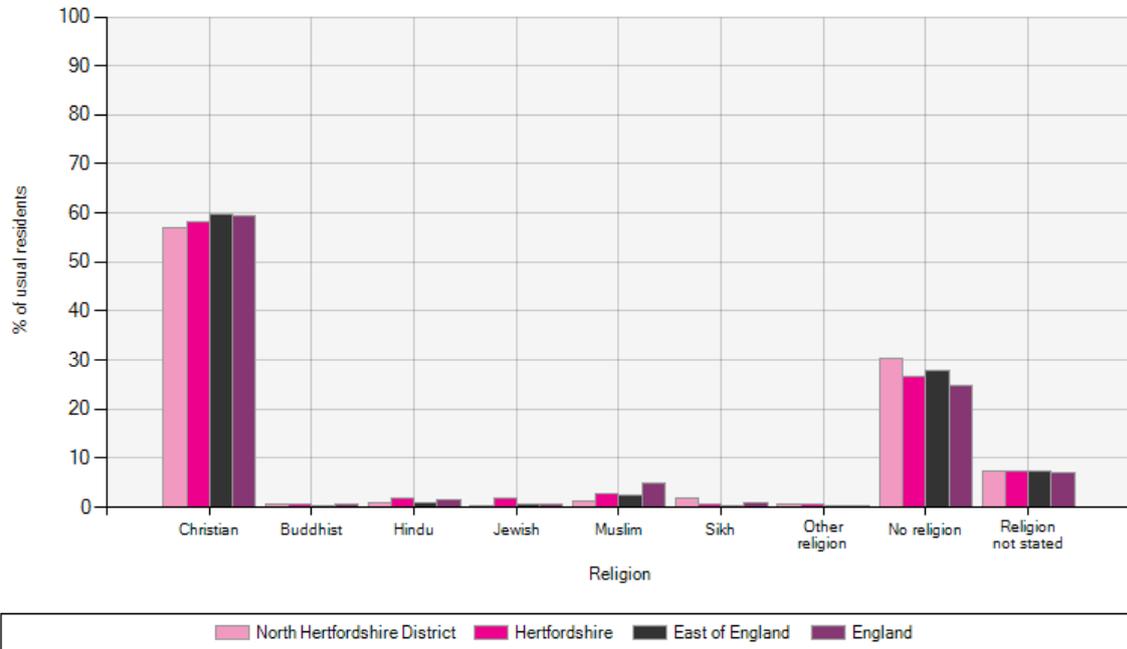
In 2011, 95.88% of usual residents in North Hertfordshire District had English as their main language. 0.60% of residents did not have English as a main language and could not speak English well. 0.11% of residents could not speak English at all.

Hitchin Bearton ward has the highest number and the highest percentage per ward of ethnic minorities in North Hertfordshire, also with the largest number of households that speak little to no English..

In 1970, the first Gurdwara Sikh temple in the Anglia region was purchased and renovated on Bearton Avenue, in Hitchin Bearton. It was formed to serve the communities of Hitchin, Letchworth, Stevenage, Luton and surrounding areas. Before this time, anyone wishing to visit a Gurdwara would have to go to London, the Midlands or congregate in hired halls. This could possibly provide an explanation as to why Hitchin Bearton has been more popular within ethnic minority communities, also considering that Sikhism is the prominent belief, after Christianity and no religion.

Religion

Stated Religion for those living in North Hertfordshire District at 2011 (%)

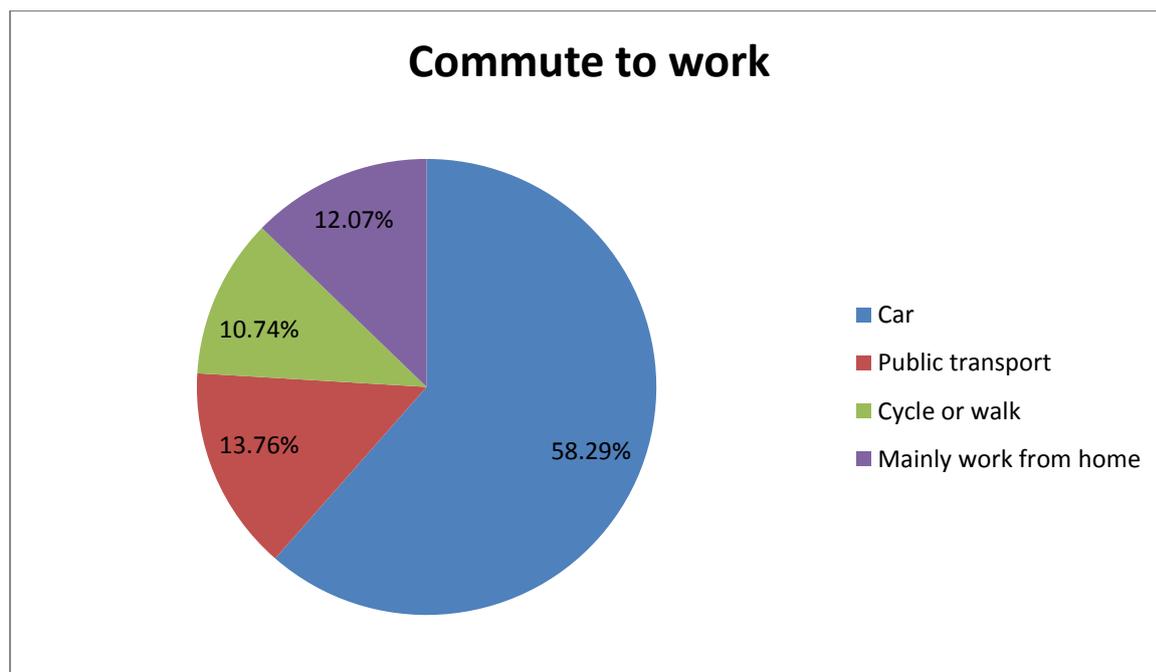


Over 56% of residents identified themselves as Christian. 30% expressed themselves as having no religion and over 7% did not state a religious stance.

Transportation

Travel to work –

The chart below shows the percentage of North Hertfordshire residents aged 16 – 74 in employment, who, for the longest part of their commute to work, take the following mode of transportation:



83.4% of households in North Hertfordshire have at least one car or van, compared to 74.2% in England.

The District is strategically positioned with good rail and road connections. It is less than 40 miles from central London. The railway stations within North Hertfordshire provide direct services north to Peterborough, north-east to Cambridge and King's Lynn, and south to London King's Cross and St Pancras International) and Hertford. There are also services to Stevenage that offers access to the North East and Scotland. However no rail links from the District to the west exist, meaning towns like Luton and Milton Keynes are less accessible via public transport. The main roads around North Hertfordshire are the A1(M) that runs through the centre of North Hertfordshire and can be used to travel North, or South towards London and the M25 motorway; the M1, which is just outside of the west side of the North Hertfordshire borders, accessible via the A505 and village routes; and the A10, which runs through Royston and can be used to travel to Cambridge, King's Lynn, as well as South and to London.

Hertfordshire is well connected, but traffic flows are 35% higher than the national average.

Train stations can be found in the following towns / villages within North Hertfordshire:

- Royston
- Ashwell and Morden
- Baldock
- Letchworth Garden City
- Hitchin
- Knebworth

North Hertfordshire is well served by many local bus routes which generally tend to run at least hourly between 0800 and 1800, Monday to Friday, with remote areas running less frequently.

There are seven taxi ranks also operational within the district. These are located in Baldock, Hitchin, Letchworth and Royston and are operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Deprivation

According to the North Hertfordshire Health Profile 2015, Hertfordshire as a whole ranks among the 10% least deprived counties in England, however, Hertfordshire still contains pockets of deprivation, and some of these pockets of deprivation found within North Hertfordshire are amongst the 10% most deprived areas in the country.

North Hertfordshire's most deprived Middle Super Output Areas (MSOA)⁶ are Letchworth Wilbury and Letchworth Grange and its most deprived Lower Super Output Area (LSOA⁷) is Hitchin Oughton.

Letchworth Wilbury was rated the 13th most deprived MSOA in the whole of Hertfordshire (Feb 2014), when considering the Indices of multiple deprivation 2010 score and the proportion of children living in low income families. Common problems in Letchworth Wilbury include;

- Childhood obesity
- Unemployment
- Economic inactivity
- Working age benefit claimants
- Child poverty
- Household income
- Transport availability
- Domestic violence

Those that live in the areas of the most multiple deprivation will generally experience the greatest health inequalities.

⁶ Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs) on average have a population of 7,200

⁷ Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are a sub-ward geography averaging approximately 1,600 people.

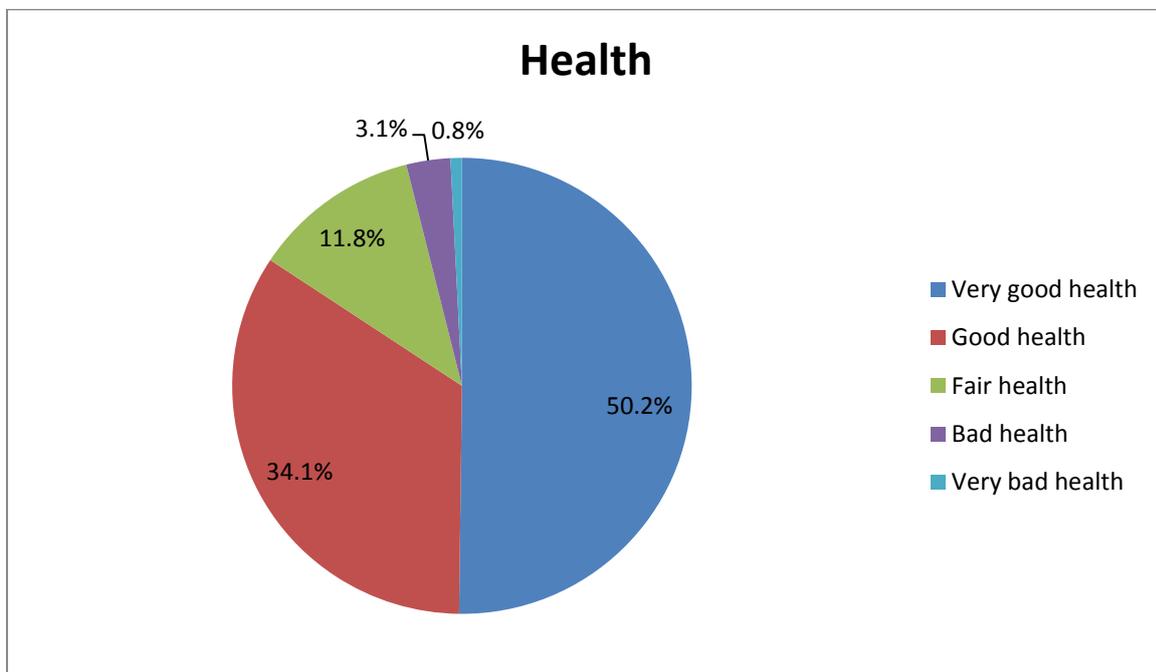
Letchworth Wilbury also scores the highest in North Hertfordshire for Income Deprivation, with 4 other wards also scoring above the national average for deprivation;

- Hitchin Oughton
- Letchworth Grange
- Letchworth East
- Letchworth South East

The ward with the lowest Income Deprivation score in North Hertfordshire is Hitchin Priory.

Health

Based on census 2011 data for North Hertfordshire, when asked what residents thought about their own personal health, the following was the response:



The source of the general health and long-term health problem or disability data is the national census, but this is only carried out once every ten years and only provides a snapshot of the situation at that time. Census data in this document is from 2011. General health is a self-assessment of a person's health over the 12 months before the Census. Limiting long-term illness is a self assessment of whether or not a person has a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities and has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months. This includes problems that are related to old age. In the 2011 census, 0.81% of people in North Hertfordshire District reported having very bad health. This amounted to 1,030 people. In comparison, 0.85% in Hertfordshire reported that their health was very bad.

In 2011, 19,182 people also stated that they had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities to some extent. That was 15.1% of the resident population. In comparison, 14.3% in Hertfordshire reported that their activities were limited to some extent.

The number of those on Incapacity benefits in North Hertfordshire is 4%, which is also below the national average of 7%.

Obesity

Obesity continues to be a problem, both nationally and locally;

There is a prevalence of overweight (including obesity) of North Hertfordshire children in reception of 19.1% . This compares against the England prevalence of 22.1% There is a 29.4% prevalence of overweight (including obese children in at year 6 (10 – 11 years old)⁸, which is lower than the average for England of 34.2⁹.

Letchworth Wilbury has the highest proportion of reception aged children measured as obese at 12.1% (national average rate being 9.4%) and Royston Palace has the highest at year 6 at 16.7% (national average 19.1%)

22.3% of all adults are classed as obese in North Hertfordshire, compared to the average for England being 24.1%. Letchworth Grange ward has the highest adult obesity rate at 27.2% and Codicote, Kimpton and Knebworth with the lowest at 19.1%.¹⁰

Binge drinking

Binge drinking adults can cause significant harm to their own health, their children's health and the health of the nation, as they play a significant role in many accidents, acts of violence and other criminal behaviour. North Hertfordshire is reported at 18.6% for prevalence of binge drinking adults, compared to a national average of 20%. Codicote, Kimpton and Knebworth rank the highest at 22.9%.

Education

The percentage of the local population aged 16 years old or older with 5 or more GCSEs, A – C or equivalent is 15.4%.

18% of the population has no formal qualifications, with the Letchworth Grange ward having the highest percentage of residents without any qualifications at 26.80%.

34.4% of the population are qualified to at least level 4 (Degree level), compared to 32.10% in Hertfordshire as a whole and 27.4% in England.

Young people

The Chesfield ward has the highest number of 0 - 17 year olds, representing 6.86% of all North Hertfordshire's children.

⁸ Public Health England - North Hertfordshire Health Profile 2016

⁹ Reference: Public Health England. 2016. Health Profiles (Online).

¹⁰ LG Inform report – Health and Wellbeing within North Hertfordshire. The report defines obesity as: "Individuals are regarded as obese if they have a body mass index of 30 or more. Obesity decreases life expectancy by up to 9 years."

69.9% of all 5 year olds within North Hertfordshire had a good level of development in 2011, compared to 63.5% for England. Royston Heath had the highest at 79.6% and Letchworth Wilbury had the lowest at 34.8%.

Education

The percentage of pupils receiving grades A* - C for 5 or more GCSEs and equivalent in 2011, including Maths and English was 64.8% for North Hertfordshire, compared to 66.9% for Hertfordshire and 58.8% for England.

The ward with the highest average at 80.3% is Hitchin Highbury and the lowest average at 49.1% is Royston Palace. Letchworth Wilbury, Letchworth East and Letchworth Grange are wards also performing below the national average.

The percentage of pupils educated in maintained special schools for North Hertfordshire was 0.7%, compared to an average of 1.1% for Hertfordshire and 1.2% for England.

The national trend from 2005 to 2012 has been a reduction in the amount of statements and an increase in the amount of pupils with special educational needs without statements. A new system of Education, health and care plans(EHC) are for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available though special education needs support. EHC plans identify the educational, health and social needs and sets out the additional support to meet those needs. This data is collected at County level only.

North Hertfordshire has the highest number of NEETS in Hertfordshire (Young people not in education, employment or training), with 43% of all NEETS living in Letchworth. This was seen to be due to young people dropping out of college. Although we don't have the direct data to explain why 43% of all NEETS live in Letchworth, a possible explanation could be due to child poverty present in Letchworth and the huge difference in good level of development figures between the average within North Hertfordshire, 69.9% and Letchworth Wilbury at 34.8%.

Children in Poverty

About 12.4% (3,000) of all children in North Hertfordshire live in poverty. The definition of child poverty by this measure is children aged 0 – 15 years old, living in out-of-work benefit dependent households, including child tax credit, where their reported income (excluding housing benefit) is below 60% of the national average.

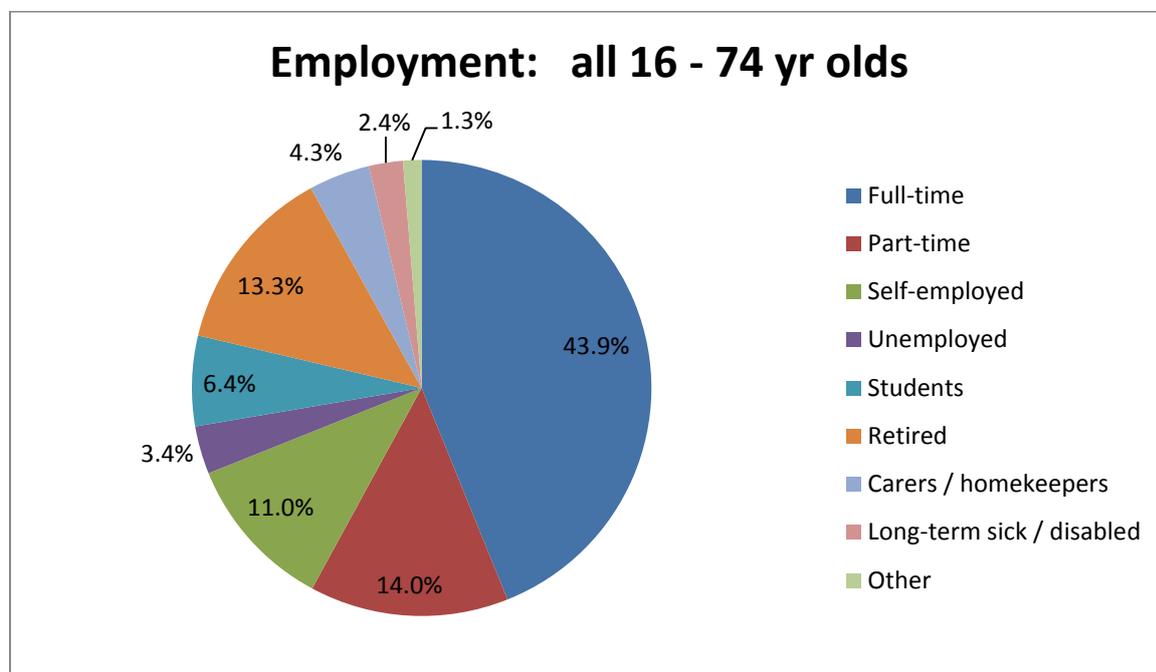
According to the 'Joint needs assessment – child poverty and deprivation in Hertfordshire Feb 2014', "certainly fewer people are unemployed in Hertfordshire as a whole, fewer children are eligible for free school meals, fewer children are obese and fewer children are living in low income families, however, within the county, areas of higher prevalence persist and a wide gap exists between the most and least deprived, a gap which may be wider in Hertfordshire than seen elsewhere in the country."

Some of the challenges that Hertfordshire face include:

- A wide attainment gap between those eligible for free school meals and those that are not.
- Child poverty appears to be decreasing more rapidly nationally than within Hertfordshire.
- In North Hertfordshire, Letchworth is the town most deprived, with 4 MSOAs in Hertfordshire's top 40 experiencing the poorest outcomes in social determinants of children and young people's health.

The working population

Employment



43.9% of all usual residents (aged 16 – 74 years old) in North Hertfordshire work full-time, compared to 38.6% in England; 14% work part-time, compared to 13.7% in England and 11% are self-employed, 9.8% in England.

The definition of part-time is 1 – 30 hours per week, and 31 – 48 hours for full-time hours.

The percentage of the working population within North Hertfordshire that are unemployed is 3.4%, compared to 4.4% for England. The highest rate of unemployment can be found in the Hitchin Oughton ward at 6.46%.

The percentage of all people of working age claiming a key benefit is 10%, compared to 15% for England.

The rate of the long-term unemployed claiming Jobseeker's Allowance within North Hertfordshire is 5.6 per 1000 of working age population, compared to 10.1 per 1000 across England, with only Letchworth East and Letchworth Grange wards above the country average.

31% of the 16 – 74 year old population within North Hertfordshire are in Higher managerial, Administrative and / or Professional occupations, compared to 20.8% across England. 25.1% in Lower managerial, Administrative and / or Professional occupations compared to 20.9% in England.

3.1% of the population have either never worked or are long-term unemployed, compared to the country average of 5.6%. Hitchin Oughton ward has the highest percentage of residents in North Hertfordshire who are long-term unemployed or who have never worked.

Letchworth in particular has an issue with employment deprivation with 12 of its LSOAs in the bottom 20% for Hertfordshire, an LSOA on the Jackmans estate, ranked 5th in the county of Hertfordshire and one on the Grange estate ranked 6th.

Our ageing population

Hitchin Highbury has the highest number of people aged 65 and over, representing 7.34% of the total for North Hertfordshire.

As stated earlier, North Hertfordshire can expect increases of around 60% in the number of people aged 75 years old by 2025.

As life expectancy continues to grow and fertility rates fall, an ageing population is a long-term trend and will naturally result in an increase in chronic illness, disability, cognitive impairments, long-term frailty and social isolation - which in itself, leads to a number of other health issues. This will increase the pressure on existing services, requiring new levels of service provision and solutions.

It is predicted that those affected by dementia will rise by 15% - 25% over the coming decade and more people will need support in their homes.

Migration

According to the mid-2015 figures, North Hertfordshire had a net internal migration change between mid-2014 and mid-2015 of 300 and a net international migration change of net 100. The change in international migration was the lowest change in Hertfordshire, with a volume of immigration of 6 per 1000 population.

10. Transgender community

Although there has been work on estimating the number of transgender people within the UK population there is no publicly available statistical data on which to make reliable estimates. Research undertaken by the Office for National Statistics to assess the feasibility of gathering transgender data concluded that asking a question in a survey is not the most appropriate method of data collection due to difficulties such as sample sizes, privacy and acceptability of terminology.

In 2000 Press for Change estimated there were around 5,000 transsexual people in the UK, based upon numbers of those who had changed their passports (Home Office 2000), though a Scottish Needs Assessment Survey in 2001 would indicate half that number (Scottish Needs Assessment Programme 2001).

In 2009-10, 290 people in the UK had been awarded a Gender Recognition Certificate (GRC).¹¹

However, there is no reliable information on how many people in the UK identify as transgender.

Some estimates suggest gender reassignment rate to be 20 per 100,000 people in the UK. This would suggest there are around 10,000, of which 6,000 would have gone through transition. Year on year the number of people presenting increases by 15%, if this trend continues it means the number of trans gendered people could double every five years. The median age of those presenting for treatment is 42 years old. These estimates do not take into account those who transition through private medical care - this is based solely on NHS statistics.

If the rate of 20 per 100,000 people estimated for the UK is applied to Hertfordshire for those aged 15 or over, it would mean there were around 183 transgender people in the County.

¹¹ (see http://data.gov.uk/dataset/gender_recognition_certificate_statistics)