

Diversity and migration

Prepared by Leicester City Council, December 2012

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Introduction

Reliable information about the city's usually resident and household populations is important as it helps public authorities, businesses and community organisations identify community needs and plan future service provision.

As well as local intelligence, this report includes statistics from Census 2011, which is the most extensive survey of the UK population ever undertaken. It includes information about national and regional averages for comparative purposes. Where the measures used are comparable, significant changes since the previous census in 2001 are also highlighted.

Summary

This report provides some insight into the increasing **diversity** of the city's people and communities and the varied reasons for and outcomes of **migration**:

- Between 2001 and 2011, the census estimates that the city's usual resident population increased by over 45,000;
- Leicester is now the most populous urban centre in the East Midlands;
- Leicester residents hail from over 50 countries from across the globe, making the city one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse places in the UK;
- Of the 34 per cent (111,000) of residents in Leicester who were born outside of the UK, just under half (53,000) arrived between 2001 and 2011;
- This relates to higher rates of migration seen over the last decade due in part to the accession of 10 countries into the EU in 2004;
- Other reasons include the arrival of third country nationals who have come to the UK either as students or as the result of government recruitment to address labour shortages;
- As a designated National Asylum Seeker Service dispersal city, Leicester is also home to about 450 asylum seekers;
- Legal status, migration channel and country of origin all influence, to some extent, the capability of migrants to lead healthy and productive lives in Leicester.

Leicester in 2011

Census 2011 estimates that Leicester is home to almost 330,000 people, making it the most populous urban centre in the East Midlands. There are 123,125 households in the city, and the average household size is 2.6 people (the largest in the region).

At the time of the 2011 Census:

- 66 per cent of the city's usual resident population were born in the UK
- 28 per cent were born outside of the EU
- 3 per cent were born in countries that became part of the EU between 2001 and 2011

In all, Leicester residents hail from over 50 countries from across the globe, making the city one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse places in the UK:

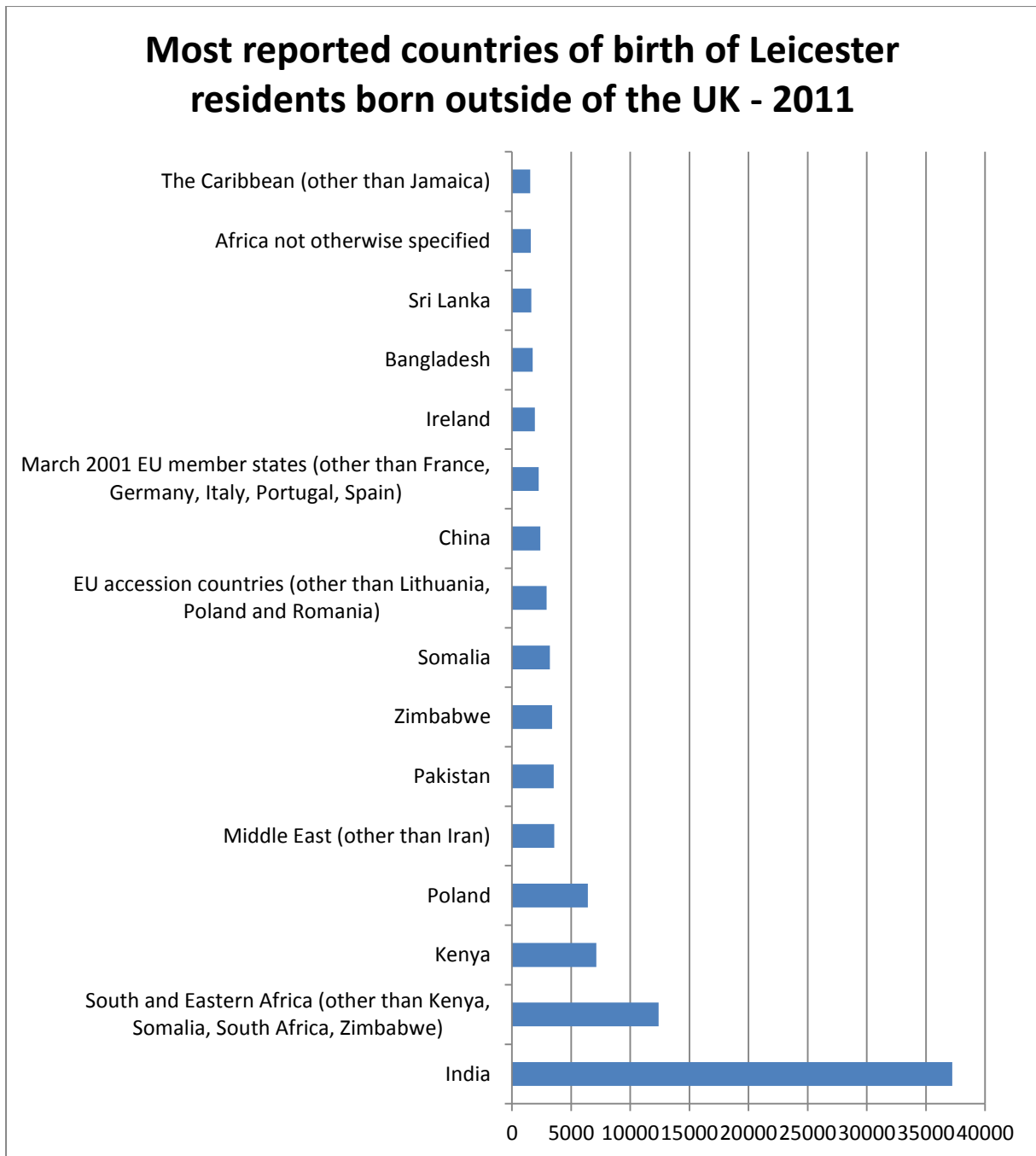
- 51 per cent White
- 37 per cent Asian/Asian British (of whom 28 per cent are of Indian heritage¹)
- 6 per cent Black/African/Caribbean/Black British
- 4 per cent Mixed/multiple ethnic groups
- 3 per cent Other ethnic groups

This diversity is further reflected in the variety of religious and secular traditions and identities in the city:

- 32 per cent Christian
- 23 per cent No religion
- 19 per cent Muslim
- 15 per cent Hindu
- 4 per cent Sikh
- 1 per cent Other religions, including Buddhist and Jewish
- 6 per cent Religion not stated

In 2011, the most frequently reported country of birth of non-UK born Leicester residents was India (11 per cent, 37,224). Four per cent (12,392) were born in South and Eastern Africa (primarily Uganda) and 2 per cent (just over 7,000) in Kenya. In addition, almost 6,500 Leicester residents were born in Poland, more than 3,500 in the Middle East, 3,534 in Pakistan, 3,377 in Zimbabwe and 3,209 in Somalia.

¹ Leicester has the highest proportion of people of Indian heritage of any place in England and Wales. In comparison, it is ranked 37th in terms of its proportion of people of Bangladeshi heritage and 52nd in terms of its proportion of people of Pakistani heritage.



The majority of city households (58 per cent, 70,813) are made up of people of the same ethnic group. A further twelve per cent (15,361) contain members of different ethnic groups. This includes, for example, households where partners or members of different generations are of different ethnic groups. This is higher than the average for England and Wales, although not the highest in the region. The remaining 30 per cent (36,951) are one person households².

² Eleven per cent (36,951) of usual city residents live in single person households

The migration that has led to this diversity occurred for a variety of reasons, including economic, family and the fleeing of persecution.

The arrival of the Ugandan Asians in the early 1970s (mostly Gujarati of Indian origin) was a significant migration event in Leicester's recent history. Subsequent events of note include the secondary migration of Somalis to the UK since 2000, and the migration seen over the last decade due in part to the accession of 10 countries, including Poland, Slovakia, Latvia and Lithuania, into the EU in 2004.

Over this same period, there has also been inward migration of third country nationals, mainly from Africa, who have come to the UK either as students or as the result of government recruitment of professionals, such as nurses, to address labour shortages. Many of these people are originally from Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Ghana, with other people from the Philippines and southern India.

As a designated National Asylum Seeker Service dispersal city, Leicester is also home to about 450 asylum seekers. The asylum seekers and refugees who began to arrive in the 1990s were a diverse group from places such as the Balkans, Kurdish areas of Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan. More recently there have been asylum seekers from sub-Saharan Africa, predominantly from Zimbabwe, with others arriving from Afghanistan, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Eritrea.

The 2011 Census was the first to ask for information on the age of foreign born usual residents. Sixty eight per cent (75,000) of foreign born residents were between the ages of 15 and 44 when they arrived, and 26 per cent (28,000) arrived when they were 14 or younger. This pattern is mirrored at national level.

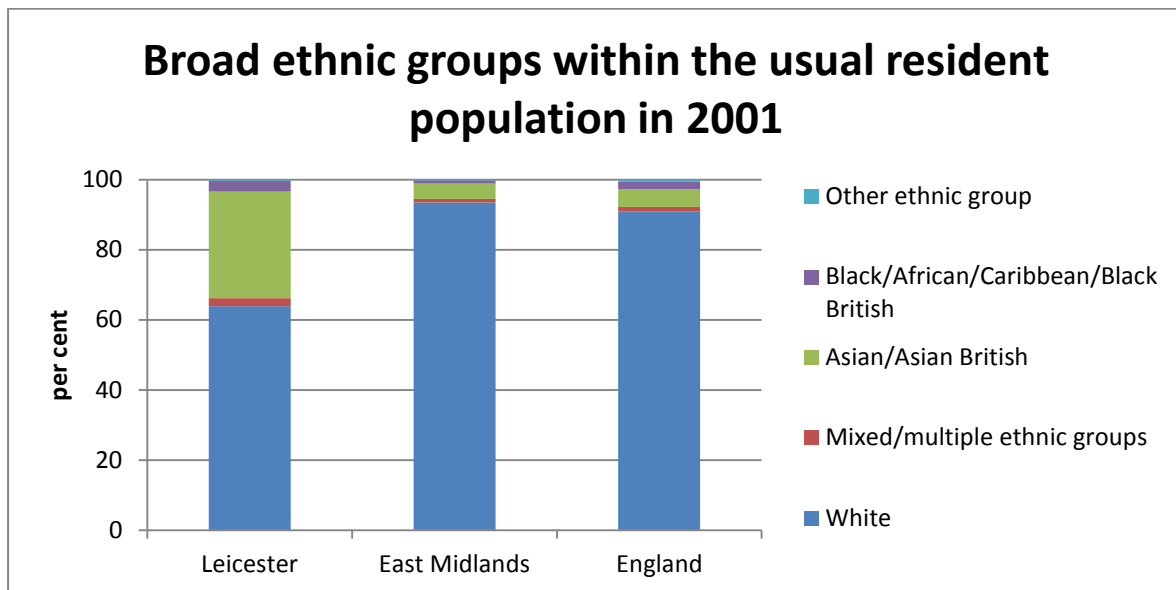
The differing reasons for migration means that there may be widely differing legal statuses *within* groups of the same national or ethnic origin. For example, among Somalis in the UK are found British citizens, refugees, asylum-seekers, persons granted exceptional leave to remain, undocumented migrants, and people granted refugee status in another European country but who subsequently moved to Britain. Local intelligence indicates that people of Somali origin in Leicester are mainly EU nationals who received asylum in countries such as the Netherlands, Denmark and Sweden.

Legal status, migration channel and country of origin all influence, to some extent, the capability of migrants to lead healthy and productive lives in Leicester.

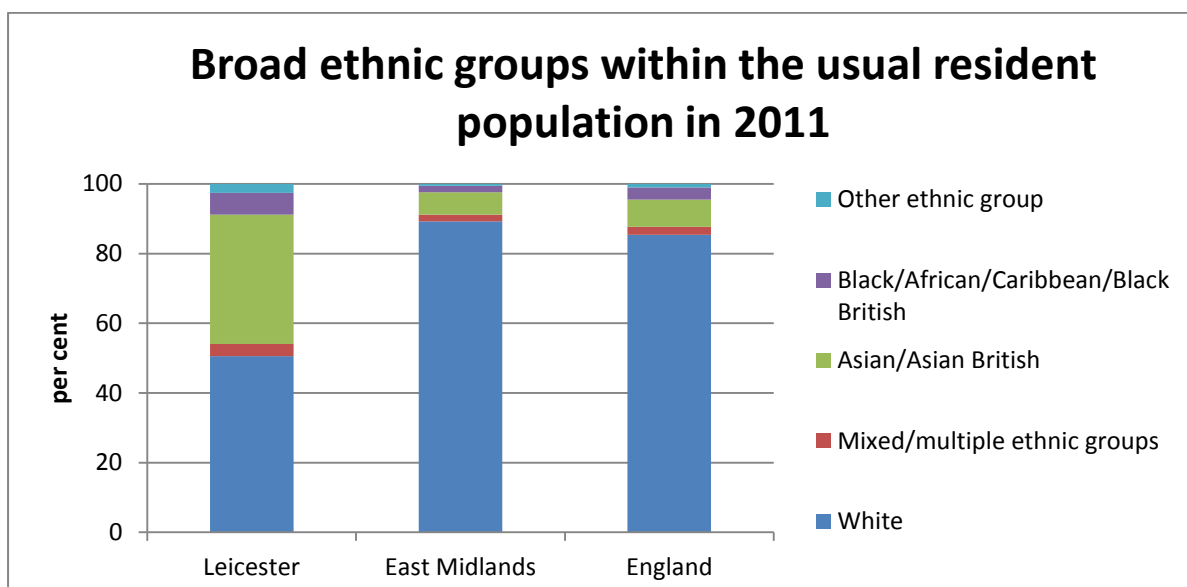
Changes since 2001

Between 2001 and 2011, the census estimates that the city’s usual resident population increased by over 45,000. This represents a much faster rate of growth (17%) than most other UK cities, including Nottingham and Derby. Since 2001, the number of city households has increased by just over 12,000 and the average household size has increased from 2.5 to 2.6 people.

In 2001, 77 per cent (215,361) of Leicester’s usual resident population was born in the UK.



The white population of the city has since reduced by around 12,000, with factors such as birth rates, mortality rates and a trend of migration to the county having an impact. The black population has increased from around 3 per cent (8,595) in 2001 to just over 6 per cent (20,585) in 2011, with the Asian population now representing around 37 per cent (122,470) of city residents, up from 30 per cent (85,177) in 2001.



The order of the main religious groups *by size* changed between 2001 and 2011.

Those affiliated with the Christian religion remain the largest group; 32 per cent of usual residents. This is a decrease of 13 percentage points since 2001 when 45 per cent of usual residents stated their religion as Christian. It is the only group, other than Jewish, to have experienced a decrease in numbers between 2001 and 2011 despite population growth. This pattern is mirrored at both regional and national level.

The second largest response category in 2011 remains no religion. This increased 6 percentage points from 17 per cent of usual residents in 2001, to 23 per cent in 2011.

Those affiliated with the Muslim religion are now the third largest group (19 per cent); an increase of 8 percentage points since 2001.

The fourth largest response category in 2011 was Hindu³; 15 per cent of usual residents. This is the same percentage as in 2001.

Religion - 2001

	Leicester		East Midlands		England	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Christian	125,187	44.72	3,003,475	71.99	35,251,244	71.74
Buddhist	638	0.23	7,541	0.18	139,046	0.28
Hindu	41,248	14.74	66,710	1.60	546,982	1.11
Jewish	417	0.15	4,075	0.10	257,671	0.52
Muslim	30,885	11.03	70,224	1.68	1,524,887	3.10
Sikh	11,796	4.21	33,551	0.80	327,343	0.67
Other religion	1,179	0.42	9,863	0.24	143,811	0.29
No religion	48,789	17.43	664,845	15.94	7,171,332	14.59
Religion not stated	19,782	7.07	311,890	7.48	3,776,515	7.69
All people	279,921		4,172,174		49,138,831	

Religion - 2011

	Leicester		East Midlands		England	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Christian	106,872	32.40	2,666,172	58.80	31,479,876	59.40
Buddhist	1,224	0.40	12,672	0.30	238,626	0.50
Hindu	50,087	15.20	89,723	2.00	806,199	1.50
Jewish	295	0.10	4,254	0.10	261,282	0.50
Muslim	61,440	18.60	140,649	3.10	2,660,116	5.00
Sikh	14,457	4.40	44,335	1.00	420,196	0.80
Other religion	1,839	0.60	17,918	0.40	227,825	0.40
No religion	75,280	22.80	1,248,056	27.50	13,114,232	24.70
Religion not stated	18,345	5.60	309,443	6.80	3,804,104	7.20
All people	329,839		4,533,222		4,533,222	

³ Leicester has the third highest proportion of people of Hindu faith of any place in England and Wales

Of the 34 per cent (111,000) of residents in Leicester who were born outside of the UK, just under half (53,000) arrived between 2001 and 2011. This relates to higher rates of migration seen over the last decade due in part to the accession of 10 countries into the EU in 2004. Between 2004 and 2006, 15 per cent (16,000) of non-UK born usual residents arrived in the UK; and 14 per cent (15,000) arrived between 2007 and 2009. This compares with 16 per cent (17,000) in the decade 1991 to 2000. Foreign born usual residents who arrived prior to 2001 will have decreased as a proportion of the total, due to mortality, onward migration or return to country of origin.

Further research

Census 2011 statistics, including those which are due for release in 2013, are enabling the council and partners to understand more about the wellbeing and resilience of Leicester's diverse communities and the kinds of mutual support and activity that might prevent future needs arising and help build people's capabilities to be productive and healthy citizens.

This report, and the others in this series, give some insight into how Leicester's communities are changing and how well they are coping in the face of the economic downturn. Further work is needed to develop these insights and identify ways in which Leicester's residents and households might best be enabled to get on and prosper.

The city council is working with partners to explore these issues further. A further set of reports about socio-economic inequalities and what works to reduce them will draw together the results of this work. These are planned for release in 2013.