
RECENT CHANGES IN CUMBRIA'S POPULATION: 1991-2001

Introduction

This briefing examines changes in Cumbria's Population from 1991 to 2001. The information contained within it is taken from the Registrar General's Mid Year Estimates of Population (MYE). These are based upon census data, with adjustments made for changes in births, deaths and migration. It should be noted that the 1991 MYE data are based on the 1991 census, whereas the 2001 MYE are based upon the 2001 census.

Population change in Cumbria 1991 – 2001

Table 1 (below) shows the change in Cumbria's population between 1991 and 2001.

TABLE 1: CHANGE IN POPULATION 1991-2001

Area	Mid Year Population		Change 1991 - 2001		Components of Change	
	1991	2001	Number	%	Natural Change	Migration and other changes
Allerdale	96700	93500	-3200	-3.3	-1400	-1800
Barrow in Furness	73700	72000	-1700	-2.3	+900	-2600
Carlisle	101900	100800	-1100	-1.1	-1100	0
Copeland	72000	69200	-2800	-3.9	+200	-3000
Eden	46000	49900	+3900	+8.5	-600	+4500
South Lakeland	98900	102400	+3500	+3.5	-3300	+6800
Cumbria	489200	487800	-1400	-0.3	-5300	+3900

Source: Office of National Statistics 2002, Crown Copyright. Estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. As a consequence totals may not sum due to rounding.

The table shows that Cumbria's population throughout this time has decreased by 1,400 (0.3%).

At a district level, increases in population have been exhibited in Eden, where the number of residents has risen by 3,900 (8.5%). South Lakeland has also seen an increase of 3,500 (+3.5%) The remainder of the districts have seen decreases in population. The largest decrease in numeric terms has been exhibited in Allerdale (-3,200), although the greatest decrease in percentage terms has been in Copeland (-3.9%). Barrow in Furness has seen a decrease in residents of -1,700 (-2.3%), whilst Carlisle's population has decreased by -1,100 (-1.1%)

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This table also examines the underlying reasons for these changes. The most significant factor within Cumbria is natural loss (more deaths than births). This natural loss stands at -5,300. South Lakeland has exhibited a greater number of deaths than births, and has a natural change of -3,300. This is mainly due to the older age structure of the population of this district.

Net migration is also an influential factor in determining Cumbria's population change. The figure stands at +3,900 for the whole of Cumbria. South Lakeland and Eden have experienced high levels of inward migration, whilst Copeland, Barrow and Allerdale have experienced outward migration. The outward migration exhibited in Barrow has been offset slightly by the greater number of births than deaths in the district.

Changes in the age-structure of Cumbria's population 1991 – 2001

Table 2 (below) outlines the population change for Cumbria by particular age groups over the period 1991 – 2001. The figures show that there has been a sharp decline (-22.8%) in the number of young adults in the 15-29 group. This is due to the number of young people who attend college outside Cumbria, as well as the ageing of the 'baby boom' generation. A smaller decline has also been exhibited in the 0-14 age group, which declined by 3.4%. A large increase (18.6%) occurred in the 45-59 age group, and a significant increase was observed in the 75+ age group (13.6%). Small increases were exhibited in the 30-44 age group (2.8%) and the 60-74 age group (0.9%).

TABLE 2: CHANGE'S IN CUMBRIA'S AGE STRUCTURE, 1991 - 2001

	1991	2001	Numeric Change	Percentage Change
0-14	88,500	85,500	-3000	-3.4
15-29	100,300	77,400	-22900	-22.8
30-44	102,800	105,700	+2900	+2.8
45-59	85,500	101,400	+15900	+18.6
60-74	75,400	76,100	+700	+0.9
75+	36,700	41,700	+5000	+13.6

Source: Office of National Statistics 2002, Crown Copyright. Estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. As a consequence, totals may not sum due to rounding.

Further Information

Further information on any of the issues contained in this briefing can be obtained from the Information & Communications team at the address and contact number below. This, plus many other useful briefings, are available from the Council's website (www.cumbria.gov.uk).