



CENSUS 2022 – Initial Population Briefing

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Introduction:

Today the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published its first outputs from the 2021 Census, which gives the total population by age for all local authority areas in England. This briefing provides the details of the latest data with some initial comparisons to other areas.

The 2021 Census estimates the population of Barnet to be 389,300 which is a 9.2% increase on the 2011 Census. The summary key points are:

- The population in Barnet has grown by 9% between the 2011 Census and the 2021 Census, this is lower growth than predictions from the 2020 mid-year population estimates.
- Barnet remains the second largest borough in London, the same ranking as in the 2011 Census.
- Of 389,300 people in Barnet, 48.4% were males and 51.6% were females.
- The population growth was largest in those over 75 years of age. Age group 0-19 has increased by 6.8% against predicted 12.9% increase in 2020 mid-year estimates.
- Further 2021 Census data will be released over the next 18 months and briefings will be produced as soon as data relevant to Barnet is released.

The response rate to the 2021 Census in Barnet was 95% (compared to 95% in London and 97% in England), this is an improvement on 91% in the 2011 Census (compared to 90% in London and 94% in England).

Total Population

Table 1: Comparison between the 2011 Census and the 2021 Census for Barnet, London and England.

Area	2011 Census	2021 Census	Difference (%)
Barnet	356,386	389,300	+9.2%
London	8,173,941	8,799,800	+7.6%
England	53,012,456	56,489,800	+6.6%

In 2011 Barnet had the second largest population of any borough in London, the largest being Croydon at 363,378. This ranking has remained in 2021. Croydon is the largest borough in London with an estimated population of 390,800. Due to census data being collected every ten years, it is usual practice to use mid-year population estimates between census years. The latest population estimates available in Barnet were 2020 mid-year estimates.

Table 2: Comparison between the 2020 mid-year population estimates and the 2021 Census for Barnet, London and England.

Area	2020 Mid-Year Estimate	2021 Census	Difference (%)
Barnet	399,007	389,300	-2.4%
London	9,002,488	8,799,800	-.2.3%
England	56,550,138	56,489,800	-0.1%

In the mid-year estimates Barnet had the largest population of any borough in London. This represented population growth of around 12% on the 2011 Census population; this was faster than London which was expected to grow by around 10% and England which was expected to grow by around 7%.

The actual growth in the Barnet population between the 2011 Census and the 2021 Census is around 9%, lower than predicted, for Barnet and London and similar to England's overall predicted population growth.

Gender Breakdown

Table 3: Breakdown of the population by genders for the 2011 and 2021 Census outputs and the 2020 mid-year population estimate.

Gender	2011 Census	2020 Mid-Year Estimate	2021 Census
Male	172,676 (48.5%)	198,961 (49.9%)	188,400 (48.4%)
Female	183,710 (51.5%)	200,046 (50.1%)	200,900 (51.6%)

The 2020 mid-year population estimates overestimated the number of males in Barnet by around 10,000 and underestimated the number of females by around 1,000 compared to the actual population in the 2021 Census. Further analysis will help us to understand the drivers of this change.

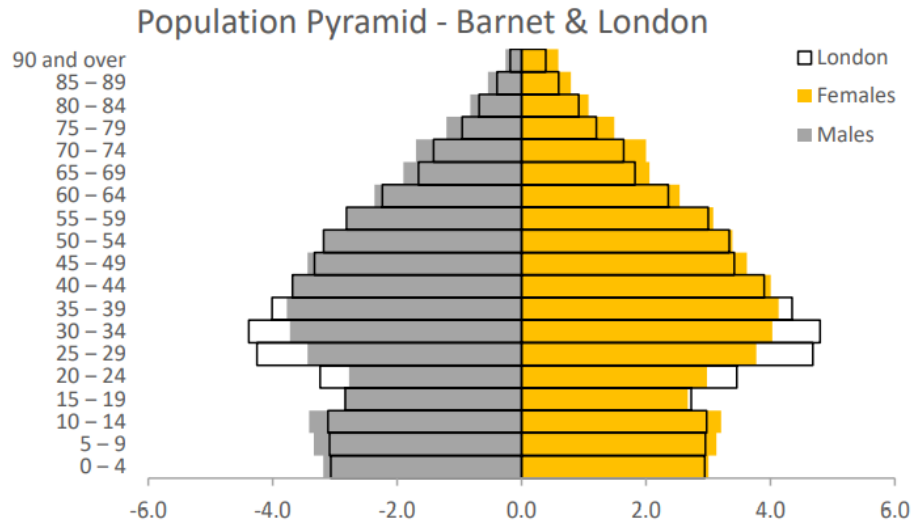
Age Structure

Table 4: Population age breakdown.

	Age 0-19	Age 20-74	Age 75+
2011 Census	90,464	242,213	23,709
2020 Mid-Year Estimate	102,192	269,120	27,695
2021 Census	96,600	266,400	26,300
Increase in 2021	6.8%	10.0%	10.9%

The population of Barnet has increased the greatest in those aged 75 and over (11% or 2,700 people, the population aged 20 to 74 has increased by around 10% (24,000 people) while the population aged 0 to 19 has increased by around 7% (6,000 people). The 2020 mid-year estimates showed a greater overestimate in those aged 0 to 19.

Figure 1: Population pyramid for Barnet by 5-year age band with a comparison to London.



Compared to London, Barnet has a greater proportion of the population in those aged 0-15 and those aged 40 and over. The proportion of young working age people aged 20 to 39 living in Barnet is lower compared to London.

Future Census Updates

ONS have indicated that future releases of mainly univariate census data will start being published from October 2022, further details of the order and timing of releases can be found on the ONS census website ([Release plans - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/release-plans)).

As this data is released, the Barnet Insight and Intelligence Hub will provide summaries of the data relevant to Barnet and will update the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) available from the Barnet Open Data Portal ([JSNA – About the Borough – Barnet Open Data](#)). Profiles for each Ward within Barnet will be published when the data is published by ONS which is currently expected to be October 2022.