

## **2001 Census Topic Report: Children and Young People**

### **Executive Summary**

- The 2001 Census recorded nearly 361,500 young people below the age of 25 in Birmingham. This is 37% of Birmingham's population and higher than the national average of 31%. There are slightly more young males than females.
- Birmingham has the 10<sup>th</sup> highest percentage of young people of all local authorities in England.
- Birmingham saw a 2% decrease in the 0-24 year-old population between 1991 and 2001, according to the official Mid-Year Population Estimates, compared with a 6% decrease in the West Midlands region and a 3.5% decrease across England.
- Between 1991 and 2001, there were increases in the numbers of 10-14 and 15-19 year-olds in Birmingham. However, there was a 16% reduction in the 20-24 year-old age group, and a 19% fall in children aged less than 1 year.
- The 0-24 age group is more likely to move home than is the population as a whole. 17% of the younger population moved home during the year before the Census, compared with 12% of the total population.
- Almost half of Birmingham's residents who had moved home during the year prior to the Census are from the 0-24 age group. The number of young people who had moved from the City to elsewhere in the UK is slightly less than the number who had moved in; in the population as a whole the balance is reversed.
- The percentage of young people from White ethnic groups in Birmingham is noticeably below the regional and national averages. Conversely, the City has three times the national percentage of young people from non-White ethnic groups.
- Approximately 60% of people aged 0-24 in Birmingham are from White ethnic groups, compared with over 75% of people aged 25 and older.
- Over 50% of the non-White population in Birmingham is in the 0-24 age group.
- The percentage in non-White groups ranges from 46% of those aged between 0 and 4 to 37% of those aged between 20 and 24.
- Over 1 in 4 young people in Birmingham are from an Asian ethnic group, compared with just over 1 in 9 in the region, and 1 in 15 across England as a whole.
- There are almost 229,000 children aged 0-15 in Birmingham: 23% of the total population.
- Birmingham has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest percentage of children aged 0-15 of all local authorities in England, behind Newham, Blackburn with Darwen and Luton.
- The percentage of children aged 0-15 in lone parent families in Birmingham is 30%, compared with the regional and national average of 23%.

- 58% of children aged 0-15 in Birmingham live in married couple families compared with almost two-thirds of children in the West Midlands and England.
- 22% of dependent children aged 0-15 in Birmingham live in accommodation without central heating, compared with 10% in the West Midlands and 6% across England as a whole.
- The Census estimates that 29% of dependent children aged 0-15 in Birmingham have language needs, double the regional and national averages.
- 30% of dependent children aged 0-15 in Birmingham are in households with no adults in employment, compared with 20% in the West Midlands region and 18% in England.
- There are just over 132,000 young people aged 16-24 in Birmingham, nearly 14% of the total population.
- Birmingham has a higher percentage of people aged 16-24 living in lone parent families than the West Midlands and England, and a smaller percentage in married couple and cohabiting couple families.
- The percentage of young people aged 16-24 with children in Birmingham is about 10%, some 2 percentage points above the national average.
- 1% of people in Birmingham aged 16 to 17 have children. This increases to 5% of 18-19 year-olds and 16% of 20-24 year-olds. Just under half of the 16-19 year-olds with children are lone parents.
- 1 in 4 people in the 20 to 24 age group live in rented accommodation.
- 54% of young people aged 16-24 in Birmingham are economically active, compared with 64% in the West Midlands and 65% in England.
- The percentage of young people in employment in Birmingham is 33%, this is lower than the regional average of 44% and the national average of 45%.
- There are almost 60,000 full-time students aged between 16 and 24 in Birmingham. These represent 45% of the total 16-24 population and almost 9% the total 16-74 population in Birmingham.
- 1 in 5 of 16-24 year-olds in Birmingham have no formal qualifications, a higher proportion than the West Midlands and England averages.