

Oxfordshire Insight

Focus on equalities

This briefing provides a profile of Oxfordshire's residents, based on the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010. A note on deprivation is also included.

Population

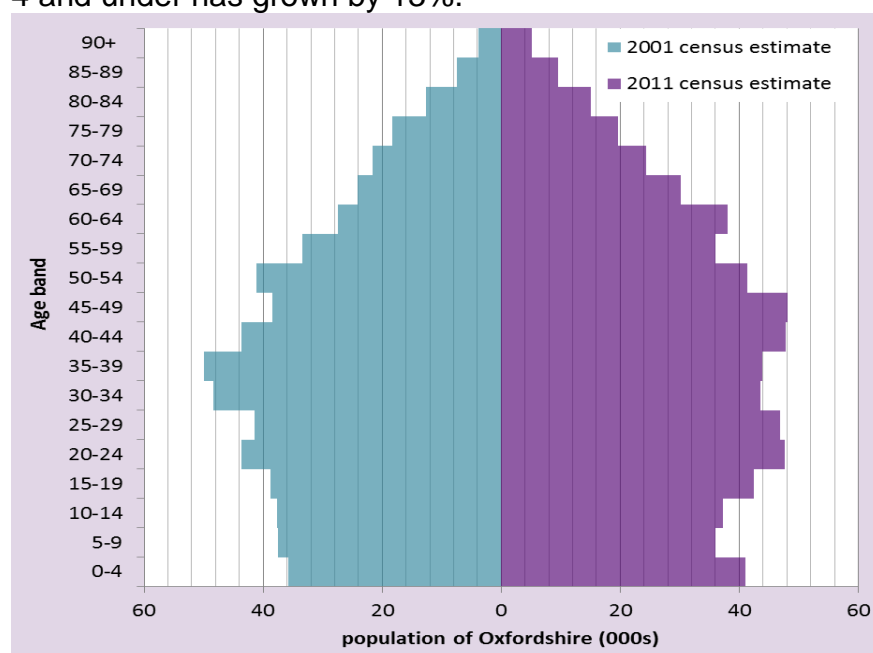
Latest estimates show 666,100 people were living in Oxfordshire in mid 2013:

	Estimated population, 2013
Oxfordshire	666,100
Cherwell	143,700
Oxford	154,800
South Oxfordshire	136,000
Vale of White Horse	123,600
West Oxfordshire	108,000

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2013 mid year population estimates. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 100.

Age

Oxfordshire's population aged between the 2001 and 2011 censuses, due to the older age groups experiencing greater growth than younger groups. The 65-and-over population grew by 18% from 2001 to 2011, while the number of people aged 85 and over increased by 30%. The number of people in their 30s in the County has declined by 12%. The number of children aged 4 and under has grown by 13%.



Source: Office for National Statistics, 2001 and 2011 Census

Sex

Women remain in the majority across the county.

	Men		Women	
Oxfordshire	330,500	49.6%	335,500	50.4%
Cherwell	71,000	49.5%	72,600	50.5%
Oxford	77,700	50.2%	77,100	49.8%
South Oxfordshire	67,000	49.2%	69,100	50.8%
Vale of White Horse	61,600	49.8%	62,100	50.2%
West Oxfordshire	53,300	49.4%	54,700	50.6%

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2013 Mid-year Estimates. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 100; percentages are based on unrounded figures.

Race and ethnicity

The ethnic composition of Oxfordshire changed between the 2001 and 2011 censuses. All of the county's black or minority ethnic (BME) communities have grown, and now account for 9.2% of the population, just under double the 2001 figure of 4.9%.

There was considerable variation in ethnic composition across the county. BME communities comprised close to a quarter of Oxford's population (22.4%) whereas the proportion was much lower in other districts: 7.8% in Cherwell, 5.1% in Vale of White Horse, 3.9% in South Oxfordshire and 3.2% in West Oxfordshire.

There has been a growth in people from white backgrounds other than British or Irish, who now account for 6.3% of the population (up from 4% in 2001). Much of this increase is explained by a movement of people from the countries which joined the EU after 200. In 2011, 13,000 residents in Oxfordshire were born in these countries, with more than half born in Poland (7,500 people, 2,700 resident in Oxford and 2,300 in Banbury).

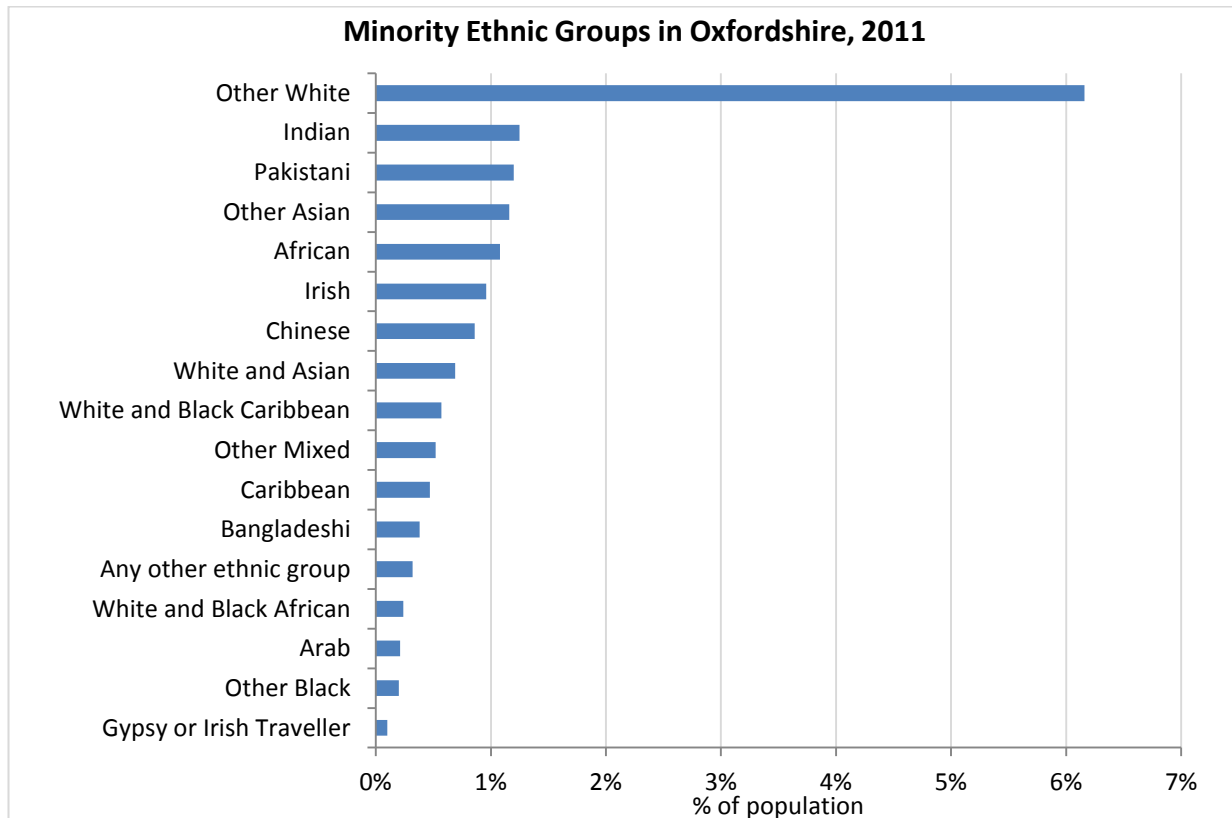
People from white gypsy or Irish Traveller backgrounds make up 0.1% of the county, and this is the same proportion across all the districts aside from West Oxfordshire, where 0.2% of the population classify themselves as such.

People from Asian backgrounds form the largest minority ethnic group in the county, making up 4.84% of the population (twice the 2001 figure of 2.4%). Most are from Indian or Pakistani backgrounds (1.25% and 1.2%, respectively).

The proportion from all Black backgrounds has more than doubled, from 0.8% to 1.75% of the county's population.

People from mixed ethnic backgrounds account for 2% of the population (up from 1.2% in 2001).

Minority Ethnic Groups in Oxfordshire, 2011



Source: ONS. Please note, to display minority groups on a chart, the category of 'White British' (83.6% of the population) is not shown.

Table 1 Ethnic groups by district, 2011 (% of resident population)

		Cherwell	Oxford	South Oxfordshire	Vale of White Horse	West Oxfordshire
White	English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	86.3	63.6	90.9	89.8	92.6
	Irish	0.8	1.6	0.8	0.8	0.7
	Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
	Other White	5	12.4	4.2	4.3	3.4
Mixed/multiple ethnic group	White and Black Caribbean	0.6	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.3
	White and Black African	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
	White and Asian	0.5	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.5
	Other Mixed	0.4	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3
Asian/Asian British	Indian	1.2	2.9	0.6	0.7	0.3
	Pakistani	1.7	3.2	0.1	0.3	0.1
	Bangladeshi	0.1	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
	Chinese	0.5	2.3	0.3	0.5	0.3
	Other Asian	0.8	2.8	0.6	0.8	0.5
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	African	0.7	2.9	0.3	0.7	0.3
	Caribbean	0.4	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
	Other Black	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other ethnic group	Arab	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1
	Any other ethnic group	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.1

Source: ONS, 2011 Census

Rurality

At the time of the 2011 census, 67% of the population lived in areas defined by the ONS as 'urban' (built-up areas with a population of 10,000 or more) with 33% living in areas defined as 'rural'.

	% population in rural areas	% population in urban areas
Oxfordshire	33.4%	66.6%
Cherwell	30.7%	69.3%
Oxford	1.2%	98.8%
South Oxfordshire	49.9%	50.1%
Vale of White Horse	38.7%	61.3%
West Oxfordshire	56.6%	43.4%

Source: ONS, 2011 Census

Sexual Orientation

Reliable figures on the number of lesbian, gay, or bisexual people in the county are still difficult to obtain. The Census did not include a question on sexual identity or sexual orientation, and using the number of people in a civil partnership will not capture those who are either in a relationship but are not registered or those who are single.

Experimental statistics from the ONS's 2013 'Integrated Household Survey' suggested that in the South East the proportion of people identifying as gay, lesbian or bisexual was 1.3% in the South East, against a figure for England of 1.7%.

Gender reassignment

Figures for the number of transgender people in the county remain unobtainable, and no relevant question was asked in the census.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

In 2011 just under half of people in Oxfordshire were married (48.8%) whilst around a third were single (34.7%). The remainder were:

- divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which had been legally dissolved (8.1%)
- widowed or surviving partners from a same-sex civil partnership (6.1%)
- separated (2.1%) or
- in a registered same-sex civil partnership (0.3%).

Across the county there were proportionately fewer married people in Oxford (32.9%) than in other districts: 54.8% in South Oxfordshire, 54.7% in Vale of White Horse, 54% in West Oxfordshire and 51.7% in Cherwell. This is likely to be related to Oxford's younger age profile.

Conversely, over half of people in Oxford were single (53.8%) compared with smaller proportions in the other districts: 30.4% in Cherwell, 28.3% in Vale of White Horse, 28% in South Oxfordshire and 27.8% in West Oxfordshire. There were also proportionately fewer people in Oxford who had previously been married or in a same-sex civil partnership.

Pregnancy and Maternity

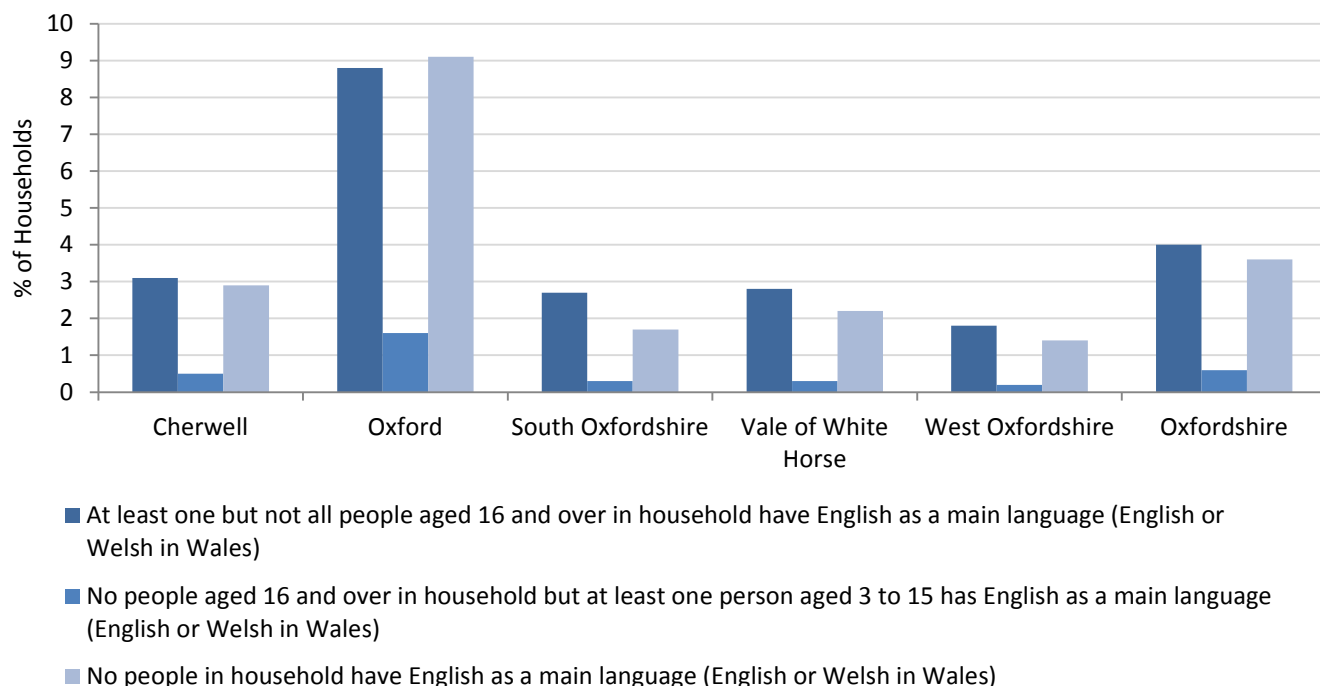
In 2012 there were 9,500 conceptions in Oxfordshire, reflecting a rate of 71.4 conceptions per 1,000 women aged 15-44. 17.2% of conceptions led to abortion.

In 2013 there were 7,900 live births in Oxfordshire. Almost a quarter of these were in Oxford (24.4%) with a similar number in Cherwell (22.6%). Around two in ten live births were in South Oxfordshire (19.7%) with smaller proportions in Vale of White Horse (17.5%) and West Oxfordshire (15.9%).

Language

Just over 9% of households in Oxford do not have any one member who speaks English as a main language. This is over double the figure for the county as a whole.

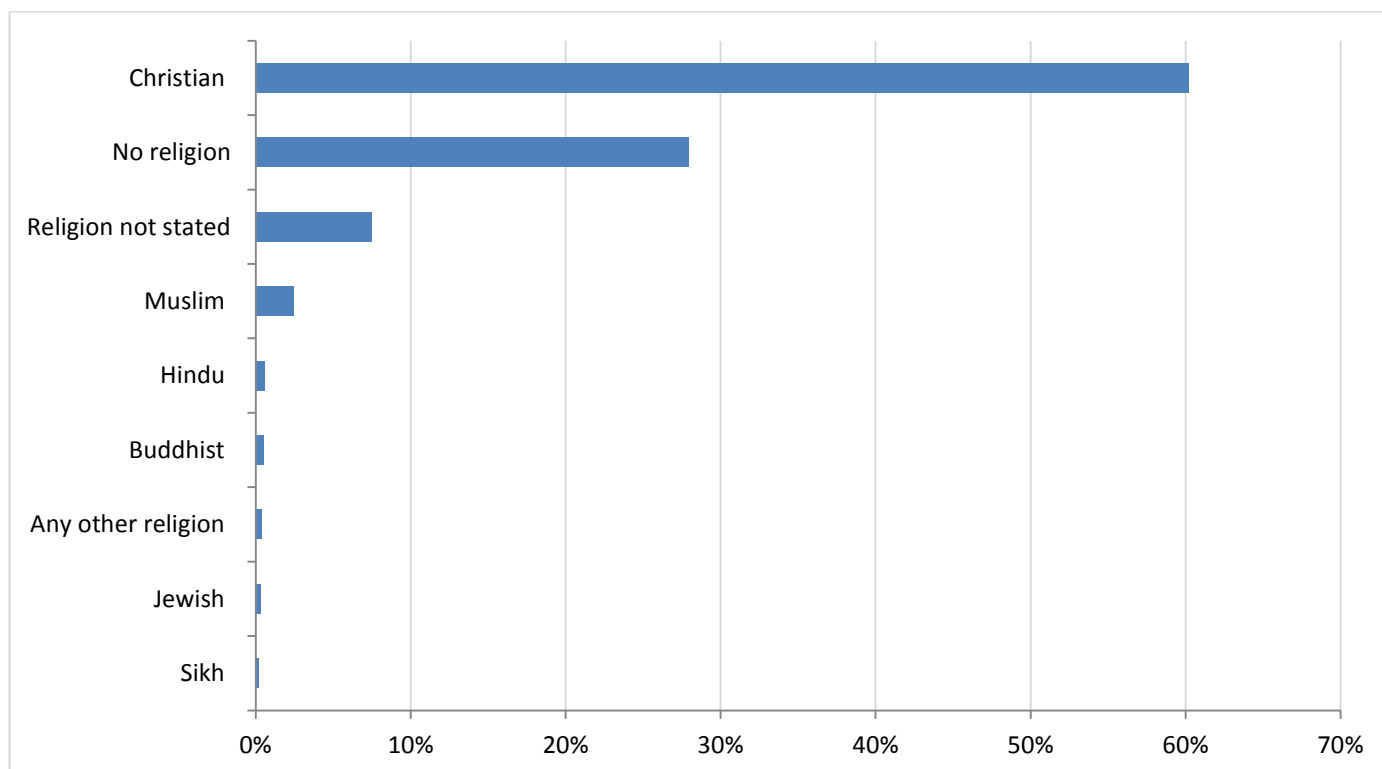
Households where at least one member does not have English as a main language



Source: ONS, 2011 Census

Religion

60% of the county's population are Christian, whilst 28% do not have any religion. The county's Muslims make up 2.4% of the populace. The proportion of Hindus in Oxfordshire in 2011 was 0.6%. The size of the county's Jewish population is 0.3%. The growth and size of county's Buddhist population (0.5%) is in line with the regional and national figures.



Source: ONS, 2011 Census

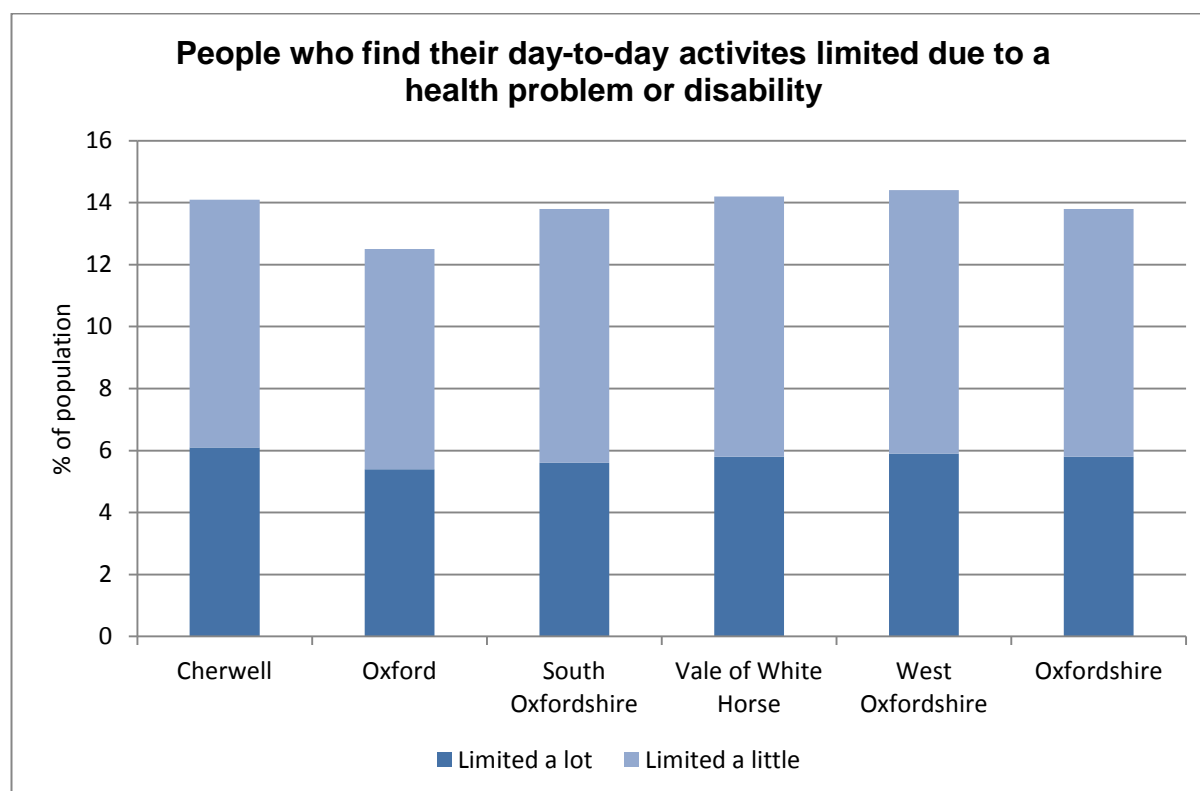
As the table below shows, Oxford remains the most diverse district in the county.

	Cherwell	Oxford	South Oxfordshire	Vale of White Horse	West Oxfordshire
Christian	64%	48%	64%	63%	65%
No religion	25%	33%	27%	27%	26%
Religion not stated	7%	8%	8%	7%	7%
Muslim	2.3%	6.8%	0.5%	0.9%	0.4%
Buddhist	0.4%	0.9%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%
Hindu	0.4%	1.3%	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%
Any other religion	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
Sikh	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Jewish	0.1%	0.7%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%

Source: ONS, 2011 Census

Disability

13.7% of residents report that their day-to-day activities are limited either a little or a lot due to a long-standing health problem or disability. The proportion is similar across the city and districts (within one and a half percentage points of the county average).



Source: ONS, 2011 Census

Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) combines over 30 measures into a single deprivation score for each Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) in England¹. These scores are then ranked to show relative deprivation at a local level across the country (where rank 1 is the most deprived and rank 32,482 is the least deprived).

According to the 2010 IMD Oxfordshire has generally low levels of deprivation: South Oxfordshire, Vale of White Horse and West Oxfordshire districts rank in the 10% least deprived local authorities in England. Overall, 183 of 404 LSOAs in the county rank in the 20% least deprived in the country.

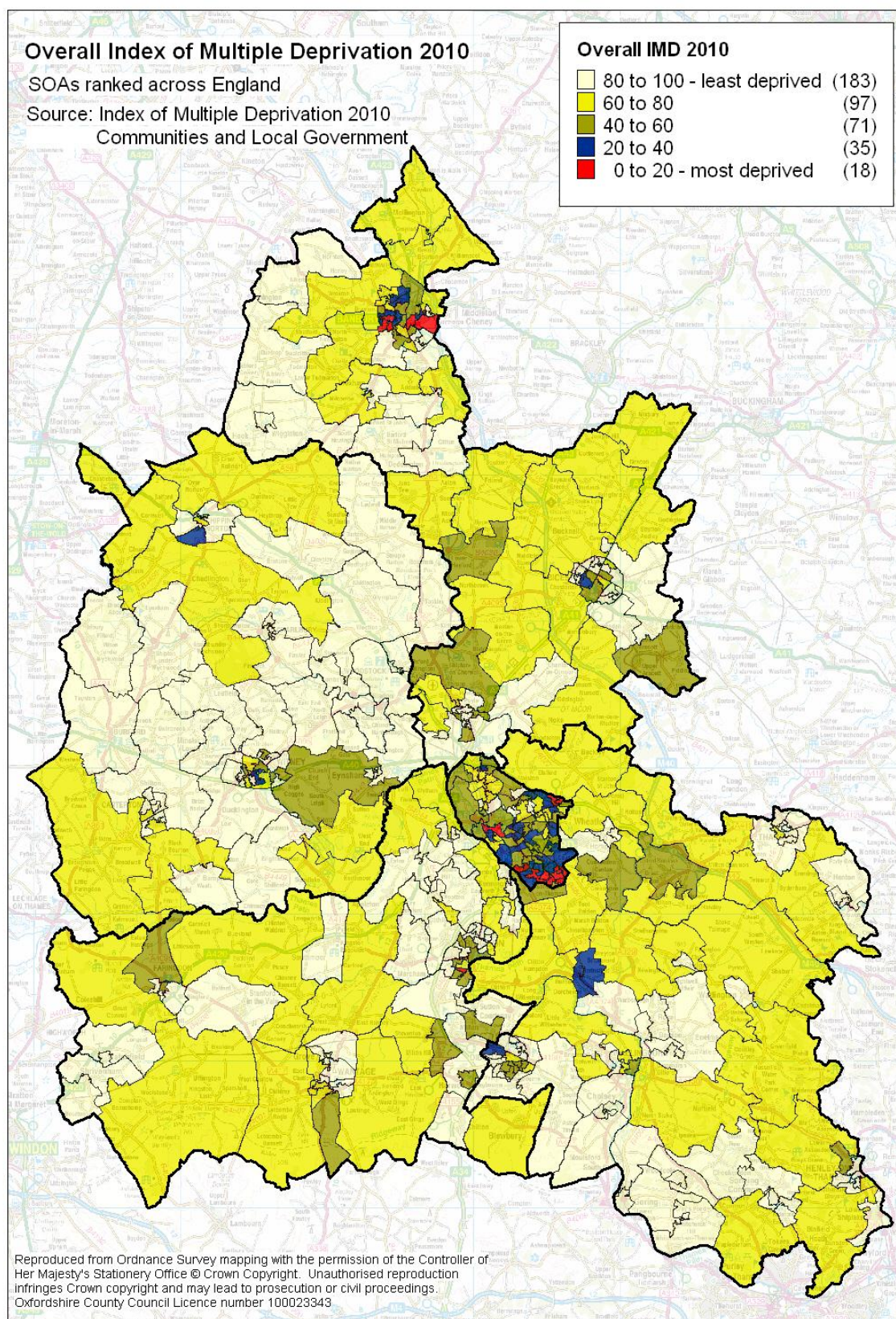
However, 18 local areas in the county are amongst the 20% most deprived in England. These include 12 areas in Oxford, five in Banbury and one in Abingdon Caldecott ward (table 2). One area of Northfield Brook ward in Oxford ranks amongst the 10% most deprived nationally.

Table 2 LSOAs in Oxfordshire in the 20% most deprived nationally

Code	LSOA (name includes the ward)	Score (higher is more deprived)	Rank (lower is more deprived)	% rank of LSOAs of 32,482 in England
E01028568	Northfield Brook 018B	45.23	3165	9.74
E01028577	Rose Hill and Iffley 016F	44.49	3346	10.30
E01028520	Blackbird Leys 018A	42.85	3740	11.51
E01028569	Northfield Brook 018C	42.46	3844	11.83
E01028514	Barton and Sandhills 005B	41.74	4043	12.45
E01028513	Barton and Sandhills 005A	41.57	4096	12.61
E01028449	Banbury Ruscote 005A	41.20	4209	12.96
E01028435	Banbury Grimsbury & Castle 004A	40.50	4424	13.62
E01028518	Blackbird Leys 017B	40.43	4438	13.66
E01028454	Banbury Ruscote 005F	40.03	4551	14.01
E01028552	Littlemore 016A	38.45	5037	15.51
E01028450	Banbury Ruscote 005B	38.21	5116	15.75
E01028522	Carfax 008B	37.80	5245	16.15
E01028517	Blackbird Leys 017A	37.68	5296	16.30
E01028436	Banbury Grimsbury & Castle 004A	37.19	5452	16.78
E01028576	Rose Hill and Iffley 016E	36.80	5575	17.16
E01028567	Northfield Brook 017D	35.24	6133	18.88
E01028692	Abingdon Caldecott 008C	34.77	6302	19.40

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2010

¹ The LSOA is a small geographical area used for producing small area statistics. Each one has an average population of 1,500). There are 32,482 SOAs in England and 404 in Oxfordshire.



For more information

Data on the topics covered in this briefing can be viewed on the [Oxfordshire Insight](http://OxfordshireInsight.gov.uk) website.
For further information or advice, contact observatory@oxfordshire.gov.uk.