

## Living Arrangements

The 2011 Census provides a breakdown of the living arrangements of all residents aged 16+ living in households:

### Living Arrangements, 2011 (Household residents aged 16+)

Living Arrangement	Bedford Borough	Bedford Borough %	England %
<b>Living in a Couple</b>	<b>72,909</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>57.8</b>
Married	59,508	48.4	45.7
Cohabiting (opposite sex)	12,531	10.2	11.2
Registered same-sex civil partnership or cohabiting (same sex)	870	0.7	0.9
<b>Not Living in a Couple</b>	<b>50,145</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>42.2</b>
Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	29,805	24.2	25.8
Married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership	1,913	1.6	1.5
Separated (but still legally married or in a same-sex civil partnership)	2,687	2.2	2.1
Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	8,252	6.7	6.5
Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership	7,488	6.1	6.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,054</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: ONS, 2011 Census, Table QS108EW

The number of people aged 16+ living in a couple increased by almost 2,000 between 2001 and 2011, but declined from 61.7% of the population to 59.2%.

Those not living in a couple increased by 6,100 between 2001 and 2011, and rose from 38.3% of the population to 40.8%.

Between 2001 and 2011, there was a substantial increase in the numbers not living in a couple who were divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership, from 6,240 to 8,250.

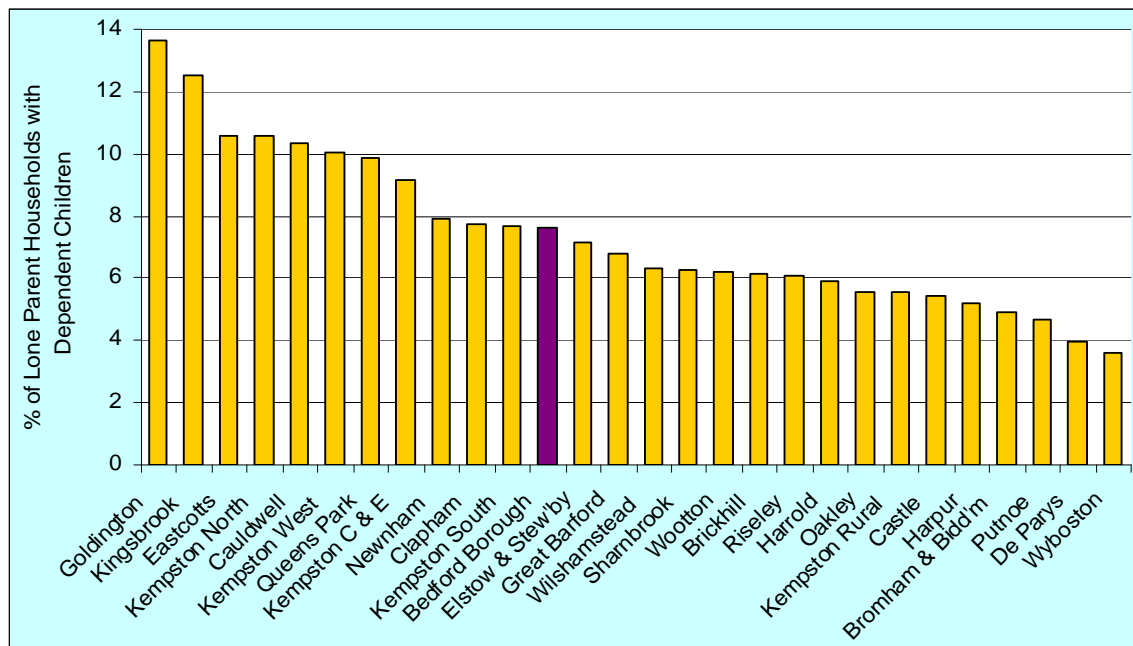
## Household Composition

The 2011 Census also provides a detailed breakdown of household composition

A key change between 2001 and 2011 was a major increase in the number of lone parent households (with dependent children) which rose from 3,200 to 4,850 in 2011.

The highest numbers of lone parent households (with dependent children) are in Goldington (13.7% of all households) and Kingsbrook (12.5%) wards:

### Lone Parent households as a Proportion of All Households, 2011



Source: Based on ONS, 2011 Census, Table KS105EW

Despite significant growth in the 65+ population between 2001 and 2011, the number of lone pensioner households fell from 7,800 to 7,600. This may reflect improvements in life expectancy, particularly male life expectancy.

The number of non-pensioner lone person households increased from 8,900 to 10,800.

For further information on this topic, please contact [intelligence@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:intelligence@bedford.gov.uk)