

Census 2021 Bulletin

Ethnic Diversity in Shropshire and how has this changed?

April 2023

Prepared by the Business Improvement: Data, Analysis and Intelligence –
Resources Directorate



Ethnicity in Shropshire

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has released Census 2021 figures on ethnicity. This bulletin will provide a summary at Shropshire level by comparing with national and regional data and looking at comparisons with the 2011 Census. Shropshire is a predominantly rural County, overall, less diverse compared to some other areas of England. In 2021 96.7% of the population classed themselves as White compared to 81% in England and 81.7% in the West Midlands. Nationally England is becoming more diverse and there has also been some change in the number of people from different ethnic minority groups within the county since 2011.

Key facts

- In Shropshire the proportion of people classed as white was 96.7% of the total population. This is much greater than for England (81%) and for the West Midlands (81.7%). The proportion of people describing themselves as white in Shropshire, decreased slightly by 1.3% from 98% in 2011. This is less than in England where the number of White people declined by 4.4%.
- Of those describing themselves as White, 93.3% were White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British compared to 95.4% in 2011. This is much higher than in England (73.5%) and the West Midlands (74.4%).
- There has been a small increase in the proportion and number of people describing themselves as white other from 2% of the total population in 2011 to 2.8% in 2021.
- With the exception of white other, all the main ethnic groups had a relatively small increase in number and as a proportion of the population, since 2011.
- The second largest group in Shropshire was Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh, this group accounted for 1.3% of the Shropshire population, much less than in England (9.6%) and the West Midlands (13.3%).
- The proportion of people Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh in Shropshire has increased by 0.3% percentage points from 1.0% in 2011 to 1.3% in 2021. In terms of numbers this is an increase from 3,089 people in 2011 to 4,324 in 2021.
- This percentage point increase was lower than England where the proportion of Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh people had risen by 1.8% from 7.8% in 2011 to 9.6% in 2021.
- In terms of growth as a proportion of the whole population mixed or Multiple ethnic groups had risen the most in Shropshire and at a faster pace than Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh. This group increased by 0.5% from 0.7% of the population in 2011 to 1.2% in 2021. In terms of numbers this is an increase from 2,168 in 2011 to 3,861 in 2021. This group increased by 0.7% in England.
- Shropshire had fewer Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African people at 0.3% of the population compared to 4.2% in England and 4.5% in the West Midlands.



- Other ethnic group was 0.4% of the total population in Shropshire an increase of 0.3 percentage points since 2011. This is much lower than in England (2.2%).
- The largest sub-group in Shropshire was Asian, Asian British or Welsh: Indian with 0.5% of the population less than 3.3% in England and 4.6% in the West Midlands. This group had increased in Shropshire from 0.3% in 2011. This was the largest increase in all of the ethnic sub-groups.
- The second largest sub-group in Shropshire was Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White or Asian this group represented 0.4% of the population in Shropshire compared to 0.8% in England and the West Midlands. This group had increased from 0.2% in 2011 and by 0.8% in England and the West Midlands.
- The third largest increase was in the other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group with an increase from 0.1% of the population in 2011 to 0.3% in 2021.
- All other ethnic sub- groups in Shropshire remained largely unchanged since 2011 as a proportion of the total population.
- Shropshire had a lower proportion of ethnic minority groups in all categories compared to England and the West Midlands and a lower rate of growth.
- In terms of Multiple ethnic groups in households the largest proportion of households are still those where all household members have the same ethnic group 65.5% or 91,370 people. This figure has declined slightly from the 2011 percentage (67.3%).
- Ethnic groups differ within partnerships has increased the most in Shropshire since 2011 from 3,278 people (2.5%) to 4,633 (3.3%) in 2021. Any other combination of multiple ethnic group had increased from 0.5% to 0.9% of the population.
- Shropshire has a greater proportion of all household members have the same ethnic group (65.5%) in 2021 compared to 59.5% in England and 61.6% in the West Midlands. Shropshire has fewer households where ethnic group differs within partnerships (3.3%) compared to (5.9%) in England and (4.6%) in the West Midlands. Shropshire also has fewer ethnic group households which differ between generations compared with England and regionally.

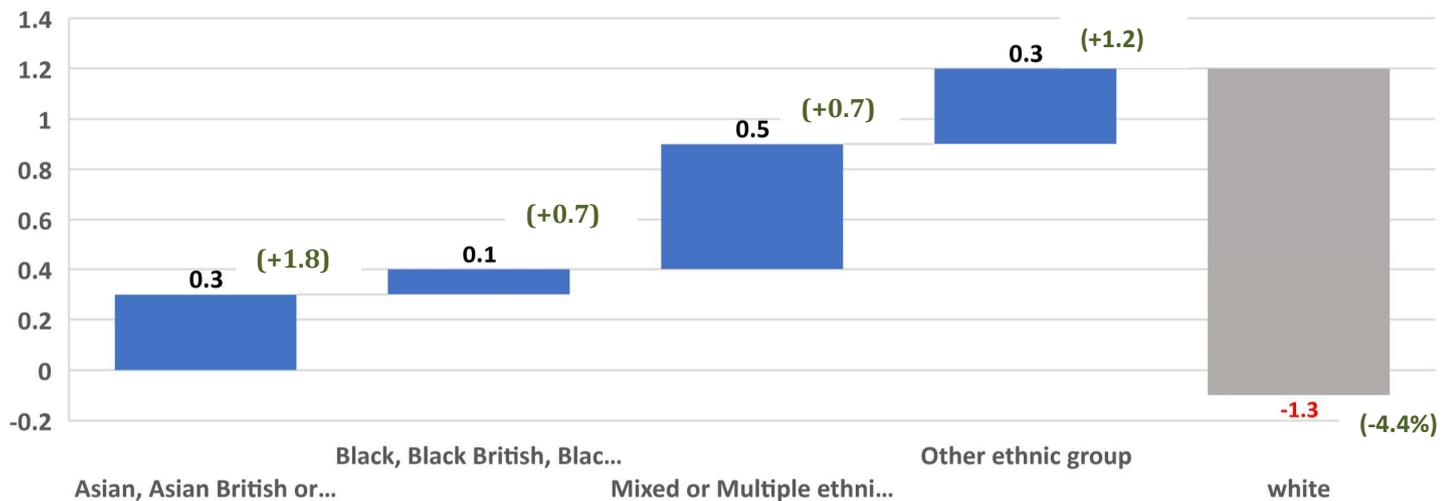


Table 1: The Percentage of the Shropshire Population by Ethnic Group

Ethnic Group	Shropshire	West Midlands	England
Asian, Asian British or % Asian Welsh	1.3	13.3	9.6
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	0.3	4.5	4.2
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	1.2	3	3
Other ethnic group	0.4	2.1	2.2
White	96.7	77	81

Chart 1: Shropshire’s Ethnic Population Change in Percentage Points (since 2011) as a Proportion of the total population.

Green numbers represent England comparison



Note: Chart 1 shows the percentage point change (since 2011) in ethnic group as a proportion of the population. A percentage point change is the difference between percentages. For example, if the chosen ethnic group of people made up 1.0% of the population in 2011 and 2.0% in 2021, this would be shown as an increase of 1.0pp. For example, chart 1 shows Asian, Asian British and Welsh increased by 0.3 percentage points as a proportion of the population from 1% in 2011 to 1.3% in 2021.



Chart 2: Shropshire Ethnic Group 2021 Compared with England and the West Midlands

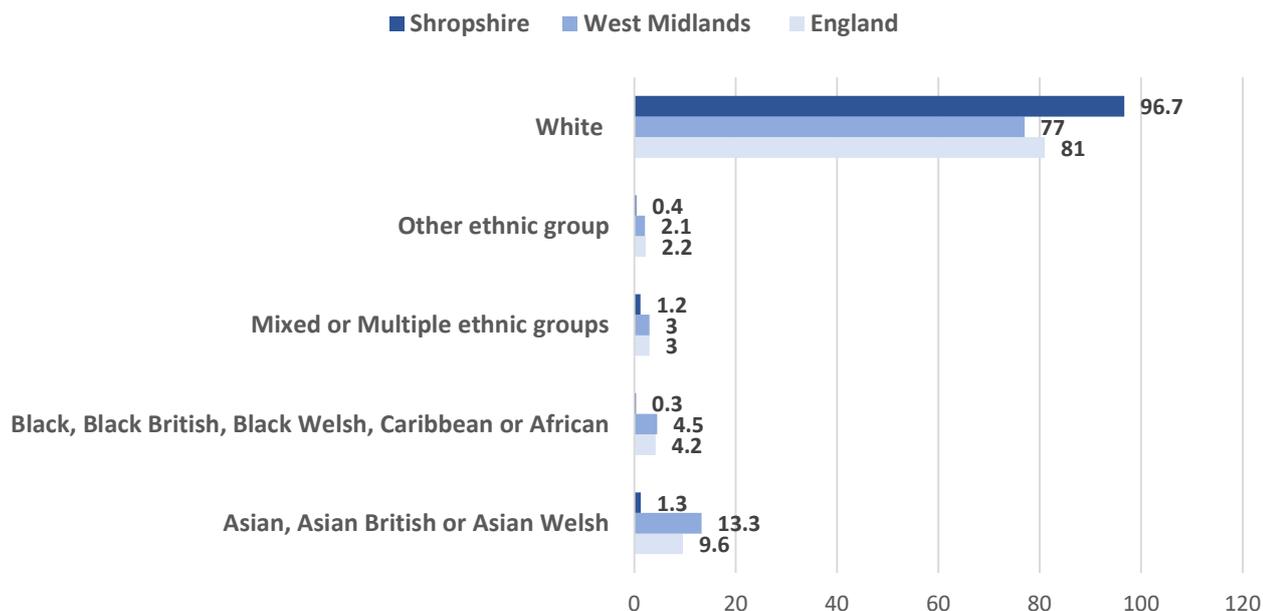


Chart 3: Shropshire Ethnic Sub-Group 2021 Compared 2011

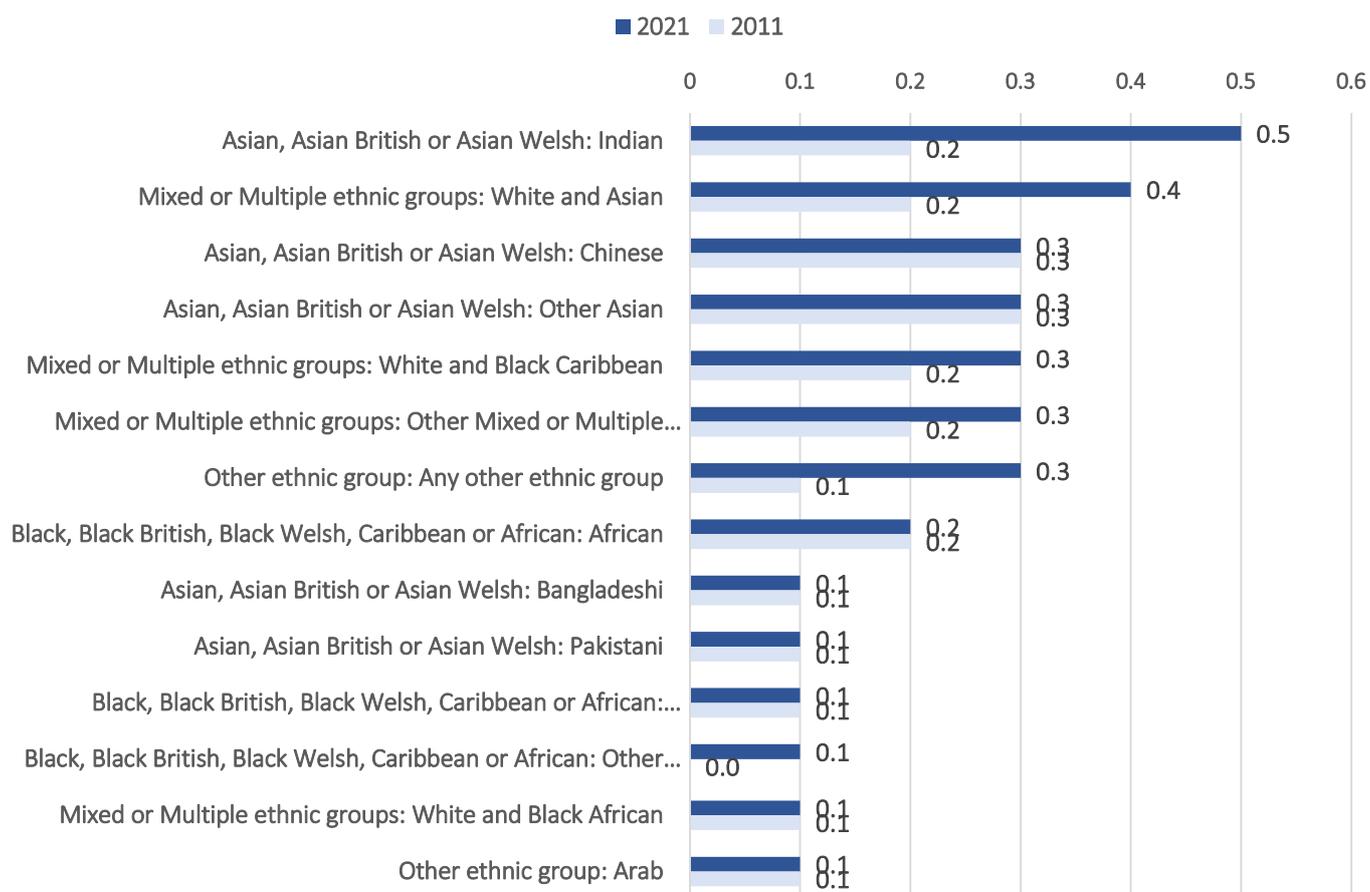


Chart 4: Shropshire Ethnic Sub-Group 2021 Compared with England and the West Midlands Region

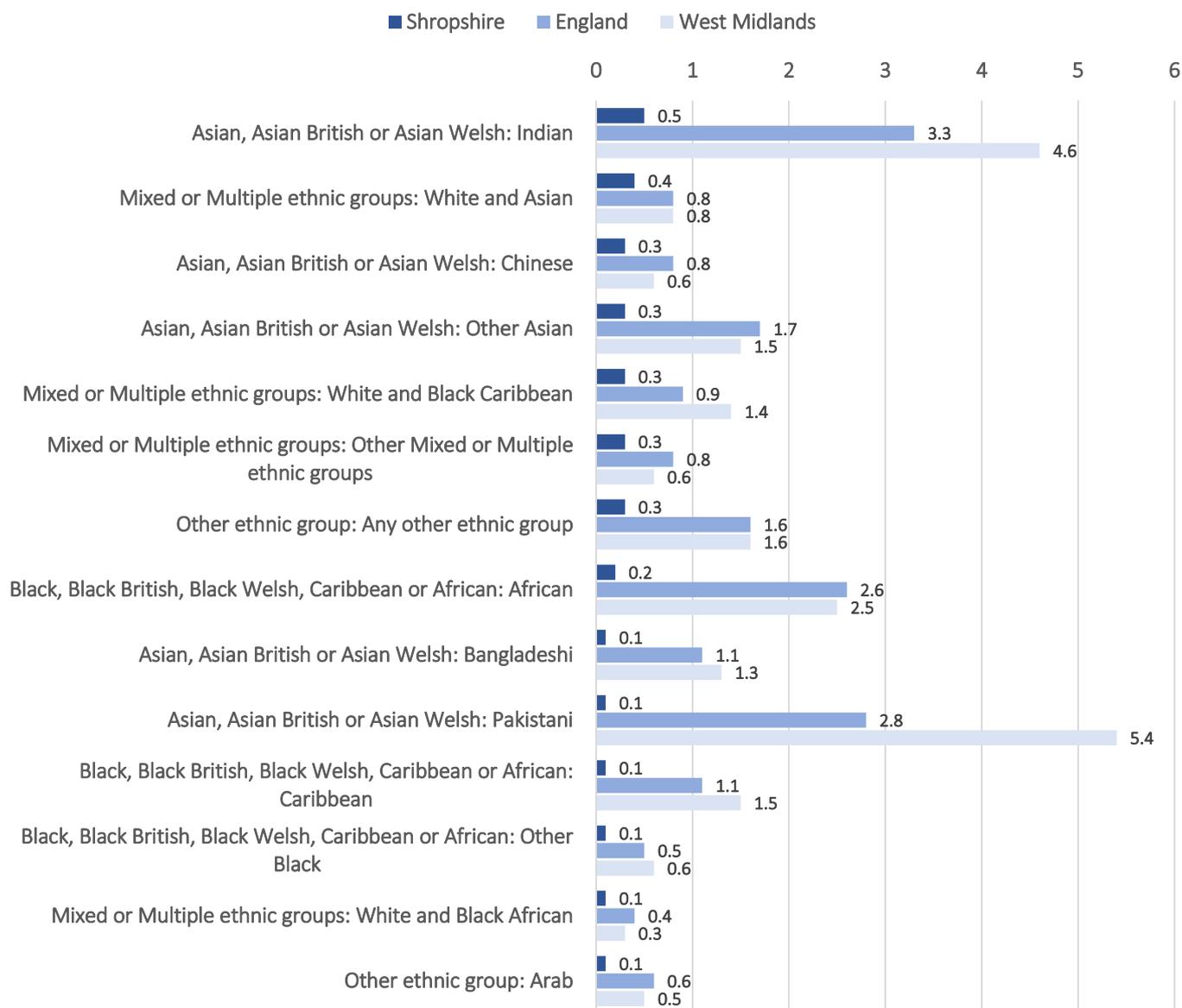


Chart 5: Shropshire Multi-Ethnic Group Households Compared with England and the West Midlands Region

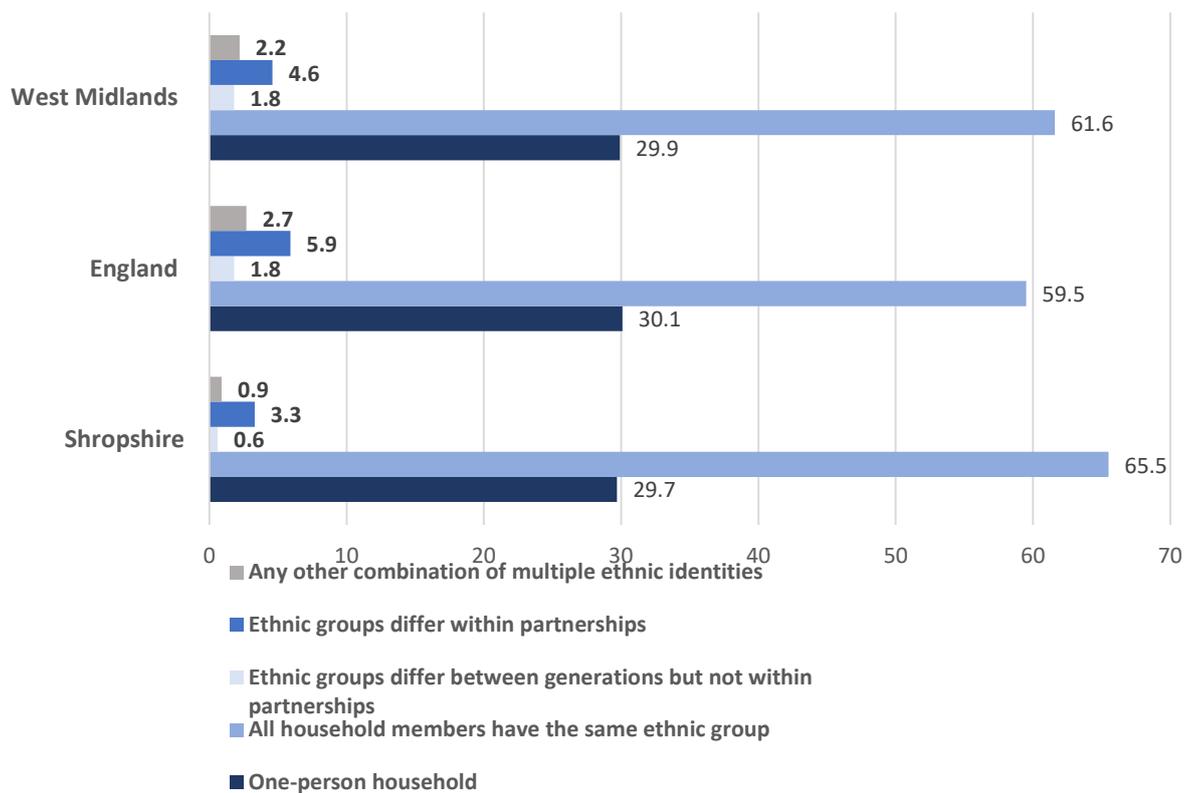


Table 2: Multi-Ethnic Group Households Shropshire 2021 and 2011

Multi-Ethnic Group Households	2021	2011
One-person household	29.7	28.9%
All household members have the same ethnic group	65.5	67.3%
Ethnic groups differ between generations but not within partnerships	0.6	0.7%
Ethnic groups differ within partnerships	3.3	2.5%
Any other combination of multiple ethnic identities	0.9	0.5%



Sources

[Ethnicity, England and Wales, Census 2021, Office for National Statistics \(ONS\)](#)

Census 2021 Topic Summaries and Nomis: Table TS030, TS031 and TS075

Census 2011: Table KS209EW

Further Information

Census 2021 Topic Summaries - [Ethnic group, national identity, language, and religion: Census 2021 in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#).

[Census Maps - Census 2021 data interactive, ONS](#)

[Shropshire Facts and Figures](#)

For more information please contact: BusinessIntelligence@shropshire.gov.uk

