

## Census 2021 Bulletin

### Country of Birth and Passports Held in Shropshire

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## Country of Birth and Passports Held

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has released Census 2021 figures on country of birth and passports held. This bulletin will provide a summary at Shropshire level by comparing with national and regional data and looking at comparisons with the 2011 Census. Country of birth refers to the categorization of usual residents based on the country where they were born, for people not born in one of the four parts of the UK, there was an option to select “elsewhere.” The data has been sub-divided by region and individual country. The passports held dataset provides estimates that classify usual residents in England and Wales by passports held. Where a person recorded having more than one passport, they were counted only once, in the following priority order: 1. UK, 2. Irish passport, 3. Other passport. Only the first country written on the passport was taken.

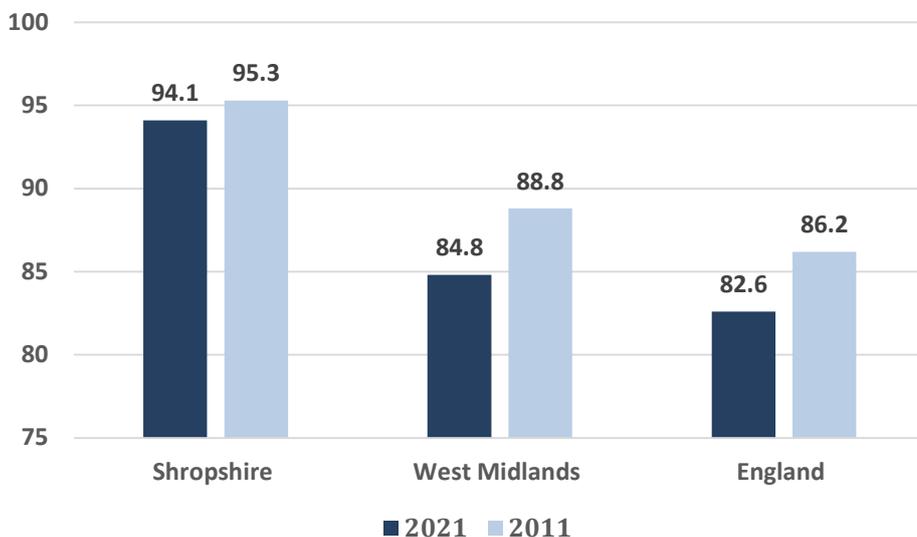
### Key facts

- In 2021 94.1% of Shropshire residents were born in the United Kingdom. This is much greater than the West Midlands (84.8%) and England (82.6%).
- The number of people born in the United Kingdom had declined slightly in Shropshire from 95.3% in 2011 to 94.1% in 2021. This was a smaller decline than in England where the number of people born in the United Kingdom declined from 86.2% in 2011 to 82.6% in 2021.
- In Shropshire, 19,136 (5.9%) of people were born outside the United Kingdom an increase from 14,387 or 4.7% of the total population in 2011. In England 17.4% of the population were born outside the United Kingdom in 2021 an increase from 13.8% in 2011.
- In terms of country of birth by region, Europe (both EU and non-EU countries) and excluding the UK has the largest number of people stating this region as their country of birth, with 10,523 or 3.3% of residents. This was followed by the Middle East and Asia (4,139), Africa (2,249), the Americas and Caribbean (1,474) and Antarctica and Oceania (748).
- In Shropshire all regions have seen increases in numbers since 2011, the largest of these increases was Europe with a rise of 2,750 people from 7,773 in 2011. In 2011 Europe represented 2.5% of the population, this has risen to 3.3% in 2021. This is similar to the national trend.
- In terms of the European Union (EU) 9,700 (3.0%) of the population in Shropshire were born in an EU country. This has increased since 2011 from 7,207 or 2.4% of the population. This has also been the trend in England and Wales. Out of 19,136 people born outside the UK in Shropshire, 9,700 or half were born in the European Union compared to 36% in England.
- In terms of country of birth, the largest group (excluding England) were people born in Wales, 18,800 (5.8%) of the total population, this was followed by Scotland with 3,795 (1.2%). The largest country of birth outside of the United Kingdom was Poland with 1,678 (0.5% of the population). Also in the top ten were Germany (1,518), Northern Ireland (1,248), Ireland (1,125), India (1,065), Romania (986), South Africa (983) and the United States (645).



- The number of people born in Romania has increased the most from 130 in 2011 to 986 in 2021, a rise of 658%, this is also a trend nationally. In England and Wales, the number of people who listed their country of birth as Romanian increased by 576% from 80,000 in 2011 to 539,000 in 2021, the highest increase of any country and now the fourth most common non-UK country of birth. In Shropshire Romania was the fifth most common non-UK country of birth and has replaced the Philippines in the top ten countries of birth compared to 2011. However, the Philippines did see an increase from 377 people in 2011 to 441 in 2021.
- In Shropshire 264,400 (82%) of the resident population held at least one passport; 59,200 (18.3%) people did not have a passport. This was greater than England (13.2%) and the West Midlands (16.2%). The number of people who do not hold a passport had fallen in Shropshire from 22.1% in 2011 to 18.3% in 2021.
- In 2021 253,138 or (78.2%) of the resident population held a United Kingdom passport an increase from 230,818 (75.4%) in 2011. The number of UK passport holders was slightly higher in Shropshire compared to England (76.6%) and the West Midlands (76.7%).
- The number of people who held a non-UK passport also increased from 7,541 (2.5%) of the resident population to 11,266 (3.5%) of the population in 2021.
- Of those who had a non-UK passport 8,259 were European Union (EU) passports. This is an increase of 3,064 or (60%) from 5,175 in 2011.
- Polish continues to be the most common non-UK passport held in Shropshire, with 1,729 people increased from 1,570 in 2011. Polish is also the most common non-UK passport in England.
- The next most common non-UK passports in Shropshire were Ireland (1,098) and Romania (1,089). Romania has increased the most from 114 in 2011. Lithuania passport holders has also seen a significant increase from 93 in 2011 to 290 in 2021.

**Chart 1: Residents Born in the UK**



**Figure 1: Top 10 Countries of Birth in Shropshire 2021 and 2011 (Excluding England)**

Country of Birth 2021 Shropshire	Number	% Total Residents	Country of Birth 2011 Shropshire	Number	% Total Residents
Wales	18,800	5.8	Wales	17,598	5.7
Scotland	3,795	1.2	Scotland	3,828	1.3
Poland	1,678	0.5	Poland	1,687	0.6
Germany	1,518	0.5	Germany	1,546	0.5
Northern Ireland	1,248	0.4	Northern Ireland	1,330	0.4
Ireland	1,125	0.3	Ireland	1,200	0.4
India	1,065	0.3	India	639	0.2
Romania	986	0.3	South Africa	565	0.2
South Africa	983	0.3	United States	439	0.1
United States	645	0.2	Philippines	377	0.1

**Table 1: Country of Birth by Region in Shropshire 2021 and 2011**

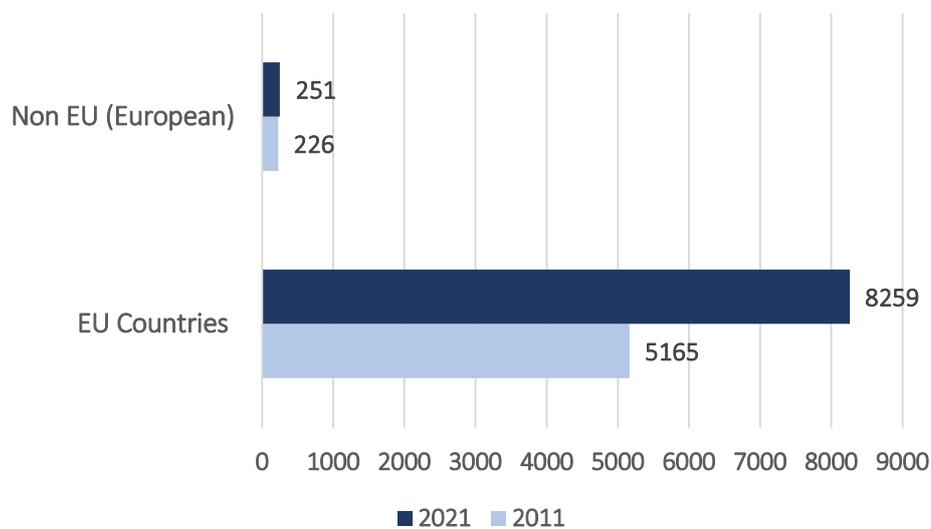
Country of Birth 2021 Shropshire	2021	% Total Residents	2011	% Total Residents	Change
Europe (excluding UK)	10,523	3.3	7,773	2.5	+2,750
Middle East and Asia	4,139	1.3	3,270	1.1	+869
Africa	2,249	0.7	1,630	0.5	+619
The Americas and Caribbean	1,474	0.5	1,093	0.4	+381
Antarctica and Oceania	748	0.2	620	0.2	+128



Figure 2: Passports held by Country in Shropshire 2021 and 2011 (Top 10)

Passports Held 2021 Shropshire	Number	% Total Residents	Passports Held 2011 Shropshire	Number	% Total Residents
Poland	1,729	0.5	Poland	1,570	0.5
Ireland	1,098	0.3	Ireland	904	0.3
Romania	1,089	0.3	Germany	309	0.1
Italy	339	0.1	Philippines	261	0.1
Lithuania	290	0.1	United States	250	0.1
Germany	261	0.1	China	235	0.1
Spain	238	0.1	India	215	0.1
Portugal	220	0.1	France	176	0.1
France	199	0.1	Italy	175	0.1
Turkey	59	0.0	Australia	140	0.0

Chart 1: EU and non-EU (European) Passport holders Shropshire 2011 and 2021 (excluding the UK)



\*Note Croatia joined the EU in 2013 and so is not included in the 2011 figures



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## Sources

Census 2021 Topic Summaries - International Migration England and Wales: [Census 2021 in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#).

Census 2021 Topic Summaries and Nomis: Tables TS004, TS012, TS005

Census 2011: Tables QS203EW, KS204EW, QS212EW, KS205EW

## Further Information

Census 2021 Topic Summaries - International Migration England and Wales: [Census 2021 in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#).

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

[Shropshire Facts and Figures](#)

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