

Area Classification - 2011 Rural
Urban Classification, Local
Authorities

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2011 Rural Urban Classification - Introduction

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About this Dashboard

It is important to distinguish between rural and urban areas when analysing social and economic statistics as the populations and businesses can differ in their makeup (for example rural areas tend to have higher proportions of older people). The opportunities, challenges and barriers for businesses, the services people receive and their quality of life can also differ markedly between rural areas and larger towns and cities. (ONS, May 2015)

This dashboard summarises the 2011 Rural Urban Classification for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. It comprises of:

- Background information on the classification and links to further information;
- An interactive data table summarising ONS Mid-2018 population estimates by Rural Urban Classification; and
- An interactive map showing the classification by Lower Super Output Area (LSOA).

About the 2011 Urban Rural Classification

The 2011 Urban Rural Classification was released by the Office for National Statistics in October 2013. This data updates the classification produced for the 2001 Census.

The 2011 rural-urban classification (RUC2011) allows for a consistent rural/urban view of datasets. A suite of classifications has been produced for use at a variety of geographic levels. RUC2011 is a revised version of the classification produced after the 2001 Census. It was created by the Department of Town and Regional Planning at the University of Sheffield on behalf of a government working group.

RUC2011 of lower layer super output areas (LSOAs) is built up from the OA level classification, with assignment to urban or rural made by reference to the category to which the majority of their constituent OAs is assigned. More information on the ONS Area Classifications can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/2011-rural-urban-classification>

Lower Super Output Areas

LSOAs were designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics and are built up from groups of output areas (OA). LSOAs have a minimum population of 1,000 people and a maximum population of 3,000. They contain a minimum of 400 households and a maximum of 1,200 households. Where possible, LSOA boundaries follow natural boundaries such as roads and rivers.

Maintaining stability as far as possible was key for the 2011 Census. LSOAs created following the 2001 Census continue to exist unless a significant population change occurred between 2001 and 2011, and household minimum and maximum thresholds were breached.

More information can be found here:

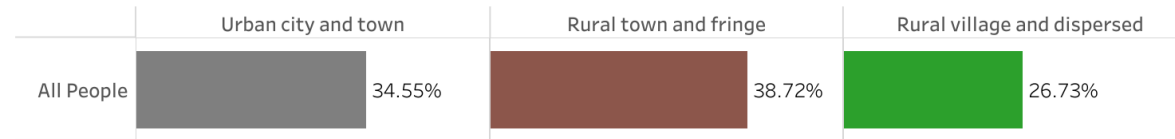
<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20160105160709/http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/geography/beginner-s-guide/census/super-output-ar..>

Urban and Rural Population

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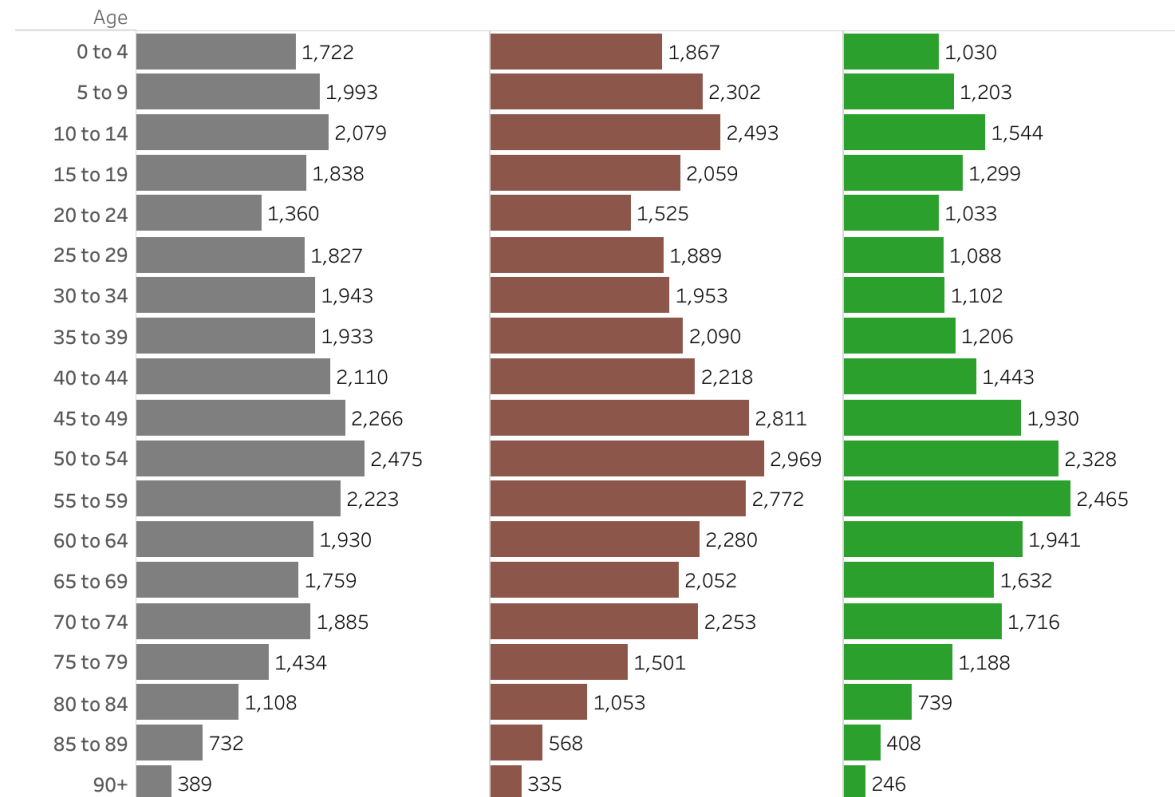
Population (percent, all ages)



Local Authority

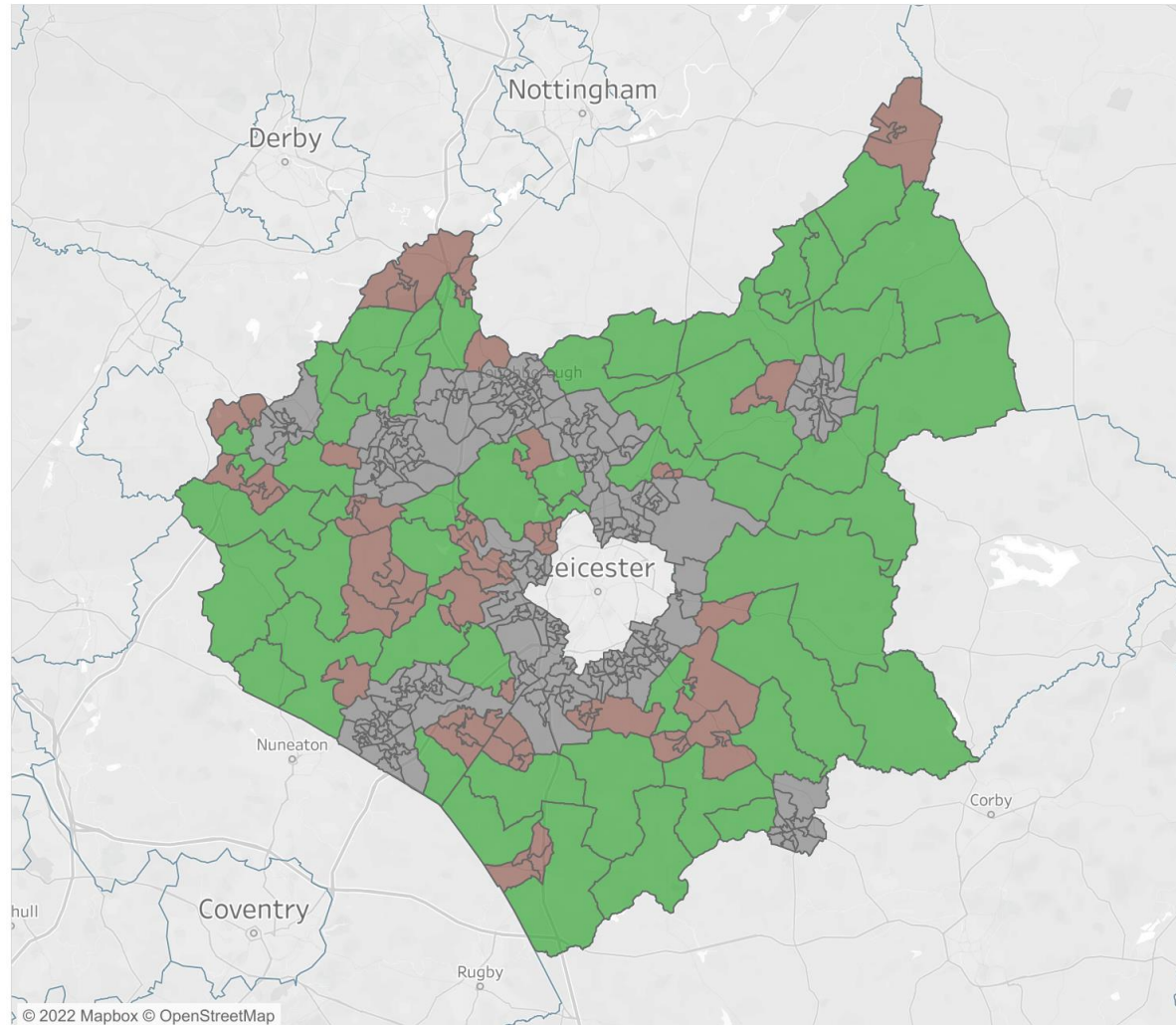
- Blaby
- Charnwood
- Harborough
- Hinckley and Bosworth
- Leicester
- Melton
- North West Leicestershire
- Oadby and Wigston
- Rutland

Population (count, quinary age band)



Where are our Communities Located?

Hover over for more information



Local Authority

- Blaby
- Charnwood
- Harborough
- Hinckley and Bosworth
- Leicester
- Melton
- North West Leicestershire
- Oadby and Wigston
- Rutland

2011 Rural Urban Classification

- Rural town and fringe
- Rural village and dispersed
- Urban city and town

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