

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 and rurality is also included.

Population

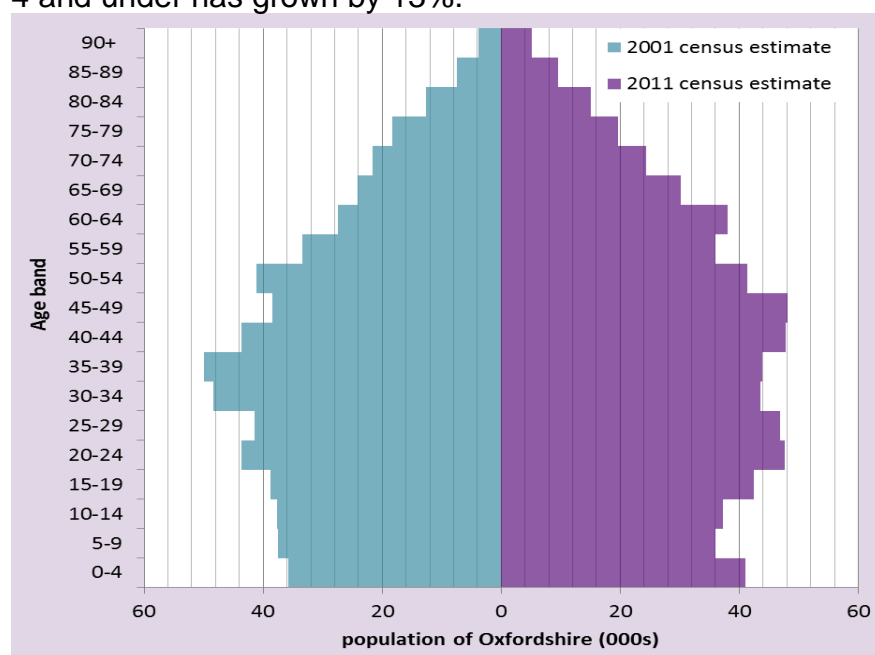
Latest estimates show 661,600 people were living in Oxfordshire in mid 2012:

	Estimated population, 2012
Oxfordshire	660,800
Cherwell	142,800
Oxford	152,500
South Oxfordshire	135,500
Vale of White Horse	122,800
West Oxfordshire	107,100

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2012 mid year population estimates

Age

Oxfordshire’s population has aged since the 2001 census, 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	327,400	49.5%	333,300	50.4%
Cherwell	70,600	49.4%	72,200	50.6%
Oxford	76,000	49.8%	76,600	50.2%
South Oxfordshire	66,700	49.2%	68,800	50.8%
Vale of White Horse	61,200	49.8%	61,600	50.2%
West Oxfordshire	52,900	49.4%	54,200	50.6%

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2012 Mid-year Estimates

Race and ethnicity

The ethnic composition of Oxfordshire has changed since the 2001 census. All of the county's black or minority ethnic communities have grown, and now account for 9.2% of the population, just under double the 2001 figure of 4.9%.

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 in 2004 and 2007. 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.

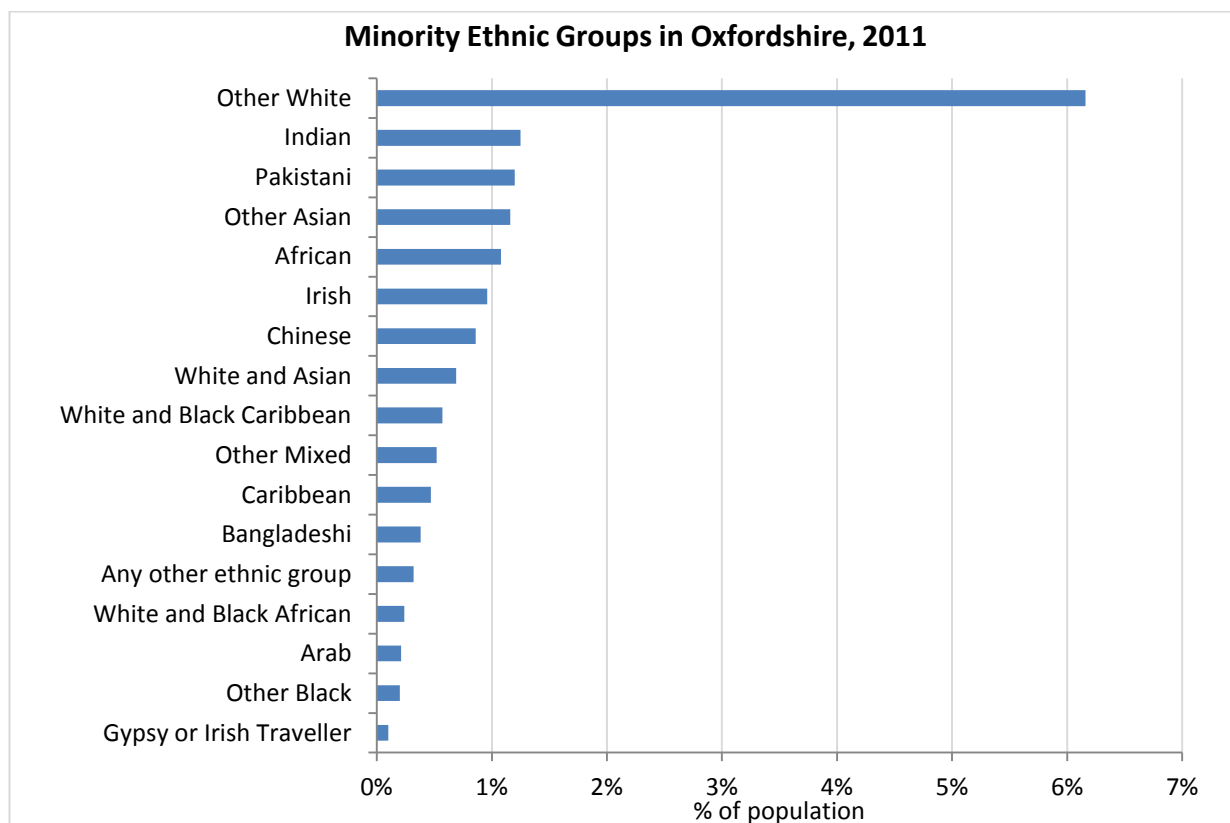
4.8% of the population are from Asian backgrounds, twice the 2001 figure of 2.4%

People from Asian communities form the largest minority ethnic group in the county, and most come from Indian or Pakistani backgrounds (2.45%)

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 2012 'Integrated Household Survey' suggested that the proportion of people identifying as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or other was 1.6% in the South East, against a figure for England of 1.9%.

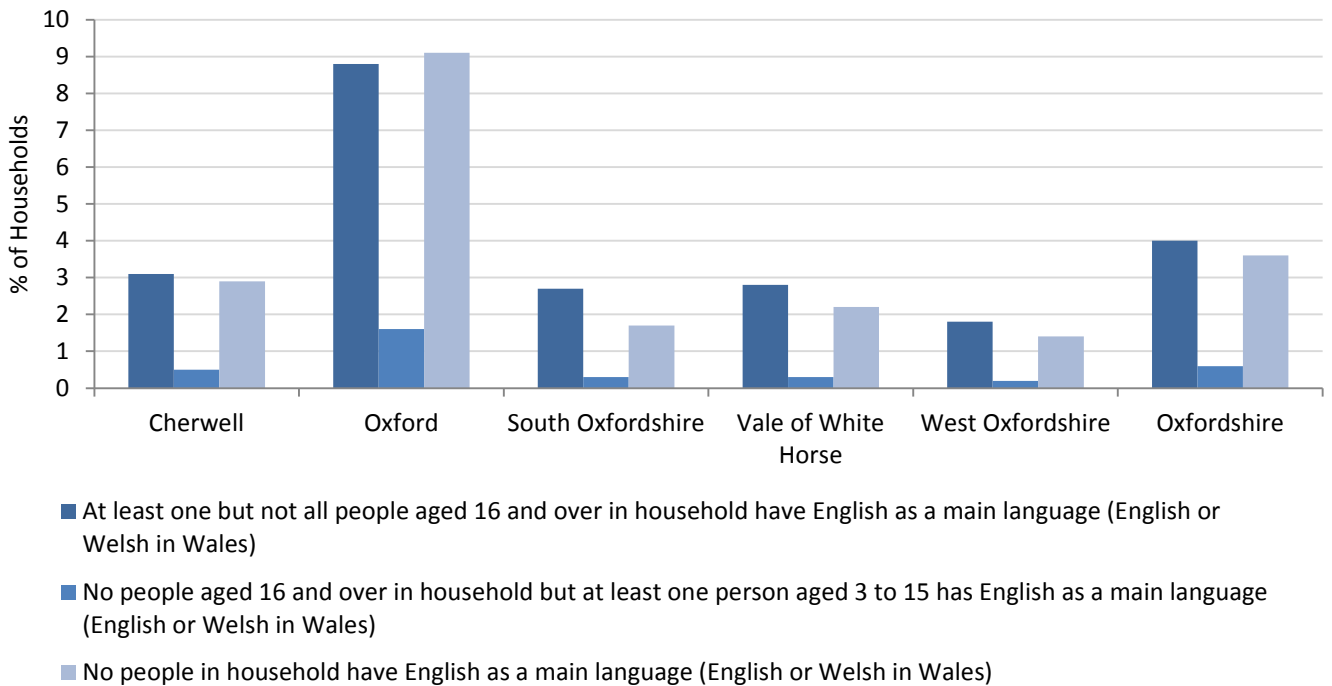
Gender reassignment

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

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.

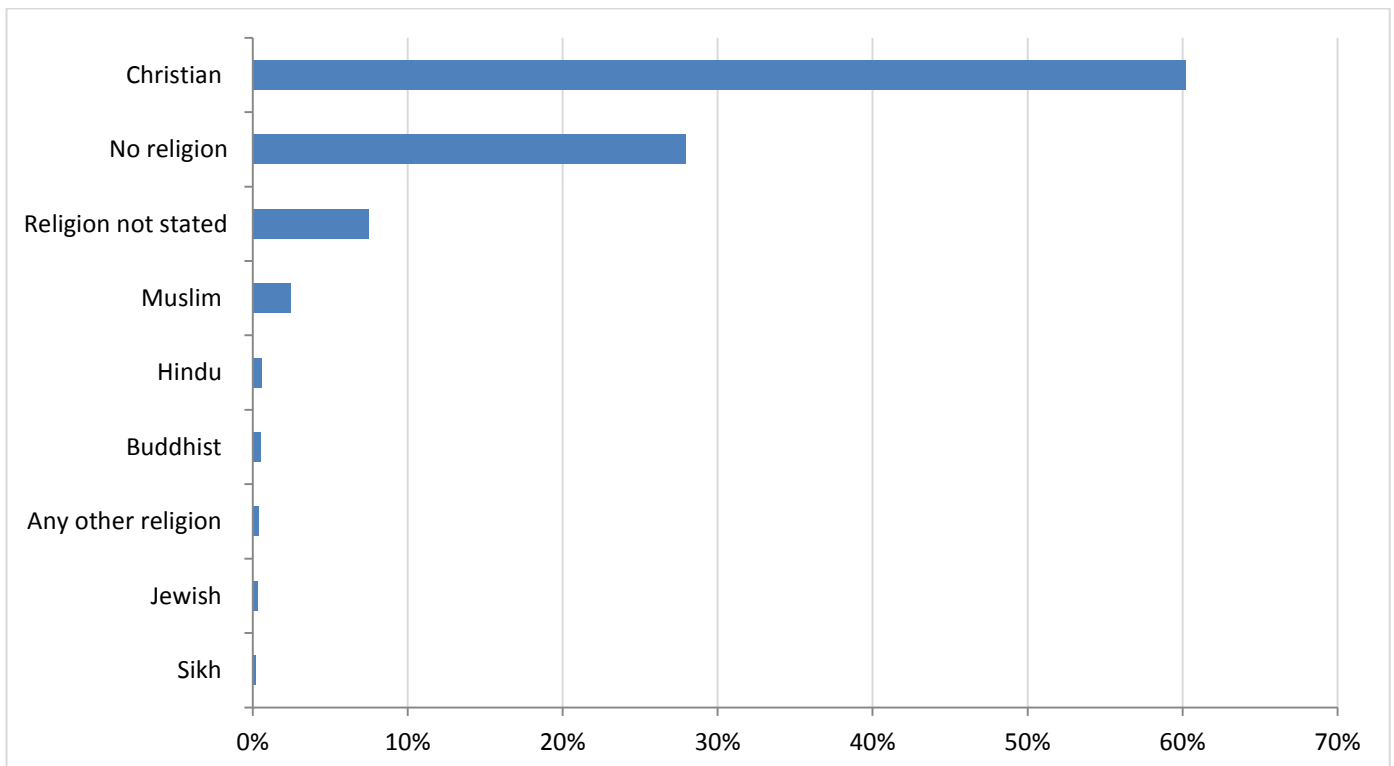
Households where at least one member does not have English as a main language



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

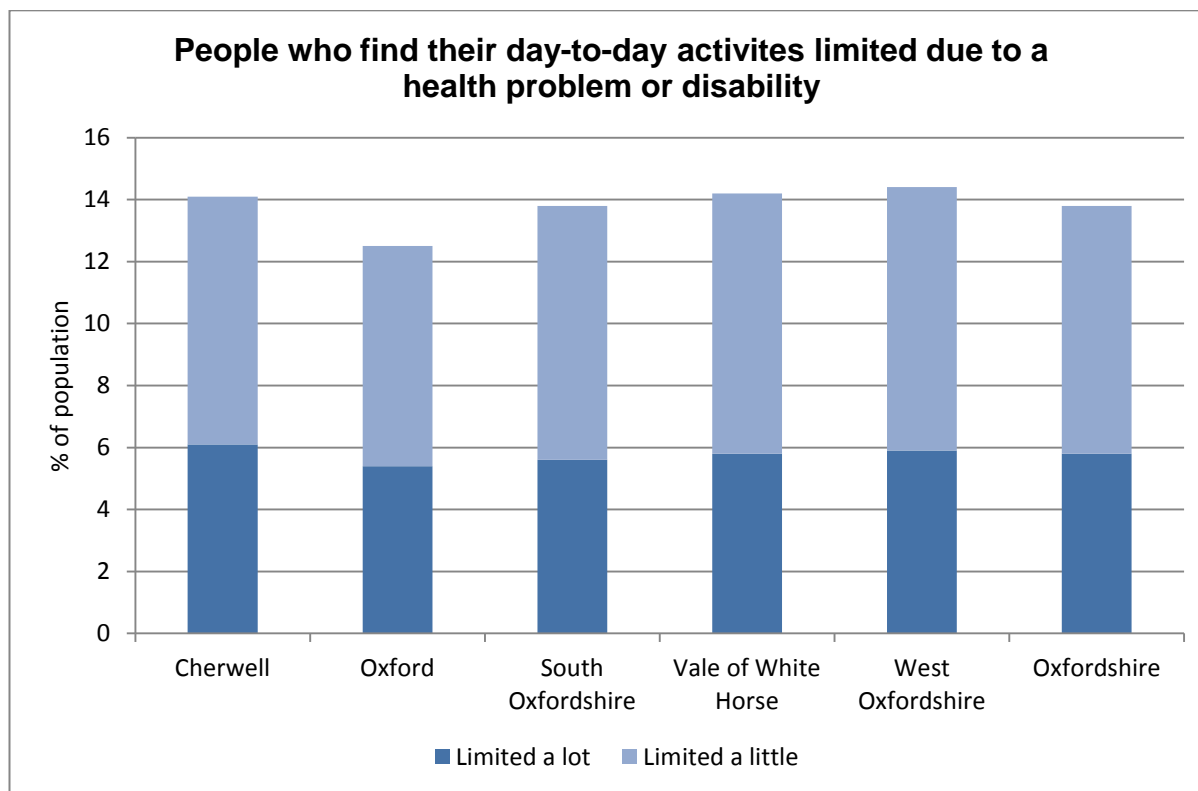
As the table below shows, Oxford remains the most diverse district in the county.

	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

The proportion of residents reporting that their day-to-day activities are limited either a little or a lot due to a long-standing health problem or disability is roughly the same across the districts.



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.

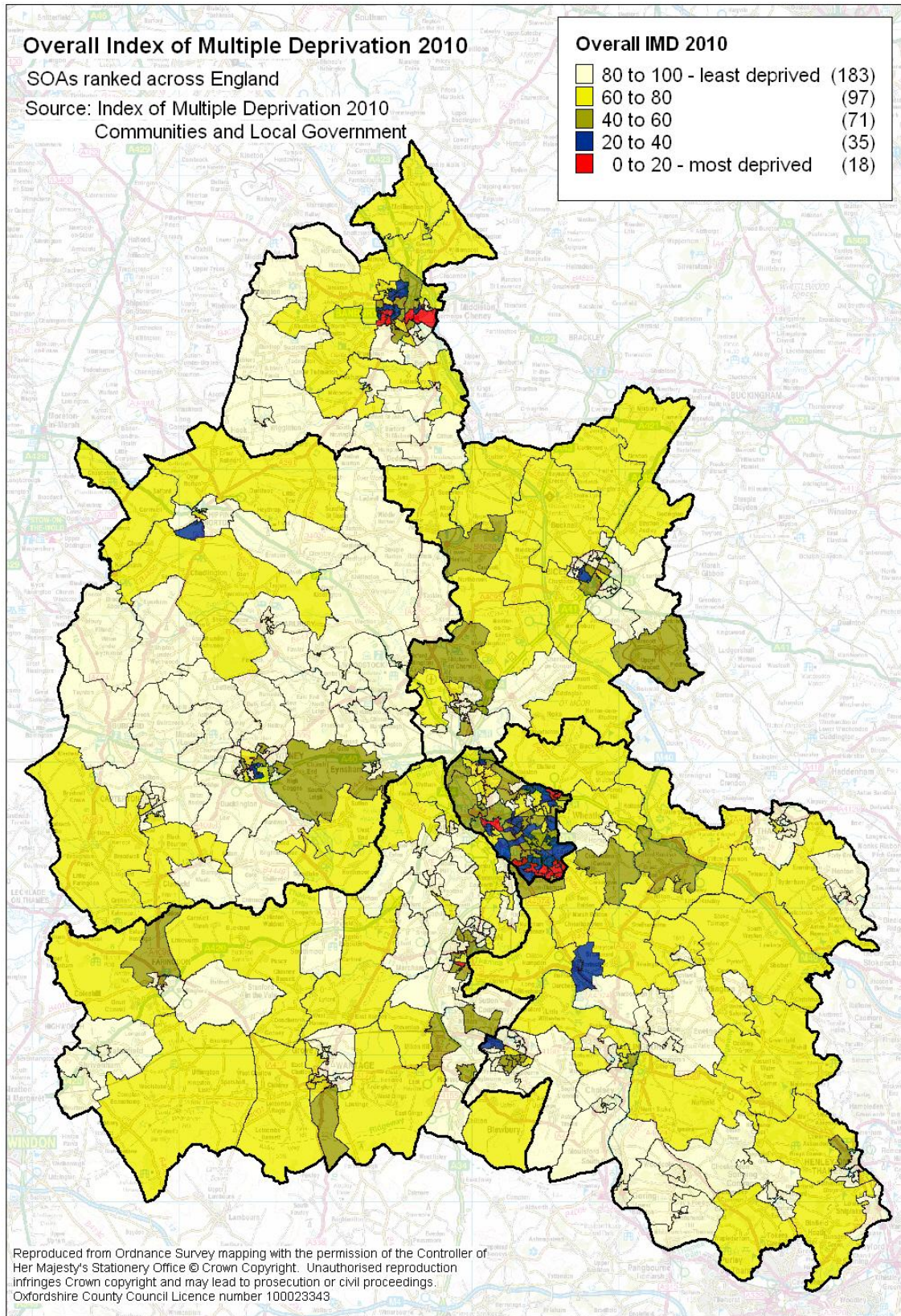
However, eighteen local areas in the County are amongst the 20% most deprived in England. These include 12 areas in Oxford, five in Banbury and one in Abingdon Caldecott ward (table 2). One area of Northfield Brook ward in Oxford ranks amongst the 10% most deprived nationally.

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://Oxfordshire Insight website) website. For further information or advice, contact observatory@oxfordshire.gov.uk.