

# Southampton Strategic Assessment

## Population and Demographics

**May 2017**

Overview

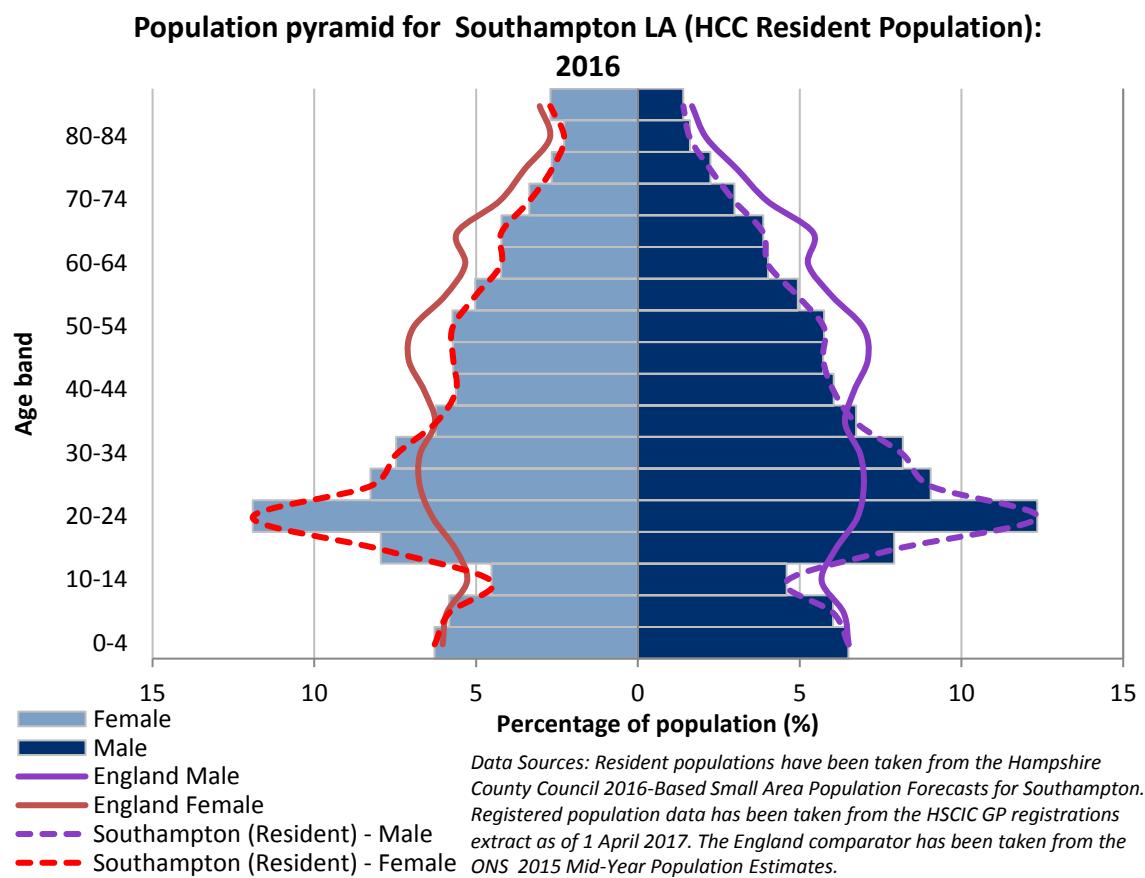
A changing population underpins the key themes within Southampton’s strategic assessment. The city enjoys a diversity of people that enriches our population, but the pace of change challenges service delivery.

Population estimates

In 2016, the resident population of Southampton is estimated to be to be 251,565 (HCC SAPF) with 282,455 (HSCIC) people registered with GP practices in April 2017. The population pyramid shown in figure 1 illustrates how the profile of Southampton’s population differs from the national average. This is because of the large number of students in Southampton; 20% of Southampton’s population is aged between 15 and 24 years compared to just 12.4% nationally.

For more information on the resident population of the city, try our [population pyramid tool](#). The tool allows customisable population pyramids to be created for various geographies within the city and also models how the population profile of the city is likely to change over time (using forecasts produced by Hampshire County Council).

Figure 1:



Southampton Strategic Assessment: Population and Demographics – May 2017

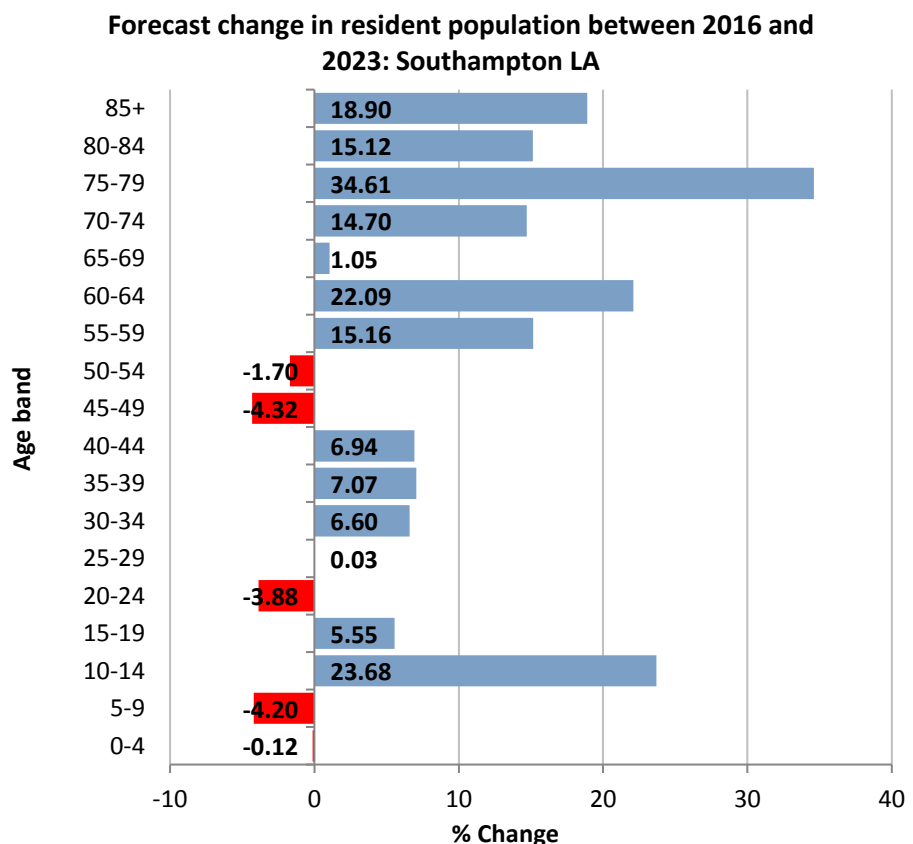
**Population forecasts**

Understanding how Southampton’s population will change in future, and how this will affect demand for a range of services, is vital for service planning and commissioning going forward. There are many uncertainties around current and future population numbers. Currently, the latest data produced by Hampshire County Council (HCC) provides the best available forecast of the future population of the city.

Hampshire County Council’s small area population forecasts (SAPF) are based on the planned completions of residential dwellings in Southampton, which predict an increase in dwellings of 6,672 (6.4%) between 2016 and 2023. The largest growth in dwellings is predicted to be in Bargate (2,497 dwellings; 26.2%), followed by Woolston (1,014 dwellings; 15%) and Bevois (639 dwellings; 9.3%).

The increase in dwellings across Southampton translates to a population increase of 13,911 (5.5%) between 2016 and 2023. Within the city, the largest growth is predicted to be in Bargate (5,039 people; 21.8%) followed by Woolston (2,311; 15%). Bitterne is predicted to have a loss of approximately 200 or 1.3% of people over the same period.

Figure 2:

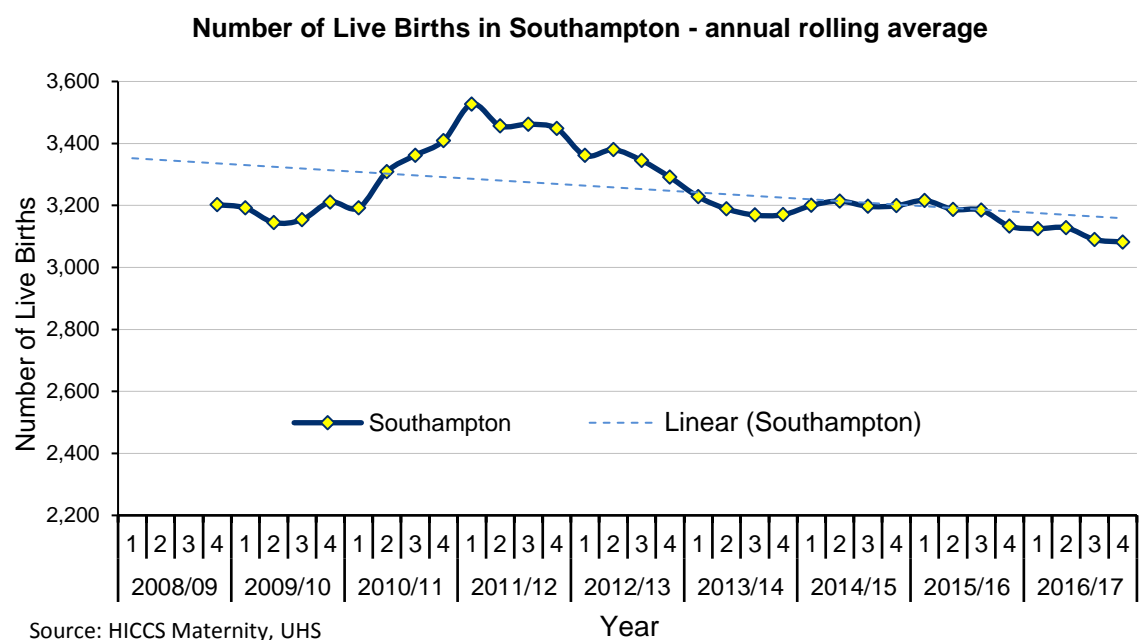


Data Sources: Hampshire County Council 2016-Based Southampton Small Area Population Forecasts

The older population is projected to grow proportionally more than any other group in Southampton over the next few years (see figure 2). The over 65 population is set to increase by nearly 5% between 2016 and 2023, with the over 85 population set to increase by nearly 19%. Importantly the proportion of the population of working age is set to increase by only 5% potentially influencing productivity and the skill pool of the resident workforce. It may also have an impact on the informal and community care available to the changing population structure.

According to the HCC forecasts, the number of 0-4 year olds will decrease by 0.1% between 2016 and 2023. Local monitoring of births at UHS reveals that births have fallen by -3.7% between 2008/09 and 2016/17, although recent data suggests this may be levelling off (see figure 3). This suggests that, the HCC methodology may be overestimating fertility in Southampton.

Figure 3:



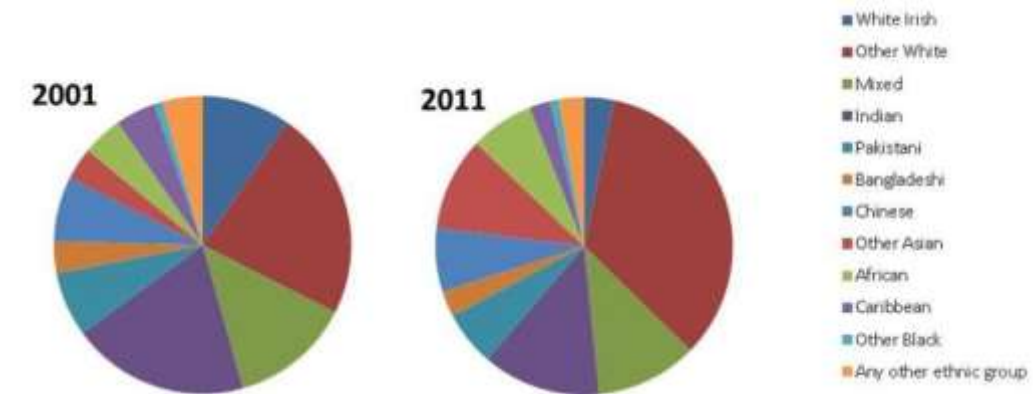
**Migration, ethnicity & language**

Since 2004, high levels of economic migration from Eastern Europe have contributed to the development and sustainability of many business activities, thereby bringing in greater richness and diversity to city life. Strong community relations over many decades have contributed to maintaining cohesiveness. Long-term international migration up to the end of June 2015 shows that Southampton has more international incomers than leavers (5,350 compared to 1,820). There is also a high level of internal migration, with 16,100 people arriving and 16,900 leaving over the same period.

Based on results from the 2011 Census, Southampton now has residents from over 55 different countries who between them speak 153 different languages. In the 2011 Census 77.7% of residents

recorded their ethnicity as white-British, which is a decrease of 11% from 2001. The pie charts in figure 4 show that the biggest change has been in the 'Other White' population (which includes migrants from Europe) as this has increased in last 10 years by over 200% (from 5,519 to 17,461).

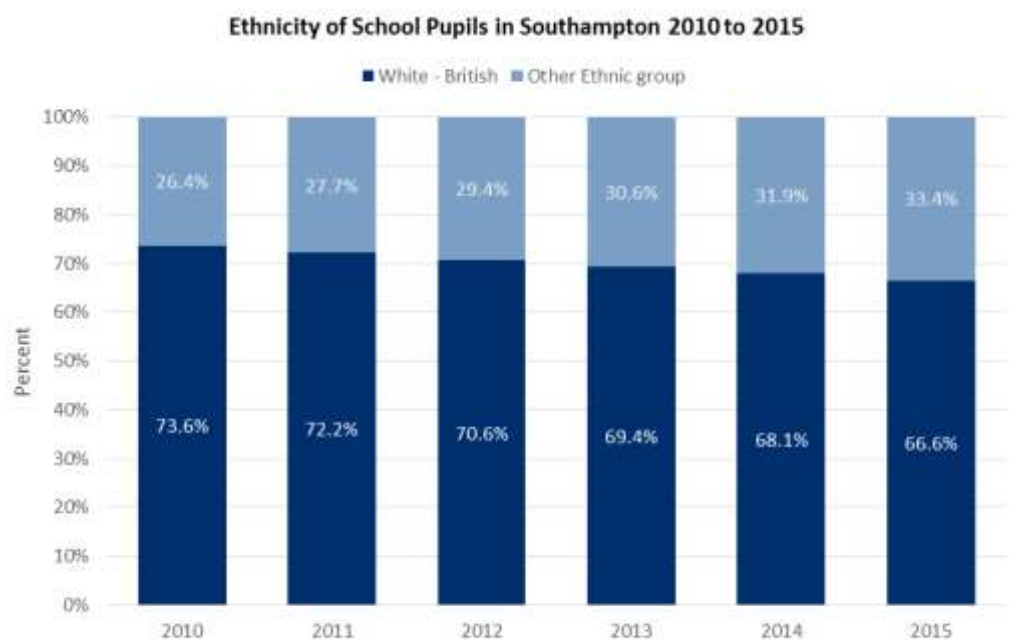
Figure 4: 2001 and 2011 Census ethnicity comparison



Source: ONS

Within Southampton, there is a wide variation in diversity; in Bevois ward, over half of residents (55.4%) are from an ethnic group other than White British compared to 7.6% in Sholing. The annual school census in Southampton in 2015 revealed that 33.4% of pupils were from an ethnic group other than White British. This has increased from 26.4% in 2010 (see figure 5).

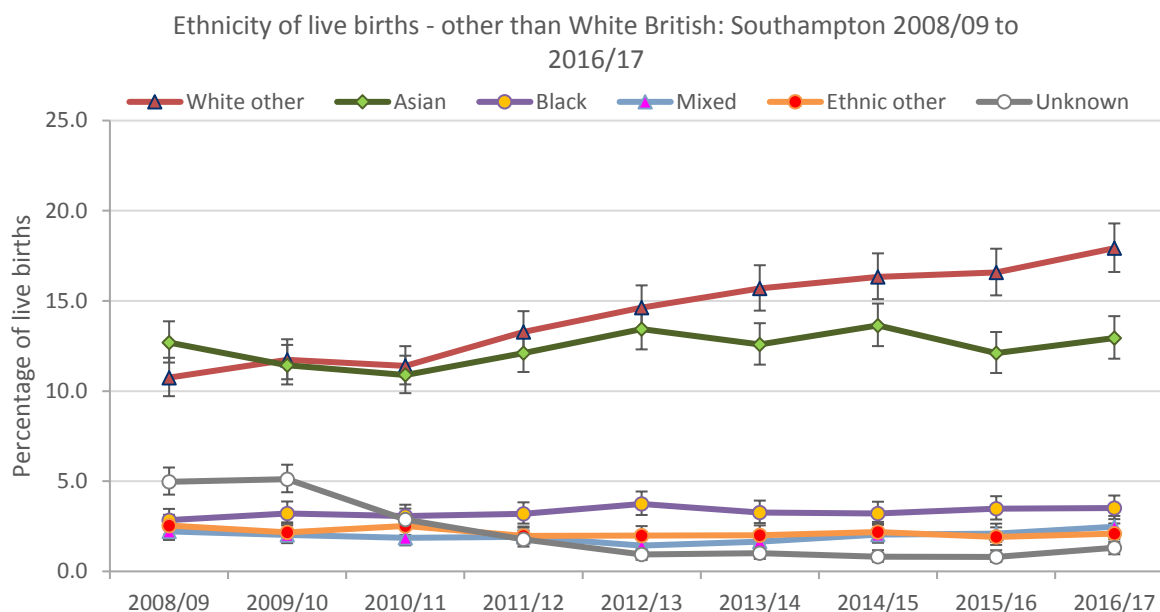
Figure 5



Source: Annual School Census, Southampton City Council  
Notes: Does not include Oasis Academies for 2010 & 2011

In 2016/17, nearly 39% of live births in Southampton (where ethnicity was known) were non-White British or Irish. Trends in ethnicity of live births show the 'Other White' background has risen most significantly in recent years; from 10.7% (2008/09) to 17.9% (2016/17), see figure 6. In 2011 17.6% of Southampton residents were born outside UK, compared to 13.8% for England.

Figure 6



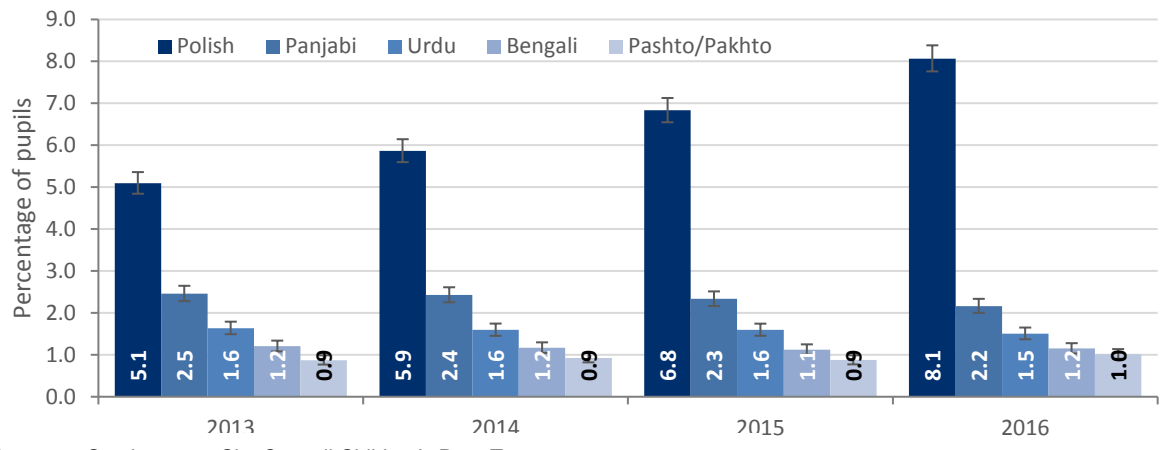
Source: UHS Midwifery database, Southampton CCG

Just under 71% of Southampton residents hold a UK passport, 17.4% hold no passport and 6.5% hold an EU passport. Of the 41,651 people not born in the UK, over 58% have lived here for more than 5 years. Just over 31% of those people born outside the UK are aged 25 to 34 (2011 Census).

In Southampton 7,522 or 7.7% of households have no one in them who speaks English as their main language, compared to 4.4% nationally. In Southampton schools, 7,870 (26.4%) pupils were reported to have a first language other than English. Figure 7 illustrates the main languages (excluding English) spoken by Southampton pupils. In 2013 there were 1,442 (5.1%) pupils whose first language was Polish by 2016, this had risen to 2,405 (8.1%).

Figure 7

Five most spoken languages in Southampton schools, excluding English:  
2013 to 2016



Sources: Southampton City Council Children's Data Team

### Household Composition

The 2011 Census revealed lots about the way people live in Southampton; as expected from the large student population, Southampton has a higher proportion of single (never married) residents than nationally (33.3% compared with 25.8%). Southampton has 10,249 widowed residents and 17,184 who are single through separation or divorce. There are 11,283 households in Southampton consisting of older people living alone and 416 people in a registered same-sex civil partnership.

In 2011, there were 6,918 lone parent families in Southampton with dependent children. Of these, 46.8% were not in employment (compared to 40.5% nationally) and the vast majority were female (over 91%).

## Ward level variations

Southampton is a diverse city, with large variations evident in the resident population between electoral wards. The 'tartan rug' in figure 8 illustrates some of the key variations at ward level for some of the main demographic indicators.

Figure 8: Tartan rug of demography statistics by ward

Key: Difference to the city average

Significantly higher	Similar
Significantly lower	

Demography by Ward	% Resident population aged 0-4 (2017)	% Resident population aged 85+ (2017)	Population change (2017-2023)	Population change Aged 65+ (2017-2023)	Ethnicity of live births: Southampton and wards 2016/17	Ethnic group other than white British (2001)	Country of birth outside the UK (2011)	Births - Other than white British (2016/17)
<b>Southampton</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>38.9</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>38.9</b>
Bargate	4.7	1.3	19.5	32.0	81.6	34.5	27.8	75.0
Bassett	4.4	3.0	1.6	3.1	75.0	29.0	24.7	47.8
Bevois	6.4	0.9	6.4	22.7	47.8	54.5	39.3	81.6
Bitterne	6.4	2.4	-1.4	3.7	17.4	8.1	6.4	17.4
Bitterne Park	7.9	2.2	0.1	13.7	30.1	15.3	12.5	30.1
Coxford	6.4	1.8	1.3	9.1	18.1	13.5	11.4	18.1
Freemantle	6.3	1.7	7.3	18.0	51.7	31.5	26.7	51.7
Harefield	6.6	3.6	3.7	5.5	17.7	9.8	8.7	17.7
Millbrook	7.5	2.5	2.0	8.9	26.0	17.4	14.3	26.0
Peartree	6.2	1.7	0.0	7.9	19.9	10.3	9.0	19.9
Portwood	4.4	3.0	1.9	8.3	55.3	28.0	23.3	55.3
Redbridge	7.9	1.8	4.3	9.7	17.8	9.6	8.3	17.8
Shirley	6.7	2.3	1.8	8.4	31.3	24.3	20.2	31.3
Sholing	6.1	2.5	0.3	8.7	5.9	6.8	6.4	5.9
Swaythling	4.6	1.5	-0.3	5.9	34.9	29.0	24.8	34.9
Woolston	7.9	2.3	13.2	19.4	16.6	9.3	8.5	16.6

## References

Hampshire County Council 2016-based small area population forecasts available from: [Hampshire County Council](#)

Health & Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) GP practice registrations: April 2017 available from: [HSCIC](#)

ONS 2011 Census Results available from: [Nomis](#)