

# Census 2021

## Sefton Overview

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Commissioning Support & Business Intelligence Service

*Data, Insight, Business Intelligence, & Performance*

## Document Control

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### *Issue/Amendment Record*

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V1	25/01/2024	Second Draft – More detail and maps added
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### *Document Ownership*

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## Background to the Census

Censuses have been carried out in England and Wales every decade since 1801 (with the exception of 1941 due to World War II). The Census Act 1920 made it a legal requirement for all residents in England and Wales to complete the questionnaire.

Census 2021 was undertaken on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March of that year, with 97% of households in England and Wales completing the survey. According to the Office of National Statistics (ONS) *“There is less margin for error in the census than with surveys based on a sample of the population, because the whole population is included.”* Within this report numbers have been rounded to the nearest 100 to account for any margin of error and percentages to the nearest whole number for ease of reading.

The data reported in this document is based on that supplied by the Office for National Statistics, licensed under the Open Government Licence v.1.0.

Full details of the 2021 Census relating to Sefton along with detailed comparisons to the previous Census and other Local Authorities can be found on Sefton’s website at:

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/your-council/plans-policies/business-intelligence-insight-performance/census-information-2021/>

## Census 2021 Headlines

### Population

- In 2021 approximately 279,200 residents were living in Sefton, a 2% rise from Census 2011.
- The median age of people in Sefton was 46.
- 15% of Sefton residents were aged between 55 and 64 (the Borough being within the top 20% of Local Authorities (LA) nationally for this age group).

- 37% of Cambridge ward residents were aged 65 and over, putting the ward in the top 5% of all English wards for that age group.
- 6% of people in Sefton were born outside of the UK.
- The top five non-UK countries of birth in Sefton were: Poland, Ireland, Romania, Germany, and India.

### Identity

- 95% of Sefton residents stated their ethnicity was ‘White’.
- 8% of residents in Kew and Linacre stated their ethnicity was either Asian, Black, Mixed, Multiple or Other groups.
- 2,300 of residents in Sefton stated that English was not their main language, and they could not speak English well or at all.
- 800 Sefton residents (aged 16 and over) stated that their gender identity was different from their sex registered at birth.
- 5,800 Borough residents (aged 16 and over) identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or other (LGB+).
- 29% of people in Sefton said they had ‘no religion’.
- 64% of Sefton residents stated their religion as Christianity; 1% stated Muslim; with the next two most common religions being Hindu and Buddhist both with fewer than 1% of the population.

### Health

- 7% of Sefton residents stated their health was either bad or very bad.
- 10 Sefton wards were within the top 10% of wards in England for residents stating their health was bad or very bad.

- 22% of Sefton residents were disabled under the Equality Act.
- Eight of the Borough's wards were within the top 10% of wards nationally for residents disabled under the Equality Act.
- 11% of residents provided some form of un-paid care.
- The Borough was within the top 5% of LAs nationally for residents (aged five and over) providing unpaid care.
- Six Sefton wards were in the top 5% of all wards in England for residents (aged five and over) providing unpaid care.

### Education

- 20% of residents aged 16 and over in Sefton had no qualifications.
- Derby, Linacre, and St Oswald wards were within the top 5% of wards nationally for residents (aged 16 and over) with no qualifications.

### Work

- 54% of the Boroughs residents aged 16 and over were economically active and in employment at the time of the 2021 Census.
- 3% of Sefton residents aged 16 and over were economically active and unemployed on Census Day 2021.
- 27% of residents aged 16 and over in Sefton were economically inactive due to being retired, 6% due to long term sickness or disabilities.
- The Borough was in the top 10% of LAs nationally for economically inactive residents due to long term sickness or disabilities.
- Ainsdale, Cambridge, Harington, Meols and Ravenmeols were within the top 10% of

wards in England for economically retired residents.

- 69% of residents in Sefton that were employed in the week prior to Census 2021 worked full time.
- 48% of employed residents in Sefton travelled to work by car or van, 28% worked from home.

### Housing

- 34% of Sefton households were single occupancy households, with 16% being single occupancy households where the resident was aged 66 or over.
- Cambridge and Duke's wards fell within the top 1% of wards in England for single occupancy households.
- 67% of properties in Sefton were owner occupied (higher than England & Wales).
- 26% of Sefton households did not have access to a car or van.
- Derby, Duke's, Linacre, and St Oswald wards were all in the top 10% of wards nationally for households with no access to a car or van.
- 5% of households in the Borough were deprived in three or more dimensions.
- Linacre ward was in the top 1% for households deprived in three dimensions.

## Population

Census 2021 estimated that there were 279,200 usual residents living in Sefton, an increase of 2% compared to the 2011 Census. This was lower than the rise seen across England & Wales (6%). The increase was higher than the Office of National Statistics (ONS) projected estimate from 2012, which suggested the Borough’s population would show less than 1% growth from 2012 to 2021.

The 2020 mid-year population estimates suggested Sefton’s population was approximately 275,900, 1% less than identified in the Census 2021. ONS are currently re-evaluating how they calculate the mid-year estimates and projections.

### An Aging population

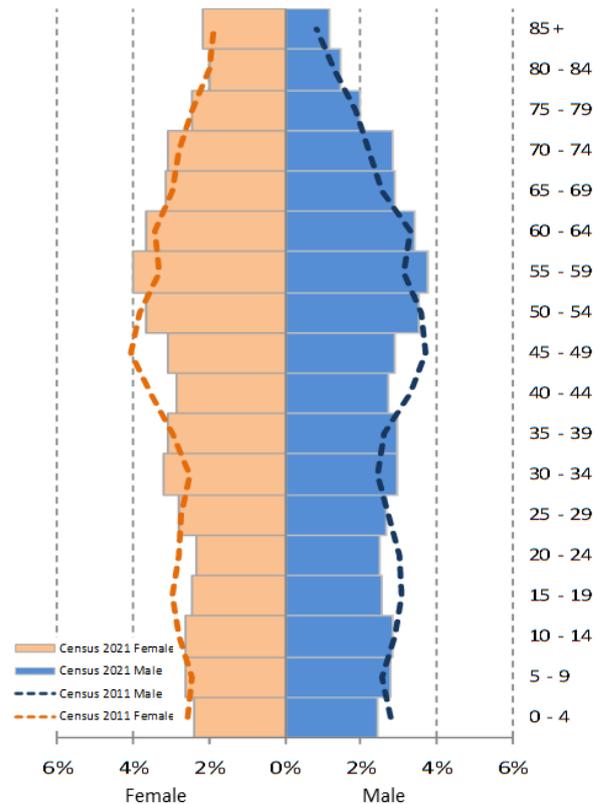
The Government Office of Science states that the people in the UK are living longer and that the aging population “challenges the UK’s model of service provision. If an older population means fewer workers at the same time as greater demand for public services, this raises questions about the sustainability of the current models of working lives and care provision.”

In the Borough 23% (64,800) of the usual residents were aged 65 and over, higher than seen in England & Wales (19%). Increases were seen in both females (8%) and males (21%) aged 65 and over in Sefton from Census 2011 to Census 2021.

Sefton was ranked 80 out of 309 Local Authorities (LA) in England for all usual residents aged 65 and over, the Borough was within the top 30% of England LAs.

When looking at residents aged 85 and over the Borough was ranked 52 and was within the top 20% of England LAs.

Chart 1: Sefton Population Pyramid – Census 2011 / 2021



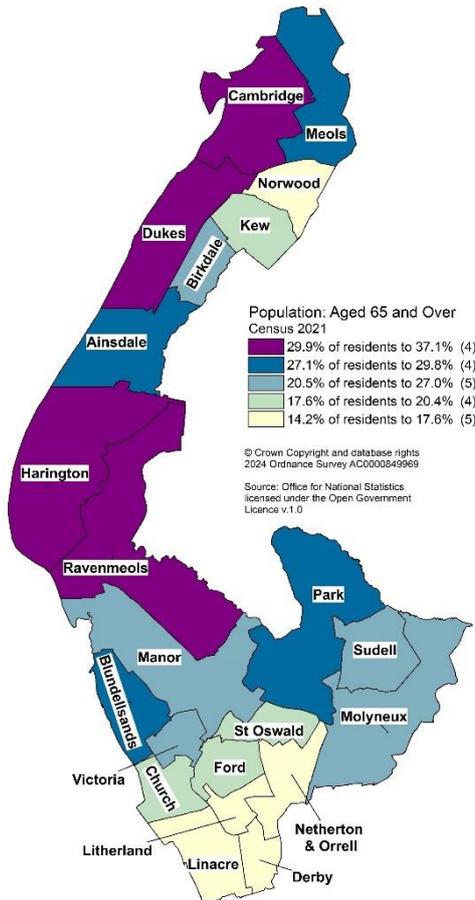
Sefton’s population pyramid illustrates the impact of the ‘bulge’ of people aged 50 to 64 who represent those who are about to retire or are in early retirement and who are likely to be placing demand of health and social care services over the next couple of decades. It should be noted though, that once that ‘bulge’ has ‘aged out’ of the population Sefton’s pyramid is relatively flat perhaps suggesting a post 2045 demand profile that will be relatively stable and evenly distributed.

The distribution of older people (aged 65 and over) varies across Sefton (Map 1). Cambridge ward had 37% of the population made up of residents aged 65 and over, the ward ranked 112 out of 6,876 wards in England and was in the top 5%. A further three wards in Sefton were in the top 10%, and another in the top 5% of England wards for the levels of residents ages 65 and over. The wards with

the higher levels of older residents were located in the North West and Central Sefton.

Linacre ward had 14% of residents aged 65 and over and was in bottom 30% of England’s wards.

Map 1: Population aged 65 and over by Sefton wards – Census 2021



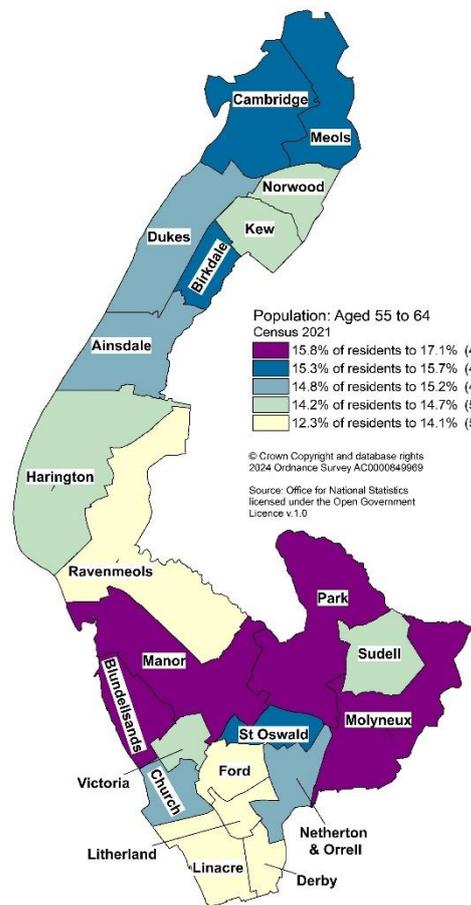
Those aged 55 to 64, who in the next decade will become Sefton’s older population, made up 15% (41,500) of the Borough residents and saw a 15% increase from Census 2011 to Census 2021. Sefton was ranked 40 out of the 309 England Local Authorities and was within the top 20%. This could have a major impact on future demand for services relating to health and adult social care in the Borough.

In 2021 the distribution of residents aged 55 to 64 (Map 2) across Sefton differed significantly from ward to ward. 17% of Manor ward residents were aged 55 to 64

(putting the ward in the top 10% of wards in England), compared to Linacre with 12% (which saw Linacre ward in the lowest 40% of English wards).

A further six Borough wards were within the top 20% of England wards, these were located across Central and most Northern Sefton. This may indicate where targeted ‘preventative’ activity might be best focussed.

Map 2: Population aged 55 to 64 by Sefton wards – Census 2021



### School Age Population

Compulsory full time education in the UK is between the ages of 5 and 16 (though children tend start primary school in the September after they turn four and those 16 and over have to continue further education in some capacity until 18).

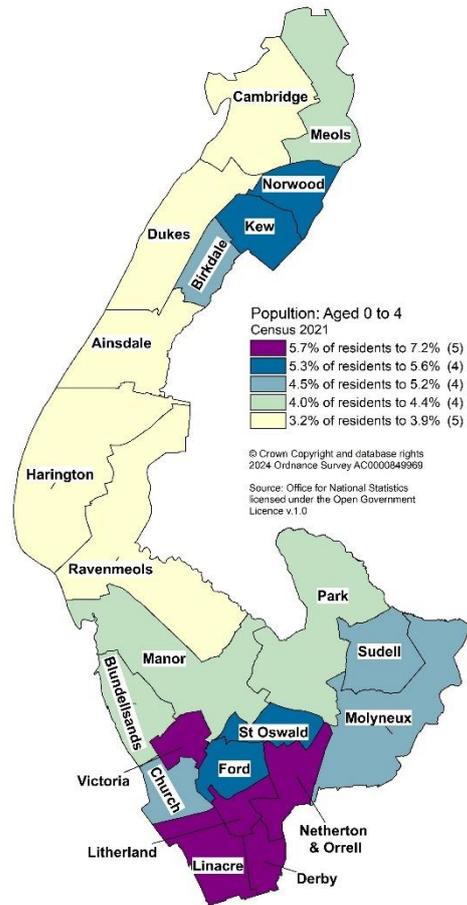
### Primary School

The compulsory age band for primary school children is 5 through to 11. In Sefton there are 70 primary schools (nine of which are academies), two infant schools, two junior schools, three special schools offering primary school provisions, two private primary / prep schools and two independent special schools providing primary school provisions.

In Census 2021, those aged 0 to 4 made up 5% (13,500) of Sefton’s population, the level of 0 to 4 year olds saw a reduction of 8% from Census 2011. This fall may impact the number of future primary school places required.

Looking at the distribution of 0 to 4 year olds around Sefton (Map 3) there may be a greater demand for primary school places in the South of the Borough, as 7% of Linacre ward residents were aged between 0 to 4 (the ward was within the top 10% of England wards) compared to Cambridge, Dukes and Harington wards which had just 3% of the population being aged 0 to 4 (all three wards fell in to the lowest 10% nationally).

Map 3: Population aged 0 to 4 by Sefton wards – Census 2021



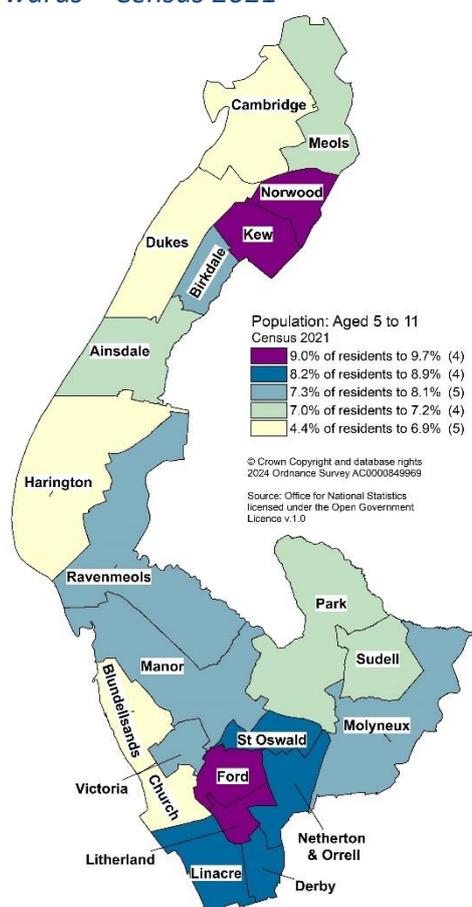
### Secondary School

The compulsory full time education age band for secondary school children is 11 through to 16. The Borough has 18 secondary schools (14 are academies and one is a Free School), five special schools offering secondary school provisions, two private secondary schools and three independent special schools providing secondary school provisions.

8% (21,300) of the Borough residents were aged between 5 to 11 in Census 2021, an increase of 8% when compared to Census 2011. In the coming years these children will be needing secondary school places which may see demand rise in the Borough and lead to children having to travel further afield to school.

Census 2021 showed levels of children aged 5 to 11 differed across the 22 Sefton wards (Map 4), with 10% of Norwood ward residents being aged between 5 and 11 (putting the ward within the top 20% of England wards), compared to Cambridge and Dukes which were both in the lowest 10% of wards nationally for those aged 5 to 11.

Map 4: Population aged 5 to 11 by Sefton wards – Census 2021



### Post 16 Education

The Borough has 10 secondary schools, two colleges, three special schools, two private schools and one independent special school providing post 16 education.

Approximately 7% (18,200) of the Borough’s population were aged between 11 and 16 in Census 2021, a reduction of 7% from Census 2011, this change may see a reduction in the

demand for post 16 education places in the Borough as these children age.

The demands may vary across the Borough (Map 5). Those aged 11 to 16 accounted for 8% of the population in both Kew and Norwood wards (located to the North East of Sefton) both wards were in the top 30% of wards nationally for those aged 11 to 16 in Census 2021. In comparison Cambridge and Dukes wards fell into the bottom 10% of wards in England with 4% of both the wards population being aged between 11 and 16.

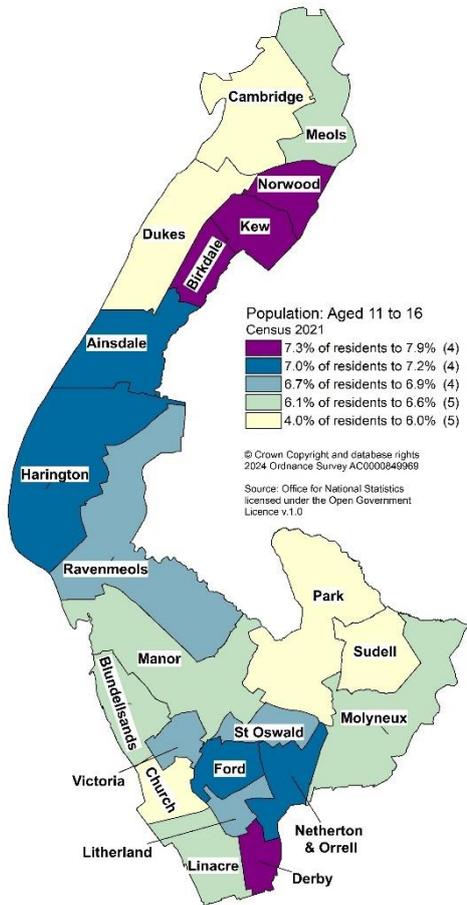
## Identity

### Gender Identity

For the first time, the 2021 Census asked residents aged 16 and over about their gender identity (this is a persons’ sense of their own gender). ONS stated “it was added to provide the first official data on the size of the transgender population in England and Wales. The data will help to; provide better quality information for monitoring purposes, support anti-discrimination duties under the Equality Act 2010, aid allocation for resources and policy development.”

The question was voluntary meaning respondents could choose whether to answer or not. In Sefton, 96% (222,000) of residents aged 16 and over chose to answer the question (slightly higher than the response rate seen in England & Wales – 94%).

Map 5: Population aged 11 to 16 by Sefton wards – Census 2021



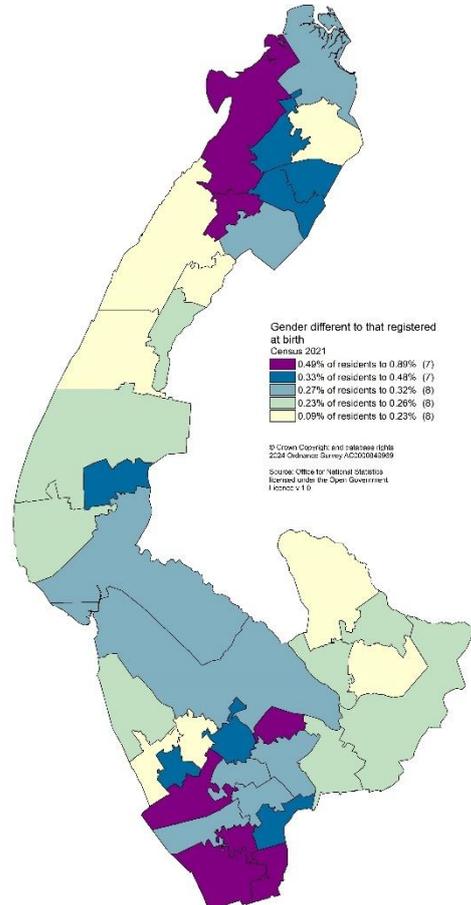
99.6% (221,200) of usual residents in the Borough (aged 16 and over) that answered stated they were the same sex as they were registered at birth, similar to the rate seen across England & Wales (99.4%).

800 residents in Sefton aged 16 and over stated that their gender identity was different from their sex registered at birth (this included trans women, trans men, trans not stated, non-binary along with other gender identities). The Borough was in the bottom 40% of Local Authorities (LA) in England for those with a different gender to that registered at birth in Census 2021.

There were variations in levels across the 38 Sefton Middle Super Output Areas (MSOA), slightly higher rates could be seen to the South and North of the Borough (Map 6)

perhaps reflecting to some extent the younger generational make-up of these areas.

Map 6: Residents with a different gender identity to that registered at birth by Sefton MSOAs – Census 2021



### Sexual Orientation

Similar to gender identity, for the first time, those aged 16 and over were asked about their sexual orientation (this covers sexual identity, attraction, and behaviour). According to ONS the question “helps local communities by allowing charities, public bodies, and local and central government to understand what services people might need.”

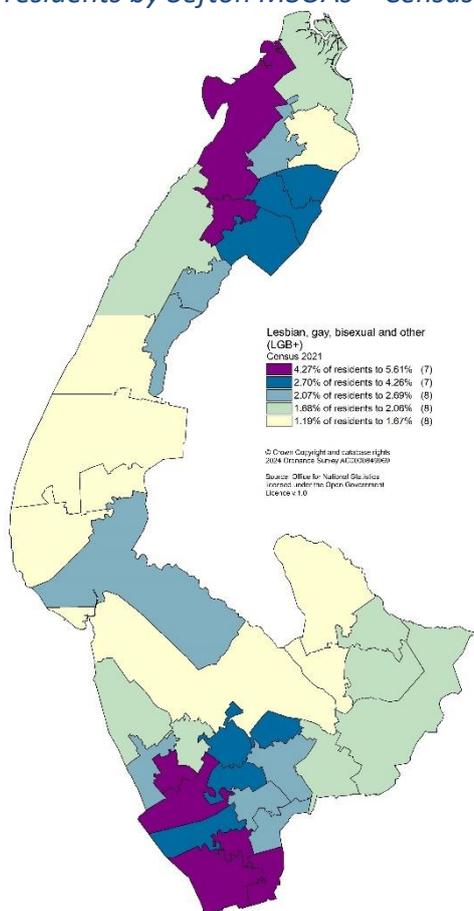
Again, answering this particular question was voluntary, 94% (218,200) of the Borough’s residents (aged 16 and over) answered - slightly higher than the 93% seen in England & Wales.

In Sefton, 97% (212,400) of residents aged 16 and over that answered the question identified themselves as being straight or heterosexual, the same rate as seen in England & Wales. A further 2% (3,300) stated they were gay or lesbian with 1% being bisexual (2,000).

Sefton ranked 166 out of the 309 Local Authorities in England for residents (aged 16 and over that answered the sexual orientation question) identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or other (LGB+).

The distribution of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or other (LGB+) residents (aged 16 and over) deviated across the MSOAs in the Borough, with sections of the South and North East of Sefton showing higher rates (Map 7).

Map 7: Lesbian, gay, bisexual, or other (LGB+) residents by Sefton MSOAs – Census 2021



### Country of Birth

Across Sefton 94% (261,300) of usual residents were born in the United Kingdom (91% were born in England), considerably higher than the levels seen in England & Wales (83%). 4% of the Borough’s population were born in a European Union (EU) Country. Census 2021 showed the top five non UK countries of birth in Sefton were Poland (2,600 residents), Ireland (1,300 residents), Romania (1,300 residents), Germany (700 residents) and India (600 residents).

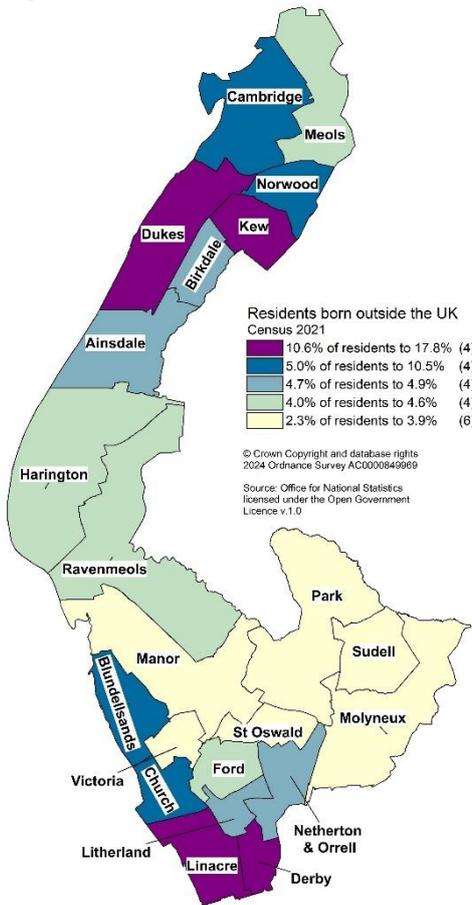
Sefton residents born in Romania (an EU country) showed the greatest increase (estimated at 1,200 residents). Those born in Poland (an EU country) also saw a rise (approximately 1,000 residents) when comparing the 2011 and 2021 Censuses.

Although the levels of residents born outside of the UK were lower than seen nationally (with Sefton being in the bottom 30% of Local Authorities - LA in England), the distribution of residents across the Borough varied. Duke’s ward (located to the North West of Sefton) was in the top 30% of England wards for residents born outside of the UK, in comparison wards to the East (Molyneux, Park and Sudell) along with Manor ward in Central Sefton were within the lowest 10% of wards nationally (Map 8).

### Ethnicity

Census 2021 asked residents about their ethnicity (people are able to self-define their ethnicity and may include country of birth, language spoken or religion). According to ONS the data allows for “resource allocation and service delivery by central and local government to inform policy development and equality monitoring, to help organisations meet their statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010.”

Map 8: Residents born outside of the UK by Sefton wards – Census 2021



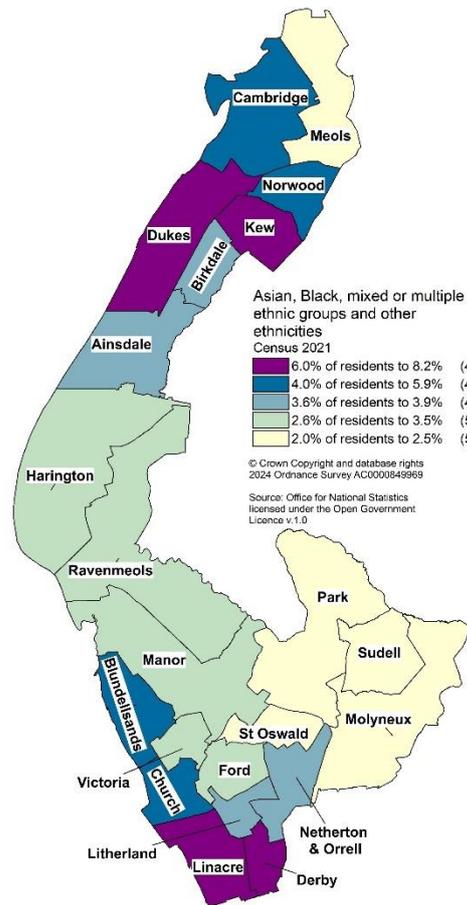
Of all usual residents living in Sefton in the 2021 Census, 92% (256,300) identified themselves as ‘White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British’; considerably higher than England & Wales (74%). Sefton was within the top 30% of LAs in England for residents stating their ethnicity was ‘White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British’. A further 4% of Borough residents identified as ‘White (not including those stating English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British)’.

In Census 2021, around 11,700 residents in the Borough stated that their ethnicity was something other than ‘White’ (this included Asian, Black, mixed or multiple ethnic groups and other ethnicities). In Sefton the top five of these ethnicities (excluding other) were ‘White & Asian’ (1,200 residents), ‘Chinese’

(1,200 residents), ‘Indian’ (1,000 residents), ‘African’ (1,000 residents) and ‘White & Black Caribbean’ (900 residents).

The ethnic makeup of Sefton varied across the 22 Sefton wards (Map 9) in Census 2021, with 8% of residents in both Kew (North East Sefton) and Linacre (South West Sefton) wards having either an Asian, Black, mixed or multiple ethnic groups and other ethnicity compared to just 2% in Molyneux, Park and Sudell (East Sefton), St Oswald (mid-South Sefton) and Meols (North tip of Sefton).

Map 9: Asian, Black, mixed or multiple ethnic groups and other ethnicity residents by Sefton wards – Census 2021



**Main Language**

Knowing the main language of residents and communities is important to ensure that all forms of communication be it verbal or written are easily accessible, understandable,

and inclusive. Knowing the main language of a resident or community allows relevant resources to be put in place such as English language courses, interpreters and ensuring written communications are provided in suitable languages.

In Sefton, 96% (261,800) of all residents aged three and over had a main language of English according to Census 2021. This was higher than the 91% seen in England & Wales. The top five non-English main languages seen across the Borough were: Polish (2,400 residents), Romanian (1,100 residents), Portuguese (900 residents), Tamil (400 residents) and Latvian (400 residents). There was a rise of approximately 7,500 residents across Sefton with a main language other than English from Census 2011 to Census 2021.

2,300 (1%) of residents in Sefton stated that English was not their main language, and they could not speak English well or at all in the 2021 Census. The distribution of these residents is spread across the Borough (Map 10) with a higher intensity seen in the North West of Sefton (Duke’s ward fell into the top 10% of wards in England for residents not speaking English well or at all) and the very South of Sefton (Linacre and Derby wards were both in the top 20% of wards nationally).

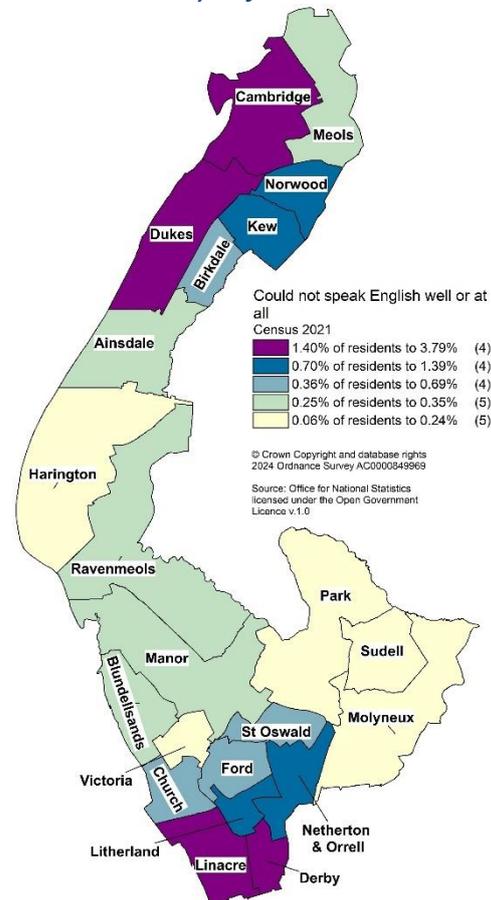
**Religion**

Similar to country of birth, ethnicity and language, religion provides an understanding of residents and communities needs along with insights into cultural backgrounds. Religious affiliation “is a measure of how a person connects or identifies with a religion, whether or not they actively practice it.” ONS

This was a voluntary question in Census 2021, with 95% (265,200) of Sefton residents

choosing to answer (compared to 94% in England & Wales).

*Map 10: Residents with English not as their main language – that could not speak English well or at all by Sefton wards – Census 2021*

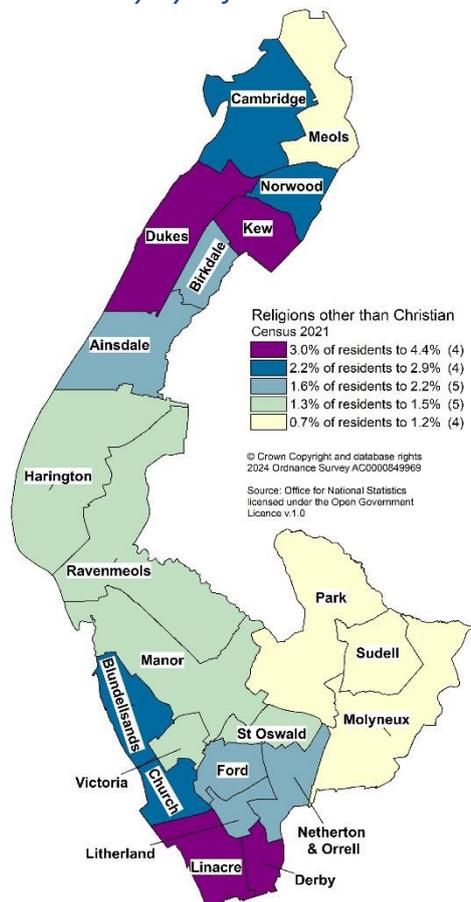


Of Sefton residents that chose to answer 68% (179,800) identified as Christians, higher than seen across England & Wales (49%). Those with no religion made up a further 30% of the Borough’s population. In Sefton, the top three other religions identified in the 2021 Census were: Muslim (2,300 residents), Hindu (1,100 residents), and Buddhist (700 residents).

In Census 2021, 5,500 (2%) Borough residents stated they had a religion other than Christian (this included Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and other). Levels in the mid North and North West of Sefton (Cambridge, Duke’s and Kew wards) along with the very South of the Borough (Linacre and Derby

wards) had higher levels of residents with other religions than seen across the remaining 17 wards (Map 11).

Map 11: Residents with a religion other than Christianity by Sefton wards – Census 2021



46% (129,500) of Sefton residents stated that they had very good health, lower than the England & Wales average (48%). The Borough was in the bottom 40% of national Local Authorities (LA) for residents in very good health.

7% (19,600) of Sefton residents stated their health was either bad or very bad, higher than the 5% seen across England & Wales. Sefton was within the top 20% of LAs in England in this category.

When comparing Census 2021 to Census 2011, there was a 4% increase in Sefton residents stating they were in very good health. Those stating they were in very bad health also increased in the Borough (4%).

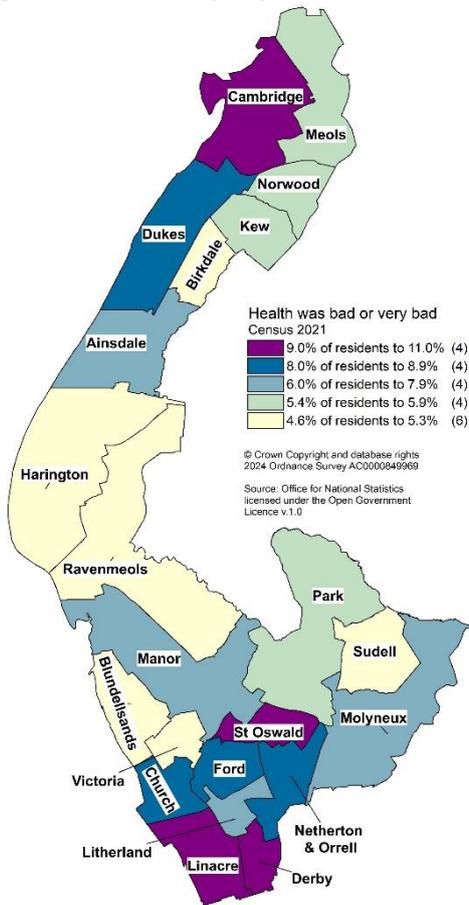
10 wards in Sefton were within the top 10% of wards nationally for residents with bad or very bad health (Linacre ward fell into the top 1%). The North and South of Sefton showed higher levels of poor health than compared to Central Sefton (Map 12).

## Health

### General Health

*“Self-assessed general health is an important indicator of the general health of the population. It is a valid measure for predicting future health outcomes and can be used to project use of health services and provide information useful for policy development. In older people, self-assessed poor overall health has been associated with increased mortality risk (Mossey and Shapiro, 1982) and functional decline (Idler and Kasi, 1995).” NHS Digital*

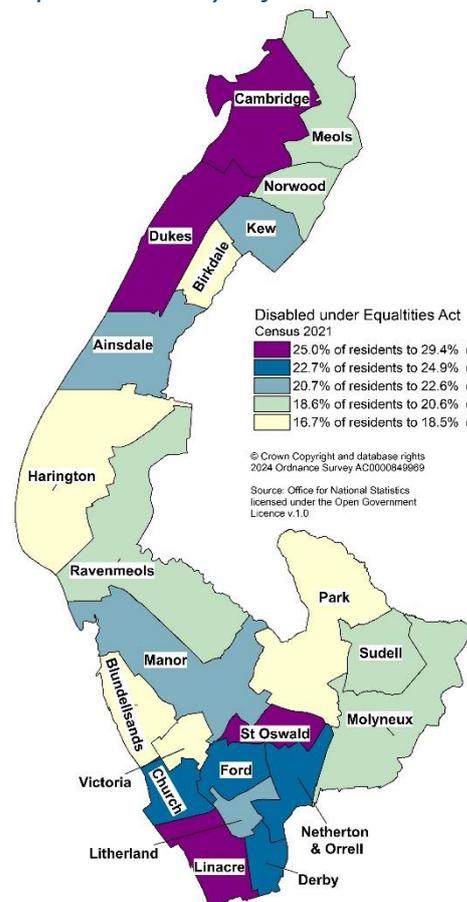
Map 12: Residents with bad or very bad general health by Sefton wards – Census 2021



Equality Act, higher than England & Wales (18%). Sefton was in the top 20% of Local Authorities (LA) for disabled residents under the Equality Act. A further 7% (19,300) of Borough residents stated they had a long term physical or mental health condition which was not covered in the Equality Act.

Eight wards in Sefton were within the top 10% of wards nationally for residents that were disabled under the Equality Act (three of these were in the top 1% nationally - Cambridge, Linacre, and St Oswald). The rates of residents disabled under the Equality Act differed across the Borough with clear high density areas in the North West and to the South of the Borough (Map 13).

Map 13: Residents disabled under the Equalities Act by Sefton wards – Census 2021



**Disabilities**

The World Health Organisation states: *“Persons with disabilities have twice the risk of developing conditions such as depression, asthma, diabetes, stroke, obesity or poor oral health and health inequities arise from unfair conditions faced by persons with disabilities, including stigma, discrimination, poverty, exclusion from education and employment, and barriers faced in the health system itself.”*

With regards to the Census 2021, ONS explains: *“the Equality Act defines an individual as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term negative effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.”*

In the 2021 Census, 22% (61,100) of residents in Sefton stated they were disabled under the

## Unpaid Care

*“Unpaid carers play a substantial and vital role in meeting social care needs. The care they provide has enormous value, both for the people they care for and for wider society. Many carers experience great satisfaction from their role, and through the help and support they provide to friends and family members they may also reduce the costs of formal social care provision.*

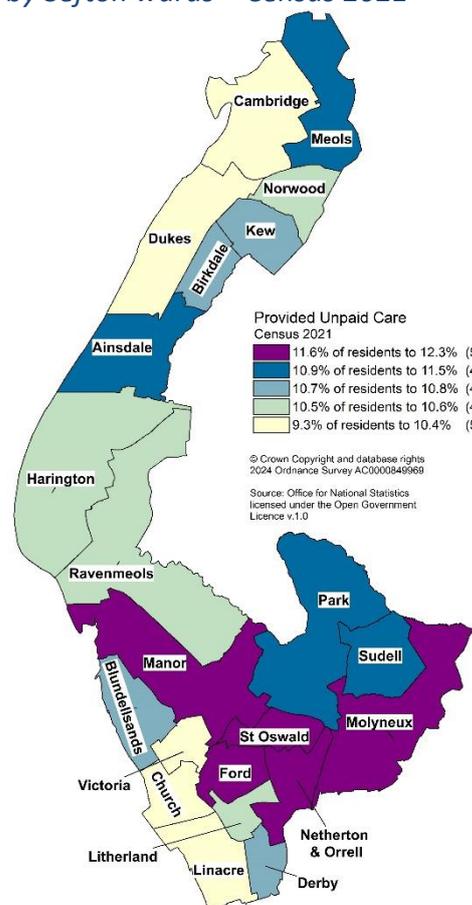
*At the same time, caring responsibilities can come at a high personal and financial cost, despite the 2014 Care Act giving carers the right to receive support. 1 in 5 carers report feeling socially isolated and 4 in 10 report financial difficulties because of their caring role.”* The Health Foundation

Note that the data for unpaid care in the Census may have been skewed by the fact that the 2021 Census was undertaken around the time of the Covid-19 pandemic.

11% (29,000) of residents in Sefton aged five and over provided unpaid care, compared to 10% in England & Wales. The Borough was within the top 5% of LAs nationally for residents (aged five and over) providing unpaid care. Though the Borough saw a 16% reduction in residents providing unpaid care from Census 2011 to Census 2021.

Across Sefton, the distribution of residents (aged five and over) that provided unpaid care varied (Map 14). Six of the Borough wards were in the top 5% of wards in England (a further two were in the top 10%). Higher levels of residents (aged five and over) that provided unpaid care could be seen to the East, South East and North East of the Borough.

Map 14: Residents that provided unpaid care by Sefton wards – Census 2021



## Qualifications

Levels of qualifications in an area are important as studies carried out by ONS have found that *“Areas with good educational attainment, opportunities and job markets are likely to have a richer local economy. Meanwhile, areas with a less-qualified workforce might have fewer job opportunities for highly qualified people, struggle to train or attract and keep qualified workers, and have a poorer local economy.”*

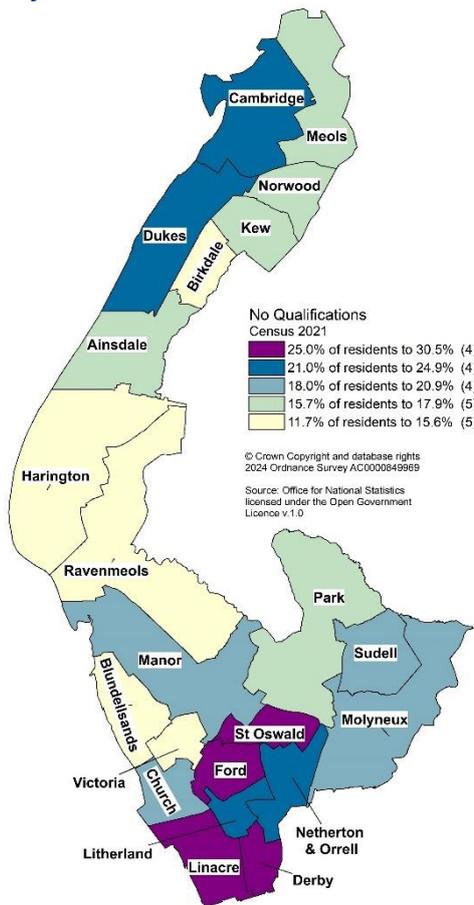
Residents (aged 16 and over) with level four qualifications or above (degrees or higher degrees) made up the highest proportion in Sefton - 30% (69,500) in Census 2021, this was lower than England & Wales (34%). The Borough was within the bottom 30% of

England Local Authorities (LA) for residents with level four or above qualifications.

In Census 2021, 20% (45, 900) of residents aged 16 and over in the Borough had no qualifications, higher than England & Wales (18%). Sefton was within the top 30% of LAs nationally for residents with no qualifications.

This varied across the Borough with wards located in the South (Map 15) showing higher levels of residents with no qualifications (Derby, Linacre and St Oswald wards all fell into the top 5% of English wards for residents with no qualifications compared to Harington ward which was in the bottom 20%).

Map 15: Residents with no qualifications Sefton wards – Census 2021



## Economic Activity

Research carried out by The Health Foundation implied that “*employment and economic inactivity levels are related to healthy life expectancy for both men and women. People living in an area with higher economic inactivity are more likely to have a lower healthy life expectancy.*” There are also other significant factors.

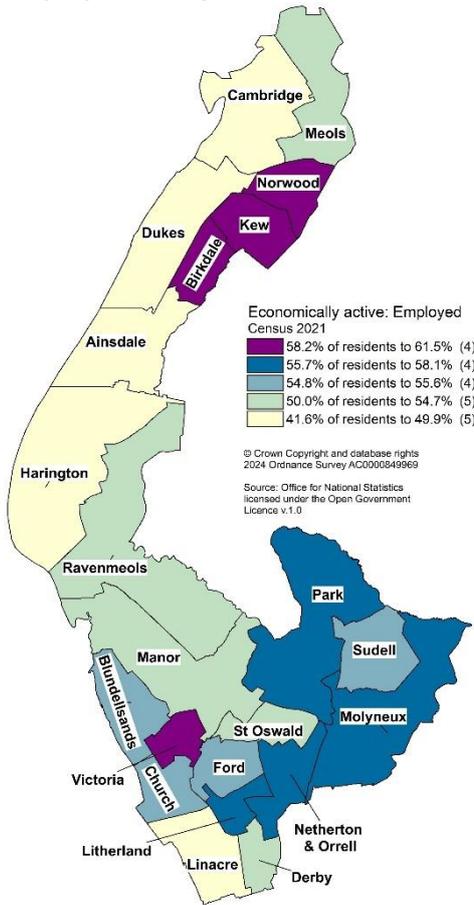
### Economically Active

Census 2021 results showed that 57% (131,700) of residents aged 16 and over were economically active (including full-time students) in Sefton, compared to 61% of residents across England & Wales. The Borough was within the bottom 20% of LAs nationally for economically active residents.

54% (124,600) of the Boroughs usual residents (aged 16 and over) were in employment, lower than England & Wales (57%).

Levels of economically active people (aged 16 and over) in employment differed across the Sefton wards (Map 16) with five falling in the bottom 10 % nationally for economically active residents in employment: Ainsdale, Cambridge, Duke’s, Harington, and Linacre (four of these where to the North of the Borough).

Map 16: Economically active residents in employment Sefton wards – Census 2021



**Economically Inactive**

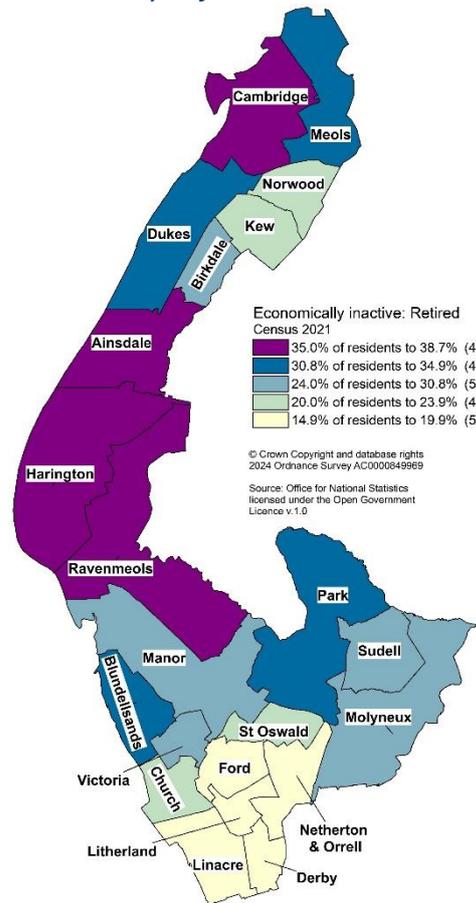
In the Borough, 43% (100,700) of residents aged 16 and over stated that they were economically inactive, the England & Wales level was 39%. The Borough was in the highest 20% of LAs in England for economically inactive residents in the 2021 Census.

The two main reasons (in Sefton) for being economically inactive were: residents being retired 27% (61,900) and long term sick or disabled residents 6% (13,700). The Borough was in the top 30% of LAs nationally for economically inactive retired residents and top 10% for economically inactive residents due to long term sickness or disabilities.

Across the Borough the distribution of economically inactive retired residents varied

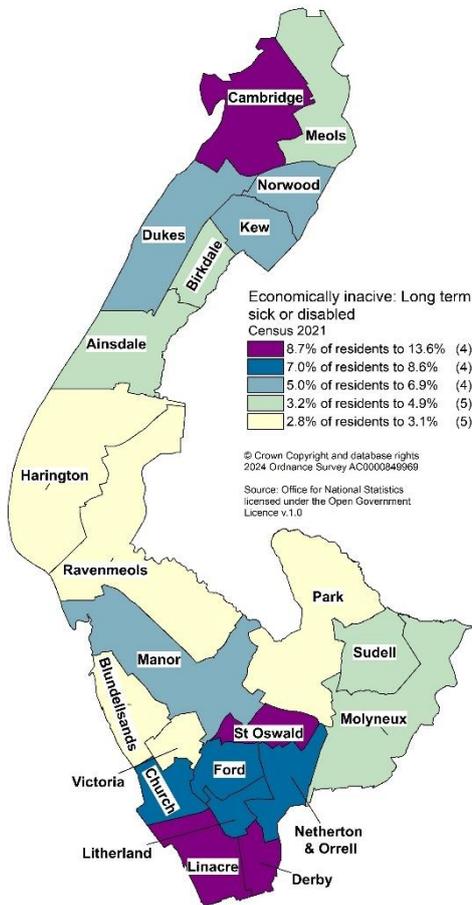
(Map 17) with five wards (Ainsdale, Cambridge, Harington, Meols and Ravenmeols located in Central to North Sefton) being within the top 10% of wards in England.

Map 17: Economically inactive retired residents by Sefton wards – Census 2021

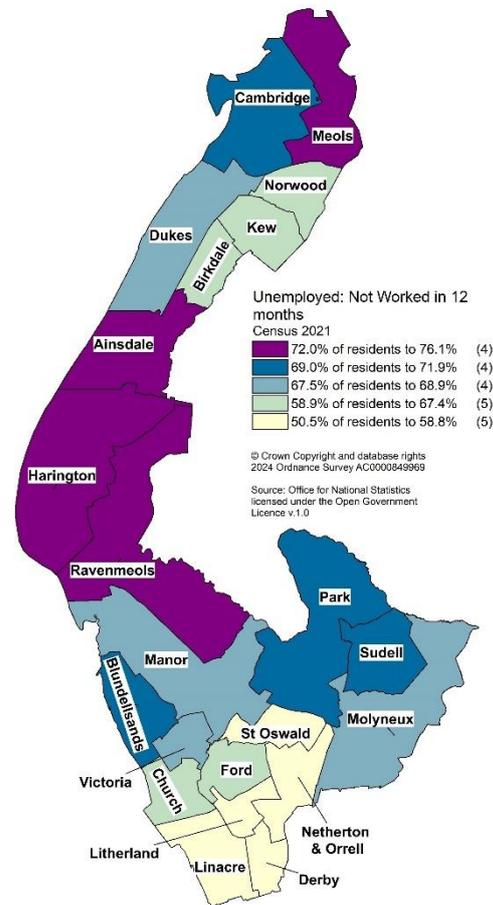


Nine out of the 22 Sefton wards were in the top 10% for economically inactive residence due to long term sickness or disabilities (Linacre Ward fell into the top 1%), high intensity areas can be seen across the South of the Borough and to the North West (Map 18).

Map 18: Economically inactive residents due to long term illness or disabilities Sefton wards – Census 2021



Map 19: Residents who had not worked in the 12-months before the Census by Sefton wards – Census 2021



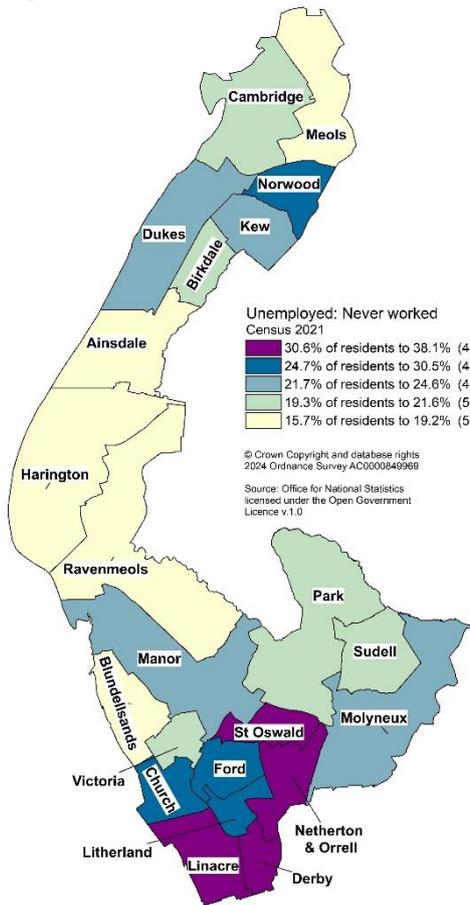
**Unemployment History**

The 2021 Census showed that 46% (107,800) of residents in Sefton aged 16 and over were not in employment on Census Day. 66% of these residents had not worked in the previous 12 months, higher than England & Wales (61%). The rates of those that had never worked were slightly lower in the Borough (24%) than England & Wales (25%).

The levels of residents who had not worked in the 12 months prior to the Census 2021 differed across Sefton (Map 19) with higher levels being seen to the Centre of the Borough (Harington ward was within the top 10% of wards in England compared to Linacre which was in the bottom 20%).

Those residents who had never worked prior to the 2021 Census showed high intensity levels (Map 20) to the South of the Borough (Linacre ward fell into the top 10% of wards nationally, whereas Harington was in the bottom 20%).

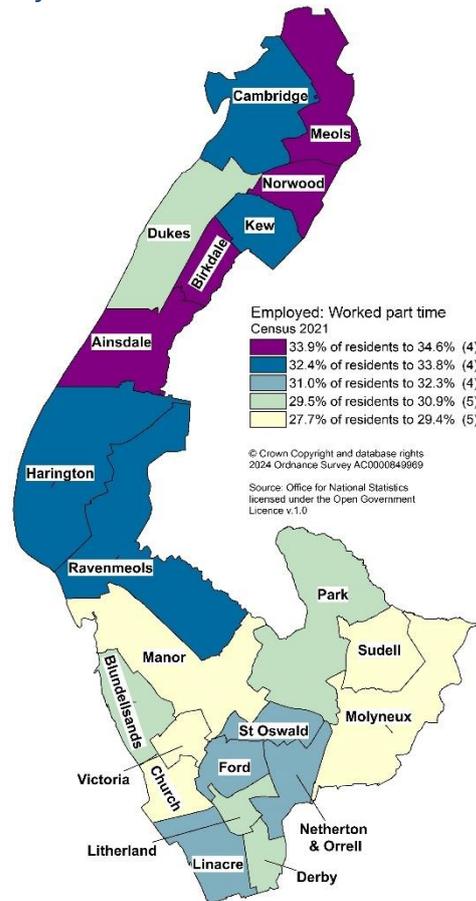
Map 20: Residents who had never worked by Sefton wards – Census 2021



Of the Sefton residents aged 16 and over in employment, 31% (39,000) worked part time, slightly higher than England & Wales (30%).

The mid North and North East of Sefton (Map 21) saw the highest levels of employed residents working part time (Ainsdale, Birkdale, Norwood and Meols wards were all in the top 20% of wards nationally).

Map 21: Residents who worked part time by Sefton wards – Census 2021



## Employment

### Hours Worked

Studies have shown that *“the amount of time that workers are able to spend with their families is reduced by having longer working hours, and this reduced family time leads to a poor work-life balance that, in turn, ultimately affects the productivity levels of those workers.”* National Library of Medicine - USA

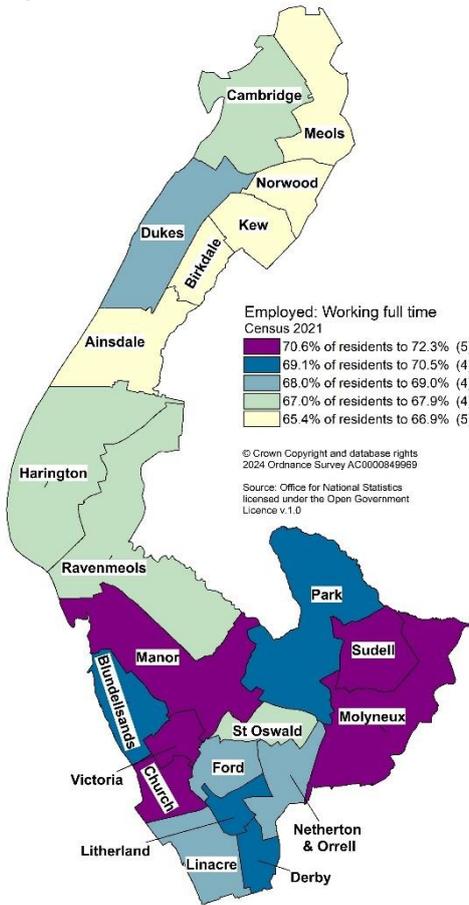
54% (124,600) of residents in Sefton aged 16 and over were in employment in the week before Census Day 2021.

3% of Sefton residents who were economically active were unemployed at the time of the Census.

Across the Borough 69% (85,600) residents aged 16 and over in employment worked full time slightly lower than England & Wales (70%).

Sudell and Victoria wards (Map 22) had the highest levels of employed residents working full time (both wards were in the top 30% of wards in England).

Map 22: Residents who worked full time by Sefton wards – Census 2021



**Travel to Work**

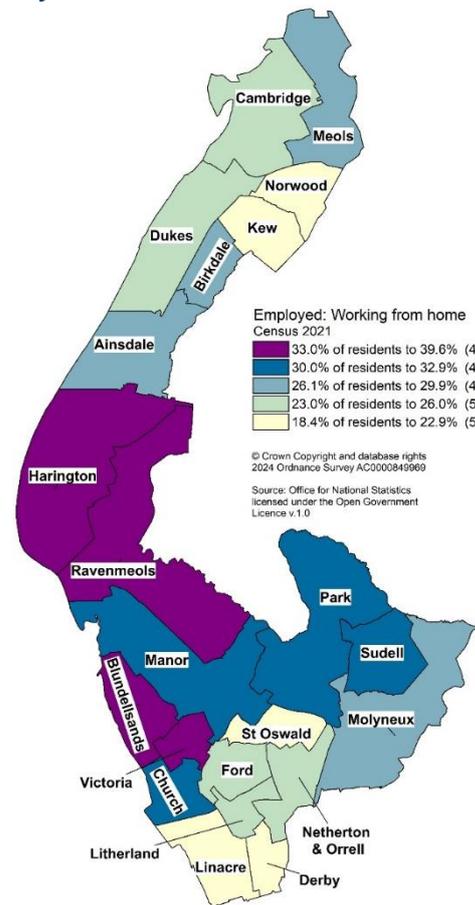
On 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, the UK government announced its first COVID-19 national lock down which ordered people to “stay at home”, this was lifted in May 2020, however a further two national lockdowns were seen with the last starting on 06<sup>th</sup> January 2021, meaning that the 2021 Census was carried out during a Covid-19 Pandemic national lock down. It is expected this had an impact on distance and method of travel to work data, with Science Direct research indicating there is a “potential for low-frequency work travel but increased car dependency following the pandemic.”

Census 2021 showed that 28% (34,800) of all usual residents in Sefton aged 16 and over in employment a week before the Census were working from home (as advised by national

government as part of national lock down) lower than the England & Wales average (31%). As expected, due to the national lockdown, the levels of people working from home increased when comparing Census 2011 to Census 2021 by 243% in the Borough, higher than the rise seen in England & Wales (218%).

Wards to the West of Sefton (Map 23) showed the highest level of employed residents working from home (Blundellsands, Harington and Victoria wards were all in the top 30% of wards nationally).

Map 23: Residents who worked from home by Sefton wards – Census 2021



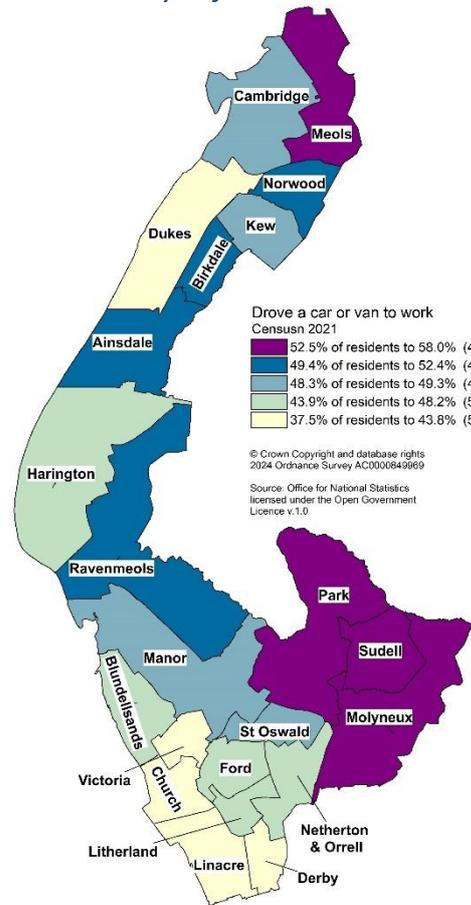
In Sefton the most prolific distance for those still having to travel to work was 2 km to less than 5km accounting for 13% of residents aged 16 and over in employment, 10km to less than 20km made up a further 13%.

Across the Borough 48% (59,600) of residents aged 16 and over in employment the week before Census 2021 drove a car or van to work, this was higher than England & Wales (45%). There was a reduction in most methods of travel to work (likely due to the increase in working from home and the impacts of the pandemic on public transport) however, those using taxis to get to work increased in Sefton (6%), yet this was considerably less than the increase seen in England & Wales (40%).

In 2021, Sefton was in the bottom 40% of Local Authorities in England for employed residents travelling to work by car or van.

Rate varied across the 22 wards (Map 24) with Meols ward to the very North of Sefton falling into the top 20% of wards in England for employed residents travelling to work by car and van compared to Duke's (North West) and Linacre (South West) wards which were both in the bottom 20%.

Map 24: Residents who travelled to work in a car or van by Sefton wards – Census 2021



## Housing

On Census Day 2021 it was estimated that there were 123,000 households in Sefton.

### Household Make-up

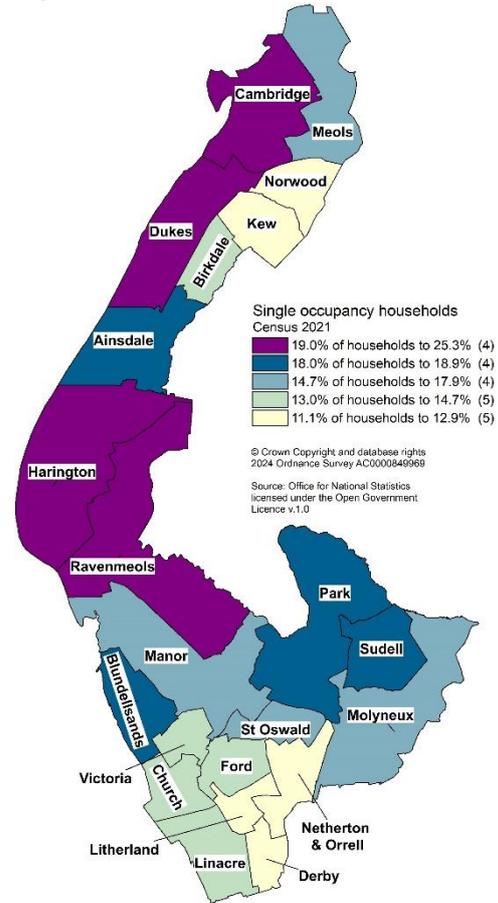
A study carried out by the Health Foundation found that *“more than one in four older people living alone have a mental health condition (26%), compared to one in five older people living with others (23%). Older people living alone also have more long-term conditions.”* With the research going on to state *“tackling factors that impact people living on their own, such as loneliness and social isolation, there is the potential to reduce pressure on A&E departments and GP services.”*

There was a total of 41,500 single occupancy households in Sefton (34% of all households in the Borough), higher than the 30% seen in England and Wales. Sefton was within the top 20% of LAs in England for single occupancy households.

16% (19,900) of households in Sefton were single occupancy where the resident was aged 66 and over, again higher than England & Wales (13%), with Sefton in the top 20% of LAs nationally.

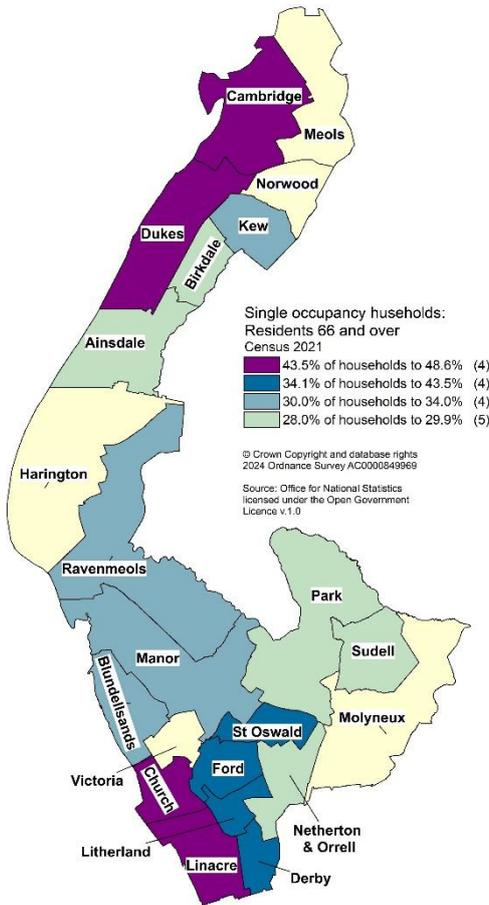
Five wards in Sefton fell into the top 10% of wards nationally for single occupancy households in Census 2021 (Map 25). These wards were dominantly located to the North West (Cambridge and Duke’s) and very South (Church, Derby, and Linacre) of the Borough. It is worth noting that Duke’s and Cambridge wards were actually in the top 1% of wards in England for single occupancy households.

Map 25: Single occupancy households by Sefton wards – Census 2021

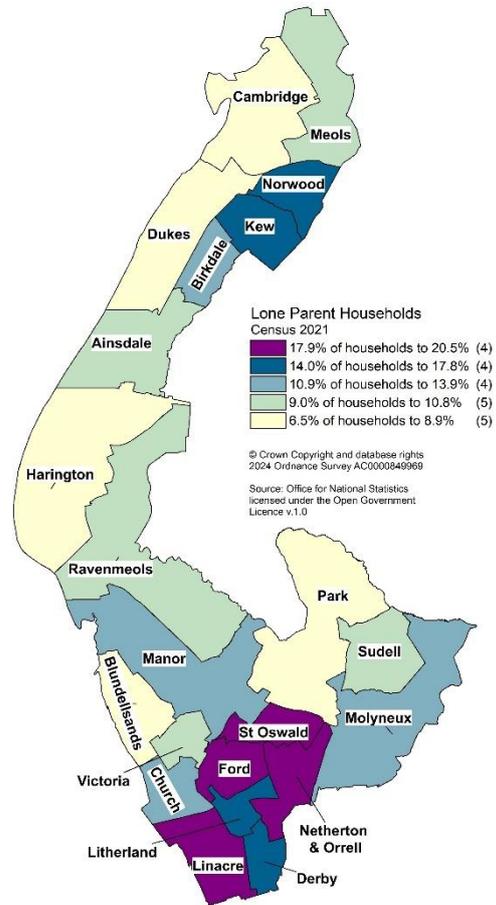


For single occupancy households where residents were aged 66 and over, there was a slightly different pattern seen in the Borough (Map 26) with high intensity areas seen to the North West (Cambridge and Duke’s wards), mid North / Central Sefton (Ainsdale, Blundellsands, Harington, Ravenmeols wards), and to the East of the Borough (Park and Sudell wards). All nine of the mentioned wards were within the top 10% of wards in England. These wards may require continued or increased levels of support relating to older people living alone.

Map 26: Single occupancy households where resident was aged 66 and over by Sefton wards – Census 2021



Map 27: Lone parent households by Sefton wards – Census 2021



A further 12% (15,300) of the Borough’s households were lone parent families, slightly higher than England & Wales (11%). Sefton was within the top 20% of LAs in England for lone parent households.

Six wards in Sefton (Derby, Ford, Linacre, Litherland, Netherton & Orrell and St Oswald all to the South of the Borough – Map 27) fell within the top 10% of wards nationally for lone parent households in Census 2021. These wards may require further support including help with child care, employment / benefits support.

**Tenure**

“In 2021, a higher share of private rented homes (23%) than owner-occupied properties (13%) were classed as non-decent. There has been a widening of the gap between non-decent private rented and owner-occupied housing, from 6% in 2017 to 10% in 2021.

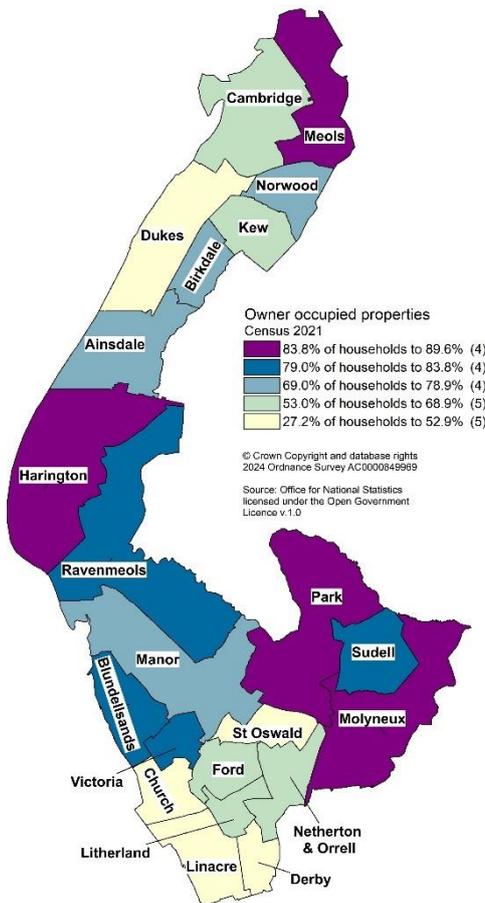
*In terms of well-being and tenure, the English Housing Survey also found that the measures of life satisfaction and happiness of residents were the highest for owner-occupiers. Private renters and social renters experienced less of these positive sentiments on average, alongside greater levels of anxiety. This may be partially due to the higher prevalence of non-decent housing in the private rented sector (PRS).” CBRE*

In Sefton, 67% (82,000) of households were owner occupied, this is higher than seen in England & Wales (62%). A third of households in the Borough were rented.

The number of owner occupied households increased when comparing Census 2011 to Census 2021 in Sefton (27%), though this is lower than the rise seen in England & Wales (35%). People living in rented properties also increased, across the Borough (22%) greater than the growth seen in England & Wales (15%).

18% of properties in Sefton were rented privately, slightly lower than the levels seen in England & Wales (20%). There was a 42% increase in privately rented properties in Sefton when comparing Census 2011 to Census 2021.

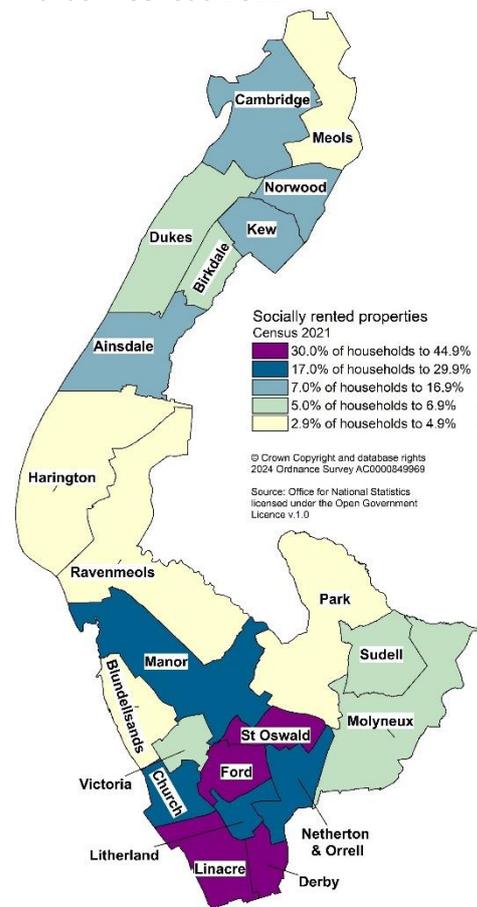
Map 28: Owner occupied properties by Sefton wards – Census 2021



Socially rented properties made up 14% of properties in the Borough lower than the 17% seen across England & Wales. Socially rented properties saw a 4% rise in Sefton.

Property tenure varied across the Borough, high levels of owner occupied properties could be seen (Map 28) in the very North East (Meols ward), East (Molyneux, Park, and Sudell wards), and Central Sefton (Harington and Ravenmeols wards), with the six wards being in the top 10% of wards nationally (Harington was actually in the top 1% of wards in England for owner occupied properties).

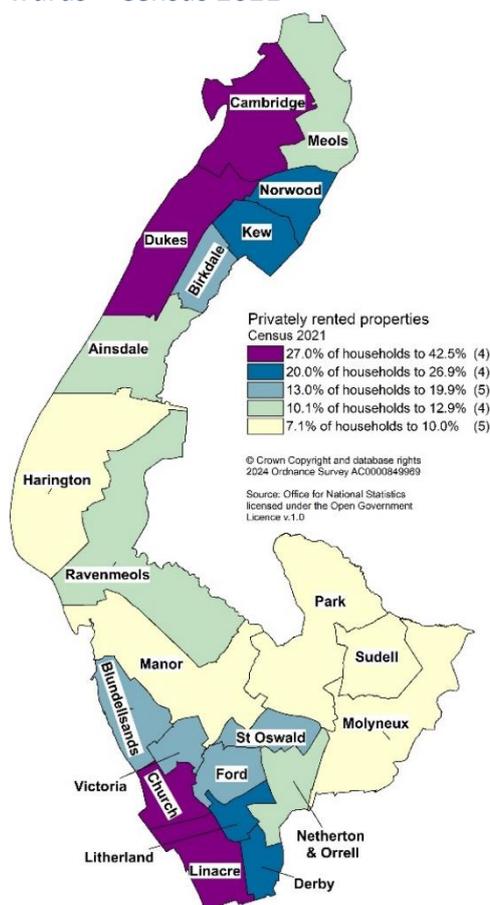
Map 29: Socially rented properties by Sefton wards – Census 2021



Socially rented properties showed higher levels to the South of the Borough (Map 29) with Derby, Linacre and St Oswald wards all being in the top 10% of England wards.

Privately rented properties showed the highest levels (Map 30) to the North / North West (Cambridge, Duke’s and Kew wards) and very South (Church, Derby and Linacre wards) of the Borough. Duke’s ward was within the top 10% of wards nationally for privately rented properties with the other mentioned wards being in the top 20%.

*Map 30: Privately rented properties by Sefton wards – Census 2021*



(77%). Meaning 26% of households did not have access to a vehicle in Sefton. The Borough was within the top 30% of Local Authorities (LA) in England for households that did not have access to a car or van.

There has been a reduction in the level of households with no access to a vehicle across Sefton, and England & Wales when comparing Census 2021 to Census 2011.

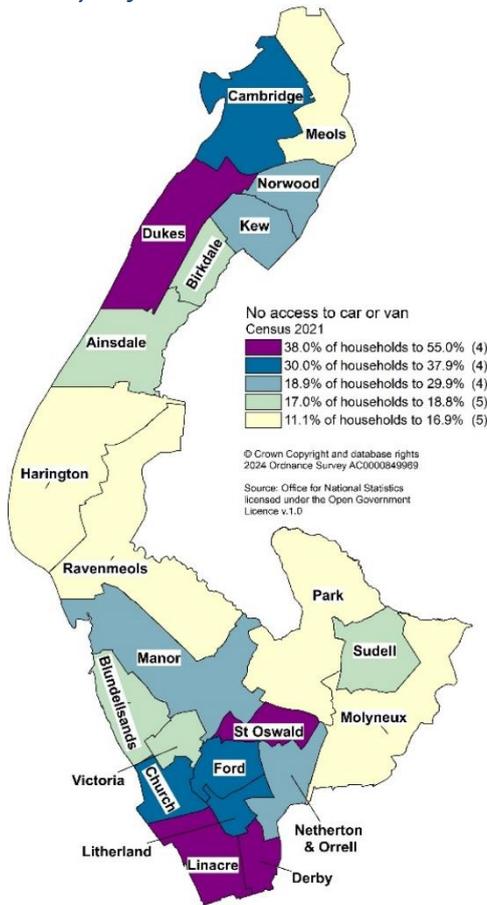
The distribution of households with no access to a car or van varied across the Borough, with higher levels seen to the South and North West of the Borough. Derby, Duke’s, Linacre, and St Oswald wards were all in the top 10% of wards nationally for households with no access to a car or van (Map 31). The residents in these wards are likely to have a greater reliance on public transport to access services, attend work or school, etc.

### Car / Van Availability

The UK Household Longitudinal Study, carried out by Understanding Society found that continued access to a car is likely to improve employment prospects, increase personal income, maintain social networks, and reduce feelings of loneliness in older populations.

Across the Borough 74% (90,600) of households had access to at least one car or van, lower than seen across England & Wales

Map 31: Households with no access to a car or van by Sefton wards – Census 2021



**Household Deprivation**

There are many studies relating to deprivation and the effects of deprivation especially relating to health. The Local Government Association states *“Deprivation is associated with poorer health, disability, and often behaviours that can further impact on health such as smoking.”*

Census 2021 aimed to classify households by four dimensions of deprivation:

- **Education:** A household is classified as deprived in the education dimension if no one has at least level 2 education and no one aged 16 to 18 years is a full-time student.
- **Employment:** A household is classified as deprived in the employment dimension if

any member, not a full-time student, is either unemployed or economically inactive due to long-term sickness or disability.

- **Health:** A household is classified as deprived in the health dimension if any person in the household has general health that is bad or very bad or is identified as disabled. People who have assessed their day-to-day activities as limited by long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses are considered disabled. This definition of a disabled person meets the harmonised standard for measuring disability and is in line with the Equality Act (2010).
- **Housing:** A household is classified as deprived in the housing dimension if the household's accommodation is either overcrowded, in a shared dwelling, or has no central heating.

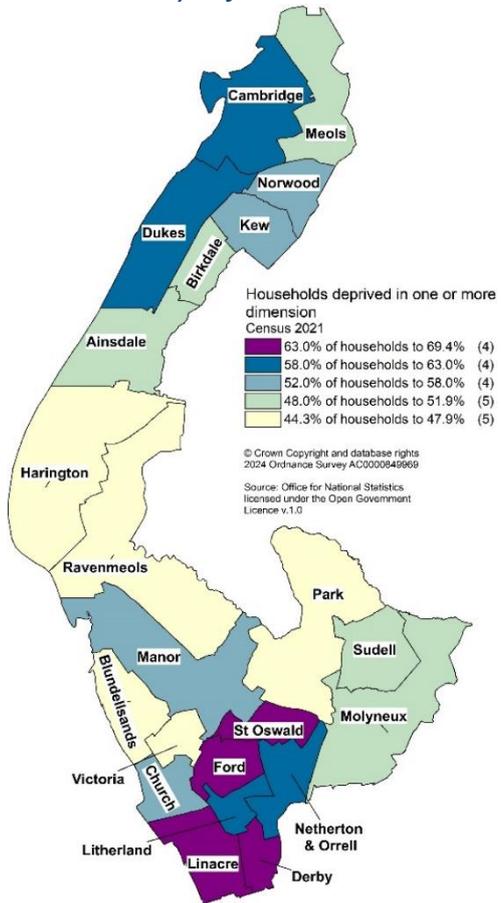
55% (67,400) of households in the Sefton were deprived in one or more dimensions, the Borough fell within the top 30% of LAs for households which were deprived in one or more dimensions. With 5% (5,700) of Sefton's households being deprived in three or more dimensions, again placing the Borough in the top 30% of LAs across England.

Conversely in Sefton 45% of households were not deprived in any dimensions lower than England & Wales (48%).

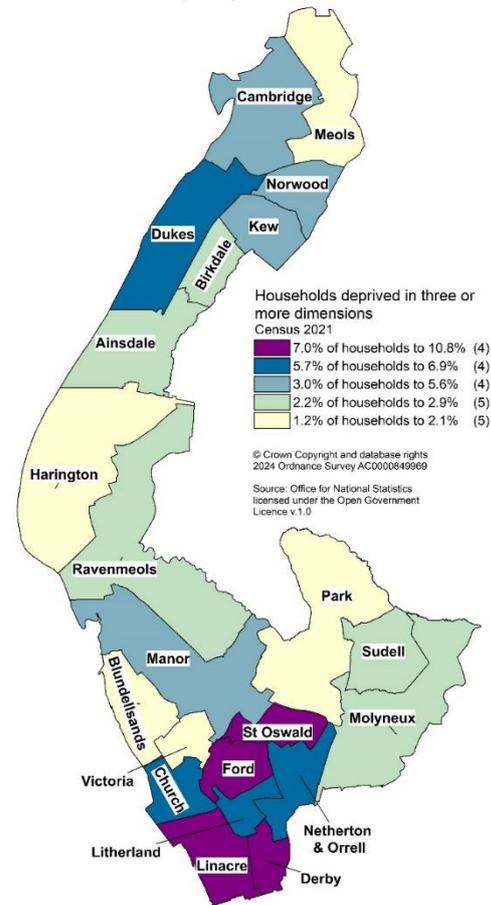
Levels of household deprivation varied vastly across the Borough (Maps 32 and 33). Wards to the South of Sefton, specifically Derby, Ford, Linacre, and St Oswald fell within the top 10% of wards nationally for households deprived in one or more dimensions, the same wards where in the top 10% for households deprived in three dimensions. (It should be noted that Linacre ward was actually in the top 1% for households

deprived in three dimensions). These areas may benefit from targeted services relating to poverty and benefits support.

Map 32: Household deprived in one or more dimensions by Sefton wards – Census 2021



Map 33: Household deprived in three or more dimensions by Sefton wards – Census 2021



## Sources

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## Economically Active

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## Unemployment History

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