



Planning research

People in Bolton Factfile no. 1

2018 Population Estimates

Communicating research and
sharing knowledge

People in Bolton

2018 Population Estimates Factfile - Updated July 2019

People in Bolton factfiles provide key facts and figures about people who live or work in the borough of Bolton, and bring together information from a variety of sources. They are an evolving resource which are regularly updated to include more recent information as it becomes available.

Other related publications, including more detailed information on a range of topics can be accessed at: www.bolton.gov.uk/researchandinformation

This factfile tells you approximately how many people live in the borough, as well as their age structure. It also explores how Bolton's population has changed over the past ten years, as well as the reasons for that change.

It includes analysis of the Mid-Year Estimates, which are produced by the Office for National Statistics.

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1.1 Population Estimates

Mid-Year population estimates for 2018 were released in June 2019 and provide an update to the population information previously released by the Office for National Statistics. The estimates tell us how many people live within each local authority and provide information on the structure of the population in these areas by age and sex.

The official 2018 mid-year estimates build on the 2011 Census based mid-year estimates, updated to account for population change during the period 2011-18. A combination of registration, survey and administrative data are used to estimate the different components of population change.

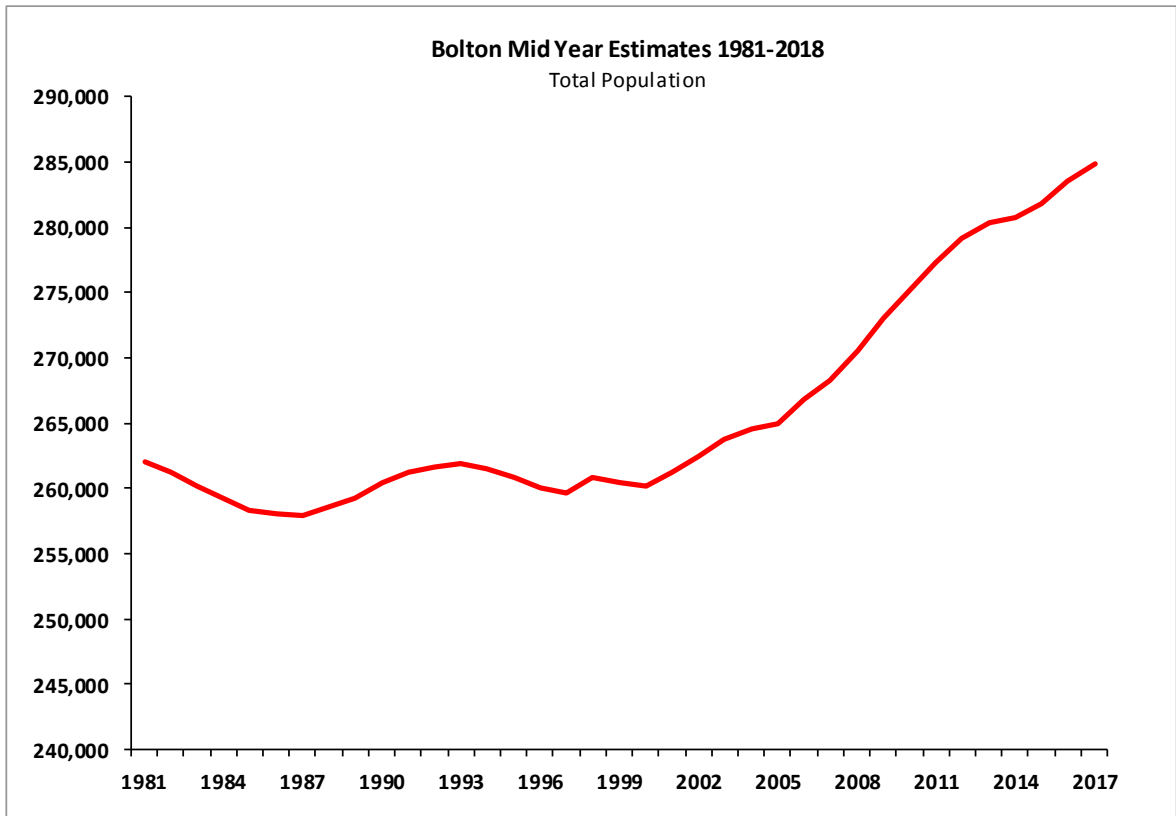
In mid-2018 Bolton was home to approximately 285,400 people, with 143,800 females and 141,600 males. This is an increase of 600 people, or 0.2% over the previous 2017 estimate of 284,800.

	Bolton		Greater Manchester		England and Wales	
	Mid-year estimate (number)	Annual Change (%)	Mid-year estimate (number)	Annual Change (%)	Mid-year estimate (number)	Annual Change (%)
2014	280,800	0.2%	2,730,100	0.6%	57,408,700	0.8%
2015	281,800	0.4%	2,754,000	0.9%	57,885,400	0.8%
2016	283,500	0.6%	2,780,800	1.0%	58,381,200	0.9%
2017	284,800	0.5%	2,798,800	0.6%	58,744,600	0.6%
2018	285,400	0.2%	2,812,600	0.5%	59,115,800	0.6%

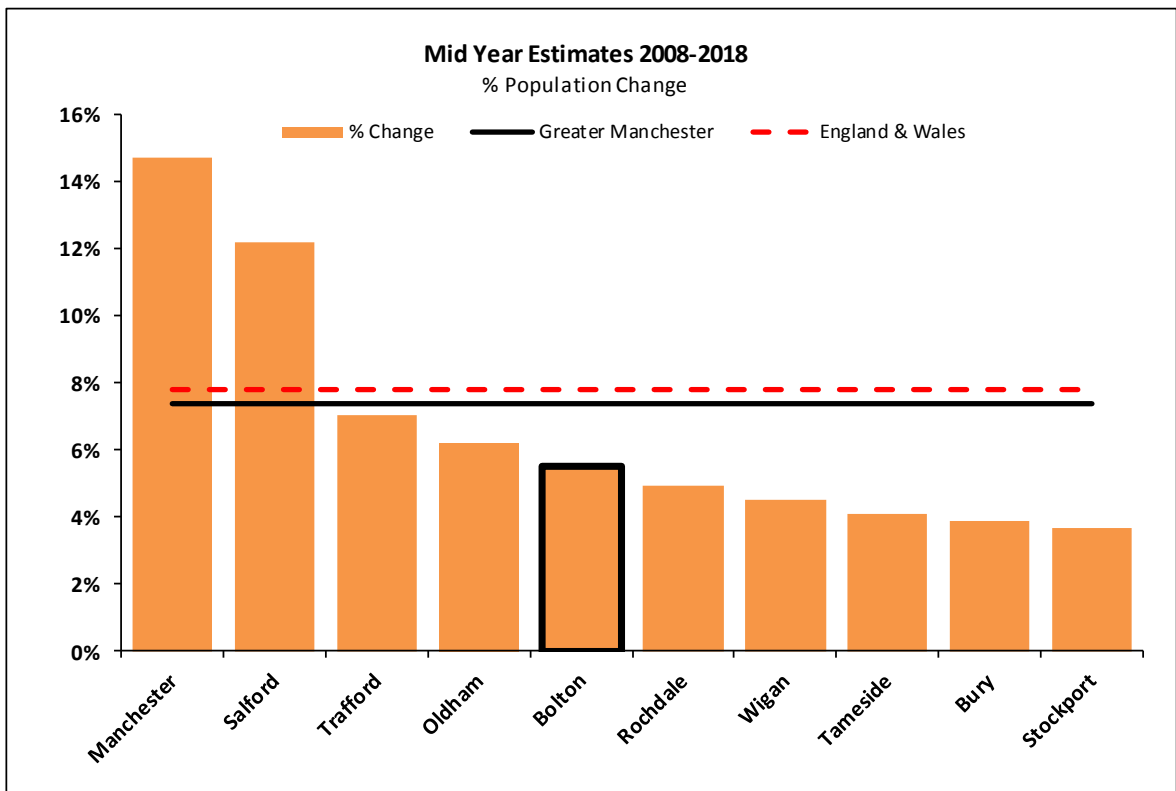
Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-Year Estimates 2018. Crown Copyright. Data is rounded to the nearest hundred.

Bolton's population has been increasing steadily over the past decade, with an increase of 14,900 people in the last ten years (5.5% change). Bolton experienced a lower rate of growth than both Greater Manchester (7.4%) and England & Wales as a whole (7.8%).

Manchester had the largest population increase with around 15% from 2008-18, and only Manchester and Salford experienced population growth above the national rate. Bolton's population growth was the fifth largest in Greater Manchester. Wigan, Tameside and Bury experienced growth at around 4%, whilst Stockport's population growth was the lowest in Greater Manchester at 3.7%.



Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-Year Estimates 1981-2018. Crown Copyright



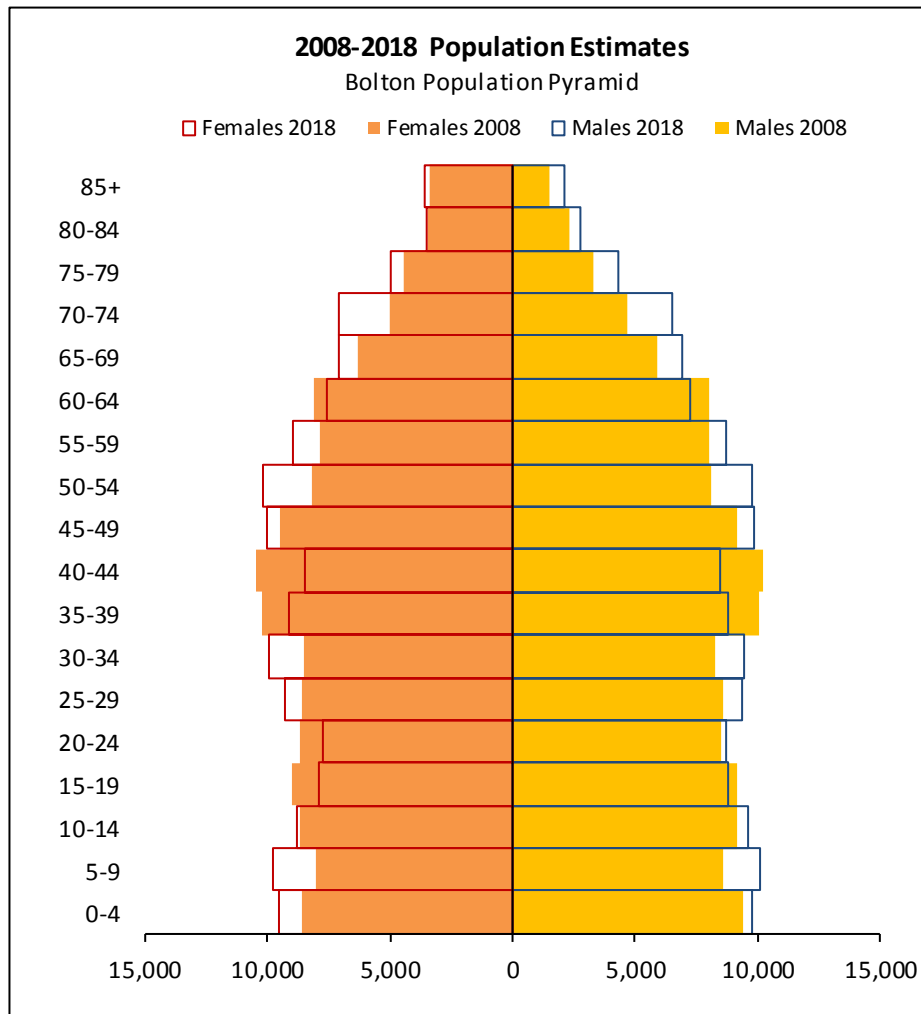
Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-Year Estimates 2008-2018. Crown Copyright

1.2 Age Structure

The age profile of Bolton's population is very similar to the national profile, although the borough has a slightly higher proportion of children and a lower proportion of working age than England. Just over 1 in 5 of the population in Bolton is a dependent child (aged 0-15), and slightly just over 1 in 6 is of pensionable age (aged 65+).

	Bolton		Greater Manchester	England & Wales
	No.	%	%	%
Children (Aged 0-15)	60,900	21%	21%	19%
Working Age (Aged 16-64)	175,300	61%	64%	63%
Older People (Aged 65+)	49,100	17%	16%	18%

Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-Year Estimates 2018. Crown Copyright



Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-Year Estimates 2008-2018. Crown Copyright.

Over the past ten years in Bolton, the number of children (aged 0-15) has only increased slightly from 56,100 to 60,900, an increase of just 4,800 or 9%. The numbers of working age people have also increased very slightly overall, from 173,900 to 175,300, also an increase of around 1%

However the number of older people has increased dramatically, from 40,500 to 49,100, an increase of over one-fifth (21%). This means there is an extra 8,800 older people living in Bolton compared to a decade ago. As we can see from the population pyramid above, this is mainly due to an increase in both sexes aged 65-75, and in males aged 80+

	2008		2018		Change		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	% Point	% Change
Children <i>(Aged 0-15)</i>	56,100	21%	60,900	21%	4,800	0.6%	9%
Working Age <i>(Aged 16-64)</i>	173,900	64%	175,300	61%	1,400	-2.9%	1%
Older People <i>(Aged 65+)</i>	40,500	15%	49,100	17%	8,600	2.2%	21%

Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-Year Estimates 2008-2018. Crown Copyright

1.3 Births, Deaths and Migration

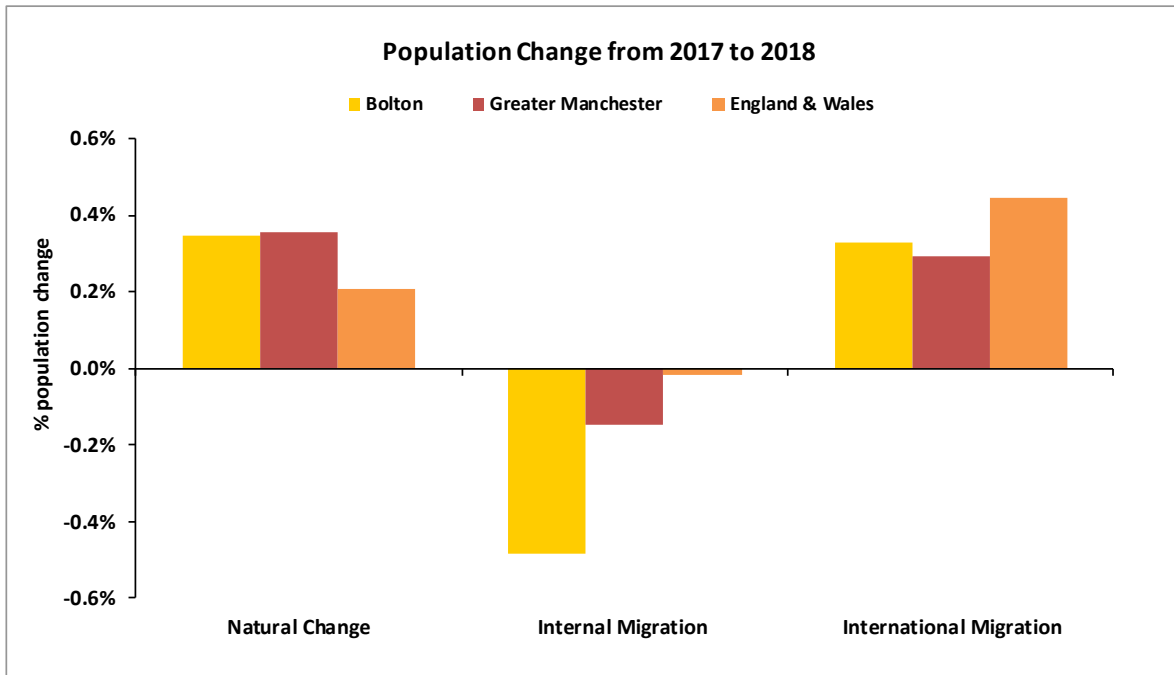
Population estimates are produced by estimating the numbers of births and deaths, and estimating the net population change through migration in and out of Bolton.

Mid-2017 Population	284,800
<i>Births</i>	3,600
<i>Deaths</i>	-2,600
Natural Change	1,000
<i>Internal Migration Net</i>	-1,400
<i>International Migration Net</i>	900
Net Migration	-400
Other Changes	0
Total Change	600
Mid-2018 Population	285,400

Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-Year Estimates 2018. Crown Copyright. Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

Between 2017 and 2018 Bolton's overall population is estimated to have increased by **600** people. There were an additional 1,000 people as a result of natural change, i.e. there were 1,000 more births than deaths. However, there was also only an overall net loss in the population of around -400 people due to migration. This was mainly due to the large net loss of around 1,400 internal migrants (people moving from or to another part of the country), who offset the net gain of about 900 international migrants (people moving from or to another country) by approximately -400 people. This means that out of the 600 extra people in 2017-18, 100% of those were due to natural change.

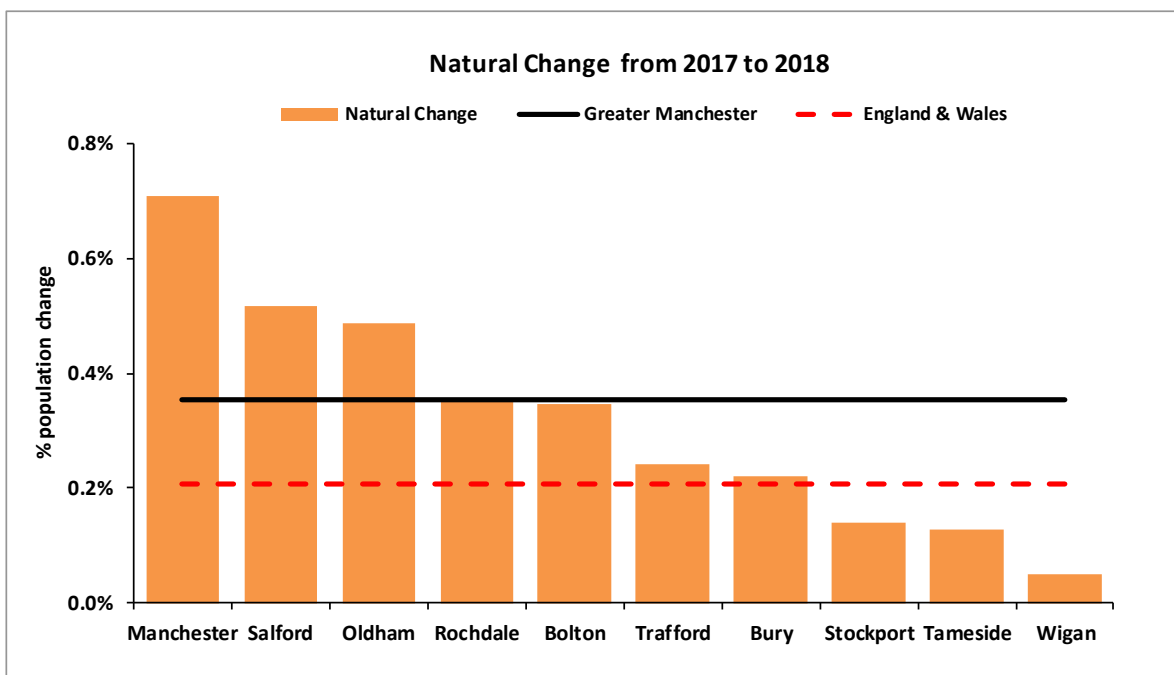
'Other' changes include changes in any prison populations or boarding school populations, as well as adjustments to ensure that the local authority population sums to the national figure. In 2018 this did not result in any changes to the overall figure in Bolton.

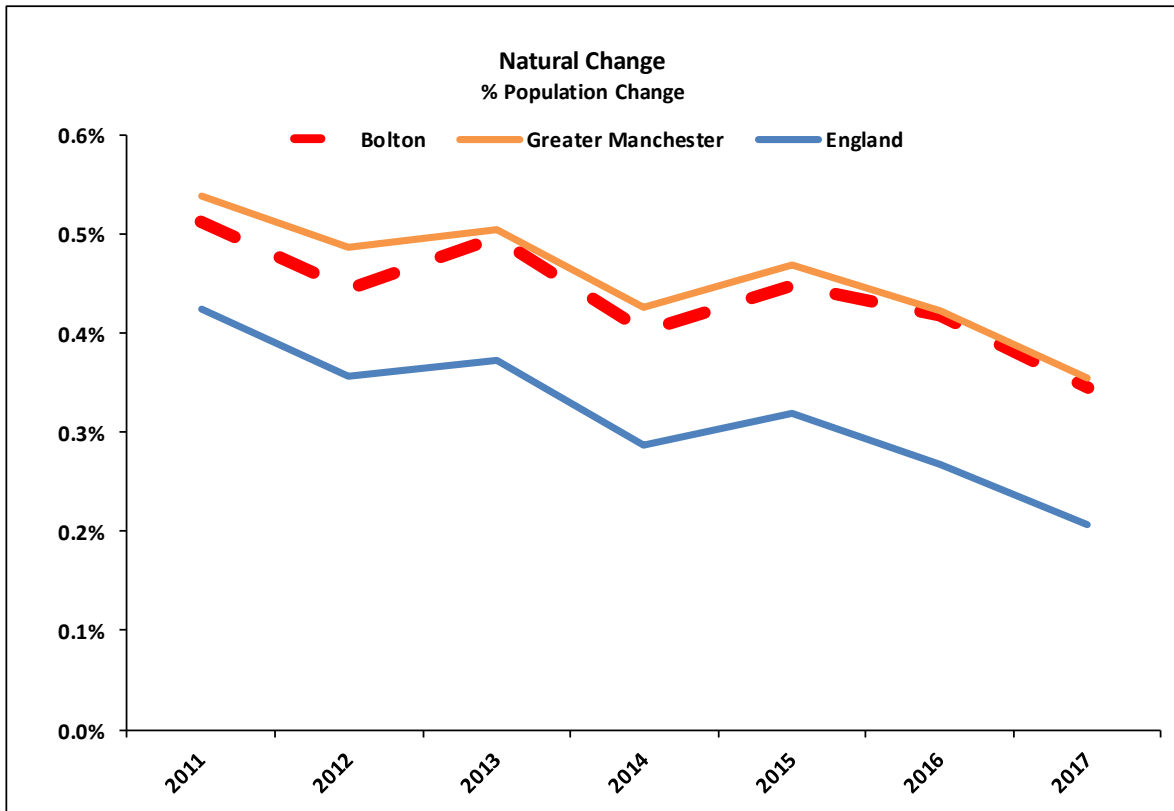


Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-Year Estimates 2018. Crown Copyright.

Bolton has a relatively high birth rate, meaning that it has a relatively high rate of natural change compared to England, and a similar rate to Greater Manchester. However in 2017-2018 Bolton suffered a significant loss in population due to internal migration and had a smaller rate of change in international migration compared to both Greater Manchester and England & Wales.

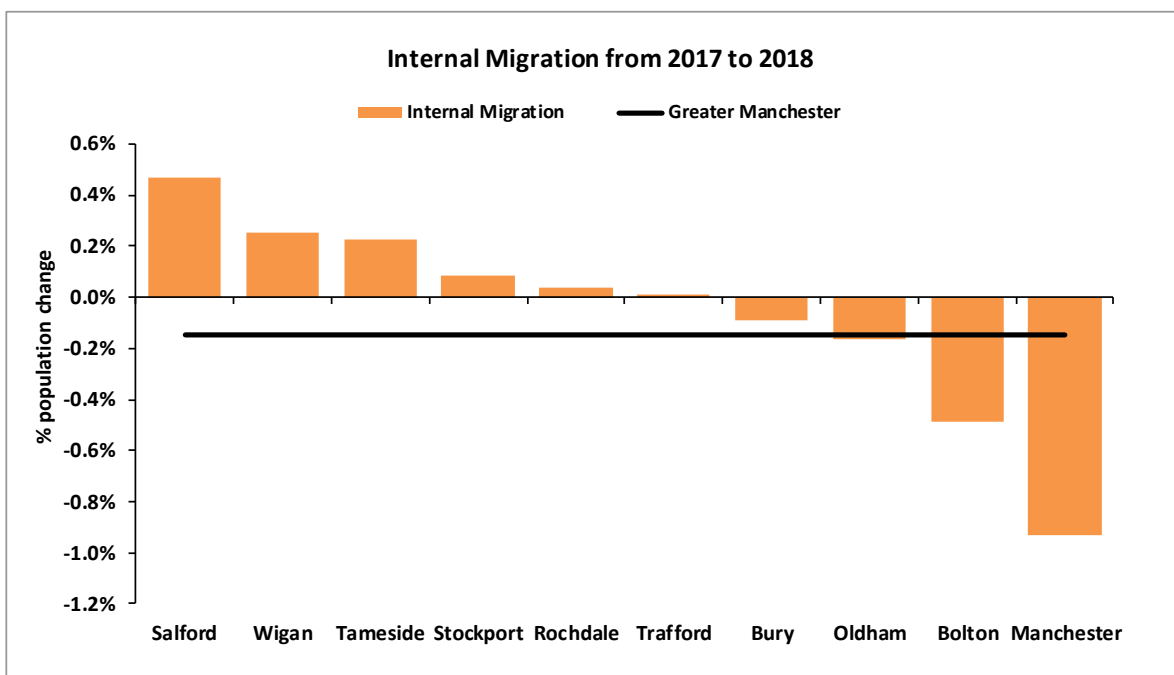
Manchester had the highest rate of natural change in 17-18 in Greater Manchester, followed by Salford, Oldham and Rochdale. Bolton historically has had a higher rate of natural change than nation-wide, due to having slightly higher than average birth rates. However rates of natural change have declined slightly from 2011-18, in common with other areas.

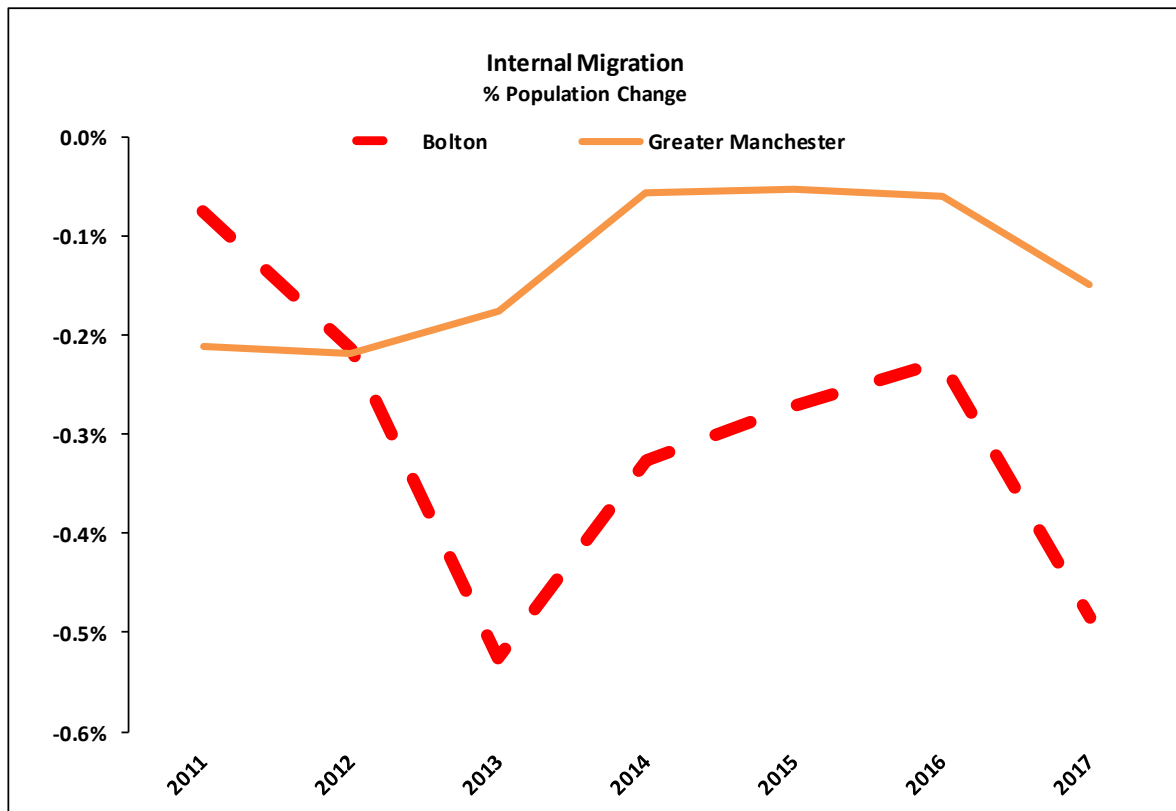




In terms of internal migration in 17-18, the authorities that gained the most were Salford, Stockport, Wigan, Tameside and Stockport. Bolton, Oldham and Manchester were the only authorities to suffer significant net losses in internal migrants, with Manchester experiencing the largest net decrease (around -5,000, or -0.9% of the population).

Bolton has historically suffered a loss in the population from internal migrants compared to other areas in Greater Manchester. In 2017-18 this loss was doubled from the previous year, from -600 to -1,400 people, or -0.5% of the population.





As regarding international migration, all authorities gained in international migrants in 17-18. Manchester increased the most, with a net gain of around +3,300, (however as we can see this was offset by the large net loss in internal migrants, meaning that overall Manchester's large population growth in 17-18 was primarily driven by its large rate of natural change). Other areas of high international migration in 17-18 were Oldham and Rochdale.

Historically Bolton has had high gains from international migrants, in line with regional and national averages. In 17-18 this increased from +700 to +900, however this was still offset by the significant net loss in internal migrants, meaning 100% of change in Bolton was due to natural change.

