



# Planning research

People in Bolton

2011 Census Factfile no. 1  
Population & Households

Communicating research and  
sharing knowledge

# People in Bolton 2011 Census

## Population & Households Factfile - July 2012

People in Bolton factfiles provide key facts and figures about people who live or work in the borough of Bolton. These current factfiles are based on information from the most recent Census in 2011.

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

The latest census was held on Sunday 27 March 2011, with the first phase of results released on July 16<sup>th</sup> 2012. The first release contains population and household estimates at Local Authority level and for England and Wales. This briefing note outlines the headline figures and key issues from the first release.

The factfile is set out in the following sections:

1.1	Summary	2
1.2	Introduction	2
1.3	Total Population	3
1.4	Age & Sex	4
1.5	Households	8

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## 1.1 Summary

- The total population of Bolton on Census day 2011 was estimated to be 276,800.
- This was an extra 15,763 people, or a 6% increase from the 2001 Census. This is roughly in line with sub-regional and national increases.
- 136,700 of these people were male, 140,100 were female.
- The most significant changes in Bolton's age structure to note were the increase in the very elderly (aged 85+), and the very young (0-4). Additional changes in age structure can be explained by a variety of factors.
- Bolton had approximately 116,400 households on Census day 2011. This was an extra 8,315 households living in the borough, or an 8% increase since the 2001 Census. Greater Manchester and England & Wales also showed the same rate of increase.
- More information on these and other topics will be available in the next phase of release, in approximately Nov 12-Feb 13 onwards.

## 1.2 Introduction

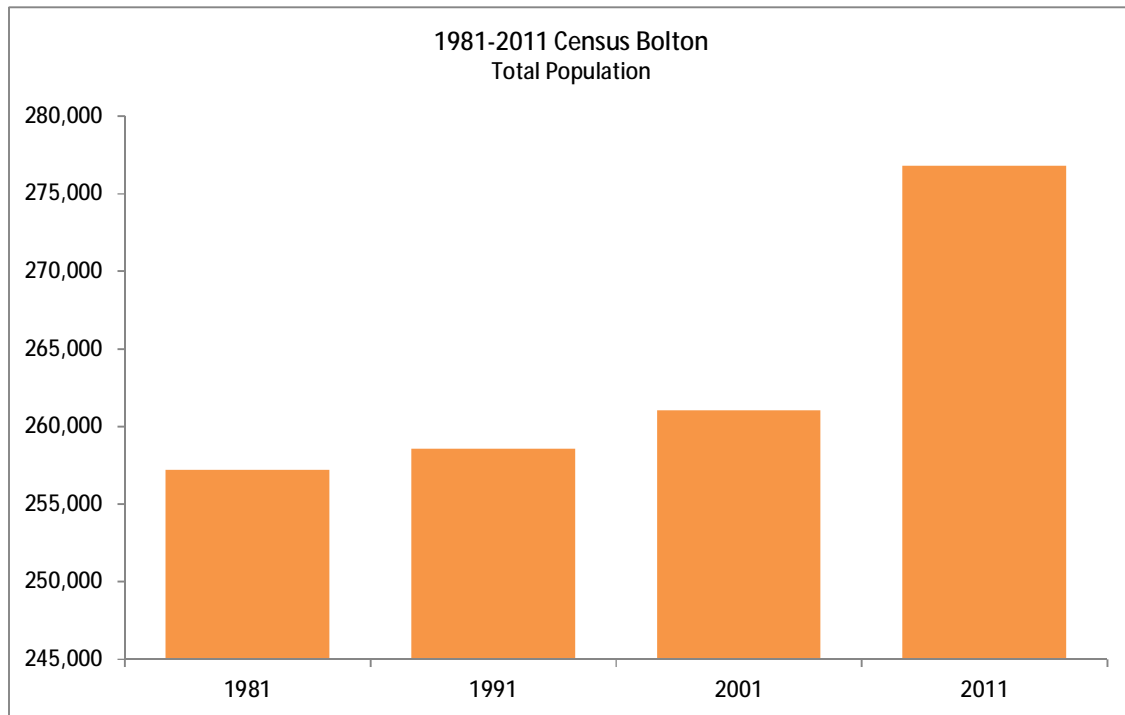
The census has collected information about the population every 10 years since 1801 (except in 1941). The latest census in England and Wales took place on 27 March 2011.

Census statistics describe the characteristics of an area, such as how many men and women there are and their ages. The statistics are used to understand similarities and differences in population's characteristics locally, regionally and nationally, and inform policy and planning.

The first phase of 2011 Census results was released in July 2012. These cover population & household numbers, with a breakdown in population by age (with five year age bands) and sex. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has rounded these numbers to the nearest hundred, meaning that numbers included in this document may not sum correctly due to rounding errors. (Further releases will not be rounded and will show actual figures). This initial release provides information at local authority and higher level geographies only. Further results from the 2011 Census, (at lower-level geographies, and on topics such as ethnicity, health, housing etc.) will be released in stages from Nov 12-Feb 13 onwards. Briefings on these topics will follow as and when the data is released.

### 1.3 Total Population

The total population of Bolton on Census day 2011 was 276,800. This represents an extra 15,763 people, or roughly a 6% increase from the 2001 Census. This was just below the Greater Manchester and England & Wales figure of an 8% increase.



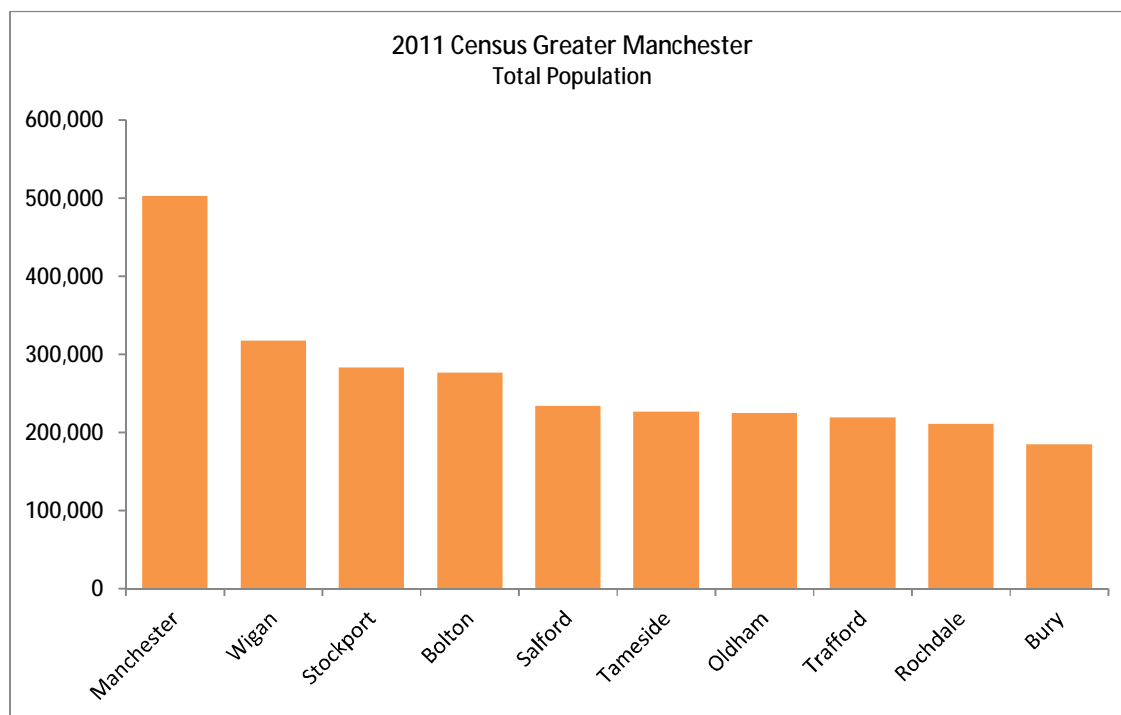
Source: Census 1981-2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

Bolton had the fourth largest proportional increase in Greater Manchester, (and the tenth largest in the North-West). Bolton is one of nine authorities in Greater Manchester that experienced a population increase. Manchester had the largest increase in population with over 110,000 additional people, (an increase of 28%). Only Stockport experienced a decrease in population (of -0.4%).

	2001	2011	Difference	
			No.	%
Manchester	392,819	503,100	110,281	28%
Salford	216,103	233,900	17,797	8%
Tameside	210,145	226,600	16,455	8%
Bolton	261,037	276,800	15,763	6%
Wigan	301,415	317,800	16,385	5%
Oldham	217,273	224,900	7,627	4%
Rochdale	205,357	211,700	6,343	3%
Trafford	213,043	219,300	6,257	3%
Bury	180,608	185,100	4,492	2%
Stockport	284,528	283,300	-1,228	-0.4%
Greater Manchester	2,482,328	2,682,500	200,172	8%
England & Wales	52,041,916	56,075,900	4,033,984	8%

Source: Census 2001-2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

Bolton remains the fourth largest local authority in Greater Manchester, behind Manchester, Wigan and Stockport.



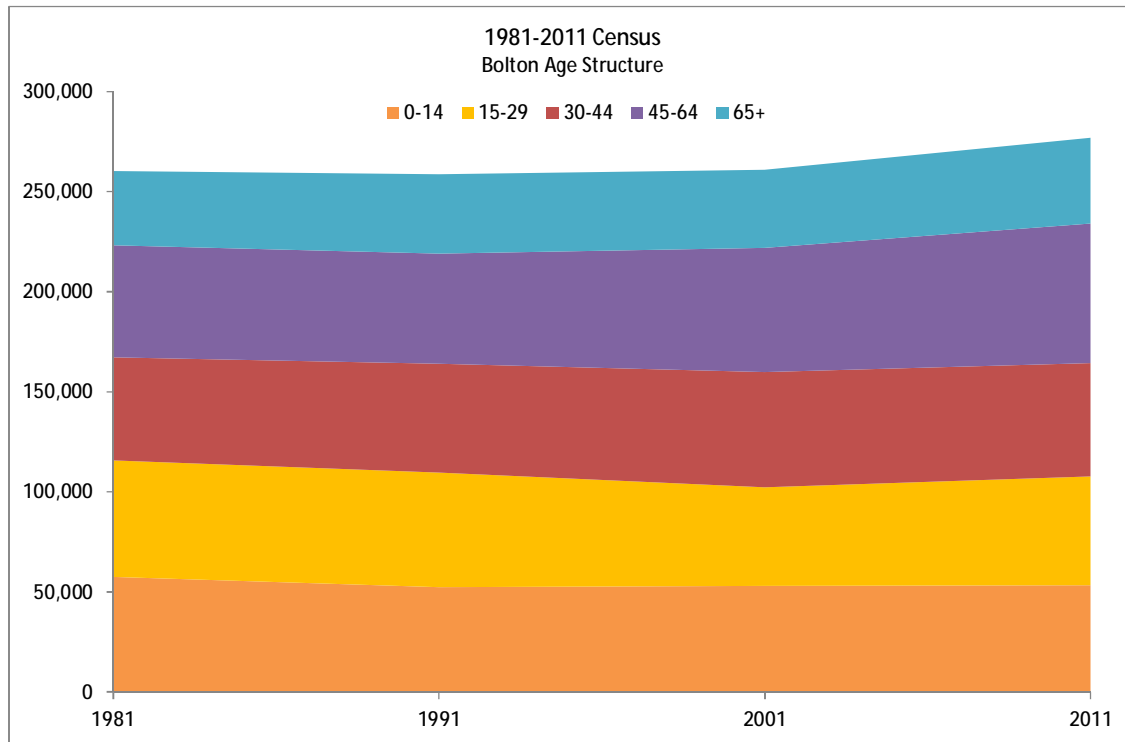
Source: Census 2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

#### 1.4 Age & Sex

There were 276,800 people living in Bolton at the time of the last Census; 136,700 of these were men and 140,100 were women. Women very slightly outnumbered men by making up 50.7% of the

total population: this was a slight decrease from 2001 where they made up 51.3%. This small change in the gender ratio can be attributed to increasing male life expectancy over the past decade to become more in line with females.

There have been significant changes in Bolton's age and sex structure over the last few decades. Knowing the size & geographical location of different age groups is vital to planning as this directly impacts on provision of services such as education and social care.



Source: Census 1981-2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

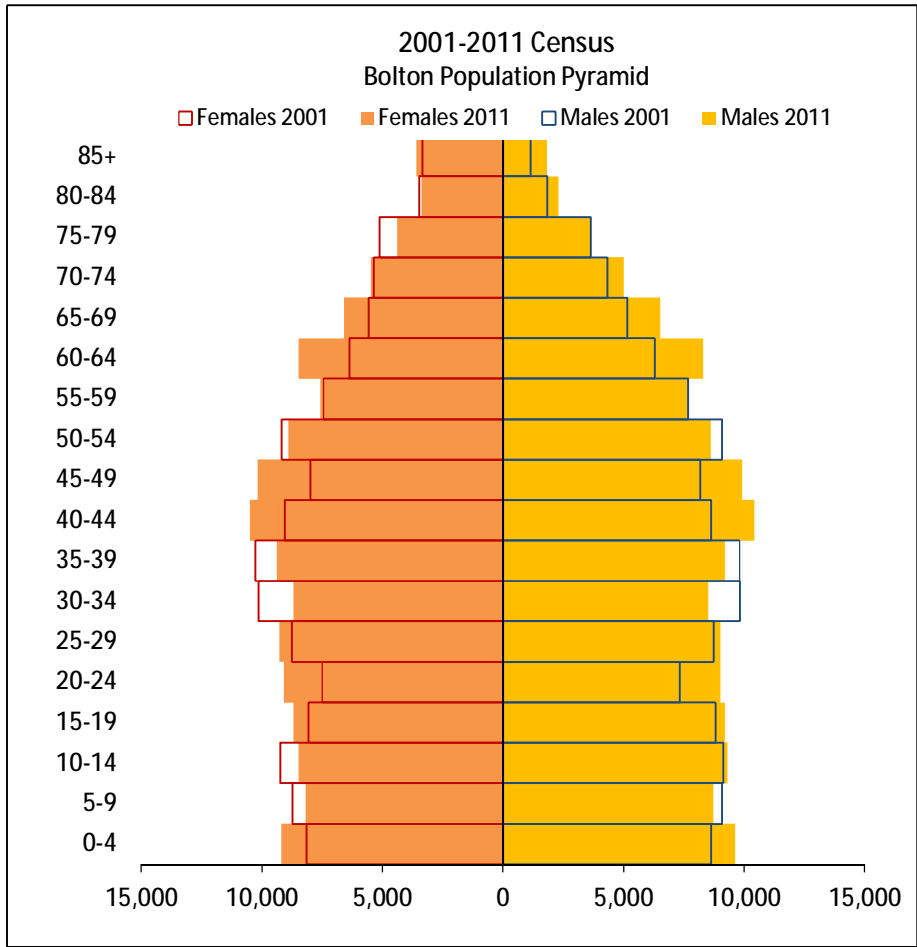
Bolton continues to have an aging population, as does the rest of the country as a whole. In particular there have been significant increases in the section of the population aged 85+, who have increased by 20% in the past ten years. There were about four and a half thousand people living in Bolton aged 85 and over in 2001; in 2011 this had increased to five and a half thousand. This is significant to note as this group has an increased level of social need, in areas such as health care, accommodation and other types of social care support.

Bolton Age Group	2001	2011	Difference	
			No.	%
0-4	16,777	18,800	2,023	12%
5-9	17,824	16,900	-924	-5%
10-14	18,379	17,800	-579	-3%
15-19	16,865	17,900	1,035	6%
20-24	14,823	18,100	3,277	22%
25-29	17,480	18,300	820	5%
30-34	19,963	17,200	-2,763	-14%
35-39	20,066	18,600	-1,466	-7%
40-44	17,685	20,900	3,215	18%
45-49	16,153	20,100	3,947	24%
50-54	18,276	17,500	-776	-4%
55-59	15,134	15,300	166	1%
60-64	12,664	16,800	4,136	33%
65-69	10,723	13,100	2,377	22%
70-74	9,670	10,500	830	9%
75-79	8,733	8,000	-733	-8%
80-84	5,322	5,700	378	7%
85+	4,487	5,400	913	20%

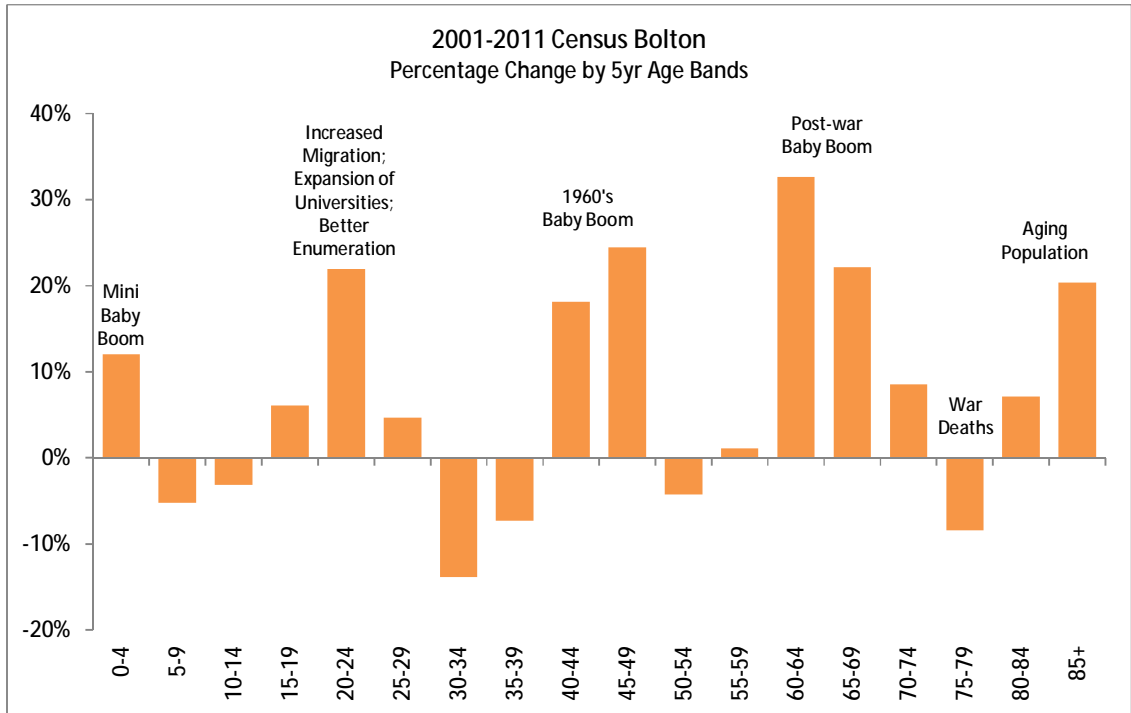
Source: Census 2001-2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

Another significant increase is the number of younger children in the past few years. Although overall the total number of dependent children has remained relatively stable since 2001 there has been significant increases in the number of under-fives. There are now almost 19,000 children in Bolton aged 0-4, an increase of 12% from ten years ago, meaning that there are now over 2,000 extra children in this age group living in Bolton. This is most likely a reflection of the general increase in the total fertility rate (TFR) for the previous few years before the 2011 Census, following the nation-wide decline over the previous decade<sup>1</sup>. This increase is significant to note as it will mean planning for possible increases in school places and other services aimed at children in the next few years.

<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics Statistical Bulletin, '2011 Census – Population & Household Estimates for England & Wales, March 2011', [http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778\\_270487.pdf](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_270487.pdf), Crown Copyright.



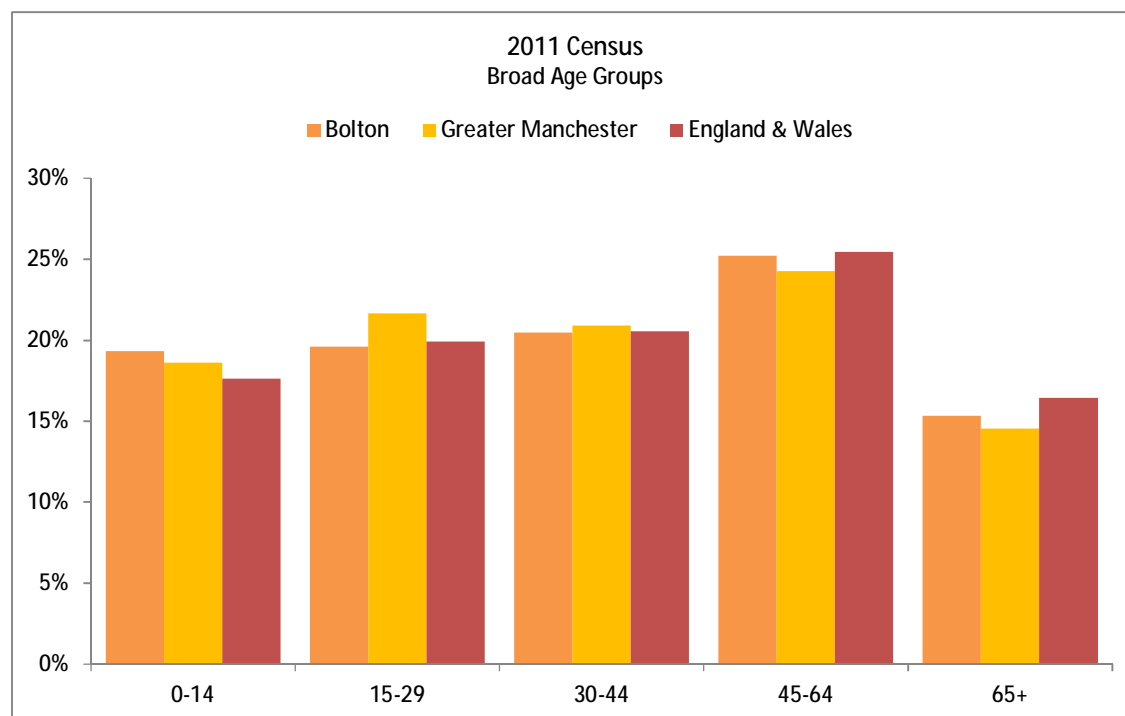
Source: Census 2001-2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.



Source: Census 2001-2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.



Other fluctuations in the different age groups shown above can generally be attributed to periods of high and low birth rates. Spikes in the 40-49 and 60-69 age groups reflect the 1960s baby boom and the post-war spikes in birth respectively. The increase in people in their twenties may also be partially attributed to changing patterns of migration. However no more information on the composition of these age groups will be known until the further releases of Census data in Nov 12-Feb 13.



Source: Census 2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

Compared to sub-regional & national estimates, Bolton has marginally more children and marginally fewer older people aged 65+. However Bolton for the most part closely follows trends in broad age groups for both Greater Manchester and England & Wales.

## 1.5 Households

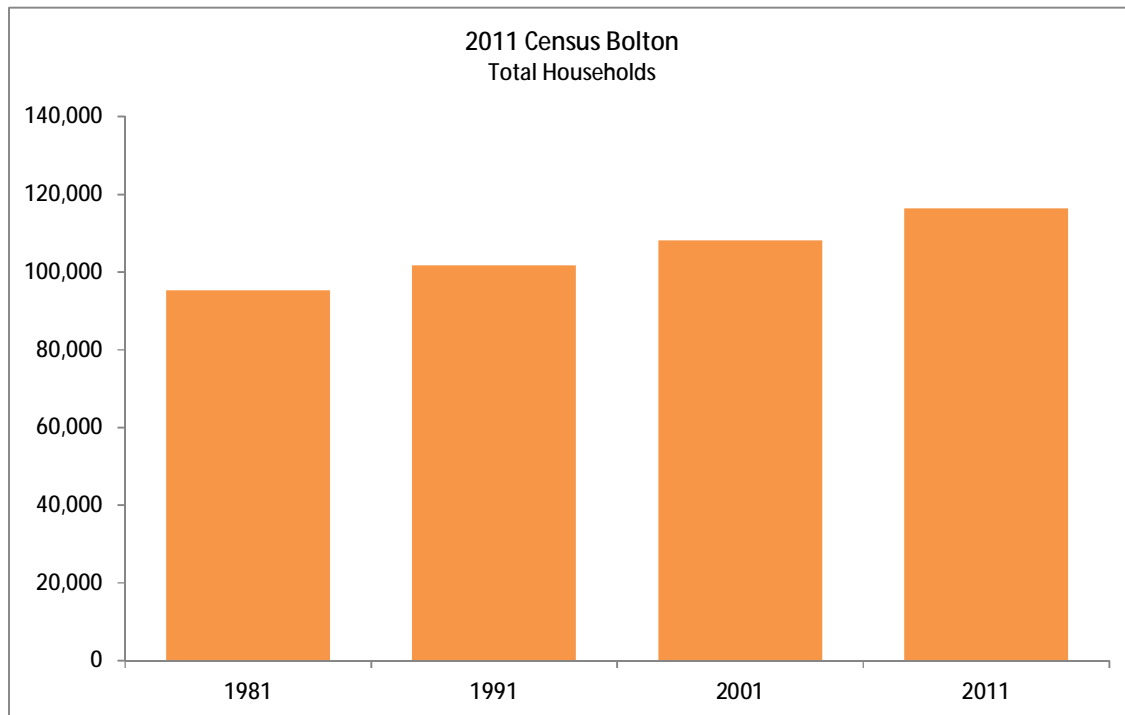
The total number of households in Bolton on Census day 2011 was 116,400. This means that an extra 8,315 households were created between the 2001 and 2011 Census, a total increase of 8%. This is in line with sub-regional and national increases, also 8%.

Total Households	2001	2011	Difference	
			No.	%
Bolton	108,085	116,400	8,315	8%
Greater Manchester	1,040,231	1,128,100	87,869	8%
England & Wales	21,660,475	23,366,000	1,705,525	8%

Source: Census 2001-2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

The number of households in Bolton has been increasing significantly over the past few decades. However at present with the 2011 data we have no information on household size, structure, or

drivers of change at household level which could inform future planning policy. More information on this will be found in the next release in Nov 12-Feb 13.



Source: Census 1981-2011, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.