

Census Theme Briefing: Occupation and Qualifications



This briefing looks in detail at the theme of qualifications and occupation in Somerset using the 2011 Census data to give a snapshot. Each table is broken down into urban and rural figures, based upon the ONS classification of output areas.

Highest qualification level (2011)

Green = higher than Somerset overall, Red = lower than Somerset overall

| Area | Residents aged 16+ | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | No qualifications | Level 1 | Level 2 | Apprenticeship | Level 3 | Level 4+ | Other |
| Urban city and town | 24.0% | 14.8% | 17.5% | 4.6% | 12.2% | 21.8% | 5.2% |
| Rural town and fringe | 23.5% | 13.8% | 16.7% | 4.7% | 12.0% | 25.1% | 4.3% |
| Rural village | 19.9% | 11.7% | 16.6% | 4.3% | 11.9% | 32.0% | 3.6% |
| Rural hamlets and isolated dwellings | 17.6% | 12.1% | 17.3% | 3.9% | 11.9% | 33.8% | 3.4% |
| Total Rural | 20.8% | 12.6% | 16.8% | 4.3% | 11.9% | 29.7% | 3.8% |
| Total Somerset | 22.4% | 13.7% | 17.2% | 4.5% | 12.1% | 25.6% | 4.5% |
| Total England | 22.5% | 13.3% | 15.2% | 3.6% | 12.4% | 27.4% | 5.7% |

Somerset has a lower proportion of workers qualified to Level 4 or above compared to England overall (25.6% vs 27.4%). Within the County, urban areas and the rural town and fringe areas have lower levels of highly qualified workers than the County level. In rural hamlets and isolated areas, 33.8% of residents aged 16+ are highly qualified.

Occupation - All (2011)

Green = higher than Somerset overall, Red = lower than Somerset overall

| Area | All persons aged 16+ in employment | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------|
| | 1. Managers, directors and senior officials | 2. Professional | 3. Associate professional and technical | 4. Admin and secretarial | 5. Skilled trades | 6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations | 7. Sales and customer service occupations | 8. Process, plant and machine operatives | 9. Elementary occupations |
| Urban city and town | 9.0% | 13.1% | 10.1% | 10.6% | 13.6% | 11.7% | 9.6% | 9.1% | 13.2% |
| Rural town and fringe | 10.6% | 14.5% | 10.5% | 10.1% | 15.9% | 11.0% | 7.8% | 8.4% | 11.3% |
| Rural village | 14.0% | 17.9% | 12.5% | 9.7% | 16.0% | 8.9% | 6.0% | 6.0% | 9.0% |
| Rural hamlets and isolated dwellings | 15.5% | 17.3% | 12.3% | 9.3% | 18.9% | 8.2% | 4.8% | 5.1% | 8.6% |
| Total Rural | 13.1% | 16.4% | 11.7% | 9.8% | 16.7% | 9.5% | 6.4% | 6.7% | 9.8% |
| Total Somerset | 11.0% | 14.7% | 10.8% | 10.2% | 15.1% | 10.7% | 8.0% | 7.9% | 11.5% |
| Total England | 10.9% | 17.5% | 12.8% | 11.5% | 11.4% | 9.3% | 8.4% | 7.2% | 11.0% |

- The largest occupation groups in Somerset are skilled trades (15.1%) and professionals (14.7%).
- Senior managers and directors are most concentrated in the rural areas of the County, with the highest proportion in rural hamlets and isolated areas (15.5%).
- Somerset's urban areas have high levels of people employed in admin and secretarial, caring, sales and customer service, plant and machinery and elementary occupations.
- The largest occupation group for men in Somerset is skilled trades (25%) whereas the largest group of women (19%) are employed in caring, leisure and other service occupations.

Occupation by gender – Males (2011)

Green = higher than Somerset overall, Red = lower than Somerset overall

| Area | All males aged 16+ in employment | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | 1. Managers, directors and senior officials | 2. Professional | 3. Associate professional and technical | 4. Admin and secretarial | 5. Skilled trades | 6. Caring, leisure and other services | 7. Sales and customer services | 8. Process, plant and machine operatives | 9. Elementary occupations |
| Urban city and town | 10.7% | 12.3% | 11.3% | 4.1% | 23.3% | 3.8% | 5.9% | 14.7% | 13.8% |
| Rural town and fringe | 12.9% | 13.2% | 11.8% | 3.2% | 26.8% | 2.9% | 4.5% | 13.6% | 11.2% |
| Rural village | 16.7% | 16.6% | 13.9% | 2.8% | 25.5% | 2.5% | 3.7% | 9.7% | 8.6% |
| Rural hamlets and isolated dwellings | 18.3% | 15.5% | 13.8% | 2.4% | 28.4% | 2.5% | 2.8% | 8.2% | 8.1% |
| Total Rural | 15.7% | 15.0% | 13.1% | 2.9% | 26.8% | 2.6% | 3.8% | 10.8% | 9.4% |
| Total Somerset | 13.1% | 13.6% | 12.2% | 3.5% | 25.0% | 3.2% | 4.9% | 12.8% | 11.7% |
| Total England | 13.4% | 16.5% | 13.9% | 4.8% | 19.2% | 3.2% | 5.7% | 11.9% | 11.4% |

Occupation by gender – Females (2011)

Green = higher than Somerset overall, Red = lower than Somerset overall

| Area | All females aged 16+ in employment | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | 1. Managers, directors and senior officials | 2. Professional | 3. Associate professional and technical | 4. Admin and secretarial | 5. Skilled trades | 6. Caring, leisure and other services | 7. Sales and customer services | 8. Process, plant and machine operatives | 9. Elementary occupations |
| Urban city and town | 7.2% | 14.0% | 8.7% | 17.7% | 2.9% | 20.5% | 13.6% | 2.8% | 12.6% |
| Rural town and fringe | 8.2% | 15.8% | 9.1% | 17.8% | 3.8% | 19.9% | 11.4% | 2.7% | 11.3% |
| Rural village | 10.8% | 19.5% | 10.9% | 17.7% | 5.0% | 16.2% | 8.7% | 1.6% | 9.5% |
| Rural hamlets and isolated dwellings | 12.2% | 19.4% | 10.5% | 17.4% | 7.7% | 14.9% | 7.2% | 1.5% | 9.2% |
| Total Rural | 10.1% | 18.0% | 10.1% | 17.6% | 5.2% | 17.3% | 9.4% | 2.0% | 10.1% |
| Total Somerset | 8.6% | 16.0% | 9.4% | 17.7% | 4.0% | 19.0% | 11.6% | 2.4% | 11.4% |
| Total England | 8.1% | 18.6% | 11.4% | 19.0% | 2.7% | 16.2% | 11.5% | 1.9% | 10.6% |