

**Census 2021**

**Demography and Migration**

**June 2022**



**LIVERPOOL  
CITY REGION**  
COMBINED AUTHORITY

**METROMAYOR**  
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

# Census 2021 - Introduction

The ONS has recently released the Census 2021 results linked to demography and migration. This document provides some high-level analysis of this data, which was collected in Spring 2021 (the Census presents a snapshot in time and will not account for anything that has happened since). This analysis also looks at population levels and density, split by sex and age group, as well as household figures for the Liverpool City Region and its local authorities.

Where possible we have compared the data to regional and national averages, as well looking at changes from the Census 2011.

Going forward, the ONS plans to release further datasets with more detailed information from Census 2021 throughout the rest of this year, with plans for small area and multivariate data to be released into next year. As a result, the Analyst Team will provide analysis of Census 2021 results, as and when they are released.

More information on the release schedule and its future phases can be found on the ONS website:  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/censustransformationprogramme/census2021outputs/releaseplans>

We hope that you find this document useful. If you have any queries or need further information, please get in touch with the Analyst team ([AnalystTeam@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk](mailto:AnalystTeam@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk)).

# Census 2021 Demography and Migration - Executive Summary

## Population

- In 2021, the **Liverpool City Region** was home to **1,551,500 residents** in total.
- This is an **increase of +3.0%** compared to the Census 2011. In comparison, the population of the **North West grew by +5.2%** and of **England by +6.6%** during this same time period.
- Our **fastest growing local authority was Knowsley**, which has seen a population **increase of +5.9%** in the past decade; Wirral had the lowest growth of only +0.1% since 2011.
- As a result of this increase in population, the City Region's **population density now stands at 2,140** residents per square km, up from 2,080 in 2011. This is **significantly higher than both the regional and national average**, which are 520 and 430 residents per square km respectively.
- Of these, **51.4% were female (798,000 people)** and **48.6% were male (753,600 people)**. This is a same split as seen in the Census 2011.
- 17% of the City Region population is between the ages of 0 to 14, 64% are between 15 and 64 and 18% of the population is aged 65 and above.
- The over **65 population in the City Region rose by +16%** since 2011, whereas the **population aged between 15 and 64 fell by -0.3%** during that period.
- The **number of households** in the City Region **increased by +3.3%** compared to 2011 to reach **677,000**.

## Deprivation

- **55% of LCR households are classified as deprived** in terms of at least one of education, employment, health or housing, higher than regionally (53%) and nationally (52%)
- However, LCR saw some improvement between 2011 and 2021, with the number of people deprived in at least one dimension falling by 8%.

## Place of birth and migration

- There are **130,000** people living in LCR who were **not born in the UK**. This represents **8% of the total LCR population**, which compares to 11% in the North West and 17% across England. 40% of LCR's non-UK born population was born in Europe, compared to 34% regionally and 37% nationally.
- While the non-UK born population is lower than seen elsewhere, we have seen progress in recent years. In 2011 only **5%** of LCR residents were born outside of the UK.
- All six local authority areas have seen an increase in the proportion of residents born outside of the UK.

# Analysis of LCR Population by Sex and Age and Household Numbers



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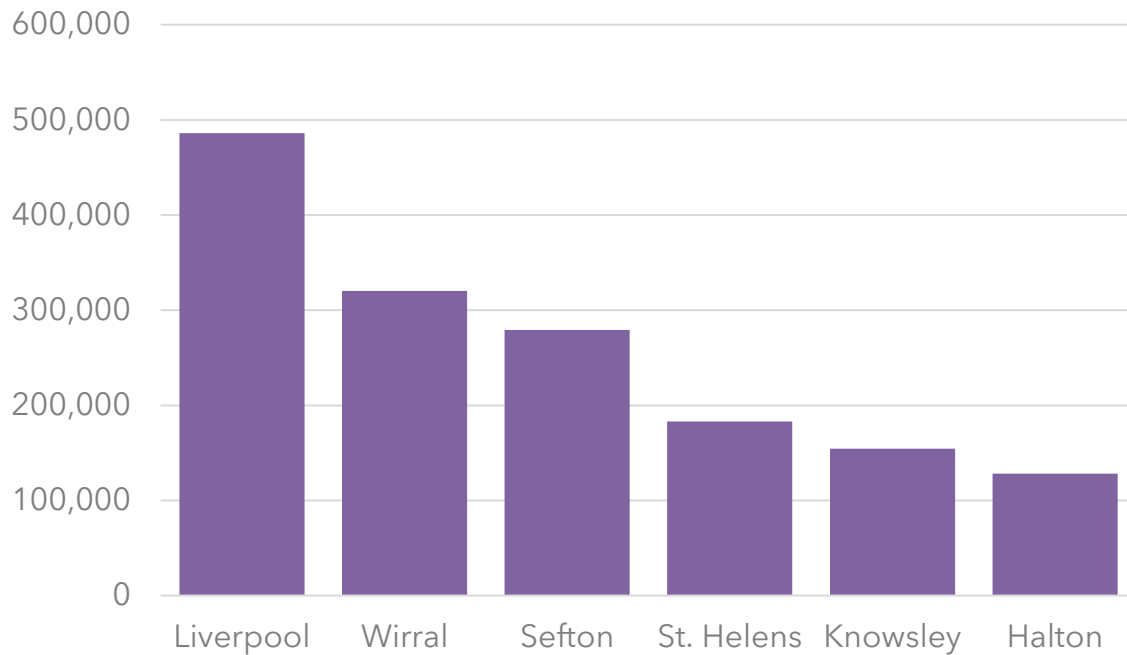
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# The population of LCR has grown by +3% since 2011, now reaching 1,551,500 residents

The total resident population in Liverpool City Region in 2021 was 1,551,500, a 44,570 (+3%) increase since the previous release in 2011. The local authority with the highest population was Liverpool with 486,100 residents, whilst Halton had the lowest with 128,200.

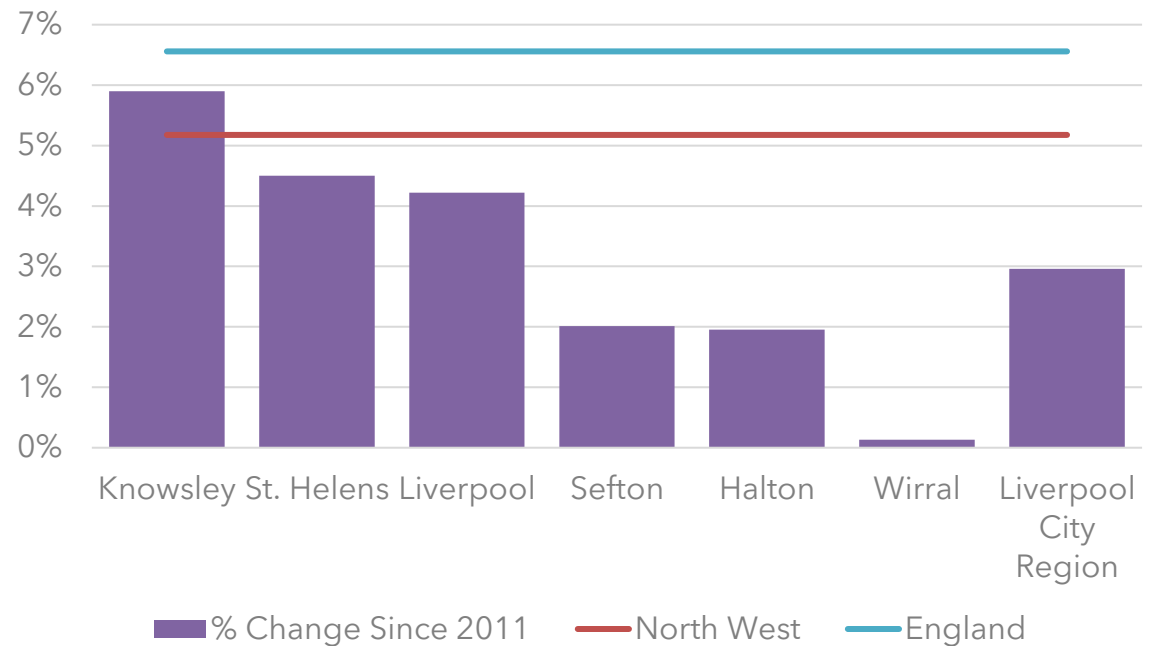
The biggest rise in population was in Knowsley with an increase of +5.9%, which is +0.7% point above the regional average. Whilst all remaining local authorities have also seen increases, their rate of growth fell below the regional and national average of +5.2% and +6.6% respectively. The smallest change in resident population was in Wirral, with only a +0.1% increase since 2011.

Number of residents by area, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

Percentage change in number of residents by area, 2011-2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

# Compared to the rest of the North West, LCR has seen relatively slower population growth

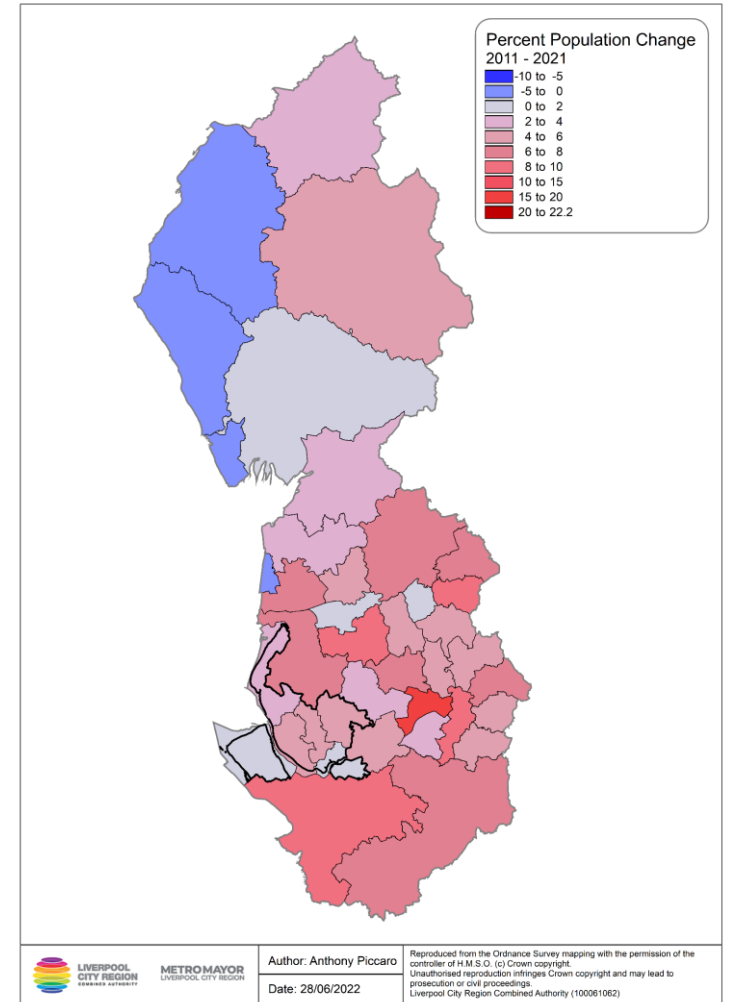
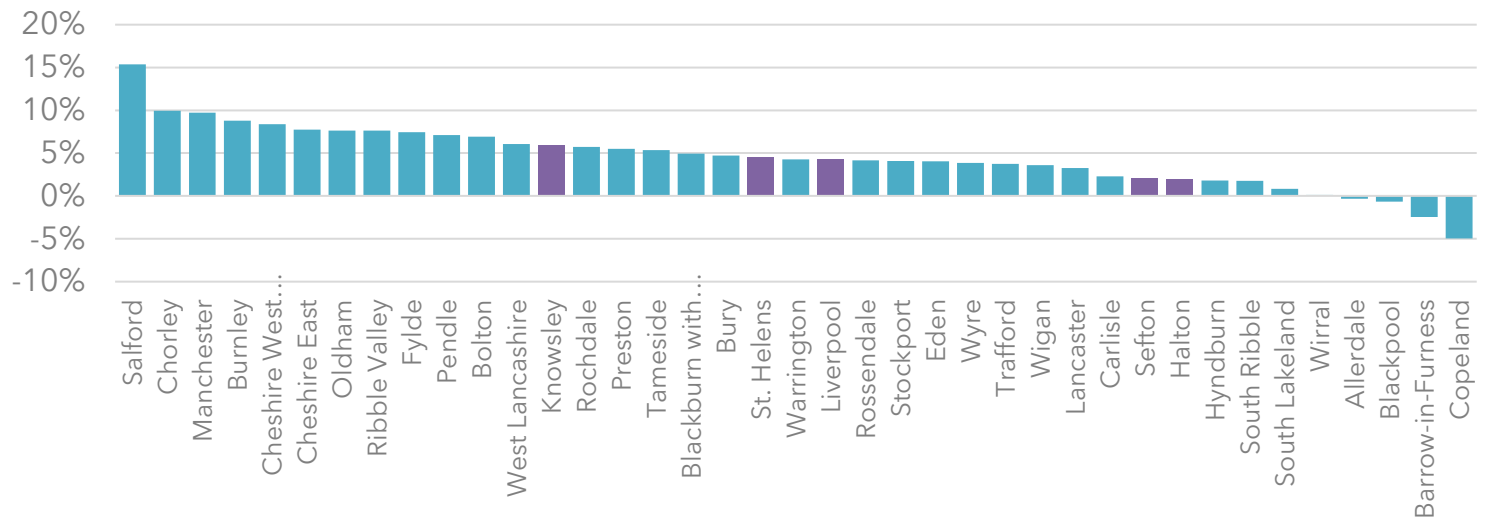
Overall the North West region grew its population by 5.2% between 2011 and 2021. LCR, by comparison, grew its by 3.0%.

This regional population growth was driven by areas such as Salford, which saw an increase in its population of 15%, and Chorley and Manchester, which grew by 10% each.

However some parts of the region saw falls in their resident numbers, such as Copeland, Barrow-in-Furness and Blackpool.

Percentage change in number of residents by local authority area in North West, 2011-2021

Percentage change in number of residents by local authority area in North West, 2011-2021



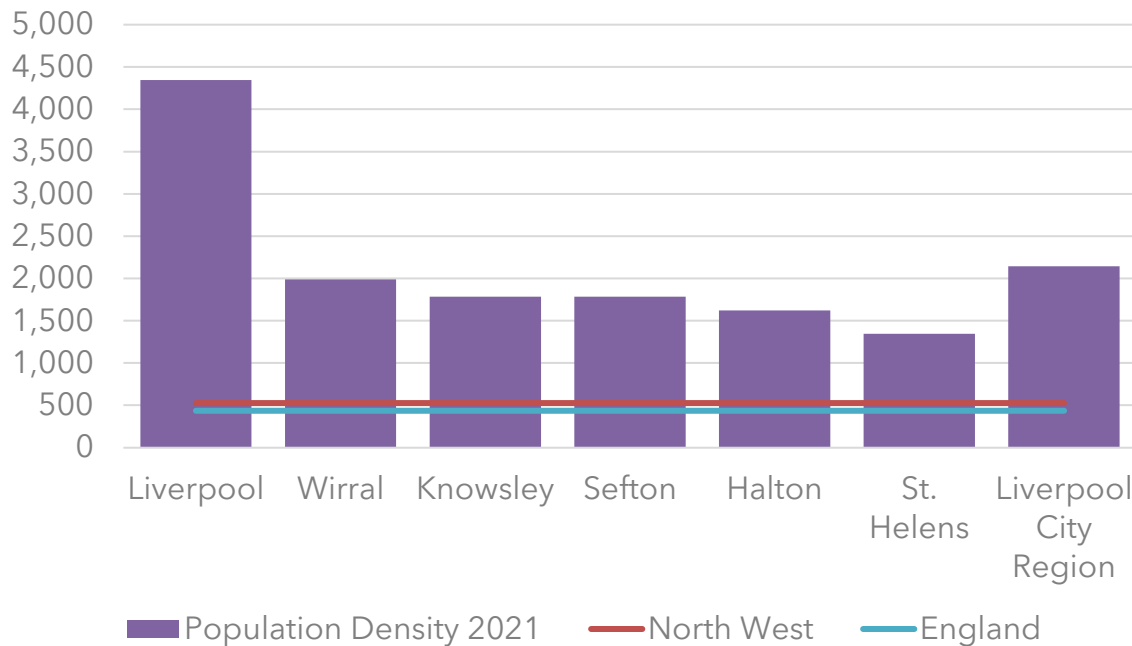
Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

# The population density of LCR is higher than regionally and nationally however, it is increasing at a slower rate

The population density in the Liverpool City Region in 2021 Census was 2,140 usual residents per square kilometre, a slight increase of 60 (<1%) since 2011. The local authority with the highest population density was Liverpool with 4,350 usual residents per square kilometre, whilst the lowest was St. Helens with 1,340.

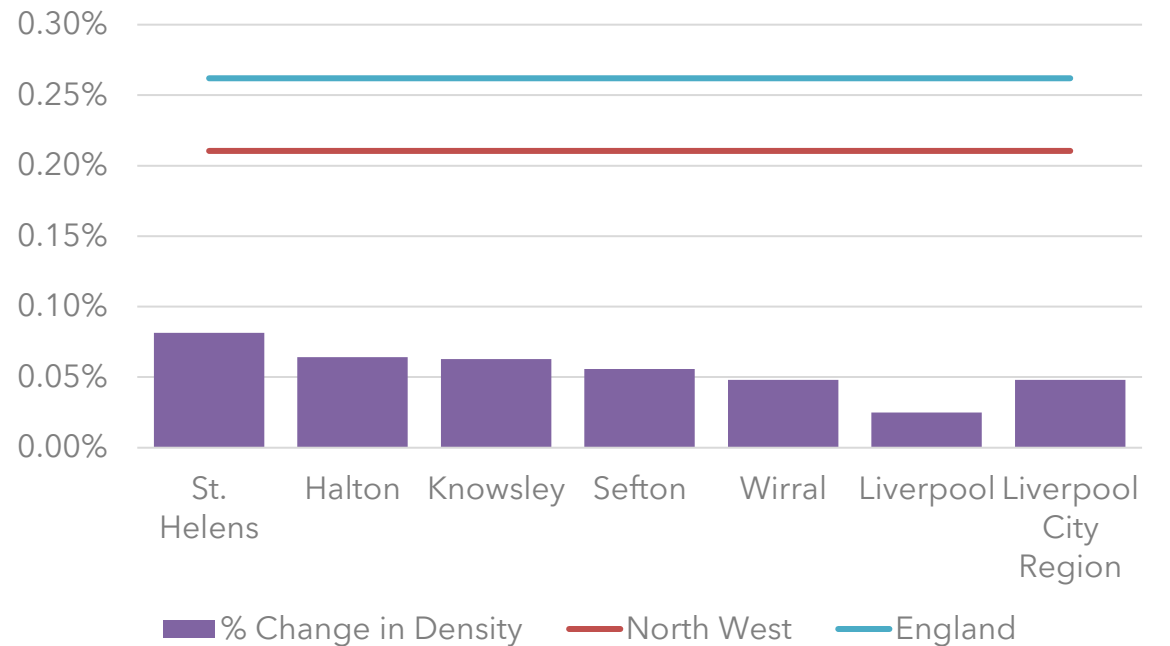
The change in population density across the LCR has been significantly less than both the regional and national average of +0.2% and +0.3% respectively. Liverpool has seen the smallest change, with only a +0.02% increase since 2011.

Number of residents per square km by area, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

Percentage change in number of residents per square km by area, 2011-2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

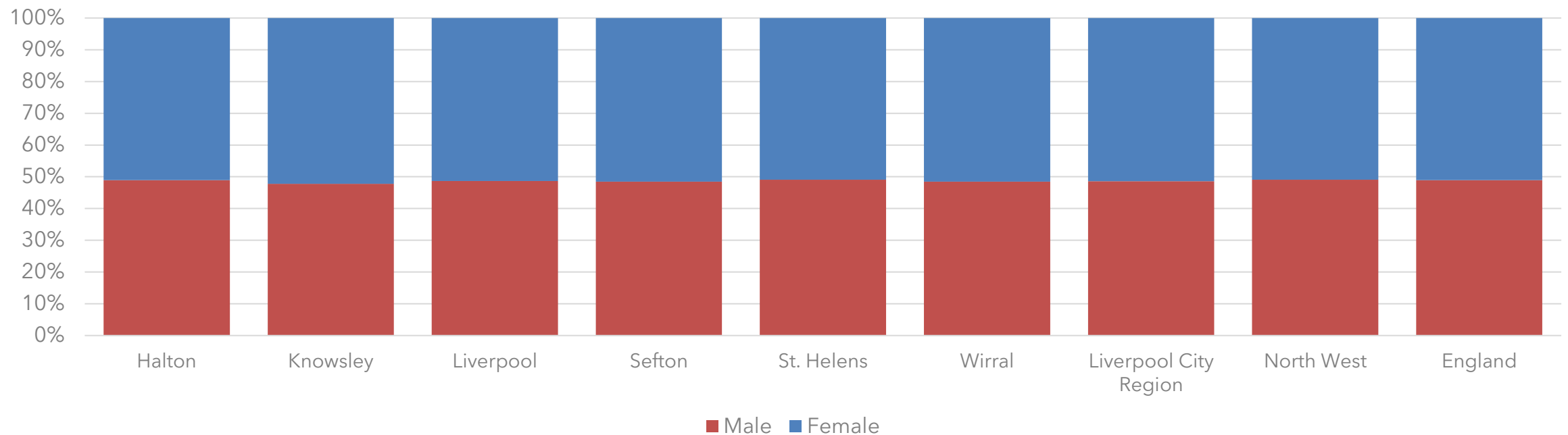
# The population proportion by sex across each Local Authority area are similar to national levels

The male to female population split across England in the 2021 Census was 51% female and 49% male which the North West and Liverpool City region matched. There are 753,600 males in the City Region, an increase of +9% from the 2011 census while the female population saw a -3% drop from the 2011 census at 798,000 residents.

Three Local Authorities within the city region that had a slightly lower percentage of males at 48% were; Knowsley, Sefton and Wirral.

The 65 plus age band was the only one that had significant change from the overall male to female proportions with 55% of the City Regions population being female and 45% being male.

Proportion of residents by sex and area, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

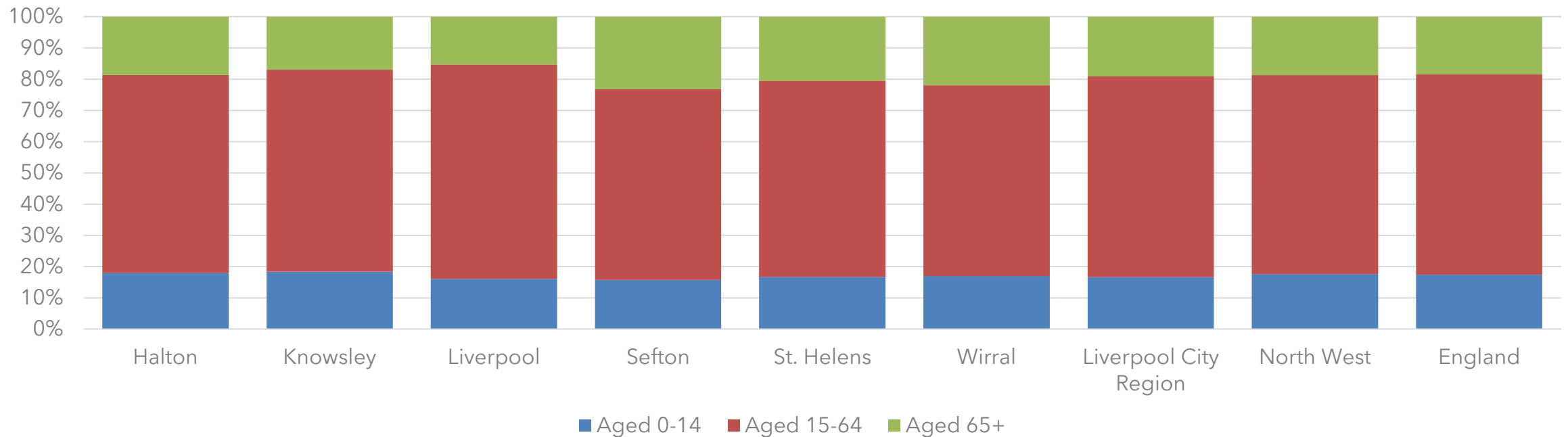


# The LCR population has a similar age split to the North West and England

Population by age groups showed that the Liverpool City Region had similar levels to the North West and England with 17% of the population being between the ages of 0 to 14, 64% being between the ages of 15 and 64 and 18% of the population being in the 65 and above age bracket.

Sefton and Wirral had a noticeable older population having 23% and 22% of the population being over 65 respectively. Liverpool had the largest 15 to 64 percentage out of all the local authorities with 69% of the population in this bracket.

Proportion of residents by major age band and area, 2021



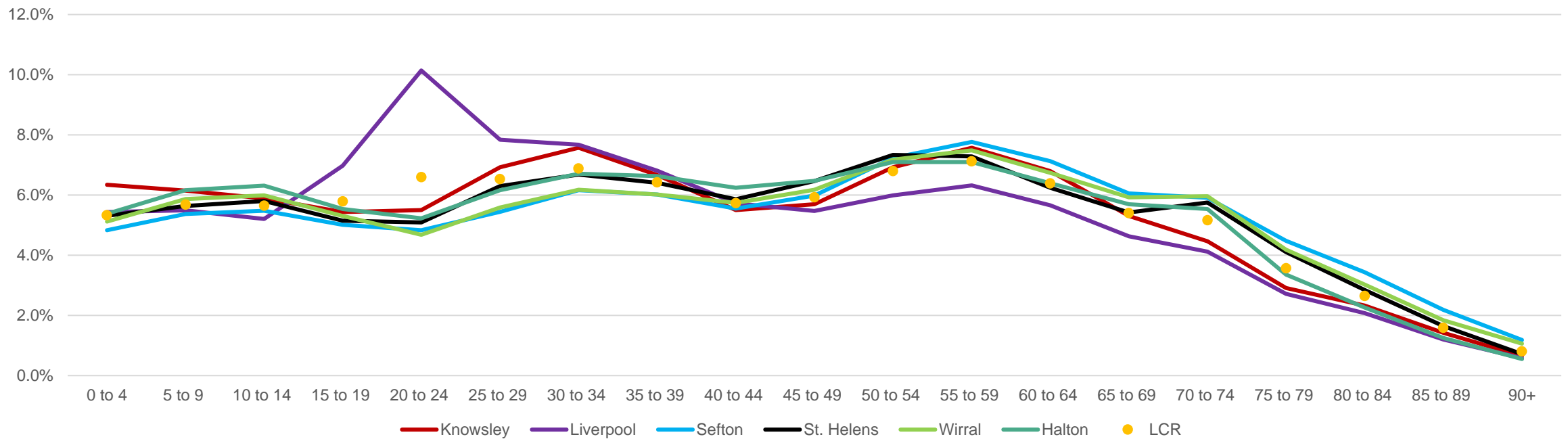
Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

# Liverpool has a much younger average age than the rest of the LCR

Population by minor age groups showed that the Liverpool City Region Districts all had similar age profiles, with a depression in those aged 20 to 24 and 40 to 44. The exception of Liverpool, which has a much younger population, and an over-representation in those aged 20 - 24..

Here you can see more evidence of Sefton and Wirral's older population profile, and how Liverpool's population share falls away from the regional norm after the age of 45.

Age Profiles of Liverpool City Region and its Districts, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

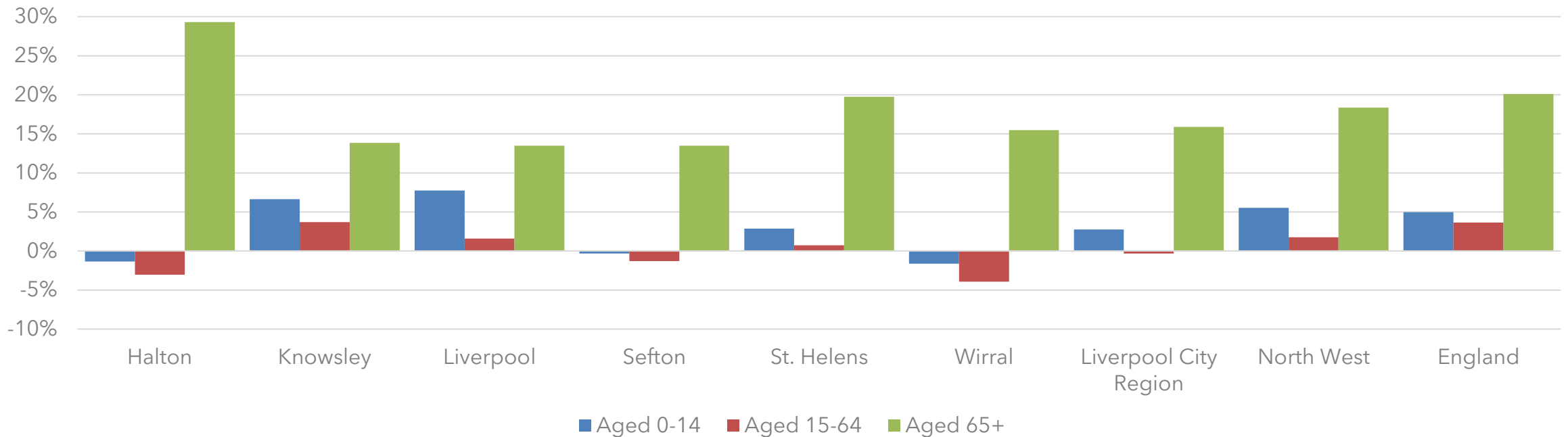
# The working age population across the LCR has levelled off while the over 65 population has increased by +16%

The population has seen growth in all age brackets in England and the North West but not in the Liverpool City Region. The Liverpool City Region saw stagnation within the working age bracket of 15-64 while the North West saw a +2% growth and England +4%.

The proportion of people within the working age bracket saw a -2% decrease in comparison to the 2011 Census and has fallen to 2001 Census percentage levels.

The age bracket that saw the largest increase was in the over 65 range, increasing by +20% across England, +18% in the North West and +16% in the Liverpool City Region. Wirral, Halton and Sefton all saw a drop in the working age proportions but notably had a larger percentage of over 65 residents growing by +17% since 2011.

Percentage change in number of residents by major age group and area, 2011-2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

# The LCR population swells around ages 20-40 and 50-64

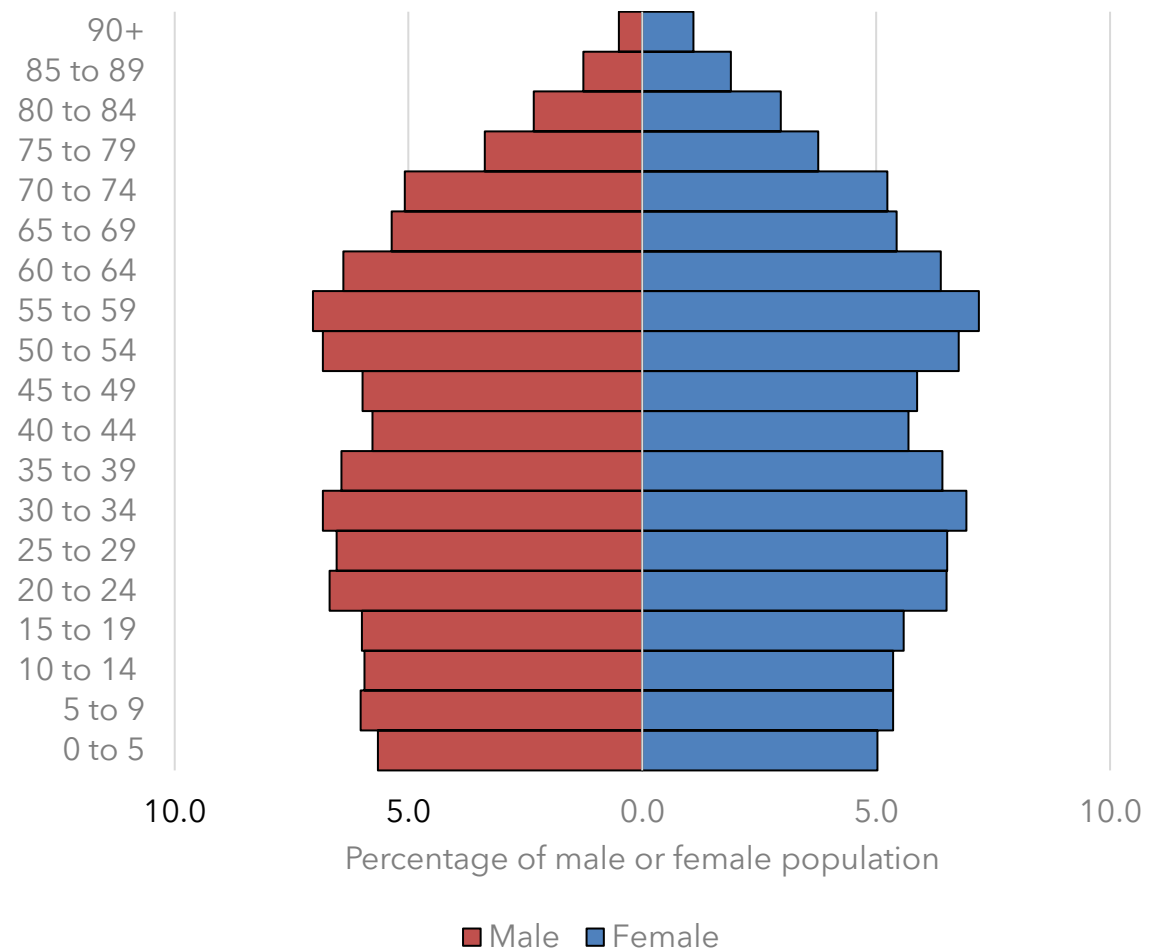
The chart on the right is a population pyramid for Liverpool City Region in 2021.

It shows the proportion of our male or female population in each five-year age band, both for the male and female population.

Each age band has a similar proportion of the population, until around the age of 70 where the age bands have progressively fewer people.

The bulges on the pyramid for LCR are around ages 20-40 and 50-64. These bulges will move up the pyramid as these populations age and will create bulges within older age brackets.

Percentage of male or female population by age band, LCR, 2021



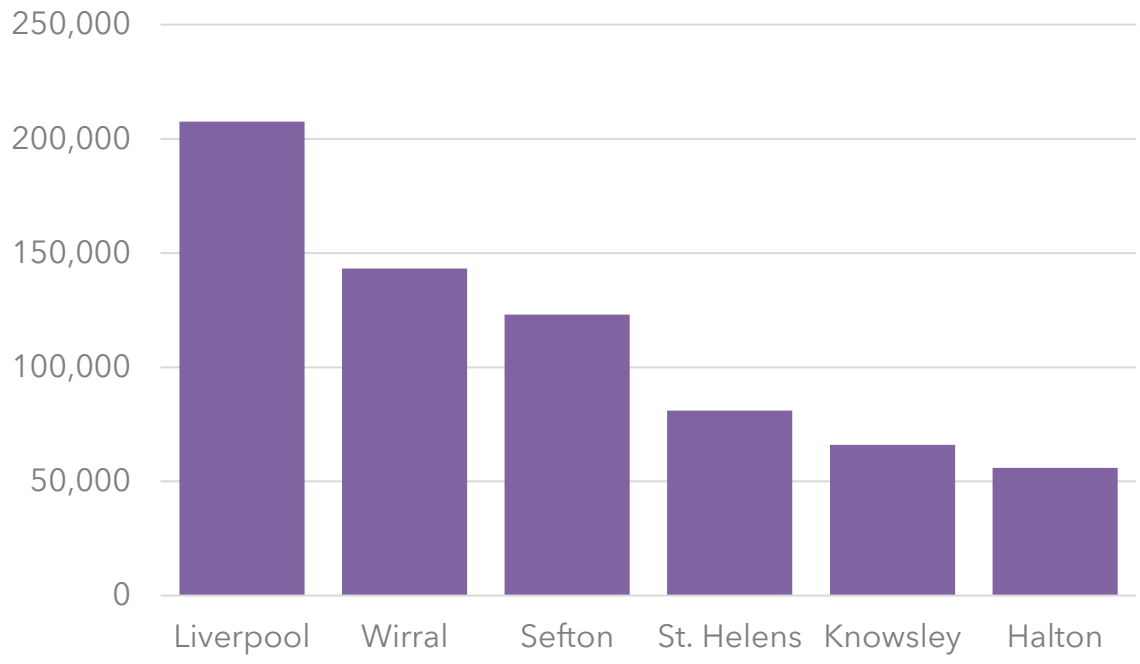
Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

# The total number of households in LCR has grown by +3.3% since 2011, now reaching 677,000

The total number of households in Liverpool City Region in 2021 was 677,000, an increase of 21,600 (+3.3%) since 2011. The local authority with the highest number of households was Liverpool with 207,500 whilst Halton had the smallest with 56,000.

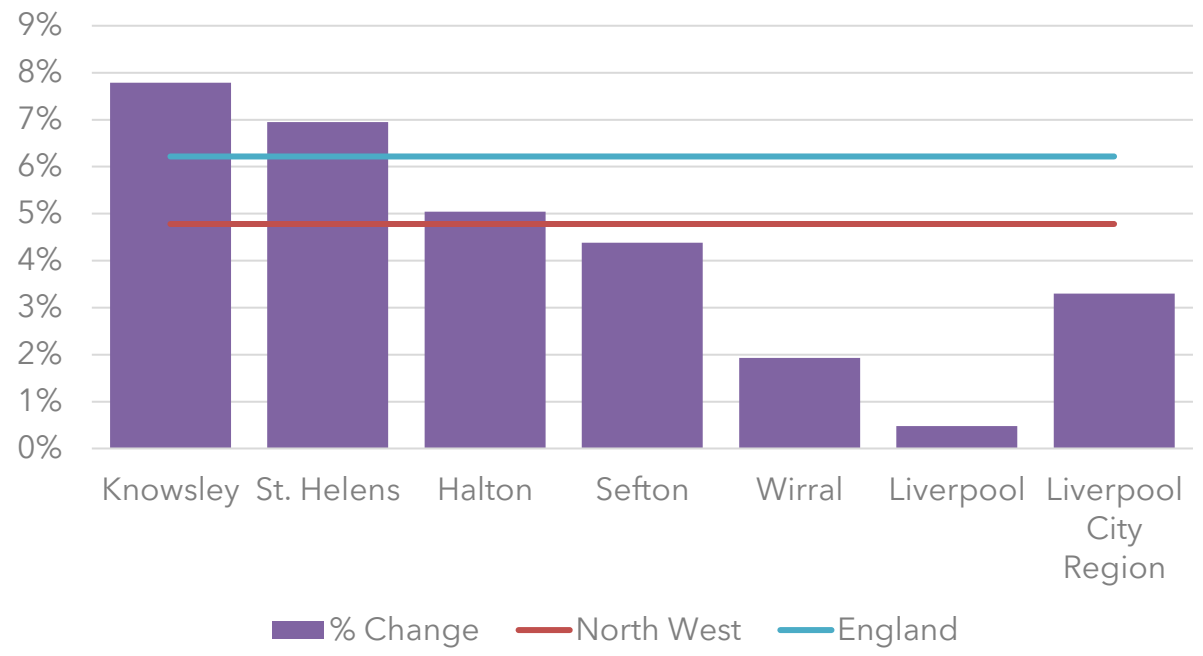
The largest change in number of households was in Knowsley and St. Helens who both saw a growth rate higher than the regional and national averages of +4.8% and +6.2% respectively. The smallest change was in Liverpool, which has increased by only +0.5% since 2011.

Number of households by area, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

Percentage change in number of households by area, 2011-2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

# Deprivation



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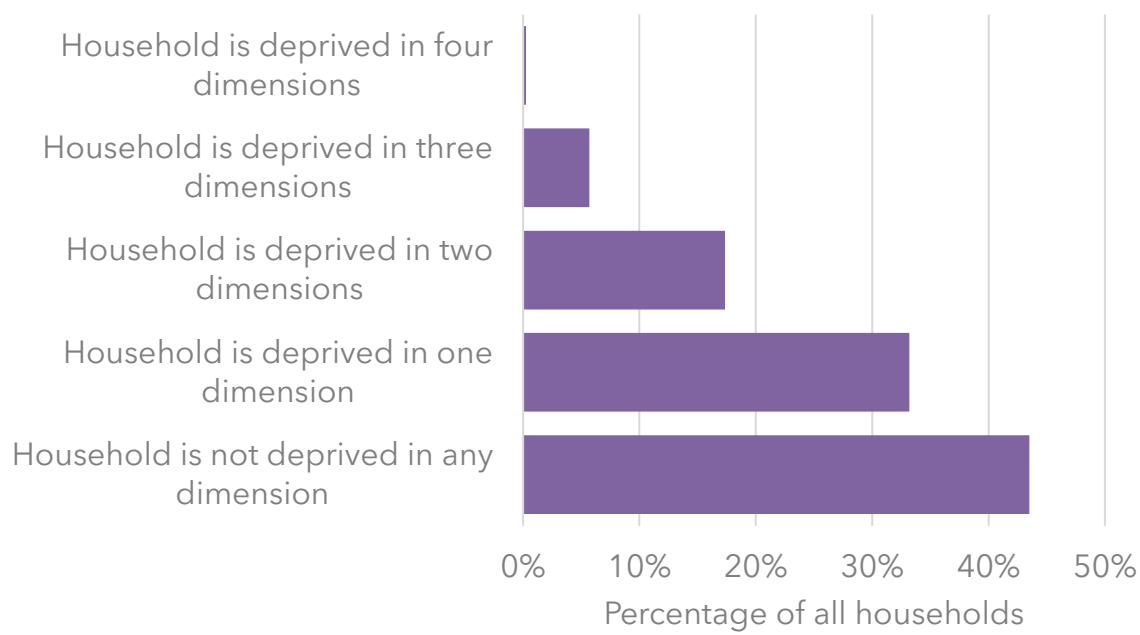
# Over 55% of households in Liverpool City Region are affected by at least one form of education, employment, health and housing deprivation

The Liverpool City Region makes up 24% of deprived households\* in the North West and 3% of all households that are deprived in all dimensions across England. 57% of households within the City Region have at least one deprivation dimension which is larger proportion than the North West (53%) and England (52%).

There are 238,500 households that are not deprived in any dimension which is an increase of +23% since the 2011 Census. In addition, there was a reduction of almost 3,000 households in all areas of household deprivation.

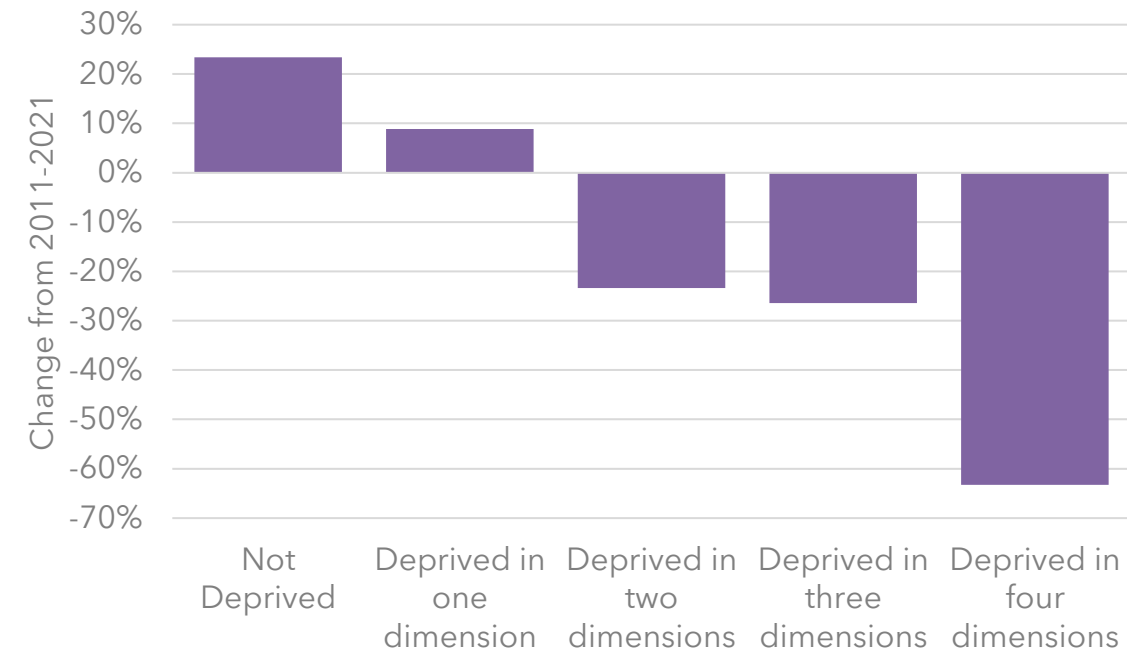
Knowsley has the largest proportion of houses affected by at least one dimension of household deprivation, with 59% of all households in the area being affected by at least one dimension of deprivation including; Education, Employment, Health or Housing space.

Household deprivation dimension within the Liverpool City Region



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

Household Deprivation count percentage change (%) from 2011-2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

\* Deprived in all four dimensions of household deprivation - as defined in the Census 2021

# Since 2011, there has been a decrease in the number of households affected by at least one element of deprivation

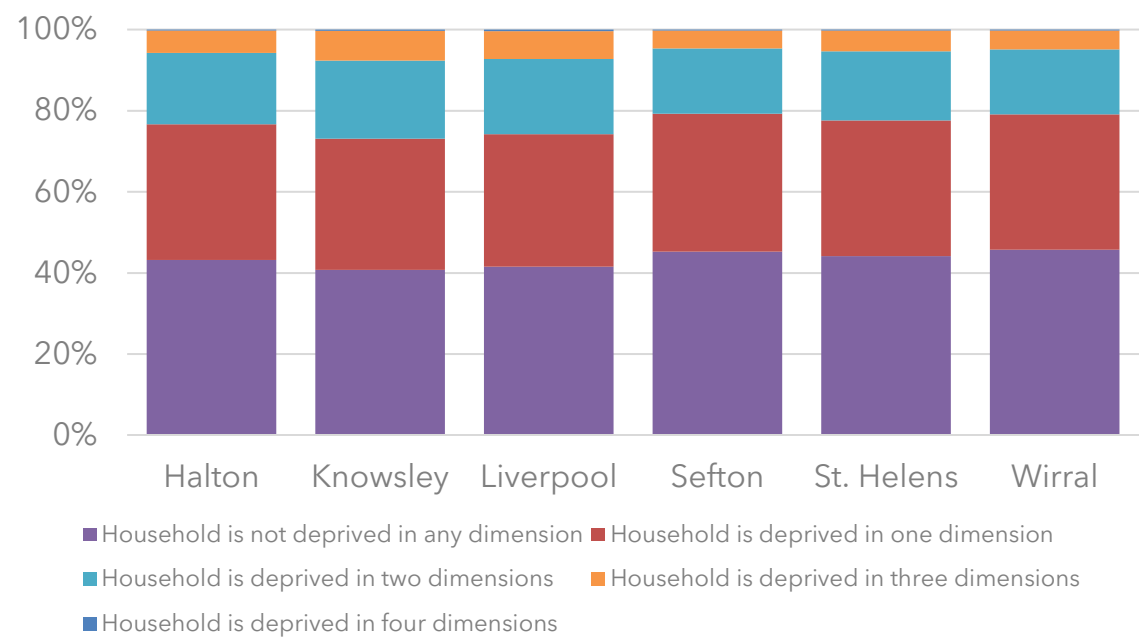
The distribution of households within each deprivation dimension is similar across all local authorities. The proportion of households experiencing no deprivation ranges from 41% in Knowsley to 46% in Wirral.

Knowsley saw the largest increase (+41%) in households that are not deprived.

Liverpool saw the largest percentage decrease (-13%) of households in at least one dimension of deprivation.

It should be noted that the Census data was collected in 2021 therefore, the current cost of living challenges will not be reflected in this analysis.

Household deprivation dimension distribution in the Liverpool City Region



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

Households in any dimensions of deprivation and not in any percentage (%) change from 2011-2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

\* Deprived in all four dimensions of household deprivation - as defined in the Census 2021



# Migration



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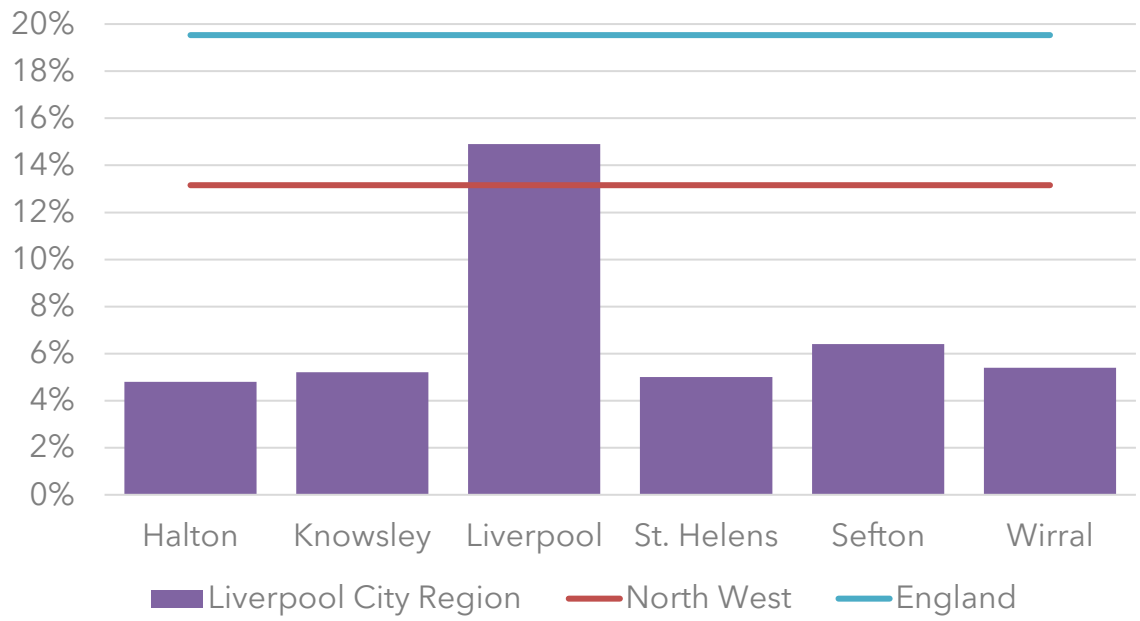
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# The number of LCR residents born outside of the UK has increased in all local authority areas, since 2011

Across the City Region there has been an increase in non-UK born residents in all local authorities, with Liverpool (LA) experiencing the largest increase since 2011 (+5% points). The average increase in non-UK born residents across all local authority areas was +3% points, which only Liverpool exceeds. Whilst the rate of increase from 2011 is larger in LCR than regional and national levels, the overall proportion of non-UK born residents is smaller in LCR than regionally and nationally.

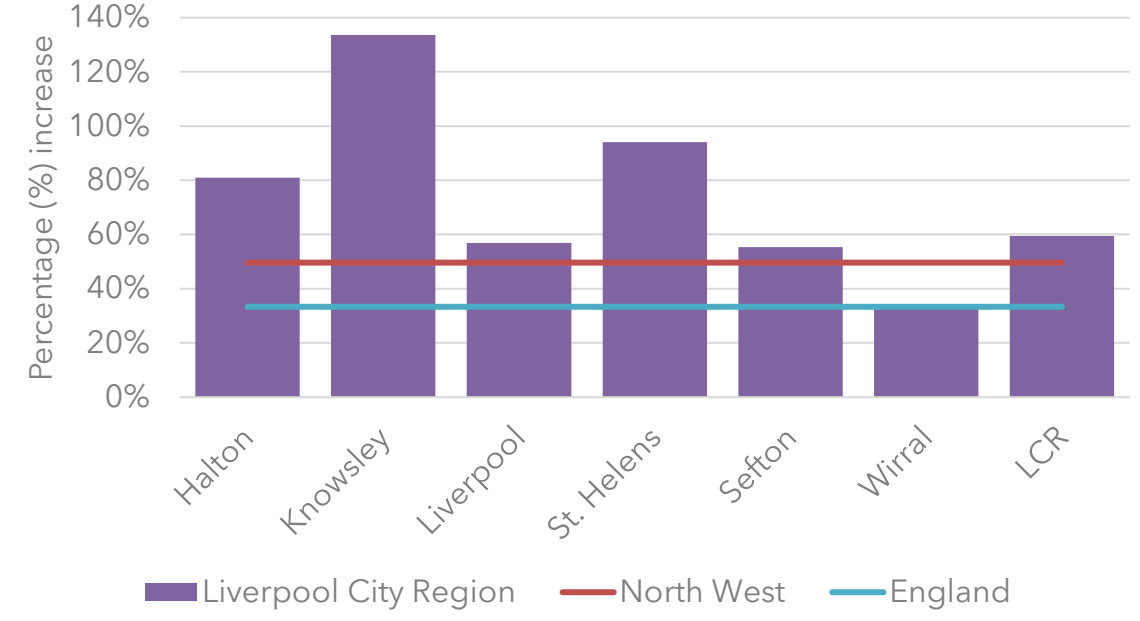
Liverpool is the local authority which has the largest proportion of non-UK residents in the City Region at 15%. Liverpool and Sefton are the only two local authorities, that are higher than the LCR local authority average (6%).

Percentage of residents born outside of the UK, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

Born outside of the UK, percentage change since 2011-2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

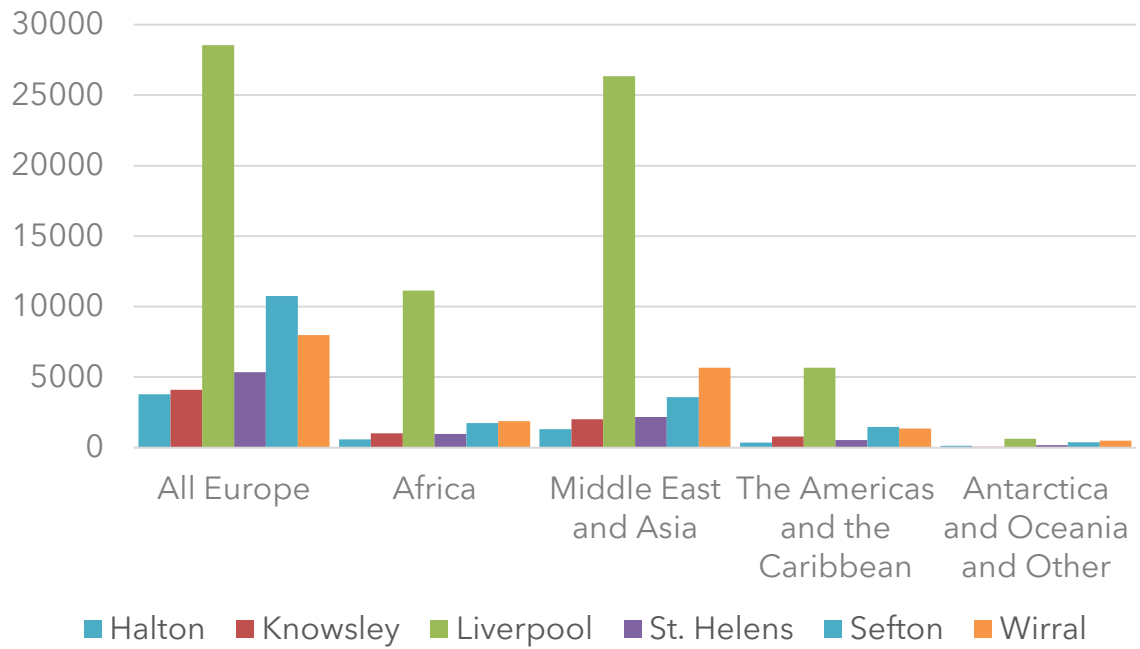
Note: Percentage point change is the change in overall take up

# Migration of new residents to the Liverpool City Region primarily came from within Europe

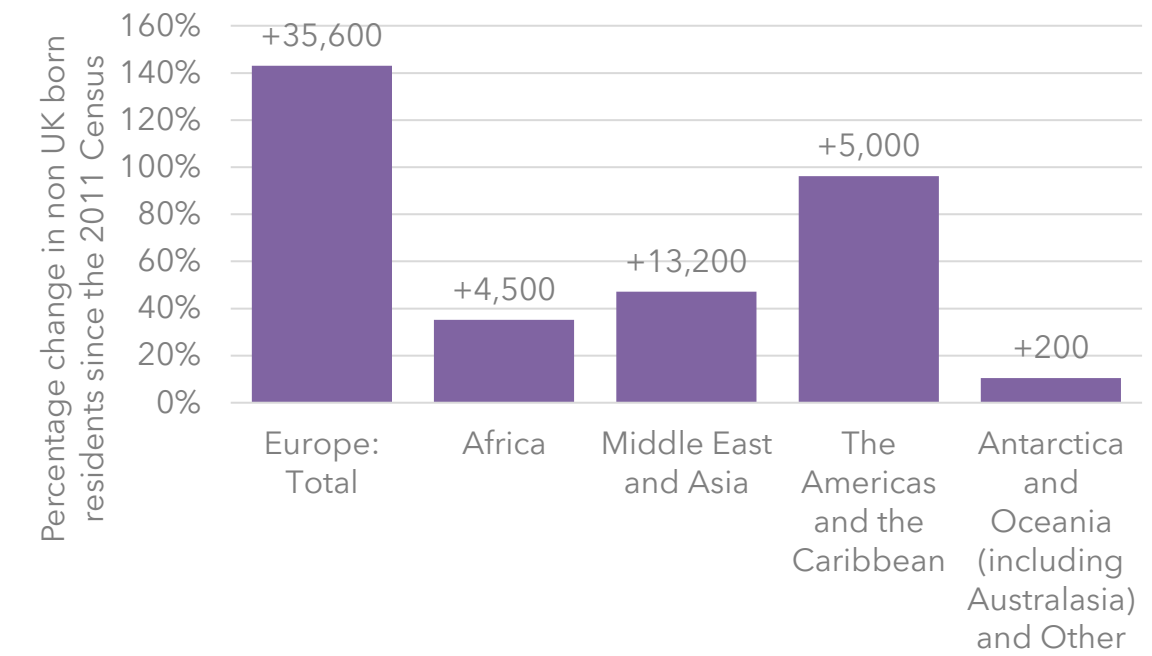
There are 1.4 million residents within the Liverpool City Region that were born in the UK, which is 92% of all residents. Of all non UK-born residents, those from Europe made up 40%, which is larger than the North West (34%) and England (37%). Non-UK born residents in the City Region make up 14% of all non UK-born residents in the North West.

Whilst the largest growth (compared to 2011) of non UK-born residents in LCR were from Europe (+35,600 or +140%), there was also a large increase of non-UK born residents from Africa, Middle East & Asia and the Americas and the Caribbean (+23,000 or +49%).

LCR residents' country of birth outside of the UK in 2021



Percentage (%) change in non UK born residents since 2011-2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

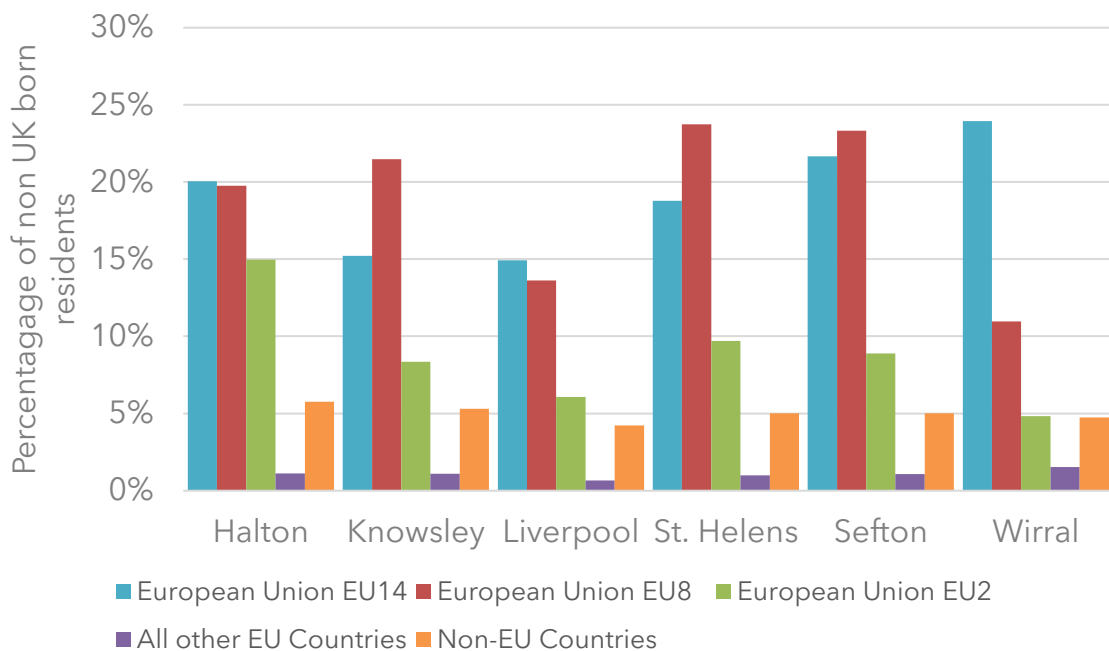
Note: labels refer to absolute change in population.

# The % increase of LCR residents born outside the UK has exceeded regional and national levels

The largest subgroup of residents born outside of the UK were from the European Union (EU14\*) at 16%. Growth in new residents from European countries has increased at a rate 20% p.p higher than nationally. Residents (non-UK) born outside of Europe has increased at a rate 25% p.p. higher than nationally.

In terms of length of stay, those residents who have stayed in the UK for more than 10 years, saw the most growth in the City Region, since 2011.

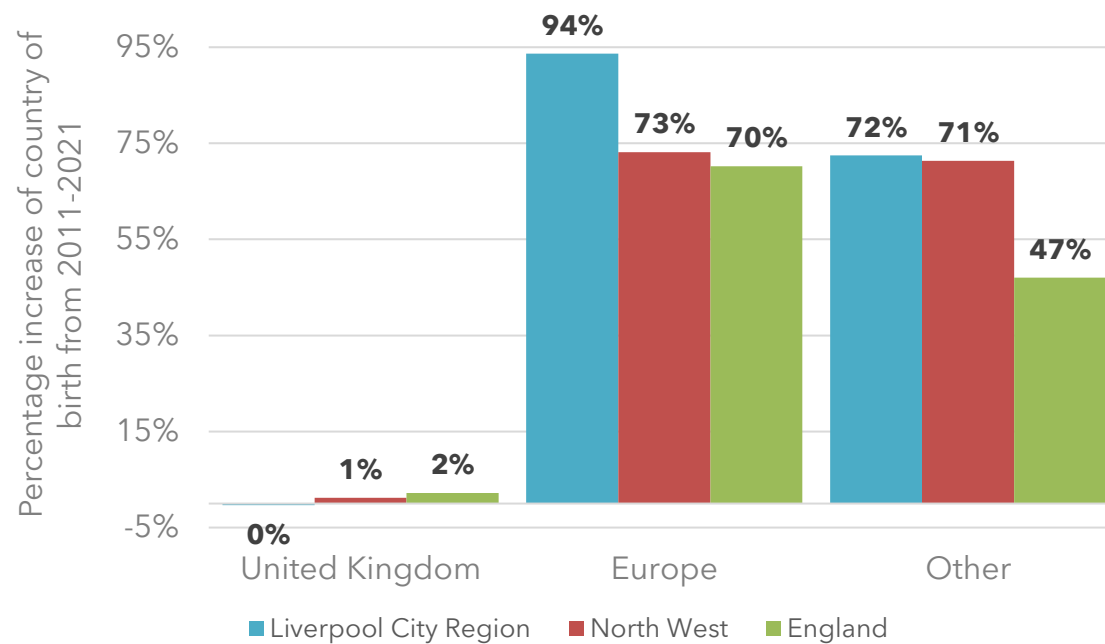
Percentage (%) of non UK born residents from Europe breakdown by local authority in 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

Note: EU Code Definitions on final slide

Percentage (%) change in country of birth 2011 - 2021



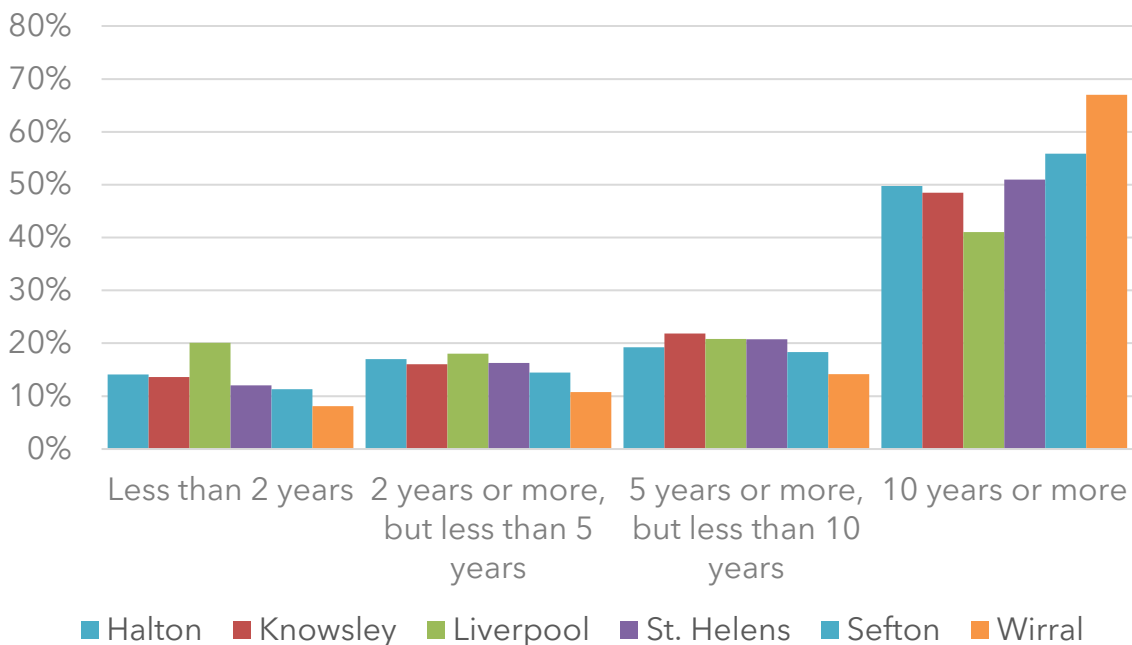
Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

# Residents who are born outside of the UK tend to reside in the Liverpool City Region long term

68% of LCR non-UK born residents have lived in the City Region for at least 5 years. Wirral has the highest proportion of long term non-UK born residents, with 67% of non-UK residents living there for 10 years or more.

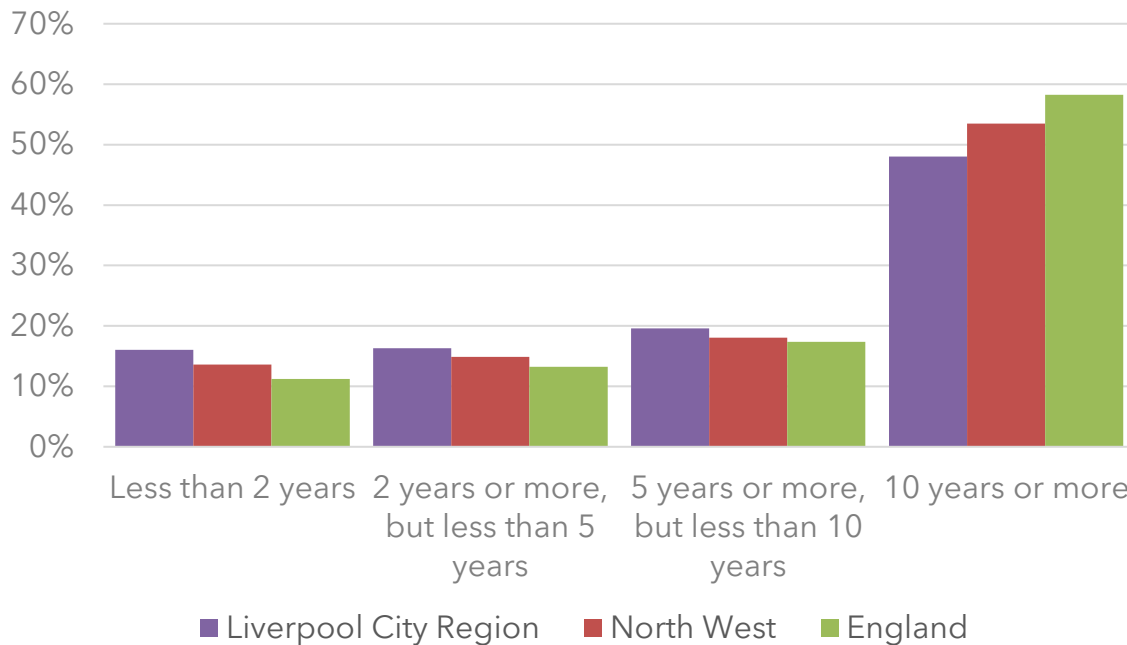
Compared to the North West (14%) and England (11%), the LCR has a higher proportion (16%) of non-UK born residents who have been residing for less than five years.

Length of Residence of those who are born outside of the UK by Local Authority in 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022

Length of Residence of those who are born outside of the UK percentage (%) in 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS, 2022