

InformGloucestershire

Population Change in Gloucestershire (2006 to 2016 revised) An Overview

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The population of Gloucestershire was approximately 623,100 in 2016 (revised), representing a rise of approximately 42,400 people since 2006, an average increase of 4,240 people per annum. This is equivalent to a growth of 7.3% in population from 2006 to 2016, which is lower than the rate of growth in the South West (7.8%) and England and Wales (8.2%).

Table 1: Population Change in Gloucestershire and the districts, 2006 to 2016

	Population 2006	Population 2016 (revised)	Change 2006 to 2016	% change 2006 to 2016
Gloucestershire	580,700	623,100	42,400	7.3
Cheltenham	111,600	117,200	5,600	5.0
Cotswold	82,600	86,100	3,500	4.2
Forest of Dean	81,700	85,400	3,700	4.5
Gloucester	115,300	128,400	13,100	11.4
Stroud	110,500	117,500	7,000	6.3
Tewkesbury	78,900	88,500	9,600	12.2
South West	5,119,800	5,517,000	397,200	7.8
England and Wales	53,950,900	58,381,200	4,430,300	8.2

Table 1, above, shows that Tewkesbury was the fastest growing district in Gloucestershire in the period 2006 to 2016, with its population increasing by 12.2%. Gloucester was the second fastest growing district with population growth of 11.4%. Cotswold was the slowest growing district in the county with population growth of 4.2%.

Changes in Age Structure

Table 2 shows that the lower rate of growth in population in Gloucestershire compared with England and Wales was driven by a slower increase in the number of children and young people aged 0-19 (1.8% in Gloucestershire compared with 5.1% in England and Wales) and a slower increase in the number of working age people aged 20-64 (3.6% in Gloucestershire compared with 5.7% in England and Wales). The growth of the older population (aged 65 and above) in the county continued to outpace that of the younger population, increasing by 27%; this was higher than the growth rate of 22.6% for the older population in England and Wales.

Table 2: Population change in Gloucestershire by broad age group, 2006 to 2016

Age Group	Gloucestershire			% change 2006 to 2016*		
	Population 2006	Population 2016	Change 2006 to 2016	Gloucestershire	South West	England and Wales
All persons	580,700	623,100	42,400	7.3	7.8	8.2
0-19	138,100	140,600	2,500	1.8	3.7	5.1
20-64	340,500	352,800	12,300	3.6	3.9	5.7
65 and over	102,100	129,700	27,600	27.0	24.8	22.6

**Based on rounded figures*

Table 3 shows that the lower growth rates in the 0-19 and 20-64 age groups were not uniform across Gloucestershire. Gloucester and Tewkesbury both had a faster growth rate in the children and young people age group (8.1% and 7.1% respectively) compared with the England and Wales figure whilst Cotswold, the Forest of Dean and Stroud all experienced a decline in the number of people in this age group. Gloucester and Tewkesbury also had a faster growth rate in the working age group (9.6% and 7.9% respectively) compared with the national figure, whilst Cotswold and the Forest of Dean experienced decline in this age group. With regard to the 65+ population, growth was fastest in the Forest of Dean (34.7%) and higher than the England and Wales figure in all districts apart from Cheltenham where the rate was considerably slower (16.0%).

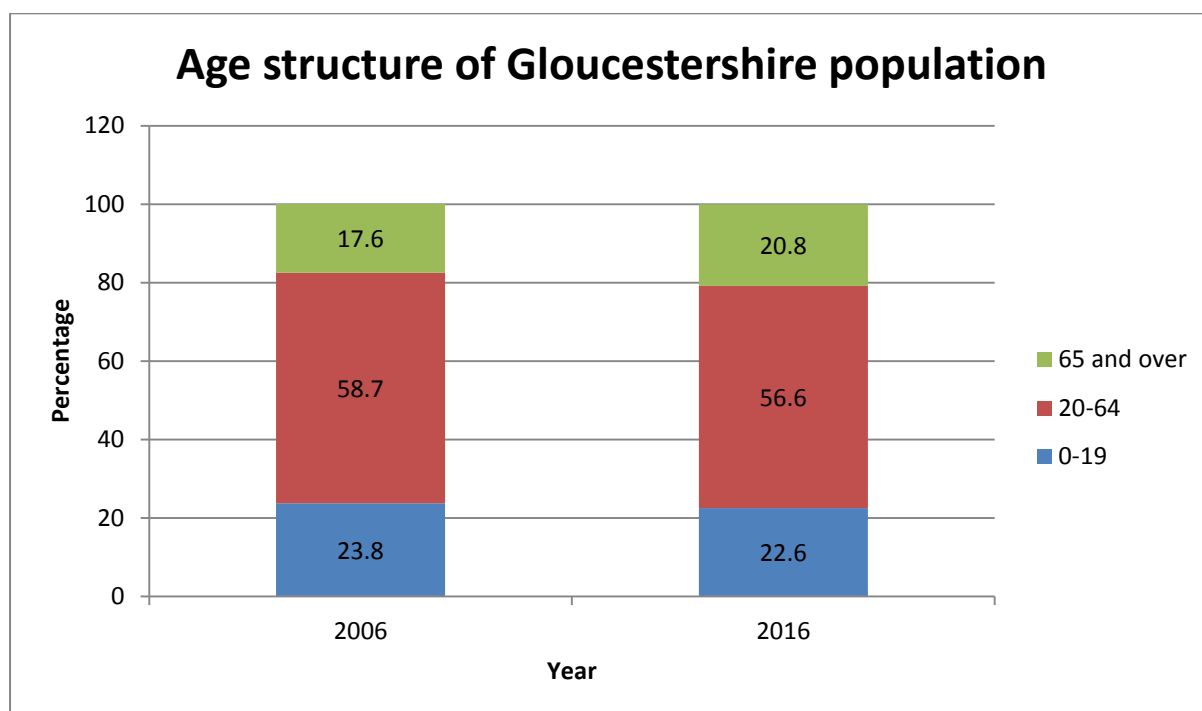
Table 3: Population Change in the Gloucestershire district by broad age group, 2006 to 2016

	% change 2006 to 2016*		
	0-19	20-64	65+
Gloucestershire	1.8	3.6	27.0
Cheltenham	2.7	2.7	16.0
Cotswold	-3.8	-1.5	28.0
Forest of Dean	-4.2	-1.5	34.7
Gloucester	8.1	9.6	23.8
Stroud	-2.6	2.7	29.6
Tewkesbury	7.1	7.9	30.9
South West	3.7	3.9	24.8
England and Wales	5.1	5.7	22.6

**Based on rounded figures*

Figure 1 shows the age structure of the Gloucestershire population in 2006 and 2016 by broad age group. The proportion of the Gloucestershire population who are aged 65 or over increased from 17.6% in 2006 to 20.8% in 2016 whilst the proportion of 0-19 year olds and 20-64 year olds both decreased during the same period. The ratio of working age adults to non-working age adults and children reduced from 1:4 to 1:2 during this period.

Figure 1: Age Structure of Gloucestershire population 2006 and 2016



Source: Mid-2006 and Mid-2016 revised Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics