

InformGloucestershire

Population Change in Gloucestershire (2007 to 2017) An Overview

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The population of Gloucestershire was approximately 628,139 in 2017, representing a rise of 42,724 people since 2007, an average increase of 4,272 people per annum. This is equivalent to a growth of 7.3% in population from 2007 to 2017, which is lower than the rate of growth in the South West (7.5%) and England and Wales (8.0%).

Table 1: Population Change in Gloucestershire and the districts, 2007 to 2017

	Population 2007	Population 2017	Change 2007 to 2017	% change 2007 to 2017
Gloucestershire	585,415	628,139	42,724	7.3%
Cheltenham	112,511	117,128	4,617	4.1%
Cotswold	83,202	87,509	4,307	5.2%
Forest of Dean	82,004	85,957	3,953	4.8%
Gloucester	117,225	129,083	11,858	10.1%
Stroud	111,069	118,130	7,061	6.4%
Tewkesbury	79,404	90,332	10,928	13.8%
South West	5,170,537	5,559,316	388,779	7.5%
England	51,381,093	55,619,430	4,238,337	8.2%
England and Wales	54,387,392	58,744,595	4,357,203	8.0%
Great Britain	59,557,392	64,169,395	4,612,003	7.7%
United Kingdom	61,319,075	66,040,229	4,721,154	7.7%

Table 1 shows Tewkesbury was the fastest growing district in Gloucestershire in the period 2007 to 2017, with its population increasing by 13.8%. Gloucester was the second fastest growing district with population growth of 10.1%. Cheltenham was the slowest growing district in the county with population growth of 4.1%.

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 (2.1% in Gloucestershire compared with 5.0% in England and Wales) and a slower increase in the number of working age people aged 20-64 (3.2% in Gloucestershire compared with 5.1% 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 28%; this was higher than the growth rate of 23.3% for the older population in England and Wales.

Table 2: Population change in Gloucestershire by broad age group, 2007 to 2017

Age Group	Gloucestershire			% change 2007 to 2017		
	Population	Population	Change	Gloucestershire	South West	England and Wales
	2007	2017	2007 to 2017			
All persons	585,415	628,139	42,724	7.3%	7.5%	8.0%
0-19	138,448	141,353	2,905	2.1%	3.6%	5.0%
20-64	343,705	354,574	10,869	3.2%	3.3%	5.1%
65 and over	103,262	132,212	28,950	28.0%	25.4%	23.3%

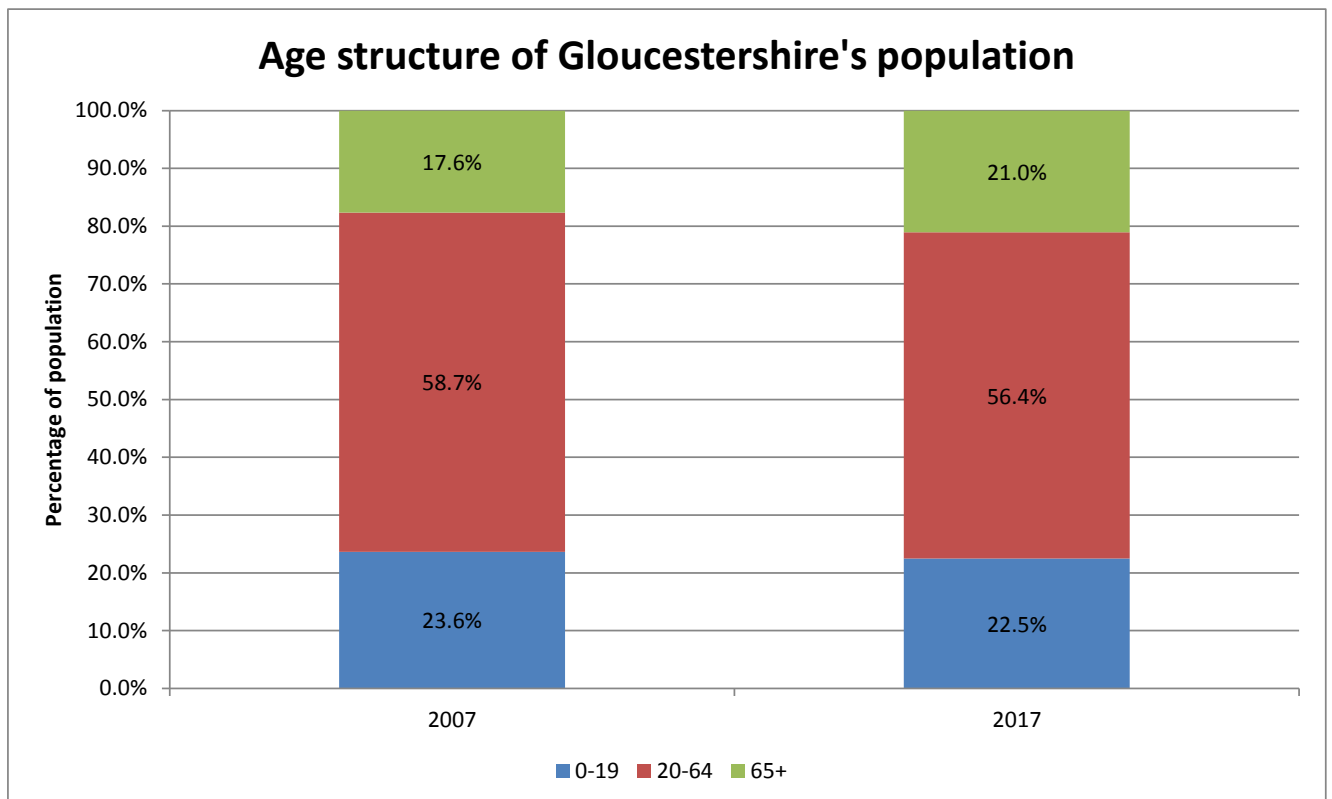
Table 3 shows that the lower growth rates in the 0-19 and 20-64 age groups were not uniform across Gloucestershire. Gloucester and Tewkesbury both had a faster growth rate in the children and young people age group (6.8% and 10.3% respectively) compared with the England and Wales figure whilst Cotswold, 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 (7.9% and 9.0% 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 (34.3%) and higher than the England and Wales figure in all districts apart from Cheltenham where the rate was considerably slower (18.6%).

Table 3: Population Change in the Gloucestershire district by broad age group, 2007 to 2017

	% change 2007 to 2017		
	0-19	20-64	65+
Gloucestershire	2.1%	3.2%	28.0%
Cheltenham	2.2%	0.8%	18.6%
Cotswold	-2.8%	-0.4%	29.5%
Forest of Dean	-3.3%	-1.4%	34.3%
Gloucester	6.8%	7.9%	25.2%
Stroud	-1.7%	2.3%	29.8%
Tewkesbury	10.3%	9.0%	32.4%
South West	3.6%	3.3%	25.4%
England	5.5%	5.4%	23.4%
England and Wales	5.0%	5.1%	23.3%
Great Britain	4.4%	5.0%	23.0%
United Kingdom	4.3%	5.0%	23.1%

Figure 1 shows the age structure of the Gloucestershire population in 2007 and 2017 by broad age group. The proportion of the Gloucestershire population who are aged 65 or over increased from 17.6% in 2007 to 21.0% in 2017 whilst the proportion of 0-19 year olds and 20-64 year olds both decreased during the same period. The ratio of non-working age adults and children to working age adults (18-64) increased from 0.6:1 to 0.7:1 during this period.

Figure 1: Age Structure of Gloucestershire population 2007 and 2017



Source: Mid-2007 and Mid-2017 Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics