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Built-up areas - accompanying tables

June 2026

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West Sussex Public Health and Social Research Unit



These tables accompany a briefing which provides a summary of information on built-up areas, drawing on data from the Office for National Statistics 'Towns and cities, characteristics of built-up areas, England and Wales: Census 2021' release published in August 2023.

Number of built-up areas in West Sussex by size classification

Built-up area size classification	Number within West Sussex	Proportion
Minor	329	13.7%
Small	464	19.3%
Medium	873	36.4%
Large	733	30.6%

Source. Office for National Statistics. Towns and cities, characteristics of built-up areas, England and Wales: Census 2021

Number of built-up areas in West Sussex by size classification (based on size criteria)

Built-up area	Built-up area size classification
Barnham (Arun), Billingshurst, Broadbridge Heath, Crawley Down, East Wittering, Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint, Henfield, Littlehampton, Midhurst, Selsey, Southwater, Southwick (Adur), Steyning, Storrington, Wick (Arun), Yapton	Small
East Grinstead, Lancing and Sompting, Shoreham-by-Sea	Medium

Source. Office for National Statistics. Towns and cities, characteristics of built-up areas, England and Wales: Census 2021

Median age of usual residents by individual BUA, England 2021

Lowest median age	Highest median age	Group average
Broadbridge Heath (36 years)	Selsey (57 years)	44 years

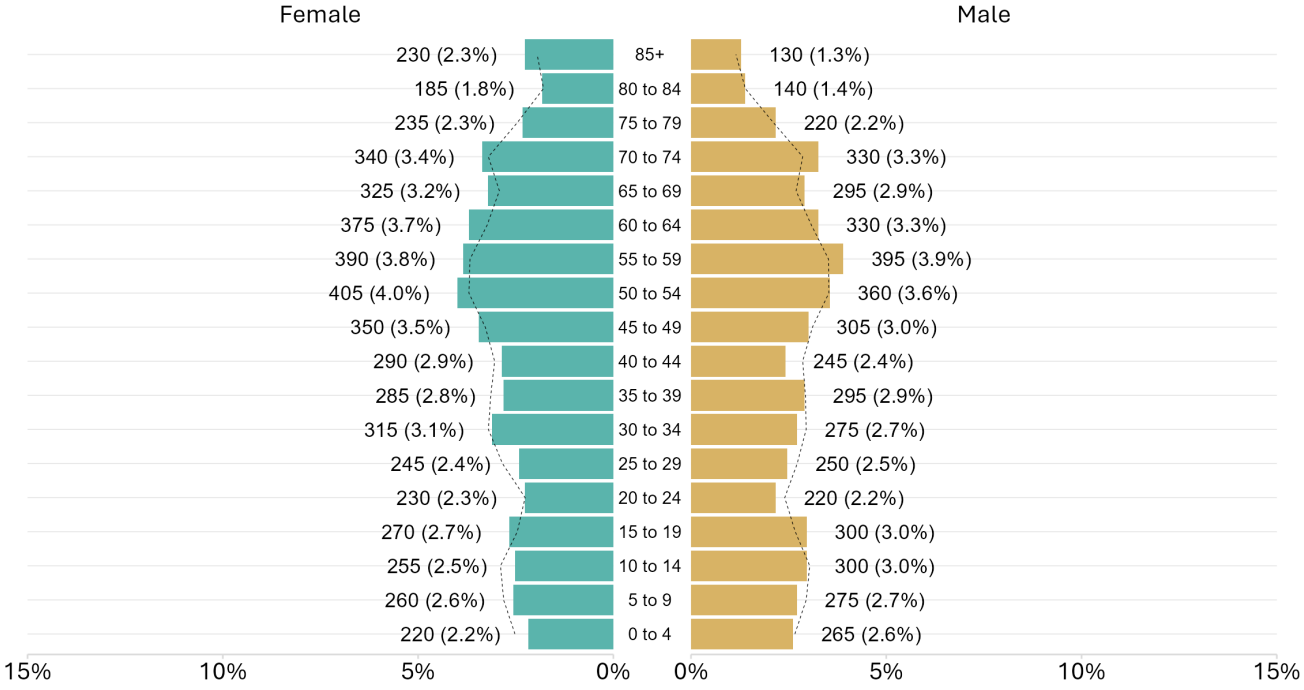
Source. Office for National Statistics. Towns and cities, characteristics of built-up areas, England and Wales: Census 2021

Small built-up areas (within 5,000 and 30,000 population)

Barnham (Arun)

Population pyramid for Barnham (Arun); 2021 Census

The dashed line indicates the average population for small built-up areas in England.

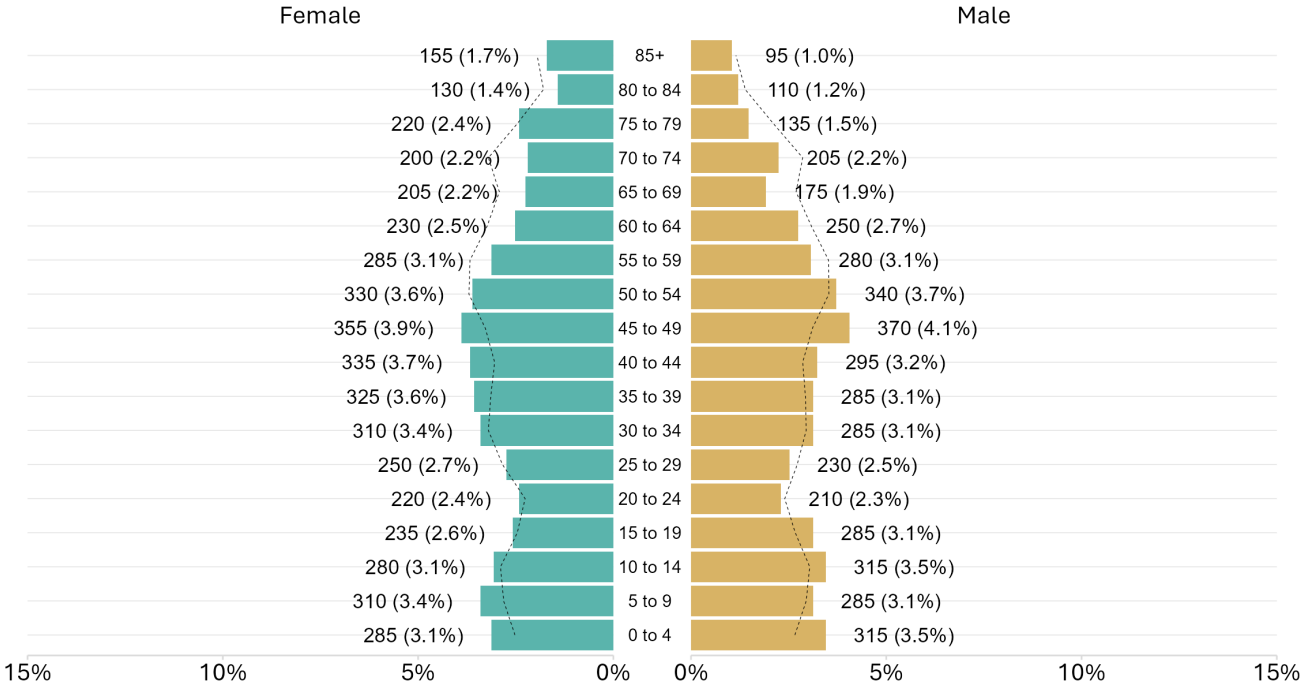


Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.
*Indicates counts between 1 and 9. Counts (proportions) are not displayed where there were no residents in that category.

Billingshurst

Population pyramid for Billingshurst; 2021 Census

The dashed line indicates the average population for small built-up areas in England.

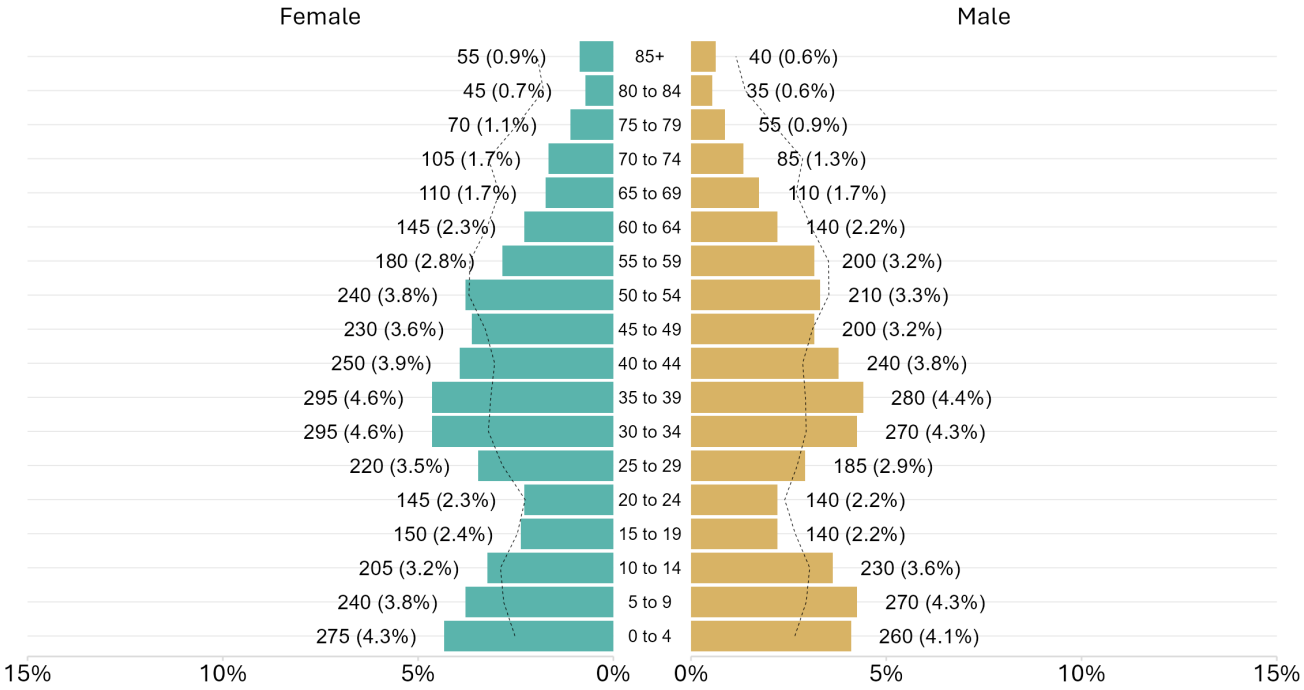


Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.
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Broadbridge Heath

Population pyramid for Broadbridge Heath; 2021 Census

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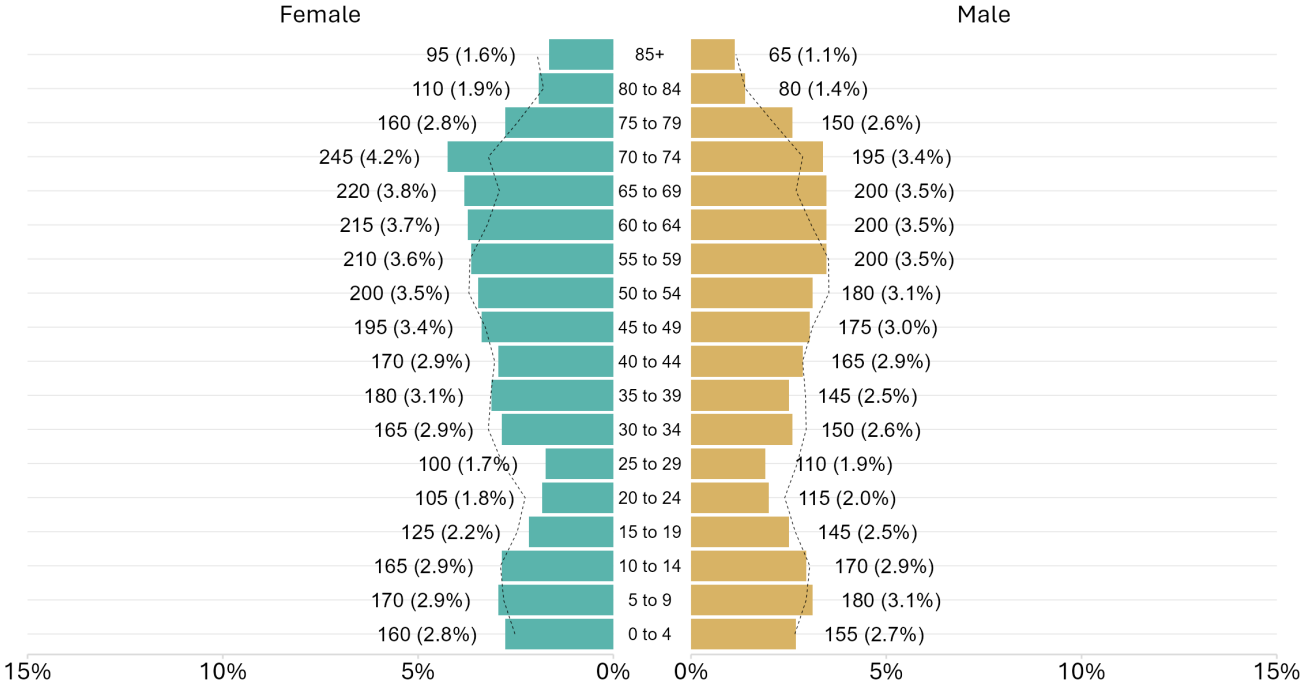


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Crawley Down

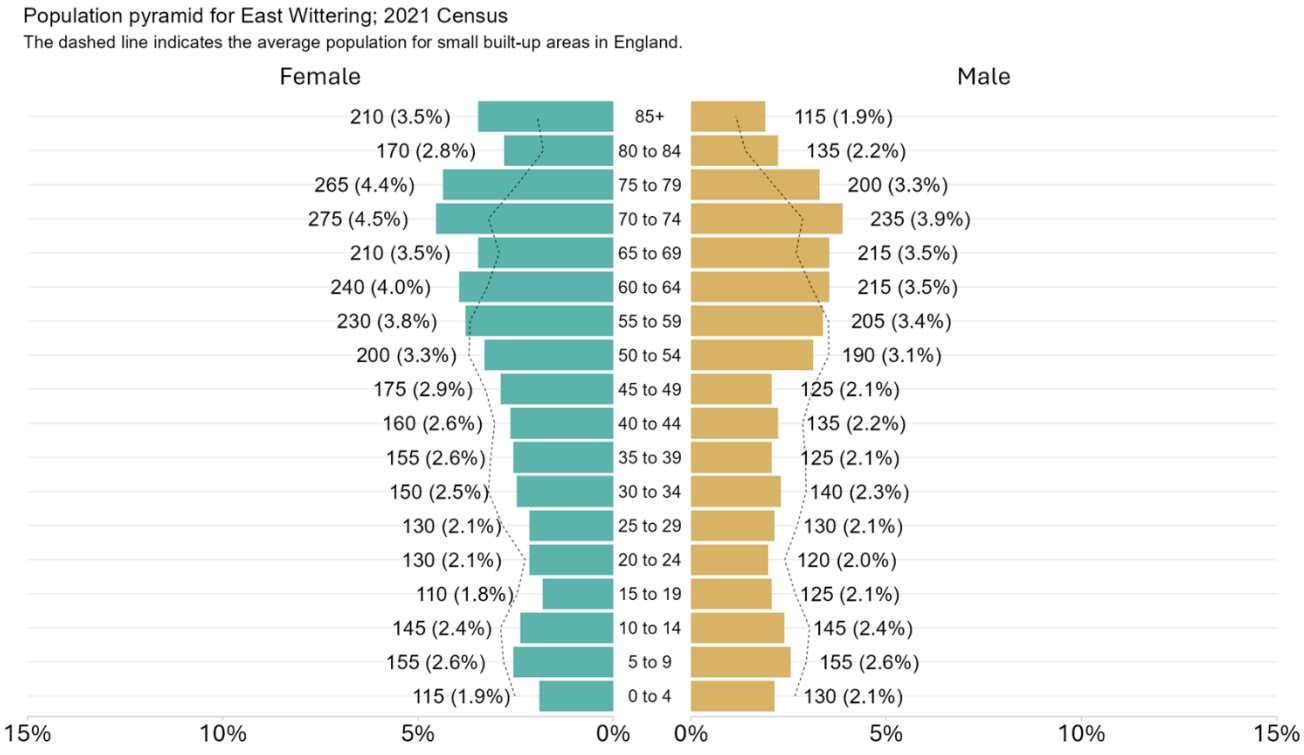
Population pyramid for Crawley Down; 2021 Census

The dashed line indicates the average population for small built-up areas in England.



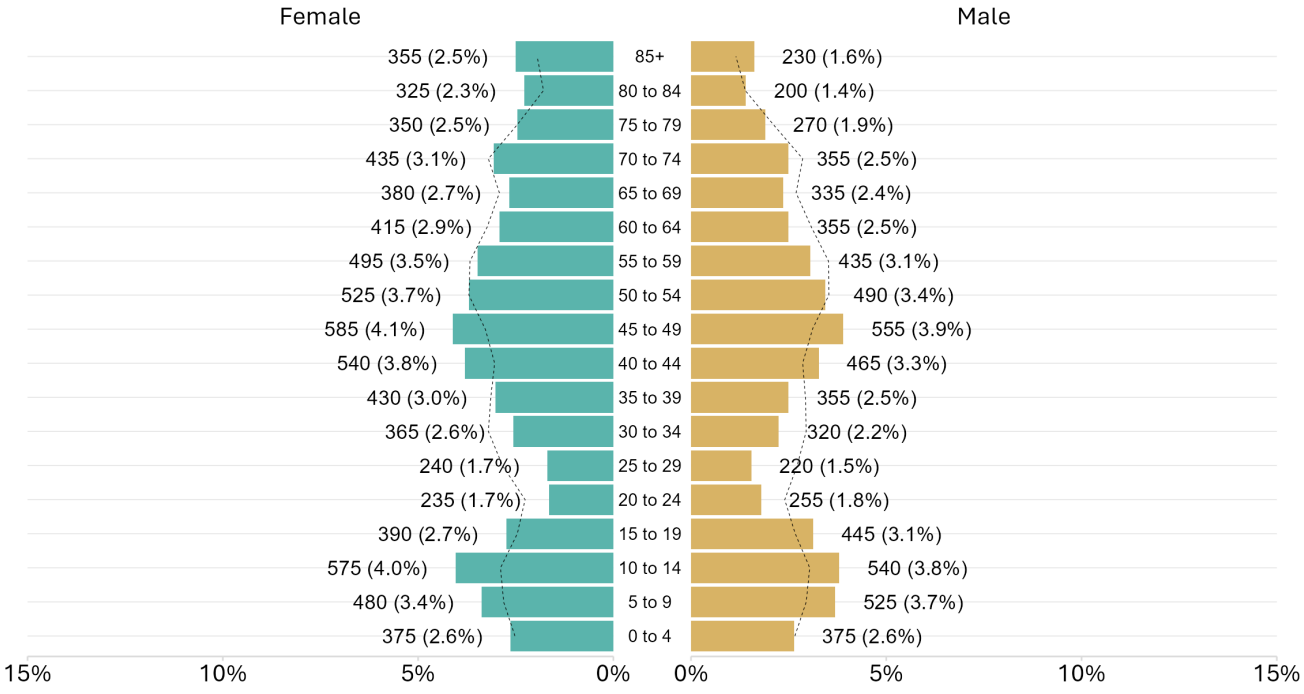
Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.
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East Wittering



Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.
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Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint

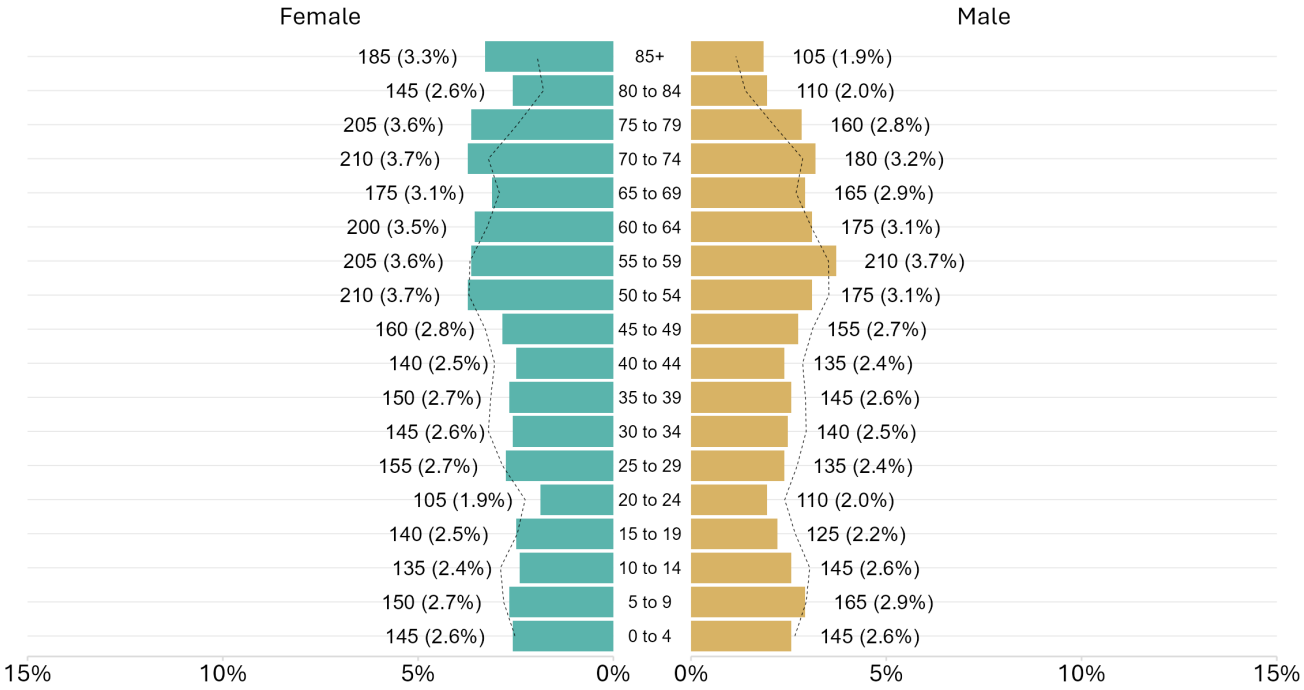


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Henfield

Population pyramid for Henfield; 2021 Census

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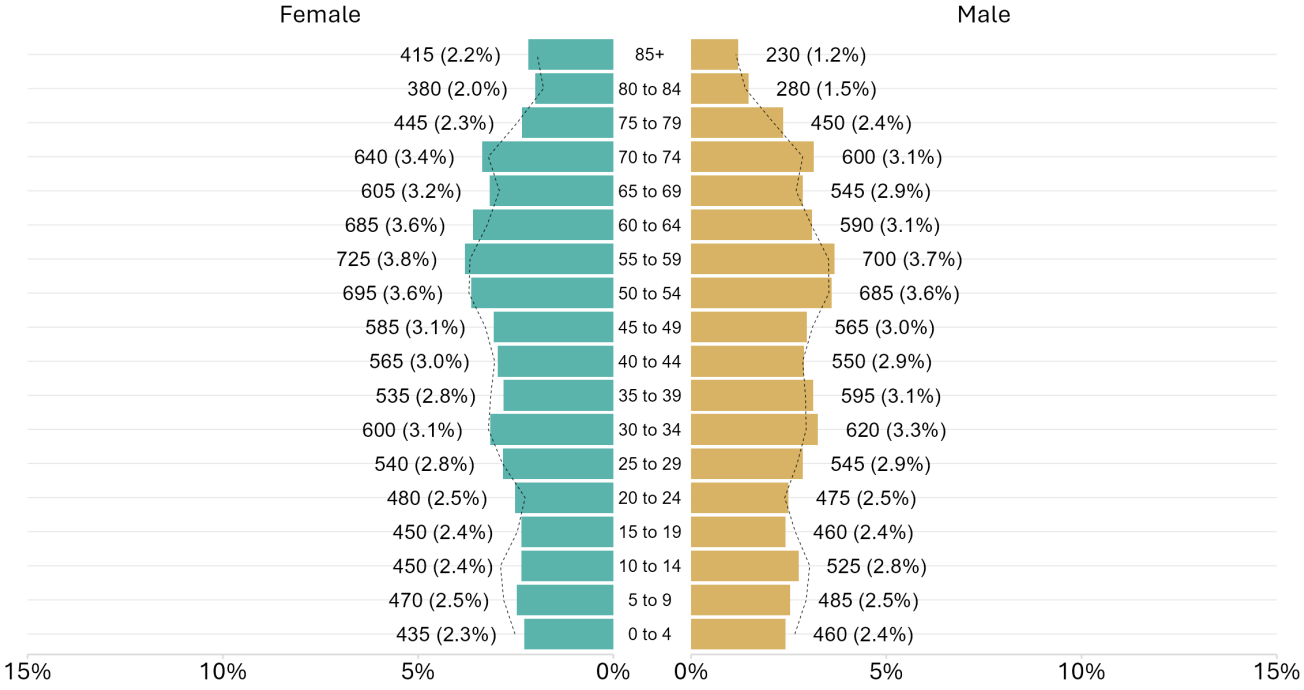


Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.
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Littlehampton

Population pyramid for Littlehampton; 2021 Census

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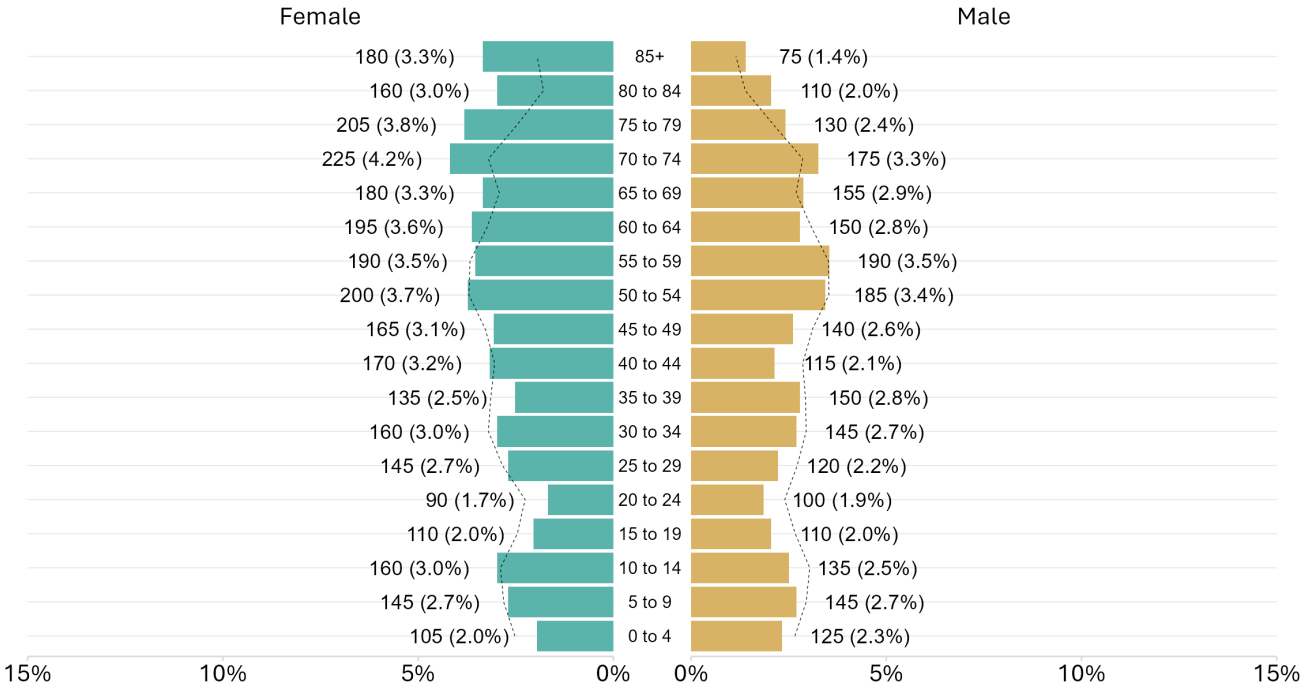


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Midhurst

Population pyramid for Midhurst; 2021 Census

The dashed line indicates the average population for small built-up areas in England.

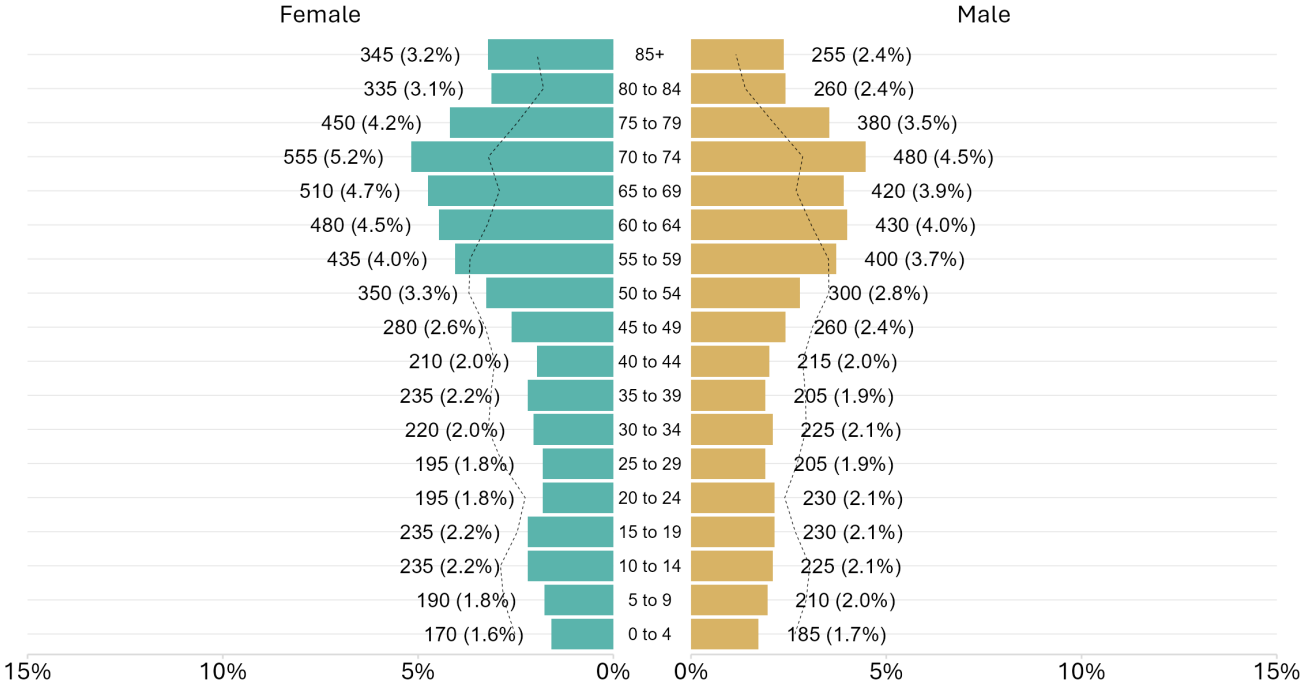


Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.
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Selsey

Population pyramid for Selsey; 2021 Census

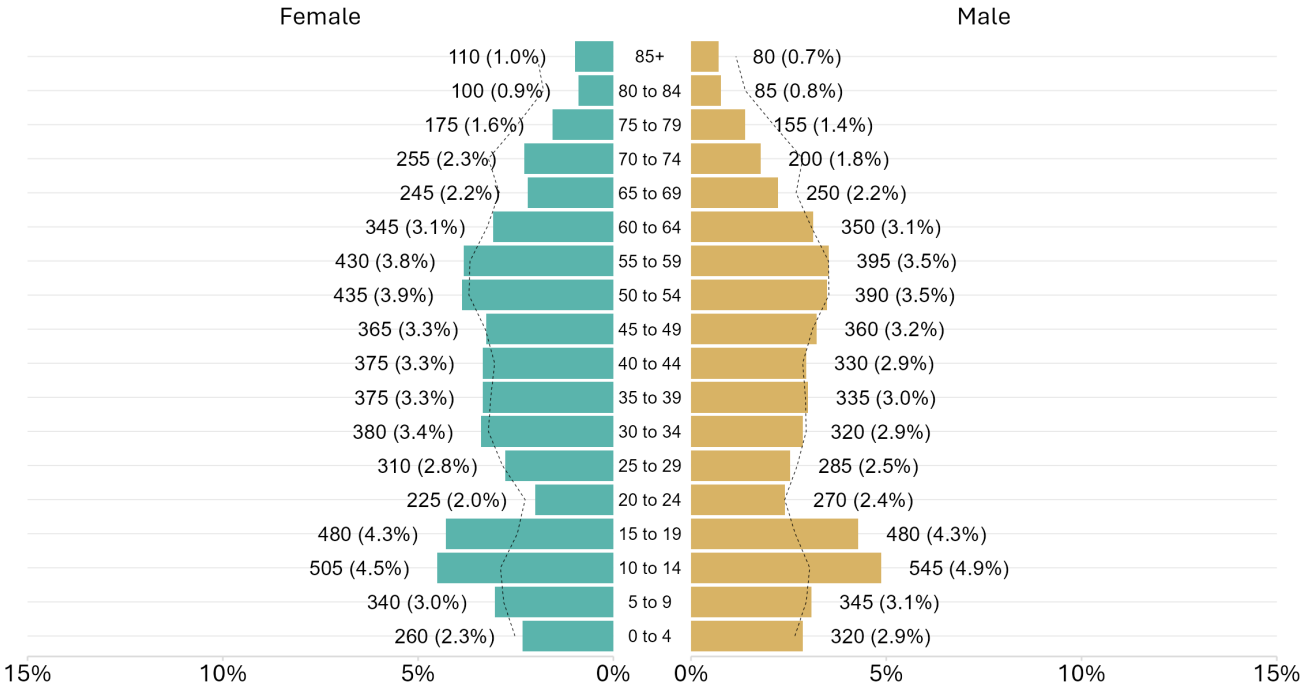
The dashed line indicates the average population for small built-up areas in England.



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Southwater

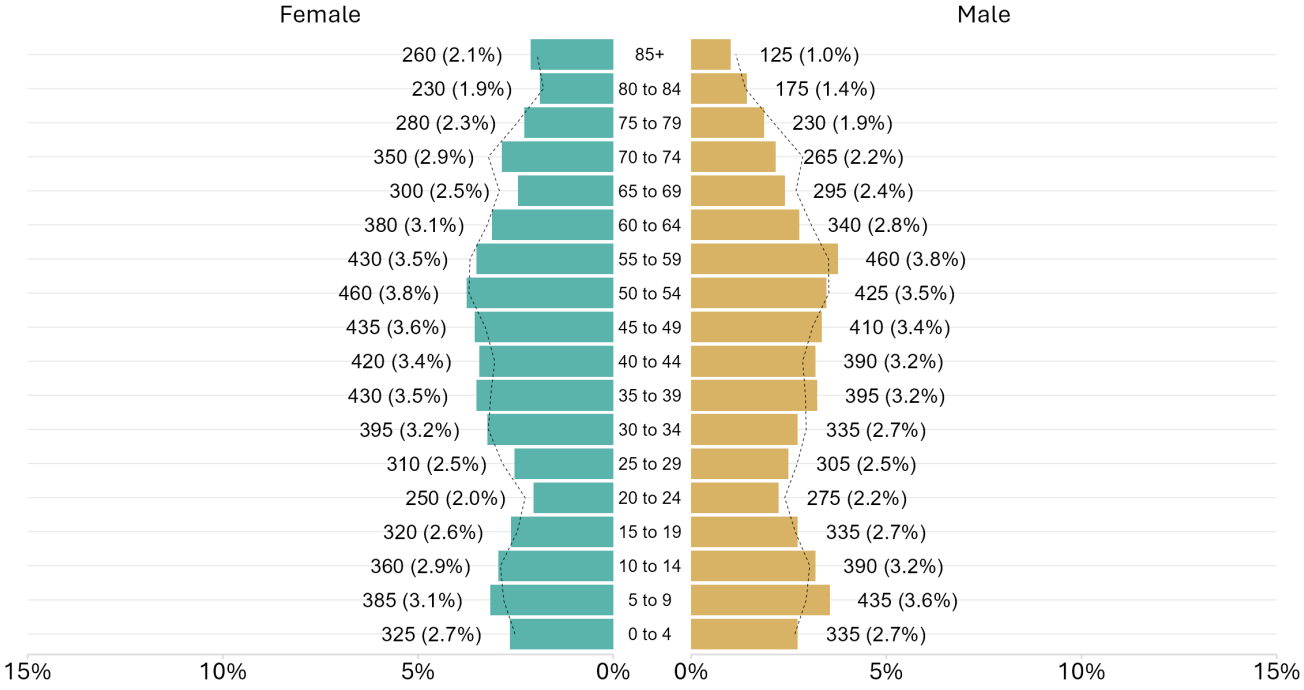
Population pyramid for Southwater; 2021 Census
The dashed line indicates the average population for small built-up areas in England.



Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.
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Southwick (Adur)

Population pyramid for Southwick (Adur); 2021 Census
The dashed line indicates the average population for small built-up areas in England.

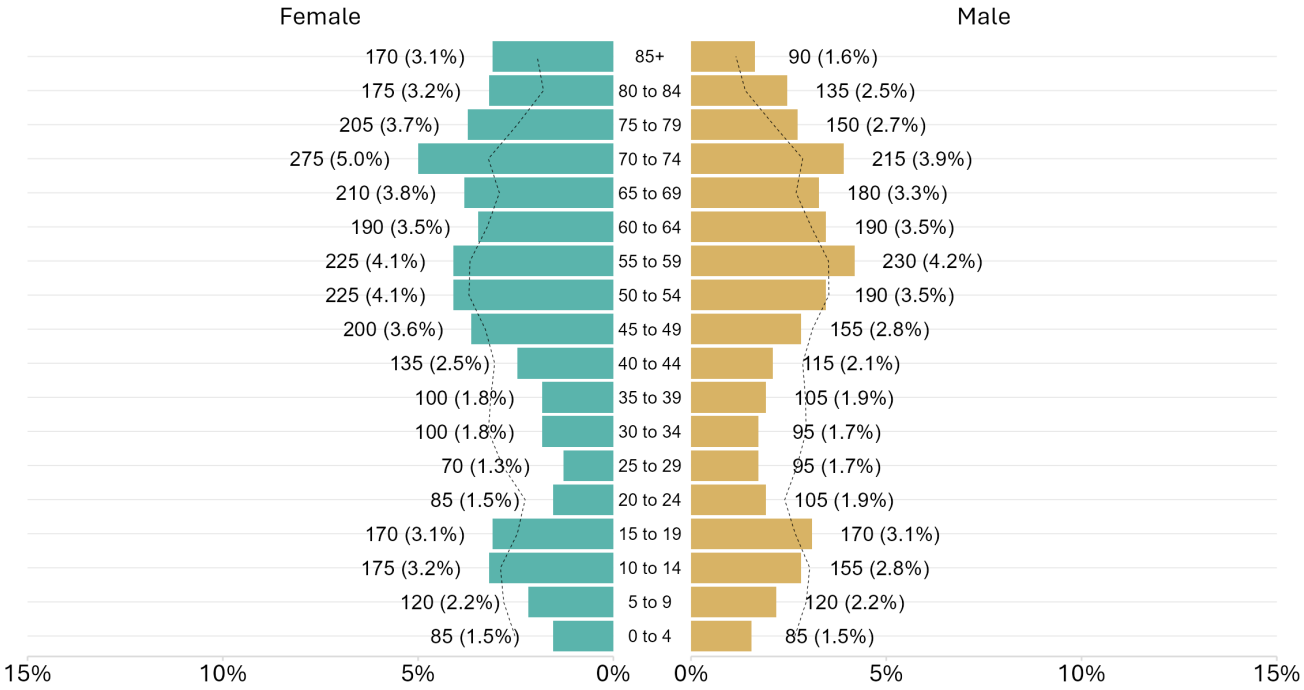


Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.
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Steyning

Population pyramid for Steyning; 2021 Census

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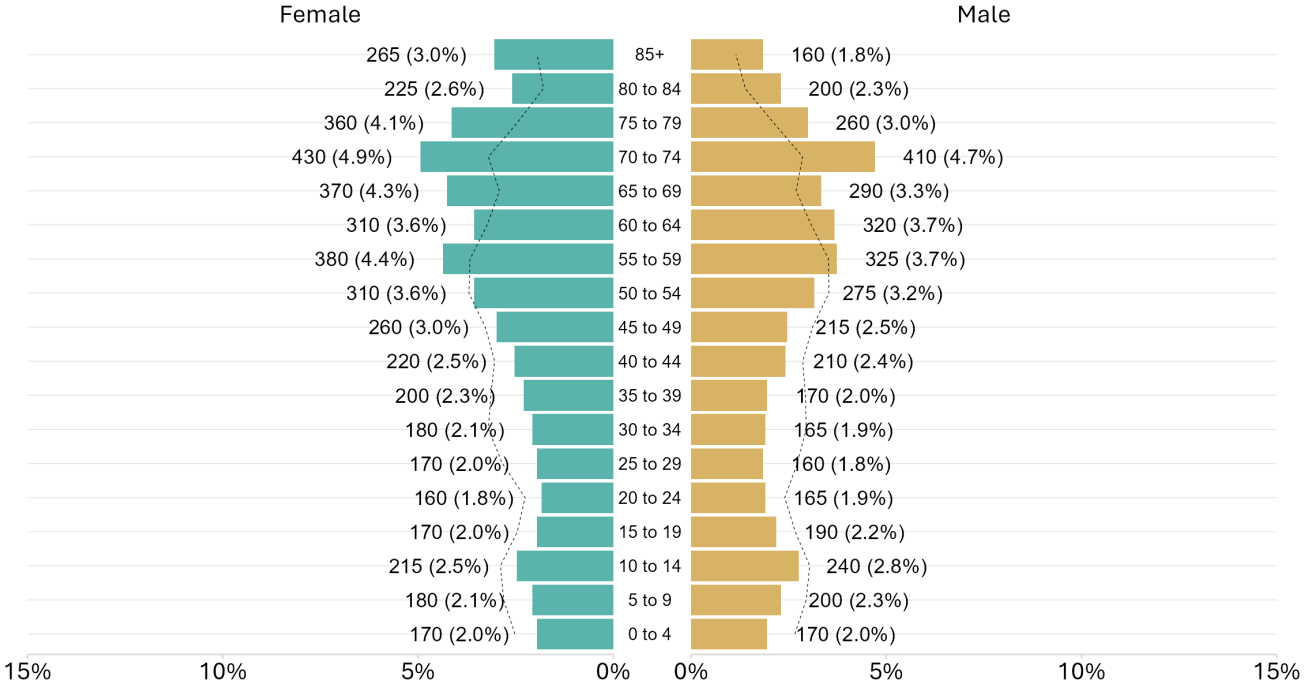


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Storrington

Population pyramid for Storrington; 2021 Census

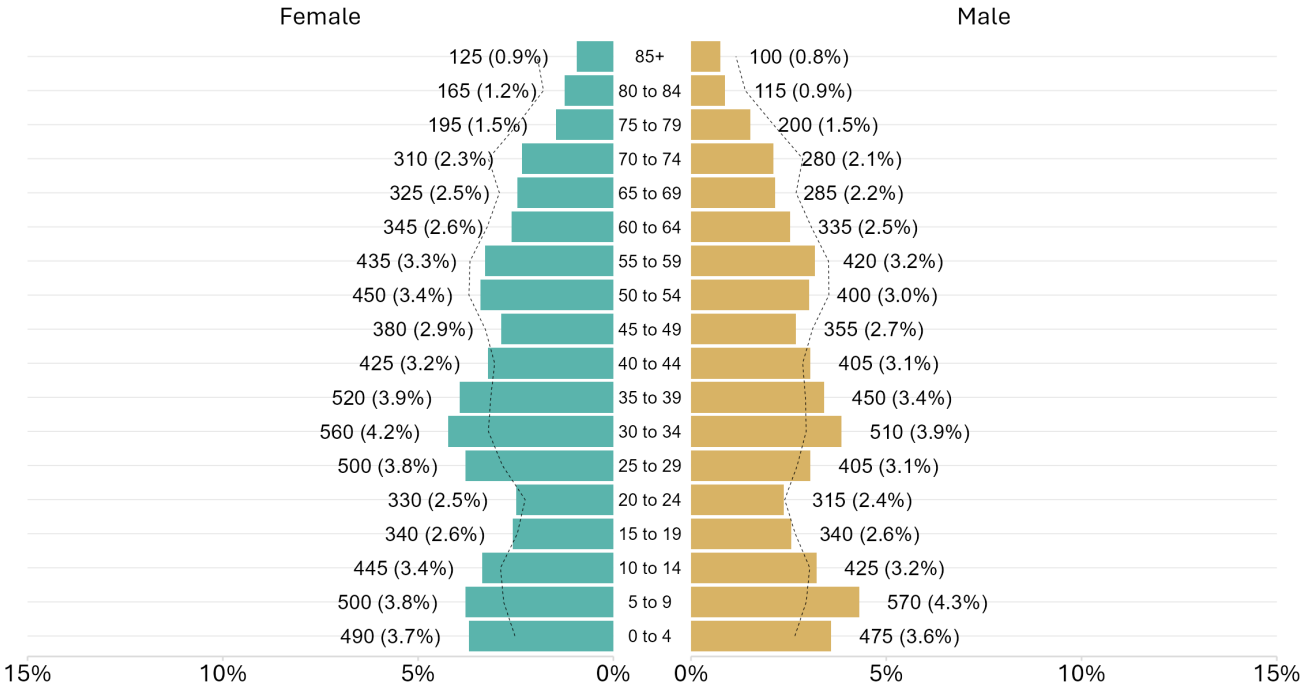
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Wick (Arun)

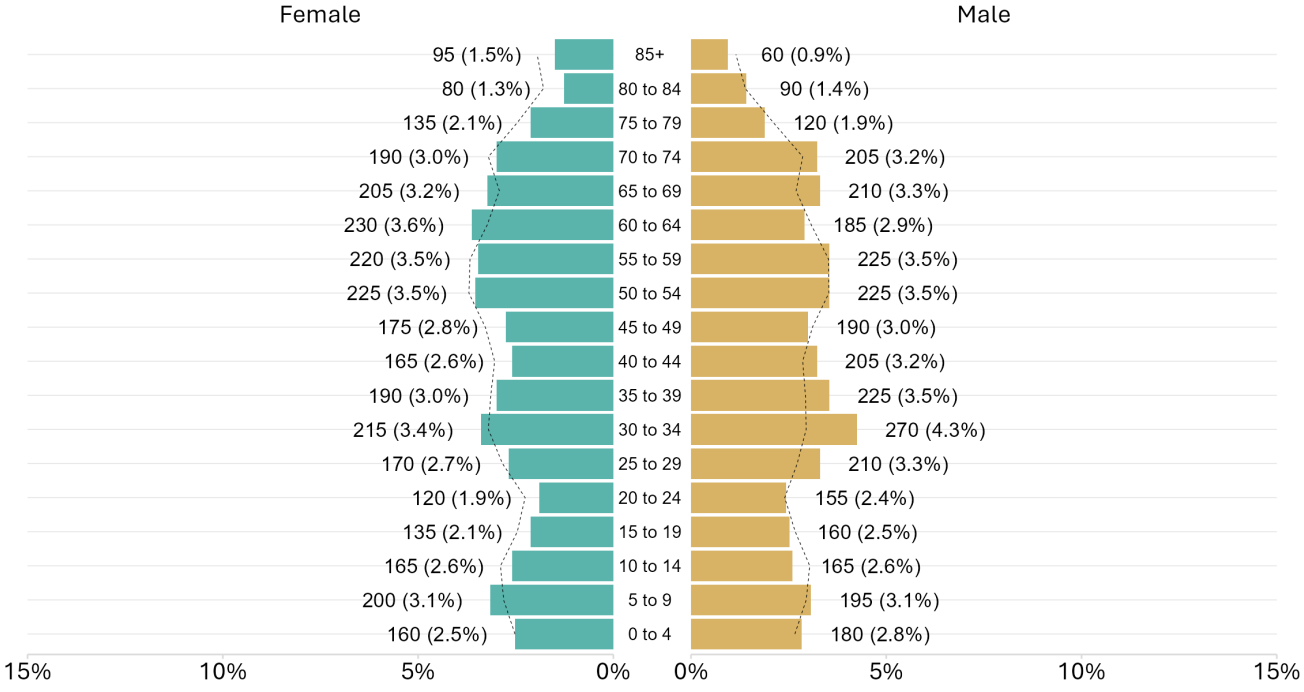
Population pyramid for Wick (Arun); 2021 Census
The dashed line indicates the average population for small built-up areas in England.



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Yapton

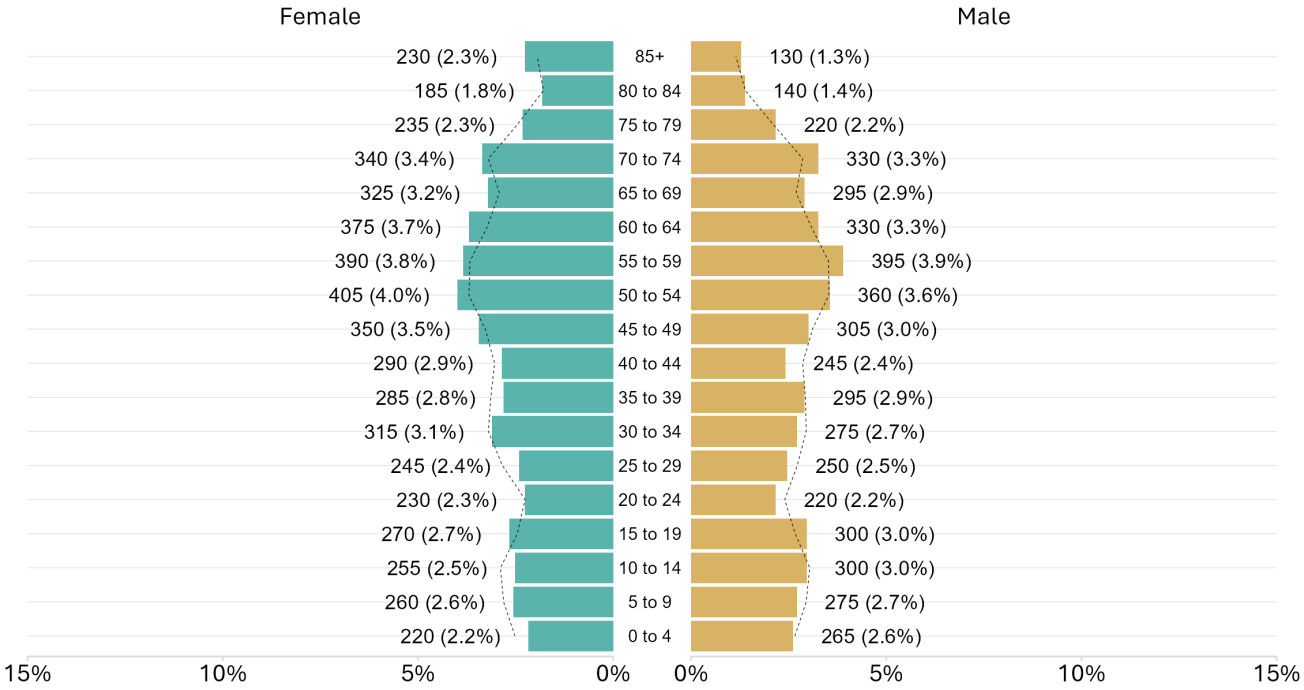
Population pyramid for Yapton; 2021 Census
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Barnham (Arun)

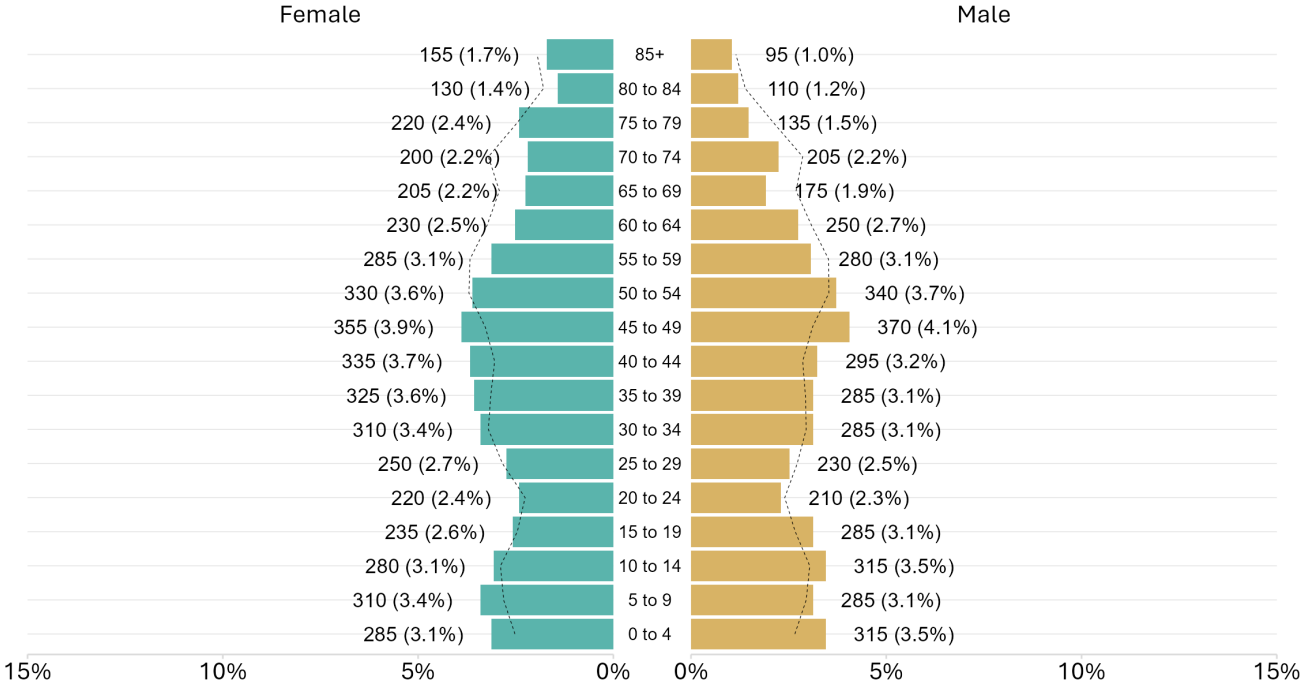
Population pyramid for Barnham (Arun); 2021 Census
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Billingshurst

Population pyramid for Billingshurst; 2021 Census
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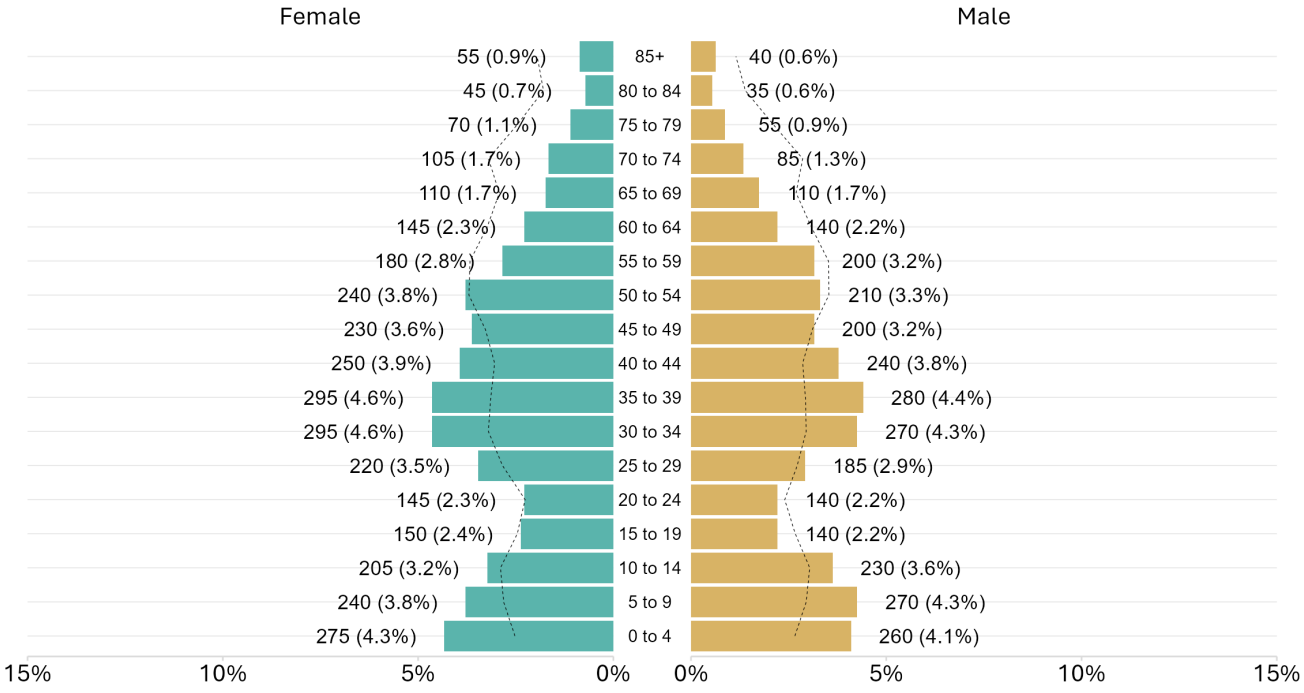


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Broadbridge Heath

Population pyramid for Broadbridge Heath; 2021 Census

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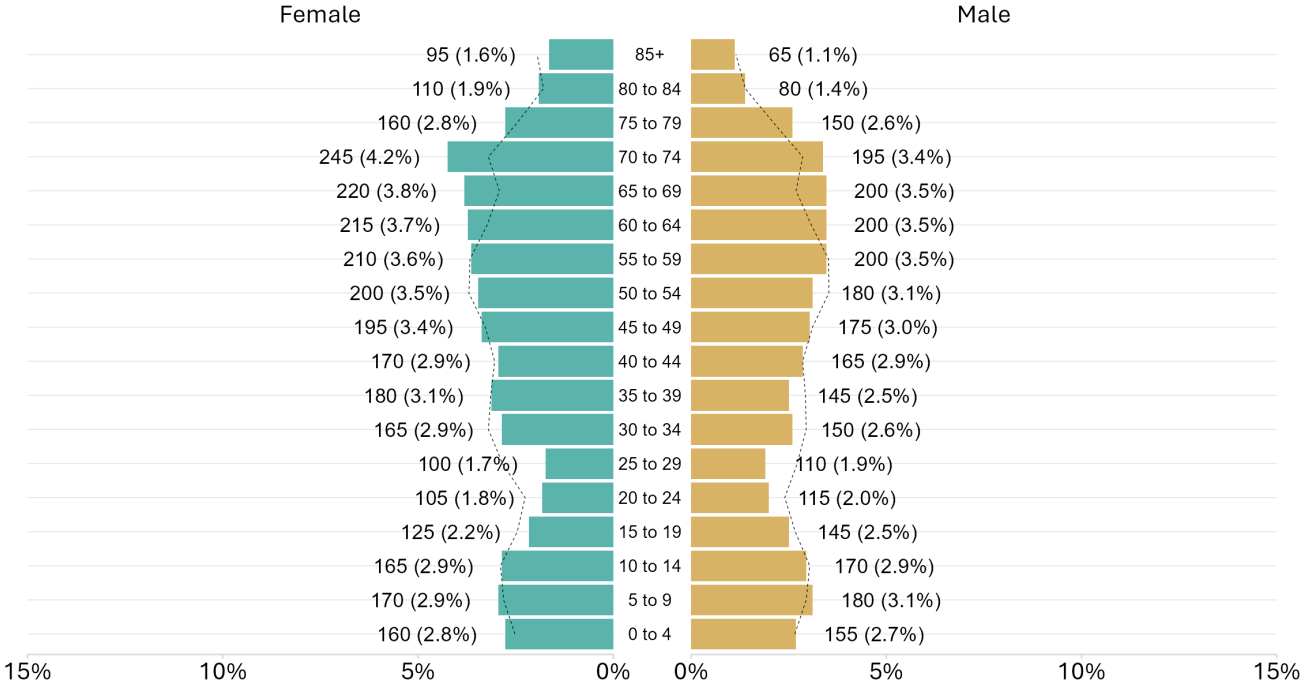


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Crawley Down

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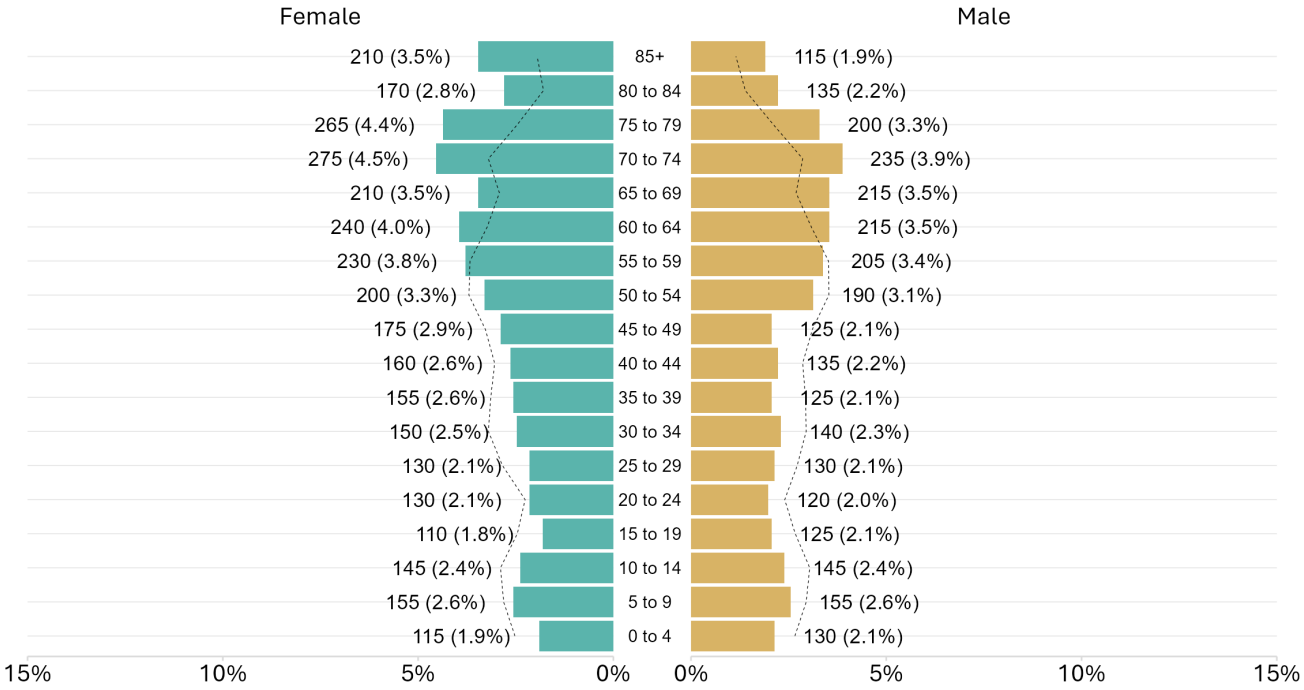


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East Wittering

Population pyramid for East Wittering; 2021 Census

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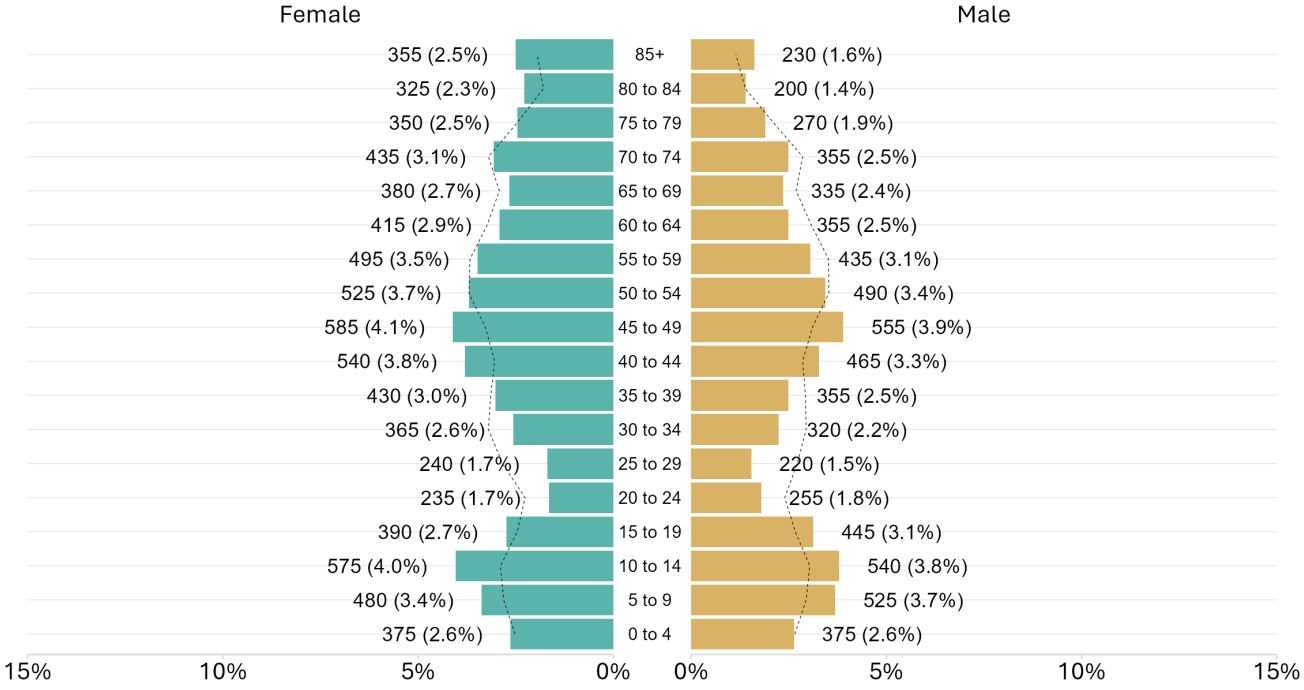


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Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint

Population pyramid for Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint; 2021 Census

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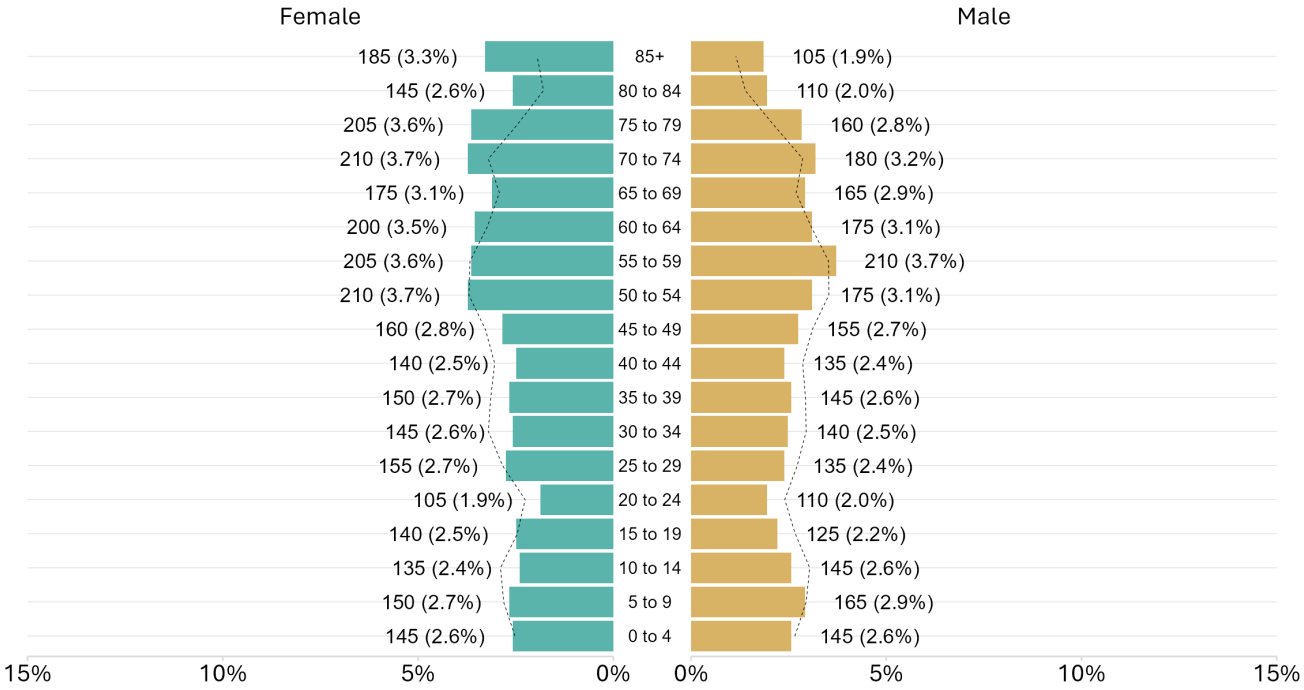


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Henfield

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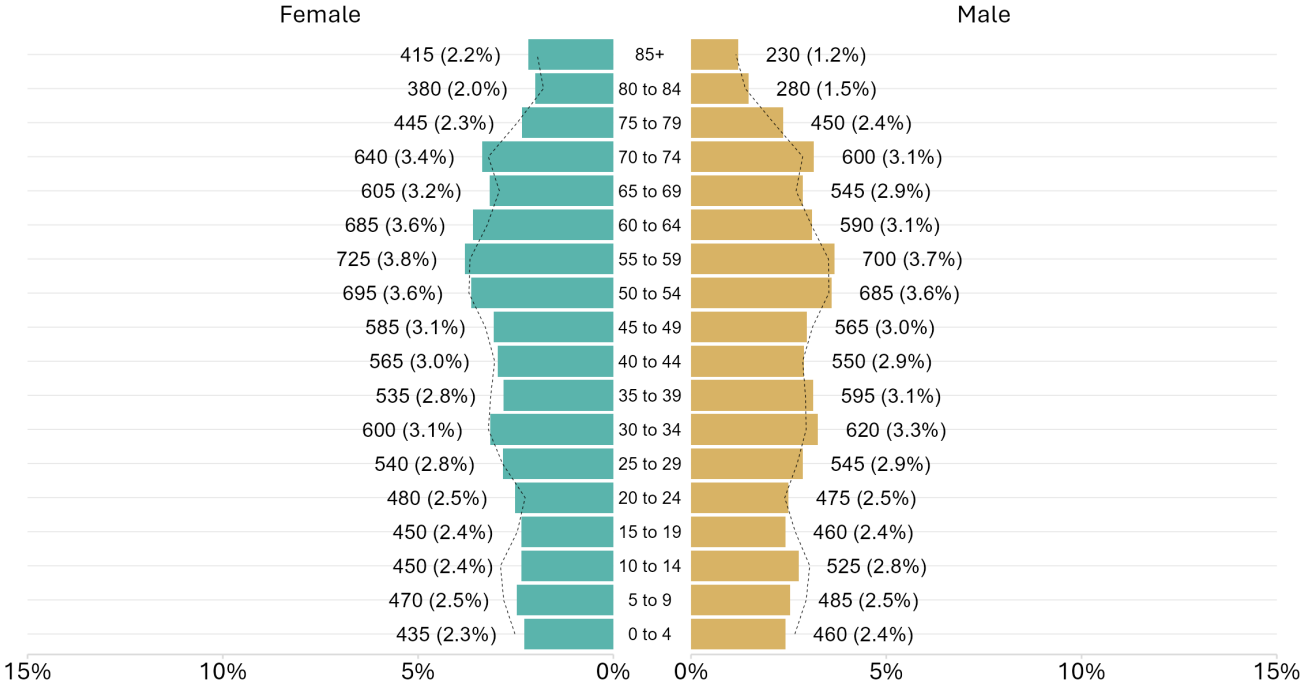


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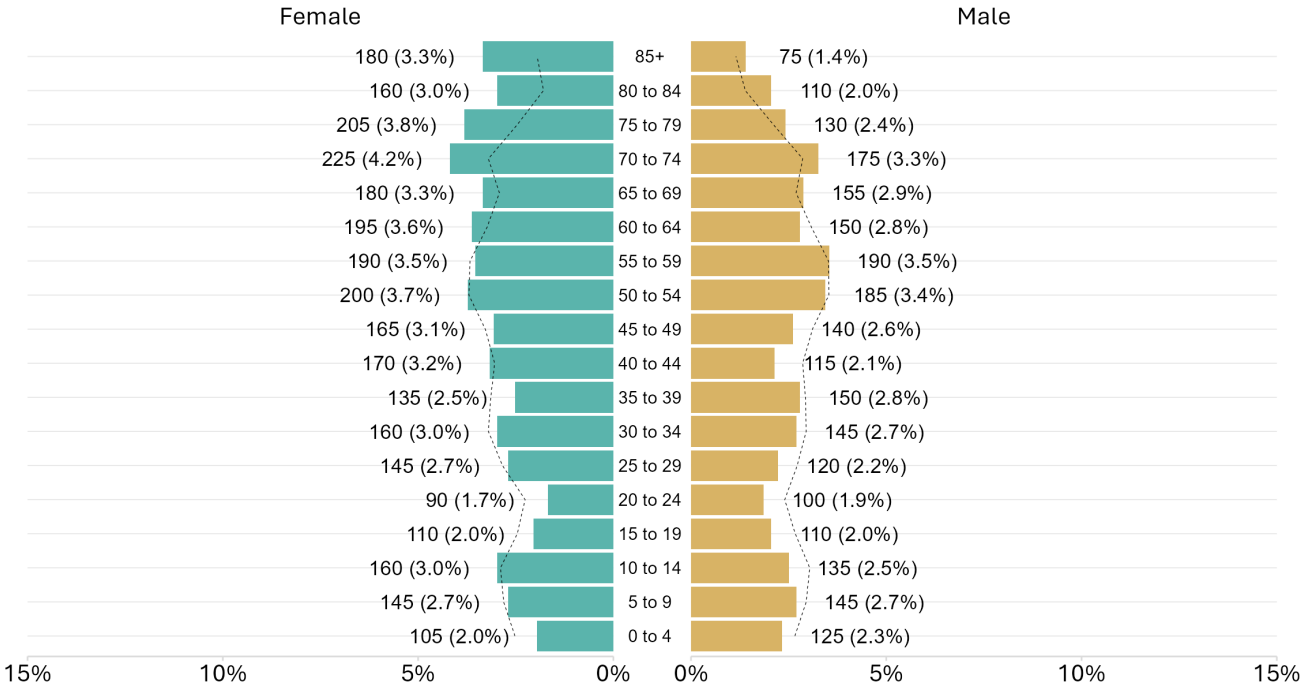


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Midhurst

Population pyramid for Midhurst; 2021 Census

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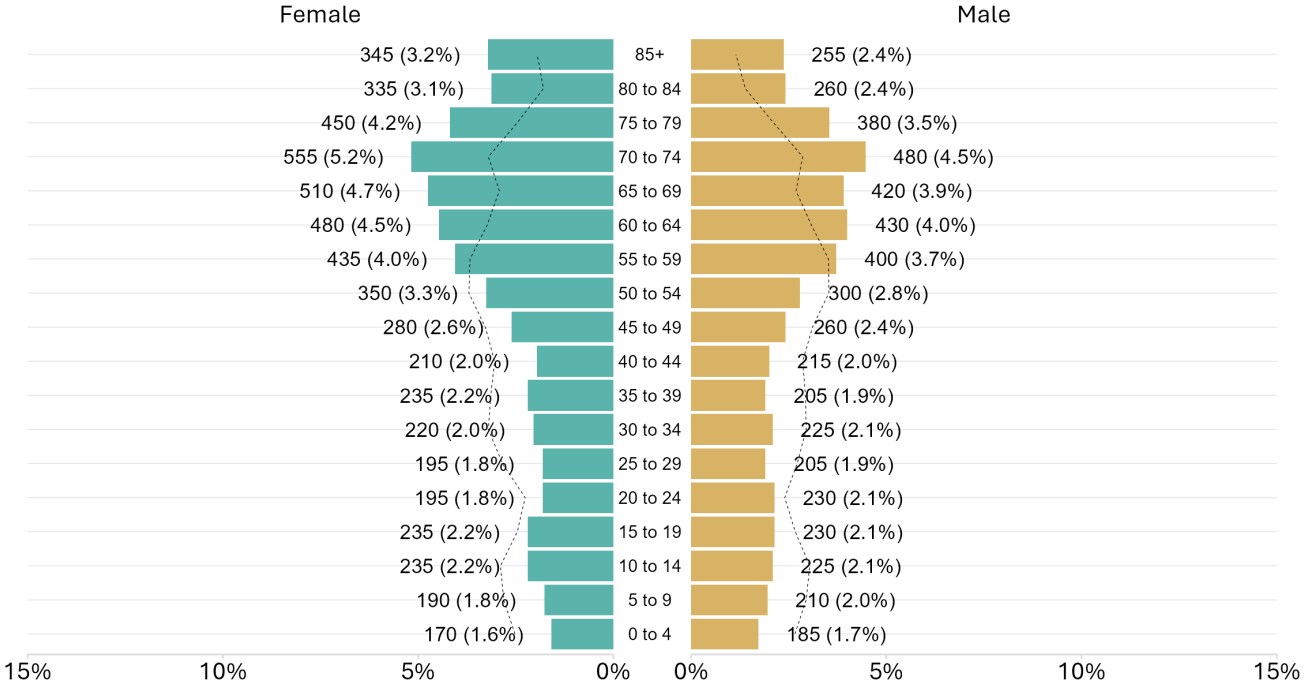


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Selsey

Population pyramid for Selsey; 2021 Census

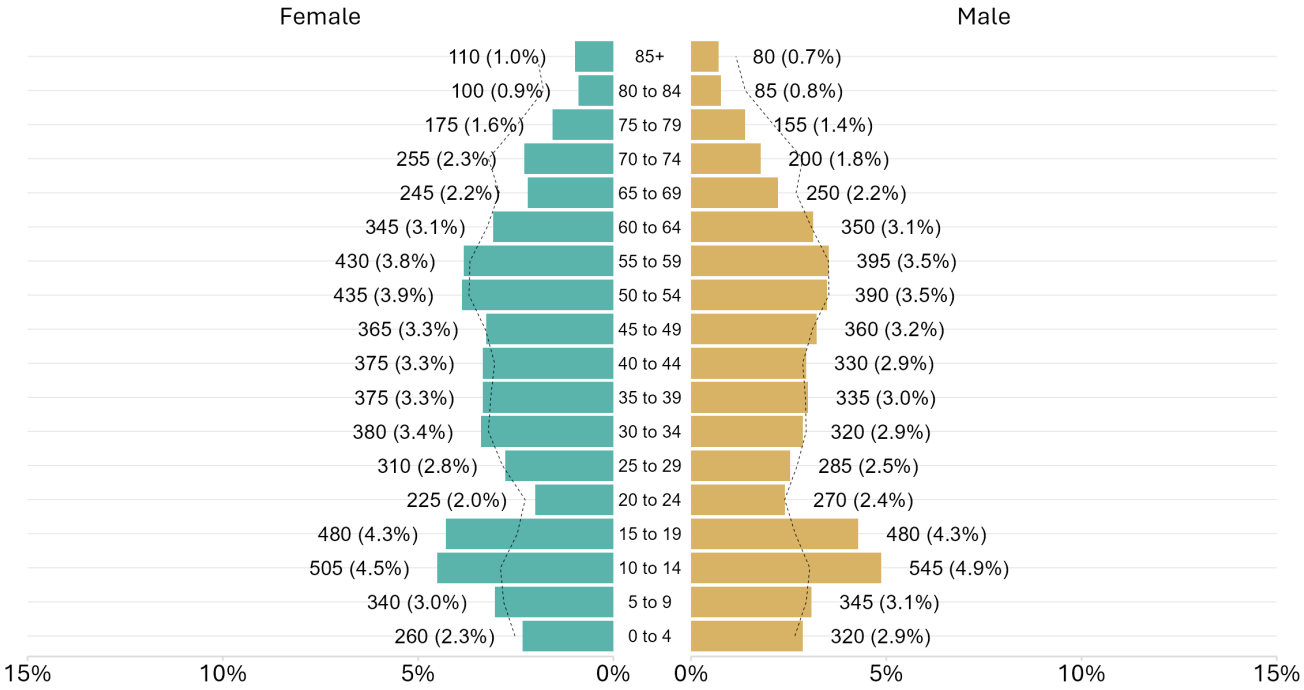
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Southwater

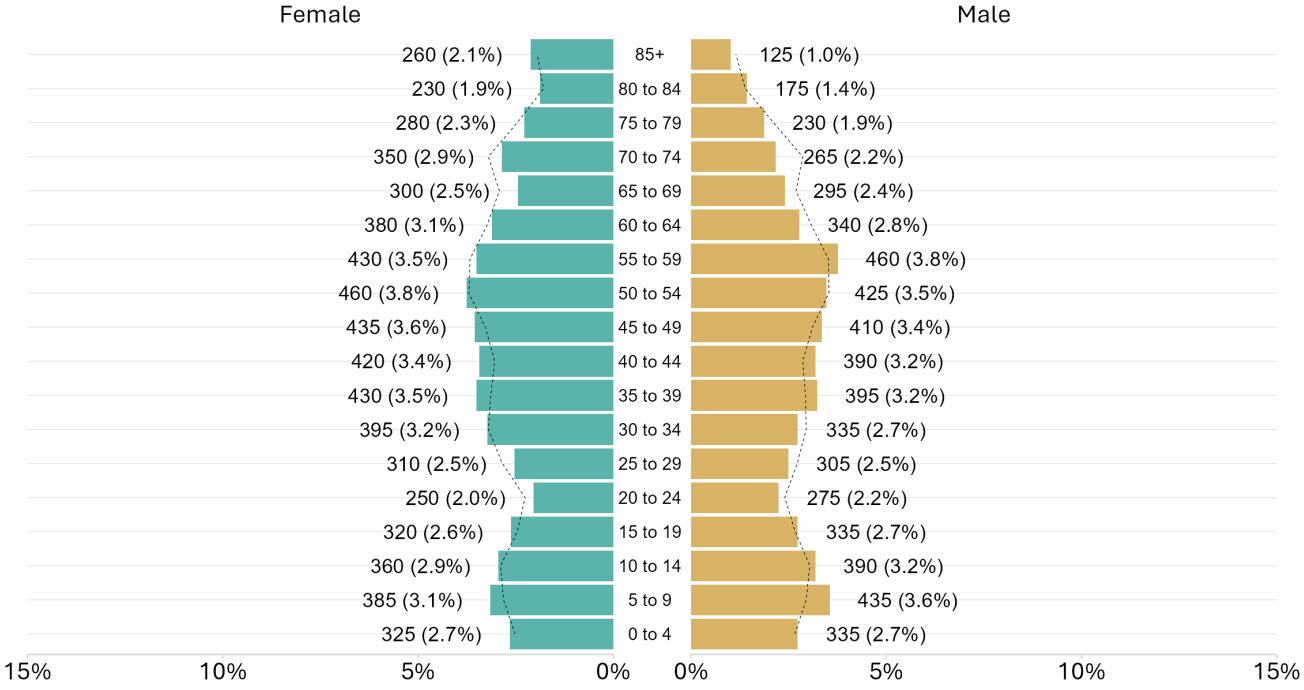
Population pyramid for Southwater; 2021 Census
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Southwick (Adur)

Population pyramid for Southwick (Adur); 2021 Census
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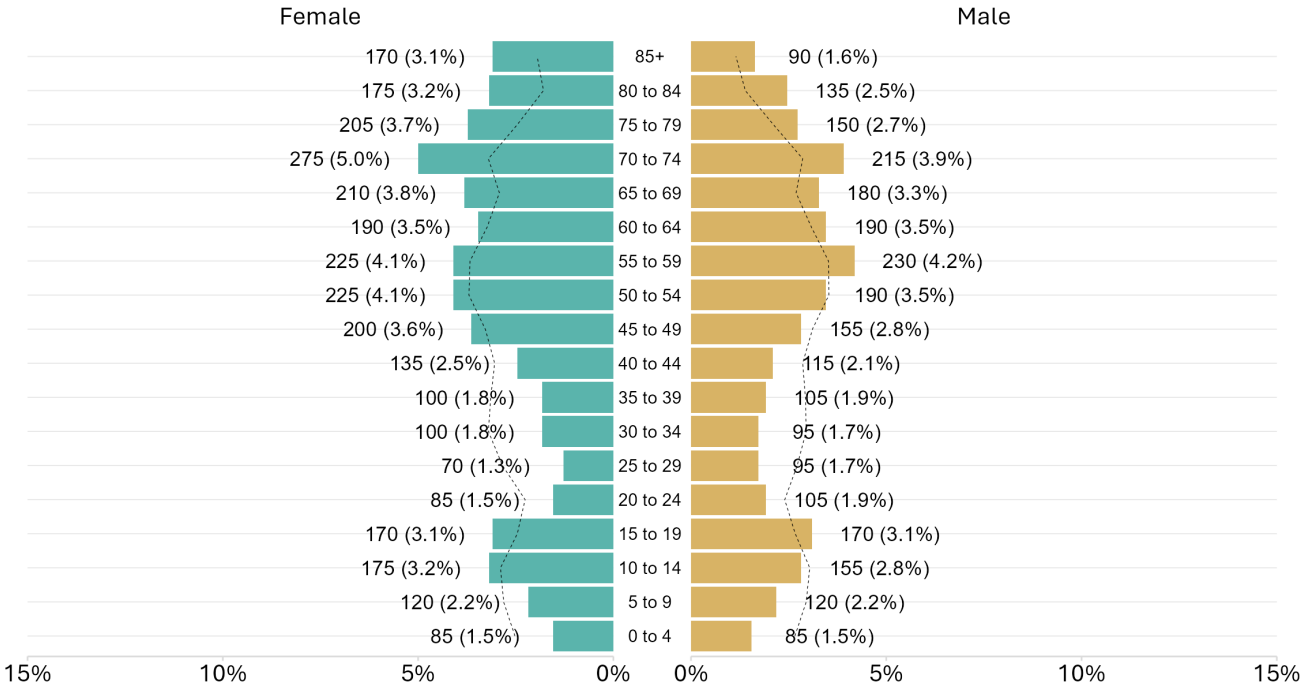


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Steyning

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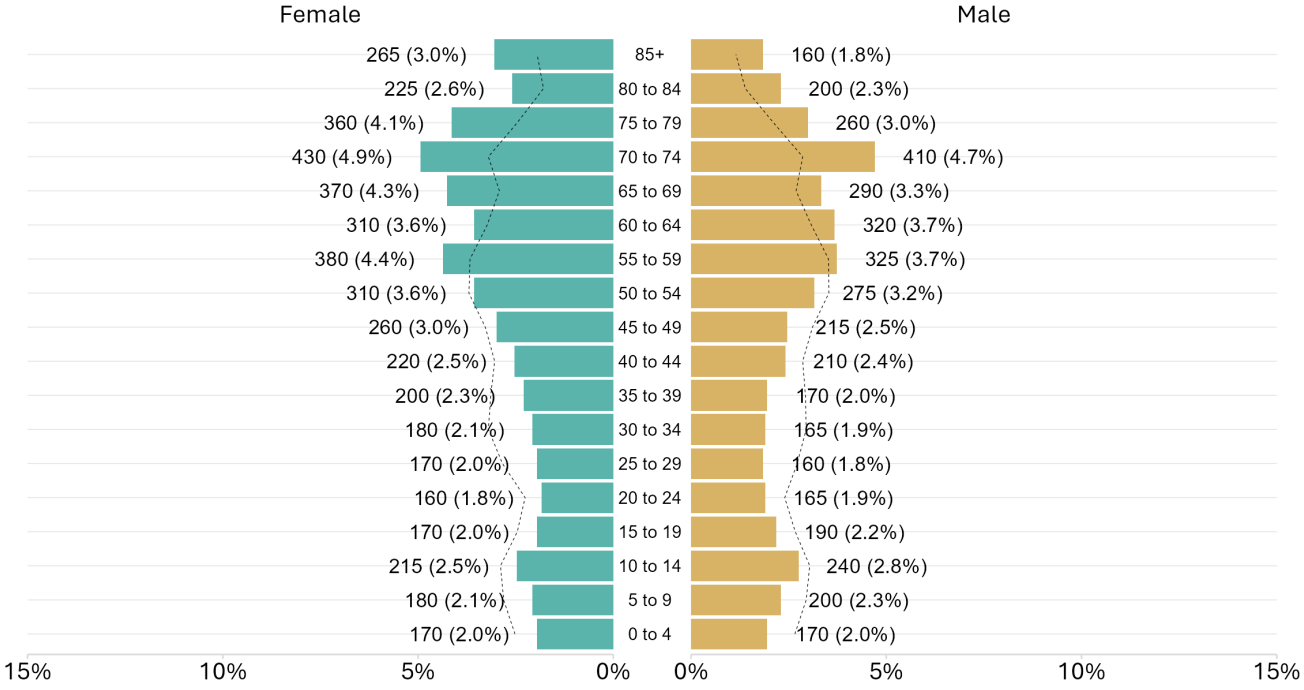


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Storrington

Population pyramid for Storrington; 2021 Census

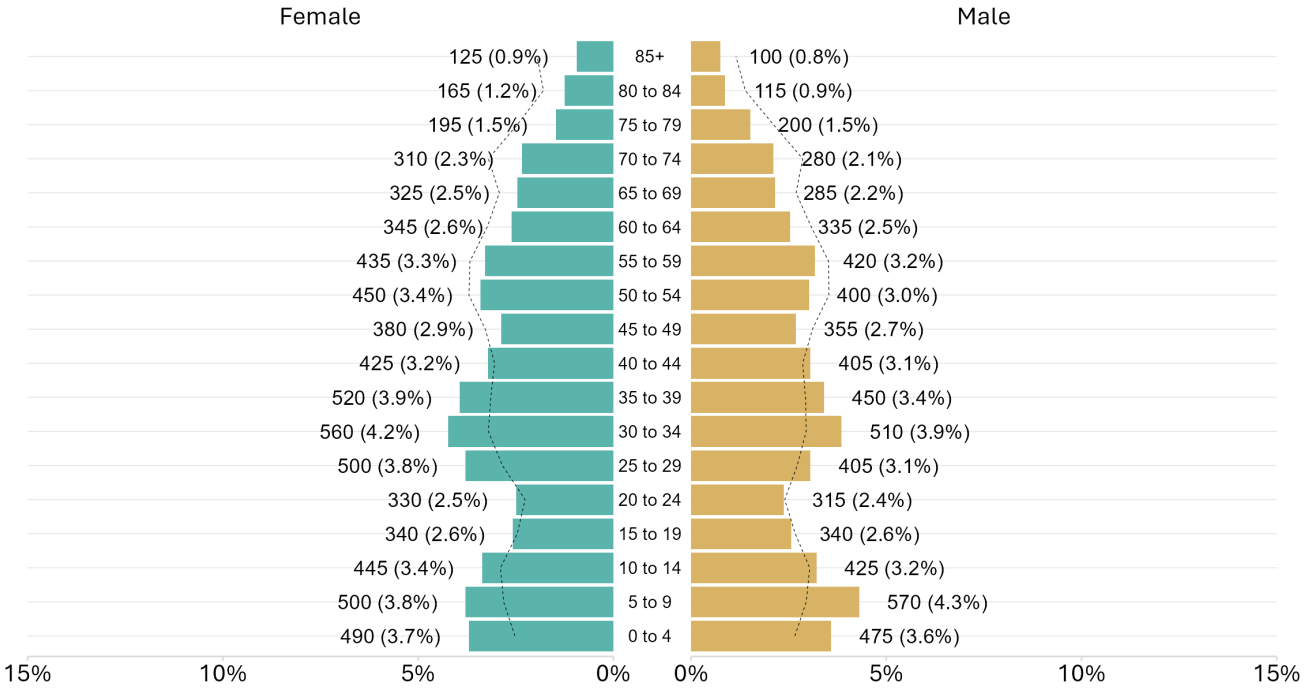
The dashed line indicates the average population for small built-up areas in England.



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Wick (Arun)

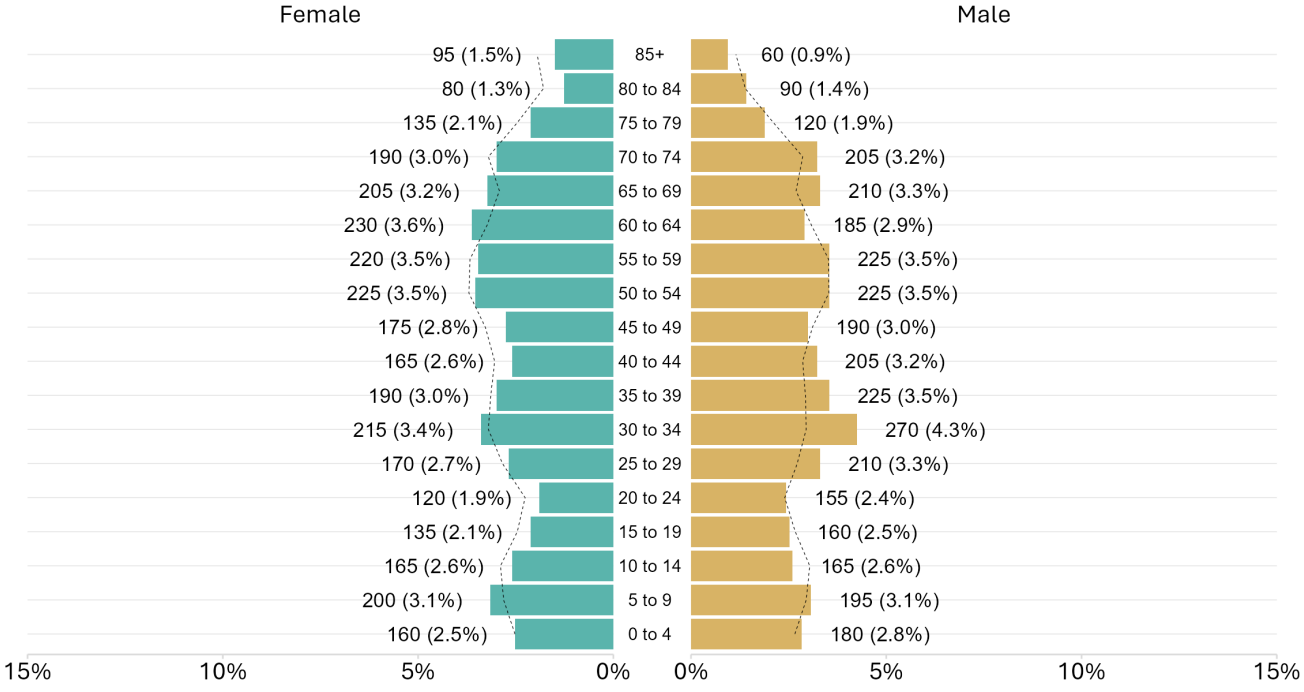
Population pyramid for Wick (Arun); 2021 Census
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Yapton

Population pyramid for Yapton; 2021 Census
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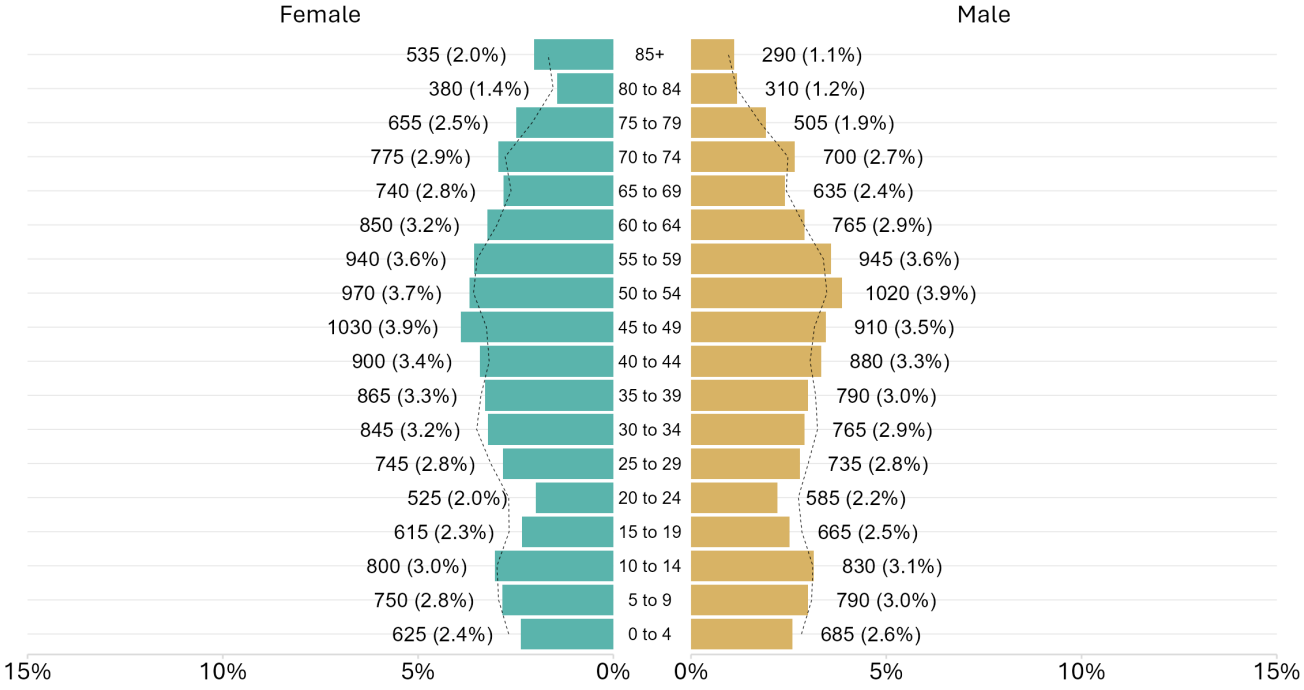


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Medium built-up areas (within 5,000 and 30,000 population)

East Grinstead

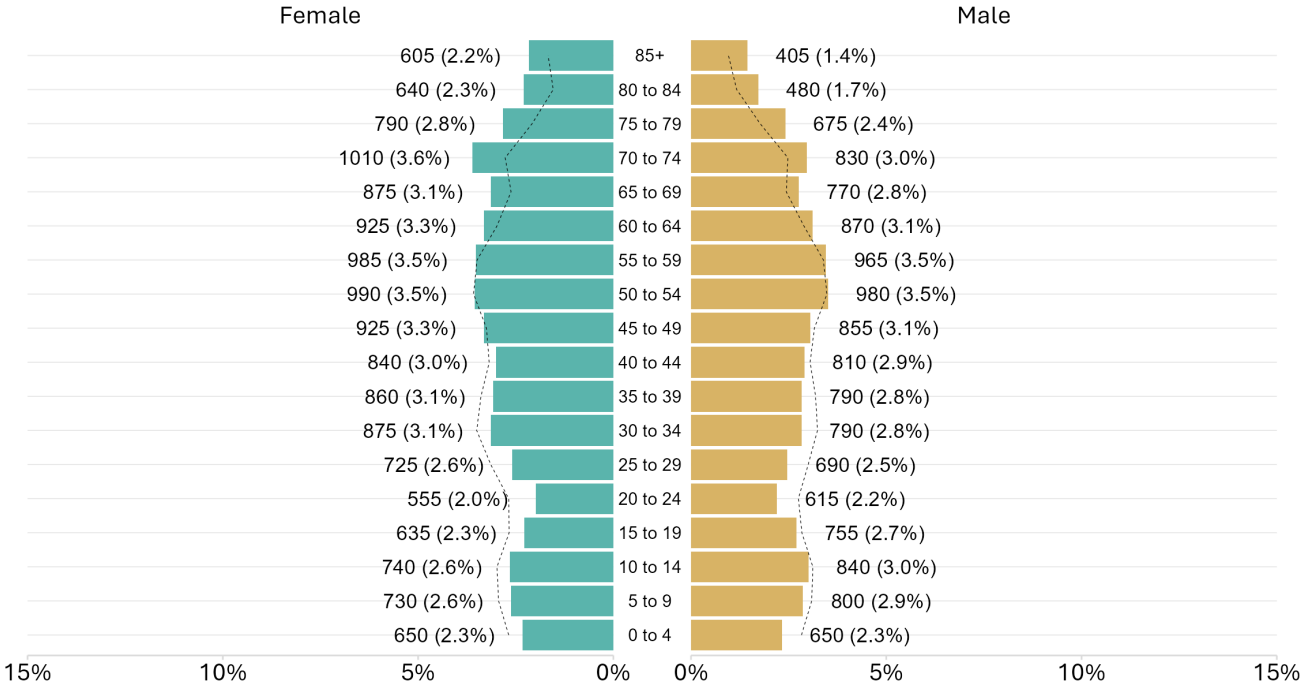
Population pyramid for East Grinstead; 2021 Census
The dashed line indicates the average population for medium built-up areas in England.



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Lancing and Sompting

Population pyramid for Lancing and Sompting; 2021 Census
The dashed line indicates the average population for medium built-up areas in England.

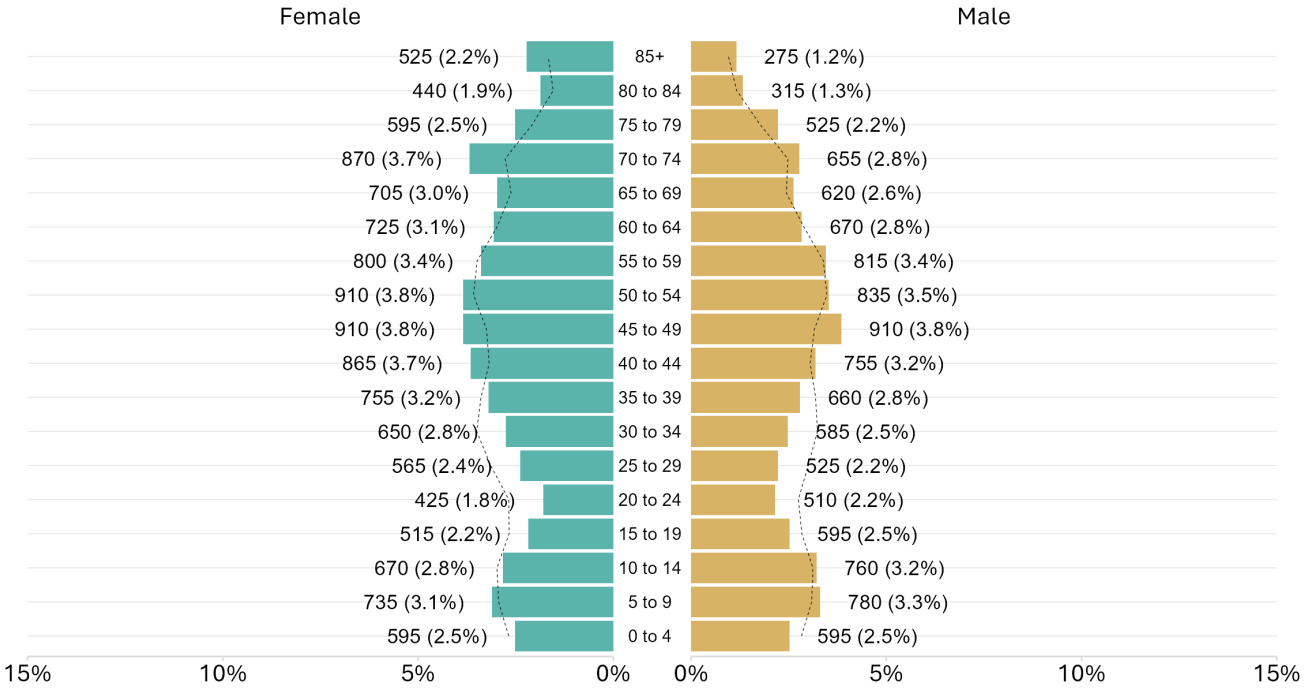


Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.
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Shoreham-by-Sea

Population pyramid for Shoreham-by-Sea; 2021 Census

The dashed line indicates the average population for medium built-up areas in England.



Source: Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License.

*Indicates counts between 1 and 9. Counts (proportions) are not displayed where there were no residents in that category.

Usual residents by country of birth by BUA size classification, England 2021

Country of birth	Lowest proportion	Highest proportion	Group average
Europe: EU countries	East Wittering (150; 2.5%)	Wick (Arun) (935; 7.1%)	3.5%
Europe: United Kingdom	East Grinstead (22,745; 86.3%)	East Wittering (5,675; 93.6%)	88.2% (medium) & 92.3% (small)*
Non-EU countries (including British Overseas)	Selsey (330; 3.1%)	Broadbridge Heath (500; 7.9%)	4.3%

*As East Grinstead is classified as a medium built-up area and East Wittering a small built-up area, the national group average for both sizes are presented.
Source. Office for National Statistics. Towns and cities, characteristics of built-up areas, England and Wales: Census 2021

Households by accommodation type by individual BUA, England 2021

Accommodation type	Lowest proportion	Highest proportion	Group average
A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure	East Grinstead (20; 0.2%)	Crawley Down (185; 7.4%)	0.4% (medium) & 0.7% (small)*
Flat, maisonette or apartment	Yapton (235; 9%)	Littlehampton (3,080; 33.7%)	13.5%
Whole house or bungalow: Detached	Wick (Arun) (830; 15.2%)	Storrington (2,010; 48.2%)	29.4%
Whole house or bungalow: Semi-detached	Storrington (800; 19.2%)	Southwick (Adur) (2,085; 41.2%)	34.6%
Whole house or bungalow: Terraced	Crawley Down (180; 7.2%)	Broadbridge Heath (860; 33.7%)	21.8%

Households by tenure by individual BUA, England 2021

Tenure	Lowest proportion	Highest proportion	Group average
Owned: owns outright	Broadbridge Heath (600; 23.9%)	Selsey (2,705; 54.2%)	38.24%
Owned: owns with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership	Selsey (1,105; 22.1%)	Broadbridge Heath (1,245; 49.5%)	32.15%
Private rented or lives rent free	Crawley Down (160; 6.7%)	Littlehampton (2,455; 28.6%)	15.74%
Rented: social rented	Barnham (Arun) (315; 7.7%)	Midhurst (515; 19.7%)	13.88%

Source. Office for National Statistics. Towns and cities, characteristics of built-up areas, England and Wales: Census 2021

Usual residents by highest level of qualification by individual BUA, England 2021

Highest level of qualification	Lowest proportion	Highest proportion	Group average
Level 1 and entry level qualifications	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (910; 8.2%)	Wick (Arun) (1,345; 13.2%)	10.22%
Level 2 qualifications	East Wittering (700; 13.6%)	Southwater (1,680; 19.3%)	14.6%
Level 3 qualifications	Selsey (1,470; 15.6%)	Broadbridge Heath (990; 20.6%)	17.48%
Level 4 or above qualifications	Wick (Arun) (2,290; 22.5%)	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (4,975; 44.6%)	31.03%
No qualifications	Broadbridge Heath (450; 9.4%)	Selsey (2,295; 24.4%)	17.81%
Other	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (730; 6.6%)	Selsey (1,100; 11.7%)	8.87%

Usual residents aged 16 years and over by employment status by individual BUA, England 2021

Employment status	Lowest proportion	Highest proportion	Group average
Employed	Selsey (4,290; 45.5%)	Broadbridge Heath (3,460; 72.2%)	57.1%
Not employed	Broadbridge Heath (1,335; 27.8%)	Selsey (5,130; 54.5%)	42.9%

Source. Office for National Statistics. Towns and cities, characteristics of built-up areas, England and Wales: Census 2021

Usual residents aged 16 years and over by industry by individual BUA, England 2021

Industry	Lowest proportion	Highest proportion	Group average
Accommodation and food service activities	Steyning (75; 3.1%)	East Wittering (175; 7.2%)	4.43%
Administrative and support service activities	Barnham (Arun) (240; 4.9%)	Midhurst (200; 8.2%)	4.96%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Lancing and Sompting (30; 0.2%)	Steyning (45; 1.9%)	0.39% (medium) & 0.71% (small)*
Arts, entertainment and recreation	Wick (Arun) (110; 1.8%)	East Wittering (85; 3.5%)	2.14%
Construction	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (485; 7.5%)	Southwick (Adur) (695; 12.3%)	9.63%
Education	Wick (Arun) (440; 7%)	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (960; 14.8%)	10.02%
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	Littlehampton (35; 0.4%)	Southwick (Adur) (65; 1.2%)	0.64%
Financial and insurance activities	Littlehampton (195; 2.2%)	Crawley Down (170; 6.1%)	3.2%
Human health and social work activities	Southwater (625; 11.1%)	Littlehampton (1,605; 18.2%)	14.3%
Information and communication	Wick (Arun) (155; 2.5%)	Broadbridge Heath (210; 6.1%)	4.02%
Manufacturing	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (275; 4.2%)	Wick (Arun) (545; 8.7%)	8.52%
Mining and quarrying	East Grinstead (25; 0.2%)	East Grinstead (25; 0.2%)	0.16%

Industry	Lowest proportion	Highest proportion	Group average
Other service activities	Yapton (60; 2.1%)	Steyning (75; 3.1%)	2.29%
Professional, scientific and technical activities	Wick (Arun) (180; 2.9%)	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (620; 9.5%)	6.03%
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	East Wittering (95; 3.9%)	Crawley Down (160; 5.7%)	6.44%
Real estate activities	Littlehampton (100; 1.1%)	Henfield (65; 2.6%)	1.45%
Transportation and storage	East Wittering (65; 2.7%)	Broadbridge Heath (220; 6.4%)	4.55%
Water supply: sewerage, waste management and remediation	Selsey (15; 0.4%)	Wick (Arun) (95; 1.5%)	0.87%
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (695; 10.7%)	Littlehampton (1,605; 18.2%)	15.52%

*As Lancing and Sompting is classified as a medium built-up area and Steyning a small built-up area, the national group average for both sizes are presented.
Source. Office for National Statistics. Towns and cities, characteristics of built-up areas, England and Wales: Census 2021

Usual residents aged 16 years and over by occupation by individual BUA, England 2021

Occupation	Lowest proportion	Highest proportion	Group average
Administrative and secretarial occupations	Midhurst (190; 7.7%)	Crawley Down (190; 12.4%)	9.69%
Associate professional and technical occupations	Selsey (460; 10.7%)	Broadbridge Heath (460; 17.2%)	13.38%
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	Steyning (180; 7.5%)	Wick (Arun) (180; 13.8%)	9.61%
Elementary occupations	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (405; 6.2%)	Littlehampton (405; 12.9%)	9.56%
Managers, directors and senior officials	Littlehampton (980; 11.1%)	Storrington (980; 18.7%)	13.27%
Process, plant and machine operatives	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (170; 2.6%)	Wick (Arun) (170; 8.3%)	6.93%
Professional occupations	Selsey (495; 11.5%)	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (495; 28.2%)	18.73%
Sales and customer service occupations	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (325; 5%)	Littlehampton (325; 8.8%)	7.43%
Skilled trades occupations	Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint (520; 8%)	Selsey (520; 15.3%)	11.37%

Source. Office for National Statistics. Towns and cities, characteristics of built-up areas, England and Wales: Census 2021