

*A profile of data from the 2011
Census for the West Essex sub-
region*

West Essex: Census profile data

February 2013



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Introduction and summary

This census profile presents an overview of the key ONS Census 2011 results (releases 1 and 2) for the West Essex sub-region. It is focussed on those statistics that are directly and indirectly connected to the resident's employment status and includes comparisons with 2001 results where feasible and appropriate. The profile is split in to three sections each addressing:

1. **Population and lifestyles** – trends in population; aging; household composition; tenure; diversity; mobility;
2. **Economy** – trends in economic activity and patterns of employment and unemployment (including for specific population sub- groups);
3. **Skills** - trends in skills levels and characteristics of resident ESOL speakers.

Key findings

- West Essex's resident population has grown significantly, and its broad age profile has become slightly older;
- The sub-region's population has become more ethnically diverse in the last decade, with a greater share of residents from minority ethnic groups and/or born overseas;
- Economic activity within the resident population has increased, but its changing patterns suggest that residents are facing more adverse labour market conditions compared to 2001. In 2011, there were proportionally more economically active residents and more who were self-employed, but also more unemployed and fewer working full-time;
- The employment situation in the sub-region appears to have deteriorated compared to 2001: proportionally more residents of residents are unemployed, and the length of unemployment has increased.
- Patterns of employment among residents who have a job have changed significantly. Employment in manufacturing has seen a severe proportional drop in favour of employment in service sectors, while the occupational structure features proportionally fewer managers and senior officials and machine operatives and more professionals and caring, leisure and other service;
- Residents' qualification levels have improved significantly and there appears to be no severe English language issue with ESOL speakers.

1. Population and lifestyles

Population growth

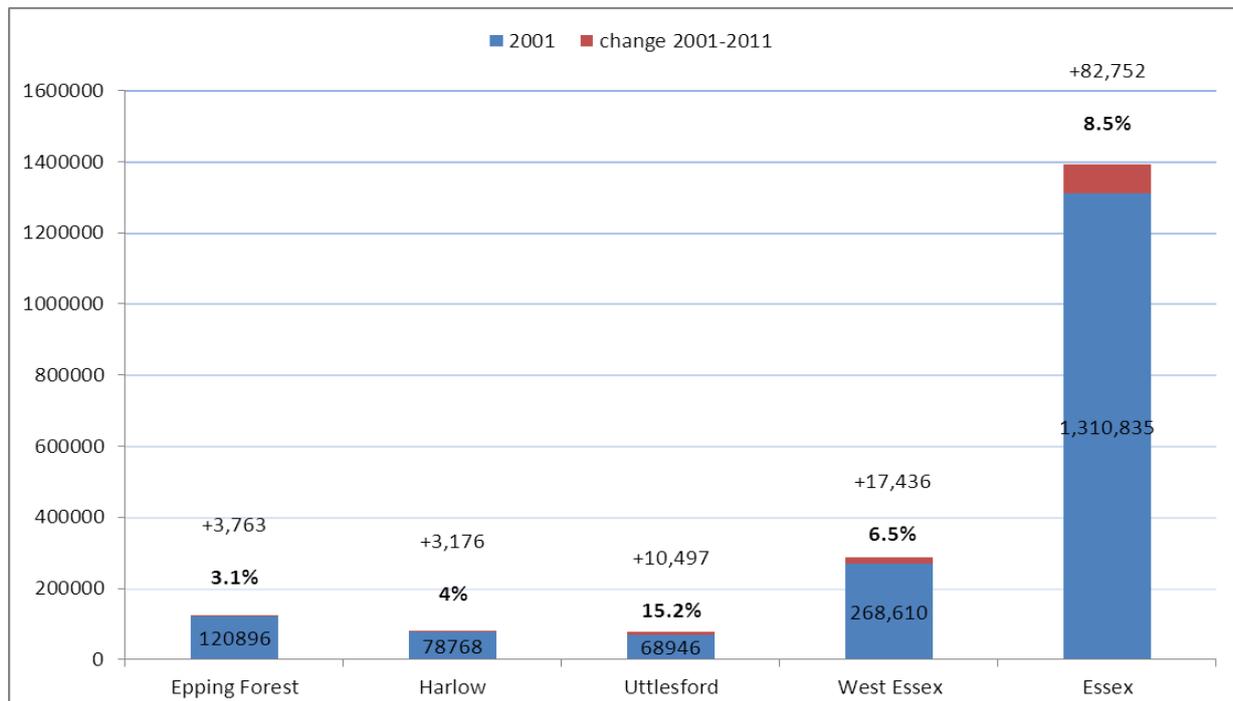


Figure 1 - Usual residents, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

As shown in Figure 1, West Essex’s population increased significantly in the last decade. Compared to 2001, the sub-region’s population rose by 6.5%, (or just under 17,500 residents) a growth rate lower than Essex but also broadly comparable with England as a whole (6.9%). An increase can be observed across all three districts but has been considerably stronger in Uttlesford (15.2%) than in Epping Forest (3%) and Harlow (4%).

Population density

Area	2001		2011	
	Population	Population density (per 100 sq.km)	Population	Population density (per 100 sq.km)
Epping Forest	120,896	3.57	124,659	3.7
Harlow	78,768	25.79	81,944	26.8
Uttlesford	68,946	1.08	79,443	1.2
West Essex	268,610	10.15	286,046	10.57
Essex	1,310,835	4.04	1,393,587	4
East	5,388,140	2.82	5,846,965	3.1
England	49,138,831	3.77	53,012,456	4.1

Figure 2 - Population density, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Despite a positive population trend, West Essex's population density (presented in Figure 2) has risen only marginally compared to 2001 – particularly in Harlow – and remains low in Epping Forest and Uttlesford. This is not surprising as, due to the largely rural character of those two districts and the constraints of green belt planning restrictions, the potential for further residential development in those two districts is very limited.

Figure 3 plots population densities across the sub-region's MSOAs¹, and suggests that this is indeed the case: density values are highest in Harlow and the southern and western areas of Epping Forest but very low everywhere else.

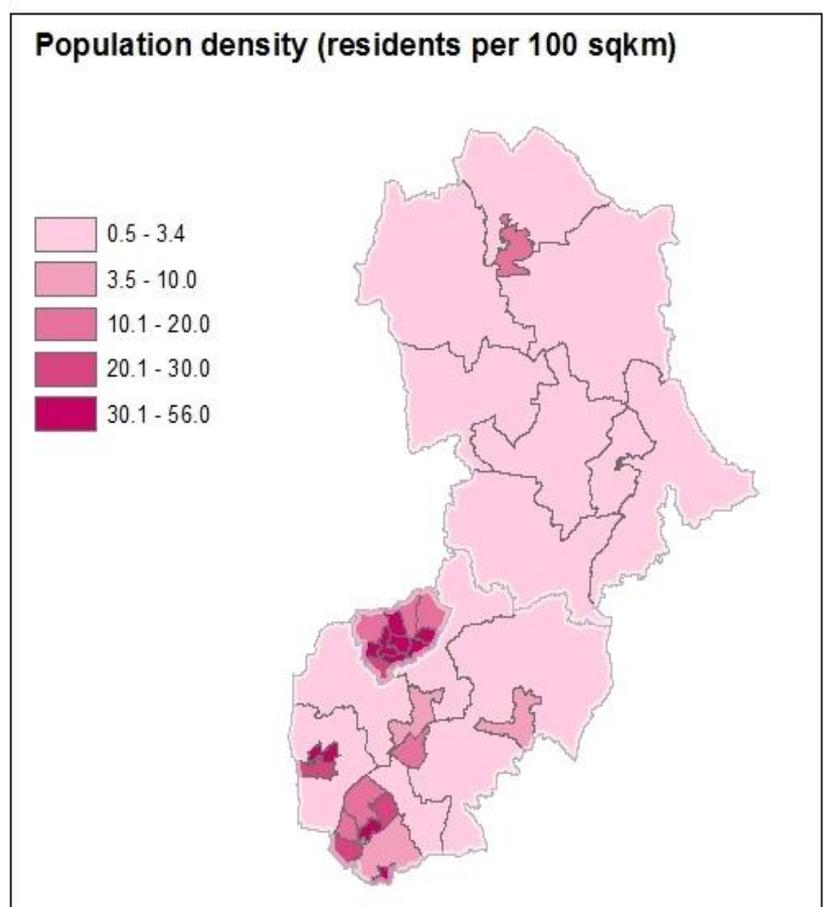


Figure 3 - Population density (MSOA level), ONS Census 2011

¹ Middle Layer Super Output Areas

Age structure

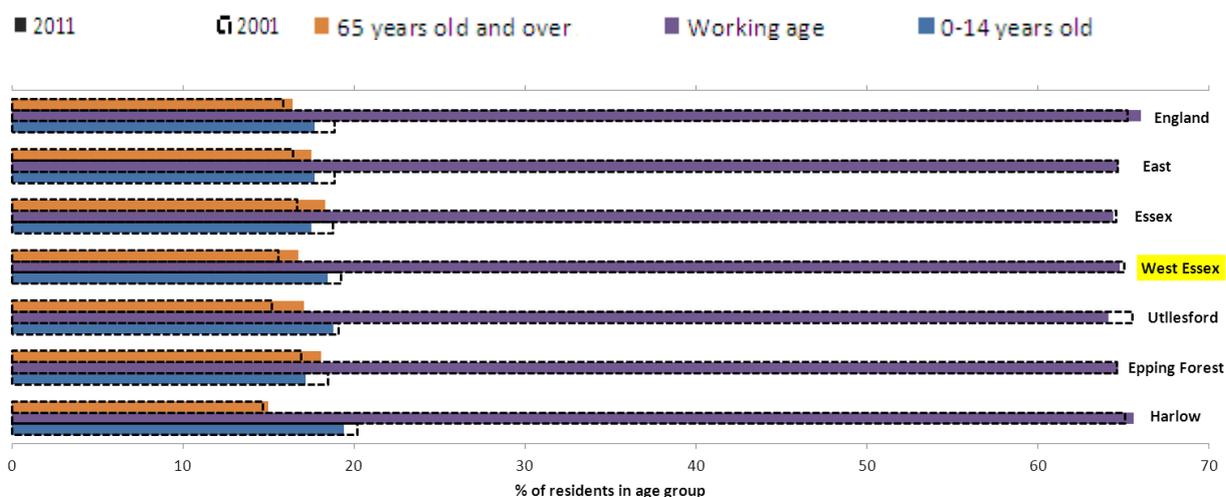


Figure 4 - Usual residents by age group, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

West Essex's resident population has grown slightly older over the last decade.

The working age population in the sub-region (presented in Figure 4) has slightly fallen as a proportion of all residents compared to 2001; among the comparator areas, only Essex saw a similar negative pattern in this resident age group. This fall was mainly driven by a drop Uttlesford; by contrast, Harlow and Epping Forest saw marginal growth in their proportion of working age (15-64) residents.

As can also be seen in Figure 4, the proportional reduction of West Essex residents in the 16-64 age group was matched by a fall in the 0-14 and a rise in the 65+ age groups. As a result, West Essex's median resident age rose from 38 to 40 years old (Figure 5); this increased to the same extent in Uttlesford and Harlow but by one additional year in Epping Forest, where the proportional fall in the 0-14 resident age group was particularly significant.

Area	Median age (2001)	Median age (2011)
Harlow	35	37
Epping Forest	39	42
Uttlesford	40	42
West Essex	38	40
Essex	39	41
East	38	40
England	37	39

Figure 5 - Median age, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Another indication of aging is given by the observed decrease in the sub-region's old age dependency ratio compared to 2001 (Figure 6). This ratio, which is the number of working age (16-64) residents divided by the number of residents aged 65+, has slightly come down in most areas. However, West Essex had a higher ratio than all comparator areas in 2001, and this situation has remained.

All three districts in the sub-region show a similar decreasing trend, although this was more marked in Uttlesford than in Epping Forest and Harlow.

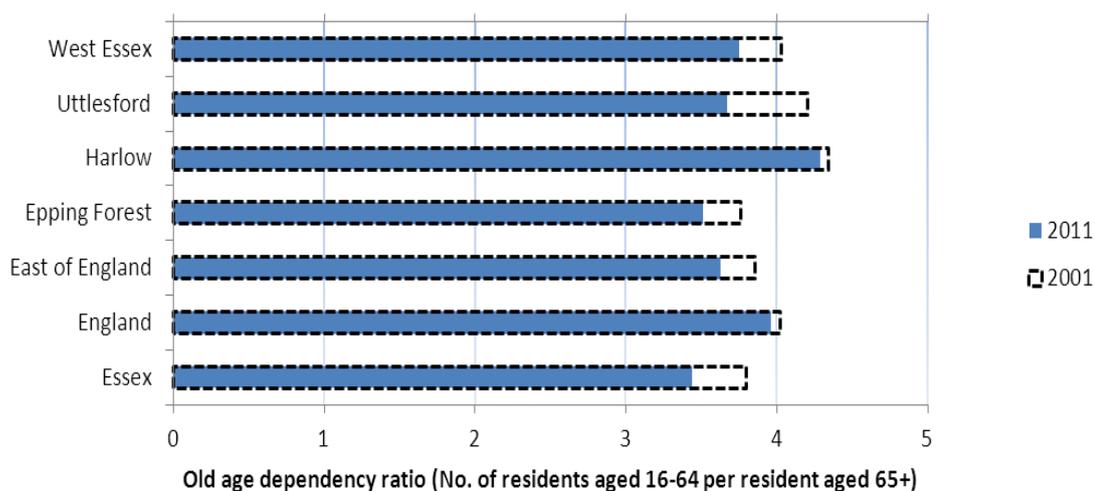


Figure 6 - old age dependency ratio, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Household composition

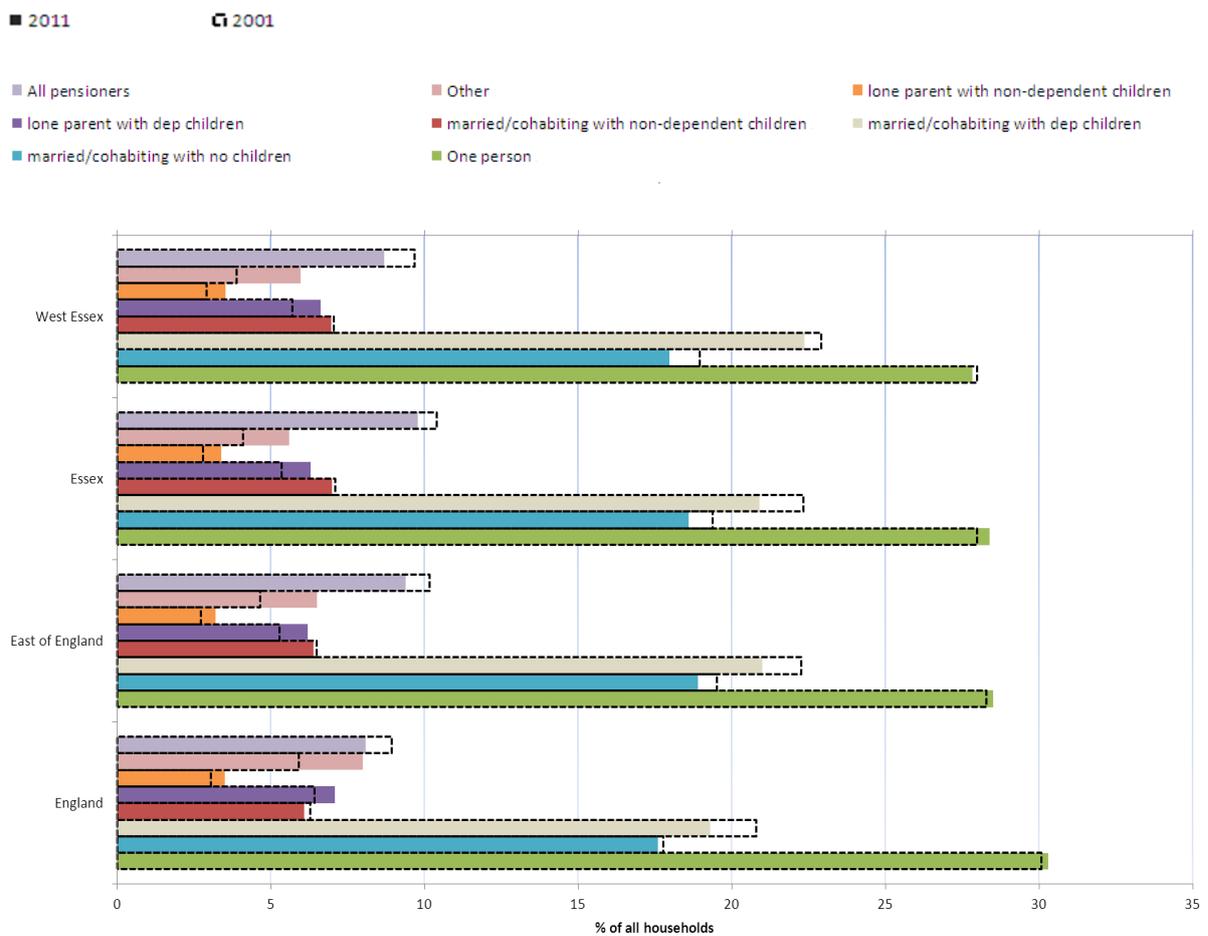


Figure 7 - Households by composition, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Figure 7 plots households by composition type in West Essex and its comparator areas. In the last decade, there was a proportional fall in West Essex households made up by pensioners and married/cohabiting couples with or without children. This was matched by an increase in the proportion of lone parent (with dependent children) and 'other' types of households.

Trends at the local authority level, which can be seen in Figure 8 below, are in line with the sub-region's trends, except for one person households, whose proportion increased in Harlow and Epping Forest but decreased in Uttlesford, and all pensioners households, which rose in Uttlesford only.

Household composition (aggregate types)	Year	Epping Forest (%)		Harlow (%)		Uttlesford (%)	
One person	2001	29.07		29.53		24.72	
	2011	29.4	↑	30.6	↑	23.5	↓
Married/cohabiting with no children	2001	18.13		17.11		22.02	
	2011	17	↓	15.9	↓	21	↓
Married/cohabiting with dependent children	2001	21.66		21.8		25.29	
	2011	21	↓	20.5	↓	25.6	↑
Married/cohabiting with non-dependent children	2001	7.7		6.45		7.02	
	2011	7.7	=	6.3	↓	6.9	↓
Lone parent with dependent children	2001	5.32		7.8		3.99	
	2011	6.3	↑	9	↑	4.6	↑
Lone parent with non-dependent children	2001	3.39		3.34		2.49	
	2011	3.7	↑	4.1	↑	2.8	↑
Other	2001	4.41		4.58		4.4	
	2011	5.9	↑	6.3	↑	5.7	↑
All pensioners	2001	9.89		9.03		9.71	
	2011	9	↓	7.2	↓	9.9	↑

Figure 8 - households by composition type (Epping Forest, Harlow, Uttlesford), ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Diversity

Figure 9 plots Simpson's Diversity index for West Essex and its sub-areas as calculated by the Centre on Dynamics of Ethnicity (CoDE) of the University of Manchester, based on Census data for 16 ethnic groups and scaled to range from 0 to 100. This indicator is a simple quantitative measure of diversity which takes into account both the number and size of ethnic groups relative to each other.

According to this figure, West Essex appears to have become a significantly more diverse area compared to 2011, although it remains less diverse than the country as a whole.

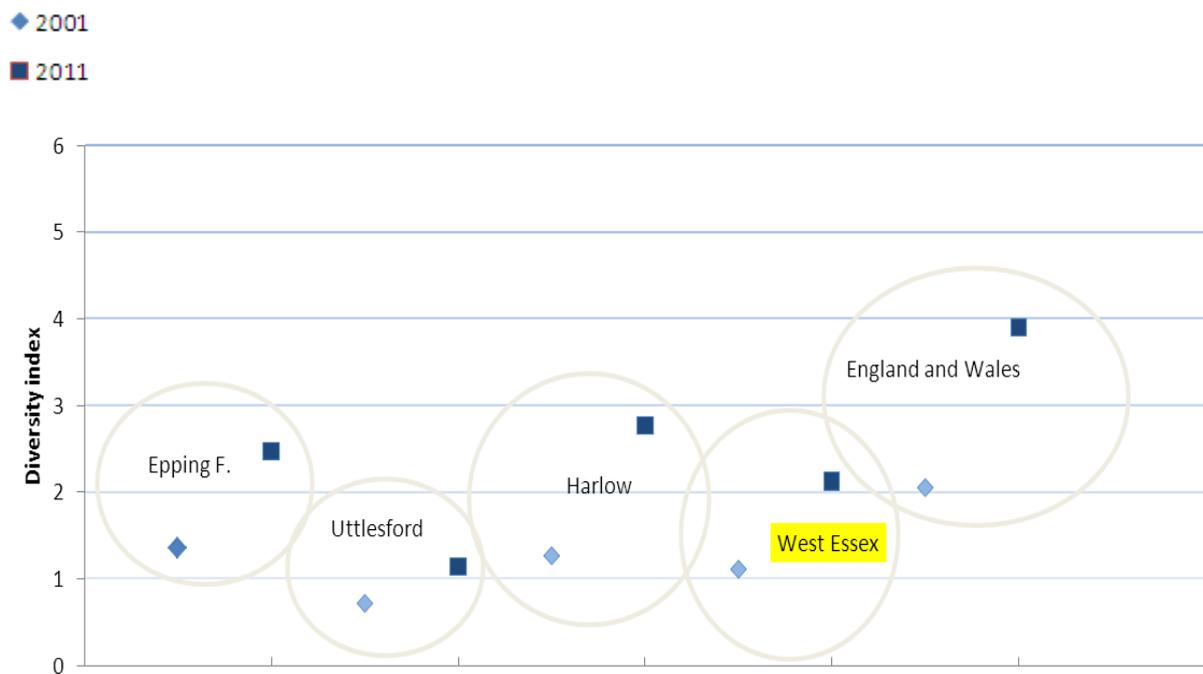


Figure 9 - Diversity Index, Centre on Dynamics of Ethnicity (University of Manchester), based on data from ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Ethnic group

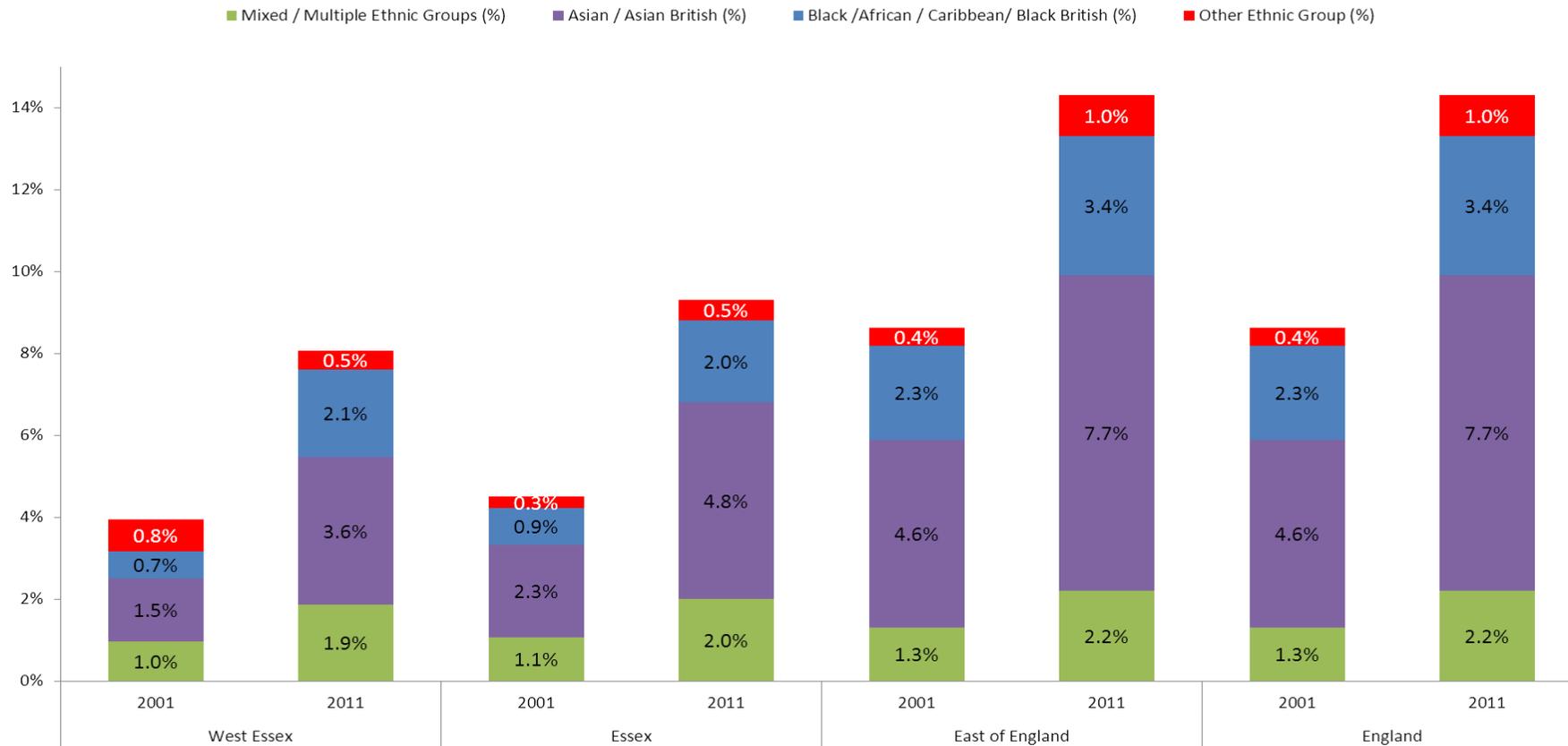


Figure 10 - Usual residents by broad minority ethnic group, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

As suggested by the increase in West Essex's diversity index, the sub-region saw an increase in the proportion of population belonging to minority groups (all groups other than White).

As shown in Figure 10, the minority ethnic sub-group with the strongest growth was Asian, which increased by an average 3 percentage points in West Essex. This was followed by the mixed ethnic sub-group, which rose from 0.6 to 2.2% of the resident population.

	Harlow			Epping F.			Uttlesford		
	2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011	
Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Groups (%)	1.2%	2.2%	↑	1.0%	2.1%	↑	0.7%	1.3%	↑
Asian / Asian British (%)	1.6%	4.6%	↑	2.4%	4.7%	↑	0.5%	1.5%	↑
Black /African / Caribbean/ Black British (%)	1.0%	3.9%	↑	0.8%	2.0%	↑	0.2%	0.5%	↑
Other Ethnic Group (%)	1.3%	0.5%	↓	0.6%	0.6%	=	0.5%	0.3%	↓

Figure 11 - Usual residents by broad minority ethnic group (Epping Forest, Harlow and Uttlesford), ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Within the sub-region, Harlow (Figure 11) had the most significant proportional increase in the Asian resident group (3 percentage points) and also had an increase for the Black/Black British group (2.9 percentage points).

Figure 12 overleaf maps proportions of residents from minority groups in 2011 across West Essex’s MSOAs and suggests that the highest concentrations can be found in Harlow and in the south-western corner of Epping Forest.

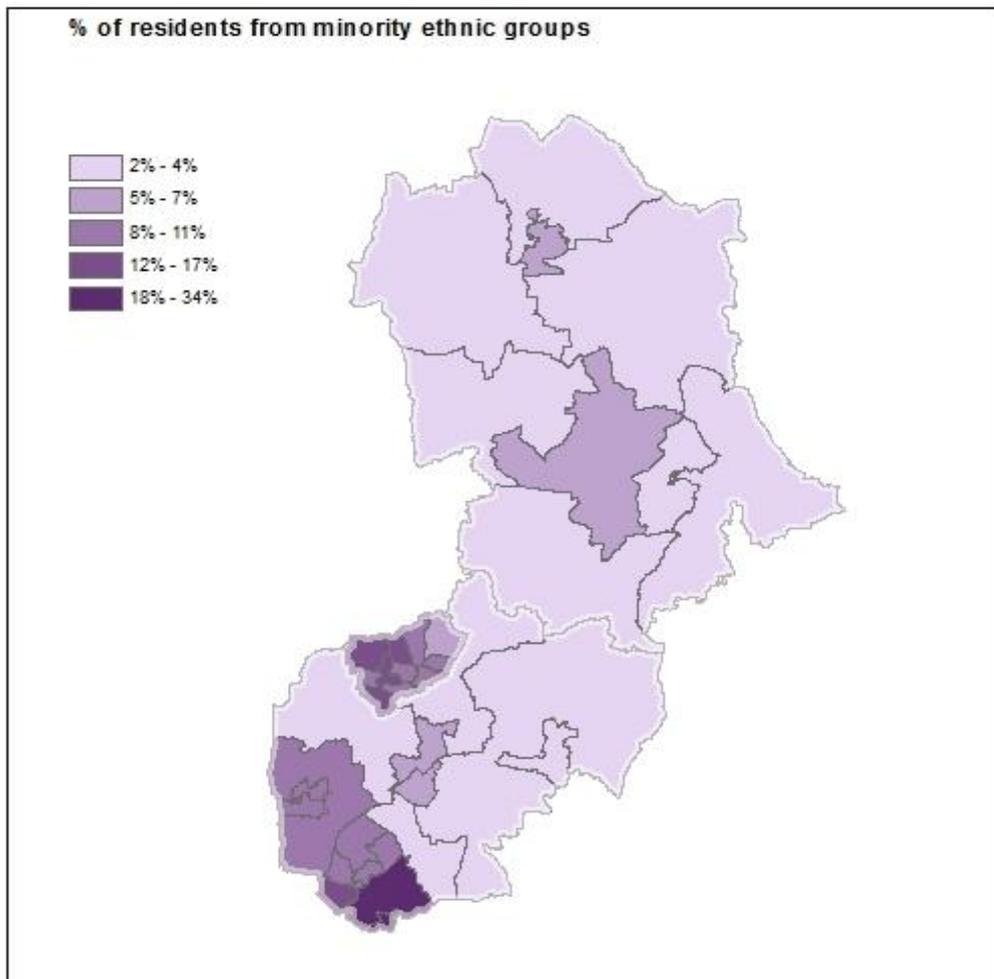


Figure 12 - % of residents belonging to minority groups (all other than White), ONS Census 2011

Conversely, the proportion of residents from white ethnic groups has fallen compared to 2001, with average decrease of 4 percentage points in West Essex as a whole; the largest drop in the sub-region can be observed in Harlow, where this proportion was nearly 6 percentage points smaller than in 2001.

The makeup of the broad white ethnic population group in West Essex also changed and can be seen in Figure 13. The share of white British/Irish decreased in favour of other white ethnic groups, which rose from 2.2 to 3.8% of the resident population.

Area	English/Welsh/ Scottish/ Northern Irish/British			Irish			Gypsy /Irish Traveller			Other White			White (Total)		
	01	11	Δ (pp)	01	11	Δ (pp)	01	11	Δ (pp)	01	11	Δ (pp)	01	11	Δ (pp)
Epping Forest	91.2	85.2	-6	1.2	1.1	-0.1	0	0.1	0.1	2.7	4	1.3	95.1	90.4	-4.7
Harlow	91.7	83.9	-7.8	1.4	1.1	-0.3	0	0.1	0.1	1.7	4	2.3	94.8	89.1	-5.7
Uttlesford	95.1	92.3	-2.8	0.8	0.8	0	0	0.2	0.2	2.3	3.4	1.1	98.2	96.7	-1.5
West Essex	92.7	87.1	-5.5	1.1	1.0	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	2.2	3.8	1.6	96.0	92.1	-4.0

Figure 13 - usual residents by detailed ethnic group: White, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Country of birth

Area	People born in UK (%)		People born in the Republic of Ireland (%)			People born in other EU Countries (%)			
	2001	2011	2001	2011		2001	2011		
England	90.74	83.5	↓	0.9	0.7	↓	1.4	3.7	↑
East of England	92.97	86.6	↓	0.9	0.7	↓	1.4	3.7	↑
Essex	95.01	90.7	↓	0.7	0.7	=	1.1	2.2	↑
Epping Forest	93.48	89.2	↓	0.9	0.8	↓	1.1	2.6	↑
Harlow	93.83	86.6	↓	1.21	1	↓	0.9	3.5	↑
Uttlesford	94.24	89.8	↓	0.61	0.5	↓	1.5	2.8	↑
West Essex	93.85	88.53	↓	0.91	0.8	↓	1.2	3	↑

Figure 14 - Usual residents by country of birth (broad classification), ONS Census 2001 and 2011

As can be seen in Figure 14, the proportion of West Essex population born in the UK decreased by about 5 percentage points compared to 2001. The detailed breakdown of overseas residents by broad country of birth grouping is shown in Figure 15 and suggests that this increase took place across all overseas country groupings except Ireland and the Middle East.

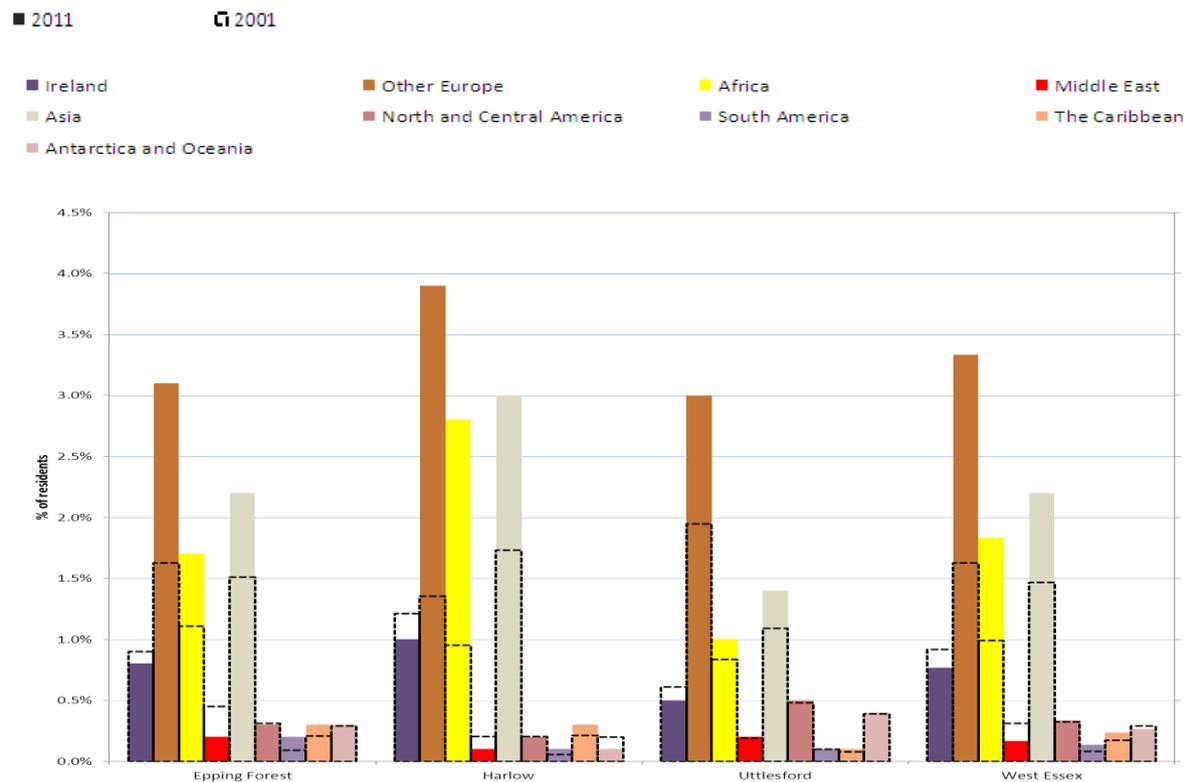


Figure 15 - Usual residents by country of birth (detailed classification), ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Residents born in other EU countries were by far the group with the highest proportional increase (from 1.6 to over 3.3%), although there was also significant growth in the proportion of residents born in Africa (from 0.9 to 1.8%) and in Asia (from 1.4 to 2%).

Length of residence in the UK for residents born overseas

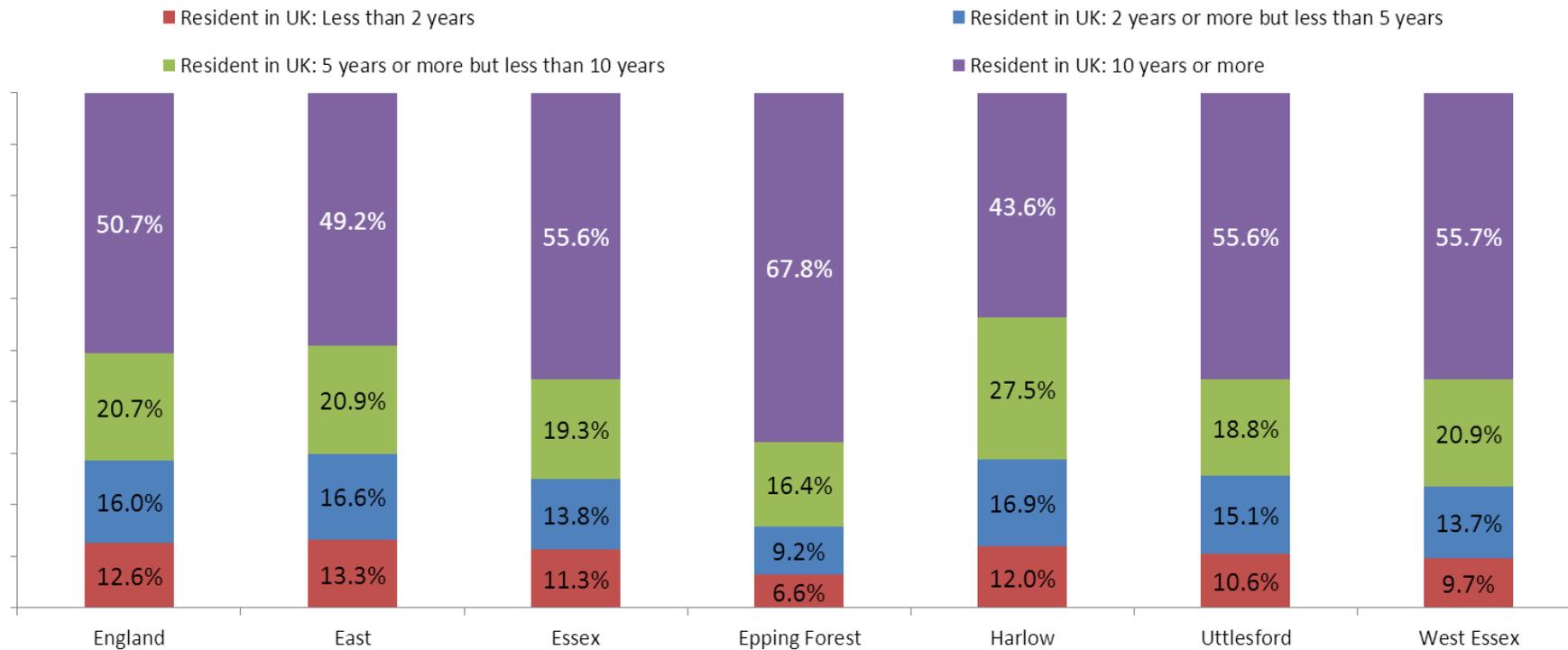


Figure 16 - Usual residents born overseas by length of residence in the UK, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

The 2011 Census introduced a new question which makes it possible to collect information on the typical length of residence of foreign-born residents, presented in Figure 16.

It appears that at the time of the latest census West Essex as a whole had the lowest proportion of residents born overseas who had been residing in the UK for less than 5 years. However, considering the data at the local authority level, it can be seen that the Epping Forest figure lowers considerably the sub-regional average, whilst the other two districts present proportions comparable to Essex and the region and country as a whole.

Foreign-born residents in Harlow, in particular, have a much shorter average length of residence, with only 43% having lived in the country for 10 years more (compared to over 50% everywhere else).

The figure overleaf plots proportions of residents who have resided in the UK for less than two years across West Essex's MSOAs. This indicates that there is considerable variation in the proportion of residents who recently moved to the UK across the sub-region, with concentrations in a few MSOAs within Harlow and Uttlesford (where this can reach up to 18%) and values below 8% everywhere else.

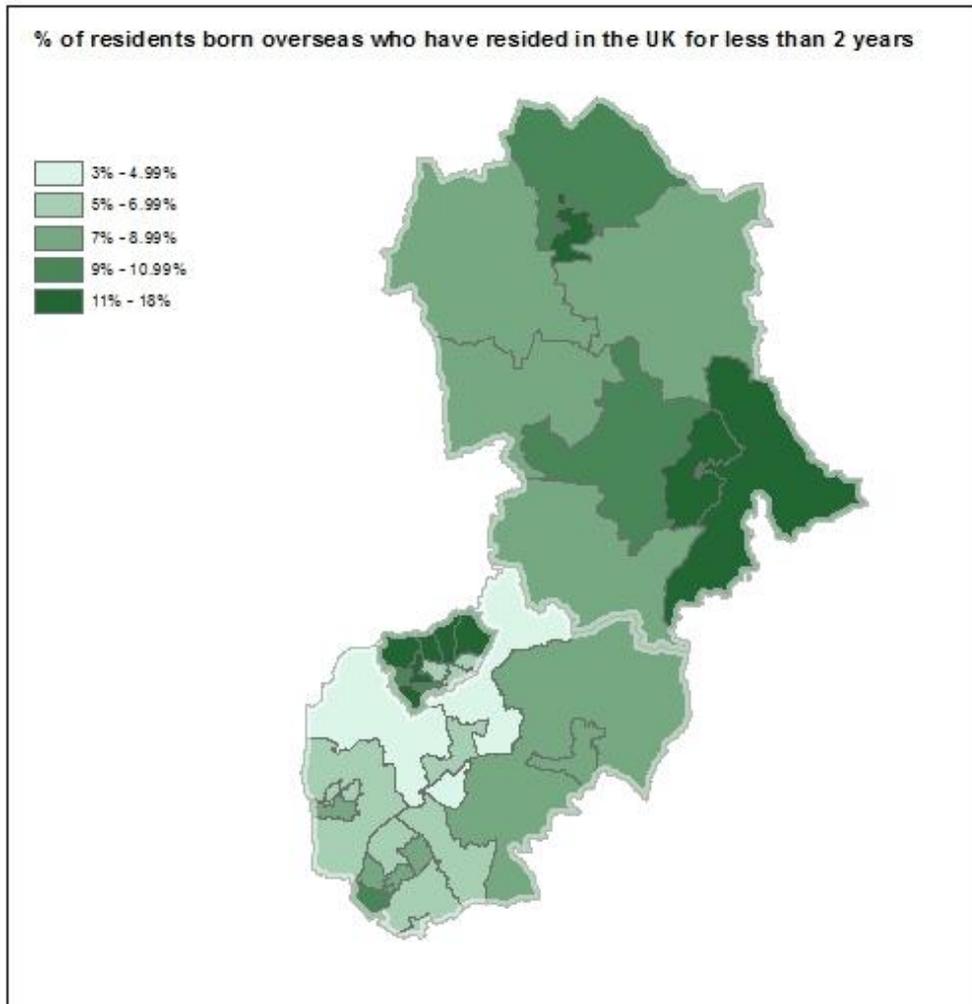


Figure 17 - % of residents who have resided in the UK for less than 2 years, ONS Census 2011

Age of arrival for residents born overseas

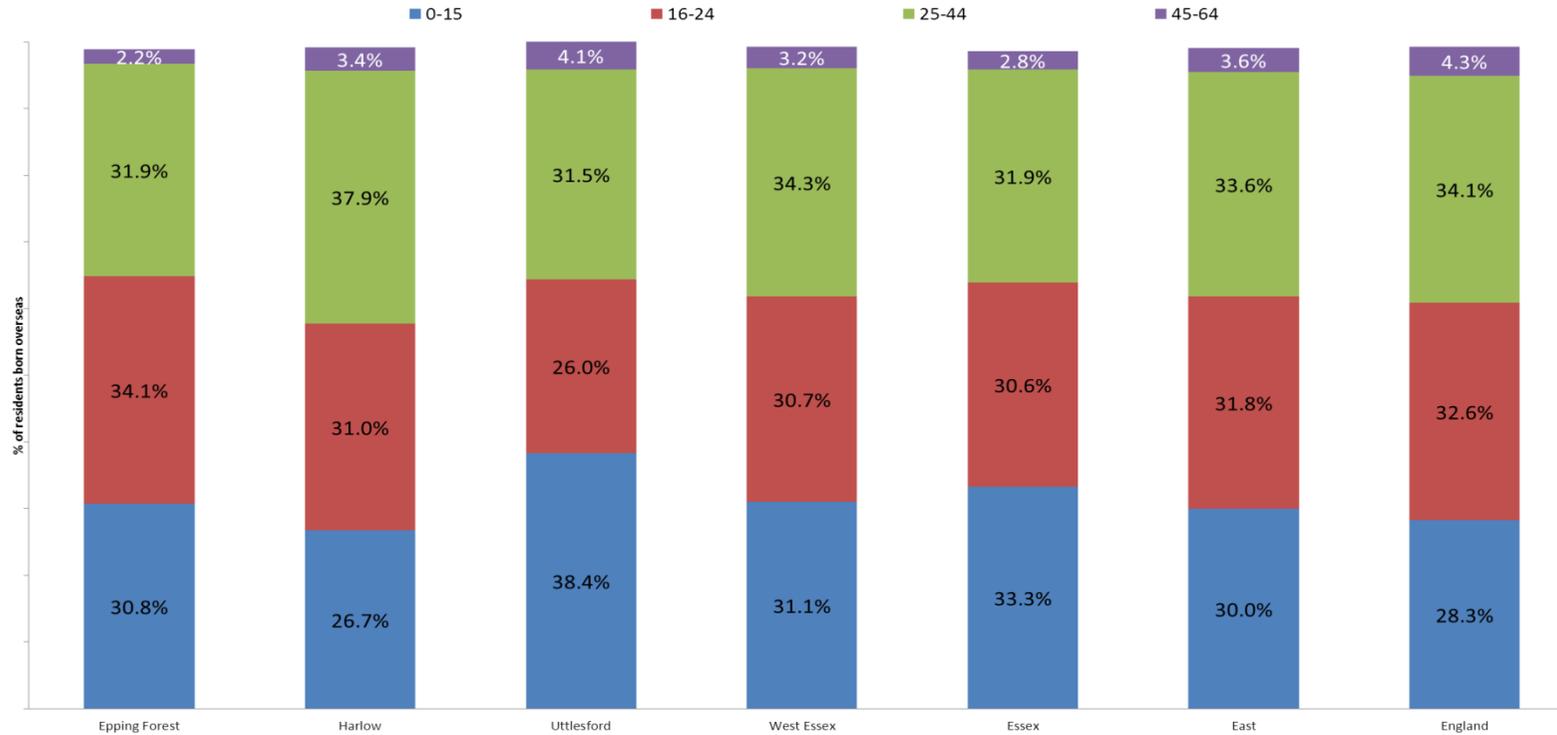


Figure 18 - residents born overseas by age of arrival, ONS Census 2011

*65+ category not displayed as not significant

A further new question introduced in the 2011 Census concerns the age of arrival of residents born outside the UK.

According to these data, which are represented in Figure 18, a slightly greater proportion of West Essex residents born overseas moved to the UK when they were 25 or older than in Essex and in the East region. This is mainly dependent on an above average proportion in Harlow, where over 40% of foreign born residents were 25 years old or older at the time they arrived in the UK.

Tenure

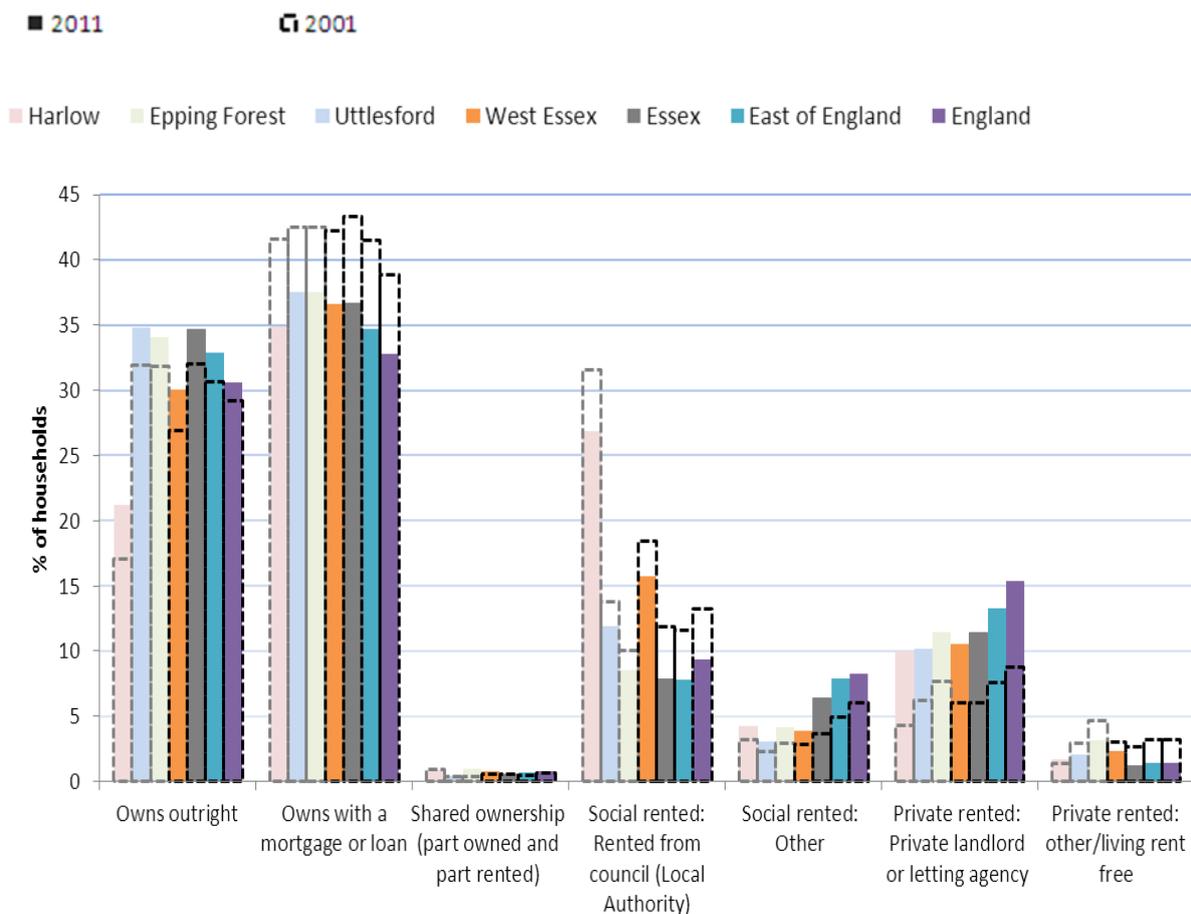


Figure 19 - Households by tenure, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

As suggested by Figure 19, tenure patterns in West Essex have changed quite considerably since 2001, resulting in a shift away from house ownership/social renting and towards private renting, which can also be observed across the country.

In 2011, 66.7% of West Essex households were owner-occupiers (with 30% owning outright and 36% owning with a mortgage); this is proportionally higher than regionally and nationally but lower than the Essex county average.

This aggregate figure however hides considerably different patterns of home ownership within the sub-region; in Epping Forest and Uttlesford owner-occupier households represent around 74% of the total compared to only 58% in Harlow.

Between 2001 and 2011 the proportion of owner-occupier households fell across all areas, although in West Essex this decrease was less dramatic than elsewhere (-2.4 pp. compared to 3.9 in Essex and 4.7 in the East region and England). Outright ownership in the sub-region slightly rose as a proportion of tenure but there was a more dramatic decrease in ownership with a mortgage.

Similarly, the overall proportion of West Essex households in the social rented sector² has also fallen since 2001, although it remained at around 1 in 5 of the total. This resulted from the combined effect of a slight proportional increase in social renting from other providers and a considerable decrease in social renting from the local Council.

Within West Essex, Harlow saw the largest proportional drop in social renting (3.6 pp. overall); despite this, in 2011 more than 1 in 3 households in the district were still living in social rented accommodation, more than twice as much as in Epping Forest and Uttlesford.

The proportional reduction in home ownership and social renting was matched by a considerable expansion of social renting; this pattern can be observed across all areas considered. Similarly to Essex and the East region, West Essex saw an increase in the proportion of private renting of around 4 percentage points.

² renting from the local Council or other providers, such as housing associations

Car/Van availability

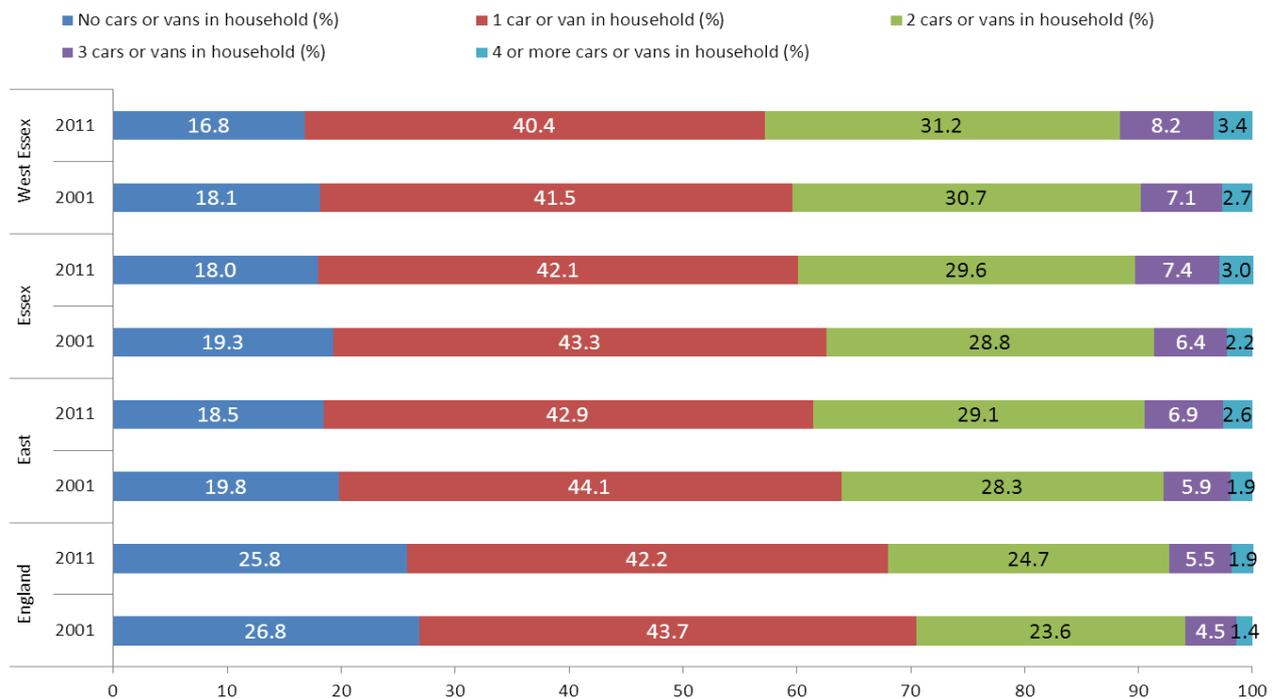


Figure 20 - households by access to car/van, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

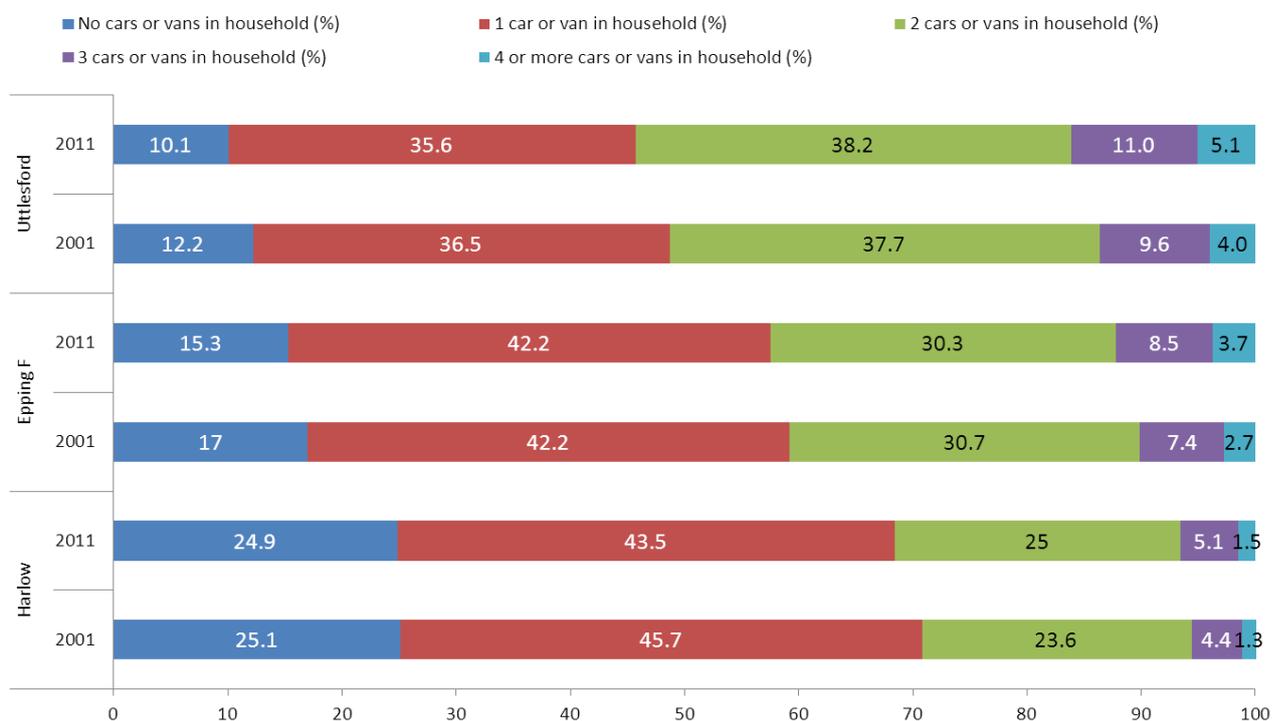


Figure 21 - households by access to car/van (Epping Forest, Harlow, Uttlesford) ONS Census 2001 and 2011

The proportion of families without access to a car/van (Figure 18) decreased significantly across the West Essex district and comparator areas except in Harlow, where in 2011 1 out of 4 families were in this situation (although this is in line with the national average). By contrast, Uttlesford was the area where proportionally fewer residents had no access to a car and more had access to 3 or more cars.

2. Economy

Socio-economic classification

The National statistics socio-economic classification (NS-Sec) of residents is a useful indicator of local economic development as it is derived from a combination of information about occupational status with employment status and relationship with employer. According to the Office for National Statistics, this information is 'central to showing the structure of socio-economic positions in modern societies and helping to explain variations in social behaviour and other social phenomena'³. The related Census results for West Essex and comparator areas are shown in Figure 22 below and Figure 23 overleaf.

Ns-sec	Year	England	East	Essex	Epping Forest	Harlow	Uttlesford	West Essex
1.1 Large employers and higher managerial and administrative occupations (%)	2001	3.5	3.8	3.7	4.2	2.8	5.8	4.2
	2011	2.4	2.6	2.6	3.2	1.9	3.8	3
1.2 Higher professional occupations (%)	2001	5.1	5.3	5	5.9	4	7.1	5.7
	2011	8	8.3	7.9	9.1	5.2	11.1	8.5
2. Lower managerial, administrative and professional occupations (%)	2001	18.7	19.9	20.4	21.7	18.4	23.3	21.2
	2011	20.9	21.7	22.1	23.3	19.5	25.7	22.8
3. Intermediate occupations (%)	2001	9.5	10.1	11.1	11.7	11.8	9.7	11.1
	2011	12.8	13.9	15.4	15.8	15.1	13.4	14.8
4. Small employers and own account workers (%)	2001	7	7.9	8.4	10.2	6.1	10	8.8
	2011	9.4	10.3	11.2	13.9	9	13.1	12
5. Lower supervisory and technical occupations (%)	2001	7.1	7.3	7	5.9	8.7	6.4	7
	2011	6.9	7	6.8	5.7	7.8	5.9	6.5
6. Semi-routine occupations (%)	2001	11.7	11.8	11.2	9.3	13.4	9.2	10.6
	2011	14	14.1	14	10.9	16.3	11	12.7
7. Routine occupations (%)	2001	9	8.6	7.7	6.1	11.3	6.3	7.9
	2011	11	10.5	9.7	7.8	13.6	7.4	9.6
L14.1 Never worked (%)	2001	2.7	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.8	0.9	1.4
	2011	3.9	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.8	1.3	2.1
L14.2 Long-term unemployed (%)	2001	1	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.7
	2011	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	2.3	1	1.6
Unclassified (%)	2001	17.7	17.2	18.2	18	16.3	15.8	16.7
	2011	9	7.4	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.5

Figure 22 - Socio-economic classification (NS-Sec) of residents aged 16-74, ONS 2001 and 2011

³ ONS, SOC2010 VOLUME 3 NS-SEC (Rebased On SOC2010) User Manual

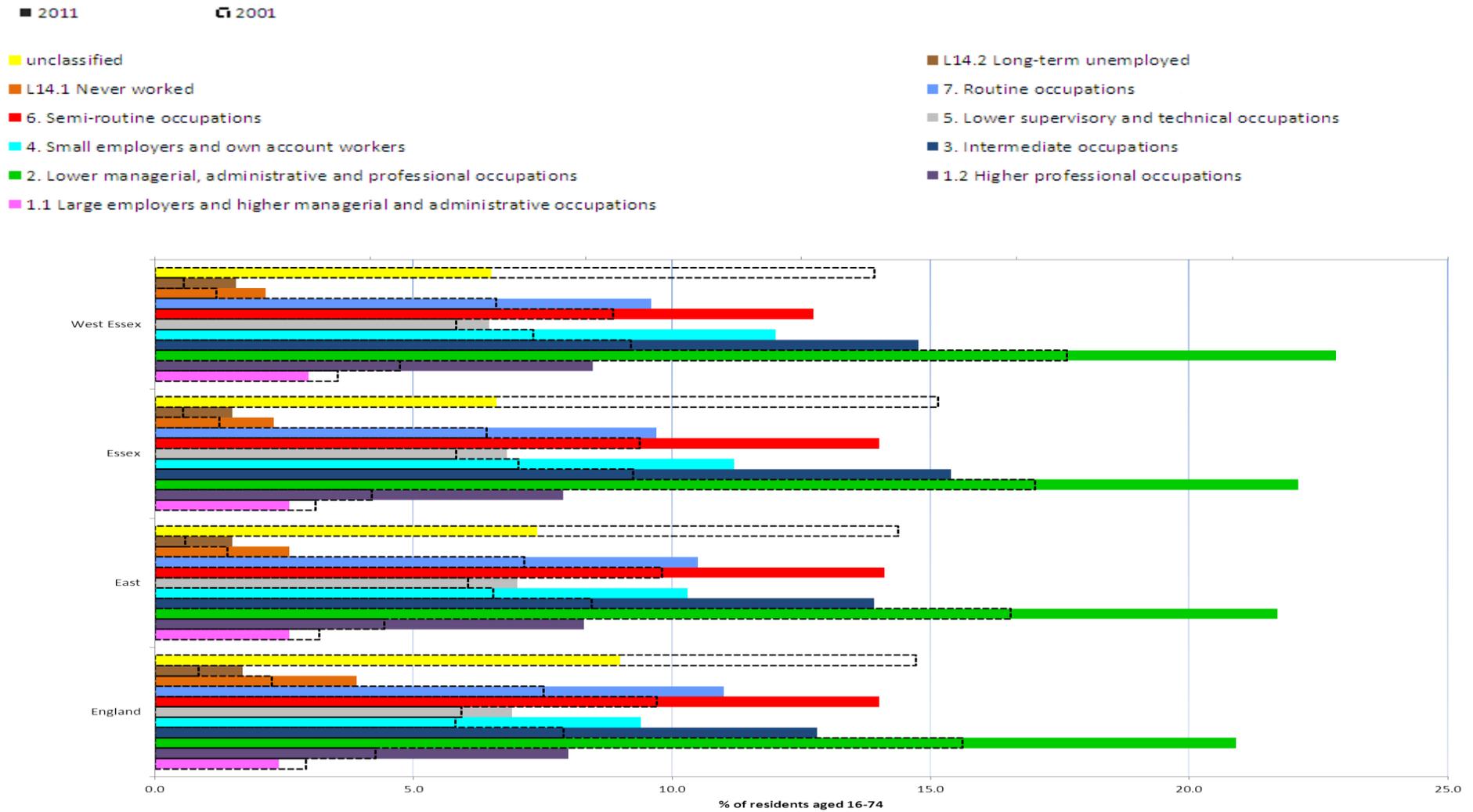


Figure 23 - socio-economic classification (NS-Sec) of residents aged 16-74, ONS 2001 and 2011

In 2011, there were proportionally more West Essex residents in long-term unemployment compared to 2001. The shares of population who are small employers and own account workers and who work in lower managerial/administrative and in professional and intermediate occupations have also increased. By contrast, there has been a drop in the shares of residents in large employers and higher managerial/administrative positions. These trends are compatible with those usually observed during an economic downturn, with higher proportions of unemployed and self-employed workers and proportionally less higher paid residents, but may also reflect the professionalization of a few occupations, particularly in health and allied industries.

Economic activity and employment

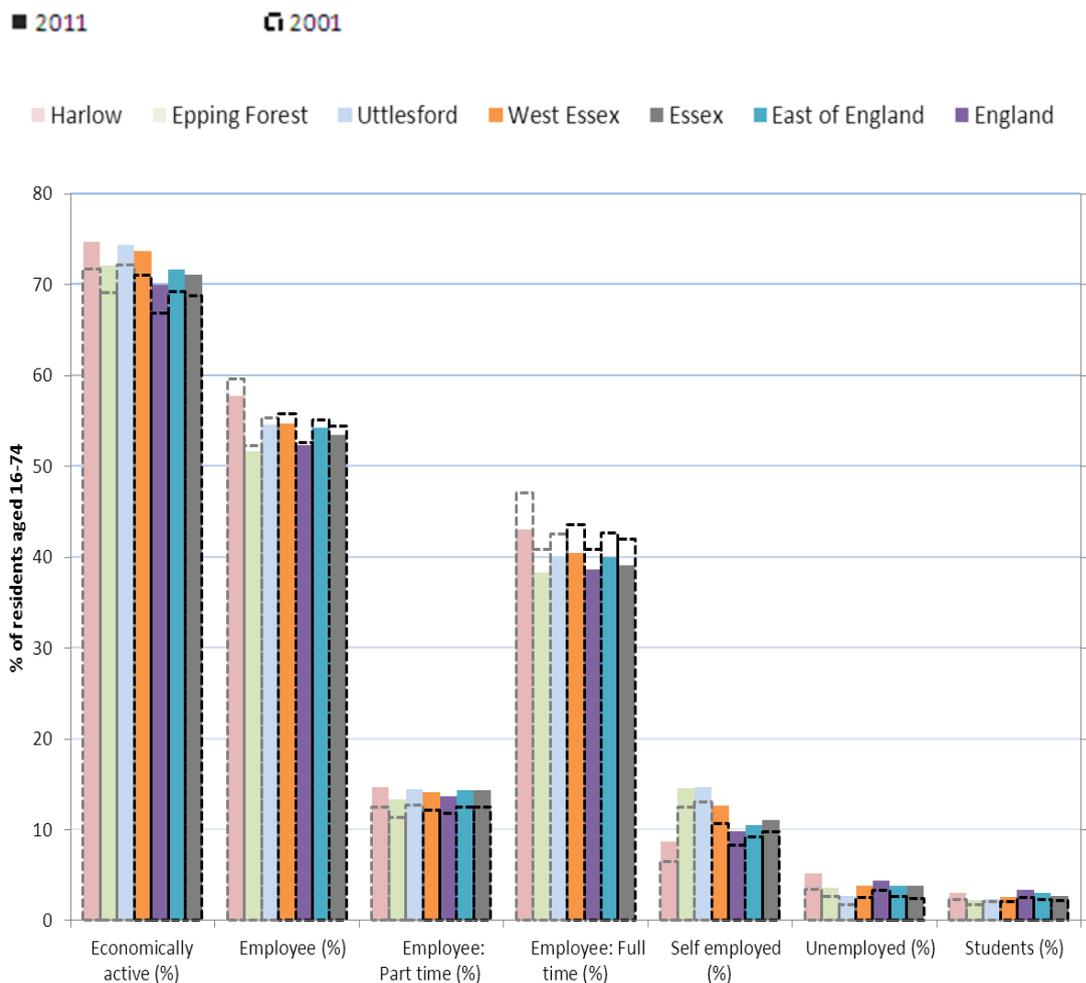


Figure 24 - % of residents aged 16-74 by economic activity status (economically active only), ONS Census 2001 and 2011

As shown in Figures 24 and 25 (overleaf), economic activity as a whole increased across the areas, but there were rather significant changes in the specific patterns followed. In 2011, West Essex's proportion of residents aged 16-74 in employee jobs fell by 2 percentage points. The main factor behind this seems to be a proportional reduction in full-time workers, which was matched by a rise in those working part-time, in self-employment and also unemployed. This pattern is observable across all areas and closely matches the general UK labour market trends of the post-2008 recession years: of the workers that have lost their full-time jobs over this period, some have started a new career as self-employed while some others have become underemployed or unemployed.

	Harlow			Epping Forest			Uttlesford			West Essex			England			East			Essex		
	2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011	
Economically active (%)	71.7	74.7	↑	69.1	72.1	↑	72.2	74.4	↑	71.0	73.7	↑	66.9	69.9	↑	69.3	71.6	↑	68.8	71.1	↑
Employee (%)	59.6	57.8	↓	52.3	51.6	↓	55.3	54.6	↓	55.7	54.7	↓	52.6	52.3	↓	56	54.3	↓	54.4	53.5	↓
Employee: Part time (%)	12.5	14.7	↑	11.4	13.3	↑	12.7	14.5	↑	12.2	14.2	↑	11.8	13.7	↑	12.5	14.3	↑	12.5	14.4	↑
Employee: Full time (%)	47.1	43.1	↓	40.9	38.3	↓	42.6	40.1	↓	43.5	40.5	↓	40.8	38.6	↓	42.6	40.0	↓	42	39.1	↓
Self employed (%)	6.5	8.7	↑	12.5	14.6	↑	13	14.7	↑	10.7	12.7	↑	8.3	9.8	↑	9.3	10.5	↑	9.8	11.1	↑
Unemployed (%)	3.4	5.2	↑	2.6	3.6	↑	1.7	2.7	↑	2.6	3.8	↑	3.4	4.4	↑	2.6	3.8	↑	2.5	3.8	↑
Students (%)	2.3	3.1	↑	1.7	2.3	↑	2.1	2.4	↑	2.0	2.6	↑	2.6	3.4	↑	2.32	3.0	↑	2.2	2.7	↑

Figure 25 - % of residents aged 16-74 by economic activity status (economically active only) – detailed percentages, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

As can be seen in Figure 26 below, unemployed residents are particularly concentrated in the north and south west of Harlow, but have a relatively higher spread across the region compared to other indicators.



Figure 26 - % of residents aged 16-74 who are unemployed, ONS Census 2011

■ 2011

□ 2001

■ Harlow ■ Epping Forest ■ Uttlesford ■ West Essex ■ Essex ■ East of England ■ England

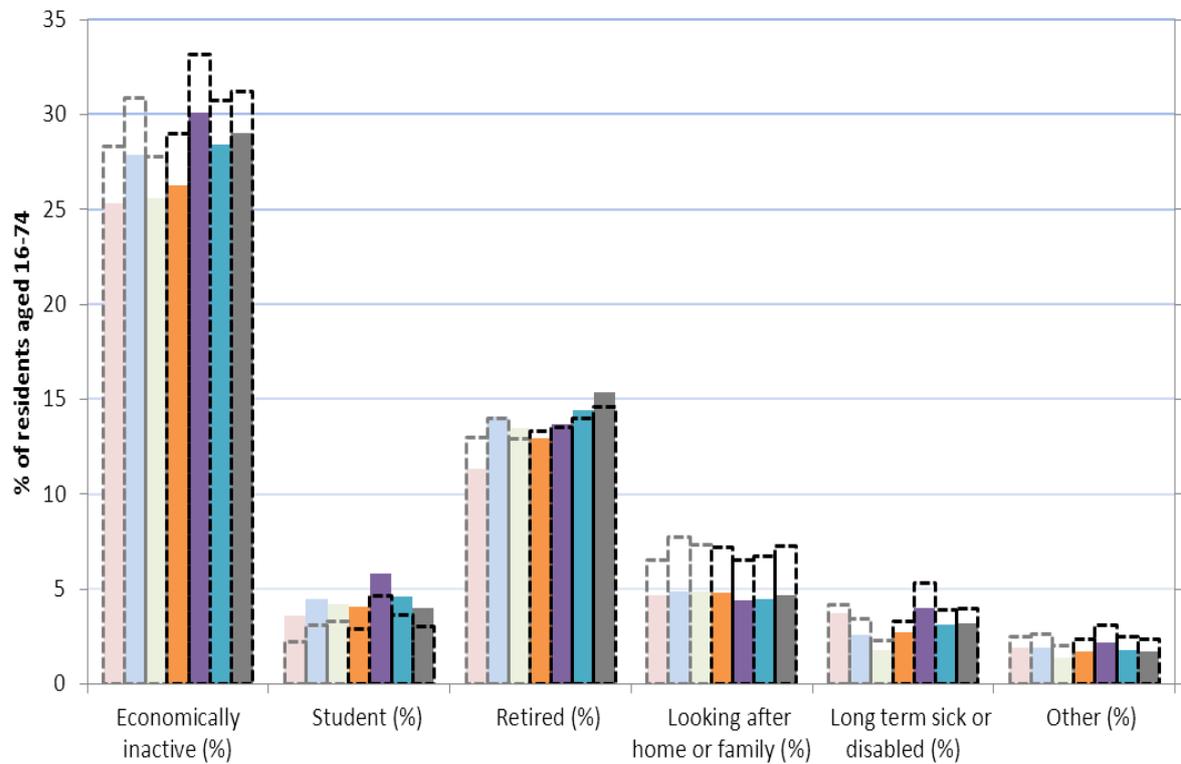


Figure 27 - % of residents aged 16-74 by economic activity status (economically inactive only), ONS Census 2001 and 2011

As implied by the discussions above, economic inactivity in 2011 had fallen compared to 10 years earlier (Figures 27 and 28). In this case the observed patterns of inactivity have also slightly changed. There are proportionally more inactive full-time students and less looking after home/family or having a long-term illness/disability. It could be argued that the former change can be an effect of a more difficult labour market in the current economic climate, which may discourage students from starting to seeking employment whilst still in education, while the latter two could be linked to stricter conditionality on out-of-work benefits, particularly on Income Support and the Employment and Support Allowance (which were introduced between the latest two Censi).

	Harlow			Epping Forest			Uttlesford			West Essex			England			East			Essex		
	2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011	
Economically inactive (%)	28.3	25.3	↓	30.9	27.9	↓	27.8	25.6	↓	29.0	26.3	↓	33.1	30.1	↓	30.8	28.4	↓	31.2	29.0	↓
Student (%)	2.2	3.6	↑	3.1	4.5	↑	3.3	4.2	↑	2.9	4.1	↑	4.7	5.8	↑	3.6	4.6	↑	3	4	↑
Retired (%)	13	11.3	↓	14	14.1	↑	12.9	13.5	↑	13.3	13.0	↓	13.5	13.7	↑	14	14.4	↑	14.6	15.4	↑
Looking after home or family (%)	6.5	4.7	↓	7.7	4.9	↓	7.3	4.9	↓	7.2	4.8	↓	6.52	4.4	↓	6.8	4.5	↓	7.2	4.7	↓
Long term sick or disabled (%)	4.2	3.7	↓	3.4	2.6	↓	2.3	1.8	↓	3.3	2.7	↓	5.3		↓	3.9	3.1	↓	4	3.2	↓
Other (%)	2.5	1.9	↓	2.6	1.9	↓	2	1.4	↓	2.4	1.7	↓	3.1	2.2	↓	2.5	1.8	↓	2.4	1.7	↓
Economically inactive (%)	28.3	25.3	↓	30.9	27.9	↓	27.8	25.6	↓	29.0	26.3	↓	33.1	30.1	↓	30.8	28.4	↓	31.2	29.0	↓

Figure 28 - % of residents aged 16-74 by economic activity status (economically inactive only), ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Figure 29 below provides a picture of inactivity (excluding residents aged 16-74 who are retired or in education) in West Essex at the MSOA level, and indicates that Harlow and the southern and western corners of Epping Forest have the highest proportions of economically inactive residents.

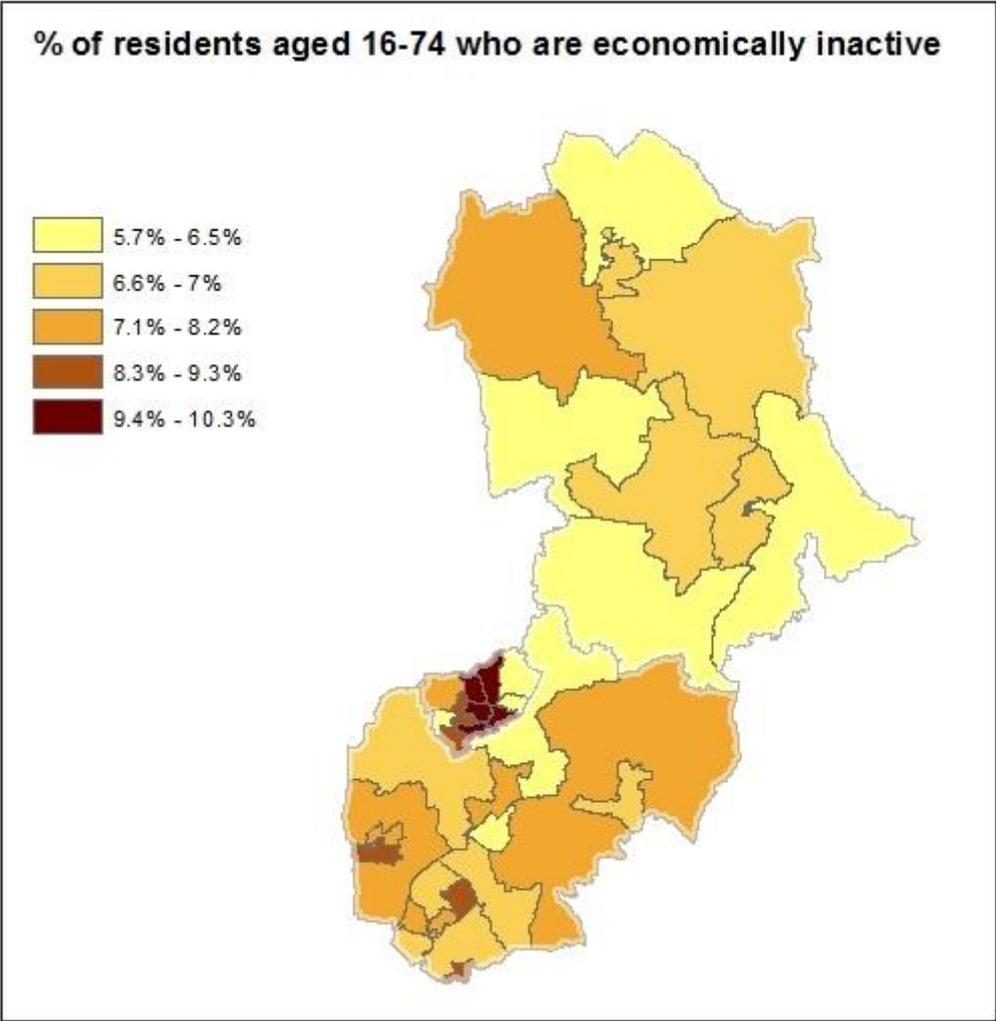


Figure 29 - % of residents aged 16-74 who are economically inactive (excluding students and retired residents), ONS Census 2011

Workless households

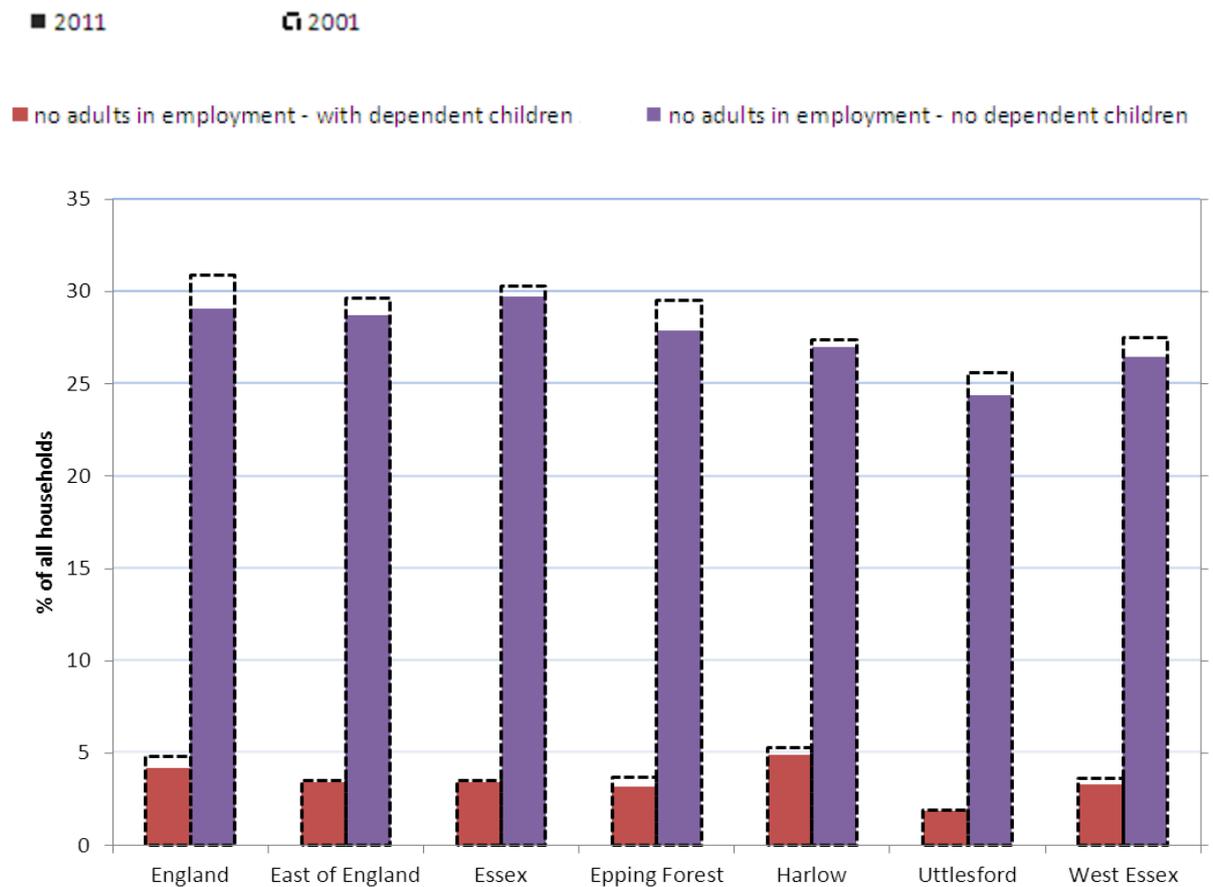


Figure 30 - % of households with no adult in employment: with and without dependent children, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

The proportion of households in West Essex where no adult is in employment (with or without dependent children) has decreased sensibly compared to 2001 (Figure 30) and is lower than all comparator areas.

Lone parents

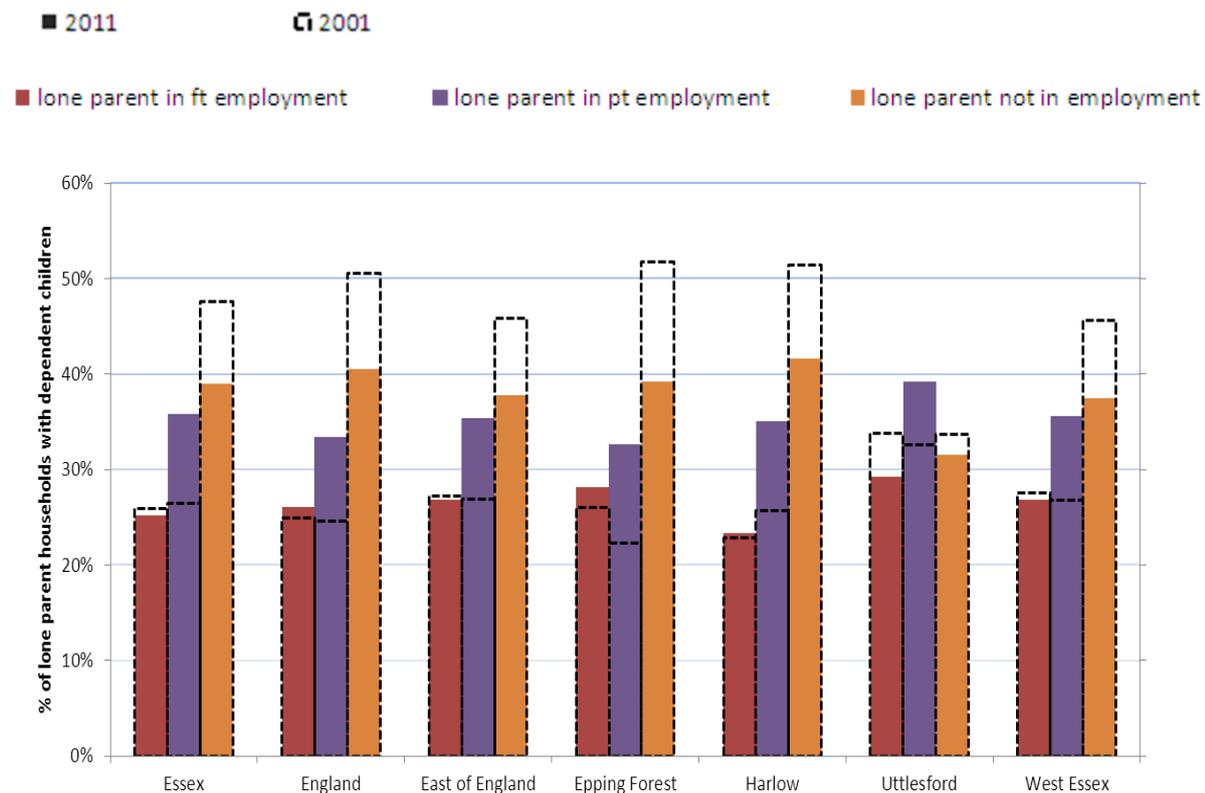


Figure 31 - Lone parent households with dependent children by employment status, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Figure 31 presents lone parent households with dependent children by economic activity status. This shows that the economic activity rate of lone parents has improved.

In West Essex, the proportion on lone parents not in employment has fallen by nearly 8 percentage points and is now in line with that of the East region. However, those who are employed now tend to work fewer hours than in 2001: the proportion of full-time workers has declined in favour of part-time workers – possibly a reflection of a wider labour market shift from full to part-time work following the 2008 recession.

In addition, proportions of lone parents not in employment vary considerably across MSOAs in the sub-region (Figure 32), in excess of 35% in Harlow and in a few small areas in Epping Forest but below 25% in the northern part of Uttlesford.

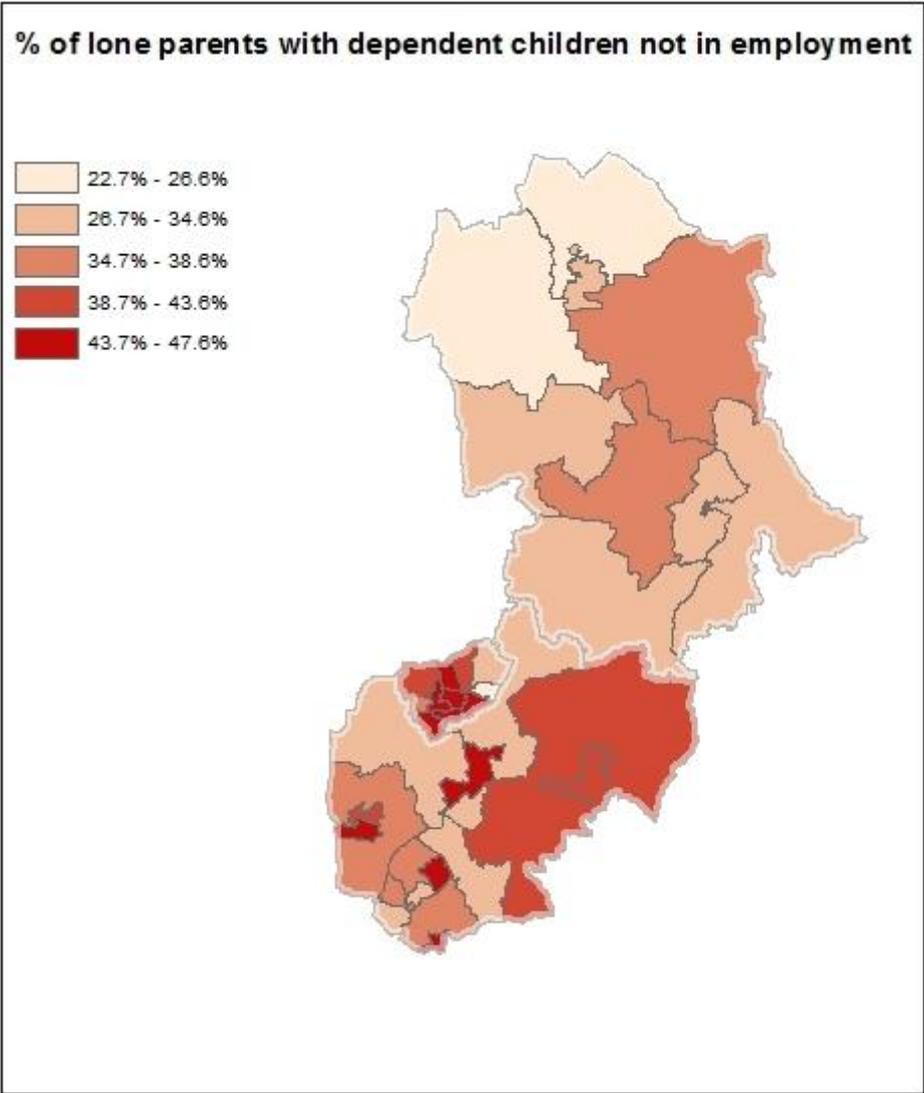


Figure 32 - % of lone parents with dependent children not in employment, ONS Census 2011

Time since last worked (residents not in employment)

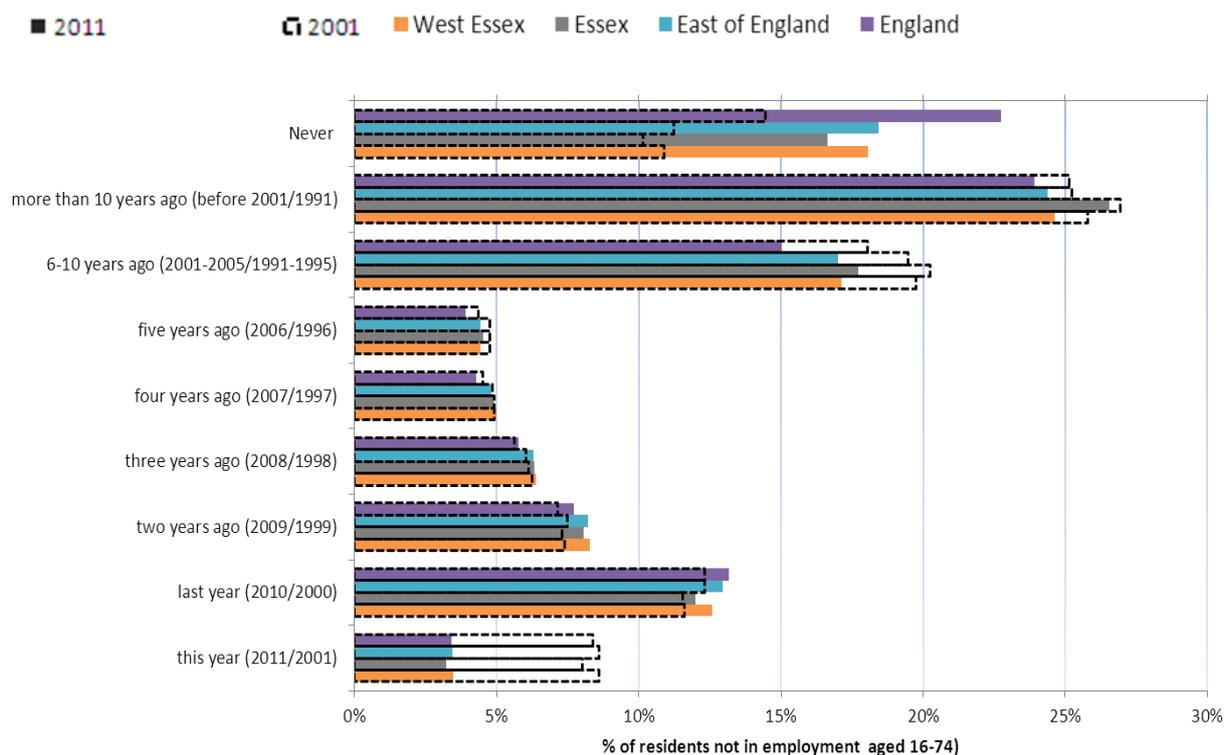


Figure 33 - residents aged 16-74 not in employment by time since last worked, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

The average length of time out of work for West Essex residents not in employment seems to have risen in the last decade (Figure 33). Compared to 2001, there was a significant rise in proportion of residents not in employment who have never worked (nearly 1 in 4 residents), matched by a considerable drop in the proportion of those who have last worked in the year of the census.

Youth and senior unemployment

■ 2011

▨ 2001

■ unemployed: aged 16-24

■ unemployed: aged 50-74

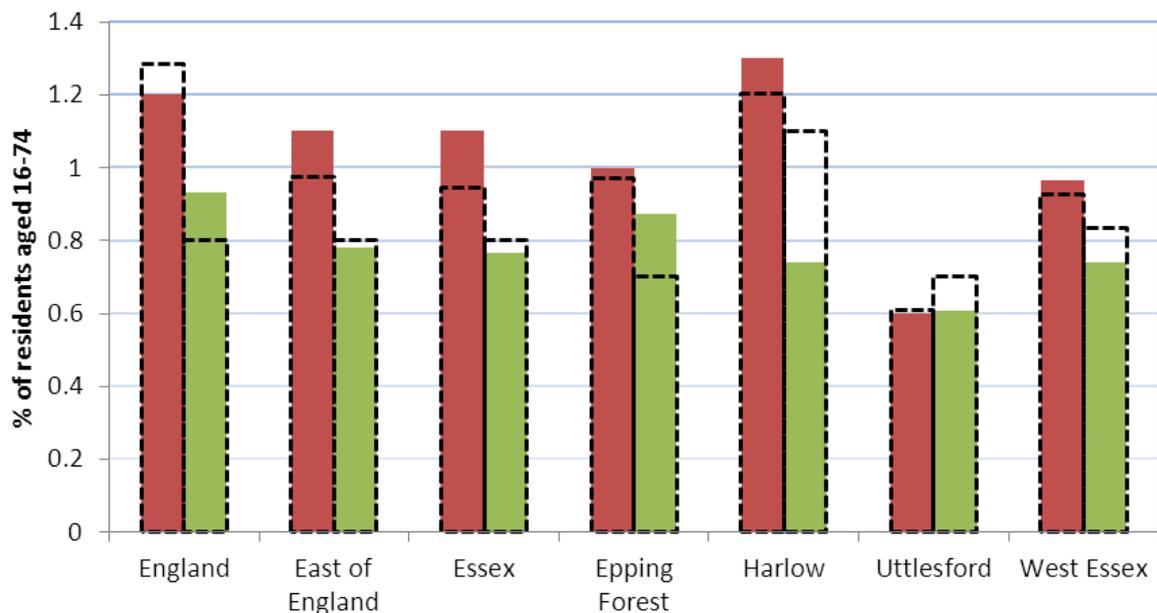


Figure 34 - % of residents aged 16-74: unemployed aged 16-24 and 50-74, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

As can be seen in Figure 34, in 2011 unemployed young people represented a higher share of the 16-74 population in West Essex than in 2001. In the latest census, the share of residents aged 16-74 who were unemployed and with an age between 16 and 24 year olds was 0.97% compared to 0.93% in 2001, with the most significant increase taking place in Harlow. This is in contrast with the negative trend at the national level, although this proportion is still in line with that of other areas. By contrast, the proportion of 50+ year-olds amongst the unemployed fell across all areas except Epping Forest and is generally lower than for younger age groups.

Long term-unemployed and those lacking a work history

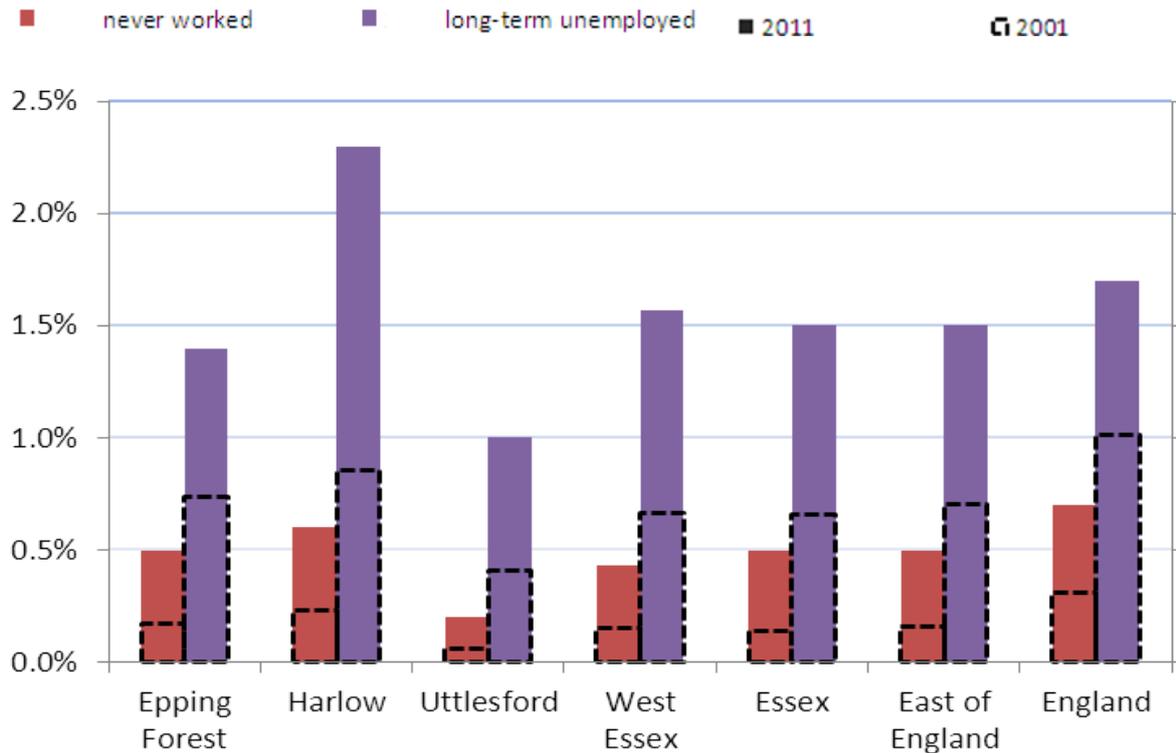


Figure 35 - % of residents aged 16-74: unemployed who never worked and long-term unemployed, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

As the previous discussions also suggest, West Essex has seen an increase in the proportion of residents between 16 and 74 years olds who are long-term unemployed (Figure 35), although this remains in line with the corresponding county and regional figures. Similarly, residents who are unemployed and lack a work history represent a higher proportion than in 2001.

Within the sub-region, there is a peak on both indicators in Harlow and the lowest values in Uttlesford. Figure 36 overleaf, which shows percentages of long-term unemployed across West Essex’s MSOAs, confirms that there is a particular concentration in Harlow but also highlights a few critical spots within Epping Forest.

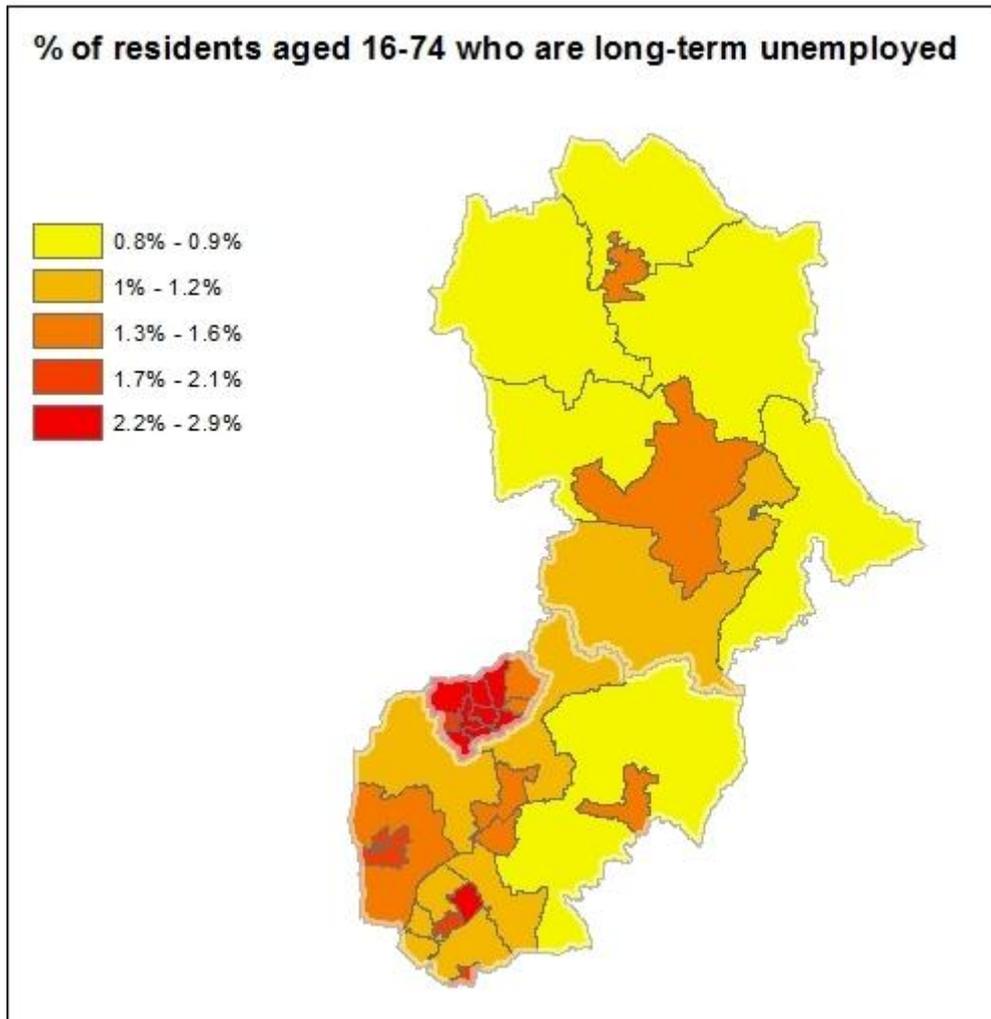


Figure 36 - % of residents aged 16-74 who are long-term unemployed (MSOA level), ONS Census 2011

Industry of employment

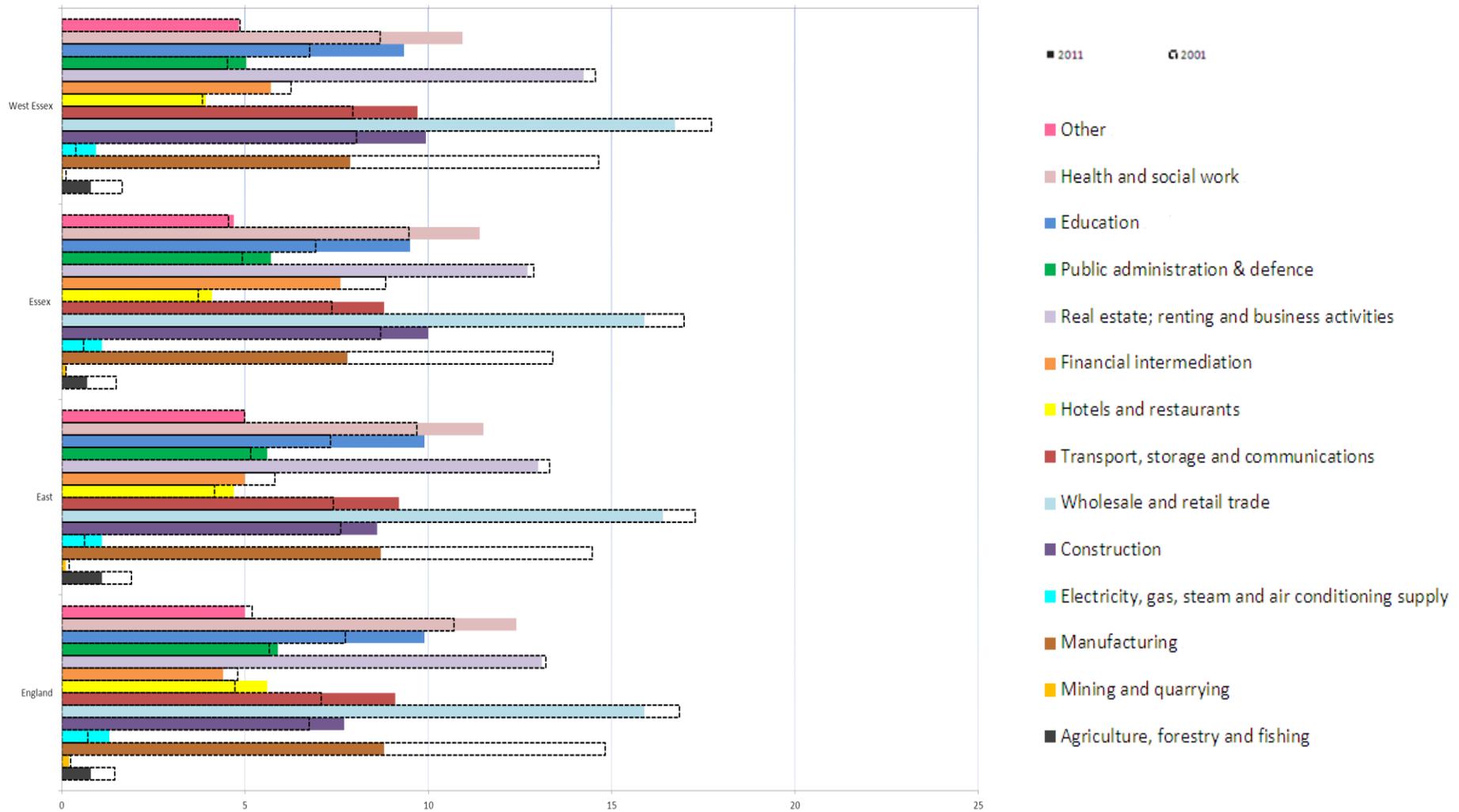


Figure 37 –% of residents aged 16-74 in employment by sector, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Industry	Census year	England	East	Essex	Epping Forest	Harlow	Uttlesford	West Essex
Agriculture, forestry and fishing (%)	2001	1.5	1.9	1.5	1.5	0.6	2.9	1.7
	2011	0.8 ↓	1.1 ↓	0.7	0.6	0.2	1.6	0.8
Mining and quarrying (%)	2001	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
	2011	0.2 =	0.1 ↓	0.1 =	0.1 =	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing (%)	2001	14.8	14.5	13.4	10.7	18.5	14.8	14.6
	2011	8.8 ↓	8.7 ↓	7.8 ↓	5.5 ↓	9.5 ↓	8.6 ↓	7.9 ↓
Electricity, gas, steam and air cond. supply (%)	2001	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.4
	2011	1.3 ↑	1.1 ↑	1.1 ↑	1.0 ↑	1.1 ↑	0.7 ↑	0.9 ↑
Construction (%)	2001	6.8	7.6	8.7	8.9	7.8	7.3	8.0
	2011	7.7 ↑	8.6 ↑	10.0 ↑	11.0 ↑	9.6 ↑	9.2 ↑	9.9 ↑
Wholesale and retail trade (%)	2001	16.9	17.3	17.0	16.5	20.3	16.4	17.7
	2011	15.9 ↓	16.4 ↓	15.9 ↓	14.8 ↓	20.4 ↓	15.0 ↓	16.7 ↓
Transport, storage and communications (%)	2001	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.5	8.3	8.0	7.9
	2011	9.1 ↑	9.2 ↑	8.8 ↑	9.3 ↑	10.1 ↑	9.7 ↑	9.7 ↑
Hotels and restaurants (%)	2001	4.7	4.2	3.7	3.5	4.1	3.9	3.8
	2011	5.6 ↑	4.7 ↑	4.1 ↑	3.6 ↑	4.4 ↑	3.8 ↓	3.9 ↑
Financial intermediation (%)	2001	4.8	5.8	8.8	8.9	4.3	5.5	6.3
	2011	4.4 ↓	5.0 ↓	7.6 ↓	8.5 ↓	2.9 ↓	5.7 ↑	5.7 ↓
Real estate; renting and business activities (%)	2001	13.2	13.3	12.9	15.5	12.1	16.1	14.6
	2011	13.1 ↓	13.0 ↓	12.7 ↓	15.8 ↑	10.9 ↓	16.0 ↓	14.2 ↓
Public administration & defence (%)	2001	5.7	5.2	4.9	4.7	4.2	4.7	4.5
	2011	5.9 ↑	5.6 ↑	5.7 ↑	5.1 ↑	4.6 ↑	5.4 ↑	5.0 ↑
Education (%)	2001	7.7	7.3	6.9	7.3	5.4	7.7	6.8
	2011	9.9 ↑	9.9 ↑	9.5 ↑	9.5 ↑	8.0 ↑	10.5 ↑	9.3 ↑
Health and social work (%)	2001	10.7	9.7	9.5	8.8	9.5	7.8	8.7
	2011	12.4 ↑	11.5 ↑	11.4 ↑	9.8 ↑	13.9 ↑	9.1 ↑	10.9 ↑
Other (%)	2001	5.2	5.0	4.6	5.8	4.3	4.5	4.9
	2011	5.0 ↓	5.0 =	4.7 ↑	5.7 ↓	4.2 ↓	4.6 ↑	4.8 ↓

Figure 38 - % of residents aged 16-74 in employment by sector, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Figure 37 and 38 above present the sectoral breakdown of resident employment in West Essex and comparator areas in 2001 and 2011.

The most evident change in the figure is the sharp reduction in residents employed in manufacturing - which can be observed across all areas- together with a more modest fall in those employed in wholesale and retail. These proportional falls were compensated by a rise in the shares of residents employed in health and social work, education, transport and communications and hotels and restaurants.

Overall, it appears that the sectoral breakdown of resident employment in West Essex has shifted quite significantly towards service sectors. Having defined resident employment in services as the proportion of residents employed in sectors classified under sections G to Q of the SIC 2007, it can be seen that this grew from 57.4% in 2001 to 63.7% in 2011.

Occupation

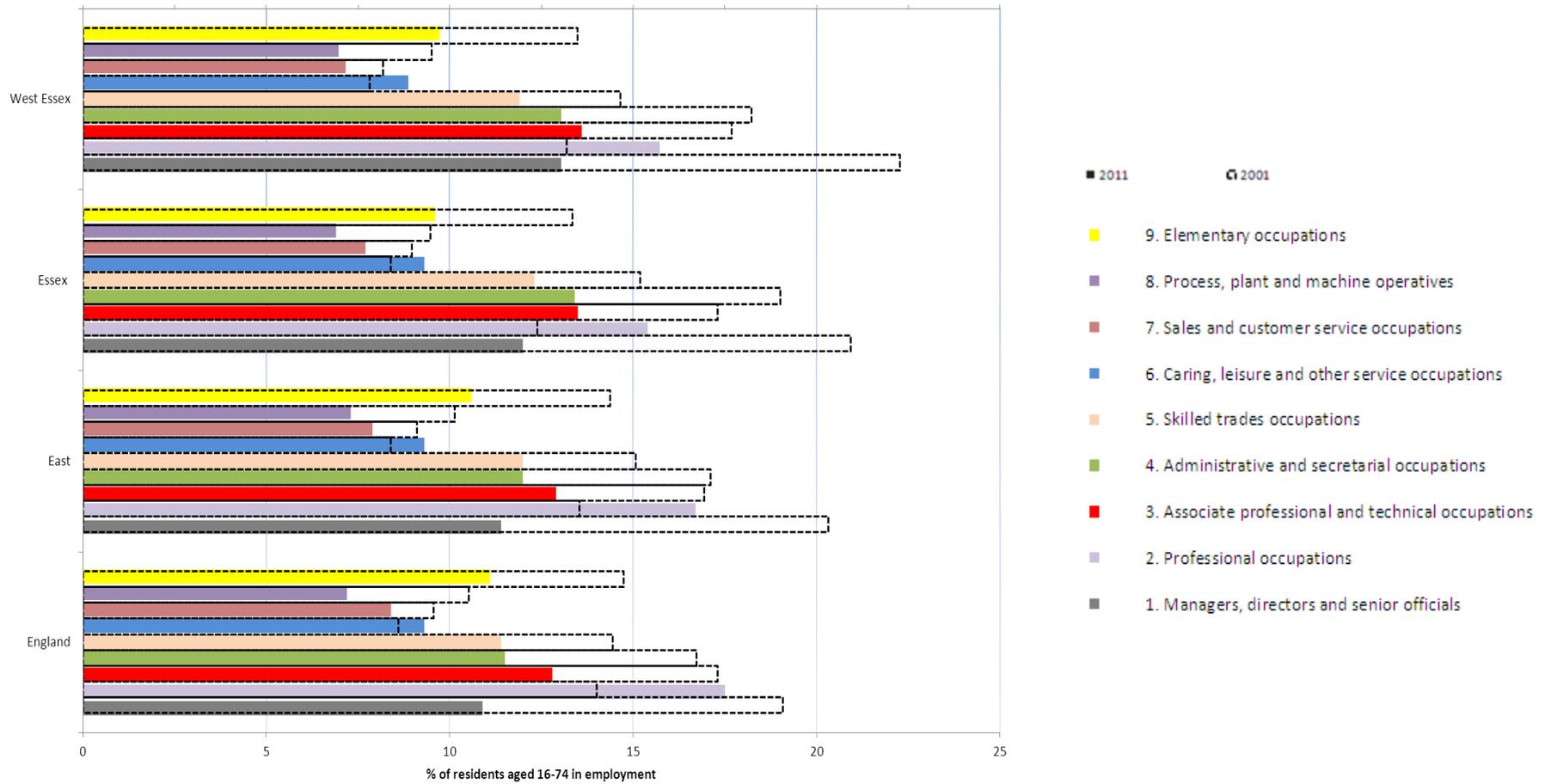


Figure 39 - residents aged 16-74 in employment by occupation, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

The occupational breakdown of West Essex residents has also changed significantly and can be seen in Figure 39. The proportion of employed residents in managers and senior official positions has decreased, but at the same time there has been a considerable proportional rise in residents in professional occupations. Further down the occupational scale, an increase in residents in professional and caring, leisure and other services occupations can be observed, as well as a more modest expansion of the sales and customer service occupational group. The sharpest proportional decrease can be found in the process, plant and machine operatives category – a finding which resonates well with the drop in resident employment in manufacturing earlier discussed - followed by elementary and administrative/secretarial occupations.

3. Skills

Qualifications

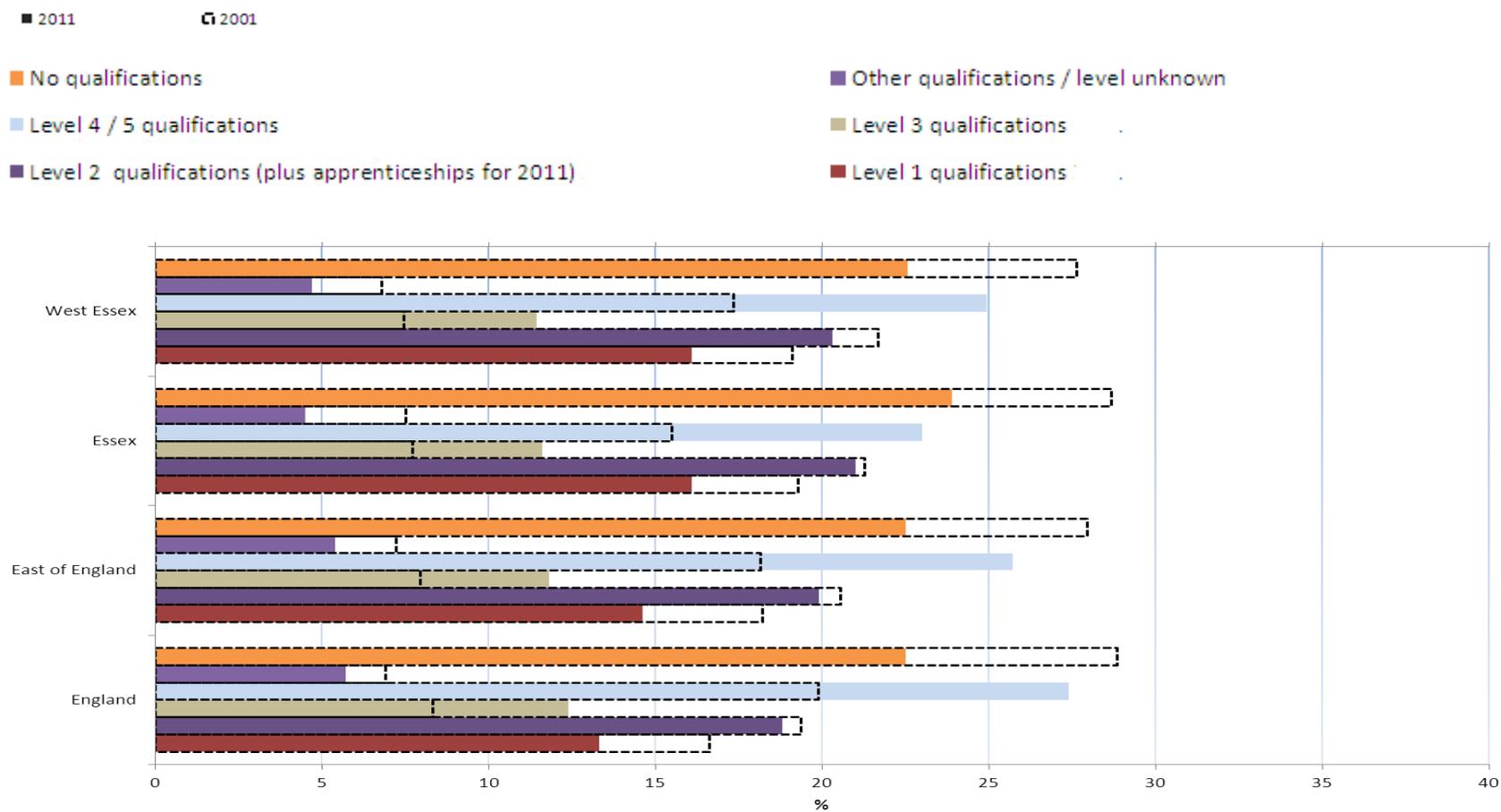


Figure 40 - % of residents aged 16+(2011)/16-74(2001) by highest qualification level, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

Area	Level 4/5 qualifications (%)			Level 3 qualifications (%)			Level 2 qualifications (%)			Level 1 qualifications (%)			Other qualifications /level unknown (%)			No qualifications (%)		
	2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011	
England	19.9	27.4	↑	8.3	12.4	↑	19.4	18.8	↓	16.6	13.3	↓	6.9	5.7	↓	28.9	22.5	↓
East	18.1	25.7	↑	7.9	11.8	↑	20.5	19.9	↓	18.2	14.6	↓	7.2	5.4	↓	27.9	22.5	↓
Essex	15.5	23	↑	7.7	11.6	↑	21.3	21	↓	19.3	16.1	↓	7.5	4.5	↓	28.7	23.9	↓
Epping Forest	17.0	25.3	↑	7.7	11.1	↑	21.3	19.6	↓	18.1	15.6	↓	7.0	4.5	↓	29.0	24.0	↓
Harlow	11.8	17.6	↑	6.3	11.2	↑	20.6	20.8	↑	22.2	18.8	↓	7.2	5.6	↓	31.9	26.0	↓
Uttlesford	23.2	31.9	↑	8.4	12	↑	23.2	20.5	↓	16.9	13.9	↓	6.2	4	↓	22.0	17.7	↓
West Essex	17.3	24.9	↑	7.4	11.4	↑	21.7	20.3	↓	19.1	16.1	↓	6.8	4.7	↓	27.6	22.6	↓

Figure 41- % of residents aged 16+(2011)/16-74(2001) by highest qualification level, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

The skills profile of West Essex residents (shown in Figures 40 and 41) appears to have shifted towards higher qualification levels in the last decade. In 2011, the sub-region had greater proportions of residents qualified at degree level or above as well as at level 3 compared to 2001.

In addition, the proportion of population with no formal qualifications reduced significantly, although it remains considerable (over 1 in 5 of West Essex residents aged 16 or over, over 1 in 4 of Harlow residents). In particular, as shown in Figure 42 this appears to be considerably higher than the West Essex average not only in Harlow but also in the western part of Epping Forest.

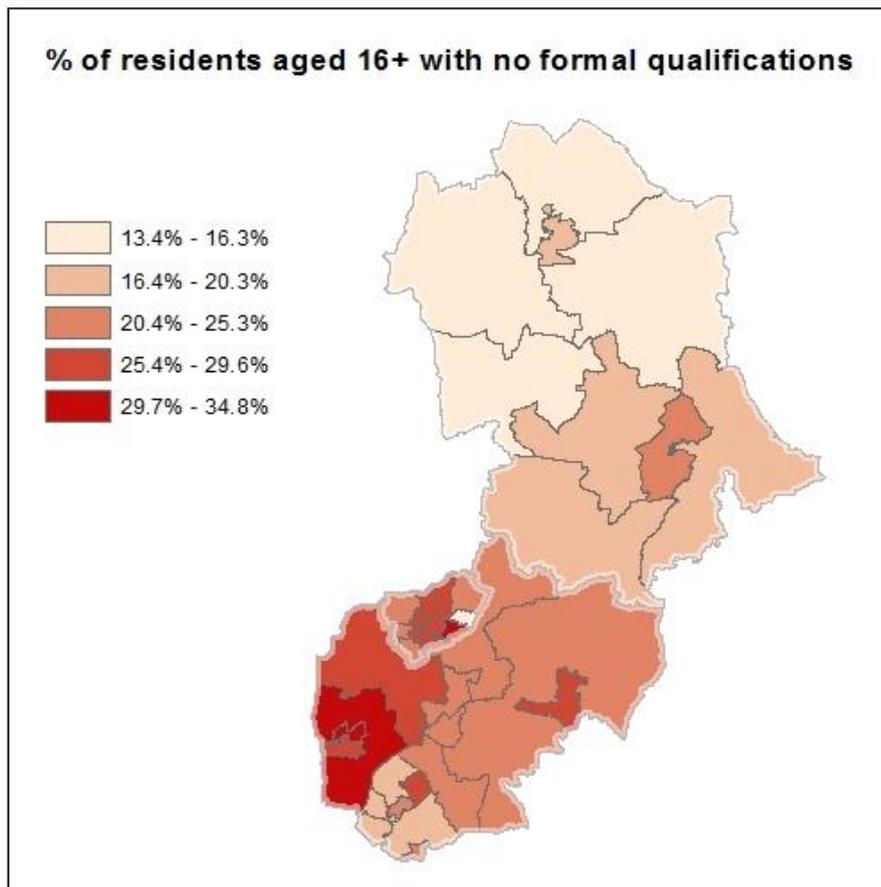


Figure 42 - % of residents aged 16+ with no formal qualifications, ONS Census 2011

Main language

The 2011 introduced a new question on the main languages spoken in the household; the results for West Essex, its sub-areas and comparator areas are presented in Figure 43 below.

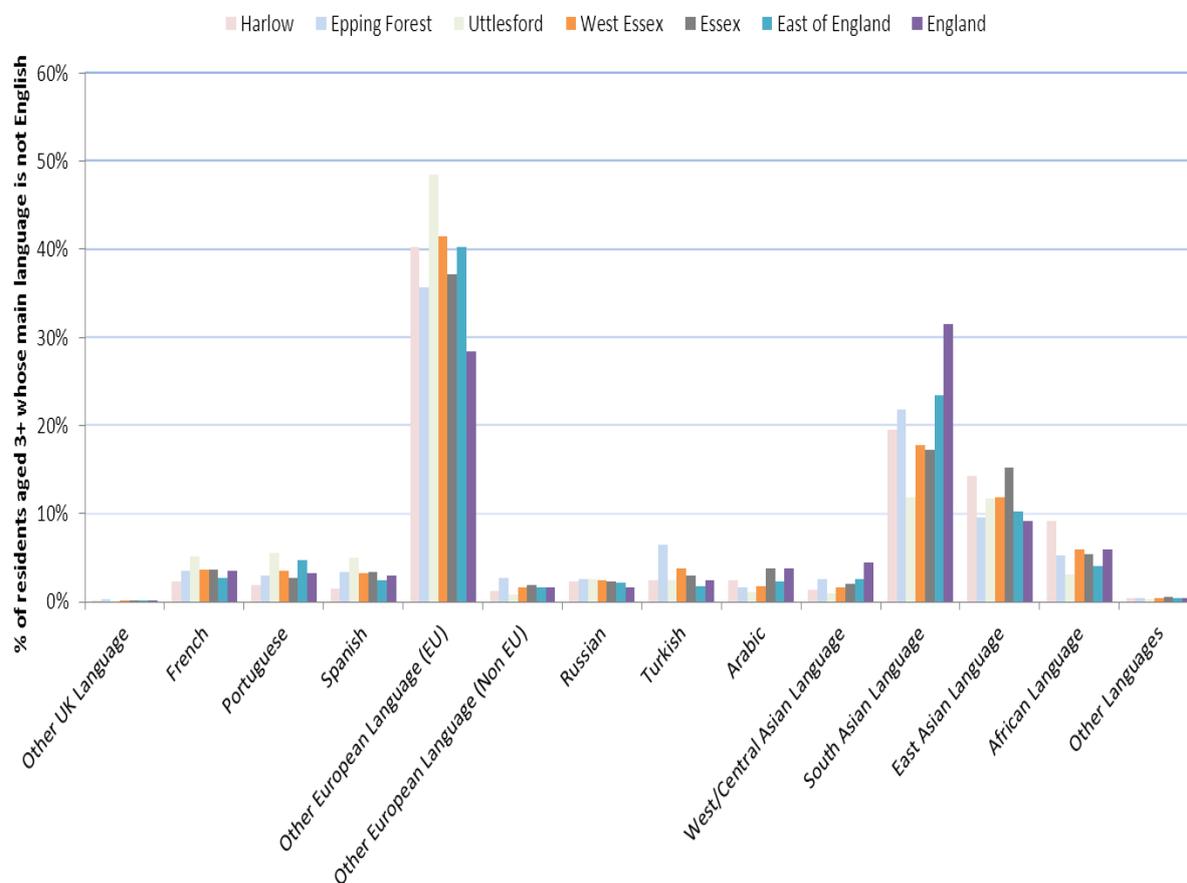


Figure 43 - Residents aged 3+ whose main language is not English by main language, ONS Census 2001 and 2011

In 2011, West Essex had 11,321 residents whose main language is not English – about 4% of the total population aged 3 and over, compared to 3% in Essex and 5.5% and 8% in the East region and England as a whole (respectively). This proportion was lowest in Uttlesford (2.8%) and highest in Harlow (6.1%).

As shown in Figure 43, other EU languages (incl. all languages from other European Union member states except French, Spanish and Portuguese) represent by far the largest group of ESOL speakers in West Essex, particularly in Harlow, where nearly 1 in 2 ESOL speakers have another EU language as main language. This is followed by South Asian languages, which however represent a smaller proportion of ESOL speakers in West Essex (just under 1 in 5) than in Essex, the East region and England as a whole.

Proficiency in English

The Census 2011 introduced a further question concerning the respondent’s ability to speak English. These results are presented in Figure 36 below, where they are expressed as a proportion of all residents who speak English as a second language (also referred to as ESOL speakers).

Figure 44 plots proportions of residents who are ESOL speakers by proficiency in English. About 84% of ESOL speakers in West Essex report being able to speak English very well or well – more than in all other comparator areas - whilst the remaining proportion cannot speak it well or at all. Epping Forest was the district with the best proficiency level in the sub-region (nearly 87% proficient/advanced English speakers) while Harlow had the lowest figure (just over 80%).

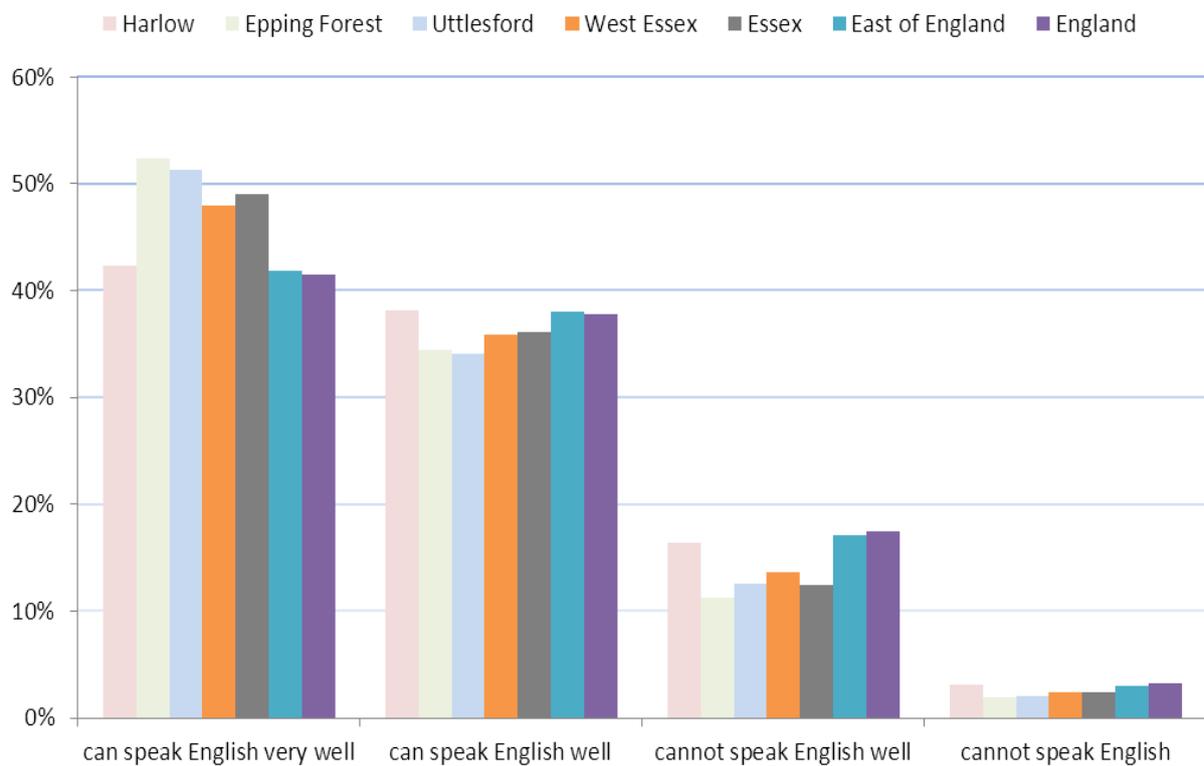


Figure 44 - Residents aged 3+ whose main language is not English by proficiency in English, ONS Census 2001 and 2011