

Know Northumberland Facts and Figures

(Updated March 2012)

Northumberland is England's most northerly county (with an area of 501,301 Hectares¹) bordering Scotland to the North, Cumbria to the West and Durham and Tyne and Wear to the South. The Eastern coastline is designated as an area of outstanding natural beauty while Northumberland National Park and Kielder Water are situated in the West of Northumberland. Northumberland acts as a gateway between Scotland and England with key road transport routes including the A1 Trunk Road running north south through the county and the A69 Trunk Road provides an east west route.



Population

Northumberland's population is concentrated in the South East corner of the county, while the rural North and West are much more sparsely populated. The population is ageing more quickly in Northumberland than other parts of the country and it already has a high proportion of people of retirement age. 20% of Northumberland's residents are aged 65+ and this is projected to increase to 28% by 2025².

Population summary

Area	All People		Density (All People)		Males		Females	
	count	Hectare	Sq. Km	count	%	count	%	
Northumberland	312,000	0.62	62	152,800	49.0	159,100	51.0	
North East Region	2,606,600	3.04	304	1,279,100	49.1	1,327,500	50.9	
England	52,234,000	4.01	400	25,757,600	49.3	26,476,400	50.7	

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Population by broad age group

Area	0-15 years		16-64 years		65+ years	
	count	%	count	%	count	%
Northumberland	52,700	16.9	196,400	63.0	62,800	20.1
North East Region	458,000	17.6	1,699,700	65.2	449,000	17.2
England	9,766,300	18.7	33,861,400	64.8	8,606,300	16.5

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Economy and the Labour Market

The economic performance of Northumberland is poor when compared regionally and nationally as indicated by the low GVA per head figures³ (Northumberland **£12,154**, North East **£15,304**, England **£20,498**).

Unemployment levels in Northumberland are below the national level (although rates are significantly higher in the South East of the county). However the average earnings from employment in Northumberland are significantly lower. The average weekly full time wage⁴ in Northumberland is **£425** in comparison to **£452** in the North East region and **£507** in England.

Employment and unemployment

	Northumberland		North East	England
	count	%	%	%
Economically active [†]	146,000	72.8	73.1	76.3
In employment [†]	136,100	67.7	65.8	70.3
Employees [†]	112,400	57.3	59.3	60.6
Self-employed [†]	22,900	10.2	6.0	9.3
Unemployed [§]	9,900	6.8	9.8	7.7

© Crown copyright. Source: ONS Annual Population Summary Jun 10 - Jul 11. † numbers are for those aged 16 and over, % are for those aged 16-64. § numbers and % are for those aged 16 and over. % is a proportion of economically active.

Crime and Justice

The number of key notifiable offences of police recorded crime per 1000 population⁵ between April 2010 and March 2011 was lower in Northumberland (**32**) than in the North East region (**49**) and England (**58**). **Health and Social Care**

Life expectancy in number of years at birth⁶ in Northumberland (males **78.7**, females **82.2**) is higher than the North East (males **77.2**, females **81.2**) for both males and females but in comparison to England averages (males **78.6**, females **82.6**) males in Northumberland live slightly longer but females live 0.4 years less. In terms of deprivation⁴ Northumberland is the ranked 144th most deprived out of 326 local authorities in England.

People and Places

The average (median) house price⁷ in Northumberland (**£145,000**) is less than England (**£185,000**) but considerably more than the North East (**£122,000**).

Dwelling Stock

Area	Total Dwelling Stock	LA Dwelling Stock		Registered Social Landlord Dwelling Stock		Other Public Sector Dwelling Stock		Owner Occupied and Private Rented Dwelling Stock	
	count	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%
Northumberland	144,640	8,510	5.9	17,194	11.9	321	0.2	118,620	82.0
North East	1,159,600	128,157	11.1	145,452	12.5	1,441	0.1	884,600	76.3
England	22,693,000	1,785,845	7.9	2,242,657	9.9	65,491	0.3	18,599,000	82.0

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A higher proportion of people living in Northumberland (**68.5%**) feel they belong to their immediate neighbourhood⁸ than in the North East (**62.2%**) and England (**58.7%**). The proportion of people who agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together⁶ is also higher in Northumberland (**80.5%**) than in the North East (**73.8%**) and England (**76.4%**).

Children, Education and Skills

In Northumberland **53.5%** of pupils at the End of KS4 Achieving 5 or more A*-C Including English and Maths⁹ which is higher than the North East (**52.9%**) but lower than England (**55.1%**). The proportion of people aged 16-64 with no qualifications¹⁰ in Northumberland (**11.5%**) is higher than in England (**11.1%**) but lower than the North East (**13.0%**).

Business and Energy

Number of Businesses

Area	Active		Births		Deaths	
	count	per 1000 pop*	count	%	count	%
Northumberland	9,410	48	840	8.9	1,030	10.9
North East	61,955	36	5,975	9.6	8,125	13.1
England	2,001,885	59	207,520	10.4	261,880	13.1

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Data Sources

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1. ONS 2010 Standard Area Measurements (land area: area to mean high water excluding inland water features), 2. ONS 2008 based sub-national population projections, 3. ONS 2009 Headline GVA per head at current basic prices calculated using 5 period moving average, 4. ONS via Nomis Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings - workplace analysis (2011), 5. ONS via Neighbourhood Statistics notifiable offences recorded by the police 2010/11, 6. ONS life expectancy at birth 2008-2010, 7. Department for Communities and Local Government table 586 median house prices 2010, 8. PLACE SURVEY 2008, 9. ONS via Neighbourhood Statistics GCSE and Equivalent Results for Young People (Referenced by location of pupil residence) 2009/10, 10. ONS via Nomis Annual Population Survey % is a proportion of resident population of area aged 16-64.