

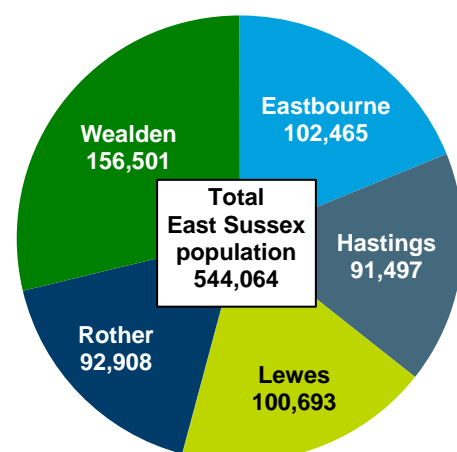
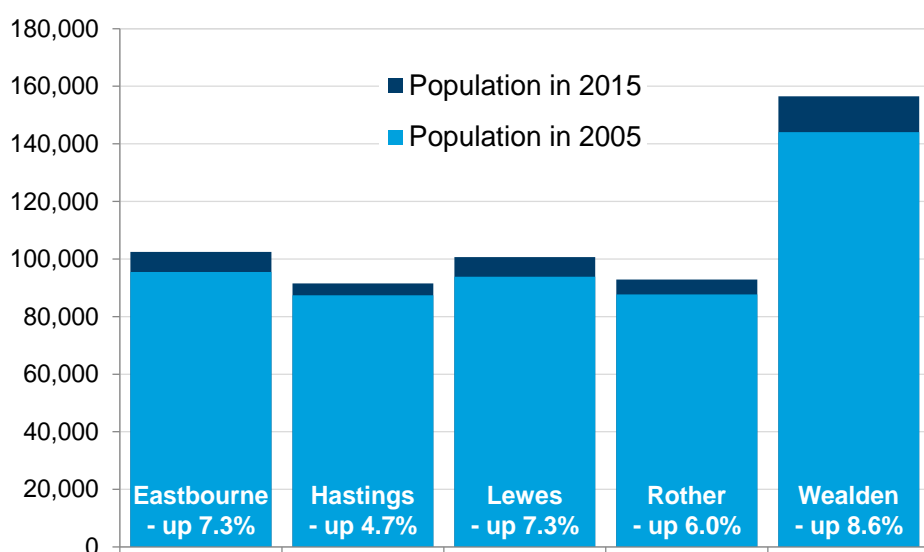
Population estimates . . . in brief

July 2016

The population of East Sussex was estimated to be 544,100 in mid-2015, which is 7% more than in 2005. Internal migration from within the UK is the main reason for the rising population in the county – natural change (births minus deaths) continued to be negative in 2015. East Sussex has a much older population profile than the country as a whole.

- In mid-2015 the population of East Sussex was 544,100, which is an increase of 4,300 people since mid-2014. Numbers rose by 0.8%, the same as the increase in the South East and marginally lower than the rise in England (0.9%). The population change included internal net migration of 4,800, international net migration of 900 and natural change (births minus deaths) of -1,400.
- Since 2005, the county has grown by 35,500 people, an increase of 7.0%. This is slightly slower than the national (8.3%) and regional (9.1%) rises.
- The median age of the East Sussex population was 46.9 years in 2015, compared to a national average of 40.0. Rother has among the highest median ages in the country at 51.8 years, and the second highest proportion of population aged 85 and over of all districts and unitaries in England.
- Between 2014 and 2015, the population grew fastest in Wealden (up 1.1%), and slowest in Hastings (up 0.4%) and Lewes (0.5%). Wealden has also seen the fastest growth in the county over the past 10 years, with an increase of 8.6%, while numbers in Hastings have risen by just 4.7%.
- International migration was the main driver of population growth in England as a whole in 2015. However in East Sussex, internal migration is the key contributor to population growth, with international migration playing a much smaller role. Natural change has been negative, meaning there has been more deaths than births, for at least the last 45 years.

East Sussex population by districts and boroughs in 2005 and 2015

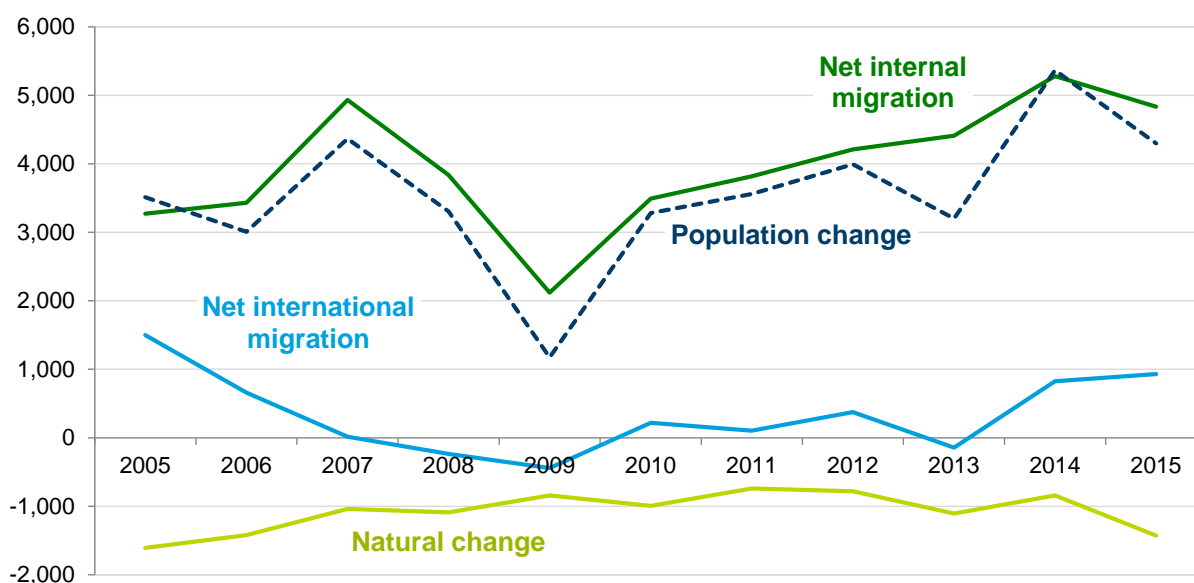


Population change, 2014-2015 and 2005-2015

	Population change 2014-15				Population change 2005-15		
	Mid-2015 population	Mid-2014 population	Absolute change 2014-2015	Percentage change 2014-2015	Mid-2005 population	Absolute change 2005-2015	Percentage change 2005-2015
Eastbourne	102,465	101,547	918	0.9	95,500	6,965	7.3
Hastings	91,497	91,093	404	0.4	87,419	4,078	4.7
Lewes	100,693	100,229	464	0.5	93,832	6,861	7.3
Rother	92,908	92,130	778	0.8	87,684	5,224	6.0
Wealden	156,501	154,767	1,734	1.1	144,084	12,417	8.6
East Sussex	544,064	539,766	4,298	0.8	508,519	35,545	7.0
South East	8,947,913	8,873,818	74,095	0.8	8,202,896	745,017	9.1
England	54,786,327	54,316,618	469,709	0.9	50,606,034	4,180,293	8.3

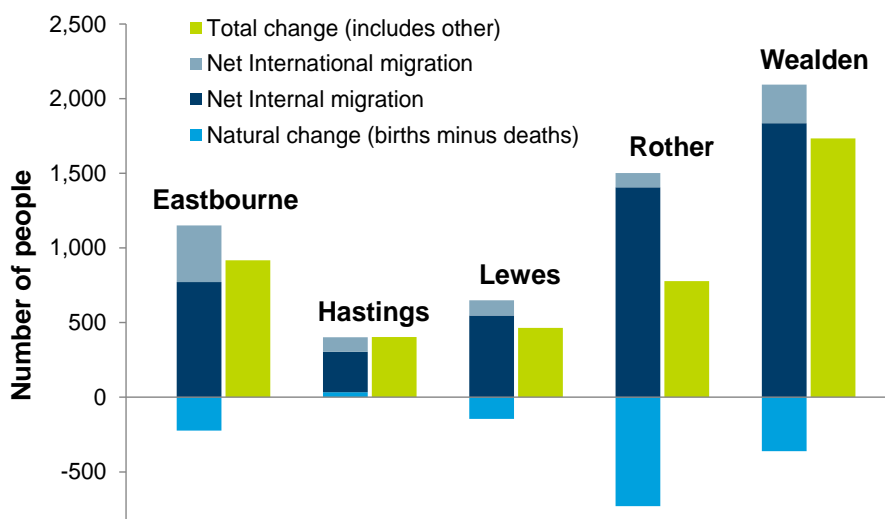
- If there was no inward migration, the population of the county would be falling, as there have been more deaths than births in every year for at least the past 45 years.
- In the year to June 2015, there were 5,236 births and 6,663 deaths, giving 1,427 more deaths than births, and natural change in population showed its largest decline in 10 years. Only Hastings has had a positive natural change figure in the past 10 years, but this fell from 238 last year to just 33 in 2015.
- The decline in natural change has been counteracted by levels of internal migration and, to a lesser extent, international migration (see chart below). In 2015, 21,547 people moved into the county from within the UK, and 16,714 moved out to other parts of the UK, giving net internal migration of 4,833. International migration into the county was considerably lower at 2,472, with 1,541 people moving abroad, giving net international migration of 931. However, levels of international migration are at their highest since 2005, while internal migration fell slightly from 5,280 in 2014 to 4,830 in 2015.
- Rother and Wealden have significant levels of net internal migration, with 1,406 net internal migrants in Rother and 1,835 in Wealden (see chart overleaf). Levels are somewhat lower in other districts, although there were 772 net internal migrants in Eastbourne.

East Sussex population change, natural change and migration, 2005-2015



Notes: Overall population change includes 'Other changes' which comprise changes to the size of armed forces stationed in the UK and other special population adjustments.

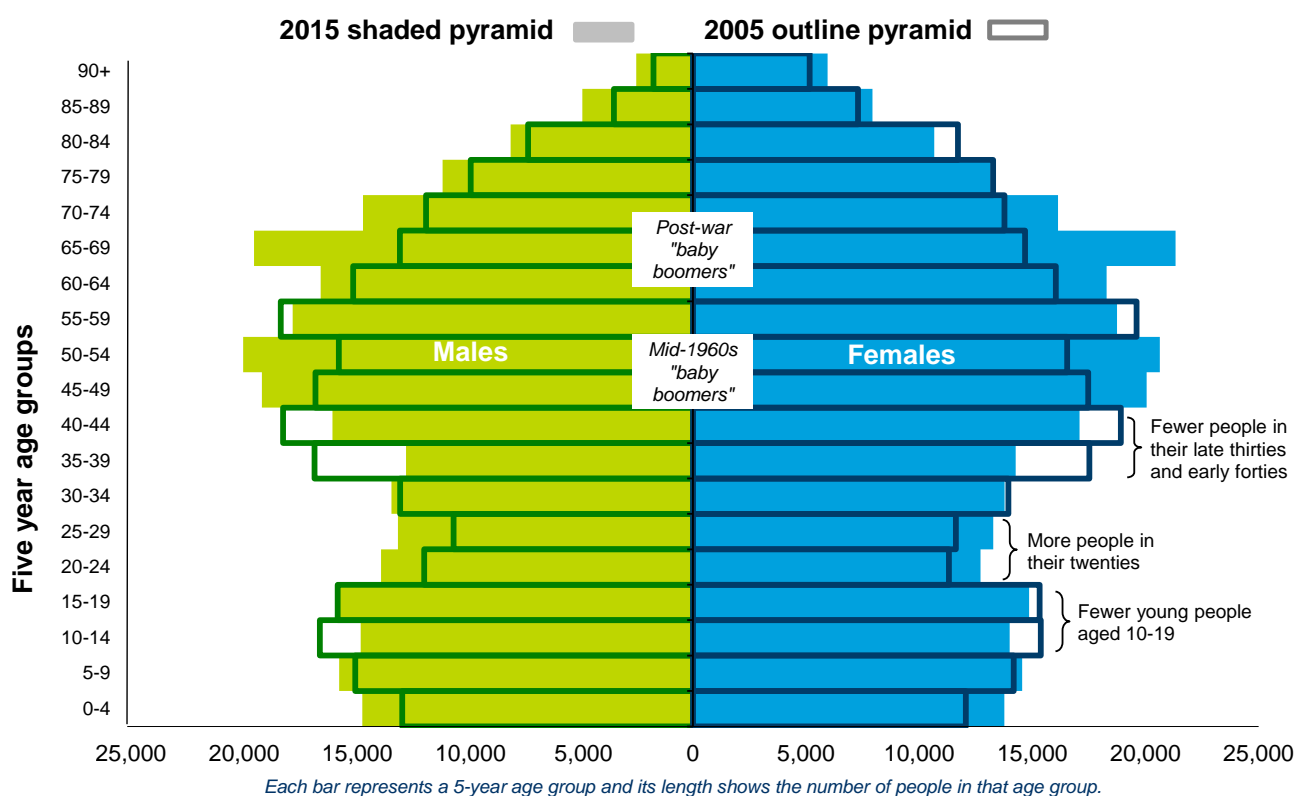
East Sussex districts: Population change, natural change and migration, 2005-2015



Age structure

- East Sussex has an older age profile compared to England and the South East. A quarter of the county's population is aged 65 or over, compared to 18% in England and 19% regionally. And the median age in the county is 46.9, compared to the national average of 40.0. On the other hand only 14% of the county is under 16, compared to 18% nationally and 17% in the South East.
- Overall the East Sussex population has grown by 7% since 2005. While the population aged 65 and over has increased by 20%, the population of children aged 0-15 has grown by just 1%. The working age population has risen by 4%.
- There have been two 'baby booms', one just after World War II and another in the mid-1960s, which can be seen as 'bulges' in the population pyramid below. However population growth in those age groups has been augmented by migration, mainly by people moving to East Sussex from within the UK.
- Although the overall number of children under 16 has increased marginally, there are fewer children aged 10-15 in 2015 than there were in 2005. Other groups seeing significant falls in numbers include those in their late 30s and early 40s.

East Sussex population by gender and age groups in 2005 and 2015



Children and young people (aged 0 to 17)

2005
105,300

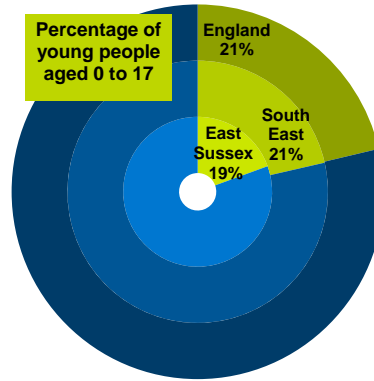
2005-2015
+ 600 (+0.5%)

2015
105,900

20.7%
of total
population
2005

Regional /national comparison

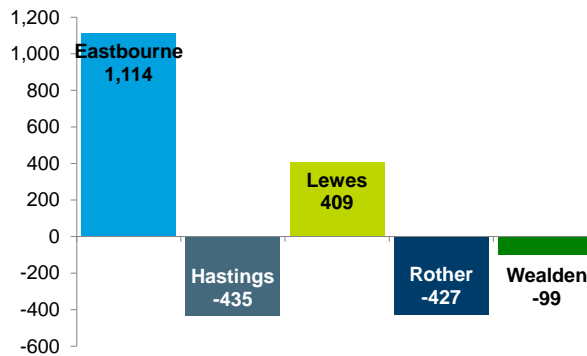
In 2015, children and young people (aged 0 to 17 years) formed 19% of the total population in East Sussex, which is lower than the regional and national averages (21%).



19.5%
of total
population
2015

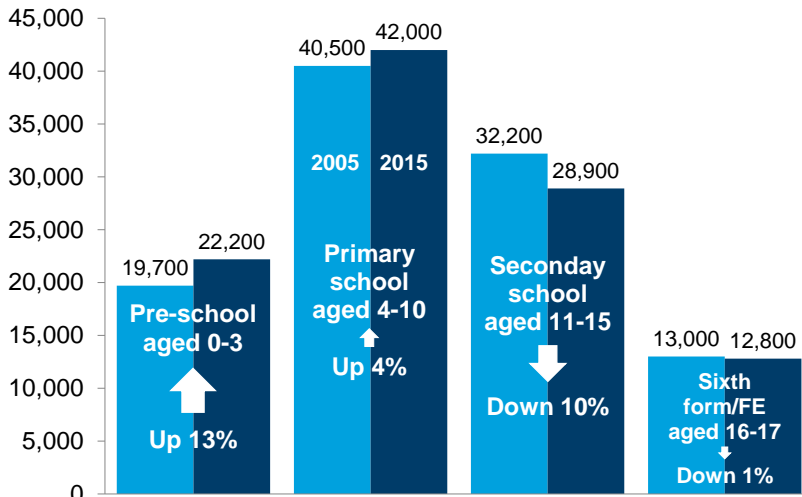
Change in numbers of people aged 0-17, 2005-2015

Whilst total 0-17 year olds grew only marginally in East Sussex between 2005-2015, in England and the South East rates of growth were 5.1% and 6.6% respectively.



Eastbourne and Lewes are only districts in East Sussex seeing increases in the number of children and young people between 2005-2015.

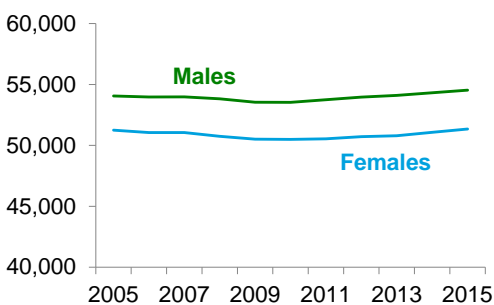
Overall numbers of school-age children (aged 4-15) fell by 2.5% in the last decade.



Hastings has the highest percentage of primary school-aged children (age 4-10) in East Sussex with 8.3% of total population, but this is still slightly lower than the national average (8.5%).

The total number of pre-school children (aged 0-3) grew at a slower rate (13%) than in England as a whole (17%).

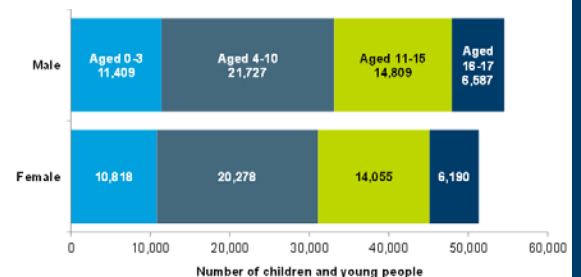
However, numbers have fallen marginally in the county between 2014 and 2015.



More males than females

Aged 0 to 17 years
Male 51:49 Female

Total population
Male 48:52 Female



Working age population (aged 18 to 64)

2005
290,300

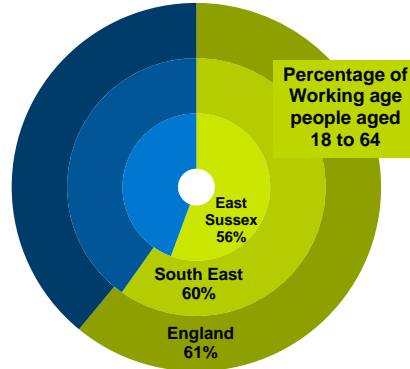
2005-2015
+ 12,300 (+4.2%)

2015
302,600

57.1%
of total
population
2005

Regional/national comparison

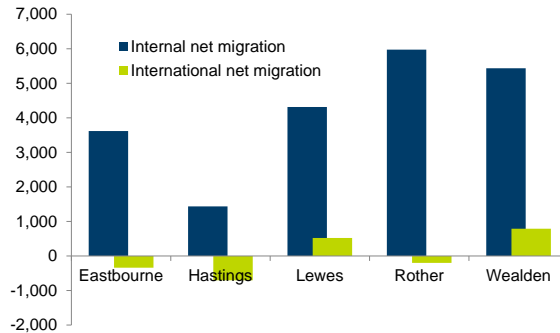
In 2015, working age people made up 56% of the total population in East Sussex, which is lower than the regional (60%) and national (62%) averages.



55.6%
of total
population
2015

Total net migration to East Sussex districts, 2005-2015

Internal migration (from within the UK) is the main driver of population change among the 18-64 age group, with nearly 21,000 working age people moving to the county in the decade to 2015.



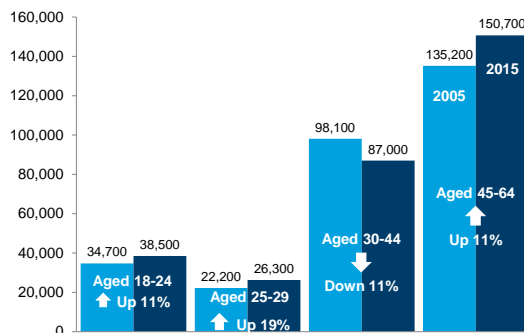
Lewes and Wealden are only districts in East Sussex which have seen positive overall net migration to and from overseas among working age people between 2005-2015.

Overall numbers of the youngest working age adults (aged 18-29) rose by 7,900 in the last decade.

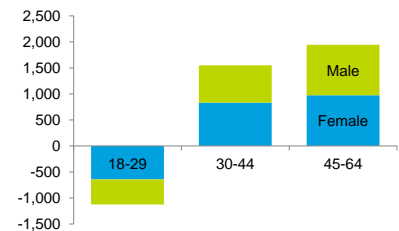
The oldest age group 45-64 have also risen by 15,500.

However, numbers of those aged 30-44 have fallen by 11,100 since 2005.

Population change among working age people 2005-2015

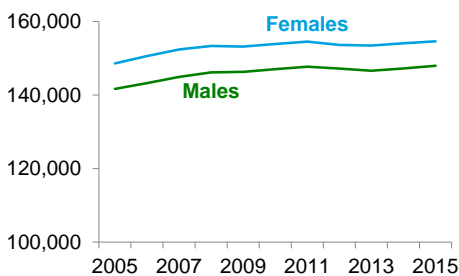


Internal migration by age group



Among working age people internal migration is fairly even between the genders.

There was a net outflow of younger males to international migration, compared to a small net inflow of females.

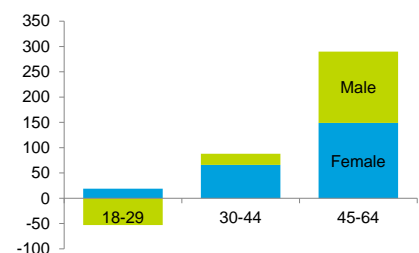


More females than males

Aged 18 to 64 years
Male 49:51 Female

Total population
Male 48:52 Female

International migration by age group 2014-2015



Older population (aged 65 and over)

2005
112,900

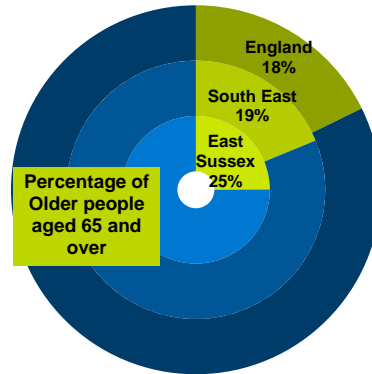
2005-2015
+ 22,700 (+20.1%)

2015
135,600

22.2%
of total population
2005

Regional/national comparison

One quarter of all people are aged 65+ in 2015, compared to 18% in England and 19% in the South East. 12% of the population is aged 75+, compared to 9% regionally and 8% nationally.

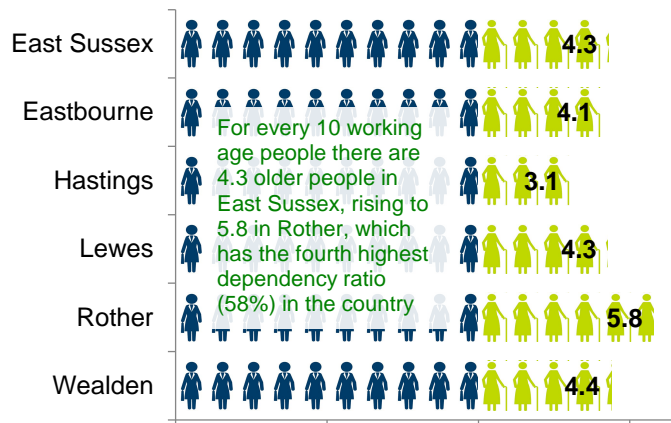


24.9%
of total population
2015

At 20% the increase in older people since 2005 is slightly lower than the national (21%) and regional (25%) rises.

4% of the total population is aged 85+; the second highest of all counties and unitaries in the country, behind Dorset.

Dependency ratios

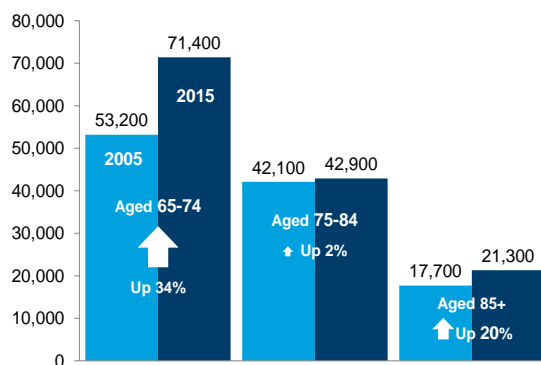


Almost 1/3 of Rother's population (31%) are aged 65+, ranking fourth highest in of all districts/UAs. 5% in Rother are over 85, and it ranks second behind Christchurch in Dorset. Only 19% of Hastings population is aged 65+.

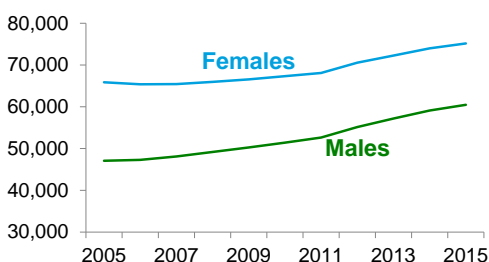
Numbers of younger pensioners (aged 65-74) rose fastest, by 34%, mainly due to the postwar baby boomers reaching their mid-60s.

At 20%, the increase in the elderly (aged 85+) was lower than the national (31%) and regional (32%) rises.

Population change among older people 2005-2015



The county's very elderly population (aged 90+) rose by 23%, which was also slower than national trends. There was a marginal overall decline in numbers between 2014 and 2015 – but this may reflect a nationwide upturn in the death rate among older people – see note*.



More females than males

Aged 65+ years
Male 45:55 Female

Total population
Male 48:52 Female

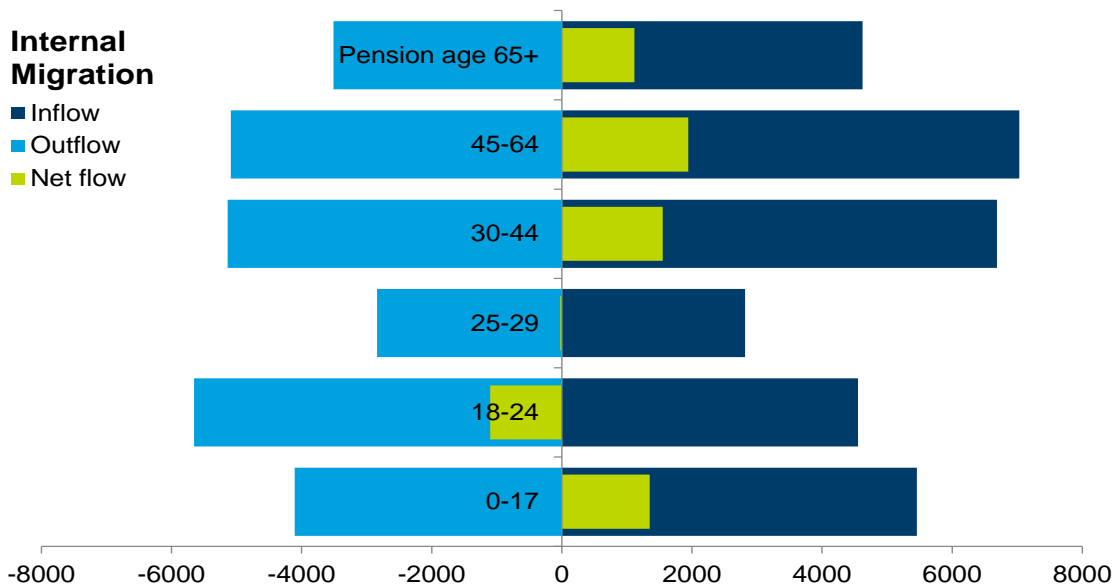
The number of males aged 65+ has increased faster than females – there was a 28% increase in the number of males, compared to a 14% increase in females in this age group.

However, among the very elderly (aged 90 and over) the ratio of males to females falls to 30:70.

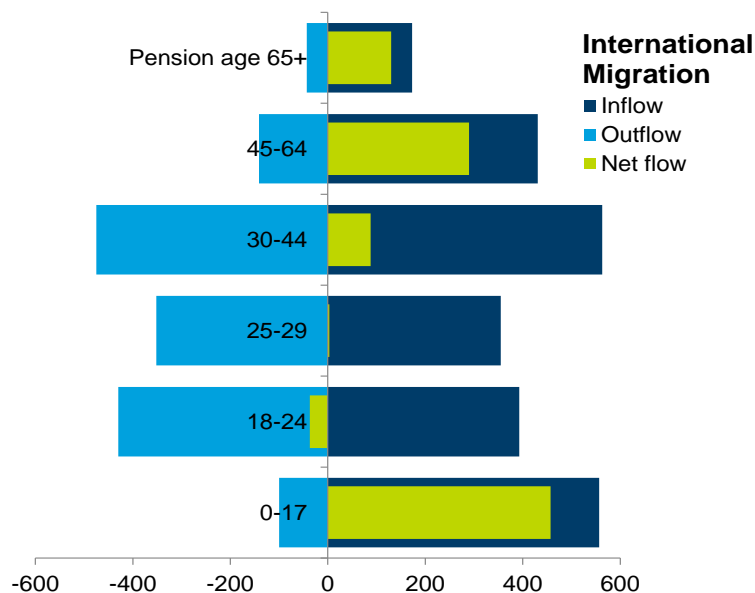
Migration flows by age group

- In 2015, internal migration was dominated by the middle-aged and children. While there was a net outflow of people aged 18-29, with 1,124 more young people leaving than moving to the county from within the UK, there was a net inflow of 1,944 people aged 45-64. There was also a net inflow of 1,349 children and young people aged under 18.
- International migration was more dominated by children, with one half of net international migrants (457 people) aged 0 to 17. The next largest group were those aged 45-64, with 290 net international migrants. Among young people aged 18-29, there was a net outflow of 34 migrants to overseas.
- There was some variation with districts, with Eastbourne seeing a net international inflow of young people (aged 18-29) of 42, and Wealden also experiencing a marginal rise, while the other districts saw outflows of young people.
- By contrast, all districts saw internal outflows of young adults to the rest of the UK, although these outflows were smaller in Hastings (38) and Eastbourne (122) compared to the largest outflows in Wealden (370) and Lewes (313).

Internal migration to and from East Sussex by age group in 2015



International migration to and from East Sussex by age group in 2015



Population and components of change, 2014-2015

	Eastbourne	Hastings	Lewes	Rother	Wealden	East Sussex	South East	England
Population mid-2014	101,547	91,093	100,229	92,130	154,767	539,766	8,873,818	54,316,618
Births	1,114	1,085	931	728	1,378	5,236	102,673	662,014
Deaths	1,338	1,052	1,076	1,458	1,739	6,663	81,804	496,913
Natural change	-224	33	-145	-730	-361	-1,427	20,869	165,101
Internal in-migration	6,155	4,502	5,428	6,086	8,999	21,547	240,286	98,455
Internal out-migration	5,383	4,230	4,880	4,680	7,164	16,714	224,014	106,891
Internal migration - net	772	272	548	1,406	1,835	4,833	16,272	-8,436
International in-migration	788	477	357	298	552	2,472	76,200	568,685
International out-migration	410	380	256	202	293	1,541	40,698	261,367
International migration - net	378	97	101	96	259	931	35,502	307,318
Other*	-8	2	-40	6	1	-39	1,452	5,726
Population mid-2015	102,465	91,497	100,693	92,908	156,501	544,064	8,947,913	54,786,327

*Other changes presented in this table comprise changes to the size of armed forces stationed in the UK and other special population adjustments such the prison population

Further information

The mid-year population estimates are produced annually by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) for every local authority and health area in England & Wales. The latest mid-2015 population estimates were released by ONS on 23rd June 2016. These data are available by gender and age groups at district level and a useful [Analysis Tool](#) is also available from the ONS. Small area population estimates for ward and lower layer super output area are currently available for 2014, and revised small area data should be released in Autumn 2016.

*National analysis by the [ONS](#) indicates that the increase in deaths among the elderly was caused by a strain of flu circulating in 2015 which was more virulent in older people, who are also more likely to have a pre-existing medical condition.

- For more information about mid-year population estimates see the [ONS website](#). For detailed information about the Census for England and Wales see the [2011 Census website](#).
- View East Sussex in Figures for more data on [population estimates](#) by gender and age group, from 2001 to 2015 at district level and [dependency ratios](#) time series. Data is also available for [internal migration](#) by age group and [international migration](#).
- For further information about population estimates for East Sussex, contact Lenna Santamaria on 01273 481619 or email mariahelena.santamaria@eastsussex.gov.uk

Contact details

The Research and Information Team, Chief Executive's Office provides demographic and socio-economic data, intelligence and insight to support East Sussex County Council and other East Sussex Partners. The Team also manages East Sussex in Figures (ESiF), the Local Information System for East Sussex.

ESiF is a web-based information system that contains detailed, up-to-date and reliable information on a very wide range of topics. It is free and very easy to use and puts individual users in control. ESiF lets you specify exactly what data you want to see (for the places and time periods you are interested in) and how you want to view it (as a table, chart or map).

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