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## Births and Deaths 2007

### Background

On 10 July 2008 ONS released the first information on births and registered deaths in England and Wales in calendar year 2007. This report focuses on the totals for the South East, and its constituent counties and unitary authorities, but gives some background based on the more detailed information available nationally.

For England and Wales there were 690,313 births in 2007 an increase of 3% from 2006 and the highest total since 1991. The total fertility rate (TFR) reached 1.91 children per woman, the highest level for 34 years. There were increases in fertility rates at all ages except for women under 20, with the greatest rise being to mothers aged over 40. The proportion of births to mothers born outside the United Kingdom rose to 23%. The London Borough of Newham was estimated to have had the highest TFR at 2.71 children per woman, while the lowest was also in London, the City of Westminster at 1.24. The TFR for the South East was 1.90, just below the national average.

Although the number of deaths registered in England and Wales in 2007, 504,052, showed a small year-on-year increase for the first time since 2003, both the male and female age-standardised mortality rates were the lowest ever recorded. The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea remained the local authority with the lowest standardised mortality ratio<sup>1</sup> (SMR) at 62% of the national average. The highest SMR was Blackburn and Darwen (131). The SMR for the South East was 92.

The excess of births over deaths is the natural change in the population. In 2007 for England and Wales the provisional natural change is over 186,000. This is an increase from 168,000 in 2006 and less than 61,000 in 2001-02. In 2007 the South East accounted for 13.7% of natural change in England and Wales.

Full details of the data are available at: [www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/prep/14408.asp](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/prep/14408.asp)

### South East Births

Table 1 shows births in the latest two calendar years together with births since mid-2001 as used by ONS in the annual population estimates change analysis. Births in the South East increased by over 2,700 (2.7%), since 2006 to reach 101,238 in 2007. The highest percentage growth was the South West region (4.2%). Since 2001-02 births in the region have increased by 16.1%, which compares to 16.8% for England and Wales. The greatest increase was 20.3% in London.

The greatest increases since 2006 were seen in Reading and Wokingham, both 8.6%. Only the Isle of Wight did not see an annual increase. Since 2001-02 annual births have increased by over 2,000 in Kent and Surrey, with an increase of over 14,000 in the South East. The greatest percentage increases in this time period have been in Slough (32%), Reading (29%), Southampton (28%) and West Berkshire (25%).

<sup>1</sup> The Standardised Mortality Ratio (SMR) compares actual recorded deaths in a year in a local population with the hypothetical number that would have occurred in that population had the age-specific mortality rates of England and Wales in the same year applied locally. The SMR is expressed as a percentage, so any SMR below 100 implies better local mortality than nationally.

The regional increase in this period was nearly 8,000 births, or over 9%. Therefore, other things being equal, the region will need to provide about 9% more reception class places in January 2012, and in Slough that increase will be 23%.

### **South East Deaths**

Table 2 shows registered deaths in the latest two calendar years together with deaths since mid-2001 as used by ONS in the annual population estimates change analysis. Against the national trend, the number of deaths in the region continued to decline in 2007, by 278 (0.4%). Looking at 2001-02 to 2007 the region had a decline of over 5%. Slough, Portsmouth, Brighton & Hove, Windsor & Maidenhead and Reading all had declines in excess of 10%, while the declines were much more modest in Hampshire and West Berkshire (less than 1%).

Of the unitary authorities and counties in the region, the lowest SMR values are Buckinghamshire (85), Bracknell Forest and Oxfordshire (both 87). At the other end of the scale only Medway (107) and Milton Keynes (102) have values over 100. At district level the lowest SMRs are 78 in both Chiltern and Crawley, while the highest are Swale (109) and Hastings (107).

### **Natural Change**

Table 3 shows provisional natural change in the latest two calendar years together with natural change since mid-2001 as used by ONS in the annual population estimates change analysis. For the South East annual natural change has increased by over 18,000 since 2001-02 and is now more than 26,000.

In all years since 2001 only the retirement areas of the Isle of Wight together with East and West Sussex have had annual natural decrease. Natural increase is currently highest in Surrey (4,100) and Oxfordshire (3,300).

### **Population Change 2006-07**

The latest data on international migration, relating to calendar year 2006, shows the region receiving a net inflow of 28,000. Migration within the UK for the year to mid-2007 shows the South East gaining 24,000 net migrants. (See [Demography Report 8](#).) If the natural change data for 2006 and 2007 are averaged it amounts to a population increase of 24,500. Therefore, if other, usually minor factors, are ignored the South East may have seen an increase in its population of over 76,000 in the year to mid-2007 to about 8,314,000.

ONS will be releasing mid-year estimates for 2007 in August.

**Table 1: Births 2001-02 to 2007, South East region**

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006	2007
<b>Medway</b>	3,092	3,110	3,223	3,104	3,206	3,257	3,345
<b>Bracknell Forest</b>	1,267	1,400	1,406	1,474	1,413	1,484	1,497
<b>West Berkshire</b>	1,542	1,756	1,702	1,708	1,805	1,828	1,928
<b>Reading</b>	1,898	2,010	2,083	2,080	2,213	2,246	2,439
<b>Slough</b>	1,865	1,896	2,002	2,029	2,100	2,317	2,460
<b>Windsor and Maidenhead</b>	1,555	1,613	1,707	1,624	1,688	1,724	1,858
<b>Wokingham</b>	1,630	1,623	1,758	1,745	1,727	1,725	1,874
<b>Milton Keynes</b>	2,883	3,024	3,168	3,191	3,283	3,415	3,501
<b>Brighton and Hove</b>	2,768	2,859	2,944	3,012	3,064	3,100	3,209
<b>Portsmouth</b>	2,162	2,146	2,302	2,320	2,394	2,471	2,479
<b>Southampton</b>	2,409	2,549	2,617	2,611	2,874	2,907	3,078
<b>Isle of Wight</b>	1,069	1,108	1,180	1,172	1,252	1,282	1,202
<b>Buckinghamshire</b>	5,387	5,480	5,691	5,528	5,612	5,817	5,853
<b>East Sussex</b>	4,484	4,679	4,778	4,699	4,933	4,989	5,120
<b>Hampshire</b>	12,735	12,991	13,463	13,617	14,006	14,195	14,468
<b>Kent</b>	14,472	14,777	15,302	15,292	15,920	16,243	16,563
<b>Oxfordshire</b>	6,947	7,153	7,476	7,549	7,825	7,992	8,148
<b>Surrey</b>	11,524	11,941	12,426	12,121	12,644	13,085	13,628
<b>West Sussex</b>	7,491	7,797	8,034	8,174	8,252	8,452	8,588
<b>South East</b>	<b>87,180</b>	<b>89,912</b>	<b>93,262</b>	<b>93,050</b>	<b>96,211</b>	<b>98,529</b>	<b>101,238</b>

**Table 2: Registered Deaths 2001-02 to 2007, South East region**

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006	2007
<b>Medway</b>	2,213	2,064	2,235	2,074	2,173	2,163	2,054
<b>Bracknell Forest</b>	747	751	721	752	704	697	685
<b>West Berkshire</b>	1,105	1,176	1,114	1,083	1,113	1,100	1,103
<b>Reading</b>	1,181	1,157	1,108	1,151	1,075	1,043	1,061
<b>Slough</b>	924	875	874	877	763	778	800
<b>Windsor and Maidenhead</b>	1,265	1,164	1,244	1,162	1,174	1,180	1,126
<b>Wokingham</b>	1,029	988	997	949	1,019	1,020	953
<b>Milton Keynes</b>	1,524	1,498	1,584	1,579	1,406	1,402	1,488
<b>Brighton and Hove</b>	2,669	2,735	2,572	2,426	2,437	2,398	2,366
<b>Portsmouth</b>	1,970	1,964	1,952	1,801	1,742	1,750	1,706
<b>Southampton</b>	1,986	2,047	2,014	1,962	1,972	1,892	1,799
<b>Isle of Wight</b>	1,846	1,777	1,778	1,671	1,715	1,678	1,666
<b>Buckinghamshire</b>	4,063	4,069	4,040	4,025	3,950	3,870	3,723
<b>East Sussex</b>	6,728	6,830	6,762	6,508	6,471	6,411	6,159
<b>Hampshire</b>	11,668	11,830	11,765	11,689	11,163	11,227	11,573
<b>Kent</b>	14,071	14,319	14,256	14,193	13,616	13,523	13,660
<b>Oxfordshire</b>	5,052	5,172	5,227	5,053	5,110	5,114	4,893
<b>Surrey</b>	10,024	9,903	9,876	9,909	9,707	9,459	9,518
<b>West Sussex</b>	9,486	9,207	9,082	9,063	8,893	8,792	8,886
<b>South East</b>	<b>79,551</b>	<b>79,526</b>	<b>79,201</b>	<b>77,927</b>	<b>76,203</b>	<b>75,497</b>	<b>75,219</b>

**Table 3: Natural Change 2001-02 to 2007, South East region**

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006	2007
<b>Medway</b>	879	1,046	988	1,030	1,033	1,094	1,291
<b>Bracknell Forest</b>	520	649	685	722	709	787	812
<b>West Berkshire</b>	437	580	588	625	692	728	825
<b>Reading</b>	717	853	975	929	1,138	1,203	1,378
<b>Slough</b>	941	1,021	1,128	1,152	1,337	1,539	1,660
<b>Windsor and Maidenhead</b>	290	449	463	462	514	544	732
<b>Wokingham</b>	601	635	761	796	708	705	921
<b>Milton Keynes</b>	1,359	1,526	1,584	1,612	1,877	2,013	2,013
<b>Brighton and Hove</b>	99	124	372	586	627	702	843
<b>Portsmouth</b>	192	182	350	519	652	721	773
<b>Southampton</b>	423	502	603	649	902	1,015	1,279
<b>Isle of Wight</b>	-777	-669	-598	-499	-463	-396	-464
<b>Buckinghamshire</b>	1,324	1,411	1,651	1,503	1,662	1,947	2,130
<b>East Sussex</b>	-2,244	-2,151	-1,984	-1,809	-1,538	-1,422	-1,039
<b>Hampshire</b>	1,067	1,161	1,698	1,928	2,843	2,968	2,895
<b>Kent</b>	401	458	1,046	1,099	2,304	2,720	2,903
<b>Oxfordshire</b>	1,895	1,981	2,249	2,496	2,715	2,878	3,255
<b>Surrey</b>	1,500	2,038	2,550	2,212	2,937	3,626	4,110
<b>West Sussex</b>	-1,995	-1,410	-1,048	-889	-641	-340	-298
<b>South East</b>	<b>7,629</b>	<b>10,386</b>	<b>14,061</b>	<b>15,123</b>	<b>20,008</b>	<b>23,032</b>	<b>26,019</b>

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