

Statistical bulletin

# Annual mid-year population estimates for Clinical Commissioning Groups: Mid-2011 (Census based)

Size of the population in each geographical area covered by the 211 clinical commissioning groups in England.

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# 1. Key points

- Clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) are responsible for deciding how NHS funds are spent in their local area and replaced primary care organisations (PCOs) in April 2013
- CCG areas exist only in England and are formed from groups of lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs)
- There are 211 CCGs in England and the median population in mid-2011 is 251,700
- Population size ranges from 61,600 in NHS Corby to 863,400 in NHS North, East, West Devon
- In mid-2011 the lowest median age in a CCG was 26.8 in NHS Bradford City. The highest median age in mid-2011 was 49.1 in NHS North Norfolk
- CCG population estimates are of particular interest to the Department of Health, NHS organisations and researchers

## 2. Summary

This bulletin presents the 2011 mid-year population estimates for the clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) in England. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 introduced a [new structure for NHS organisation](#) which replaced primary care organisations (PCOs) with CCGs from 1 April 2013. CCG areas are formed from groups of lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs), which are a level of geography designed specifically for the reporting of small area statistics. CCG population estimates for mid-2011 are therefore formed by directly aggregating mid-2011 LSOA estimates, which are based on the results of the 2011 Census. CCG estimates are a new product and are part of a wider suite of small area population estimates.

In general, small area population estimates are used by both central government departments and local authorities for a range of purposes including planning and monitoring of services; as denominators for the calculation of various rates and indicators and as a base for population projections and forecasts. Additionally, CCG population estimates are of particular interest to the Department of Health and NHS organisations.

## 3. Introduction

Mid-year population estimates for 2011 for England, including estimates for regions and local authorities within England were published on 25 September 2012. The estimates refer to the usually resident population as at 30 June of the reference year and are published annually.

Mid-year population estimates for clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) within England also refer to the usually resident population as at 30 June of the reference year. These are the first CCG population estimates to be published and are initially being made available as experimental statistics. Further publications will be annual, approximately three months after the publication of national, regional and local authority level estimates.

There are 211 CCGs within England whose function is to commission healthcare services for their communities. CCGs are the lowest level of the new health administration system in England, reporting to 25 NHS area teams which themselves form four commissioning regions.

## Small area population estimates

These CCG estimates for mid-2011 have been published in response to user demand for statistics for the new health geographies for England introduced in April 2013. In future they will be published as part of the suite of small area population estimates for England and Wales, which are produced annually, usually approximately three months after the publication of the national, regional and local authority level estimates.

There are two main types of small area population estimates:

- Super Output Area (SOA) estimates – National Statistics including estimates for middle and lower layer SOAs. [Mid-2011 estimates for SOAs](#) were published on 11 April 2013.
- Estimates for other geographies – Experimental Statistics including estimates for National Parks, parliamentary constituencies and wards. [Mid-2011 estimates for wards](#) and [parliamentary constituencies](#) were published on 30 May 2011. Mid-2011 estimates for National Parks are provisionally due to be published in November/December 2013.

The mid-2011 CCG population estimates, referred to in this bulletin, are aggregations of lower layer Super Output Area (LSOA) estimates which are based on the 2011 Census. LSOAs were updated to account for population change during the period between Census day (27 March 2011) and the mid-year point (30 June 2011). They are consistent with population estimates for higher levels of geography including local authorities and the national total for England.

## 4. Methodological information

Clinical commissioning group (CCG) population estimates, are produced using lower level Super Output Areas (LSOAs) as building blocks. The population of each CCG is the sum of the population of the LSOAs which fall within the geographic boundaries of the area.

Mid-2011 population estimates for LSOAs were published in April 2013 based on 2011 Census data. Full descriptions of the [methods](#) used to calculate mid-2011 small area population estimates are available from the ONS website.

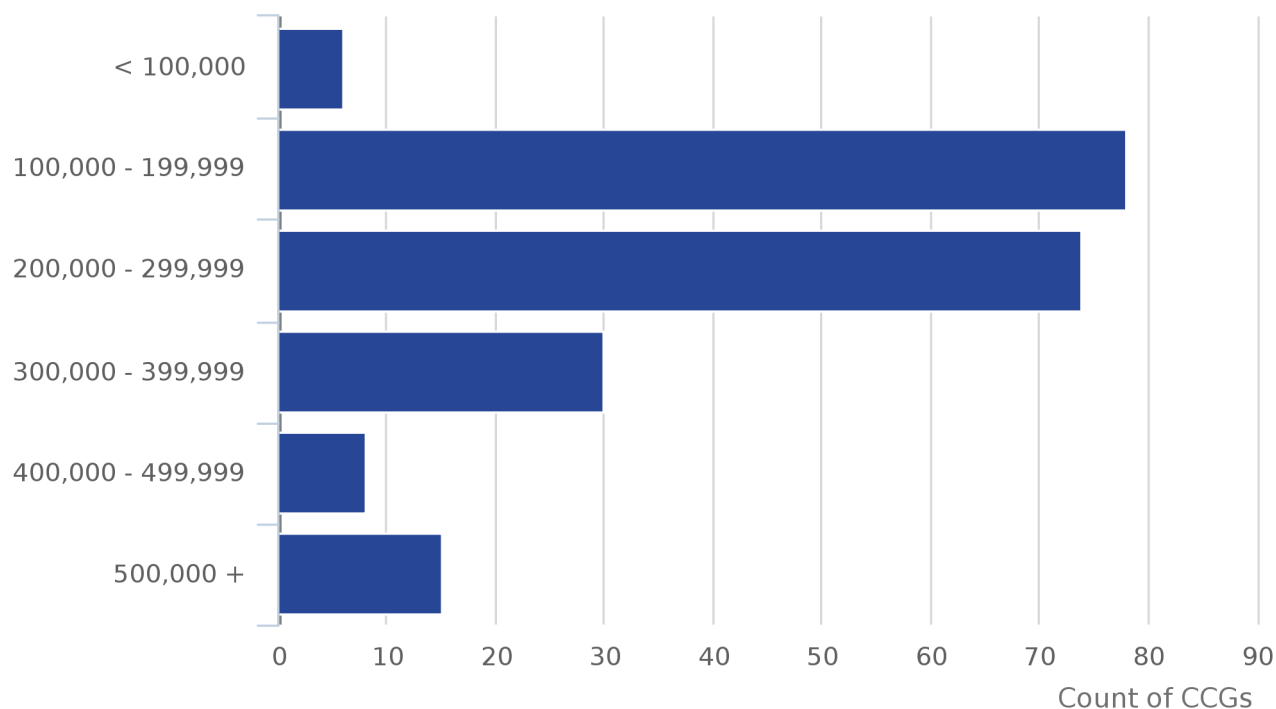
For further information on the quality and use of these statistics, please see the [Quality and Methodology Information](#) for Small Area Population Estimates.

## 5. Mid-2011 clinical commissioning groups

Clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) are responsible for deciding how NHS funds are spent in their local area and replace primary care organisations (PCOs) as the lowest level of health geography in England. There are 211 CCGs and the current boundaries were introduced in April 2013. They are formed from groups of lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) as defined for the 2011 Census.

At mid-2011, the median population of CCGs was 220,100 with population sizes ranging from 61,600 in NHS Corby to 863,400 in NHS North, East, West Devon.

**Figure 1: Distribution of clinical commissioning groups by total population estimate, mid-2011**



Source: Office for National Statistics

Figure 1 above shows the distribution of CCGs by total population size. The majority (72%) of the CCGs have populations of between 100,000 and 300,000. The 10 CCGs with the largest populations (in table 1 below) are either county areas or inner city areas outside London and are the 10 CCGs formed from the largest number of LSOAs.

**Table 1: CCGs with highest population estimates, mid-2011**

Rank	Clinical commissioning group	Population
1	NHS North, East, West Devon	863,400
2	NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	840,900
3	NHS Dorset	745,300
4	NHS Birmingham Crosscity	714,400
5	NHS Oxfordshire	641,200
6	NHS Nene	616,700
7	NHS Gloucestershire	598,300
8	NHS Herts Valleys	565,500
9	NHS Sheffield	551,800
10	NHS West Hampshire	541,700

Source: Office for National Statistics

Table 2 shows the 10 CCGs with the smallest populations. These are also the 10 CCGs formed from the smallest number of LSOAs.

**Table 2: CCGs with lowest population estimates, mid-2011**

Rank	Clinical commissioning group	Population
1	NHS Corby	61,600
2	NHS Bradford City	81,700
3	NHS Surrey Heath	93,500
4	NHS Erewash	94,200
5	NHS Wyre Forest	98,000
6	NHS North & West Reading	99,300
7	NHS Vale Royal	102,100
8	NHS Newbury and District	104,600
9	NHS South Reading	105,500
10	NHS Darlington	105,600

Source: Office for National Statistics

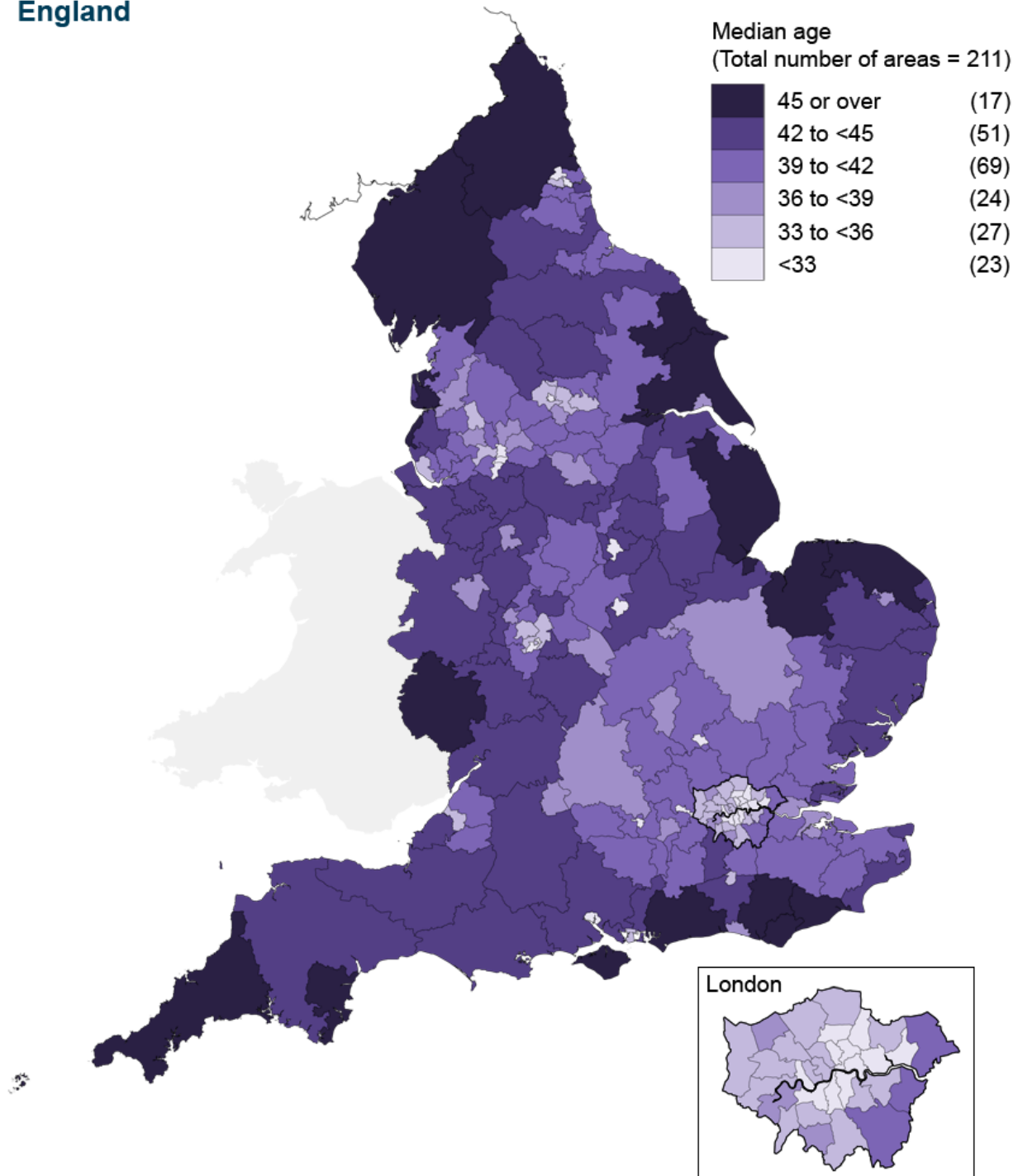
## 6. Age distribution

The age distribution of the resident population in a clinical commissioning group (CCG) is likely to impact on both the overall level of demand for health services, and the type of health services required.

The median age of the population of England in mid-2011 was 39.4 years of age. However, the median age of populations in CCGs varies between different areas.

**Map 1: Distribution of clinical commissioning groups by median age, mid-2011**

**England**



Source: Office for National Statistics

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In mid-2011 the lowest median age in a CCG was 26.8 in NHS Bradford City. The highest median age in mid-2011 was 49.1 in NHS North Norfolk. Table 3 below shows the 10 CCGs with the lowest median age in mid-2011.

**Table 3: CCGs with lowest median age, mid-2011**

Rank	Clinical commissioning group	Median age
1	NHS Bradford City	26.8
2	NHS Central Manchester	27.7
3	NHS Tower Hamlets	29.3
4	NHS Newham	29.4
5	NHS North Manchester	30.6
6	NHS City and Hackney	31.1
7	NHS Nottingham City	31.1
8	NHS South Reading	31.3
9	NHS Birmingham South and Central	31.7
10	NHS Newcastle North and East	31.7

Source: Office for National Statistics

The CCGs with the lowest median ages are city areas. All 10 CCGs with the highest median age, as shown in table 4 below, include coastal areas of England which are known for their large populations of people of retirement age.

**Table 4: CCGs with highest median age, mid-2011**

Rank	Clinical commissioning group	Median age
1	NHS North Norfolk	49.1
2	NHS Lincolnshire East	47.2
3	NHS Fylde & Wyre	47.1
4	NHS South Devon and Torbay	47.1
5	NHS Isle of Wight	46.7
6	NHS Southport and Formby	46.7
7	NHS Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford	46.1
8	NHS Scarborough and Ryedale	46.0
9	NHS East Riding of Yorkshire	45.9
10	NHS Coastal West Sussex	45.9

Source: Office for National Statistics

The percentage of the population who are older may also impact on requirements for health service provision. In mid-2011, 7.8% of the population of England were aged 75 or over. By comparison over 13% of the population in NHS Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford were aged 75 or over, as shown in table 5 below.

**Table 5: CCGs with highest percentage of population aged 75 and over, mid-2011**

Rank	Clinical commissioning group	Percentage of 75+
1	NHS Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford	13.3
2	NHS North Norfolk	12.5
3	NHS Southport and Formby	12.3
4	NHS Coastal West Sussex	12.3
5	NHS Fylde & Wyre	12.2
6	NHS South Devon and Torbay	11.7
7	NHS Hastings & Rother	11.6
8	NHS Isle of Wight	11.5
9	NHS Dorset	11.5
10	NHS West Norfolk	11.2

Source: Office for National Statistics

The percentage of the population who are children may also impact on requirements for health service provision. In mid-2011, 18.9% of the population of England were aged 0 to 15. By comparison over 28% of the population in NHS Bradford City were aged 0 to 15, as shown in table 6 below.

**Table 6: CCGs with highest percentage of children (aged 0 to 15), mid-2011**

Rank	Clinical commissioning group	Percentage of children
1	NHS Bradford City	28.2
2	NHS Barking and Dagenham	25.9
3	NHS Slough	24.0
4	NHS Blackburn with Darwen	23.2
5	NHS Bradford Districts	23.1
6	NHS Luton	23.0
7	NHS Birmingham Crosscity	22.6
8	NHS Newham	22.6
9	NHS Sandwell and West Birmingham	22.6
10	NHS Redbridge	22.5

Source: Office for National Statistics

Similarly to the areas with the lowest median ages, the CCGs with the largest proportions of children are in city areas.



## 7. Mid-2011 NHS area teams and NHS commissioning regions

The four NHS commissioning regions are North of England, Midlands and East of England, London, and South of England. These are the highest layer of health geography in England.

NHS area teams are the middle-layer of health geography for England. There are 25 in total, across the four commissioning regions. The London NHS area team is distinct in that it covers the same area as the London commissioning region, being the sole area team within that region. Therefore it is the NHS area team with the largest population; 8,204,400 compared to the median population of 1,731,400 across all NHS area teams. The NHS area teams are all formed from whole clinical commissioning groups (CCGs).

## 8. Health geography population estimates for other UK countries

The constituent countries of the UK have different arrangements for the management of their health services and therefore population statistics are produced for health geographies that are relevant to each individual country.

Population estimates for the seven Welsh Local Health Boards, which consist of one or more unitary authorities, are created using a cohort component based method and published on the Neighbourhood Statistics website. The [estimates for mid-2011](#) were published on 25 September 2012.

National Records of Scotland (NRS) produce population estimates for Scottish NHS Boards. NRS use a cohort component based method to produce estimates for the 14 NHS Board areas in Scotland. Further information on this methodology and the mid-2011 estimates (based on the 2011 Census) are available on their [website](#).

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) publish population estimates for the Health and Social Services Board and the five Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland. These are also produced using a cohort component based method. Further information on this methodology and the latest estimates can be found on the [NISRA website](#).

## 9. Publications in 2013

This list below shows the other small area population estimates products which are planned for publication in 2013. The majority of the dates given below are provisional. Final confirmed dates will be available on the UK National Statistics Publication Hub [release calendar](#) at least four weeks before publication.

- Super Output Area (SOA), primary care organisation (PCO) and clinical commissioning group (CCG) population estimates, mid-2012: September/October 2013
- Small area population estimates for wards, parliamentary constituencies and National Parks, mid-2002 to mid-2010 revised: November/December 2013
- Population estimates for National Parks, mid-2011: November/December 2013
- Small area population estimates for wards, parliamentary constituencies and National Parks, mid-2012: November/December 2013
- Super Output Area (SOA) population estimates, mid-2002 to mid-2010 revised to be consistent with the 2011 Census: November/December 2013

Further research work on small area population is planned to be completed following the publication of the products listed above. This is likely to include:

- Detailed assessment of the difference between 2011 Census SOA population estimates and the estimates for mid-2011 based on the 2001 Census
- Review of the methods used to produce small area population estimates in the light of the results of the 2011 Census

## 10. Background notes

1. An [Overview of Population Statistics](#) is available on the ONS website.
2. Published tables include population estimates for clinical commissioning groups (CCGs), NHS area teams and NHS commissioning regions by single year age/sex groups.
3. A report describing the [methodology](#) used to create the CCG population estimates is available on the ONS website.
4. This is the first release of CCG estimates. No revisions of this dataset have been made.
5. [Mid-2011 population estimates](#) for England and Wales and for local authorities are also available on the ONS website.
6. There are no 2011 Census CCG population estimates. Mid-2011 estimates for CCGs are formed by aggregating mid-2011 LSOA estimates, which are not directly comparable with the 2011 Census results at LSOA level. More information is available in the [mid-2011 SOA statistical bulletin](#).
7. Release number: SAPE5BL1
8. Next publication: September/October 2013

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10. Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available by visiting [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html) or from the Media Relations Office email: [media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk)