

Country of birth and passports held

As part of the Census 2021 topic summary publication schedule, the ONS has just published figures on migration. These figures include country of birth and passports held. Country of birth refers to the categorisation of usual residents based on the country where they were born. Country of birth is subdivided by region and also goes down to country in some cases. The passports held indicator classifies usual residents by single passport. In cases where a person recorded has more than one passport, they were categorised in the following priority order: 1. UK passport, 2. Irish passport, 3. other passport. Where, European totals have been calculated, UK figures have been removed. More information on this and other indicators can be access via the [Census 2021 homepage](#).

Key findings:

- A higher proportion of Oxford residents were born overseas compared to 2011 (up 7%), with 65% of Oxford residents born in the UK in 2021 compared to 72% in 2011.
- In terms of country of birth the largest non-British group is made up of residents born in India with 3,601 (+1,117 from the previous Census), followed closely by the United States with 3,070 (+475 from the previous Census).
- Other countries included in the top 10 are Poland (2,773), China (2,565), Pakistan (2,558) and Scotland (2,041).
- At regional level, Europe (both EU and non EU countries) is at the top with 22,783 residents, followed by Middle East and Asia (19,233), the Americas and the Caribbean (7,516), Africa (5,715) and Antarctica and Oceania (1,335). Residents born in Europe saw the biggest increase of all regions since 2011 – up 3%.
- Data on passports held show that the largest passport holder group comes from Portugal with 3,467 passport holders (up from 891 in 2011), followed by Poland with 2,831 (down slightly from 2,595 in 2011) and Italy with 2,509 (up from 1,244 in 2011).
- The largest regional group of passport holders in 2021 (after those residents who hold a UK passport) remains EU passport holders at 22,317; up from 14,685 in the previous Census.
- The number of non-EU (European) passports has increased slightly from 1,262 in 2011 to 1,505 in 2021.

Figure 1. Top 10 country of birth in Oxford by number of residents in 2011 and 2021.

Country of birth	2011	Country of birth	2021
Poland	2,694	India	3,601
United States	2,595	United States	3,070
India	2,484	Poland	2,773
Scotland	2,433	China	2,565
Germany	2,093	Pakistan	2,558
Pakistan	2,059	Scotland	2,041
China	1,703	Germany	2,023
Ireland	1,697	Romania	1,993
France	1,184	Italy	1,922
Italy	1,046	Spain (inc Canary Islands)	1,668

Source: Census 2021 - ONS, 2022

Figure 2. Regional figures for country of birth in 2011 and 2021.

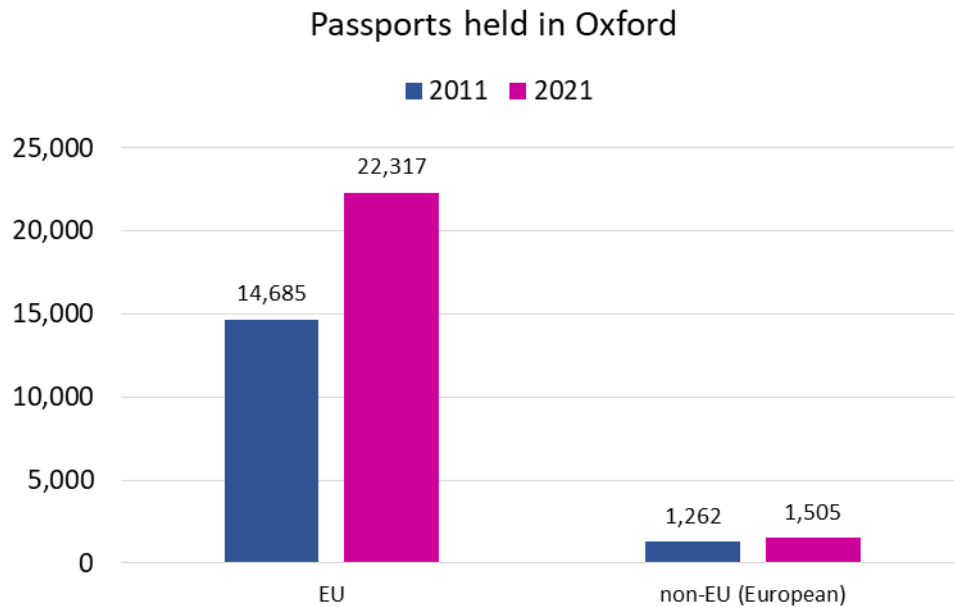
Region	2011	2021	change
Europe (not including UK)	16,841	22,783	+5,942
Middle East and Asia	13,799	19,233	+5,434
The Americans and the Caribbean	5,946	7,516	+1,570
Africa	5,234	5,715	+481
Antarctica and Oceania	1,419	1,335	-84

Source: Census 2021 - ONS, 2022

Figure 3. Top 10 passports held in Oxford in 2011 and 2021.

Passport held	2011	Passport held	2021
Poland	2595	Portugal	3467
United States	2033	Poland	2831
Ireland	1887	Italy	2509
Germany	1756	India	2191
India	1663	United States	2029
China	1277	China	1937
Italy	1244	Spain	1924
France	1184	Romania	1793
Portugal	891	Germany	1685
Spain	871	Ireland	1682

Figure 4. EU* and non-EU (European) ** passport holders in 2011 and 2021.



Source: Census 2021 - ONS, 2022

*Please note: Croatia only joined the EU in July 2013 and is therefore not included in the 2011 figures.

**Both figures exclude UK passport holders.

Sources:

[Demography and migration data, England and Wales: Census 2021 - ONS, 2021](#)

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