

## Caring and earning

Prepared by Leicester City Council, December 2012

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### Introduction

Reliable information about the city's usually resident and household populations is important as it helps public authorities, businesses and community organisations identify community needs and plan future service provision.

As well as local intelligence, this report includes statistics from Census 2011, which is the most extensive survey of the UK population ever undertaken. It includes information about national and regional averages for comparative purposes. Where the measures used are comparable, significant changes since the previous census in 2001 are also highlighted.

### Summary

This report provides some insight into the day-to-day activity of the city's residents and households; in particular time spent **caring and earning**:

- Between 2001 and 2011, the census estimates that the city's usual resident population increased by over 45,000, and the number of households by over 12,000;
- Leicester is now the most populous urban centre in the East Midlands;
- In 2011, almost one in ten (30,965) usual city residents were providing unpaid care, while over a quarter (32,447) of city households included a person with a long-term health problem or disability;
- A third (41,129) of all city households include dependent children;
- Dependent children in Leicester are less likely to live in a one family couple household than is the case regionally or nationally;
- The level of economic inactivity in the city is comparatively high due to the city's sizeable full-time student population and the higher than average proportion of usual residents who are unable to work or not looking for work because they are looking after the home/family or for some other reason;
- In 2011, 52 per cent (80,780) of economically active usual city residents aged between 16 and 74 were in full-time employment;
- The level of qualifications held in Leicester is low in comparison to regional and national averages.

## Leicester in 2011

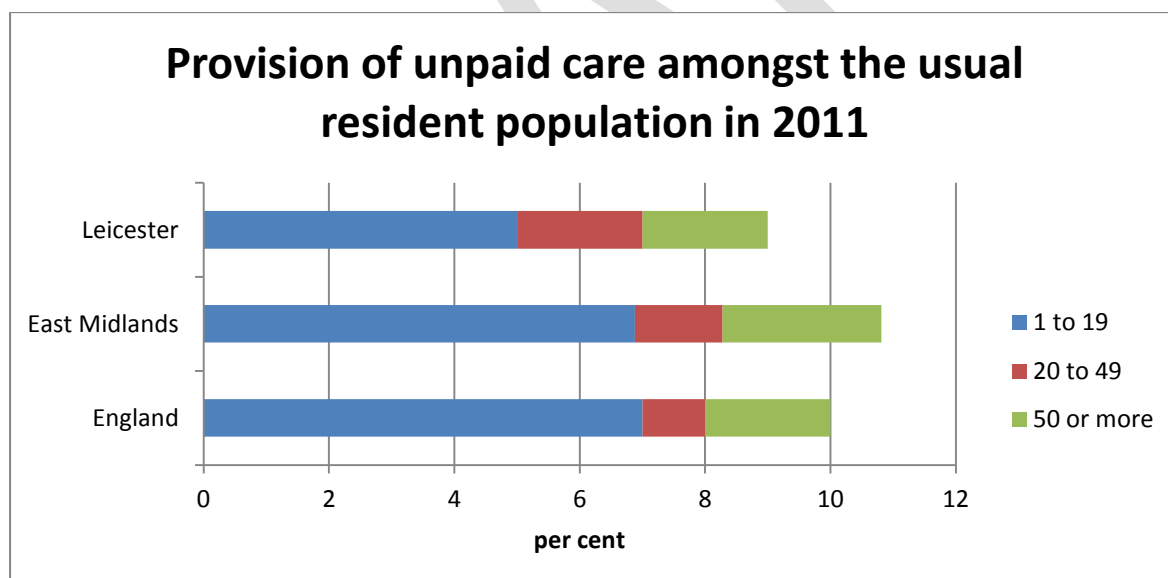
Census 2011 estimates that Leicester is home to almost 330,000 people, making it the most populous urban centre in the East Midlands. There are 123,125 households in the city, and the average household size is 2.6 people (the largest in the region).

### Provision of unpaid care

The census designates a person as a provider of unpaid care if they look after or give help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others *because of* long-term physical or mental ill health or disability, or problems related to old age. This does not include general parenting or any activities as part of paid employment.

In 2011, nine per cent (30,965) of usual city residents were providing unpaid care. Of this group, over two-fifths (43 per cent, 13,462) were giving 20 or more hours care a week. Some of these people will be young carers<sup>1</sup>.

The level of unpaid caregiving in the city is lower than that in the East Midlands region (11 per cent, 490,249) and England (10 per cent, 5.4 million). This is due, in part, to the relatively youthful age profile of Leicester (e.g. six per cent fewer senior citizen households than regional and national averages).

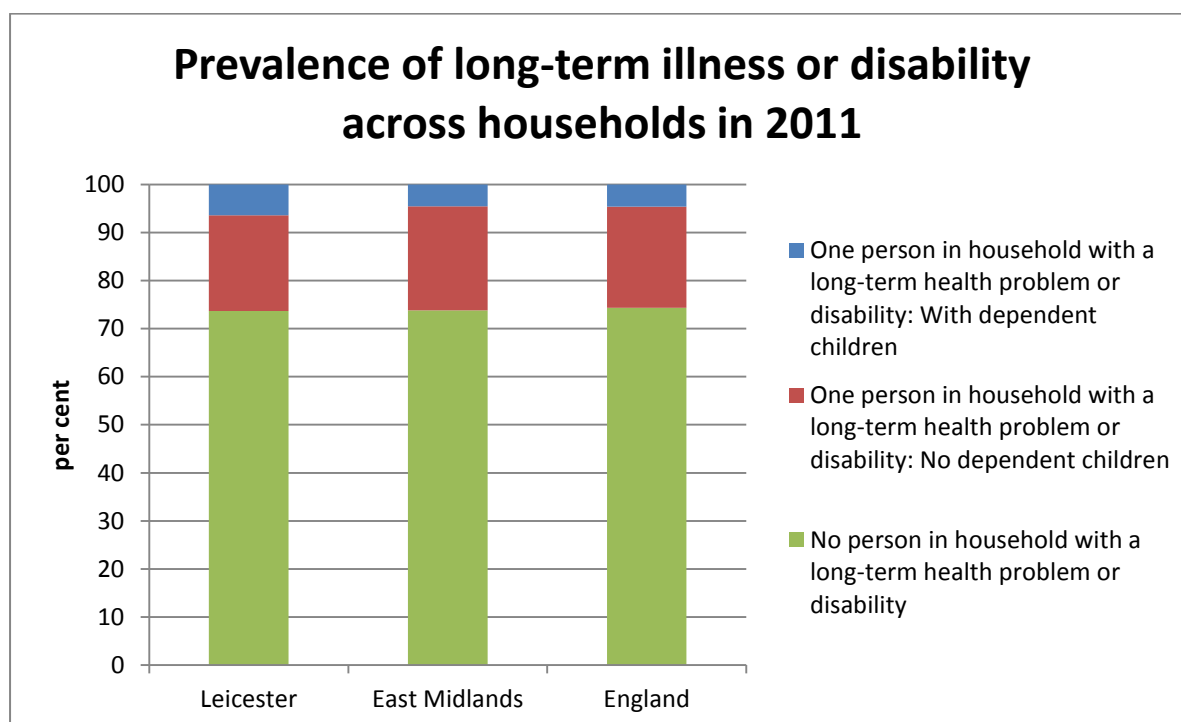


### Prevalence of long-term illness or disability across households

In 2011, over a quarter (32,447) of city households included a person with a long-term health problem or disability that limits the person's day-to-day activities, and has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months. This includes problems that are related to old age.

<sup>1</sup> A [young carer](#) is someone aged 18 or under who helps to look after a relative who has a disability or illness

Amongst households in which at least one person has a long-term health problem or disability, one quarter (7,909) include dependent children.



### Households with parenting responsibilities

In 2011, a third (41,129) of all city households included dependent children<sup>2</sup>. Fifteen per cent (18,734) include children of pre-school age (0-4 years).

These proportions are markedly higher than regional (all children: 29 per cent; 0-4: 11 per cent) and national (all children: 29 per cent; 0-4: 12 per cent) averages.

Dependent children in Leicester are less likely to live in a one family couple household than is the case regionally or nationally. While the percentage of lone parent households in the city is greater than regional and national averages, it is only marginally so. The main difference in Leicester is the number of dependent children in other types of household, including those that are home to more than one family.

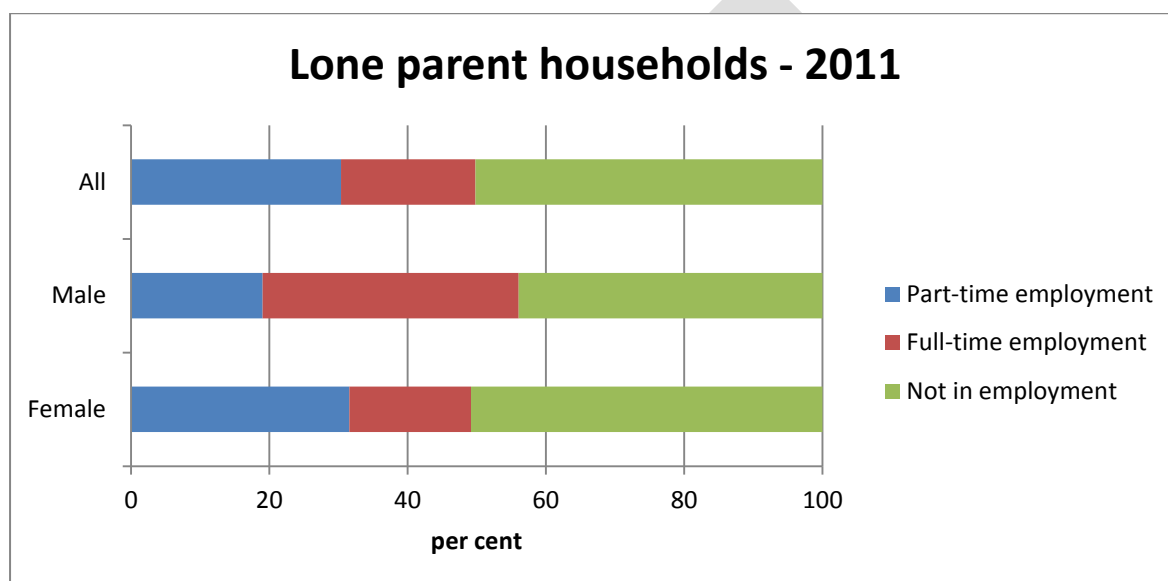
<sup>2</sup> A dependent child is a person aged 0 – 15 in a household (whether or not in a family) or aged 16 – 18 in full-time education and living in a family with his or her parent(s). It does not include any children who have a spouse, partner or child living in the household

Households with no adults in employment<sup>3</sup>

In Leicester in 2011, 34 per cent (42,115) of households had no adults in employment, which is similar to the regional and national percentage.

Where Leicester does depart from this regional and national picture is in respect of the proportion of these households that include dependent children: one fifth (8,551) in the city, compared to one ninth (71,863) in the region and one eighth (0.9 million) for the country as a whole.

Amongst households with no adults in employment that include dependent children, sixty per cent (5,182) are lone parent households.

Economic inactivity

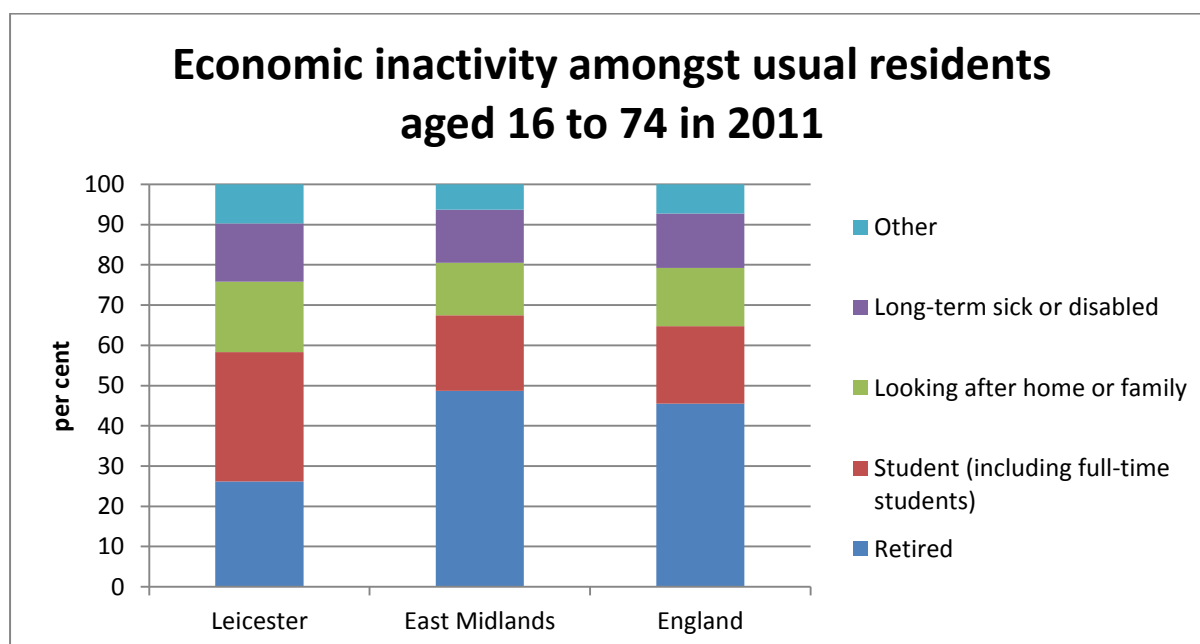
A person aged between 16 and 74 is described as economically inactive if, in the week before the census, they were not in employment but did not meet the criteria to be classified as 'unemployed'. This includes a person looking for work but not available to start work within two weeks, as well as anyone not looking for work, or unable to work - for example retired, looking after home/family, permanently sick or disabled.

Students who fulfil any of these criteria are also classified as economically inactive. This does not necessarily mean in full-time education and excludes students who were working or in some other way were economically active.

In 2011, 35 per cent (85,807) of usual city residents aged between 16 and 74 (242,232) were economically inactive. This is a high level of economic inactivity in comparison to regional

<sup>3</sup> A person aged 16 to 74 is defined as employed (or in employment) if in the week before the census they carried out at least one hour's paid work, either as an employee or self-employed. This includes casual or temporary work, on a government-sponsored training scheme, doing paid or unpaid work for their own or family business, being away from work ill, on maternity leave, or on holiday or temporarily laid off.

(31 per cent, 1 million) and national (30 per cent, 11.7 million) averages, especially considering that Leicester has a relatively small proportion of retirees amongst its usual resident population.



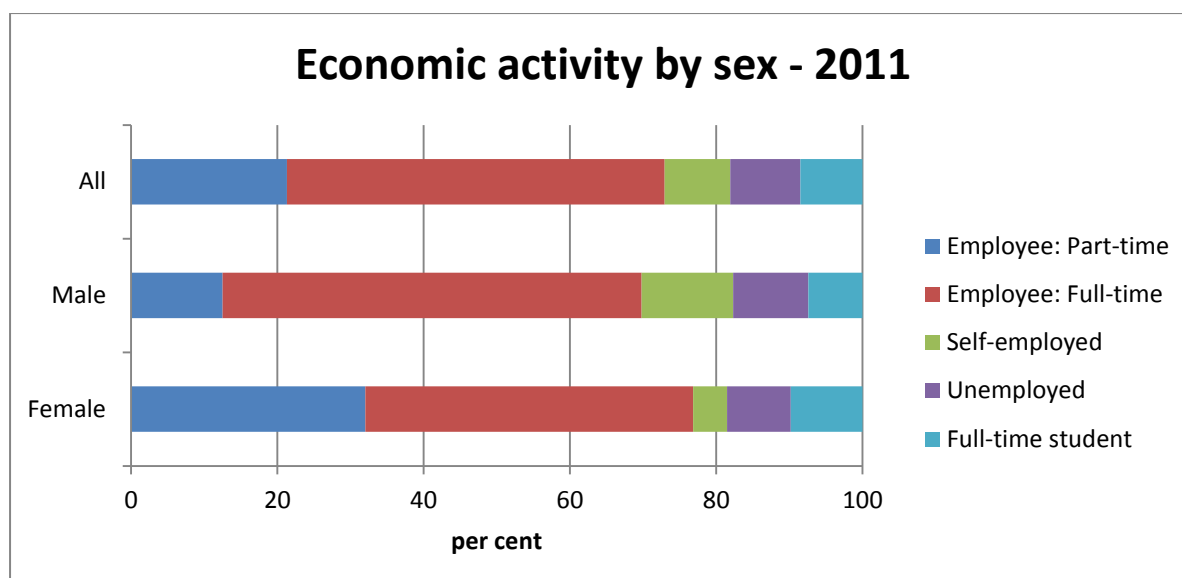
The difference comes down to the city's sizeable full-time student population and the higher than average proportion of usual residents who are unable to work or not looking for work because they are looking after the home/family or for some other reason.

#### Paid work and job-seeking

Amongst the 65 per cent (156,425) of usual city residents aged between 16 and 74 (242,232) who were in paid work or job-seeking in 2011, nine per cent (14,021) were **self-employed**. This is lower than regional (12 per cent, 288,661) and national (14 per cent, 3.8 million) averages.

The picture is similar in respect of **full-time employment**. In 2011, 52 per cent (80,780) of economically active usual city residents aged between 16 and 74 were in full-time employment. In the East Midlands the figure was 56 per cent (1.2 million) and in England, 55 per cent (15 million).

The level of **part-time employment** in the city is similar to regional and national levels. In 2011, well over twice as many women (32 per cent, 22,607) were part-time employees compared to men (13 per cent, 10,734). While this is a stark difference, it is not as stark as that observed at regional and national levels. This is due to the fact that the proportion of the female population in Leicester that is economically active is smaller than average.



At six per cent (14,982) of usual city residents aged between 16 and 74, Leicester's level of **unemployment**<sup>4</sup> is higher than regional and national levels.

### Qualifications

The qualifications classification enables estimates to be produced of the percentage of the population obtaining the highest level of the academic and vocational or professional qualifications.

Briefly the level categorisation is as follows:

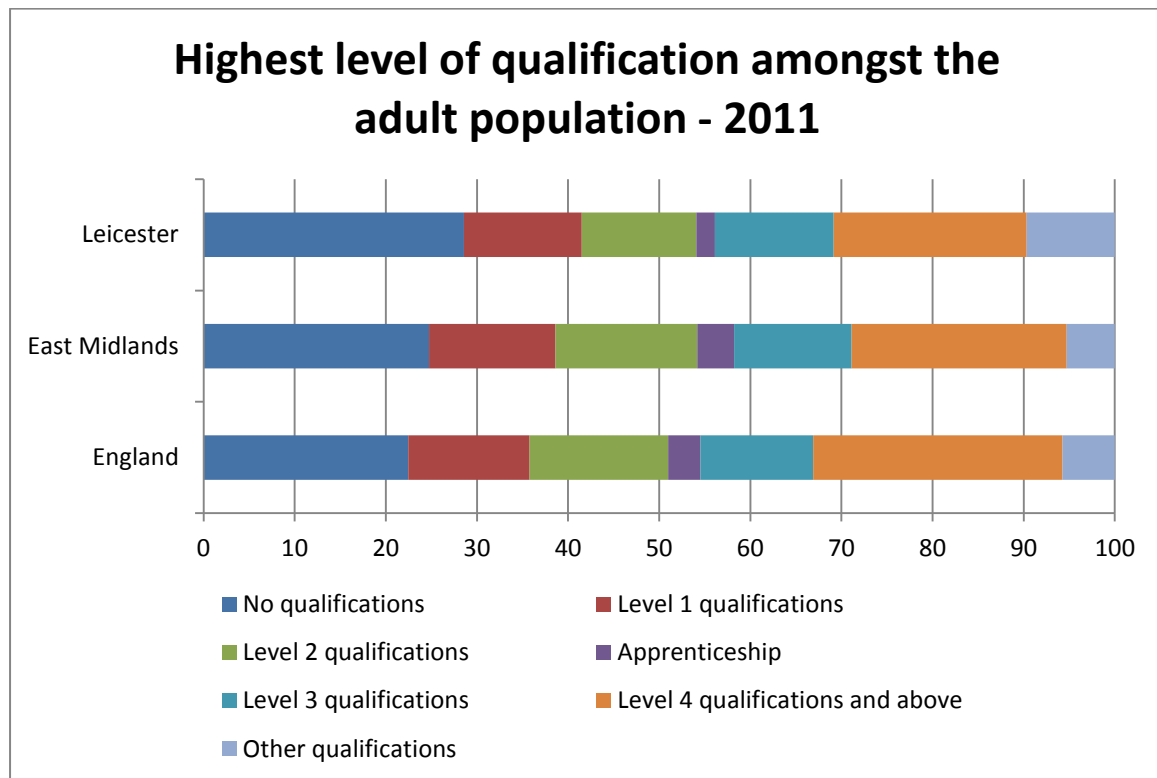
- No qualifications: No formal qualifications;
- Level 1: 1-4 GCSEs or equivalent qualifications;
- Level 2: 5 GCSEs or equivalent qualifications;
- Apprenticeships;
- Level 3: 2 or more A-levels or equivalent qualifications;
- Level 4 or above: Bachelors degree or equivalent, and higher qualifications;
- Other qualifications including foreign qualifications.

In Leicester, 21 per cent (55,223) of usual residents aged 16 and over had achieved Level 4 or above qualifications in 2011. This was a lower percentage than those that had no qualifications; 29 per cent (74,409). The group who reported no qualifications includes those aged 16 and over who were still studying (i.e. some respondents had not completed their education).

The level of qualifications held in Leicester is low in comparison to regional and national averages. In the East Midlands, 24 per cent (871,702) of usual residents had Level 4 or above qualifications and 25 per cent (914,014) of usual residents had no qualifications. For

<sup>4</sup> Out of work but looking and able to start within two weeks

England as a whole, 27 per cent (11.8 million) of usual residents had Level 4 or above qualifications and 22 per cent (9.7 million) of usual residents had no qualifications.



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### Changes since 2001

Between 2001 and 2011, the census estimates that the city's usual resident population increased by over 45,000. This represents a much faster rate of growth (17%) than most other UK cities, including Nottingham and Derby. Since 2001, the number of city households has also increased by just over 12,000 and the average household size has increased from 2.5 to 2.6 people.

#### Provision of unpaid care

Since 2001, while the total number of usual city residents providing unpaid care has increased, the percentage has decreased by a single percentage point.

Hours per week	2001		2011	
	Number	%	Number	%
None	253,053	90	298,874	91
1 to 19	16,695	6	17,503	5
20 to 49	3,845	1	5,533	2
50 or more	6,328	2	7,929	2

Amongst those providing unpaid care, the most noticeable change since 2001 is the increase in the percentage who give 20 hours or more care a week. In 2011, over 43 per cent (13,462) were giving 20 hours or more care a week, an increase of five percentage points (3,289) on 2001 (38 per cent, 10,173).

#### Household composition – including those with parenting responsibilities

Of particular note is the reduction in the percentage of senior citizen households.

All households	2001		2011	
	Number	%	Number	%
Households with dependent children	36,513	33	41,129	33
Households without dependent children	51,544	46	63,921	52
Senior citizen households	23,091	21	18,075	15

#### Households with no adults in employment

There has been a reduction in the percentage of city households with no adults in employment from 39 per cent (43,090) in 2001 to 34 per cent (42,115) in 2011. While there also been a reduction in the regional and national percentages, the rate of change in the city has been faster.



### Economic inactivity and activity

Economic activity as collected in the 2011 Census is not directly comparable to 2001 due to factors that include changes in the underlying classification and improvements in the questions on the census questionnaire.

### Qualifications

Although not a new question in 2011, some of the qualifications estimates are not directly comparable with 2001. This is due to multiple factors including changes in the level assigned to some qualifications, and the addition of a foreign qualification tick-box.

### **Further research**

Census 2011 statistics, including those which are due for release in 2013, are enabling the council and partners to understand more about the wellbeing and resilience of Leicester's diverse communities and the kinds of mutual support and activity that might prevent future needs arising and help build people's capabilities to be productive and healthy citizens.

This report, and the others in this series, give some insight into how Leicester's people and communities are changing and how well households, families and neighbourhoods are coping in the face of the economic downturn. Further work is needed to develop these insights and identify ways in which Leicester's residents and households might best be enabled to get on and prosper.

The city council is working with partners to explore these issues further. A further set of reports about socio-economic inequalities and what works to reduce them will draw together the results of this work. These are planned for release in 2013.