Bolton in Brief

Bolton

Our people

310, 000 residents[1]
- **24%** aged **under 18**
  more than England, slightly more than GM
- **17%** aged **65+**
  lower than England, slightly more than GM

By 2040 Bolton is expected to have **317,000** residents[2]
- A 3.8% increase from 2025
- A lower increase than England or GM

Bolton is **richly diverse**[3]
- **69%** from a **White British** background
- **20%** from **Asian** backgrounds
  More than England & GM
- **4%** from **Black** backgrounds
  Lower than England & GM

97% of residents either **speak English** as their main language or **proficiently**[4]

Bolton has **high levels of deprivation**[5]
- Bolton is just outside the top 10% most deprived local council areas in England
- **46%** of residents live in an area that is among the **20% most deprived** nationally
- **16%** live in an area that is among the **20% least deprived**

38% of Bolton **children** live in relative **low income households**[6]
- 24,600 individuals
- **Among the top 20 highest** local council areas in the country

Our place

All of Bolton is '**Urban: Nearer to a major town or city**'[7]
- **27%** of Bolton is **developed land**[8]: 10%highways and road transport, 5% residential, 2% industry & commerce
- **73%** of Bolton is **undeveloped land**[8]: 29% agricultural, 18% forest, open land and water, 15% garden

3 grade 1 listed buildings[9]
- Smithills Hall, Hall i' th' Wood, 10 Firwood Fold

Sites of Special Scientific Interest[10]:
- West Pennine Moors, Red Moss, Nob End, Ashclough

Of the borough's households:
- **33%** live in **terraced houses**
  13% in **flats**[11]
- **12%** are in **fuel poverty**[12]

68% of Bolton adults age 16-64 are **in work** - lower than NW [13]
- Among those **economically inactive**: **31% students**, **29% long term sick**, 20% looking after home & family 10% retired[13]
- **Pay** for jobs in Bolton (average £30,455 a year full time) is **lower** than England or NW[14]

Individual **behaviour** is crucially **influenced by the social and physical environment**
- **24%** of Bolton adults **eat 5-a-day** fruit & veg (worse than England) [15]
- **155.1 fast food outlets per 100,000** population in Bolton (worse than England)[15]
- **37%** of **year 6** students (are **overweight or obese** (similar to England) **58%** are **physically active** (better than England).[15]

26% of Bolton adults **volunteer** at least once a month[16]

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Our health & wellbeing

As in many parts of the north of England, the **health** of people in Bolton is **generally worse over a range of measures** than the average for England[17]

Life expectancy indicates **overall population health,** & health **inequalities**

- At 76.9 years for males and 81.4 for females, life expectancy in Bolton is **over 2 years less than England**[18]
- **Within Bolton**, life expectancy varies by **over 10 years** between small areas[19]

The main conditions contributing to the **life expectancy gap** by deprivation in Bolton[20]:

- **Circulatory disease & respiratory disease** for males
- Respiratory disease and **cancer** for females

Our **mental health influences our physical health**, our ability to lead a healthy lifestyle & to manage & recover from physical health conditions

- **15%** of Bolton adults have **depression**[21]
- **7%** say they often or always feel **lonely**[21]
- These figures are similar to England[21]

35% of Bolton **5 year olds** have visually obvious **dental decay** (worse than England)[22]

Measles is a highly infectious vaccine preventable viral infection which can cause serious disease[22]

- **90%** of children have **at least one dose of MMR** by age 2 (similar to England)
- The target is 95% coverage nationally to ensure disease control

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February 2026

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