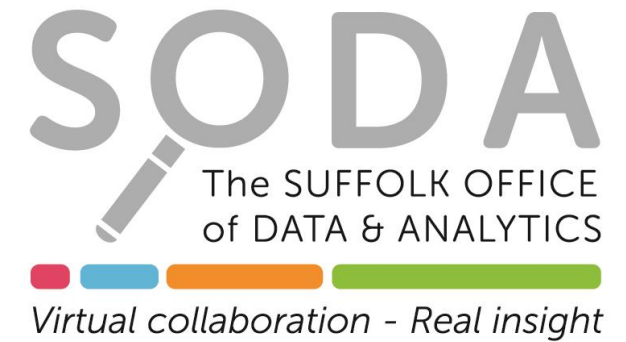


Serious Violence Duty Strategic Needs Assessment

Demographic, social and economic characteristics of Suffolk's population

March 2023



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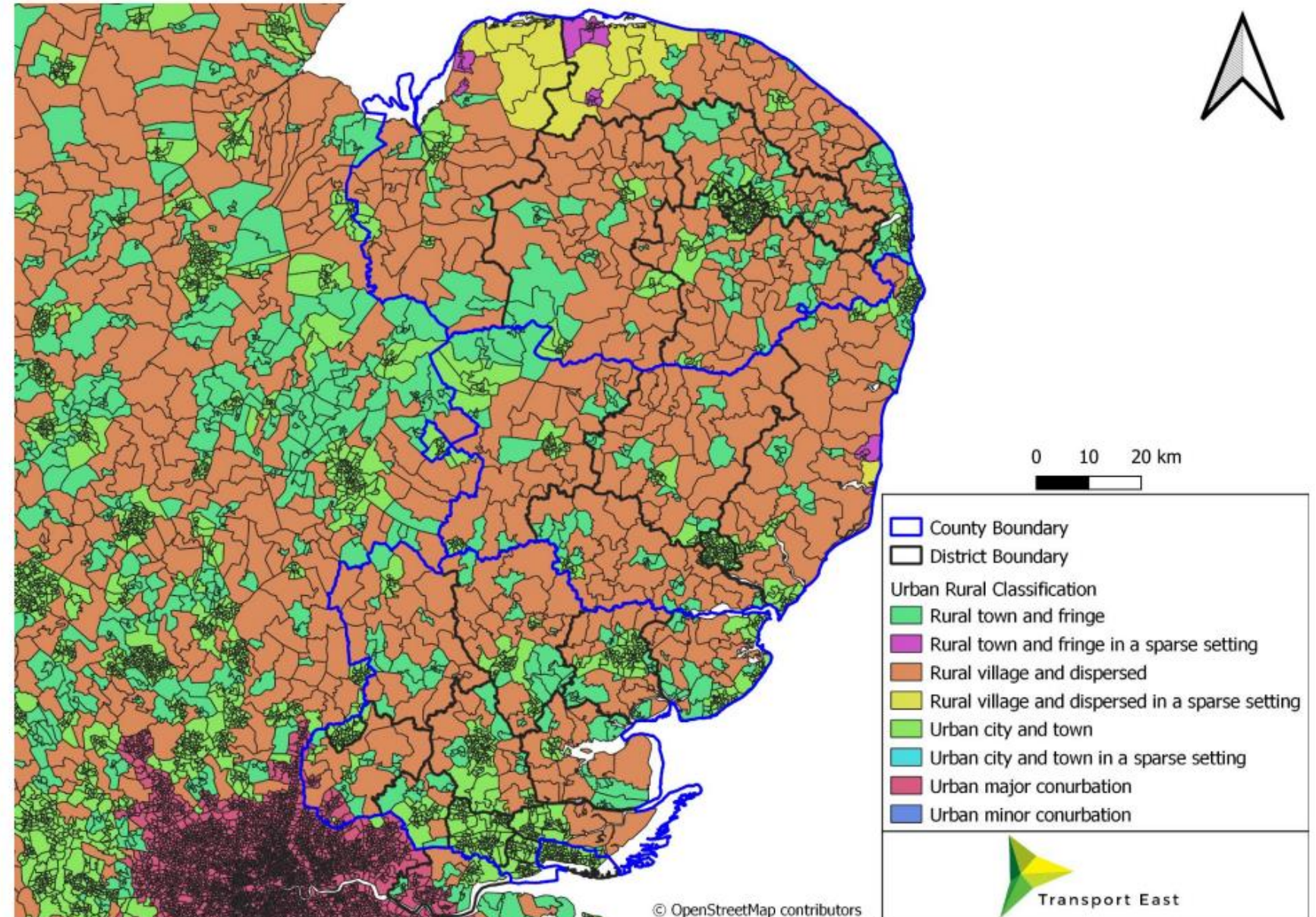
Suffolk – a rural county

Suffolk is classed as “Largely Rural” (rural including hub towns 50-79%) in the Defra 2011 Rural Urban Classification.

40% of its population live in rural areas, compared to those classed as urban (incl. cities, towns, major & minor conurbations).

Suffolk also has 50 miles of coastline. With many larger and small coastal towns.

Rural/Urban Classification



On the day of the 2021 Census, the usual resident **population of Suffolk is estimated at 760,688**.

- This is an increase of just over 32,525 (4.5%) since the 2011 Census; the equivalent of the current population of the towns of Stowmarket and Beccles combined.
- Since the 2001 Census, the population of the county has increased by just over 92,000 people (13.8%), approximately the current population of Lowestoft and Bury St Edmunds combined.

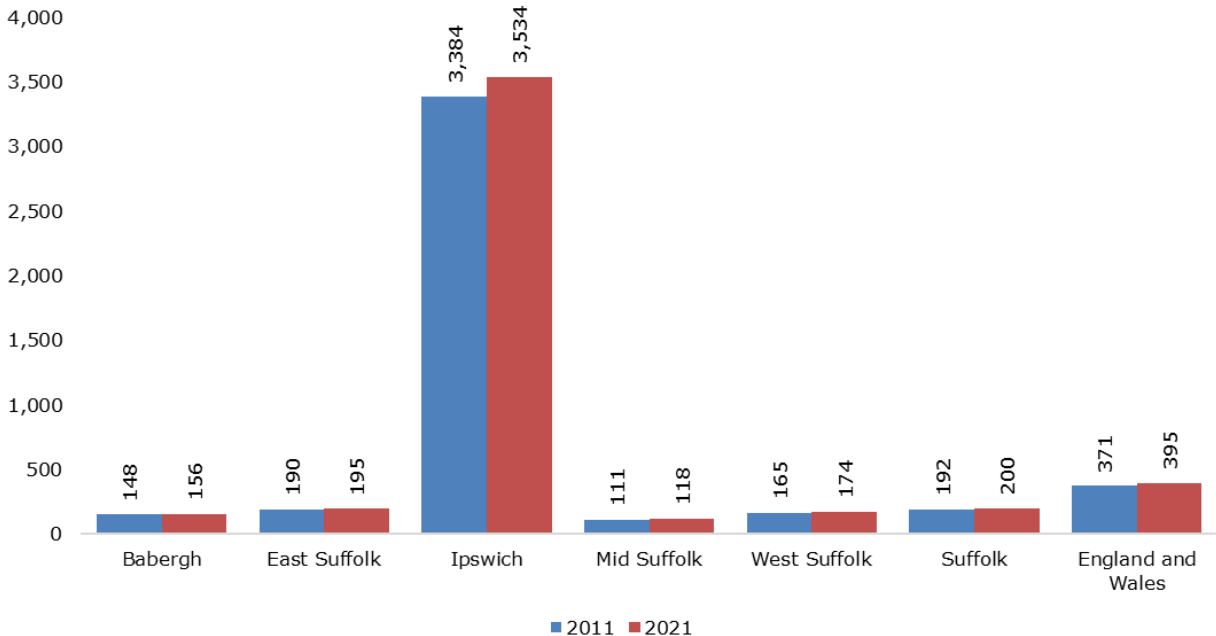
All usual residents in Suffolk: comparison of recent Census estimates

(Source: ONS, Censuses 2001, 2011 & 2021)



Population density for Suffolk's Districts and Boroughs, Suffolk county and England and Wales, 2011 & 2021

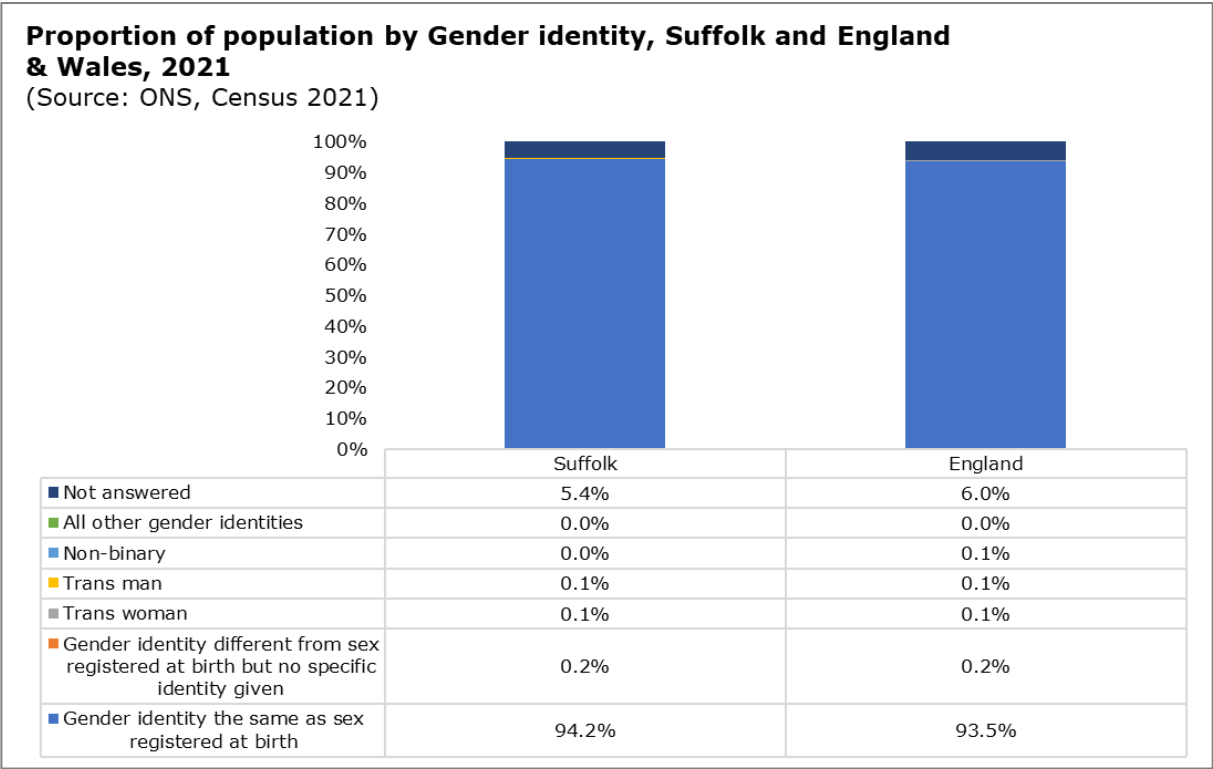
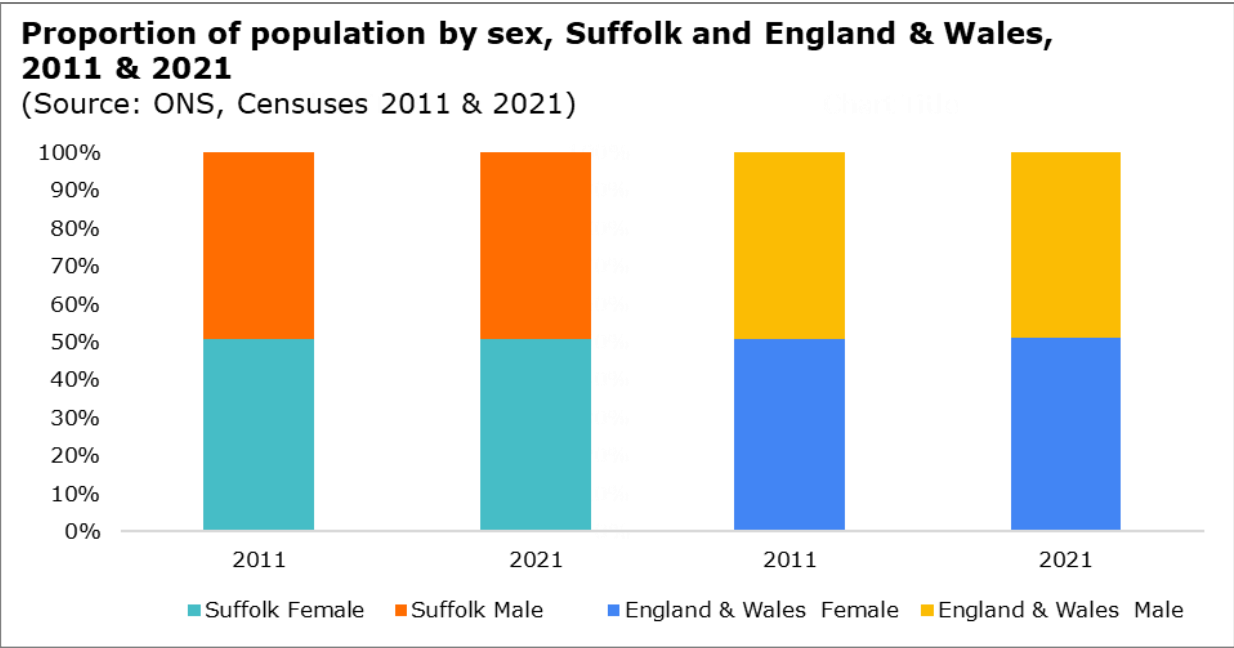
(Source: ONS, Censuses 2011 & 2021)



While **population density** has increased across all of Suffolk's Districts and Boroughs, this is still only around half the England and Wales average (200 usual residents per square kilometre in Suffolk vs. 395 nationally).

- The population density of Mid Suffolk remains the lowest in the county (118 people per square kilometre) but saw the highest increase over the past decade (7.3%). Mid Suffolk was the only district in Suffolk to see an increase in population density above the England and Wales average.
- Of Suffolk's Districts, only the largely urban Borough of Ipswich has a higher-than-average population density.
- Across the county, there are 8.6 more usual residents per square kilometre in 2021 than there were in 2011, an increase of 4.5%.

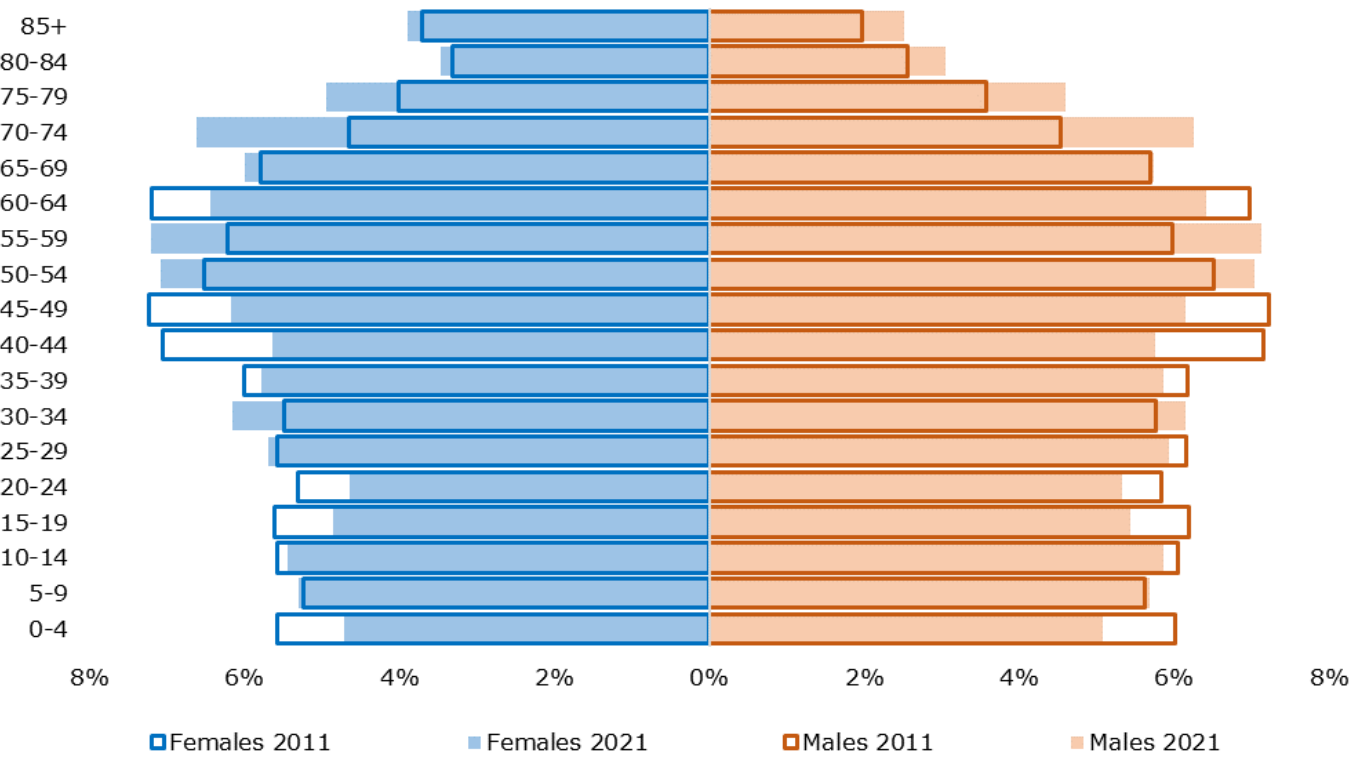
The split by **sex** has remained largely unchanged from 2011 to 2021, both in Suffolk and across England & Wales. Females make up 51% of the population. 94% of both local and national populations state that their **gender identity** is the same as registered at birth



Suffolk’s overall **population has aged** from 2011 to 2021: most five-year age bands below the age of 50 account for a smaller percentage of the overall proportion in 2021 than they did in 2011, while the opposite is true of the age bands over 50.

All usual residents by 5-year age band in Suffolk by gender, 2011 & 2021

(Source: ONCS, Censuses 2011 & 2021)

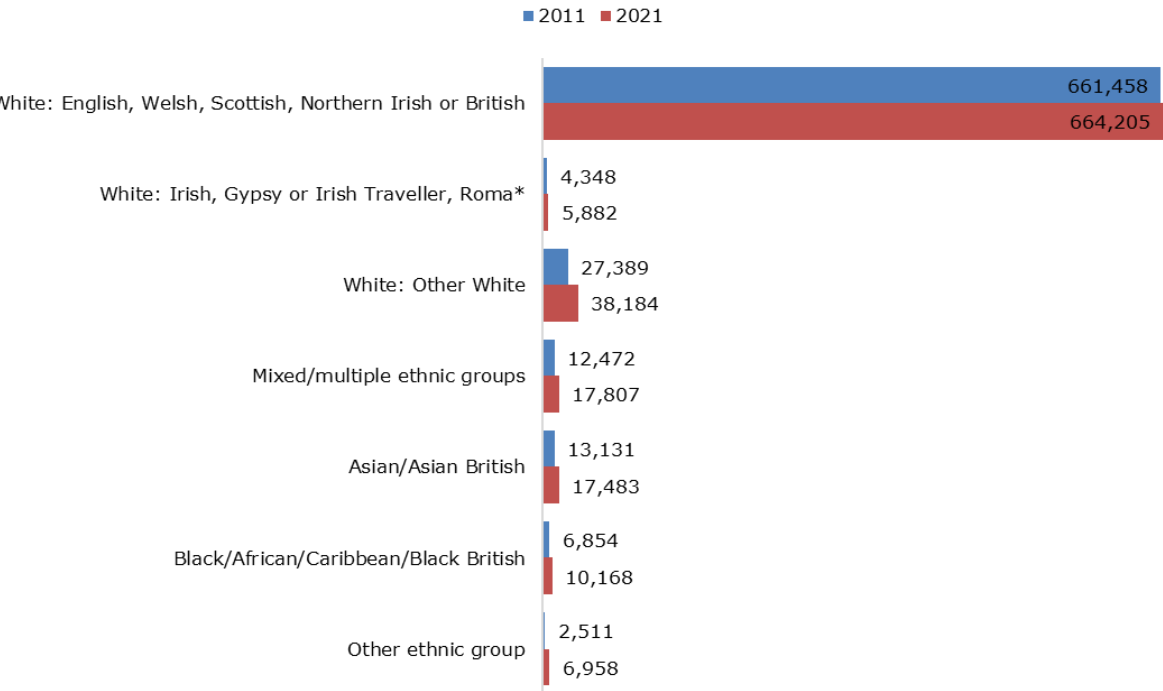


- Some larger age cohorts have a clear impact on the age pyramid as time passes by. For example, the 40-49 year old cohort accounted for among the highest percentages of the overall Suffolk population in 2011, while in 2021 this cohort is now impacting on the 50-59 age group. Meanwhile the 40-49 age group now accounts for a much smaller proportion of residents in the county.
- In other cases, smaller cohorts in 2011 have not fed through to the composition of the population in 2021. For example, the 20-24 age band accounted for around 5% of the population in 2011, but the 30-34 age group in the county is larger in 2021 and accounts for more than 6% of the total population of Suffolk due to migration into the county.
- The age pyramids for Suffolk’s Districts and Boroughs (see appendix) show that Babergh, East Suffolk and Mid Suffolk have a particularly “pinched” lower-middle, the result of an older population and a lower proportion of young adults in particular. These areas also have a notably ageing population, with the older age bands accounting for a larger proportion of the overall population in 2021 than they did in 2011. While Ipswich and West Suffolk have a more traditionally pyramid shaped chart, with a larger proportion of working-age people and children.

Suffolk’s population remains less **ethnically** diverse than that of England & Wales overall. At the time of the 2021 Census, there were 664,205 White English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British usually resident in Suffolk, 87.3% of the county’s population (compared to 74.4% across England & Wales as a whole).

Usual resident population by ethnic group in Suffolk, 2011 & 2021

(Source: ONS, Censuses 2011 & 2021)



**This group includes White Irish, White Gypsy or Irish Traveller and White Roma ethnic groups in 2021. In 2011, Roma were not split out as a separate group, so are included in Gypsy or Irish Traveller or White: Other White.*

- The usual resident population of every ethnic group in Suffolk has increased from 2011 to 2021, with the largest increase in the other white group. There were 38,184 other white people in Suffolk in 2021; 10,795 more than in 2011. This group accounts for a third of the total population increase in Suffolk over the past decade

	Suffolk			
	2011	2021	Change	% change
White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	661,458	664,205	2,747	0.4%
White: Irish, Gypsy or Irish Traveller, Roma	4,348	5,882	1,534	35.3%
White: Other White	27,389	38,184	10,795	39.4%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	12,472	17,807	5,335	42.8%
Asian/Asian British	13,131	17,483	4,352	33.1%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	6,854	10,168	3,314	48.4%
Other ethnic group	2,511	6,958	4,447	177.1%
Total	728,163	760,687	32,524	4.5%

- Other White residents now make up 5% of Suffolk’s population, an increase of 1.3 percentage points since 2011.
- The largest percentage increase of any ethnic group was among the “other ethnic group” population. The Suffolk population in this group more than doubled from 2011 to 2021.
- The population of white Irish, Gypsy or Irish Traveller or Roma and Asian/Asian British in Suffolk grew by around a third between the two Censuses, rising from 4,348 in 2011 to 5,882 in 2021.
- Suffolk is now home to almost 18,000 people of mixed/multiple ethnic background. The multiple/mixed ethnic population in the county increased by more than 5,000 from 2011 to 2021, a rise of 42.8%.
- Just over 10,000 Black/African/Caribbean/Black British people are resident in Suffolk in 2021; growth of almost 50% over the past decade.

Usual resident population by **national identity**, Suffolk and England & Wales, 2021 Census

	Suffolk		England & Wales
British only identity	398,802	52.4%	54.8%
English only identity	153,321	20.2%	14.9%
English and British only identity	135,495	17.8%	13.6%
Welsh only identity	1,807	0.2%	3.2%
Welsh and British only identity	736	0.1%	0.6%
Any other combination of only UK identities	6,882	0.9%	1.2%
Irish only identity	2,143	0.3%	0.5%
Irish and at least one UK identity	527	0.1%	0.1%
Other identity only (non-UK)	51,884	6.8%	9.2%
Other identity (non-UK) and at least one UK identity	9,088	1.2%	1.9%

Number and change of usual residents aged 3 years and over by main language, Suffolk and England & Wales

	Suffolk				England & Wales
	2011	2021	Change	% change	% change
English (English or Welsh in Wales)	679,495	705,408	25,913	3.8%	5.5%
Welsh or Cymraeg (in England only)	65	47	-18	-27.7%	-10.9%
Other UK language	39	39	0	0.0%	-11.1%
French	604	429	-175	-29.0%	-18.2%
Portuguese	2,106	3,345	1,239	58.8%	68.4%
Spanish	579	825	246	42.5%	78.9%
Other European language (EU)	10,739	18,038	7,299	68.0%	56.6%
Other European language (non EU)	342	325	-17	-5.0%	13.7%
Other European language (EU & non-EU)*		96	96		
Other European language (non-national)	5	0	-5	-100.0%	19.5%
Russian	629	848	219	34.8%	35.5%
Turkish	523	798	275	52.6%	13.6%
Arabic	252	462	210	83.3%	28.1%
West or Central Asian language	1,018	1,314	296	29.1%	18.8%
South Asian language	2,922	3,698	776	26.6%	6.0%
East Asian language	2,459	2,523	64	2.6%	-6.7%
Oceanic or Australian language	36	30	-6	-16.7%	-3.9%
North or South American language	1	1	0	0.0%	-93.4%
Caribbean Creole	3	14	11	366.7%	248.6%
African language	541	515	-26	-4.8%	-16.0%
Sign language	227	241	14	6.2%	21.7%
Other language	114	30	-84	-73.7%	-58.4%

**Not included in 2011, people who gave another language were grouped in the "other language" category.*

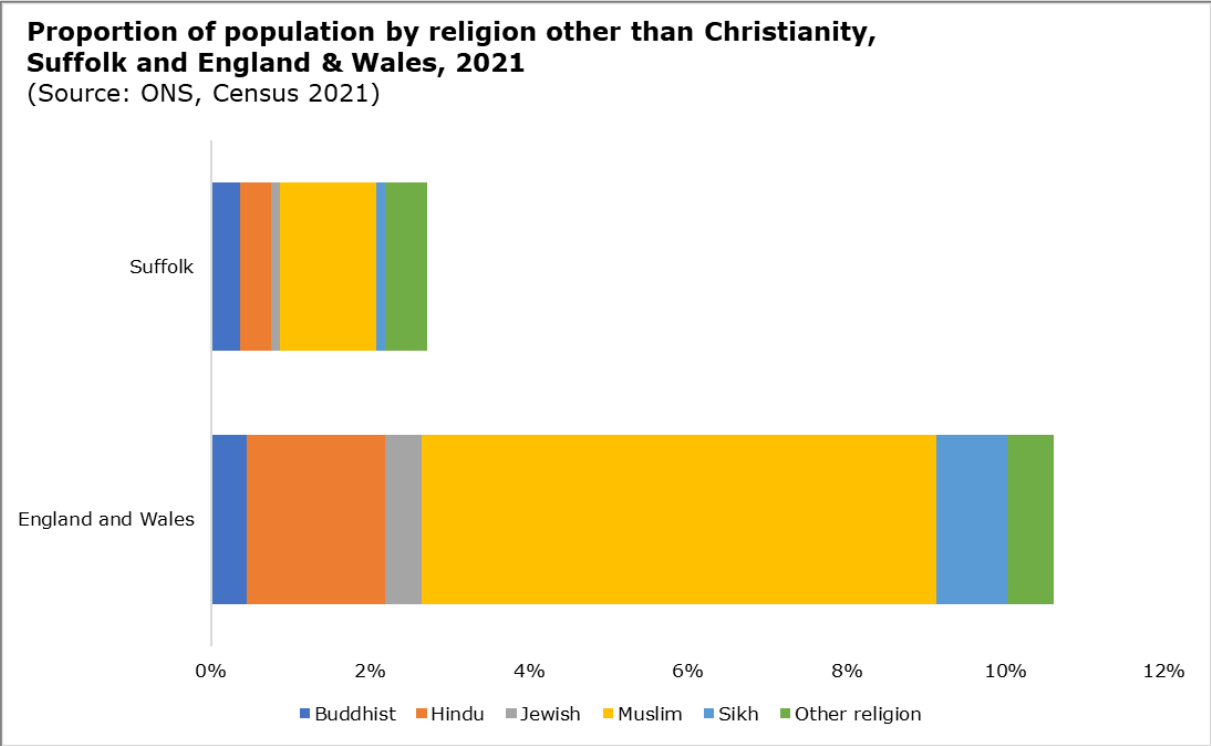
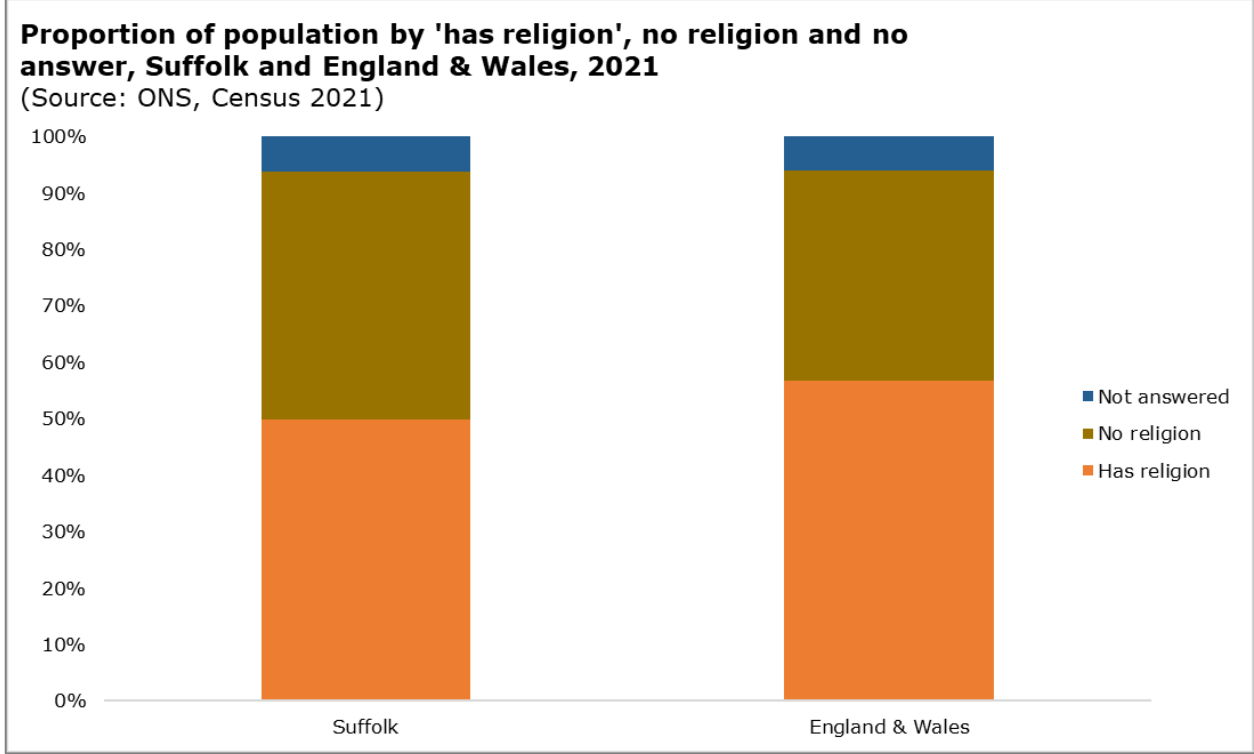
Main language of adults in a **household**, Suffolk and England & Wales

	Suffolk				England & Wales
	2011	2021	Change	% change	% change
All adults in household have English* as a main language	298,699	316,387	17,688	5.9%	4.2%
At least one but not all adults in household have English* as a main language	4,953	5,896	943	19.0%	19.4%
No adults in household, but at least one person aged 3 to 15 years, has English* as a main language	855	2,343	1,488	174.0%	81.6%
No people in household have English* as a main language	6,238	8,918	2,680	43.0%	19.8%

Proficiency in English language in Suffolk and England & Wales, (no and % of **persons**)

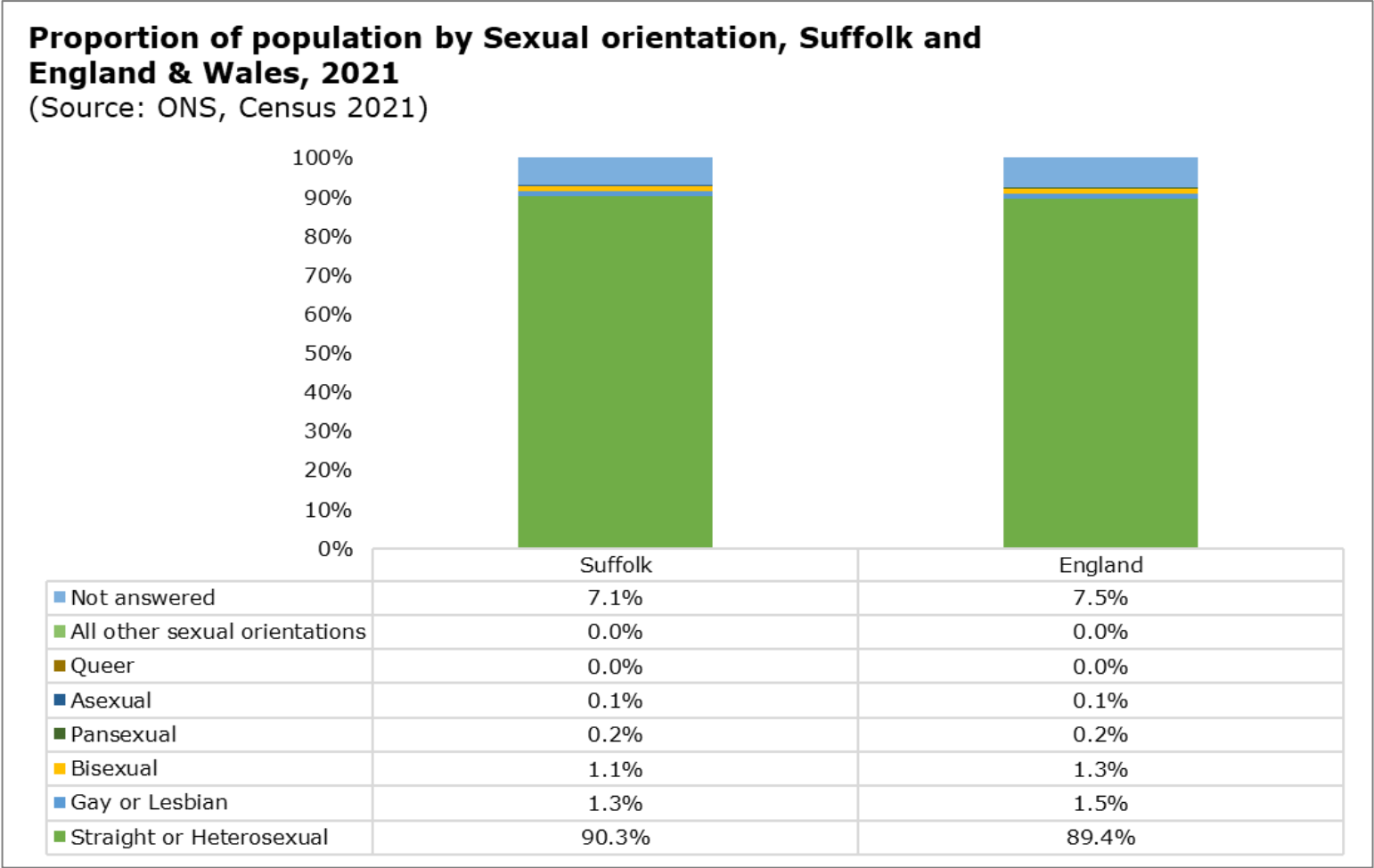
	2011			2021		
	Suffolk		England & Wales	Suffolk		England & Wales
Main language is English	679,495	96.7%	92.3%	705,408	95.5%	91.1%
Main language is not English	23,204	3.3%	7.7%	33,612	4.5%	8.9%
Main language is not English: Can speak English very well	9,080	1.3%	3.2%	14,507	2.0%	3.9%
Main language is not English: Can speak English well	9,104	1.3%	2.9%	12,767	1.7%	3.2%
Main language is not English: Cannot speak English well	4,292	0.6%	1.3%	5,450	0.7%	1.5%
Main language is not English: Cannot speak English	728	0.1%	0.3%	888	0.1%	0.3%

Just under 50% of Suffolk's population has a **religion** according to the 2021 Census, down from 63% in 2011. Across England and Wales, 57% have a religion (down from 68% in 2011)



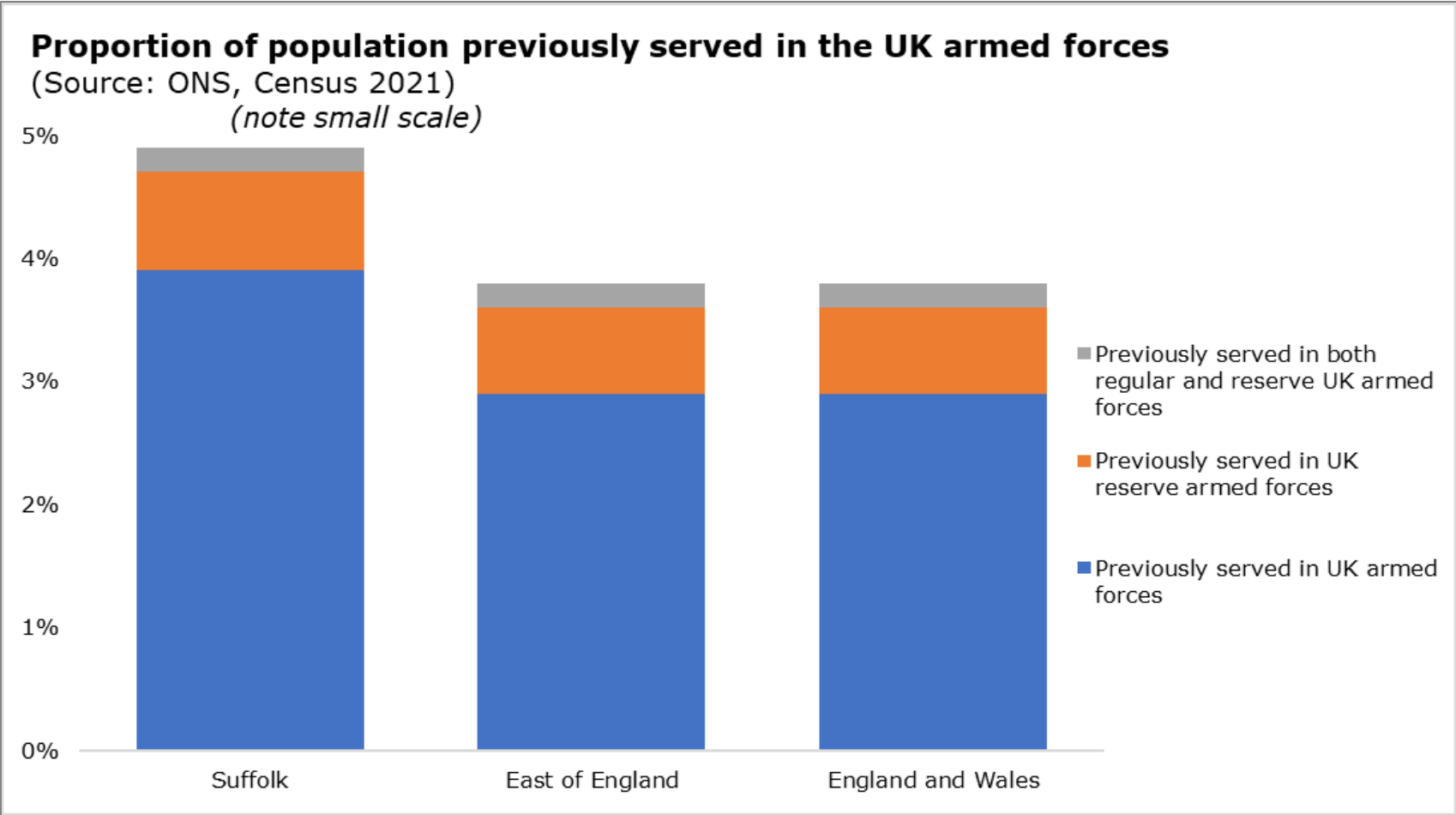
- The percentage of the Suffolk population who are Christian now sits at 47.1%, a fall of 13.8 percentage points since 2011. Of those that answered this question, 50% said that they were Christian.
- The number of people practicing all other religions in Suffolk has increased over the past decade. There are now 20,662 people in the county that practice a religion other than Christianity, 2.7% of the total population.
- The number of Buddhists and Hindus has increased by around one third, while there are almost 60% more Muslims in the county in 2021 than there were ten years ago.

Around 90% of both local and national populations state that their **sexual orientation** is straight / heterosexual.



At the time of the 2021 Census, there were 30,976 UK **armed forces veterans** resident in Suffolk. This equates to 4.9% of people aged 16+ resident in the county (almost 1 in 20; compared to national average of 2.9%).

Of these, 24,371 previously served in the UK regular armed forces (3.9% of residents aged 16+), 5,202 previously served in UK reserve armed forces (0.8%) and 1,403 (0.2%) previously served in both of these forces.



Percentage of usual resident population by **legal partnership status**, 2021 Census. *No comparable data from 2011.*

	Babergh	East Suffolk	Ipswich	Mid Suffolk	West Suffolk	Suffolk	England & Wales
Does not apply	16.2%	16.0%	19.9%	16.0%	17.7%	17.1%	18.5%
Never married and never registered a civil partnership	24.0%	24.9%	32.2%	24.1%	27.3%	26.6%	30.9%
Married: Opposite sex	43.0%	40.9%	32.7%	43.8%	38.9%	39.6%	36.0%
Married: Same sex	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
In a registered civil partnership: Opposite sex	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
In a registered civil partnership: Same sex	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Separated, but still married	1.8%	1.8%	2.0%	1.7%	2.0%	1.9%	1.8%
Separated, but still in a registered civil partnership	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Divorced	8.5%	9.1%	8.3%	8.3%	8.5%	8.6%	7.4%
Formerly in a civil partnership now legally dissolved	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Widowed	6.1%	6.8%	4.5%	5.7%	5.2%	5.8%	5.0%
Surviving partner from civil partnership	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	92,344	246,059	139,640	102,699	179,948	760,685	100.0%

All usual resident **population** aged 16 years and over by **living arrangements**, 2021 Census. No comparable data from 2011.

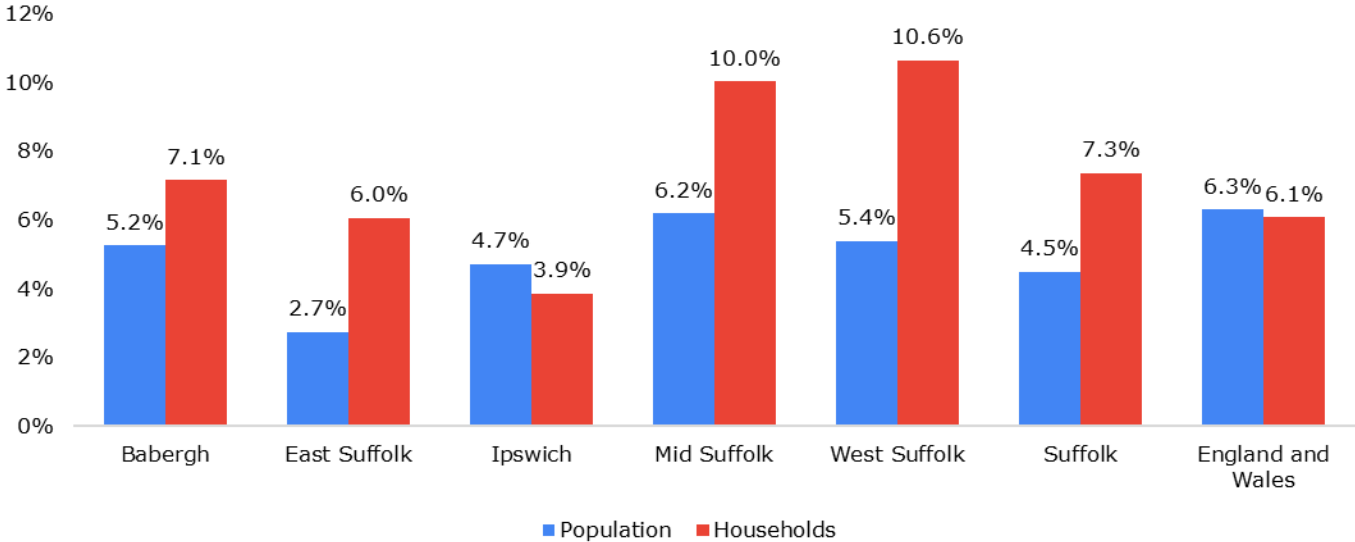
	Babergh	East Suffolk	Ipswich	Mid Suffolk	West Suffolk	Suffolk	England and Wales
Living in an opposite-sex couple: Married or in a civil partnership	50.9%	48.3%	39.9%	51.8%	47.2%	47.3%	43.3%
Living in a same-sex couple: Married or in a civil partnership	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Living in a couple: Separated, but still married or in a civil partnership	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Living in an opposite-sex couple: Cohabiting	13.7%	13.6%	16.1%	14.4%	14.3%	14.3%	13.4%
Living in a same-sex couple: Cohabiting	0.5%	0.5%	0.7%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%
Not living in a couple: Single (never married and never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	19.0%	20.1%	27.1%	18.4%	21.5%	21.3%	26.7%
Not living in a couple: Married or in a registered civil partnership	0.7%	0.8%	1.1%	0.7%	1.1%	0.9%	1.4%
Not living in a couple: Separated (including those who are married and those who are in civil partnerships)	1.7%	1.8%	2.0%	1.6%	1.9%	1.8%	1.9%
Not living in a couple: Divorced or formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	6.6%	7.3%	7.5%	6.0%	7.3%	7.1%	6.6%
Not living in a couple: Widowed or surviving partner from a civil partnership	6.5%	7.2%	5.1%	6.1%	5.7%	6.2%	5.6%

There are 22,798 more **households** in Suffolk at the time of the 2021 Census than there were in 2011, an increase of 7.3% The rise in household numbers has been higher in Suffolk than across England and Wales as a whole from 2011 to 2021.

	2011	2021	Change
Babergh	37,522	40,200	2,678
Ipswich	57,298	59,507	2,209
Mid Suffolk	40,306	44,343	4,037
East Suffolk	104,441	110,747	6,306
West Suffolk	71,178	78,746	7,568
Suffolk	310,745	333,543	22,798
England and Wales	23,366,044	24,783,199	1,417,155

Percentage change in population and households between 2011 & 2021

(Source: ONS, Censuses 2011 & 2021)

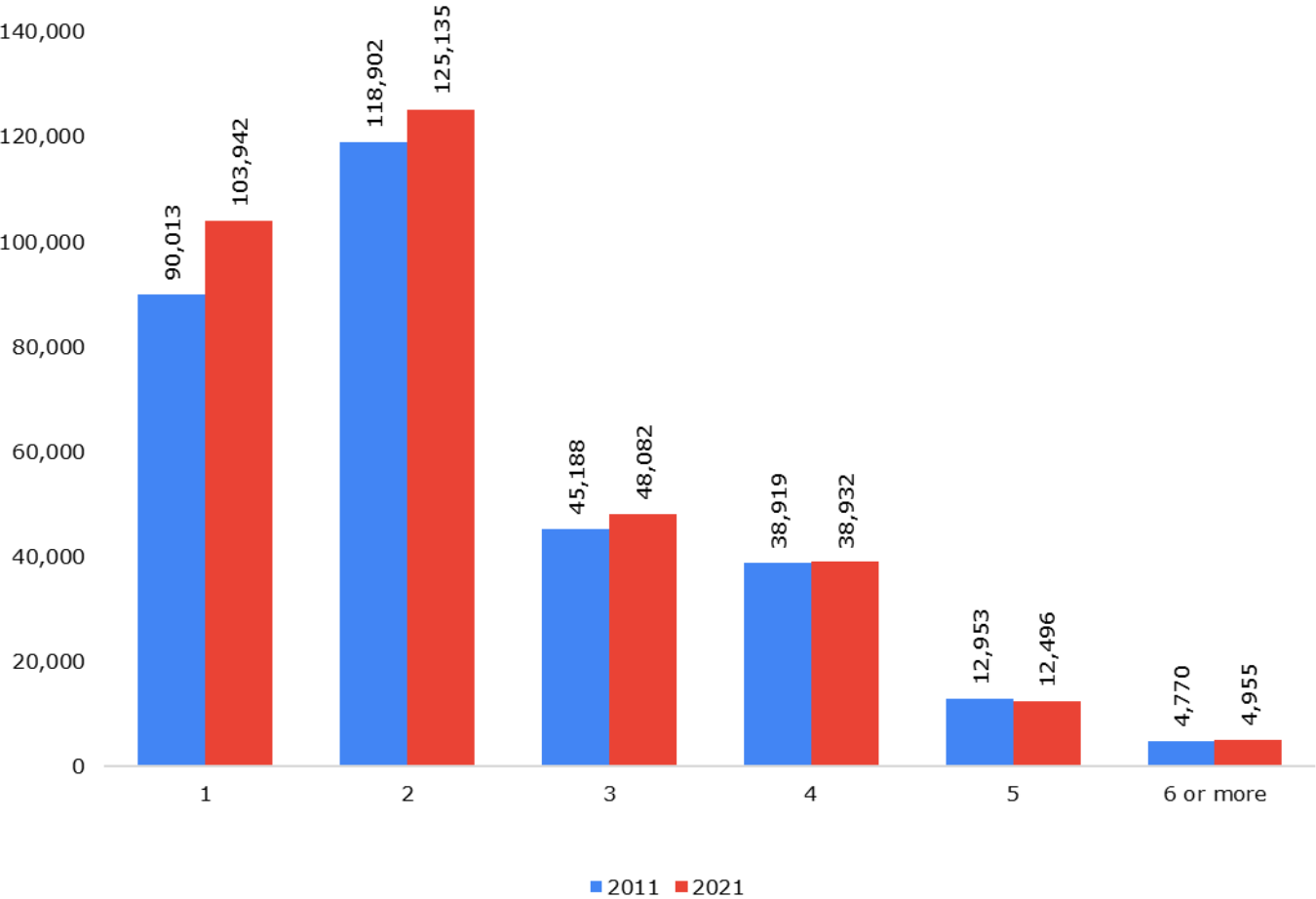


- The growth in households has been strongest in percentage terms in West Suffolk and Mid Suffolk. Babergh also saw household growth above the national average over the past decade.
- **Household growth has outstripped population** growth across most of Suffolk; the exception being Ipswich. This reflects the increase in single person households (see next page).

Household size - there are almost 14,000 more single person households in Suffolk in 2021 than there were in 2011, an increase of 15.5%. Single person households account for more than half of the total increase in households in the county during this period.

Count of households by size in Suffolk: comparison of 2011 & 2021

(Source: ONS, Censuses 2011 & 2021)



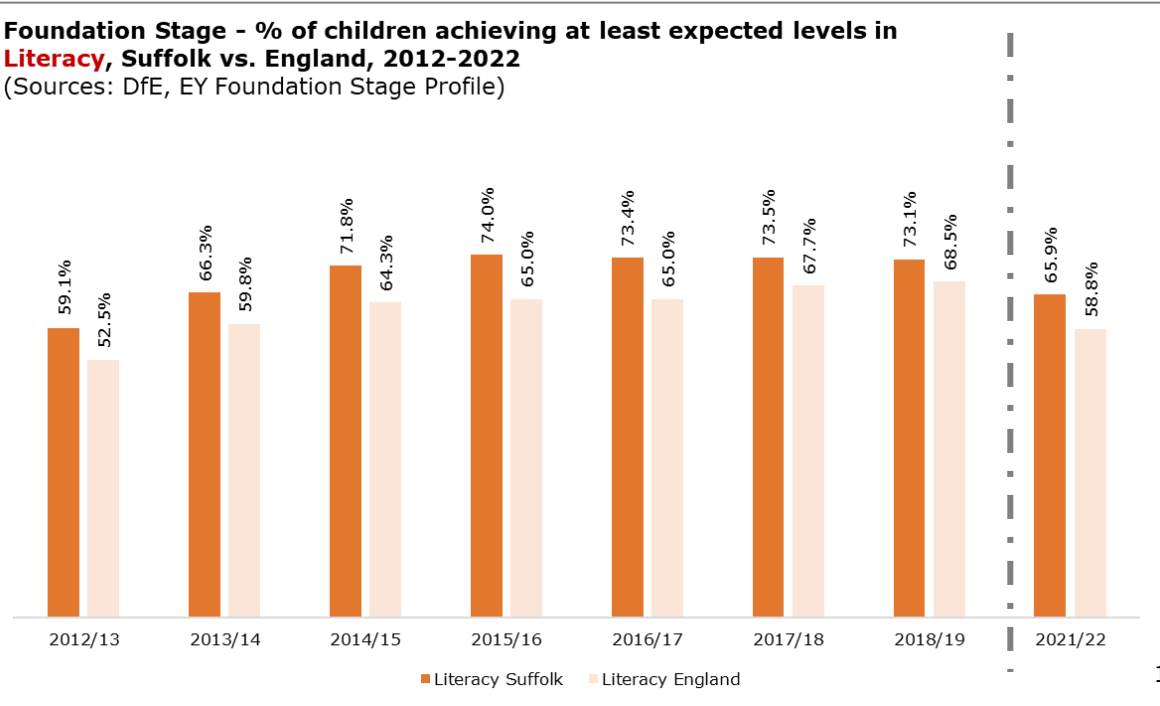
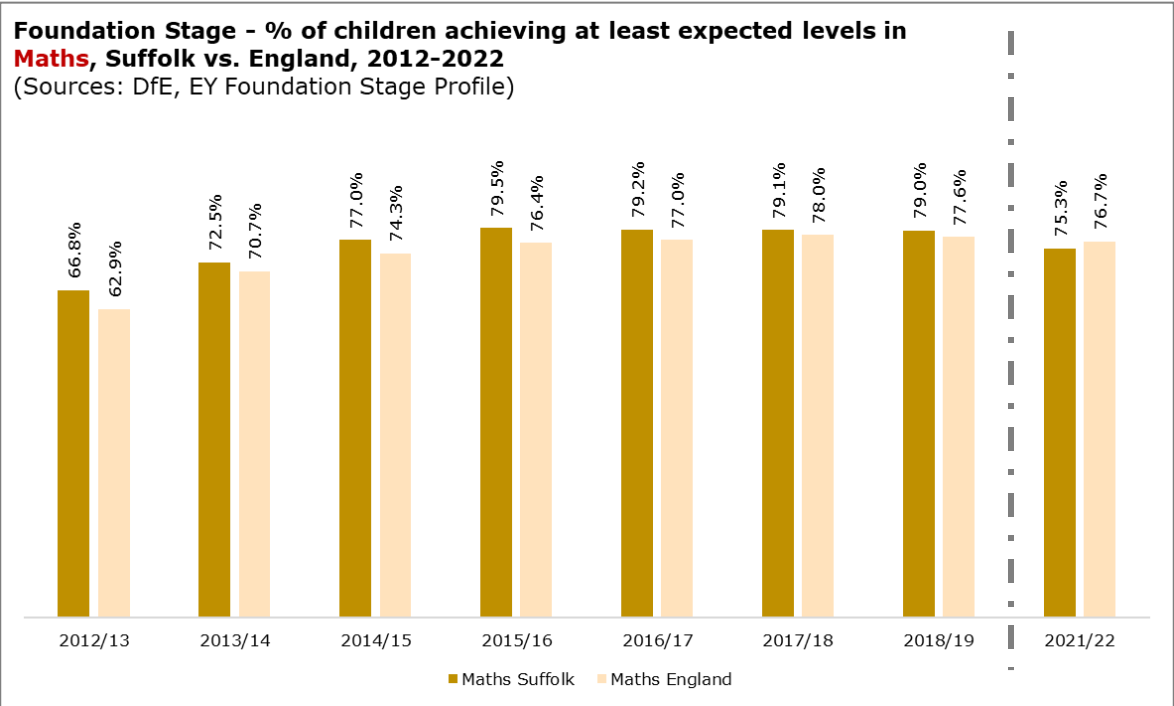
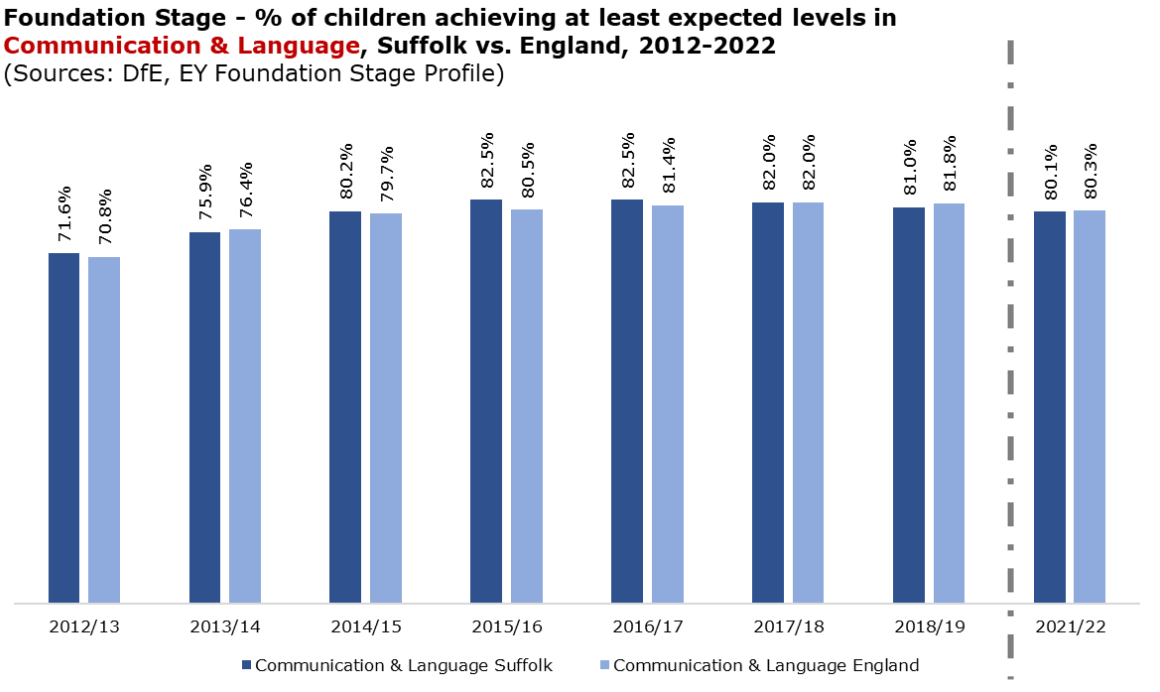
- There have also been smaller increases (both in absolute and percentage terms) in 2 person, 3 person and 6+ person households in the county overall.
- Single person households account for 31.2% of all households in the county in 2021, an increase of just over two percentage points since 2011.
- All other household sizes have declined as a proportion of total households during this period in Suffolk.
- Across England and Wales there has been a more consistent increase across all household sizes. The dominance of the increase in single person households seen in Suffolk is not reflected across England and Wales as a whole.

Most **household composition** definitions have increased during this period too.

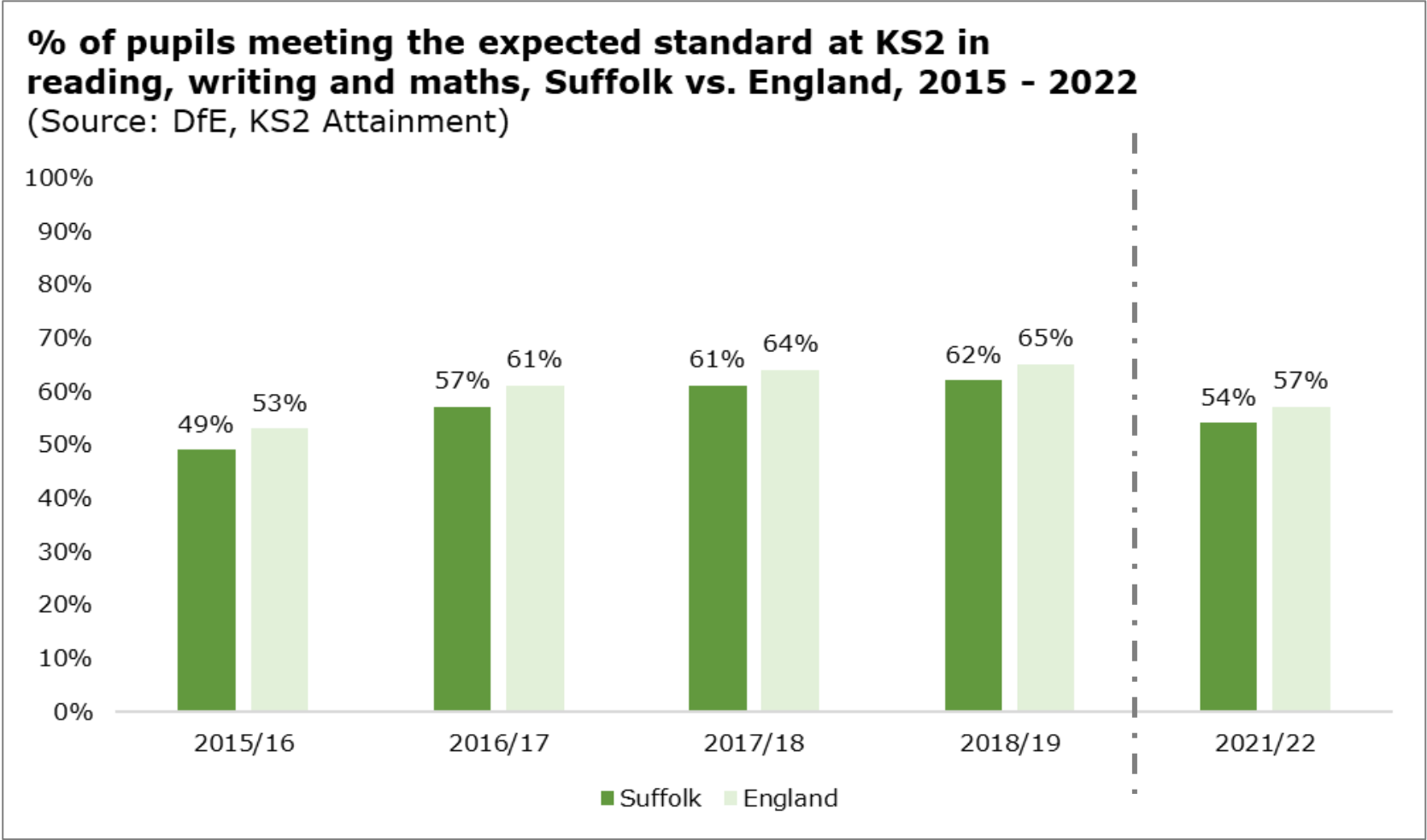
- Single person households have increased by 15.5% overall, with a slightly larger proportional increase in households containing one person of retirement age. In 2011 the figure presented is for 65 years and over, while in 2021 it is 66 years and over. This reflects the increases to state pension age.
- Married or civil partnership couples with no children or dependent children have declined over the last decade. This is partly due to the ageing population but also the rise in cohabiting couple families.
- Overall, married or civil partnership couple households have declined by 9,201 (8.3%), while cohabiting couples have increased by 7,006 (21.8%) and lone parent households have increased by 2,822 (10.3%).
- The number of households with non-dependent children has increased by 4,428 (16.2%) in the past decade. Just over half of this increase has occurred in lone parent families.
- Households containing only a person or people aged 66 and over have increased by almost a fifth since 2011, with almost 15,000 more such households in the county in 2021.

	Suffolk				England & Wales
	2011	2021	Change	% change	% change
One person					
Aged 66* years and over	42,599	49,382	6,783	15.9%	10.1%
Other	47,414	54,560	7,146	15.1%	2.9%
Single family					
All aged 66* years and over	33,508	41,700	8,192	24.4%	19.8%
Married or civil partnership couple: No children	46,717	40,830	-5,887	-12.6%	-10.3%
Married or civil partnership couple: Dependent children	47,911	43,325	-4,586	-9.6%	-0.6%
Married or civil partnership couple: All children non-dependent	16,745	18,017	1,272	7.6%	6.0%
Cohabiting couple family: No children	17,097	20,792	3,695	21.6%	26.8%
Cohabiting couple family: With dependent children	13,501	15,907	2,406	17.8%	18.0%
Cohabiting couple family: All children non-dependent	1,544	2,449	905	58.6%	56.1%
Lone parent family: With dependent children	18,309	18,880	571	3.1%	2.9%
Lone parent family: All children non-dependent	9,125	11,376	2,251	24.7%	27.1%
Other family composition (not included in 2011)		1,453			
Multiple family					
With dependent children	5,449	5,797	348	6.4%	7.1%
Other, including all full-time students and all aged 66* years and over	10,826	9,074	-1,752	-16.2%	-16.6%
Total households	310,745	333,542	22,797	7.3%	

Attainment levels at Foundation Stage have risen across Suffolk and England since 2012/13, though there has been a drop post-COVID in both Maths and Literacy (*note, due to COVID no data available for 2019/20 and 2020/21*).

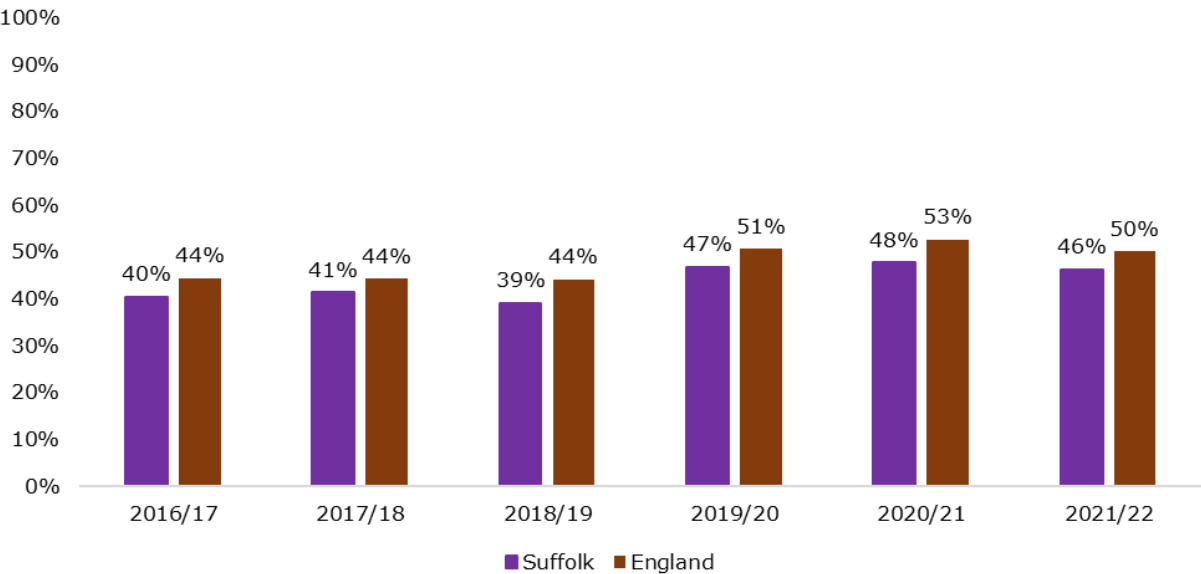


At Key Stage 2 the % of those meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths tends to drop from Foundation Stage. And a similar drop has occurred following COVID (*note, due to COVID no data available for 2019/20 and 2020/21*).

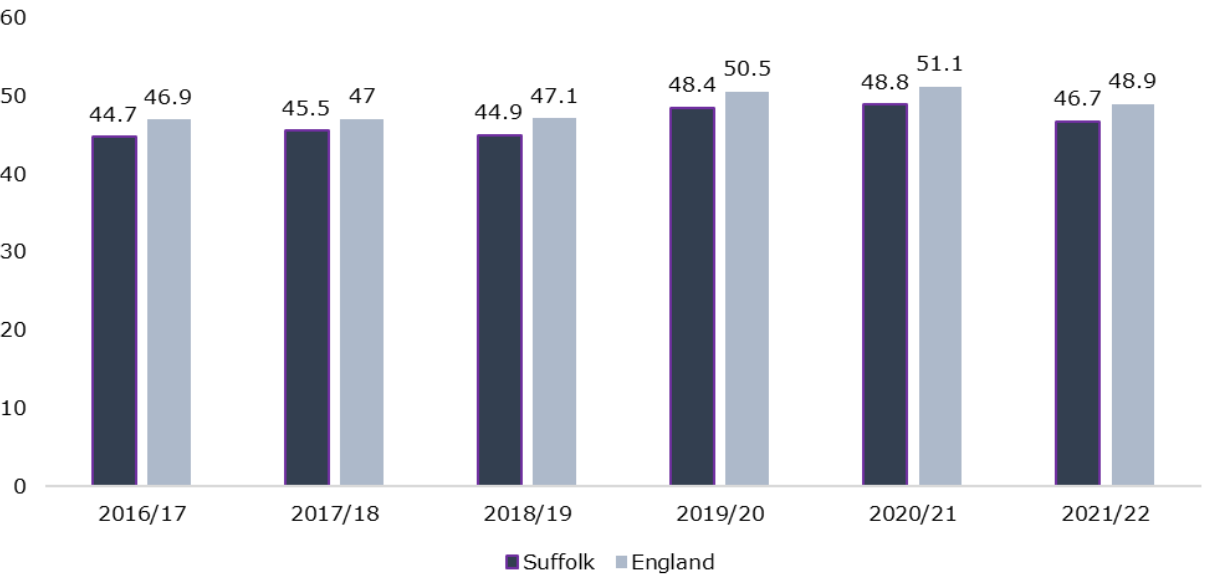


Suffolk continues to lag somewhat behind the national average at **GCSE / Key Stage 4**, with the average attainment 8 score being 46.7 in 2021/22 (vs. 48.9 nationally).

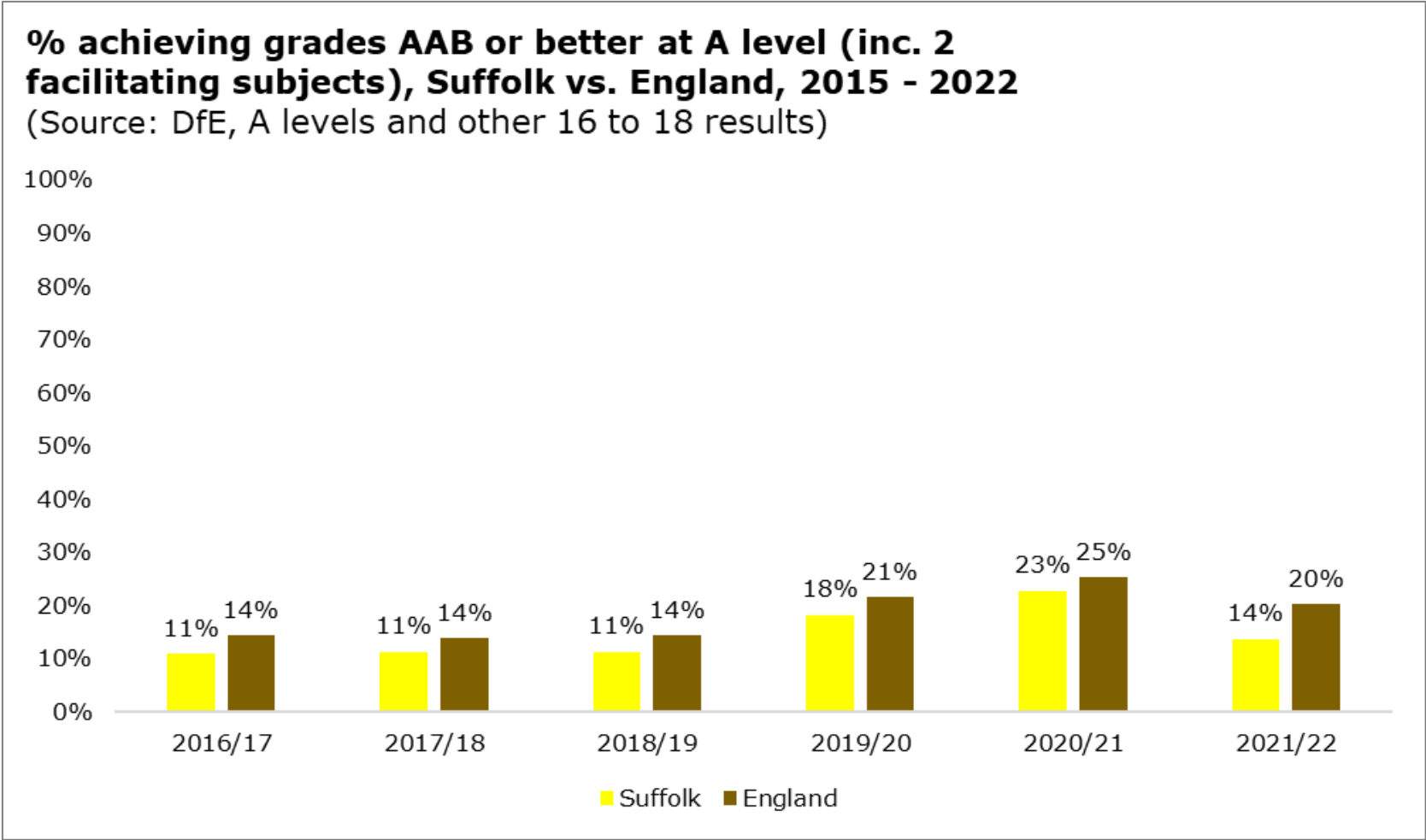
% achieving 9-5 in English and maths at GCSE, Suffolk vs. England, 2015 - 2022
(Source: DfE, KS4 Performance)



Average Attainment 8 score, Suffolk vs. England, 2015 - 2022
(Source: DfE, KS4 Performance)

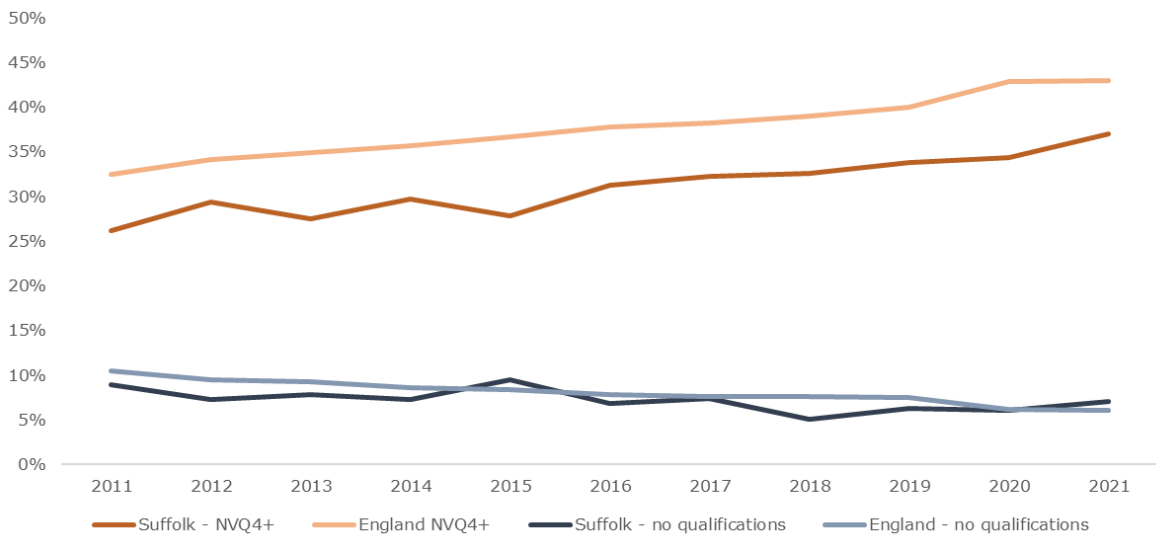


The % of students achieving grades AAB or better at **A-level**, has also been lower in Suffolk compared to England – and there has been a significant drop between 2020/21 and 2021/22 (by -9% in Suffolk and - 5% in England as a whole).



% of 16-64s with NVQ4+ and without qualifications, 2011-21

(Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey)

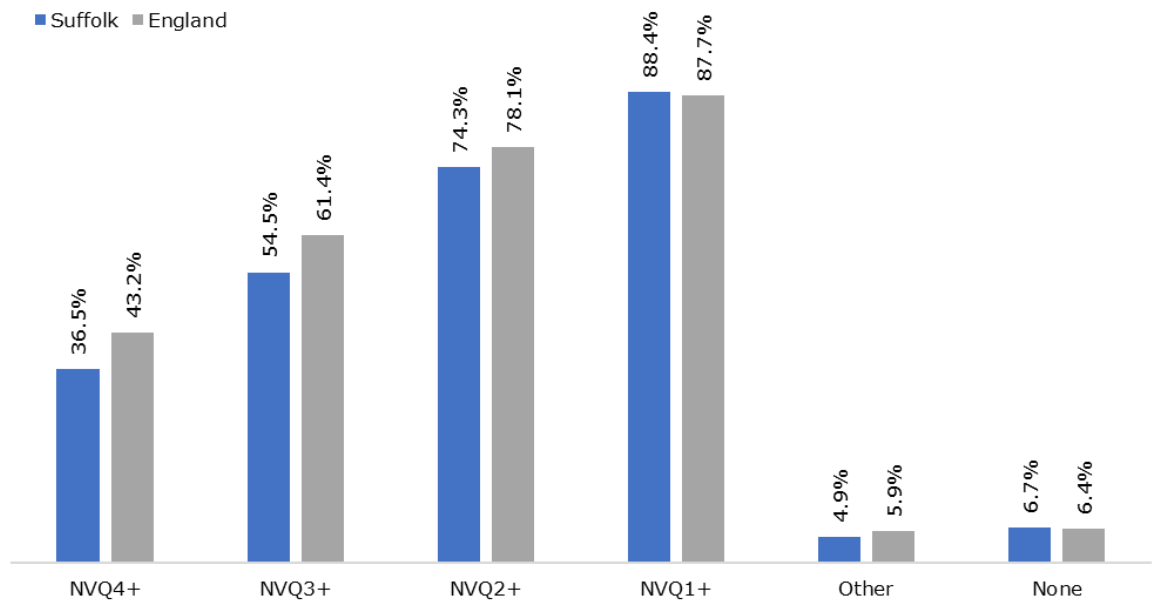


Degree qualifications amongst Suffolk's 16-64 population have been increasing but remain below the national average – while Suffolk has similar levels of people lacking any qualifications compared to the national average.

The below average adult skill levels across Suffolk are also linked to below average wages (*see next page*).

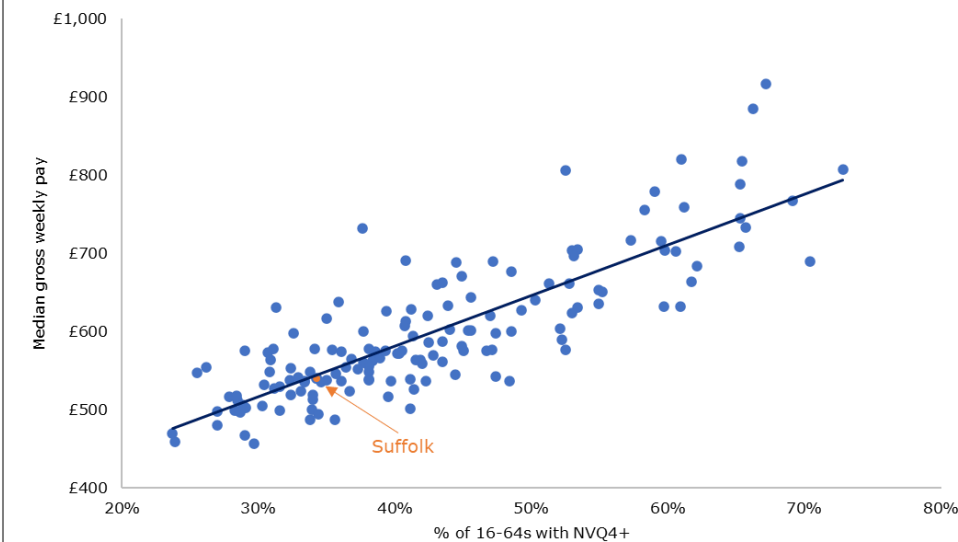
% of 16-64s by level of qualification, Suffolk vs. England, Jan - Dec 2021

(Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey)



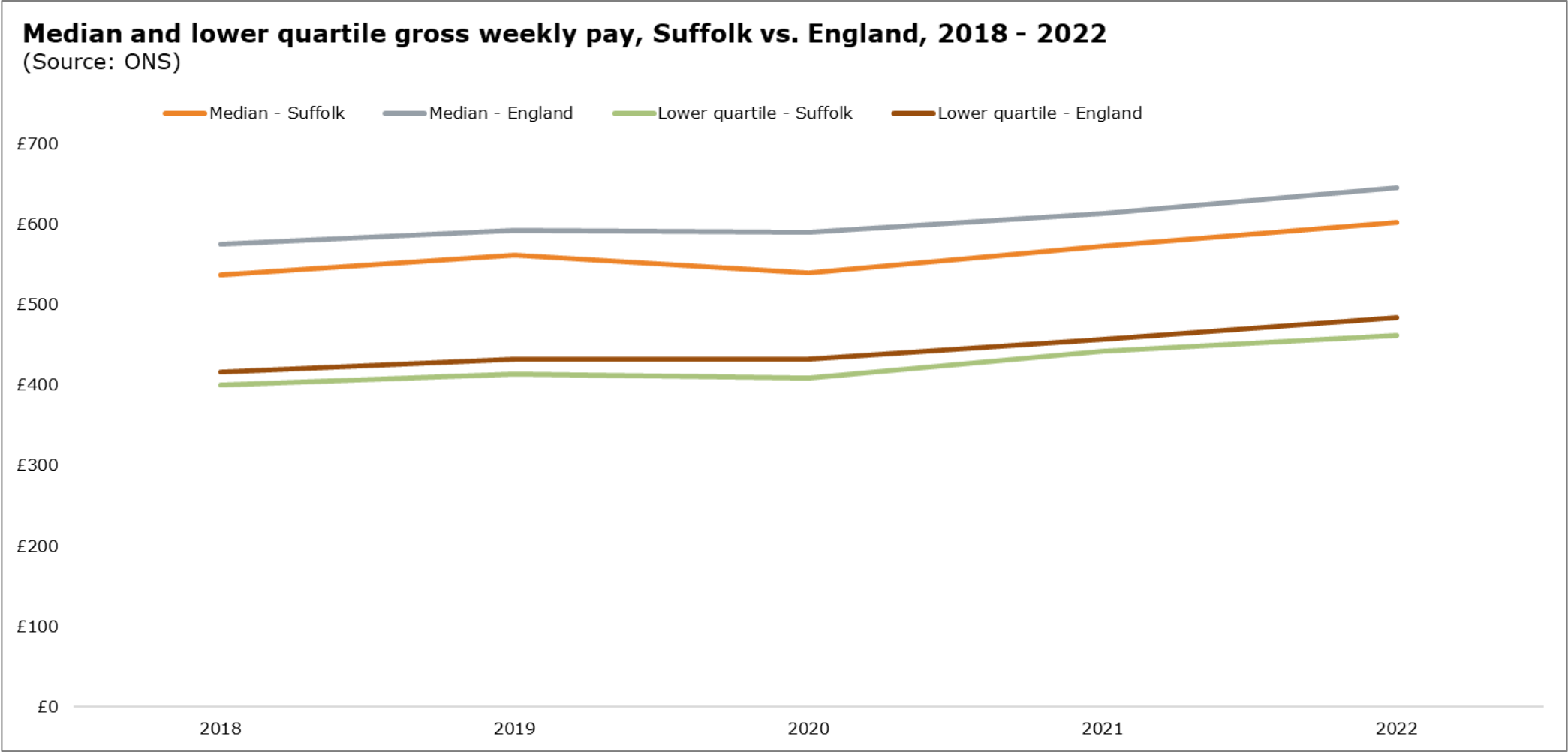
The relationship between pay and high qualifications based on 2020 data for all English counties & London

(Sources: ONS, Annual Population Survey and Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings)



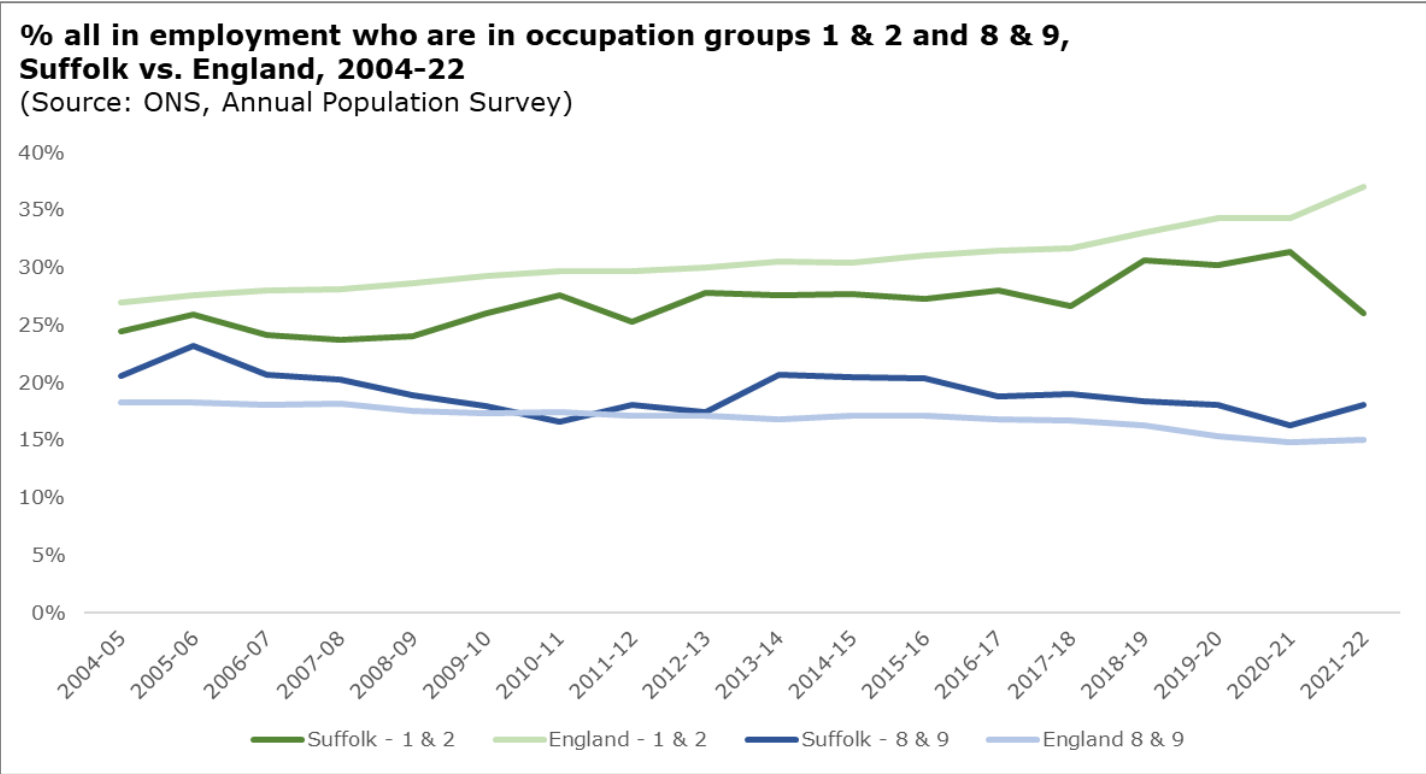
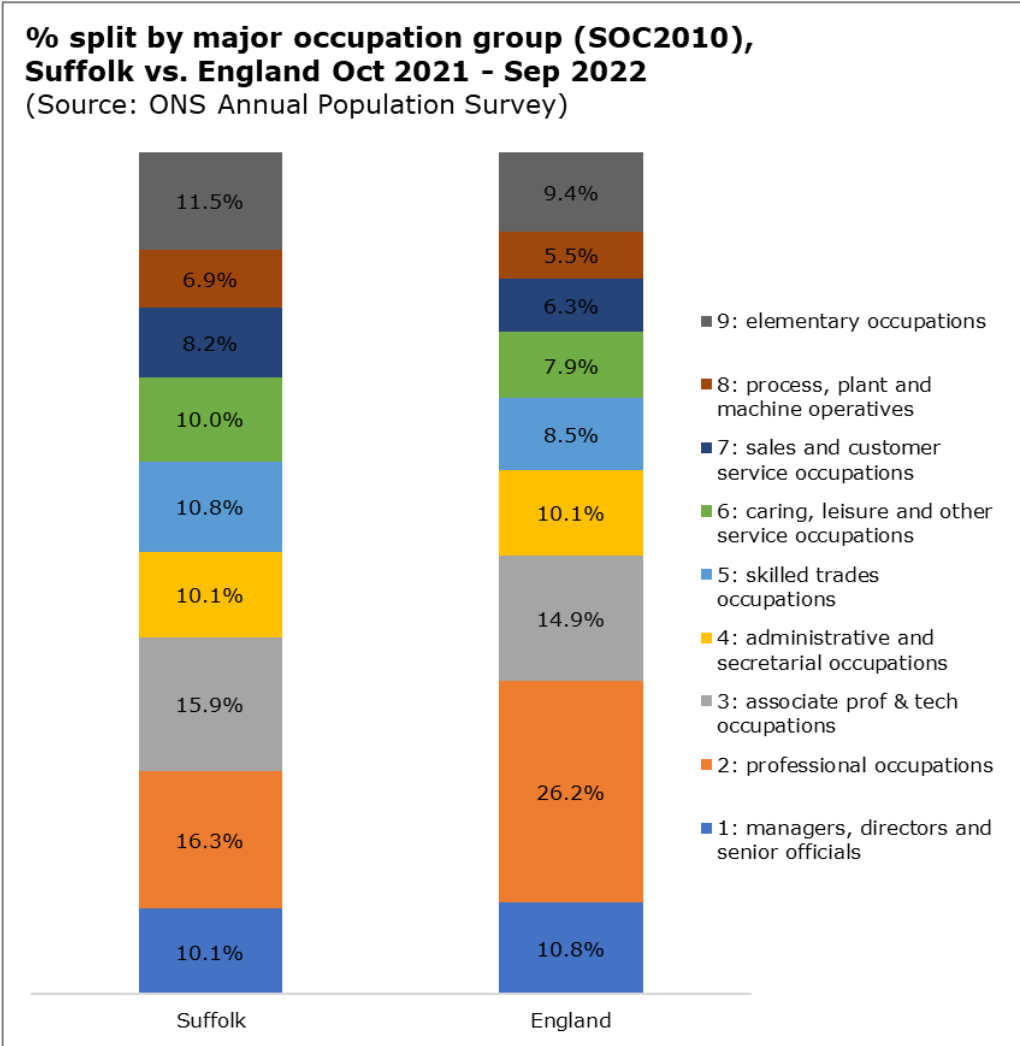
In 2022 **median gross weekly pay** increased in Suffolk and England by just over 5%. This means that Suffolk's pay is now £43 lower than on average.

The **lower quartile** (LQ) pay in Suffolk also continuous to lag behind the national average (£462 vs. £484). In 2022 LQ gross weekly pay increased by 6% across England but only by 4.4% in Suffolk.

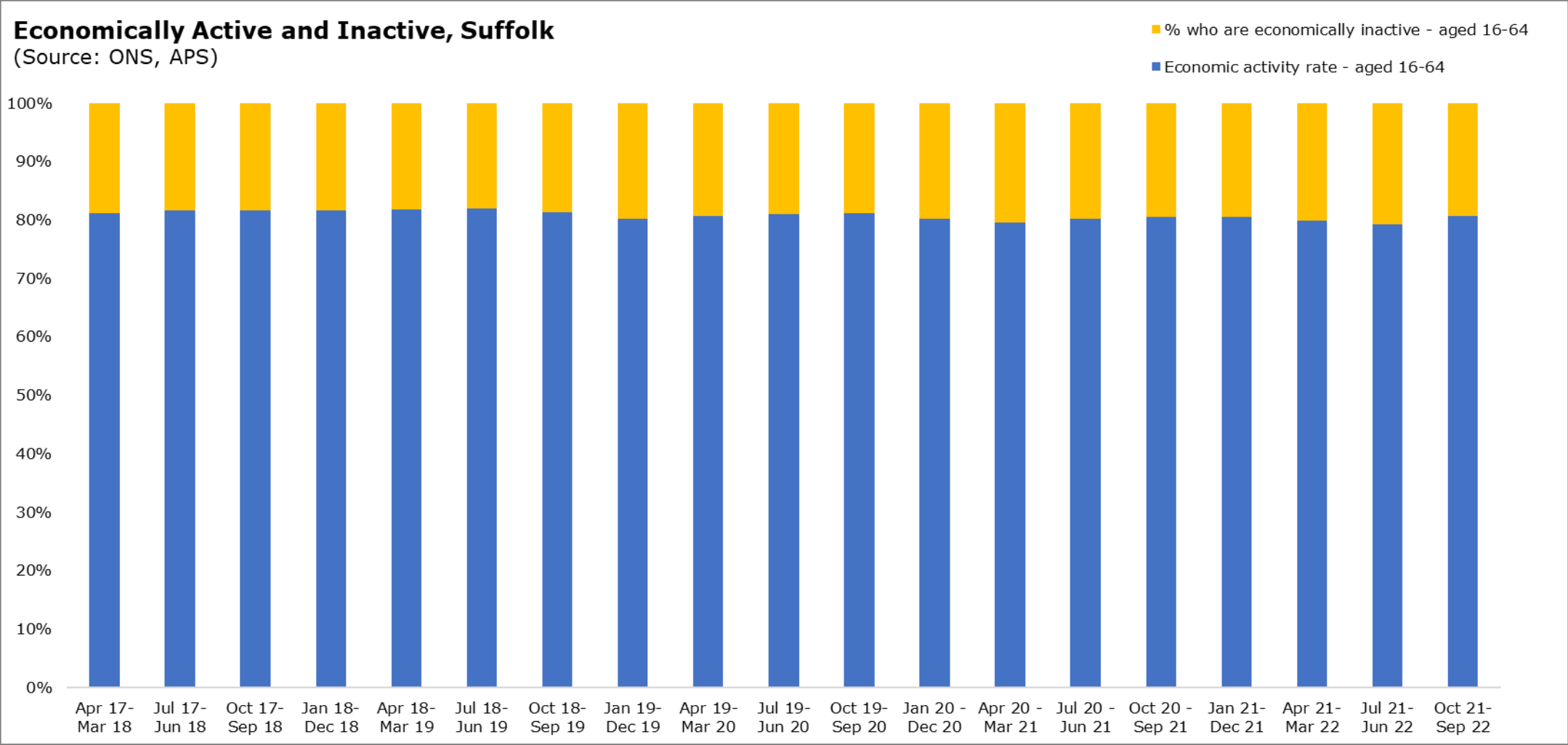


Occupations of workers in Suffolk match the below average earnings profile - Suffolk has traditionally below average proportions of people working in the highest paid occupations (1 & 2: managers, directors & senior officials and professional occupations) and above average levels of people in lower paid occupations (8 & 9: process, plant & machine operatives and elementary occupations).

Over time, numbers of those in groups 1 & 2 have marginally increased, while those in the lower skilled groups have declined; this is true both at local and national levels.

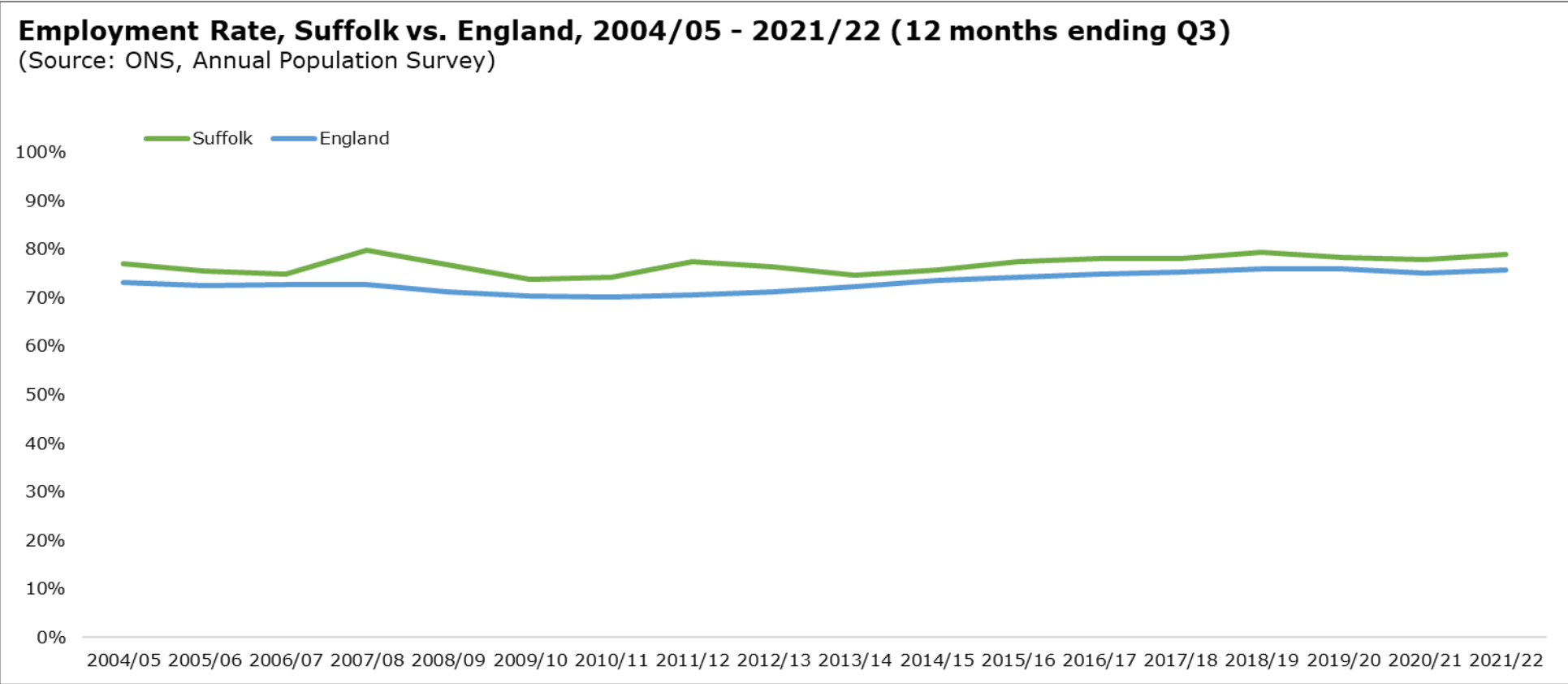


In the 12 months to September 2022, 361,600 (80.7%) of Suffolk's 16-64s were **economically active**, while 86,400 (19.3%) were **inactive**. This means a marginal increase in those active and decrease in those inactive.

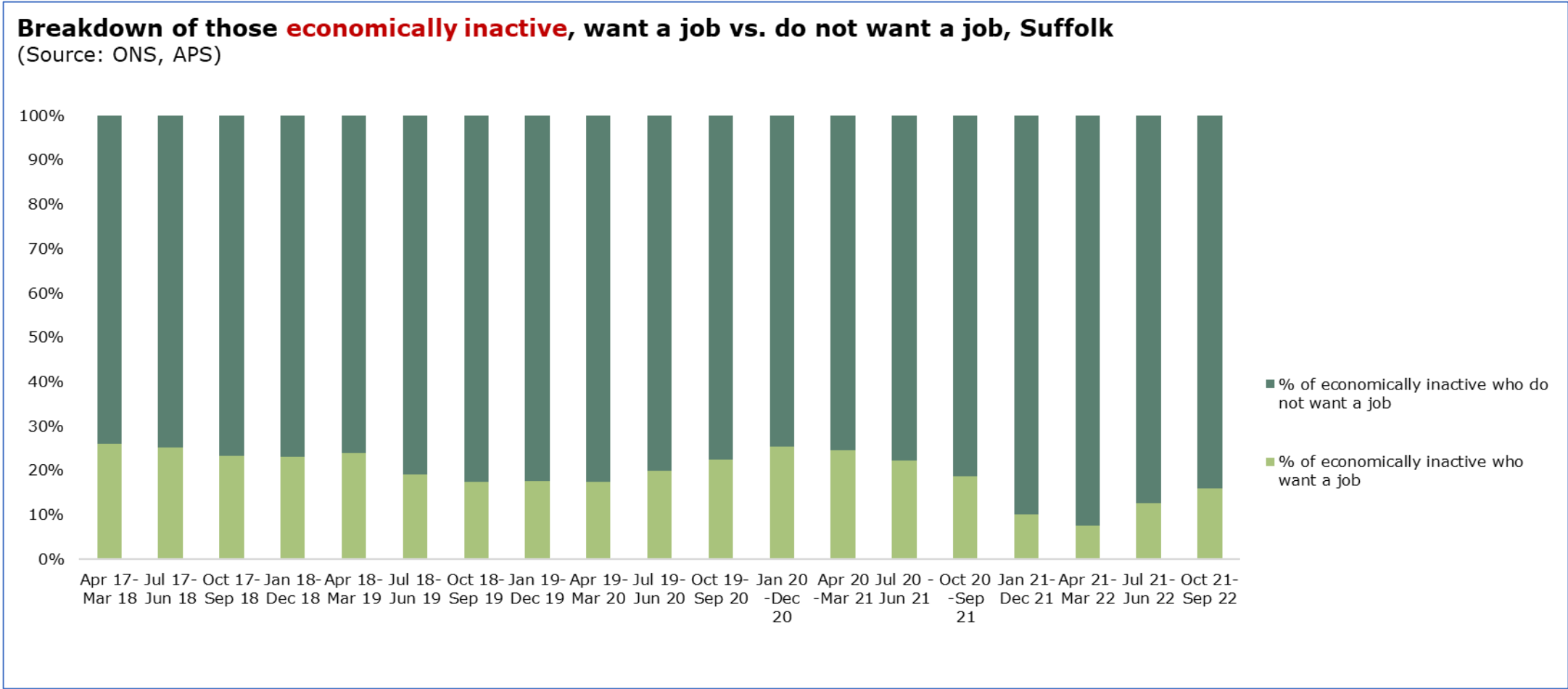


98% of those economically active were employed, with the overall **employment rate** continuing to be above the national average.

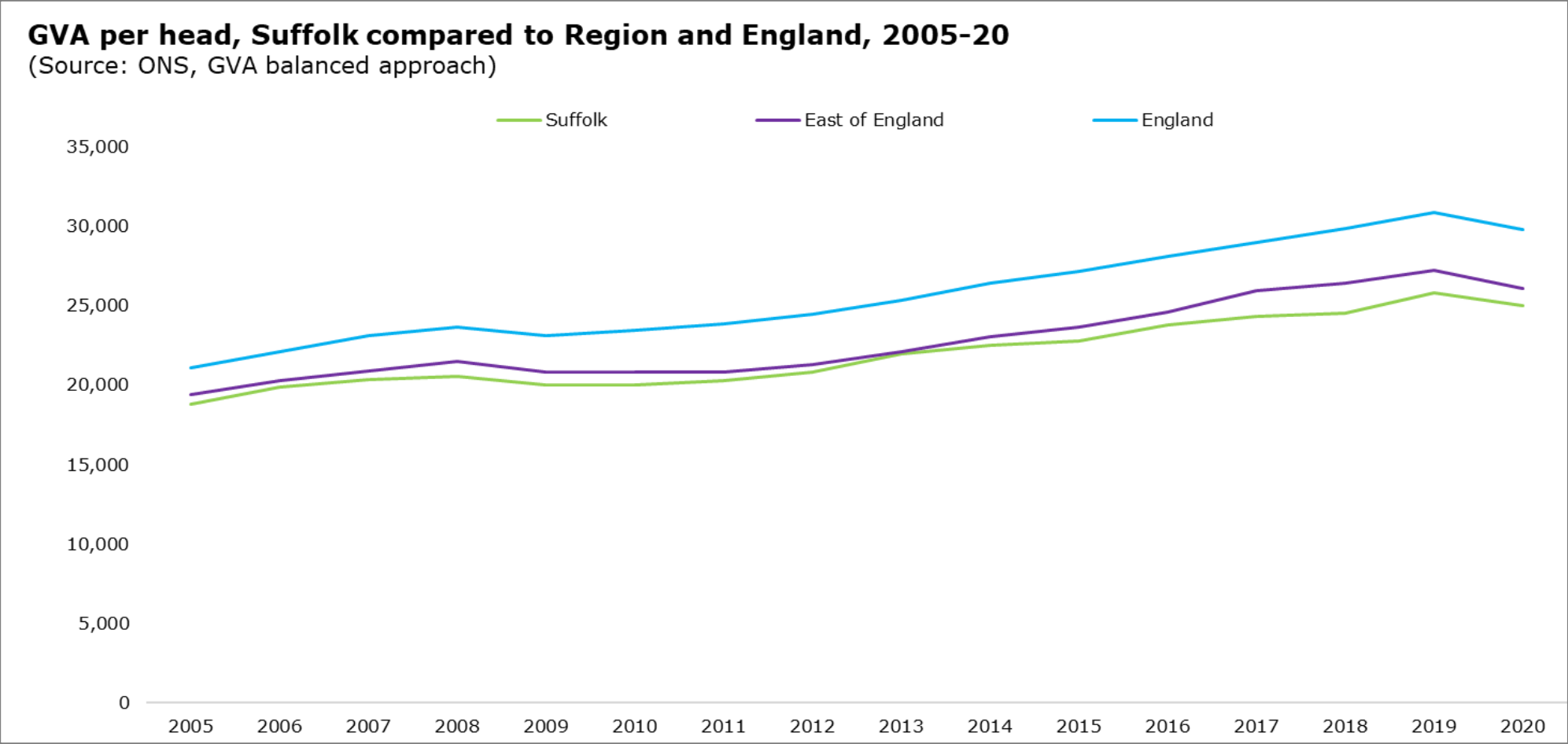
- As always, the averages hide the range of employment / unemployment rates, for example, long-term unemployment ranges from 10.9% (neighbourhood in Ipswich) to 0% (neighbourhood in Babergh).



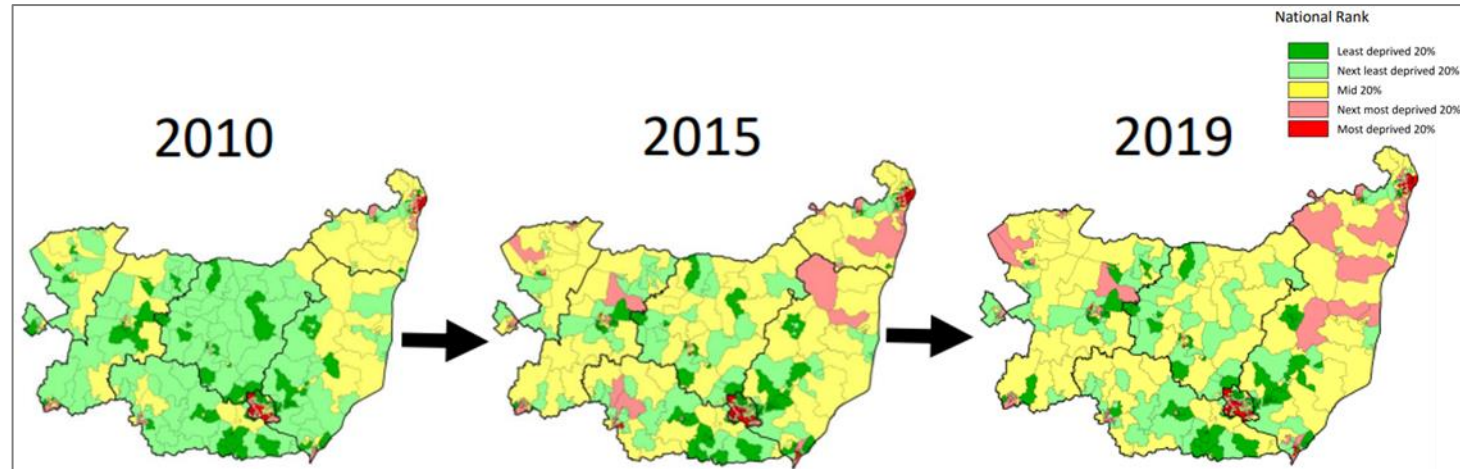
In the 12 months to September 2022, the majority (86,400 or 84.1%) of those 16-64s that were **inactive** in Suffolk, were not looking for a job. On average, this number is now higher than pre-COVID. However, there were also 13,700 who would like a job.



Suffolk's **productivity** (Gross Value Added, GVA) per head lags behind regional and national averages. This productivity gap is estimated to reach £3.2bn in 20 years time, driven by continued lower than average wages.



The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is the official measure of **relative deprivation** for small areas in England. It was last published in 2019 and ranked every small area in England from 1 (most deprived area) to 32,844 (least deprived area).



The dramatic decline in relative deprivation seen in Suffolk between 2010 and 2015 was not repeated for 2019. However, there was not much of a recovery in Suffolk's relative position in 2019.

- At the County level, Suffolk was in the least deprived third of LAs nationally in 2015; in 2019 Suffolk ranked just outside the least deprived third (53rd out of 151 Authorities).
- 90% of the LSOAs in Suffolk who were in the most deprived 20% nationally in 2015 were still in the most deprived 20% nationally in 2019.
- In 2019, Ipswich was the most deprived area in Suffolk, as changes to council configuration led to a loss of granular detail particularly affecting Waveney; Mid Suffolk remained the least deprived area. West Suffolk and Babergh saw small improvements in relative deprivation between 2015 and 2019; all other areas declined, albeit by small amounts.
- Coastal communities are generally more deprived, while rural towns perform relatively well against the national picture in terms of income, employment and health – however not so much against education and housing.

