

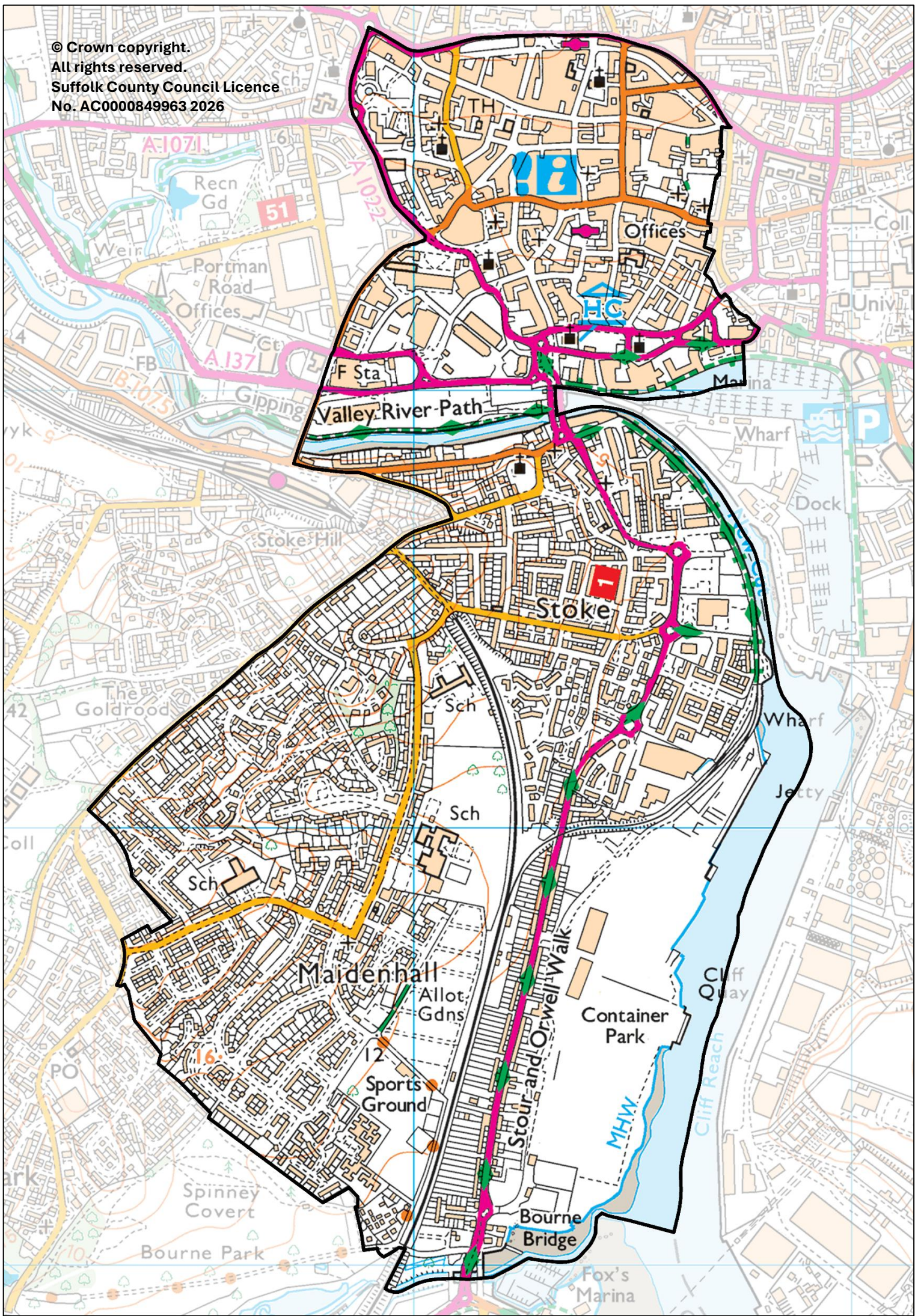
Bridge

County Electoral Division profile
May 2026

This division comprises Bridge Ward in its entirety, and part of Alexandra Ward



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Electoral Division Profiles: an introduction

These profiles have been produced to support elected members, constituents and other interested parties in understanding the demographic, economic, social and educational profile of their neighbourhoods. We have used the latest data available at the time of publication.

Much more data is available from national and local sources than is captured here, but it is hoped that the profile will be a useful starting point for discussion, where local knowledge and experience can be used to flesh out and illuminate the information presented here.

The profile can be used to help look at some fundamental questions e.g.

- Does the age profile of the population match or differ from the national profile?
- Is there evidence of the ageing profile of the county in all the wards in the Division or just some?
- How diverse is the community in terms of ethnicity?
- What is the impact of deprivation on families and residents?
- Does there seem to be a link between deprivation and school performance?
- What is the breakdown of employment sectors in the area?
- Is it a relatively healthy area compared to the rest of the district or county?
- What sort of crime is prevalent in the community?

A vast amount of additional data is available on the **Suffolk Observatory**

www.suffolkobservatory.info

The Suffolk Observatory is a free online resource that contains all Suffolk's vital statistics; it is the one-stop-shop for information and intelligence about Suffolk. Through data, reports and maps, the Suffolk Observatory provides a comprehensive picture of the County. It is a great source for useful facts and figures that can be used for writing reports and presentations, informing strategic and business planning, preparing funding applications or supporting academic research. Data is presented around the key themes of population, children and young people, health and social care, housing, crime and community safety, deprivation, economy and employment and environment. All areas of the county are covered, right down to district, electoral division, ward and parish level, with information easily accessible in a variety of formats. You can also build your own reports for custom areas.

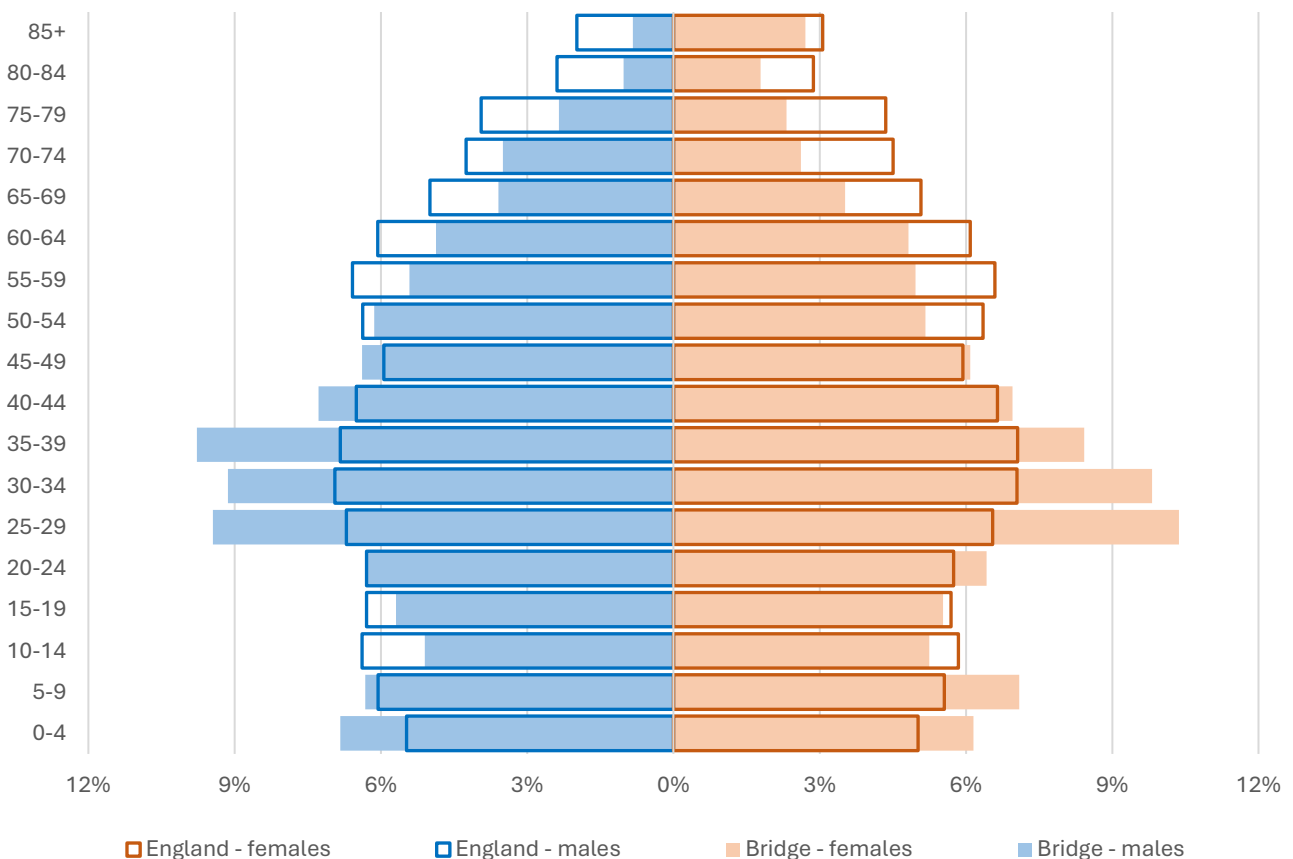
Technical Notes:

1. Where electoral divisions do not exactly match the boundaries at which the data is available (e.g. ward, Output Area or Lower Super Output Area), we have adopted a "best-fit" approach to produce a dataset.
2. District, county and national level data is provided where possible to provide a context for comparisons.

Demographic Profile - Age

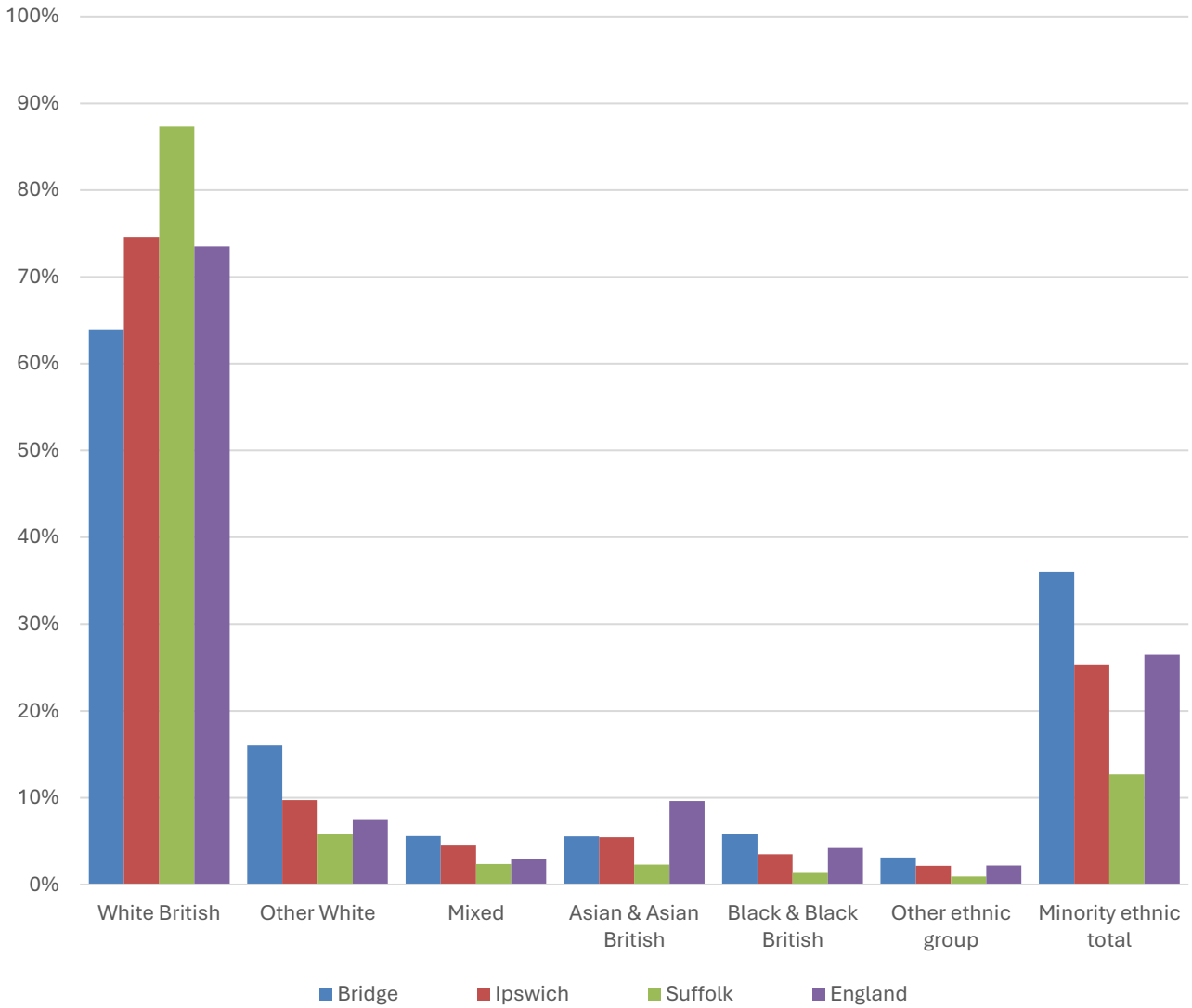
In mid-2024, the estimated population of Bridge stood at 12,854, an increase of 14.5% over the past decade. The age structure of the component wards and the division as a whole is set out below.

	Bridge Division	Bridge Ward	Alexandra Ward
All Ages	12,854	9,978	2,876
0-4	835	658	177
5-9	862	764	98
10-14	665	594	71
15-19	721	612	109
20-24	819	561	258
25-29	1,273	788	485
30-34	1,218	834	384
35-39	1,170	860	310
40-44	915	705	210
45-49	802	636	166
50-54	727	575	152
55-59	667	568	99
60-64	623	500	123
65-69	457	372	85
70-74	393	346	47
75-79	300	259	41
80-84	180	161	19
85+	227	185	42



- The age pyramid for Bridge division shows a higher proportion of people aged 25 to 39 and over than in England as a whole.
- The most common age group in the division is 25-29-year-olds (9.9% of the local population), followed by 30-34-year-olds (9.5%), and 35-39-year-olds (9.1%).
- There is a lower-than-average proportion of people of retirement age in the division. This group makes up just over a tenth (12%) of Bridge's population.

Demographic Profile - Ethnicity

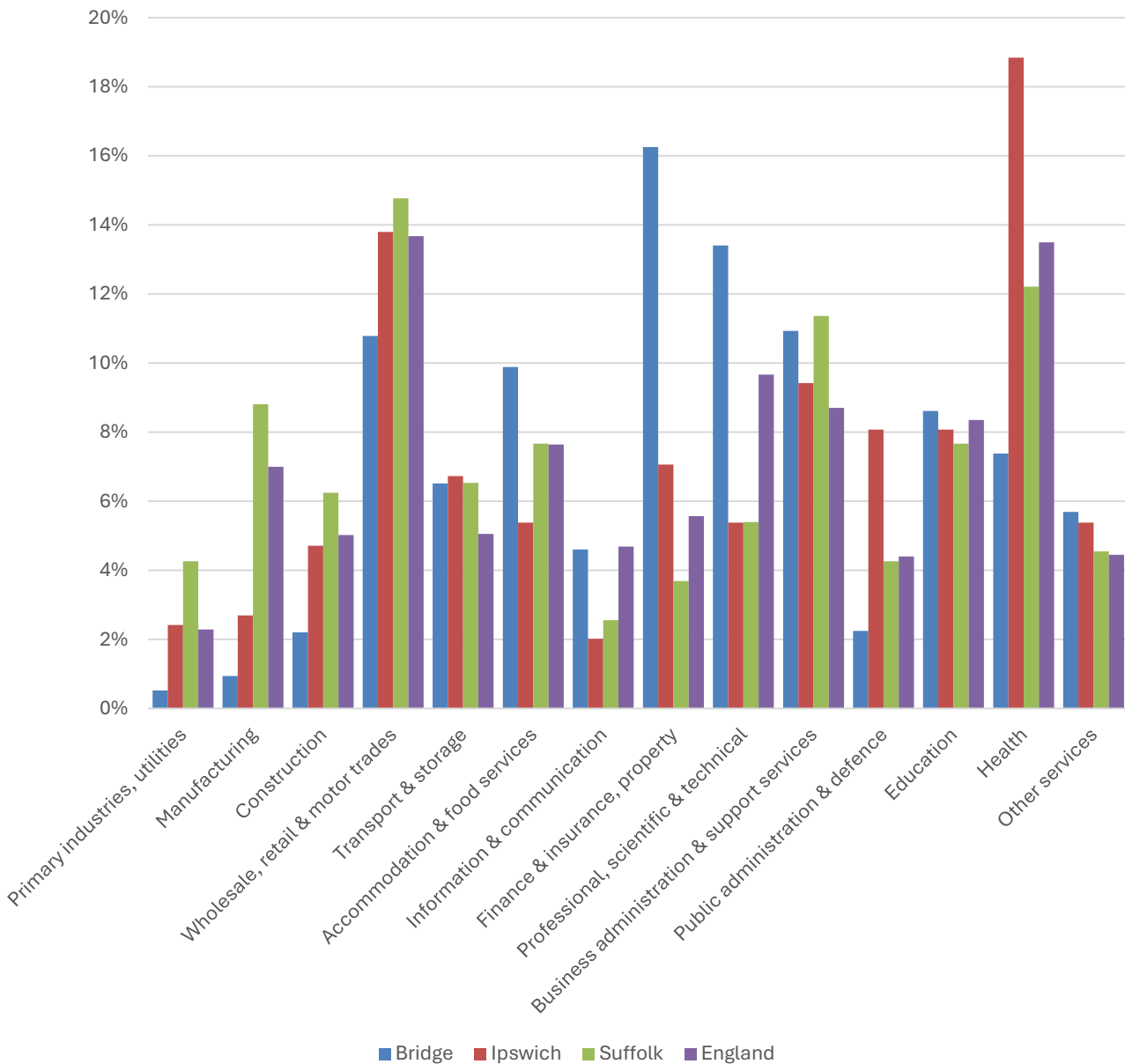


- According to the latest data (2021 Census), 64% of the population of Bridge is White British.
- There were 4,518 (36%) residents from minority ethnic groups in the division, around 2.8 times the proportion in Suffolk overall, and 1 and a half times the England average.
- Bridge has a more ethnically diverse population than Ipswich overall. The proportion of Other White residents in the division is particularly large.

	All people		White British		Other White		Mixed		Asian and Asian British		Black and Black British		Other Ethnic Group		Total minority ethnic population	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Bridge	12,539		8,021	64.0	2,008	16.0	698	5.6	693	5.5	728	5.8	391	3.1	4,518	36.0
Ipswich	139,643		104,208	74.6	13,549	9.7	6,409	4.6	7,611	5.5	4,882	3.5	2,984	2.1	35,435	25.4
Suffolk	760,687		664,205	87.3	44,066	5.8	17,807	2.3	17,483	2.3	10,168	1.3	6,958	0.9	96,482	12.7
England				73.5		7.5		3.0		9.6		4.2		2.2		26.5

Economy

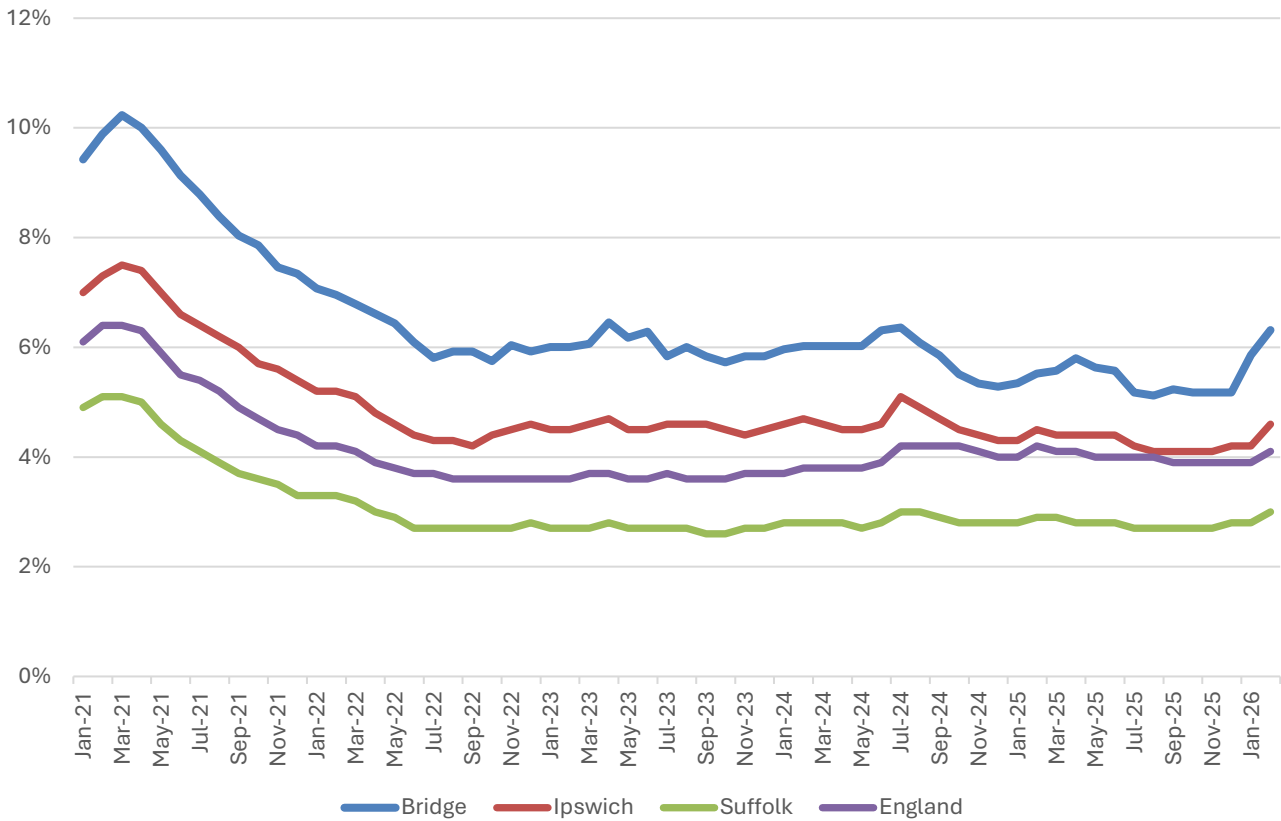
There are around 13,400 people employed in Bridge.



- Finance, insurance and property is the largest sector in Bridge. It accounts for 16.3% of local jobs, about five times the proportion in Suffolk overall.
- Other important sectors in the division are professional, scientific and technical activities (13.4% of jobs, business administration and support services (10.9%), wholesale, retail and motor trades (10.8%), accommodation and food services (9.9%) and education (8.6%).

Labour Market

Out-of-work benefit claimant rate



- In common with Ipswich, Suffolk and England as a whole, Bridge saw a steady decline in the proportion of the working age population claiming out-of-work benefits during 2021 and into 2022 following a peak during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Since then, the claimant rate has been fairly stable at around 6%, though there have been some fluctuations over the last year or so and the rate has increased by one percentage point in the last three months.
- In February 2026 (the latest available data), 6.3% of 16-64-year-olds were claiming out-of-work benefits in the division.
- The claimant rate in the division is consistently higher than the district, county and national benchmarks.

Schools

School Information

Schools in the Division

Name	Phase	Academy Status	No. pupils	Average cohort size at:			
				Foundation Stage (age 4-7)	KS2 (age 7-11)	KS4 (age 14-16)	KS5 (age 16-18)
Halifax Primary School	Primary	AC	409	59	58		
Hillside Primary School	Primary	AS	402	45	60		
Stoke High School - Ormiston Academy	Secondary	AS	811			140	

Academy Status key: AS = Academy Sponsored, AC = Academy Converter, LA = LA Maintained, F = Free

Ofsted information

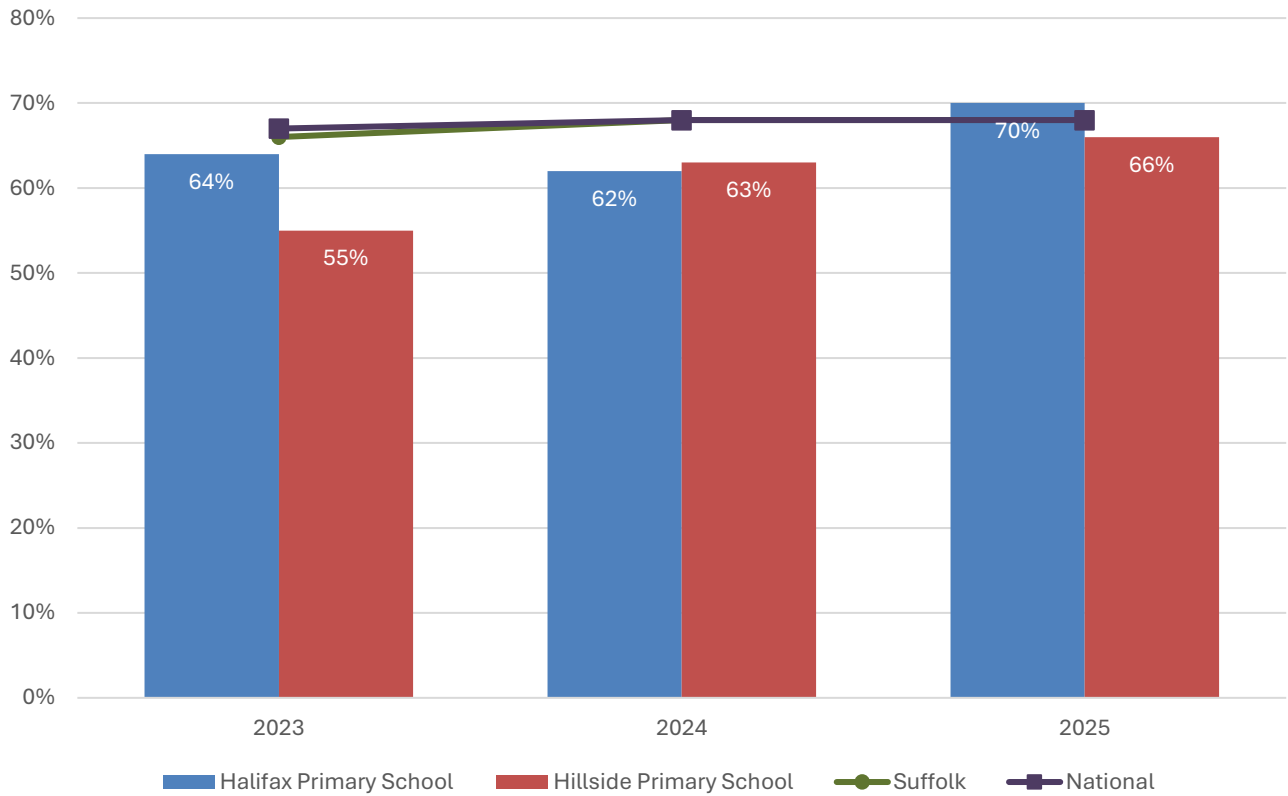
Name	Overall effectiveness	Effectiveness of leadership and management	Behaviour and attitudes	Personal development	Early years provision (if applicable)	Quality of education	Last inspection date
Halifax Primary School	2	2	9	9	2	9	07/10/2015
Hillside Primary School	3	3	3	3	2	3	04/10/2023
Stoke High School – Ormiston Academy	2	2	2	2	9	2	29/03/2022

Code	Judgement	Code	Judgement
0	Insufficient evidence	SM	Special measures
1	Outstanding	8	Does not apply
2	Good	9	No judgement
3	Requires improvement	Null	No data available
4	Inadequate	Not judged	Not judged
SWK	Serious weaknesses	5	No overall grade

School Attainment

Foundation Stage Profile (reception)

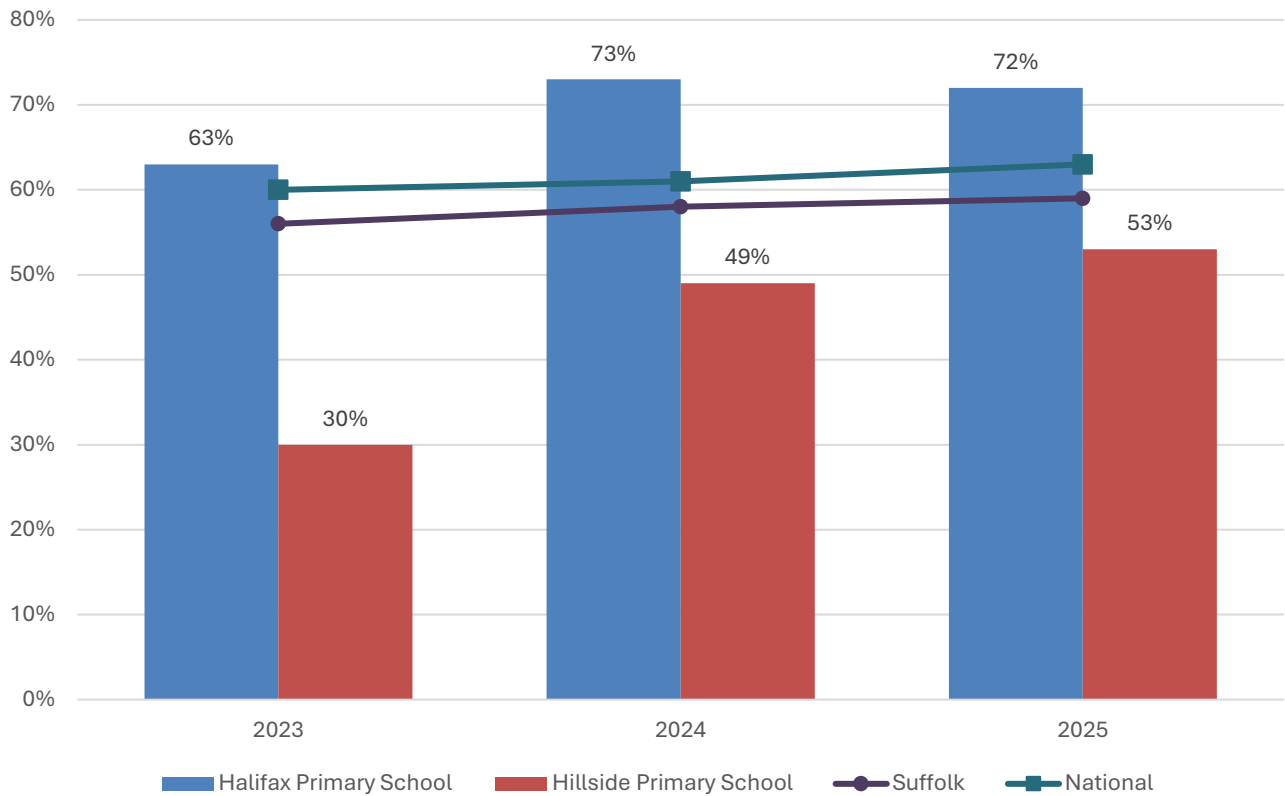
% pupils achieving Good Level of Development (GLD)



- In 2025, the percentage of pupils to achieve a Good Level of Development (GLD) at Foundation Stage (FS) was 70% at Halifax Primary School, 66% at Hillside Primary School and 68% nationally.
- FS attainment at Hillside Primary has been below the national level in each of the past three years, despite improving year on year.
- At Halifax Primary School, FS attainment was three percentage points below the national level in 2023, and six adrift in 2024.

Key Stage 2 (age 11)

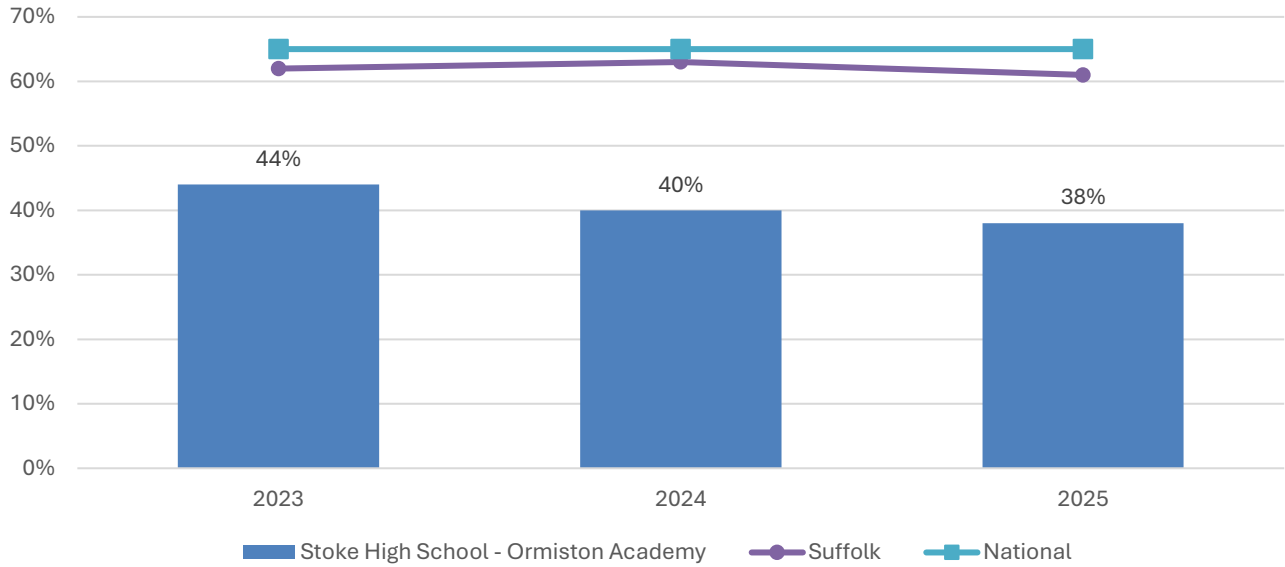
% pupils achieving the Expected Level or better in Reading, Writing and Mathematics



- In 2025, the percentage of pupils to achieve the expected level or better in reading, writing and mathematics at Key Stage 2 was 72% at Halifax Primary School, 53% at Hillside Primary School, and 63% nationally.
- Key stage 2 attainment at Halifax Primary School has been consistently well above the county and national average over the past three years of data.
- The opposite is true of Hillside Primary School, despite KS2 attainment improving year on year.

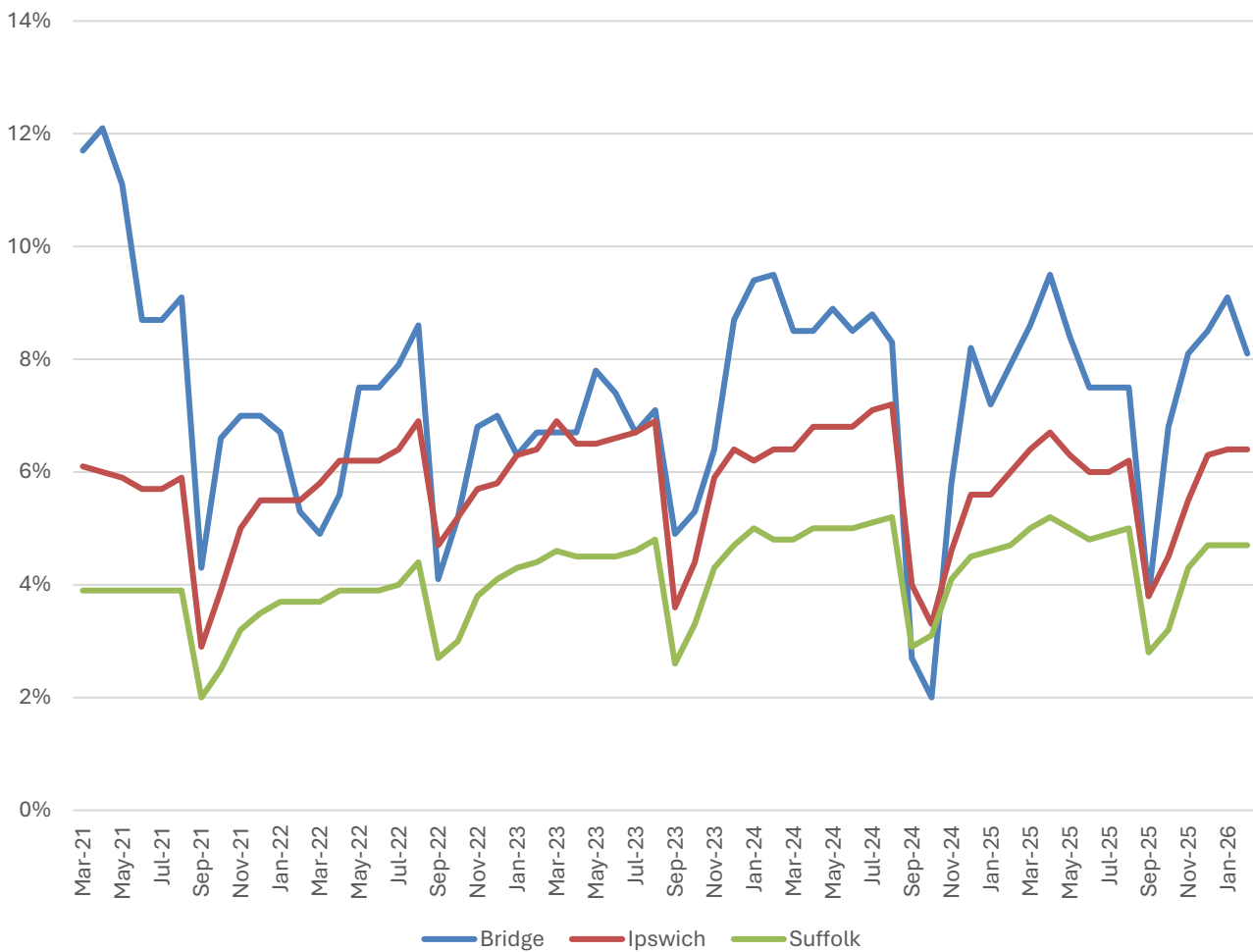
Key Stage 4 (GCSE) (age 16)

% pupils achieving level 4-9 in English and Mathematics



- Key Stage 4 attainment at Stoke High School – Ormiston Academy has been consistently below the county and national benchmarks over the past three years.
- The percentage of pupils achieving level 4-9 in English and mathematics at the school has also dropped slightly year on year.

NEET % (Not in Education, Employment or Training)



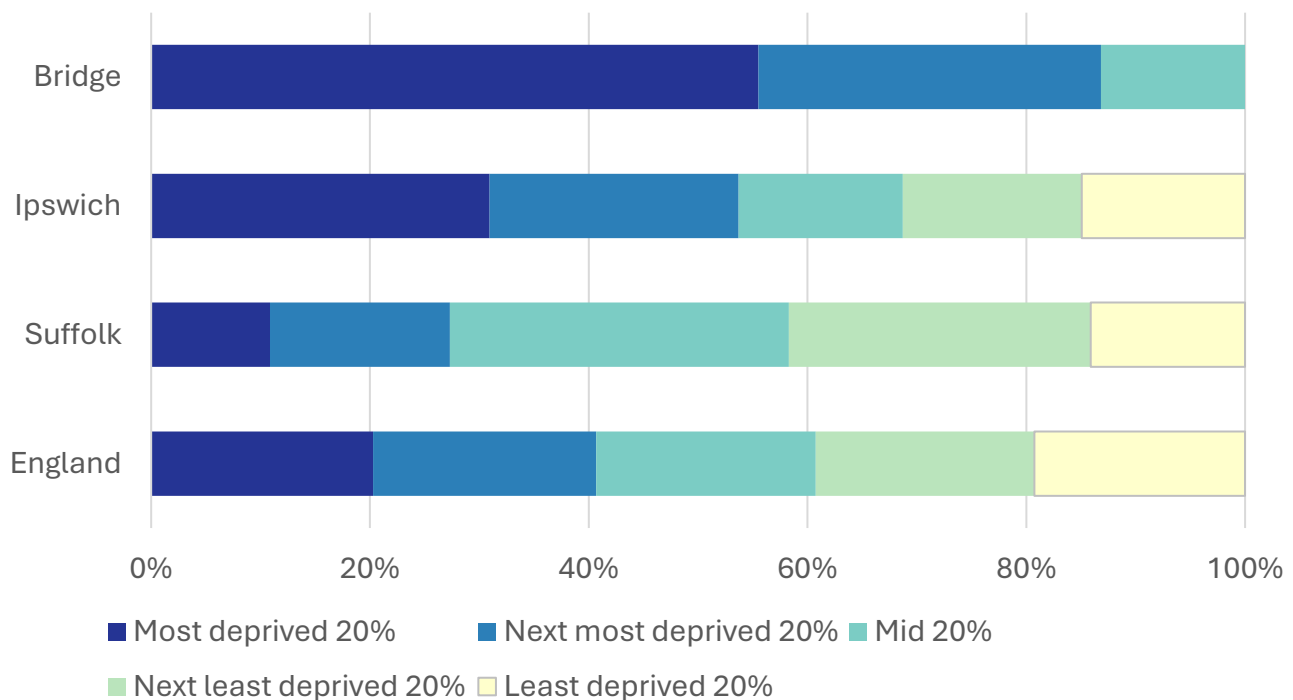
- In February 2026, 8.1% of 16-17-year-olds in Bridge were classified as NEET (not in education, employment or training).
- NEET levels fluctuate considerably according to the time of year and due to small numbers of 16-17-year-olds in the division, typically being at their lowest at the beginning of a new school year.
- In Bridge, the proportion of children who are NEET is generally above the district and county figures.

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2025 (see map overleaf)

The IMD combines a number of indicators, chosen to cover a range of economic, social and housing issues, into a single deprivation score for each small area in England. This allows each area to be ranked relative to one another according to their level of deprivation. Small areas (Lower Super Output Areas, average population 1,700) are most commonly described as being in 1 of 5 quintile bands. The bottom quintile represents the 20% of areas that are the most deprived in England; these are shaded pale yellow on the map. The top quintile represents the least deprived areas in England and is shaded dark blue.

The Index is widely used to analyse patterns of deprivation, identify areas that would benefit from special initiatives or programmes and as a tool to determine eligibility for specific funding streams.

The chart below shows the percentage of the population of the division that live in areas ranked among each of the five quintiles of deprivation, alongside the district, county and England comparators.



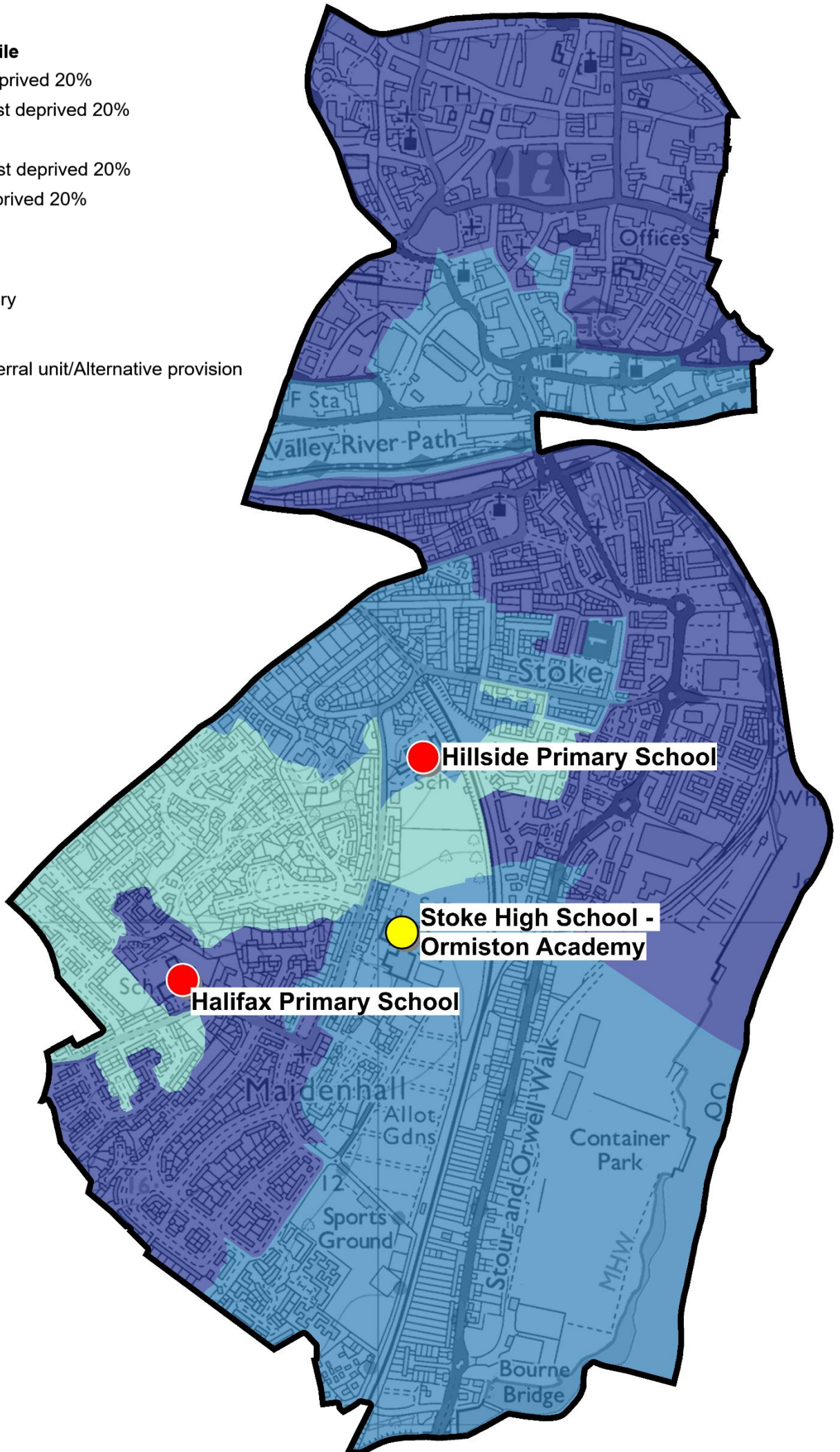
- Deprivation levels in Bridge are mostly high but with some variation across the division, with three of the quintiles of deprivation represented in the division.
- Just over half (56%) of the population of the division live in areas that are ranked among the most deprived 20% of areas in England, with 31% of residents living in neighbourhoods among the second most deprived quintile, and the remaining 13% of the division ranked in the middle quintile.
- See the map overleaf for the distribution of IMD 2025 results across the division.

IMD 2025 quintile

- Least deprived 20%
- Next least deprived 20%
- Mid 20%
- Next most deprived 20%
- Most deprived 20%

School Phase

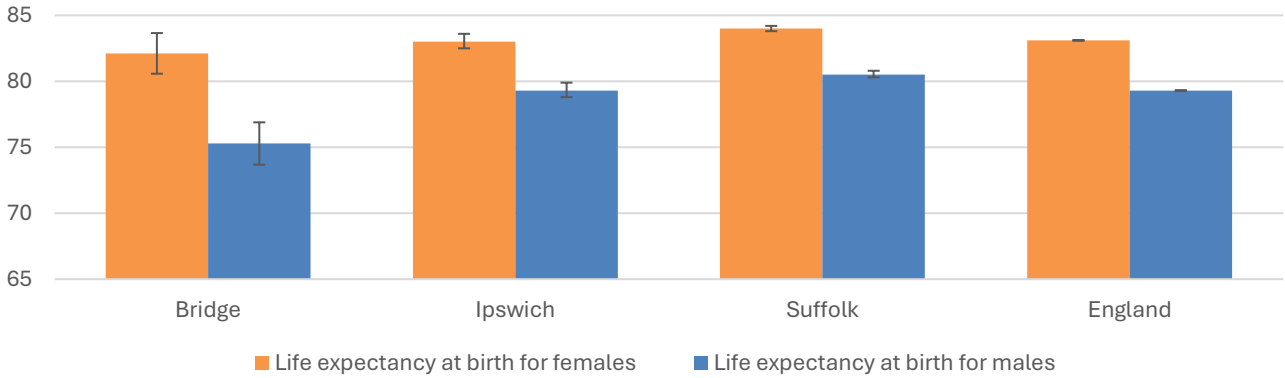
- Primary
- Secondary
- Special
- Pupil referral unit/Alternative provision
- Nursery



Health

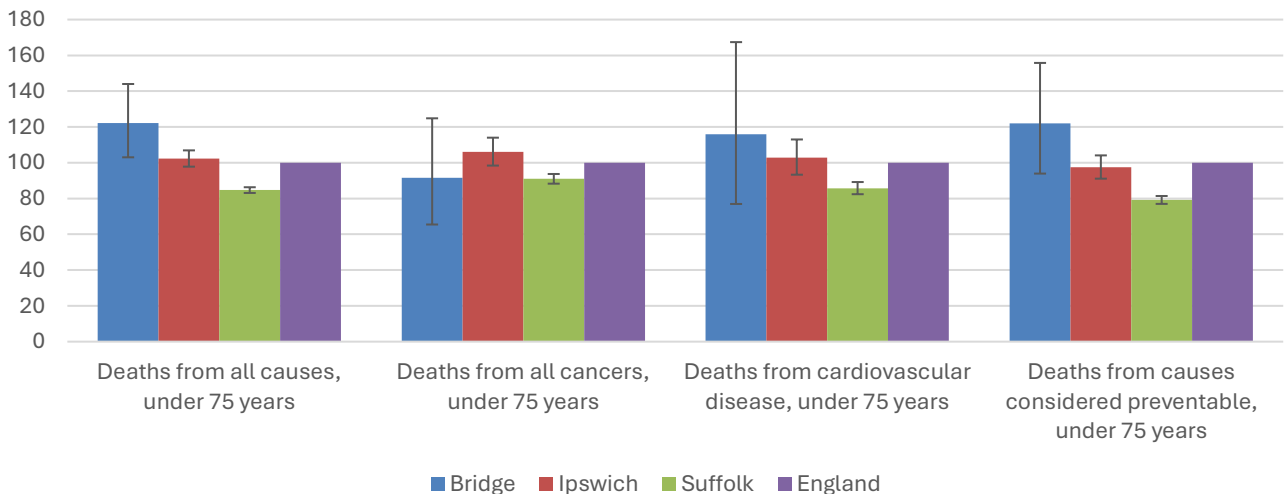
The local data used here is based on relatively small numbers. The confidence limits provide an indication of the reliability of the data. The 95% confidence intervals utilised on the chart provide a range within which there is 95% chance of the true result lying.

Life expectancy at birth



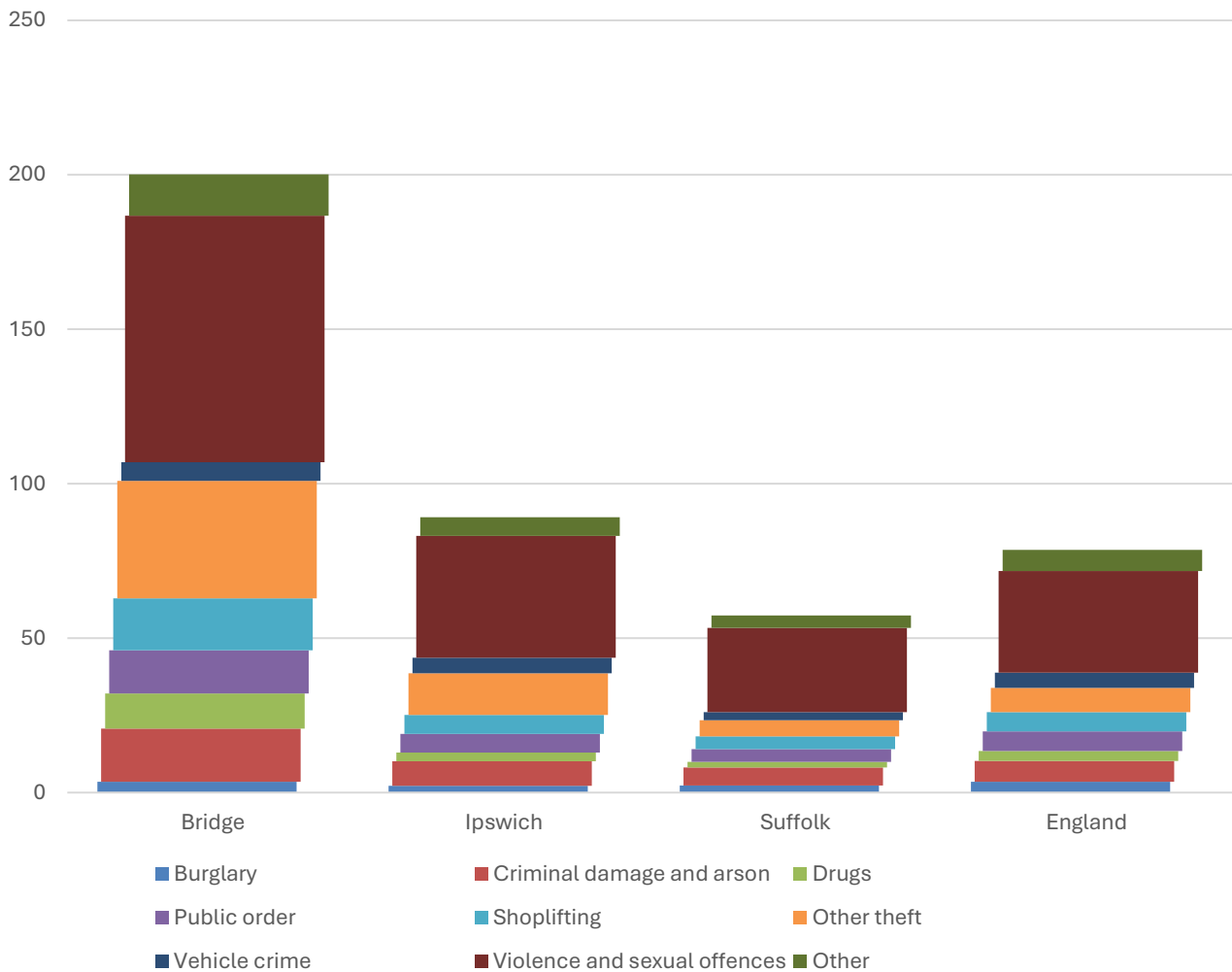
- The latest life expectancy at birth estimates for Bridge are 82.1 for females (the England figure is 83.1), and 75.3 for males (compared to 79.3 nationally).
- Life expectancy at birth for females is statistically similar to the England figure, while for males it is statistically significantly lower.

Deaths, under 75 years, standardised mortality ratio



- Estimated standardised mortality ratios for early deaths from all cancers in Bridge are below 100, indicating that deaths in under 75s due to these causes are lower than in England. However, SMRs for deaths from all causes, cardiovascular disease and causes considered preventable are above 100.
- Confidence intervals around these estimates are wide for local data, but the SMR for deaths from all causes in Bridge is statistically significantly higher than England. Deaths from all cancers, cardiovascular disease and causes considered preventable occur at a statistically similar rate in the division to Ipswich, Suffolk and England.
- The standardised mortality ratio data shown here means that for every 100 early deaths from all causes across England as a whole, there are an estimated 122 comparable deaths in Bridge.

Crime & Community Safety



- Crime levels in Bridge are very high compared to the county and even the Ipswich Borough average rates.
- In the year to the end of January 2026, there were 200 recorded crimes per 1,000 residents in the division, compared to 89 in Ipswich, and 57 countywide.
- All types of crime occur at a higher rate in the division than the district and county average.
- By far the most common type of crime recorded during this period was violence and sexual offences, which accounted for 40% of all recorded incidents in the division.

Data sources

Category	Indicator	Source
Demographic Profile	Quinary population table 2024	ONS 2024 mid-year population estimates
	Population pyramid 2024	ONS 2024 mid-year population estimates
	Ethnicity 2021	ONS 2021 Census
Economy	Employment by broad industrial sector 2024	ONS Business Register and Employment Survey via NOMIS
Labour market	Claimant count: The number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit who are out of work (% 16-64 population) January 2021-February 2026	DWP via NOMIS
Education	School information and attainment 2023-2025	Suffolk County Council CYP iHub
	% 16-17-year-olds NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) March 2021 to February 2026	Suffolk County Council CYP iHub via the Suffolk Observatory
Deprivation	Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Health	Life expectancy at birth 2016-2020 (2018-2020 for comparator areas)	Office for Health Improvement and Disparities
Health	Standardised mortality ratio for deaths from all causes, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and from causes considered preventable (under 75 years), 2016-2020 (2019-2023 for comparator areas). The standardised mortality ratio is the ratio of observed deaths in the study group to expected deaths in the general population	Office for Health Improvement and Disparities
Community Safety	Recorded crime rate per 1,000 resident population February 2025 to January 2026	Data.police.uk via the Suffolk Observatory

For more data and information about Bridge Electoral Division, see the Suffolk Observatory www.suffolkobservatory.info

