

Dorset 2011 Census Story

What does the 2011 Census tell us about our residents' country of birth?

Country of Birth

In 2011 **5.6 per cent** (23,157) of the usual resident population of Dorset were born outside the UK. The national figure for England and Wales was 13.4 per cent (7.5 million).

The five most reported non-UK countries of birth in 2011 are shown in table 1 below; these accounted for 2.1% of all usual residents. The largest group were the German-born (2,882 or 0.7 per cent of the resident population in 2011), followed by Irish-born (1,821 or 0.4 per cent). Polish born residents were the third largest group of all non-UK born residents (1,601 or 0.4 per cent). The Polish increase (1,441) was the largest of these top ten countries of birth over the decade 2001 – 2011, a ten fold increase. Poland became a member of the European Union in May 2004 and this accession was accompanied by a significant migration to the UK.



Table 1: Top five countries of birth for non-UK born residents in Dorset; 2001 and 2011

2011 Rank	Country of Birth	2001 Census	Percent of all residents 2001	2011 Census	Percent of all residents in 2011
1	Germany	2,992	0.8	2,882	0.7
2	Ireland	1,896	0.5	1,821	0.4
3	Poland	160	0.0	1,601	0.4
4	South Africa	957	0.2	1,325	0.3
5	India	952	0.2	1,085	0.3
	Total non-UK born	18,958	4.8	23,157	5.6

Nationality

Of the 412,905 usually resident population of Dorset in 2011, 79.2 per cent (326,975) held a UK passport, **2.3 per cent** (9,445) held a foreign passport only. There were 18.5 per cent (76,485) who stated they did not hold a passport.

Figure 1 presents the top five non-UK nationalities in the resident population of Dorset in 2011. These five nationalities accounted for 1 per cent of the resident population as a whole.

The most common foreign nationality of residents in Dorset on census day was Polish with 1,489 residents; this was followed by the Irish (1,220).

Figure 1: Top five nationalities as a percentage of the total non UK population of Dorset 2011

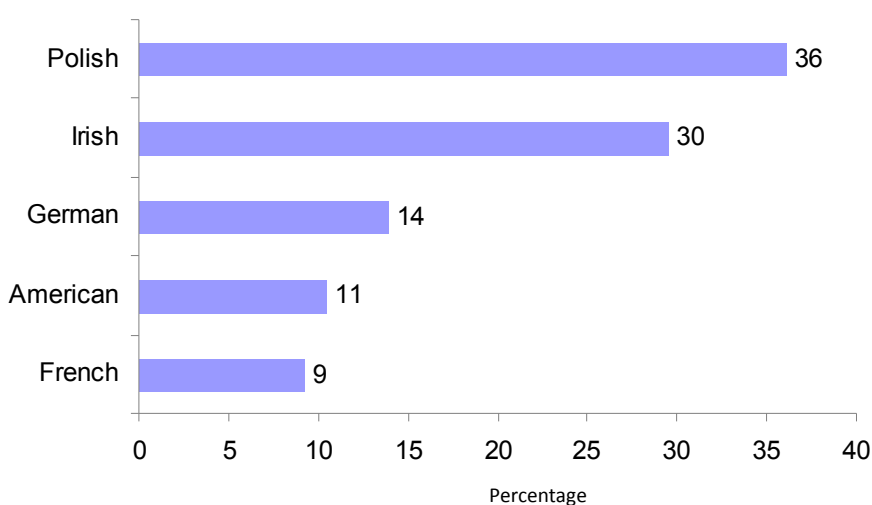


Table 2 compares the top five non-UK nationalities with the country of birth data for these countries. Germany ranked first for non-UK country of birth (2,882), but third in terms of non-UK nationalities (576). This is most likely due to children born in Germany to parents working overseas in the armed forces. Polish was the highest ranking nationality (1,489) and there are a similar number of UK residents who were born in Poland (1,601). This is likely to be due to the free movement rights of EU citizens, meaning that Polish nationals, unlike many non-EU nationals, do not need to acquire UK nationality to live and work in the UK. The same reasons most likely apply to the resident Irish nationals. Additionally, children born in the UK to parents of non-UK nationality will also qualify for their parents' nationality.

Table 2: Top five ranked non-UK nationalities with country of birth, 2011

2011 Rank	Country	Passport holders	Country of birth
1	Poland	1,489	1,601
2	Ireland	1,220	1,821
3	Germany	576	2,882
4	United States	435	841
5	France	386	569



District Level

In 2011 6.8 per cent (4,696) of the usual resident population of North Dorset were born outside the UK. Table 3 presents the number and per cent of non UK residents in each of the six districts.

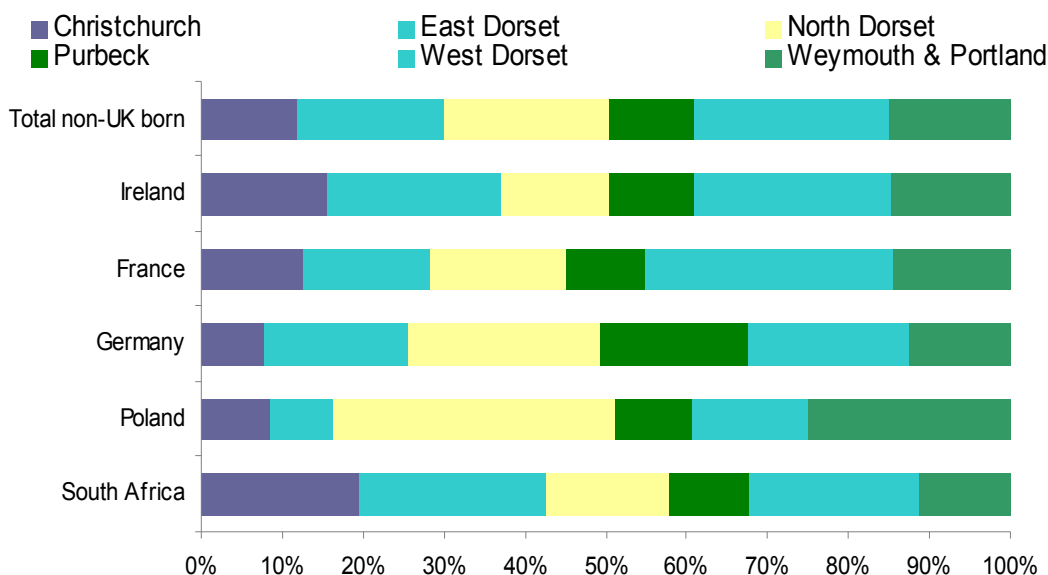
Table 3 Non-UK residents in the six Dorset districts

District	Non-UK born residents in 2011	Per cent of all residents in 2011
Christchurch	2,704	5.7
East Dorset	4,269	4.9
North Dorset	4,696	6.8
Purbeck	2,432	5.4
West Dorset	5,561	5.6
Weymouth and Portland	3,495	5.4



Figure 2 presents the distribution of residents from the top five non-UK born countries of Dorset across the six districts. The majority of Dorset’s Polish population live in North Dorset (34.9 per cent). The French born population is concentrated in West Dorset. German, Irish and South African born residents are spread relatively evenly across the districts.

Figure 2. The spread of the top ten countries of birth for non-UK born residents in Dorset across the six districts.



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 Source: 2001 & 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics