

## **Chapter 2: Population Characteristics**

- Age structure
- Dependency ratio
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- Marital status
- Place of birth
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### **Age Structure**

The age structure of the resident population is shown in Table 2.1 broken down into three broad bands:

- under 16 years of age
- working age (16-59 years for women; 16-64 years for men);
- above working age (60/65 years and over for women/men).

**Table 2.1: Population by age and gender.**

	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Total in age band</b>
Under 16 years	8,081	7,583	15,664
Working age	29,160	27,855	57,015
Above working age	5,243	9,264	14,507
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>42,484</b>	<b>44,702</b>	<b>87,186</b>

The population below working age (15 years and under) was 15,664; the male proportion of this age band was 51.6% and the female proportion 48.4%.

The working age population was 57,015, of whom the male proportion was 51.1% and the female proportion 48.9%.

The population over working age was 14,507, of whom males constituted 36.1% and females 63.9%.

The detailed breakdown of the population for each year of age is presented in Table III of Appendix B.

The broad population structure as recorded by the last two Censuses is shown in Table 2.2.

**Table 2.2: Broad population structure: 1996-2001.**

	1996	2001
Under 16 years	15,005	15,664
Working age <sup>3</sup>	56,207	57,015
Above working age	13,938	14,507
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>85,150</b>	<b>87,186</b>

The total working age population has increased in number over the last five years, by some 800 persons.

However, more important is the proportion that the working age population constitutes of the total population. Over the five-year inter-censal period, the working age component has declined slightly, from 66.0% of the total population in 1996 to 65.4% of the total in 2001.

As indicated by the finer age ranges of Table 2.3, the change in total population over the last ten years has not been evenly distributed across the age spectrum.

**Table 2.3: Age distribution and changes: 1991-2001.**

	1991	1996	2001	Change 1991-2001	Change 1996-2001
Age 0 - 9	8,973	9,761	9,729	756	-32
10 - 19	8,680	8,634	9,666	986	1,032
20 - 29	16,318	13,458	11,439	-4,879	-2,019
30 - 39	13,591	15,183	15,544	1,953	361
40 - 49	11,577	12,643	13,249	1,672	606
50 - 59	9,225	9,530	10,904	1,679	1,374
60 - 69	7,273	7,422	7,944	671	522
70 - 79	5,312	5,203	5,451	139	248
80 - 89	2,716	2,859	2,692	-24	-167
90 +	417	457	568	151	111
	<b>84,082</b>	<b>85,150</b>	<b>87,186</b>	<b>3,104</b>	<b>2,036</b>

The average age of Jersey's population in 2001 was 38.7 years; the average age in the UK in 2000 was 38.8 years<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> Due to the school leaving age being changed in 1992, from 15 to 16 years of age, it is not possible to directly compare 1991 with 1996 and 2001 in the context of Table 2.2.

<sup>4</sup> Source: UK Social Trends No 32 (2002 edition).

Cyclical, migratory and longevity factors are apparent in the changes presented by Table 2.3:

- an 8% increase was recorded between 1991 and 2001 in the number of children under 10 years of age, and an 11% increase in the 10-19 year age group. The former increase occurred entirely in the first part of the 1990's and the latter increase in the late 1990's, as the younger cohort aged. Both increases were due principally to the baby-boom generation of the 1960's having their own children, and also to the immigrants of young working age, who arrived in the Island during the 1980's, remaining and having children;
- the small reduction in the number of young children (0-9 years) between 1996-2001 is a result of the tailing-off of the abovementioned effects, and is also a reflection of the declining crude birth rate (CBR);
- the large decline in the 20-29 year age group (30% over the ten-year period, 12% over the last five years) is primarily due to the ageing of the young immigrant population of the 1980's;
- the increase in the population aged 70 and over is a result of the continued increase in life expectancy;
- the decrease recorded for the group aged 80-89 years is a result of falling birth rates and higher death rates during and immediately after the First World War.

The long-term trends in the changing structure of the Island's population are most apparent in Table 2.4, which presents the distribution per 1,000 population of specific age bands over the last century and before.

**Table 2.4: Age distribution per 1,000 population: 1891-2001.**

	1891	1911	1931	1951	1971	1991	2001
Aged 15 and under	321	271	235	215	216	165	180
Aged 16 - 64	605	642	656	659	644	694	679
Aged 65 - 79	65	73	93	105	112	104	104
Aged 80 and over	9	14	16	21	28	37	37
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

Particularly prominent in Table 2.4 are the falling proportion of children aged 15 and under (due to the long-standing decline in birth rate) and the increased proportion of persons aged 80 and over (due to increases in life expectancy).

The proportion of Jersey's population in 2001 aged 65 and over was 14.1%, and was thus somewhat below that of the UK (15.9%) and the European Union (16.2%)<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> The UK figure is that recorded by the UK 2001 Census; the EU figure is for year 2000, from UK Social Trends No 32 (2002 edition).

## Dependency Ratio

Dependency ratio is defined as:

$$\frac{(\text{Population under working age}) + (\text{Population over working age})}{\text{Working age population}}$$

Up until (and including) the 1991 Census, working age was defined as: 15-59 years for women and 15-64 years for men. The change in the school leaving age in 1992 (from 15 to 16 years) meant that in subsequent Censuses the working age population was defined as ages 16-59/64 years for women/men.

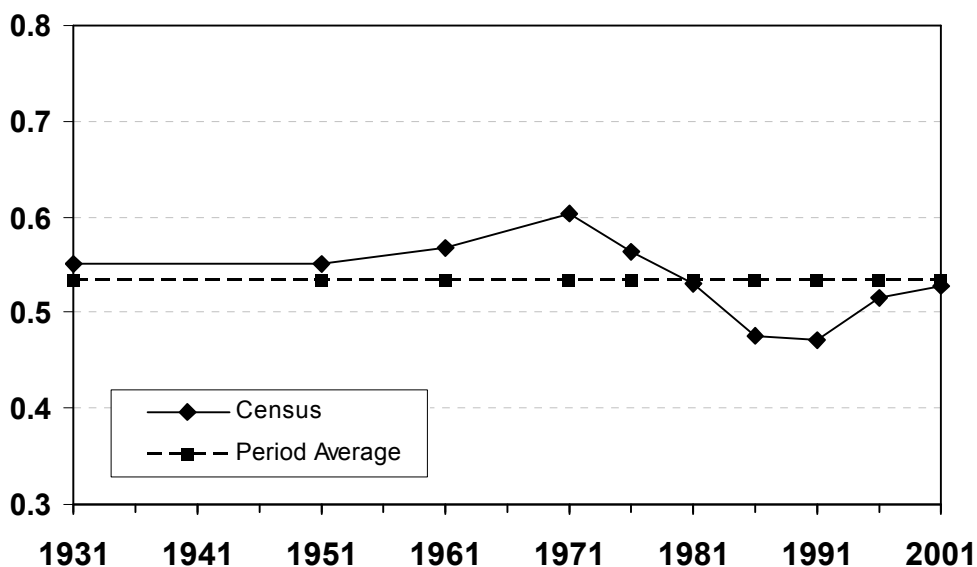
Table 2.5 shows the dependency ratio, as measured by Census, for the period from 1931 to 2001. For each year, the definition of "Working age" is that in effect at the particular time, i.e. the appropriate school leaving age is applied.

**Table 2.5: Dependency Ratio: 1931-2001.**

	Census	Dependency Ratio
	2001	0.529
	1996	0.515
Change in school leaving age	-----	-----
	1991	0.471
	1986	0.475
	1981	0.531
	1976	0.563
	1971	0.603
	1961	0.567
	1951	0.550
	1931	0.550

To provide further clarity on the historical changes, Figure 2.1 plots the dependency ratio for the above time period.

**Figure 2.1 - Dependency Ratio: 1931-2001**



For the full period 1931 to 2001, the average dependency ratio was 0.535. This figure corresponds to every dependant being supported by slightly less than two persons of working age.

There is considerable structure in the historical data of Figure 2.1:

- the dependency ratio attained a maximum of 0.60 in the 1971 Census and a minimum of 0.47 in 1991;
- 1951 to 1971: the increase in the dependency ratio was due to the increase in the number of persons above working age and the corresponding reduction in those of working age; changes in the dependency ratio for this period were thus dominated by the ageing of the resident population;
- 1971 to 1986: the decrease in the dependency ratio resulted from the growth of the working age population due to in-migration of labour;
- 1991 to 1996: the observed increase was due principally to the change in the school leaving age from 15 to 16 years, implemented in 1992.

The dependency ratio for the United Kingdom<sup>6</sup> in 2001 was 0.63.

The substantial increase predicted in Jersey's dependency ratio beyond 2011 due to the ageing of the resident population, and based on 2001 Census data, is discussed in detail in Chapter 7 – Population Projections.

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<sup>6</sup> Source: UK Census 2001.

## **Gender Structure**

Females accounted for 51.3% of the population in 2001.

As a result of the longer life expectancy of females, the female population has been greater than the male population in Jersey since Census records began in 1821. However, due to male longevity increasing at a faster rate than female longevity, the gap between the sexes is diminishing, as indicated by Table 2.6.

**Table 2.6: Females per 1,000 population: 1821-2001.**

<b>Census</b>	<b>Females per 1,000 population</b>
1821	543
1891	542
1921	549
1951	524
1981	520
1991	514
2001	513

The sex distribution is not uniform across the age bands, as shown by Table 2.7.

**Table 2.7: Females per 1,000 population by age.**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Females per 1,000</b>
0-9	484
10-19	490
20-29	521
30-39	506
40-49	506
50-59	500
60-69	504
70-79	555
80-89	666
90 +	773

Males outnumbered females in both the 0-9 and 10-19 age bands. Overall, males accounted for 51.3% of the population aged below 20 years.

Women predominated in all other age bands, except for that aged 50-59 years, in which there was parity between the sexes.

Women were increasingly predominant in the high age categories (70 and above), accounting for more than two-thirds (68.4%) of the population aged 80 and over, and more than three-quarters (77.3%) of the population aged 90 and over.

## **Marital Status**

Just over half (51.8%) of the adult population aged 16 and over were married (including re-marriages).

However, as Table 2.8 shows, the proportion of the adult population who were married has resumed its long-term decline (after a brief increase between 1991 and 1996).

**Table 2.8: Marital status<sup>7</sup> per 1,000 adult population: 1971-2001.**

	1971	1981	1991	1996	2001
Married	643	597	531	535	439
Re-married					79
Single	244	275	315	299	301
Widowed	92	88	77	75	70
Divorced	21	40	54	64	84
Separated			23	27	27
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

The proportion of adults who were divorced or separated rose from 77 per 1,000 at the time of the 1991 census to 111 per 1,000 in 2001. The proportion of single people has remained substantially constant over the past decade. The long-term decline in the proportion of widowed people is primarily a result of the increase in male longevity.

Marital status shows some variation between the sexes, as indicated by Table 2.9.

**Table 2.9: Adult population by marital status and sex.**

	Males	Females	Total	Proportion per 1,000 adults <sup>8</sup>	
				Males	Females
Married	15,521	15,869	31,390	217	222
Re-married	3,121	2,543	5,664	44	36
Single	11,133	10,409	21,542	156	146
Widowed	1,043	3,935	4,978	15	55
Divorced	2,688	3,333	6,021	38	47
Separated	897	1,030	1,927	13	14
	34,403	37,119	71,522	481	519

<sup>7</sup> Prior to 2001, "re-married" were included in the "married" category; prior to 1991, "separated" were included in "married".

<sup>8</sup> Proportions do not add to totals due to rounding to the nearest whole number.

The total numbers of men and women who were married (including re-married) were very similar: 18,642 men and 18,412 women.

The greater total number of married men (including those re-married) was not due to polygamy but to more men than women having spouses residing outside of the Island.

Men were more likely to re-marry: the number of men who had re-married was 23% greater than the number of women who had re-married.

Single men outnumbered single women by more than 700.

Conversely, divorced and separated women outnumbered divorced and separated men.

The number of widowed women in 2001 was almost four times as great as the number of widowed men, due to the longer life expectancy of women.

## **Place of Birth**

**Table 2.10: Population by Place of Birth.**

	1891	% of 1891 total	1991	% of 1991 total	2001	% of 2001 total
Jersey	39,119	72	43,331	52	45,848	53
Elsewhere in the British Isles	8,626	16	33,090	39	31,243	36
France	5,576	10	1,061	1	1,093	1
Portugal (including Madeira)	n/a	n/a	3,439	4	5,137	6
Other EU/EEA (2001 definitions)	172	+	851	1	1,152	1
Elsewhere	1,025	2	2,310	3	2,713	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,518</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>84,082</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>87,186</b>	<b>100</b>

(+ represents a non-zero percentage less than 1; n/a means not available).

53% of the population in 2001 were Jersey-born, which compares to 52% a decade earlier and 72% in 1891.

The number and proportion of residents born elsewhere in the British Isles (including the Irish Republic) has declined slightly over the last ten years. In contrast, over this time period, the number and proportion of residents born in Portugal (including Madeira) has increased by almost the same number that those born in the British Isles (excluding Jersey) has declined.



The age distribution of the population by place of birth is presented in Table 2.11.

**Table 2.11: Age group by place of birth.**

	Jersey	Elsewhere in British Isles	France	Portugal (incl. Madeira)	Other EU / EEA	Elsewhere
Aged 0–9	8,860	620	+	90	30	130
10-19	7,880	1,150	30	360	60	200
20-29	5,410	3,580	180	1,480	190	600
30-39	6,500	6,580	160	1,550	200	550
40-49	5,090	6,440	150	940	160	470
50-59	3,770	5,970	180	510	190	300
60-69	3,820	3,400	160	170	200	190
70 +	4,520	3,500	240	50	110	280

(Figures are rounded to the nearest 10; + represents a non-zero number less than 6).

## **Cultural and Ethnic Background**

Approximately half (51%) of the resident population in 2001 considered themselves to have a Jersey cultural background.

More than a third (37%) considered themselves British, whilst 6% of the population thought of themselves as Portuguese or Madeiran.

**Table 2.12: Population by cultural and ethnic background.**

	Number of residents	% of total population
Jersey	44,589	51.1
British	30,317	34.8
Portuguese/Madeiran	5,548	6.4
Irish	2,284	2.6
French	1,522	1.7
<i>Other white background</i>	<i>1,980</i>	<i>2.3</i>
Black African	151	0.2
Black Caribbean	33	+
<i>Other black background</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>0.1</i>
Chinese	145	0.2
Indian	120	0.1
Bangladeshi	31	+
Pakistani	21	+
<i>Other Asian background</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>+</i>
<i>Other/mixed</i>	<i>366</i>	<i>0.4</i>

(+ represents a non-zero percentage less than 0.1).

## **Languages**

The main and secondary languages spoken by the population are presented in Table 2.13. The category "Other languages" refers to the total number of people speaking languages other than those listed. Babies and young infants not yet speaking were assumed to speak the same main language as their mothers.

**Table 2.13: Population by languages spoken.**

	<b>Main language</b>	<b>Secondary language</b>	<b>Total speakers</b>
English	82,349	3,443	85,792
Portuguese	4,002	3,303	7,305
French	338	14,776	15,114
Jersey French	113	2,761	2,874
Other languages	384	4,496	4,880

71% of residents who did not speak English as their main language did speak it as a secondary language.

1,394 people (1.6% of all residents) spoke no English at all; 7% of them were children under 5 years of age. More than three-quarters (79%) of non-English speakers spoke Portuguese as their main language.

Portuguese was the second main language, and in total was spoken by 8.4% of residents.

French was the most common secondary language in Jersey, spoken by more than a sixth (17.3%) of residents.

Slightly more than a quarter (27%) of the population spoke more than one language.

Jersey French was spoken by a total of 2,874 people (3.2% of the population). Of this total, two-thirds were aged 60 and over. The number of Jersey French speakers in 2001 was half the number recorded in 1989.