

# Test Valley Borough Profile



2021

Test Valley  
Borough Council 

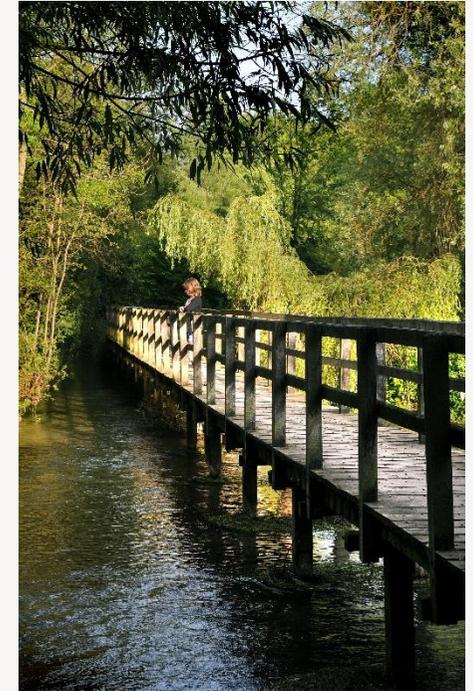


# Test Valley Borough Profile

This profile provides a summary of the latest available information on the demographic make-up of the Borough of Test Valley. It looks at information on topics such as the population structure, economic, housing, health and educational information for the town.

Test Valley is one of the thirteen council areas that make up Hampshire, this is alongside ten other district councils (that share responsibilities with Hampshire County Council) and two unitary authorities (in Southampton and Portsmouth). The Borough covers an area of **62,768.75 hectares** and has a **population of 131,698**, this gives the borough a population density of 2.10 people per hectare. Test Valley is the **sixth** most populous Council area in Hampshire, constituting 7.0% of the county's population.

Situated in the west of Hampshire, Test Valley contains a mixture of urban, semi-urban and rural areas. A large proportion of the population lives in the Borough's two main towns, Andover and Romsey, whilst there are also significant concentrations of people in Valley Park, North Baddesley, and Nursling and Rownhams. Beyond this, a significant proportion of residents live in the towns and villages that are scattered across the Borough.



## Census Data

Some of the data used in this profile is taken from the 2011 Census; where this is the case, this is clearly labelled. Though this data is from several years ago, the breadth and volume of information the Census collects means it remains a valuable source of data and a reasonable indication of current trends. Data from the 2021 Census, which will be reflective of the new boundaries, will be released by the Office for National Statistics in 2022/3. When this happens, this profile will be updated and circulated to Councillors.

## Elected Representatives Test Valley Borough Councillors

Test Valley is divided into twenty electoral wards which are represented by between one and three councillors – in total there are forty-three councillors. To find out more about each of these, and the Councillors elected to represent them, please see the relevant Ward Profile which can be found [here](#).

### Parishes

Test Valley similarly is divided into 57 separate parishes, each of these is represented by a Parish Council or, for smaller parishes, a Parish Meeting which takes responsibility for a range of local issues. To find out more about each of these parishes, please see the relevant Parish Profile which can be found [here](#).

### Hampshire County Councillors

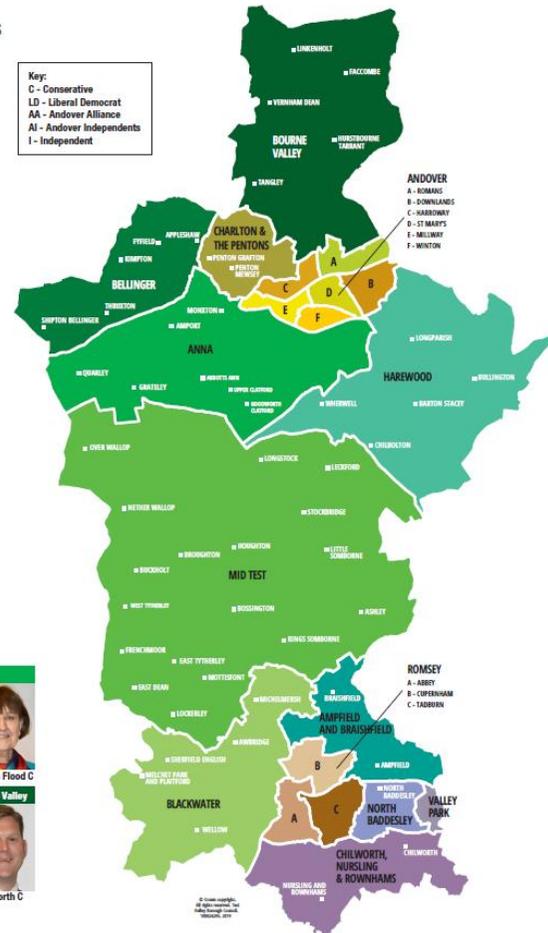
On Hampshire County Council, Test Valley is divided into seven electoral divisions who are represented by the following Councillors:

- Andover North – Councillor Kirsty North
- Andover South – Councillor Phil North
- Andover West – Councillor Chris Donnelly
- Baddesley - Councillor Alan Dowden
- Romsey Rural – Councillor Nick Adams-King
- Romsey Town – Councillor Mark Cooper
- Test Valley Central – Councillor David Drew

Further information about each of these Councillors, as well as the functions performed by the County Council can be found on their [website](#).

### Test Valley Borough - Councillors

**Key:**  
 C - Conservative  
 LD - Liberal Democrat  
 AA - Andover Alliance  
 AI - Andover Independents  
 I - Independent



May 2021

# Population

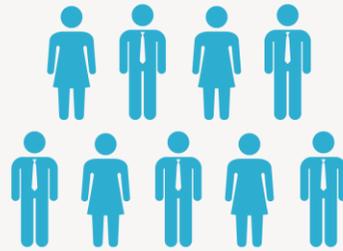


**131,699**

Population 2020



**5.7%**  
Increase



**139,198**

Estimated  
population in 2027

## Test Valley's most and least populous parishes

The population of Test Valley's parishes vary from over 50,000 to under 50. Almost 70% of parishes have a population of less than 1,000 people, with the median population being 689 people.

### Most populous

- 1) Andover – 50,888
- 2) Romsey – 15,261
- 3) Valley Park – 7,382
- 4) North Baddesley – 7,120
- 5) Romsey Extra – 6,256
- 6) Nursling and Rownhams – 5,605
- 7) Wellow – 3,408

### Least populous

- 59) Linkenholt – 45
- 58) Bossington – 57
- 57) Ashley – 63
- 56) Little Somborne – 81
- 55) Faccombe – 92
- 54) Bullington - 109
- 53) Leckford - 131

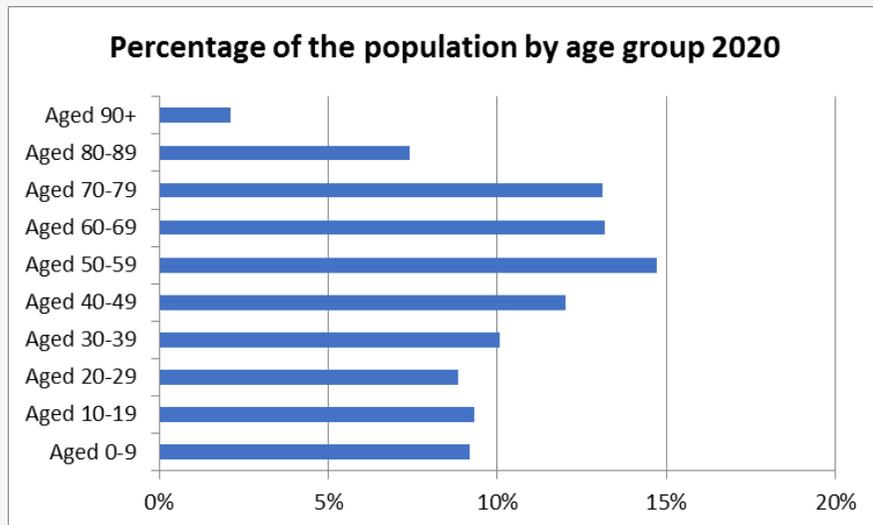
## Age breakdown

At 22.6% Test Valley has a smaller percentage of **young people** (aged 0-19) than the Hampshire average of 23.0%. By 2027, the proportion of young people will decrease slightly to 22.2% and will be 0.4% lower than the borough average.

At 22.6%, Test Valley has lower amount of **young adults** (aged 20-39) than the wider county at 25.2%. The proportion of young adults living in the Borough is expected to decrease by 1.5% between 2020 and 2027, similar to a fall of 0.9% across Hampshire.

**Middle aged residents** (aged 40-69) constitute 40.2% of Test Valley's population, which is higher than the Hampshire average of 36.8%. This is forecast to decrease slightly to 39.8% by 2027, 2.8% below the county average.

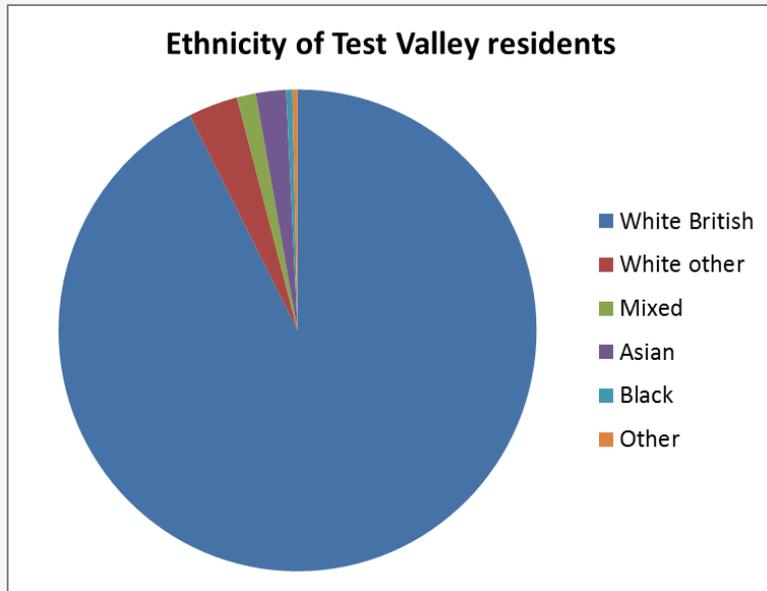
At 17.2%, Test Valley has a higher percentage of those **aged 70 and over**, 2.1% above the county average. By 2027 this percentage is forecast to increase by 2.2%, double the forecast increase of 1.1% for Hampshire as a whole.



## Population Data

This population data is taken from the Small Area Population Forecasts (SAPF), provided by Hampshire County Council. Further information on this is available online at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/facts-figures/population/estimates-forecasts>.

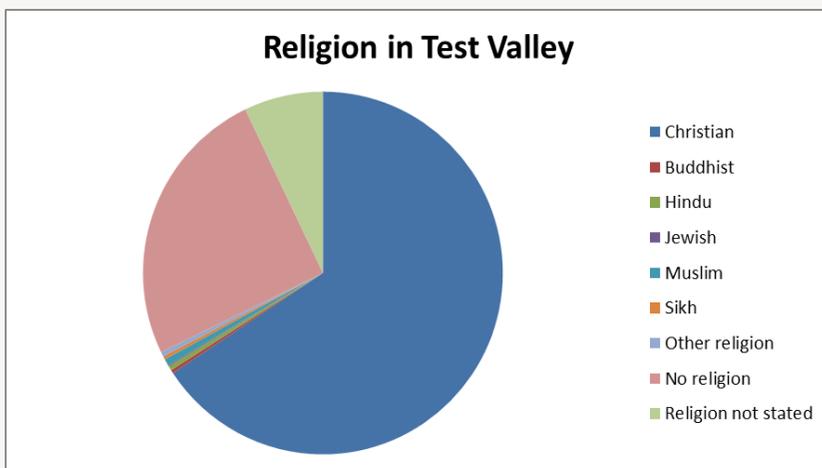
## Ethnicity



White British	White other	Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	Asian	Black	Other
92.6%	3.4%	1.3%	2.0%	0.4%	0.3%

The graph shows the ethnic groups within Test Valley by percentage. In the 2011 Census, 92.6% of Test Valley's population identified as White British. Test Valley's ethnic diversity is also lower than England as a whole, where only 79.8% of the population are White British. The only two areas that were more ethnically diverse than England were Chilworth (where 68.0% of people were White British) and Bullington (where 78.0% of people were White British).

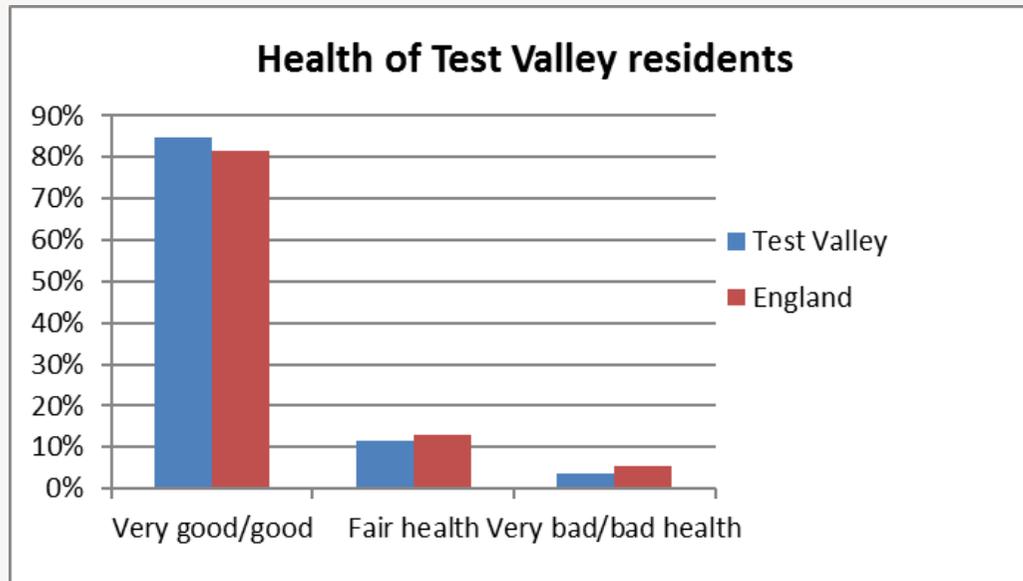
## Religion



Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religion	No religion	Religion not stated
65.7%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.6%	0.3%	0.4%	25.1%	7.1%

At the 2011 Census, the majority of Test Valley's residents (65.7%) classified themselves as Christian, which is higher than the English average of 59.8%. The next largest group are those that say they have no religion (25.1%) which is lower the English average (27.7%). Of those groups that do adhere to a religion, Islam is the second largest group at 0.6%, this is compared to 5.0% of the English population who identify as adhering to Islam.

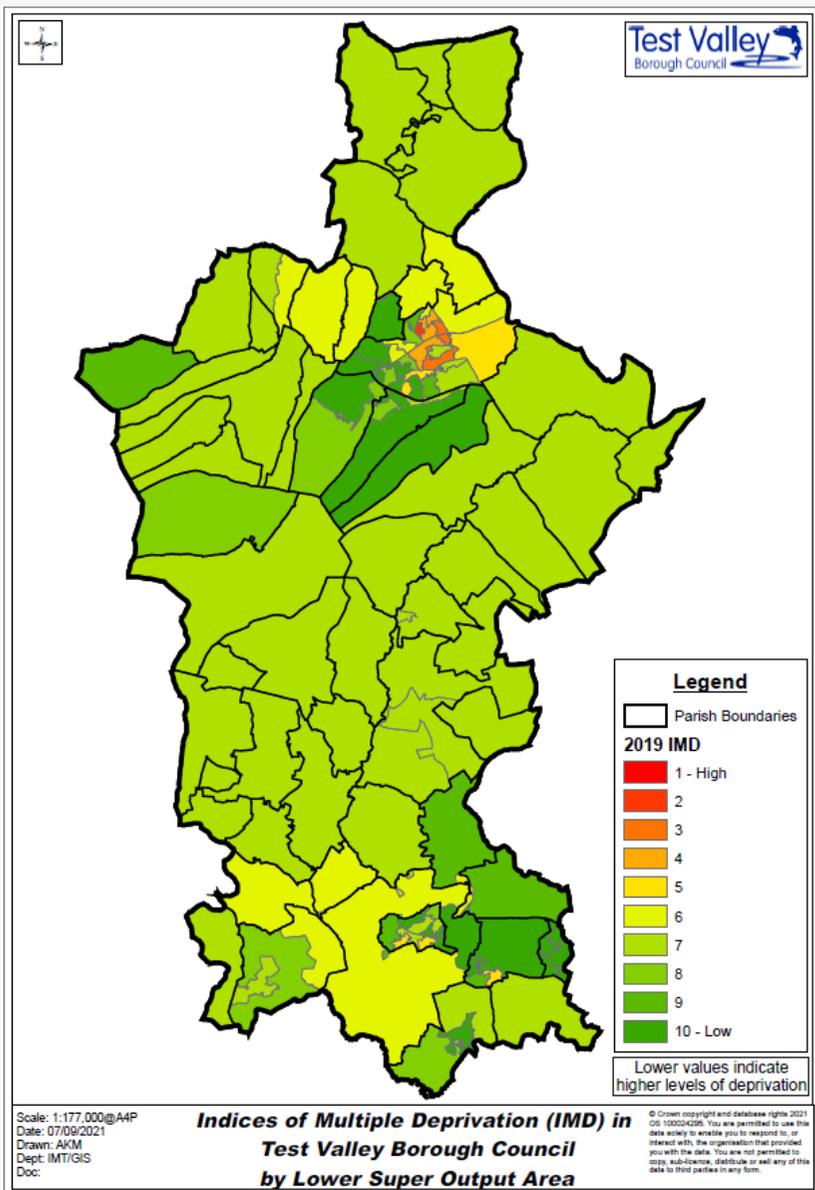
## Health



**2.4% of Test Valley residents are long-term sick or disabled (2011 Census)**

At the 2011 Census, 84.6% of residents in Test Valley said they felt that they were in very good or good health. This is higher than the average for England (81.4%). 3.8% of the population rated their health as bad or very bad, which is lower than the average for England (5.5%).

## Deprivation



The English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 is designed to identify areas where communities lack resources and are in need. To do this, seven factors are considered, which are:

- income deprivation;
- employment deprivation;
- education, skills and training deprivation;
- health deprivation and disability;
- crime;
- barriers to housing and services;
- living environment deprivation.

Areas are scored on each of these factors, and ranked nationally from least deprived to most deprived.

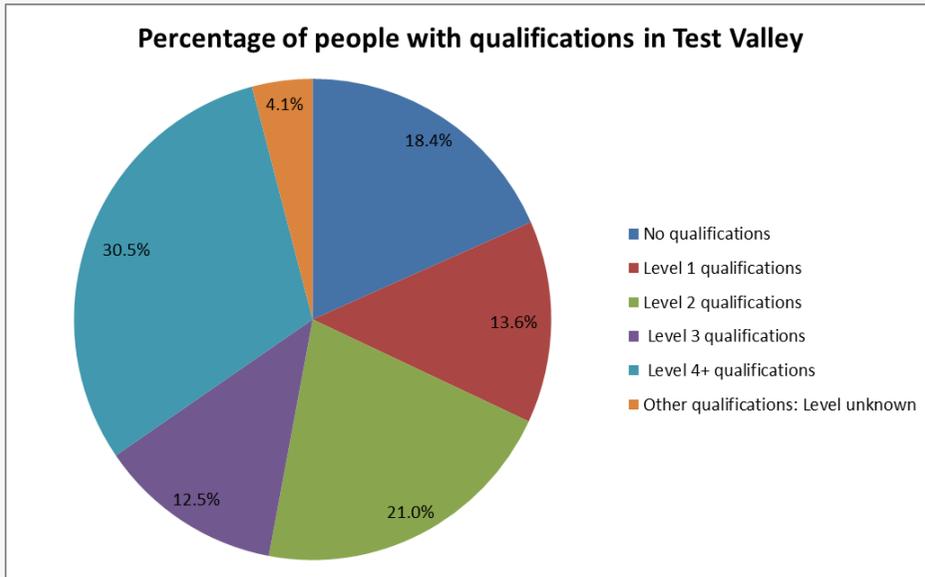
This map shows the deprivation scores for Test Valley. Test Valley is made up of 71 different Lower Super Output Areas, these are geographies created by the Office for National Statistics that include an average of 1,500 people.

As the map shows, the Output Areas that make up Test Valley vary widely in their deprivation rankings. Large parts of the borough, as seen in dark green, are amongst the top 10% of least deprived areas the country. Conversely, there are some areas that are within the top 30% most deprived areas. A more detailed summary of the IMD data at a local level can be found in the relevant Parish Profile (available [here](#))

Further information about the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 2019 English Indices of Deprivation is available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>

# Education and employment

## Qualifications



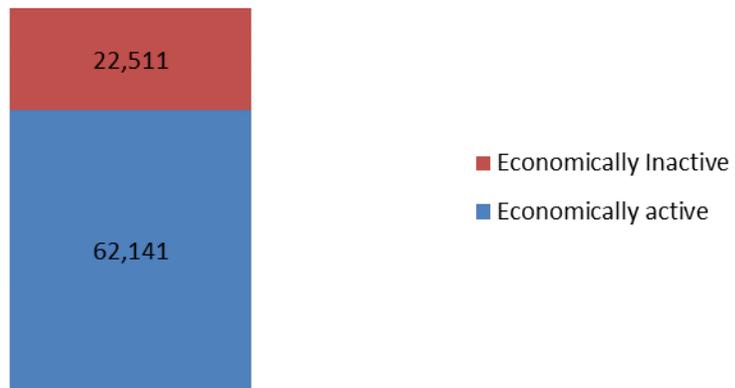
The pie chart shows the qualifications gained by Test Valley residents aged 16-74 years, according to the 2011 Census. 77.6% of people living in Test Valley have at least one GCSE or equivalent qualification, a figure which is higher than the English average of 71.8%. Additionally, 4.1% of residents have an unknown qualification, which is similar to the national average. This means that 18.4% of Test Valley's residents between 16 and 74 have no academic, vocational or professional qualifications, which is 4.1% lower than the English average. In addition, 30.5% of Test Valley's residents have a level 4 qualification or above, which is equivalent to at least an undergraduate degree. This is higher than the average for England which is 27.4%.

No qualifications	No academic or professional qualifications.
Level 1	1+'O' level passes, 1+CSE/GCSE any grades, NVQ level 1, Basic/Essential skills, NVQ Level 1.
Level 2	5+'O' level passes, 5+GCSEs (grades A*-C) 1 A level/2-3 AS levels. City and Guilds Craft, Apprenticeship, NVQ level 2.
Level 3	2+'A' levels, Higher School certificate, NVQ level 3, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, BTEC National.
Level 4/5	Degree (for example BA, BSc) higher degree (for example Master's, PhD, PGCE), NVQ levels 4 and 5, Qualified Teacher status, Nurse or Accountancy. BTEC Higher level.
Other qualification	Level unknown, vocational/work-related Qualifications, Foreign qualifications.



## Economic Activity

### Economic activity (count)

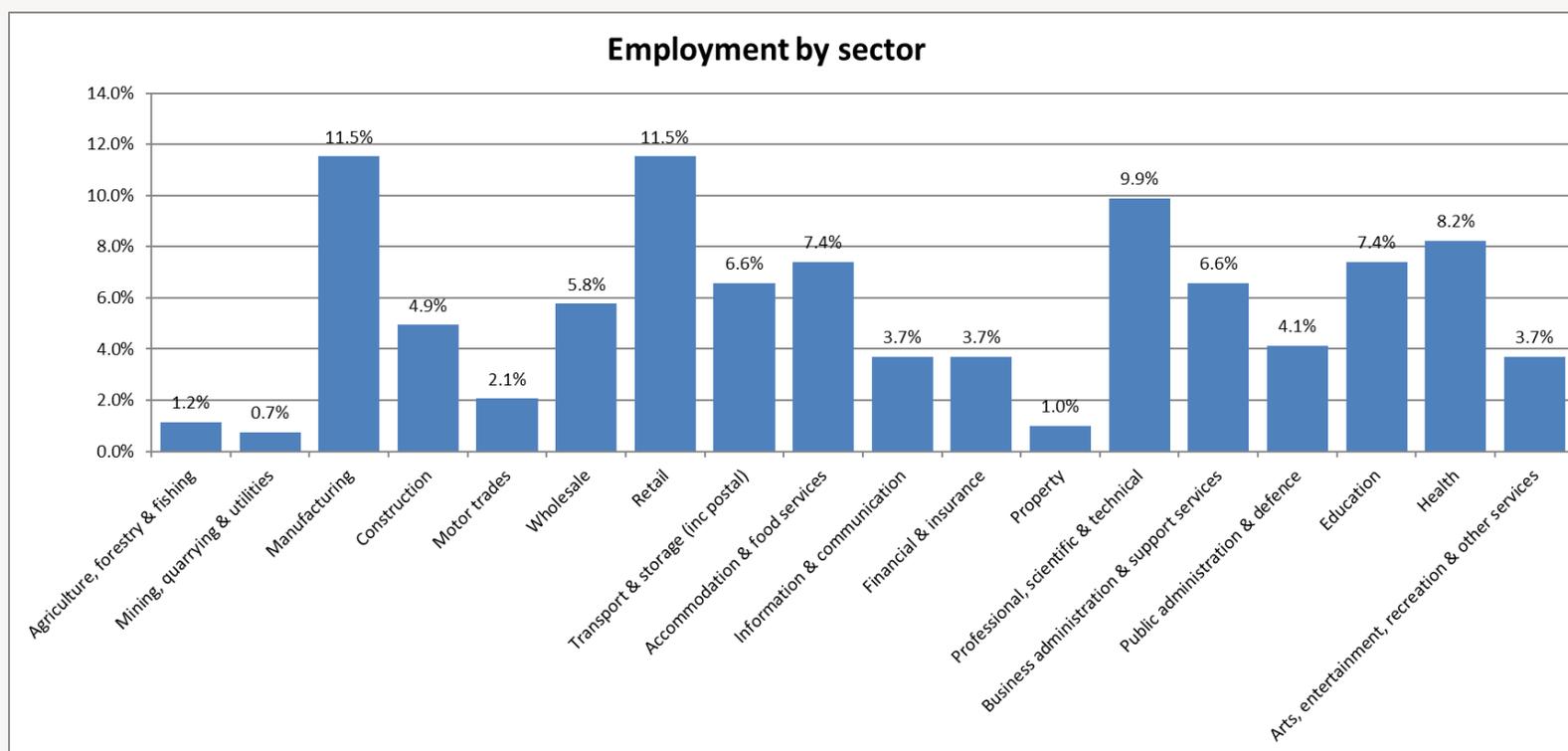


According to the 2011 Census, 73.4% of Test Valley's residents aged 16-74 are economically active, higher than England as a whole where the figure is 69.9% of residents. This includes people in full-, part- and self-employment, those who are actively seeking a job, and full-time students.

The remaining 26.6% of residents aged 16-74 are economically inactive, compared to 30.1% of people in England. This includes people who are retired, long-term sick or disabled, or who look after the home and family.

## Employment by sector

*This data is taken from the 2019 UK Business Register and Employment Survey which is produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). This dataset relies upon a sample of 85,000 businesses across the country, from which these estimates are modelled. As such, there will be some sampling variability which result in the quality of the estimates deteriorating for smaller geographies. A better indication will be available from the 2021 Census which will be available in 2022/3/*



This graph shows the percentage of the workforce by sector, according to the latest Business Register and Employment Survey in 2018. The largest sector employing people in Test Valley is jointly Manufacturing and Retail (both 11.5%) followed by Professional, Scientific & Technical (9.9%) and Health (8.2%).

# Properties

Total number of properties

**56,252**

## Dwellings

## Estimated Average Value

**22.5%**

*Terraced*



**£282,813**

**25.6%**

*Semi-Detached*



**£348,074**

**12.5%**

*Flat*



**£190,475**

**38.6%**

*Detached*



**£578,965**

**0.8%**

*Mobile*

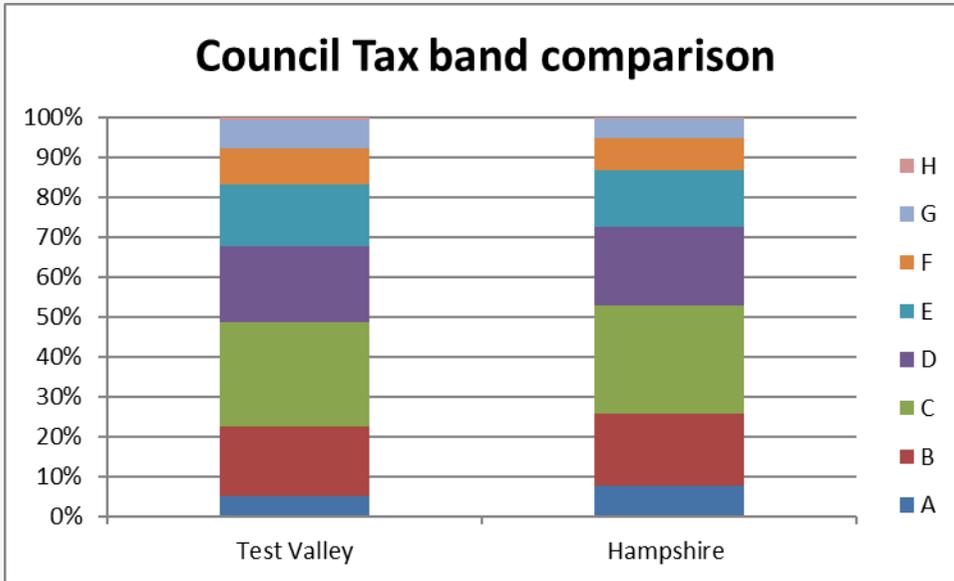


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According to the HM Land Registry, the average value of a property in Test Valley in 2021 is **£367,647**. This is an increase of 11.5% over the past twelve months. In Hampshire, the average value of a property is £350,447 whilst in South East England, the average is £354,278.

Looking more locally, according to Zoopla the highest property prices in Test Valley are in Linkenholt, Longstock, Michelmersh, Nether Wallop and West Tytherley. Conversely, the most affordable parishes are Charlton, Shipton Bellinger, North Baddesley, Andover, and Faccombe.

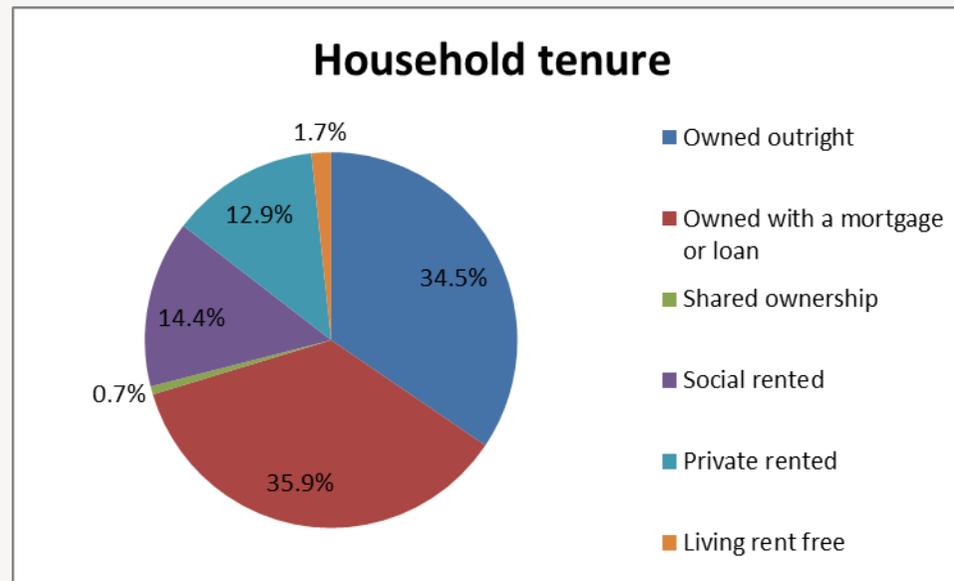
## Council Tax Bandings



## Test Valley Hampshire

<b>Bands F-H</b>		<b>16.9%</b>	<b>13.4%</b>
<b>Bands C-E</b>		<b>60.8%</b>	<b>60.9%</b>
<b>Bands A-B</b>		<b>22.3%</b>	<b>25.7%</b>

## Household Tenure



Household tenure refers to the financial arrangements under which people occupy their homes and is taken from the 2011 Census.

This pie chart depicts the tenure of households in Test Valley. 70.4% of people in Test Valley live in a property which they own outright or with a mortgage or loan. This is higher the English average, which is 63.3%.

14.4% of residents rent their property from a Housing Association, lower than the equivalent figure for England of 17.7%.

12.9% of residents privately rent their property; this figure is lower the national average of 16.8%.

# Community facilities

Across the Borough, there are a wide range of community and leisure facilities for local residents to use and enjoy. Major facilities such as leisure centres, shops, restaurants and schools are concentrated in the Borough's two main towns of Romsey and Andover. Beyond this, many of the villages and towns across the borough have their own community facilities, further details of which can be found in the relevant Parish Profile (available [here](#)).

In terms of transport links, running through the borough are major roads like the A303, A303 and M27. The closest airport is Southampton Airport though Gatwick and Heathrow airports are within a few hours' drive. In the south of the borough, trains from Southampton and Eastleigh to and from Salisbury and Bristol stop at Dean, Mottisfont and Dunbridge, and Romsey. Additionally, the West of England Line runs through the borough with stations at Andover and Grateley, this allows for regular services from to London and the West Country.

The Borough's name is derived from the River Test, a chalk stream renowned for its trout fishing as well as its ecological significance for a wide range of flora and fauna. Complementing this, the North Wessex Downs AONB cuts through the north of the Borough whilst the New Forest National Park is on the Borough's southern border.



# Community plans

Local parishes are able to undertake a range of local planning exercises for their local communities. These include:

**Community Emergency Plans** which help communities respond to, and recover from, emergencies. Further information can be found at: <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/aboutyourcouncil/emergencyplanning/community-resilience>

**Neighborhood Development Plans (NDP)** which allow parishes to consider the issues that are important to them, set out a vision for the area and provide planning policies relating to the use and development of land. Further information can be found at: <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planningpolicy/neighbourhood-planning>

**Village and Town Design Statements** which outline design guidance for further development to help retain the town or village's character. Further information can be found at: <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planningpolicy/village-design-statements>

## Test Valley Borough Council – Policy Team

The information in this profile has been prepared by Test Valley Borough Council's Policy Team. If you have any further queries or would like to talk to us about other information you would like to see then please contact one of the Policy Team who will be happy to help:

[policyteam@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:policyteam@testvalley.gov.uk)

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