

Bury But Better 2009

 urbed

BURY COUNCIL

Clear Channel

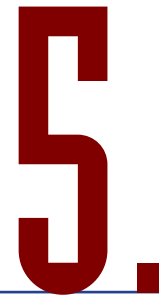
IL · CAESAR

CHICKEN CAESAR
TACK WRAP

£1.19
LIMITED
EDITION



Socio-economic update



In this chapter we look at Bury’s socio-economic situation and how this has changed over the last five years. This analysis will cover the following topics:

- **Population & profile:** This looks at indicators such as population figures/ estimates, age and ethnicity of the local population.
- **Economic activity & skills:** These indicators relate to economic activity, unemployment, health, skills and qualifications.
- **Housing & IMD (Index of Multiple Deprivation):** This looks at the types of households and the social ranking of the area.

Population and profile

The 2001 Census recorded that the Borough of Bury had a total population of 180,608 and it was estimated that this figure rose to 183,300 by June 2007. The table below shows that Bury follows the general upwards trend of the region (despite

Population	0 - 17 years (%)	18 - 24 years (%)	25 - 64 years (%)	+65 years (%)
England and Wales	21.5	9.4	53.0	16.1
North West	21.8	9.8	52.1	16.2
Bury	23.2	8.7	52.9	15.2

Source: ONS, update for mid-2007

the slight decline nationally) and that it is well placed against towns of a similar position within the Greater Manchester conurbation although Manchester itself continues to be the driver of the region and attracts most people.

As the table above demonstrates the difference of age profiles are small between Bury Local Authority, the North West and the national average, but it is apparent that Bury demonstrates a high population of people aged 0 - 17, which is above the regional and national average.

Analysis of 2001 ONS data illustrates that the Borough of Bury is predominantly white British (90%), this is just below the North West average of 92%.



Area	Total population count (2001)	Estimated population (June 2007)	Difference (actual numbers)	Difference (%)
England and Wales	52,041,916	51,092,000	- 949,916	- 1.83
North West	6,729,764	6,864,300	+ 134,536	+ 1.99
Bury	180,608	183,300	+ 2,692	+ 1.49
Bolton	261,037	262,300	+ 1,263	+ 0.48
Manchester	392,819	458,100	+ 65,281	+ 16.61
Oldham	217,273	219,500	+ 2,227	+ 1.02
Rochdale	205,357	206,100	+ 743	+ 0.36

Source: ONS, 2001 & 2007

Facing page and above: The Rock

Economic activity & skills

Economic activity: On a borough level 79.9% of Bury’s working age population are classified as economically active. This is higher than the North West average of 76.8% and the national average of 78.6%.

11.8% of the working age population in the Borough of Bury is self-employed. This is higher than the regional average of 11.0% but lower than the national average of 12.8%.

7.4% of the working age population are registered as being permanently sick or disabled, which is lower than the North West average of 7.6% and higher than the national level (7.1%).

Type	Economically active (% of the working age population)	Economically inactive (% of the working age population)
England and Wales	78.6	21.4
North West	76.8	23.2
Bury	79.9	20.1
Bolton	77.4	22.6
Manchester	69.9	30.1
Oldham	75.5	24.5
Rochdale	74.0	26.0

Source: APS, Apr 07 - Mar 08

Of all those classed as economically active, 5.7% are unemployed (Bury borough), which is below the regional average of 5.9% and above the national level of 5.4%. However, 48% of the working population travels out of the borough to work (2001 census). This contributes to a low wage market and little employment structure within the borough itself. Recent local developments such as Chamberhall and Townside have been introduced to create higher quality knowledge based employment opportunities.

Education & skills: There are 63 Primary schools, 14 High schools and 2 post-16 year colleges in Bury in addition to a number of private schools for the primary age range and

independent grammar schools. The Council maintains three special schools for children with extended needs with an additional range of specialist places within mainstream primary and high schools.

Schools in Bury are consistently amongst the best in the country, achieving well above the national average for the past five years in English, Maths and Science. In the Independent Schools Network Rankings (ISN) for Grammar Schools in England Bury Grammar School for Girls comes 11th out of 52 grammar schools while Bury Grammar School for Boys comes 19th. Bury Catholic Preparatory Schools comes 42nd out of the 742 Preparatory Schools in England.

In 2007 Bury College received an ‘Outstanding’ grade by Ofsted, awarding it the highest grades possible across all areas inspected. Qualification levels within the Borough of Bury illustrate that most residents have some level of qualification, with the percentage of residents of working age with no qualifications being at under 13.8%, a similar figure to the national average of 14.2%, the North West average (15.0%) and its neighbours Bolton (13.5%), Manchester (18.7%), Oldham (19.3%) and Rochdale (19.0%).

Housing & IMD

Ownership: In 2001 the Borough of Bury had 74,335 registered households, with the owner occupier market accounting for 75.53% of its housing tenures. This is high compared to 41%



owner occupancy in Manchester, the regional figure of 69.26% or the average of 68% for England and Wales.

Index of Multiple Deprivation: When we compared Bury in 2003 to the areas of Manchester, Oldham, Bolton and Rochdale, which all have significant pockets of deprivation, Bury turned out to be relatively affluent. This has not changed since and Bury comes 122nd on a rank of 354. Manchester is still showing the worst signs of deprivation coming 4th on the national list followed by Rochdale (25), Oldham (42) and Bolton (51).

Crime: Bury has the lowest crime rates when compared against similar towns and cities, such as Rochdale, Manchester, Oldham and Bolton, although there are pockets within the borough where crime rates are higher than in other areas.

Conclusions

The updated masterplan for Bury Town Centre will be able to build upon the following demographic drivers and will need to respond to defining characteristics:

- The number of residents in employment is high compared to the national and regional average.
- There is a good range of occupations to build an economic base and a well established, strong education sector in the area. This is a big advantage over surrounding towns.
- There is a strong self-employment sector, which encourages enterprise and innovation.
- There is a very high percentage of owner occupied homes but the number of shared ownership schemes is low.
- Fear of crime after dark has increased in recent years. However, crime rates are relatively low and have decreased according to the 2004 BurySafe community survey when compared to other neighbouring towns and the average figures for England & Wales.
- The Index of Multiple Deprivation is good, with all but one of the indicators better than the neighbouring towns. However, there are some pockets of deprivation, such as the Pimhole area just outside the town centre.



Facing page: businesses in the York Street area;
This page: Bury Boys & Girls Grammar Schools playing fields