**CENSUS 2021 – LABOUR MARKET, TRAVEL TO WORK & EDUCATION**

Data on the following topics is available:

### Distance travelled to work

### Hours worked

### Economic activity status

### Industry

### NS-SeC

### Occupation

### Occupation - minor groups

### Method used to travel to work

### Highest level of qualification

### Schoolchildren and full-time students

The key data tables are shown below; data for all the variables in this release can be found [here](https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/aboutcensus/censusproducts/topicsummaries).

Small area data down to Census Output Area level (areas of approx. 100-150 households) is available for each of the variables; interactive maps can be found [here](https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps):

Census data can also be accessed and analysed with the following tools:

* [Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics (nomisweb.co.uk)](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/)
* [LG Inform Plus (esd.org.uk)](https://home.esd.org.uk/) (RBC is already a subscriber, you just need to register)

**Key headlines:**

* A lower proportion of Reading residents are economically inactive (33%) than nationally (39.1%), but a higher proportion than in 2011 (26.2%).
* Just under 40% of residents are working from home, a higher proportion than nationally (31.5%).
* A higher proportion travel to work using more sustainable methods of travel (i.e. non-car) than nationally.
* Reading’s largest industry is still ‘wholesale and retail trade’, employing 14.5% of economically active residents, followed by ‘human health and social work activities’ (13.6%), and ‘information and communication’ (12%), the latter a much larger employer than nationally (4.7%).
* Just over a quarter of Reading residents (25.6%) are employed in professional occupations, higher than the national average (20.3%).
* A higher proportion of residents have a level 4 or higher qualification (40.4%) than nationally (33.9%) or than in 2011 (35%).
* A lower proportion have no qualifications (15.8%) than either nationally (18.1%) or in 2011 (17%).

**ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***Reading %*** | ***Reading 2011 %*** | ***England %*** |
| **Economically active (excluding full-time students)** | **63.6** | **69.0** | **58.6** |
| In employment | 60.4 | 64.4 | 55.7 |
| Unemployed | 3.2 | 4.6 | 2.9 |
| **Economically active and a full-time student** | **3.4** | **5.0** | **2.3** |
| In employment | 2.5 | n/a | 1.7 |
| Unemployed | 0.9 | n/a | 0.6 |
| **Economically inactive** | **33.0** | **26.2** | **39.1** |
| Retired | 13.6 | 8.6 | 21.5 |
| Student | 8.2 | 8.0 | 5.6 |
| Looking after home or family | 4.9 | 4.6 | 4.8 |
| Long-term sick or disabled | 3.0 | 2.8 | 4.1 |
| Other | 3.3 | 2.2 | 3.1 |

**METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***Reading %*** | ***Reading 2011 %*** | ***England %*** |
| Work mainly at or from home | 39.3 | n/a[[1]](#footnote-1) | 31.5 |
| Underground, metro, light rail, tram | 0.2 | n/a | 1.9 |
| Train | 2.7 | n/a | 2.0 |
| Bus, minibus or coach | 7.4 | n/a | 4.3 |
| Taxi | 0.4 | n/a | 0.7 |
| Motorcycle, scooter or moped | 0.4 | n/a | 0.5 |
| Driving a car or van | 31.4 | n/a | 44.5 |
| Passenger in a car or van | 3.3 | n/a | 3.9 |
| Bicycle | 2.7 | n/a | 2.1 |
| On foot | 11.4 | n/a | 7.6 |
| Other method of travel to work | 0.9 | n/a | 1.0 |

**INDUSTRY**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***Reading %*** | ***Reading 2011 %*** | ***England %*** |
| A: Agriculture, Forestry and fishing | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.8 |
| B: Mining and quarrying | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| C: Manufacturing | 4.5 | 4.9 | 7.3 |
| D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| E: Water supply; Sewerage, Waste management and Remediation activities | 1.6 | 1.1 | 0.7 |
| F: Construction | 6.4 | 6.2 | 8.7 |
| G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 14.5 | 15.5 | 15.0 |
| H: Transport and storage | 4.9 | 4.6 | 5.0 |
| I: Accommodation and food service activities | 5.3 | 5.9 | 4.9 |
| J: Information and communication | 12.0 | 11.1 | 4.7 |
| K: Financial and insurance activities | 3.2 | 4.1 | 3.8 |
| L: Real estate activities | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.6 |
| M: Professional, scientific and technical activities | 7.9 | 9.1 | 6.7 |
| N: Administrative and support service activities | 6.1 | 5.7 | 5.3 |
| O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security | 4.3 | 4.7 | 5.8 |
| P: Education | 9.7 | 9.7 | 9.9 |
| Q: Human health and social work activities | 13.6 | 10.9 | 14.6 |
| R, S, T, U Other | 3.6 | 4.3 | 4.6 |

**OCCUPATION**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***Reading %*** | ***Reading 2011 %*** | ***England %*** |
| 1. Managers, directors and senior officials | 10.6 | 9 | 12.9 |
| 2. Professional occupations | 25.6 | 25 | 20.3 |
| 3. Associate professional and technical occupations | 13.5 | 14 | 13.3 |
| 4. Administrative and secretarial occupations | 7.9 | 10 | 9.3 |
| 5. Skilled trades occupations | 7.8 | 9 | 10.2 |
| 6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations | 9.1 | 9 | 9.3 |
| 7. Sales and customer service occupations | 7.6 | 9 | 7.5 |
| 8. Process, plant and machine operatives | 5.7 | 5 | 6.9 |
| 9. Elementary occupations | 12.2 | 11 | 10.5 |

**HIGHEST LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***Reading %*** | ***Reading 2011 %*** | ***England %*** |
| No qualifications | 15.8 | 17 | 18.1 |
| Level 1 and entry level qualifications | 9.1 | 12 | 9.7 |
| Level 2 qualifications | 10.7 | 12 | 13.3 |
| Apprenticeship | 4.1 | 3 | 5.3 |
| Level 3 qualifications | 16.8 | 13 | 16.9 |
| Level 4 qualifications and above | 40.4 | 35 | 33.9 |
| Other qualifications | 3.0 | 7 | 2.8 |

1. *It is difficult to compare this variable with the 2011 Census because Census 2021 took place during a national lockdown.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)