



## 2011 Census Digest: Employment by Occupation

### Introduction

The 2011 Census results show that:

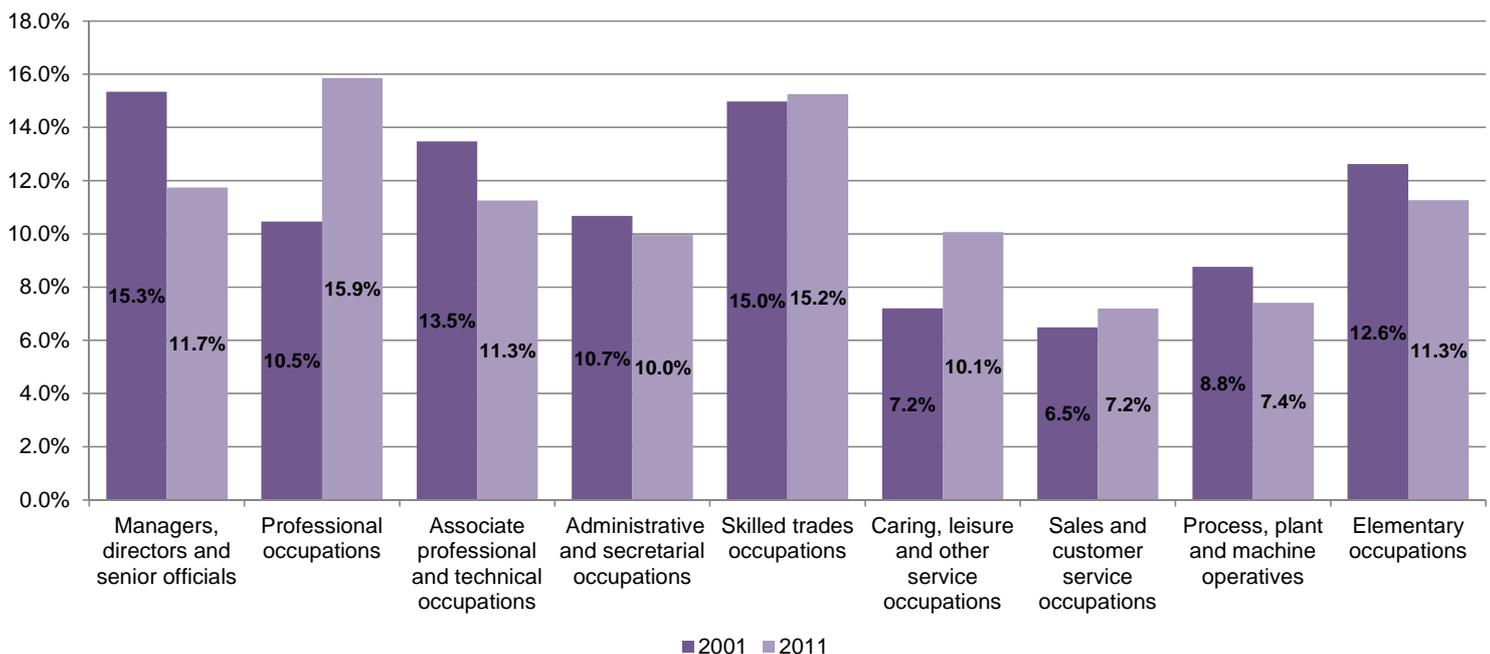
- There has been a notable decline in the number employed as managers, directors and senior officials since the 2001 Census. The number employed in associate professional and technical occupations has also fallen.
- There has been substantial growth in the number employed in professional occupations and in caring, leisure and other service occupations.
- Compared to the national average, Shropshire supports a significant number working in skilled trades occupations.
- Some occupations, including process, plant and machine operation and skilled trades remain very male dominated. Men are also more likely to hold manager, director or senior official positions. In contrast, women are more likely to hold caring, leisure and other service occupations or to work in an administrative or secretarial capacity.

*For definitions on occupations, please refer to the note at the end of this digest.*

### Breakdown by occupation

The highest proportion of the 16-74 year old Shropshire population which is in employment works in professional occupations (15.9% of the total), and there has been strong growth in the number of people working in this area since 2001 (+68.7%). There has also been a substantial increase in the number working in caring, leisure and other service occupations (+55.6% between 2001 and 2011), and this occupational category now accounts for more than a tenth of all those in employment. Sales and customer service occupations and skilled trades occupations have also become more popular during the decade between Censuses – the former accounted for 7.2% of all those in employment and the latter for 15.2% in 2011.

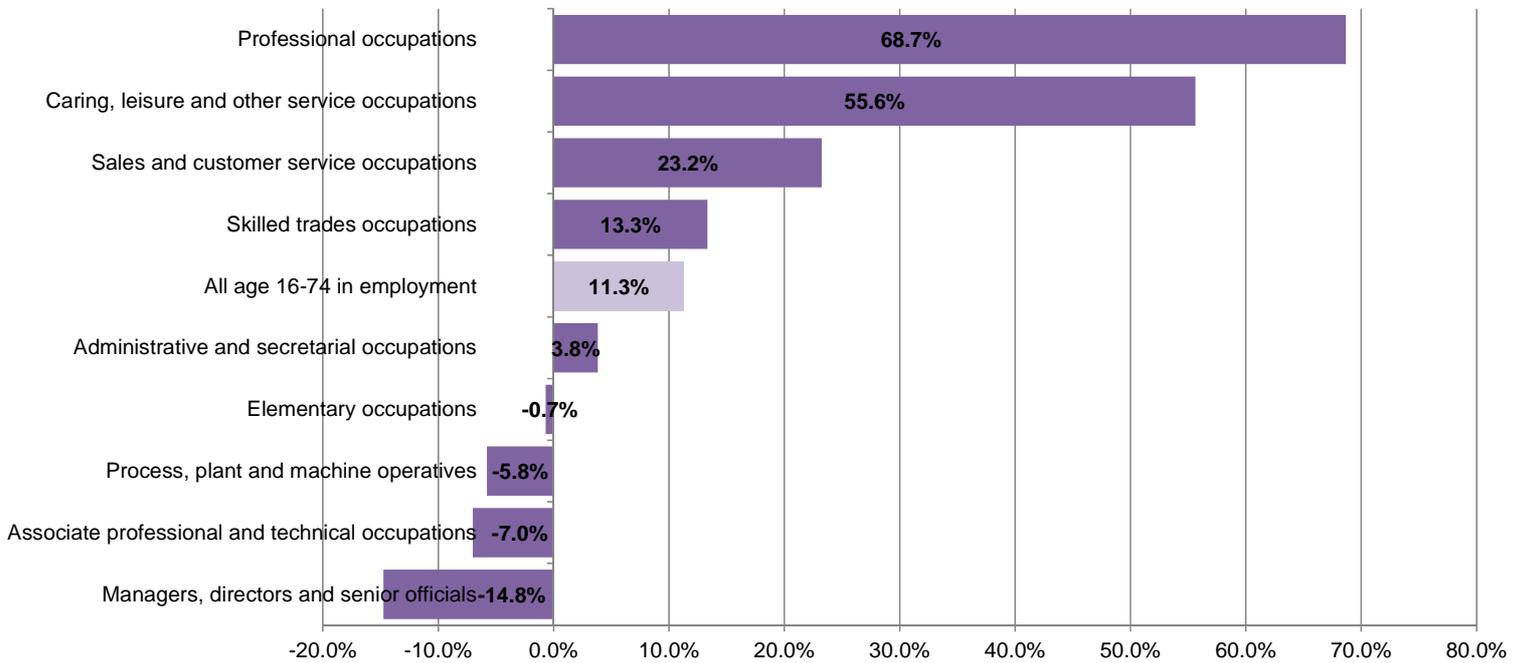
**Breakdown of the Shropshire population in employment by occupation, 2001 & 2011**



Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census, © Crown Copyright 2012  
Please note that residents may be employed within or outside Shropshire.

There has been a sharp decline in the number of managers, directors and senior officials working in Shropshire (-14.8% between 2001 and 2011) and this occupation now accounts for 11.7% of all those in employment compared with 15.3% a decade ago. The number employed in associate professional and technical occupations has also declined and likewise there are now fewer process, plant and machine operatives than there were 10 years ago.

**Percentage change in the number in employment, 2001-2011**



*Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census, © Crown Copyright 2012  
Please note that residents may be employed within or outside Shropshire*

### Male/female split

Of the 150,748 Shropshire residents who had worked for at least one hour in the week leading up to the 2011 Census, 53.7% were male and 46.3% were female.

Some occupations are particularly either male or female dominated. Men account for almost nine out of ten process, plant and machine operatives and for a similar proportion of those in skilled trades occupations. Although less extreme than this, men nonetheless account for a disproportionately large share of managers, directors and senior officials; and associate professional and technical occupations. Women, meanwhile, account for more than 80% of caring, leisure and other service occupations and administrative and secretarial positions.

## Employment by occupation in Shropshire; male and female split, 2011

	Males		Females		Total	
	Number	% of industry total	Number	% of industry total	Number	% of industry total
All age 16-74 in employment	80,881	53.7%	69,867	46.3%	150,748	100.0%
Managers, directors and senior officials	11,589	65.4%	6,119	34.6%	17,708	100.0%
Professional occupations	11,173	46.7%	12,733	53.3%	23,906	100.0%
Associate professional and technical occupations	10,340	60.9%	6,631	39.1%	16,971	100.0%
Administrative and secretarial occupations	2,564	17.1%	12,446	82.9%	15,010	100.0%
Skilled trades occupations	20,153	87.7%	2,831	12.3%	22,984	100.0%
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	2,478	16.3%	12,702	83.7%	15,180	100.0%
Sales and customer service occupations	3,646	33.6%	7,191	66.4%	10,837	100.0%
Process, plant and machine operatives	9,847	88.1%	1,324	11.9%	11,171	100.0%
Elementary occupations	9,091	53.5%	7,890	46.5%	16,981	100.0%

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census, © Crown Copyright 2012  
Please note that residents may be employed within or outside Shropshire

## How Shropshire compares to other locations

The following table shows how the breakdown of employment by occupation compares with the Marches LEP<sup>1</sup>, the wider West Midlands region, Shropshire's statistical neighbour authorities<sup>2</sup>, England and England and Wales.

### Employment by occupation, geographic comparisons, 2011

	Shropshire Number	Shropshire %	Marches LEP %	West Midlands %	Shropshire and Statistical Neighbours %	England %	England and Wales %
All age 16-74 in employment	150,748	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Managers, directors and senior officials	17,708	11.7%	11.2%	10.1%	11.3%	10.9%	10.8%
Professional occupations	23,906	15.9%	15.0%	15.8%	15.3%	17.5%	17.4%
Associate professional and technical occupations	16,971	11.3%	11.0%	11.1%	11.7%	12.8%	12.7%
Administrative and secretarial occupations	15,010	10.0%	10.3%	11.4%	10.7%	11.5%	11.4%
Skilled trades occupations	22,984	15.2%	14.7%	12.2%	13.9%	11.4%	11.5%
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	15,180	10.1%	9.8%	9.5%	10.0%	9.3%	9.4%
Sales and customer service occupations	10,837	7.2%	7.6%	8.6%	8.0%	8.4%	8.4%
Process, plant and machine operatives	11,171	7.4%	8.5%	8.8%	7.8%	7.2%	7.2%
Elementary occupations	16,981	11.3%	11.9%	12.5%	11.4%	11.1%	11.1%

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census, © Crown Copyright 2012  
Please note that residents may be employed within or outside Shropshire.

The relative importance of some occupations to the Shropshire workforce can be illustrated by comparing the proportion of Shropshire workers employed in a particular occupation to the national average to give a quotient figure<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Includes Telford and Wrekin and Herefordshire as well as Shropshire

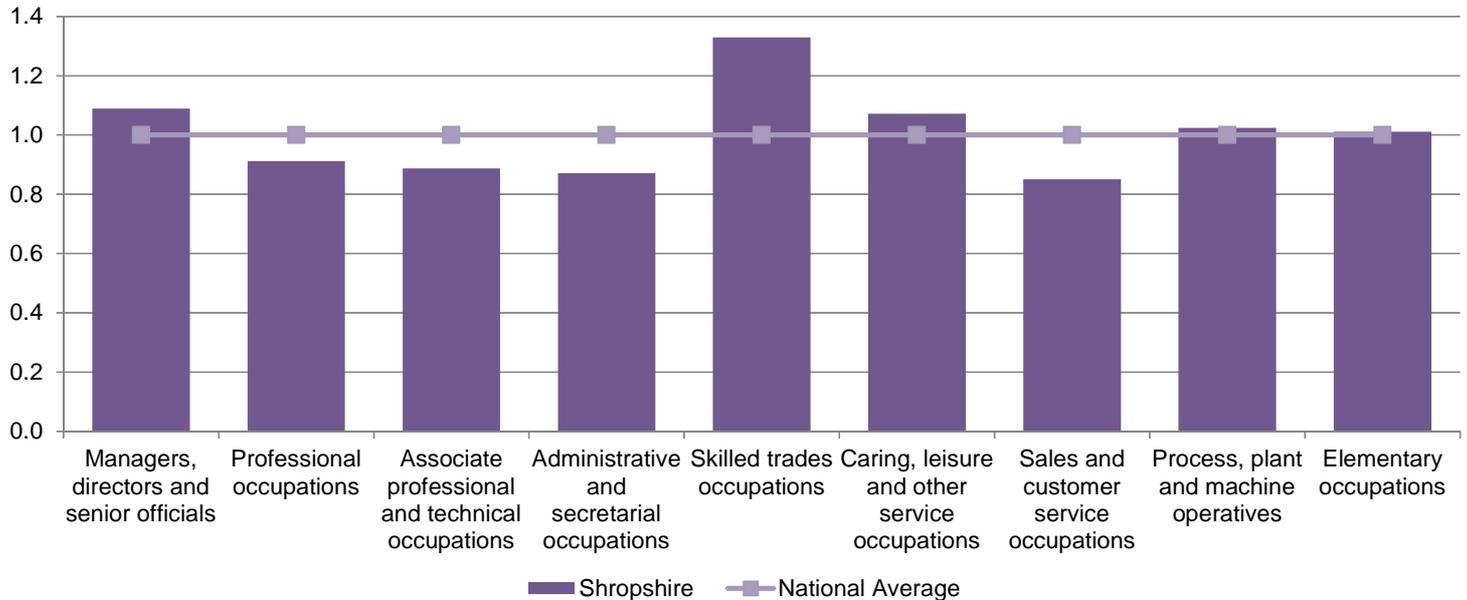
<sup>2</sup> Includes Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire as well as Shropshire

<sup>3</sup> The quotient figure is derived by dividing the Shropshire percentage by the national percentage.

From the graph below it is clear that Shropshire supports higher numbers of managers, directors and senior officials; skilled trades' personnel and those who work in caring, leisure and other services occupations. Shropshire ranks 36<sup>th</sup> out of 348 district, borough and unitary local authorities for the proportion of its population which is employed in skilled trades occupations.

In contrast, Shropshire is home to fewer people in professional occupations; associate technical and professional occupations; administrative and secretarial occupations; and sales and customer service occupations. Numbers of process, plant and machine operatives and those working in elementary occupations is on a par with the national average

**Relative importance of occupations to the Shropshire population, 2011**



*Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census, © Crown Copyright 2012  
Please note that residents may be employed within or outside Shropshire.  
Quotient figures have been calculated using unrounded percentage figures*

## Definitions

### Employed (In employment)

- A person aged 16 to 74 is defined as employed (or in employment) if in the week before the census they carried out at least one hour's paid work, either as an employee or self-employed.

This includes casual or temporary work, on a government-sponsored training scheme, doing paid or unpaid work for their own or family business, being away from work ill, on maternity leave, or on holiday or temporarily laid off.

### Main job

- The 'Main job' of a person aged 16 to 74 is the job in which they usually work the most hours. For people not working at the time of the census the main job relates to the person's last job. Topics based on employment all relate to a person's main job.

### Occupation

- A person's occupation relates to their main job and is derived from either their job title or details of the activities involved in their job. This is used to assign responses to an occupation code based on the Standard Occupational Classification 2010 (SOC2010).

## Footnote

The information in this digest relates to ONS Census 2011 key statistics tables KS608EW, KS609EW and KS610EW and ONS Census 2001 key statistics tables KS12a, KS12b and KS12c.

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