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Statistical Digest of the English Uplands 2011

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Introduction

The *Statistical Digest of the English Uplands* is a collection of statistics on a range of social, economic, agricultural and environmental subject areas. The report aims to enhance our understanding of the social, economic and environmental features of the English Uplands. In many cases, the statistics are presented for upland areas and the rest of England, to allow comparisons to be made. The Digest includes high level statistics which present an overall picture for England. However, there is likely to be considerable variation in individual towns, villages and hamlets, and between different regions of England.

Official Statistics

The Digest is an Official Statistics publication. This means that the statistics have been produced to the high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. This Code of Practice, published in January 2009, comprises 8 principles. Amongst others, the principles state that Official Statistics should meet user needs/requirements, be impartial and objective, have integrity and be free from political interference, and use sound methods and assured quality.

More information on the Official Statistics Code of Practice can be found at http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html.

Content

The *Statistical Digest of the English Uplands* consists of five sections; Living in the Uplands, Upland Economies, Farming in the Uplands, Land Use and Recreation, and Ecosystems and the Environment. The content of these sections covers a vast range of subject areas, and was partly based on a stakeholder engagement exercise.

The engagement exercise highlighted many areas of interest. Where possible, suggestions have been included. For example in the Upland Economies sections, statistics on employment by industry have been included because estimates are available with enough geographical information to allow us to produce statistics comparing employment in and outside of the upland areas. Planned succession of farm businesses was also of interest and statistics on this have been included for farms within LFAs.

However, for some of the suggestions, data availability meant that they could not be included in this publication. For example, for social and economic indicators, in order to distinguish upland areas in England, it is necessary for data to be available at a very fine spatial scale (Lower Super Output Area level or lower). Unfortunately most data sources show data only at Local Authority Level, which is too large to analyse for upland areas. So in some cases, such as net migration, it has not been possible to include data on relevant subject areas.

The evidence presented in this publication is at a national (England) level. However each of the upland regions in England has its own unique characteristics and agricultural practices can vary significantly between regions. In Defra's 2010 Agricultural Change and Environment Observatory report on Farming in the English Uplands wherever possible, analyses were undertaken for nine separate upland regions. This can be found at: http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/files/defra-stats-foodfarm-environ-research-uplands-fullreport-may2010.pdf. For non-agricultural data it may be possible to produce further breakdowns of some of the statistics, although this depends on data availability. There are telephone and email contact details at the beginning of each section for further enquiries.

Some of the farm data presented has been sourced from the 2009 Upland Farm Practices Survey. This survey will be repeated in February 2012. Other indicators, such as those showing protected sites or land designations, do not change very frequently and will not necessarily be updated as regularly as other indicators in this publication.

The data in this report is presented in a mixture of maps and charts. Tables are also included to show the underlying data behind these illustrations. To aid further understanding of the key messages and issues interpretation and commentary are also given.

Defining Upland Areas

In this publication upland areas have largely been defined as Less Favoured Areas. Less Favoured Areas (LFAs) is the EU classification for socially and economically disadvantaged areas which was first established in 1975. LFAs are defined as land which is suitable for extensive livestock production but not, owing to the geography of the area, other agricultural production. A map showing the location of Less Favoured Areas in England is shown on the following page.

LFAs have two distinct classifications; Severely Disadvantaged Areas (SDAs) and Disadvantaged Areas (DAs) area. SDAs are areas where other agricultural production is *severely* restricted. For indicators in the Food and Farming section, stakeholders who were consulted suggested that it would be more relevant to just show information for SDAs rather than just LFAs, as many funding schemes for farmers focus on SDAs. For this reason, the analysis for many of the farming indicators will concentrate on SDAs.

In some sections, LFAs have been split further to look at the difference between rural and urban areas. This has been achieved using the Rural-Urban Definition. This is a National Statistic and applies to very small areas. Areas are defined as rural if they fall outside of settlements with more than 10,000 resident population. Urban settlements have more than 10,000 resident population. Rural settlements have been split further to give further 'context' of being 'sparse' or 'less sparse' depending on whether the wider area is defined as being remotely populated or not.

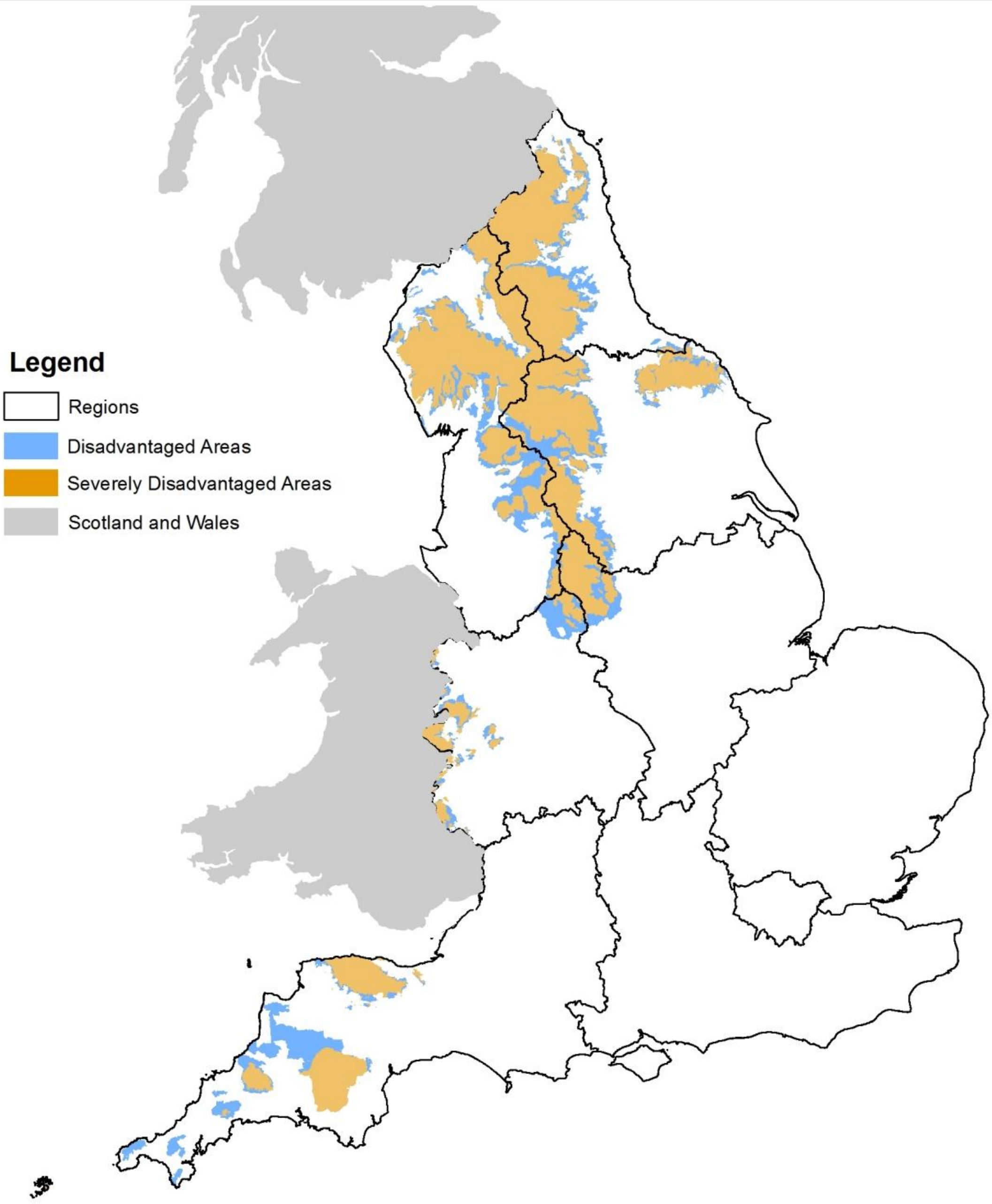
To add context to the information given, in some sections, the same information is provided for areas that are not classified as Less Favoured Areas. These areas are referred to as *Elsewhere* when provided. These have the same rural-urban definitions applied giving six categories, shown in the table below.

Less Favoured Areas	Urban
	Less Sparse Rural
	Sparse Rural
Elsewhere	Urban
	Less Sparse Rural
	Sparse Rural

A map showing the locations of these six categories can be found on the following pages.

More information on how to define rural areas can be found at www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/what-is-rural.

Less Favoured Areas - England



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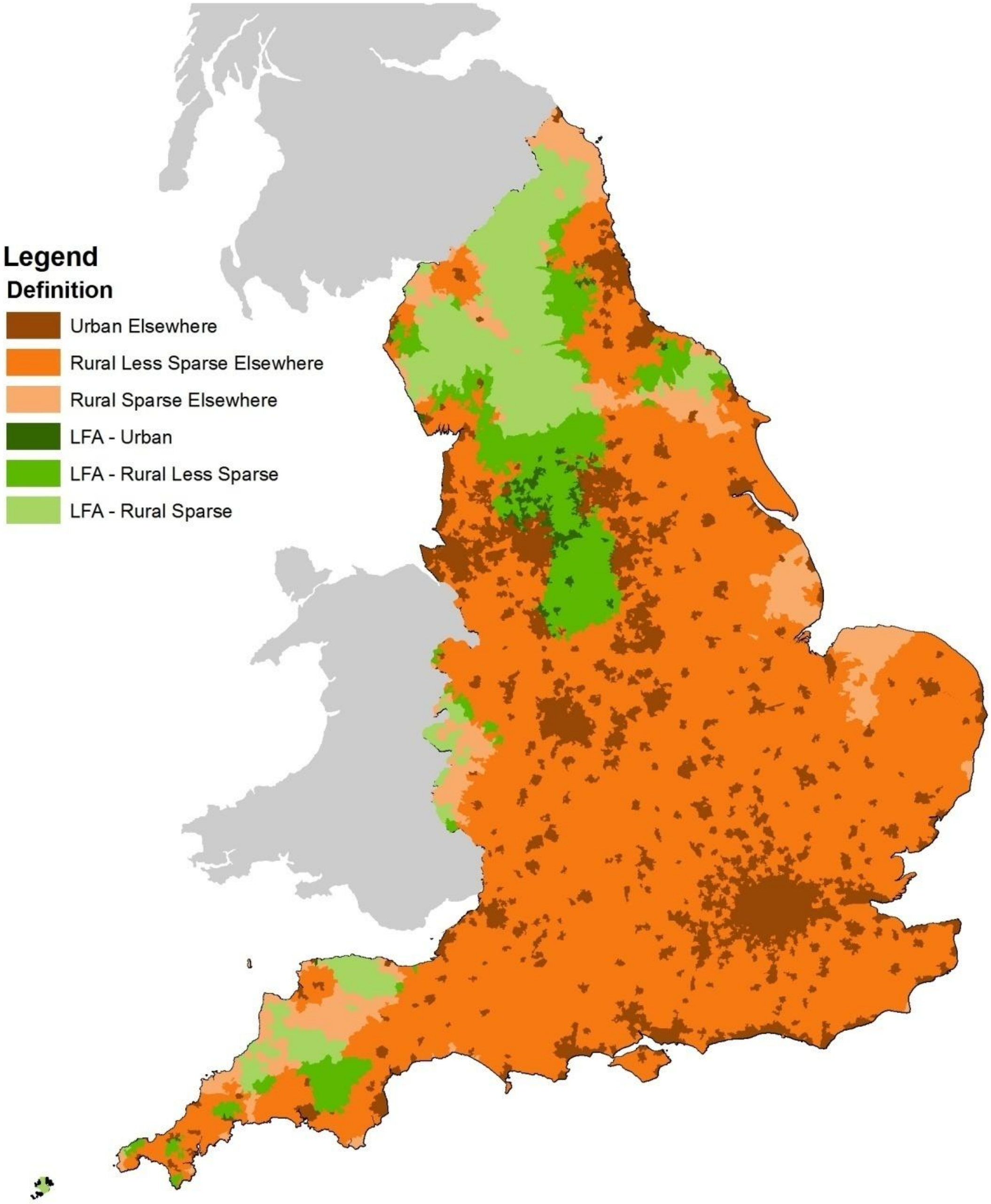
0 20 40 80 Miles

Source: Severely Disadvantaged Areas and Disadvantaged Areas - Defra

Less Favoured Areas - England



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0 15 30 60 Miles

Source: LFA - Defra,
Rural/Urban Classification - ONS

Living in the Uplands

This section contains statistics on the following subject areas:

- Population
- Accessibility
- Broadband
- Education and Skills
- Income and Poverty
- Housing
- Fuel and Energy

If you would like further information related to this topic please contact the Rural Statistics Unit (rural.statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk or 01904 455251)

Population

- In 2010, just over 2 million people lived in Less Favoured Areas, 4% of the population in England.
- In 2010, 40% of people living in Less Favoured Areas were living in rural areas.
- Between 2001 and 2010, the population in Less Favoured Areas grew by 3%
- In 2010, almost half of the population in Less Favoured Areas were aged 45 and above.
- In 2010, the proportion of young people (under 30 years of age) was lower in Less Favoured Areas than elsewhere, 34% and 38% respectively.

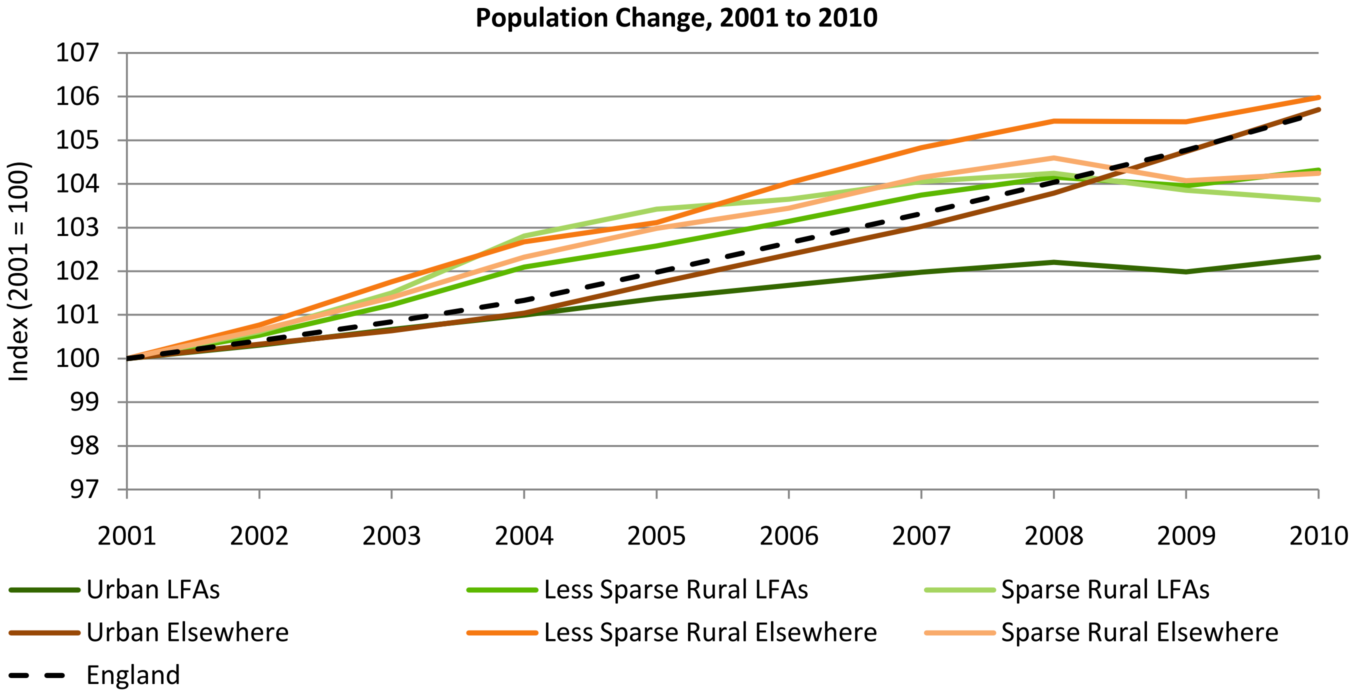
Population Estimates

Mid-year Population Estimate, 2010

		Population	Proportion		
			LFAs	**Elsewhere**	**England**
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	1,241,811	60.5%		2.4%
	Less Sparse Rural	605.592	29.5%		1.2%
	Sparse Rural	204,733	10.0%		0.4%
Elsewhere	Urban	41,146,249		82.0%	78.8%
	Less Sparse Rural	8,619,236		17.2%	0.8%
	Sparse Rural	416,424		0.8%	16.5%
Less Favoured Areas		2,052,136	100.0%		3.9%
Elsewhere		50,181,909		100.0%	96.1%
England		**52,234,045**			**100.0%**

Interpretation: Just over 2million people lived in Less Favoured Areas (LFAs), which is almost 4% of the population in England. Although the majority of people in LFAs lived in urban areas, 40% lived in rural areas, which is much greater than the proportion of those not in LFAs living in rural areas, 18%.

Population Change

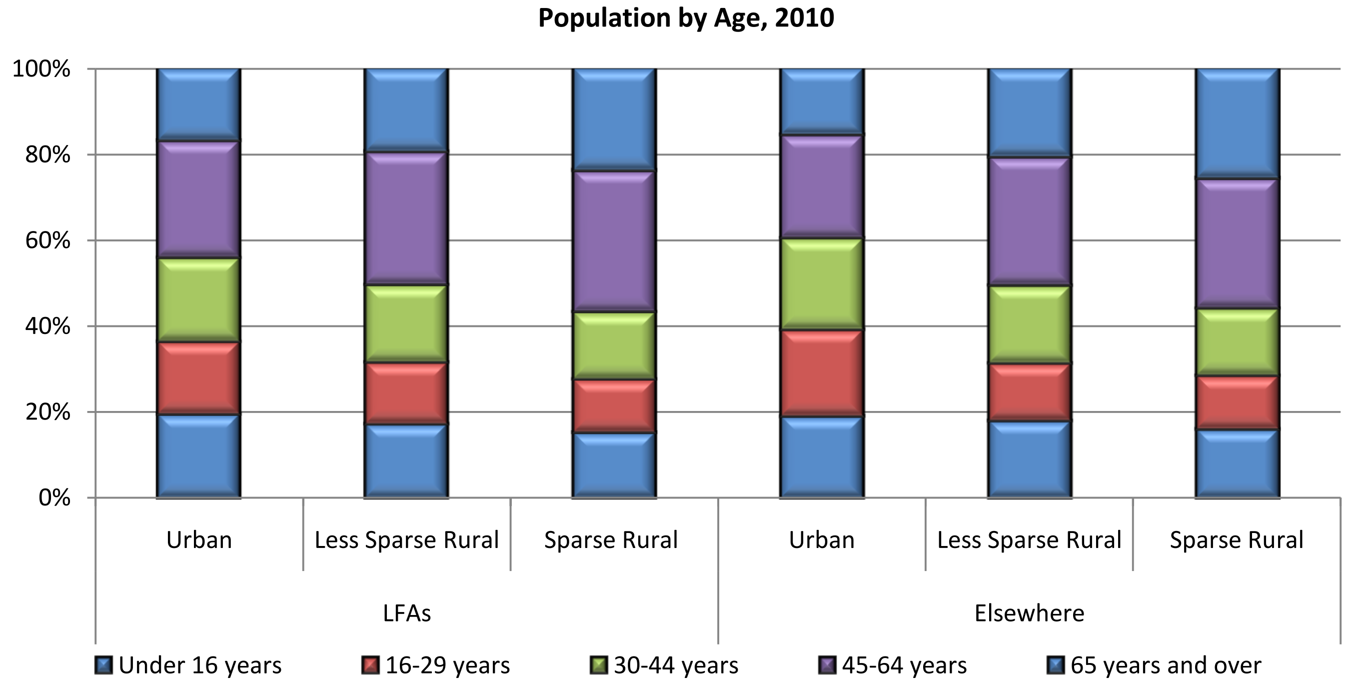


Interpretation: Between 2001 and 2010, the population in England increased by almost 6% between 2001 and 2010. The rate of increase was lower in LFAs where the population increased by 3% and there has been little change since 2008. In LFAs, the area that saw the highest increase was in Less Sparse Rural areas, where the population grew by 4%. Similarly, Less Sparse Rural was the settlement type elsewhere that showed the highest increase, but this was still higher than the rate of change in LFAs, 6%.

Population Change, 2001 to 2010

		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	100.0	100.3	100.7	101.0	101.4	101.7	102.0	102.2	102.0	102.3
	Less Sparse Rural	100.0	100.5	101.2	102.1	102.6	103.1	103.7	104.2	104.0	104.3
	Sparse Rural	100.0	100.6	101.5	102.8	103.4	103.7	104.1	104.2	103.9	103.6
Elsewhere	Urban	100.0	100.3	100.6	101.0	101.7	102.4	103.0	103.8	104.7	105.7
	Less Sparse Rural	100.0	100.8	101.8	102.7	103.1	104.0	104.8	105.4	105.4	106.0
	Sparse Rural	100.0	100.7	101.4	102.3	103.0	103.4	104.2	104.6	104.1	104.2
Less Favoured Areas		100.0	100.4	100.9	101.5	101.9	102.3	102.7	103.0	102.8	103.0
Elsewhere		100.0	100.4	100.8	101.3	102.0	102.7	103.3	104.1	104.9	105.7
England		**100.0**	**100.4**	**100.8**	**101.3**	**102.0**	**102.7**	**103.3**	**104.0**	**104.4**	**105.6**

Population by Age



Interpretation: In LFAs, the age group with the highest population was 45-64 year olds, which accounted for 29% of the population – this is 4 percentage points higher than in England overall. The age group with the lowest population was 16-29 year olds, where 16% of the population in LFAs were in this age group. Within LFAs, Sparse Rural areas had the oldest population where 57% of the population was aged 45 and over and only 28% were under 30 years of age. This is compared to 47% and 34% in all LFAs.

Population by Age, 2010

		Under 16 years	16-29 years	30-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	19%	17%	20%	27%	17%
	Less Sparse Rural	17%	14%	18%	31%	19%
	Sparse Rural	15%	12%	16%	33%	24%
Elsewhere	Urban	19%	20%	21%	24%	15%
	Less Sparse Rural	18%	14%	18%	30%	21%
	Sparse Rural	16%	12%	16%	30%	25%
Less Favoured Areas		18%	16%	19%	29%	18%
Elsewhere		19%	19%	21%	25%	16%
England		**19%**	**19%**	**21%**	**25%**	**16%**

It is important to monitor population to ensure that there are sufficient facilities and services available for people living in England, for example, housing. **The data shows that the vast majority of people in England do not live in Less Favoured Areas.** The results from population change show that although the population has been growing in LFAs over the past 10 years, the rate of increase is slower than for the rest of England. This means that **the proportion of people living in LFAs in England would have been declining** over this period.

Three factors that influence population are changes in birth and death rates and migration (internal and external). Internal migration is the movement between areas within the same country and external migration is the movement between different countries. From the data available, it is not possible to attribute a particular cause to the differences between LFAs and elsewhere.

The age groups do give an indication of the particular characteristics of people living in each area type. For example, the proportion of older people (aged over 65) is slightly higher in LFAs than elsewhere. More interestingly, there is a lot of variation between the settlement types for both LFAs and elsewhere. For both LFAs and in other areas, **people living in Sparse Rural Areas are more likely to be older**. The opposite is the case for Urban and Less Sparse Rural areas where **people are more likely to be young (aged under 30) in Urban areas**. This suggests that in terms of population, the difference in the age profiles between the rural and urban areas is more significant than differences in LFAs and other areas.

The differences in the age profile between rural and urban areas could be explained by internal migration. Young people might move to urban areas after school to attend university or to take advantage of the job opportunities that are available there. Conversely, it is possible that older people move from urban areas to rural settlements to enjoy a more peaceful life after retirement. However there is no evidence at a detailed enough geographical scale to test this theory.

Notes: The estimated resident population of an area includes all people who usually live there, whatever their nationality. Members of UK and non-UK armed forces stationed in the UK are included and UK forces stationed outside the UK are excluded. Students are taken to be resident at their term time address.
Source: ONS, 2011. Mid-2010 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas
http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcm%3A77-230902

Accessibility

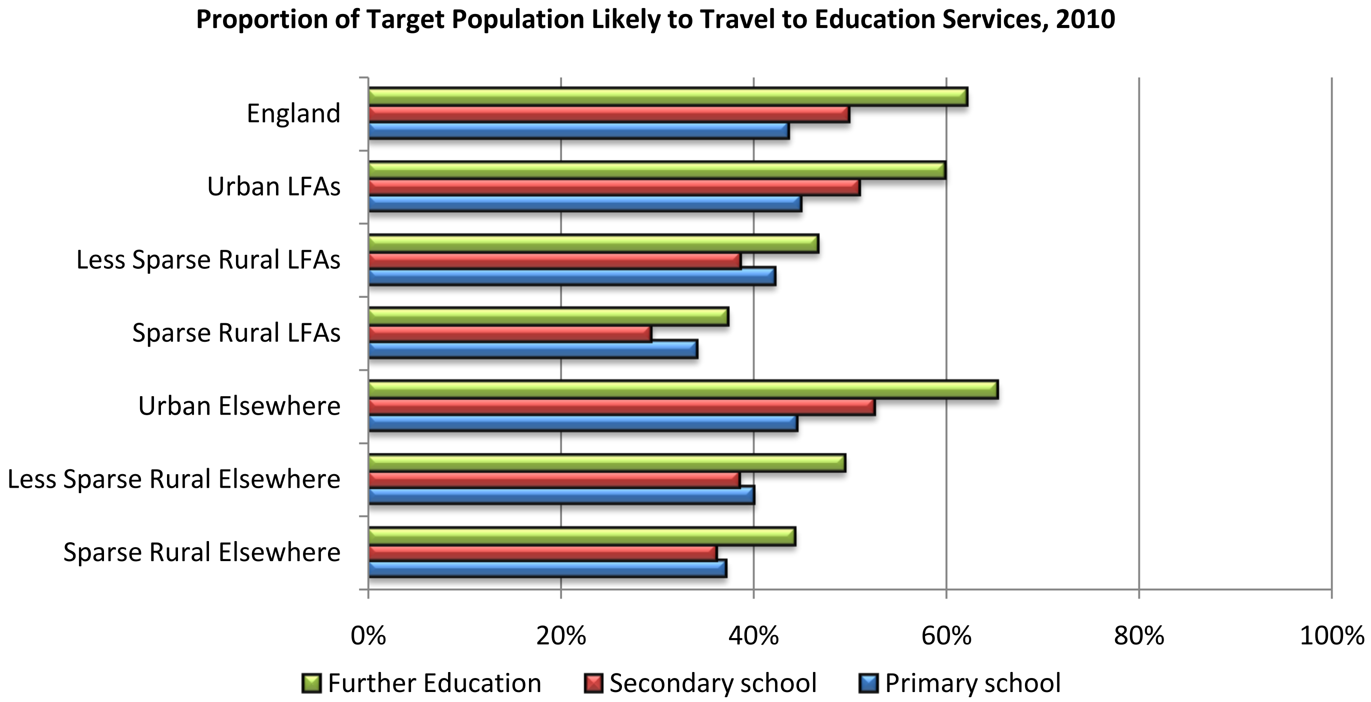
- Generally, access to services is lower in Less Favoured Areas than it is elsewhere. For example, 56.8% of users in LFAs live within a short enough travel time of a GP's surgery by foot or public transport that they are likely to make the journey, compared to 61.1% elsewhere.
- Unsurprisingly users in sparse areas generally have the lowest service accessibility. In Sparse Rural LFAs however it is lower than Sparse Rural areas elsewhere; 34.3% of users in Sparse Rural LFAs live within a short enough travel time to a supermarket that they are likely to make the journey, compared with 42.8% of users in Sparse Rural areas elsewhere. This is true of all services except hospitals, which have broadly the same accessibility in Sparse Rural LFAs and elsewhere.

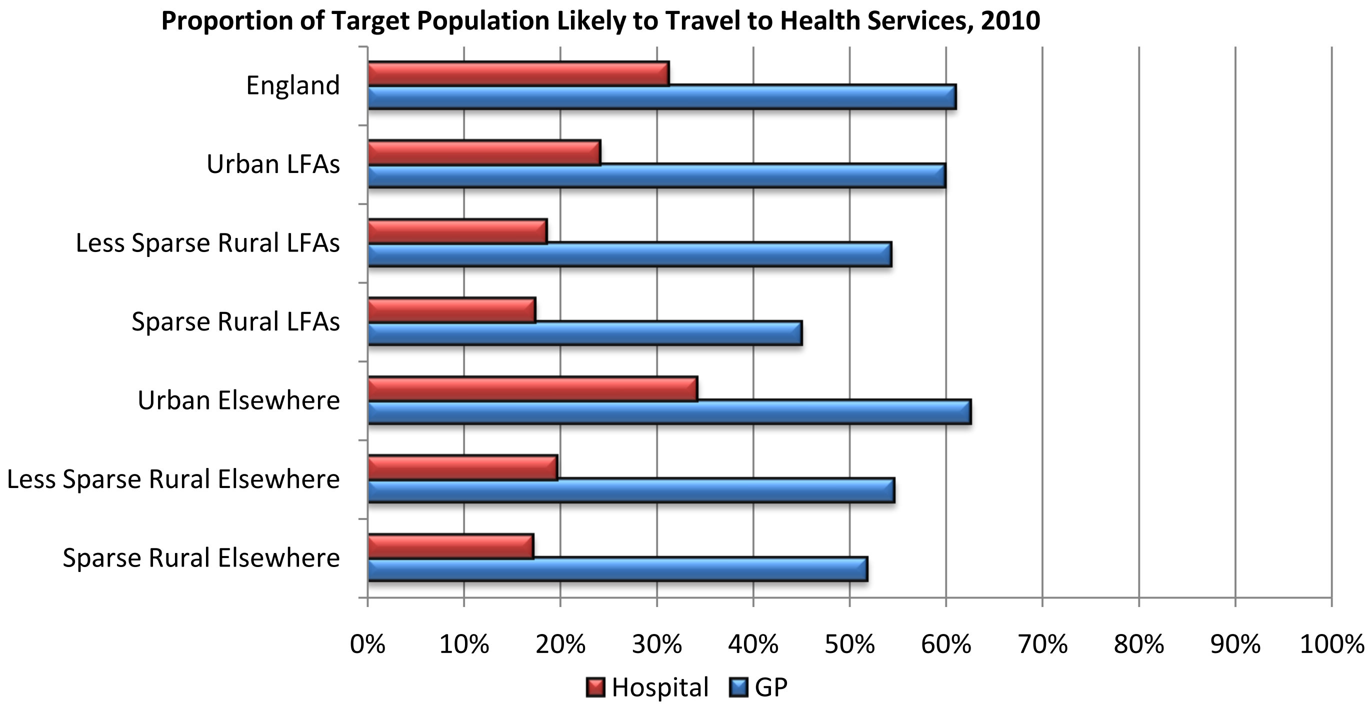
Measuring accessibility

'Accessibility' has been calculated from DfT's accessibility indicators for eight services: employment centres, primary and secondary schools, further education colleges, GPs, hospitals, town centres and supermarkets. For each service DfT calculate the percentage of target users (for example for primary schools, children aged 5 to 10) who are likely to travel to the given service by walking or using public transport, given the time it will take and the user's willingness to undertake the journey. This gives an estimate of the accessibility of services from any given type of area. The willingness of a user to travel to a service is derived from analysis of the National Travel Survey, identifying the sensitivity of trip making to travel time.

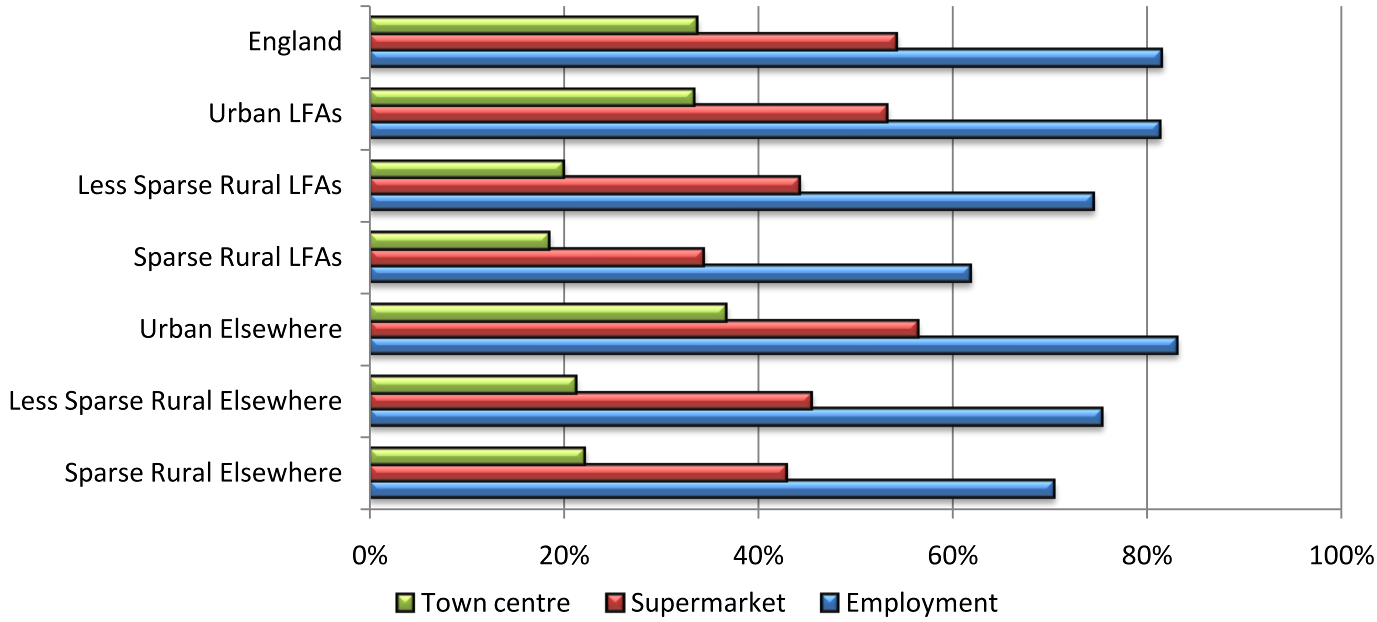
The composite measure of 'overall accessibility' has been calculated by taking an arithmetic average of the percentages for each service. This gives a broad indication of the overall accessibility of a place.

Service Accessibility





Proportion of Target Population Likely to Travel to Employment Centres, Towns and Supermarkets, 2010



Interpretation: The charts show that in general, Less Favoured Areas have lower accessibility to services than areas of the same type elsewhere, but that the level of accessibility varies from service to service. In LFAs overall, 43.0% of the target population live within a short enough travel time of primary schools by foot or public transport to make them likely to make the journey, compared to 43.6% elsewhere. In contrast, 21.8% of users in LFAs live within a short enough travel time of hospitals to make them likely to make the journey, compared with 31.5% elsewhere.

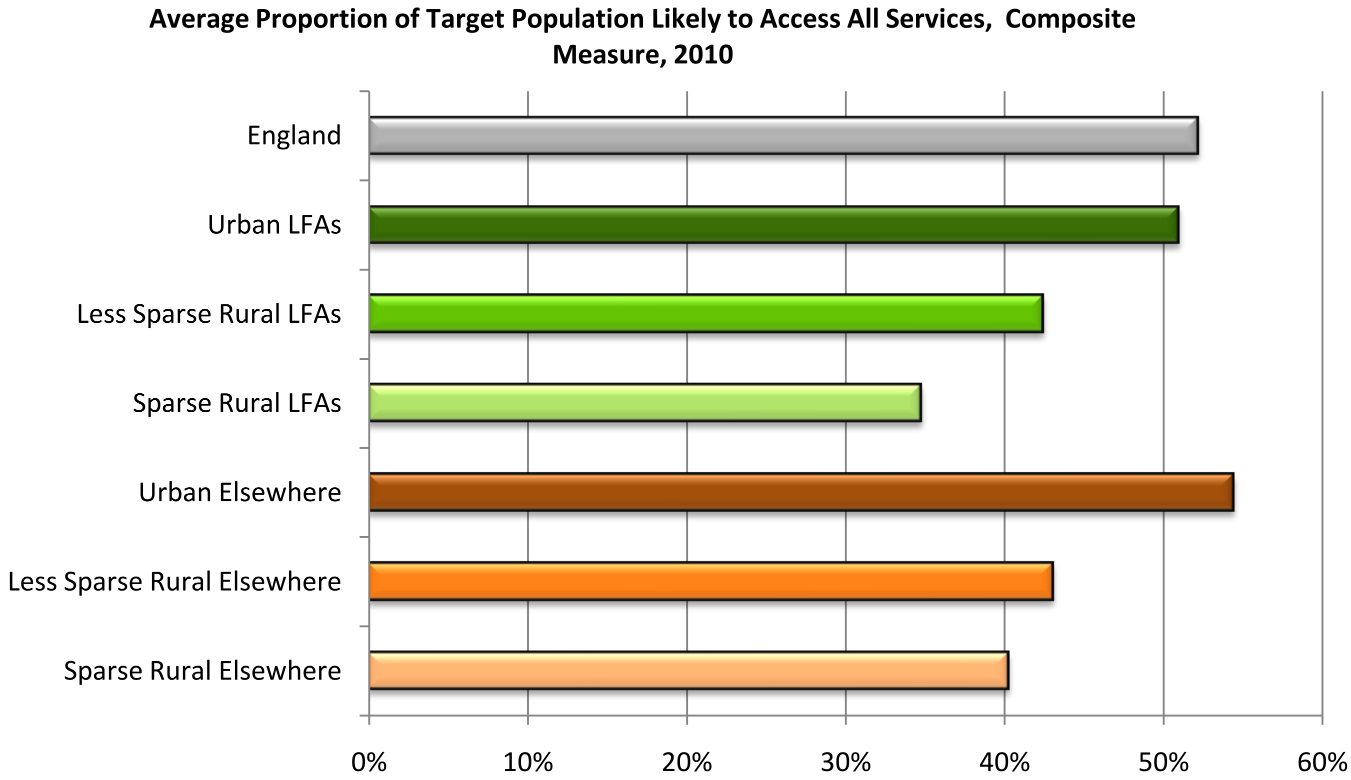
Proportion of the Target Population Likely to Access Education and Health Services by Public Transport or Walking, 2010

		Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education	GP	Hospital
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	44.8	50.9	59.9	59.8	24.1
	Less Sparse Rural	42.2	38.6	46.6	54.3	18.5
	Sparse Rural	34.1	29.3	37.3	45.0	17.4
Elsewhere	Urban	44.4	52.6	65.3	62.5	34.1
	Less Sparse Rural	40.0	38.5	49.4	54.6	19.6
	Sparse Rural	37.1	36.1	44.2	51.8	17.1
Less Favoured Areas		43.0	45.3	53.9	56.8	21.8
Elsewhere		43.6	50.1	62.4	61.1	31.5
England		**43.6**	**49.9**	**62.1**	**60.9**	**31.1**

Proportion of the Target Population Likely to Access Employment, Town Centres and Supermarkets by Public Transport or Walking, 2010

		Employment	Supermarket	Town Centre
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	81.3	53.2	33.4
	Less Sparse Rural	74.5	44.3	20.0
	Sparse Rural	61.8	34.3	18.4
Elsewhere	Urban	83.1	56.4	36.6
	Less Sparse Rural	75.4	45.4	21.2
	Sparse Rural	70.4	42.8	22.1
Less Favoured Areas		77.5	48.8	28.1
Elsewhere		81.7	54.4	33.9
England		**81.5**	**54.2**	**33.7**

Average Overall Accessibility

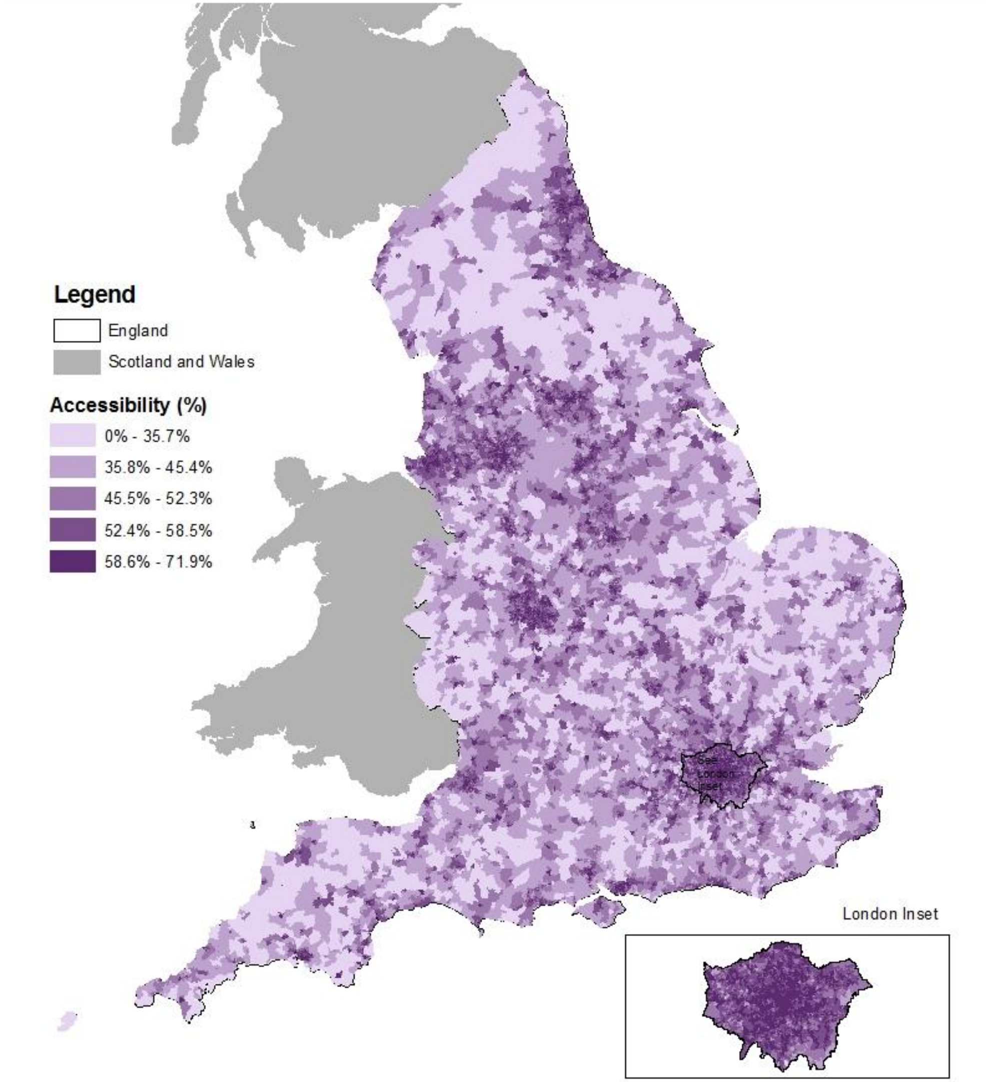


Interpretation: This indicator gives a statistical estimate of the general accessibility of different types of places rather than being a measure of actual accessibility to any one particular service. Nationally, average accessibility in England is just over 50%, and a similar story can be seen in urban areas both in LFAs and elsewhere. Accessibility is lowest in Sparse Rural parts of LFAs, at around 35%. This is five percentage points lower than Sparse Rural areas elsewhere.

Percentage of the Target Population Likely to Access a Range of Services by Public Transport or Walking: Composite Measure of Accessibility, 2010

		Average Accessibility (%)
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	50.9
	Less Sparse Rural	42.4
	Sparse Rural	34.7
Elsewhere	Urban	54.4
	Less Sparse Rural	43.0
	Sparse Rural	40.2
Less Favoured Areas		46.9
Elsewhere		52.3
England		**52.1**

Composite measure of accessiblity, 2010



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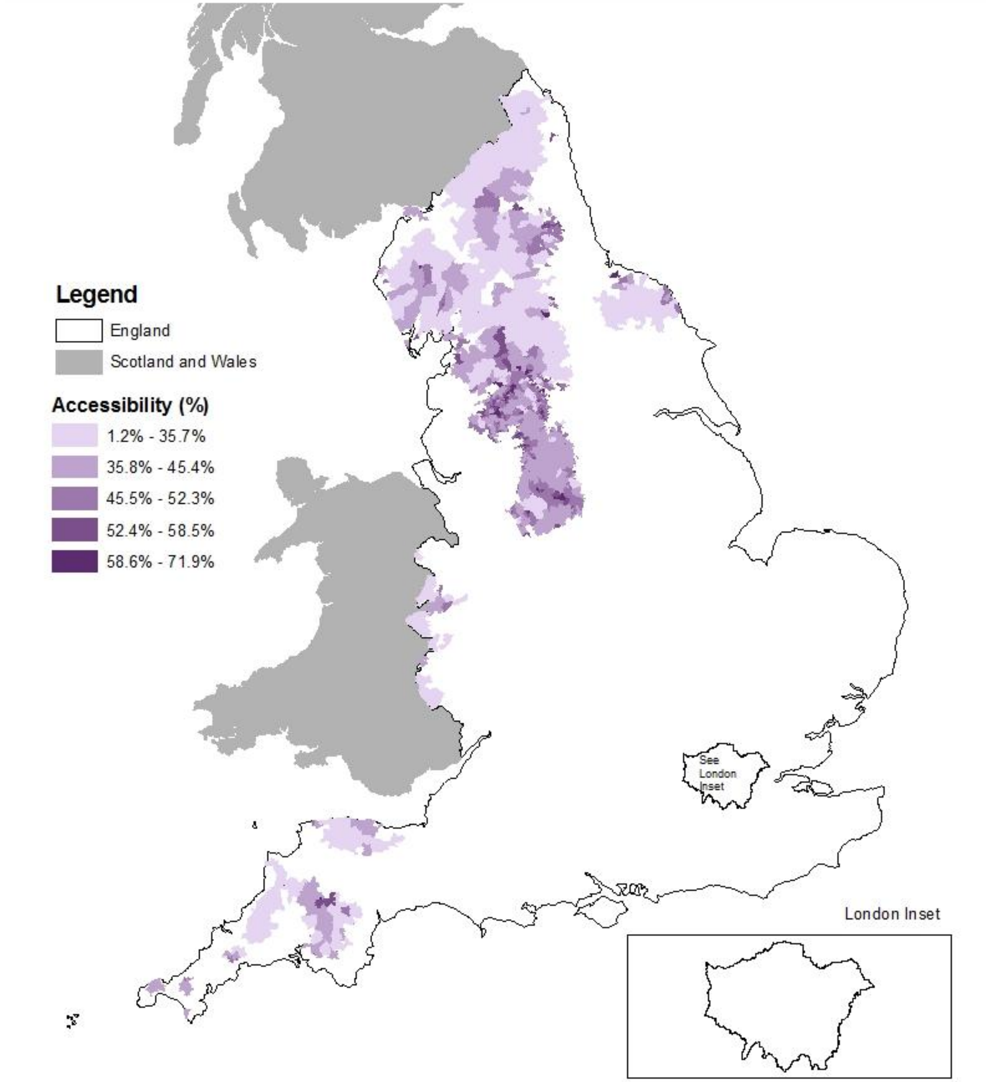
0 20 40 80 Miles

Source: based on DfT's core accessibility indicators, 2010

Definitions: composite measure of accessibility is calculated as the average proportion of target users within a reasonable travel time of services by foot or public transport, for all eight services combined.

Composite measure of accessiblity, Less Favoured Areas, 2010



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0 20 40 80 Miles

Source: based on DfT's core accessibility indicators, 2010

Definitions: composite measure of accessibility is calculated as the average proportion of target users within a reasonable travel time of services by foot or public transport, for all eight services combined.

Being able to access key services by public transport is important in not only in terms of benefiting from that service when it is needed, but also perhaps in terms of social inclusion. The key services used in this analysis represent a broad range of 'vital' services, from education and health services to employment centres which offer job opportunities and choice. Town centres and food stores are important in terms of accessing basic retail services. The calculations used in this section are based on the actual travel time multiplied by a factor which indicates how likely someone is to make the journey. A long travel time (e.g. 40 minutes) to a service that people very much need access to (e.g. work) will result in a greater proportion of users being expected to undertake the journey. However, a service that people are not prepared to spend lots of time travelling to (for example primary schools, which are more numerous than employment centres) then fewer people would be prepared to travel the same 40 minutes to the location.

On average **Less Favoured Areas have lower overall accessibility than elsewhere, though there are differences between rural and urban areas**. Unsurprisingly, Sparse Rural areas have lower accessibility than Less Sparse Rural and Urban areas, regardless of whether they are in LFAs or not. Because rural areas, and in particular Sparse Rural areas, are less densely populated than urban areas, services are likely to serve a larger geographical area than those in urban areas, and this in turn is likely to impact on travel time and the likelihood people are to make journeys to the services.

There are some issues in using the statistics in this way to analyse rural-urban differences. First, not all public transport is considered when DfT calculate the travel times to services; flexibly routed services and school transport, for example, are not included and this may lead to an underestimate of accessibility especially in rural areas. Furthermore the DfT guidance is clear in stating that the indicators do not necessarily take account of local circumstances, such as residents of rural communities being more willing to travel further for services than in urban areas. They should therefore be used with other evidence, particularly when making comparisons between dissimilar geographical areas.

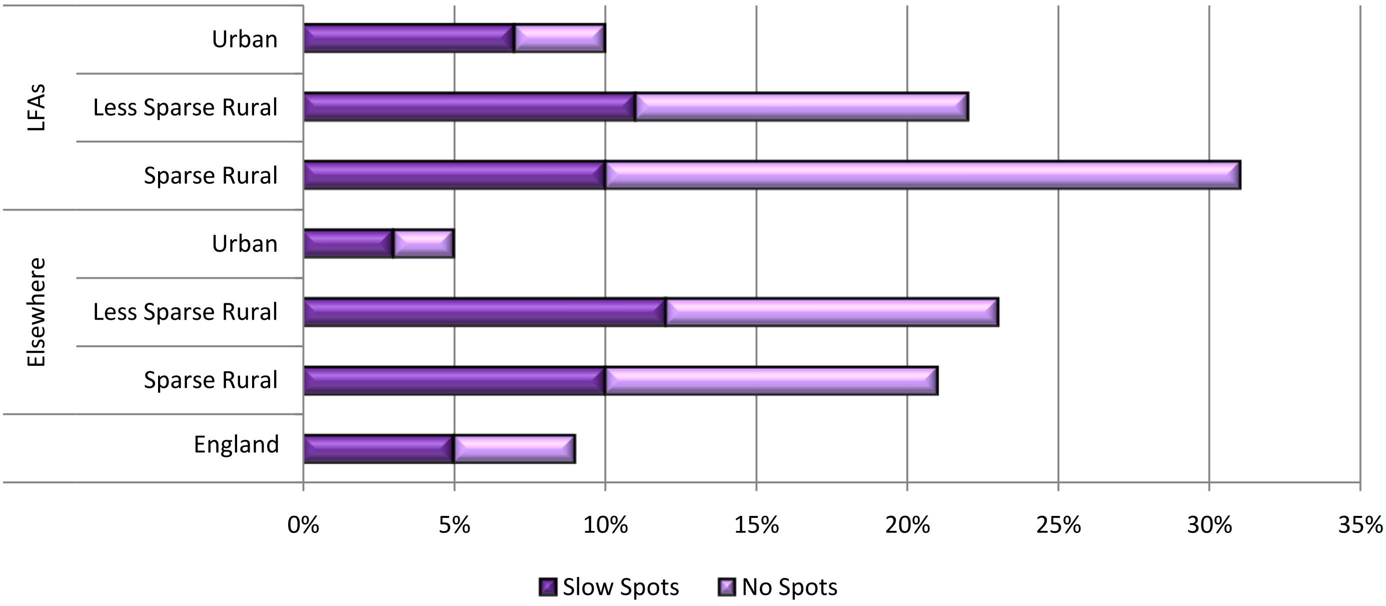
Source: DfT core accessibility indicators at LSOA level http://www.dft.gov.uk/statistics/releases/accessibility-2010.
For further guidance see http://assets.dft.gov.uk/statistics/series/accessibility/accessibility-statistics-guidance.pdf and for the methodology see http://assets.dft.gov.uk/statistics/series/accessibility/accessibility-statistics-methodology.pdf.

Broadband

- In 2010, 16% of households in Less Favoured Areas had no or slow broadband.
- Sparse Rural Less Favoured Areas have the highest proportion of household with no or slow broadband, 31%.
- In 2010, the average ADSL speed in Less Favoured Areas was 7.5 Mbit/s.
- In 2010, Sparse Rural areas in Less Favoured Areas had the lowest average ADSL speed, 4.7 Mbit/s.

Households with No or Slow Broadband

Percentage of Households with No or Slow Broadband, 2010

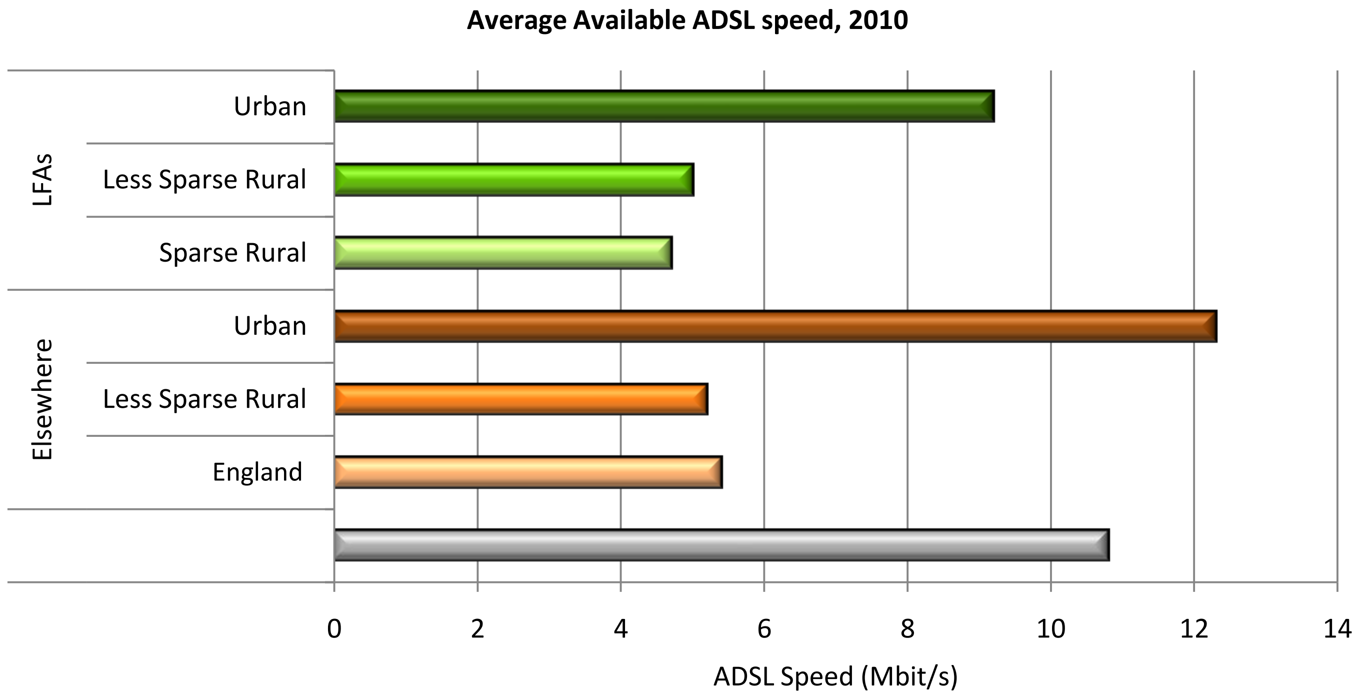


Interpretation: the data shows that in 2010 16% of households in Less Favoured Areas had no or slow broadband. Elsewhere the proportion was 8%. 31% of households in Sparse Rural LFAs had no or slow broadband, most of which had no broadband at all. Urban households elsewhere had the smallest proportion of households with no or slow broadband, 5%.

Proportion of Households with No and Slow Broadband, 2010

		No Broadband	Slow Broadband	No and Slow Broadband
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	3%	7%	10%
	Less Sparse Rural	11%	11%	23%
	Sparse Rural	21%	10%	31%
Elsewhere	Urban	2%	3%	5%
	Less Sparse Rural	12%	11%	23%
	Sparse Rural	11%	10%	22%
Less Favoured Areas		8%	8%	16%
Elsewhere		3%	5%	8%
England		4%	5%	8%

Average Broadband Speed



Interpretation: The chart above shows the average broadband speed for each settlement type in 2010. The average ADSL speed in Less Favoured Areas was 7.5 Mbit/s. Sparse Rural areas in Less Favoured Areas had the lowest average ADSL speed, 4.7 Mbit/s. The average ADSL speed in England was 10.8 Mbit/s.

Average ADSL Speed (Mbit/s), 2010

		ASDL Speed (Mbit/s)
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	9.2
	Less Sparse Rural	5.0
	Sparse Rural	4.7
Elsewhere	Urban	12.3
	Less Sparse Rural	5.4
	Sparse Rural	5.2
Less Favoured Areas		7.5
Elsewhere		11.0
England		**10.8**

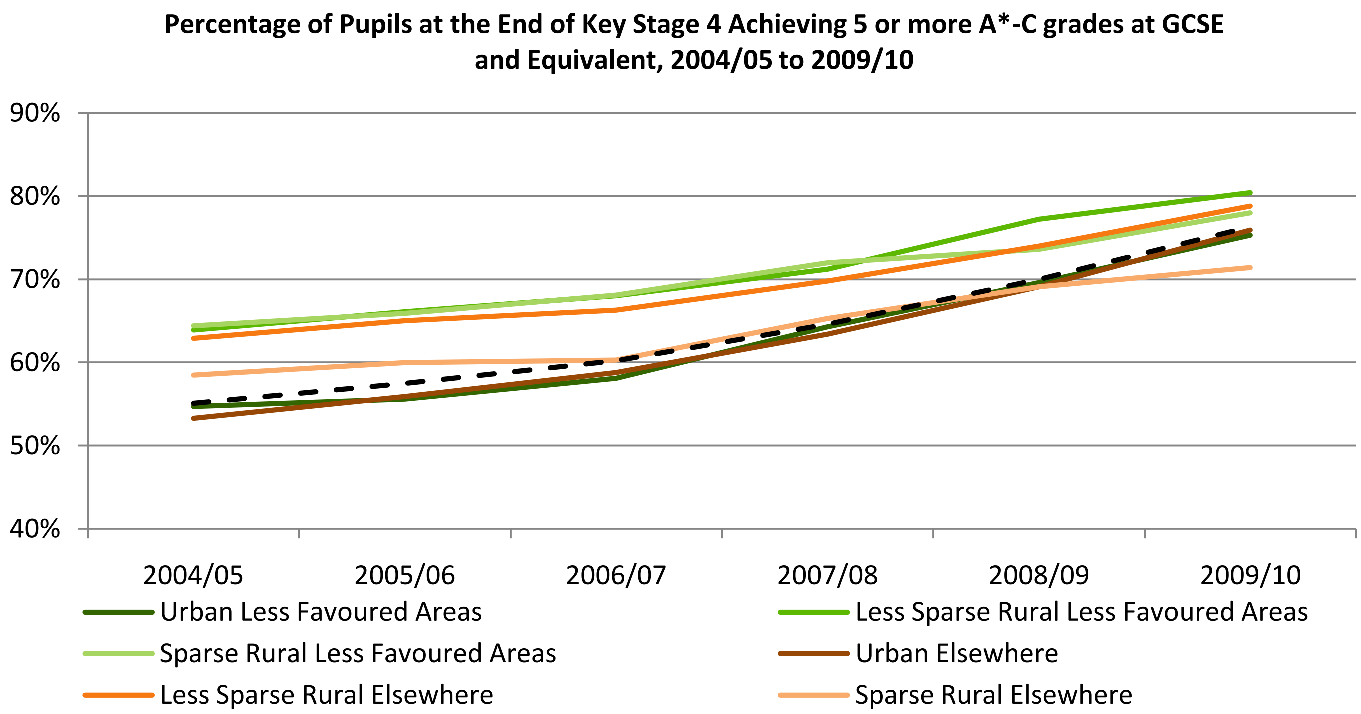
Broadband is very important for the economic and social sustainability of communities in England. The government aims to ensure fast and reliable access is available in all communities as part of its commitment to have the best broadband network in Europe by 2015. To achieve this, all households will need to have access to broadband networks with a speed of 2 Mbit/s. In 2010, 16% of households in Less Favoured Areas had broadband speeds less than 2Mbit/s, suggesting that **achieving this aim will mean greater change in LFAs than elsewhere, particularly in Sparse Rural areas**.

Average broadband speeds were slower in Less Favoured Areas (LFAs) than elsewhere in England for all types of areas. For example, the average ADSL speed in Urban LFAs was 3.1Mbit/s slower than other Urban areas. For Sparse Rural LFAs the average speed was 0.5 Mbit/s slower than other Sparse Rural areas. Although the difference in speeds between LFAs and elsewhere is greater for Urban areas, rural areas have considerably lower average speeds than Urban areas. One reason why there is such a difference in broadband speeds between these areas could be that it is harder for network operators to recoup the fixed costs necessary for upgrading exchanges and cabinets in rural areas, where there are lower population densities, and therefore fewer end customers.

Education and Skills

- In 2009/10 the proportion of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 with at least 5 A*-C GCSEs was highest in Less Favoured Areas at 76.9% compared to 76.3% elsewhere.
- In 2010, 90.1% of working age people in LFAs had qualifications, compared to 89.7% in England overall.
- In 2010, the proportion of economically active people living in Less Favoured Areas with qualifications at NVQ Level 2 or above was 76%, which was higher than elsewhere.
- In 2010, 36.2% of economically active adults in England had NVQ Level 4 qualification or above. In Less Favoured Areas, the proportion was slightly lower, 35.7%.

Pupils Leaving School with At Least 5 A*-C at GCSE Level



Interpretation: In 2009/10, 76.9% of students were leaving Key Stage 4 in Less Favoured Areas with 5 A* - C GCSEs, slightly higher than elsewhere, 76.3%. The area with the highest proportion of pupils with 5 A*-C GCSEs was Less Sparse Rural LFAs, 80.4% and lowest in Sparse Rural areas elsewhere, 71.4%

Between the 2004/05 and 2009/10 academic years, the proportion of pupils leaving school with at least 5 A*-C GCSEs has increased in all areas types. In Less Favoured Areas, the increase seen was highest elsewhere, where the proportion had increased by 21.3 percentage points. In LFAs the increase was 18.8 percentage points.

Proportion of Pupils Leaving School with At Least 5 A-C at GCSE Level, 20004/05 to 2009/10*

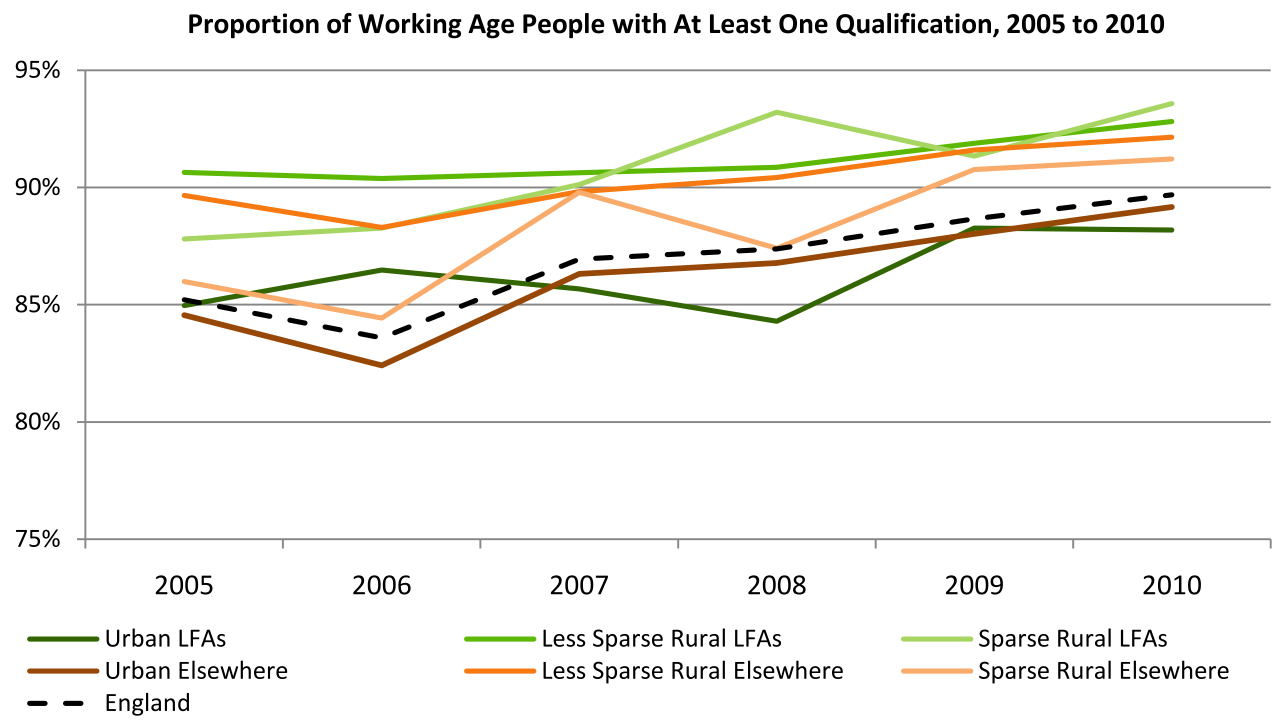
		2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	54.7%	55.6%	58.1%	64.3%	69.6%	75.3%
	Less Sparse Rural	63.9%	66.1%	68.0%	71.2%	77.2%	80.4%
	Sparse Rural	64.4%	65.9%	68.1%	72.0%	73.6%	78.0%
Elsewhere	Urban	53.3%	55.9%	58.8%	63.4%	69.1%	75.9%
	Less Sparse Rural	62.9%	65.0%	66.3%	69.8%	74.0%	78.8%
	Sparse Rural	58.5%	60.0%	60.3%	65.3%	69.1%	71.4%
Less Favoured Areas		58.1%	59.4%	61.7%	66.9%	72.0%	76.9%
Elsewhere		55.0%	57.5%	60.1%	64.5%	69.9%	76.3%
England		**55.1%**	**57.5%**	**60.2%**	**64.6%**	**70.0%**	**76.3%**

GCSEs are an important stepping stone in a young person's future. By gaining a strong set of GCSEs, young people will have more career opportunities, whether they choose to continue their studies, enter the workplace or training. Pupils are generally required to have 5 A* - C GCSEs to be eligible to attend university. The data shows that **slightly more pupils in Less Favoured Areas left compulsory education with at least 5 A* - C GCSEs**, and may, therefore, have more options to contemplate for their future. What this data does not tell us, however, is whether these options are available in their local area.

Looking at the different types of areas within LFAs and elsewhere, there does appear to be some differences for Sparse Rural areas. In LFAs, 78% of Key Stage 4 pupils living in Sparse Rural areas achieved at least 5 A* - C GCSEs, however, in Sparse Rural areas elsewhere the proportion was 71.4% – the lowest of all the areas types considered here. This implies that **pupils living in Sparse Rural areas elsewhere may not have access to as many career prospects as pupils in other areas**.

Notes: Pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 in each academic year. In 2009/10 iGCSEs, accredited at time of publication, have been counted as GCSE equivalents. Includes maintained schools (including CTCs and academies) and includes only those pupils resident in England with a valid postcode.
Source: Department for Education, National Pupil Database, http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001006/index.shtml

Proportion of Adults with At Least One Qualification



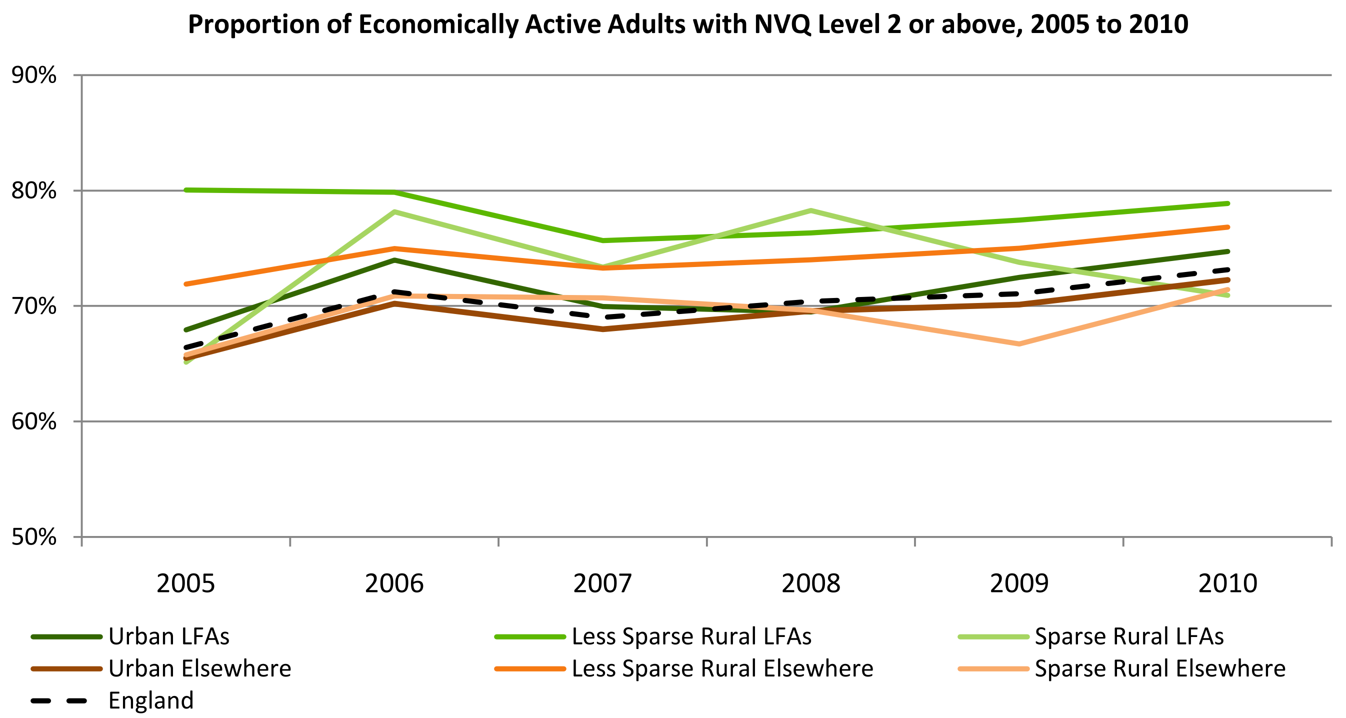
Interpretation: In 2010, slightly more people in LFAs had qualifications than elsewhere, 90.1% compared to 89.7%. Within LFAs, Sparse Rural areas have the highest proportion of people with qualifications at 93.6% and Urban the lowest with 88.2%

Between 2005 and 2010 the proportion of adults with qualifications increased by 4.5 percentage points in England. This is slightly higher than the increase seen in Less Favoured Areas, which increased by 3.6 percentage points in the same period.

Proportion of Working Age People with At Least One Qualification, 2005 to 2010

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	85.0%	86.5%	85.7%	84.3%	88.3%	88.2%
	Less Sparse Rural	90.6%	90.4%	90.6%	90.9%	91.9%	92.8%
	Sparse Rural	87.8%	88.3%	90.1%	93.2%	91.3%	93.6%
Elsewhere	Urban	84.6%	82.4%	86.3%	86.8%	88.0%	89.2%
	Less Sparse Rural	89.7%	88.3%	89.8%	90.4%	91.6%	92.1%
	Sparse Rural	86.0%	84.4%	89.8%	87.4%	90.8%	91.2%
Less Favoured Areas		86.5%	87.7%	87.5%	87.1%	89.6%	90.1%
Elsewhere		85.2%	83.4%	86.9%	87.4%	88.6%	89.7%
England		**85.2%**	**83.6%**	**86.9%**	**87.4%**	**88.7%**	**89.7%**

Proportion of Economically Active Adults NVQ Level 2 or Above



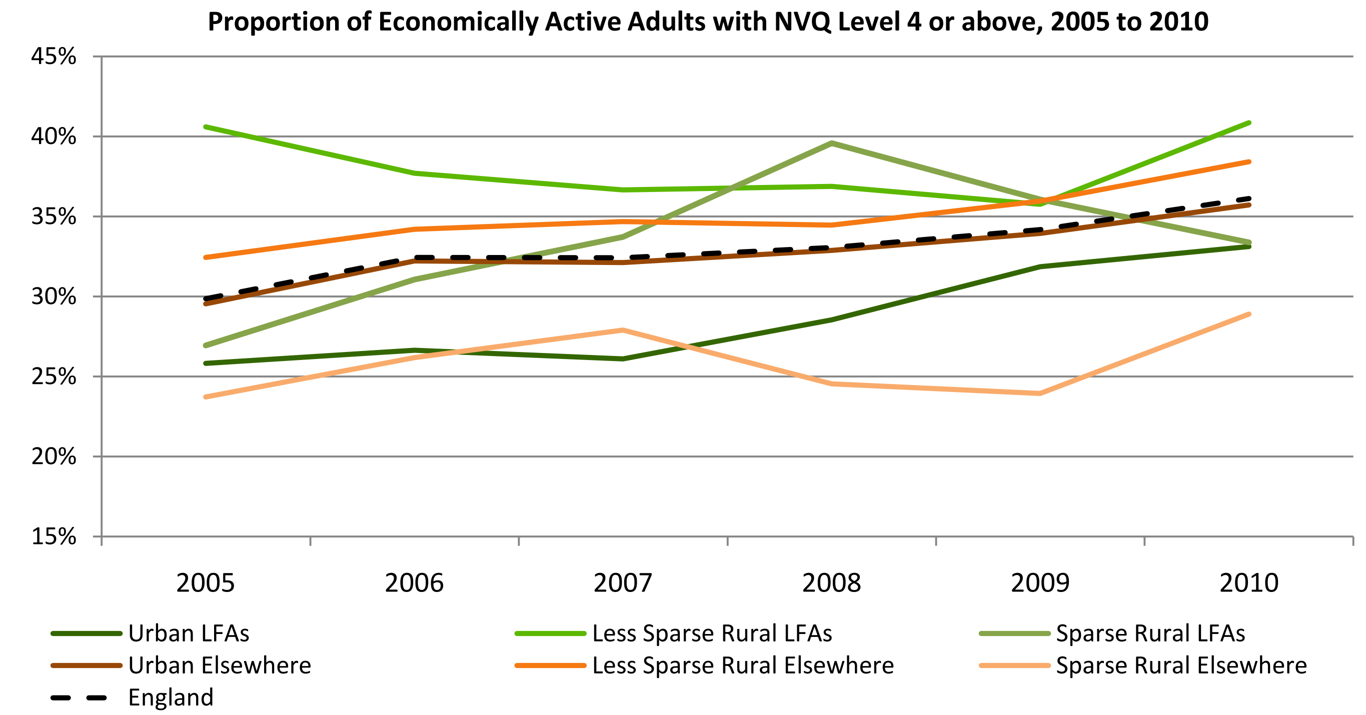
Interpretation: The proportion of economically active adults with NVQ Level 2 qualifications across England is 73.2%. The proportion is highest in Less Favoured Areas, where almost 76% of economically active adults have this qualification or above. In LFAs, Less Sparse Rural areas have the highest proportion and Sparse Rural the lowest.

Over the period 2005 to 2010, the proportion of adults with NVQ Level 2 qualifications or above increase by almost 5 percentage points in LFAs, slightly lower than the increase seen in England. Less Sparse Rural areas in LFAs was the only type of settlement where the proportion decreased. However, this area still had the highest proportion.

Proportion of Economically Active Adults with NVQ Level 2 or above, 2005 to 2010

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	67.9%	74.0%	70.0%	69.5%	72.5%	74.8%
	Less Sparse Rural	80.1%	79.9%	75.7%	76.4%	77.5%	78.9%
	Sparse Rural	65.1%	78.2%	73.4%	78.3%	73.8%	70.9%
Elsewhere	Urban	65.5%	70.2%	68.0%	69.6%	70.1%	72.3%
	Less Sparse Rural	71.9%	75.0%	73.3%	74.0%	75.0%	76.8%
	Sparse Rural	65.8%	70.9%	70.7%	69.6%	66.7%	71.4%
Less Favoured Areas		70.9%	76.0%	72.0%	72.4%	74.1%	75.8%
Elsewhere		66.3%	71.1%	68.9%	70.4%	71.0%	73.1%
England		**66.4%**	**71.2%**	**69.0%**	**70.4%**	**71.1%**	**73.2%**

Proportion of Economically Active Adults NVQ Level 4 or Above



Interpretation: In 2010, 36.2% of economically active adults in England had NVQ Level 4 qualification or above, an increase of 6.3 percentage points since 2005. In Less Favoured Areas, the proportion was slightly lower, 35.7% and the rate of change was also lower than England, 6.1 percentage points.

In Less Favoured Areas, Less Sparse Rural areas had a higher proportion of adults with this qualification than other areas, 40.9%. This was also the highest proportion out of all the settlement types analysed. However, Urban areas in LFAs has shown the greatest increase between 2005 and 2010, 7.3 percentage points and Less Sparse Rural areas the smallest, 0.3 percentage points.

Proportion of Economically Active Adults with NVQ Level 4 or above, 2005 to 2010

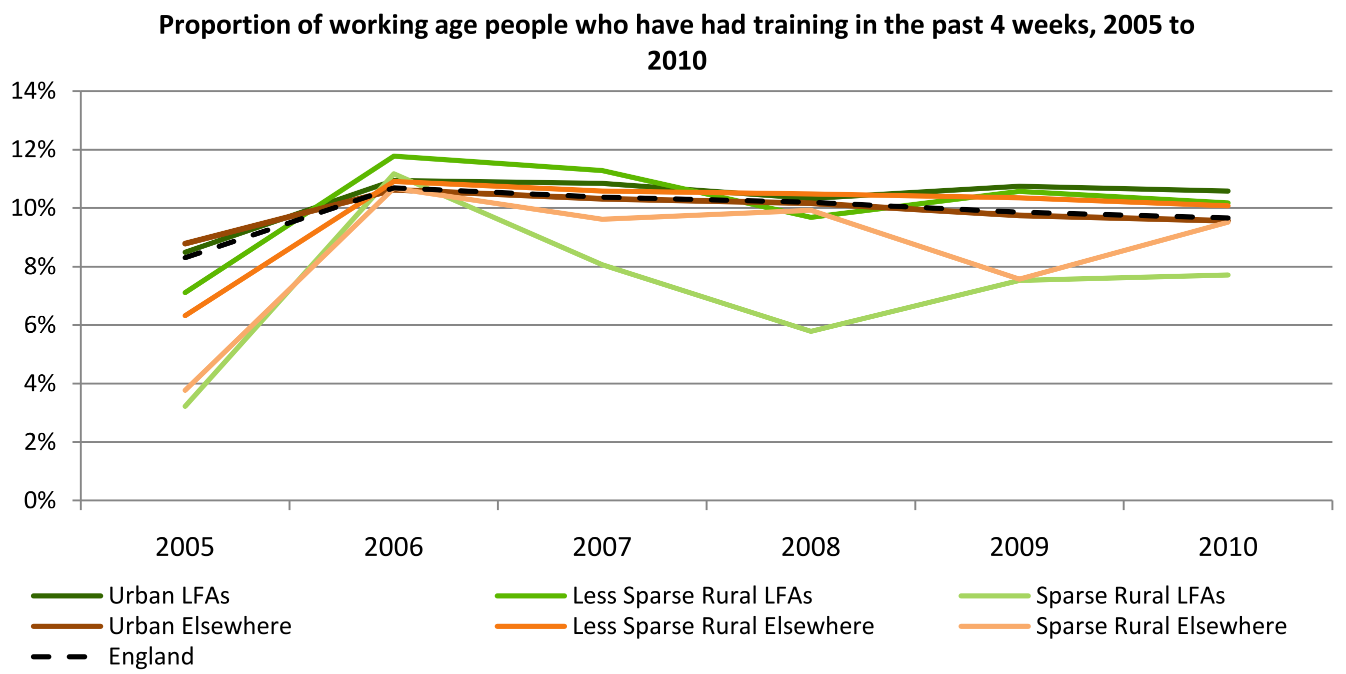
		2005	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	25.8%	26.6%	26.1%	28.5%	31.8%	33.1%
	Less Sparse Rural	40.6%	37.7%	36.7%	36.9%	35.8%	40.9%
	Sparse Rural	26.9%	31.1%	33.7%	39.6%	36.1%	33.4%
Elsewhere	Urban	29.5%	32.2%	32.1%	32.9%	33.9%	35.7%
	Less Sparse Rural	32.4%	34.2%	34.7%	34.4%	35.9%	38.4%
	Sparse Rural	23.7%	26.2%	27.9%	24.5%	23.9%	28.9%
Less Favoured Areas		29.6%	30.2%	30.0%	32.1%	33.4%	35.7%
Elsewhere		29.9%	32.5%	32.5%	33.1.%	34.2%	36.1%
England		**29.9%**	**32.4%**	**32.4%**	**33.1%**	**34.2%**	**36.1%**

A strong skills base is key to the economic success and social wellbeing of the country. Therefore, it is important to ensure that the workforce is well qualified and receiving training on a regular basis. Qualifications also give people a wider range of opportunities and could potentially increase their earning potential. The range of indicators above look at the different types of qualifications that the workforce in England has. The data shows that **almost 90% of the working age people, aged between 16 and 64 living in England have some form of qualification**. There is not a lot of variation between Less Favoured Areas (LFAs) and elsewhere, but the data does indicate that those **living in LFAs are a slightly more qualified workforce than elsewhere**. It is important to look deeper into the figures to understand how qualifications are distributed across LFAs and elsewhere.

NVQ Level 2 is equivalent to 5 GCSEs at grade A* – C. The data shows that a higher proportion of people living in LFAs have qualifications at this level or above than elsewhere. However, when looking at higher level qualifications, NVQ Level 4 (HNC, HNC or degree level), the opposite is the case and the proportion of economically active adults with NVQ Level 4 qualifications is lower in LFAs. **This suggests that although people living in LFAs have more qualifications than other areas in England, these qualifications are at a slightly lower level than elsewhere.**

It is important to note that the data is based on where people live rather than where people work. This means that although it appears that LFAs have more qualifications than elsewhere, it does not necessarily mean that those qualifications are used in Less Favoured Areas. So, other areas may benefit from these qualifications.

Proportion of Working Age People Receiving On the Job Training in the Past 4 Weeks



Interpretation: In 2010, almost 10% of working age people in England had on the job training in a four week period, an increase of 1.4 percentage points since 2005. In Less Favoured Areas the proportion was slightly higher, 10.2%, which had increased by 2.6 percentage points in the same period.

In Less Favoured Areas, Urban settlements had the highest proportion of working age people experiencing training, 10.6%. This was the highest out of all the settlement types analysed. However, Sparse Rural areas in LFAs had the smallest proportion, 7.7%.

Proportion of Working Age People who have had training in the past 4 weeks, 2005 to 2010

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	8.5%	10.9%	10.9%	10.3%	10.8%	10.6%
	Less Sparse Rural	7.1%	11.8%	11.3%	9.7%	10.6%	10.2%
	Sparse Rural	3.2%	11.2%	8.1%	5.8%	7.5%	7.7%
Elsewhere	Urban	8.8%	10.6%	10.3%	10.2%	9.8%	9.6%
	Less Sparse Rural	6.3%	10.9%	10.6%	10.5%	10.4%	10.1%
	Sparse Rural	3.8%	10.7%	9.6%	9.9%	7.6%	9.5%
Less Favoured Areas		7.6%	11.2%	10.7%	9.7%	10.4%	10.2%
Elsewhere		8.3%	10.7%	10.4%	10.2%	9.8%	9.6%
England		**8.3%**	**10.7%**	**10.4%**	**10.2%**	**9.9%**	**9.7%**

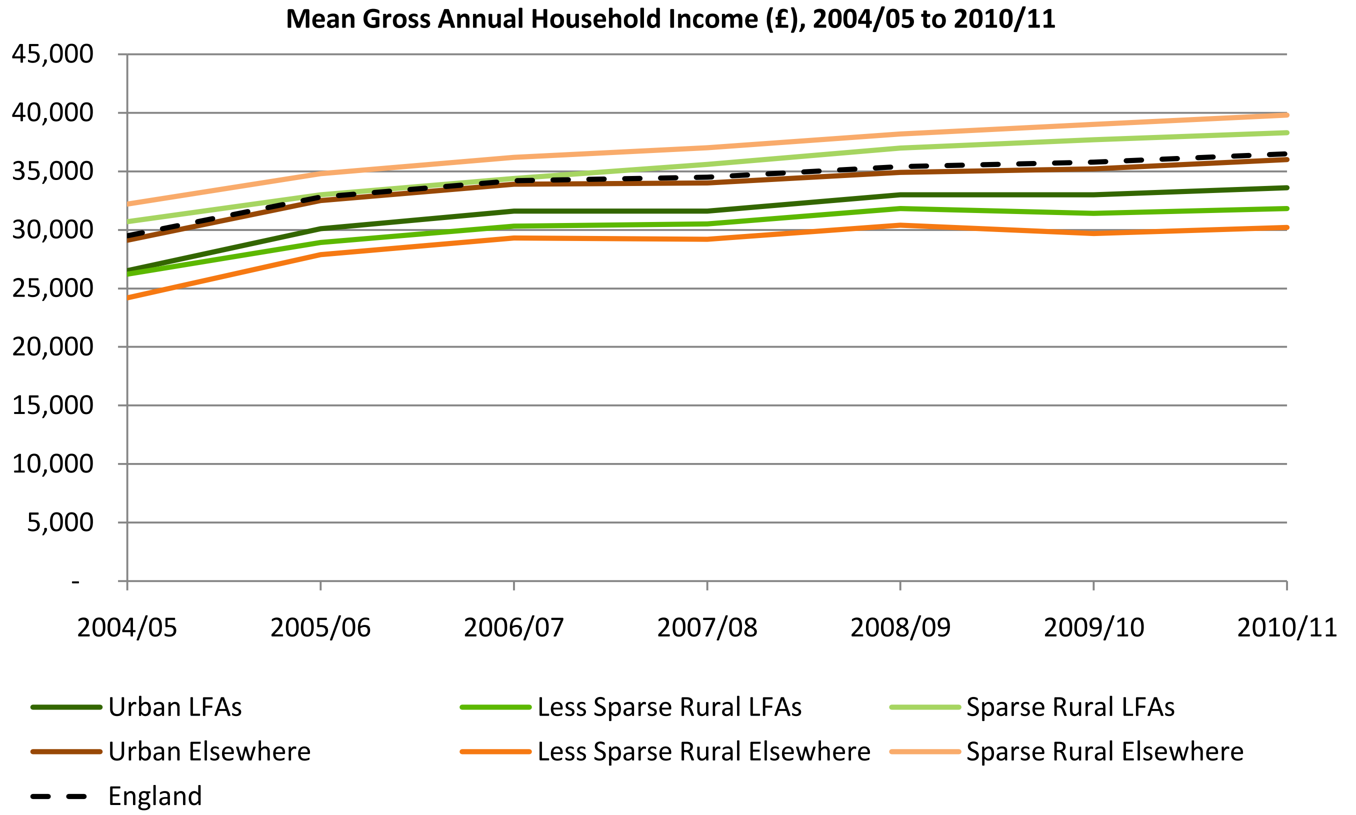
On the job training is when employees receive training at their workplace and is typically used for vocational work. **The data shows that employees living in LFAs are more likely to receive on the job training than employees living elsewhere.** There are other types of training that employees can experience and so based on this information alone, it cannot be concluded that employees living in LFAs receive more training than employees elsewhere. It also might be the case that less training is required for employees living elsewhere because they already have the correct qualifications to do their job, which may be due to them moving to these areas to seek out training opportunities.

Notes: In 2010 the classification of working age population changed to include females aged 60 – 64, who had previously been excluded; this change was incorporated in this data and backdated to 2005.
The data for Sparse Rural LFAs appears to fluctuate - this may be due to a small sample size.
Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey

Income and Poverty

- In 2010/11 average gross household incomes in Less Favoured Areas were around £34,900 per year, compared with around £36,600 elsewhere and £36,500 nationally.
- In Urban and Less Sparse Rural parts of the uplands, average household incomes are lower than the national average. In Sparse Rural parts of the uplands they are slightly higher.
- Average gross household incomes are highest in Sparse Rural areas outside Less Favoured Areas.
- Average incomes are lowest in Less Sparse Rural areas outside LFAs.
- The poverty rate in Less Favoured Areas is very similar to that elsewhere (28% and 27% respectively).
- The poverty rate in Urban and Less Sparse Rural Less Favoured Areas is higher than the national average. In Sparse Rural areas (both in and outside LFAs) it is lower.

Income

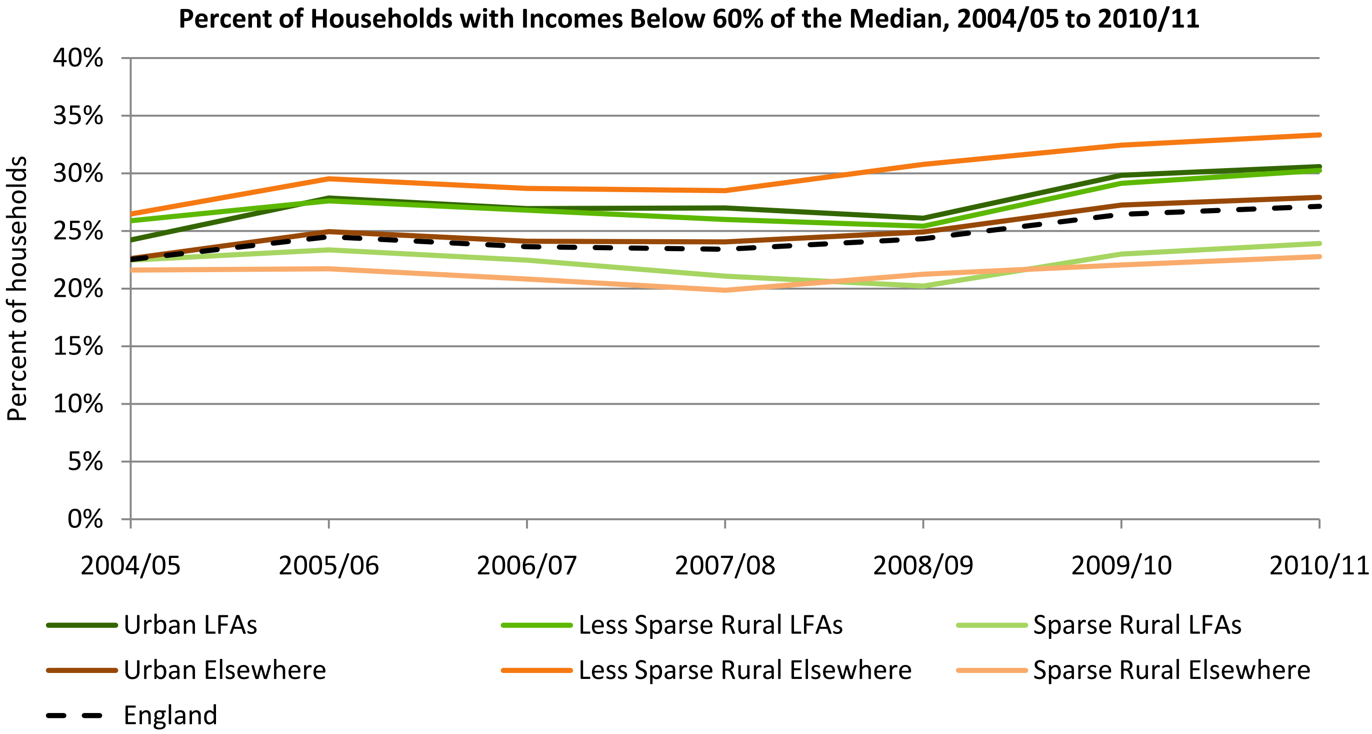


Interpretation: The lightest orange line suggests that average gross household incomes are highest in Sparse Rural areas outside Less Favoured Areas and the darker orange line shows they are lowest in Less Sparse Rural areas outside LFAs. A similar, but less polarised, pattern emerges for Sparse and Less Sparse Rural LFAs (light green and mid-green respectively). Incomes have increased between 2004/5 and 2010/11 at a similar rate in all areas types.

Mean Gross Annual Household Income (£), 2004/05 to 2010/11

		2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	£26,500	£30,100	£31,600	£31,600	£33,000	£33,000	£33,600
	Less Sparse Rural	£26,200	£28,900	£30,300	£30,500	£31,800	£31,400	£31,800
	Sparse Rural	£30,700	£33,000	£34,400	£35,600	£37,000	£37,700	£38,300
Elsewhere	Urban	£29,100	£32,500	£33,900	£34,000	£34,900	£35,200	£36,000
	Less Sparse Rural	£24,200	£27,900	£29,300	£29,200	£30,400	£29,700	£30,200
	Sparse Rural	£32,200	£34,800	£36,200	£37,000	£38,200	£39,000	£39,800
Less Favoured Areas		£27,700	£30,900	£32,300	£32,800	£34,100	£34,300	£34,900
Elsewhere		£29,600	£32,900	£34,200	£34,500	£35,500	£35,800	£36,600
England		**£29,500**	**£32,800**	**£34,200**	**£34,500**	**£35,400**	**£35,800**	**£36,500**

Poverty



Interpretation: The poverty rate is the number of households with incomes lower than 60% of the English median income, as a proportion of all households. This is a standard measure of poverty. The poverty rate in England has increased between 2004/5 and 2010/11. It is highest in Less Sparse Rural areas outside LFAs and lowest in Sparse Rural areas outside LFAs. In LFAs the poverty rate in Urban and Less Sparse Rural areas is higher than the national average. In Sparse Rural areas (both in and outside LFAs) it is markedly lower.

Percent of Households with Incomes Below 60% of the Median, 2004/5 to 2010/11

		2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	24%	28%	27%	27%	26%	30%	31%
	Less Sparse Rural	26%	28%	27%	26%	25%	29%	30%
	Sparse Rural	22%	23%	22%	21%	20%	23%	24%
Elsewhere	Urban	23%	25%	24%	24%	25%	27%	28%
	Less Sparse Rural	26%	30%	29%	29%	31%	32%	33%
	Sparse Rural	22%	22%	21%	20%	21%	22%	23%
Less Favoured Areas		24%	26%	26%	25%	24%	28%	28%
Elsewhere		22%	24%	24%	23%	24%	26%	27%
England		**23%**	**24%**	**24%**	**23%**	**24%**	**26%**	**27%**

Higher incomes allow people to enjoy higher living standards, and by the same measure, people living below the poverty threshold are more likely to have a low standard of living. Household income includes earnings, investments, pensions and income support. Variations in household income could result from householders being employed in different industries or occupation types, access to different job markets, household composition (and whether all adult members bring income in), age of householders or dependency on state benefits.

The evidence suggests a mixed picture in uplands areas. In Less Favoured Areas, households in sparse areas tend to have higher than average incomes, whereas households in Urban or Less Sparse Rural areas have lower than average incomes. The fact that the majority of people living in LFAs live in Urban and Less Sparse Rural areas means that overall households in LFAs have lower than average incomes. Outside of LFAs, the picture is more extreme in that households in Sparse Rural areas have the highest average incomes of all the categories, and households in Less Sparse Rural areas have the lowest average incomes.

Poverty rates broadly reflect the reverse side of the same coin; where incomes are high, poverty rates tend to be low. So, poverty rates tend to be highest in Less Sparse Rural areas outside LFAs, and these areas tend to have the lowest household incomes. Differences in poverty rates tend to be more related to rurality than whether they are in LFAs or not; Sparse Rural areas both in LFAs and elsewhere have the lowest poverty rates, while Urban and Less Sparse Rural areas have higher poverty rates. There has been an increase in the proportion of households with incomes below the poverty threshold between 2004/5 and 2010/11. In LFAs there was a slight decline in the proportion of households in poverty leading up to 2008/9, though in the two subsequent years the rate increased again. This could be related to the global economic downturn which occurred mid-way through the financial year 2008/9.

Notes: The estimates here are derived from small area statistics for annual gross household income. They are not consistent with official Government figures because these are not available at the fine spatial scale needed to analyse LFAs and the sparsely populated rural areas. Income statistics are different from (and usually higher than) earnings because they include non-earned income, such as investments, pensions or income support. They are also the income for the whole household rather than an individual's earnings.

There are certain data considerations with this analysis:

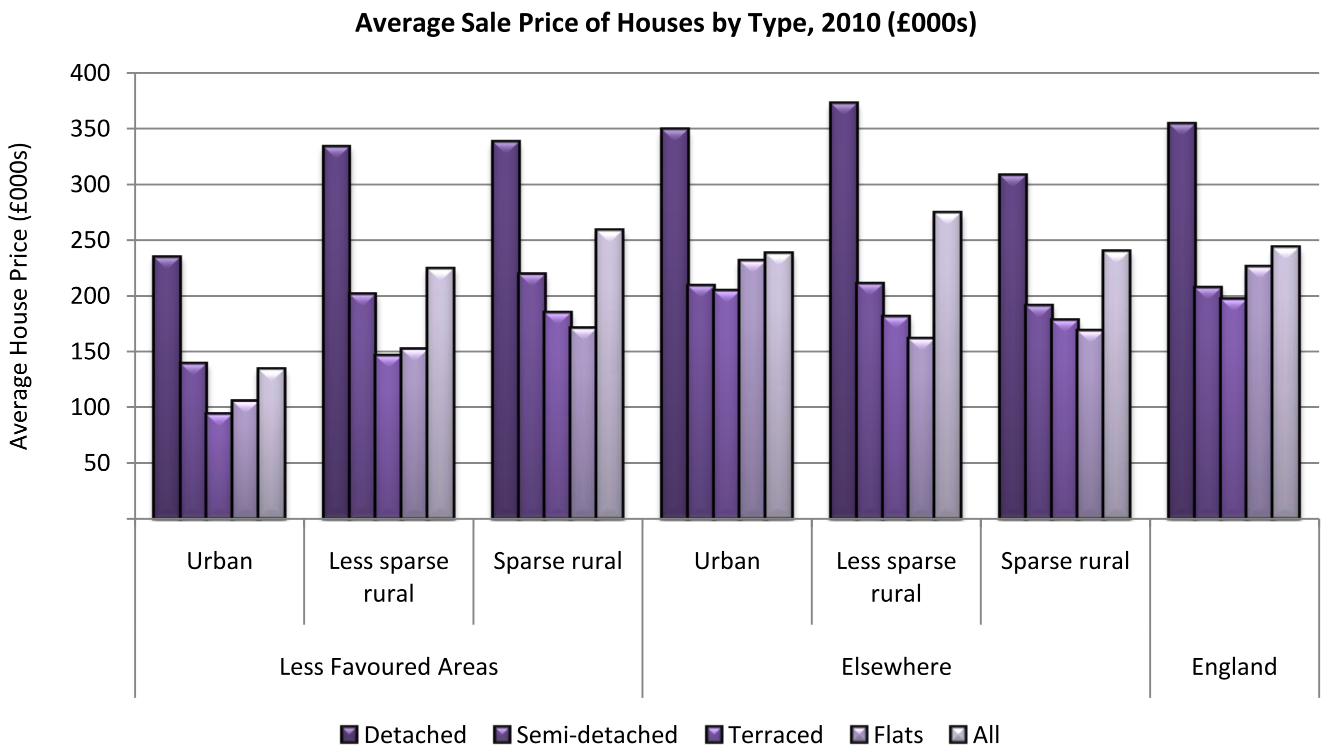
- The estimates are for mean household income rather than median. This means that the data may be influenced by a small number of extreme values (most likely very high incomes) and these may lead to inflated income figures.
- The household income data are not equivalised. This means they do not take account of the number of people in a household (and therefore the number of people that a household's income needs to cover).

Source: CACI PayCheck data, 2004/5 to 2010/11.

Housing

- In 2010, average house prices in uplands areas were £70,000 less than they were elsewhere.
- Within uplands areas there were considerable differences between area types. Urban upland areas had generally low average house prices. However in rural parts of the uplands, average house prices were similar to elsewhere. In 2010, house prices in Sparse Rural upland areas were, on average, around £260,000, almost £20,000 above the national average.
- Overall house prices increased between 2005 and 2010. Prices in upland areas increased at a slower rate than they did elsewhere (17% compared with 25% respectively).

House Prices

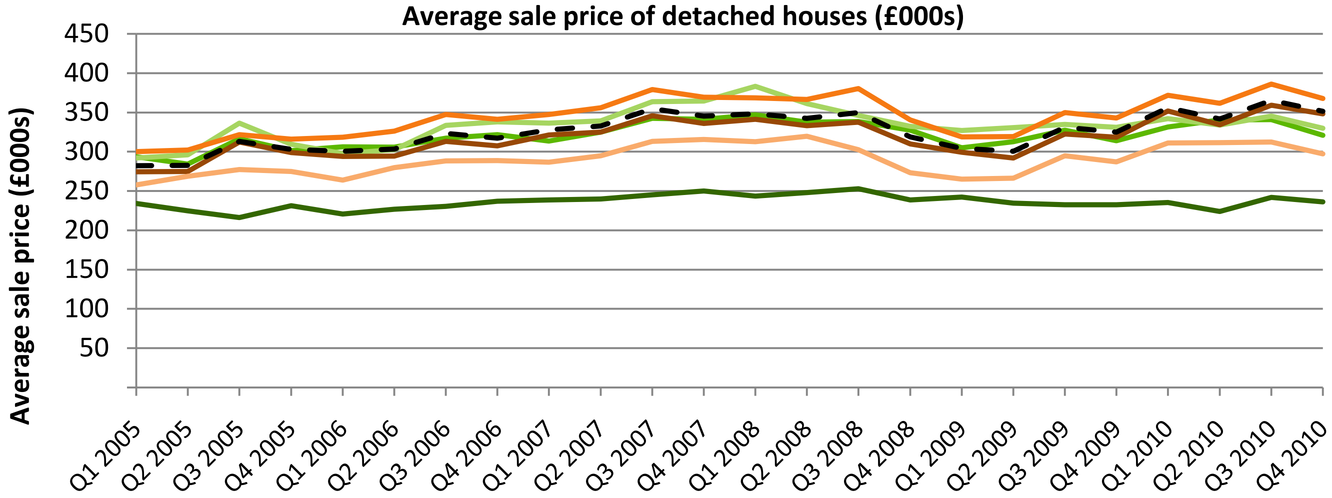


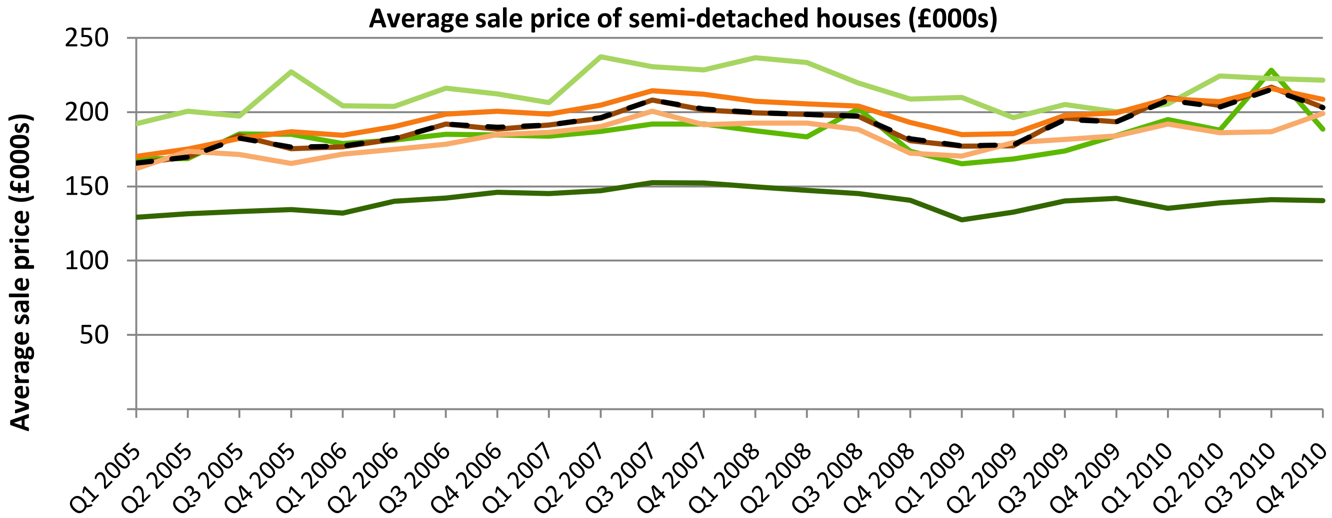
Interpretation: Overall average house prices in Less Favoured Areas tend to be slightly lower than elsewhere, but there is a large difference between prices in Urban parts of LFAs and the rural parts, with average prices a lot higher in rural areas. Urban parts of the uplands have the lowest average house prices. Not surprisingly the price of detached houses (the darkest bar) is higher than semi-detached houses, terraces and flats.

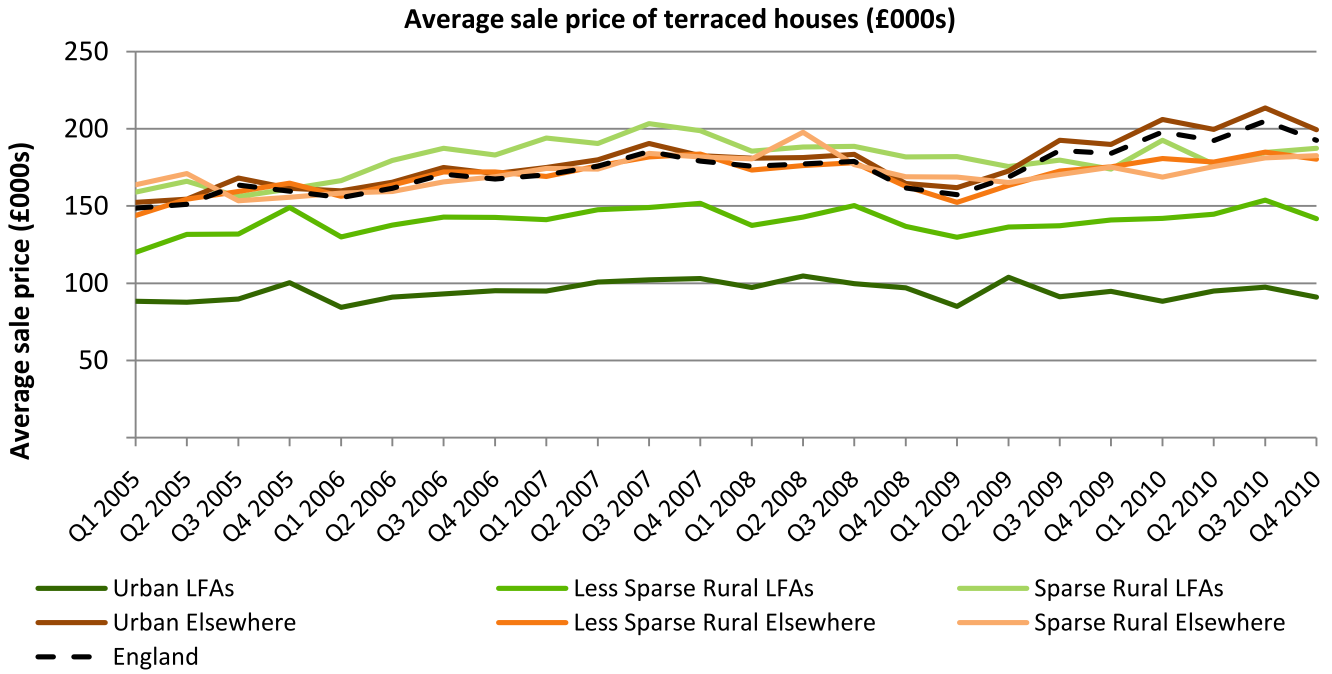
Average Sale Price of Houses by Type, 2010 (£000s)

		Detached	Semi-Detached	Terraced	Flats	All
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	235	139	93	105	134
	Less Sparse Rural	334	201	145	152	224
	Sparse Rural	338	219	185	171	259
Elsewhere	Urban	349	209	205	231	238
	Less Sparse Rural	373	210	181	162	274
	Sparse Rural	308	191	178	168	240
Less Favoured Areas		294	165	114	129	176
Elsewhere		356	209	201	226	245
England		354	207	197	226	243

Change in House Prices







Interpretation: House prices have increased between 2005 and 2010, and house price changes have been fairly consistent within all area and house types. Houses in Less Favoured Areas have seen a slower rise in prices than elsewhere, and average prices in Urban parts of LFAs have increased the least since 2005.

Percent Change in Sale Prices by House Type, 2005 to 2010

		Detached	Semi-detached	Terraced	Flats	All
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	3%	5%	2%	-10%	9%
	Less Sparse Rural	12%	14%	10%	6%	16%
	Sparse Rural	8%	6%	15%	6%	14%
Elsewhere	Urban	21%	20%	29%	18%	24%
	Less Sparse Rural	20%	18%	16%	10%	22%
	Sparse Rural	14%	13%	11%	24%	18%
Less Favoured Areas		10%	11%	9%	-1%	17%
Elsewhere		20%	20%	27%	18%	25%
England		20%	20%	27%	18%	25%

Stable house prices are seen as being good for the economy, and as rising prices increase the wealth of property owners this may therefore feed through into higher consumption. However, high house prices mean that it is less affordable for first time buyers to afford a home, and can make upsizing (buying a house bigger than the one currently owned) more difficult.

House prices in uplands areas are lower than those elsewhere. This is especially true of Urban parts of the uplands, where average prices in 2010 were almost half average prices in Sparse Rural areas of the uplands. Prices in rural parts of the uplands were broadly on a par with prices in other types of rural areas, and Sparse Rural parts of Less Favoured Areas had higher house prices than Sparse Rural areas elsewhere. It might be that Urban areas in LFAs are not as well connected as other Urban areas, and therefore houses are not as in demand there are in other areas. Rural Less Favoured Areas can often also be parts of National Parks and other protected sites, and the attractive environment and landscape there might lead to higher house prices.

House prices rose between 2005 and 2010, though the charts above show a dip around 2008-2009 when the global recession impacted on house prices nationally. However prices have picked up since then and across the board were higher in 2010 than in 2005, though **the rate of change in house prices in Less Favoured Areas was more gradual than elsewhere.**

Notes: the average house prices displayed here are mean prices, and extreme values (for example an individual house sale of several million pounds) can lead skew the data. However because of the volume of house sales this has very limited impact on the final estimates.

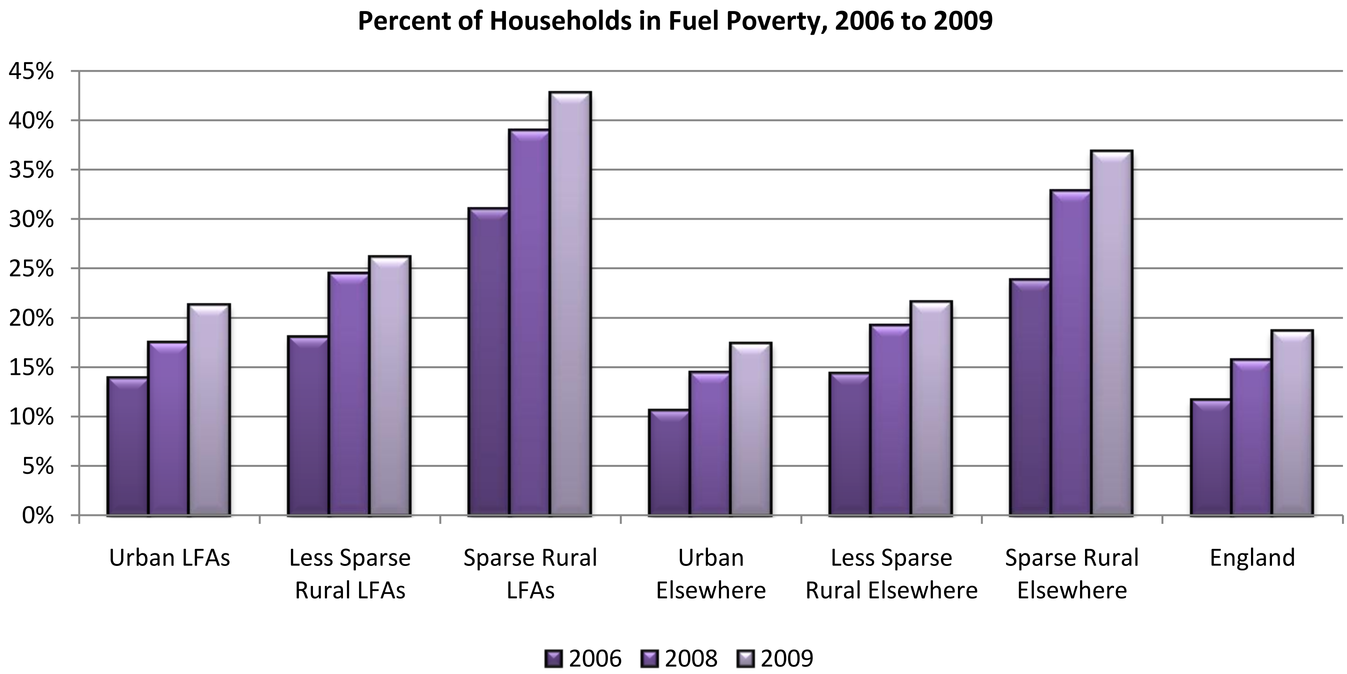
Occasionally the overall average price change for an area type can exceed the price changes for the subcategories of that area. This is due to a combination of (i) the way the data is distributed (ii) differences between prices across are or house types and (iii) differences in the proportion of house sales across different categories from one year to the next.

Source: Her Majesty's Land Registry, Price Paid data, 2005-2010

Fuel and Energy

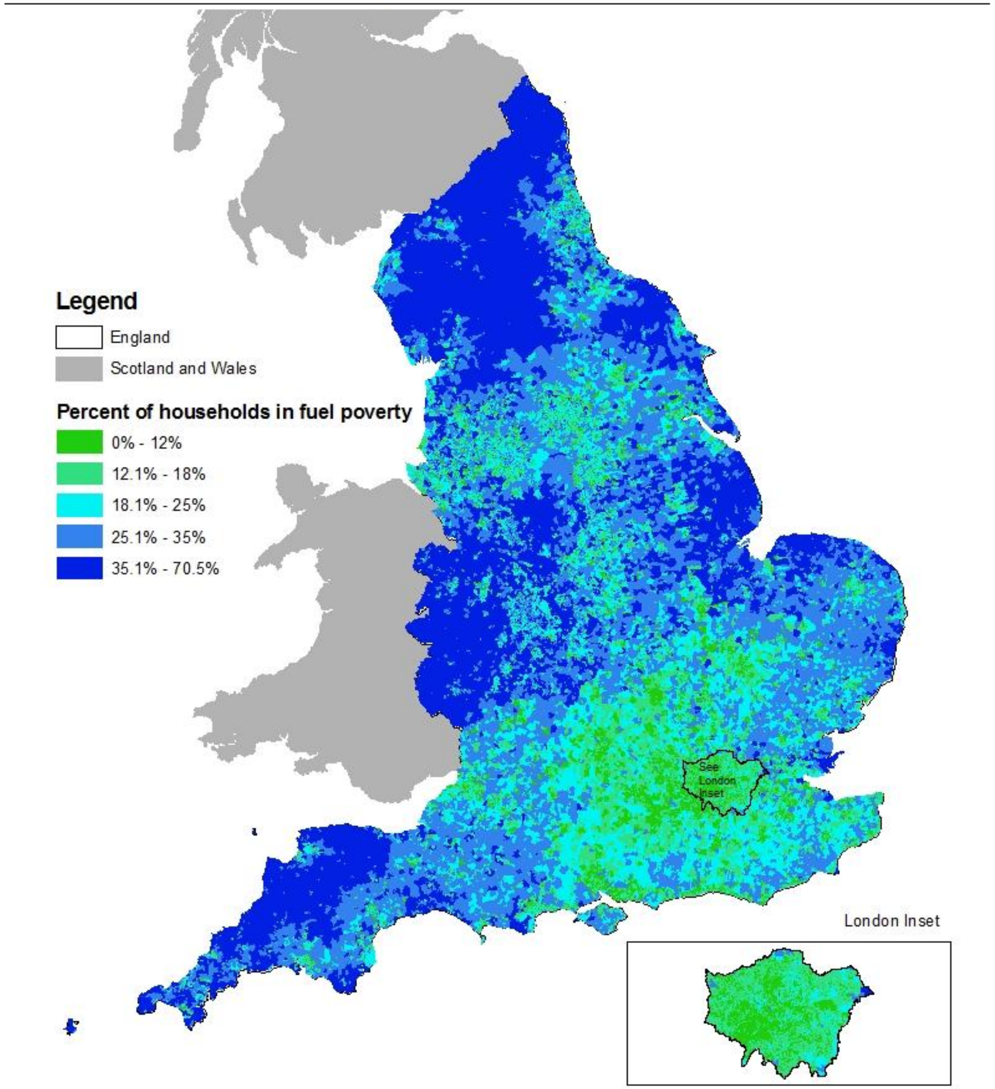
- In 2008, 25% of households in Less Favoured Areas were in fuel poverty, compared to 19% of households in England.
- Sparse Rural areas have higher rates on fuel poverty than other types of area. In 2009 over 40% of households in Sparse Rural parts of the uplands were in fuel poverty.
- A higher proportion of households in Less Favoured Areas live off the gas-grid. In Sparse Rural parts of LFAs, almost 70% of households are estimated not to be connected to mains gas.

Fuel Poverty



Interpretation: There was an increase in fuel poverty between 2006 and 2009. There are proportionally more households in fuel poverty in Less Favoured Areas than elsewhere. The highest rates of fuel poverty are in Sparse Rural Less Favoured Areas, where in 2009 over 40% of households were in fuel poverty.

Proportion of English households in fuel poverty: 2009



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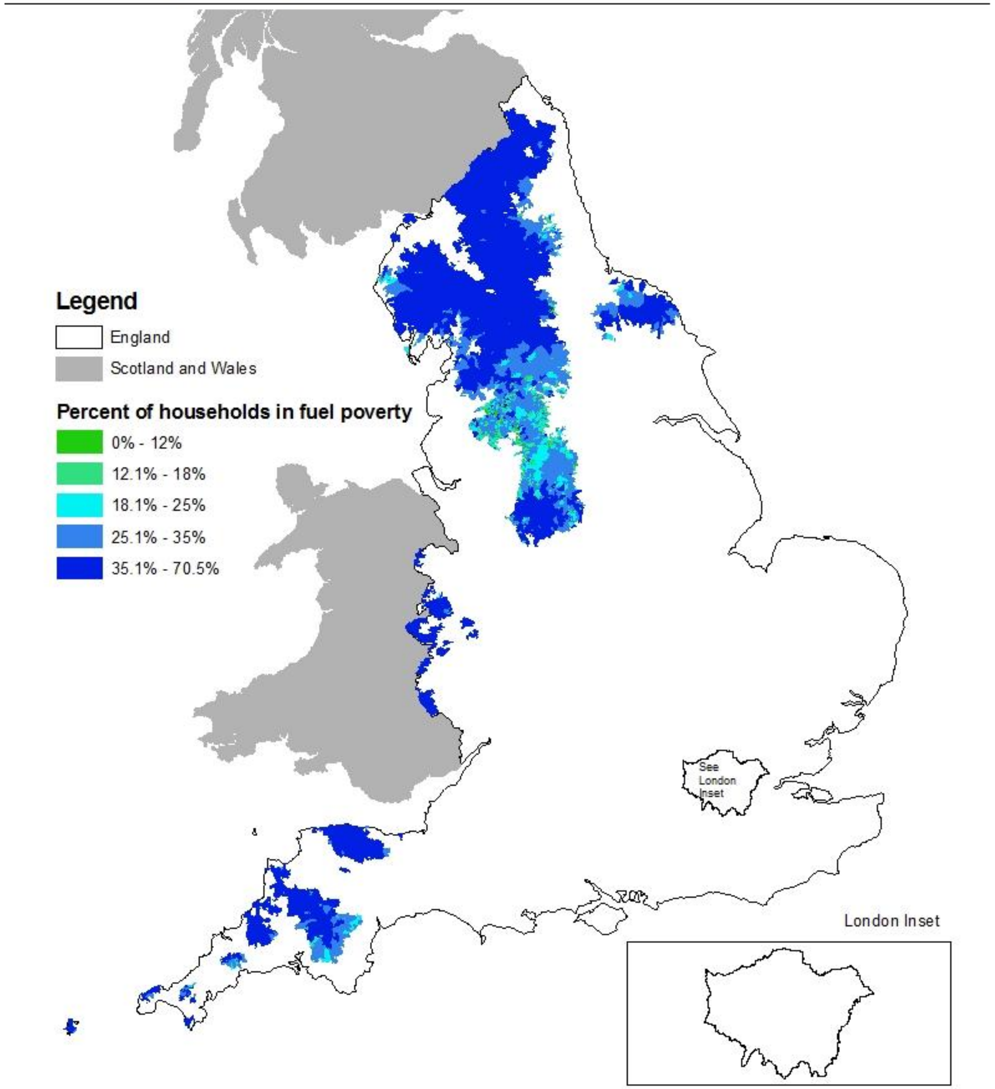
0 20 40 80 Miles

Source: DECC modelled sub-regional fuel poverty rates, 2009

Definitions: Fuel poverty is where households need to spend at least 10% of their income on maintaining an adequate standard of warmth.

Proportion of English households in fuel poverty, Less Favoured Areas: 2009



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0 20 40 80 Miles

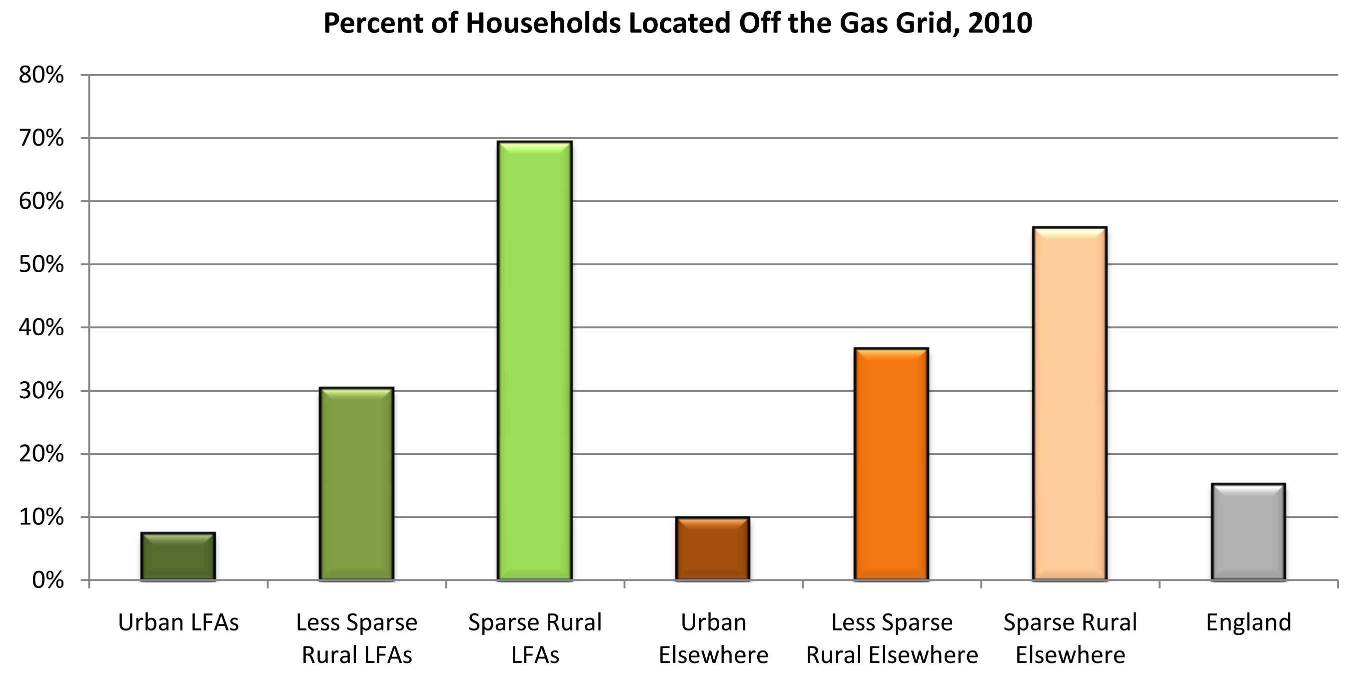
Source: DECC modelled sub-regional fuel poverty rates, 2009

Definitions: Fuel poverty is where households need to spend at least 10% of their income on maintaining an adequate standard of warmth.

Percent of Households in Fuel Poverty, 2006 to 2009

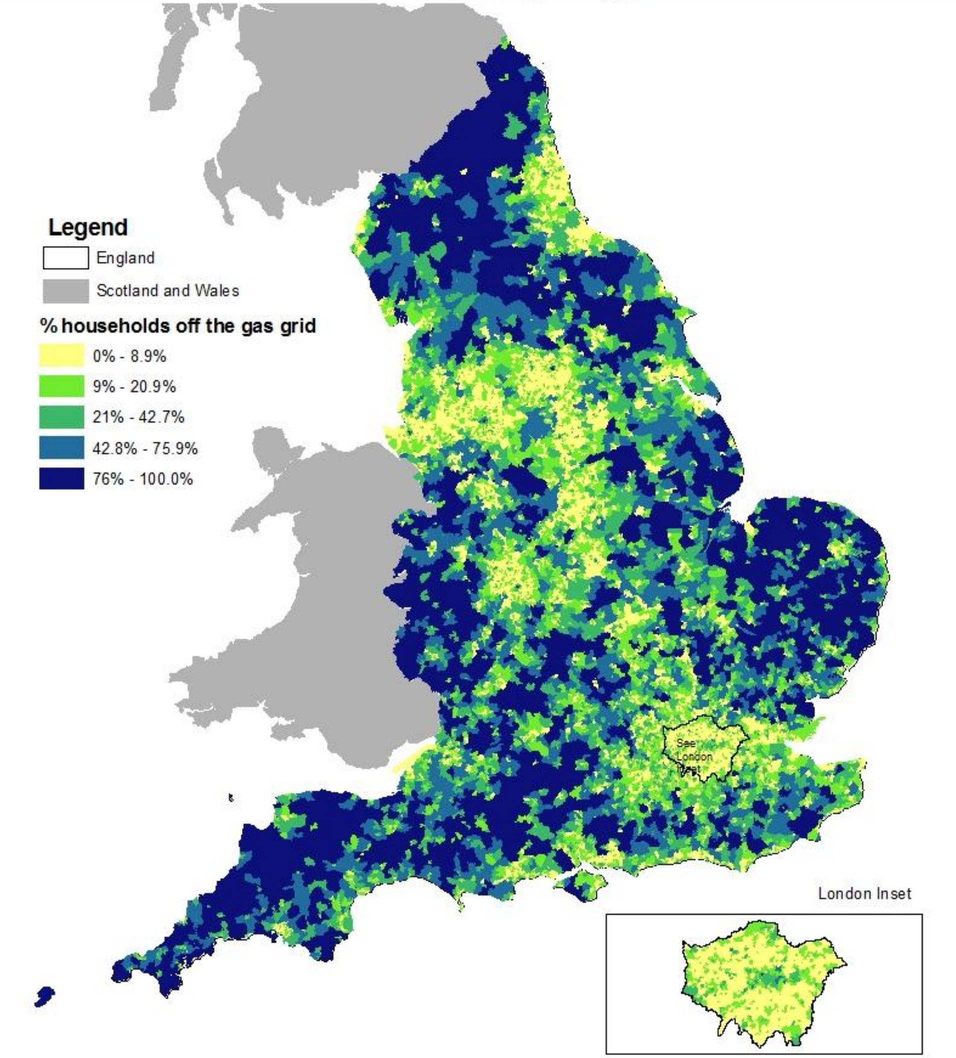
		2006	2008	2009
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	14%	17%	21%
	Less Sparse Rural	18%	24%	26%
	Sparse Rural	31%	39%	43%
Elsewhere	Urban	11%	14%	17%
	Less Sparse Rural	14%	19%	22%
	Sparse Rural	24%	33%	37%
Less Favoured Areas		17%	22%	25%
Elsewhere		11%	15%	18%
England		**12%**	**16%**	**19%**

Areas Off the Gas Grid



Interpretation: Proportionally more households in rural parts of Less Favoured Areas are living off the gas grid than elsewhere, with the highest proportion being in Sparse Rural LFAs. Proportionally fewer households in Urban parts of LFAs are off the gas grid than Urban areas elsewhere.

Percent of households living off the mains gas grid



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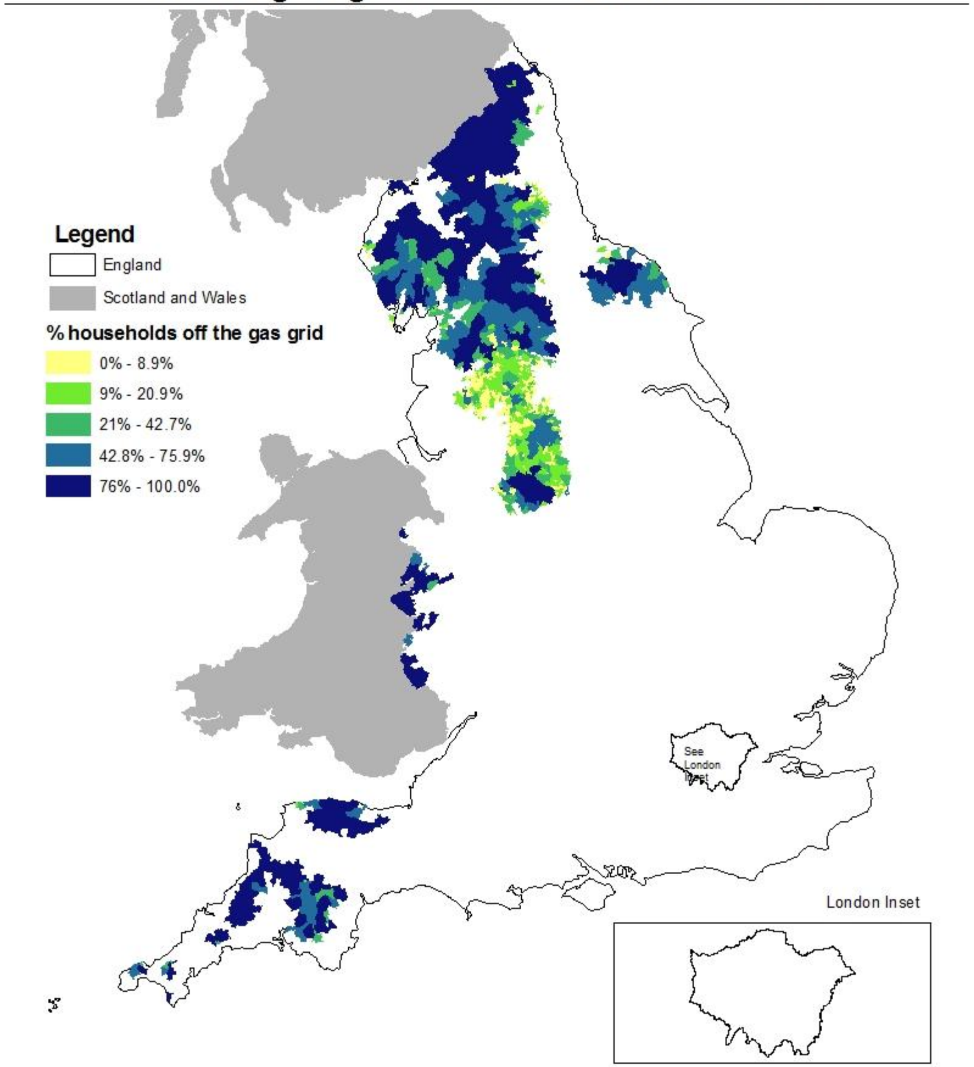
0 20 40 80 Miles

Source: modelled estimates based on DECC's LLSOA domestic gas data, AEA, 2010.

Percent of households living off the mains gas grid: Less Favoured Areas



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0 20 40 80 Miles

Source: modelled estimates based on DECC's LLSOA domestic gas data, AEA, 2010.

Percent of Households Located Off the Gas Grid, 2010

		2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	7.3%
	Less Sparse Rural	30.2%
	Sparse Rural	69.2%
Elsewhere	Urban	9.7%
	Less Sparse Rural	36.5%
	Sparse Rural	55.7%
Less Favoured Areas		20.6%
Elsewhere		14.7%
England		**15.0%**

Currently, households are defined as being in fuel poverty when they are required to spend at least ten per cent of their household income on maintaining an adequate level of warmth. It can therefore be the result of low income levels or of high energy costs. These in turn could be the result of high fuel prices or fuel-inefficient homes, such as those with poor insulation.

The fuel poverty statistics show that **in general a higher proportion of rural households were in fuel poverty in 2009 than Urban households**, with Sparse Rural areas having the highest proportion of fuel poor households. Comparing Less Favoured Areas and elsewhere, **a higher proportion of households in LFAs are in fuel poverty than in other parts of the country**. In 2009, over 40% of households in Sparse Rural LFAs were in fuel poverty.

The chapter on Income and Poverty suggests that on average, Sparse Rural LFAs have relatively high incomes, and this implies that it is energy costs that put people into fuel poverty in these areas rather than low incomes. The statistics on households off the gas grid support this theory; around 70% of households in Sparse Rural LFAs are estimated not to be connected to the gas grid. While there is very little evidence at such a small spatial scale to provide more detail on what energy sources are used, other evidence on Sparse Rural areas in general suggest that smaller rural settlements tend to rely on oil-fired systems to heat their homes. http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/rural/rural-living/fuel-energy. If this is the case for uplands households, and if oil is a more expensive or less efficient household fuel than gas, it could help explain why a higher proportion of uplands households are in fuel poverty than households elsewhere.

Source: Fuel poverty: modelled fuel poverty estimates, 2006, 2008, 2009. DECC.
http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/fuelpov_stats/regional/regional.aspx
Off gas grid data: modelled estimates based on DECC's LLSOA domestic gas data, AEA. Estimates at a detailed spatial scale are subject to uncertainty and use gas data from 2008.

Upland Economies

This section contains statistics on the following subject areas:

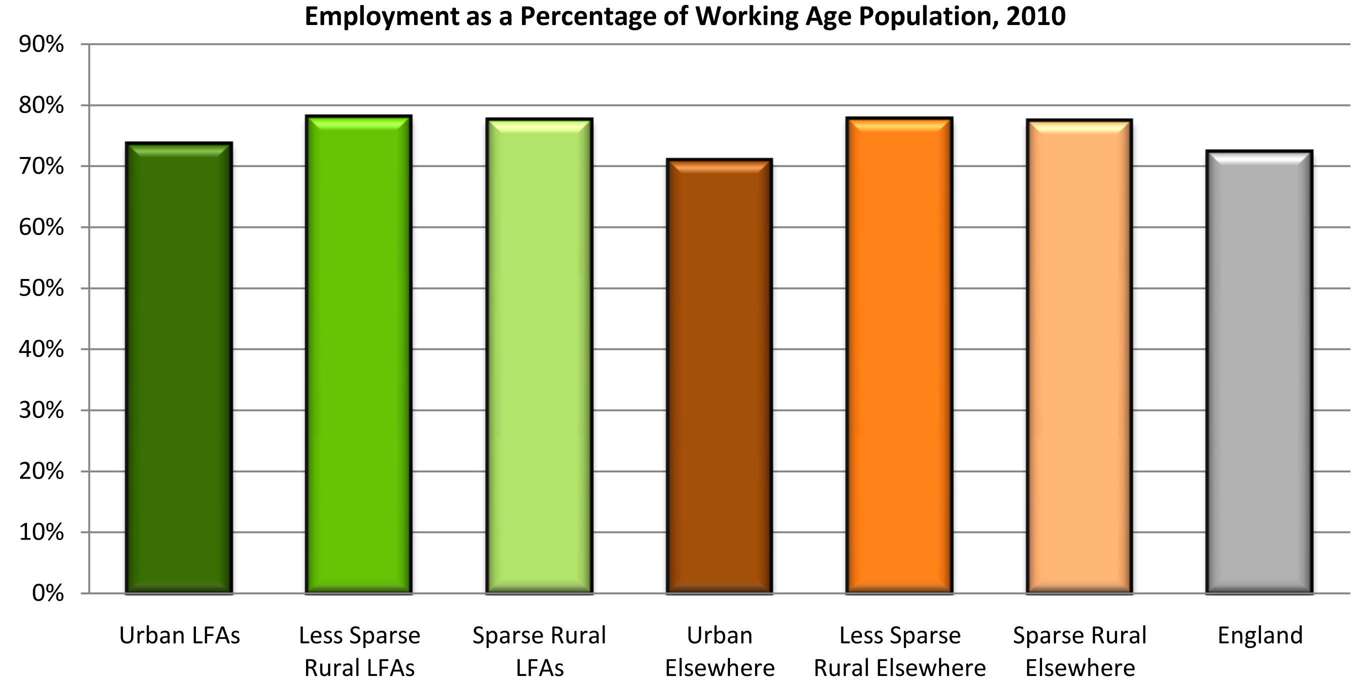
- Economic Activity
- Enterprise Composition
- Homeworking

If you would like further information related to this topic please contact the Rural Statistics Unit (rural.statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk or 01904 455251)

Economic Activity

- The employment rate for 2010 (as a percentage of working age population) was 75.3% in Less Favoured Areas and 72.1% elsewhere.
- The unemployment rate for 2010 (as a percentage of economically active working age population) was 6.7% in Less Favoured Areas and 7.9% elsewhere.
- The economic inactivity rate for 2010 (as a percentage of working age population) was 19.3% in Less Favoured Areas and 21.7% elsewhere.
- In 2010, self employment (as a percentage of economically active working age population) was 14.6% in Less Favoured Areas and 12.0% elsewhere.
- 'Public admin, education & health' accounts for the largest share of employment in both LFAs (28.7%) and elsewhere (30.1%), followed by 'Distribution, hotels & restaurants' (19.9% in LFAs, 18.5% elsewhere).
- The proportion of 18 to 24 year olds in Less Favoured Areas that are claiming Job Seekers Allowance in 2010 was 8.9%, 0.8% greater than the proportion in England.
- The proportion of young people claiming Job Seekers Allowance in Less Favoured Areas has increased from 4.7% to 8.9% between 2005 and 2010.

Employment Rate



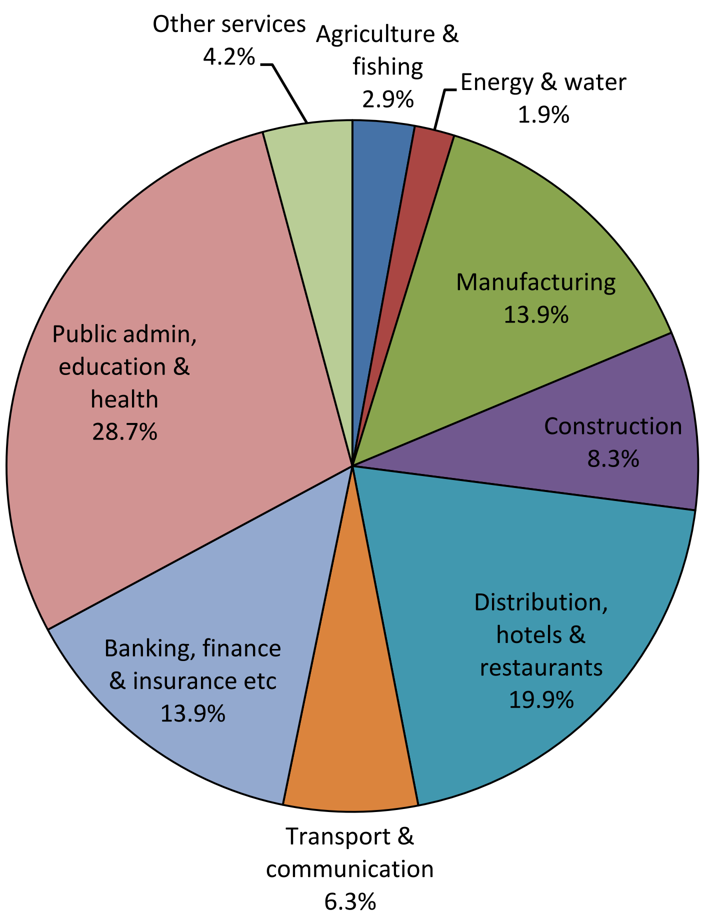
Interpretation: This chart and the following table show that the employment rate in 2010 was marginally higher in each LFA category than the equivalent area elsewhere. The employment rate is higher in rural areas than urban areas, with the highest rate being 78.0% in Less Sparse Rural LFAs and the lowest being in Urban areas elsewhere. The table below shows that between 2005 and 2010 the employment rate has consistently been higher in LFAs than elsewhere and higher in rural than urban areas.

Proportion of Working Age Population who are Employed, 2005 to 2010

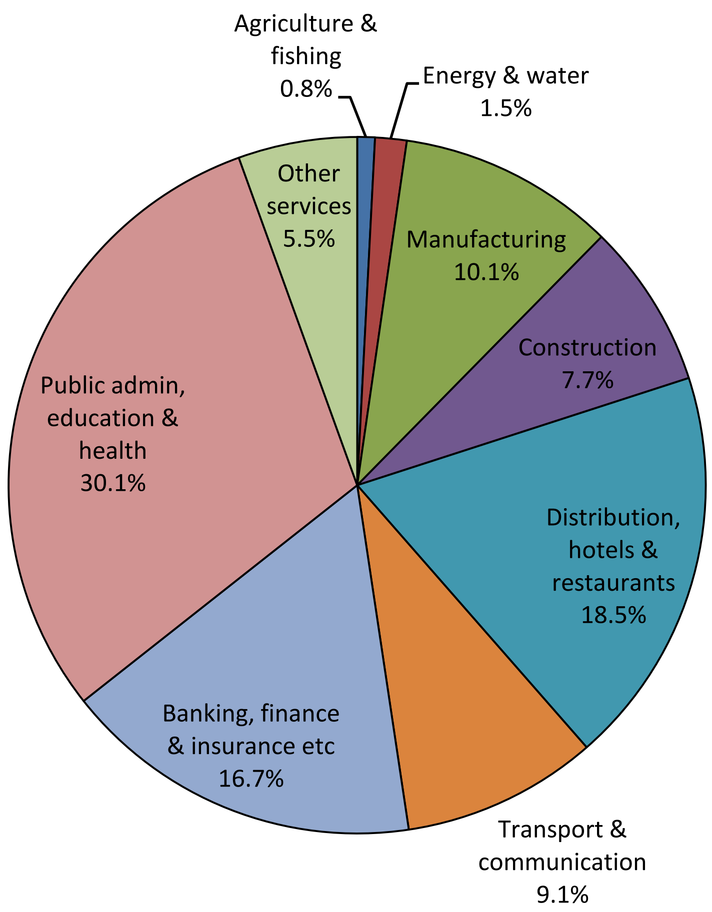
		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	76.0%	75.1%	73.8%	73.8%	75.2%	73.6%
	Less Sparse Rural	79.7%	78.6%	78.4%	80.4%	79.7%	78.0%
	Sparse Rural	78.8%	74.9%	78.4%	81.3%	78.5%	77.5%
Elsewhere	Urban	73.5%	73.3%	73.4%	73.0%	71.3%	71.0%
	Less Sparse Rural	78.8%	79.0%	78.9%	79.1%	77.9%	77.7%
	Sparse Rural	78.6%	75.3%	75.3%	78.1%	77.5%	77.3%
Less Favoured Areas		77.4%	76.1%	75.6%	76.5%	76.9%	75.3%
Elsewhere		74.4%	74.2%	74.3%	74.1%	72.5%	72.1%
England		**74.5%**	**74.3%**	**74.4%**	**74.2%**	**72.6%**	**72.2%**

Industrial Division of Employment

LFA Employment, Split by Industrial Division, 2010



Employment Elsewhere, Split by Industrial Division, 2010



Employment Counts Split by Sector, 2010

	LFA		Elsewhere		LFA	Elsewhere	England
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural			
Agriculture & fishing	1,100	23,800	52,400	128,000	24,800	180,400	205,200
Energy & water	9,200	6,900	257,100	66,100	16,000	323,200	339,200
Manufacturing	79,800	39,800	1,778,300	450,000	119,600	2,228,300	2,348,000
Construction	39,000	32,600	1,327,800	363,700	71,600	1,691,500	1,763,100
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	96,000	74,700	3,403,400	692,700	170,700	4,096,100	4,266,800
Transport & communication	35,100	18,800	1,704,600	300,700	53,900	2,005,200	2,059,100
Banking, finance & insurance etc	66,200	53,300	3,052,900	645,000	119,500	3,697,800	3,817,300
Public admin, education & health	147,700	98,200	5,428,300	1,225,000	246,000	6,653,200	6,899,200
Other services	20,500	15,400	974,200	245,300	35,900	1,219,500	1,255,400
All Sectors	**494,500**	**363,500**	**17,978,900**	**4,116,400**	**857,900**	**22,095,400**	**22,953,300**

Excludes respondents on college schemes and those who did not answer

Employment Percentages Split by Sector, 2010

	LFA		Elsewhere		LFA	Elsewhere	England
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural			
Agriculture & fishing	0.2%	6.5%	0.3%	3.1%	2.9%	0.8%	0.9%
Energy & water	1.9%	1.9%	1.4%	1.6%	1.9%	1.5%	1.5%
Manufacturing	16.1%	10.9%	9.9%	10.9%	13.9%	10.1%	10.2%
Construction	7.9%	9.0%	7.4%	8.8%	8.3%	7.7%	7.7%
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	19.4%	20.6%	18.9%	16.8%	19.9%	18.5%	18.6%
Transport & communication	7.1%	5.2%	9.5%	7.3%	6.3%	9.1%	9.0%
Banking, finance & insurance etc	13.4%	14.7%	17.0%	15.7%	13.9%	16.7%	16.6%
Public admin, education & health	29.9%	27.0%	30.2%	29.8%	28.7%	30.1%	30.1%
Other services	4.1%	4.2%	5.4%	6.0%	4.2%	5.5%	5.5%
All Sectors	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes respondents on college schemes and those who did not answer

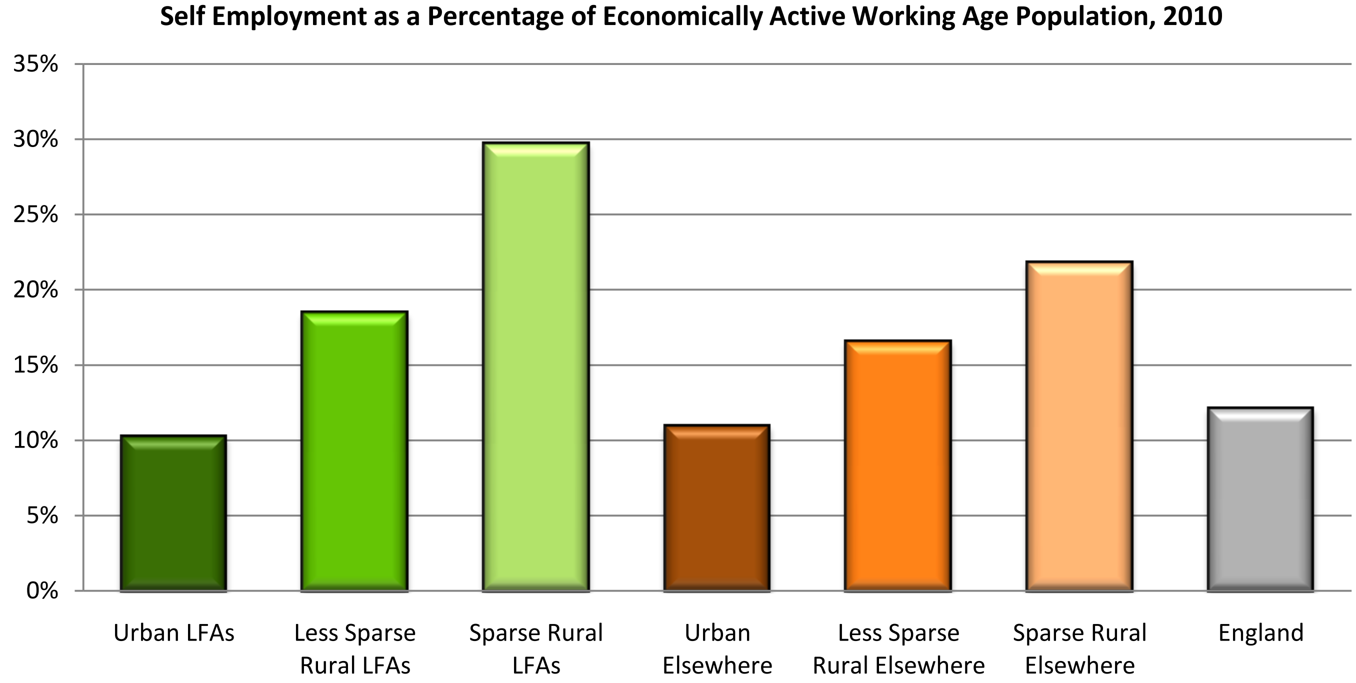
Interpretation: The pie charts and tables above show that there is little difference in the industrial split of employment between LFAs and elsewhere. Similarly there are few differences between rural and urban areas. Public admin, education & health accounts for the largest share of employment in both LFAs (28.7%) and elsewhere (30.1%), followed by Distribution, hotels & restaurants (19.9% in LFAs, 18.5% elsewhere). Agriculture and fishing employs a larger proportion of the workforce in LFAs than elsewhere, but this is still only 2.9% of the total. In rural LFAs this rises to 6.5%, compared to 3.1% in rural areas elsewhere.

The overall picture from this analysis is that there is **little difference between the industrial make up of the LFA economy and the national economy.** This lends weight to the argument that economies are not distinct on either side of administrative boundaries.

Agriculture and fishing employs a larger proportion of the workforce in LFAs than elsewhere, which is one of the few notable differences in the analysis above. Agriculture plays a larger part in rural economies and LFAs are 66% rural compared 19% elsewhere, in terms of population. In addition to this, Agriculture and fishing has roughly double the share of employment in rural LFAs than in rural areas elsewhere, which implies that the landscape and less developed infrastructure of LFAs lend themselves better to certain types of farming (principally extensive livestock grazing) than to other industries.

Rural LFAs also have a higher share of employment in the Distribution, hotels & restaurants division (20.6%) than rural areas elsewhere (16.8%). A very high proportion of LFAs are within a National Park (Dartmoor, Exmoor, Peak District, Yorkshire Dales, North York Moors, Northumberland and Lake District National Parks are almost exclusively LFA), which are able to draw on their status and natural assets to attract visitors and as a result have a larger proportion of employment in Accommodation and Food & Beverage enterprises than the national average. Please the Land Designations page in the Land Use and Recreation section for further information on National Parks.

Self Employment



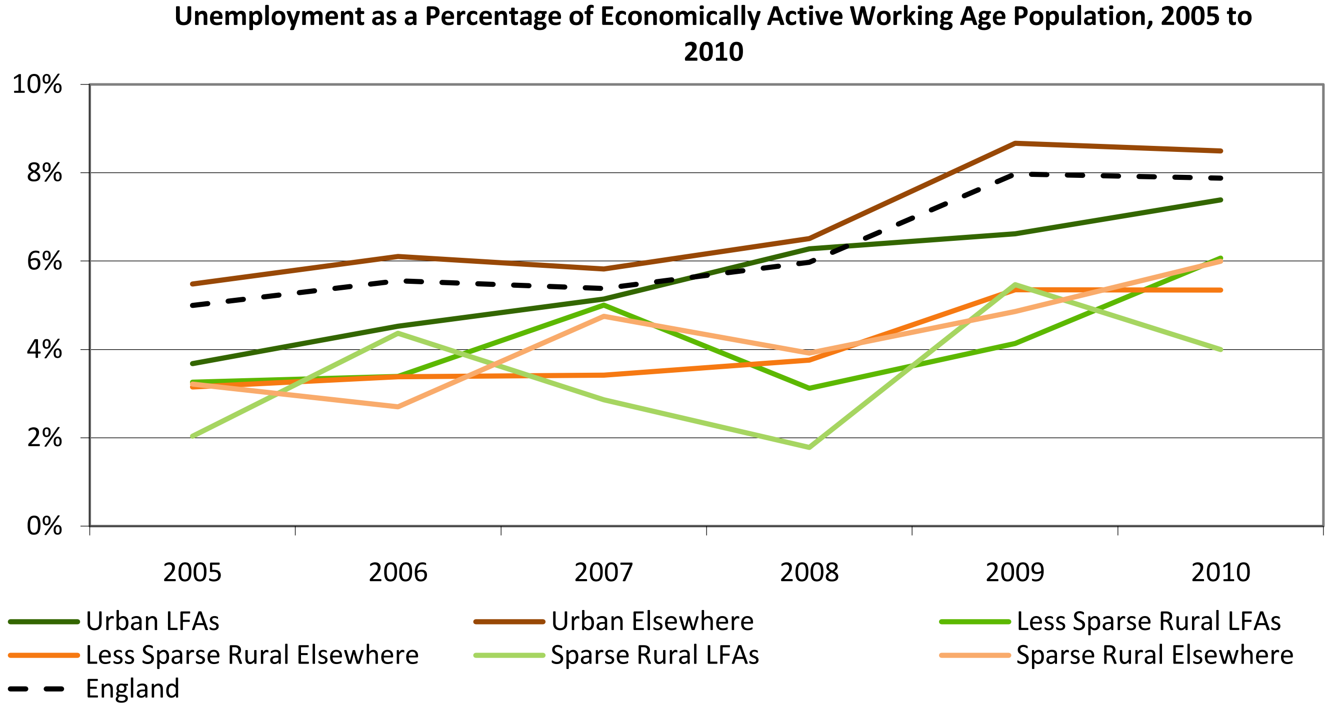
Interpretation: The chart above shows that self employment as a percentage of economically active working age population is highest in Sparse Rural LFAs at 29.7% and lowest in Urban LFAs at 10.2%. There is a clear pattern with self employment being highest in Sparse Rural areas, followed by Less Sparse Rural areas, with self employment being lowest in Urban areas. LFAs have higher rates of self employment than elsewhere for both rural categories, but a lower rate in urban areas. Overall, referring to the table below, self employment is higher in LFAs (14.6%) than elsewhere (12.0%).

Percent of Economically Active Working Age Population who are Self Employed, 2005 to 2010

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	10.0%	9.6%	9.4%	11.3%	11.2%	10.2%
	Less Sparse Rural	15.8%	17.4%	16.3%	19.7%	21.0%	18.4%
	Sparse Rural	25.0%	24.3%	23.5%	33.2%	31.6%	29.7%
Elsewhere	Urban	11.0%	10.9%	11.1%	10.7%	10.7%	10.9%
	Less Sparse Rural	16.1%	16.4%	16.6%	16.4%	16.0%	16.5%
	Sparse Rural	20.9%	24.2%	18.7%	18.3%	20.6%	21.8%
Less Favoured Areas		13.1%	13.0%	12.8%	15.9%	16.1%	14.6%
Elsewhere		12.0%	11.9%	12.1%	11.7%	11.7%	12.0%
England		**12.0%**	**12.0%**	**12.1%**	**11.9%**	**11.9%**	**12.1%**

The chart and table shows that the **proportion of the workforce which is self employed is higher in LFAs than elsewhere**. A higher proportion of people living in LFAs live in rural or sparse areas than elsewhere and it is in these areas that rates of self employment are highest. This is partly because the makeup of the local economy in these areas tends to be without very large employers who dominate employment in urban areas. It is also possible that longer travel times to services or employment centres would result in people being more likely to work from home rather than travel long distances to work.

Unemployment Rate

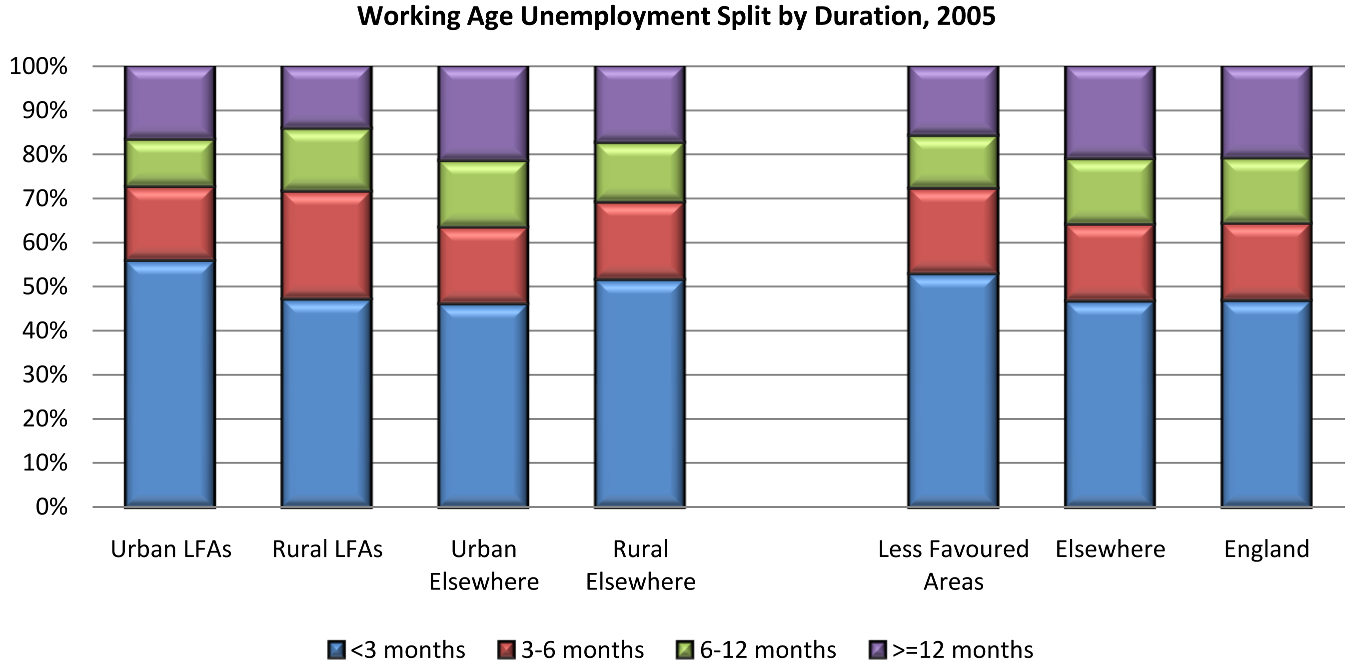


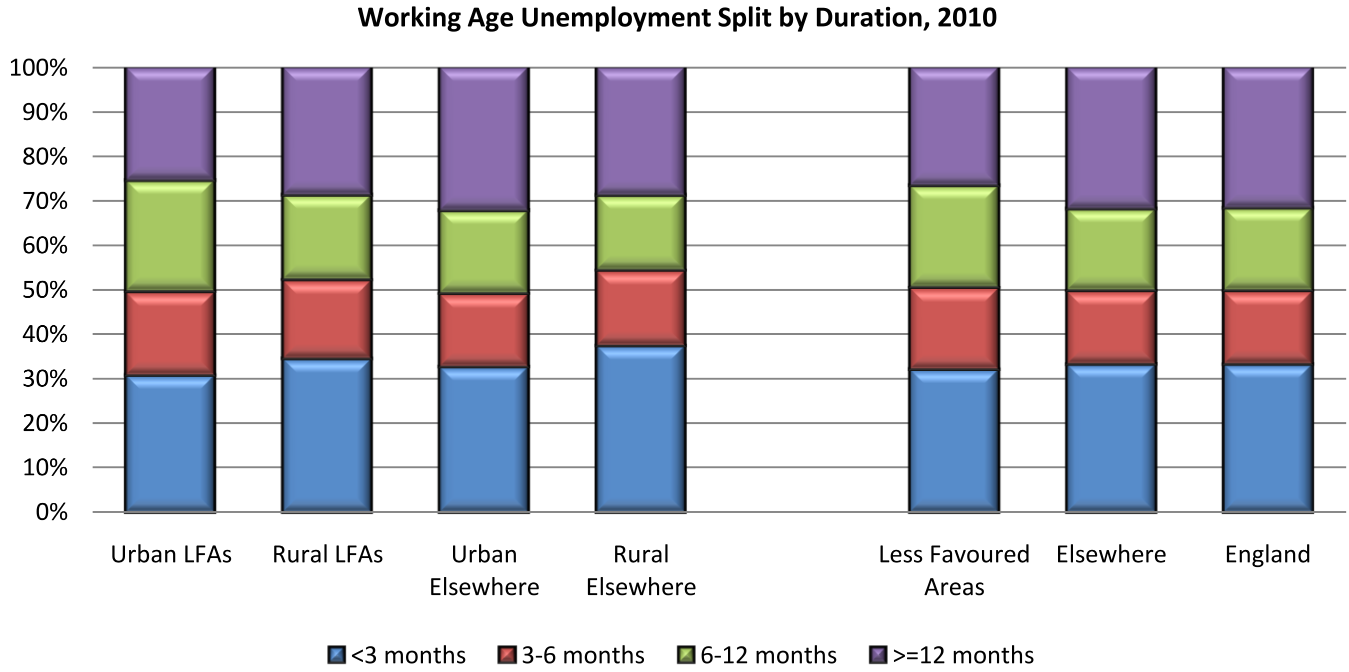
Interpretation: This chart and the following table show unemployment rates for each area type for the last six years. For example the unemployment rate in LFAs in 2010 was 6.7%. Series for sparse areas are prone to fluctuate more than series for less sparse areas because there are fewer observations for sparse areas. Over the period 2005 to 2010, the unemployment rate has remained lower in LFAs than elsewhere. The unemployment rate has remained higher in urban than rural areas in both LFAs and elsewhere.

Percent of Economically Active Working Age Population who are Unemployed, 2005 to 2010

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	3.7%	4.5%	5.1%	6.3%	6.6%	7.4%
	Less Sparse Rural	3.3%	3.4%	5.0%	3.1%	4.1%	6.1%
	Sparse Rural	2.0%	4.4%	2.9%	1.8%	5.5%	4.0%
Elsewhere	Urban	5.5%	6.1%	5.8%	6.5%	8.7%	8.5%
	Less Sparse Rural	3.2%	3.4%	3.4%	3.8%	5.3%	5.3%
	Sparse Rural	3.2%	2.7%	4.8%	3.9%	4.9%	6.0%
Less Favoured Areas		3.4%	4.2%	4.9%	4.9%	5.8%	6.7%
Elsewhere		5.1%	5.6%	5.4%	6.0%	8.1%	7.9%
England		**5.0%**	**5.6%**	**5.4%**	**6.0%**	**8.0%**	**7.9%**

Duration of Unemployment





Interpretation: The two charts above show unemployment split by duration in 2005 and 2010. There is little difference between spatial categories. In 2005, LFAs had proportionally more short term and less long term unemployment than elsewhere. By 2010, the unemployment duration profiles were close to identical in LFAs and elsewhere, however LFAs still had a lower proportion of unemployed people with a duration of 12 months or more. The main observation from comparing the 2005 chart to 2010 is that the unemployment durations have increased and this change is seen in all spatial categories. In 2005, '<3 months' was the dominant duration category, accounting for about 50% of unemployed people in each spatial type. By 2010 the share of '<3 months' had fallen to about 30%, whereas the share of '>=12 months' increased from about 20% to 30%.

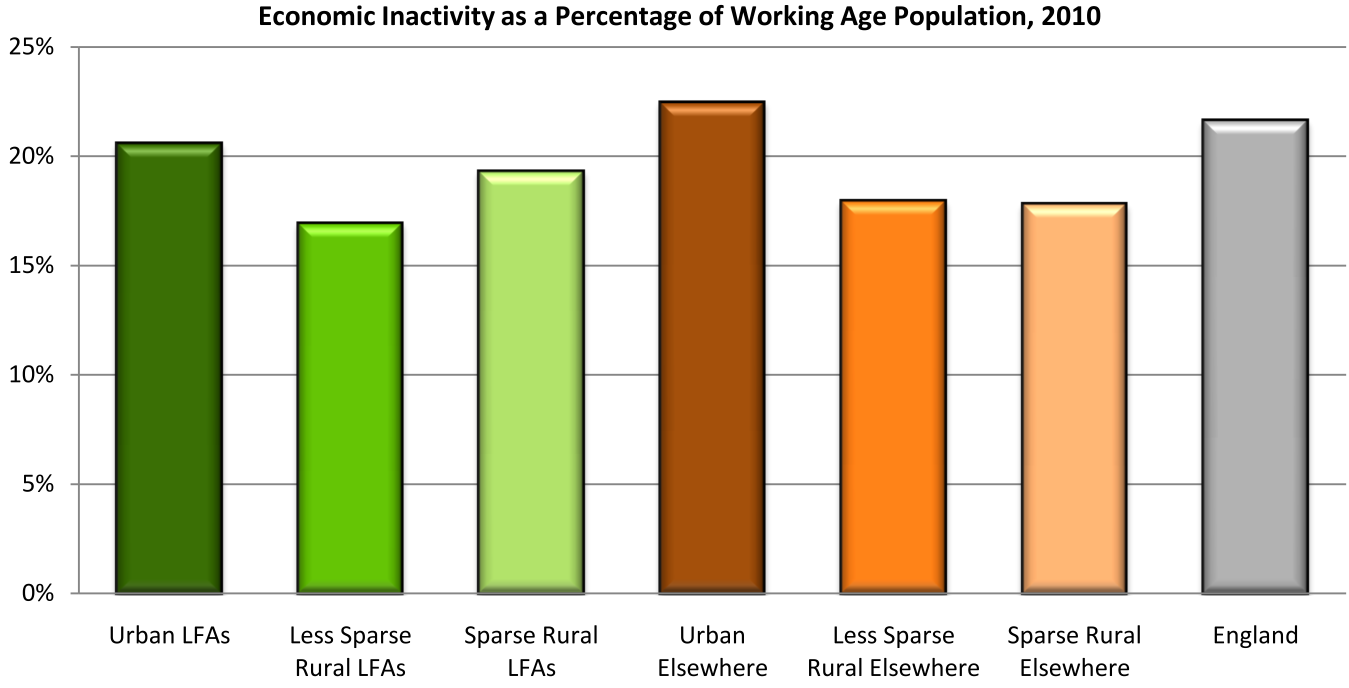
Unemployed Working Age Population Split by Duration of Unemployment, 2005

		<3 months	**3-6 months**	**6-12 months**	**>=12 months**	**All**
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	55.9%	16.8%	10.7%	16.6%	100.0%
	Rural	47.1%	24.5%	14.2%	14.1%	100.0%
Elsewhere	Urban	46.1%	17.4%	15.1%	21.4%	100.0%
	Rural	51.5%	17.6%	13.6%	17.3%	100.0%
Less Favoured Areas		52.9%	19.4%	11.9%	15.8%	100.0%
Elsewhere		46.7%	17.5%	14.9%	20.9%	100.0%
England		**46.9%**	**17.5%**	**14.8%**	**20.8%**	**100.0%**

Unemployed Working Age Population Split by Duration of Unemployment, 2010

		<3 months	**3-6 months**	**6-12 months**	**>=12 months**	**All**
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	30.9%	18.7%	25.1%	25.4%	100.0%
	Rural	34.6%	17.6%	19.1%	28.7%	100.0%
Elsewhere	Urban	32.8%	16.4%	18.7%	32.2%	100.0%
	Rural	37.5%	16.9%	17.0%	28.7%	100.0%
Less Favoured Areas		32.2%	18.3%	22.9%	26.6%	100.0%
Elsewhere		33.3%	16.5%	18.5%	31.7%	100.0%
England		**33.3%**	**16.5%**	**18.6%**	**31.6%**	**100.0%**

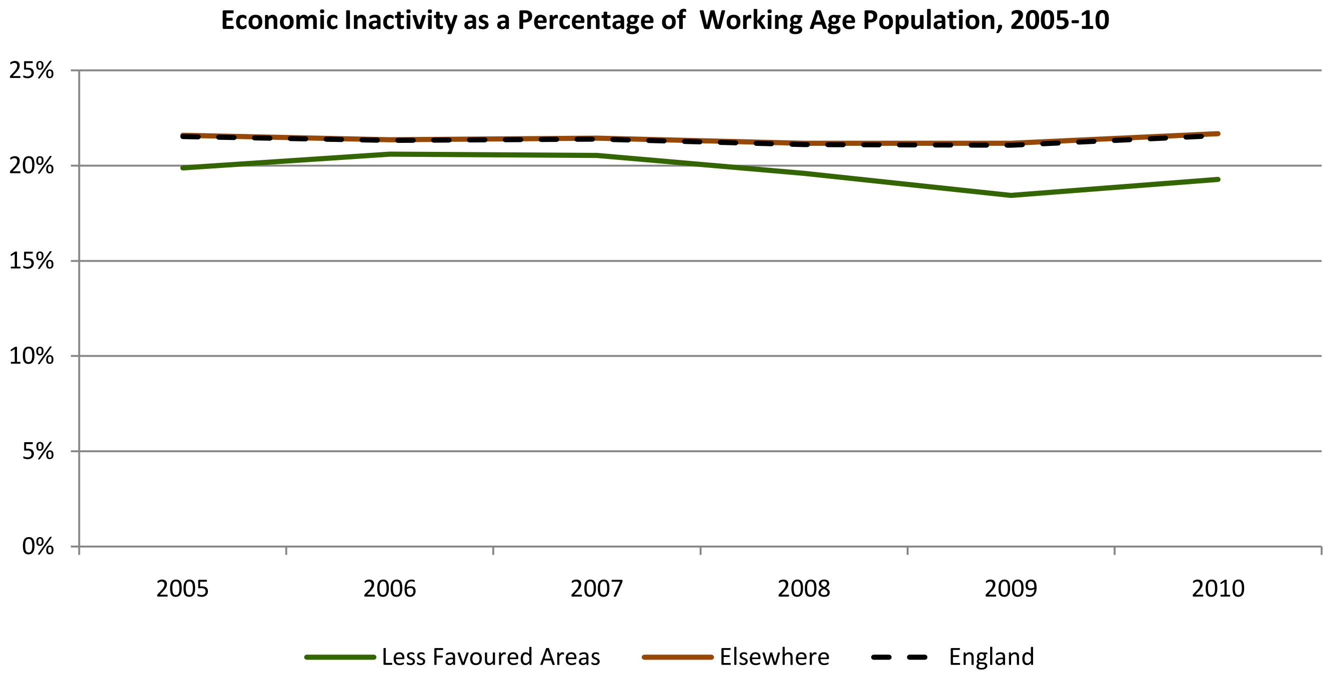
Economic Inactivity



Interpretation: This chart shows that economic inactivity as a percentage of working age population is lowest in Less Sparse Rural LFAs at 16.9% and highest in Urban areas elsewhere at 22.5%. Economic inactivity is higher in urban than rural areas both in LFAs and elsewhere and is lower in all area types in LFA than the overall England average.

Percent of Working Age Population who are Economically Inactive, 2005 to 2010

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	21.1%	21.3%	22.2%	21.2%	19.4%	20.6%
	Less Sparse Rural	17.6%	18.6%	17.5%	17.0%	16.8%	16.9%
	Sparse Rural	19.6%	21.7%	19.3%	17.2%	17.0%	19.3%
Elsewhere	Urban	22.2%	22.0%	22.1%	21.9%	21.9%	22.5%
	Less Sparse Rural	18.6%	18.3%	18.3%	17.8%	17.7%	17.9%
	Sparse Rural	18.8%	22.6%	21.0%	18.7%	18.5%	17.8%
Less Favoured Areas		19.9%	20.6%	20.5%	19.6%	18.4%	19.3%
Elsewhere		21.6%	21.4%	21.4%	21.2%	21.2%	21.7%
England		**21.5%**	**21.3%**	**21.4%**	**21.1%**	**21.1%**	**21.6%**



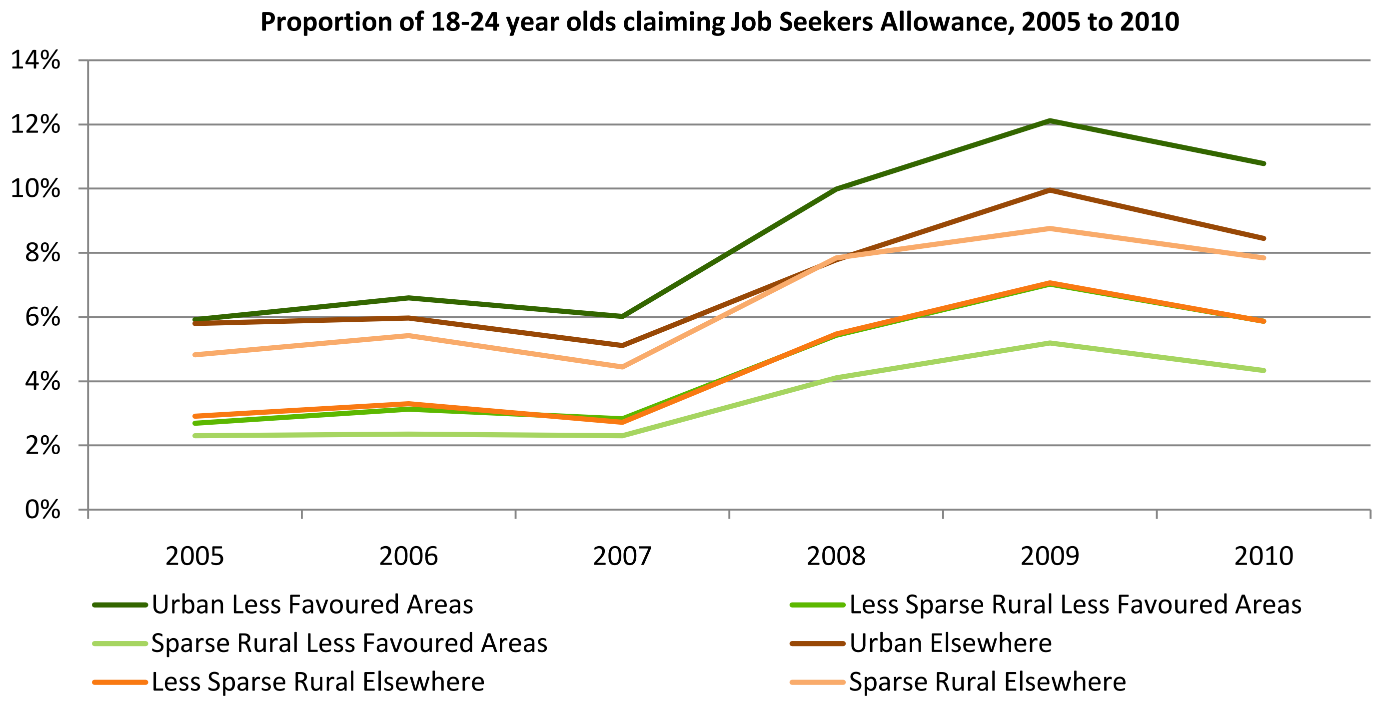
Interpretation: The chart above shows that economic inactivity as a percentage of working age population was very stable over the period 2005 to 2010, particularly in non-uplands areas. The economic inactivity rate has been lower in LFAs than elsewhere for the whole 2005 to 2010 period. Economic inactivity in LFAs has been lower in recent years; however the difference is fairly small. The England and elsewhere levels are almost identical, reflecting the fact that 96% of working age people do not live in LFAS.

Unemployment is costly to the individual (financially and socially), and also to the wider public, as many social security benefits are linked directly to unemployment or to low income. Comparing the unemployment rates in LFAs and elsewhere shows that **LFAs experienced a less dramatic increase in unemployment between 2008 and 2009** (4.9% to 5.8%) as the recession hit than elsewhere (6.0% to 8.1%). However between 2009 and 2010, the unemployment rate continued to climb in LFAs (5.8% to 6.7%) which contrasts with a small decline (8.1% to 7.9%) elsewhere. This could be **evidence that there was a time lag on the effects of the economic downturn in LFAs**. Employment rates suggest a similar picture as the employment rate in LFAs actually rose between 2008 and 2009 compared to a sharp fall elsewhere, however between 2009 and 2010 the fall in the employment rate was more severe in LFAs than elsewhere. As unemployment rose towards the end of the 2000s, we might expect to see a higher proportion of short term unemployed as the newly unemployed 'join the queue'. However comparing 2010 this is not the case with longer term (>=12 months) periods of unemployment taking a higher percentage of the total. This suggests that any new jobs are not going to the already long term unemployed. By 2010, those who lost their jobs at the beginning of the economic downturn in 2008 and were unable to find replacement work will have moved into the >=12 months group.

People who are economically inactive are not available for work or not seeking work. This includes students, retirees and those unable to work due to sickness or disability. People who are officially unemployed (wanting and seeking work) are considered to be economically active. In general, lower rates of economic inactivity are desirable, although this may not be the case if increases are driven by reductions in those in full time education. The recession could have caused people struggling to find a job to remove themselves from the job market by retiring or returning to study. Conversely, some people who were previously economically inactive may have decided to go back to work to cover for lost income elsewhere in their household. If either of these effects did occur then they either had a small impact or they largely cancelled each other out because **economic activity did not change much in either LFAs or elsewhere from 2008 to 2010**. Economic inactivity is likely to be highest in those above working age (60 and over for women and 65 and over for men for the period covered). LFAs have a higher concentration of people above working age (18% of people living in LFAs [both men and women] are 65 or older, compared to 16% elsewhere), but they are not included in any of the analysis in the Economic Activity section. For further details on age structure, please visit the Population page in the Living in the Uplands section.

Notes: In 2009 and before, working age was defined as 16-64 for males and 16-59 for females. This definition is used for the statistics shown here. In September 2010 the definition for working age was altered to be 16-64 for both males and females, but the statistics shown here have not been adjusted to this new definition.
Unemployment rate is expressed as a percentage of the economically active working age population, whereas the employment rate is expressed as a percentage of the entire working age population. Therefore the unemployment rate plus the employment rate should not be expected to sum to 100%.
Source: all data presented in this section is from the Office for National Statistics Annual Population Survey.

Claimant Count of Young People



Interpretation: in 2010, 8.9% of young people, aged between 18 and 24 were claiming Job Seekers Allowance in Less Favoured Areas; this is slightly higher than the proportion in England, 8.1%. Within LFAs, Urban areas had a higher proportion of claimants than other types of areas, 10.8%. However, the proportion of claimants is smallest in rural areas elsewhere, 4.3%.

Between 2005 and 2010, the proportion of claimants has increased by 4.2 percentage points in LFAs, which is a faster rate than elsewhere, 2.7 percentage points.

Claimant Count of Young People, 2005 to 2010

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2001 Census Population
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	5,150	5,740	5,235	8,685	10,545	9,380	87,024
	Less Sparse Rural	1,050	1,220	1,105	2,115	2,735	2,285	38,945
	Sparse Rural	255	260	255	455	575	480	11,066
Elsewhere	Urban	201,500	207,100	177,540	270,145	345,495	293,410	3,472,621
	Less Sparse Rural	14,505	16,435	13,565	27,280	35,205	29,260	498,478
	Sparse Rural	1,085	1,220	1,000	1,765	1,970	1,765	22,053
Less Favoured Areas		6,455	7,220	6,595	11,255	13,855	12,145	137,035
Elsewhere		217,090	224,755	192,105	299,190	382,670	324,435	3,993,602
England		223,545	231,975	198,700	310,445	396,525	336,580	4,130,637

Proportion of Young People Claiming Job Seekers Allowance, 2005 to 2010

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	5.9%	6.6%	6.0%	10.0%	12.1%	10.8%
	Less Sparse Rural	2.7%	3.1%	2.8%	5.4%	7.0%	5.9%
	Sparse Rural	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	4.1%	5.2%	4.3%
Elsewhere	Urban	5.8%	6.0%	5.1%	7.8%	9.9%	8.4%
	Less Sparse Rural	2.9%	3.3%	2.7%	5.5%	7.1%	5.9%
	Sparse Rural	4.8%	5.4%	4.4%	7.8%	8.8%	7.8%
Less Favoured Areas		4.7%	5.3%	4.8%	8.2%	10.1%	8.9%
Elsewhere		5.4%	5.6%	4.8%	7.5%	9.6%	8.1%
England		5.4%	5.6%	4.8%	7.5%	9.6%	8.1%

Employment is essential for the economic growth and societal wellbeing. It is important that young people find employment or can build a strong skill set so that they are able to find employment in the future and contribute to the economy and society. For the purpose of this analysis, a young person is aged between 18 to 24 years old. This will include all people who have left school and have the option to continue their studies or find employment.

Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) is the benefit available to people who do not have work or work less than 16 hours per week. JSA is only available to individuals who are looking for work. Young people claiming JSA will not be employed, at university or full-time education or attending some form of training. The term used for young people who are not in employment, education, and training is NEETs. However, only NEETs who are actively seeking work will be claiming JSAs so not all NEETs will be included in the information above.

The data shows **that young people living in LFAs are more likely to be claiming Job Seekers Allowance than those living elsewhere**. This suggests that education, training, or employment opportunities may not be available in their local community. The Education and Skills page in the Living in the Uplands section looks at the GCSE qualifications gained by 16 year olds. The data shown in this section may provide an insight into the attainment of people living in the different areas of interest.

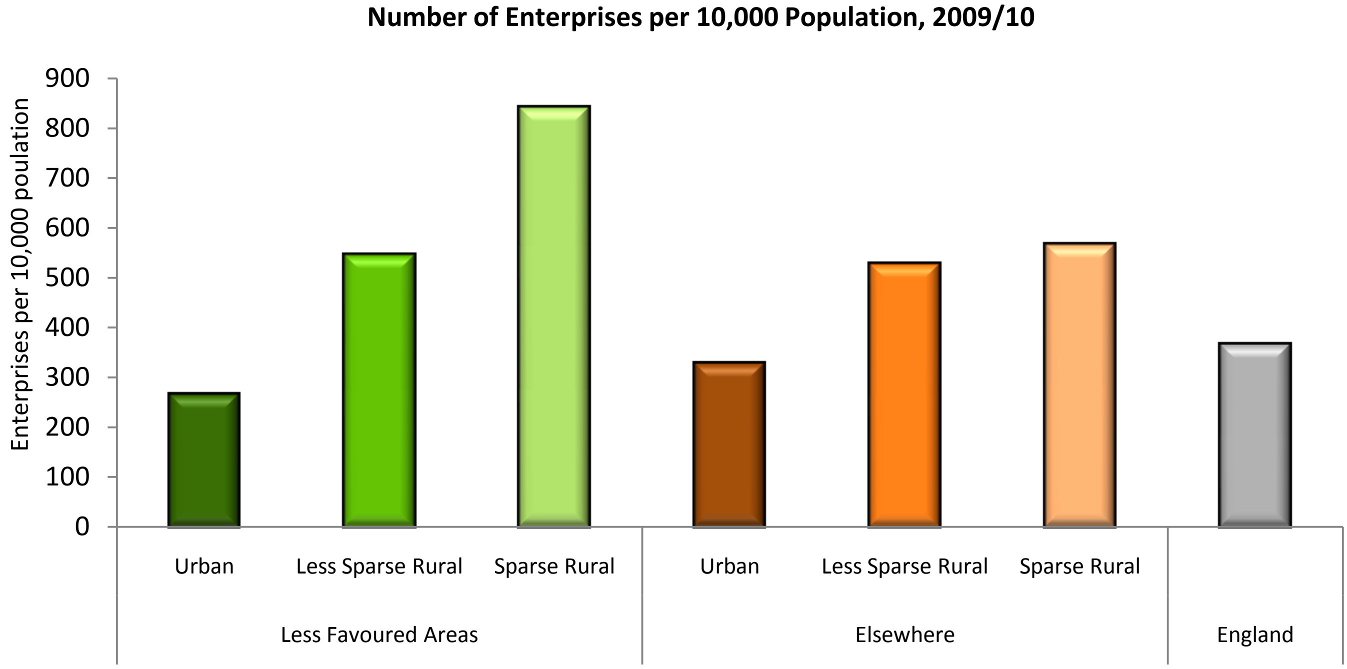
The data shows that **young people may have been affected by the recent recession**. Between 2007 and 2008 the proportion of young people claiming JSA in England increased by 56%. It appears that the effect for young people has been more substantial in LFAs where the proportion increased by 71%. However, the data does show some evidence to suggest that young people are now recovering from the recession as the claimant count has seen a small decrease between 2009 and 2010 for all areas, although the rate has not returned back to levels seen before the recession.

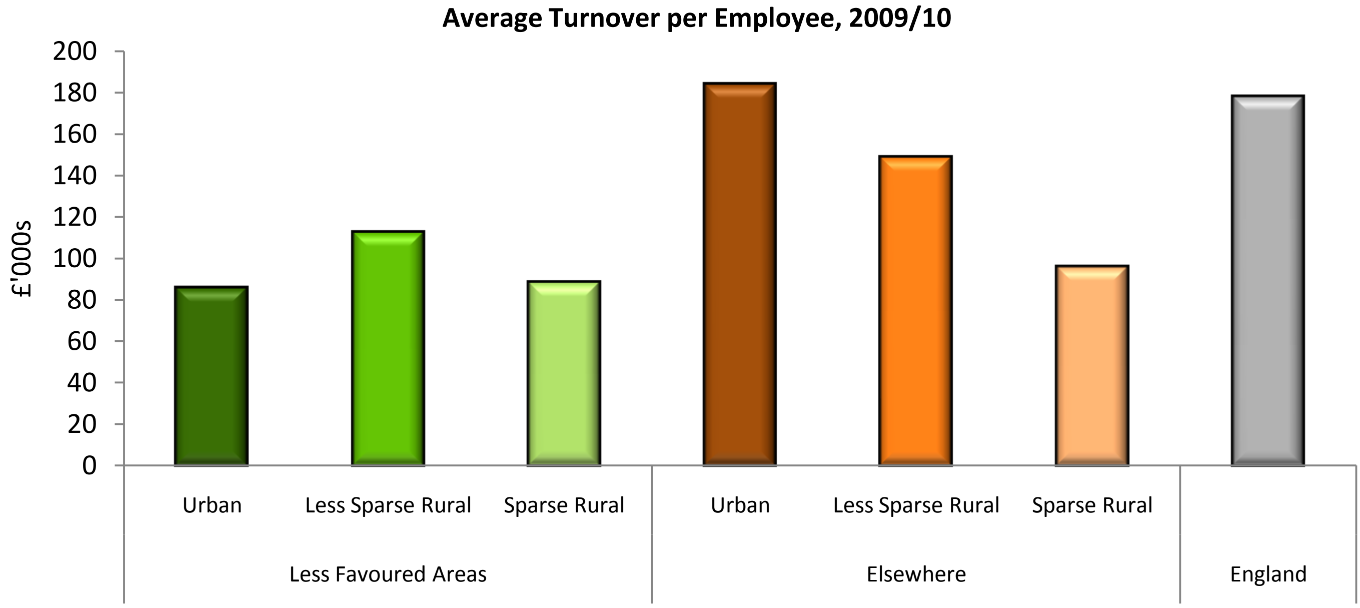
Notes: Young people are defined as people aged between 18 and 24 years old.
Source: NOMIS, claimant counts at LSOA level; 2001 Census for population of 18-24 year olds.

Enterprise Composition

- In 2009/10, the greatest number of enterprises per 10,000 population was in Sparse Rural Less Favoured Areas, 841 per 10,000 population.
- In 2009/10, turnover per employee was lower in LFAs than it was elsewhere, £94 compared to £180.
- In 2009/10, 40% of businesses in Sparse Rural LFAs were in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector.

Number of Enterprises





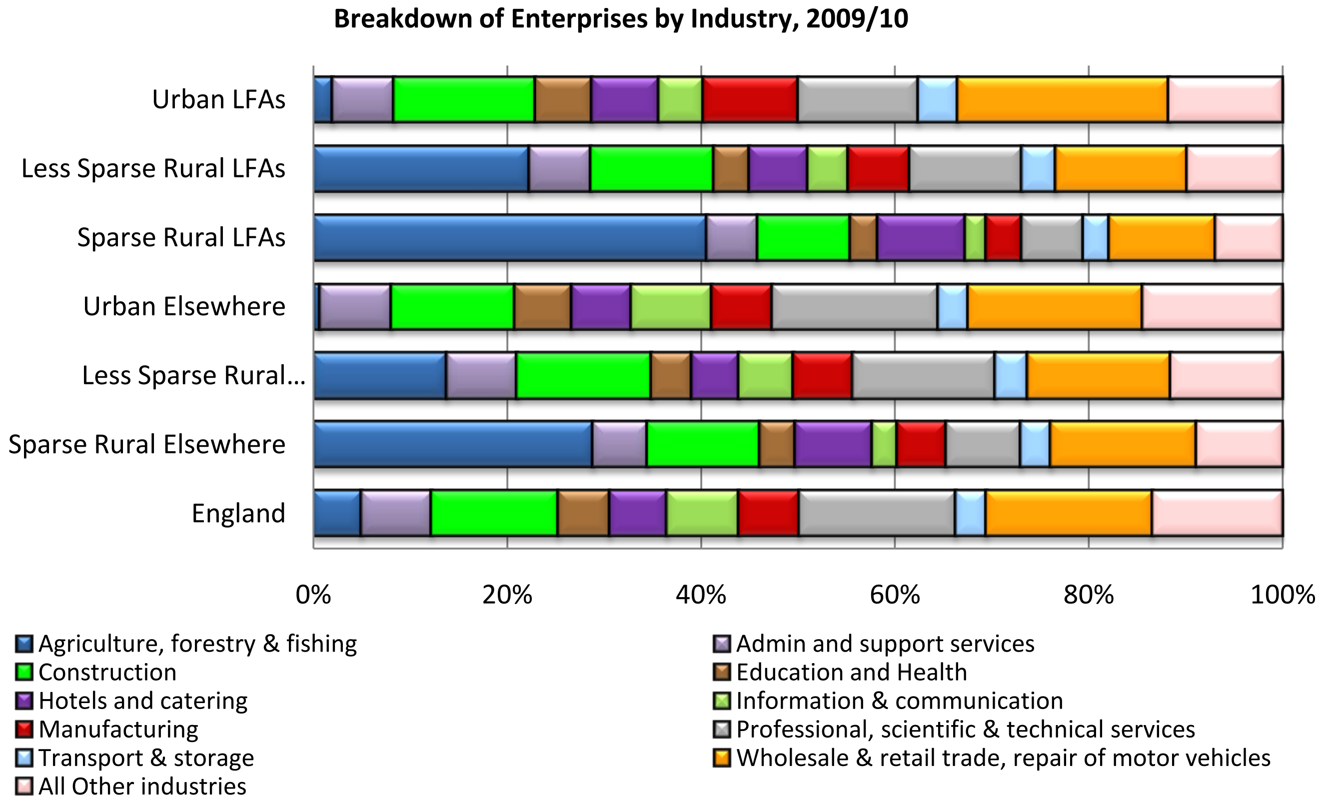
Interpretation: These charts show that there are more enterprises per 10,000 population in rural areas than in urban areas and that there are more businesses per head of population in rural LFAs than in equivalent rural areas elsewhere. The average turnover per employee is lower in LFAs than elsewhere. Average turnover in urban LFAs is lower than in rural LFAs, whereas elsewhere average turnover per employee is higher in urban than in rural. Average turnover is lower in sparse areas than less sparse areas of the same type.

Enterprise Composition, 2009/10

		Count of Enterprises	**Number of Employees 000s**	**Total Turnover £m**	**Count of Enterprises per 10,000 population**	**Average Turnover per enterprise £000s**	**Average Turnover per employee £000s**
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	29,420	257	21,990	265	748	86
	Less Sparse Rural	30,710	126	14,170	546	461	112
	Sparse Rural	14,755	46	4,030	841	273	88
Elsewhere	Urban	1,258,410	19,890	3,662,560	327	2,910	184
	Less Sparse Rural	439,995	2,629	391,340	528	889	149
	Sparse Rural	24,625	111	10,690	567	434	96
Less Favoured Areas		74,885	429	40,190	405	537	94
Elsewhere		1,723,025	22,631	4,064,585	364	2,359	180
England		**1,797,910**	**23,060**	**4,104,775**	**366**	**2,283**	**178**

Notes: On the IDBR, the enterprise is the statistical unit that most closely equates to a business. It holds aggregated information gathered from administrative and statistical sources within that enterprise to give an overall picture of what is going on in the business. An enterprise carries out one or more activities at one or more locations. An enterprise may be a sole legal unit.
Components may not sum to totals, due to rounding.
Source data: ONS, Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), 2009/10

Enterprises by Industry Type



Interpretation: The chart shows that in Less Favoured Areas there are proportionately more Agriculture, forestry & fishing enterprises than elsewhere (17.9% to 4.5%) (dark blue bar). In Sparse Rural LFAs, Agriculture, forestry and fishing enterprises are the dominant industry, with 40.6% of industries. Elsewhere, there are more professional, scientific & technical services and Information & Communication industries than in LFAs. (16.3% to 10.9% and 7.6% to 3.9%). For the remaining industries the proportions are similar across LFA and areas elsewhere. 'All other industries', in pink, is the total of all industries not shown individually on the chart.

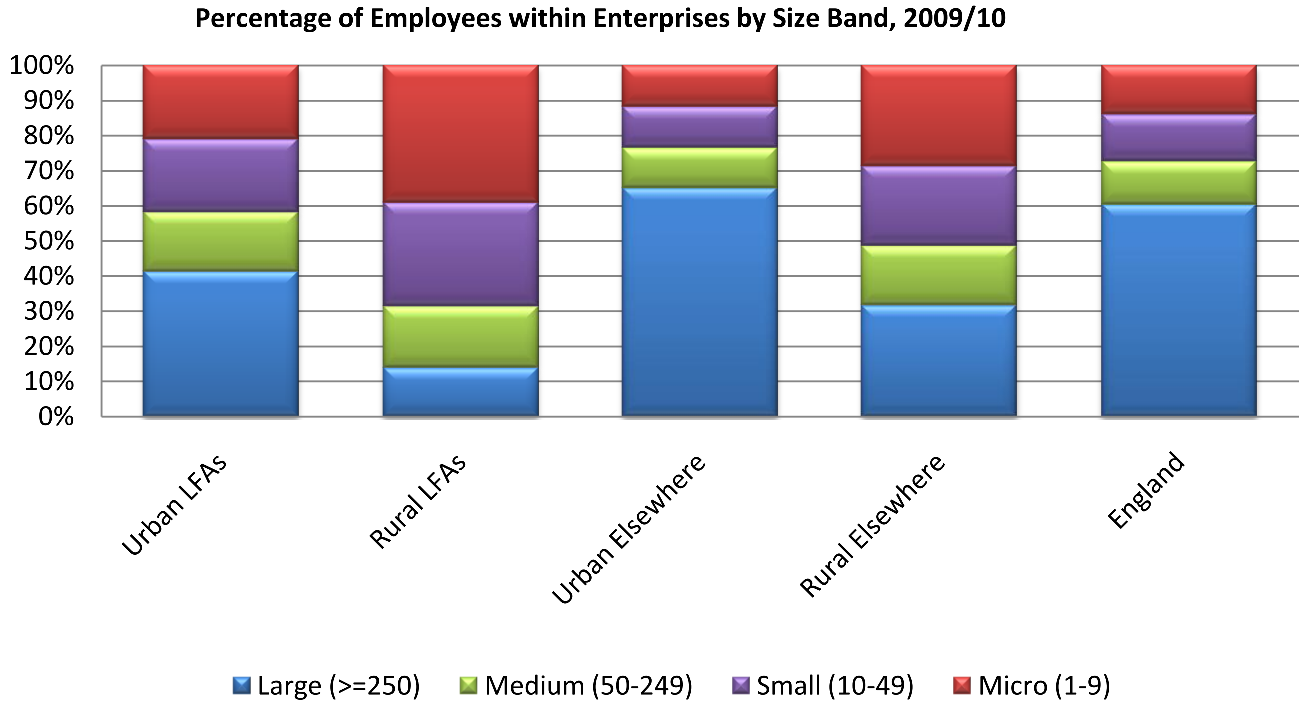
Counts of Enterprises in Each Industry, 2009/10

	Less Favoured Areas			Elsewhere			Total		
	Urban	**Less Sparse Rural**	**Sparse Rural**	**Urban**	**Less Sparse Rural**	**Sparse Rural**	**Less Favoured Areas**	**Elsewhere**	**England**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	600	6,845	5,995	9,150	60,600	7,105	13,440	76,850	90,290
Admin & Support services	1,855	1,970	770	92,275	32,055	1.385	4,600	125,715	130,315
Construction	4,300	3,895	1,410	160,220	60,855	2,870	9,605	223,945	233,545
Education, health & social work	1,700	1,105	425	73,735	18,230	885	3,235	92,850	96,085
Hotels & Catering	2,035	1,875	1,335	77,685	21,570	1,955	5,245	101,205	106,450
Information & Communication	1,355	1,265	310	105,180	24,920	640	2,925	130,740	133,665
Manufacturing	2,895	1,940	540	78,460	27,000	1,240	5,375	106,705	112,080
Professional, scientific & technical services	3,630	3,575	945	214,805	64,500	1,910	8,150	281,220	289,365
Transport & storage	1,185	1.060	395	39,405	14,480	760	2,640	54,645	57,285
Wholesale, retail & repair of motor vehicles	6,415	4,170	1,610	226,855	65,250	3,685	12,200	295,790	307,990
All Other Industries	3,450	3,005	1,025	180,610	50,535	2,190	7,480	233,365	240,845
Total	**29,420**	**30,710**	**14,755**	**1,258,375**	**439,995**	**24,625**	**74,885**	**1,723,025**	**1,797,910**

Percentage of Enterprises in Each Industry, 2009

	Less Favoured Areas			Elsewhere			Total		
	Urban	**Less Sparse Rural**	**Sparse Rural**	**Urban**	**Less Sparse Rural**	**Sparse Rural**	**Less Favoured Areas**	**Elsewhere**	**England**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2.0%	22.3%	40.6%	0.7%	13.8%	28.9%	17.9%	4.5%	5.0%
Admin & Support services	6.3%	6.4%	5.2%	7.3%	7.3%	5.6%	6.1%	7.3%	7.2%
Construction	14.6%	12.7%	9.6%	12.7%	13.8%	11.7%	12.8%	13.0%	13.0%
Education, health & social work	5.8%	3.6%	2.9%	5.9%	4.1%	3.6%	4.3%	5.4%	5.3%
Hotels & Catering	6.9%	6.1%	9.0%	6.2%	4.9%	7.9%	7.0%	5.9%	5.9%
Information & Communication	4.6%	4.1%	2.1%	8.4%	5.7%	2.6%	3.9%	7.6%	7.4%
Manufacturing	9.8%	6.3%	3.7%	6.2%	6.1%	5.0%	7.2%	6.2%	6.2%
Professional, scientific & technical services	12.3%	11.6%	6.4%	17.1%	14.7%	7.8%	10.9%	16.3%	16.1%
Transport & storage	4.0%	3.5%	2.7%	3.1%	3.3%	3.1%	3.5%	3.2%	3.2%
Wholesale, retail & repair of motor vehicles	21.8%	13.6%	10.9%	18.0%	14.8%	15.0%	16.3%	17.2%	17.1%
All Other Industries	11.7%	9.8%	6.9%	14.4%	11.5%	8.9%	10.0%	13.5%	13.4%
Total	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

Enterprise by Size Band



Interpretation: This chart shows that the percentage of employees within enterprises of various sizes differs greatly between the different areas, with large enterprises having the largest share in Urban non-upland areas, and micro enterprises having the largest share in Rural LFAs. The table below shows that although large enterprises (those with 250 or more employees) account for only 1% of urban elsewhere enterprises, they employ 65% of all employees in those areas (blue bar in chart above), in contrast to Rural LFAs where large enterprises only employ around 14% of employees in those areas. In rural LFAs, micro enterprises (those that have 1 – 9 employees) employ 39% of employees, far greater than the 12% of employees in Urban elsewhere. This is despite only 60% of rural LFA enterprises being classed as Micro, compared to 73% of enterprises in Urban non-upland areas. Medium enterprises account for around 17% of employees in all areas except Urban elsewhere, where they employ only around 12%. Whilst the distributions for Rural LFAs and Urban non-upland areas display contrasting patterns, the distribution of enterprise sizes are more evenly spread in Urban LFAs and Rural non-upland areas.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Enterprise Count and Percentage by Size, 2009/10

		Micro (1 – 9 employees)		Small (10 – 49 employees)		Medium (50 – 249 employees)		Large(>= 250 employees)		Sole Trader		Other Enterprises and Partnerships		Total	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	21,225	72.1%	2,755	9.4%	450	1.5%	85	0.3%	3,325	11.3%	1,580	5.4%	29,420	100.0%
	Rural	27,380	60.2%	2,675	5.9%	320	0.7%	45	0.1%	8,305	18.3%	6,735	14.8%	45,465	100.0%
Elsewhere	Urban	922,760	73.3%	119,970	9.5%	22,835	1.8%	6,505	0.5%	131,350	10.4%	54,990	4.4%	1,258,410	100.0%
	Rural	314,755	67.7%	32,960	7.1%	4,855	1.0%	880	0.2%	68,045	14.6%	43,130	9.3%	464,620	100.0%
Less Favoured Areas		48,600	64.9%	5,430	7.3%	770	1.0%	130	0.2%	11,630	15.5%	8,315	11.1%	74,885	100.0%
Elsewhere		1,237,520	71.8%	152,930	8.9%	27,685	1.6%	7,380	0.4%	199,395	11.6%	98,120	5.7%	1,723,025	100.0%
England		**1,286,120**	**71.5%**	**158,360**	**8.8%**	**28,455**	**1.6%**	**7,510**	**0.4%**	**211,025**	**11.7%**	**106,435**	**5.9%**	**1,797,910**	**100.0%**

*Employee count and percentage by size band *, 2009/10*

		Micro (1 – 9 employees)		Small (10 – 49 employees)		Medium (50 – 249 employees)		Large (>= 250 employees)		Total	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	54,010	21.0%	53,170	20.7%	43,615	17.0%	106,395	41.4%	257,195	100.0%
	Rural	67,130	39.1%	50,305	29.3%	29,985	17.5%	24,175	14.1%	171,595	100.0%
Elsewhere	Urban	2,307,305	11.6%	2,346,690	11.8%	2,279,370	11.5%	12,956,790	65.1%	19,890,160	100.0%
	Rural	781,470	28.5%	623,670	22.8%	468,185	17.1%	867,400	31.6%	2,740,730	100.0%
Less Favoured Areas		121,140	28.3%	103,475	24.1%	73,600	17.2%	130,575	30.5%	428,790	100.0%
Elsewhere		3,088,775	13.6%	2,970,360	13.1%	2,747,560	12.1%	13,824,190	61.1%	22,630,885	100.0%
England		3,209,920	13.9%	3,073,835	13.3%	2,821,160	12.2%	13,954,760	60.5%	23,059,675	100.0%

*Sole Traders, 'other enterprises and partnerships' are not included in the above table as they have no employees

Enterprises, and the employment opportunities they provide, are an integral part of the economy in both LFAs and elsewhere. Changes in the numbers of enterprises can give an indication of economic growth or decline.

The number of enterprises per 10,000 population is higher in LFAs than elsewhere, however the count of enterprises is substantially higher elsewhere. These enterprises have a much greater turnover per employee than those in LFAs, possibly as they have the benefits of being in a centre close to greater infrastructure and a larger pool of potential employees.

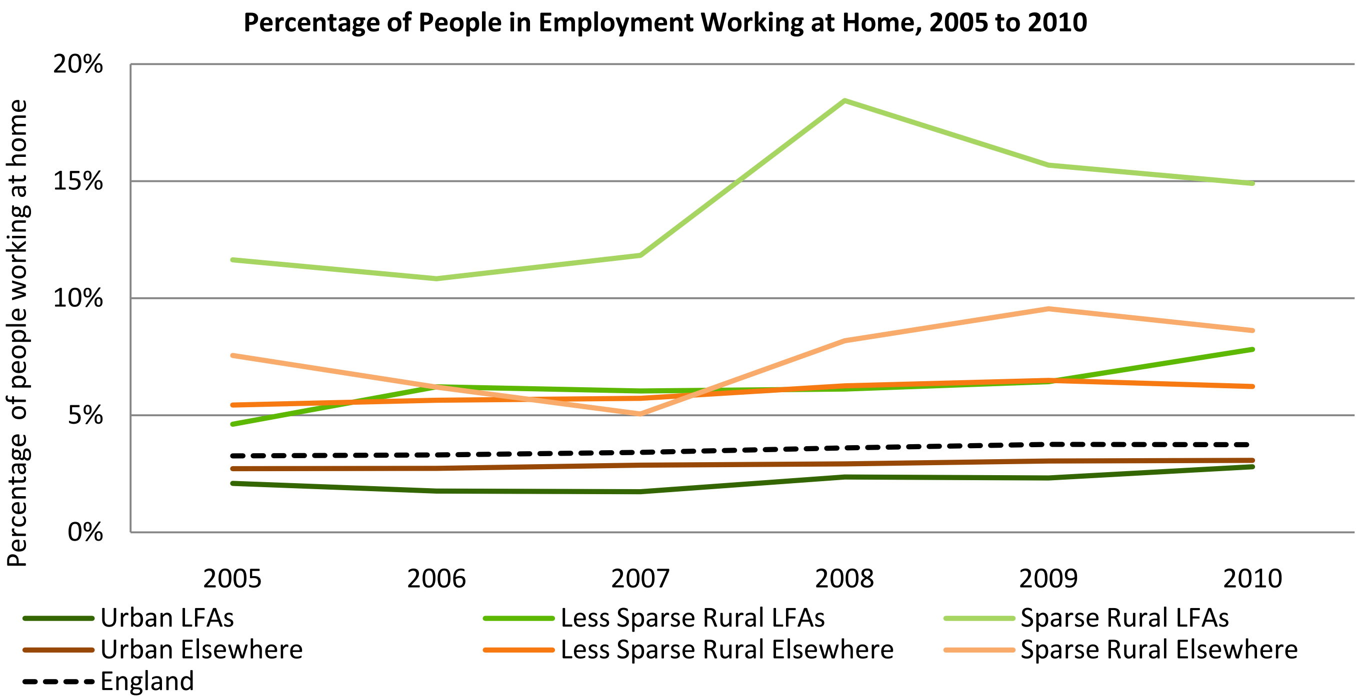
Enterprises in LFAs overall are spread across a wide range of industrial sectors, therefore their economy is not wholly dependent on a small number of sectors (which could undermine resilience to shocks in particular sectors). This improves the likelihood that the economy in LFAs overall will be resilient to shocks. An exception to this is Sparse Rural LFAs who have 40% of their industries in agriculture, forestry and fishing. Therefore Sparse Rural LFAs may be less resilient to changes in the economy.

Employment in LFAs tends to be in smaller enterprises than elsewhere, with over 50% of employees employed in enterprises with less than 49 employees, which compares to just over 25% of employees elsewhere. These statistics are based on the location of the headquarters of the enterprise, rather than of individual business units. Using this definition, a supermarket with a number of branches across the country would be counted once based on where the headquarters were located instead of where their employees are based. There may be many branches in rural areas whose headquarters are in urban areas, and vice versa. Agricultural businesses are more likely than any other type of business to have their headquarters in the same location as the local unit itself; this may go some way to explaining the high proportion of enterprises in the agricultural industry in Sparse Rural areas, both in LFAs and elsewhere.

Homeworking

- In 2010, the highest percentage of people in employment working at home was in Sparse Rural Less Favoured Areas, 14.9%.
- The lowest percentage of people in employment working at home was in Urban Less Favoured Areas, 2.8% in 2010
- Home workers as a percentage of people in employment in England overall has remained consistent between 2005 and 2010, at between 3.3% and 3.8%

Percentage of Homeworkers

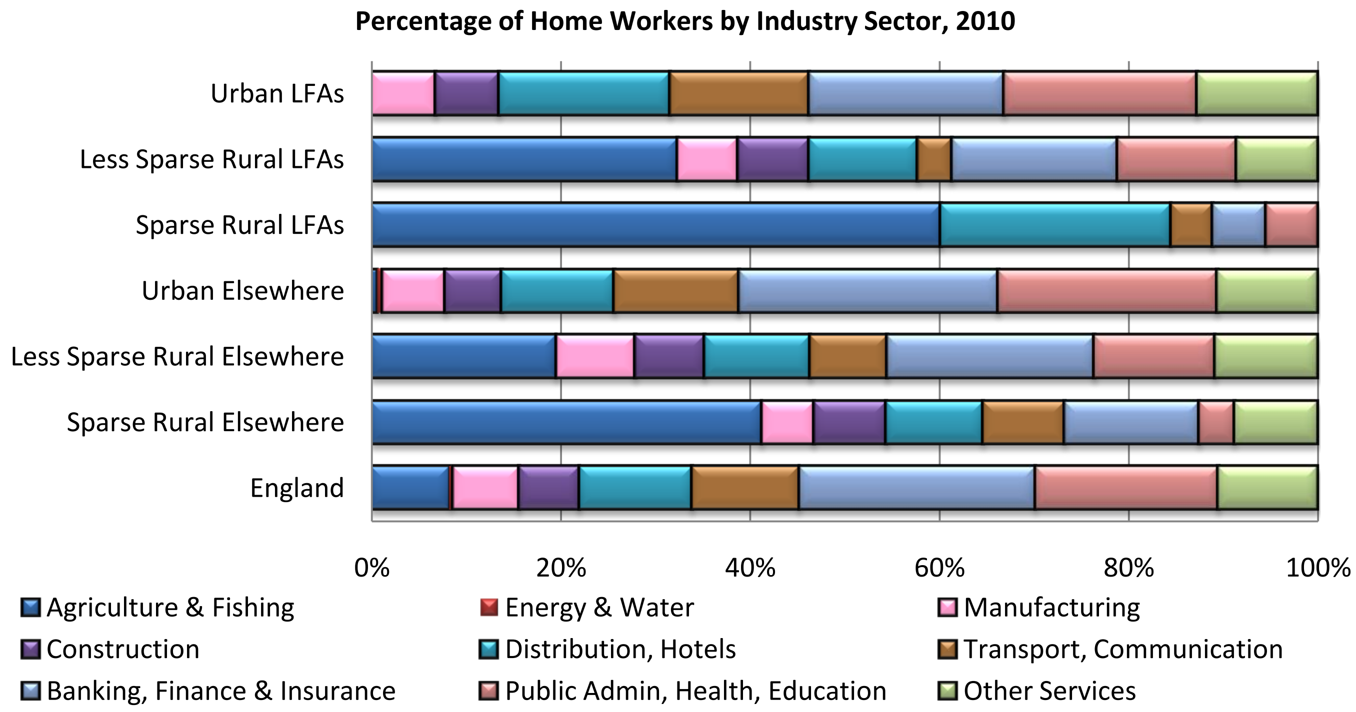


Interpretation: This chart shows that there were a higher percentage of home workers in Sparse Rural LFAs. Since 2007 the percentage of home workers in Sparse Rural areas elsewhere has increased to almost double its 2007 value - 5.1% to 8.6%. Urban areas have the lowest percentage of home workers, 2.8% in LFAs and 3.1% elsewhere.

Percentage of People in Employment Working at Home, 2005 to 2010

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	2.1%	1.8%	1.7%	2.4%	2.3%	2.8%
	Less Sparse Rural	4.6%	6.2%	6.0%	6.1%	6.4%	7.8%
	Sparse Rural	11.6%	10.8%	11.8%	18.4%	15.7%	14.9%
Elsewhere	Urban	2.7%	2.7%	2.9%	2.9%	3.0%	3.1%
	Less Sparse Rural	5.4%	5.6%	5.7%	6.3%	6.5%	6.2%
	Sparse Rural	7.6%	6.2%	5.1%	8.2%	9.5%	8.6%
Less Favoured Areas		3.7%	3.8%	4.0%	5.1%	4.8%	5.5%
Elsewhere		3.2%	3.3%	3.4%	3.6%	3.7%	3.7%
England		**3.3%**	**3.3%**	**3.4%**	**3.6%**	**3.8%**	**3.8%**

Homeworkers by Industrial Sector



Interpretation: This chart shows that the sector with the greatest percentage of home workers in all rural areas is the Agriculture & Fishing sector. This percentage is greatest in Sparse Rural LFAs, where it accounts for 60% of home workers. In urban areas, the greatest numbers of home workers work in the Banking, Finance and Insurance sector.

Home Workers by Industry Sector, 2010

		Agriculture & Fishing	Energy & Water	Manufacturing	Construction	Distribution, Hotels	Transport, Communication	Banking, Finance & Insurance	Public Admin, Health, Education	Other Services
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	0.0%	0.0%	6.8%	6.7%	18.1%	14.7%	20.6%	20.4%	12.8%
	Less Sparse Rural	32.4%	0.0%	6.3%	7.5%	11.5%	3.6%	17.6%	12.6%	8.6%
	Sparse Rural	60.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	24.3%	4.4%	5.6%	5.5%	0.0%
Elsewhere	Urban	0.6%	0.6%	6.7%	6.0%	11.9%	13.1%	27.4%	23.1%	10.6%
	Less Sparse Rural	19.5%	0.1%	8.3%	7.3%	11.2%	8.1%	21.9%	12.7%	10.9%
	Sparse Rural	41.2%	0.0%	5.5%	7.7%	10.2%	8.6%	14.2%	3.8%	8.8%
Less Favoured Areas		29.4%	0.0%	5.0%	5.5%	16.5%	7.1%	15.6%	13.2%	7.8%
Elsewhere		7.0%	0.4%	7.1%	6.4%	11.6%	11.6%	25.5%	19.7%	10.7%
England		**8.2%**	**0.4%**	**7.0%**	**6.4%**	**11.9%**	**11.3%**	**25.0%**	**19.3%**	**10.5%**

The ability to work at home can enable employees to be a part of the labour market when they otherwise would not be able to be. Reasons for working at home will depend on people's circumstances but may include saving themselves a long, unproductive and expensive commute, or to allow them the flexibility to carry out any caring responsibilities. However, due to the nature of some jobs, not all employees will be able to work at home.

The data shows that **employees living in Sparse Rural LFAs are more likely to work at home than any other area type**. In 2010, 60% of people who worked at home in Sparse Rural LFAs worked in the Agriculture and Fishing sector, which accounted for 40% of all enterprises in Sparse Rural LFAs. **A large proportion of agricultural workers work at home because they usually live on the farm on which they work**. So the high proportion of home workers in Sparse Rural LFAs is largely explained by this.

Another industry that shows a **higher proportion of home workers in Sparse Rural LFAs than other areas is the 'Distribution and Hotels' sector**. This sector is also quite dominant in Sparse Rural LFAs and accounts for 9% of enterprises. Again, many workers will live on the grounds of the hotel in which they work.

With other office-based industries, such as **banking and public administration the rate of home working was lower in LFAs than elsewhere**, particularly for Sparse Rural LFAs, For these industries, employees are likely to need suitable broadband and telecommunication systems to work at home. In Sparse Rural LFAs 31% of people have either no or slow broadband, and this may impact on people's choices about home-working. For further information please see the Broadband page in the Living in the Uplands section.

Notes: Home workers include employees and self-employed people as well as unpaid family workers. Working at home includes people who work in either their own home or in the same grounds or building that they live in. This analysis excludes respondents who did not answer.
Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS, 2005 - 2010

Farming in the Uplands

This section contains statistics on the following subject areas:

- Farm Incomes
- Farm Diversification and Off Farm Income
- Farm Area
- Farm Tenancy
- Age Profile and Succession
- Livestock

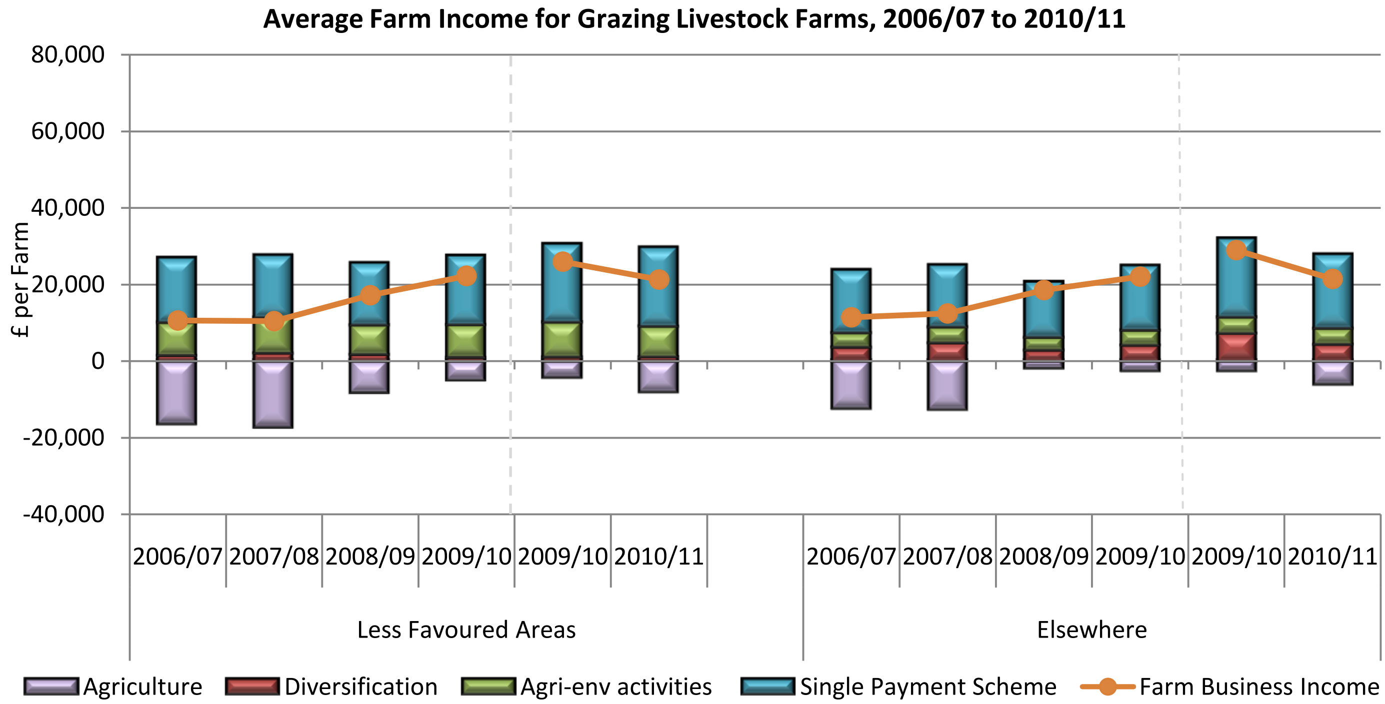
If you would like further information related to this topic please contact Lindsey Clothier (Lindsey.j.clothier@defra.gov.uk or 01904 455229)

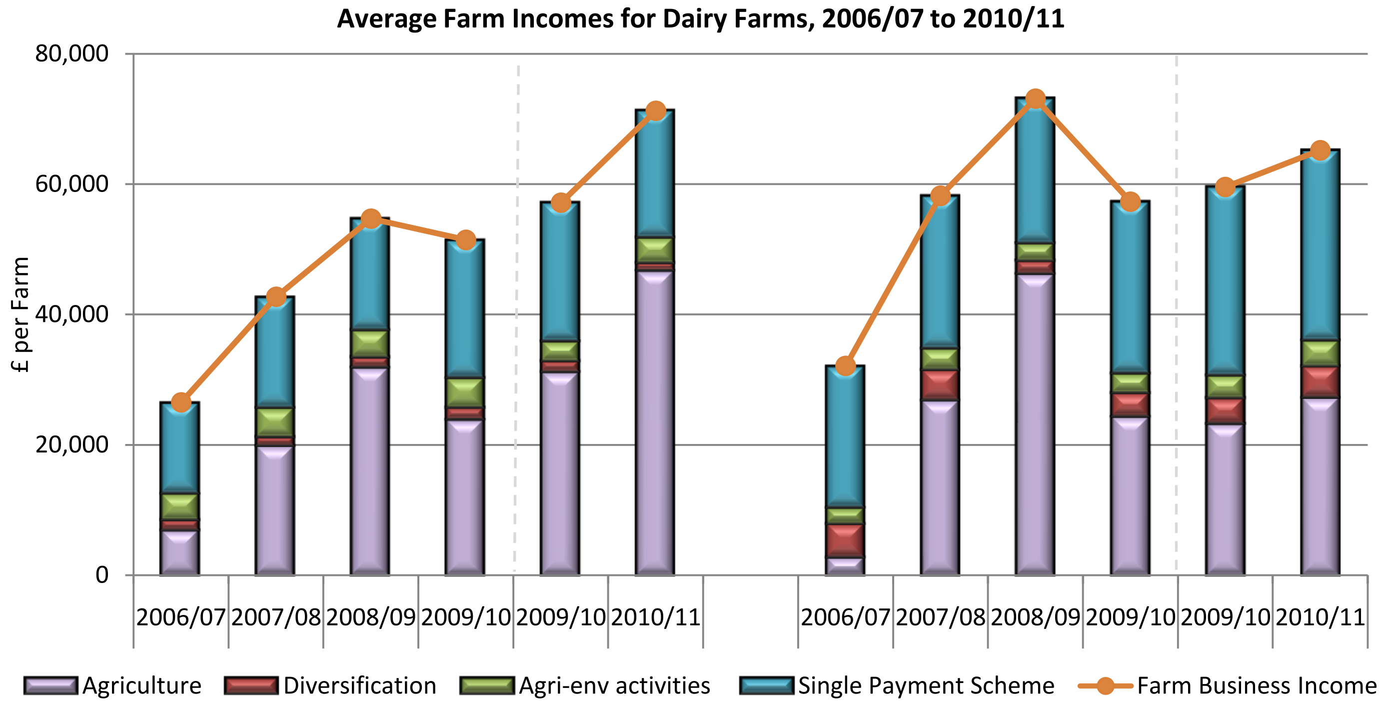
Farm Incomes and Diversification

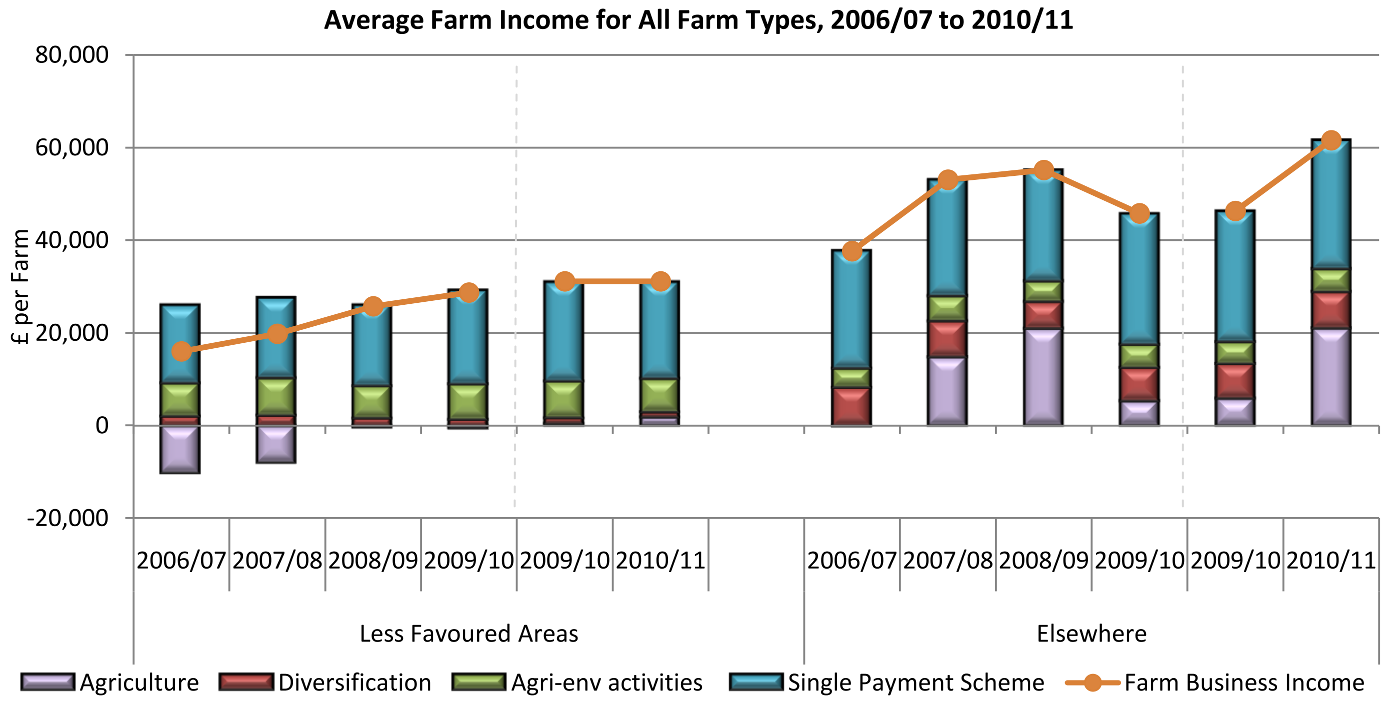
Farm Incomes

- Average farm business income in the Less Favoured Areas was £31,100 per farm in 2010/11.
- Average farm business income in the Less Favoured Areas increased by 49% between 2006/07 and 2010/11, but remains at a relatively low level.
- The Single Payment Scheme and agri-environment payments on average accounted for more than 90% of farm business income farms within Less Favoured Areas. Whilst dairy farms tend to be more profitable, without these payments on average grazing livestock farms would have made a loss in each of the last 5 years.

Average Farm Income







Interpretation: Average farm business income is lower in Less Favoured Areas than elsewhere, due to the predominance of grazing livestock farms which tend to have lower incomes than other farm types. In 2010/11, average farm business income was £31,100 per farm in Less Favoured Areas and £61,600 elsewhere.

Between 2006/07 and 20010/11, average farm business income increased by 94% for all farm types in the LFA, but remains relatively low.

Average Farm Business Income for Grazing Livestock Farms in Less Favoured Areas, 2006/07 to 2010/11

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2009/10	2010/11
Agriculture	£-16,300	£-17,100	£-8,300	£-5,200	£-4,500	£-8,200
Diversification	£1,600	£2,100	£1,800	£1,100	£1,100	£1,200
Agri-environment Activities	£8,500	£9,200	£7,600	£8,400	£9,000	£7,900
Single Payment Scheme	£16,800	£16,200	£16,100	£18,000	£20,300	£20,400
Total Farm Business Income	**£10,500**	**£10,400**	**£17,100**	**£22,200**	**£25,900**	**£21,300**

Average Farm Business Income for Grazing Livestock Farms Elsewhere, 2006/07 to 2010/11

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2009/10	2010/11
Agriculture	£-12,400	£-12,600	£-2,200	£-2,900	£-2,900	£-6,300
Diversification	£3,700	£4,700	£2,900	£4,100	£7,200	£4,400
Agri-environment Activities	£3,700	£4,200	£3,300	£3,900	£4,300	£4,200
Single Payment Scheme	£16,400	£16,000	£14,500	£16,800	£20,400	£19,200
Total Farm Business Income	**£11,400**	**£12,400**	**£18,500**	**£22,000**	**£28,900**	**£21,400**

Average Farm Business Income for Dairy Farms in Less Favoured Areas, 2006/07 to 2010/11

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2009/10	2010/11
Agriculture	£7,000	£19,900	£31,800	£23,800	£31,100	£46,600
Diversification	£1,600	£1,400	£1,600	£1,900	£1,700	£1,200
Agri-environment Activities	£4,100	£4,500	£4,200	£4,600	£3,100	£4,000
Single Payment Scheme	£13,900	£16,900	£17,000	£21,100	£21,200	£19,400
Total Farm Business Income	**£26,500**	**£42,700**	**£54,700**	**£51,400**	**£57,100**	**£71,200**

Average Farm Business Income for Dairy Farms Elsewhere, 2006/07 to 2010/11

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2009/10	2010/11
Agriculture	£2,800	£26,800	£46,100	£24,300	£23,200	£27,200
Diversification	£5,200	£4,300	£2,100	£3,700	£4,000	£4,900
Agri-environment Activities	£2,500	£3,300	£2,700	£3,000	£3,500	£4,040
Single Payment Scheme	£21,600	£23,400	£22,200	£26,200	£28,800	£29,100
Total Farm Business Income	**£32,100**	**£58,200**	**£73,100**	**£57,300**	**£59,600**	**£65,200**

Average Farm Business Income for All Farm Types in Less Favoured Areas, 2006/07 to 2010/11

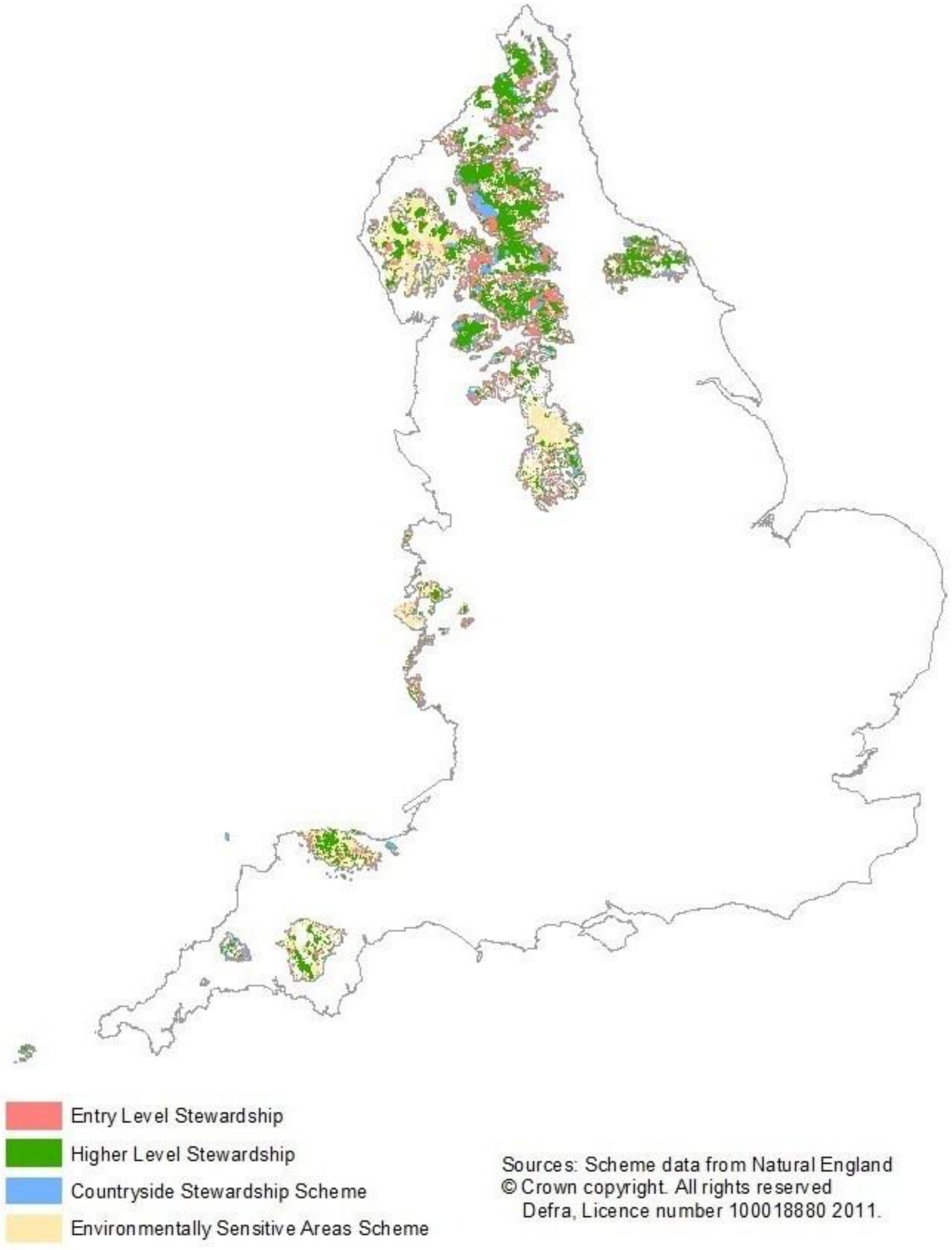
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2009/10	2010/11
Agriculture	£-10,200	£-8,000	£-500	£-700	£400	£1,800
Diversification	£2,100	£2,300	£1,700	£1,400	£1,300	£1,200
Agri-environment Activities	£7,200	£8,100	£7,000	£7,700	£7,900	£7,200
Single Payment Scheme	£16,900	£17,300	£17,500	£20,200	£21,400	£20,900
Total Farm Business Income	**£16,000**	**£19,800**	**£25,700**	**£28,700**	**£31,100**	**£31,100**

Average Farm Business Income for All Farm Types Elsewhere, 2006/07 to 2010/11

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2009/10	2010/11
Agriculture	£-200	£14,700	£20,800	£5,300	£5,800	£20,800
Diversification	£8,200	£7,800	£5,900	£7,300	£7,500	£7,900
Agri-environment Activities	£4,300	£5,500	£4,500	£5,000	£4,800	£5,100
Single Payment Scheme	£25,300	£25,100	£24,000	£28,200	£28,100	£27,800
Total Farm Business Income	**£37,600**	**£53,000**	**£55,161**	**£45,800**	**£46,300**	**£61,600**

Agri-Environment Scheme Uptake

Agri-environment Scheme Uptake in Severely Disadvantaged Areas, Summer 2011



Average incomes on farms in Less Favoured Areas have been consistently well below the average income on farms elsewhere due to the predominance of grazing livestock (i.e. beef and sheep) farms found in LFAs. Whilst average incomes grazing livestock farms in LFAs and elsewhere are very similar, incomes on LFA dairy farms are somewhat lower than their counterparts. High incomes cannot be an overriding motivation for hill farmers and other factors, for example, lifestyle, scenic location, continuing the family tradition, and being a custodian of the environment are likely to play an important role.

Farms in LFAs have gone through periods of low profitability in the past, particularly between 1998/99 and 2001/02. Usually this has reflected changes in market prices for sheep and cattle, although in 2001/02 and 2007/08 there were also impacts from the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreaks via disruption to normal marketings and movement restrictions. For grazing livestock farms in both the LFAs and elsewhere, incomes fell by around 15% and 26% respectively in 2010/11. Although average prices for sheep and finished lambs were firmer in 2010/11 than in the previous year, average prices for finished and store cattle across the 12 months were lower. These, combined with higher input costs more than offset the higher sheep prices, resulting in an overall fall in farm incomes.

At the business level, farm income can be characterised as deriving from four sources: agriculture, the Single Payment, agri-environment payments and diversification. Average farm business income (FBI) continues to be relatively low on farms in LFAs at around £31,000 per farm in 2010/11, compared to about £57,000 per farm for all farm types (including horticulture). Whilst dairy farms in LFAs have made positive incomes from the agriculture side of the business in each of the last five years, on average grazing livestock farms in LFAs have made a loss from agriculture in each of the last 5 years.

In 2010/11, agri-environment scheme payments accounted for 23% of farm business income for farms in LFAs compared to 8% for farms elsewhere. Agri-environment schemes provide funding to farmers and land managers to farm their land in a way which is sensitive to the environment. Until 2005, these were targeted at specific areas or landscape types considered to be of high conservation value, largely through Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) or the Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS). Environmental Stewardship was introduced in March 2005, providing funding to farmers and land managers throughout England who deliver effective environmental management on their land. In July 2010 the area based Hill Farm Allowance (HFA) was replaced with a new strand of entry level Environmental Stewardship (ES) aimed specifically at the uplands, 'Uplands ELS'. Uplands ELS is open to all farmers and land managers in Severely Disadvantaged Areas in England. However, a large number of farmers with land in pre-ES schemes (ESA and CSS) will not immediately be eligible until these agreements expire. Transitional payments have therefore been put in place to ensure that these farmers, previously in receipt of HFA, do not miss out on specific uplands funding. Initial analysis suggests that in July 2011 after the first full year of Uplands ELS, around 80% of farmed land in SDAs was accounted for by either Uplands ELS or the Upland Transitional Payment.

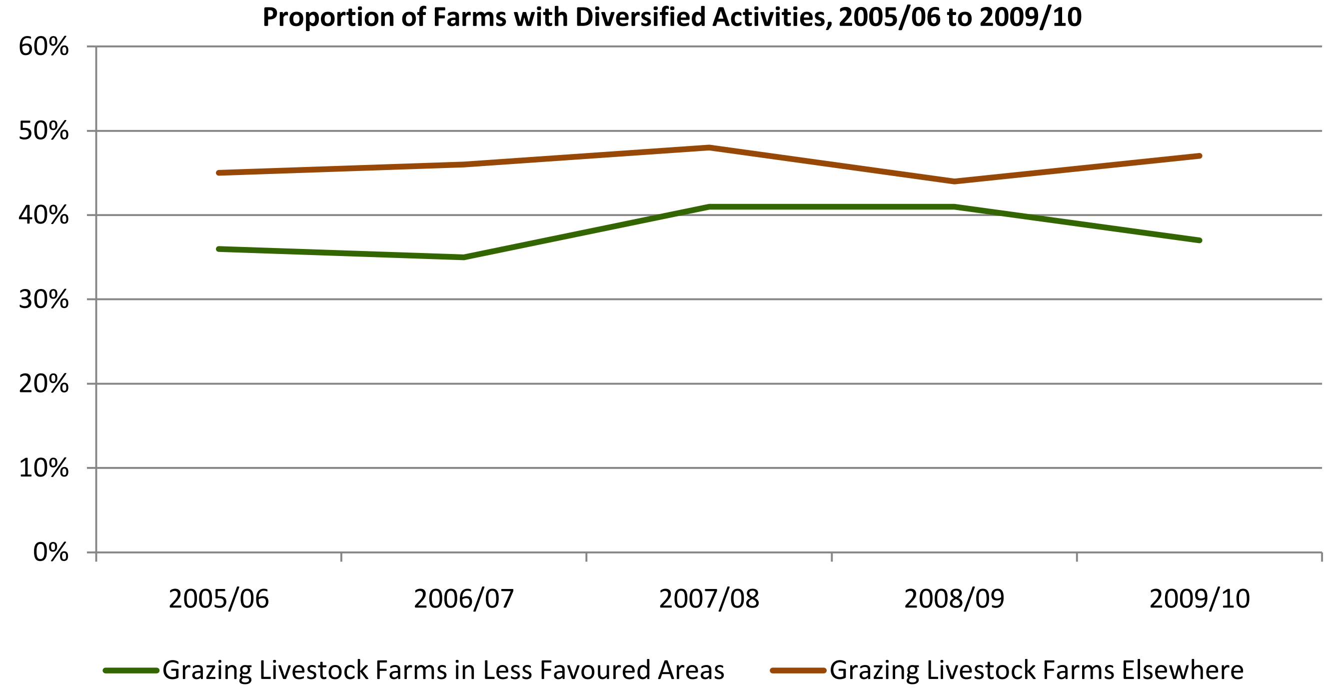
For further information on the environment and land in LFAs please see the Environment and Ecosystems and Land Use and Recreation Sections.

Notes: Total Farm Business Income for areas outside LFAs will include income from farm types not suitable to Less Favoured Area landscapes. Income data only includes farms which require more than 0.5 Standard Labour Requirements.
The classification of farms has been revised for 2010/11 moving from typology based on standard gross margins (SGM) to one based on standard outputs (SO). In addition, the June Survey for 2010 was carried out on a census basis (the first in 10 years) and prompted a register cleaning exercise that removed holdings found to be inactive. Thresholds for farm activity were also introduced to exclude the smallest farms. The revised classification has been backdated for 2009/10 data only, as information for the cleaned register is not available prior to that year.
For more information on the Farm Business Survey, please see http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/foodfarm/farmmanage/fbs/
Source: Defra Farm Business Survey

Farm Diversification and Off Farm Income

- In 2009/10, 37% of grazing livestock farms in Less Favoured Areas undertook a diversified activity. Elsewhere, the proportion of grazing livestock farms with a diversified activity was higher, 47%.
- In 2009, 26% of farm businesses in Less Favoured Areas indicated that all of their household income was provided by the farm business.
- In 2009, 56% of farm businesses in Less Favoured Areas had income which did not come from their farm business.
- It was more common for the diversified activities to be away from the farm than on the farm.

Farms with Diversified Activities



Interpretation: In 2009/10, 37% of grazing livestock farms in Less Favoured Areas undertook a diversification activity. Elsewhere, the proportion of grazing livestock farms was higher, 47%. Between 2005/06 and 2009/10 there has been little change in the proportion of grazing livestock farms with diversified activities.

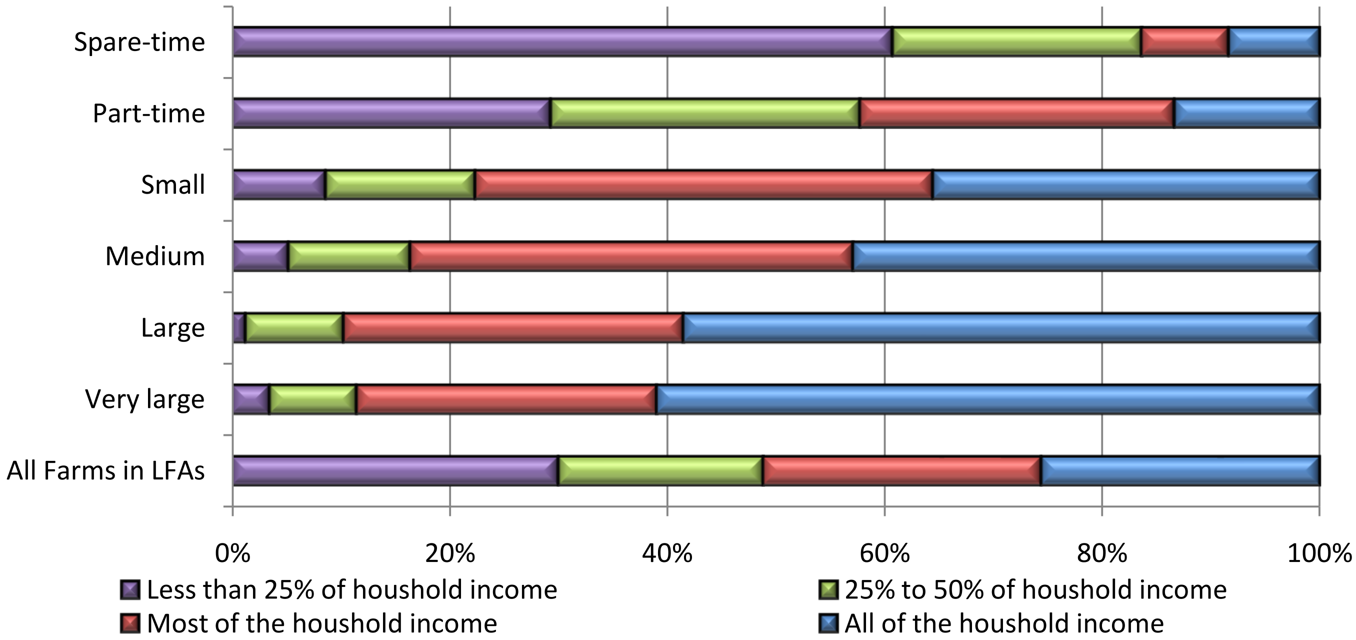
Proportion of Farm with Some Diversified Activities, 2005/06 to 2009/10

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Grazing Livestock Farms in Less Favoured Areas	36%	35%	41%	41%	37%
Grazing Livestock Farms Elsewhere	45%	46%	48%	44%	47%

Notes: Diversified activities are restricted to non-agricultural work of an entrepreneurial nature either on or off farm but which utilises farm resources. Includes farms which require more than 0.5 Standard Labour Requirements.
Source: Defra, Farm Business Survey

Income Provided by the Farm Business

Contribution of Household Income Provided by the Farm Business, 2009



Notes: Farmers were asked to indicate the group to which they belonged.
Source: Defra, Upland Farm Practices Survey 2009 and Farm Business Survey

Interpretation: In 2009, 26% of farm businesses in Less Favoured Areas had all their household income provided by the farm business. The proportion was significantly higher for Very Large farm businesses where 61% of farm business had all their household income provided by the farm and much lower for Very Small farm businesses with less than 0.5 SLR where the proportion was 8%. The opposite is the case for farm businesses which provide for less than 25% of the household income. For Very Small farm businesses with less than 0.5 SLR, 61% of farm business contributed to less than 25% of household income. For Very Large business the proportion of farm businesses was 3%.

Proportion of Income Provided by the Farm Business, 2009

		All of the Household Income	Most of the Household Income	Between 25% and 50% of the household income	Less than 25% of the household income
Very Large	More than 5 SLR	61%	28%	8%	3%
Large	Between 3 and 5 SLR	58%	31%	9%	1%
Medium	Between 2 and 3 SLR	43%	41%	11%	5%
Small	Between 1 and 2 SLR	36%	42%	14%	9%
Very Small	Less than 0.5 SLR	8%	8%	23%	61%
	Between 0.5 and 1 SLR	13%	29%	28%	29%

Types of Diversified Activities

Proportion of Farmers in Less Favoured Areas with Diversified Activities or Other Income by Commercial Status, 2009

	Diversified Activity or Other Income	Of which:	
		On-Farm Diversification	Off-Farm Diversification or other Income
Full-time Commercial	51 (±4)	27 (±4)	40 (±4)
Part-time Commercial	73 (±7)	25 (±7)	72 (±7)
Hobby/ Lifestyle Choice	43 (±10)	14 (±14)	34 (±14)
All Farms in LFAs	**56 (±3)**	**25 (±3)**	**48 (±3)**

Interpretation: In 2009, 56% of farm businesses in Less Favoured Areas had a diversified activity or other off-farm income. The proportion was highest for part-time commercial farms (73%). It was more common for the diversification activities to be away from the farm.

Source: Defra, Upland Farm Practices Survey 2009

Diversification is widely thought to offer considerable scope for improving the economic viability of many farm businesses. Many farm diversification activities can also provide benefits for the wider rural economy and community by, for example, encouraging and providing additional job opportunities. Farm Business Survey data suggests that **grazing livestock farms in LFAs have the lowest rates of diversification**. In 2009/10, 37% of grazing livestock farms in LFAs had some diversified activity compared to 50% across all farm types and these activities contributed on average around £1,100 per farm to farm business income.

For many farm households, the farm business (including income from diversified activities) is not the only source of income. The farmer, spouse and other household members may also have off-farm income from employment, self employment, investment income, pensions and social payments. Farm Business Survey data suggests that average household income is lowest for grazing livestock farm types with no significant difference between farms in LFAs (£37,300) and elsewhere (£34,800 per household). However, for grazing livestock types, measured as a proportion of average household income, off-farm sources of income tend be worth more than for other farm types.

Separate data collected as part of the 2009 Upland Farm Practices Survey suggest that 56% (±3%) of upland farms had a diversified activity or other income contributing to the farm household. Almost half (48% ±3%) of upland farms had some form of off-farm diversification or other income (eg second job or contract work) rising to 72% (±7%) of those classifying themselves as part time commercial. 25% (±3%) of upland farms had an on-farm diversified enterprise such as a farm shop or Bed & Breakfast.

Of those with no current on-farm diversified activity just 3% (±1%) of upland farms were actively developing a new activity whilst 13% (±3%) were thinking about a new activity. However, 28% (±4%) had not thought about on-farm diversification and for 56% (±4%) there was either no scope or the farm was not considered suitable. Of those with no current off-farm diversification or income, 1% (±1%) were actively developing a new activity and 4% (±2%) were thinking about a new activity. However, for 52% (±5%) there was either no scope or no plans and 43% (±5%) had never thought about it.

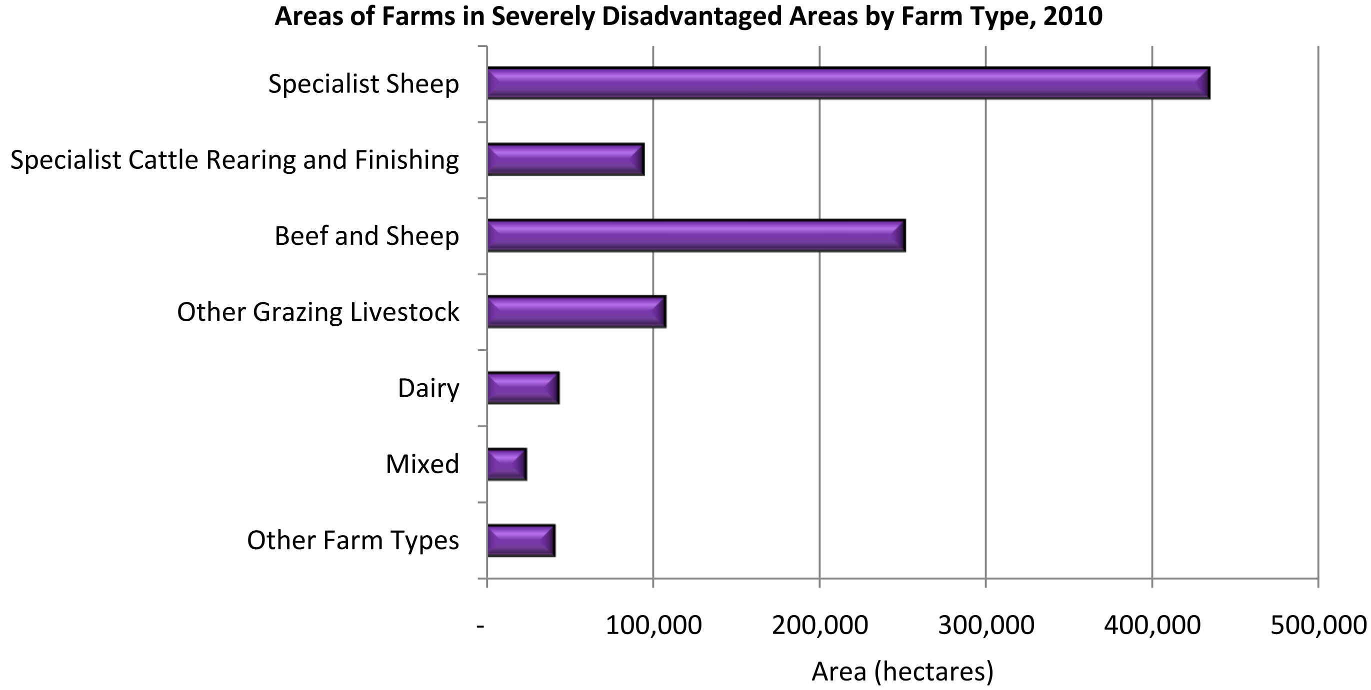
The same survey also found that there was widespread feeling that there are fewer opportunities for wider income generation for upland farms than for farms elsewhere and that there will be little change in the opportunities for wider income generation from diversification in the uplands. The reasons for this were not explored, but factors are likely to include greater distances from population centres and land suitability.

Farm Characteristics

Farm Area

- In 2010, commercial farms in Severely Disadvantaged Areas accounted for 1 million hectares, excluding common land.
- In 2010, grazing livestock farms accounted for 89% of land used for commercial farming in Severely Disadvantaged Areas.
- Very Large farms account for 36% of farmland in SDAs but 8% of the number of farms.
- Very Small farms account for 14% of farmland in SDAs but 42% of the number of farms.

Area of Farms by Farm Type

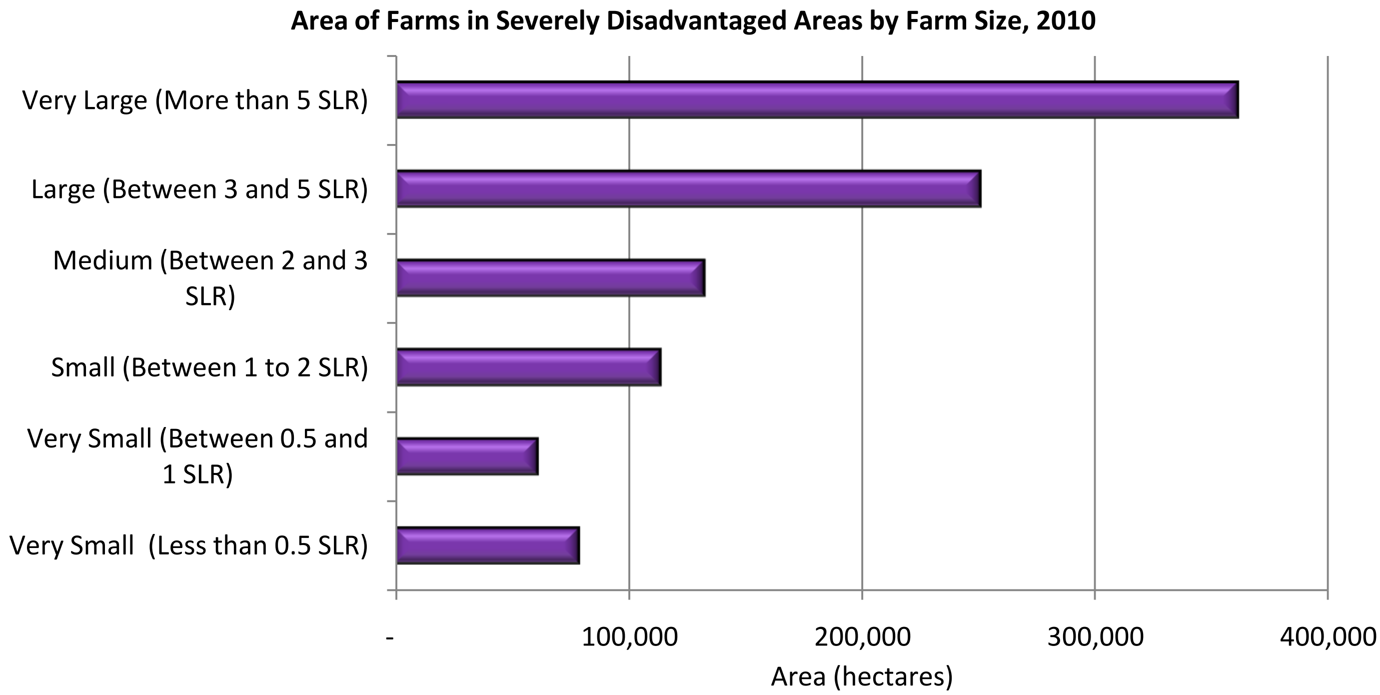


Interpretation: In 2010, the land area used by commercial farms in Severely Disadvantaged Areas (SDAs) was 997,780 hectares. Grazing livestock farms accounted for 89% of this land largely by specialist sheep farms.

Areas of Farms in Severely Disadvantaged Areas by Farm Type, 2010

	Area Thousand Hectares	Percentage Share in SDAs
Specialist Sheep	435	43%
Specialist Cattle Rearing and Finishing	95	9%
Beef and Sheep	252	25%
Other Grazing Livestock	110	11%
Dairy	44	4%
Mixed	24	2%
Other Farm Types	42	4%
Total	**1,001**	**100%**

Area of Holdings by Farm Size



Interpretation: Very Large farms (requiring at least 5 standard labour requirements) account for 36% of commercial farmland in SDAs. Large farms account for 25% of commercial farmland in SDAs. Very Small farms account for 14% of land used for commercial farms.

Area and Number of Farms in Severely Disadvantaged Areas by Farm Size, 2010

		Area		Number	
		Thousand Hectares	Percentage Share	Number	Percentage Share
Very Large	Greater than 5 SLR	361	36%	747	8%
Large	Between 3 and 5 SLR	253	25%	1,079	12%
Medium	Between 2 and 3 SLR	133	13%	885	10%
Small	Between 1 and 2 SLR	114	11%	1,361	15%
Very Small	Between 0.5 and 1 SLR	61	6%	1,214	13%
	Less than 0.5 SLR	79	8%	3,384	42%
Total		**1,001**	**100%**	**9,170**	**100%**

Excluding common land, commercial farms accounted for 1 million hectares (76%) of land within Severely Disadvantaged Areas in 2010.

Almost all of the commercial farmland in SDAs is used for livestock grazing. This is not surprising given the definition of this land as “suitable for extensive livestock production but not for the production of crops in a quantity materially greater than that necessary to feed such livestock as is capable of being maintained on such land”.

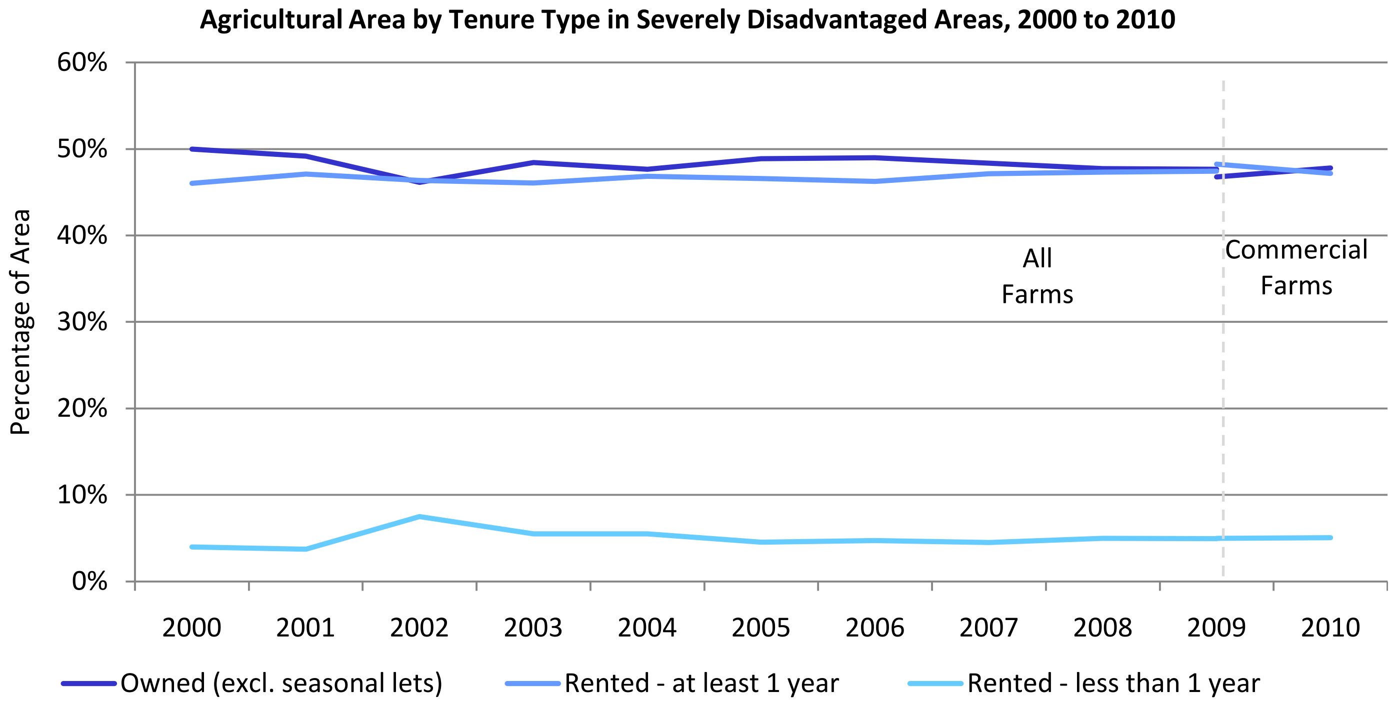
Farm size is measured using Standard Labour Requirements (SLR), which represents the amount of labour required on a farm to carry out agricultural activities. One SLR is equivalent to 1900 working hours per year. The data shows that **Very Large and Large farms account for the more than 60% of farmed land in SDAs.** However, they only account for the small proportion of farm type in SDAs, 20%. The opposite is the case for Very Small farms, where they account for the smallest amount of farm land, 8%, but is the most common farm type in SDAs.

Notes: areas are for commercial farms classified as being within the Severely Disadvantaged Area.
Source: Defra, June Survey 2010, http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/foodfarm/landuselivestock/junesurvey/

Farm Tenancy

- In 2010, 48% of agricultural land in Severely Disadvantaged Areas was owner-occupied, a decline of 2 percentage points since 2000.
- In 2010, 47% of agricultural land in Severely Disadvantaged Areas was rented for more than one year.

Agricultural Area by Tenure Type



Interpretation: In 2010, 48% of agricultural land in Severely Disadvantaged Areas was owner-occupied, a decline of 2 percentage points since 2000. The proportion of agricultural land rented under tenancy agreements of at least 1 year was 47% in 2010, an increase of one percentage point from 2000. Little change has been seen in the proportion of land rented for less than one year - 5% in 2010.

Agricultural Area By Tenure Type in Severely Disadvantaged Areas, 2000 to 2010

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Owned (excluding seasonal lets)	All Farms	50%	49%	46%	48%	48%	49%	49%	48%	48%	48%	
	Commercial Farms										47%	48%
Rented – at least one year	All Farms	46%	47%	46%	46%	47%	47%	46%	47%	47%	47%	
	Commercial Farms										48%	47%
Rented – less than one year	All Farms	4%	4%	7%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	
	Commercial Farms										5%	5%

Land tenure is an important factor that may influence the ease at which farmers can adapt either through changing practices, diversification, opportunities or ease of access to environmental schemes. Farmers that rent land may have less flexibility to change management practices on farms. The 2009 Upland Farm Practices Survey found that seasonal lets were more common for those who consider their farm to be a hobby or lifestyle choice (compared to those defining their farm as full-time or part-time commercial). Full-time commercial farms are significantly more likely to have formal tenancy agreements of at least a year.

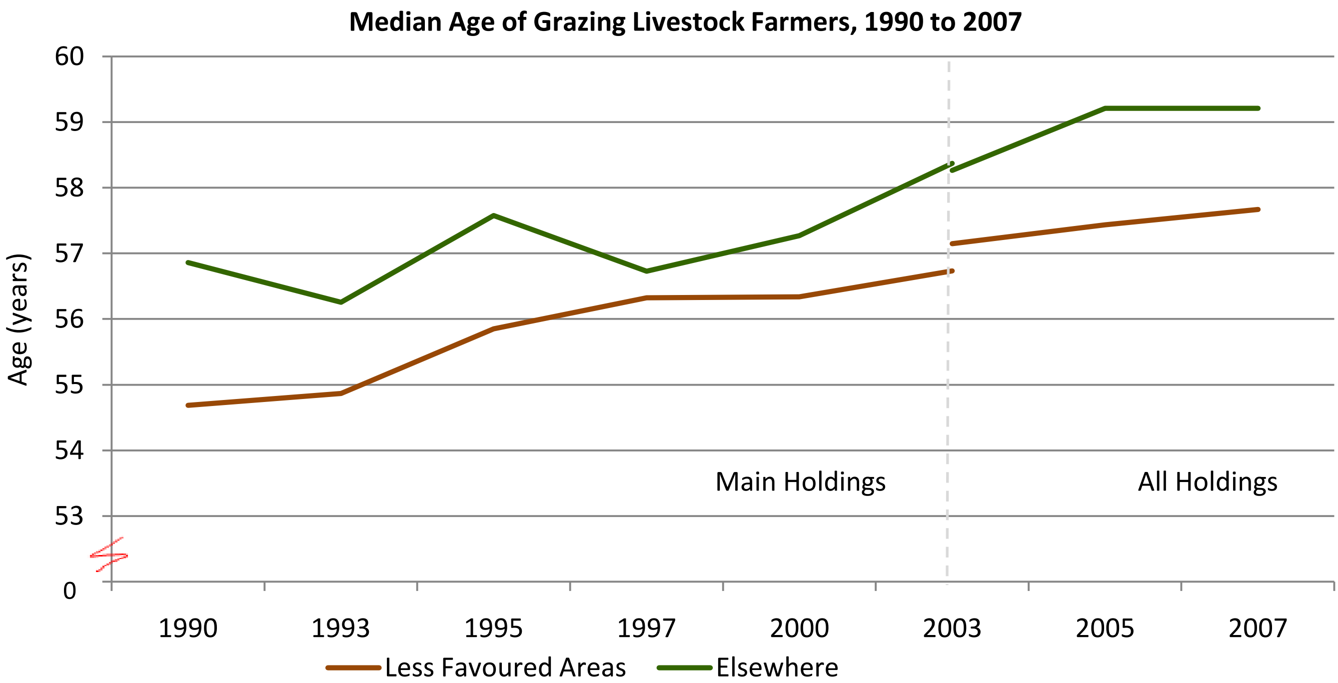
The data shows that almost all agricultural land is either owned by farmers or rented with a tenancy length greater than a year, around 5% **of agricultural land in SDAs is under seasonal lets**. The **proportion of agricultural land that is owned is very similar to the proportion that is rented for more than one year.**

Notes: Note: areas are for commercial farms classified as being within the Severely Disadvantaged Area.
Source: June Survey 2010, http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/foodfarm/landuselivestock/junesurvey/

Age Profile and Succession

- In 2007, the median age of grazing livestock farmers in Less Favoured Areas was 57.7 years old.
- Between 1990 and 2007, the median age of farmers in LFAs has increased by 5.5% and elsewhere the increase is slightly lower, 4.1%
- Holders of Very Small farms tend to be the oldest with a median age of 59.1 years in LFAs and 60.3 years elsewhere.
- According to the 2009 Upland Farm Practices Survey, 38% of farm holders had succession secured for their farm, almost all through family arrangements.

Farmer Age



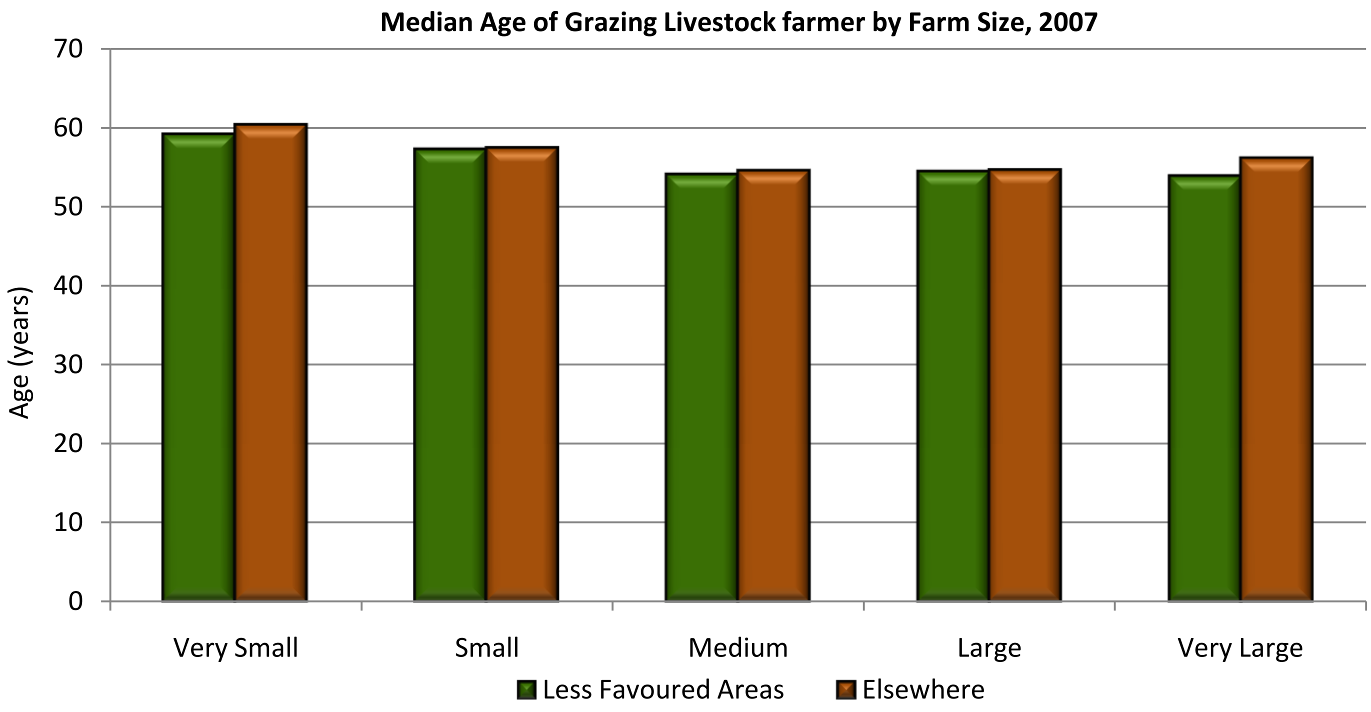
Interpretation: In 2007, the median age of grazing livestock farmers in Less Favoured Areas was 57.7 years old. In equivalent farms elsewhere, the median age was slightly higher at 59.2 years. The median age of grazing livestock farmers in both LFAs and elsewhere have increased since 1990. In LFAs the median age has increased by 5.5% and elsewhere the increase is slightly lower, 4.1%

Median Age of Grazing Livestock Farmers (years), 1990 to 2007

		1990	1993	1995	1997	2000	2003	2005	2007
Main Holdings	Less Favoured Areas	54.7	54.9	55.9	56.3	56.3	56.7		
	Elsewhere	56.9	56.3	57.6	56.7	57.3	58.4		
All Holdings	Less Favoured Areas						57.1	57.4	57.7
	Elsewhere						58.3	59.7	59.2

Notes: Data relates to the median age of the person designated as the holder on each farm – this person may not necessarily be the decision maker
Source: European Commission Farm Structure Survey, partially funded by the European Commission

Farmer Age by Farm Size



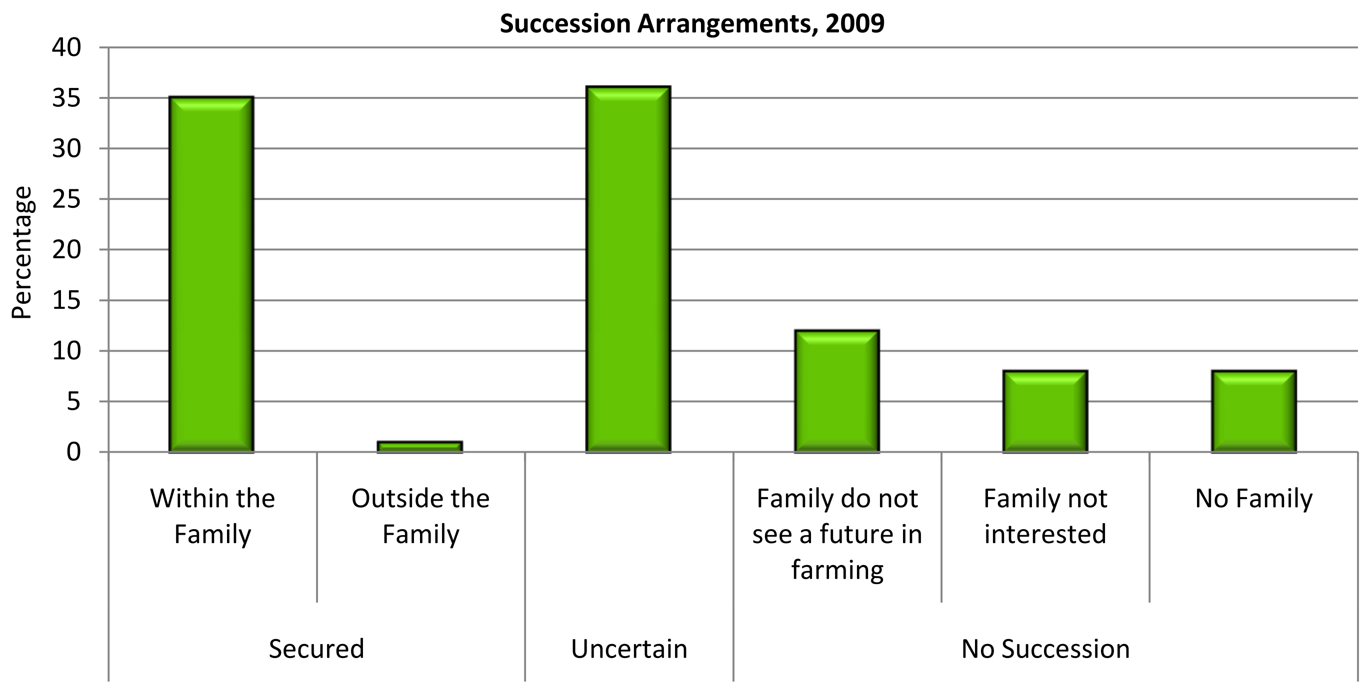
Interpretation: In 2007, Very Large farms had the youngest median farmer age for both LFAs and elsewhere. The median age of holders of Very Large farms in LFAs was 53.8 years and 56.1 years elsewhere. Holders of Very Small farms were the oldest with a median age of 59.1 years in LFAs and 60.3 years elsewhere.

Median Age of Grazing Livestock Farmers by Farm Size (years), 1990 to 2007

		Very Small	Small	Medium	Large	Very Large	All
Median Age (years)	Less Favoured Areas	59.1	57.2	54.0	54.4	53.8	57.7
	Elsewhere	60.3	57.4	54.5	54.6	56.1	59.2
Percentage of Farms	Less Favoured Areas	22%	20%	18%	24%	16%	
	Elsewhere	45%	24%	12%	11%	8%	

Notes: Data relates to the median age of the person designated as the holder on each farm – this person may not necessarily be the decision maker
Source: European Commission Farm Structure Survey, partially funded by the European Commission

Farm Succession



Interpretation: According to the 2009 Upland Farm Practices Survey, 38% of farmers had already secured succession for the farm, almost all through family arrangements. However, for a further 36% succession was uncertain. 26% of farmers in LFAs had no succession arrangements - 6% did not have family to pass the farm business to and for the 20% is due either the family was not interested or did not see a future in farming.

Succession of the Farm, 2009

		Percentage of holdings
Secured	Within the Family	37%
	Outside the Family	1%
	Total Secured	**38%**
Uncertain		**36%**
No Succession	Family Do Not See a Future in Farming	14%
	Family not Interested	6%
	No Family	6%
	Total No Succession	**26%**

Source: Uplands Farm Practices Survey, 2009

The age profile of farm holders can provide an indication of potential future changes on farms. Some older farmers may be considering retirement, hence allowing room for a new generation. The data presented shows the median age of grazing livestock farmers in Less Favoured Areas. Grazing livestock farms account for 80% of farm area in LFAs For comparability, ages have also been shown for grazing livestock farms outside the LFAs.

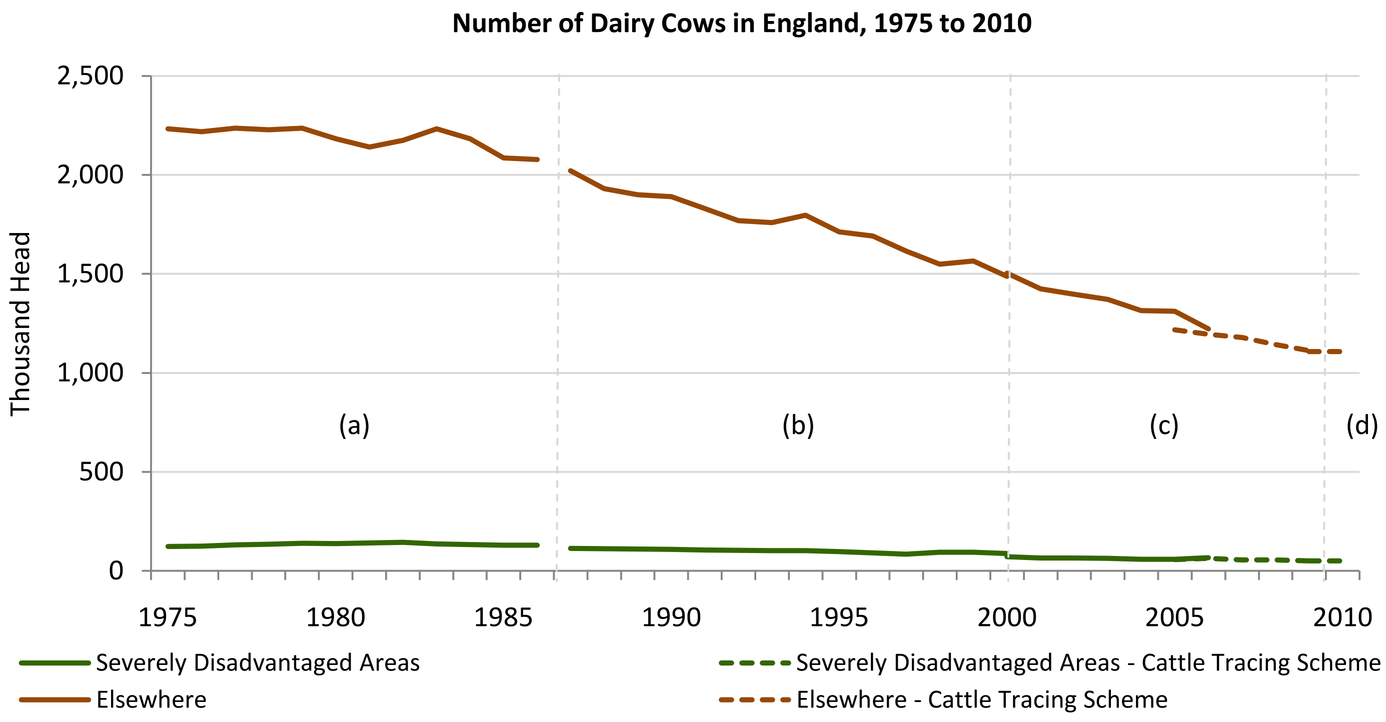
The data shows that **farmers in Less Favoured Areas tend to be younger than equivalent farmers elsewhere**, however, the differences are not substantial and the data suggests that this is due to the greater proportion of Very Small grazing livestock farms outside LFAs. It is important to note that the farmer's age data presented here only takes into account the person declared as the farm holder and this is not necessarily (although in many cases is) the person who is the decision maker on the farm.

Succession arrangements provide an indication of continuity arrangements. The data shows that, in 2009, 38% of farmers had secured a successor for the farm, **almost all of these succession arrangements were within the family.** Succession was more likely to be secured on those upland farms that were long established family farms, or where the farmer was aged 65 years and over, that farmed more than 100 hectares of land in the LFA, or that had dairy cows. Those upland farms for which succession was uncertain were most likely to be those with smaller areas of LFA land and have younger farmers. Those upland farms with no succession were more likely to be older farmers or to have beef or sheep enterprises.

Livestock

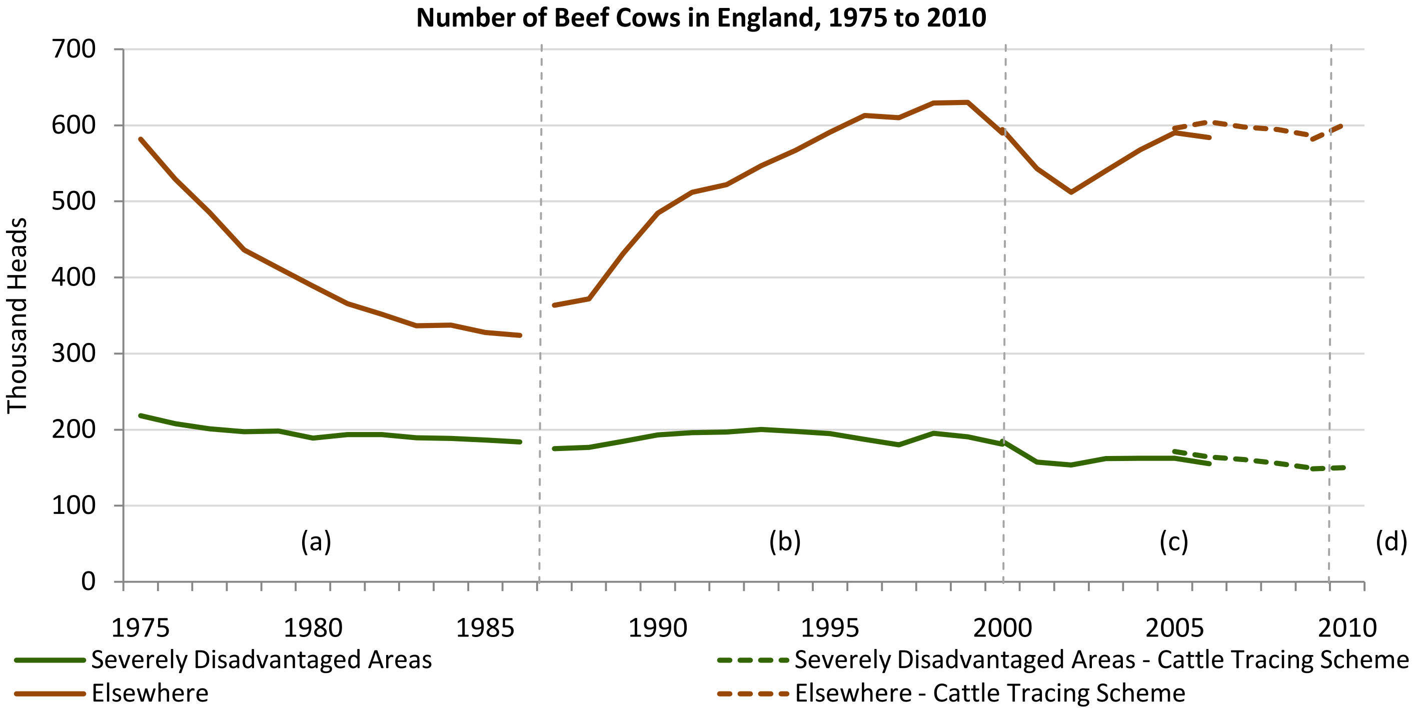
- In 2010, there were 1.2 million dairy cows in England, only 4% were in Severely Disadvantaged Areas.
- In 2010, there were 0.8 million beef cows in England, only 20% were in Severely Disadvantaged Areas
- In 2010, there were 6.4 million breeding ewes in England, a third were in Severely Disadvantaged Areas
- In Severely Disadvantaged Areas the number of breeding ewes decreased by 668,000 between 2000 and 2010

Livestock Numbers



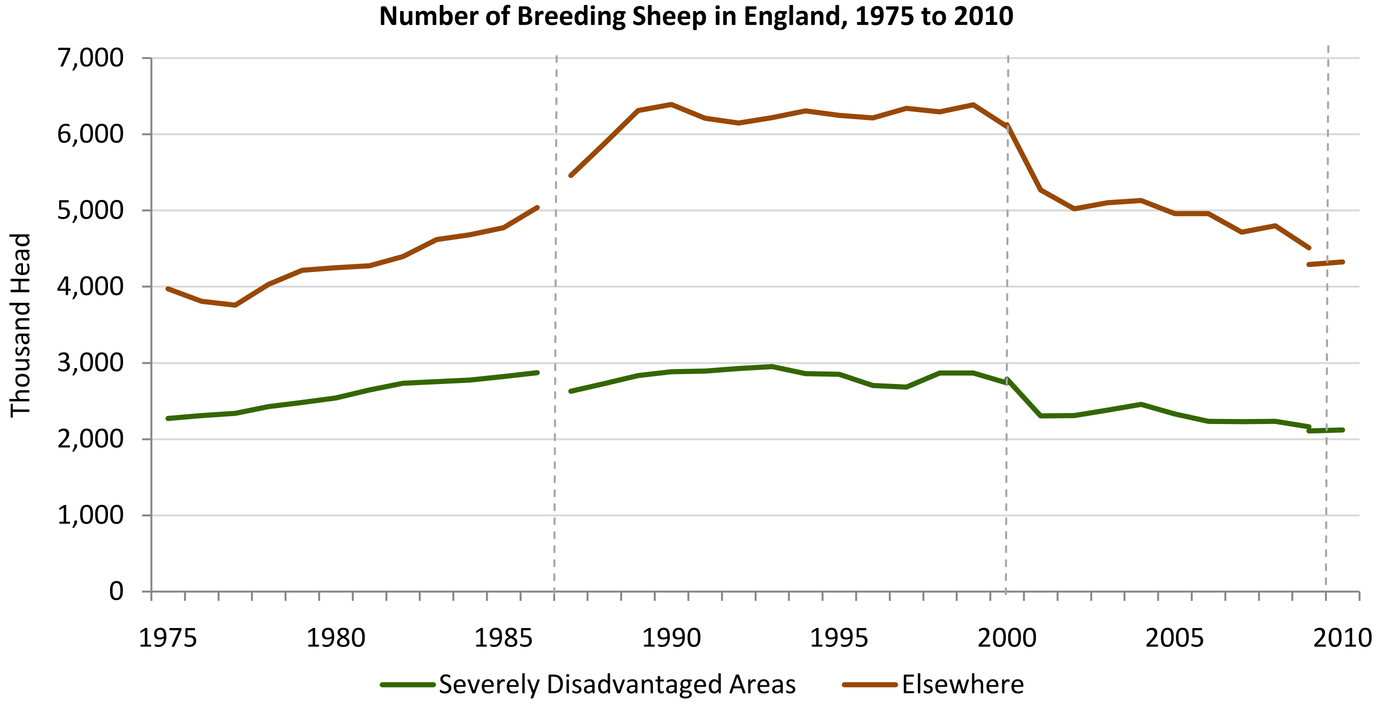
Notes: The methods used to measure the number of livestock have changed over the years, showing some inconsistencies of the data. (a) 1975 definition of LFA before widening to include Disadvantaged Areas, excludes minor holdings, (b) Current LFA, excludes minor holdings, (c) In 2006, the method of assigning LFA markers to holdings was revised and retrospectively applied from June 2000. All holdings. (d) commercial farms
Sources: 1975-2006, June Census/Survey, Defra; 2004 onwards, CTS/RADAR, Defra,
http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/foodfarm/landuselivestock/junesurvey/

Interpretation: In 2010, there were 1.2 million dairy cows in England, only 4% were in Severely Disadvantaged Areas. In both SDAs and elsewhere there has been a long term decline in dairy cow numbers.



Notes: The methods used to measure the number of livestock have changed over the years, showing some inconsistencies of the data. (a) 1975 definition of LFA before widening to include Disadvantaged Areas, excludes minor holdings, (b) Current LFA, excludes minor holdings, (c) In 2006, the method of assigning LFA markers to holdings was revised and retrospectively applied from June 2000. All holdings. (d) commercial farms
Sources: 1975-2006, June Census/Survey, Defra; 2004 onwards, CTS/RADAR, Defra,
http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/foodfarm/landuselivestock/junesurvey/

Interpretation: In 2010, there were 0.8 million beef cows in England and 20% of these were in Severely Disadvantaged Areas. In SDAs, numbers have tended to decline since 2000.



Interpretation: In 2010, there were 6.4 million breeding ewes in England, a third of which were in Severely Disadvantaged Areas. In SDAs the number of breeding ewes has decreased considerably since 2000.

Number of Dairy Cows in England, 2000 to 2010

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Severely Disadvantaged Areas	All holdings	71,454	65,910	65,235	63,651	59,909	59,236	67,302				
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - all farms						57,359	63,468	55,985	55,543	50,788	
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - commercial holdings										50,683	51,243
Elsewhere	All holdings	1,503,866	1,424,315	1,396,919	1,371,076	1,314,546	1,311,368	1,222,929				
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - all farms						1,218,203	1,195,261	1,179,923	1,143,281	1,112,576	
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - commercial holdings										1,108,001	1,107,204
England	**All holdings**	**1,575,320**	**1,490,224**	**1,462,155**	**1,434,727**	**1,374,455**	**1,370,604**	**1,290,230**				
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - all farms						**1,275,562**	**1,258,729**	**1,235,908**	**1,198,824**	**1,163,364**	
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - commercial holdings										**1,158,684**	**1,158,447**

Number of Beef Cows in England, 2000 to 2010

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Severely Disadvantaged Areas	All holdings revised LFA markers	184,406	156,946	153,367	161,716	162,102	161,979	155,082				
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - all farms						171,087	163,942	160,633	1,554,034	149,085	
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - commercial holdings										148,481	149,973
Elsewhere	All holdings revised LFA markers	594,414	543,198	512,049	540,365	568,109	590,180	583,956				
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - all farms						596,025	604,393	597,544	594,381	586,314	
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - commercial holdings										581,668	602,622
England	**All holdings revised LFA markers**	**778,820**	**700,143**	**665,416**	**702,081**	**730,211**	**752,160**	**739,039**				
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - all farms						**767,113**	**768,335**	**758,177**	**749,785**	**735,399**	
	Cattle Tracing Scheme data - commercial holdings										**730,150**	**752,596**

Number of Breeding Ewes in England, 2000 to 2010

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Severely Disadvantaged Areas	All holdings revised LFA markers	2,788,781	2,303,797	2,307,414	2,382,313	2,455,988	2,329,908	2,232,176	2,228,557	2,232,385	2,161,188	
	Commercial holdings										2,105,415	2,120,528
Elsewhere	All holdings revised LFA markers	6,125,716	5,272,157	5,022,059	5,101,387	5,131,286	4,958,602	4,958,856	4,716,811	4,800,072	4,511,076	
	Commercial holdings										4,290,033	4,326,527
England	**All holdings revised LFA markers**	**8,914,497**	**7,575,954**	**7,329,473**	**7,483,700**	**7,587,273**	**7,288,510**	**7,191,032**	**6,945,368**	**7,032,458**	**6,672,265**	
	Commercial holdings										**6,395,448**	**6,447,056**

The terrain in Severely Disadvantaged Areas means that grazing livestock is the predominant farm type within the uplands of England. Changes in livestock numbers can provide an indication of changes in the environmental pressures on upland habitats and the species they support.

The data shows that dairy cow numbers in England have fallen significantly since 1984; this is due to the introduction of milk quotas in 1984. Under the milk quota regime there is a financial penalty to producers for over-quota milk production and, historically, increasing milk yields and the limit of milk quota have led to a continued reduction of dairy cow numbers. **Only a small proportion of dairy cows are in SDAs and so most of this long term decline has taken place elsewhere**. This milk quota would have had a direct impact in the 1980's but there has been a long term decline since then. There are a number of factors that have driven change in the dairy sector. Fluctuations in price, and disease are an example of these factors, however, it is not clear if the factors have different impacts for dairy farms in SDAs and elsewhere.

The number of beef cows in England increased rapidly during the 1980s and 1990s due to the introduction of headage based subsidy schemes and the introduction of milk quotas leading some producers to switch from dairy to beef. However, most of the increase did not take place in SDAs. It was anticipated that the introduction of the Single Payment Scheme and low profitability of beef cow enterprises would lead to a decrease in the number of beef cows, which could explain the decrease seen recently in SDAs. However, this is not the case elsewhere, where the numbers of beef cows has been relatively consistent.

Sheep numbers in England rose throughout the 1980s as headage based subsidy payments encouraged producers to increase numbers of breeding ewes. National quota limits forced a ceiling on ewe numbers during the 1990s, before changes to subsidy eligibility rules in 2000 and Foot and Mouth Disease in 2001 resulted in a sharp decline in ewe numbers – although the rate of decline was less in SDAs than elsewhere. Agri-environment agreements may also have influenced a reduction in the number of ewes in SDAs.

Notes: The methods used to measure the number of livestock have changed during the period under consideration introducing discontinuities in the data series. (a) 1975 definition of LFA before widening to include Disadvantaged Areas, excludes minor holdings, (b) Current LFA, excludes minor holdings, (c) In 2006, the method of assigning LFA markers to holdings was revised and retrospectively applied from June 2000. All holdings. (d) commercial farms
Sources: Sheep, all data, June Survey. Cattle, 1975-2006, June Census/Survey, Defra; 2004 onwards, CTS/RADAR, Defra, http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/foodfarm/landuselivestock/junesurvey/

Land Use and Recreation

This section contains statistics on the following subject areas:

- Land Designations
- Land Use Change
- Visits to the Natural Environment

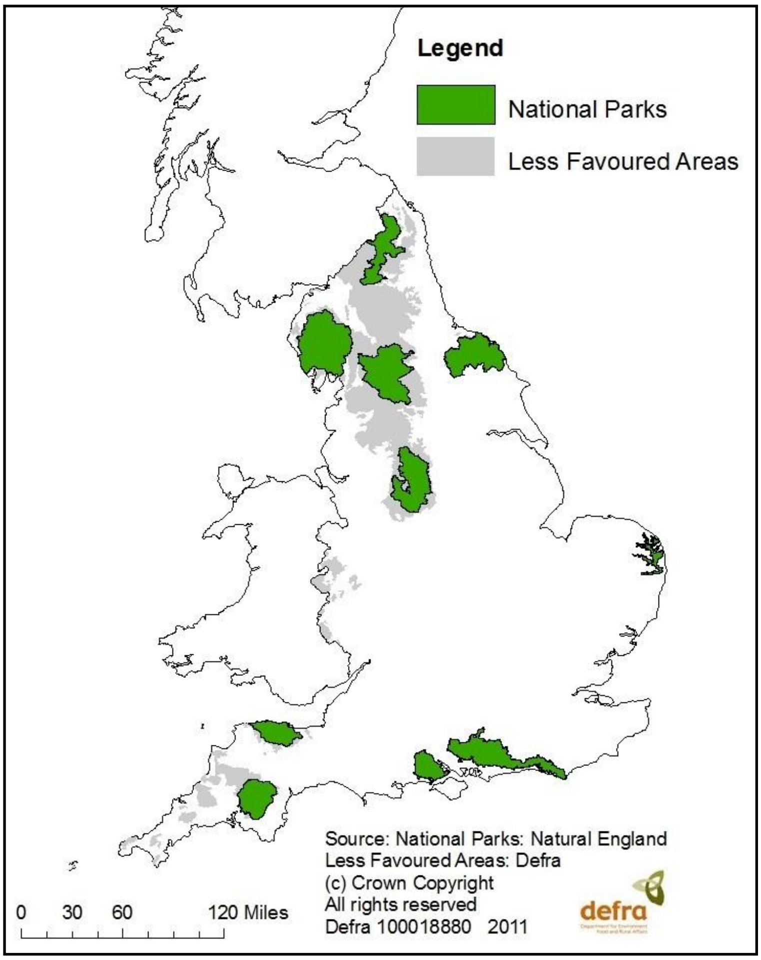
If you would like further information related to this topic please contact the Rural Statistics Unit (rural.statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk or 01904 455251)

Land Designations

- There are 9 National Parks in England, 7 of which are located in Less Favoured Areas.
- There are 17 World Heritage Sites in England, 3 of which are located in Less Favoured Areas.
- There are over 455,000 hectares of SSSIs in Less Favoured Areas. 18% of which have been assessed to be in a favourable condition and almost 80% are unfavourable but recovering.

National Parks

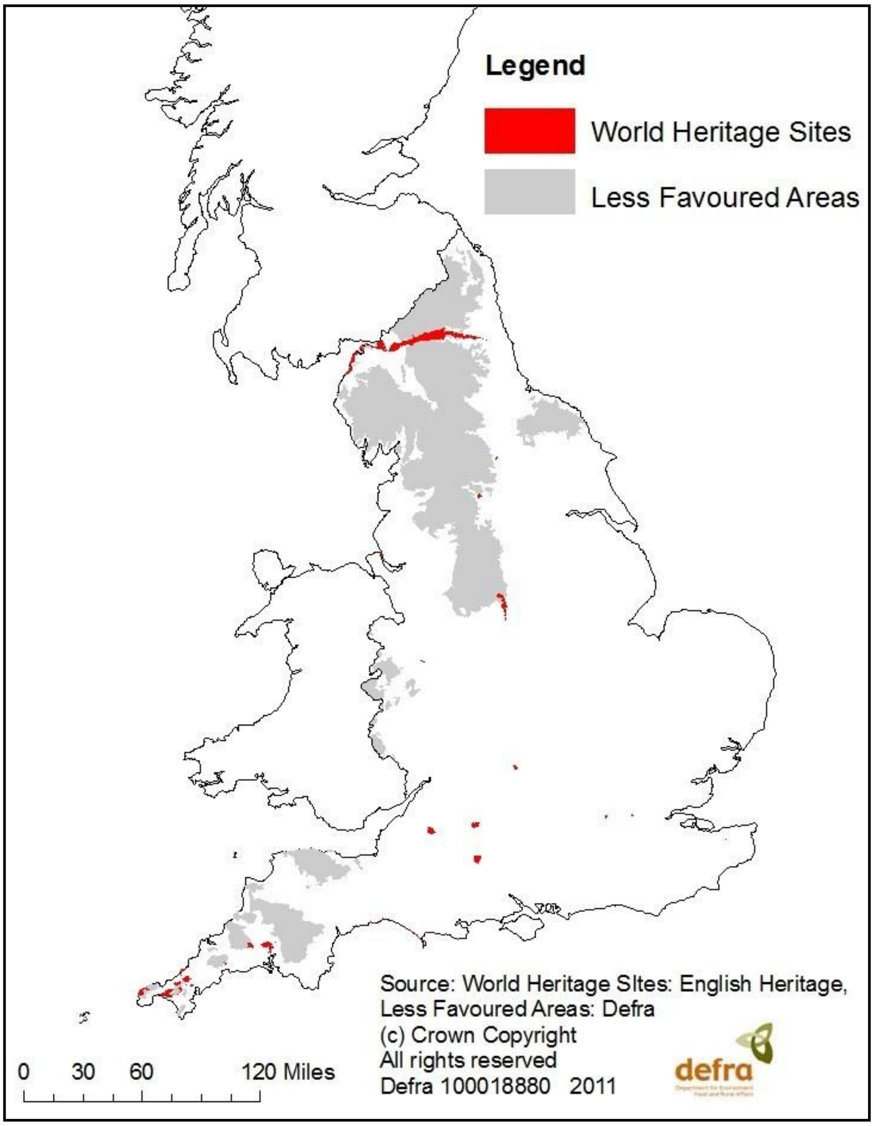
Map of National Parks and Less Favoured Areas in England, 2011



Interpretation: There are 9 National Parks and the Broads Authority in England, 7 of which are located in Less Favoured Areas.

World Heritage Sites

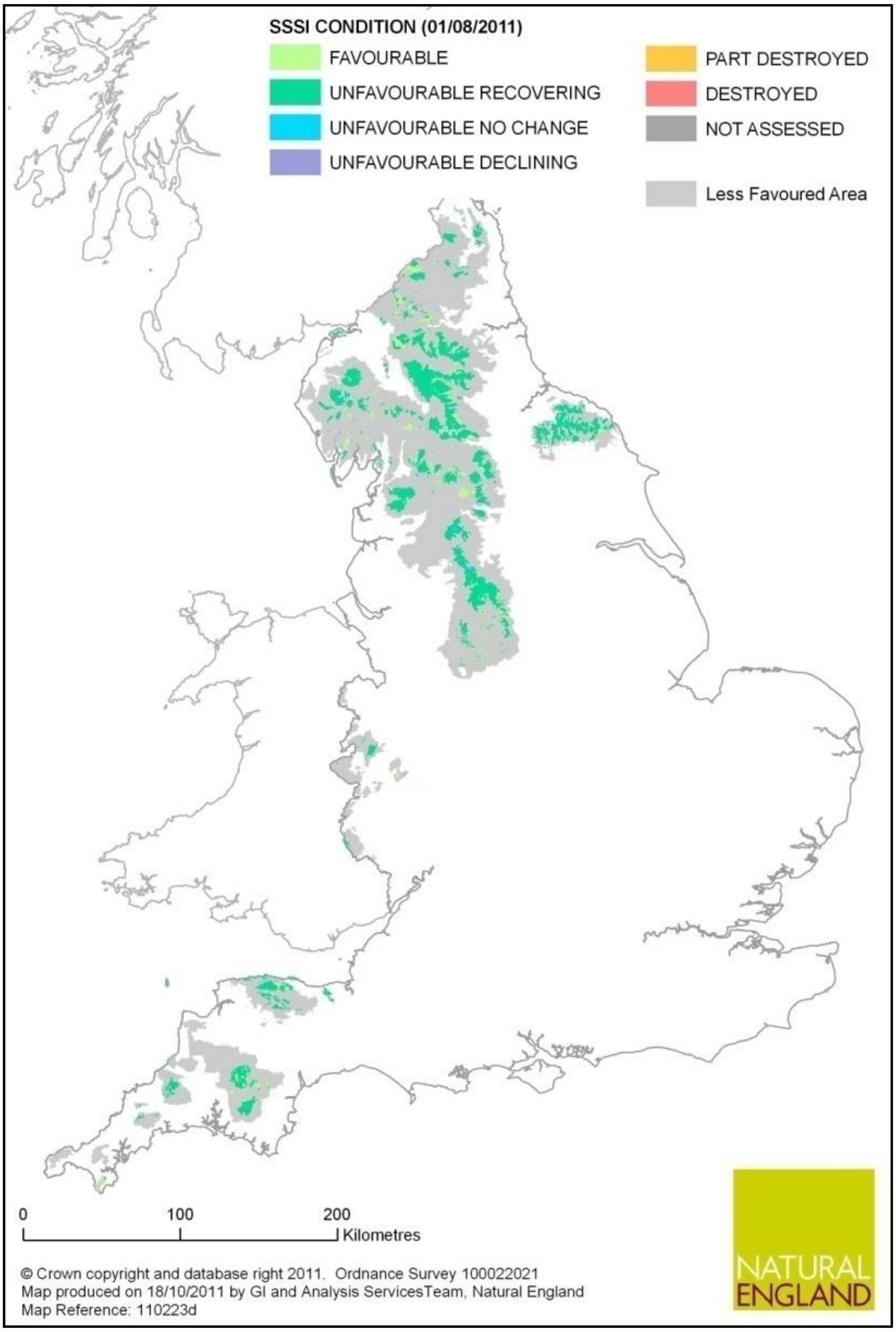
Map of World Heritage Sites and Less Favoured Areas, 2011



Interpretation: There are 17 World Heritage Sites in England, 3 of which are located in Less Favoured Areas.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Map of Sites of Special Scientific Interest within Less Favoured Areas, 2011



Interpretation: There are over 455,000 hectares of SSSIs in Less Favoured Areas. 18% of which were in a favourable condition and almost 80% unfavourable but recovering.

National Parks are areas of land that are protected because of their natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage. As well as protecting the habitats that exist in National Parks, communities within National Parks are also supported. An important part of National Parks is the opportunity provided for people to enjoy outdoor recreation activities and, therefore, tourism is a key industry in National Parks. Most National Parks in England are located in Less Favoured Areas (LFAs), which shows that a lot of the issues and benefits of National Parks are also relevant to LFAs. In England there are nine National Parks and the Broads Authority.

World Heritage Sites are places that are considered to have 'outstanding universal value'. They are designated because they are considered to be an important part of our cultural or natural heritage. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) is responsible for selecting these sites worldwide. Seventeen sites have been selected in England, three of which are located in LFAs. The sites in LFAs are Hadrian's Wall, Derwent Valley Mills and Cornwall and Devon Mining Landscape, all of which have been designated as World Heritage Sites due to their cultural significance.

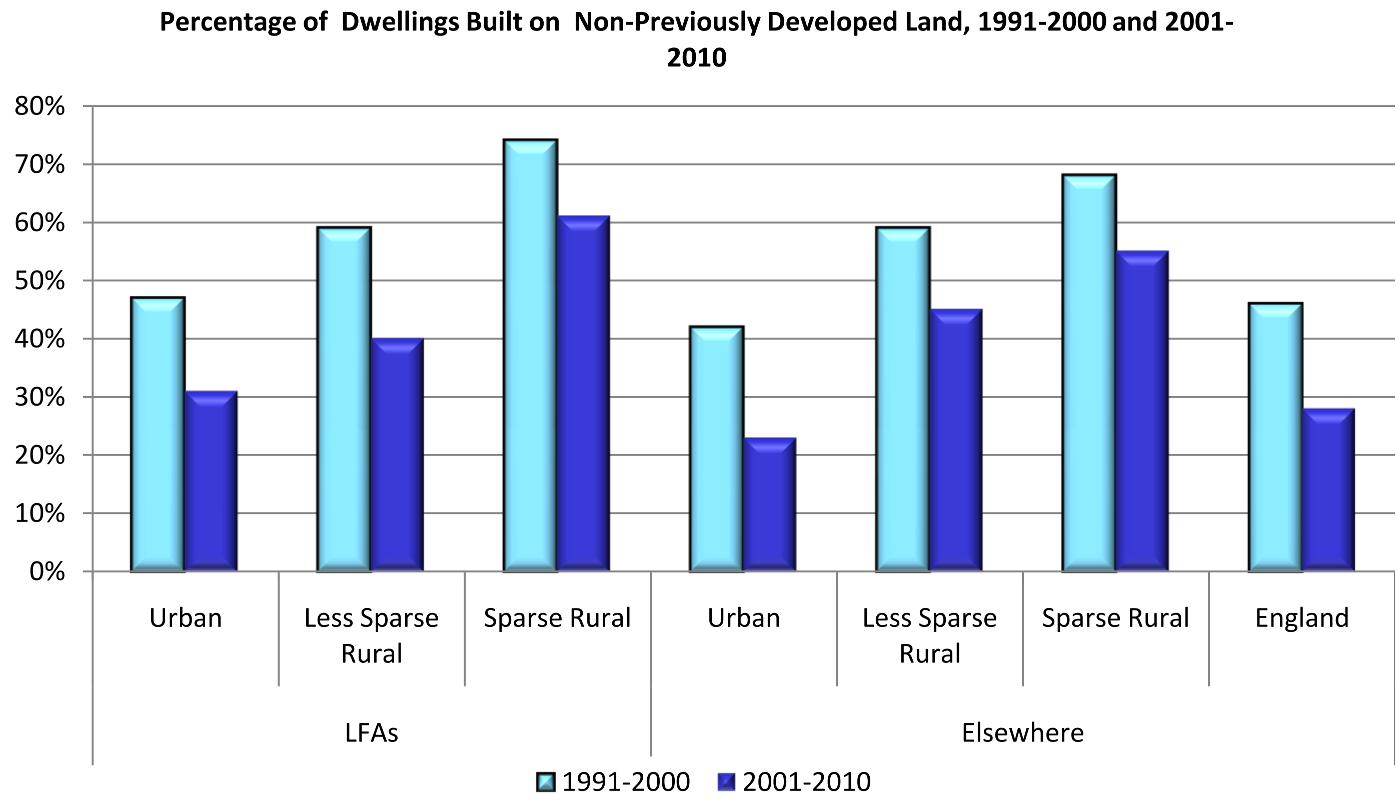
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are designated with the aim of conserving specific biological or geological features. These areas face various threats including pollution, climate change and land management. In England there are just over 1 million hectares of SSSIs and 42% are located in LFAs. The condition of land designated as SSSIs is assessed on a rolling cycle against agreed standards and classified into six categories from favourable to destroyed. "Favourable" status indicates that the SSSI meets the agreed standards for the features of interest. "Unfavourable recovering" condition status indicates that the SSSI fails to meet the standards, but has appropriate management in place that will achieve those standards. 80% of SSSIs in LFAs were classified as "unfavourable recovering" in August 2011, which demonstrates that there is still some work to do before the SSSIs recover from damage previously done to this land. For England as a whole, 96.6% of SSSIs (by area) are either in a "favourable" (36.6%) or "unfavourable recovering" (60%) condition.

Note: The Broads Authority does not have a National Park designation, however since 1989 it has been given equivalent status with an Authority set up to manage the area. The Broads Authority, located in Norfolk and Suffolk, must adhere to the obligations set out for all National Park authorities, and must additionally protect the interests of navigation of the waterways within the authority.
Source: Natural England, English Heritage and Defra
For more information of Land Designations please see
http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designatedareas/default.aspx

Land Use Change

- In 2001-2010, 38% of new dwellings built in Less Favoured Areas were built on non-previously developed land. This was 10 percentage points higher than elsewhere.
- In 2001-2010, 61% of new dwellings built in Sparse Rural Less Favoured Areas were built on non-previously developed land, the highest of all settlement types.
- The proportion of new dwellings built on non-previously developed land in Less Favoured Areas has declined by 8 percentage points since the period 1991-2000.

Dwellings Built on Non-Previously Developed Land



Interpretation: The chart shows that the proportion of new dwellings built on non-previously developed land is higher in Less Favoured Areas than elsewhere. In LFAs 38% of dwellings built between 2001 and 2010 were built on non-previously developed land, elsewhere 28% of new dwellings were. Sparse Rural areas in both LFAs and elsewhere were seen to have the highest proportion, 61% and 55% in LFAs and elsewhere respectively. Urban areas had the smallest proportion both in LFAs and elsewhere, 31% and 23%.

The proportion of new dwellings built on non-previously developed land has been declining since the 1991-2000 period. In England, 28% of new dwellings were built on non-previously developed land in the period 2001-2010, 18 percentage points less than in 1991-2000.

Percentage of New Dwellings Built on Non-Previously Developed Land, 1991-2000 and 2001-2010

		1991-2000	2001-2010
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	47%	31%
	Less Sparse Rural	59%	40%
	Sparse Rural	74%	61%
Elsewhere	Urban	42%	23%
	Less Sparse Rural	59%	45%
	Sparse Rural	68%	55%
Less Favoured Areas		46%	38%
Elsewhere		54%	28%
England		46%	28%

It is important that to ensure that sufficient housing is available for the population and with the population increasing there is a need to build new dwellings. New buildings can either be built on previously developed land or non-previously developed land. Types of previously developed land include land which is has already been used for residential, community and industrial purposes. Non-previously developed land includes agriculture, forestry, pen land and water, outdoor recreation and vacant land.

The data shows that **a higher proportion of new dwellings built in Less Favoured Areas are built on non-previously developed land then elsewhere**. However, as this data only looks at dwellings, it does not give a complete picture of land use change.

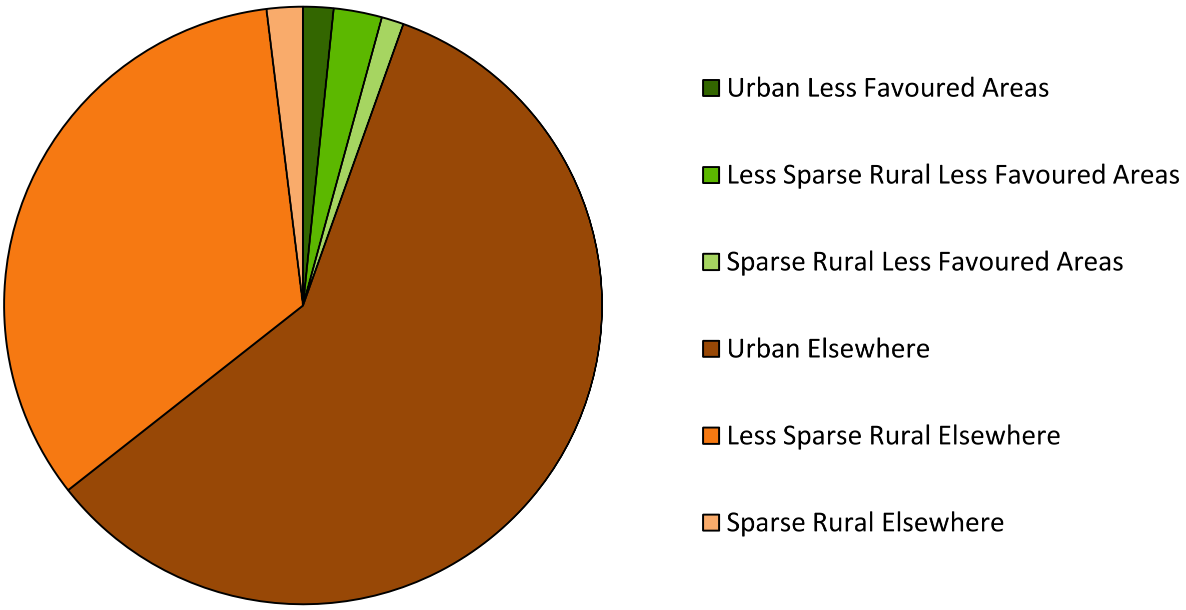
Source: Land Use Change Statistics, Department for Communities and Local Government, http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/lucs2010provisional

Engaging with the Natural Environment

- Between March 2009 and February 2011, only 5.7% of visits to the natural environment were made to Less Favoured Areas.
- Between March 2009 and February 2011, 30% of all journeys made to visit natural environment locations in Less Favoured Areas were of less than a mile.
- Between March 2009 and February 2011, the percentage of visits with journeys of over 40 miles was highest for visits made to a Sparse Rural area.
- Between March 2009 and February 2011, average expenditure per visit is highest in Sparse Rural LFAs, £66.28 for visits that incurred expense, and £29.59 for all visits.

Visits to the Natural Environment

Proportion of Day Visits to the Natural Environment by Area, 2009 to 2011

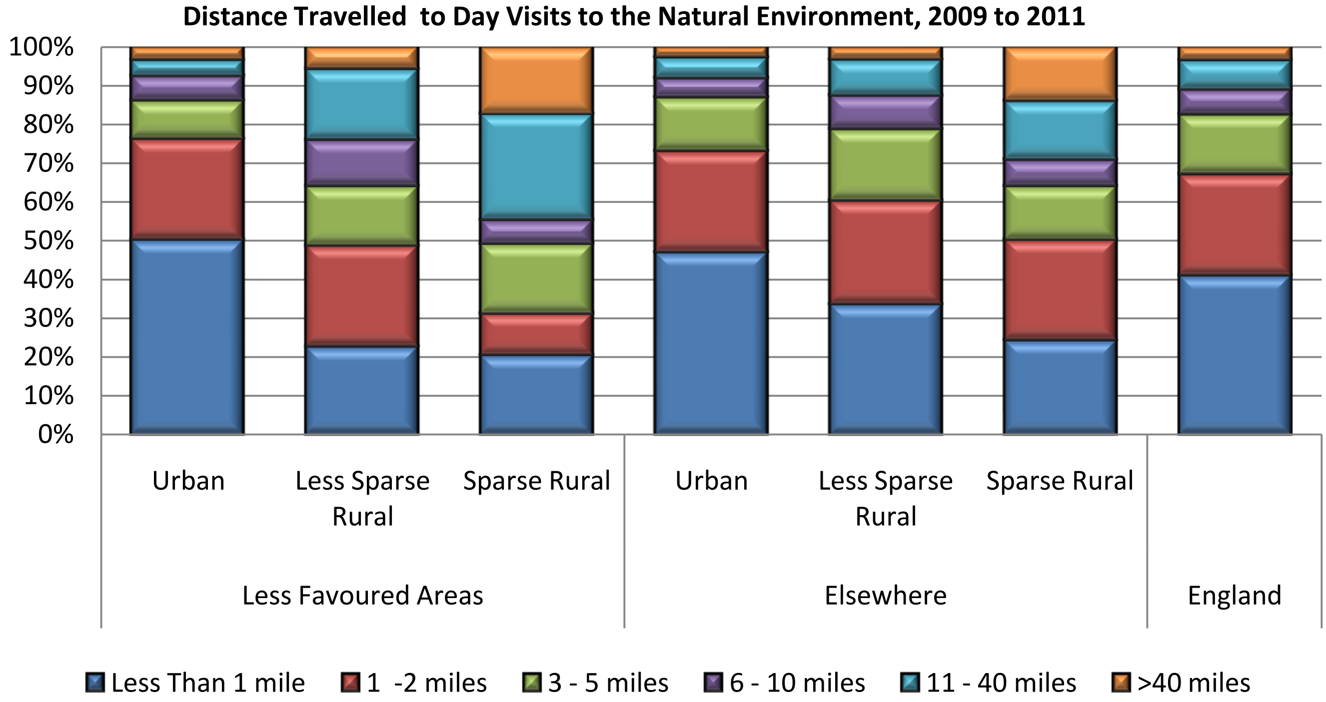


Interpretation: This chart shows the breakdown of location of day visits to the natural environment. More than half of the journeys (58.4%) made were to urban non-upland areas. Sparse Rural LFAs were the least visited locations (1.2%), and journeys to any Less Favoured Area accounted for 5.7% of all day visits.

Number of Day Visits to the Natural Environment, March 2009 to February 2011

		Number of Visits (000s)	Percentage of Visits
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	82,195	1.5%
	Less Sparse Rural	156,987	2.9%
	Sparse Rural	65,787	1.2%
Elsewhere	Urban	3,124,816	58.4%
	Less Sparse Rural	1,811,748	33.9%
	Sparse Rural	108,760	2.0%
Less Favoured Areas		304,969	5.7%
Elsewhere		5,045,323	94.3%
England		**5,350,292**	**100.0%**

Distance Travelled to Visit the Natural Environment



Interpretation: The chart shows that in Urban areas journeys were shorter, with journeys of less than a mile being the most common (50% in LFAs and 47% elsewhere). Only 11% of journeys in Sparse Rural LFAs were 1 – 2 miles, compared to around 26% of journeys for all other areas. In Sparse Rural areas journeys tended to be longer, with 17% of journeys in LFAs and 14% of journeys elsewhere being greater than 40 miles. Journeys of greater than 40 miles account for only 3% of journeys in Urban areas. The pattern of visits in Urban areas is very similar between LFAs and elsewhere, whereas the pattern of journey distances differs between LFAs and elsewhere for both Less Sparse Rural areas and Sparse Rural areas.

Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs

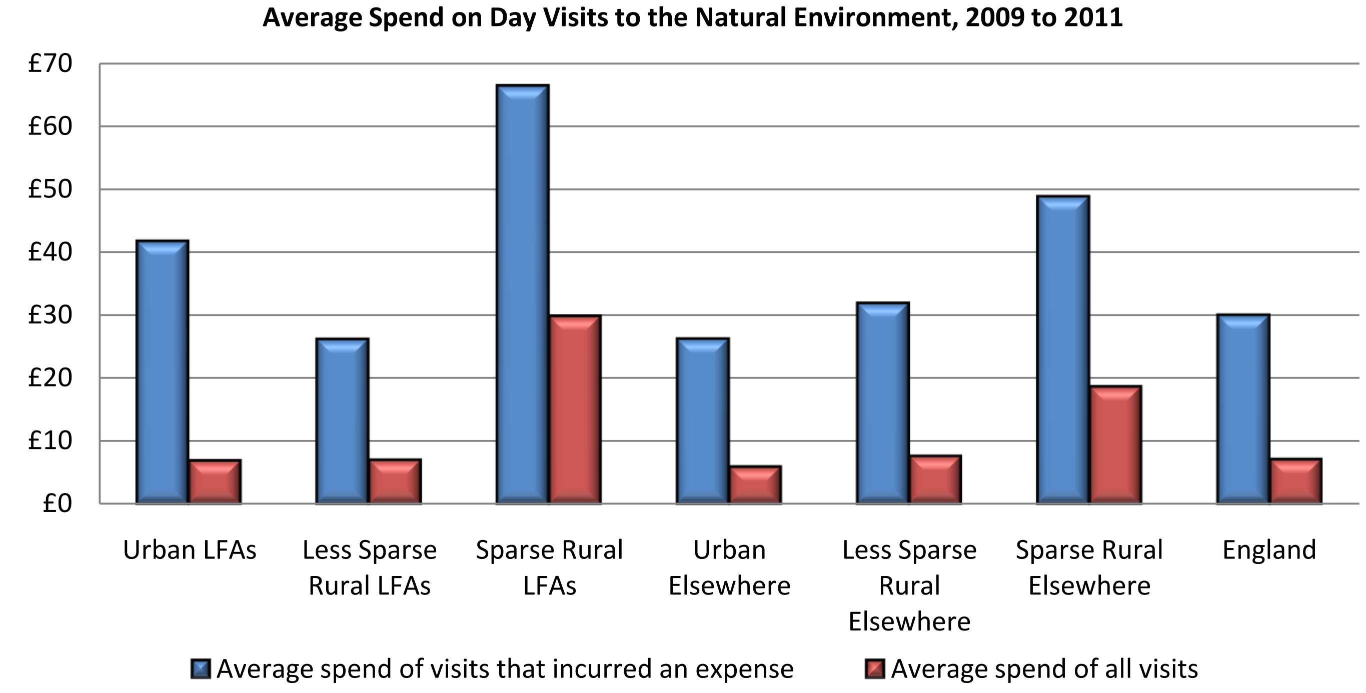
Number of Day Visits to the Natural Environment by Distance Travelled (000s), March 2009 to February 2011

		Less Than 1 mile	1 - 2 miles	3 – 5 miles	6 – 10 miles	11 – 20 miles	21 – 40 miles	41 – 60 miles	61 – 80 miles	81 – 100 miles	Greater than 100 miles	Total
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	41,293	21,376	8,049	5,327	2,010	1,418	1,427	722	68	505	82,195
	Less Sparse Rural	35,708	40,957	24,109	18,78	17,781	10,762	3,184	3,492	612	1,602	156,987
	Sparse Rural	13,524	7,147	11,823	4,082	8,327	9,646	4,396	3,155	1,325	2,362	65,787
Elsewhere	Urban	1,468,729	815,958	429,562	156,428	104,397	66,005	28,905	15,936	13,892	25,003	3,124,816
	Less Sparse Rural	608,935	485,130	332,757	157,485	107,828	60,621	21,931	12,381	8,773	15,907	1,811,748
	Sparse Rural	26,531	28,138	15,140	7,453	6,984	9,549	4,291	4,180	2,301	4,191	108,760
Less Favoured Areas		90,525	69,480	43,980	28,190	28,118	21,825	9,007	7,369	2,006	4,468	304,969
Elsewhere		2,104,196	1,329,226	777,459	321,367	219,209	136,175	55,127	32,497	24,966	45,101	5,045,323
England		2,194,721	1,398,706	821,439	349,557	247,327	158,000	64,134	39,866	26,972	49,569	5,350,292

Proportion of Day Visits to the Natural Environment by Distance Travelled, March 2009 to February 2011

		Less Than 1 mile	1 - 2 miles	3 – 5 miles	6 – 10 miles	11 – 20 miles	21 – 40 miles	41 – 60 miles	61 – 80 miles	81 – 100 miles	Greater than 100 miles	Total
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	50%	26%	10%	6%	2%	2%	2%	1%	0%	1%	100%
	Less Sparse Rural	23%	26%	15%	12%	11%	7%	2%	2%	0%	1%	100%
	Sparse Rural	21%	11%	18%	6%	13%	15%	7%	5%	2%	4%	100%
Elsewhere	Urban	47%	26%	14%	5%	3%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	100%
	Less Sparse Rural	34%	27%	18%	9%	6%	3%	1%	1%	0%	1%	100%
	Sparse Rural	24%	26%	14%	7%	6%	9%	4%	4%	2%	4%	100%
Less Favoured Areas		30%	23%	14%	9%	9%	7%	3%	2%	1%	1%	100%
Elsewhere		42%	26%	15%	6%	4%	3%	1%	1%	0%	1%	100%
England		41%	26%	15%	7%	5%	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%	100%

Expenditure on Visits to the Natural Environment



Interpretation: The chart above shows that average spend per visit, when a visit incurred expense, was highest in Sparse Rural LFAs (£66.28) with Less Sparse Rural LFAs having the lowest average spend (£26.13). For Urban and Sparse Rural areas the average spend was higher in LFAs than elsewhere, but for Less Sparse Rural the average spend was lower in LFAs than elsewhere. The table shows that a greater percentage of visits to Sparse Rural areas incurred expense than visits to Urban or Less Sparse Rural areas.

Average Expenditure on Day Visits to the Natural Environment, March 2009 to February 2011

		Average Amount Spent per visit (when visit incurred expense £s)	Average Amount Spent per visit (All visits £s)	Percentage of visits that incurred expense
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	£41.64	£6.85	24%
	Less Sparse Rural	£26.13	£6.91	38%
	Sparse Rural	£66.28	£29.59	22%
Elsewhere	Urban	£26.20	£5.87	26%
	Less Sparse Rural	£31.82	£7.55	45%
	Sparse Rural	£48.73	£18.49	16%
Less Favoured Areas		£42.53	£11.70	27%
Elsewhere		£29.09	£6.76	23%
England		**£29.97**	**£7.04**	**23%**

The MENE survey looks at day visits to the Natural Environment between March 2009 and February 2011. Across the two years there were 5.35 billion visits to the Natural Environment (2.85 billion in 2009/10 and 2.50 billion in 2010/11) and 6% of these were to uplands areas.

Types of visits captured by the survey included many short trips near home such as dog-walking, as well as planned trips to a particular place such as a National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. A very high proportion of LFAs are within a National Park (Dartmoor, Exmoor, Peak District, Yorkshire Dales, North York Moors, Northumberland and Lake District National Parks are almost exclusively LFA), which are able to draw on their status and natural assets to attract visitors from afar. Overall, visits with journeys greater than 40 miles accounted for just 3% of all visits in England, compared to around 11% for visits to National Parks. For LFAs almost 18% of visits to National Parks had journeys greater than 40 miles, compared to the overall LFA figure of 7%. This might suggest that people are willing to travel further to visit natural environment sites in LFAs than elsewhere. It is also likely to be the result of lower population densities in LFAs, which would result in any visits being made to the area coming from further afield.

Average spend per visit is highest in Sparse Rural LFAs followed by Sparse Rural elsewhere. Although more than half (51%) of this expenditure was spent on food and drink, people visiting Sparse Rural areas spent less on food (42%) than people visiting Less Sparse Rural areas (51%) or Urban areas (52%). Although average expenditure per visit was higher in LFAs, the total contribution to the national economy is lower than visits to non-upland areas due to the smaller number of visits (£3.5 billion compared to £34.2 billion).

Notes: The MENE survey looks at visits people make in the previous 7 days. The respondents are asked a series of questions about the number and types of visits they made.
Source: Monitoring Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE) survey, Year 1 – March 2009 to February 2010, Year 2 – March 2010 to February 2011.

Ecosystems and the Environment

This section contains statistics on the following subject areas:

- Biodiversity
- Carbon Storage
- Environment
- Water

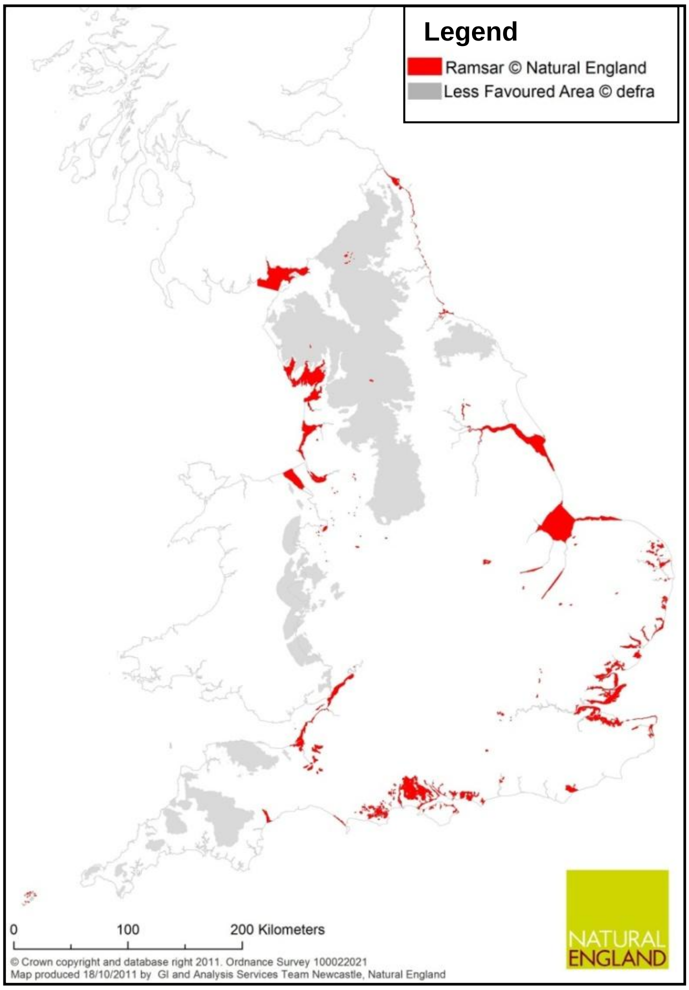
If you would like further information related to this topic please contact the Rural Statistics Unit (rural.statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk or 01904 455251)

Biodiversity

- Less than 1% of RAMSAR sites in England are located in Less Favoured Areas.
- 36% of Special Areas of Conservation in England are located in Less Favoured Areas.
- 37% of Special Protection Areas are located in Less Favoured Areas.
- 23% of woodland areas in England are located in Less Favoured Areas

Ramsar Sites

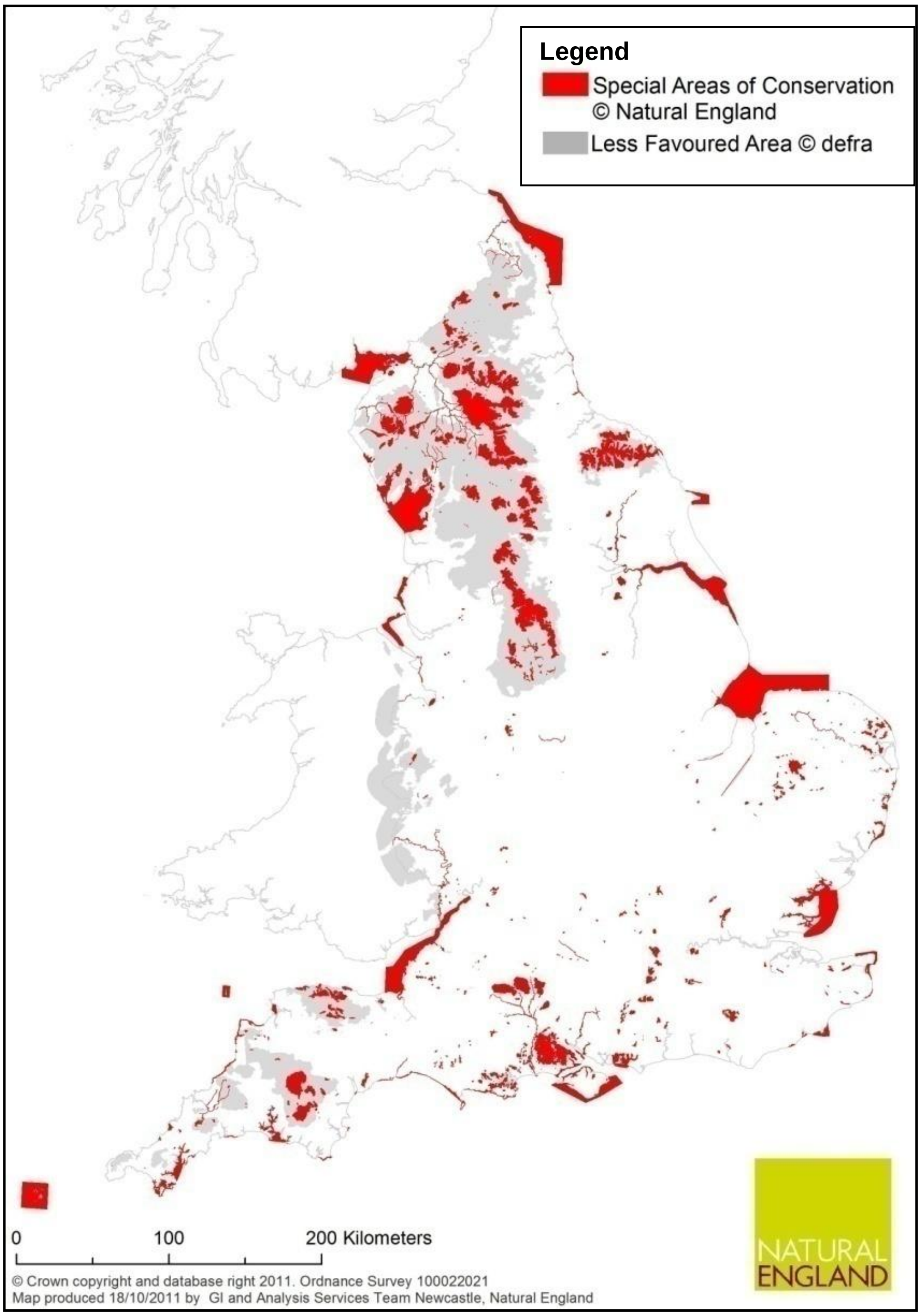
Map of Ramsar sites in England, 2011



Interpretation: There are 70 Ramsar sites across England, covering almost 400,000 hectares of land. In Less Favoured Areas, Ramsar sites cover approximately 2,000 hectares, which is less than 1% of Ramsar coverage in England.

Special Areas of Conservation

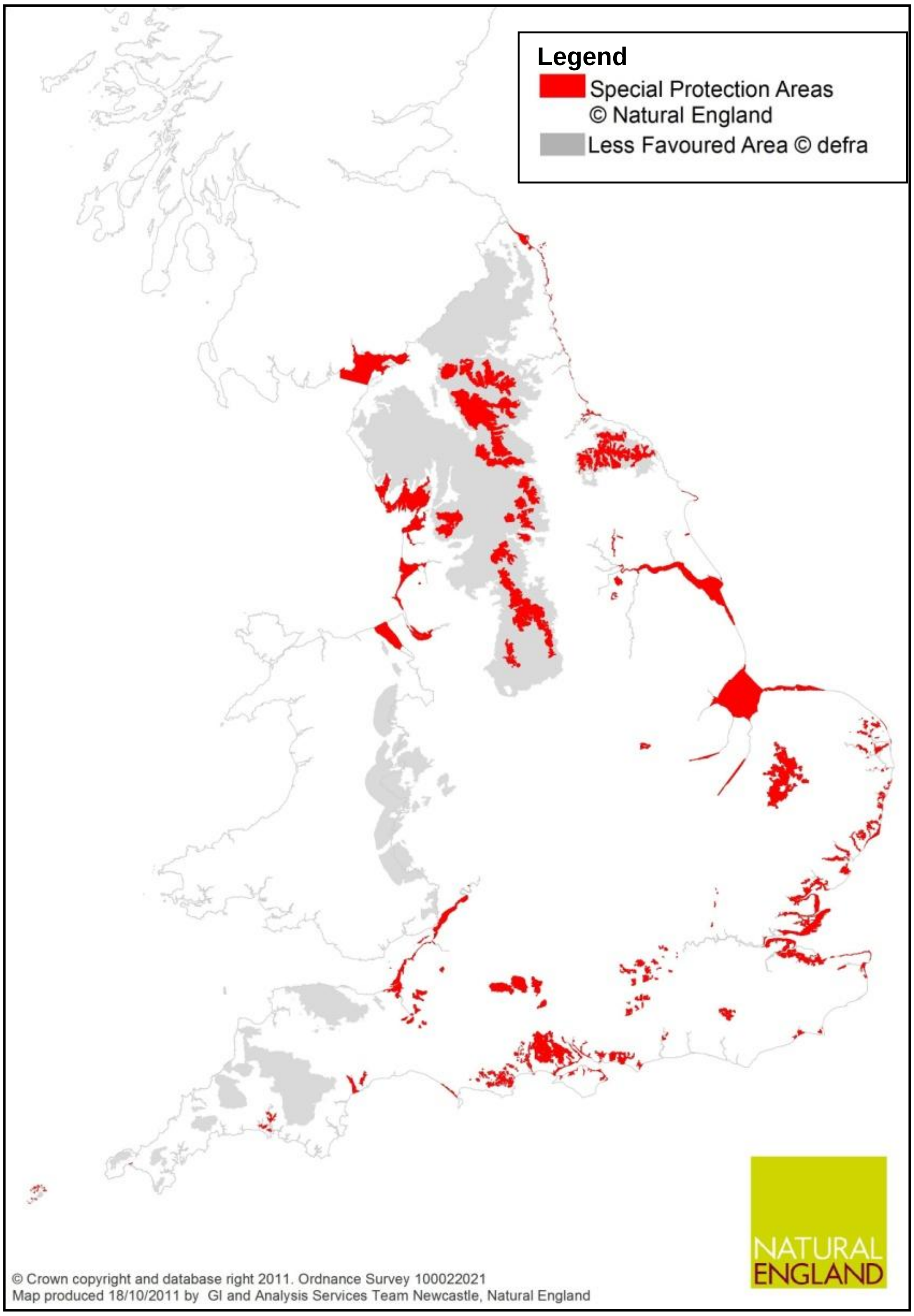
Map of Special Areas of Conservation in England, 2011



Interpretation: There are 241 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) in England, covering an area of just over 1 million hectares. In Less Favoured Areas, SAC cover 365,000 hectares, which is 36% of the SAC coverage in England.

Special Protection Areas

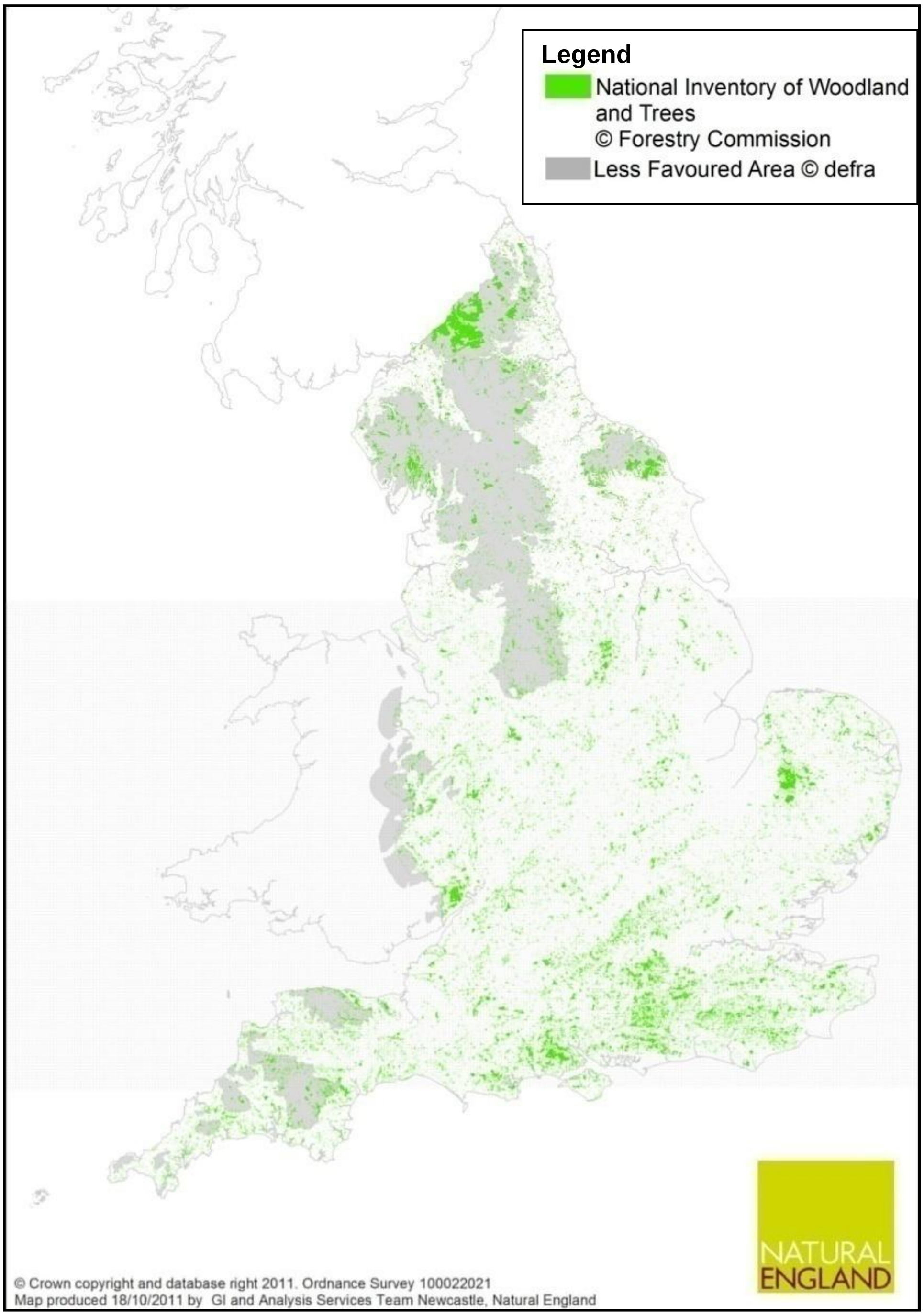
Map of Special Protection Areas in England, 2011



Interpretation: There are 81 Special Protection Areas (SPA) in England, covering almost 750,000 hectares of land. In Less Favoured Areas, SPAs covers 275,000 hectares of land, which is 37% of the SPA coverage in England.

Woodland Areas

Map of Woodland Areas in England, 2011



Interpretation: Woodlands cover just over 1 million hectares of land in England. Almost 250,000 hectares (23%) are in Less Favoured Areas.

Land Designations in England, 2011

	Number of Sites	Area within LFAs (hectares)	Area in England (hectares)	Proportion in LFAs
Ramsar Wetland Sites	70	2,235	392,696	0.6%
Special Areas of Conservation	241	364,495	1,013,012	36.0%
Special Protection Areas	81	274,823	745,542	36.9%
Woodlands		243,870	1,059,763	23.0%

Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance, designated under the Ramsar Convention. Wetlands are areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water. The Ramsar Convention is an international agreement which provides for the conservation and good use of wetlands. **Most of the Ramsar sites in England are located in coastal areas, just 0.6% (by area) are located in Less Favoured Areas (LFAs).**

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) are strictly prohibited sites designated the European Union's Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC). They provide increased protection to a variety of wild animals, plants and habitats. Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are areas of national and international importance for listed rare and vulnerable species of birds and regularly occurring migratory species. SPAs are classified in accordance with the EU Birds Directive (2009/147/EC). SPAs and SACs form part of the Natura 2000 network of protected wildlife areas. **A greater proportion of land is designated as either SAC or SPA within LFAs than elsewhere** (land can be designated as both SAC and SPA so there will be a degree of overlap between these designations). This demonstrates that **LFAs play an important role in conserving biodiversity in England**.

Woodlands have a number of benefits, including, storing carbon, stabilising soil and sheltering many wildlife species. Woodlands therefore have an important role in conserving biodiversity in England. As is the case with the land designations described above, the **proportion of land in LFAs that is woodland is higher than the proportion in the rest of England**.

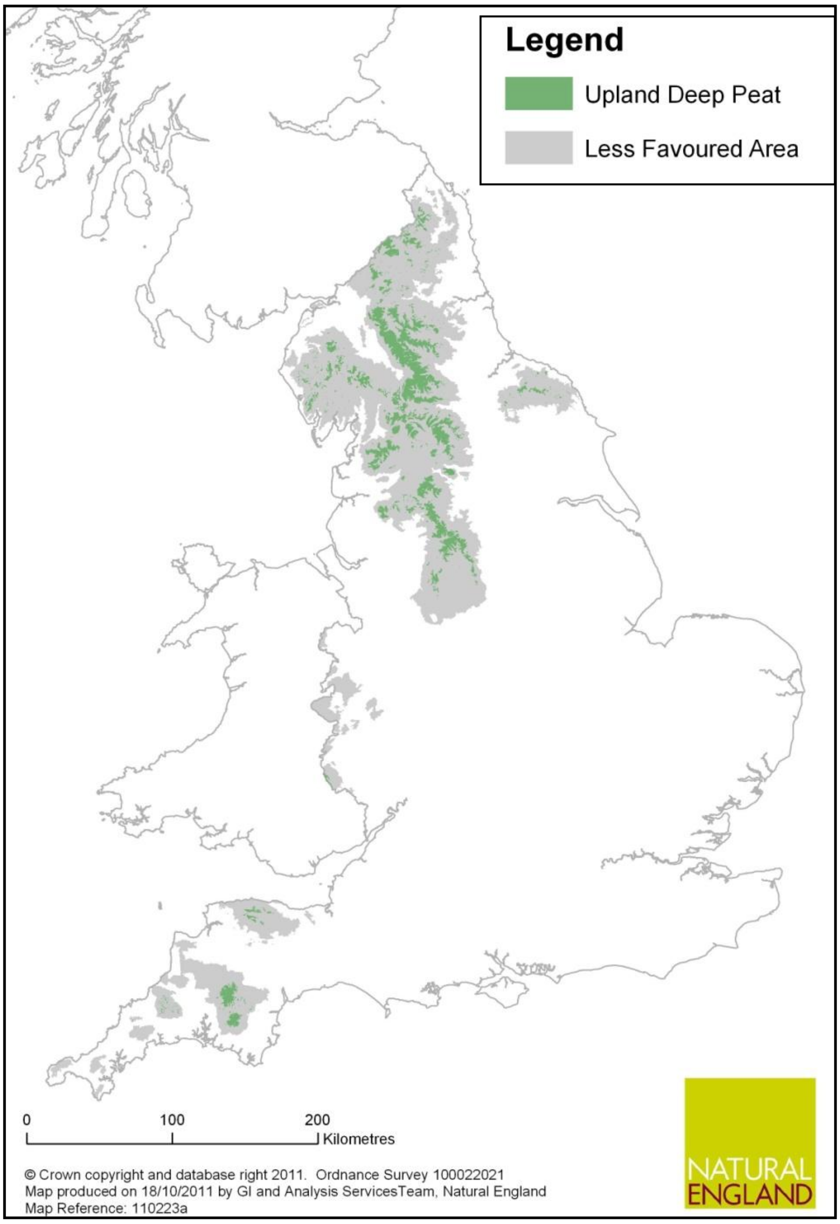
Notes: Areas given for Less Favoured Areas are 'clipped' areas. The polygons are cut by the boundary of the LFA and the resulting areas recalculated. Areas include estuaries and off-shore areas.
Source: Natural England, further information on land designations can be found at
http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designatedareas/default.aspx

Carbon Storage

- Around 320,000 hectares of deep peat soils are located in Less Favoured Areas, which is approximately half of deep peat soils in England.
- Almost 30% of deep peat soils in Less Favoured Areas have been burned or drained to improve land for livestock grazing.
- A further 10% of deep peat soils are deteriorating as a result of burning and draining activities.

Deep Peat Soils

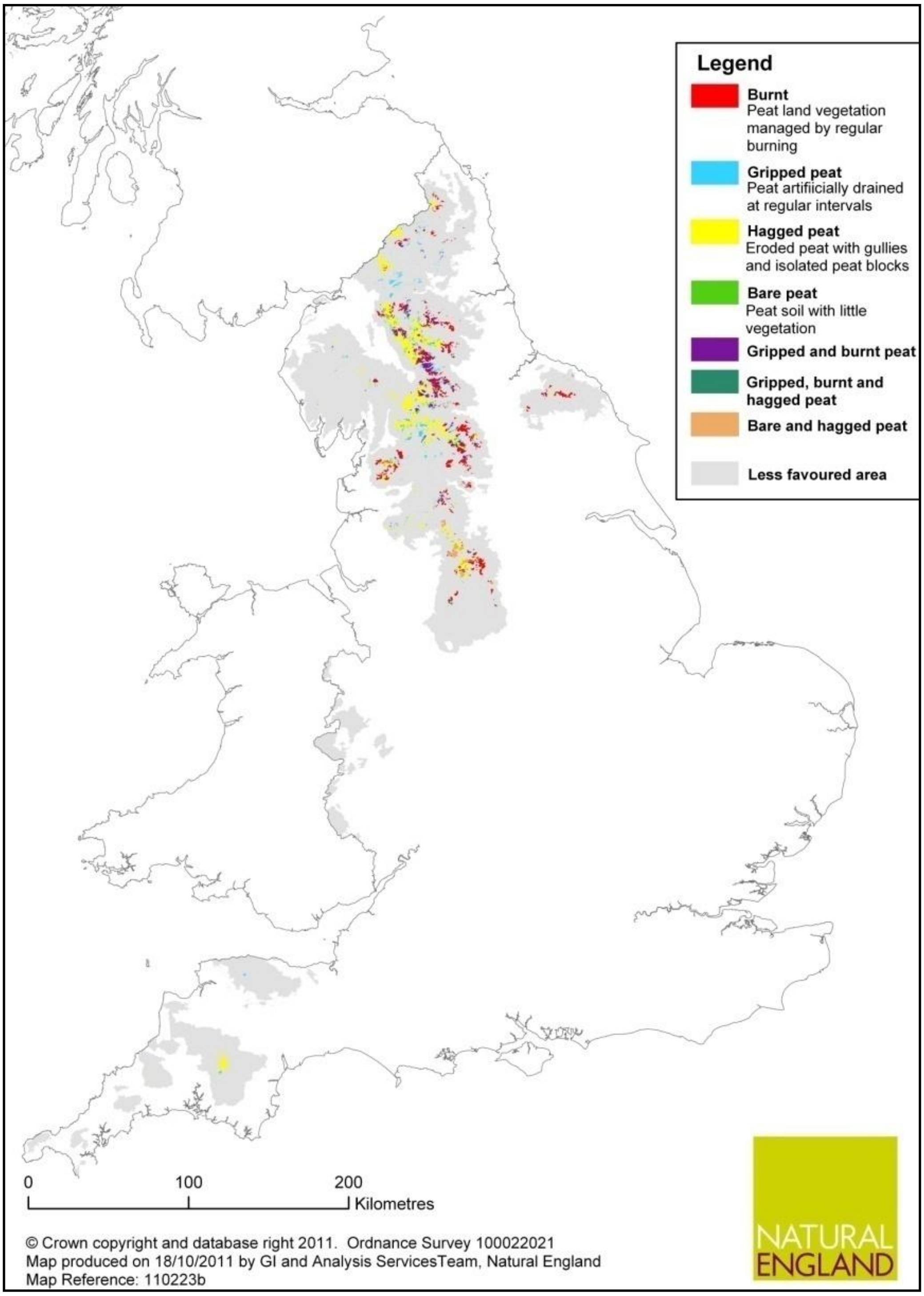
Map of Deep Peat Soils in Less Favoured Areas



Interpretation: Around 320,000 hectares of deep peat soils are located in Less Favoured Areas, which is approximately half of deep peat soils in England.

Condition of Deep Peat Soils

Map of the Condition of Deep Peat Soils in Less Favoured Areas



Interpretation: Around 15% of deep peat soils in LFAs have been burnt, 8% have been artificially drained and 7% have been both drained and burned. Areas of haggs and bare peats, which typically occur as a consequence of burning and draining account for approximately 11% of deep peat soils in LFAs.

Peat is a type of soil that is made from the decomposing remains of plants. These plants do not fully decompose because of the waterlogged conditions that they are located in. Upland peat soils have accumulated over thousands of years because of high rainfall and the way peat retains water, creating waterlogged conditions. Peat is an important aspect of the landscape in England for many reasons including supporting various species and habitats, managing water quality and flood risk and storing carbon. Deep peat soils have peat which is more than 40 cm deep.

Almost half of deep peat soils in England are found in LFAs, demonstrating the important role played by upland areas in storing carbon. In drier conditions the peat soils decompose more rapidly, releasing greenhouse gases back into the atmosphere. So it is important to maintain the waterlogged conditions in areas with deep peat soils.

There is evidence to suggest that changes in the management of peat soils have meant that more peat is drying out, and therefore becoming less effective in storing greenhouse gases. Activities that have caused this change include artificial draining (also called gripping) and burning. This is typically done to prepare the land for livestock grazing or for raising grouse for shooting.

A consequence of gripping and burning is the development of haggs and gullies, which can also be caused by overgrazing and pollution. Gullies are branched erosion features that extend into the peat mass to form a network of channels. Haggs are isolated areas of peat that have been created when gullies meet. Erosion on the edges of haggs and gullies leads to bare peat which can be inhospitable for vegetation and do not absorb water easily. Eventually the peat will erode away.

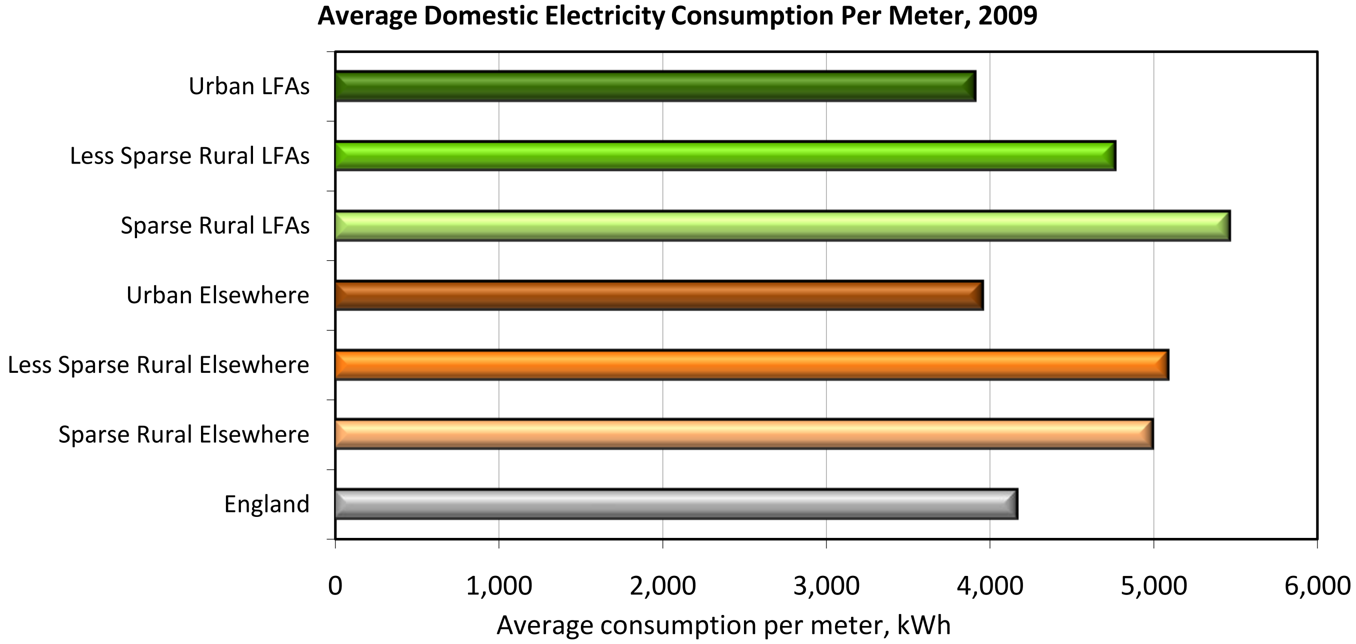
The data shows that the activities described above and the effects associated with this are present in peat soils located in LFAs, suggesting that peat soils in these areas may become less effective in storing carbon in particular areas and could release greenhouse gases back into the atmosphere.

Source: Natural England. The condition of peat soils is based on aerial photographs taken over two periods (full coverage 1999 to 2004 and partial coverage 2003 to 2008)
Further information on peatlands can be found here http://naturalengland.etraderstores.com/NaturalEnglandShop/NE257, http://naturalengland.etraderstores.com/NaturalEnglandShop/NE209

Environment

- In 2009, electricity consumption by the average household in Less Favoured Areas was 4,326kWh, which was higher than the average household in England, 4,163kWh.
- In Less Favoured Areas, average gas consumption was 16,965 kWh in 2009, which is higher than the average gas consumption in England, which was 15,037 kWh.
- Areas of low levels of light pollution are mostly located in Less Favoured Areas.

Electricity Consumption

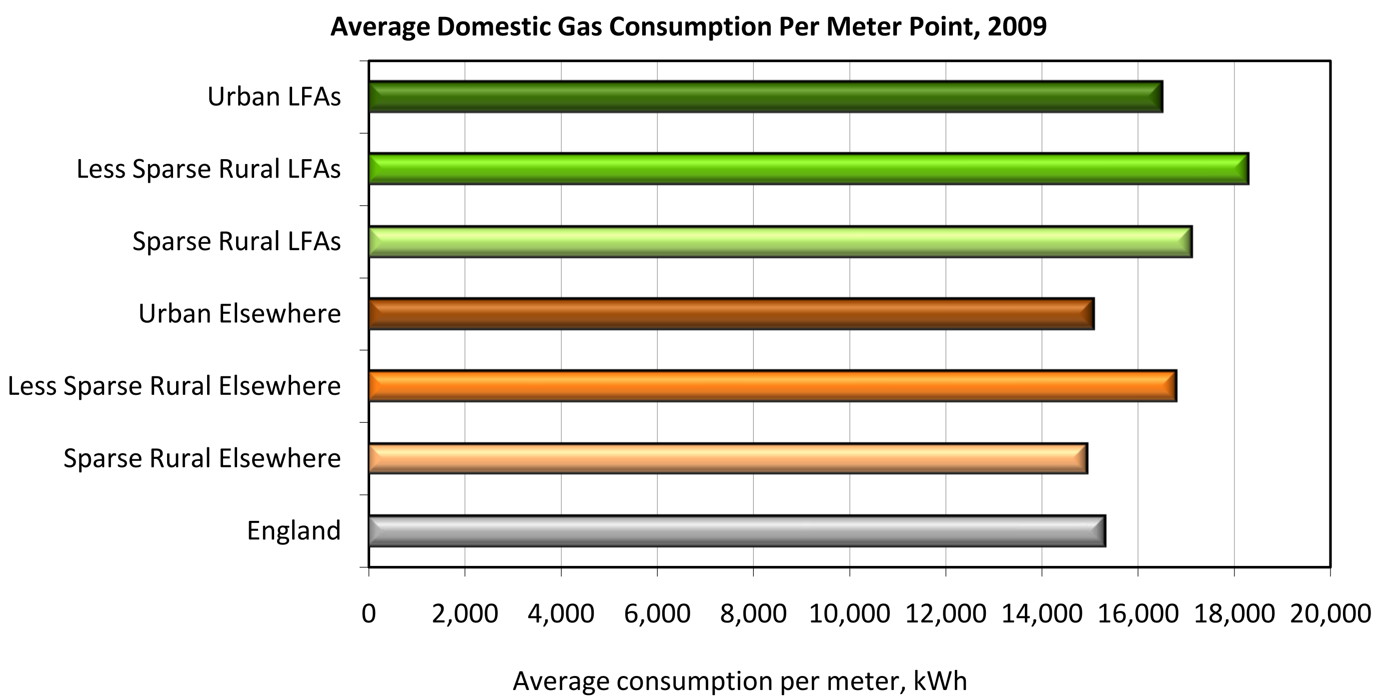


Interpretation: Electricity Consumption by the average household in Less Favoured Areas was 4,326kWh, which was higher than the average household in England, 4,163 kWh. Within LFAs, households in Sparse Rural areas had the highest average electricity consumption, 5,460 kWh. This is the highest for all types of areas considered here and is 31% higher than average electricity consumption in England.

Average Domestic Electricity Consumption per Meter Point, 2009

		Electricity Consumption (kWh)	Number of Meter Points
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	3,909	557,545
	Less Sparse Rural	4,764	269,379
	Sparse Rural	5,460	101,483
Elsewhere	Urban	3,952	17,971,007
	Less Sparse Rural	5,088	3,741,239
	Sparse Rural	4,990	210,611
Less Favoured Areas		4,326	926,407
Elsewhere		4,156	21,922,857
England		**4,163**	**22,849,264**

Gas Consumption



Interpretation: Average gas consumption by households in England was 15,307kWh. In Less Favoured Areas, average gas consumption was higher, 16,965 kWh. The highest average gas consumption was in Less Sparse Rural LFAs at 18,295 kWh. Elsewhere, Less Sparse Rural areas also had the highest gas consumption, 16,784kWh.

Average Domestic Gas Consumption per Meter Point, 2009

		Gas Consumption (kWh)	Number of Meter Points
Less Favoured Areas	Urban	16,480	517,412
	Less Sparse Rural	18,295	185,566
	Sparse Rural	17,117	29,369
Elsewhere	Urban	15,071	16,001,523
	Less Sparse Rural	16,784	29,369
	Sparse Rural	14,939	90,044
Less Favoured Areas		16,965	732,347
Elsewhere		15,288	18,433,662
England		**15,307**	**19,166,009**

In 2009, approximately 23% of UK Greenhouse Gas emissions and 31% of energy consumption came from UK households. So, households have a part to play in reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions. The data shows that both gas and electricity consumption is higher in Less Favoured Areas. However, the data also shows that there is more of a difference seen between the urban and rural areas.

Electricity consumption measures how much electricity households use. Households use electricity for a variety of things including lighting, computers, televisions, and cooking and storing food. **Households in LFAs use more electricity than households elsewhere.** It is not possible to specify why electricity consumption differs between LFAs and elsewhere.

Households typically use gas for heating the home and in some cases cooking food. Similarly, **households in LFAs have higher gas consumption than households elsewhere**. Based on this data it is not possible to explain why there is a difference between LFAs and elsewhere.

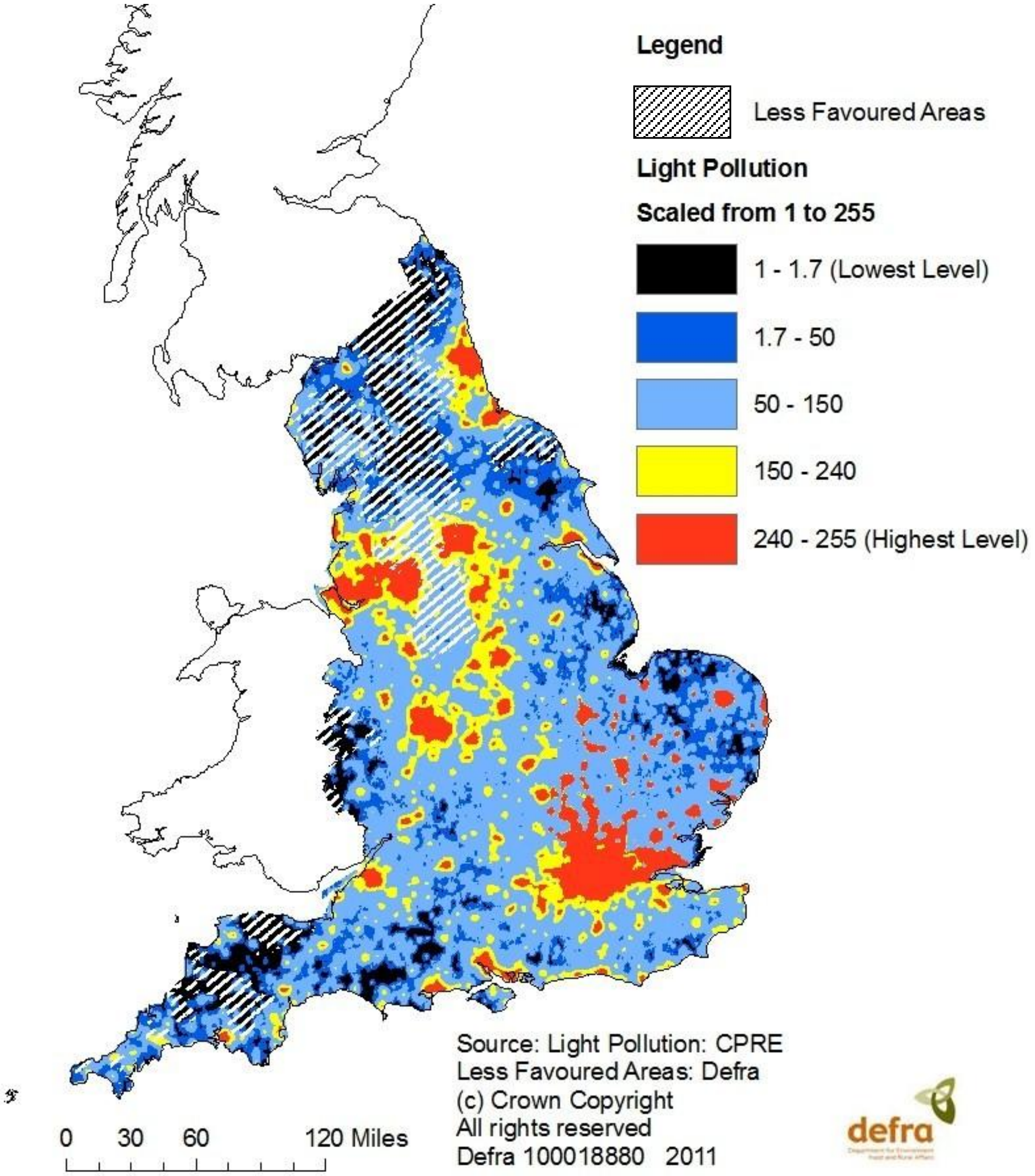
It is important to note that gas and electricity are not the only ways that households contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. Transport is also a significant contributor and greenhouse gases are also embedded in the goods and products households purchase.

The environmental impact is not the only consequence of high energy consumption. Other factors including the cost of this energy consumption also need to be taken account. As average household energy consumption is higher in LFAs, households in LFAs will be paying more. This is discussed further in the Fuel Poverty page in the Living in the Uplands section.

Notes: Electricity Consumption analysis consist of approximately 80 per cent actual readings and 20 per cent estimated readings. The data cover the year 31 January 2009 to 30 January 2010, and it should be noted that January 2010 was the coldest month for 23 years.
Gas Consumption data cover the gas year 1 October 2008 through to the following 30 September and are weather corrected.
Source: Sub-national energy statistics, DECC
Further background on the methodology can be found in the guidance note on the DECC website at:
http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/regional/regional.aspx

Light Pollution

Light Pollution in England, 2000



Light pollution is the adverse effects of artificial light. Adverse effects can include sky glow, glare, and light trespass. Sky glow is the glow that appears due to scattered artificial lights caused by dust particles and water droplets in the sky. Glare occurs when bright light clashes with a dark background. Light trespass is when light goes beyond the property on which the light is located. Types of artificial lighting that commonly causes light pollution are street lighting, security lights in gardens and flood lighting used for sporting events.

There are various consequences of light pollution. Artificial lighting requires energy to power it, so there will be both environmental impacts and financial costs of introducing artificial lighting. It can also disturb wildlife and ecosystems in the area.

The map above shows the level of light pollution in England, where areas with the highest level of light pollution is shown in red and the lowest in black. It is clear that the areas of high light pollution are in major urban areas. Smalls areas of high light pollution also appear in LFAs, where LFAs are on the urban boundary. However, **many areas with low levels of light pollution are in LFAs**. This suggests that the types of lighting mentioned above are not used as intensively in LFAs than in other areas. Therefore, LFAs will not encounter the adverse effects of light pollution that other areas will face.

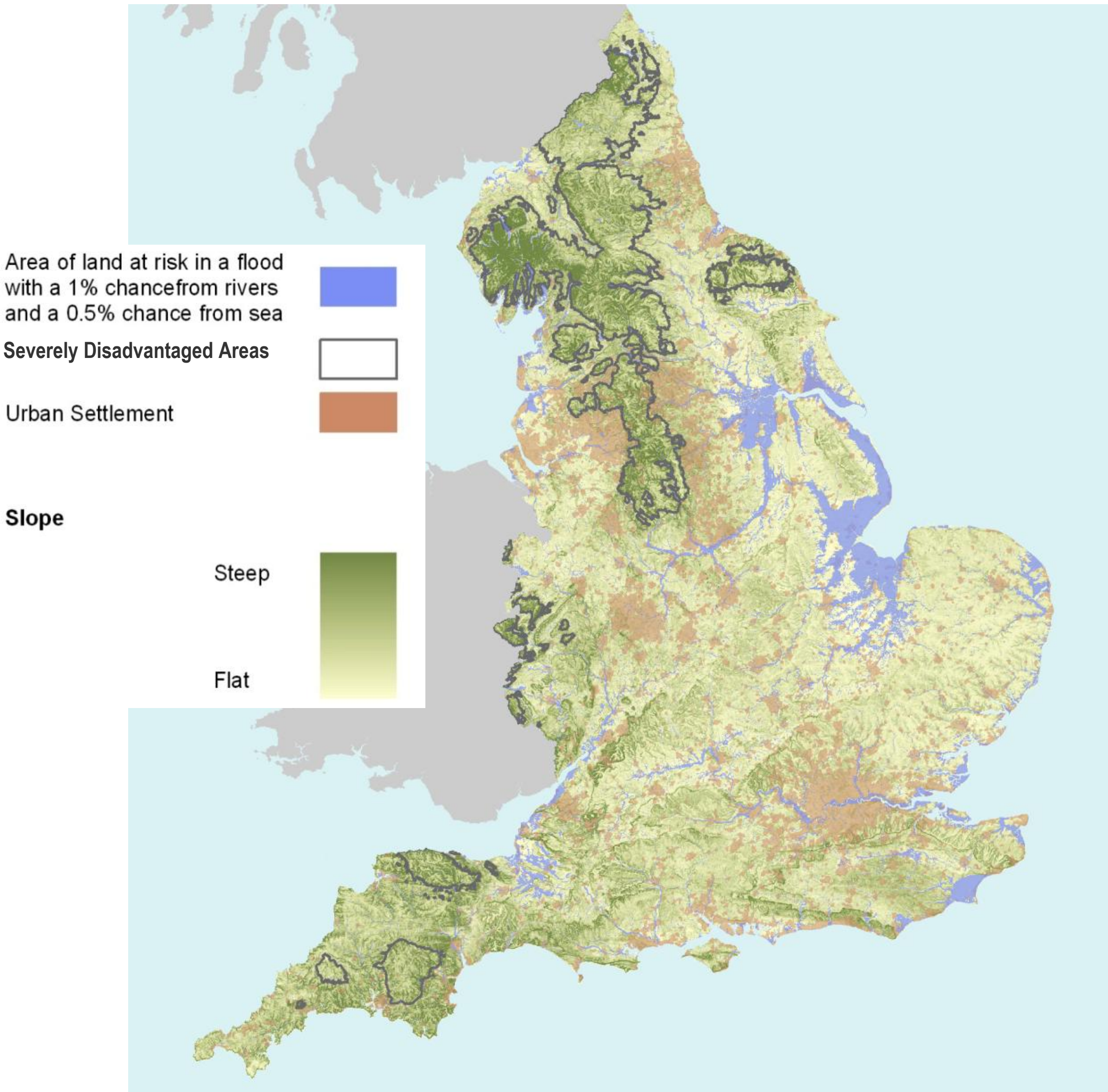
Source: Campaign to Protect Rural England

Water

- Most flood zones in England in 2009 can be found on coastal regions; however, flood zones are also located in areas surrounding Less Favoured Areas.
- Areas of high average rainfall in January 2008 are found in Less Favoured Areas rather than elsewhere.

Flood Zones

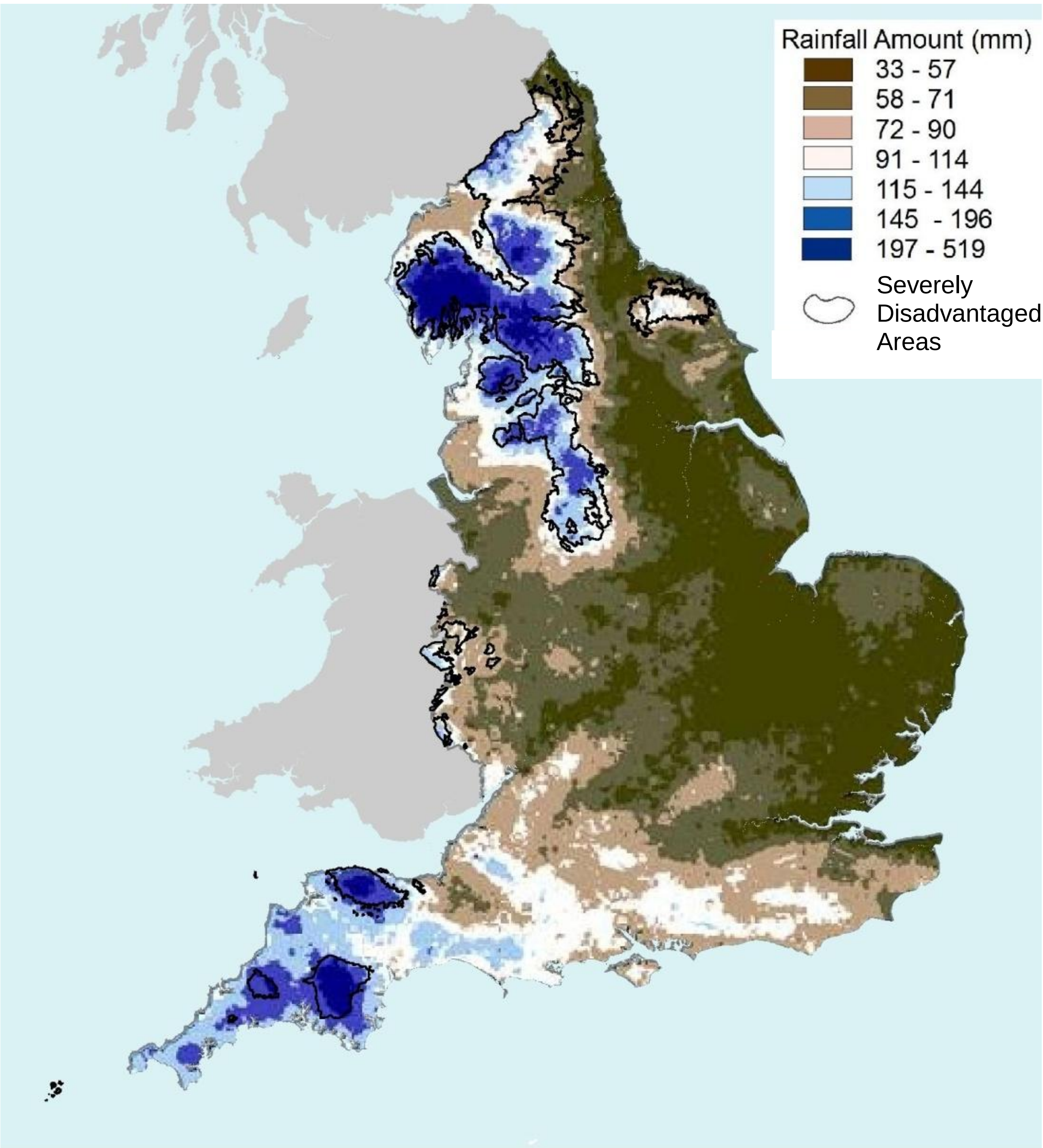
Flood Zones and Slopes in England, 2009



Source: Natural England, Ordinance Survey, 2009. Copyright Environment Agency

Rainfall

January Rainfall in England, 2008



Source: Met Office, 2008. Copyright Met Office

A flood happens when an area of land, which is usually dry, is temporarily covered by water. Flood risk measures the chance of a flood occurring and the severity of the impact of a flood happening in that area. In this map an area is considered to be at risk of flooding if there is a 1% chance of flooding by sea or 0.5% chance of flooding by rivers.

Most of the areas in England at risk of flooding are in coastal areas; however, there are areas near to SDAs that are also at risk of flooding. This suggests that **SDAs could be a source of flood waters for surrounding areas**. The reason for this is, as the map demonstrates, steeper slopes of land are found in SDAs. Therefore, when rainfall occurs, the speed of run-off from the land is faster than elsewhere. Usually rivers are able to absorb this runoff but if the river does not have the capacity to do this, the river will overflow, which will cause a flood.

The map of the average rainfall in January 2008 shows that the amount of rainfall is much higher in SDAs than elsewhere. All of the areas in England with the highest level or rainfall, 197-519 mm, were in SDAs. Relief rainfall is formed when air is forced to cool when it rises over areas of high relief and is forced upwards, causing it to cool and condense which forms rain. As **SDAs are generally areas of high land, relief rain will typically occur in SDAs**, which may partly account for the high levels of rainfall in these areas.

The map also shows that rainfall is higher in the West of England than the East of England. A lot of the weather in England is brought across from the Atlantic Ocean by prevailing winds. The winds scoop up water from the Atlantic Ocean and deposits the water as rain when the hit areas of high relief. Almost all SDAs are located in the West of England, which suggests that rainfall in SDAs may be influenced by the weather we receive from the Atlantic.

What happens to rainfall when it reaches the ground is dependent on the type of land it meets. In urban areas, there is little soil to absorb the rain so water flows faster, through drainage systems to nearby rivers. In other areas, rainfall runs over the ground surface and can be stored in lakes, for example, or is absorbed by the ground before it flows through the soil into rivers. Water is abstracted from rivers for consumption, so the **heavy rainfall in SDAs could make a significant contribution towards the water that is used by households and industry in England**. The high level of rainfall in SDAs may also influence the higher risk of floods in the areas surrounding LFAs.