

Census 2021

Welsh Language
Topic Report
December 2022



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council



Caru•Love
Ceredigion

31,678

Welsh speakers in
Ceredigion

(As at March 2021)



45.3%

Of Ceredigion's population
state they can speak Welsh

2.0

Percentage point decrease in
the proportion of Welsh
speakers since 2011



-3,286

Welsh speakers in Ceredigion
since Census 2011

59.0%

Can speak Welsh in
Aberaeron LSOA, the
highest proportion of Welsh
speakers across the County

(The lowest is Penglais 1 LSOA
19.7%)



Breakdown of Skills

Speak Welsh – 45.3%
Can speak, read and write
Welsh – 37.3%
No skills in Welsh – 43.6%

46.7%

Of Ceredigion residents state
their nationality as "Welsh
only"

(0.1 percentage points increase since the
2011 Census)



Breakdown of Welsh speakers by age

3-15: 71.8%
16-64: 42.4%
65+: 39.9%

SUMMARY

WALES

- In 2021, an estimated 538,000 usual residents in Wales aged three years and over (17.8%) reported being able to speak Welsh, which is a decrease since 2011 (562,000, 19.0%).
- The local authority with the highest percentage of Welsh speakers was Gwynedd (64.4%), followed by Isle of Anglesey (55.8%) and Ceredigion (45.3%).
- Carmarthenshire experienced the largest decrease in the percentage of Welsh speakers, falling by 4.1 percentage points. Cardiff experienced the greatest increase, up by 1.1 percentage points since the 2011 Census.



CEREDIGION

- Just under half of the population (45.3% / 31,680 residents) reported being able to speak Welsh, which equates to a loss of 3,290 Welsh speakers over the decade (a 2.0 percentage point decrease).
- This is a continuation of a declining trend since the 1981 Census. Although, the pace of decline was slower over the last decade compared to the period between the 1991-2001 and 2001-2011 censuses.
- Subsequent surveys in the years before the 2021 Census present a more positive picture, albeit based on a survey sample rather than the whole population.



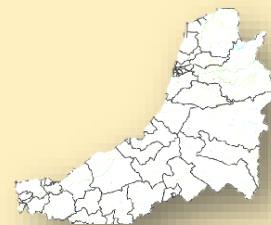
CEREDIGION – WELSH SPEAKERS BY AGE

- Children and young adults continue to be the age group most likely to speak Welsh in Ceredigion. This reflects the positive influence of our education system on the linguistic skills of school children.
- The age profile of adults who can speak Welsh is changing. In 2021, 20- to 44-year-olds were the age group most likely to speak Welsh (43.1%/8,585 residents), which was different to 2011, when the percentage was highest for people aged 75 and over (50.1%/3,630 residents).
- The main factor contributing to the overall decrease of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion is attributed to the decrease in the Welsh speaking ability of children and young people aged 3 to 15 years old (down 6.6 percentage points), and 65+ year-olds (down 6.5 percentage points) since the 2011 Census.
- The decline in the number and percentage of children able to speak Welsh is a new trend, which is concerning.
- Despite the overall decline in the percentage and numbers of Welsh speakers, the proportion of adults able to speak Welsh (16- to 44-year-olds) increased by 2.2 percentage points since the 2011 Census. This is a new, positive trend, which suggests that progress is being made in retaining Welsh speakers.



CEREDIGION – SMALLER GEOGRAPHIES

- The Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) which had the **highest percentage of Welsh speakers** (aged three years or older) was **Aberaeron LSOA** (59.0%). This was different to 2011, when Tregaron LSOA had the highest percentage (66.9%).
- The areas with the **lowest proportions of Welsh speakers** are situated within the **Town of Aberystwyth**, which is unsurprising given the large student population.
- Overall, the percentages of Welsh speakers across the County had declined since 2011. However, in **eight out of the forty-five LSOA's**, the proportion of Welsh speakers **increased**. The **greatest increase** was in Lampeter 1 LSOA (up 7.9 percentage points).
- The electoral ward with the **highest percentage of Welsh speakers** was the **Ystwyth Ward** (57.2%). **Aberystwyth Rheidol Ward** had the **lowest percentage of Welsh speakers** in Ceredigion (27.6%).
- In terms of percentage point change, **Llangeitho Ward** saw the **greatest decrease** in the percentage of Welsh speakers (down 7.5 percentage points). On the other hand, the **Lampeter ward** experienced the **greatest increase** since 2011 (up 1.9 percentage points).



CEREDIGION – OTHER WELSH LANGUAGE SKILLS

- The **greatest decrease** out of the other Welsh language skills was seen in the percentage of people aged three years or older that were **“able to speak, read and write Welsh”**, decreasing by 1.0 percentage point, from 38.3% to 37.3%.
- The percentage reporting that they were able to **“understand spoken Welsh only”** increased from 8.1% (6,020) in 2011 to 8.5% in 2021, an increase of 0.4 percentage points.



CEREDIGION – FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CEREDIGION'S WELSH LANGUAGE PROFILE

- To truly understand the factors driving Ceredigion's overall decline in Welsh speakers **further 2021 Census data is required**. However, where possible certain factors are considered.
- This decline has happened during a time of **demographic change**. Fewer children were born in Ceredigion and there has been a **loss of older cohorts** with higher levels of Welsh speaking ability. At the same time, the **percentage of non-UK born, and non-Welsh born residents** has increased.
- A number of our younger population move from Ceredigion to Cardiff to seek further education, employment and social opportunities. It is likely that this cohort has some level of Welsh speaking ability. Anecdotally we know that some will stay in the city, however, some do return to Ceredigion to seek a less busy lifestyle/ start a family.
- The **2021 Census was held during the COVID-19 pandemic**. Although difficult to quantify, the COVID-19 pandemic **may have negatively impacted peoples reported Welsh language ability**.
- Research has shown that prolonged periods of isolation away from Welsh-speaking teachers and peers is likely to have **negatively impacted** children's linguistic **confidence** and **fluency**.
- It is important to note that on the day of Census enumeration, Cymraeg 2050 had only been in place for four years, and much of that time was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, there is still good reasons to be **optimistic about achieving the national target** of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.



Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 National and local targets	1
2.0 Wales: an overview	2
2.1 Welsh speaking ability	2
2.2 Population mobility	4
2.3 Welsh language skills	4
3.0 Ceredigion: an overview	5
3.1 Welsh speaking ability	5
3.2 The distribution of Welsh speakers by age	8
3.3 The position locally	13
3.4 Welsh language skills	16
4.0 Potential factors contributing to Welsh language position	17
4.1 Population mobility	17
4.2 National identity	19
4.3 COVID-19 Pandemic	19
5.0 Conclusion	20
Appendices	
1. Ceredigion Welsh speakers by LSOA – percentages and numbers	21
2. Ceredigion Welsh speakers by electoral wards – percentages and numbers	22
3. LSOA (Lower Super Output Area) boundary change disclaimer	23
4. Electoral ward boundary change disclaimer	24

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

This Topic Paper is part of Ceredigion County Council's series of five bespoke reports analysing the results of the 2021 Census. This report looks specifically at the Welsh language in Ceredigion, highlighting the results and key trends. It is intended to support the Council's understanding of Welsh language skills in the County and provide a starting point for conducting the upcoming assessment of the Council's current Welsh language Strategy 2018-23 which will be refreshed in 2023. While this report focuses specifically on Welsh language skills, it does refer to nationality and country of birth to help provide the context.

The Census is considered to be the authoritative source of information on the Welsh language. A question on Welsh language skills has been included in every census in Wales since 1891. However, as we unpick the data from the 2021 Census, it is important to acknowledge that the Census results provide a snapshot of the population in one moment of time (on the 21st of March 2021).

Notably, the 2021 Census took place during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has affected the population in a variety of ways. This followed periods of lockdown, remote learning for children and many people were working from home. Although difficult to quantify, it is likely that the pandemic has had an impact on peoples reported Welsh language ability in Ceredigion and across Wales as a whole. As such, other sources, such as the National Survey for Wales and Annual Population Survey will be considered to improve the validity and reliability of the conclusions made.

1.2 National and local targets

In 2017, the Welsh Government set out two ambitious targets by 2050, which includes: to reach a million Welsh speakers nationally, and to double the percentage of the population who use Welsh daily.

As a requirement of the Welsh language Standards and in accordance with the Welsh language (Wales) Measure 2011, Ceredigion produced a Language Strategy (2018-2023). The Strategy outlined how Ceredigion will work with partner organisations to promote the Welsh language and to facilitate the use of the Welsh language more broadly within the local area. The Strategy also included a target for increasing the number of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion by 1.5% to 48.5%, (which equates to 1,500 more Welsh speakers) by 2023.¹ As reflected in the report, unfortunately, this target has not been achieved. This report will be used as part of the evidence-base to inform the new Welsh language Strategy for Ceredigion (2024-2029) and include a revised target for the County to reach by 2029.

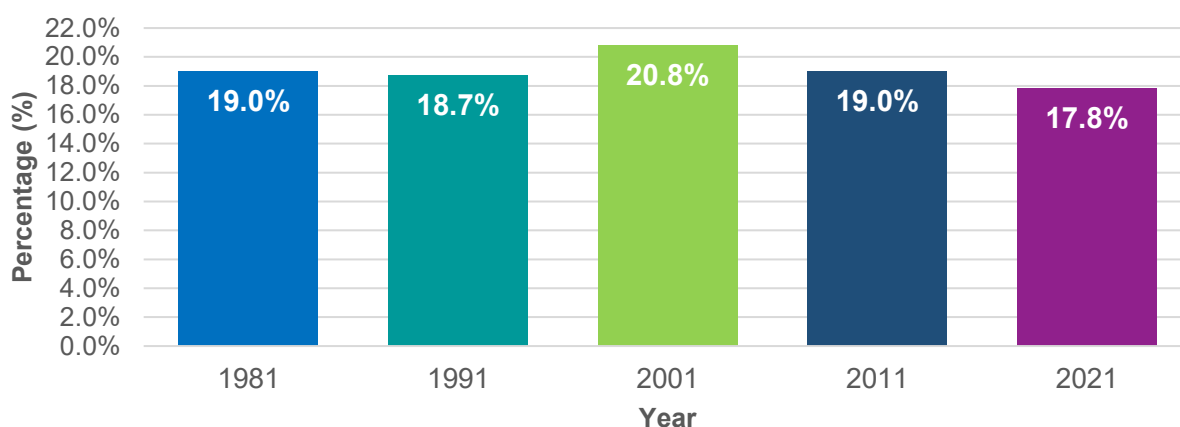
2.0 Wales: an overview

2.1 Welsh speaking ability - Wales

Since the last Census in 2011, the number and percentage of Welsh speakers in Wales has decreased. According to census data, this is a continuation of a declining trend in Welsh speakers across Wales since 2001.

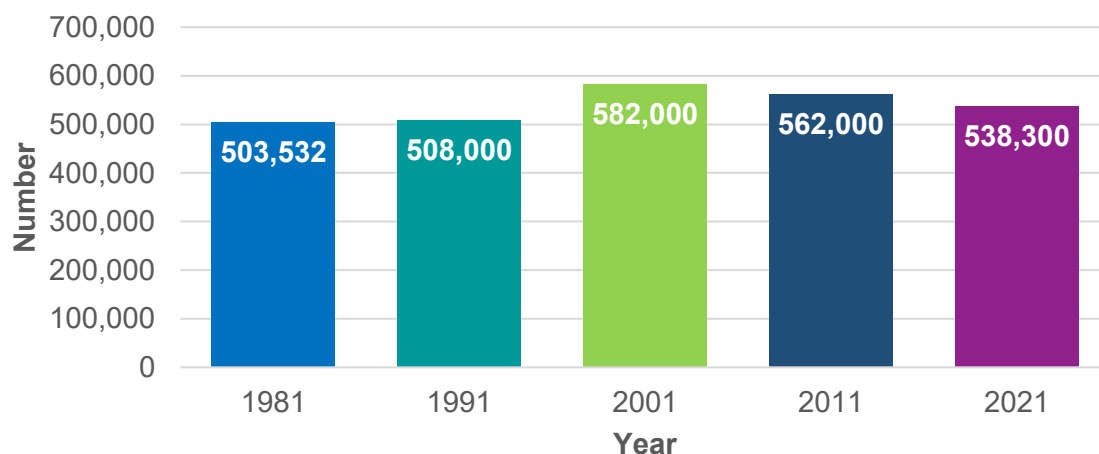
On Census Day, 21 March 2021, an estimated 538,300 usual residents aged three years or older in Wales reported being able to speak Welsh (17.8% of the population). This is a decrease of 23,700 since the Census in 2011, or a decrease of 1.2 percentage points. Although this was the lowest percentage of Welsh speakers in Wales ever recorded in a census, the actual number of Welsh speakers in 2021 was still higher than in the 1981 and 1991 censuses. Figures 1 and 2 highlight the percentage and number of the population in Wales able to speak Welsh according to Census results from 1981-2021.

Figure 1: Percentage of the population aged 3 years and older in Wales able to speak Welsh 1981-2021



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 1981, 1991, 2001, 2011, 2021²

Figure 2: Number of Welsh speakers in Wales 3 years and older from 1981-2021



Source: ONS, Census 1981, 1991, 2001, 2011, 2021³

As reflected in Table 1, approximately 74% of the overall decrease in Welsh speaking ability across Wales can be attributed to the substantially fewer numbers of young people in the 5-15 age range in 2021, compared to 2011 (-17,600). This was the largest percentage point decrease (6.0 percentage points) of any age group. There was a similar decrease for 3–4-year-olds, decreasing from 23.3% in 2011 to 18.2% in 2021, a 5.2 percentage point decrease.

Positively, there were small increases in the percentage of people able to speak Welsh in the younger adult age groups, those aged 16-19, by 0.5 percentage points and those aged 20-44, by 0.9 percentage points. However, this increase was offset by a decrease in the younger age groups and the older age groups (45–64-year-olds, 65–74-year-olds and people aged 75 and over).

Table 1: Number and percentage of people aged three years and over able to speak Welsh, by age group, 2011 to 2021.

Age group	2011		2021		Difference	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>% Point</i>
3-4	16,500	23.3	11,900	18.2	-4,500	-5.2
5-15	152,300	40.3	134,700	34.3	-17,600	-6.0
16-19	43,700	27.0	38,800	27.5	-4,800	0.5
20-44	150,700	15.6	153,800	16.5	3,000	0.9
45-64	107,900	13.3	107,300	13.0	-600	-0.2
65-74	45,100	15.0	45,900	12.8	800	-2.2
75+	45,800	17.5	45,800	15.1	0	-2.4
All ages (3+)	562,000	19.0	538,300	17.8	-23,700	-1.2

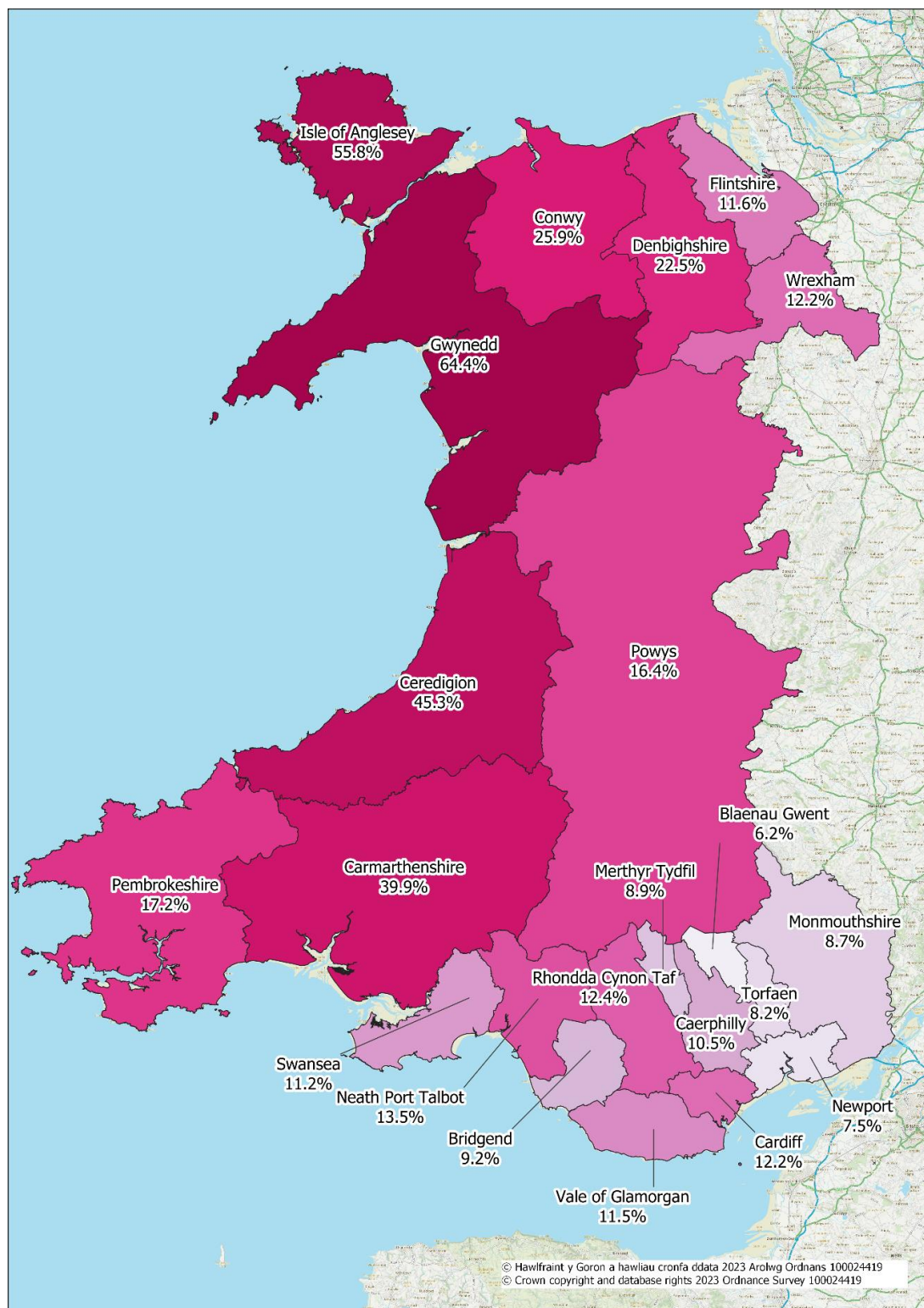
Source: ONS, 2011 Census: Table KS207WA and 2021 Census: Table - TS033⁴

* Figures may not sum due to rounding

Children and young adults continue to be the age group most likely to speak Welsh. However, it appears that the age profile of adults who can speak Welsh is changing. In 2021, 20- to 44-year-olds were the age group most likely to speak Welsh (16.5%), this was different from 2011, when the percentage was highest for people aged 75 years and over (17.5%).

The highest numbers and percentages of people three years and over who reported Welsh speaking ability continues to be seen in parts of north and west Wales, whilst the counties in the south and southeast recorded the lowest proportions (refer to Figure 3). The local authority with the highest percentage of people aged three years or older able to speak Welsh in Census 2021 was Gwynedd (64.4%). Meanwhile, Blaenau Gwent recorded the lowest percentage of Welsh speakers within its population aged three years or older, with just 6.2% of the population.

Figure 3: Percentage of Welsh speakers over the age of 3 recorded in the 2021 Census by Welsh local authorities

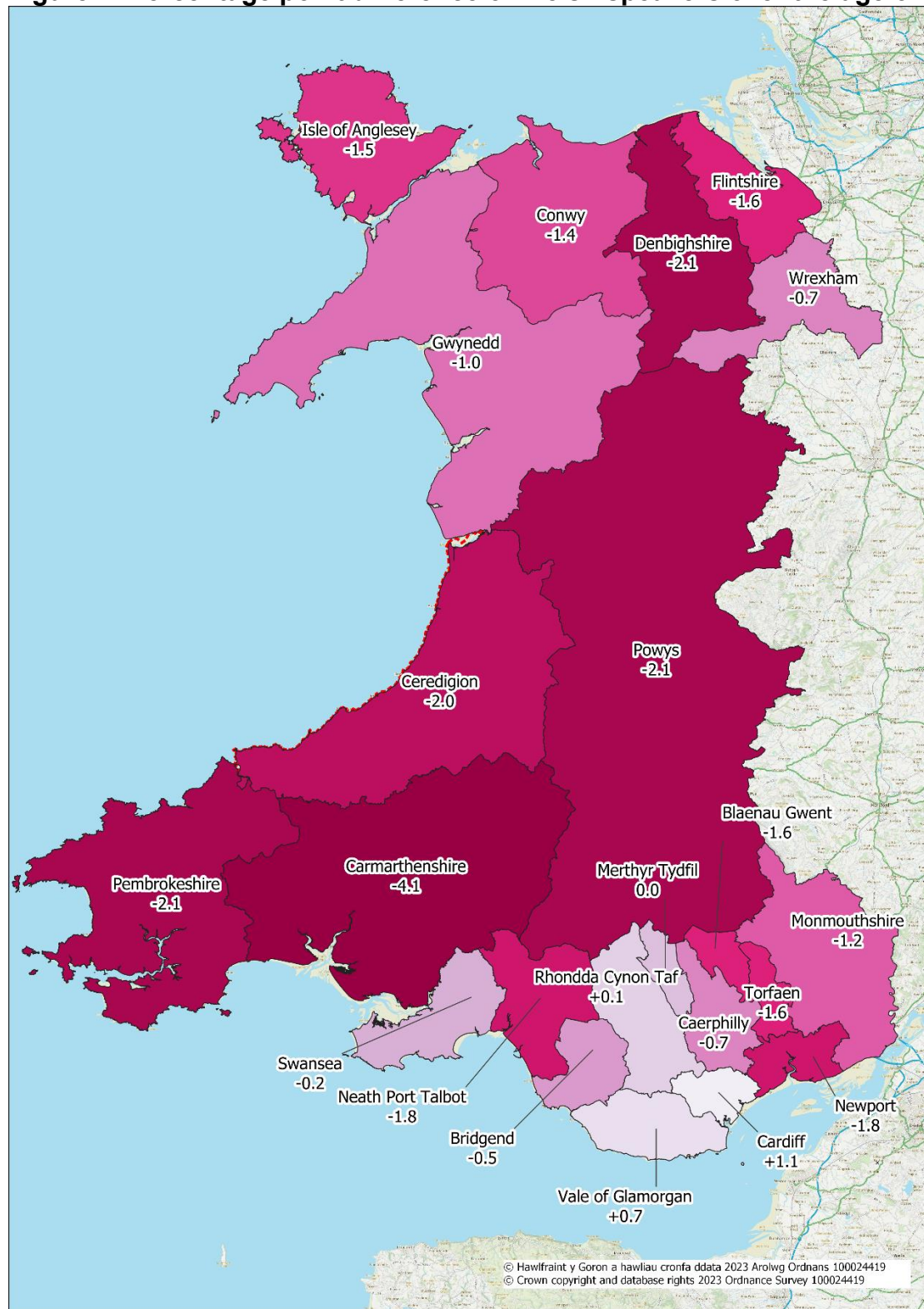


Source: ONS, Census 2021 – Table TS032⁵

Over the decade, the change in Welsh speaking ability across Wales has varied. Although there was a general decline in the percentages and numbers reported, the greatest decline occurred in those

counties in the west and in the mid and north-east that have the highest proportions of Welsh speakers. Interestingly, it was the local authorities in the south-west (Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil), with some of the lowest proportions of Welsh speakers, that saw an increase between 2011 and 2021. Figure 4 outlines the differences in the percentage of people over the age of 3 able to speak Welsh between 2011 and 2021, by local authority area.

Figure 4: Percentage point difference of Welsh speakers over the age of three, 2011 to 2021



Source: ONS, Census 2011- Table KS207WA and 2021 Census: Table - TS033⁶

Carmarthenshire experienced the largest decrease in the percentage of people aged three years or older able to speak Welsh, falling by 4.1 percentage points, from 43.9% in 2011 to 39.9% in 2021*. Cardiff experienced the greatest increase, up from 11.1% in 2011 to 12.2% in 2021, an increase of around 6,000 people and 1.1 percentage points.

2.2 Population mobility

To gain a better understanding of the national linguistic profile over the last decade, it is important to acknowledge the demographic changes that have occurred during this period. The decrease in Welsh speakers in Wales could be attributed to the following: fewer children being born in Wales, the loss of older cohorts with higher levels of Welsh speakers and migration (out-migration of Welsh speakers and in-migration of non-Welsh speakers). The section below explores these potential factors in greater detail.

The population of Wales continued to increase by approximately 1.4% (44,000) from 3,063,000 to 3,107,000 between Census 2011 and Census 2021.^{7 8} This was the largest population ever recorded through a census in Wales. As Wales experienced a negative natural growth (more deaths than births) between 2011 and 2021, the population growth is due to more people moving into Wales than leaving Wales.⁹

Furthermore, the proportion of the Welsh population born outside of Wales has increased over the decade, from 27.3% (2,226,000) in 2011 to 29.1% (2,202,100) in 2021.^{10 11} We know from previous censuses that people born outside Wales are much less likely to report being able to speak Welsh than people born in Wales.

Additionally, there is a notable number of Welsh born individuals living in England. In 2011, 506,600 Welsh-born individuals resided in England (0.9% of England's overall population). In 2021, this decreased slightly to 478,700 individuals, comprising of 0.8% of England's population.¹² Although the Census does not collect information on Welsh language ability of residents outside of Wales, it does record their main language. According to the 2021 Census, 7,350 people in England recorded Welsh to be their main language.¹³ It is therefore likely that some of the Welsh born population living in England have Welsh speaking abilities. However, further research would be necessary to understand the extent of Welsh speaking ability of this cohort.

2.3 Language skills

Another characteristic of the differences identified between 2011 and 2021 was the overall change to people's language skills between censuses. The percentage identified as being able to speak, read and write Welsh decreased slightly from 14.6% to 14.2% (equating to around 1,400 fewer people).¹⁴ However, this was a smaller decrease than what was seen in the percentage and number of people aged three years or older able to speak Welsh. Simultaneously, the percentage reporting that they were able to

* Figures may not sum due to rounding.

understand only spoken Welsh (but not able to speak, read or write Welsh) decreased slightly from 5.3% in 2011 to 5.2% in 2021. Overall, nearly three quarters of the population aged three years or older (74.8%) reported they had no Welsh language skills in 2021, which is an increase from 73.3% in 2011.

3.0 Ceredigion an overview

3.1 Welsh speaking ability in Ceredigion

Based on the recent censuses, to a certain extent, the trends in Ceredigion are broadly similar to that across Wales as a whole.

The 2021 Census results reveal that the percentage of usual residents aged three years or over in Ceredigion that can speak Welsh, has declined over the last decade. On Census Day, just under half of the population (45.3% / 31,680 residents) reported being able to speak Welsh. This is a loss of 3,290 since the 2011 Census, a decrease of 2.0 percentage points, see Table 2.

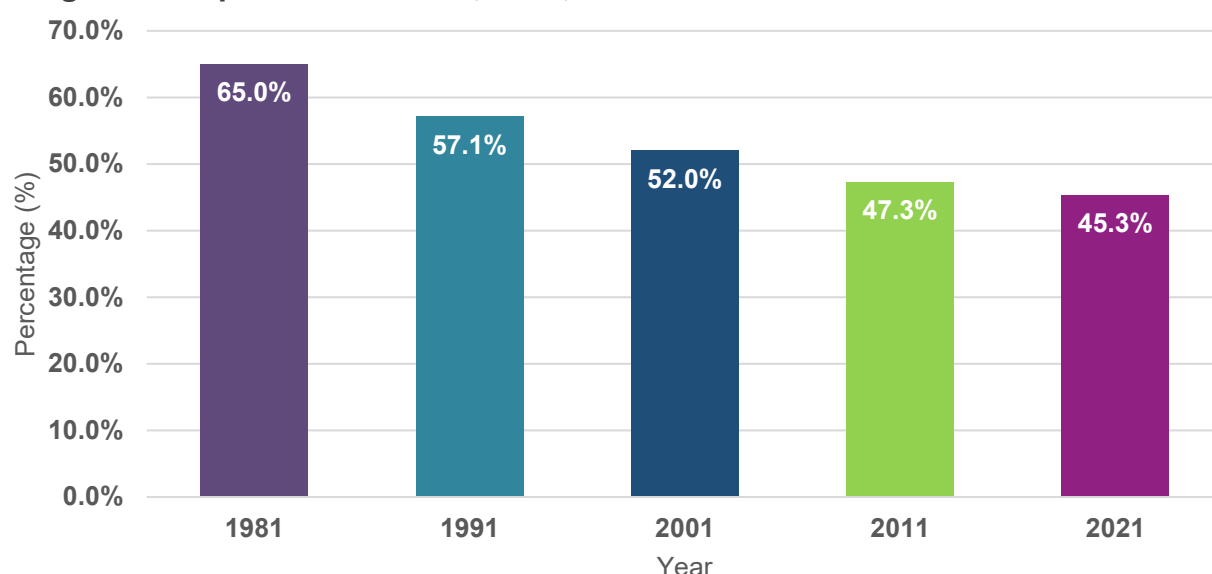
Table 2: Percentage and number of Welsh speakers aged 3 years and over in Ceredigion, 2011 and 2021 Census.

	2011	2021	Difference
% of Welsh Speakers (aged 3 and over)	47.3%	45.3%	-2.0 percentage points
Number of Welsh Speakers (aged 3 and over)	34,960	31,680	-3,290 people

Source: ONS 2011 Census: Table KS207WA and 2021 Census: Table - TS033

According to the 2021 Census, the percentage of residents aged three years or older able to speak Welsh in Ceredigion was the lowest in Census history (45.3%). As reflected in Figure 5 below, this is a continuation of a declining trend in the percentage of Welsh speakers in the County since the 1981 Census. Notably, however, the pace of decline was slower over the last decade (2.0 percentage point decrease), compared to the 1991-2001 (5.1 percentage point decrease) and to 2001-2011 (4.7 percentage point decrease).

Figure 5: Percentage of residents aged 3 years and over reported being able to speak Welsh 1991, 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census

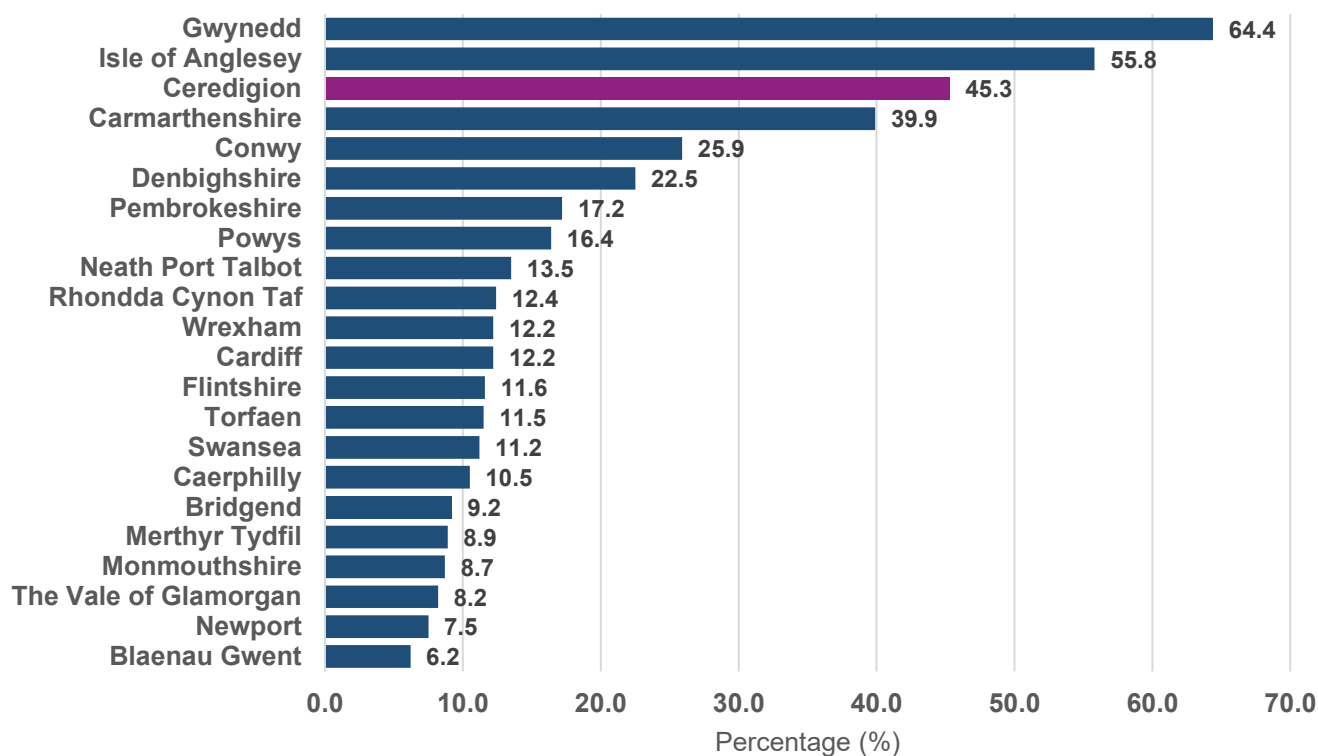


Source: ONS, 1991, 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census. ^{15*}

Positively, in 2021, Ceredigion remained the local authority with the third highest percentage of Welsh speakers aged three years or older. The local authorities with a higher percentage of Welsh speakers in Wales were Gwynedd (64.4%) and Ynys Mon (55.8%). Historically local authorities in northwest Wales tend to have the highest number and proportion of Welsh speakers. Figure 6 highlights the percentage of Welsh speakers over the age of three across all twenty-two Welsh local authorities.

* Care must be taken when interpreting the change in Welsh language ability between the 1991 and 2001 censuses, as there were changes in the definition of "usual resident population". In 1991, students and schoolchildren were counted as resident at their home address (out of term address), whilst in 2001 and the proceeding censuses, they were counted at their term time address.

Figure 6: Percentage of Welsh speakers aged 3 years or older in all 22 Welsh local authorities

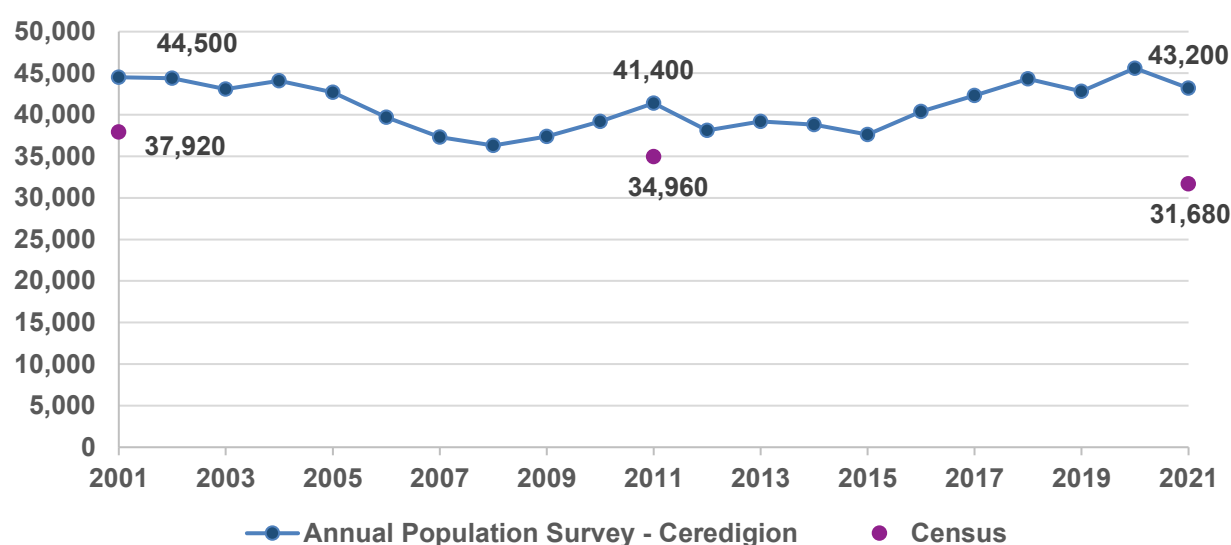


Source: ONS, 2021 Census – Table TS033.

The Census is the key source used to measure the proportions of Welsh speakers in Wales, however, it is not the only source of the population's linguistic ability. The National Survey for Wales and the Annual Population Survey (APS) also collect information on the number of Welsh speakers. These sources are used to monitor trends for adults between censuses. It is important to note, that the data collected from the three surveys (the Census, National Survey for Wales, and Annual Population Survey) is based on a person's *self-assessment* of their ability. In some cases, Welsh language ability was reported by another person. For example, when completing the census form, often the Welsh language ability of children was completed by a parent or guardian.

Although the Census results demonstrate a gradual decline of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion, the Annual Population Survey (APS) provided a different, more positive picture in the lead-up to the census. The APS estimated an overall increase in the numbers and percentage of people who say they can speak Welsh over the decade, rising from 54.4% (41,400) to 60.4% (43,200), an increase of 1,800 (Figure 7). The APS results have consistently been much higher than the Census results, although this is based on a sample size of 18,000 households across Wales each year.

Figure 7: Number of people able to speak Welsh aged 3 years and over 2001-2021



Source: Welsh Government – Annual Population Survey¹⁶ and ONS – 2021 Census Table: TS033

The percentage of adult Welsh speakers (aged 16 or over) recorded by the National Survey for Wales, is similar to the Census figure, with 40.8% of those aged 16 or over reporting they could speak Welsh (2021-22), compared to 41.2% in the 2021 Census. Since the National Survey began in 2016, the overall trend demonstrates a gradual decline of adult Welsh speakers (16+), from 49% in 2016-17 to 41% in 2021-22. However, on the other hand, the percentage of adults (16+) that have *some Welsh* speaking ability is reported to be rising.¹⁷ What is clear from the 2021 Census results is that there continues to be discrepancies between the Census 2021 results and other sources at the same time period.

There are several explanations as to why the census results have reported different figures to the Annual Population Survey and the National Survey for Wales. One potential factor relates to the different methodologies used, the Annual Population Survey is based on a sample of 18,000 households each year, while the National Survey for Wales is based on a sample of 10,000 to 14,500 and therefore there is likely to be variation. The Census is the closest we have to an actual count.

Furthermore, the Census is a statutory self-completion questionnaire for the entire population, whereas the Annual Population Survey and National Survey for Wales are voluntary surveys, which use face-to-face and more recently telephone interviews. Respondents to the APS and National Survey for Wales therefore have the opportunity to discuss their language ability with the interviewer, whereas in the Census the respondent must decide for themselves. For these reasons, some respondents who recorded that they could speak Welsh in the National Survey for Wales, or the APS may have reported that they were unable to when completing in their Census form.

3.2 The distribution of Welsh speakers by age

The ability to speak Welsh in the County differs greatly according to age. According to the 2021 Census, the Welsh speaking ability of most age groups declined over the decade (refer to Table 3). The main

factor contributing to the overall decrease in the percentage able to speak Welsh in Ceredigion was the decrease in children and young people aged 3 to 15 years old (by 6.6 percentage points) and the decrease in 65+ year-olds (by 6.5 percentage points).^{18 19} However, despite the overall decrease in both numbers and percentages of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion, positively, the proportion of adults (16 to 44 year olds) increased by 2.2 percentage points. The section below explores these trends in greater detail.

Table 3: Percentage and numbers of Welsh speakers aged 3 years or older in Ceredigion by seven age cohorts (2011 and 2021).

Age Group	2011		2021		Difference	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	% Point
3 to 4	814	58.3	598	52.2	-216	-6.0%
5 to 15	6,361	82.0	5,525	74.9	-836	-7.1%
16 to 19	2,399	40.9	1,937	46.9	-462	6.0%
20 to 44	9,620	41.7	8,585	43.1	-1,035	1.4%
45 to 64	8,484	42.3	7,697	40.6	-787	-1.7%
65 to 74	3,633	43.2	3,715	37.4	82	-5.8%
75+	3,653	50.1	3,632	43.0	-21	-7.1%
All ages (3+)	34,964	47.3	31,689	45.3	-3,275	-2.0%

Source: ONS, 2011 Census – Table: DC2106Wala and 2021 Census – Table TS076.

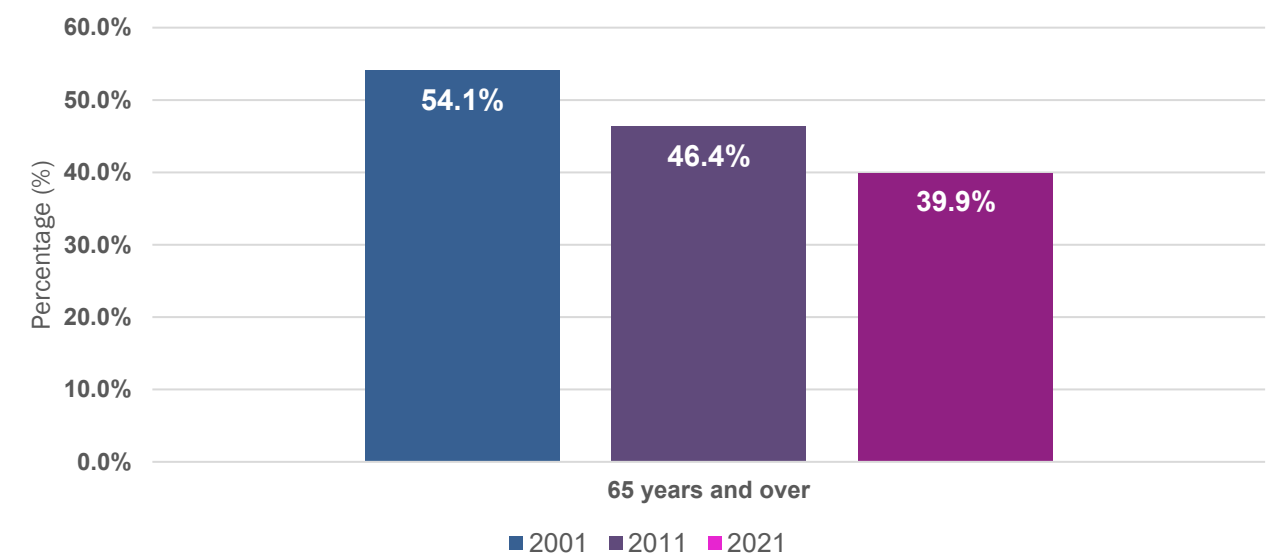
By analysing the results across the 7 age cohorts, the 5- to 15-year-olds and 75+ age groups experienced the largest percentage point decrease (7.1 percentage points). These decreases were more significant than the percentage point decrease in both age cohorts nationally (by 6.0 percentage points and 2.4 percentage points respectively).

The proportion of people aged 65 and over able to speak Welsh in Ceredigion decreased significantly between 2011 and 2021 (46.4% and 39.9% respectively), resulting in 61 more people aged 65 and over able to speak Welsh in 2021.

The decrease in the proportion of residents aged 65 years and over able to speak Welsh and slight increase in numbers of Welsh speakers within the age group (a gain of 61 Welsh speakers) is partly explained by the demographic changes that occurred within the age group during the same period. Over the decade, the usual resident population aged 65- to 74-year-olds increased by 18.1% (1,524 residents).²⁰ This coupled with a relatively small increase in numbers of Welsh speakers aged 65+ (61 residents) meant that the proportion of those over the age of 65 able to speak Welsh decreased.

As reflected in Figure 8, the decline in the percentage of residents 65 years old and over in Ceredigion is a continuation of a declining trend since 2001. The decline is partly explained by the natural ageing of our Welsh speaking population. For example, the lower proportion of Welsh speakers in the 65 to 74 age group recorded in the 2011 Census (43.1%) are now within the 75+ age group in 2021, whilst some of the 75+ year old Welsh speakers in 2011 have now passed away.

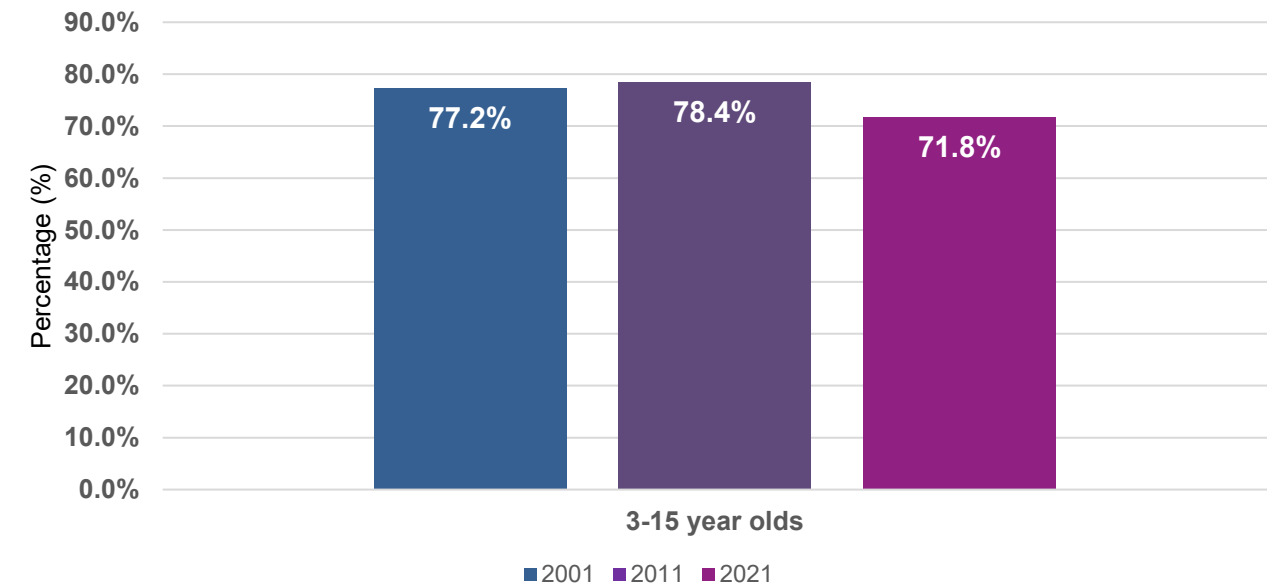
Figure 8: The perecentage of Ceredigion residents 65 years old and over able to speak Welsh during the 2001, 2011 and 2021 Censuses.



Source: ONS, 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census ²¹

On the other hand, the decrease in the percentage of 3-to-15-year-olds able to speak Welsh in Ceredigion is a new trend (refer to Figure 9). Over the decade, the proportion of 5- to 15-year-old Welsh speakers decreased by 6.6 percentage points, whereas between the 2001 and 2011 Census the proportion of Welsh speakers within this age group increased by 1.2 percentage points (from 77.2% to 78.4% respectively).

Figure 9: The percentage of Ceredigion residents aged 3 to 15 able to speak Welsh recorded during the 2001, 2011 and 2021 Censuses



Source: ONS, 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census²²

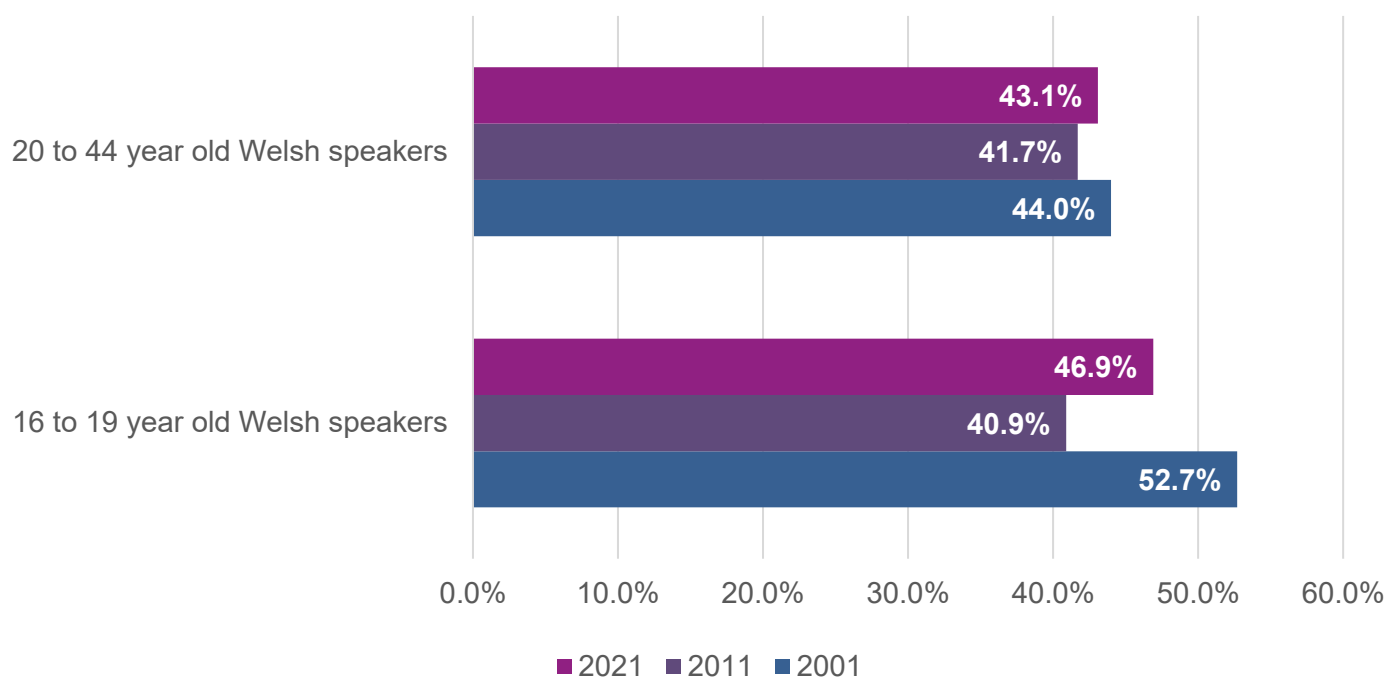
The decrease in the percentage and number of children and young people reported as being able to speak Welsh was not reflected in the increasing percentage of children being taught Welsh as a first language in the County during the same period. Data from the Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC) highlights that the percentage and numbers of pupils in primary and secondary school (school year groups 1-11) taught Welsh as a first language has increased slightly over the same period, from 68.5 % (or 6,610 pupils) in 2011 to 70.6% (or 5,457) in 2021²³, an increase of 340 pupils being taught Welsh as a first language.

Additionally, the decrease in the percentage of children that can speak Welsh recorded by the 2021 Census, is not reflected in the increasing percentage of primary school pupils (school year groups 1-6) in Welsh-medium education during the same period (2011-2021). According to the PLASC, during 2011/12, 60.0% (3,306) primary school pupils were in Welsh-medium education, compared to 74.9% (3,251) primary school pupils in 2021/22, an increase of 14.9 percentage points over the decade.²⁴

However, research by the Welsh Government highlights that approximately half of the children being taught Welsh as a first language do not speak Welsh at home.²⁵ Therefore, it is possible that the prolonged periods of school closures due to the COVID-19 Pandemic (which reduced the exposure of school children to the Welsh language), may have impacted their Welsh language ability or perceived ability (refer to Section 4.3 for further detail).

Positively, the proportion of young and middle-aged adults (16 to 44-year-olds) able to speak Welsh in Ceredigion increased significantly between census years and was far greater than the national average increase of Welsh speakers. As reflected in Figure 10, the increase in Welsh speaking ability within these age groups are new trends. Breaking down the age groups further highlights that the proportion of Welsh speakers aged 16 to 19-years-old experienced the largest increase (by 6.0 percentage points), from 40.9 % in 2011 to 46.9% in 2021. The percentage of 20- to 44-year-olds with Welsh speaking ability also increased, albeit on a smaller scale, from 41.7% in 2011 to 44.0% in 2021. This suggests that progress is being made in retaining Welsh speakers.

Figure 10: Percentage of 16-to-44 year-olds able to speak Welsh in Ceredigion according to the 2001, 2011 and 2021 Censuses



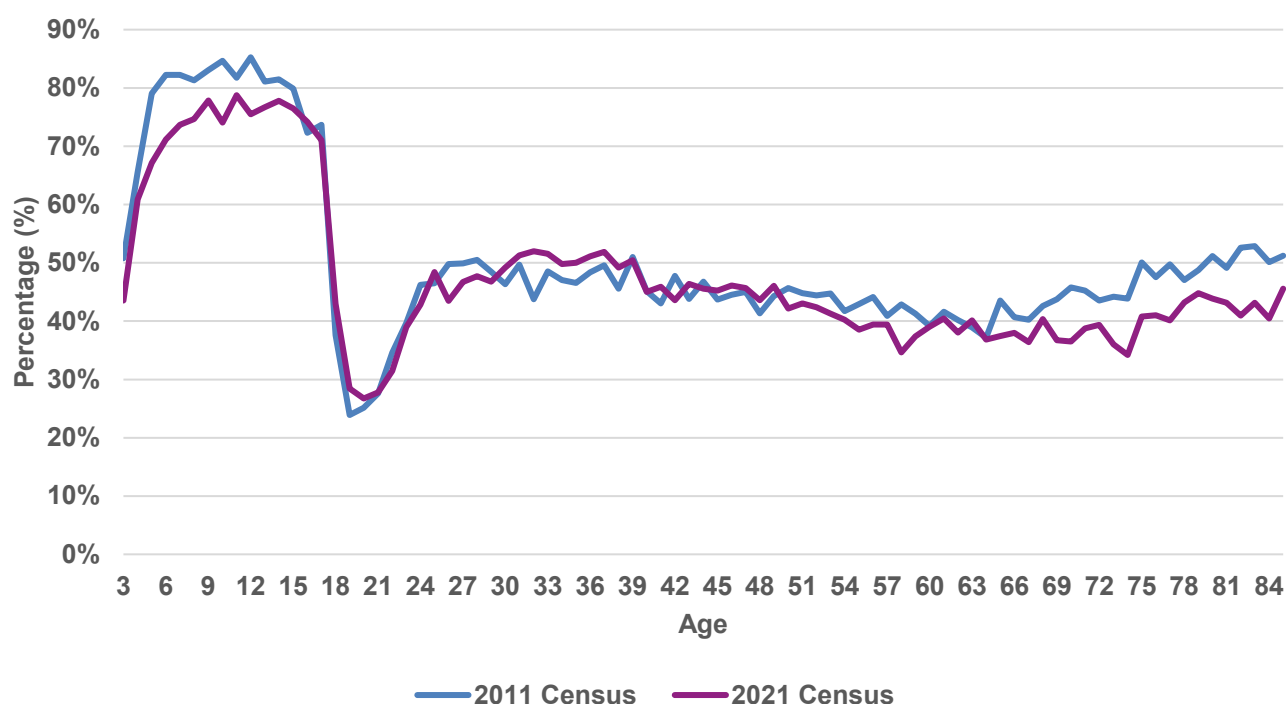
Source: ONS, 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census²⁶

The increase in the proportion of Welsh speaking 16- to 44-year-olds in Ceredigion but decrease in numbers (a loss of 1,500 Welsh speakers) is partly explained by the demographic changes that occurred during the same period. Since the 2011 Census, the 16- to 44-year-old population in Ceredigion reduced by 17%, which equates to a reduction of 4,905 residents aged 16 to 44.²⁷

Unsurprisingly, children and young adults continue to be the age group most likely to speak Welsh in Ceredigion (refer to Figure 11). This reflects the positive influence of our education system on the linguistic skills of school children. It appears, however, that the age profile of adults who can speak Welsh is changing. In 2021, 20- to 44-year-olds were the age group most likely to speak Welsh (43.1% or 8,585 residents), this was different to 2011, when the percentage was highest for people aged 75 and over (50.1% or 3,630 residents).

Figure 11 highlights that on the 21st of March 2021, 33-year-olds and 37-year-olds (52%) were most likely to speak Welsh in the adult age group, whilst 58-year-olds were less likely to speak Welsh (35%). The increase in the percentage of Welsh speakers aged 31–38-year-olds increases from decade to decade. For example, the 40% of 23-year-olds who were able to speak Welsh in 2011 has increased to 52% for 33-year-olds in 2021. This could be due to several factors, such as non-speaking Welsh students moving home after they have qualified from university, or an increase in Welsh learners within this age group.

Figure 11: Percentage of people aged three years and over who can speak Welsh in Ceredigion, by single year of age, 2011 and 2021 Census



Source: ONS – 2011 Census, Table: DC2106WALA and 2021 Census, Table TS076²⁸²⁹

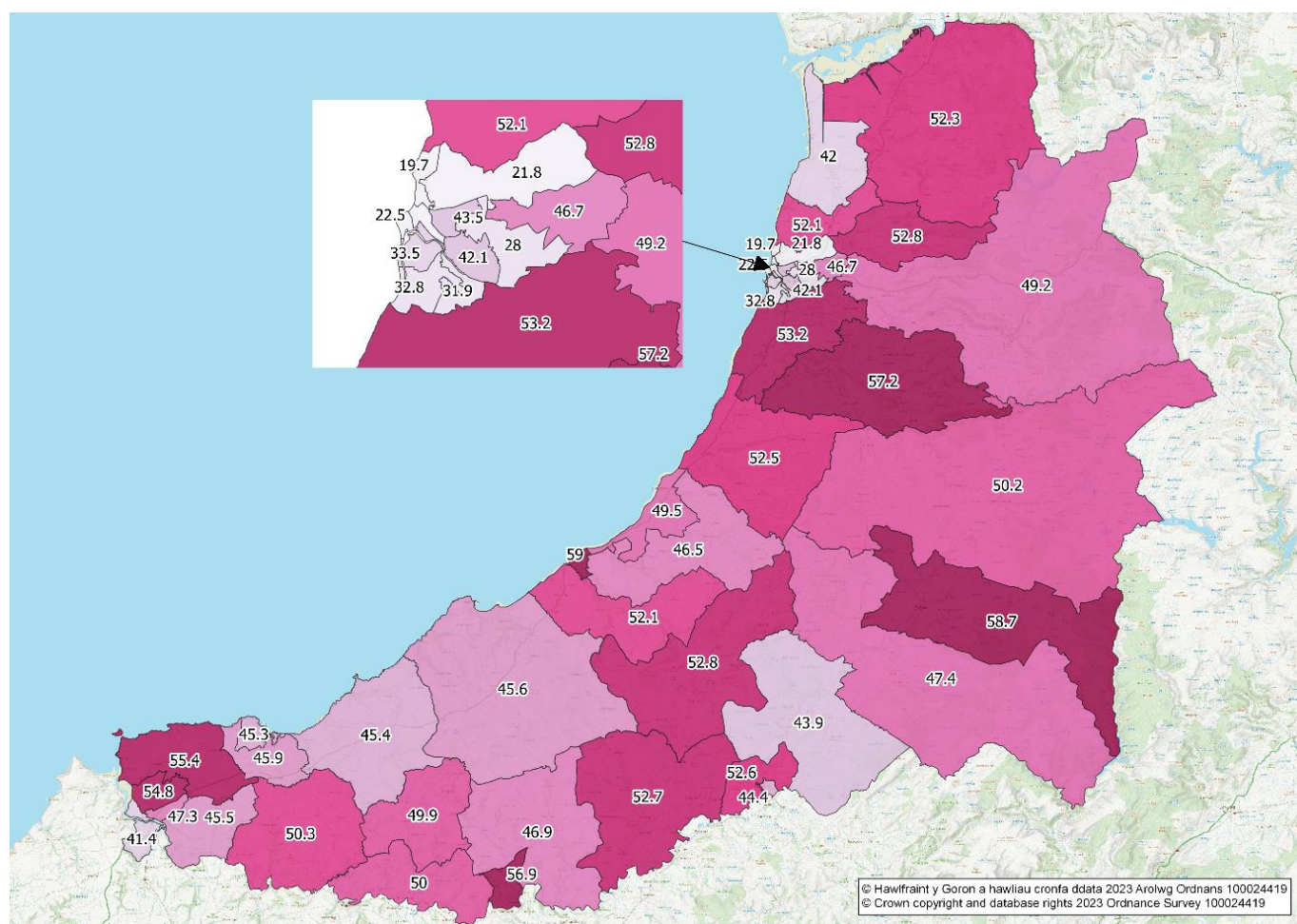
The sudden dip in the percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion from the age of 18-20 in both the 2011 Census and 2021 Census reflected in Figure 11, is partly explained by our high student population within the County, equating to nearly 12% of our total resident population.³⁰ Some students will have moved from other parts of Wales and therefore may speak Welsh; however, others have moved from the UK and further afield and therefore may not be able to speak Welsh. This decline is also partly explained by the tendency to lose Welsh language speaking skills after statutory age (3-16 years old).³¹

3.3 The position locally

The linguistic position differs from one area to the next and can be linked to the different social, economic, and cultural factors of an area. For example, research by the Welsh Government found relationships between Welsh speaking ability and sex, age group, educational attainment, land classification and sense of belonging.³²

The Census collects data at smaller geographical areas, such as, Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's). Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's) are relatively small areas and have an average of 1,500 people or 650 households. Ceredigion is made up of 45 LSOA's. Some of the LSOA boundaries changed in 2021, and where these changes have occurred it is not possible to make comparisons with the 2011 Census data (for more information on these changes refer to Appendix 3).

Figure 12: The percentage of Welsh speakers aged three years and over by LSOA – 2021 Census



Source: ONS – 2021 Census, *Welsh language skills by LSOA*, Table TS033.

Figure 12 highlights that the areas with the lowest proportions of Welsh speakers are situated within the Town of Aberystwyth, which is unsurprising given the large student population. Outside of Aberystwyth, every LSOA within the County reported Welsh speaking ability of 41% and above. Aberaeron LSOA has the highest percentage of population aged three years or older that can speak Welsh (59.0%). This was different to 2011, when it was Tregaron that had the highest percentage at 66.9%. Penglais 1 has the lowest percentage of its population aged three years or older that stated they could speak Welsh (19.7%). However, notably, the percentage of Welsh speakers residing in Penglais 1 is still higher than the national average (17.8%).

Table 4 shows the LSOA's where the highest and lowest percentages of Welsh speakers are found in the County.

Table 4: LSOA's where the highest and lowest percentages of Welsh speakers are found in Ceredigion on the 21st of March 2021 (Census Day)

Lower Super Output Area (LSOA)	% of Welsh speakers
Highest percentage of Welsh speakers (%)	
Aberaeron	59.0
Tregaron	58.7
Ystwyth	57.2
Llandysul Town	56.9
Pen-parc 2	55.4
Lowest percentage of Welsh speakers (%)	
Llanbadarn Fawr North	28.0
Aberystwyth Central	24.8
Aberystwyth Rheidol 1	22.5
Penglais 2	21.8
Penglais 1	19.7

Source: ONS – 2021 Census, Table TS033 – Welsh language skills (speaking).³³

Overall, the percentages of people reporting as Welsh speaking across the County has declined since the 2011 Census. The greatest decline was seen in Cardigan – Rhyd-y-Fuwch LSOA, declining by 8.4 percentage points, followed by Tregaron LSOA, declining 8.2 percentage points.

However, in eight out of the forty-five LSOA's the proportion of Welsh speakers increased. The greatest increase in the percentage of residents who reported they were able to speak Welsh was in Lampeter 1 LSOA (an increase of 7.9 percentage points), followed by Aberystwyth Bronglais (increasing by 7.0 percentage points).

It is not possible to compare the results between 2011 and 2021 in three of the LSOAs because of boundary changes, these LSOAs are New Quay, Llanarth & Llandysilio LSOA, Penglais 1 LSOA and Penglais 2 LSOA. There is more information on this in the disclaimer (refer to Appendix 3).

Tables identifying the percentages and numbers of Welsh speakers for each LSOA can be found in Appendix 1 of this report.

The 2021 Census also published data on Welsh language speaking ability at ward level. According to the 2021 Census data, the Ystwyth Ward had the highest percentage of Welsh speakers with 57.2% of its population aged three and over stating that they could speak Welsh. Followed by, Aberaeron and Aberarth with 56.3% of its population aged three years and older being able to speak Welsh.

Aberystwyth Rheidol Ward had the lowest percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion (27.6%), with Faenor Ward having the second lowest percentage at 27.7%. It appears that the top 5 Wards with the lowest percentage of Welsh speakers are all situated within Aberystwyth Town or the surrounding area.

Table 5: Electoral Wards where the highest and lowest percentages of Welsh speakers are found in Ceredigion on the 21st of March 2021 (Census Day)

Electoral Ward	% of Welsh speakers
Highest percentage of Welsh speakers (%)	
Ystwyth	57.2
Aberaeron and Aberarth	56.3
Tregaron and Ystrad Fflur	56.1
Mwldan	54.8
Llanfarian	53.2
Lowest percentage of Welsh speakers (%)	
Llanbadarn Fawr	33.8
Aberystwyth Penparcau	32.3
Aberystwyth Morfa a Glais	29.5
Faenor	27.7
Aberystwyth Rheidol	27.6

Source: ONS – 2021 Census, Table TS033 – Welsh language skills (speaking).³⁴

Since the 2011 Census several of Ceredigion's electoral ward boundaries have changed and therefore not all the data is comparable between censuses. During the 2011 Census there were 40 wards, however in 2021 this changed to 34 wards, with some wards merging and others splitting. For more information on ward boundary changes, please refer to Appendix 4.

Where it is possible to make comparisons, we can see that the Llangeitho Ward has seen the biggest decrease in the percentage of Welsh speakers from 54.9% in 2011 to 47.4% by 2021, which is a 7.5 percentage point decrease. This is followed by the Llanwenog Ward which has decreased by 6.5 percentage points from 59.2% in 2011 to 52.7% by 2021.

At the other end of the scale, only two of the comparable electoral wards saw an increase in the percentage of Welsh speakers between 2011 and 2021. The Lampeter ward has seen the biggest increase in the percentage of Welsh speakers aged three years or older since 2011, an increase of 1.9 percentage points from 46.9% in 2011 to 48.8% by 2021. This was followed by Y Borth which saw an increase of 1.4 percentage points in the percentage of Welsh speakers between 2011 and 2021.

Tables identifying Welsh language speaking skills based on numbers and percentages for each Electoral Ward can be found in Appendix 2 of this report.

3.4 Welsh language skills

As noted previously, the Census collects information on other variations of Welsh language skills, including writing, reading, and understanding Welsh. Again, it is worth noting that the Welsh language

skills statistics are based on an individual's perception of their own skills. However, the 2021 Census does provide an overview on the range of Welsh language skills that are found in Ceredigion (refer to Table 6 below).

Table 6: The range of Welsh language skills in Ceredigion 2011-2021

Welsh language Skills	2011	2021
Speaks Welsh	47.3% (34,960)	45.3% (31,680)
Can understand spoken Welsh only	8.1% (6,020)	8.5% (5,950)
Can speak, read and write Welsh	38.8% (28,630)	37.3% (26,100)
Can speak but cannot read or write Welsh	4.9% (3,630)	4.9% (3,410)
Can speak and read but cannot write Welsh	3.4% (2,530)	2.6% (1,810)
No skills in Welsh	42.4% (31,290)	43.6% (30,480)

Source: ONS – 2011 and 2021 Census, Welsh language Skills (detailed) ³⁵

Since the 2011 Census there has been a change in the percentages identified in the context of Welsh language skills. The greatest decrease out of the other Welsh language skills was seen in the percentage of people aged three years or older that were “able to speak, read and write Welsh”, decreasing by 1.0 percentage point, from 38.3% to 37.3%. This equates to around 2,535 fewer people, however, it is a smaller decrease than was seen for the percentage and number of people able to speak Welsh. At the same time, the percentage reporting that they were able to understand spoken Welsh only increased from 8.1% (6,020) in 2011 to 8.5% (5,950) in 2021, an increase of 0.4 percentage points. It is difficult to ascertain what is behind these trends, however, it highlights the importance of maintaining and increasing the fluency and confidence of individuals in their language skills, particularly Welsh speaking skills.

4.0 Factors contributing to Ceredigion's Welsh language profile

To truly understand the factors driving Ceredigion's overall decline in Welsh speakers and change amongst age cohorts, further 2021 Census data (e.g., the multivariate data published in 2023 and 2024) is required. This data will aid our understanding of Welsh language ability in several areas, which includes, but is not limited to, language transmission rates within households, Welsh-speaking ability within the workforce and the linguistic position in Ceredigion outside of student term-time. However, some potential factors are considered below. These factors include, demographic changes, migration, changes to national identity and the COVID-19 pandemic.

4.1 Population mobility

Population mobility has been a prominent factor in the demographics of Ceredigion for many decades. Ceredigion has a relatively high population mobility, which is partly due to the two well established Universities within the County, that attract thousands of students to Ceredigion every year (estimated between 6,500-8,050 students).^{36 37}

Table 7: Country of Birth of the Ceredigion population 2011-2021

	Born in Wales	Born in England	Born elsewhere	Total
2021	54.4% (38,890)	37.3% (26,670)	8.3% (5,930)	71,500
2011	55.3% (42,010)	37.4% (28,390)	7.3% (5,530)	75,900

**Figures may not sum due to rounding.*

Source: ONS - 2011 Census: Table KS204EW; 2021 Census: Table TS012³⁸³⁹

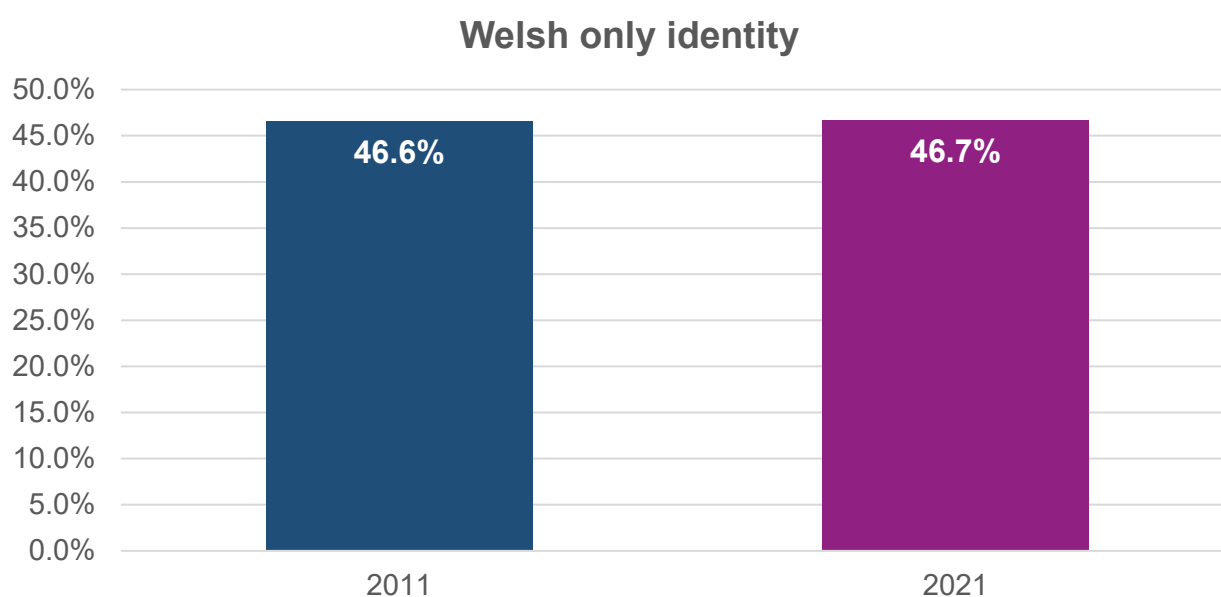
Similar to the 2011 Census, a significant proportion of the County's population in 2021 were born outside of Wales. Table 7 demonstrates how the population of Ceredigion has changed in terms of country of birth over the last decade. In 2021, the percentage of the County's residents born in Wales had decreased slightly from 55.3% in 2011 to 54.4% in 2021, equating to a reduction of 3,110 residents (-0.9 percentage points). At the same time, the percentage of the County's residents born outside of Wales and England had increased by 1.0 percentage points (+400 residents). The percentage of Ceredigion residents born in England, however, has remained fairly stable. This was different to the 2001 and 2011 period, when the proportion of residents born in England increased (by 1.0 percentage points/ +1,090).⁴⁰
⁴¹ Further Census releases will allow us to analyse the relationships between country of birth and Welsh speaking ability of Ceredigion's population in 2021.

Anecdotally, it is believed that a number of our younger, Welsh speaking residents move from Ceredigion to Cardiff to seek further education, employment and social opportunities. For example, according to HESA, approximately 260-300 students move from Ceredigion to study at Cardiff University and Cardiff Metropolitan University each year.⁴² It is likely that this cohort has some level of Welsh speaking ability. Although, many will stay in the city, it is understood that some return to Ceredigion to seek a less urban life and/or may want to start a family. In the future, it is possible that migration flows between Cardiff and Ceredigion may change as remote working has become more common, which means that residents can now live in Ceredigion and work elsewhere. It will be interesting to see what trends appear in the Origin-destination (flow) data when published, which will highlight the national and international migration patterns of Ceredigion residents during the year before Census Day.

4.2 National Identity

Where national identity is concerned, in 2021, 46.6% (33,360) of the population described themselves as Welsh only. As reflected in Figure 13 below, this was very similar to the 2011 Census (an increase of 0.1 percentage point since 2011). Welsh only remained the largest national identity in Ceredigion, whilst just under a quarter of the population (21.7%/ 15,500) identified as British only, followed by 14.6% (10,430) as English only.

Figure 13: The percentage of Ceredigion residents identifying as “Welsh only” in the 2011 Census and 2021 Census



Source: ONS, 2011 Census – Table: QS214EW⁴³; 2021 Census – Table: TS028

The British only identity category experienced the greatest increase (an increase of 1.8 percentage points). However, this increase is much lower than the increase across Wales and England (up 26 percentage points, from 23% in 2011 to 49% in 2021). The slight increase in Ceredigion may be partly explained by an even greater national trend (Wales and England) of a post-Brexit shift in national identity. It appears, therefore that the national identities of the County's residents are stronger than their identity as citizens of the British state.

4.3 The COVID-19 Pandemic

The 2021 Census was held during the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected the population in a variety of ways. For example, Census Day followed periods of lockdown, children learning from home and many childcare facilities (including Welsh-medium childcare facilities) were closed. Although difficult to quantify, the pandemic may have impacted pupils reported Welsh language ability (or the perception of the Welsh language ability of others). There is no specific research that studied the impact of COVID-19

on Ceredigion pupils' bilingualism, however, school closures had a significant impact on the number of opportunities for children to learn and use Welsh. Research funded by the Welsh Government⁴⁴ found that children who were not in regular contact with the Welsh language (e.g., parents or siblings were not Welsh speakers), were affected by the pandemic and would require further support to get back on track with their Welsh.

The COVID-19 pandemic may have also negatively impacted a pupil's self-assessment of their language ability on Census Day. As the census is based on a person's self-assessment of their ability, the question relating to Welsh language skills is subjective. A study funded by the Welsh Government,⁴⁵ found that the prolonged periods of isolation away from Welsh-speaking teachers and peers is likely to have negatively impacted children's linguistic confidence and fluency. Therefore, the lack of exposure to the Welsh language may have also affected pupils and/or non-Welsh speaking parents (who may have filled the census form in for their child) perception of their Welsh language skills.

The decline in Welsh speakers amongst school aged children can also be attributed to other factors beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. Nationally, Ceredigion had the largest fall in the percentage of children between 2011 and 2021, a 10.1 % decrease in children aged 15 or under over the decade.^{46 47} At the same time, the percentage of non-UK born, and non-Welsh born residents has increased within the County.⁴⁸ Therefore, it is likely that these factors contributed to the dilution of Welsh speaking population of school aged children. Once published, it will be interesting to understand the percentage of children aged three to four who can speak Welsh by household composition and Welsh-speaking parent, as this will provide an indication of the language transmission within Ceredigion since the 2011 Census.

5.0 Conclusion

At the outset, the overall decrease in numbers and percentages of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion is disappointing. However, the above profile highlights that the decline is not as clear as initially thought. Although there has been a fall in Welsh speakers amongst the younger and older age cohorts, there has been an increase in the percentages of Welsh speakers aged 16-44 years old. This is a new, positive trend, which suggests that progress is being made in retaining Welsh speakers. While it is encouraging to see an increase in the percentage of young adults reporting Welsh speaking ability, it is very concerning to see a decline in the number and percentage of children, particularly due to the significant investment into the education sector, which has increased the provision of Welsh-medium schools across the County.

It is important to note that on the day of Census enumeration, Cymraeg 2050 had only been in place for four years, and much of that time was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, there is still good reasons to be optimistic about achieving the national target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050. As further Welsh language data is released from the 2021 Census, a better understanding will be gained on the driving factors behind the overall decline and differences in age groups in Ceredigion. This evidence will aid conclusions to be drawn in terms of priorities for linguistic planning in the County.

Appendix 1

Ceredigion Welsh speakers by LSOA – percentages and numbers

LSOA Code	LSOA Name	2011 Census (%)	2021 Census (%)	Percentage point difference	2011 Number	2021 Number	Difference (number)
W01000506	Aberaeron	59.9	59	-0.9	832	738	-94
W01000507	Aberporth 1	43.6	45.9	2.3	506	510	+4
W01000508	Aberporth 2	45.2	45.3	0.1	512	457	-55
W01000509	Aberteifi/Cardigan - Mwldan	58.8	54.8	-4	1,012	997	-15
W01000510	Aberteifi/Cardigan - Rhyd-y-Fuwch	55.8	47.3	-8.5	658	544	-114
W01000511	Aberteifi/Cardigan - Teifi	46.9	41.4	-5.5	524	470	-54
W01000512	Aberystwyth Bronglais	36.5	43.5	7	745	584	-161
W01000513	Aberystwyth Canol/Central	26.6	24.8	-1.8	652	517	-135
W01000515	Aberystwyth Penparcau 1	37.2	32.8	-4.4	517	418	-99
W01000516	Aberystwyth Penparcau 2	35.8	31.9	-3.9	578	504	-74
W01000517	Aberystwyth Rheidol 1	27.3	22.5	-4.8	398	260	-138
W01000518	Aberystwyth Rheidol 2	34.2	33.5	-0.7	421	332	-89
W01000519	Beulah	52.9	50.3	-2.6	841	866	+25
W01000522	Capel Dewi	50.7	46.9	-3.8	642	554	-88
W01000523	Ceulanamaesmawr	52.9	52.3	-0.6	977	961	-16
W01000524	Ciliau Aeron	54	52.1	-1.9	1,040	978	-62
W01000525	Faenor 1	46.5	46.7	0.2	551	564	+13
W01000527	Lampeter 1	36.5	44.4	7.9	538	502	-36
W01000528	Lampeter 2	57.8	52.6	-5.2	808	690	-118
W01000531	Llandyfriog	54.7	50	-4.7	970	860	-110
W01000533	Llandysul Town	63.5	56.9	-6.6	888	747	-141
W01000534	Llanfarian	54	53.2	-0.8	792	790	-2
W01000535	Llanfihangel Ystrad	56.9	52.8	-4.1	1,123	1,053	-70
W01000536	Llangeitho	54.9	47.4	-7.5	777	633	-144
W01000537	Llangybi	49	43.9	-5.1	713	599	-114
W01000538	Llanrhystyd	57.7	52.5	-5.2	871	791	-80
W01000539	Llansantffraed 1	50	46.5	-3.5	598	536	-62
W01000540	Llansantffraed 2	53.3	49.5	-3.8	600	553	-47
W01000541	Llanwenog	59.2	52.7	-6.5	1,058	893	-165
W01000542	Lledrod	54.3	50.2	-4.1	1,166	1,081	-85
W01000543	Melindwr	49.4	49.2	-0.2	967	964	-3
W01000545	Penbryn	48.5	45.4	-3.1	971	882	-89
W01000546	Pen-parc 1	49.3	45.5	-3.8	544	507	-37
W01000547	Pen-parc 2	60.4	55.4	-5	700	621	-79
W01000548	Tirymynach	54.8	52.1	-2.7	1,006	899	-107
W01000549	Trefeurig	56.5	52.8	-3.7	967	906	-61
W01000550	Tregaron	66.9	58.7	-8.2	785	663	-122
W01000551	Troedyrour	50.9	49.9	-1	647	671	+24
W01000552	Ystwyth	58.3	57.2	-1.1	1,175	1,118	-57
W01001935	Llanbadarn Fawr South	39.2	42.1	2.9	413	423	+10
W01001936	Llanbadarn Fawr North	24.4	28	3.6	550	401	-149
W01001937	Borth	40.6	42	1.4	823	804	-19
W01002000	Penglais 2	N/A	21.8	*N/A	*N/A	630	*N/A
W01002001	Penglais 1	N/A	19.7	*N/A	*N/A	277	*N/A
W01002002	New Quay, Llanarth & Llandysilio	N/A	45.6	*N/A	*N/A	1,928	*N/A

***N/A: Data not available and not comparable due to LSOA boundary changes, please refer to Appendix 3 for full disclaimer**

Appendix 2

Ceredigion Welsh speakers by electoral wards – percentages and numbers

Ward Code	Ward Name	2011 Census (%)	2021 Census (%)	Percentage point difference	2011 (number)	2021 (number)	Difference (number)
W05001298	Aberaeron and Aberarth	N/A	56.3	**N/A	**N/A	974	**N/A
W05001299	Aberporth and Y Ferwig	N/A	49.0	**N/A	**N/A	1,589	**N/A
W05001300	Aberystwyth Morfa a Glais	N/A	29.5	**N/A	**N/A	1,623	**N/A
W05001301	Aberystwyth Penparcau	36.4	32.3	-4.1	1,095	922	-173
W05001302	Aberystwyth Rheidol	30.5	27.6	-2.9	819	592	-227
W05001303	Beulah and Llangoedmor	N/A	48.4	**N/A	**N/A	1,373	**N/A
W05001304	Borth	40.6	42.0	+1.4	823	804	-19
W05001305	Ceulan a Maesmawr	52.9	52.3	-0.6	977	961	-16
W05001306	Ciliau Aeron	54	52.1	-1.9	1,040	978	-62
W05001307	Faenor	32.9	27.7	-5.2	823	951	+128
W05001308	Lampeter	46.9	48.8	+1.9	1,346	1,192	-154
W05001310	Llanbadarn Fawr	N/A	33.8	**N/A	**N/A	824	**N/A
W05001311	Llandyfriog	N/A	50.0	**N/A	**N/A	860	**N/A
W05001312	Llandysilio and Llangrannog	N/A	47.7	**N/A	**N/A	813	**N/A
W05001313	Llandysul North and Troedyrour	N/A	49.9	**N/A	**N/A	1,030	**N/A
W05001314	Llandysul South	N/A	53.1	**N/A	**N/A	942	**N/A
W05001315	Llanfarian	54	53.2	-0.8	792	790	-2
W05001316	Llanfihangel Ystrad	N/A	52.8	**N/A	**N/A	1,053	
W05001317	Llangeitho	54.9	47.4	-7.5	777	633	-144
W05001318	Llangybi	49	43.9	-5.1	713	599	-114
W05001309	Llannarth	50.7	48.1	-2.6	785	732	-53
W05001319	Llanrhystyd	57.7	52.5	-5.2	871	791	-80
W05001320	Llansanffraid	51.6	47.7	-3.9	1,198	853	-345
W05001321	Llanwenog	59.2	52.7	-6.5	1,058	893	-165
W05001322	Lledrod	54.3	49.5	-4.8	1,166	722	-444
W05001323	Melindwr	49.4	49.2	-0.2	967	964	-3
W05001324	Mwldan	N/A	54.8	**N/A	**N/A	997	**N/A
W05001325	New Quay and Llanllwchaearn	N/A	40.9	**N/A	**N/A	693	**N/A
W05001326	Penbryn	48.5	45.7	-2.8	971	572	-399
W05001327	Teifi		44.4	**N/A	**N/A	1,014	**N/A
W05001328	Tirymynach	54.8	52.1	-2.7	1,006	899	-107
W05001329	Trefeurig	56.5	52.8	-3.7	967	906	-61
W05001330	Tregaron and Ystrad Fflur	N/A	56.1	**N/A	**N/A	1,022	**N/A
W05001331	Ystwyth	58.3	57.2	-1.1	1,175	1,118	-57

****N/A: Data not available and not comparable due to Ward boundary changes, please refer to Appendix 4 for full disclaimer.**

Appendix 3

LSOA (Lower Super Output Area) boundary change disclaimer.

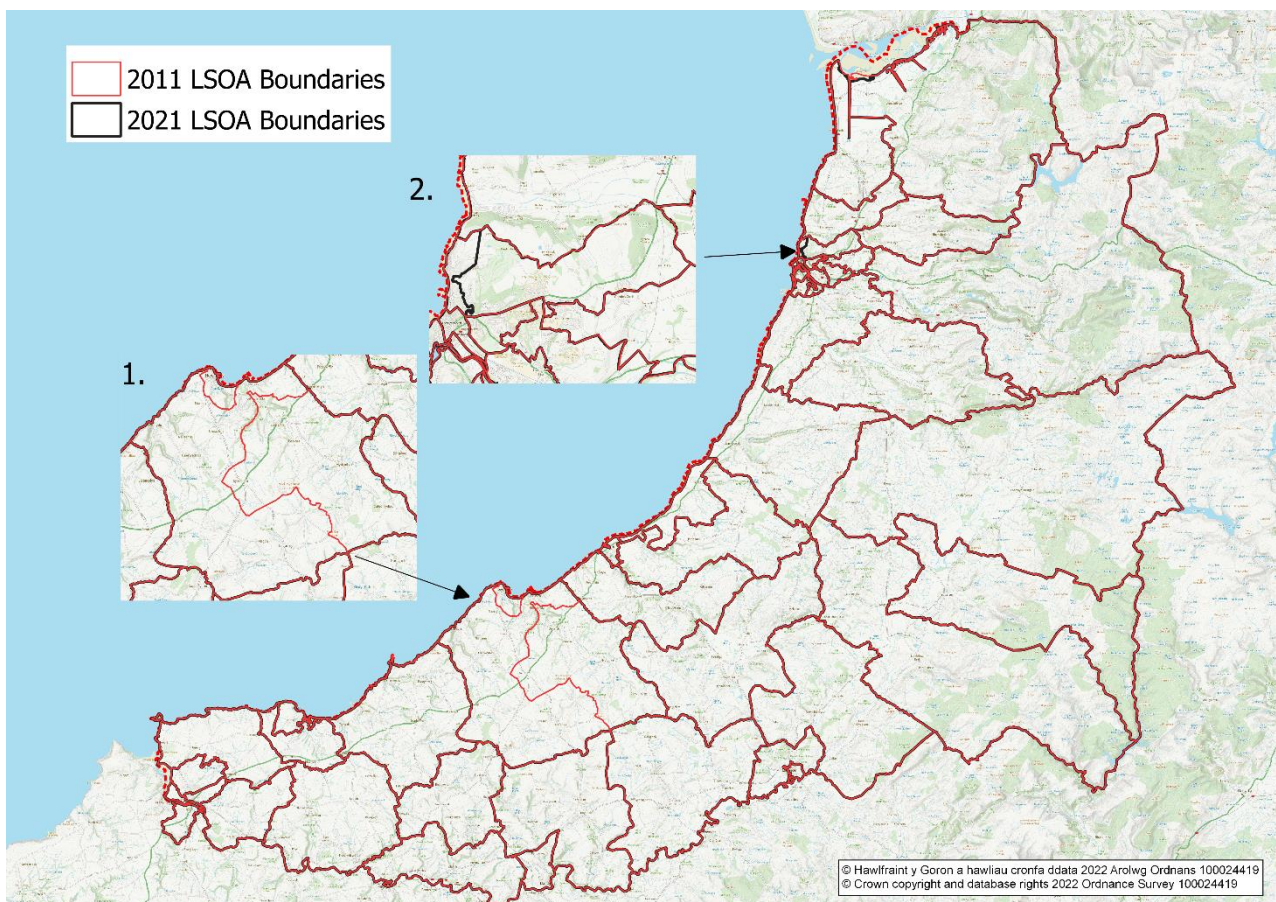
It should be noted that since the last Census in 2011, ONS have issued a number of changes to boundaries. This has resulted in Ceredigion having a new set of LSOA boundaries in 2021. Although, there are not a huge number of changes, it is extremely important to note that comparisons of data between 2011 and 2021 will be difficult where LSOA boundaries have changed.

In 2011 there were 47 LSOAs in Ceredigion. The new LSOA boundaries in 2021 include 45 LSOAs. There have been changes to 4 of the 2011 LSOAs in total.

New Quay (W01000544), Llanarth (W01000529) and Llandysiliogogo (W01000532) have been combined into 1 LSOA. This new LSOA will be known as New Quay, Llanarth & Llandysilio (W01002002).

Aberystwyth Penglais (W01001934) has been split into 2 LSOAs. The ONS do not provide new names along with the new LSOAs therefore, we have named them ourselves. W01002001 is now Penglais 1 and W01002000 is Penglais 2.

The map below shows the LSOA boundary changes between 2011 and 2021.



The box titled "1." represents where New Quay (W01000544), Llanarth (W01000529) and Llandysiliogogo have been merged into 1 LSOA. Whilst the box titled "2." represents where Penglais (W01001934) has been split into 2 LSOAs

Appendix 4

Electoral ward boundary changes disclaimer.

It should be noted that since the last Census in 2011, the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales have issued a number of changes to boundaries. This has resulted in Ceredigion having a new set of Electoral Ward boundaries in 2021. It is important to note that comparisons of data between 2011 and 2021 will be difficult where Electoral Ward boundaries have changed.

In 2011 there were 40 Electoral Wards in Ceredigion. The new Electoral Ward boundaries in 2021 include 34 Electoral Wards. There have been changes to 19 of the 2011 Electoral Wards in total.

The table below lists the 19 Electoral Wards that have changed since 2011 and gives a description of how they have changed.

Name	Description
Aberaeron and Aberath	Previously – ‘Aberaeron’ and ‘Llansanffraed’. Aberaeron ward combined with part of Llansanffraed ward (Dyffryn Arth community).
Aber-porth a’r Ferwig	Previously – ‘Aberporth’ and ‘Pen-parc’. Aberporth ward combined with part of Pen-parc (Y Ferwig community)
Aberystwyth Morfa a Glais	Previously – ‘Aberystwyth Bronglais’, ‘Aberystwyth Canol/Central’, Aberystwyth Gogledd/North’. Three wards combined.
Beulah and Llangoedmor	Previously – ‘Beulah’ and ‘Pen-parc’. Beulah ward combined with part of Pen-parc (Llangoedmor community).
Y Borth	Changes to the name. Previously – ‘Borth’. No changes to the geography.
Ceulan a Maesmawr	Changes to the name. Previously – Caelanamaesmawr. No changes to the geography.
Lampeter	Reduction of elected members, from 2 to 1. No changes to the geography.
Llanarth	Changes to the name. Previously Llanarth. No changes to the geography.
Llanbadarn Fawr	Previously – ‘Llanbadarn Fawr-Padarn’ and ‘Llanbadarn Fawr-Sulien’. Two wards combined.
Llandysilio and Llangrannog	Previously – ‘Llandysillio-gogo’ and ‘Penbryn’. Combined the ward of Llandysillio-gogo with part of Penbryn (Llangrannog community).
Gogledd Llandysul a Throed-yr-aur	Previously – ‘Troedyrour’ and ‘Capel Dewi’. Troedyrour ward combined with part of Capel Dewi ward (community of Pontshaen and Tregroes)
Llandysul South	Previously – ‘Llandysul Town’ and ‘Capel Dewi’. Llandysul Town combined with part of Capel Dewi (Capel dewi community).
Llansantffraid	New proposal removes part of the Dyffryn Arth Community (Llanddewi Aberarth Community Ward). Llansanffraid Electoral Ward now includes part of the Dyffryn Arth Community (Llanbadarn Trefegwyls Community Ward) and the Llansantffraed Community.
Lledrod	New proposal removes Ystrad Fflur Community.
Mwldan	Changed name. Previously – ‘Aberteifi/ Cardigan – Mwldan’. No changes to the geography.
New Quay and Llanllwchaearn	Previously – ‘New Quay’ and ‘Llandysillio-gogo’. New Quay ward combined with part of Llandysillio-gogo ward (Llanllwchaearn community).
Penbryn	New proposal removes Llangrannog community from the Penbryn ward. Penbryn ward will now only include the Penbryn community.
Teifi	Previously – ‘Aberteifi/Cardigan –Rhyd-y-Fuwch’ and ‘Aberteifi/Cardigan - Teifi’. Two wards combined.
Tregaron and Ystrad Flur	Previously – ‘Tregaron’ and ‘Lledrod’. Tregaron ward now combined with part of Lledrod ward (Ystrad Fflur community).

References

- ¹ Ceredigion County Council (2018). Ceredigion Language Strategy 2018-23. [Online]. Available at: [ceredigion-language-strategy-2018-23.pdf](#) (Accessed: 20.12.2022).
- ² ONS – 1981, 1991, 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census. Welsh language skills (speaking). [Online]. Available at: [Census of Population - Data Sources - home - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 02.01.2023).
- ³ Ibid.
- ⁴ ONS – 2011 Census – Table KS207WA and 2021 Census Table - TS033 – Welsh language skills. [Online]. Available at: [Census of Population - Data Sources - home - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 02.1.2023).
- ⁵ ONS (2021). TS032 – Welsh language skills by local authority area. [Online]. Available at: [TS032 - Welsh language skills - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 03.01.2023).
- ⁶ ONS – 2011 Census – Table KS207WA and 2021 Census Table - TS033 – Welsh language skills. [Online]. Available at: [Census of Population - Data Sources - home - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 02.1.2023).
- ⁷ ONS (2011). 2011 Census - Usual resident population, Table: KS101EW. [Online]. Available at: [KS101EW \(Usual resident population\) - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 05.01.2023).
- ⁸ ONS (2021). 2021 Census – TS001: Number of usual residents in households and communal establishments. [Online]. Available at: [Census 2021 Bulk - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 05.01.2023).
- ⁹ Welsh Government (2022). Chief statistician's update understanding Census 2021 about the Welsh language. [Online]. Available at: [Chief Statistician's update: understanding Census 2021 data about the Welsh language | Digital and Data Blog \(gov.wales\)](#) (Accessed: 06.01.2023).
- ¹⁰ ONS (2021). Census 2021 – TS012, Country of birth (detailed). [Online]. Available at: [Census 2021 Bulk - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 05.01.2023).
- ¹¹ ONS (2011). 2011 Census – ST20EWLA: Country of birth. [Online]. Available at: [ST203EWLA \(Country of Birth\) - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 05.01.2023).
- ¹² ONS (2021). Census 2021 – TS012, Country of birth (detailed). [Online]. Available at: [Census 2021 Bulk - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 05.01.2023).
- ¹³ ONS (2021). Census 2021 – TS024: Main language (detailed). [Online]. Available at: [Census 2021 Bulk - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 10.01.2023).
- ¹⁴ ONS (2021). Census 2021 – TS032: Welsh language skills (detailed). [Online]. Available at: [Census 2021 Bulk - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 10.01.2023).
- ¹⁵ ONS – 1981, 1991, 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census. Welsh language skills (speaking). [Online]. Available at: [Census of Population - Data Sources - home - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 02.01.2023).
- ¹⁶ Welsh Government (2001-2021). Welsh language data from the Annual Population Survey 2001-2021. [Online]. Available at: [Welsh language data from the Annual Population Survey | GOV.WALES](#) (Accessed: 11.01.2023).
- ¹⁷ Stats Wales (2019). Percentage of adults who speak Welsh (including the percentage that have some Welsh speaking ability) by local authority. [Online]. Available at: [Percentage of adults who speak Welsh \(including the percentage that cannot speak Welsh and have some Welsh speaking ability\) by local authority \(gov.wales\)](#) (Accessed: 19.01.23).
- ¹⁸ NOMIS (2011). Census 2011, Table – LC2106WA. [Online]. Available at: [LC2106WA \(Welsh language skills by sex by age\) - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 03.01.2023).
- ¹⁹ NOMIS (2021). Census 2021, Table – TS076. [Online]. Available at: [TS076 - Welsh language skills - Nomis -](#)

[Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk) (Accessed: 03.01.2023).

²⁰ ONS (2021). Census 2021, Table TS001: Number of usual residents in households and communal establishments. [Online]. Available at:

[Number of usual residents in households and communal establishments - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).

²¹ ONS (2001-2021). 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census. Welsh slanguage skills (speaking) by age. [Online]. Available at: [Census of Population - Data Sources - home - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk) (Accessed: 15.01.2023).

²² Ibid.

²³ Stats Wales (2022). Pupils taught Welsh as a first language by local authority and year group. [Online]. Available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Education-and-Skills/Schools-and-Teachers/Schools-Census/Pupil-Level-Annual-School-Census/Welsh-Language/pupilstaughtwelshprimarymiddlesecondaryschools-by-localauthorityregion-year> (Accessed: 09.01.2023).

²⁴ Stats Wales (2022). Pupils by local authority, region and Welsh medium type. [Online]. Available at: [Pupils by local authority, region and Welsh medium type \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales) (Accessed: 29.03.2023).

²⁵ Welsh Government (2022). Chief Statistician's update: [understanding Census 2021 data about the Welsh language. [Online]. Available at: [Chief Statistician's update: understanding Census 2021 data about the Welsh language | Digital and Data Blog \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales) (Accessed: 10.01.2023).

²⁶ ONS (2001-2021). 2001, 2011 and 2021 Census. Welsh slanguage skills (speaking) by age. [Online]. Available at: [Census of Population - Data Sources - home - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk) (Accessed: 15.01.2023).

²⁷ ONS (2021). Census 2021, Table TS001: Number of usual residents in households and communal establishments. [Online]. Available at: [Number of usual residents in households and communal establishments - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).

²⁸ ONS (2011). Welsh language skills by sex by age. [Online]. Available at: [DC2106WALA \(Welsh language skills by sex by age\) - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).

²⁹ ONS (2021). TS076 – Welsh language skills (speaking) by single year of age. [Online]. Available at: [Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).

³⁰ HESA (2021). Higher Education student enrolments by Higher Education provider – 2020/21. [Online]. Available at: [Where do HE students study? | HESA](https://hesa.ac.uk) (Accessed: 10.01.2023).

³¹ Welsh Government (2022). Chief Statistician's update: understanding Census 2021 data about the Welsh language. [Online]. Available at: [Chief Statistician's update: understanding Census 2021 data about the Welsh language | Digital and Data Blog \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales) (Accessed: 23.01.23).

³² Welsh Government (2020). What factors are linked to people speaking the Welsh language? [Online]. Available at: [What factors are linked to people speaking the Welsh language? \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales) (Accessed: 24.01.2023).

³³ ONS (2021). TS033 – Welsh language skills (speaking). [Online]. Available at: [Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).

³⁴ ONS (2021). TS033 – Welsh language skills (speaking). [Online]. Available at: [Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).

³⁵ ONS (2021). TS032 – Welsh language skills (detailed). [Online]. Available at: [Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://nomisweb.co.uk) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).

³⁶ ONS (2023). Usual resident population in full time education by age 18 to 30 years, England and Wales – Census 2021. [Online]. Available at: [Usual resident population in full-time education by age 18 to 30 years, England and Wales: Census 2021 - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).

³⁷ HESA (2022). Where do they study? Online]. Available at: [Where do HE students study? | HESA](https://hesa.ac.uk) (Accessed: 30.02.2023).

-
- ³⁸ ONS (2011). Country of Birth – Table: KS204EW. [Online]. Available at: [KS204EW \(Country of birth\) - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 27.01.2023).
- ³⁹ ONS (2021). Country of Birth – Table: TS012. [Online]. Available at: [Census 2021 Bulk - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 27.10.2023).
- ⁴⁰ ONS (2001). Census 2001 – Table KS005 Country of birth. [Online]. Available at: [KS005 - Country of birth - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).
- ⁴¹ ONS (2011). Census 2011 – QS203EW: Country of birth. [Online]. Available at: [QS203EW \(Country of birth \(detailed\)\) - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).
- ⁴² HESA (2018-2021). UK domiciled HE students by HE provider and domicile – Academic years 2014/15 to 2020/21. [Online]. Available at: [Where do HE students come from? | HESA](#) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).
- ⁴³ ONS (2011). 2011 Census – Table: QS214EW – National identity (detailed). [Online]. Available at: [QS214EW \(National Identity \(detailed\)\) - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 30.01.2023).
- ⁴⁴ Welsh Government (2022). Accessing Welsh during the Covid-19 pandemic: challenges and support for non-Welsh speaking households. [Online]. Available at: [covid-rs3-final-en.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#) (Accessed: 09.01.23).
- ⁴⁵ Ibid.
- ⁴⁶ NOMIS (2021). TS007-Age by single year, 2021 Census. [Online]. Available at: [Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 09.01.2023).
- ⁴⁷ NOMIS (2021). KS102EW – Age structure, 2011 Census. [Online]. Available at: [KS102EW \(Age structure\) - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 09.01.2023).
- ⁴⁸ NOMIS (2021). TS012 – Country of birth (detailed), 2021 Census. Available at: [TS012 - Country of birth - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#) (Accessed: 09.01.2023).