

Government Consultation on shaping the future of care together –
The Green Paper on Care and Support

Response from Kent County Council: **Demographic Supplement**

Background: This is a demographic supplement to Kent County Council's response to Government's Green paper (14 July 2009). The purpose is to give sufficient context to produce a more focussed debate. All "Kent" data presented in this paper is for the KCC Area only.

For Information:

1.0 Introduction:

- i) There is a large variation in the relative economic prosperity across Kent. According to the deprivation index, Sevenoaks is one of the most affluent districts in England while Thanet, one of the poorest in the South East. This disparity has an equally disproportionate impact on the population's ability, or inability, to remain active and independent well into old age. With a statutory responsibility to ensure the well being for the whole population of Kent, it is important that we support both the "able", and the "less able" to ensure an affordable Social Care system that cares for as many of Kent's people as possible. Therefore, the facts contained in this paper support the County Council's preferred option for the Green Paper consultation.

2.0 The Population of Kent

- i) Current Population: The majority of Social Care Clients are over retirement age. However, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) stress the need to do preventative work, especially those aged over 50 who are more likely to become KASS Clients in the near future. Older Persons (50+) make up just over one-third (36.4%) of the entire population ¹. However, as Kent is such a large county, 508,200 people aged 50+ in the KCC Area is nearly the size of the whole of East Sussex (509,900 people). In turn, among those aged 50+, over half are pre-retired (52.4% aged 50 to 64), a quarter newly retired (65 to 74), and the remaining quarter aged 75 and over ².
- ii) Population Forecasts: The Older Population is forecast to increase rapidly. Currently, in the county, there are an additional 1,200 persons aged 85 and over every year. This accelerates to an annual increase of 2,500 persons per annum between 2011 and 2016 and by around 2021, the increase is an additional 6,500 per annum ³. Maidstone has the highest number, with Dartford the least ⁴.

¹ CHART 1: Population aged 50+, KCC Area, Estimates 2007

² CHART 2 Detailed age group 50+, KCC Area, Estimates 2007

³ CHART 3 Forecast Population by detailed age groups 50+, KCC Area, 2006 to 2021

⁴ CHART 4 Forecast Population aged 50+. KCC Districts, 2006 to 2021

- iii) Demographic Support Ratio: The older population is increasing at a much greater rate than the working age population. A balance between these two groups can be taken as a ratio between the numbers of those working per those over the state pension age. At 2001, this ratio stood at 3.1 working person to each person retired; and by 2026, this is projected to be only two working persons per retired person. To keep the working ratio at a higher level, it is important to have a phased increase in the number of people retiring⁵.
- iv) Forecast of KASS Clients: KASS Clients fall into two broad age groups: 18 to 64 (which are split into those with Learning Disability or Physical Disability) and those aged 65 and over (Older Persons). Forecasting of the caseload populations show that there will be no significant increase in the number of Clients with Learning (+0.9%) or Physical Disabilities (+0.8%); although they may be more multiply disabled as they age⁶. However, due to a rapidly aging population, clients aged 65 and over are expected to increase significantly (+26.7%)⁷.
- v) Ethnicity: It is worth a quick note that Kent's ethnic population is predominantly Asian and is highly concentrated in a handful of wards within Gravesham and Dartford⁸.

3.0 Active Lives

- i) Life Expectancy: There are large discrepancies in longevity depending on which end of Kent you live. If you are male aged 65 and living in Ashford, you can expect to live another 18.9 years. However, if you live in Thanet, Swale or Dartford, you can expect to die two years younger with only 16.6 years left. If you are female, living in Sevenoaks offers highest longevity with 65 year olds looking forward to another 21.6 years, while in nearby Dartford, typical lifespan is another 18.8 years; almost three years shorter⁹.
- ii) Death by cause: The cause of death of people aged 51+ would be an indication of the service demands required by Health and Social Care Professionals. This could help inform Public Health policies as well as preventative interventions. Ischaemic Heart Disease, or the inadequate supply of blood to the heart caused by clogged arteries, is the single largest killer in Kent for both males (13.2% of all deaths aged 51+) and females (9.4% of all deaths aged 51+). This is followed by lung cancer (second highest killer for males), pneumonia (second highest killer for females). A gradual damage to the heart, leading to a heart attack (Myocardial Infarction) is the third highest killer for males, and fourth for females¹⁰.

⁵ CHART 5: Kent's Demographic Support Ratio: 2001 to 2026

⁶ CHARTS 6a) and 6b): JSNA Forecast of Clients with Learning and Physical Disabilities

⁷ CHART 7 JSNA Forecast of Older Person Clients

⁸ TABLE 1 Ethnicity by highest 10 Wards in KCC Area, Census 2001

⁹ CHARTS 8a) and 8b): Life expectancy at 65, Males and Females

¹⁰ TABLE 2 Top 5 Causes of Death aged 51+ Kent 2006 2a) Males, 2b) Females

- iii) Your Health: Good? Fairly Good? Or Not Good?: This question was asked of the entire population during the 2001 Census and not surprisingly this tends to deteriorate as we age. By age 85+ only 1 in 4 of us would consider we are in Good Health¹¹.
- iv) Hospital Admissions: When we do have to go to hospital, we hope that this would be a planned episode in conjunction with our physicians. Fortunately this is largely the case (60%) for everyone aged 50 and over. However, by the time we reach 75 and over, more than half (53%) of hospital admissions are due to an unexpected (emergency) admission¹².
- v) Reasons for Hospital Admissions: It is not surprising to know the likelihood of admission to hospital increases as we age. We are twice as likely to be admitted when aged 75+, when compared to when we are aged 51 to 64¹³. When looking at conditions in detail, the highest single reason is for admission is for Arthritis (over 14,000 expected); second is COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, or smoking related lung disease, with over 12,000 admissions expected); and Diabetes (nearly 11,000 admissions in Kent expected)¹⁴. All these conditions are extremely disabling and highly dependant on Social Care.
- vi) Support networks: When people become dependant, the first line of support is from the spouse or partner. However, it is not surprising we are more likely to be widowed or widowered as we age. Four out of five of us are married or cohabiting when aged 50 to 64; but this falls dramatically to under one in five of us by the time we reach 85 and over. Conversely, by the time we reach 85 half of us will be living alone, and one in five can expect to be living in a residential or nursing home¹⁵. As we age, more and more of us are choosing to live at home, therefore, the number of people aged 85+ living alone is expected to increase by nearly 60% to over 25,000 households by 2026¹⁶.
- vii) Carers: Informal care giving is very important in older age. However, what is the profile of Carers in Kent? At age 50 to 64, about 1 in 5 of us provide some form of care. This trend is in line with regional and national patterns. However, at age 75 to 84, those living in Kent and the South East are twice as likely to remain care givers than England as a whole. This is most probably due to people remaining active and capable, compared to equivalent peers in inner city deprived locations¹⁷.
- viii) The burden of care giving: At a younger age (50 to 64) 75% of us provide care (most likely to be for a parent or parent-in-law) and this is typically low levels, clocking fewer than 20 hours per week. As we age, our care responsibilities shift to providing longer hours of care (20 hours or more), more likely for spouses and partners and this increases

¹¹ CHART 9: General Health aged 50+ Kent, 2001

¹² CHART 10: Hospital Admissions Electives or Emergencies aged 51+ Kent 2007/08

¹³ CHART 11: Hospital Admissions by broad age groups Kent 2007/08

¹⁴ CHART 12: Forecast of Hospital Admissions by Condition Kent 2012

¹⁵ CHART 13: Family Type by broad age groups 50+ Kent 2001

¹⁶ CHART 14: Forecast of Family Types aged 85+ Kent 2006 to 2021

¹⁷ CHART 15: Care Givers aged 50+ Kent, South East and England & Wales, 2001

significantly as we age. So by the time we reach 85 or over, half of us are full-time carers providing 50 or more hours of care per week¹⁸.

- ix) Independence: Car Ownership: If giving up driving can be considered one sign of reducing independence, then the trend by age is significant. At age 50 to 64, over 90% of us own a car. This rapidly shrinks to only 32% by the time we reach 85 or older¹⁹. If you live in a rural setting, the need for a car is much greater. However, older people living in a rural setting in Thanet are more likely to be without a car (17% of people aged 50+ without a car) compared to 12.1% in Sevenoaks²⁰.
- x) Leisure and Citizenship: Older residents (aged 50+) who exercise the most (half hour moderate exercise, at least three days per week) live in Maidstone (15.7%), Sevenoaks (14.9%) and Canterbury (14.0%); while those least active live in Gravesham (9.4%), Dover (10.1%) or Dartford (10.1%)²¹. For voluntary work, people aged 55+ are twice as likely to be an officer for an organisation or club than those aged 16 to 54. Otherwise, rates of volunteering are similar across the age groups²². Finally, the older we get, the more likely we are to vote, rising from only one in three of us aged 19 to 24, compared to four out of five aged 85+²³.

4.0 Wealth

- i) Tenure: The ability to buy our own homes relies on how much we earn before retirement. The sooner we own our properties outright, the more we are able to afford formal care in old age. By the age of 50, over half (51.6%) of Kent's residents own their homes outright. A further quarter (26.4%) are home owners with a mortgage. The remaining rent (17.1%), live rent free (1.8%) or live in a residential or nursing home (2.8%)²⁴. As we age, we are more likely to own our homes outright. However, presently, there is still a small but present generation of very elderly (aged 85+) who predate Britain's evolved widespread culture of home ownership. By the age of 85, one in five would be living in a residential or nursing home²⁵.
- ii) Economic Activity: Around 65% of people aged 50 to 64 are still working; two thirds (36.3%) full-time employees and one in 10 (9.6%) self-employed. By retirement age, only 10% of us are still working, mostly as part-time employees²⁶. This varies significantly across the county, with the highest activity rates in Tunbridge Wells (51.9%) and lowest in Thanet (38.7%)²⁷.

¹⁸ TABLE 3: Unpaid Carers by hours per week, Carers aged 50+, Kent, SE, E&W, 2001

¹⁹ CHART 16: Car ownership aged 50+ Kent 2001

²⁰ TABLE 4: Proportion of people aged 50+ in Urban or Rural Areas with No Car

²¹ CHART 17: Proportion aged 50+ who are Inactive or Regular Active Kent Districts 2005/6

²² CHART 18: Volunteering activities aged 16-54 or 55+ Kent 2008

²³ CHART 19: Voting patterns by Age Groups, Kent, 2005 General Election

²⁴ CHART 20: Percent Older Persons (aged 50+) by Tenure, Kent 2001

²⁵ TABLE 5: Percent Older Population (50+) by Tenure, Kent, 2001

²⁶ CHART 21: Proportion of 50 to 74 Employed, Kent. 2001

²⁷ CHART 22: Proportion of 50 to 74 Employed, Kent Districts, 2001

- iii) **Economic Inactivity:** At age 50 to 64, one third (34%) of us are not working. Half of these are retired but the remainder are permanently sick or disabled or looking after the family²⁸. Welfare dependency varies widely across the county with consistently highest dependency for Thanet and lowest for Sevenoaks. This is the case for Incapacity Benefit (those aged 50 to 64: Thanet: 12.8%, Sevenoaks 4.9%)²⁹; Disability Living Allowance (those aged 50 to 64: Thanet: 10.5%, Sevenoaks 4.2%)³⁰ and Attendance Allowance (those aged 65+: Thanet: 18.6%, Sevenoaks: 12.7%)³¹.

5.0 Conclusion:

- i) Kent, like the nation as a whole is fortunate to have a range of people of varying health and economic abilities. This range means that those who are able to remain active, and to save, will be in a position to do so in preparation for years of formal care needs when frail. To ensure the welfare of the population as a whole, public expenditure should be focussed for those most in need, whose needs are greater and have not been able to prepare before becoming dependant.

6.0 Acknowledgement: the data for this paper has been sourced primarily from The Older People of Kent Report, November 2008

²⁸ CHART 23: Economic Inactivity of those aged 50 to 74, Kent, 2001

²⁹ TABLE 6: Older Persons (50+) Claiming Incapacity Benefit, Kent Districts, 2007

³⁰ TABLE 7: Percent Older Persons (50+) Claiming Disability Living Allowance, Districts, 2007

³¹ TABLE 8: Percent Older Persons (60+) Claiming Attendance Allowance, Districts, 2007

CHART 1

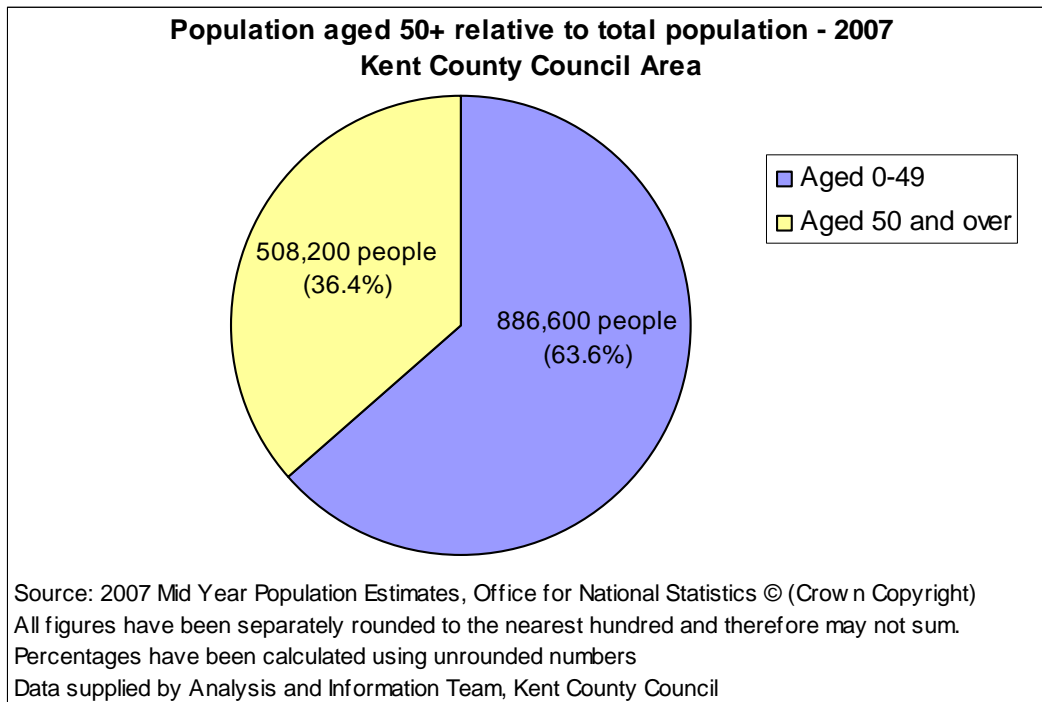


CHART 2

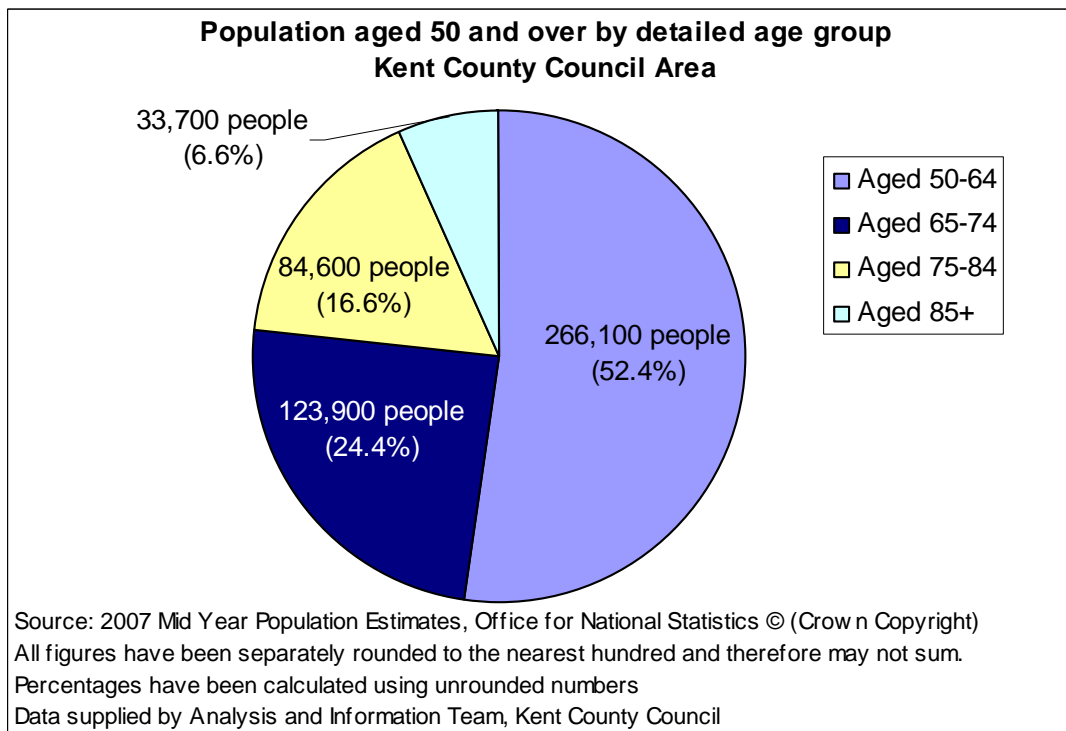


CHART 3

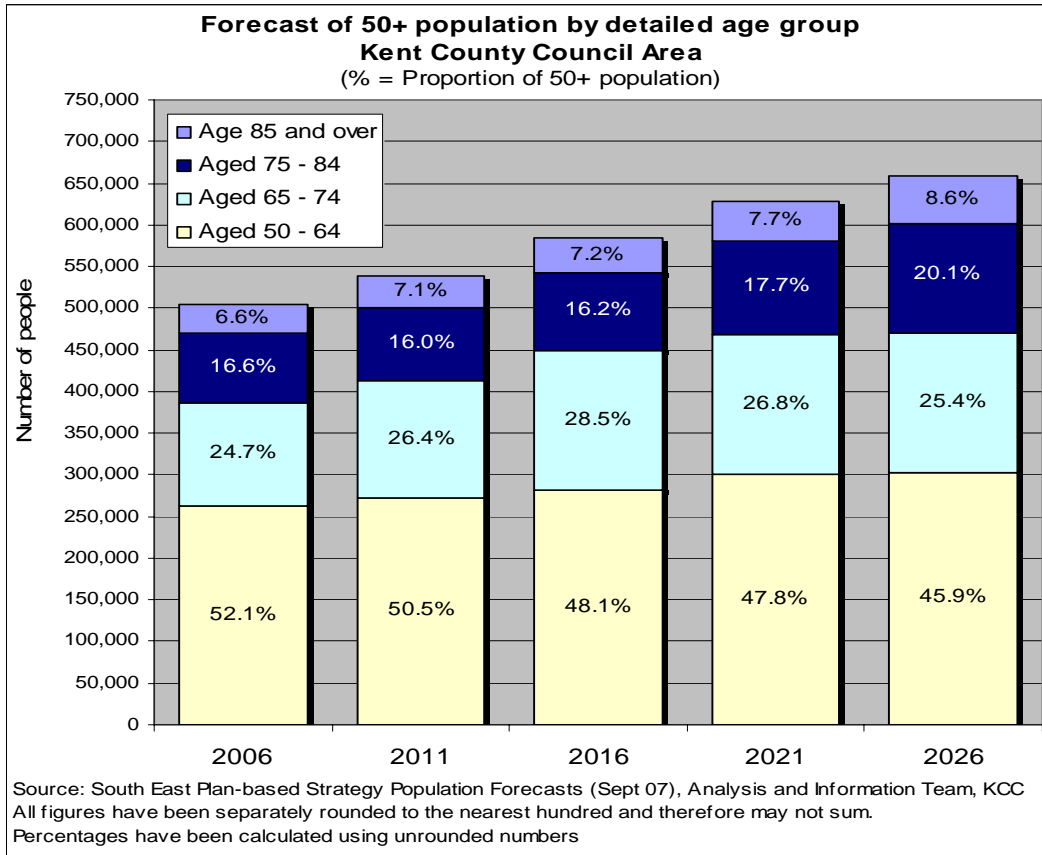


CHART 4

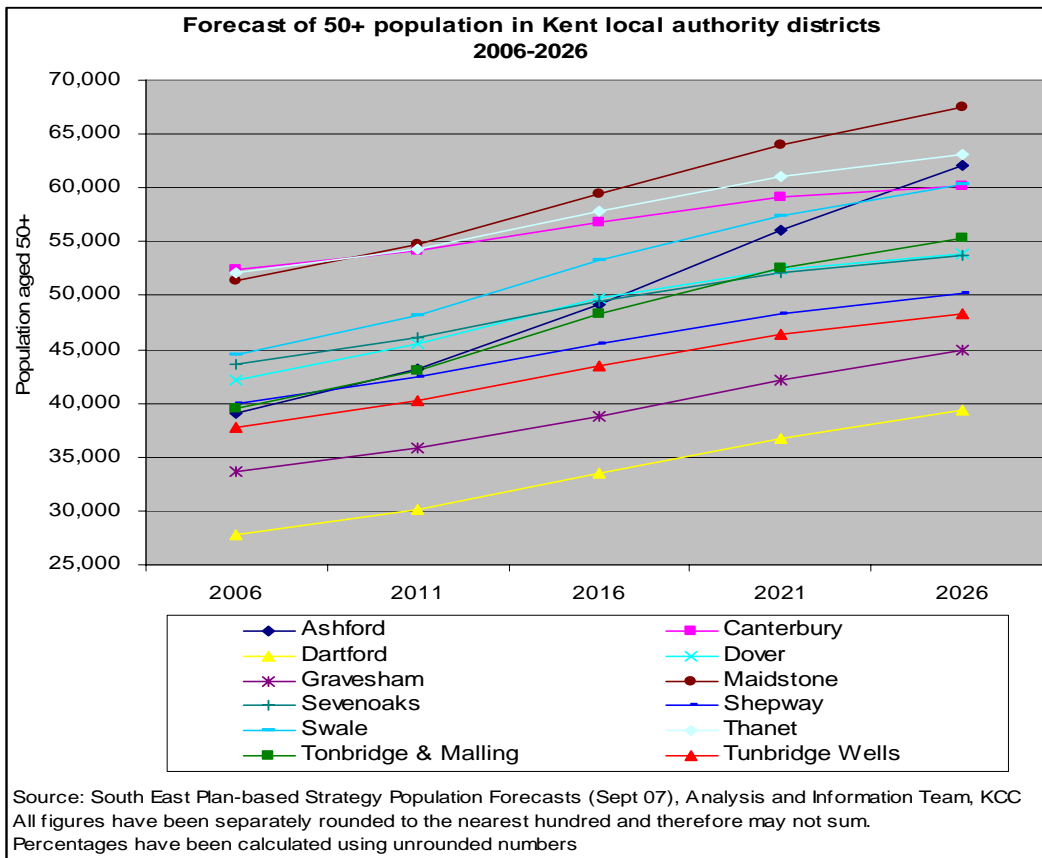


CHART 5

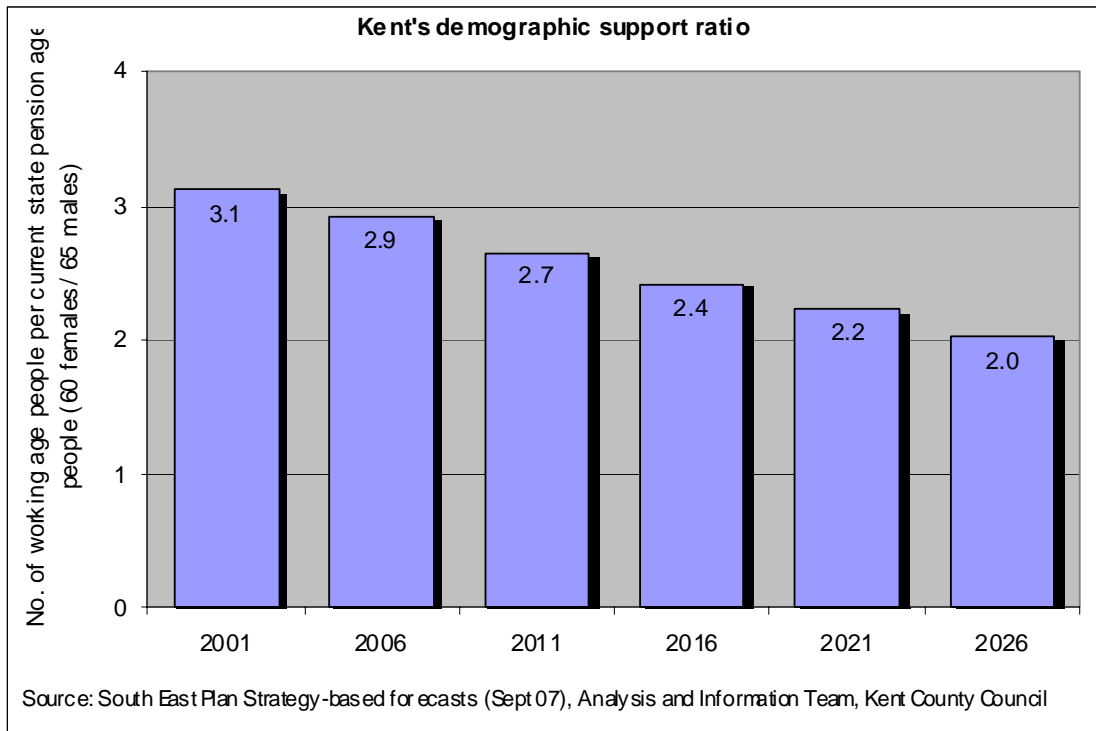


CHART 6a)

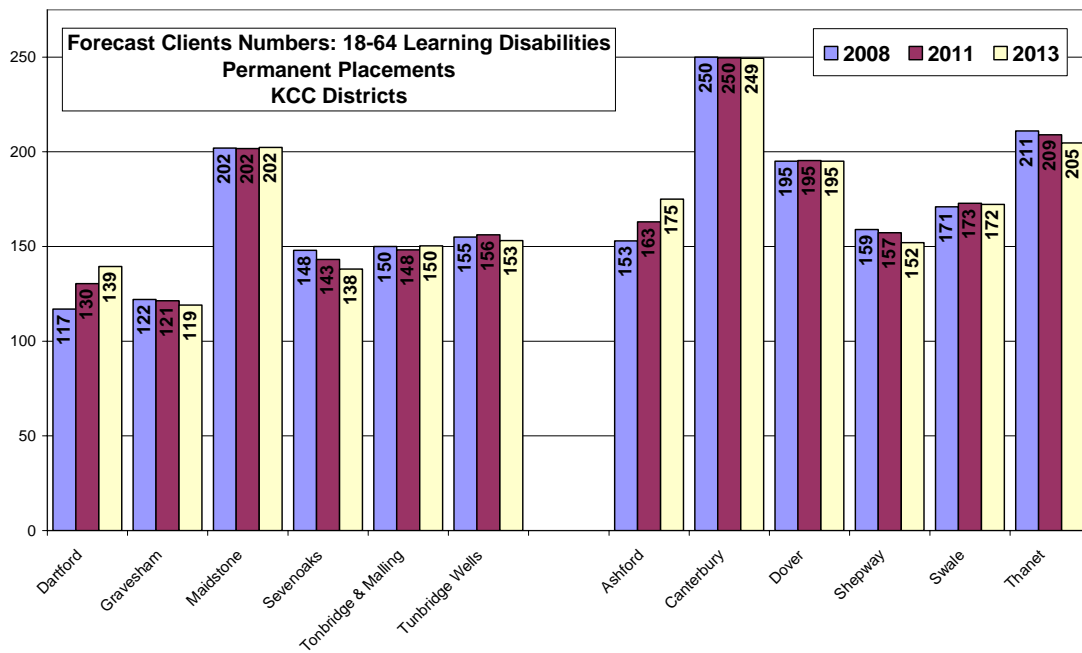


CHART 6b)

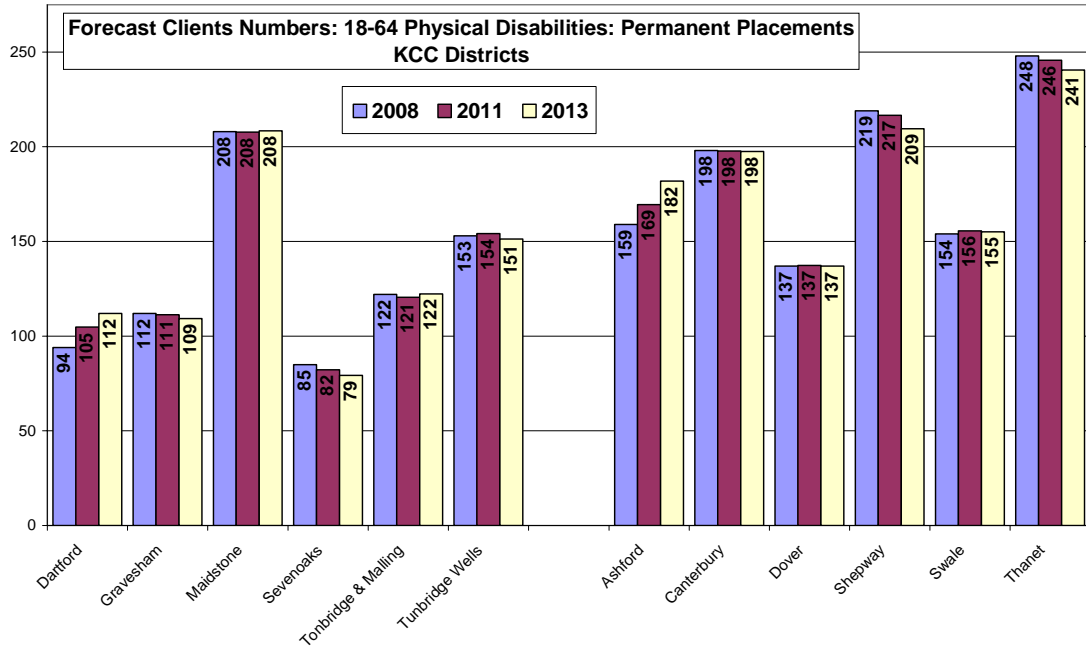


CHART 7

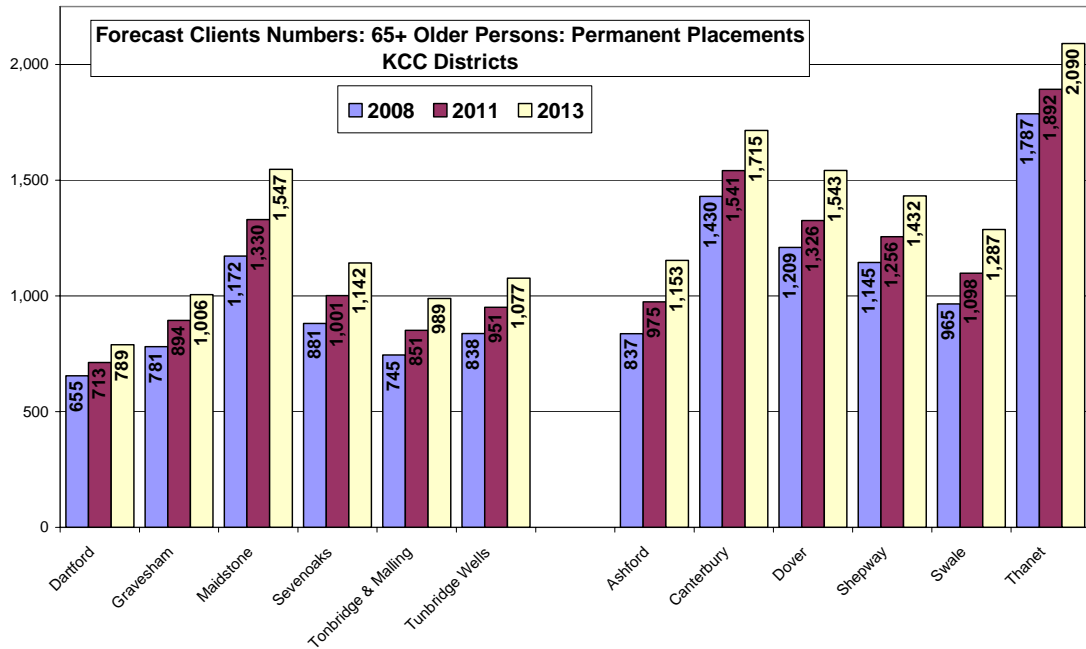


TABLE 1: Ethnicity by highest to lowest KCC Wards

Ward	Local Authority	BME population aged 50 and over	
		No.	%
Pelham	Gravesham	435	21.9%
Riverside	Gravesham	209	12.3%
Northfleet North	Gravesham	191	11.4%
Central	Gravesham	207	10.4%
Town	Dartford	70	9.4%
Northfleet South	Gravesham	151	8.4%
Newtown	Dartford	93	6.3%
Castle	Dartford	9	5.9%
Brent	Dartford	104	4.9%
West Hill	Dartford	73	4.4%

Source: 2001 Census Standard Table 101, Office for National Statistics © Crown Copyright
Table presented by The Analysis & Information Team, Kent County Council

CHART 8a)

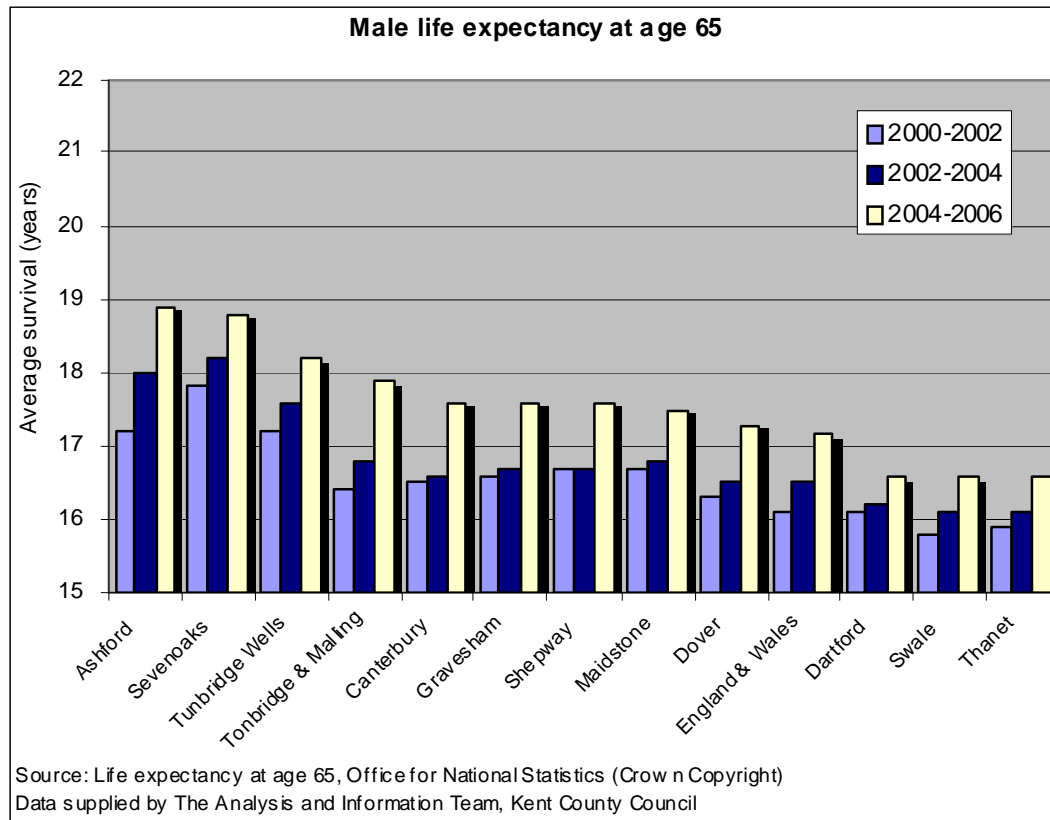


CHART 8b)

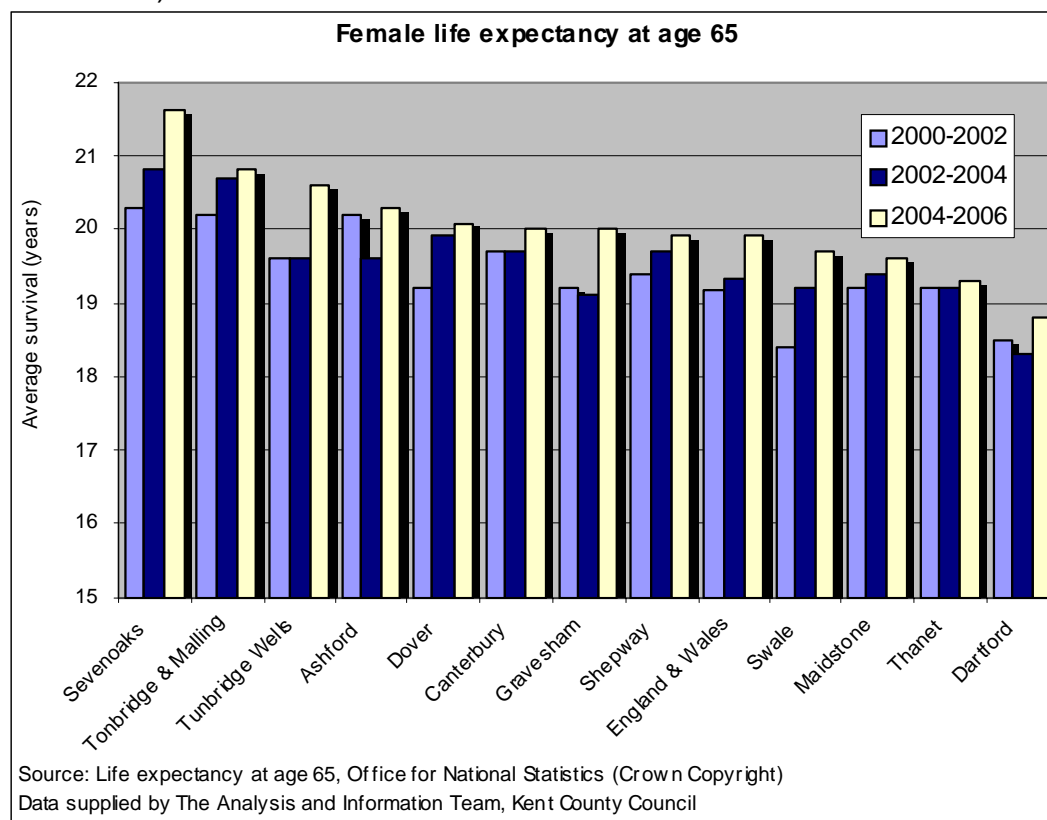


Table 2a) Death by cause: Male aged 51+ Kent 2006

Males		Total deaths aged 51+	% of all male 51+ deaths
I25	Chronic ischaemic heart disease	758	13.2%
C34	Malignant neoplasm of bronchus and lung	404	7.0%
I21	Acute myocardial infarction	339	5.9%
J44	Other chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	307	5.3%
J18	Pneumonia, organism unspecified	299	5.2%

Source: Kent Public Health Observatory

Table 2b) Death by cause: Female aged 51+ Kent 2006

Females		Total deaths aged 51+	% of all female 51+ deaths
I25	Chronic ischaemic heart disease	664	9.4%
J18	Pneumonia, organism unspecified	553	7.8%
I64	Stroke, not specified as haemorrhage or infarction	434	6.2%
I21	Acute myocardial infarction	355	5.0%
J44	Other chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	301	4.3%

Source: Kent Public Health Observatory

CHART 9

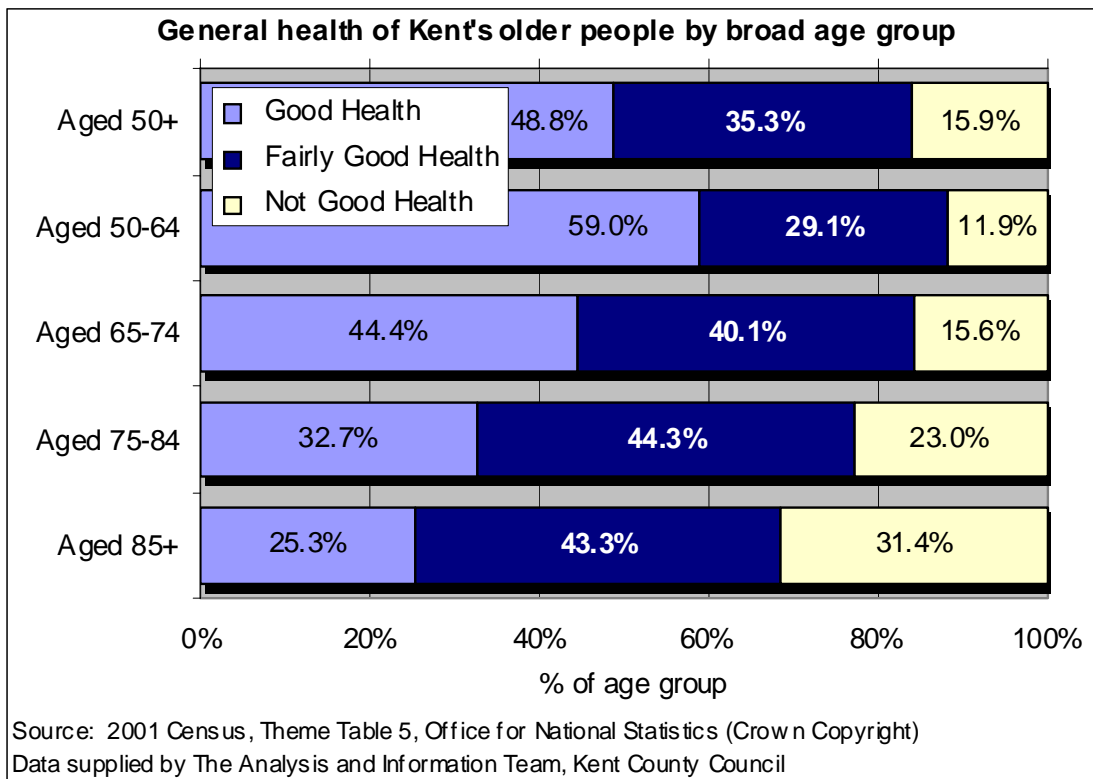


CHART 10

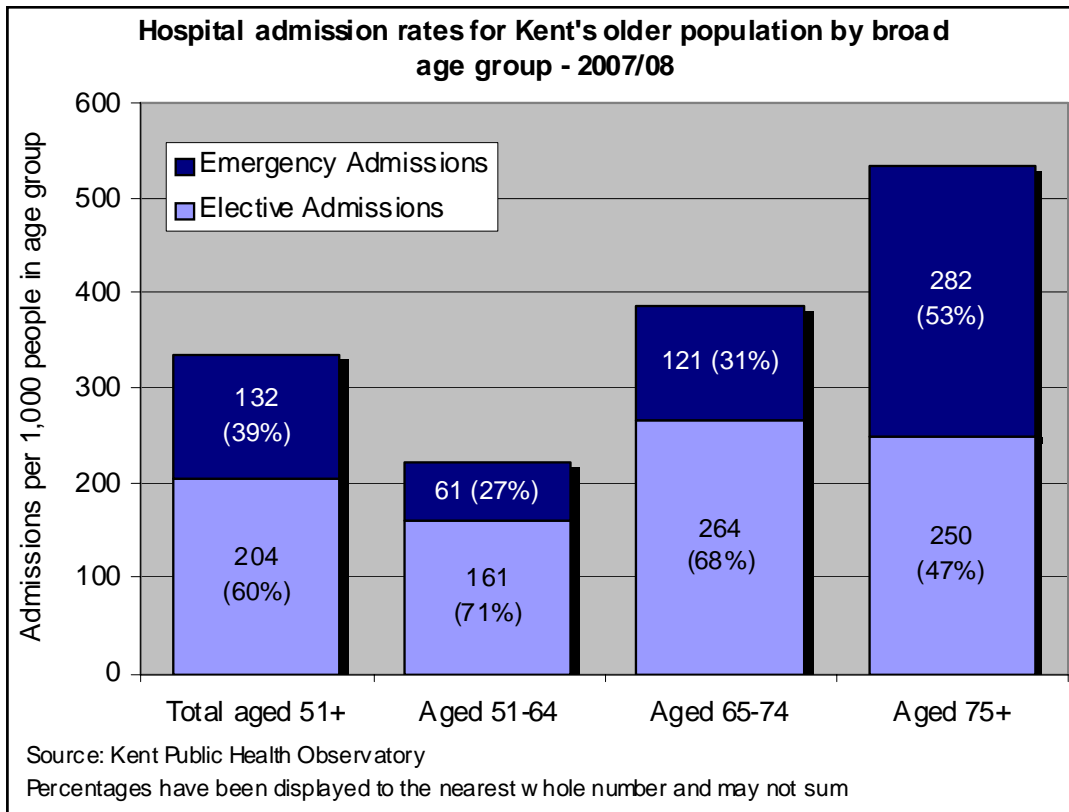


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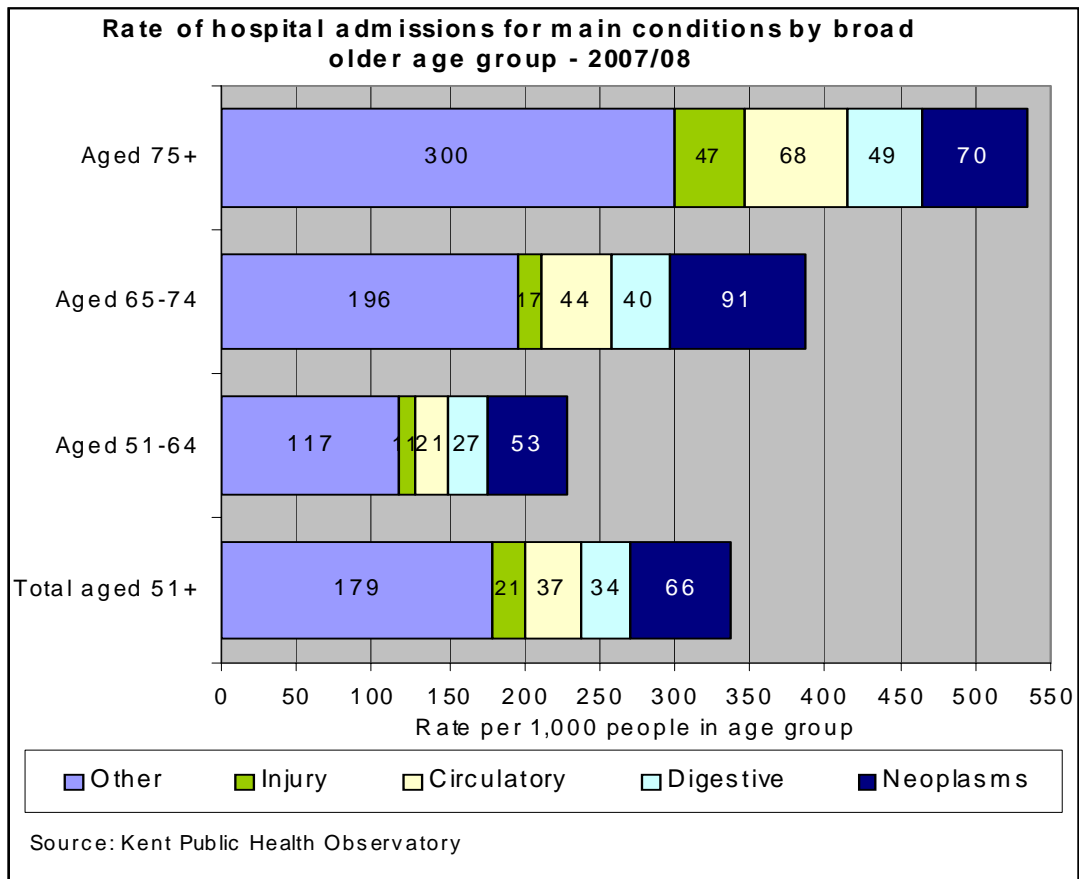


CHART 12

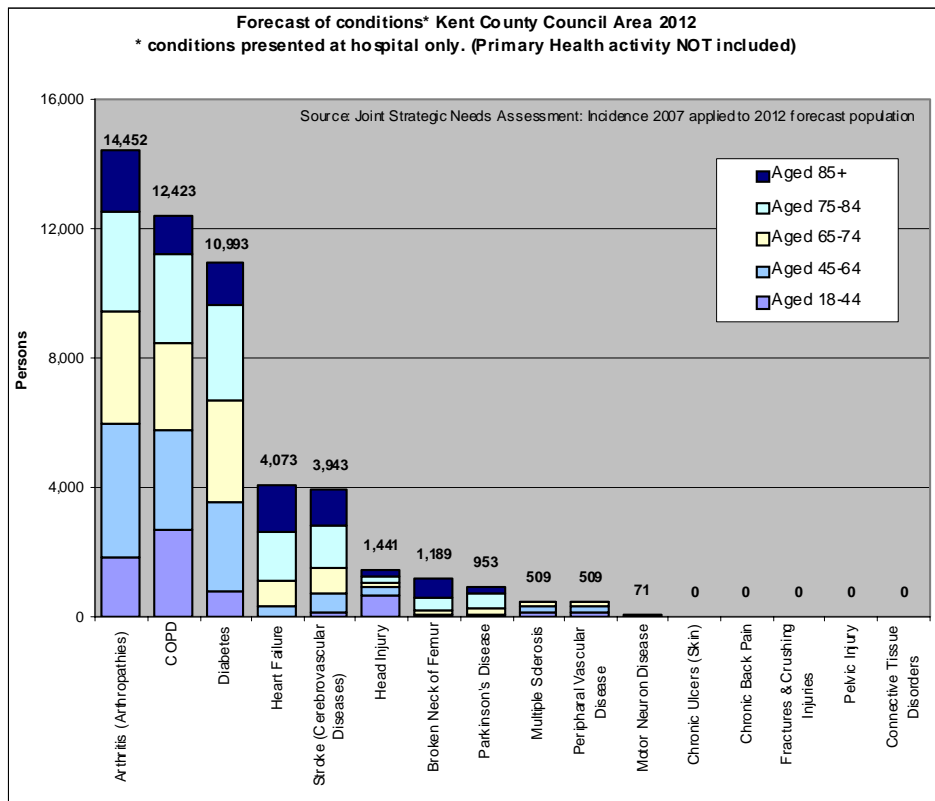


CHART 13

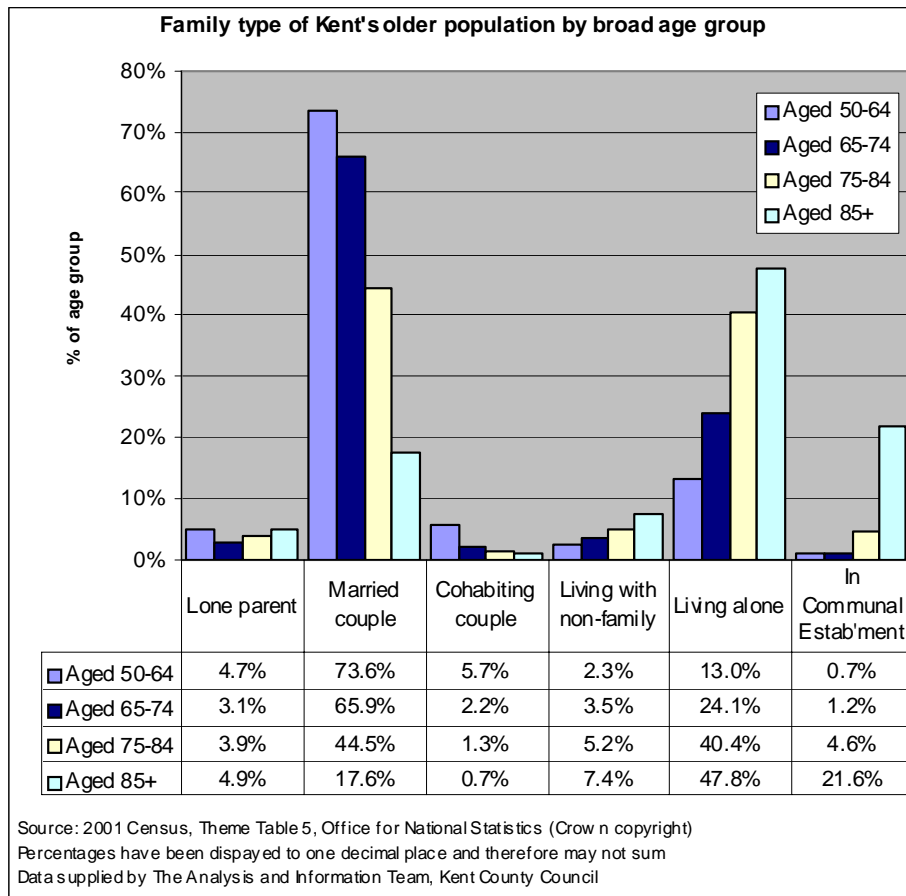


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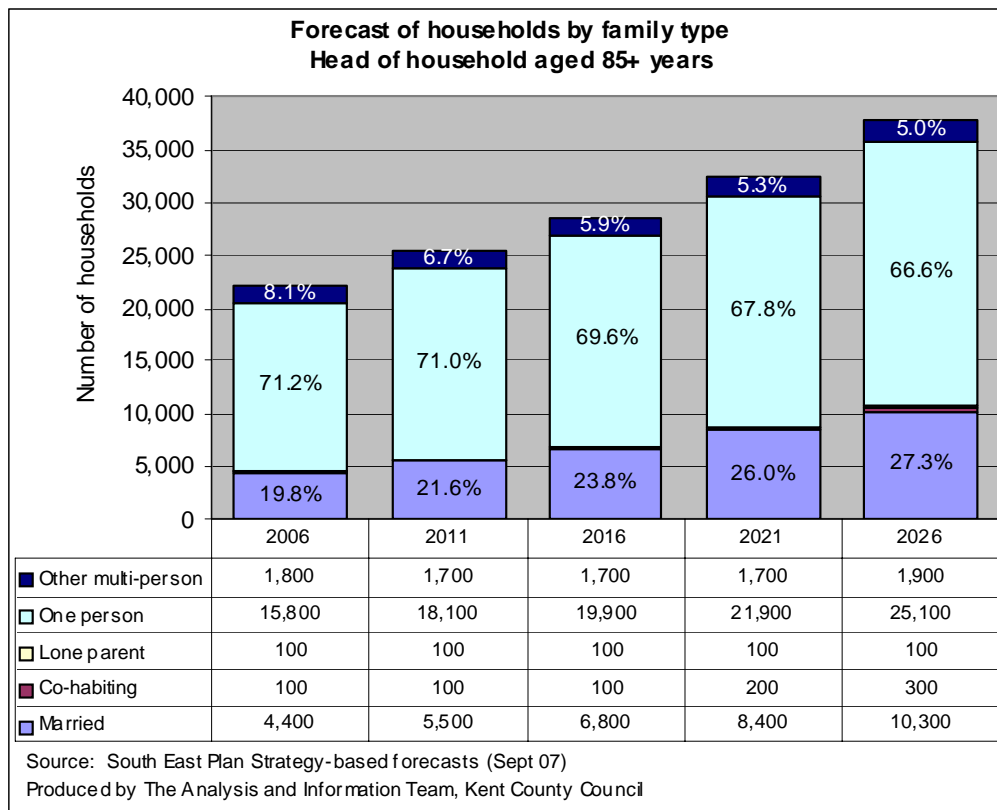


CHART 15

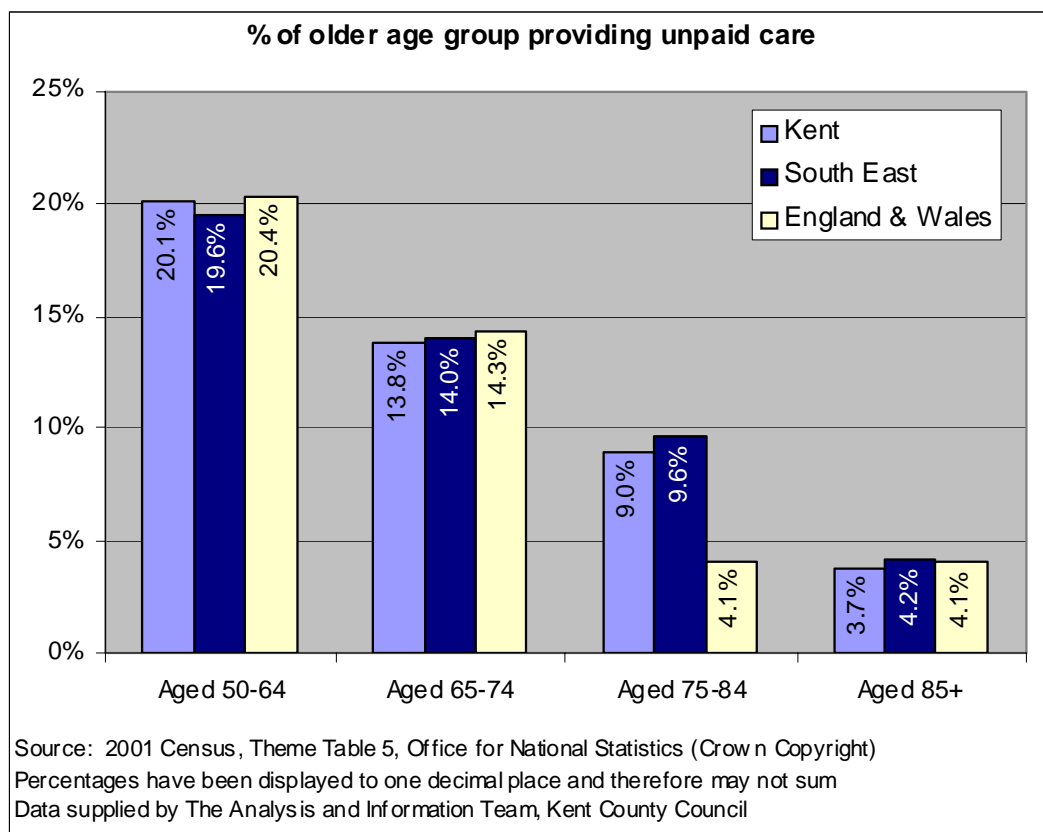


TABLE 3: Proportion of Unpaid Carers by hours per week

Providing 1 to 19 hours unpaid care per week	Kent	South East	England & Wales
Age 50-64	75.1%	77.8%	71.0%
Age 65-74	62.8%	65.8%	57.6%
Age 75-84	48.6%	51.7%	37.7%
Age 85+	38.1%	41.9%	37.7%
Providing 20 to 49 hours unpaid care per week	Kent	South East	England & Wales
Age 50-64	8.9%	8.4%	10.8%
Age 65-74	9.0%	8.8%	10.5%
Age 75-84	10.0%	10.4%	11.8%
Age 85+	12.5%	11.5%	11.8%
Providing 50 or more hours unpaid care per week	Kent	South East	England & Wales
Age 50-64	16.1%	13.9%	18.2%
Age 65-74	28.2%	25.4%	31.9%
Age 75-84	41.4%	38.0%	50.5%
Age 85+	49.4%	46.7%	50.5%

Source: 2001 Census, Theme Table 5, Office for National Statistics (Crown copyright)
 Percentages have been displayed to one decimal place and therefore may not sum
 Data supplied by The Analysis and Information Team, Kent County Council

CHART 16

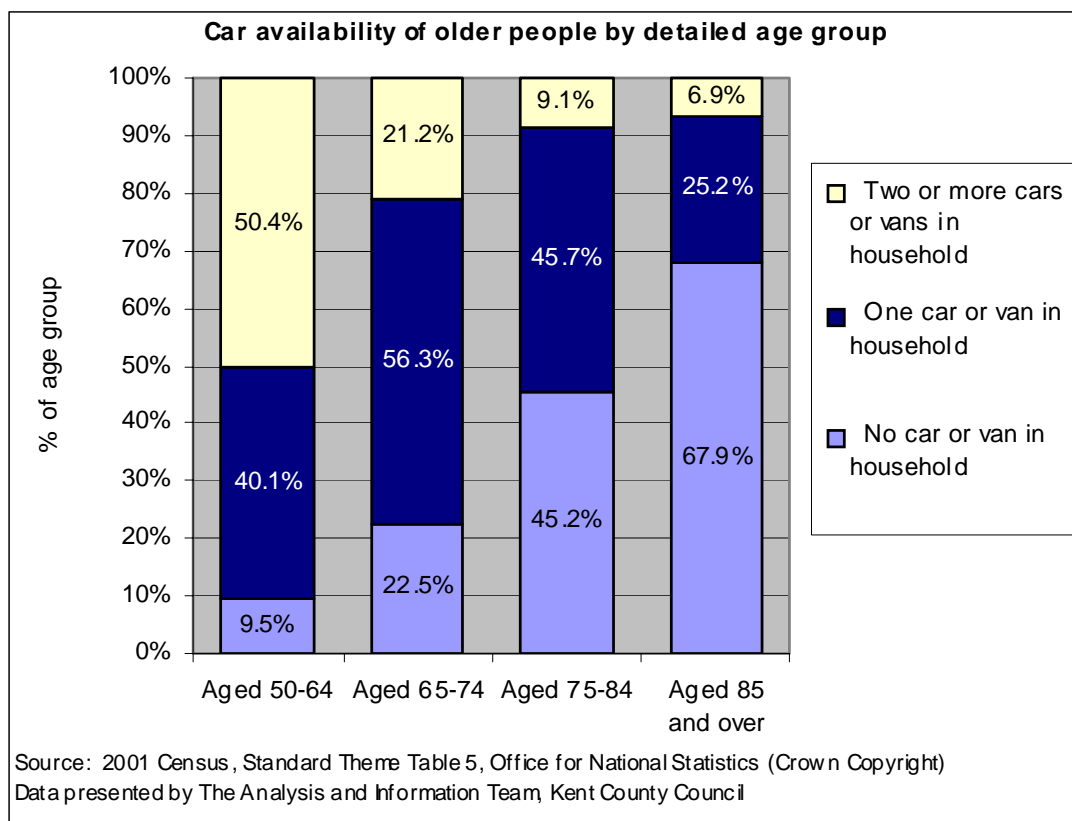


TABLE 4: Proportion of Older People in Rural or Urban Areas with No Car

	% 50+ with no car living in:		
	Urban areas	Rural areas	All Areas
Ashford	24.1%	13.1%	18.3%
Canterbury	24.3%	13.2%	22.1%
Dartford	21.8%	15.4%	20.9%
Dover	30.4%	15.9%	25.0%
Gravesham	28.1%	9.7%	23.6%
Maidstone	20.3%	12.7%	17.6%
Sevenoaks	16.9%	12.1%	14.6%
Shepway	27.0%	13.5%	21.6%
Swale	25.3%	12.3%	21.9%
Thanet	29.7%	17.5%	29.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	18.4%	14.7%	16.9%
Tunbridge Wells	22.1%	13.5%	18.3%
KCC Area	24.5%	13.4%	21.0%

Source: 2001 Census, CAS Theme Table 2, Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright)
Percentages have been displayed to one decimal place and therefore may not sum
Data presented by the Analysis and Information Team, Kent County Council

CHART 17

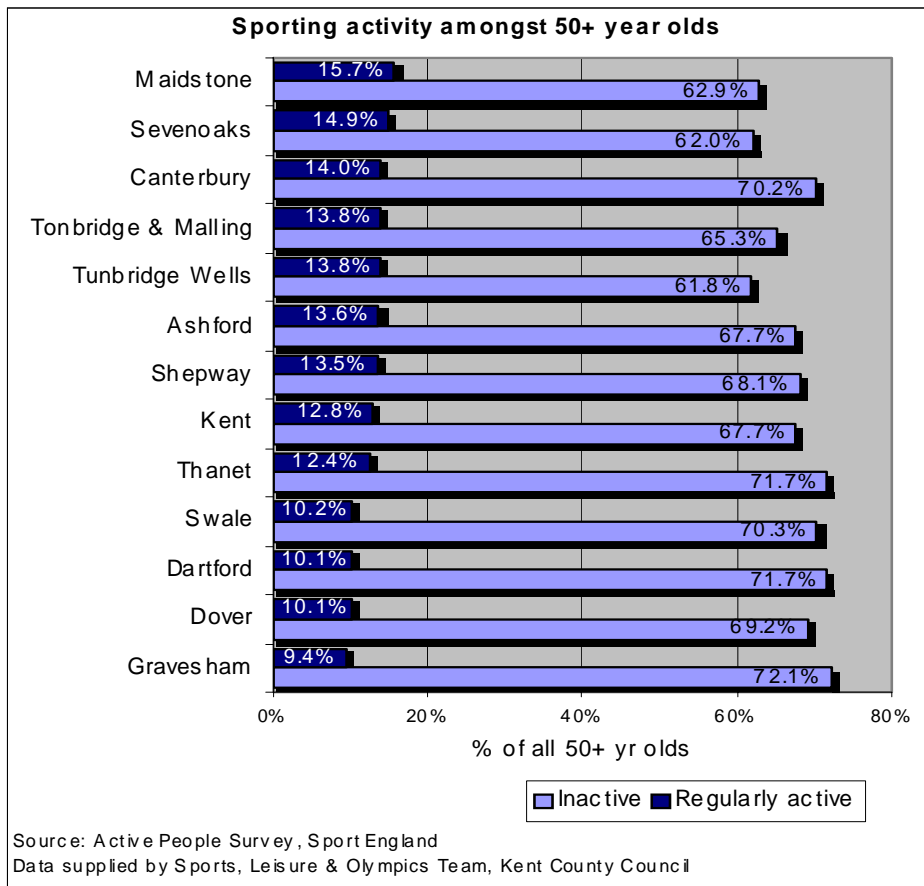


CHART 18

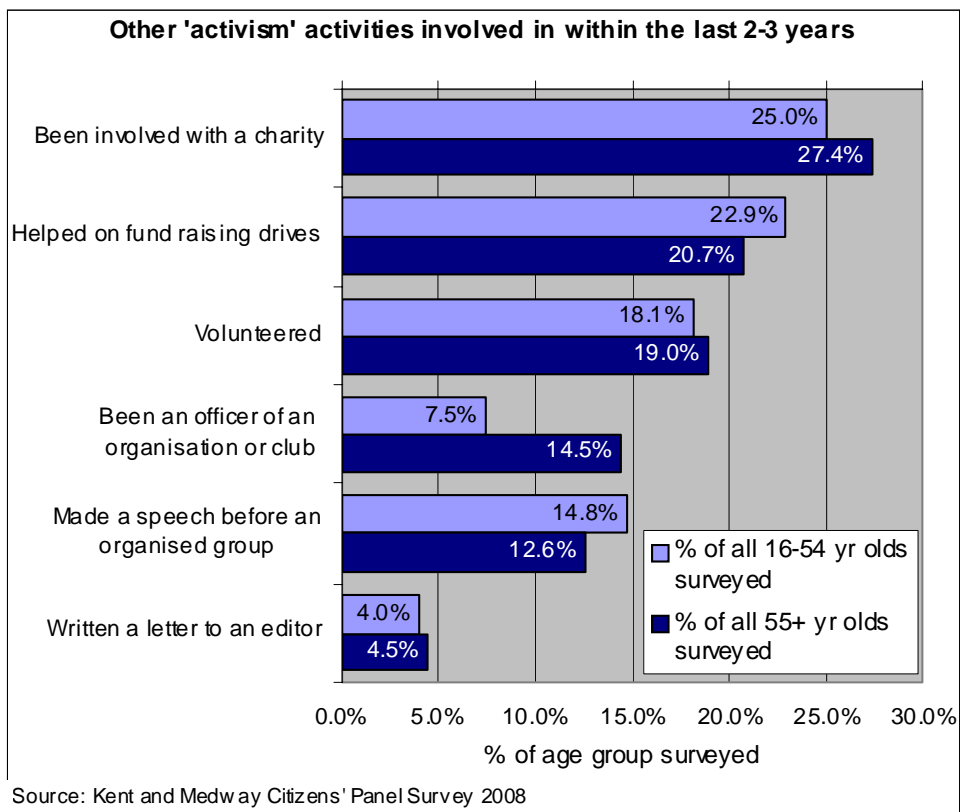


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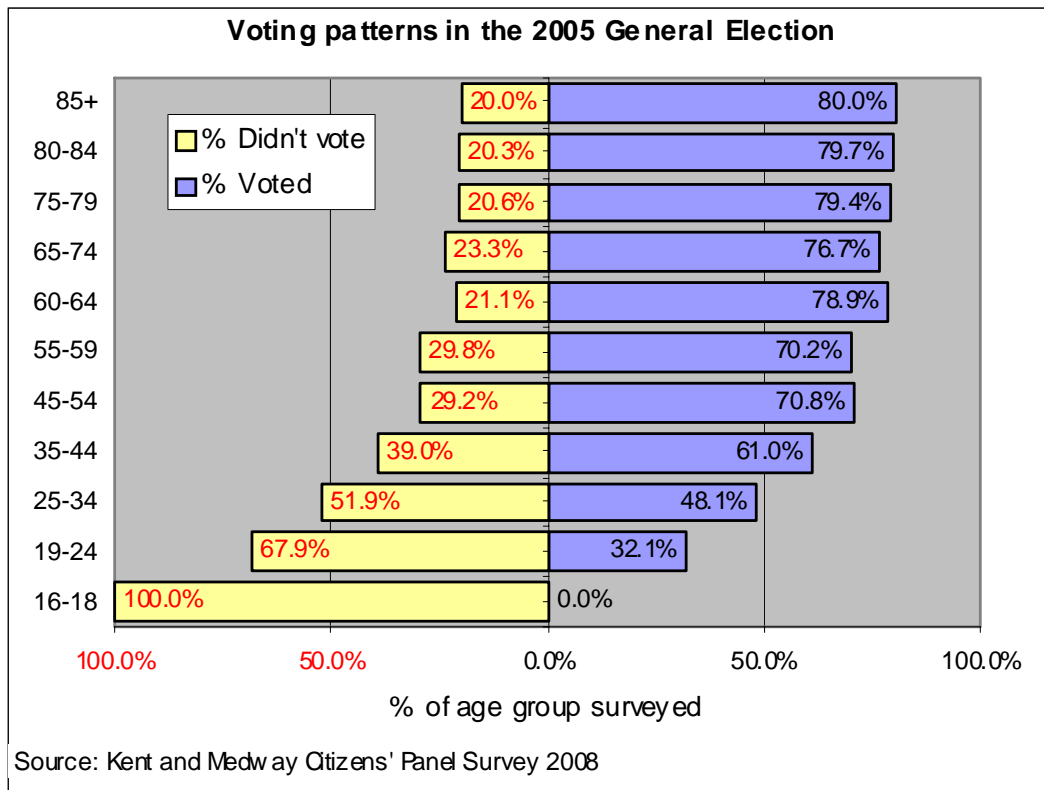


CHART 20

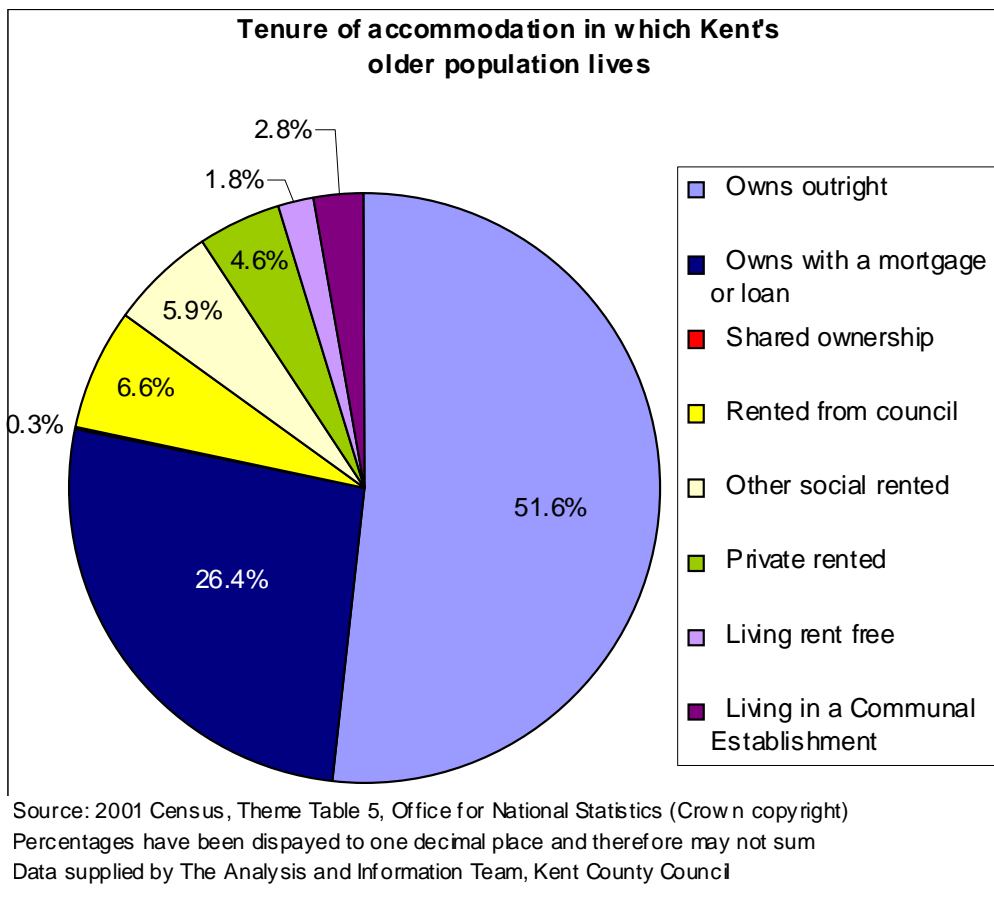


TABLE 5: Percentage of Older Population (50+) by Tenure, Kent

	Total aged 50+	Aged 50-64	Aged 65-74	Aged 75-84	Aged 85+
Owner occupied	78.0%	83.5%	79.0%	69.1%	52.3%
Owns outright	51.6%	41.1%	68.1%	61.8%	47.0%
Owns with a mortgage or loan	26.4%	42.4%	10.9%	7.3%	5.3%
Shared ownership	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Social rented	12.5%	9.3%	14.1%	18.6%	17.1%
Rented from council	6.6%	5.1%	7.4%	9.6%	8.1%
Other social rented	5.9%	4.2%	6.6%	9.0%	9.0%
Private rented	4.6%	5.0%	4.0%	4.2%	4.4%
Living rent free	1.8%	1.2%	1.5%	3.2%	4.2%
Living in a Communal Establishment	2.8%	0.7%	1.2%	4.6%	21.6%

Source: 2001 Census, Theme Table 5, Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright)

Percentages have been expressed to one decimal place and therefore may not sum

Data supplied by The Analysis and Information Team, Kent County Council

CHART 21

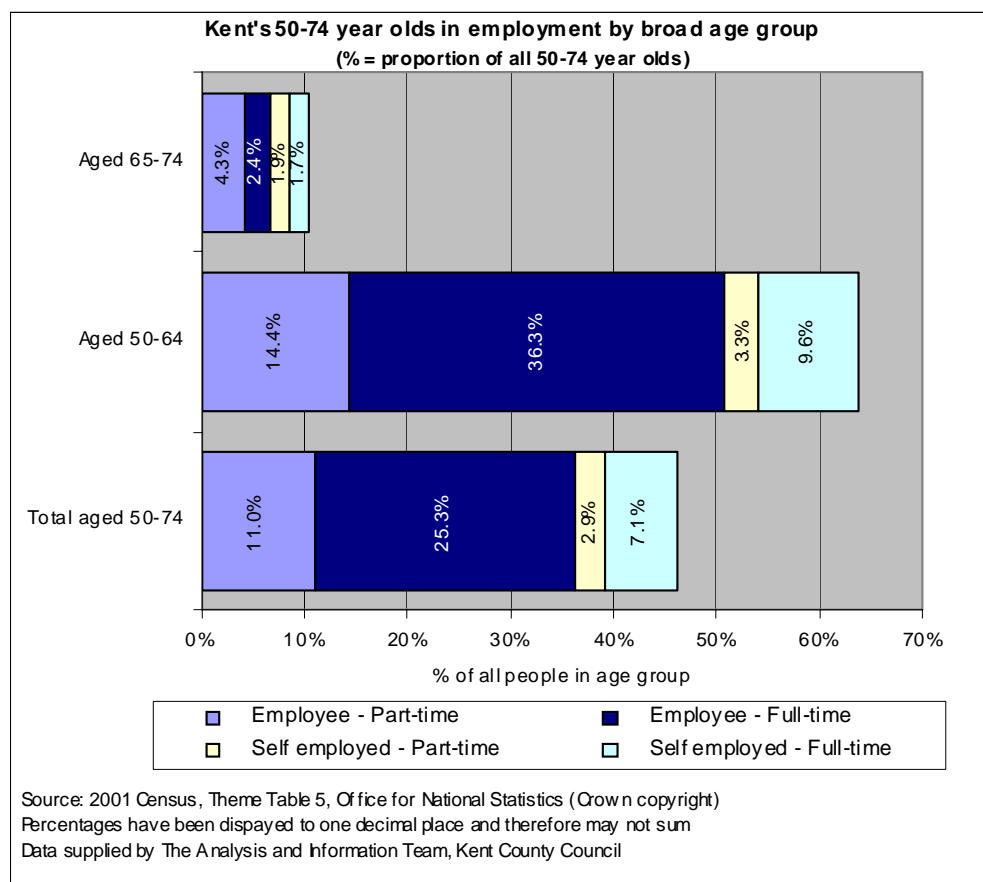


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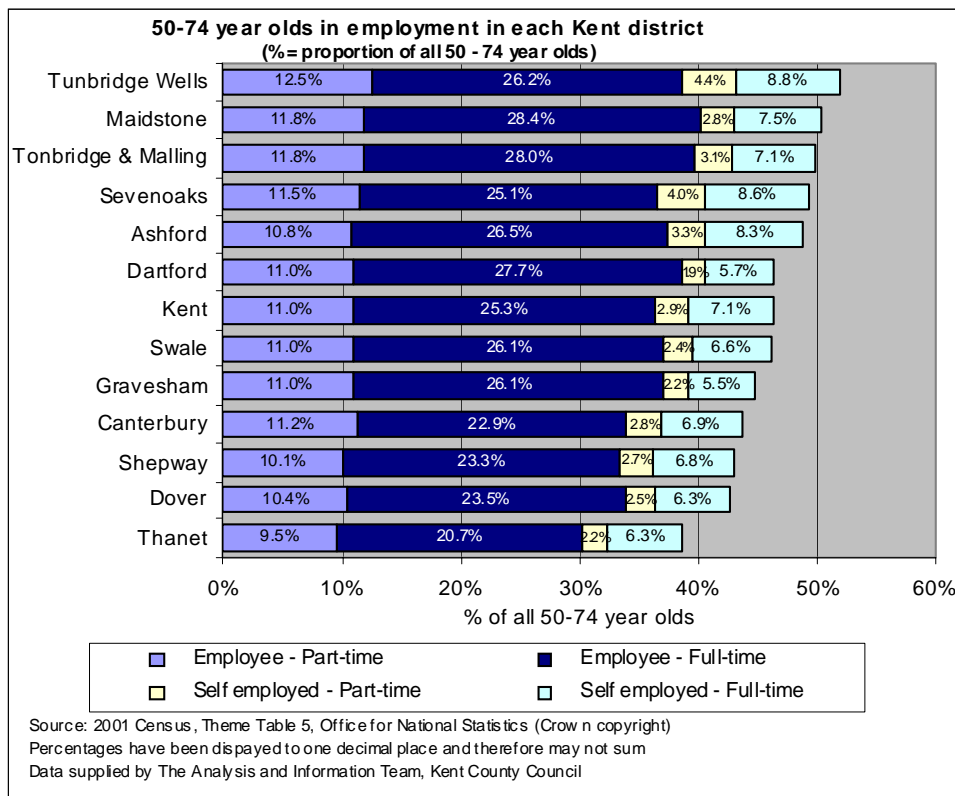


CHART 23

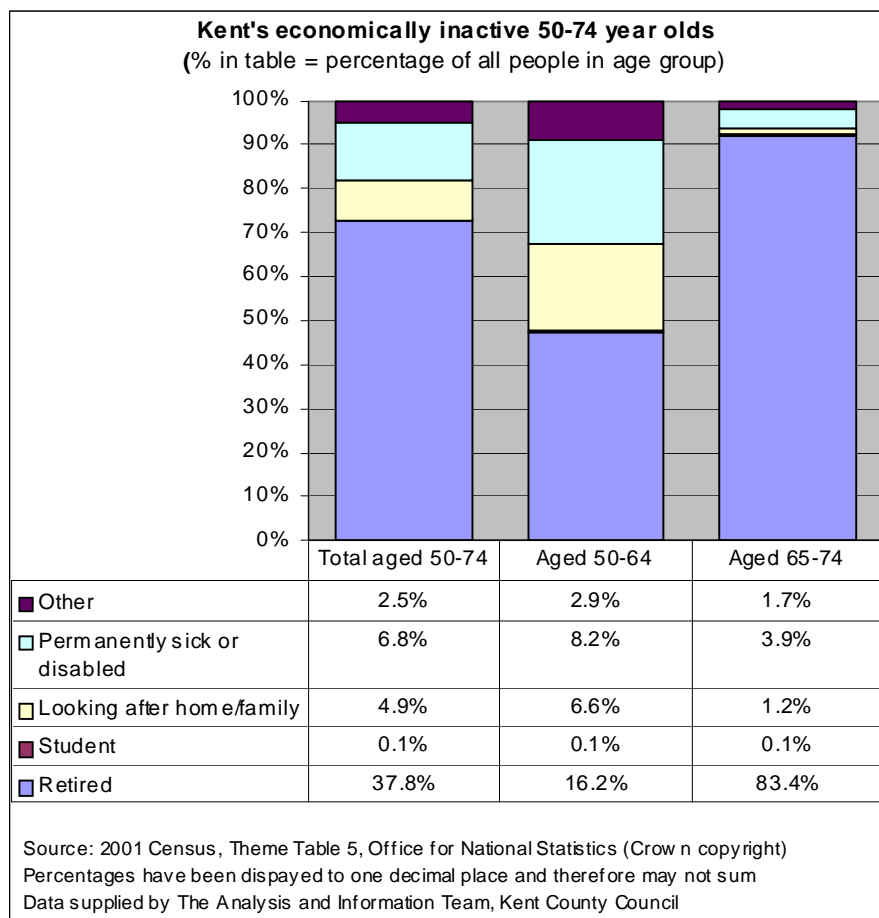


TABLE 6: Older Persons (50+) Claiming Incapacity Benefit, Kent, 2007

	All Claimants (regardless of age)	Claimants aged 50-64		Claimants aged 65+			
		Number	% of all 50-64 yr olds	% of all claimants	Number	% of all 65+ yr olds	% of all claimants
Ashford	3,380	1,410	6.6%	41.7%	30	0.2%	0.9%
Canterbury	5,080	2,290	8.8%	45.1%	80	0.3%	1.6%
Dartford	2,820	1,210	7.9%	42.9%	40	0.3%	1.4%
Dover	4,660	2,240	10.2%	48.1%	90	0.4%	1.9%
Gravesham	3,580	1,520	8.5%	42.5%	40	0.3%	1.1%
Maidstone	4,260	1,770	6.2%	41.5%	70	0.3%	1.6%
Sevenoaks	2,530	1,110	4.9%	43.9%	30	0.1%	1.2%
Shepway	4,520	2,000	9.8%	44.2%	70	0.3%	1.5%
Swale	5,420	2,420	9.7%	44.6%	50	0.2%	0.9%
Thanet	7,040	3,240	12.8%	46.0%	120	0.4%	1.7%
Tonbridge & Malling	2,660	1,180	5.4%	44.4%	40	0.2%	1.5%
Tunbridge Wells	2,800	1,090	5.5%	38.9%	30	0.2%	1.1%
KCC Area	48,750	21,480	8.1%	44.1%	680	0.3%	1.4%
South East	241,930	102,580	6.7%	42.4%	3,400	0.2%	1.4%
England	2,170,080	966,120	10.6%	44.5%	24,500	0.3%	1.1%

Source: Department for Work & Pensions

Table prepared by the Analysis & Information Team, Kent County Council

All data is rounded to the nearest 10

Percentages have been calculated using 2007 Mid Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright)

TABLE 7: Percent Older Persons (50+) Claiming Disability Living Allowance, Kent, 2007

	Claimants aged 50+		% of age group claiming DLA			
	% of all claimants	% of all 50+ yr olds	Aged 50-64	Aged 65-74	Aged 75-84	Aged 85+
Ashford	50.2%	5.4%	6.2%	6.7%	3.0%	0.4%
Canterbury	53.1%	6.1%	7.3%	7.6%	3.3%	0.7%
Dartford	49.4%	5.8%	6.4%	7.2%	3.5%	0.6%
Dover	56.6%	7.3%	8.4%	9.2%	3.8%	1.0%
Gravesham	49.1%	5.8%	6.4%	7.6%	3.0%	0.5%
Maidstone	48.4%	4.4%	5.0%	5.5%	2.4%	0.3%
Sevenoaks	50.8%	3.8%	4.2%	5.1%	2.4%	0.3%
Shepway	51.8%	6.9%	8.6%	7.9%	3.4%	0.3%
Swale	51.1%	7.4%	8.2%	9.2%	3.9%	0.8%
Thanet	54.7%	8.3%	10.5%	9.9%	4.0%	0.5%
Tonbridge & Malling	50.0%	4.3%	4.8%	5.2%	2.6%	0.4%
Tunbridge Wells	44.9%	3.7%	4.5%	4.1%	1.8%	0.4%
KCC Area	51.5%	5.8%	6.8%	7.2%	3.1%	0.5%
South East	50.2%	4.8%	5.5%	6.0%	2.5%	0.5%
England	56.9%	7.9%	8.5%	10.6%	4.7%	0.7%

Source: Department for Work & Pensions

Table prepared by the Analysis & Information Team, Kent County Council

Percentages have been calculated using 2007 Mid Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright)

TABLE 8: Percent Older Persons (65+) Claiming Attendance Allowance, Kent, 2007

	Total aged 65+	Aged 65 - 69	Aged 70 - 74	Aged 75 - 79	Aged 80 - 84	Aged 85 - 89	Aged 90 and over
Ashford	13.8%	1.4%	6.0%	12.2%	23.0%	36.2%	57.2%
Canterbury	17.1%	1.9%	6.3%	14.4%	26.3%	45.0%	65.4%
Dartford	14.7%	2.0%	6.2%	12.7%	26.8%	43.0%	64.6%
Dover	16.1%	1.8%	6.9%	13.2%	27.1%	44.7%	65.2%
Gravesham	13.7%	1.6%	6.4%	12.4%	24.3%	39.4%	63.5%
Maidstone	14.1%	1.5%	5.7%	12.2%	24.9%	40.0%	69.1%
Sevenoaks	12.7%	1.5%	4.8%	10.2%	20.6%	37.0%	53.3%
Shepway	16.8%	1.8%	6.7%	12.6%	27.2%	48.1%	72.0%
Swale	14.8%	1.6%	7.3%	13.1%	28.4%	44.2%	65.5%
Thanet	18.6%	2.2%	7.4%	14.9%	28.5%	48.6%	71.6%
Tonbridge & Malling	13.5%	1.5%	5.3%	11.6%	26.0%	39.1%	64.8%
Tunbridge Wells	13.7%	1.1%	5.1%	10.5%	22.6%	35.5%	61.8%
KCC Area	15.2%	1.7%	6.2%	12.7%	25.6%	42.3%	64.9%
South East	14.4%	1.5%	5.5%	11.5%	23.2%	39.1%	60.5%
England	17.4%	2.0%	7.3%	15.7%	30.7%	47.8%	67.9%

Source: Department for Work & Pensions

Table prepared by the Analysis & Information Team, Kent County Council

Percentages have been calculated using 2007 Mid Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright)