

South West – regional profile

Introduction

The South West region is the largest region in England with a population of over five million people. It has the longest coastline of any English region and the largest conurbations are Bristol, Bournemouth/Poole and Plymouth.

The region includes four county councils (Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire and Somerset) that contain 25 district councils. Two new unitary authorities (Cornwall and Wiltshire) were created in 2009 from former counties. There are 10 further unitary authorities that centre on many of the region's largest towns and cities but also include the smallest local authority in the UK – the Isles of Scilly. About a third of the region's population live in settlements of less than 10,000 people, the largest proportion in England.

The region's population grew faster than that of the whole UK between 2003 and 2008, with nearly all of the growth due to in-migration rather than natural change. More than 22 per cent of the South West population (almost 1.2 million people) is of state pension age and above (as defined in 2008), the largest proportion of any UK region. Between 2003 and 2008 the number of people in this age group in the South West grew at more than twice the rate of overall population growth.

In the same period, 20 per cent of people (1.0 million) in the South West were in households with incomes below the poverty threshold. The proportion of the South West's population who have no qualifications is the lowest of any English region or country of the UK (7.5 per cent in 2010 compared with the UK average of 10.7 per cent).

Crime rates in the South West are among the lowest in England. In 2010/11 there were 2,150 household offences per 10,000 households, substantially lower than the England average (2,520 incidents per 10,000 households). The rate of police recorded crime was the joint second lowest of the English regions. In 2010/11 there were 62 recorded crimes per 1,000 population compared with 75 per 1,000 population across England.

(Some of the above text was sourced from ONS)

LG Inform data

LG Inform is a free online data service, developed by the LGA, which allows councils and other local authorities to access, compare and analyse data about their local area, their own performance, and then to use the data in reports and publications. This information will assist leaders and decision-makers in identifying local challenges, existing good practice and in designing more efficient and effective services that improve the quality of life for local residents.

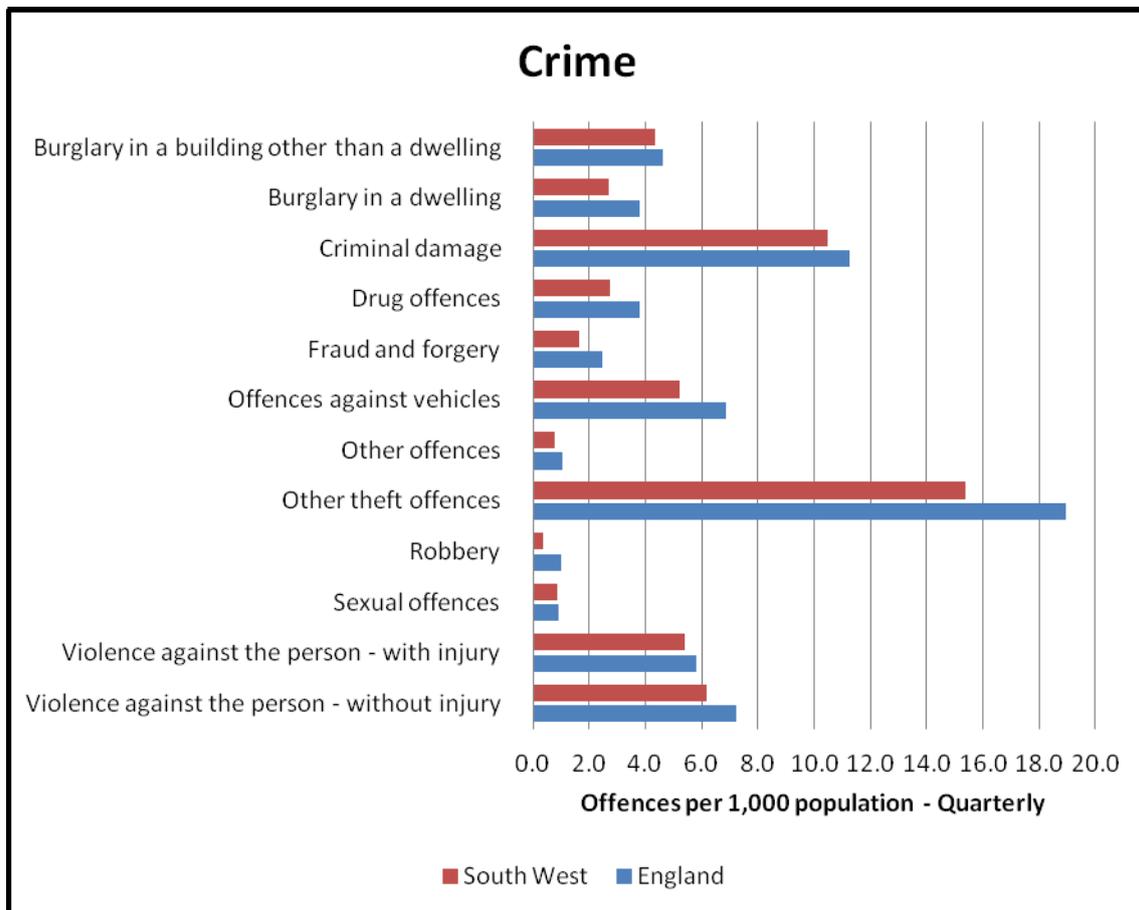
LG Inform not only provides data on local areas and core local authority services, as well as the outcomes produced by these services, but also on a range of crime and community safety data. This data ranges from details about rates of specific types of crime such as burglary, through work with troubled families, to the number of incidents of alcohol related harm reported by local hospitals, the level of success in tackling graffiti, the numbers of young people not in education, employment or training, to such things as teenage pregnancy rates.

Set out below are summaries of the sorts of crime related information available, which compare the South West with the rest of England. More specific data is available on crime related information in local authority areas, and will in the future be made available on a force area basis.

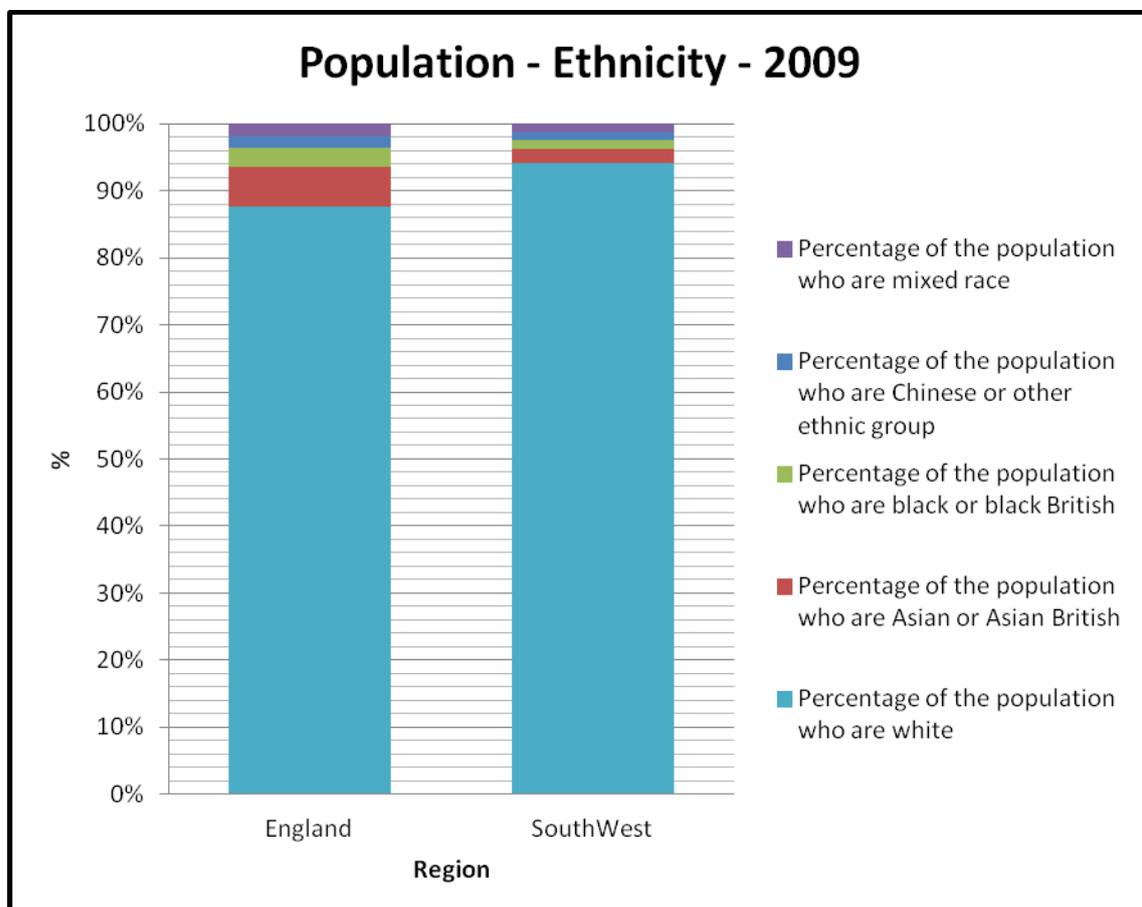
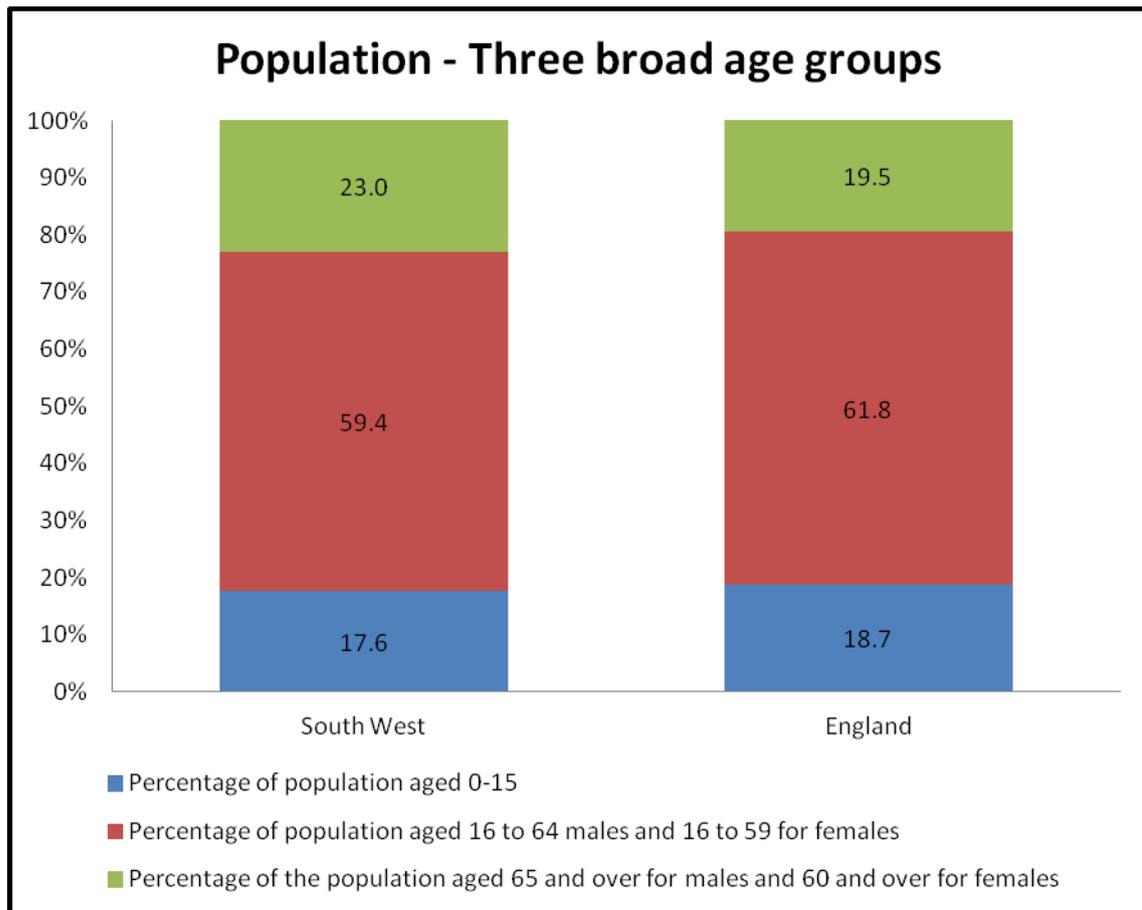
PCC Data – South West

Crime

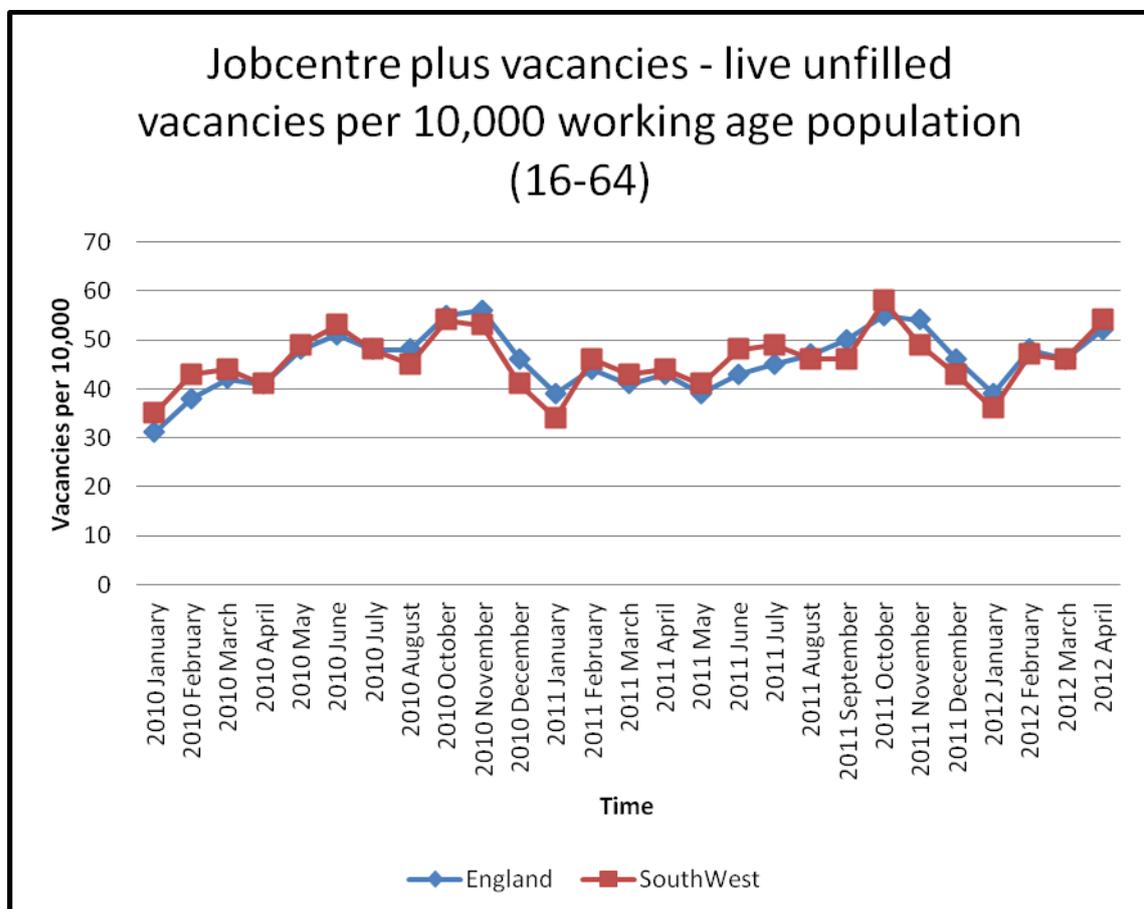
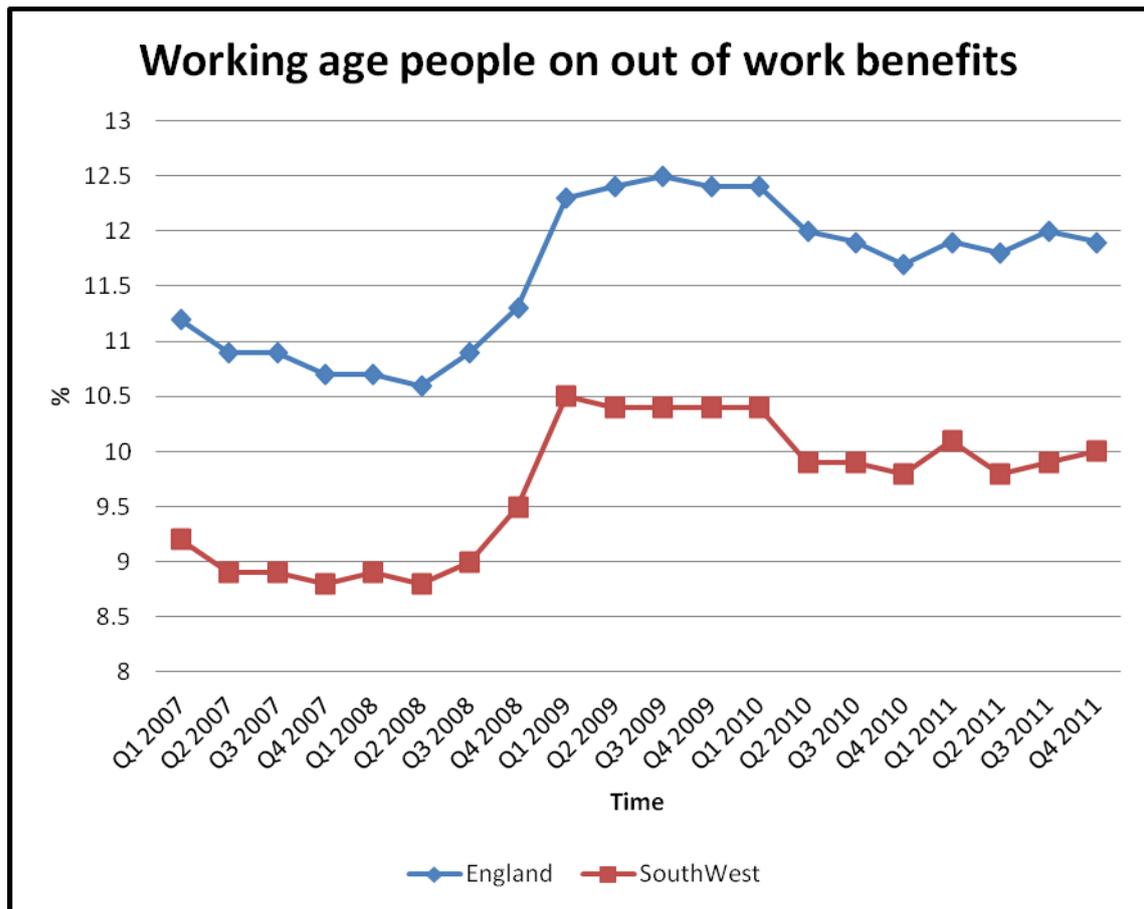
South West - First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 - 17		Comparison: All English authorities		
Period	Local Value	Min	Max	Average
01/04/2010 - 31/03/2011	882	343	2,436.00	900
01/04/2009 - 31/03/2010	987	407	2,427.00	1,214.00
01/04/2008 - 31/03/2009	1,329.00	267	3,004.00	1,564.00
01/04/2007 - 31/03/2008	1,696.00	724	3,161.00	1,918.00
01/04/2006 - 31/03/2007	1,893.00	983	3,705.00	2,117.00



Population

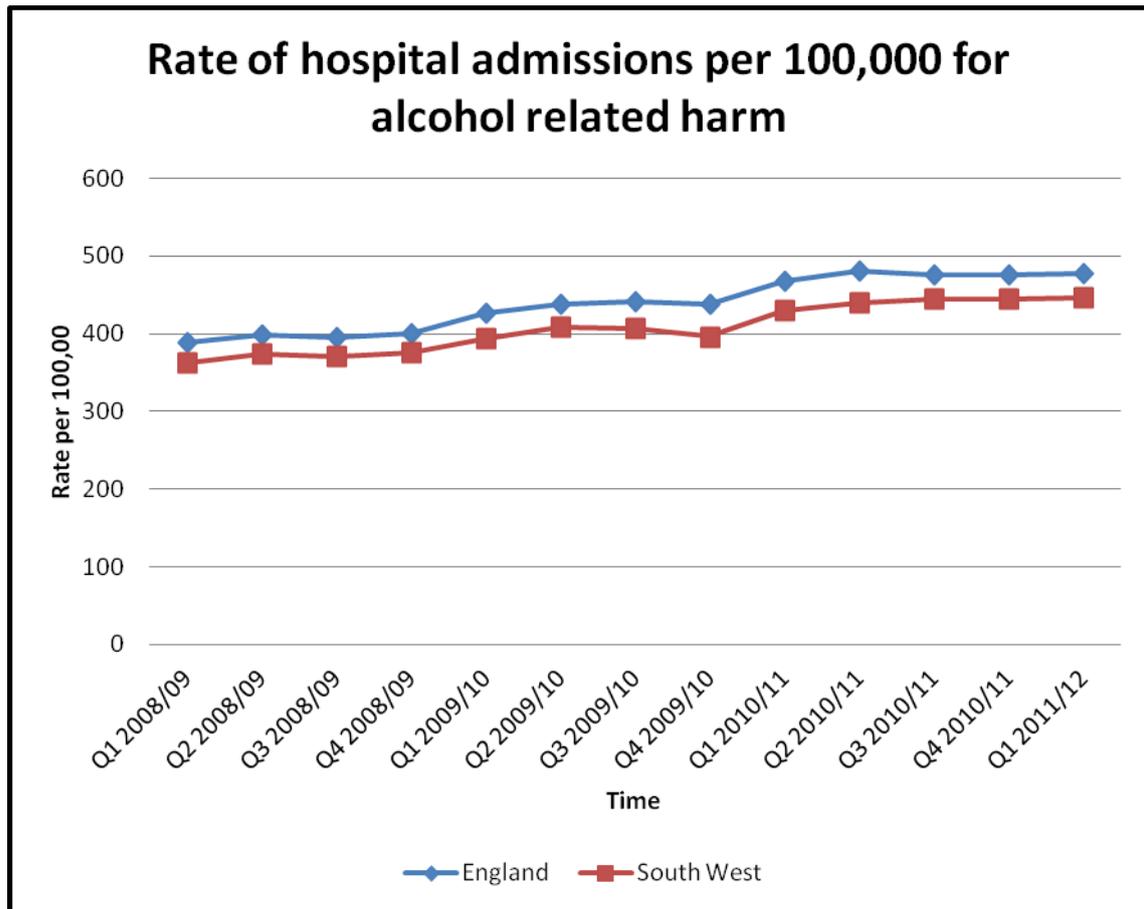


Unemployment and Benefits





Health



Police force areas and local authorities

It will be crucial that police and crime commissioners and local authorities work effectively together to obtain better outcomes for the communities they serve. A list of councils in each police force area is below.

In addition it will be up to councils to set up police and crime panels to hold to account and assist the police and crime commissioner for the way in which they exercise their role. In each area there will be a lead council who will be responsible for hosting the panel and this is also indicated in the table below.

Avon & Somerset	Devon & Cornwall	Dorset	Gloucestershire	Wiltshire
Bath and North East Somerset Bristol Mendip North Somerset Sedgemoor Somerset (hosting panel) South Gloucestershire South Somerset Taunton Deane West Somerset	Cornwall Devon East Devon Exeter Isles of Scilly Mid Devon North Devon Plymouth (hosting panel) South Hams Teignbridge Torbay Torridge West Devon	Bournemouth Christchurch Dorset (hosting panel) East Dorset North Dorset Poole Purbeck West Dorset Weymouth and Portland	Cheltenham Cotswold Forest of Dean Gloucester Gloucestershire (hosting panel) Stroud Tewkesbury	Swindon Wiltshire

Prospective PCC candidates

For the latest list of candidates putting themselves forward please visit the Police Foundation website: www.police-foundation.org.uk