

West Midlands – regional profile

(References to West Midlands in this document refer to the West Midlands *region*, rather than the West Midlands police force area)

Introduction

The West Midlands region shares its borders with the North West, East Midlands, South East and South West regions of England, and with Wales. It is the only landlocked region in England, with an area of 13,000 square km, making it the third smallest English region by area, after London and the North East.

It includes the densely populated conurbation of Birmingham, which is the largest urban area in England outside London, as well as areas of remote countryside within the counties of Herefordshire and Shropshire. It contains areas of high deprivation, particularly in Birmingham, Coventry and Stoke-on-Trent, but also contains very prosperous areas like Solihull, south Warwickshire and Evesham.

Administratively, the region covers the seven metropolitan districts of Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton; the four unitary authorities – County of Herefordshire, Shropshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Telford and Wrekin; and the three counties of Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Staffordshire. Within these three counties there are 19 local authorities which range in size from Tamworth (31 sq km) to Stratford-on-Avon (978 sq km).

The West Midlands has one of the highest economic inactivity rates in England. Birmingham in particular has a high unemployment rate and low employment rate. By contrast, Solihull has a productivity level above the UK average. The West Midlands unemployment rate was 9.3 per cent in the period October to December 2011, above the UK average of 8.4 per cent. The employment rates within the region ranged from 57.3 per cent in Birmingham (one of the lowest in England) to 78.0 in East Staffordshire.

Crime rates for the West Midlands region were generally similar to the England average with 72 crimes recorded by the police per 1,000 population in 2010/11 compared with an average of 75 per 1,000 population for England.

The household crime rate for 2010/11 was 2,500 per 10,000 households, also close to the England average of 2,520. However, there was an estimated 800 crimes committed against the person per 10,000 adults, one of the lowest of all English regions.

(Some of the above text was sourced from ONS)

LG Inform data

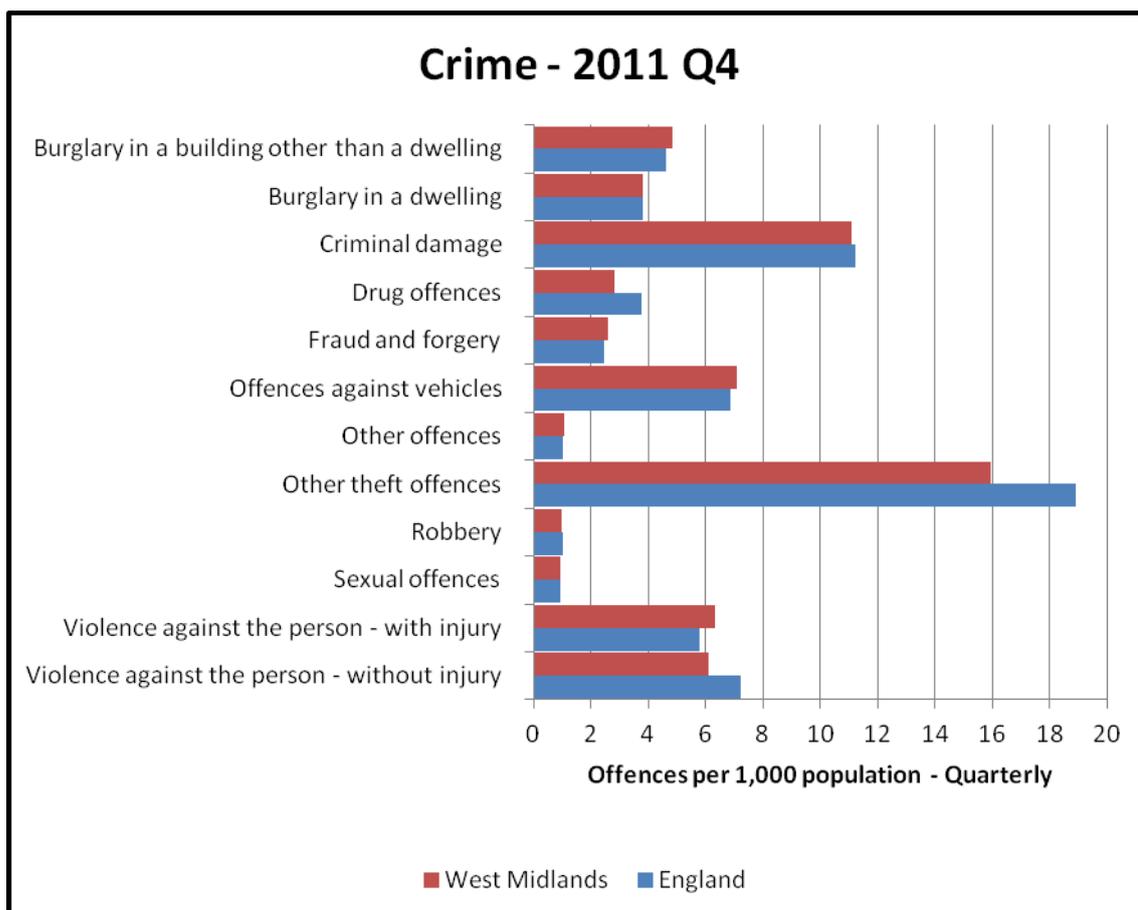
LG Inform is a free online data service, developed by the LGA, which allows councils and other local authorities to access, compare and analyse data about their local area, their own performance, and then to use the data in reports and publications. This information will assist leaders and decision-makers 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, 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 and car crime, through to data being collected as part of the 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 which can all inform decisions about crime strategies and targeting interventions.

Set out below are summaries of the sorts of crime related information available, which compare the West Midlands 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.

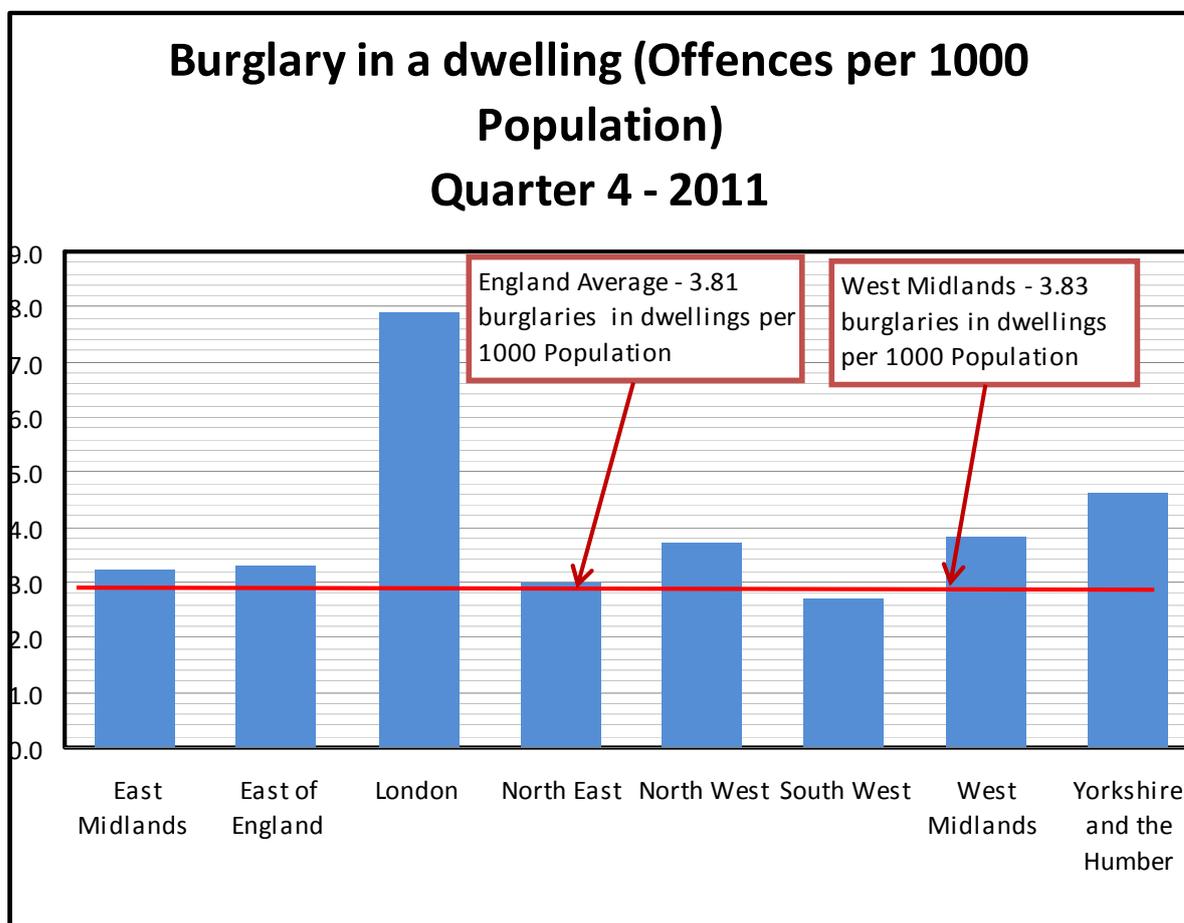
Crime

Organisation: 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	489.0	343.0	2436.0	900.0
01/04/2009 - 31/03/2010	483.0	407.0	2427.0	1214.0
01/04/2008 - 31/03/2009	543.0	267.0	3004.0	1564.0
01/04/2007 - 31/03/2008	1074.0	724.0	3161.0	1918.0
01/04/2006 - 31/03/2007	1690.0	983.0	3705.0	2117.0

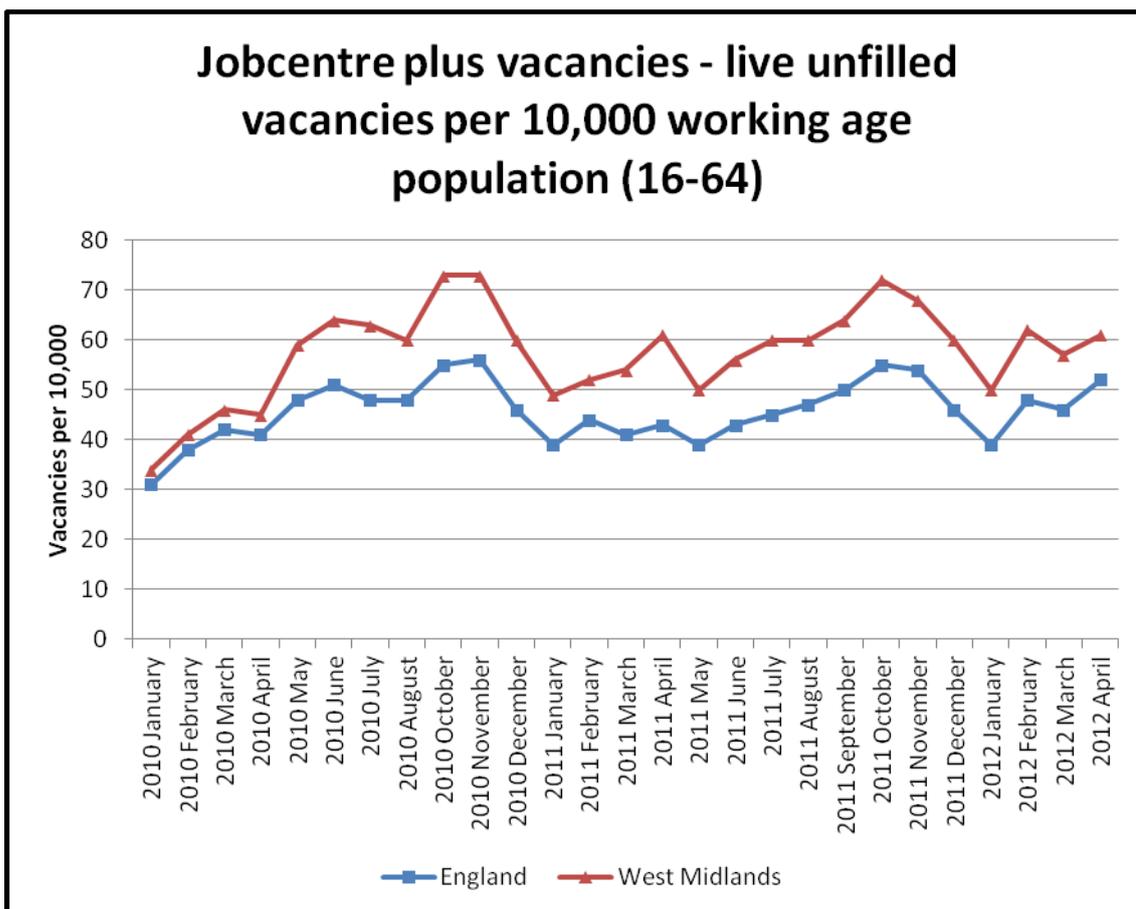
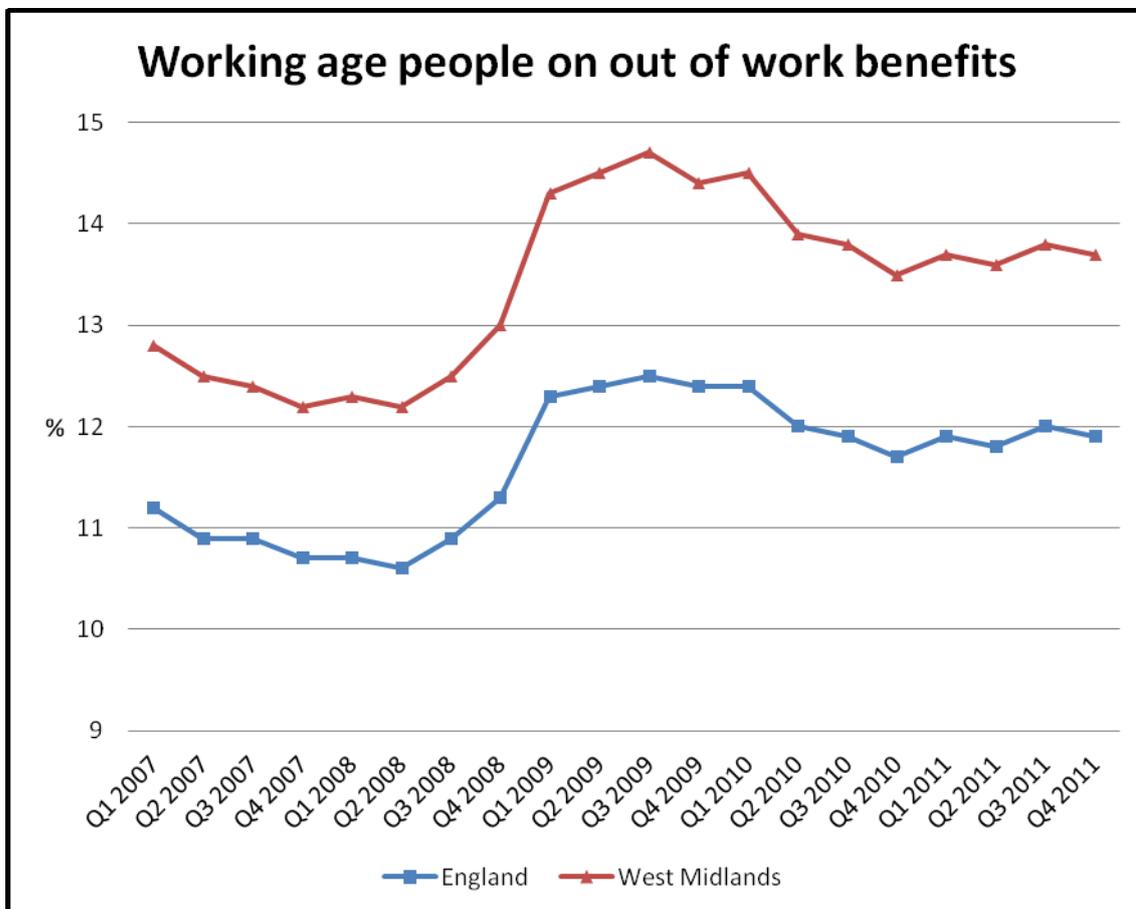


Burglary

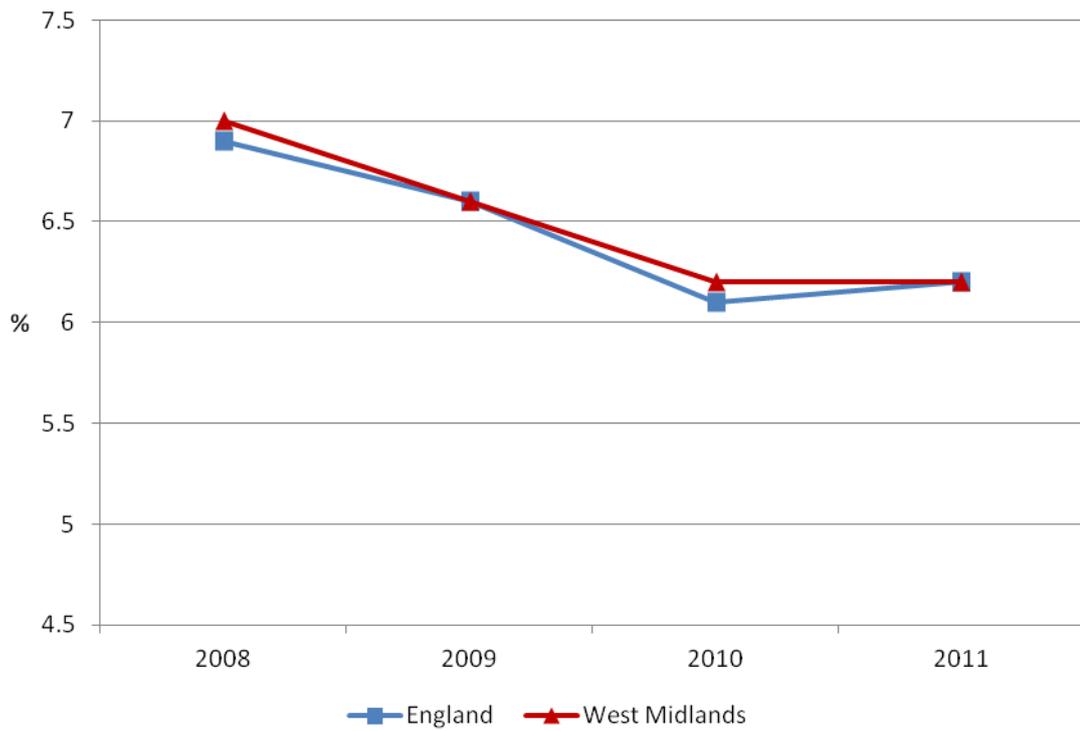
	Organisation: Crime - Burglary in a dwelling (offences per 1,000 population) - quarterly		Comparison: All English authorities		
Period	Local value	Direction of travel	Min	Max	Average
01/01/2011 - 31/12/2011	3.83	Worsening	0.00	13.95	3.81
01/10/2010 - 30/09/2011	3.84	Improving	0.00	13.95	3.81
01/07/2010 - 30/06/2011	3.87	Improving	0.00	13.95	3.82
01/04/2010 - 31/03/2011	3.90	Improving	0.00	13.95	3.84
01/01/2010 - 31/12/2010	3.92	Improving	0.00	12.74	3.86



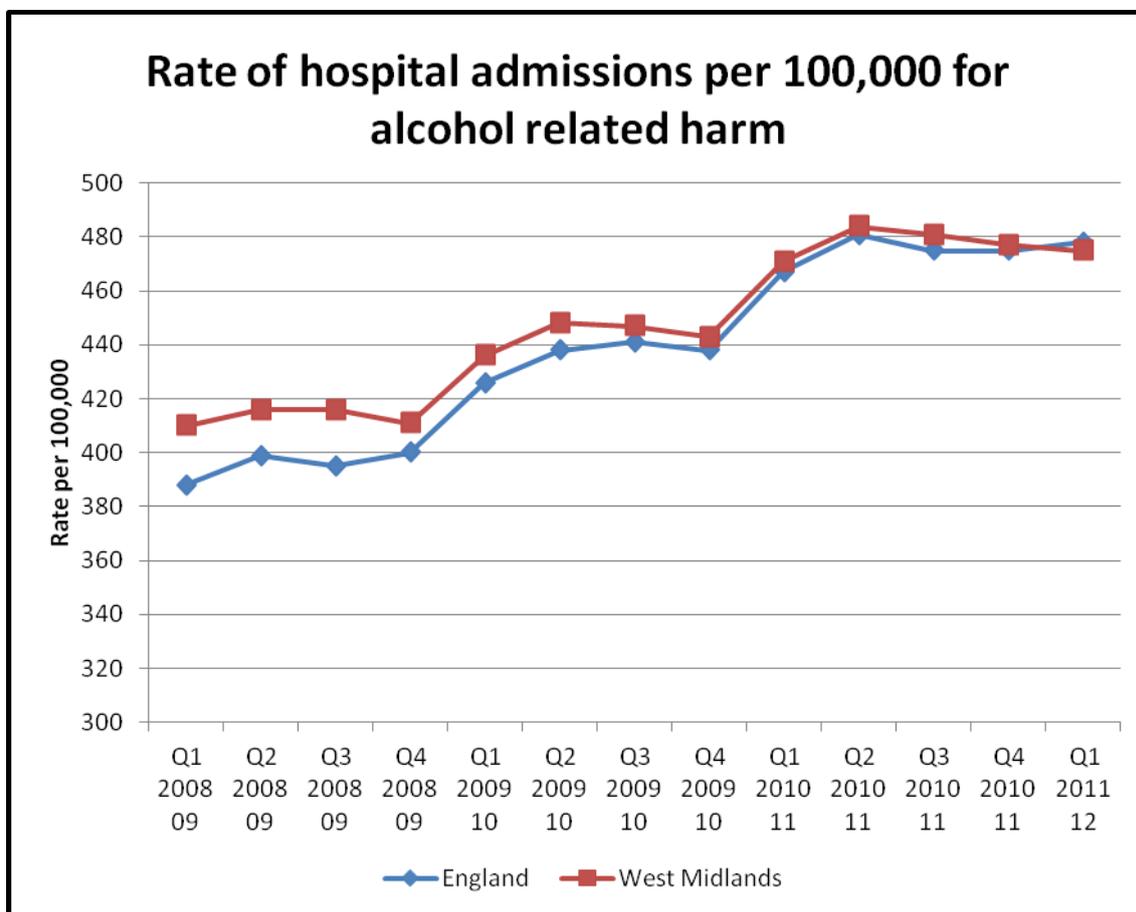
Unemployment and Benefits



Percentage of 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)



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 their will be a lead council who will be responsible for hosting the panel and this is also indicated in the table below.

Staffordshire	Warwickshire	West Mercia	West Midlands
Cannock Chase East Staffordshire Lichfield Newcastle under Lyme South Staffordshire Stafford Staffordshire CC (hosting panel) Staffordshire Moorlands Stoke on Trent Tamworth	North Warwickshire Nuneaton and Bedworth Rugby Stratford upon Avon Warwick Warwickshire CC (hosting panel)	Bromsgrove Herefordshire Malvern Hills Redditch Shropshire Telford and Wrekin Worcester Worcestershire CC (hosting panel) Wychavon Wyre Forest	Birmingham (hosting panel) Coventry Dudley Sandwell Solihull Walsall Wolverhampton

Prospective PCC candidates

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