



# WARWICKSHIRE ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY

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## 1: INTRODUCTION

Warwickshire enjoys significant benefit from its economic relationships with its geographic neighbours. The best available data to illustrate these links is origin-destination work commuting data from the UK Census. This provides commuting flows between usual residence and place of work for people aged 16 years and over in employment or temporarily away from work in the week before Census Day. However, the most recent Census in 2021 was during the pandemic lockdown so there was significant working from home. Therefore, data from the Census in 2011 has also been used in this analysis.

### [ONS statement on data quality for travel to work in the Census 2021](#)

There is no direct data on how much working from home has reduced since 2021, especially in the last few months. This report is most effective in comparing general levels of commuting rather than relying on exact numbers. Nonetheless, the general commuting patterns are meaningful and relevant. This is commuting by all transportation methods, not solely by personal vehicle.

## 2: OVERVIEW OF COMMUTING FOR WARWICKSHIRE RESIDENTS

As reported in the UK Census 2021, in Warwickshire, approximately 46% of workers worked from home in 2021 and 54% commuted to a place of work in the UK. This proportion varies significantly (35% to 54%) between different districts & boroughs (D&Bs) in Warwickshire.

### Working from home vs. commuting to a place of work in the UK for Warwickshire residents in 2021

	North Warwickshire	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Rugby	Stratford-on-Avon	Warwick	Warwickshire Total
Mainly working at or from home, No fixed place	13,065 (41%)	22,259 (35%)	23,893 (41%)	34,394 (52%)	39,059 (54%)	132,670 (46%)
Working in the UK but not working at or from home	18,628 (59%)	40,730 (65%)	34,048 (59%)	31,719 (48%)	33,513 (46%)	158,638 (54%)

[ONS Census 2021 origin destination workplace data](#)

### Working from home vs. commuting to a place of work in the UK for Warwickshire residents in 2011

	North Warwickshire	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Rugby	Stratford-on-Avon	Warwick	Warwickshire Total
Mainly working at or from home	3,451 (12%)	4,443 (8%)	5,297 (11%)	10,476 (19%)	8,380 (13%)	32,047 (13%)
Working in the UK but not working at or from home	25,472 (88%)	51,979 (92%)	41,913 (89%)	45,892 (81%)	57,222 (87%)	222,478 (87%)

[ONS Census 2011 origin destination workplace data](#)

### 3. COMMUTING WITHIN WARWICKSHIRE

Of those that commute, some 77,545 (per Census 2021, or 107,206 per Census 2011) live and work in the same district & borough of Warwickshire. Another 23,750 (per Census 2021, or 28,562 per Census 2011) live and work in different districts & boroughs of Warwickshire. The remainder commute out of Warwickshire as shown in the rightmost column in the tables below. (The bottom row is outward commuting by District & Borough.)

#### Commuting by Warwickshire D&Bs in 2021 (Place of residence in columns, place of work in rows)

	North Warwickshire	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Rugby	Stratford-on-Avon	Warwick	From outside Warwickshire
North Warwickshire	6,674	3,352	295	159	249	23,742
Nuneaton and Bedworth	1,726	17,281	820	144	414	10,309
Rugby	363	1,825	17,110	652	886	11,968
Stratford-on-Avon	181	405	858	16,520	3,581	14,029
Warwick	392	1,384	1,779	4,285	19,960	16,236
To outside Warwickshire	9,292	16,483	13,186	9,959	8,423	

#### Commuting by Warwickshire D&Bs in 2011 (Place of residence in columns, place of work in rows)

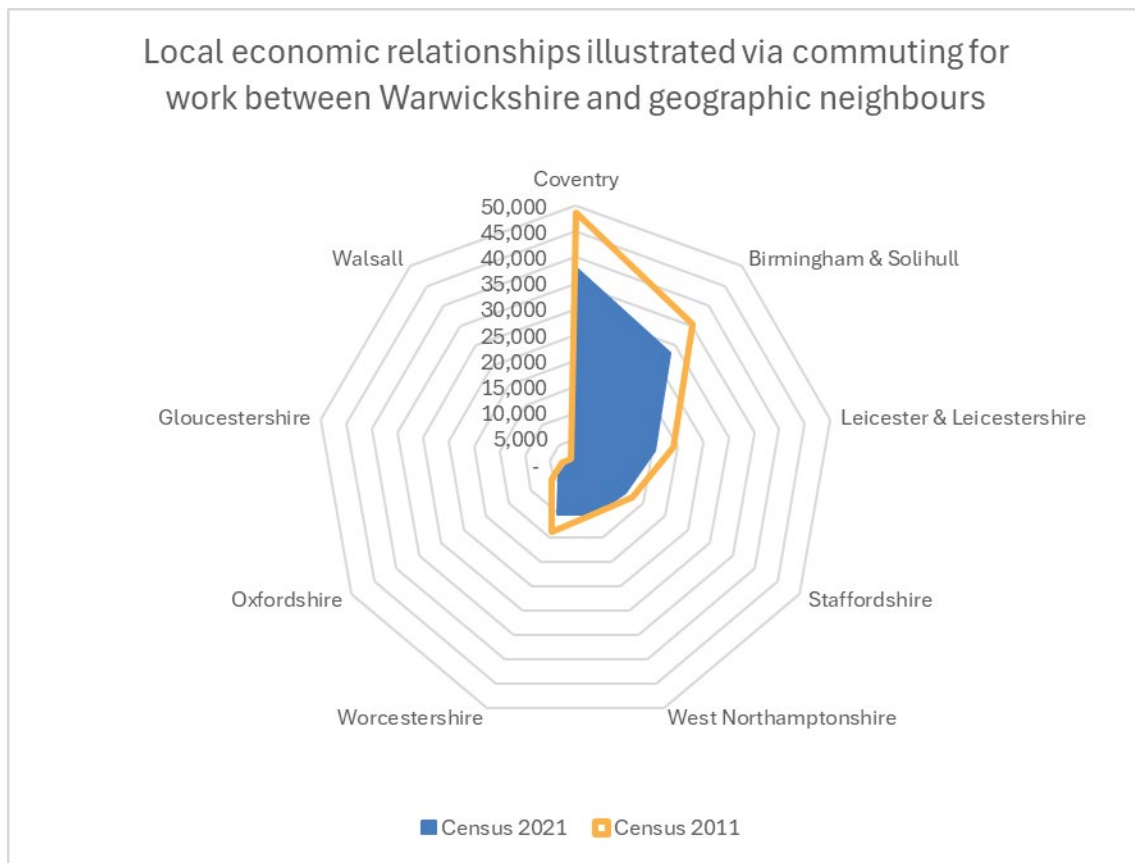
	North Warwickshire	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Rugby	Stratford-on-Avon	Warwick	From outside Warwickshire
North Warwickshire	8,567	3,176	206	164	241	21,517
Nuneaton and Bedworth	2,060	22,121	803	177	432	11,576
Rugby	266	1,896	21,443	615	955	13,819
Stratford-on-Avon	153	470	1,027	23,266	5,248	18,537
Warwick	429	1,867	2,496	5,881	31,809	23,087
To outside Warwickshire	13,997	22,449	15,938	15,789	18,537	

#### 4: COMMUTING INTO AND OUT OF WARWICKSHIRE

Commuting for work across Warwickshire’s geographic boundary is significant. Total commuting to and from immediate neighbours per the Census 2021 was 125,098. This was 155,416 per the Census 2011.

In 2021, 71,381 people commuted between Warwickshire and the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) as a whole, in 2011 this was 89,665 people. In both cases this is roughly 57% of the total who commute into or out of Warwickshire to or from surrounding areas. While this is on a comparable level to the 77,545 people who live and work in the same D&B in Warwickshire, in this section we are counting local commuting in both directions – inward and outward across the Warwickshire county geographic boundary. Therefore, this includes people who are not residents of Warwickshire.

The radar diagram below illustrates the more significant commuting areas in both 2021 and 2011



**Total commuting for work between Warwickshire and the most significant surrounding areas**

The following figure and tables provide more detail about in and out commuting in Warwickshire.

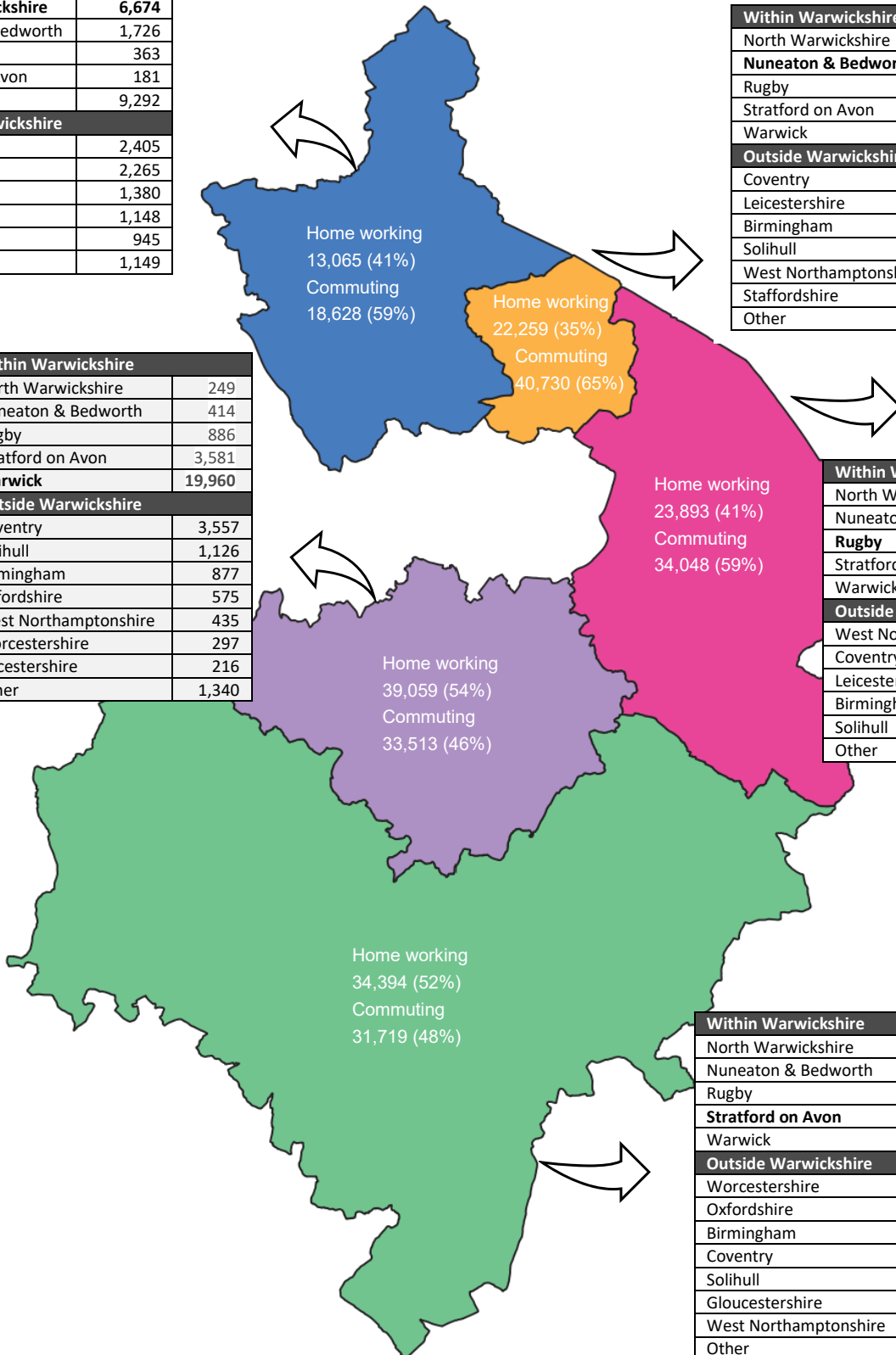
## Commuting to a workplace by Warwickshire residents in 2021 (Census 2021)

Within Warwickshire	
<b>North Warwickshire</b>	<b>6,674</b>
Nuneaton & Bedworth	1,726
Rugby	363
Stratford on Avon	181
Warwick	9,292
Outside Warwickshire	
Birmingham	2,405
Staffordshire	2,265
Solihull	1,380
Coventry	1,148
Leicestershire	945
Other	1,149

Within Warwickshire	
North Warwickshire	3,352
<b>Nuneaton &amp; Bedworth</b>	<b>17,281</b>
Rugby	1,825
Stratford on Avon	405
Warwick	1,384
Outside Warwickshire	
Coventry	7,899
Leicestershire	3,693
Birmingham	1,088
Solihull	985
West Northamptonshire	696
Staffordshire	504
Other	1,618

Within Warwickshire	
North Warwickshire	249
Nuneaton & Bedworth	414
Rugby	886
Stratford on Avon	3,581
<b>Warwick</b>	<b>19,960</b>
Outside Warwickshire	
Coventry	3,557
Solihull	1,126
Birmingham	877
Oxfordshire	575
West Northamptonshire	435
Worcestershire	297
Leicestershire	216
Other	1,340

Within Warwickshire	
North Warwickshire	295
Nuneaton & Bedworth	820
<b>Rugby</b>	<b>17,110</b>
Stratford on Avon	858
Warwick	1,779
Outside Warwickshire	
West Northamptonshire	5,875
Coventry	3,290
Leicestershire	1,549
Birmingham	348
Solihull	259
Other	1,865



Within Warwickshire	
North Warwickshire	159
Nuneaton & Bedworth	144
Rugby	652
<b>Stratford on Avon</b>	<b>16,520</b>
Warwick	4,285
Outside Warwickshire	
Worcestershire	2,557
Oxfordshire	1,716
Birmingham	1,095
Coventry	1,056
Solihull	961
Gloucestershire	755
West Northamptonshire	546
Other	1,273

**Total of inward and outward commuting between Warwickshire and surrounding areas.**

	Census 2021	Census 2011
Coventry	38,203	48,714
Birmingham & Solihull	28,213	35,247
Leicester & Leicestershire	15,507	19,076
Staffordshire	10,924	12,650
West Northamptonshire	10,270	10,188*
Worcestershire	10,196	13,810
Oxfordshire	3,886	5,445
Gloucestershire	1,675	2,700
Walsall	1,470	1,602
Derby & Derbyshire	1,259	1,882

**Total of outward commuting between Warwickshire D&Bs and surrounding areas in 2021.**

	North Warwickshire	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Rugby	Stratford-on-Avon	Warwick	Warwickshire Total
<b>Birmingham</b>	2,405	1,088	348	1,095	877	5,813
<b>Coventry</b>	1,148	7,899	3,290	1,056	3,557	16,950
<b>Derby</b>	31	45	26	12	28	142
<b>Derbyshire</b>	88	65	27	15	16	211
<b>Dudley</b>	48	23	16	45	45	177
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	11	20	25	755	96	907
<b>Leicester</b>	70	321	244	34	67	736
<b>Leicestershire</b>	945	3,693	1,549	143	216	6,546
<b>Oxfordshire</b>	33	96	205	1,716	575	2,625
<b>Sandwell</b>	108	79	24	78	63	352
<b>Solihull</b>	1,380	985	259	961	1,126	4,711
<b>Staffordshire</b>	2,265	504	112	121	105	3,107
<b>Walsall</b>	125	59	14	38	31	267
<b>West Northamptonshire</b>	130	696	5,875	546	435	7,682
<b>Wolverhampton</b>	35	26	14	21	32	128
<b>Worcestershire</b>	135	77	45	2,557	297	3,111
<b>Other</b>	335	807	1,113	766	857	3,878
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,292</b>	<b>16,483</b>	<b>13,186</b>	<b>9,959</b>	<b>8,423</b>	<b>57,343</b>

**Total of inward commuting between Warwickshire D&Bs and surrounding areas in 2021.**

	North Warwickshire	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Rugby	Stratford-on-Avon	Warwick	Warwickshire Total
Birmingham	7,434	923	832	1,505	1,448	12,142
Coventry	1,175	4,783	4,602	1,869	8,824	21,253
Derby	51	23	27	9	19	129
Derbyshire	505	91	97	34	50	777
Dudley	293	41	60	146	150	690
Gloucestershire	18	6	26	578	140	768
Leicester	373	200	438	50	139	1,200
Leicestershire	1,534	2,522	2,112	222	635	7,025
Oxfordshire	12	21	72	877	279	1,261
Sandwell	823	95	173	247	187	1,525
Solihull	2,489	351	276	1,033	1,398	5,547
Staffordshire	6,606	487	262	197	265	7,817
Walsall	857	73	77	96	100	1,203
West Northamptonshire	54	88	1,520	515	411	2,588
Wolverhampton	394	47	40	73	69	623
Worcestershire	308	75	120	5,472	1,110	7,085
Other	816	483	1,234	1,106	1,012	4,651
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,742</b>	<b>10,309</b>	<b>11,968</b>	<b>14,029</b>	<b>16,236</b>	<b>76,284</b>

**Total of outward commuting between Warwickshire D&Bs and surrounding areas in 2021.**

	North Warwickshire	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Rugby	Stratford-on-Avon	Warwick	Warwickshire Total
Birmingham	4,238	1,827	833	2,356	2,526	11,780
Coventry	1,614	11,392	4,909	1,854	7,903	27,672
Derby	51	55	44	15	39	204
Derbyshire	100	84	39	23	34	280
Dudley	61	72	26	98	105	362
Gloucestershire	18	25	40	1,091	171	1,345
Leicester	108	462	252	48	169	1,039
Leicestershire	1,310	4,366	2,166	191	420	8,453
Oxfordshire	65	106	234	2,046	903	3,354
Sandwell	171	104	44	165	118	602
Solihull	1,697	964	362	1,387	1,800	6,210
Staffordshire	3,268	524	178	127	160	4,257
Walsall	175	88	40	47	89	439
West Northamptonshire	104	631	4,405	635	613	6,388
Wolverhampton	70	59	32	48	61	270
Worcestershire	149	169	116	3,458	697	4,589
Other	798	1,521	2,218	2,200	2,729	9,466
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,997</b>	<b>22,449</b>	<b>15,938</b>	<b>15,789</b>	<b>18,537</b>	<b>86,710</b>

**Total of inward commuting between Warwickshire D&Bs and surrounding areas in 2011.**

	North Warwickshire	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Rugby	Stratford-on- Avon	Warwick	Warwickshire Total
Birmingham	5,151	647	477	2,085	2,146	10,506
Coventry	1,134	4,878	3,805	1,976	9,249	21,042
Derby	79	44	92	26	51	292
Derbyshire	570	149	192	60	135	1,106
Dudley	304	56	59	272	271	962
Gloucestershire	49	17	83	903	303	1,355
Leicester	132	232	319	39	200	922
Leicestershire	1,532	2,888	2,770	284	1,188	8,662
Oxfordshire	17	22	105	1,251	696	2,091
Sandwell	580	121	96	204	231	1,232
Solihull	2,301	412	279	1,612	2,327	6,931
Staffordshire	6,634	619	285	304	551	8,393
Walsall	648	100	62	81	272	1,163
West Northamptonshire	94	165	2,025	717	799	3,800
Wolverhampton	230	35	53	67	109	494
Worcestershire	541	131	170	6,776	1,603	9,221
Other	1,521	1,060	2,947	1,880	2,956	10,364
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,517</b>	<b>11,576</b>	<b>13,819</b>	<b>18,537</b>	<b>23,087</b>	<b>88,536</b>

## 5: SUMMARY

As illustrated by commuting to work patterns in both the Census 2021 and the Census 2011, Warwickshire has a very strong economic relationship with local neighbouring areas. These relationships are very important to the prosperity of Warwickshire and its residents. The commuting data presented in this report is not solely by personal vehicle, all options including public transportation to travel to work across the Warwickshire border are important for access to employment for residents and access to skills for employers.

By far the most significant local economic relationship is with the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) area, and Coventry specifically. There is also a very strong relationship with the Birmingham and Solihull areas. Outside of the WMCA, the most significant economic relationship is with Leicester & Leicestershire to the Northeast of Warwickshire. The economic relationships with Staffordshire, West Northamptonshire and Worcestershire are at a very similar level to each other. The historical and existing local economic relationships with Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire and Derbyshire are the weakest between Warwickshire and neighbouring areas. These economic relationships also vary by district & borough of Warwickshire.

## 6: DATA SOURCES

The following data sets were analysed for the purposes of creating this report:

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Census 2021</b>
<b>Notes:</b>	Data on UK residents' answers to the Census 2021 in regards to their normal place of residence and their normal place of work.
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="#">ONS Census 2021 origin destination workplace data</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Census 2011</b>
<b>Notes:</b>	Data on UK residents' answers to the Census 2011 in regards to their normal place of residence and their normal place of work.
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="#">ONS Census 2011 origin destination workplace data</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Theoretical 2021 without pandemic</b>
<b>Notes:</b>	An estimate of what travel to work data would have been in 2021 without the pandemic lockdown. This data did not add any value to the report as the Census 2011 data was a better counterpoint to the Census 2021 data.
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="#">ONS modelled travel to work estimates 2021</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Geographical area reference list</b>
<b>Notes:</b>	ONS Geography 2021 reference list for geographic areas. This was used to aggregate the datasets into larger geographies. West Northamptonshire was created in 2021 so this had to be manually created for 2011 to make a useful comparison.
<b>Link:</b>	<a href="#">ONS Geography reference list</a>