

Carterton Profile - Comments on some Key Statistics

(based on OCSI Carterton Profile , Finally Recorded Offences in the Carterton Sector , unless otherwise stated) *Text in italic red has been added following the April seminar from additional data provided by Oxfordshire County Council*

Population

Carterton has a higher than average (for the county and region) male population and a younger than average population, with only 9% aged over 65 (14.5% and 16.45 % respectively for the county and region). It is reasonable to assume that a major influence here is the presence of RAF Brize Norton

There has been a marked increase in population between 2001 and 2004 - 7.3% (2.1% and 1.1% respectively for the county and region) This is hardly surprising given the major developments in the town particularly the north east, and is likely to continue up to 2008.

Work undertaken by the Town Council on more recent estimates suggest that in:

2008 there were 15,540 residents (in 5864 dwellings)

2012 (predicted) there will be 18,000 residents (in 6664 dwellings)

2008 (predicted) 14,945

2016 (predicted) 16,117 - increase of 37%

Typical market town structure, relatively high birth rate with gap in young adults cohorts (due to moving away for education etc) slightly less pronounced in Carterton due to military presence. By 2016 it is expected there will be more older people, a few more teenagers and children and more young adults

Households

Lone parent households with children, one-person households and lone pensioner households are below county and regional averages.

Elderly Living Alone 7.0% compared with 12.91% in Oxfordshire. Carterton North East at 4.20% is exceptionally low.

Ethnicity

Only 1.6% of Carterton's population is non-white compared with 4.9% in Oxfordshire and the South East Region

Occupation

In the more senior levels of occupations, Carterton scores significantly lower than the county and regional averages, particularly in professional, where only 4.2% of the population is represented as opposed to 15% and 12.1% in the county and region respectively. This however is counterbalanced in the associate professional and technical categories with 27% compared with 15.2% and 14.6%. Carterton also scores highly in the processing plant and machinery operatives section. Again these figures are very likely to reflect the influence of the base.

Figures for the type of work undertaken are most at odds with county and regional percentages in public administration and defence and social security 30.3% (6.1% and 5.9% for the county and region)— undoubtedly due to the presence of the RAF.

Given the number of schools in the town it may be surprising that only 4.5% are employed in education, as opposed to 11% and 7.8%, but Carterton does not have any higher education establishments or indeed a 6th form at present.

Carterton has a high level of full time economically active residents, but with a low level of self-employed.

Higher than average workers in associate and technical jobs (probably due to military presence). Carterton North East has relatively few people in management and professional employment

Unemployment

Unemployment is low, but there has recently been a sharp rise in JSA claimants due to the recession. They account for 1.8% of the working population (April 2009) still well below the national average of 4.1%

Income

Overall average £35,216

Index of Multiple Deprivation

The OCSI report states that in 2004 'there are extremely deprived areas in Carterton with 320 people (2.5% of the population) living in areas identified as among the most deprived in the region. In spite of this, Carterton's most 'deprived' area (North West) ranks 22528 out of a possible 32482 with 1 being the most deprived area.

SOA (Super output area) E01028771 (subset within the North West ward) is classified as 'hard-pressed' and ranks in the 40% least deprived areas nationally. All the rest are a typical mix common to Oxfordshire's market towns and rank in the 20% least nationally deprived areas. Elements which affect the SOA ratings may include the lack of a sixth form and other further education, barriers to housing and services and poor public transport/infrastructure compared with the number of houses

Health

On all three indicators provided, Disability Living Allowance claimants, people permanently sick or disabled or those with limiting long term illness, Carterton scores below the county and region.

	North West	North East	South	Oxfordshire
Life expectancy	81.6	87.2	79.7	80.7%
Obese	7.1%	7.7%	6.9%	6.3%
Smoke	10.3%	10.9%	10.2%	8.9%
Hypertension	10.6%	9.4%	10.8%	11.0%

Education and Skills

At both ends of the spectrum (no qualifications and highest level 4/5) Carterton has a low score. At levels 1 and 2 it scores above the county and region.

There has been a steady improvement in Level 2 qualifications of students at the Community College with 52% compared with 30% in 2005 (compares with Wood Green 62% and Burford 56%)

26% of the working age population has no qualifications, lower than England average, but higher than Abingdon, Didcot, Henley and Witney.

Housing

Housing tenure also appears to be affected by the base with lower owner occupation, social and private rented, but with a high number categorised as 'other' - presumably forces housing. Carterton has a high level of purpose built flats and caravan, mobile or temporary accommodation which would be self evident to anyone visiting the community. It has slightly less detached houses than the county or region as a whole, but not significantly. In terms of the 2 key housing indicators, overcrowding and lack of central heating, Carterton scores well compared with the county and region.

Current median house price £206,670, 6 times median income

Access to Services

Here this is assessed by households with no car or van and Carterton scores well with only 10.8% in that category compared with 18.2% and 19.4% for the county and region.

Council Tax Bands

In bands A-D Carterton is over represented compared with the county and region and bands E-H under represented particularly in G-H with 0.3% compared to 7.4% at county and regional level

Crime

It should be noted that the figures are based on the 'Carterton Sector', which also includes surrounding villages and Burford. Overall crimes were less in 2008/09 than 2003/04. In individual categories, all were down except serious sexual offences, robbery of personal property, non-dwelling burglary, theft or handling offences, criminal damage and shoplifting. However not all the incidents in these categories were up on the previous year, 2007/08. The most significant figures appeared to be a substantial decrease in dwelling burglaries and less serious violence against the person and a substantial increase in criminal damage. These figures do not take into account the perception and fear of crime of local residents.

Key Points:

- Carterton has a young population, which has grown rapidly and is likely to continue to do so
- Carterton has little ethnic diversity
- The professional and managerial occupations are under represented in Carterton
- There are small pockets of significant deprivation in the town
- Carterton has a high level of full time economically active residents, but with a low level of self employed
- Carterton appears to have a relatively healthy population
- By comparison with the county and region, residents of Carterton appear to be under qualified at the highest level.
- Using limited indicators, the living conditions in Carterton's houses appear to be above average.
- Carterton's households have better access to private transport than average for the county and region
- *Carterton has significantly below average numbers of elderly people living alone*