

CCN

A n a l y s i s

Census 2021: Population Change in Counties



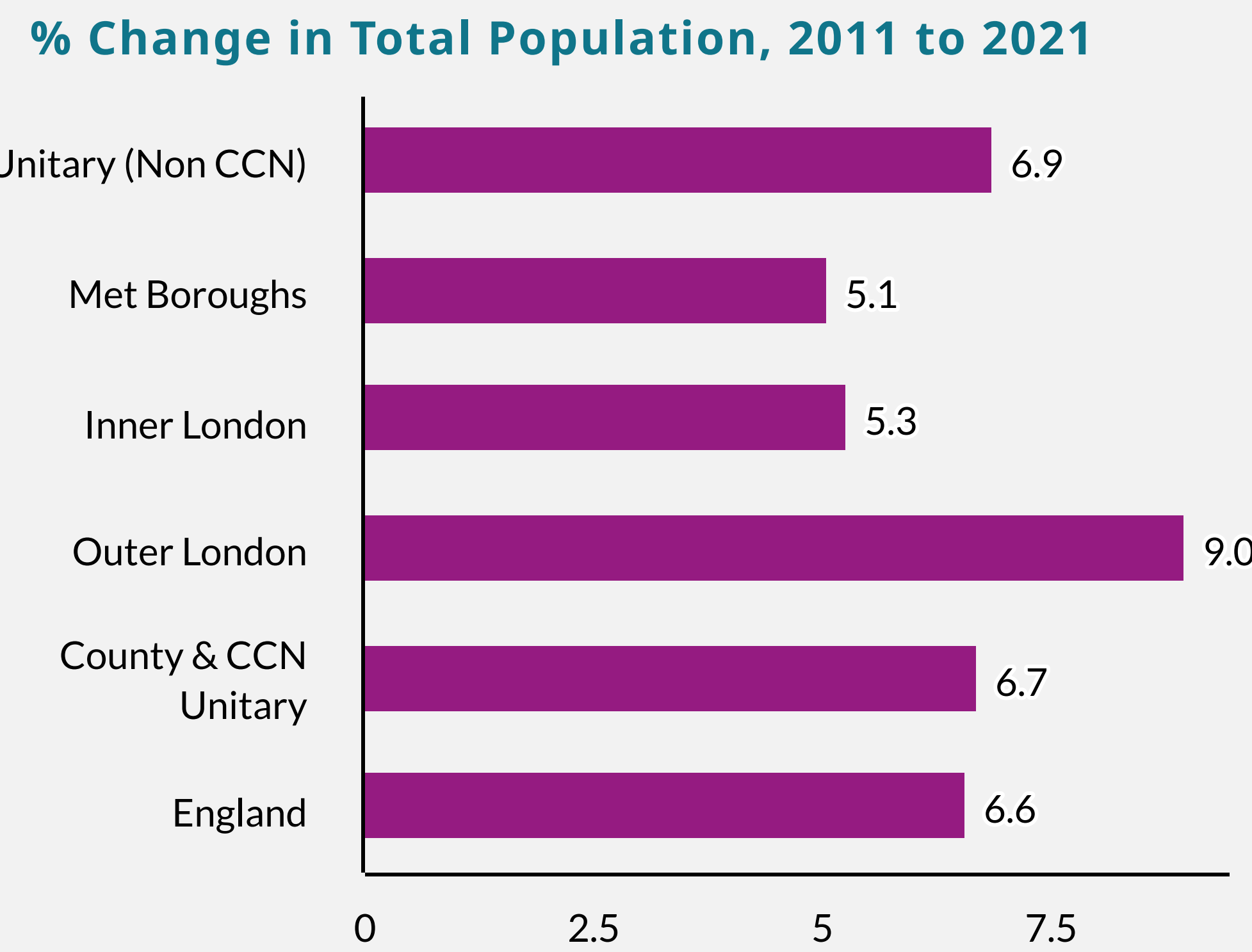
July
2022

Key Findings

On the Tuesday 28th June the Office for National Statistics (ONS) released the first detailed breakdown of results from the 2021 Census. This County Councils Network (CCN) report seeks to analyse population data by age profiles at local authority type, county region and individual county and CCN unitary authority level, compared to the 2011 Census.

Total Population

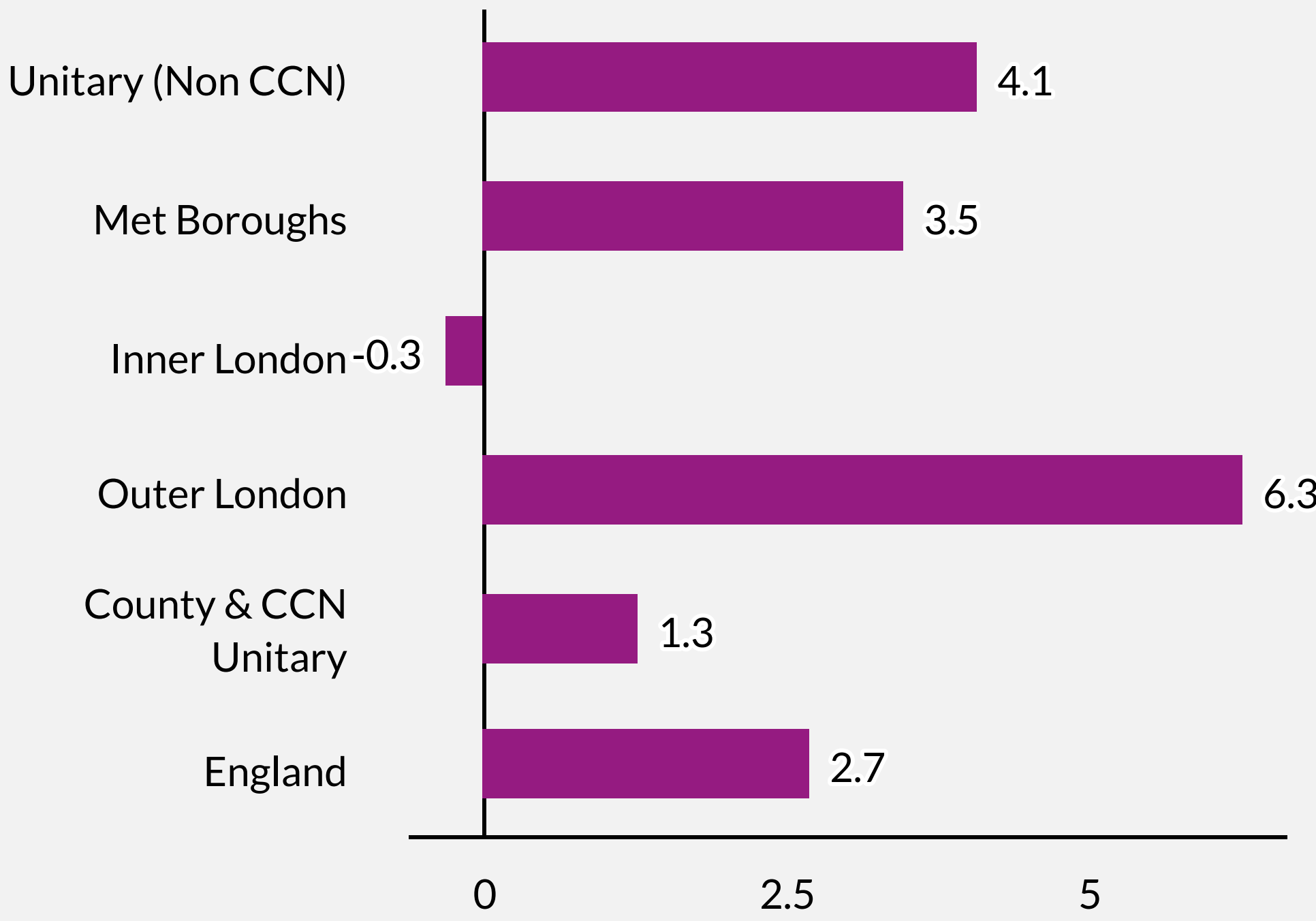
- The total population of county and CCN unitary members increased by 1.6m over the period, some 47% of all total population growth in England. Population growth has been stronger in county and CCN unitary areas (6.7%) compared to the national average (6.6%) and major urban areas in Inner London (5.3%), and metropolitan towns and cities (5.1%). Some 20 of the 37 county & CCN unitary areas have witnessed population growth above the national average.
- County & CCN unitary councils in the East of England (7.6%), East Midlands (7.6%), South West (7.6%) and South East (7.5%) have all also witnessed stronger growth in population than the county and CCN unitary average, and well above the national average and those in major urban areas.



Children & Young People

- The number aged 0-19 in county and CCN unitary members increased by 72,475, only 21% of all population growth in this age group in England. This is despite County and CCN unitary areas accounting for 44% of all those aged 0-19.

% Change in Ages 0-19, 2011 to 2021

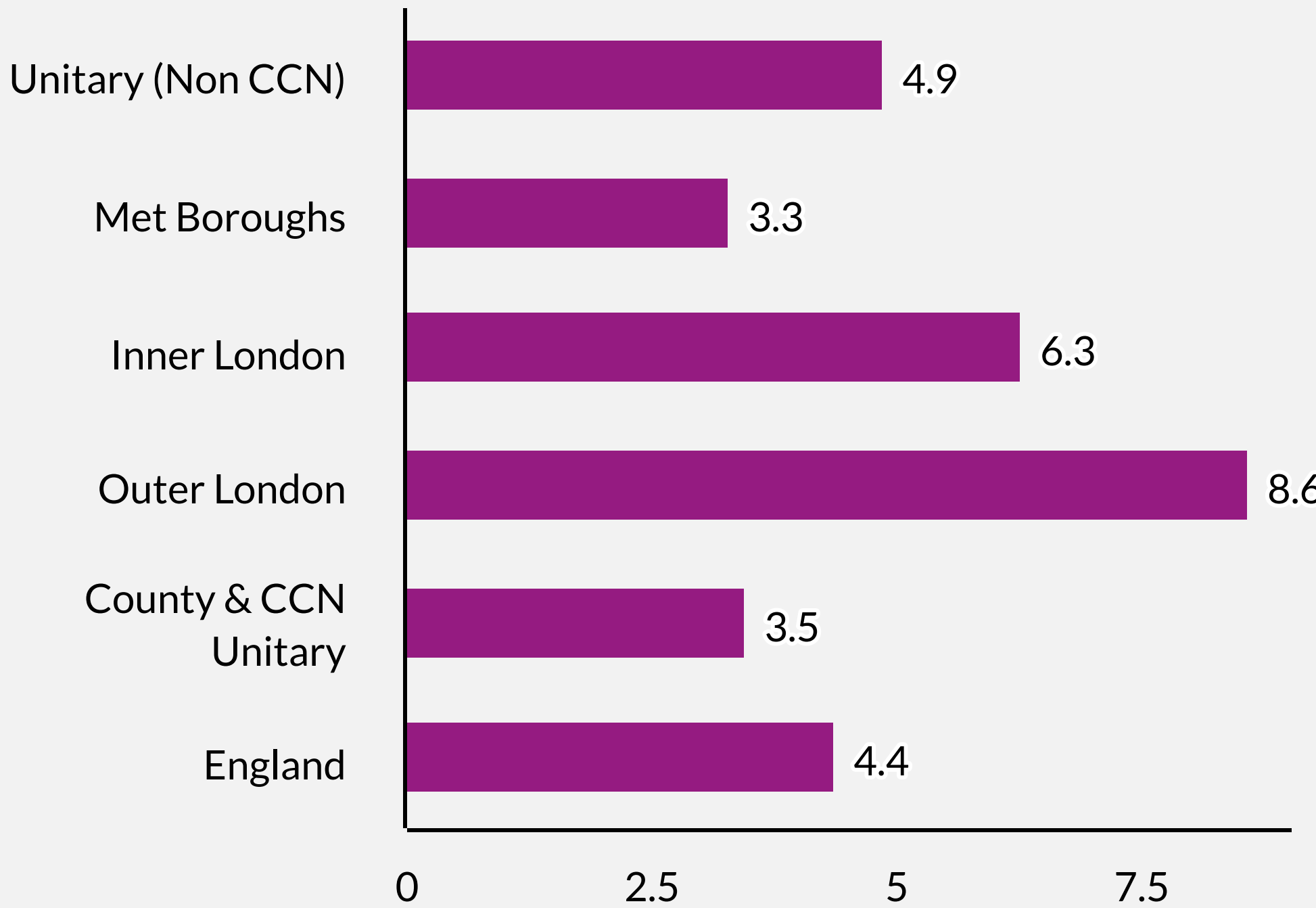


- Population growth amongst those aged 0-19 has been lower in county and CCN unitary areas (1.3%) compared to other types of councils in England except Inner London. Some 16 of the 37 County and CCN Unitary areas have witnessed decreases in their population aged 0-19 over the period, with 15 seeing increases above the national average.

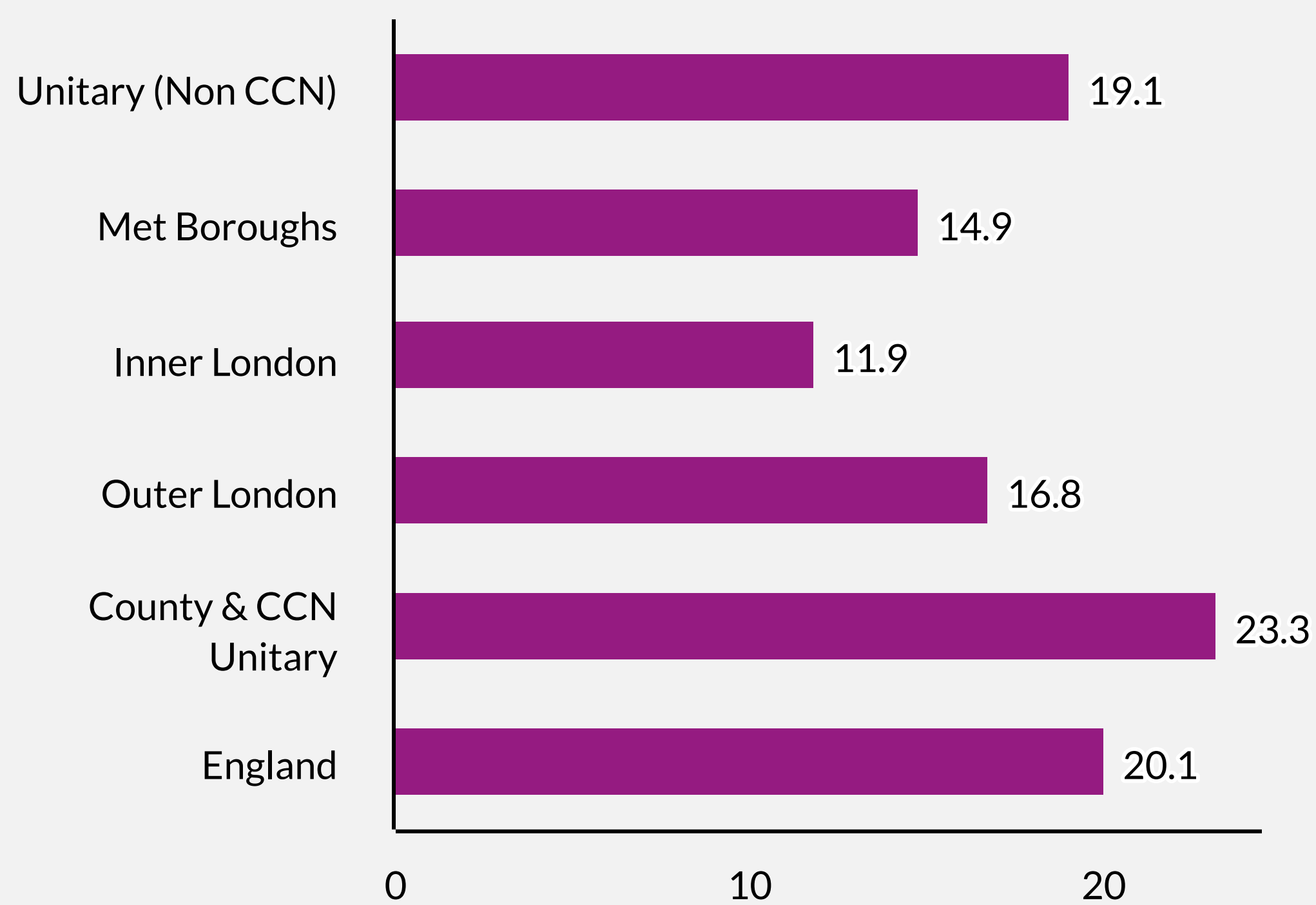
Working Age Adults

- The number aged 20-64 in county and CCN unitary members increased by 500,926, 36% of all population growth in this age group in England. This growth is below the share of population for this age group (45%).
- Population growth has been higher in this age group in county and CCN unitary areas (3.5%) compared to metropolitan boroughs (3.3%), but below all other areas of England. Some 20 of the 37 areas have witnessed population growth below the national average.

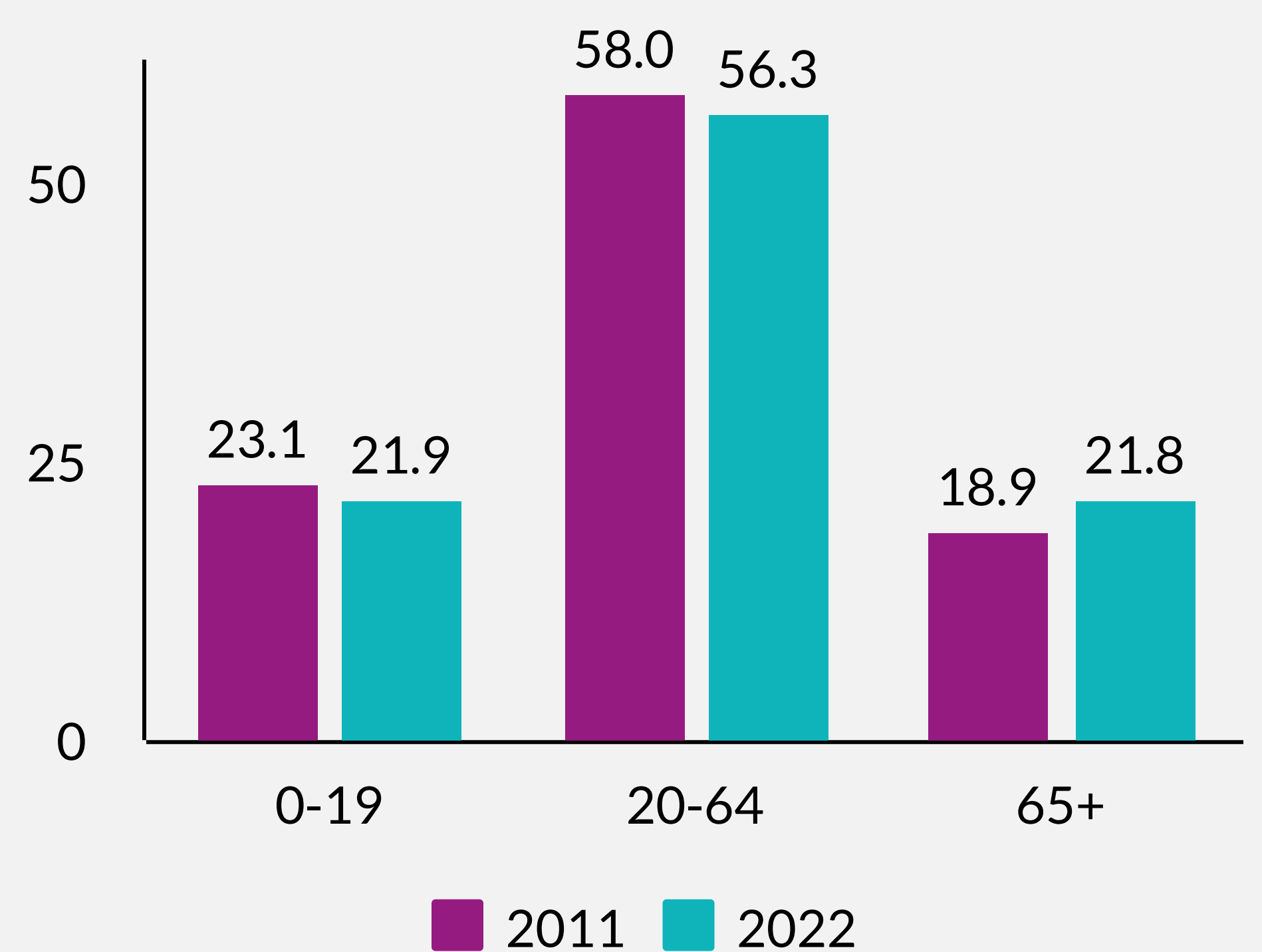
% Change in Ages 20-64, 2011 to 2021



% Change in Ages 65+, 2011 to 2021



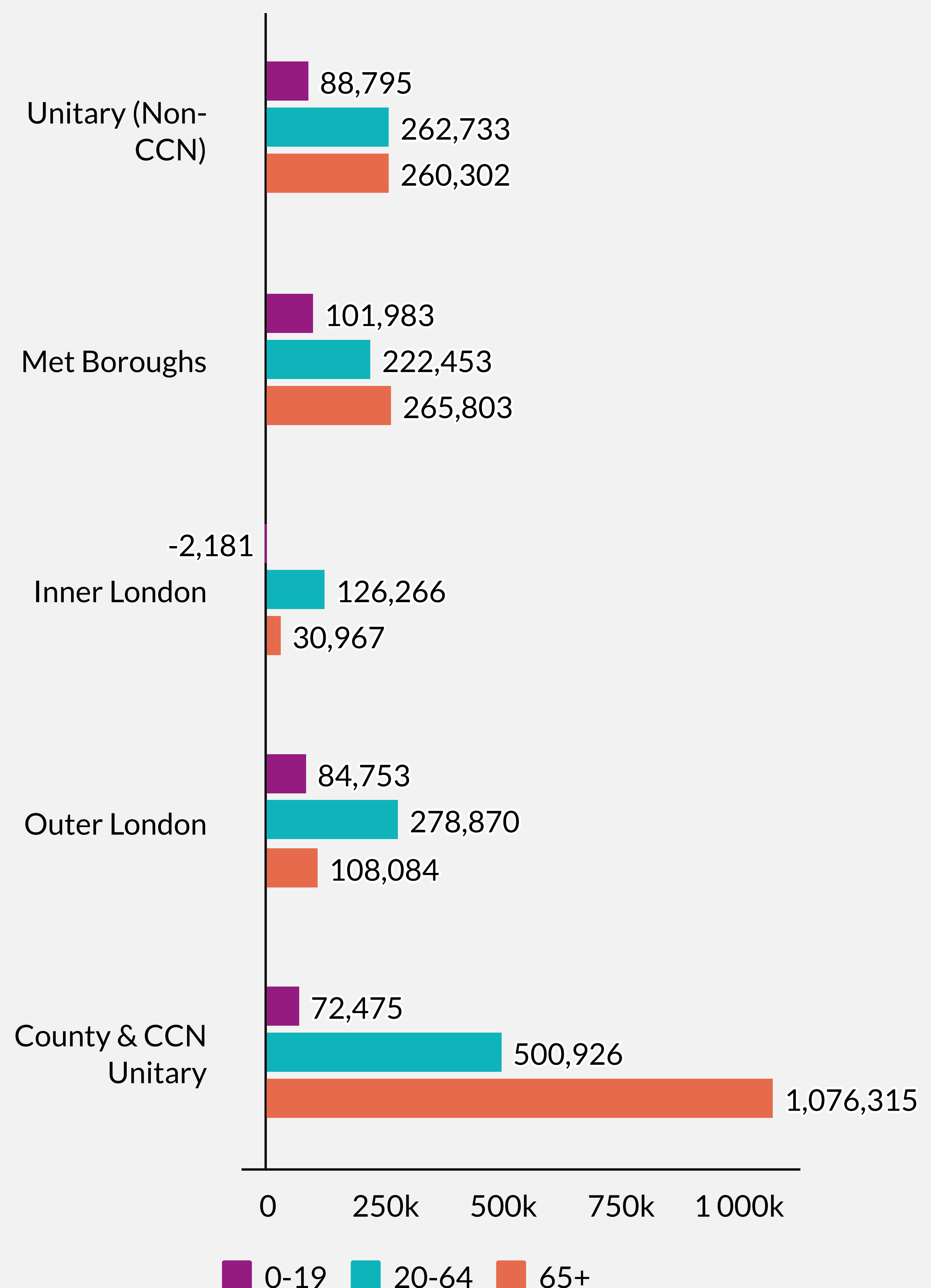
% Demographic Profile, County & CCN Unitary, 2011 and 2021



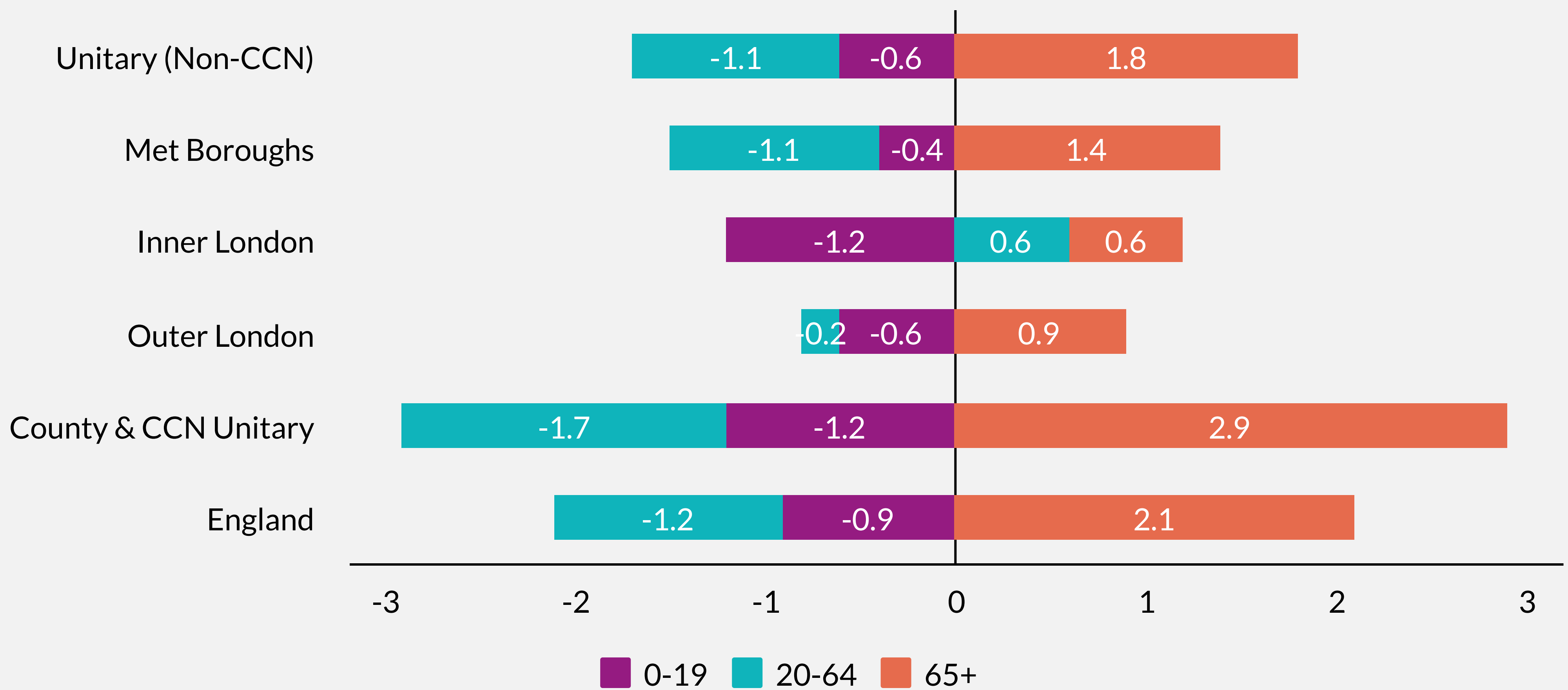
Older Adults (65+)

- The number aged 65+ in county and CCN unitary members increased by 1.1m, some 62% of all population growth in this age group in England. This growth is disproportionate compared to the share of population for this age group (55%).
- Population growth in this age group within county and CCN unitary areas (23.3%) is significantly higher than all other areas of England (20.1%), particularly compared to metropolitan areas (14.9%) and Inner London boroughs (11.9%).
- Some 33 of the 37 County and CCN Unitary areas have witnessed population growth in the over 65s above the national average. Of the 50 upper-tier authorities in England with the largest population growth in percentage terms, some 26 are county and CCN unitary authorities, with none of these authorities in the bottom 50 local authority areas.
- Every single county region has had growth in the over 65 population above the national average. The largest increases are in the South West (26%) followed by Yorkshire & Humber (25.5%), the West Midlands (25.2%), East Midlands (24.8%) and North East (23.9%). The East of England (21.9%), South East (21.6%) and North West (21.2%) have growth below the county and CCN unitary average, but still well above all other types of local authorities, particularly urban Inner London and metropolitan boroughs.

Local Authority Types, No. Change in Demographic Profile, 2011 to 2021



% Change in Demographic Profile, Local Authority Types, 2011 to 2021



Demographic Profile

- While all parts of the country have witnessed a well-documented trend towards an ageing population, the demographic shift in county and CCN unitary authorities is more stark over the last decade, with our analysis demonstrating that county and rural areas remain a significant outlier in the severity of the change.
- The increase in the number of over 65s (1.1m) is almost double the combined total increase of the 0-19 and 20-64 age groups (575k). This is in contrast to all other parts of the country, where the combined increases in the 0-19 and 20-64 age groups is between 20% to 43% higher than the increase in over 65s.
- As a result of significantly lower growth in the 0-19 and working age 20-64 demographics, county and CCN unitary authorities now have almost precisely the same number and share of population aged 65 and over as those aged 0-19.
- County & CCN unitary councils have witnessed a 2.9% shift in its demographic profile towards those aged 65 and over; double the rate of metropolitan boroughs, and four times higher than London.
- At both a local and regional level, there is a variation between county and CCN unitary councils, but the overall trends remain in line with the local authority type analysis.
- Regionally, all county areas have a demographic shift towards those aged 65 and over that is higher than the national average and significantly larger than cities and towns in London and metropolitan boroughs. Some 33 of the 37 county and CCN unitary councils have above national average demographic shifts towards those aged 65 and over.

The data contained in the Census is of critical importance to both the funding and delivery of local public services, as well as having important economic considerations for local areas. Below, we outline some of the key policy and reform implications arising from our analysis.

Levelling Up & Devolution

Our analysis shows there has been a rise of 1.6m people in a decade within county and rural areas, with CCN member councils witnessing stronger growth than urban areas.

These population trends over the past decade show that counties are great places to live and work for an increasing amount of people, particularly in the wake of the pandemic. Although the percentage change in the numbers of the working age population in CCN member authorities has been less than that for England as a whole, we do know that the pandemic has seen working-age people exploit new technologies and software and move away from cities and towns in a 'race for space', and to more attractive places to live and raise a family.

While this has the potential to bring significant economic benefits to county areas, these changing demographics further show why the government's levelling-up efforts cannot have a narrow focus.

CCN has long called for the government to focus levelling-up on county areas alongside towns in the north – with our research with Grant Thornton¹ showing even the most affluent counties suffer from economic weaknesses. Driven by low levels of business formation rates and structural challenges such as low median incomes, 31 of the 36 county authorities have productivity levels below the national average. Some 23 of the 36 county areas have mean income levels below the England average, with the gap in incomes for county areas widening by 13% over the past 5 years.

Of the 1.6m extra people living in counties, over 500,000 of these are working-age individuals. It is vital that these residents are supported by strong local economies, good employment prospects, and opportunities to retrain and reskill; particularly as the cost-of-living crisis creates new economic pressures.

Councils are best placed to lead on these agendas. The new approach to devolution and empowering local leadership, set out in the Levelling Up White Paper, Devolution Framework, and Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill, has the potential to achieve this and be genuinely transformative for local economic growth.

However, it is vital that devolved powers in skills, transport and infrastructure are rapidly rolled-out across county and unitary authorities, and that this is accompanied with funding on par with cities and the combined authority regions.

Infrastructure & Capital Funding

At the same time, the increase in population for county areas over the past decade has also had a material impact on demand for public services, as well as pressure on local infrastructure.

A survey carried out by CCN of its member councils last year found that almost two-thirds of those authorities felt the pressure on their local infrastructure was excessive, due to population growth and subsequent increases in housing development. Some 73% of CCN member councils in the same survey said their infrastructure funding gap – the difference between confirmed streams of funding and required infrastructure to alleviate population growth – was 'severe'.²

With CCN analysis showing that the cost of capital projects in 2022/23 is set to rise by minimum of £295m due to the present inflationary pressures,³ it is crucial that the government provides sustainable funding for county and unitary councils to manage population growth and the requirement for critical infrastructure.

Government should revisit capital allocations for local roads maintenance, which have been reduced by £300m compared to two years ago.⁴ The design of the new Infrastructure Levy, which will replace the existing system of developer contributions, will also be crucial in ensuring county authorities are provided with the necessary income to support the provision of vital new infrastructure.

Fair Funding Review

As well as insufficient capital funding for infrastructure, the way government distributes revenue funding for councils has failed to keep up with these demographic trends. The last time population figures were updated in the funding formula was in 2013-14, and this update used population projections for 2013 based on the 2011 Census. There have been no subsequent updates to the reflect either the mid-year estimates or the biennial population projections. As a result of an outdated funding formula, county areas are the lowest funded authorities. In 2022/23 CCN member councils received just £317 core funding per head, some 31% lower than the national average.

Later this month the government will set out the next steps to reform local government finance, following successive delays to the review of relative needs and resources, and a more recent commitment to a two-year funding settlement.

It is anticipated this will include some changes to the distribution of resources, albeit more limited than the reforms envisaged under the fair funding review. It is imperative that any short-term changes move towards addressing the current inequalities in funding and do not further entrench them, with a commitment to revisit a full implementation of the proposals contained in previous consultations on the review of relative needs and resources.

Adult Social Care

But while overall changes in population will need to be reflected in any future changes to the distribution of funding, the most acute impact of the population changes identified in our analysis is the growth in those aged 65 and over.

For the first time, there are almost precisely as many over 65s in county areas than there are children and young people aged 0-19. The number of new over 65s outnumbered children and young people by a ratio 15 to 1. In contrast, the ratio of new over 65s to children and young people in metropolitan towns and cities was 3 to 1 and in London 2 to 1.

This growth in the elderly population is welcome - it means people are living longer or that they are choosing a county area as a place to live. However, this demographic rise does pose a significant challenge to the delivery of adult social care services. CCN's member councils already spend around half their budgets on adult social care: a growing over 65s population will only add to these pressures.

As with core local government funding, the distribution of social care funding has failed to keep pace with changing demographics and demand trends.

Analysis undertaken by Pixel for CCN has shown that if the government had implemented the proposed new adult social care formula, developed in response to the reforms contained within the Care Act 2015, and expected to be introduced as part of fair funding review proposals, CCN member councils would be receiving £440m more annually compared to the current outdated adult social care relative needs formula.⁶

As well as existing pressures, these growing elderly demographics mean that county areas are particularly exposed to the government's forthcoming adult social care charging reforms, which will make more individuals eligible for at least some state support towards their care costs, as well as enabling those who fund and arrange their own care to ask their council to arrange it on their behalf.

Independent research by Newton for CCN⁷ has shown that these changes could have a particularly significant impact on county and CCN unitary councils, considering their demographic makeup.

The analysis showed that CCN member councils could face a funding deficit of £7.6bn in the ten years after the reforms are introduced, unless the government provides more funding for this policy and changes the way it distributes adult social care funding to account for the disproportionate impact in county areas. Failure to do could result in severe financial sustainability challenges for councils once the changes are introduced in October 2023.

This document aims to provide a bird's eye view of the demographic changes that have occurred in county areas over the last decade. It is vital that national policies and funding decisions reflect the changing nature of local populations in county areas, and CCN member councils are given the tools to address the challenges – and opportunities – of this population growth.

Methodology

The data used in this analysis is as follows;

2011 Census data, obtained from www.ons.gov.uk/census/2011census/2011censusdata

2021 Census data, obtained from <https://census.gov.uk/census-2021-results>

Data was grouped according to three different main age groups 0-19, 20-64 and 65+. Analysis was also undertaken of 85+.

The regional analysis, referred to in this document as 'county regions' only contains the 37 County and CCN unitary authorities.

For Inner and Outer London, authorities have been grouped according to the statutory definition, rather than ONS or Census grouping, with City of London included as an Inner London Borough.

County & CCN Unitary

Key Statistics

2011

2021

Total Population



24,484,084

<

VS

>

26,133,600

+

6.7%

Children & Young People (0-19)



5,656,925

<

VS

>

5,729,400

+

1.3%

Population Share - Children & Young People



23.1%

<

VS

>

21.9%

=

1.2%

Working Age Adults (20-64)



14,212,974

<

VS

>

14,713,900

+

3.5%

Population Share - Working Age Adults



58.0%

<

VS

>

56.3%

=

1.7%

Older Adults (65+)



4,614,185

<

VS

>

5,690,500

+

23.3%

Population Share - Older Adults



18.9%

<

VS

>

21.8%

+

2.9%

Firstly, we analysis the change in total population since 2011. Table 1 shows that the total population in county and CCN unitary members increased by £1.6m over the period, some 47% of all total population growth in England. Graph 1 shows that population growth has been stronger in county and CCN unitary areas compared to major urban areas in Inner London, and metropolitan towns and cities.

Table 1 - Local Authority Type, Total Population, All Ages, 2011 and 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Unitary (Non CCN)	8,879,770	9,491,400	611,630	6.9
Met Boroughs	11,474,661	12,064,700	590,039	5.1
Inner London	2,923,548	3,078,200	154,652	5.3
Outer London	5,250,393	5,721,800	471,407	9.0
County & CCN Unitary	24,484,084	26,133,600	1,649,516	6.7
England	53,012,456	56,489,700	3,477,244	6.6

Graph 1 - % Change in Total Population, All Ages, 2011 to 2021



Graph 2 - No. Change in Total Population, All Ages, 2011 to 2021

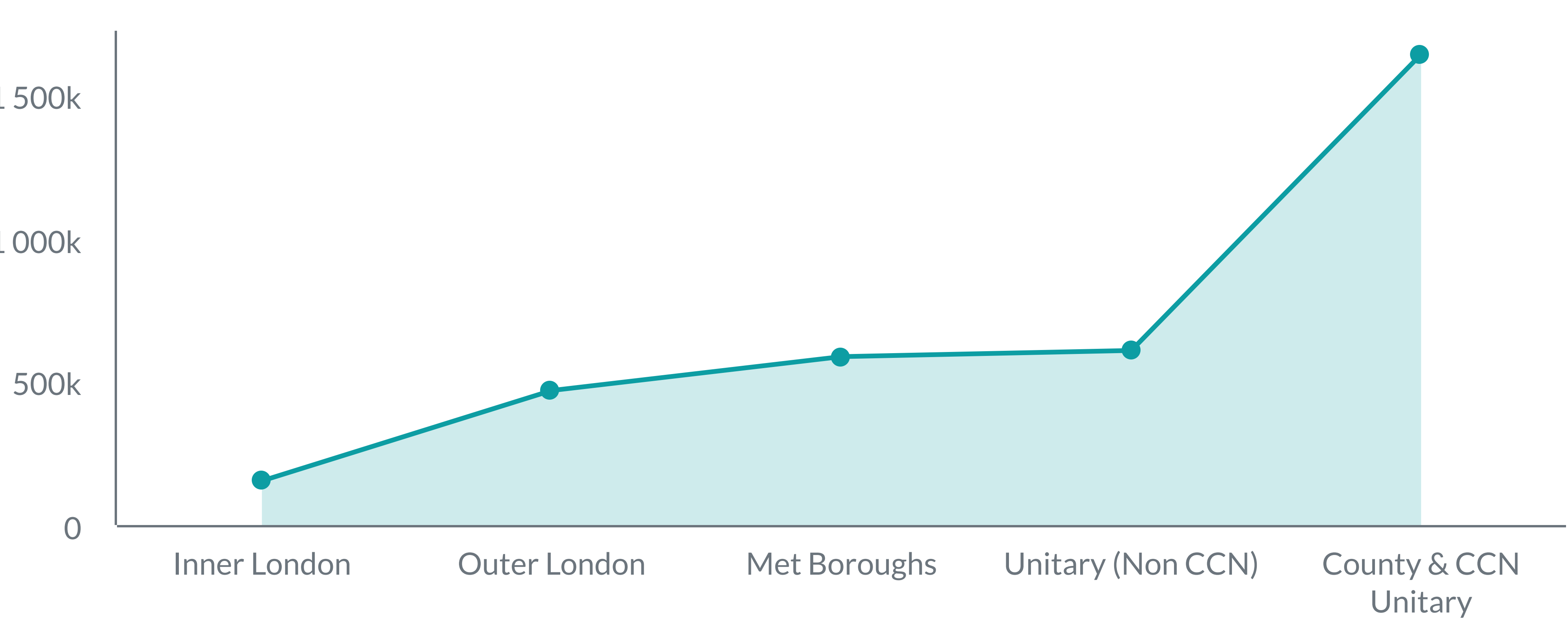


Table 2 shows the regional breakdown of county and CCN unitary councils. Authorities in the East of England, East Midlands, South West and South East have all also witnessed stronger growth in population than the county and CCN unitary average, and well above the national average and those in major urban areas.

Table 2 - County & CCN Unitary by Region, Total Population, All Ages, 2011 and 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
East of England	4,971,291	5,351,400	380,109	7.6
East Midlands	3,611,582	3,885,300	273,718	7.6
North East	829,270	842,700	13,430	1.6
North West	2,041,324	2,133,900	92,576	4.5
South East	6,406,562	6,886,900	480,338	7.5
South West	3,241,762	3,488,600	246,838	7.6
West Midlands	2,449,738	2,587,200	137,462	5.6
Yorkshire & Humber	932,555	957,600	25,045	2.7

Graph 3 - County & CCN Unitary by Region, % Change in Total Population, All Ages, 2011 to 2021



Table 3 below shows the change in population for all individual county and CCN unitary authorities. Some 20 of the 37 areas have witnessed population growth above the national average. Of the 50 upper-tier authorities in England with the largest population growth in percentage terms, some 12 of these authorities are county and CCN unitary authorities; Central Bedfordshire, North and West Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, West Sussex, Cambridgeshire, Devon, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire.

Table 3 - County & CCN Unitary, Total Population, All Ages, 2011 and 2021

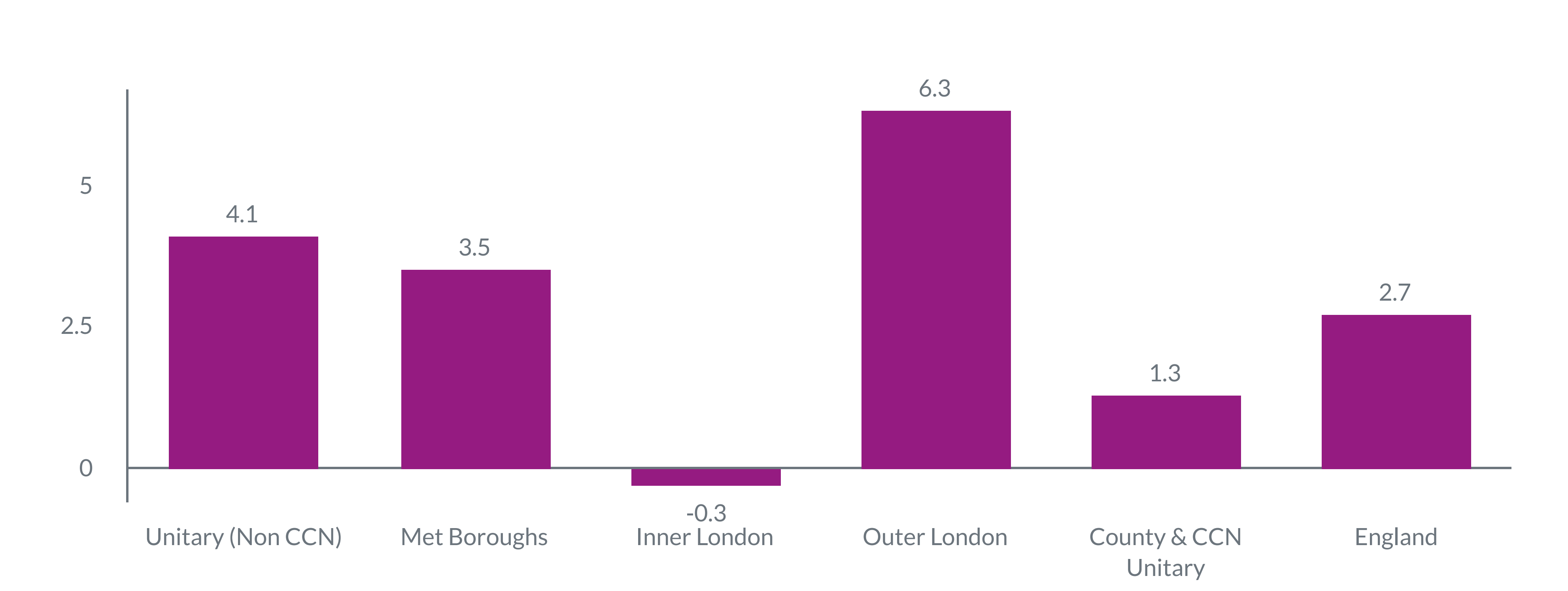
Council	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Buckinghamshire	505,283	553,100	47,817	9.5
Cambridgeshire	621,210	678,600	57,390	9.2
Central Bedfordshire	254,381	294,200	39,819	15.7
Cheshire East	370,127	398,800	28,673	7.7
Cornwall	532,273	570,300	38,027	7.1
Cumbria	499,858	499,800	-58	0.0
Derbyshire	769,686	794,600	24,914	3.2
Devon	746,399	811,600	65,201	8.7
Dorset	365,153	379,600	14,447	4.0
Durham	513,242	522,100	8,858	1.7
East Riding of Yorkshire	334,179	342,200	8,021	2.4
East Sussex	526,671	545,800	19,129	3.6
Essex	1,393,587	1,503,300	109,713	7.9
Gloucestershire	596,984	645,100	48,116	8.1
Hampshire	1,317,788	1,400,800	83,012	6.3
Herefordshire	183,477	187,100	3,623	2.0
Hertfordshire	1,116,062	1,198,800	82,738	7.4
Kent	1,463,740	1,576,100	112,360	7.7
Lancashire	1,171,339	1,235,300	63,961	5.5
Leicestershire	650,489	712,300	61,811	9.5
Lincolnshire	713,653	768,400	54,747	7.7
Norfolk	857,888	916,200	58,312	6.8
North Northamptonshire	316,851	359,500	42,649	13.5
North Yorkshire	598,376	615,400	17,024	2.8
Northumberland	316,028	320,600	4,572	1.4
Nottinghamshire	785,802	824,800	38,998	5.0
Oxfordshire	653,798	725,300	71,502	10.9
Shropshire	306,129	323,600	17,471	5.7
Somerset	529,972	571,600	41,628	7.9
Staffordshire	848,489	876,100	27,611	3.3
Suffolk	728,163	760,300	32,137	4.4
Surrey	1,132,390	1,203,100	70,710	6.2
Warwickshire	545,474	596,800	51,326	9.4
West Northamptonshire	375,101	425,700	50,599	13.5
West Sussex	806,892	882,700	75,808	9.4
Wiltshire	470,981	510,400	39,419	8.4
Worcestershire	566,169	603,600	37,431	6.6

Secondly, we analyse the change in population for those aged between 0-19 years old. Table 4 shows the number aged 0-19 in county and CCN unitary members increased by 72,475, only 21% of all population growth in this age group in England. This is despite county and CCN unitary areas accounting for 44% of all those aged 0-19. Graph 4 shows that population growth has been lower in county and CCN unitary areas compared to other types of councils in England except Inner London.

Table 4 - Local Authority Type, Ages 0-19, 2011 and 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Unitary (Non CCN)	2,176,505	2,265,300	88,795	4.1
Met Boroughs	2,876,017	2,978,000	101,983	3.5
Inner London	651,181	649,000	-2,181	-0.3
Outer London	1,351,647	1,436,400	84,753	6.3
County & CCN Unitary	5,656,925	5,729,400	72,475	1.3
England	12,712,275	13,058,100	345,825	2.7

Graph 4 - % Change in Ages 0-19, 2011 to 2021



Graph 5 - No. Change in Ages 0-19, 2011 to 2021

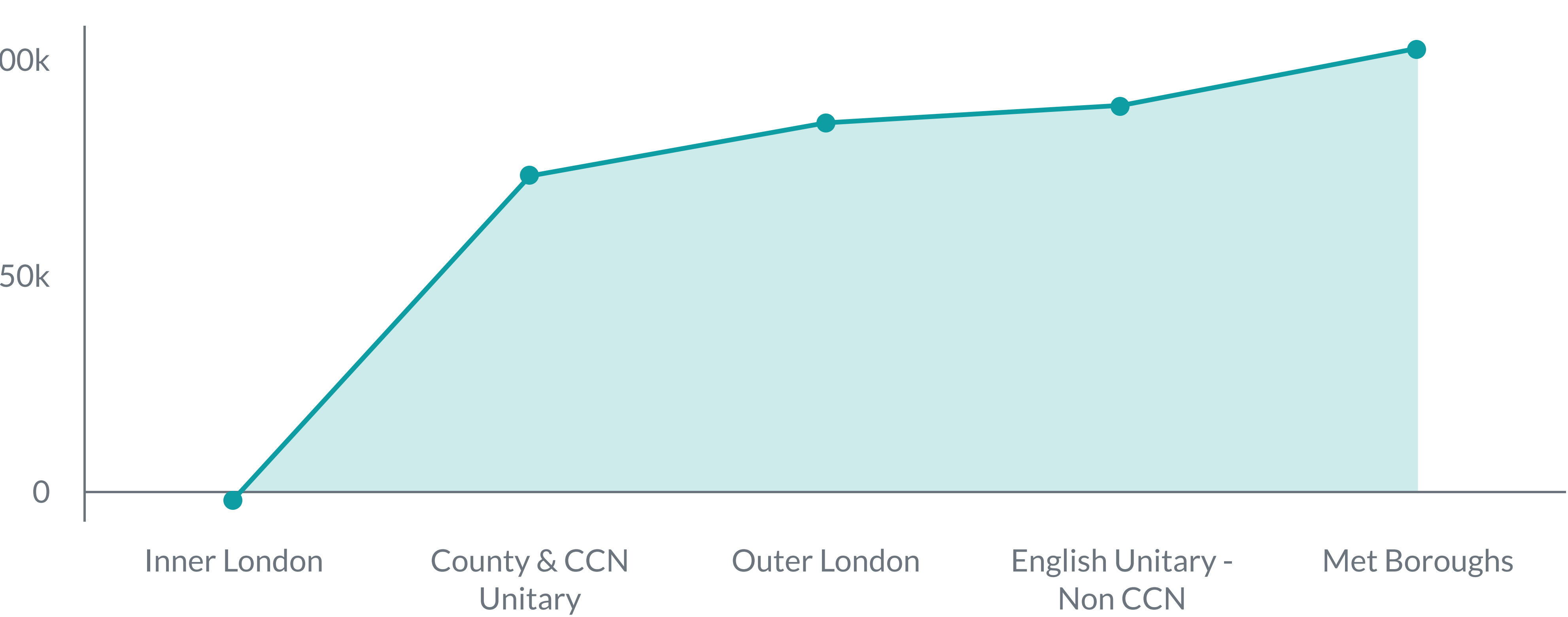


Table 5 shows the regional breakdown of county and CCN unitary councils. Only the East of England and South East of England have witnessed growth in those aged 0-19 above the national average, with this growth still below the average for urban metropolitan cities and towns in the north and midlands of England.

Table 5 - County & CCN Unitary by Region, Ages 0-19, 2011 and 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
East of England	1,165,164	1,200,900	35,736	3.1
East Midlands	835,892	851,100	15,208	1.8
North East	183,858	177,900	-5,958	-3.2
North West	467,621	465,500	-2,121	-0.5
South East	1,523,555	1,566,500	42,945	2.8
South West	723,292	726,700	3,408	0.5
West Midlands	553,134	548,800	-4,334	-0.8
Yorkshire & Humber	204,409	192,000	-12,409	-6.1

Graph 6 - County & CCN Unitary by Region, % Change in Ages 0-19, 2011 to 2021

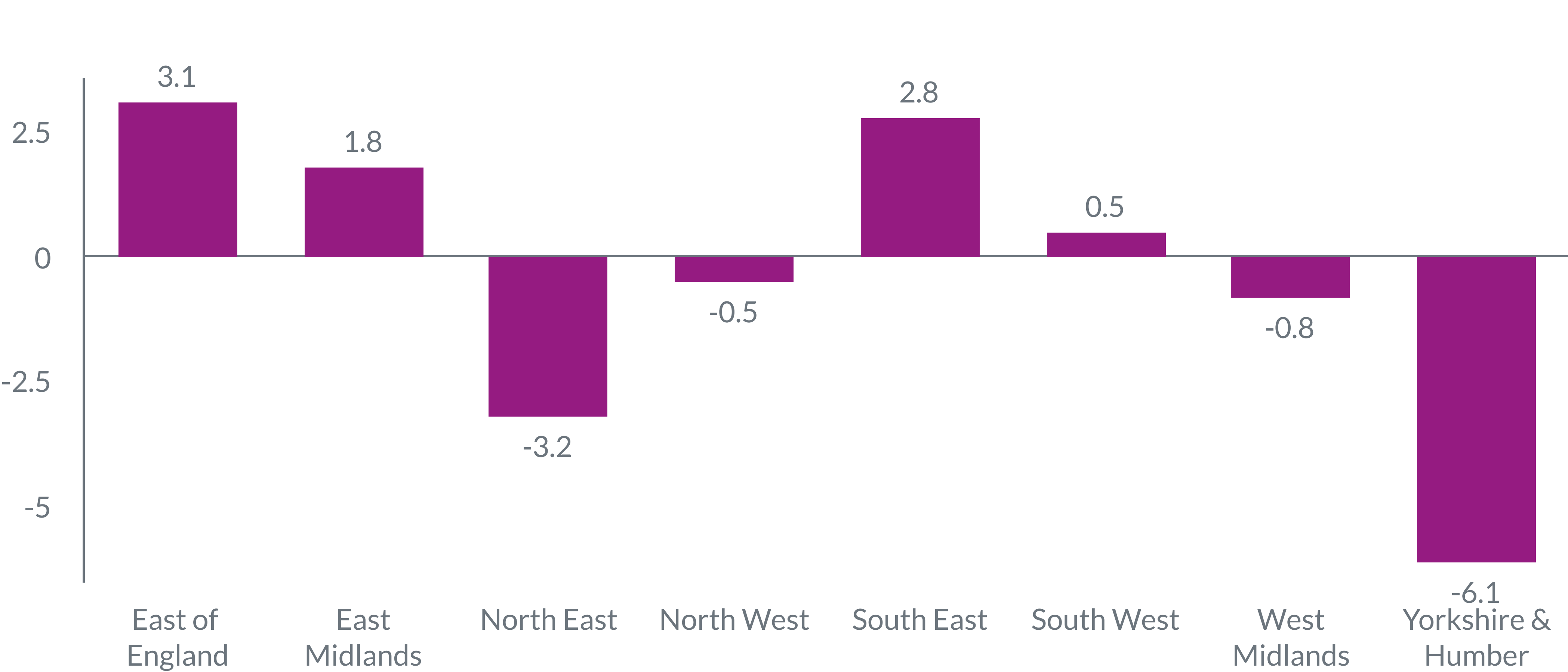


Table 6 below shows the change in population for all individual county and CCN unitary authorities. Some 16 of the 37 areas have witnessed decreases in their population aged 0-19 over the period, with 15 seeing increases above the national average and only 12 above the average for urban metropolitan cities and towns in the north and midlands of England. Of the 50 upper-tier authorities in England with the largest population growth in percentage terms, some nine of these authorities are county and CCN unitary authorities, while some 16 authorities of these authorities are in the bottom 50 upper-tier areas.

Table 6 - County & CCN Unitary, Ages 0-19, 2011 and 2021

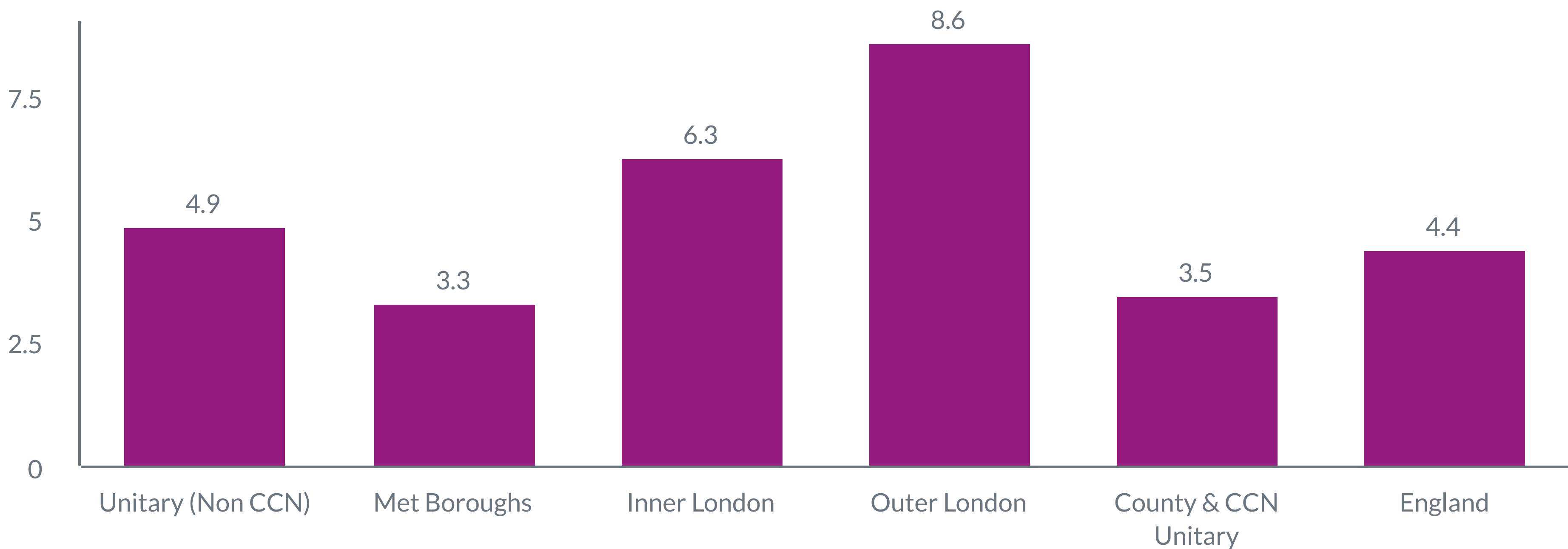
Council	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Buckinghamshire	126,491	133,700	7,209	5.7
Cambridgeshire	144,785	150,500	5,715	3.9
Central Bedfordshire	61,791	69,000	7,209	11.7
Cheshire East	83,400	84,600	1,200	1.4
Cornwall	115,211	116,300	1,089	0.9
Cumbria	107,300	99,300	-8,000	-7.5
Derbyshire	174,116	165,200	-8,916	-5.1
Devon	159,737	164,700	4,963	3.1
Dorset	76,890	72,600	-4,290	-5.6
Durham	115,369	113,900	-1,469	-1.3
East Riding of Yorkshire	72,051	67,300	-4,751	-6.6
East Sussex	116,345	111,900	-4,445	-3.8
Essex	328,169	342,000	13,831	4.2
Gloucestershire	136,588	140,500	3,912	2.9
Hampshire	309,462	307,800	-1,662	-0.5
Herefordshire	39,938	37,100	-2,838	-7.1
Hertfordshire	278,307	291,600	13,293	4.8
Kent	360,605	369,100	8,495	2.4
Lancashire	276,921	281,600	4,679	1.7
Leicestershire	152,599	159,200	6,601	4.3
Lincolnshire	156,831	161,200	4,369	2.8
Norfolk	185,178	186,800	1,622	0.9
North Northamptonshire	78,815	85,700	6,885	8.7
North Yorkshire	132,358	124,700	-7,658	-5.8
Northumberland	68,489	64,000	-4,489	-6.6
Nottinghamshire	180,610	178,600	-2,010	-1.1
Oxfordshire	156,898	167,000	10,102	6.4
Shropshire	68,196	64,900	-3,296	-4.8
Somerset	120,821	119,900	-921	-0.8
Staffordshire	192,598	185,800	-6,798	-3.5
Suffolk	166,934	161,000	-5,934	-3.6
Surrey	272,389	286,000	13,611	5.0
Warwickshire	124,296	131,600	7,304	5.9
West Northamptonshire	92,921	101,200	8,279	8.9
West Sussex	181,365	191,000	9,635	5.3
Wiltshire	114,045	112,700	-1,345	-1.2
Worcestershire	128,106	129,400	1,294	1.0

Thirdly, we analyse the change in the working age population aged 20-64. Table 4 shows the number aged 20-64 in county and CCN unitary members increased by 500,926, 36% of all population growth in this age group in England. This growth is below the share of population for this age group (45%), albeit higher than those aged 0-19. Graph 4 shows that population growth has been higher in county and CCN unitary areas compared to metropolitan boroughs, but below all other areas of England.

Table 7 - Local Authority Type, Ages 20-64, 2011 and 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Unitary (Non CCN)	5,340,167	5,602,900	262,733	4.9
Met Boroughs	6,820,147	7,042,600	222,453	3.3
Inner London	2,011,634	2,137,900	126,266	6.3
Outer London	3,254,730	3,533,600	278,870	8.6
County & CCN Unitary	14,212,974	14,713,900	500,926	3.5
England	31,639,652	33,030,900	1,391,248	4.4

Graph 7 - % Change in Ages 20-64, 2011 to 2021



Graph 8 - No. Change in Ages 20-64, 2011 to 2021

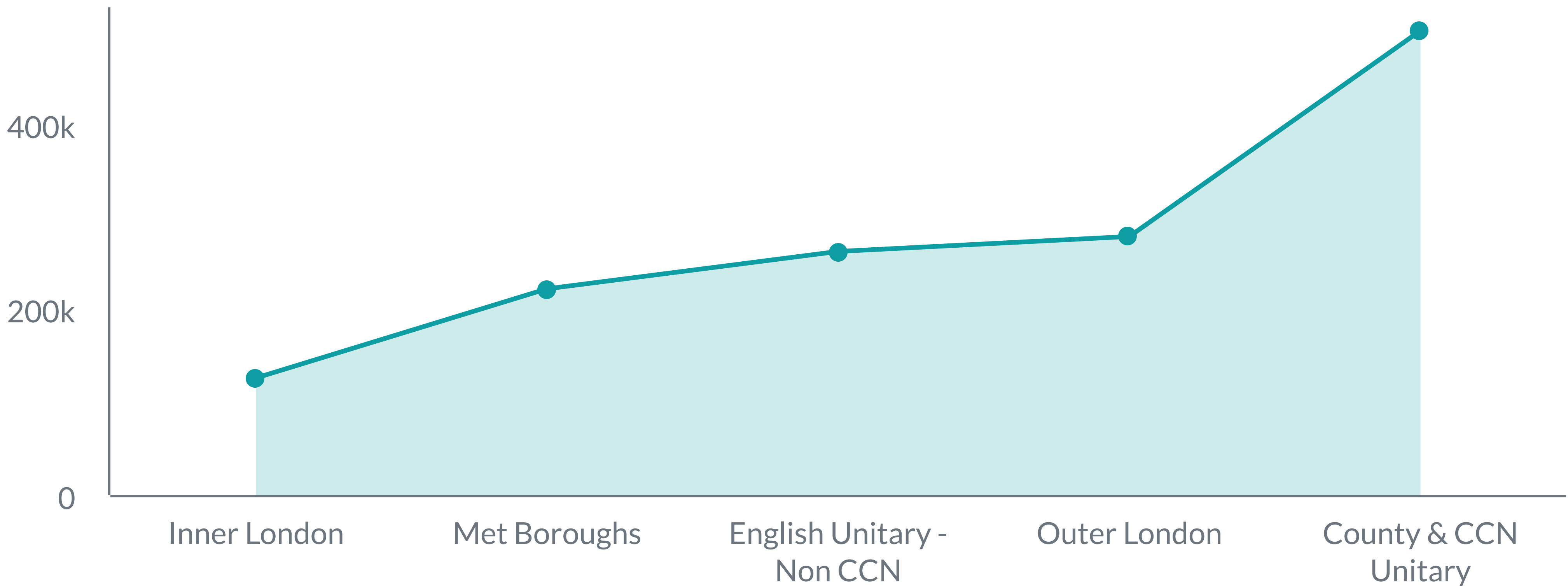


Table 8 shows the regional breakdown of county and CCN unitary councils. Both the East of England and South East have witnessed growth in those aged 20-64 which is significantly above the national average, with authorities in these two regions accounting for 66% of all the growth in population in this age group amongst county and CCN unitary councils. The East Midlands is the only other region to see growth above the national average, albeit small, with all other county regions seeing growth below the national average.

Table 8 - County & CCN Unitary by Region, Ages 20-64, 2011 and 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
East of England	2,906,391	3,054,200	147,809	5.1
East Midlands	2,121,028	2,217,000	95,972	4.5
North East	489,763	471,900	-17,863	-3.6
North West	1,188,249	1,201,300	13,051	1.1
South East	3,708,632	3,892,600	183,968	5.0
South West	1,836,342	1,902,500	66,158	3.6
West Midlands	1,429,077	1,453,100	24,023	1.7
Yorkshire & Humber	533,492	521,300	-12,192	-2.3

Graph 9 - County & CCN Unitary by Region, % Change in Ages 20-64, 2011 to 2021



Table 9 below shows the change in population for all individual county and CCN unitary authorities. Some 20 of the 37 areas have witnessed population growth below the national average. Of the 50 upper-tier authorities in England with the largest population growth in percentage terms, only eight are county and CCN unitary authorities, with 11 in the bottom 50 local authority areas.

Table 9 - County & CCN Unitary, Ages 20-64, 2011 and 2021

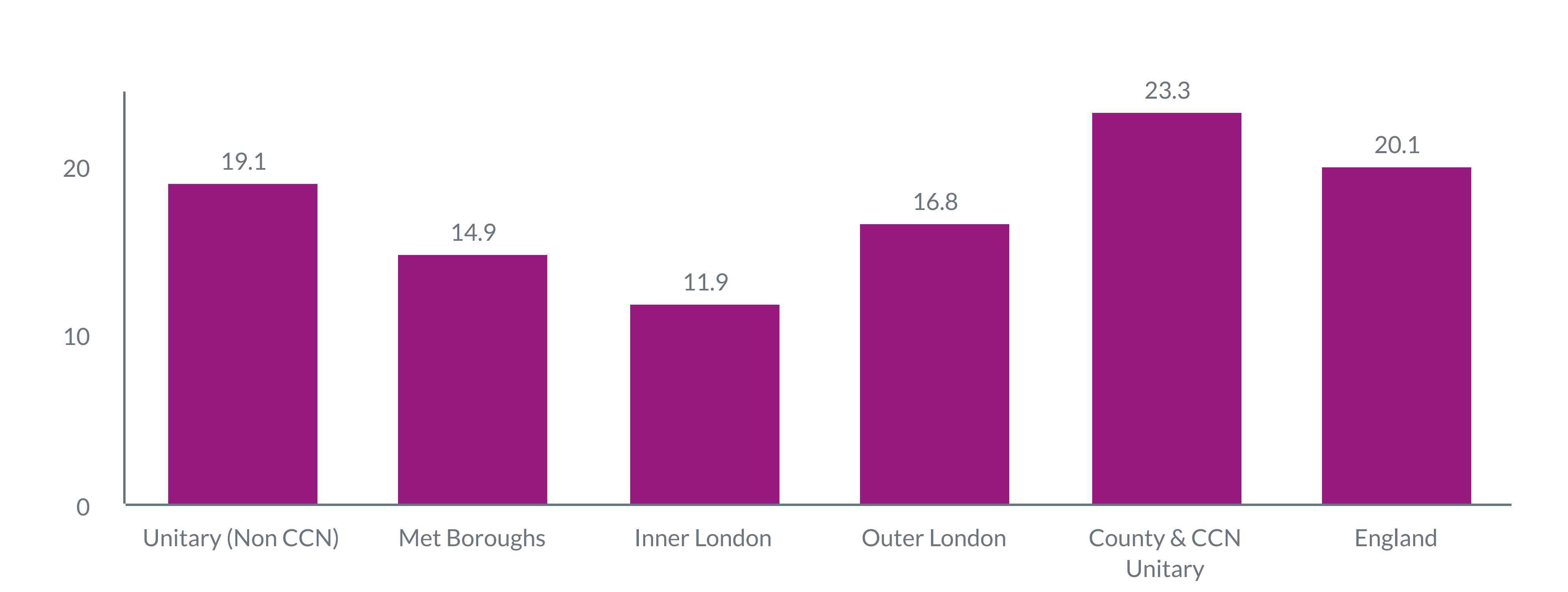
Council	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Buckinghamshire	294,641	315,800	21,159	7.2
Cambridgeshire	376,196	401,700	25,504	6.8
Central Bedfordshire	152,701	172,500	19,799	13.0
Cheshire East	215,355	224,800	9,445	4.4
Cornwall	301,821	309,900	8,079	2.7
Cumbria	289,669	279,100	-10,569	-3.6
Derbyshire	452,679	453,700	1,021	0.2
Devon	418,236	437,400	19,164	4.6
Dorset	198,305	194,700	-3,605	-1.8
Durham	305,528	296,900	-8,628	-2.8
East Riding of Yorkshire	190,673	184,300	-6,373	-3.3
East Sussex	290,563	291,500	937	0.3
Essex	809,985	851,400	41,415	5.1
Gloucestershire	349,041	364,700	15,659	4.5
Hampshire	764,954	789,000	24,046	3.1
Herefordshire	104,523	101,400	-3,123	-3.0
Hertfordshire	663,840	702,900	39,060	5.9
Kent	840,829	887,700	46,871	5.6
Lancashire	683,225	697,400	14,175	2.1
Leicestershire	382,453	405,000	22,547	5.9
Lincolnshire	408,971	426,800	17,829	4.4
Norfolk	487,479	505,600	18,121	3.7
North Northamptonshire	187,791	208,600	20,809	11.1
North Yorkshire	342,819	337,000	-5,819	-1.7
Northumberland	184,235	175,000	-9,235	-5.0
Nottinghamshire	462,745	471,000	8,255	1.8
Oxfordshire	393,158	428,400	35,242	9.0
Shropshire	174,634	176,800	2,166	1.2
Somerset	297,491	309,700	12,209	4.1
Staffordshire	499,037	496,200	-2,837	-0.6
Suffolk	416,190	420,100	3,910	0.9
Surrey	665,535	690,000	24,465	3.7
Warwickshire	321,907	342,500	20,593	6.4
West Northamptonshire	226,389	251,900	25,511	11.3
West Sussex	458,952	490,200	31,248	6.8
Wiltshire	271,448	286,100	14,652	5.4
Worcestershire	328,976	336,200	7,224	2.2

Finally, we analyse the change in population aged 65+. Table 4 shows the number aged 65+ in county and CCN unitary members increased by 1.1m, some 62% of all population growth in this age group in England. This growth is disproportionate compared to the share of population for this age group (55%). Graph 10 shows that population growth in this age group within county and CCN unitary areas is significantly higher than all other areas of England, particularly compared to metropolitan and Inner London boroughs.

Table 10 - Local Authority Type, Ages 65+, 2011 and 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Unitary (Non CCN)	1,363,098	1,623,400	260,302	19.1
Met Boroughs	1,778,497	2,044,300	265,803	14.9
Inner London	260,733	291,700	30,967	11.9
Outer London	644,016	752,100	108,084	16.8
County & CCN Unitary	4,614,185	5,690,500	1,076,315	23.3
England	8,660,529	10,402,000	1,741,471	20.1

Graph 10 - % Change in Ages 65+, 2011 to 2021



Graph 11 - No. Change in Ages 65+, 2011 to 2021

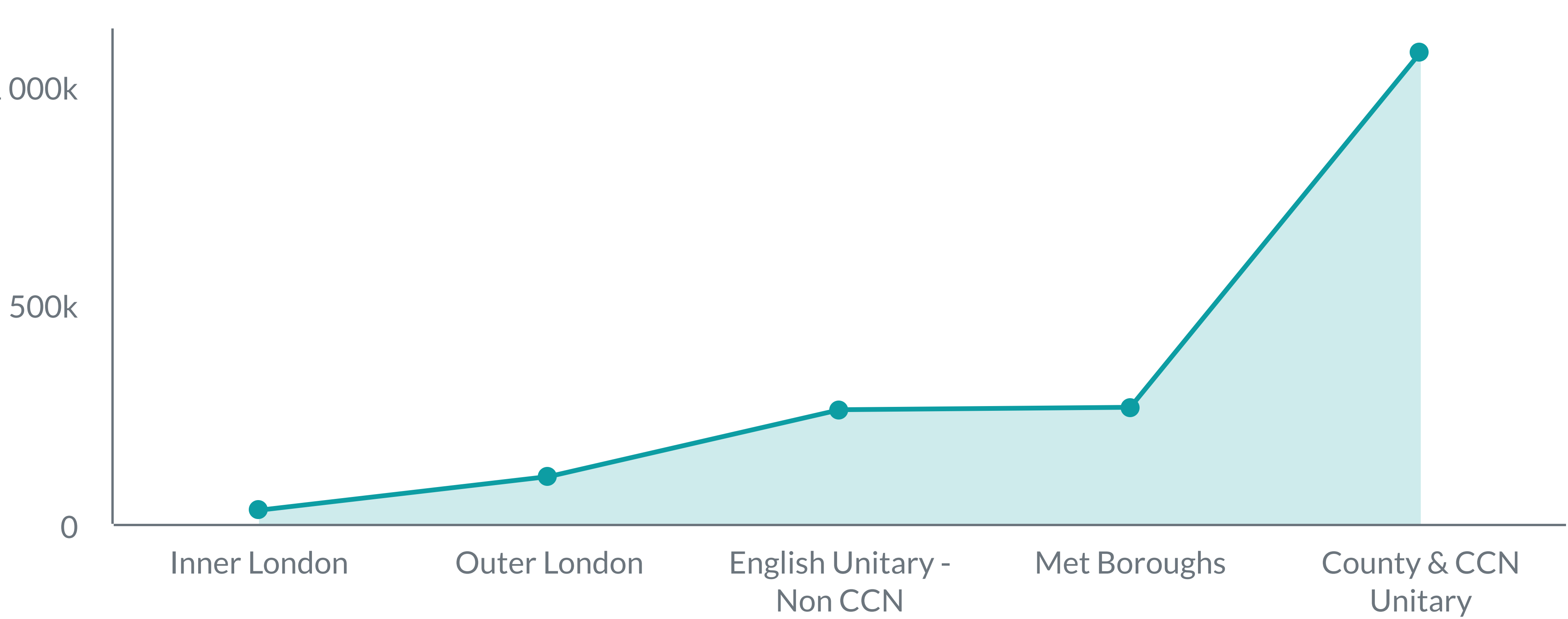


Table 11 shows the regional breakdown of county and CCN unitary councils. Every single county region has a growth in the over 65 population above the national average. The largest increases are in the South West followed by Yorkshire & Humber, the West Midlands, East Midlands and North East. The East of England, South East and North West have growth below the County and CCN unitary average, but still well above all other types of local authorities, particularly urban Inner London and metropolitan boroughs.

Table 11 - County & CCN Unitary by Region, Ages 65+, 2011 to 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
East of England	899,736	1,096,600	196,864	21.9
East Midlands	654,662	817,300	162,638	24.8
North East	155,649	192,900	37,251	23.9
North West	385,454	467,100	81,646	21.2
South East	1,174,375	1,427,800	253,425	21.6
South West	682,128	859,300	177,172	26.0
West Midlands	467,527	585,200	117,673	25.2
Yorkshire & Humber	194,654	244,300	49,646	25.5

Graph 12 - County & CCN Unitary by Region, % Change in Ages 65+, 2011 to 2021



Table 12 below shows the change in population for all individual county and CCN unitary authorities. Some 33 of the 37 areas have witnessed population growth in the over 65s above the national average. Of the 50 upper-tier authorities in England with the largest population growth in percentage terms, some 26 are county and CCN unitary authorities, with none of these authorities in the bottom 50 local authority areas.

Table 12 - County & CCN Unitary, Ages 65+, 2011 and 2021

Council	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Buckinghamshire	84,151	103,700	19,549	23.2
Cambridgeshire	100,229	126,500	26,271	26.2
Central Bedfordshire	39,889	52,900	13,011	32.6
Cheshire East	71,372	89,200	17,828	25.0
Cornwall	115,241	144,200	28,959	25.1
Cumbria	102,889	121,600	18,711	18.2
Derbyshire	142,891	175,600	32,709	22.9
Devon	168,426	209,400	40,974	24.3
Dorset	89,958	112,300	22,342	24.8
Durham	92,345	111,300	18,955	20.5
East Riding of Yorkshire	71,455	90,500	19,045	26.7
East Sussex	119,763	142,500	22,737	19.0
Essex	255,433	309,900	54,467	21.3
Gloucestershire	111,355	139,900	28,545	25.6
Hampshire	243,372	304,100	60,728	25.0
Herefordshire	39,016	48,400	9,384	24.1
Hertfordshire	173,915	204,300	30,385	17.5
Kent	262,306	319,300	56,994	21.7
Lancashire	211,193	256,300	45,107	21.4
Leicestershire	115,437	148,100	32,663	28.3
Lincolnshire	147,851	180,100	32,249	21.8
Norfolk	185,231	223,900	38,669	20.9
North Northamptonshire	50,245	65,500	15,255	30.4
North Yorkshire	123,199	153,800	30,601	24.8
Northumberland	63,304	81,600	18,296	28.9
Nottinghamshire	142,447	175,300	32,853	23.1
Oxfordshire	103,742	129,800	26,058	25.1
Shropshire	63,299	82,000	18,701	29.5
Somerset	111,660	141,900	30,240	27.1
Staffordshire	156,854	194,100	37,246	23.7
Suffolk	145,039	179,100	34,061	23.5
Surrey	194,466	227,100	32,634	16.8
Warwickshire	99,271	122,700	23,429	23.6
West Northamptonshire	55,791	72,700	16,909	30.3
West Sussex	166,575	201,300	34,725	20.8
Wiltshire	85,488	111,600	26,112	30.5
Worcestershire	109,087	138,000	28,913	26.5

Table 13 and 14 provides the breakdown of those aged 85+. Again, this shows that county and CCN unitary councils have a witnessed significantly higher growth compared to the national average and all other types of local authorities, including across all county regions. County and CCN unitary councils account for 63% of all growth amongst this age group, compared to a population share of 55%.

Table 13 - Local Authority Type, Ages 85+, 2011 and 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Unitary (Non CCN)	189,477	213,300	23,823	12.6
Met Boroughs	228,681	260,300	31,619	13.8
Inner London	33,358	34,900	1,542	4.6
Outer London	89,672	102,500	12,828	14.3
County & CCN Unitary	638,940	760,100	121,160	19.0
England	1,180,128	1,371,100	190,972	16.2

Table 14 - County & CCN Unitary by Region, Ages 85+, 2011 and 2021

LA Type	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
East of England	125,388	150,400	25,012	19.9
East Midlands	84,773	100,600	15,827	18.7
North East	18,747	22,400	3,653	19.5
North West	50,415	59,100	8,685	17.2
South East	173,452	204,400	30,948	17.8
South West	99,797	117,200	17,403	17.4
West Midlands	60,560	74,600	14,040	23.2
Yorkshire & Humber	25,808	31,400	5,592	21.7

Graph 13 - % Change in Ages 85+, 2011 to 2021



Table 15 - County & CCN Unitary, Ages 85+, 2011 and 2021

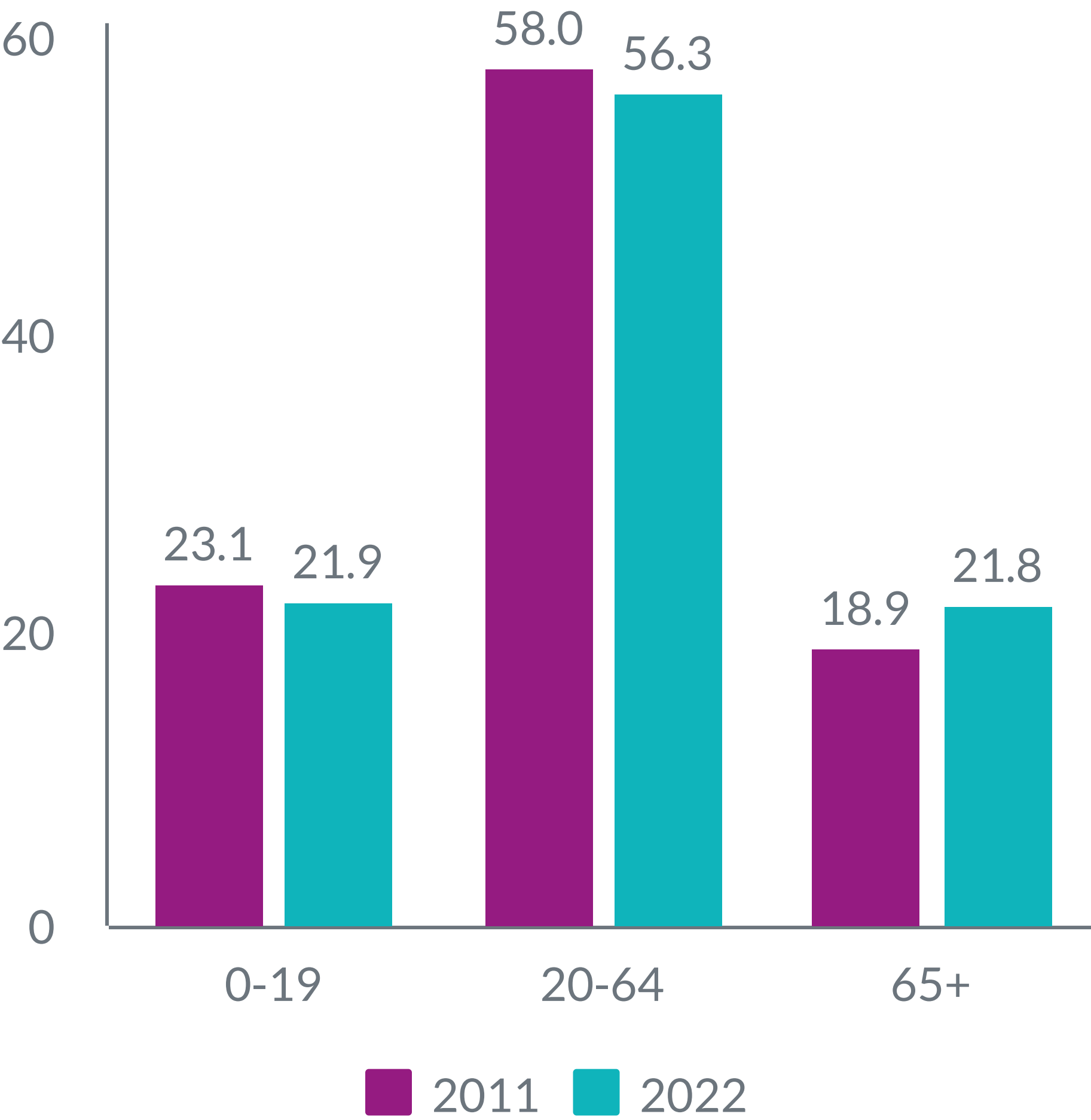
Council	2011	2021	No. -/+	% -/+
Buckinghamshire	11,212	14,700	3,488	31.1
Cambridgeshire	13,873	16,600	2,727	19.7
Central Bedfordshire	4,712	6,300	1,588	33.7
Cheshire East	9,688	12,000	2,312	23.9
Cornwall	15,728	18,200	2,472	15.7
Cumbria	13,278	15,300	2,022	15.2
Derbyshire	18,627	20,900	2,273	12.2
Devon	25,760	29,200	3,440	13.4
Dorset	13,569	16,200	2,631	19.4
Durham	10,827	12,800	1,973	18.2
East Riding of Yorkshire	9,019	11,400	2,381	26.4
East Sussex	19,866	20,800	934	4.7
Essex	35,184	41,800	6,616	18.8
Gloucestershire	16,169	19,000	2,831	17.5
Hampshire	34,236	42,900	8,664	25.3
Herefordshire	5,324	6,500	1,176	22.1
Hertfordshire	25,077	30,400	5,323	21.2
Kent	36,841	42,000	5,159	14.0
Lancashire	27,449	31,800	4,351	15.9
Leicestershire	15,210	18,800	3,590	23.6
Lincolnshire	18,811	22,300	3,489	18.5
Norfolk	25,814	30,800	4,986	19.3
North Northamptonshire	6,537	7,700	1,163	17.8
North Yorkshire	16,789	20,000	3,211	19.1
Northumberland	7,920	9,600	1,680	21.2
Nottinghamshire	18,153	22,100	3,947	21.7
Oxfordshire	14,683	18,300	3,617	24.6
Shropshire	8,407	10,800	2,393	28.5
Somerset	16,609	19,400	2,791	16.8
Staffordshire	18,787	23,500	4,713	25.1
Suffolk	20,728	24,500	3,772	18.2
Surrey	30,043	35,500	5,457	18.2
Warwickshire	13,157	16,100	2,943	22.4
West Northamptonshire	7,435	8,800	1,365	18.4
West Sussex	26,571	30,200	3,629	13.7
Wiltshire	11,962	15,200	3,238	27.1
Worcestershire	14,885	17,700	2,815	18.9

The population changes across the three main age groups analysed above will continue to change the demographic profile of England. While all parts of the country have witnessed a well-documented trend towards an ageing population, the shift in county and CCN unitary authorities is more stark over the last decade, with our analysis demonstrating that county and rural areas remain a significant outlier in the severity of the change, with important implications for the funding and delivery of public service in these areas.

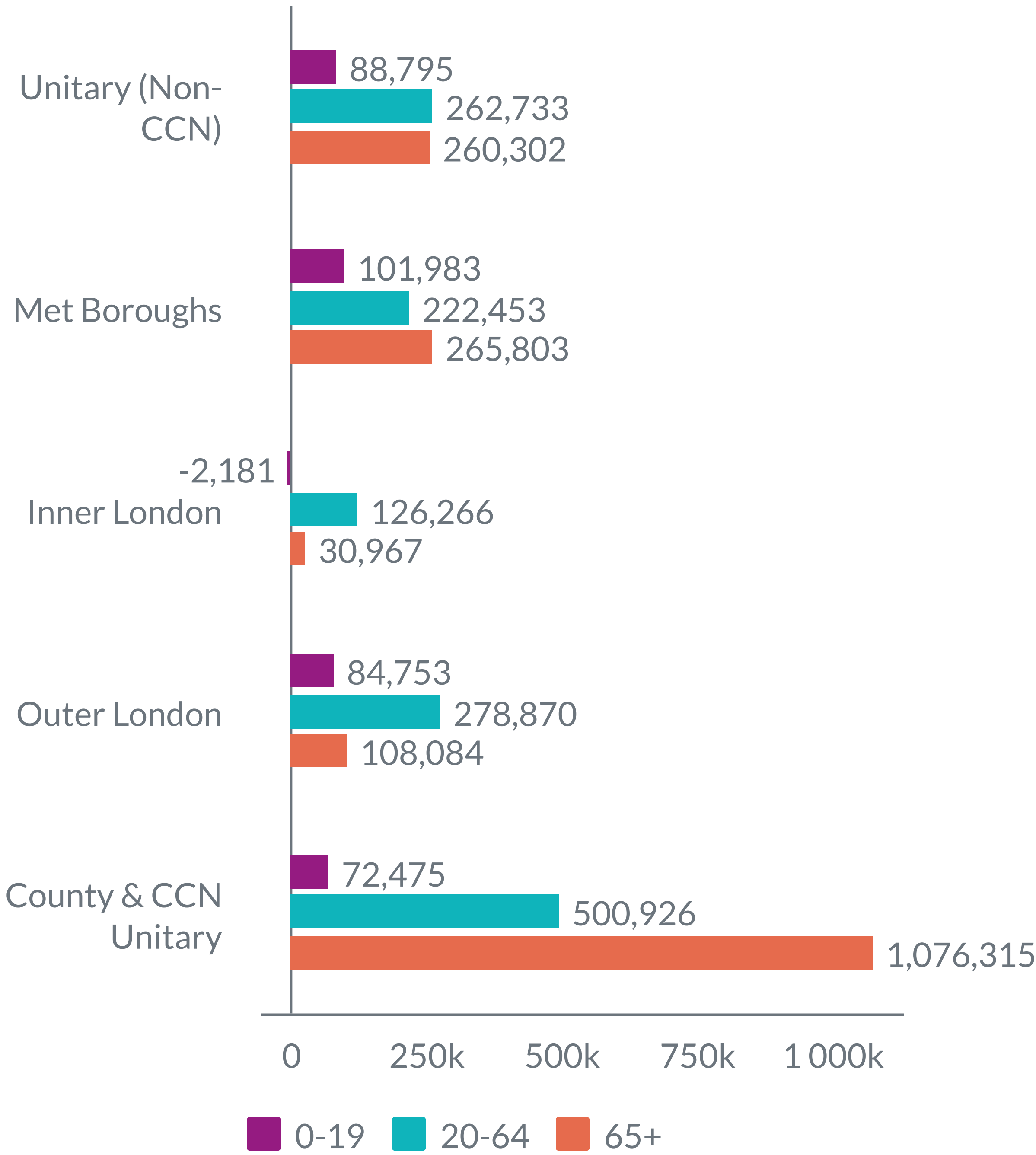
Graph 14 shows the numerical change in the different population groups analysed in this report. The increase in the number of over 65s is almost double the combined total increase of the 0-19 and 20-64 age groups. This is in contrast to all other parts of the country, where the combined increases in the 0-19 and 20-64 age groups is between 20% to 43% higher than the increase in over 65s.

Graphs 15 and 16 shows that, as a result of significantly lower growth in the 0-19 and working age 20-64 demographics, county and CCN unitary authorities now have almost precisely the same number and share of population aged 65 and over as those aged 0-19. Graph 17 shows the impact on the changes across different local authority types, with County & CCN unitary councils seeing a 2.9% shift in its demographic profile towards those aged 65 and over; double the rate of metropolitan boroughs, and four times higher than London.

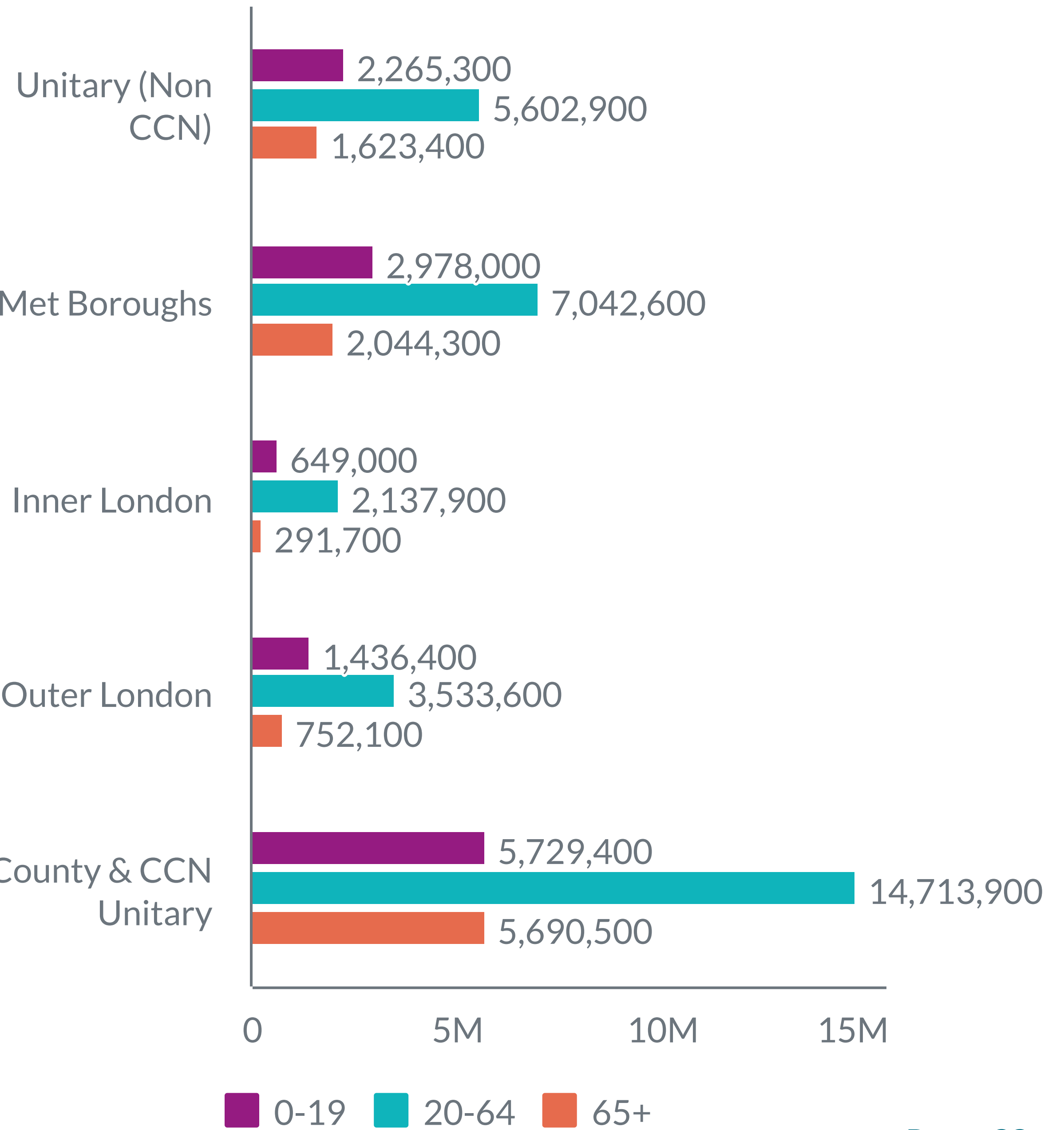
Graph 15 - % Demographic Profile, County & CCN Unitary, 2011 and 2021



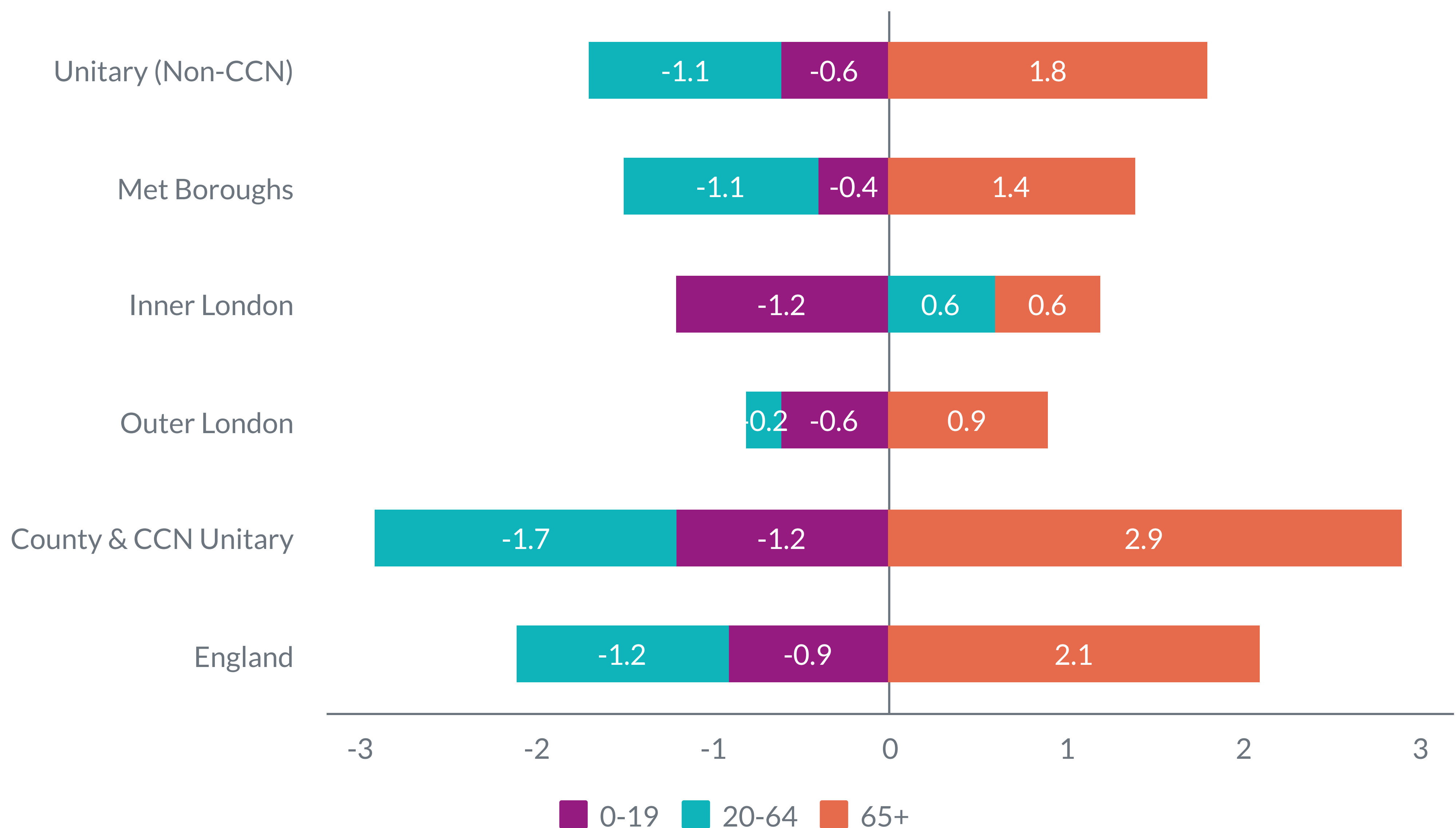
Graph 14 - Local Authority Types, No. Change in Demographic Profile, 2011 to 2021



Graph 16 - Local Authority Types, No. Demographic Profile, 2021

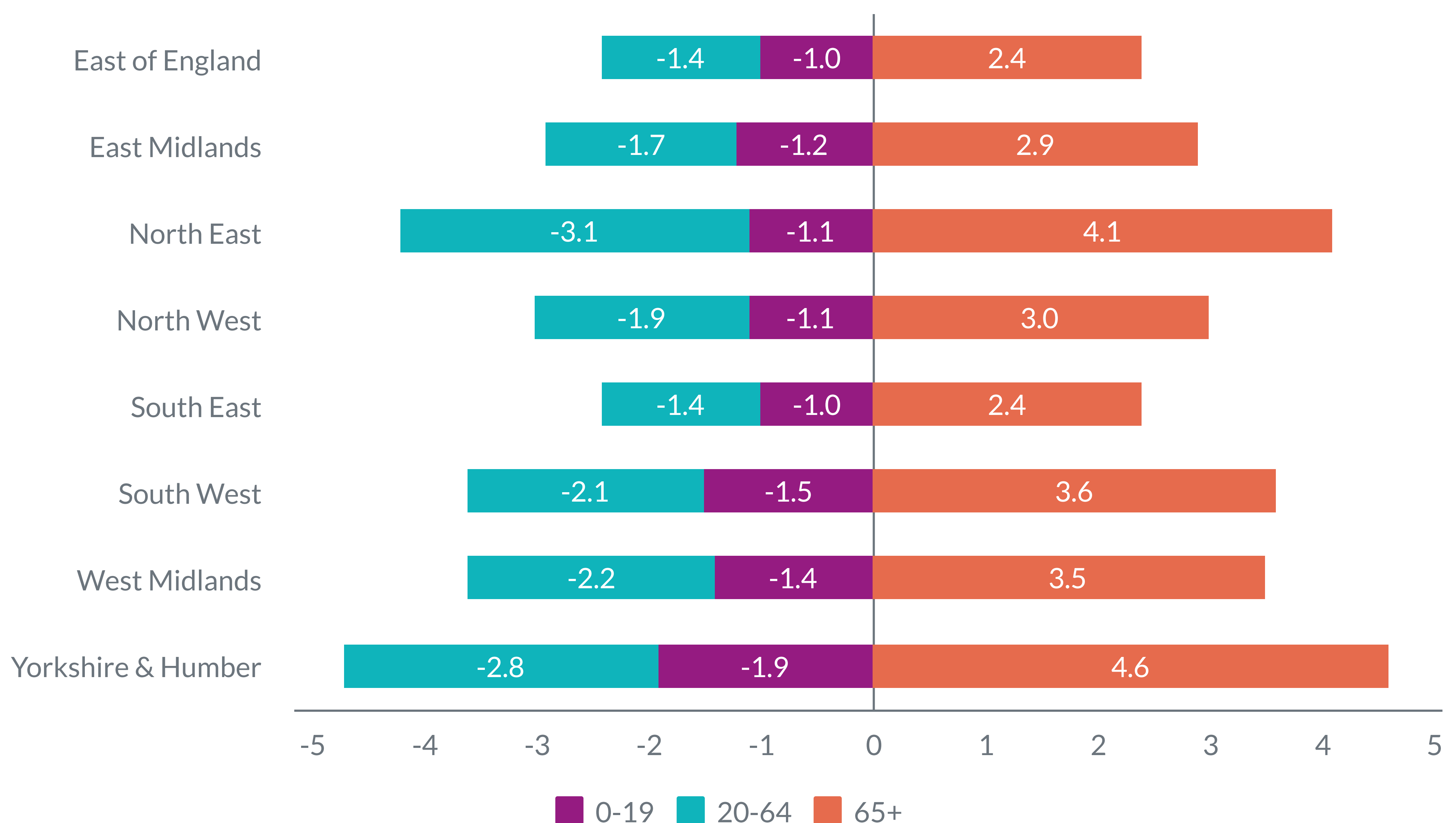


Graph 17 - % Change in Demographic Profile, Local Authority Types, 2011 to 2021

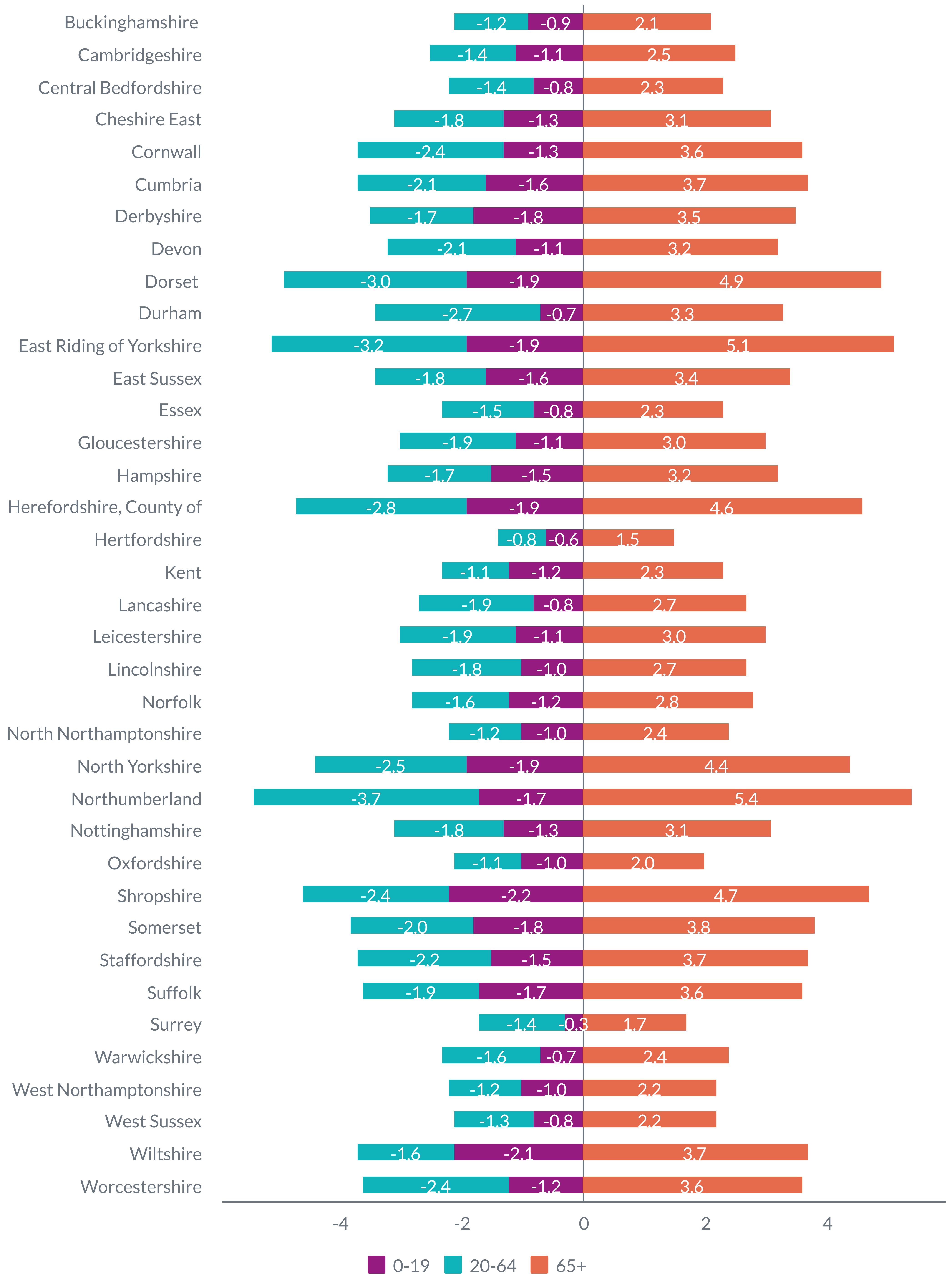


At both a local and regional level, there is a variation between county and CCN unitary councils, but the overall trends remain in line with the local authority type analysis. Regionally, all county areas have a demographic shift towards those aged 65 and over that is higher than the national average and significantly larger than cities and towns in London and metropolitan boroughs. Graph 19 shows that 33 of the 37 County and CCN Unitary councils have above national average demographic shifts towards those aged 65 and over.

Graph 18 - % Change in Demographic Profile, County & CCN Unitary by Region, 2011 to 2021



Graph 19 - County & CCN Unitary, % Change in Demographic Profile, 2011 to 2021



1. Grant Thornton: Place-Based Recovery <http://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/download/3114/>
2. CCN. The Future of Strategic Planning in England <http://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/download/4003/>
3. CCN Press release; Cost of living crisis: councils face winter of 'difficult decisions' as spiralling inflation adds £1.5bn to costs <https://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/cost-of-living-crisis-councils-face-winter-of-difficult-decisions-as-spiralling-inflation-adds-1-5bn-to-costs/>
4. CCN Press release; Roads maintenance funding allocations confirmed for 2022/23: CCN response <https://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/roads-maintenance-funding-allocations-confirmed-for-2022-23-ccn-response/>
5. Pixel analysis for CCN. Includes all core funding in 2022/23, excluding council tax.
6. Pixel modelled the effect of a possible new adult social care formula based on the proposals from the Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU), proposed as part of 2015 Care Act reforms and expected to be introduced as part of the review of relative needs and resources. The £440m increase in funding for CCN member councils represents the difference between distributing all current core adult social care funding and social care grants via this formula compared to the adult social care relative needs formula.
7. Newton - Preparing for Adult Social Care Reform <http://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/download/4278/>



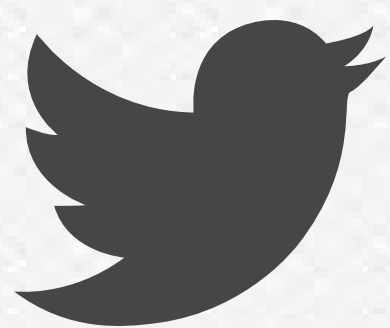
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In total, the 23 county councils and 13 unitary councils that make up the CCN represent 26 million residents, account for 39% of England's GVA, and deliver high-quality services that matter the most to local communities

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