Super Output Areas

The data forming the 2011 Area Classification for Super Output Areas are available in two files:

* [2011 Census data (53.4Mb ZIP)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/file?uri=/methodology/geography/geographicalproducts/areaclassifications/2011areaclassifications/datasets/2011censusdata.zip)
* [Cluster membership (XLS, 14.2 Mb)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/file?uri=/methodology/geography/geographicalproducts/areaclassifications/2011areaclassifications/datasets/clustermembershipv2.082018.xls)
* [Radial plots for the 2011 Area Classification for Super Output Areas](https://www.ons.gov.uk/file?uri=/methodology/geography/geographicalproducts/areaclassifications/2011areaclassifications/penportraitsandradialplots/radialplots.pdf) (4.1 MB pdf)

### Super Output Areas

### Pen portraits for the 2011 Area Classification for Super Output Areas

#### Introduction

The following pen portraits describe the clusters that make up the 2011 Area Classification for Super Output Areas, providing an informal view of the characteristics of each cluster. The classification is a hierarchical classification and for this classification consists of two tiers of supergroups and groups, based on 42,619 small areas, collectively referred to as Super Output Areas (SOAs), based on these country-specific small area geographies as defined for 2011 Census outputs:

* Lower Layer Super Output Areas in England and Wales (34,753)
* Data Zones in Scotland (6,976)
* Super Output Areas in Northern Ireland (890)

Unlike other area classifications updated following the 2011 Census, a third tier of the classification (for subgroups) has not been produced as it is not apparent that there is a user demand for these. However, if there was a strong user requirement for a third tier (for subgroups) then this decision will be reviewed. The labels used for the supergroups and groups and the descriptions of them are intended to be illustrative of the characteristics of areas in terms of their demographic structure, household composition, housing, socio-economic characteristics or employment patterns. In reality, within each SOA there will be variability with these characteristics.

These pen portraits complement the separately published radial plots, which display the 60 2011 Census statistics used to derive the classification. Radial plots are presented for each of the supergroups and groups that comprise the classification; each data point on a radial plot displays the value for each of the standardised and transformed 2011 Census variables used.

Also published are maps, which allow for the identification of the geographical coverage of the SOAs, which comprise individual supergroups and groups.

#### Supergroups

There are eight supergroups forming the upper tier of the hierarchy, denoted by a number (n) before their name in the following descriptions. These provide the most generic descriptions of the population in the UK. Descriptions for supergroups that discuss the average are referring to the “average” characteristics for the UK. If not explicitly stated, comparisons (for example, higher or lower) are made with the UK.

#### Groups

The lower tier is the group level, of which there are 24, each denoted by a number and letter (nx) in the descriptions. These provide a further description of an area’s characteristics, in addition to and comparison with the parent supergroup characteristics. As the classification is a top-down classification, any group that starts with the same n as a supergroup will have been derived from that supergroup only. The supergroups contain one to five groups each. Descriptions for groups that refer to the average are referring to the “average” of the parent supergroup and not the national average. If not explicitly stated, comparisons (for example, higher or lower) are made with the parent supergroup.

#### Names and descriptions

The names and descriptions for the eight supergroups and 24 groups with the classification are meant to provide greater insight than just examining the statistical outputs of cluster analysis alone. While they may not necessarily reflect the characteristics of the entire population, they are intended to represent the general characteristics of the SOAs assigned to specific clusters. It is not intended that the names for the supergroups and groups are mutually exclusive, so, for example, the label attributed to a particular group to reflect the SOAs within that group, could in some cases also be applicable to SOAs within a different group.

#### Glossary

With the pen portraits descriptions, there are a number of phrases and terms used that require a fuller description.

Old EU countries – refers to the 15 pre-2004 accession countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Irish Republic, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

New EU countries – refers to the 10 accession countries who joined the EU in 2004: Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the two countries who joined in 2007 – Bulgaria and Romania.

Industries – based on aggregations of industries from the Standard Industrial Classification 2007: SIC 2007, include:

* agriculture, forestry and fishing
* mining, quarrying or construction industries
* manufacturing industry
* energy, water or air conditioning supply industries
* wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles industries
* transport or storage industries
* accommodation or food service activities industries
* information and communication or professional, scientific and technical activities industries
* financial, insurance or real estate industries
* administrative or support service activities industries
* public administration or defence; compulsory social security industries
* education sector
* human health and social work activities industries

For ease of readability, the supergroup and group descriptions frequently abbreviate the previously mentioned descriptions, for example, referring to financial-related industries, rather than using the full description. Overcrowding – as measured by the percentage of households who have one fewer or less rooms than required. Qualifications – refers to different past and present qualifications, including:

* level 1, examples include GCSEs (grades D to G) and diplomas (City and Guilds, BTEC)
* level 2, examples include GCSEs (grades A\* to C) and O Levels (grades A to C)
* level 3, examples include A Levels (grades A to E) and AS Levels
* level 4 and above, examples include Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and degrees

UK population – 2011 Census usually resident population (UK total equals 63,182,178).

Population density – persons per hectare, derived from 2011 Census area and population figures; UK population density equals 2.6 persons per hectare.

Median age – derived from 2011 Census (UK median age equals 39 years).

Unemployment percentage – derived from total population aged 16 to 74 years who were recorded as unemployed in the 2011 Census (UK unemployment level equals 4.4%).

### Supergroup and group descriptions

#### 1 – Cosmopolitan student neighbourhoods

1,704 SOAs – 4.1% of UK population, population density 38.2, median age 26 years, unemployment 3.7%

The population of this supergroup typically live in cities and major towns across the UK containing universities, and because of this, there is a large student population, characterised by a relatively large proportion of households with full-time students (8.5%).

Residents are much more likely to live in communal establishments – such as university halls of residences and flats. Residents are also more likely than nationally to live in private or social rented accommodation (applies to 62.0% of all households). There is a much younger age structure than nationally, with a median age of 26 years – the lowest of any of the eight supergroups. The supergroup has an above average ethnic mix and below average proportion of residents UK and Irish born.

Qualification levels are higher than nationally, and for those in employment, a higher proportion use public transport or walk and cycle to get to work (over half of all employed residents).

Employed residents aged 16 to 74 years are more likely to work in the accommodation or food service activities industries (11.0% of employed residents, the highest percentage for any supergroup) and to work part-time (31.5% of employed residents, the highest percentage for any supergroup).

#### 1a – Cosmopolitan student neighbourhoods

1,704 SOAs – 4.1% of UK population, population density 38.2, median age 26 years, unemployment 3.7%

The group and parent group are the same in terms of SOA representation. The description for the cosmopolitan student neighbourhoods supergroup therefore also applies for this group, which bears the same name as the parent supergroup.

#### 2 – Countryside living

5,620 SOAs – 13.5% of UK population, population density 0.4, median age 46 years, unemployment 2.6%

The population of this supergroup live in rural areas across the whole of the UK, the SOAs covered by this supergroup cover 87% of the total UK land area.

Residents are much more likely to live in detached housing (57.1% of households – the highest percentage for any supergroup) and to own their own property. The supergroup has a below average ethnic mix and above average proportion of UK and Irish born residents. Residents are far more likely to be represented in older age groups than nationally. The median age of 46 years is the highest of all the supergroups. Rates of divorce or separation are lower than nationally and the proportion of persons aged 16 years and over with higher qualifications is above the national average.

Unemployment rates are below the national average, whilst employed residents are noticeably more likely to work in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries. Households are more likely to own two or more cars or vans and to use private transport to get to work.

#### 2a – Ageing rural neighbourhoods

1,189 SOAs – 3.0% of UK population, population density 0.6, median age 47 years, unemployment 2.3%

Residents within this group cluster have the highest joint-median age (47 years) of all the 24 groups and compared with the parent supergroup, there is a noticeably higher proportion of residents living in a communal establishment and an observably higher proportion aged 90 years and over. A higher proportion of residents have mixed ethnicity or are from multiple ethnic groups.

Households are more likely to live in a terraced property or a flat (though for these two housing types combined, less than one-quarter of all households do so) and to privately rent than for the parent supergroup, though most households live in a detached property (55.2%). Employed residents are also marginally more likely to use public transport, cycle or walk to work and to work in the accommodation or food service activities industries than for the parent supergroup.

#### 2b – Prospering countryside life

1,525 SOAs – 3.8% of UK population, population density 0.7, median age 46 years, unemployment 2.2%

Compared with the parent supergroup, a higher proportion of residents have mixed ethnicity or are from multiple ethnic groups. Residents are also more likely to have a higher level of qualifications. Nearly four-fifths of households own or have shared ownership of their property. Car ownership is also slightly higher than for the parent supergroup – with 57.7% of households having access to two or more cars, which is the highest percentage for any of the 24 groups.

Workers are more likely to use public transport to travel to work than for the parent supergroup and are also more likely to be employed in the information and communication or professional, scientific and technical activities industries and financial-related industries.

#### 2c – Remoter communities

1,622 SOAs – 3.6% of UK population, population density 0.2, median age 46 years, unemployment 2.7%

The population of this group live in remoter parts of the UK, though covering half of the total UK land area. This group has the lowest population density of any of the 24 groups (0.2 persons per hectare). Residents are more likely than the parent supergroup to live in a detached property (69.4% of all households do so – the highest percentage for any group). Residents are also marginally more likely to be privately renting, though households owning their own property or have shared ownership is far more prevalent – 77.5% of households.

An observably higher proportion of workers are employed in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries than with the parent supergroup (the highest for any group at 8.9% of all employed residents aged 16 to 74 years), there is also a higher prevalence of working in the mining, quarrying or construction industries (the highest for any group at 10.2% of all employed residents aged 16 to 74 years).

#### 2d – Rural traits

1,284 SOAs – 3.1% of UK population, population density 0.8, median age 45 years, unemployment 3.3%

Of the four groups within the parent supergroup countryside living, the rural traits group has the lowest median age (45 years) though this is above the UK median age (39 years).

Residents are more likely to live in a semi-detached, terraced property, or flat than the parent supergroup and to live in socially-rented accommodation, though owned or shared ownership of a property is also relatively high (74.6% of all households).

Workers are also marginally more likely to walk, cycle or use an alternative method to get to work and to be employed in the energy, water or air conditioning supply industries than for the parent supergroup.

#### 3 – Ethnically diverse professionals

5,568 SOAs – 13.9% of UK population, population density 18.8, median age 38 years, unemployment 3.6%

The population of this supergroup typically live largely within cities, fringes of cities or in other urban areas across the UK.

Residents are more likely to live in a flat (a quarter of all households do so). The supergroup has an above average ethnic mix and slightly below average proportion of UK and Irish born residents. Residents are more likely to be represented in the younger age groups than nationally. Rates of divorce or separation are marginally lower than nationally and the proportion of persons aged 16 years and over with higher qualifications is above the national average.

Unemployment rates are below the national average, and for employed residents, they are more likely to work in the information and communication industries and financial-related industries than nationally, to work full-time, and are more likely to travel to work using public transport, though households owning two or more cars are also more prevalent than nationally.

#### 3a – Achieving neighbourhoods

1,266 SOAs – 3.2% of UK population, population density 12.7, median age 36 years, unemployment 3.0%

This group is the least densely populated of the four groups comprising the ethnically-diverse professionals supergroup and with a lower median age (36 years) than for the parent supergroup (38 years).

Residents are slightly more likely to be born in the UK or Ireland and to live in a terraced property than the parent supergroup and households are more likely to own or have shared ownership of their property (74.4% of all households). Workers are more likely than the parent supergroup to use private transport to get to work and to work in the public administration or defence; compulsory social security industries.

#### 3b – Asian traits

1,096 SOAs – 2.7% of UK population, population density 22.7, median age 40 years, unemployment 3.4%

This group has a higher median age (40 years) than for the parent supergroup (38 years). There is also an observably higher proportion of residents from the Indian and Pakistani ethnic groups and a higher proportion of residents whose main language is not English and cannot speak English well or at all. Households are more likely to live in a detached property (25.9% of all households) or a semi-detached property (47.6% of households) and to have two or more cars (40.7% of households).

Workers are more likely to use public transport to travel to work and to work in the education sector than the parent supergroup.

#### 3c – Highly-qualified professionals

1,380 SOAs – 3.4% of UK population, population density 15.7, median age 40 years, unemployment 3.0%

Compared with the supergroup, there is an observably higher proportion of persons aged 90 years and over. Residents are marginally more likely to live in a detached property, but also markedly more likely to live in a flat (41.2% of households) than for the supergroup. Households are more likely to privately rent their accommodation than the parent supergroup. Of the four groups within the ethnically diverse professionals supergroup, adults within this group have the highest qualification levels.

Residents in employment are more likely to work within the information-related industries (16.9% of all workers aged 16 to 74 years).

#### 3d – Households in terraces and flats

1,826 SOAs – 4.6% of UK population, population density 30.3, median age 36 years, unemployment 4.5%

This group has the highest population density (30.3 persons per hectare) of all the four groups within the parent supergroup.

Compared with the parent supergroup, the groups have a higher proportion of persons whose ethnic group is recorded as Black, African, Caribbean or Black British. Residents are also much more likely to live in a terraced property (over one-third of all households) and marginally more likely to live in a flat (as do a quarter of all households) and to live in socially-rented accommodation.

Unemployment is higher for this group than for the other three groups within the parent supergroup, whilst those in employment are more likely to work in the transport or storage industries.

#### 4 – Hard-pressed communities

7,217 SOAs – 15.0% of UK population, population density 29.2, median age 36 years, unemployment 7.5%

The population of this supergroup typically live largely in either current or former industrial areas, in cities and larger towns across the UK.

Residents are much more likely to live in a terraced property or a flat (over two-thirds of all households) and to live in social rented accommodation. The supergroup has a below average ethnic mix and an above average of UK and Irish born residents. Residents are more likely to be represented in younger age groups than nationally. Rates of divorce or separation are higher than nationally, and the proportion of persons aged 16 years and over with higher qualifications is below the national average.

Unemployment rates are observably higher than the national average – at 7.5% the highest for any supergroup. Employed residents are more likely to work in the transport or storage industries and administrative or support services industries and marginally more likely to work part-time than nationally and to travel to work using public transport.

#### 4a – Challenged White communities

2,881 SOAs – 5.7% of UK population, population density 26.3, median age 38 years, unemployment 7.5%

Of the four groups within the supergroup, this group has the lowest population density (26.3 persons per hectare). Residents belonging to this group are more likely to have been born in the UK or Ireland than for the parent supergroup. Households are also more likely to live in a semi-detached property (36.8% of all households) or terraced property (41.5% of all households).

Households are also marginally more likely to own or have shared ownership of a property and to live in socially-rented accommodation (41.4% of households).

For residents in employment, they are marginally more likely than the parent supergroup to use private transport to get to work and more likely to work in the energy, water or air conditioning supply industries than the parent supergroup.

#### 4b – Constrained renters

1,361 SOAs – 3.2% of UK population, population density 27.2, median age 36 years, unemployment 7.0%

Compared with the parent supergroup, residents are more likely to be living in a communal establishment and more likely to be in privately-rented accommodation (over a quarter of all households) and to be living in a terraced property (47.2% of households, the highest percentage for any of the 24 groups).

Workers are more likely to work full-time and to work in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries.

#### 4c – Hampered neighbourhoods

1,931 SOAs – 4.8% of UK population, population density 33.4, median age 35 years, unemployment 7.4%

Of the four groups within the parent supergroup, this group has the lowest median age (35 years), with higher proportions of residents in the 0 to 4 years and 5 to 14 years age groups. A noticeably higher proportion of residents have mixed ethnicity or are from multiple ethnic groups. All non-White ethnic groups have a higher representation than for the supergroup.

Compared with the parent supergroup, households are more likely to live in a semi-detached property (over one-third of all households) – though households who live in a terraced property are slightly more prevalent and households are also more likely to be socially renting (42.7% of households). Workers are more likely to use public transport to get to work and to work in the education sector.

#### 4d – Hard-pressed flat dwellers

1,044 SOAs – 1.4% of UK population, population density 36.8, median age 39 years, unemployment 8.6%

Of the groups within the parent supergroup, this group has the highest median age (39 years), the same as the UK median age and has the highest population density (36.8 persons per hectare) and lowest proportion of land area. As implied by the name for this group, there is a noticeably higher proportion of households who live in a flat (70.8% of all households) than for the parent supergroup, and social renting is also more prevalent (a half of all households socially-rented – the highest for any of the 24 groups).

Unemployment is also higher than for the parent supergroup (at 8.6% of all residents aged 16 to 74 years, this was the highest level out of all the 24 groups) and workers are more likely to work in financial-related industries.

#### 5 – Industrious communities

9,134 SOAs – 20.6% of UK population, population density 10.3, median age 42 years, unemployment 4.1%

The population of this supergroup typically live largely in industrial areas across the UK and is the largest supergroup in terms of resident population – comprising one-fifth of the total UK population.

Residents are more likely to live in detached, semi-detached or terraced housing (89.2% of all households), and to live in social rented accommodation. The supergroup has a below-average ethnic mix and above-average number of UK and Irish born. Residents are more likely to be represented in the older age groups and the proportion of residents aged over 16 years with higher qualifications is below the national average.

Employed residents are more likely to work in the manufacturing industry and mining, quarrying or construction industries and are more likely to travel to work using private transport than nationally.

#### 5a – Ageing urban communities

1,655 SOAs – 3.9% of UK population, population density 11.2, median age 46 years, unemployment 3.7%

This group has the highest median age (46) of the five groups comprising the industrious communities supergroup (median age 42 years).

Compared with the supergroup, there is a noticeably higher proportion of residents who live in a communal establishment (nearly 5% of all residents) and a noticeably higher proportion of residents aged 90 years and over. Amongst households there is a higher proportion who live in a detached property and a higher proportion who live in a flat.

Educational qualifications are generally higher than the supergroup and for those in employment a higher proportion walk or cycle to work. There is also a higher prevalence of workers in the information and communication or professional-related activities.

#### 5b – Aspiring urban households

1,830 SOAs – 4.5% of UK population, population density 17.1, median age 39 years, unemployment 3.8%

This group has the lowest median age (39 years) of the five groups comprising the industrious communities supergroup (median age 42 years) and the highest population density (17.1 persons per hectare).

The proportion of persons of non-White ethnic group is generally higher than for the supergroup, whilst households are more likely to live in a terraced property (36.7% of all households) and to be privately renting.

Unemployment rates are below that for the supergroup, whilst for those in employment there was a marginally higher proportion of full-time workers and a higher proportion working in financial-related industries.

#### 5c – Comfortable neighbourhoods

2,218 SOAs – 4.5% of UK population, population density 12.1, median age 43 years, unemployment 3.8%

The characteristics of this group are very similar to the parent supergroup. There is though a higher proportion of households who live in a flat (covering one-fifth of all households) and who live in socially-rented accommodation (covering one-fifth of all households). Educational qualifications are higher than for the supergroup and workers are more likely to use public transport to get to work and to work in financial-related industries.

#### 5d – Endeavouring social renters

2,111 SOAs – 4.8% of UK population, population density 8.3, median age 41 years, unemployment 5.0%

The characteristics of this group are also very similar to the parent supergroup. There is though a higher proportion of households who live in a semi-detached property (covering nearly a half of all households) and who live in socially-rented accommodation (covering over a fifth of all households).

Unemployment is higher than for the supergroup and compared with the parent supergroup, workers are more likely to use public transport to get to work (though over three-quarters of workers in fact use private transport to get to work) and to work in the energy, water or air conditioning supply industries.

#### 5e – Primary sector workers

1,320 SOAs – 2.9% of UK population, population density 6.7, median age 42 years, unemployment 4.3%

This group has the lowest population density of the five groups within the supergroup. There is a higher prevalence of households living in a detached property (a quarter of all households) and living in a flat than with the parent supergroup. Households are also more likely to live in socially-rented accommodation.

Workers are more likely to walk or cycle to work and to work in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries, and the accommodation or food service activities industries.

#### 6 – Inner city cosmopolitan

2,194 SOAs – 5.9% of UK population, population density 93.9, median age 32 years, unemployment 5.5%

The population of this supergroup is very localised in its distribution, concentrated in Inner London, but also parts of Outer London, Birmingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester and Reading, plus small numbers of SOAs in other cities and major towns.

Areas covered by this supergroup are characterised as having a very high population density (average 93.9 persons per hectare), but covering just 0.2% of the UK land area. Residents are far more likely to live in a flat than nationally (79.2% of all households) and to live in private or socially-rented accommodation. The supergroup has a noticeably high ethnic mix, and below average number of UK and Irish born residents. Residents are far more likely to be represented in the 25 to 44 years age group than nationally and the proportion of persons aged 16 years and over with higher qualifications is above the national average.

Unemployment rates are higher than the national average and for employed residents, they are more likely to work in the information and communication industries (over one-fifth of all workers) and financial-related industries than nationally. Workers are also far more likely to work full-time and to use public transport to travel to work (57.8% of all workers – by far the highest for any supergroup).

#### 6a – Inner city cosmopolitan

2,194 SOAs – 5.9% of UK population, population density 93.9, median age 32 years, unemployment 5.5%

The group and parent group are the same in terms of SOA representation. The description for the inner city cosmopolitan supergroup therefore also applies for this group, which bears the same name as the parent supergroup.

#### 7 – Multicultural living

3,888 SOAs – 10.7% of UK population, population density 46.8, median age 31 years, unemployment 7.0%

The population of this supergroup are represented in the larger urban areas in the UK, except for Northern Ireland. The distribution of SOAs for this supergroup is noticeably localised.

Residents are more likely to live in terraced housing or flats (70.7% of all households) and to rent either privately or through social housing (half of all households). The supergroup has a noticeably high ethnic mix and below-average number of UK and Irish born.

Residents are far more likely to be represented in the 0 to 4 years and 5 to 14 years age group than nationally. Qualification levels are similar to national levels.

Unemployment rates are higher than the national average and employed residents are more likely to work in the transport or storage industries, to work part-time and to use public transport to travel to work (just under one-third of all workers).

#### 7a – Urban cultural mix

2,208 SOAs – 5.8% of UK population, population density 39.9, median age 32 years, unemployment 7.2%

This group has a higher proportion of persons who are White than with the parent group and higher proportion of persons born in the UK or Ireland. Households are more likely to live in a flat (over one-third of all households) and to live in socially-rented accommodation (one-third of all households).

Workers are more likely to work in the energy, water or air conditioning supply industries and human health and social work activities industries.

#### 7b – Young ethnic communities

1,680 SOAs – 4.8% of UK population, population density 59.3, median age 30 years, unemployment 6.7%

The population of this group have the second-lowest median age (30 years) of all the 24 groups. There is a higher proportion of persons for most of the non-White ethnic groups than with the parent supergroup. Households are more likely to live in a detached property (though just 8.1% of households do so) and to live in privately-rented accommodation (over a quarter of all households).

Qualifications levels are generally higher than with the parent supergroup, whilst workers are more likely to work part-time (one-third do so) and to work in the accommodation or food service activities industries.

#### 8 – Suburban living

7,294 SOAs – 16.3% of UK population, population density 10.8, median age 45 years, unemployment 2.5%

The population of this supergroup typically live largely in areas within or close proximity to larger urban areas across the UK.

Residents are much more likely to live in a detached property (46.5% of all households) and to own their own property (88.7% of all households). The supergroup has a below-average ethnic mix and a higher proportion of UK and Irish born residents than nationally. Residents are far more likely to be represented in older age groups than nationally and there is a relatively high median age of 45 years (compared with 39 years nationally). The proportion of persons aged 16 years and over with higher qualifications is above the national average, as is car ownership (nearly half of all households have two or more cars).

Unemployment rates are noticeably below the national average (at 2.5% the lowest for any supergroup) and for employed residents, they are more likely to work in financial-related industries,and to use private transport to travel to work (three-quarters of all workers used private transport – the highest percentage for any supergroup).

#### 8a – Affluent communities

2,019 SOAs – 4.5% of UK population, population density 8.8, median age 47 years, unemployment 2.2%

This group has the joint-highest median age (47 years) of all the groups and a higher proportion of persons living in communal establishments than with the parent supergroup, and aged 90 years or over.

There is a higher proportion of all non-White ethnic groups compared with the parent supergroup. Households are more likely to live in a detached property (over half of all households), more likely to live in a flat and marginally more likely to own or have shared ownership of a property. Workers are more likely to use public transport to get to work (though only 9.0% do so) and to work in the information and communication or professional-related industries.

#### 8b – Ageing suburbanites

2,968 SOAs – 6.6% of UK population, population density 12.0, median age 47 years, unemployment 2.5%

This group has the joint highest median age (47 years) of all the groups.

Compared with the parent supergroup, households are more likely to live in a semi-detached property (comprising a half of all households) and marginally more likely to own or have shared ownership of a property – this covers 89.9% of all households, the highest percentage for any of the 24 groups. Workers are marginally more likely to use private transport to get to work (and was the stated main method of transport for over three-quarters of all workers aged 16 to 74 years) and to work in the manufacturing industry.

#### 8c – Comfortable suburbia

2,307 SOAs – 5.2% of UK population, population density 11.6, median age 40 years, unemployment 2.6%

This group has the lowest median age (40 years) of the three groups within the supergroup and a slightly higher proportion of persons in all the non-White ethnic groups than for the parent supergroup. Households are more likely to live in a terraced property (though only 16.9% of households do so) and to either privately rent or live in social rented accommodation, though the large majority of households either own outright or have shared ownership of their property. Workers are more likely to work in the transport or storage industries.

[Radial plots (PDF, 4.1 MB)](https://publishing.onsdigital.co.uk/file?uri=/methodology/geography/geographicalproducts/areaclassifications/2011areaclassifications/penportraitsandradialplots/radialplots.pdf)