



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

Statistical Digest of Rural England

# Net additions to housing stock

This document is part of the larger compendium publication the [Statistical Digest of Rural England](#), a collection of rural statistics on a wide range of social and economic government policy areas.

The Statistical Digest of Rural England is an official statistics publication meaning these statistics have been produced to the high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

More information on the Official Statistics Code of Practice can be found on the [Code of Practice web pages](#).

These statistics allow comparisons between the different rural and urban area classifications. The Rural-Urban Classification is used to distinguish rural and urban areas. The Classification defines areas as rural if they fall outside of settlements with more than 10,000 resident population.

More information on the Rural-Urban Classification can be found on the [Rural-Urban Classification web pages](#).

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at:

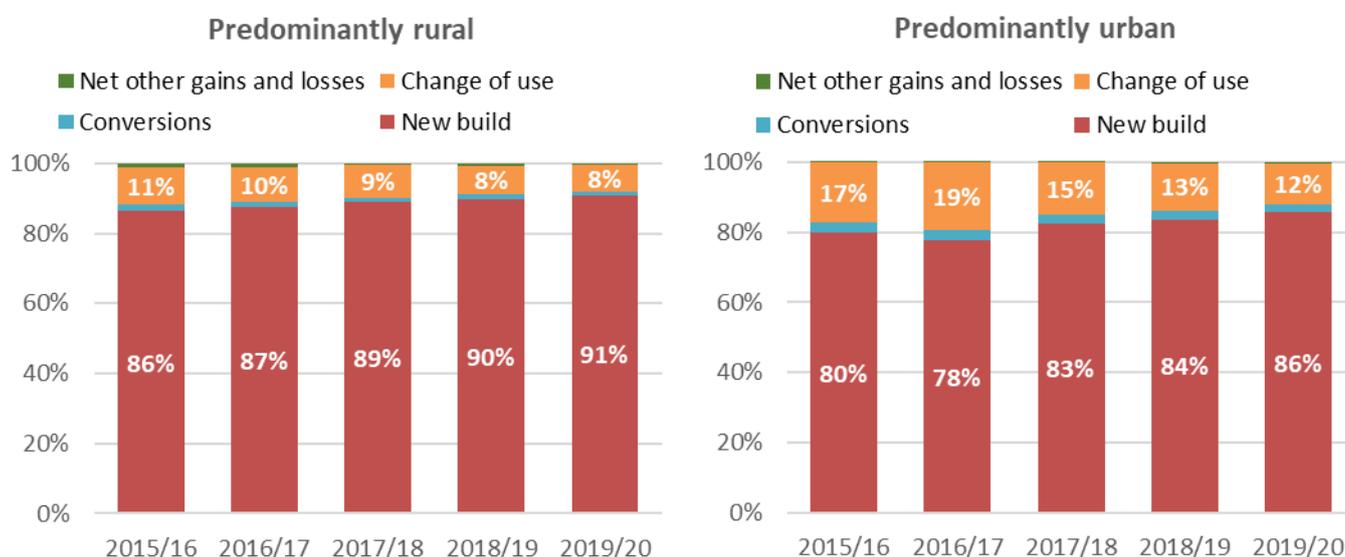
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## Net additions to housing stock

- The number of new dwellings arising from new builds, conversions and change of use are standardised with total household numbers, to allow for meaningful comparisons of the rate of additions to the housing stock between rural and urban areas.
- For 2019/20, in Predominantly Rural areas there were 62,600 net new dwellings, at an annual rate of 12.0 per 1,000 households. While in Predominantly Urban areas there were 147,200 net new dwellings, at a rate of 9.3 per 1,000 households.
- New-build dwelling completions accounted for 91 per cent of such net additions to the housing stock in Predominantly Rural areas in 2019/20, compared with 86 per cent in Predominantly Urban areas. A further 8 per cent of such net additions came from the change of use of buildings in Predominantly Rural areas, compared with 12 per cent of such net additions in Predominantly Urban areas.
- New-build dwelling completions per existing household occurred at a higher rate in Predominantly Rural areas than in Predominantly Urban areas. In 2019/20 there were 11.2 new-build dwelling completions per 1,000 households in Predominantly Rural areas, compared with 8.4 in Predominantly Urban areas.
- In 2019/20, the net number of dwellings arising from change of use in Predominantly Rural areas was 1.0 per 1,000 households and in Predominantly Urban areas it was 1.2 per 1,000 households.
- Tables showing net additions to the housing stock disaggregated by new builds, net conversions, net change of use, net other gains and losses, and demolitions, as totals and per 1,000 households rates, broken down by detailed local authority rural-urban classification (2012/13 to 2019/20) are available in the [rural living supplementary data tables](#).

### Proportion of net additions arising from new build, net conversions, and net change of use between 2015/16 and 2019/20 for Predominantly Rural and Predominantly Urban areas.



**Notes:** The net supply of housing statistics, also known as 'net additions', track changes in the size of dwelling stock due to: New builds (completions), conversions (e.g. a house converted to a number of flats), changes of use (e.g. a residential house to an office), demolitions, and other net gains and losses.

Source: [Table 123 of the Live tables on dwelling stock series \(Department for Communities and Local Government\)](#)