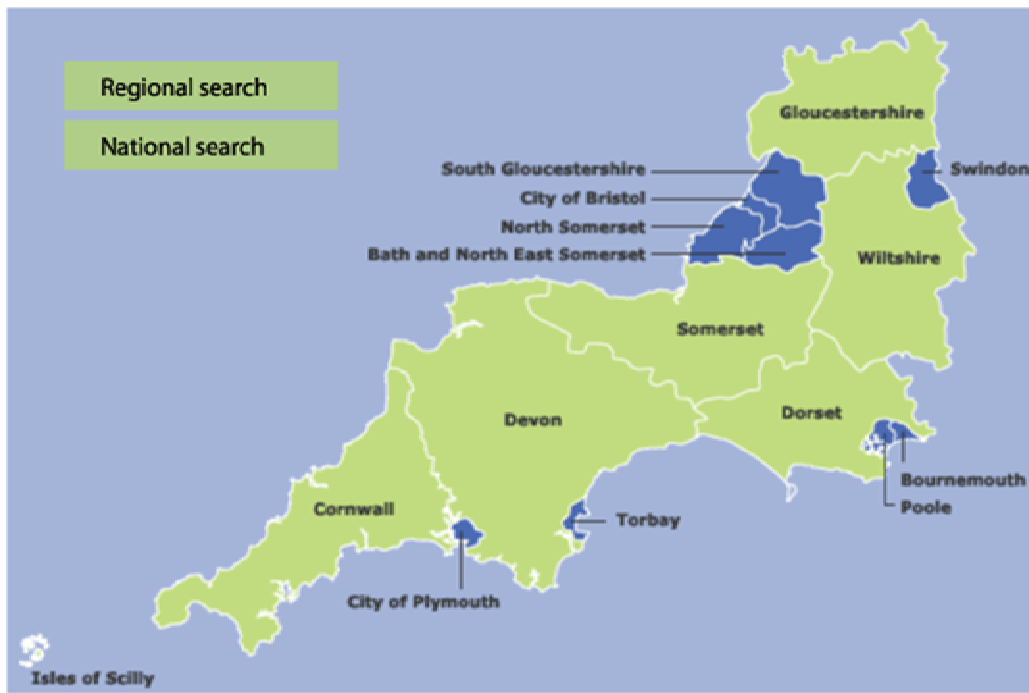


South West

South West England is the largest English region in terms of area, covering 9,200 square miles including Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. It has a population of almost five million. The size of the region is shown by the fact that the northern part of Gloucestershire, near Chipping Campden, is as close to the Scottish border as it is to the tip of Cornwall! The largest city is Bristol (420,000), and other major urban centres include Plymouth (240,000), Swindon (155,000), Torbay (129,000) Gloucester (123,000), Exeter (107,000), and the South East Dorset conurbation of Bournemouth & Poole (320,000).



Bus operators

- Cornwall – primarily First Devon & Cornwall and Western Greyhound, a local independent
- Plymouth – First Devon & Cornwall and Plymouth City Bus, a subsidiary of Go-Ahead for the last 6 months since purchase from the local authority for £20m
- Devon & Torbay – a mixture of First Devon & Cornwall and Stagecoach South West
- Somerset – primarily First Somerset & Avon and Stagecoach West
- Dorset - Wilts & Dorset (Go-Ahead)
- Bournemouth & Poole – Transdev yellow buses (ex municipal operator in Bournemouth) and Wilts & Dorset (Go-Ahead)
- Wiltshire & Swindon – Stagecoach West and Thamesdown Transport, the local municipal operator and Wilts & Dorset (Go-Ahead)
- Gloucestershire – Stagecoach West
- Bristol area unitaries – First Bristol and Wessex Connect are the primary operators

South East

South East England covers 7,373 square miles and includes the counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, East Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire, Surrey and West Sussex. The largest city in the region (by population) is Brighton and Hove, but the dominant influence on the region's economy is neighbouring London. The population of the region as of the 2001 census was 8 million, making it the most populous English region. The major conurbations of the region include Brighton/ Worthing / Littlehampton (population in 2001 461,000), Portsmouth (442,000), Reading (370,000) and Southampton (304,000) and Medway (254,000), Milton Keynes (193,000) and Oxford (154,000).



Bus operators

- Kent (including Medway) – Arriva towards the north / west of the county and Stagecoach East Kent towards the east. Kent County Council (through Kent Top Travel) also have a bus fleet
- East Sussex – Stagecoach East Sussex and Go-Ahead subsidiaries Metrobus and Brighton & Hove
- Brighton & Hove – almost entirely Brighton & Hove buses
- West Sussex – Go-Ahead subsidiary Metrobus and Stagecoach South
- Surrey – Arriva Guildford & West Surrey, Countryliner – a local independent,

- Hampshire, including Portsmouth & Southampton – First Hants & Dorset, Stagecoach in Hampshire and Go-Ahead subsidiary Bluestar (ex Southampton municipal operator)
- Isle of Wight – Southern Vectis (Go-Ahead)
- Berkshire – First in Berkshire
- Reading – primarily municipal operator Reading Transport
- Oxfordshire – Stagecoach in Oxfordshire and the Oxford Bus Company (Go Ahead)
- Buckinghamshire (including Milton Keynes) – Arriva Shires & Essex and Carousel buses, a local operator

East of England

The East of England region includes the counties of Essex, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. Essex has the highest population in the region. Its population as of the 2001 census was 5.4 million. Peterborough (164,000), Luton (186,000) and Southend-on-Sea (160,000) are the region's most populous urban areas. Other large conurbations include Thurrock (151,000) Norwich (136,000), Ipswich (122,000), Cambridge (130,000) and Colchester (104,000).



Bus Operators

- Essex (including Thurrock and Southend) – Arriva, Ensign Bus (a local independent), First East of England and Network Colchester (the former municipal operator)
- Suffolk – Anglian (a local independent), Ipswich Buses (a municipal operator), and First East of England
- Norfolk – Anglian (a local independent), First East of England, Konectbus (part of Go-Ahead) and Norfolk Green (a local independent)
- Cambridgeshire (including Peterborough) – Stagecoach in Cambridgeshire and Whippet Coaches
- Bedfordshire (including Luton) – Arriva, Stagecoach East & Centrebus (a local independent)
- Hertfordshire – Arriva, Uno (a local independent) and Centrebus