

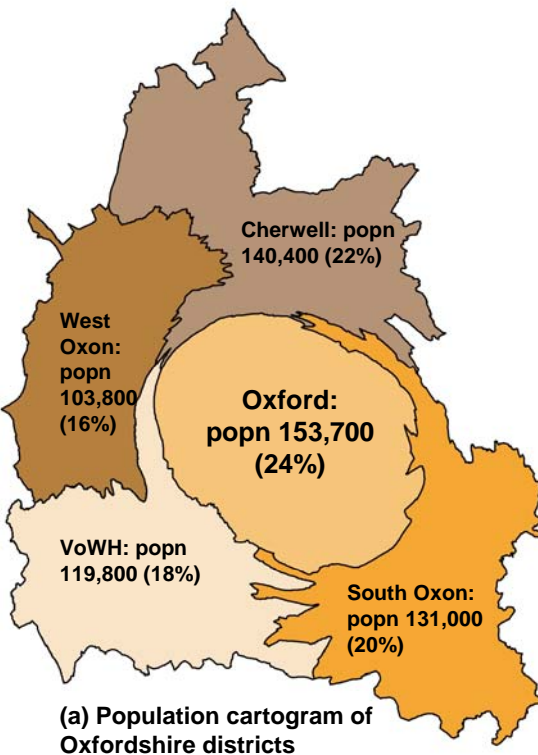
# Oxford's importance goes beyond its size

A cartogram is a map in which a value of interest – such as population or economic output – is substituted for physical land area. The original physical map is distorted so that the area of each region is proportional to this new value.

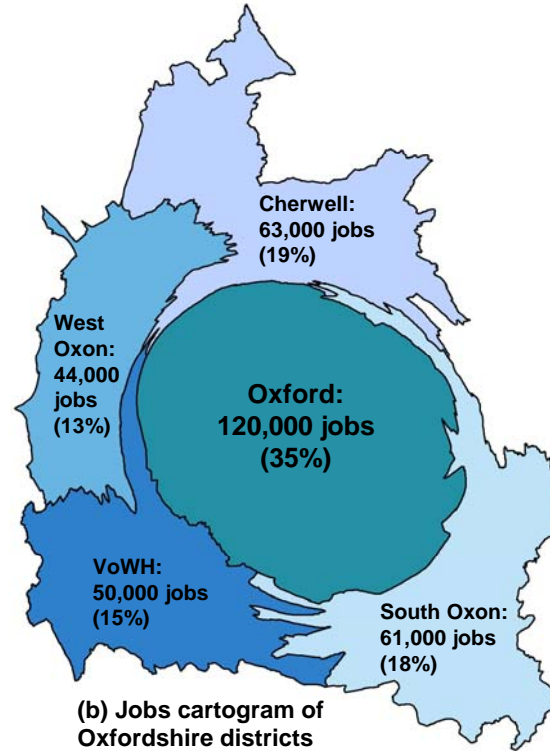
The map to the right is the familiar shape of the five district authorities in Oxfordshire. The two cartograms below show how the districts look when their area is proportional to (a) their resident population, and (b) the number of jobs in each area. Although Oxford is physically smaller than the other Oxfordshire districts, its importance goes beyond its size.



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(a) Population cartogram of Oxfordshire districts



(b) Jobs cartogram of Oxfordshire districts

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Local authority boundaries from Office for National Statistics (ONS) under Open Government Licence; resident populations are 2010 mid-year estimates, ONS; total jobs estimates are from the Business Register and Employment Survey, ONS

