



# Tower Hamlets Borough Profile

May 2024

Corporate Strategy and Improvement Team



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Note: Unless otherwise stated, the information in this profile is drawn from the 2021 Census



# Overall Population



# Key points of the 2021 census



- At the time of the most recent census in March 2021, Tower Hamlets had the **fastest-growing population** of any local authority area across England and Wales. Between 2011 and 2021 the local population grew by 56,200 (22.1%) to 310,300. In 2011 the population was 254,096.
- Tower Hamlets was the **most densely populated borough in England** with 15,695 residents per square kilometre compared to an average of 424 people per square kilometre in England – that is over 37 times higher than the mean average population density for England.
- The median age in Tower Hamlets was 30 – the **youngest of any area in England and Wales**. The borough had the **smallest proportion of older people aged 65+** in England and Wales.
- The most common countries of birth other than the UK were Bangladesh, Italy, India, China and France. 14% of residents were born in a current European Union country.
- Population turnover is high compared to elsewhere with **more than a fifth (20.8%) of residents having lived somewhere else a year prior to the census**.



# Key points of the 2021 census (2)



- At 34.6%, Tower Hamlets has the **largest Bangladeshi population in England and Wales** and the **largest Muslim population** (39.9%) in England and Wales. It had the fourth smallest White British population and the smallest Christian population in England and Wales.
- **7.2%** of adult residents were Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Other and **1%** had a gender identity different to their sex registered at birth.
- 62.7% of all residents in employment were in managerial, professional or associate professional occupations but **46,000 adults** have never worked.
- Tower Hamlets has a high proportion of households who rent, both from social landlords and from private landlords whereas the **proportion of owner occupiers is the lowest in England and Wales**.
- **15.8% of households were overcrowded** (had too few bedrooms for their needs).
- **Two thirds** of households do not have access to a car or van, one of the lowest levels of car ownership in England and Wales.
- **12.9% of residents had a disability** and 25.7% of households had at least one disabled person living within them.

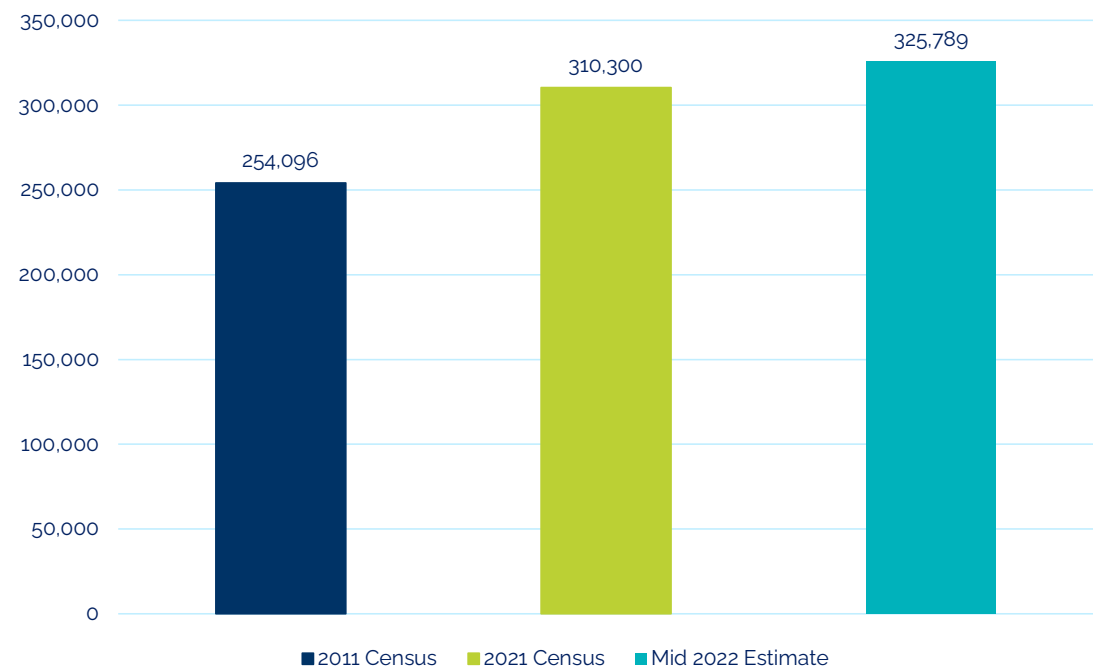


# Overall borough population



- As of census day on 21 March 2021, the population of Tower Hamlets was 310,300.
- This was an increase of 56,200 or 22% since 2011 – the largest increase of any area in England and Wales.
- By mid June 2022, the population had risen to **325,789**.
- This was a 4.2% increase in the year from mid 2021 to mid 2022, with the borough's population increasing by 13,074 in a single year. This was the equal second highest increase of any area in England.

Tower Hamlets population from 2011 Census, 2021 Census and 2022 Mid Year Estimate



Source: 2011 and 2021 census, ONS mid year population estimates 2022

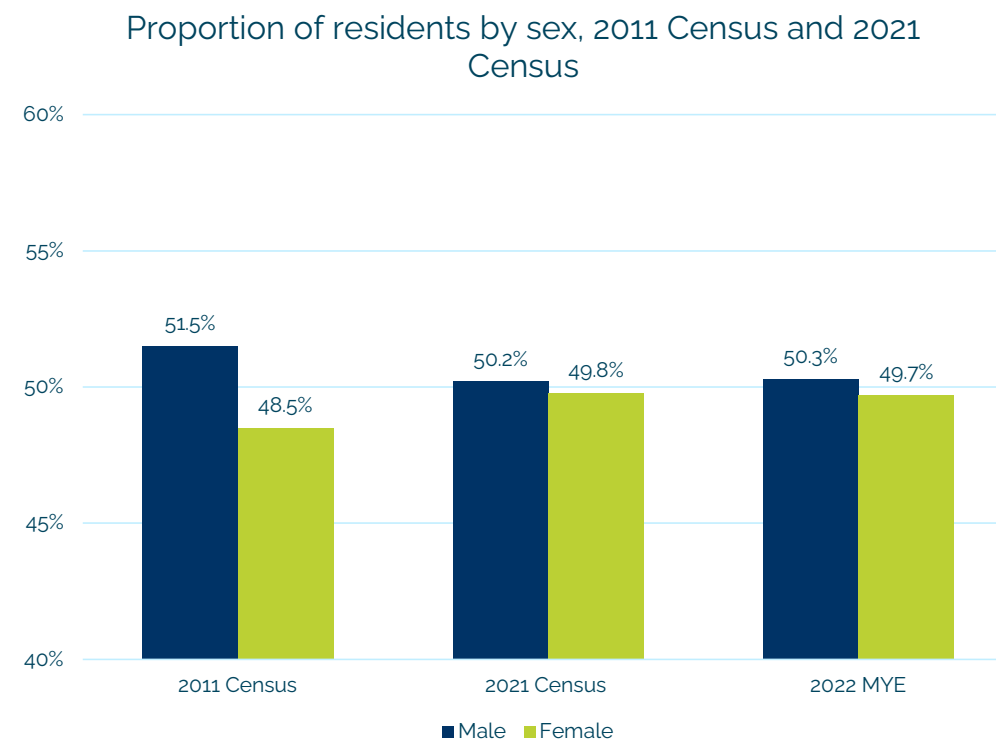
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# Sex



- On census day, Tower Hamlets had the 4<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of males in England and Wales and was **one of only 11 local authority areas where males formed the majority of residents**.
- In 2021, the proportion of residents who were male was 50.2%, slightly more than those who were female (49.8%). This represented a narrowing gap between males and females when compared with 2011.
- By mid 2022, the proportion of males had risen slightly to 50.3%. Only the City of London, Rutland and Luton had a higher proportion of males.



Source: 2011 and 2021 census,



# Population turnover – same address as one year previously



- **20.8% (63,745) of residents were not living at the same address as one year previously.**
- Most of those who were living somewhere else had been living somewhere within the UK (50,084, 16.3%)
- Around 3.4% (10,536) had been living somewhere else outside the UK
- A further 1% (3,125) had been living at a student term time or boarding school address in the UK and were no longer doing so.
- By comparison, in London 13% were living at a different address to one year previously and in England and Wales the figure was 11%.

Population turnover – Tower Hamlets compared with England and Wales and London	Tower Hamlets	Tower Hamlets %	London	London %	England & Wales	England & Wales %
Total: All usual residents	306,333		8,695,497		58,990,218	
Address 1 year ago is same as address of enumeration	242,588	79.2%	7,547,990	87%	52,496,530	89%
Migrant from within UK: address 1 year ago was in UK	50,084	16.3%	954,144	11%	5,599,520	9.5%
Migrant from outside UK: Address 1 year ago was outside UK	10,536	3.4%	149,532	2%	545,096	0.9%
Address 1 year ago is student term-time or boarding school address in UK	3,125	1.0%	43,831	0.5%	349,072	0.6%

Source: 2021 census





# Population density



# Population density - visualisation



- Tower Hamlets had a population density of 15,695 persons per km<sup>2</sup> at the time of the 2021 census - by far the most densely populated area in England and Wales.
- By mid 2022, this had increased to 16,478 persons per km<sup>2</sup>. This was almost three times the density of London as a whole (5,640 per km<sup>2</sup>) and more than 37 times the density of England (438 per km<sup>2</sup>). Tower Hamlets was 330 times more densely populated than West Devon, the most sparsely populated area of England (50 per km<sup>2</sup>).



Source: 2021 Census, ONS mid year population estimates 2022

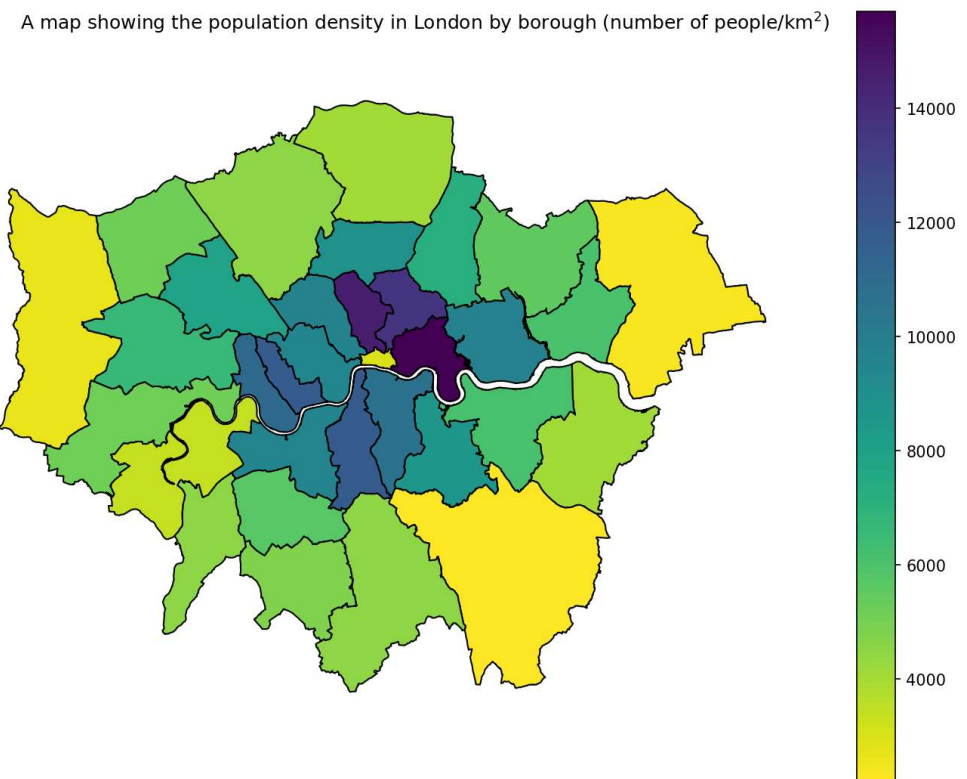


# Population density in London (2021 Census)



- Population density is very high throughout inner north and inner northeast London, with Islington and Hackney respectively having the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> highest levels of population density in England and Newham the 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The top 20 most densely populated areas in England and Wales are all London boroughs.

Population Density



Source: 2021 census

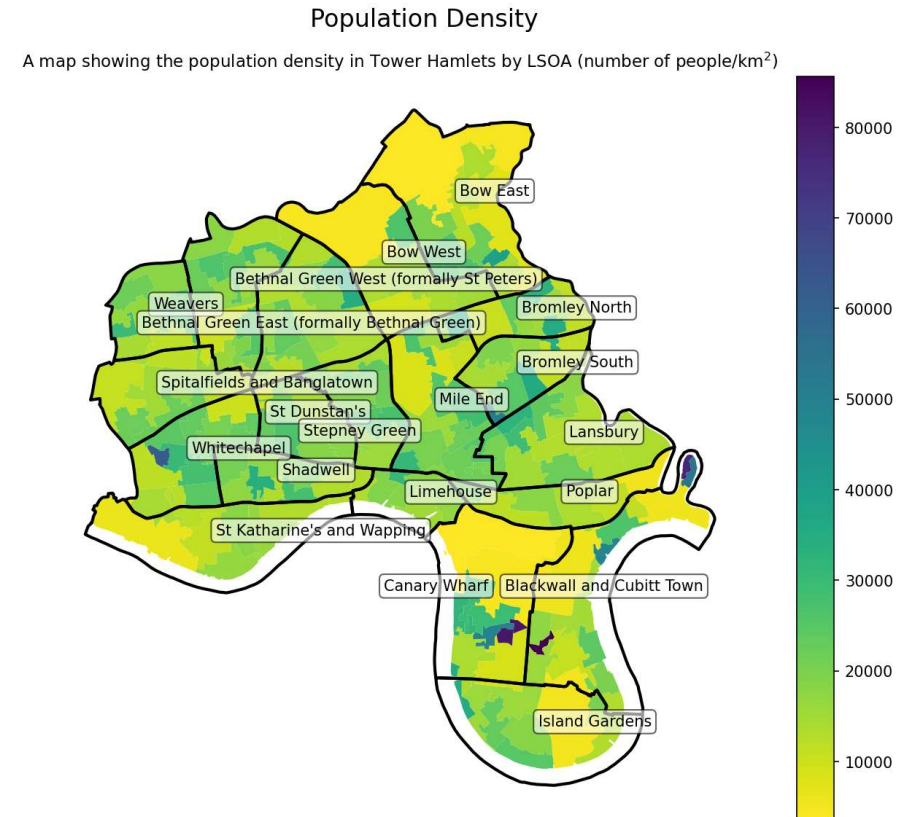


# Population density across Tower Hamlets (2021 Census)



- Population density across the borough varies somewhat, dependent on land use and availability of green spaces.
- The impact of concentrated pockets of residential high-rise can be seen in parts of the south of the borough such as the Leamouth peninsular (London City Island) and the Isle of Dogs.
- In other parts of the borough such as the northwest, density levels are consistently high.

Ward	2021
Tower Hamlets	15,702.9
Bethnal Green	17,378.0
Blackwall & Cubitt Town	15,881.7
Bow East	10,472.5
Bow West	10,203.2
Bromley North	19,297.5
Bromley South	20,308.3
Canary Wharf	12,716.5
Island Gardens	14,398.8
Lansbury	17,080.6
Limehouse	16,863.1
Mile End (Tower Hamlets)	17,820.6
Poplar (Tower Hamlets)	11,615.1
Shadwell	20,659.7
Spitalfields & Banglatown	14,640.0
St Dunstan's	21,714.0
St Katharine's & Wapping	11,300.0
St Peter's (Tower Hamlets)	18,248.0
Stepney Green	19,042.0
Weavers	19,711.8
Whitechapel	19,622.0



Source: 2021 census.



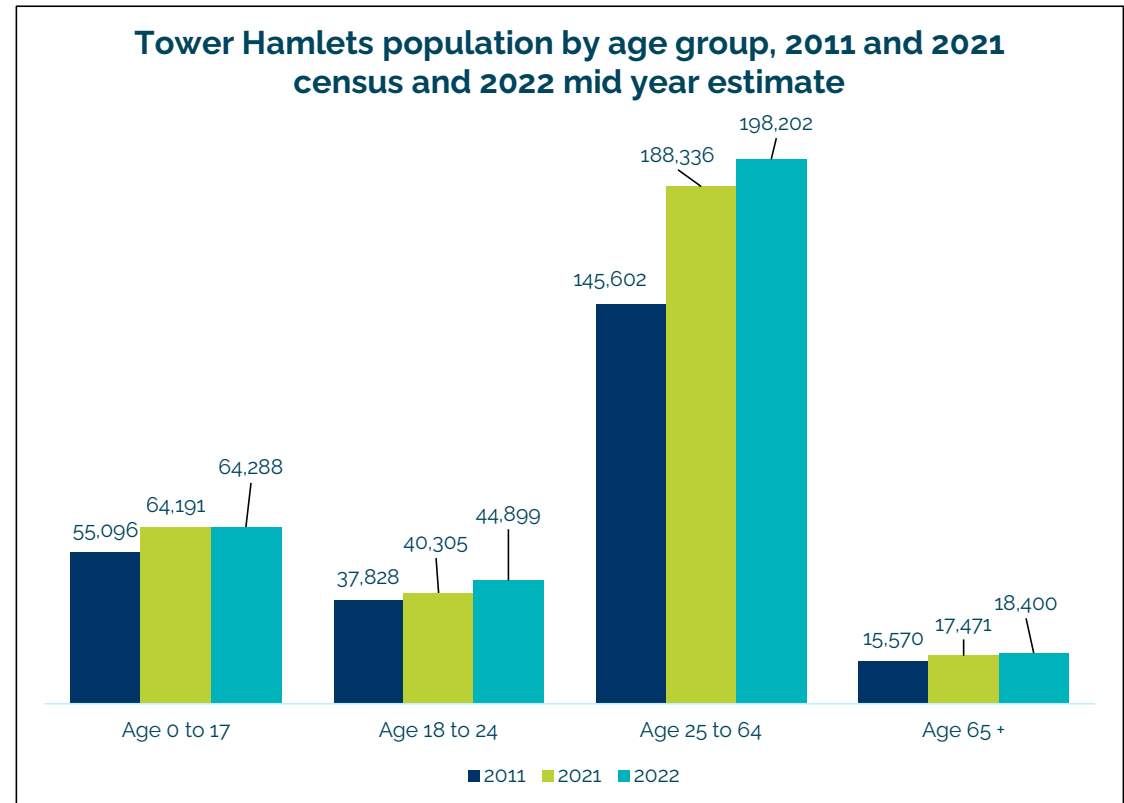
# Population Age



# Age



- Since 2011, the population has grown numerically across all age groups but it has grown most drastically amongst those of working age.
- The largest proportionate rise between 2011 and 2021 was in the working age population (25% increase).
- Children and young people represent a slightly smaller proportion of all residents than in 2011, despite a numerical increase. Between 2021 and 2022, the number of children remained almost static.
- Overall, there has been a decline in the proportion of people aged 65+ compared to 2011. Tower Hamlets is the only local authority area in the country to have less than 6% of the population aged 65+ (5.6%). However, the proportion of older people increased between 2021 and 2022 by more than the rise in the population as a whole.



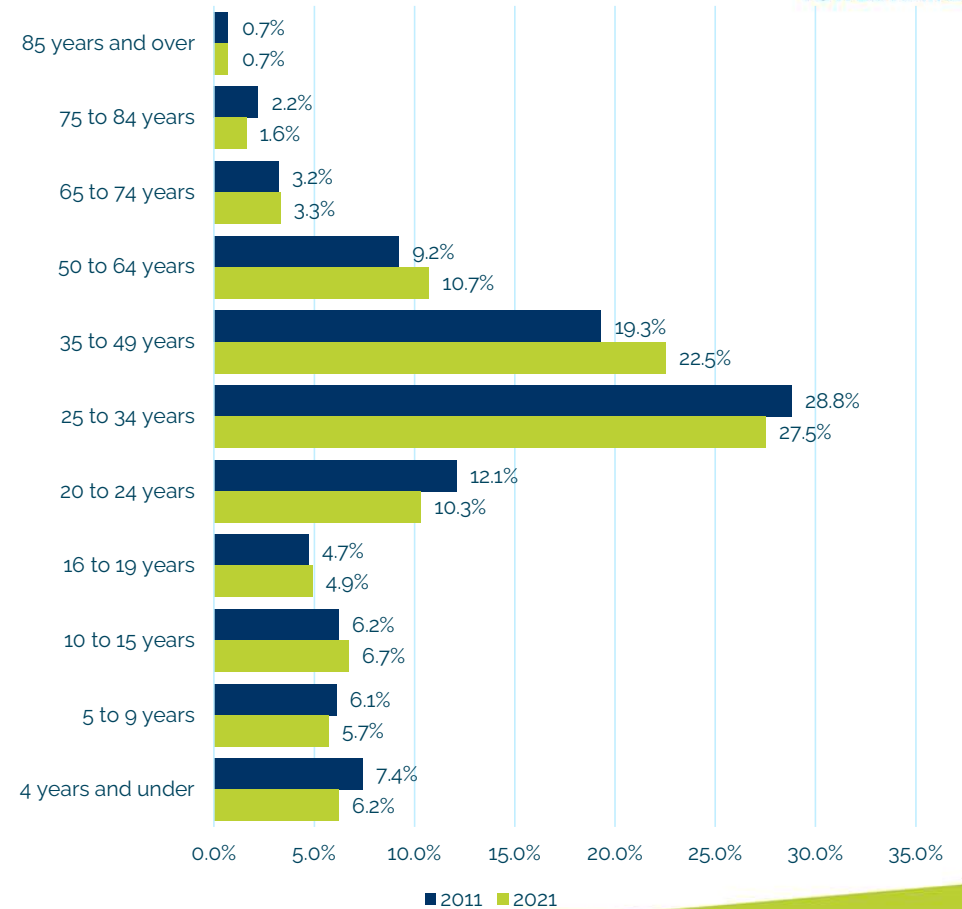
Source: 2011 and 2021 census, ONS mid year population estimates 2022



# Change in the age profile, 2011-2021



- Between the last two censuses, the average (median) age of Tower Hamlets increased by one year, from 29 to 30 years of age.
- The median age is the age of the person in the middle of the group, meaning that one half of the group is younger than that person and the other half is older.
- Tower Hamlets had the lowest median age of any local authority area in England. Across the country, the overall median age was 40 years in 2021.
- The number of people aged 35 to 49 years rose by around 21,000 (an increase of 42.8%), while the number of residents between 75 and 84 years fell by just under 600 (10.5% decrease).
- The share of residents aged between 35 and 49 years increased by 3.3 percentage points between 2011 and 2021.



Source: 2011 and 2021 census

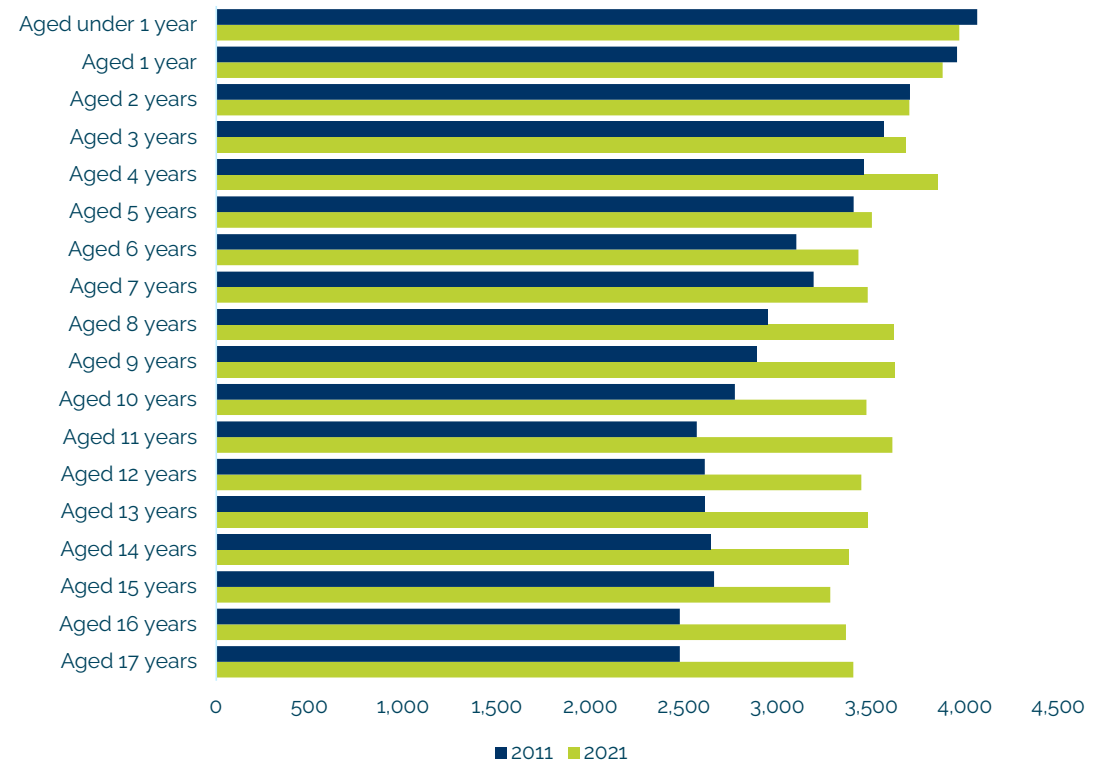


# Child population, 2011 and 2021



- The population of children aged 0-2 years old declined slightly between 2011 and 2021.
- By contrast, the number of older children grew significantly since the last census, with almost 6,000 more children aged 11-17 in 2021 than in 2011.

Child Population 2011 and 2021

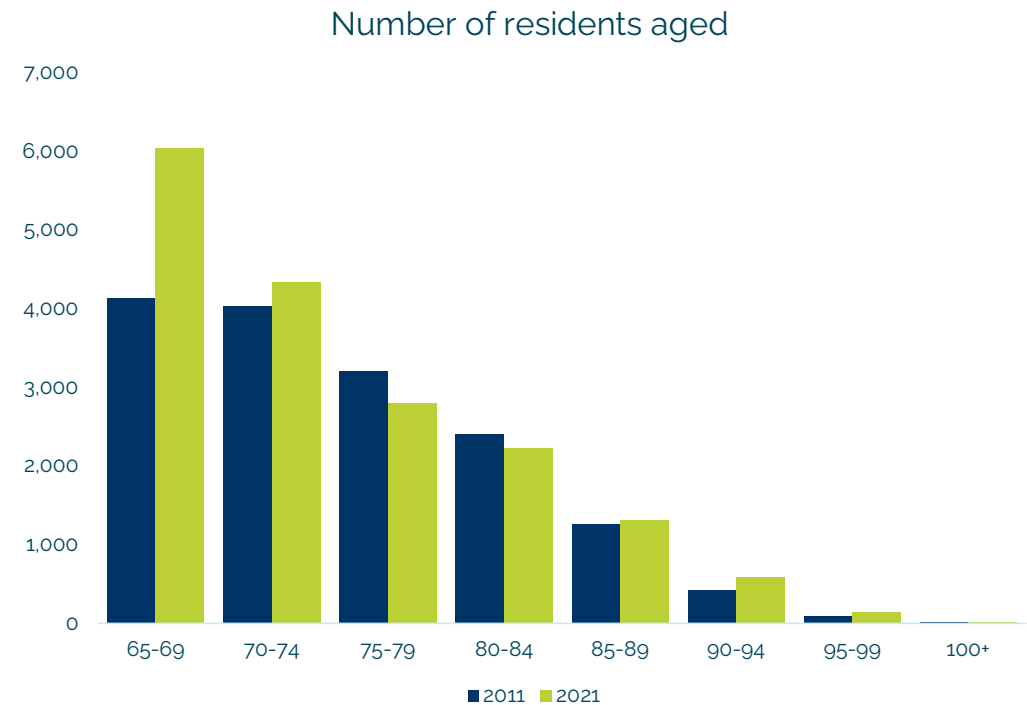




# Older population, 2011 and 2021



- Although the older (65+) population was slightly larger in number in 2021 than in 2011, it reduced as a **proportion** of the overall population.
- This was most apparent among 80+ year olds where the population grew by just 2% compared to the 22% rise in the population as a whole. Conversely, the 65–69-year-old age group grew substantially (46% increase).



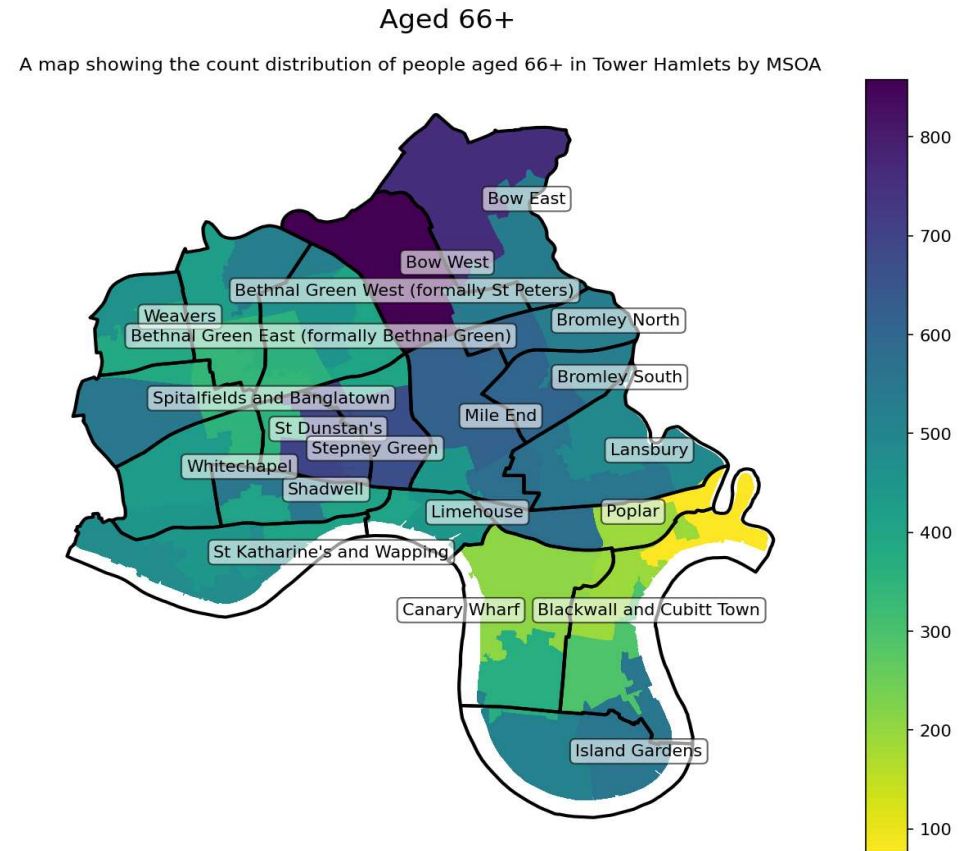
Source: 2011 and 2021 census



# Older population (66+) by area, 2021 Census



- Older people (of normal retirement age) are concentrated in the north and central areas of the borough.
- The Canary Wharf, Poplar, and Blackwall and Cubitt Town wards appear to have notably fewer older people than other parts of the borough.



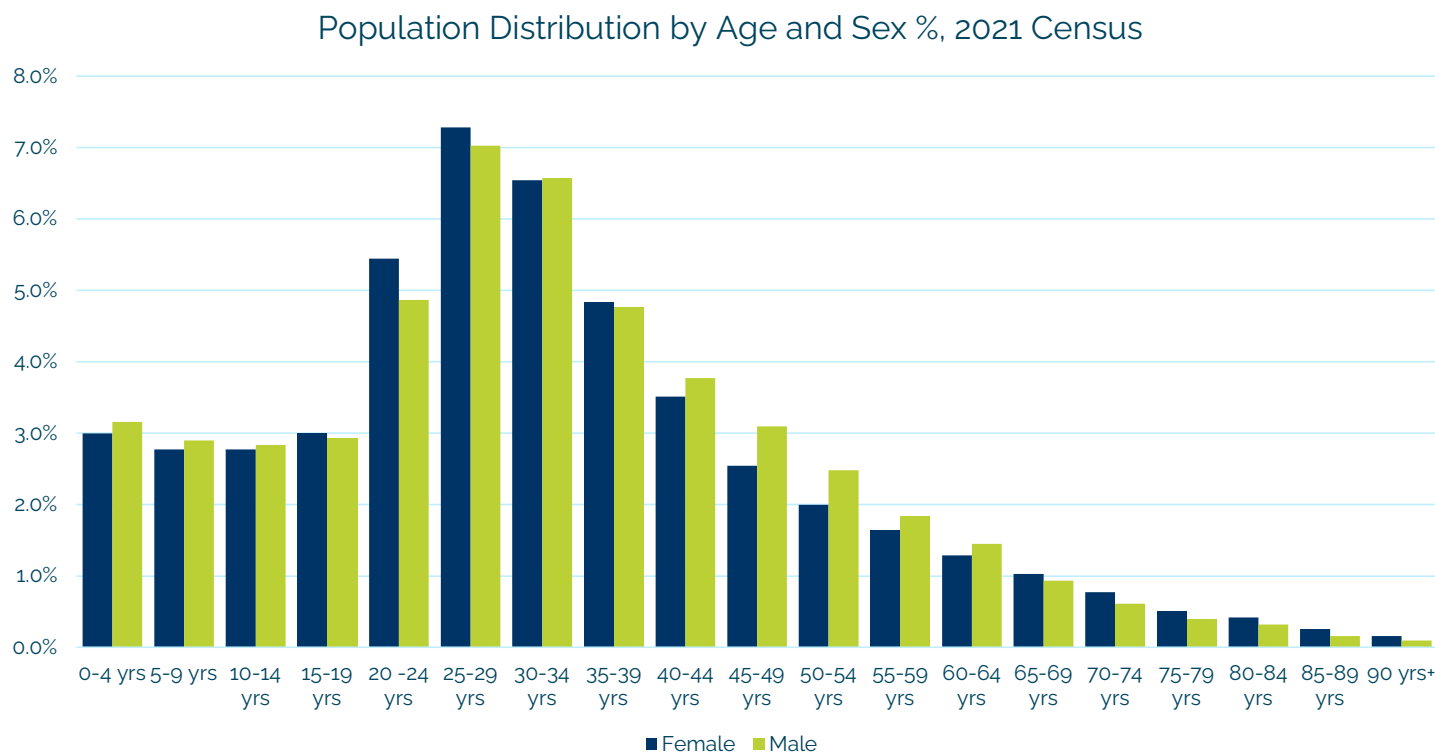
Source: 2021 census



# Sex by age, 2021 Census



- There are generally more males than females across all the five-year age groups with the exception of 20–24-year-olds, 25–29-year-olds, 35–39-year-olds and those 65+ where there are more females than males.



Source: 2021 census





# Households



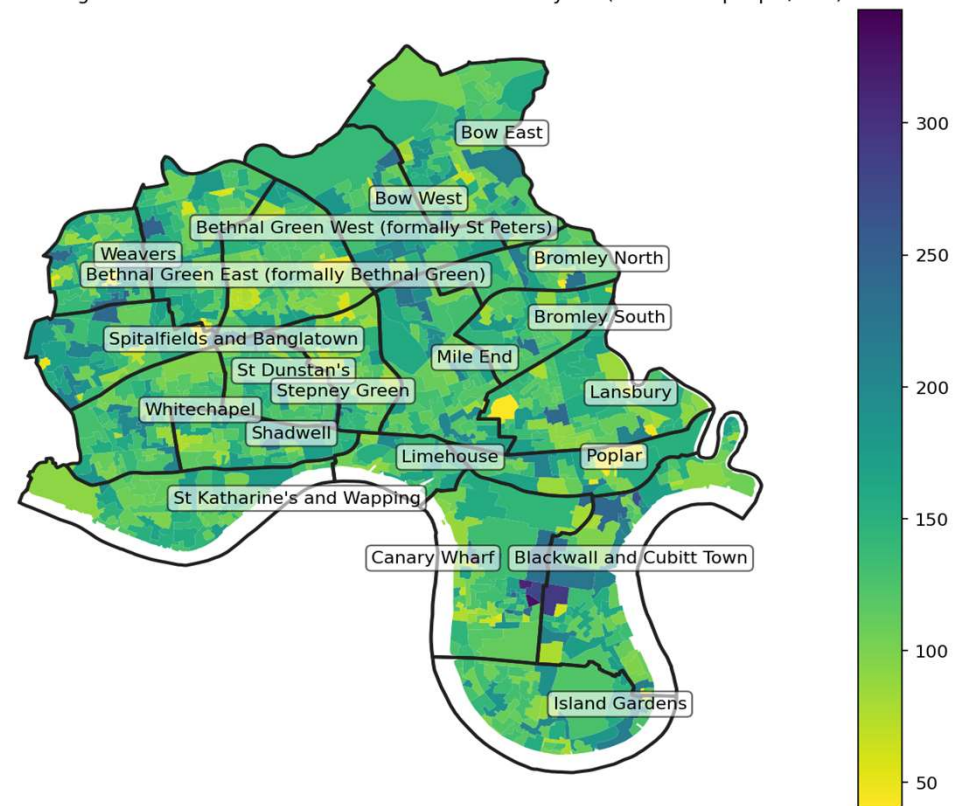
# Households - concentration



## Households concentration

A map showing the number of households in Tower Hamlets by OA (number of people/km<sup>2</sup>)

- There are 120,539 households in Tower Hamlets, 3.5% of all the households in London, and the 10th highest of all boroughs ([source](#)).
- The number of households in the borough grew from 101,257 in 2011 to 120,500 in 2021, an increase of 19% – the highest such increase in the country.



Source: 2021 census

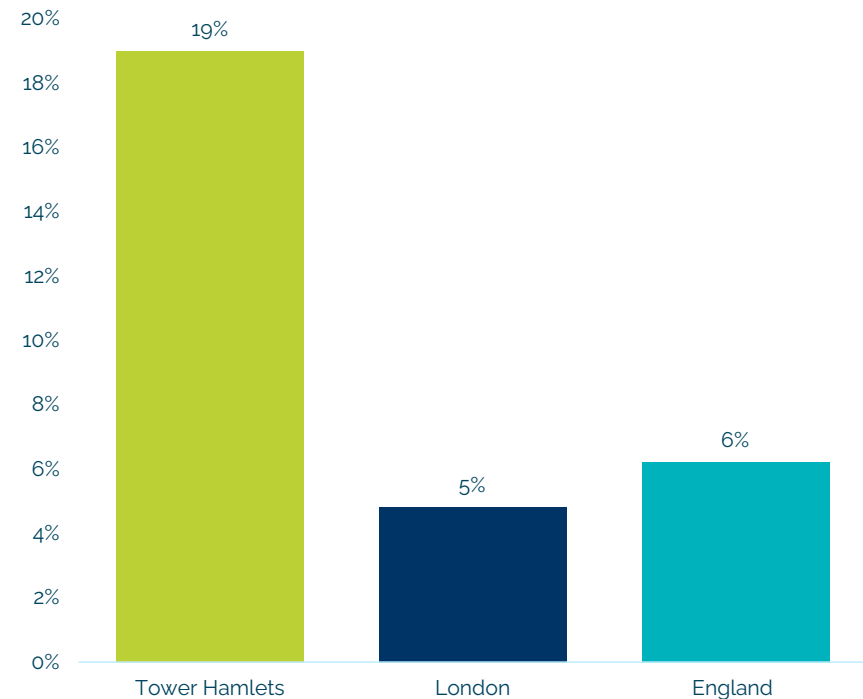


# Percentage of new households



- Tower Hamlets added an additional 19,200 households between 2011 and 2021 with the total number of households increasing from 101,257 to **120,500**.
- This represented a **19% increase**, the largest increase in households in the country.
- There were slightly more persons per household than in 2011 with the average household size increasing from 2.51 in 2011 to 2.58 in 2021.

% Increase in number of households 2011 Census to 2021 Census, Tower Hamlets, London and England



Source: 2021 census

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# Household composition – with and without children



- The percentage of households including [a couple but no children](#) increased in Tower Hamlets (but fell across England.)
- In Tower Hamlets, the percentage of households including a couple without children rose from 14.7% in 2011 to 17.4% in 2021, while across England it fell from 17.6% to 16.8%. The London percentage increased from 13.8% to 14.2% during the same period.
- The percentage of households including a couple with dependent children in Tower Hamlets increased from 14.8% to 16.4%, while the percentage of households including a couple with only non-dependent children increased from 2.3% to 2.7%.
- 32,666 households had dependent children. This was 27.1% of all households. This was a lower proportion than both England and Wales (28.3%) and London (31.3%)
- As 6.6%, Tower Hamlets had a lower proportion of lone-parent households than England and Wales (6.9%) or London (7.8%). This represented a total of 7,961 lone-parent households in Tower Hamlets.

Source: 2021 census

Household composition	Number	%
One-person household: Aged 66 years and over	5,786	4.8%
One-person household: Other	32,744	27.2%
Single family household: All aged 66 years and over	1,340	1.1%
Single family household: Married or civil partnership couple: No children	8,674	7.2%
Single family household: Married or civil partnership couple: Dependent children	17,254	14.3%
Single family household: Married or civil partnership couple: All children non-dependent	2,950	2.4%
Single family household: Cohabiting couple family: No children	12,355	10.2%
Single family household: Cohabiting couple family: With dependent children	2,499	2.1%
Single family household: Cohabiting couple family: All children non-dependent	345	0.3%
Single family household: Lone parent family: With dependent children	7,961	6.6%
Single family household: Lone parent family: All children non-dependent	4,892	4.1%
Single family household: Other single family household: Other family composition	3,042	2.5%
Other household types: With dependent children	4,952	4.1%
Other household types: Other, including all full-time students and all aged 66 years and over	15,744	13.1%





# Identity





# Ethnic Origin – 2011 and 2021



- The percentage of the Tower Hamlets population who identified as White British decreased by **8.3 percentage points** between 2011 and 2021- a numerical decrease of 8,054.
- There was a **rise in the Bangladeshi population** in both numerical and proportionate terms.
- Tower Hamlets saw an increase in the White Other population to 45,187 in 2021 (14.6% of all residents)
- The 'Other Ethnic Group' population rose to 8,494 residents - twice the proportion it was in 2011.
- Increase in the Black African population in both numerical and proportionate terms between 2011 and 2021. Smaller increases in Indian, Chinese and Pakistani and Asian Other populations.
- Increases in all Mixed ethnic groups, now comprising 5% of all residents
- Decrease in Black Caribbean and Black Other groups – latter possibly related to new method of recording specific Black ethnic group and/or rise in Other ethnic group category.

Ethnic Group	2011	2011%	2021	2021%
White British	79231	31.2%	71177	22.9%
White Irish	3863	1.5%	3567	1.1%
White Gypsy Traveller	175	0.07%	110	0.04%
White Roma	N/A	N/A	2225	0.7%
White Other	31550	12.4%	45187	14.6%
Asian Bangladeshi	81377	32.0%	107333	34.6%
Asian Chinese	8109	3.2%	10279	3.3%
Asian Indian	6,787	2.7%	10135	3.3%
Asian Pakistani	2,442	1.0%	3341	1.1%
Asian Other	5786	2.3%	6768	2.2%
Black African	9495	3.7%	15373	5.0%
Black Caribbean	5341	2.1%	4930	1.6%
Black Other	3793	1.5%	2390	0.8%
Mixed White and Asian	2961	1.1%	4374	1.4%
Mixed White and Black African	1509	0.6%	2236	0.7%
Mixed White and Black Caribbean	2837	1.1%	3593	1.2%
Mixed Other	3053	1.2%	5206	1.7%
Other Arab	2573	1.0%	3588	1.2%
Other ethnic group	3214	1.3%	8494	2.7%

Source: 2011 and 2021 census



# Ethnic origin – Tower Hamlets and other areas



- At 22.9% the White British population is the **fourth smallest** in England and Wales behind Newham, Brent and Harrow and less than a third of the proportion in England and Wales.
- The **Bangladeshi population remains by far the largest in the country in both proportionate (34.6%) and numerical (107,333) terms** and is almost twice the size of the next largest area Newham (55,677). One in six Bangladeshis in England and Wales live in Tower Hamlets.
- The proportion of residents from a White Other ethnic background is similar to London and more than twice the proportion in England and Wales.
- The proportion of **Black African residents (5%) is double that of England and Wales (2.5%)** although it is below the rate in London (7.9%).
- As a proportion, the **Chinese population is the third highest in England and Wales** behind the City of London and Cambridge.
- At 2,225, Tower Hamlets had the **fourth largest Roma population in England and Wales** after Brent, Sheffield and Newham.

Source: 2021 census

Ethnic Group	Tower Hamlets	London	England & Wales
White British	22.9%	36.8%	74.4%
White Irish	1.1%	1.8%	0.9%
White Gypsy Traveller	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
White Roma	0.7%	0.4%	0.2%
White Other	14.6%	14.7%	6.2%
Asian Bangladeshi	34.6%	3.7%	1.1%
Asian Chinese	3.3%	1.7%	0.7%
Asian Indian	3.3%	7.5%	3.1%
Asian Pakistani	1.1%	3.3%	2.7%
Asian Other	2.2%	4.6%	1.6%
Black African	5.0%	7.9%	2.5%
Black Caribbean	1.6%	3.9%	1.0%
Black Other	0.8%	1.7%	0.5%
Mixed White and Asian	1.4%	1.4%	0.8%
Mixed White and Black African	0.7%	0.9%	0.4%
Mixed White and Black Caribbean	1.2%	1.5%	0.9%
Mixed Other	1.7%	1.9%	0.8%
Other Arab	1.2%	1.6%	0.6%
Other ethnic group	2.7%	4.7%	1.6%



# Ethnic origin – White ethnic group (detailed)



- The large White Italian ethnic group corresponds with large number of Italian born residents identified in the census but accounts for less than half of them, suggesting other Italian born residents are likely to be from other ethnic groups such as Bangladeshi.
- Similarly the increase in people born in Romania would appear to be represented in both the Romanian and Roma ethnic groups and potentially other ethnic groups.

Ethnic Group	2021	2021%
White: European Mixed	8,288	2.7%
White: Italian	4,939	1.6%
White: Irish	3,567	1.1%
White: French	2,369	0.8%
White: Polish	2,239	0.7%
White: Roma	2,225	0.7%
White: Spanish	2,060	0.7%
White: Greek	1,827	0.6%
White: Romanian	1,702	0.5%
White: Other Eastern European	1,676	0.5%
White: German	1,452	0.5%

Source: 2021 census



# Ethnic origin – Black Ethnic Group (detailed)



- Residents from Black ethnic backgrounds identified into a variety of ethnic groupings.
- The largest single Black ethnic group was Caribbean, but there were around three times as many residents from Black African backgrounds of any kind.
- The largest of these Black African ethnic backgrounds was unspecified Black African ethnic origin. (Respondents were required to identify a broad ethnic group but specific backgrounds was determined by a write-in response under that broad background)
- The largest identifiable Black African group was Somali, followed by Somalilander, Nigerian, Black British and Ghanaian.

Ethnic Group	2021	2021 %
Black, Black British, Black Welsh or Caribbean background: Caribbean	4920	1.6%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh of African background: African unspecified	4439	1.4%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh of African background: Somali	3350	1.1%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh of African background: Somalilander	2031	0.7%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh of African background: Nigerian	1801	0.6%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh or Caribbean background: Black British	1307	0.4%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh of African background: Ghanaian	835	0.3%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh of African background: Democratic Republic of the Congo	407	0.1%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh of African background: Black British	367	0.1%

Source:: 2021 census



# Ethnic Origin – Somali and Somalilander



- Not all people identifying as Somali or Somalilander identified their ethnicity as Black.
- As a combined group anyone identifying their ethnicity as Somali or Somalilander comprised of 6,180 residents (2.0% of all residents).
- The census did not require respondents to identify a specific ethnic group so it is possible that this does not capture all Somali and Somalilander residents.

Ethnic Group	2021	2021 %
Black, Black British, Black Welsh of African background: Somali	3,350	1.1%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh of African background: Somalilander	2,031	0.7%
Other ethnic group: Somali	422	0.1%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh or Caribbean background: Somali	195	0.1%
Other ethnic group: Somalilander	182	0.1%

Source: 2021 census



# Language spoken at home

- **Nearly two-thirds** of households in Tower Hamlets have English as their main household language.
- **Almost 1 in 6** households in Tower Hamlets (15.7%) have no one in that household with English as their main language.
- **1%** of residents do not speak English, and **5%** do not speak it well.
- Among residents aged 3 and over, 73% spoke English as their main language and 27% did not. 5.2% said that they could not speak English well and 1% said that they could not speak English at all, totalling 6.2% with limited proficiency in English.
- This was the 8th highest proportion of residents reporting that they could not speak English well or at all among 331 local authority areas, with the highest being Leicester (9%)
- By comparison in 2011, 6.4% of residents over 3 reported not being able to speak English well and 1.6% reported not being able to speak English at all (totalling 8%), so English proficiency improved between 2011 and 2021.

Household language	Number	Percentage
All adults in household have English as a main language	75,824	62.9%
At least one but not all adults in household have English as a main language	21,855	18.1%
No adults in household, but at least one person aged 3 to 15 years, has English as a main language	3,924	3.3%
No people in household have English as a main language	18,937	15.7%

Proficiency in English language	Number	Percentage
Does not apply	11,552	4%
Main language is English	218,131	70%
Main language is not English: Can speak English very well	37,285	12%
Main language is not English: Can speak English well	24,671	8%
Main language is not English: Cannot speak English well	15,566	5%
Main language is not English: Cannot speak English	3,101	1%

Source: 2021 census



# Languages spoken



- The most commonly spoken main languages other than English were Bengali (with Sylheti and Chatgaya) (11%), Italian (2.2%), Spanish (1.7%), French (1.2%) and Portuguese (1%)
- There was a significant reduction in the number of people reporting Bengali as their main language from 43,525 in 2011 to 32,772 in 2021, suggesting that many more people in the Bangladeshi community now regard English as their main language.
- There were increases in the number of people who spoke Italian as their main language between 2011 and 2021 (2,684 vs 6,643) and similarly with Romanian (411 vs 1,818).

Main language Spoken (1000+ residents)	2021 number	2021 %
English (English or Welsh in Wales)	218,131	73.0
South Asian language: Bengali (with Sylheti and Chatgaya)	32,772	11.0
Other European language (EU)	17,773	5.9
Italian	6,643	2.2
Spanish	5,022	1.7
French	3,663	1.2
Portuguese	3,031	1.0
East Asian language: All other Chinese	2,748	0.9
African language	2,599	0.9
Polish	1,740	0.6
Romanian	1,818	0.6
Greek	1,750	0.6
Russian	1,906	0.6
Arabic	1,575	0.5
African language: Somali	1,578	0.5
German	1,255	0.4
Turkish	1,169	0.4

Source: 2021 census

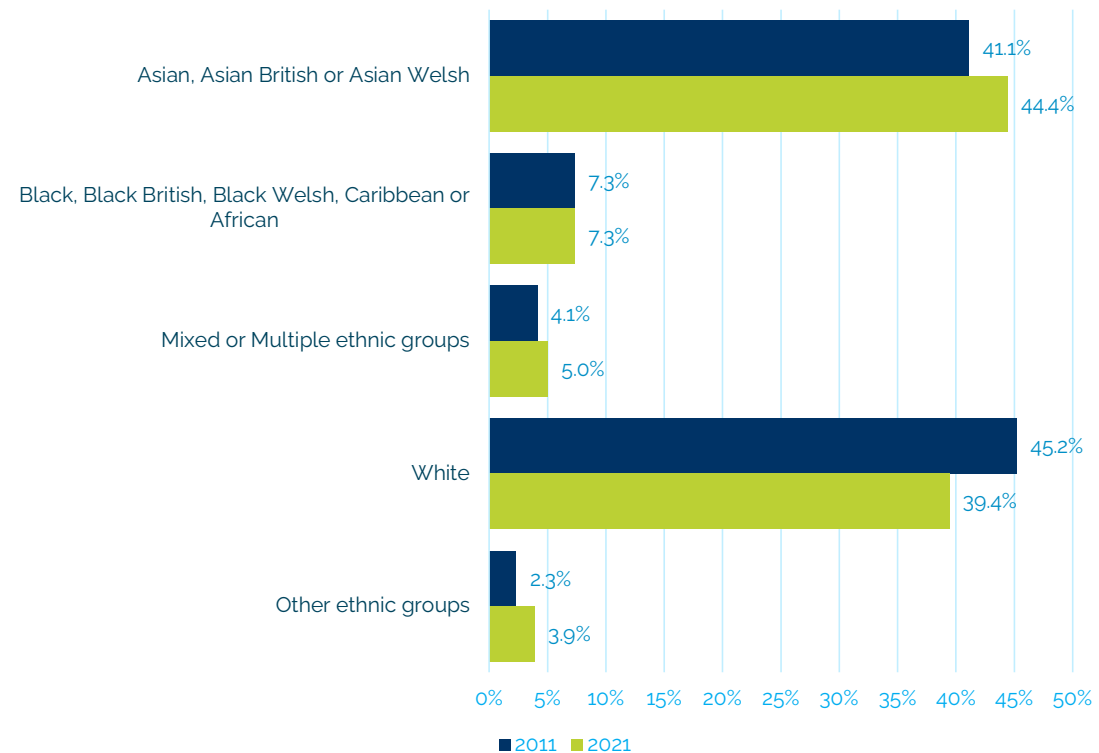


# Changing ethnic groups between 2011-2021



- In 2021, 44.4% of Tower Hamlets residents identified their ethnic group within the "Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh" category, up from 41.1% in 2011. The 3.3 percentage-point change was the largest increase among high-level ethnic groups in Tower Hamlets.
- Across London, the percentage of people from the "Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh" ethnic group increased from 18.5% to 20.7%, while across England the percentage increased from 7.8% to 9.6%.
- In 2021, 39.4% of people in Tower Hamlets identified their ethnic group within the "White" category (compared with 45.2% in 2011), while 7.3% identified their ethnic group within the "Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African" category (also 7.3% the previous decade).
- The percentage of people who identified their ethnic group within the "Mixed or Multiple" category increased from 4.1% in 2011 to 5.0% in 2021.
- There are many factors that may be contributing to the changing ethnic composition of England and Wales, such as differing patterns of ageing, fertility, mortality, and migration. Changes may also be caused by differences in the way individuals chose to self-identify between censuses.

Source: 2021 census





# Religion



- The most common religion for residents in Tower Hamlets was Islam with 39.9% (123,912) of residents identifying it as their religion. This was the largest proportion of residents identifying Muslim as their religion in the country ahead of Blackburn with Darwen (35%) and Newham (34.8%).
- 26.6% of residents said they had No Religion, 22.3% identified as Christian which was the lowest proportion in England and Wales.
- While the proportion of residents identifying as Christian was lower than in 2011 (22.3% vs 27.1%), numerically the number of residents who were Christian was almost the same as a decade previously (a slight increase from 68,808 to 69,223).

Religion 2021	Tower Hamlets	Tower Hamlets %	London	London %	England and Wales	England and Wales %
Total: All usual residents	310,306	100.0	8,799,728	100.0	59,597,540	100.0
No religion	82,635	26.6	2,380,404	27.1	22,162,062	37.2
Christian	69,223	22.3	3,577,681	40.7	27,522,672	46.2
Buddhist	2,961	1.0	77,425	0.9	272,508	0.5
Hindu	6,298	2.0	453,034	5.1	1,032,775	1.7
Jewish	1,341	0.4	145,466	1.7	271,327	0.5
Muslim	123,912	39.9	1,318,754	15.0	3,868,133	6.5
Sikh	966	0.3	144,543	1.6	524,140	0.9
Other religion	1,652	0.5	86,759	1.0	348,334	0.6
Not answered	21,318	6.9	615,662	7.0	3,595,589	6.0

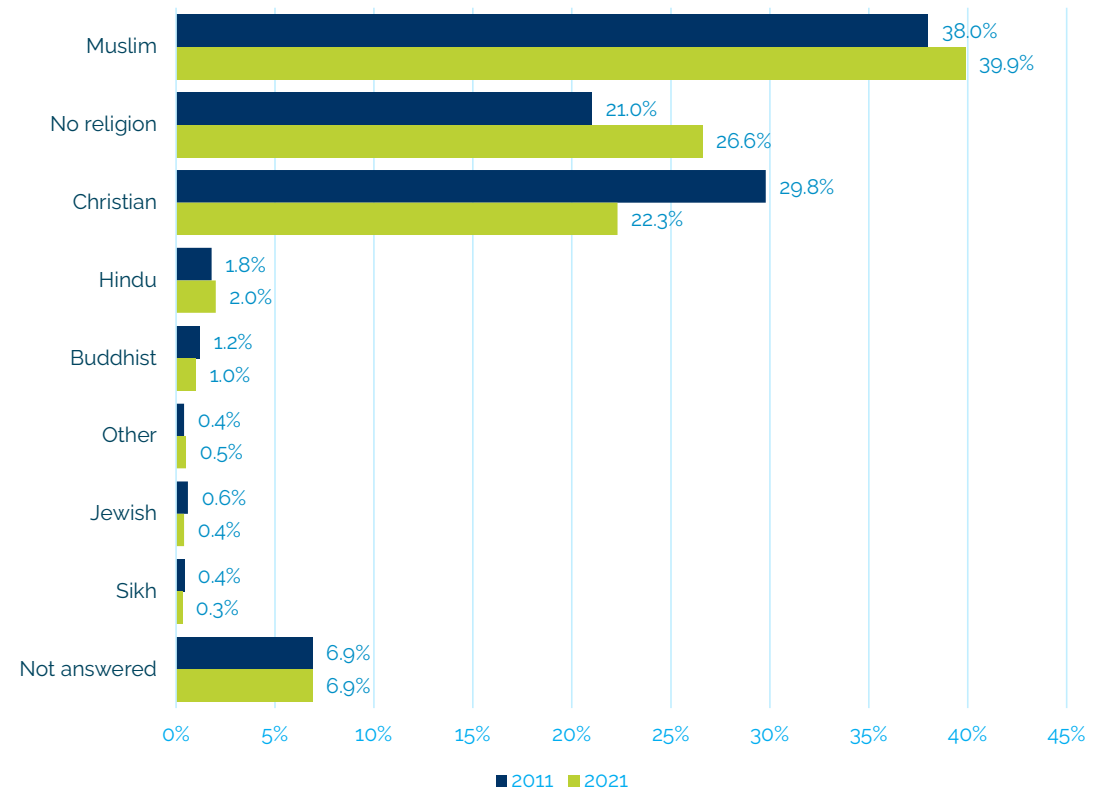
Source: 2021 census



# Religion change 2011-2021



- In 2021, 26.6% of Tower Hamlets residents reported having "No religion", up from 21.0% in 2011. The rise of 5.6 percentage points was the largest increase of all broad religious groups in Tower Hamlets. Because the census question about religious affiliation is voluntary and has varying response rates, caution is needed when comparing figures between different areas or between censuses.
- Across London, the percentage of residents who described themselves as having "No religion" increased from 21.0% to 27.1%, while across England the percentage increased from 24.8% to 36.7%.
- In 2021, 39.9% of people in Tower Hamlets described themselves as Muslim (up from 38.0%), while 22.3% described themselves as Christian (down from 29.8% the decade before).



Source: 2021 census



# Sexual Orientation



- **83.1%** of Tower Hamlets residents aged 16+ identified as straight or heterosexual
- **4.0%** of Tower Hamlets residents aged 16+ identified as gay or lesbian
- **2.5%** identified as bisexual
- **0.7%** identified as having another sexual orientation
- Taken together this means that **7.2% of residents were of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Other** sexual orientations. This is significantly higher than the proportions of 4.2% in London and 3.1% in England and Wales.
- The proportion of residents who identified their sexual orientation as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or other was higher amongst younger adults aged between 16 and 44 (7.9%) than among adults aged 45 and over (5.1%). Residents from White (11.4%) and Mixed (11.2%) ethnic background were more likely to identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Other sexual orientations than those from Asian (2.8%) or Black (3.3%) ethnic backgrounds.
- 9.8% of residents chose not to answer this voluntary census question. This was a relatively high proportion compared with England and Wales and was slightly higher than London.
- This question was asked for the first time in 2021 so historical comparison data is not available.

Sexual Orientation	Tower Hamlets %	London %	England and Wales %
Straight or Heterosexual	83.1	86.2	89.4
Gay or Lesbian	4.0	2.2	1.5
Bisexual	2.5	1.5	1.3
All other sexual orientations	0.7	0.5	0.3
Not answered	9.8	9.5	7.5

Source: 2021 census



# Gender Identity

- 90.7% residents identified their gender identity as being the same as their sex registered at birth.
- 0.6% of residents aged 16+ had a gender identity different from their sex registered at birth with no specific identity given.
- 0.1% identified as a Trans woman
- 0.1% identified as a Trans man
- 0.1% identified as Non-binary
- 0.06% identified as having another gender identity
- **Collectively, 1% (2,643) of Tower Hamlets residents had a gender identity that was different to their sex registered at birth.** This was the same proportion as London but twice the proportion in England and Wales (0.5%)
- 8.3% chose not to answer this voluntary question, which was higher than the proportion in England and Wales and in London.
- This question was asked for the first time in 2021 so historical comparison data is not available.

Source: 2021 census



# Demography



# Country of birth of Tower Hamlets residents (top 10)



- In 2021 the most common country of birth was United Kingdom, followed by Bangladesh with 43,561 (14%) residents having been born in that country.
- Although the total number increased, the proportion of residents born in Bangladesh was slightly smaller than in 2011.
- Other than the UK, the largest increase in country of birth since 2011 came from Italy. This is probably at least in part reflective of the large Italian community of Bangladeshi ethnic origin.
- The largest proportionate increase came from Romanian-born residents which increased nearly 400% from 2011 to 2021.

Country of Birth	2011	2011 %	2021	2021 %	2011-2021 Increase	2011-2021 % Increase
United Kingdom	144,662	56.9%	165,079	53.2%	20,417	14%
Bangladesh	38,877	15.3%	43,561	14.0%	4,684	12%
Italy	3,047	1.2%	10,553	3.4%	7,506	246%
India	3,889	1.5%	6,317	2.0%	2,428	62%
China	3,552	1.4%	4,818	1.6%	1,296	37%
France	3,014	1.2%	4,562	1.5%	1,548	51%
Spain	2,025	0.8%	3,791	1.2%	1,766	87%
Somalia	2,925	1.2%	3,107	1.0%	182	6%
Poland	2,674	1.1%	3,077	1.0%	403	15%
Romania	587	0.2%	2,765	0.9%	2,178	371%

Source: 2021 census



# Country of birth compared with elsewhere



- In 2021 Tower Hamlet had one of the smallest proportions of UK-born residents in England and Wales (323<sup>rd</sup> of 331)
- The Bangladeshi-born population was by some distance the largest in England and Wales, both in absolute numbers and as a proportion of the population. Neighbouring Newham had the second highest number and proportion.
- 16% of all Bangladeshi-born people in England and Wales resided in Tower Hamlets.
- Tower Hamlets had the largest number of Italian-born residents and the second largest proportion of Italian-born residents behind Kensington and Chelsea.
- The borough also has among the highest numbers of Chinese, French, Spanish, and Somalian-born residents in England and Wales.

Country of Birth	2021	2021 % of resident population in area	Ranking in England and Wales (absolute number)	Ranking in England and Wales (% of resident population in area)
United Kingdom	165,079	53.2%	#	323 (of 331)
Bangladesh	43,561	14.0%	1	1
Italy	10,553	3.4%	1	2
India	6,317	2.0%	33	49
China	4,818	1.6%	4	4
France	4,562	1.5%	6	7
Spain	3,791	1.2%	5	11
Somalia	3,107	1.0%	10	10
Poland	3,077	1.0%	72	151
Romania	2,765	0.9%	48	88

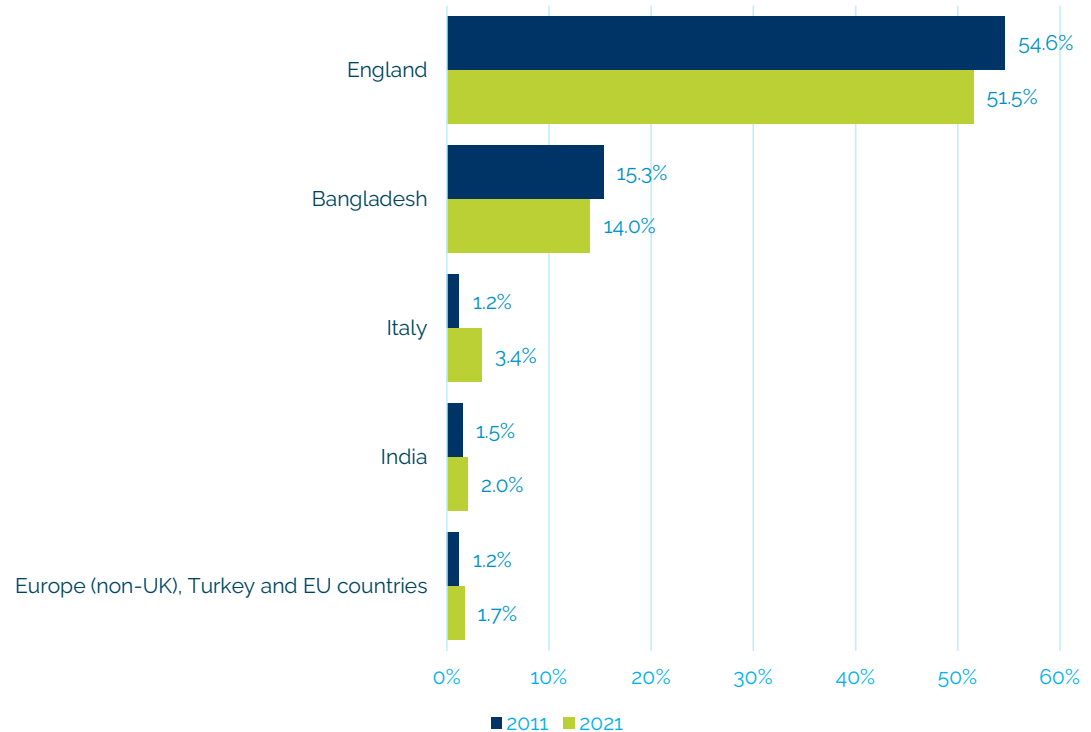
Source: 2021 census



# Country of birth – change 2011-2021



- In the 2021 census, around 160,000 Tower Hamlets residents said they were born in England, up from 138,700 in 2011. However, while this was an increase in raw numbers, the proportion born in England dropped from 54.6% in 2011 to 51.5% in 2021.
- Bangladesh was the next most represented. Again, the raw number increased but the proportion fell. In 2011, 38,900 Tower Hamlets residents were born in Bangladesh (15.3%), increasing to 43,600 in 2021 (14.0%).
- The number of Tower Hamlets residents born in Italy rose from over 3,000 in 2011 (1.2% of the local population) to just under 10,600 in 2021 (3.4%).



Source: 2021 census



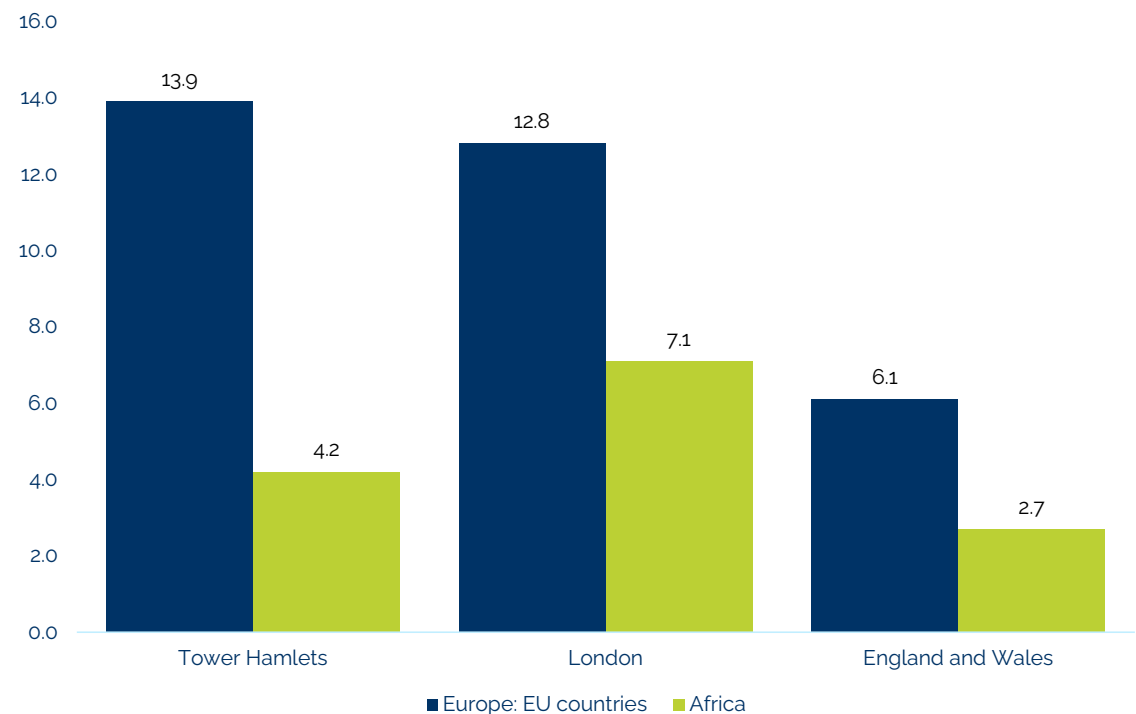


# Country of birth – European Union and Africa



- 13.9% of Tower Hamlets residents were born in a current European Union country. This equates to 43,000 residents.
- This was similar to the number of residents holding a passport of any current EU country (46,000)
- The proportion of people born in the EU was higher than London (12.8%) and more than double the proportion in England and Wales (6.1%). It was the 19<sup>th</sup> highest proportion out of 331 local authority areas with Boston in Lincolnshire being the highest at 20%.
- The proportion of residents born in any African country was 4.2% (13,000 residents). This was above the England and Wales average but below the London average.

% of Residents born in European Union and Africa, Tower Hamlets, London, England and Wales



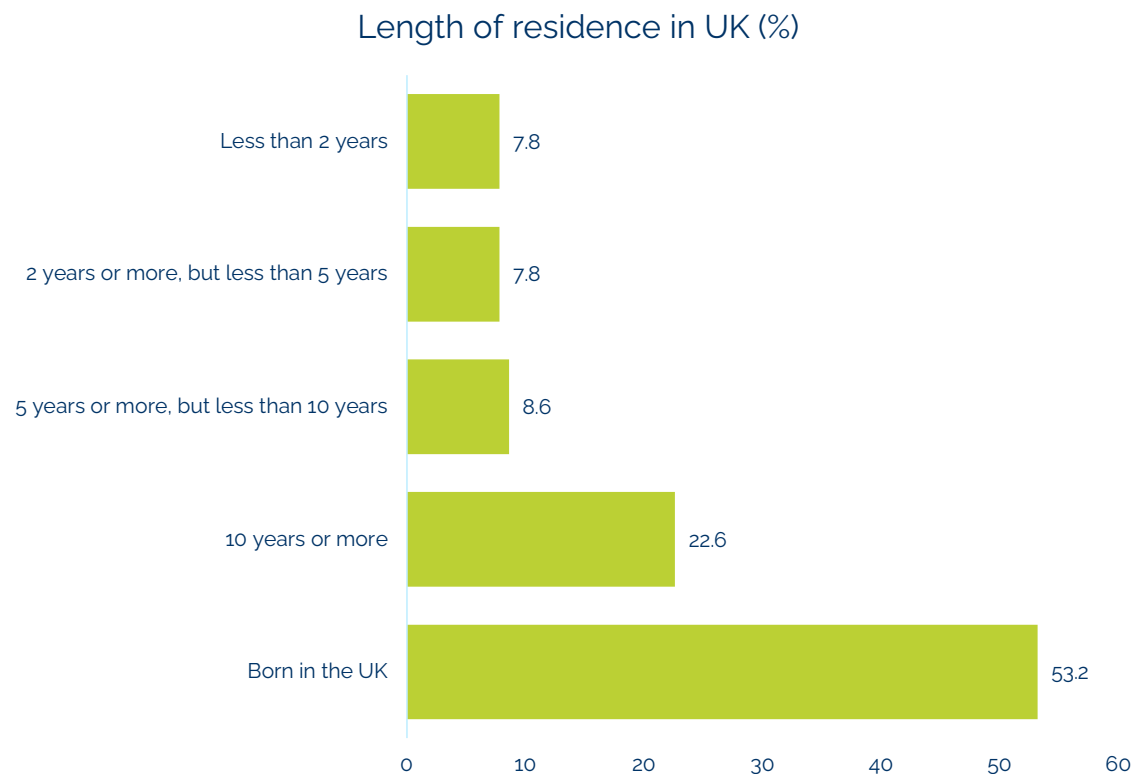
Source: 2021 census



# Migration – length of residence in UK



- 46.8% of residents of Tower Hamlets were born outside the UK
- 7.8% of residents had been in the UK for less than 2 years at the time of the census.
- Nearly a quarter of all residents (24.2%) had lived in the UK for less than ten years. This was 75,000 residents.
- A further 22.6% were non-UK born, long-standing residents of the UK (ten years+)



Source: 2021 census

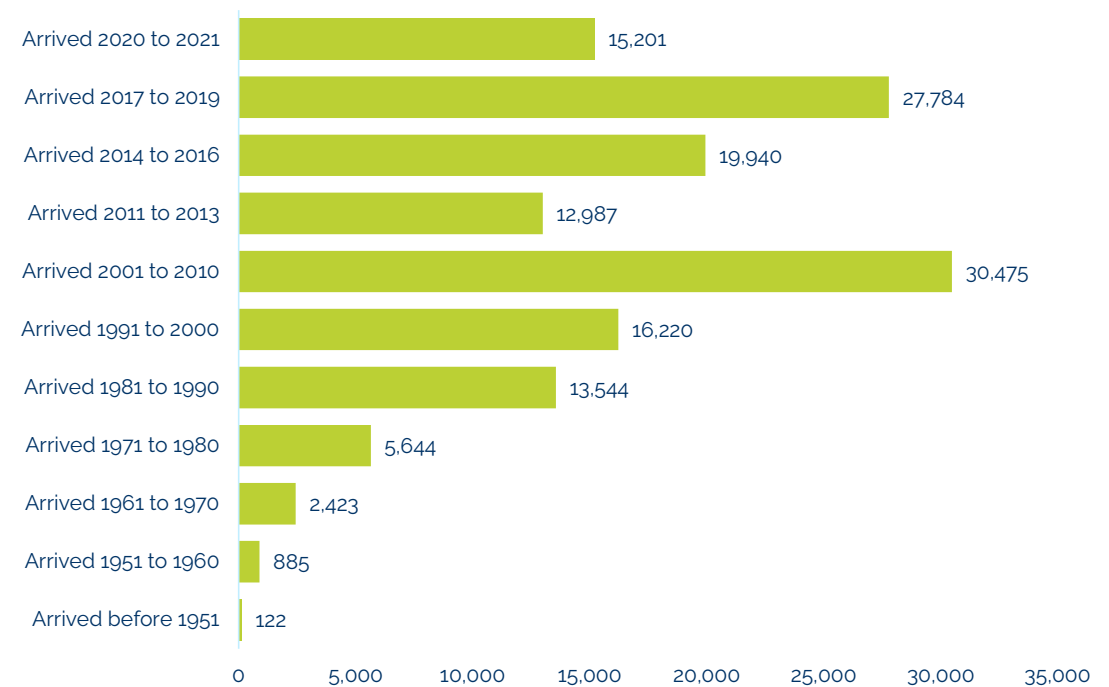


# Migration – year of arrival in UK



- Tower Hamlets residents from outside the UK have mostly arrived in the UK in the last twenty years.
- 106,000 Tower Hamlets residents (34.3% or over a third of all residents) had arrived in the UK in the 20 years since 2001, compared with less than 39,000 who had arrived prior to 2001.
- Almost 43,000 residents have arrived in the UK since 2017 (13.9%, or about one in seven residents of the borough)

Date of arrival in the UK by non UK born residents



Source: 2021 census



# Migration – age at time of arrival in UK



- A significant proportion of Tower Hamlets residents are international migrants (ie not born in the United Kingdom)
- The large majority of migrants to the UK were of younger working age.
- 102,941 Tower Hamlets residents were aged between 18 and 44 when arriving in the UK, which was 71% of all migrants and 33% of all residents including those born in the UK.
- Very few (752) were older people aged 65+, although a significant number were children with 36,257 being 0-17 at the time of arrival.

Source: 2021 census

Year of arrival in UK, Tower Hamlets residents	Number of residents
Arrived in the UK: Aged 0 to 4 years	10,954
Arrived in the UK: Aged 5 to 7 years	5,236
Arrived in the UK: Aged 8 to 9 years	3,458
Arrived in the UK: Aged 10 to 14 years	8,335
Arrived in the UK: Aged 15 years	1,966
Arrived in the UK: Aged 16 to 17 years	6,308
Arrived in the UK: Aged 18 to 19 years	12,375
Arrived in the UK: Aged 20 to 24 years	33,419
Arrived in the UK: Aged 25 to 29 years	30,160
Arrived in the UK: Aged 30 to 44 years	26,987
Arrived in the UK: Aged 45 to 59 years	4,698
Arrived in the UK: Aged 60 to 64 years	577
Arrived in the UK: Aged 65 to 74 years	566
Arrived in the UK: Aged 75 to 84 years	160
Arrived in the UK: Aged 85 to 89 years	17
Arrived in the UK: Aged 90 years and over	9



# Migration - short term residents from outside the UK



- Short-term residents were identified in the census as people who were born and usually live outside the UK, who are intending to stay in the UK for between 3 and 12 months, and who were in England or Wales at the time of the census.
- There were 2,692 such residents in Tower Hamlets of whom the majority were female.
- This was consistent with both London and England, where the majority of short-term residents were also female.

Short-term residents by sex	Number	Percentage
All persons	2,692	100.0%
Female	1,485	55.2%
Male	1,207	44.8%

Source: 2021 census





# Employment

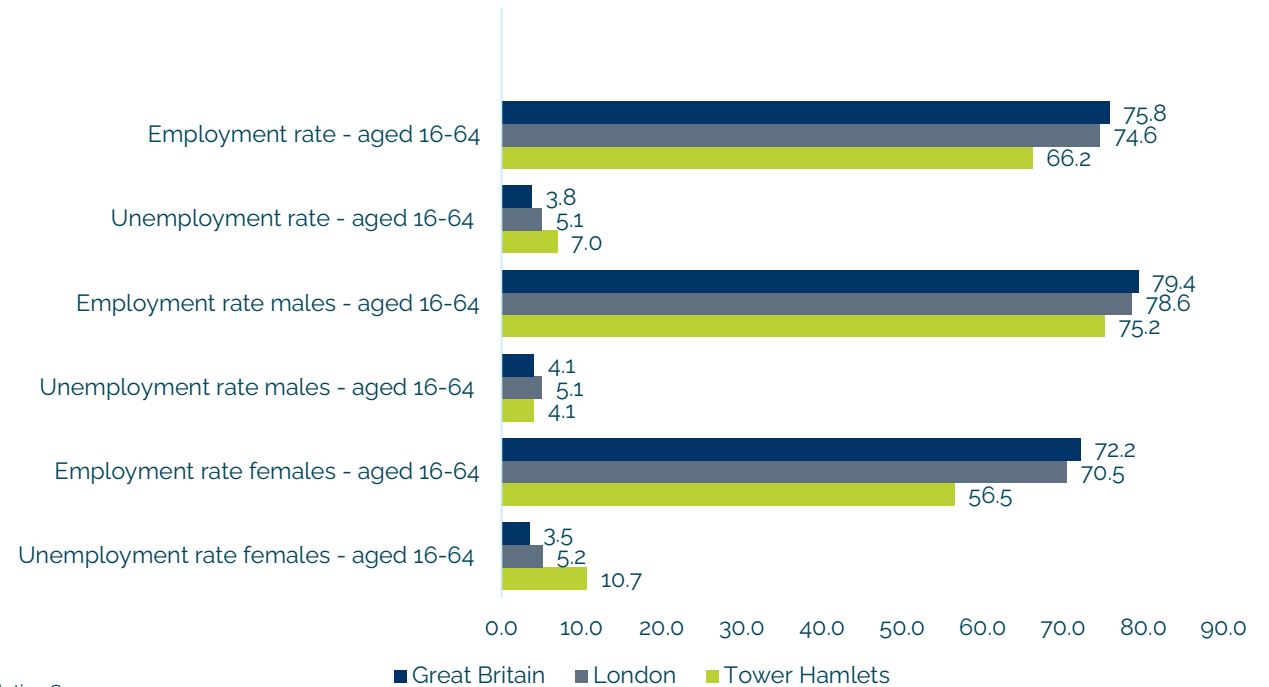


# Employment and unemployment



- Employment in Tower Hamlets sits within the context of a changing London labour market.
- The figures for the [most recent financial year](#) indicate that the proportion of Tower Hamlets residents in employment are below the corresponding levels for both London and Great Britain and that the proportion of working age residents who are unemployed is higher than regional and national levels.
- The proportion of female Tower Hamlets residents who are in employment is significantly below the levels for both London and Great Britain.

Employment Rate and Unemployment Rate, 16-64 year olds, Tower Hamlets, London and Great Britain, Jan-Dec 2023



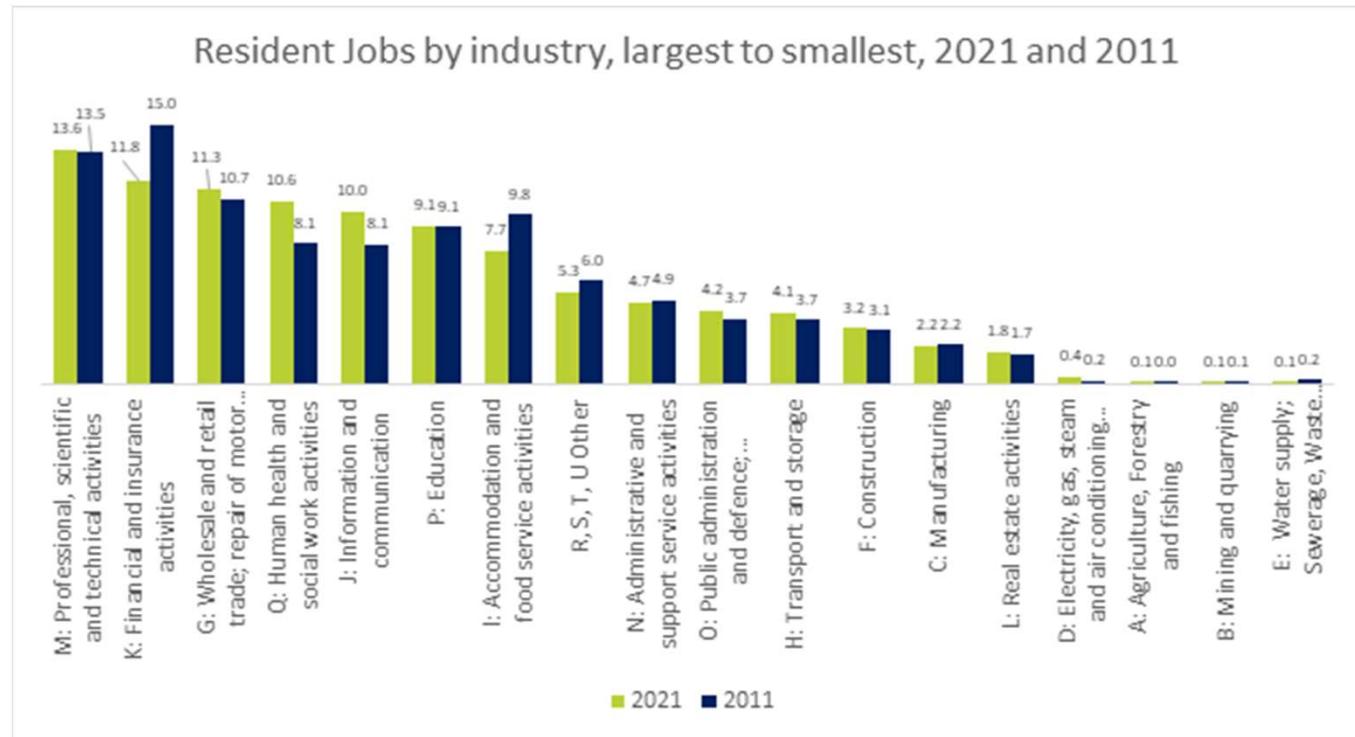
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey



# Labour force - industry



- Of the 155,389 jobs held by Tower Hamlets residents in 2021, the largest sector was professional, scientific and technical studies (13.6%) followed by financial and insurance activities (11.8%). These were respectively the 12<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> highest proportions of residents employed in those industries in England and Wales.
- At 2.2% the proportion of residents employed in manufacturing was the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest in England and Wales



Source: 2021 census





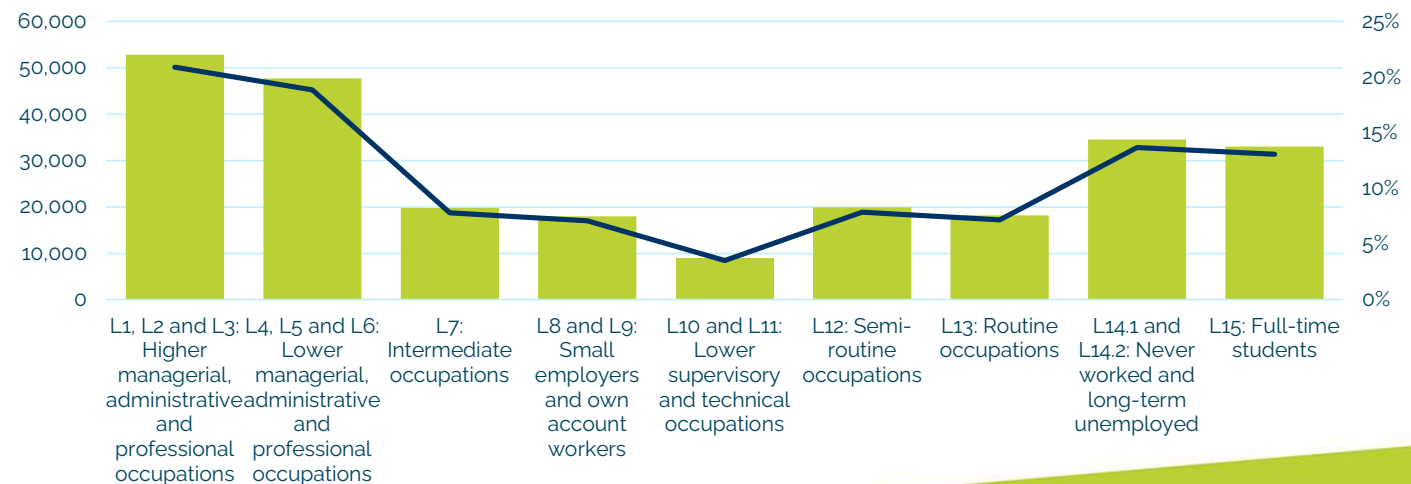
# Labour force – socio-economic classification



- The Census identifies a [socio-economic classification](#) for each adult resident based on the occupation that they work or worked in. Socio-economic classification includes those who are retired and is based on the occupation that they held when they were in work.
- At 20.9% Tower Hamlets had a higher proportion of adult residents classified as being or having been in higher managerial, administrative and professional occupations than either London (17.6%) or England and Wales (13.1%).
- Tower Hamlets also had a higher proportion of adult residents classified as never worked and long term unemployed (13.7% in Tower Hamlets compared with 10.3% in London and 8.5% in England and Wales).

Source: 2021 census

National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SeC) (Of residents 16+)	Count	%
L1, L2 and L3: Higher managerial, administrative and professional occupations	52,827	20.9%
L4, L5 and L6: Lower managerial, administrative and professional occupations	47,718	18.9%
L7: Intermediate occupations	19,747	7.8%
L8 and L9: Small employers and own account workers	17,956	7.1%
L10 and L11: Lower supervisory and technical occupations	8,912	3.5%
L12: Semi-routine occupations	19,905	7.9%
L13: Routine occupations	18,179	7.2%
L14.1 and L14.2: Never worked and long-term unemployed	34,572	13.7%
L15: Full-time students	33,067	13.1%

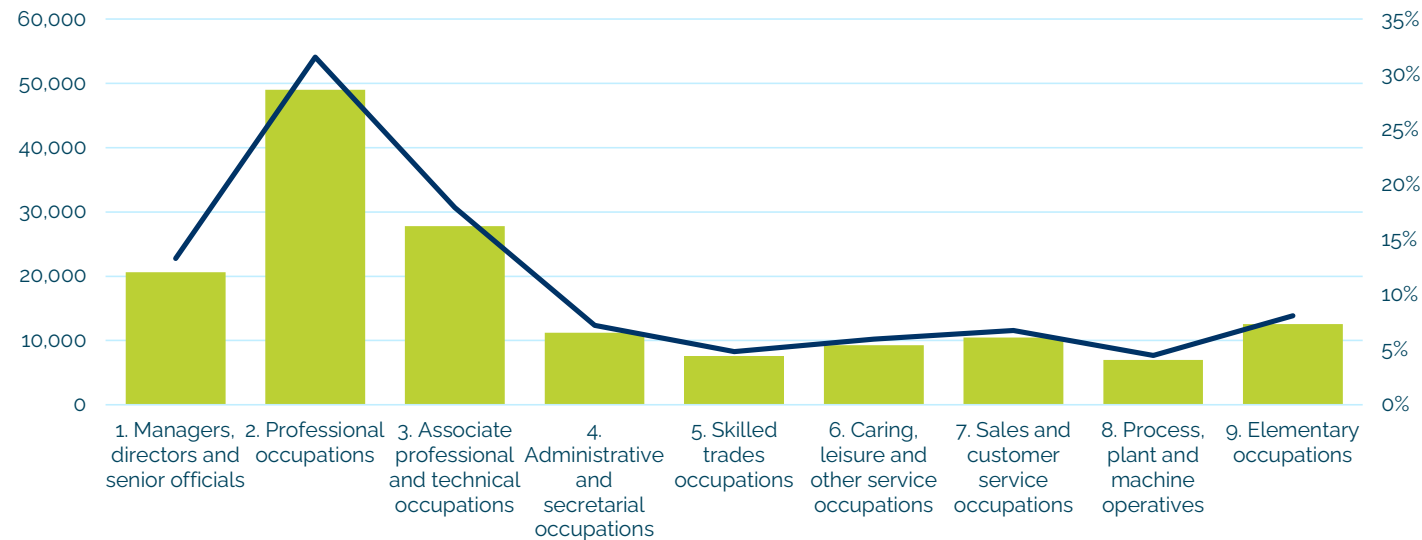


# Labour force – occupation



- Tower Hamlets had a [particularly large](#) proportion of residents working in professional occupations (31.5%) and associate professional occupations (17.9%) when compared to London and England and Wales.
- 62.7% of all residents in employment were in managerial, professional or associate professional occupations.
- The borough had smaller than average numbers of residents working in administrative and secretarial occupations (7.2%), skilled trades (4.8%), caring, leisure and other service occupations (6.0%), process, plant and machine occupations (4.5%) and elementary occupations (8.1%).
- Between 2011 and 2021 the proportion of residents in professional occupations grew from 25.7% to 31.5%. By contrast the proportion of residents in elementary occupations reduced from 9.5% to 8.1%, the proportion in skilled trades reduced from 6.0% to 4.8% and the proportion in administrative and secretarial occupations reduced from 9.9% to 7.2%.

Current occupation type (Where applicable)	Count	%
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	20,628	13.3%
2. Professional occupations	49,021	31.5%
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	27,819	17.9%
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	11,184	7.2%
5. Skilled trades occupations	7,508	4.8%
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	9,276	6.0%
7. Sales and customer service occupations	10,470	6.7%
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	6,949	4.5%
9. Elementary occupations	12,537	8.1%



Source: 2021 census

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# Labour force – economic activity



- Just under two thirds (63.4%) of adults (aged 16+) identified themselves as economically active with 58.7% of adults being in employment. This was above the proportion in England and Wales (55.7%) but below the proportion in London (59.4%).
- The proportion of adults who were unemployed (excluding full time students) was 4.7% or 11,891 residents.
- The total number of students, including students who were economically active, and students who were economically inactive, was 37,547.
- Unsurprisingly given Tower Hamlets demographic profile, a much smaller proportion of adults were retired (5.8%) than London (12.9%) or England and Wales (21.6%).
- There were 21,324 residents who were looking after the home, which was 8.4% of adult residents. This was higher than both London (6.0%) and England and Wales (4.8%).
- The census found that 10,159 residents were economically inactive due to being long term sick or disabled.
- Almost 100,000 residents (97,491) aged 16 and over were not in work at the time of the census. Of these, 18% had worked in the previous 12 months, 34.6% had not worked in the last 12 months and 47.4% (46,215) had never worked. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of workless people that had never worked in England and Wales behind Newham. This figure indicates that Tower Hamlets has significant entrenched worklessness.

Source: 2021 census

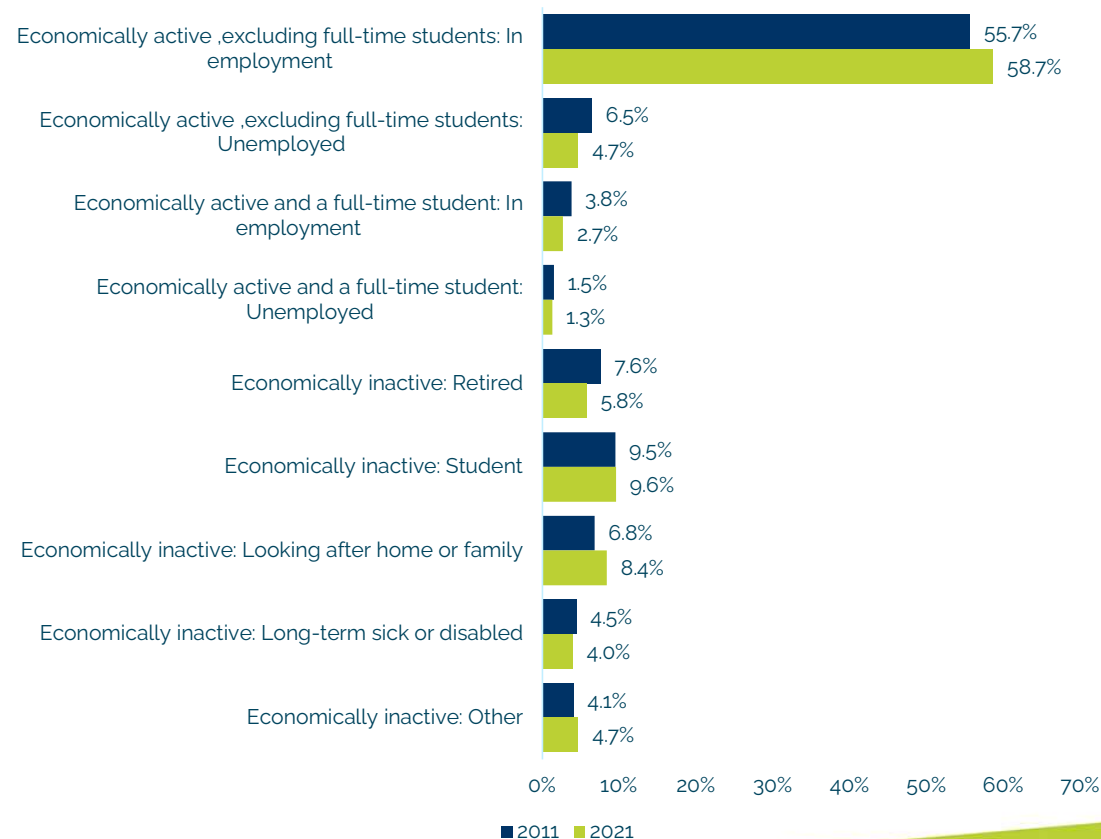
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# Labour force – economic activity change 2011-2021



- The percentage of people aged 16 years and over (excluding full-time students) who were employed increased in Tower Hamlets but fell across England.
- In Tower Hamlets, the percentage who were employed rose from 55.7% in 2011 to 58.7% in 2021, while across England it fell from 56.5% to 55.7%. During the same period, the regional percentage increased from 58.6% to 59.4%.
- The percentage of people aged 16 years and over who were unemployed (excluding full-time students) in Tower Hamlets fell from 6.5% to 4.7%, while the percentage of people aged 16 years and over who were retired (economically inactive) decreased from 7.6% to 5.8%.
- The percentage of people aged 16 years and over who were employed (excluding full-time students) in Tower Hamlets increased by 3.1 percentage points.
- Census 2021 took place during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, a period of rapid and unparalleled change; the national lockdown, associated guidance and furlough measures will have affected the labour market and our ability to measure it.



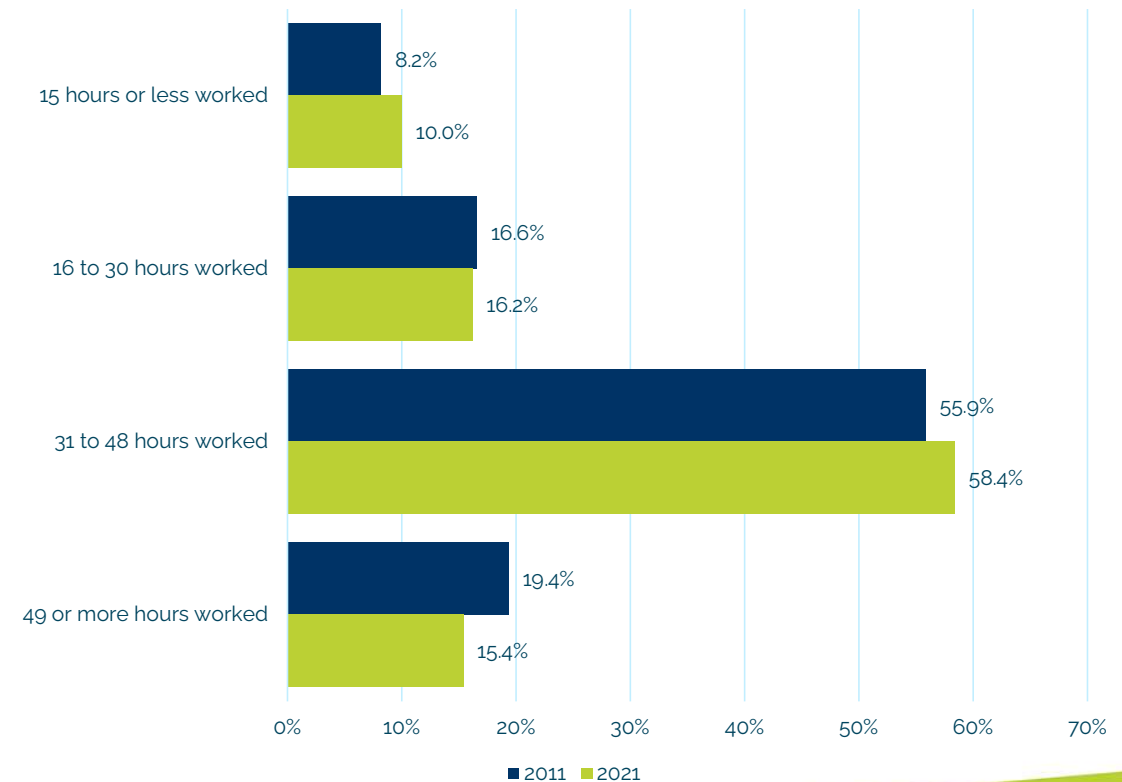
Source: 2021 census



# Hours worked – change 2011-2021



- In Tower Hamlets, the percentage of long-hours (49 hours +) workers decreased from 19.4% in 2011 to 15.4% in 2021. During the same period, the percentage in nearby Hackney decreased from 15.2% to 13.7%.
- The decrease in the percentage of people aged 16 years and over and in employment who said they usually worked over 49 hours per week was greater in Tower Hamlets (4.0 percentage points) than in nearby [Hackney](#) (1.5 percentage points).
- The percentage of adults who worked 15 hours or less in Tower Hamlets increased from 8.2% to 10.0%, while the percentage of adults in employment who worked 31 to 48 hours increased from 55.9% to 58.4%.



Source: 2021 census



# Income



- Overall weekly pay for Tower Hamlets residents working full time was over £800 in 2022.
- In England Median gross weekly pay was £645.80, significantly below the level in Tower Hamlets. However, the 5% rise across England is far higher than the 1% growth in Tower Hamlets
- The inequality in Tower Hamlets is apparent from the difference between those paid at the 25th and 75th percentiles, the latter of which is nearly double the former.
- Nearly 10% of households have an income of under £15,000, a similar proportion to the 9% with incomes above £85,000.
- 55,381 (40%) households have an income of less than £30,000 per year, 7,443 (5%) are paid £100,000 or more.
- Income levels and disparity are broadly similar to London as a whole. However, in each category in the tables on this slide, income is higher in Tower Hamlets than London for the corresponding measure.

Tower Hamlets	Weekly pay - gross	Hourly pay - gross	Annual pay - gross
Median	£806.90	£21.28	£39,868.00
25 percentile	£595.30	£15.33	£29,222.00
75 percentile	£1,111.60	£30.83	£57,862.00

London	Weekly pay - gross	Hourly pay - gross	Annual pay - gross
Median	£765.40	£20.01	£39,391
25 percentile	£561.30	£14.30	£28,611
75 percentile	£1,059.30	£28.62	£55,448

Source:: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings

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# Economic activity by ethnicity



- There are significant differences in economic activity according to ethnicity.
- **One in four** (22.2%) White residents are economically inactive, half the rate for those who are Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh.
- 'Economically Active' includes everyone over the age of 16 who are in work or actively seeking work.
- 'Economically Inactive' includes everyone over the age of 16 who is not working or actively seeking work. This can include those who are retired, looking after the home, long-term sick/disabled and students who are not in or actively seeking work.

Source: 2021 census

Ethnic group	Total	Economically active (excluding full-time students)	Economically active and a full-time student	Economically inactive
<b>Total</b>	252,889	63.4%	4.0%	32.6%
<b>Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh</b>	101,653	51.9%	4.3%	43.8%
<b>Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African</b>	17,570	57.7%	5.2%	37.0%
<b>Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups</b>	10,411	68.6%	5.6%	25.9%
<b>White</b>	113,159	74.6%	3.3%	22.2%
<b>Other ethnic group</b>	10,096	59.9%	4.7%	35.4%



# Employment and Unemployment by Age and Sex



- All figures in the table show the percentage of adults 16+ expressed as a percentage of all adults aged 16+ excluding students.
- All male age ranges have higher rates of employment than the corresponding female age range. For 16–24-year-olds this difference is small but it rises for 25–34-year-olds and then rises significantly for 35–49-year-olds. The gap decreases for 50–64-year-olds but is still significant.
- Unemployment does not change significantly between the 25-34 years age group and the 50-64 years age group, although older males aged 50-64 are slightly more likely to be unemployed.

	In employment	Unemployed
Aged 16 to 24 years - Female	29.9%	0.9%
Aged 16 to 24 years - Male	31.8%	1.2%
Aged 25 to 34 years - Female	73.1%	4.3%
Aged 25 to 34 years - Male	82.4%	5.1%
Aged 35 to 49 years - Female	57.3%	4.4%
Aged 35 to 49 years - Male	79.7%	5.2%
Aged 50 to 64 years - Female	44.7%	4.2%
Aged 50 to 64 years - Male	60.6%	5.9%
Aged 65 years and over - Female	8.0%	0.5%
Aged 65 years and over - Male	15.3%	1.3%

Source: 2021 census





# Employment and Unemployment by Ethnic Group and Sex



- There are significant variations in employment rates between different ethnic groups, particularly for females.
- Most male groups have higher rates of employment than most female groups.
- The male group with the highest rate of employment was White Other at 81.5% and the male group with the lowest rate was Bangladeshi at 52.9%.
- The female group with the highest rate of employment was White Other at 72.6% and the lowest group was Bangladeshi at 28.6%. Seven female ethnic groups had an employment rate below 50% while no male ethnic groups did.
- Males were more likely than Females to be unemployed (economically active and actively seeking work) for most but not all ethnic groups. Females from Other White ethnic backgrounds, Roma, Pakistani and Indian backgrounds were all more likely than males of the same ethnic group to be unemployed.
- The table only shows Bangladeshi and White as the two most numerous ethnic groups in Tower Hamlets. For others, see next slide

	In employment	Unemployed
Bangladeshi Female	28.6%	4.1%
Bangladeshi Male	52.9%	7.4%
White: British Female	61.8%	2.7%
White: British Male	70.1%	4.0%
White: Irish Female	66.3%	2.1%
White: Irish Male	73.4%	2.9%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller Female	46.5%	2.3%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller Male	57.8%	2.2%
White: Roma Female	72.1%	8.4%
White: Roma Male	73.2%	7.7%
White: Other White Female	72.6%	5.2%
White: Other White Male	81.5%	4.1%



# Employment and Unemployment by Ethnic Group and Sex (continued)



- Most of these less numerous ethnic groups in Tower Hamlets have employment rates above 50%.
- Those with lower rates are Pakistani females (45.1%), Black African females (47.9%), Black Caribbean females (49.5%), black Other Female (46.6%), and Arab Females (39.2%).
- Indian males have the highest employment rate at over 75%.

	In employment	Unemployed
Chinese Female	60.3%	2.7%
Chinese Male	64.1%	3.0%
Indian Female	65.7%	4.3%
Indian Male	75.7%	2.4%
Pakistani Female	45.1%	4.6%
Pakistani Male	61.9%	3.9%
Other Asian Female	60.3%	3.5%
Other Asian Male	63.6%	4.2%
Black: African Female	47.9%	5.6%
Black: African Male	54.8%	7.3%
Black: Caribbean Female	49.5%	4.6%
Black: Caribbean Male	53.7%	8.8%
Black: Other Black Female	46.6%	5.6%
Black: Other Black Male	55.9%	9.9%
Mixed : White and Asian Female	63.3%	3.3%
Mixed : White and Asian Male	69.6%	3.9%
Mixed : White and Black African Female	53.2%	5.4%
Mixed : White and Black African Male	65.2%	8.3%
Mixed : White and Black Caribbean Female	58.2%	7.2%
Mixed : White and Black Caribbean Male	59.5%	9.0%
Mixed : Other Mixed Female	59.5%	4.7%
Mixed : Other Mixed Male	70.7%	6.4%
Other ethnic group: Arab Female	39.2%	4.3%
Other ethnic group: Arab Male	56.1%	5.0%
Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group Female	50.5%	5.7%
Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group Male	63.8%	5.0%

Source:: 2021 census



# Employment and Unemployment by Religion and Sex



- Adults aged 16+ with no religion were more likely to be in employment than residents of any major religion. This was true of both males and females.
- Muslim residents were the least likely to be in employment (both males and females) with Female Muslims by far the least likely to be in employment.
- In terms of unemployment, males of most religious groups (and none) were more likely than females from the same religion to be unemployed (the exceptions to this being Hindu, Sikh and Other).
- Buddhist males had the highest rate of unemployment at 8.1% followed by Muslim males at 7.0%.

	In employment	Unemployed
No Religion - Female	70.8%	3.8%
No Religion - Male	76.4%	4.3%
Christian - Female	58.7%	4.2%
Christian - Male	66.8%	4.7%
Buddhist - Female	56.6%	4.2%
Buddhist - Male	63.5%	8.1%
Hindu - Female	64.1%	4.5%
Hindu - Male	74.8%	2.1%
Jewish - Female	61.3%	2.8%
Jewish - Male	66.4%	3.8%
Muslim - Female	30.0%	4.2%
Muslim - Male	52.6%	7.0%
Sikh - Female	62.2%	5.1%
Sikh - Male	70.3%	4.0%
Other Religion - Female	63.0%	5.2%
Other Religion - Male	71.5%	5.0%
Not Answered - Female	55.5%	3.7%
Not Answered - Male	67.0%	5.2%

Source: 2021 census



# Occupation and Ethnic Group (analysis)



- The proportion of residents in different occupational groups varies by ethnicity.
- Of those residents in current work, 62.7% were in managerial, professional or associate professional occupations. When analysed by broad ethnic group, this was much lower among Black Caribbean and Black African and Black Other residents (46.6%) and Asian residents (48.8%). It was highest among White Irish residents (83.6%) followed by White British residents (73.7%) and White Other residents (71.0%).
- Residents from Black African, Black Caribbean and Black Other backgrounds were more likely to working in elementary occupations and caring, leisure and other service occupations than other broad ethnic groups. Residents from Asian backgrounds were more likely to be working in sales and customer service occupations, administrative and secretarial occupations and process, plant and machine occupations.
- The table of figures is presented on the next slide.



# Occupation and Ethnic Group (data)



Occupation (current)	Total	Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	White	White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	White: Irish	White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller, Roma or Other White	Other ethnic group
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	13.3%	10.4%	8.1%	12.7%	15.7%	16.1%	16.8%	15.2%	12.8%
2. Professional occupations	31.5%	25.4%	22.7%	32.4%	36.2%	35.4%	45.0%	36.6%	31.6%
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	17.9%	13.0%	15.9%	22.5%	20.9%	22.2%	21.8%	19.2%	15.6%
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	7.2%	9.0%	7.9%	6.4%	6.2%	6.9%	5.1%	5.4%	5.2%
5. Skilled trades occupations	4.8%	5.4%	4.3%	4.4%	4.5%	4.0%	2.7%	5.2%	5.4%
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	6.0%	7.9%	13.5%	5.0%	3.9%	4.2%	2.3%	3.7%	6.6%
7. Sales and customer service occupations	6.7%	12.0%	7.3%	5.4%	3.6%	3.6%	2.2%	3.8%	5.8%
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	4.5%	8.5%	6.0%	2.3%	2.0%	2.3%	1.0%	1.7%	4.7%
9. Elementary occupations	8.1%	8.3%	14.4%	8.8%	6.8%	5.2%	3.1%	9.1%	12.3%

Source: 2021 census

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# Occupation and Sex

- Employed females were slightly more likely than males to be working in managerial, professional and associate professional occupations (64.0% compared with 61.7%).
- Females were much more likely to be working in administrative and secretarial occupations and in caring, leisure and other service occupations.
- Males were much more likely to be working in skilled trades and in process, plant and machine occupations.

Occupation (current)	All	Female	Male
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	13.3%	11.6%	14.7%
2. Professional occupations	31.5%	32.6%	30.7%
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	17.9%	19.8%	16.3%
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	7.2%	10.0%	4.9%
5. Skilled trades occupations	4.8%	1.4%	7.6%
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	6.0%	9.4%	3.2%
7. Sales and customer service occupations	6.7%	7.0%	6.5%
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	4.5%	0.7%	7.5%
9. Elementary occupations	8.1%	7.3%	8.7%

Source: 2021 census



# Occupation and Religion

- Working residents who identified as Hindu were the most likely to be in managerial, professional and associate professional occupations (86.5%), followed by Jewish (83.1%), No religion (78.2%) and Sikh (76.3%).
- 62.6% of residents who identified as Christian were in such occupations which was almost identical to the average for all working residents of 62.7%.
- Residents who identified as Muslim were much less likely to be in these occupations (33.7%) whereas they are over-represented in every other occupation group.

Religion	No religion	Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religion	Not answered
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	15.6%	14.5%	16.4%	23.7%	20.0%	7.0%	20.1%	14.8%	13.0%
2. Professional occupations	40.0%	31.1%	34.9%	48.6%	40.5%	15.4%	41.2%	34.2%	35.5%
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	22.7%	17.0%	17.4%	14.2%	22.5%	11.3%	15.1%	22.2%	19.2%
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	5.5%	7.6%	5.9%	4.2%	4.7%	10.0%	5.8%	5.6%	7.0%
5. Skilled trades occupations	3.5%	5.6%	5.0%	1.3%	2.3%	6.9%	2.4%	3.4%	3.9%
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	3.0%	6.5%	7.9%	1.5%	3.2%	11.0%	3.6%	4.7%	4.5%
7. Sales and customer service occupations	3.5%	4.3%	4.8%	3.6%	3.1%	15.1%	5.0%	5.7%	6.3%
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	1.4%	3.1%	1.6%	0.8%	1.2%	11.8%	2.4%	1.6%	3.1%
9. Elementary occupations	4.9%	10.3%	6.2%	2.2%	2.4%	11.7%	4.5%	7.8%	7.5%

Source: 2021 census



# Occupation and Age

- The age group most likely to be in managerial, professional or associate professional occupations was 25–34-year-olds.
- Young residents aged 16-24 were much more likely to be in sales and customer service occupations.
- Older residents aged 50 and above were the most likely to be in elementary occupations and caring, leisure and service occupations.

Occupation (current)	16 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 49	50 to 64	65+
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	3.6%	12.6%	17.5%	14.3%	15.4%
2. Professional occupations	25.8%	38.9%	28.7%	18.7%	19.1%
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	18.0%	21.5%	15.3%	11.8%	12.0%
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	9.4%	7.0%	6.5%	7.3%	8.8%
5. Skilled trades occupations	3.8%	3.4%	5.6%	9.2%	7.8%
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	7.3%	3.9%	6.7%	9.9%	9.9%
7. Sales and customer service occupations	17.1%	5.2%	5.4%	5.6%	5.1%
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	2.4%	2.0%	6.6%	9.9%	7.2%
9. Elementary occupations	12.5%	5.6%	7.6%	13.2%	14.7%

Source: 2021 census





# Occupation and Disability



- Disabled residents in work were slightly less likely to be in managerial, professional or associate professional occupations (57.2%) than residents without a disability (63.2%) and were therefore slightly more likely to be working in most other occupation types, in particular caring, leisure and other service occupations.

Occupation (current)	Disabled	Not Disabled
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	10.3%	13.5%
2. Professional occupations	28.2%	31.8%
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	18.8%	17.8%
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	8.4%	7.1%
5. Skilled trades occupations	4.9%	4.8%
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	8.3%	5.8%
7. Sales and customer service occupations	7.4%	6.7%
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	4.5%	4.5%
9. Elementary occupations	9.3%	8.0%

Source: 2021 census



# Homeworking by Ethnic Group



- The census showed notable differences in homeworking by ethnicity.
- In March 2021, **less than a fifth** of Bangladeshi residents in work worked mainly or wholly from home.
- **Just over a third** of Black African residents in work did so.
- This compared to Chinese residents where more than three-quarters did so, Indian residents where more than seven in ten did so and White British residents where nearly six in ten did so.
- Whilst Bangladeshi residents were the least likely to work from home they were the most likely ethnic group to have a place of work within 5km of their home (37.6%).

Ethnic Group	%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Bangladeshi	19.2%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Chinese	76.1%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Indian	71.4%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Pakistani	52.9%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Other Asian	56.3%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: African	35.7%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: Caribbean	37.6%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: Other Black	35.7%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Asian	66.4%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black African	49.7%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean	39.8%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: Other Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	59.3%
White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	59.9%
White: Irish	64.0%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	44.7%
White: Roma	27.9%
White: Other White	61.5%
Other ethnic group: Arab	47.9%
Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	44.9%

Source: 2021 census



# Economy



# Size of the Tower Hamlets Economy

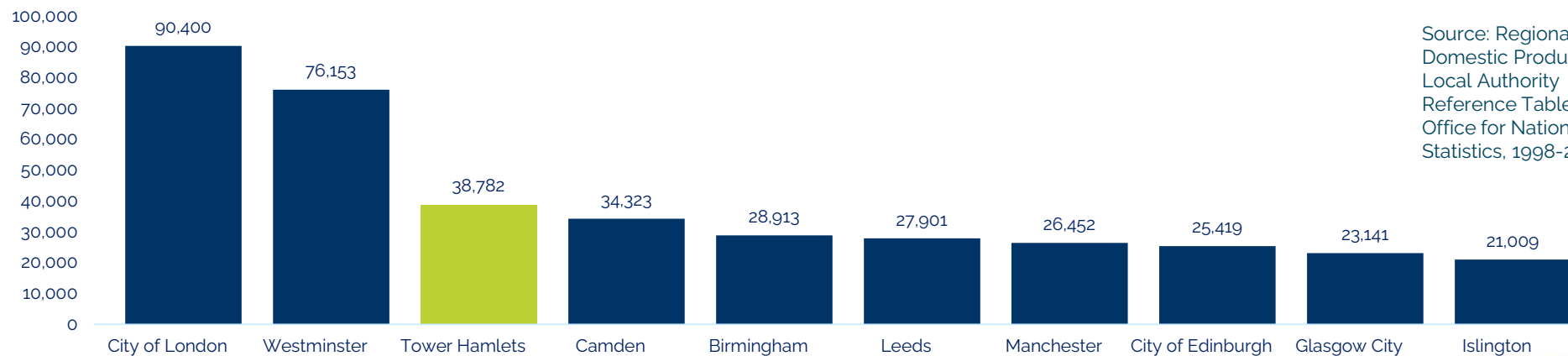


In 2021, Tower Hamlets had a total economic output, or 'gross value added', of around £38.8 billion – the third highest of any are in the UK and higher than any of the core UK cities outside of London.

The borough accounted for 8 per cent of the economic output in London and 2 per cent of the economic output in the UK.

Between 2011 and 2021, the economy of Tower Hamlets grew by £9.9 billion or 34 per cent.

**Gross Value Added (Balanced) at Current Basic Prices (£m), 2021**



Source: Regional Gross Domestic Product, Local Authority Reference Tables, Office for National Statistics, 1998-2021

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# Businesses operating in Tower Hamlets



In 2023, there were 16,305 enterprises based in Tower Hamlets.

Between 2010 and 2019, the number of enterprises in Tower Hamlets grew year on year, but since 2019 it has fallen by about 1000. This is entirely accounted for by a fall in the number of micro businesses (0-9 employees). The number of medium sized and large businesses has grown during this period.

Despite this, 97% of all enterprises in the borough are either micro businesses or small businesses (less than 50 employees)

<b>Number of enterprises, 2023</b>	<b>Tower Hamlets</b>	<b>Tower Hamlets</b>	<b>London</b>	<b>London</b>
Enterprises	(Numbers)	(%)	(Numbers)	(%)
Micro (0 To 9)	14,350	88	474,400	90.2
Small (10 To 49)	1,505	9.2	40,970	7.8
Medium (50 To 249)	335	2.1	8,185	1.6
Large (250+)	115	0.7	2,300	0.4
Total	16,305	-	525,855	-

(Source: ONS Interdepartmental Business Register 2023)

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# Jobs in Tower Hamlets



- There were 299,000 jobs in Tower Hamlets on census day.
- This figure means there are more jobs than working-age residents.
- This figure is slightly fewer than the number of jobs prior in 2019 (304,000) whereas the number of jobs in London grew by around 350,000 in the same period and the number of jobs in Great Britain grew by more than 900,000

**% of employee jobs by sector, Tower Hamlets, London and Great Britain**



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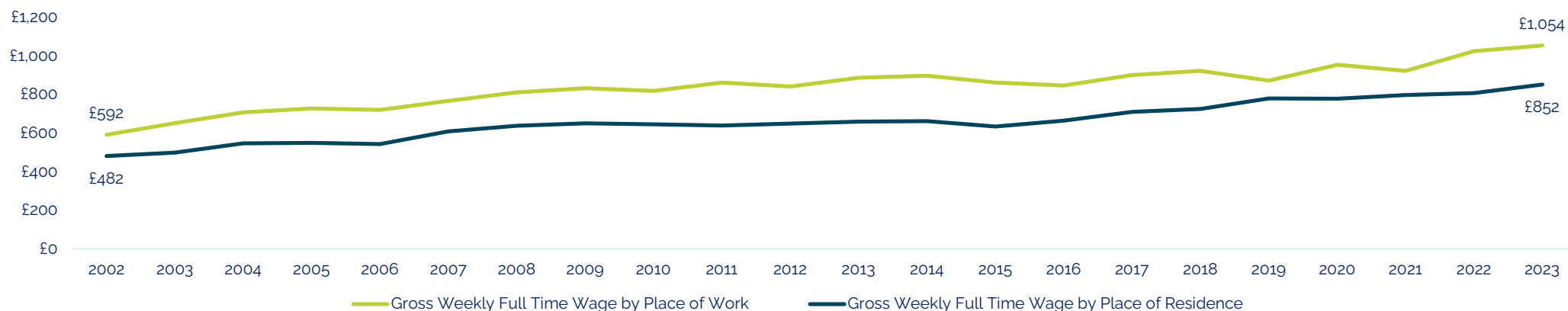


# Earnings



- At £1,054, median earnings for workers in Tower Hamlets are the second highest in the UK (after the City of London).
- Residents overall earn around £202 less on average than those working in Tower Hamlets – the largest gap between workers and residents in Great Britain.
- Earnings for males who work in Tower Hamlets are much higher than for females (£1,148 per week compared with £939 per week) but male residents in full-time work earn less than female residents in full-time work (£836 compared with £862).

**Gross Weekly Wage by Place of Work and Place of Residence, 2002-2023**



Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, Resident Analysis and Workplace Analysis, 2023

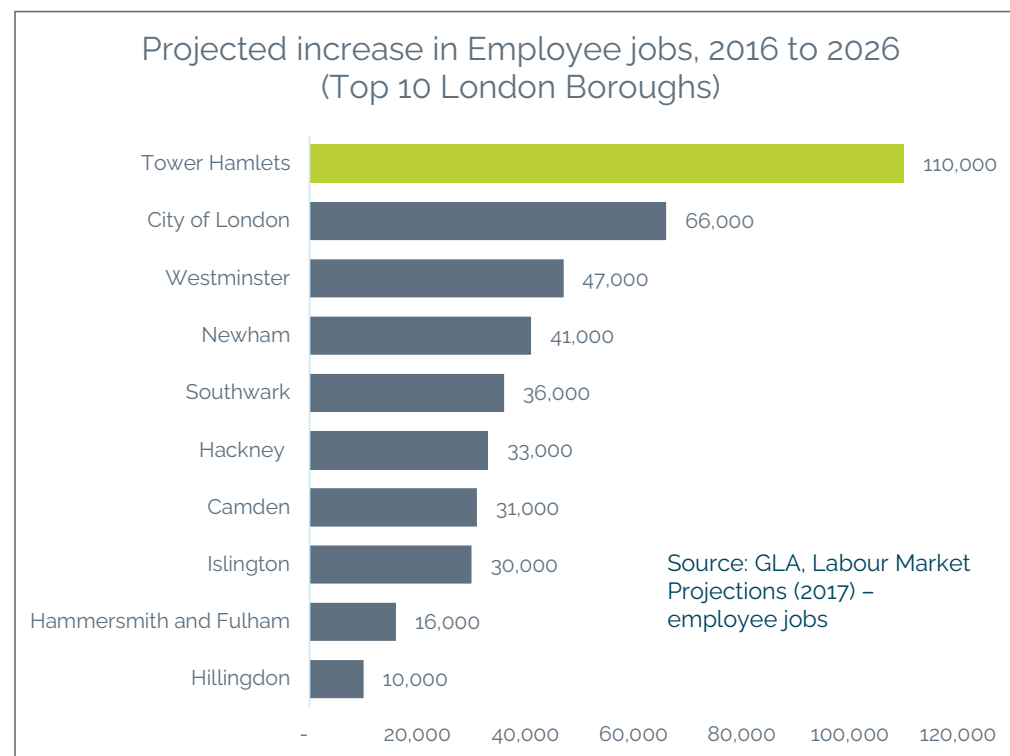
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# Future Growth



- The GLA project an increase of 110,000 jobs between 2016 and 2026 – by far the largest increase in London.
- Geographically, most jobs are expected to be located in Canary Wharf and City Fringe
- The biggest sectoral increase is professional, scientific and technical (+20%).
- Despite this growth, there is expected to be a 13% fall in manufacturing jobs.
- \*It is important to note that these projections do not take into account the considerable economic impacts of the 2020 Covid 19 Pandemic.





# Poverty and deprivation

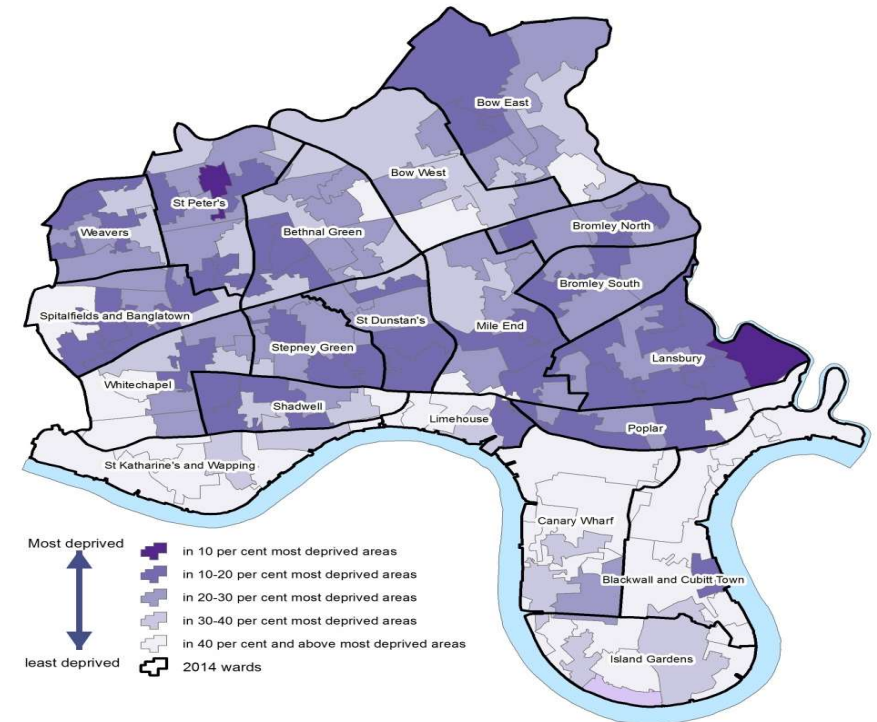


# Poverty and Deprivation - map



- Tower Hamlets, in common with other parts of inner London, includes a mixture of better- and worse-off. Some residents are highly paid, while many residents have struggled with the impact of the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis. Some households are 'trapped' in poverty, particularly those who are out of work or in low-paid work and especially families with children.
- Tower Hamlets has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest Gross value added per hour worked of any local authority, 4<sup>th</sup> highest Gross median weekly pay, above-average Gross disposable household income per head
- **19.2%** of the population was income-deprived in 2019. Of the 316 local authorities in England (excluding the Isles of Scilly), Tower Hamlets is ranked **22nd most income-deprived**.
- In the least deprived neighbourhood in Tower Hamlets, 2.5% of people are estimated to be income-deprived. In the most deprived neighbourhood, 31.8% of people are estimated to be income-deprived.

Deprivation in Tower Hamlets, Indices of Multiple Deprivation, 2019



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2019 Ordnance Survey  
London Borough of Tower Hamlets 100019288.



# Child Poverty (Children in low income families)



- **26.5%** of children in Tower Hamlets were living in **relative** low-income families before housing costs in 2023. That was the equal 42nd highest proportion among UK local authority areas (of 361).
- There were 15,254 children in relative low-income families in 2023, down slightly from 15,480 in 2022.
- Tower Hamlets had the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of children living in relative low-income families among London Boroughs after the City of London (which is often a statistical outlier due to its small population).
- In 2023, **20.7%** of children in Tower Hamlets were living in **absolute** low-income families before housing costs. That was the 46<sup>th</sup> highest proportion among UK LA areas (of 361), placing Tower Hamlets within the top quintile nationally on this measure
- There were 11,915 children in absolute low-income families in 2023, down from 12,481 in 2022.
- Tower Hamlets had the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in London after the City of London.
- Other measures capturing child poverty exist, including some which measure child poverty after housing costs and which show higher rates of poverty but these are not official government statistics.

Source: [Children in low income families: local area statistics 2014 to 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-in-low-income-families-local-area-statistics-2014-to-2023)



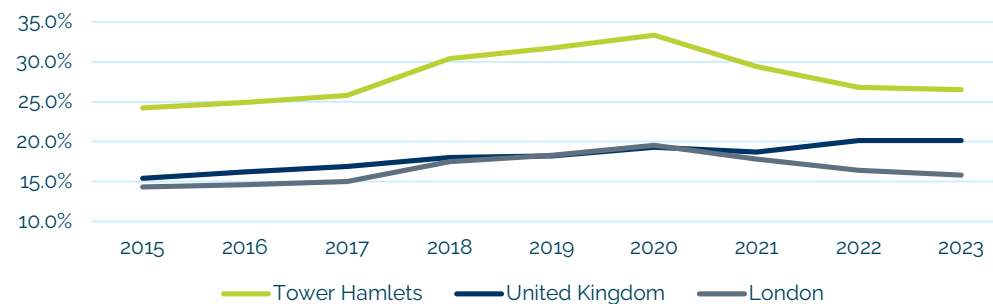
# Child Poverty



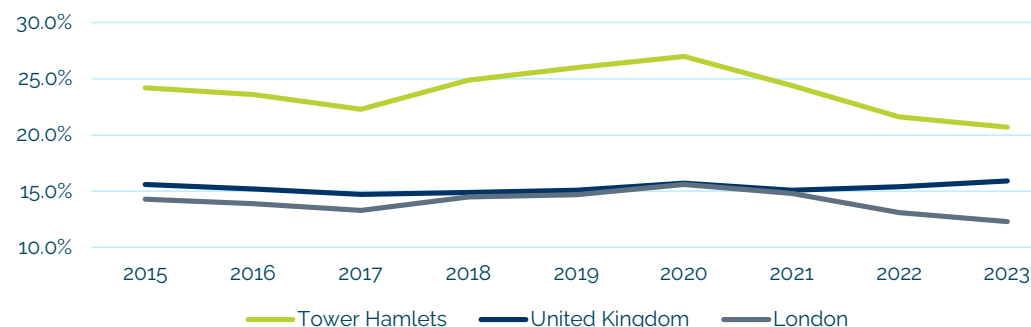
- The proportion of children in the borough living in [relative low-income families](#) decreased slightly from 26.8% in 2022 to 26.5% in 2023.
- The proportion of children living in absolute low-income families decreased from 21.6% in 2022 to 20.7% in 2023.
- After peaking in 2020, there has been a general downward trend in the proportion of children living in both relative and absolute low-income families.

Source: Children in low income families: local area statistics 2014 to 2023

### % of children in relative low income families

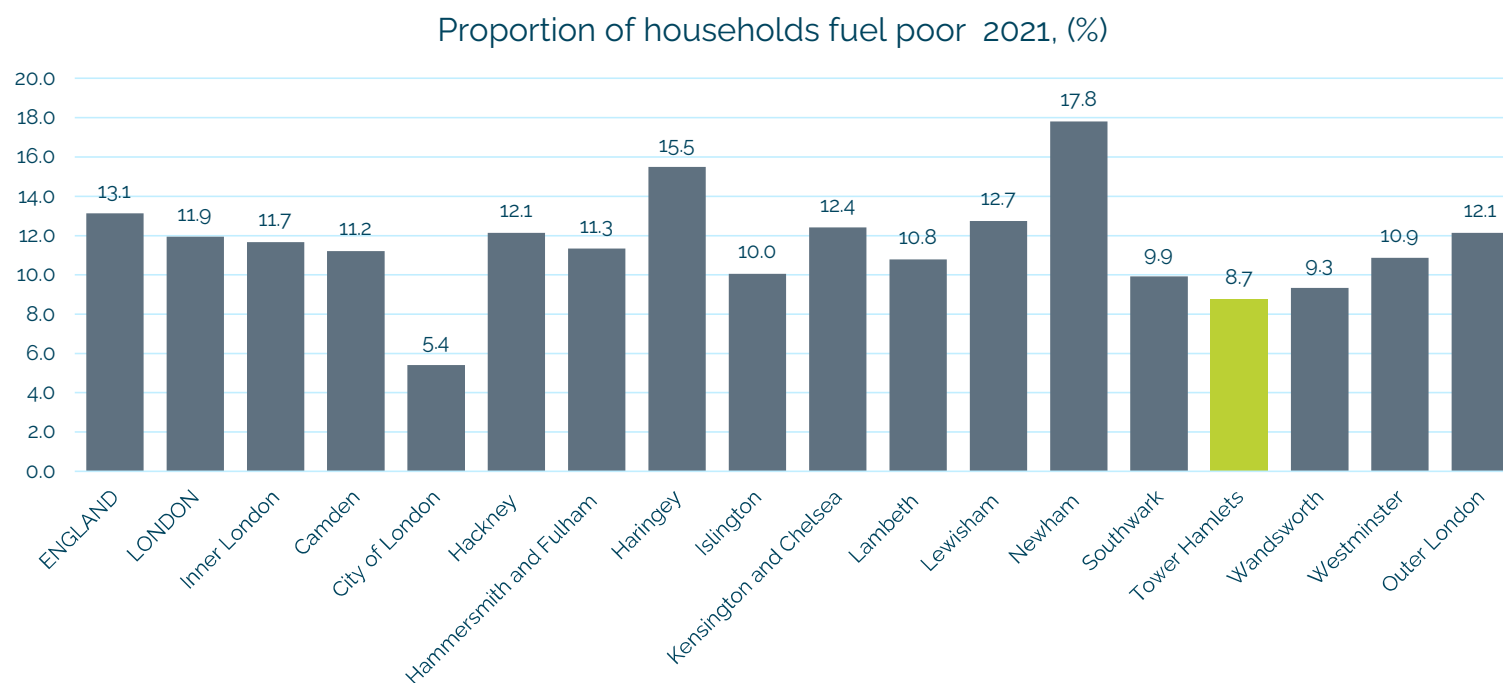


### % of children in absolute low income families



# Fuel Poverty – London boroughs

- Tower Hamlets has the second-lowest level of [fuel poverty](#) in London after the City of London.
- At 8.7%, fuel poverty is well below the levels in Inner London (11.7%), Outer London (12.1%), and England (13.1).



Source: Fuel Poverty Sub Regional Statistics, Department for Energy security and Net Zero





# Housing

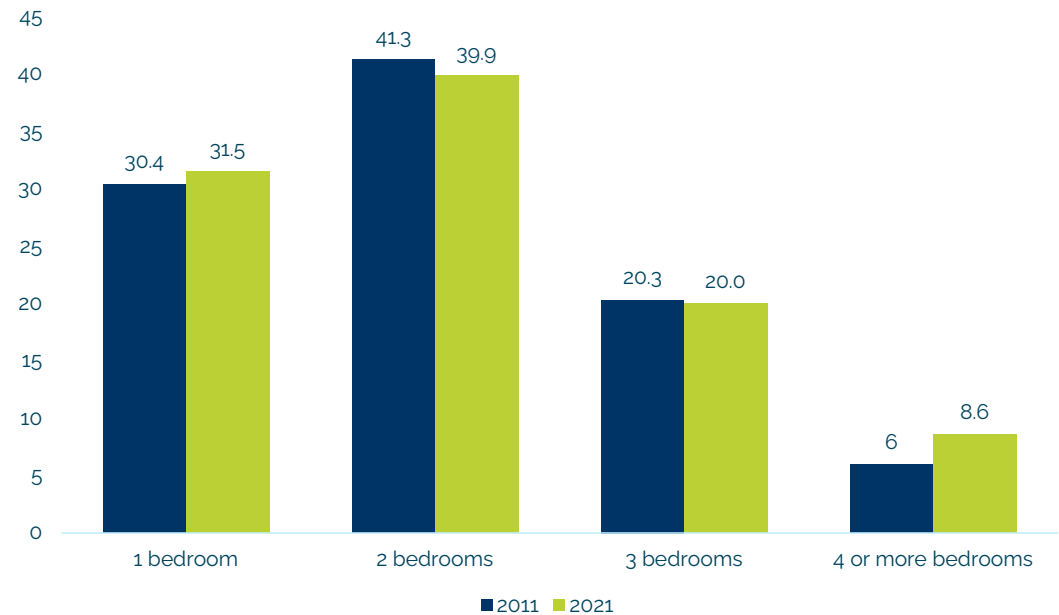


# Housing – property size



- Of the 120,539 households,
  - 37,943 **(31.5%)** had **one bedroom**,
  - 48,055 **(39.9%)** had **two bedrooms**,
  - 24,119 **(20.0%)** had **three bedrooms**
  - 10,422 **(8.6%)** had **four or more bedrooms**.
- Since 2011 the largest increase in households came in 4+ bedroom households (28% increase) and 1 bedroom households (26% increase) with slightly smaller increases in 2 bedroom households (15%) and three bedroom households (17%).

Number of bedrooms as a % of all households, 2011 and 2021



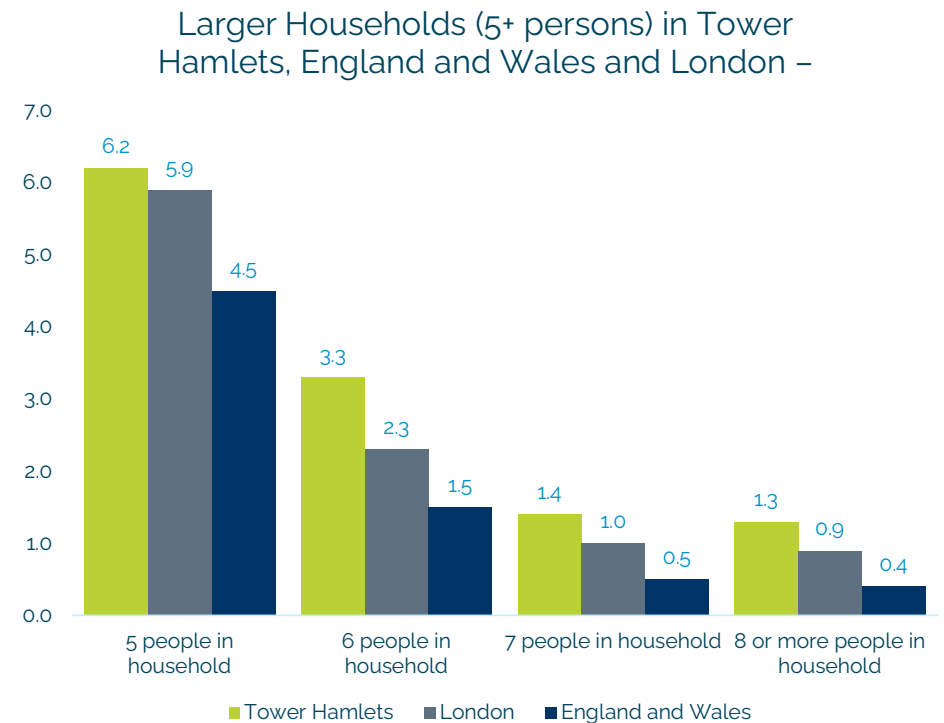
Source:: 2021 census



# Household size – larger households



- Tower Hamlets has a greater proportion of larger households than both London, and England and Wales.
- 12.2% of Tower Hamlets households had at least 5 persons compared with 10.1% in London, and 6.9% in England and Wales.
- 2.7% of Tower Hamlets households had at least seven persons – three times the proportion in England and Wales (0.9%).



Source:: 2021 census





# Housing – Accommodation



- In 2021, **81% of households lived in purpose-built flats**. This was the second highest proportion in England and Wales after the City of London and was twice the proportion in the London region.
- **12% of households lived in a house** while only 0.9% lived in a detached house. This was far smaller than England and Wales where 77.9% lived in a house and 23.2% lived in a detached house.
- Compared with other parts of London, only a small proportion lived in a property that is part of a converted or shared house (2.3% in Tower Hamlets compared with 11.1% in London).
- 191 households (0.2%) were in a caravan or other mobile structure. Within Tower Hamlets this is likely to be primarily houseboat residents.

Accommodation type	Tower Hamlets %	London %	England and Wales %
Detached	0.9%	6.1%	23.2%
Semi-detached	2.3%	18.6%	31.5%
Terraced	8.8%	21.3%	23.2%
Purpose-built block of flats	80.7%	40.3%	16.7%
Part of a converted or shared house	2.3%	11.1%	3.4%
Part of another converted building	3.5%	1.2%	0.8%
Commercial building	1.3%	1.4%	0.8%
Caravan or other mobile structure	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%

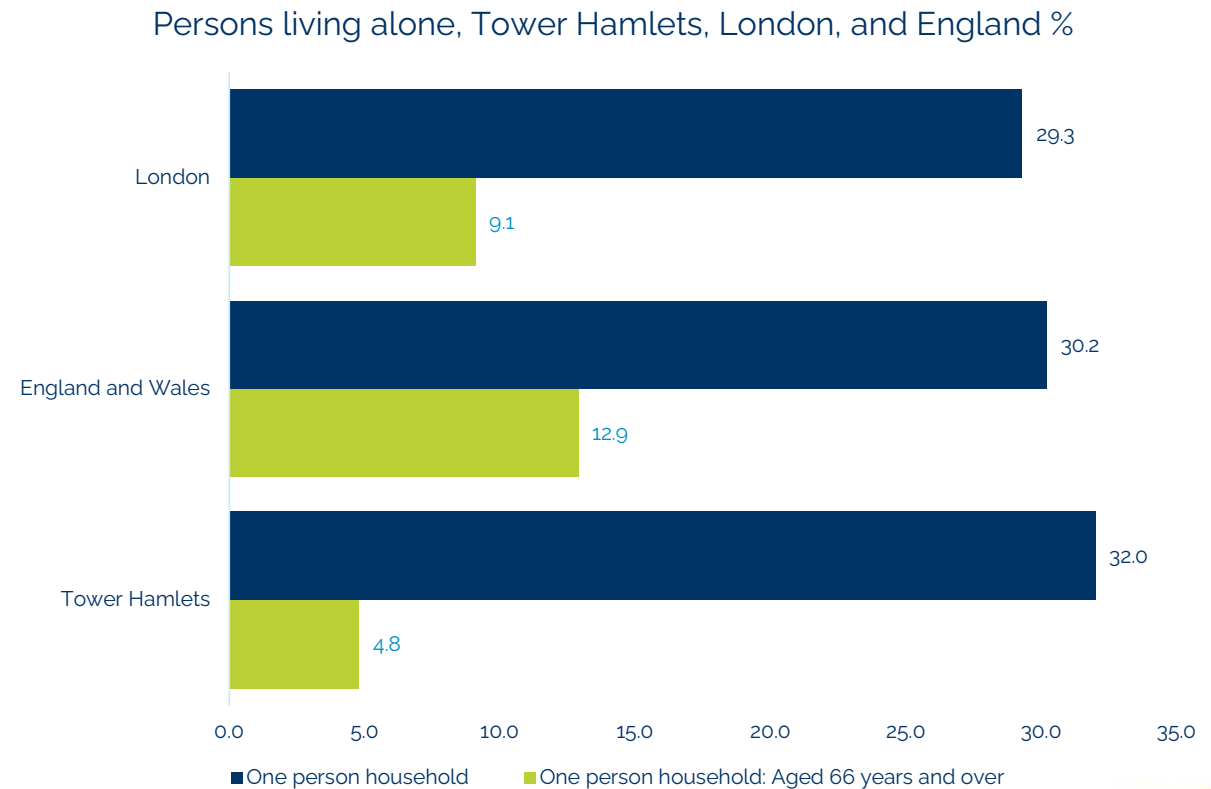
Source: 2021 census



# Household composition – single person households



- There were 38,530 one-person households in Tower Hamlets which represented **32%** of all households.
- A greater proportion of residents in Tower Hamlets are living alone than in London (29.3%) or England and Wales (32.0%). The large majority of these are working-age adults.
- By contrast the proportion of households made up of older people (66+) living alone was much smaller than other areas. At 4.8%, it was just over half the rate in London and considerably lower than the rate in England and Wales of 12.9%.



Source: 2021 census



# Living arrangements



- **44%** of adults in Tower Hamlets were living as a cohabiting couple while 56% were not living in a couple.
- The proportion of adult residents living in a couple was well below the proportion in England and Wales (58%) and below the proportion living in London (49%).
- In total, 2.2% of all adult residents were living in a same sex couple of some kind. This was above the rate in England and Wales (1%) and London (1.4%).
- The proportion of adults who were divorced (4.2%) was below that in England and Wales (6.6%) or London (6%).
- Likewise the proportion of adults who were widowed (2.7%) was below the rate in England and Wales (5.6%) or London (4%).

Source:: 2021 census

Living arrangements: adults in Tower Hamlets	number	%
Total	246,800	100.0
Living in a couple: Married or in a civil partnership	71,188	28.8
Living in a couple: Married or in a civil partnership: Opposite-sex couple	69,479	28.2
Living in a couple: Married or in a civil partnership: Same-sex couple	1,709	0.7
Living in a couple: Separated, but still married or in a civil partnership	201	0.1
Living in a couple: Cohabiting	36,908	15.0
Living in a couple: Cohabiting: Opposite-sex couple	33,184	13.4
Living in a couple: Cohabiting: Same-sex couple	3,724	1.5
Not living in a couple: Single (never married and never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	109,704	44.5
Not living in a couple: Married or in a registered civil partnership	7,331	3.0
Not living in a couple: Separated (including those who are married and those who are in civil partnerships)	4,439	1.8
Not living in a couple: Divorced or formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	10,462	4.2
Not living in a couple: Widowed or surviving partner from civil partnership	6,567	2.7



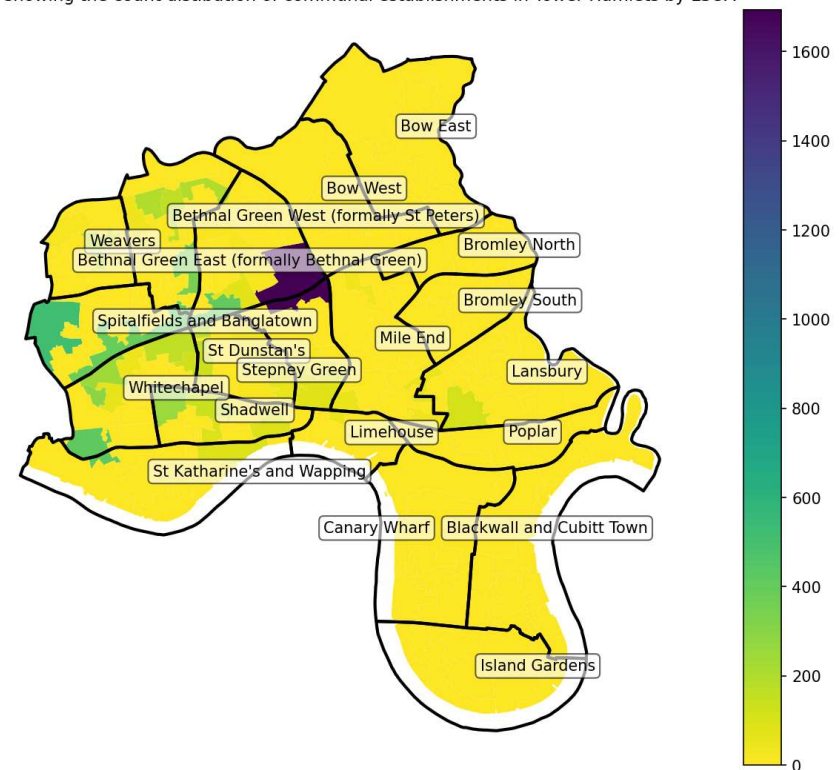
# Communal establishments



- Communal establishments are a type of residence that provide accommodation for multiple households but often have shared facilities and a shared entrance to the property.
- The most common type of communal establishment in Tower Hamlets is dedicated student accommodation but such establishments also include some long-stay health facilities and care homes.
- In 2021, there were 6,627 residents of communal establishments. This was a significant increase from 2011 when there were 3,753.

Distribution of Communal Establishments

A map showing the count distribution of communal establishments in Tower Hamlets by LSOA



Source:: 2021 census

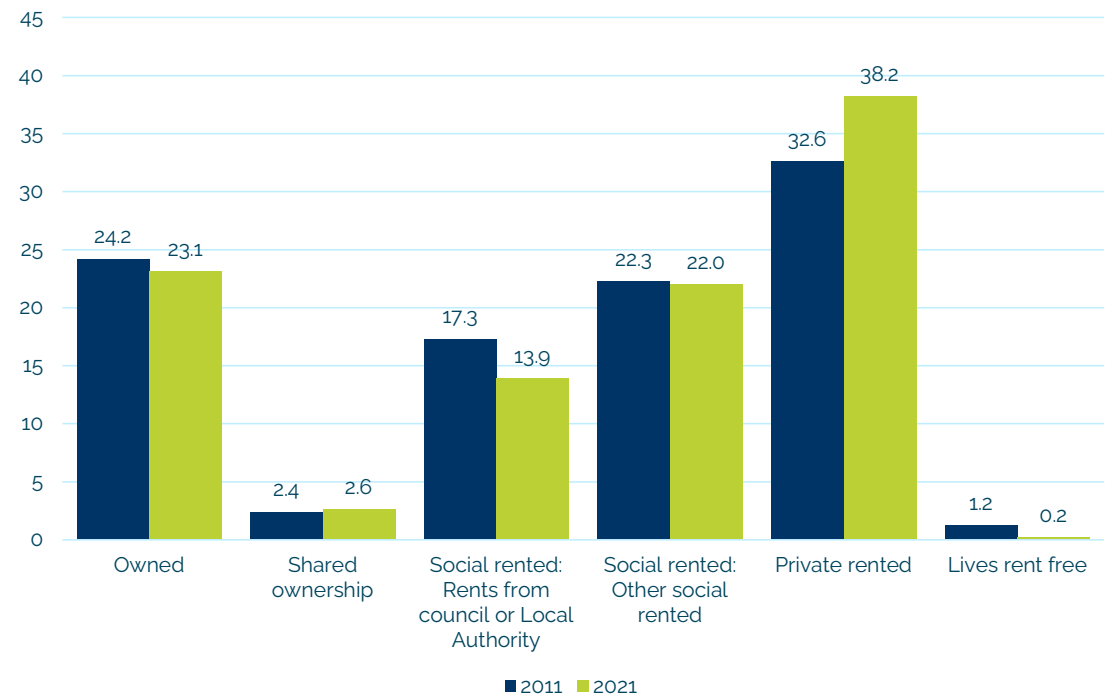


# Housing – tenure-type (1)



- Between 2011 and 2021 there was a slight fall in the proportion of **owner-occupiers** from 24.2% (of households) in 2011 to **23.1% in 2021**
- There was a decline in the proportion of **social renting** households from 39.6% in 2011 to **35.9% in 2021**. Of these, 16,697 (13.9%) of households reported that they rent from the local authority.
- **Note** that there is a known issue with this census question where many social renters are unaware (or do not distinguish between) whether their landlord is the local authority or Registered Social Landlord (Housing Association) and therefore the question is often answered incorrectly. The latest dwelling stock data suggests that there are only around 11,500 local authority-owned dwellings in the borough.
- There was a rise in the proportion of **private renting** households from 32.6% in 2011 to **38.2% in 2021**.

Tower Hamlets Household Tenure, 2021 and 2011 (%)



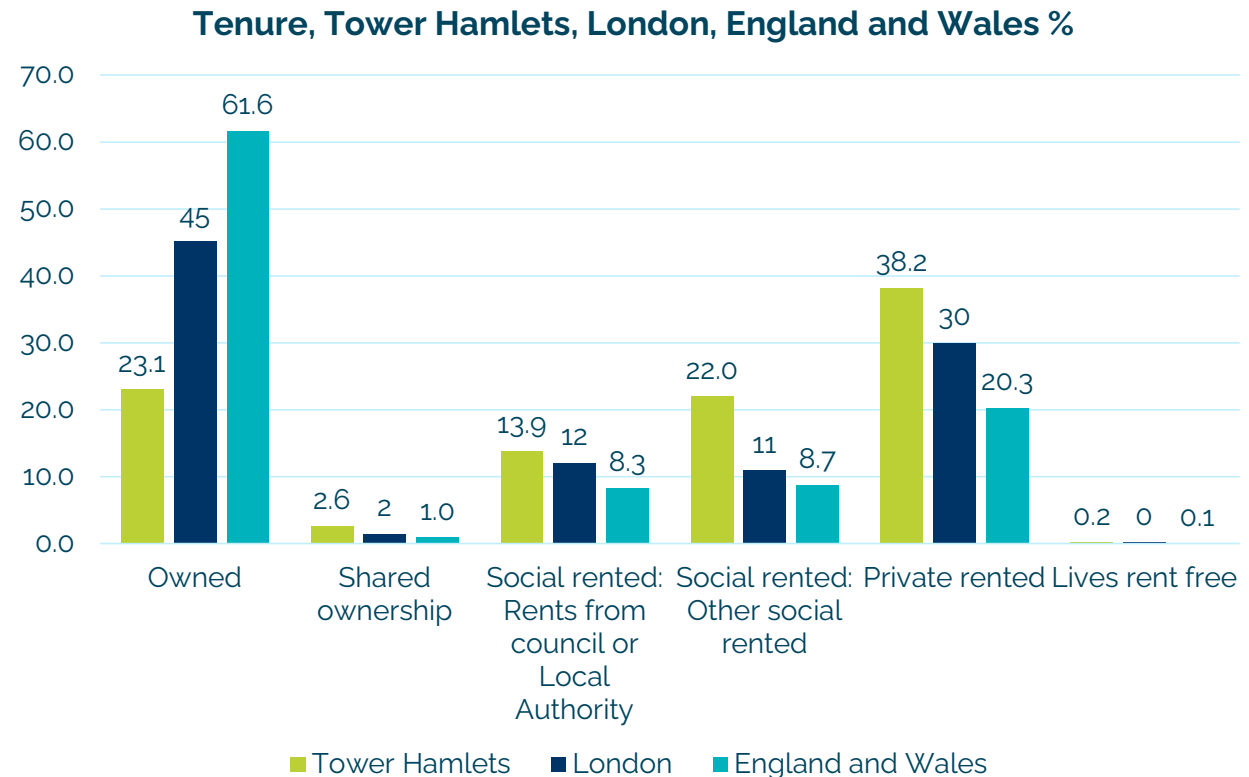
Source: 2021 census



# Housing – tenure-type (2)



- In 2021 Tower Hamlets had the **lowest proportion of owner occupiers of any area in England and Wales at 23.1%**. The ten areas with the smallest proportions of owner occupiers were all inner London boroughs.
- The total proportion of social renting households was 35.9% - significantly higher than London (23.1%) and more than twice the proportion in England and Wales (17.0%)
- At 38.2%, Tower Hamlets had the 5<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of households renting privately in England and Wales in 2021.
- At 2.6% the proportion of shared ownership households were also higher than London or England and Wales.



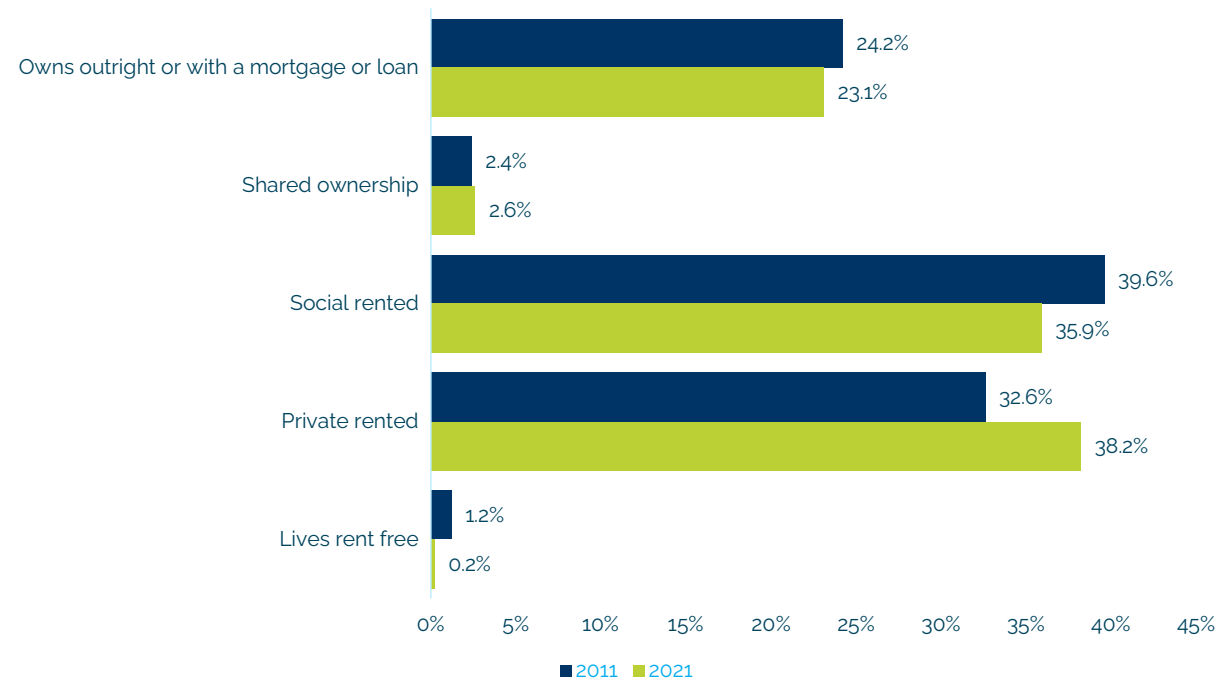
Source: 2021 census



# Housing – tenure-type change between 2011-2021



- Tower Hamlets saw England's **third-largest** percentage-point fall in the proportion of households in the social rented sector (from 39.6% in 2011 to 35.9% in 2021).
- England's largest decreases in the percentage of households in the social rented sector occurred in Nottingham (from 29.7% to 25.5%) followed by Southwark (from 43.7% to 39.7%).
- Despite the decrease, Tower Hamlets was in the highest 2% of English local authority areas for the share of households in the social rented sector in 2021.



Source: 2021 census



# Housing – tenure-type by ethnicity



- Household reference persons from a Black Caribbean, Black African or Black Other background were by far the least likely to own their own home, whether outright or with a mortgage.
- They were the most likely to be renting through the Council or a social landlord.
- The next lowest level of home ownership was among Household Reference persons from Other Ethnic groups, followed by those from an Asian ethnic group.
- The group that was most likely to be renting privately were from a White Other background (including Gypsy or Irish Traveller and Roma). This was also the group that by far the least likely to be in a social rented tenure.

Ethnic group	Owned: Owns outright	Owned: Owns with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership	Rented: Social rented	Rented: Private rented or lives rent free
Total	7.8%	17.9%	35.9%	38.4%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	5.5%	14.6%	50.2%	29.7%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	3.3%	7.8%	66.1%	22.8%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	6.4%	17.2%	30.6%	45.7%
White	10.4%	22.2%	22.4%	45.1%
White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	13.2%	24.6%	30.6%	31.6%
White: Irish	11.8%	23.4%	24.5%	40.4%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller, Roma or Other White	5.6%	18.1%	8.8%	67.5%
Other ethnic group	5.4%	12.5%	34.3%	47.9%

Source: 2021 census



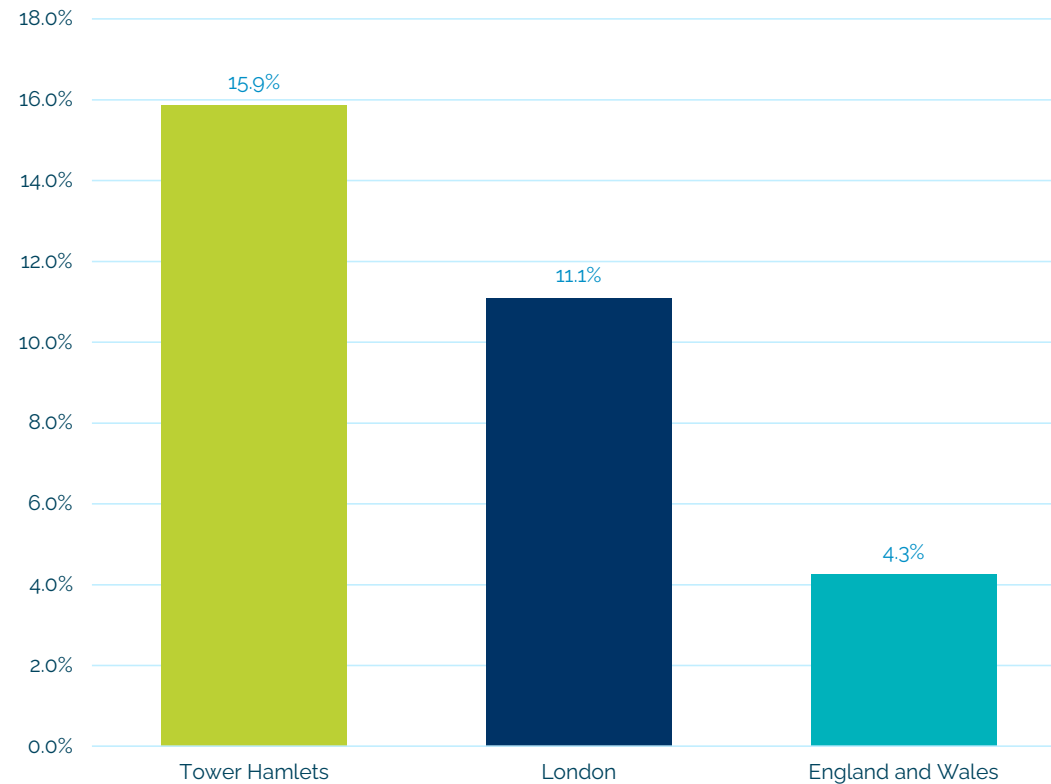


# Housing – overcrowding in Tower Hamlets



- Based on the measure of having too few bedrooms, **15.9% of households** were **overcrowded** (19,130 households).
- The overall figure is slightly lower than in 2011 when it was 16.4%
- **30% of residents** (90,379 people) are overcrowded.
- **9%** of residents in households (28,057 people) are very overcrowded.
- 24.2% had one more bedroom room than they needed and 7.5% had two more bedrooms than they needed.
- 14,378 households with dependent children are overcrowded (11.9% of all households).
- **44%** of all households with dependent children are overcrowded.
- **75%** of all overcrowded households have dependent children in them.
- **71%** of households in the 'other' category (likely to be multigenerational) are overcrowded.

Overcrowded households (%)



Occupancy rating for bedrooms	Residents	%			
Occupancy rating of bedrooms: +2 or more (Very underoccupied)	16,166	5%			
Occupancy rating of bedrooms: +1 (Underoccupied)	55,959	18%			
Occupancy rating of bedrooms: 0 (Ideally occupied)	141,177	46%	Not overcrowded	213,302	70%
Occupancy rating of bedrooms: -1 (Overcrowded)	62,322	21%	Overcrowded	90,379	30%
Occupancy rating of bedrooms: -2 or less (Very overcrowded)	28,057	9%			
	303,681	100%			

Source: 2021 census

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# Housing – overcrowding in London



- With **15.9% of households overcrowded** Tower Hamlets has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of overcrowded households in London.
- Newham (21.5%), Barking and Dagenham (17.8%), and Brent (16.9%) have a higher proportion of their households overcrowded.

Area	All households	All overcrowded households	%
Barking and Dagenham	73,902	13,141	17.8%
Barnet	148,917	13,966	9.4%
Bexley	95,300	5,832	6.1%
Brent	118,612	20,053	16.9%
Bromley	135,828	6,120	4.5%
Camden	92,756	8,835	9.5%
City of London	4,914	233	4.7%
Croydon	152,946	15,868	10.4%
Ealing	133,659	17,628	13.2%
Enfield	120,925	15,630	12.9%
Greenwich	114,053	12,219	10.7%
Hackney	106,081	13,470	12.7%
Hammersmith and Fulham	81,244	7,393	9.1%
Haringey	105,092	14,145	13.5%
Harrow	89,643	10,934	12.2%
Havering	101,277	6,125	6.0%
Hillingdon	109,228	12,389	11.3%
Hounslow	102,961	14,989	14.6%
Islington	96,496	9,048	9.4%
Kensington and Chelsea	66,884	5,424	8.1%
Kingston upon Thames	65,626	3,938	6.0%
Lambeth	134,689	14,223	10.6%
Lewisham	122,392	13,961	11.4%
Merton	81,729	7,678	9.4%
Newham	115,507	24,863	21.5%
Redbridge	103,714	13,630	13.1%
Richmond upon Thames	80,705	3,221	4.0%
Southwark	130,818	15,970	12.2%
Sutton	82,348	5,931	7.2%
<b>Tower Hamlets</b>	<b>120,539</b>	<b>19,130</b>	<b>15.9%</b>
Waltham Forest	102,903	13,833	13.4%
Wandsworth	137,393	10,340	7.5%
Westminster	94,814	9,711	10.2%
England and Wales	24,783,199	1,054,423	4.3%
London	3,423,890	379,871	11.1%

Source: 2021 census

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# Housing – overcrowding by ethnicity



- There was significant variation in the level of overcrowding based on the ethnicity of the household reference person.
- This ranged from **4.9%** for households where the household reference person was White British to **30.8%** where the household reference person was Asian.
- Households in which the household reference person was Black African, Black Caribbean, or Black Other were also above the borough average for overcrowding and significantly above the proportion for households where the household reference person were from White backgrounds.

Ethnic group (Household reference person)	% Overcrowded
Total	15.9%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	30.8%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	19.3%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	9.6%
White	6.2%
White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	4.9%
White: Irish	3.0%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller, Roma or Other White	8.6%
Other ethnic group	14.4%

Source: 2021 census



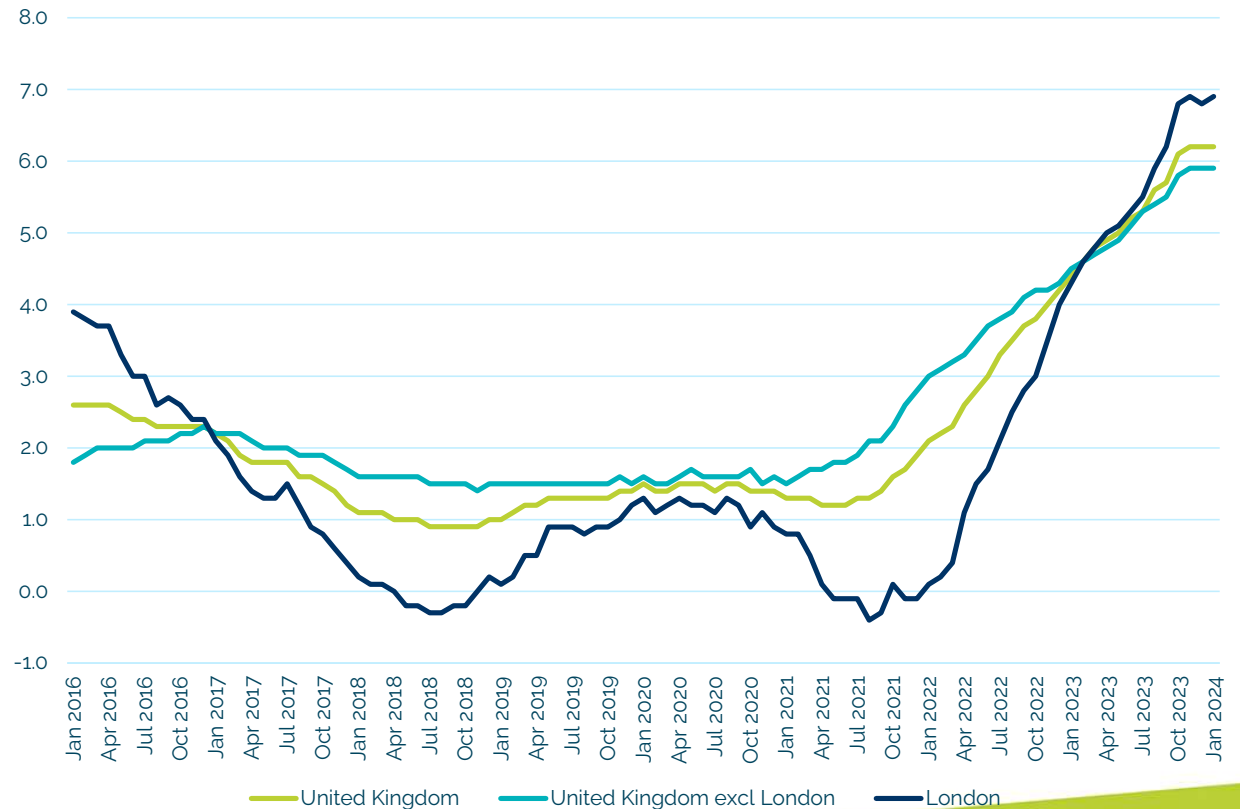
# Private Rental costs



- London's [annual percentage change in private rental prices](#) was 10.6% in the 12 months to February 2024.
- London is the least affordable region in the United Kingdom, with a [median rent of 35% of median income](#).
- [The table below shows median monthly rental prices in Tower Hamlets](#) (October 2022 to September 2023).

Size	Cost
Room	£845
Studio	£1,525
One bed property	£1,650
Two beds	£2,000
Three bedrooms	£2,400
Four or more bedrooms	£3,300
All summary	£1,900

**Private rental price percentage change over 12 months, UK and London, January 2016 to January 2024**



Source: Private Rent and House Prices, March 2024, ONS

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# Housing affordability



- [Data from the Office for National Statistics indicates](#) that Tower Hamlets has an affordability ratio of 8.52 meaning average house prices in the borough are 8.52 times average earnings. This figure is a measure of the ratio of median house price to median gross annual workplace-based earnings.
- By this measure, Tower Hamlets is the most affordable borough in London. Tower Hamlets comes out as the most affordable because the median income is the second highest (£58,121), while median property prices are 23rd-highest (£525,000). The income figure relates to jobs in the borough, **not** to the income of residents.
- 88% of the properties in Tower Hamlets are [flats](#), which [cost an average](#) (median) of £515,000 in the quarter to March 2022, the 9<sup>th</sup> highest level in London, 2.3 times the lowest (Barking and Dagenham).

LA name	2023 Ratio	2023 Earnings	2023 House prices
City of London	14.36	£61,984	£890,000
Barking and Dagenham	11.04	£34,430	£380,000
Barnet	15.69	£38,749	£608,000
Bexley	11.53	£36,852	£425,000
Brent	16.33	£34,442	£562,500
Bromley	13.04	£39,871	£520,000
Camden	16.99	£45,326	£770,000
Croydon	10.72	£39,641	£425,050
Ealing	14.65	£37,514	£549,480
Enfield	13.21	£35,964	£475,000
Greenwich	13.28	£35,148	£466,700
Hackney	12.95	£45,545	£590,000
Hammersmith and Fulham	17.43	£43,884	£765,000
Haringey	16.63	£35,175	£585,000
Harrow	16.26	£34,437	£560,000
Havering	10.98	£40,993	£450,000
Hillingdon	13.63	£35,881	£488,975
Hounslow	12.74	£39,238	£500,000
Islington	13.80	£48,334	£667,000
Kensington and Chelsea	34.26	£37,216	£1,275,000
Kingston upon Thames	15.18	£37,880	£575,000
Lambeth	13.49	£40,772	£550,000
Lewisham	12.10	£39,266	£475,000
Merton	14.83	£37,082	£550,000
Newham	11.02	£39,724	£437,750
Redbridge	14.58	£34,745	£506,500
Richmond upon Thames	18.36	£40,022	£735,000
Southwark	12.70	£42,589	£541,000
Sutton	13.18	£35,277	£465,000
<b>Tower Hamlets</b>	<b>8.52</b>	<b>£58,121</b>	<b>£495,000</b>
Waltham Forest	14.92	£34,641	£517,000
Wandsworth	16.61	£39,768	£660,659
Westminster	19.72	£49,443	£975,000

Source: Housing Affordability in England and Wales, 2022, ONS

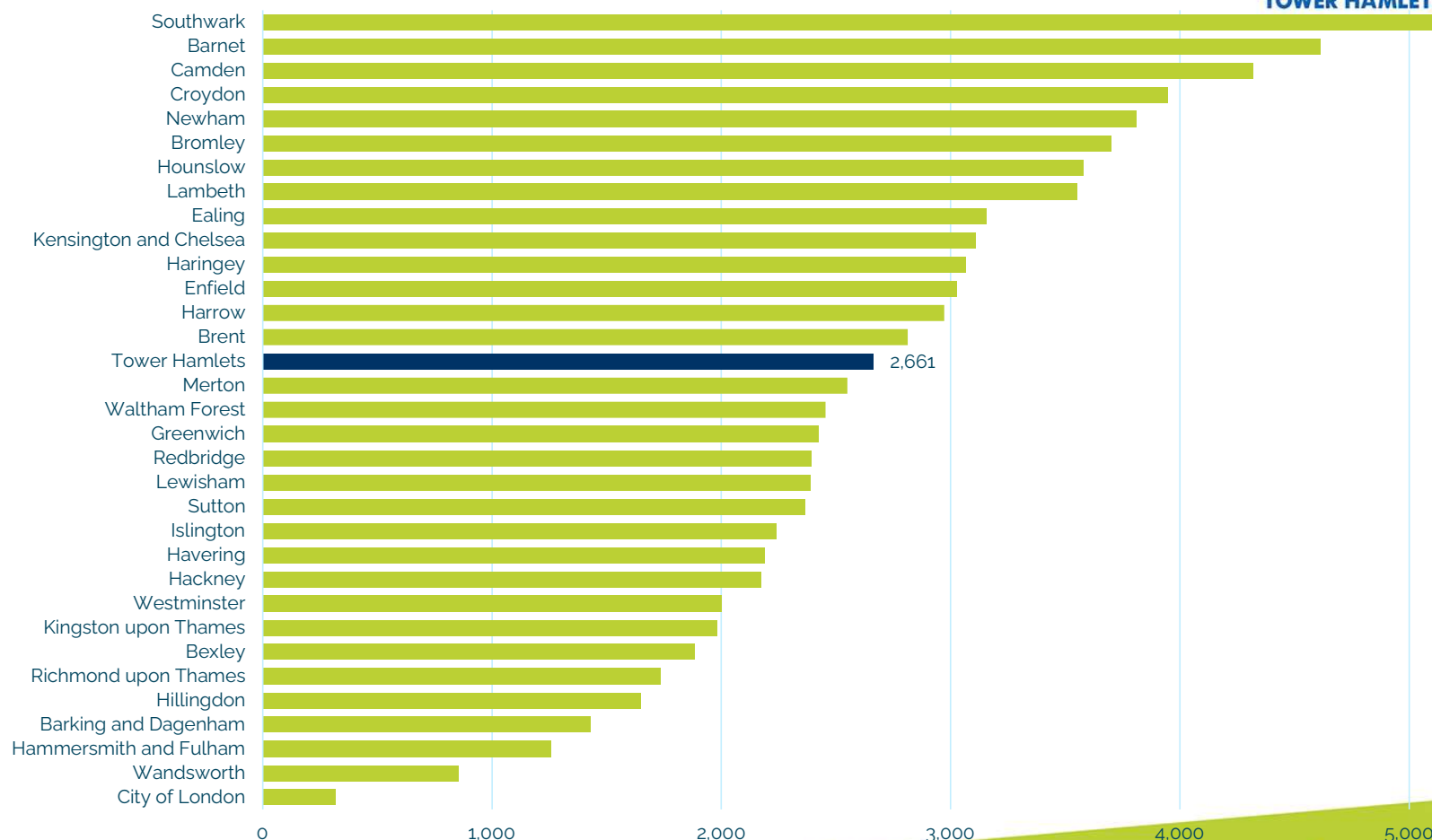


# Vacant dwellings



Vacant dwellings

Tower Hamlets had [2,661 vacant dwellings](#) in October 2023, the most recent data. This figure is the fifteenth highest in London, just over half the figure of the borough with the most – Southwark with 5,143.



Source: Live Tables on Dwelling Stock,, DLUHC

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# Health



# Health in summary



The health of people in Tower Hamlets is varied compared with the England average. Tower Hamlets is one of the 20% most deprived districts/unitary authorities in England and about 30.3% (16,475) children live in low-income families. Life expectancy for both men and women is similar to the England average.

## Health inequalities

- Life expectancy is 11.4 years lower for men and 4.8 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Tower Hamlets than in the least deprived areas.

## Child health

- In Year 6, 28% of children are classified as obese, higher than the average for England. The rate for alcohol-specific hospital admissions among those under 18 is 22\*, better than the average for England. This represents 15 admissions per year. Levels of GCSE attainment (average attainment 8 score), breastfeeding and smoking in pregnancy are better than the England average.

## Adult health

- The rate for alcohol-related harm hospital admissions is 493\*, better than the average for England. This represents 1,085 admissions per year. The rate for self-harm hospital admissions is 65\*, better than the average for England. This represents 210 admissions per year. Estimated levels of excess weight in adults (aged 18+) are better than the England average. Estimated levels of smoking prevalence in adults (aged 18+) and smoking prevalence (in routine and manual occupations) are worse than the England average. The rates of new sexually transmitted infections, killed and seriously injured on roads and new cases of tuberculosis are worse than the England average. The rate of statutory homelessness is better than the England average. The rates of violent crime (hospital admissions for violence) and under 75 mortality rate from cardiovascular diseases are worse than the England average.

\* rate per 100,000 population

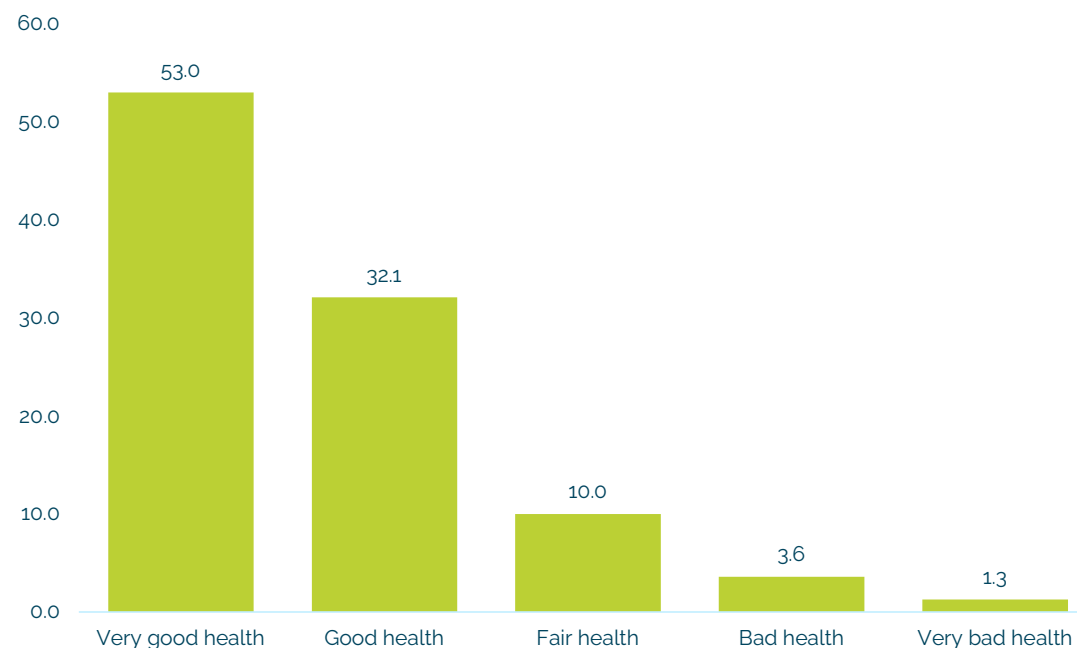




# Health – general health

- **85.1%** of Tower Hamlets residents described themselves as being in good or very good health, whereas **10%** were in fair health, **3.6%** in bad health and **1.3%** in very bad health.
- The proportion of residents in fair, bad and very bad health (**14.9%**) (46,250 residents) was below that of England and Wales (**17.9%**) but slightly higher than London (**14.5%**).
- The proportion of residents in fair, bad or very bad health was lower in 2021 (**14.9%**) than in was in 2011 (**16.7%**).

General Health, Tower Hamlets, 2021 (%)



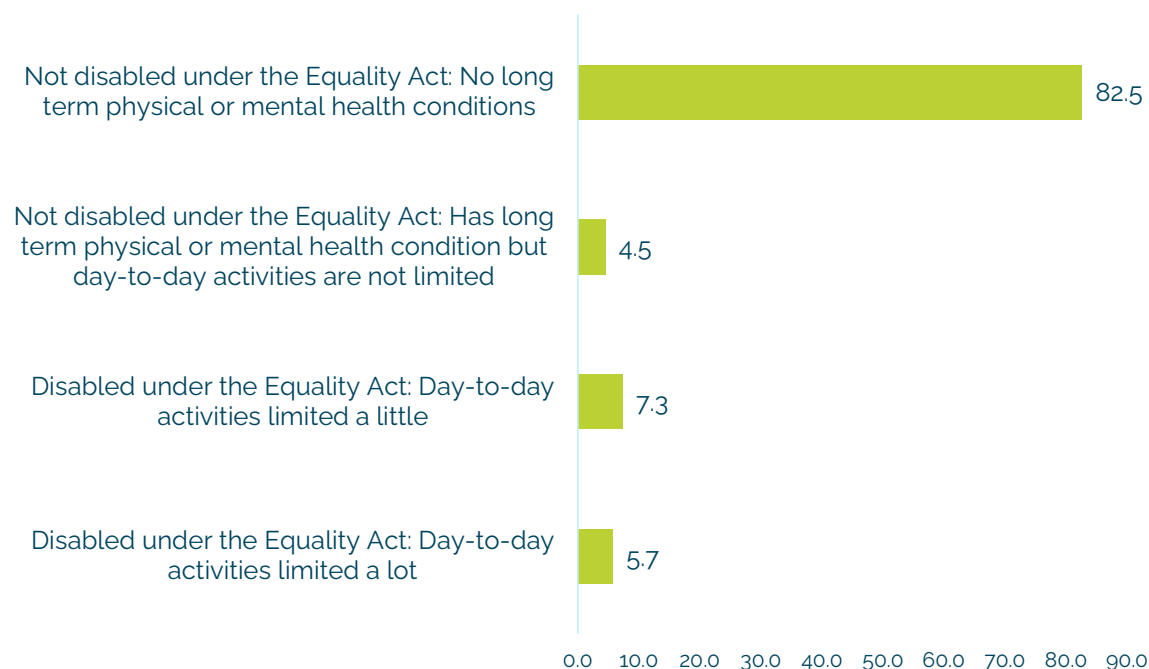
Source: 2021 census



# Health – disability

- **12.9% (40,125) of residents reported having a disability**
- This is slightly lower than in 2011 when 13.5% had a disability
- Of these, 5.7% (17,599) reported that their activities were limited a lot and 7.3% (22,526) reported that their activities were limited a little.
- A further 4.5% had a long term physical or mental health condition that did not limit their day to day activities.
- **25.7% of all households had at least one person with a disability.**

Disability, Tower Hamlets, 2021, %



Source: 2021 census

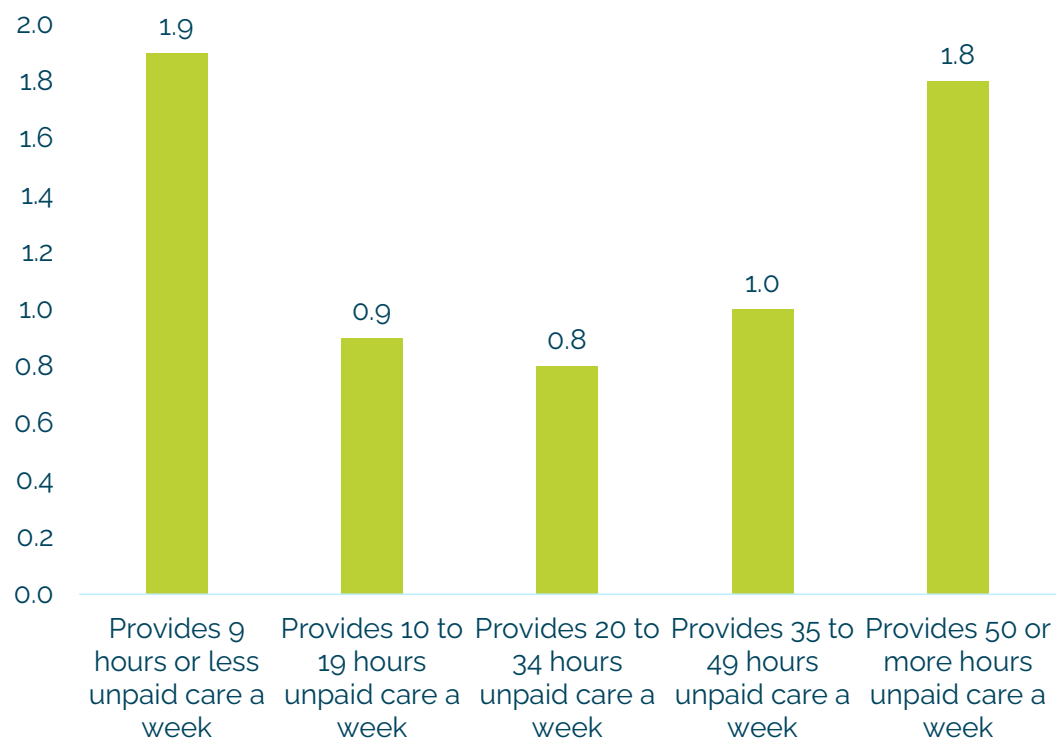


# Health – carers



- 18,551 residents were providing unpaid care which was **6.4%** of residents aged 5 and over.
- The proportion of residents providing care (**6.4%**) was lower than England and Wales (**8.8%**) and London (**7.3%**)
- The 2011 Census recorded carers as a proportion of all age residents. Based on a proportion of all age residents as opposed to residents aged 5 and over, there were a smaller proportion of residents providing unpaid care in 2021 (**6.0%**) than in 2011 (**7.6%**).
- This fall in the number of carers was consistent with the picture in England and Wales where carers fell from **10.3%** of residents in 2011 to **8.8%** in 2021 and in London where carers fell from **8.4%** in 2011 to **7.3%** in 2021.

Carers as a proportion of residents aged 5+ (%)



Source: 2021 census



# Disability by sex and age



- Age is unsurprisingly a significant factor in disability with the proportion of residents with a disability increasing with every age group.
- Amongst children aged 0-14, males were more likely to have a disability than females.
- For all age groups aged 15 and above, females were more likely than males to have a disability.
- The difference between males and females was greatest among those aged between 40 to 54, with a gap of 7.7 percentage points between 50-54-year-old females and 50-54-year-old males.

Age	Disabled Under Equality Act TOTAL	Disabled Under Equality Act FEMALE	Disabled Under Equality Act MALE
Total	12.9%	14.2%	11.6%
Aged 9 years and under	4.4%	3.1%	5.6%
Aged 10 to 14 years	6.7%	4.9%	8.4%
Aged 15 to 24 years	9.1%	10.0%	8.1%
Aged 25 to 34 years	7.6%	8.9%	6.4%
Aged 35 to 39 years	9.9%	11.3%	8.5%
Aged 40 to 44 years	13.4%	15.5%	11.5%
Aged 45 to 49 years	17.3%	20.6%	14.5%
Aged 50 to 54 years	22.7%	26.9%	19.2%
Aged 55 to 64 years	32.3%	35.8%	29.1%
Aged 65 to 74 years	39.1%	41.8%	35.9%
Aged 75 to 84 years	48.2%	50.1%	45.8%
Aged 85 years and over	57.9%	59.0%	56.3%

Source: 2021 census



# Disability and Ethnic Group



- There are significant differences in the rates of disability among different ethnic groups. The differences are likely to be related to age and socioeconomic characteristics.
- Residents who identify as Gypsy or Irish Traveller have the highest rate at 26.8%, while Indian (7.3%), Chinese (5.5%) and Roma (3.6%) have the lowest rates.

Ethnicity	% disabled under the equality act
Asian: Bangladeshi	13.5%
Asian: Chinese	5.5%
Asian: Indian	7.3%
Asian: Pakistani	12.6%
Asian: Other Asian	9.1%
Black, Black British: African	10.9%
Black, Black British: Caribbean	22.7%
Black, Black British: Other Black	16.3%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Asian	9.4%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black African	12.4%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean	15.6%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: Other Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	10.9%
White: British	18.4%
White: Irish	18.4%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	26.8%
White: Roma	3.6%
White: Other White	6.5%
Other ethnic group: Arab	11.8%
Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	12.0%

Source: 2021 census



# Disability and religion



- There are some significant differences in the rate of disability among residents of different religions.
- Hindu residents had the lowest rate of disability at 5.5% while 'Other religion' had the highest rate (21.5%) followed by Jewish (18.7%).

Religion	Disabled under the Equality Act
Total	12.9%
No religion	11.5%
Christian	15.0%
Buddhist	13.1%
Hindu	5.5%
Jewish	18.7%
Muslim	13.2%
Sikh	12.8%
Other religion	21.5%
Not answered	11.3%



# General health by ethnic group and age

- The proportion of residents who are not in good health varies somewhat across ethnic group.
- The rate is particularly low amongst the White Other group and is highest amongst the White British group.
- However, when examined by age, the Asian ethnic group has substantially higher levels of poor health amongst those aged 50 and above than any other ethnic group.

% not good health	Total	Aged 15 years and under	Aged 16 to 49 years	Aged 50 to 64 years	Aged 65+
Total	14.9%	4.0%	10.2%	38.5%	59.7%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	17.2%	4.5%	14.0%	50.8%	74.8%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	14.8%	2.8%	10.2%	31.5%	53.7%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	9.7%	3.5%	9.7%	31.6%	55.7%
White	13.0%	2.8%	6.7%	30.9%	52.5%
White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	17.6%	3.3%	8.8%	33.9%	52.8%
White: Irish	17.3%	4.6%	6.7%	33.6%	52.1%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller, Roma or Other White	6.0%	1.4%	4.4%	18.8%	49.5%
Other ethnic group	14.8%	5.8%	10.3%	36.9%	58.3%

Source: 2021 census



# General health by religion and age

- Residents who identified their religion as Muslim were the most likely overall to not be in good health.
- Older Muslims (aged 50+) were much more likely than any other religious group of that age to not be in good health.
- Hindu residents were the least likely to not be in good health overall.
- Those of no religion were the least likely to not be in good health amongst those aged 50+.

% not in good health	Total	Aged 15 years and under	Aged 16 to 49 years	Aged 50 to 64 years	Aged 65 years and over
Total	14.9%	4.0%	10.2%	38.5%	59.7%
No religion	9.7%	3.3%	6.9%	28.0%	46.6%
Christian	16.1%	3.0%	7.3%	31.9%	53.2%
Buddhist	16.4%	1.9%	9.6%	28.8%	52.5%
Hindu	7.6%	2.4%	5.6%	29.3%	56.5%
Jewish	17.8%	7.8%	8.0%	33.3%	47.4%
Muslim	18.2%	4.4%	15.7%	51.7%	78.7%
Sikh	17.0%	5.9%	13.2%	44.9%	58.1%
Other religion	17.8%	4.5%	14.5%	37.8%	52.8%
Not answered	13.8%	4.0%	9.6%	39.6%	56.9%

Source: 2021 census





# Children's weight



- [The proportion of children in year 6 in each weight category.](#)
- Tower Hamlets has the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest proportion of children of healthy weight in London at 54.6%, ahead of Barking and Dagenham (52.8%) and Newham (51.8%).

Source: National Child Measurement Programme 2022/23

	Underweight	Healthy weight	Overweight	Obesity (including severe obesity)	Severe obesity	Overweight and obesity combined
LA name	Prevalence	Prevalence	Prevalence	Prevalence	Prevalence	Prevalence
England	1.6	61.9	13.9	22.7	5.7	36.6
London	2.0	59.2	14.0	24.8	6.4	38.8
Barking and Dagenham	1.8	52.8	13.7	31.7	9.0	45.4
Barnet	2.0	63.8	13.0	21.2	5.3	34.2
Bexley	1.6	60.9	13.4	24.1	5.8	37.5
Brent	2.8	56.8	14.1	26.3	7.0	40.4
Bromley	1.4	66.0	13.8	18.8	4.0	32.6
Camden	2.7	61.4	13.6	22.3	5.3	36.0
Croydon	1.3	58.7	13.6	26.3	7.2	39.9
Ealing	2.4	59.9	14.7	23.0	5.2	37.7
Enfield	1.5	55.7	15.0	28.0	7.5	42.9
Greenwich	1.6	57.1	13.8	27.2	8.2	41.2
Hackney (Includes City of London)	1.8	57.1	13.8	27.0	8.3	40.8
Hammersmith and Fulham	1.8	64.9	14.0	19.3	4.4	33.3
Haringey	1.5	59.9	14.2	24.4	6.3	38.6
Harrow	3.6	59.5	13.2	23.7	6.0	36.9
Havering	1.2	58.7	14.7	25.2	6.0	40.1
Hillingdon	2.6	58.9	14.6	23.7	5.3	38.3
Hounslow	2.3	57.0	14.5	26.2	6.4	40.7
Islington	1.6	60.0	14.7	23.4	5.6	38.1
Kensington and Chelsea	*	62.6	14.8	21.7	5.2	37.4
Kingston upon Thames	2.2	69.1	11.9	16.9	2.8	28.7
Lambeth	1.7	60.0	13.0	25.3	6.8	38.3
Lewisham	1.8	57.5	14.4	26.5	7.4	40.8
Merton	2.0	61.8	13.2	22.7	5.5	35.9
Newham	2.8	51.8	15.6	29.9	7.8	45.5
Redbridge	3.1	55.8	14.5	26.7	6.3	41.2
Richmond upon Thames	2.1	74.6	11.3	12.0	2.4	23.3
Southwark	1.3	57.2	13.8	27.7	9.8	41.5
Sutton	2.1	66.7	13.3	17.8	3.3	31.1
<b>Tower Hamlets</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>42.7</b>
Waltham Forest	2.3	57.2	15.0	25.7	6.8	40.5
Wandsworth	1.6	63.6	13.0	21.8	5.0	34.8
Westminster	*	55.8	15.0	28.6	8.7	43.7

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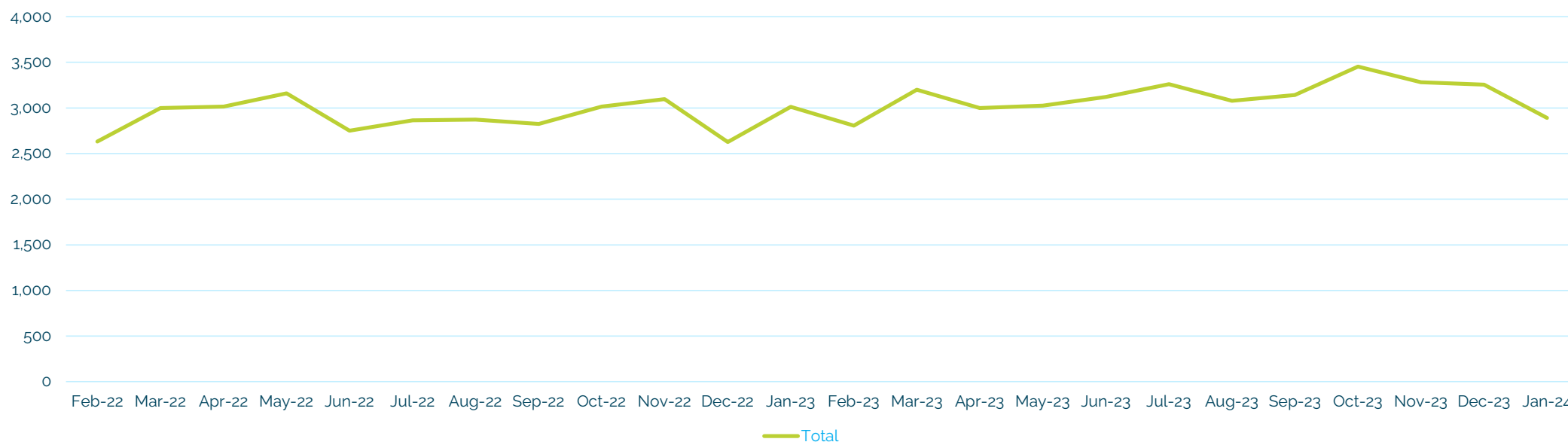
# Crime



# Number of recorded crimes

- Recorded crime in Tower Hamlets rose to a peak in October 2023 and has fallen since (Metropolitan Police Service Ward Level Crime [here](#))

Recorded Crime: Geographic Breakdown  
Total for Tower Hamlets



Source: Metropolitan Police, Recorded Crime: Geographic Breakdown



# Crime – number of recorded offences



- [Recorded crime data by Community Safety Partnership area - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)
- Crime in England & Wales, year ending September 2023 - Community Safety Partnership tables
- Some shorthand is used: [u] indicates that a number is being suppressed as the data comes from a small base of less than 50. [x] indicates data are unavailable.

Source: Recorded Crime Data by Community Safety Partnership Area, ONS Centre for Crime and Justice

Number of police recorded crimes for headline offences by Community Safety Partnership area, England and Wales, year ending September 2023	Tower Hamlets
<b>Total recorded crime (excluding fraud)</b>	36,147
<b>Violence against the person (of which)</b>	10,248
Homicide	3
Death or serious injury caused by illegal driving	2
Violence with injury	3,019
Violence without injury	4,401
Stalking and harassment	2,823
<b>Sexual offences</b>	1,073
<b>Robbery</b>	1,290
<b>Theft offences (of which)</b>	16,004
Burglary	2,536
Residential burglary	1,528
Non-residential burglary	1,008
Vehicle offences	3,414
Theft from the person	2,327
Bicycle theft	1,307
Shoplifting	1,519
All other theft offences	4,901
<b>Criminal damage and arson</b>	2,176
<b>Drug offences</b>	2,055
<b>Possession of weapons offences</b>	231
<b>Public order offences</b>	2,662
<b>Miscellaneous crimes against society</b>	408



# Crime – percentage change



- [Recorded crime data by Community Safety Partnership area - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)
- Percentage change between recorded crimes for headline offences, by Community Safety Partnership area, England and Wales, for year ending December 2021 and year ending December 2022.
- Shoplifting and theft increased significantly, though bike theft reduced by over 25%, and burglary by nearly 15%.
- Some shorthand is used: [u] indicates that a number is being suppressed as the data comes from a small base of less than 50. [x] indicates data are unavailable.

Percentage change between recorded crimes for headline offences, by Community Safety Partnership area, England and Wales, for year ending September 2022 and year ending September 2023.	Tower Hamlets
<b>Total recorded crime (excluding fraud)</b>	4
<b>Violence against the person</b>	3
Homicide	[u]
Death or serious injury caused by illegal driving	[u]
Violence with injury	-3
Violence without injury	16
Stalking and harassment	-8
<b>Sexual offences</b>	-4
<b>Robbery</b>	24
<b>Theft offences</b>	7
Burglary	5
Residential burglary	-12
Non-residential burglary	49
Vehicle offences	-16
Theft from the person	19
Bicycle theft	-9
Shoplifting	63
All other theft offences	20
<b>Criminal damage and arson</b>	5
<b>Drug offences</b>	-14
<b>Possession of weapons offences</b>	-25
<b>Public order offences</b>	7
<b>Miscellaneous crimes against society</b>	-14

Source: Recorded Crime Data by Community Safety Partnership Area, ONS Centre for Crime and Justice



# Crime per 1,000 people



- [Recorded crime data by Community Safety Partnership area - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)
- Recorded crime rate per 1,000 population/households for headline offences, by Community Safety Partnership area, England and Wales, year ending December 2022
- Some shorthand is used: [u] indicates that a number is being suppressed as the data comes from a small base of less than 50. [x] indicates data are unavailable.

Source: Recorded Crime Data by Community Safety Partnership Area, ONS Centre for Crime and Justice

Recorded crime rate per 1,000 population/households for headline offences, by Community Safety Partnership area, England and Wales, year ending September 2023	Tower Hamlets
<b>Total recorded crime (excluding fraud)</b>	111
<b>Violence against the person</b>	31
Homicide	0
Death or serious injury caused by illegal driving	0
Violence with injury	9
Violence without injury	14
Stalking and harassment	9
<b>Sexual offences</b>	3
<b>Robbery</b>	4
<b>Theft offences</b>	49
Burglary	8
Residential burglary (per 1,000 population)	5
Residential burglary (per 1,000 household)	11
Non-residential burglary	3
Vehicle offences	10
Theft from the person	7
Bicycle theft	4
Shoplifting	5
All other theft offences	15
<b>Criminal damage and arson</b>	7
<b>Drug offences</b>	6
<b>Possession of weapons offences</b>	1
<b>Public order offences</b>	8
<b>Miscellaneous crimes against society</b>	1

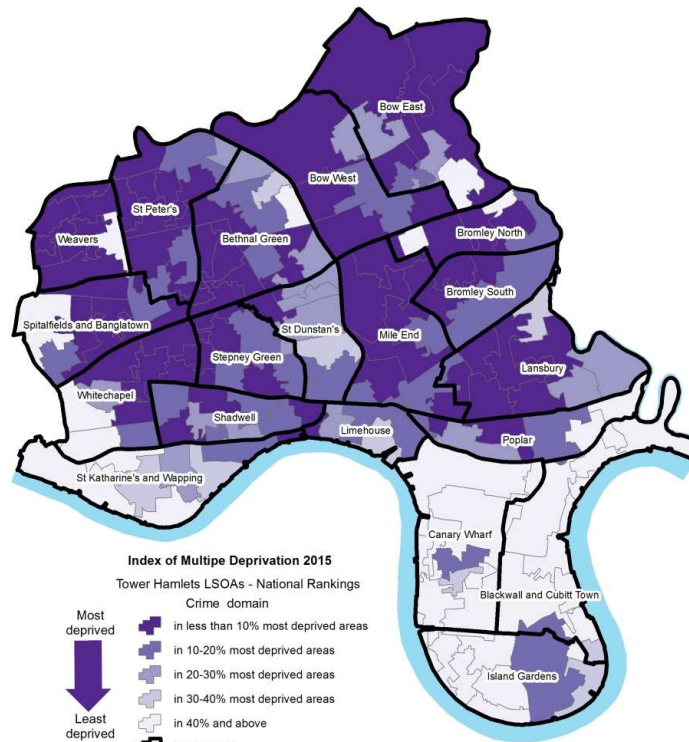


# Indices of Multiple Deprivation - Crime Domain

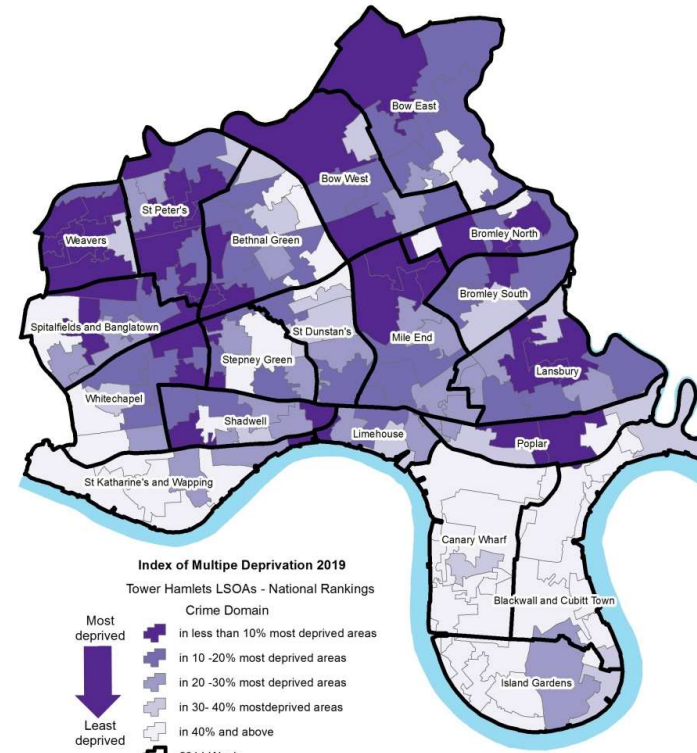


2015

2019



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# Crime as a determinant of deprivation



- The Crime Domain is one of seven domains in the English Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). As such, it contributes to the overall deprivation score for the local area and recognises the link between poverty, disadvantage and crime.
- Tower Hamlets is ranked 33<sup>rd</sup> out of 317 local authority districts in England on the IMD Crime Domain (based on the rank of score measure)
- This compares with an 'overall' ranking of 50<sup>th</sup> (Rank of Score measure) meaning that Tower Hamlets is more deprived on this measure than it is overall.
- Tower Hamlets was the sixth most deprived London Borough (of 33) based on its rank of score for the Crime domain
- Crime deprivation in Tower Hamlets decreased relative to other areas between 2015 and 2019, with Tower Hamlets moving from the 13<sup>th</sup> most deprived area to the 33<sup>rd</sup> most deprived area.





# Youth crime



Number of children cautioned or sentenced, years ending March 2014 to 2022. source: [Youth justice statistics: 2013 to 2023.](#)

Area	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Grand Total
Barking and Dagenham	202	169	244	222	205	202	200	149	124	113	1,830
Barnet	183	161	148	117	201	165	159	93	106	94	1,427
Bexley	127	138	128	125	114	118	97	83	68	63	1,061
Brent	297	281	269	249	219	178	174	129	100	124	2,020
Bromley	183	204	176	142	188	128	93	71	72	62	1,319
Camden	144	156	131	140	125	105	84	86	53	40	1,064
Croydon	415	427	390	349	506	288	225	187	153	104	3,044
Ealing	205	177	175	170	139	107	122	93	73	40	1,301
Enfield	338	308	299	272	267	196	170	168	129	122	2,269
Greenwich	205	206	203	222	211	156	148	129	118	95	1,693
Hackney	172	182	193	214	177	151	139	131	137	104	1,600
Hammersmith and Fulham	150	129	109	100	104	81	68	41	43	45	870
Haringey	231	212	218	168	208	144	145	137	96	95	1,654
Harrow	135	106	159	111	109	84	94	66	58	60	982
Havering	151	102	98	160	107	113	112	80	70	51	1,044
Hillingdon	218	197	178	128	159	106	107	85	63	70	1,311
Hounslow	195	176	198	178	169	120	107	79	74	81	1,377
Islington	197	176	178	153	120	102	83	65	79	65	1,218
Kensington and Chelsea	77	58	53	65	49	31	37	31	25	30	456
Kingston and Richmond	151	133	75	131	102	82	122	51	45	66	958
Lambeth	326	286	290	263	266	188	158	118	107	90	2,092
Lewisham	234	286	314	293	255	201	162	120	94	62	2,021
Merton	138	108	89	77	106	73	79	73	69	45	857
Newham	321	311	272	204	207	180	168	178	144	105	2,090
Redbridge	215	194	157	141	174	170	160	104	113	104	1,532
Southwark	239	265	226	256	232	191	138	141	104	95	1,887
Sutton	98	96	85	71	81	92	56	42	48	44	713
<b>Tower Hamlets and City of London</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1,877</b>
Waltham Forest	173	185	191	164	210	197	189	121	118	120	1,668
Wandsworth	186	142	116	111	113	40	67	88	69	40	972
Westminster	121	108	71	94	75	59	63	53	36	39	719
Grand Total	6,249	5,892	5,711	5,359	5,396	4,227	3,902	3,139	2,711	2,340	44,926

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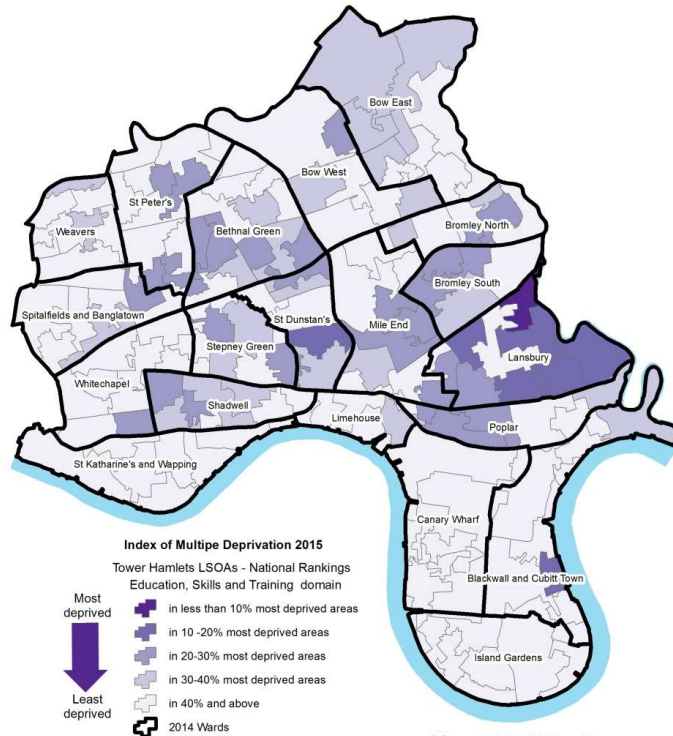
# Education



# Indices of Deprivation – Education Domain

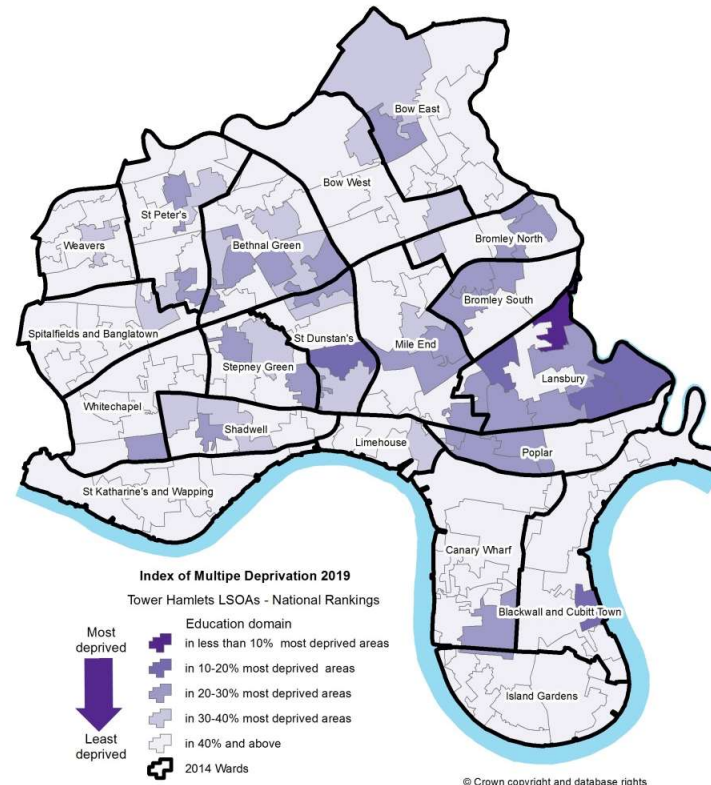


2015



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2019



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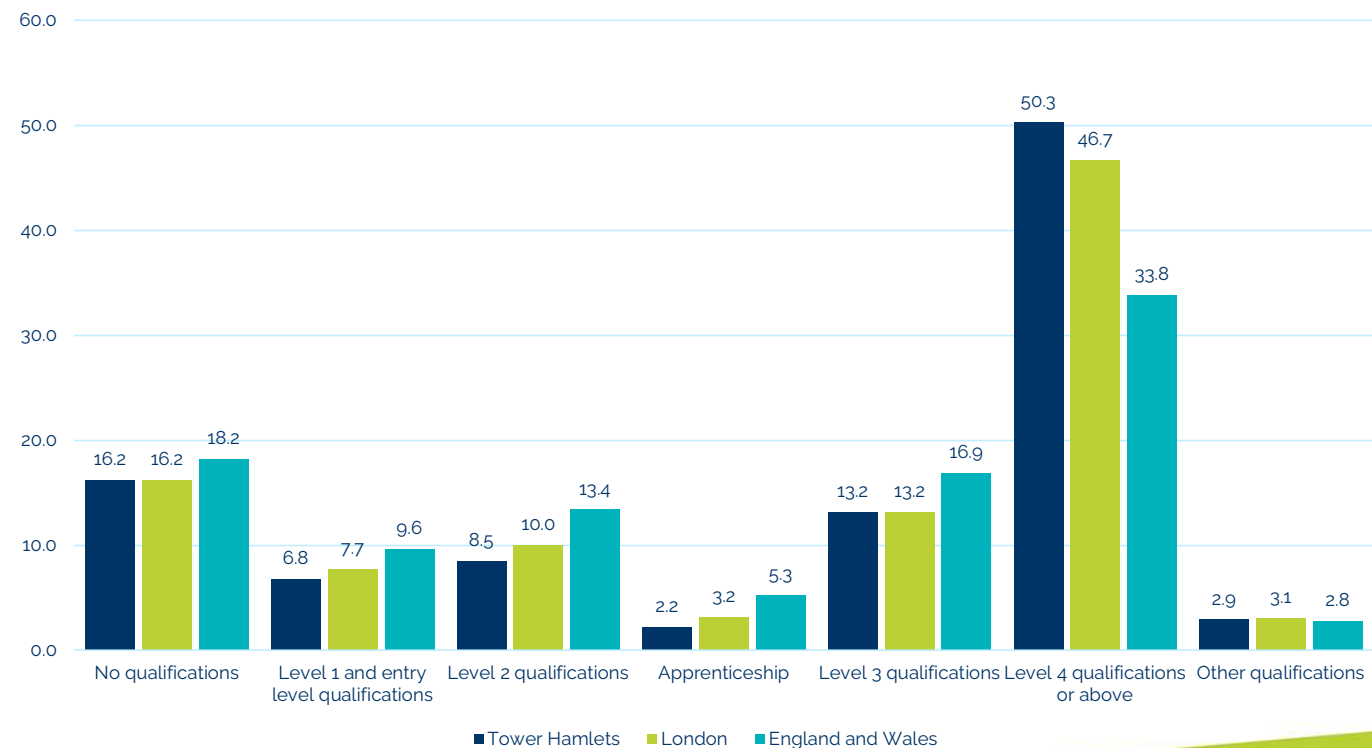


# Education - highest level of qualification



- 50.3% of Tower Hamlets residents aged over 16 had a level 4 qualification. This was higher than London (46.7%) and substantially higher than England and Wales (33.8%).
- Between 2011 and 2021 there was a significant increase in the proportion of residents with level 4 qualifications, rising from 40.0% to 50.3%.
- 16.2% of residents aged 16+ had no qualifications in 2021. This figure was lower than England and Wales (18.2%).
- The proportion of residents with no qualifications has fallen since 2011 when it was 20.0%.
- Between 2011 and 2021 the number of people whose highest qualification was an apprenticeship rose from 1,821 (0.9%) to 5,441 (2.2%)

Highest level of qualification attained by residents aged 16+, Tower Hamlets, London and England and Wales (% of residents aged 16+)



Source: 2011 Census

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# Education - highest level of qualification by ethnicity



- Residents from Asian ethnic backgrounds were the more likely to have no qualifications and the least likely to have higher level qualifications.

Ethnic group	No Qualifications	Level 4 and above
Total	16.2%	50.3%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	21.9%	37.3%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	15.4%	42.6%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	9.2%	56.7%
White	11.6%	62.7%
White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	15.1%	57.0%
White: Irish	12.3%	68.1%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller, Roma or Other White	6.7%	70.4%
Other ethnic group	18.9%	50.4%

Source: 2011 Census



# Education - highest level of qualification by sex



- Females were more likely than males to have no qualifications.
- They were also less likely to have level 4 qualifications.
- The difference is fairly small but this compares to London as a whole where females were 1.6% more likely than males to have level 4 qualifications.

	Total	Female	Male
No Qualifications	16.2%	17.4%	15.1%
Level 4 qualifications	50.3%	49.9%	50.7%

Source: 2011 Census



# Education - highest level of qualification by disability



- Residents with a disability were much more likely to have no qualifications than those without a disability.
- Similarly, residents with a disability were much less likely to have a level 4 qualification.

	Disabled under the Equality Act	Not disabled under the Equality Act
No Qualifications	34.9%	13.0%
Level 4 qualifications or above	29.9%	53.9%

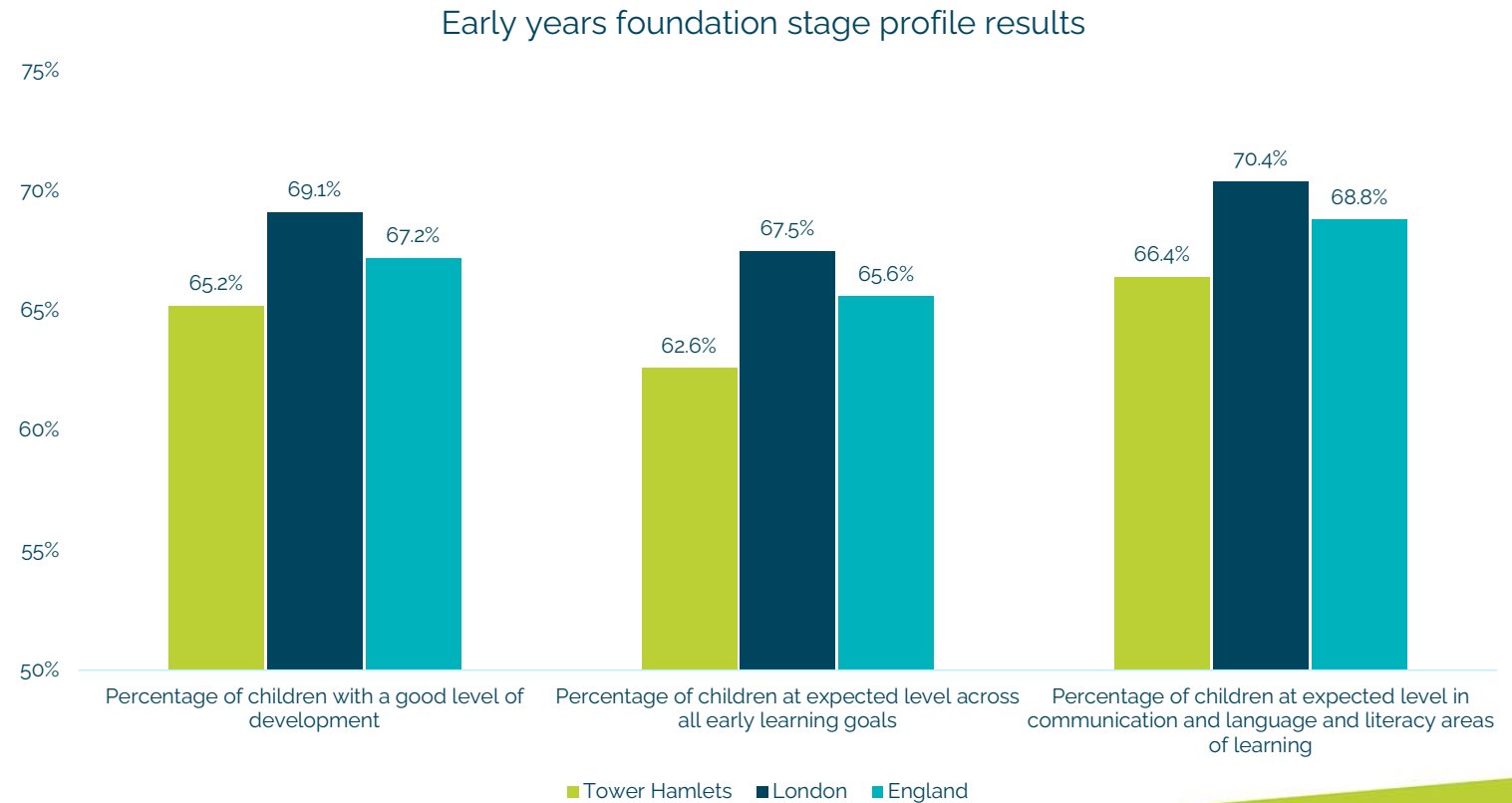
Source: 2011 Census



# Early Years – Good Level of Development 2022/23



- The latest figures indicate that attainment is a challenge within Tower Hamlets compared to both London and England.



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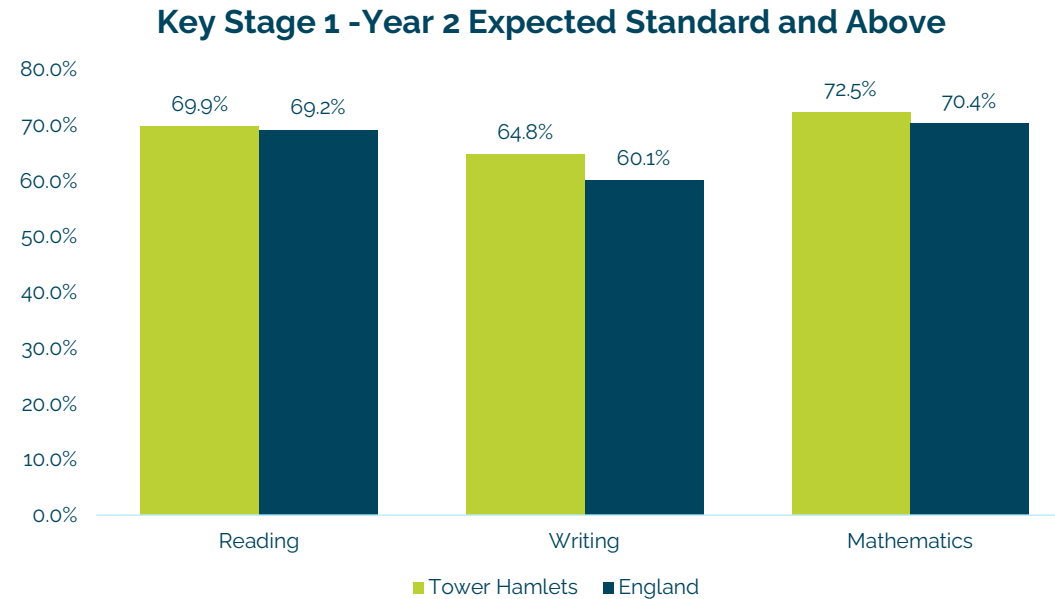




# Key Stage 1 – Year 2 Expected Standard and Above 2022/23



- Key Stage 1 attainment in Tower Hamlets is above the national average in reading, writing and Mathematics



Source: DfE Explore Education Statistics

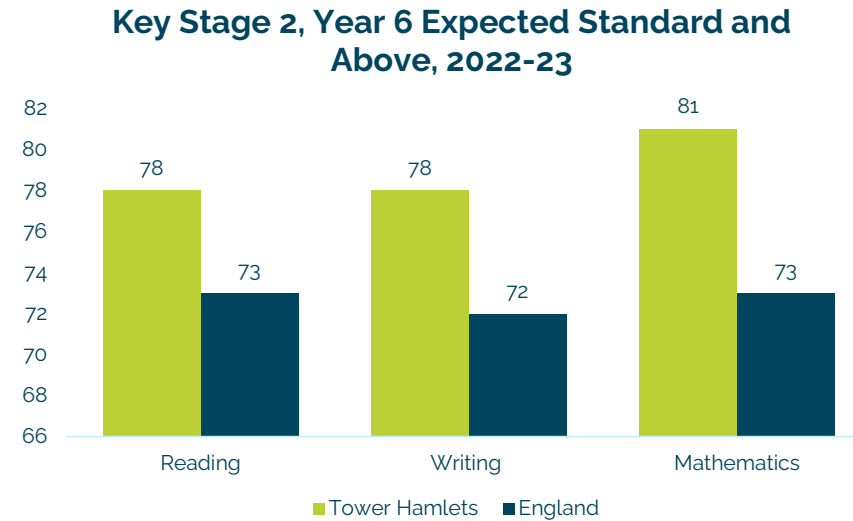
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# Key Stage 2 – Year 6 Expected Standard and Above 2022/23



- Key Stage 2 attainment in Tower Hamlets is above the national average in reading, writing and Mathematics



Source: DfE Explore Education Statistics

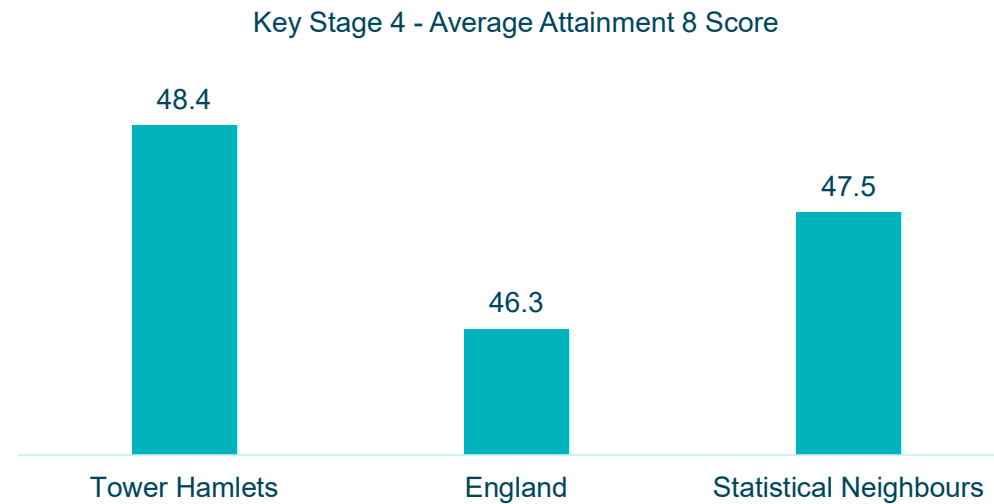
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# Key Stage 4 – Average Attainment 8 Score 2022/23



- Tower Hamlets is above the national average and its statistical neighbours for average attainment 8 score



Source: DfE Explore Education Statistics

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# Transport



# Labour force – travel to work



- At the time of the census, 50.3% of all Tower Hamlets residents in employment were working mainly from home. This was well above the proportion in London (42.1%) and England and Wales (31.2%) and was the 12<sup>th</sup> highest proportion among local authority areas in England and Wales.
- The most common method of travel to work for those that did not mainly work from home was underground/light rail/tram with 13.8% using this method.
- The impact of the pandemic and the move to working from home can be clearly seen in the number of people travelling to work by underground/light rail/tram. In 2011, 47,191 (39%) travelled to work by this method which more than halved in 2021 to 21,452. Most other methods of travel also fell as a result of the huge rise in working mainly from home (from 3.7% in 2011 to 50.3% in 2021).
- The number of people travelling to work by car increased slightly between 2011 and 2021 from 13,517 to 14,106 but this represented a smaller proportion of residents in employment.

Method of Travel to Work	%
Work mainly at or from home	50.3%
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	13.8%
Train	4.6%
Bus, minibus or coach	5.8%
Taxi	0.6%
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	0.5%
Driving a car or van	9.1%
Passenger in a car or van	0.6%
Bicycle	4.6%
On foot	8.9%
Other method of travel to work	1.1%

Source: 2011 Census



# Labour force – travel to work (walking and cycling)



- On census day 4.6% of people aged 16 years and over in employment in Tower Hamlets travel to work by bike, over half walked from home, and 8.9% traveled to work [on foot](#).
- As the census took place during the pandemic, the numbers working from home is likely to be higher than usual.

Method used to travel to workplace (residents 15 and over and in employment)	Count	%
Work mainly at or from home	78,219	50.3%
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	21,452	13.8%
Train	7,111	4.6%
Bus, minibus or coach	9,010	5.8%
Taxi	896	0.6%
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	787	0.5%
Driving a car or van	14,106	9.1%
Passenger in a car or van	985	0.6%
Bicycle	7,208	4.6%
On foot	13,900	8.9%
Other method of travel to work	1,721	1.1%
Total	155,395	100.0%

Source: 2011 Census



## Travel to work – all London boroughs (from Census)



- Tower Hamlets had the 8<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of residents working from home, 7<sup>th</sup> highest who travel by bike, and 6<sup>th</sup> highest by foot.

Percentage Of Usual Residents Aged 16 to 74 who	Work mainly at or from home	Travel to work by underground, metro, light rail, tram	Travel to work by train	Travel to work by Bus, minibus or coach	Travel to work by taxi	Travel to work by motorcycle, scooter or moped	Travel to work by driving a car or van	Travel to work as a passenger in a car or van	Travel to work by bicycle	Travel to work on foot	Travel to work by other method of travel to work
Barking and Dagenham	20.7	16.2	9.2	10.2	0.6	0.6	32.5	2.5	1.3	4.7	1.5
Barnet	42.8	11.1	2.5	8.1	0.5	0.6	25.1	1.7	1.2	5	1.3
Bexley	34.5	2.4	10.3	6.6	0.6	0.7	36	2.5	0.8	4.5	1.2
Brent	30.4	15	5.1	13.3	0.6	1.1	21.7	2	2.5	6.8	1.4
Bromley	46.6	1.9	9.4	5	0.4	0.6	27.9	1.8	1.1	4.3	1
Camden	56.7	10.1	2.8	6.4	0.7	0.5	6.9	0.5	3.9	10.4	1.2
Croydon	37.5	4.3	9.1	10.5	0.5	0.8	27.7	1.9	1.3	5.3	1.3
Ealing	36.1	11.6	3.3	10.8	0.4	0.9	24.5	1.8	2.9	6.4	1.4
Enfield	31.3	8.7	5	10.6	0.6	0.5	32.5	2.2	1.4	5.7	1.5
Greenwich	40.5	9.5	8.7	10.7	0.4	0.6	20	1.5	1.9	4.9	1.2
Hackney	49.8	7.6	3.7	10.4	0.7	0.5	8.7	0.6	7.5	9.5	1
Hammersmith and Fulham	52.3	11.8	2.4	7.6	0.6	1	7.9	0.5	5	9.6	1.1
Haringey	41.5	16.1	3.9	11.4	0.5	0.8	13.7	1.1	3.9	5.9	1.2
Harrow	36.1	12.5	3.8	6.9	0.4	0.5	30.3	2.6	0.7	4.9	1.2
Havering	33.4	6.7	7	5.6	0.6	0.5	36.8	2.7	0.7	4.9	1.2
Hillingdon	31.6	6.6	2.6	9.4	0.5	0.5	38.8	2.6	1.1	5.1	1.2
Hounslow	32.5	7.2	3.7	13.4	0.5	0.9	29.4	2.2	2.9	6.2	1.3
Islington	56.1	9.7	2.7	8.1	0.6	0.5	6.8	0.5	5.3	8.6	1
Kensington and Chelsea	57.6	9.6	1.7	5.8	1.4	0.8	7.7	0.7	3.4	9.8	1.4
Kingston upon Thames	46.6	1.7	5.9	6.6	0.3	0.8	25.1	1.7	2.8	7.6	1
Lambeth	50.2	10.3	4.7	11.6	0.4	0.8	9.3	0.6	5.3	5.9	1.1
Lewisham	44.9	6.9	9.3	11	0.4	0.6	15.9	1	3.6	5.2	1.2
Merton	43.2	10.8	4.7	8.3	0.3	1	20.2	1.5	2.9	6	1.1
Newham	29.2	23.5	8.6	9.1	0.5	0.7	17.3	1.5	2.3	6	1.4
Redbridge	34.9	14.6	6	5.8	0.6	0.5	28.4	2.1	1.1	4.8	1.3
Richmond upon Thames	58.8	3	4.4	4	0.3	0.7	17.5	1	4	5.5	0.9
Southwark	48.4	8.4	4.2	13.9	0.5	0.7	8.8	0.5	5.7	7.8	1
Sutton	36.5	3.7	6.2	6.6	0.4	0.9	34.6	2.3	1.5	6.2	1.1
<b>Tower Hamlets</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Waltham Forest	37.6	17.9	4.9	7.2	0.5	0.6	19.6	1.4	3.5	5.5	1.2
Wandsworth	56.5	8.7	4.2	7.3	0.4	0.9	9.3	0.5	4.8	6.5	0.9
Westminster	55.8	9.6	2	7	1	0.6	6.6	0.5	3.5	12	1.4
Mean for All London Boroughs (excl City)	42.5	9.7	5.2	8.6	0.5	0.7	20.5	1.5	3	6.6	1.2

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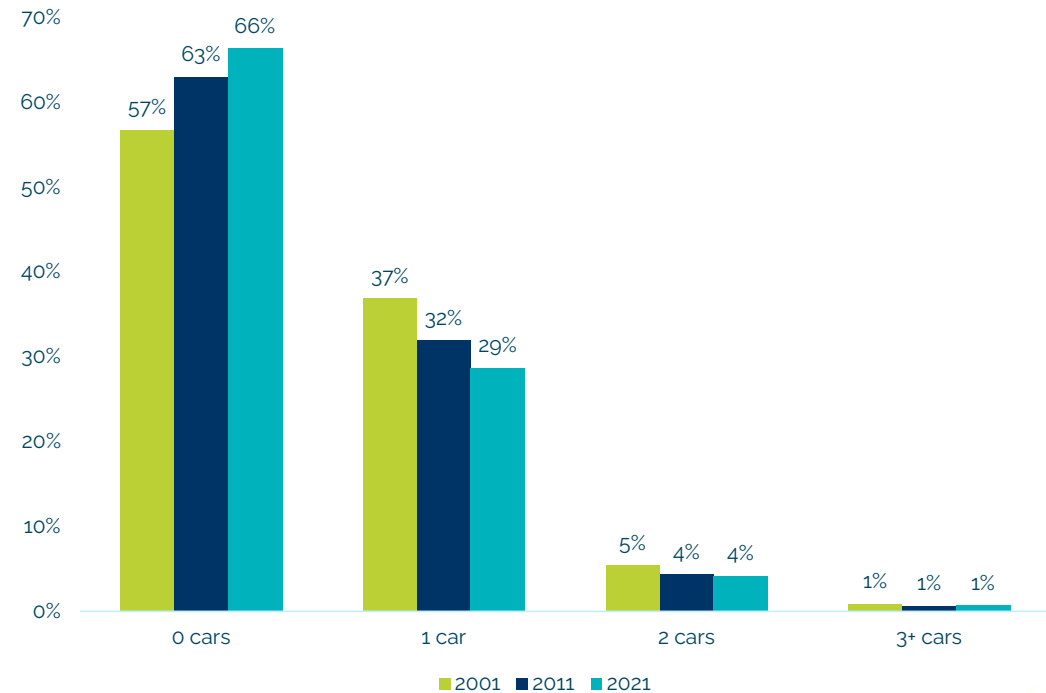
# Car or van availability



- **Two thirds of Tower Hamlets households (66.4%) had no car or van in their household.**
- This was the third lowest level of car ownership in England and Wales after the City of London and Islington.
- Historically this measure has been regarded as a proxy for income deprivation based on the affordability of running a car, but increasingly it illustrates areas where large numbers of residents choose not to keep a vehicle.
- Since the 2001 census, the proportion of car-owning households has reduced in each census from 43% in 2001 to 34% in 2021. However, the increase in the number of households means that this reduction does not equate to fewer cars. In 2001, 34,000 households had access to a car but by 2021 this was 40,500.

Source: 2011 Census

Car ownership in Tower Hamlets, 2001, 2011 and 2021 (%)





# Publicly Available Electric Vehicle Charging Points



- [As of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024, Tower Hamlets](#) had 366 publicly available electric vehicle charging points, 9<sup>th</sup> highest in inner-London.
- This was well below the inner-London median of 568.
- Between July 2021 and July 2023 the number of charging points almost doubled – from 182 to 350.

Local Authority	Total public charging devices	Total public 50kW and above	Charging devices per 100,000 population
Camden	590	11	280.4
Hackney	389	21	149.6
Hammersmith and Fulham	2,424	53	1322.5
Haringey	231	29	87.5
Islington	568	29	262
Kensington and Chelsea	875	4	607.9
Lambeth	322	22	101.4
Lewisham	244	35	81.4
Newham	213	12	60.7
Southwark	1,774	24	579
<b>Tower Hamlets</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>117.2</b>
Wandsworth	1,129	36	343.8
Westminster	2,724	68	1328.2

Source: Electric Vehicle Charging  
Devices by local authority, ONS

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# Train Station Usage – Overground and Underground



- The borough's busiest station of any kind was Canary Wharf while the borough's busiest overground station was Whitechapel
- Public transport usage was heavily impacted by the pandemic and commuting patterns continue to evolve. The impact of the full opening of the Elizabeth line is yet to be seen on train station usage data.

Overground Stations (National Rail and London Overground)	Entries and Exits (2020-21)	Entries and Exits (2021-22)
Whitechapel	4,141,760	9,273,482
Shoreditch High Street	1,403,324	4,843,922
Shadwell	1,244,974	3,094,640
Limehouse	1,044,520	1,839,614
Wapping	582,814	1,643,976
Bethnal Green	550,384	1,150,474
Cambridge Heath	252,404	601,582

Source: Office of Rail Regulation

London Underground Station	Station Annualised Entries 2021
Bethnal Green LU	6,322,604
Bow Road	2,257,180
Bromley-by-Bow	2,030,519
Canary Wharf LU	18,288,802
Mile End	6,644,477
Stepney Green	2,707,641
Tower Hill	7,328,488
Whitechapel	6,205,116

Source: Transport for London



# Find Out More



- [Census - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)
- [Census Tower Hamlets](#)
- [Nomis Tower Hamlets](#)

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