

Blackheath ward profile

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* EPC stands for Energy Performance Certificate

Councillors 2022 - 2026



Amanda De Ryk

Labour Party



Juliet Campbell

Labour Party



Luke Warner

Labour Party

Ward profile introduction

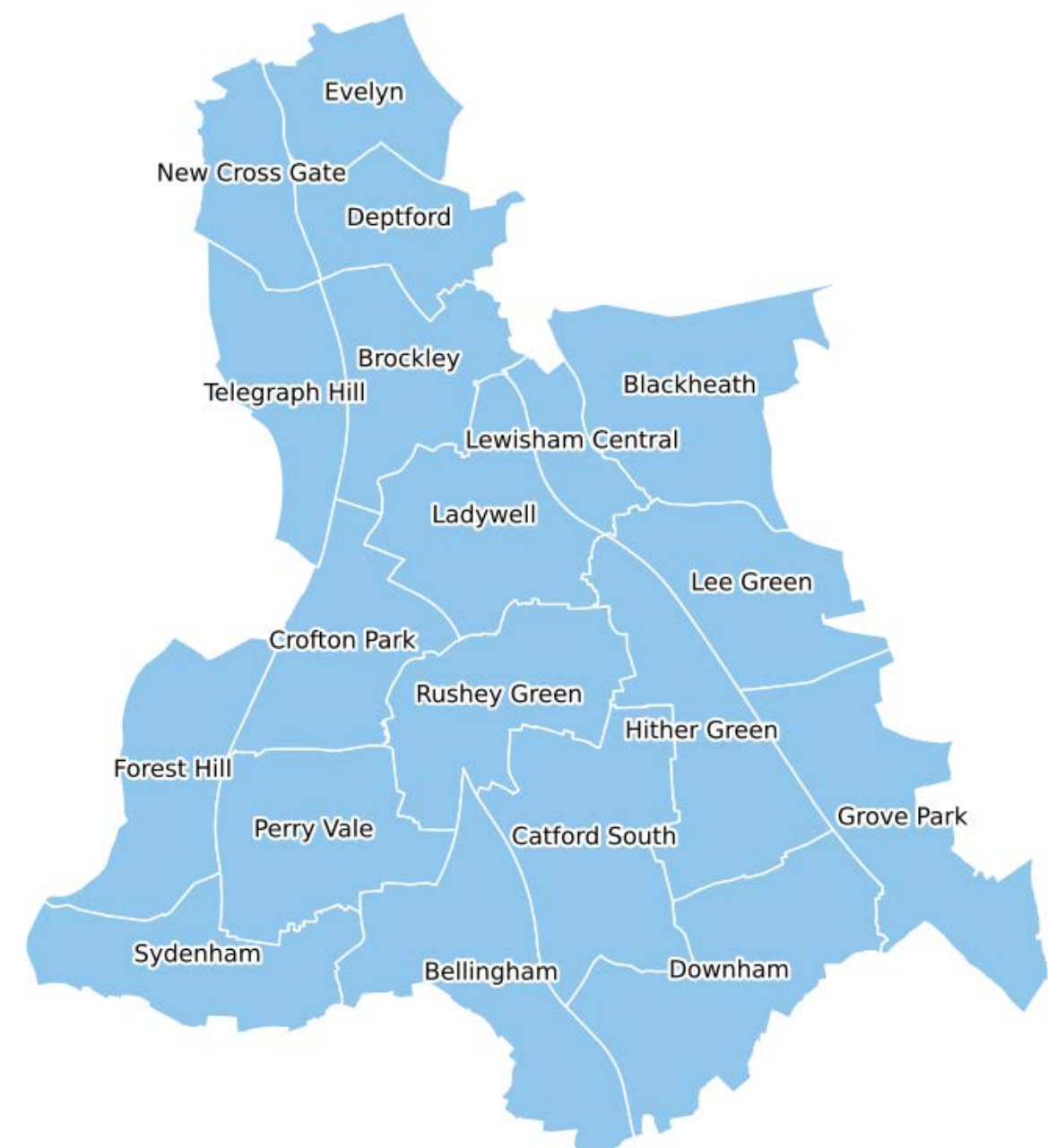
About Lewisham's Ward profiles

The ward profiles bring together some of the key data sources to provide the demographic, social and economic characteristics of an area. In May 2022, the number of wards increased from 18 to 19.

- The boundaries of two wards have stayed the same, Telegraph Hill and Forest Hill, all the others changed.
- Two wards no longer exists: New Cross and Whitefoot.
- We now have three brand new wards: Deptford, Hither Green and New Cross Gate.
- 16 wards have three Councillors.
- Three wards have only two Councillors: Bellingham, Lewisham Central and New Cross Gate.
- The total number of Councillors remained in 54, the same as the previous period.

At the time of publication, the results of the 2021 Census have not yet been published, which means many indicator variables in this report rely on potentially outdated data from the 2011 Census. Data sources of all charts and statistics are clearly stated throughout this document. Revised data will be made available in the next revision of this document.

Wards 2022



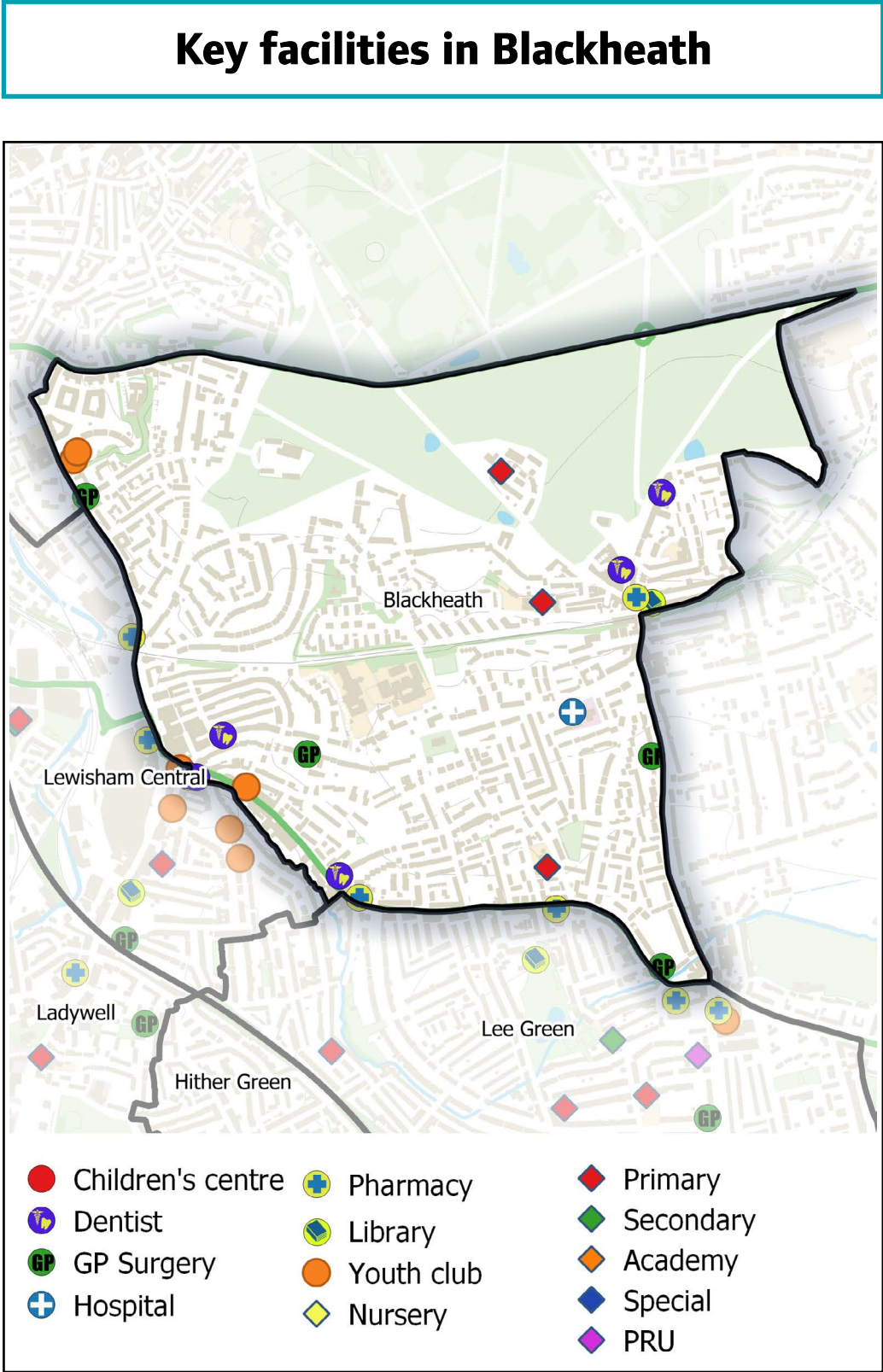
Blackheath

Due to the new ward boundary changes, **Blackheath ward has expanded and includes part of Lewisham Central ward**. This summary is based on the previous ward boundaries.

Blackheath is one of the more affluent wards in borough, though also has pockets of social housing. The **disparity between the western part of the ward and Blackheath village is evident** and work is ongoing to ensure that engagement more representative of the ward as a whole. The town centre has many places to eat out and a number of independent shops which are used by both residents and as a destination for other visitors.

Networks and groups in the ward include; Blackheath Age Exchange and Blackheath Community Library, Blackheath Halls, the Blackheath Society, Quaggy Development Trust and Blackheath Conservatoire. Housing Providers within the ward include; Peabody – Heathside and Lethbridge, Lewisham Homes – Lewisham Hill and Dacre Park, Clarion Housing – Hurren Close.

In Blackheath ward **£128,765 was awarded in NCIL funding to five projects** (within the old ward boundaries). Ward priorities included; Transport and streets, Open/green spaces and nature, Children’s services and Youth activities, Community facilities, Air Quality and Community safety. An example of some of the types of funded projects include; a baby bank for mothers with young children, significant funding for an improved play area, greenspace projects, and a new community engagement programme for the ward.



Summary of key statistics

Population

17,154

Average age

37

% of households that reported themselves as a family

50.1

% of residents in employment

70.3

% of residents that practice a religion

58.7

% of residents not born in England

18.7

Number of universal credit claimants

1,592

% of residents whose day to day activities are limited a lot

6.6

% of residents with low English proficiency

2.5

LSOAs among the most deprived 20% of national IMD

1 of 10

Average life expectancy (female / male)

87.1(f) / 82.1(m)

Air pollution (NO2) with recommended guideline <40

10.34

Average proportion of households in fuel poverty

9% - 18.3%

Median house price (borough)

£430k

% of residents without formal qualifications

13.9

Number of crimes reported in 2021

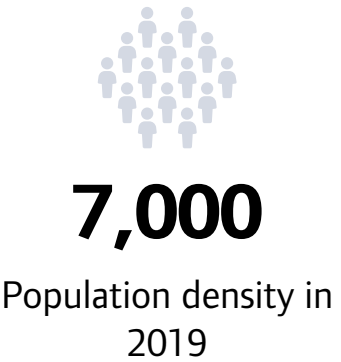
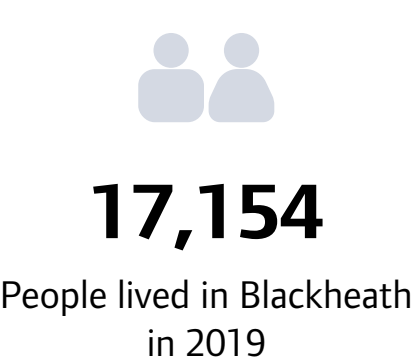
1,412

Population

Blackheath has an estimated population of 17,154 residents (rank 9 of 19 wards.)

Among its residents, 50.5% identify as female, and 49.5% as male. Unfortunately, ONS population statistics do not include estimates for nonbinary gender identities.

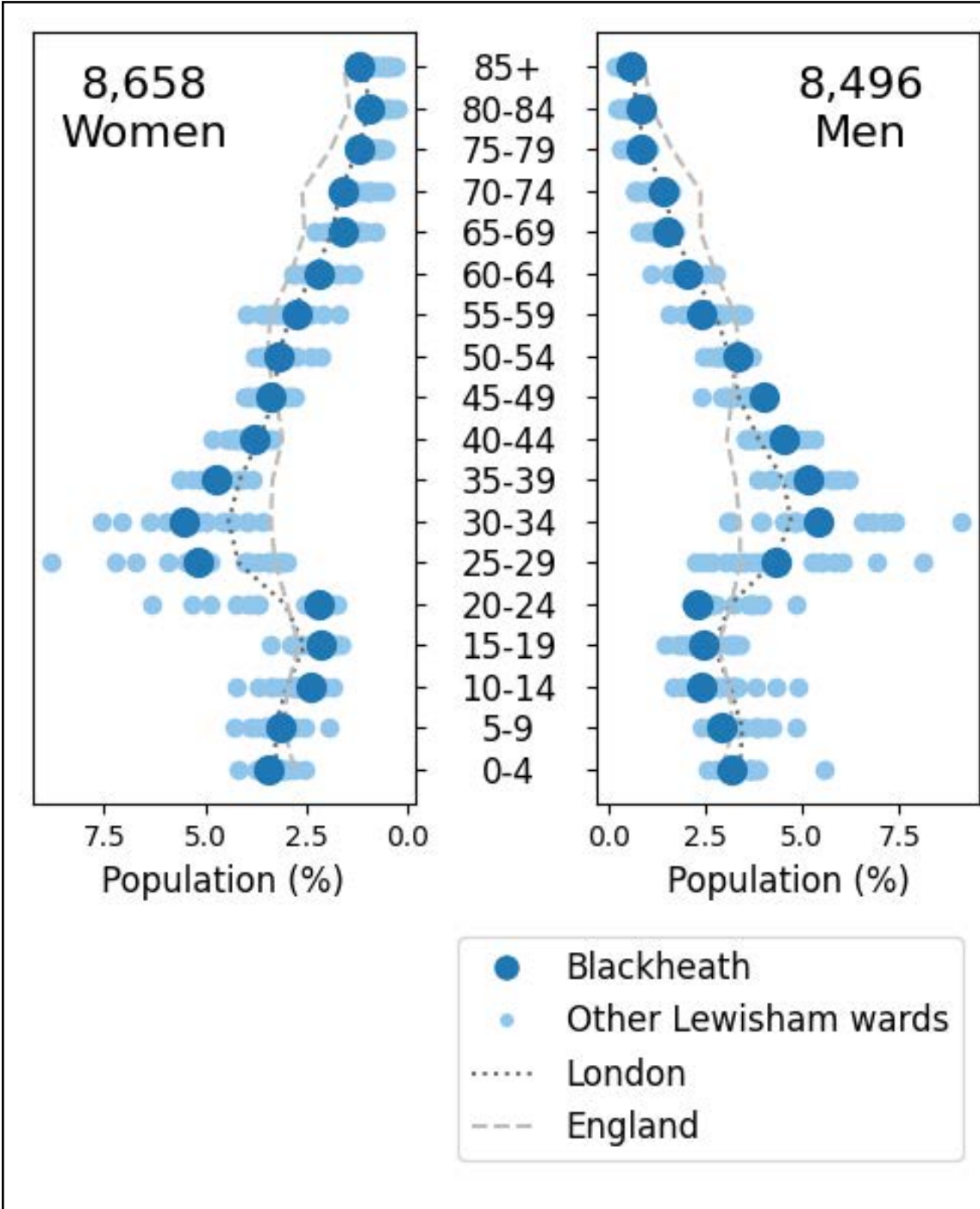
The average age in Blackheath is 37, compared to 36 in Lewisham as a whole, and 37 in London. This makes it one of the oldest wards in the borough.



In terms of its geographic area, at 2.4 km² it is one of the largest wards in the borough (rank 3 of 19.)

As to its population density, at 7,000 people per km² it is among the least densely populated wards in the borough (rank 16 of 19.)

Population by five years age group and gender in Blackheath, ONS 2019



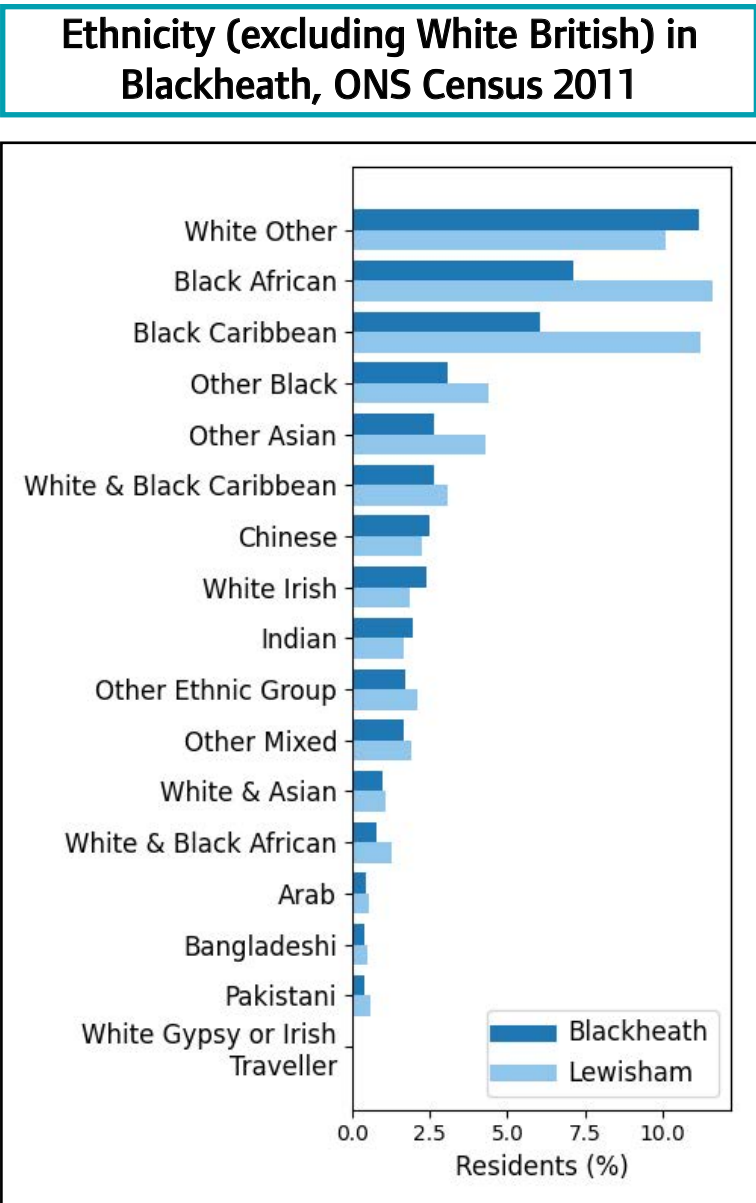
Proportion of Population Groups in Blackheath, ONS 2020				
	United Kingdom	London	Lewisham	Blackheath
Children and Youth (0-17)	22.2%	23.8%	23.3%	21.2%
Working age (18-64)	60.2%	64.8%	67.8%	67.8%
Senior (65+)	17.6%	11.4%	8.9%	11.0%

Diversity: Ethnicity and religion

Ethnicity

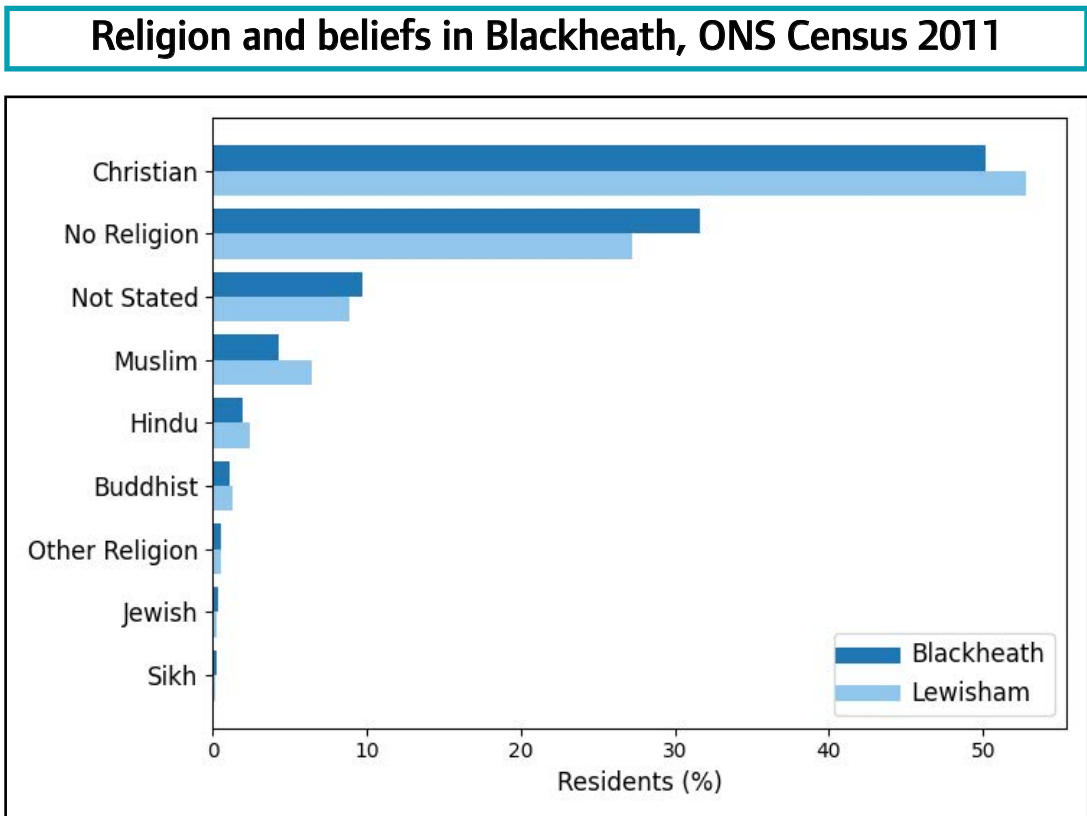
54.0% of Blackheath residents have an ethnicity of White British (White English, Welsh, Scottish, or Northern Irish), compared to 41.5% in Lewisham as a whole, 44.9% in London, and 79.8% in England.

Among those not White British, the three most common ethnicities are White Other (11.2%), Black African (7.1%), and Black Caribbean (6.0%).



Religion

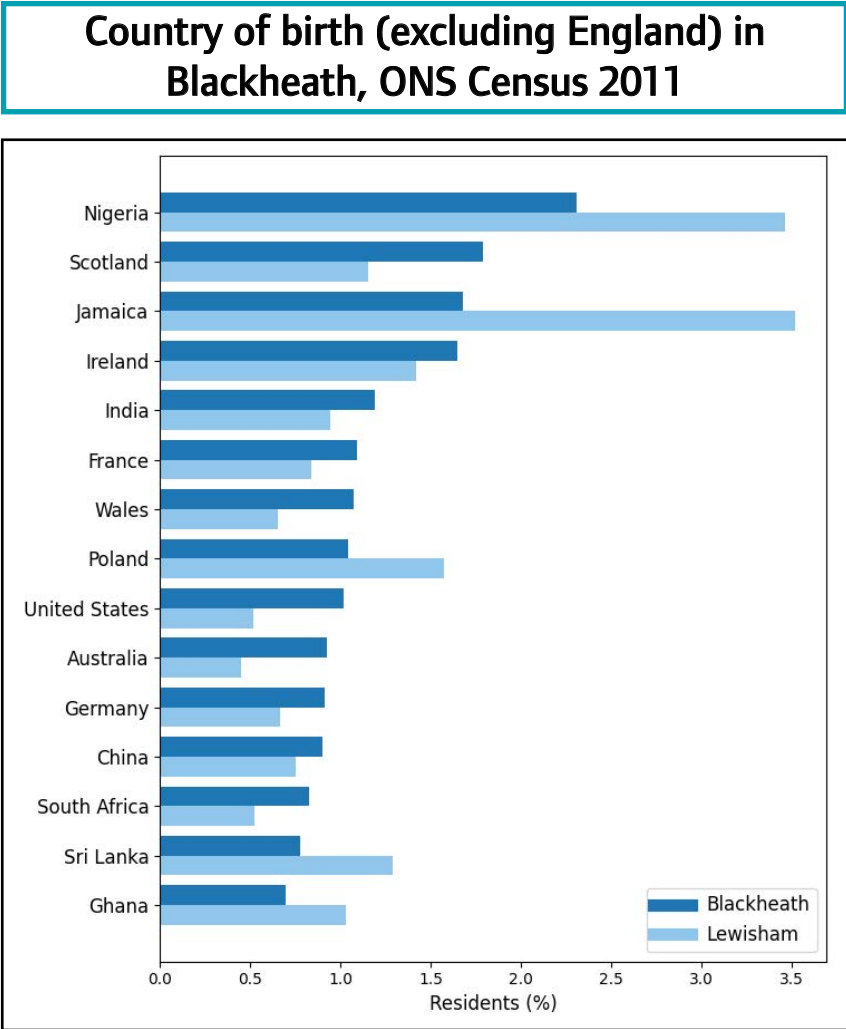
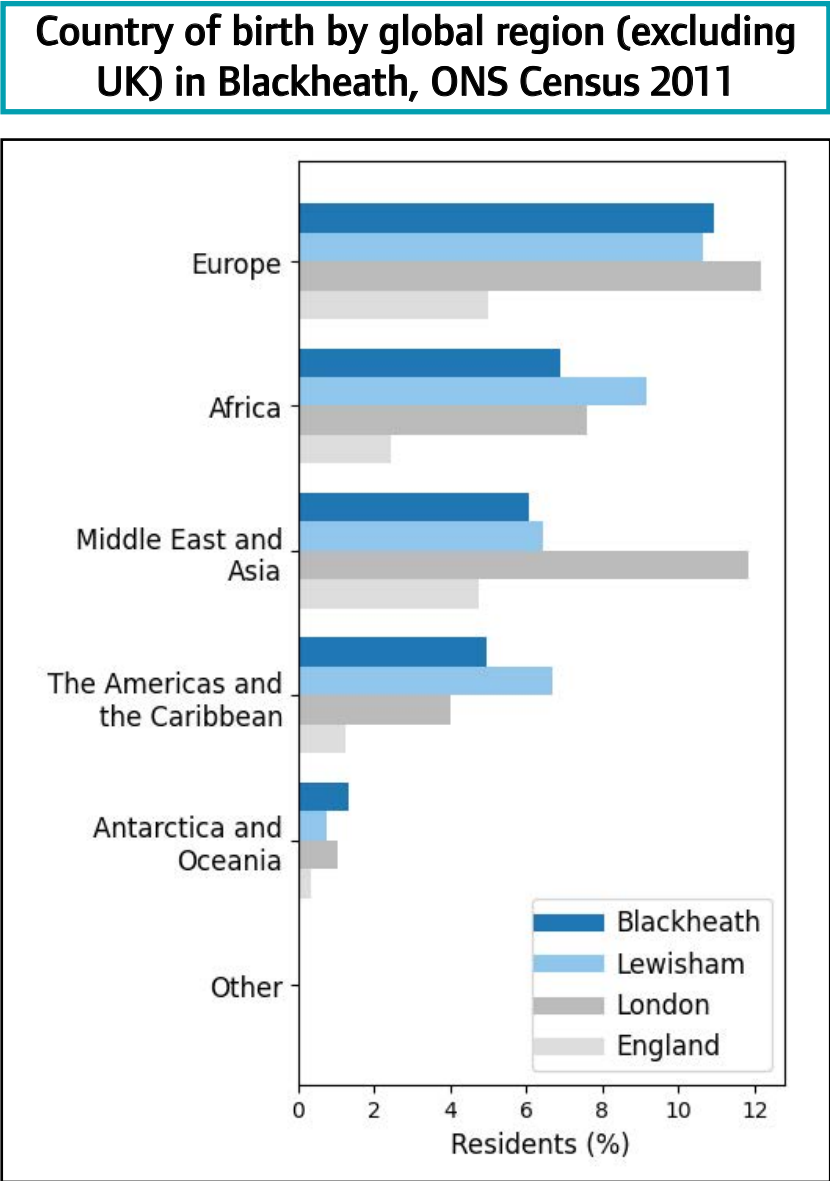
50.2% of Blackheath residents identify as Christian, compared to 52.8% in Lewisham as a whole, 48.4% in London, and 59.4% in England. Among those not identifying as Christian, the three most common religions are No Religion (31.6%), Not Stated (9.7%), and Muslim (4.3%).



Diversity: Country of birth

66.3% of Blackheath residents were born in England, compared to 64.0% in Lewisham as a whole, 61.1% in London, and 83.5% in England.

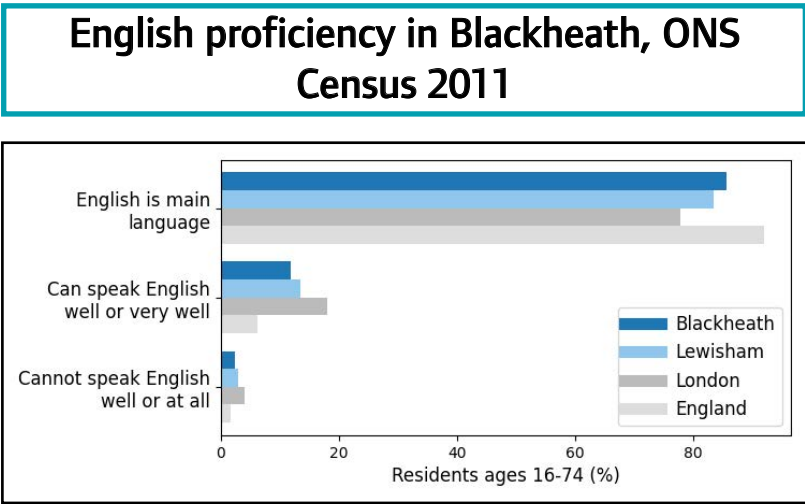
Among those not born in England, the three most common countries of birth are Nigeria (2.3%), Scotland (1.8%), and Jamaica (1.7%).



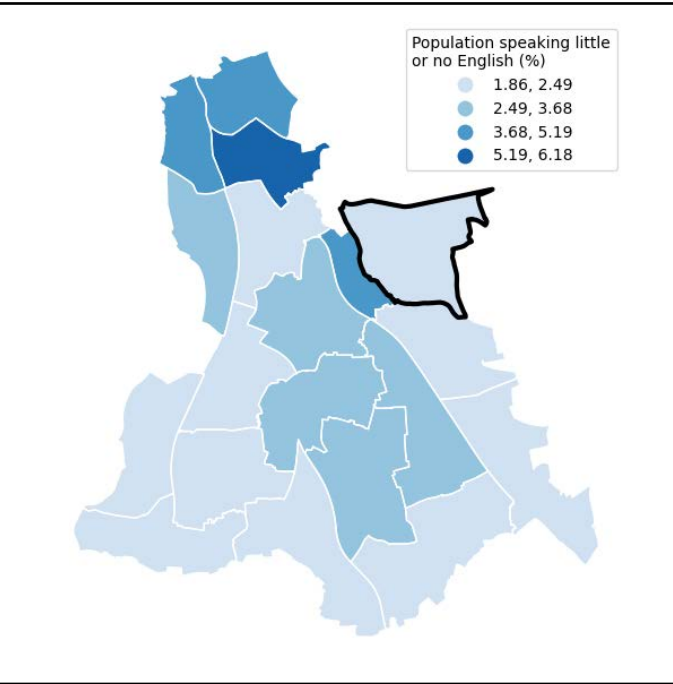
Diversity: Languages

85.7% of Blackheath residents speak English as their primary language, compared to 83.5% in Lewisham as a whole, 77.9% in London, and 92.0% in England.

Of the remaining residents, 11.9% can speak English well or very well.

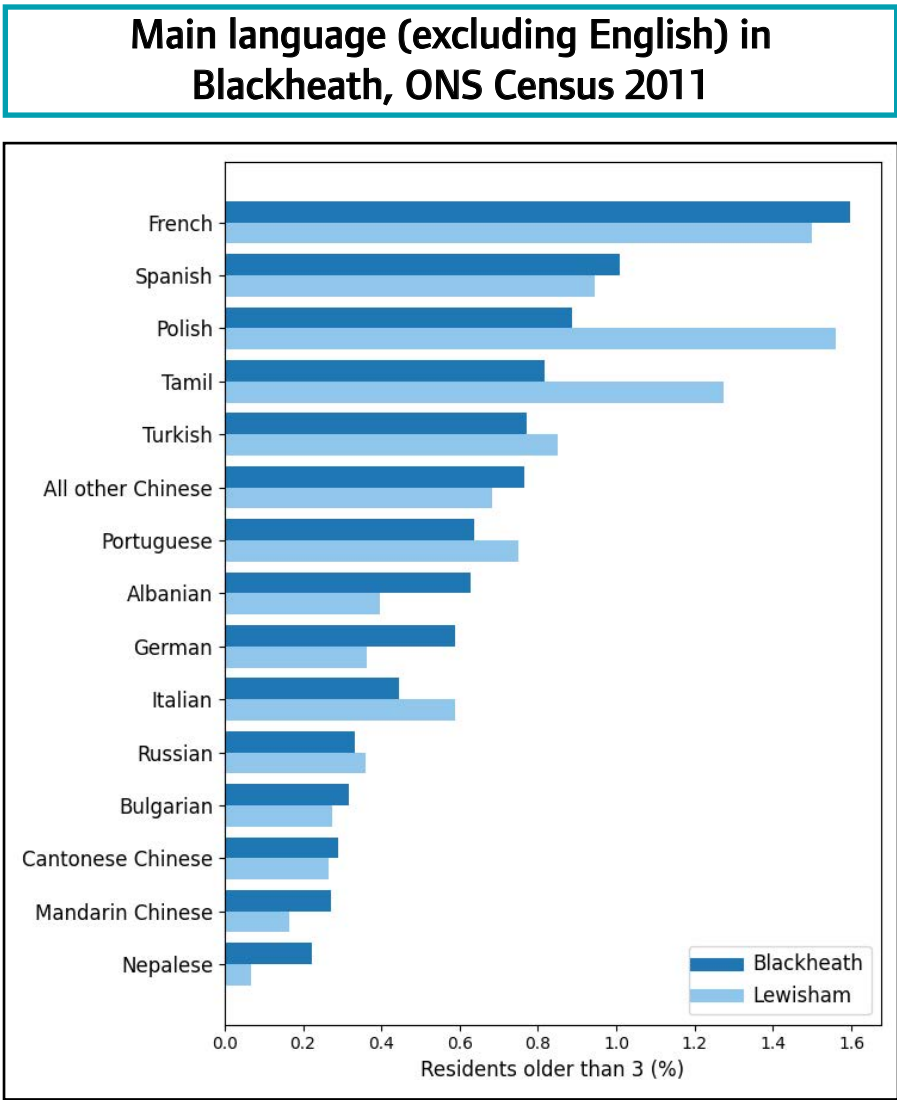


Population speaking little or no English in Blackheath, ONS Census 2011



On the other hand, 2.5% of residents cannot speak English well or at all, compared to a Lewisham average of 3.1%. This means an estimated 422 people in Blackheath may require everyday language support.

Among those not speaking English as their main language, the three most widely spoken languages are French (1.6%), Spanish (1.0%), and Polish (0.9%).

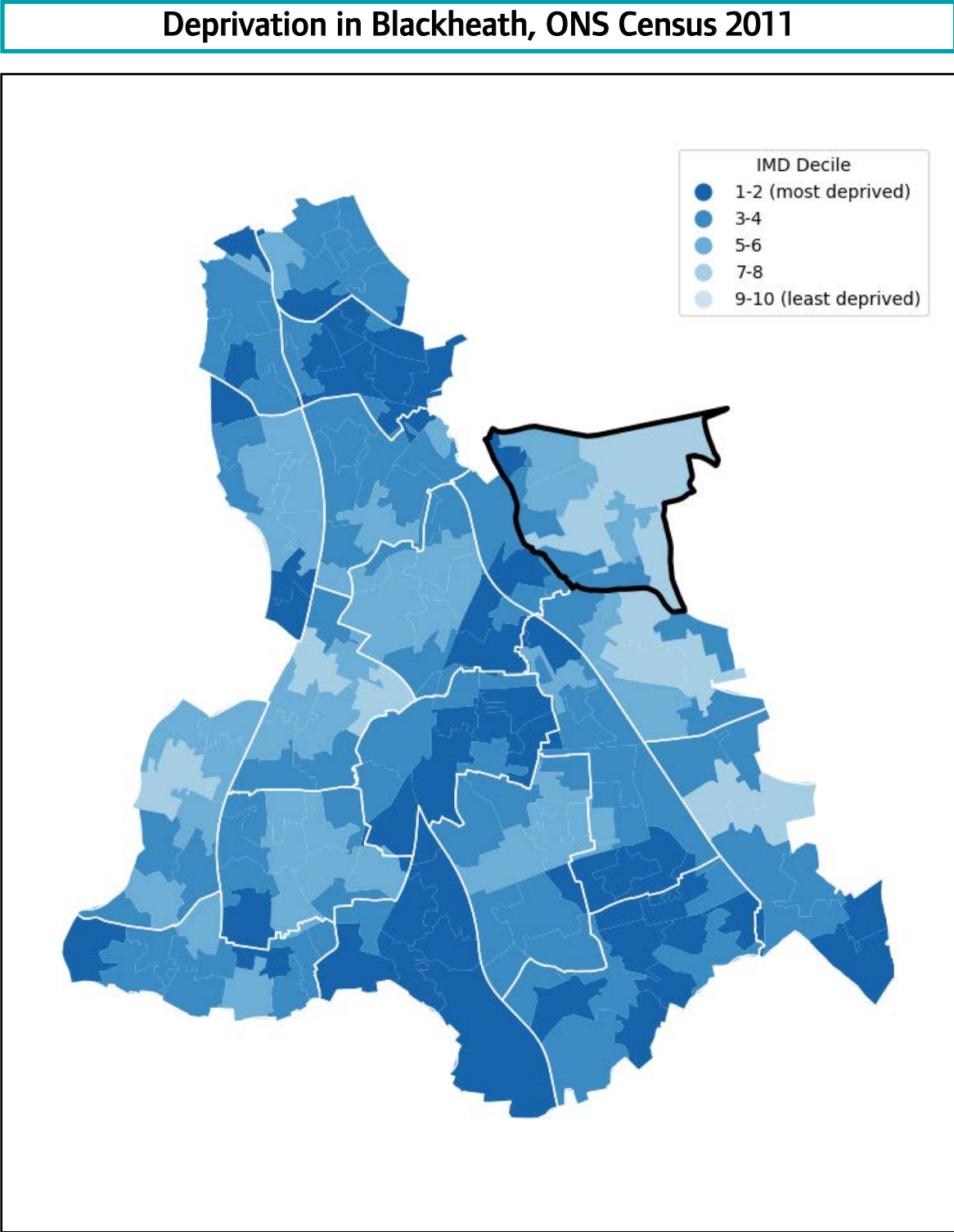
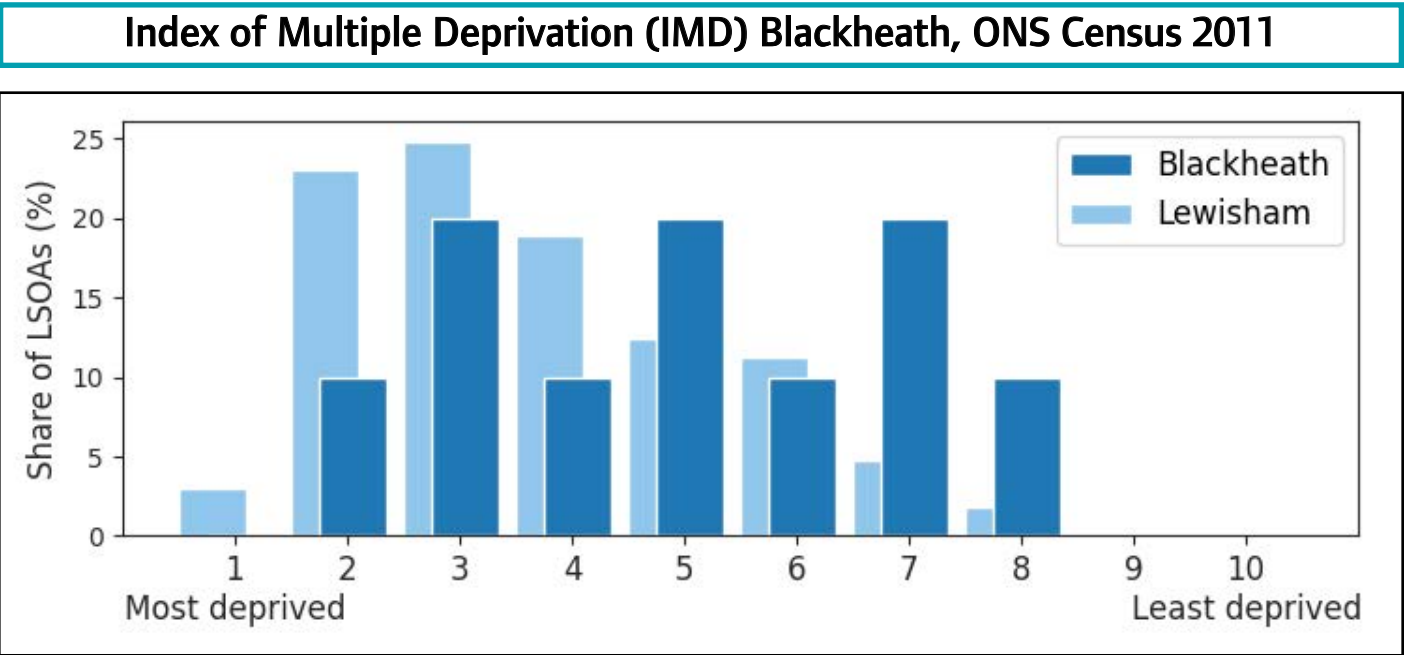


Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is the official measure of relative deprivation in England. It is based on multiple factors: population income, employment, education skills and training, health and disability, crime, barriers to housing and services, and general living environment.

The IMD is determined for small areas, using a statistical geography called Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOA), with each LSOA typically representing between 1,000 and 3,000 people. Each LSOA in England is ranked from most deprived to least deprived, and then segmented into ten groups (or deciles), with the bottom decile (or decile 1) representing the most deprived 10% LSOAs in England.

Of the 10 LSOAs in Blackheath, one ranks in the bottom 20% of the country (decile 1 or 2.)



Fuel poverty and EPC

Fuel poverty in England is measured statistically using the Low Income High Costs definition, under which a household is considered to be in fuel poverty if:

- They have required fuel costs that above average (the national median spend on fuel).
- Were they to spend that amount they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

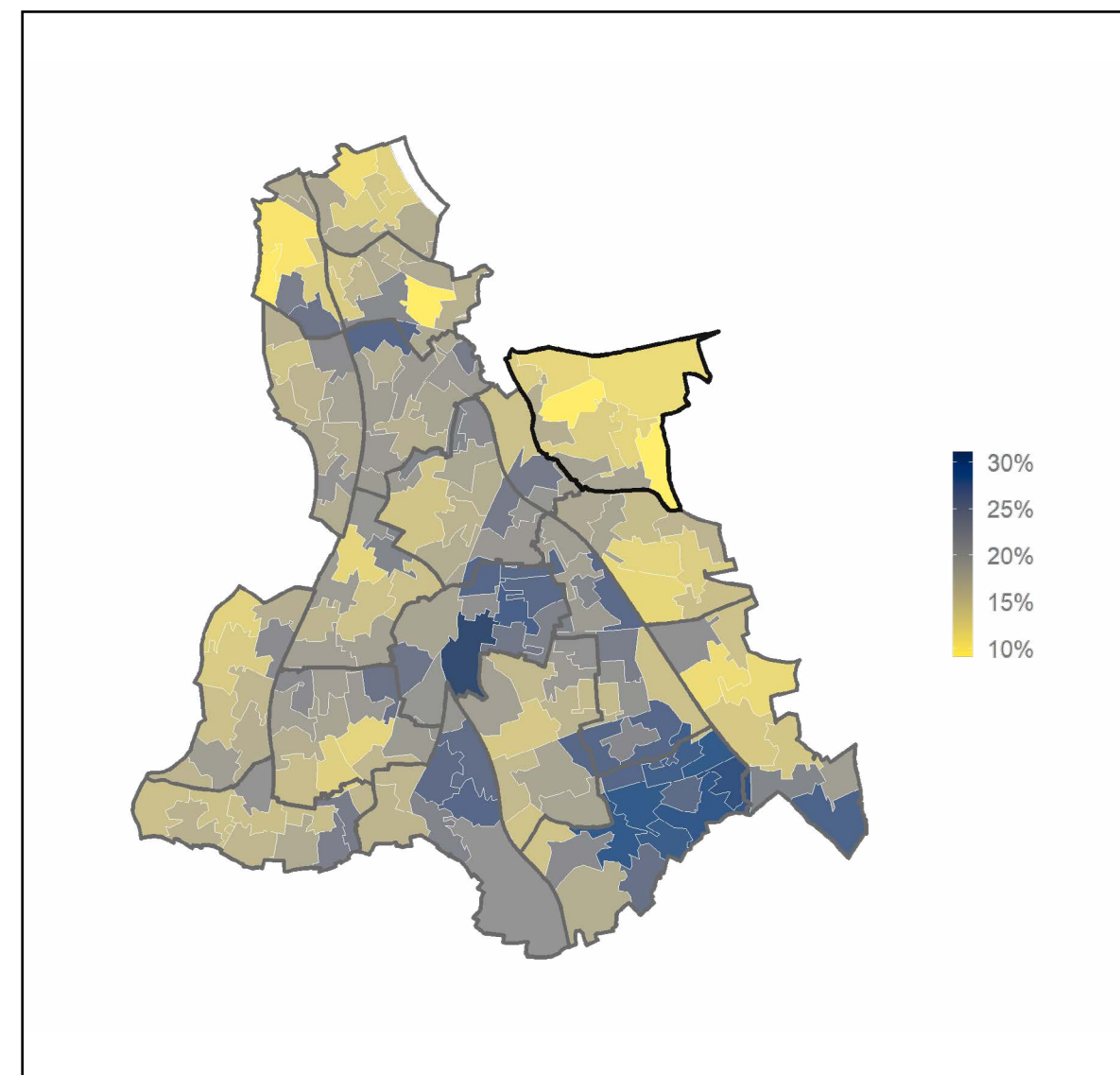
In the 10 LSOAs in Blackheath, proportion of households fuel poor ranges from 9% to 18.3%.

Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) were first introduced in England and Wales in 2007, and are valid for 10 years. They contain information about a property's energy use and typical energy costs, and recommendations about how to reduce energy use and save money. Dwellings are rated between A (highly energy efficient) and G (highly inefficient.) The average EPC rating for dwellings in England is D.

In Blackheath, 41% of assessed households have received an EPC rating of A, B, or C, which means they are highly energy-efficient.

It is estimated that the share of highly energy-efficient dwellings in Blackheath could be as high as 80% if home owners were to carry out the improvements recommended during their assessment.

Proportion of households in fuel poverty, BEIS 2019



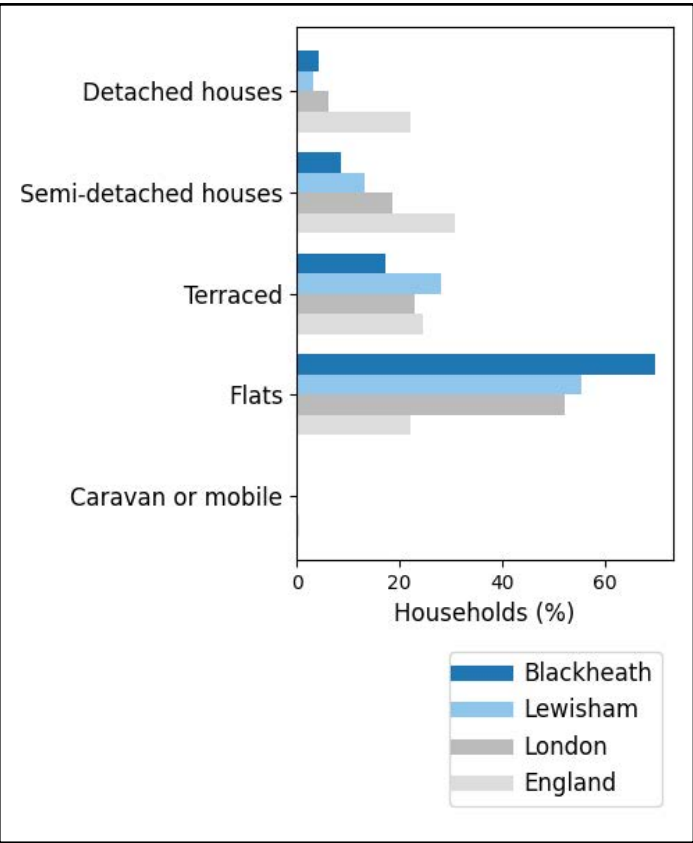
Housing and affordability

69.8% of Blackheath residents live in flats, compared to 55.4% in Lewisham as a whole, 52.2% in London, and 22.1% in England. Among Blackheath residents, the three most common accommodation types are Flats (69.8%), Terraced (17.2%), and Semi-detached houses (8.7%).

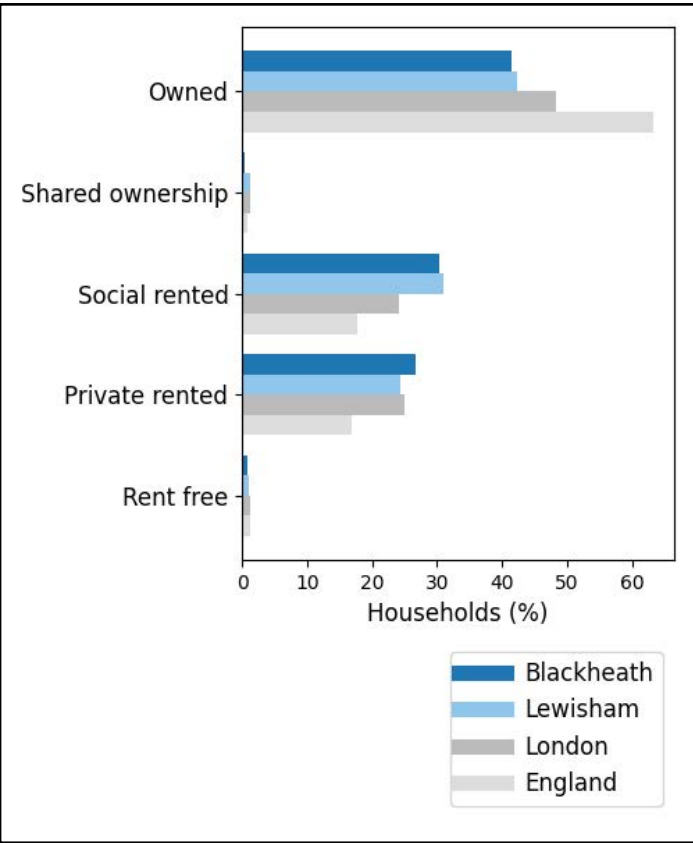
30.4% of Blackheath residents live in social rented accommodation, compared to 31.1% in Lewisham as a whole, 24.1% in London, and 17.7% in England. Among Blackheath residents, the three most common types of tenure are Owned (41.5%), Social rented (30.4%), and Private rented (26.7%).

House prices in Lewisham remain lower than those for London as a whole. In 2020, the median house price in the borough was £430,000 compared with £483,000 for Greater London and £249,000 for England. In terms of relative affordability based on median prices, Lewisham had a median work-place based income to house price ratio in 2020 of 12.3x. Based on median ratios, Lewisham was relatively more affordable than Lambeth, Greenwich and Bromley; and less affordable than Southwark, Croydon, Tower Hamlets and London overall, the South East region and England.

Housing by accommodation type in Blackheath, ONS Census 2011



Types of tenure in Backheath, ONS Census 2011

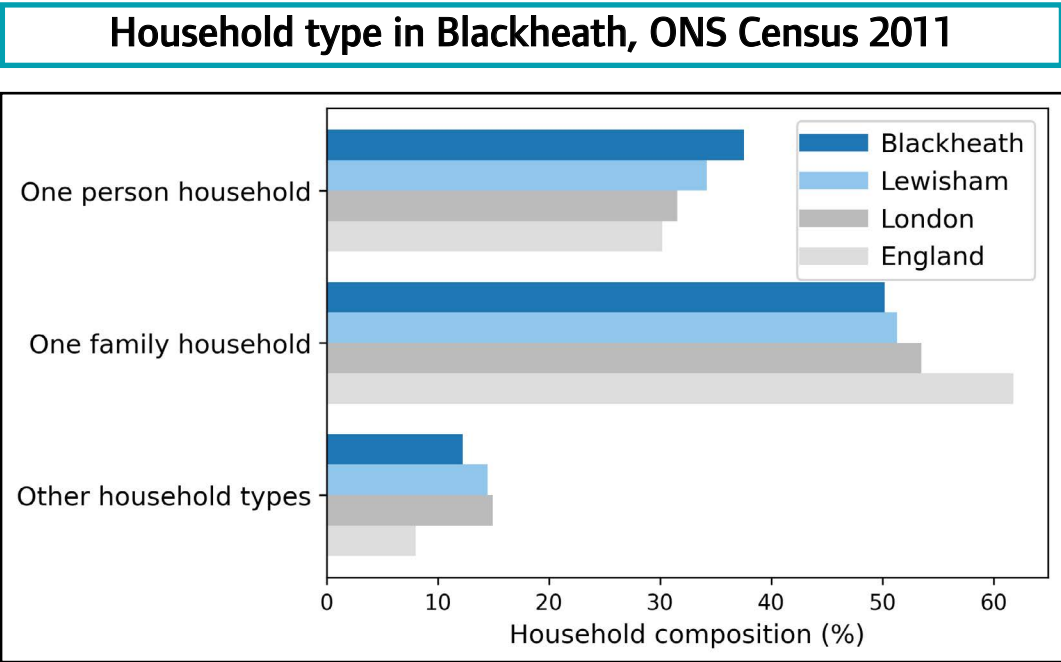


Relative affordability of median prices by local authority area, ONS 2021

	Workplace-based				Resident-based			
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2017	2018	2019	2020
Southwark	14.23	13.88	13.87	12.12	15.28	15.35	14.31	13.83
Lambeth	14.7	14.5	14.3	14.21	15.03	13.82	14.4	13.1
London	7.91	12.26	12.05	11.78	13.25	13.09	12.75	12.52
Tower Hamlets	9.82	9.85	10.67	9.98	12.88	12.73	11.5	12.12
Greenwich	12.87	12.97	13.77	12.73	12.67	11.95	12.72	12
Lewisham	12.61	13.65	13.27	12.33	12.28	12.2	12.74	11.55
Bromley	14.59	14.3	13.85	13.3	10.83	11	10.73	10.55
Croydon	11.21	11.09	10.83	11.34	10.73	10.46	10.97	10.41
South East	10.25	10.37	10.05	9.92	9.79	9.92	9.67	9.57
England	7.91	8.04	7.88	7.84	7.91	8.04	7.88	7.84

Household composition

Of Blackheath’s households in 2011, 37.5% were one person households, 50.1% were families and 12.2% other household types, compared to a Lewisham average composition of 34.1% one person household, 51.3% families and 14.4% other household types.

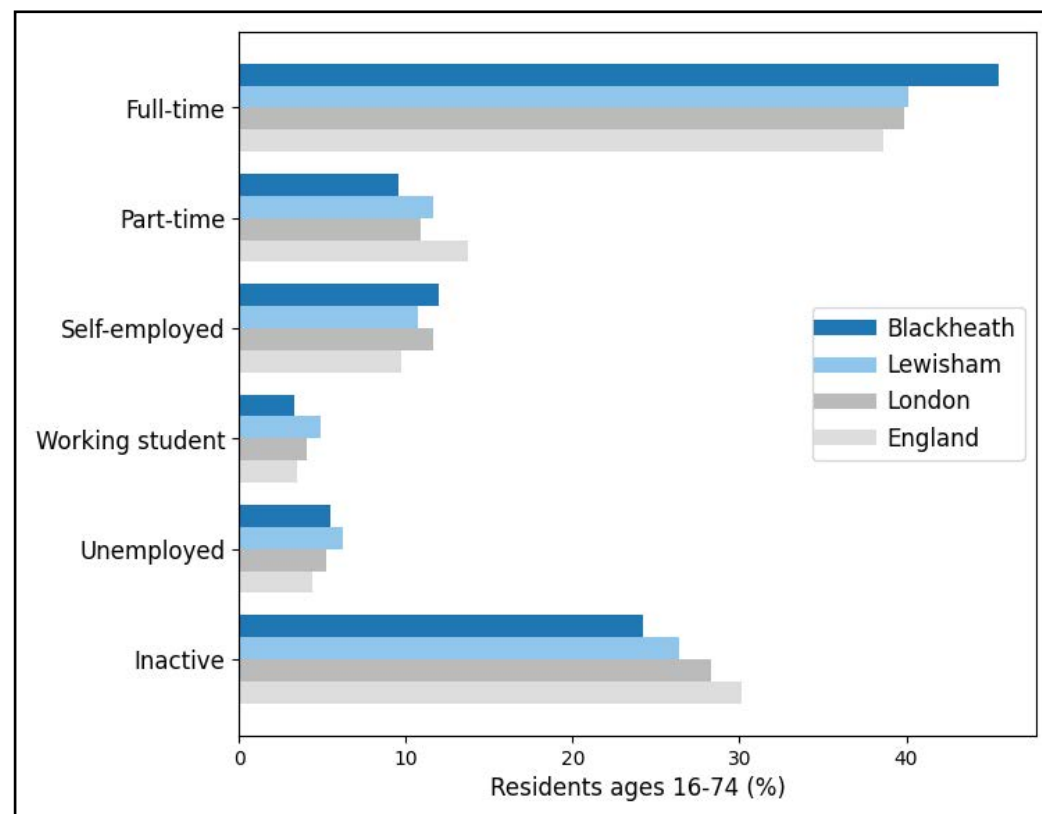


Household living arrangements in Backheath, ONS Census 2011						
	Blackheath		Lewisham		England	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
One person household: Aged 65 and over	727	10.3	9,994	8.6	2,725,596	12.4
One person household: Other	1928	27.3	29,686	25.6	3,940,897	17.9
One family only: All aged 65 and over	219	3.1	3,134	2.7	1,789,465	8.1
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: No children	620	8.8	7,985	6.9	2,719,210	12.3
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: Dependent children	907	12.9	14,152	12.2	3,375,890	15.3
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: All children non-dependent	143	2	4,105	3.5	1,234,355	5.6
One family only: Cohabiting couple: No children	614	8.7	6,755	5.8	1,173,172	5.3
One family only: Cohabiting couple: Dependent children	171	2.4	4,200	3.6	890,780	4
One family only: Cohabiting couple: All children non-dependent	22	0.3	464	0.4	108,486	0.5
One family only: Lone parent: Dependent children	606	8.6	13,301	11.5	1,573,255	7.1
One family only: Lone parent: All children non-dependent	246	3.5	5,494	4.7	766,569	3.5
Other household types: With dependent children	207	2.9	5,257	4.5	584,016	2.6
Other household types: All full-time students	41	0.6	718	0.6	124,285	0.6
Other household types: All aged 65 and over	12	0.1	307	0.3	61,715	0.3
Other household types: Other	607	8.6	10,539	9.1	995,677	4.5

Employment

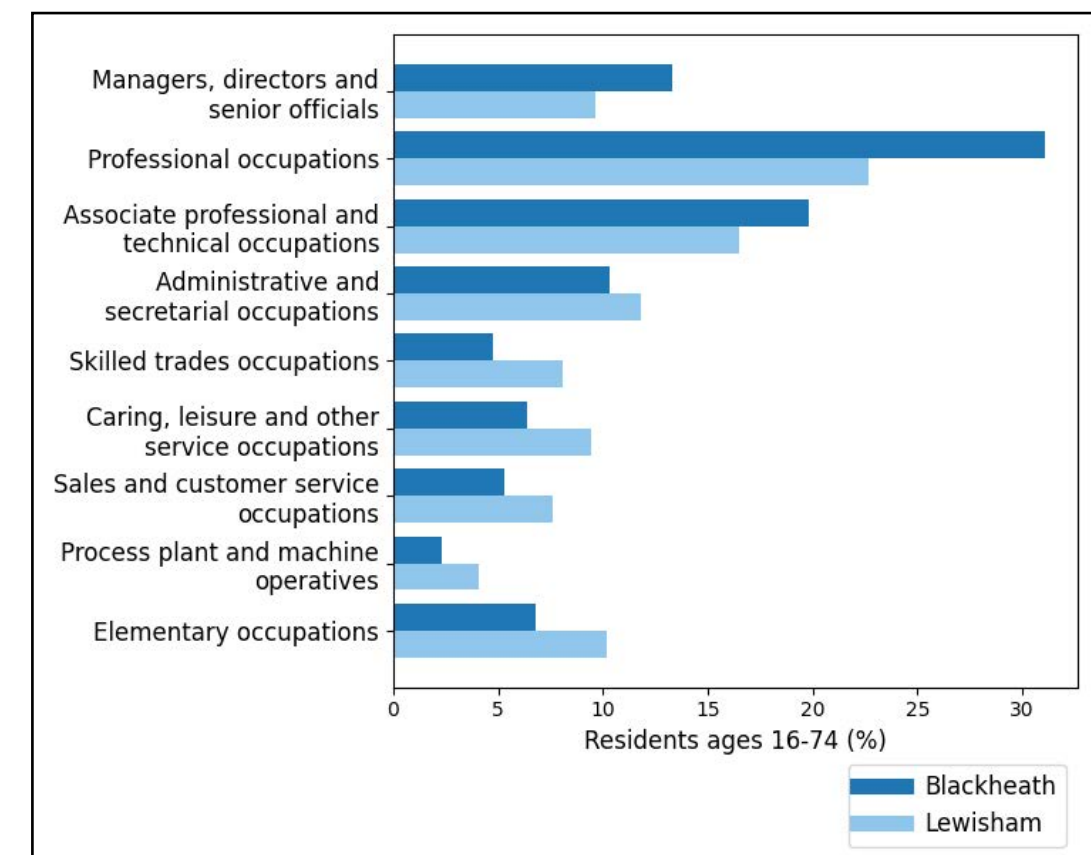
In the 2011 Census, **the unemployment rate in Blackheath was 5.5%** among residents aged 16-74, compared to a Lewisham average of 6.3%. 24.2% of residents are not economically active, for example because they are in education, looking after home or family, long-term sick or disabled, or in retirement.

Economic activity in Blackheath, ONS Census 2011



The three most common occupations in Blackheath are Professional occupations (31.1%), Associate professional and technical occupations (19.8%), and Managers, directors and senior officials (13.3%).

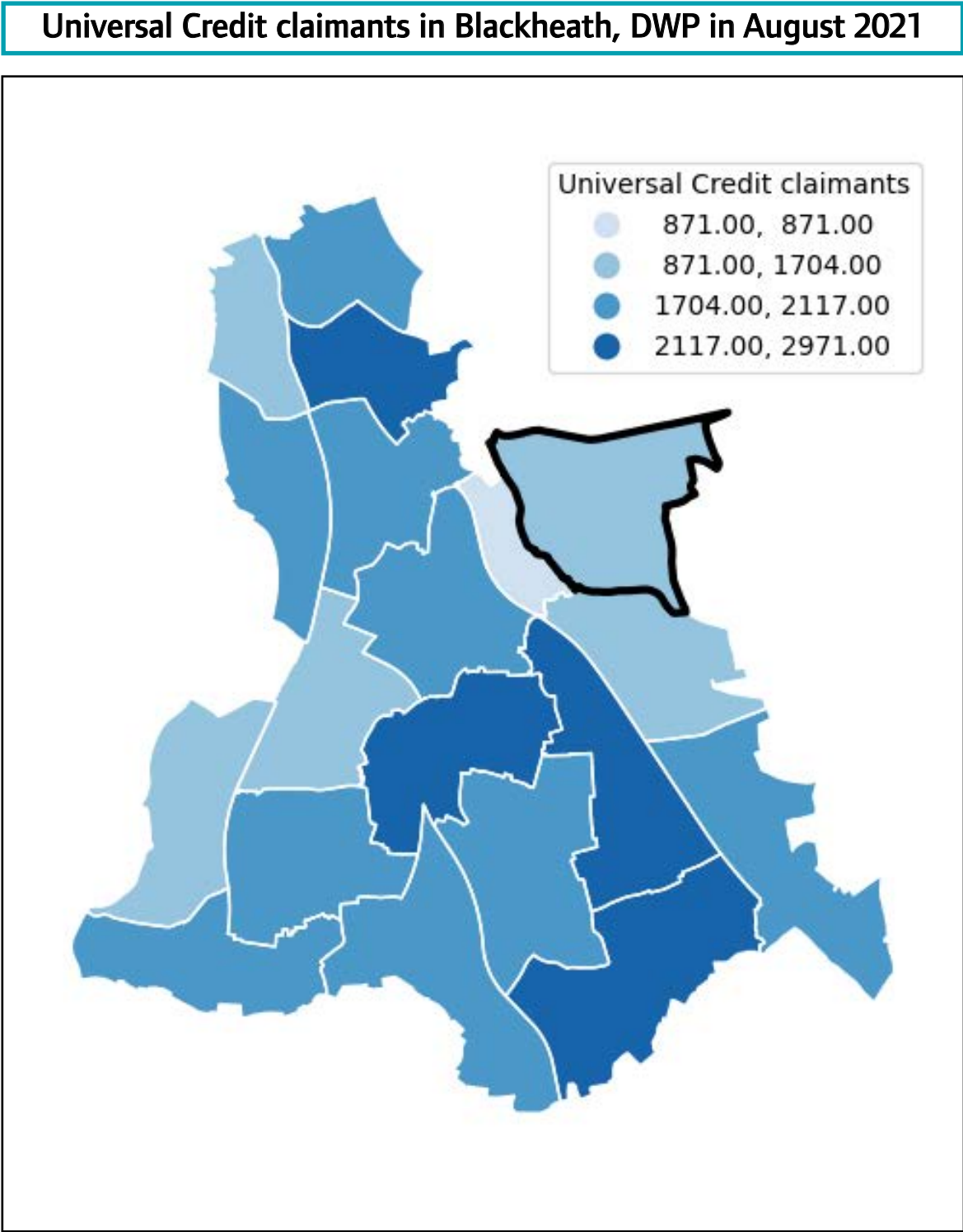
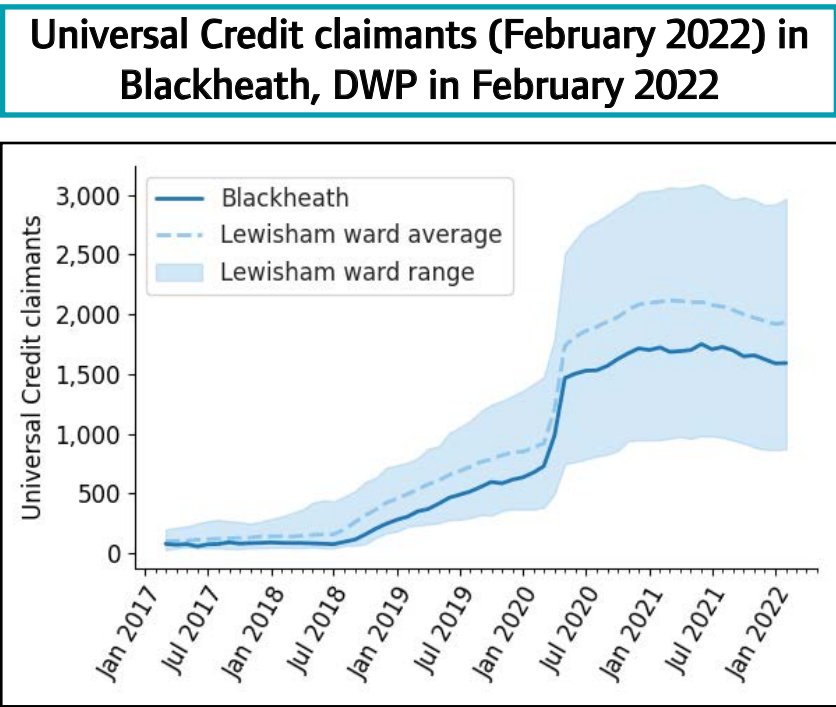
Occupation groups in Blackheath, ONS Census 2011



Benefit claimants

Universal Credit is the primary social security payment for working-age people with a low household income. It was introduced in 2013 and has gradually replaced six prior benefits: income-based Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance, and Income Support; Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit; and Housing Benefit. All Universal Credit recipients receive a standard payment that varies by age and whether they live with a partner. Additional payments are offered to help with housing, children and childcare, sickness and disability, and for carers. A further weekly £20 uplift was offered during the COVID-19 pandemic until September 2021.

In Blackheath, **1,592 people received Universal Credit in February 2022**. By comparison, in February 2020, 676 people received Universal Credit.

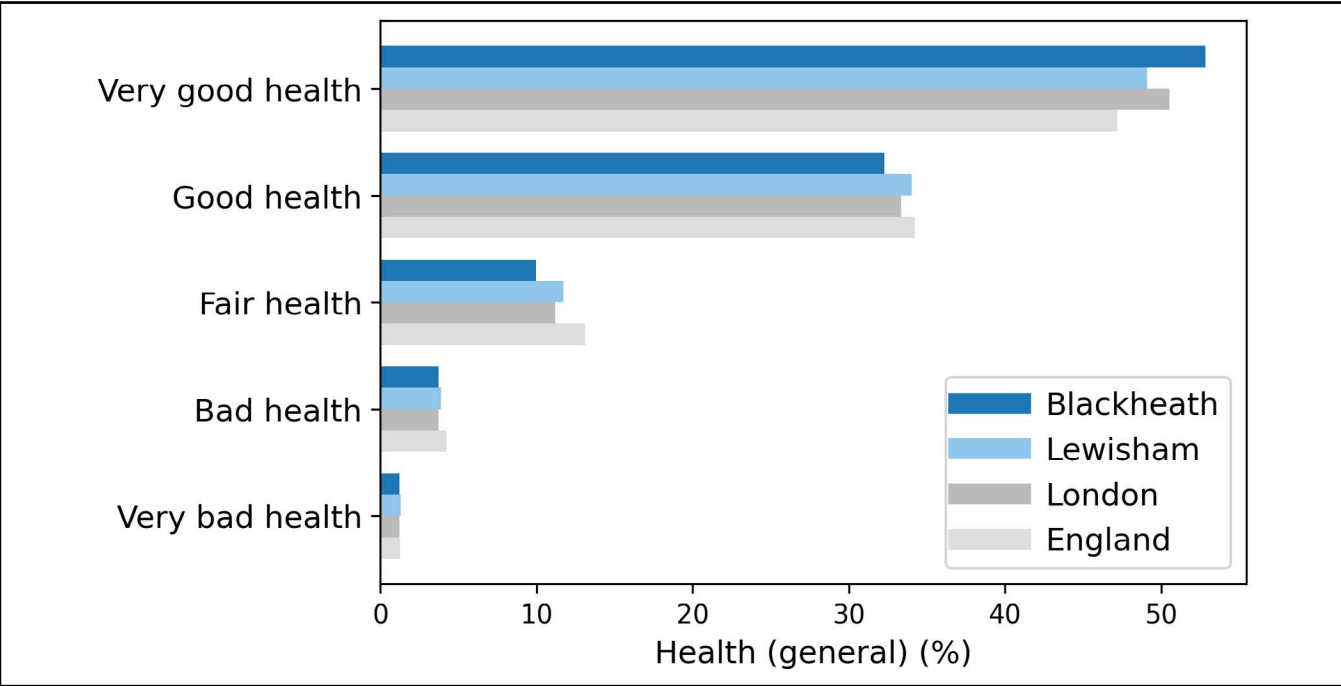


Health and wellbeing

Census captures different metrics related to a self-assessment of health which can be a useful indicator of the population’s general wellbeing and health-related quality of life. These include general health, day-to-day activities limited, and provision of unpaid care.

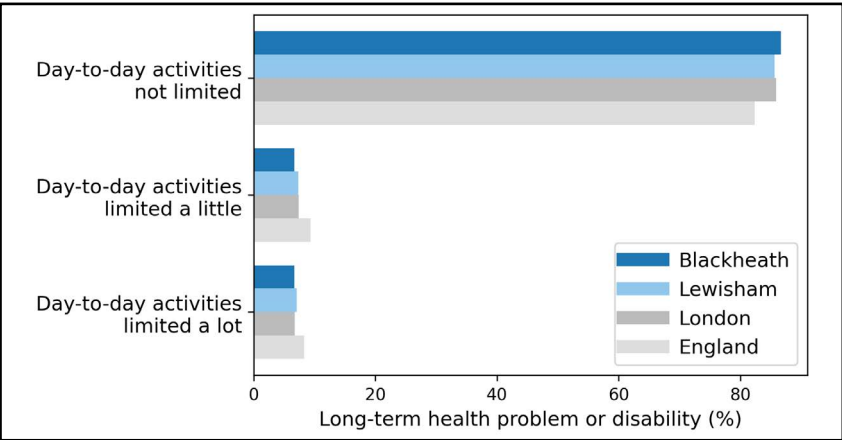
The average rate of Blackheath residents in very good/good health is 85% compared to a Lewisham average of 81% and a national average of 83%.

General health status in Blackheath, ONS Census 2011

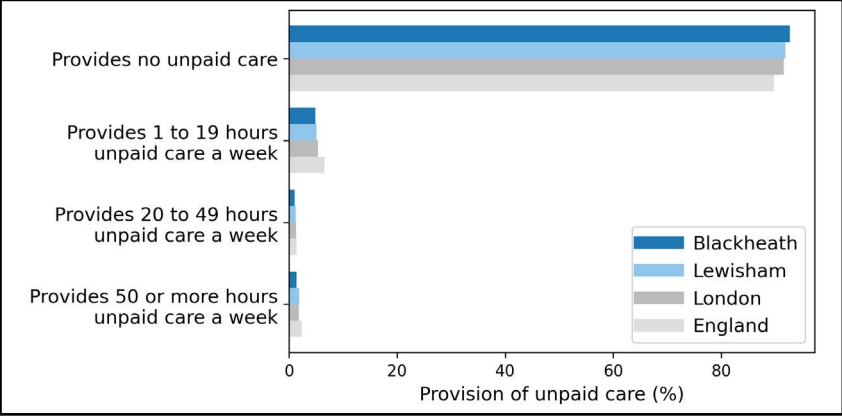


Around 6.6% residents of Blackheath had a long term health problem or disability limiting their day to day activities a lot compared to a Lewisham average of 7% and a national average of 8.3%.

Day-to-day activities limited in Blackheath, ONS Census 2011



Provision of unpaid care in Blackheath, ONS Census 2011



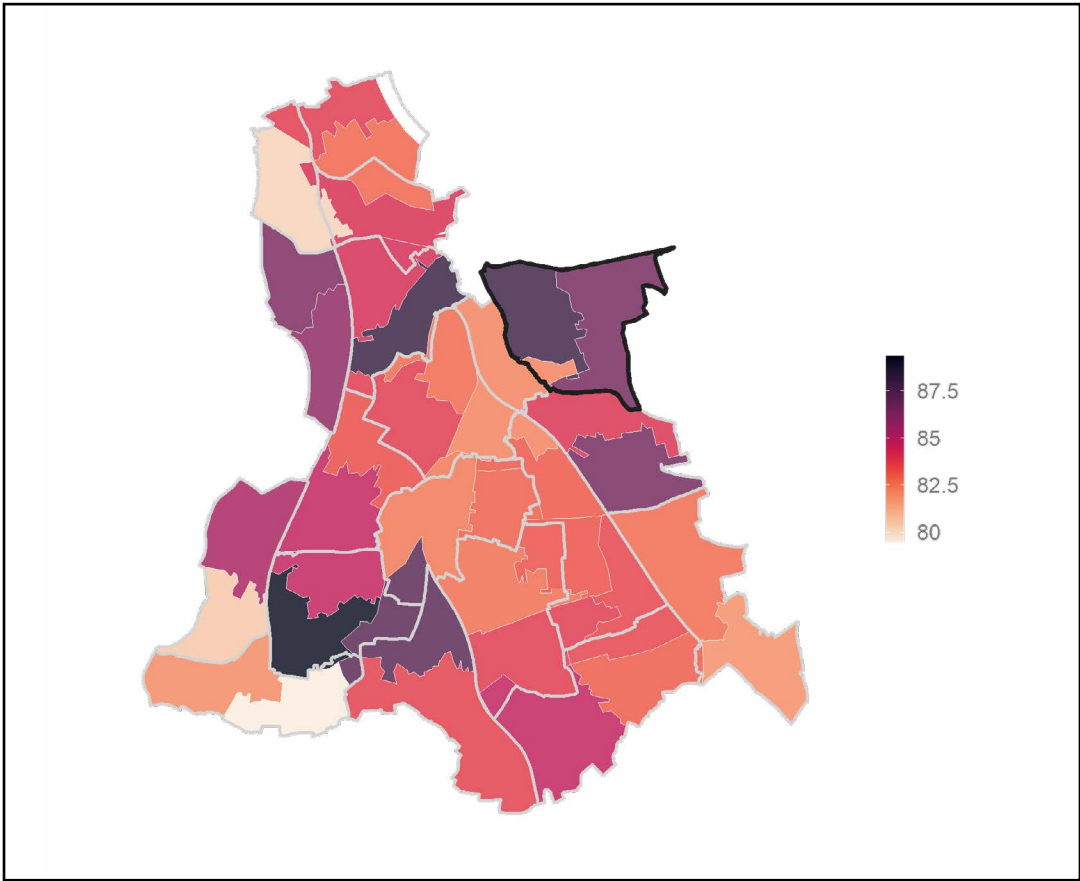
Around 7.1% of residents in Blackheath provided unpaid care compared to a Lewisham average of 8.1% and a national average of 10.1%.

Health and life expectancy

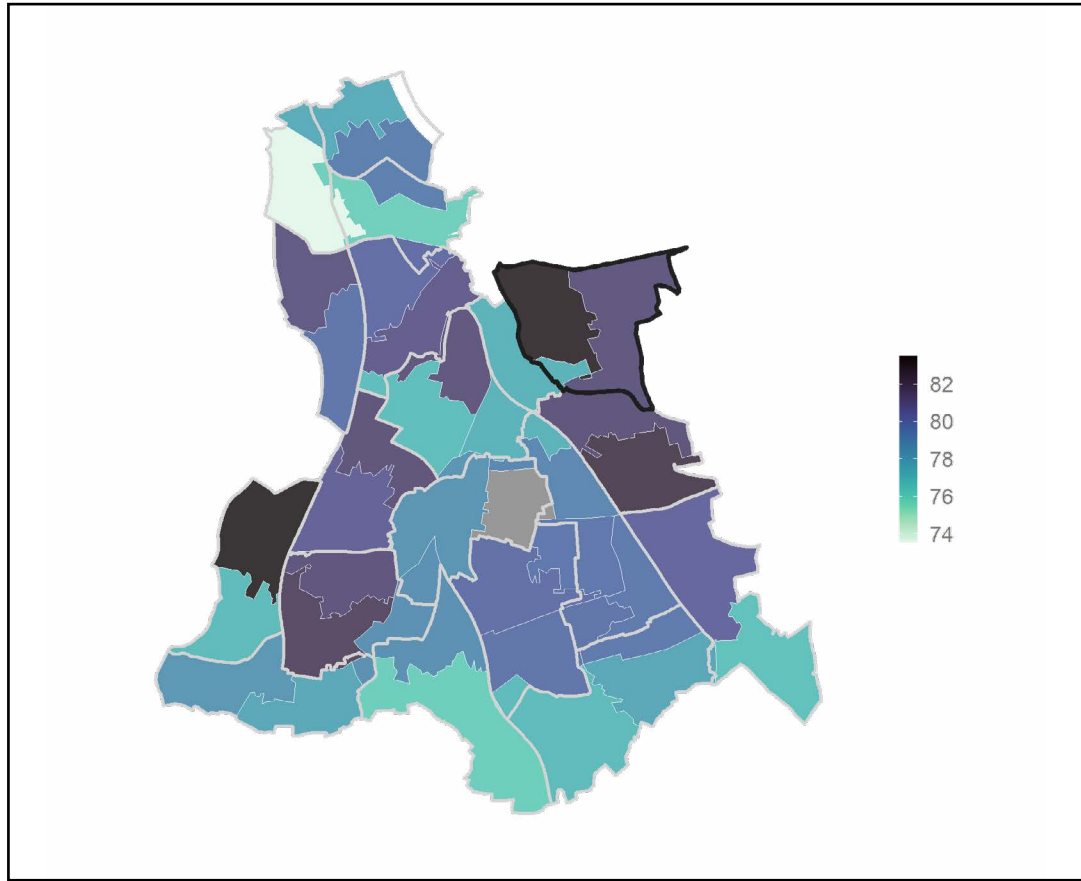
The average life expectancy at birth for females in Blackheath is 87.1 years compared to England average of 83.2.

The average life expectancy at birth for males in Blackheath is 82.1 years compared to England average of 79.6.

Life expectancy female, Public Health England 2015 - 2019



Life expectancy male, Public Health England 2015 - 2019



* Grey area on the map indicates missing data for MSOA Catford East & Mountsfield Park (Rushey Green ward).

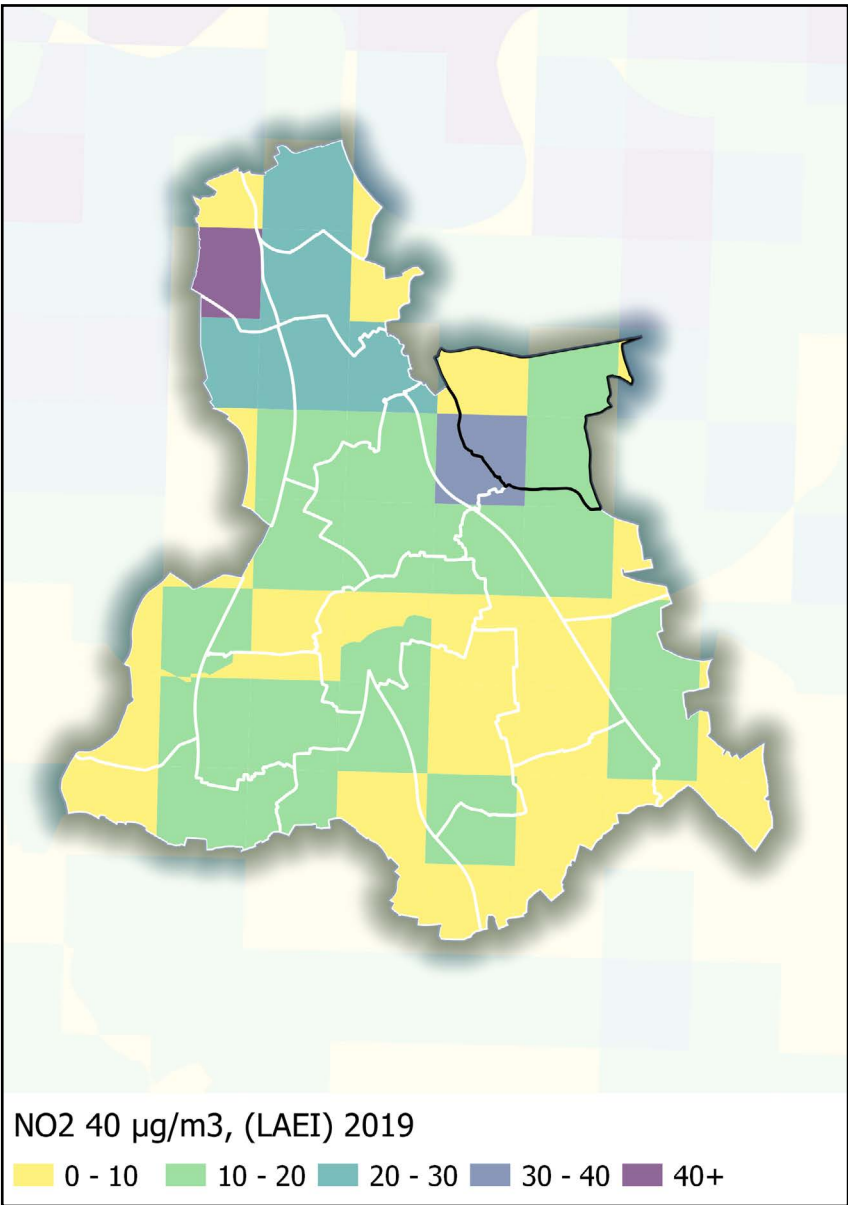
Environment

Air quality

The DEFRA 2010 Air Quality Objective sets a target threshold for Nitrogen Dioxide particles in the air at no more than 40 micrograms per cubic metre of air.

Air quality in Blackheath, London Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (LAEI), 2019

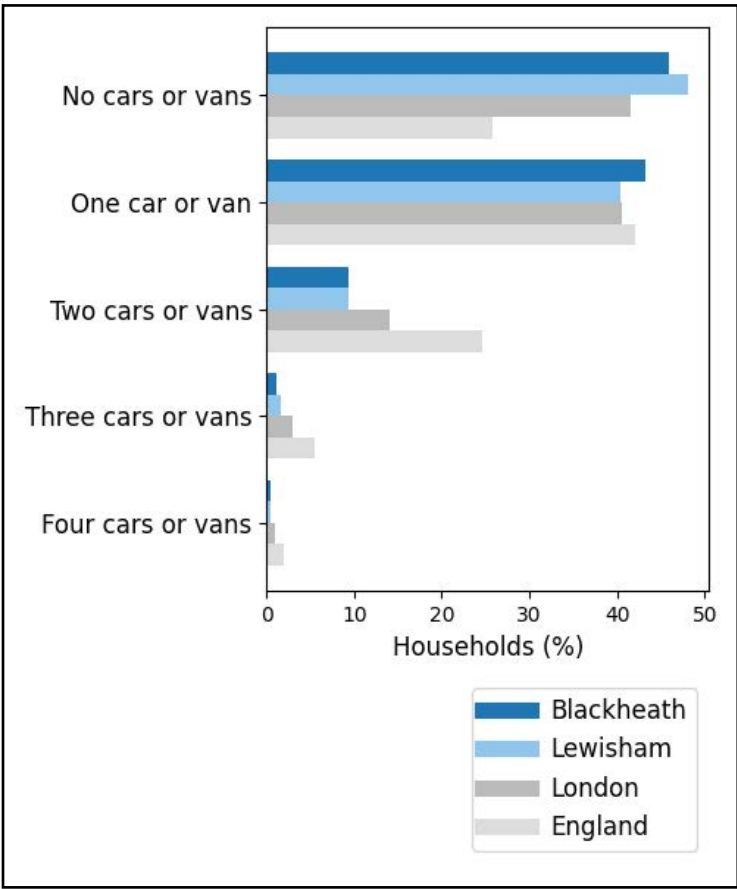
This model from 2019 estimates levels based on historical readings at sensor sites, interpolated across the whole of Greater London.



Car/van ownership per household

The three most common types of car or van availability in Blackheath are no cars or vans (46.0%), one car or van (43.3%), and two cars or vans (9.3%).

Car/van availability in Blackheath, ONS Census 2011

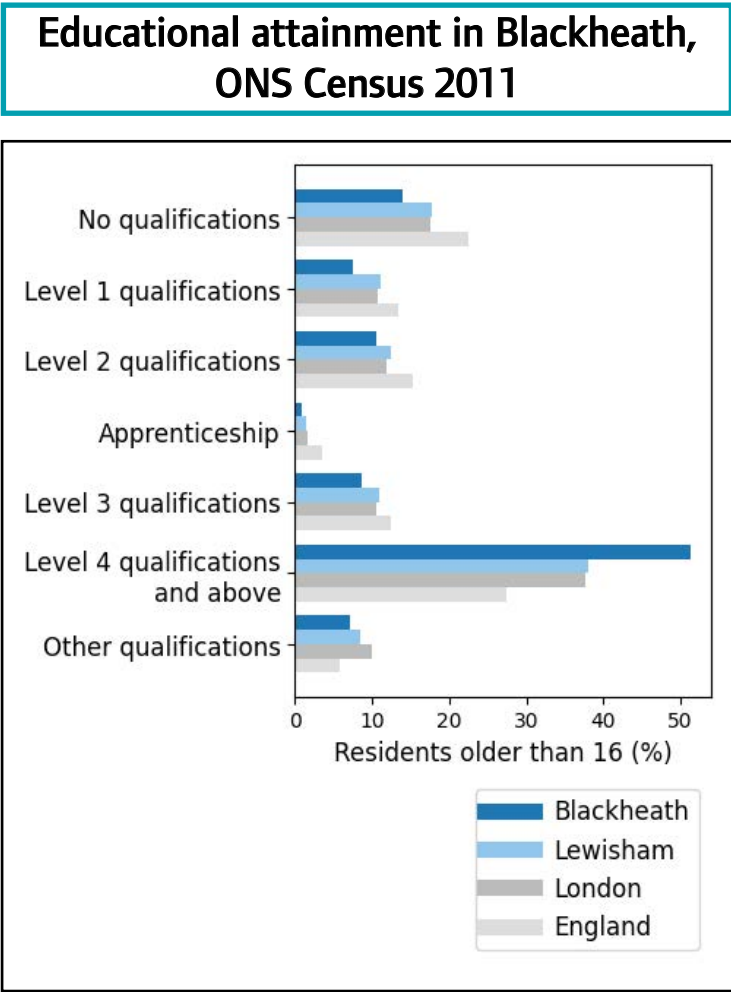


Education

Educational attainment

There are nine qualification levels in England: Entry level and then levels 1-9. Levels 1-2 cover GCSE and equivalents, Level 3 covers A level and equivalents, and Levels 4-8 cover higher education equivalents.

In Blackheath, 14% of residents have no qualifications; 8% have Level 1 qualifications; 10% have Level 2 qualifications; 1% have Apprenticeship; 9% have Level 3 qualifications; and 51% have Level 4 qualifications and above.



OFSTED Ratings

This section provides general information on schools located in the ward and their OFSTED ratings.

Ofsted is the Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills. They inspect services providing education and skills for learners of all ages. They also inspect and regulate services that care for children and young people.

Out of six schools in Blackheath, two are rated as Outstanding, and three are rated as Good.

OFSTED rating for schools in Blackheath, Department for Education 2020 - 2021

School Name	Group	School Type	Is Primary?	Is Secondary?	Is post 16?	Gender	OFSTED Rating
Heath House Preparatory School	Independent school	Other independent school	Yes	No	No	Mixed	*
John Ball Primary School	Maintained school	Community school	Yes	No	No	Mixed	Outstanding
All Saints' Church of England Primary School Blackheath	Maintained school	Voluntary aided school	Yes	No	No	Mixed	Good
St Margaret's Lee CofE Primary School	Maintained school	Voluntary aided school	Yes	No	No	Mixed	Outstanding
Christ The King Sixth Form College	College	Further education	No	No	Yes	Mixed	Good
St Matthew Academy	Academy	Academy sponsor led	Yes	Yes	No	Mixed	Good

* OFSTED rating not available.

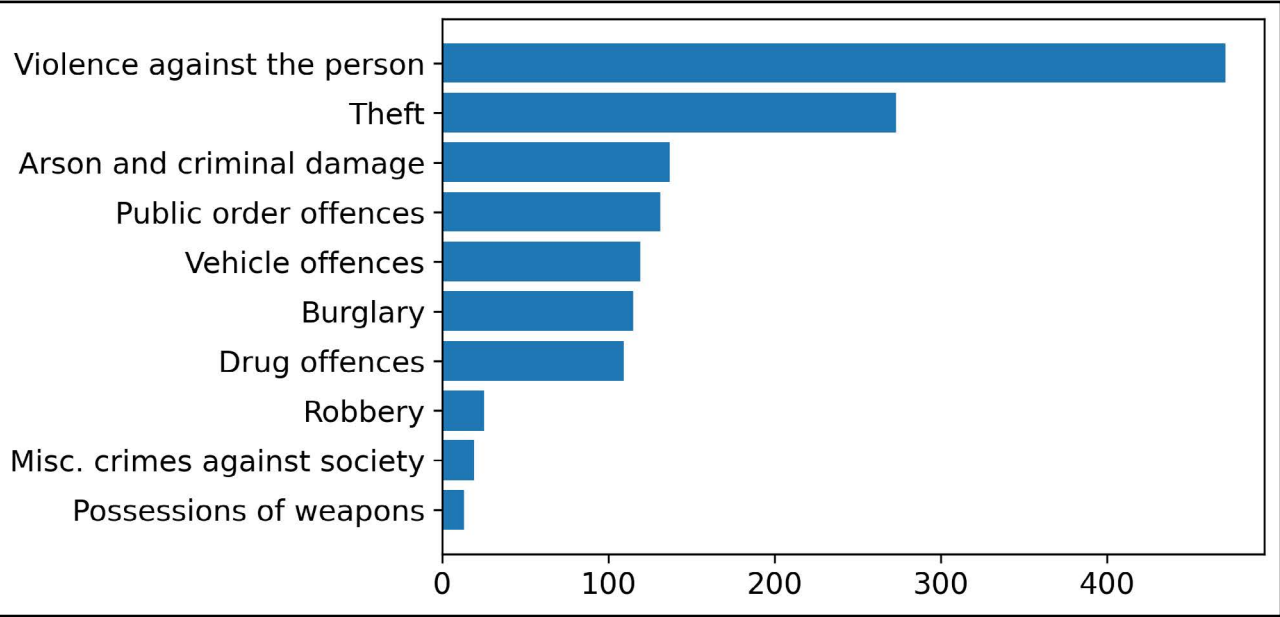
Crime

In the period January-December 2021, the number of recorded crimes in Lewisham was 25692 (excluding sexual offences).

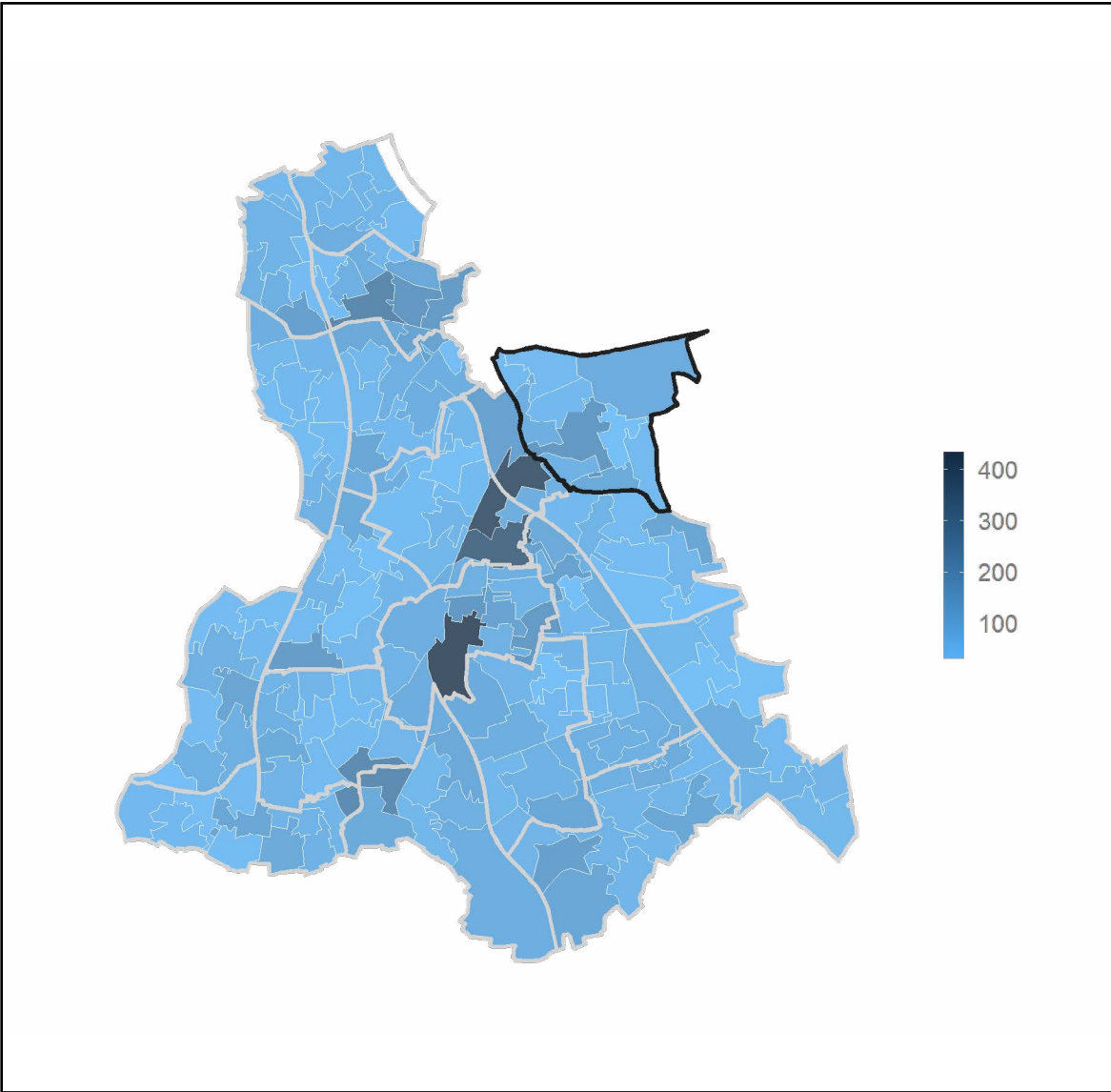
Of 1412 recorded crimes (Home Office crime classifications, excluding sexual offences) in Blackheath, the three most common offences include violence against the person (471), theft (273) and arson and criminal damage (137).

In the ten LSOAs in Blackheath, overall crime rates per 1,000 people range from 32.4 to 165.6.

Recorded crimes by type in Blackheath, MPS Jan-Dec 2021



Crime rates* per 1,000 people, MPS Jan-Dec 2021



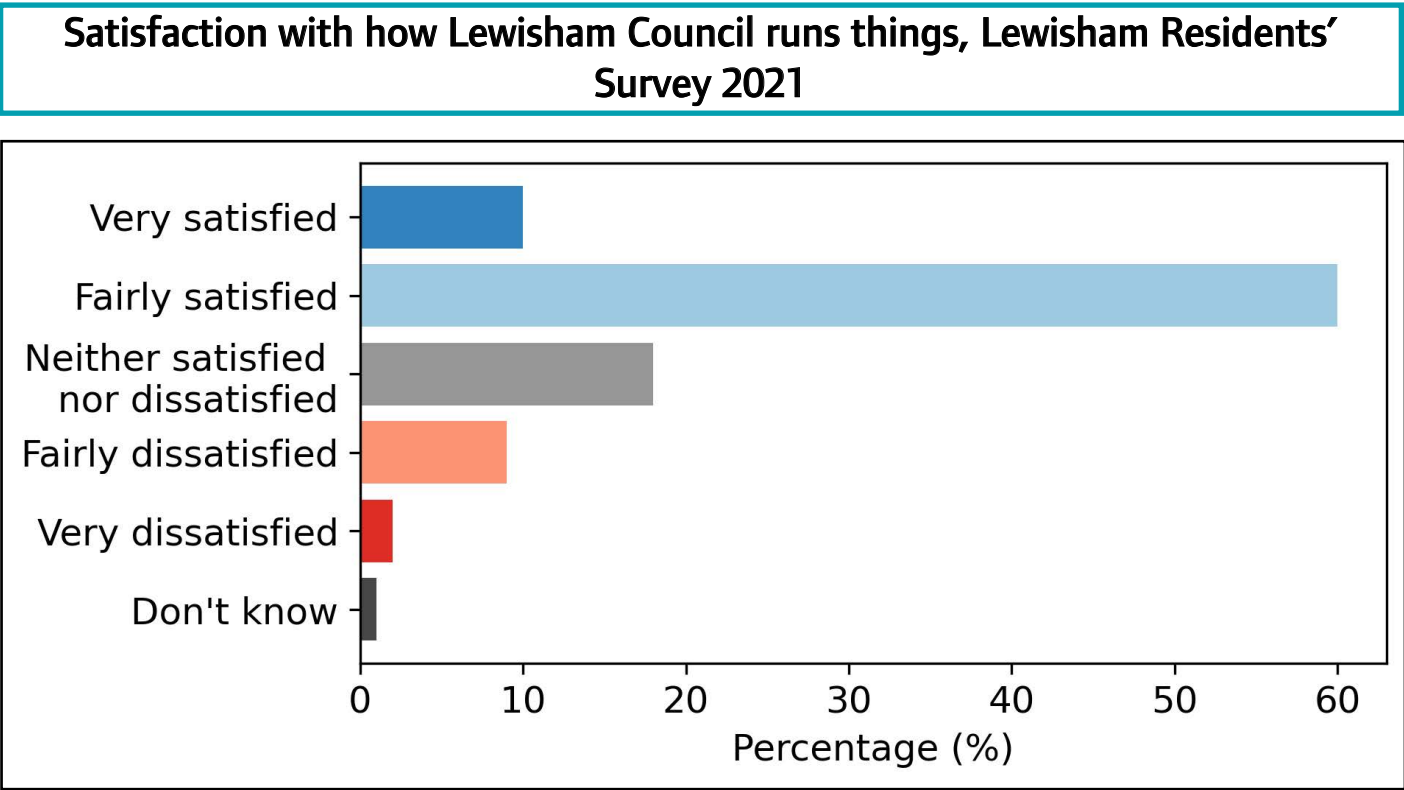
* Recorded crimes based on Home Office crime classifications, excluding sexual offences.

Residents survey

Due to limited data from Lewisham Residents’ Survey 2021 at ward level, survey results included in this document are presented at the borough level.

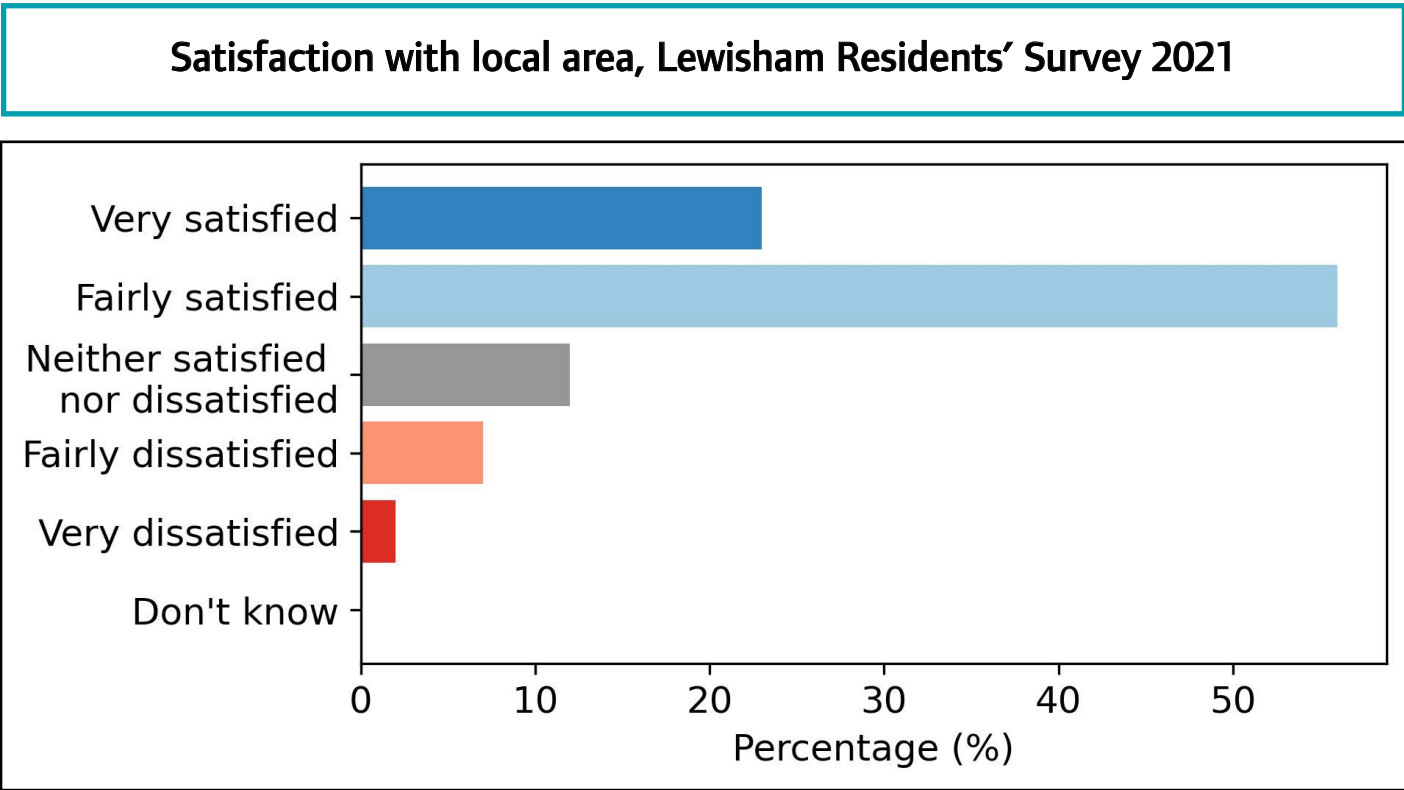
Satisfaction with the Council

Over two thirds (69%) of residents are satisfied with the way Lewisham Council runs things, whilst around 11% are dissatisfied. Satisfaction in Lewisham is significantly higher when compared with LGA October 2021 National data (56%; 13 percentage points).



Satisfaction local area

The majority of residents (79%) are satisfied with their local area as a place to live, whilst around 8% are dissatisfied. Satisfaction is slightly higher when compared with LGA October 2021 National data (78%; 1 percentage points).



Data sources

1. Basemaps (cover): OS Open Zoomstack
2. Ward boundaries: Office for National Statistics (ONS)
3. Community resources: Lewisham corporate postgis (mapthat)
4. Population estimates: ONS mid-2020 population estimate
5. Diversity - Ethnicity & religion: ONS Census 2011
6. Diversity - Country of birth: ONS Census 2011
7. Diversity - Main language & English proficiency: ONS Census 2011
8. Deprivation: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government 2019
9. Fuel poverty & EPC:
Fuel poverty: Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) 2019
EPC: Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities 2022
10. Housing & affordability:
Accommodation & tenure: ONS Census 2011
Affordability: ONS 2021
11. Household composition: ONS Census 2011
12. Employment (Economic activity and occupation): ONS Census 2011
13. Benefit claimants: DWP 2021
14. Health and wellbeing: ONS Census 2011
15. Health and life expectancy: Public Health England 2015 - 2019
16. Environment:
Air quality model: London Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (LAEI) 2019
Car & van availability: ONS Census 2011
17. Education:
Educational attainment: ONS Census 2011
OFSTED Rating: Department for Education 2015 - 2019
18. Crime: Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), January - December 2021
19. Resident Survey: Lewisham's Residents' Survey 2021

