

Lewisham Central ward profile

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* EPC stands for Energy Performance Certificate

Councillors 2022 - 2026



Aliya Sheikh

Labour Party



Edison Huynh

Labour Party

Ward profile introduction

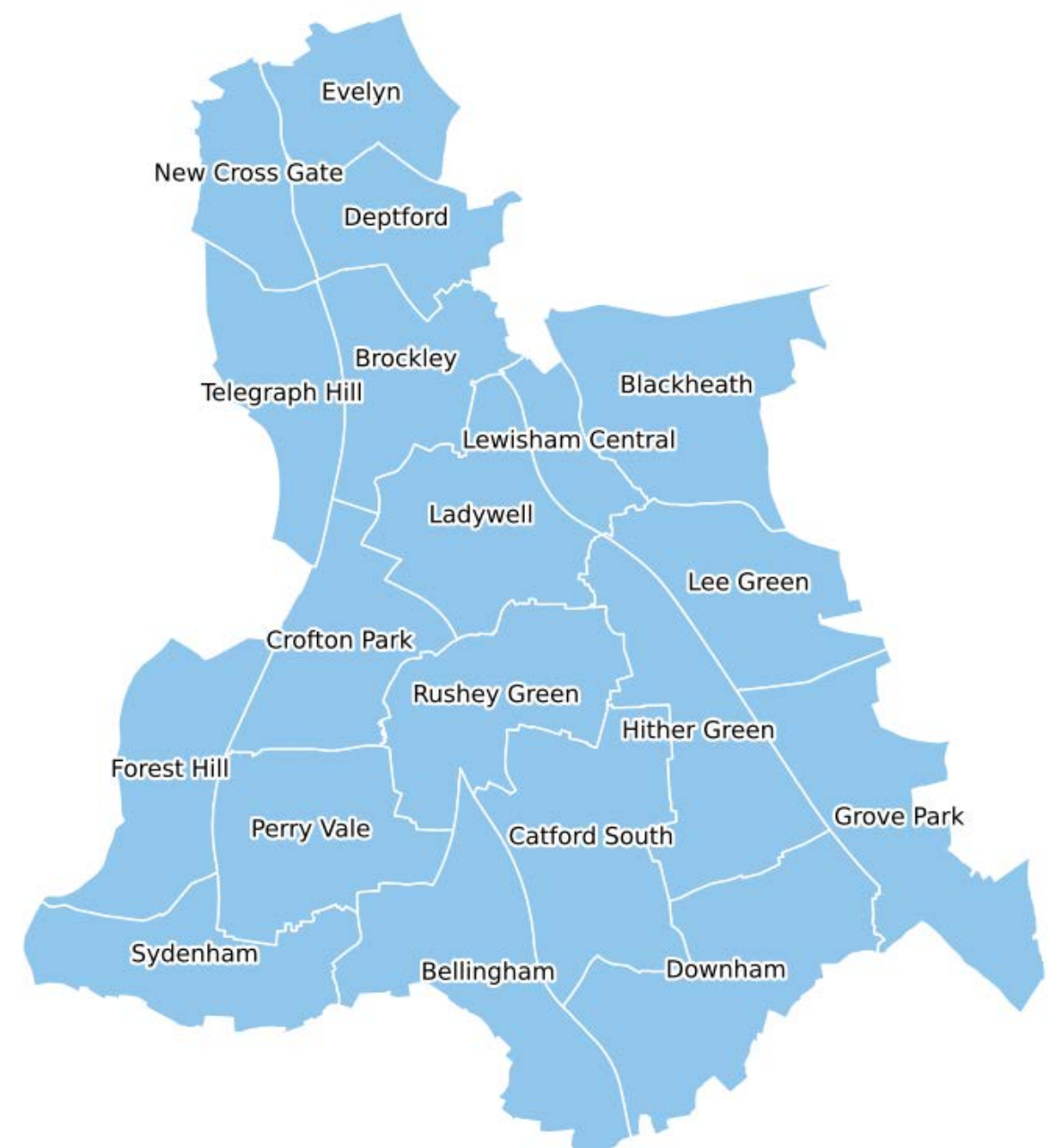
About Lewisham's Ward profiles

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 exist: 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of the 2021 Census have not yet been published, which means many indicator variables in this report rely on potentially outdated data from the 2011 Census.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



Lewisham Central

With **significant levels of housing and retail development in the area, Lewisham Central ward had a new boundaries established in May 2022**, significantly reducing its size. Its new boundary borders onto the Royal Borough of Greenwich to the north, Blackheath and Ladywell to the east and south respectively. Most of its former boundaries of Hither Green to the west and areas around Lewisham Park (including Lewisham Hospital) now form parts of Ladywell and Hither Green ward.

Lewisham Shopping Centre is the major shopping Centre for the borough and is positioned in the heart of the ward, offering a wide variety of shops. There is also a large Tesco store in the vicinity of the Centre.

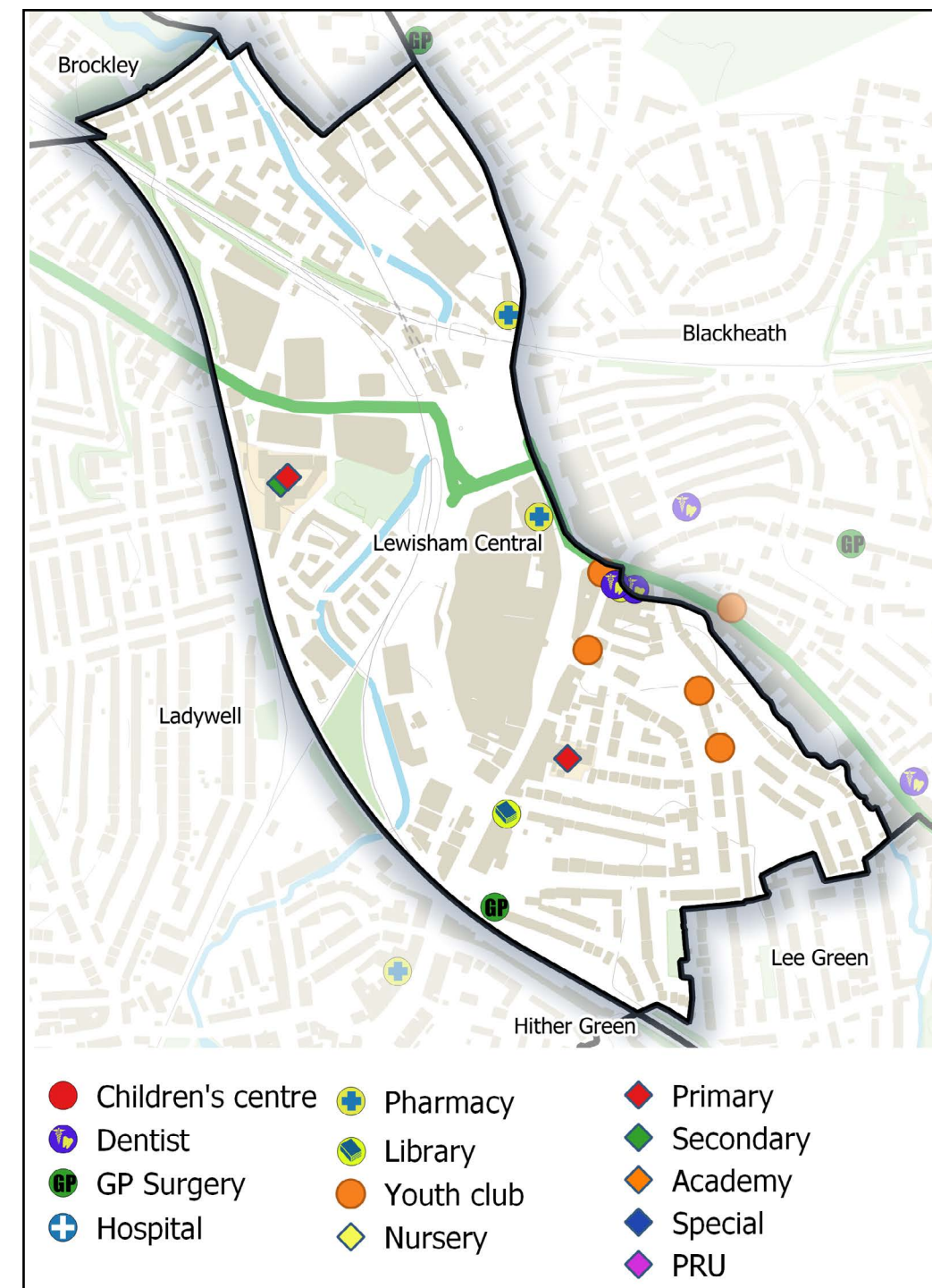
The main green space is now Confluence Park, an open access park where the Rivers Quaggy and Ravensbourne meet.

Mercia Grove Conservation area was designated in 1975. The area covers a small area east of Lewisham Shopping Centre, comprising of two facing terraces of houses built in the late 19th century. London & Quadrant and Clarion Housing Group are the main social landlords managing housing stocks on Elmira Road and Orchard Garden Estates.

Following the boundary change in May 2022, a number of well-established amenities groups within the old boundary of Lewisham Central have merged with other wards. The only **active groups** remaining in the area are **Resident Associations on Mercia Grove and Gilmore Road / Clarendon Rise.**

In Lewisham Central ward **£465,884 was awarded in NCIL funding to 11 projects** which included a significant sum for a new playground, community events such as Food 'n' Fun in the Fields, activities and support for young people such as Lewisham Youth Theatre and street based support workers, improvements to the public realm, and greening projects.

Key facilities in Lewisham Central



Summary of key statistics

Population

8,043

Average age

33

% of households that
reported themselves as a
family

42.1

% of residents in
employment

70.4

% of residents that
practice a religion

63.6

% of residents not born in
England

26.4

Number of universal credit
claimants

871

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

6.4

% of residents with low
English proficiency

5.2

LSOAs among the most
deprived 20% of national
IMD

1 of 3

Average life expectancy
(female / male)

82.1(f) / 77(m)

Air pollution (NO2) with
recommended guideline
<40

13.06

Average proportion of
households in fuel poverty

14.3% - 23.9%

Median house price
(borough)

£430k

% of residents without
formal qualifications

14.6

Number of crimes reported
in 2021

1,736

Population

Lewisham Central has an estimated population of **8,043 residents**, which makes it one of the smaller constituencies in the borough (rank 19 of 19 wards.)

Among its residents, **50.8% identify as female**, and **49.2% as male**. Unfortunately, ONS population statistics do not include estimates for nonbinary gender identities.

The **average age in Lewisham Central is 33**, compared to 36 in Lewisham as a whole, and 37 in London. This makes it one of the youngest wards in the borough.



8,043

People lived in Lewisham Central in 2019



12,200

Population density in 2019

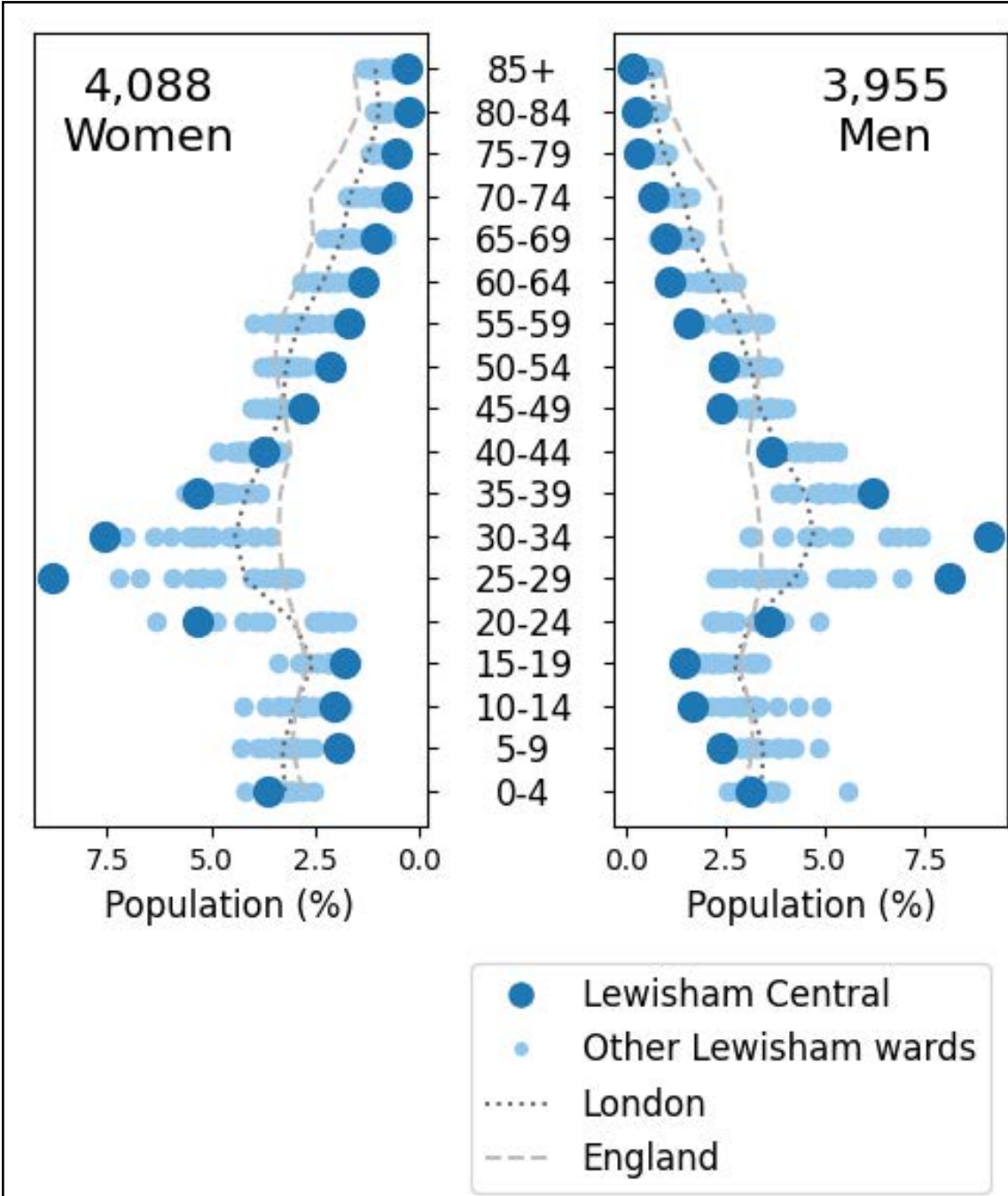
In terms of its geographic area, at 0.7 km² it is one of the smallest wards in the borough (rank 19 of 19.)

As to its population density, at 12,200 people per km² it is among the most densely populated wards in the borough (rank 1 of 19.)

Proportion of Population Groups in Lewisham Central, ONS 2020

	United Kingdom	London	Lewisham	Lewisham Central
Children and Youth (0-17)	22.2%	23.80%	23.3%	17.2%
Working age (18-64)	60.2%	64.80%	67.8%	78.4%
Senior (65+)	17.6%	11.40%	8.9%	4.4%

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

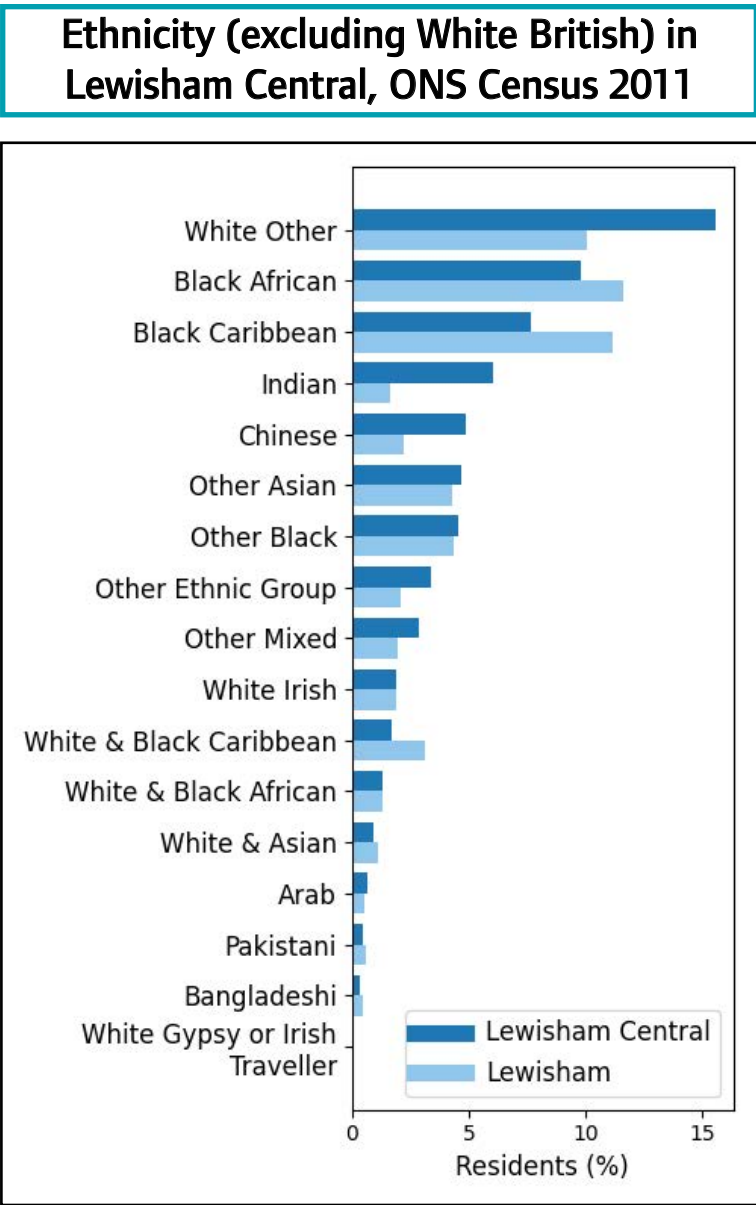


Diversity: Ethnicity and religion

Ethnicity

33.2% of Lewisham Central 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.

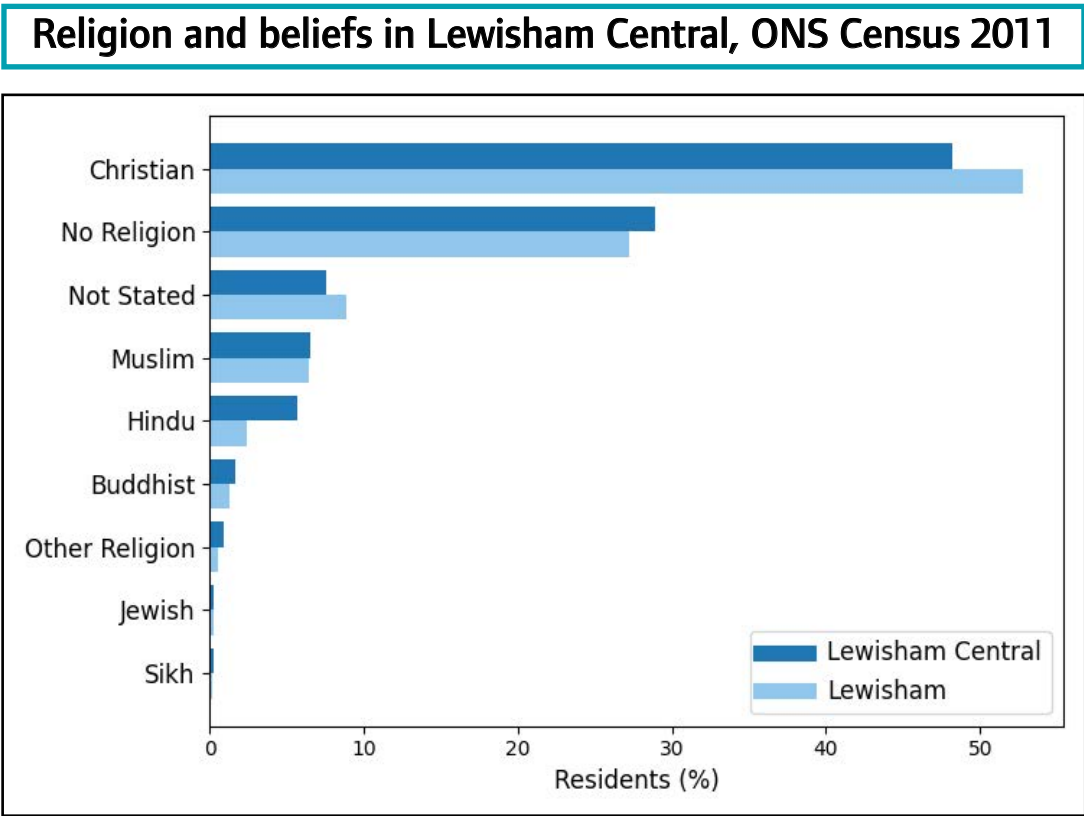
Among those not White British, the three most common ethnicities are White Other (15.5%), Black African (9.8%), and Black Caribbean (7.7%).



Religion

48.2% of Lewisham Central 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 (28.9%), Not Stated (7.6%), and Muslim (6.5%).

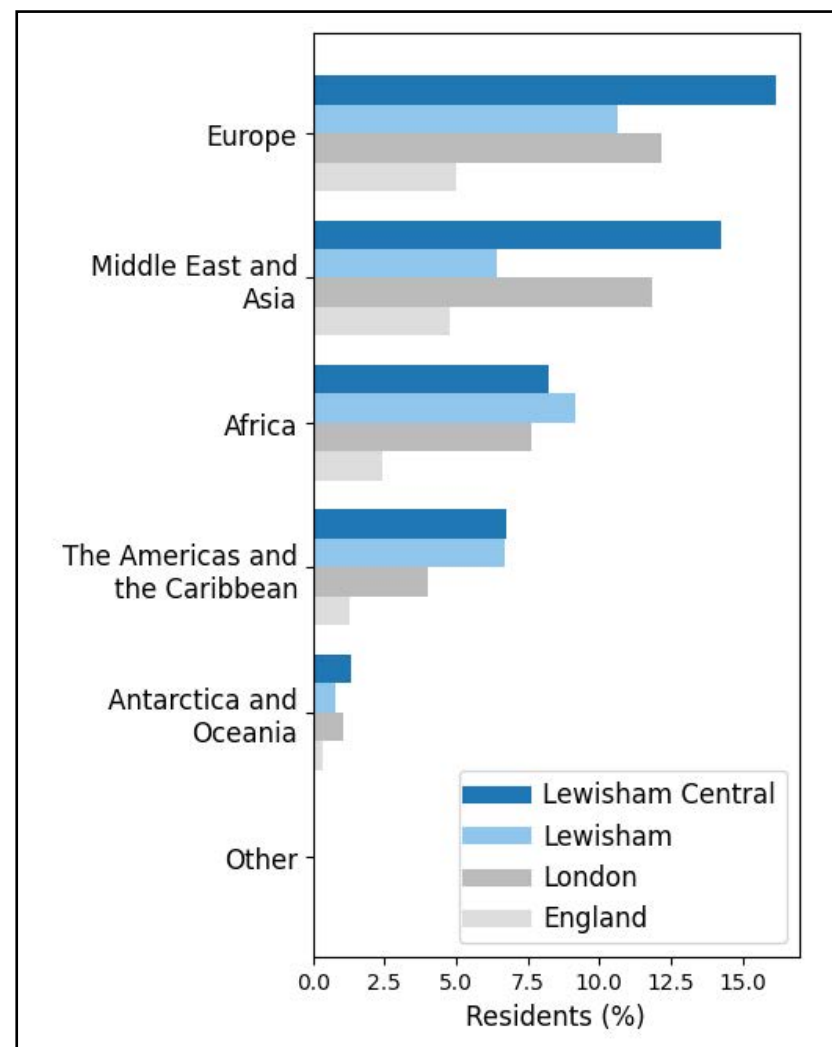


Diversity: Country of birth

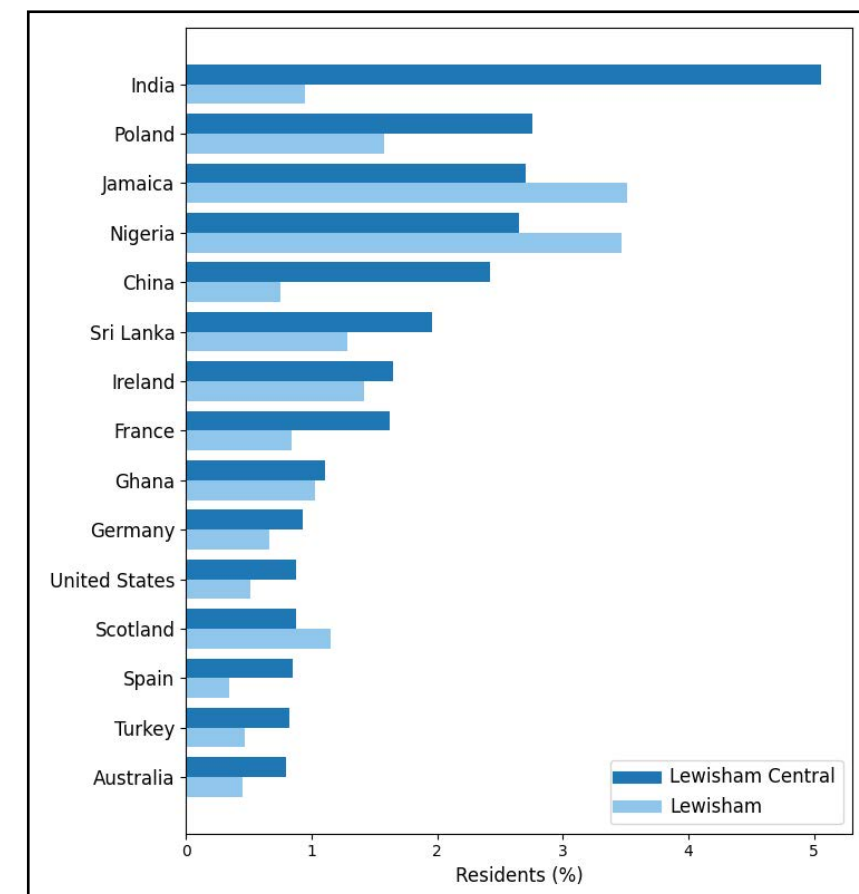
51.4% of Lewisham Central residents were born in England, compared to 64.0% in Lewisham as a whole, 61.1% in London, and 83.5% in England.

Among those not born in England, the three most common countries of birth are India (5.1%), Jamaica (2.7%), and Nigeria (2.7%).

Country of birth by global region (excluding UK) in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



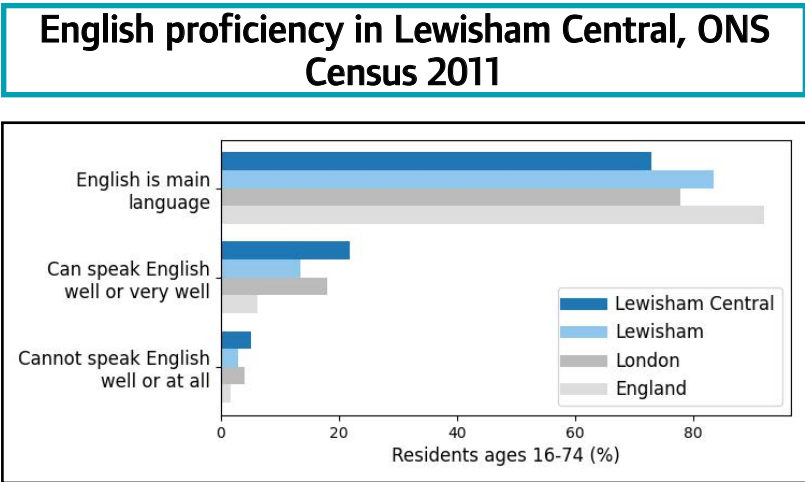
Country of birth (excluding England) in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



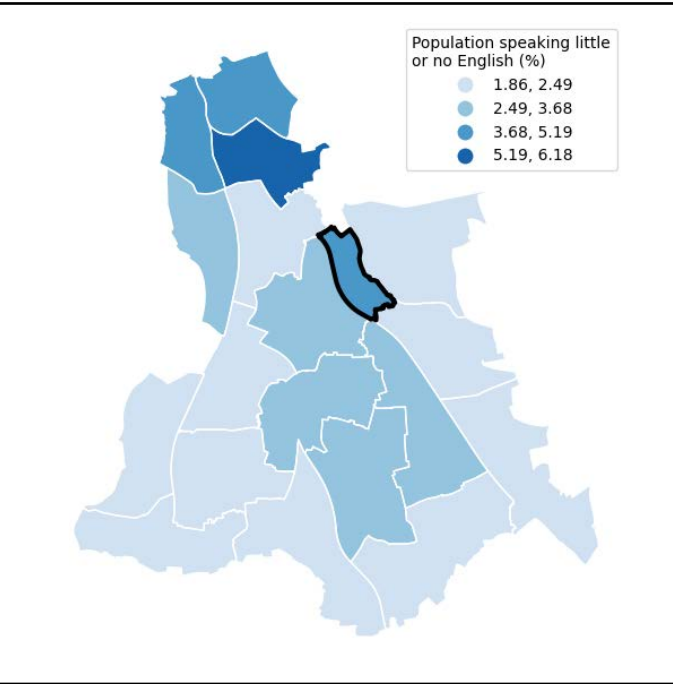
Diversity: Languages

72.9% of Lewisham Central 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, 21.9% can speak English well or very well.

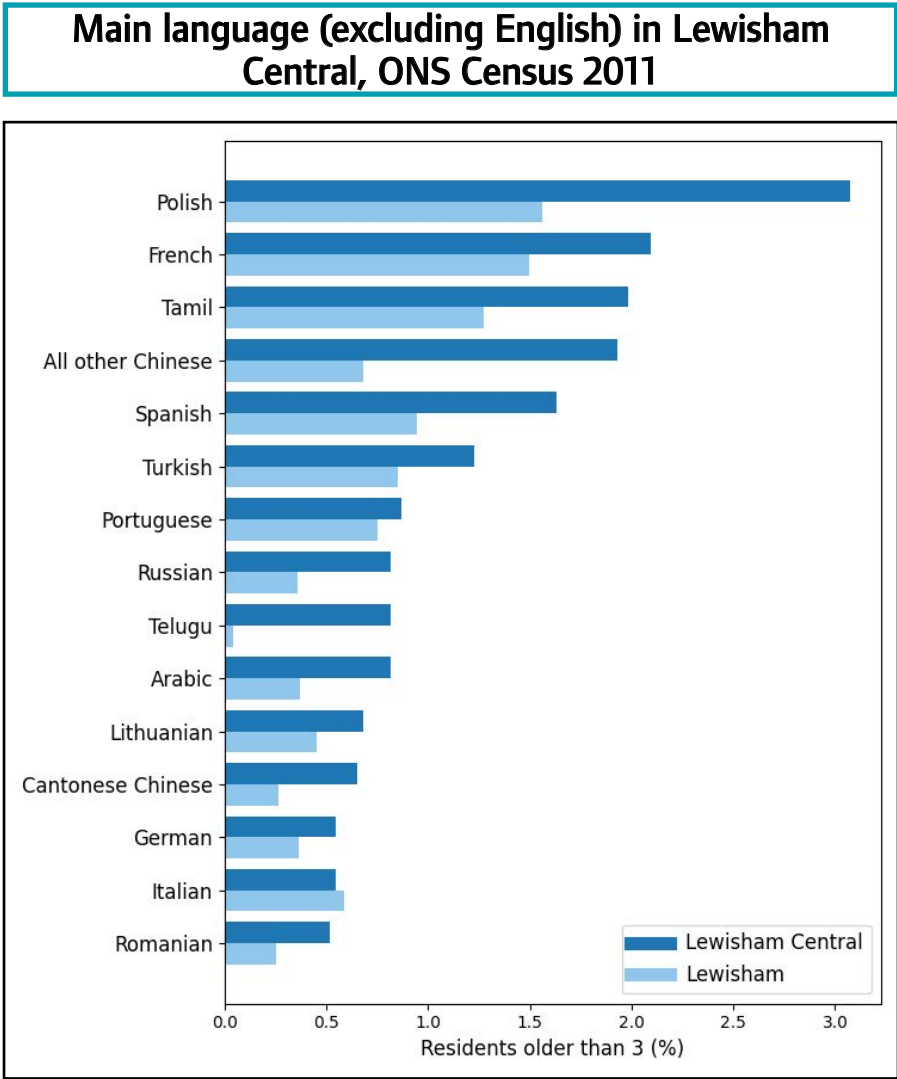


Population speaking little or no English in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



On the other hand, **5.2% of residents cannot speak English well or at all**, compared to a Lewisham average of 3.1%. This means an estimated 417 people in Lewisham Central may require everyday language support.

Among those not speaking English as their main language, the three most widely spoken languages are Polish (3.1%), French (2.1%), and Tamil (2.0%).



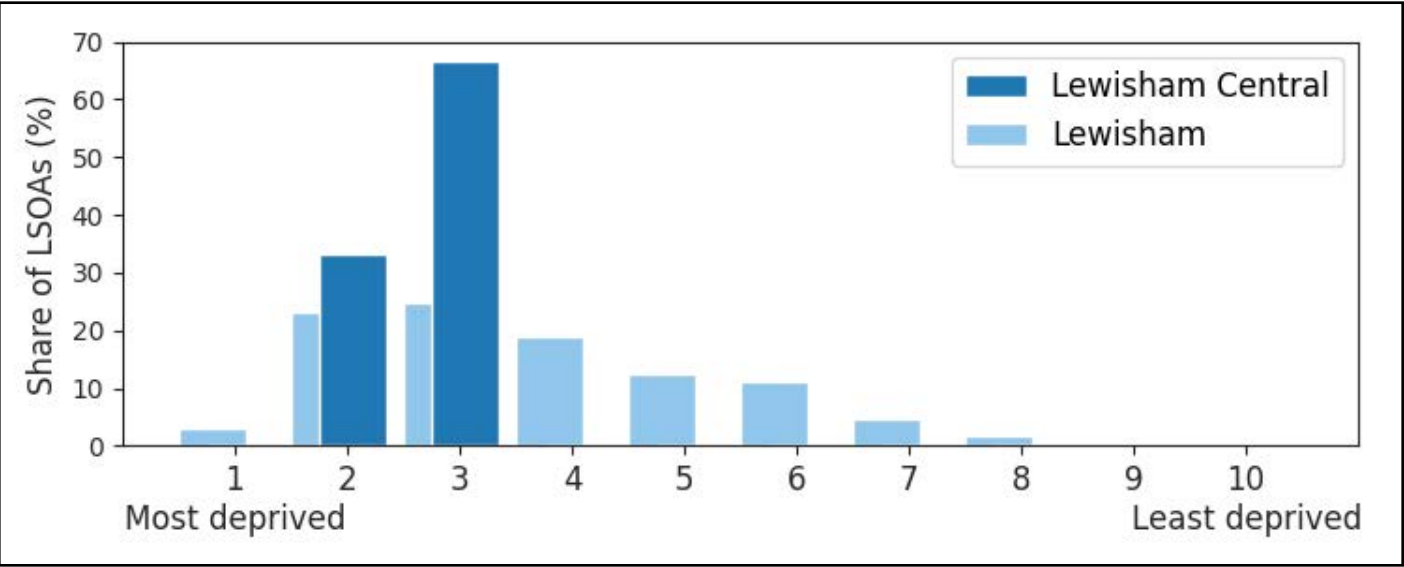
Deprivation

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.

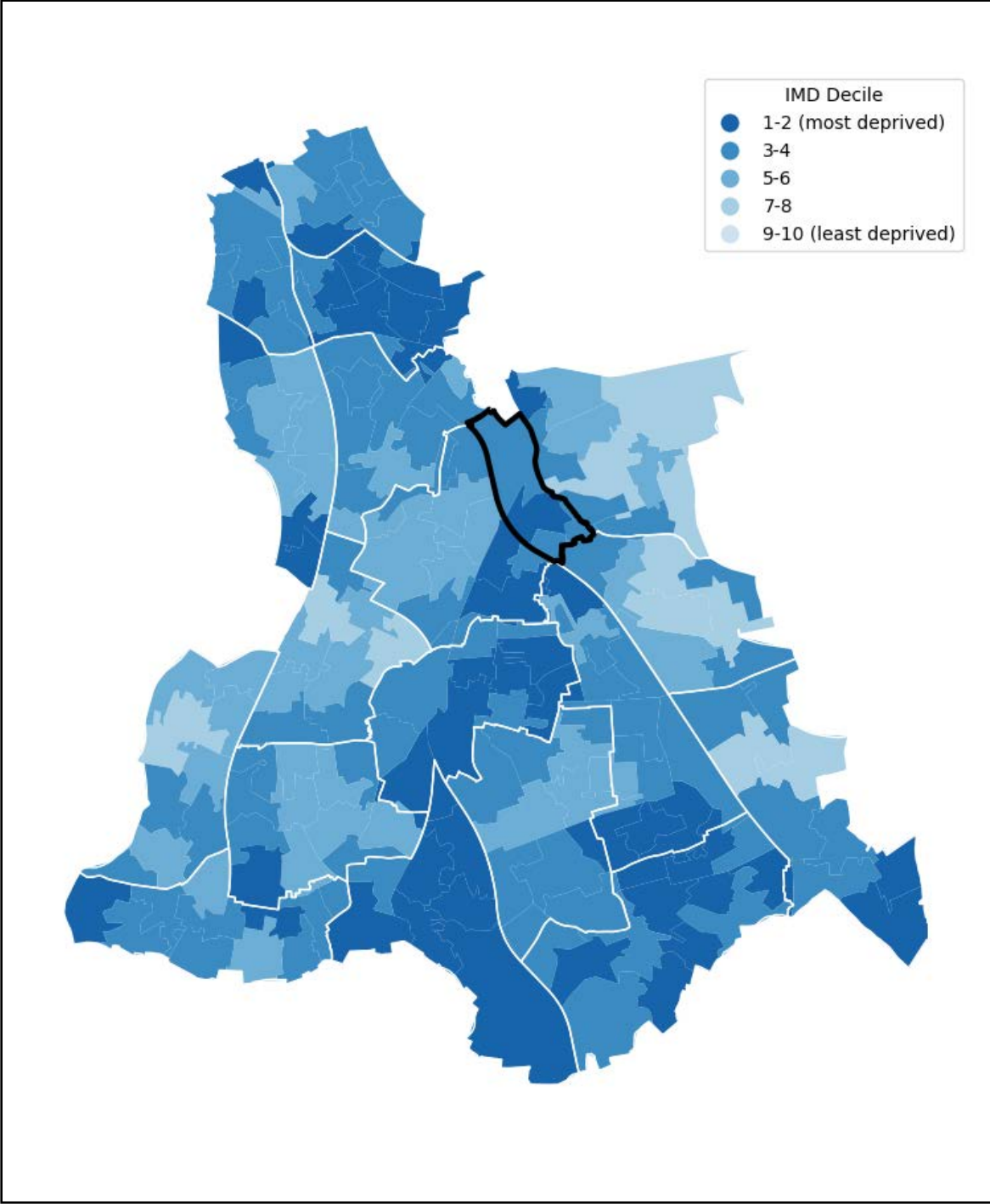
The IMD is determined for small areas, using a statistical geography called Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOA), with each LSOA typically representing between 1,000 and 3,000 people. Each LSOA in England is ranked from most deprived to least deprived, and then segmented into ten groups (or deciles),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

Of the three LSOAs in Lewisham Central, one ranks in the bottom 20% of the country (decile 1 or 2.)

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



Deprivation in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



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.

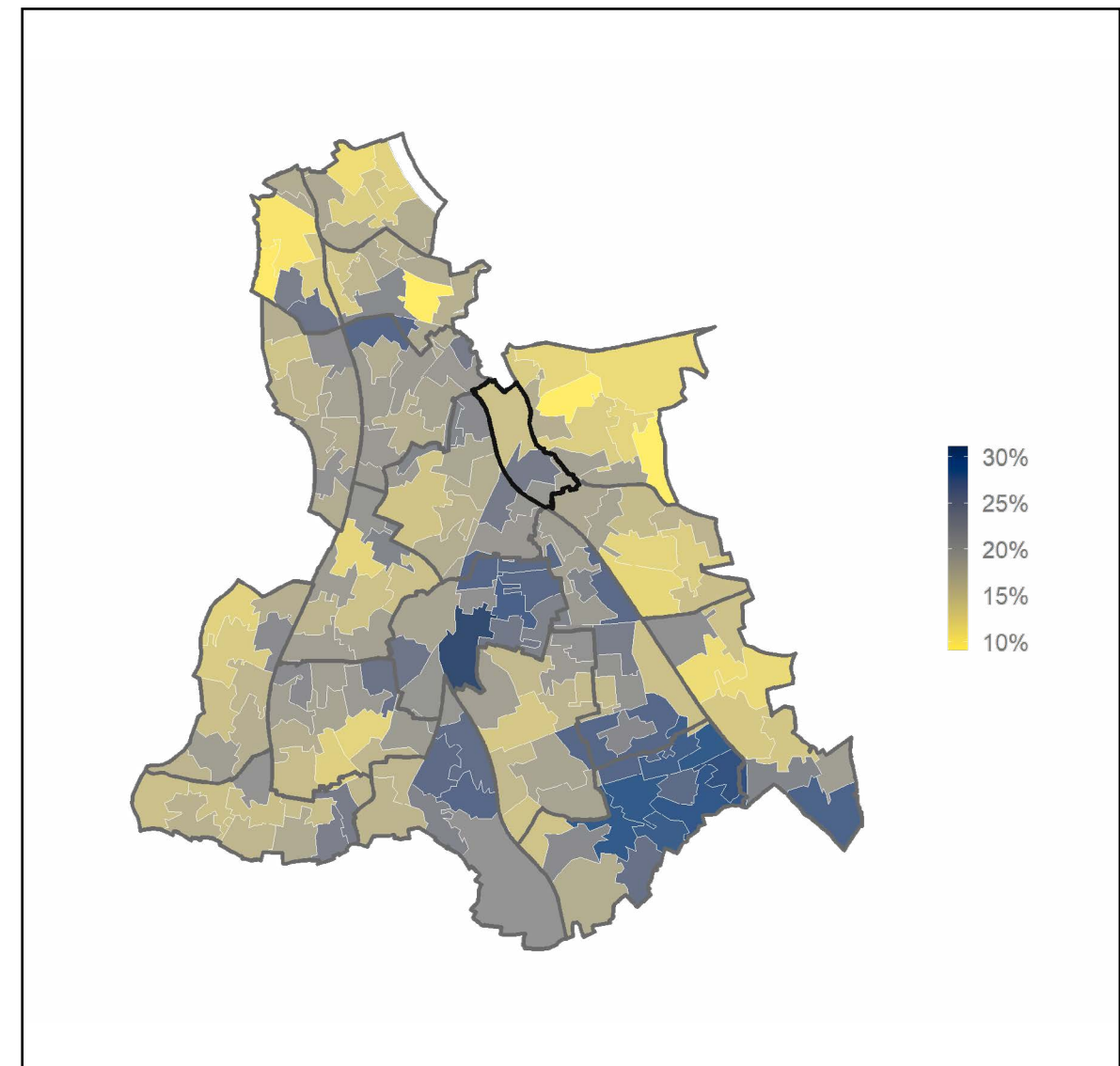
In the three LSOAs in Lewisham Central, proportion of households fuel poor ranges from 14.3% to 23.9%.

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 Lewisham Central, 78% 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 Lewisham Central could be as high as 93% if home owners were to carry out the improvements recommended during their assessment.

Proportion of households in fuel poverty, BEIS 2019



Housing and affordability

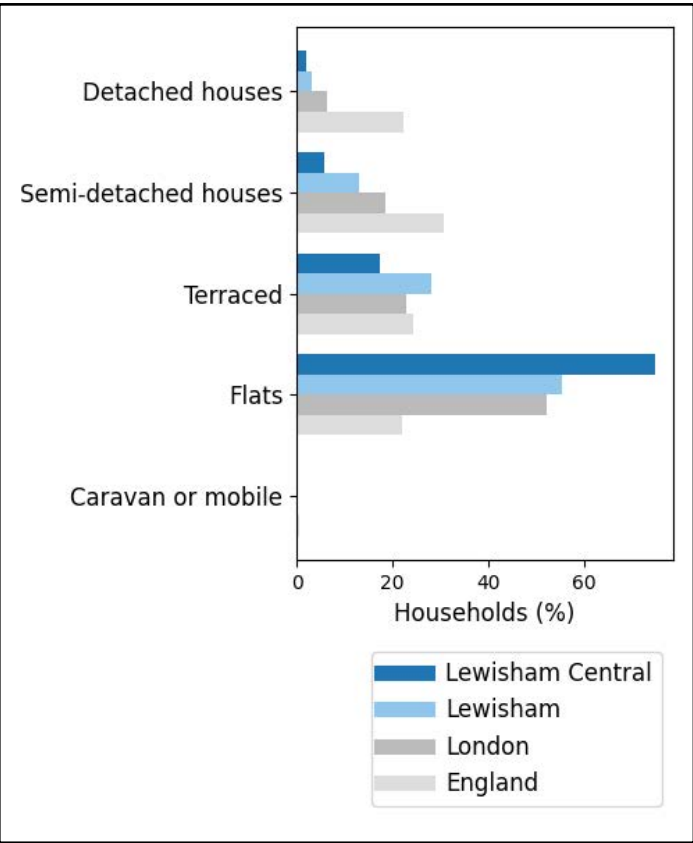
74.9% of Lewisham Central residents live in flats, compared to 55.4% in Lewisham as a whole, 52.2% in London, and 22.1% in England. Among Lewisham Central residents, the three most common accommodation types are Flats (74.9%), Terraced (17.3%), and Semi-detached houses (5.7%).

24.8% of Lewisham Central 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 Lewisham Central residents, the three most common types of tenure are Private rented (40.6%), Owned (29.1%), and Social rented (24.8%).

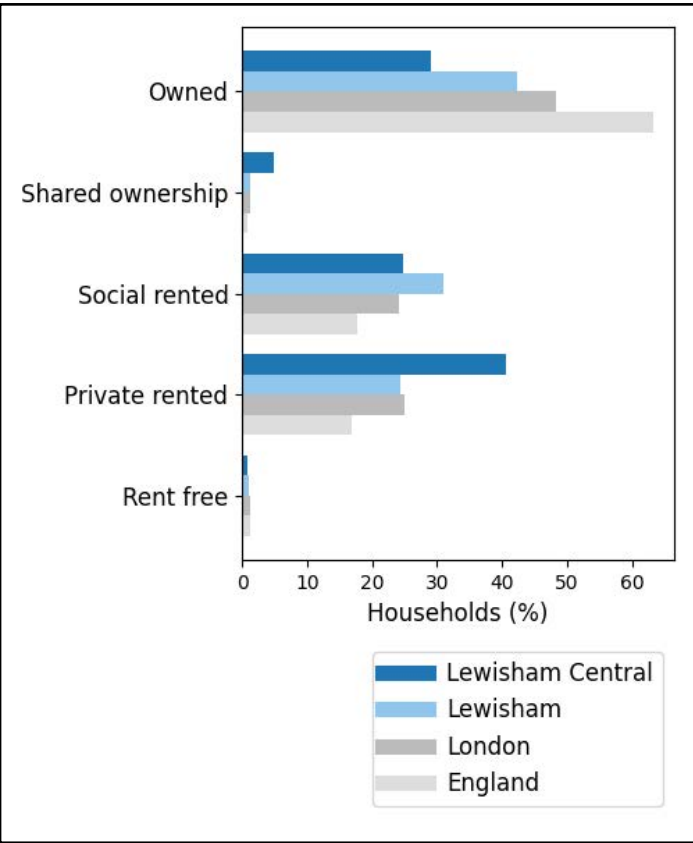
House prices in Lewisham remain lower than those for London as a whole. In 2020, the median house price in the borough was **£430,000** compared with £483,000 for Greater London and £249,000 for England.

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 Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



Types of tenure in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011

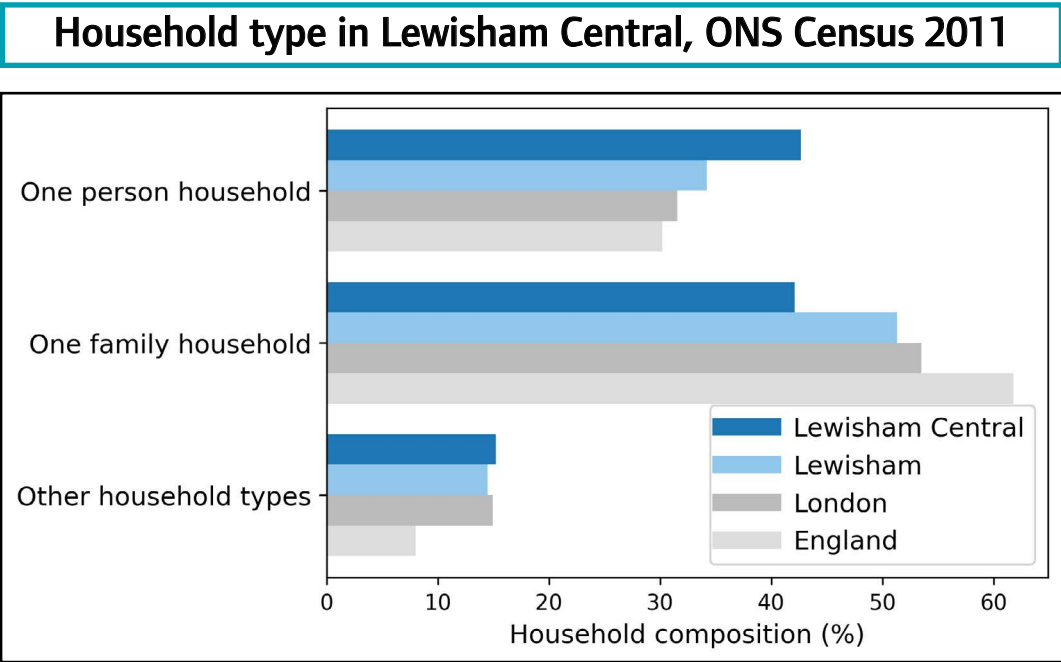


Relative affordability of median prices by local authority area, ONS 2021

	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 Lewisham Central’s households in 2011, 42.6% were one person households, 42.1% were families and 15.2% other household types, compared to a Lewisham average composition of 34.1% one person household, 51.3% families and 14.4% other household types.



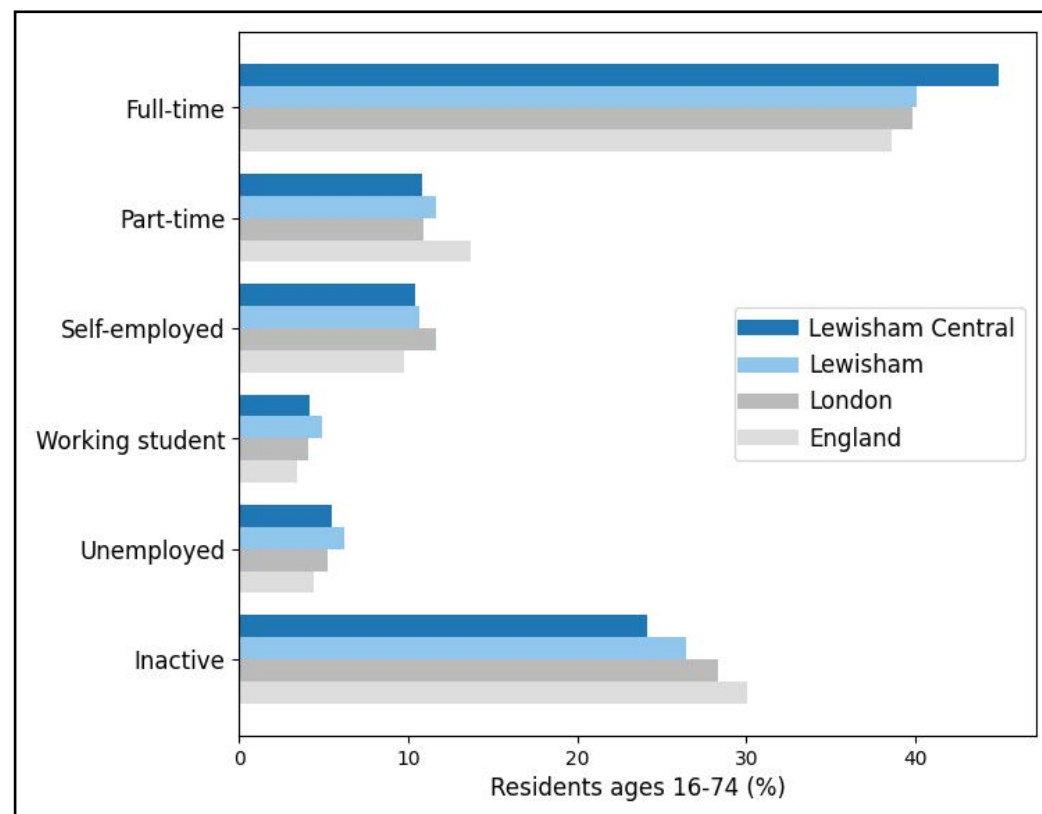
Household living arrangements in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011

	Lewisham Central		Lewisham		England	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
One person household: Aged 65 and over	132	7.1	9,994	8.6	2,725,596	12.4
One person household: Other	656	35.5	29,686	25.6	3,940,897	17.9
One family only: All aged 65 and over	27	1.5	3,134	2.7	1,789,465	8.1
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: No children	152	8.2	7,985	6.9	2,719,210	12.3
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: Dependent children	177	9.6	14,152	12.2	3,375,890	15.3
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: All children non-dependent	37	2	4,105	3.5	1,234,355	5.6
One family only: Cohabiting couple: No children	141	7.6	6,755	5.8	1,173,172	5.3
One family only: Cohabiting couple: Dependent children	46	2.5	4,200	3.6	890,780	4
One family only: Cohabiting couple: All children non-dependent	4	0.2	464	0.4	108,486	0.5
One family only: Lone parent: Dependent children	144	7.8	13,301	11.5	1,573,255	7.1
One family only: Lone parent: All children non-dependent	50	2.7	5,494	4.7	766,569	3.5
Other household types: With dependent children	61	3.3	5,257	4.5	584,016	2.6
Other household types: All full-time students	12	0.6	718	0.6	124,285	0.6
Other household types: All aged 65 and over	6	0.3	307	0.3	61,715	0.3
Other household types: Other	202	11	10,539	9.1	995,677	4.5

Employment

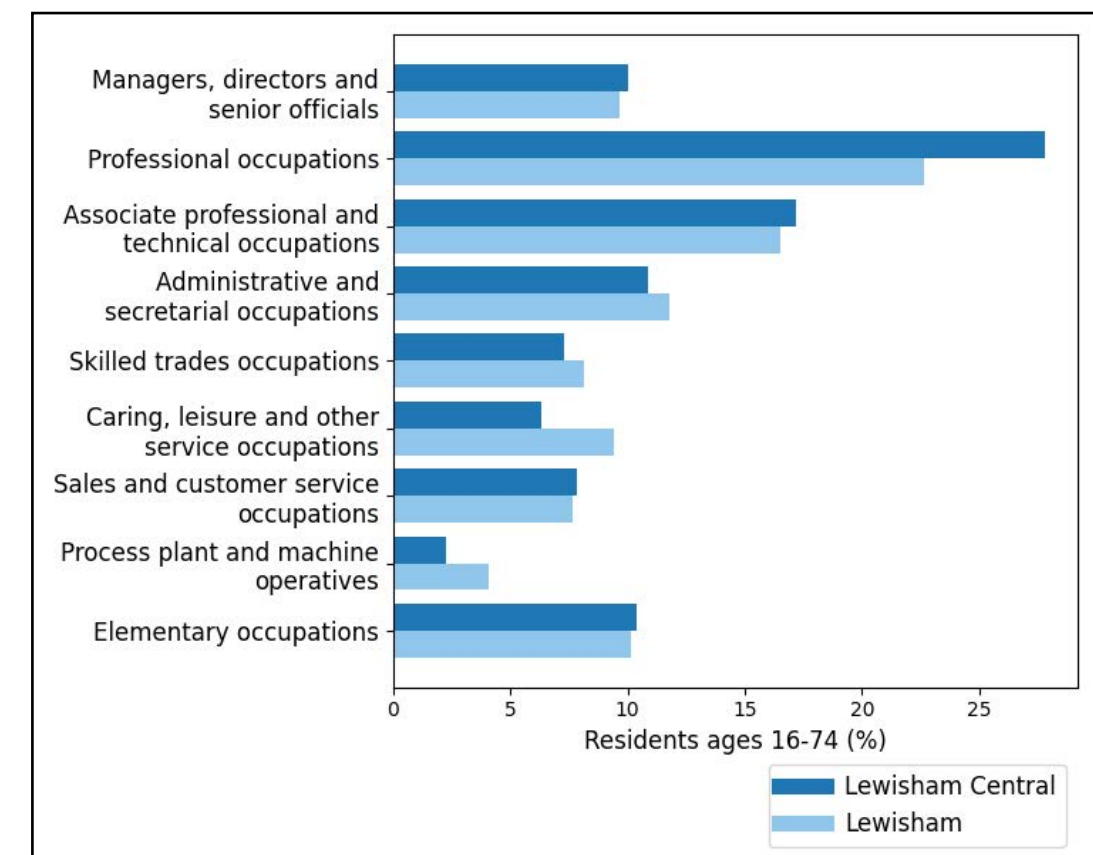
In the 2011 Census, the unemployment rate in Lewisham Central was 5.5% among residents aged 16-74, compared to a Lewisham average of 6.3%. 24.2% of residents are not economically active, for example because they are in education, looking after home or family, long-term sick or disabled, or in retirement.

Economic activity in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



The three most common occupations in Lewisham Central are Professional occupations (27.8%), Associate professional and technical occupations (17.2%), and Administrative and secretarial occupations (10.9%).

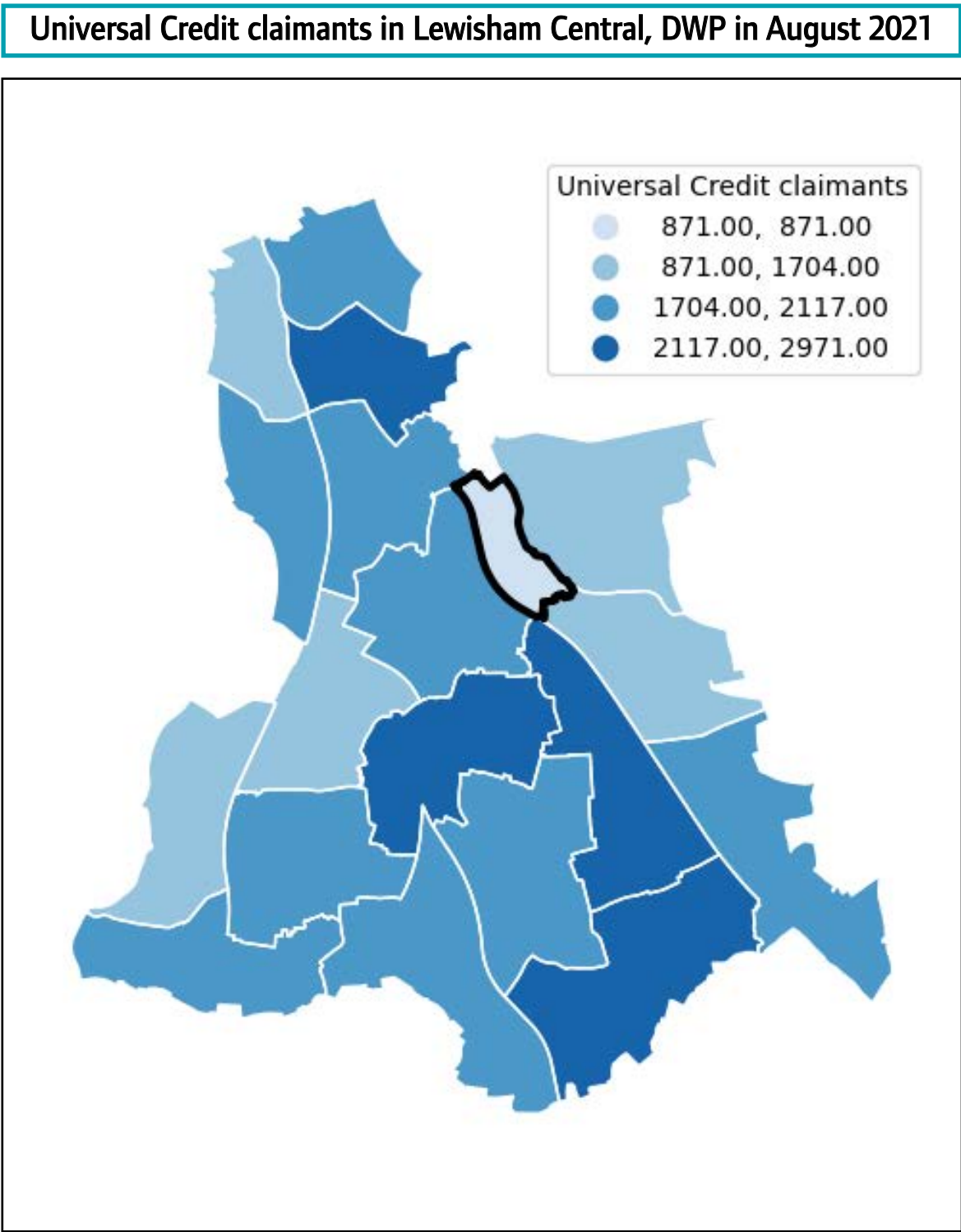
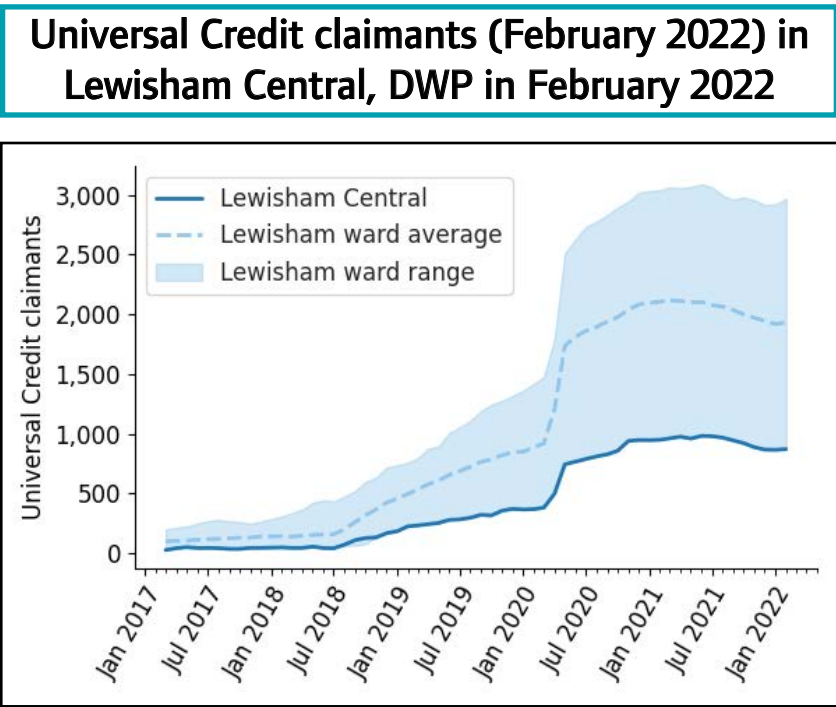
Occupation groups in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



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 Lewisham Central, **871 people received Universal Credit in February 2022**. By comparison, in February 2020, 368 people received Universal Credit.



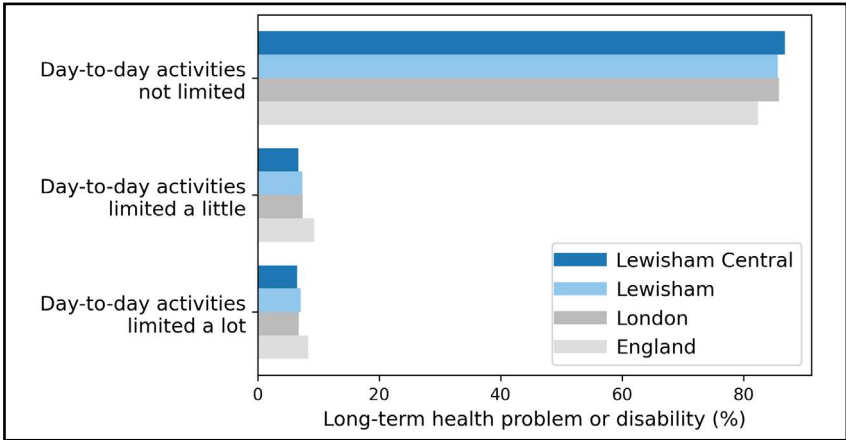
Health and wellbeing

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.

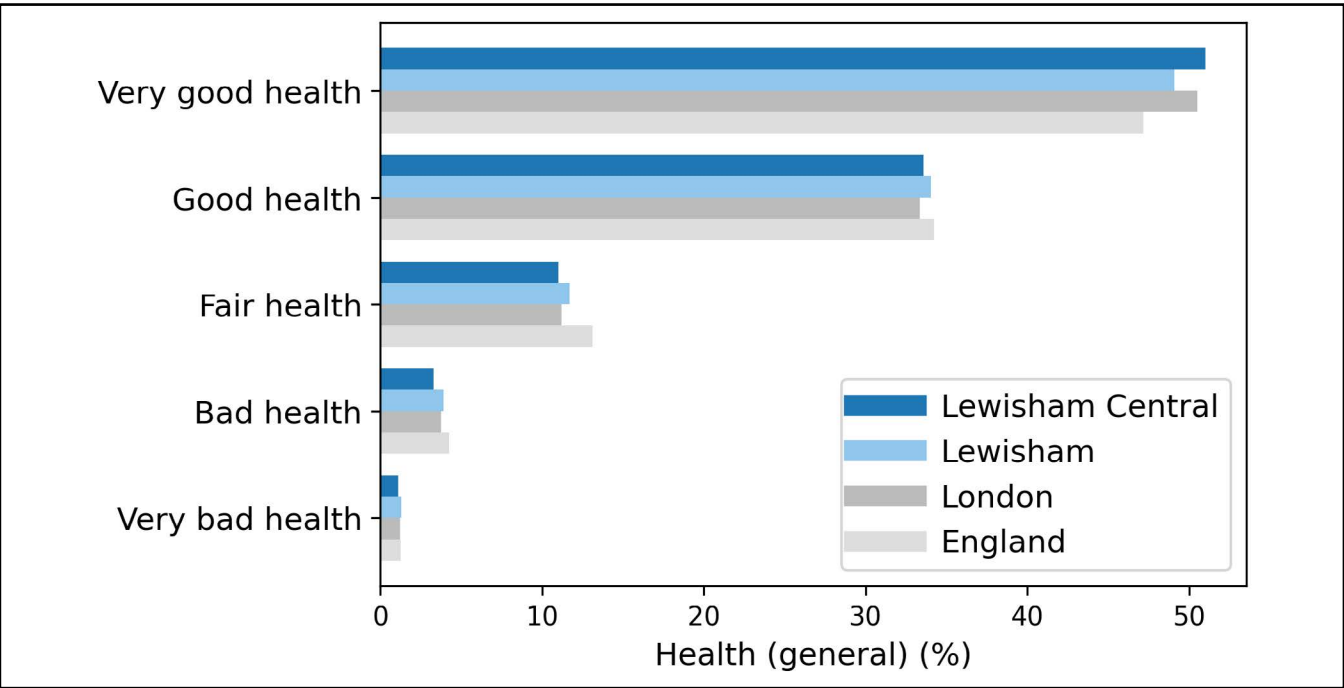
The average rate of Lewisham Central residents in very good/good health is 84% compared to a Lewisham average of 81% and a national average of 83%.

Around 6.4% residents of Lewisham Central 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%.

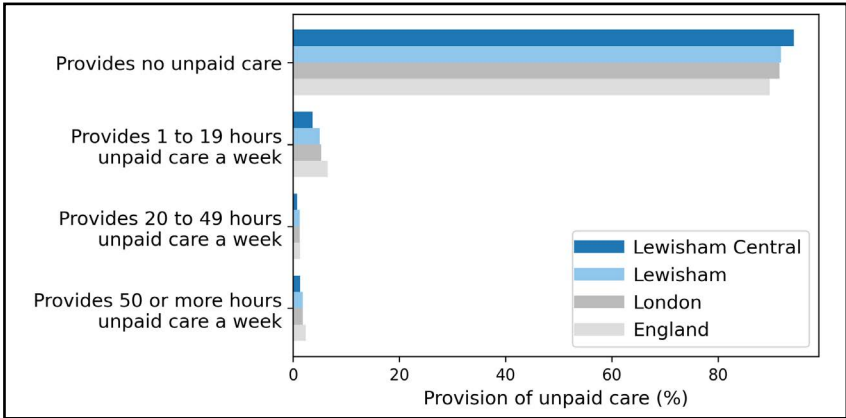
Day-to-day activities limited in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



General health status in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



Provision of unpaid care in Lewisham Central, ONS Census 2011



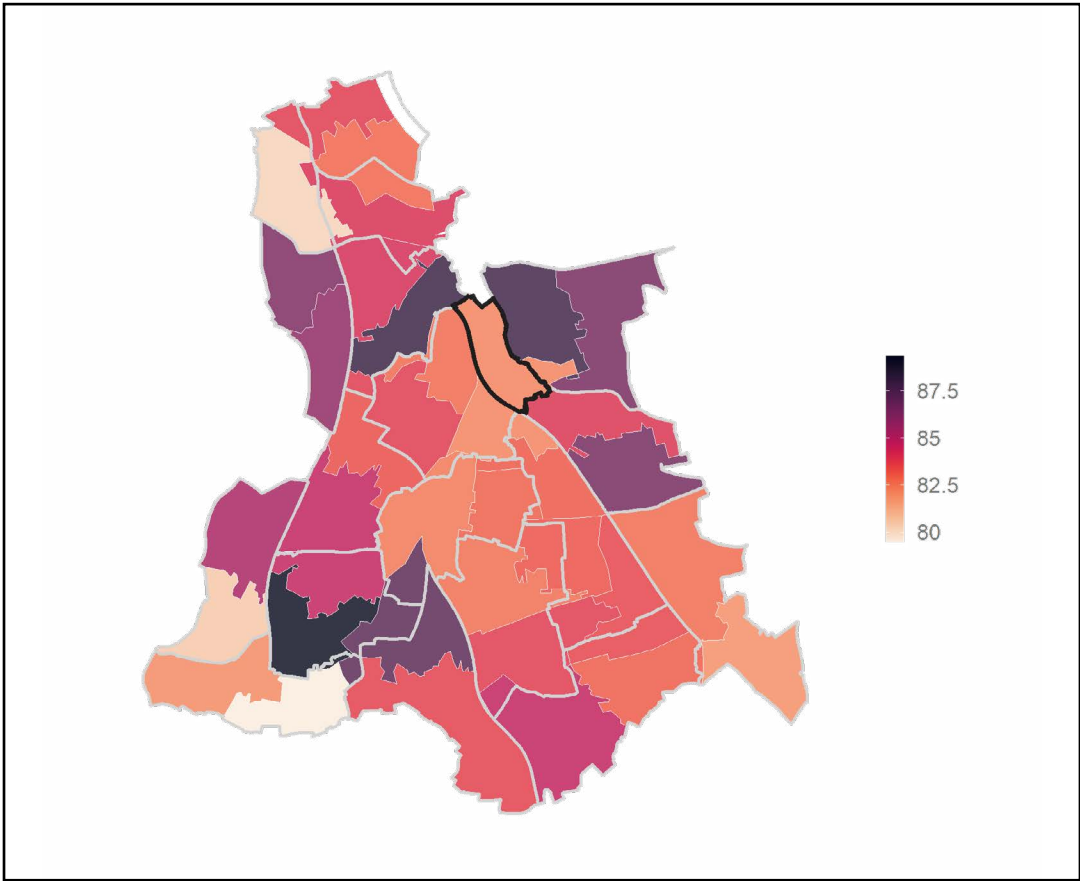
Around 5.6% of residents in Lewisham Central provided unpaid care compared to a Lewisham average of 8.1% and a national average of 10.1%.

Health and life expectancy

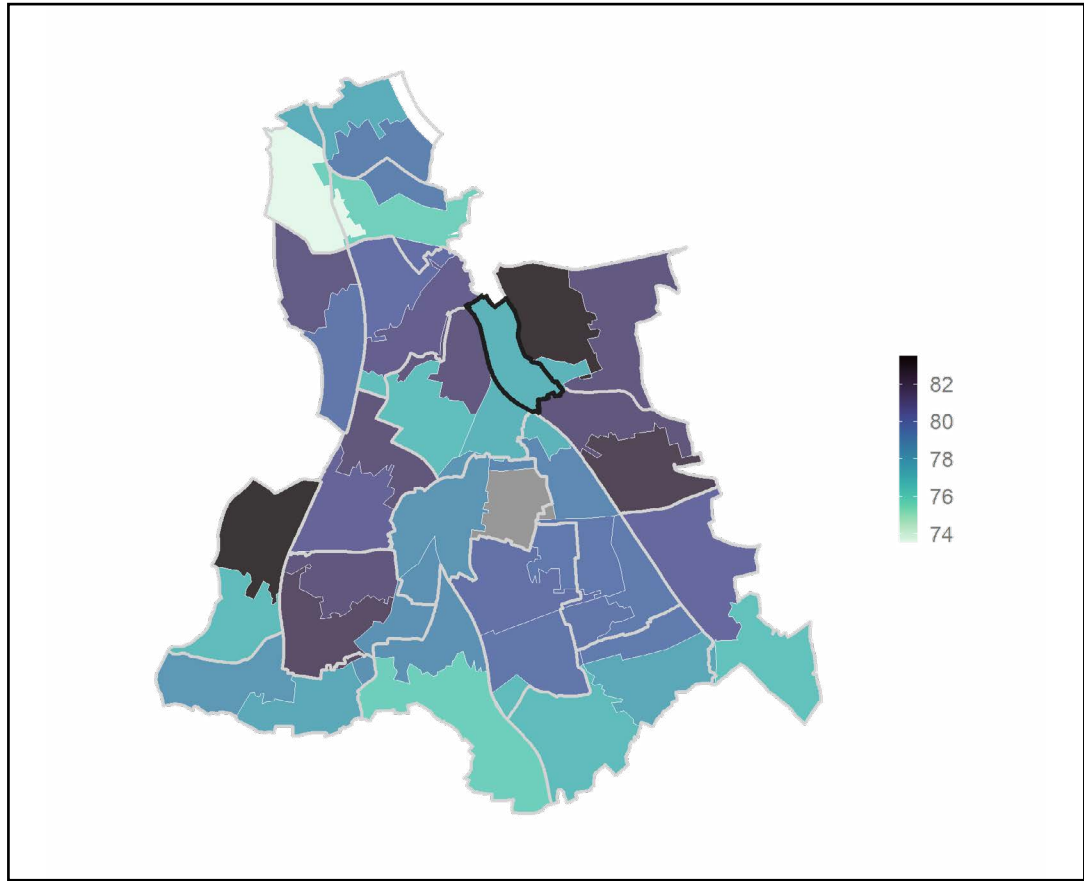
The average life expectancy at birth for females in Lewisham Central is 82.1 years compared to England average of 83.2.

The average life expectancy at birth for males in Lewisham Central is 77.1 years compared to England average of 79.6.

Life expectancy female, Public Health England 2015 - 2019



Life expectancy male, Public Health England 2015 - 2019



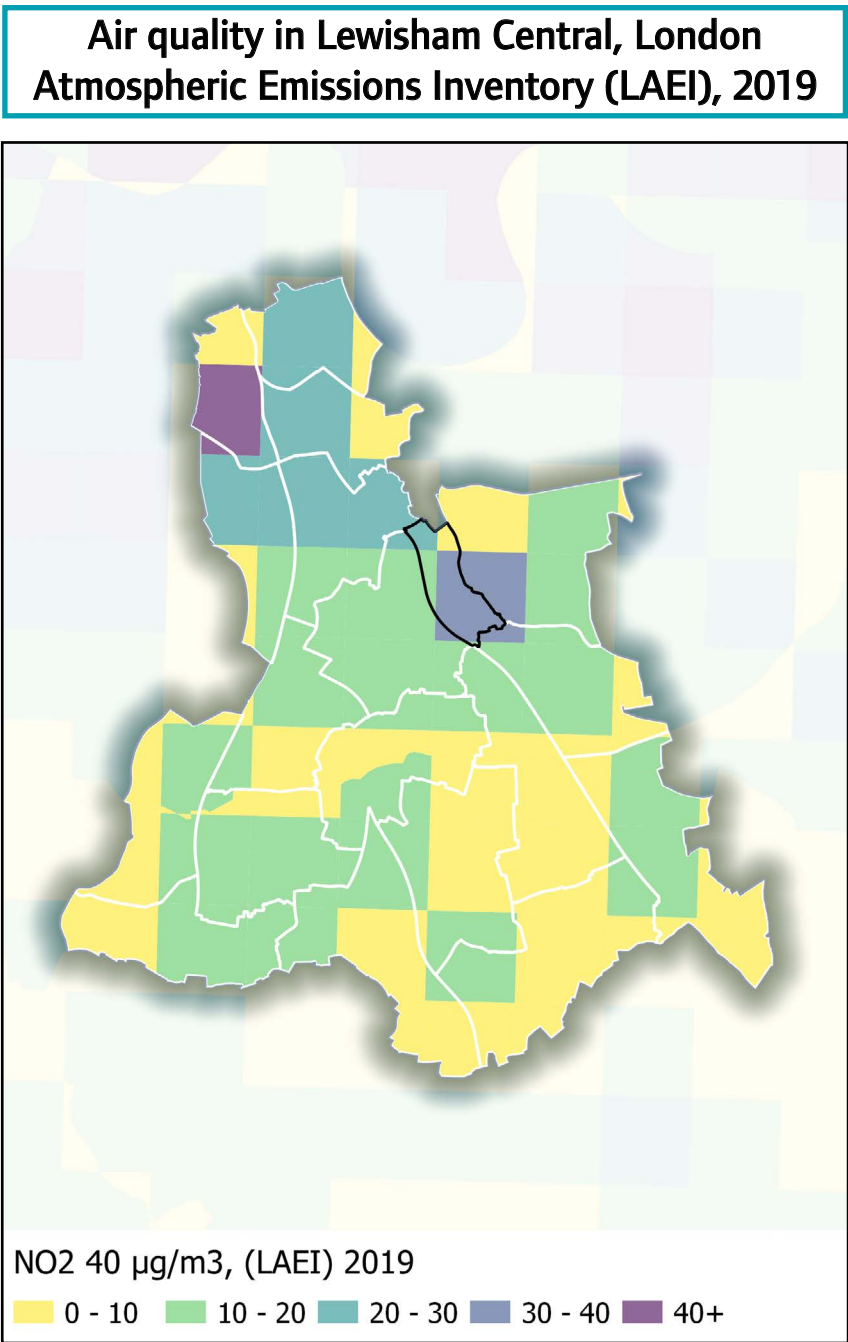
* Grey area on the map indicates missing data for MSOA Catford East & Mountsfield Park (Rushey Green ward).

Environment

Air quality

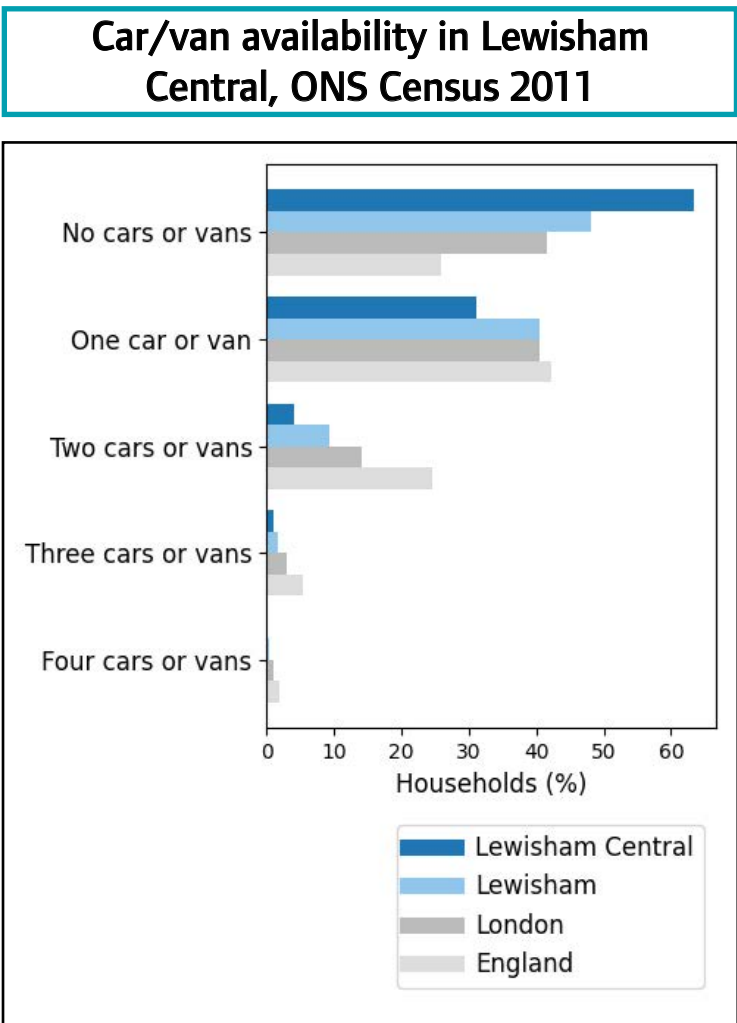
The DEFRA 2010 Air Quality Objective sets a target threshold for Nitrogen Dioxide particles in the air at **no more than 40 micrograms per cubic metre of air**.

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 Lewisham Central are no cars or vans (63.5%), one car or van (31.2%), and two cars or vans (4.2%).

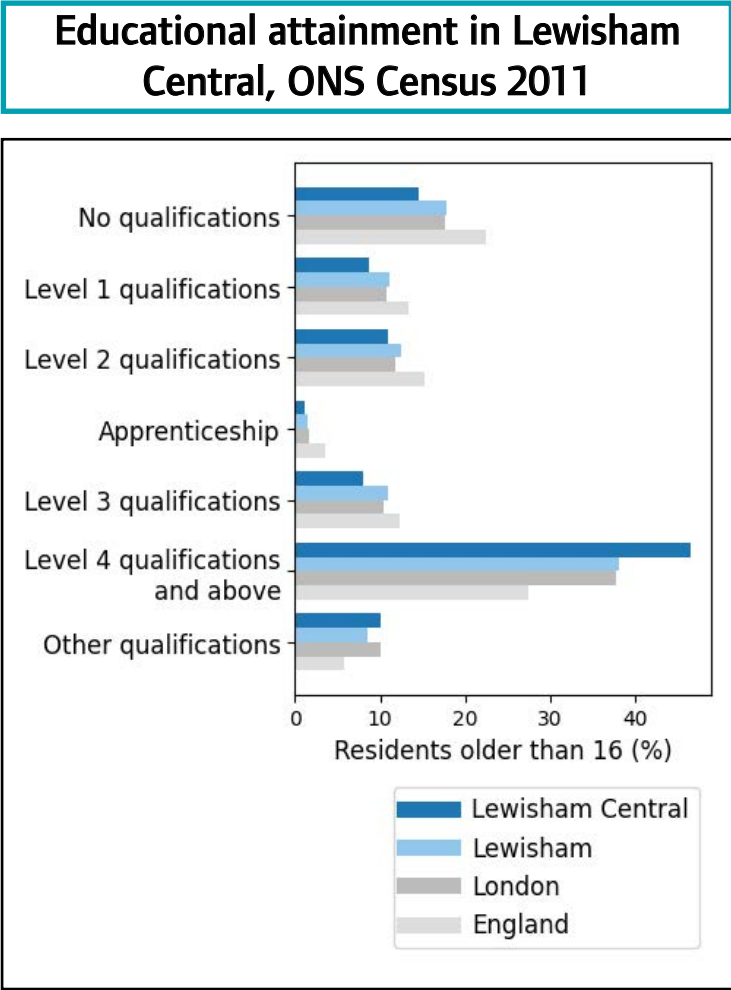


Education

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 Lewisham Central, 15% of residents have no qualifications; 9% have Level 1 qualifications; 11% have Level 2 qualifications; 1% have Apprenticeship; 8% have Level 3 qualifications; and 47% 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 three schools in Lewisham Central, three are rated as Good.

OFSTED rating for schools in Lewisham Central, Department for Education 2020 - 2021

School Name	Group	School Type	Is Primary?	Is Secondary?	Is post 16?	Gender	OFSTED Rating
St Saviour's Catholic Primary School	Maintained school	Voluntary aided school	Yes	No	No	Mixed	Good
Prendergast Vale School	Maintained school	Foundation school	Yes	Yes	No	Mixed	Good
TLG Lewisham	Independent school	Other independent school	No	Yes	No	Mixed	Good

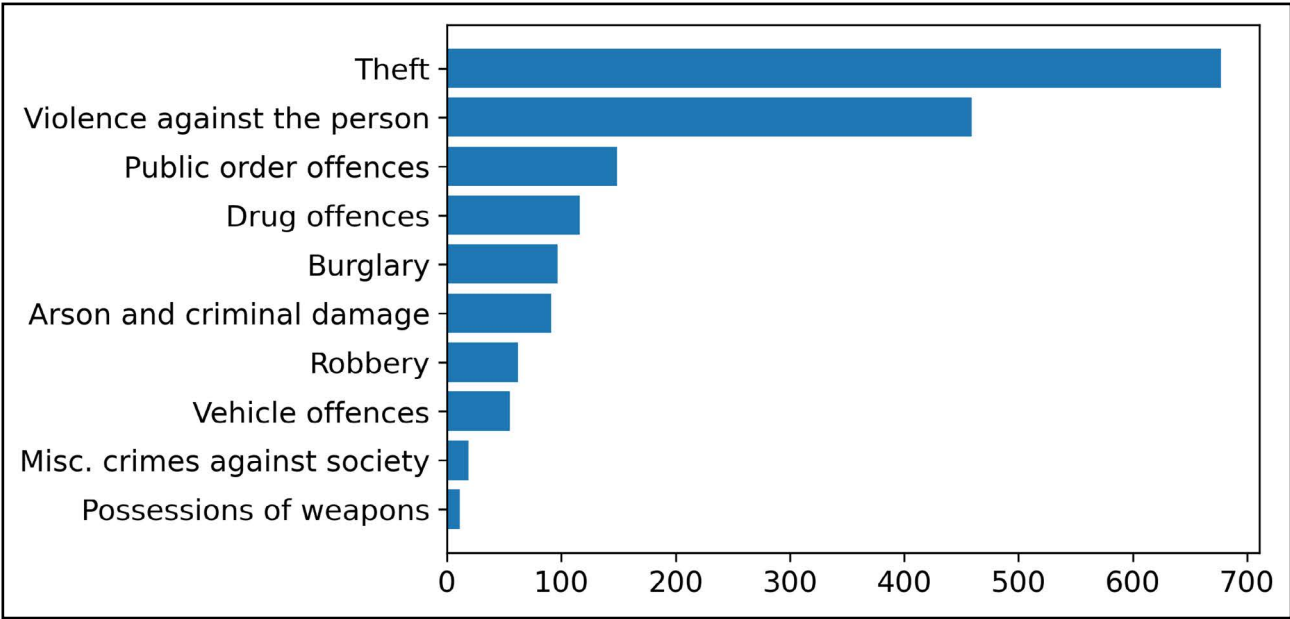
Crime

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

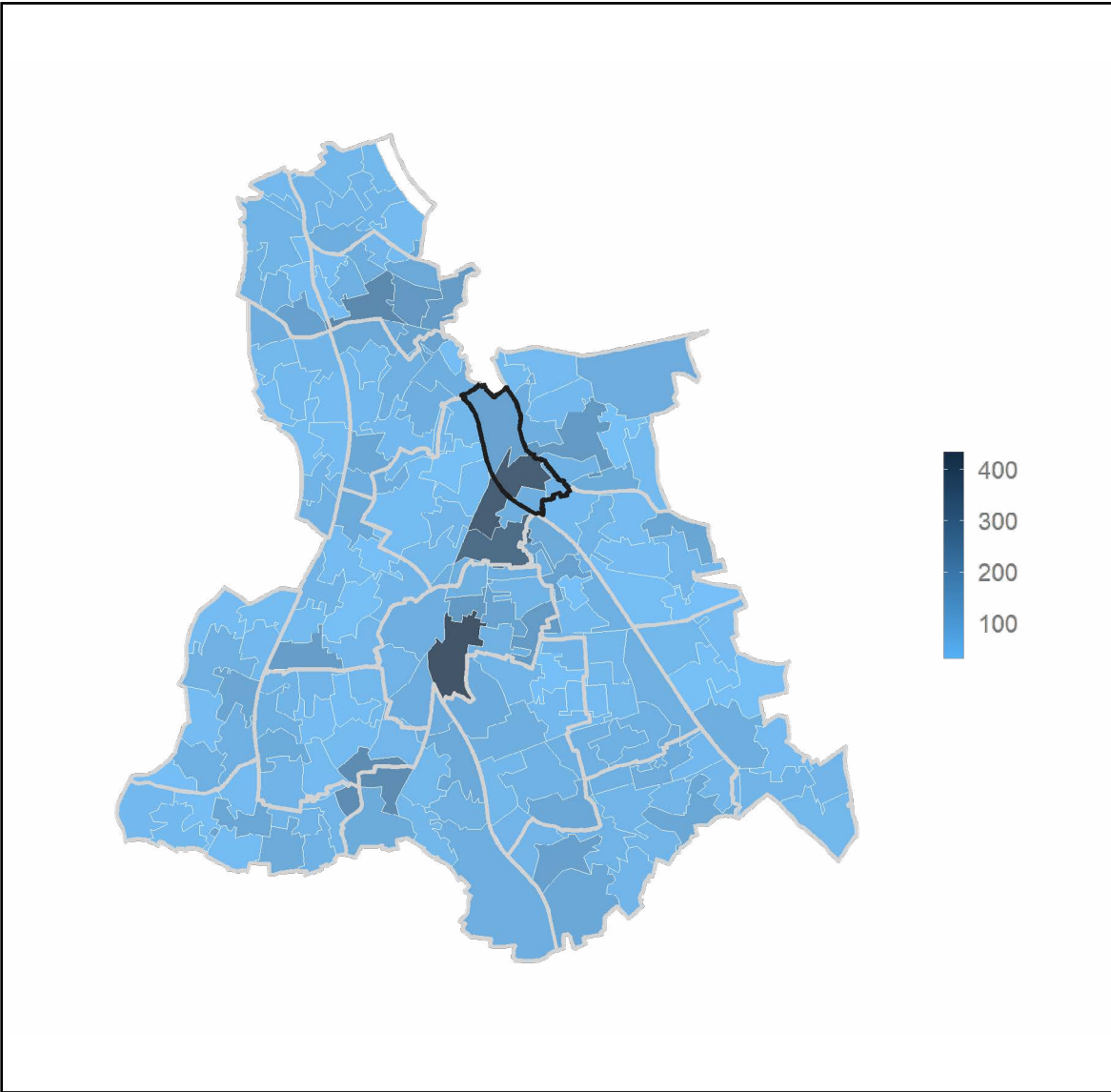
Of 1736 recorded crimes (Home Office crime classifications, excluding sexual offences) in Lewisham Central, the three most common offences include theft (677), violence against the person (459) and public order offences (149).

In the three LSOAs in Lewisham Central, overall crime rates per 1,000 people range from 92 to 393.9.

Recorded crimes by type in Lewisham Central, MPS Jan-Dec 2021



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



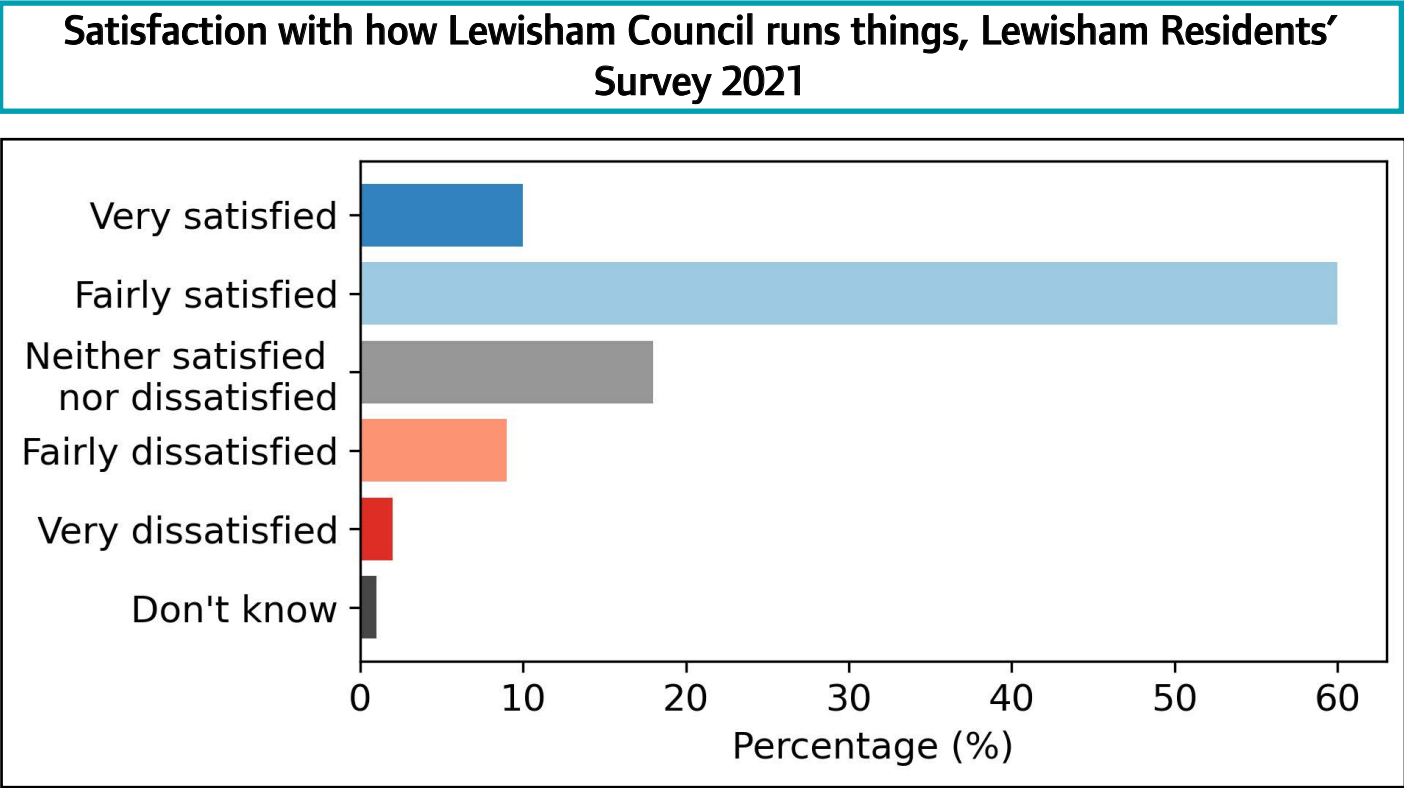
* Recorded crimes based on Home Office crime classifications, excluding sexual offences.

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.

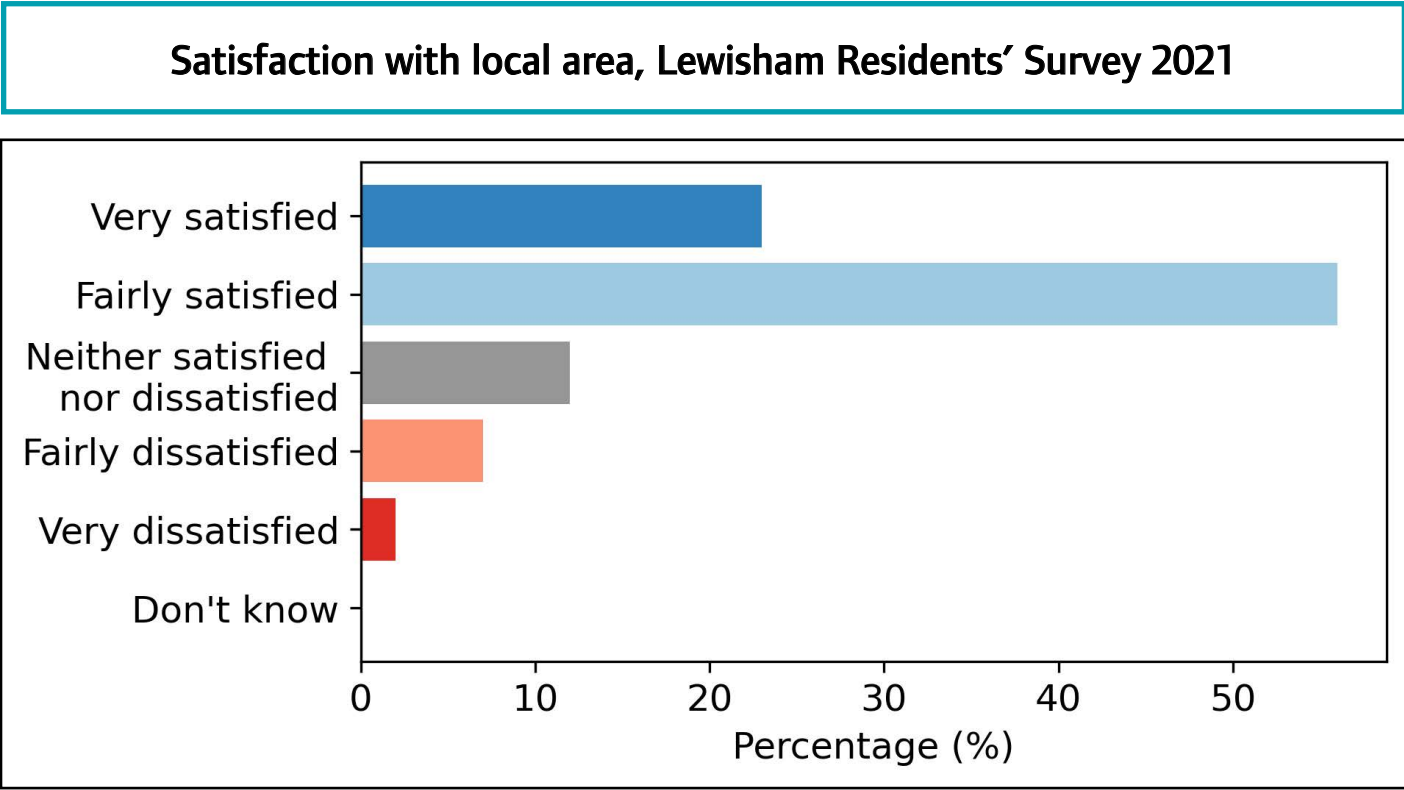
Satisfaction with the Council

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

