

Southwark Council

Population Needs Assessment

September 2023



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1 Overview

Economy

Economy

In 2022, most (86.2%) enterprises were classified as 'micro' (employing up to nine people).

The number of new businesses has remained stable since falling from a peak of 3,470 in 2016.

The 2021 business birth rate (as a percentage of active enterprises) for Southwark was 15%, slightly higher than London and England.

Key sectors

Southwark has strong representation from management consultancies, specialised design, architectural and engineering firms.

In 2021, the most common sector by employee jobs was Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (57,000 jobs; i.e., 22.9%).

Jobs

In 2021, there were an estimated 249,000 jobs in Southwark of which 77.1% were full-time and 22.9% were part-time. Of those who were working, 59% never worked from home.

In 2022, 78.4% of Southwark's working age population (16-64) was classified as economically active, in line with London and England. A higher proportion of males (83.7%) than females (72.8%) were economically active.



Job availability

Job availability was estimated to be 302,000 in 2021. This is equivalent to 1.32 per person aged 16-64, which is higher than in London (1.02) and England (0.86).

Economically inactive

In 2022, 21.6% of Southwark's working age population were economically inactive. More of them were long-term sick (27.3%) compared with London (19.3%) or England (15.5%).

72% of those who were economically inactive did not want a job. This was lower than both London (82.8%) and England (82.2%).

Universal Credit

There are 37,425 people receiving Universal Credit. The claimant count in Southwark, 5.1%, was in line with London but higher than England (3.8%).



For those who had been claiming for more than 12 months, the proportion was highest in Newington and lowest in Dulwich Village.

Unemployment

The unemployment rate in Southwark in 2022 was 4.6% of those who were economically active – slightly higher than London (4.3%) and England (3.7%).



In 2021, there was an estimated 16,900 workless households (i.e., households where no-one aged 16 years or over is in employment), an increase from 15,000 in 2020.

Qualifications

In the 2022/23 academic year there were 2,740 Apprenticeships currently in training in Southwark.

In 2021, Southwark had a higher proportion of its workforce who qualified to NVQ4 and above in comparison to England (57.2% versus 43.2% in England) but a slightly lower proportion than London (59%).



Earnings

Median gross weekly pay increased between 2021 and 2022 from £728.90 to £774.20.



In 2022, the median gross weekly pay of females was 92.4% of the median gross weekly pay of males. This was higher than London (88.7%) and England (84.7%).

Living wage

In 2022, an estimated 23,000 people in Southwark (9.1% of all employees) were earning below the Living Wage.



This has decreased from 10.6% in 2021 (when the rate was £10.85 per hour). It was lower in 2022 than the equivalent rates for London 13.6% and England 12.5%.

Poverty and deprivation

In 2021, 13,654 households (9.9%) were experiencing fuel poverty, lower than London (11.9%) and England (13.1%).



There were 469 households owed a prevention or relief duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act where the main applicant is 16-24. This represents 3.5 people per 1,000, higher than England (2.4 per 1,000) and London (2.5 per 1,000).

Key



Increasing trend



Relative strength



Declining trend



Relative area for improvement



Ward spotlight

Our people: Demography

Population size and growth

In 2021, Southwark had an estimated total population of 307,700. This placed Southwark in 42nd place out of 309 local authorities in England.

Between 2011 and 2021, Southwark's population grew by 7%, aligning with the growth rates for London (8%) and England (7%).

In 2018, the largest increases in population were expected to be seen in redevelopment areas around Old Kent Road.

Population age

Southwark has a relatively young population with an average age of 32.4 years, more than two years younger than the average age in London (34.9) and seven years younger than the average age in England (39.4).

Since 2011, the age group that has grown the most is adults aged 55-59 years (which grew by 59%, or 6,500 people). The age group that shrank the most was infants aged 0-4 (which decreased by 21%), reflecting a national decline in birth rates.



Country of birth

In 2021, 57% of Southwark's residents were born in England, in-line with the London average but notably lower than the England average (80.3%). 27% of Southwark's residents were born outside of Europe - primarily in Nigeria, Jamaica, and Ghana. Borough & Bankside had the highest percentage of residents born outside the UK (49%), and Dulwich Village had the lowest (23%).

Ethnicity

In 2021, 51% of Southwark residents were from a White ethnic background. In London, the equivalent rate is lower (37%), and in England it is higher (74%).

Disability

In 2021, 14% of children and adults in Southwark (approximately 42,000 individuals) had a disability, a similar proportion to London and England.



However, rates of disability varied between wards. In Old Kent Road, South Bermondsey, and Nunhead and Queen's Road, 17-23% of residents had a disability, compared to 6-14% of residents in London Bridge and Dulwich Village.

Migration

Approximately 49,000 people moved to Southwark between 2020 and 2021. This figure is equivalent to 16% of the borough's total population. By comparison, between 2010 and 2011, the number of people who moved to Southwark made up 9% of the borough's total population. In 2020-2021, the majority (41,600) moved from elsewhere in England/Wales.



Asylum seekers and refugees

The number of people seeking asylum in Southwark increased from 100 in 2019 to nearly 2,000 in 2022. This is twice the number of asylum seekers hosted in Croydon, the London borough with the second highest number of asylum seekers.

Mortality rates

Southwark has a higher age-standardised mortality rate from preventable causes (210 per 100,000 of the population) than England (183) or London (187).

In 2018-20, Southwark's child mortality rate was 11.8 per 100,000. This figure is higher than the child mortality rates in London (9.8) and England (10.3). Southwark's child mortality rate has increased from 7.7 in 2015-17.



Life expectancy

Life expectancy at birth has increased steadily in Southwark, London, and England in recent decades. In 2019, life expectancy was 79.6 years for men and 84.9 years for women.

Life expectancy was lowest in Nunhead & Queens Road, and highest in South Camberwell, in 2019.



Healthy life expectancy

In 2020, healthy life expectancy in Southwark (63 years for men and 62 years for women) was lower than the averages for London (63.8 years for men and 65 years for women) and England (63.1 years for men and 63.9 years for women).

These figures put Southwark in 27th place for healthy life expectancy out of all 32 London boroughs.



Households

In 2021, there were 130,800 households, up over 10,000 since 2011. Average household size was 2.3 people, similar to London and England. It is highest in Faraday and lowest in Borough & Bankside.

33% of Southwark residents were living alone. 25% of households had at least one dependent child. 9% of households consisted of a lone parent with at least one dependent child.



Disadvantaged households

In 2021, 51% of Southwark households were classed as disadvantaged, comparable with England.

In 2021, 12% of all households (16,000 properties) in Southwark were overcrowded. This is a decrease from 15% in 2011. Peckham, Faraday, and Old Kent Road had the highest rates of overcrowding.

Our people: Adults



Alcohol consumption

In 2015-18, 31.2% of adults in Southwark were drinking over 14 units of alcohol a week. This is notably higher than the London and England averages of 20.1% and 22.8%.

In 2021, there were 1,945 hospital admissions for alcohol-specific conditions in Southwark, or 883 per 100,000 people, 41% higher than the England average and 50.4% higher than the London average.



Alcohol related mortalities

In 2021, there were 82 alcohol-related mortalities in Southwark, or 42 per 100,000 people. This is slightly higher than the England average (38.5) and notably higher than the London average (32.5).

In 2020, there were approximately 1,014 potential years of life lost due to alcohol-related conditions for men in the borough, and 387 years for women in the borough.

Drug use

In 2021, it was estimated that there were 1,409 opiate and/or crack cocaine users not in treatment in Southwark.

In 2019-20, there were 55 hospital admissions with a primary diagnosis of poisoning by drug misuse in Southwark, this equates to 17 per 100,000 population. This is 42% higher than the London average of 12 per 100,000, but still notably lower than the England average of 31 per 100,000.



Drug related mortalities

In 2021, there were seven deaths registered related to drug misuse, the lowest number since 2011, and a 61% decrease on 2019. It is also lower than the inner London average of 10 deaths per borough.

There were nine deaths registered related to drug poisoning in 2021, also substantially lower than previous years and lower than the inner London average of 15 deaths per borough.



Substance misuse treatment

In 2020, 132 people successfully completed treatment for drug misuse. Only one person waited more than three weeks for treatment, substantially lower than the previous two years.

105 people successfully completed alcohol treatment in 2020, and two people waited more than three weeks for treatment. Nine people died during alcohol treatment from 2019 to 2021.



Obesity

In 2018-19 there were 7,005 admissions to hospital with a primary or secondary diagnosis of obesity in Southwark, which equates to approximately 2,912 per 100,000 people in the borough. This is markedly higher than the London and England averages of 1,418 and 1,615 per 100,000 people, respectively.

Physical activity

In 2021-2022, 68.9% of adults in Southwark aged 19 and over were physically active (doing at least 150 minutes of physical activity per week).

For children and young people in the borough in the same period (aged 5 to 18 years old), 44.5% of people are physically active (doing at least 60 minutes of activity per day across the week).

Life satisfaction and mental wellbeing

In the year to March 2022, 6.5% of people in Southwark rated their life satisfaction as low, 16.4% as medium, 56.1% as high, and 21.1% as very high.

In a survey conducted in 2019, 8.8% of Southwark respondents reported feeling lonely often, comparable with the London average. This was higher (16%) among those who socially rent their home in Southwark vs. 2% among those who owned their own home. Residents from non-white ethnic groups reported feeling lonely more often.

Main diseases causing death

Cancer is a leading cause of death in Southwark and accounted for around a quarter of all deaths in 2020.

Cardiovascular diseases are the second largest cause of death in the borough, also accounting for around a quarter of all deaths (as of 2015). In 2021 the mortality rate for under-75s from cardiovascular diseases was 89.5 per 100,000 people in Southwark, markedly higher than the London and England averages of 74.3 and 76, respectively.



Other key diseases

There were 66 deaths from COPD in Southwark in 2021 (48.9 per 100,000 people). This is notably higher than the London average of 34.8 deaths per 100,000 people.

The incidence of new STI diagnoses (excluding chlamydia for those aged under 25) was 2,662 per 100,000 people in 2022. This is markedly higher than the London and England averages of 1,171 and 496 per 100,000 people.

Care for older people

In 2021, there were 8,900 adults aged 65 and over accessing long term social care support, per 100,000 people in the borough. This is higher than London (6,605 per 100,000) but comparable with neighbouring boroughs Lewisham (9,000) and Lambeth (9,900).

85.7% of care home residents in Southwark are state-funded, and 14.3% were self-funded. In 2021, there were five care home beds in Southwark per 100 people aged 75+ in the borough – lower than the London and England averages of 7.1 and 9.4, respectively.



Older age

In 2019 there were 10,744 older people living in poverty in Southwark – approximately 31.3% of the older population of the borough. This is higher than the England average of 14.2%.

50.2% of deaths in Southwark occur in hospital, which is 6.2% higher than England (44%). 10% fewer deaths occur in care homes in Southwark than the England average (10.2% in Southwark vs. 20.2% in England).

Our people: Children and young people

Population

In 2021, there were 64,675 children and young people aged up to 19 years old in Southwark – 21.1% of the total population.

This is a slightly lower percentage for London (23.6%) or England (23.1%).

Looked After Children (LAC)

In 2022, there were 457 looked after children (LAC) in Southwark, 79 children per 10,000 aged under 18, a higher rate than England (70 per 10,000 children under 18) and inner London (64 per 10,000 children under 18).



The percentage of LAC with long-term placement stability in Southwark increased from 70% in 2021 to 76% in 2022 and is higher than both Inner London (70%) and England (71%).



Education for LAC

In 2022, 21.1% of LAC were persistently absent, a 13.9% decrease from 2021 but still slightly higher than London and England. LAC also had higher fixed term exclusions (13.4%) than inner London (9.8%) and England (9.8%).

21.3% were achieving a GCSE pass rate in English and Maths in 2022; this has decreased over the past two years (32.4% in 2020, 27.9% in 2021).



Child protection

In 2022, the rate of children subject of a child protection plan (CPP) in Southwark was 49 per 10,000. This is less than the previous year's rate (59.5) but higher than the rates in inner London (36.9) and England (42.1).



Special Educational Needs (SEN)

In October 2022, 19% of children had a SEN, in comparison to 17% of children in England.

This figure has increased in Southwark from 16% in 2018, and the borough now has the 3rd highest prevalence of SEN out of 32 London boroughs, an increase from the 5th in 2017.

In 2022, 67.3% of LAC in Southwark had special educational needs.

School absences and exclusions

The overall absence rate in Southwark in 2021-22 was 6.3%. This is in line with London (6.6%) but lower than England (7.5%).



In the same period, there were five permanent exclusions. This is fewer than both the London average (17) and the number in Southwark in the previous year (13).



Educational attainment

Across Key Stages 1,2, and 4 Southwark's rate of pupils achieving expected standards in key subject areas were similar to London's rates and similar to, or higher than, England.

For Key Stage 5, in 2021-22, the percentage of students achieving grades of AAB or better at A-level (of which at least two are in facilitating subjects) was 23%, in line with England (23.2%).

Educational attainment amongst pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM)

At Key Stage 2, fewer pupils who were eligible for FSM (54%) achieved the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths than those not eligible for free school meals (73%). At Key Stage 4, there was a 10-point difference in the average 'Attainment 8' score of pupils eligible for free school meals (47) and those not eligible (57). These differences were similar to or smaller than those for London and England.

Health in early years

In 2021, women were smokers in 4.3% of maternities and 7.5% of babies had a low birth weight. For 2019-21, there were 778 premature births, 69.9 per 1,000 births. This is lower than London (75.2) and England (77.9). In Southwark this has been decreasing since the 2015-2017 period.

Immunisation rates for common vaccines for children under two years old were mostly over 80% and similar to London but were slightly lower than England.

Health in childhood

In 2021, rates of hospital admissions for injury or mental health for those under 24 were lower than the rates for England.

In 2021, there were 87.4 hospital admissions for mental health conditions for children under 18 years old in Southwark per 10,000 of the population – higher than London (75) but lower than England (99.8). For self-harm related admissions for those aged 10-24, Southwark again had a higher (262.2 per 100,000 of the population aged 10-24) than London (229.7) but lower than England (427.3).



Healthy weight

For children in reception and Year 6, the percentage classed as obese was slightly higher than both London and England.

At reception, Camberwell Green had the highest prevalence of overweight or obese children at 32.9%; Dulwich Village had the lowest (12.8%). At Year 6, North Walworth had the highest prevalence (50% of children), and Dulwich Village again had the lowest (19.4%).



Youth offending

In 2021, 80 children aged 10-17 years entered the youth justice system (3.1 per 1,000). This has decreased from a peak in 2014 of 265 or 11.8 per 1,000. The 2021 rate for Southwark is higher than England (2.8 per 1,000) but lower than London (3.5). There were 47 first-time entrants, 184.5 per 100,000; lower than in 2010 (280) but higher than London (166.3) and England (148.9).

Place



Population density

Southwark is the seventh most densely populated London local authority.

The most densely populated wards are Chaucer (19,453 people per square kilometer), Newington (18,806) and Peckham (18,499). The least densely populated wards are College (3,931), Dulwich Village (4,660) and Peckham Rye (6,457).



Deprivation

As of 2019, the most deprived ward in Southwark was Faraday.

The least deprived wards were Goose Green and Dulwich Village jointly.



Communities

Southwark residents reported low levels of voice and influence over local decision making, particularly among people with fewer resources, and Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups.

That said, some residents interviewed were involved in decision making through local Tenant and Resident Associations and communications with their local MP.

Housing

In 2023, there were 147,240 properties in Southwark, an increase of 2,250 (1.6%) on 2022. Most properties (58.5%) are in council tax bands A-C, with 32.7% in bands D-E, and 8.8% in bands F-H.

As of 2021, the largest proportion of properties in Southwark are social rented properties (39.7%) followed by privately rented properties (29%).

Social housing

As of 2022, Southwark's local authority housing stock totalled 37,683 dwellings, a slight decrease from 38,183 in 2020. Since 2010, the total housing stock owned by Southwark has decreased by 6.1%.

There were 11,304 people on the Southwark Council housing waiting list on 31st March 2022. This is slightly higher than the average London borough waiting list size of 9,314, but far lower than neighbouring boroughs Lambeth (33,640) and Tower Hamlets (21,840).

Housing costs

The average rent across all sizes of properties (including studios and single rooms) was £1,800 in March 2023. This is an increase of 12.5% on the year 2021 where average monthly rent across the same categories was £1,600, and an increase of 18.7% on the 2018 average of £1,517 per month.

The average property purchase price peaked in 2018 at £574,165. The number of properties sold in the borough decreased by 20.3% from 3,386 in 2021 to 2,699 in 2022.



Crime rate

The total number of crimes committed in the borough in the 12 months ending July 2023 was 40,356, a 5.8% increase on the previous 12 months (38,157).

This equates to 126 crimes per 1,000 population, in the year ending July 2023. This is notably higher (12.6% higher) than the London average of 112 crimes per 1,000 population.



Types of crime

In the year ending July 2023, the most common crimes and offences recorded in Southwark were theft; violence against the person; and burglary. Over that period, the highest number of crimes were committed in Borough & Bankside (3,802) and London Bridge & West Bermondsey (3,904). The wards with the lowest number of crimes were Dulwich Hill (507), and Peckham Rye (606).



Anti-social behaviour

In the 12 months ending March 2023, there were 9,069 recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour in Southwark, a decrease of 21% on the previous 12 months (11,428).

These incidents fall into three categories: nuisance (7,949), personal (839), and environmental (281).

Safety

In 2022, there were 221 dwelling fires in Southwark, a 7.9% decrease on the number of dwelling fires in the borough in 2021 (240), and the lowest number of dwelling fires in at least the last 11 years.

In 2018, there were 1,289 road collisions in Southwark involving fatal, serious, or slight injuries. There were 1,100 slight injuries, 187 serious injuries, and two fatalities resulting from road collisions in the borough in 2018.

Environment

In 2020, CO2 emissions in Southwark totalled 782 kilotons (down from 1,502kt in 2010), close to the average across London.

37.7% of Southwark is covered by green space, compared to 43.6% on average in London but higher than 33.1% on average in Inner London.



Going green

Southwark's residents are more active in their travel than the England average. The percentage of Southwark's residents who walk or cycle at least five times per week is 11.7% higher than the England average.

As of July 2023, Southwark has 1,756 electric vehicle charging devices, a higher rate than neighbouring Lambeth, Lewisham and Tower Hamlets.

2 Introduction

2.1 About this document

This Population Needs Assessment was carried out in September 2023 by Cordis Bright on behalf of Southwark Council.

It uses the latest available data for Southwark and its wards to summarise Southwark's people and place, including comparisons to London and England, to help drive Southwark Council's approach and in particular the implementation of its 2030 Strategy.

About Southwark 2030

Southwark 2030 is the new strategy for Southwark Council and its partners to achieve change for the residents of the borough. It is an ambitious vision driven by consultation with residents, local organisations, businesses, and council staff.

Its goals will encompass homes; safety; economy; health; and environment.

2.2 Methodology

The following methods were used:

1. Review of publicly-available quantitative data about Southwark.
2. Review of findings from consultation with Southwark Residents, gathered for the 2021 'Understanding Southwark Summary report'.¹
3. Sense-testing with colleagues at Southwark Council.

Please note when interpreting the data:

- Much of the most recently publicly-available data is from 2021, when the last census was carried out. As such, it may have been influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Some of the relevant categories are covered by Southwark's forthcoming 2023 JSNA. To avoid repeating or duplicating this, the Population Needs Assessment signposts to the JSNA where relevant.
- Southwark Council has recently adopted a neighbourhood approach. To reflect this, ward level data has been included where available. We have noted the top and bottom performing wards and signposted to the data source for a

¹ http://www.social-life.co/media/uploads/final_southwark_summary_report_10-12-2021.pdf

full breakdown by ward. Where a breakdown by ward was available as an infographic, this has been included.

- We have referred to financial years and calendar years by the name of that year (e.g., '2021'). Where data refers to any other time periods, we have stated this in the text.
- 'Average' has been used to refer to mean averages unless otherwise stated.
- Comparison data with London and England has been included wherever available. In some cases, where data for London was unavailable but data for inner London was available, it has been included. Failing that, in some cases comparison figures for neighbouring boroughs have been included.
- Unless otherwise stated, raw numbers have not been adjusted for the area's population size (e.g., different wards have different population sizes).
- References have been included throughout as footnotes and hyperlinked wherever possible for ease of access.

2.3 Structure

This review is structured as follows:

- Chapter 3: Economy
- Chapter 4: Demography
- Chapter 5: Children and young people
- Chapter 6: Adults
- Chapter 7: Place

3 Our economy

3.1 Economy

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information about the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on Southwark residents (p25).

3.1.1 Overall economic performance

In 2021, Lewisham and Southwark (data was not available for Southwark alone) had a Gross Value Added (GVA) (current prices) of £24,746 million.² This is an increase from £23,189 million in 2020. GVA per head for Lewisham and Southwark was £40,823 (current basic prices) which was lower than London (£55,412) but higher than England (£30,443).

3.1.2 Key sectors

In 2022, there were 16,445 active enterprises and 18,940 local units in Southwark.^{3 4} This represents a slight decrease from 16,860 enterprises and 19,135 local units in 2021. In 2022, most (86.2%) enterprises were classified as 'micro' (employing up to nine people), 10.5% were 'small' (10 to 49), 2.5% were 'medium' (50 to 249) and 0.7% were 'large' (250+).^{3 5}

In terms of types of businesses, there is strong representation in Southwark from management consultancies, specialised design, architectural and engineering firms. Information and communication and wholesale and retail firms are also well represented in Southwark's business base.⁶

²

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/grossvalueaddedgva/datasets/nominalregionalgrossvalueaddedbalancedperheadandincomecomponents>

³ <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157256/report.aspx?c1=2013265927&c2=2092957699#ls>

⁴ An enterprise is the smallest combination of legal units (generally based on VAT and/or PAYE records) which has a certain degree of autonomy within an Enterprise Group. An individual site (for example a factory or shop) in an enterprise is called a local unit.

⁵ The 2022 Southwark Economic Evidence base report provides a broad overview of the spread of businesses and jobs throughout areas of Southwark but does not present this at ward level. See: https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk/corporate-strategy/economic-strategy-22-30/user_uploads/southwark-evidence-base-report---final.pdf

⁶ From 2020 London Council London Borough business profiles https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Southwark%20report_IM.pdf London Councils is a cross-party organisation that represents the interests of the 32 London boroughs and the City of London Corporation.

Figure 1: Top five industries in Southwark: business count and share of borough business count (2020)⁶

Industry	Total borough business count (2020)	Total share of borough business count (2020)
Management consultant activities	1,570	10%
Computer consultant activities	1,175	8%
Other business support service activities	785	5%
Specialised design activities	435	3%
Business and domestic software development	400	3%
Total for top five industry groups	4,365	29%

This is also translated into total number of jobs. For instance, in 2021, the most common sectors/industries by employee jobs in the borough were Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (57,000 jobs, 22.9% of total employee jobs excluding farm-based agriculture), Administrative and Support Service Activities (28,000 jobs, 11.2%), Human Health and Social Work activities (26,000 jobs, 10.4%), Information and Communication (24,000 jobs, 9.6%) and Education (18,000 jobs, 7.2%).³

3.2 Business

3.2.1 Business turnover (births and deaths)

In 2021, there were 2,825 new businesses in Southwark, a slight increase from 2,255 in 2020. The number of new businesses has remained stable since falling from a peak of 3,470 in 2016. In 2021, there were 2,196 business deaths, marginally higher than in 2020 when there 2,165 business deaths but lower than a peak in 2017 of 2,645.⁷

The 2021 business birth rate (as a percentage of active enterprises) for Southwark was 15%, which is slightly higher than both London (14.1%) and England (12.5%). The 2021 business death rate (as a percentage of active

⁷

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/business/activitysizeandlocation/datasets/businessdemographyreferencetable>

enterprises) in Southwark was 11.7%, in line with both London (11.5%) and England (11.2%).⁷

One-year survival rates of 2020-born businesses in the borough was 93%, in line with the rate for London (92%) and the same as the rate for England. Five-year survival rates of 2016 business births were 32% in Southwark, lower than London (39%) and England (38%).⁷

3.2.2 Business grants

There are currently a range of grants and support available for businesses operating within Southwark. The main ones include:⁸

- The Southwark Pioneers Fund - a programme of support for business founders and aspiring entrepreneurs in Southwark. It offers two programmes for entrepreneurs at different stages:
 - Launchpad which is for anyone with a business idea, through to early-stage start-ups. Programme graduates can apply for grants of up to £5,000.
 - Grow Your Enterprise which is for anyone with an established business looking to scale and take it to the next level. Programme graduates have the opportunity to apply for a grant of £10,000 upon graduation.
- Future Strategy Club Impact Fund, a Peckham-based members club for freethinking freelancers, offering £2,000 of resource to social impact entrepreneurs for free, to help them get their start-up ideas off the ground.

3.3 Labour market

3.3.1 Jobs

In 2021, there were an estimated 249,000 jobs in Southwark of which 192,000 (77.1%) were full-time and 57,000 (22.9%) were part-time.³ This represents an increase in total jobs from 242,000 in 2020, of which 189,000 were full-time and 53,000 were part-time.³

Section 2.1.2 on Key sectors includes a summary of key sectors by jobs.

Of those who were working, 59% never worked from home, 41% conducted any work from home, 20% recently worked from home, 7% occasionally worked from home, and 14% mainly worked from home.⁹

⁸ <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/southwark-creates/funding/current-funding>

⁹

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/labourproductivity/adhocs/13196homeworkingintheukbrokenbyunitaryandlocalauthoritydistricts2020>

3.3.2 Economic activity

In 2022, 78.4% of Southwark's working age population (16-64) was classified as economically active¹⁰ compared to 79.2% in London and 78.6% in England.³ In Southwark, a higher proportion of males (83.7%) than females (72.8%) were economically active. Of those who were economically active, 75.6% were in employment in Southwark compared to 75.8% in London and 75.7% in England.

At ward level data was not population adjusted. The ward with the highest number of economically active individuals was Old Kent Road, with 10,244; the lowest was St George's with 4,679.¹¹

For more information regarding ward level economic activity, please see the 2021 Census Wards Labour Market dataset.¹¹

3.3.3 Economic inactivity

In 2022, 21.6% of Southwark's working age population were economically inactive,¹⁰ a slightly higher rate of economic inactivity than London (20.2%) and England (21.4%).³

Of those in Southwark who were economically inactive, 37.6% were students and 27.3% were long-term sick.¹² Of those economically inactive in London, 33.2% were students and 19.3% were long-term sick. For England, 26.7% were students and 15.5% were long-term sick. 72.0% of those who were economically inactive in Southwark did not want a job. This was lower than the rates of those who were economically inactive in both London (82.8%) and England (82.2%).³

At ward level, data was not population adjusted. The ward with the highest number of economically inactive individuals was again Old Kent Road, where 4,713 individuals were economically inactive. The ward with the lowest was Champion Hill with 2,028.¹¹

For more information regarding ward level economic inactivity, please see the 2021 Census Wards Labour Market dataset.¹¹

3.3.4 Claimants

¹⁰ Economically active refers to people who are either in employment or unemployed. Economic inactivity refers to people aged 16 and over without a job who have not sought work in the last four weeks and/or are not available to start work in the next two weeks. The main economically inactive groups are students, people looking after family and home, long-term sick and disabled, temporarily sick and disabled, retired people and discouraged workers.

¹¹ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/2021-census-wards-labour-market>

¹² Data for those who were economically inactive in Southwark who were looking after family/home, temporary sick, discouraged, retired or other was not available due to the sample size being too small to produce reliable estimates.

In July 2023, the claimant count in Southwark was 11,670 people, representing 5.1% of the resident population aged 16 to 64. In comparison, this was 5.0% in London and 3.8% in England.³ ¹³ More claimants in Southwark were male (6,205) than female (5,465) and most were aged 25 to 49 (7,095).³

In 2021, at ward level Peckham had the highest percentage of the working age population claiming out of work benefit or universal credit (11.1%). The ward with the lowest percentage was Dulwich Village (2.6%).

In 2021, the ward with the highest average monthly claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance who have been claiming for more than 12 months was Newington with 2.4 per 1,000 of the working age population. The ward with the lowest average was Dulwich Village (0.5 per 1,000 of the working age population).¹⁴

For more information regarding ward level claimant count, please see the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities dataset.¹⁴

3.3.5 Unemployment (model-based)

In 2022, the unemployment rate in Southwark was 4.6% of those who were economically active, compared to 4.3% for London and 3.7% for England.³ Section 3.3.4 above presents an indication of unemployment at ward level based on claimant data; other ward-level data on unemployment was not available.

Of the wards within Southwark, North Bermondsey had the highest numbers of usual residents aged 16+ in employment (9,141). St George's had the lowest (4,229).¹⁵

3.3.6 Workless households

In 2021 there was an estimated 16,900 workless households (i.e. households where no-one aged 16 years or over is in employment) in Southwark – an increase from 15,500 in 2020.³ This is equivalent to 13.3% of all households in Southwark; in comparison the rate is 12.2% in London and 13.4% in England.³

No data was available for children in workless households in Southwark. In 2021 in London and England it is estimated that 9.5% and 9.9% of children, respectively, were in workless households.³

¹³ The percentage given is the number of claimants as a proportion of resident population of area aged 16-64.

¹⁴ <https://www.localhealth.org.uk/#c=home>

¹⁵ For further detail on occupation at ward level see: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/2021-census-wards-labour-market>

3.3.7 Job density

In 2021 there were an estimated 302,000 jobs in the borough – equivalent to 1.32 per person aged 16-64 which is higher than London (1.02) and England (0.86).³

3.3.8 Qualifications

In 2021, Southwark had a higher proportion of its workforce who are qualified to NVQ4 and above in comparison to England (57.2% in Southwark and 43.2% in England) but a slightly lower proportion in comparison to London (59.0%).³ By ward, London Bridge had the highest numbers of those who are qualified to NVQ4 and above (7,984) and St George’s had the lowest (3,970).¹⁶

3.3.9 Apprenticeships

In the 2022/23 academic year there were 2,740 Apprenticeships currently in training in Southwark. This is down from 3,101 in the 2021/22 academic year.¹⁷

3.3.10 Digital skills

Across Southwark and Lewisham combined, 16,000 people are considered digitally excluded (data for only Southwark was not available).¹⁸

3.4 Earnings

3.4.1 Median weekly wage

The median gross weekly pay in Southwark increased between 2021 and 2022 from £728.90 to £774.20. It also increased in London (from £731.60 to £765.40) and England (from £613.30 to £645.80) across the same period.³

Figure 2: Median gross weekly pay of full-time employees living in Southwark, London and England (2021)³

Area	2022 median gross weekly pay of full-time employees living in the area		
	Overall	Male	Female
Southwark	£774.20	£803.10	£742.30
London	£765.40	£804.90	£713.70
England	£645.80	£690.00	£584.50

¹⁶ For further detail on qualifications at ward level see: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/2021-census-wards-labour-market>

¹⁷ <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/apprenticeships-and-traineeships>

¹⁸ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/itandinternetindustry/datasets/internetusers>

In 2022, the median gross weekly pay of females living in Southwark was 92.4% of the median gross weekly pay of males in living in the borough. This was higher than the equivalent percentage for London (88.7%) and England (84.7%).³

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information about the median gross household income by ward (p23).

3.4.2 Living wage

In 2022, there were an estimated 23,000 people in Southwark (9.1% of all employees) who were earning below the Living Wage Foundation rates (of £11.05 per hour within London). This has decreased from 10.6% of all employees within the borough in 2021 (when the rate was £10.85 per hour).¹⁹

In 2022, the proportion of employees who were earning below the Living Wage Foundation rates was higher in both London (£11.05 per hour) and England (£9.90 per hour), where 13.6% and 12.5%, respectively, of all employees were earning below this rate.

In 2022, there were 254 employers in Southwark who were accredited Living Wage employers.²⁰

3.5 Poverty and deprivation

3.5.1 Index of Multiple Deprivation

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information about the indices of deprivation (p21).

3.5.2 Relative poverty

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information about indices of deprivation which are informed by relative poverty data (p21).

¹⁹

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/datasets/numberandproportionofemployeejobswithhourlypaybelowthelivingwage>

²⁰ <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/business/london-living-wage?chapter=4>

3.5.3 Child poverty

The ward with the highest number of children living in poverty is Faraday (1,197), and the lowest is Dulwich Village (133).²¹ Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for more information about the child poverty rates and borough ranking (p23).

3.5.4 Universal credit

In June 2023, there were 37,425 people receiving Universal Credit in Southwark. Of these 22,835 were not in employment and 14,590 were in employment.²²

3.5.5 Food poverty

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information about food security and food bank use (p26). Please also see the Southwark Cost of Living Crisis Profile Spring 2023 update for more information on food poverty within Southwark.²³

3.5.6 Fuel poverty

In 2021, an estimated 13,654 (9.9% of) households in the borough were experiencing fuel poverty.²⁴ This was lower than the rates for London (11.9%) and England (13.1%).²⁵

For further breakdown of fuel poverty by ward please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA (p 25), Southwark Cost of Living Crisis Profile Spring 2023 update and see Department for Energy Security and Net Zero Sub-Regional Fuel poverty tables for LSOA data from 2021, which highlights high levels of geographical variation in fuel poverty.

A key factor of the cost-of-living crisis has been the increase in energy prices - between March 2022 and March 2023, electricity prices in the UK rose by 66.7% and gas prices rose by 129.4%.²⁶ Whilst the most recent data available for Southwark does not cover this period, Citizen's Advice Southwark report seeing

²¹ https://www.localhealth.org.uk/?view=map12&indics=t1.child_dep_n&lang=en

²² <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/webapi/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml#>

²³

<https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s115156/Appendix%20%20Cost%20of%20Living%20Profile%20Summer%202023%20LBS%20Public%20Health.pdf>

²⁴ A household is said to be in fuel poverty if its income is below the poverty line (taking into account the cost of energy) and its energy costs are higher than is typical for that household type.

²⁵ Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. Sub-regional Fuel Poverty Tables, 2023. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sub-regional-fuel-poverty-2023-2021-data>

²⁶ Southwark Cost of Living Crisis Profile Spring 2023 Update. Available at: <https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s115156/Appendix%20%20Cost%20of%20Living%20Profile%20Summer%202023%20LBS%20Public%20Health.pdf>

an increase in people seeking help for fuel debts (from 17% in 2021/22 to 19% in 2022/23).²⁶

3.5.7 Homelessness

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for more detail on identified rough sleepers and borough rank (p27).²⁷

3.5.8 Youth homelessness

In 2021, in Southwark there were 469 households owed a prevention or relief duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act where the main applicant is 16-24. This represents a rate of 3.5 people per 1,000, which is higher than both the rates for England (2.4 per 1,000) and London (2.5 per 1,000).²⁸

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for more detail on identified rough sleepers and borough rank (p27).

²⁷ Spatial distribution at LSOA level available in CHAIN annual report for Southwark 2022 – 23. Available at: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/chain-reports>

²⁸ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/3/qid/1938133225/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/93737/age/264/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yrr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

4 Our people: Demography

4.1 Population

In 2021, Southwark had an estimated total population of 307,700.²⁹ This figure put Southwark in 42nd place for total population out of 309 local authorities in England.²⁹ Of these 307,600 residents, approximately 158,600 were female and 149,000 male.³⁰

The population size of Southwark varies by ward. A full list of wards by population can be seen in Figure 3 below. Please see the 'Our Place' section for a discussion of population density.

²⁹ www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censuspopulationchange/E09000028

³⁰ www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/london/wards/E09000028_southwark

Figure 3: List of Southwark wards by population (2021)³⁰

Name	Status	Population	Population	Population
		Census 2001-04-29	Census 2011-03-27	Census 2021-03-21
Southwark	Borough	244,866	288,283	307,637
Old Kent Road	Ward	13,364	16,770	19,037
South Bermondsey	Ward	12,689	15,271	15,945
St Giles	Ward	12,791	15,132	15,945
North Walworth	Ward	10,128	11,256	15,843
Rotherhithe	Ward	11,838	13,995	15,626
Nunhead & Queen's Road	Ward	11,693	14,987	15,554
Camberwell Green	Ward	11,541	13,767	15,509
North Bermondsey	Ward	11,004	14,461	15,282
London Bridge & West Bermondsey	Ward	10,468	13,229	15,097
Peckham	Ward	11,262	14,493	14,785
Chaucer	Ward	13,762	14,266	14,732
Rye Lane	Ward	11,337	14,536	14,471
Goose Green	Ward	11,564	13,541	13,612
Newington	Ward	12,837	13,298	13,443
Surrey Docks	Ward	9,452	11,166	13,008
Faraday	Ward	13,108	13,657	12,465
Dulwich Wood	Ward	8,872	10,023	10,588
Dulwich Village	Ward	9,097	10,857	10,255
Peckham Rye	Ward	8,292	9,892	10,157
Dulwich Hill	Ward	7,912	9,171	9,592
Champion Hill	Ward	8,736	9,574	9,219
Borough & Bankside	Ward	6,819	8,577	9,013
St George's	Ward	6,298	6,364	8,456

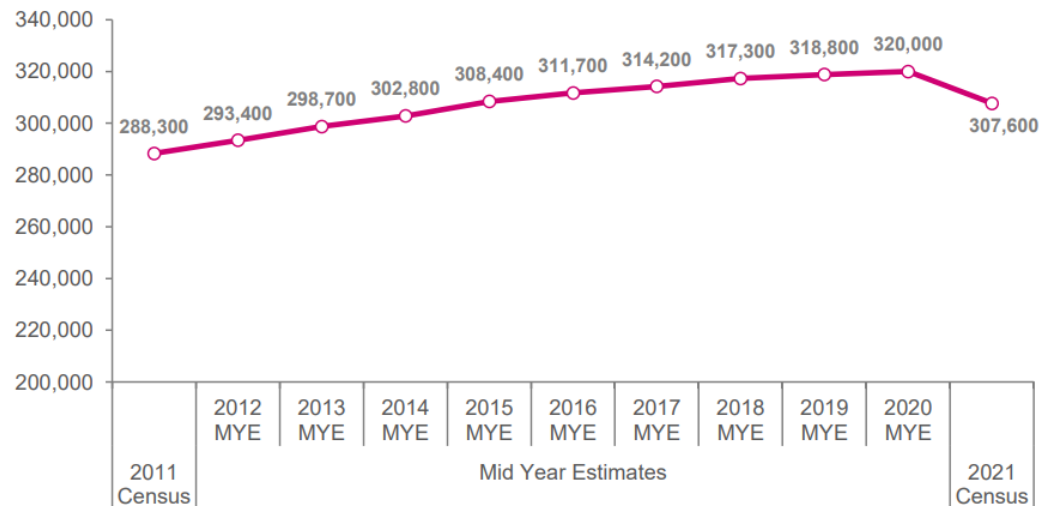
4.1.1 Population change

Between 2011 and 2021, Southwark's population grew by 7%, aligning with the growth rates for London (8%) and England (7%) in the same time period.³¹ Southwark's growth rate has been uneven between wards - the population of North Walworth increased by 3% from 2011 to 2021, whilst Faraday saw a

³¹ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/169631/Census-2021-Profile-Population.pdf

decrease of 0.91%.³⁰ In 2021, Southwark’s population had decreased by 4% (12,400 people) from a mid-year ONS estimate taken in 2020.³¹

Figure 4: Estimated resident population of Southwark by year (2022)³¹



4.1.2 Age structure

Southwark has a relatively young population. In 2021, the average age in Southwark was 32.4 years.³² This is more than two years younger than the average age in London (34.9) and seven years younger than the average age in England (39.4).³² Southwark’s 2023 JSNA provides a more detailed age breakdown of the population broken down by gender and compared to England’s population, exploring the reasons for its fairly young average age (see the 2023 Southwark JSNA p14).

Since 2011, the age group that grew the most was adults aged 55-59 years (which grew by 59%, or 6,500 people).³¹ The age group that shrunk the most was infants aged 0-4. This age group decreased by 21%, or 4,400 children, reflecting a national decline in birth rates.³¹

4.1.3 Country of birth and ethnicity

In 2021, 57% of Southwark’s residents were born in England.³³ This figure has fallen slightly from 57.9% in 2011.³³ This percentage is in-line with the London average (57.7%), but is notably lower than the England average (80.3%).³² 27% of Southwark’s residents were born outside of Europe - primarily in Nigeria, Jamaica, and Ghana.³²

³² www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/169610/Census-2021-Profile-Demography-and-Migration.pdf

³³ www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censusareachanges/E09000028

This trend differs from the 2021 London average, where the top countries of birth outside the UK and Europe were in South Asia - notably in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.³² The 13% of Southwark residents born in Europe were mostly born in Italy (5,900 residents), Spain (4,500 residents) or France (3,800).³²

Borough & Bankside had the highest percentage of residents born outside the UK (49%), and Dulwich Village had the lowest (23%).³⁰

In 2021, 51% of Southwark residents were from a White ethnic background.³³ This figure ranged from 79% of residents in Dulwich Village to 28% of residents in Peckham.³⁰ In terms of a more detailed breakdown of this category, 36% of residents identified as *'White: English, British, Welsh, Scottish or Northern Irish'*.³⁴ This proportion is similar to the London average (37%) but is much lower than the average for England (74%).³⁴ The next largest ethnic groups in Southwark were *'Black, Black British, Caribbean or African'* (25%), followed by *'Asian'* (10%) and *'mixed or multiple ethnicities'* (7%).³⁴

4.1.4 Disability and health

In 2021, 14% of children and adults in Southwark (approximately 42,000 individuals) had a disability, a similar proportion to London and England.³⁵ However, rates of disability varied between wards.³⁵ In Old Kent Road, South Bermondsey, and Nunhead and Queen's Road, 17-23% of residents had a disability, compared to 6-14% of residents in London Bridge and Dulwich Village.³⁵

In October 2022, 19% of children in Southwark had a special educational need (SEN), in comparison to 17% of children in England.³⁶ This figure has increased in Southwark from 16% in 2018, and the borough now has the 3rd highest prevalence of SEN out of 32 London boroughs, an increase from the 5th in 2017.³⁶

In 2018, it was estimated that approximately 5,800 adults in Southwark had a learning disability.³⁷ Of these 5,800 residents, the largest cohorts consisted of individuals aged 25-29 and 30-34 years.³⁷

4.2 Migration

Approximately 49,000 people moved to Southwark between 2020 and 2021.³² This figure is equivalent to 16% of the borough's total population.³² By

³⁴ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/169632/Census-2021-Profile-Ethnicity-Identity-Language-and-Religion-1-.pdf

³⁵ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/177189/Census-2021-Profile-Health-Disability-and-Unpaid-Care.pdf

³⁶ <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/138285/SEND-JSNA-final.pdf>

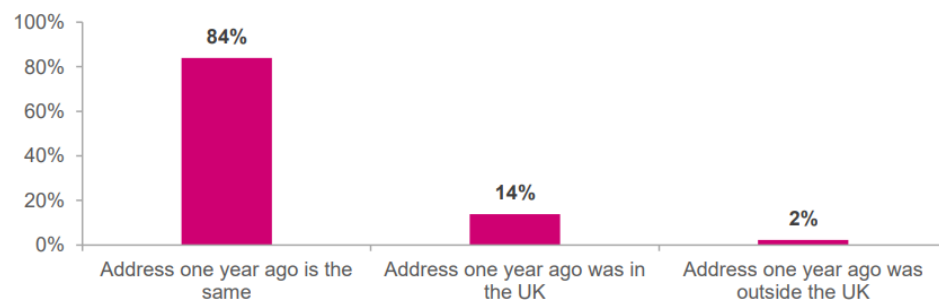
³⁷ <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/8359/JSNA-2018-Learning-Disabilities.pdf>

comparison, between 2010 and 2011, the number of people who moved to Southwark made up 9% of the borough's total population.³²

Of the 49,000 individuals who moved to Southwark between 2020 and 2021, the majority (approximately 41,600) had moved from elsewhere in England and Wales, and 6,800 people had moved to Southwark from outside the UK.³² Rates of migration vary across Southwark, with half of new residents from 2020-2021 moving into northern wards such as Borough and Bankside.³² This is likely due to the large amounts of new housing and development in these areas.³²

In 2018, 2,700 more people moved out of Southwark than moved in.³⁸ 64% of these 2,700 people moved to other parts of London.³⁸ Outward migration was the most common amongst people in their mid-30s or young children, and may reflect couples moving out of inner London to start a family.³⁸

Figure 5: Migration flows in the year prior to the 2021 Census, Southwark (2021)³⁹



The number of people seeking asylum in Southwark increased from 100 in 2019 to nearly 2,000 in 2022.⁴⁰ This is twice the number of asylum seekers hosted in Croydon, the London borough with the second highest number of asylum seekers.⁴⁰ Of the 2,000 asylum seekers living in Southwark in 2022, 984 were distributed between five initial accommodation centres (IACs) in the borough.⁴⁰ In 2022, Southwark was also hosting 403 Ukrainian refugees across 233 different households, 70% of whom were women, with an average age of 32.⁴⁰

4.3 Population projections

Population projections for the coming decade are included in the 2023 Southwark JSNA (see p7). In 2018, the largest increases in population growth were expected to be seen in redevelopment areas around Old Kent Road.³⁸

³⁸ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/7379/JSNA-Factsheet-2018-19-Demography-20180725.pdf

³⁹ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/169610/Census-2021-Profile-Demography-and-Migration.pdf

⁴⁰ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/196064/Asylum-Seeker--Refugee-Needs-Assessment_Executive-Summary_final.pptx

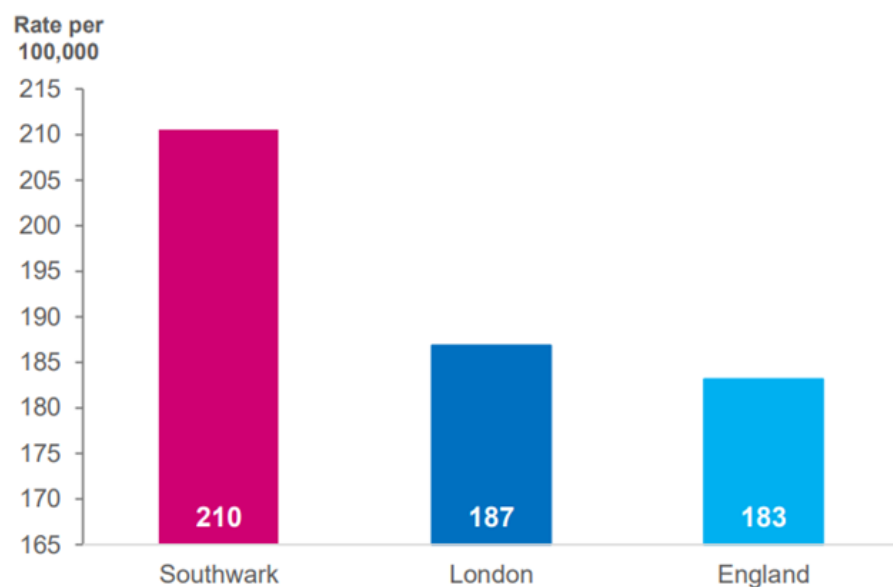
4.4 Births

For information on the number of live births in Southwark, including comparisons to London and England, and variation by wards, please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA (p32).

4.5 Deaths

For information on mortality rates in Southwark, including comparisons to London and England and variation by gender, please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA (p37). Figure 6 provides a high-level summary.

Figure 6: Age standardised mortality rate from preventable causes, per 100,000 population in Southwark (2023)⁴¹



Further data indicates that in 2023, it is estimated that heart and circulatory diseases are responsible for one in every four deaths in Southwark.⁴²

For information on infant mortality rates including changes in recent years, comparison to London, and the potential role of air pollution, please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA (p29 and p33).

Between 2018 and 2020, Southwark's child mortality rate, defined as the standardised rate of death due to all causes for persons aged 1-17 years, was

⁴¹ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/206524/JSNA-Annual-Report-2023.pdf

⁴² www.bhf.org.uk/-/media/files/health-intelligence/13/southwark-bhf-statistics.pdf

11.8 per 100,000.⁴³ This figure is higher than the child mortality rates in London (9.8) and England (10.3).⁴³ Southwark's child mortality rate has increased from 7.7 in 2015-2017.⁴³

4.6 Estimated life expectancy

Life expectancy at birth has increased steadily in Southwark, London, and England in recent decades.⁴⁴ In 2017, the life expectancy at birth in Southwark was 78.9 years for males and 84.4 years for females.⁴⁴ In 2017, male life expectancy in Southwark was lower than the London average (80.5 years) but female life expectancy was slightly higher than the London average (84.3).⁴⁵ In 2019, life expectancy improved for both sexes in Southwark – to 79.6 years for men and 84.9 years for women.⁴⁶

In 2019, improvements in life expectancy varied across Southwark. Life expectancy for both sexes was lowest in Nunhead & Queen's Road (74.1 years for men and 80.4 years for women).⁴⁴ In contrast, life expectancy was highest for both sexes in South Camberwell (86.3 years for men and 89.8 years for women).⁴⁴

4.7 Healthy life expectancy

Healthy life expectancy is the average number of years an individual spends in good health.⁴⁴ In 2020, healthy life expectancy in Southwark (63 years for men and 62 years for women) was lower than the averages for London (63.8 years for men and 65 years for women) and England (63.1 years for men and 63.9 years for women).⁴⁷ These figures put Southwark in 27th place for healthy life expectancy out of all 32 London boroughs.⁴⁸

Figure 7: Life expectancy at birth (2021) vs healthy life expectancy (2020) of men and women in Southwark (2023)⁴⁹

⁴³ www.fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/0/qid/1938133228/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/90801/age/177/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/3/cid/1/tbm/1/page-options/tre-do-0

⁴⁴ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/9260/JSNA-Factsheet-2019-Life-Expectancy-20190415.pdf

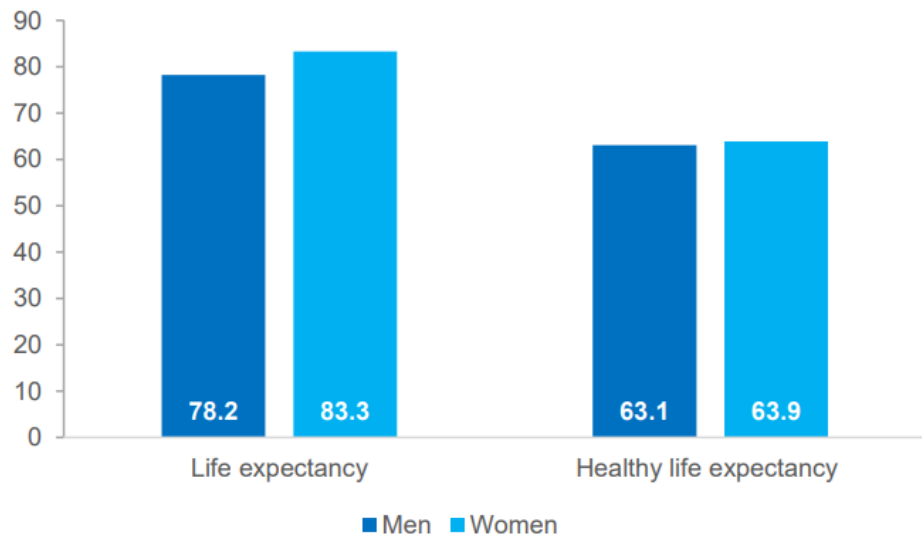
⁴⁵ www.statista.com/statistics/378883/life-expectancy-at-birth-london-by-gender

⁴⁶ www.moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s100232/Powerpoint%20-%20HWB%20monitoring%20report.pdf

⁴⁷ www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandlifeexpectancies/bulletins/healthstatalifeexpectanciesuk/2018to2020

⁴⁸ www.trustforlondon.org.uk/data/life-expectancy-borough

⁴⁹ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/206524/JSNA-Annual-Report-2023.pdf



4.8 Households

A 'household' is defined as one person living alone, or a group of people living at the same address who share cooking facilities and a living room or dining area.⁵⁰

In 2021, there were 130,800 households in Southwark, an increase of over 10,000 since 2011.⁵⁰ The average household size in Southwark in 2021 has remained the same since 2011 at 2.3 people per household, and is similar to the average household sizes for London (2.5) and England (2.4), which have also not changed since 2011.⁵⁰ The average household size ranges across Southwark, from 1.6 people in Borough & Bankside, to 3.3 people in Faraday.³² In general, larger average household sizes were seen in central and southern Southwark.³²

4.8.1 Household types

In 2021, 33% of Southwark residents were living alone.³² This figure was slightly higher than the averages for London (29%) and England (30%) in the same year.⁵¹ In Southwark, the percentage of people living alone has changed little since 2011.³² Of the 33% of Southwark households, 7% (9,500 households) consisted of an individual aged 66 or older living alone.³² The largest proportions of households consisting of older people living alone were seen in Dulwich Wood ward (18%).³² The lowest proportions were seen in the northern wards of Rotherhithe and Surrey Docks (0-5%) reflecting the presence of student accommodation and a younger population.³²

In addition, in 2021, 25% of households in Southwark contained at least one dependent child.³² This has declined from 28% (approximately 1,100 households)

⁵⁰ www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/169634/Census-2021-Profile-Housing.pdf

⁵¹ www.onlondon.co.uk/census-2021-londoners-who-live-alone-and-with-adult-children/#:~:text=Any%20perception%20that%20London%20is,average%20of%2031.9%20per%20cent.

in 2011.³² 9% of households consisted of a lone parent with at least one dependent child.³² This figure is lower than the London average (19%) for the same year.

4.8.2 Household disadvantage

Households are categorised as disadvantaged based on selected household characteristics.³² ⁵² Households were considered to be disadvantaged if they met one or more of four dimensions: employment, education, health and disability and housing quality.³²

In 2021, 51% of Southwark households were classed as disadvantaged.³² This figure is comparable with the percentage of disadvantaged households in England (51.6%) in the same year.⁵³

In 2021, 12% of all households (16,000 properties) in Southwark were overcrowded.⁵⁰ This is a decrease from 15% in 2011.⁵⁰ There was wide variation by ward:

- Peckham, Faraday, and Old Kent Road had the highest rates of overcrowding in Southwark, reported as over one-quarter of households in each of these wards.⁵⁰
- In contrast, Dulwich Village had the lowest rate, less than 6% of households.⁵⁰

In 2021, 3% of households in Southwark (4,000 households) did not have central heating in 2021.⁵⁰ This is higher than the England average of 1% in the same year.⁵⁴

⁵² For more detailed methodology on how household disadvantage is calculated, please see www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/169610/Census-2021-Profile-Demography-and-Migration.pdf, slide 20.

⁵³ www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/householdcharacteristics/homeinternetandsocialmediausage/bulletins/householdandresidentcharacteristicsenglandandwales/census2021#household-deprivation

⁵⁴ www.commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-data-central-heating-2021-census

5 Our people: Children and young people

5.1 Child population

In 2021, there were 64,675 children and young people aged up to 19 years old in Southwark – 21.1% of the total population.⁵⁵ This is a slightly lower percentage for London (23.6%)⁵⁶ or England (23.1%).⁵⁷

5.2 Looked after children

5.2.1 Number and rate

In 2022, there were 457 looked after children (LAC) in Southwark.⁵⁸ This is a rate of 79 children per 10,000 aged under 18, a higher rate than England (70 per 10,000 children under 18) and inner London (64 per 10,000 children under 18).

As shown in Figure 8, Southwark's rate of LAC has generally decreased year by year since 2014, with the exception of 2017 and 2022 (the last year of available data). This recent increase is also seen for inner London and England.

In 2022, 67.3% of LAC in Southwark had special educational needs (SEN) (including those with a SEN statement/education, health and care plan (EHCP) and without).^{58 59}

The most recent demographic information about LAC is from 2021. In that year, most of the LAC in Southwark were male (59%). The most common ethnic group was Black/Black British (45%), followed by White (20%), Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups (20%), Asian/Asian British (5%) and Other ethnic groups (4%).

⁵⁵ https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000028#section_4

⁵⁶ https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E12000007

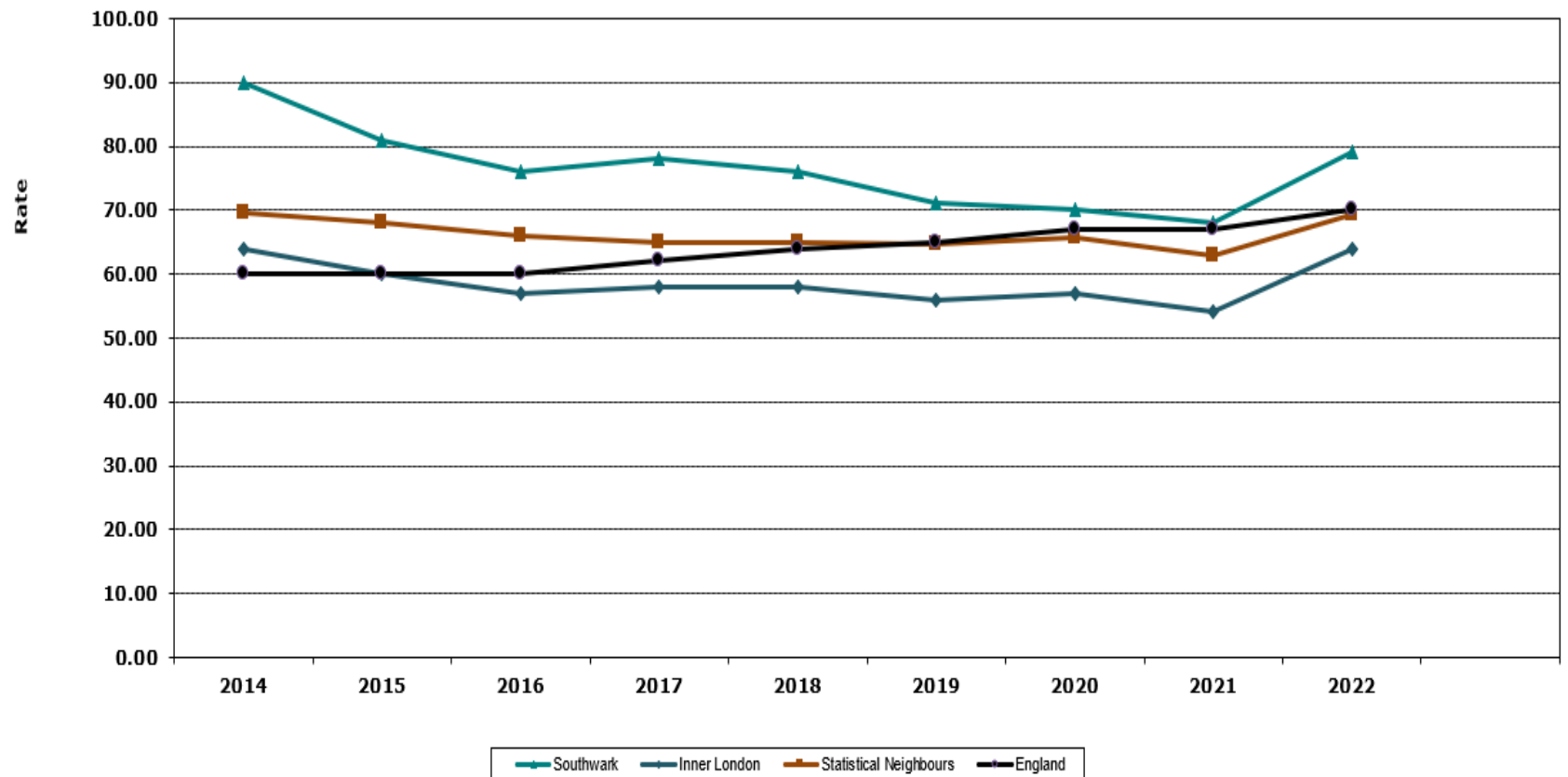
⁵⁷ https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E92000001

⁵⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-interactive-tool-lait>

⁵⁹ This percentage was calculated by combining the percentage of LAC recorded with SEN statements and the percentage of LAC recorded with SEN but without SEN statements.

Figure 8: Rate of LAC in Southwark in comparison to other areas (2023)⁵⁸

Children looked after rate, per 10,000 children aged under 18



5.2.2 Accommodation

34% of LAC in Southwark returned home in 2022 to live with parents or another person with parental responsibility.^{58 60} This is an increase of 7% from 2021.

In 2021, 77% of the LAC in Southwark were cared for by foster carers.⁶¹ 10% lived in residential accommodation, while 8% were living independently.

5.2.3 Educational outcomes

In 2022, 21.1% of LAC in Southwark were classed as persistent absentees.⁵⁸ This is slightly higher than the percentage for inner London (18.7%) and England (19.1%).⁵⁸ However, it is also a 13.9% decrease from 2021.

Southwark also had a higher percentage of LAC with at least one fixed term exclusion⁶² from school (13.4%) than for inner London (9.8%) and England (9.8%).⁵⁸ This has fluctuated in recent years – see Figure 9.

In terms of educational achievement, 21.3% of LAC in Southwark were achieving a GCSE pass rate in English and Maths in 2022.⁵⁸ This is in line with the percentage in England (22.1%), although lower than in inner London (26.8%).

There has been a decrease in the percentage of LAC in Southwark achieving this over the past two years (32.4% in 2020, 27.9% in 2021). By contrast, the change in inner London in the same period has been minimal (32.1% in 2020, 31.2% in 2021). The changes in percentages in England are less clear, with an increase between 2020 and 2021 (from 24.3% to 28.8%), before the notable decrease to the 2022 percentage.

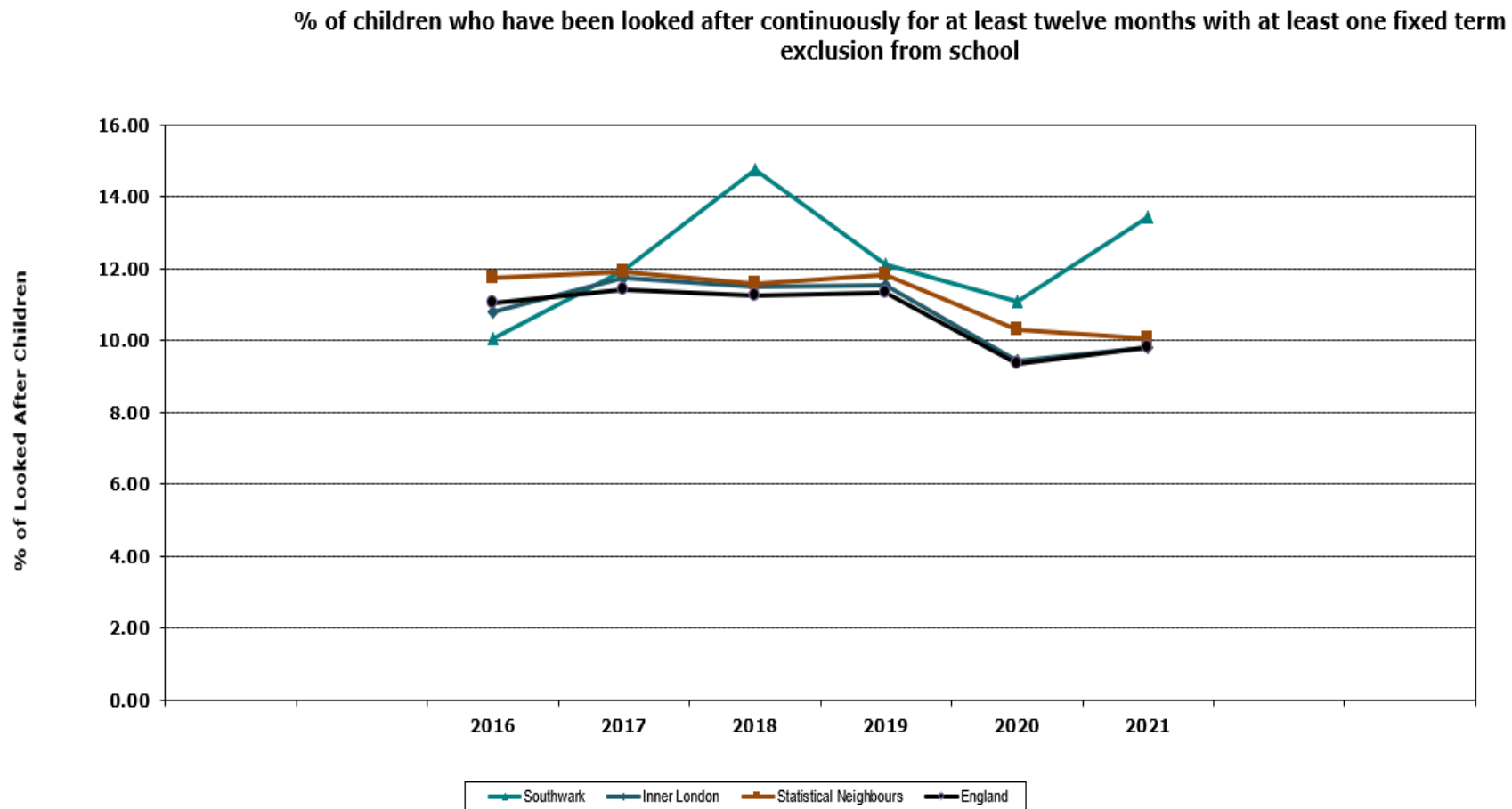
⁶⁰ This statistic is specifically for percentage of LAC returned home to live with parents or other person with parental responsibility part of the care plan. Data was not available for Southwark for those when the parent or other person with parental responsibility is not part of the care plan.

⁶¹

<https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s99637/Appendix%201%20Draft%20Corporate%20Parenting%20Strategy%202021-2024.pdf>

⁶² A fixed term exclusion refers to a pupil who is excluded from a school but remains on the register of that school because they are expected to return when the exclusion period is completed.

Figure 9: Percentage of LAC who have been excluded from school (2023)⁵⁸



5.2.4 Positive destinations

The percentage of LAC with long-term placement stability⁶³ in Southwark has increased from 70% in 2021 to 76% in 2022.⁵⁸ This is now higher than both inner London (70%) and England (71%).

9% of LAC in Southwark had three or more placements during 2022. This is in line with inner London (10%) and England (10%).⁵⁸

93% of care leavers in Southwark in 2022 were recorded to have suitable accommodation.⁵⁸ This is a higher percentage than both London (87%) and England (88%).

5.3 Child protection

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for the number of children under child protection plans (CPPs) and the common causes of these plans (p37).

In 2022, the rate of children who are the subject of CPPs in Southwark was 49.9 per 10,000.⁵⁸ This was a decrease from the previous year in Southwark (59.5) but is higher than both the rate in inner London (36.9) and England (42.1).

Of those children who were subject of CPP in Southwark in 2022, for 18.6% this was not their first CPP.⁵⁸ This is a lower percentage than for England (23.3%) and is the same as inner London.

5.4 Mental health and wellbeing

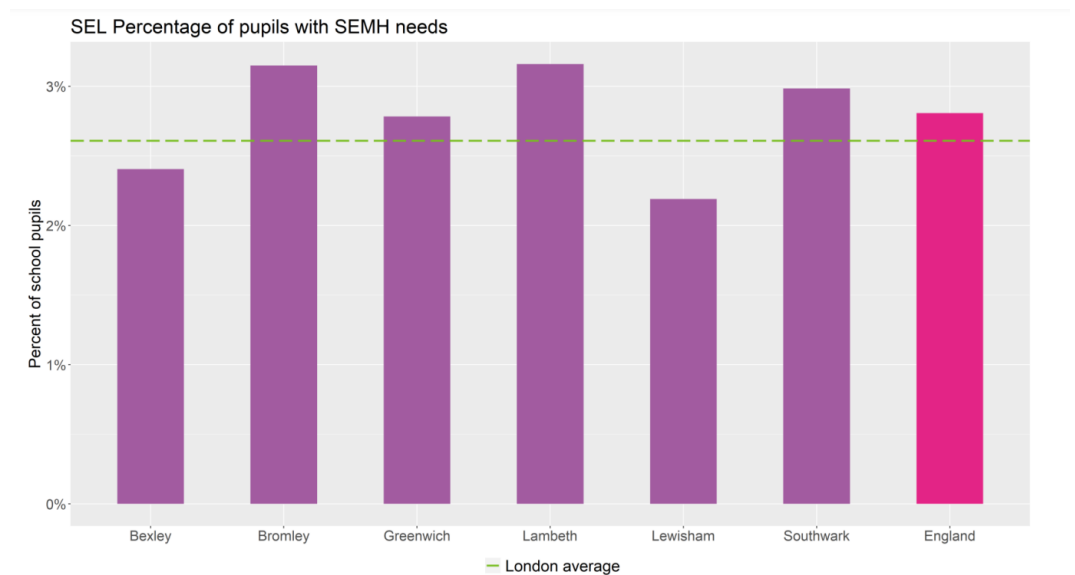
Information on the mental health of children and young people specifically in Southwark is available in the Mental Health JSNA 2017. This includes engagement for child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) and types of mental health disorders experienced. However, this information is over five years old.

According to data from 2020, around 3% of school pupils in Southwark have social, emotional and mental health needs (SEMH).⁶⁴ This is above the London average (2.6%). See Figure 10 for comparison with other boroughs in South East London.

⁶³ Defined as living in the same placement for at least two years, or placed for adoption and their adoption and their adoptive placement, together with their previous placement, last for at least two years.

⁶⁴ <https://www.transformationpartnersinhealthandcare.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Snapshot-SEL.pdf>

Figure 10: South East London boroughs' percentage of pupils with SEMH needs (2020)⁶⁴



5.5 Education

5.5.1 School and pupil numbers

In the 2022/23 academic year, there were 21,935 students in state-funded primary schools in Southwark.⁶⁵ This is similar to the average for local authorities in London (21,259).

For the September 2022 intake, Southwark Council received 2,965 secondary school applications,⁶⁶ an increase of 57 from the previous year.⁶⁷ 69.3% of families received an offer at their first preference school.

For information on the prevalence of students with support needs and comparisons between the numbers of pupils in special schools with England and London, see the Southwark 2022 SEND JSNA (p15).⁶⁸

⁶⁵ https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-area=E09000028&mod-group=AllRegions_England&mod-metric=2204&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup

⁶⁶ These are on time applications.

⁶⁷ <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/news/2022/mar/southwark-sees-the-highest-percentage-of-first-choice-of-schools-offered-since-its-records-began>

⁶⁸ <https://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/897/send-jsna-october-2022.pdf>

5.5.2 Absence

The overall absence rate in Southwark state schools in 2021/22⁶⁹ was 6.3%.⁷⁰ This is in line with London (6.6%). It is lower than the average for all English local authorities (7.5%).

5.5.3 Exclusions

In the academic year 2021/22, there were five permanent exclusions from state schools in Southwark.⁷¹ This is much fewer than the average number of exclusions in local authorities in London (17) and the number of exclusions in Southwark in the previous year (13).

The rate of permanent exclusions in Southwark in 2021/22 was 0.01 as a proportion of the overall school population that year.⁷¹ This is lower than the rates for both England (0.08) and inner London (0.03, the lowest rate compared to all other regions in England).

5.5.4 Attainment – Key Stage standards

Across Key Stages 1, 2, 4, and 5 (data was unavailable for Key Stage 3), Southwark's results in 2021/22 were similar to or compared favourably to those in London and in England.⁵⁸ Information is not available to compare attainment with the previous two years, and attainment was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, limiting comparability.⁵⁸

Key Stage 1

Southwark has similar percentages to inner London of pupils achieving the expected standard across Reading, Writing and Maths and their performance compares favourably to England as a whole.⁵⁸

Figure 11: Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard across three subjects at Key Stage 1 in 2021/22⁵⁸

Area	% of pupils achieving the expected standard		
	Reading	Writing	Maths
Southwark	71%	65%	71%
Inner London	71%	64%	71%
England	67%	58%	68%

⁶⁹ Data for 2022/23 is available but only for the autumn term. The percentage is also similar (6.6%).

⁷⁰ <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/pupil-absence-in-schools-in-england/2021-22>

⁷¹ <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/permanent-and-fixed-period-exclusions-in-england>

Key Stage 2

A similar percentage of Southwark pupils achieved the expected standard as in inner London across Reading; Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling; and Maths.⁵⁸ Again, Southwark performed better than England.

Figure 12: Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard across three areas at Key Stage 2 in 2021/22⁵⁸

Area	% of pupils achieving the expected standard		
	Reading	Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	Maths
Southwark	80%	77%	75%
Inner London	80%	78%	77%
England	75%	72%	71%

At Key Stage 2, a lower percentage of pupils who were eligible for free school meals achieved the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths (54%) than the percentage of those not eligible for free school meals (73%), a difference of 19%.⁵⁸ This is a similar percentage difference to that in England between those eligible for free school meals and those not eligible (22%).

Key Stage 4

'Attainment 8' measures the average achievement of pupils in up to eight qualifications including English, Maths, and six further qualifications.⁷²

The average Attainment 8 score per pupil in Southwark for 2021/22 was 53.6.⁵⁸ This is similar to the previous two years (55 in 2021, 53.7 in 2020). It is slightly higher than the average in inner London (52) and higher still than the average in England (47.2).

There was a 10 point difference in the average Attainment 8 score of pupils eligible for free school meals (47) and those not eligible (57). This was five points fewer than the difference between these groups in England (15), but similar to the difference between these groups in inner London (9.5).

The percentage of pupils achieving a grade five or above in both English and Maths in Southwark was 59%.⁵⁸ This has been increasing in the last few years

⁷² This measures double weights if the combined English qualification or both language and literature are taken. Maths is also double weighted. The further qualifications can be GCSE qualifications or on the DfE approved list for non-GCSE qualifications.

(53.4% in 2020, 57.4% in 2021) and is also higher than both inner London (56.6%) and England (46.8%).

Key Stage 5

The percentage of students achieving grades of AAB or better at A-level (of which at least two are in facilitating subjects)⁷³ was 23%, in line with England (23.2%).⁵⁸

Average point scores for Applied General Studies and Tech Level qualifications were also higher than those in England:⁵⁸

- The Applied General Studies average point score was 33.75 in Southwark and 31.98 in England.
- The Tech Levels average point score was 35 in Southwark and 30.56 in England.

5.5.5 Participation of young people with a disability

For information on the educational outcomes and follow-on destinations of children and young people with SEN, plus comparisons with London and the rest of England, please see the 2022 SEND JSNA (p27).⁶⁸

5.5.6 Free school meals

For information on the percentage of children eligible for and claiming free school meals in Southwark, please see the 2022 SEND JSNA (p25).⁶⁸

5.6 Early years

5.6.1 Smoking during pregnancy

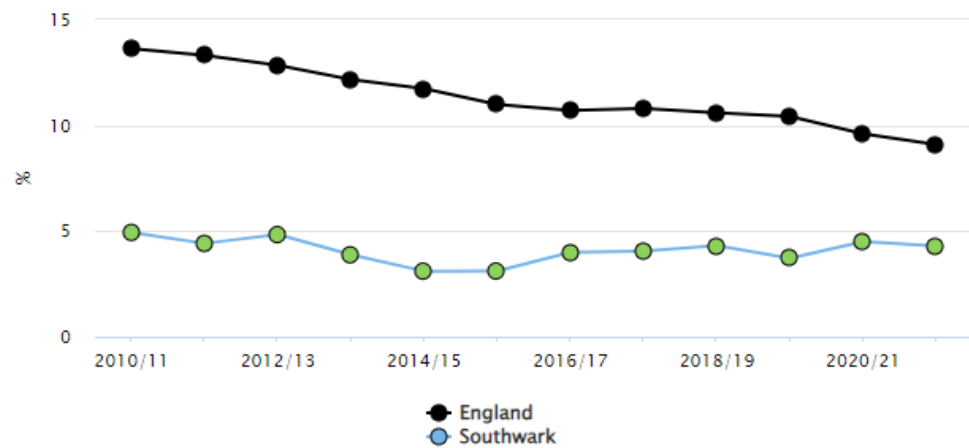
In 2021, in 4.3% of maternities in Southwark, the women were smokers.⁷⁴ This is a similar percentage to the previous year (4.5%), although it has fluctuated in the preceding years (3.7% in 2019/20, 4.3% in 2018/19, 4.0% in 2017/18).

The 2021/22 percentage is lower than the percentage in England (9.1%) and similar to the percentage in London (4.5%).⁷⁴

⁷³ These are subjects most commonly required or preferred by universities.

⁷⁴ https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/4/gid/1938133222/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/302/are/E09000028/iid/92266/age/179/sex/2/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yrr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0_tre-do-1

Figure 13: Percentage of maternities in which the woman was smoking at time of delivery. Comparison between Southwark and England from 2010/11 to 2021/22⁷⁴



5.6.2 Low birth weight

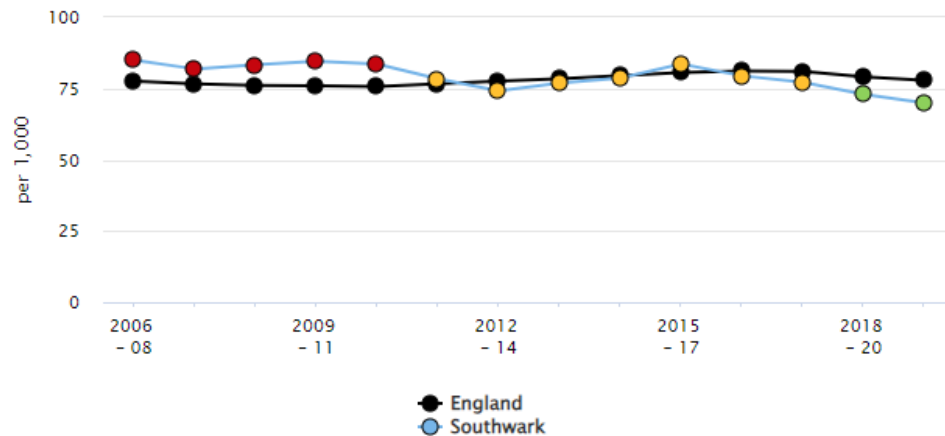
In 2021, 7.5% of all babies born in Southwark had a low birth weight.⁷⁴ This is a decrease of 0.3% from the previous year, although percentages have fluctuated slightly in recent years (7.8% in 2020, 7.6% in 2019, 7.9% in 2018, 8.0% in 2017).

Southwark's percentage of babies with a low birth weight in 2021 is similar to London (7.6%) but slightly higher than England (6.8%).⁷⁴

5.6.3 Premature births

Between 2019 and 2021, there were 778 premature births (less than 37 weeks' gestation), i.e., 69.9 per 1,000 births.⁷⁴ This is a decrease from the previous two-year period (73 per 1,000) and follows a pattern of decreases since the 2015-2017 period. The 2019/21 figure is slightly lower than London (75.2 per 1,000) and England (77.9).

Figure 14: Rate of premature births in Southwark and England from 2006 to 2021⁷⁴



5.6.4 Breastfeeding

In 2021/22 in Southwark, 2,485 children were being breastfed at the time of their 6–8-week review.⁷⁴ This was an increase from the previous year (2,305), although the statistics are limited and therefore cannot suggest a pattern.

5.6.5 Immunisation

Data on population vaccination coverage shows that:

- **Hepatitis B (one year old):** In 2021, 91.9% of all children at age 12 months whose mother had positive Hepatitis B status had received the complete course of the Hepatitis B vaccine within Southwark.⁷⁵ There was no comparison data available for London or England.
- **Dtap IPV Hib⁷⁶ (one year old):** In 2021, within Southwark 88.2% of children whose first birthday falls within the year had received three doses of DTaP IPV Hib vaccine by their first birthday. This has fallen from a peak in 2013, where coverage was at 92.2%. The coverage rate within Southwark is higher than the coverage rate for London (86.5%) but lower than the coverage rate for England (91.8%).

⁷⁵ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1/qid/1938133228/pat/6/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/92196/age/2/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/3/cid/4/tbm/1>

⁷⁶ The combined DTaP IPV Hib is the first in a course of vaccines offered to babies to protect them against diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, Haemophilus influenzae type b (an important cause of childhood meningitis and pneumonia) and polio (IPV is inactivated polio vaccine).

- **PCV (one year old):**⁷⁷ In 2019, within Southwark 90.2% of children for whom the local authority is responsible completed a course of PCV vaccine at any time by their first birthday. This has increased from a low of 86.5% in 2015. The 2021 coverage rate within Southwark was higher than the rate for London (89.1%) but lower than England (93.2%).
- **PCV booster (two years old):** In 2021, within Southwark, 76.3% of children for whom the local authority is responsible received a booster dose of PCV vaccine at any time by their second birthday. This represents a decrease from 2020, where coverage rates were 80.5% and from a peak in 2014 from 89.2%. The 2021 coverage rate for Southwark is lower than both London (80.9%) and lower than England (89.3%).
- **DTaP IPV Hib (two years old):** In 2021, within Southwark 86.7% of Children for whom the local authority is responsible received three doses of DTaP IPV Hib vaccine at any time by their second birthday. This has decreased from 90.6% in 2020 and from a peak of 94.7% in 2014. The coverage rate for Southwark was lower than both London (87.2%) and England (87.2%).
- **Hib and MenC booster (two years old):**⁷⁸ In 2021, within Southwark 83.1% of children for whom the local authority is responsible received a booster dose of Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) and Meningococcal group C (MenC) vaccine at any time by their second birthday. This represents a decrease from 2020, where coverage was 84.7%. The 2021 coverage rate for Southwark was higher than London (79.8%) but lower than England (89%).
- **MMR**⁷⁹ **for one dose (two years old):** Within Southwark in 2021, 83.4% of all children for whom the local authority is responsible received one dose of MMR on or after their first birthday and at any time up to their second birthday. This represents a decrease from 2020, when coverage was 84.1% and from a peak of 90.2% in 2014. The Southwark 2021 coverage rate is higher than the rate for London (79.9%) and lower than the rate for England (89.2%).

5.6.6 Developmental concerns at 27-30 months

In 2021/22 in Southwark, 81.4% of children who received a two-to-two-and-a-half-year review were at or above the expected level in all five 'Ages and Stages

⁷⁷ The PCV vaccine protects against pneumococcal infections that can cause pneumonia, septicaemia or meningitis.

⁷⁸ The Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) and Meningococcal group C (MenC) booster increases the protection a child gets from the first course of Hib vaccine when they are 8, 12 and 16 weeks old, and the MenC vaccine when they are 12 and 16 weeks.

⁷⁹ MMR is the combined vaccine that protects against measles, mumps and rubella. The first MMR vaccine is given to children as part of the routine vaccination schedule, usually within a month of their first birthday.

Questionnaire 3' domains.⁸⁰ This has decreased from 84.9% in 2019/20. The 2021 rate was higher than both England (81.1%) and London (79.9%). *Please note, there are limitations to this data and it should be interpreted with caution.*⁸¹

Within the same period, 68.3% of children in Southwark were achieving a good level of development at the end of reception.⁸² This was higher than both the rates for England (65.2%) and London (67.8%).

For a further breakdown of the level of development at the end of reception please see slide 34 of Data Overview of the Children and Young People Population for Southwark Youth Services.⁸³

5.7 Child health

5.7.1 Child health service usage

Figure 15 presents child health service usage for Southwark, London and England.

In terms of ward-level data, from 2019 to 2021, St Georges had the highest rate of emergency admissions in children under five years old, with a rate of 144.6 per 1,000 of the population. The lowest was Dulwich Wood, with a rate of 64.5 per 1,000 of the population.⁸⁴

⁸⁰ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1/gid/1938133223/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/93436/age/241/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

⁸¹ For this source, data are received from local authorities via an aggregate data collection which was quality assured locally before submission to OHID. It is understood that there are many local data quality issues, and variability within and between areas in how and where the questionnaires are administered and the data are collected and processed, as well as variation in interpretation of the requirements of OHID's interim data collection. In the longer term, many of these problems will be resolved when the information is drawn from NHS Digital's CSDS, a record level source. Until then, these statistics should be interpreted with extreme caution.

⁸² Children are defined as having reached a good level of development if they achieve at least the expected level in the early learning goals in the prime areas of learning (personal, social and emotional development; physical development; and communication and language) and the early learning goals in the specific areas of mathematics and literacy.

⁸³ Data Overview of the Children and Young People Population for Southwark Youth Services, Southwark Council: London, 2023.

⁸⁴ https://www.localhealth.org.uk/?view=map12&indics=t2.emer_admin_v&lang=en

Figure 15: Child health service usage in Southwark, London and England⁸⁵

Child health service usage	Southwark	London	England
A & E attendances (ages 0 to 4 years) 2021 (per 1,000 of the population aged 0 to 4 years)	960.1	854.5	762.8
Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries (ages 0 to 4 years) 2021 (per 10,000 of the population under the age of 5) ⁸⁶	77.9	82.9	103.6
Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries (ages 0 to 14 years) 2021 (per 10,000 of the population under the ages of 15)	68.6	68.2	84.3
Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries (ages 15 – 24 years) 2021 (per 10,000 of the population aged 15 to 24)	90.4	85.1	118.6
Hospital admissions for asthma (under 19 years old) 2021 (per 100,000 of the total population)	190.6	142.3	131.5
Hospital admissions for mental health conditions (under 18 years) 2021 (per 100,000 of the population aged 0 to 17 years)	87.4	75.0	99.8
Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm (ages 10 – 24 years) 2022 (per 100,000 of the population aged 10-24)	262.2	229.7	427.3

⁸⁵ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1/ati/15>

⁸⁶ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1/qid/1938133236/pat/6/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/90832/age/28/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1>

5.7.2 Healthy weight/BMI

In 2021, the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) showed the following for all children in Southwark with a valid height and weight measure in reception (aged four to five):

- **Underweight:**⁸⁷ 1% of children were classified as underweight, lower than both London (1.9%) and England (1.2%).
- **Healthy weight:**⁸⁸ 75.1% were classified as having a healthy weight, slightly lower than both London (76.2%) and England (76.5%).⁸⁹
- **Overweight:**⁹⁰ 11.7% of children in reception were classified as overweight in Southwark, slightly higher than London (11.1%) but lower than England (12.1%).
- **Obese:**⁹¹ 12.2% were classified as obese (including severe obesity), higher than both London (10.8%) and England (10.1%).

Figure 16 shows a comparison between Southwark and England for the percentage of children in reception with a healthy weight in recent decades.

⁸⁷ For population monitoring purposes children are classified as underweight if their body mass index (BMI) is less than the 2nd centile of the British 1990 growth reference (UK90) according to age and sex.

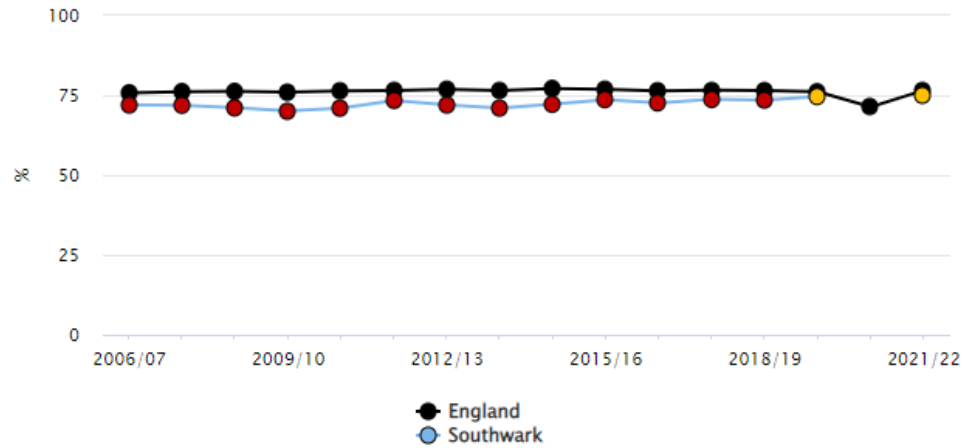
⁸⁸ For population monitoring purposes children are classified as healthy weight if their body mass index (BMI) is between the 2nd and less than the 85th centile of the British 1990 growth reference (UK90) according to age and sex.

⁸⁹ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/national-child-measurement-programme/data#page/1/gid/8000011/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/401/are/E09000028/iid/90323/age/201/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yrri/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

⁹⁰ For population monitoring purposes children are classified as overweight if their body mass index (BMI) is on or above the 85th centile, but less than the 95th centile of the British 1990 growth reference (UK90) according to age and sex.

⁹¹ For population monitoring purposes children are classified as living with obesity if their body mass index (BMI) is on or above the 95th centile of the British 1990 growth reference (UK90) according to age and sex.

Figure 16: Percentage of children aged five to six years with a valid height and weight measured by the NMCP with a BMU classified as healthy weight from 2006 to 2022⁸⁹

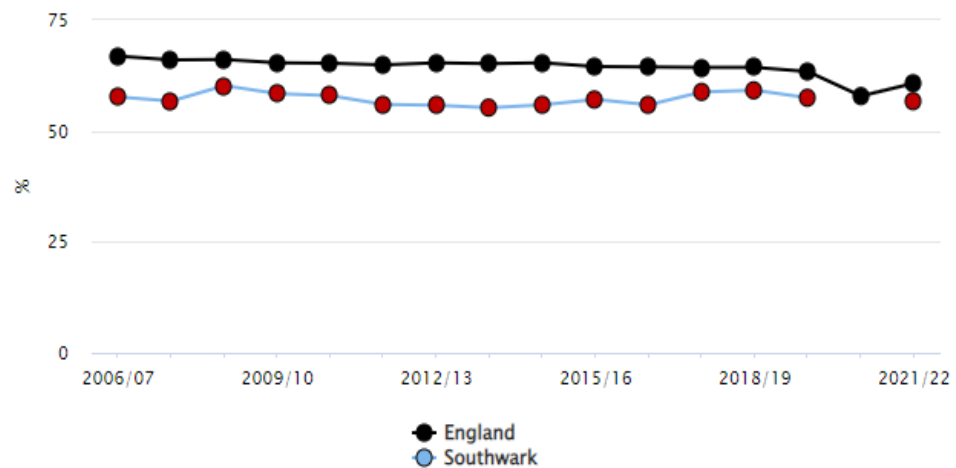


In 2021, the NCMP showed the following for all children in Southwark with a valid height and weight measure in Year 6 (aged 10 to 11):

- **Underweight:** 1% were classified as underweight, lower than both London (1.5%) and England (1.7%).
- **Healthy weight:** 56.6% were classified as having a healthy weight, slightly lower than both England (60.8%) and London (57.8%).
- **Overweight:** 15.1% were classified as overweight, higher than both London (14.7%) and England (14.3%).
- **Obese:** 27.1% were classed as being obese (including severe obesity), higher than both London (25.8%) and England (23.4%).

Figure 17 shows a comparison between Southwark and England for the percentage of children in Year 6 with a healthy weight in recent years.

Figure 17: Percentage of children aged 10-11 years with a valid height and weight measured by the NCMP with a BMI classified as healthy weight from 2006 to 2022⁸⁹



In 2021, Camberwell Green had the highest prevalence of children in reception who were classified as overweight (including living with obesity) at 32.9%.⁹² The ward with the lowest prevalence was Dulwich Village with 12.8%.

For children in Year 6, North Walworth had the highest prevalence of children who were classified as overweight (including living with obesity), with 50%. The ward with the lowest prevalence was again Dulwich Village, at 19.4%.

For further detail on healthy weight and childhood obesity in Southwark, including a breakdown of obesity and excess weight at ward level, please see Southwark's (January 2020) JSNA and slide 19 of the (2023) Data Overview of the Children and Young People Population for Southwark Youth Services.⁸³

5.7.3 Dental health

Amongst three-year-olds in Southwark in 2019, 6.6% had experience of visually obvious tooth decay. This was lower than both the rates for London (12.6%) and England (10.7%). In 2019 in Southwark each child had a mean of 0.17 decayed, missing or filled teeth (dmft).⁹³ This was lower than both the mean per child in both London (0.39) and England (0.31).

⁹² <https://www.localhealth.org.uk/#c=home>

⁹³ Mean severity of tooth decay in children aged three years based on the mean number of teeth per child sampled which were either actively decayed or had been filled or extracted decayed/missing/filled teeth.

In 2021, 16.0% of 5-year-olds in Southwark had experience of visually obvious dental decay.⁹⁴ This was lower than both the proportion in both London (25.8%) and England (23.7%). In 2018 for the same age group, in Southwark there was a mean of 0.76 dmft per child in 2018 – this was lower than both the mean for London (0.92 dmft per child) and England (0.80 dmft per child).

Across the period 2018/19 to 2020/21, there were 220 hospital admissions for dental carries (tooth decay) for children aged zero to five years.⁹⁵ This represents a rate of 304.8 per 100,000 of the zero to five population, higher than both the rates for London (280.1 per 100,000) and England (220.8 per 100,000).

5.7.4 Teenage pregnancies

In 2021, the under-18 conception rate (per 1,000 females aged 15-17) in Southwark was 12.7 per 1,000.⁹⁶ This was higher than the rate for London (9.5 per 1,000) and lower than the rate for England (13.1 per 1,000).

In 2021, the under-16 conception rate (per 1,000 females aged 13-15) in Southwark was 1.3 per 1,000. This was lower than the rates for both London (2.1 per 1,000) and England (1.5 per 1,000).

For further information regarding teenage conception rates please see slide 20 of Data Overview of the Children and Young People Population for Southwark Youth Services.⁸³

5.8 Smoking, alcohol and drug use

5.8.1 Smoking, e-cigarette, alcohol, and drug use

There was limited data regarding smoking, alcohol and drug use amongst children and young people in Southwark published within the last five years. The most recent comprehensive dataset was from the 'what about YOUTH survey 2014' for wider health behaviours amongst 15-year-olds and a separate 2015 survey about their smoking behaviours.⁹⁷

⁹⁴ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1/qid/1938133263/pat/6/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/93563/age/34/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1>

⁹⁵ Dental carries (tooth decay) and periodontal (gum) disease are the most common dental pathologies in the UK. The indicator is described in the data source as a good direct measure of dental health and an indirect, proxy measure of child health and diet.

⁹⁶ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/3/qid/1938133222/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/20401/age/173/sex/2/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1>

⁹⁷ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1/qid/1938133229/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/91491/age/44/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

5.8.2 Alcohol- and drug-related hospital admissions

In the period from 2018/19 to 2020/21, there were:

- **20 alcohol related hospital admissions** for young people aged under 18 in Southwark. This equates to 10.2 per 100,000 of the population, higher than London (14.3 per 100,000) but lower than England (29.3 per 100,000).⁹⁸
- **60 hospital admissions due to substance misuse** for those aged 15 to 24. This represented a rate of 53.9 per 100,000 of the population – lower than both London (56.5 per 100,000) and England (81.2 per 100,000).⁹⁸

5.9 Youth offending

In Southwark in 2021 there were 80 children aged 10-17 years who entered the youth justice system, which represents a rate of 3.1 per 1,000 of the population.⁹⁹ This has decreased from a peak in 2014 of 265 or 11.8 per 1,000. The 2021 rate for Southwark is higher than the rate for England (2.8 per 1,000) but lower than the rate for London (3.5 per 1,000). The decreasing trend in recent years is also seen for both London and England.¹⁰⁰

In 2021, there were 47 first time entrants to the youth justice system in Southwark,¹⁰¹ representing a rate of 184.5 per 100,000 of the 10 to 17-year-olds population by area of residence. This has fallen from a peak of 280 (1,227 per 100,000 of the 10-17 population) in 2010. The 2021 rate for Southwark is higher than both the rates for London (166.3 per 100,000) and England (148.9 per 100,000).¹⁰²

Between 2008 and 2018, in Southwark the youth reoffending rate was higher amongst males than females. It was highest amongst those from a White ethnic background, followed by those with an ethnic background classed as 'Other'. Figure 18 and Figure 19 detail the youth reoffending rate in South East London by gender and ethnicity.

⁹⁸ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1/qid/1938133225/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/yrr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

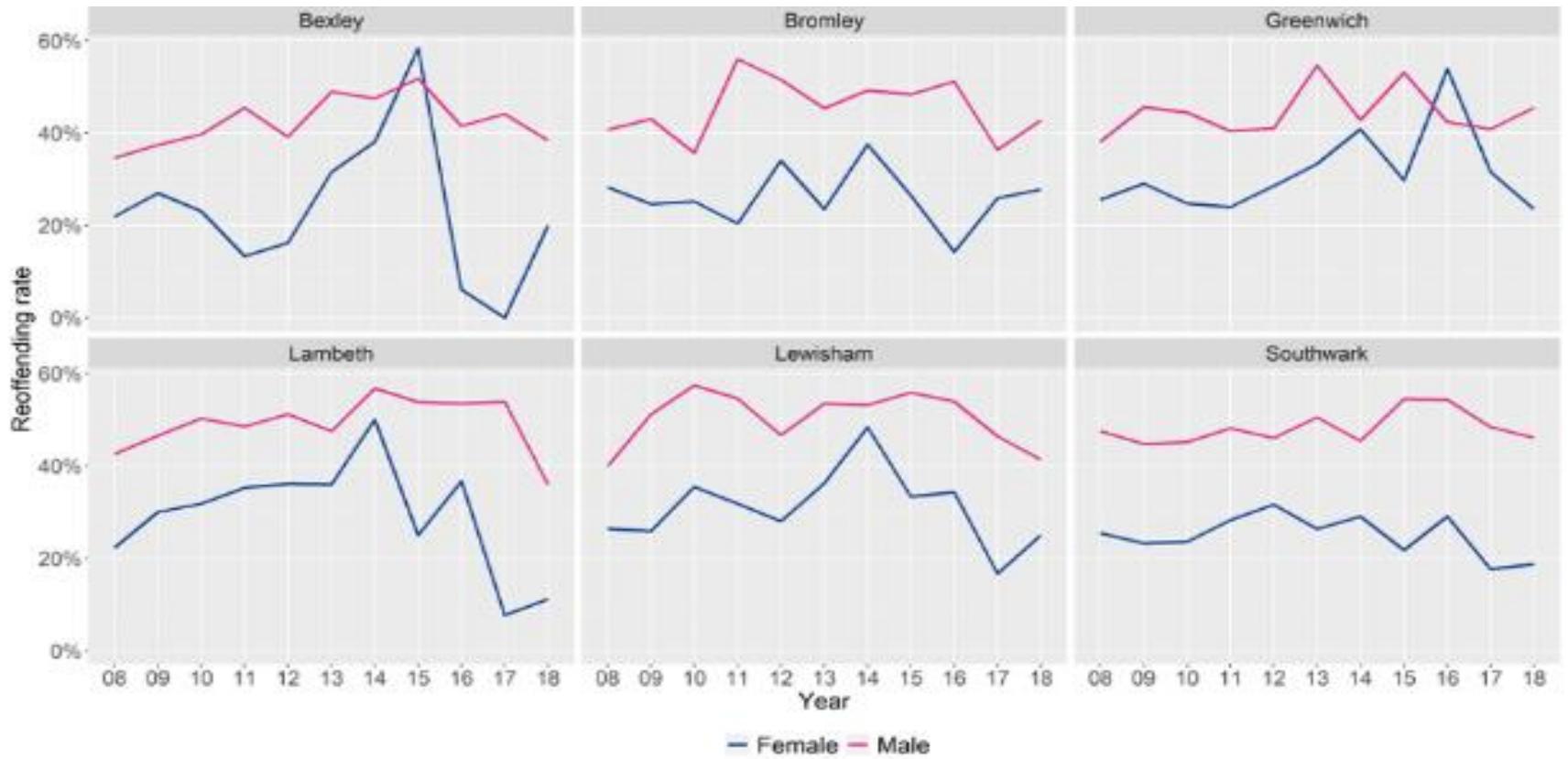
⁹⁹ Children and Young people aged 10 to 17 years cautioned or sentenced, rate per 1,000 population.

¹⁰⁰ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/4/qid/1938133238/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/10401/age/211/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yrr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

¹⁰¹ Rate of 10 to 17 year olds receiving their first reprimand, warning or conviction per 100,000 population.

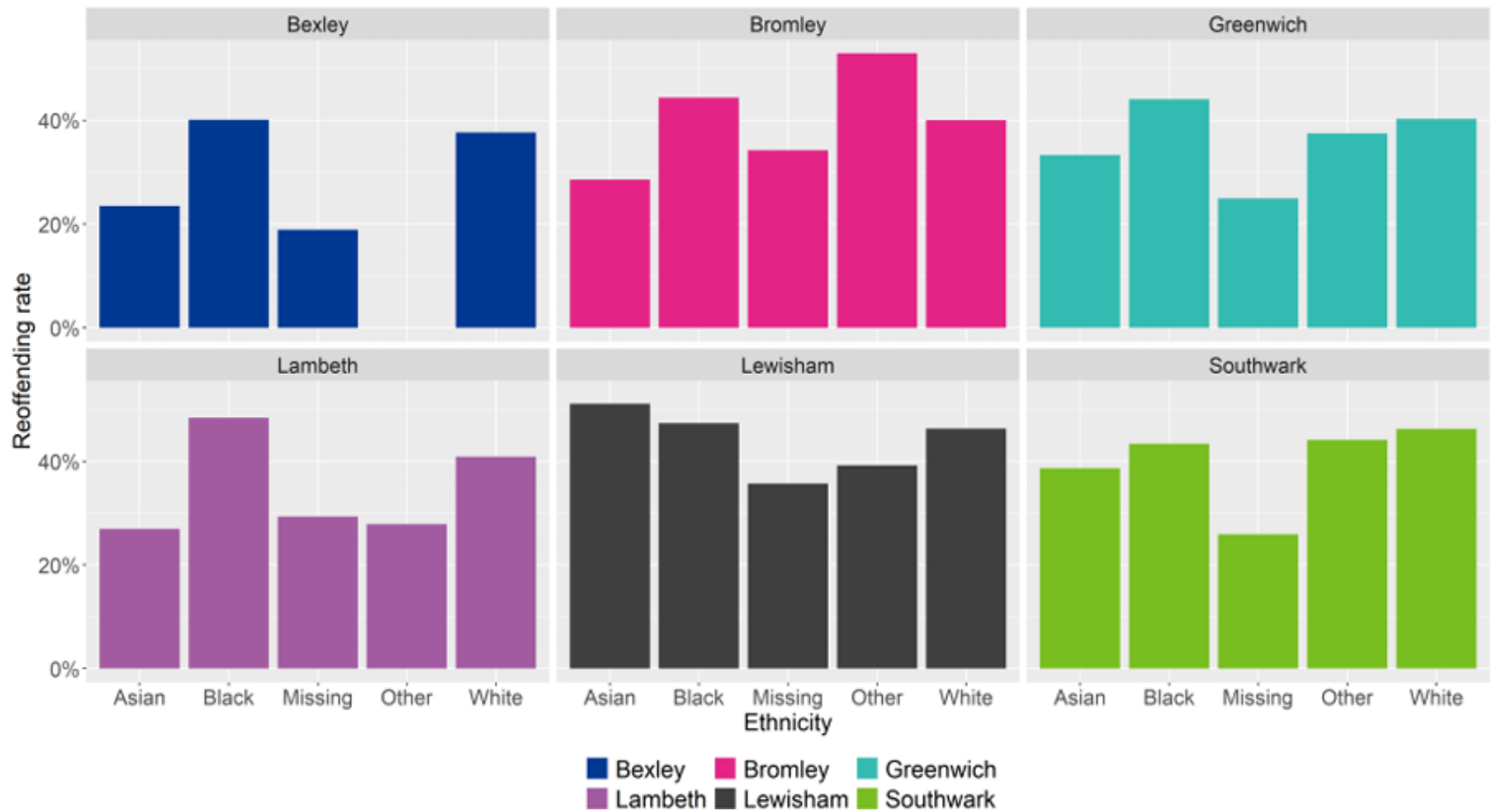
¹⁰² <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/4/qid/1938133225/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/10401/age/211/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yrr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

Figure 18: Youth reoffending rate in South East London by gender between 2008-18¹⁰³



¹⁰³ <https://www.transformationpartnersinhealthandcare.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Snapshot-SEL.pdf>

Figure 19: Juvenile reoffending rate in South East London by ethnicity between 2008-18¹⁰³



For a further breakdown of youth justice incidents within Southwark please see slide 19 of Data Overview of the Children and Young People Population for Southwark Youth Services.⁸³

6 Our people: Adults

6.1 Health behaviours

Please note, some of the areas covered in this section are also covered in the 2023 Southwark JSNA. Where specific additional data is available in the JSNA, page numbers have been noted for reference.

6.1.1 Alcohol use prevalence

In the period 2015-2018, 31.2% of adults in Southwark were drinking over 14 units of alcohol a week (the recommended limit for alcohol consumption per week).¹⁰⁴ This is notably higher than the London and England averages of 20.1% and 22.8% respectively.¹⁰⁴

Please see the 2022 Southwark JSNA for information on the proportion of adults in Southwark who are dependent drinkers, including comparisons with London and England (p27).

6.1.2 Alcohol-related hospital admissions

In the year 2021-2022, there were 1,945 hospital admissions for alcohol-specific conditions in Southwark, or 883 per 100,000 people.¹⁰⁴ This is 41% higher than the England average of 626 admissions per 100,000 people, and 50.4% higher than the London average of 587 admissions per 100,000 people.¹⁰⁴ There were 4,273 hospital admissions for conditions that were classed as broadly related to alcohol in the same period.¹⁰⁴

6.1.3 Alcohol-specific deaths

In 2021, there were 82 alcohol-related mortalities in Southwark, or 42 per 100,000 people.¹⁰⁴ This is slightly higher than the England average of 38.5 per 100,000 people, and notably higher than the London average of 32.5 per 100,000.¹⁰⁴ **Error! Bookmark not defined.** In 2020, there were approximately 1,014 potential years of life lost due to alcohol-related conditions for men in the borough, and 387 years for women in the borough.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰⁴ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/local-alcohol-profiles/data#page/1/gid/1938133118/pat/6/ati/402/are/E09000028/iid/92774/age/168/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/4/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0> Data on the levels of consumption of alcohol in Southwark has not been updated in this dataset since 2018.

6.1.4 Drug use prevalence

Data on the prevalence of problem drug use is limited. It was estimated in 2021 that there were 1,409 opiate and/or crack cocaine users not in treatment in Southwark.¹⁰⁵

6.1.5 Drug-related hospital admissions

In 2019-2020, there were 55 hospital admissions with a primary diagnosis of poisoning by drug misuse in Southwark, this equates to 17 per 100,000 population.¹⁰⁶ This is 42% higher than the London average of 12 per 100,000, but still notably lower than the England average of 31 per 100,000.¹⁰⁶ In the same period, there were 30 admissions with a primary diagnosis of drug-related mental and behavioural disorders, or nine per 100,000.¹⁰⁶ This was slightly lower than the London average of 11 per 100,000, and the England average of 13 per 100,000.¹⁰⁶

6.1.6 Drug-related deaths

In 2021, there were seven deaths registered related to drug misuse in Southwark. This is the lowest number of deaths of this kind in the borough since 2011, a 46% decrease on 2020 (13 deaths), and a 61% decrease on 2019 (18 deaths).¹⁰⁷ It is also lower than the inner London average of 10 deaths per borough in 2021.¹⁰⁷

There were nine deaths registered related to drug poisoning in 2021 in Southwark – substantially lower than previous years; 2020 (17 deaths), 2019 (26 deaths) and 2018 (24 deaths).¹⁰⁷ This number is also lower than the inner London average of 15 deaths per borough in 2021.¹⁰⁷

6.1.7 Substance Misuse Service use

In 2020, 132 people successfully completed treatment for drug misuse in Southwark.¹⁰⁸ Only one person waited more than three weeks for drug treatment – a substantially lower number than the previous two years; 2020 (eight people waited more than three weeks), and 2019 (seven people waited more than three weeks).¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁵ [Public health profiles - Area Details \(phe.org.uk\)](https://publichealthprofiles.org.uk/area-details)

¹⁰⁶ <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/statistics-on-drug-misuse/2020/drug-admissions-data-tables>

¹⁰⁷ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/drugmisuse-deathsbylocalauthority>

¹⁰⁸ [Public health profiles - Area Details \(phe.org.uk\)](https://publichealthprofiles.org.uk/area-details). Successful completion of treatment is defined by Public Health England as individuals who 'successfully complete drug treatment in a year and do not re-present to treatment within six months'.

105 people successfully completed alcohol treatment in 2020 in Southwark, and two people waited more than three weeks for treatment.¹⁰⁸ Nine people died during alcohol treatment from 2019 to 2021.¹⁰⁸

6.1.8 Smoking

It is estimated that in 2020, 15% of people aged 16 years and above in Southwark were cigarette smokers.¹⁰⁹ This is comparable with the London average of 13.9% and the England average of 14%.¹⁰⁹ 72.6% of people aged 16 years and above in Southwark had never smoked cigarettes – 10.1% higher than the London average of 62.7%, and 12.7% higher than the England average of 59.9%.¹⁰⁹

Among Southwark's population of adults in routine and manual occupations (between the ages of 18 and 64), there is a significantly higher prevalence of smoking. 26.7% of this group are current smokers – higher than both the London and England averages for this socioeconomic group (20.2% and 22.5% respectively).¹¹⁰

6.1.9 Obesity

In 2018-2019 there were 7,005 admissions to hospital with a primary or secondary diagnosis of obesity in Southwark, which equates to approximately 2,912 per 100,000 people in the borough.¹¹¹ This is markedly higher than the London and England averages of 1,418 and 1,615 per 100,000 people respectively.¹¹¹

In the same period, 150 Southwark residents had consultations for 'bariatric surgery' due to obesity.¹¹¹ 130 of these residents were women and 20 were men. This equates to 47 per 100,000 people – notably higher than the London and England averages of 18 and 13 per 100,000 people respectively.¹¹¹

6.1.10 Physical activity

In 2021-2022, 68.9% of adults in Southwark aged 19 and over were physically active (doing at least 150 minutes of physical activity per week).¹¹² This is comparable with the London and England averages of 66.8% and 67.3%

¹⁰⁹ [Cigarette smoking prevalence by local authority, England, 2020 - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandlife/bulletins/articlesandreports/cigarette-smoking-prevalence-by-local-authority-england-2020) (City of London is excluded from the London average calculation of current cigarette smokers, as data on this borough was not available).

¹¹⁰ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/data#page/1/qid/1938132701/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/302/are/E09000028/iid/93085/age/1/sex/2/cat/1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

¹¹¹ [Statistics on Obesity, Physical Activity and Diet 2020: Data tables - NHS Digital](https://www.nhs.uk/statistics-on-obesity-physical-activity-and-diet-2020)

¹¹² <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/physical-activity/data#page/1/qid/1938132899/ati/402/iid/93014/age/298/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1>

respectively.¹¹² This figure has remained quite consistent in Southwark in recent years, fluctuating around the 70% mark since 2015.¹¹²

This figure drops substantially when looking at physical activity in children and young people in the borough in the same period (aged 5 to 18 years old). In this age group, 44.5% of people are physically active (doing at least 60 minutes of activity per day across the week).¹¹² Albeit a substantially lower figure than the proportion of physically active adults, this figure is still comparable with the England average of 44.9%, and higher than the London average of 41.9% during the same period.¹¹²

6.2 Mental health

6.2.1 Dementia

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information about dementia prevalence for the borough including emergency hospital admissions, and comparative figures for London and England (p54-55).

6.2.2 Deaths from suicide

In 2021 there were 13 registered deaths by suicide in Southwark. This is lower than previous years; 2020 (23 deaths), 2019 (34 deaths), and 2018 (17 deaths).¹¹³ This figure is comparable with the London average of 16 deaths by suicide per borough, also in 2021.¹¹³

6.2.3 Social isolation

In a survey conducted in 2019, 8.8% of Southwark respondents reported feeling lonely often.¹¹⁴ This figure is comparable with the London average. This figure was 16% among those who socially rent their home in Southwark and 2% among those who owned their own home.¹¹⁴ Southwark residents from non-white ethnic groups reported feeling lonely more often than residents from white ethnic backgrounds.¹¹⁴

6.2.4 Mental health and wellbeing

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information about the prevalence of common mental disorders in Southwark residents aged 16+ and aged 64+, as well as severe mental illness and comparisons with London and England (p34).

¹¹³

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/suicidesbylocalauthority> Number of deaths by suicide in 2021 may have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns.

¹¹⁴ <https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s88179/Appendix%201%20loneliness%20strategy.pdf>

6.2.5 Life satisfaction

In the year up to March 2022, 6.5% of people in Southwark rated their life satisfaction as low, 16.4% as medium, 56.1% as high, and 21.1% as very high.¹¹⁵ These figures are broadly comparable with both the London and England averages, apart from slightly more people in Southwark rating their life satisfaction as 'low' (6.5%) compared with the London average of 4.6%, and slightly fewer people in Southwark rating their life satisfaction as 'very high' (21.1%) compared with the London and England averages of 23% and 26% respectively.¹¹⁵

6.3 Key diseases

6.3.1 Key diseases

Cancer is a leading cause of death in Southwark and accounted for around a quarter of all deaths in the borough in 2020.¹¹⁶ Cardiovascular diseases are the second largest cause of death in the borough, also accounting for around a quarter of all deaths (as of 2015).¹¹⁶ In 2021 the mortality rate for under-75s from cardiovascular diseases was 89.5 per 100,000 people in Southwark.¹¹⁷ This is markedly higher than the London and England averages of 74.3 and 76 respectively.¹¹⁷

The incidence of new Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) diagnoses (excluding chlamydia for those aged under 25) was 2,662 per 100,000 people in Southwark in 2022.¹¹⁷ This is markedly higher than both the London and England averages of 1,171 and 496 per 100,000 people respectively.¹¹⁷

6.3.2 Cancer

The mortality rate in Southwark for under-75s from cancer was 119.1 per 100,000 people in 2021 – slightly higher than the London average of 110.2 per 100,000, but lower than the England average of 121.5 per 100,000.¹¹⁷

There is more data available on the incidence of cancer registrations at NHS Trust level: https://www.cancerdata.nhs.uk/incidence_and_mortality.

¹¹⁵

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/datasets/headlineestimatesofpersonalwellbeing>

¹¹⁶ <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/public-health/health-and-wellbeing-in-southwark-jsna/health-conditions-and-health-care>

¹¹⁷ [Local Authority Health Profiles - Data - OHID \(phe.org.uk\)](https://www.localauthorityhealthprofiles.org.uk)

6.3.3 Coronary heart disease (CHD)

As of April 2023, there were 4,710 people in Southwark with a diagnosis of Coronary Heart Disease (CHD), equivalent to approximately 1.3% of people in the borough.¹¹⁸ The British Heart Foundation estimate that there are approximately 18,000 total people in Southwark living with CHD in 2023, equivalent to 5.9% of people in the borough.¹¹⁸

6.3.4 Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)

In the period 2021-2022, it was estimated that 1.2% of people in Southwark were living with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).¹¹⁹ This is slightly lower than the England average of 1.9%.¹¹⁹ There were 66 deaths from COPD in Southwark in 2021, or 48.9 per 100,000 people in the borough. This is notably higher than the London average of 34.8 deaths from COPD per 100,000 people.¹¹⁹

6.4 Hospitalisations

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information on the following, including comparison to London and England:

- Emergency hospital admissions for violence including sexual violence (p28).
- Emergency hospital admissions for children under the age of five (p37).
- Emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm (p52).
- Emergency hospital admissions for injuries due to falls among older people (p54).

6.5 Home care and care homes

6.5.1 Care

In the year 2021-2022, there were 8,900 adults in Southwark aged 65 and over accessing long term social care support, per 100,000 people in the borough.¹²⁰ This figure is higher than the London average of 6,605 per 100,000 people, but is

¹¹⁸ <https://www.bhf.org.uk/what-we-do/our-research/heart-and-circulatory-diseases-in-numbers/incidence-and-prevalence-incidence-by-local-authority>

¹¹⁹ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/inhale/data#page/3/gid/8000003/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E0900002/8/iid/253/age/1/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

¹²⁰ <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrjoiMDIhZGU4OWQtZTNmMi00MzNhLTIIYzQtNmFjZjg5MTI4YTBkIiwidCI6ImM3YzYzMTNGlyLTg1YiAtNDdmNS1iMjlyLTQ3YiQ4ZDc3NGVIMyJ9>

comparable with neighbouring borough Lewisham (9,000 per 100,000), and is slightly lower than Lambeth (9,900 per 100,000).¹²⁰

In the same period, there were 795 adults aged 18-64 years accessing long term support, per 100,000 people in the borough.¹²⁰ This is comparable with Lambeth (815 per 100,000), and slightly higher than Lewisham (690 per 100,000).¹²⁰

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information on the number of new services users supported by Adult Social Care and their most common reason for support (p53).

Data was not available on the number of people in Southwark who are receiving care in their own homes.

As of February 2023, 85.7% of care home residents in Southwark were state-funded, and 14.3% were self-funded.¹²¹ As of 2021, there were five care home beds in Southwark per 100 people aged 75+ in the borough – lower than the London and England averages of 7.1 and 9.4 per 100 people aged 75+.¹²²

6.5.2 Life in older age

In 2019 there were 10,744 older people living in poverty in Southwark – approximately 31.3% of the older population of the borough.¹²³ This is considerably higher than the England average of 14.2%.¹²³

In 2021, 50.2% of deaths in Southwark occurred in hospital, 32.8% at home, 10.2% in care homes, 4.2% in hospices and 2.5% in 'other places'.¹²⁴ These figures are comparable with the London averages across all places of death. However, 6.2% more deaths occur in hospital in Southwark than the England average (50.2% in Southwark vs. 44% in England), and 10% fewer deaths occur in care homes in Southwark than the England average (10.2% in Southwark vs. 20.2% in England).¹²⁴

¹²¹

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/socialcare/datasets/carehomesandestimatingtheselffundingpopulationengland>

¹²² <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/end-of-life/data#page/1/gid/1938133060/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

¹²³ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/end-of-life/data#page/1/gid/1938133387/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

¹²⁴ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/end-of-life/data#page/1/gid/1938132883/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/402/are/E09000028/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0>

6.6 Looking after own health and wellbeing

6.6.1 Unpaid carers

In Southwark in 2021 there were 18,820 unpaid carers.¹²⁵ 7,525 of these were male, and 11,295 were female. This is equivalent to about 7.2% of Southwark's residents being unpaid carers.¹²⁵ This is slightly below the London average of 7.8%.¹²⁵

¹²⁵

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/socialcare/datasets/unpaidcarebyagesexanddeprivationengland>

7 Our place

7.1 Our borough

7.1.1 Area

Southwark covers an area of 28.9 square kilometres and has a population of 307,700, or approximately 10,610 persons per square kilometre, as of 2021.¹²⁶ Southwark is the seventh most densely populated London local authority, with around 76 people living on each football pitch-sized area of land.¹²⁶

Within the borough, the most densely populated wards are Chaucer (19,453 people per square kilometre), Newington (18,806) and Peckham (18,499).¹²⁷ The least densely populated wards are College (3,931), Dulwich Village (4,660) and Peckham Rye (6,457).¹²⁷ For a full breakdown of the data by ward, see: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/land-area-and-population-density-ward-and-borough>. Please see the 'Demography' section for a discussion of total population per ward.

7.1.2 Neighbourhoods

Southwark is made up of 23 wards – smaller areas within the borough that each have two or three local councillors representing residents. These wards are:

- Borough & Bankside
- Camberwell Green
- Champion Hill
- Chaucer
- Dulwich Hill
- Dulwich Village
- Dulwich Wood
- Faraday
- Goose Green
- London Bridge & West Bermondsey
- Newington
- North Bermondsey
- North Walworth
- Nunhead & Queen's Road
- Old Kent Road
- Peckham
- Peckham Rye
- Rotherhithe
- Rye Lane
- South Bermondsey
- St George's
- St Giles
- Surrey Docks

¹²⁶ [Southwark population change, Census 2021 – ONS](#)

¹²⁷ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/land-area-and-population-density-ward-and-borough>

7.1.3 Priority localities

As of 2019, the most deprived ward in Southwark was Faraday.¹²⁸ The least deprived wards were Goose Green and Dulwich Village jointly.¹²⁸ For a full break down of the data by ward, see: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/indices-of-deprivation>.

7.2 Communities

7.2.1 Community involvement

In 2020-2021, Southwark Council undertook qualitative research involving resident interviews and surveys, to increase understanding of local issues. Southwark residents reported low levels of voice and influence over local decision making, particularly among people with fewer resources, and Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups. That said, some residents interviewed were involved in decision making through local Tenant and Resident Associations and communications with their local MP.¹²⁹

7.2.2 Volunteering

There is limited data on the number and demographic make-up of volunteers in Southwark. Data from Community Southwark, the umbrella body for the voluntary and community sector (VCS) in Southwark, shows that there were 1,222 registered charities as of 2015, and many more organisations of different forms, such as social enterprises.¹³⁰

7.3 Housing

7.3.1 Dwellings

In 2023, there were 147,240 properties in Southwark – an increase of 2,250 (1.6%) on the number of dwellings in 2022.¹³¹ Most properties (58.5%) are in council tax bands A-C, with 32.7% in bands D-E, and 8.8% in bands F-H.¹³¹

As of 2021, the largest proportion of properties in Southwark are social rented properties (39.7%).¹³² The second largest proportion are privately rented

¹²⁸ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/indices-of-deprivation> This dataset uses some ward names, such as 'College' that do not directly align with Southwark Council's list of 23 wards covered in 6.1.2.

¹²⁹ Southwark Council (2021). Understanding Southwark Summary report.

¹³⁰ <https://communitysouthwark.org/a-guide-to-getting-started/>

¹³¹ [Council Tax: stock of properties, 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/council-tax-stock-of-properties-2023)

properties (29%). 20.7% of properties are owned with a mortgage or loan, and 10.6% are owned by individuals outright.¹³²

7.3.2 Housing stock

As of 2022, Southwark's local authority housing stock totalled 37,683 dwellings.¹³³ This is a slight decrease from 38,183 in 2020. Since 2010, the total housing stock owned by Southwark has decreased by 6.1% - down from 40,120.¹³⁴

Of the local authority housing stock in Southwark, 9% are detached and semi-detached properties, 75% are purpose-built flats, and 13% are converted flats.¹³⁵

There were 11,304 people on the Southwark Council housing waiting list on 31st March 2022.¹³⁶ This is slightly higher than the average London borough waiting list size of 9,314, but still far lower than neighbouring boroughs Lambeth (33,640) and Tower Hamlets (21,840).¹³⁶ 3,142 people in Southwark were living in insanitary or overcrowded local authority housing in March 2022.¹³⁶ This is comparable with the London borough average of 3,306, and far lower than neighbouring boroughs Lambeth (15,205) and Tower Hamlets (9,374).¹³⁶

In the financial year 2021-2022, 120 local authority owned properties in Southwark were sold under the Right to Buy.¹³³

7.3.3 Supply of new housing

In the financial year 2021-2022, 1,390 new dwellings were completed in Southwark, and the building process was started for 900 new dwellings.¹³⁷ The data did not show how many of these dwellings were privately funded vs local authority funded.

¹³²

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/bulletins/housingenglandandwales/census2021#tenure>

¹³³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/local-authority-housing-statistics-data-returns-for-2021-to-2022>

¹³⁴ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/local-authority-housing-stock>

¹³⁵ https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/2699/5_SE_SHMA_Chapter_3_The_dwelling_stock.pdf

¹³⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/local-authority-housing-statistics-data-returns-for-2021-to-2022> waiting list sizes have not been adjusted for borough population sizes.

¹³⁷

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/datasets/housebuildingukpermanentdwellingsstartedandcompletedbylocalauthority>

7.3.4 Supported housing

As of 2022, there were 2,849 units of supported housing/housing for older people in Southwark, the majority being one-bedroomed flats.¹³⁸ Of these units, 23.6% were owned by local authority registered providers and 76.4% were owned by private registered providers.¹³⁸ The average weekly social rent for a supported housing unit in Southwark was £106.19 – comparable with the London average of £108.29.¹³⁸

7.3.5 Private rental sector

In the financial year ending March 2023, the average monthly rent in the private rental sector in Southwark was:

- £1,500 for a one-bedroomed property.
- £1,850 for a two-bedroomed property.
- £2,300 for a three-bedroomed property.
- £3,275 for a four or more bedroomed property.¹³⁹

The average rent across all categories (including studios and single rooms) was £1,800 in March 2023, an increase of 12.5% on the year 2021 where average monthly rent across the same categories was £1,600, and an increase of 18.7% on the 2018 average of £1,517 per month.¹⁴⁰

7.3.6 House sales

In 2022, the average purchase price for a residential property in Southwark was £545,000 – a slight decrease from £550,000 in 2021.¹⁴¹ The average property price peaked in the year ending March 2019, at £574,165.¹⁴¹ The number of

¹³⁸ [Registered provider social housing stock and rents in England 2021 to 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/registered-provider-social-housing-stock-and-rents-in-england-2021-to-2022)

¹³⁹ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/bulletins/privaterentalmarketsummarystatistics/nengland/april2022tomarch2023>

¹⁴⁰ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/bulletins/privaterentalmarketsummarystatistics/nengland/april2022tomarch2023>;
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/bulletins/privaterentalmarketsummarystatistics/nengland/april2021tomarch2022>;
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/bulletins/privaterentalmarketsummarystatistics/nengland/october2018toseptember2019>

¹⁴¹ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/datasets/medianhousepriceforationalandsubnationalgeographiesquarterlyrollingyearhpssadataset09>

properties sold in the borough decreased by 20.3% from 3,386 in 2021 to 2,699 in 2022.¹⁴²

7.4 Crime

7.4.1 Crimes and offences

The total number of crimes committed in the borough in the 12 months ending July 2023 was 40,356, a 5.8% increase on the number of crimes committed in the previous 12 months (38,157).¹⁴³ This equates to 126 crimes per 1,000 population, in the year ending July 2023.¹⁴³ This is notably higher (12.6% higher) than the London average of 112 crimes per 1,000 population.¹⁴³

In the year ending July 2023, the most common crimes and offences recorded in Southwark (excluding the 'other accepted crime' category) were:

- Theft (including theft from person, shoplifting, bicycle theft and other theft) (13,605).
- Violence against the person (including violence without injury, violence with injury, and homicide) (8,647).
- Burglary (including domestic burglary and burglary of business and community) (2,616).¹⁴³

The number of crimes varies across wards in the borough. In the 12 months ending July 2023, the highest number of crimes were committed in Borough & Bankside (3,802) and London Bridge & West Bermondsey (3,904).¹⁴³ The wards with the lowest number of crimes were Dulwich Hill (507), and Peckham Rye (606).¹⁴³ For a full break down of the data by ward, see:

https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/recorded_crime_summary.

7.4.2 Domestic abuse

In the 12 months to August 2022, there were 4,929 recorded incidents of domestic abuse in Southwark – a slight decrease from 5,062 in the 12 months to August 2021.¹⁴⁴ This equates to 16 recorded incidents of domestic abuse per 1,000 residents in the 12 months to August 2022.¹⁴⁴

The wards with the highest number of recorded incidents were Old Kent Road (386) and Peckham (328).¹⁴⁴ The wards with the lowest number of recorded

¹⁴²

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/datasets/numberofresidentialpropertysalesforationalandsubnationalgeographiesquarterlyrollingyearhpssadataset06>

¹⁴³ [Recorded Crime: Geographic Breakdown - London Datastore](#)

¹⁴⁴ <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/mayors-office-policing-and-crime/data-and-statistics/domestic-and-sexual-violence-dashboard>

incidents were Dulwich Village (57) and Dulwich Hill (71).¹⁴⁴ For a full break down of the data by ward, see: <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/mayors-office-policing-and-crime/data-and-statistics/domestic-and-sexual-violence-dashboard>.

7.4.3 Anti-social behaviour

In the 12 months ending March 2023, there were 9,069 recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour in Southwark – a decrease of 21% on the number of incidents in the 12 months ending March 2022 (11,428).¹⁴⁵ These incidents fall into three categories: nuisance (7,949), personal (839), and environmental (281).¹⁴⁵

7.5 Criminal justice and social work

Borough or ward-level data was not available on first convictions, reconvictions, police disposals, diversion from prosecution, community payback orders, bail supervision orders, or custodial sentences.

7.6 Safety

7.6.1 Dwelling fires

In 2022, there were 221 dwelling fires in Southwark, a 7.9% decrease on the number of dwelling fires in the borough in 2021 (240), and the lowest number of dwelling fires in at least the last 11 years.¹⁴⁶ There were 19 injuries resulting from dwelling fires in 2022 in the Southwark, down from 33 in 2021.¹⁴⁶ There were no fatalities from dwelling fires in Southwark in 2022.¹⁴⁶

7.6.2 Road safety

In 2018, there were 1,289 road collisions in Southwark involving fatal, serious, or slight injuries.¹⁴⁷ There were 1,100 slight injuries, 187 serious injuries, and two fatalities resulting from road collisions in the borough in 2018.¹⁴⁷

¹⁴⁵

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/recordedcrimedatabycommunitysafetypartnershiparea>

¹⁴⁶ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/lfb-fires-in-london-1966-2019---fire-facts>

¹⁴⁷ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/road-casualties-severity-borough>

7.7 Climate change

7.7.1 CO2 emissions

In 2020, CO2 emissions in Southwark totalled 782 kilotons (down from 1,502kt in 2010).¹⁴⁸ Of this, 296kt is attributed to domestic use, 324kt to industrial and commercial use, 145kt to transport, and 17kt to non-road mobile machinery.¹⁴⁸ The London average for CO2 emissions per borough in 2020 was 777kt (excluding unapportioned emissions), putting Southwark's emissions close to the average across London.¹⁴⁸

Southwark currently has a net zero target of 2030.¹⁴⁹

7.8 Environment

7.8.1 Green space

Green space is important for the health and wellbeing of residents, as well as for environmental and economic reasons. Southwark has 78 green spaces in total that are available to the public, including parks, churchyards/cemeteries, nature reserves, playing fields and public woodlands.¹⁵⁰ 37.7% of Southwark is covered by green space.¹⁵⁰ This is lower than the London borough average of 43.6%.¹⁵⁰ However, when looking at the inner London boroughs only, Southwark is slightly higher than the average of 33.1%.¹⁵⁰

Green spaces are not spread evenly throughout the wards in Southwark. The wards with the highest percentage of green space coverage are Dulwich Wood (70.7%), Peckham Rye (65.5%), and Dulwich Village (62.5%).¹⁵¹ The wards with the lowest green space coverage are Borough & Bankside (9.4%), London Bridge and West Bermondsey (14.8%), and Old Kent Road (20.3%).¹⁵¹ For a full breakdown of the data by ward, see: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/green-and-blue-cover>.

7.8.2 Natural heritage

Southwark's parks and open spaces are home to various wildlife. As of 2021, Southwark has 65 sites of importance for nature conservation, including seven local nature reserves.¹⁵² In 2021, Southwark Council reviewed the way they

¹⁴⁸ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/leggi>; <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/leggi>

¹⁴⁹ <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/environment/climate-emergency/our-work/annual-report-2023?chapter=3>

¹⁵⁰ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/spaces-to-visit>

¹⁵¹ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/green-and-blue-cover>

¹⁵² <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/parks-and-open-spaces/ecology>

maintain grassed areas, which resulted in less grass mowing, more wildflowers and increased diversity of wildlife in these areas.¹⁵²

7.8.3 Household waste

In 2021-2022, 36% of collected household waste in Southwark was recycled or composted – 3% higher than the previous year.¹⁵³ Total household waste collection figures are available on a London-wide level at: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/local-authority-collected-waste-management-london>. This data is not currently available at borough level.

7.8.4 Active travel

The 2022 Active Lives Survey showed that:

- 79.5% of Southwark’s residents walk or cycle for any purpose at least once per month.¹⁵⁴
- 75.5% walk or cycle at least once per week.¹⁵⁴
- 56.2% walk or cycle at least three times per week.¹⁵⁴
- 45.9% walk or cycle at least five times per week. This is a 4.7% improvement on 2021, when 41.2% of Southwark’s residents walked or cycled at least five times per week.¹⁵⁴

Across all frequency measurements (once per month, once per week, three times per week, five times per week), Southwark’s residents are more active than the England average. Particularly notable is the percentage of Southwark’s residents who walk or cycle at least five times per week, which is 11.7% higher than the England average (45.9% and 34.2% respectively).¹⁵⁴

7.8.5 Air pollution

Please see the 2023 Southwark JSNA for information about the largest sources of air pollution in Southwark and the effect of air pollution on mortality, including comparisons with London and England (p29).

For more granular data including the air quality index values of Southwark’s six air quality monitoring sites, see: https://www.erg.ic.ac.uk/weeklysitereport/WSRSelect.asp?la_id=28

¹⁵³ <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/household-waste-recycling-rates-borough>

¹⁵⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/walking-and-cycling-statistics-cw>

7.8.6 Electric vehicles

As of July 2023, Southwark has a total of 1,756 electric vehicle charging devices, 25 of which are rapid charging devices.¹⁵⁵ This is equivalent to approximately 563 charging devices per 100,000 people in the borough – significantly higher than neighbouring boroughs Lambeth, Lewisham and Tower Hamlets (with 102, 76 and 112 per 100,000 people respectively).¹⁵⁵

¹⁵⁵ <https://maps.dft.gov.uk/ev-charging-map/index.html>



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