

## **Benefit claimants by London borough**

### **Background**

Benefits data provide a useful insight into social exclusion in London by providing proxy measures for unemployment, relative poverty, disability and ill health. Data can also be used to analyse groups who are particularly vulnerable to poverty and exclusion (i.e. children, pensioners, disabled people and lone parent families). This Update presents summary data for the London boroughs. The Social Exclusion Team will be publishing more detailed briefings on each individual benefit, starting with Income Support statistics in July 2005.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have produced statistics at a ward level up to 2003. Figures for 2004 have been produced at a SOA level, however, disclosure control has meant that all data are rounded to five or zero – even at Local Authority and Regional level.

The Inland Revenue produce statistics on Child and Working Tax Credits, which replaced Working Families' Tax Credit, Disabled Person's Tax Credit and Children's Tax Credit in April 2003. They are only available at Local Authority District level and above.

### **Key points**

- Nearly 14 per cent of Hackney's working age population are on income support – this is well over twice the rate for England and Wales.
- Half of those aged over 60 in Tower Hamlets claim pension credits. In Inner London, a third of those aged 60 plus are claiming compared to 21 per cent for England and Wales. Tower Hamlets also has the highest rate for those claiming Job Seekers Allowance – three times the rate of England and Wales.
- Barking and Dagenham has the highest claimant rates in London for both Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance, although the rates for London as a whole are lower than England and Wales.
- The claimant rates for Child and Working Tax Credits are generally higher in Outer London boroughs compared to those in Inner London. Bexley and Havering have the highest rates but these are still lower than the rate for England and Wales as a whole (57.4 per cent) – which is over 16 percentage points higher than the rate for Greater London.

### **Further information:**

If you would like further information about Benefit statistics, please contact Lovedeep Vaid in the Data Management and Analysis Group on 0207 983 4699 or by e-mail:

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### Number of benefit claimants and rates, by benefit type, August 2004

Area	Income Support		Pension Credits		Job seekers allowance	
	Number of claimants	Claimant rate: working age	Number of claimants	Claimant rate: 60+	All Income Based JSA Claimants	Claimant rate: working age
Barking and Dagenham	11,205	10.9	8,080	28.2	2,745	2.7
Barnet	12,110	5.7	10,545	18.1	3,695	1.8
Bexley	6,500	4.8	6,900	15.1	1,800	1.3
Brent	15,020	8.5	11,155	26.8	5,755	3.2
Bromley	8,520	4.6	8,645	13.4	2,395	1.3
Camden	14,065	9.1	8,330	29.8	4,445	2.9
Croydon	14,440	6.7	10,530	18.4	3,900	1.8
Ealing	13,825	6.7	10,945	23.8	4,220	2.0
Enfield	14,920	8.3	10,770	21.6	4,585	2.6
Greenwich	14,360	9.7	9,000	25.4	4,250	2.9
Hackney	19,310	13.8	10,415	41.8	6,290	4.5
Hammersmith and Fulham	9,930	7.9	6,235	27.1	3,225	2.6
Haringey	17,155	11.0	9,435	33.2	6,410	4.1
Harrow	6,825	5.1	7,350	18.5	2,030	1.5
Havering	6,665	4.9	8,890	17.3	1,425	1.1
Hillingdon	9,190	5.8	7,380	16.7	2,270	1.4
Hounslow	9,820	6.9	7,715	24.1	2,085	1.5
Islington	15,840	12.2	8,750	37.4	4,995	3.8
Kensington and Chelsea	7,185	5.6	5,380	19.1	2,050	1.6
Kingston upon Thames	3,340	3.3	3,690	14.7	1,085	1.1
Lambeth	18,585	9.8	10,675	33.9	7,480	3.9
Lewisham	15,395	9.3	9,985	28.9	5,870	3.5
Merton	5,490	4.3	5,510	17.8	1,925	1.5
Newham	18,885	11.5	11,485	40.3	5,930	3.6
Redbridge	9,340	6.0	8,835	20.5	2,655	1.7
Richmond upon Thames	3,710	3.0	4,195	13.8	1,035	0.8
Southwark	17,925	10.3	10,750	32.2	7,430	4.3
Sutton	4,920	4.3	5,405	16.0	1,220	1.1
Tower Hamlets	15,870	11.1	11,350	49.3	6,755	4.7
Waltham Forest	12,460	8.5	9,545	29.1	4,630	3.2
Wandsworth	10,920	5.4	9,470	26.6	3,880	1.9
Westminster	11,150	6.5	7,685	23.1	2,975	1.7
Inner London	192,405	9.4	120,100	32.0	67,855	3.3
Outer London	182,665	6.3	155,085	19.6	53,705	1.9
Greater London	375,070	7.6	275,180	23.6	121,560	2.5
England and Wales	1,946,020	5.9	2,334,895	20.9	503,010	1.5

Source: Information Centre (Information and Analysis Directorate), DWP  
2003 based population projections for 2004, GAD

### Number of benefit claimants and rates, by benefit type, August 2004

Area	Incapacity benefits and severe disability allowance		Attendance Allowance		Disability Living Allowance	
	Number of claimants	Claimant rate: working age	Number of claimants	Claimant rate: 65+	Number of claimants	Claimant rate: all
Barking and Dagenham	8,930	8.7	4,485	19.8	8,815	5.3
Barnet	10,325	4.9	5,750	12.7	8,945	2.7
Bexley	6,480	4.8	4,255	12.0	7,035	3.2
Brent	13,230	7.5	3,365	10.8	9,345	3.5
Bromley	8,160	4.4	5,265	10.5	7,715	2.6
Camden	12,355	8.0	2,920	13.9	8,460	4.0
Croydon	11,430	5.3	4,405	10.2	10,305	3.0
Ealing	13,175	6.4	4,145	11.9	10,520	3.5
Enfield	12,230	6.8	5,320	14.0	9,380	3.3
Greenwich	10,825	7.3	3,695	13.5	9,995	4.4
Hackney	14,375	10.3	3,260	17.3	9,560	4.6
Hammersmith and Fulham	8,360	6.6	1,855	10.7	6,020	3.4
Haringey	12,615	8.1	2,865	13.6	8,785	3.9
Harrow	6,920	5.1	3,860	12.7	6,435	3.0
Havering	7,890	5.8	5,565	13.9	8,080	3.6
Hillingdon	8,410	5.3	3,990	11.7	7,785	3.1
Hounslow	9,030	6.3	2,595	10.8	7,875	3.7
Islington	12,685	9.8	2,780	16.0	9,075	5.0
Kensington and Chelsea	6,600	5.1	1,670	8.1	4,165	2.3
Kingston upon Thames	3,420	3.3	2,040	10.6	2,885	1.9
Lambeth	14,055	7.4	2,660	11.2	9,385	3.5
Lewisham	11,900	7.2	3,470	13.1	9,810	4.0
Merton	4,950	3.8	2,310	9.7	4,545	2.4
Newham	14,070	8.5	3,995	18.6	12,165	4.8
Redbridge	9,305	6.0	5,035	15.3	8,565	3.5
Richmond upon Thames	3,915	3.2	2,295	10.0	3,475	1.9
Southwark	13,245	7.6	3,105	12.1	9,930	3.9
Sutton	5,055	4.5	2,915	11.2	5,055	2.8
Tower Hamlets	12,380	8.6	3,115	17.7	8,795	4.2
Waltham Forest	10,300	7.0	4,040	16.4	8,835	4.0
Wandsworth	9,670	4.8	3,120	11.4	8,175	3.0
Westminster	10,455	6.1	2,565	10.3	7,075	3.1
Inner London	152,765	7.5	37,495	13.2	111,550	3.8
Outer London	163,980	5.7	75,330	12.4	145,590	3.2
Greater London	316,960	6.4	112,830	12.7	257,135	3.5
England and Wales	2,421,940	7.4	1,244,470	14.6	2,341,615	4.4

Source: Information Centre (Information and Analysis Directorate), DWP  
2003 based population projections for 2004, GAD

## Number of benefit claimants and rates, 2003-2004

Area	Child and Working Tax Credits	
	Number of claimants: families (with children)	Claimant rate: families with dependent children
Barking and Dagenham	10,800	47.5
Barnet	13,100	33.5
Bexley	15,700	56.3
Brent	13,500	41.1
Bromley	15,600	42.6
Camden	5,100	26.1
Croydon	20,400	45.7
Ealing	14,300	39.2
Enfield	15,400	42.9
Greenwich	12,500	45.1
Hackney	9,200	36.0
Hammersmith and Fulham	4,300	26.7
Haringey	9,400	35.3
Harrow	11,700	44.8
Havering	14,900	54.9
Hillingdon	15,300	49.7
Hounslow	12,200	45.7
Islington	6,000	31.0
Kensington and Chelsea	2,400	16.0
Kingston upon Thames	6,900	39.7
Lambeth	12,000	38.9
Lewisham	13,700	42.2
Merton	9,300	41.4
Newham	14,300	41.7
Redbridge	13,400	43.7
Richmond upon Thames	5,300	26.4
Southwark	11,400	38.5
Sutton	11,600	50.8
Tower Hamlets	8,200	37.2
Waltham Forest	13,300	47.6
Wandsworth	8,400	32.8
Westminster	4,500	28.8
Inner London	108,900	34.8
Outer London	245,100	44.1
Greater London	354,000	40.8
England and Wales	3,662,000	57.4

Source: *Inland Revenue, 2003-04*

*Population: Families with dependent children, 2001 Census, ONS*

Notes: Westminster and the City of London are combined.

Families without children can only claim WTC – these have been excluded.