

Deprivation in London

The Indices of Deprivation 2007 from Communities and Local Government

Key points

- Twenty of the London boroughs rank among the 50 most deprived local authorities in England on at least one summary measure of the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007. Tower Hamlets and Hackney rank the highest among London boroughs, although Islington, Lambeth and Newham also rank among the top 10 on at least one measure.
- London has a very high proportion of small areas among the 20 per cent most deprived in the country, with 28 per cent falling into this range.
- London has an extremely high proportion of areas among the those ranked highest on the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index with 24 per cent of London areas counted among the top 10 per cent in England, up from 20 per cent in the 2004 Index.
- London has relatively few areas among the most deprived in the country in terms of education, skills and training deprivation, at less than one per cent among the top 10 per cent in the country.
- In terms of Barriers to Housing and Services, London fares very badly, with more than half of London areas in the worst 20 per cent in England.

Introduction

This *Update* presents an initial summary of the Indices of Deprivation 2007 from Communities and Local Government published on 6 December 2007, as they relate to London.

The Indices of Deprivation 2007

The Indices of Deprivation 2007 (ID 2007) consist of three separate but related indices used by central government and other bodies to identify areas where disadvantage is concentrated, in order to build programmes or allocate resources appropriately. The indices use statistical techniques to combine information on economic and social issues to produce scores for small areas across the whole of England. These are then used to rank these small areas according to their relative level of deprivation.

There are three indices produced. The first and main one is the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). This combines 38 indicators into seven domains:

- Income deprivation
- Employment deprivation
- Health deprivation and disability
- Education, skills and training deprivation
- Barriers to Housing and Services
- Living environment deprivation
- Crime

These seven domains are then combined to produce a single score for each small area in the country. These are then ranked to compare the areas across England. The Indices are based on the ONS 2005 mid-year estimates for SOAs. Where these estimates are too high, then the Index will have a lower score.

Two separate indices are created which are subsets of the income deprivation domain. These are the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and the Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPI). Essentially these give the proportion of the age group (under 16 and aged 60 and over respectively) in receipt of or in a family in receipt of certain means-tested benefits. Again, these are ranked across all small areas in England.

How the ID2007 differ from the ID2004

In essence, the 2004 and 2007 Indices are similar in the way they were created. They have been produced on a consistent geographical base and the methodology underpinning the ID 2004 and the ID 2007 are largely the same. The structure, the domains and their relative weights used for ID2004 have been maintained and the vast majority of the underlying indicators have simply been updated, to a time point of 2005 as far as possible. In some cases this was not possible and indicators have either been matched as closely as possible, for example where the benefits system has changed, or remained as for the previous version where it was not possible to update sufficiently robustly. Comparison between the two Indices is therefore acceptable.

The geographical base is the lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs). These are small areas of consistent population size across the whole country, which means that the results are more easily compared than for local authority wards, which vary tremendously in size. These LSOAs are also smaller than wards, making it possible to identify smaller pockets of deprivation. For the most part, these LSOAs nest within wards. The exception within London is in the City due to the small ward populations. In all, there are 32,482 LSOAs in England, of which 4,765 are in London.

Borough level summaries of the Index of Multiple Deprivation

While the IMD is created for small areas, six summary measures have been produced for local authority areas to allow comparisons to be made at this level. This is the level at which many funding decisions are made and central funds allocated. Local authorities are again ranked according to these summary measures. Each measure has been created to focus on different, but equally valid aspects of multiple deprivation in the district. Therefore no single measure is favoured over another and all should be taken into account. The six measures are:

- *Average of SOA Scores* describes the overall position of people in the district
- *Average of SOA Ranks* again summarises the district as a whole, taking into account the ranks of both the deprived and less deprived SOAs
- *Extent* depicts how widespread high levels of deprivation are in a district
- *Concentration* identifies districts' 'hot spots' of deprivation
- *The Income Scale* gives the **number** of people in the district who are income deprived
- *The Employment Scale* gives the **number** of people in the district who are employment deprived

Results

The London local authorities

Of the 33 London local authorities (the 32 boroughs and the City of London), 20 rank within the top 50 of the 354 local authorities in England on at least one of the summary measures of deprivation. These are: Barking & Dagenham, Barnet, Brent, Camden, Croydon, Ealing, Enfield, Greenwich, Hackney, Hammersmith & Fulham, Haringey, Islington, Lambeth, Lewisham, Newham, Redbridge, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest and Wandsworth. Of these only Redbridge and Wandsworth were not ranked in the top 50 on the ID2004. Westminster is the only borough ranked in the top 50 in 2004 but not in 2007.

Just two boroughs rank within the top 50 on all six summary measures: Hackney and Tower Hamlets. A further eight boroughs rank in the top 50 on five summary measures: Greenwich, Haringey, Islington, Lambeth, Lewisham, Newham, Southwark and Waltham Forest. Six boroughs are within the top 50 only on the basis of the number of people affected by income deprivation and/or employment deprivation: Barnet, Croydon, Ealing, Enfield, Redbridge and Wandsworth. Boroughs were least likely to rank in the top 50 on the 'Local Concentration' measure, which identifies the 'hot spots' by calculating the average rank for the most deprived areas containing ten per cent of the borough's population.

Eight LAs within London have shown a change for the better in their relative position, only three of them significant. Camden has the largest improvement in its relative deprivation status according to the ID2007, although it still ranks in the top 50 on three summary measures and in the top 60 in a further two.

The IMD for small areas within London

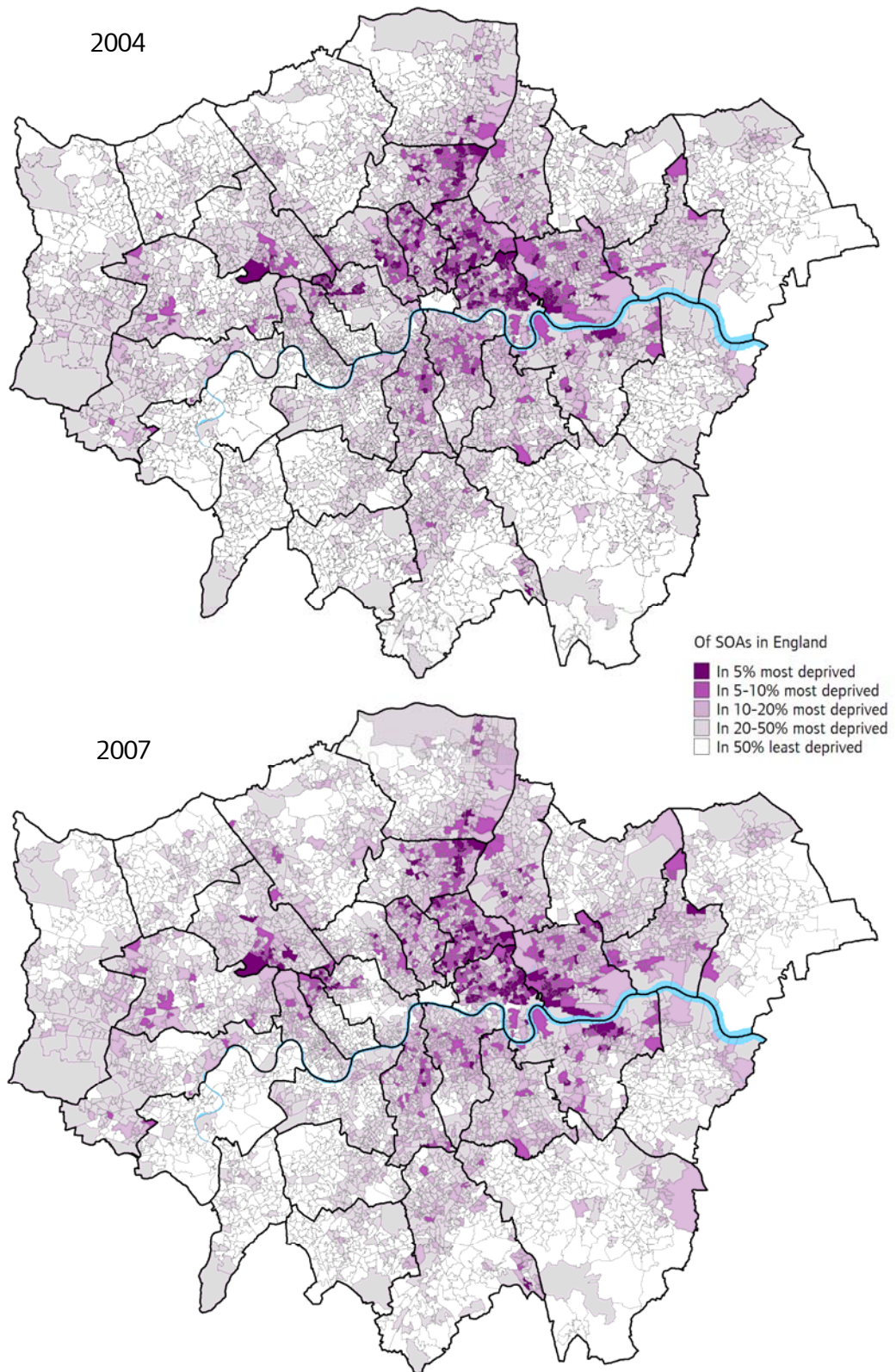
As stated earlier, the indices are created to identify the areas with the concentrations of deprivation or disadvantage, and this is best done at small area level. It is not possible to say that one area is twice as bad as another using these data, but it is possible to say where an area falls in relation to all other areas in England according to this index. The distribution of these areas is illustrated in Figure 1 showing very similar overall patterns in 2004 and 2007.

Just over ten per cent of London LSOAs are ranked in the ten per cent most deprived areas in the country, a worse position than shown in the ID2004. Additionally, the proportion in the next ten per cent, that is ranked between 10 and 20 per cent most deprived is well above average, at over 18 per cent of all London areas, again higher than in 2004. However, just under three per cent of London LSOAs are among the five per cent most deprived areas in England, very close to the level in 2004. The percentage of London areas ranking as less deprived than the national average fell from 35 per cent in the IMD2004 to 32 per cent in the IMD2007.

More than half of all London local authorities contain at least one LSOA among the five per cent most deprived LSOAs in England, with three boroughs having no LSOAs at all among the least deprived 50 per cent in England: Hackney, Islington and Newham.

At a regional level, London has just over 28 per cent of its LSOAs ranked among the most deprived 20 per cent in England, behind the North East and North West. At the other end of the scale, London has fewest LSOAs ranked among the 20% least deprived in England (less than nine per cent).

Figure 1 IMD for Super Output Areas in London in relation to England for 2004 and 2007

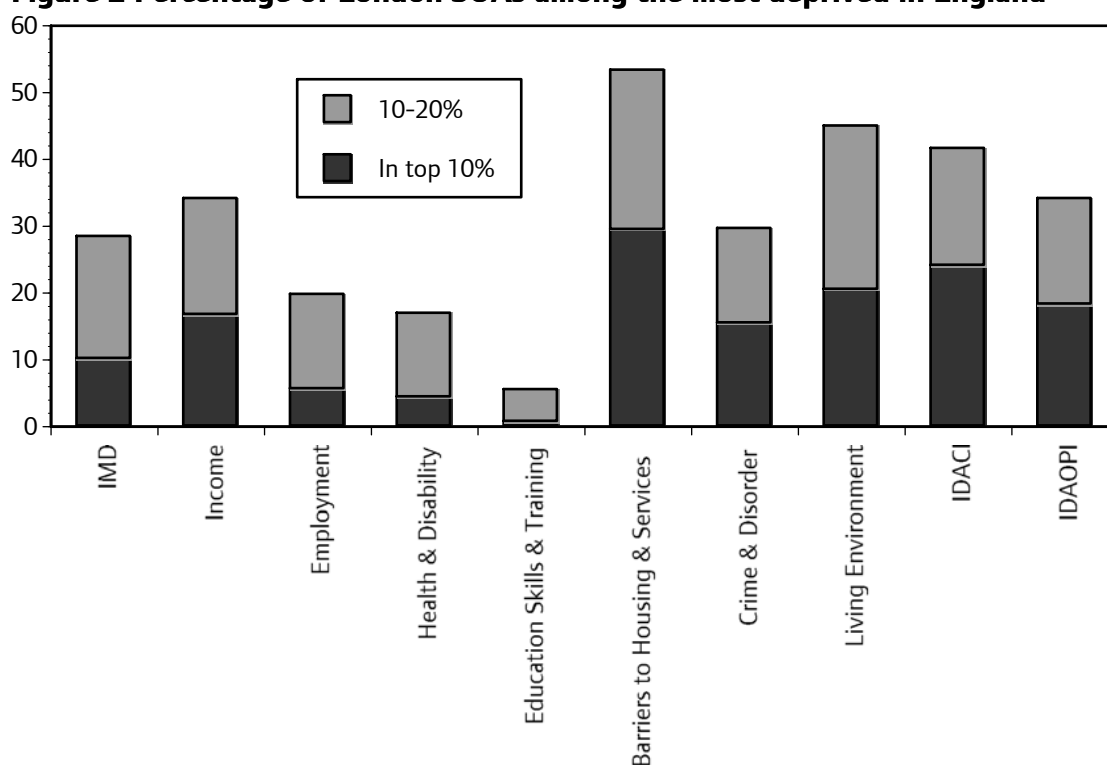


Sources: *Indices of Deprivation 2007*, Department of Communities and Local Government, *Indices of Deprivation 2004*, ODPM
©Crown copyright The maps are © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. (Greater London Authority) (LA100032379) (2007)

The domains of the IMD

Each of the domains of the IMD measures a different aspect of deprivation. Some areas are ranked highly in terms of deprivation on one measure, but may be ranked very low on another. Overall, London has very few areas with high levels of deprivation in the education, training and skills domain and few ranked highly in terms of health deprivation and disability. In contrast, more than half of London areas rank among the 20 per cent most deprived on the Barriers to Housing and Services domain and there are also many areas considered relatively deprived in terms of income deprivation, crime and living environment. The living environment domain has seen the greatest increase in numbers in the highest 20 per cent since the ID2004, from 37 per cent of London LSOAs to 45 per cent in ID2007. Figure 2 shows what proportion of London SOAs rank among the most deprived 10 and 20 per cent in England on each of the domains. The chart also shows clearly that the number of areas in London with large proportions of children and older people affected by income deprivation are well above average - around twice as many as would be expected if London had an average profile on these measures. The proportion of areas with the most children in income deprivation has increased from 36 per cent of areas to 42 per cent.

Figure 2 Percentage of London SOAs among the most deprived in England



Source: Indices of Deprivation 2007, Department of Communities and Local Government ©Crown copyright

Notes: IMD – Index of Multiple Deprivation
 IDACI – Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index
 IDAOPI – Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index

This is a preliminary summary of the new data and the GLA's Data Management and Analysis Group will be publishing a fuller analysis in due course.

For more information please contact Rachel Leeser, Data Management and Analysis Group, Greater London Authority, City Hall (2 East PP24a), The Queen's Walk, More London, London, SE1 2AA. Tel: 020 7983 4696 e-mail: Rachel.Leeser@london.gov.uk

Data produced in this briefing have been reproduced with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office and are © Crown Copyright. The map is © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. (Greater London Authority) (LA100032379) (2007)