

Working Age Adults claiming Key Benefits

This *Update* summarises data about working age adults (aged 16 to retirement age – 60 for women, 65 for men) in London claiming certain key benefits in August 2006.

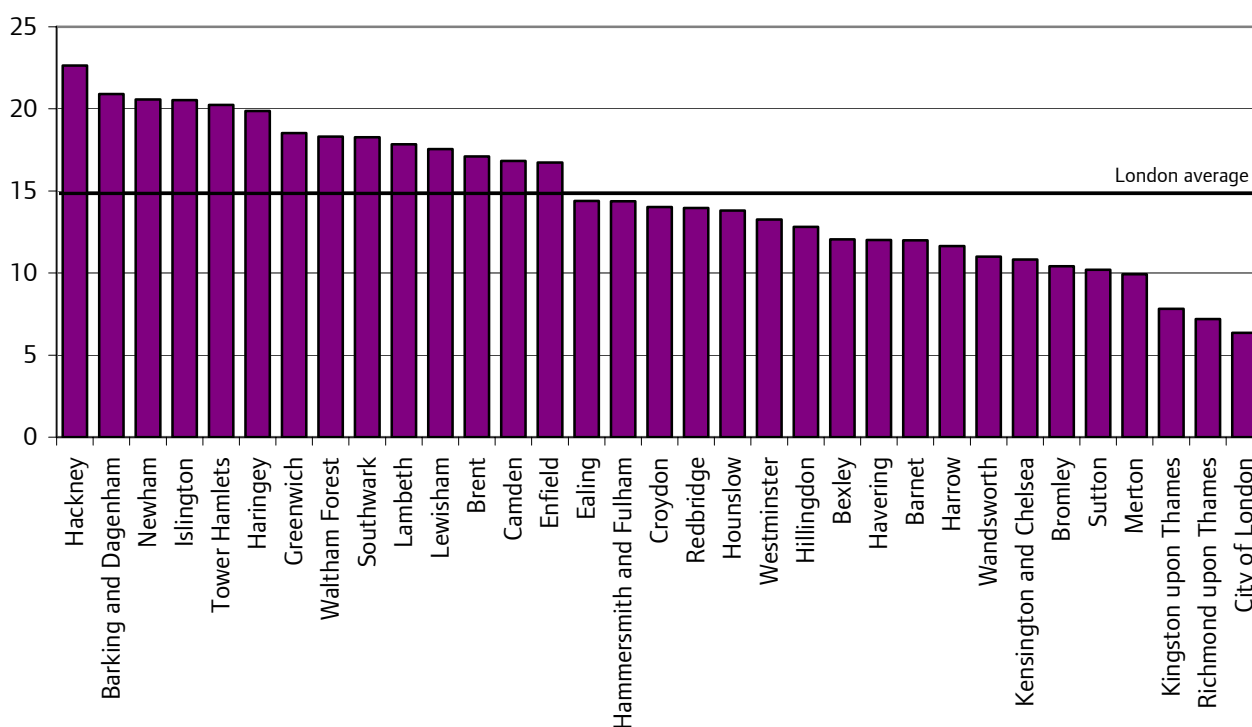
Altogether, there were just over 5 million working age Londoners in 2006, of whom 752,000 (15 per cent) were claiming one or more key benefits. These key benefits are:

- Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA),
- Incapacity Benefit (IB),
- Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA),
- Disability Living Allowance (DLA),
- Income Support (IS),
- Other (Carer's Allowance, Widow's Benefit and Bereavement Allowance)

These are a combination of in-work and out-of-work benefits, but in the main they are for people not in work, or only in part-time work.

The proportion of the working age population receiving one or more of these benefits varies across London. Figure 1 shows the borough level percentages, with 14 boroughs having above average proportions for London and a clear difference (of over two percentage points) between the groups of boroughs with above and below average proportions. The proportion in Hackney is clearly higher than any other borough, and more than three times that in Richmond or the City of London.

Figure 1 Percentage of working age adults receiving one or more key benefits by London borough



These data are also available for each of the wards in London, as illustrated in the map below. This clearly shows the variation within boroughs. Fifteen of the 32 London boroughs each contain wards falling into each of the five quintiles.

Figure 1 Percentage of working age adults receiving one or more key benefits by London borough

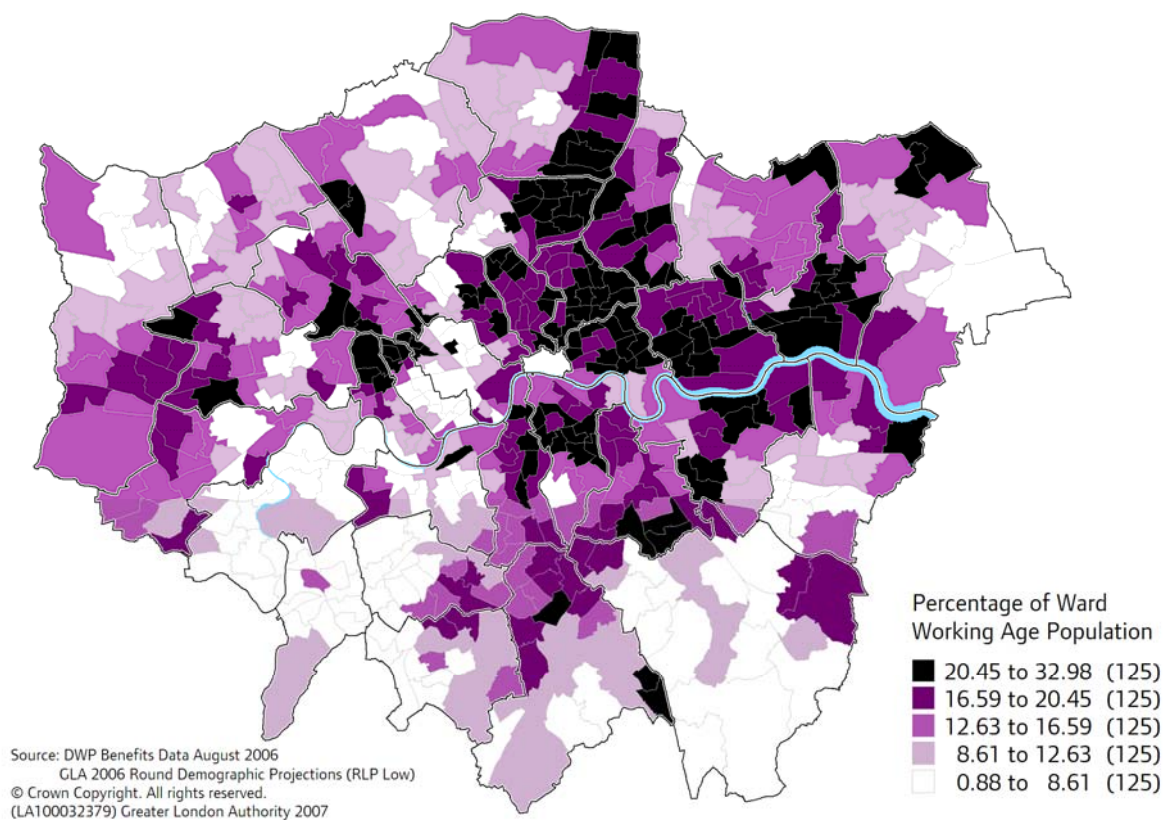


Table 1 shows that the ward with the highest proportion, one in three, of working age adults receiving key benefits is in Haringey, only the sixth highest borough. Several other boroughs with wards in this list do not have particularly high borough figures. Wards in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea feature in both the highest and lowest ten in London.

Table 1 London wards with the ten highest percentages and ten lowest percentages of working age adults receiving key benefits

Haringey	Northumberland Park	33.0	Westminster	Knightsbridge and Belgravia	0.9
Brent	Harlesden	32.4	Kensington & Chelsea	Queen's Gate	2.4
Tower Hamlets	East India and Lansbury	30.8	Merton	Village	3.3
Westminster	Queen's Park	29.9	Westminster	Marylebone High Street	3.9
Brent	Stonebridge	29.7	Barnet	Garden Suburb	4.0
Barking & Dagenham	Gascoigne	29.2	Kensington & Chelsea	Campden	4.0
Newham	Canning Town North	29.2	Richmond	St Margarets and North Twickenham	4.1
Hackney	Chatham	29.0	Kensington & Chelsea	Brompton	4.1
Westminster	Church Street	29.0	Merton	Hillside	4.2
Kensington & Chelsea	Golborne	28.7	Kensington & Chelsea	Courtfield	4.3

Source: DWP benefits data August 2006 from NOMIS and GLA 2006 Round Demographic Projections (RLP Low)

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