

Update CIS2012-05

2011 Census Snapshot: Country of birth

December 2012

Introduction

On 11th December 2012 ONS released the second results from the 2011 Census for England & Wales. This Census Snapshot covers country of birth.

This data can be viewed for local authorities in London on the Datastore:
<http://data.london.gov.uk/census/data>.

Country of birth

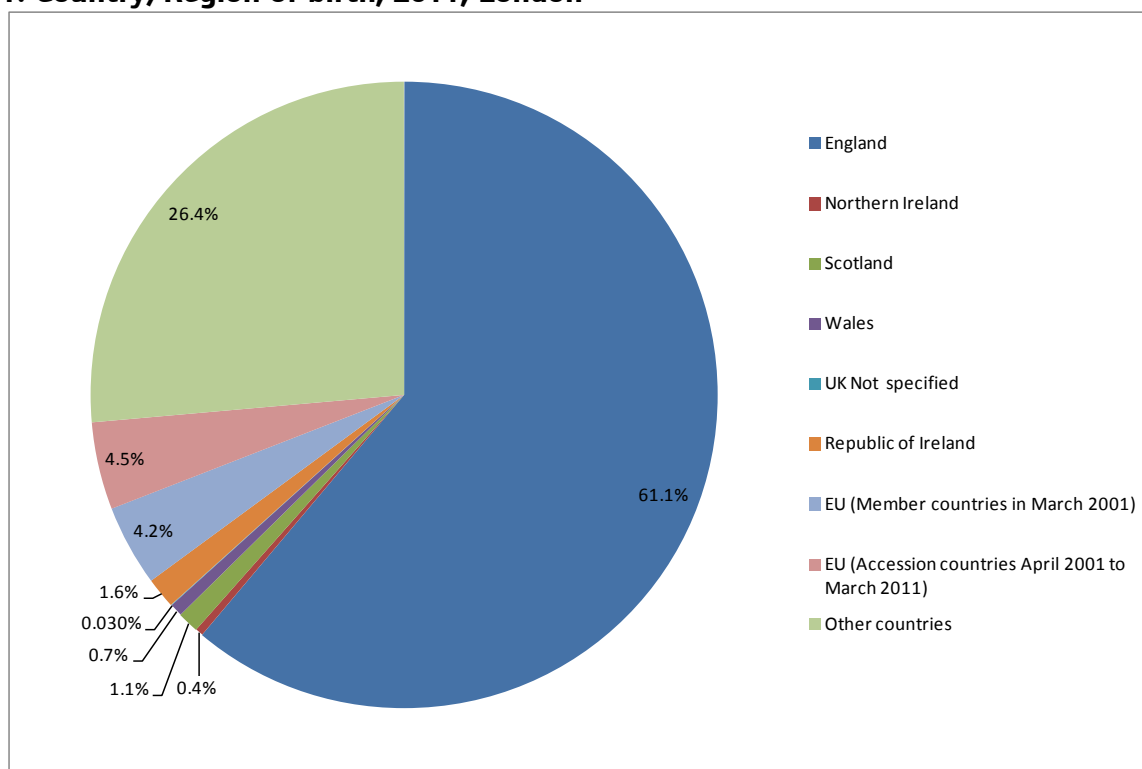
61.1 per cent of London's population gave England as their country of birth with a total of 63.3 per cent being born in the United Kingdom. This has fallen when compared to 2001 when 69.9 per cent of London's population was born in England and 72.9 per cent in the United Kingdom.

1.6 per cent of Londoners (129,807) were born in the Republic of Ireland, a drop from 2.2 per cent (157,285) in 2001. The percentage of people born in the Republic of Ireland has fallen for all boroughs between 2001 and 2011 with the City of London and Brent seeing the largest falls (32 per cent).

The percentage of Londoners born in all parts of the UK has dropped with the percentage of those born in Wales falling the most: England (0.3 per cent), Northern Ireland (12.8 per cent), Scotland (17.6 per cent) and Wales (25.2 per cent). The 2011 Census results also split country of birth to cover those who were born in the UK but did not specify where. These people make up 0.03 per cent of London's population.

4.2 per cent of London's population (341,981) were born in an EU country that was a member in 2001. This allows a direct comparison to be made with the 2001 Census data which gives the proportion born in one of these countries as 3.1 per cent (219,763). The number of Londoners born in one of these countries has therefore risen by 55.6 per cent between 2001 and 2011.

The Census 2011 results also split those countries which have since joined the EU (April 2001 to March 2011) into a separate category. This shows that 4.5 per cent (369,152 people) of London residents were born in an EU Accession country. However no comparisons with 2001 Census data are possible.

Figure 1: Country/Region of birth, 2011, London

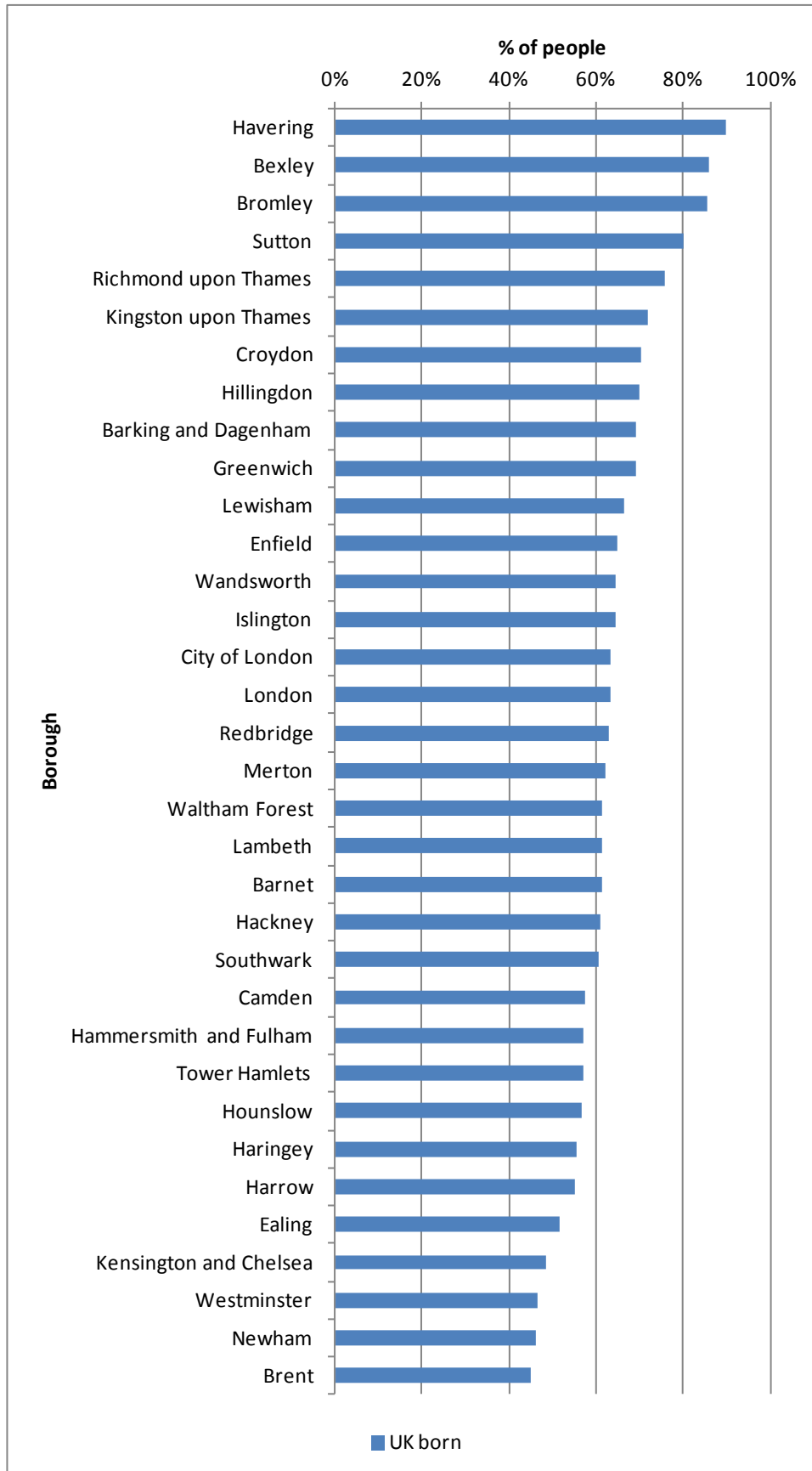
Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Grouping together all countries which are not part of the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland or one of the EU member states in March 2001, shows that there has been a rise in the proportion of people born in these other country groups. In 2001, 21.8 per cent of Londoners (1,565,856) had been born 'in other countries' with this rising to 30.9 per cent (2,526,476) by 2011; an increase of 960,620 people (or 61.3 per cent).

The percentage of people born 'in other countries' has more than doubled in Havering, Greenwich, Hillingdon, Bexley and Sutton whilst in Barking & Dagenham it has risen by 244 per cent over the ten years.

Figure 2 shows that the majority of Londoners in each borough are born in the UK (England, Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland). However there are four boroughs where less than half of the population are UK born. These are: Brent (44.9 per cent), Newham (46.3 per cent), Westminster (46.7 per cent) and Kensington & Chelsea (48.4 per cent). More than 40 per cent of both Brent and Newham's population were born 'in other countries' whereas although this is still above 30 per cent for Westminster and Kensington & Chelsea, they also have above 10 per cent of their population born in an EU 2001 member country.

Figure 2: UK born, 2011, London



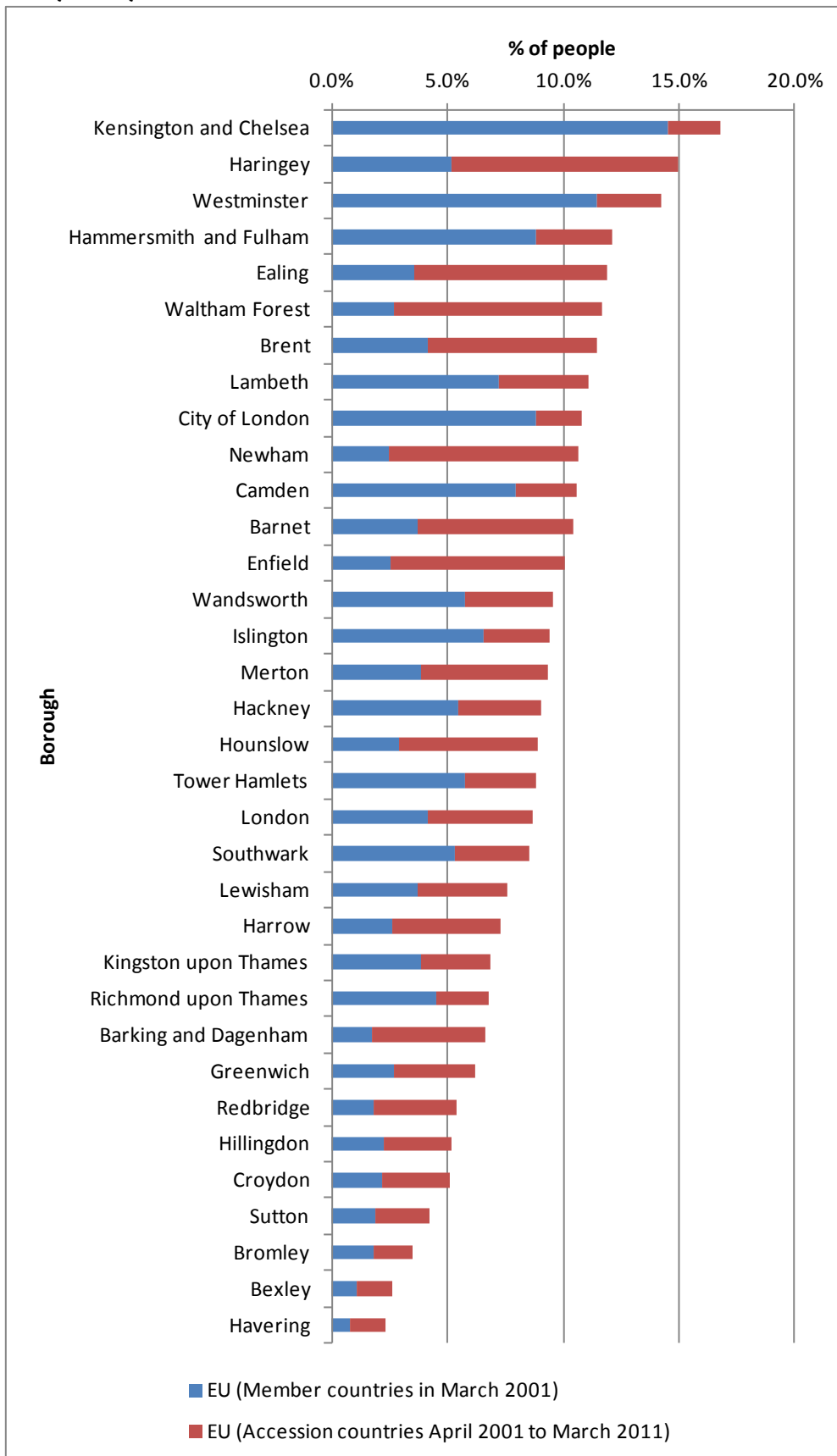
Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Havering has the highest proportion of people born in England at 88.4 per cent of its population and the lowest percentages of all boroughs of people born in an EU 2001 member country, EU Accession country or 'in other countries'.

Figure 3 shows the proportion of people born in an EU country split by those countries which were members of the EU in March 2001 (date of the 2001 Census) and those which have since joined the EU. 14.5 per cent of Kensington & Chelsea's population (23,029 people) were born in an EU 2001 member country. This is the highest percentage out of all London boroughs and is followed by Westminster with 11.5 per cent (252,212 people).

Haringey has the highest proportion of people born in an EU Accession country at 9.8 per cent (24,907 people). This is followed by Waltham Forest (9.0 per cent or 23,238 people), Ealing (8.4 per cent or 28,283 people) and Newham (8.2 per cent or 25,227 people).

Figure 3: EU born, 2011, London



Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

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