



# Impacts of Covid-19

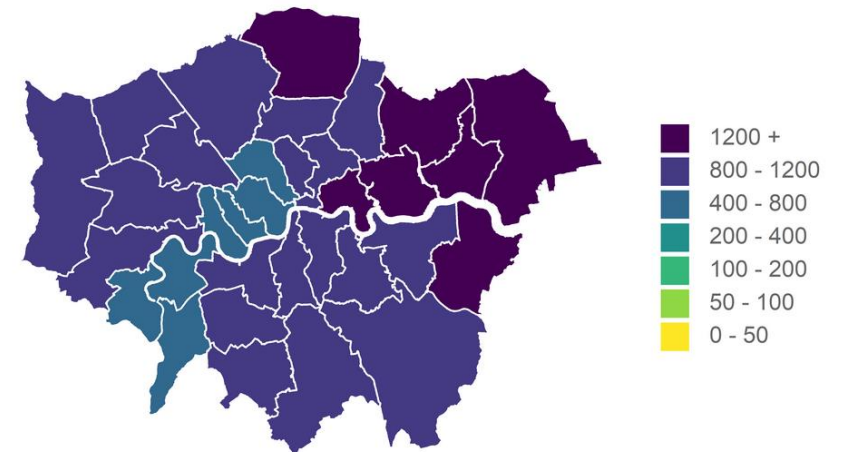
Briefing for London Recovery Board

14<sup>th</sup> January 2021

# Cases in London continue to reach record levels with an estimated 1/30\* people in the city with Covid-19

- In the most recent week of complete data, 31 December 2020 - 06 January 2021 **90,270** people tested positive in London, a rate of **1007 cases per 100,000** population
- On 11 January 2021 the daily number of new people tested positive for COVID-19 in London was reported as **10,110**
- On 11 January 2021 there were **7,799** COVID-19 patients in London hospitals. This compares with **6,733** patients on 04 January 2021.
- The number of Covid-19 deaths in London has exceeded 10,000 in hospitals, with an additional 30% of deaths in care homes and other locations
- Around 2 million people have been vaccinated nationally (11 January). Sub-national data to be published later this week
- \* Estimated by ONS Infection survey as at 2 January

Cases per 100,000 population per week  
Week ending 05 January 2021

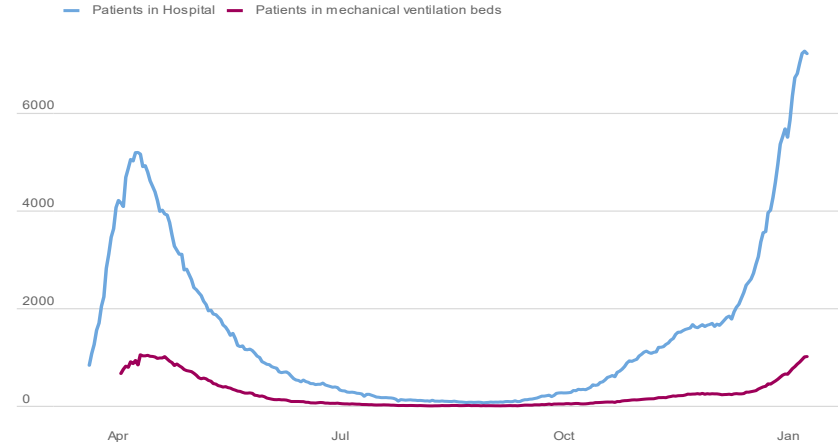


Source: PHE COVID-19 Dashboard  
Graphic by GLA City Intelligence

# Deaths and patients in hospitals are rising

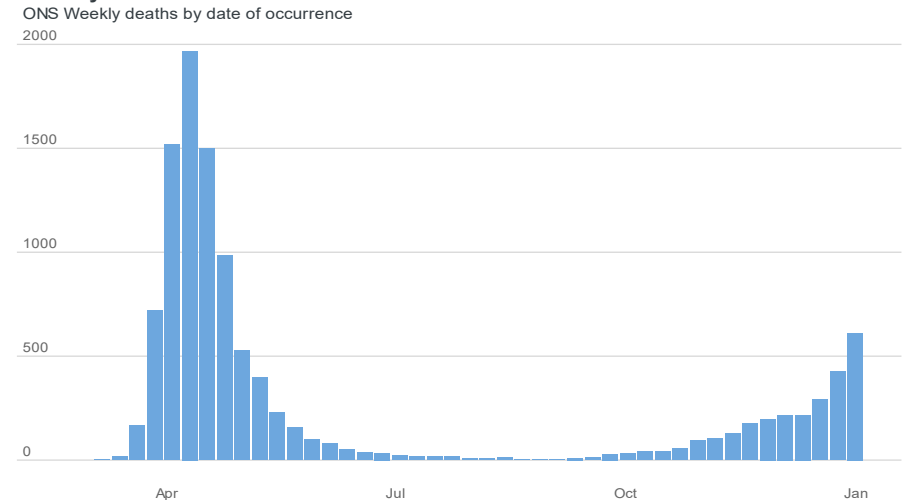
- On 11 January 2021 there were 1,073 COVID-19 patients in mechanical ventilation beds in London hospitals, compared with 814 patients on 4 January 2021. The maximum during the first wave was 1,057
- Weekly deaths now over 600
  - down from peak of over **2,000** a week in April
  - up from less than **5** a week in August
- Total cumulative Covid-19 deaths in London – **11,295\***
- By location:
  - Hospital – **8,681**
  - Care homes – **1,526**
  - Home – **835**
  - Other – **253**

People in Hospital in London with COVID-19



Source: PHE COVID-19 Dashboard  
Graphic by GLACity Intelligence

Weekly COVID-19 deaths in London

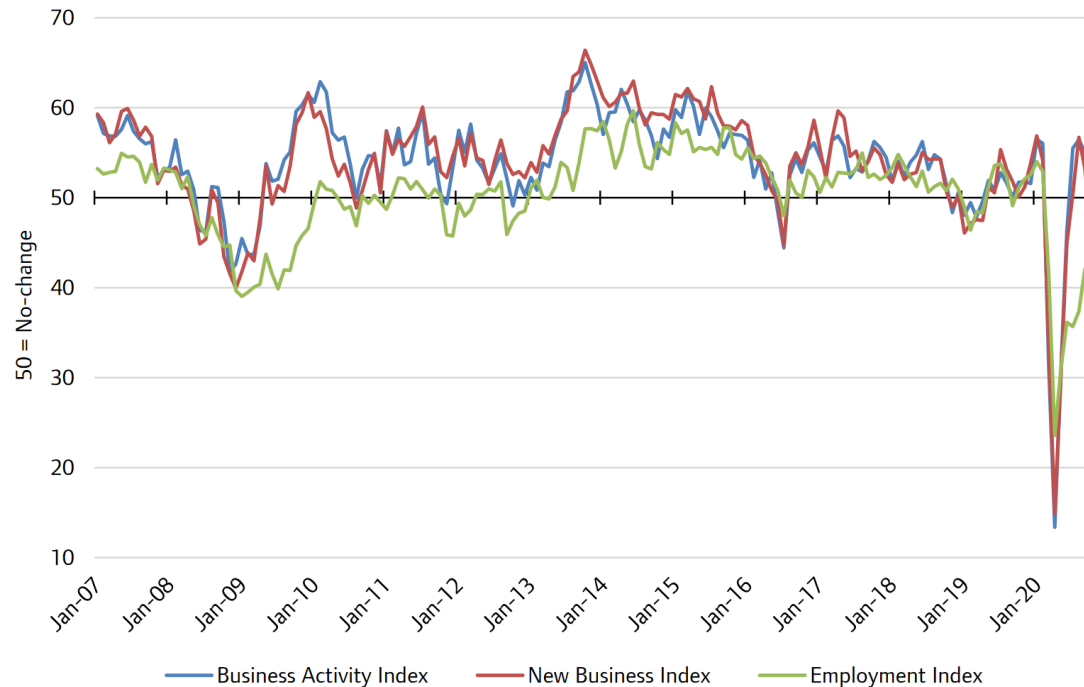


Source: ONS weekly deaths by Local Authority  
Graphic by GLACity Intelligence

\*Deaths occurring up to 1 January Source: ONS weekly deaths

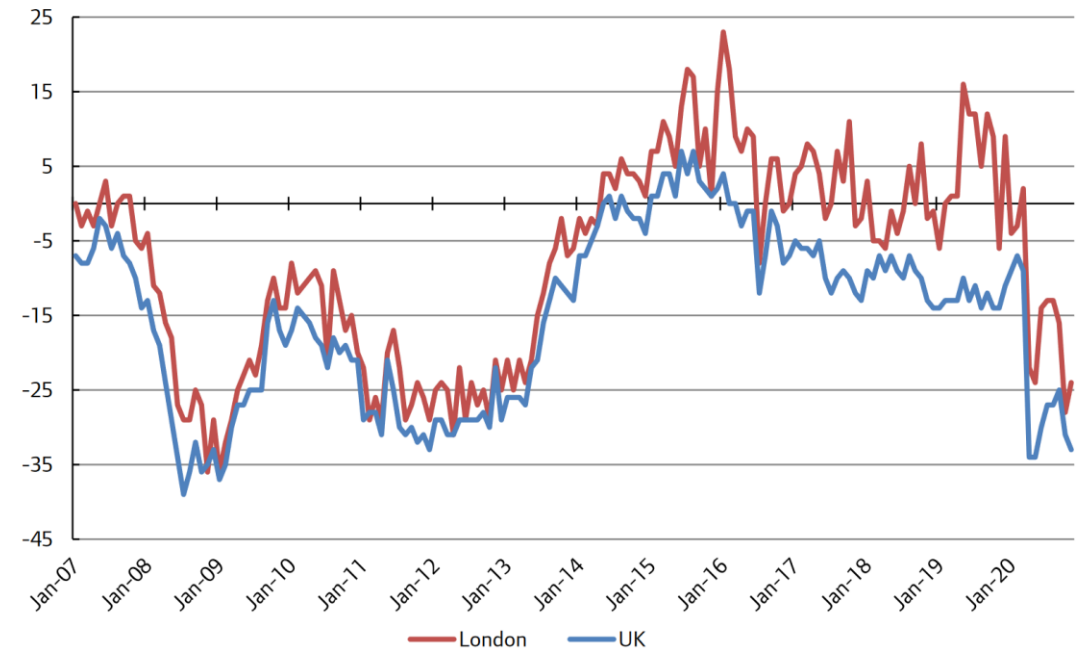
# Business activity had recovered strongly in the autumn prior to further lockdown but consumer confidence continues to fall to levels seen in the last recession

Figure 3.5: London PMI Business Activity, New Business and Employment Indices



Source: GLA Economics based on IHS Markit data. Last data point is October 2020.

Figure 3.4: Consumer confidence index for London and the UK



Source: GLA Economics based on GfK-NOP data. Last data point is November 2020.

# House prices rose in 2020 while private rents fell in Inner London. Average prices are forecasted to increase by 1% in London in 2021

## Private rents

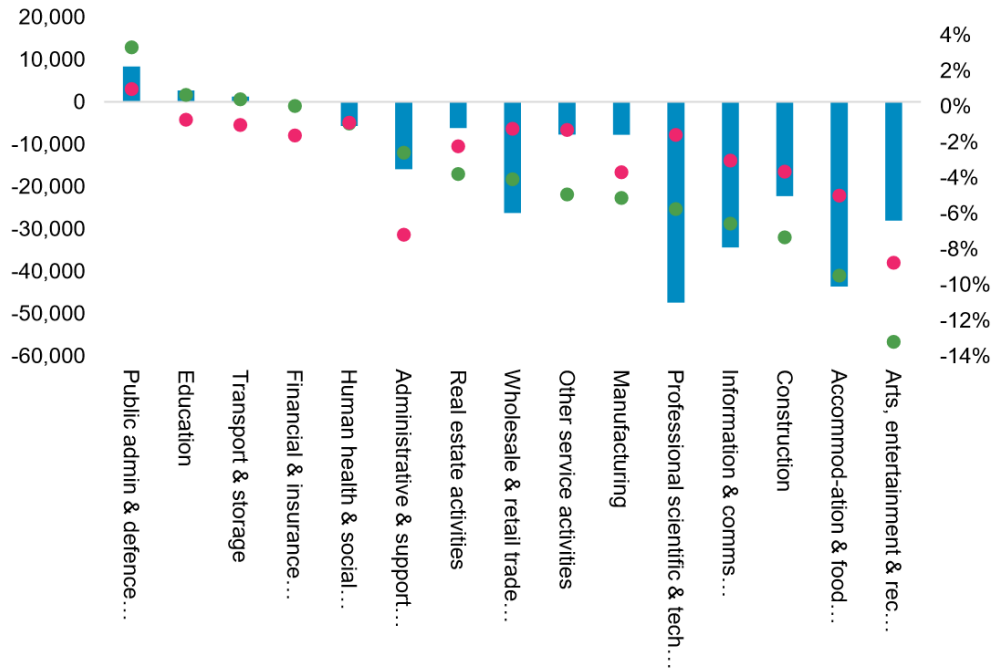
- Rightmove report that average asking rents in London were down 3% in Q3 2020 compared to a year ago, compared to a national increase of 2.4%.
- But the London average masks a sharp divergence between Inner London, where rents were down 6.8%, and Outer London where they were up 0.8%.

## House prices

- Rightmove also report that average asking prices in London were up 2.6% in October 2020, but this was the lowest increase of any region and at the national level prices were up 5.5%.
- The sales market remains very active, as illustrated by the average time taken to secure a buyer falling to 48 days, the lowest since mid-2016.
- The end of the Stamp Duty holiday in March and the impact of job losses are likely to bear down on prices in 2021. Knight Frank have forecast that average prices in London will increase by 1% in 2021.

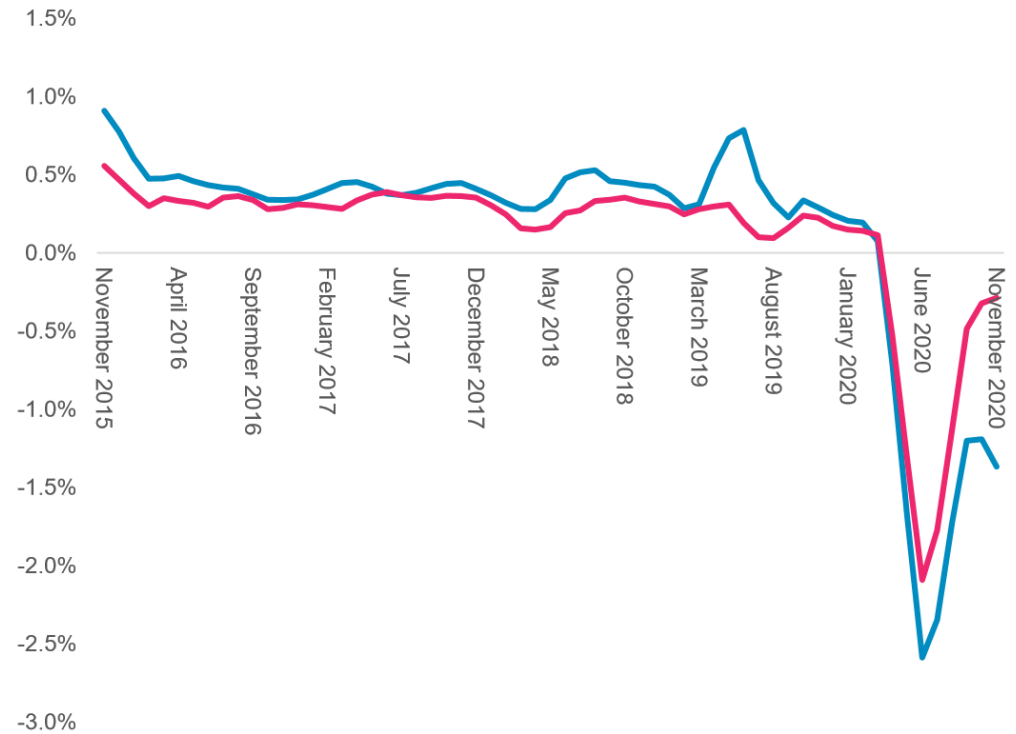
# Workforce jobs are down 229,000 in London since March, and the number of payroll employees continues to fall...

Change in workforce jobs by industry between September and March quarters 2020 (absolute difference London % difference London, % difference rest of UK RHS)



Source: ONS Labour Force Survey

Payroll employees for London and UK (quarterly percentage change)

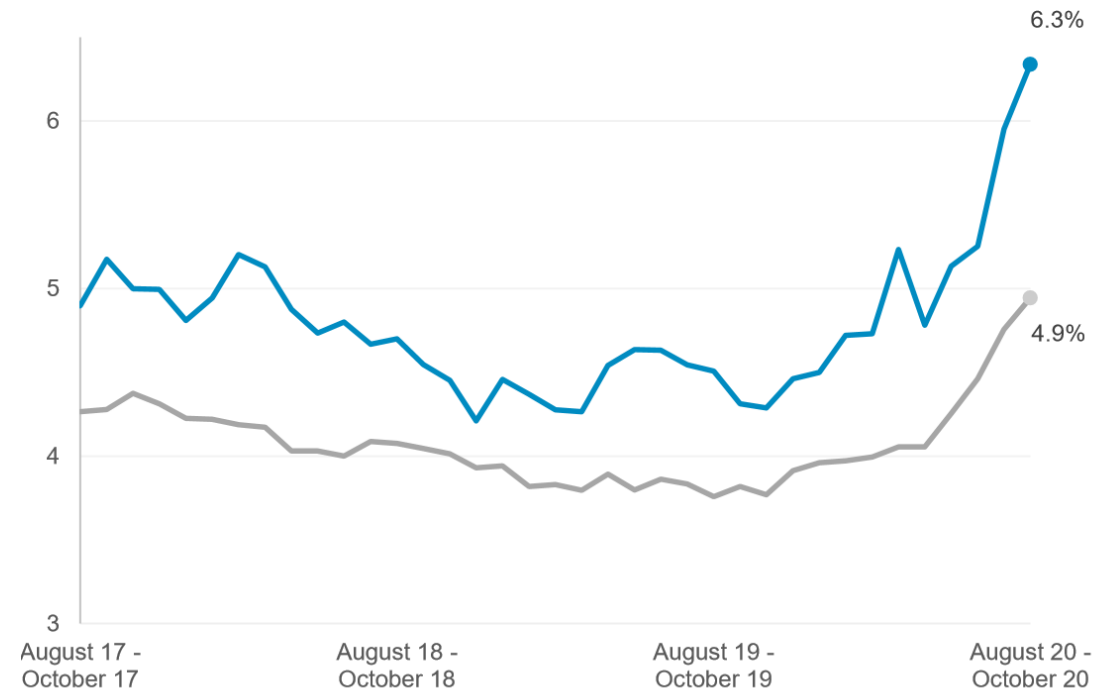


Source: HRMC PAYE employees

# ...with a record quarterly rise in the London unemployment rate in the three months to October to 6 per cent

- Young people aged 16-24 have seen the biggest rise in unemployment – to a rate of 25%
- And one in eight Black Londoners are unemployed (12.2%) – double that of White Londoners (5.4%)

Unemployment rate for London and UK (% of economically active)

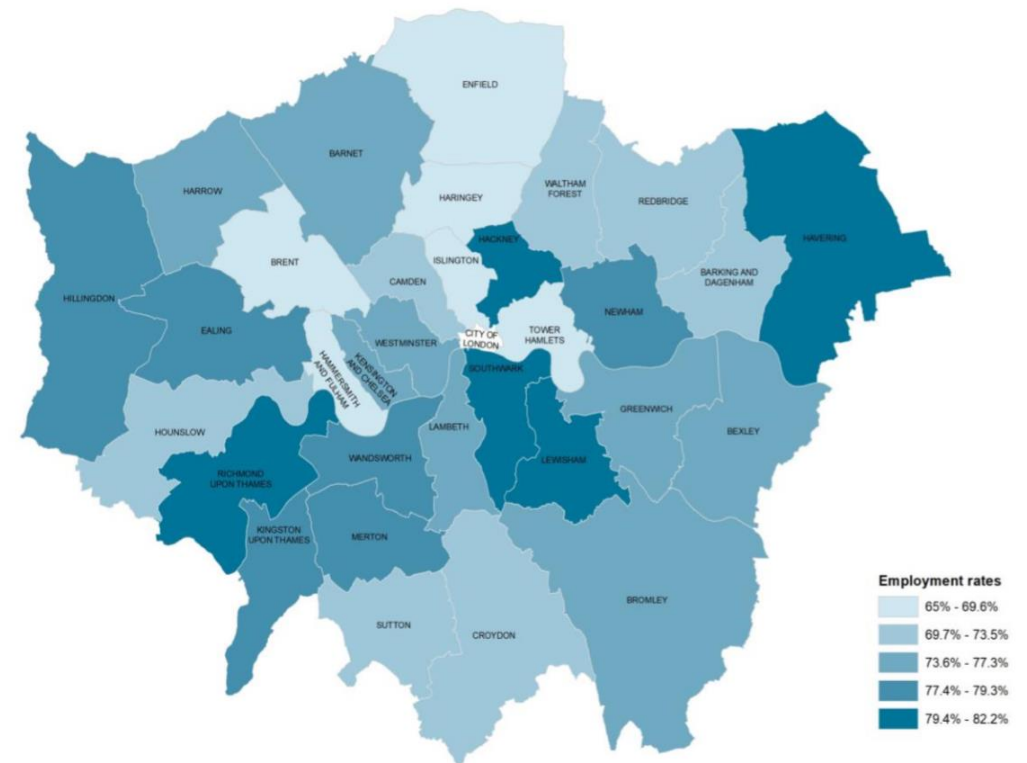


Source: ONS Labour Force Survey

# 60% of London boroughs saw a decline in their employment rate in July-September 2020

- A geographical breakdown of employment rates by local authority for July-September 2020 shows the highest employment rates in London were in Lewisham (82%), Richmond upon Thames (82%) and Hackney (81%)
- The lowest employment rates were in Brent (65%), Islington (67%) and Tower Hamlets (67%)

Map of employment rate by local authority for July to Sept 2020

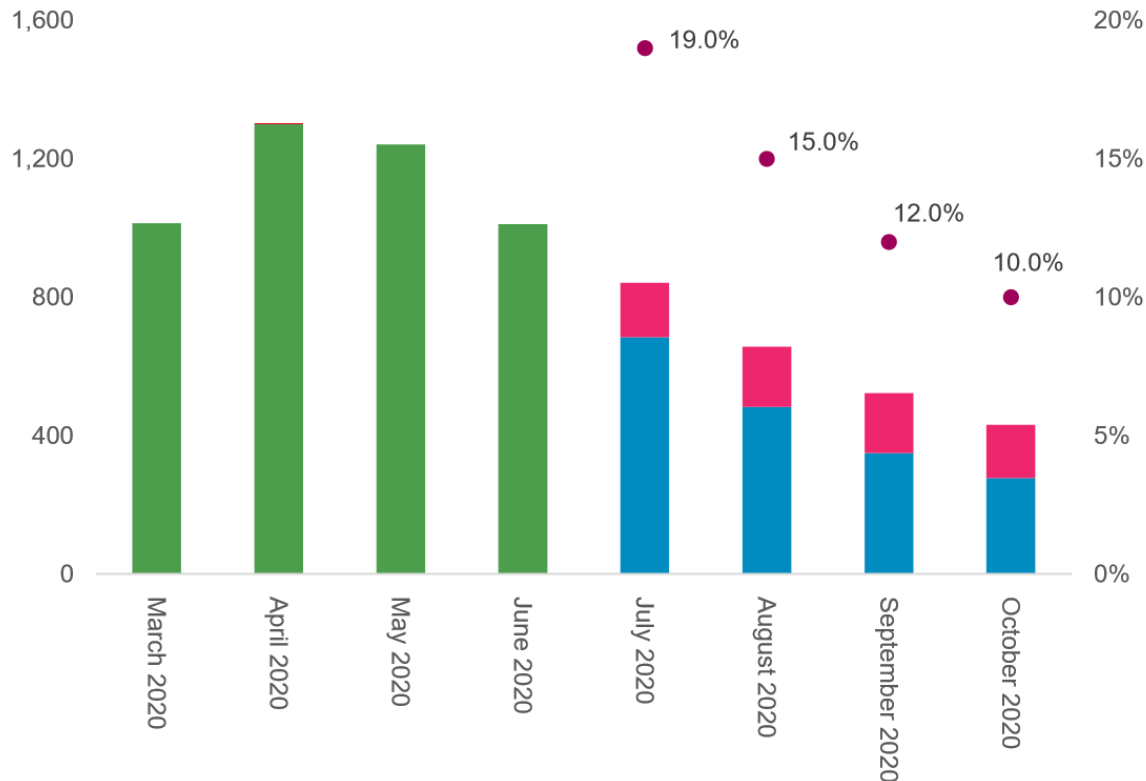


Source: GLAE analysis of ONS Labour Force Survey data



# The furlough scheme still supported 431,000 jobs in October 2020

Numbers of furloughed employments in London (thousands, Imputed based on UK, fully furloughed, partially furloughed, take-up rate RHS)

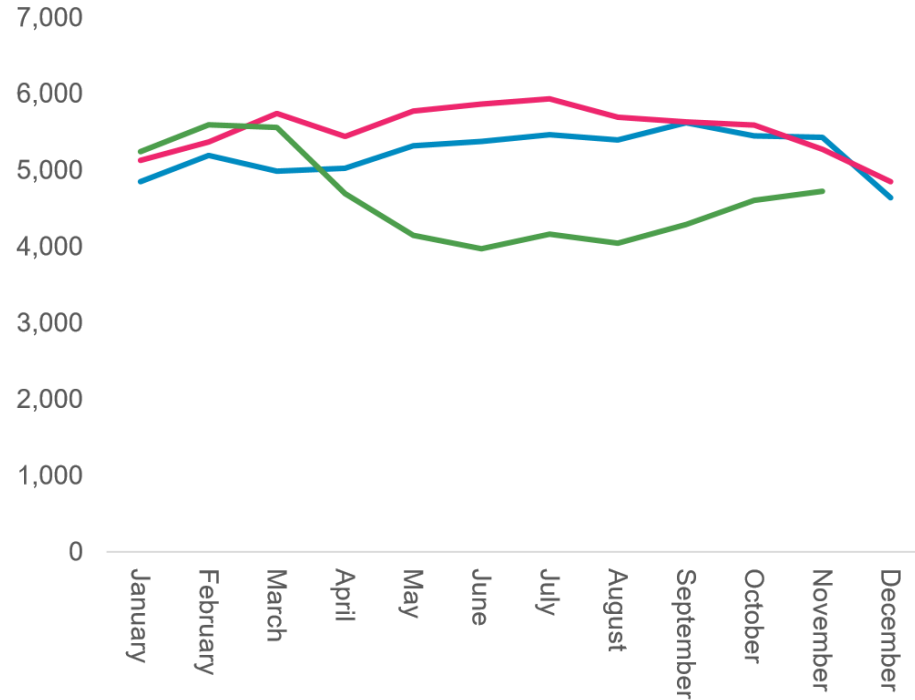


- The number on furlough in London as at 31 October was 431,000, translating to a take-up rate of 10%, with 64% of those (278,00) on full furlough.
- London still has the highest take-up rate of any region (share of those on furlough relative to those eligible). At the level of Local Authorities, three in four of the top 5% areas in terms of take-up rates were London boroughs.
- In London, there were approximately 871,000 fewer people on furlough in October relative to the peak in April.
- The Low Pay Commission (LPC) showed that in August, of the 4.3 million who had left furlough in the UK 90% were still on payroll from same employer. The remaining 10% could have entered employment elsewhere, become unemployed, or inactive.

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey and HMRC CJRS statistics

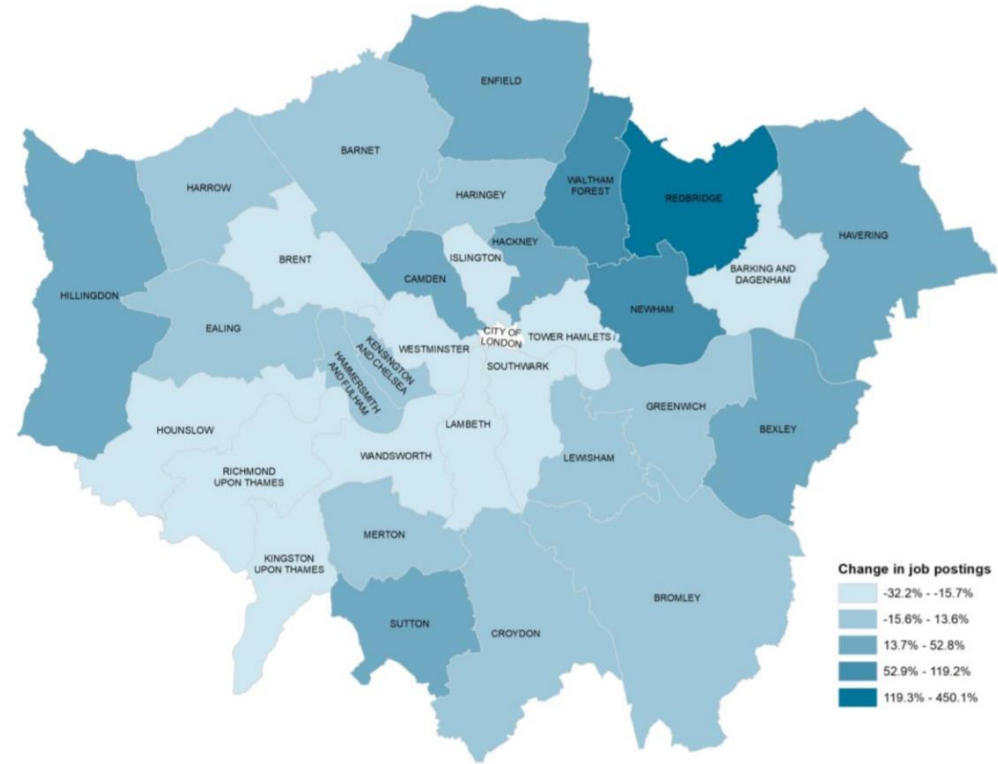
# Vacancies fell heavily in the spring 2020 but were rising over the autumn prior to Tier 4 and the second lockdown

London Monthly Job Postings 2020, 2019, 2018 (thousands)



Source: EMSI jobs postings data

Percentage change in job postings by local authority (November 2020 compared with November 2019)



Source: EMSI jobs postings data

# Mobility data continue to show the same doughnut pattern between August and December

No. of people in their **workplace** is similar in Dec as Oct (post lockdown)

Line: 14<sup>th</sup> Sept – 18<sup>th</sup> Dec | Colour: 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Baseline: % change from Jan 2020



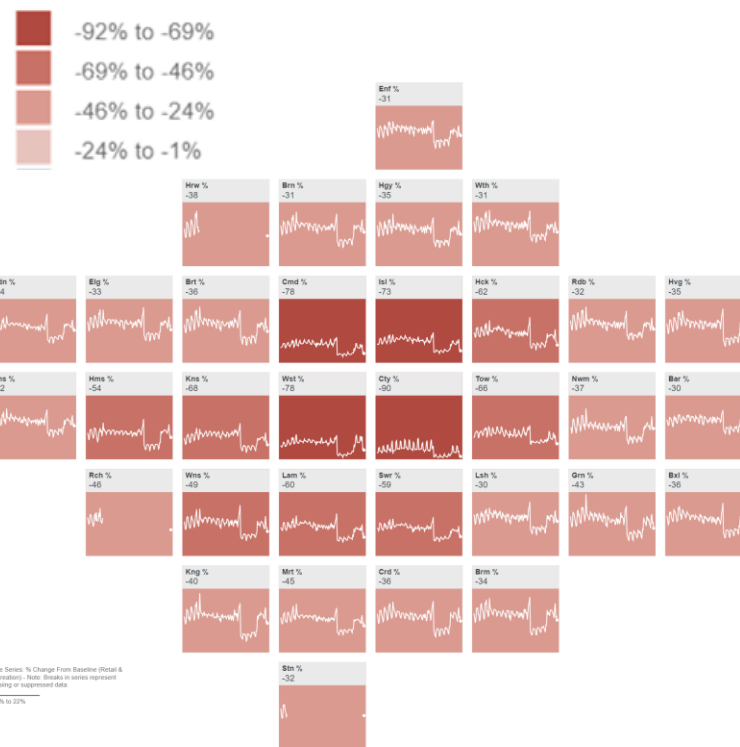
Time Series: % Change From Baseline (Workplace)  
Note: Breaks in series represent missing or suppressed data.

Source: Google Mobility - <https://www.google.com/covid19/mobility/>  
Graphic by GLA City Intelligence | London Squared Format by After The Flood

**Non-essential shopping & recreation** also returns after dropping during lockdown

Line: 6<sup>th</sup> Aug.– 18<sup>th</sup> Dec | Colour: 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Baseline: % change from Jan 2020



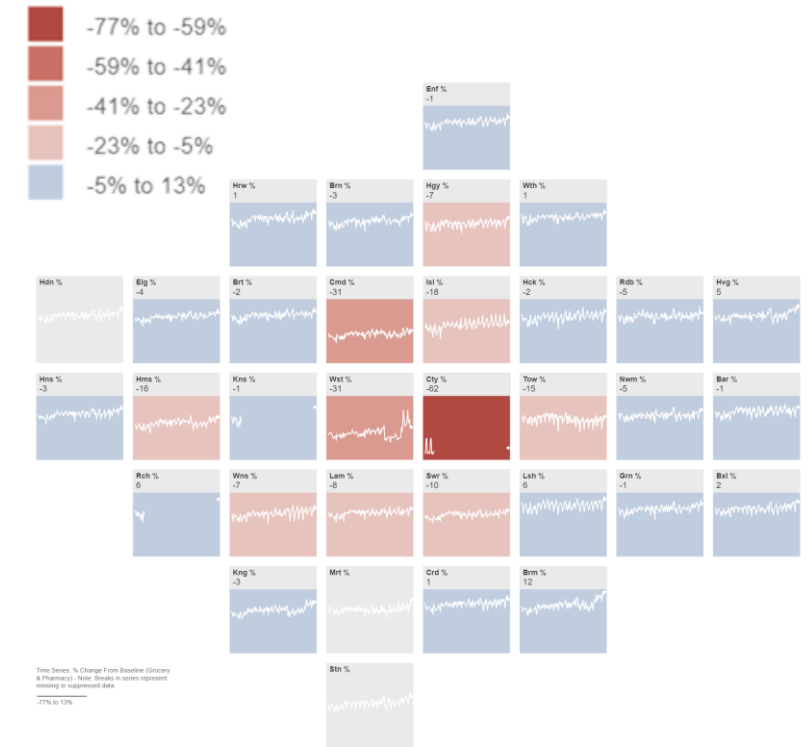
Time Series: % Change From Baseline (Retail & Recreation)  
Note: Breaks in series represent missing or suppressed data.

Source: Google Mobility - <https://www.google.com/covid19/mobility/>  
Graphic by GLA City Intelligence | London Squared Format by After The Flood

**Essential shopping** remained unchanged in many areas during the lockdown

Line: 6<sup>th</sup> Aug.– 18<sup>th</sup> Dec | Colour: 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Baseline: % change from Jan 2020



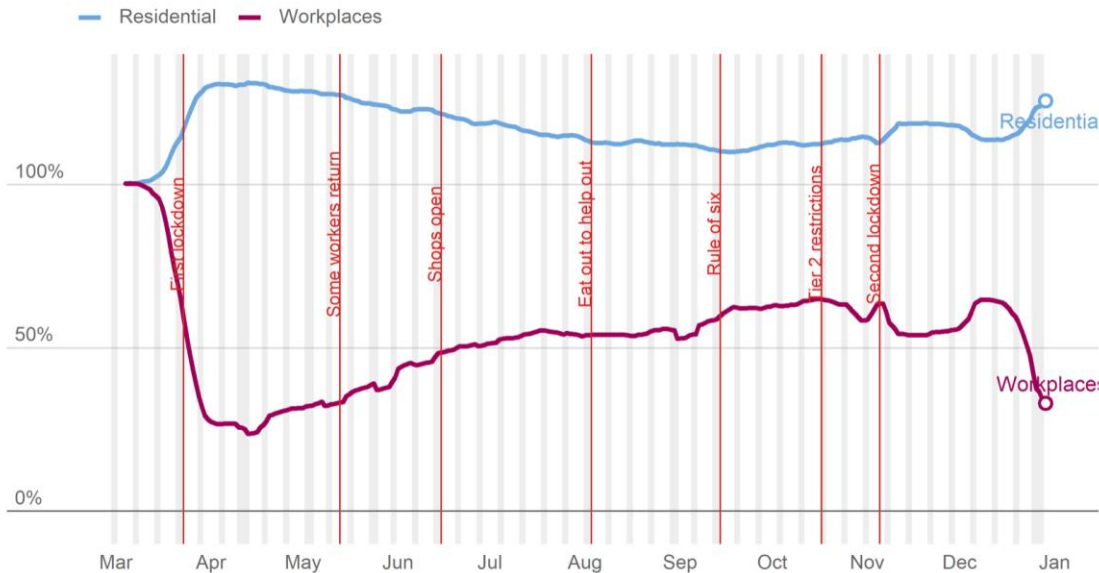
Time Series: % Change From Baseline (Grocery & Pharmacy)  
Note: Breaks in series represent missing or suppressed data.

Source: Google Mobility - <https://www.google.com/covid19/mobility/>  
Graphic by GLA City Intelligence | London Squared Format by After The Flood

# The proportion of people working from home appears similar to April. Mobility data suggest Londoners are moving less than those in other cities, but more than in April

## Working from home in London

Google activity metrics compared to baseline (7 day rolling mean average)



Metrics from Google Mobility compare to the same period in 2019  
Vertical red lines show changes in social distancing rules  
Vertical grey bands show weekends and public holidays

## Movement has fallen during the third lockdown

Lower than November, but not as low as March

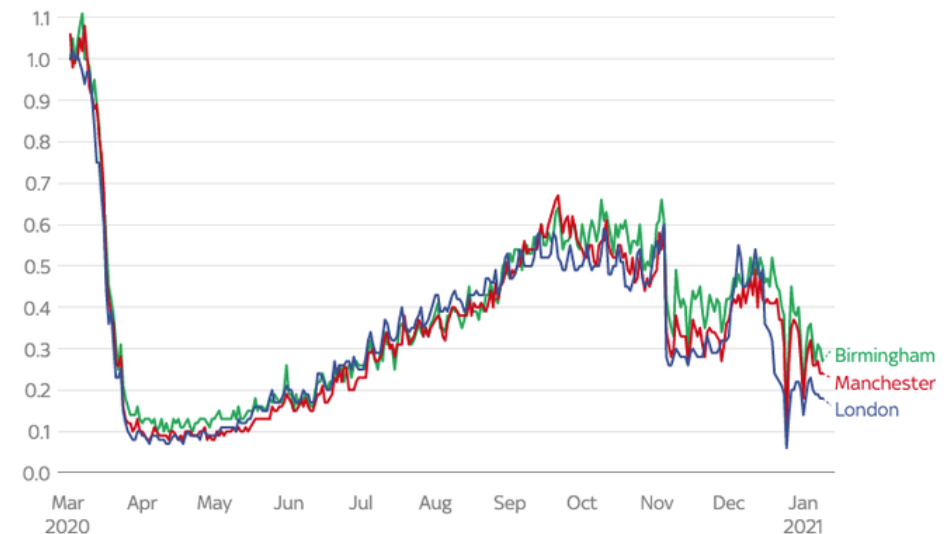
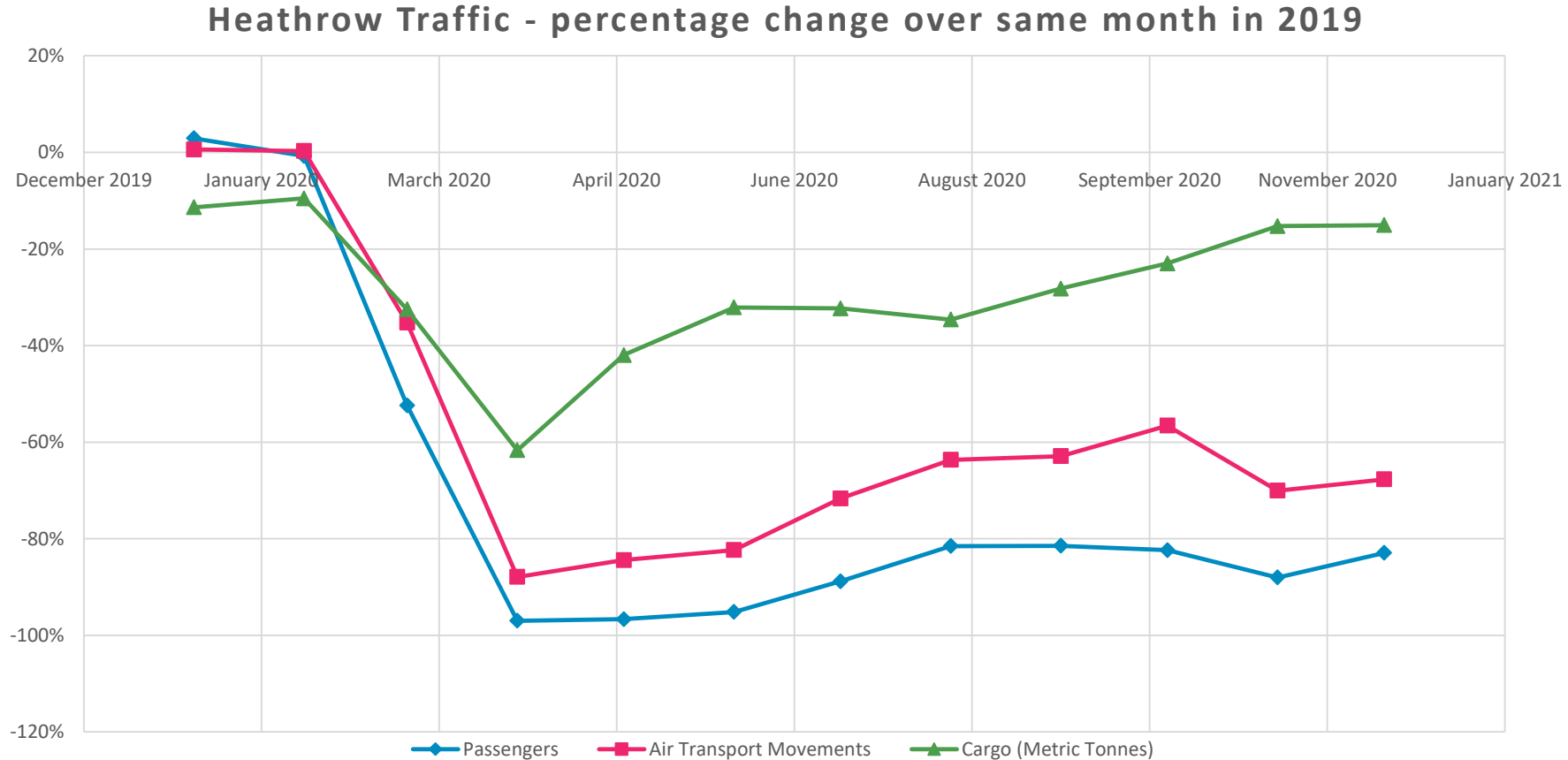


Chart: @rowismanthope • Source: Citymapper

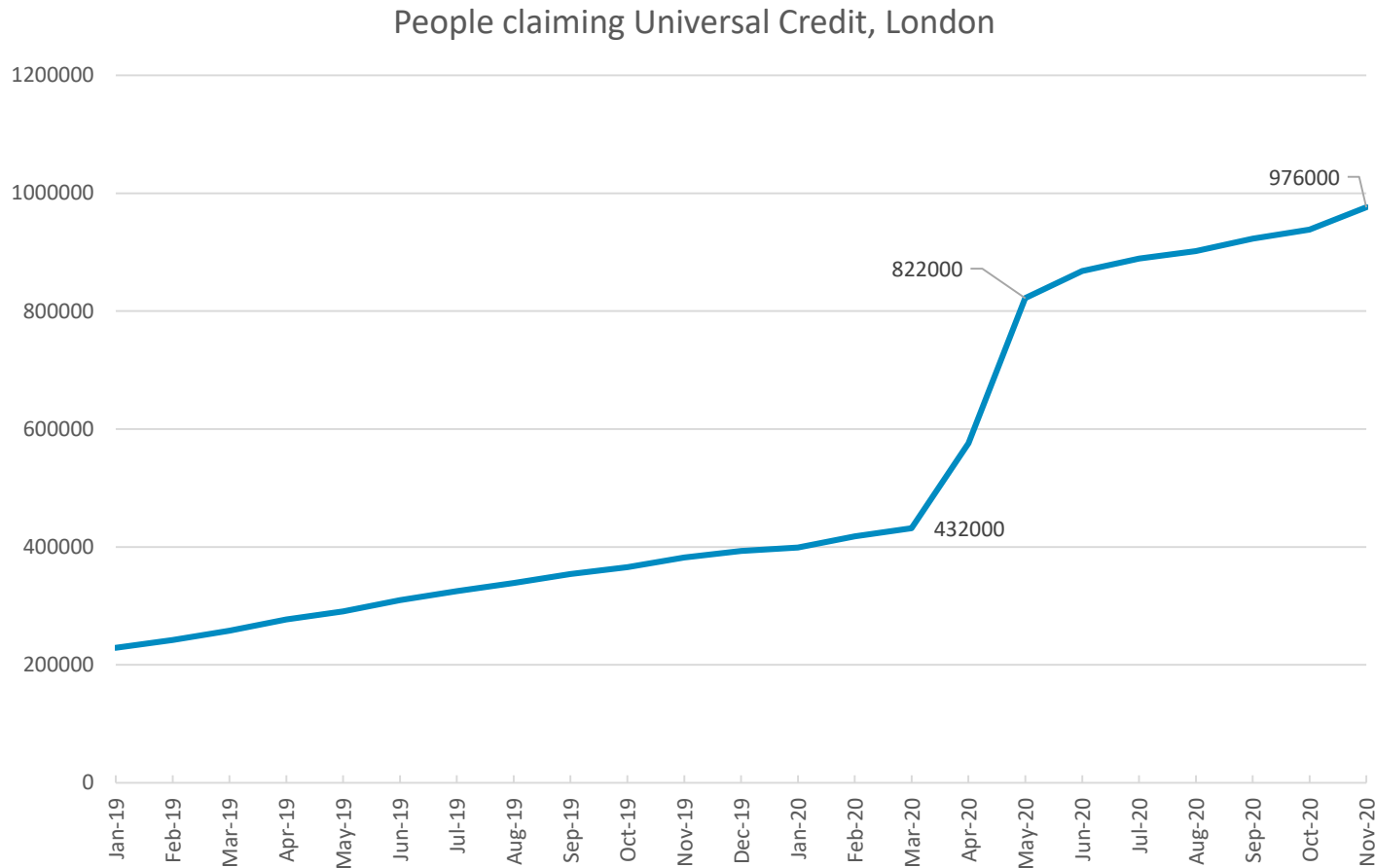
- Recent data from YouGov opinion polling also suggest Londoners are more likely to be complying with the latest lockdown than for GB as a whole.

# Heathrow air traffic and passenger movements in December 2020 remained approx. 70% and 80% lower respectively than in December 2019



Source: Heathrow Airport Data, GLA Economics elaboration

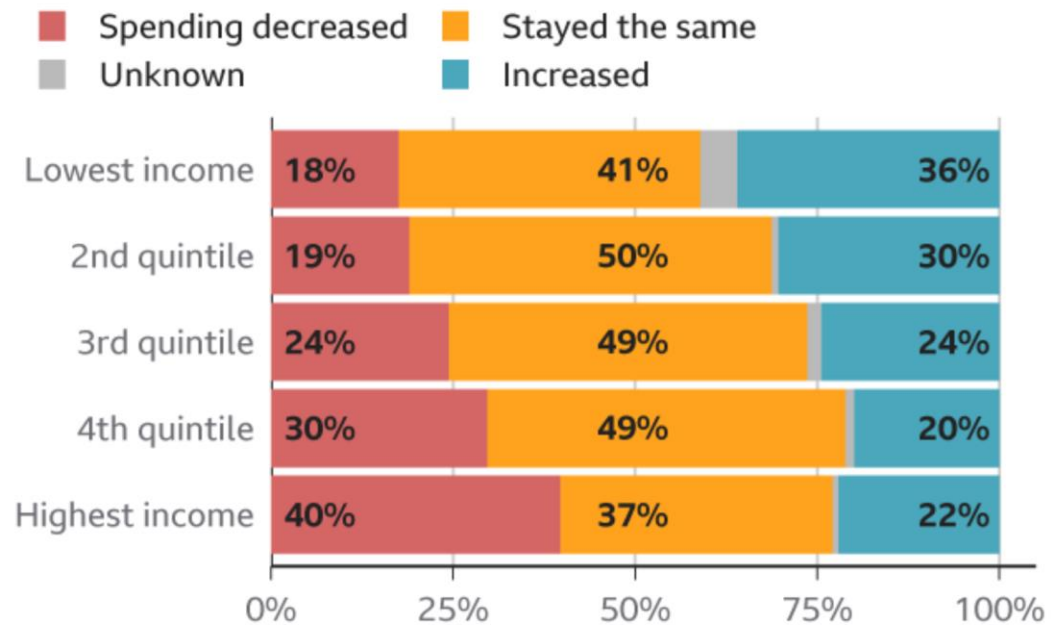
# The number of Londoners claiming Universal Credit has more than doubled since March and is still rising



- **Nearly 976,000 Londoners were claiming Universal Credit (UC) in November 2020. More than half had started claiming since the pandemic began.**
- The largest increases in UC claimants have been among the younger age groups, decreasing with age. There were almost 150,000 claimants aged 30-34 in November.
- More than a third of claimants were doing at least some work in November, but 45 per cent were unemployed and looking for work.
- The increase in Universal Credit is greater in London than in other parts of Britain.

# The pandemic is causing poorer families to spend more, while richer families are able to spend less

Change in household spending during re-opening (July-September 2020) compared to February 2020



Source: Resolution Foundation

BBC

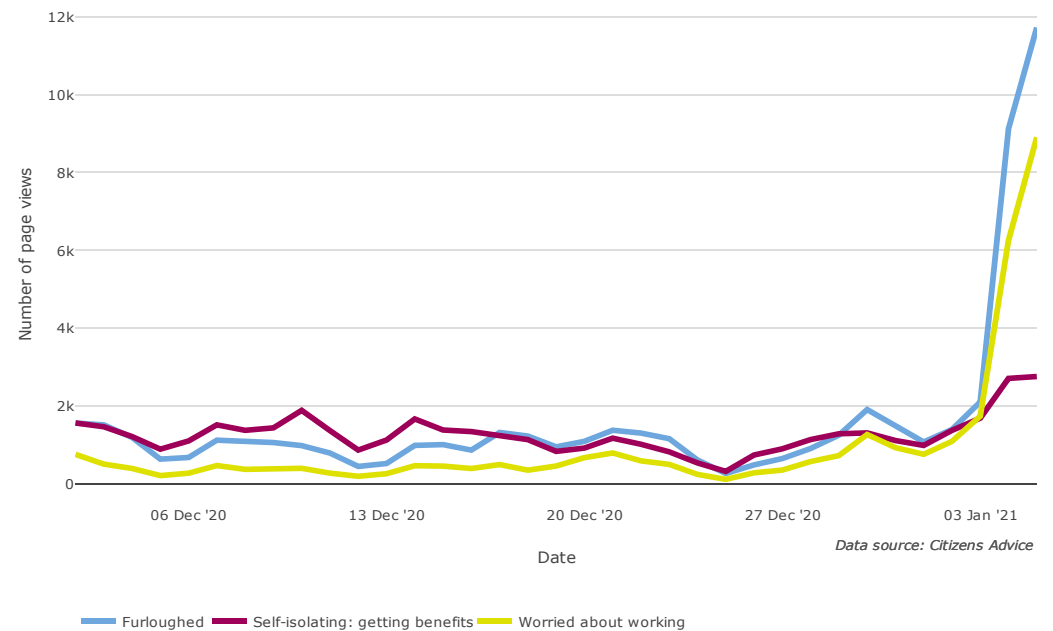
Examples of increased costs for poorer households

- Higher heating costs
- Higher food costs from shopping locally
- Costs of home schooling – remote learning equipment, ink for printers

# At the beginning of December the main issues reported by London's civil society organisations were mental health, isolation and employment

- The top 3 issues reported by organisations in the last week are around mental health (66 per cent), isolation and loneliness (65 per cent) and employment (63 per cent).
- Organisations are easing mental health during the pandemic with **regular contact and communication** including befriending schemes, telephone check-ins and socially distant gatherings.
- A number of groups flagged that these helped, but were taking place in a context where statutory services were hard to access or missing.
- Around two thirds of responding organisations (67 per cent) reported that the people they were supporting were coping 'not very or not at all well' with stress during the pandemic.
- Source: [GLA Community Response Survey \(fieldwork 30 Nov-9 Dec 2020\)](#)

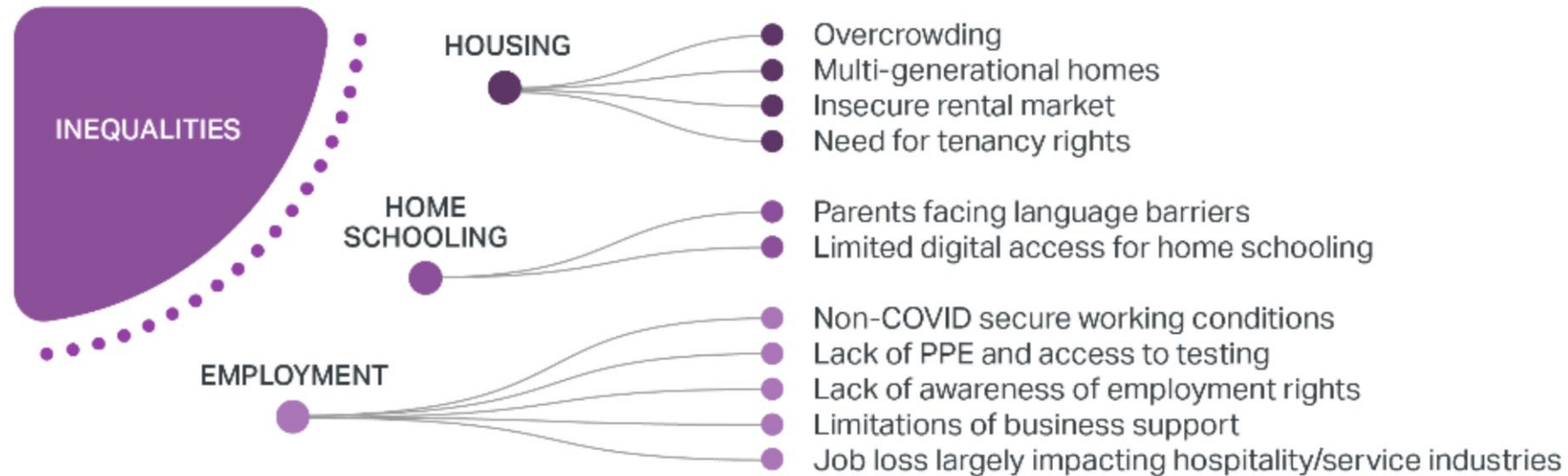
Citizens Advice website page views



- Heading into the third national lockdown page view data from Citizens Advice shows high demand for information on furlough, benefits and worries about working.



# The GLA's 'Map of community views' has identified detailed and complex inequality issues from extensive engagement with London's communities

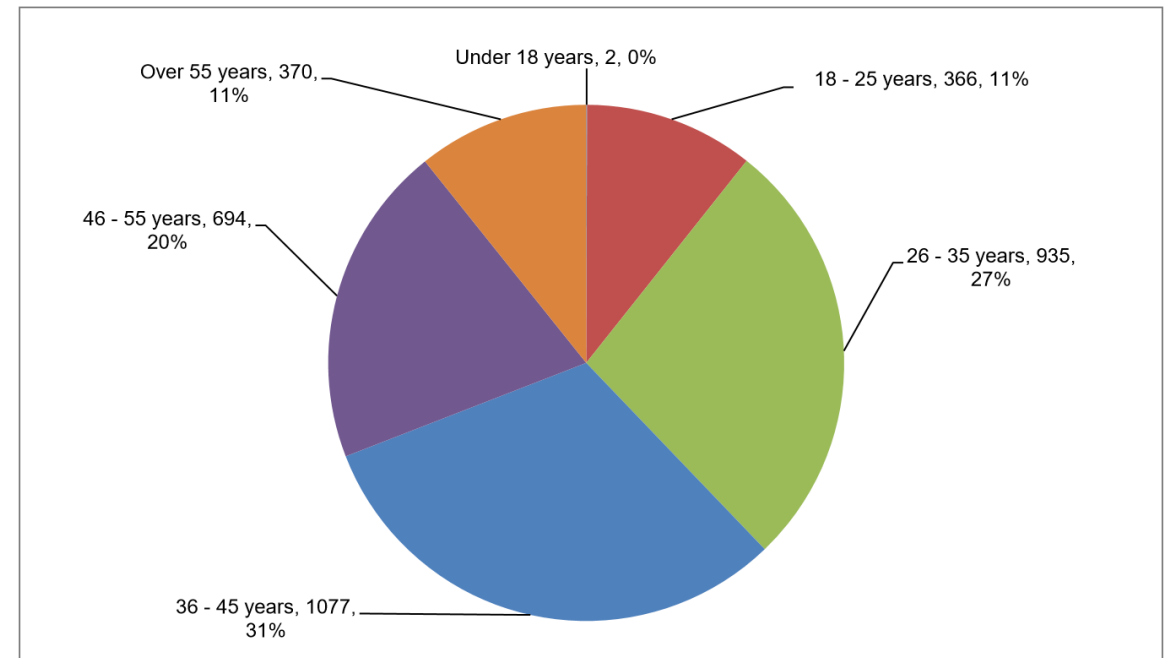


We heard about the overexposure of Black and Asian Minority Ethnic communities to the pandemic because they often work in frontline roles; the upsurge in hate crime against East and South East Asian Londoners; heightened need for domestic abuse support and better community language translations including specific dialects; the deep impact the virus has had on specific groups such as Somali, Bengali and Pakistani Londoners, particularly because of challenges with housing arrangements; the challenges for families around education for many groups including Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities; concerns for LGBT+, Younger and Older Londoners; the impact of the Black Lives Matter movement; faith communities having to adapt their services and facing loss of income as a result, and much more. It was clear throughout that grassroots Faith and Community groups have played a crucial role meeting essential needs.

# Between July and September the number of people sleeping rough in London was 8% lower than the same period in 2019

- Between July and September outreach teams recorded 1,901 people sleeping rough in London for the first time, 8% lower than the same period in 2019.
- A total of 3,444 people were seen sleeping rough in this period, including intermittent rough sleepers and those deemed to be living on the streets, down 14% from 2019.
- 336 people seen between July and September were deemed to be living on the streets, down 23% from 2019.
- But while overall trends are positive, the number of young people seen sleeping rough has increased sharply from last year.

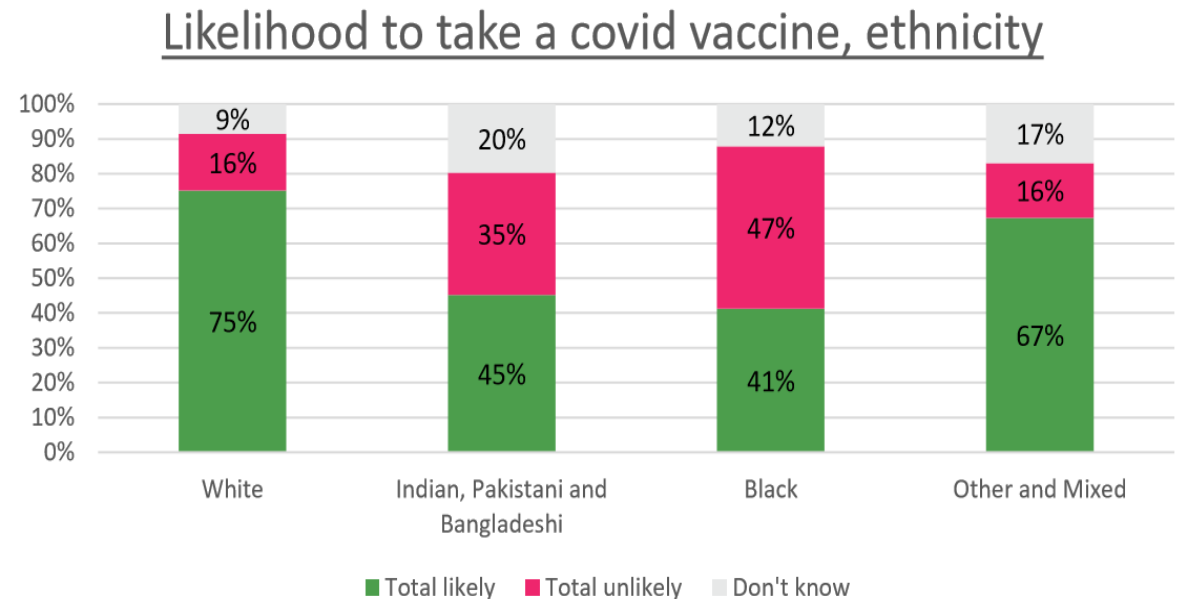
Age of people seen rough sleeping by outreach services.



Base: 3444

# Two thirds of Londoners are likely to take the Covid-19 vaccine. Rates are much lower for Black and Indian/Pakistani/Bangladeshi Londoners

- In the week 11-17 December, 66% of Londoners said they would be likely to take the Covid-19 vaccine if offered one. This was up 4% from November.
- 22% said that they would be unlikely and 13% who say they were very unlikely to do so.
- The largest variations in likelihood to taking the offer of a vaccine are by ethnicity (white British Londoners more likely than other groups) and then age (older age groups more likely).
- Groups least likely to take the offer of a vaccine are those from the Black (41%) and Indian/Pakistan/Bangladeshi ethnic groups (45%)
- Londoners aged 18-24 (53%) and Londoners in the C2DE social grade (56%) also suggested low take-up rates



# The latest GLA projections show that the future population of London will continue to grow but at a lower rate than before

- The GLA have published updated population projections to 2050
- These are based on the latest official data, and assumptions about future trends developed in conjunction with advice from leading national demographic experts.
- They factor in the impact of the pandemic and longer-term economic considerations on different components of the population.
- They project that the population will continue to grow although at a lower rate than for the previous decade.

