

ONS Mid-year Population Estimates: 2008

Key features:

- The resident population of Greater London as at 30th June 2008 was estimated to be **7.62 million**, an increase of 62.9 thousand from the previous year.
- Whereas in 2006-07 London had the sixth highest growth rate of all English regions, this year the growth rate is 0.83 per cent and ranks third out of the nine regions. The East grew at 1.19 per cent and the South East at 0.86 per cent
- The population growth was driven mainly by natural change (excess of births over deaths) which added 77.7 thousand to London's population. London contributed 38.5 per cent to the natural change in England, while accounting for only 14.8 per cent of the total population.
- Amongst the London boroughs the largest percentage increases since 2007 were:
 - Tower Hamlets (2.4 per cent)
 - Camden (1.6 per cent)
 - Islington (1.6 per cent)
- Only three boroughs, plus the City of London, were estimated to have had population declines:
 - City of London (-0.5 per cent)
 - Hammersmith& Fulham (-0.2 per cent)
 - Greenwich (-0.1 per cent)
 - Newham (<0.1 per cent)
- Births (2007-08) were 127.6 thousand, an increase of 4.3 thousand compared with the previous year.
- Deaths (2007-08) were 49.9 thousand, a decrease of 0.4 thousand compared with the previous year.
- In 2007-08 net migration together with other changes showed a loss of 14.8 thousand. This compares with a loss of over 28 thousand in 2006-07. However this relatively small balancing change disguises the considerable population turnover that takes place in London.

Background

On 27th August 2009 the Office for National Statistics (ONS) issued mid-2008 population estimates for all local authorities in England and Wales. This update analyses the resident population estimates for Greater London and the London boroughs, both separately as well as within the national context.

Mid-year estimates related to the usually resident population. These estimates include long-term international migrants (people expressing an intention to stay for at least a year). They do not include short-term migrants, people who come to or leave the UK for less than a year.

Estimates are based on the mid-2001 estimates and are available for constituent administrative areas (Government Office Regions, counties, local authority district and strategic health authority areas in England).

On this occasion these estimates **will not be used** as the basis for the next ONS subnational population projections. The ONS 2008-based subnational population projections (due for release in May 2010) will be **based on revisions to the estimates** described here. The revisions will incorporate revised estimates of the distribution of student migration and international migration. The 2008-based subnational population projections are expected to be used by CLG in the allocation process for the next local authority three-year financial settlement from 2011/12 to 2013/14.

Data Availability

The main data relating to the population estimates by age and gender and the annual change analyses are available to download from the ONS Website at:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=601&More=N>

London Results

ONS mid-2008 population estimates for London give a total resident population of 7.62 million, an increase of 62.9 thousand on the previous year. This represents an annual growth rate of 0.83 per cent.

The population increase of 62.9 thousand is composed of a number of key components: births, deaths, migration (both internal and international inflows and outflows) and 'other changes'.

There were 127.6 thousand births in 2007-08, an increase of 4.3 thousand compared with the previous year. This increase has been due to a combination of increasing fertility rates over recent years, particularly amongst older women, and an increase in the number of women in the population of reproductive age.

Deaths declined by 0.4 thousand to 49.9 thousand. Consequently natural change (the excess of births over deaths) for 2007-08 was 77.7 thousand, an increase of nearly 5 thousand compared with the previous year.

However total net migration and other changes combined for the year is estimated to be a loss of 14.8 thousand compared to a loss of 28.4 thousand in the previous year. Full details of the components of change are not yet available but will show a reduced net loss from London to the rest of the UK (70.6 thousand in 2007-08 compared to 81.4 thousand the previous year) as well as some net reduction in the inflow from overseas. London's net migration loss to the UK is the lowest since 2001-02.

Since 2001 London's population is estimated to have grown by 297 thousand persons, or 4.1 per cent. Over the seven-year period the consistent trends have been increasing numbers of births (from 104 thousand in 2001-02) and reducing deaths (57 thousand in 2001-02). Hence natural change has grown considerably from 47 thousand in 2001-02 to nearly 78 thousand in 2007-08.

To conclude, both the increasing natural change, and the significant decrease in the net migration outflow to the rest of the UK have contributed to the second highest annual growth in London's population since 2001.

Borough results

The largest percentage population increase between 2007 and 2008 amongst London boroughs was in Tower Hamlets (2.4 per cent) Camden and Islington both increase by 1.6 per cent. The largest absolute increase was over 5 thousand in Tower Hamlets.

The population was estimated to have declined in City of London, Hammersmith & Fulham, Greenwich and Newham. None of these falls was greater than 300.

Since 2001 the population has grown in all boroughs.

Table A: Components of Population Change, 2007-08, thousands

	Mid-2007 population	Live births	Deaths	Natural change	Net migration & other changes	Total change	Mid-2008 population
UNITED KINGDOM	60,975.4	790.5	570.0	220.5	187.3	407.8	61,383.2
ENGLAND AND WALES	54,072.0	706.1	500.2	205.9	161.7	367.6	54,439.7
ENGLAND	51,092.0	670.6	468.7	201.9	152.3	354.2	51,446.2
LONDON	7,556.9	127.6	49.9	77.7	-14.8	62.9	7,619.8
Inner London	3,000.3	52.7	16.7	36.0	-6.7	29.3	3,029.6
Camden	231.9	3.1	1.2	1.8	1.9	3.8	235.7
City of London	8.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	7.9
Hackney	209.7	4.4	1.1	3.3	-0.8	2.6	212.2
Hammersmith and Fulham	172.5	2.7	1.0	1.8	-2.0	-0.3	172.2
Haringey	224.7	4.3	1.2	3.1	-1.6	1.5	226.2
Islington	187.8	2.9	1.2	1.7	1.3	3.0	190.9
Kensington and Chelsea	178.6	2.2	0.9	1.4	0.3	1.7	180.3
Lambeth	273.2	4.9	1.5	3.4	-2.1	1.3	274.5
Lewisham	258.5	4.9	1.8	3.1	0.0	3.1	261.6
Newham	249.6	6.1	1.4	4.7	-4.8	-0.1	249.5
Southwark	274.4	5.0	1.5	3.5	0.2	3.7	278.0
Tower Hamlets	215.3	4.2	1.1	3.1	2.1	5.2	220.5
Wandsworth	281.8	5.0	1.7	3.3	-1.2	2.1	284.0
Westminster	234.1	2.9	1.1	1.8	0.1	1.9	236.0
Outer London	4,556.6	74.9	33.3	41.7	-8.1	33.6	4,590.2
Barking and Dagenham	166.9	3.5	1.4	2.1	-0.2	1.9	168.9
Barnet	329.7	5.2	2.4	2.8	-1.0	1.8	331.5
Bexley	222.1	3.0	1.9	1.2	0.0	1.1	223.3
Brent	270.0	4.9	1.5	3.3	-2.7	0.6	270.6
Bromley	300.7	4.0	2.7	1.3	0.6	1.9	302.6
Croydon	339.5	5.5	2.4	3.0	-0.8	2.3	341.8
Ealing	305.3	5.6	1.9	3.7	0.0	3.7	309.0
Enfield	285.1	5.0	2.0	2.9	-0.5	2.5	287.6
Greenwich	223.1	4.4	1.8	2.7	-2.9	-0.2	222.9
Harrow	214.6	3.2	1.5	1.7	-0.2	1.6	216.2
Havering	228.4	2.7	2.2	0.5	1.2	1.7	230.1
Hillingdon	250.7	4.1	1.9	2.2	0.3	2.5	253.2
Hounslow	220.6	4.3	1.4	2.8	-0.9	1.9	222.6
Kingston upon Thames	157.9	2.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	2.2	160.1
Merton	199.3	3.3	1.3	2.1	0.0	2.1	201.4
Redbridge	254.4	4.1	1.8	2.3	0.9	3.2	257.6
Richmond upon Thames	180.0	2.9	1.2	1.7	-1.6	0.1	180.1
Sutton	185.9	2.6	1.5	1.0	0.7	1.7	187.6
Waltham Forest	222.3	4.5	1.5	3.0	-2.2	0.8	223.2

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