

Update CIS2012-10

2011 Census Snapshot: Household Language

December 2012

Introduction

On the 11th of December 2012, the Office for National Statistics released *Key Statistics for Local Authorities in England and Wales* based on results from 2011 Census. These statistics cover a range of topic areas. This report presents the data on **English language spoken in households** available in Key Statistics table KS206EW.

All data presented here is available by local authority and can be accessed and viewed through a range of interactive maps and tools on the London Datastore at <http://data.london.gov.uk/census>. A more detailed analysis of 2011 Census Labour Market data will be published in 2013.

Key Findings

- **74 per cent of households in London contain occupants who all have English as their main language, compared to 91 per cent nationally.**
- **London is the region with the highest proportion of households where no one has English as a main language. There are 422,000 households in London where this is the case.**
- **Within London, boroughs in the east have the highest proportion of households where everyone has English as a main language.**
- **Those boroughs where English is not a main language for anyone in the household are distributed across Greater London.**
- **In Newham 24.3 per cent of households do not contain anyone for whom English is their main language.**

The 2011 Census was the first census to ask respondents to specify their main language. The questionnaire required respondents to indicate whether or not their main language was English, and if not to write in what their main language was and indicate how well they spoke English.

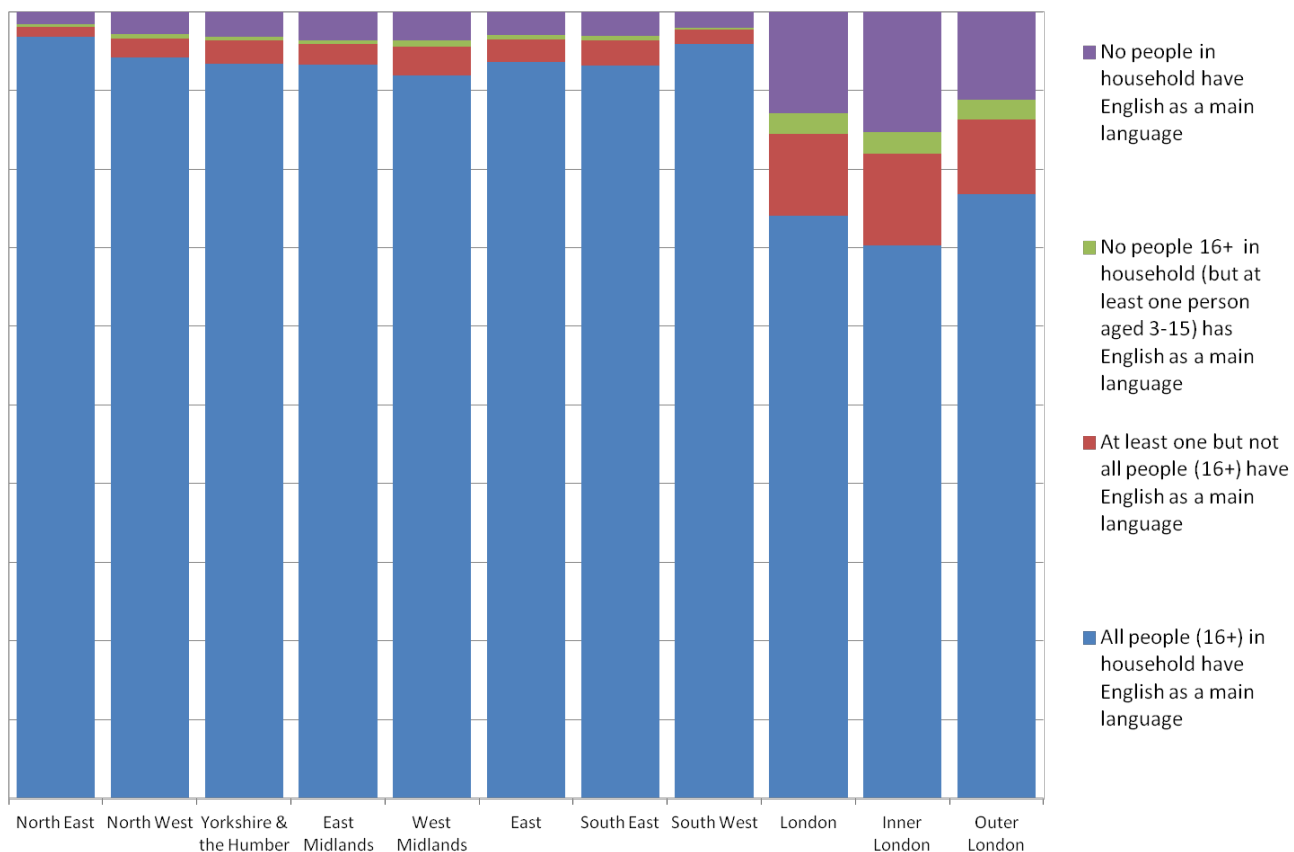
The release of Key Statistics tables for local authorities provides the first outputs from the language questions in the 2011 Census. Specifically, table KS206EW 'Household Language' provides data on the number of households in each local authority where:

- All people (aged 16+) in the household have English as their main language
- At least one person, but not all, people (aged 16+) have English as their main language
- No one aged 16+ has English as their main language, but at least one person age 3-15 does
- No one in the household has English as their main language

In England 90.9 per cent of households are in the category 'all people have English as their main language'. In London the proportion in this group is significantly lower at 74 per cent. The next lowest region is the West Midlands where 91.9 per cent of households are in this group. The average across all regions when London is excluded is 93.8 per cent. The proportion in Inner London is 70.3 per cent; while in Outer London 76.7 per cent of households are in this category.

London is the only region where greater than ten per cent of the households have no people who speak English as their main language. Households in this category account for 12.9 per cent of the total in the capital which equates to 422,000 households. Across England 4.4 per cent of households have no one for whom English is their main language and the closest region to London is again the West Midlands where 3.7 per cent of households are in this group.

Figure 1: Household Language by Region (percentage of households)



Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Table1: Household Language by Region (percentage of households)

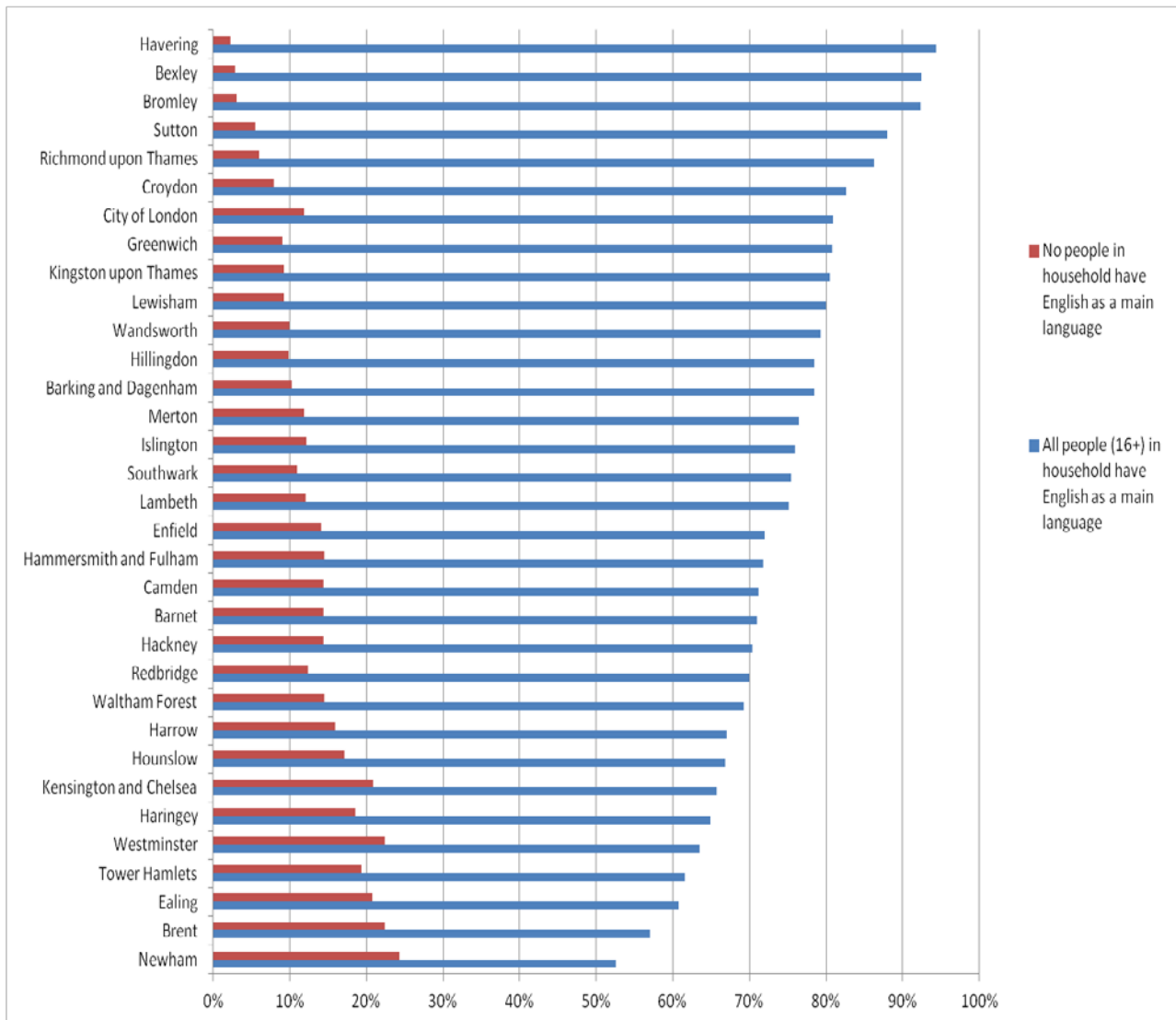
	All people (16+) in household have English as a main language	At least one but not all people (16+) have English as a main language	No people 16+ in household (but at least one person aged 3-15) has English as a main language	No people in household have English as a main language
North East	96.8	1.3	0.3	1.6
North West	94.2	2.4	0.5	2.9
Yorkshire & the Humber	93.4	2.9	0.5	3.2
East Midlands	93.3	2.6	0.5	3.6
West Midlands	91.9	3.7	0.7	3.7
East	93.6	2.9	0.5	3.0
South East	93.2	3.2	0.5	3.1
South West	95.9	1.8	0.3	2.0
Inner London	70.3	11.7	2.7	15.3
Outer London	76.7	9.5	2.5	11.2
London	74.0	10.4	2.6	12.9

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

London Boroughs

The boroughs with the highest proportion of households where everyone has English as a main language are clustered along the Eastern extent of Greater London. In Havering 94.4 per cent of households fall into this category, in Bexley 92.4 per cent and in Bromley 92.3 per cent. All three of these boroughs exceed the national average in this regard. The lowest proportion in London, and also in England as a whole, is Newham where just 52.6 per cent of households have occupants who all speak English as their main language. The lowest nine London Boroughs are also the lowest nine local authorities nationally. With the exception of South London, these boroughs are distributed across Greater London

Newham also has the highest proportion of households where no one speaks English as a main language with 24.3 per cent or 24,700 households. Brent and Westminster are the next highest local authorities nationally both with 22.4 per cent.

Figure 2: London Boroughs, English as a main language (percentage of households)

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

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