

# Census 2021: *Population, demography & health*

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Children and Adults Services

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# The 2021 Census collected information on individuals and households throughout England and Wales

## CENSUS BACKGROUND

The census is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales.

- The last census was conducted on Sunday 21 March 2021, and collected information on a range of themes, including:

<b>Demography &amp; Migration</b>	<b>Ethnicity, Identity, Language &amp; Religion</b>	<b>Health &amp; Disability</b>	<b>Housing</b>
<b>Work &amp; Travel</b>	<b>Sexual Orientation &amp; Gender Identity</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>UK Armed Forces Veterans</b>

### Reference

1. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

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**Demography & migration**

**Ethnicity, language & religion**

**Gender identity & sexual orientation**

**Health & disability**

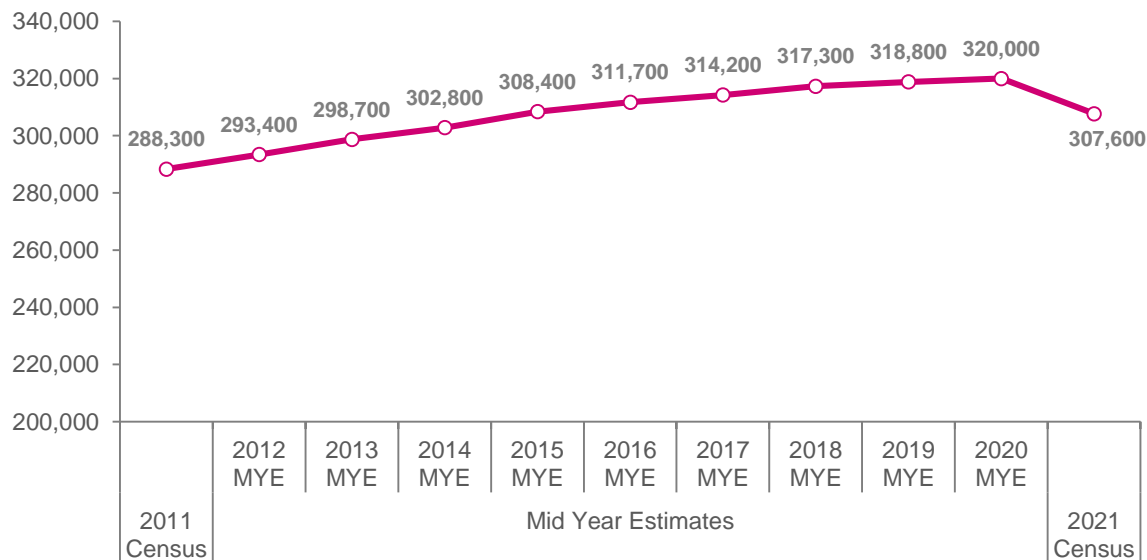
# In 2021, Southwark's estimated population decreased by over 12,000 people compared to the previous year

## POPULATION CHANGE

The usually resident population of Southwark on Census Day 2021 was 307,600 people, an increase of 7% or 19,300 people in the ten years since the 2011 Census.

- There has been a consistent upward trend in population estimates since the 2011 Census, reaching an estimate of 320,000 people in mid-2020.
- However, 2021 saw a decrease on the previous year, with the population estimate being 4% lower than the ONS mid-year estimate for 2020. This represents a decrease of 12,400 people over the year, and puts current estimates more similar to that seen in 2015.

Figure 1: Estimated resident population of Southwark, by year



### Reference

1. Office for National Statistics. 2022. Population & Household Estimates, England & Wales: Census 2021. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationandhouseholdestimatesenglandandwalescensus2021>

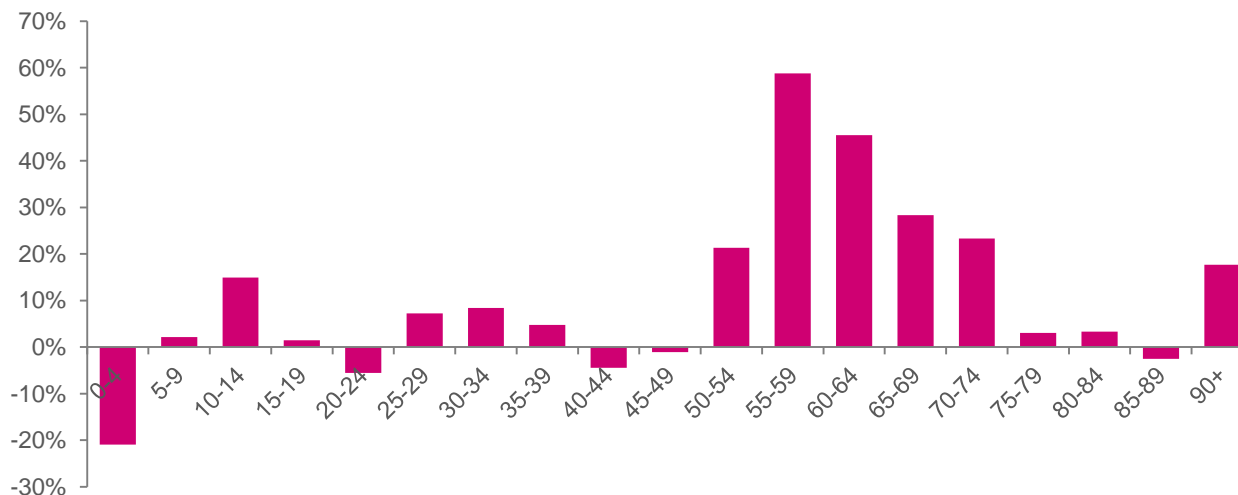
# Between the 2011 and 2021 Census, there was a substantial decrease in the number of children under 5 yr

## AGE STRUCTURE: 2011-2021

**Over the ten year period since the 2011 Census, the most significant changes in the age structure has been in adults aged between 55 and 70, and children aged under 5.**

- The largest increase in population has been among those aged 55 to 59, with an increase of 59% over the period, or 6,500 people.
- In comparison, the largest decline in population has been seen among those aged 0 to 4, with a decrease of 21%, or 4,400 people.
- The decrease in this age group in Southwark is larger than across London as a whole (-11%), and England (-7%). However, all have seen a drop, reflecting the decline in birth rates.

Figure 2: Percentage change in population in Southwark between 2011 and 2021, by 5-year age band



### Reference

1. Office for National Statistics. 2022. Population & Household Estimates, England & Wales: Census 2021. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationandhouseholdestimatesenglandandwalescensus2021>

# The COVID-19 pandemic probably had a large effect on Census 2021 population results

## POPULATION CONSIDERATIONS

### 1. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Census

- The census was taken during the COVID-19 pandemic, with respondents required to answer questions based on their place of residence on Census Day. At this time many COVID-19 restrictions were still in place.
- There is likely to have been substantial population movement and change in the period since the March 2021 Census. Notably, students returning to campus' after a time of remote learning, a return of workers in hospitality and entertainment sectors, and a return of people who left London temporarily during the pandemic.
- It is therefore possible that the drop in population seen between the 2020 mid-year estimates and the 2021 census results may only be short-term, with population numbers recovering in subsequent years.

### 2. Accuracy of mid-year estimates

- There are substantial differences when comparing the results of the 2021 Census with the population estimates for mid-2020 across London, ranging from +4% to -25%. Differences may be due to a number of factors relating to the accuracy of previous mid-year estimates, including:
  - Potentially under estimating the impact of the UK leaving the EU on population movements.
  - Age-related assumptions regarding international migration used in the mid-year estimates, particularly for children and the elderly.
  - The impact of both these factors would disproportionately affect London and those boroughs with high levels of international migration.

#### Reference

1. Greater London Authority. 2022. 2021 Census: First release.
2. Office for National Statistics. 2022. Quality and methodology information (QMI) for Census 2021.

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## Population

### Demography, housing & migration

### Ethnicity, language & religion

### Gender identity & sexual orientation

### Health & disability

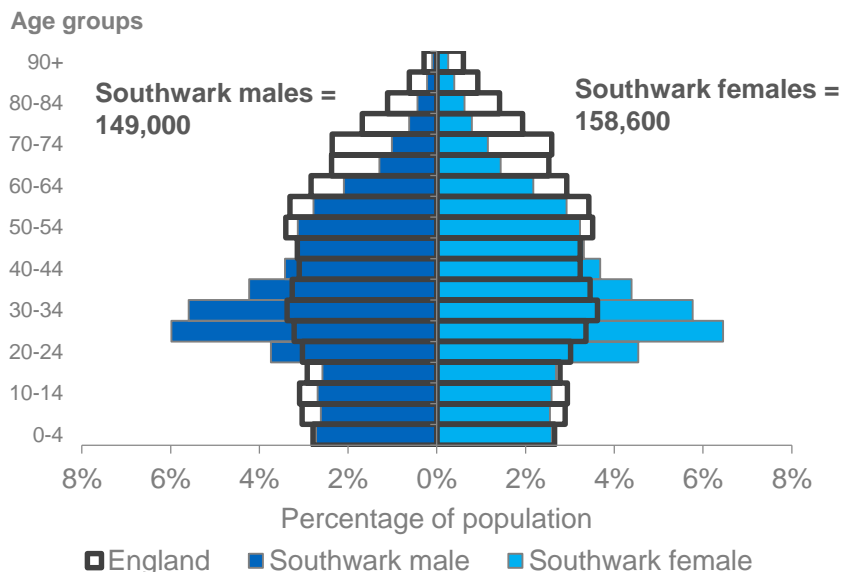
# Southwark's average age is more than two years younger than London and seven years younger than England

## AGE STRUCTURE

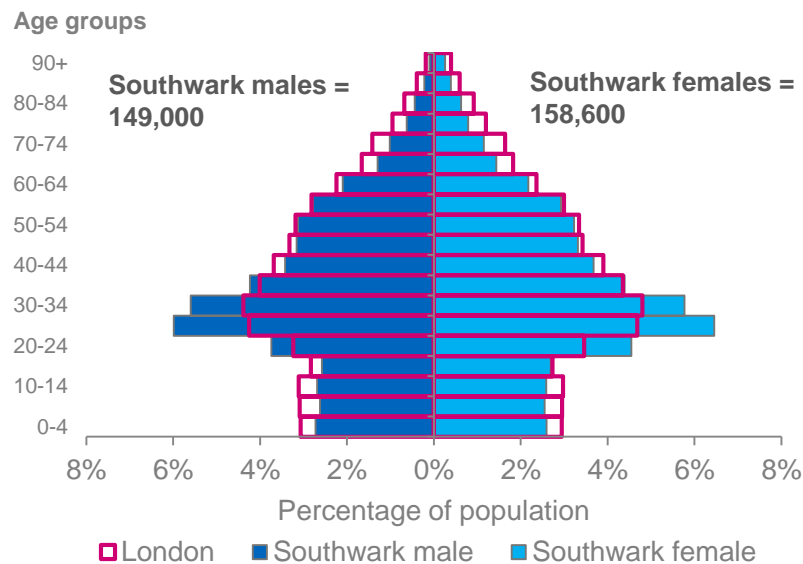
**On Census Day 2021, the usual resident population of Southwark was 307,600.**

- The average age of Southwark residents is **32.4 years**, which is more than two years younger than the average for London (34.9), and seven years younger than the average for England (39.4).
- The average age has increased by more than a year in the decade since the 2011 Census, when it was 31.2 years. Over the same period, London's population has aged by more than two years.
- While Southwark's population is comparatively young compared to London and England, this is not driven by a large number of children and young people. It is primarily the result of the large number of young adults in their 20s and 30s.

**Figure 3: Southwark population numbers and structure in 2021 compared to England**



**Figure 4: Southwark population numbers and structure in 2021 compared to London**



### Reference

1. Population and household estimates, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>



# The majority of Southwark residents live in private households, with average household size at 2.3 people

## HOUSEHOLD TYPE

**At the time of the Census 2021, the vast majority of Southwark residents were living in private households, with the average household size standing at 2.3 people.**

- In Southwark, there are approximately 130,800 households, an increase of over 10,000 since 2011.
- Around **98%** of the population in Southwark live in private households, with the remaining **2%** living in communal establishments including student accommodation. This is similar to London and England.
- The average household size for Southwark was **2.3**, the same as in 2011. The average household sizes for London and England were **2.5** and **2.4** respectively, which have also seen no change since 2011.

Figure 5: Household size in Southwark, by proportion of residents, 2021



**Note:** communal establishments are any providing managed or supervised residential accommodation, such as medical or care establishments, or student accommodation. Houses rented from the Council are private households and do not count as a communal establishment.

### Reference

1. Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022.  
<https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

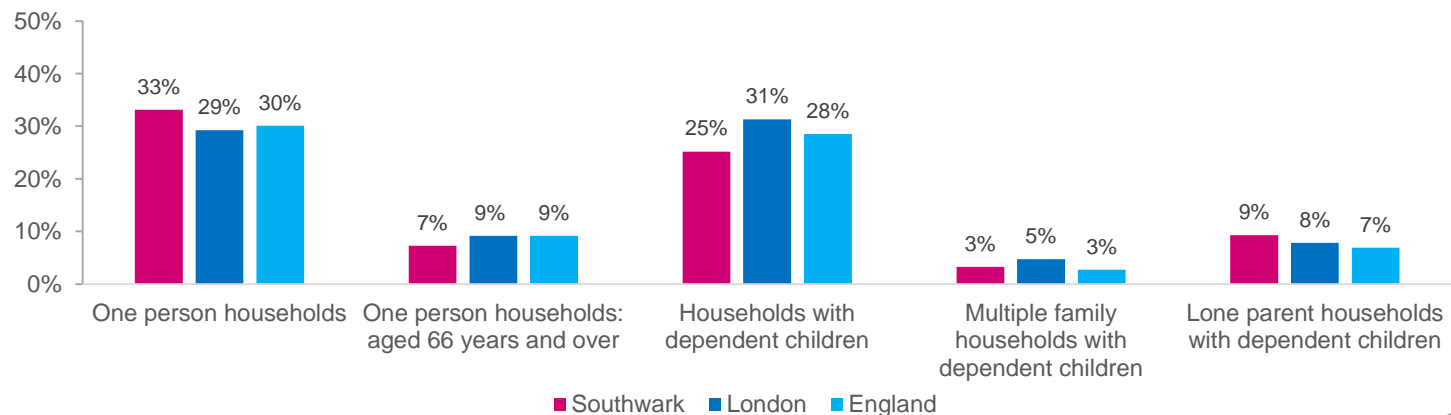
# On census day, over 9,500 Southwark 65+ yr residents lived alone

## HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

People living alone made up a significant proportion of household types in Southwark in 2021.

- At the time of Census Day 2021, one-third (33%) of Southwark residents were living alone. This is slightly higher than the proportion seen across London and England, and remains similar to 2011.
- **Over 9,500 residents aged 65 or over were living alone.** Similar proportions of the household population were made up of older residents living alone at the time of the Census 2011.
- Around **25% of households included at least one dependent child.** This has declined from 28% in 2011, equivalent to a decrease of over 1,100 households in the past decade.
- The proportion of households with dependent children in Southwark is smaller than London and England.
- One-tenth (9%) of all households consisted of a lone parent with dependent children, equivalent to over 12,000 households.
- Multiple-family households with dependent children made up 3% of Southwark households, a smaller proportion than across London (see Appendix for classification of a 'family').

Figure 6: Proportion of households in selected household compositions in Southwark, London and England, 2021



### Reference

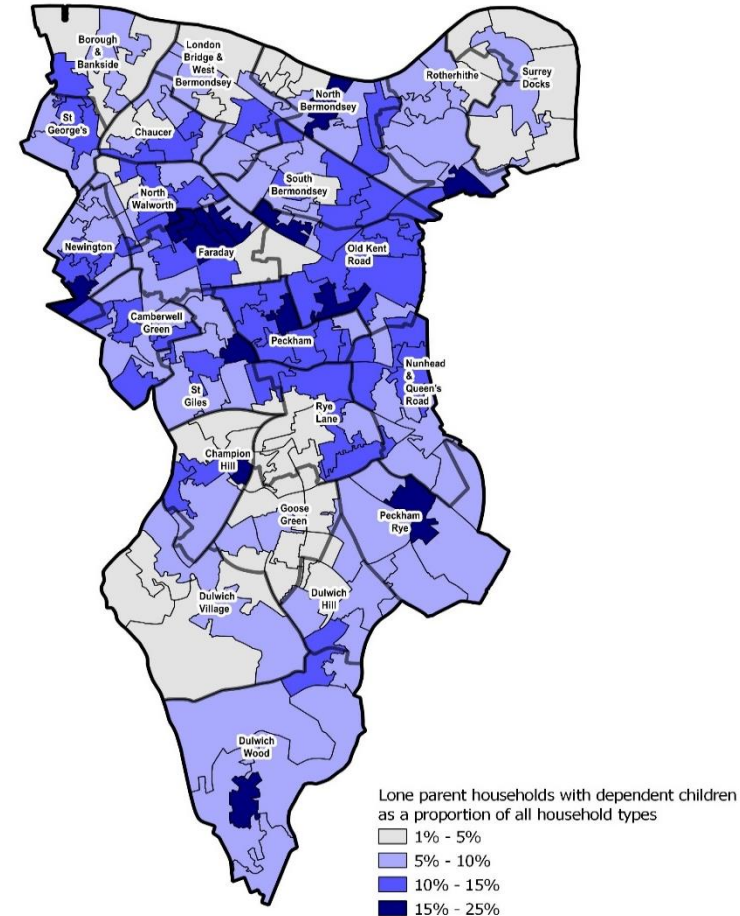
1. Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

# In some parts of Southwark, as many as one-quarter of all households are lone parents with dependent children

## LONE PARENT HOUSEHOLDS WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN

**In Southwark, over 12,100 households are made up of a lone parent with at least one dependent child.**

- Lone parent households with dependent children make up 9% of all household types in Southwark, though this varies substantially across the borough.
- Largest proportions of households consisting of lone parents with dependent children tend to be in the centre of the borough around Peckham, Faraday and Old Kent Road.
- Despite lower proportions in much of south Southwark, there is a pocket of a high number of households with dependent children around the Kingswood Estate, where one-quarter (25%) of all households are lone parents with dependent children.
- Lowest proportions are mostly seen in the north of Southwark, where as little as 1% of households are lone parents with dependent children.



**Note:** a dependent child is a person who lives in a family with their parent, parents, grandparent or grandparents, and is aged 0 to 15 years or 16 to 18 years in full-time education

### Reference

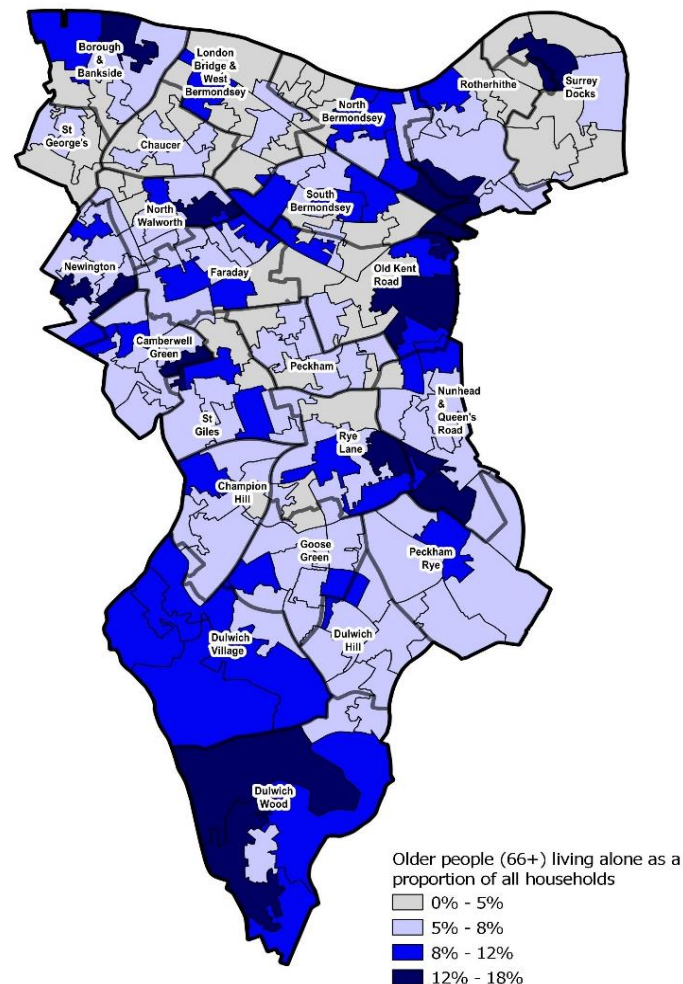
1. Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

# In some areas across Southwark, almost a fifth of all households are made up of older residents living alone

## OLDER PEOPLE LIVING ALONE

In Southwark, 7% of residents are aged 66 and over and living alone. Proportions of households made up of older residents living alone varies across the borough.

- In Southwark, over 9,500 residents aged 66 or over live alone; equivalent to 7% of all households counted in the Census.
- Largest proportions of households consisting of older people living alone are seen in areas in the south of the borough in Dulwich Wood ward: up to one-fifth (18%) of all households.
- Other areas with high proportions of older residents living alone are dotted around the borough, notably in the centre around Old Kent Road.
- Lowest proportions are seen in the north of the borough, which likely reflects the presence of student accommodations in these areas and an overall younger population.



### Reference

1. Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

# Half of all Southwark households face at least one type of disadvantage

## HOUSEHOLD DISADVANTAGE

**Half (51%) of all households in Southwark are disadvantaged in one or more of the following dimensions: employment, education, health and disability, and housing.**

- Households were classified in terms of dimensions of disadvantage, based on selected household characteristics. The specific classifications are noted in the Appendix.
- The number of households **not** disadvantaged in any dimension has increased since 2011. The numbers of households affected by all four dimensions of disadvantage has decreased since 2011, a change reflected across all London boroughs.
- This narrowing of disadvantage between households may be explained by an increase in the proportion of the population in employment, compared to 2011.

Figure 7: Household disadvantage in Southwark, London and England, 2011 and 2021



### Reference

1. Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>
2. Local Authority Health Profiles. OHID Fingertips Tool. Data to Nov 2022.

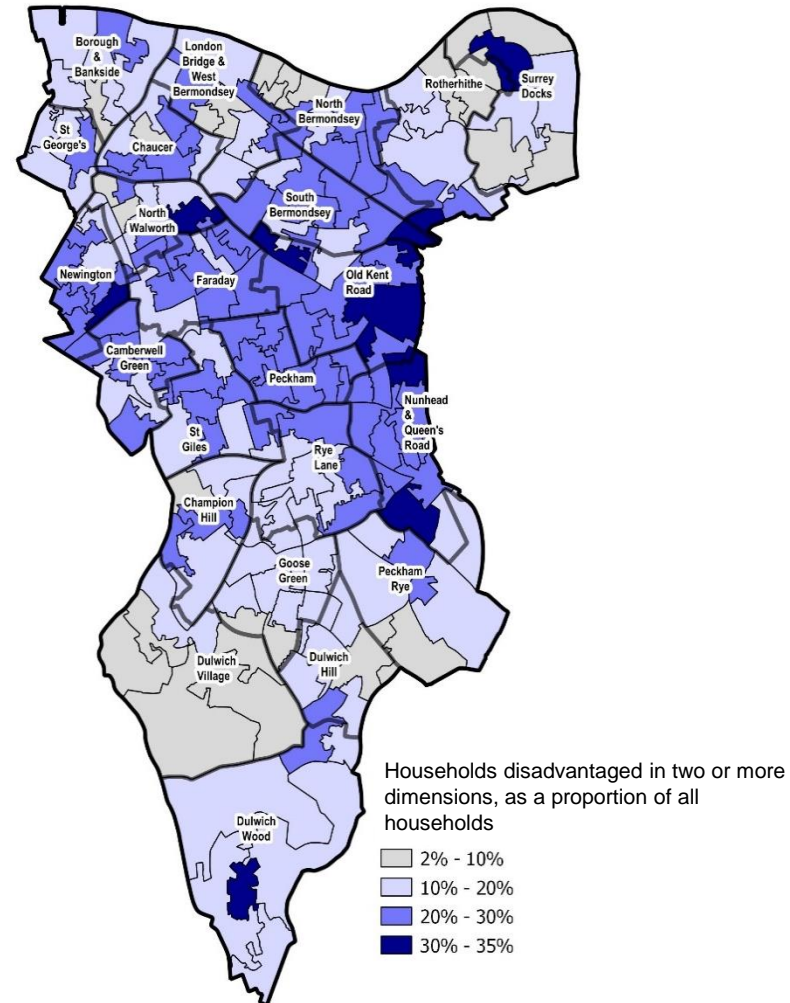


# Over a third of Old Kent Road and North Walworth households face two or more types of disadvantage

## HOUSEHOLD DISADVANTAGE: LOCATION

In Southwark overall, one-fifth (19%) of households are disadvantaged in two or more dimensions, equivalent to 25,000 households.

- The proportion of households disadvantaged in two or more dimensions increases to a third (35%) in some areas of the borough, particularly around Old Kent Road, North Walworth and Nunhead.
- Though Dulwich mostly has lower proportions of households experiencing substantial disadvantage, the small area encompassing the Kingswood Estate in the south of the borough has around one-third of all households disadvantaged in at least two dimensions.
- In comparison, as little as 2% of all households experience disadvantage in two or more dimensions in areas such as Dulwich Village and Bermondsey.



### Reference

1. Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

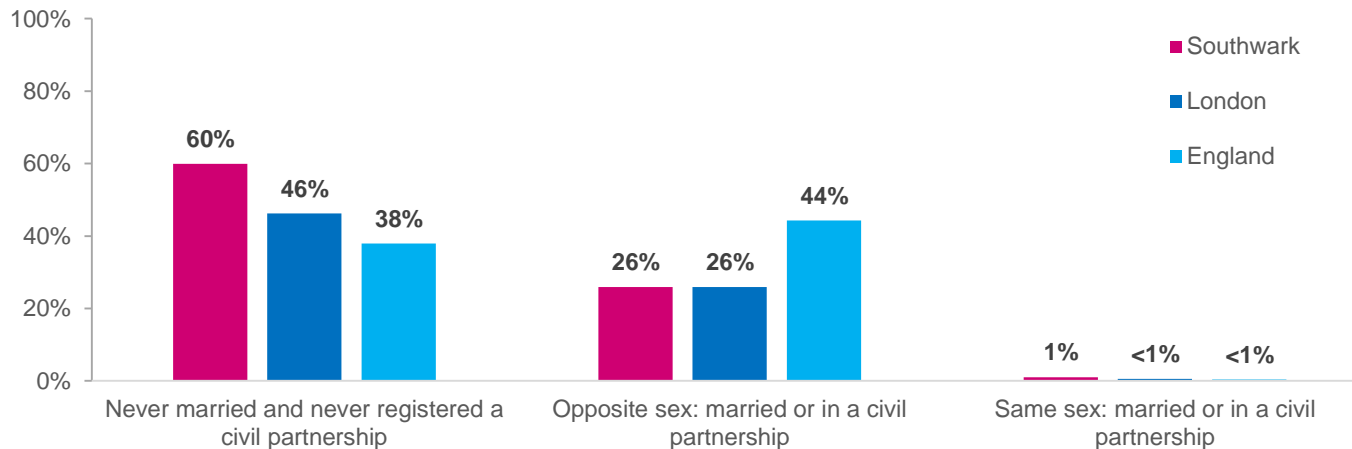
# Substantially higher proportions of Southwark residents have never married or civil-partnered, compared to London

## MARRIAGE & CIVIL PARTNERSHIP

**The 2021 Census was the first census to collect data on same-sex marriage and opposite-sex civil partnerships.**

- The largest category of Southwark residents, representing 60% of those aged 16 and over, was those who are single (never been married and never been in a civil partnership). This has increased by a fifth (19%) since 2011.
- Southwark and London differ from England where there are substantially higher rates of opposite sex marriage and civil partnership than seen in the capital.
- Around 2,600 Southwark residents aged 16 and over reported being in a same-sex marriage or civil partnership, making a total of 1% of the population. This is slightly higher than the proportion across London and England (0.6% and 0.4%, respectively).

Figure 8: Legal status of residents in Southwark, London and England, 2021



### Reference

1. Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

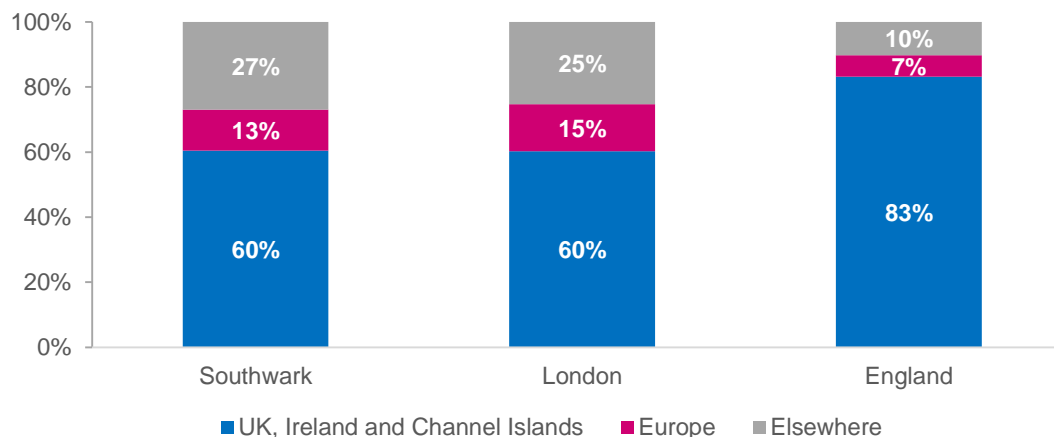
# Proportions of Southwark residents born outside the UK reflects the London average, but far exceed England

## COUNTRY OF BIRTH 1

**At the time of the Census in March 2021, 40% of Southwark residents had been born in a country that was not part of the UK, Ireland or Channel Islands. This is comparable to London as a whole.**

- Over a tenth (**13%**) had been born in a European country, with the highest number of residents from Europe being born in **Italy (5,900 residents), Spain (4,500 residents) or France (3,800 residents).**
- This has changed from 2011, when the highest number of residents born in a European country were born in Poland, comprising 12% of Southwark's European-born population at the time. In 2021, there were 600 less residents who were Poland-born.
- Between 2011 and 2021, substantial increases in numbers of residents born in Romania were seen across London and England. While still a smaller population in Southwark, the number of people born in Romania increased by over 1,000 people in the decade.
- There was a significant increase in EU migration to the UK between 2013 and 2015. The UK then exited the European Union in 2016, which will likely have impacted EU in-migration to Southwark.

Figure 9: Residents' country of birth as proportion of total population, 2021



### Reference

1. International migration, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>



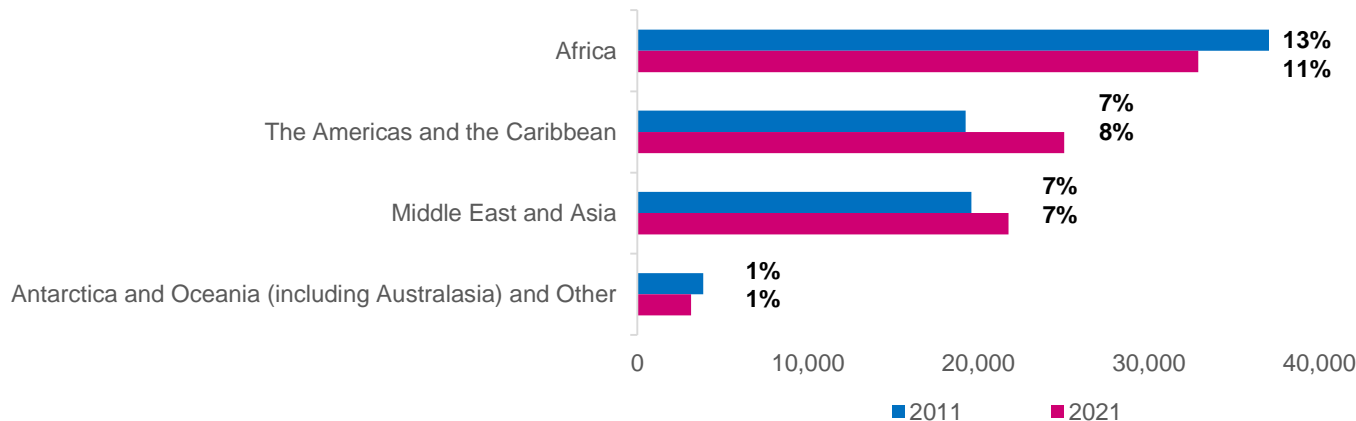
# Large numbers of Southwark residents were born in African and South American countries

## COUNTRY OF BIRTH 2

**Over a quarter of Southwark residents were born in a country outside the UK\*, Ireland or Europe.**

- Just under 33,000 (11%) Southwark residents were born in Africa. This is substantially higher than the proportion seen across both London and England as a whole.
- This has declined since 2011, when 37,000 residents or 13% were born in Africa.
- Around 22,000 (7%) were born in the Middle East and Asia, which is notably lower than the proportion across London as a whole. This has increased by around 3,000 residents since 2011, but makes up roughly the same proportion of the population.
- Around 25,000 (8%), were born in the Americas or the Caribbean, with over half of these residents being born in countries in South America, a substantial proportion of the total population.
- Numbers of residents from this region have increased by around 6,000 since 2011, making up an extra 1% of the total population in 2021.

Figure 10: Southwark resident country of birth, by world region, total number of residents and proportion of population



\*Note: Reference to UK here includes the Channel Islands

### Reference

1. International migration, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

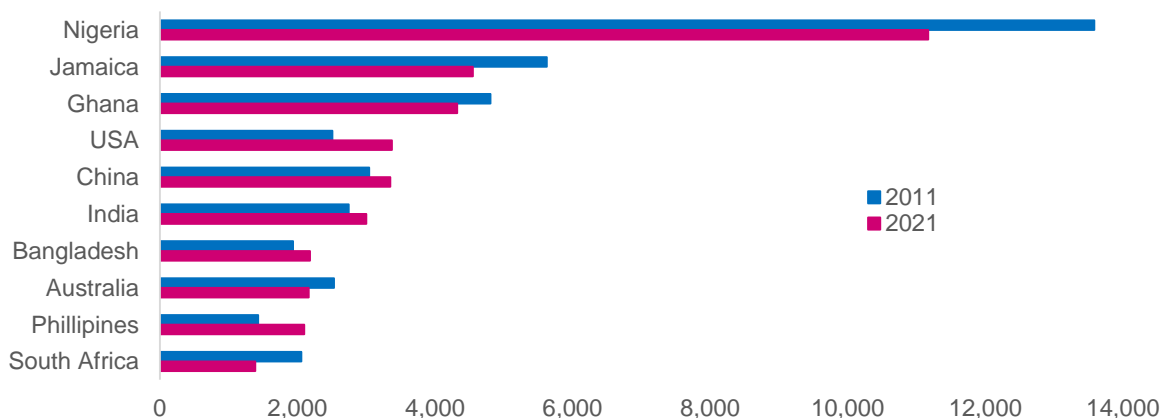
# Nigeria is still the most common country of birth outside the UK and Europe, for Southwark residents

## COUNTRY OF BIRTH 3

**Over a quarter of Southwark residents were born in a country not in the UK, Ireland or Europe.**

- At the time of the 2021 Census, **27%** of Southwark residents were born in a country not in the UK, Ireland, Channel Islands or Europe. This is similar to 2011, when the proportion was 28%.
- This is similar to that seen across London (25%), but substantially higher than in England (10%).
- Highest numbers born *outside these regions* were born in **Nigeria, Jamaica and Ghana**. This has not changed since 2011, but the numbers of residents born in each of these countries has decreased.
- This differs from London, where the top countries of birth outside of the UK, Ireland and Europe were in South Asia: India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.
- Data was not collected for all individual countries and therefore is not always comparable to 2011 data:
  - Residents born in Sierra Leone counted as the fourth highest 'Other' country in 2011. However in 2021, Sierra Leone was included in the broader 'Other Central and Western Africa'.
  - There will therefore be distinct countries of birth that are unaccounted for in Figure 9.

Figure 11: Highest number of Southwark residents born in countries outside the UK, Ireland or Europe, 2011 and 2021



### Reference

1. International migration, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

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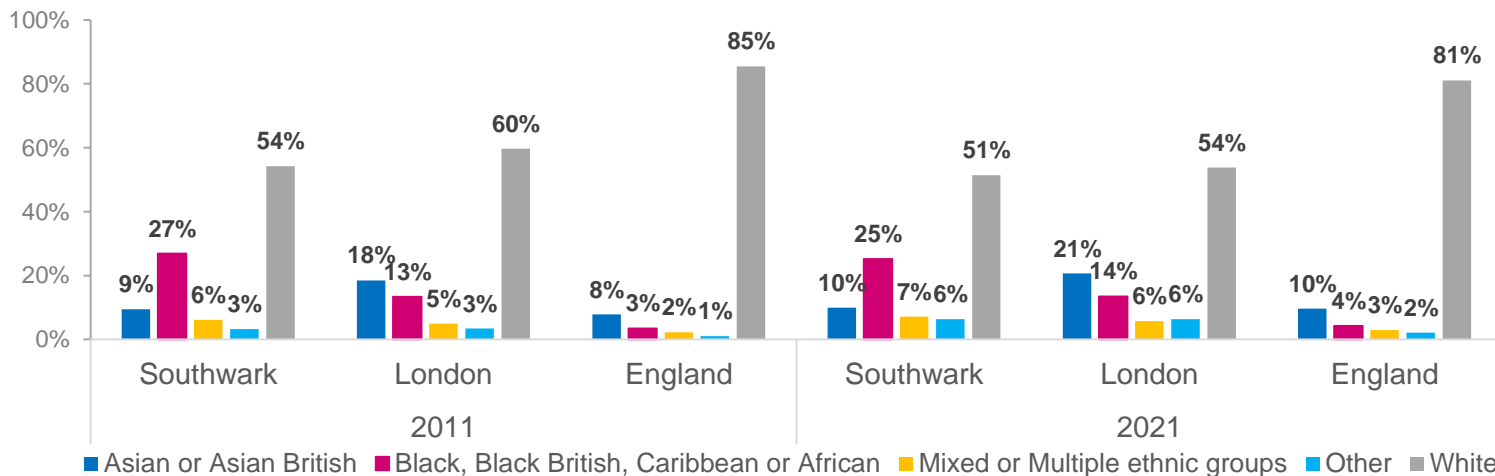
# Half Southwark's residents are from White groups and one-quarter from Black groups, similar to 2011

## ETHNICITY: OVERALL

Around half (51%) of residents reported their ethnicity to be White, equivalent to 158,000 people in Southwark. This proportion is slightly lower than London and substantially below that for England.

- Southwark had a higher proportion of residents (25%) reporting their ethnicity as 'Black, Black British, Caribbean or African', compared to London (14%) or England (4%).
- The proportion of residents identifying as 'Asian or Asian British' is notably smaller in Southwark (10% of population) than it is across London as a whole (21% of the population).
- 7% of residents reported their ethnicity as 'Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups', which is slightly higher than the proportion across London and England.
- The proportion of residents in Southwark reporting their ethnicity of 'Other' rose from 3% in 2011 to 6% in 2021, representing an increase of 10,000 people over the period.
- Southwark residents reported a total of 282 individual ethnicities in the 2021 census.

Figure 12: Ethnicity in Southwark, London and England, in 2011 and 2021, as a proportion of the population



### Reference

1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

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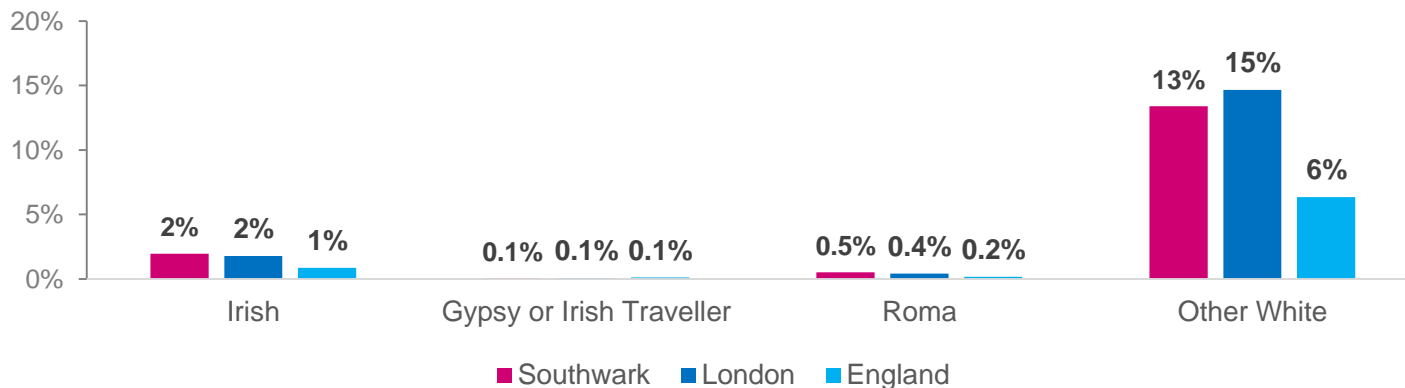
# Levels of White British ethnicity have decreased since 2011

## ETHNICITY: WHITE

Just over half the population identify as being from a White ethnic background. This includes those who identify as White British, White Irish, Gypsy or Irish Traveller, Roma, or Other White.

- 158,000 (51%) Southwark residents reported their ethnicity to be under the broad ethnic group 'White'.
- Over one-third (36%) of the population in Southwark recorded their ethnicity as White British (i.e. 'White: English, British, Welsh Scottish or Northern Irish'), a decrease from 40% in 2011 and representing a drop of 5,200 people in Southwark over the period.
- This is similar to London levels (37%) but substantially lower than England levels (74%).
- 'White Roma' was included as a category for the first time in the 2021 Census: around 1,600 people in Southwark recorded their ethnicity as 'White Roma', equivalent to 0.5% of the total population.
- This is comparable to London as a whole, where over 37,600 people (0.4%) recorded their ethnicity as White Roma.

Figure 13: Non-White-British White ethnic groups across Southwark, London and England, as a proportion of total population, 2021



### Reference

1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

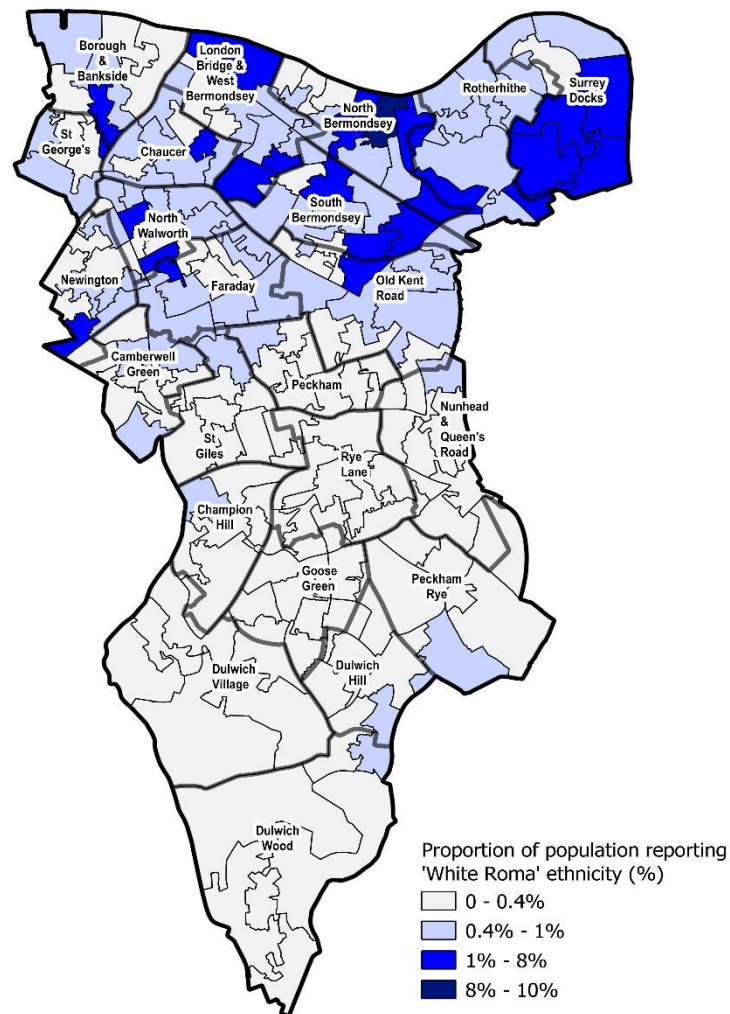
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# Residents from White Roma groups tend to live in north Southwark

## ETHNICITY: WHITE ROMA

**'White: Roma' was included as a separate category for the first time in the Census 2021.**

- The number of Southwark residents with White Roma ethnicity is small overall, with populations concentrated in particular areas in the borough.
- The White Roma population is concentrated in small areas in the north of the borough near Surrey Docks and Bermondsey, particularly around North Bermondsey where some areas had around 10% of the population reporting White Roma ethnicity.



### Reference

1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

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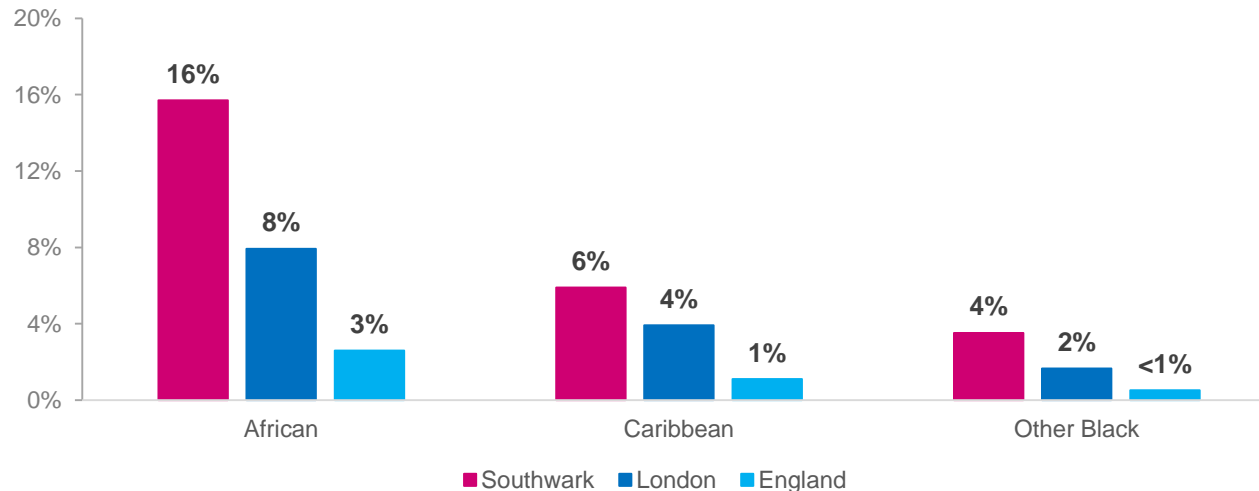
# One-quarter of Southwark residents report Black, Black British, Caribbean or African ethnicity

## ETHNICITY: BLACK

**Around 77,300 or one-quarter (25%) of Southwark's residents identified their ethnicity to be Black, Black British, Caribbean or African.**

- Under this broad ethnic group category 'Black, Black British, Caribbean or African', 48,300 Southwark residents selected the tick-box option 'African', making up around 16% of Southwark's population.
- This proportion is the same as in 2011, and remains substantially higher than the proportion across both London (8%) and England (3%).
- Almost 18,200 (6%) of Southwark's residents selected the tick-box option 'Caribbean'. The proportion identifying as Caribbean is slightly higher than that seen across London (4%) and England (1%).

Figure 14: Ethnic group proportions within the 'Black, Black British, Caribbean or African' ethnic group category, across Southwark, London and England in 2021, as a proportion of the total population



### Reference

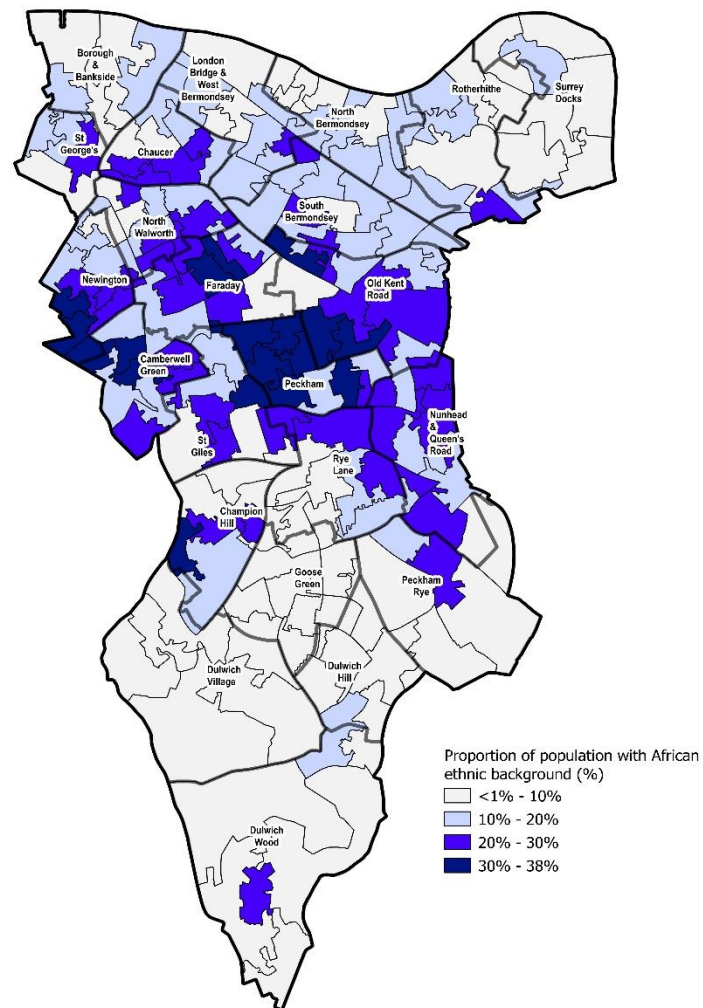
1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census> Slide 23

# In some central Southwark neighbourhoods, more than one-third of residents are from African groups

## ETHNICITY: AFRICAN

Almost one-fifth (16%) of Southwark's residents reported their ethnicity as African, but this proportion varies significantly across the borough.

- Most residents reporting African ethnicity tend to live in areas across the centre of the borough, particularly in Peckham, Camberwell and Faraday.
- In these areas, as much as 38% of the population identify with African ethnicity.
- This proportion decreases substantially in many areas in the south and north of the borough, where as little as 1% of the population have African ethnicity.



### Reference

1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census> Slide 24

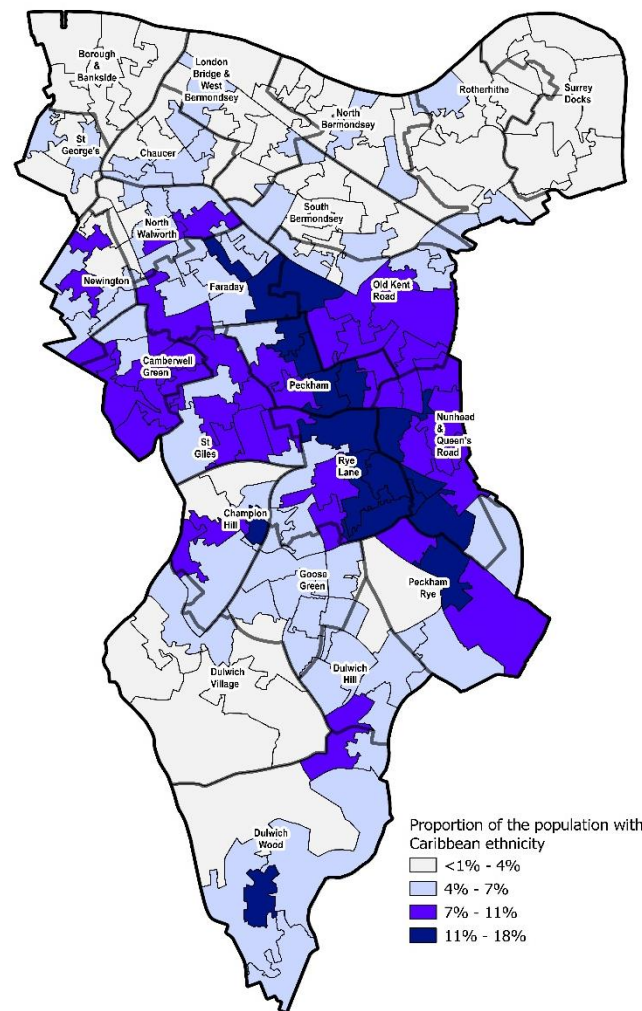


# In some Peckham and Rye Lane neighbourhoods, almost one-fifth of residents are from Caribbean groups

## ETHNICITY: CARIBBEAN

Residents identifying with Caribbean ethnicity account for 6% of Southwark's total population, but this proportion differs substantially across the borough.

- The areas seeing higher proportions of the population with Caribbean ethnicity are similar to that seen for residents with African ethnicity i.e. in the centre of the borough.
- Many areas in the centre of the borough, particularly around Peckham and Rye Lane, have up to one-fifth (18%) of the total population identifying with Caribbean ethnicity.
- Throughout much of the north of Southwark, residents identifying with Caribbean ethnicity make up as little 0.2% of the population.



### Reference

1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census> Slide 25

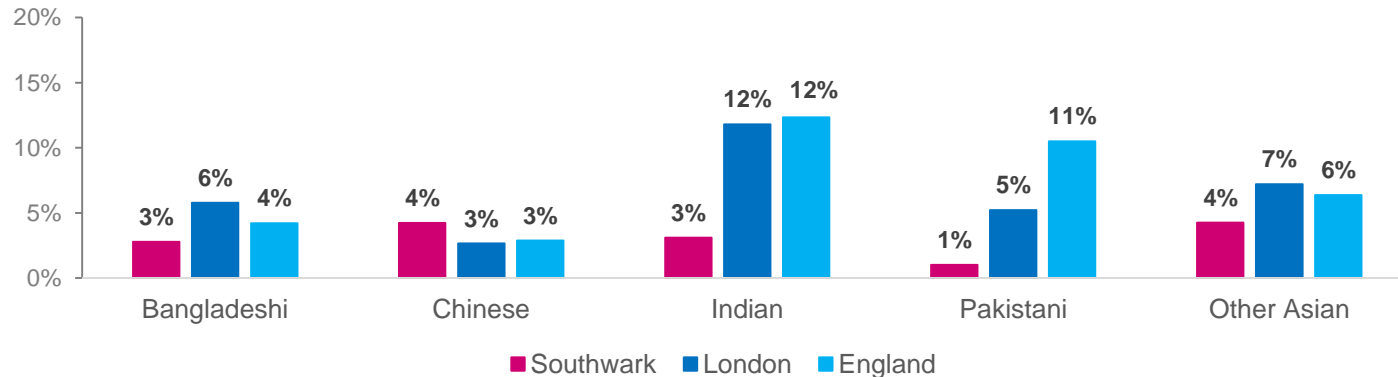
# Chinese is the most commonly reported Asian/Asian British ethnicity in Southwark

## ETHNICITY: ASIAN

**At the time of the Census 2021, around 30,500 Southwark residents recorded themselves as having an 'Asian or Asian British' ethnicity, equivalent to a tenth (10%) of the total population.**

- Within this broad ethnic group category, 'Chinese' and 'Other Asian' were the most commonly selected ethnicities, each equivalent to 8,400 residents or 3% of the total population.
- This differs significantly from London, where there are notably higher proportions of the population made up of residents identifying as 'Indian', 'Pakistani', and 'Bangladeshi'.
- Since 2011, there has been a small increase in the percentage of residents reporting their ethnicity as 'Bangladeshi' across Southwark, London and England; all other broader categories have remained at similar levels.
- In addition, over 2,200 Southwark residents also provided a write-in response reporting their ethnicity to be Filipino, though this makes up less than 1% of the population.

Figure 15: Ethnic group proportions within the 'Asian or Asian British' ethnic group category, across Southwark, London and England in 2021, as a proportion of the total population



### Reference

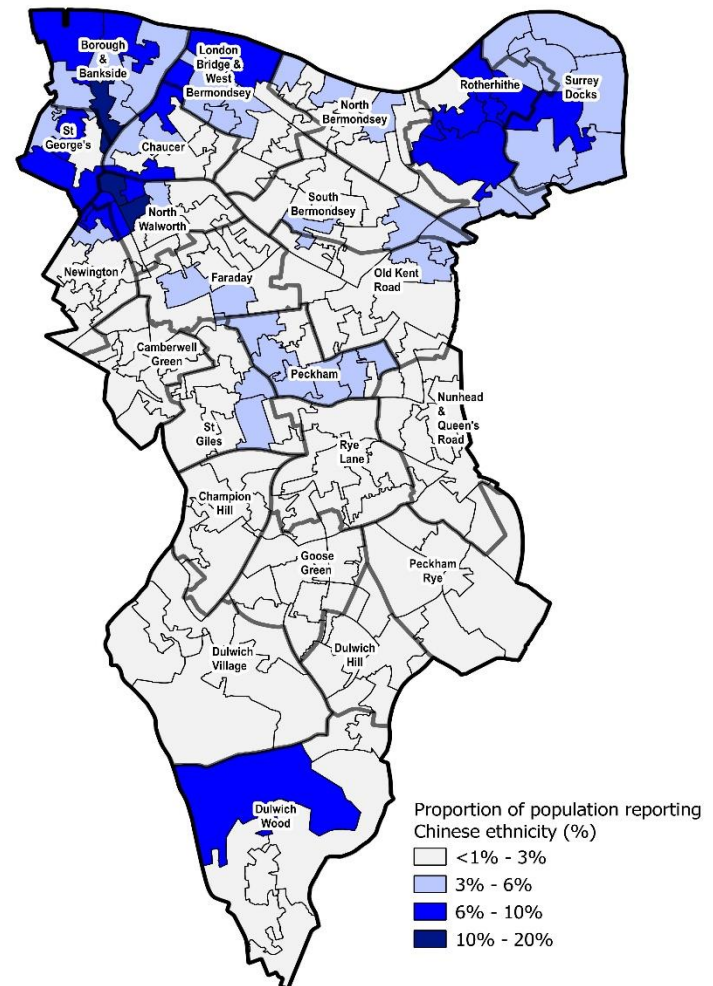
1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census> Slide 26

# Chinese residents tend to live in north or far south Southwark

## ETHNICITY: CHINESE

Residents with Chinese ethnicity account for a small proportion of the population overall (3%), and tend to live in a small number of areas across the borough.

- In most parts of Southwark, residents identifying with Chinese ethnicity account for as little as 0.4% of the population.
- However, in a small number of neighbourhoods in the north east and north west – such as in Borough & Bankside - those with Chinese ethnicity account for around one-fifth (20%) of the population.



### Reference

1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

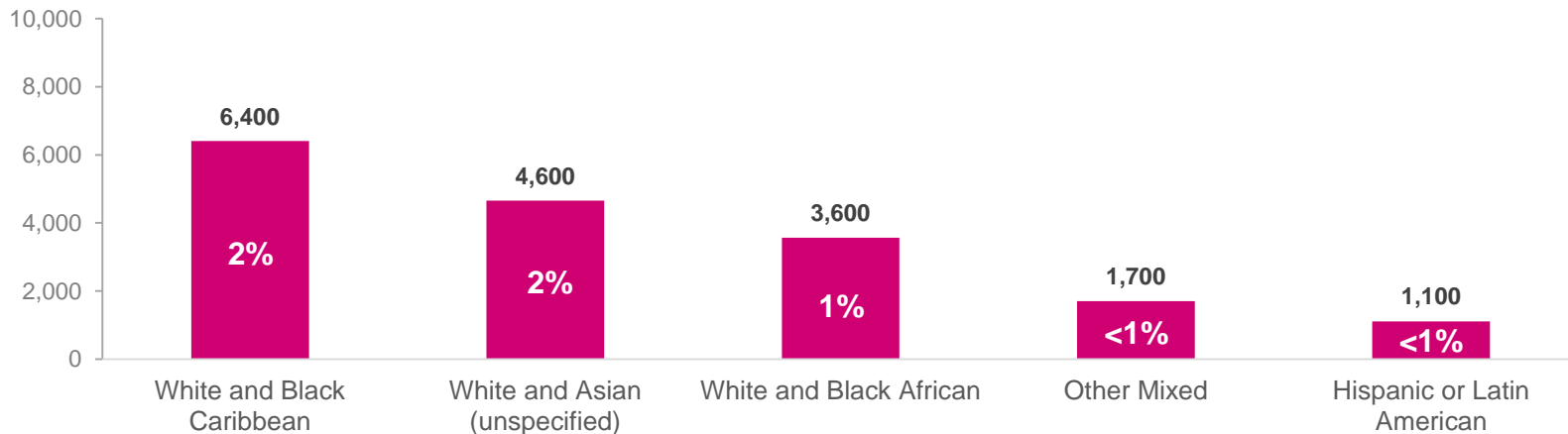
# In Southwark, the most common 'Mixed' ethnicity was 'White and Black Caribbean'

## ETHNICITY: MIXED

**A total of 22,100 Southwark residents identified with a 'Mixed or multiple ethnicity', representing around 7% of Southwark's population.**

- 'White and Black Caribbean' was the most commonly reported ethnicity under the 'Mixed or multiple ethnic groups' category, equivalent to 6,400 residents (2% of the population).
- White and Black Caribbean was also the most common 'Mixed or multiple ethnicities' ethnic group reported across London.
- Notable numbers of residents reported a 'White and Asian' ethnicity (4,600 people), or 'White and Black African' (3,600 people).
- Around 1,100 residents reported their ethnicity to be 'Mixed or multiple ethnicities: Hispanic or Latin American'.

Figure 16: Number of Southwark residents identifying with the most common ethnicities within the 'Mixed or multiple ethnicities' category, and proportion of the Southwark population



### Reference

1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

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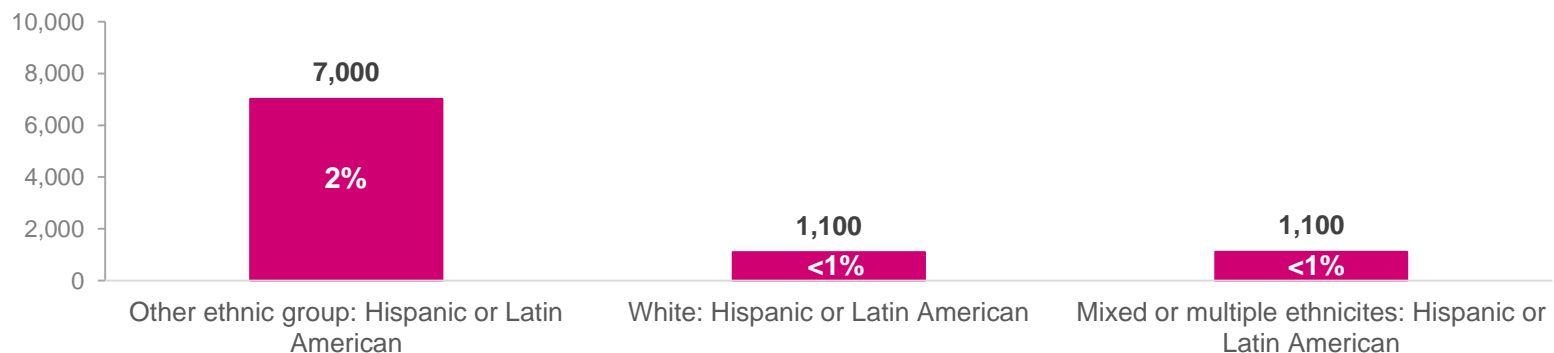
# Southwark has over 9,000 residents identifying with Hispanic or Latin American ethnicity

## ETHNICITY: HISPANIC OR LATIN AMERICAN

Census 2021 provided respondents with the option to write in their ethnic group, allowing for an estimation of the number of residents identifying with an 'Hispanic or Latin American' ethnicity.

- On completing the Census, respondents were first asked to select from five broad ethnic groups from: White; Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups; Asian or Asian British; Black, Black British, Caribbean or African; or Other ethnic group. They would then further specify their ethnicity using either the tick boxes provided or the write-in option.
- Across Southwark, an 'Hispanic or Latin American' ethnicity appeared separately under the high-level ethnic categories of 'White', 'Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups', and 'Other ethnic group'.
- A total of about 9,200 residents reported Hispanic or Latin American ethnicity: 7,000 reported 'Other: Hispanic or Latin American' ethnicity; 1,100 reported 'White: Hispanic or Latin American' ethnicity; and 1,100 reported 'Mixed or multiple ethnic groups: Hispanic or Latin American' ethnicity.
- Despite the large overall number of Hispanic/Latin American residents, ONS advises that these residents be treated as separate, distinct ethnic groups.

Figure 17: Number of Southwark residents identifying with 'Hispanic or Latin American' ethnicity under the broad ethnic group categories, and proportion of the total population



### Reference

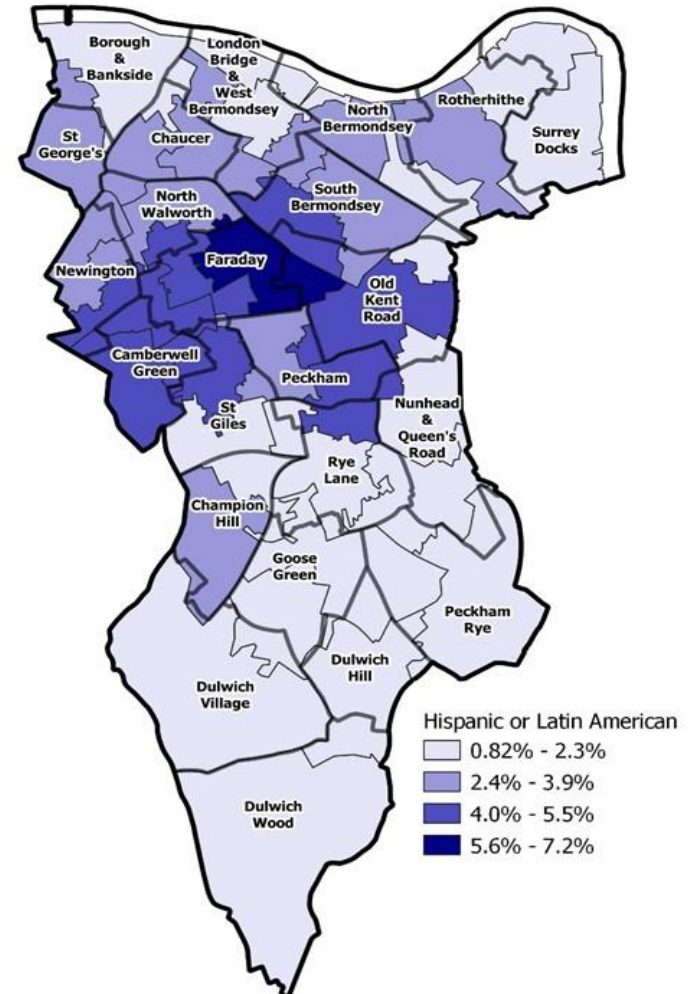
1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census> Slide 29

# Highest levels of Hispanic and Latin American ethnicity are in some Faraday and Old Kent Road neighbourhoods

## ETHNICITY: HISPANIC AND LATIN AMERICAN 2

**Census 2021 was the first to record data on Hispanic and Latin American ethnicities.**

- About 1 in 30 (3%; 9,200) Southwark residents reported a Hispanic and/or Latin American ethnicity.
- In parts of Faraday and Old Kent Road, 1 in 14 (7.2%) residents reported a Hispanic or Latin American ethnicity.
- In contrast, in areas of Goose Green, Dulwich Hill and Peckham Rye, fewer than 1 in 100 (0.8%) residents identified with these ethnic groups.



### Reference

1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>



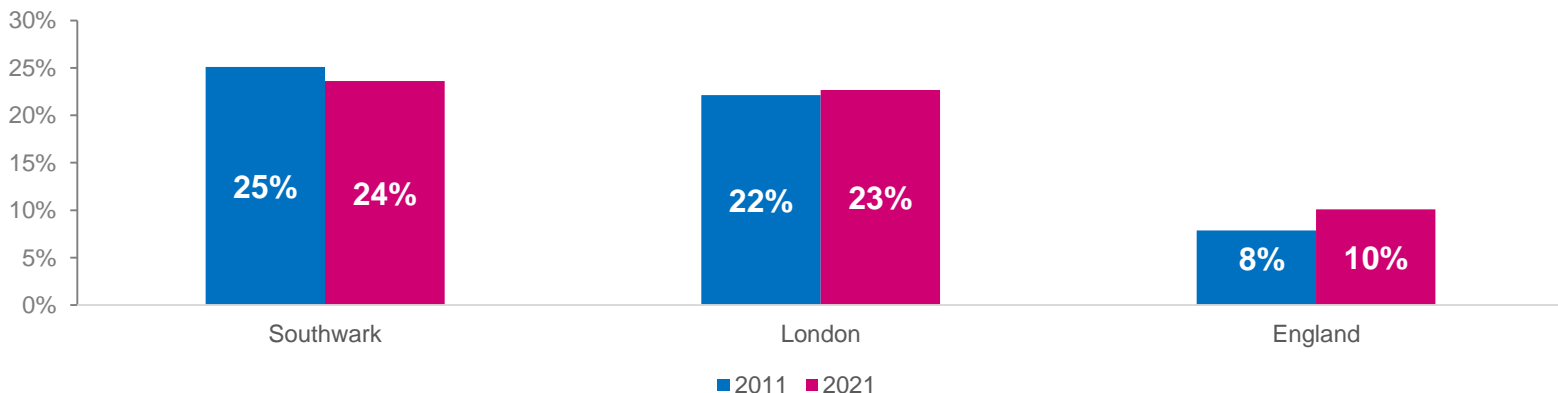
# One-quarter of Southwark's population report a non-UK national identity

## NATIONAL IDENTITY

The national identity question allows respondents to express where they feel they belong, irrespective of ethnic group, citizenship, or country of birth.

- At the time of Census Day 2021, **72,600** residents of Southwark reported their national identity to be something *other than* a UK identity, equivalent to **24%** of the population. This is a slight decrease from 2011, but remains substantially higher than the proportion nationally.
- The most common non-UK national identity in Southwark was '**Spanish (including Canary Islander)**', with 7,200 residents reporting this as their national identity, equivalent to 2% of the population.
- Across London, the most common non-UK national identity was 'Romanian', equivalent to 2% of the population.
- Across England the most common non-UK national identity was 'Polish', making up 1% of the population nationally.

Figure 18: Percentage of residents identifying with a non-UK national identity in Southwark, London and England, as a proportion of the total population



### Reference

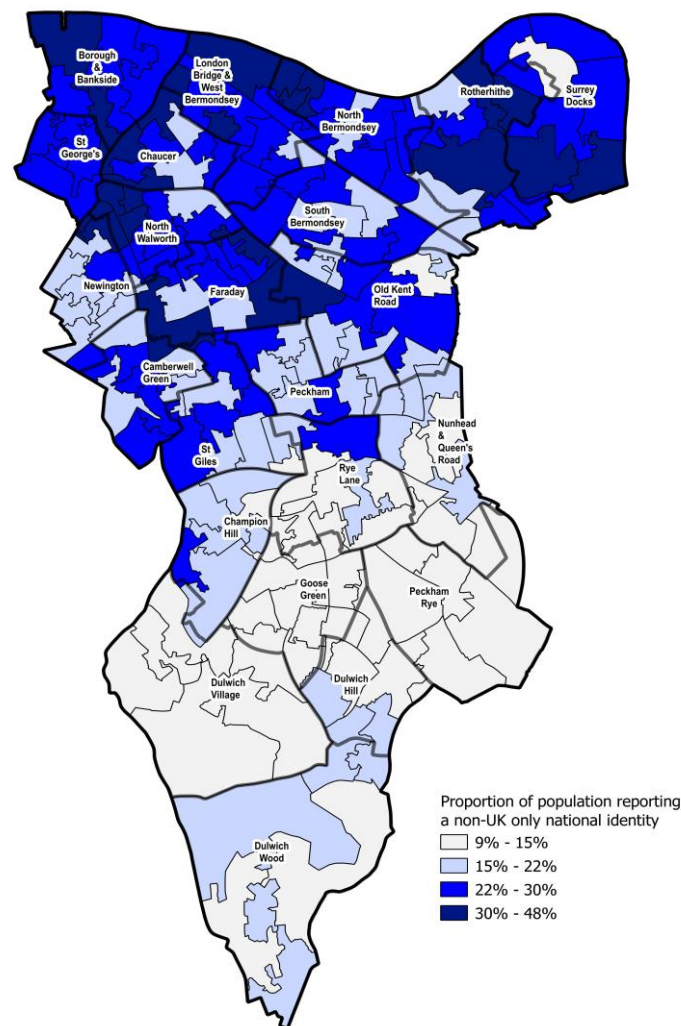
- National identity, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census> Slide 31

# In some north Southwark neighbourhoods, up to one-half of residents have a non-UK national identity

## NATIONAL IDENTITY 2

In total, one-quarter (24%) of Southwark residents have a national identity that is not within the UK.

- Residents reporting a national identity outside the UK tend to live in the north and the centre of the borough, where as much as half (48%) of the population have a non-UK national identity.
- This contrasts with much of the south of Southwark, where the substantial majority of residents have a UK-based national identity.



### Reference

- National identity, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>
- International migration, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>



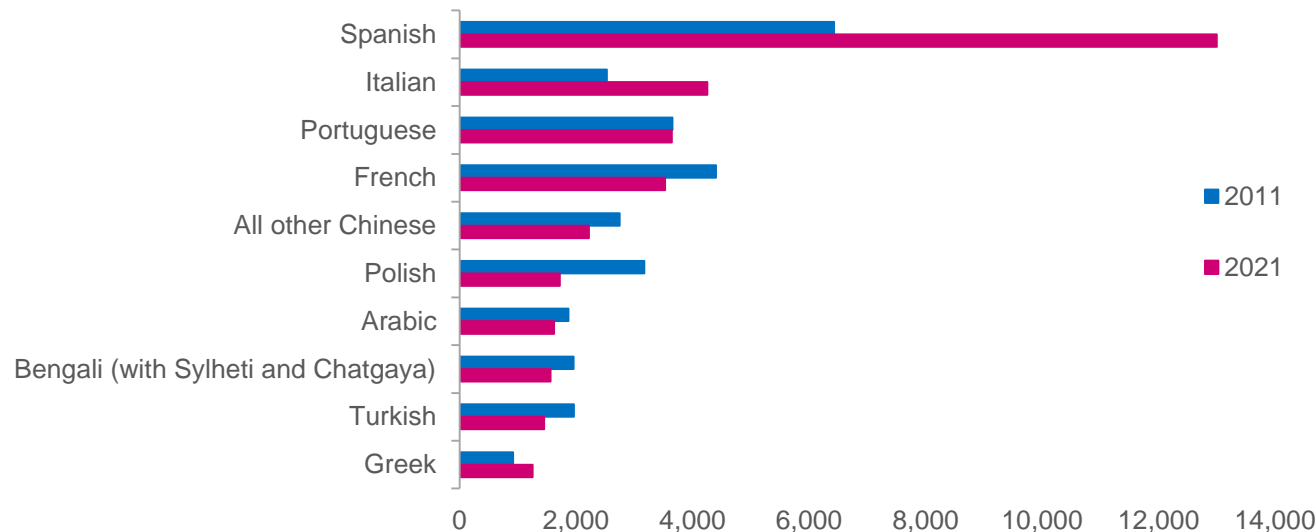
# Spanish is the most common non-English main language; numbers have doubled in 10 years

## MAIN LANGUAGE SPOKEN

**In Southwark, over 80 different main languages are spoken by residents.**

- The majority of Southwark residents (244,000) reported their main language to be English, 79% of the population. This is similar to that seen across London (76%), but lower than the proportion nationally (88%). This has not changed significantly since 2011.
- Of those Southwark residents who listed a main language other than English, most had Spanish as their main language.
- Around 13,000 people listed Spanish as their main language, a number which has doubled since 2011 and is equivalent to one-fifth (20%) of the population who listed a main language other than English.
- Substantial numbers of people reported Italian or Portuguese or French as their main language.

Figure 19: Top main languages spoken (other than English), Southwark 2011 and 2021, by number



### Reference

1. Language, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

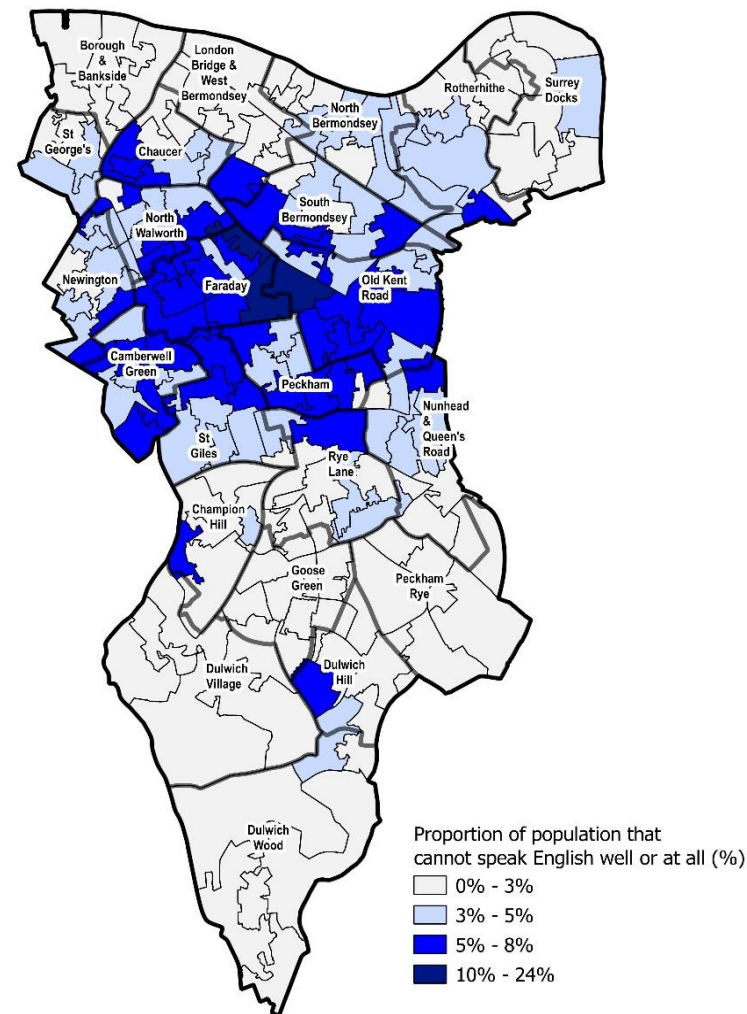
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# In some central Southwark neighbourhoods, almost one-quarter of residents have low/no English proficiency

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Of the 53,700 Southwark residents who *did not* report English as their main language, the vast majority (81%) could speak English well or very well.

- However, 10,200 residents reported not being able to speak English well, or speak English at all, accounting for 3% of Southwark's total population.
- This proportion differs significantly by geographical area in the borough. In the centre of Southwark, particularly around Faraday and Old Kent Road, as many as one-quarter (24%) of all residents have low or no English proficiency.
- This contrasts substantially with most of the north and south of Southwark, where the majority of residents have high English proficiency or have English as their main language.



### Reference

1. Language, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

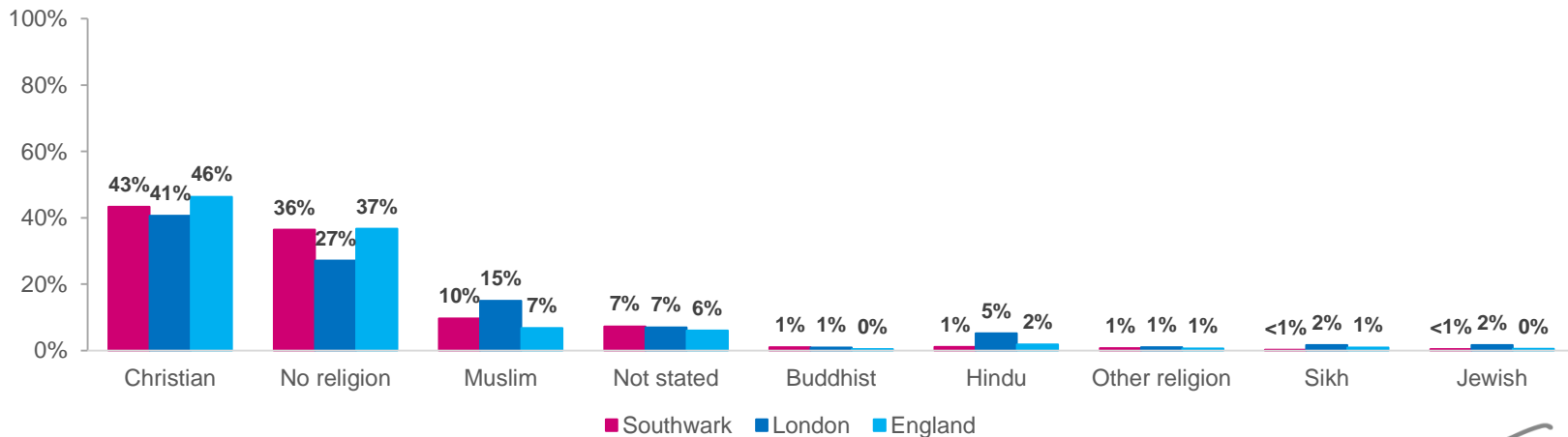
# Four-fifths of Southwark residents are either Christian or non-religious

## RELIGION

**Over 40 distinct religions were identified among Southwark residents in 2021.**

- A total of 133,300 Southwark residents reported their religion to be Christian, equivalent to 43% of the population. This proportion has decreased by ten percentage points over the decade (from 53%), representing a drop of 18,100 residents reporting Christian religion.
- The Census 2021 saw the Christian population proportion fall below half for the first time.
- 'No religion' was the second most common reported among Southwark residents, representing over one-third (36%) of the population, substantially larger than across London (27%), but similar to the proportion nationally (37%).
- Over 29,600 Southwark residents reported their religion to be Muslim, making up a substantial proportion of the population at 10%.
- Those with Muslim or Hindu religion made up a notably smaller proportion of the population in Southwark than was seen across London.

Figure 20: Resident religion across Southwark, London and England, 2021, as a proportion of total population



### Reference

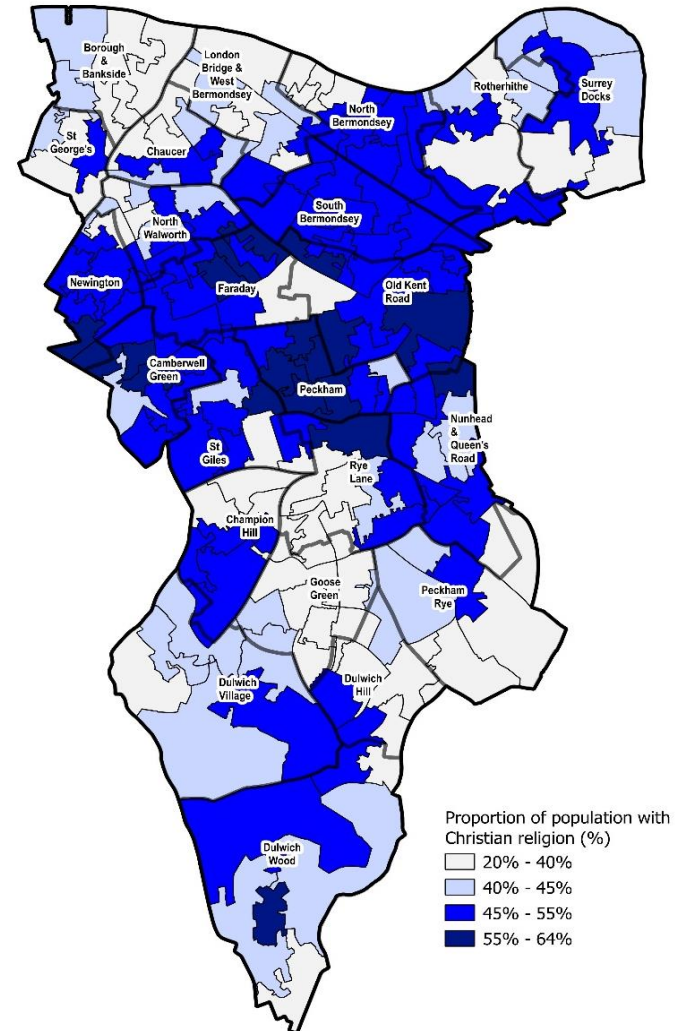
1. Religion, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

# In some Peckham and Old Kent Road neighbourhoods, almost two-thirds of residents are Christian

## RELIGION: CHRISTIAN

**Around 133,300 residents reported their religion to be Christian, equivalent to 43% of Southwark's population.**

- Though significant Christian populations are seen across many areas in the borough, Peckham and Old Kent Road in particular have a large proportion of their residents reporting Christian as their religion.
- In these areas, between half (55%) and two-thirds (64%) of residents have Christian religion.
- This proportion decreases to one-fifth (20%) in other areas throughout the borough, such as in Borough & Bankside.



### Reference

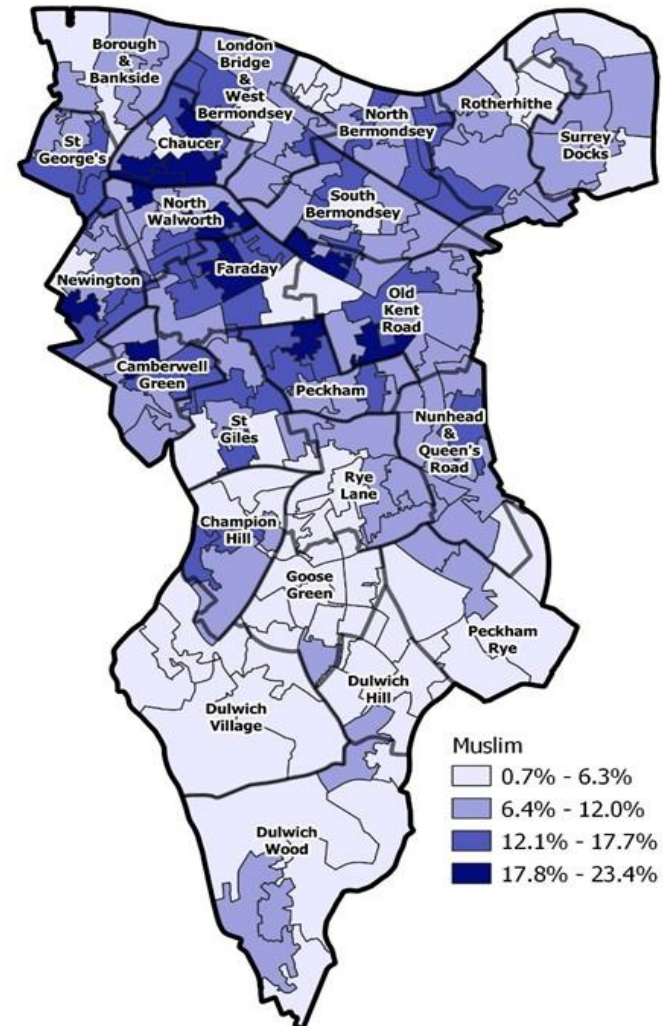
1. Religion, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

# Muslim residents are most prevalent in a number of central and north Southwark neighbourhoods

## RELIGION: MUSLIM

Muslim residents comprised the third most common religious group in Southwark, numbering about 29,600 (1/10th (10%) of the population).

- Small neighbourhood areas with higher levels of Muslim residents were found throughout north-central Southwark.
- In some neighbourhoods in Chaucer and North Walworth, almost 1 in 4 (23%) of the population were Muslim.
- In contrast, in parts of North Bermondsey, fewer than 1 in 140 (0.7%) were Muslim.



### Reference

1. Religion, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

## CONTENTS

**Population**

**Demography & migration**

**Ethnicity, language & religion**

**Gender identity & sexual orientation**

**Health & disability**



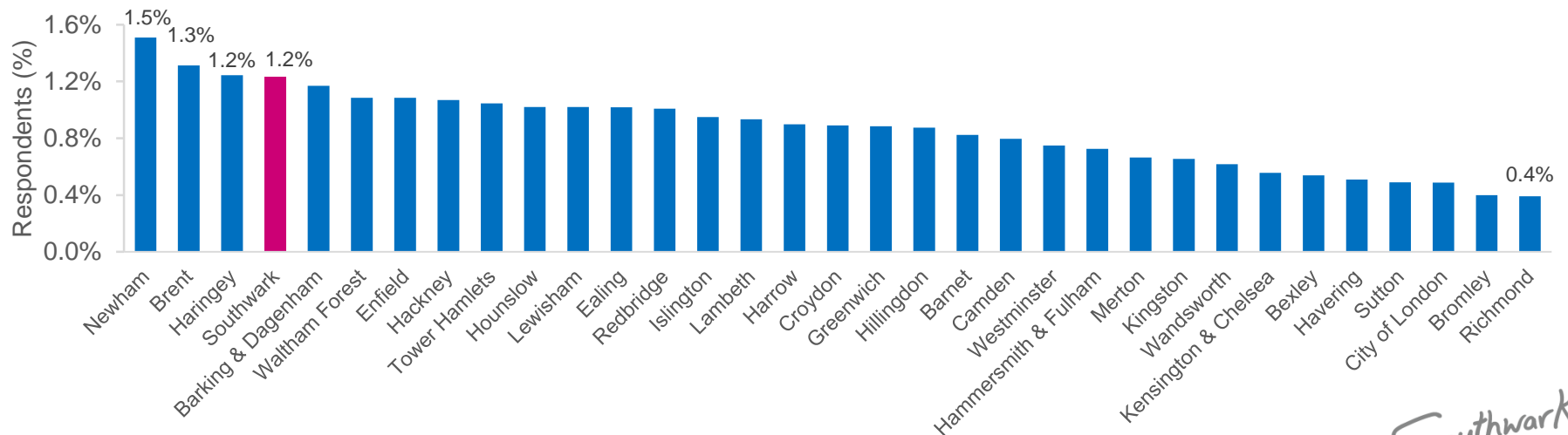
# At least 3,200 Southwark people have a gender identity different from their sex at birth: about 1 in 80 residents

## GENDER IDENTITY: PREVALENCE

Census respondents were asked whether their gender identity was the same as their sex registered at birth.

- In Southwark, about 1 in 80 (1.2%; 3,200) 16+ yr residents reported a gender identity different from their birth sex registration, significantly higher than London (0.9%) and England (0.5%) levels.
- Southwark ranked 5th highest in England and 4th highest in London for levels of trans identity.
- These are probably substantial under-estimates. 7.3% of Southwark residents did not answer.

Figure 21: Proportion of 16+ yr respondents with a gender identity different from their sex registered at birth, by London borough, Mar 2021



### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Gender identity, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents.

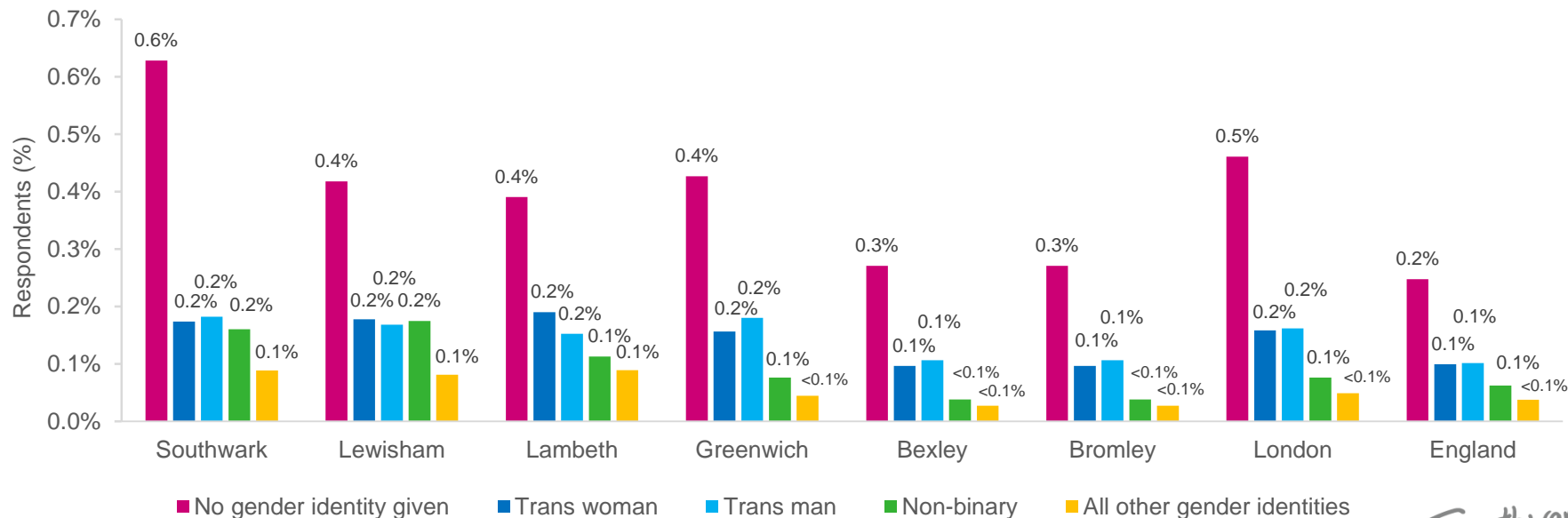
# Half of Southwark trans people use no specific identity term; most others use 'trans woman', 'trans man' or 'non-binary'

## GENDER IDENTITY: IDENTITY TYPES

Census respondents whose gender identity differed from their sex registration at birth were asked to write in their gender identity.

- Around half (51%; 1,600) of all Southwark trans people did not write in a specific gender identity; other South East London boroughs, London and England had a similar pattern.
- As at March 2021, Southwark had about 450 trans men, 450 trans women, 400 non-binary and 250 'other' gender identity residents.

Figure 22: Proportion of 16+ yr respondents with a gender identity different from their sex registered at birth, by specific gender identity, for Southwark, other south east London boroughs, London and England, March 2021



### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Gender identity, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents.



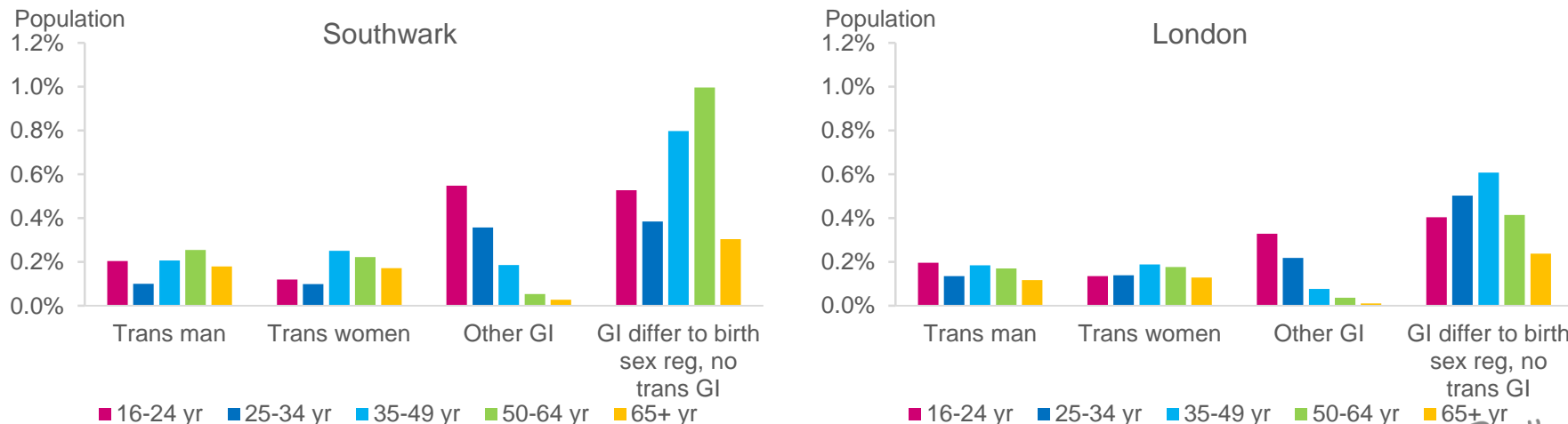
# 1 in 200 Southwark under-25 yr olds identifies with an 'other' trans gender identity (including non-binary)

## GENDER IDENTITY: AGE

### Census data breaks down gender identity numbers by age group.

- The age structure of Southwark trans men and trans women residents is spread fairly evenly across the age range.
- In contrast, three-quarters (74.6%) of Southwark's 'other' gender identity (including non-binary) residents are aged under 35 yrs, a pattern seen London-wide. This sub-group makes up nearly one-third (30.6%) of all Southwark residents with a non-cis-gendered identity.
- 1 in 200 (0.55%; about 200 people) Southwark 16-24 yr olds identifies with an 'other' gender identity (including non-binary); this is two-thirds higher than London levels (0.33%).
- The age profile of those with gender identity differing from their birth sex registration but no specific identity is very different to trans-identified residents, in both Southwark and London.

Figure 23: Proportion of 16+ yr respondents reporting trans identity, for specific gender identities, by age group, for Southwark and London, March 2021



#### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation and gender identity data combining multiple variables, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents. GI = gender identity; reg = registration.

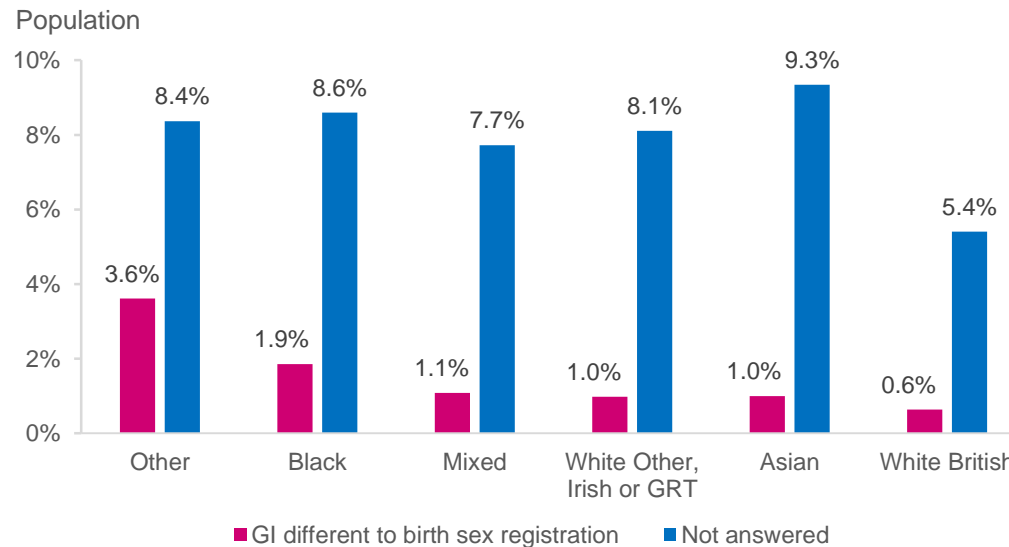
# Southwark trans residents are more likely to be from 'Other' and Black ethnic groups

## GENDER IDENTITY: ETHNICITY

### Gender identity data is available broken down by main ethnic group.

- Among Southwark adult residents, highest levels of trans identity (i.e. gender identity differing from birth sex registration) occurred in 'Other' (1 in 30; 3.6%; about 600 people) and Black (1 in 50; 1.9%; about 1,100 people) ethnic groups; levels in other ethnic groups were significantly lower.
- About 1 in 12 (7.3%) Southwark residents did not answer the census gender identity question; these non-respondents were much more likely to be from non-White-British ethnic groups. Thus, trans identity is likely to be more under-reported in those groups than among White British respondents.

Figure 24: Proportion of Southwark 16+ yr respondents reporting trans identity or no response, by main ethnic group, March 2021

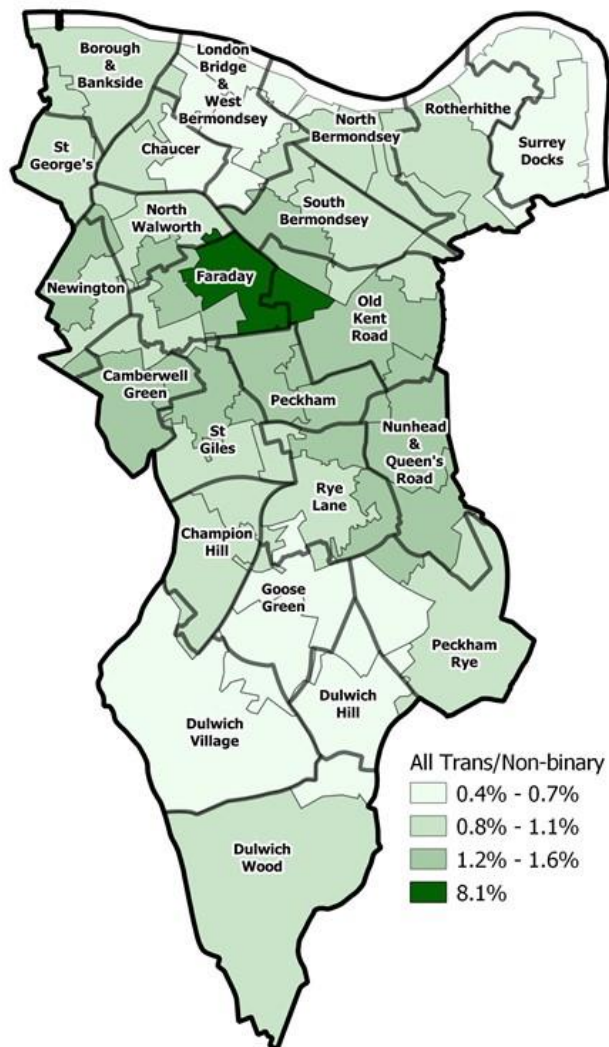


#### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation and gender identity data combining multiple variables, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents. GI = gender identity; GRT = Gypsy, Roma and Traveller.

# Southwark's Burgess Park neighbourhood has the highest trans prevalence: 1 in 12 of residents

## GENDER IDENTITY: ALL TRANS



**Census 2021 data reported the prevalence of total trans residents at large neighbourhood (MSOA) level.**

- Over 1 in 12 (8.1%; about 600) residents in Southwark's Burgess Park neighbourhood area (extending across Faraday and Old Kent Road wards) reported a gender identity differing from their birth sex registration; this was the highest trans prevalence in England (far ahead of 3.8% in East Central Oxford and 2.4% in Manor Park, Newham). The Burgess Park neighbourhood area was home to almost one-fifth (19.0%) of all Southwark trans residents.
- The next highest ranking Southwark neighbourhoods had far lower prevalences: around 1 in 70 (about 100 residents):
  - Nunhead North, 1.6%
  - Peckham Park Road, 1.6%
  - Walworth South, 1.6%
- Southwark's Herne Hill & Dulwich Park neighbourhood areas had the lowest proportions of trans residents, at 0.4% (fewer than 1 in 200; fewer than 30 residents).

### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Census 2021: gender identity. MSOA = middle super output area.

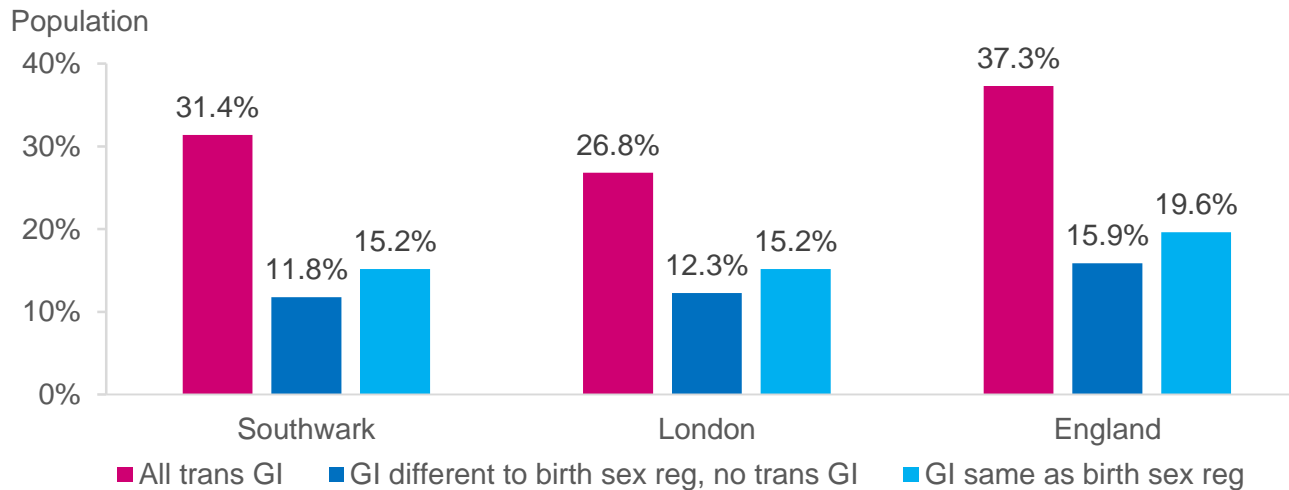
# Trans people have double the disability level of cis-gendered people, despite their younger age profile

## GENDER IDENTITY: DISABILITY

### Census 2021 collected data on disability, broken down by gender identity type.

- Southwark trans-identified residents had about double the disability prevalence of cis-gendered residents, despite their younger age profile; this pattern was seen across Southwark, London and England.
- Almost 1 in 3 (31%) Southwark trans-identified residents reported being disabled; levels were significantly higher than in London (about 1 in 4; 26.8%), but significantly lower than in England (about two-fifths; 37.3%).
- People reporting a different gender identity to their birth sex registration but no specific gender identity had significantly lower disability levels compared with cis-gendered people, across Southwark, London and England.

Figure 25: Proportion of 16+ yr respondents of different gender identities reporting a disability, by gender identity type, for Southwark, London and England, March 2021



#### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation and gender identity data combining multiple variables, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents. GI = gender identity; reg = registration

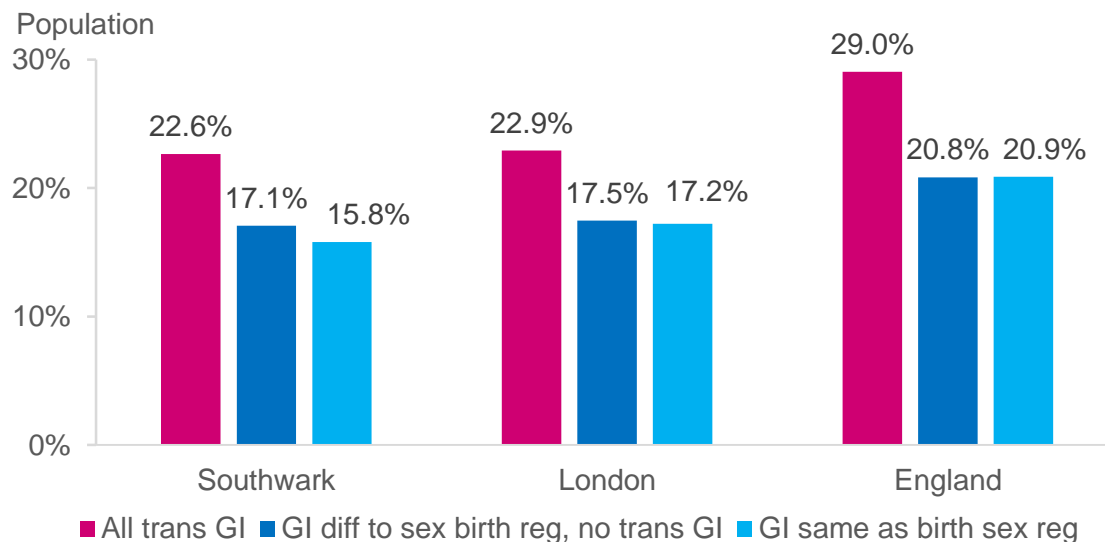
# Southwark trans-identified residents report worse general health than cis-gendered residents

## GENDER IDENTITY: GENERAL HEALTH

### Census data on gender identity is broken down by self-reported general health.

- In Southwark, very bad, bad or fair health was reported by over 1 in 5 (22.6%) trans-identified residents (i.e. trans man, trans woman or other trans identity); levels were one-third higher than in cis-gendered residents (about 1 in 6; 15.8%).
- A similar pattern was seen across London and England.
- Southwark residents with a gender identity different from their birth sex registration but no specific gender identity had similar levels of poor to health as cis-gendered residents (17.1% and 15.8%, respectively).

Figure 26: Proportion of 16+ yr respondents of different gender identities reporting very bad, bad or fair health, by gender identity type, for Southwark, London and England, March 2021



#### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation and gender identity data combining multiple variables, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents. GI = gender identity; reg = registration

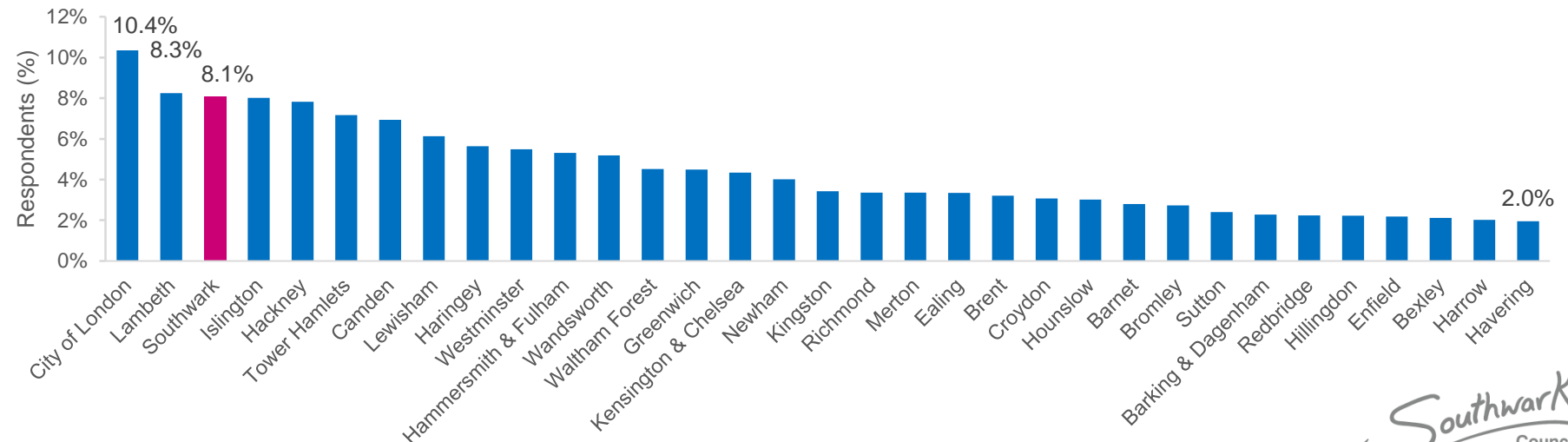
# More than 1 in 12 Southwark residents have an LGB+ sexual identity: about 20,700 residents

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION: PREVALENCE

**Census respondents were asked which term best described their sexual orientation: straight or heterosexual; gay or lesbian; bisexual; or another orientation.**

- In Southwark, more than 1 in 12 (8.1%; 20,700) residents reported an LGB+ sexual identity, around double the levels for London (4.3%) and England (3.2%).
- Southwark ranked 4th highest in England and 3rd highest in London. Seven of the top 10 local authorities were in London.
- Due to social stigma around non-heterosexual identities, these figures are likely to be substantial under-estimates. Almost 1 in 10 (9.2%) Southwark residents did not answer the census sexual orientation question.

Figure 27: Proportion of London 16+ yr respondents with an LGB+ identity, by borough of residence, March 2021



### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents.

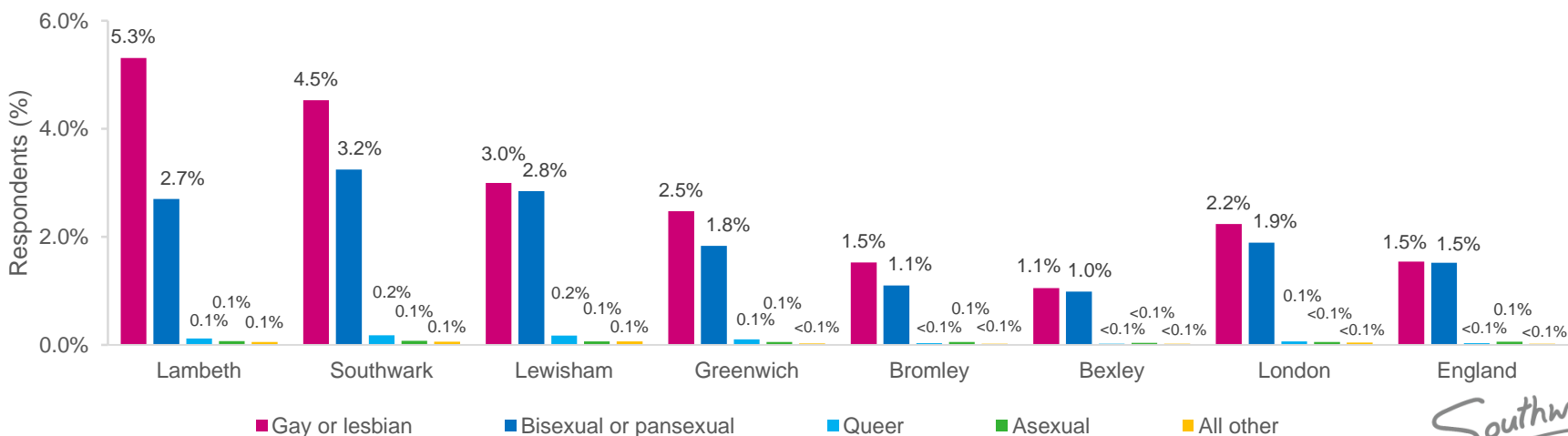
# 1 in 20 Southwark residents identify as lesbian or gay, and 1 in 30 identify as bisexual or pansexual

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION: IDENTITY TYPES

Census respondents who chose 'other sexual orientation' were asked to write in the orientation with which they identified.

- Southwark's LGB+ population predominantly identified as lesbian/gay (over one-half of LGB+ residents; 56%) or bisexual/pansexual (two-fifths; 40%).
- Around 1 in 20 of all Southwark adult residents (4.5%; 11,600 people) identified as lesbian or gay; about 1 in 30 (3.2%; 8,300) identified as bisexual or pansexual; and 0.2% identified as queer (450), 0.1% as asexual (200) and 0.1% with another LGB+ identity (150).
- Southwark had over double the lesbian/gay prevalence and over one-half higher bisexual/pansexual prevalence, compared with London and England levels.

Figure 28: Proportion of 16+ yr respondents with an LGB+ identity, by specific sexual identity term, for south-east London boroughs, London and England, March 2021



### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data represent 16+ yr usual residents.



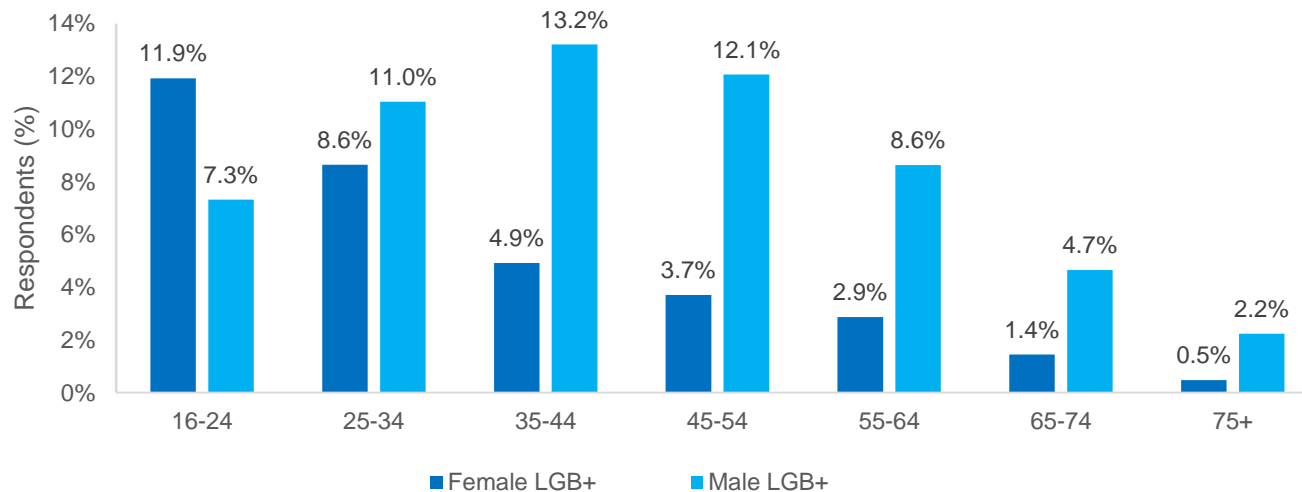
# 1 in 16 Southwark women and 1 in 10 men are LGB+; levels are highest in young women and middle-aged men

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION: AGE AND SEX

### Age and sex data are available for LGB+ residents.

- Over 1 in 16 Southwark women (6.2%; 8,300 people) identify as LB+. Levels peaked in young adults: at least 1 in 8 LB+ women were aged 16–24 yr (11.9%; 2,500). The majority of Southwark LB+ women (over two-thirds; 69%) were aged under 35 yr.
- More than 1 in 10 Southwark men (10.1%; 12,400) identify as GB+. Levels peaked in middle-age: more than 1 in 8 GB+ men were aged 35–44 (13.2%; 3,100). The majority of Southwark GB+ men (over three-quarters; 76%) were aged between 25 and 54 yr.
- Two-thirds (69.1%) of all Southwark LB+ women were under 35 yrs of age, compared with two-fifths (41.7%) of heterosexual peers; figures for Southwark u35 yr males were more comparable (GB+, 42.2%; straight, 43.7%).

Figure 29: Proportion of Southwark 16+ yr respondents identifying as LGB+, by age group (yrs) and sex, March 2021



#### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation (4 categories) by age and sex, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data represent 16+ yr usual residents.

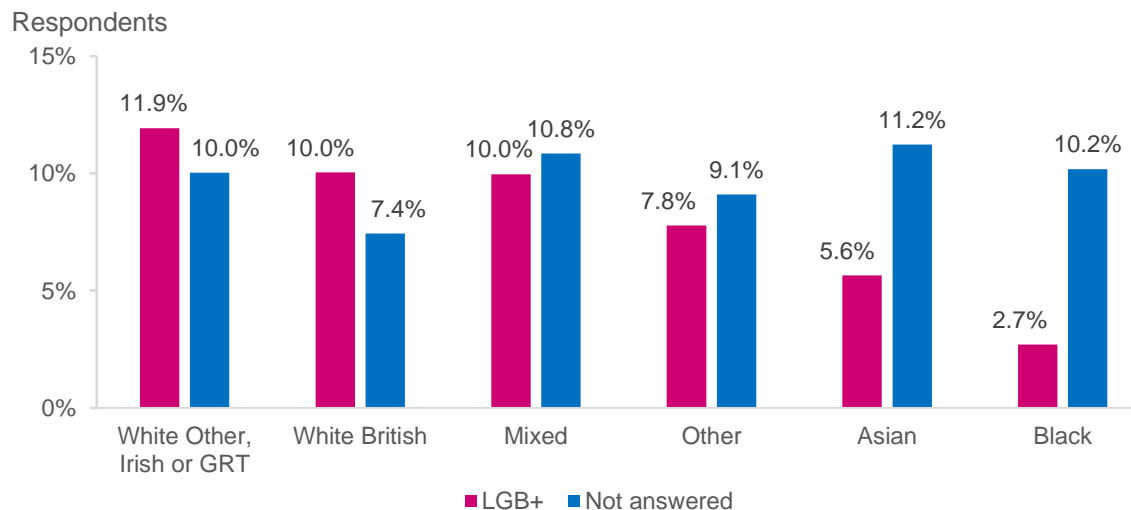
# Highest levels of LGB+ identity are seen in White Other/Irish/GRT, White British and Mixed ethnic groups

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION: ETHNICITY

### Sexual orientation data was available broken down by main ethnic group.

- An LGB+ sexual identity was significantly more likely in Southwark adult residents from White Other/Irish/Gypsy/Roma/Traveller (1 in 8; 11.9%; about 5,400 people), White British (1 in 10; 10.0%; about 9,500) and Mixed (1 in 10; 10.0%; about 1,400) ethnic groups, compared with those from 'Other' (1 in 12; 7.8%; about 1,300), Asian (1 in 20; 5.7%; about 1,500) and Black (1 in 40; 2.7%; about 1,600) groups.
- Southwark residents from non-White-British ethnic groups were significantly less likely to answer the sexual orientation census question. Thus, sexual orientation is likely to be more under-reported in those groups than among White British respondents.

Figure 30: Proportion of Southwark 16+ yr respondents from different ethnic groups reporting an LGB+ sexual identity, or not responding, March 2021

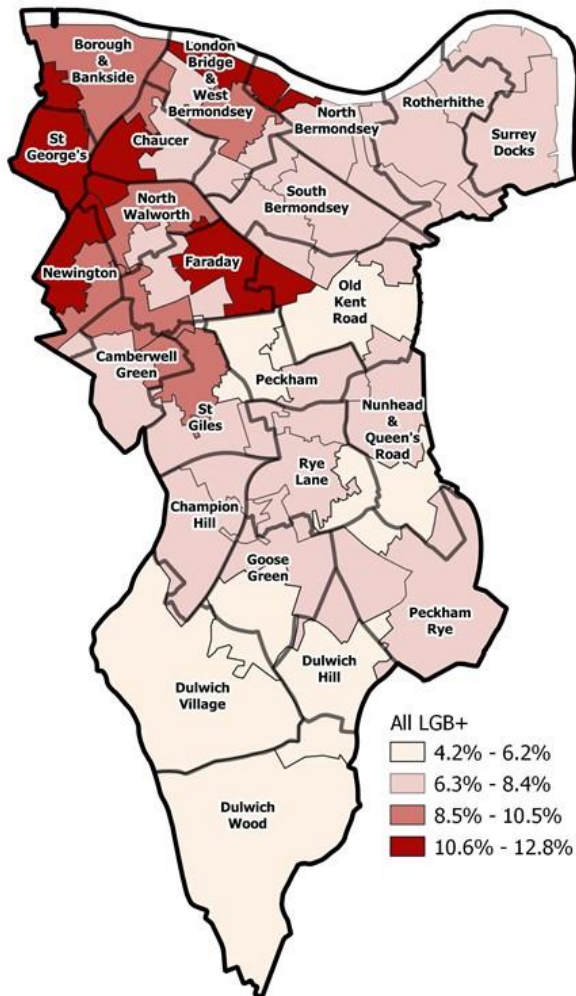


#### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation and gender identity data combining multiple variables, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents. GRT = Gypsy, Roma and Traveller.

# Southwark's Burgess Park neighbourhood has the highest LGB+ prevalence: over 1 in 8 residents

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION: ALL LGB+



## ONS census data gives prevalence of LGB+ identity by large neighbourhood (MSOA) area.

- The highest ranking Southwark neighbourhood was Burgess Park (extending across Faraday and Old Kent Road wards), where over 1 in 8 (12.8%; about 950) residents reported an LGB+ identity.
- The next highest ranking Southwark neighbourhoods all had prevalences of more than 1 in 10:
  - Newington, Kennington East & Walworth West MSOA: 12.7%
  - Elephant & Castle MSOA: 11.7%
  - Southwark St George's MSOA: 11.1%
- Southwark's Herne Hill & Dulwich Park neighbourhoods had the lowest proportion of LGB+ residents, at 4.2% (fewer than 1 in 20).

### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Census 2021: Sexual orientation. Data represent 16+ yr usual residents. MSOA = middle super output area.

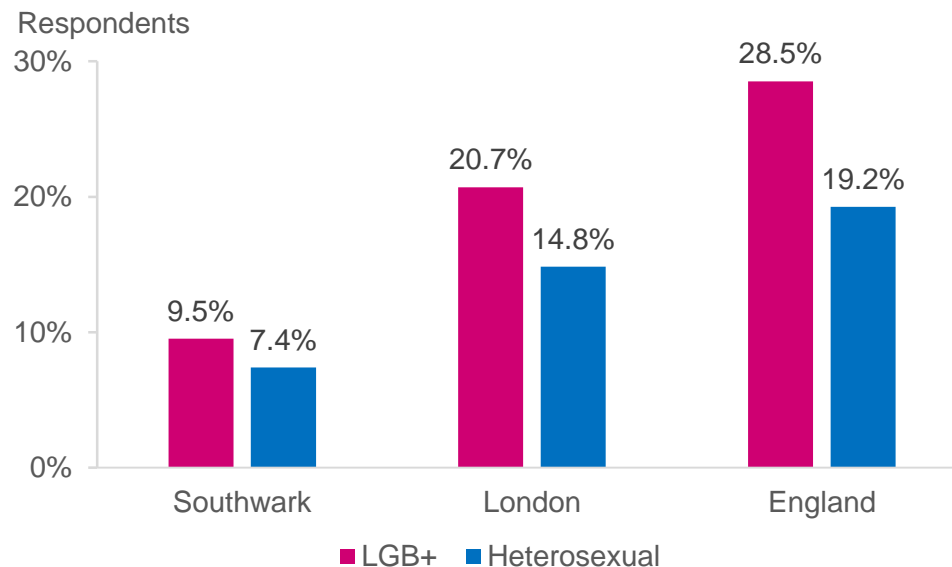
# Disability levels are one-quarter higher in LGB+ residents than heterosexual residents, despite their younger age

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION: DISABILITY

### Census 2021 sexual orientation data was broken down by self-reported disability status.

- LGB+ people's disability levels were at least one-quarter higher than heterosexual levels, across Southwark, London and England, mostly driven by substantially higher moderate disability levels among bisexual and 'other' identity people (across all three geographies).
- In Southwark, almost 1 in 10 (9.5%) LGB+ residents reported a disability (over 3,900 people), compared with 1 in 13 (7.4%) heterosexual residents, despite LGB+ residents' younger age profile.
- Southwark LGB+ residents' disability level was less than half of London (1 in 5; 20.7%) and England (more than 1 in 4; 28.5%) levels.

Figure 31: Proportion of 16+ yr respondents reporting a disability, by sexual identity, for Southwark, London and England, March 2021



#### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation and gender identity data combining multiple variables, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents.

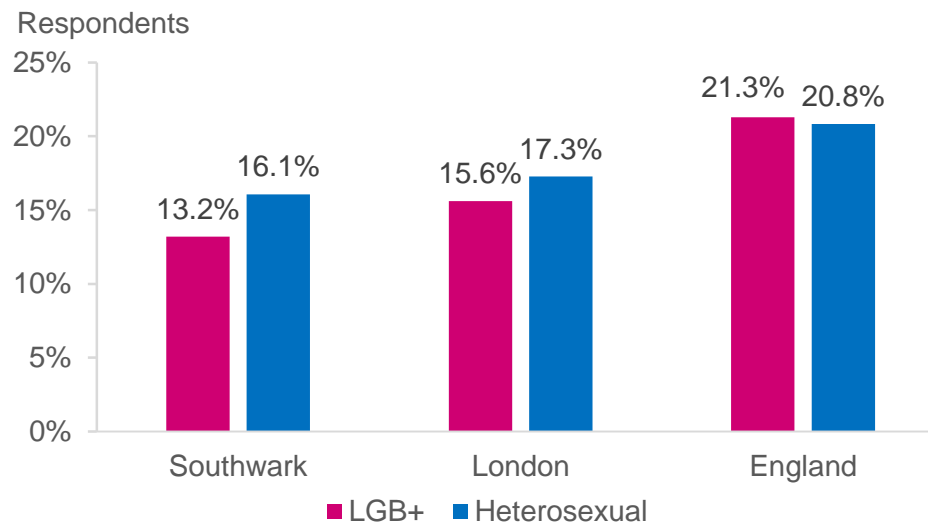
# Poor/fair health is less common among Southwark LGB+ residents, probably partly due to younger age

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION: GENERAL HEALTH

### Census 2021 sexual orientation data was broken down by self-reported level of health.

- In March 2021, about 1 in 8 (13.2%) Southwark LGB+ identified residents reported very bad, bad or fair health, a significantly lower level than in heterosexuals (about 1 in 6; 16.1%). This disparity was probably affected by the younger age profile of LGB+ residents.
- The same pattern was found across London, but in England LGB+ people had significantly higher levels of poor to fair health compared with heterosexuals.
- Southwark had significantly lower levels of poor to fair health among LGB+ residents compared with London LGB+ levels.

Figure 32: Proportion of 16+ yr respondents reporting very bad to fair health status, by sexual identity category, for Southwark, London and England, March 2021



#### Reference

1. ONS, 2023. Sexual orientation and gender identity data combining multiple variables, England and Wales: Census 2021. Data for 16+ yr usual residents.

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**Population**

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**Ethnicity, language & religion**

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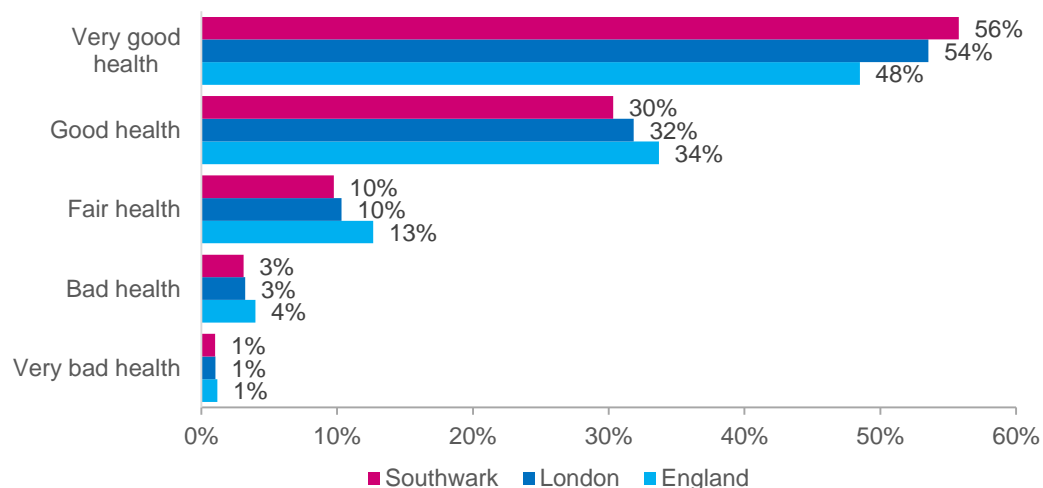
# 86% of Southwark residents report their health as 'good' or 'very good'

## GENERAL HEALTH

As part of the 2021 Census, respondents were asked to assess their own health, recording it as either 'very good', 'good', 'fair', 'bad' or 'very bad'.

- The figures for Southwark are comparable to London, with the majority of residents feeling their health is 'very good'.
- 56% of Southwark residents reported their health as 'very good'; a further 30% reported their health as 'good'.
- 4% of Southwark residents reported their health as 'bad' or 'very bad' representing over 12,500 residents.
- This is comparable to the 2011 Census, when 84% of Southwark residents reported their health as 'good' or 'very good' and 5% of residents reported their health as 'bad' or 'very bad'.

Figure 33: Self-reported health status of respondents, 2021



### Reference

1. General health, England and Wales: Census 2021, Office for National Statistics. 2023.  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/bulletins/generalhealthenglandandwales/census2021>

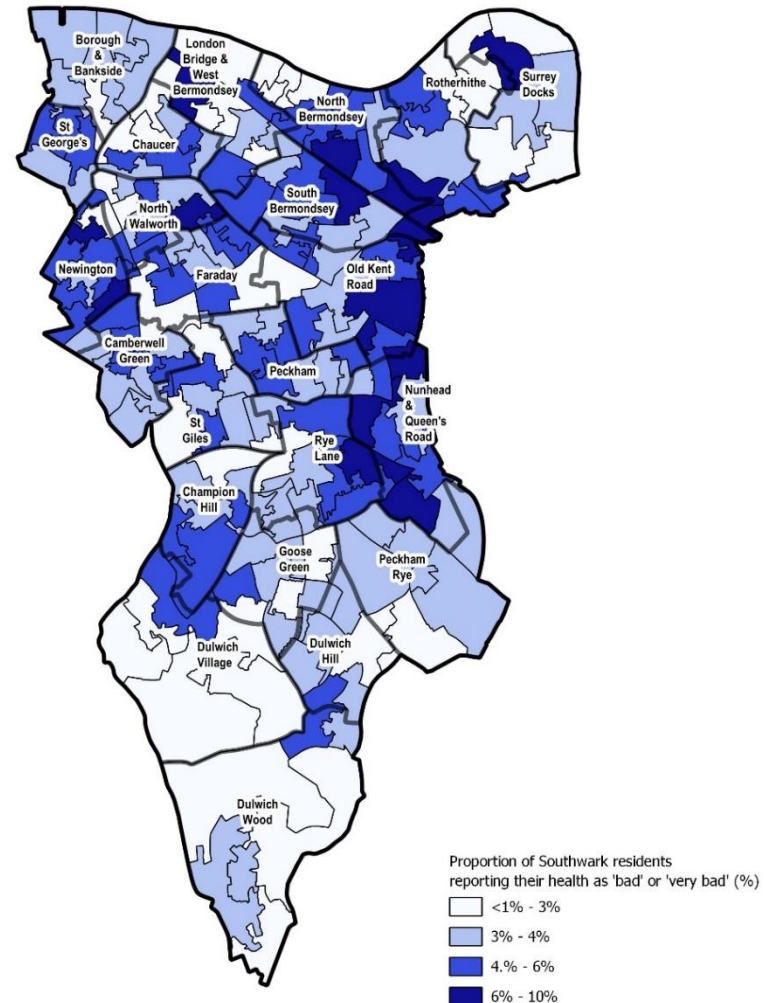


# Areas in the east of the borough have higher proportions of residents reporting 'bad' or 'very bad' health

## GENERAL HEALTH

Areas around Surrey Docks, Bermondsey, Old Kent Road, Nunhead and Queen's Road and Rye Lane, had amongst the highest levels of reported poor health.

- Between 6%-10% of residents in these areas reported bad or very bad health.
- Areas in Newington and North Walwoth also had areas with high proportions of bad health.
- In contrast, the south of the borough had a comparatively low proportion of residents reporting bad or very bad health, ranging from **0-4%** in most areas of Dulwich.



### Reference

1. General health, England and Wales: Census 2021, Office for National Statistics. 2023.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/bulletins/generalhealthenglandandwales/census2021>

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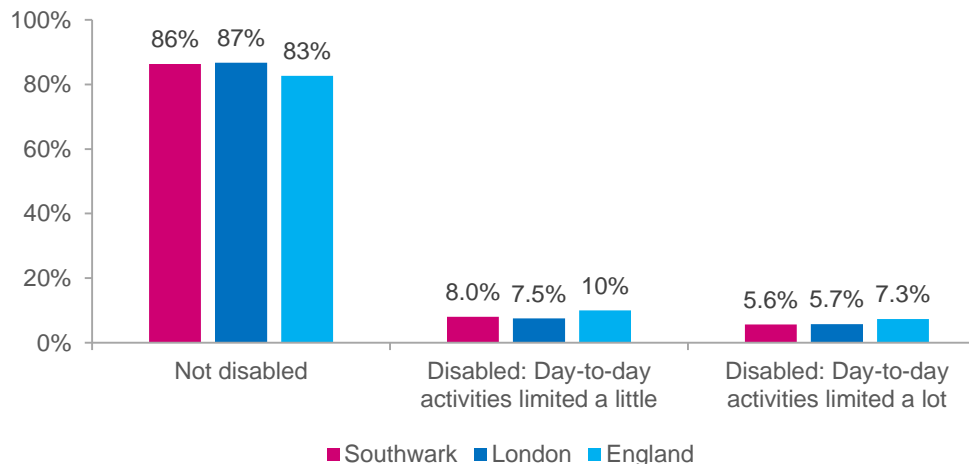
# Over 42,000 Southwark residents report a disability: about 1 in 6

## DISABILITY

**At the time of the 2021 Census, 14% of Southwark residents reported being disabled based on the definitions used in the Equality Act (2010), a similar proportion to London and England.**

- Of those in Southwark who reported as disabled, 41% reported their day-to-day activities being limited by a lot.
- There was an increase of 3,000 disabled residents between 2011 and 2021.
- The 'not disabled' category includes those who have no long-term physical or mental health conditions, and those who have long-term conditions but which do not affect their day-to-day activities.
- 18,000 residents in Southwark responded as having long-term conditions that do not affect their day to day activities.

Figure 34: Percentage of residents who are classed as disabled under the 2010 Equality Act, 2021



### Reference

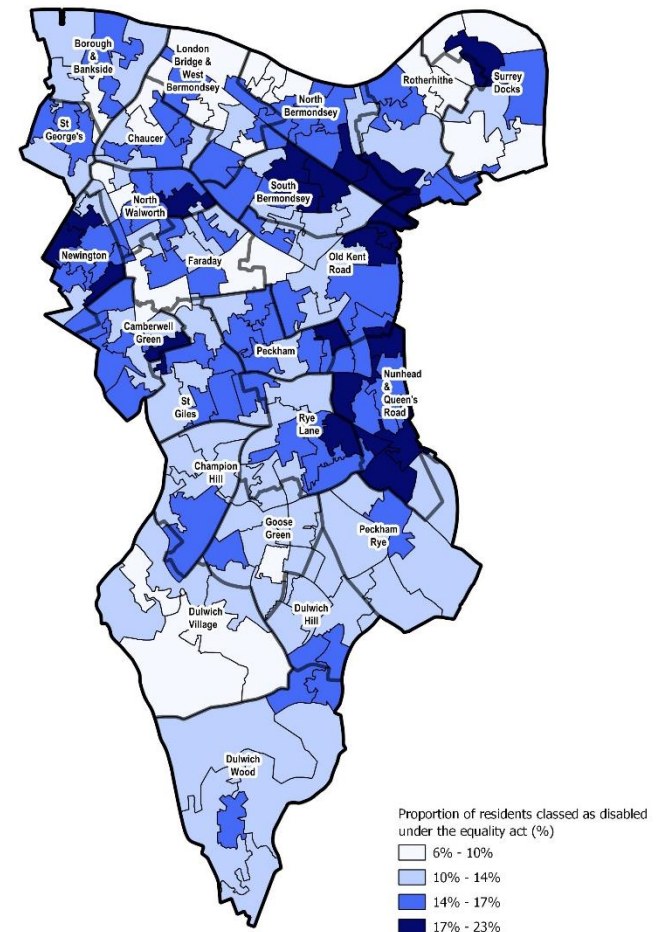
1. Disability, England and Wales: Census 2021, Office for National Statistics. 2023.  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/bulletins/disabilityenglandandwales/census2021>

# Areas with high levels of disability largely correlate with areas with high levels of bad/very bad health

## DISABILITY

The neighbourhoods with higher proportions of disability were around Old Kent Road, South Bermondsey and Nunhead & Queen's Road, where in some areas, 17–23% of residents were disabled.

- Areas in Surrey Docks, Newington and North Walworth also had high disability rates.
- There were lower rates of disability around London Bridge and Dulwich Village (6-14%).



### Reference

1. Disability, England and Wales: Census 2021, Office for National Statistics. 2023.  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/bulletins/disabilityenglandandwales/census2021>

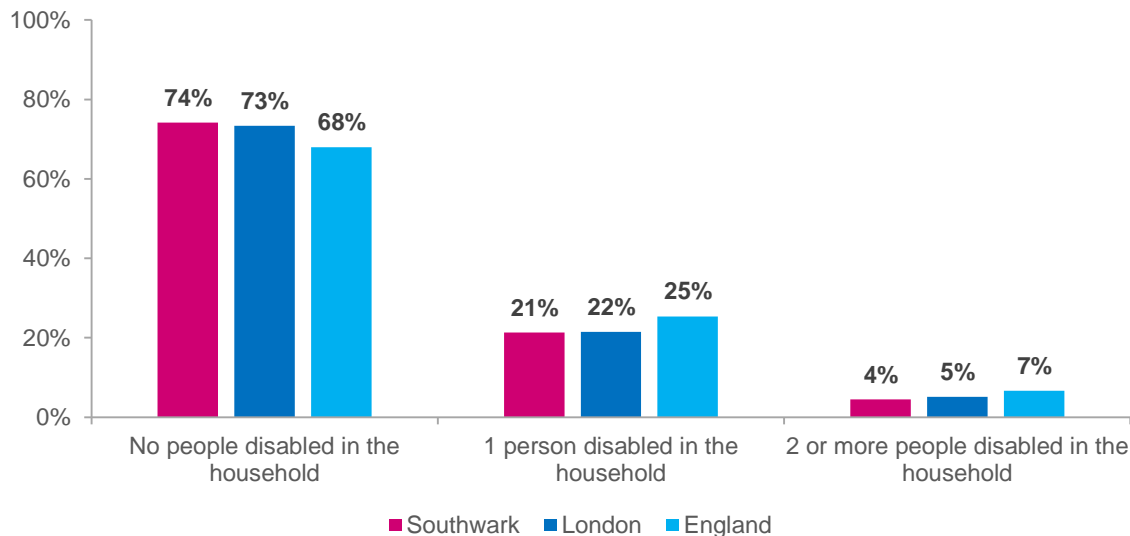
# In 2021, over 33,000 households in Southwark reported as having at least one person with a disability

## DISABILITY IN HOUSEHOLDS

**A quarter (25%) of all households in Southwark (over 33,000 households) reported having someone with a disability; 21% of households had 1 disabled member, 4% had 2 or more disabled members.**

- Southwark had a similar proportion of households with no disabled members compared to London, and a slightly higher proportion of households with no disabled members compared to England.
- The proportion of Southwark households with disabled members in 2021 is broadly comparable to those reported in the 2011 Census.

Figure 35: Percentage of households with disabled members, 2021



### Reference

1. Disability, England and Wales: Census 2021, Office for National Statistics. 2023.  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/bulletins/disabilityenglandandwales/census2021>

# Results from the 2021 census need to be considered alongside a number of influencing factors

## CENSUS CONSIDERATIONS

- The census was taken during the COVID-19 pandemic, with respondents required to answer questions based on their place of residence on Census Day. At this time many COVID-19 restrictions were still in place.
- There is likely to have been substantial population movement and change in the period since the 2021 census (i.e. since March 2021). Notably, students returning to campus after a time of remote learning, a return of workers in hospitality and entertainment sectors, and a return of people who left London temporarily during the pandemic.
- The Covid pandemic affected people's health, and may have also affected their perception of their health.
- As with all self-completion questionnaires, some will have contained incomplete, missing or incorrect information about an individual or household. However, ONS will have taken steps to correct these inconsistencies.

### Reference

1. Quality and methodology information (QMI) for Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>
2. 2021 Census: First release. Greater London Authority. 2022.

# Southwark's usual resident population on census day was 307,600, a 7% increase since 2011

## KEY HEADLINES: POPULATION

- The **usually resident population of Southwark** on the 2021 census day 2021 (21 March) was **307,600**. This compares to 288,300 at Census 2011, an increase of 7% (19,300) over the 10 year period.
- The key changes in age in Southwark between the 2011 and 2021 census were:
  - **Children under 5 yr: down by 21%** (4,400 people).
  - **Adults 55 to 70 yr: up by 47%** (12,500 people).
- The 2021 census estimate for Southwark was **4% (12,400) lower** than the ONS mid-year population estimate for 2020.

### Reference

1. Office for National Statistics. 2022. Population & Household Estimates, England & Wales: Census 2021. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationandhouseholdestimatesenglandandwalescensus2021>

# Southwark's population is substantially younger than regional and national averages

## KEY HEADLINES: DEMOGRAPHY

- The **average age in Southwark was 32.4 years**, more than two years younger than the average for London and seven years younger than the average for England.
- Average household size in Southwark was **2.3 people**, smaller than both London (2.5) and England (2.4). This had not changed since 2011.
- **Most residents were single** (never married and never in a civil partnership); residents in this group comprised 60% of the 16+ yr population, an increase since the 2011 census.
- One quarter (25%) of all households included at least one dependent child; 1/10th (9%) of all households were **lone parent households with dependent children**.
- **Over 9,500 65+ yr residents lived alone**, equivalent to 7% of all households in Southwark.

### Reference

1. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>



# Two-fifths of Southwark residents were born outside the UK and Ireland

## KEY HEADLINES: MIGRATION

- Over **121,000** Southwark residents were born outside the UK and Ireland, comprising **40%** of total residents.
- This aligns with London levels (**40%**) but is notably higher than England (**17%**).
- The most frequent country of birth outside the UK and Ireland was **Nigeria**, accounting for around **4%** of Southwark residents. Other countries making up a notable proportion of Southwark population's origins were: **Italy, Jamaica, Spain and Ghana**.
- Since 2011, there had been a notable increase in residents born in the **Americas or the Caribbean**; they made up **1 in 12 (8%)** of the population in 2021; over half of these residents were born in **South American** countries.

### Reference

1. International migration, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022.  
<https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

# Census 2021 identified over 280 different ethnicities among Southwark residents

## KEY HEADLINES: ETHNICITY

- A total of **282 different ethnicities** were recorded by Southwark residents.
- **Just over half (51%)** of the population identified with **White ethnicities**, equivalent to 158,000 residents.
- One-third (36%) reported White British ethnicity, similar to London levels (37%) but substantially lower than England levels (74%).
- The **largest ethnic group other than White** was **‘Black, Black British, Caribbean or African’**; one-quarter (25%) of Southwark residents reported this ethnicity. Almost one-fifth (16%) reported ‘African’ ethnicity and 6% reported a ‘Caribbean’ ethnicity.
- **A tenth (10%)** of Southwark residents reported their ethnic group as **‘Asian’**; most (8,400) identified with a Chinese ethnic background.
- **22,000 (7%)** of Southwark residents reported their ethnic group to be **‘Mixed or multiple ethnicities’**.
- **One-quarter (24%; 72,600)** of Southwark residents reported a non-UK national identity; Spanish was the most common.

### Reference

1. Ethnic group, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>
2. National identity, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

# One-fifth of Southwark residents have a main language other than English

## KEY HEADLINES: LANGUAGE & RELIGION

- On census day, **244,000 (79%) Southwark residents reported their main language as English**, similar to 2011.
- This is comparable to London (76%), but lower than England (88%).
- **Spanish is the most common main language other than English**, spoken by 13,000 Southwark residents, more than in 2011.
- Of the 53,700 Southwark residents whose main language was not English, **10,200 (19%) had low or no English proficiency**.
- In the 2021 census, **Christianity was the most common religion, reported by 43% of residents** (133,300 people), down from 53% in 2011.
- The next most common faith was 'no religion', reported by one-third (36%) of residents (111,900 people), a substantial increase from the 27% seen in 2011.

### Reference

1. Religion, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>
2. Language, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

# Southwark has high levels of trans and LGB+ identity, with distinct demographic, geographic and disability differences

## KEY HEADLINES: GENDER IDENTITY & SEXUAL ORIENTATION

- Southwark had one of the highest levels of trans and LGB+ identity in England:
  - About **1 in 80 (1.2%; about 3,200) 16+ yr residents reported a gender identity different from their birth sex registration**, significantly higher than London (0.9%) and England (0.5%) levels.
  - **More than 1 in 12 (8.1%; about 20,700) 16+ yr residents reported an LGB+ sexual identity**, double the levels in London (4.3%) and England (3.2%).
- Of Southwark's **trans residents, about half reported no specific gender identity**; the remainder mostly identified as trans men, trans women or non-binary.
- Southwark's LGB+ residents mainly identified as **lesbian or gay** (around 1 in 20 of all residents) **or bisexual or pansexual** (about 1 in 30).
- There was a **younger age profile** among local trans residents (driven by differing age patterns in 'other' gender identity residents) and LGB+ residents (driven by age patterns among LB+ women), compared with cis-gendered and heterosexual residents.
- **Burgess Park neighbourhood** was home to a large cluster of residents with a gender identity different to their birth sex registration but no specific gender identity term, and with a non-heterosexual identity other than lesbian, gay or bisexual.
- **Higher disability levels were seen among local trans and LGB+ populations**, despite their younger age profile. Trans resident's self-reported general health was worse than cis-gendered residents; LGB+ residents' health was better than heterosexual residents' health.

# 1 in 8 residents have fair/poor health; 1 in 6 have a disability

## KEY HEADLINES: HEALTH

- In the 2021 Census, 56% of Southwark residents reported their health as 'very good', and 30% as 'good'. About **1 in 6 (14%) reported 'fair', 'bad' or 'very bad' health.**
- About **1 in 6 (14%; over 42,000)** residents reported having a disability.
- Over **33,000** households had a least one person with a disability (as defined by the Equality Act 2010), equivalent to one-quarter (**25%**) of all households in the borough.
- The 2021 Census was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic, which may have affected people's health and their perception of their health.

### Reference

1. Health, disability, and unpaid care: Census 2021 in England and Wales, Office for National Statistics. 2023.  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/healthdisabilityandunpaidcarecensus2021inenglandandwales>

# APPENDIX 1

## Classification of household disadvantage in the Census 2021

Households in England and Wales were classified in terms of dimensions of disadvantage, based on selected household characteristics. Households were considered to be disadvantaged if they met one or more of the following four dimensions:

- **Employment:** where any member of a household, who is not a full-time student, is either unemployed or long-term sick
- **Education:** no person in the household has at least five or more GCSE passes or equivalent qualifications, and no person aged 16 to 18 is a full-time student
- **Health and disability:** any person in the household has general health that is 'bad' or 'very bad' or is identified as disabled
- **Housing:** the household's accommodation is either overcrowded, with an occupancy rating of negative 1 or less (implying that it has one fewer room or bedroom required for the number of occupants), or is in a shared dwelling, or has no central heating

### Reference

1. Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022. <https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>

## APPENDIX 2

### Classification of a family in the Census 2021

A family is a group of people who are either:

- Married, civil partnered or cohabiting couple with or without children
- A lone parent with children
- A married, civil partnered or cohabiting couple with grandchildren but where the parents of those grandchildren are not present
- A single or couple grandparent with grandchildren but where the parents of those grandchildren are not present

A 'multi-family household' may therefore be:

- Unrelated: for example, two unrelated couples sharing a house
- Related and multi-generational: for example, cohabiting couple plus children and elderly parents
- Related but not multi-generational: for example, cohabiting couple plus son and girlfriend; or two brothers and their partners sharing a house

#### Reference

1. Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales: Census 2021. Office for National Statistics. 2022.  
<https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>



**Find out more at**  
**[southwark.gov.uk/jsna](https://southwark.gov.uk/jsna)**

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