CITY INTELLIGENCE

State of London 2026

An essential guide to London’s economy, society and environment

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Contents

Foreword

By Jeremy Skinner and Adam Yousef, City Intelligence Unit

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Over the past decade, London has faced successive challenges of considerable gravity and scale, including the departure of the UK from the European Union, the COVID-19 pandemic, chronic national political uncertainty, extraordinary technological change, the ongoing war in Ukraine, significant inflation, and major conflicts in the Middle East. Each has affected the capital in significant ways because of its openness to the world and its primacy within the UK.

This report presents the data that shows how London has nevertheless remained a resilient global metropolis, and in many respects has continued to make economic, environmental and social progress. However, it also shows that new civic problems have emerged and there remain persistent concerns.

While no single report can capture the full complexity of London, the data presented here provide some of the most pertinent indicators about life in the capital. Each chapter is structured around a set of London-level outcomes: outcomes which the Mayor of London has set and express what he wants to achieve for the city and its residents. The report provides readers with data and analysis for each outcome, to support informed discussion, scrutiny and decision-making about the city's future.

This year's report is published for the first time as a digital product. This reflects a commitment to improving accessibility, timeliness and transparency, enabling a wider range of users to explore the data and analysis more easily. The transition to this format has been made possible by the expertise, dedication and collaborative effort of analysts across City Intelligence and the GLA, whose work underpins both this publication and the wider evidence base used by the organisation.

Many thanks go to all the teams and people within the Greater London Authority who contributed to this publication, but special recognition should go to the following: Jubair Ahmed, Ellie Bloom, Mike Brondbjerg, Pauline Bucher, Yiqiao Chen, Matthew Daley, Sophie Deakin, Gordon Douglass, Monet Durieux, Hector Espinoza, Anja Garbely, Joe Heywood, Nick Jacob, Chris Knight, Jeff O'Reilly, James Scott-Brown, Colin Shepherd, Micheal Slade, Matthew Tibbles, Veronica Tuffrey, Simon Webster, Lauren Wool, Guk Yu and Sixia Zhang.

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Adam Yousef, Senior Manager, GLA Economics

Executive Summary

Highlights from the 2026 Report

Read online

London remains the UK's most productive economic region, with its share of national economic output rising to nearly a quarter compared to just over a sixth a decade ago. It creates just under a fifth of all national workforce jobs and offers the highest nominal wages in the country.

London's economic excellence extends beyond national comparisons: it attracts more foreign direct investment than many other global metropolises while being internationally competitive in sectors that hold the key to future progress and prosperity – including quantum computing, artificial intelligence, green tech and a wide range of professional services. London continues to be ranked first or second in major global city indices of competitiveness.

London also shines in other measures of social progress: it has the most skilled and educated workforce in the country, residents who are more likely to be socially engaged and volunteer in support of their local community. It contributes less environmental pollution per capita and offers higher life expectancy for males and females.

Recent improvements have been seen in consumer confidence, reflected in robust demand on many of London's high streets. More Londoners have steadily been attaining higher level qualifications and children are more likely to start school with a good level of development. Air quality has improved significantly, London's housing stock is becoming more energy efficient, and the number of criminal offences fell last year.

All of this should give reason to celebrate the progress that London and Londoners have achieved.

However, the State of London report reveals that more needs to be done for the capital to realise its potential. The data continues to show that productivity growth has been relatively weak in recent years compared to two decades ago, while income inequality and levels of poverty (after housing costs) are markedly higher than those in other UK regions.

Londoners with protected characteristics continue to experience adverse outcomes across many indicators: they are less likely to be in well-paid jobs, to feel engaged in society, or to experience health and educational outcomes in line with the London average. Moreover, many social and economic outcomes vary by geography: where a person lives within London can meaningfully shape their life chances, given the scale of differences across the capital.

Concerning among the most recent data also include: the increase in involuntary worklessness; the proportion of Londoners in arrears paying their bills; the continued rise in households in temporary accommodation; high rates of homelessness; and a fall in the level of satisfaction amongst victims reporting crime incidents to the police.

Finally, throughout, the report links the reader to other sources of information, data, research and analysis on specific topics to enable a richer understanding of the capital.

London in Figures

Key statistics about London

Read online

This section highlights a set of key figures that help to illustrate the scale and character of London's population, geography and economy.

Overview

London is the UK's most populous city, with a major international economy and a varied urban form spanning a large metropolitan area.

9.1m

Population

15.5% of the UK's total population

ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2024

1,572 km²

Area of Greater London

Greater London Authority, 2026

£618bn

Size of the economy

22.7% of UK GDP at current market prices

ONS Regional Gross Domestic Product, 2023

People

London has a young, diverse and growing population

24%

Population growth since 2001

Compared with 18% for England and Wales

ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2024

35.7

Median age

Compared with 40.3 in England and Wales

ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2024

67%

Population aged 18 to 64

Compared with 60% in England and Wales

ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2024

41%

Share of London residents born outside the UK

Up from 27% in 2001

ONS Census, 2021

55,000

Natural change in population in 2024

+ 106,000 births
- 51,000 deaths

ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2024

35,000

Total net migration

+ 163,000 net international
- 128,000 net domestic

ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2024

Place

London is a densely populated and highly networked city, with millions of homes, extensive transport infrastructure and a built environment that sits alongside a substantial green and blue landscape.

33

Local Authorities

32 boroughs plus the City of London

5,782

People per km² in 2025

Compared to 450 people per km² in England

ONS Population density, 2025

~52%

Of London is green

Within this, 19.6% of London is covered by tree canopy, and ~18% of London is Public Open Space

GLA London Green Cover Map, 2024, GiGL POS, April 2025

3.85m

Number of homes

32,700 dwellings added in 2024/5

MHCLG Live tables on dwelling stock, 2025

£2,280

Average rent

Compared to £1,434 in England

ONS Price Index of Private Rent, Mar 2026

£552,304

Average house price

Compared to £290,000 in England

ONS House Price Index, Feb 2026

272

London Underground stations

The first on the Metropolitan Line dating back to 1863. Linking 402km of track.

Transport for London, 2026

~9,000

Buses

Operating across 675 routes and around 1.8bn annual bus journeys

Transport for London, 2026

431km

Strategic cycle network

Up from 90km in 2016

Transport for London, 2026

Economy

London is the UK's largest regional economy in terms of size, employment and business activity.

6.4m

Jobs

37% in the Central Activities Zone. 749,000 added in total over the last decade

ONS Workforce Jobs, Dec 2025

538,000

VAT and/or PAYE Businesses

19.7% of the businesses in the UK

ONS UK business; activity, size and location, 2025

£69,100

GDP per head

Compared with £40,400 for England

ONS Regional Economic Activity, 2023

£43.6bn

London's net fiscal contribution last reported in 2023

(taxes less spending)

ONS Country and Regional Public Sector Finances, 2023

£255bn

Value of London exports last reported in 2023

31% of the UK's total export value of £867bn

ONS International trade in UK nations, regions and cities, 2025

£835

Gross median weekly earnings

Compared to £650 in England

ONS Earnings and hours worked, 2025

Culture and global reach

London's cultural and international profile remains one of its defining characteristics.

20.9m

International visits in 2024

15.1m domestic visits

ONS IPS regional estimates, VisitBritain / GBTS, 2024

£17.3bn

International visitor spend in 2024

£5.5bn domestic visitor spend

VisitBritain / ONS IPS regional estimates, 2024

40

Accredited Universities

Including Imperial College, LSE, UCL, King's College

Unirank, 2025

300+

Languages

Spoken every day across the capital

Greater London Authority, 2026

4

UNESCO world heritage sites

Tower of London, Maritime Greenwich, Westminster Palace, Kew Royal Botanical Gardens

Greater London Authority, 2026

192

Museums

11 national museums including the British Museum, National Gallery, Tate Modern, Natural History Museum

Greater London Authority, 2026

Global city and culture

London's standing as a world-leading global city

Read online

London consistently ranks among the world's leading global cities, supported by its international economy, global connections, capacity for innovation and cultural influence, among many other factors. The city's cultural life attracts people from across the world to live, work and study, while also playing an important role in the everyday lives of Londoners themselves. This chapter examines indicators about London's status as a global city, the visitor economy, and participation in cultural life.

> **London-Level Outcomes**
>
> Sections in this chapter relate to the following outcomes the Mayor is trying to achieve for the city:
>
> - **London is a world-leading global city**
> - **London is an attractive and high-quality destination for visitors**
> - **Londoners feel able to take part in the city's cultural life**

Global city status

View online

> **London-Level Outcome**
>
> **London is a world-leading global city**

Retaining London's global city status is vital for sustaining the UK's long-term international competitiveness and global influence. This section considers London's global position by reviewing the latest rankings of city competitiveness and data on levels of inward investment.

London's global city competitiveness

London's average ranking in several global competitiveness indices

Index Name	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
GPCI – Global Power City Index	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kearney Global Cities Index	2	2	2	2	2	2
Schroders Global Cities Index	-	-	-	3	2	2
Oxford Economics Global Cities Index	-	-	-	-	2	2
Average ranking	1.5	1.5	1.5	2	1.75	1.75

GLA City Intelligence

Source: Mori Memorial Foundation, Schroders, Kearney, Oxford Economics.

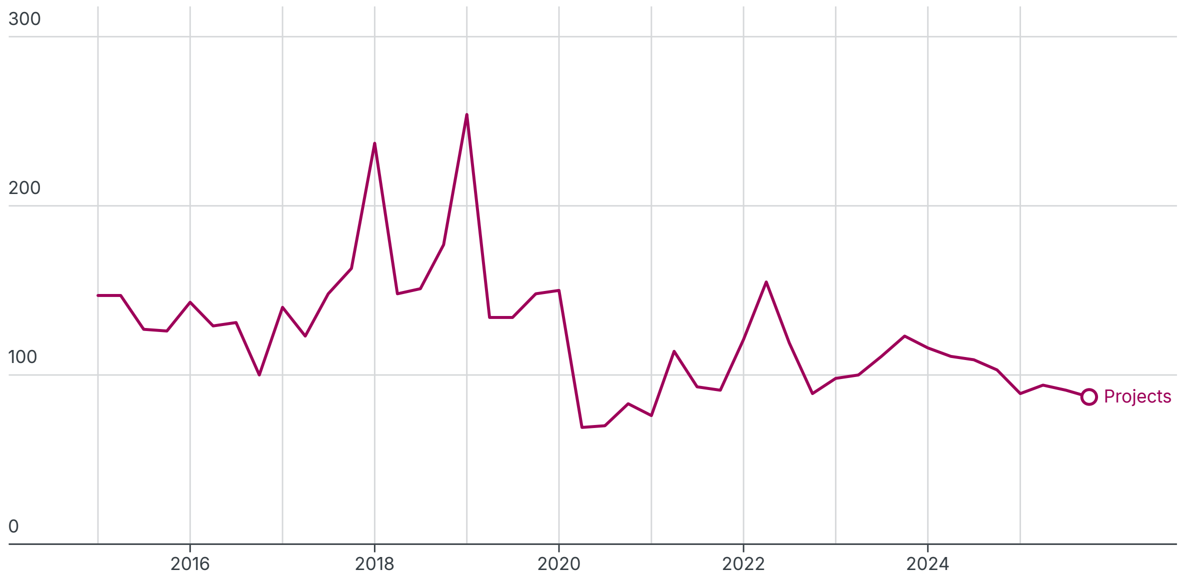
A number of organisations attempt to compare and rank cities by their global competitiveness and attractiveness. These rankings are composite measures combining multiple aspects of city performance. Looking at London's ranking in some of the more commonly cited indices:

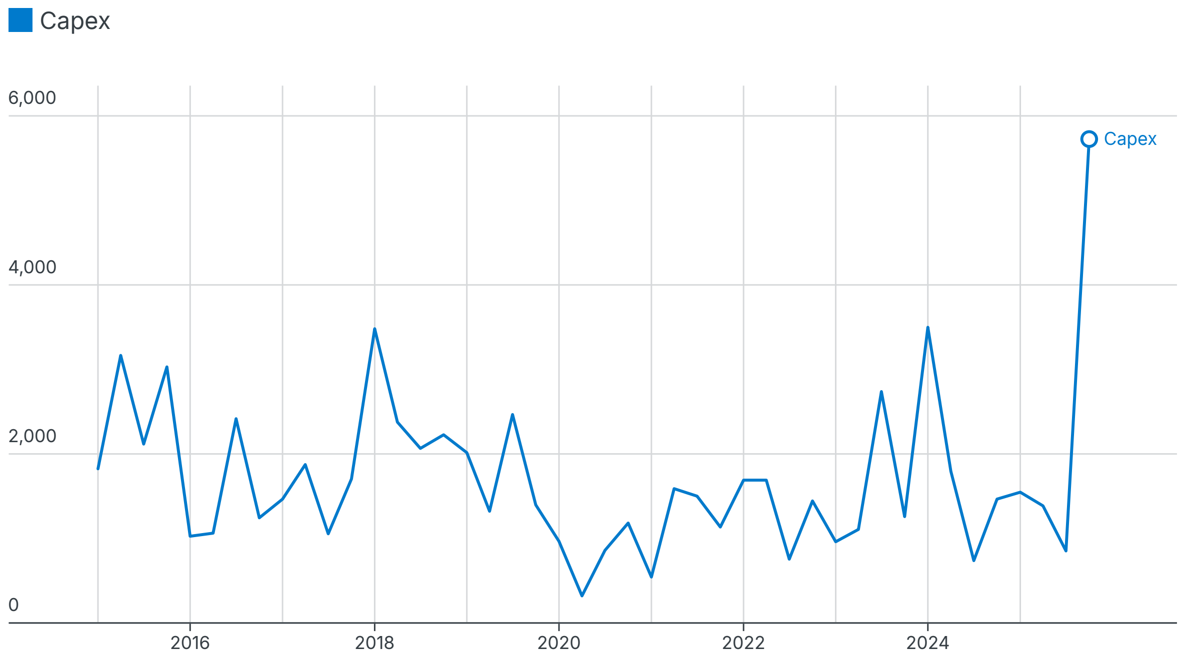
- The Global Power City Index placed London first in 2025, highlighting its strengths in economic performance, research and development, cultural interaction, urban greenery, and accessibility.
- The Kearney Global Cities Index placed London second in 2025, emphasising London's business activity, cultural experience, and digital experience. New York ranked first in this index.
- Schroders' Global Cities Index, which incorporates economic performance, sustainability and investment appeal, placed London second in 2025, behind San Francisco, which retained the top spot for the third consecutive year.
- The Oxford Economics Global Cities Index, which assesses cities based on 27 indicators across five categories: Economics, Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment and Governance, ranked London second in 2025 behind New York.

London's average ranking across these four indices was 1.75 in 2025, the same as it was in 2024. Despite global shocks such as the outbreak of the pandemic in 2020 and recent conflicts in Europe and the Middle East, the city has demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability.

Foreign Direct Investment in London

Quarterly number of projects (top series) and Capex £m (bottom series)





GLA City Intelligence

Source: London & Partners, using fDi Markets from the Financial Times. Capital investment includes estimated values

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

The charts above show levels of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into London recorded by fDi Markets – measured on a quarterly basis by the number of projects and their size in capital expenditure (capex).

The number of projects peaked in Q1 2019 at 254, with a total of 669 projects for the whole of 2019, following steady growth from 2015. Project numbers declined during the pandemic, reaching a low of 69 in Q2 2020 (372 for the year), before rebounding to peak at 155 in Q2 2022 (485 for the year). The number of projects then moderated a touch to stand at 361 for the year in 2025.

Capital expenditure (Capex) associated with FDI has exhibited notable fluctuations over recent years. In Q4 2025, it spiked to reach £5.7 billion (£9.5 billion for the year) due, in part, to some large investments in data centres. That surpassed the previous pre-Covid quarterly peak of £3.5 billion in Q1 2018 but was below the annual total for 2018 of £10.2bn. During the pandemic, Capex declined, reaching a low of £320m in Q2 2020 (£3.3bn for the year) amid the global economic downturn.

Such variability is anticipated, as Capex figures are influenced by the scale and nature of individual projects, shifts in sectoral investment patterns, and broader economic conditions that affect investor confidence and risk appetite.

London attracted more inward FDI then any other major city in Europe in 2024 according to fDi Intelligence, with Dublin ranked second and Warsaw third[1].

[1] fDi Intelligence (2025), 'European Cities and Regions of the Future 2025'. City comparisons made using the same source (fDi Markets) as in the chart shown above.

Tourism

View online

London-Level Outcome

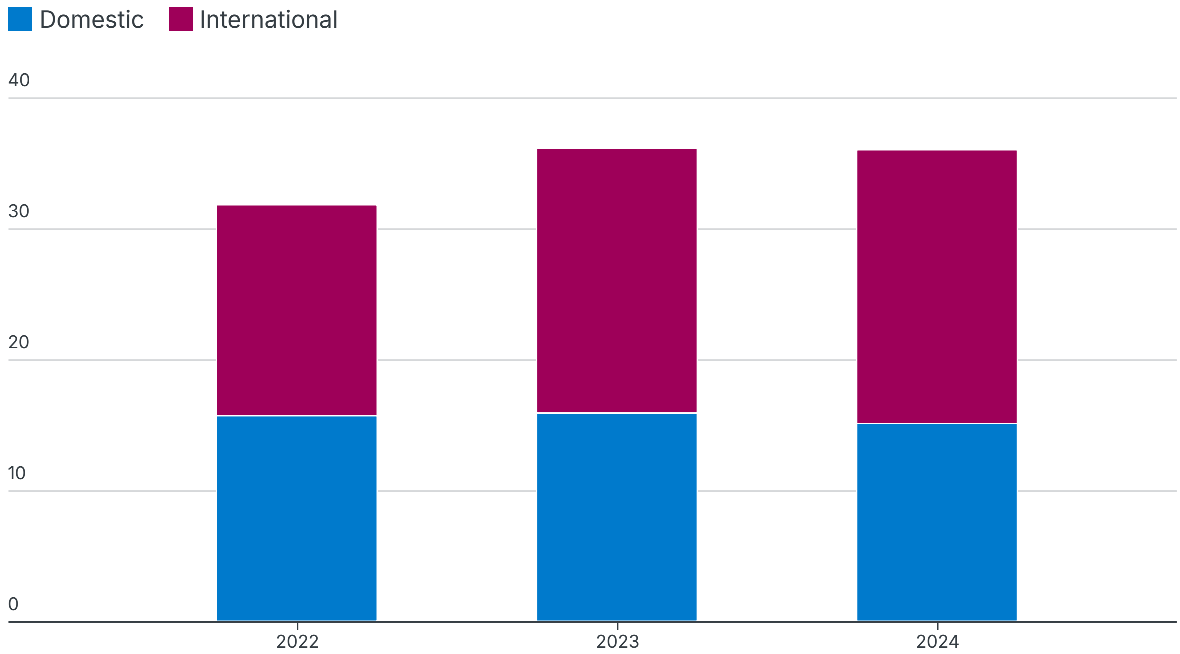
London is an attractive and high-quality destination for visitors

London's culture, heritage and diversity attract visitors from around the world, and they are also enjoyed by visitors from other parts of the UK and Londoners. This section examines recent trends in international and domestic tourism, including visitor numbers, overnight stays and spending.

2025 data is not provided below as methodological changes mean it is not currently comparable with the historic timeseries. An update will be provided when these methodological inconsistencies have been addressed.

Visits to London

Annual domestic and international visits to London, million (2022–2024)



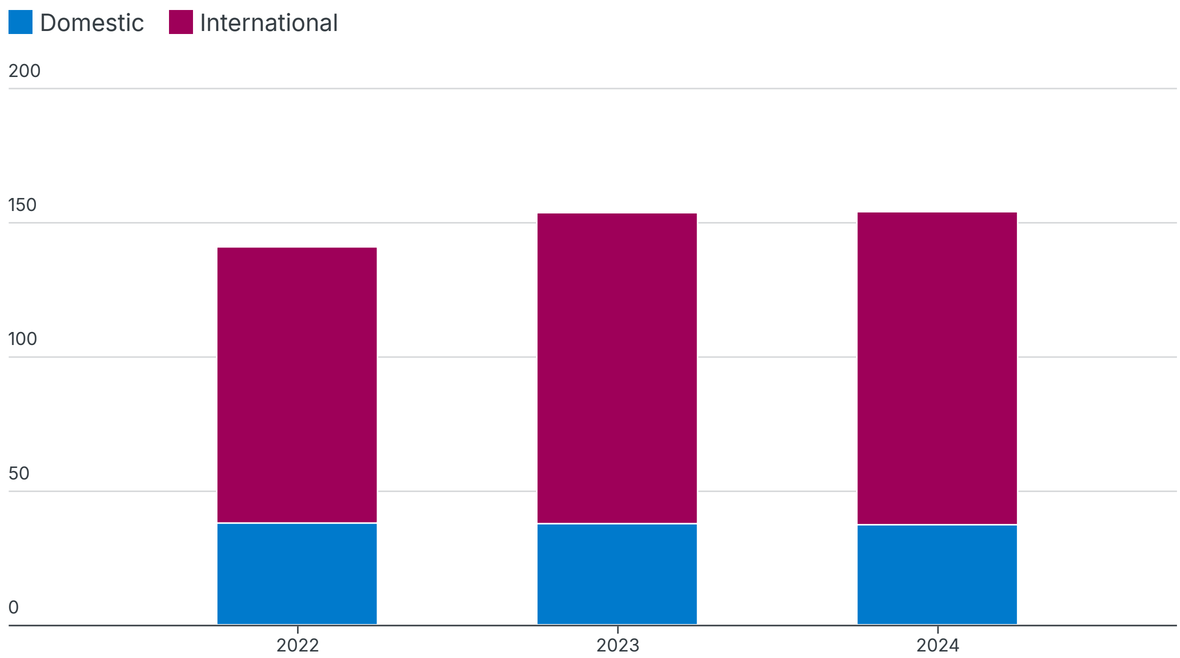
GLA City Intelligence
Source: VisitBritain and GLA
Note: Core LLO Indicator
View interactive chart online

Tourism in London continued to strengthen between 2022 and 2024 following the shock to the sector from the pandemic, with total visits rising from 31.7 million to just over 36 million. Both domestic and international demand proved to be resilient, reflecting the city's enduring appeal.

International arrivals increased from 16.1 million to 20.9 million over this period. Annual domestic visits remained relatively steady at approximately 15.7 million in 2022 and 15.1 million in 2024.

Visitor nights in London

Annual domestic and international nights in London, million (2022–2024)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: VisitBritain and GLA

Note: Core LLO Indicator

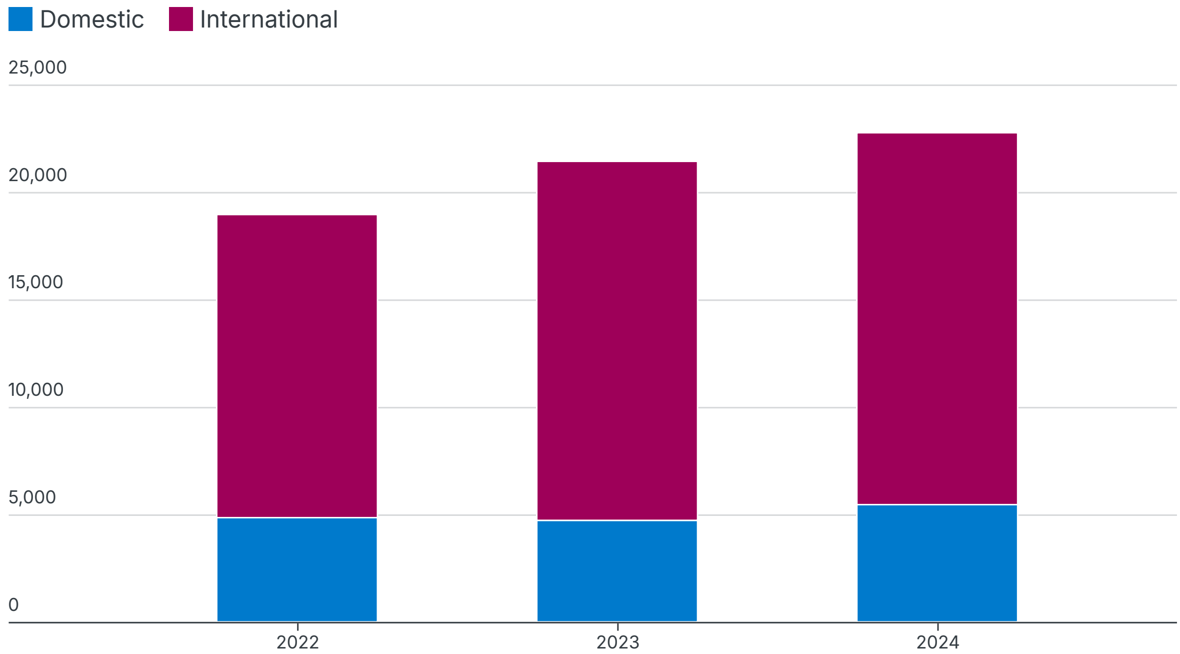
View interactive chart online

The total number of visitor nights spent in London increased from 140.7 million in 2022 to 153.8 million in 2024, driven by a strong recovery in international demand after the pandemic.

Domestic visitor nights hovered near 38 million each year, while international visitor nights rose from 102.8 million in 2022 to 116.6 million in 2024.

Spend in London

Annual domestic and international spend in London (£ million, 2019 prices), 2022–2024



GLA City Intelligence

Source: VisitBritain and GLA

Note: Core LLO Indicator

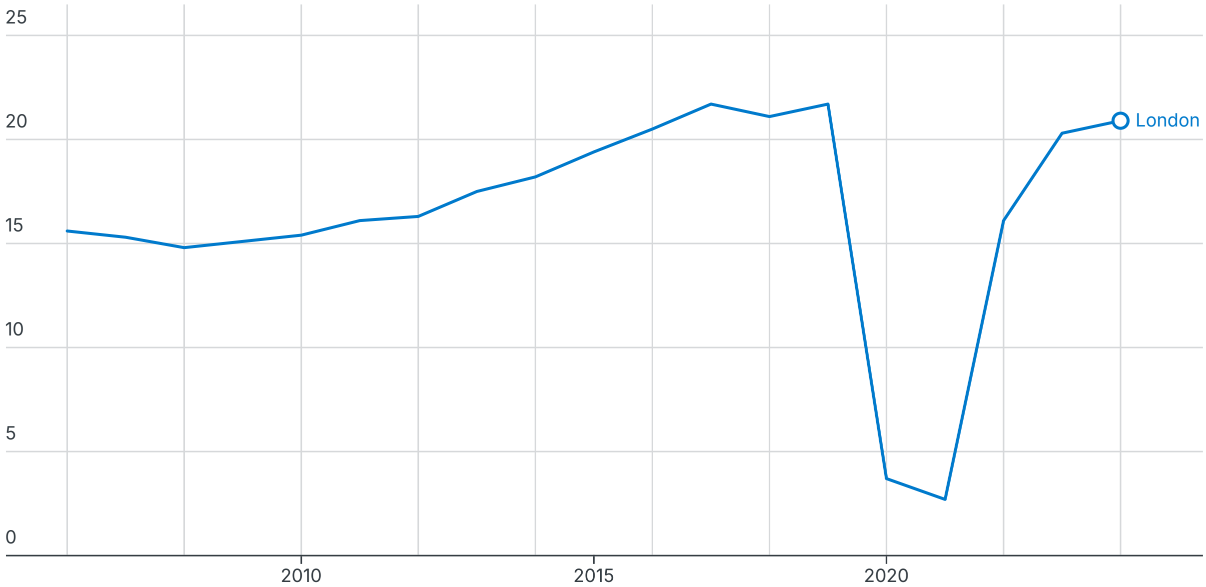
View interactive chart online

Spending trends broadly mirrored those for visitor numbers. Adjusted for inflation, domestic tourism expenditure was approximately £4.85 billion in 2022, it declined to £4.72 billion in 2023 before recovering to £5.45 billion in 2024. While the 2024 figure exceeded 2022 levels in real terms, the overall pattern suggests more stability than strong growth.

Meanwhile, international visitor spending rose consistently, from £14.1 billion in 2022 to £17.3 billion in 2024, highlighting the vital role of overseas visitors in London's tourism recovery. Combined, total tourism-related spending increased from £18.9 billion in 2022 to £22.8 billion in 2024.

International visits to London

Annual inbound visits to London, million (2015-2024)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: VisitBritain and GLA

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

Examining the number of international visits[2] to the capital over a longer time series reveals pre-pandemic growth and a solid recovery since. Between 2015 and 2019, the number of international visits increased steadily from 19.4 million in 2015 to 21.7 million in 2019. This growth was disrupted sharply by the pandemic, with visits collapsing to just 3.7 million in 2020 and 2.7 million in 2021—representing declines of over 80% compared to 2019.

A gradual recovery followed: in 2022, visits rebounded to 16.1 million, rising further to 20.3 million in 2023. Figures for 2024 show continued recovery, with 20.9 million visits—approaching pre-pandemic levels but not yet surpassing them.

Similar patterns can be observed for international visitor expenditure, which dropped dramatically during the pandemic, from £15.7 billion in 2019 to £2.6 billion in 2020 (2019 prices), before recovering to £17.3 billion in 2024.

[2] Methodological changes limit longer-term comparisons of domestic tourism visits.

Engagement in culture

View online

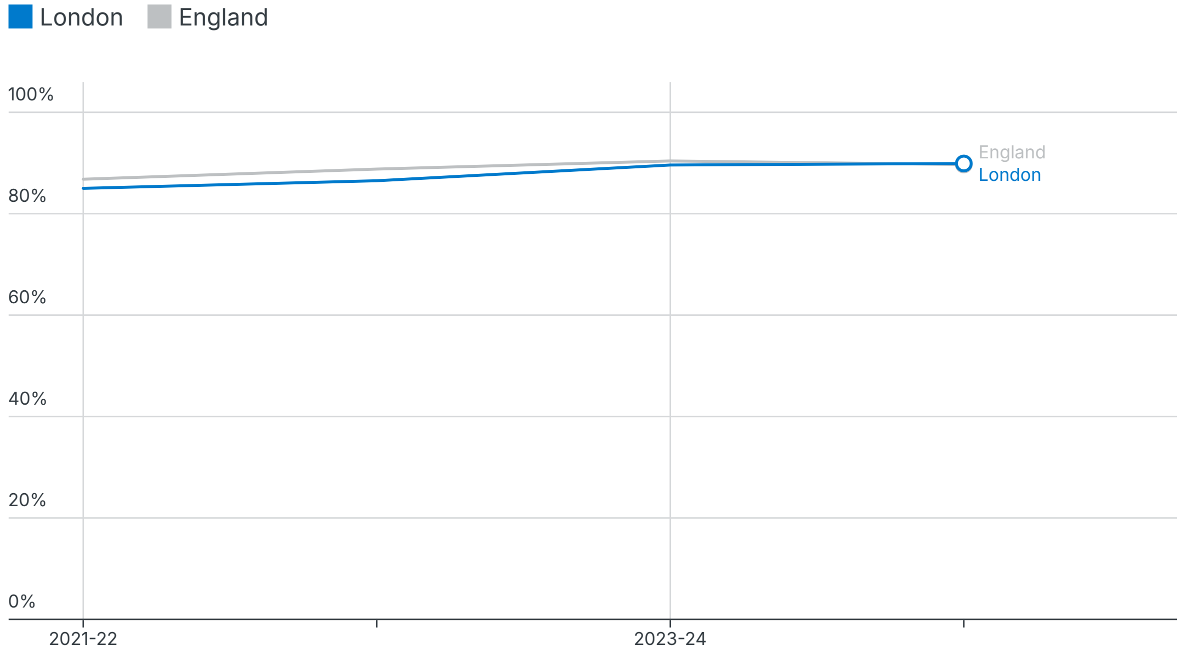
London-Level Outcome

Londoners feel able to take part in the city's cultural life

Culture is an essential part of London's identity as a capital for creative arts and entertainment. It supports the city's economy and helps to create vibrant local communities. This section examines in-person and digital engagement with the arts in London.

Physical engagement with the arts

Percentage of adults who engaged with the arts in-person in the last 12 months



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS, Participation Survey

Note: Core LLO Indicator | 2024–25 data collection. UK Data Service. SN: 9459. (n=18,651), digital engagement sub-sample (n=1,784)

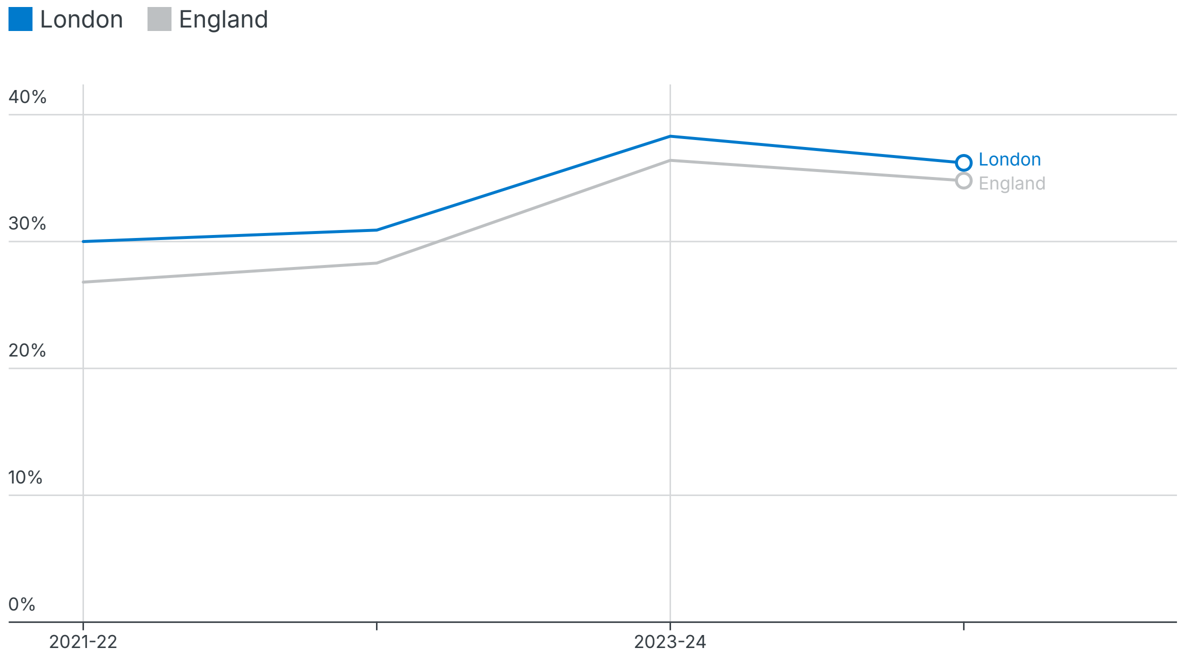
View interactive chart online

In 2024/25, 89.9% of London residents said they had engaged with the arts in person in the last 12 months. This is marginally higher than the national average (89.7%).

Engagement with the arts in London has increased in recent years. Moreover, the gap between London (which previously had lower engagement) and England has narrowed completely since the three previous years for which comparable data are available. Elsewhere in the country, the regions with the highest rate of engagement with the arts are the South-East (91.4%) and South-West (also 91.4%).

Digital engagement with the arts

Percentage of adults who engaged with the arts digitally in the last 12 months.



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS Participation Survey

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | 2024–25 data collection. UK Data Service. SN: 9459. (n=18,651), digital engagement sub-sample (n=1,784)

View interactive chart online

London residents are also more likely than people in England to engage with arts and culture online. In 2024/25, 36.2% of Londoners said they had engaged with the arts online in the last 12 months, compared to the England average of 34.8%. The only region with a higher digital engagement was the South-West (37.6%).

Further Reading

- London & Partners Data and Research Insights

Economy

London's economic performance and how it is benefiting Londoners

Read online

London generates roughly a quarter of the UK's economic output and just under a fifth of its workforce jobs – making the capital's economic performance central to national living standards, as well as to Londoners' own. This chapter examines how London's economy is currently performing, the quality of work available to those who live here, and the drivers and distributional patterns that shape whether growth is broadly shared.

London-Level Outcomes

Sections in this chapter relate to the following outcomes the Mayor is trying to achieve for the city:

- **Stable, long-term economic growth benefits all of Londoners**
- **Londoners have access to good work**
- **High streets and town centres are thriving across London**

Economic growth and income inequality

View online

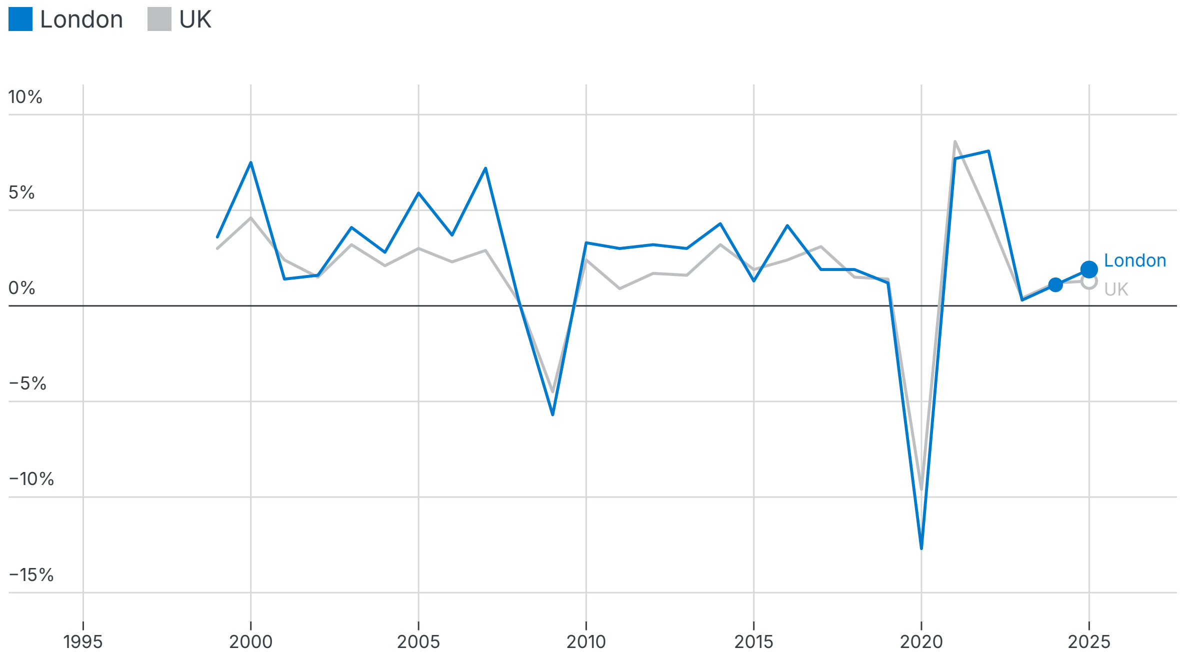
London-Level Outcome

Stable, long-term economic growth benefits all Londoners

This section examines economic growth in London, some of the key drivers of growth, and income inequality in the capital. More information on inequalities in London can also be found in the Social Justice chapter.

Economic growth

Real annual Gross Value Added (GVA) growth rate, percent



GLA City Intelligence

Source: GLA calculations, Office for National Statistics

Note: Core LLO Indicator | GLA Economics has estimated London quarterly figures for 2019 to 2023 in line with revisions by ONS to regional annual figures, and Nowcast figures to 2024 Q4.

View interactive chart online

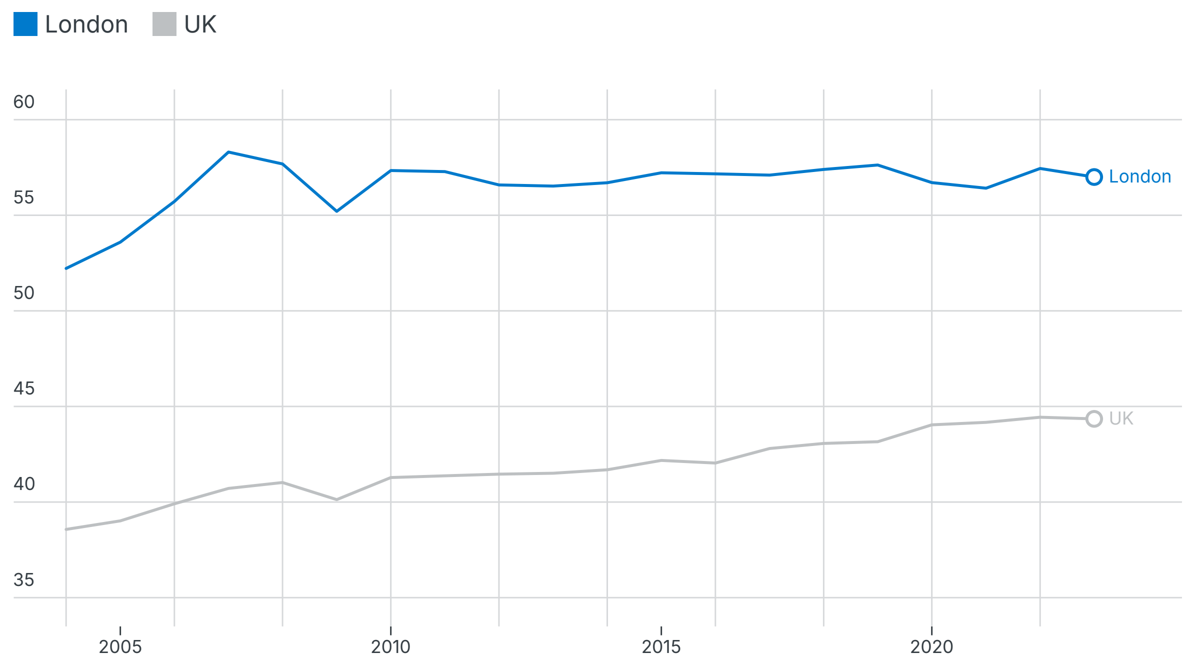
Post-pandemic recovery saw London's real gross value added (GVA) grow 7.7% in 2021 and 8.1% in 2022, but growth has since settled. The most recent ONS data release showed London's real GVA grew by only 0.3% in 2023 (compared to 0.4% for the UK as a whole). Estimates by GLA Economics suggest a modest strengthening of economic growth in London over the last two years, with real GVA expected to have risen by 1.1% in 2024 and 1.9% in 2025.

Historically, economic growth in London has tended to outperform the UK's, reflecting its position as the country's economic engine. In recent years, however, this advantage has narrowed. London's cumulative recovery from the pandemic has lagged behind that of the UK overall. GVA in 2025 was estimated to be 5.1% above its pre-pandemic 2019 level, compared with 5.9% for the UK as a whole.

This weaker relative performance largely reflects the severity of London's pandemic shock. The city was hit harder due to its concentration of sectors most exposed to lockdowns and mobility restrictions, such as hospitality, retail, tourism, and other face-to-face services, as well as its greater reliance on international travel and commuting. The subsequent rebound in 2021 and 2022 when real GVA increased by 7.9% and 8.1% respectively, though stronger than the UK average, reflected recovery from a deeper contraction rather than a sustained acceleration.

Productivity

Real GVA per hour worked (£, 2023 prices), London and the UK



GLA City Intelligence

Source: ONS regional productivity

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

Productivity, measured here by real output per hour worked, is a key driver of economic growth. Productivity growth is what allows real wages and living standards to rise over time, without an increase in hours worked.

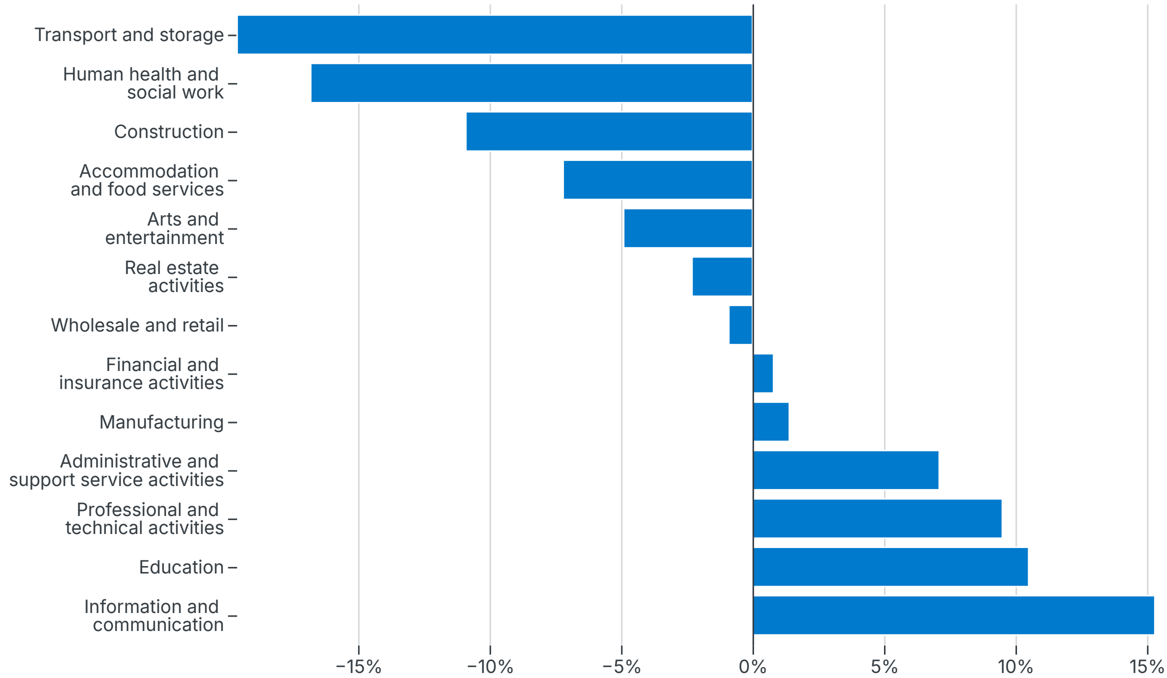
ONS data shows a general flatlining of productivity in London in the decade following the 2008 financial crisis - with weak business investment and slower growth in high-productivity sectors weighing on overall productivity growth. These are features of the broader UK productivity puzzle - which has been especially pronounced in London, given its concentration of businesses in finance, professional services, and other high-productivity knowledge-intensive industries. The pandemic and subsequent shift to hybrid working have added further pressures - but the underlying slowdown is longer-standing.

Despite relatively weak productivity growth, London remains the most productive region in the country. GVA per hour worked (in 2023 prices) was £57 per hour in 2023 (the latest available data), around 29% higher than the UK average of £44 per hour.

It should also be noted that while London's productivity growth appears to be weak by historical standards according to the data, a combination of methodological challenges faced by the ONS and a lag in data availability means the more recent data should be treated with caution.

Change in economic output by industry

Percentage change in real GVA by industry in London 2019–2023



GLA City Intelligence

Source: GLA Economics based on ONS – UK regional GVA and GDP data.

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | The following smaller industries have been excluded for simplification purposes; Primary sector and utilities, Public administration and defence, Other service activities, and Activities of households

View interactive chart online

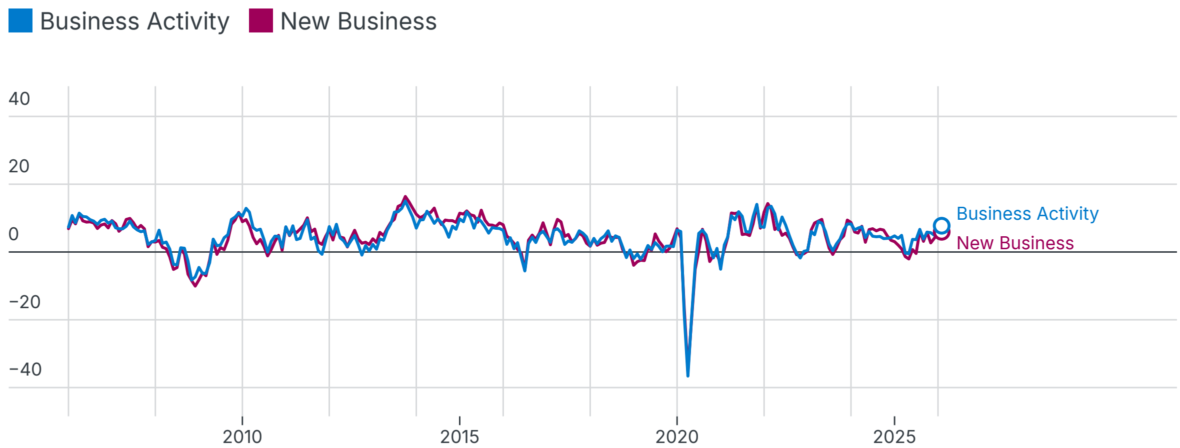
While London's economy has bounced back from the pandemic, the recovery has been uneven across sectors. Between 2019 and 2023, output in the information and communication sector grew by over 15%, while professional and technical services and education expanded by nearly 10% and 11% respectively. Financial and insurance activities also posted positive growth, albeit more modestly. These sectoral growth patterns have reinforced the city's strengths in knowledge-intensive sectors.

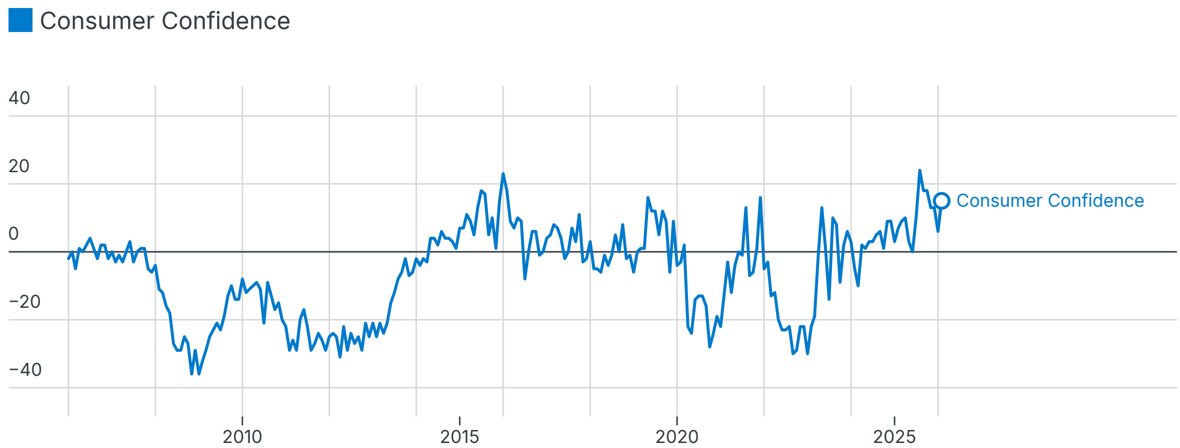
In contrast, sectors dependent on physical interaction have seen weaker recoveries. Output in the transport and storage sector remains nearly 20% below its 2019 level - the largest decline among all industries. Accommodation and food services, as well as arts and entertainment also remain below pre-pandemic levels, reflecting behavioural shifts into increased hybrid working (reducing weekday footfall). Health and social work output is also below its 2019 level, in part due to social-care staffing shortages. In non-service sectors, construction output remains nearly 11% lower than in 2019, while manufacturing has increased slightly by 1.4%.

These figures draw on the latest available ONS data until 2023. Estimates for 2024 are due from the ONS in July 2026 and an updated assessment of London's sectoral picture will be carried out in a forthcoming edition of London's Economy Today (LET).

Consumer and business sentiment in London

Consumer confidence and PMI indices, monthly





GLA City Intelligence

Source: GfK NOP and S&P Global PMI

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Readings above 0 indicate month-on-month expansion in business activity (PMI) or net positive consumer sentiment (Consumer Confidence); readings below 0 indicate contraction or net negative sentiment. PMI data has been rebased by subtracting 50, so that both series sit on a zero-centred scale. In the original PMI data, 50 equals no change in activity. This is purely presentational and does not change the underlying signal.

View interactive chart online

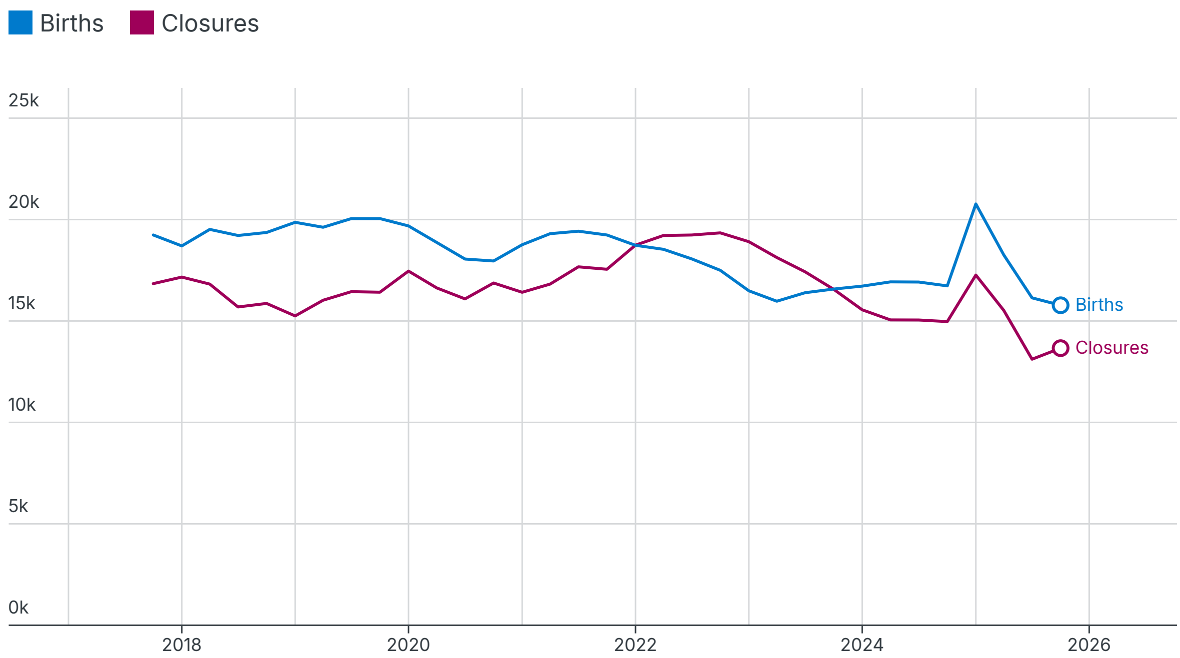
Consumer confidence and business sentiment indicators for London have been mostly positive over the past year. Consumer confidence has been positive almost continuously since early 2024, with business activity and new orders pointing to ongoing expansion - a marked improvement on post-pandemic volatility. A brief dip in mid-2025 coincided with the employer National Insurance rise and renewed global trade tensions, but sentiment has since recovered.

Consumer confidence in London was mostly negative following the pandemic, reaching a low of –30 in September 2022 (during the mini-Budget). It fluctuated between 2022 and early 2024 but has risen steadily since – reaching +15 in February 2026. By contrast, UK-wide consumer confidence has remained weak, sitting at −19 in the same month. The national measure has not recorded a positive reading since 2016.

Business sentiment in London has been more stable. Bar a two-month dip in April-May 2025, both business sentiment indices have been positive since early 2023, with Business Activity at +7.8 and New Business at +6 in February 2026, signalling near-continuous expansion and a clear recovery from the late-2022 contraction. London has consistently run ahead of the UK as a whole, where business sentiment has been more subdued.

Business births and closures

Number of births and closures (four-quarter moving average)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: GLA calculations, ONS Business Demography

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Experimental data

View interactive chart online

The number of business births in London has historically exceeded the number of closures[3], reflecting the capital's economic dynamism. However, from mid-2021

[3] Quarterly business births and closures are experimental data from the ONS and subject to revisions. The data reflect businesses added or removed from the Interdepartmental Business Register (IDBR). A four-quarter moving average is provided in the chart to provide the trend in the time series.

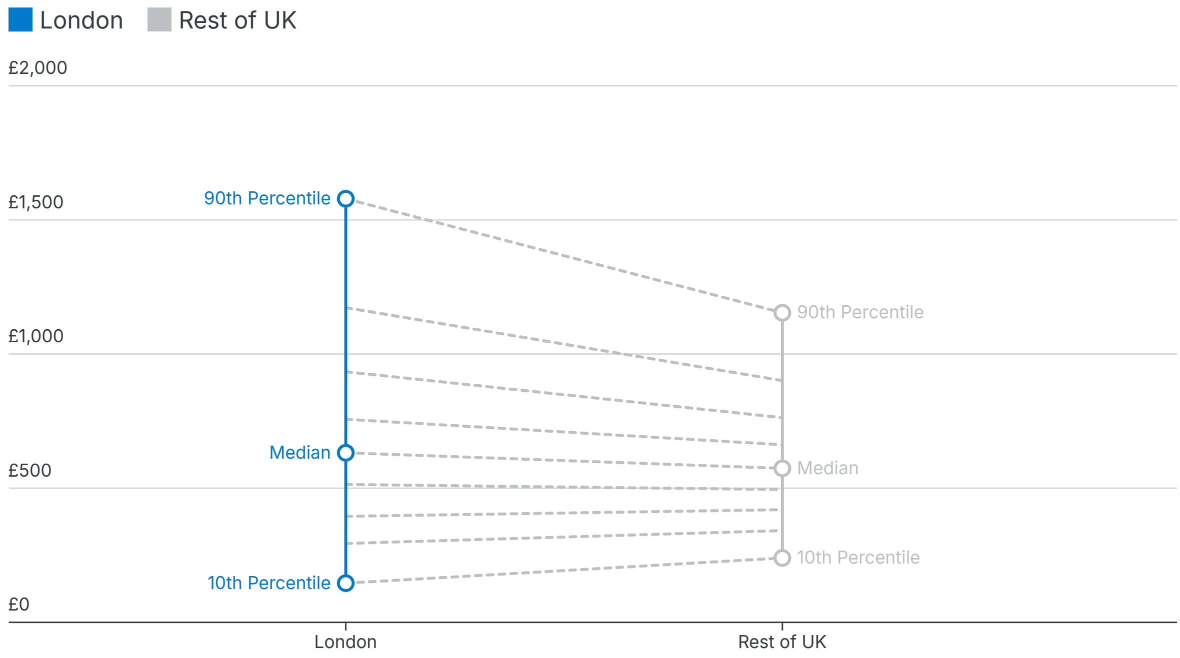
(following the pandemic), business births began to decline while closures steadily rose. By early 2022, closures surpassed births (on a four-quarter rolling basis), marking a reversal of the long-standing trend.

This situation was short-lived. The gap narrowed over 2023, and by the end of the year, business births once again exceeded closures. A similar trend was observed across the UK, although the recovery lagged behind London's.

Throughout 2024 and 2025, business births in London were above closures, suggesting that business dynamism in London continues to regain momentum.

Household income inequality

90:10 ratio of weekly equivalised household income after housing costs, London and the UK (2021/22 to 2023/24 average)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: GLA analysis of DWP HBAI data

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Incomes presented in 2023/24 prices

View interactive chart online

London's economy supports many high paid jobs. However, there is a stark gap between the incomes of the richest and poorest households. The latest DWP data indicate that the richest tenth of Londoners earn around 11 times the income of the poorest tenth (when looking at a three-year average of 2021/22 – 2023/24 data).

Incomes for the lowest tenth of earners in London are 39% lower than the lowest tenth of earners in the rest of the UK, while incomes for the highest tenth are 36% higher. This translates to a 90:10 ratio (a measure of inequality that looks at the ratio of income between highest and lowest tenth of earners) of 11 for London. This figure increased from 9 in the previous year (when looking at a three-year average of 2020/21 – 2022/23) and is more than twice that of the rest of the UK (4.8).

Median equivalised income after housing costs for a household in London is approximately £632 per week, 10% higher than it is for a household in the rest of the UK where it is £574 per week.

Access to good work

View online

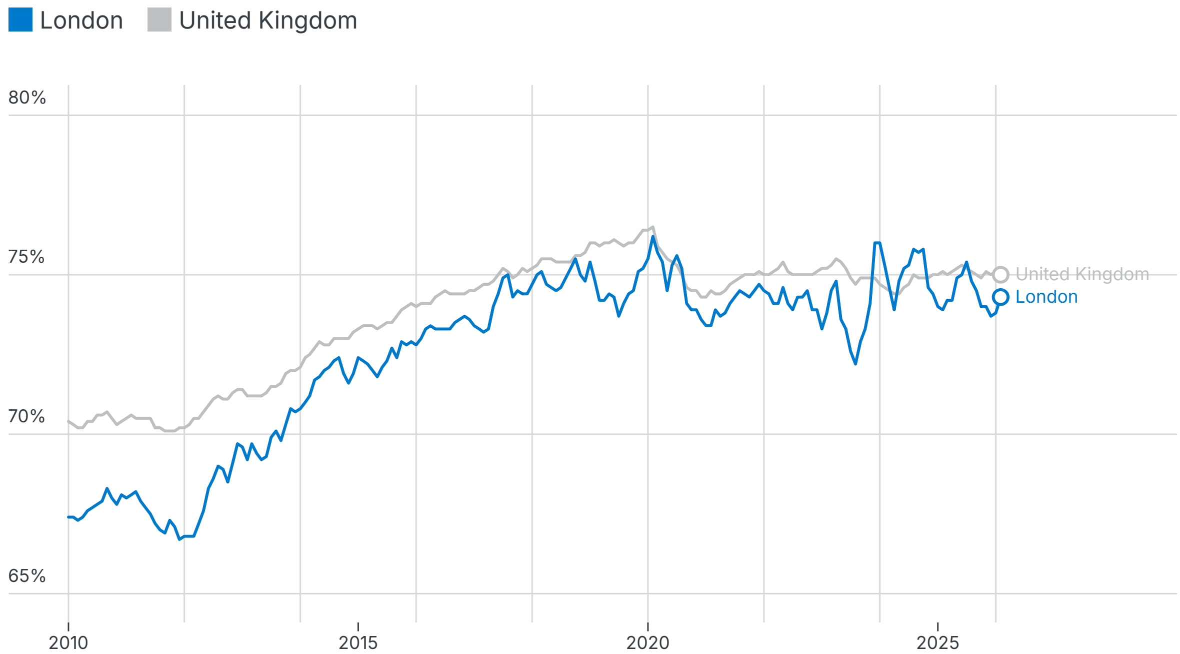
London-Level Outcome

Londoners have access to good work

Another important economic outcome is whether Londoners can access employment, and whether that work offers fair pay and conditions, opportunities for progression and positive relationships between workers and employers. This section examines data related to London's labour market covering the employment rate, involuntary worklessness, and job quality.

Employment rate

Percentage of the working age population in employment



GLA City Intelligence

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

The employment rate is the proportion of people aged between 16 and 64 years who are in employment. Data for this indicator comes from the ONS Labour Force Survey, which, due to data quality concerns, is currently badged as an "Official Statistic in Development" indicating that it should be used with caution.

For the three-month period between December 2025 and February 2026, London's employment rate was estimated at 74.3%. This represents an increase of 0.4

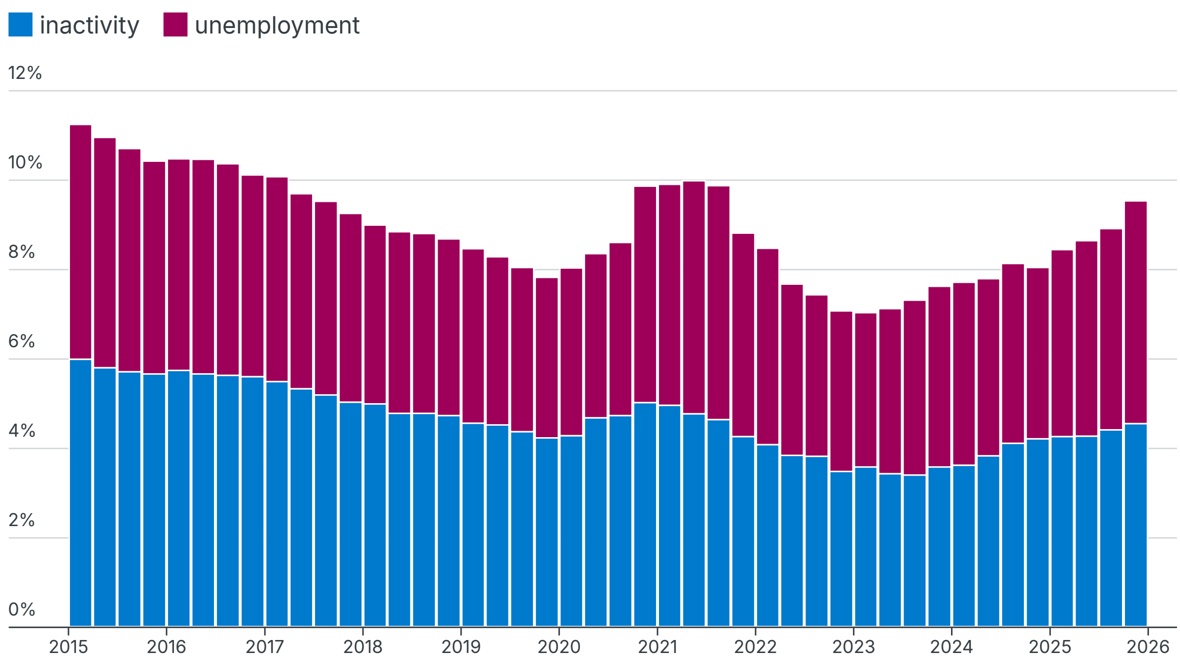
percentage points (pp) compared to the same period in the previous year and is 0.7 pp below the current UK rate of 75%.

The margin of error for the latest London employment rate is ±1.4%, which suggests that the oscillations over the last two years between around 74% to around 76% do not reflect a real change in the underlying trend.

Taken together with employment data from alternative sources — one based on employer surveys and one on HMRC Pay-As-You-Earn (PAYE) data — the overall picture is of a softening labour market over 2025. For more information see the latest GLA Economics Labour Market Monthly Update.

Involuntary worklessness

Share of 16-64 unemployed or inactive and would like to work



GLA City Intelligence

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

This indicator shows the share of the 16-64 year-old population that are unemployed or that are economically inactive but would like a job. Many people who are inactive do not want to work – for example, students, parents of young people, or those who have retired early. However, a substantial fraction say they would like a job – usually around one-fifth of the total number of economically inactive Londoners.

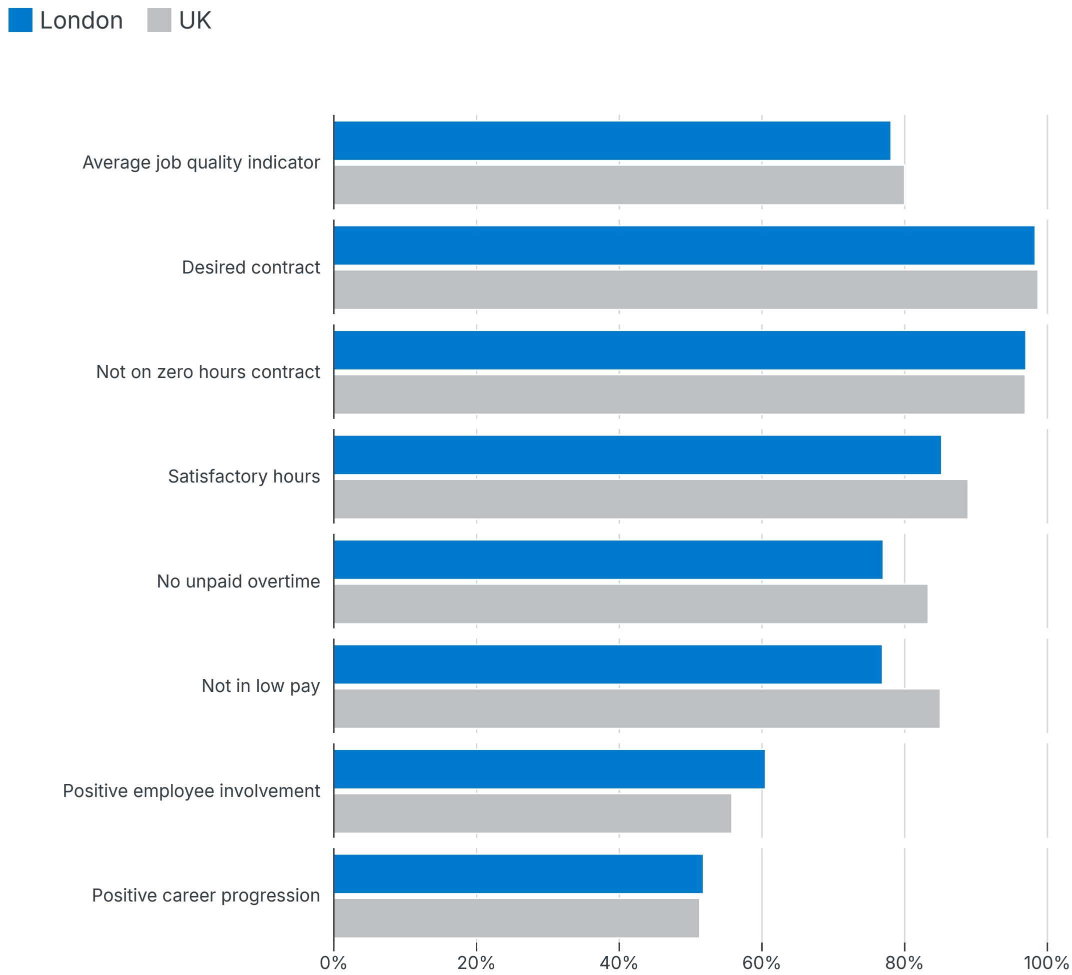
By adding these people to the number of unemployed, the indicator shows the share of 16–64 year-olds that would like, or need, to work but cannot find a suitable job.

In the year to the end of December 2025, there were 310,400 unemployed Londoners of working age and 282,600 economically inactive Londoners who said they would like a job, representing a total share of 9.5% of the working-age population. The total share has been increasing gradually since the record low of 7.0% in March 2023.

Since then, the proportion of the total made up by the unemployment component has increased relative to the inactivity component. With the official London unemployment rate having hit 7.4% in March 2026, this suggests that weaker demand in the labour market is the key contributor recently to involuntary worklessness in London.

Job quality

Average job quality indicator and components, percent share of employees, 2024



GLA City Intelligence

Source: ONS Labour Force Survey and GLA Economics

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

The average job quality score summarises ONS Labour Force Survey responses across seven separate questions about whether employees:

- report 'good' or 'very good' career progression opportunities.

- report 'good' or 'very good' employee involvement.
- have hourly pay greater than 60% of the local (regional) median.
- have worked unpaid overtime.
- report satisfactory hours.
- report a zero hours contract.
- report having desired contract.

Each item is scored as the share of employees answering the question with a positive response. For instance, if 20% of employees report having worked unpaid overtime, then we take the 80% that haven't had to do so as the 'positive' score. *Don't knows* and *non-respondents* are removed. The average job quality indicator is the mean value across all seven items. Data is currently only available for all seven indicators from 2020 to 2024.

Note that this is a series that remains in development. It provides equal weights to all components and does not prioritise particular attributes of 'good work', while attributes such as trade-union engagement and workplace wellbeing are not currently in-scope.

The average job quality score for employees in London was 78.2% in 2024, the highest since 2020, showing a slight increase from 77.6% in 2023 and 77.7% in 2022.

The score is lower for London than the UK, although the data show the gap narrowed over the 2022-2024 period. The largest contribution to the gap comes from the difference in the share of employees in (regional) low pay. In London in 2024, only 77.0% of employees earned more than the 60% of the regional median, while in the UK 85.1% earned more. This gap has narrowed from a 10 percentage-point (pp) difference in 2022 to 8.1 pp in 2024. Nevertheless, this suggests that while incomes may be higher in London, so is income inequality.

Londoners were also more likely to work unpaid overtime (only 77.1% in London did not versus 83.4% who did not in the UK) and less likely to report satisfactory hours (85.3% versus 89.0%). However, Londoners reported better scores for positive employee involvement (60.6% versus 55.9%) and career progression (51.9% versus 51.4%).

The 0.5 pp increase in London's average score between 2022 and 2024 included a higher share of employees (+3.3 pp) earning above the 60% London median wage, alongside increases in the proportion of respondents reporting satisfactory hours (+1.1 pp), positive employee involvement (+0.7 pp), and desired contract (+0.6 pp). These gains were partially offset by a decline in positive career progression (-2.4 pp).

High streets and town centres

View online

London-Level Outcome

High streets and town centres are thriving across London

Many Londoners' everyday experience of the economy is through their local high street or town centre. These locations provide access to services, employment and are important to the local community. This section provides a selection of indicators examining the health of London's high streets and town centres, looking at footfall, expenditure and vacancy rates.

High streets and town centres with increased visitor footfall

Percentage of high streets and town centres that saw an increase in footfall on the previous year, 2024-2025.

GLA City Intelligence

Source: Aggregated and anonymised data by BT, via the High Streets Data Service

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

Footfall is a useful proxy for business and economic activity in high streets and town centres. By specifically looking at an area's visitors (that is, not its workers or residents), these counts can help gauge retail activity (including shopping and dining). Footfall data are supplied by BT, which produces an estimate of workers, residents, and visitors for each high street and town centre based on a model of BT/EE mobile handset movements combined with census population estimates.

Overall, visitor footfall in 2025 increased in less than half of London's high streets and town centres compared to 2024. Inner London fared moderately better than Outer London for both daytime (6AM-6PM; 48% vs. 32%) and nighttime (6PM-6AM; 34% vs. 23%) visitors. While the number of areas with increased year-on-year footfall has fallen from 2024 (when over 90% of areas showed growth), the actual change in footfall was very modest: the average change in visitors from 2024 to 2025 was –1.5% for Inner London and –5.5% for Outer London.

High streets and town centres with increased spend

Percentage of London high streets and town centres that saw an increase in real-terms spend on the previous year, 2024-2025.

GLA City Intelligence

Source: Aggregated and anonymised data by Mastercard, via the High Streets Data Service

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Daytime - 6AM-6PM, nighttime - 6PM-6AM

View interactive chart online

In-store spending data can be used to estimate the retail growth of London's high streets and town centres. One measure is the total retail spend in an area, while a second measure is the total number of purchases made in that area. Retail spend data are supplied by Mastercard, reporting relative transaction amounts and counts occurring in its own network of debit and credit cards in physical shops. The data are further adjusted with a model to better estimate total retail spending on all merchant cards, as well as with cash.

Total retail spend in 2025 increased for about 40% of London's high streets and town centres compared to 2024. More Inner-London high streets and town centres showed increased spend during daytime hours (46%) compared to Outer London (39%), while nighttime performance was more similar between Inner London (39%) and Outer London (37%).

High streets and town centres with increased purchases

Percentage of London high streets and town centres that saw increased purchases on the previous year, 2024-2025.

GLA City Intelligence

Source: Aggregated and anonymised data by Mastercard, via the High Streets Data Service

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Daytime, 6AM-6PM; nighttime, 6PM-6AM

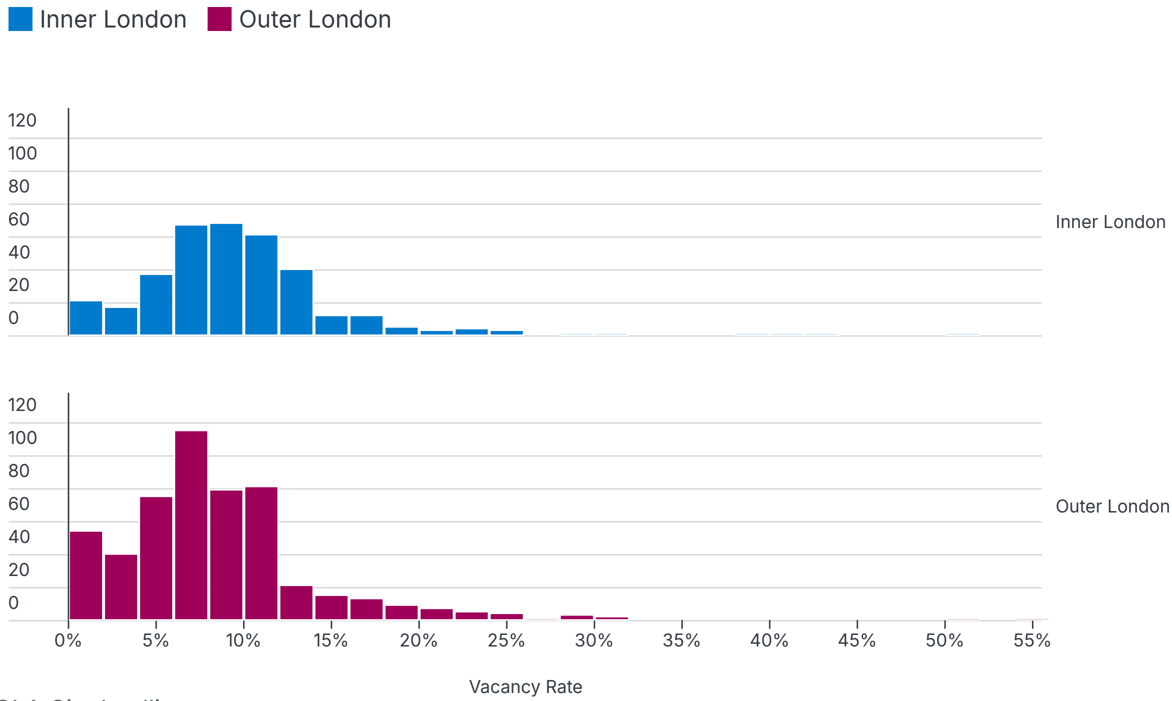
View interactive chart online

Total purchases in 2025 increased for over half of London's high streets and town centres compared to 2024. 63% of Outer-London and 59% of Inner-London retail areas showed a year-on-year increase in the number of purchases during the day; the percentage of Outer-London high streets and town centres with increased purchasing at night (59%) also slightly outpaced that seen for Inner-London areas (54%).

These data suggest that from 2024 to 2025, London's high streets have entered a plateau of retail activity and visitor footfall after several years of post-COVID recovery.

Vacancy rates for London high streets and town centres, 2025

Distribution of vacancy rates for London high streets and town centres.



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Data by LDC/Green Street, via the High Streets Data Service

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

The number of vacant storefronts can serve as an indicator of the overall health of a high street or town centre, with healthier high streets having fewer vacant shops. Premises-level data are supplied by Local Data Company, with the status of each location recorded as either vacant or occupied. Premises are assigned to high street and town centre boundaries, and the vacancy rate is reported as the percentage of all vacant premises out of total premises.

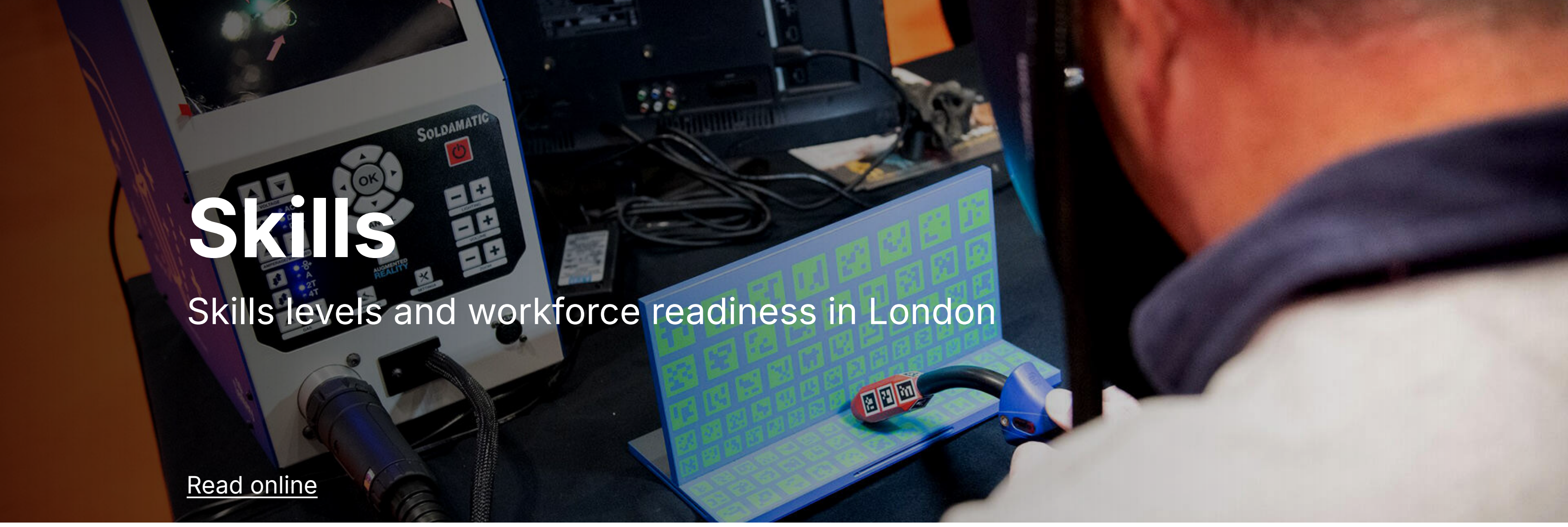
Across London as a whole, the average vacancy rate in a high street or town centre was 9.3% in 2025. Rates in Inner-London high streets and town centres were similar to the London-wide rate (at 9.7%), while Outer London high streets and town centres had a lower vacancy rate on average (8.4%).

In the rest of the UK, about one in ten shopfronts (10.3%) were vacant. The majority of both Inner London's (63%) and Outer London's (71%) high streets and town centres had vacancy rates below this 10.3% nationwide rate.

Further Reading

- London's Economy Today
- London's Economic Outlook
- Labour Market publications by GLA Economics

- Economic Fairness measures for London
- High Streets Data Service



Skills

Skills levels and workforce readiness in London

Read online

Skills are central to Londoners' life chances and to the city's economic success. Access to education and training enables people to improve their employment prospects and adapt to a changing labour market, while a skilled workforce supports productivity and innovation. This chapter examines skills levels among Londoners and how well the city's skills system meets the needs of employers.

London-Level Outcomes

Sections in this chapter relate to the following outcomes the Mayor is trying to achieve for the city:

- **Londoners have the skills they need to improve their lives**
- **London's economy has the skills it needs to thrive**

Skills and learner outcomes

View online

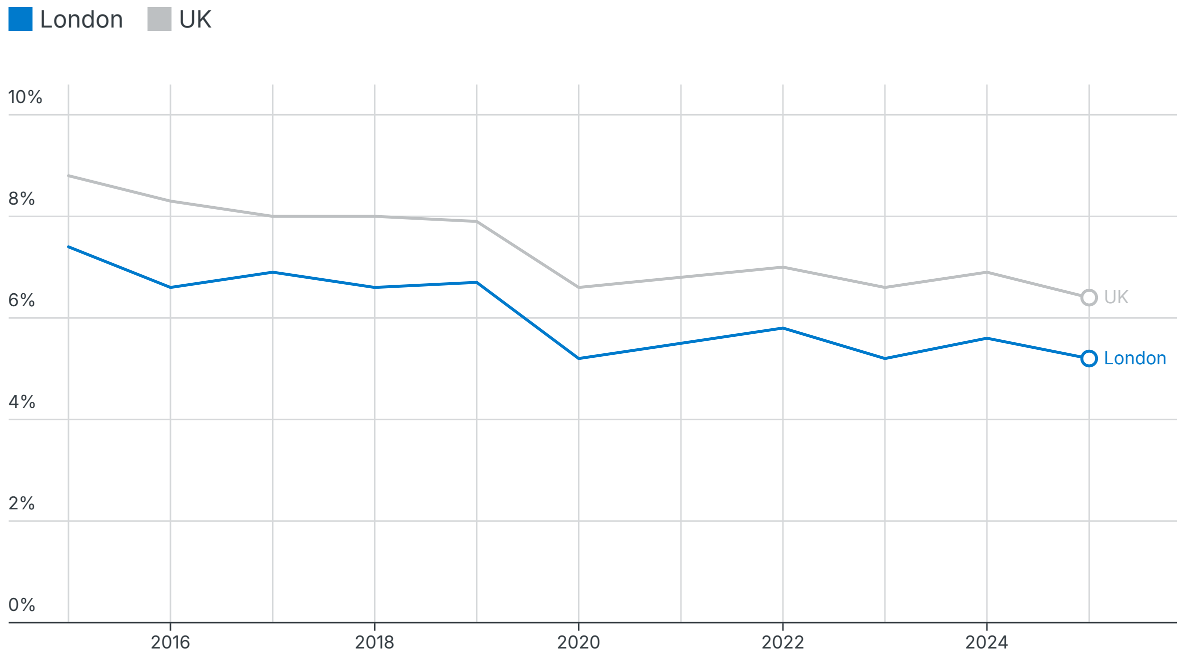
London-Level Outcome

Londoners have the skills they need to improve their lives

This section examines the skills of London's population, including the proportion with no qualifications and the proportion with Level 3 and above qualifications. It also looks at progression into employment or further learning among Further and Higher Education learners.

People with no qualifications

Percentage of people aged 16-64 with no qualifications



GLA City Intelligence

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, 2015-2025.

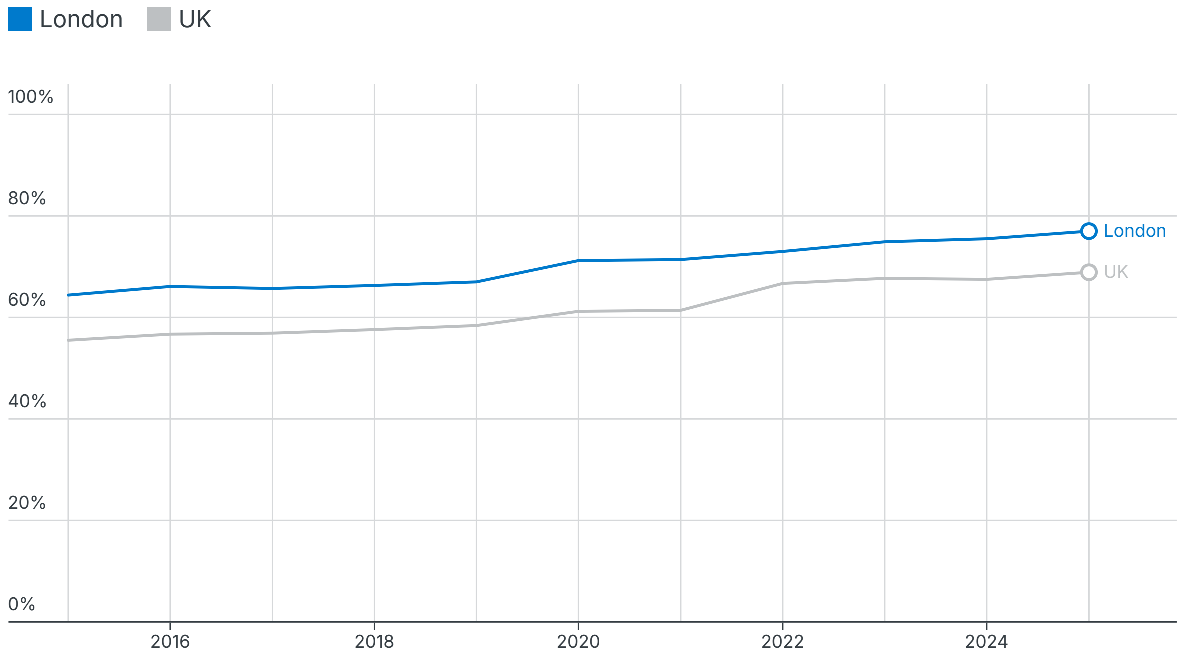
Note: Core LLO Indicator | From 2022, the qualification framework presented in the data moved from National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ) to Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF)

View interactive chart online

Across the 2015-2025 time series, the proportion of London's working age population without qualifications shows a moderate downward trend. The latest figures for London show a decrease from 5.6% to 5.2% between 2024 and 2025 which sits well below the 2015 level of 7.4%. This corresponds to around 300,000 individuals in London in 2025 without qualifications. The UK follows the same overall pattern and had a consistently higher share of people without qualifications than London for the whole time period.

People with a Level 3 or above qualification

Percentage of people aged 16-64 with Level 3+ qualifications



GLA City Intelligence

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, 2015-2025.

Note: Core LLO Indicator | From 2022, the qualification framework presented in the data moved from National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ) to Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF)

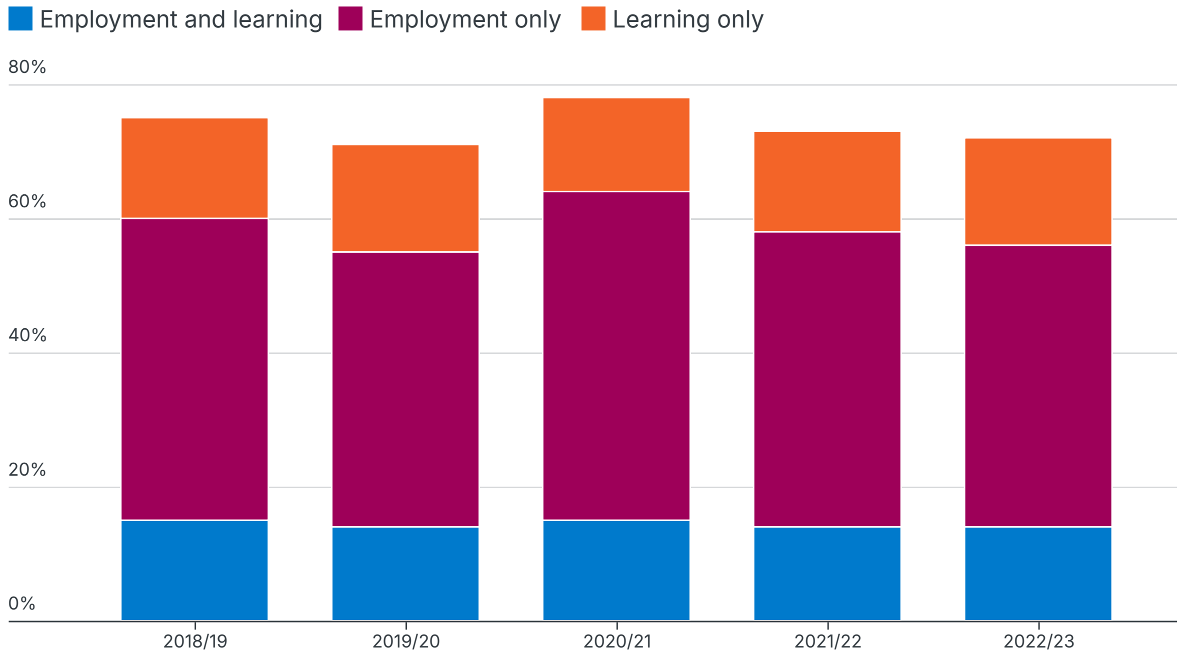
View interactive chart online

Correspondingly, the proportion of working-age Londoners with higher level qualifications has been increasing over time. The 16-64 population with a Level 3 qualification or higher (equivalent to two A level qualifications or higher, including degrees) increased by 12.6 percentage points between 2015 and 2025.

The latest data shows that 77% of Londoners aged 16-64 (around 4.7 million people) hold a Level 3 or above qualification, higher than for the UK average of 69%.

Outcomes for Further Education (FE) learners in London

Percentage of adult (19+) FE and Skills learners with a positive destination (including employment and further learning)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Department for Education.

Note: Core LLO Indicator | SPD shows unconditional association between qualifications and outcomes. Differences might be explained by learner characteristics or labour market conditions, for instance. Previous years' data are subject to revision, so earlier years may not exactly match the figures reported last year.

View interactive chart online

London's latest labour market outcomes for adult (19+) FE learners cover the 2022/23 academic year and include around 163,000 people who completed education, training, or apprenticeships.[4]

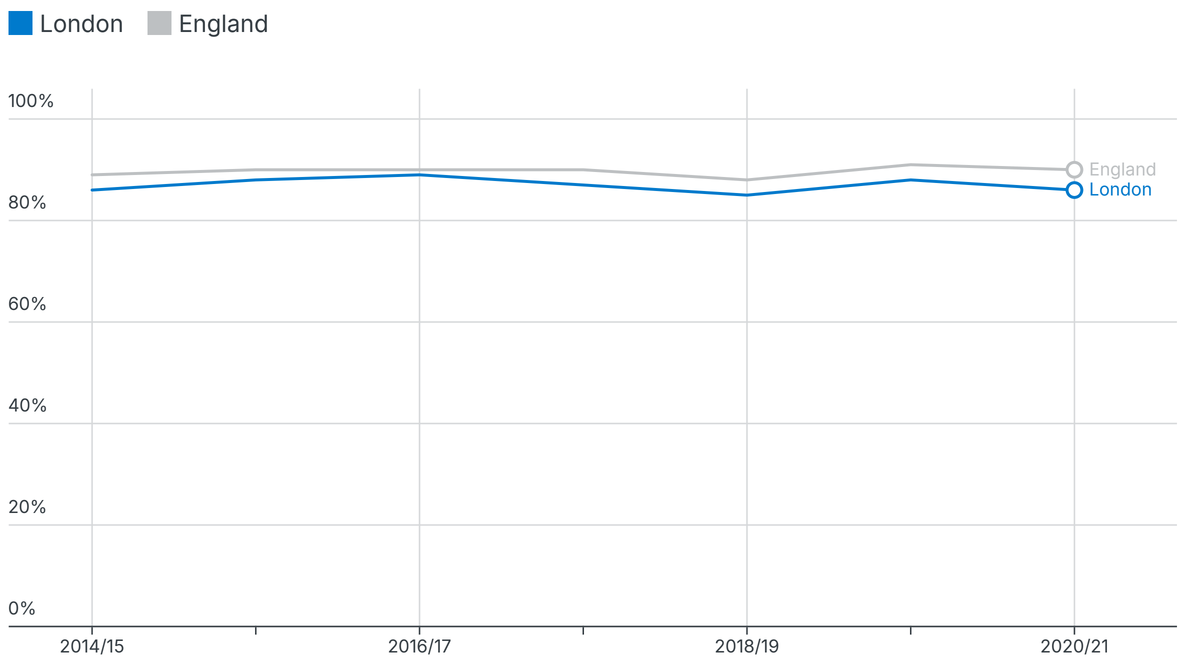
Overall, 72% achieved a Sustained Positive Destination (SPD), meaning they were in employment, further learning, or both for at least six months in 2023/24. This remains below the England average of 77%, and the gap has widened since the previous year, when London recorded 74% compared with England's 76%.

Changes in London's SPD rates over time are driven mainly by shifts in sustained employment, while sustained learning has stayed relatively stable. SPD peaked at 78% in 2020/21, reflecting unusually strong employer demand and high vacancy levels following the pandemic. In the most recent data, sustained employment has fallen back, bringing London's overall SPD rate closer to pre-pandemic levels.

[4] The figure of 163,000 refers to London learners successfully matched to administrative records.

Outcomes for Higher Education (HE) learners

Percentage of students from a London Higher Education Institution (HEI) who have a positive destination (%)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Department for Education, LEO Graduate and Postgraduate Outcomes.

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Previous years' data are subject to revision, so earlier years may not exactly match the figures reported last year

View interactive chart online

The latest available data shows that in 2020/21, 86% of around 43,000 Higher Education Institution graduates in London were in a positive destination (employment or further study) one year after graduating.[5]

This represents a small decline from the previous year when the figure was 88%. London's rate is also slightly lower than the England average (by around four percentage points in 2020/21). Together, these patterns suggest that while outcomes remain strong overall, London graduates may face a slightly more competitive transition into the labour market than their peers elsewhere in England, reflecting both the higher concentration of degree-qualified workers and London's openness to international talent.

[5] The figure of 43,000 refers to graduates successfully matched to administrative records.

Skills in the economy

[View online](#)

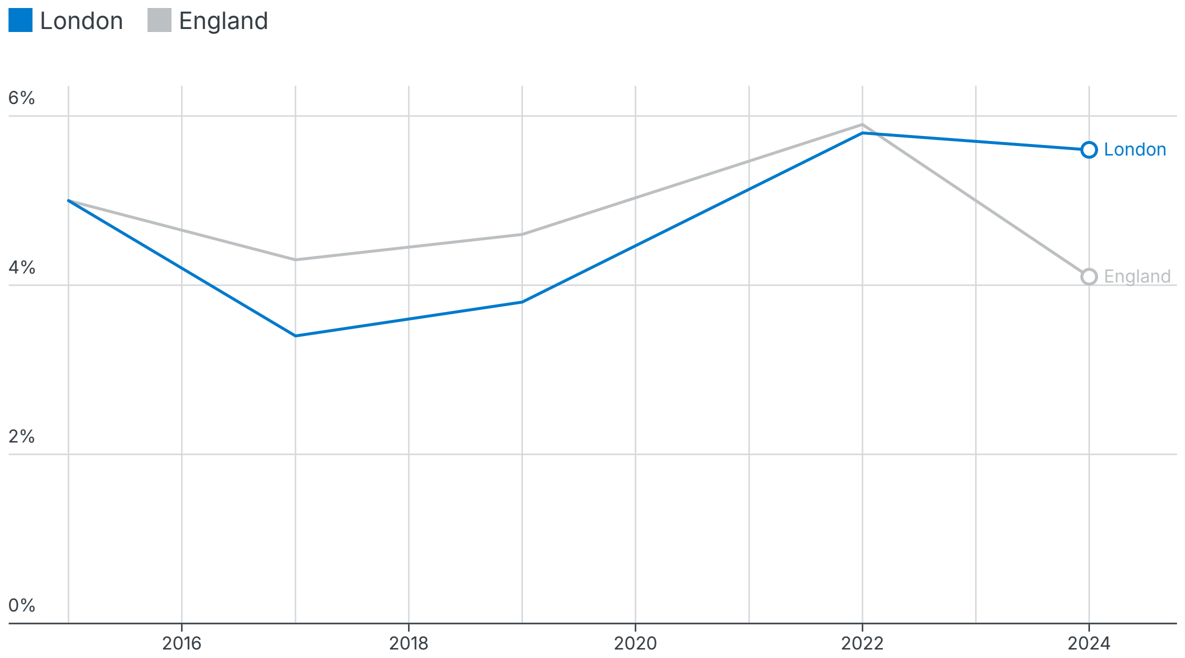
London-Level Outcome

London's economy has the skills it needs to thrive

This section examines skills needs in London's economy, including: employers' views on the proficiency of their workforce; skills shortage vacancies; employer provision of training; and data on job postings identifying the skills most in demand.

Employers' views on the proficiency of their workforce

Percentage of employees who are not fully proficient at their job



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Employer Skills Survey, 2024

Note: Core LLO Indicator

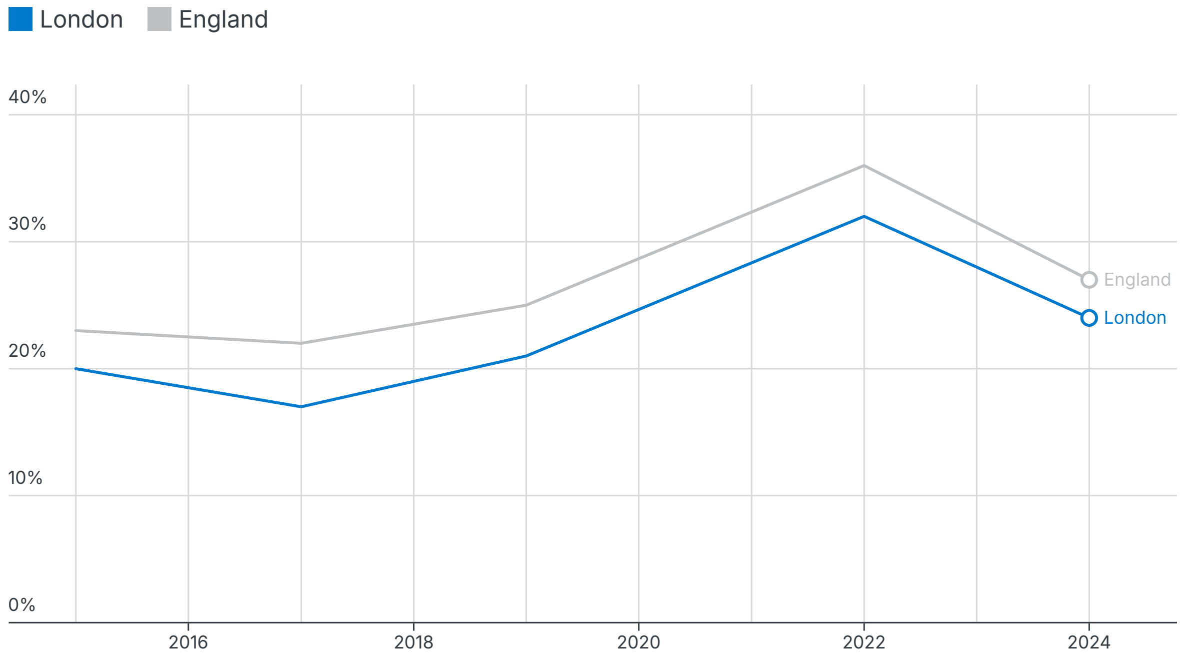
View interactive chart online

Between 2015 and 2022, the percentage of employees who were judged as 'not fully proficient at their job' by their employer, also called the skills gap density, increased from 5% (223,300 employees) to reach a post-pandemic high of 5.8% (296,700 employees). A similar trend was seen across England.

In 2024, the skills gap density in London declined slightly to 5.6% (309,500 employees), however this was still higher than the pre-pandemic figure of 3.8% (190,400 employees) and only marginally below the 2022 peak. At the England level the skills gap declined to below the pre-pandemic level in 2024.

Skills shortage vacancies

Percentage of skills shortage vacancies



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Employer Skills Survey, 2024

Note: Core LLO Indicator

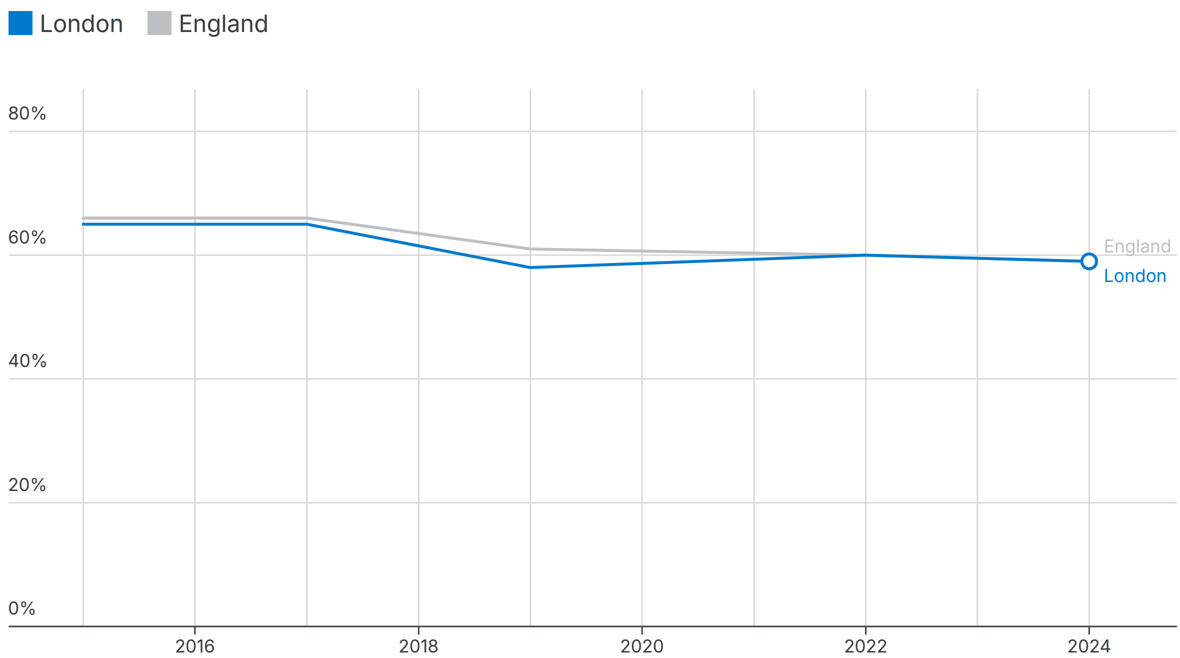
View interactive chart online

'Skills shortage vacancies' refer to vacancies that employers struggle to fill due to a lack of skills, qualifications or experience amongst applicants. Skills shortage vacancies can have an impact on economic growth, as employers cannot fill critical roles, negatively affecting their productivity if longer-term objectives such as expansion or innovation are constrained.

The share of skills shortage vacancies, amongst all job vacancies in London, increased between 2015 and 2022, from 20% to 32%. The sharp increase between 2020 and 2022 may reflect, at least in part, higher levels of unmet skills demand in the period after the pandemic. In 2022, the share of skills shortage vacancies was 4 percentage points below the share across all of England. Data for 2024 shows some improvement, with the share of skills shortage vacancies in London declining to 24%, but this remains above the 2019 level of 21%. A similar trend was observed at the national level.

Employer provision of training

Percentage of establishments that have funded or arranged any training for staff over the past 12 months



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Employer Skills Survey, 2024

Note: Core LLO Indicator

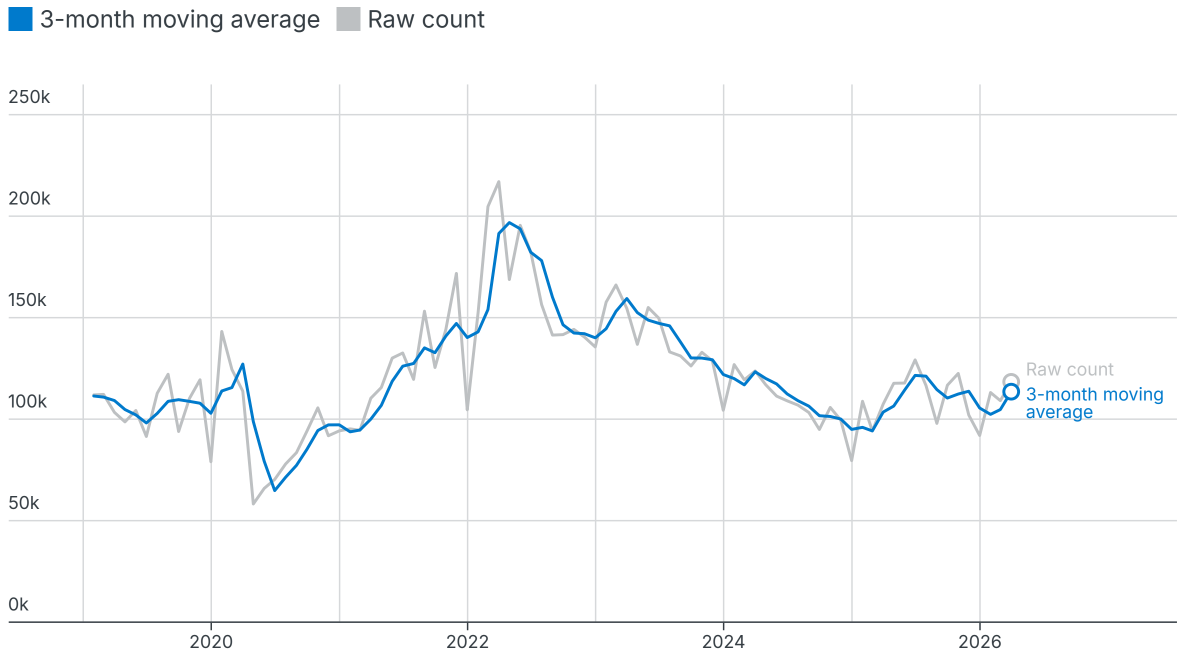
View interactive chart online

Employer provision of training is important to ensure that courses are well tailored to the needs of firms and, in turn, London's economy. Employers can provide either training that equips employees for the requirements of their current job (defined in the Employer Skills Survey as on-the-job training) or training that goes beyond that (off-the-job training).

Employer investment in training has declined over recent years. Since 2015, training provision by London employers has fallen by 6 percentage points (from 65% to 59%). Evidence suggests that a wide range of factors could be driving these trends, including: rising cost pressures; constraints on employer capacity to plan and deliver training; and a shifting of responsibility for training onto individuals. The overall trend in provision in London is similar to that for the whole of England.

Online job postings over time

Number of unique monthly job postings in London, all occupations



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Lightcast 2026

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

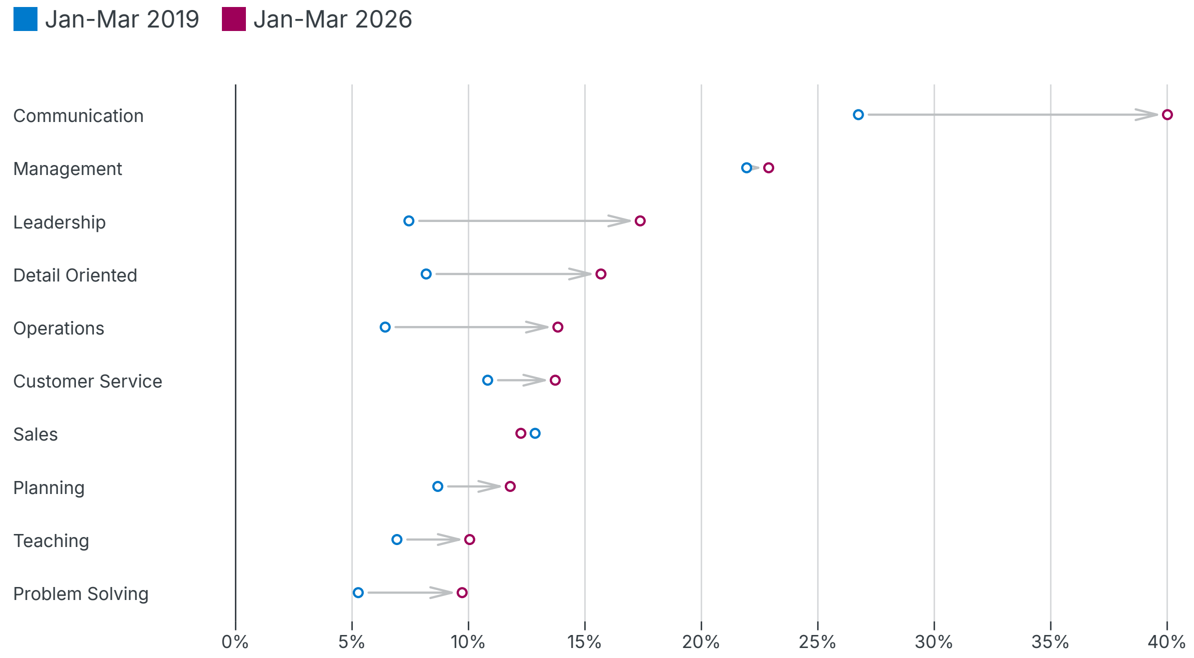
View interactive chart online

Online job posting numbers are a useful, albeit imperfect, indicator of real-time employer demand for labour. Between the latter half of 2022 and the beginning of 2025, job posting numbers trended steadily downwards and are now aligned with pre-pandemic levels. This trend reflects a gradual cooling and stabilisation of London's labour market.

While the onset of the pandemic had an adverse impact on recruitment activity in early 2020, this reversed rapidly following widescale societal reopening and resurgent economic activity.

Most in-demand common skills

Top common skills in demand as measured by frequency in job postings (percent)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Lightcast 2026

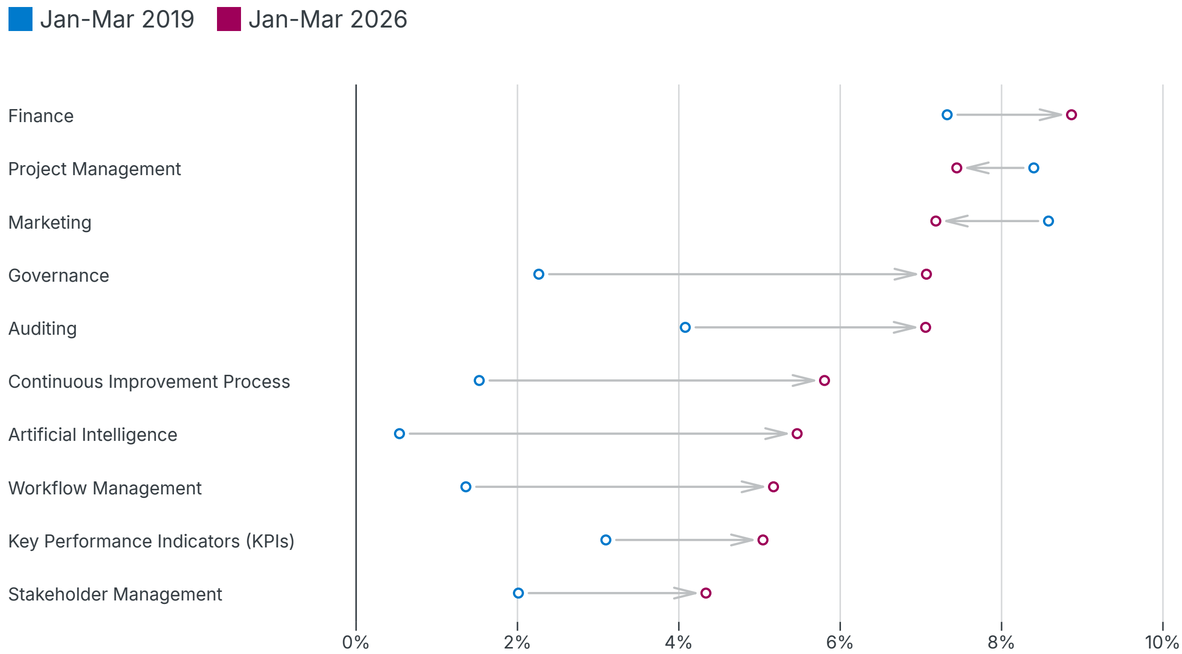
Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

Lightcast job posting data provide insights into the common and specialised skills most sought after by employers in London, and how these are changing over time. The common, or transferable, skills most in demand in Q1 2026 included communication, management and leadership. Since the pandemic, the largest increases in the frequency in which skills are mentioned in job postings have been for communication, leadership, detail-orientated, operations and problem solving.

Most in-demand technical skills

Top technical skills in demand as measured by frequency in job postings (percent)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Lightcast 2026

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

Similarly, technical or specialised skills, such as core business skills including project management, finance and marketing, have remained consistently in demand since before the pandemic. However, demand for expertise related to governance, continuous improvement processes and AI, has grown strongly in recent years.

The rapid growth in demand for AI-related skills, such as experience using generative AI models, prompt engineering, machine learning, and agentic systems, reflects businesses' growing recognition of AI's potentially transformative effects on their operations and, in turn, on London's labour market. Alongside reported investment in staff upskilling initiatives, the job postings data suggests that employers are actively seeking to build an AI-enabled workforce and increasingly expect workers across the occupational spectrum to have the skills needed to support this transition. For more information on AI's potential labour market implications for London see the GLA Economics report linked below.

Further Reading

- GLA Adult Skills Fund Data Publication
- Analysis of the London Learner Survey
- Apprenticeships Statistics for London

- Analysis of the Employer Skills Survey
- Labour Market Analysis of London’s Priority Sectors
- London’s workforce exposure to Generative AI

Social justice

Fairness, inequality and social inclusion in London

Read online

Social justice is fundamental to building a fair and inclusive city. Despite its prosperity, London experiences high levels of inequality, with significant differences in opportunities and outcomes across communities. There is a clear pattern that Londoners living in the most deprived areas have poorer outcomes compared with those living in the least deprived areas across various measures. This chapter explores how far Londoners' incomes meet their everyday needs, whether people are treated fairly, and the extent to which Londoners participate in civic life and support each other.

London-Level Outcomes

Sections in this chapter relate to the following outcomes the Mayor is trying to achieve for the city:

- **Londoners' incomes meet their everyday needs**
- **Londoners are treated fairly and with dignity**
- **Londoners can have their say in the running of the city**
- **Londoners get on with and support each other**

Income and poverty

View online

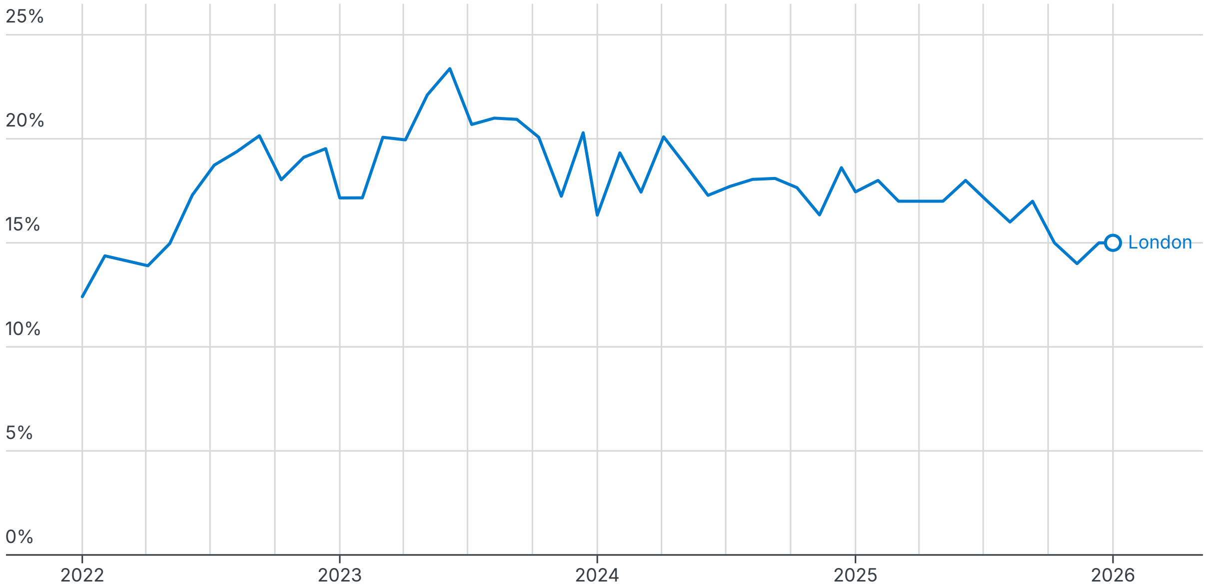
London-Level Outcome

Londoners' incomes meet their everyday needs

This section examines rates of poverty and the extent to which Londoners are coping with the high cost of living.

Struggling financially

Proportion of Londoners struggling to make ends meet or having to go without basic needs, monthly data, Jan 22-Jan 26



GLA City Intelligence

Source: YouGov survey January 2022 – January 2025

Note: Core LLO Indicator | All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc for the GLA. Monthly sample sizes were between 968 and 1,591 adults. Surveys were carried out online. Figures have been weighted and are representative of all London adults (aged 18+).

View interactive chart online

When asked how they were coping financially in January 2026, 15% of Londoners said they were struggling[6]. This is down from around 23% in June 2023, but remains above early-2022 levels.

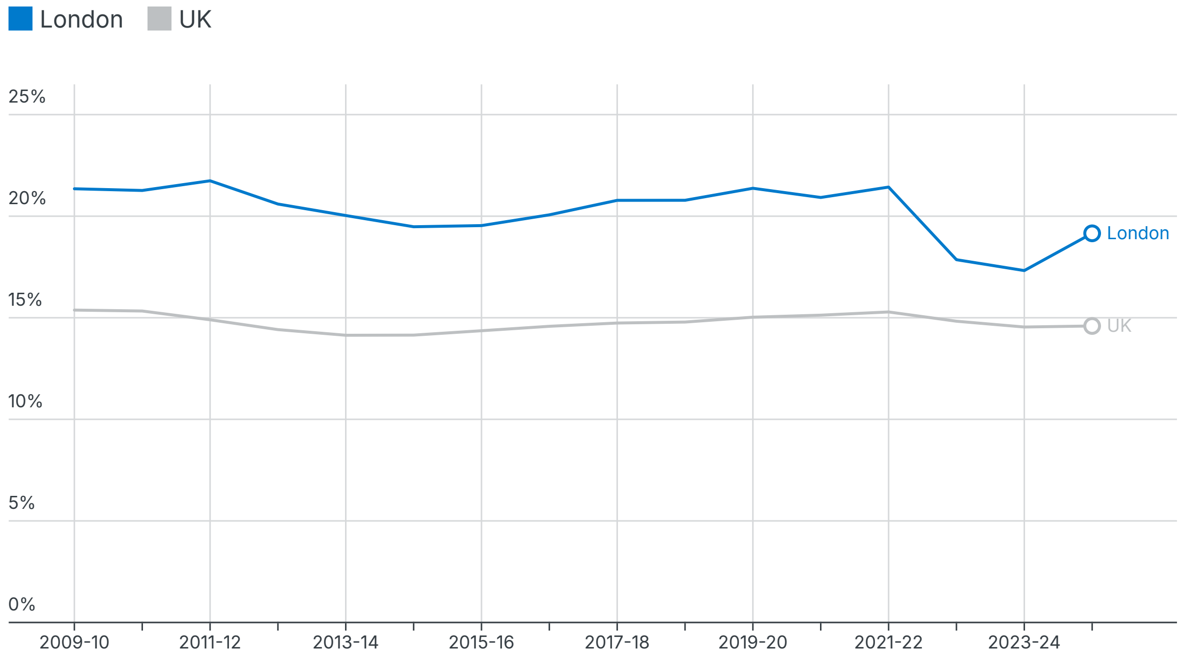
Disabled Londoners, lower income groups, renters, Black Londoners and people in lower-skilled occupations, were more likely to say they were struggling financially.

Financially struggling Londoners are significantly more likely than other Londoners to be doing the main two actions to manage costs, which are 'to spend less on non-essentials' and 'to buy cheaper products'.

[6] Defined as going without or relying on debt to pay for their basic needs or struggling to make ends meet.

Relative poverty

Percentage of people living in households with income below 50% contemporary median – After Housing Costs (AHC)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DWP Households Below Average Income

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Data points for both London and the UK represent the average (mean) of the last three years. Data points that include 2020/21 represent the average of the remaining two years.

View interactive chart online

According to the latest estimate, 19% of London's population, or about 1.7 million Londoners, live in relative poverty. A person is considered in relative poverty if they are in a household with income below a given percentage of the UK median. The standard threshold is 60% of the UK median but, here, we use 50% of the UK median, as it reflects a deeper level of poverty.

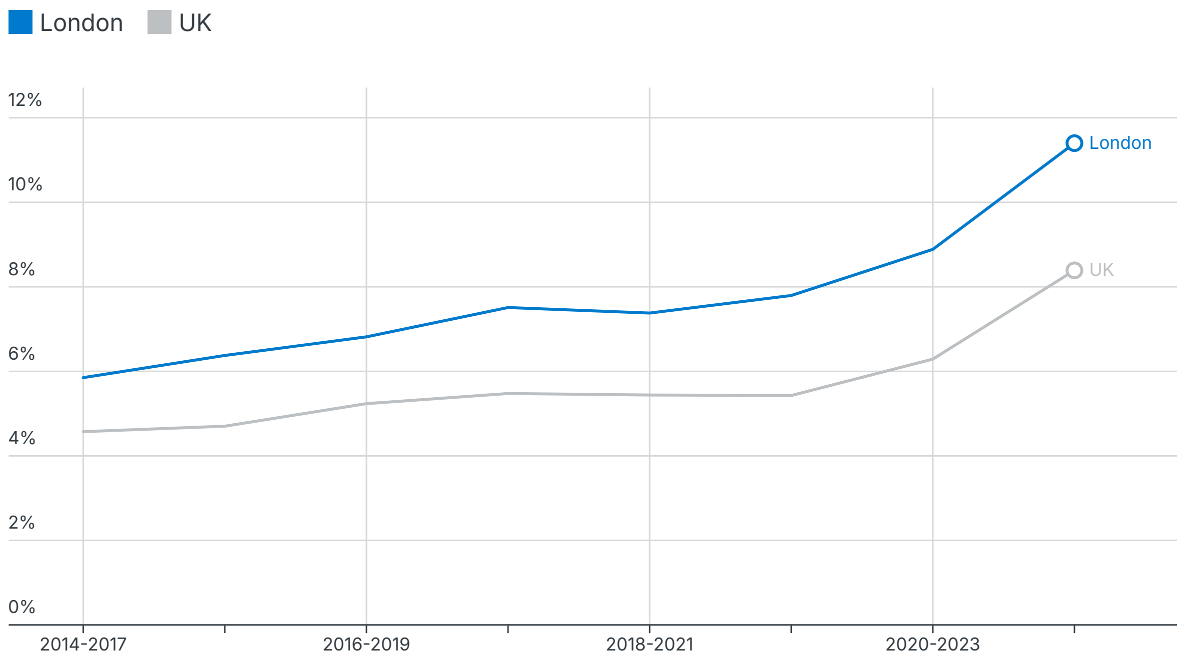
This measure captures all income sources and covers an entire household. It also accounts for the value of housing costs, which are subtracted from total household income. It does not, however, capture the value of other 'non-discretionary costs' such as childcare, nor does it capture the value of savings or other household assets. It should be noted there is considerable uncertainty around estimates for recent years due to data collection issues during the pandemic, meaning year-on-year changes should be interpreted with caution.

With these caveats in mind, the rate of relative poverty in London increased in the latest estimate, climbing for the second year in a row, and is now above the pre-pandemic level.

Compared to the rest of the UK, London is the region with the highest proportion of residents in relative poverty, with Inner London showing particularly high poverty incidence at 23%. Outer London, though lower at 18%, still has a higher poverty incidence than all other regions and countries of the UK.

Household bills arrears

Proportion of households with bills in arrears



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Understanding Society

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

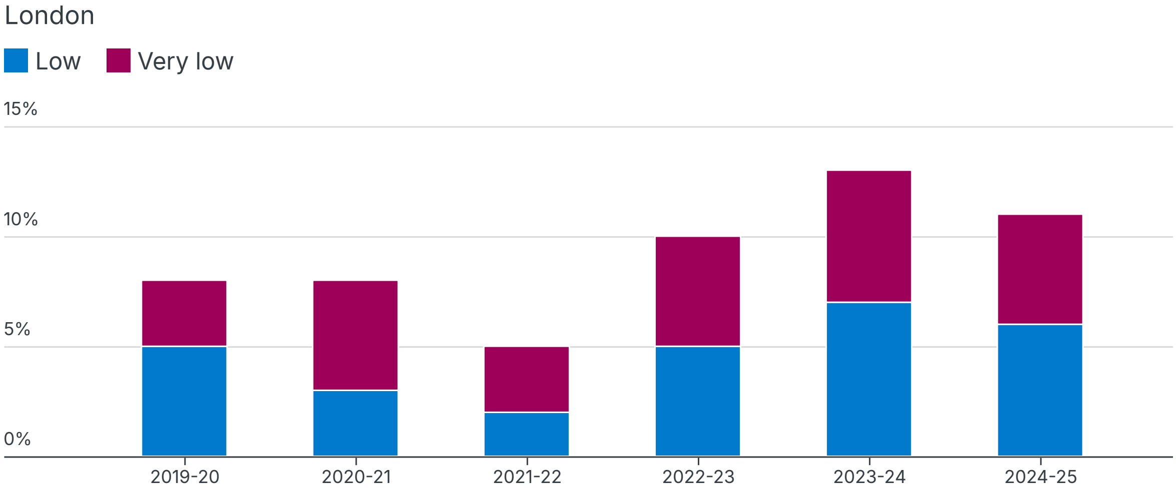
In the three years 2021-2024, 11% of households in London reported being behind with some or all of their household bills. This is nearly twice the proportion it was a decade ago in the three years 2014-2017 when 6% were in arrears.

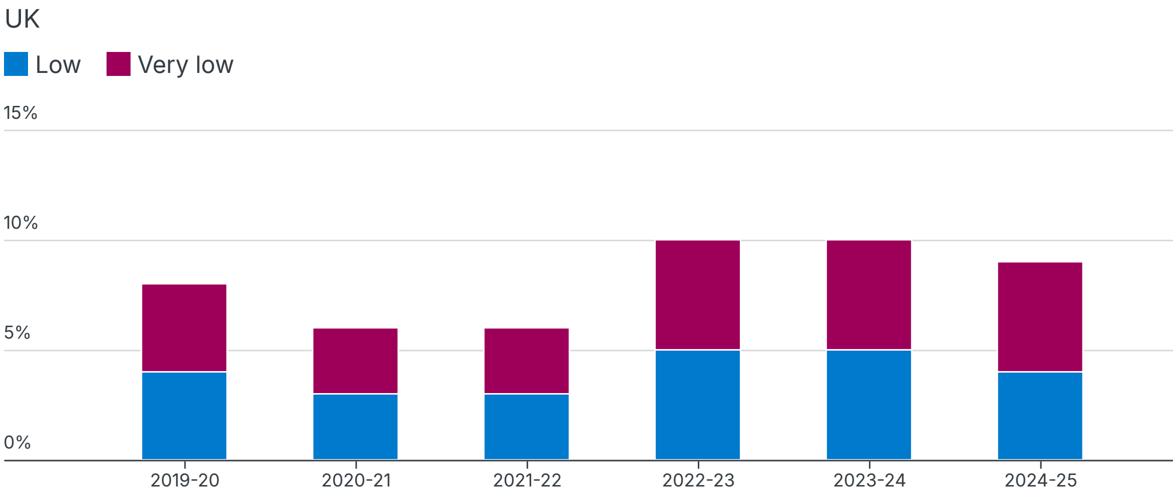
The proportion of households with bills in arrears has been persistently higher in London compared to the UK over this period. In the three years 2021-2024, 8% of UK households were reported to be in arrears.

In the three years to 2024, social renters in London were much more likely to have household bills in arrears (24%) compared with private renters (15%) and owner occupiers (3%).

Food security

Percentage of households with low or very low levels of food security





GLA City Intelligence

Source: DWP Family Resources Survey

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Low: Considered food insecure; quality, variety or desirability of good is reduced but quantity not substantially disrupted. Very Low: Considered food insecure; normal eating patterns disrupted and food intake reduced.

View interactive chart online

Food security measures whether households have sufficient food for an active and healthy lifestyle. Although 81% of households in London had high food security in 2024/25, 11% were classed as food insecure with either 'very low' or 'low' levels of food security[7]. This marks a two percentage point drop on the previous year, which

[7] The Family Resources Survey asks a series of questions about access to food over the last 30 days to derive this measure. There are still difficulties conducting the survey after the pandemic, which means that there are higher levels of uncertainty with the figures than usual.

was the highest level since the survey began in 2019/20. London was the region with the highest levels of food insecurity, with Inner London in particular having a high rate of 15%.

Food insecurity is higher in London than other parts of the UK where, on average, 9% of households suffered from either 'very low' or 'low' food security in 2024/25. Furthermore, in 2024/25, 5% of households in London had used a food bank within the last 12 months, compared with 3% of households across the UK.

Fairness and equality

View online

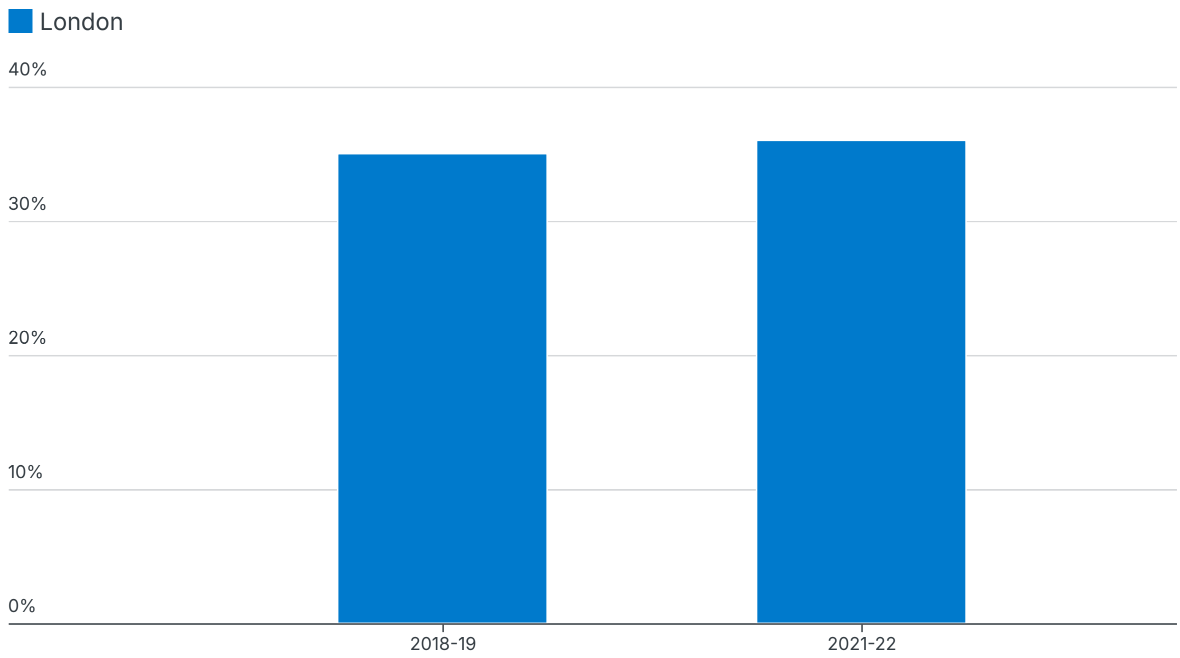
This section examines how Londoners feel they are treated by others and inequalities in pay between different groups, focusing on disparities linked to protected characteristics and socio-economic factors.

London-Level Outcome

Londoners are treated fairly and with dignity

Unfair treatment

Proportion of Londoners treated unfairly in the last 12 months because of one or several protected characteristics or because of their social class



GLA City Intelligence

Source: GLA Survey of Londoners

Note: Core LLO Indicator | The Survey of London was last carried out in 2021/22.

View interactive chart online

In 2021/22, 36% of Londoners reported being treated unfairly in the past 12 months because of one or several protected characteristics, or because of their social class, excluding by friends and family. This was not significantly different from the 2018-19 survey (35%).

Examining unfair treatment by characteristic, ethnicity was the most common (19%), followed by sex (13%), age (12%), social class (8%) and religion (6%).

The pattern of how different ethnic groups experienced unfair treatment has largely remained the same since 2018/19. However, Black Londoners were the only ethnic group to have experienced an increase in unfair treatment as a result of their ethnicity (from 26% to 43%).

Recorded hate crime

Monthly hate crime offences in London as recorded by the MPS

GLA City Intelligence

Source: Met Police, MPS Monthly Crime Dashboard Data

Note: Core LLO Indicator | This dataset is revised every month, meaning that the figures presented in the chart will tend to diverge slightly from subsequent publications of the data.

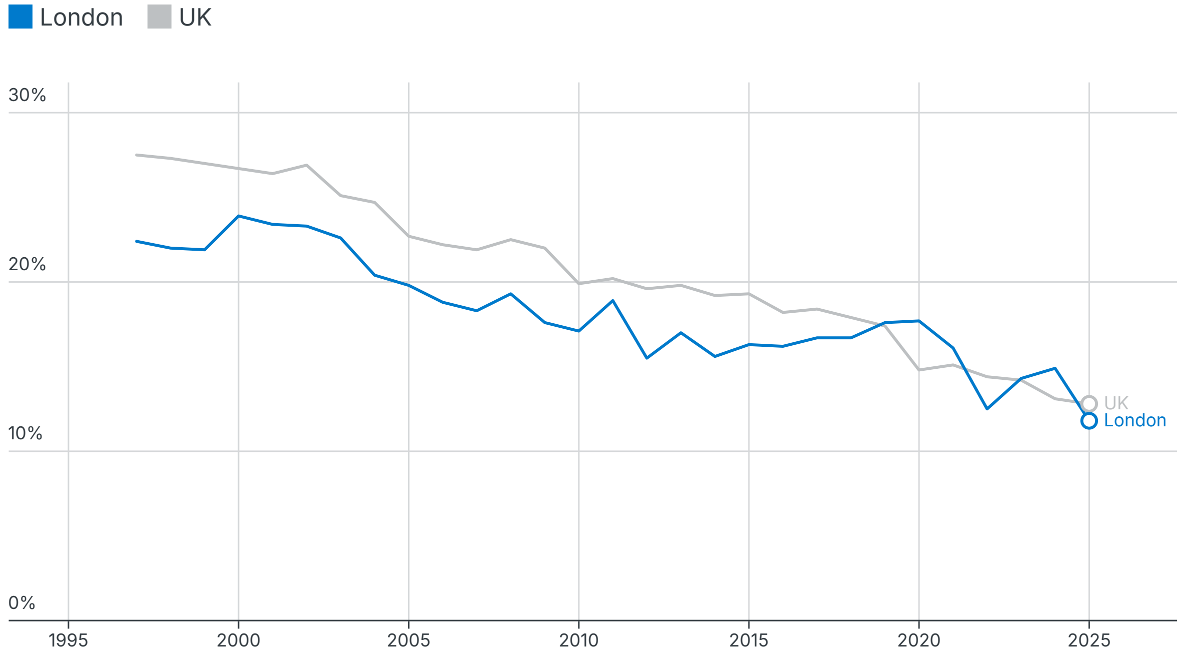
View interactive chart online

A hate crime is defined as 'any incident perceived by the victim or any other person to be racist, homophobic, transphobic, or due to a person's religion, belief, gender identity or disability'. Between April 2025 and March 2026, 22,800 hate crime offences were recorded in London. This marks an increase of around 1,500 recorded hate crime offences on the previous year (April 2024-March 2025), when recording started in the new system[8].

The chart shows monthly variations in hate crime. In line with seasonal trends observed in the previous year, the number of hate crime offences steadily increased over spring and summer and steadily declined over autumn and winter.

Gender pay gap

Percentage difference between median hourly earnings of men and women, expressed as a percentage of men's earnings



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Office for National Statistics, ASHE

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

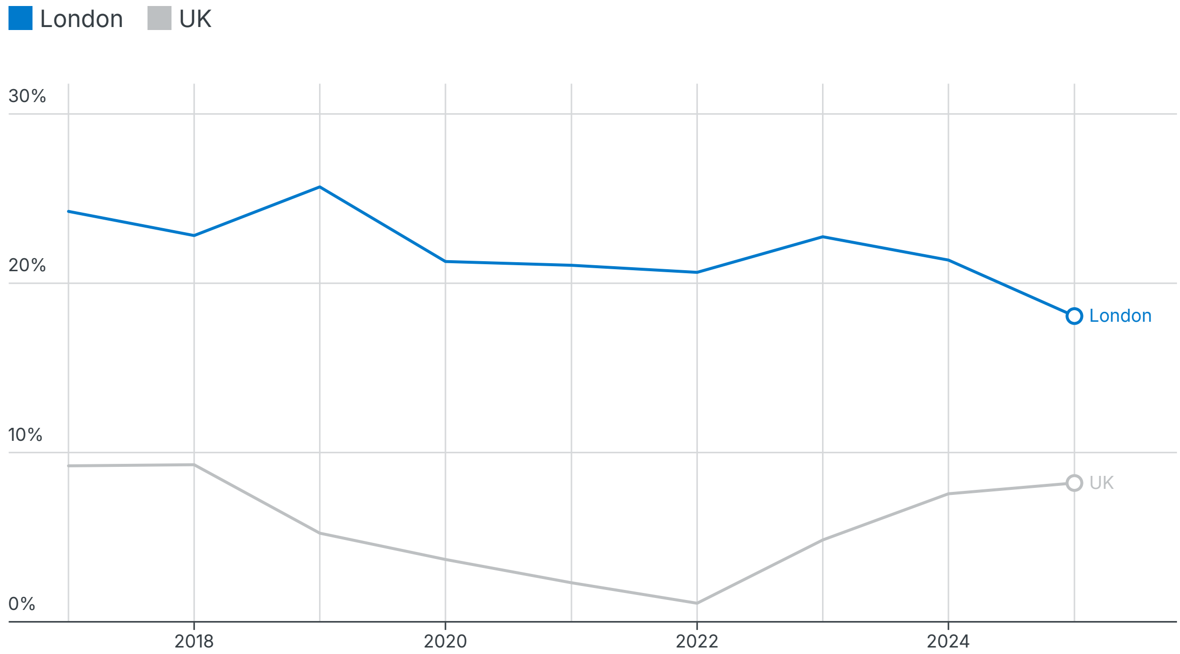
Pay gaps exist because one group is paid, on average, less than another group. The gender pay gap is calculated across all employee jobs based in London or for the UK as a whole. It is not comparing levels of pay of men and women doing the same job. There are many factors influencing pay levels, including the type of job, the employer, the place of work, the level of responsibility, etc.

On average, female employees in London are paid 12% less per hour than male employees, a similar gap to the UK which is 13%. The pay gap has narrowed over time. Since 1997, when this time series begins, it has decreased by 10 percentage points in London and 14 percentage points in the UK.

[8] At the end of February 2024, the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) started using a different system (CONNECT) to record crime and investigation data. As a result, comparable data for hate crime is only available since March 2024.

Ethnicity pay gap

Percentage difference between median hourly earnings of Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups and all White groups, expressed as a percentage of all White groups' earnings



GLA City Intelligence

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey

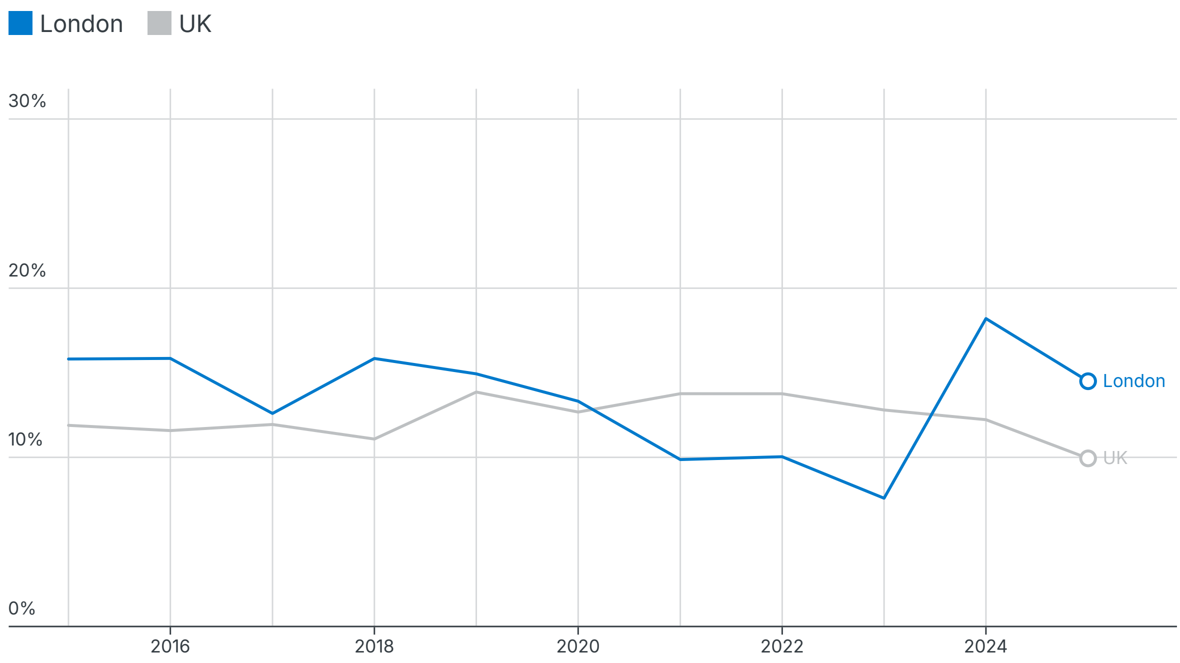
Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

There is a large gap of 18% between the median hourly pay of White employees and Black, Asian and minority ethnic employees in London. This compares to a gap of around 8% in the UK. Since 2017, the ethnicity pay gap has fallen by 6 percentage points in London.

Disability pay gap

Percentage difference between median hourly earnings of disabled and non-disabled workers, expressed as a percentage of disabled workers' earnings



GLA City Intelligence

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

In 2025, the pay gap between disabled and non-disabled workers, based on the median pay, is estimated at 14% in London and 10% for the UK as a whole. There is a relatively high degree of volatility in the data, due to smaller sample sizes. In the three years between 2021 and 2023, it was the case that the London disability pay gap was smaller than that for the UK. However, in the two most recent years, the disability pay gap in London has risen above the disability pay gap for the UK.

Community participation

View online

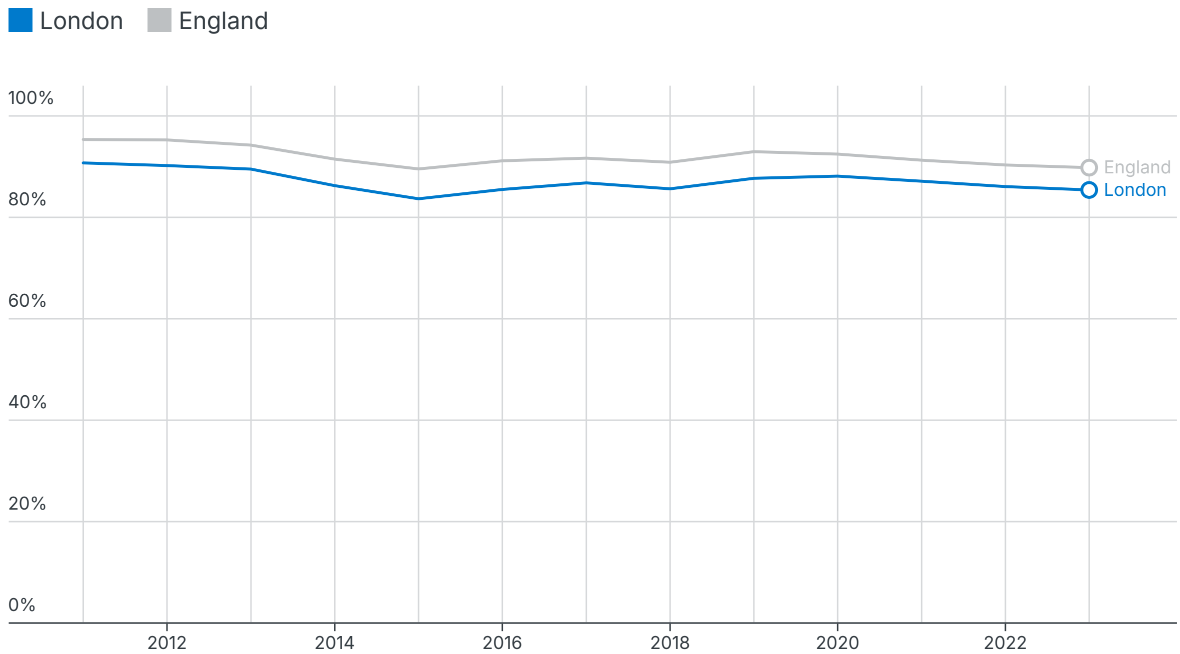
London-Level Outcome

Londoners can have their say in the running of the city

This section explores levels of community and civic participation, focusing on participation in local elections and people's perceptions of whether they can influence decisions in their area.

Voter registration

Proportion of eligible adults aged 18+ who are registered for local elections



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Electoral statistics for the UK Mid-Year Population Estimates

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Legislative changes to voter eligibility mean there is currently no published data for 2024 and data for 2025 is under review.

View interactive chart online

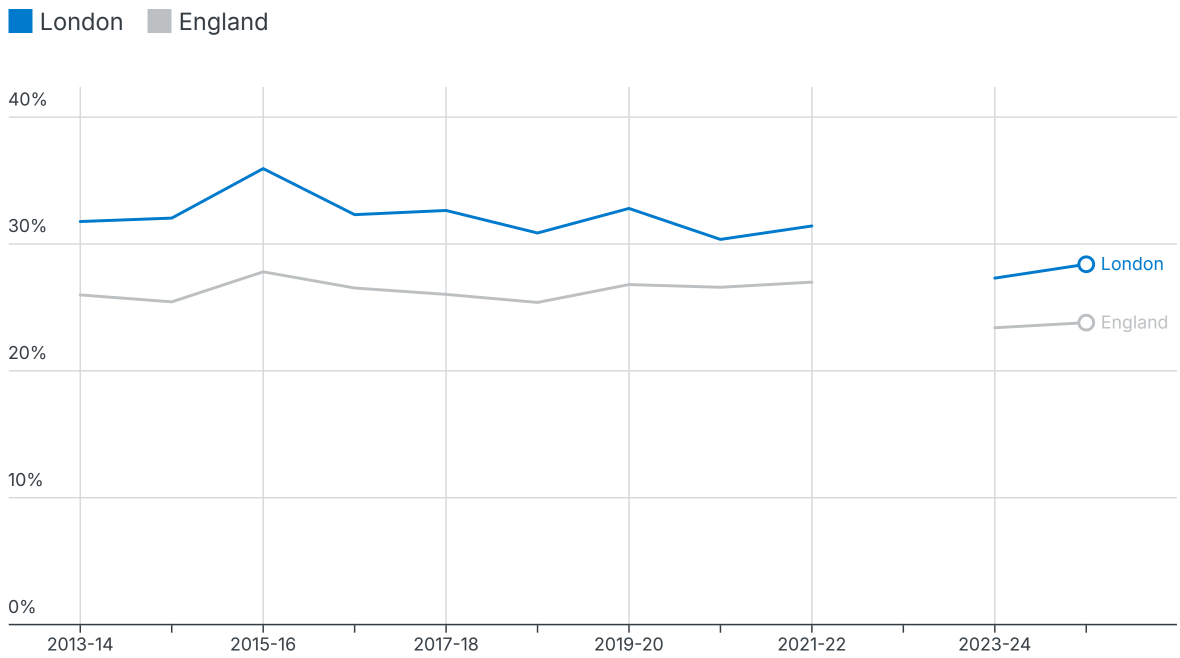
Voter registration is a key pillar of social integration. Not being registered to vote has other adverse impacts aside from not being able to vote in elections; for example, it can negatively affect people's credit rating or mean they are ineligible for jury service.

The voter registration rate in London has remained high since 2011, though it has been declining since 2020. In 2011, 91% of eligible adults were registered for local elections but by 2023, it had fallen to 85%. In other words, around one in seven Londoners (15%) were not registered to vote in 2023. The voter registration rate has been consistently lower in London than in England over the last decade, by on average five percentage points.

It should be noted that the denominator used is all adults aged 18 and over. This is slightly inaccurate as not all adults are eligible to vote[9]. This means the local election registration rate is likely to be slightly higher than presented here.

Influencing decisions in local area

Proportion who feel able to influence decisions affecting their local area



GLA City Intelligence
Source: DCMS, Community Life Survey
Note: Core LLO Indicator | The Community Life Survey did not produce an annual report covering the year 2022-23 hence the gap in the data series.
View interactive chart online

28% of Londoners said they felt that they could personally influence decisions in their local area in 2024/25, a slight increase from 27% in 2023/24.

The perception of being able to influence decisions has been persistently higher in London than England since the series began in 2013/14. Over that time frame there has been a slight downward trend in the percentage for both London and England.

[9] House of Commons Library (2026) 'Who can vote in UK elections?'

Community cohesion

View online

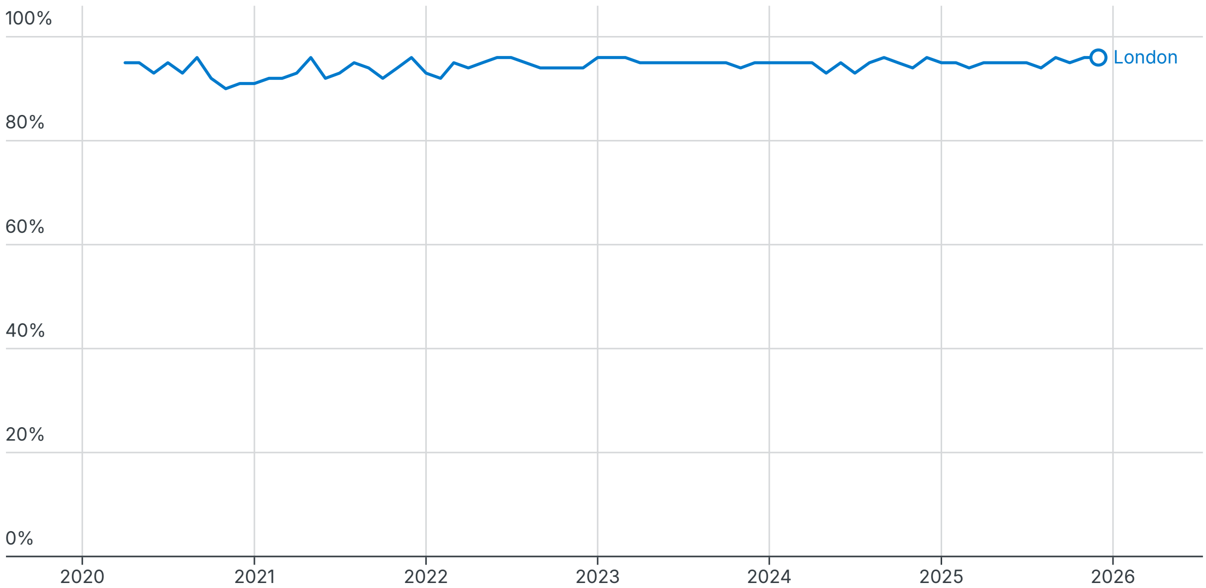
London-Level Outcome

Londoners get on with and support each other

This section provides a selection of indicators about London's neighbourhoods and whether people from different backgrounds feel connected and able to get along.

Neighbourhood cohesion

Proportion of Londoners who agree that people from different backgrounds get on well in their local area

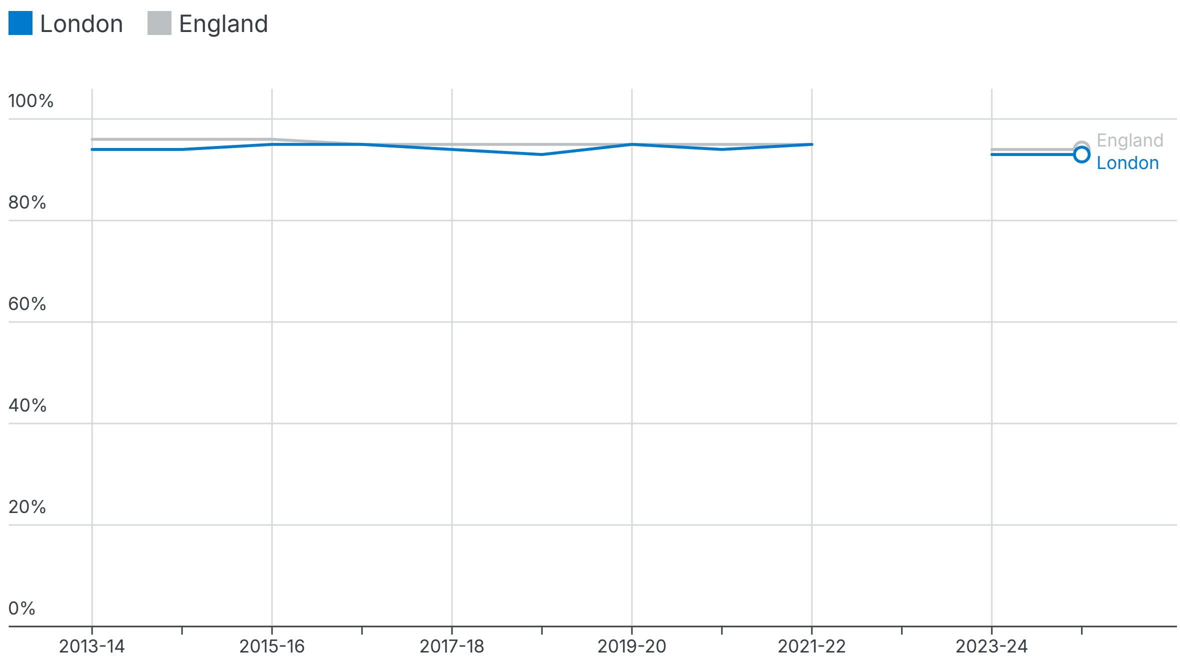


GLA City Intelligence
Source: MOPAC, Public Attitude Survey (PAS)
Note: Core LLO Indicator
View interactive chart online

Neighbourhood cohesion, defined here as the proportion of Londoners who agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together, has remained above 90% each month since the start of the pandemic. As of December 2025, 96% of Londoners agreed with the statement. Looking further back to 2008, neighbourhood cohesion was much lower, with agreement to the statement from around three quarters (73%) of Londoners.

Social isolation

Proportion who agree that if they needed help there are people who would be there for them (percent)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS, Community Life Survey

Note: Core LLO Indicator | The Community Life Survey did not produce an annual report covering the year 2022-23 hence the gap in the data series.

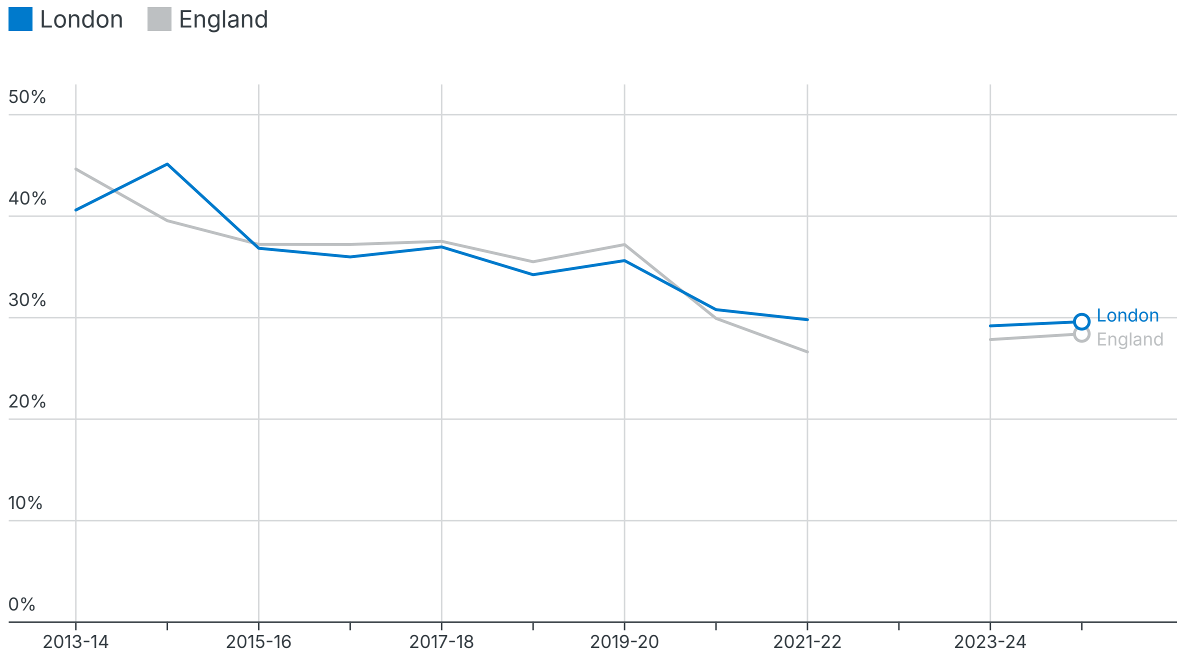
View interactive chart online

In 2024/25, the majority of Londoners (93%) agreed that there were people who would be there for them if they needed help. This is very similar to the proportion across England (94%).

Social isolation has regularly been slightly lower in London compared with England since 2013/14, though the gap is not significant.

Formal volunteering

Proportion who formally volunteered at least once in the last year (percent)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS, Community Life Survey

Note: Core LLO Indicator

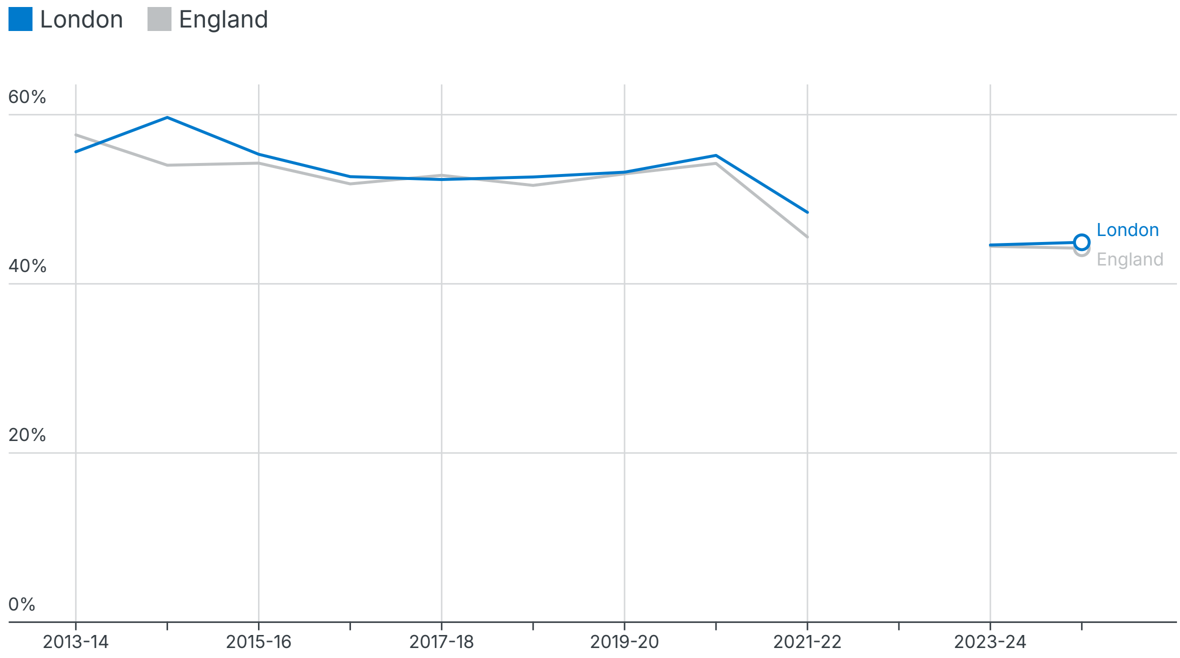
View interactive chart online

Formal volunteering refers to giving unpaid help through clubs or organisations. Three in ten (30%) Londoners aged 16 and over said they had formally volunteered in 2024/25.

The percentage of people reporting that they had formally volunteered in the last year has fallen in London by 11 percentage points since 2013/14, a trend mirrored across England, which saw an even larger decrease of 17 percentage points.

Informal volunteering

Proportion who informally volunteered at least once in the last year



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS, Community Life Survey

Note: Core LLO Indicator | The Community Life Survey did not produce an annual report covering the year 2022-23 hence the gap in the data series.

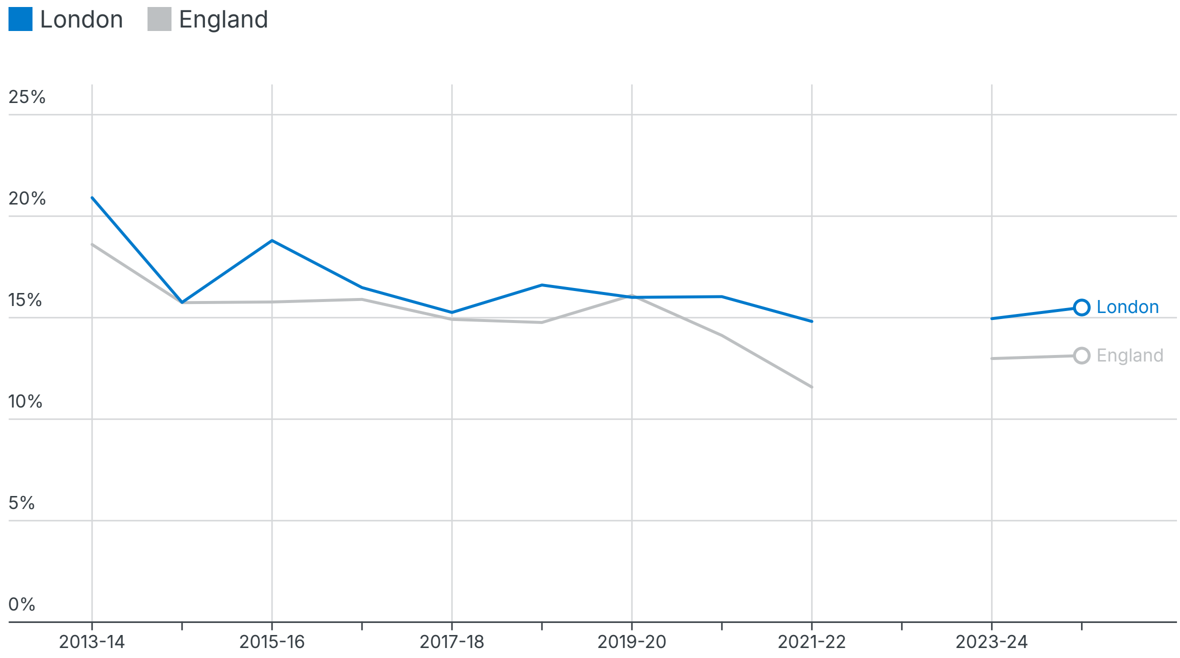
View interactive chart online

Informal volunteering refers to giving unpaid help to individuals who are not a relative. Just under half (45%) of Londoners informally volunteered in 2024/25.

Since 2013/14, the percentage of people in London reporting that they had informally volunteered has followed a downward trajectory. From 2020/21, informal volunteering rates decreased both in London and across England by 10 percentage points.

Social action

Proportion who were personally involved in social action in the last year



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS, Community Life Survey

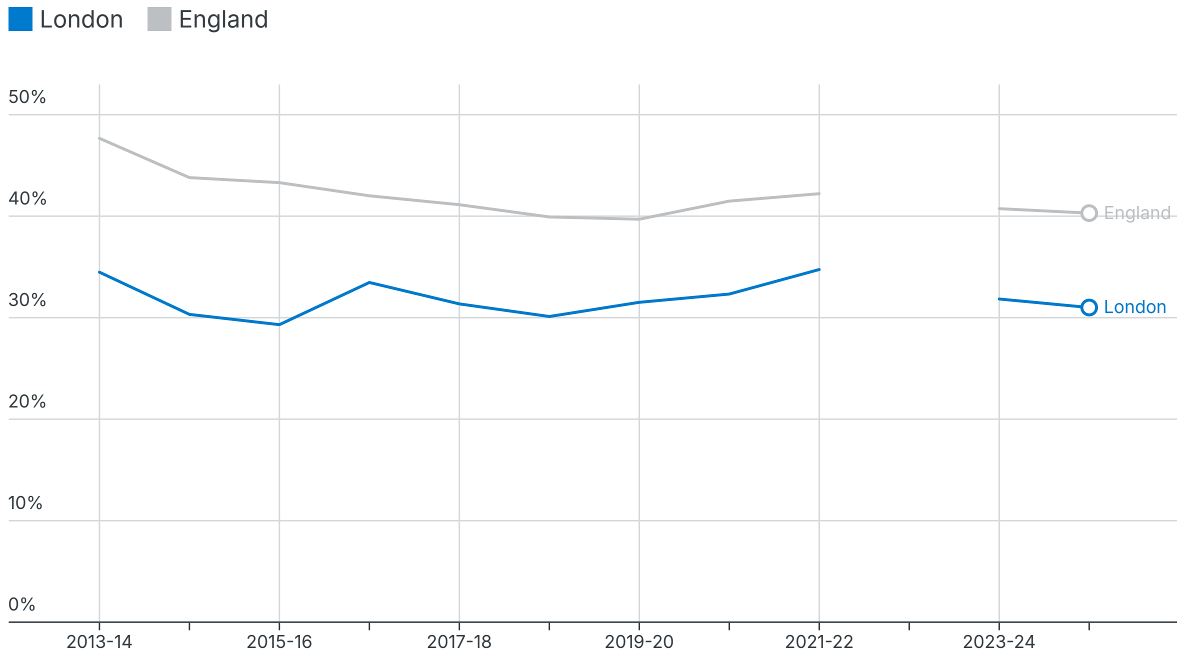
Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | The Community Life Survey did not produce an annual report covering the year 2022-23 hence the gap in the data series.

View interactive chart online

Social action is about being involved with issues affecting the local area, for example, setting up or stopping the closure of a service/amenity, running a local service on a voluntary basis, or helping to organise a street party or community event. In 2024/25, 16% of Londoners said they had been involved in social action compared to 13% in England. This percentage has fallen from 2013/14 when it was 21% in London and 19% in England.

Neighbourhood trust

Proportion who agree that people can be trusted in their local neighbourhood (percent)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS, Community Life Survey

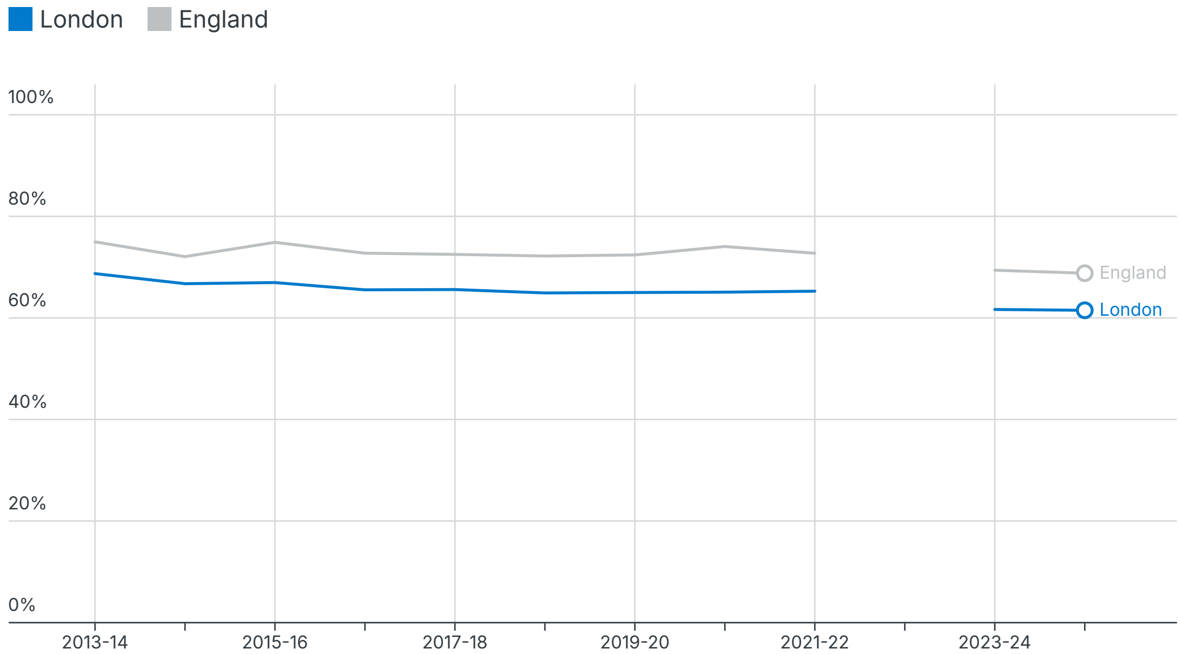
Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | The Community Life Survey did not produce an annual report covering the year 2022-23 hence the gap in the data series.

View interactive chart online

In 2024/25, around one third of Londoners (31%) agreed that many of the people in their local neighbourhood could be trusted. Since 2013/14, when it was 34% in London, the percentage agreeing to the statement has not changed much. The proportion agreeing across England has, however, declined from 48% to 40%. Neighbourhood trust has regularly been lower in London compared with England since 2013/14, though the gap has narrowed in recent years.

Talking to neighbours

Proportion who chat to their neighbours at least once a month



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS, Community Life Survey

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

In 2024/25, 62% of Londoners reported chatting to their neighbours at least once a month. This is lower than the England average, which was 69% in the same year. Talking to neighbours has been less common in London compared with England since the series began in 2013/14 and for both it is now at its lowest level.

Further Reading

- DCMS Community Life Survey
- Economic Fairness Measures for London
- The Survey of Londoners
- Loved and Wanted

Housing

Affordability, quality and security of housing in London

Read online

Housing plays a critical role in Londoners' quality of life, health and their financial position. The affordability, condition and security of housing shape how people experience the city and contribute to wider patterns of inequality. Housing supply in London has not kept up with demand, which (in conjunction with other factors) has contributed to the city's very high housing costs and high rates of housing need. This chapter examines housing affordability, housing quality, homelessness and neighbourhood design across London.

London-Level Outcomes

Sections in this chapter relate to the following outcomes the Mayor is trying to achieve for the city:

- **Londoners live in homes they can afford**
- **Londoners' homes are safe and decent**
- **Londoners are not homeless**
- **Londoners live in neighbourhoods that are well planned and designed**

Housing affordability

View online

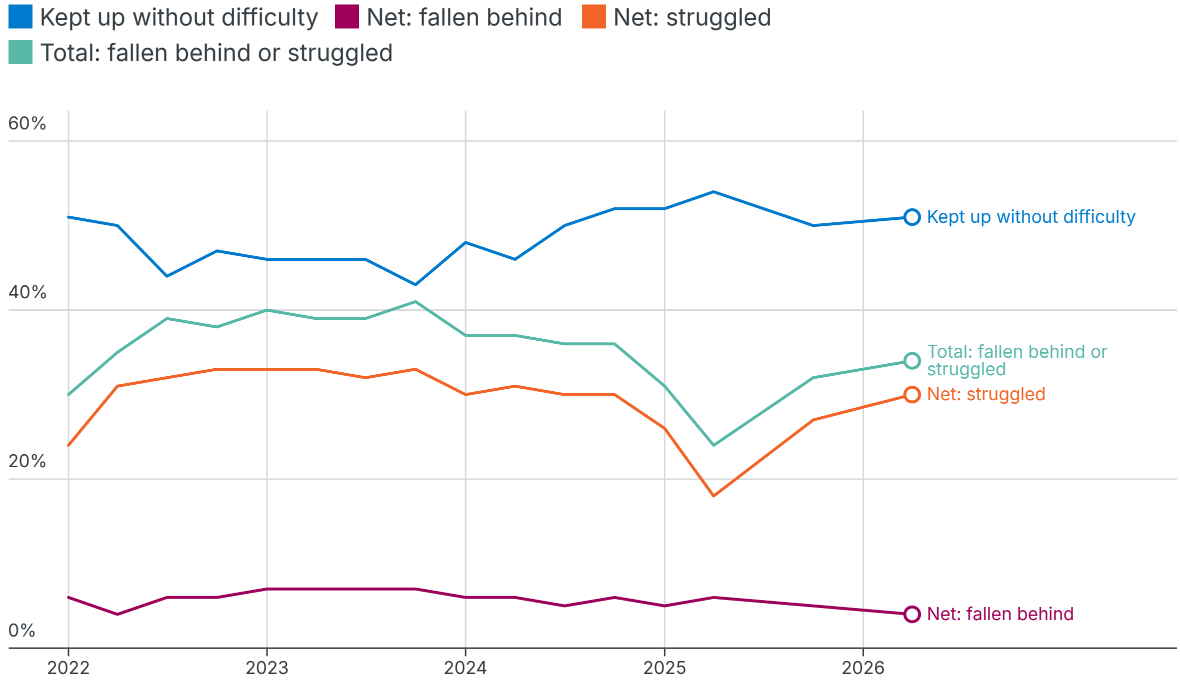
London-Level Outcome

Londoners live in homes they can afford

This section provides a selection of indicators on housing affordability in London, including: Londoners' ability to keep up with their rent or mortgage payments, an affordability index comparing changes in private rents with earnings, and the number of households in temporary accommodation.

Housing payment arrears and financial strain in London

Percentage who say they have not been able to meet housing payments over the last six months, or have struggled to do so.



GLA City Intelligence

Source: All figures are from YouGov Plc on behalf of the GLA. The surveys were carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all London adults (aged 18+)

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

According to GLA polling on the cost of living, 34% of people in London had either fallen behind, or struggled to keep up with, rent or mortgage payments in April 2026.

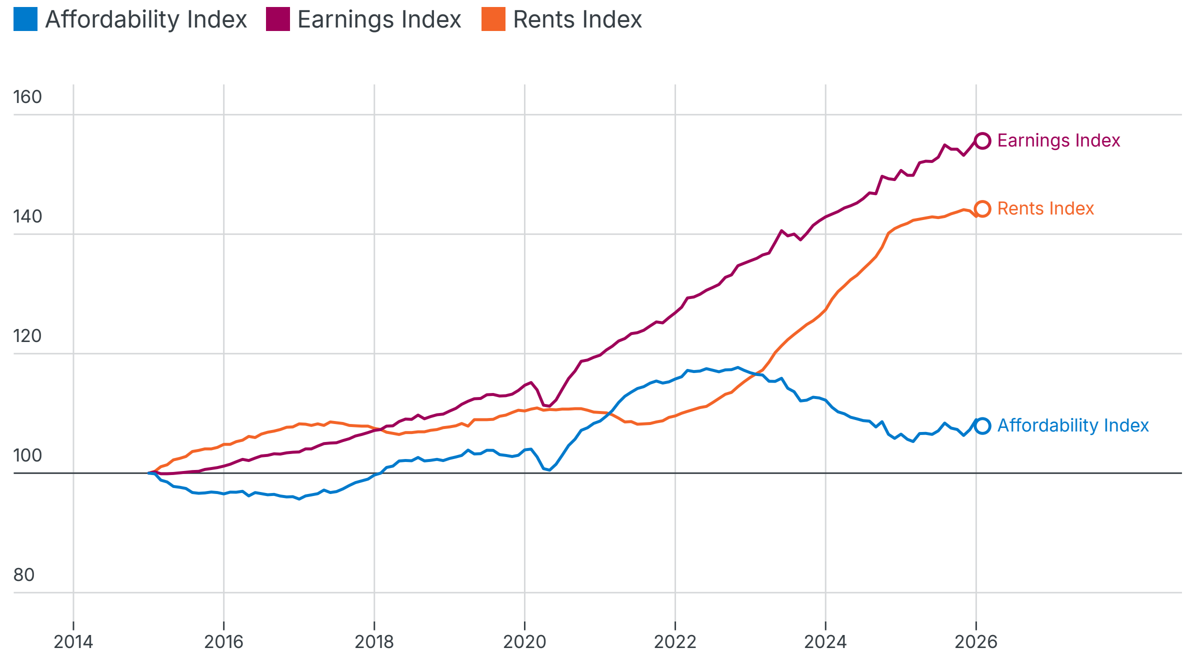
30% of people reported that they struggled to keep up with rent or mortgage payments. 21% said they had kept up with payments but had found it a struggle at least once, while 9% struggled every time.

3% reported they had fallen behind on one or more payments, while 1% had fallen behind on all payments. These figures have remained relatively stable over the past year, though both categories had higher percentages in 2022 and early 2023.

Over the same period, most people reported being able to keep up with their rent or mortgage payments, though many continued to face financial strain. Whilst 51% of respondents said they kept up with payments without any difficulty in April 2026, this proportion appears to be trending down from a peak of 54% in April 2025, although it is still higher than the low of 43% in October 2023.

Affordability in the private rental sector

Index of private rent, earnings and implied affordability



GLA City Intelligence

Source: ONS Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, ONS Price Index of Private Rents

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

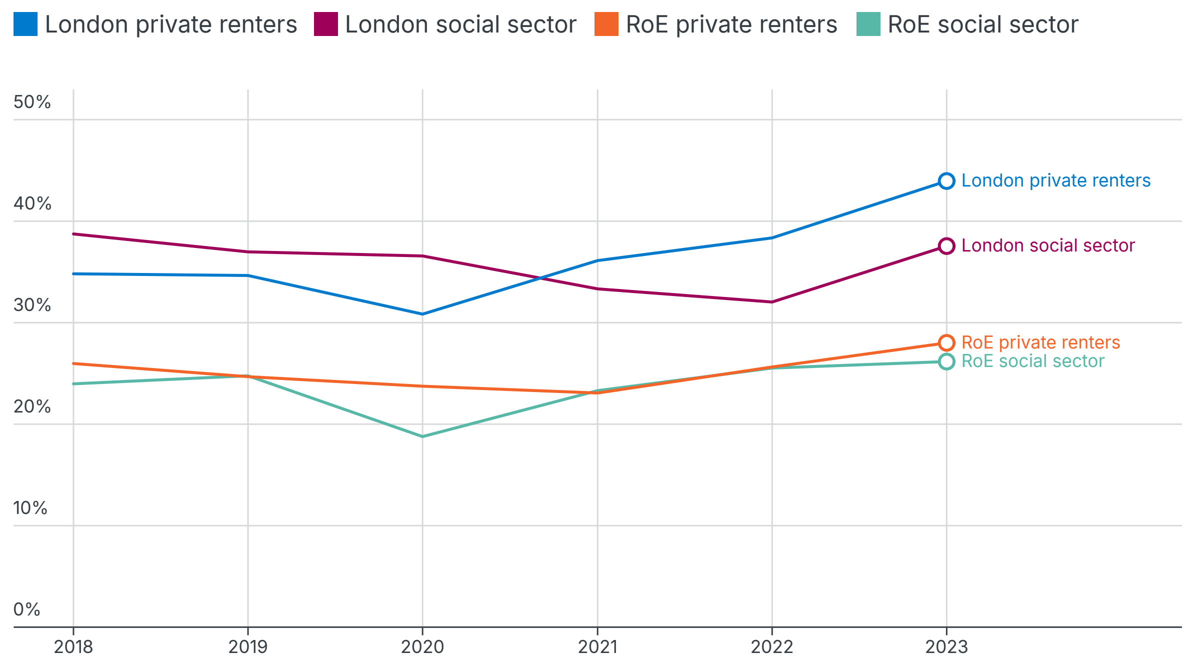
The ‘affordability index’ is calculated as the cumulative change in earnings divided by the cumulative change in private rents (on both new and existing tenancies). A higher index value means earnings are increasing by more than private rents, thereby improving affordability (other things equal).

Between 2015 and 2020, rents were relatively stable in nominal terms while earnings increased at a marginally higher rate, leading to a modest improvement in affordability. Rents then fell in 2020 and 2021 while earnings rose strongly. Rents increased sharply from 2022 onwards and are currently outpacing earnings growth, leading to a deterioration in affordability. The rate of growth in rents has been slower since late 2024 by comparison with the growth in earnings, lessening the impact on the affordability index.

The ONS rental data shown here reflects rents paid on all tenancies and therefore reacts more slowly to changes in the market for new tenancies. Another caveat to note is that earnings data only reflects payrolled employees and does not reflect changes in income from benefits and non-employment sources of income.

Londoners' ability to pay their rent

Percentage of households that find it fairly or very difficult to pay rent



GLA City Intelligence

Source: English Housing Survey

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Rest of England (RoE) excludes London

View interactive chart online

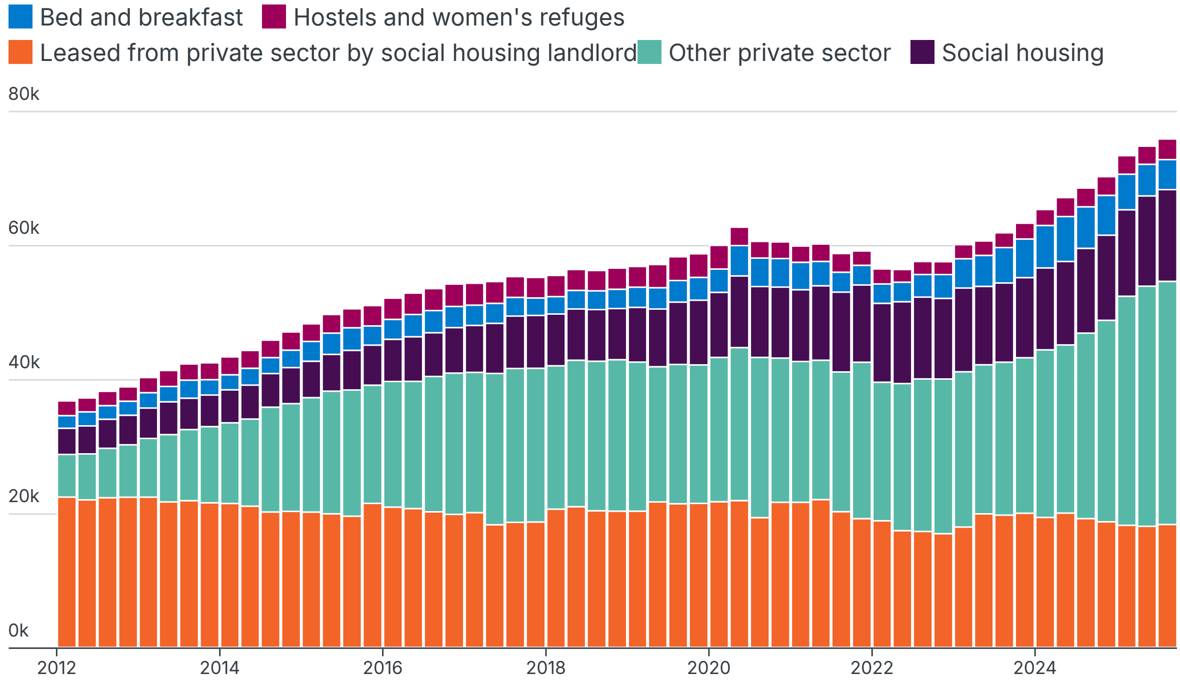
Data from the English Housing Survey shows private renters in London have been more likely to struggle paying rent than those in the social sector since the pandemic. In 2018, social sector tenants in London were more likely to struggle, with 39% finding it difficult compared to 35% of private renters. By 2023/24, 44% of private renters found it difficult to pay rent, compared to 38% of social sector tenants.

The trend outside London has been more stable. The share of private renters finding it difficult to pay rent increased from 26% in 2018 to 28% in 2023/24, while the figure for social sector tenants has remained broadly similar.

With the exception of London's social rented sector, which at 38% sits just one percentage point below its 2018 peak, the remaining three measures have now reached their highest levels since 2018. While the sharper increase in London likely reflects the city's acute rental affordability pressures, difficulty paying rent has also increased across the rest of England.

Households in temporary accommodation

Number of homeless households in temporary accommodation arranged by London boroughs



GLA City Intelligence

Source: MHCLG Homelessness statistics

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

The number of homeless households in temporary accommodation arranged by London boroughs provides a measure of unmet housing need among Londoners, reflecting the degree to which neither the private nor social rented sector is able to meet demand. This indicator examines the number of households placed in temporary accommodation, including those still undergoing a homelessness assessment as well as those already assessed as homeless, while a suitable housing solution is found.

London has more households in temporary accommodation than the rest of England’s regions combined. According to MHCLG statistics, there were 75,800 homeless households in temporary accommodation arranged by London boroughs at the end of September 2025, up from 68,480 a year before and the highest value since the data series began in 1988. In the rest of England, there were 58,960 homeless households in temporary accommodation at the end of September 2025.

50,010 of the homeless London households in temporary accommodation in September 2025 had children, a 6% increase in the last year, affecting a total of 99,190 children.

The number of London households in bed-and-breakfast accommodation fell from 6,190 in September 2024 to 4,480 in September 2025, a 28% decrease. 72% of households in temporary accommodation (54,580) were in some form of private-sector accommodation, which has increased significantly in recent years – rising by 65% compared to end of March 2020.

Housing safety and quality

View online

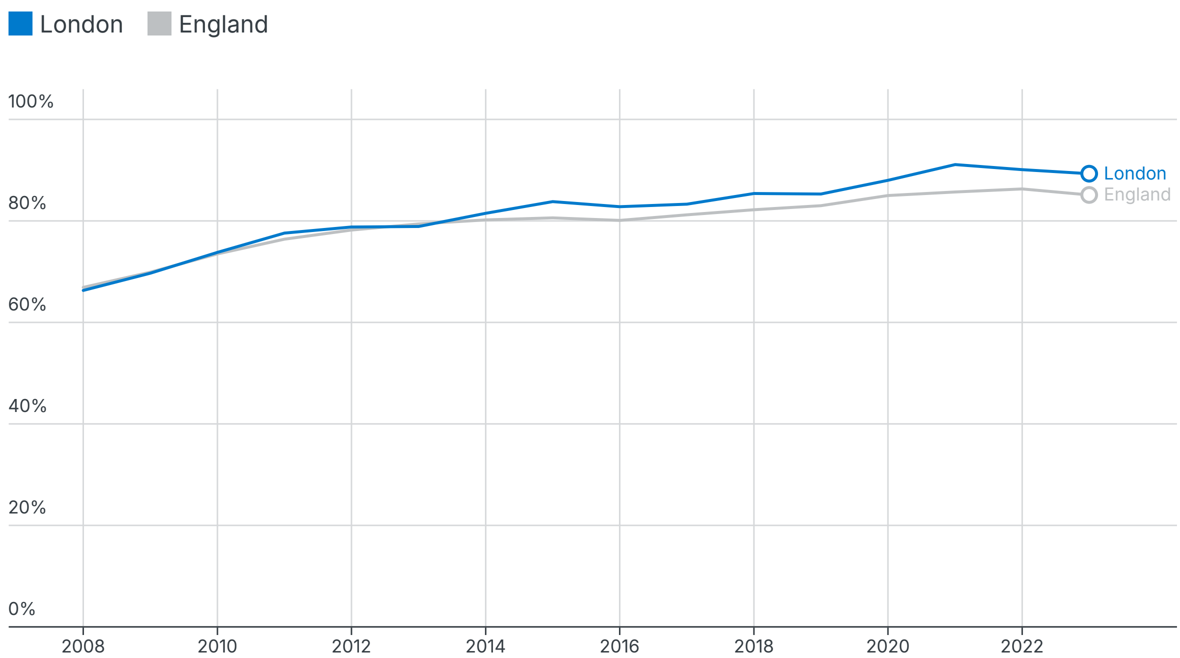
London-Level Outcome

Londoners' homes are safe and decent

This section examines housing quality and safety in London, looking first at the proportion of homes meeting the Decent Homes Standard, and second at progress remediating residential buildings with unsafe cladding.

Quality of homes

Percentage of homes meeting the Decent Homes Standard



GLA City Intelligence

Source: English Housing Survey

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

The Decent Homes Standard is a long-established and widely used composite indicator of housing conditions, reported through the official English Housing Survey. For a home to meet the Standard it must satisfy four criteria: it must not contain any serious ‘Category 1’ health hazards[10] , it must be in a reasonable state of repair, it must have reasonably modern facilities or services and it must provide a reasonable degree of thermal comfort, meaning effective insulation and efficient heating.

The proportion of homes in London across all tenures estimated to meet the official Decent Homes Standard rose from 63% in 2006 to 89% in 2023.

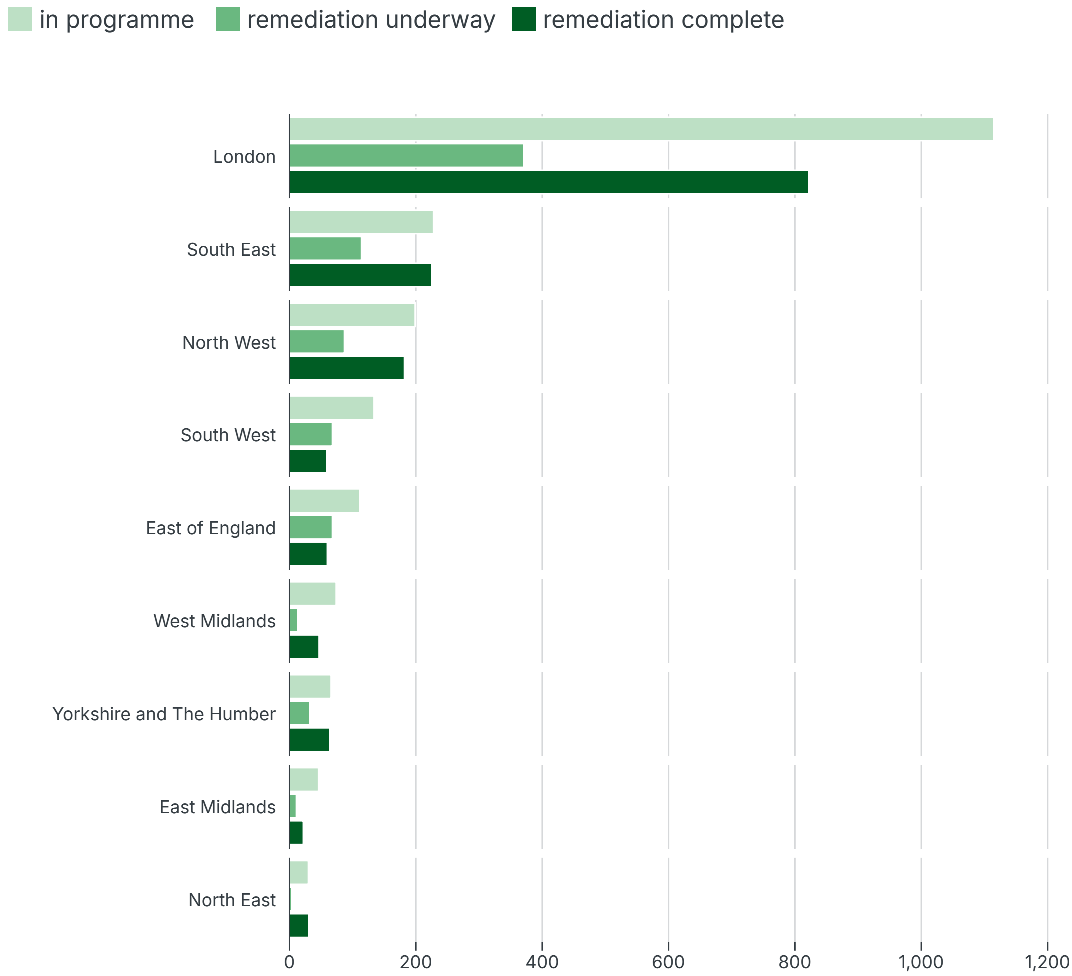
The highest recorded share of decent homes was in 2021, at 91%. The fall in subsequent years was driven by a decrease in the share of decent homes in the social housing and owner-occupied sectors. However, note that data from 2020 and 2021 (and part of 2022) was modelled by MHCLG as surveyors were unable to carry out internal inspections due to the pandemic. This means that comparisons over time should be made with caution.

The share of homes not meeting the Decent Homes Standard in the private rented sector stayed at 12% between 2022 and 2023. Historically, the private rented sector had the largest share of non-decent homes; but it is now on par with the social rented sector – both at 12%.

[10] Category 1 health hazards under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) are severe risks in residential properties that present an immediate threat to life or health. A detailed description of each of the hazards can be found in the Housing Health and Safety Rating System – Guidance for Landlords and Property Related Professionals document published by the then Department for Communities and Local Government in 2006.

Building remediation

Number of residential buildings with unsafe cladding, by remediation stage



GLA City Intelligence

Source: MHCLG Building Safety Remediation data

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

Fire safety concerns remain a priority, particularly in the wake of the Grenfell tragedy.

The GLA administers three government funding programmes to remediate buildings with unsafe cladding: the Social Sector and Private Sector ACM Cladding Remediation Funds, and the Building Safety Fund (BSF) for unsafe non-ACM cladding systems. The Cladding Safety Scheme (CSS), administered by the government, meets the cost of addressing life safety fire risks.

As at the end of February 2026, 4,310 residential buildings of 11 metres or over have been identified with unsafe cladding in England and are being monitored by the government. Of these, 2,511 (55%) are in London. 48% of London buildings have been identified but no remediation has started, compared to 45% in the rest of England, 16%

are actively undergoing remediation (20% in the rest of England), and 36% have had remediation completed (35% in the rest of England).

Homelessness

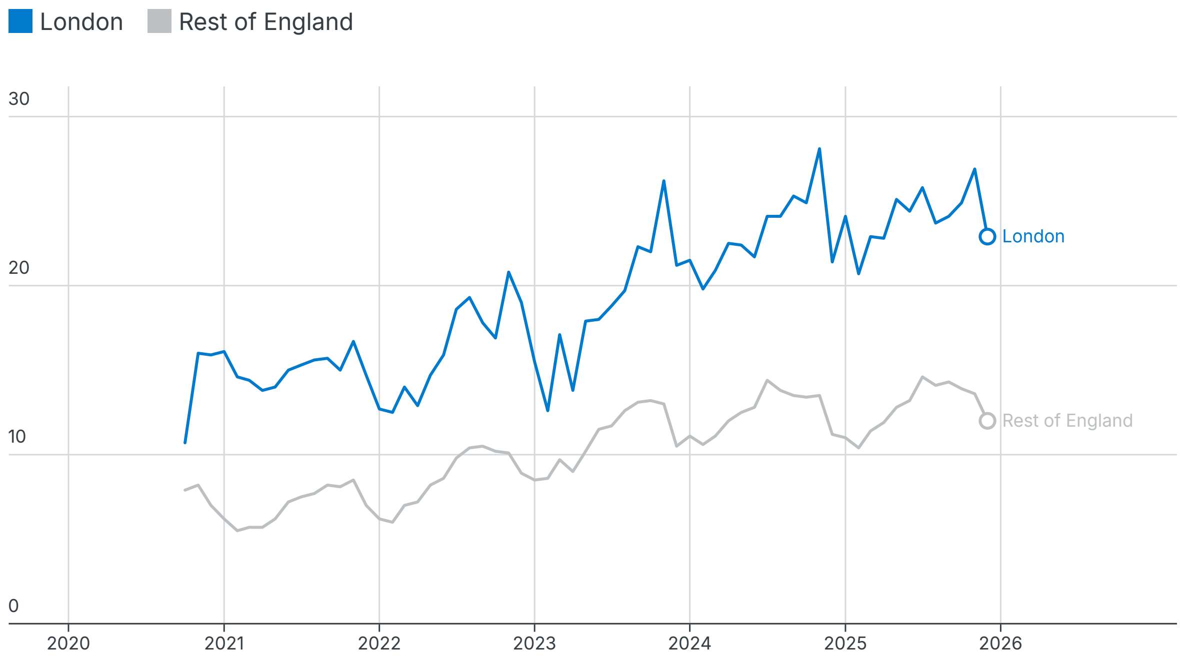
View online

London-Level Outcome

Londoners are not homeless

Rough sleeping rate in London

Number of people sleeping rough over the month per 100,000 people.



GLA City Intelligence

Source: MHCLG Homelessness statistics

Note: Core LLO Indicator

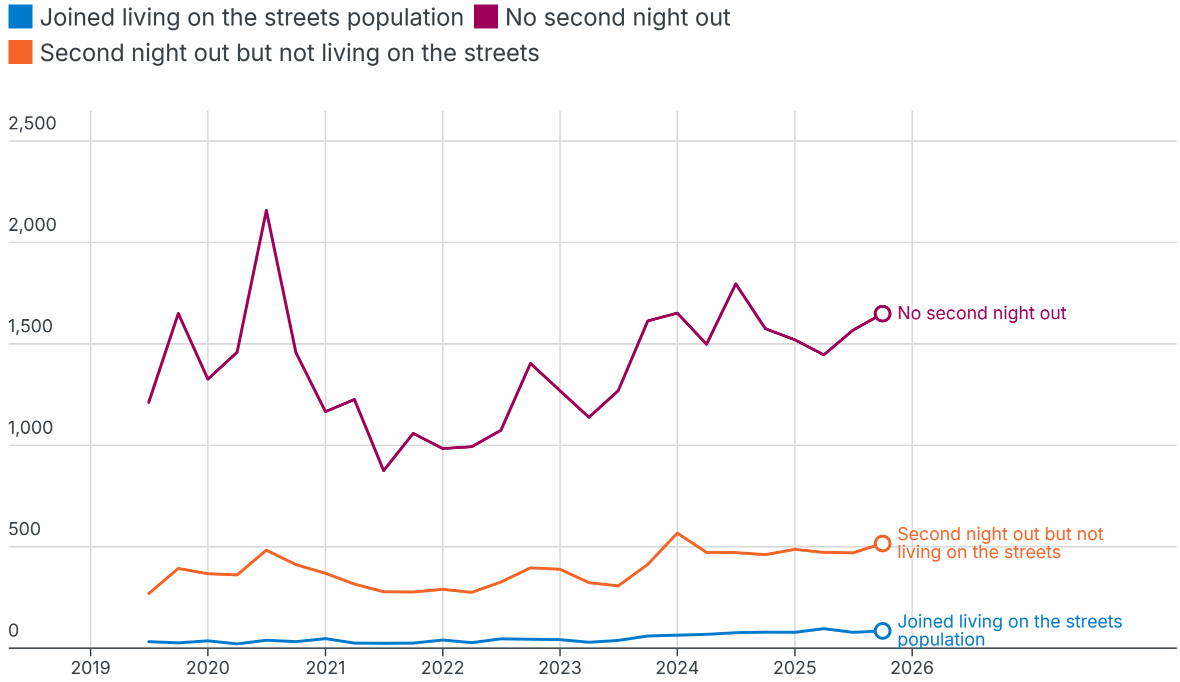
View interactive chart online

According to MHCLG data, rough sleeping in London remained relatively low throughout the pandemic years before rising sharply in 2023 and continuing to grow in subsequent years. In December 2025, 22.9 people in every 100,000 were sleeping rough in London, equivalent to 2,290 people. This is 7% higher than a year prior and 21% above 2022 levels.

London's rough sleeping rate is nearly double that of the rest of England, where 12 in every 100,000 people were sleeping rough at the end of 2025. This gap widened substantially in 2023.

New rough sleepers in London

Number of people seen rough sleeping for the first time by outcome of the second night.



GLA City Intelligence

Source: CHAIN quarterly rough sleeping reports

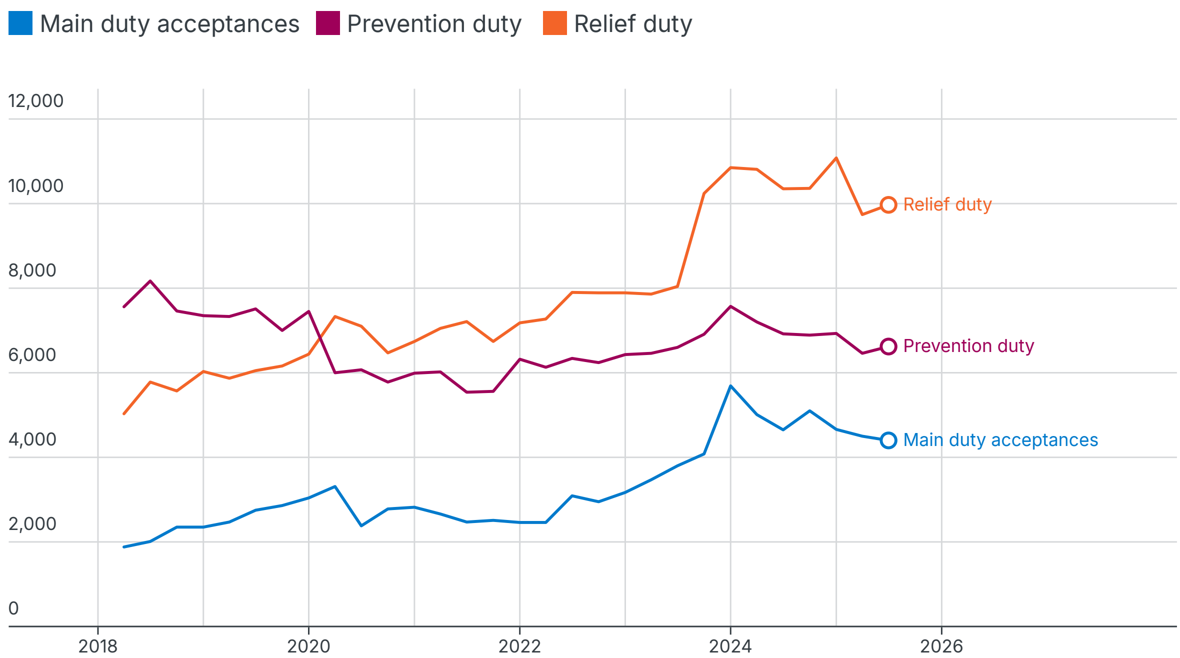
Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

In Q4 2025, outreach teams recorded 2,250 people sleeping rough in London for the first time, an 8% increase on the same quarter the previous year. Of these, 1,649 were seen for only one night, while 516 were recorded for a second night but were not considered to be living on the streets, a 12% increase from the previous year. The remaining 85 individuals were assessed as having joined the population living on the streets, an 8% increase from last year and triple the number in 2020.

Households accepted as statutorily homeless

Number of households owed a prevention or relief duty and accepted as statutorily homeless in London



GLA City Intelligence

Source: MHCLG Homelessness statistics

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

Under the Homelessness Reduction Act, a prevention duty is owed to households threatened with homelessness within 56 days and a relief duty is owed to households that are already homeless and require help to secure accommodation. The relief duty lasts 56 days, after which a household can be accepted as statutorily homeless and owed a main homelessness duty.

In Q3 2025, there were 16,590 households assessed as owed a new prevention or relief duty in London, including 6,620 prevention and 9,970 relief duties, accounting for 20% of the national total. This is down 4% from 17,270 in Q3 2024. Additionally, 4,400 households had a main duty accepted, representing 26% of England's total and a 5% fall from 4,650 a year prior. Both figures, in line with national trends, rose sharply towards the end of 2023 and into early 2024 following several quarters of steady growth since mid-2022, but have since begun to decline gradually.

Neighbourhood planning and design

View online

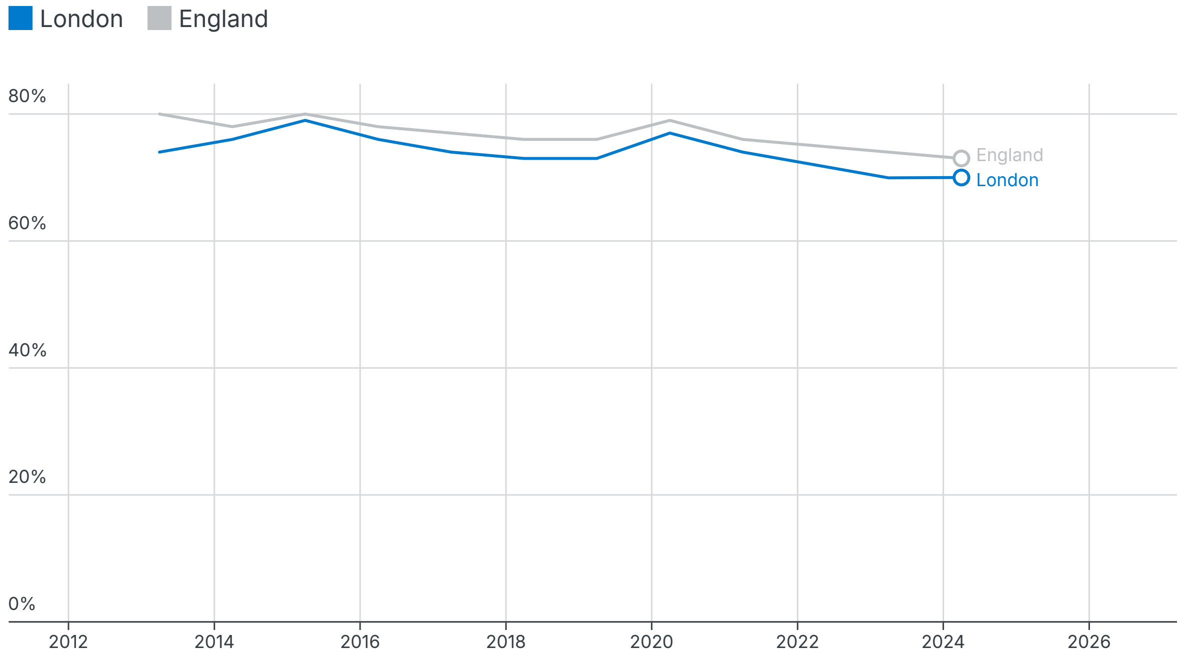
London-Level Outcome

Londoners live in neighbourhoods that are well planned and designed

Well-planned and well-designed neighbourhoods are important because they shape people's daily lives, health, opportunities, and sense of community. In the absence of metrics to assess the quality of neighbourhood planning and design across London, indicators on Londoners' satisfaction and sense of belonging to their local area are used as proxies. It is important to note that these measures are also influenced by factors other than planning and design.

Satisfaction with local neighbourhood

Percentage of adults very or fairly satisfied with their neighbourhood area as a place to live



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS Community Life Survey

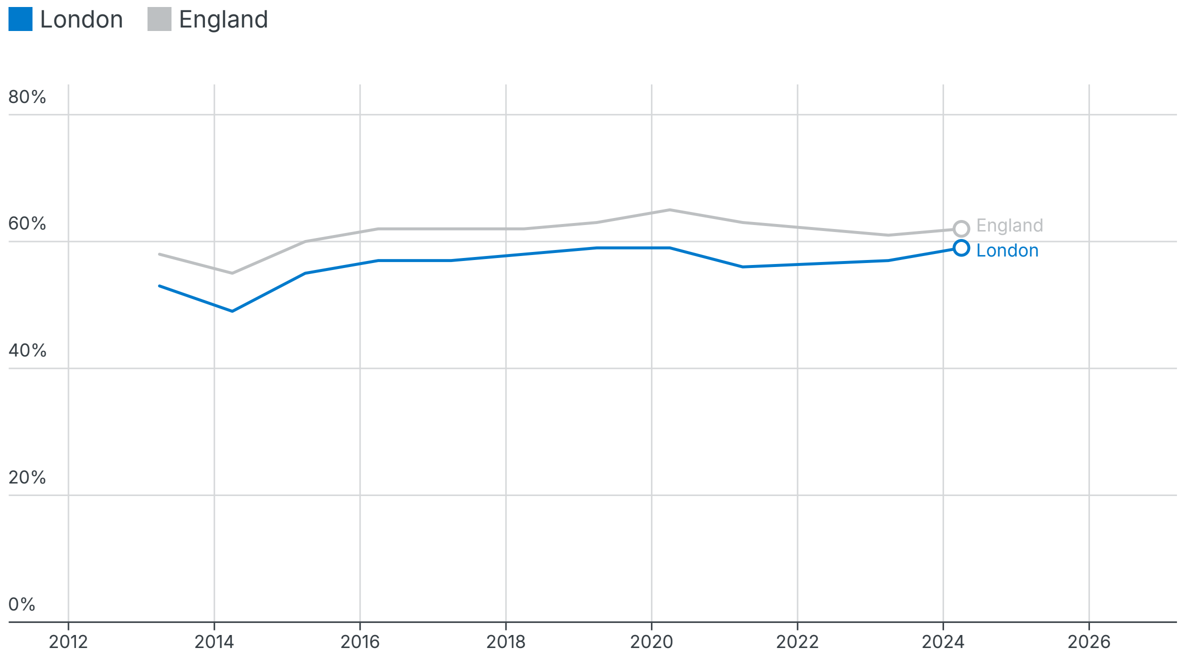
Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

As of 2024, 70% of adult Londoners reported being satisfied with their local area as a place to live, unchanged from the previous year. This indicator has trended downwards slightly since 2014 and is the lowest level recorded in the series following three years of decline. By comparison, satisfaction levels across England fell to 73% in the last year.

Sense of belonging to local neighbourhood

Percentage of adults feeling a sense of belonging in their local neighbourhood area



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DCMS Community Life Survey

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

In 2024/25, 59% of Londoners said they felt they belonged ‘very’ or ‘fairly strongly’ to their immediate neighbourhood, one of the highest proportions recorded in this series, but slightly below the England figure of 62%. This marks an increase from 2014/15, when 49% of people in London gave this response to the survey. Sense of belonging in London fell in 2021, as it did in England, but has since been trending upwards.

Further Reading

- Housing in London Annual Report
- London Housing Market Quarterly Reports
- Planning London Datahub
- Rough Sleeping Reports (CHAIN)
- Population Projections
- Planning
- Census Explorer

Children and young people

Health, education and wellbeing of London's children and young people

Read online

Children and young people are central to London’s future. Their health, education, safety and opportunities are shaped by family circumstances, neighbourhoods and access to services. This chapter examines outcomes for children and young Londoners across a range of indicators. Further metrics related to the health and wellbeing of children and young people are covered in the Health chapter, and the wider determinants of health are covered in other chapters (e.g. pollution exposure in the Environment chapter).

London-Level Outcomes

Sections in this chapter relate to the following outcomes the Mayor is trying to achieve for the city:

- **Children and young Londoners achieve the health and learning outcomes they need to thrive at every stage of development**
- **Children and young Londoners are safe from harm**
- **Children and young Londoners have the positive opportunities needed to be successful**

Health and education

View online

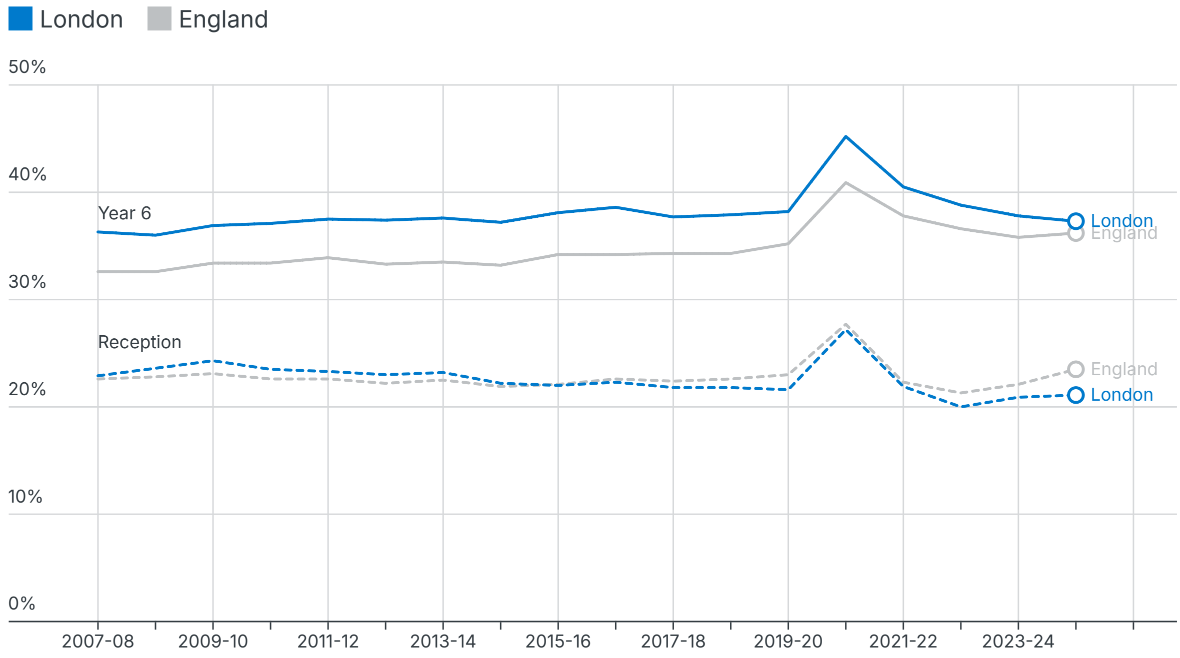
London-Level Outcome

Children and young Londoners achieve the health and learning outcomes they need to thrive at every stage of development

This section provides indicators on the health and learning outcomes of children and young people in London, including: rates of obesity; self-reported happiness; school readiness at age 5; and Attainment 8 (GCSE) performance.

Prevalence of obesity in children

Percentage of children in Reception and Year 6 that are overweight or obese in London and England, 2007/08 to 2024/25



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Public health profiles, OHID

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Based on National Child Measurement Programme data

View interactive chart online

21.1% of London's children in Reception class (age 4-5) were classified as overweight or obese in 2024/25, below the percentage for England which was 23.5%. This is similar to the previous year when it was 20.9%, but lower than before the pandemic in 2019/20 when it was 21.6%.

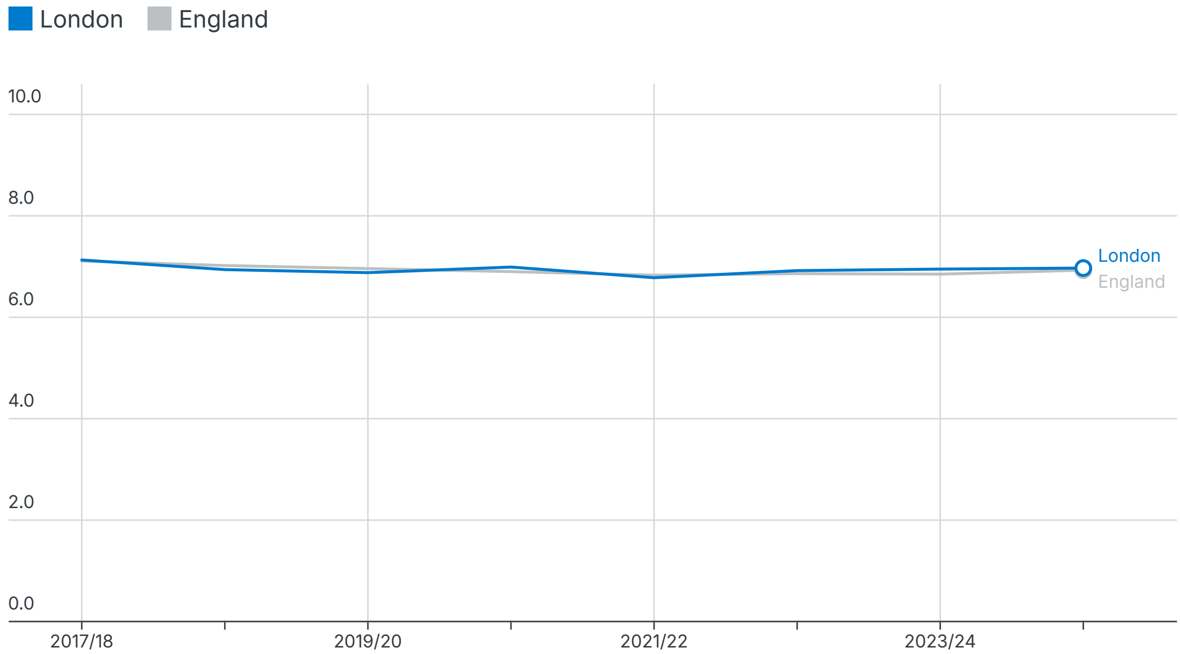
By Year 6 (age 10-11), the prevalence of obesity in children is consistently higher, at 37.3% in London and 36.2% in England in 2024/25.

Higher rates were seen among deprived Londoners, with 25.9% of children in Reception classified as obese or overweight in the most deprived decile compared to 16.0% in the least deprived decile. This inequality widens for children in Year 6, at 44.0% in the most deprived decile and 25.7% in the least deprived decile. Similarly, the rates vary by London borough, with the highest rates for Year 6 children in Southwark (44.3%) and the lowest in Richmond upon Thames (23.6%).

Comparing rates of overweight or obesity by sex in London, there is no significant difference at Reception age, but by Year 6 the rate is significantly higher for boys (40.1%) than girls (34.3%).

Children's self-reported happiness with life

Children in Years 3-11 mean self-reported happiness score with life (out of 10) in London and England, 2017/18 to 2024/25



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Active Lives Children and Young People Survey, Sport England

Note: Core LLO Indicator

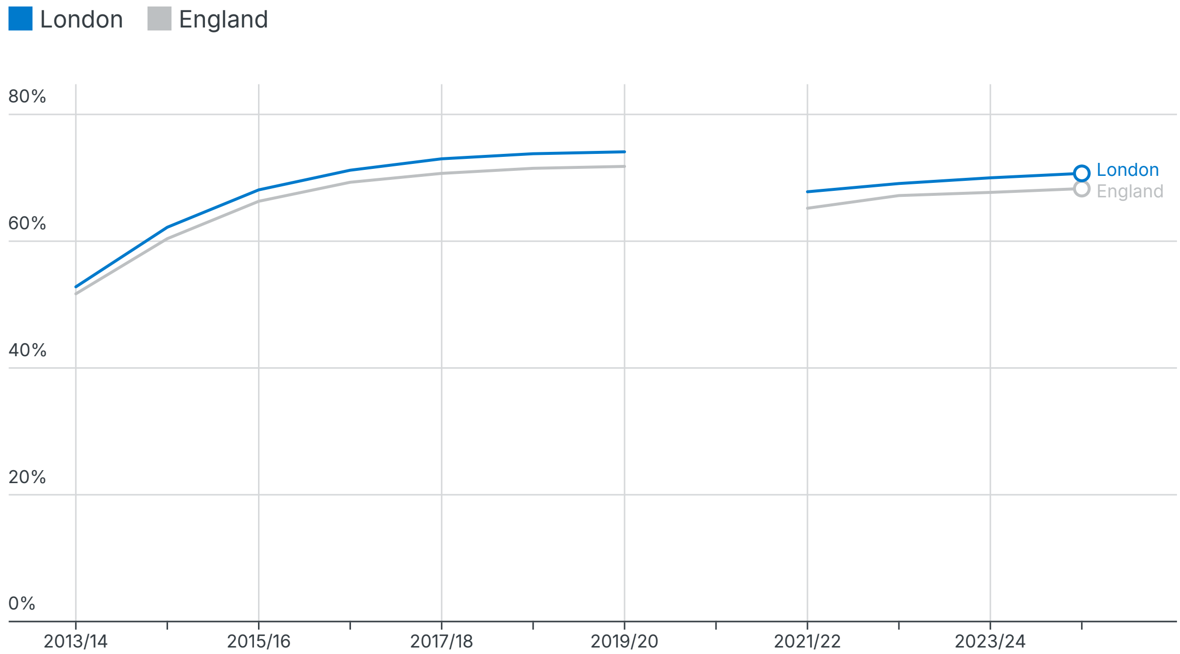
View interactive chart online

The average happiness score (out of 10) for children in Years 3-11 in London in 2024/25 was 6.97, similar to England's which was 6.93. This has remained relatively stable, although it has decreased slightly overall since 2017/18 when it was 7.13 in London.

In London the score was highest among Other ethnic groups (7.39) and White British children (7.12) and lowest for Black children (6.68), and higher for boys (7.29) than girls (6.77).

School readiness at age 5

Percentage of children with a good level of development (GLD) at age 5, 2013/14 to 2024/25



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Early years foundation stage profile, Department for Education

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Reforms introduced in September 2021 resulted in significant revision of the early years foundation stage profile (EYFS) including GLD. It is therefore not possible to directly compare assessment outcomes since 2021/22 with earlier years. No data is available for 2020/21 as data collection was disrupted by the pandemic.

View interactive chart online

Children are defined as having a Good Level of Development (GLD) if they are at the expected level for the 12 early learning goals within five areas of learning relating to: communication and language; personal, social and emotional development; physical development; literacy; and mathematics.

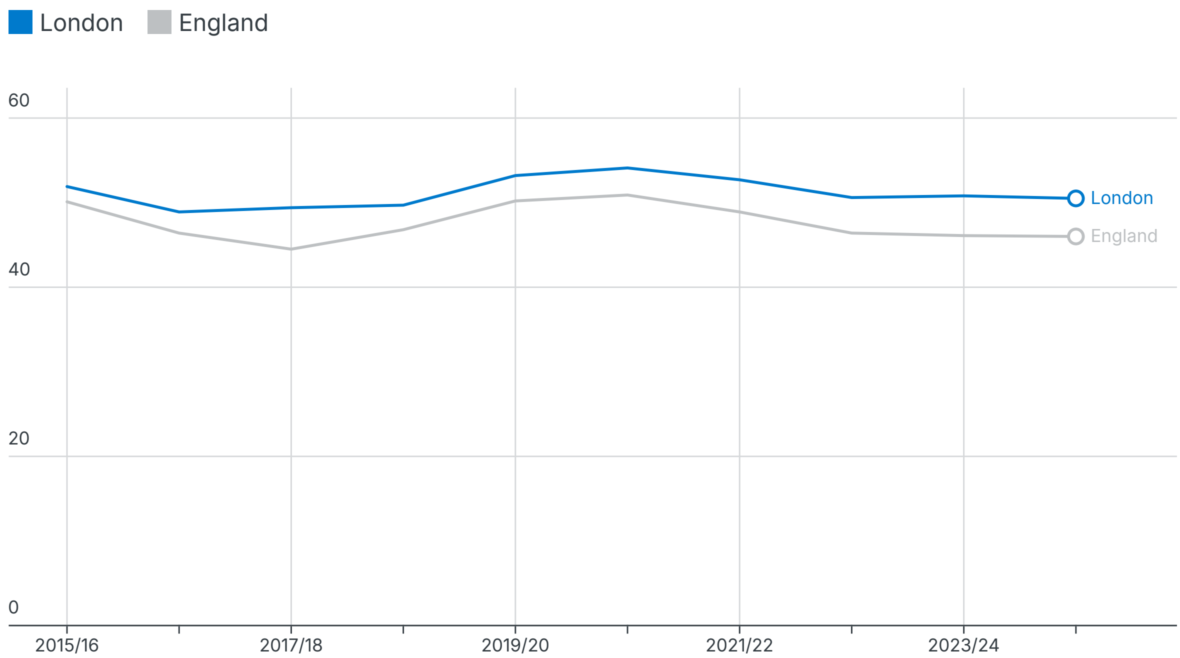
In 2024/25, 70.7% of pupils in London achieved a GLD by age 5, compared to 68.3% in England. This is an increase over the last three years for both London and England.

When broken down by various characteristics – ethnicity, first language, eligibility for free school meals, those with SEN support needs – London pupils do at least as well, and in most cases better, than those in England overall with the same characteristics. There are still differences between these sub-groups, however, with Chinese, Indian and Mixed White and Asian children most likely to achieve a Good Level of Development (GLD) in London.

In 2024/25, 58.9% of children in London eligible for free school meals (FSM) achieved a GLD by age 5, compared to 74.3% among children not classed as eligible for FSM. A lower proportion of Black children achieved a GLD by age 5 (62.9%), compared to their White (73.8%), Mixed ethnicity (73.4%) and Asian (72.8%) counterparts.

Average Attainment 8 score (Key Stage 4/GCSE)

Average Attainment 8 score (out of 90) per pupil in London and England, 2015/16 to 2024/25



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Key stage 4 performance, Department for Education

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

Attainment 8 score is a measure of a student's overall achievement at GCSE, summing grades in eight key subjects with Maths and English double-weighted, with a maximum score of 90.[11] The average Attainment 8 score for London's pupils is consistently higher than that for England, and in 2024/25 it was 50.5 compared to 46.0 in England.

London pupils do better than those across England as a whole, on each element of the Attainment 8 score and across almost all attributes from ethnicity to free school meal (FSM) status. The exception is that London's Black pupils had slightly lower average Attainment 8 scores than Black pupils for England as a whole.

In London in 2024/25, there were inequalities in Attainment 8 scores by sex, ethnicity, first language, Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility, Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disadvantaged status:

[11] The highest grade that can be achieved is 9 (equivalent to an A* under the old grading system) and a 4 is a standard pass (equivalent to a grade C under the old system).

- Among ethnic groups, Asian pupils achieved the highest average Attainment 8 score (56.2) and Black pupils the lowest (45.9).
- Pupils whose first language was English achieved a slightly lower average Attainment 8 score (50.3) than those who have a first language other than English (51.2).
- Pupils who are eligible for FSM achieved a lower average Attainment 8 score (42.0) compared to all other pupils not classed as eligible for FSM (54.4).

These inequalities broadly mirror those observed nationally, with some differences in magnitude. The exception is ethnicity: while Asian pupils achieve the highest Attainment 8 scores in both London and England, White pupils have the lowest average nationally, compared with Black pupils in London.

Safety

View online

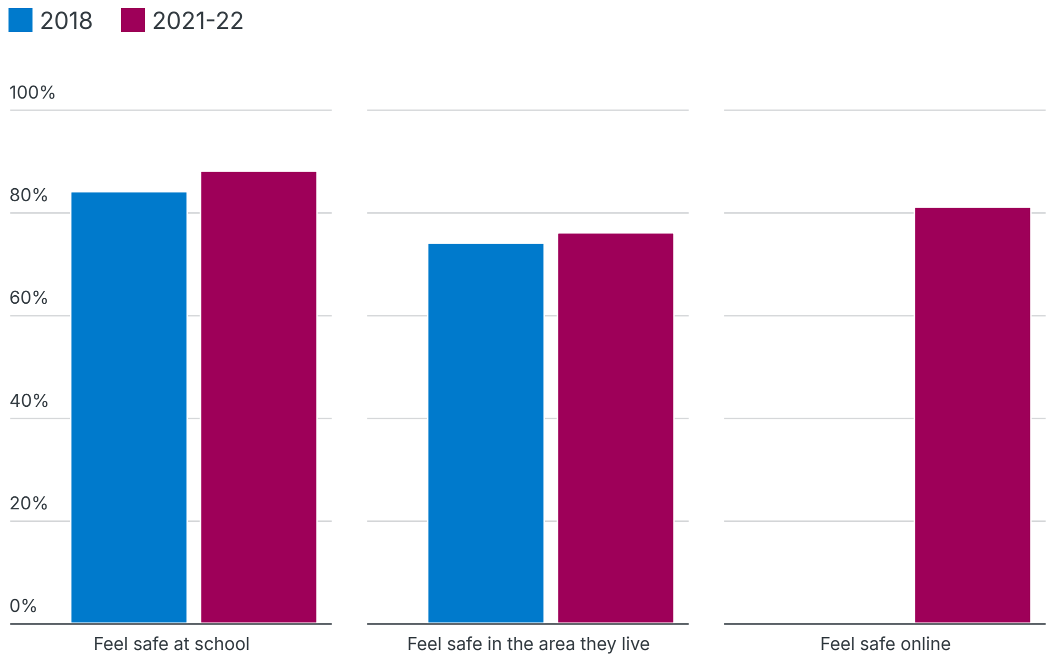
London-Level Outcome

Children and young Londoners are safe from harm

This section draws on data from MOPAC's Youth Survey about whether children and young Londoners feel safe at school, in the area they live, and online.

Children's perceptions of safety

Proportion of young people aged 11-16 in London who feel safe at school, in the area they live and online, 2018 and 2021/22



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Youth Survey, MOPAC (2018 and 2021/22)

Note: Core LLO Indicator | No data available on perceptions of online safety for 2018.

View interactive chart online

In 2021/22, 88% of young people aged 11-16 in London reported that they felt safe at school, an increase from 84% in 2018. 76% of young people reported that they felt safe in the area they live, a small increase from 74% in 2018. There was also an overlap between these locations, with 5% of the sample reporting that they felt unsafe both at home and at school in 2021/22. This reveals a small but potentially vulnerable group of young Londoners growing up in the capital without a sense of safety across either of these locations.

Certain groups of young people were less likely to say they felt safe at school and in their local area, including those from older age groups and those from Black or Mixed ethnic backgrounds. Importantly, young people who had attended a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)[12] were also significantly less likely to feel safe in their school (74%) than those who had not attended a PRU (90%).

In the most recent survey in 2021/22, approximately four in five (81%) of young people reported that they felt safe online.

[12] PRUs are for children who are unable to attend school and may not otherwise receive suitable education. This could be because they have a short- or long-term illness, have been excluded, or are a new starter waiting for a mainstream school place. See DfE.

Opportunities

View online

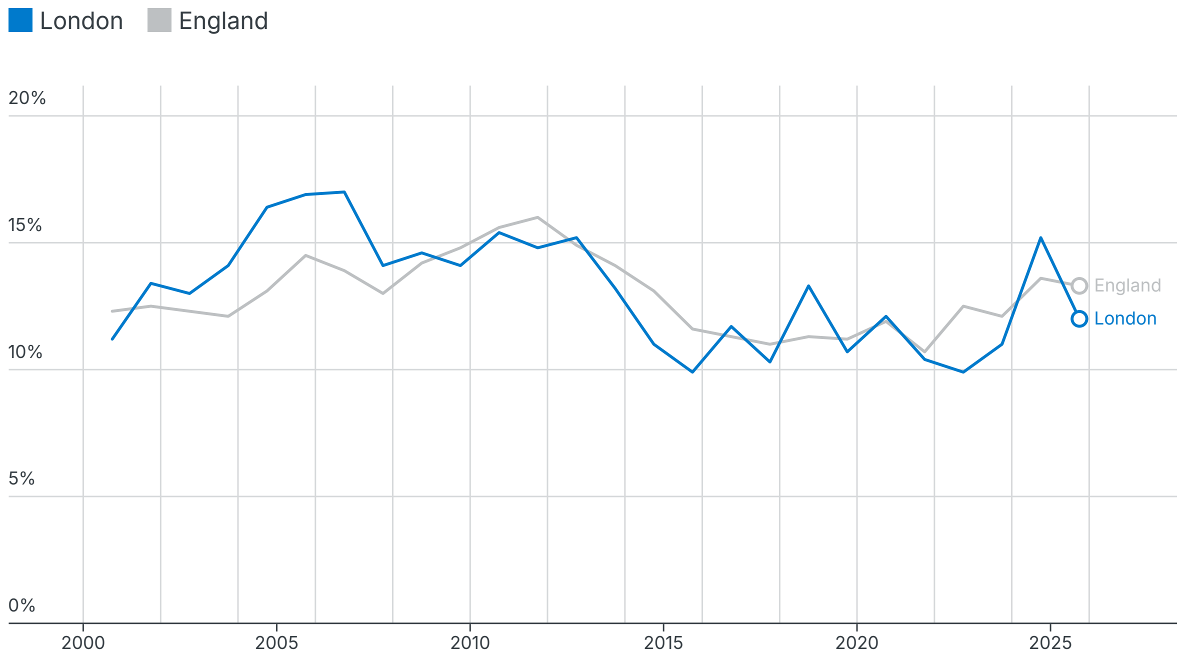
London-Level Outcome

Children and young Londoners have the positive opportunities needed to be successful

This section provides a selection of indicators about whether children and young Londoners have opportunities to do well at school and to progress into work. These include: pupil absence at school; the number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET); and the proportion achieving Level 3 qualifications.

Young people Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET)

Percentage of young people aged 16-24 NEET in Q4 (October-December), 2000-2025



GLA City Intelligence

Source: NEET age 16 to 24, Department for Education

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Data for this indicator comes from the ONS Labour Force Survey (LFS), which, due to data quality concerns, is badged as an "Official Statistic in Development" indicating that it should be used with caution. LFS data has been reweighted from January 2019 onwards. There is a discontinuity in the timeseries at this point and comparisons to earlier data should be made with caution.

View interactive chart online

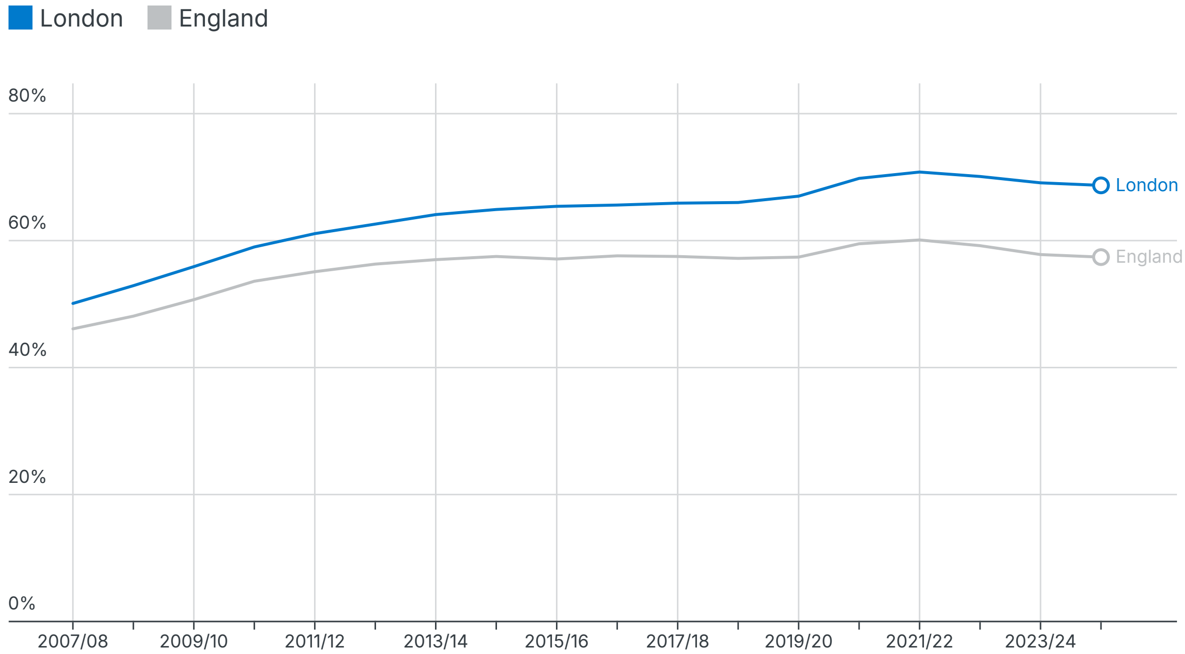
[13] Note the 95% confidence interval for this figure is 98,700-153,200. Our preferred age bracket for the NEET measure is 18-24 rather than 16-24 because those aged 16-17 are subject to the Raising the Participation Age (RPA) legislation. However, DfE have not published data for this age bracket due to falling responses to the Labour Force Survey. If this data becomes available again then the indicator will revert to 18-24.

126,000 16–24-year-olds[13] in London were Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET) in Q4 2025, equivalent to 12.0%. This was a decrease of over three percentage points from a year earlier in Q4 2024 when it was 15.2%, and lower than the England average of 13.3%.

The proportion of young adults in London that were NEET fell between 2012 and 2016, with the introduction of the Raising the Participation Age policy in 2013, but then stabilised, and then fell again as more young people stayed on in education during the pandemic. Following the pandemic, at both the national and London levels, the percentage of young adults that were NEET increased. While the latest datapoint suggests an improvement in London, data quality concerns mean this needs to be interpreted with caution.

Achievement of Level 3 qualifications by age 19

Percentage of 19-year-olds achieving a Level-3 qualification in London and England, 2007/08 to 2024/25



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Level 2 and 3 attainment age 16 to 25, Department for Education

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

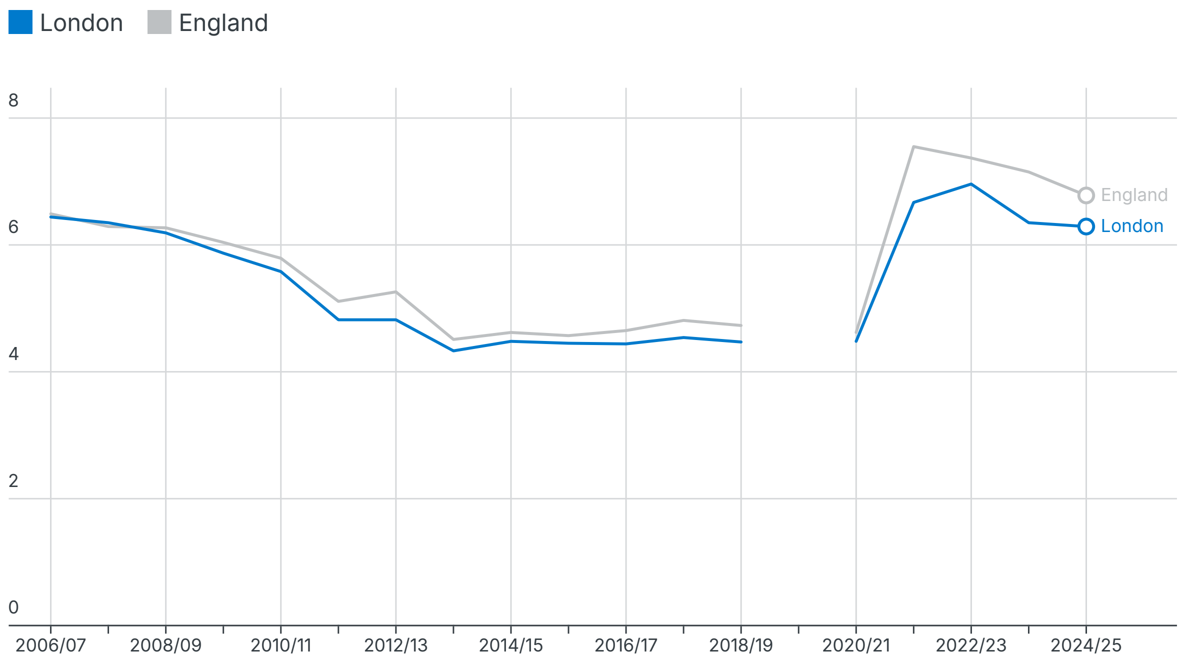
In 2024/25, 68.7% of young people in London had achieved a Level 3 (two A-levels or equivalent) qualification by age 19, higher than the England average which was 57.4%. The proportion has decreased slightly in recent years in London, down from 70.8% in 2021/22.

Looking at the long-term trend, the proportion achieving a Level 3 qualification has increased substantially in London rising from 50.1% in 2007/08. The gap between

London and England has also increased over time, rising from four percentage points in 2007/08 to over 11 percentage points in 2024/25.

School absence

Overall school absence rate per 100 pupils in state-funded schools in London and England, 2006/07 to 2024/25



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Pupil absence in schools in England, Department for Education

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Data for the full academic year is used here. More recent termly data is available.

View interactive chart online

Overall school absence rates in London increased rapidly during the pandemic[14], from 4.5 per 100 pupils in 2020/21 to a peak of 7.0 per 100 pupils in 2022/23. Absence rates have since decreased to 6.3 per 100 pupils in 2024/25. The absence rate in London is lower than that in England which was 6.8 per 100 pupils in 2024/25. Although the overall absence rate has improved over the last year, there has been a steady increase in the persistent and severe absence rates, defined as missing 10% or 50% of possible school sessions respectively.

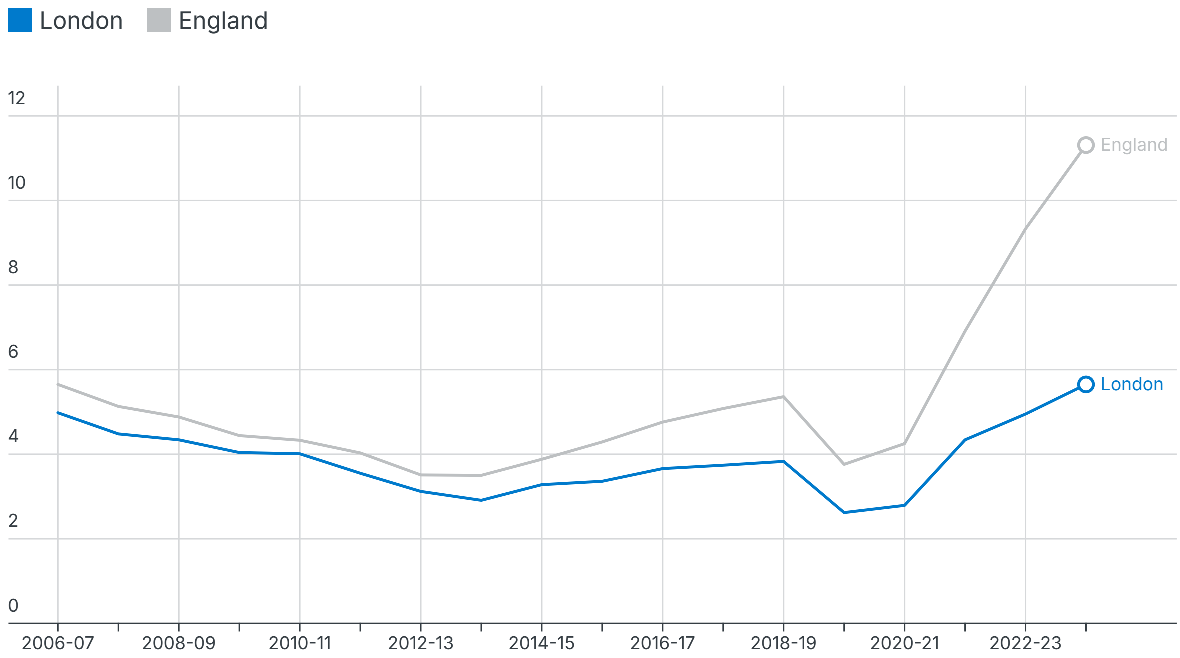
The overall absence rate in London in 2024/25 varied by school type and was highest for special schools (12.6 per 100 pupils), followed by state-funded secondary (7.2 per 100 pupils) and lowest for state-funded primary schools (5.3 per 100 pupils). Different rates of absence are observed according to pupil characteristics, for example in 2024/25 in London:

[14] Sessions recorded as not attending due to COVID circumstances are included as possible sessions in 2020/21 and 2021/22 only, but not as an absence within absence rates.

- The rate was higher for Free School Meal (FSM) eligible pupils (8.7) than those not eligible for FSM (5.3).
- Special Educational Needs (SEN) pupils had a higher rate (9.1) compared to those with no SEN (5.6).
- The rate also varied by ethnicity, with the lowest rate being among Black pupils (5.5) and highest among Unclassified (7.6) and Mixed ethnicity pupils (7.0).

School suspension rate

Suspension rate per 100 pupils in state-funded schools in London and England, 2006/07 to 2023/24



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Suspensions and permanent exclusions in England, Department for Education

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | While suspensions and permanent exclusions were possible throughout the 2019/20 and 2020/21 academic years, national restrictions will have had an impact on the numbers presented and caution should be taken when comparing across years.

View interactive chart online

The suspension rate in London schools increased from 5.0 per 100 pupils in 2022/23 to 5.7 per 100 pupils in 2023/24, continuing an upward trend since the pandemic (2019/20: 2.6 per 100 pupils). The suspension rate has been consistently higher in England and there was a more rapid increase to 11.3 per 100 pupils in 2023/24.

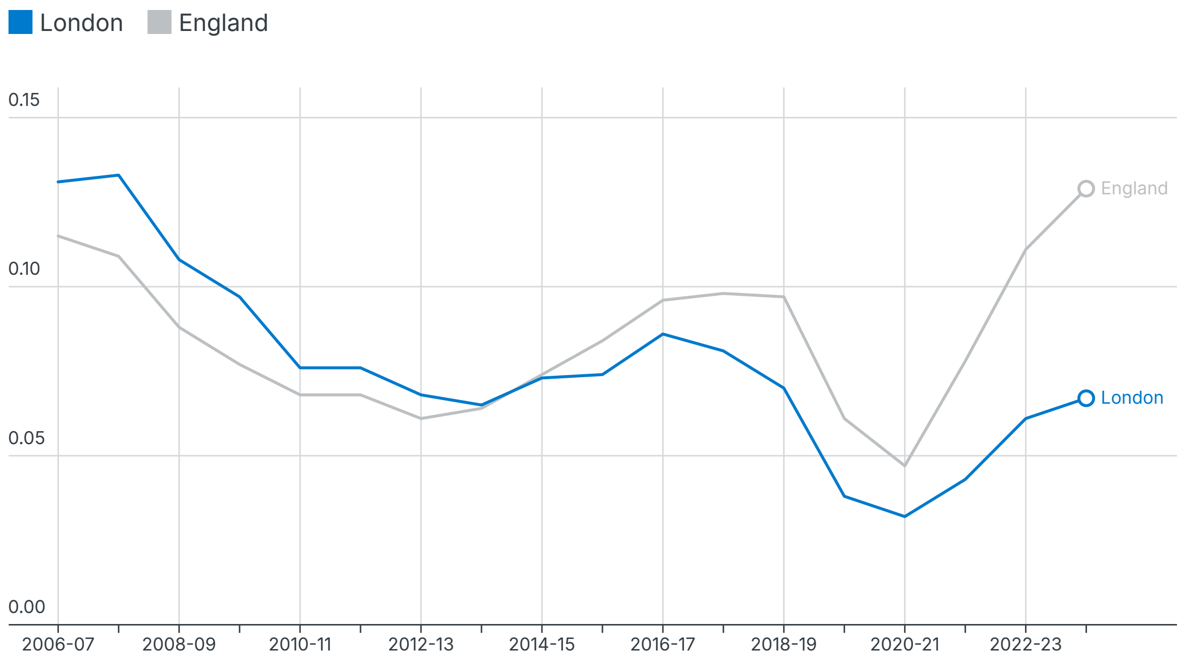
The rate of suspension for pupils in London in 2023/24 varied substantially by pupil characteristics, including by ethnicity, FSM-eligibility, and SEN status:

- Black pupils (8.6) had the highest suspension rate among pupils, over four times the rate for Asian pupils (2.1), which is the lowest.

- Pupils who were eligible for FSM (13.8) were more than three times more likely to have a suspension than pupils not eligible for FSM (4.0).
- Pupils with SEN were more likely to have a suspension (12.8) than those with no SEN (4.0).

School permanent exclusion rate

Permanent exclusion rate per 100 pupils for London and England, 2006/07 to 2023/24



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Suspensions and permanent exclusions in England, Department for Education

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

A similar trend to the suspension rate can be observed for the exclusion rate. The exclusion rate in London schools increased from 0.06 per 100 pupils in 2022/23 to 0.07 per 100 pupils in 2023/24, continuing an upward trend since 2020/21 when it reached a low of 0.03 per 100 pupils. The rate remains below the England average, which in 2023/24 reached a high of 0.13 per 100 pupils.

The exclusion rate in London has trended downwards since the mid-2000s. Prior to 2013/14, the rate in London was higher than the national average but since then it has remained below it.

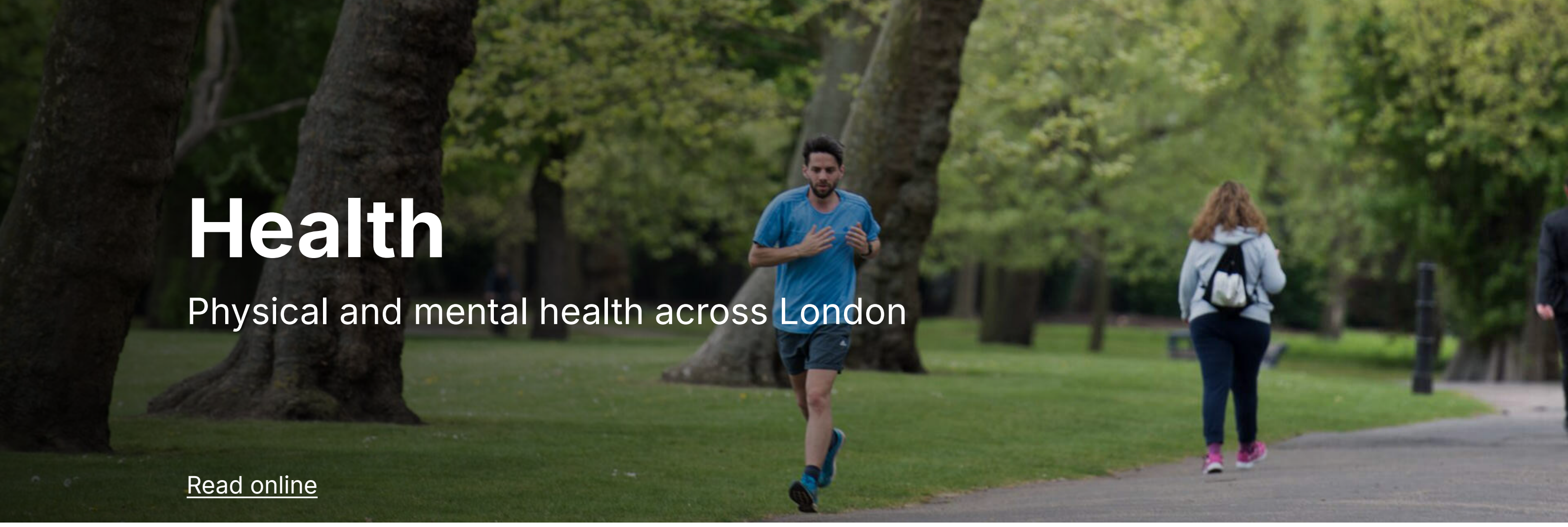
There were inequalities in the exclusion rate by pupil characteristics in London in 2023/24:

- Pupils from the Mixed ethnic group (0.10) had the highest exclusion rate among pupils of different ethnicities, and Asian pupils the lowest (0.03).

- FSM-eligible pupils (0.15) were more likely to have an exclusion than pupils not eligible for FSM (0.04).
- SEN pupils were more likely to have an exclusion (0.17) compared to those with no SEN (0.05).

Further Reading

- Equal Opportunities domain of London's Economic Fairness measures
- Health Inequalities Strategy
- Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) Child and Maternal Health Profile



Health

Physical and mental health across London

Read online

Health outcomes reflect the combined effects of social, economic and environmental conditions, as well as access to the health and care system. There are significant health inequalities across London both between and within boroughs; these are defined as "avoidable, unfair and systematic" differences in outcomes between different groups of people[15]. Some of the wider determinants of health, otherwise known as the 'causes of the causes', are considered in other chapters. This chapter focuses on physical and mental health outcomes in London and access to health and care services.

London-Level Outcomes

Sections in this chapter relate to the following outcomes the Mayor is trying to achieve for the city:

- **Londoners live in a city that supports their mental and physical health**
- **Londoners have access to a health and care system that supports them when they need it**

Mental and physical health

View online

London-Level Outcome

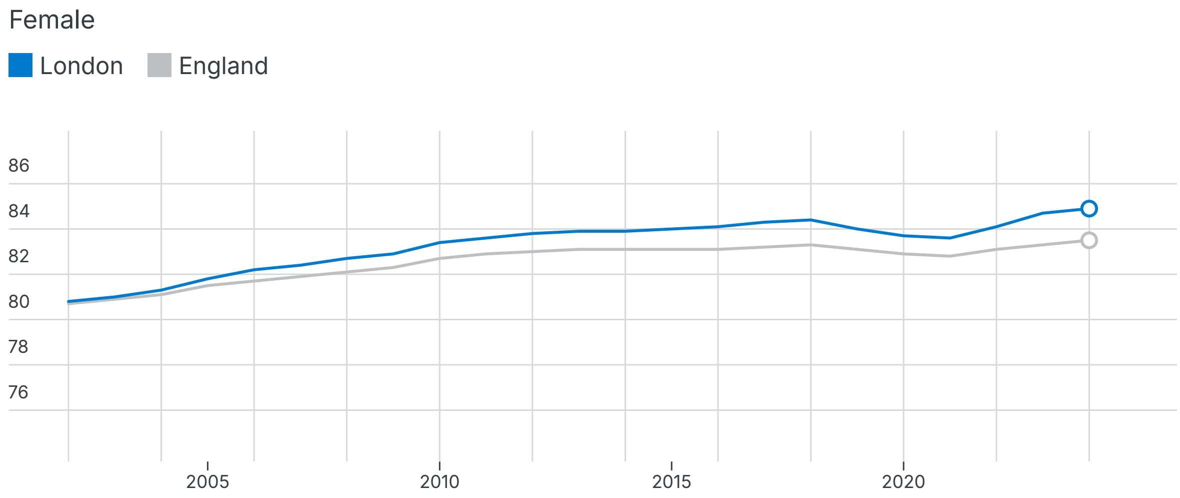
Londoners live in a city that supports their mental and physical health

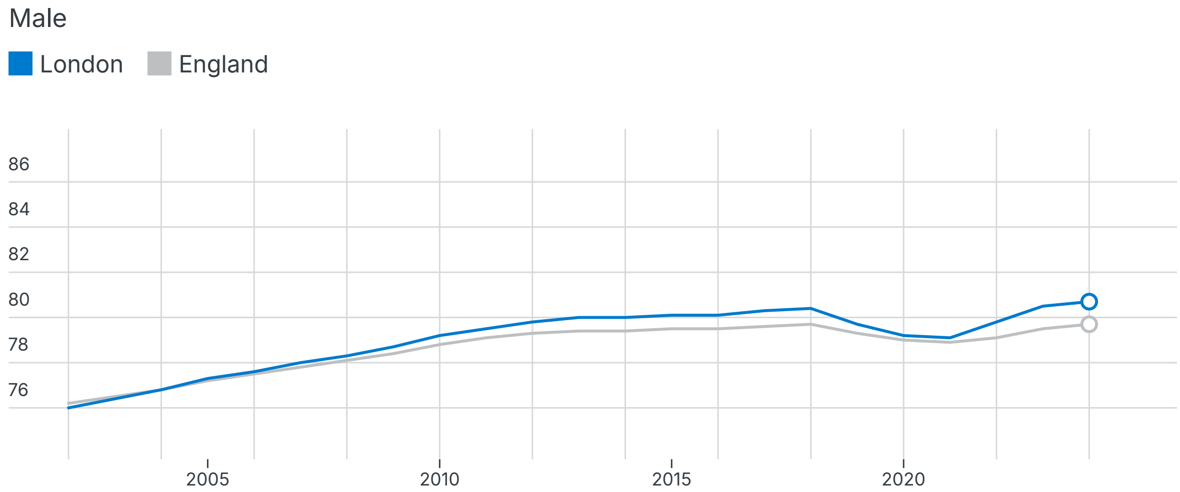
This section provides a selection of indicators about the physical and mental health of Londoners, including: life expectancy; the infant mortality rate; prevalence of obesity and smoking; and two measures of well-being.

[15] The Kings's Fund (2025) What are health inequalities? | The King's Fund (Accessed 06/05/2026)

Life expectancy at birth

Life expectancy at birth in London and England by sex, 2011-13 to 2023-25 (three year rolling averages)





GLA City Intelligence

Source: Public health profiles, OHID (based on ONS data)

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Values plotted at centre of period; Values for 2023 – 25 are based on provisional mortality and population data.

View interactive chart online

In London, life expectancy at birth in 2023-25 for males stood at 80.7 years, and for females it was 84.9 years, a slight increase on the previous period of 2022-24 (80.5 and 84.7 years, respectively). This increase continued to raise life expectancy to levels higher than those before the pandemic.

Life expectancy in London is higher than that for England which was 79.7 years for males and 83.5 for females in 2023-25. This has been the case for males since 2005-07 and for females since 2001-03.

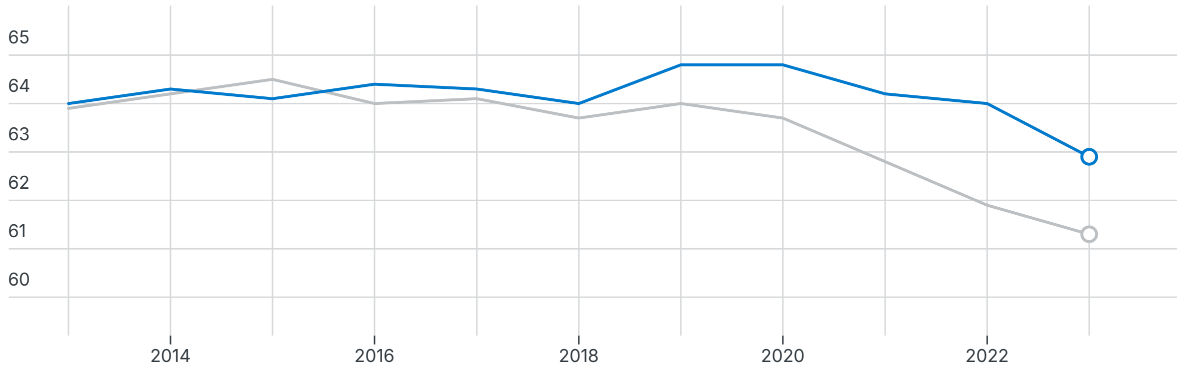
However, there is significant variation in life expectancy by local authority in London. In 2023-25, life expectancy for males ranged from 78.2 in Barking and Dagenham and Hackney to 83.3 in Kensington and Chelsea. For females it ranged from 82.2 in Barking and Dagenham to 87.2 in Richmond upon Thames. Barking and Dagenham was the only borough for which life expectancy was significantly below the national average for both males and females.

Healthy life expectancy at birth

Healthy life expectancy at birth in London and England by sex, 2011-13 to 2022-24 (three year rolling averages)

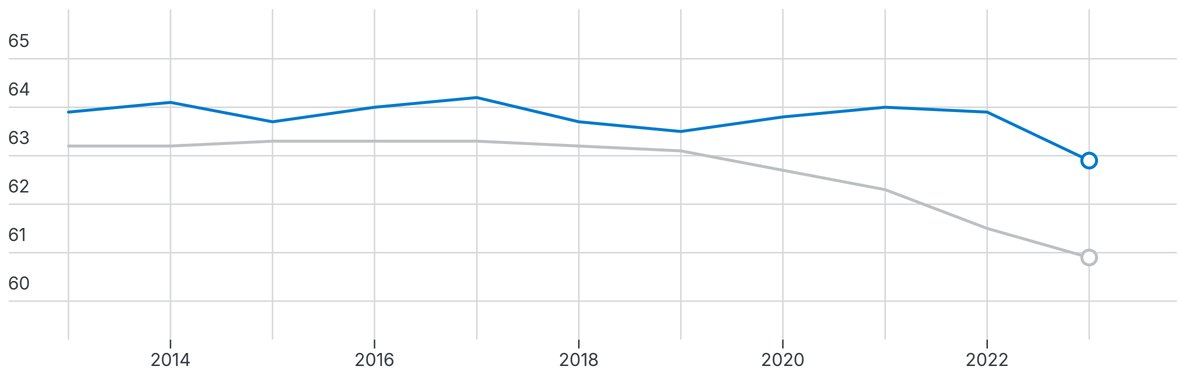
Female

London England



Male

London England



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Office for National Statistics

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Values plotted at centre of period

View interactive chart online

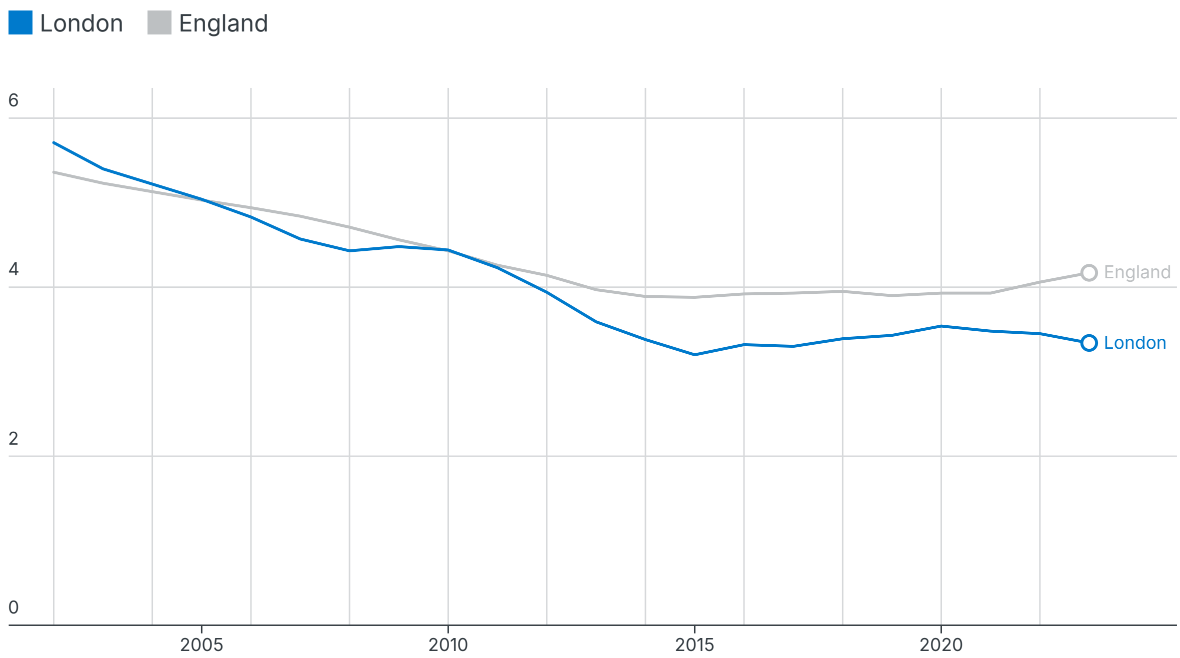
Healthy life expectancy (HLE) is an estimate of lifetime spent in "Very good" or "Good" health based on how individuals perceive it, and a key summary measure of population health.

HLE is higher in London than the national average for both males and females. However, HLE fell in London from 63.9 to 62.9 for males and from 64.0 to 62.9 for females between 2021-23 and 2022-24. The values also fell for England for both males (61.5 to 60.9 years) and females (61.9 to 61.3 years).

There are persistent and significant variations in HLE between and within boroughs, with a gap of more than 10 years lived in good health between the boroughs with the best and worst values. Values of this indicator range from 58.3 years in Haringey and Lewisham to 69.3 years in Richmond upon Thames for males, and from 57.5 years in Greenwich to 70.3 years in Richmond upon Thames for females.

Infant mortality rate

Infant deaths under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births in London and England, 2001-03 to 2022–24 (three year rolling averages)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Public health profiles, OHID (based on ONS data)

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Values plotted at centre of period

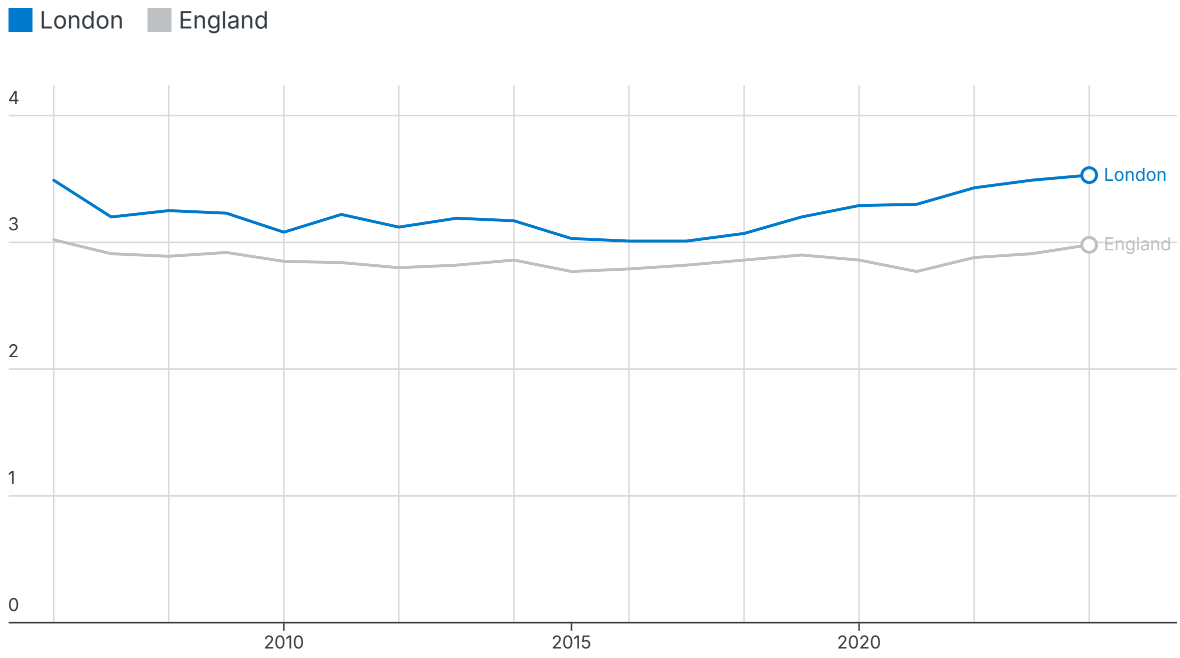
View interactive chart online

The infant mortality rate (IMR) in 2022-24 was lower for London (3.3 per 1000 live births) than the England average (4.2 per 1000 live births). There was a downward trend in the IMR in London over several decades, but from 2014-16 it levelled off and even slightly increased. However, since 2019-21 when the value was 3.5 per 1000 live births, the IMR in London appears to have resumed its downward trend. In contrast, the IMR in England increased from 3.9 per 1000 live births in 2020-22 to 4.2 in 2022-24.

There is substantial variation in the IMR across London boroughs, reflecting inequalities associated with deprivation that are also evident at the national level. For the same period 2022-24, the IMR was 6.5 in the 10% most deprived areas in England (based on the Index of Multiple Deprivation) compared to 2.9 in the least deprived. There are also inequalities of IMR by ethnicity, irrespective of deprivation.[16]

Prevalence of low birth weight of term babies

Percentage of all live births in London and England with gestational age of 37+ weeks, with a birth weight less than 2.5 kg, 2006-2024



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Public health profiles, OHID (based on ONS data)

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Values plotted at centre of period

View interactive chart online

Low birth weight among infants is an outcome of factors including maternal malnutrition, maternal ill-health and poor healthcare in pregnancy. The overall London values are higher than the national average as shown in the chart above.

In 2024, 3.5% of babies born at term in London had a low birthweight, which is greater than all other regions in England and higher than the England average which is 3.0%. Unlike England, which shows a relatively stable rate, this represents part of a continuing worsening trend since 2017.

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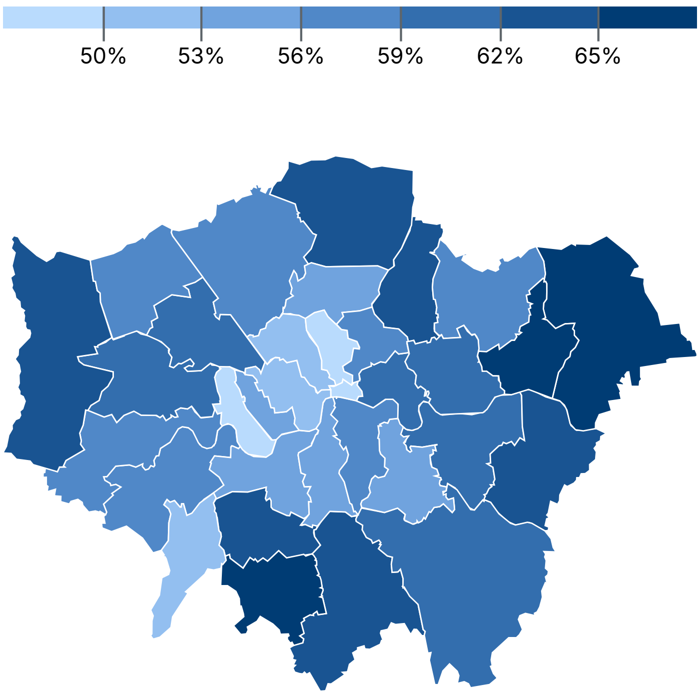
[16] Esan OB, Norman P, McHale P, et al. (2024) 'Intersecting ethnic and socioeconomic inequalities in infant mortality in England, 2007–2019'. Archives of Disease in Childhood

The proportion of low birthweight babies varies greatly by borough. In 2024, it ranged from 2.2% in Wandsworth to 5.2% in Redbridge.

Adults classified as overweight or obese

Proportion of adults (aged 18+) with body mass index greater or equal to 25 kg/m² (using adjusted self-reported height and weight) by London borough, 2023/24



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Public health profiles, OHID

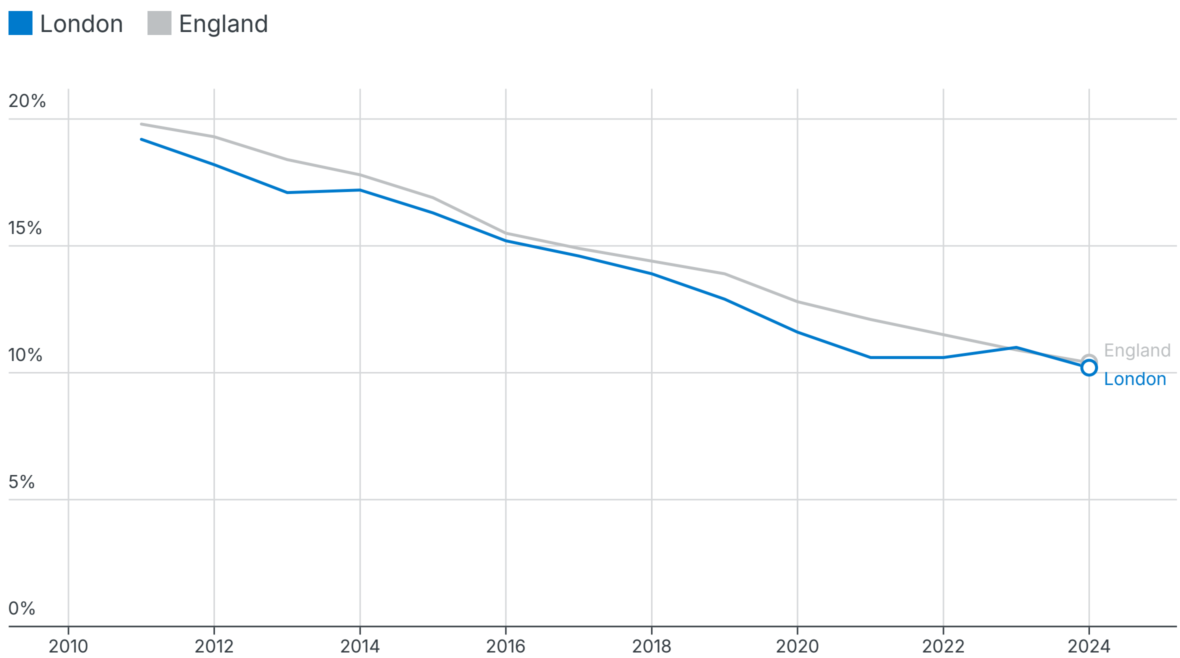
Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Based on Active Lives Adult Survey, Sport England

View interactive chart online

Across London in 2023/24, more than half (57.8%) of adults were overweight or obese. The rate has gradually increased from 55.0% in 2015/16, but has been consistently lower than the national rate (64.5% in England in 2023/24). The map above shows that the highest rates tend to be concentrated in Outer London boroughs, with Barking and Dagenham having the highest percentage (69.3%) and Islington the lowest (42.6%).

Smoking prevalence in adults

Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who are current smokers in London and England, 2011 to 2024



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Public health profiles, OHID based on the Annual Population Survey, ONS

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | The indicator relates to smoking cigarettes and so does not include cigars, pipes or vaping.

View interactive chart online

In 2024, smoking prevalence among adults (18+) in London was 10.2%, similar to the level in England of 10.4%. The proportion of adults smoking has decreased over the years, down from 17.2% a decade before in 2014. Smoking prevalence in 2024 ranged from 6.1% in Merton to 19.0% in Haringey. The prevalence was significantly higher for males (12.8%) than females (7.6%).

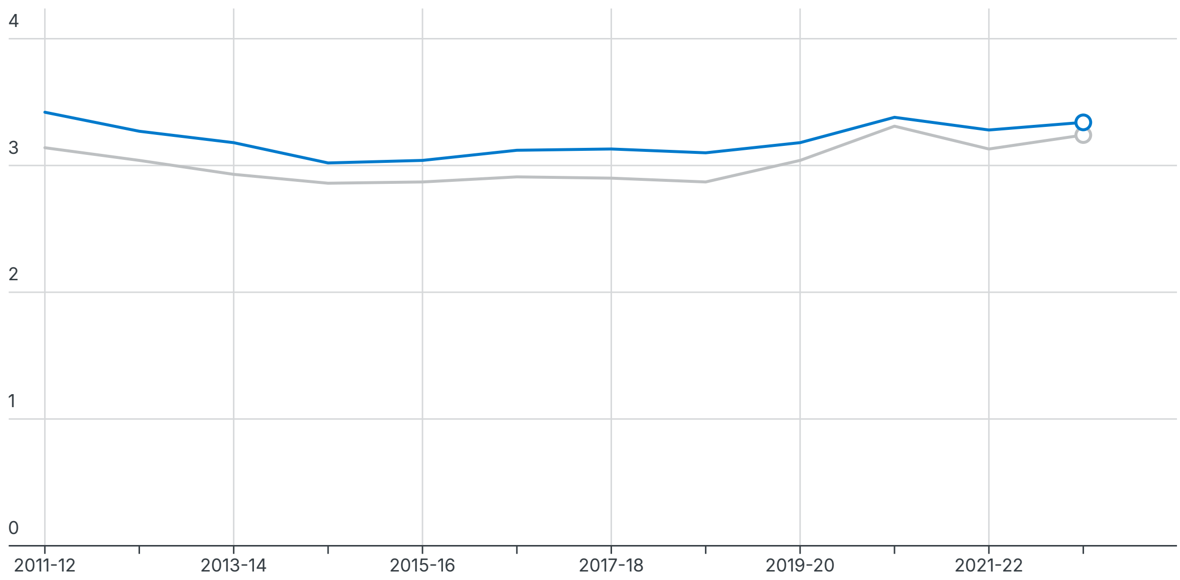
In 2022-24, the prevalence of smoking in London for working-age adults (those aged 18-64) in routine and manual occupations was 16.9%, higher than the rate among all working-age adults (10.6%)[17]. Data from the GP Patient Survey (GPPS) in 2024-25 show that smoking prevalence in London was higher in adults with a long-term mental health condition at 26.2%, compared to 14.6% in the general adult population.[18]

[17] OHID, Fingertips. Smoking Profile. Available from Fingertips (accessed 06/05/26)
[18] OHID, Fingertips. Smoking Profile. Available from Fingertips (accessed 06/05/26)

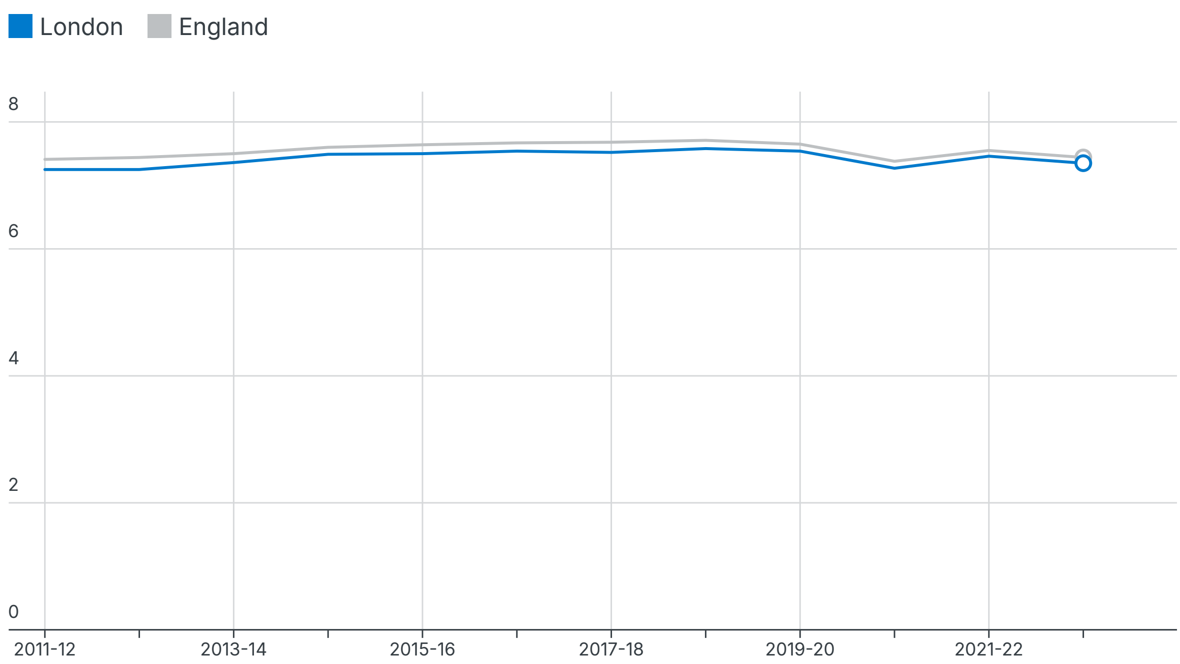
Anxiety and life satisfaction for adults

Mean responses on a scale from 0-10 to "Overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday", and "Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?" for adults in London and England, 2011-12 to 2022-23

Anxiety



Life Satisfaction



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Office for National Statistics (Based on Labour Force Survey)

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

Turning to mental health, the ONS examines personal well-being using several indicators[19]. The charts above examine two of them: self-reported levels of anxiety and life satisfaction. Anxiety levels increased slightly between 2021-22 and 2022-23, from 3.28 to 3.34 in London and from 3.13 to 3.24 in England. Similarly, life satisfaction fell slightly from 2021-22 to 2022-23, from 7.46 to 7.35 in London and 7.55 to 7.44 in England. Both measures have been relatively stable since the series began in 2011, but life satisfaction fell and anxiety increased slightly during the pandemic.

[19] See ONS, 'Personal well-being in the UK: April 2022 to March 2023'.

The health and care system

View online

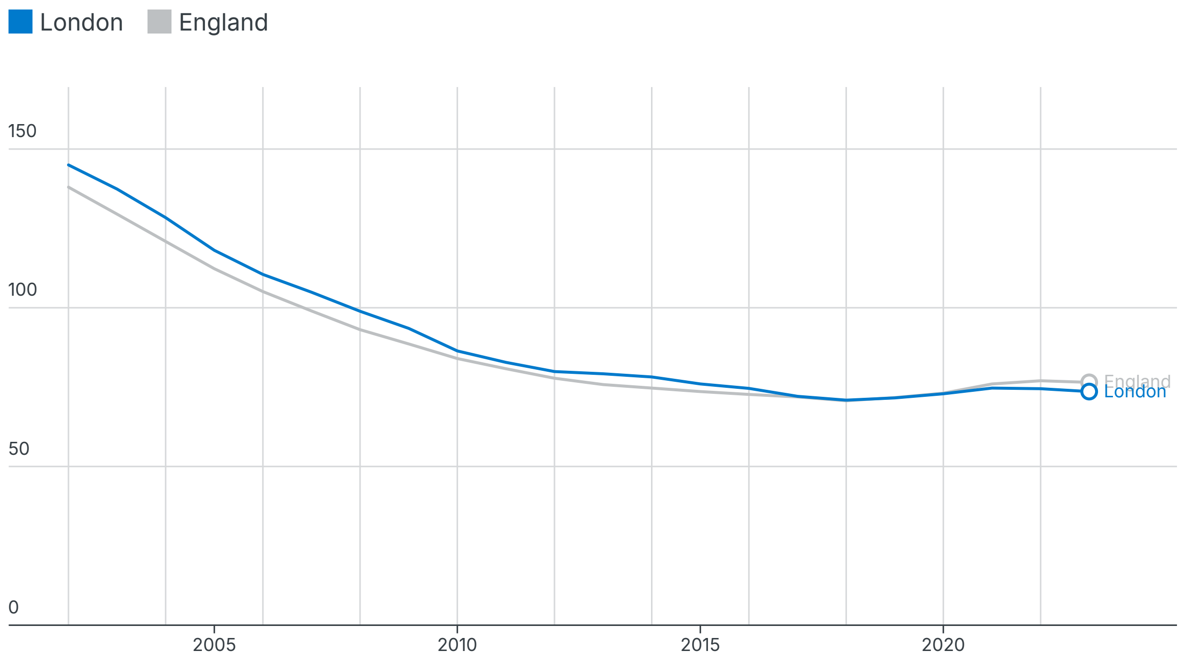
London-Level Outcome

Londoners have access to a health and care system that supports them when they need it

This section provides indicators about the health and care system including how rates of premature death from cardiovascular disease and cancer compare between London and England, take-up of childhood vaccinations, and perceptions of the health and care system.

Premature death from cardiovascular disease

Under 75 directly standardised mortality rate per 100,000 from all circulatory diseases in London and England, 2001-03 to 2022-24 (three year rolling averages)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Public health profiles, OHID (based on ONS data)

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Values plotted at centre of period

View interactive chart online

Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) and cancer are leading causes of death in London[20] and major causes of death in those under 75, which are considered premature. There have been large improvements over the last 20 years as treatments and lifestyles have improved, but there is a continued focus on improving outcomes in these areas through prevention and treatment.

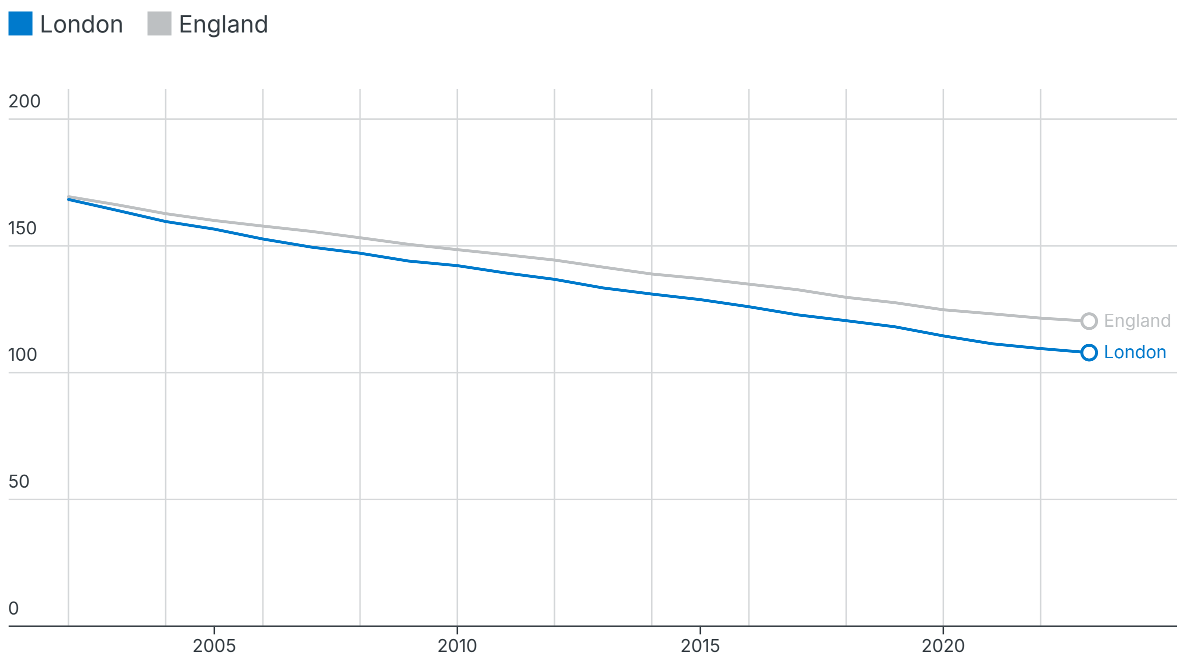
[20] Nomis, ONS (2024) Mortality statistics - underlying cause, sex and age (accessed 06/05/26)

In 2002-04, the under-75 mortality rate from CVD in London was 137.0 per 100,000 and in 2022-24 this had reduced to 73.6 per 100,000, noticeably lower than the rate for England (76.5 per 100,000) in the same period. However, the rates have plateaued over the last six years.

There are large differences in CVD rates by gender: in London in 2022-24, the rate for males was 107.6 and for females was 42.8. The rate also greatly varies by London borough, ranging from 43.5 in Richmond upon Thames to 113.1 in Barking and Dagenham. At the England level, the rates are strongly correlated with levels of deprivation, with the rate over two times higher in the most deprived IMD decile (109.6) compared to the least deprived decile (54.5).

Premature death from cancer

Under 75 directly standardised mortality rate per 100,000 from cancer in London and England, 2001-03 to 2022-24 (three year rolling averages)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Public health profiles, OHID (based on ONS data)

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Values plotted at centre of period

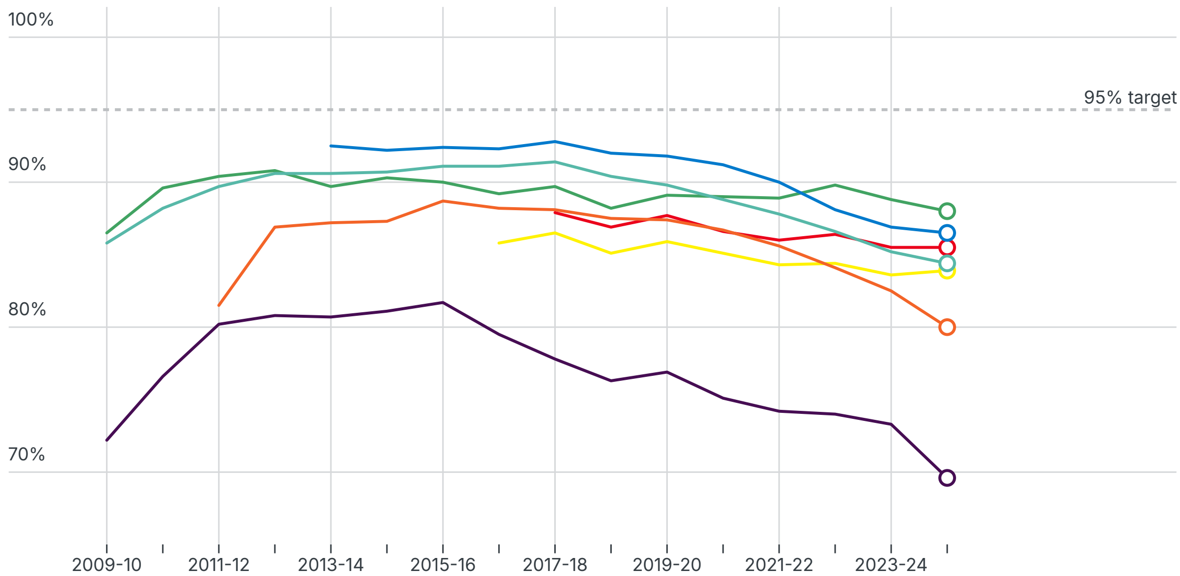
View interactive chart online

The rate of premature mortality from cancer has consistently decreased over the last twenty years for both London and England, with a lower rate in London compared to England, and the gap in rates between the two is widening. In 2022-24 the under-75 mortality rate in London was 107.9 per 100,000, significantly lower than the England average (120.3). The rate in London was higher for males (121.6) than females (95.9), and varied by London borough, ranging from 81.6 in Harrow to 142.1 in Barking and Dagenham.

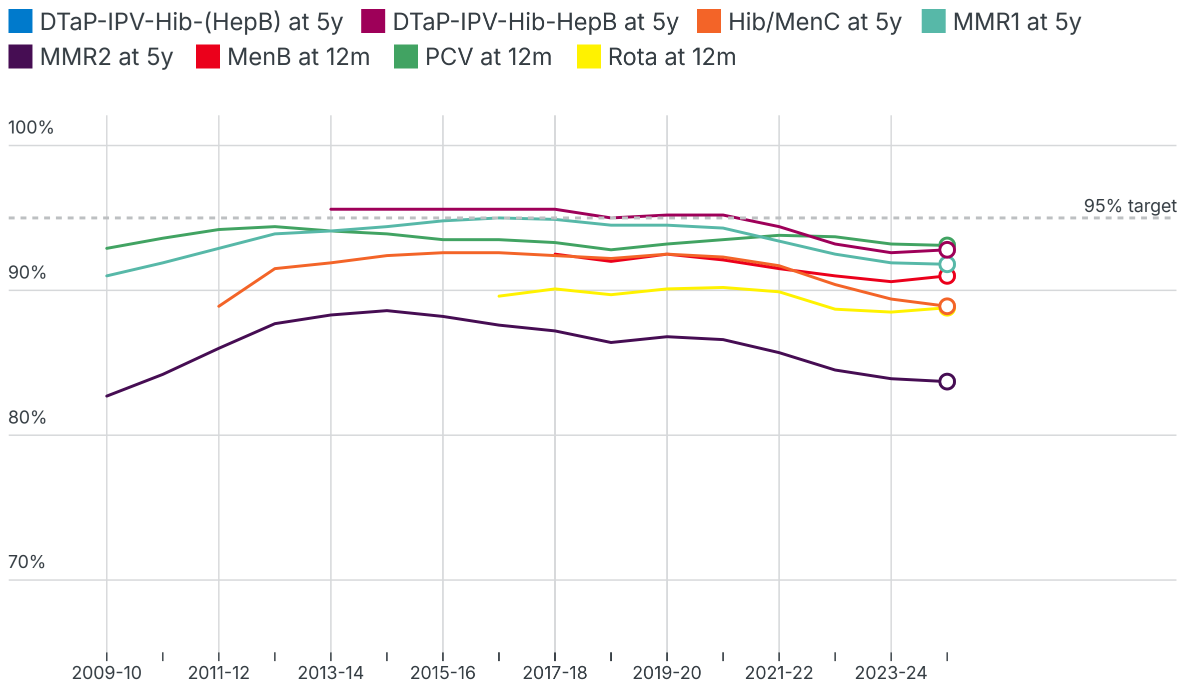
Childhood vaccination rates in London

Childhood vaccination rates (%) for selected vaccinations, 2011/12 to 2024/25

London



England



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Childhood Vaccination Coverage Statistics, NHS England; Childhood vaccination coverage, UKHSA data dashboard

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | PCV at 12m: Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) booster protects against serious pneumococcal infections like meningitis and pneumonia. DTap-IPV-Hib-HepB: a 6-in-one vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b and hepatitis B. MenB: protects against meningococcal group B bacteria. MMR: protects against measles, mumps, and rubella. Rota: protects against rotavirus. Hib/MenC: protects against Haemophilus influenzae type b and Meningococcal group C.

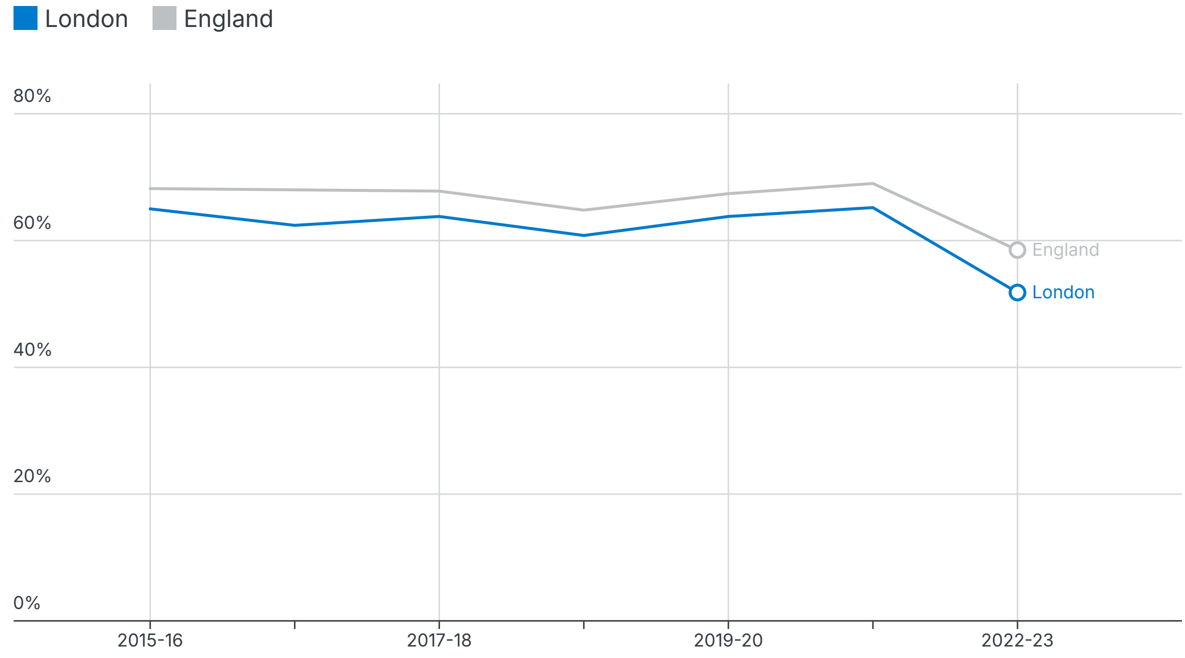
Two doses of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine prevent 99% of measles and rubella, and 88% of mumps infections. However, London's MMR vaccine uptake is lower than England's and has been on a downward trend since 2015/16[21]. The coverage of full vaccination with MMR (2 doses at age 5) in London was 69.6% in 2024/25, compared to 83.7% for England and well below the WHO target of 95% for herd immunity.

Other vaccines with relatively low uptake rates in London include the Hib/MenC at age 5 (since 2015/16) and DTap-IPV-Hib-HepB at age 5 (since 2017/18). It is important to note that coverage varies across London boroughs. Variation in uptake and coverage between different communities can often reflect wider health inequalities, lack of access to NHS services, as well as trust and confidence issues. Coverage of both MMR vaccines varied markedly in 2024/25, from 56.3% in Kensington and Chelsea to 79.8% in Sutton for two MMR doses by age 5, with all boroughs in London below the 95% target.

[21]For the 2024/5 data, system changes in 14 UTLAs in London, as well as changes to the way multiple dose courses are calculated, mean that the coverage in London for some vaccines, particularly the pre-school (dTaP/IPV) booster and MMR2 is likely to be underestimated. Caution should be exercised when comparing London coverage values with those from other regions. Please see Health Protection - Data | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care for more details

Public satisfaction with the NHS

Percentage of individuals responding either 'Very satisfied' or 'Quite satisfied' to 'How satisfied or dissatisfied would you say you are with the way in which the NHS runs nowadays?', London and England, 2015-2022



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Health Survey for England, NHS Digital

Note: Core LLO Indicator

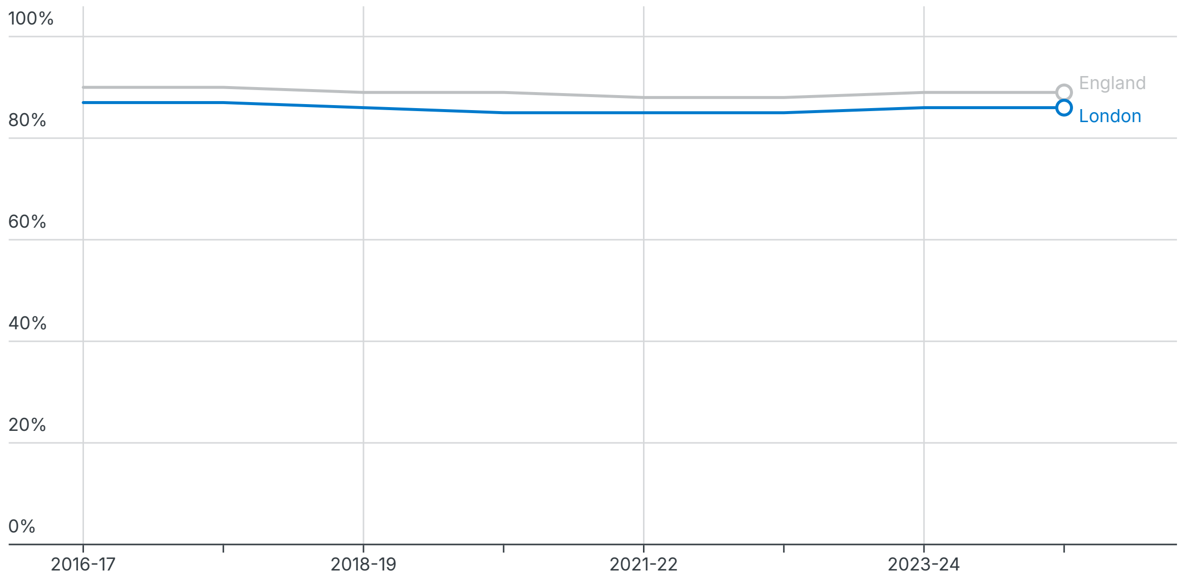
View interactive chart online

The public's satisfaction with the health and care system gives a sense of whether Londoners believe they have a system that supports them when they need it. While the focus here is on publicly provided healthcare via the NHS and social services provided by local authorities, there are other providers including voluntary organisations and independent providers that are part of the system.

Public satisfaction with the NHS, reported in the Health Survey for England, reveals lower rates of satisfaction in London than in England, at 52% compared to 58% for 2022 (the most recent data point). Both these values fell sharply from the previous year in 2021, when the values were 65% for London and 69% for England.

Users' satisfaction with social care

Proportion of individuals either 'Extremely or very satisfied' or 'Quite satisfied' with the care and support services you receive?', London and England, 2016/17 to 2024/25



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Personal Social Services Adult Social Care Survey, NHS Digital; Adult Social Care Survey, England 2024/25 - Interactive Report

Note: Core LLO Indicator | (1) The sample includes service users aged 18+ in receipt of long-term support services funded or managed by social services; (2) The 2020/21 survey was voluntary due to the impact of the pandemic, and only select councils participated. Caution should be taken when comparing other years to 2020/21.

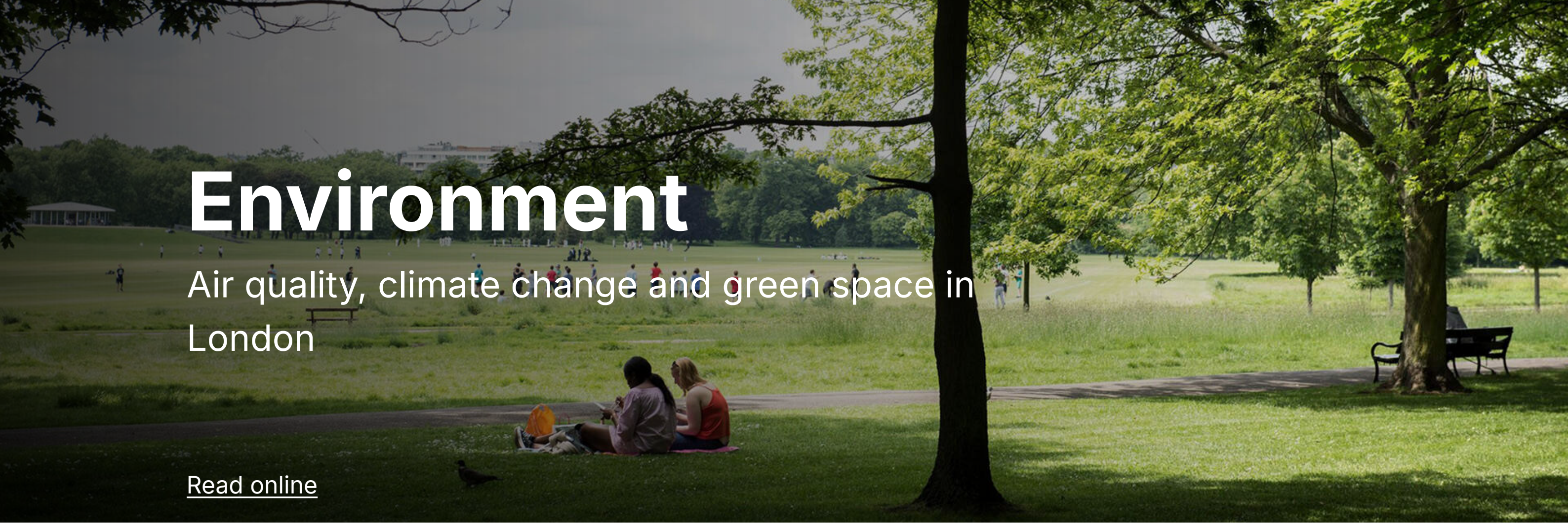
View interactive chart online

The NHS Personal Social Services Adult Social Care Survey tracks service users' satisfaction with social care. As seen with satisfaction with the NHS, satisfaction with social care is lower in London than in England, at 86% for London and 89% for England in 2024/25. Satisfaction varies among boroughs in London, varying from 77% in Ealing to 92% in Richmond upon Thames.[22]

Further Reading

- Snapshot of Health Inequalities in London
- Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) Public Health Profiles
- Cool Spaces
- Water Fountains

[22] Excludes City of London, which had a 100% satisfaction rate but a small sample size, so there is considerable uncertainty in this figure.



Environment

Air quality, climate change and green space in London

Read online

London's environment affects people's health, wellbeing and the city's long-term sustainability. Reducing emissions, improving air quality and ensuring access to green space are central to maintaining a high quality of life for Londoners. This chapter assesses progress across key environmental challenges facing the capital including carbon emissions, air quality, access to green spaces and climate change resilience.

London-Level Outcomes

Sections in this chapter relate to the following outcomes the Mayor is trying to achieve for the city:

- **London is a net zero carbon city**
- **Londoners are breathing clean air**
- **Londoners can enjoy green and wild spaces across the capital**
- **London is resilient to extreme weather and the impacts of climate change**

Carbon emissions

View online

London-Level Outcome

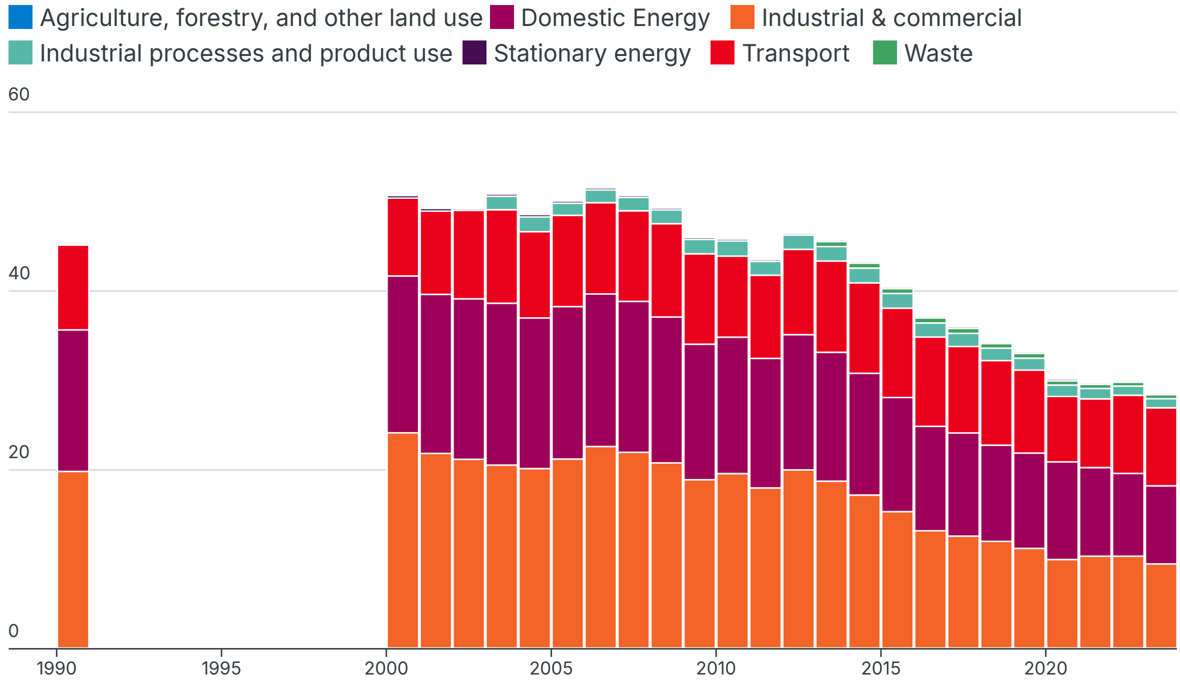
London is a net zero carbon city

Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in London are reported annually in the London Energy and Greenhouse Gas Inventory (LEGGI)[23]. The latest report published in November 2025 shows data for 2023, the most recent year for which information is available.

[23] Greater London Authority (2023), London Energy and Greenhouse Gas Inventory (LEGGI)

Greenhouse Gas emissions in London

Megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO2e)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: London Energy and Greenhouse Gas Inventory (LEGGI), GLA

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

In 2023, London's GHG emissions were 28.6 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent ($MtCO_2e$), down from 30.0 $MtCO_2e$ in 2022. This represents a year-on-year fall of 4.7%. The decrease was mainly driven by lower emissions from domestic energy and industrial and commercial energy, while transport emissions remained broadly unchanged. Compared with 1990, London's emissions have fallen by 37%. They are also 44% lower than their peak in 2000.

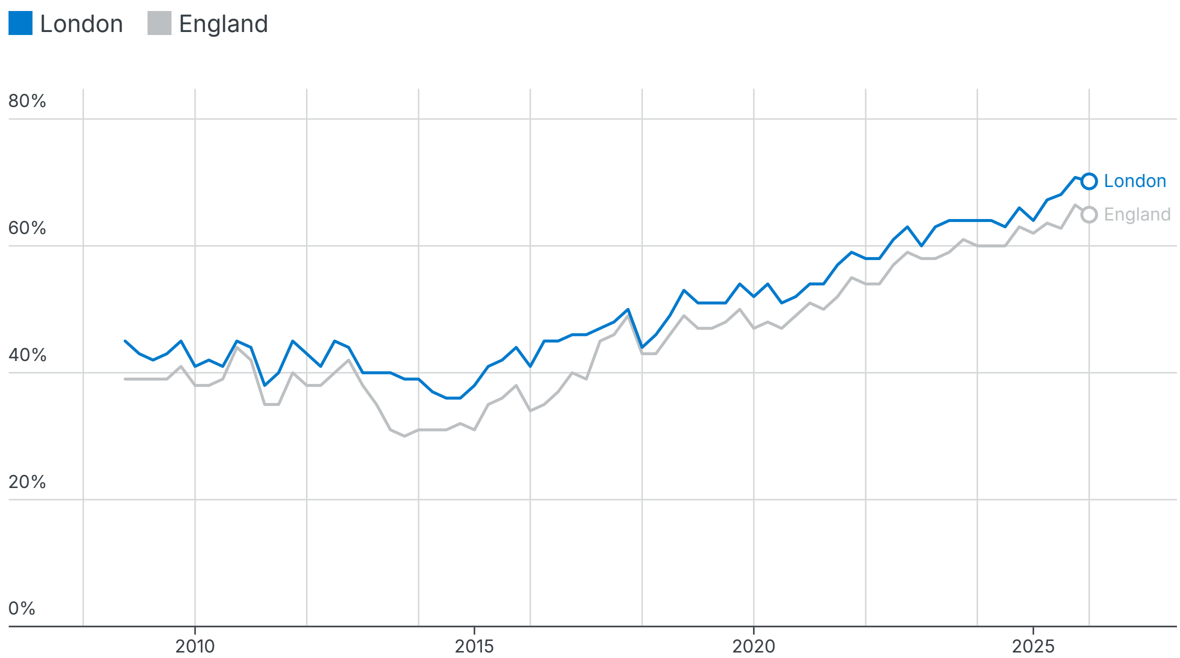
Domestic energy and industrial and commercial energy were responsible for 63% of total emissions, while transport accounted for 30%. Waste, industrial processes and product use, agriculture, forestry and other land use, and other stationary energy sources were responsible for the remainder.

Compared to the rest of the UK, London has the lowest per capita emissions of any region – partly a result of its extensive public transport system and lower levels of industrial activity than other regions. Between 1990 and 2023, average emissions (tCO2e) per person fell by 52% from 6.7 tonnes to 3.2 tonnes.

The historic emissions series was revised in LEGGI 2023 to reflect updates to several underlying datasets. This means the historic trajectory presented above is not directly aligned with previous LEGGI releases.

Energy efficiency ratings of new and existing homes, London

Percent of all domestic Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) with a rating of A-C out of all domestic EPCs registered on the Energy Performance of Buildings Register



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DLUHC, MHCLG

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Live tables on Energy Performance of Buildings Certificates, Table D1: domestic EPCs for all dwellings by energy efficiency rating.

View interactive chart online

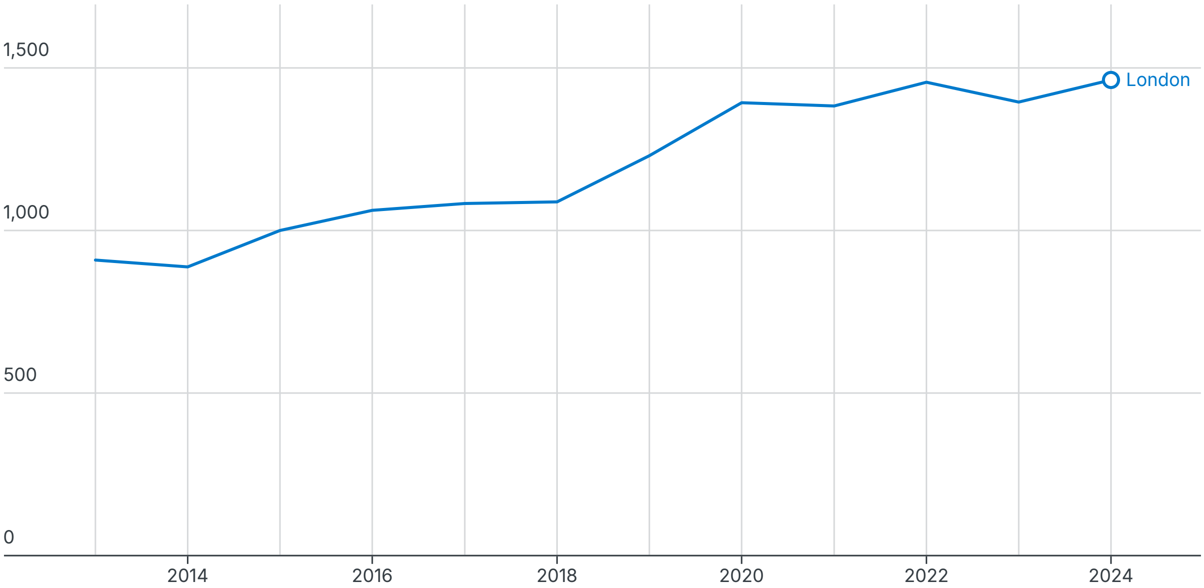
Improving the energy efficiency of the housing stock is vital for achieving London's net zero ambitions because it reduces the overall demand for energy, which in turn lowers the amount of GHG emissions associated with energy production and consumption. An Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) indicates how energy efficient a building is, from A (most efficient) to G (least efficient).

EPCs are only required when properties are built, sold or let, at which point they are added to the Energy Performance of Buildings Register. As such, EPC-based statistics should not be interpreted as a complete representation of the entire building stock.

Across England, the share of domestic EPCs added to the register with a rating of A-C has trended upwards over the last decade. In London, the share increased from 36% in Q4 2014 to 70% in Q1 2026, consistently remaining above the national trend over this period. Overall, this indicates a gradual improvement in the share of A-C rated EPCs in both London and England, with London maintaining higher levels throughout the period.

Renewable electricity generation in London

Gigawatt-hours (GWh)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, Regional Renewable Statistics GOV.UK

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator

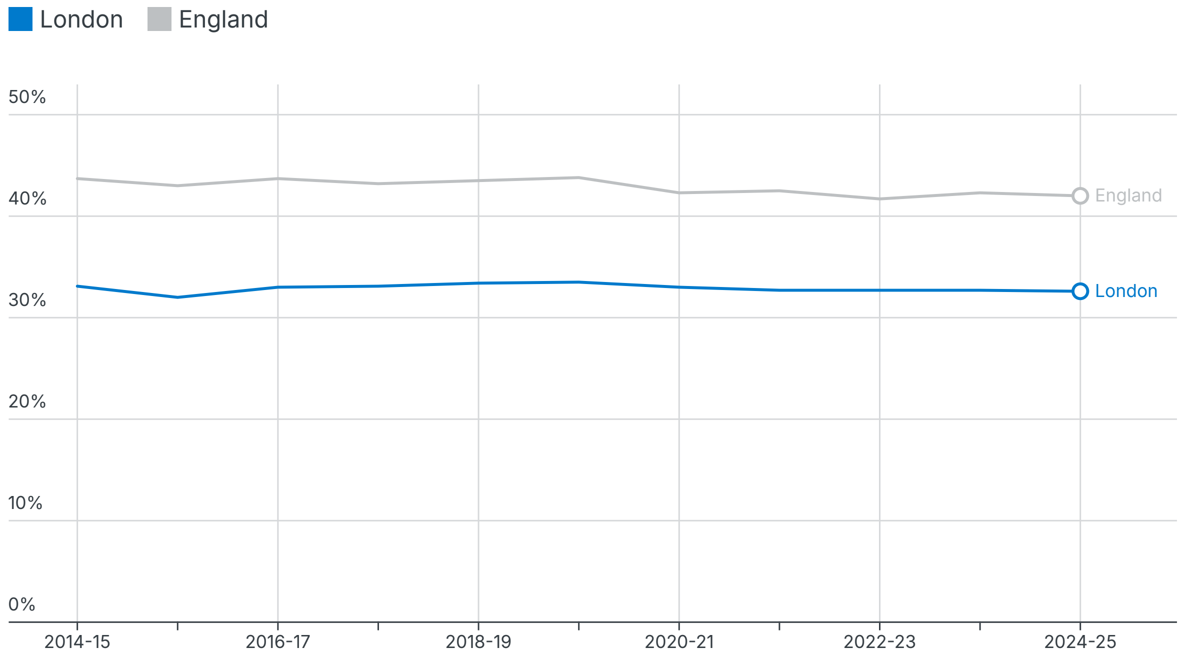
View interactive chart online

Since 2014, renewable electricity generation in London has increased by around 65%. It reached 1,463 GWh in 2024, the highest level recorded over the period shown. This follows revised figures of 1,456 GWh in 2022 and 1,395 GWh in 2023, indicating that generation has remained above pre-2020 levels in recent years. Revisions to the 2022 and 2023 data reflect updates from suppliers and the incorporation of more up-to-date information, meaning the chart differs from last year's report.

Total electricity consumption in London in 2023 was 34,642 GWh, the latest data available from LEGGI, meaning that local renewable electricity generation accounted for around 4% of London's electricity consumption in that year.

Household waste recycling rate

Percent of collected household waste that is recycled



GLA City Intelligence

Source: DEFRA

Note: Supplementary LLO Indicator | Local authority collected waste management - annual results

View interactive chart online

Recycling helps reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the entire product lifecycle, from extraction to disposal. By recycling more, London households help to reduce the need for raw materials, minimise landfill waste, and lower energy consumption associated with manufacturing new products.

The recycling rate in London has remained broadly unchanged over the last three years at 32.7%, with the latest data for 2024/25 showing a similar level at 32.6%. Since 2014/15, London's household waste recycling rate has been consistently below that of England. Nationally, recycling rates increased slightly to 42.3% in 2023/24 before falling marginally to 42.0% in 2024/25, and remain below the peak of 43.8% observed in 2019/20.

Air Quality

View online

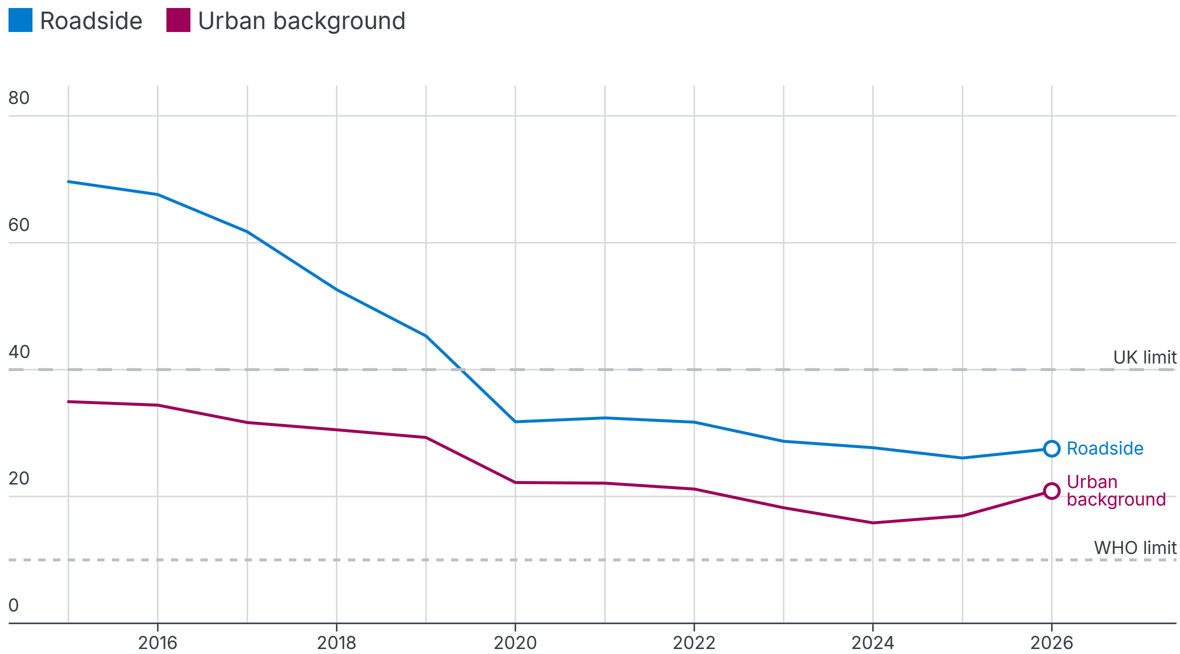
London-Level Outcome

Londoners are breathing clean air

There is strong evidence linking adverse health impacts to levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) and particulate matter (PM), especially the smaller-sized particulate matter (PM2.5). This section presents the latest data on air quality at the roadside and in the urban background.

Nitrogen dioxide at the roadside and urban background

Annual mean concentration of NO_2, micrograms per cubic metre (µg/m³), 2015-2026



GLA City Intelligence

Source: London Air, Air Quality England, UK-Air.

Note: Core LLO Indicator

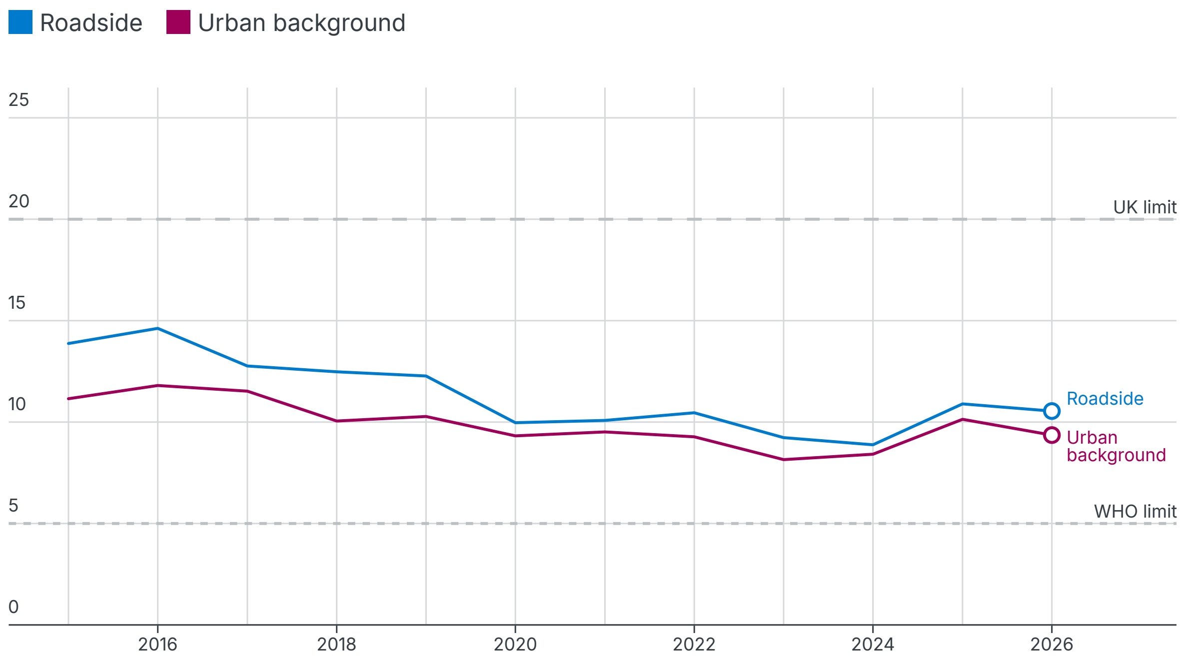
View interactive chart online

The monthly average roadside and urban background concentration of NO_2 in January 2026 was 28 µg/ m³ and 21 µg/ m³ respectively, compared with 26 µg/ m³ and 17 µg/ m³ in January 2025. Urban background NO_2 concentrations are generally lower than roadside concentrations due to the distance from the main pollutant source, that is vehicular traffic on roads. The averages were calculated from air quality monitoring sites in Central, Inner and Outer London.

For both site types, concentrations have followed a broad downward trend since 2015, despite some monthly variation. The January 2026 values remain well below the UK legal annual limit of 40 µg/ m³, but above the World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guideline target of 10 µg/ m³. This means that, although NO_2 levels in London are much lower than at the start of the series, they remain above the level recommended by the WHO.

Particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) at the roadside and urban background

Annual mean concentration of $PM_{2.5}$, micrograms per cubic metre (µg/m³), 2015-2026



GLA City Intelligence

Source: London Air, Air Quality England, UK-Air.

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

The annual mean roadside concentration of $PM_{2.5}$in 2026 was 11 µg/ m³, unchanged from 2025 at 11 µg/ m³. The annual mean urban background concentration of $PM_{2.5}$in 2026 was 9 µg/ m³, down from 10 µg/ m³ in 2025. As is the case for NO_2, $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations in the urban background are also lower than those in roadside areas, albeit marginally and the difference has reduced over time.

The averages were calculated from air quality monitoring sites in Central, Inner and Outer London. For both site types, the averages remain well below the requirements of UK legislation, which state that the annual average concentration must not exceed 20 µg/ m³, but remain above the WHO Air Quality Guideline target of 5 µg/ m³.

Green and wild spaces

View online

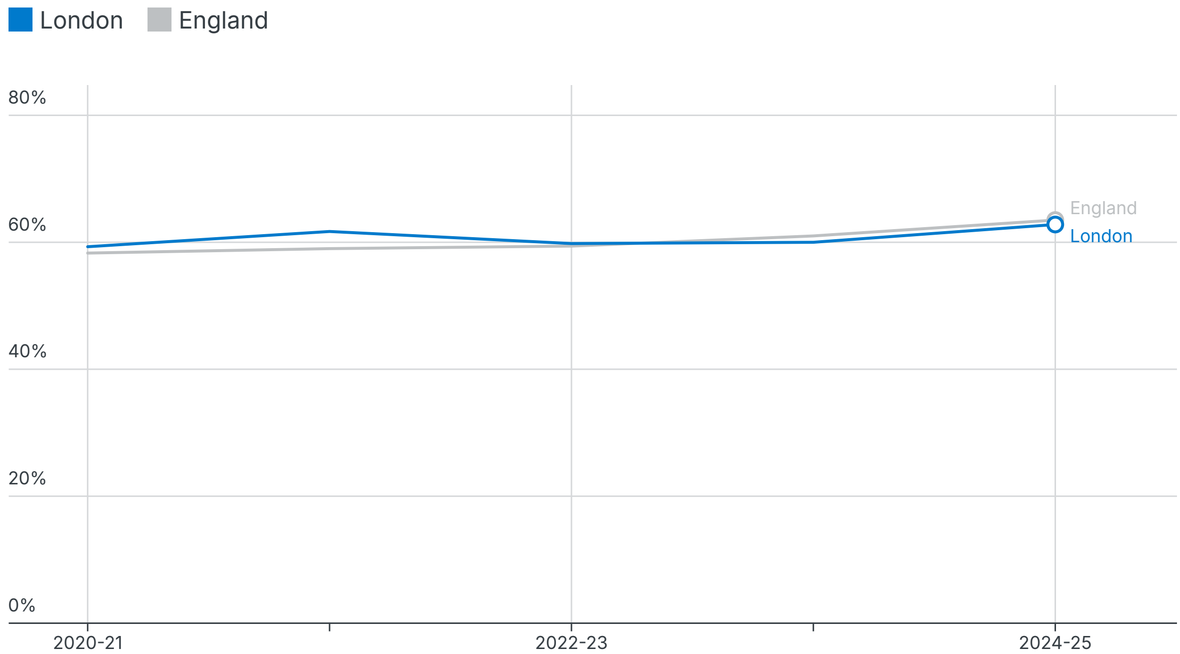
London-Level Outcome

Londoners can enjoy green and wild spaces across the capital

Parks, woodlands, nature reserves, riversides and other open spaces play a vital role in Londoners' health and wellbeing, offering places for recreation, relaxation and contact with nature. This section presents indicators on people's connection to nature, access to open spaces, biodiversity and green cover across London.

Connections with nature

Percentage of adult Londoners who agree/strongly agree/completely agree that they 'feel part of nature'



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Natural England (2024) People and Nature Surveys for England

Note: Core LLO Indicator | Adults' data Q1 to Q17 (1 April 2020 to 30th June 2024). 7th Release. UK Data Service.

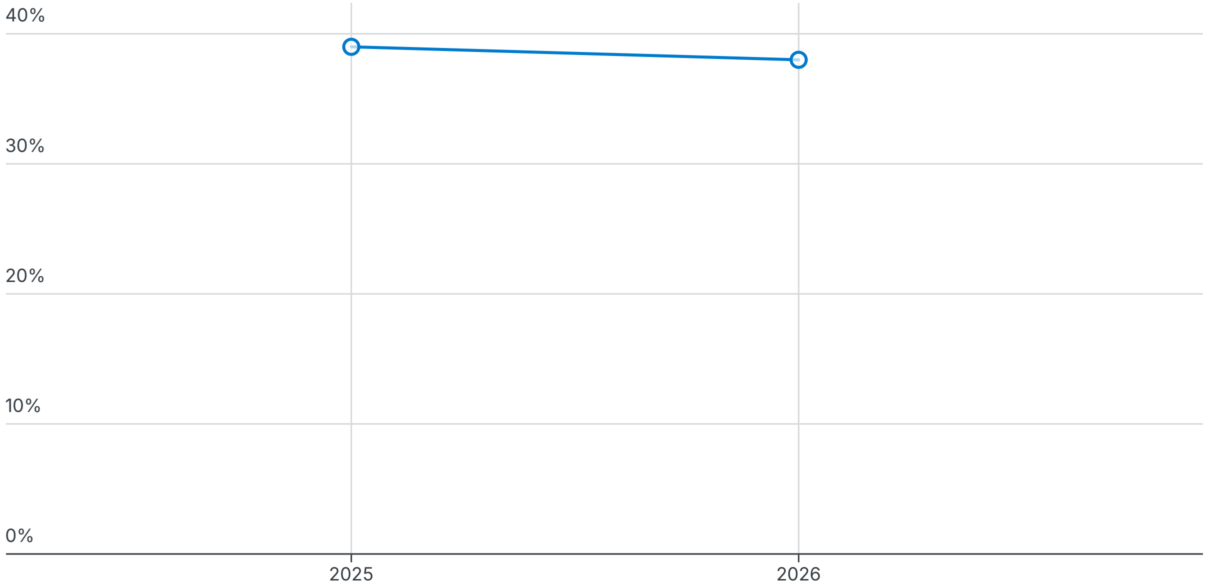
View interactive chart online

The People and Nature Survey by Natural England collects information on adults' and children's experiences and views about the natural environment, and its contribution to health and wellbeing. The question on whether people feel part of nature provides an indication of whether they are able to access and enjoy green and wild spaces.

The latest available London figure shows that 62.8% of adult Londoners reported feeling part of nature in 2024/25, compared with 59.3% in 2020/21. Due to low sample sizes in the survey, the indicator has not been updated for this edition but will be in due course when a more robust estimate becomes available.

Access to public open spaces

Percentage of residential addresses in London that fall within an Area of Deficiency in access to Public Open Space (AoDPOS)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL)

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

For Londoners to enjoy green and wild space and its multiple benefits, it is important that all Londoners have access to public open space. The London Plan defines seven categories of public open space, based on the size of the sites and the facilities they offer, including acceptable distances from home.

Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL), the capital's environment records centre, has developed an approach to estimate Londoners' access to public open space based on walking distances along roads and paths. Areas within acceptable distances to public open space are calculated using network analysis, while areas outside these calculated spaces are classified as Areas of Deficiency in Access to Public Open Space (AODPOS). As of 2026, 38% of residential addresses in London fell within an AODPOS, down slightly from 38.85% in 2025.

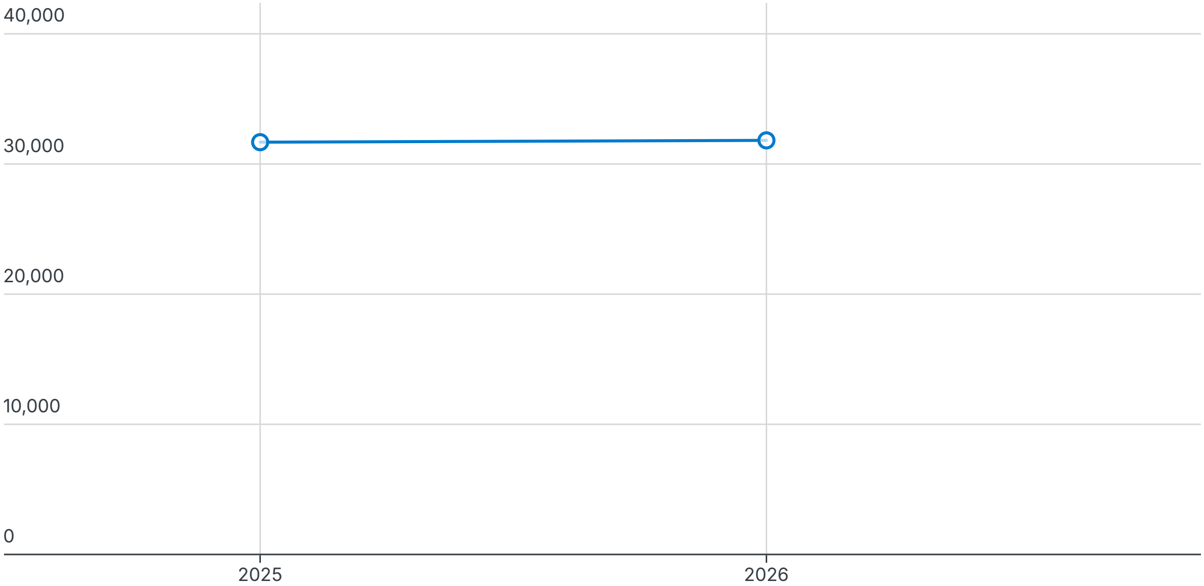
The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) also publishes statistics on access to green and blue space in England[24]. These provide a useful wider

[24] Defra (2026), 'Access to green and blue space in England'.

benchmark but are not directly comparable with GiGL's AODPOS measure because they use different datasets, definitions and access standards.

Biodiversity

Total area (ha) in London designated a site of importance for nature conservation (SINC)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL)

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

London's most valuable sites for wildlife are recognised as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs). This is a non-statutory designation, but SINCs are still afforded a high level of protection within the planning system. Development that negatively impacts on a SINC will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances and where mitigation can be proven from the beginning. The amount of area covered by SINCs in London provides an indication of the extent of wild spaces across London.

As of 2026, data compiled by GiGL finds that the total area designated as SINC in London is 31,815 hectares, up slightly from 31,676 hectares in 2025[25]. GiGL's data indicates that between 2012 and 2026 there was an increase of 1,697 hectares in land designated as SINC, increasing the coverage of London from 19.2% to 20.2%.

Green cover

Percentage of London classified green using aerial photography

[25] This is a core London-level outcome indicator.

[26] Greater London Authority (2026), London's Green Cover

The GLA's Green Cover Map[26] provides estimates of how much of London is green, specifically tree canopy cover and green cover. The latest update published in 2024 was generated via computer modelling techniques, using aerial imagery primarily from 2022. London's tree canopy cover is estimated at 19.6% (with a ±0.3% margin of error) and its green cover at 51.7% (±1.11%). Previously, London's canopy cover was estimated at 21.06% (± 0.2%) and green cover estimated at 47.6% to 50.7% (in both instances, underlying aerial imagery was from 2016).

While the latest data might suggest a decrease in tree canopy cover, given the margins of error in the modelling there is no statistically significant change in canopy cover across London within the timeframe (2016 to 2022), and improvements to the methodology are also likely to have contributed to the change in figure. Please see the green cover map methodology report for more information about the accuracy and limitations of the modelling approach, via the London Datastore green cover page[27], and canopy cover page[28].

[27] Greater London Authority (2024), Green Cover 2024
[28] Greater London Authority (2024), Tree Canopy Cover 2024

Climate change resilience

View online

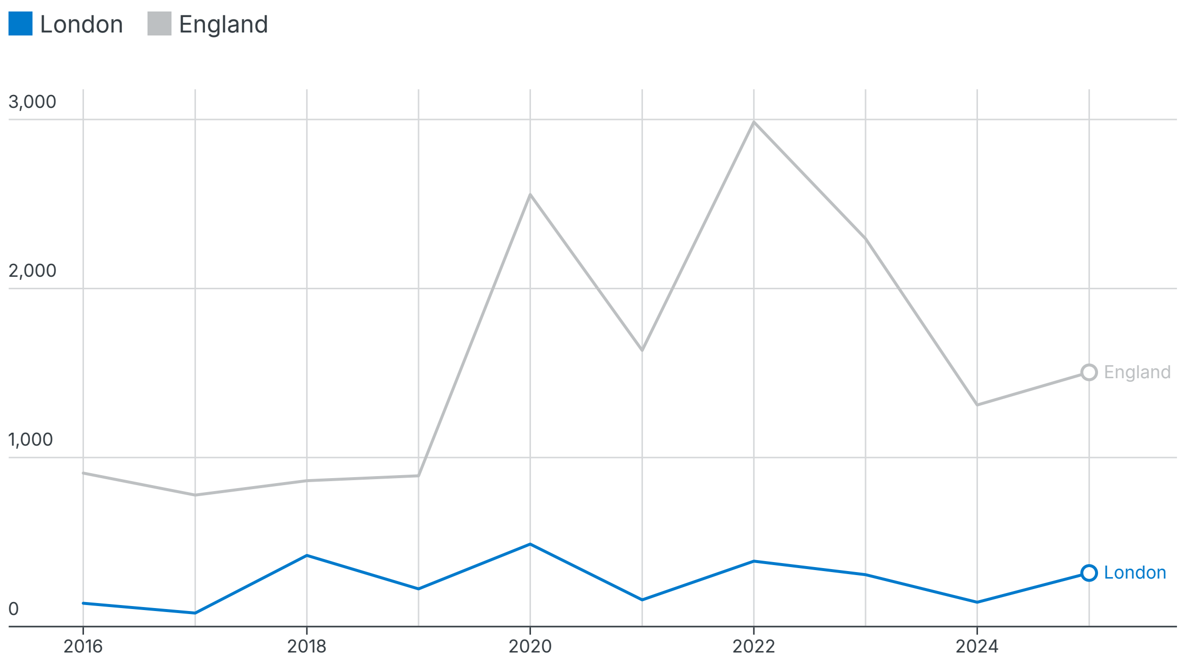
London-Level Outcome

London is resilient to extreme weather and the impacts of climate change

The London Climate Resilience Review[29] published in June 2024 was an independent report, commissioned by the Mayor of London, to take stock of London's preparations for climate impacts including recommended actions. The three most urgent climate risks facing London are: 1) extreme heat; 2) drought; and 3) surface water flooding. Indicators for each are provided below. These risks and resulting negative impacts are likely to increase even with significant investment in adaptation measures.

Heat-associated deaths

Estimated number of heat-associated deaths in London



GLA City Intelligence

Source: UKHSA Heat mortality monitoring reports 2020-2024, Public Health England

Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

The change in global climate is causing an increase in frequency, duration, and magnitude of extreme heat events, including heatwaves. High temperatures in cities affect infrastructure, worker productivity and have significant effects on health and wellbeing, particularly for vulnerable populations.

[29] Greater London Authority (2024), The London Climate Resilience Review

The Health Security Agency (UKHSA) defines heat episodes as at least one day with an amber Heat-Health alert in at least one region and/or a mean Central England Temperature of at least 20°C. UKHSA reports the number of all-cause excess heat deaths that occur during heat episodes across the summer period. Although the actual number of heat-associated deaths is likely to be higher, this measure reflects population vulnerability and exposure, with projections indicating an increase without further heat adaptation[30].

Data from UKHSA show that in 2025, London experienced five heat episodes, resulting in an estimated 317 excess heat-associated deaths. This represents an increase on the previous year, although it remains below the peak levels seen in 2018 and 2020. Since 2016, the number of excess deaths in London has varied year on year, broadly in line with the trend for England.

These statistics were calculated using death registration data, comparing daily deaths during heat episodes with baseline daily deaths. Definitions and methods for the calculation are consistent from 2020 onwards. Previous reports were published by Public Health England and only statistically significant values are included.

Drought and water supply

Number of days in drought emergency measures (level 3 and above)

During prolonged dry periods, water companies put in place different measures to protect water supply. There are four levels of drought plan measures used in England; level 3 and above are defined as emergency measures to protect supply and involve non-essential water use bans. Measures must be timely and proportionate to the drought risk to avoid the need for even more severe level 4 restrictions.

In 2025, there were zero days in which emergency drought measures (level 3 and above) were implemented in London, indicating that no severe drought conditions triggered this level of response.[31] This continues the recent trend of no emergency measures being reported in the preceding two years, with the last occurrence in London recorded in 2022.

While the absence of emergency drought measures in recent years is positive, it should be interpreted with caution. Evidence from the Environment Agency indicates that, despite no formal escalation to emergency measures, there can still be underlying pressures on water supply during dry periods[32].

Flooding

Number of properties flooded in London each year

[30] UK Climate Risk Independent Assessment (CCRA3), 2021
[31] This is a core London-level outcome indicator.
[32] Water resources 2023-2024: analysis of the water industry's annual water resources performance - GOV.UK

Surface water is the biggest flood risk facing London and monitoring the number of properties flooded assesses the real-world impact on Londoners. London's Surface Water Strategy[33] published in May 2025 estimates that there are almost 320,000 properties at high risk of flooding in London.

Data on flooded properties is collected by Environment Agency Flood Resilience Teams and is based on reported incidents. As such, it is likely to underestimate the true number of properties affected, as not all flooding incidents are reported.

In 2024, around 18 properties in South London and 121 properties in North London were reported to have flooded[34]. Most of these incidents occurred in September 2024, a period during which London faced surface water flooding resulting from heavy rainfall[35].

In 2025, reported incidents were more limited. Following a thunderstorm on 19 July 2025, there were reports of two internally flooded properties (one confirmed and one unconfirmed) and one externally flooded property in the Colindale area, along the Silkstream (a tributary of the River Brent). No property flooding was reported in South London from fluvial, tidal or surface water sources during this period.

These figures should be treated as indicative only, given known limitations in reporting. Improvements to flood incident reporting are expected over time following the publication of new national flood investigation guidance[36] by Defra in April 2025, which aims to support Lead Local Flood Authorities and standardise reporting across England.

Further Reading

- London Energy and Greenhouse Gas Inventory (LEGGI) Data Explorer
- C40 Knowledge Hub Greenhouse Gas Emissions Dashboard
- London Air Quality Network: Current and Forecast Levels of Air Pollution
- Breathe London: Air Quality sensing network
- Public Realm Trees
- LGIF
- LBSM2 Map
- Green Cover
- Air Quality
- River Health

[33] Greater London Authority (2025), London Surface Water Strategy
[34] This is a core London-level outcome indicator.
[35] Met Office (2024), 'Record-breaking rainfall for some this September'
[36] Department for Environment, Food, & Rural Affairs (2025), Investigating a flood: guidance for lead local flood authorities

Transport

A subset of the Mayor’s Transport Strategy tracker metrics

Read online

Transport enables Londoners to access employment, education, services and social activities. A reliable, affordable and sustainable transport system supports economic activity and helps reduce environmental impacts. This chapter examines how people travel around London and progress towards more active and sustainable travel.

The indicators presented are a subset of the Mayor’s Transport Strategy tracker metrics, which are used to monitor progress against the aims of the strategy. More detailed coverage of travel and transport trends in London can be found in TfL’s annual Travel in London report.

London-Level Outcome

London’s transport system enables everyone to get to where they want to go safely, sustainably, reliably and affordably

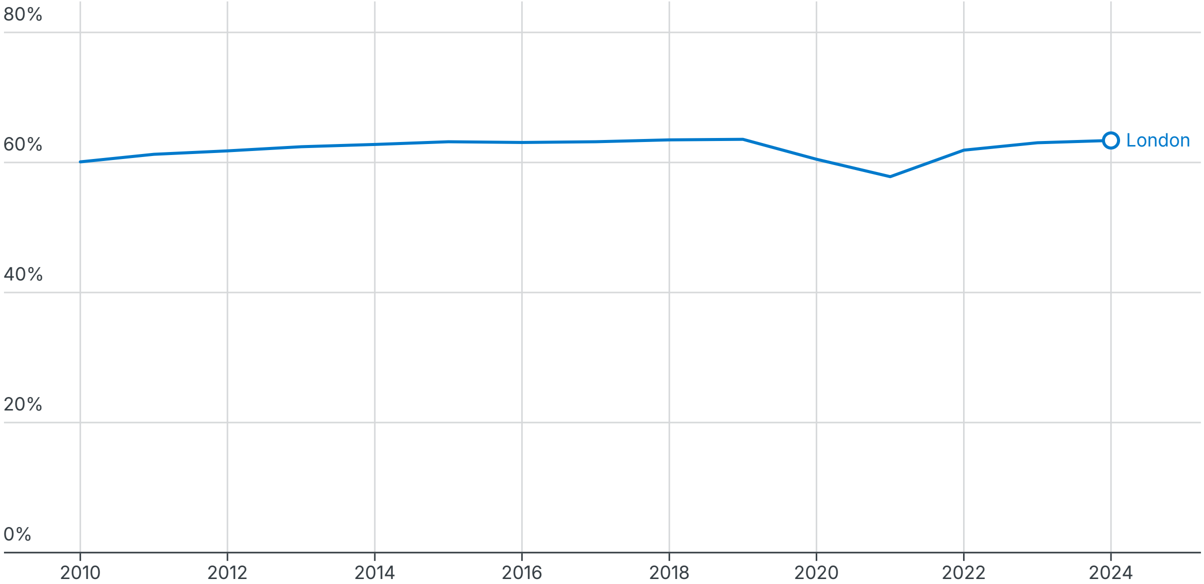
Sustainable mode share

View online

Increasing the proportion of trips made by walking, cycling and public transport is central to reducing congestion, improving air quality and supporting healthier lives in London. This section provides indicators on how people travel in London, the proportion of trips made by sustainable modes, and how travel behaviour has changed over time.

Active, efficient and sustainable mode share

Percentage of trips made by walking, cycling and public transport (%)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Transport for London

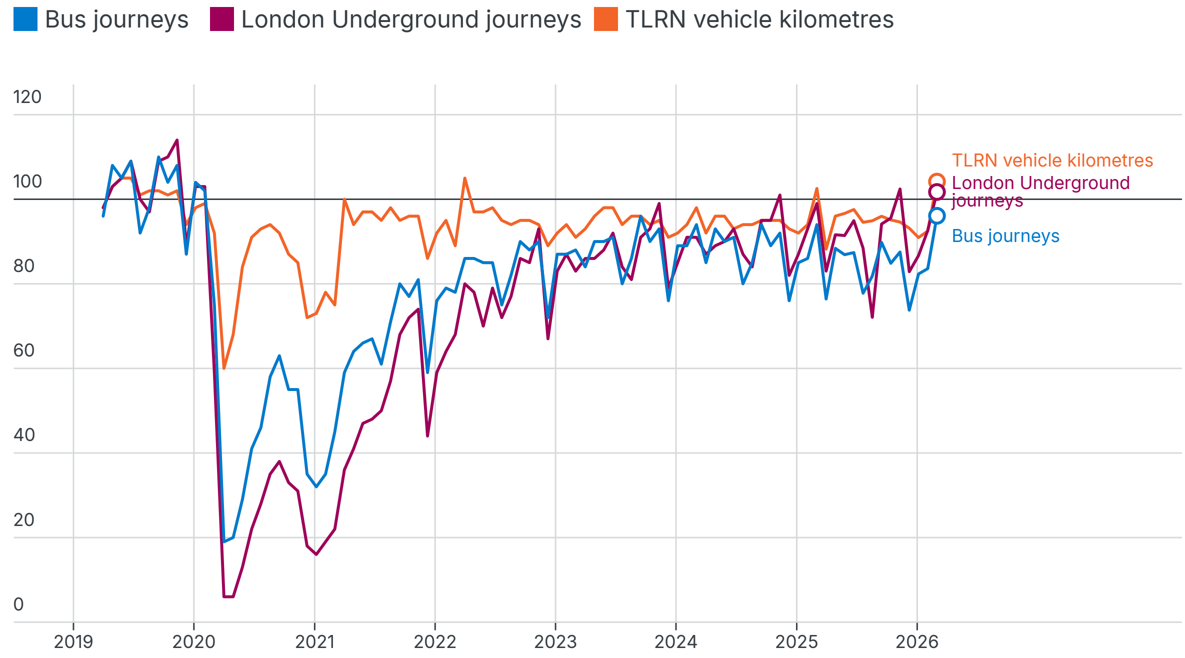
Note: Core LLO Indicator

View interactive chart online

The Mayor's Transport Strategy set a target for 80% of trips in London to be made by walking, cycling or public transport by 2041. The proportion of total trips made by these modes steadily increased from 60.1% in 2010 to 63.6% in 2019. Following a decline during the pandemic, the mode share increased to 63.4% in 2024, still 0.2 percentage points lower than in 2019.

Travel demand by mode

Travel demand on the principal modes, index 2019/20=100.



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Transport for London

Note:

View interactive chart online

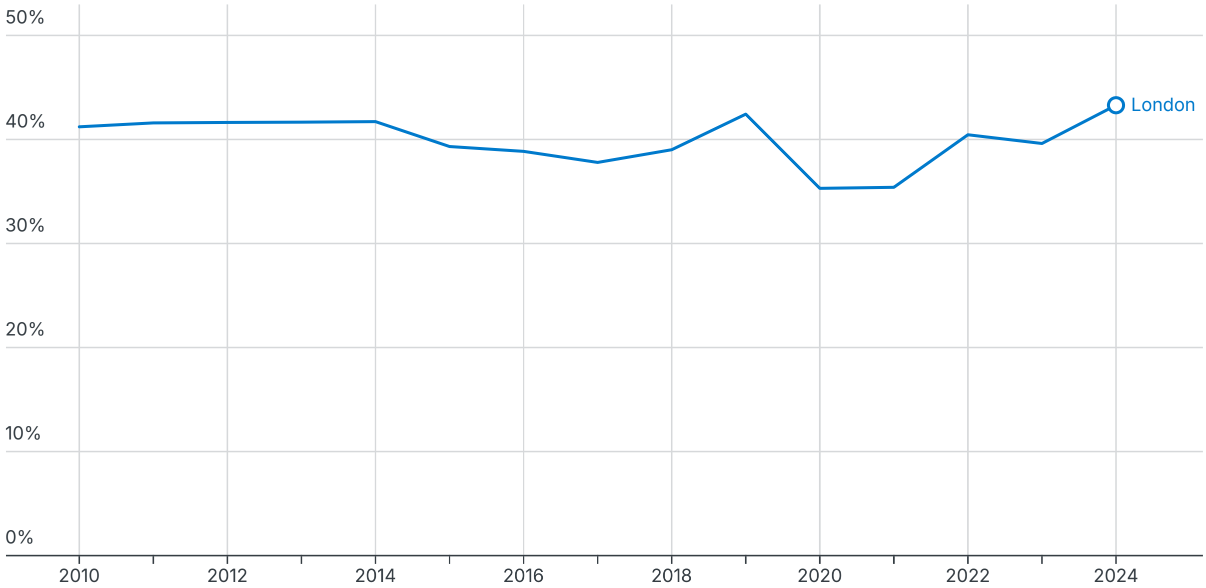
Demand for travel on the London Underground, bus and Transport for London Road Network (TLRN) has continued to recover following the pandemic. Towards the end of 2024 it achieved what appears to be a broadly settled position, albeit at a lower level than prior to the pandemic.

In 2024/25, London Underground demand had returned to 91% of the pre-pandemic baseline (2019/20), and bus demand was 87% of pre-pandemic levels. Demand on the TLRN was 95% of pre-pandemic levels in 2024/25, similar to the preceding years.

Different factors may explain why demand has not returned to pre-pandemic levels, including: changes in travel behaviour, more widespread adoption of hybrid working, continuing cost-of-living pressures, and operational difficulties affecting some networks. Lower overall public transport demand, and the lost growth that was previously assumed across the pandemic-affected years, have implications for progress towards the Mayor's active travel and mode share targets.

Active travel

Proportion of London residents undertaking 20 minutes of active travel per day



GLA City Intelligence

Source: London Travel Demand Survey

Note:

View interactive chart online

To promote the health of Londoners, the Mayor's Transport Strategy set a goal for all London residents to undertake at least 20 minutes of active travel per day by 2041, defined as either walking or cycling. By measuring the number of residents who report doing at least 20 minutes of walking or cycling, we can show how many are achieving minimum healthy levels of activity through active travel alone. Note, however, that this does not include other forms of physical activity, such as sport, which are additional to this measure.

This is measured using the London Travel Demand Survey (LTDS), which provides a daily snapshot of travel behaviour. It is acknowledged that a proportion of residents who are routinely active may not have travelled on the LTDS travel day (typically the day before the survey interview). Therefore, the Mayor's Transport Strategy aim for all London residents translates to 70% of the LTDS sample of London residents achieving 20 minutes of active travel on the day they were surveyed.

Historically, the proportion of Londoners achieving at least 20 minutes of active travel per day has been relatively flat at around 40%. This fell during the pandemic largely due to the significant decline in public transport usage. In 2024/25 the proportion of Londoners achieving 20 minutes of active travel was 43%, three percentage points higher than in 2022/23 (40%). This is slightly higher than pre-pandemic, likely due to an increase in active travel as public transport demand remains lower than before the pandemic.

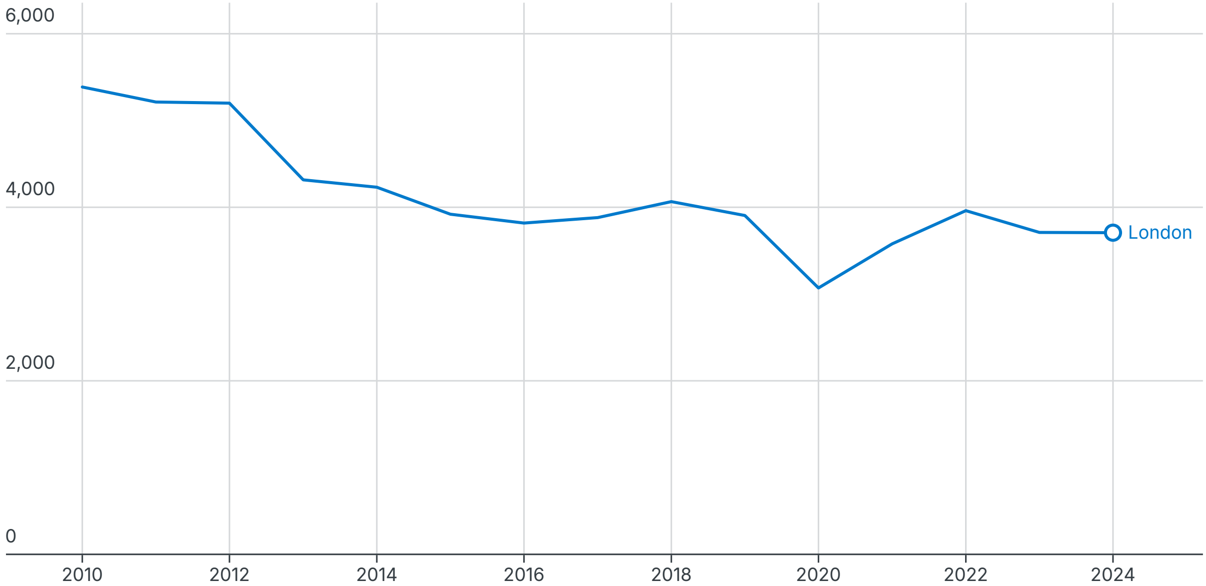
Safety and accessibility

View online

London's transport system must be safe, inclusive and accessible for everyone, regardless of age, ability or background. This section provides indicators on road safety and the accessibility of public transport.

Safety on London's roads

Number of people killed or seriously injured on London's roads



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Transport for London

Note:

View interactive chart online

The number of people killed or seriously injured[37] on London's roads trended downwards over the decade from 2010 to 2020. During the pandemic, reduced traffic levels led to a further decline in fatalities and serious injuries. However, 2021 and 2022 saw a reversion to numbers and patterns of injury seen prior to the pandemic, as travel demand returned.

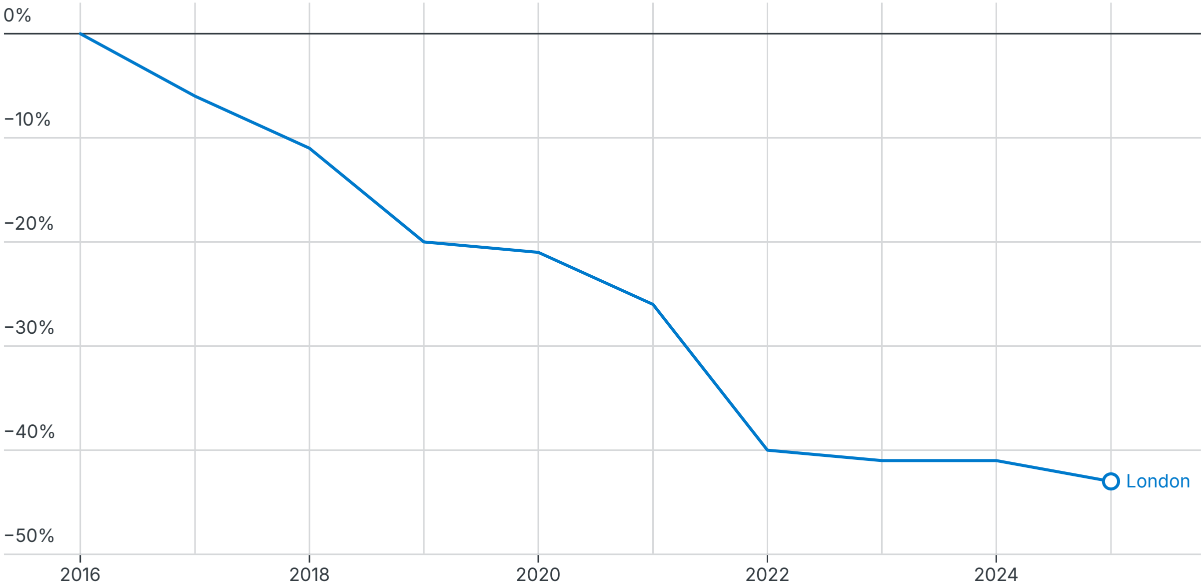
The Mayor's Transport Strategy sets out the ambition for reducing road casualties in London, with a target to deliver a 70% reduction (against the 2010-14 baseline) in the number of people killed or seriously injured on London's roads by 2030.

[37] Department for Transport's STATS19 road casualty definitions. Serious injuries include, for example, fractures, internal injuries, severe cuts, severe shock requiring medical treatment, or admission to hospital as an in-patient. See DfT (2024), 'Road casualty statistics: definitions, symbols and conventions'.

Data for 2023 and 2024 suggests a return to the pre-pandemic trend of declining road casualties. In 2024 there was a 24 per cent reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured compared to the 2010-14 baseline.

Accessibility of the transport network

Reduction from the 2016 baseline in the additional journey time using only the step-free transport network.



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Transport for London

Note:

View interactive chart online

Improving the physical accessibility of public transport is key to creating a fully inclusive network for all. People who are older or disabled or who are travelling with luggage or young children can sometimes find it hard to get around and often face longer journeys if they are only able to use the step-free network.

The Mayor’s Transport Strategy aims to reduce this journey time differential, with a working aim of a 50% reduction from a 2016 baseline by 2041. Good progress has been made towards this target in recent years with a 43% improvement on the baseline recorded in 2025.

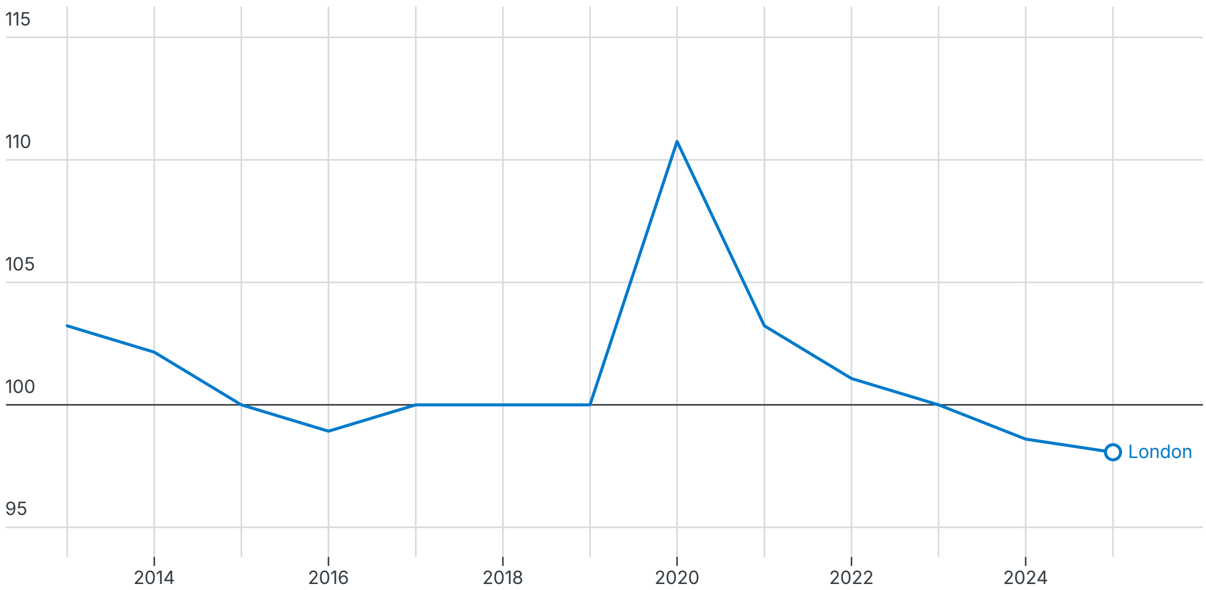
Reliability and quality

View online

Reliable, affordable and high-quality transport underpins London's economy and daily life, enabling people to access jobs, education and services.
This section includes indicators on the quality of the bus network and crowding on the rail network. Transport for London publishes data on Bus performance and Underground services performance each period.

Quality of the bus network

Average bus network speed in London, index (100=2015).



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Transport for London

Note:

View interactive chart online

The annual average bus network speed is used to track progress against the Mayor's Transport Strategy's 'quality' outcome. This set a target of a 10% increase in bus speeds (from a 2015 baseline) by 2030. The chart above shows the trend for this metric since 2013, indexed to the 2015 baseline.

Before the pandemic, bus speeds had been declining, but pandemic-related reductions in travel demand led to an increase in bus speeds in 2020. Due to the return of car traffic, and therefore greater congestion, the large increase in average speed seen in 2020 has fallen back. In 2025, the London-wide average bus speed was 9.1 miles per hour.

Crowding on the rail network

The Mayor's Transport Strategy also sets an ambition to reduce the proportion of rail kilometres travelled in crowded conditions by 10-20 per cent compared to a 2016 baseline of 10.3 per cent.

This measure has proven to be highly sensitive to pandemic-associated demand fluctuations. In 2020 it effectively fell to zero but has since fluctuated at around two per cent. Post-pandemic patterns of customer demand, particularly during the peak period, are driving this reduction in crowding compared to pre-pandemic levels.

Furthermore, the introduction of the Elizabeth line provided additional capacity and is alleviating crowding on the London Underground network. Despite this progress, without further investment in capacity on our network, it is expected that crowding will increase in line with London's growing population and economic activity levels.

Further Reading

- Travel in London Annual Overview

Crime

Safety and patterns of crime across London

Read online

Feeling safe is essential to Londoners' wellbeing and to the functioning of the city. Experiences of crime and perceptions of safety vary across communities and influence trust, mobility and opportunity. This chapter reviews trends in recorded crime and other indicators of safety in London.

The seven featured indicators mirror the Tier 1 and Tier 2 measures in the Outcomes Framework for the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan (PCP). The high-level indicators of total notifiable offences and the victimisation rate provide an understanding of the overall crime picture in London. These indicators relate directly to the Mayor's manifesto commitment of 'Making London safer' and the associated outcome, 'London is a safe city'.

The other Tier 2 indicators relate to the policing and community safety priorities agreed for London, as set out in the PCP:

- Reducing violence and criminal exploitation (violence with injury indicator)
- Improving the criminal justice system and supporting victims (victim satisfaction and proven reoffending rate indicators)
- Building safer, more confident communities (proportion of Londoners worried about crime indicator)
- Supporting and overseeing reform of the MPS (proportion of Londoners who trust the MPS).

London-Level Outcome

London is a safe city

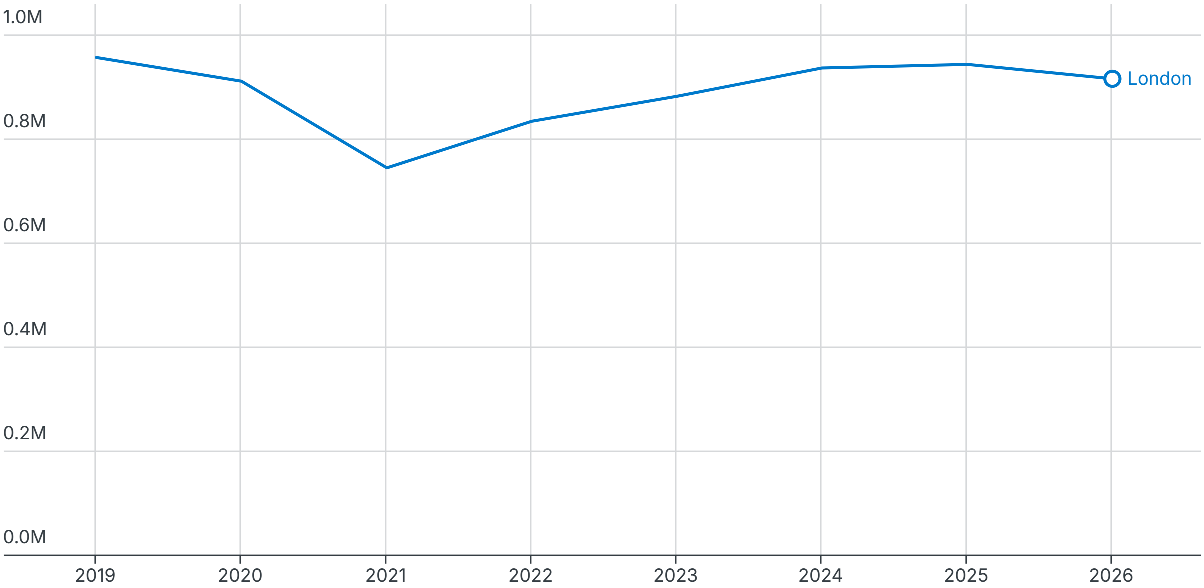
Levels of Crime and Disorder

View online

This section examines crime and disorder within London by analysing levels of total notifiable offences, violence with injury offences, victimisation rates and reoffending rates.

Total Notifiable Offences (TNOs)

Number of offences recorded annually by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)



GLA City Intelligence

Source: MOPAC Crime Dashboard, MPS Crime Dashboard

Note: MOPAC data prior to May 2021, and MPS data for May 2021 onwards.

View interactive chart online

Between April 2025 and March 2026, 916,176 offences were recorded across the capital, a decrease of 3% compared to the previous 12-month period when 943,843 offences were recorded. This indicates that the year-on-year increases in offending observed post-pandemic have stabilised.

Overall offence levels remain lower than those observed before the pandemic, when 957,107 were recorded in 2018-19.

Almost half (49.4%) of the offences recorded between April 2025 and March 2026 were acquisitive crimes[38], representing a slight reduction from the year before (53.8%). During the same comparison period, the proportion of offences that were violent crimes[39] increased from 27.8% to 30.2%.

During 2025/26, there continued to be an uneven distribution in the volume of crime across London, with Westminster, Newham, and Camden continuing to log the highest total offence counts.

[38] Theft, burglary, robbery, and motor vehicle crime.
[39] Violence against the person and sexual offences.

Violence with Injury

Number of offences recorded monthly by the MPS

GLA City Intelligence

Source: MPS Monthly Crime Dashboard

Note:

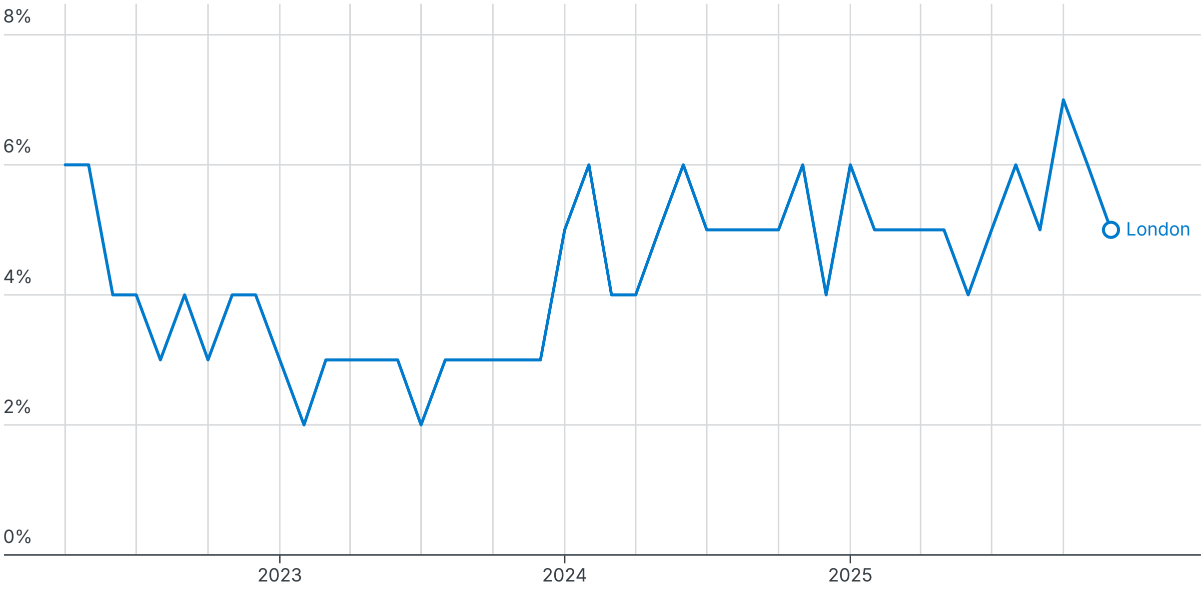
View interactive chart online

The chart illustrates monthly volatility in violence with injury offending. Annual offending rose 2.5% from 2021/22 to 2023/24, before dropping sharply by 18.4% in 2024/25. Offences then decreased by an additional 0.9% in 2025/26.

Levels of specific violent crime types diverged between 2024/25 and 2025/26. Homicides fell by 6.5% and knife crime dropped by 21.2%. Conversely, stalking and harassment rose by 14.3%, sexual offences rose by 5.3%, and domestic-related violence with injury rose very slightly by 0.4%.

Victimisation rate

Percentage experiencing something they consider to be a crime during the month/ quarter prior



GLA City Intelligence

Source: MOPAC, Public Attitude Survey (PAS)

Note:

View interactive chart online

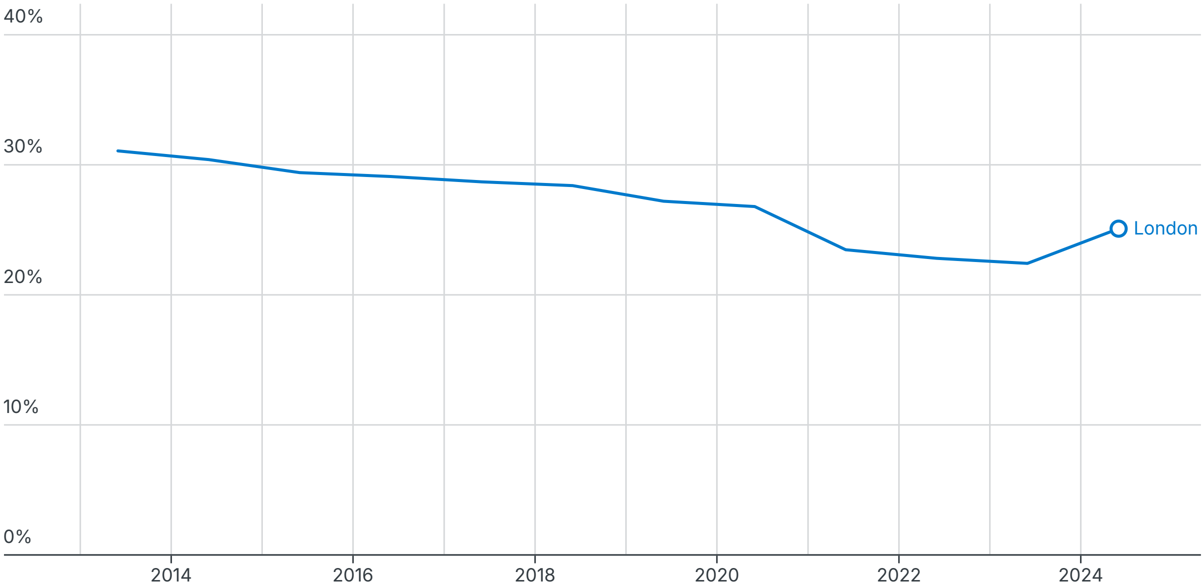
The Public Attitude Survey (PAS) provides an understanding of Londoners' perceptions and experiences of policing and crime within London. The survey identifies victim prevalence by asking respondents whether they have experienced something that they consider a crime or anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the specified period.

In 2025, an average of 5% of survey respondents reported being victimised in the previous month. This mirrors the 2024 rate and marks a slight increase from 2023, which averaged 3%.

During the same period, 12% of respondents reported experiencing ASB in the previous quarter, up from 10% in 2024. Police-recorded anti-social behaviour incidents remained stable, with calls shifting slightly from 254,334 in the year ending April 2024 to 259,262 in the year ending April 2025.

Proven reoffending rate

Percentage of offender cohort that committed a further proven offence within 12 months



GLA City Intelligence

Source: Ministry of Justice, Proven Reoffending Statistics April to June 2024

Note:

View interactive chart online

After a decade of year-on-year reductions, London's reoffending rates have increased in the year ending June 2024[40].

Of the 37,348 adults in the July 2023 – June 2024 cohort, 24.8% reoffended within 12 months, up from 22.4% the previous year. The adult reoffending rate remains higher for men (25.5%) than for women (20%).

During the same period, 29.7% of youth offenders reoffended within a year. Like the adult cohort, the male youth reoffending rate is notably higher than the female rate (32% versus 13.1%).

London's adult reoffending rate is lower than the national average for England and Wales (24.8% versus 28.6%). However, the capital's youth reoffending rate tracks the national average more closely (29.7% versus 32.1%).

[40] From October 2015 onwards, reoffending data was collected using different data sources to previous quarters. Caution should be taken when comparing data either side of this change. The rate is determined by the reoffending of offenders who were either released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction, reprimand, or warning, within the one-year follow-up period.

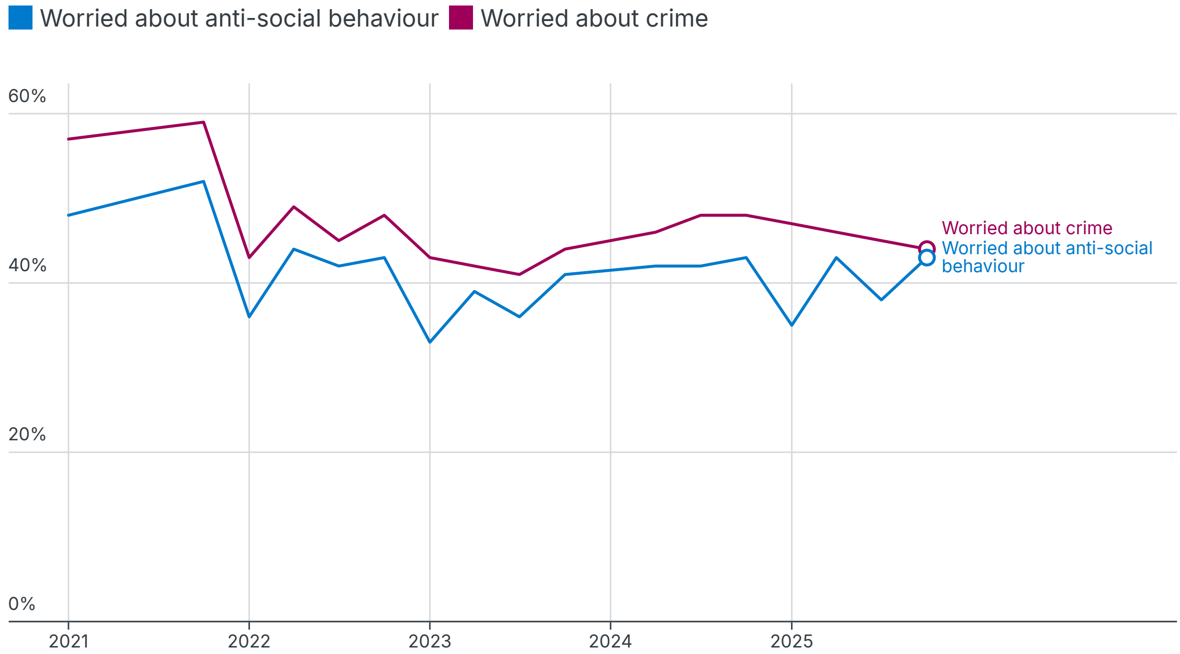
Perceptions of crime and disorder

View online

This section looks at Londoners' perceptions of crime and disorder in the capital and the extent to which they are worried about crime and anti-social behaviour.

Worried about Crime

Percentage of Londoners worried about crime and ASB in their local area



GLA City Intelligence

Source: MOPAC, MOPAC Trust and Confidence Dashboard

Note:

View interactive chart online

Long-term trends show a significant increase in the proportion of Londoners worried about local crime and anti-social behaviour. However, the latest Public Attitude Survey (PAS) data marks a notable reduction from the peaks recorded during the pandemic.[41] In October 2025, 44% of Londoners said they were worried about crime and 43% said they were worried about anti-social behaviour.

When asked what the MPS should prioritise, Londoners said knife crime and violence against women and girls (VAWG) were 'very important' for the MPS to tackle, while ranking drugs, hate crime, and anti-social behaviour (ASB) as lower priorities.

Londoners under 25 are the least worried about ASB, while those aged 45 to 64 are the most concerned. In Q3 2025/26, 68% of Londoners felt safe walking alone in their

[41] Methodological changes in the survey commissioning during the COVID-19 pandemic may have impacted the comparability of the trends shown.

local area after dark, though this dropped to 58% among women. Both figures remained stable compared to Q3 2024/25 when they were 69% and 58% respectively.

Feelings of safety vary widely by borough[42]. While 82% of Merton residents feel safe, that figure reduces to 55% in Hillingdon and Hounslow. A similar gap exists for female respondents, with safety perceptions reducing to 42% in Hillingdon and Hounslow compared to 72% in Richmond upon Thames.

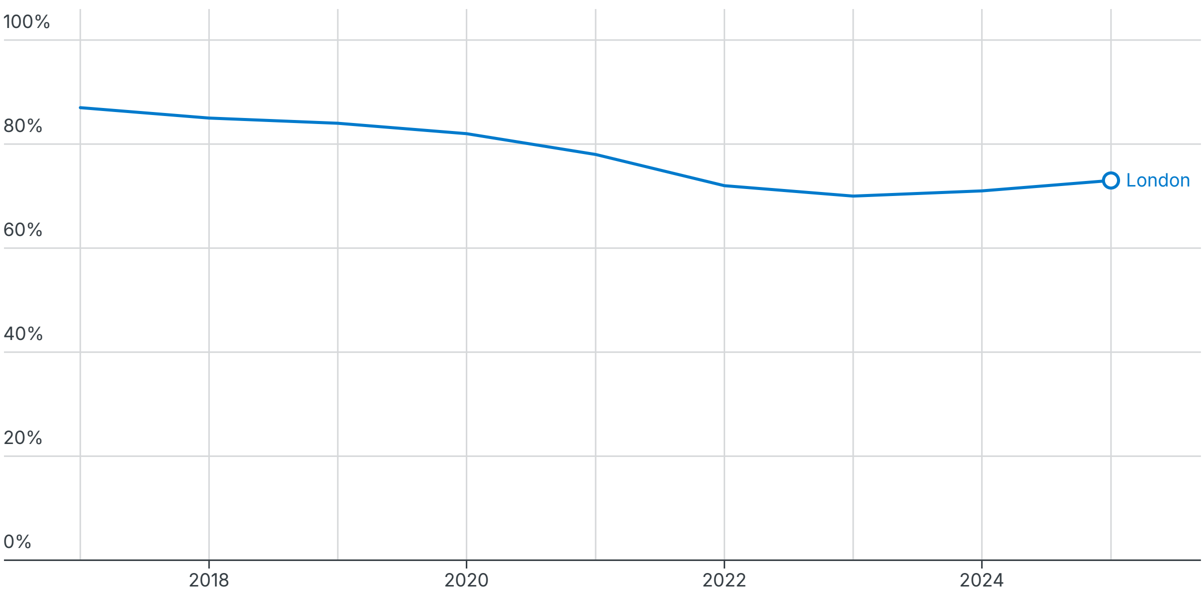
Trust and satisfaction with the Metropolitan Police Service

View online

This section provides two survey measures on trust in the Metropolitan Police Service and satisfaction levels of reporting victims.

Trust in the Metropolitan Police Service

Percentage of survey participants (PAS) who agree that the MPS is an organisation that they can trust



GLA City Intelligence

Source: MOPAC, MOPAC Trust and Confidence Dashboard

Note:

View interactive chart online

In April 2025, 74% of respondents to the PAS survey agreed with the statement that the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) is an organisation they can trust. This was a slight increase on the previous year when it was 71%. However, the longer-term trend suggests that trust in the MPS has declined. In 2018, it was as high as 86% before falling to a low of 69% in 2023.

[42] As measured by MOPAC's Public Attitude Survey (PAS).

Levels of trust in the MPS are not uniform across London; borough rates fluctuate considerably between 59% in Hackney and 82% in Merton.

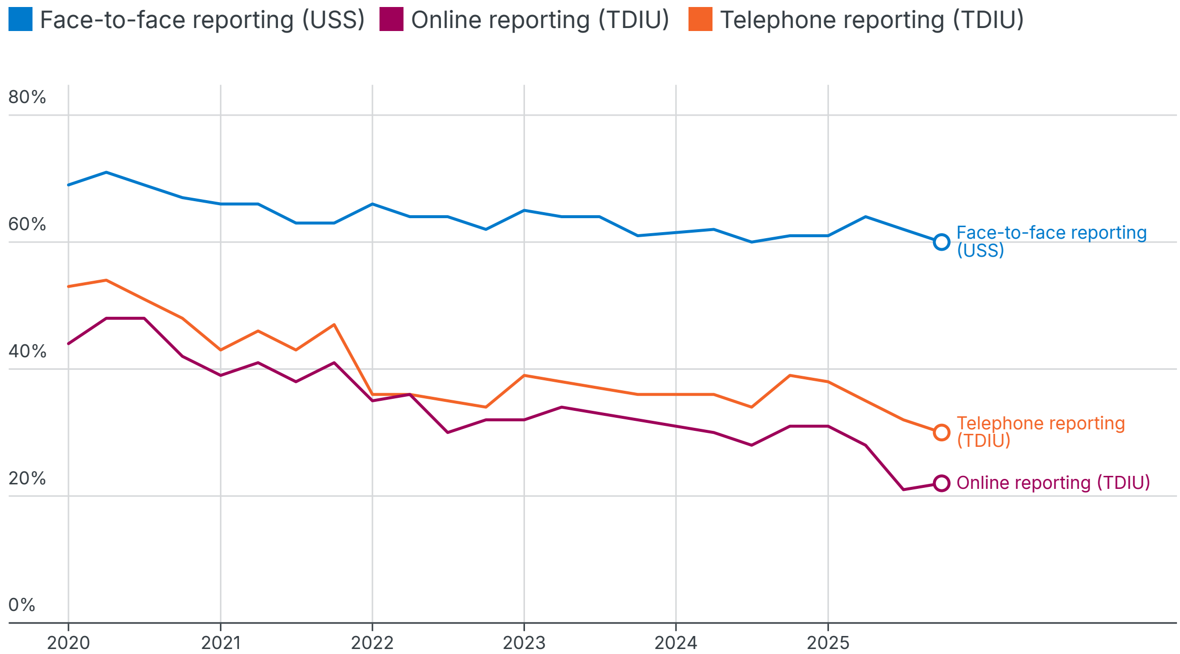
Trust continues to be highest among older residents aged 65+ (78%) and lowest among young adults aged 25–34 (70%).

Respondents with a self-defined disability have consistently lower levels of trust in the MPS than those without a disability.

Furthermore, trust sits 8 points lower than the MPS average for Black and Mixed ethnic respondents (63% and 58% respectively), and 15 points lower for LGBT+ respondents (58%).

Satisfaction level of reporting victims

Percentage of survey participants satisfied with the service they received from the MPS



GLA City Intelligence

Source: MOPAC, MOPAC Victim Satisfaction Dashboard

Note:

View interactive chart online

Over the last few years, the level of satisfaction[43] among victims reporting crime incidents to the police has declined for all three of the main crime reporting methods.[44]

[43] This refers to the level of satisfaction with the overall service provided by the police.

[44] Levels of victim satisfaction with the service that they receive from the Metropolitan Police Service are measured through two separate surveys. The first is the User Satisfaction Survey (USS) for victims who report a high-volume crime to police face-to-face. The second survey is the Telephone Digital Investigation Unit (TDIU) Survey for victims who reported a high-volume crime either online or by telephone to the MPS TDIU.

Despite this, overall satisfaction remains significantly greater for victims who report crime incidents face-to-face.

Victims aged 65 years and over continue to have notably higher levels of satisfaction than any other age group. Conversely, victims aged 16-24 years who report crimes either online or by telephone are consistently less satisfied than the MPS average.

Disabled victims who reported crime incidents face-to-face continue to be significantly less satisfied than non-disabled victims with their reporting experience (52% compared to 67% in Q4 2025/26). However, this disparity is not shown for victims reporting crime incidents either online or by telephone.

Further Reading

- MOPAC Trust and Confidence Dashboard
- MOPAC Victim Satisfaction Dashboard
- MPS Crime Dashboard
- Metropolitan Police Statistics and Data