



**CROYDON
BOROUGH PROFILE**
December 2025

Contents

Executive Summary	2	Health	60
Population growth	12	General health	61
Demographics.....	15	Children and young people’s health	62
Our Residents.....	20	Adults’ health and lifestyle.....	65
Deprivation	23	Disease and poor health	66
IMD 2025 – Overall changes since 2019	23	Life expectancy and cause of death.....	70
IMD 2025 Domains	26	Social care.....	73
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index.....	33	Children in need	73
Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index	34	Looked After Children	77
Education and skills.....	35	Adult safeguarding	81
Standard of schools	35	Adults receiving care.....	81
Early Years	35	Community Safety	85
School attainment.....	37	Crime Offences	85
Further education.....	41	Knife Crime	90
Economy	43	Hate crime.....	91
Businesses	43	Domestic abuse and sexual violence	95
Employment.....	45	Youth Offending	96
People out of work.....	47	Environment and transport	100
Our Youth	48	Environment.....	101
Skill levels of adults	50	Transport.....	103
Housing	51	Fire Services	105
Tenure	51	Fly-tipping	106
Cost of property	53		
Homelessness	55		
Housing Supply.....	57		

Borough Profile 2025

Executive Summary

This Borough Profile provides an overview of key information about the London Borough of Croydon. Based on the analyses of a range of datasets, some potential challenges facing the Council have been highlighted alongside some areas where improvements have taken place.

It is a good first reference point for intelligence about the Borough which can help those involved in commissioning and service provision on behalf of the Council. Also, the detail contained within the document will help our voluntary sector to better understand Croydon's demographic profile.

As data throughout this document is available at different times of the year, it is intended that this document will be updated at least twice a year.

More up to date and relevant data sources are being continually sought so as these become available, more relevant analyses will be produced and contained within future Borough Profiles.

The information is organised under the following sections:

Executive Summary
Population
Deprivation
Education and skills
Economy
Housing
Health
Social Care
Community safety
Environment and Transport

Any feedback on this document should be addressed to the Senior Corporate Intelligence Officer, within the Policy, Programmes & Performance Division within the Assistant Chief Executive's Office: Edmund.Fallon@croydon.gov.uk



Population

✓ Areas of progress



Life expectancy at birth is still high for both males and females.



Census 2021 data shows that 7.9% of the Croydon population were providing some form of unpaid care which is down on the Census 2011 figure of 9.3%.



Challenges



Croydon has the highest population compared to all other boroughs in London. The older population is growing and this impacts on the demand for a range of services as people live longer with more complex needs.



One in 4 (23.1%) of Croydon's population is aged 0-17 years based on ONS Census 2021 data. This will add to pressures for education provision and other services for children and younger adults.



Deprivation

✓ Areas of progress



Croydon has become very slightly relatively less deprived compared to other local authorities in England

8/229

IMD 2025 shows that only 8 of the 229 LSOAs in Croydon are in the top 10% most deprived areas in the country for overall deprivation

⚠ Challenges



The North and East of the borough continue to remain more deprived than the South, particularly in specific neighbourhoods according to IMD 2025 results.



Since IMD 2019, Croydon has become relatively more deprived under the 2 deprivation domains relating to Income and Employment.



Education and skills

✓ Areas of progress



KS2

The percentage of pupils achieving a good level of development in Foundation Stage in Croydon has been improving every year since 2015.

Attainment at Key Stage 2 is improving in Croydon but there is still more to do in this area.

⚠ Challenges



KS4

The latest figures for March 2025 show that the standard of Croydon Primary, Secondary and Special schools are below both the London and England averages.

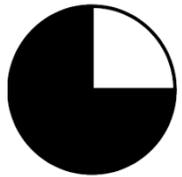
Croydon's attainment 8 scores and GCSE results over the last 5 years have been consistently below the London and Outer London averages.

KS5

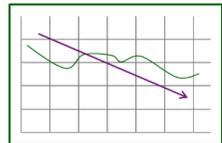
The proportion of pupils achieving grades A* to C grades at A level from state-funded Croydon schools and colleges continues to be consistently much lower than the regional and national averages.



✓ Areas of progress



Three quarters of Croydon residents aged 16-64 years are in employment.



The proportion of out of work claimants in Croydon is stabilising at around 6% but is still higher than the regional and national averages.

⚠ Challenges

8.6%

The retail industry only makes up 8.6% of all Croydon industries (2025). If Croydon is to attract more people, the retail offer needs to be improved.

0.57

The job density figure for Croydon is 0.57 (2023). The desired rate would be 1.00. The Croydon rate is still much lower than London (1.07) and Great Britain (0.86).



Housing

✓ Areas of progress



Croydon remains one of the more affordable areas to live in London - both to buy and to rent.



For 2021/2022, Croydon had the second highest number of completions of affordable housing in London.

⚠ Challenges

3,600+

Croydon has over 3,600 reported households that are in temporary accommodation (May 2025). This is an increase on levels previously reported around the 2,000 mark.



In 2021/2022, around two in three of the homeless households in Croydon were made up of main residents from the non-White communities.

Health

✓ Areas of progress



The successful completion of drug treatment for opiate users is now better in Croydon than in London and England.



Over the last 5 years, the estimated dementia diagnosis rate for 65+ years has been increasing and has been higher than the rate in London and England for the past 2 years.

Challenges



Childhood immunisation rates continue to be lower in Croydon than across London and England.



Croydon has a rising number of adults in treatment for substance misuse.

Social Care

✓ Areas of progress



Croydon has a similar proportion of carers on Direct Payments (DPs) compared to London and England after lagging behind for a number of years.



The trend in Croydon of having fewer admissions into care homes means that the Council continues to focus on providing care in the communities.

Challenges



The rate of child protection referrals to children social care services per 10,000 children in Croydon has consistently been higher than in London and England for a number of years.

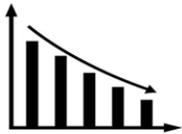


The percentage of care leavers aged 19-21 years (formerly looked after when they were 16 years old) known to be in education, employment or training continues to be lower than the regional and national proportions.

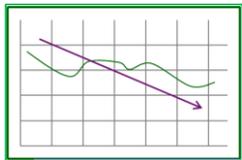


Community Safety

✓ Areas of progress



The number of offences relating to robberies of personal property and theft from vehicles are showing downward trends.



The numbers of anti-social behaviour calls continue on a downward trend in Croydon with ASB rates lower than the London average.

⚠ Challenges



Croydon has one of the highest rates of domestic abuse incidents and offences per 1,000 population compared to the other London local authorities.



Knife crime is still a concern with 1 in 4 incidents in Croydon resulting in injury or death.

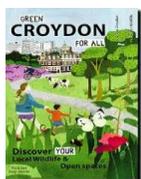


Environment and transport

✓ Areas of progress



Across London, Croydon continues to have one of the highest rates for the reuse, recycling and composting of household waste.



Croydon is still one of the greener London boroughs with a lot of Parks and open spaces.

⚠ Challenges



Croydon continues to have one of the highest number of incidents of fly tipping in London.



The number of real fire incidents has been increasing, year on year, since 2017.

Population

Overview

This section offers a brief overview of the Croydon population looking at:

Population growth

Demographics

Our residents

The new Mayor's Business Plan 2022-2026 published in November 2022 replaces Croydon's former Corporate Plan 2018-2022.

The Mayor's vision is for the council to listen to, respect and work in partnership with Croydon's diverse communities and businesses. He wants to strengthen collaboration and joint working with partner organisations and the voluntary, community and faith sectors.

With regards to the inner workings of the Council, the Mayor is determined to get a grip on the finances and to make the Council financially sustainable.

He will ensure that good governance is embedded and that the Council adopts best practice. Also, he is keen to develop the Council's workforce to deliver in a manner that respects the diversity of our communities.

Population growth

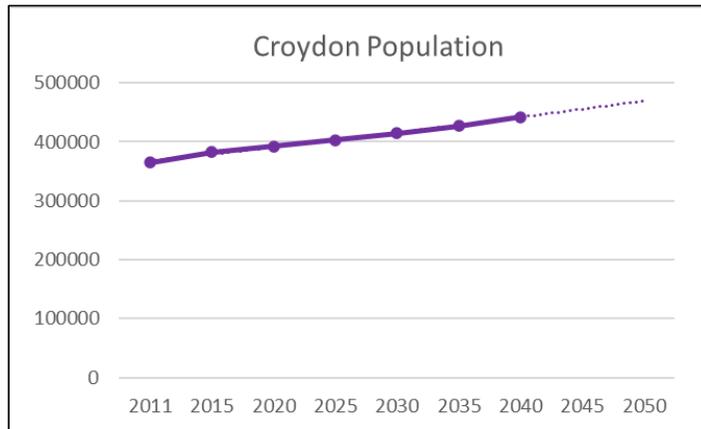
Overview

Croydon has the largest population of all the London boroughs with approximately 390,800 residents (ONS Census 2021). Nearly a quarter of Croydon's population (23.1%) are aged 17 years and under compared to the average for London (21.6%). Nearly two-thirds (63.3%) of Croydon residents are in the 18-64 years age band which compares to the London average (66.6%) for the same age band. Croydon has a higher proportion (13.6%) of residents 65 years or over compared to the average for London (11.9%).

Borough Profile – Population

Croydon's population continues to grow. The borough population recorded in the Census in 2001 was 330,587 and in the 2011 Census it had increased to 363,378. The latest Census 2021 figure was 390,800 showing that the Croydon population has again grown. The GLA population projections expect the number of Croydon residents to increase towards 500,000 by 2050.

Figure 1 – Projected population growth in Croydon

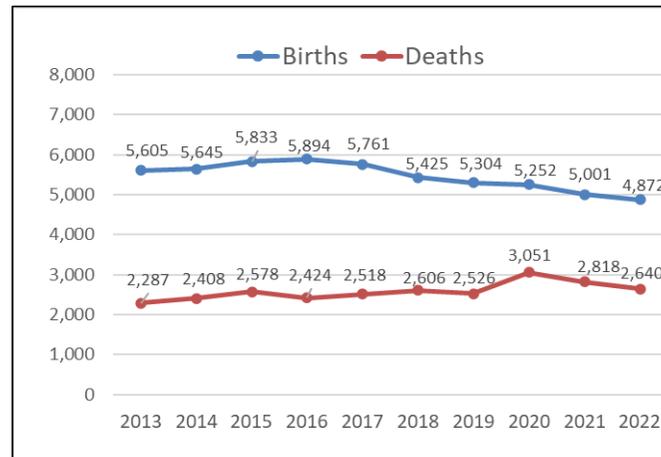


Source: GLA 2021-based housing-led population projections, released Jan. 2023

Births and deaths

Figure 2 shows the actual number of births and deaths in Croydon each year from 2013 to 2022. Over the 10 year period to 2022, the number of births has averaged around 5,498 a year. The number of deaths over the same period has averaged about 2,538. The number of births in Croydon has been declining since 2017 and the number of deaths in Croydon has been declining since the peak in 2020 when the Covid pandemic adversely impacted the world.

Figure 2 – Births and Deaths in Croydon over the last 10 years



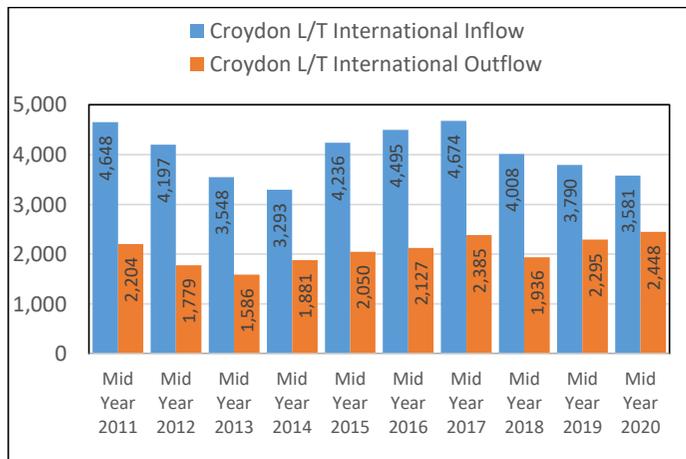
Source: ONS births and deaths (Dec 2023)

Migration

For 2020, domestic migration in Croydon showed a net loss with 22,865 migrants entering the borough against 24,314 leaving the borough to live in other areas of the UK.

Figure 3 shows that the inflows of migrants from outside the UK coming into Croydon exceeded the number of migrants leaving Croydon for other countries. For 2020, the ONS has estimated that 34.6% of the Croydon population is made up of non-UK born residents which is slightly less than the previous year's estimate of 35.9%.

Figure 3 – International migration flows



Source: ONS Local Area Migration Indicators, 2020

(NB. This data source has been discontinued after 2020)

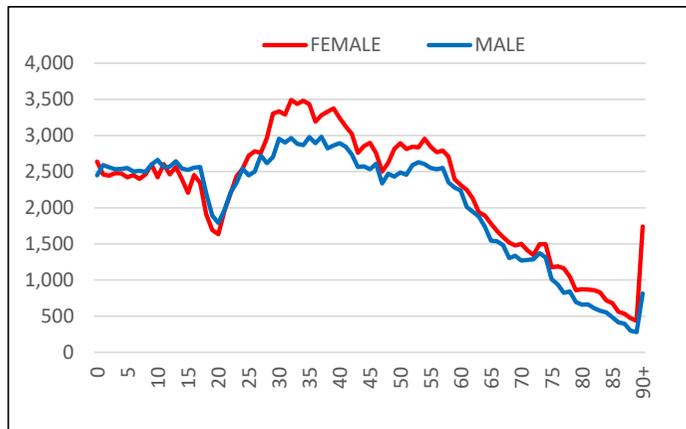
Based on Census 2021 data, 33,085 migrants (8.6% of the total residents) moved into the borough from within the UK at least a year before Census Day and 3,493 migrants (0.9% of the total residents) moved into the borough from outside the UK at least 1 year before Census Day.

Figure 4 provides a picture of the age and sex profile in Croydon. From the Census 2021 data, roughly 1 in 4 Croydon residents (23.1%) are aged between 0-17 years.

Croydon has a smaller proportion of male residents compared to females under 22 years old. Females outnumber males in all other ages. Figure 4 shows that the highest difference is in those residents aged 90+ years where there are twice as many females (1,739) as males (817).

Borough Profile – Population

Figure 4 – Age and Sex Profile in Croydon



Source: ONS, Census 2021, November 2022

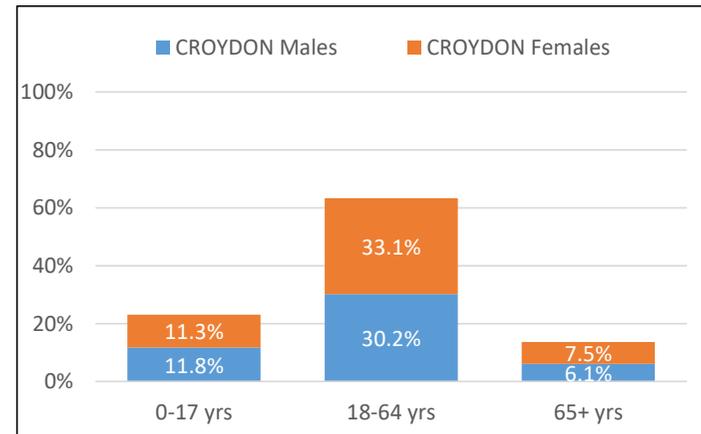
Demographics

Age and gender

Figure 5 shows that there is a higher proportion of males compared to females in the 0-17 years age band in Croydon. There is a higher proportion of females to males in the 18-64 years age band. The 65 years plus age group makes up

13.6% of the total population in Croydon compared to the average for London of 11.9%.

Figure 5 – Croydon Age and Gender Profile

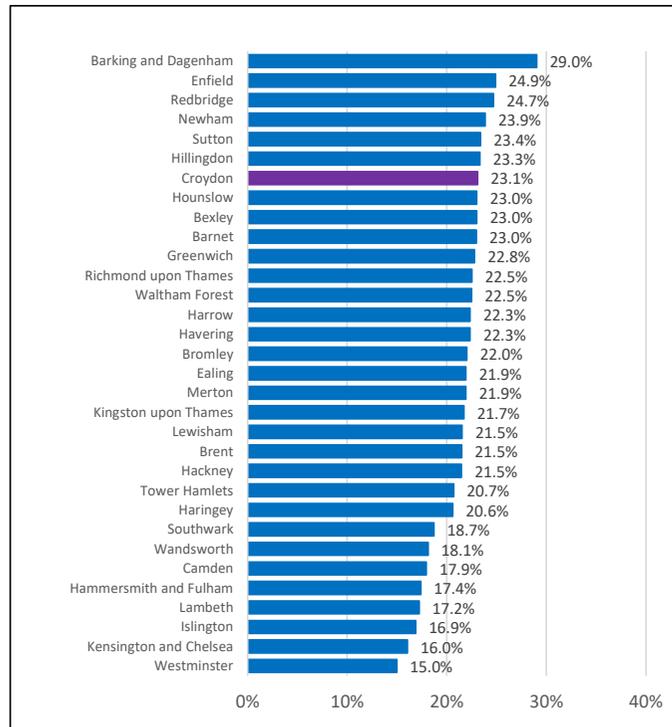


Source: ONS, Census 2021, November 2022

Figure 6 shows that Croydon has the 7th largest proportion of young people in London which has implications on the types of services required to cater for the youth in Croydon.

Borough Profile – Population

Figure 6 – Proportion of 0-17 year olds in London

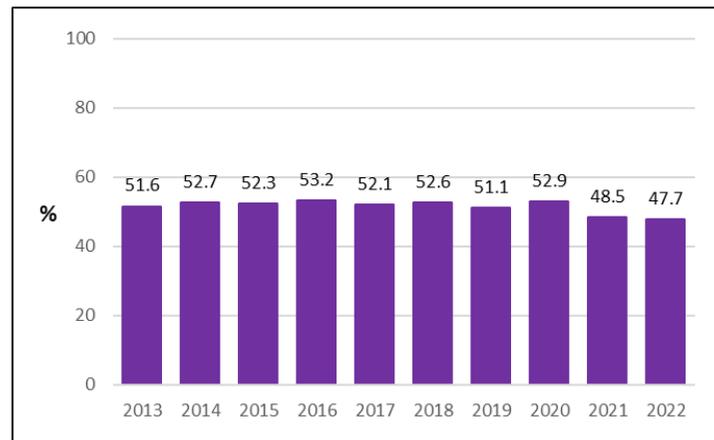


Source: ONS, Census 2021, released November 2022

Ethnicity

Just under half of the live births in Croydon have been to mothers born outside of the UK. Figure 7 shows that the latest proportion of non-UK born mothers is the lowest for at least the last 10 years.

Figure 7 - Percentage of live births in Croydon to non-UK born mothers

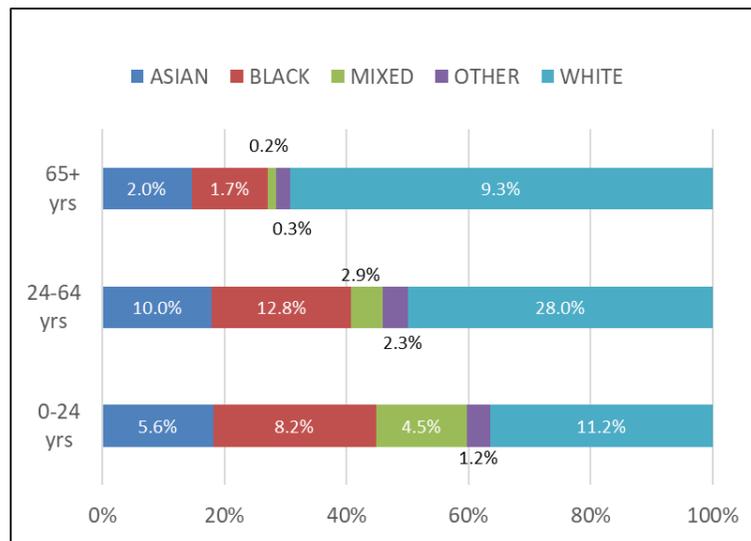


Source: ONS, Live births (numbers) by country of birth of mother, Table 7

Borough Profile – Population

Like other London boroughs, Croydon has a higher proportion of residents from the Non-White communities compared to the national average. The Census 2021 data shows that there was more diversity in the younger age group population in Croydon.

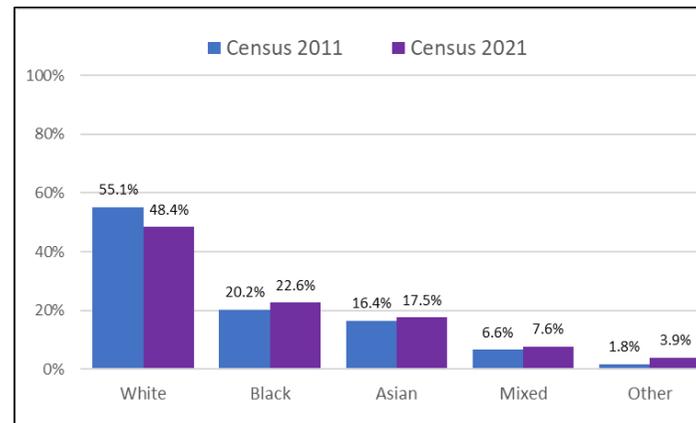
Figure 8 – Ethnic group by age



Source: ONS 2021 Census

Over the 10 year period from 2011 to 2021, there has been a 6.7% reduction in the number of residents from the White communities living in Croydon. The proportion of residents from the Black communities has increased by 2.5% and from the Asian communities by 1.1%. Residents identifying as “Other” have increased by 2.1% and the proportion of residents of “Mixed” ethnic origin has increased by 1% over the 10 years.

Figure 9 – Croydon's Broad Ethnic group profile from Census 2011 to Census 2021

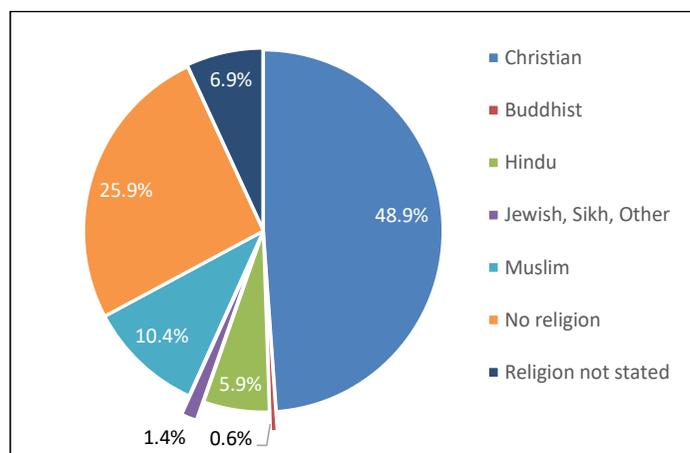


Source: ONS Census 2021, November 2022

Religion

Just under half (48.9%) of Croydon respondents for the Census 2021 stated they were “Christian” compared to 56.4% for the Census 2011. About 1 in 4 (25.9%) stated that they had no religion compared to 1 in 5 (20.0%) for Census 2011. Croydon people following the Muslim religion are the second biggest religious group, after Christians, increasing from 8.1% to 10.4% over the 10 years to March 2021.

Figure 10 – Religion of Croydon residents



Source: ONS Census 2021, November 2022

Sexual orientation

Sexual orientation was not captured for the 2011 Census. However, there was a question on sexual orientation in the Census 2021 survey aimed at all those residents aged 16 years and over.

Based on the results from ONS Census 2021, of those who answered the question, 9,530 residents or 3.1% identified as being part of the LGBT+ community in Croydon.

Table 1 shows the breakdown. The proportion of those who did not answer this question made up 9.1% of the total.

Table 1 – Sexual Orientation in Croydon

Sexual Orientation	Numbers	%
Straight or Heterosexual	272,523	87.80%
Gay or Lesbian	4,696	1.51%
Bisexual	3,661	1.18%
Pansexual	855	0.28%
Asexual	123	0.04%
Queer	97	0.03%
All other sexual orientations	98	0.03%
Not answered	28,344	9.13%

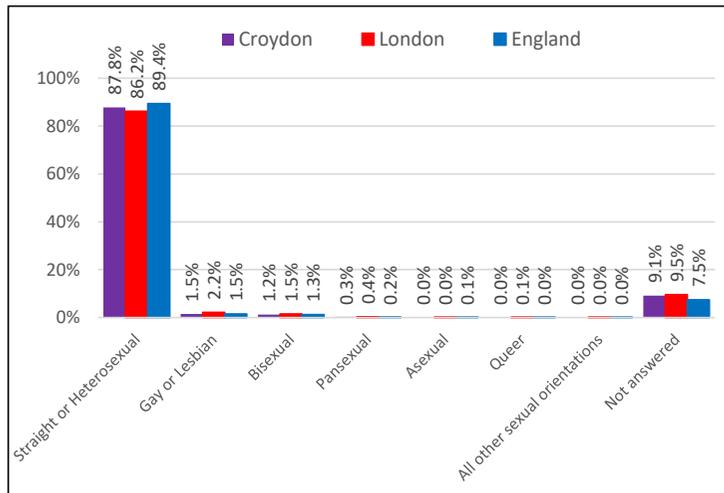
Source: ONS Census 2021, January 2023

Borough Profile – Population

According to Census 2021 data, just under 9 in every 10 people are straight or heterosexual in Croydon, London and England. Just under 1 in 10 did not answer the sexual orientation question in Croydon (9.1%) and London (9.5%).

In England generally, 7.5% did not answer the question.

Figure 11 – Sexual Orientation in Croydon compared to London and England.

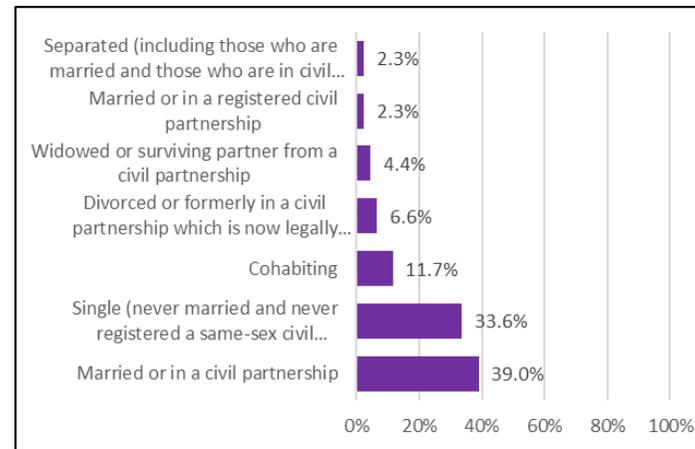


Source: ONS Census 2021, January 2023

Marital status

The 2021 Census is the latest data source for marital status. Figure 12 shows that the majority of adults aged over 16 in Croydon were either married or single (72.6%).

Figure 12 – Marital status of Croydon residents



Source: ONS Census 2021, November 2022

Gender identity

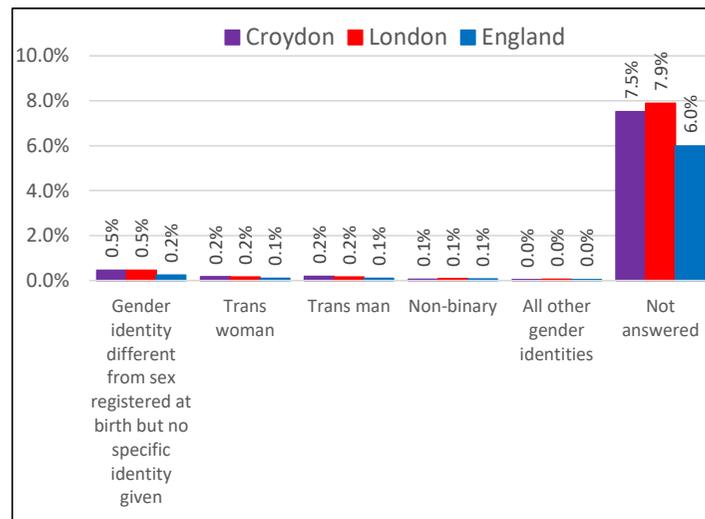
The Census 2021 asked a question on Gender Identity for the first time. Responses from 91.6% of residents aged over 16 years said their Gender identity was the same as the sex

Borough Profile – Population

registered at birth. This compared to the London proportion of 91.2% and the England proportion of 93.5%.

The gender identity question was not answered by 7.5% of the Croydon residents aged over 16 years. This compares to 7.9% in London and 6.0% in England. There were 2,765 or 0.9% of these residents aged over 16 years who did not identify as either male or female. This compared to 0.9% in London and 0.5% in England.

Figure 13 – Gender identity of Croydon residents



Source: ONS Census 2021, January 2023

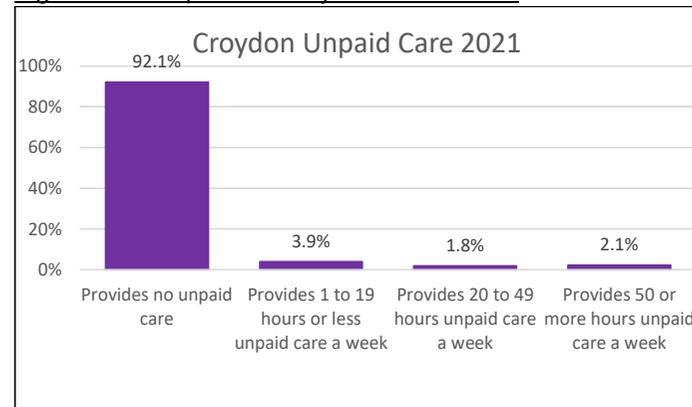
Our Residents

Carers

The Census 2011 recorded 9.3% of the Croydon population as providing some form of unpaid care. For Census 2021 this reduced to 7.9%. In fact, over the 10 years from 2011 to 2021 - like Croydon - the regional and national proportions of unpaid carers have reduced by 0.8% and 1.4% respectively.

Figure 14 shows the hours per week worked by the 7.9% of the total Croydon population who provide unpaid care.

Figure 14 – Unpaid Care by Hours Provided

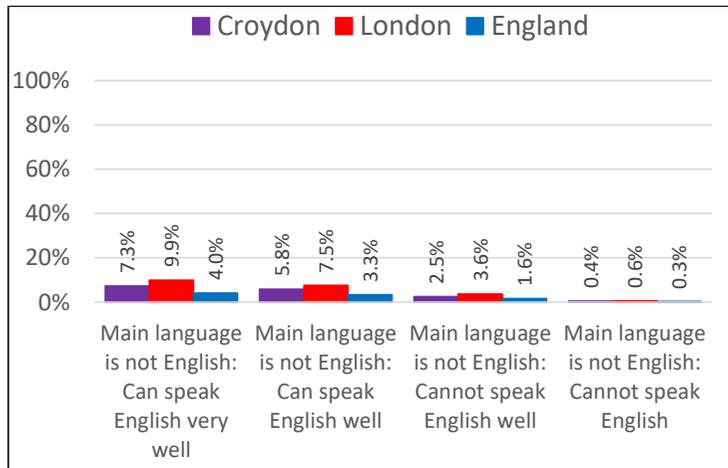


Source: ONS Census 2021, January 2023

Proficiency in English

The Census 2011 showed that 14.5% of people in Croydon had a main language other than English. Census 2021 shows that this proportion has increased to 16.0%. Only 13.1% can speak English very well or well. Less than 3% of the speaking residents either cannot speak English well or not speak English at all.

Figure 15 – Proportion of Primary and Secondary pupils whose first language is other than English

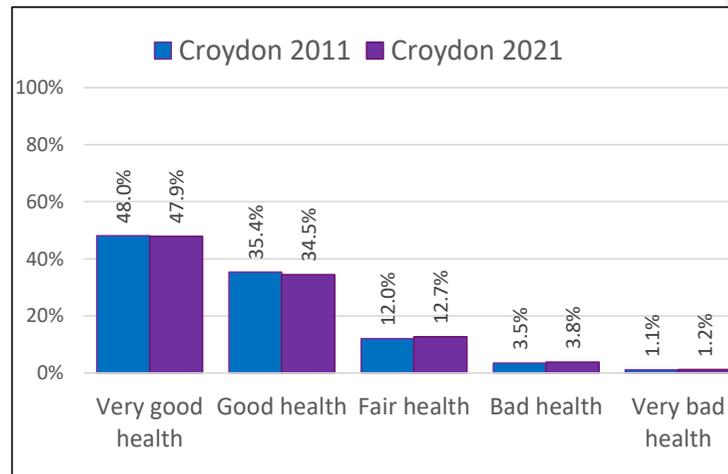


Source: ONS Census 2021, November 2022

Health

From Census 2011 to Census 2021 there does not seem to have been much difference in the health profile in the borough. There was a slightly lower proportion (82.4%) in 2021 who said they had very good or good health compared to 2011 (83.4%).

Figure 16 – General health profile in Croydon: 2011 vs 2021

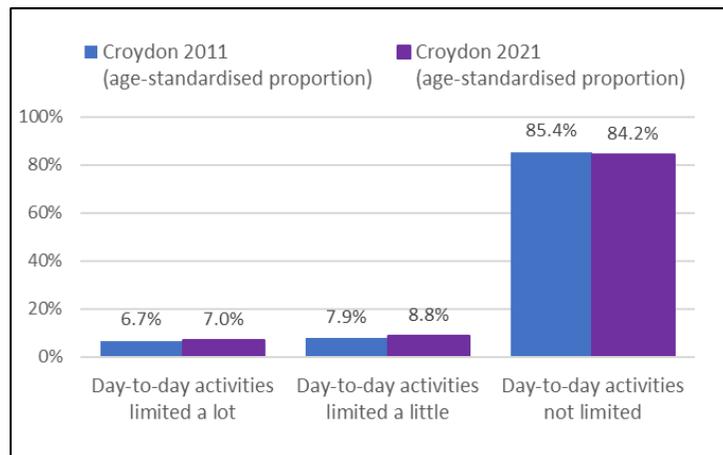


Source: ONS Census 2021, January 2023

Disability

From 2011 to 2021, there has only been a slight increase in the proportions of disabled people in Croydon whose day-to-day activities are limited a lot or a little.

Figure 17 – Proportion of people whose day-to-day activities were limited by a long-term health problem or disability



Source: ONS Census 2021, January 2023

Deprivation

Overview

This section looks at the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) and its supplementary indices.

IMD 2025 – Overall changes since 2019

IMD 2025 Domains

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2025

Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPI) 2025

Croydon faces challenges around deprivation and inequalities in regard not only to income but other factors including health, education and housing. The Council is taking steps to manage these inequalities and to ensure that all residents feel the benefits of the borough's continued growth.

The Mayor's Business Plan 2022-2026 recognises the importance of working in collaboration with the wider community groups in Croydon to address the needs of the more vulnerable people in our borough.

IMD 2025 – Overall changes since 2019

Introduction

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025 allows relative deprivation levels across the country to be compared. It comprises seven different deprivation domains which each have a set of different measures to record deprivation scores.

The deprivation domains are as follows:

- Income
- Employment
- Education, skills and training
- Health deprivation and disability
- Crime
- Barriers to housing and services
- Living environment

Each of these domains will be looked at in this section. There are also two supplementary indices: the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and the Income Deprivation

Borough Profile – Deprivation

Affecting Older People Index (IDAOP). These look at the proportion of children and older people respectively who are income deprived.

The index is based on data at Lower-layer Super Output Area (LSOA) level. LSOAs were created based on 2021 Census data by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). There are 33,755 LSOAs in the country and of these 229 LSOAs are in Croydon. (Following the Ward boundary changes in May 2018, the number of LSOAs in Croydon increased from 220 to 229). Each one has between 400 and 1,200 households with between 1,000 and 3,000 people.

Under each deprivation domain, each LSOA is given a score and ranked. Rank number 1 signifies the most deprived LSOA in the country. Rank number 33,755 signifies the least deprived LSOA. The Local authority scores are based on the average score of all the LSOAs in each authority.

The IMD is a ranking system so it can show how deprivation has changed relative to a previous index. It cannot provide a measure of how much more deprived an authority has become since the last index or how much more deprived one authority is compared to another.

Due to data availability issues, the majority of measures used for IMD 2025 are based on data ranging from 2018/2019 to 2023/2024.

The rank of average rank is based on the average of the ranks for each LSOA in the authority.

The extent of deprivation is a measure of how widespread the deprivation is across the authority. This is based on how many LSOAs in the area are in the top 30% most deprived LSOAs in the country. The rank of concentration compares the most deprived LSOAs in a local authority against those in other authorities across the country.

There are 153 upper tier local authorities which include county councils, London boroughs, unitary authorities and metropolitan districts. There are 297 lower tier authorities which include all upper tier authorities plus additional non-metropolitan districts.

Tables 1 and 2 show that Croydon has become relatively less deprived across 3 of the 4 measures from IMD 2019 to IMD 2025.

Table 1 – Upper tier authority rankings (out of 153 for IMD2025)

Index Measure	IMD 2019	IMD 2025
Rank of average rank	72	72
Rank of average score	75	79
Rank of extent of deprivation	75	73
Rank of concentration	93	87

Source: DCLG IMD 2019, MHCLG IMD 2025

Borough Profile – Deprivation

Table 2 – Lower tier authority rankings (out of 297 for IMD2025)

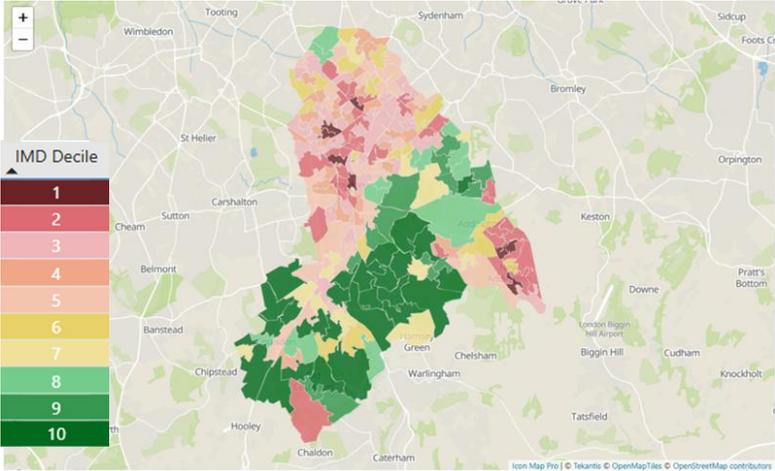
Index Measure	IMD 2019	IMD 2025
Rank of average rank	102	102
Rank of average score	108	107
Rank of extent of deprivation	109	103
Rank of concentration	133	121

Source: DCLG IMD 2019, MHCLG IMD 2025

Figure 1 shows that there are 8 neighbourhoods in the borough in the top 10% most deprived areas of the country. There were 5 such neighbourhoods in IMD 2019.

Commented [KB1]: Please use Carol's maps of all the deciles, not the MapInfo ones

Figure 1 – IMD 2025 deciles



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

In terms of overall IMD 2025 deprivation, Croydon is ranked 18th most deprived out of 33 London boroughs. This compares to 17th in IMD 2019.

IMD 2025 Domains

Income

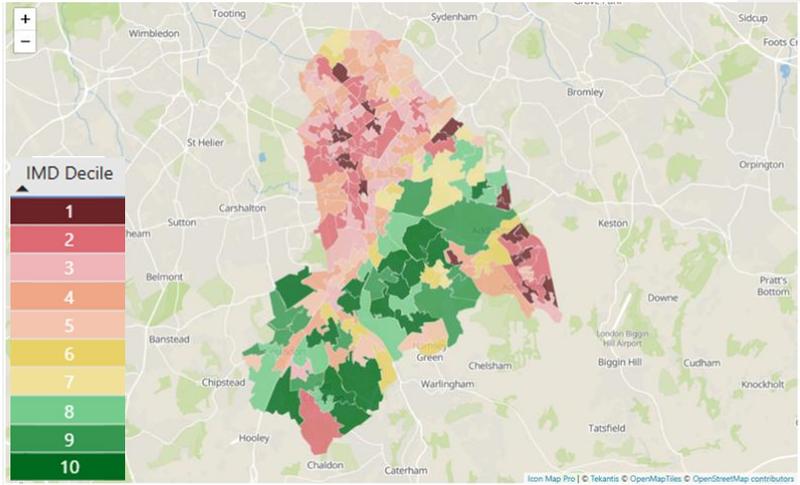
The Income domain looks at the proportion of the population who are either out of work or who have low earnings. It is based on a number of measures around people who are in receipt of income-based benefits as at March 2024.

The score of each LSOA on the income domain contributes towards 22.5% of the LSOA's overall deprivation score. The overall pattern of income deprivation across the borough mirrors that for overall deprivation.

Croydon has an average score of 0.141 for the income domain, which places it as the 97th most deprived local authority out of the 297 lower tier authority districts in England (97th out of 317 for IMD 2019). Croydon is ranked 18th most deprived out of 33 London boroughs. This compares to 17th in IMD 2019.

Figure 2 shows that 42 LSOAs out of the 229 LSOAs in the borough (18.34%) are in the top 20% most deprived LSOAs in the country. These deprived areas are mainly in the north and east of the borough.

Figure 2 – Income deciles



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

Employment

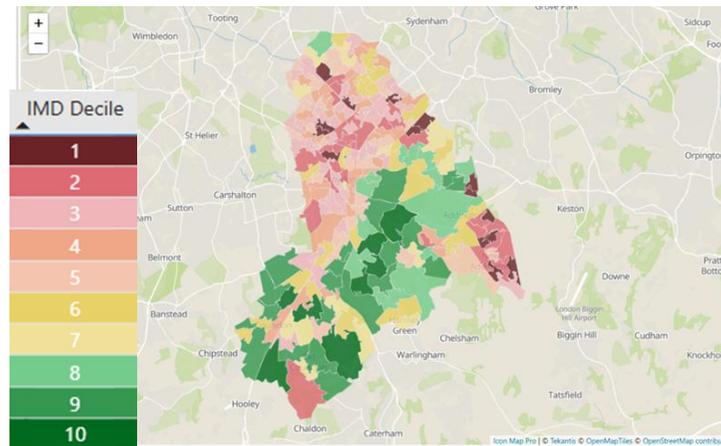
The Employment domain looks at the proportion of the labour market who are involuntarily excluded from working due to unemployment, sickness or disability, or caring responsibilities. The data for this is based on benefits data for the period 2022/2023 and take into account seasonal variations in the number of claimants.

The average score for the Employment domain was 0.14, placing Croydon as the 92nd most deprived LSOA out of the 297 lower tier districts (143rd out of 317 for IMD 2019). Croydon is ranked 25th most deprived out of 33 London boroughs. This compares to 15th in IMD 2019.

Figure 3 shows that Croydon has fewer LSOAs (28) in the top 20% most deprived areas in England for the employment domain compared to the income domain.

Under the employment domain, 12 LSOAs are in the 5%-10% most deprived areas in England. As for the income domain, the areas most affected are in similar neighbourhoods:

Figure 3 – Employment deciles



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

Education, skills and training

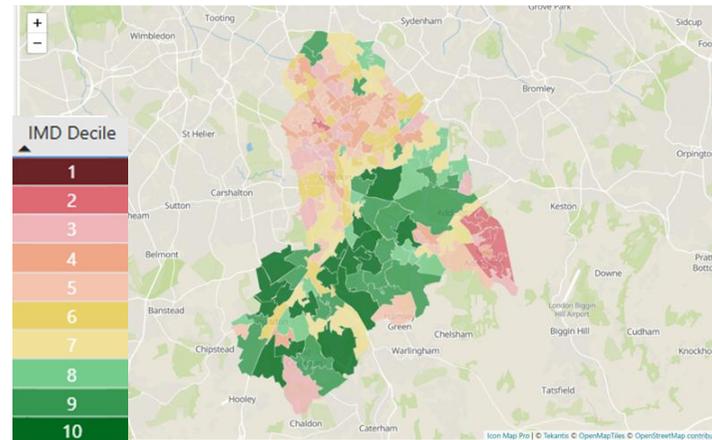
The Education, skills and training domain looks at the lack of skills and attainment in the population. This includes the attainment and absence of pupils at school, the numbers of young people staying in education post-16, and the progression of young people on to higher education. It also includes the proportion of adults with no qualifications and the proportion of adults who are unable to speak English well.

The data on children and young people is based on five years' worth of data, with the most recent data included dating from 2018/19 to 2022/23. The data on adults is taken from the 2021 Census.

Croydon is in the top third most deprived local authorities in London under this domain; the average score for the borough was 16.56 making it the 179th most deprived borough out of the 297 lower tier districts (220th out of 317 for IMD 2019). Croydon is ranked 13th most deprived out of 33 London boroughs. This compares to 12th in IMD 2019.

There are no LSOAs in the top 5%-10% most deprived areas in the country and only 12 LSOAs are in the top 20% most deprived under this deprivation domain.

Figure 4 – Education, skills and training deciles



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

Health deprivation and disability

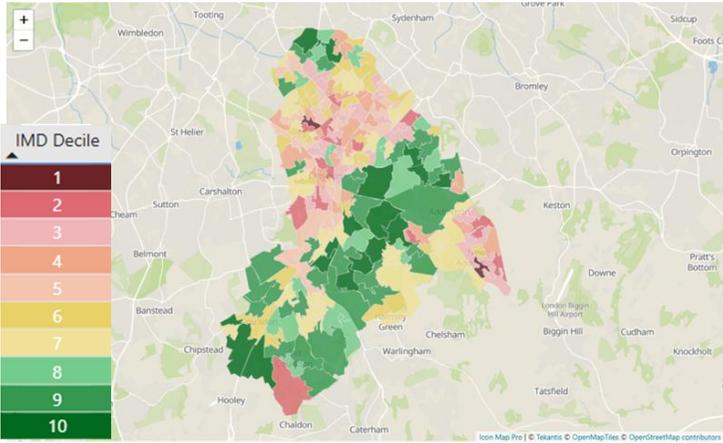
The health deprivation and disability domain is based on the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life due to poor mental or physical health. It is based on a range of different indicators covering different time periods. The most recent data used is from 2018/19 to 2022/23.

The average score for Croydon for this domain was -0.167, making it the 153rd most deprived lower tier authority out of the 297 (165th out of 317 for IMD 2019). Croydon is ranked 20th most deprived out of 33 London boroughs. This compares to 13th in IMD 2019.

Only 2 of Croydon LSOAs under this deprivation domain were in the top 5% most deprived areas in the country. There are 15 LSOAs in Croydon that are in the 10%-20% most deprived areas in England.

Figure 5 shows the pattern of health deprivation and disability across the borough. The most deprived areas in Croydon under this domain are scattered in small areas around the north and east of the borough and in a large part of the Old Coulsdon ward.

Figure 5 – Health deprivation and disability deciles



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

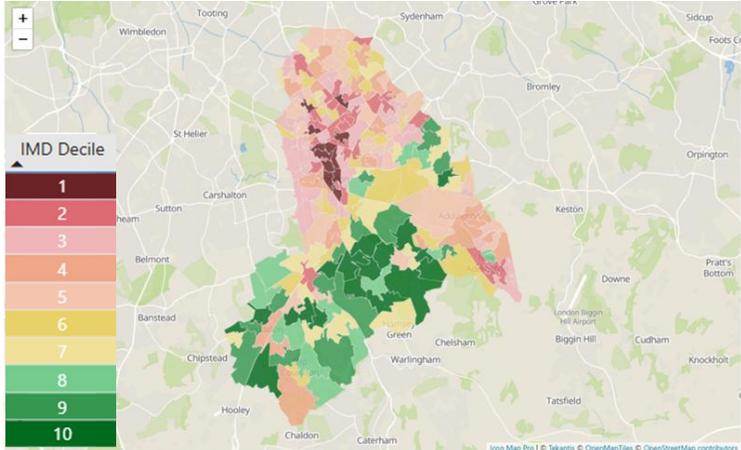
Crime

The Crime domain is based on the rates of violence, burglary, theft and criminal damage per 1,000 at-risk population. This at-risk population is the count of the residents in the area plus the number of people who work in the area but are not resident there. The data for this domain is based on recorded crimes for 2018/19 to 2023/24.

The average score in Croydon was 0.094 making it the 101st most deprived authority out of the 297 lower tier authorities (74th out of 317 for IMD 2019). Croydon is ranked 15th most deprived out of 33 London boroughs. This compares to 18th in IMD 2019.

Figure 6 shows that 12 of Croydon's 229 LSOAs are in the top 10% most deprived in the country and in fact there are seven neighbourhoods in the wards of Fairfield, Waddon, Broad Green, Selhurst and Thornton Heath that are in the top 5% most deprived LSOAs in the country.

Figure 6 - Crime deciles



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

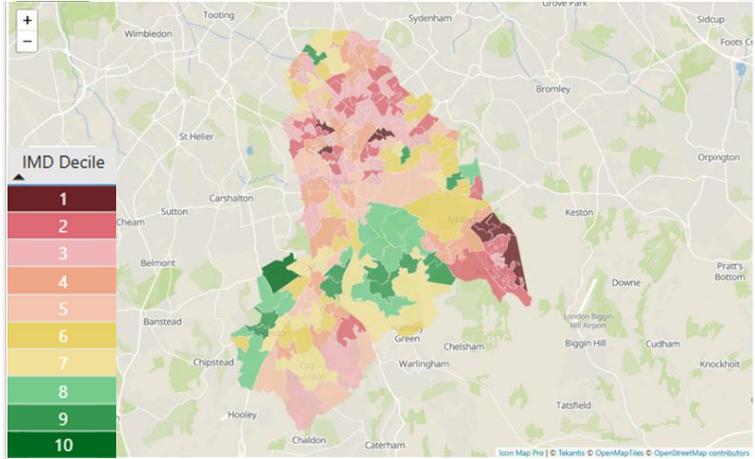
Barriers to housing and services

The barriers to housing and services domain looks at geographical barriers to services and wider barriers. These barriers are based on the average distance to key services such as a GP surgery, primary school, post office, and a general store or supermarket based on 2024 data from the Department for Transport (DfT) Connectivity Tool. Other data comes from the ONS Census 2021 and datasets from 2018 to 2022.

The average score in Croydon was 23.88, ranking Croydon the 101st most deprived authority out of the 297 lower tier districts (14th out of 317 for IMD 2019). Croydon is ranked 13th most deprived out of 33 London boroughs. This compares to 14th in IMD 2019.

Figure 7 shows that the distribution of the most deprived LSOAs for this domain are more spread out across the north and east of the borough. There are 10 LSOAs in Croydon in the top 5%-10% most deprived areas nationally. There are 37 LSOAs in the top 10%-20% most deprived areas nationally.

Figure 7 - Barriers to housing and services deciles



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

Living environment

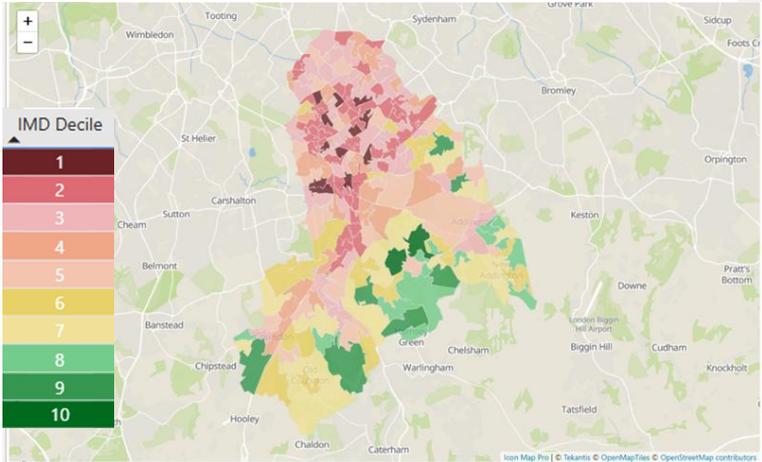
The living environment domain looks at both the indoor living environment and the outdoor living environment. The indoor living environment is based on the proportion of houses without central heating (ONS Census 2021) and the proportion of houses that are in poor condition (2019-2023). The outdoor living environment looks at air quality (2023) and road traffic accidents that cause injury to pedestrians and cyclists based on 2019-2023 data.

Croydon had an average score of 26.43 for the living environment domain, which means the authority was ranked 54th most deprived out of the 297 lower tier districts (77th out of 317 for IMD 2019). Croydon is ranked 9th most deprived out of 33 London boroughs. This compares to 24th in IMD 2019.

8 shows these are predominantly located in the centre of the borough, extending to the north.

The results for this deprivation domain have changed the least from IMD 2019 to IMD 2025 compared to all the other domains that make up the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

Figure 8 – Living environment deciles



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

Just 5.24% (12) of the LSOAs in Croydon are in the top 5%-10% most deprived areas nationally for this domain. As Figure

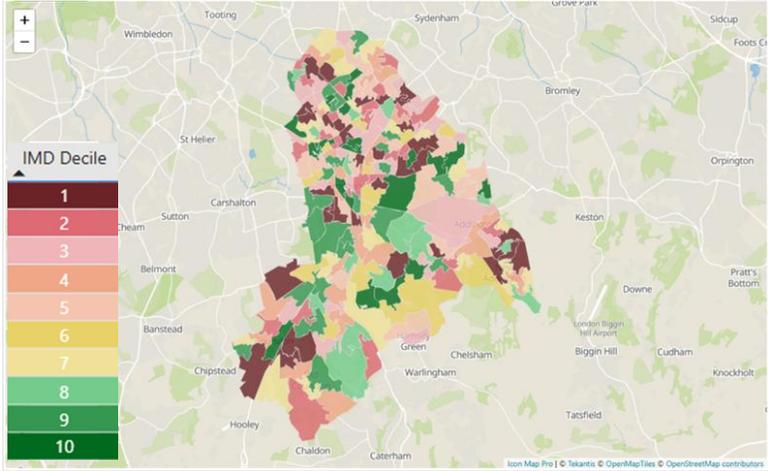
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index

The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) is a supplementary index that looks at the proportion of children in an area that are living in families affected by income deprivation.

IMD 2019 showed that Croydon had 18.5% of its children living in families affected by income deprivation. IMD 2025 now shows that this has increased to 39.9%. Croydon is now ranked the 71st most deprived authority out of the 297 lower district authorities in England (95th out of 317 for IMD 2019) and is ranked 17th out of 33 most deprived councils across London. This compares to 14th in IMD 2019.

Figure 9 shows that 22 (9.61%) of the LSOAs in Croydon are in the top 5% most deprived LSOAs in the country and these neighbourhoods are scattered around the borough.

Figure 9 – IDACI 2025 deciles



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index

The second supplementary index is the Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOP). This is the proportion of the population aged 60 or over who are income deprived.

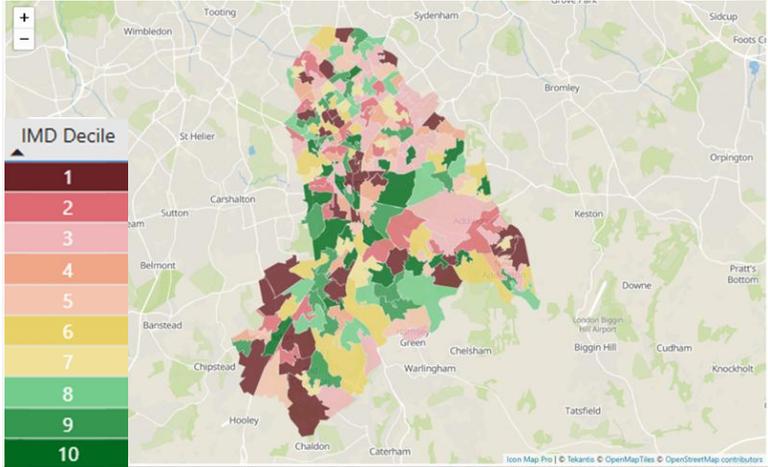
IMD 2019 showed that Croydon had 15.6% of older people were income deprived. For IMD 2025, this has gone up to 24.74% and is the 65th highest score out of the 297 lower tier district authorities (87th out of 317 for IMD 2019) and is ranked 8th out of 33 most deprived councils across London. This compares to 26th in IMD 2019.

Figure 10 shows that 7.42% of all LSOAs in Croydon were in the top 5%-10% most deprived areas in the country.

These deprived areas are scattered about the borough with very little or no exposure in the wards of Shirley South, Shirley North, Addiscombe East, Sanderstead and Kenley.

There were 6 more Croydon LSOAs in the top 5%-10% most deprived areas in the country in the IDAOP compared to the IDACI.

Figure 10 – IDAOP deciles 2025



Source: MHCLG and Ordnance Survey (Crown Copyright)

Education and skills

Overview

Education and skills

Early Years

School attainment

Further education

Following the Council's disappointing Ofsted judgement in 2017, the Council has invested a lot of money to try and improve its services to our young residents.

The Mayor's Business Plan 2022-2026 has set out priorities for Children's services which include the following:

To ensure children and young people have opportunities in order to learn, develop and fulfil their potential.

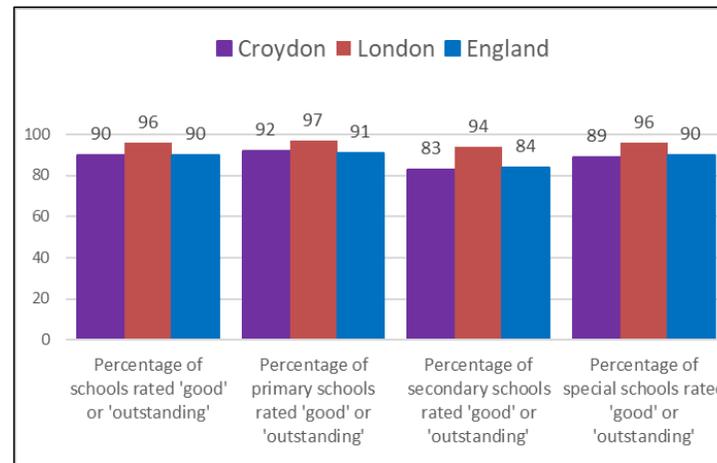
To make Croydon safer for young people.

To work closely with health services, Police and the VCFS to keep vulnerable children and young people safe from harm.

Standard of schools

The standard of all types of schools in Croydon is generally lower than London but similar to the national average as seen in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1 - Standard of schools in Croydon compared to London and England 2023/2024



Source: gov.uk

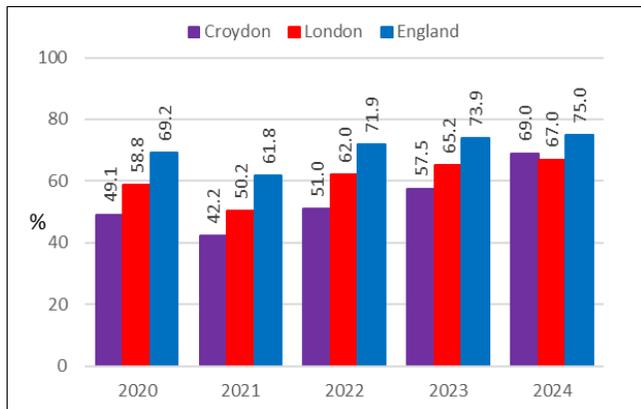
Early Years

Take up of funded hours

Borough Profile – Education

Historically the take-up rates of funded early education in Croydon have been consistently lower than the take-up rates in London and England. However, in the latest reported figures, the Croydon take-up rate has been higher than the London average.

Figure 2 - The percentage of 2 year olds benefitting from funded early education places

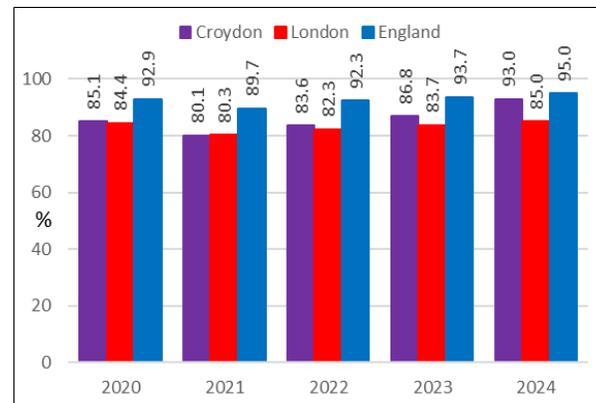


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

In Croydon the take-up of some free early education amongst 3 and 4 year olds has remained in line with London but below the national take-up rate over a number of years.

The ONS accepted that it has over-estimated the 3-4 years population from 2013 onwards and now that it has revised the population estimates based on the ONS Census 2021, the latest reported figures for 2024 shows that take-up rates in Croydon are now higher than the London average.

Figure 3 - Percentage of 3 and 4 year olds taking up some free early education



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

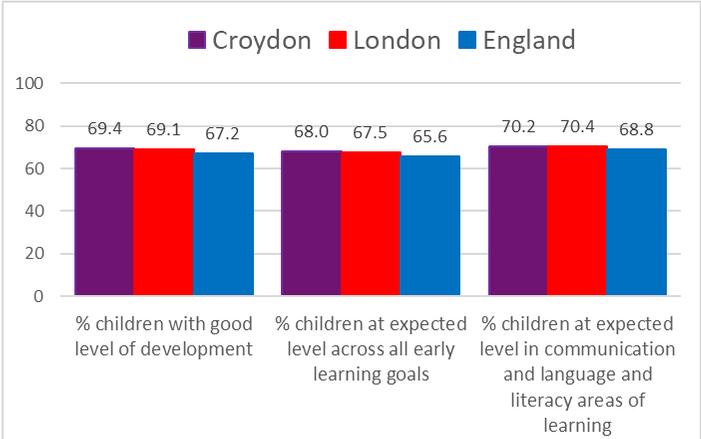
Foundation Stage

Figure 4 shows the Early years foundation stage profile results for 2022-2023 for Croydon, London and England.

Compared to the national average, a higher percentage of Croydon children had a good level of development, reached

the expected levels across all early learning goals and expected levels in communication and language and literacy.

Figure 4 – Early years foundation stage profile results for 2022-2023



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

School attainment

Key Stage 1

Based on 2022/2023 results, the performance of Croydon pupils achieving the expected standard in KS1 in reading, writing, maths and science is below London in 3 of the four

areas. However, Croydon’s performance is better than the national average in all the educational areas except science as Table 1 shows. Compared to the previous year’s results, Croydon’s performance has improved in all subject areas.

These measures are no longer collected as part of the annual Statutory Returns so no updates will be available from now on.

Table 1 – Percentage (%) of Pupils achieving KS1 Expected Standard

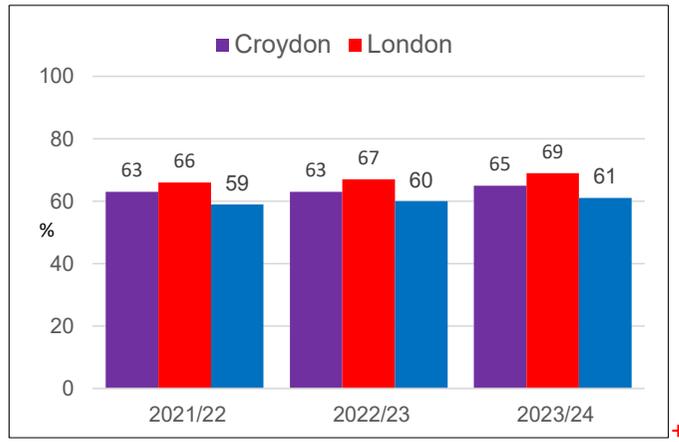
2022/2023	Reading	Writing	Maths	Science
Croydon	71	63	71	78
London	71	64	73	79
England	68	60	70	79

Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Key Stage 2

In Croydon pupil attainment at KS2 level has continued to be lower than the average for London but slightly better than the national average.

Figure 5 – Percentage of pupils reaching the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

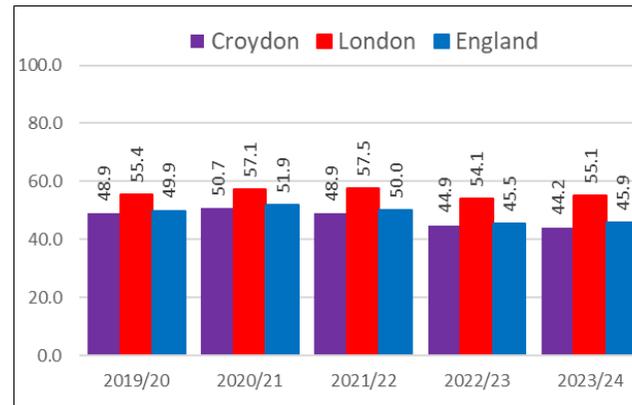
Key Stage 4

Originally, attainment at Key Stage 4 was measured by the number of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE including English and Maths (end of KS4).

Croydon students are underperforming compared to the regional (London) and national (England) averages in terms of obtaining grades 5 or above in both English Language and Mathematics. Figure 6 shows that students in other London

schools have been consistently outperforming Croydon students for years.

Figure 6 - Percentage of pupils achieving grades 5 or above in English and Mathematics GCSEs



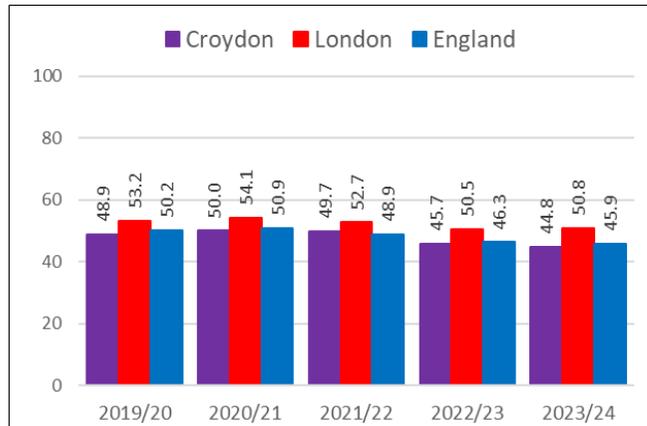
Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

From 2015 this was changed to Average Attainment 8 Score per Pupil which measures the average achievement of pupils in up to 8 qualifications.

The Attainment 8 average score in Croydon has consistently been below the London average and close to or below the national average. The latest figure for 2023/2024 shows a poorer performance than the previous year for Croydon.

Figure 7 – Average Attainment 8 scores

Borough Profile – Education

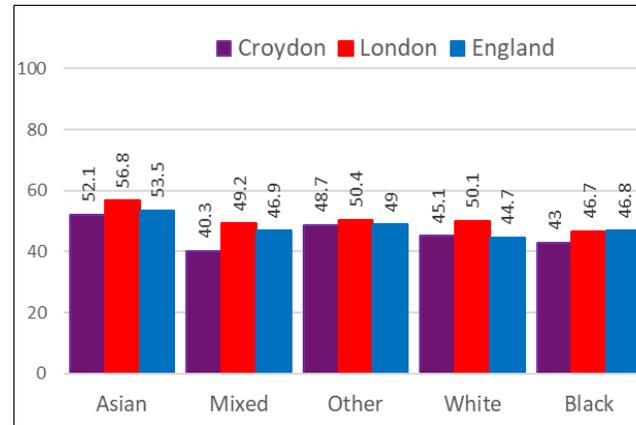


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Across the country there are variations in the proportions of pupils from different ethnic groups achieving Attainment 8 scores. Since 2015, at local, regional and national levels, there has been a slightly lower proportion of pupils from Black backgrounds achieving average Attainment 8 scores.

Figure 8 shows the latest figures for 2023/2024 and contrasts the average attainment scores by broad ethnic group. The pupils from Asian backgrounds performed the best and those from the Black community performed slightly worse compared to the other broad ethnic groups.

Figure 8 – KS4 Average Attainment 8 scores by ethnic group

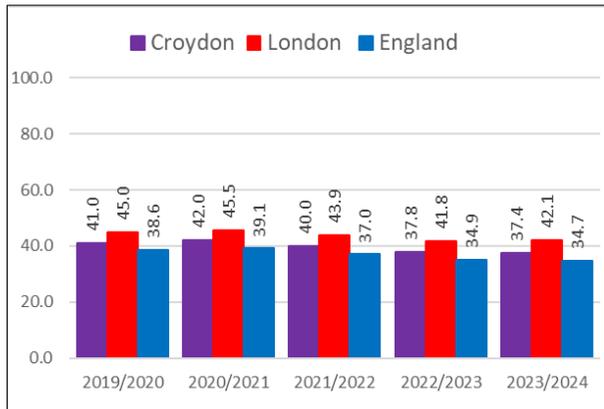


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Figure 9 shows the trend in Average Attainment 8 scores by Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility. Croydon has consistently performed slightly better than the national average over the years but has performed consistently worse than the London average.

Figure 9 – KS4 Average Attainment 8 scores by FSM eligibility

Borough Profile – Education

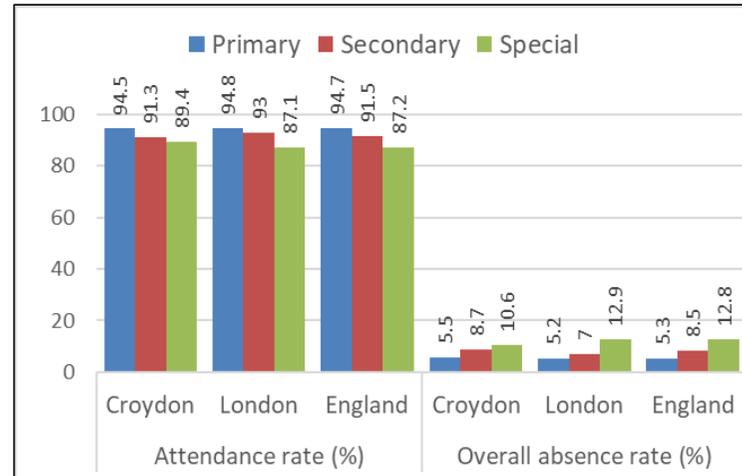


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Attendance and Absences

Figure 10 shows Pupil attendance since week commencing 11 September 2023 - year to date' for Primary, Secondary and Special schools in Croydon, England and London for 2023/24.

Figure 10 – Attendance and Absence rates in Primary, Secondary and Special schools

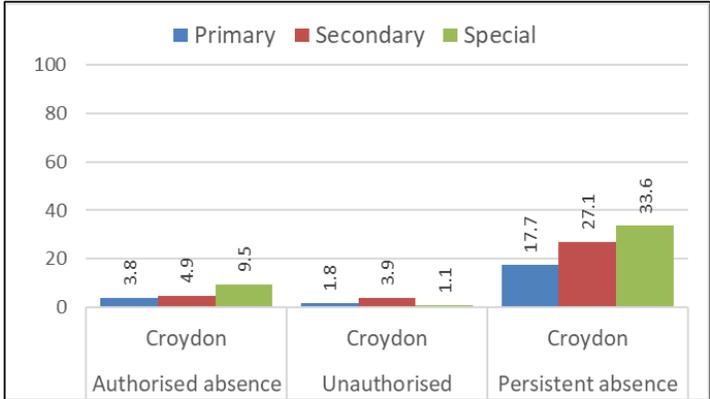


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Figure 11 shows a breakdown of the different types of absences over the same period for Primary, Secondary and Special schools in Croydon. Persistent absences are becoming a real issue in every type of school in Croydon.

Figure 11 – Absence types in Primary, Secondary and Special schools in Croydon, 2023-2024

Borough Profile – Education



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

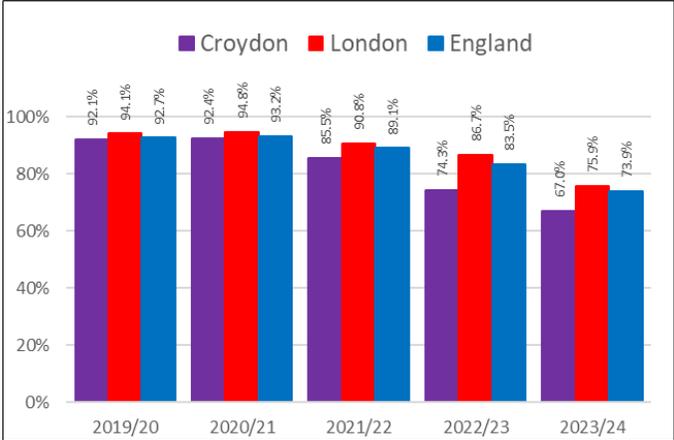
Further education

Key Stage 5

The proportion of pupils from Croydon state-funded schools and colleges achieving A*-C grades at Key Stage 5 has consistently and predictably remained significantly below the regional and national averages.

Croydon A level attainment from pupils at Croydon state-funded schools and colleges continues to be poorer than the regional and national averages as Figure 10 clearly shows.

Figure 12 – The percentage of pupils achieving A* to C grades at A Level from Croydon state-funded schools and colleges



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

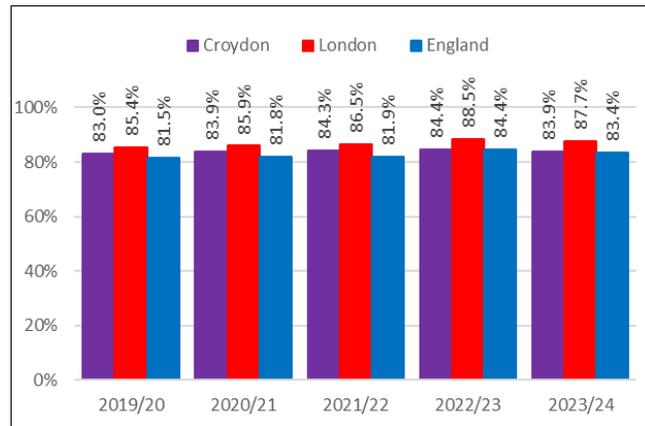
Level 2 qualification by age 19

The Department of Education collects data on Level 2 qualifications achieved by the age of 19 years of age.

Borough Profile – Education

Croydon has performed below the London average but higher than the national average over the last 4 reported years.

Figure 13 – The percentage of 19 year olds with a level 2 qualification

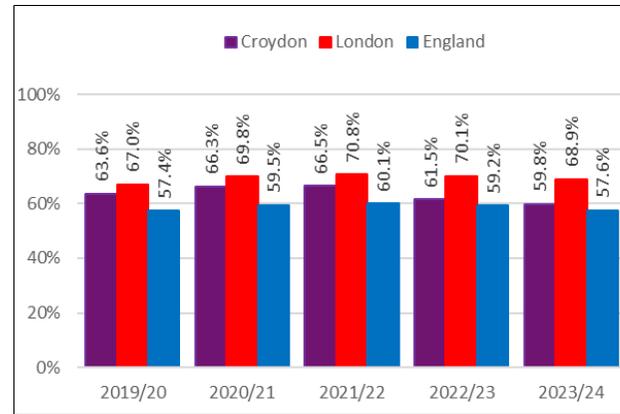


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Level 3 qualification by age 19

Figure 14 shows that Croydon continually and consistently performs below the London average and above the national average in terms of pupils achieving level 3 qualifications by the age of 19.

Figure 14 – The percentage of 19 year olds with a level 3 qualification



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Economy

Overview

This section provides a brief overview of the economy in Croydon looking at:

Businesses

Employment

People out of work

Apprenticeships

Skill levels of adults

The ~~new~~ Mayor's Business Plan 2022-2026 Council plans to further develop the borough and to continue to provide exciting opportunities for our residents by creating and maintaining a thriving local economy.

The Mayor has highlighted the following key priorities for the borough:

To support the regeneration of Croydon's town and district centres, seeking inward investment and grants.

To deliver a vibrant London Borough of Culture which showcases local talent and supports Croydon's recovery.

To support the local economy and enable residents to upskill and access job opportunities.

Businesses

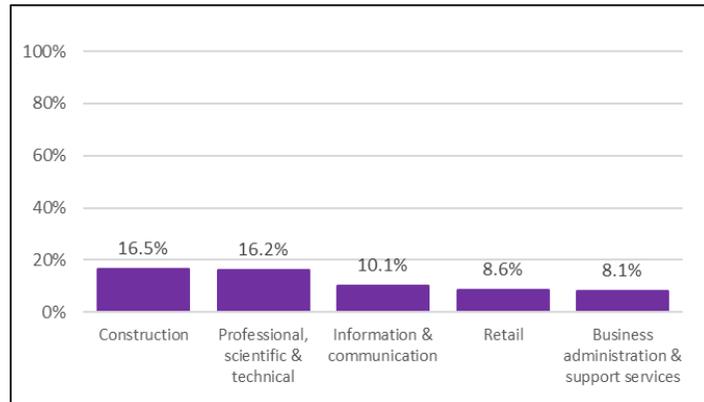
As at March 2025, there were 14,460 enterprises comprising 16,285 local units in Croydon.¹ This number of enterprises is up by 0.15% on the previous year. There were only 40 of these enterprises (0.3%) that employed in excess of 250 people. The majority (92.5%) were enterprises employing 0-9 people.

Figure 1 shows that the 5 top industries for Croydon, based on the employment by the enterprise units are (i) construction (ii) professional, scientific & technical, (iii) information & comms, (iv) retail and (v) business administration & support services. These have been the top five industries since 2018.

¹ ONS, Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR).

Borough Profile - Economy

Figure 1 – Enterprises by industry in Croydon, 2025



Source: ONS UK Business Demography, Table 1

The number of new enterprises or business births in Croydon continued to grow year on year with 1,495 in 2010 peaking to 2,905 in 2016. For the last 4 years to 2022 this figure has averaged over 2,334 each year. Over the last 4 years the number of business deaths has averaged 2,178 every year with 2,400 deaths in 2022.

The overall number of still active enterprises in Croydon in 2023 was 16,505 which is down from the previous annual

figure of 17,140. The proportion of businesses that were started in Croydon in 2020 that were still active a year later was 91.3%. This compares with the 92.4% in London and 92.9% in England.

Table 1 shows that the survival rates of businesses born in 2020 are similar in Croydon, London and England after 1, 2 or 3 years of formation.

Table 1 – Survival rates of enterprises born in 2020

	1 Year Survival Rate	2 Year Survival Rate	3 Year Survival Rate
Croydon	91.3%	70.6%	51.1%
London	92.4%	72.6%	53.4%
England	92.9%	71.3%	52.8%

Source: ONS Business Demography, Table 5.1c, released Nov.2023

The ONS business counts now include more Pay As you Earn (PAYE) businesses than in previous years. In 2016, there were approximately 13,915 enterprises in Croydon and only 35 of these employed more than 250 people. In 2024, there are 14,470 enterprises of which only 40 employ over 250 people.

Employment

Latest figures show that 8 in 10 (81.2%) of Croydon residents aged 16-64 years are in employment. This is a slightly higher proportion than in London and nationally.

Table 2 – Employment and unemployment in Croydon – July 2024 – June 2025

	Croydon	Croydon	London	Great Britain
	(nos)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Economically active†	214,300	81.2	79.8	78.8
In employment†	206,500	78.1	75.5	75.5
Employees†	174,800	67.8	62.9	65.7
Self-employed†	30,200	10.4	12.2	9.5
Unemployed (model-based)§	#	#	5.5	4.2
	Croydon	Croydon	London	Great Britain

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey

† - numbers are for those aged 16 and over, % are for those aged 16-64

§ - numbers and % are for those aged 16 and over. % is a proportion of Economically active

The latest job density figure for Croydon is 0.57 (2023). The density figure represents the ratio of total jobs to population aged 16-64. In Croydon, this has always been much lower than in London (1.07) and Great Britain (0.86) possibly due to the relatively lower proportion of retail and construction jobs compared to in London.

Comparing figures 2 and 3, it can be seen that the average gross weekly earnings for male full-time workers who just work in Croydon is about £53 higher a week than for those who both live and work in Croydon. Female full-time workers who live and work in the borough earn £37 more a week than their counterparts who live outside of the Borough and travel into Croydon to work. This suggests that it pays to live and work in Croydon.

Borough Profile - Economy

Figure 2 – Gross weekly earnings by place of work (Croydon workers not living in the borough), 2025



Source: ONS ASHE, resident analysis

Figure 3 – Gross weekly earnings by place of residence (Croydon residents, working in the borough), 2025

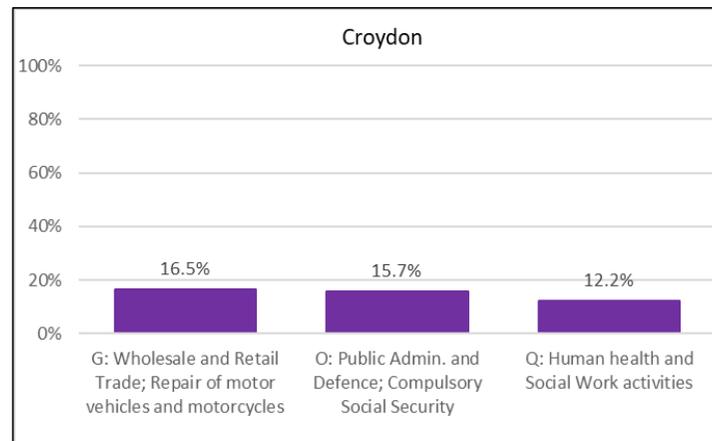


Source: ONS ASHE, workplace analysis

The higher earnings for Croydon residents not working in Croydon is likely to be linked to the high proportion of residents who commute into central London.

The number of jobs in Croydon over the past 5 years has averaged just over 123,200 each year. Latest estimates for 2024 suggest that compared to the London average, in Croydon there is a much higher proportion of jobs in the wholesale and retail sectors and public administration and support services.

Figure 4 – Top 3 Employee jobs 2024



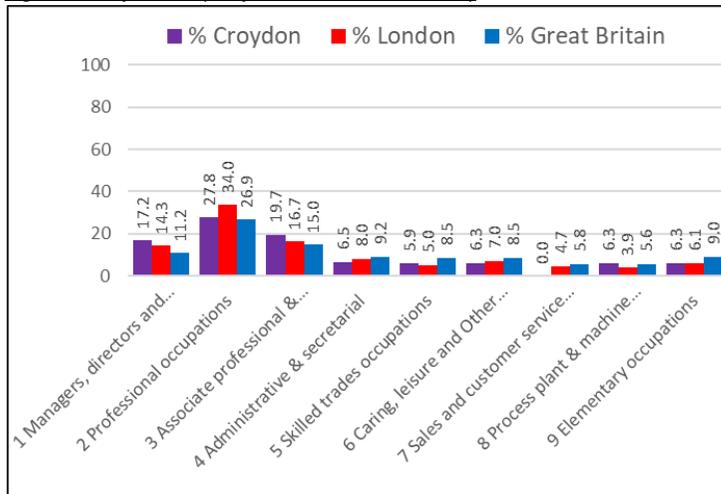
Source: ONS business register and employment survey

Borough Profile - Economy

Six in 10 jobs (65.4%) in Croydon comprise occupations such as managers, directors, senior officials, professional, associate professional & technical staff. This is not surprising as there are Council offices, other offices, banks, law firms and retail outlets in the town Centre.

Occupations in the services sector including care, leisure, sales and customer services account for only 9.3% of the total occupations in Croydon. This is lower than in London (11.7%) and in the UK (14.7%).

Figure 5 – Percentage Employment by Occupation for those aged 16+ years, (July 2024 – June 2025)



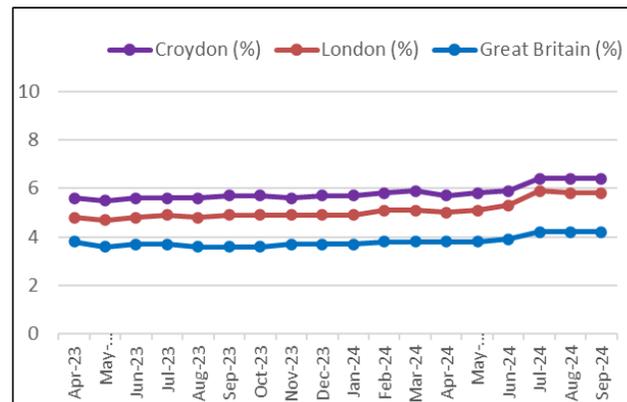
Source: ONS annual population survey

People out of work

The number of people claiming out of work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed is made up of those claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and National Insurance credits and those receiving Universal Credit as a result of being unemployed.

Over the 12 rolling months to September 2024 the proportion of people claiming out of work benefits in Croydon looks to be stabilising at around the 6% mark. Yet the claimant rate in Croydon continues to be slightly higher than the rates in London and Great Britain.

Figure 6 – Proportion of claimants 16-64 years (not all unemployed)



Source: ONS claimant count

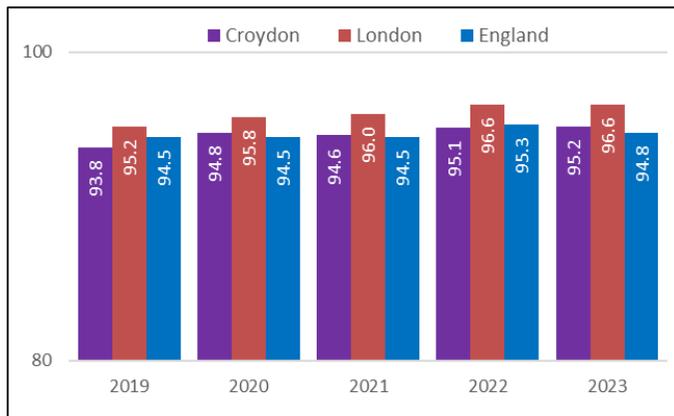
Our Youth

Youth in Education or Training

Local authorities have a responsibility to track young people's participation in education or training. This is done through the exchange of information with schools and colleges, other youth services and through direct contact with young people.

Croydon continues to do better than the national average but is still not doing as well as the London average.

Figure 7 – Percentage of 16 & 17 year olds in education or training



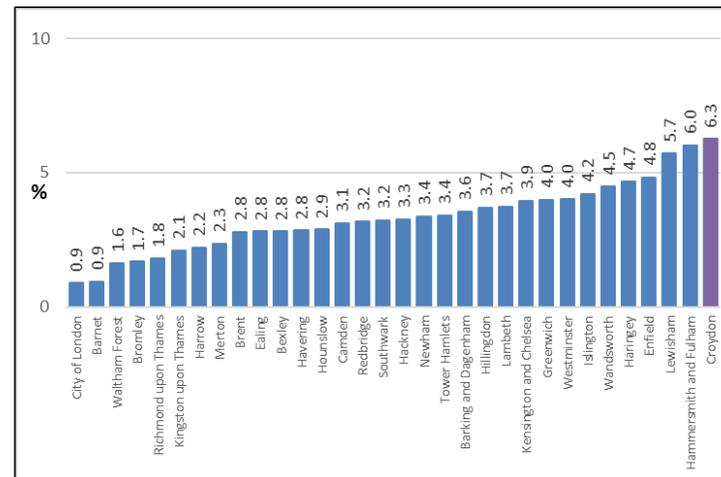
Source: PH Outcomes Framework, Wider Determinants of Health

16-17 year old NEET

Based on the latest figures for 2024, Croydon has the highest proportion of 16-17 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared to all the other London boroughs. There were 6.3% of young NEET teenagers compared to the London average of 3.4% and the national average of 5.4%.

The NEET figure for 16-17 year olds in Croydon as at April 2025 is 3.2%

Figure 8 - The proportion of NEET 16-17 year olds whose activity is not known in 2024

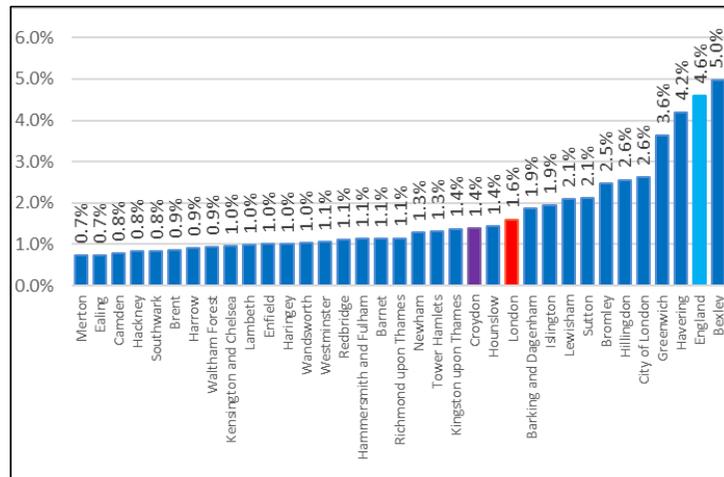


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Borough Profile - Economy

Latest figures show that Croydon has a slightly lower percentage (1.4%) of 16-17 year olds in apprenticeships as at March 2024 compared to the London average (1.6%).

Figure 9 – Proportion of new apprenticeship starts across London for 16-17 year olds NEET at March 2024

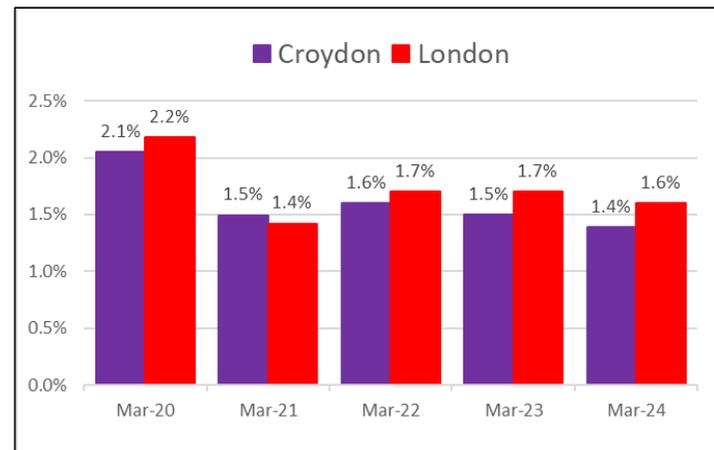


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

For the past 3 years to March 2024, there has been a similar proportion of 16-17 year olds taking up apprenticeships in London and Croydon

However, the figures for the last 3 years have seen a decrease in the proportion of apprenticeships in both Croydon and London compared to previous years.

Figure 10 – Proportion of new apprenticeship starts for 16-17 year olds in Croydon compared to the London average over the last 5 years



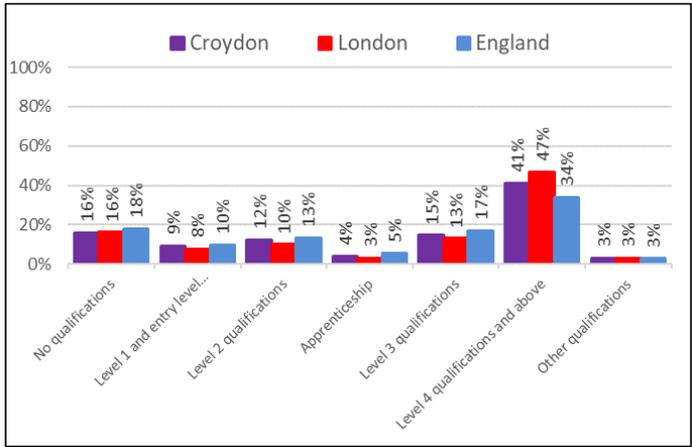
Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Skill levels of adults

No qualifications

Based on the ONS Census 2021, 16.0% of all adults in Croydon were recorded as having no qualifications and this was the same as the London average but lower than in England. This 16.0% in Croydon and London is a reduction on the Census 2011 figure of 17.6%. For England the proportion of adults with no qualifications has moved reduced from 22.5% in 2011 to 18.0% in 2021.

Figure 11 – Level of qualifications



Source: ONS Census 2021, January 2023

Housing

Overview

This section looks at some of the main issues relating to housing in Croydon including:

- Tenure
- Cost of property
- Availability of housing
- Homelessness

The Mayor's Business Plan 2022-2026 sets out key housing priorities to invest in council homes to drive up standards and to develop a more responsive and effective housing service. It also will prioritise ensuring that new homes are safe, well-designed and in keeping with the local area.

Tenure

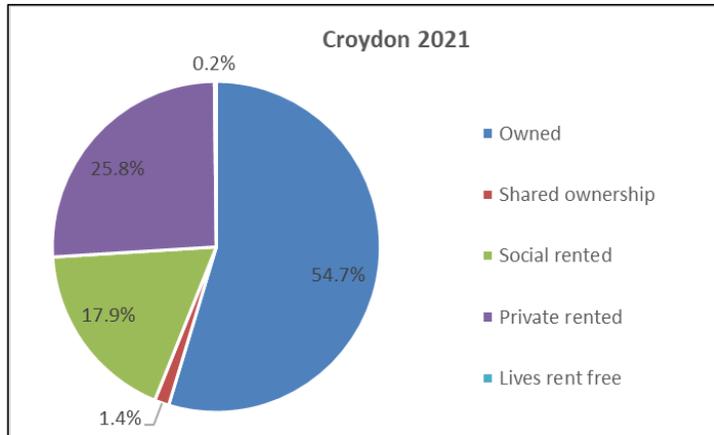
The ONS Census 2021 data shows that the number of households in Croydon has increased by 5.4% in 10 years (from 145,010 to 152,900). But Council tax data suggests that the number of households in Croydon is probably in excess of 160,000.

Figure 1 shows the household tenure in Croydon from the ONS Census 2021. From 2011 to 2021 the proportion of owned/mortgaged properties has gone down by 4% and the proportion of those living rent free has gone down by just under one percent making a total reduction of 5%. During the same period of time, the proportion of private rented properties has gone up by nearly 5%.

The proportion of social rented housing has stayed the same at 17.9% over the last 10 years which is surprising given that the former cabinet and leadership team were continually promoting more homes in the borough for the vulnerable.

Borough Profile - Housing

Figure 1 – Households by Tenure in Croydon in 2021



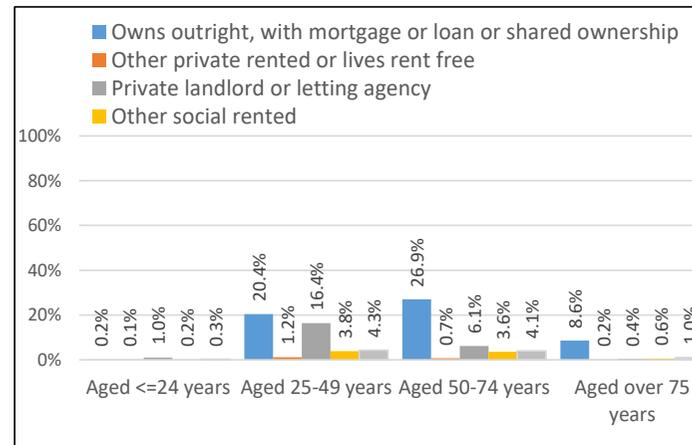
Source: ONS Census 2021, January 2023

In the Census 2021, nearly half (47.8%) of households had a head of household who was aged 49 years or under. The heads of households aged between 25 and 74 years accounted for 41.4% whilst those aged 75 years or more made up 10.8% of all head of households in Croydon. There were only 1.8% of the households occupied by people aged 24 years or younger.

About a half (47.4%) of the household reference persons aged 25-74 years own their homes in Croydon. Under a quarter (22.5%) of this age group rent from the private rental market.

Only 15.8% of the 25-74 years age group are in Council social housing or other social rented housing.

Figure 2 - Tenure type by Household Reference Person in Croydon by age band in 2021



Source: ONS Census 2021, March 2023

Croydon has a large housing stock but its social housing stock is smaller than many other London boroughs. Social housing in Croydon is mainly concentrated in the northern parts and the eastern edge of the borough.

Cost of property

The number of house sales in Croydon had been decreasing every year from 2014 to 2020. In 2021 property sales in Croydon increased to close to the 2016 position but the latest 2 years is showing a reduction in the number of sales largely due to the economic climate and uncertainty in the property market.

Figure 3 – House sales in Croydon 2014-2023

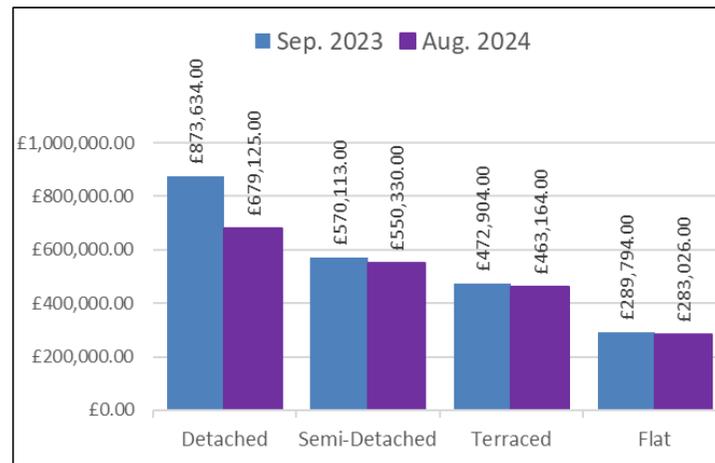


Source: GLA Housing Sales, based on Land Registry data, October 2024

N.B. These figures do not include “right to buy” sales or properties sold for less than £1,000 or more than £20 million.

Over the year, Sept 2023 to August 2024, average asking prices for detached houses in Croydon have gone down 22.3%. Semi-detached houses have gone down 3.5%, terraced houses have gone down 2.1% and flats have gone down 2.3%.

Figure 4 – Change in property asking prices in Croydon over the past year (3 months moving averages)

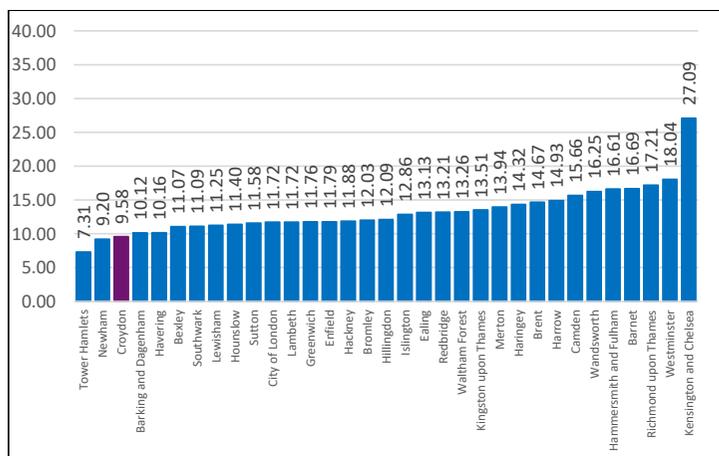


Source: [Home.co.uk](https://www.home.co.uk), Oct. - April 2024

Borough Profile - Housing

For the year ending September 2024, Croydon had the 3rd lowest ratio of average earnings (for full-time workers) to average house prices across London so remains one of the more affordable London boroughs to live in.

Figure 5: Ratio of house prices to earnings to year ending September 2024



Source: GLA Ratio of House Prices to Earnings (full-time workers by place of work), June 2025

According to the ONS Census 2021, around 61% of households in England own their own homes either outright or with a mortgage. In London the average is 45%. In Croydon nearly 55% of households are owner occupied.

Table 1: Household Tenure

Tenure of household	Croydon	London	England
Total: All households	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Owned	54.7%	45.2%	61.3%
Shared ownership	1.4%	1.5%	1.0%
Social rented	17.9%	23.1%	17.1%
Private rented	25.8%	30.0%	20.5%
Lives rent free	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%

Source: ONS Census 2021, January 2023

Council Tax

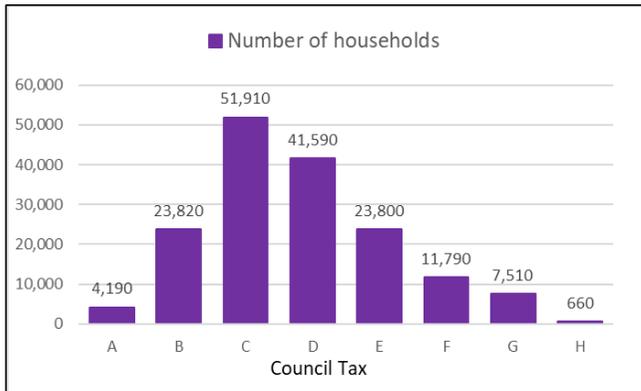
Based on the ONS Census 2021 data, there was estimated to be just over 160,000 households in Croydon subject to Council tax.

Figure 6 shows the breakdown of these households by Council Tax (CT) band where band A is for the lowest valued

properties (around £1,500 pa CT) and band H is for the highest valued properties (around £4,500 pa CT).

Borough Profile - Housing

Figure 6: Number of households by Council tax bandings



Source: ONS 2023 and Council tax records

Homelessness

Latest reported figures from the MHCLG show that there were 1,943 homeless households in Croydon in 2022/23.

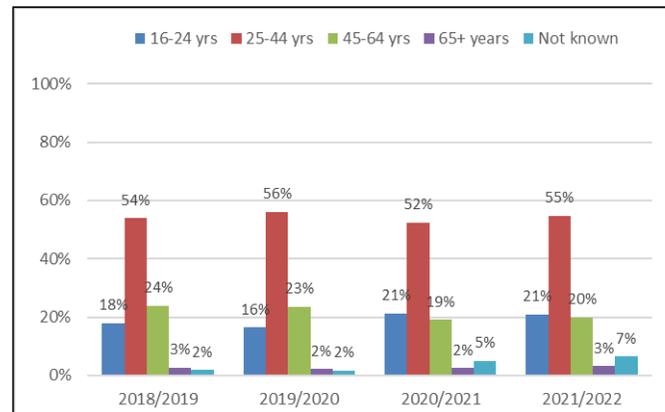
The Homelessness Review and Strategy 2018 reported that the highest proportion of accepted homeless households in

Croydon have been made up of lone parents with dependent children.

There is not enough social housing stock in Croydon to meet the most urgent housing need so the Council can only meet the constant housing demand by using the private landlord sector.

Latest annual figures for 2021/2022 show that more than half (55%) of homeless people in Croydon are in the 25-44 years age band. One in 5 (21%) are aged between 16 and 24 years and one in 5 (20%) are aged 45-64 years. There are very few people aged 65 years and over (3%).

Figure 7 – Homeless in Croydon by Age bands

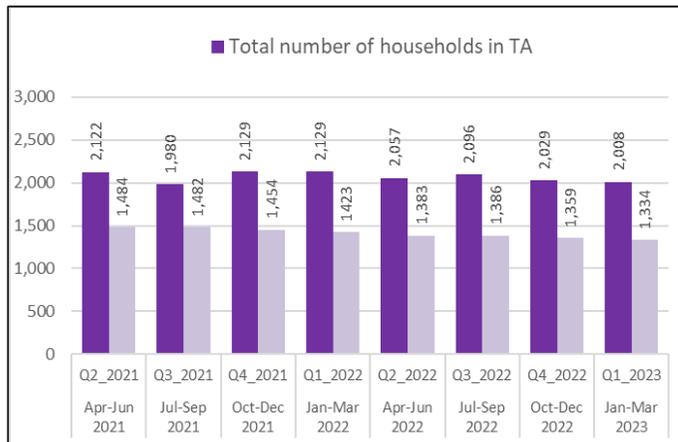


Source: Ministry of Housing, Community & Local Government, Table A6

Borough Profile - Housing

Figure 8 shows the latest 8 quarterly reported snapshots of the total number of Croydon households that were accepted as homeless in the statutory returns. The number of homeless households in temporary accommodation in Croydon had been around the 2,000 mark. The latest figure has shown an increase to 3,619 as at May 2025.

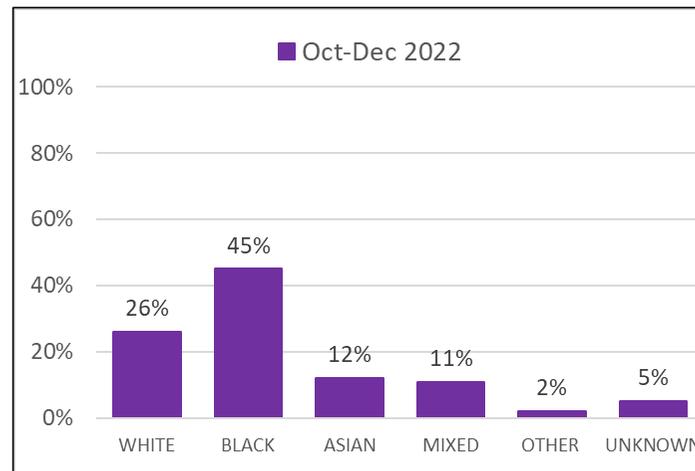
Figure 8: Croydon Households accepted as homeless



Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Table TA1

Figure 9 shows the latest quarter of Croydon homeless main applicants broken down by ethnicity. There continues to be a much higher proportion of homeless people from the Black community compared to the other communities in Croydon.

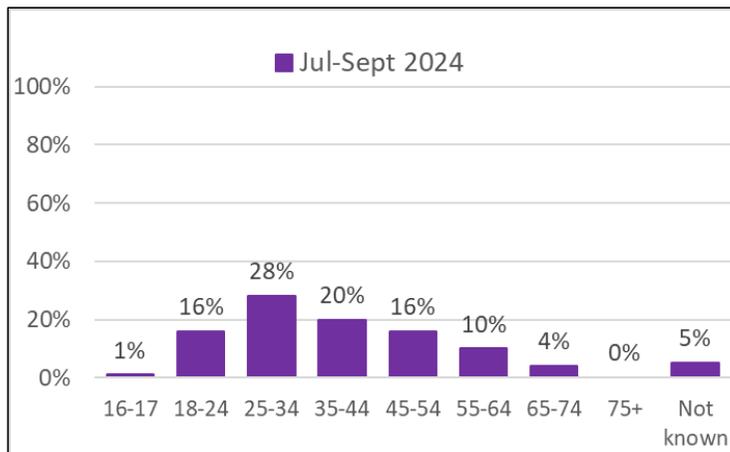
Figure 9 – Ethnicity of main applicants assessed to be homeless by local authority



Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Table A8, released February 2023

Based on the latest data, two thirds (64%) of the homeless main applicants, for whom an age is known, are aged between 18 and 44 years, as Figure 10 shows.

Figure 10 – Age of main applicants assessed as homeless by local authority



Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Table A6, 30 April 2025

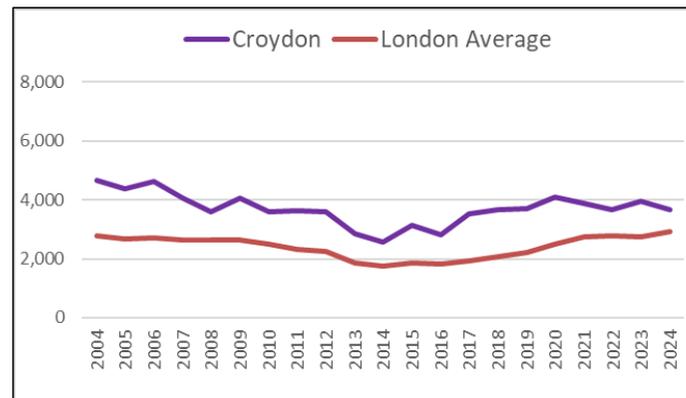
Housing Supply

Availability of housing

There were 3,651 vacant dwellings in Croydon as at 31st March 2024. This made Croydon the borough with the 7th highest number of vacant dwellings in London behind Barnet, Southwark, Camden, Newham, Lambeth and Bromley. Barnet had 5,185 vacant dwellings and Hammersmith & Fulham had the lowest with 1,182.

Figure 11 shows that Croydon has consistently had more vacant dwellings than the London average since 2004.

Figure 11: All Vacant Dwellings in Croydon from 2004 to 2024 compared to average for London

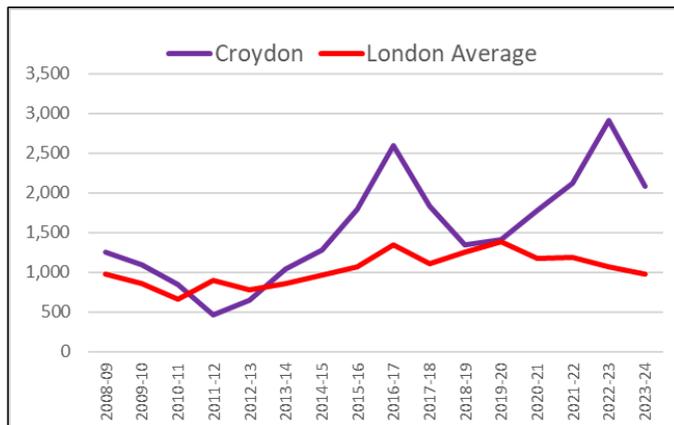


Source: DCLG, May 2025

Net additional housing stock

Croydon started to increase its annual net dwellings from 2011/2012, and it peaked in 2016/2017 at 2,588 units before dropping to 1,343 units in 2018/2019. Since then, there has been a steady increase every year and units have continued to be higher than the London average each year. The latest reported figure for Croydon in 2023/2024 is 2,087 units and Croydon has the 4th highest number of new units in London compared to other London councils.

Figure 12: Net additional dwellings or increase in stock in Croydon from 2008/2009 to 2023/2024



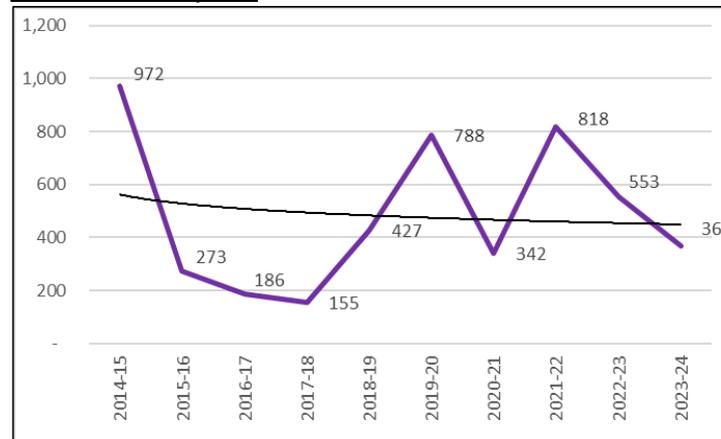
Source: DCLG, Live Table 122, updated November 2024

Affordable Housing

Over the last 10 years (2014/2015 -2023/2024), Croydon has built 4,883 affordable housing units. In that time, the highest annual figure reached was 972 completions in 2014/2015.

Figure 13 shows that the annual completions of affordable housing in Croydon peaked in 2014/2015 (972), 2019/2020 (788) and again in 2021/2022 (818) showing a slight downward trend over the decade to 2023/2024.

Figure 13: Total affordable housing completions in Croydon over the last 10 years

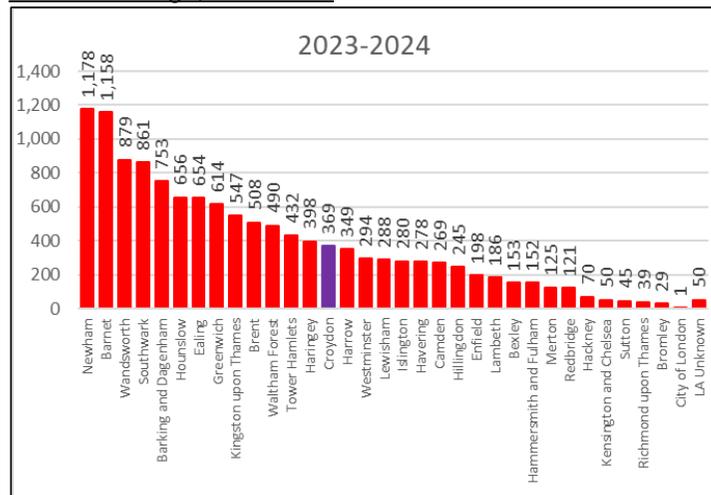


Source: DCLG, Total Affordable Housing Completions, Table 1011C, June 2025

Borough Profile - Housing

Figure 14 shows the latest affordable housing completions for 2023/2024. Compared to the rest of London, Croydon had the 14th highest completions in 2023/2024 compared to the rest of London.

Figure 14: Total affordable housing completions in each London borough, 2023/2024



Source: DCLG, Total Affordable Housing Completions, Table 1011C, June 2025

Health

Overview

This section looks at the general health of the population in the borough, focusing on issues relating to Public Health.

General health

Children and young people's health

Adults' health and lifestyle

Disease and poor health

Life expectancy and cause of death

Responses from Croydon residents on the general health questions in the ONS Census 2021 provided the following results:

82.4% said they were in very good health or good health.

12.7% said they were in fair health.

5.0% said they were in bad health or very bad health.

The Mayor's Business Plan 2022-2026 includes the following priorities:-

To improve health and wellbeing in the borough, enable people to live independently for as long as possible, and keep adults who are at risk of abuse and neglect safe.

To work with partner organisations, including Health, the private sector and voluntary organisations to develop a sustainable model of adult social care for the future.

To commission cost-effective services and continue to work with providers to support and develop the market to meet local need in innovative ways.

To work with partners and stakeholders to recognise and support carers.

To collaborate with partners to make Croydon a dementia friendly borough.

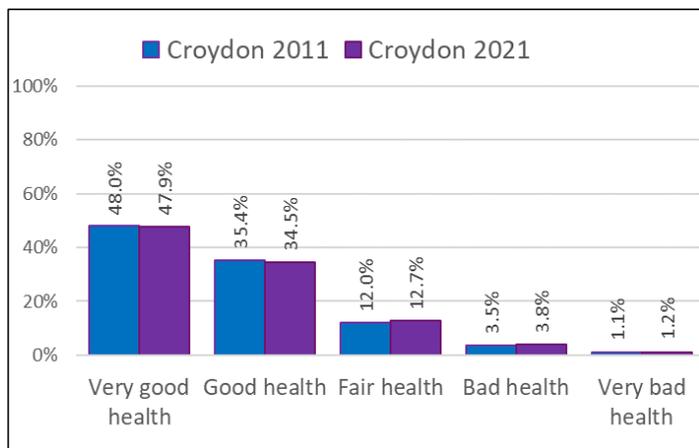
To support the development of homes that promote independence

General health

The Censuses asked residents to rate their general health as very good, good, fair, bad or very bad. The majority of Croydon residents (82.4%) who answered the general health question in the Census 2021 survey said they were in very good health or good health. 12.7% said they were in fair health and 5.0% said they were in bad health or very bad health.

Figure 1 shows that the proportion of people in each of the health categories has stayed very much the same over the last 10 years, from Census 2011 to Census 2021.

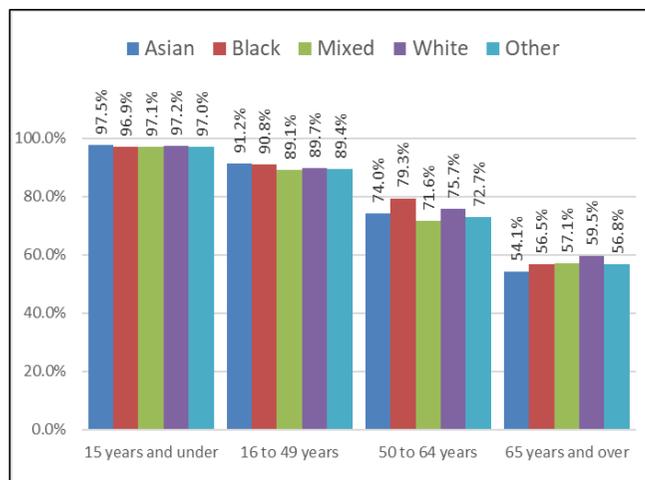
Figure 1 – General health 2011 vs 2021



Source: ONS Census 2021 Table TS037ASP

Figure 2 shows the Croydon residents who said they were in good health broken down by their broad ethnic group and age bands. Around 1 in 4 (74.9%) of those residents aged over 50 years or under between 65 years said they were not in good general health. About 4 in 10 of those aged 65 years or over said they were not in good health. The health concerns from Croydon residents aged from 50 years onwards means that demands on social care services will only become greater as the Croydon population ages.

Figure 2 – Good health in Croydon by broad ethnic group and age bands.



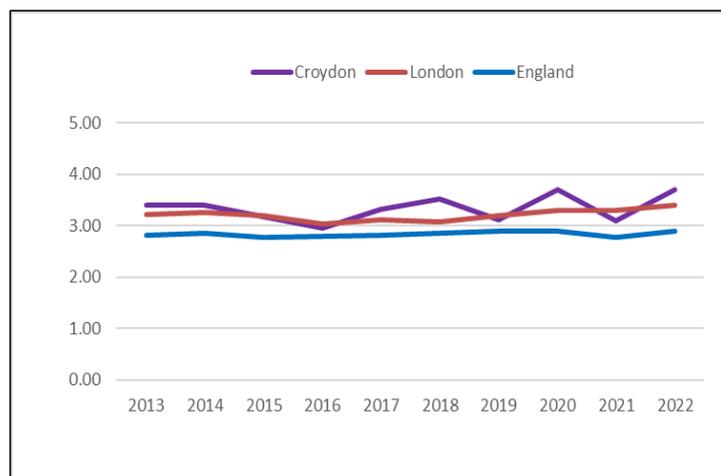
Source: ONS Census 2021, table RM043

Children and young people's health

Low birth weight

Low birth rate is classified as any weight less than 2,500 grams. Figure 3 shows that for 2022, Croydon's rate of 3.70 has moved above both the London rate of 3.40 and the national rate of 2.90.

Figure 3 – Low birth weight



Source: Public Health Profile, Health Improvement

Immunisations

Childhood immunisation rates in Croydon remain statistically lower than both the London average and the England average for all immunisations and the situation on adult immunisation rates in Croydon tells a similar story.

Table 1 – Coverage of childhood immunisations

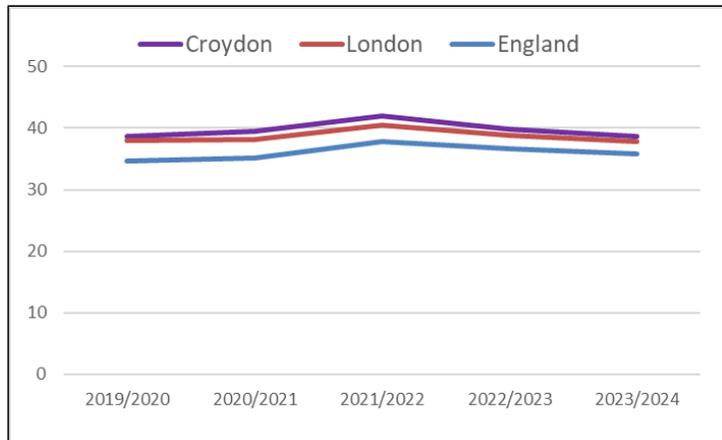
Immunisation Type	Croydon	London	England
Dtap/IPV/Hib (1 year old) - 2023/2024	85.3%	86.2%	91.2%
Dtap/IPV/Hib (2 years old) - 2023/2024	85.6%	87.7%	92.4%
PCV (1 year) - 2023/2024	87.4%	88.8%	93.2%
Hib/MenC booster (2 years old) - 2023/2024	79.3%	81.2%	88.6%
PCV booster (2 years old) - 2023/2024	78.2%	80.4%	88.2%
MMR one dose (2 years old) - 2023/2024	78.8%	81.8%	88.9%
MMR one dose (5 years old) - 2023/2024	81.9%	85.2%	91.9%
MMR two doses (5 years old) - 2023/2024	68.1%	73.3%	83.9%
HPV vaccine – 1 dose (females 12-13 years old) - 2022/2023	58.0%	59.0%	71.3%
HPV vaccine – 2 doses (females 13-14 years old) - 2022/2023	49.1%	52.9%	62.9%
Flu (2-3 years old) - 2023/2024	36.1%	37.2%	44.4%
Flu (at risk individuals) - 6mths-64yrs 2023/2024	33.8%	34.7%	41.4%
Flu (aged 65+) - 2023/2024	65.7%	65.9%	77.8%
PPV (aged 65+) - 2022/2023	68.7%	67.2%	71.8%
Shingles (aged 71) - 2022/2023	47.2%	40.8%	48.3%

Source: PHE Public Health Outcomes, Health Protection

Excess weight

Excess weight in primary school pupils remains a national concern. Results show that the proportion of Croydon pupils in Year 6 measured as having excess weight has consistently been slightly higher than the London and England proportions over the last 10 years. The latest rolling 3 years to 2023/2024 has Croydon on 38.6% compared to London on 37.8% and England on 35.8%.

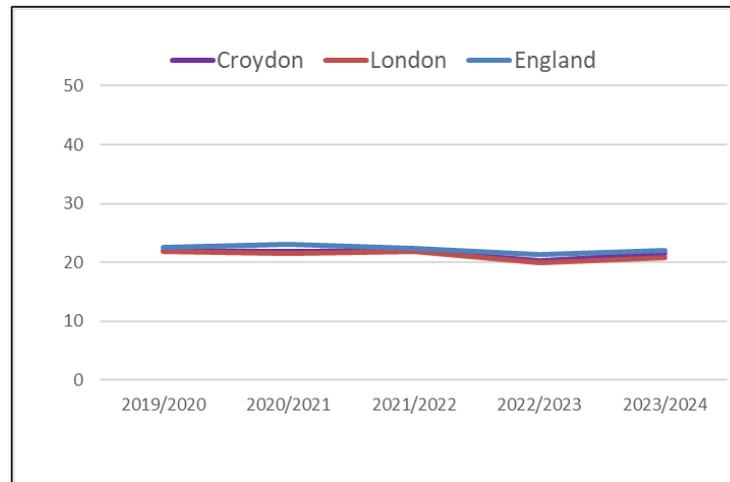
Figure 4 – Excess weight in pupils in Year 6



Source: NHS Digital, National Child Measurement programme

The proportion of Croydon pupils in Reception year (aged 4-5 years) measured as having excess weight was 21.5% based on the latest results for the average three years from 2021/2022 to 2023/2024. This is in line with both the London average at 20.9% and the national rate at 22.1% as Figure 5 shows.

Figure 5 – Excess weight in pupils in Reception



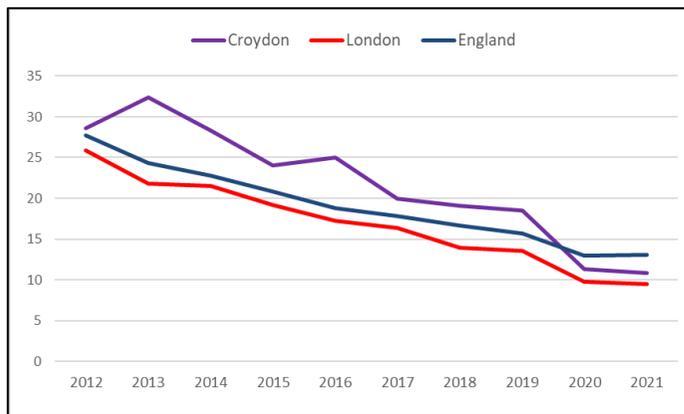
Source: NHS Digital, National Child Measurement programme

Teenage conceptions

Croydon had the 12th highest teenage conception rate per 1,000 girls aged under 18 years across London in 2021, (behind Greenwich, Lambeth, Enfield, Waltham Forest, Southwark, Barking and Dagenham, Hackney, Havering, Islington, Bexley and Lewisham).

Overall, there has been a downward trend in teenage conceptions over the last 10 years and in fact, since as far back as 1998. The Croydon rate has dropped below the England rate for the last 2 reported years.

Figure 6 - Under 18 conception rate



Source: ONS Conception statistics

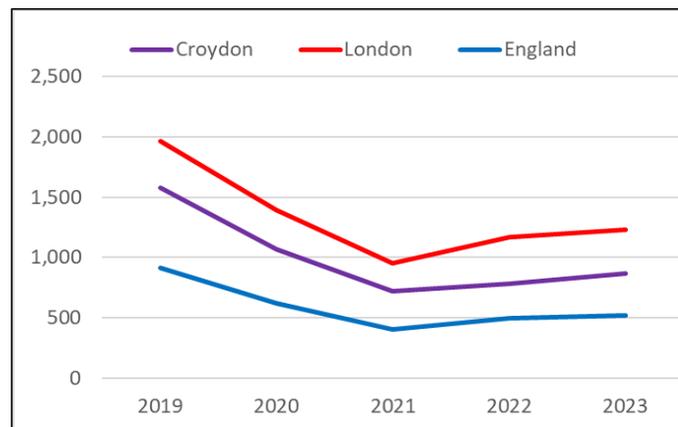
Sexually transmitted infections

Croydon continues to have a higher Chlamydia diagnosis rate per 100,000 aged 15-24 years compared to the national rate but a lower rate compared to the London rate.

New sexually transmitted infections (excluding Chlamydia)

had been falling in Croydon, London and England since 2019 but the latest reported figures are showing an increase across the board.

Figure 7 - New STI diagnoses (exc chlamydia aged under 25) per 100,000



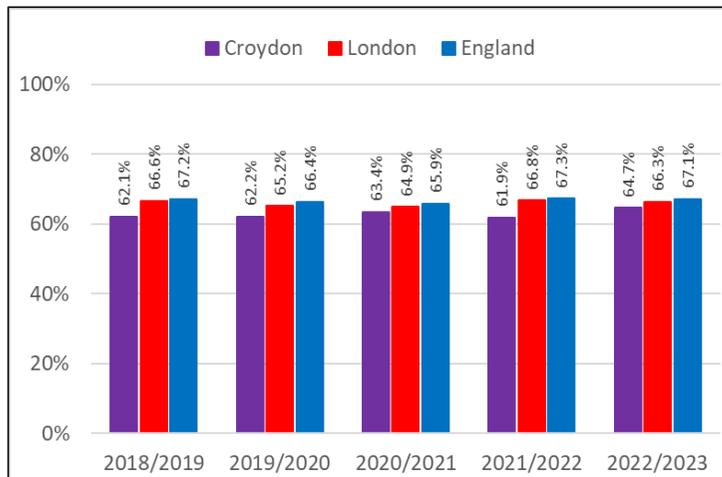
Source: PH Profile, Health Protection section

Adults' health and lifestyle

Physical activity

The Active Lives survey from 2022/2023 reported that 64.7% of adults aged 19 and over in Croydon achieved 150 minutes of moderate intensity exercise per week in line with the national guidelines. This is lower than both the regional figure of 66.3% and the national average of 67.1%.

Figure 8 – Percentage of physically active adults

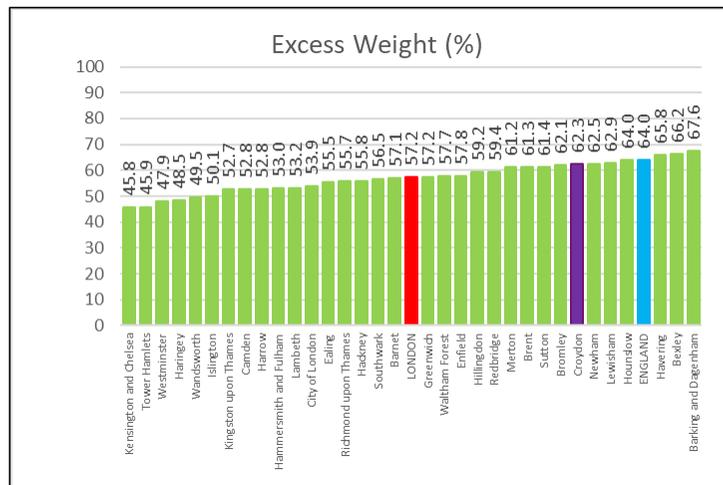


Source: Public Health England (based on the Active Lives Adult Survey, Sport England)

Excess weight

The proportion of adults aged 18 plus years classified as overweight or obese in Croydon was approximately 62.3% for 2022/2023. This was lower than the previous year's figure which was 62.6%. The average across London in 2022/2023 was 57.2% against the national average figure at 64.0%.

Figure 9 – Proportion of adults with excess weight 2022/2023



Source: PHE Health Profiles (based on the Active Lives Survey, Sport England)

Flu vaccinations

Over the last 10 years Croydon’s coverage of flu vaccinations has been below the national average for those aged over 65 years. In 2023/2024, 65.7% received a flu jab in Croydon which was lower than the London rate of 65.9%. The take-up in England for the same time period was 77.8%.

Smoking prevalence

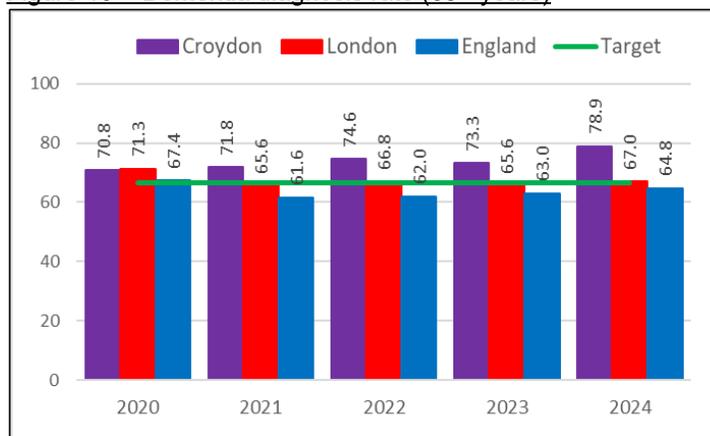
The proportion of adults aged 18 and over in Croydon who were self-reported smokers, in the 2023 Annual Population Survey, was 17.1%. This was higher than both the regional average of 11.7% and the national average of 11.6%.

Disease and poor health

Dementia

Over the last 5 years of estimation, the rate of dementia diagnosis in Croydon has been increasing year on year and has been above both the London average and the national average for the last 4 years. This means that a higher percentage of people with dementia in Croydon have had a proper diagnosis compared to regionally and nationally.

Figure 10 – Dementia diagnosis rate (65+ years)

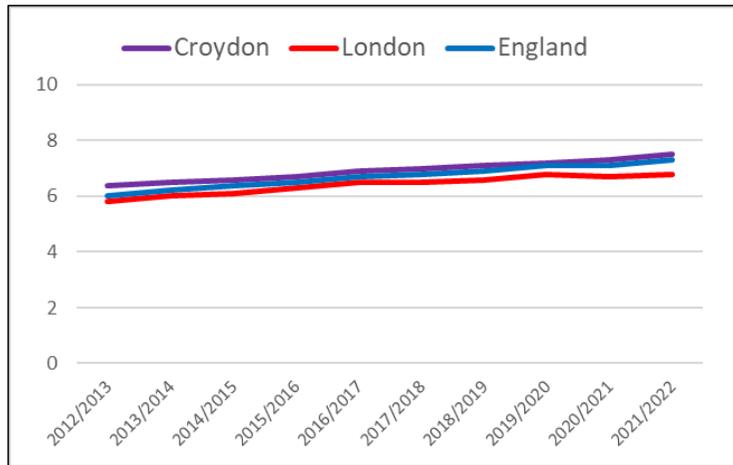


Source: NHS Digital, Public Health Outcomes Framework

Diabetes

Figure 11 shows that the prevalence of diagnosed diabetes in patients aged 17+ registered in Croydon has been slightly higher than the regional and national averages over the last 10 years with the trend showing a very slight rise.

Figure 11– Diabetes prevalence in 17+ year olds

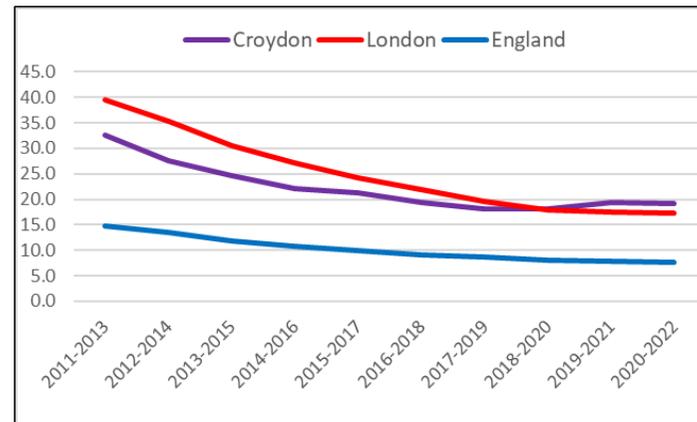


Source: PHE Health Profiles

Tuberculosis

The latest figures for 2020-2022 show that Croydon had an estimated 19.2 new cases of TB per 100,000 population. This was both higher than the London average (17.3) and the England average (7.6). This is only the third time in the last 21 reported periods that Croydon has had a higher rate of reported cases compared to the London average.

Figure 12 – Incidence of new cases of TB per 100,000 population



Source: PHE Health Profiles, Enhanced Tuberculosis Surveillance system (ETS)

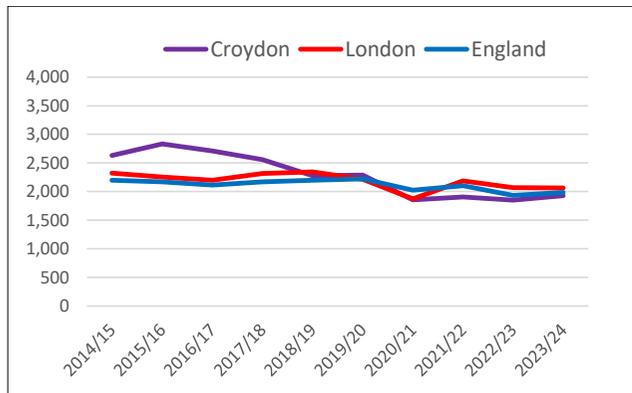
Falls in over 65s

The rate of hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65 and over in Croydon remains consistently higher than the regional and national averages. However, over the last 3 reported years, the rates of falls in Croydon have been lower than both the regional and national rates.

Borough Profile - Health

The latest figure for the rate of emergency hospital admissions for injuries due to falls in Croydon was 1,930 which is up on the rate of 1,850 per 100,000 in the previous year.

Figure 13 - Injuries due to falls in over 65s per 100,000



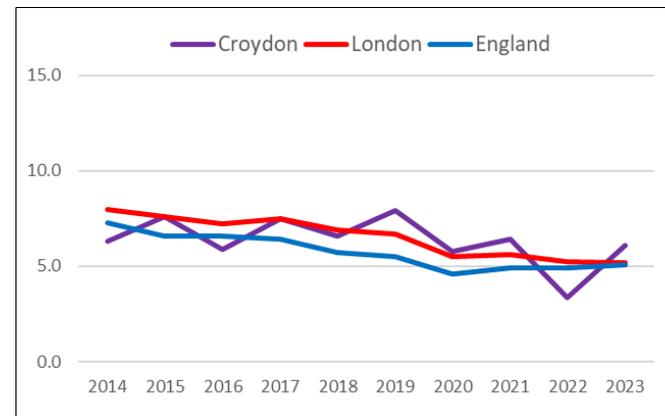
Source: PHE Health Profiles, Hospital Episode Statistics (HES)

Drug treatment

The successful completion of drug treatment for opiate users is measured by the number of users of opiates that left drug treatment successfully (free of drug(s) of dependence) who do not then re-present to treatment again within 6 months as a percentage of the total number of opiate users in treatment.

The latest year's figures show that Croydon's success rate is better than both London and England.

Figure 14 - Successful completion of drug opiate users



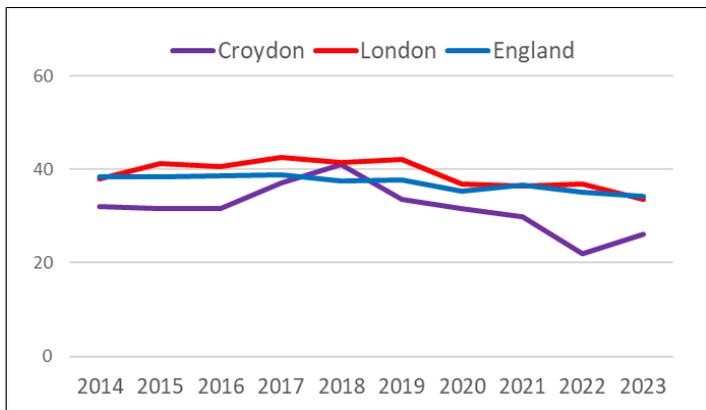
Source: PHE Health Profiles, Health Improvement

Alcohol treatment

The successful completion of alcohol treatment is measured by the number of alcohol users that left structured treatment successfully (free of alcohol dependence) who do not then re-present to treatment within 6 months as a percentage of the total number of alcohol users in structured treatment.

Figure 15 shows that historically, Croydon has consistently been less successful with alcohol treatment compared to London and England and the latest trend suggests that Croydon is still underperforming.

Figure 15 - Successful completion of alcohol treatment

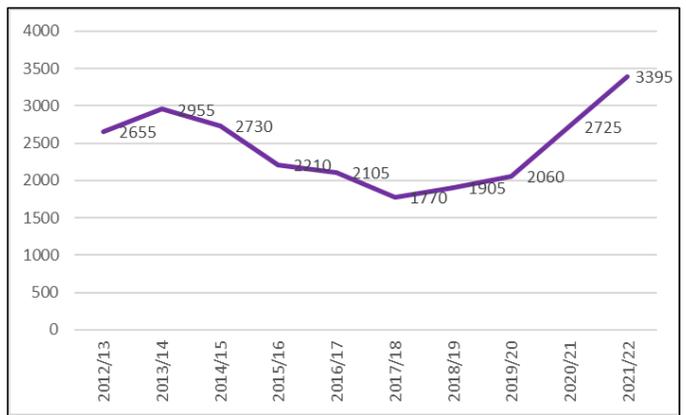


Source: PHE Health Profiles, Health Improvement

Substance Misuse

There were 3,395 adults in treatment for substance misuse issues in Croydon in 2021/2022. This is the highest number for at least the last 10 years.

Figure 16 - Number of adults in treatment for Substance Misuse in Croydon



Source: NDTMS Profiles

Based on the latest year's reported figures, in Croydon, 18.5% of clients were in treatment for opiate and crack cocaine usage and 35.2% were in treatment for alcohol usage only.

Table 2 – Patients in treatment for substance misuse in Croydon
2019/2020 – 2021/2022

Substance Use	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Opiate and crack cocaine	385	415	455
Opiate (not crack cocaine)	175	160	205
Crack cocaine (not opiate)	90	85	110
Cannabis	345	350	440
Cocaine	180	130	205
Benzodiazepine	40	50	70
Amphetamine (not ecstasy)	25	35	40
Ecstasy	10	10	5
Mephedrone	0	0	0
NPS	15	20	15
Hallucinogen	5	5	15
Alcohol	770	690	865
Other	20	25	35
Total number in treatment	2060	1975	2460

Source: NDTMS Profiles

Life expectancy and cause of death

Life expectancy at birth

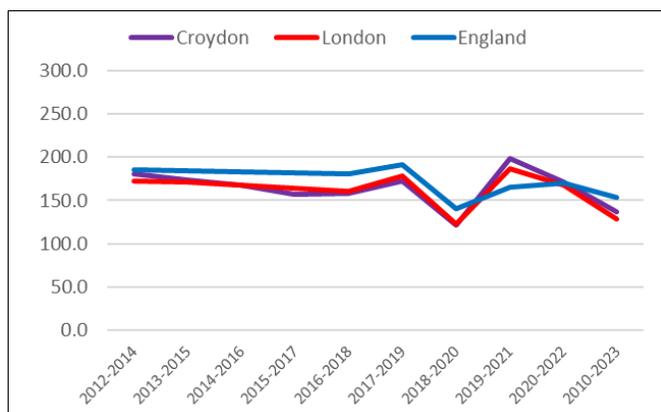
Taken from the Local Authority Health Profiles, life expectancy at birth for men in Croydon was 79.5 years in 2023. This compares to 80.4 years at the regional (London) and 79.3 at the national level. The life expectancy for women in Croydon is higher at 84.0 years which is lower than the London average (84.6 years) and higher than the England average (83.2 years).

Mortality rates

Figure 17 shows the mortality rate from causes considered preventable for those aged under 75 years in Croydon over the last 10 years. The Croydon average over that time has been 164 deaths per 100,000 compared to the London average of 162 per 100,000 and the national average of 173 per 100,000.

Borough Profile - Health

Figure 17 – Mortality rate of under 75 year olds from causes considered preventable (standardised rate per 100,000 persons)



Source: PHE Public Health Outcomes Framework

Smoking related deaths

The PHE Local Tobacco Control Profiles show that the rate of smoking related deaths in Croydon remains lower than the national average. For 2017-2019 there were 165.0 deaths per 100,000 people in Croydon compared to 171.3 across London and 202.2 nationally.

Anxiety

The ONS Annual Population Survey asks a number of questions to those aged 16 years or over. Results from the last survey conducted for 2022/2023 are listed in Table 3 below.

A higher percentage of Croydon respondents compared to London and England respondents indicated a higher anxiety score.

Table 3 – Survey scores on wellbeing – 2022/2023

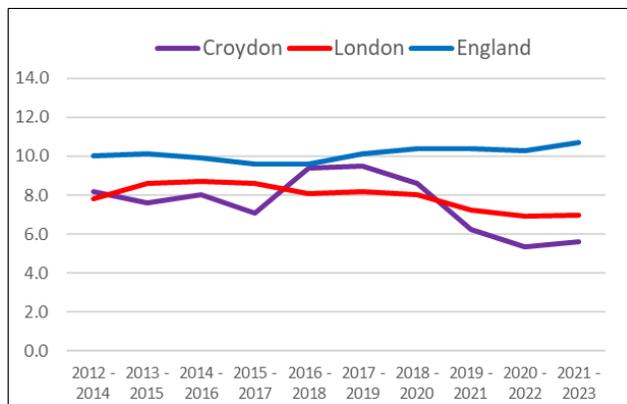
INDICATOR	CROYDON	LONDON	ENGLAND
People with a low life satisfaction score	12.50	5.84	5.64
People with a low worthwhile score	3.38	4.52	4.42
People with a low happiness score	15.60	9.13	8.85
People with a high anxiety score	32.20	23.70	23.30

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, latest data from 28.November 2023

Suicide rate

For the past 3 reported years the suicide rate in Croydon has been lower than the rates in London and nationally. The suicide rate in Croydon for 2021-2023 was 5.7 deaths per 100,000 which is a slightly higher rate than the 5.3 deaths for previous reported period. The London rate for 2021-2023 was 7.0 (up from 6.9) and the national rate was 10.7 (up from 10.3).

Figure 18 – Suicide rate (standardised rate per 100,000 persons)



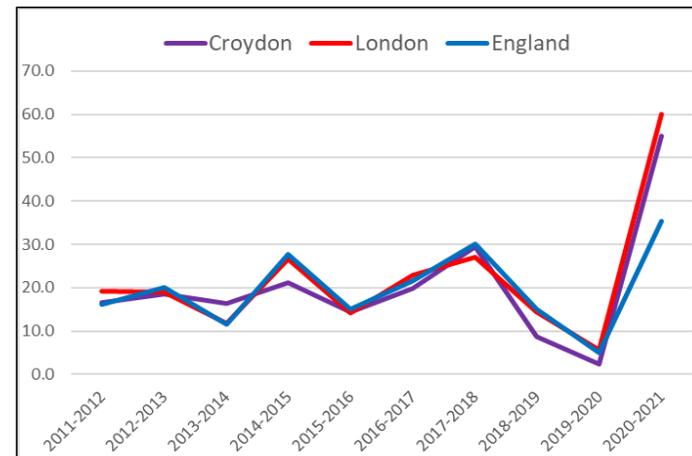
Source: PHE Public Health Outcomes Framework

Excess winter deaths

Excess winter deaths are reported, for the 12 months ending July, as the ratio of extra deaths that occur during the winter months compared to the number of expected deaths based on the average number of non-winter deaths. For 2020/2021,

Croydon was 55.0% which is lower than London (60.1%) but higher than England (35.4%). This significant rise in the index rate in all areas is attributed to the Covid pandemic.

Figure 19 - Excess winter deaths index (%) over last 10 years



Source: ONS excess winter mortality

Social care

Overview

This section provides a brief overview of social care clients in Croydon. It looks at:

Children in need

Looked After Children

Adult safeguarding

Adults receiving care

Social Care is a significant area that presents the council with a huge number of responsibilities and challenges. Key priorities are focused on safeguarding vulnerable children and adults in the borough. The Council takes its duty to support vulnerable individuals incredibly seriously and is committed to doing everything in its power to ensure these people are protected and supported to have a good quality of life.

The Mayor's Business Plan 2022-2026 makes it clear that the Council will:

Continue to Work with partners and the VCFS to promote independence, health and wellbeing and keep vulnerable adults safe.

Continue to work closely with health services and the VCFS to improve resident health and reduce health inequalities.

Continue to foster a sense of community and civic life.

Children in need

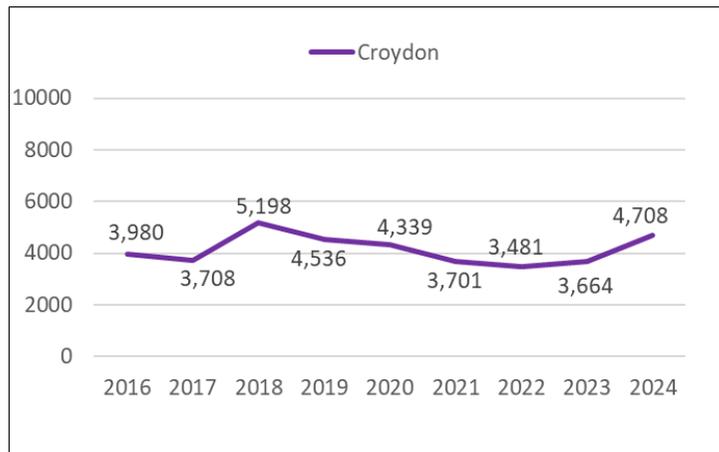
The most common reason for a child being in need in Croydon is abuse or neglect and absent parenting. The high figures are distorted by the high number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in the borough.

The Croydon Children in Need rate has been consistently higher than the regional and national rates for a number of years based on the rates per 10,000 children calculated as at 31 March each year.

Borough Profile – Social care

Figure 1 shows that the number of children in need episodes in Croydon has increased on the previous year to 4,708 and has averaged 4,146 episodes a year over the last 9 years from 2016 to 2024.

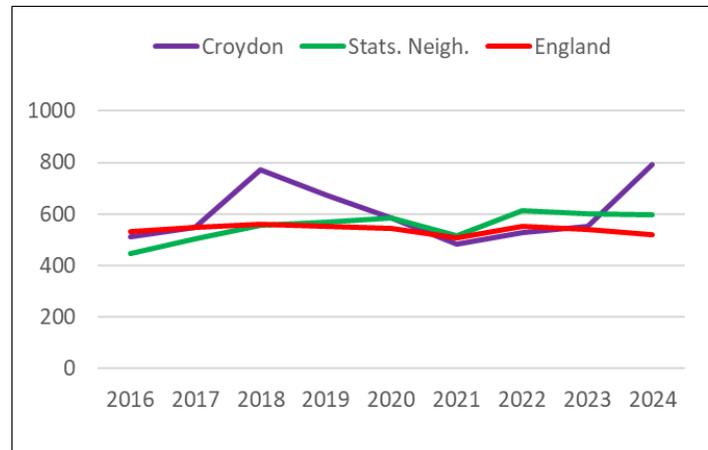
Figure 1 – Number of Children in need episodes in Croydon



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Figure 2 shows that the rate of child protection referrals to Croydon children's social care had been decreasing but the latest figure for 2023/2024 shows that the rate is much higher in Croydon compared to its Statistical neighbours and the national average. The latest year figure for 2023/2024 is 793 per 10,000 children compared to 553 per 10,000 children in the previous year.

Figure 2 – Rate of referrals to children social care services per 10,000 children



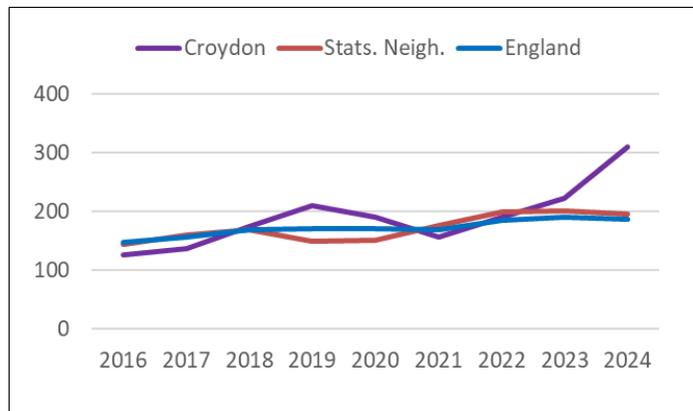
Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Borough Profile – Social care

The number of section 47 enquiries, investigations undertaken where there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm, has been rising in Croydon since 2014.

Figure 3 shows that the latest rate of section 47 referrals in Croydon for 31st March 2024 is above both Croydon's Statistical neighbours and the England rate. The latest Croydon rate for 2024 is 311 per 10,000 children which is up on the rate of 223 per 10,000 children in the previous year.

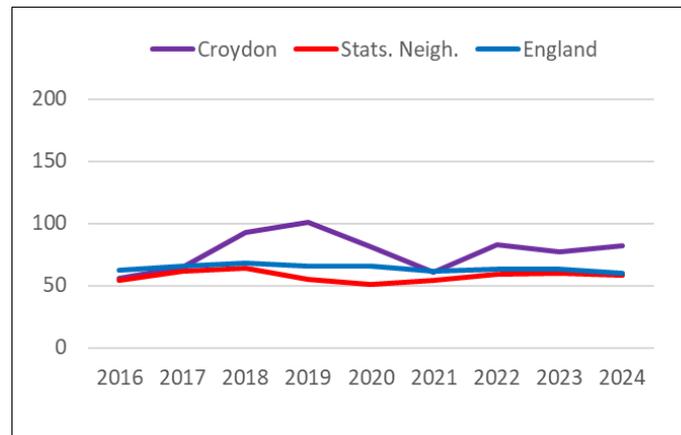
Figure 3 – Rate of section 47 enquiries per 10,000 children



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

The rate of initial child protection conferences for 2024 in Croydon has gone up to 82 per 10,000 children from the 77 per 10,000 children in the previous year. The current rate is higher than Croydon's Statistical neighbours' rate of 197 per 10,000 children and the national rate of 187 per 10,000 children.

Figure 4 – Rate of initial child protection conferences per 10,000 children

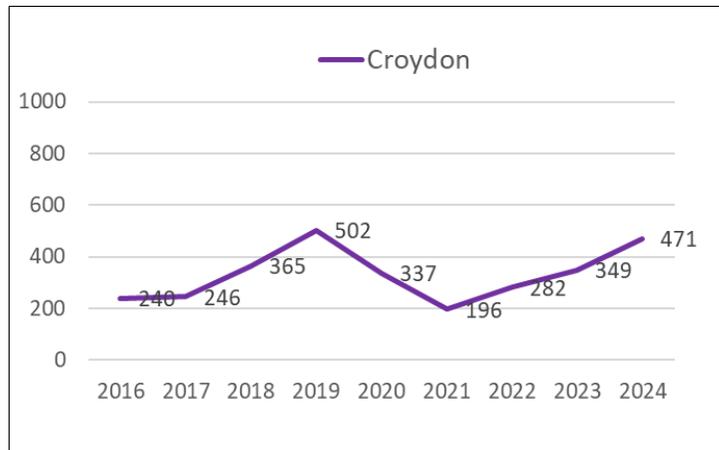


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Borough Profile – Social care

Figure 5 shows the number of children in Croydon who were the subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) as at 31 March for the years from 2016 to 2024. These children had been subject to a plan for 3 or more months prior to each reported period. After a downward trend from 2019, it now appears that the number has been increasing since 2021 and in 2023/2024 is back at around the 2019 level.

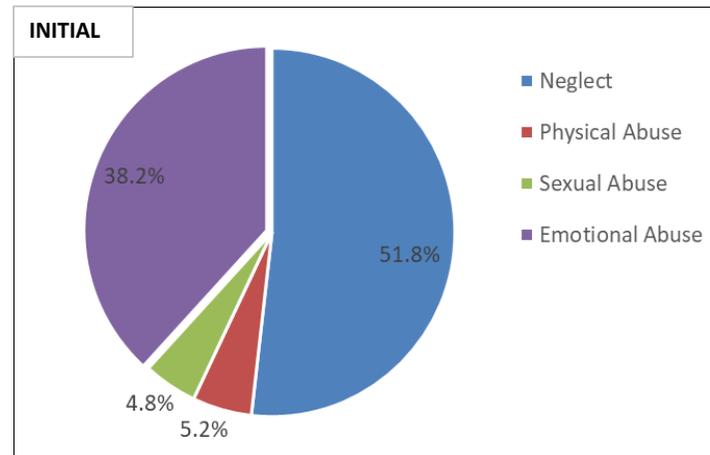
Figure 5 – Rate per 10,000 children subject to a child protection plan as at 31 March



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Figure 6 shows that over half (51.8%) of the children in Croydon who were subject to a child protection plan as of 31 March 2024 had an initial category of Neglect. Emotional abuse accounted for 38.2%, Physical abuse accounted for 5.2% and 4.8% of the cases were initially presented as Sexual abuse.

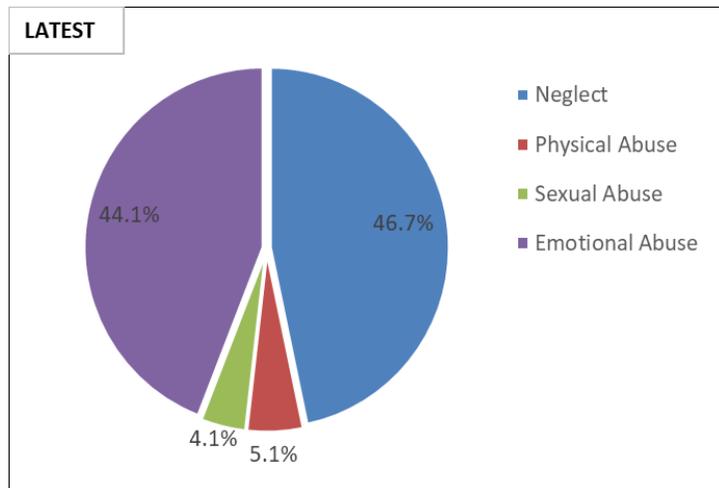
Figure 6 – Initial Category of need for children subject to a child protection plan as at 31 March 2024



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Figure 7 shows that nearly half (46.7%) of the children in Croydon who were subject to a child protection plan as at 31 March 2024 had a latest classification category of Neglect. Emotional abuse was found to account for 44.1% of the cases. 5.1% fell in the Physical abuse category and 4.1% were Sexual abuse cases.

Figure 7 – Latest Category of need for children subject to a child protection plan as at 31 March 2024

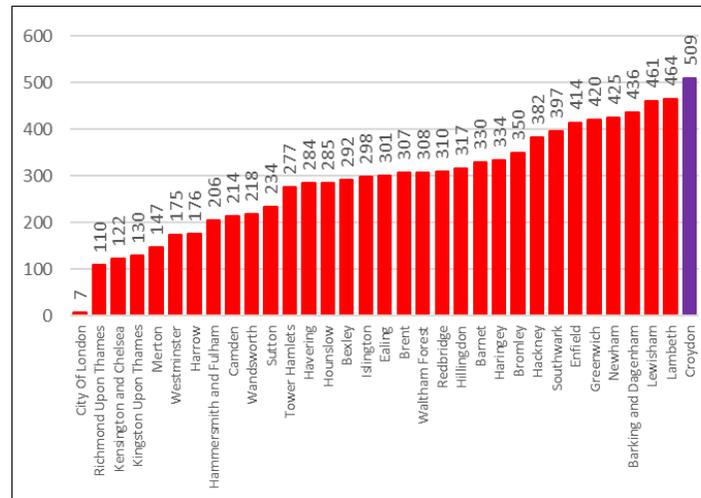


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Looked After Children

Croydon continues to have the highest number of looked after children of any London borough as shown in Figure 8. This is mainly due to the high numbers of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) looked after by the borough although that number has started to drop in recent years.

Figure 8 – Number of Looked After Children in London boroughs as at 31 March 2024



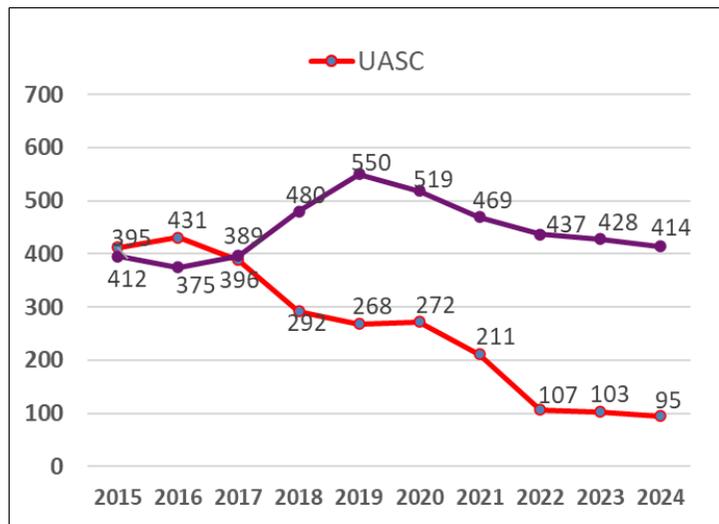
Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Borough Profile – Social care

The number of UASC looked after in Croydon fluctuates over time and is influenced by international events.

The latest figure as at 31. March 2024 shows that the number of indigenous looked after children in Croydon is now 414 which is the fifth annual reduction in 5 years. There were 95 UASC Looked After Children.

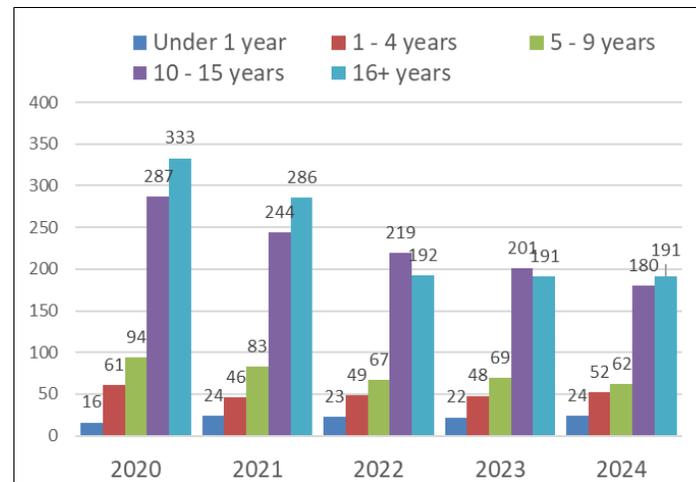
Figure 9 – Number of indigenous and UASC LAC for Croydon



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

In Croydon the total number of Looked After Children as at 31. March 2024 was 509. Nearly three quarter (72.9%) of LAC are aged 10 years or over.

Figure 10 – Number of LAC by age bands



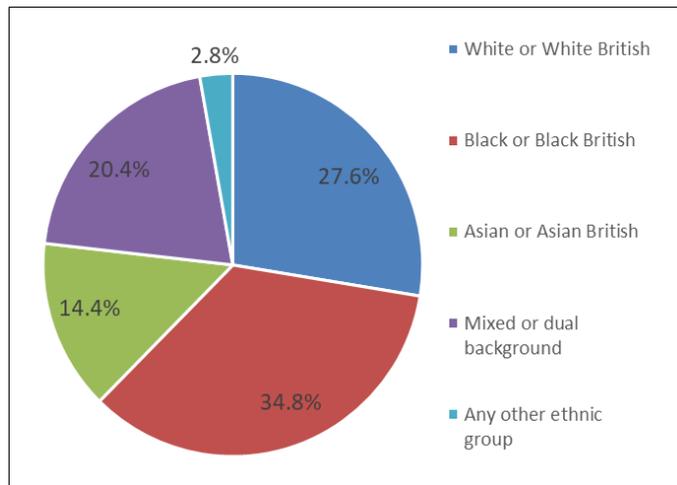
Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Borough Profile – Social care

The national published figures for looked after children do not provide separate breakdowns of characteristics for indigenous children and for UASC which makes comparisons with other areas difficult.

Figure 11 shows the breakdown in broad ethnic groups of all children looked after as at 31. March 2024 in Croydon.

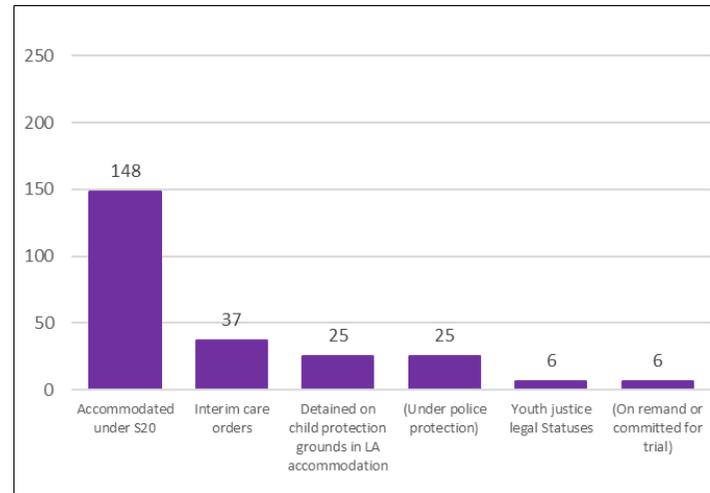
Figure 11 – Children looked after as at 31 March 2024 by broad ethnic group



Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Figure 12 shows the legal statuses of children who were looked after in Croydon in 2023/2024. Six in 10 (59.9%) were accommodated under S20 and 15% has Interim Care orders.

Figure 12 – Children looked after as at 31 March 2024 by legal status

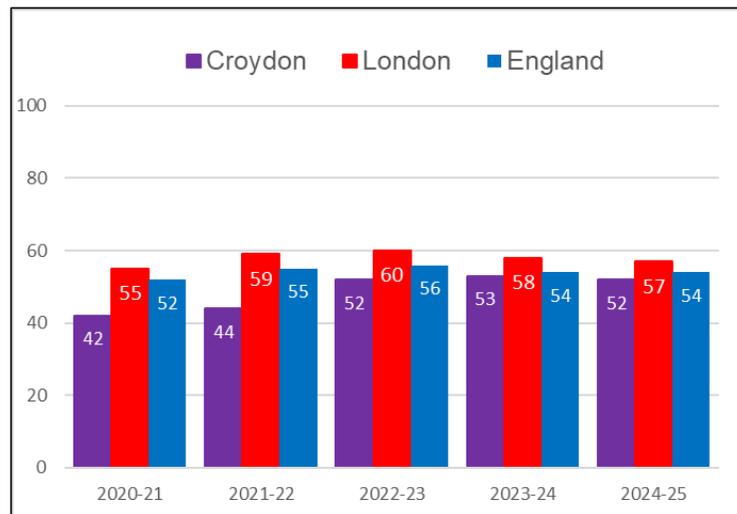


Source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Borough Profile – Social care

Figure 13 shows that a little more than half (52%) of the care leavers from Croydon were known to be in education, employment or training on 31. March 2025, a slight decrease on the previous year (53%). The Croydon figure has been below both the regional and national rates for the past 5 years.

Figure 13 – Percentage of care leavers aged 19-21 years (formerly looked after when they were 16 years old) known to be in education, employment or training

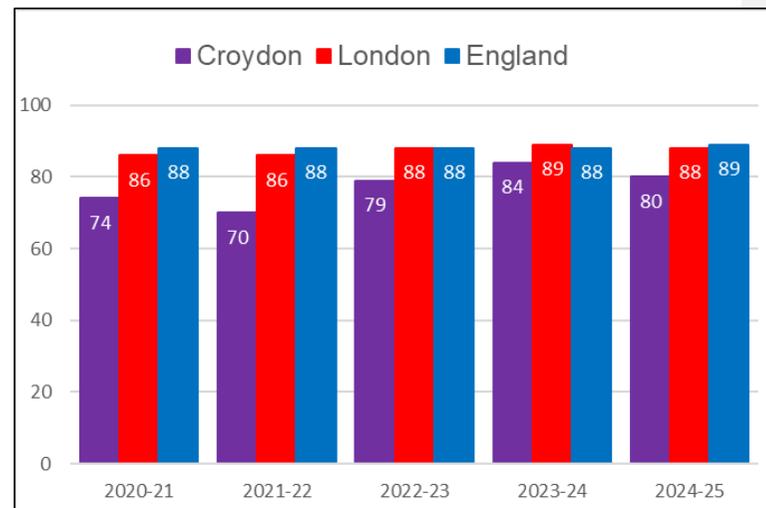


Source: Children Social care benchmarking tool

Figure 14 shows the proportion of care leavers known to be in suitable accommodation in Croydon, London and England.

The percentage of care leavers in Croydon known to be in suitable accommodation on 31. March 2025 was 80%. The Croydon percentage has been much lower than the regional and national proportions for several years.

Figure 14 - Percentage of care leavers aged 19-21 years (formerly looked after when they were 16 years old) known to be in suitable accommodation



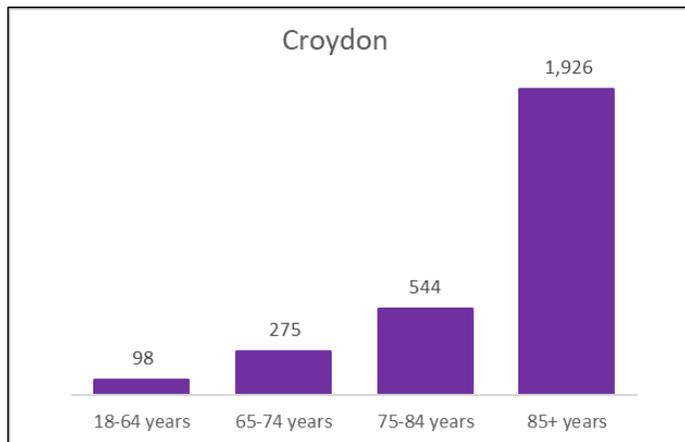
Source: Children Social care benchmarking tool

Adult safeguarding

According to the Safeguarding Adults Collection (SAC) in 2022/2023, there were 2,410 individuals in Croydon involved in all types of safeguarding enquiries. This is slightly fewer than in 2021/2022 when there were 2,650 individuals involved in safeguarding concerns.

Figure 15 highlights that in Croydon adults aged 75 years and over account for the highest rate of safeguarding enquiries.

Figure 15 – Individuals involved in Section 42 Enquiries per 100,000 adults by age band



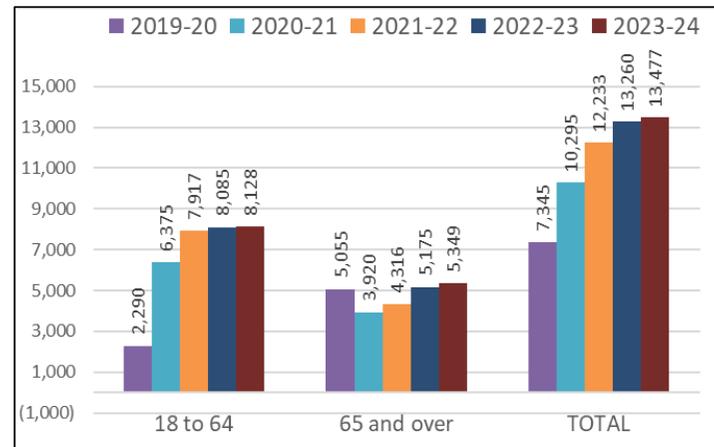
Source: NHS England - Safeguarding Adults Interactive Report

Adults receiving care

New requests for support

Client needs, particularly for the 65+ years in Croydon, continue to become more complex and challenging for council services. Figure 16 shows that during 2023/2024, the total number of new clients accessing services has increased on the previous year to 13,477.

Figure 16 – Number of requests for support received from new clients in Croydon from 2018/2019 - 2022/2023

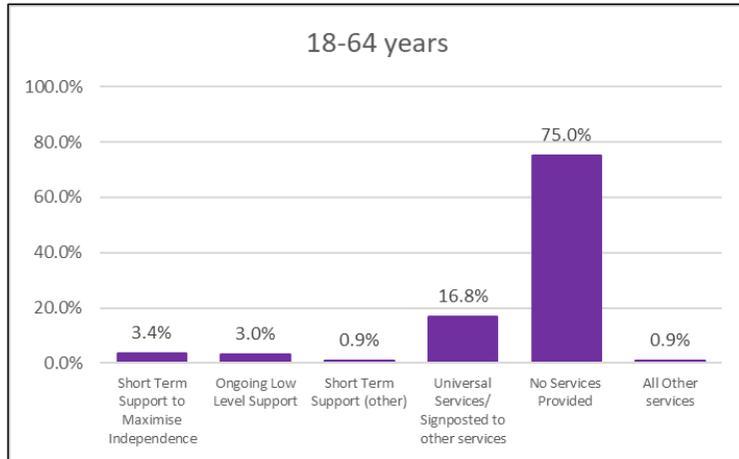


Source: SALT Returns

Outcomes from requests

During 2023/2024, 75% of new clients aged 18-64 years [did not require services](#) ~~were not provided with services~~ and 16.8% were signposted elsewhere. Services were provided for only 8.2% of the new clients requesting a service.

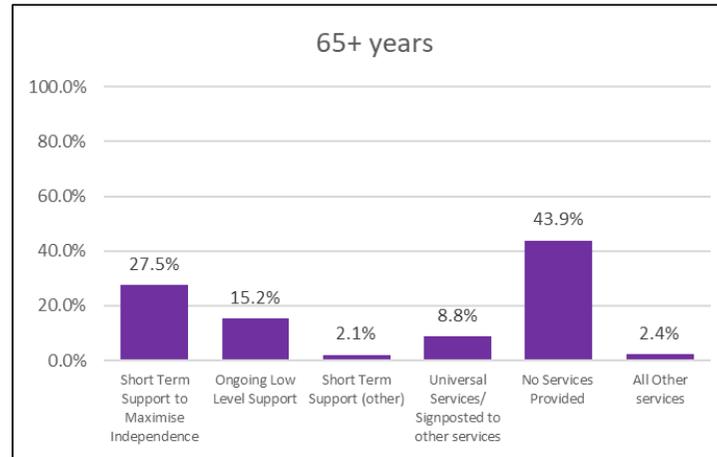
Figure 17 – Outcomes from the requests from all new clients in 2023/2024



Source: SALT Collection 2023/2024

Figure 18 shows that no services were provided for 43.9% of the new requests from older clients aged 65 years and over and 8.8% of these new clients were signposted elsewhere. Just under half (47.3%) of the requests ending in services being provided.

Figure 18 – Outcomes of requests from new clients aged 65+ years in 2023/2024



Source: SALT Collection 2023/2024

Short-term support to maximise independence

Older people clients (65+ years) with short term support care to maximise their independence made up 27.5% of the clients during 2023/2024.

For new younger adult clients aged 18-64 years, short term support to maximise independence accounted for only 3.4% of the total for this cohort in 2023/2024.

No services or low-level services provided

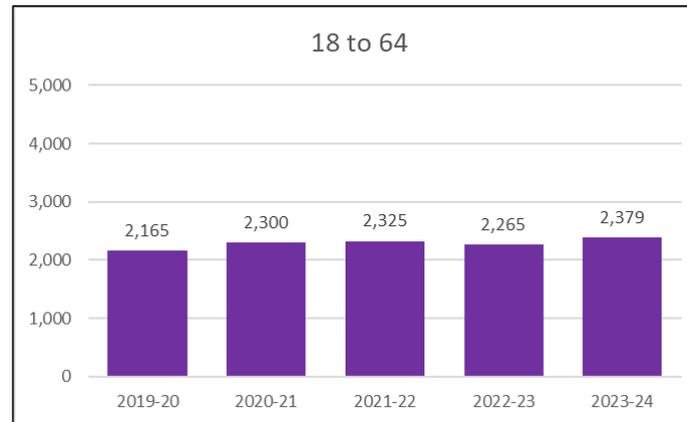
During 2023/2024, there were no services provided to 43.9% of the older aged clients (excluding the deceased) and no services provided to 75.0% of the younger adults. Only 3.0% younger adult clients (18-64 years) and 15.2% older clients (65+ years) received ongoing low-level support.

Long-term support

During 2023/2024, there were 2,379 clients aged 18-64 years, and 3,215 clients aged 65 and over accessing long-term support in Croydon.

Figure 19 shows that the number of younger adult clients accessing long-term support has been in excess of 2,000 for the past 5 years.

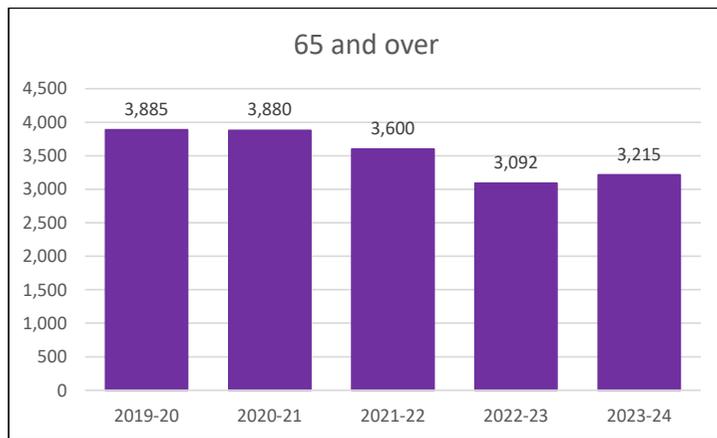
Figure 19 – Number of clients (18-64 years) accessing long term support at the end of the year, 2019/2020 - 2023/2024



Source: SALT Return – Table 1a

Figure 20 shows that the number of older clients (65 years and over) accessing long-term support had been reducing gradually but the latest year's figure has seen a slight increase from 3,092 in the previous year to 3,215 during 2023/2024.

Figure 20 - Number of clients (65+ years) accessing long term support at the end of the year, 2019/2020 - 2023/2024



Source: SALT Return – Table 1b

Hospital discharges

The SALT Return STS004 for 2023/2024, showed that the number of discharged clients, 65 years and over, who were still at home after 91 days following discharge was 570. This was made up of 216 males and 354 females.

Carers and Direct Payments

There were 9.6% of all Croydon carers who received direct payments during 2022/2023. Direct payment figures have not been confirmed for 2023/2024.

Residential and nursing care

Based on Table LTS002a of the SALT Data Collection for 2023/2024 there was a total of 19 clients who moved into residential or nursing homes from the community.

During 2023/2024, 3 younger adult clients (18-64 years) moved into residential homes and there were no moves into nursing homes. During the same year, 13 older people (65+ years) moved into residential homes and 3 moved into nursing homes.

The relatively low number of admissions into care homes shows that the Council is focusing on providing all types of care services to enable clients to live longer within the community.

Community Safety

Overview

Community safety remains a priority in Croydon. This section outlines the issues in the borough for key crime types and fly-tipping.

Total notifiable offences

New Crime Plan

Gang crime and serious youth violence

Knife crime

Hate crimes

Domestic abuse and sexual violence

Antisocial behaviour

Youth offending

Adult offending

A critical priority for the Council has always been to ensure the borough's residents feel safer in their street, neighbourhood and home. The Mayor's Business Plan 2022-2026 sets out that the Council will take steps:

To strengthen the role that the Safer Croydon Partnership takes to tackle crime and violence, supported by a substance misuse board to deliver on the Government's 10-year programme.

To crack down on antisocial behaviour (ASB) hot spots by working with the Police to introduce Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) and other appropriate measures.

To develop and deliver a plan to tackle violence against women and girls by building on the past work done in the area of domestic abuse.

Crime Offences

Total notifiable offences

There has been a high number of total notifiable offences (TNOs) in Croydon over the years but as the borough has the largest population in London the overall rate of offences per 1,000 population in Croydon is not as high as other parts of London.

Borough Profile - Crime

Figure 1 shows the overall number of offences committed in Croydon over the last 5 years (rolling 12 months to 30. September each year). The trend line over this period shows a downward trend in the total number of crimes each year.

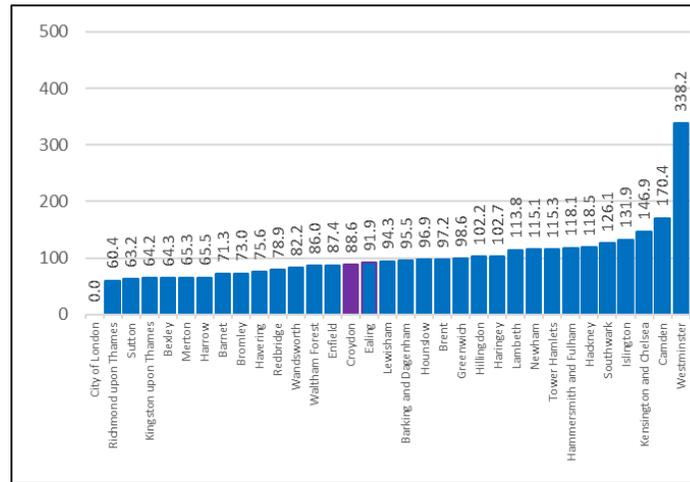
Figure 1 – Total notifiable offences in Croydon



Source: MPS, Borough Volume and Trends dashboard

Figure 2 shows that Croydon, together with 21 other London Councils, has a lower rate of TNOs per 1,000 population than the London average of 103.1. The majority of inner London councils, except Wandsworth and Lewisham, have crime rates above the London average.

Figure 2 – Rate of total notifiable offences per 1,000 resident population – the year to 30. September 2025



Source: MPS, Borough Volume and Trends dashboard

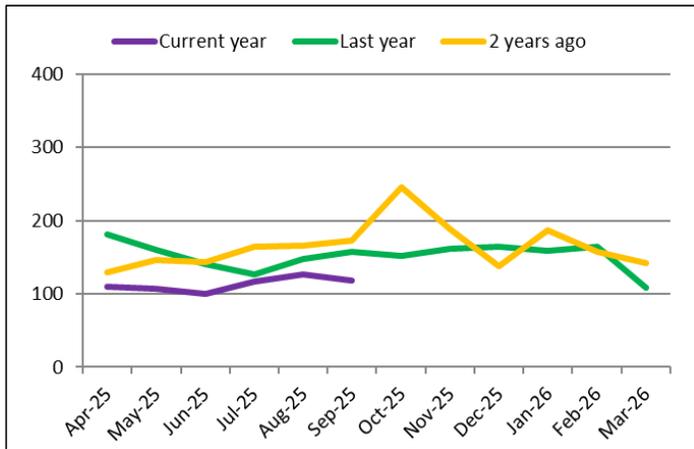
New Crime Plan Offences

For this report, the key crime indicators are collected on a monthly basis based on a rolling 12 months and are measured against the average for each rolling 12 month period. These are the original MOPAC indicators started in 2016 by the Mayor of London.

Borough Profile - Crime

Figure 3 shows that the number of monthly theft from vehicle offences has been dropping every year since March 2021. The monthly average of 113 for the first half of 2025/2026 is the lowest since this indicator was reported and shows that the downward trend in this type of crime is continuing.

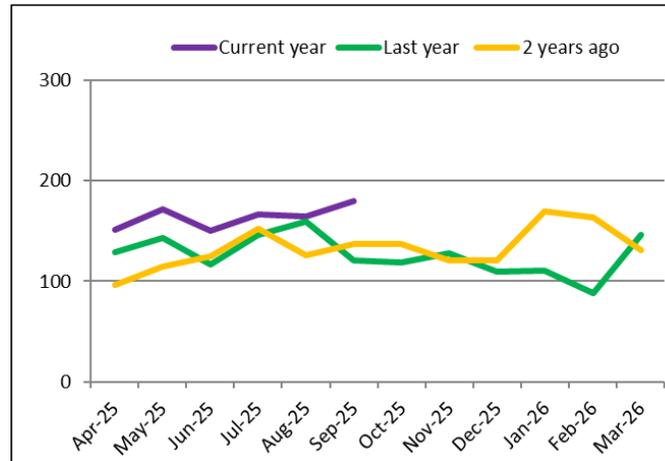
Figure 3 – Number of Theft from vehicle offences



Source: MPS Crime Dashboard

Figure 4 shows that the number of theft of motor vehicle offences had been increasing in the first half of 2025/2026. This is a monthly average of 164 which is the highest it has ever been since the indicator was first reported. The monthly average for 2024/2025 was 126 by comparison.

Figure 4 – Number of Theft of motor vehicle offences

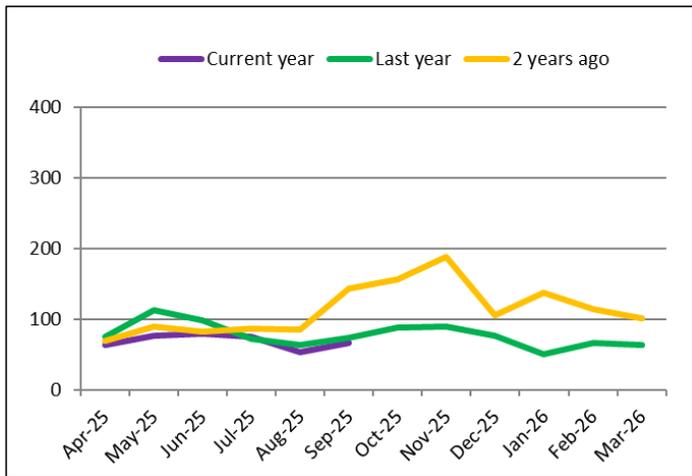


Source: MPS Crime Dashboard

Borough Profile - Crime

Figure 5 shows that the number of robbery offences (personal property) in Croydon in the first 6 months of 2024/2025 is showing a downward trend compared to the previous 2 years. The average monthly number of robbery offences of personal property was 77 for 2024/2025 compared to a monthly average of 69 in the first half of 2024/2025.

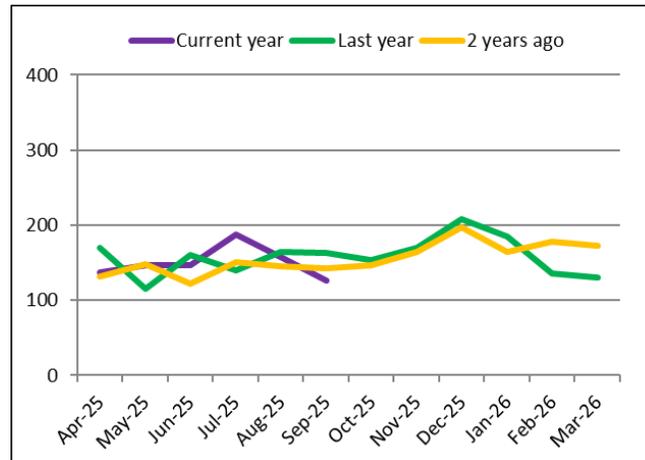
Figure 5 – Number of Robbery (personal property) offences



Source: MPS Crime Dashboard

The total number of Burglary offences in Croydon had been reducing over the last 7 years. For the first half of 2025/2026 has seen an average of 150 of these types of crime each month compared to a monthly average of 158 during 2024/2025.

Figure 6 – Number of Burglary (All) offences

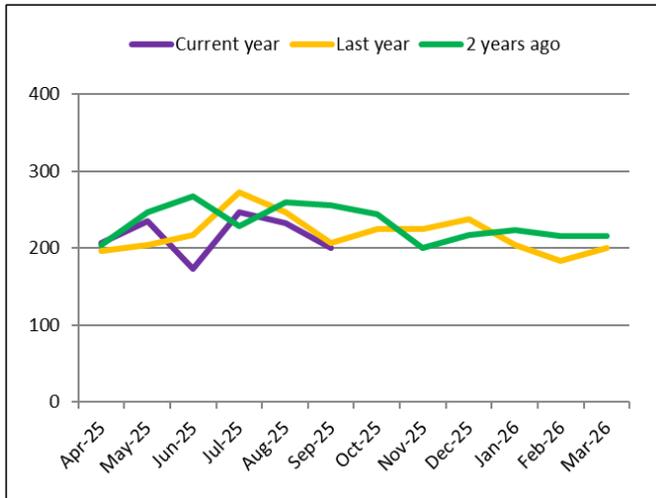


Source: MPS Crime Dashboard

Borough Profile - Crime

Figure 7 shows that the total number of criminal damage offences in Croydon had been showing a downward trend over the last 3 years. During the first 6 months of 2025/2026, the monthly average of 216 is in line with the monthly average of 218 during the previous year of 2024/2025.

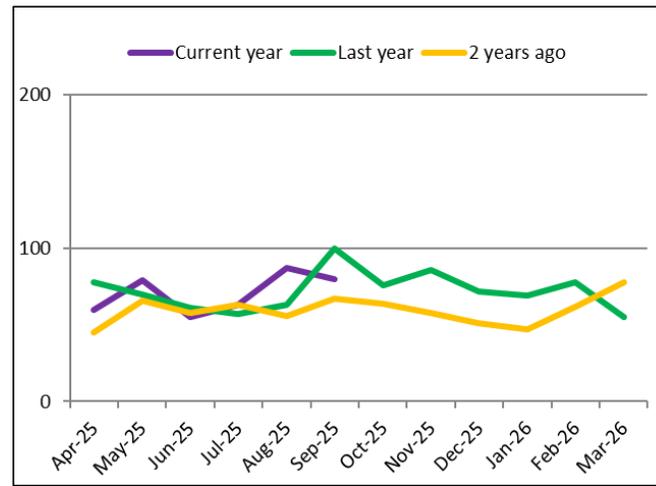
Figure 7 – Number of Criminal damage offences



Source: MPS Crime Dashboard

Over the last 8 years, the number of theft from person offences has averaged around 51 offences per month. In 2024/2025 the monthly average of 72 was the highest average over the last 8 years. The first 6 months of 2025/2026 is averaging 72 per month for these crimes.

Figure 8 – Number of Theft from person offences

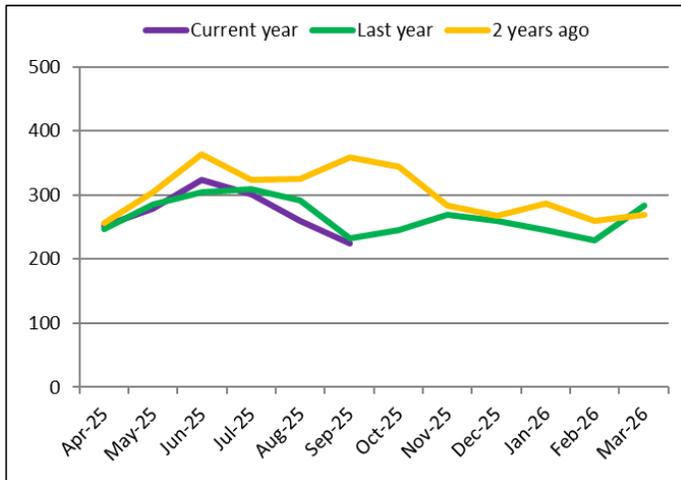


Source: MPS Crime Dashboard

Borough Profile - Crime

Figure 9 is showing a downward trend in the number of offences of violence with injury during the 2 years to 2024/2025 where the monthly average of these types of crime was 285. The monthly average for the first half of 2025/2026 is 274. Hopefully this downward trend will continue for the remainder of the year.

Figure 9 – Number of Violence with injury offences

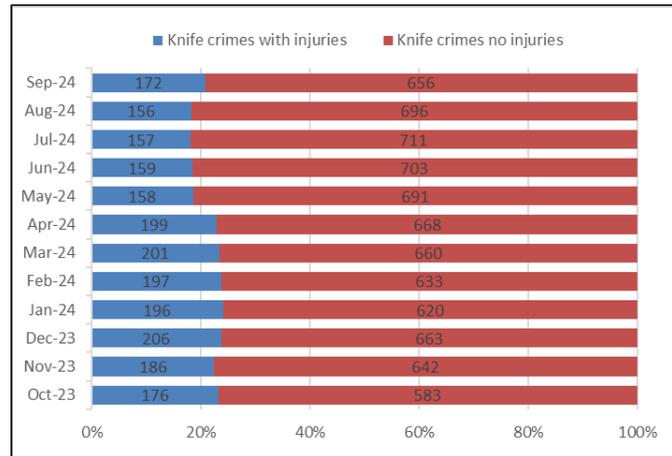


Source: MPS Crime Dashboard

Knife Crime

In the rolling 12 months to 30 September 2024, the total number of knife crimes in Croydon has reached 860 compared to the previous year's total of 752. Despite this increase, the latest percentage of knife crimes with injuries has dropped slightly to 23.7% compared to 24.2% in the previous 12 months to 30. September 2023.

Figure 10 – Number of Knife Crimes in Croydon – Rolling 12 months up to 30. September 2023



Source: MPS Knife Crime Dashboard

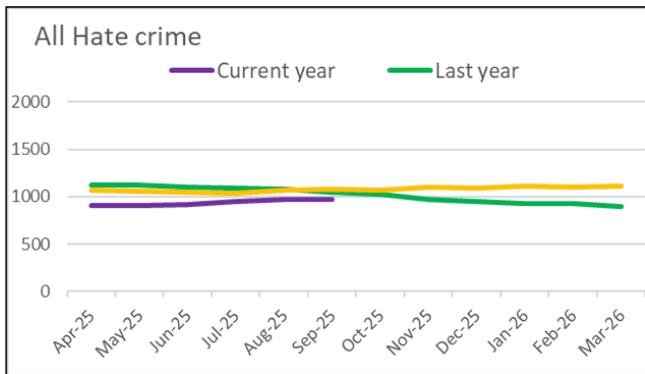
Borough Profile - Crime

Hate crime

A hate crime is “any incident that is 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”. All hate crime types are reported on a rolling 12 month basis.

Figure 11 shows that in Croydon the total number of hate crimes has been decreasing over the past 3 years. These types of crime averaged 1,093 per month in 2024/2025. This compares with 935 per month for the first half of 2025/2026.

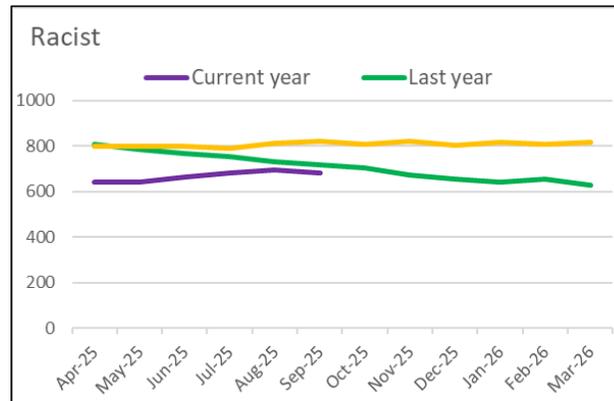
Figure 11 - Total recorded hate crimes – rolling 12 months



Source: MPS Hate Crime Dashboard

Figure 12 shows that the number of racist hate crimes has been falling over the last 3 years. The current monthly average for the first half of 2025/2026 is 668 which compares to 710 for 2024/2025.

Figure 12 – Racist hate crime

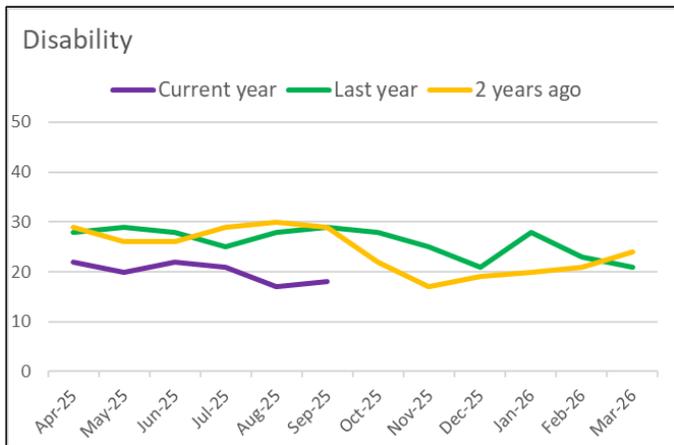


Source: MPS Hate Crime Dashboard

Borough Profile - Crime

Figure 13 shows that for the first 6 months of 2025/2026, the number of disability hate crimes in Croydon has fallen to similar levels as of 6 years ago. The monthly average for these types of crime in 2024/2025 was 27. In the current year 2025/2026, the monthly average is 20.

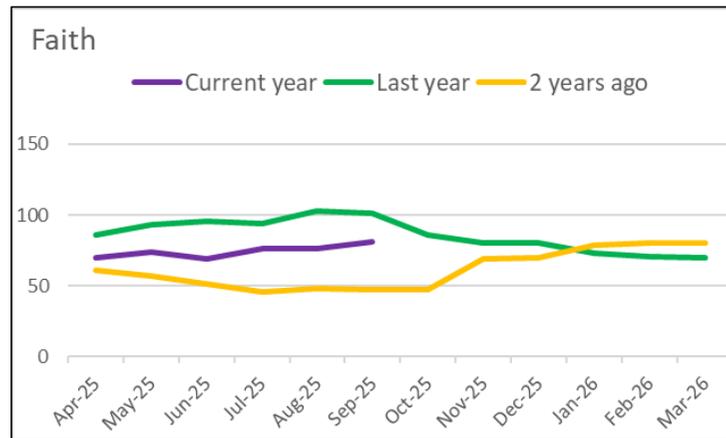
Figure 13 – Disability hate crime



Source: MPS Hate Crime Dashboard

The number of faith hate crimes in Croydon during the first half of 2025/2026 has fallen compared to last year but is still higher than 3 years ago. In the current year 2025/2026, the monthly average is 74 compared to 86 in 2024/2025.

Figure 14 – Faith hate crime

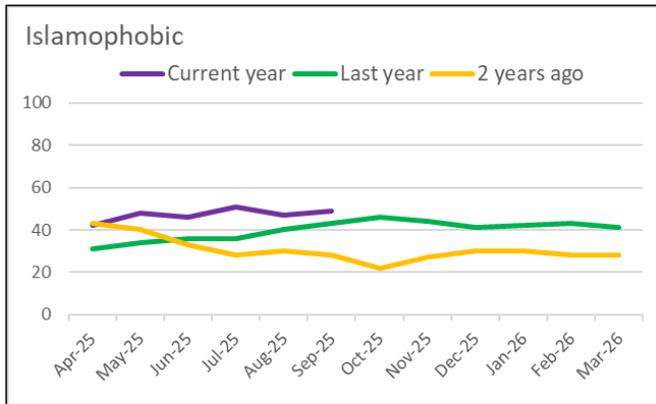


Source: MPS Hate Crime Dashboard

Borough Profile - Crime

Figure 15 shows that the numbers of Islamophobia hate crimes in Croydon in 2024/2025 had increased compared to the previous year. The first 6 months of 2025/2026 is showing a continuation of the upward trend with these types of crime averaging 47 a month.

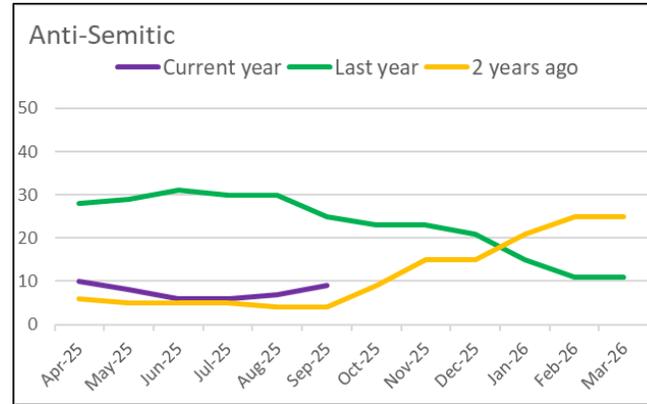
Figure 15 – Islamophobia hate crime



Source: MPS Hate Crime Dashboard

Figure 16 shows that the number of antisemitic hate crimes in Croydon had markedly increased from 2023/2024 to 2024/2025. The first half of 2025/2026 is showing levels similar to 2023/2024 with just 8 per month compared to 23 per month for 2024/2025.

Figure 16 – Antisemitic hate crime

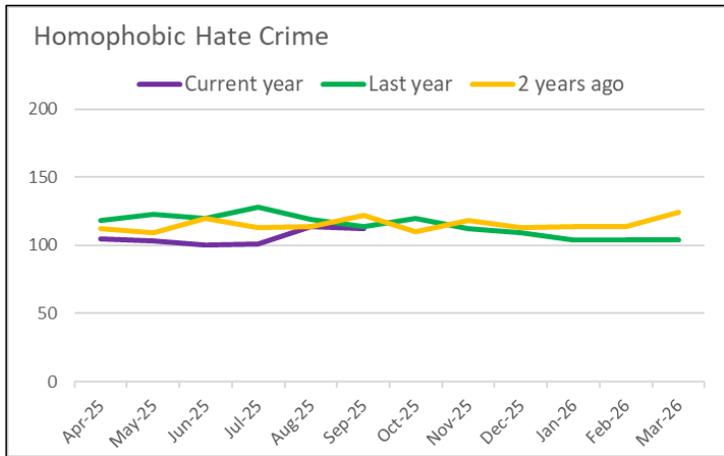


Source: MPS Hate Crime Dashboard

Borough Profile - Crime

Figure 17 shows that in Croydon the number of homophobic hate crimes reported to the Metropolitan Police Service has stayed at a similar level over the past 3 years. The number of these crimes is averaging 106 per month over the first half of 2025/2026 compared to 115 in the previous 2 financial years to 2024/2025.

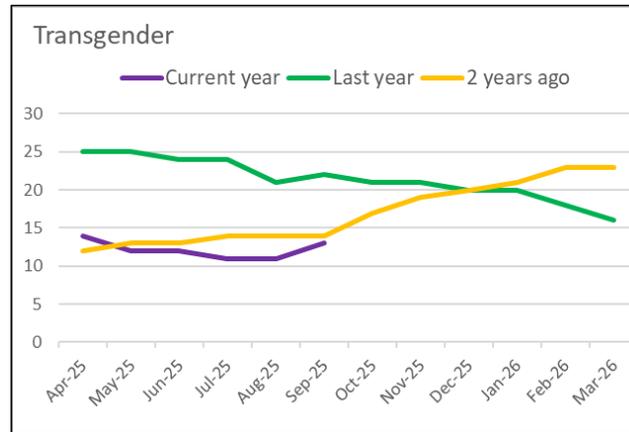
Figure 17 – Homophobic hate crime



Source: MPS Hate Crime Dashboard

Croydon had been seeing an increase in the number of transgender hate crimes over the last 3 years to 2024/2025. The downward trend during 2024/2025 is continuing during the first half of 2025/2026. So far, the monthly average for these crimes has averaged 12 compared to 21 in the previous 2024/2025 year.

Figure 18 – Transgender (Transphobic) hate crime



Source: MPS Hate Crime Dashboard

Borough Profile - Crime

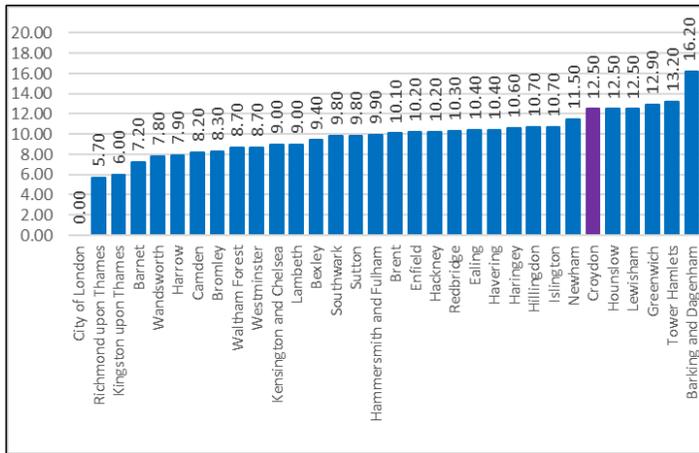
Domestic abuse and sexual violence

The Domestic and Sexual Violence dashboard has been developed from the Mayor’s Violence against Women and Girls Strategy. It monitors the offences across London recorded by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS).

Domestic abuse

Croydon has the 4th highest rate of domestic abuse offences in London with a rate of 12.5 per 1,000 population and this same rate is shared with Hounslow and Lewisham.

Figure 19 - Domestic Abuse Offences - 12 Months rolling rates per 1,000 population to 30. September 2025



Source: Mayors Domestic and Sexual Violence Dashboard

Sexual Violence

For the 12 months to 31. March 2025, the total number of sexual violence crimes in Croydon numbered 1,258. This was made up of rape offences (38%) and other sexual offences (62%).

There were 476 rape offences reported in Croydon which equates to a rate of 1.2 per 1,000 of population. Other sexual offences numbered 782 with a rate of 2.0. The total number of sexual offences is up on the 1,089 reported in the 12 months to 30. September 2024.

Table 2 – Sexual Violence - 12 months to 31. March 2025

	Number	Rate per 1,000 pop.
Rape Offences	476	1.2
Other Sexual Offences	782	2.0
Total Sexual Offences	1,258	3.2

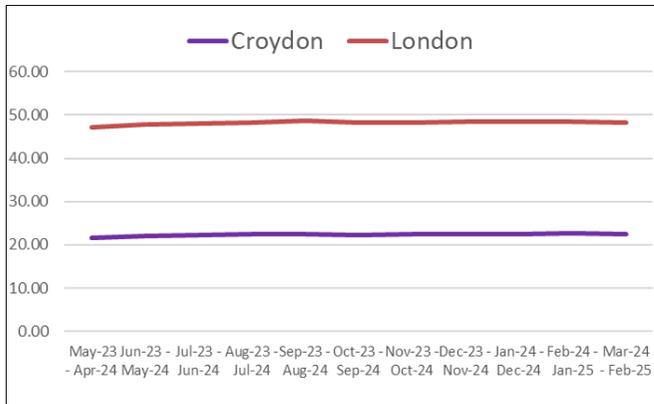
Source: Mayors Domestic and Sexual Violence Dashboard

Borough Profile - Crime

Antisocial behaviour

The rate of antisocial behaviour calls has been stabilising at around 22 per 1,000 over the past year. Over the same period, the London rate has been higher at 26 per 1,000.

Figure 20 – ASB rates per 1,000 in Croydon compared to London to 28. February 2025.



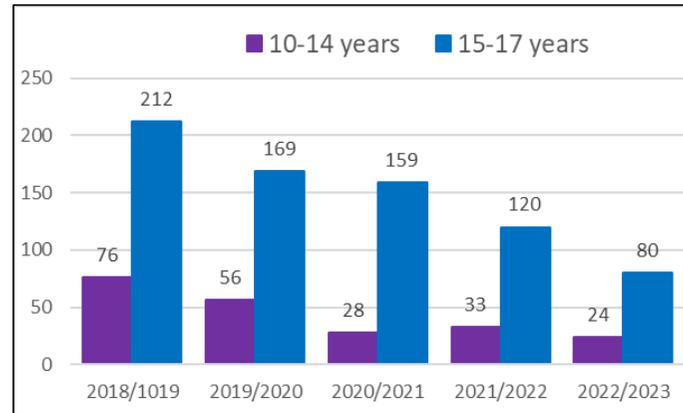
Source: data.police.uk

Youth Offending

Youth Justice Board

Figure 21 shows the number of children in Croydon cautioned or sentenced over the last 5 years broken down by the 2 age bands relevant to the Youth Justice Board (YJB). The number of Croydon children being cautioned or sentenced has been showing a downward trend over the last 5 years.

Figure 21 - Number of Croydon children cautioned or sentenced by age band

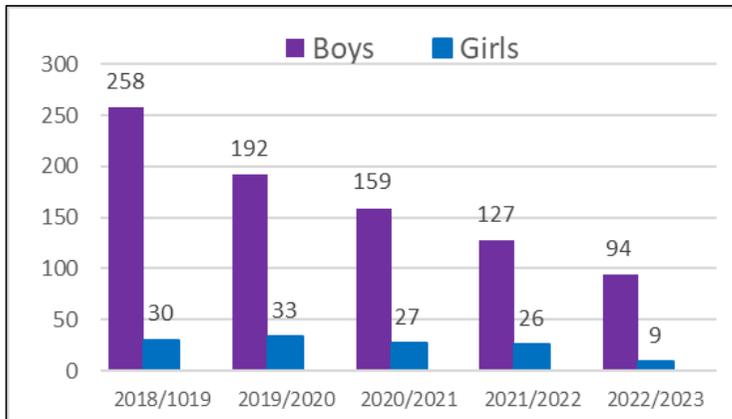


Source: Youth Justice Board

Borough Profile - Crime

More boys than girls are being cautioned or sentenced.

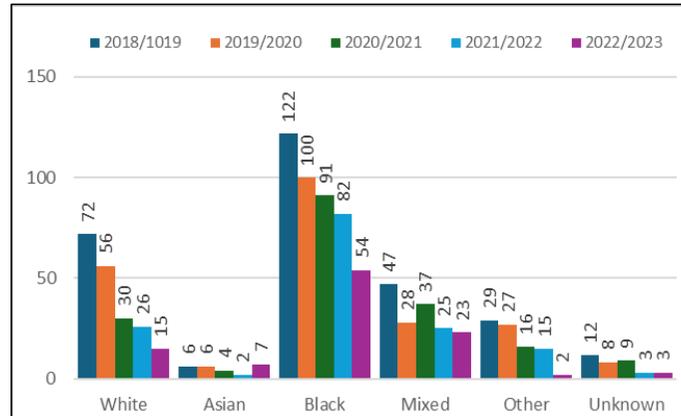
Figure 22 – Number of Croydon children aged 10-17 years cautioned or sentenced by gender



Source: Youth Justice Board

In Croydon, children from the Black community have the highest number of cautions or sentences compared to other ethnic communities. The number of children being cautioned or sentenced has been dropping from all communities.

Figure 23 - Those in the youth justice system receiving a youth caution or court conviction for the year ending March 2021



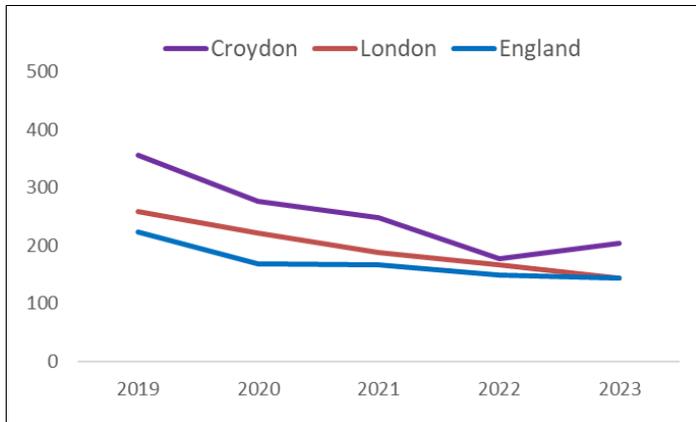
Source: Youth Justice Board

Borough Profile - Crime

First Time Youth Offending

Compared to London and England, Croydon continues to have a higher proportion of first-time entrants into the Youth Justice System. The latest figure for Croydon is 203.7 per 100,000 population which is down on the previous year's rate of 178.1 per 100,000.

Figure 24 - First time entrants (10-17 years) to the youth justice system per 100,000 of population

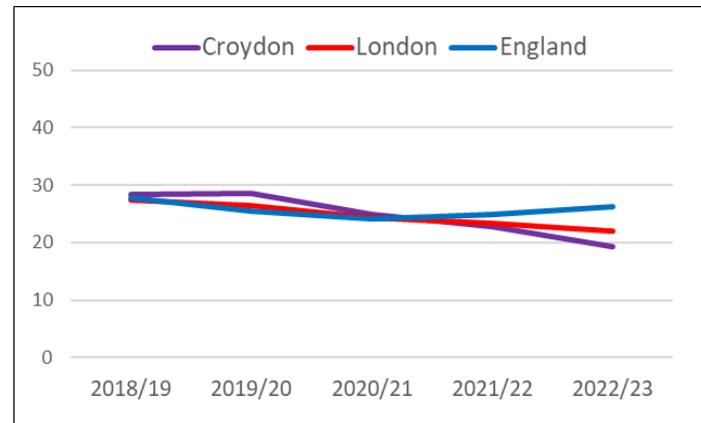


Source: PH Outcomes Framework - Wider determinants of health

Re-offending

The percentage of re-offenders in Croydon had been reducing over recent years and latest data shows that the Croydon rate of re-offending is lower than both the regional and national averages.

Figure 25: Re-offending levels - Percentage of offenders who re-offend (All ages)

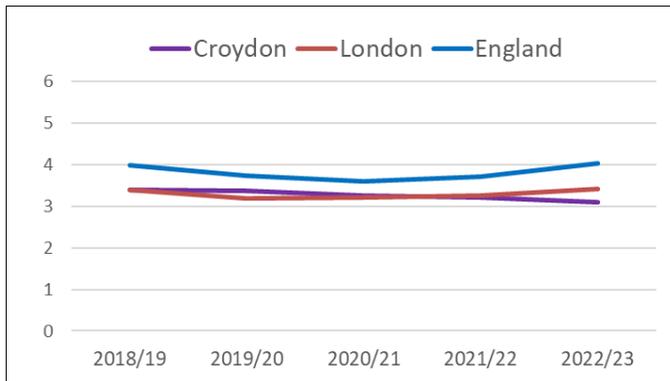


Source: PHOF, Wider Determinants of Health

Borough Profile - Crime

Over the 5 reported years to 2022/2023, re-offenders in Croydon have averaged 3.3 re-offences each which is the same as the London average and lower than the 3.8 re-offences each averaged for the England.

Figure 26: Re-offending levels - average number of re-offences per re-offender



Source: PHOF, Wider Determinants of Health

Environment and transport

Overview

This section looks at a range of issues relating to the environment and transport including waste and method of travel to work.

Environment

Transport

Substance Misuse

Fire Services

Fly-tipping

The new Mayor's Business Plan 2022-2026 sets out a number of key priorities for Croydon in the shorter term which include:

To make our streets and open spaces cleaner so Croydon is a place that residents and businesses can feel proud to call home.

To tackle anti-social behaviour, knife crime and violence against women and girls so that Croydon feels safer.

To lead action to reduce carbon emissions in Croydon. The Council recognises that being sustainable goes beyond simply "going green."

Some actions the Council has taken to achieve a cleaner, more sustainable Croydon include:

To continue to roll out The School Street Scheme, started in September 2019, which prohibits most vehicular transport at the start and end of the school day to improve air quality around schools and protect children from the harms of air pollution.

To commit to planting at least 700 trees per year (2018-2023).

To continue the work of the award-winning "Don't Mess with Croydon" campaign which has been responsible for organising hundreds of litter picks in recent years to keep the borough clean.

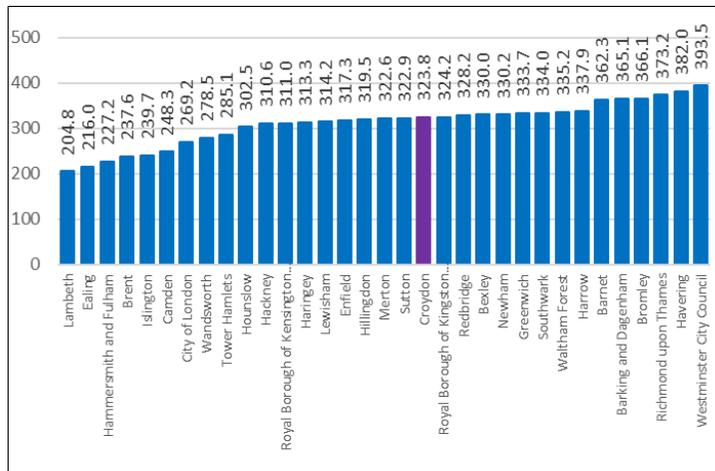
Borough Profile – Environment and transport

Environment

Waste

Figure 1 shows that Croydon collected 323.8 kg of household waste per person which was less than the previous year’s figure of 331.8 kg per person. Croydon had the 15th highest collection rate compared to the other 32 borough of London.

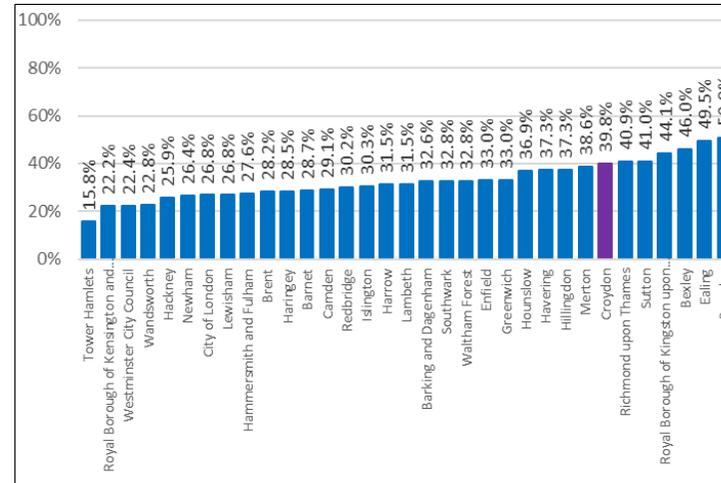
Figure 1 – Collected household waste per person (kg) 2023/2024



Source: Defra, Table 3 - Local authority collected waste stats, 2023/2024

Figure 2 shows that for 2023/2024, Croydon had the 7th highest rate for reuse, recycling and composting compared to the other London boroughs. Croydon’s 39.8% recycled household waste was lower than the national average of 42.3% but higher than the London average of 32.7%.

Figure 2 – Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting 2023/2024



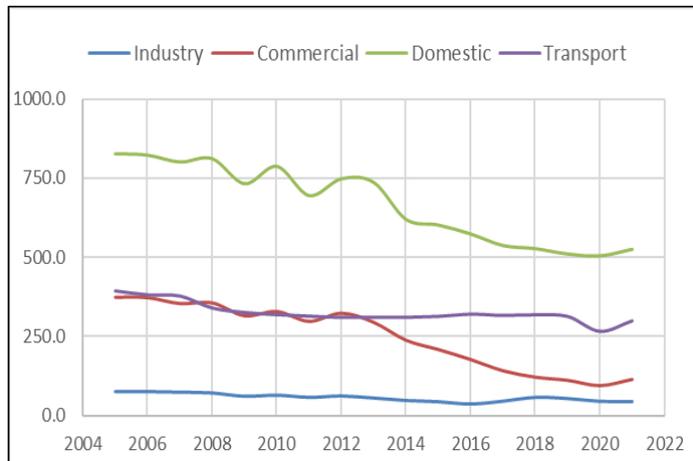
Source: Defra, Table 3 - Local authority collected waste statistics, 2023/2024

Borough Profile – Environment and transport

Air quality

Carbon dioxide emissions in Croydon have been falling since 2005. The latest figure for 2021 shows a slight uplift in the transport and commercial sectors.

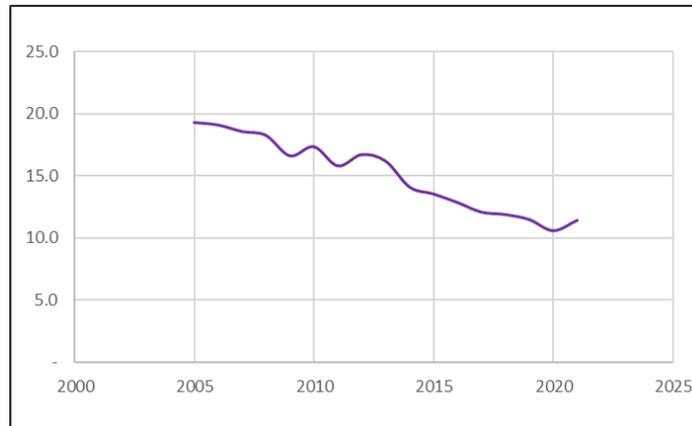
Figure 3 - Croydon CO2 emissions (kt CO2) by Sector 2005-2021



Source: UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics: 2005-2021

The London Borough of Croydon Air Quality Action Plan predicts that the CO₂ emissions will continue to drop beyond 2025 even though the latest figure for 2021 shows a slight uplift in CO₂ emissions in Croydon as Figure 4 illustrates.

Figure 4 - Croydon CO2 emissions per km2 (kt) 2005-2021



Source: UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics: 2005-2021

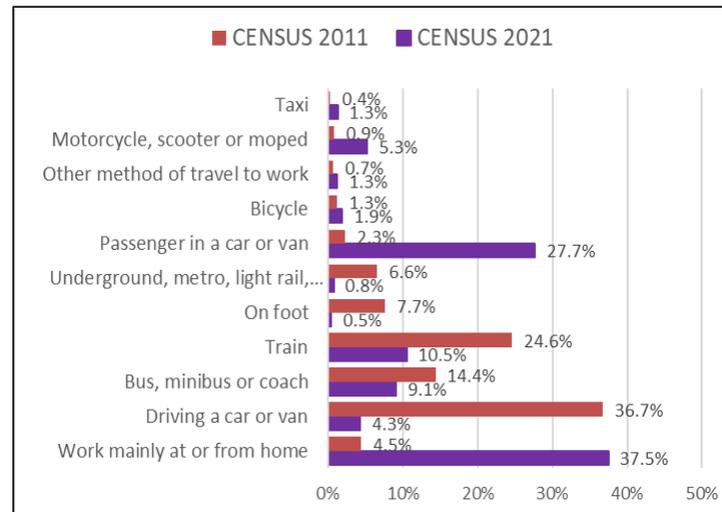
Transport

Travel to work

The Covid Pandemic of 2020 brought about a rise in the number of people working from home. Even now, the number of people working in the office has not returned to the pre-Covid levels. Therefore, it is not possible to compare the Census 2021 Travel to Work data with the Census 2011 TTW data on a like for like basis. However, the data for each Census can be placed side by side to show the significant impact Covid had on travel to work patterns in the workforce.

A third (33.0%) more people were working from home in 2021 compared to 10 years previously. In 2011, around 1 in 3 (36.7%) of commuters drove a car or van into work but in 2021 this had significantly reduced to 4.3%. There was a higher proportion of passengers in a car or a van in 2021 (27.7%) compared to 2011 (2.3%). One in 4 (24.6%) commuters travelled by train in 2011 compared to 1 in 10 (10.5%) in 2021.

Figure 5 – Change in method of travel to work between 2011 and 2021



Source: ONS Census 2011 and ONS Census 2021

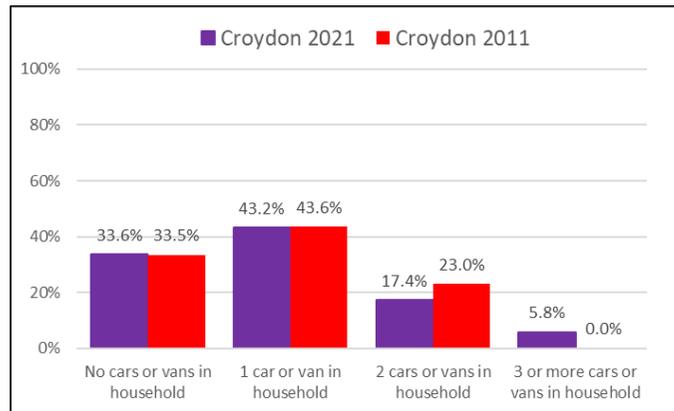
Borough Profile – Environment and transport

Availability of a car or van

The availability of a car or van in a household is often used as a proxy measure for how well households can access services and their wider community.

Car or van ownership in Croydon from 2011 to 2021 has not changed much in terms of the proportion of households with no car or van, 1 car or van or 2 or more cars or vans. One in 3 (33.6%) of households in Croydon have no car or van. This is a higher proportion than England (23.5%) but lower than in London (42.1%).

Figure 6 – Change in car or van ownership in Croydon between 2011 and 2021

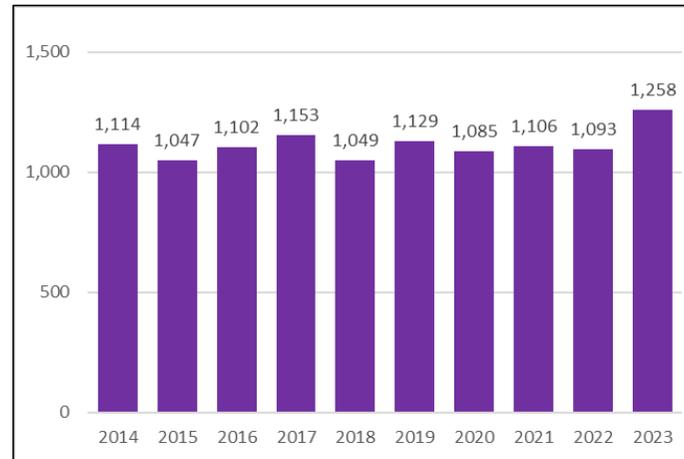


Source: ONS Census 2011 and ONS Census 2021

Road Traffic Collisions

The number of road traffic collisions in Croydon has fluctuated over the last 10 years as shown by Figure 7. The latest figure for 2023 shows that the number of collisions has gone up and is the highest it has been for over 10 years. The majority of these collisions only involve slight injuries. There were 4 fatalities in Croydon in 2023 which is 2 more than the previous year.

Figure 7 – Number of road traffic collisions

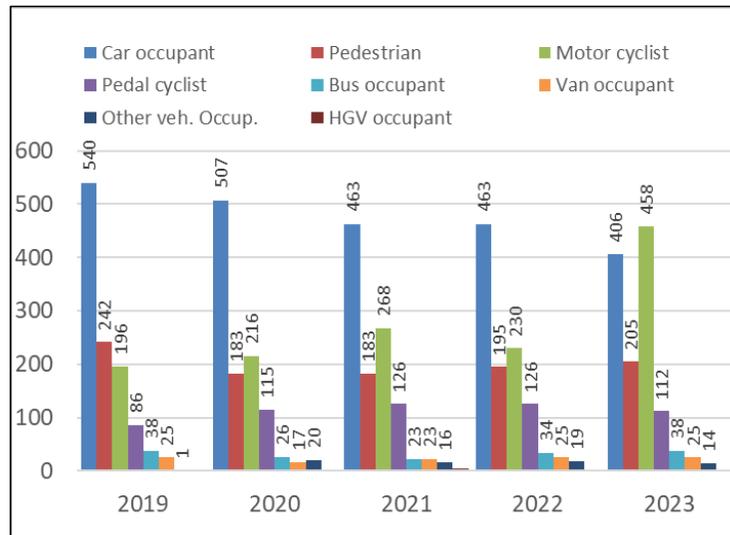


Source: DfT Reported road casualty statistics

Borough Profile – Environment and transport

Figure 8 shows the number of casualties recorded over the past 5 years by the type of road user affected. For 2023 most casualties were motor cyclists followed by car occupants.

Figure 8 – Number of Casualties by road user type in Croydon



Source: DfT Reported road casualty statistics Dashboard

Fire Services

The number of arson incidents reported in Croydon has been rising since 2017.

The total number of incidents in 2024 is the highest it has been for over 10 years. The actual number of real fires at 923 is the highest it has ever been and false alarms and special services has also risen to levels unseen before.

Figure 9 – Number of reported fire incidents broken down by incident type.

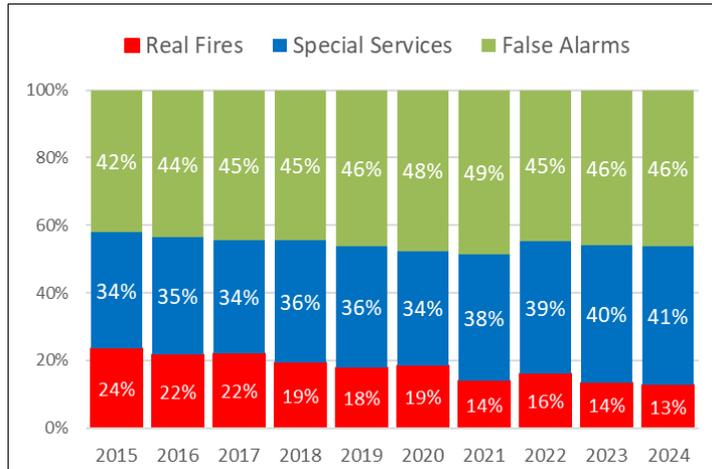


Source: LFB

Borough Profile – Environment and transport

Over the past 10 years, the proportion of real fires compared to all fire incidents reported in Croydon has been decreasing. In 2015, 24% of all fire incidents reported were real fires. In 2024, only 13% of all the incidents reported were real fires. The proportion of false alarms has stayed around the 45% mark over the last 3 years reported.

Figure 10 – Percentage of reported fire incidents broken down by incident type.

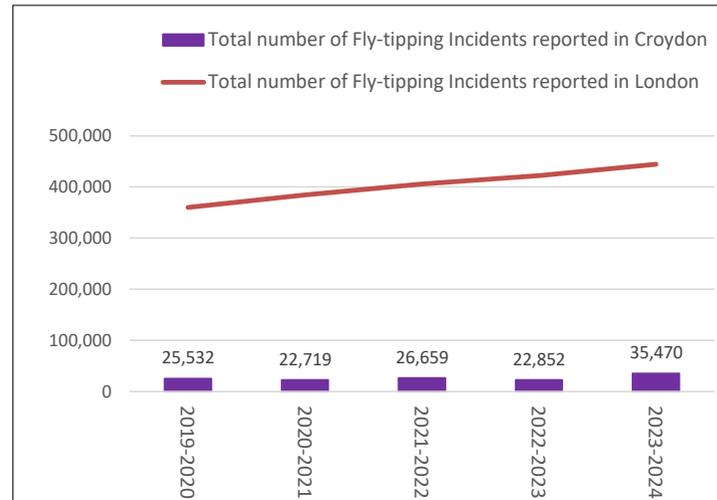


Source: LFB

Fly-tipping

In Croydon, there were 35,470 fly-tipping incidents reported in 2023/2024 which is an increase of 55% on the previous year's figure of 22,852. The number of fly-tipping incidents reported has been increasing in London over the last 5 years as Figure 11 shows.

Figure 11 – Number of fly-tipping incidents reported in Croydon and London between 2019/2020 and 2023/2024

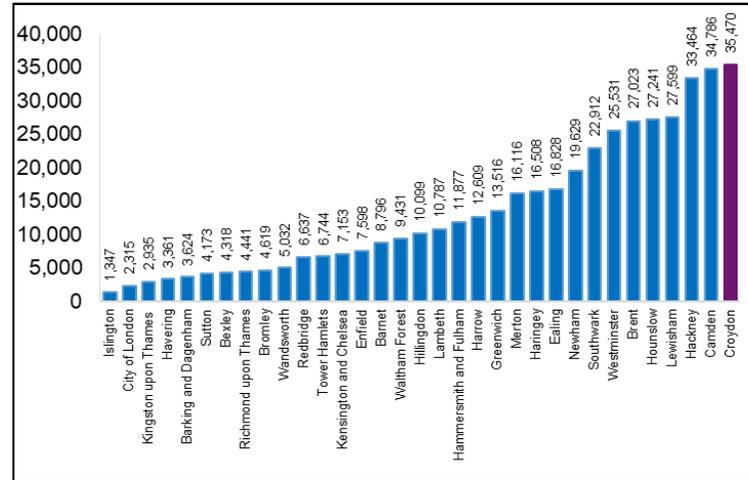


Source: DEFRA WasteDataFlow, released February 2025

Borough Profile – Environment and transport

Figure 12 shows that Croydon had the highest number of reported fly-tipping incidents (35,470) out of all London boroughs in 2023/2024. As part of the commitment to making Croydon a cleaner borough, an app for residents has been introduced which allows environmental issues to be reported and passed on to the contractor to resolve. This is not in place in all boroughs and there is no consistent way to record flytipping which reduced the reliability of benchmarking data. For example, Barnet which has a similar sized population to Croydon had a quarter of the number of fly-tipping incidents (8,796).

Figure 12 – Number of fly-tipping incidents reported 2023/2024



Source: DEFRA WasteDataFlow, released February 2025