READING
POVERTY
NEEDS ANALYSIS

2017

Reading
Borough Council
Working better with you

CONTENTS

SUMMARY OF INDICATORS & DIRECTION OF TRAVEL[1]

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	SE	England	Reading previous performance	Performance improved/ declined since previous period
GENERAL DEPRIVATION						
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)	2015	**146th most deprived of 326 LAs**	n/a	n/a	129th most deprived (2010)	⬆ (green)
IMD – LSOAs in most 20% deprived	2015	**10**	n/a	n/a	12 (2010)	⬆ (green)
IMD – LSOAs in most 10% deprived	2015	**2**	n/a	n/a	0 (2010)	⬇ (red)
IMD: Income domain	2015	**92nd most deprived of 326 LAs; 15 LSOAs in bottom 20%; 5 in bottom 10%**	n/a	n/a	123rd most deprived of 326 LAs; 12 LSOAs in bottom 20%; 1 in bottom 10%	⬇ (red)
Gini co-efficient (measures wealth inequality)	2015/16	**4th least equal city**	n/a	n/a	4th least equal city (2013)	⬅ (no change)
Social Mobility Index overall score	2017	**217th (out of 324 LAs)**	n/a	n/a	225th (2016)	⬆ (green)
CHILD POVERTY						
Children in low-income families	2015	**16.1%**	12.3%	16.6%	**18.7%** (2014)	⬆ (green)
End Child Poverty local measure (% children in poverty)	2017	**24.6%**	n/a	n/a	24% (2015)	⬇ (red)
IMD: Income deprivation affecting children index	2015	**82nd most deprived of 326 LAs; 17 LSOAs in bottom 20%; 1 in bottom 5%**	n/a	n/a	Overall score n/a; 18 LSOAs in bottom 20% (2010)	⬆ (green)
Children in low-income lone parent families	2015	**74.6%**	70.6%	67.5%	70.2% (2014)	⬇ (red)
Pupils eligible for pupil premium	2017	**26.3%**	21.8%	28.3%	27.3% (2016)	⬆ (green)
Pupils eligible for free school meals - primary	2017	**14.3%**	9.9%	14.1%	15.3% (2016)	⬆ (green)
Pupils eligible for free school meals - secondary	2017	**11.8%**	8.4%	12.9%	13.6% (2016)	⬆ (green)
Educational attainment – foundation stage	2017	**69%**	73%	69%	69% (2016)	⬅ (no change)
Educational attainment - key stage 2	2017	**59%**	63%	62%	56% (2016)	⬆ (green)
Educational attainment - average attainment 8 score	2017	**49.6**	47.7	46.4	51.4 (2016)	⬇ (red)
Youth offending rate (per 100,000 first time entrants)	April 2016/ March 2017	**352**	246	321	543 (2015/16)	⬆ (green)
WORK RELATED POVERTY						
Claimant count rate (JSA/ Universal Credit)	Nov 2017	**1.6%**	1.2%	1.9%	1.5% (Nov 2016)	⬇ (red)
Long term unemployment rate	Nov 2017	**1%**	0.5%	1%	0.8% (Nov 2016)	⬇ (red)

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[1] *Census 2011 indicators not included as direction of travel information now out of date*

Reading Poverty Needs Analysis 2017

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	SE	England	Reading previous performance	Performance improved/ declined since previous period
JSA claimants with dependent children	May 2017	22.2%	24.8%	24.5%	20.8% (May 2016)	⬇ (red)
% claiming out of work benefits	Nov 2016	6.8%	6.1%	8.1%	7.2% (Nov 2015)	⬆ (green)
IMD: Employment domain	2015	114th most deprived of 326 LAs; 8 LSOAs in bottom 20%	n/a	n/a	139th most deprived of 326 LAs; 4 LSOAs in bottom 20% (2010)	⬇ (red)
Children in families in receipt of both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit with income less than 60% median income	2015	270	n/a	n/a	740 (2014)	⬆ (green)
Median pay residents (annual pay – gross)	2017	£32,234	£31,664	£29,085	£31,171 (2016)	⬆ (green)
Median pay workforce (annual pay – gross)	2017	£36,117	£30,219	£29,079	£33,333 (2016)	⬆ (green)
Number of jobs paid less than the living wage (£7.84)	Oct 2017	17.1%	18.1%	22%	16%	⬇ (red)
%19 year olds gaining level 2 qualifications	2016	84%	86%	85%	84% (2015)	⬅
%19 year olds gaining level 3 qualifications	2016	59%	58%	57%	57% (2015)	⬆ (green)
NEETs	16/17	5.4%	6.4%	6%	N/A (methodology changed 2016)	
IMD: Education, skills and training domain	2015	77th most deprived of 326 LAs; 18 LSOAs in bottom 20%	n/a	n/a	n/a; 18 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 1 in bottom 5% (2010)	⬆ (green)
MEETING BASIC NEEDS						
Statutory homelessness (per 1000 households)	16/17	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8 (15/16)	⬅
Homeless acceptances	Q2 17/18	77	n/a	n/a	116 (Q2 16/17)	⬆ (green)
IMD: Barriers to housing and services domain	2015	52nd most deprived of 326 LAs; 17 LSOAs in bottom 20%	n/a	n/a	n/a; 6 LSOAs in bottom 20% (2010)	⬇ (red)
IMD: Living environment domain	2015	49th most deprived of 326 LAs; 29 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 10 in bottom 5%	n/a	n/a	n/a; 17 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 0 in bottom 5%	⬇ (red)
%age in fuel poverty	2015	13.9%	9.4%	11%	10.8% (2014)	⬇ (red)
Readifood food parcels	16/17	130 parcels per week	n/a	n/a	100 parcels per week (2015)	⬇ (red)
IMD: Crime	2015	71st most deprived of 326 LAs; 16 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 3 in bottom 5%	n/a	n/a	n/a; 35 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 20 in bottom 5%	⬆ (green)
POVERTY AND HEALTH						
Life expectancy – Male	2013-15	78.7	80.5	79.5	78.5 (2012-2014)	⬆ (green)
Life expectancy - Females	2013-15	83.2	84	83.1	82.9 (2012-2014)	⬆ (green)
Inequality in life expectancy at birth - Male	2013-15	7.8	n/a	n/a	9.1 (2012-14)	⬆ (green)

Reading Poverty Needs Analysis 2017

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	SE	England	Reading previous performance	Performance improved/ declined since previous period
Inequality in life expectancy at birth - Female	2013-15	**6.5**	n/a	n/a	6.6 (2012-14)	⬆
Healthy life expectancy at birth - Male	2013-15	**66.4**	66	63.4	66.6 (2012-14)	⬇
Healthy life expectancy at birth - Female	2013-15	**65.6**	66.7	64.1	64.1 (2012-14)	⬆
See also separate health profile and child health profile tables						
POVERTY AND ETHNICITY						
% BME in primary schools	2017	**56%**	n/a	32.4%	54% (2016)	n/a
% BME in secondary schools	2017	**53%**	n/a	29.1%	49% (2016)	n/a
JSA – BME claimants	Nov 2017	28%	12.3%	25.3%	27.1% (Nov 2016)	n/a
POVERTY AMONGST OLDER PEOPLE						
IMD: Income deprivation affecting older people index	2015	**81st most deprived out of 326 LAs; 6 LSOAs in bottom 5%**	n/a	n/a	n/a; 1 LSOA in bottom 5% (IMD 2010)	⬇
Excess winter deaths	2013-16	**17.7**	n/a	17.9	25.7 (2012-14)	⬆
Pension Credit claimants over 60	May 2017	**13.9%**	8.8%	12%	15% (May 2016)	⬆
JSA claimants over 50	Dec 2017	**0.5%**	0.3%	0.5%	0.4% (Dec 2016)	⬇
POVERTY AND DISABILITY						
Disability Living Allowance claimants	May 2017	**3.8%**	4.6%	5.5%	4.7% (May 2016)	⬆
IMD: Health deprivation and disability domain	2015	**109th most deprived out of 326 LAs; 3 LSOAs in bottom 20%**	n/a	n/a	n/a; 16 LSOAs in bottom 20% (IMD 2010)	⬆

INDICATORS WHICH HAVE IMPROVED

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	SE	England	Reading previous performance
GENERAL DEPRIVATION					
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)	2015	**146th most deprived of 326 LAs**	n/a	n/a	129th most deprived (2010)
IMD – LSOAs in most 20% deprived	2015	**10**	n/a	n/a	12 (2010)
Social Mobility Index overall score	2017	**217th (out of 324 LAs)**	n/a	n/a	225th (2016)
CHILD POVERTY					
Children in low-income families	2015	**16.1%**	12.3%	16.6%	**18.7%** (2014)
IMD: Income deprivation affecting children index	2015	**82nd most deprived of 326 LAs; 17 LSOAs in bottom 20%; 1 in bottom 5%**	n/a	n/a	Overall score n/a; 18 LSOAs in bottom 20% (2010)
Pupils eligible for pupil	2017	**26.3%**	21.8%	28.3%	27.3% (2016)

Reading Poverty Needs Analysis 2017

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	SE	England	Reading previous performance
premium					
Pupils eligible for free school meals - primary	2017	14.3%	9.9%	14.1%	15.3% (2016)
Pupils eligible for free school meals - secondary	2017	11.8%	8.4%	12.9%	13.6% (2016)
Educational attainment - key stage 2	2017	59%	63%	62%	56% (2016)
Youth offending rate (per 100,000 first time entrants)	April 2016/ March 2017	352	246	321	543 (2015/16)
WORK RELATED POVERTY					
% claiming out of work benefits	Nov 2016	6.8%	6.1%	8.1%	7.2% (Nov 2015)
Children in families in receipt of both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit with income less than 60% median income	2015	270	n/a	n/a	740 (2014)
Median pay residents (annual pay – gross)	2017	£32,234	£31,664	£29,085	£31,171 (2016)
Median pay workforce (annual pay – gross)	2017	£36,117	£30,219	£29,079	£33,333 (2016)
%19 year olds gaining level 3 qualifications	2016	59%	58%	57%	57% (2015)
IMD: Education, skills and training domain	2015	77th most deprived of 326 LAs; 18 LSOAs in bottom 20%	n/a	n/a	n/a; 18 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 1 in bottom 5% (2010)
MEETING BASIC NEEDS					
Homeless acceptances	Q2 17/18	77	n/a	n/a	116 (Q2 16/17)
IMD: Crime	2015	71st most deprived of 326 LAs; 16 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 3 in bottom 5%	n/a	n/a	n/a; 35 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 20 in bottom 5%
POVERTY AND HEALTH					
Life expectancy - Male	2013-15	78.7	80.5	79.5	78.5 (2012-2014)
Life expectancy - Females	2013-15	83.2	84	83.1	82.9 (2012-2014)
Inequality in life expectancy at birth - Male	2013-15	7.8	n/a	n/a	9.1 (2012-14)
Inequality in life expectancy at birth - Female	2013-15	6.5	n/a	n/a	6.6 (2012-14)
Healthy life expectancy at birth - Female	2013-15	65.6	66.7	64.1	64.1 (2012-14)
POVERTY AMONGST OLDER PEOPLE					
Excess winter deaths	2013-16	17.7	n/a	17.9	25.7 (2012-14)
Pension Credit claimants over 60	May 2017	13.9%	8.8%	12%	15% (May 2016)
POVERTY AND DISABILITY					
Disability Living Allowance claimants	May 2017	3.8%	4.6%	5.5%	4.7% (May 2016)
IMD: Health deprivation and disability domain	2015	109th most deprived out of 326 LAs; 3 LSOAs in bottom 20%	n/a	n/a	n/a; 16 LSOAs in bottom 20% (IMD 2010)

INDICATORS WHICH HAVE DECLINED

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	SE	England	Reading previous performance
GENERAL DEPRIVATION					
IMD – LSOAs in most 10% deprived	2015	**2**	n/a	n/a	0 (2010)
IMD: Income domain	2015	**92nd most deprived of 326 LAs; 15 LSOAs in bottom 20%; 5 in bottom 10%**	n/a	n/a	123rd most deprived of 326 LAs; 12 LSOAs in bottom 20%; 1 in bottom 10%
CHILD POVERTY					
End Child Poverty local measure (% children in poverty)	2017	**24.6%**	n/a	n/a	24% (2015)
Children in low-income lone parent families	2015	**74.6%**	70.6%	67.5%	70.2% (2014)
Educational attainment - average attainment 8 score	2017	**49.6**	47.7	46.4	51.4 (2016)
WORK RELATED POVERTY					
Claimant count rate (JSA/ Universal Credit)	Nov 2017	**1.6%**	1.2%	1.9%	1.5% (Nov 2016)
Long term unemployment rate	Nov 2017	**1%**	0.5%	1%	0.8% (Nov 2016)
JSA claimants with dependent children	May 2017	**22.2%**	24.8%	24.5%	20.8% (May 2016)
IMD: Employment domain	2015	**114th most deprived of 326 LAs; 8 LSOAs in bottom 20%**	n/a	n/a	139th most deprived of 326 LAs; 4 LSOAs in bottom 20% (2010)
Number of jobs paid less than the living wage (£7.84)	Oct 2017	**17.1%**	18.1%	22%	16%
MEETING BASIC NEEDS					
IMD: Barriers to housing and services domain	2015	**52nd most deprived of 326 LAs; 17 LSOAs in bottom 20%**	n/a	n/a	n/a; 6 LSOAs in bottom 20% (2010)
IMD: Living environment domain	2015	**49th most deprived of 326 LAs; 29 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 10 in bottom 5%**	n/a	n/a	n/a; 17 LSOAs in bottom 20%, 0 in bottom 5%
%age in fuel poverty	2015	**13.9%**	9.4%	11%	10.8% (2014)
Readifood food parcels	16/17	**130 parcels per week**	n/a	n/a	100 parcels per week (2015)
POVERTY AND HEALTH					
Healthy life expectancy at birth - Male	2013-15	**66.4**	66	63.4	66.6 (2012-14)
POVERTY AMONGST OLDER PEOPLE					
IMD: Income deprivation affecting older people index	2015	**81st most deprived out of 326 LAs; 6 LSOAs in bottom 5%**	n/a	n/a	n/a; 1 LSOA in bottom 5% (IMD 2010)
JSA claimants over 50	Dec 2017	**0.5%**	0.3%	0.5%	0.4% (Dec 2016)

1. INTRODUCTION

Millions of people today are struggling to meet their needs, many from working families. Poverty is damaging, with a particular impact on the quality of family life, and can affect parenting, child development, mental health, education and learning, and the economy as a whole. There is therefore a financial as well as a moral imperative for tackling poverty. Failing to prevent children growing up in poor families is expensive for society, both in terms of direct costs to services during and after childhood, and in costs to the economy when children grow up.

The Poverty Needs Analysis was first published in 2014 to support the development of the Council's Tackling Poverty Strategy and action plan[2], and has been revised annually since then, to help inform the development of the Council's Corporate Plan and to provide context for the Council's work to help tackle poverty in Reading.

This document provides an overview of the key poverty-related data for Reading and is structured broadly according to the themes of the original Tackling Poverty Strategy:

- General deprivation
- Child poverty
- Work-related poverty
- Meeting basic needs
- Poverty and health
- Poverty and ethnicity
- Poverty amongst older people
- Poverty and disability
- Debt

The 'summary of indicators and direction of travel' at the start of this document lists the indictors and shows whether they have improved or declined since the previous period (depending on the timescale for the data). However, this document also includes a number of older indicators and datasets, e.g. 2011 Census data, which are not included in the summary.

In addition to the full document, there is also a series of summary factsheets, presenting the key data for each theme. These are available, along with this document, at http://www.reading.gov.uk/borough-profile.

This document forms the 'poverty' chapter of the **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Reading**, which describes the health, social care and wellbeing needs of Reading residents (http://www.reading.gov.uk/jsna). The JSNA looks at a wider range of factors that help shape the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and local communities, such as education, employment and the environment, and is a key source of information which

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[2] *for further information, see report to Policy Committee at www.reading.gov.uk/article/8872/Policy-Committee-02-NOV-2015*

is used by the Health and Wellbeing Board to agree the priorities that will inform the Health and Wellbeing Strategy[3].

2. GENERAL DEPRIVATION

Poverty – the national picture

Poverty is a very real phenomenon in the UK. The recent economic climate and significant reform of our national welfare system have meant that many households are increasingly struggling to make ends meet.

On a European level, in 2014 the UK was firmly in the middle of the European league table on material deprivation, with higher levels of deprivation than Spain, the Czech Republic, France and Germany, among others.[4]

In the UK, nearly a quarter (24%) of the population lived in poverty 20 years ago. By 2004, this had fallen to one in five (20%). By 2016/17, the proportion has risen slightly to 22% - 14.3 million people, over one in five of the population[5].

On an alternative measure, the number of individuals below the Minimum Income Standard (MIS) rose from 15 million to 19 million (from 25% to 30% of the population) between 2008/9 and 2014/5, with 11 million people with incomes below 75% of the standard and at high risk of being in poverty.[6] The Joseph Rowntree Foundation also forecast a 10% rise in living costs by 2020, which coupled with the increase in inflation means that millions more families are at risk of falling into poverty.

However, the overall trend masks large variations in the fortunes of different groups, particularly pensioners and certain types of families with children who have traditionally been most at risk, although poverty rates for both groups have started to rise again.

Poverty amongst pensioners has increased again, from 13% in 2011/12 to 16% in 2015/16. However, poverty rates are consistently highest among children and their parents, with the child poverty rate rising again in recent years to 30% in 2015/16. This is largely due to reductions in the support offered by benefits and tax credits and exacerbated by increases in the cost of essential goods and services[7].

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[3] http://www.reading.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing-in-reading
[4] *UK Poverty: Causes, Costs and Solutions, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2016*
[5] *Households Below Average Income 2016/17, DWP; after housing costs*
[6] *The Minimum Income Standard (MIS) is a benchmark of adequate income based on what the public think people need for a minimum acceptable living standard in the UK.*
[7] *UK Poverty 2017, Joseph Rowntree Foundation*

Trends in UK poverty since 1994/5

Relative poverty rates*

* Measured using 60% of median income, after housing costs (AHC)

Source: Households Below Average Income (JRF analysis)
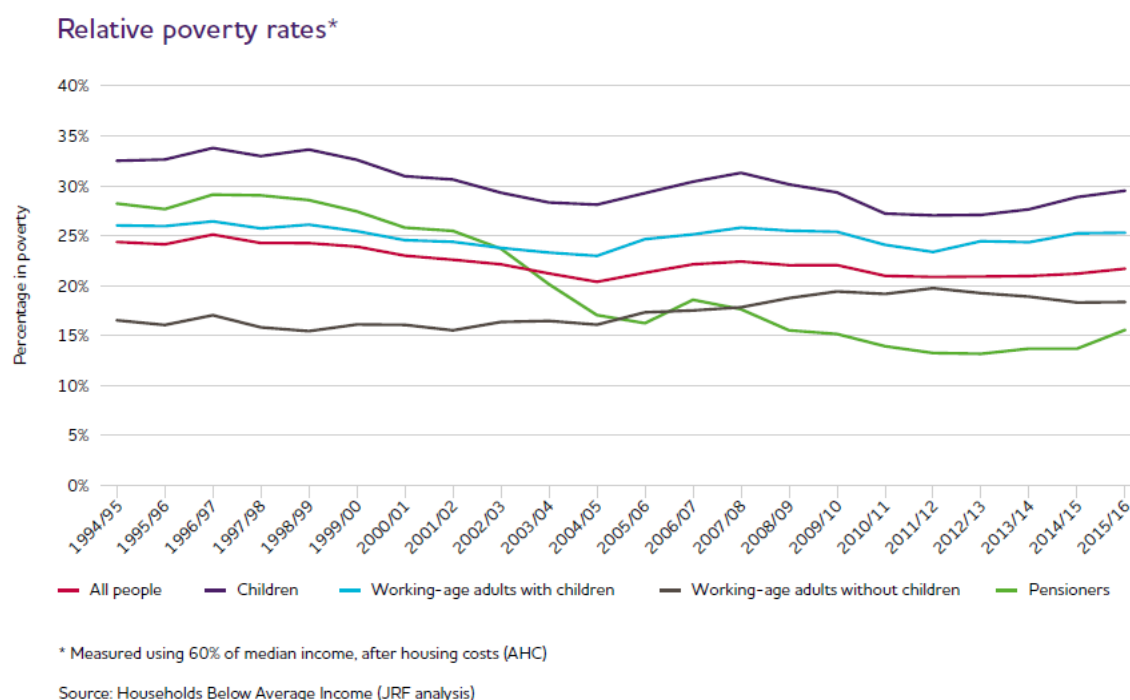
Source: UK Poverty 2017, Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Poverty in Reading

Reading is the fourth largest urban area in the South East and is a UK top-ten retail destination with a thriving night-time economy, serving a population that extends far beyond the Borough's boundaries. There has been a huge structural shift from the town's working class origins of beer, bulbs and biscuits to a compact service economy specialising in business services. Strategically located as a major transport hub and in close proximity to Heathrow, Reading is now home to the largest concentration of ICT corporations in the UK and is the service and financial centre of the Thames Valley and beyond.

However, the pace of change has been rapid and there is a clear mismatch between outstanding economic success and the level of benefits to local people, most dramatically illustrated by a comparison of the skills and earnings of the workforce with those of the resident population.

Equally graphic is the scale of the gap between Reading's most and least prosperous neighbourhoods. Reading has, within a small geographic area, some of the most affluent and the most deprived neighbourhoods in the whole of the Thames Valley. The recent Cities Outlook report on the UK's largest city economies suggests that Reading is the **4**[th] **least equal city** (after Oxford, Cambridge and London)[8].

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[8] *Centre for Cities 2018, gini co-efficient (2016/17) which measures wealth inequality.*

Reading has a diverse population across all income groups and a very wide cultural mix, with extremes of both wealth and poverty in very small areas. Poverty can therefore be masked by statistics at borough and even ward levels.

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015

The most comprehensive and widely adopted overall measure of deprivation is the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), which was updated in 2015 and replaces the previous 2010 index. The overall IMD combines indicators across 7 domains: income, employment, health, education skills and training, barriers to housing and services, living environment, and crime; and 2 supplementary indices – the index of income deprivation affecting children and the index of income deprivation affecting older people. For each of these there are separate scores.

According to the overall IMD, **Reading as a whole is ranked the 146th[9] most deprived out of 326 local authorities in the country, an improvement on 129th most deprived in 2010.**

However, **there are 10 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)[10] in Reading within the worst 20% nationally, with 2 LSOAs within the most deprived 10%** *(see map)*. This compares with 12 LSOAs in the most deprived 20% in 2010, but with none in the most deprived 10%. This suggests that while overall relative deprivation has decreased, it has actually increased in certain small areas within Reading.

This demonstrates how Reading exhibits marked extremes at a more refined locality level and, in this respect, is very different from any other local authority in the South East region. The following map shows the areas within Reading that have the highest levels of deprivation according to the IMD, predominantly in the south of the Borough but also in the west.

In 2011 9.3% of Reading's overall population and 13% of children and young people aged 0-17 years[11] lived in the 20% most deprived LSOAs.

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[9] *Rank of average score*
[10] *Super Output Areas (SOAs) are a set of geographical areas developed following the 2001 census. Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) typically contain 4 to 6 OAs with a population of around 1500.*
[11] *2011 Census data, Office for National Statistics*

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<u>Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015 (most deprived LSOAs)</u>

IMD Rank of all LSOAs
(0 - 10% Range = Most Deprived)

⬛ (orange)	1 to 3,284 (0 - 10%)
⬛ (yellow)	3,285 to 6,568 (10 - 20%)
⬛ (green)	6,569 to 9,853 (20 - 30%)
⬜	9,854 to 32,844 (30 - 100%)
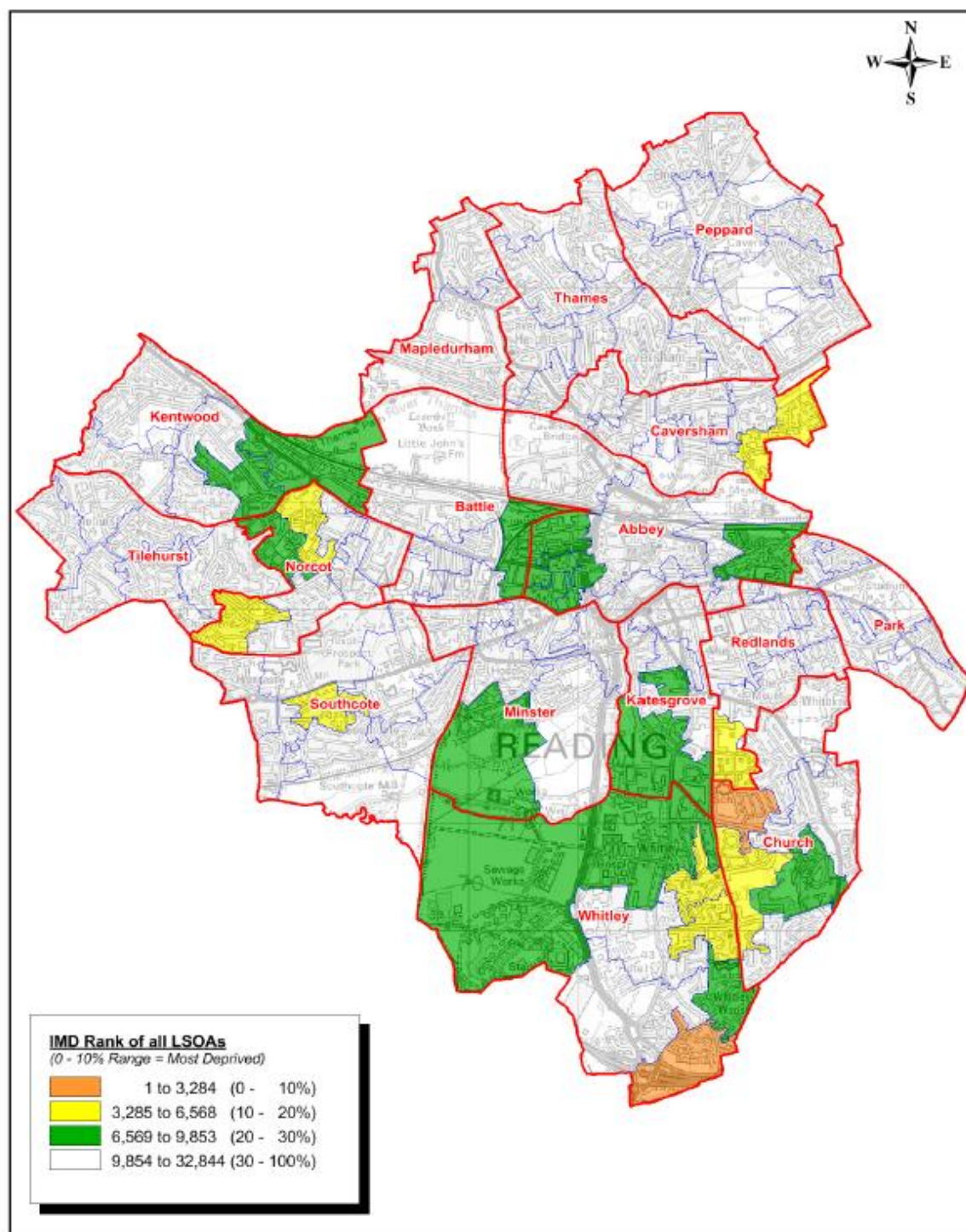
Title: **Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015**

Produced by GIS & Mapping Services   Date: 15/01/2015   Scale at A4: 1:46,000
Ref:G:\Mapinfo\Data\Client datasets\Chief Executives\IMD Maps 2015\IMD.wor

© Crown copyright and database rights 2016 Ordnance Survey 100019672.
Department for Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2015.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015

2011 Census deprivation dimensions

This dataset classifies households in England and Wales by four dimensions of deprivation:
- Employment
- Education
- Health and disability
- Household overcrowding

Deprivation dimensions

	All households (count)	No households not deprived in any dimension	No households deprived in 1 dimension	No households deprived in 2 dimensions	No households deprived in 3 dimensions	No households deprived in 4 dimensions
Abbey	6,331	2,657	2,308	1,013	299	54
Battle	4,480	1,922	1,480	769	276	33
Caversham	4,225	2,274	1,161	612	162	16
Church	3,287	1,187	1,160	722	200	18
Katesgrove	4,230	1,924	1,431	622	217	36
Kentwood	3,746	1,829	1,196	580	132	9
Mapledurham	1,179	704	374	95	6	0
Minster	4,532	2,105	1,496	700	203	28
Norcot	4,260	1,589	1,462	901	279	29
Park	3,842	1,985	1,234	473	137	13
Peppard	3,843	2,110	1,181	495	54	3
Redlands	3,567	1,804	1,102	494	144	23
Southcote	3,582	1,323	1,201	798	236	24
Thames	3,647	2,335	958	309	43	2
Tilehurst	3,715	1,613	1,228	731	134	9
Whitley	4,403	1,515	1,471	1,012	361	44

Source: Census 2011, Office for National Statistics

In comparison with the IMD, **the Census deprivation dimensions data for Reading suggests that a number of additional areas are deprived**, particularly Abbey and (part of) Caversham wards, New Town area and parts of Tilehurst, Whitley and Southcote (see map). This is likely to be due to the fact that the IMD includes a higher weighting for social housing, which tends to hide those who are poor but not in social housing.

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: Income domain

The IMD income domain measures the proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income. The definition of low income used includes both those people that are out-of-work, and those that are in work but who have low earnings (and who satisfy the respective means tests).

Reading ranks 92nd out of 326 local authorities nationally on the IMD income domain, compared with 123rd in 2010, indicating that deprivation has increased. 15 LSOAs fall within the most 20% deprived nationally (12 in 2010) and 5 in the most 10% deprived (1 in 2010).

Census 2011 deprivation dimensions - households deprived on 4 dimensions

Legend
% households in LSOA deprived on 4 dimensions

- 7 to 18 (15)
- 4 to 7 (25)
- 3 to 4 (10)
- 2 to 3 (16)
- 0 to 2 (31)

LSOA Boundary
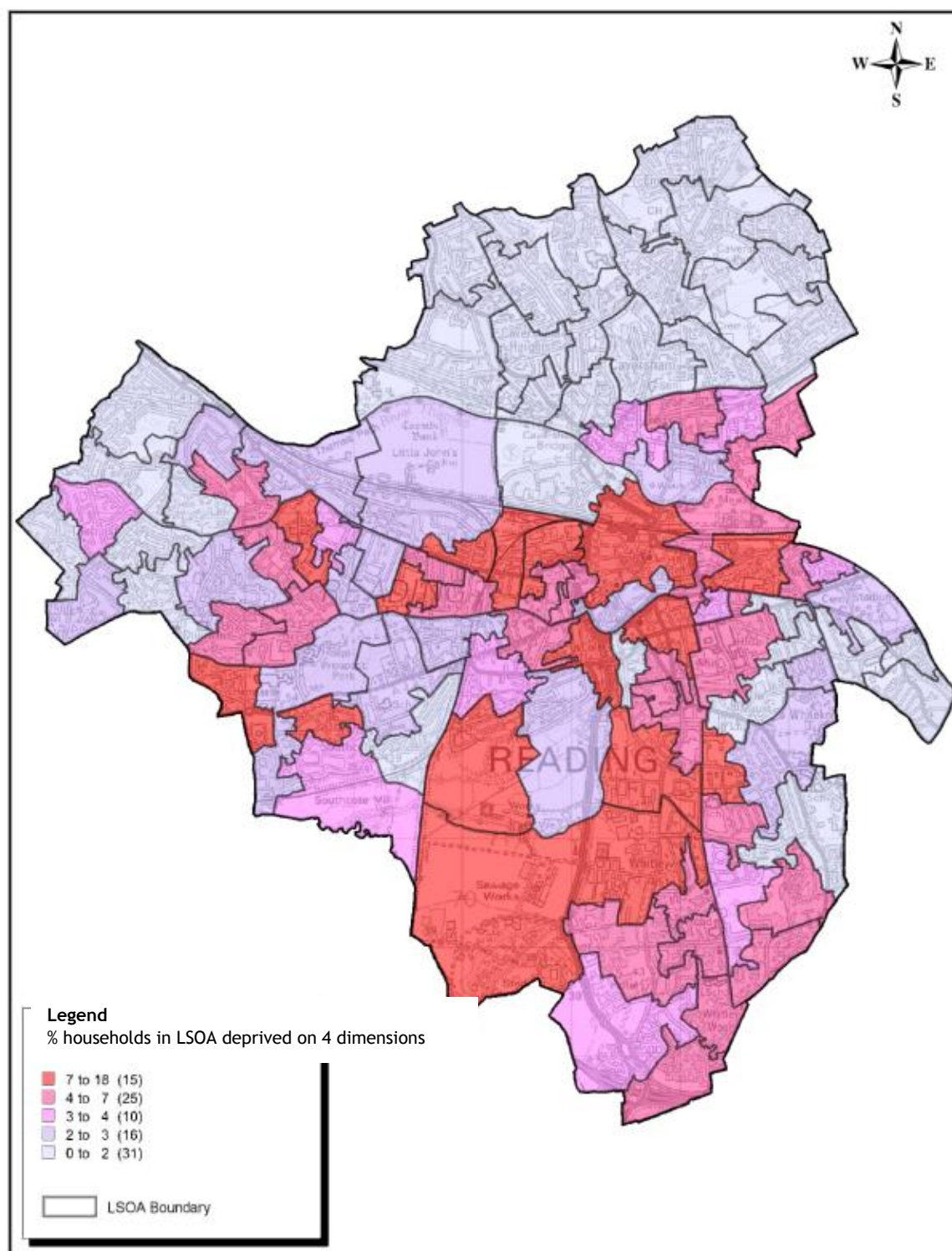
Title: **Census Deprivation Dimensions**
Count by LSOA of Households affected by 4 deprivation dimensions

Drg.No.:   Date: 03/05/2013   Scale at A4:1:46000
Produced by GIS & Mapping Services   Ref: 35075\Census Household Deprivation 4 Dimensions A4P.wor

nlpg

Reading
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Source: Census 2011, Office for National Statistics
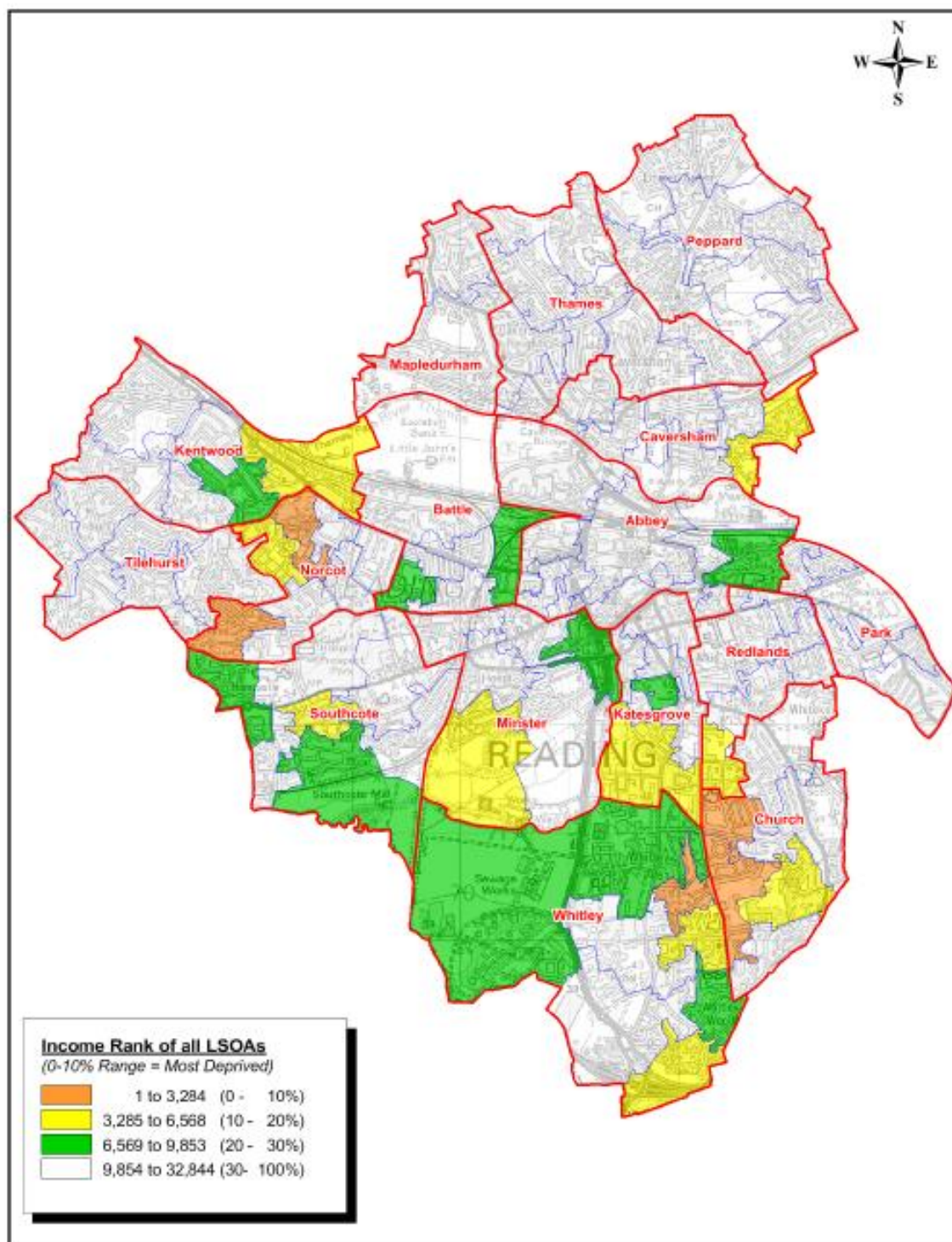
Reading Poverty Needs Analysis 2017

<u>IMD 2015: Income domain</u>

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015

Social Mobility Index

Social mobility is about ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to build a good life for themselves regardless of their family background. The Social Mobility Index uses 16 indicators to assess the education, employability and housing prospects of people living in each of England's 324 local authority areas. The index highlights where people from disadvantaged backgrounds are most and least likely to make social progress.

Social Mobility Index 2017

	Ranking on overall indicators *(high ranking = high social mobility)*					
	Overall ranking (out of 324) (Hot spots /Cold spots)	*Early Years*	*Schools*	*Youth*	*Adult hood*	*Overall ranking 2016*
Reading	**217**	**165**	**303**	**158**	**68**	**225**
Wokingham	87	238	151	188	1	90
Bracknell	103	68	281	126	25	203
Slough	45	266	44	18	142	35
West Berks	265	317	219	285	16	228
Windsor & Maidenhead	55	256	139	51	6	101

Source: State of the Nation 2017: Social Mobility in Great Britain, Social Mobility Commission

CHILD POVERTY

National picture

Child poverty in the UK reduced dramatically between 1998/9 and 2011/12, when 1.1 million children were lifted out of poverty. However, since then child poverty figures have more or less flat-lined. In 2016/17, **over one in four children (around 4 million) or 30% of children are living in poverty** (after housing costs)[12], up from 27% in 2012/13.

The Institute for Fiscal Studies project that the number of children in both relative and absolute poverty will have risen significantly by 2020[13], as a direct result of tax and benefit decisions made since 2010.

Work no longer provides a guaranteed route out of poverty in the UK. Since 2010 there has been a dramatic decline in the number of children in workless households but a big rise in the proportion of poor children who are in working families. 24% of children growing up in poverty live in a family where at least one member works[14].

However, over the last 20 years there have been very significant reductions in poverty among working-age families who were particularly at risk. Lone-parent families and families with three or more children have always had high rates of poverty but these have recently fallen markedly[15].

Child poverty has long-lasting effects. In terms of the number achieving at least 5 A*-C GCSE grades, there is a 28% gap between children receiving free school meals and their wealthier peers[16]. Infant mortality is 10% higher for infants in the lower social group than the average[17].

We also know from research carried out by Save the Children in 2011[18] that:
- well over half of parents in poverty (61%) say they have cut back on food and over a quarter (26%) say they have skipped meals in the past year.
- around 1 in 5 parents in poverty (19%) say their children have to go without new shoes when they need them.
- a large number of children in poverty say they are missing out on things that many other children take for granted, such as going on school trips (19%) and having a warm coat in winter (14%).
- only 1 in 5 parents in poverty (20%) say they have not had to borrow money to pay for essentials, such as food and clothes, in the past year.

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[12] *Households Below Average Income, DWP*
[13] *UK Poverty: Causes, Costs and Solutions, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2016*
[14] *Households Below Average Income 2016/17; DWP*
[15] *Poverty in the UK 2017; Joseph Rowntree Foundation*
[16] *www.endchildpoverty.org.uk*
[17] *www.barnardos.org.uk*
[18] *End Child Poverty, Child Poverty map of UK, Feb 2013*

In terms of government policy on child poverty, the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 repealed elements of the Child Poverty Act 2010, including the target of eradicating child poverty by 2020, as well as removing the previous duty on both national and local government to produce a child poverty strategy. The act also holds significant implications for how child poverty is defined and measured, with a move away from income-based measures of poverty and the introduction of broader measures of life chances, including educational attainment and worklessness.

Children in low-income families local measure

Although the definitive national measure of relative child poverty is based on the Households Below Average Income (HBAI) data set, at the local level the 'children in low-income families' measure provides a broad proxy for relative low-income child poverty. This measures children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits or in receipt of in-work tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income. This measure is not directly comparable with the national HBAI measure due to methodological differences.

On the children in low income families measure, **Reading still broadly reflects the national picture with just over 1 in 6 children, or 16.1%, in poverty,** down from 18.7% in 2014, reflecting the national trend.

Child poverty in Reading

year	No children[19] in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA[20]	% of children in low-income families	South East	England
2015	**5,685**	**16.1%**	**12.3%**	**16.6%**
2014	6,585	18.7%	14.4%	19.9%
2013	6,230	17.8%	13.2%	18.0%
2012	6,470	18.8%	13.5%	18.6%
2011	6,945	20.8%	14.6%	20.1%
2010	7,110	21.7%	15.0%	20.6%
2009	7,020	22.1%	15.4%	21.3%
2008	6,640	21.5%	14.5%	20.9%
2007	6,760	22.3%	14.9%	21.6%
2006	6,420	21.2%	14.4%	20.8%

Source: HM Revenues and Customs

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[19] *All dependent children under 20*

[20] *CTC = Child Tax Credit; IS/JSA = Income Support/ Jobseekers Allowance*

Reading Poverty Needs Analysis 2017

Child poverty by ward

Ward	2015		2014	
	No children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA	% of Children in low-income families	No children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA	% of Children in low-income families
Abbey	310	16.7%	365	20.2%
Battle	475	15.7%	555	18.3%
Caversham	350	15.8%	405	18.2%
Church	525	22.3%	635	26.9%
Katesgrove	330	17.8%	375	20.9%
Kentwood	400	16.1%	440	17.9%
Mapledurham	10	1.6%	10	1.8%
Minster	345	16.1%	405	19.1%
Norcot	575	20.4%	645	23.3%
Park	300	12.9%	385	16.4%
Peppard	120	5.9%	165	8.1%
Redlands	220	15.8%	275	20.0%
Southcote	420	20.0%	465	22.4%
Thames	70	2.9%	80	3.2%
Tilehurst	320	14.7%	375	17.0%
Whitley	915	25.6%	1,000	28.2%

Source: HM Revenues and Customs

The table above shows that child poverty on this measure has decreased in all wards. The map of child poverty at LSOA level shows the highest numbers of children in relative poverty in areas of Whitley and Amersham Road, with a number also around the Oxford Road area.

End Child Poverty local measure

According to the End Child Poverty coalition, the 'children in low income families' measure on its own provides an inaccurate picture of actual child poverty, overstating the numbers in out-of-work poverty and understating the numbers in working poverty. The End Child Poverty figures take the 'children in low income families measure' as a starting point and then they are adjusted to estimate what these actual levels would be if they could be measured on the same basis as the national household income survey.

On this measure, **24.6% of children are in poverty in Reading** (after housing costs), slightly higher than the previous figure in 2015.

Percentage of children in poverty

	Before housing costs		After housing costs	
	Number of children	%	Number of children	%
2017	5,477	15.5%	8,679	24.6%
2015	n/a	14.2%	n/a	24.2%

Source: End Child Poverty, July-Sept 2017, Oct-Dec 2015

Child poverty by LSOA[21](children in low income families local measure)

Children in Low Income Families
Children in Low Income Families (per LSOA)

■	0 to 54
■	55 to 108
■	109 to 162
■	163 to 216
■	217 to 270
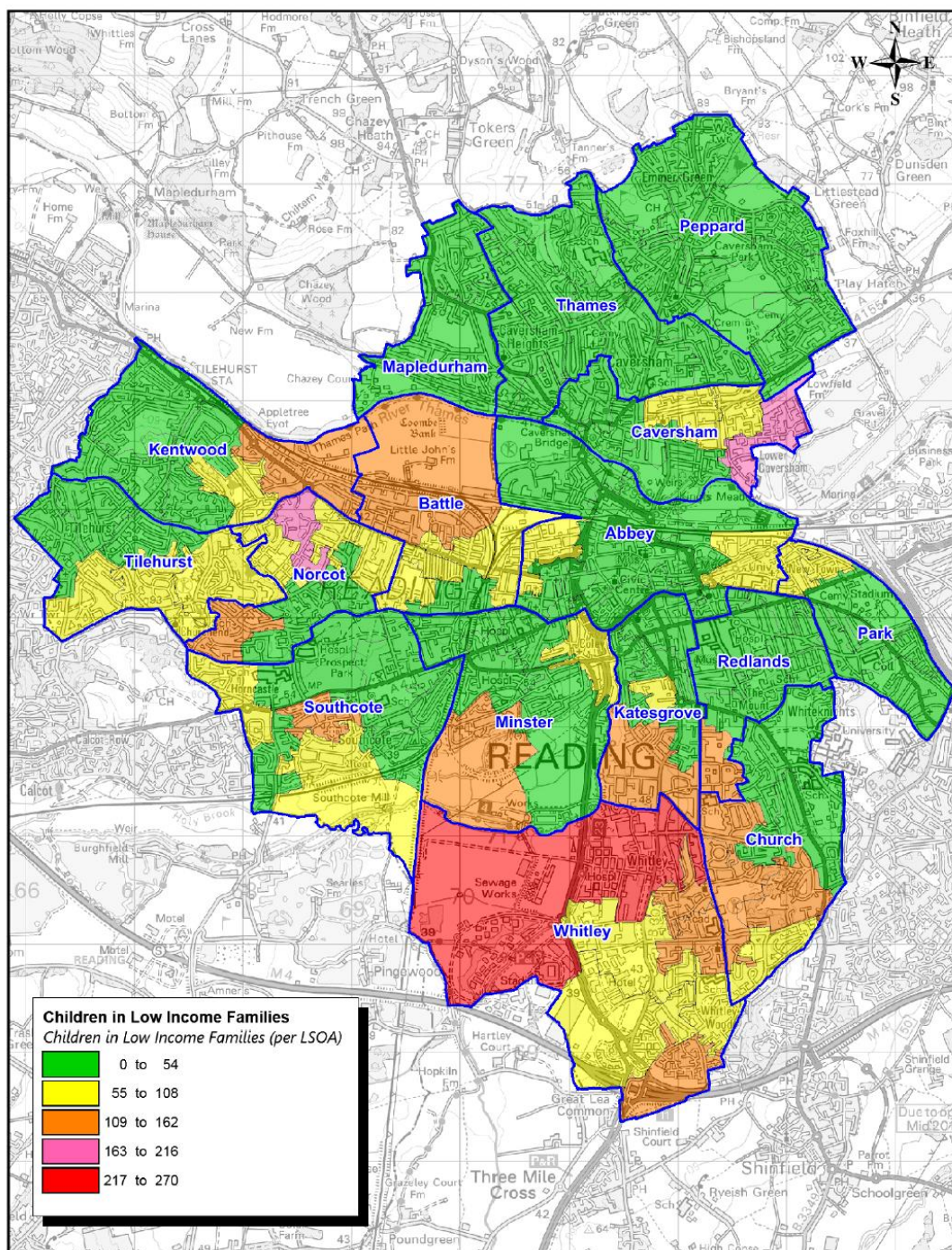
Title: **Children in Low Income Families 2015**

Date: 19/03/2018   Scale at A4:1:46,000
Produced by GIS & Mapping Services

Ref: 7223\G:\MI\D\CD\CheifExec\IMD Maps\2015\Children in low income families

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Source: HM Revenues and Customs 2015

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[21] *Lower Super Output Area - Census area which typically contains a population of around 1500.*

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: Index of income deprivation affecting children

The index of income deprivation affecting children is one of the domains forming the Index of Multiple Deprivation, with **Reading ranking 82nd out of 326 local authorities.** 17 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) fall within the 20% most deprived nationally (down slightly from 18 in 2010), and these are home to 15.5%[22] of children and young people in Reading. One LSOA falls within the 5% most deprived (a different area to the LSOA in the most deprived 5% in 2010).

The 17 LSOAs in Reading which fall within the 20% most deprived on this index, mainly fall in south and west Reading.

IMD 2015: Index of income deprivation affecting children
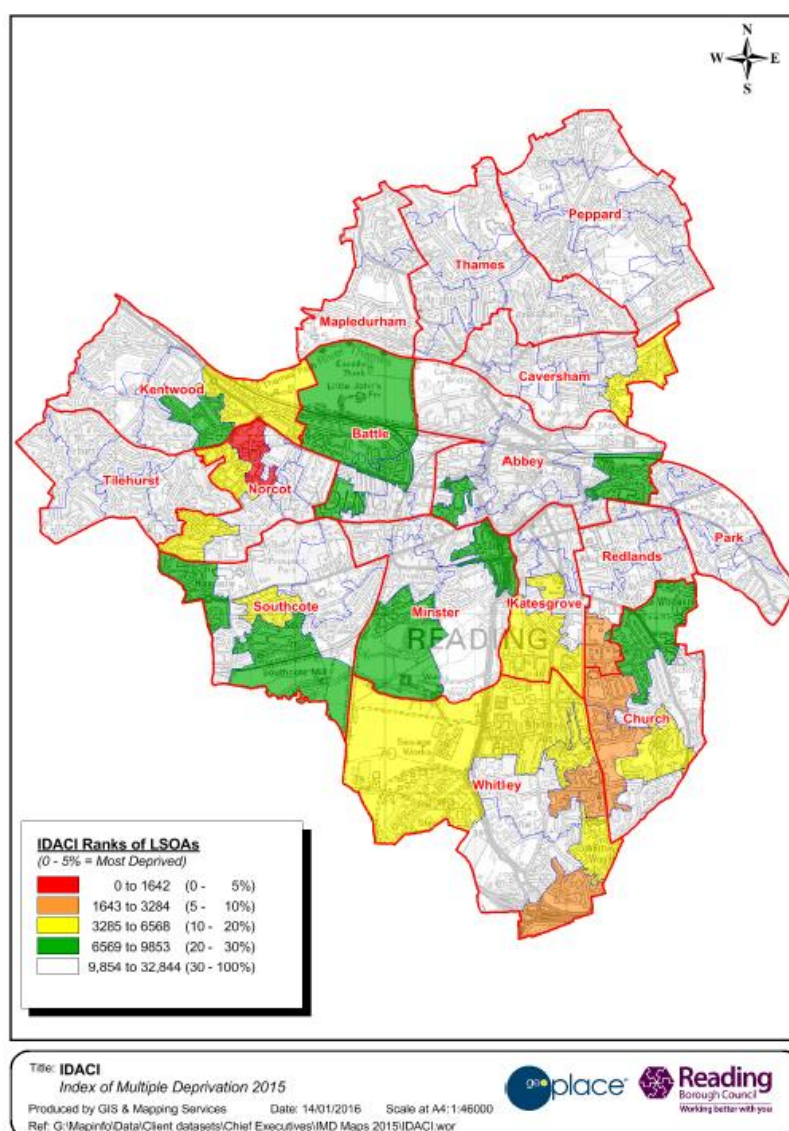
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015

Lone parent families

Almost three quarters (74.6%) of children in poverty now live in lone parent families, higher than both the national and regional figures, and a higher proportion than in 2014 (70.2%). Not surprisingly, the map shows that lone parents claiming key benefits tend to be in areas with higher levels of child poverty.

Children in lone parent families

	No children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA			% children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children[23] in "poverty"
	Couple	*Lone parent*	*All*	*Couple*	*Lone parent*	*All families*
Reading	**1,450**	**4,240**	**5,685**	**25.5%**	**74.6%**	**16.1%**
South East	66,535	159,980	226,515	29.4%	**70.6%**	12.3%
England	627,585	1,301,700	1,929,285	32.5%	**67.5%**	16.6%

Source: HM Revenues and Customs 2015

Pupil premium

The pupil premium is additional funding given to schools so that they can support their disadvantaged pupils and close the attainment gap between these pupils and their peers. It is allocated to schools to work with pupils who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the last six years[24].

26.3% of Reading **pupils are eligible for pupil premium** (5,053 pupils), the highest percentage in Berkshire, compared with 21.8% for the South East and 28.3% for England. This has decreased since the previous year, when 27.3% were eligible in 2016/17.

Source: Department for Education

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[23] All dependent children under 20

[24] including children adopted from care, looked after children and service children

Children in poverty in lone parent families

Children in Poverty in Lone Parent Families
Children in Poverty in Lone Parent Families (per LSOA)

- 0 to 40
- 41 to 80
- 81 to 120
- 121 to 160
- 161 to 200
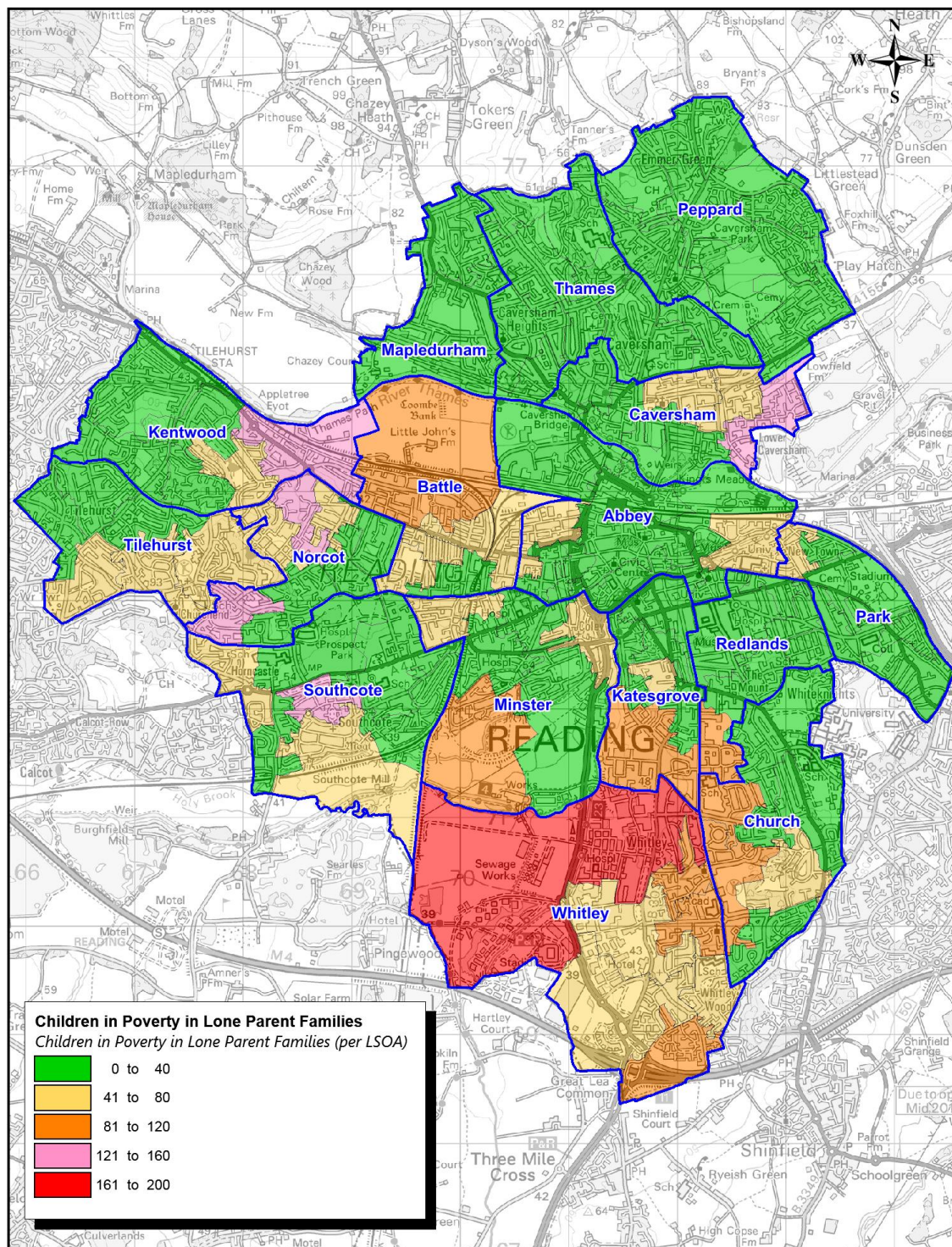
Title: **Children in Poverty - Lone Parent Families (2015)**

Date: 20/03/2018   Scale at A4:1:46,000
Produced by GIS & Mapping Services   Ref: 7223\G:\MI\D\CD\CheifExec\IMD Maps\2015\Children in low income familiesLONE

Source: HM Revenues and Customs 2015

Free school meals

Reading has a higher proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals than the South East and the other Berkshire authorities. The proportion of eligible pupils in primary schools has decreased from 15.3% in 2016 to 14.3% in 2015, but is higher than the national average. The number eligible in secondary schools has also decreased from 13.6% in 2016 to 11.8% in 2015, and is lower than the national average. Those in receipt of free school meals tend to do less well in terms of educational attainment.

Percentage of pupils eligible for and claiming free school meals

	state-funded nursery and primary schools in 2017	*state-funded secondary schools in 2017*
Reading	**14.3%**	**11.8%**
Slough	10.0%	9.0%
Bracknell	7.7%	7.0%
West Berks	6.5%	5.9%
Windsor & Maidenhead	6.0%	5.9%
Wokingham	5.3%	5.3%
South East	**9.9%**	**8.4%**
England	**14.1%**	**12.9%**

Source: Dept for Education 2017

Educational attainment

The link between poverty and poor educational outcomes is well documented. Children who grow up in poverty face serious disadvantage and consequently struggle to thrive and achieve, often resulting in their own children also living in poverty and facing similar barriers, creating a cycle of intergenerational poverty. Low educational achievement, amongst other factors, can increase the risk that families will not have the resources for a decent standard of living, negatively impacting on their own children's life chances. In terms of the number achieving at least 5 A*-C GCSE grades, there is a 28% gap between children receiving free school meals and their wealthier peers[25].

In 2016, the new more challenging national curriculum at Key Stage 2 was assessed by new tests and at Key Stage 4 (GCSE level) a new secondary school accountability system was implemented, with new key measures. This means that comparison with previous years is difficult.

In Reading, performance at Foundation Stage in 2017 is similar to 2016 and in line with the national average. Educational attainment at Key Stage 2 has increased since 2016 but is lower than the national average. GCSE results are above the national averages on all of the measures, and above the regional on most, though the average attainment 8 score has decreased since 2016. The attainment gap between those claiming free school meals

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[25] www.endchildpoverty.org.uk

and all students at GCSE level is greater than that at the regional and national level.

Attainment and free school meals

	Foundation Stage - good level of development (% children achieving at least the expected level)		Key Stage 2 - % achieving expected level in Reading, Writing and Maths		GCSEs - Average Attainment 8 score	
	All	Eligible for free school meals	All	Eligible for free school meals	All	Eligible for free school meals
2017						
Reading	**69**	**54**	**59**	**35**	**49.6**	**31.1**
South East	73	55	63	39	47.4	32.0
England	69	54	62	43	46.4	35.1
2016						
Reading	69	55	56	35	51.4	-
South East	72	54	55	32	51.0	-
England	67	52	54	36	50.1	-

Source: Department for Education

GSCE attainment

	Average Attainment 8 scores	Progress 8 scores	% achieving a strong grade 9-5 pass in Eng & maths	% achieving a strong grade 9-4 pass in Eng & maths	% achieving English Baccalaureate (inc a strong grade 9-5 pass in Eng & maths)	% achieving English Baccalaureate (inc a strong grade 9-4 pass in Eng & maths)
2017						
Reading	**49.6**	**0.02**	**49.8**	**65.3**	**27.7**	**28.4**
South East	47.4	-0.02	45.8	66.5	23.8	25.9
England (state funded)	46.4	-0.03	42.9	64.2	21.4	23.9
2016						
Reading	51.4	-0.11	-	64.1[26]	-	29.5
South East	51.0	0.02	-	65.8	-	27.3
England (state funded)	50.1	-0.03	-	63.3	-	24.8

Source: Department for Education 2017

Youth offending

Reading's youth offending rate has declined significantly from 2011/12, reflecting the national picture. However there was an increase from Oct 2014 in both the actual number and the rate of First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System (though the numbers are low and subject to fluctuations), though these have been falling again more recently.

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[26] *% achieving Eng & maths (A*-C)*

The custody rate has improved significantly, but again this relates to a small number of custodial sentences imposed.

The reoffending rate for young people had increased since the previous year but is now lower than the rate.

Rate of FTEs per 100,000 under 18's - Oct 16 - Sep 17

	Oct 13 - Sep 14	Jan 14 - Dec 14	Apr 14 - Mar 15	Jul 14 - Jun 15	Oct 14 - Sep 15	Jan 15 - Dec 15	Apr 15 - Mar 16	Jul 15 - Jun 16	Oct 15 - Sep 16	Jan 16 - Dec 16	Apr 16 - Mar 17	Jul 16 - Jun 17	Oct 16 - Sep 17
Reading	452	397	357	388	357	489	543	573	634	550	532	457	412
England	425	413	406	393	381	373	362	353	340	327	321	313	304

Source: Youth Justice Board

Reoffending Rate (Apr – Mar, 2011/12 - 2015/16)

	Apr 11 - Mar 12	Apr 12 - Mar 13	Apr 13 - Mar 14	Apr 14 - Mar 15	Apr 15 - Mar 16
Reading	34.0%	33.8%	52.8%	43.8%	32.3%
England	40.4%	41.0%	42.9%	42.6%	41.9%

Source: Youth Justice Board

3. WORK-RELATED POVERTY

The evidence is clear that the main root causes of poverty are worklessness and low earnings.

Although unemployment has fallen markedly over the last five years to 4.3% in 2017 (the joint lowest since 1975)[27] and household worklessness is now the lowest on record, there are more people on temporary contracts than five years ago, and more people in self-employment, for whom incomes have been falling.

There has therefore been a large rise in the proportion of poor children who are in families where someone is in work and 24% of children growing up in poverty live in a family where at least one member works[28]. 55% of all people in poverty (7.4 million) were in a working family in 2014/15[29], up from around 40 per cent ten years ago.

Following recent changes to welfare benefits, many people on means-tested benefits now have reduced incomes. Almost 300 families[30] in Reading are affected by the benefit caps introduced in 2013 and 2016.

OUT OF WORK POVERTY

Claimant count[31]

	Reading count	*Reading rate*	*South East rate*	*England rate*
Nov 2017	**1,700**	**1.6%**	1.2%	1.9%
Nov 2016	1,615	1.5%	1.1%	1.7%
Nov 2015	1,405	1.3%	1.0%	1.7%
Nov 2014	1,630	1.5%	1.2%	2.0%
Nov 2013	2,365	2.2%	1.8%	2.9%
Nov 2012	3,680	3.4%	2.4%	3.7%

Source: NOMIS

The claimant count rate (proportion of working age population claiming JSA or Universal Credit) has decreased since 2012 but risen again slightly in Nov 2017. The rate is higher in Reading than for the South East in general.

Under Universal Credit, a broader span of claimants are required to look for work than under Jobseeker's Allowance. Therefore, as Universal Credit is rolled out in particular areas (from December 2017 in Reading), the number of people recorded within the Claimant Count is likely to rise.

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[27] *4.3% Aug – Dec 17; ONS UK labour market statistical bulletin, December 2017*

[28] *Households Below Average Income 2016/17; DWP*

[29] *Monitoring Poverty and Social Exclusion 2016, Joseph Rowntree Foundation*

[30] *as at Nov 2017*

[31] *The overall claimant count rate includes those claiming both Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit, however this dataset is not yet available for long term unemployment and claimants with children for which the JSA claimant rate is still used*

Long term unemployment by age

	JSA claimant rate (over a year)					
	Nov 2017			*Nov 2016*		
	Reading	*South East*	*England*	*Reading*	*South East*	*England*
Age 16-24	**0.0**	0.1	0.1	**0.1**	0.1	0.2
Age 25-49	**0.3**	0.2	0.4	**0.3**	0.2	0.4
Age 50-64	**0.7**	0.3	0.5	**0.5**	0.2	0.4
Total	**1.0**	**0.5**	**1.0**	**0.8**	**0.5**	**1.0**

Source: NOMIS; JSA by age and duration with proportions

The long term unemployment rate has increased slightly overall and for 50-64 group from Nov 2016, but reduced slightly for 16-24 age group. The overall rate is similar to the national rate, however the 50-64 rate is higher than both the national and regional figures.

JSA claimants with dependent children

% claimants with children		
	May 2017	*May 2016*
Reading	**22.2%**	20.8%
South East	**24.8%**	23.2%
England	**24.5%**	22.9%

Source: NOMIS; JSA claimants

The percentage of JSA claimants in Reading with dependent children has increased since May 2016, but is lower than the national and regional averages.

Key out of work benefits claimants

			Nov 2016				*Nov 2015*	
Claimant group	*Reading number*	*Reading rate[32]*	*South East rate*	*England rate*	*Reading number*	*Reading rate*	*South East rate*	*England rate*
Job seekers	1,190	**1.1**	0.7	1.1	1,270	1.2	0.9	1.4
ESA and incapacity benefits claimants	4,970	**4.5**	4.4	5.8	5,090	4.7	4.4	5.9
Lone parents	1,200	**1.1**	0.8	1.0	1,280	1.2	0.8	1.1
Carer	1,220	**1.1**	1.3	1.7	1,130	1.0	1.2	1.6
Others on income related benefit	140	**0.1**	0.1	0.2	190	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total out-of-work benefits claimants	**7,500**	**6.8**	**6.1**	**8.1**	**7,830**	**7.2**	**6.4**	**8.6**

Source: NOMIS; benefit claimants, working age client group

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[32] *Proportion of resident population aged 16-64 estimate*

Just under 7% of the resident working age population is claiming a key out of work benefit (*see table*), compared with 7.2% in Nov 2015**.**

13% of children under 16 are in families claiming out of work benefits[33] (down from 14% in 2015).

<u>Out of work benefits claimants by LSOA</u>

Leaflet | Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA, Nomis
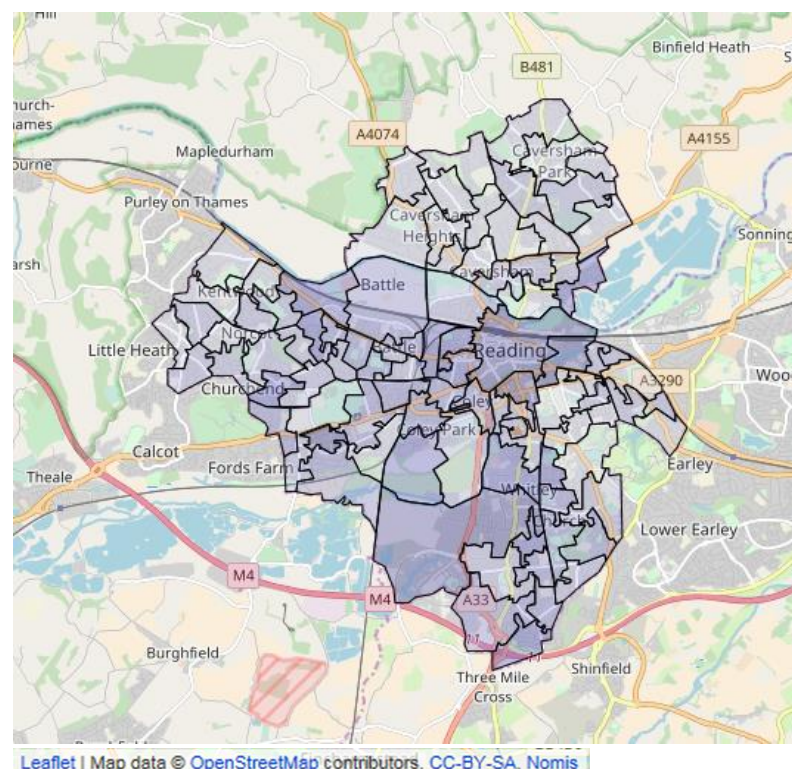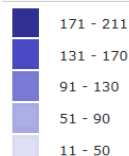
Legend = number of claimants at Lower Super Output Area level

Source: NOMIS Nov 2016

Legend

■	171 - 211
■	131 - 170
■	91 - 130
■	51 - 90
■	11 - 50

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: Employment domain

Reading ranks 114th out of 326 local authorities nationally on the IMD employment domain, which measures the proportion of the working-age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market. This compares with 139th in 2010, indicating that relative deprivation has increased. 8 Lower Super Output Areas fall within the most 20% deprived nationally (4 in 2010), and 2 in the most 10% deprived (none in 2010).

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[33] *DWP May 2016 (Children in out of work benefit claimant households) & ONS mid year estimates 2016*

Reading Poverty Needs Analysis 2017

IMD 2015: Employment domain

Employment Ranks of all LSOAs
(0-10% Range = Most Deprived)

1 to 3,284 (0 - 10%)
3,285 to 6,568 (10 - 20%)
6,569 to 9,853 (20 - 30%)
9,854 to 32,844 (30 - 100%)
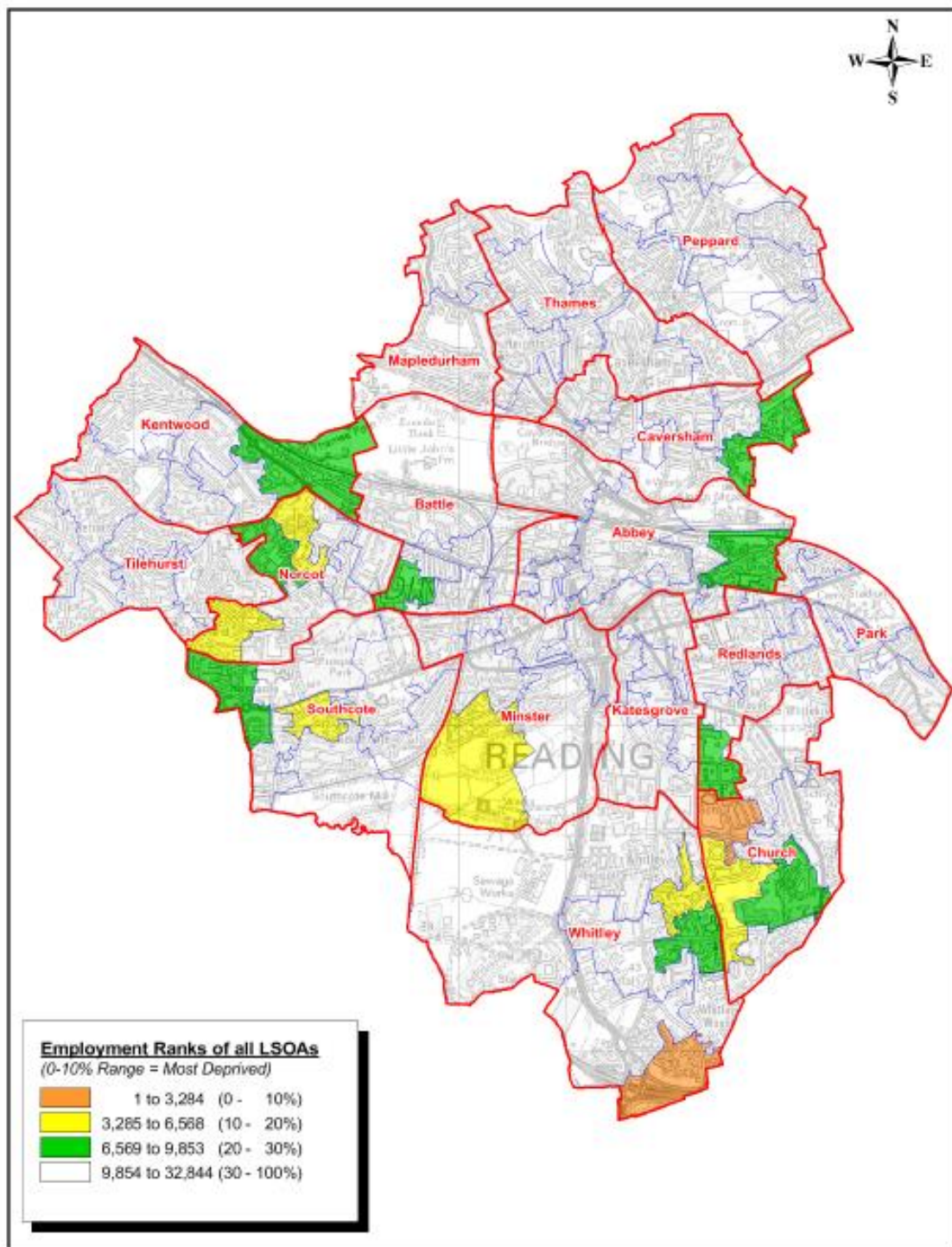
Title: **Employment**
Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015

Produced by GIS & Mapping Services   Date: 15/01/2016   Scale at A4:1:46,000
Ref: G:\Mapinfo\Data\Client datasets\Chief Executives\IMD Maps 2015\Employment.wor

© Crown copyright and database rights 2016 Ordnance Survey 100019672.
Department for Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2015.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015

IN-WORK POVERTY

Although since 2010 there has been a dramatic decline in the number of children in workless households, there has been a large rise in the proportion of poor children who are in families where someone is in work. 18% (8 million) of working-age adults and children in poverty are in working households[34]; 24% of children in poverty are in working households[35]. 12% of workers are in poverty, and 20% of part-time workers[36].

Children in households claiming tax credits

In 2015, **270 children in Reading were living in families in receipt of both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit with income less than 60% median income,** significantly less than in the previous year and reflecting the national trend, but higher than the preceding two years.

Children in families in receipt of Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit and income less than 60% of median income

	No of children
2015	**270**
2014	740
2013	165
2012	135
2011	365
2010	415
2009	395
2008	510
2007	725
2006	495

Source: HM Revenues and Customs 2015

Median pay

		Weekly pay - gross	*Weekly pay - basic*	*Hourly pay - gross*	*Annual pay - gross*
Reading 2017	**Residents**	**£604.7**	**£565.5**	**£15.47**	**£32,234**
	Workforce	***£641.3***	***£612.8***	***£16.99***	***£36,117***
South East 2017	Residents	£596.8	£573.7	£15.36	£31,664
	Workforce	*£574.9*	*£546.6*	*£14.66*	*£30,219*
England 2017	Residents	£555.8	£524.4	£14.17	£29,085
	Workforce	*£555.8*	*£524.4*	*£14.17*	*£29,079*
Reading 2016	Residents	£557.20	£538.40	£14.77	£31,171
	Workforce	*£621.60*	*£582.60*	*£16.36*	*£33,333*

Source: NOMIS; Annual survey of hours and earnings (full time workers)

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[34] *Poverty in the UK 2017; Joseph Rowntree Foundation; Households Below Average Income 2015/16*
[35] *Households Below Average Income 2016/17; DWP*
[36] *Poverty in the UK 2017; Joseph Rowntree Foundation; Households Below Average Income 2015/16*

Median earnings for residents in Reading are generally higher than both the national and regional averages (regional earnings were higher in 2016). **However, median earnings for the Reading workforce are significantly higher than for residents**. This demonstrates well the mismatch between outstanding economic success and the level of benefits to local people in Reading.

Income distribution

Reading has a higher percentage in the higher income brackets than England and than the South East except for the £60k + income band, but also a higher proportion in the lower two brackets. Again, this demonstrates the disparity between levels of income and inequality within Reading.

Income distribution (research based on PAYE and benefits income[37])

PAYE and benefit income band	*Reading*	*South East*	*England*
£0	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%
up to £5k	12.0%	10.8%	11.1%
£5 - £10k	13.3%	15.7%	16.4%
£10 - £15k	14.3%	15.3%	16.8%
£15 - £20k	12.1%	12.4%	13.5%
£20 - £30k	16.5%	15.6%	15.6%
£30 - £40k	8.0%	7.8%	7.0%
£40 - £60k	5.8%	5.8%	4.6%
above £60k	3.8%	4.2%	2.8%
No income information	13.8%	12.0%	11.7%

Source: Office for National Statistics 2015/16; licensed under the Open Government Licence v.3.0.

Living wage

Estimated number of jobs paid less than the living wage (£8.45)

	Number of jobs	*% of jobs*
Reading	15,000	17.1%
South East	690,000	18.1%
England	5,035	22%

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2017

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[37] *Please note these are not official statistics on income*

Economic activity rate

According to the 2011 Census, part time employment increased and full time employment decreased since the 2001 Census. The most significant increase was for those who are economically active but unemployed from 2.5% to 4.6%, although since then the claimant count has decreased. The proportion self-employed also increased.

Percentage of people aged 16 -74 economically active and inactive

	Reading		*South East*		*England*	
	2011	*2001*	*2011*	*2001*	*2011*	*2001*
Economically active:						
Employee: Part-time	**11.9**	10.2	**13.8**	12.2	**13.7**	11.8
Employee: Full-time	**44.6**	48.1	**40.4**	43.2	**38.6**	40.8
Self-employed	**7.9**	6.9	**11.0**	9.6	**9.8**	8.3
Unemployed	**4.6**	2.5	**3.4**	2.3	**4.4**	3.3
Full-time student	**5.0**	4.1	**3.3**	2.7	**3.4**	2.6
Economically inactive:						
Retired	**8.6**	9.8	**13.7**	13.4	**13.7**	13.5
Student (including full-time students)	**8.0**	7.0	**5.2**	4.2	**5.8**	4.7
Looking after home or family	**4.6**	5.6	**4.4**	6.5	**4.4**	6.5
Long-term sick or disabled	**2.8**	3.0	**2.9**	4.4	**4.0**	5.3
Other	**2.2**	2.8	**1.8**	2.4	**2.2**	3.1

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

A primary cause of poverty is the lack of opportunities for those with low skills and low qualifications. Low levels of skill also act as a significant brake on the ability of Reading to fulfil its economic potential.

Despite an unemployment rate well below the national average, Reading continues to have pockets of structural unemployment in a predominantly high growth economy. The high employment rate also masks a far more serious and widespread issue of low income amongst the employed.

In general, the quality of educational provision in Reading is considered in line with the England average *(see child poverty chapter)*.

Working age qualifications

According to the Census, **the percentage of residents with no qualifications decreased** from 22.8% to 17.4% between 2001 and 2011 *(see map)*. This mirrors the national picture. The number of **residents achieving level 3 and level 4 qualifications increased,** with the most significant increase for those achieving level 4 and above, with a 6.5% increase from

2001 to 34.8% in 2011. This is above the level achieved for the South East (29.9%) and England (27.4%).

Percentage of people aged 16 - 74 achieving qualifications

Highest level of qualification	Reading		South East		England	
	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001
No qualifications	17.4	22.8	19.1	23.9	22.5	28.9
Highest level of qualification: Level 1 qualifications	12.2	15.0	13.5	17.1	13.3	16.6
Highest level of qualification: Level 2 qualifications	12.3	17.4	15.9	21.2	15.2	19.4
Highest level of qualification: Apprenticeship	2.5	N/A	3.6	N/A	3.6	N/A
Highest level of qualification: Level 3 qualifications	13.4	11.5	12.8	9.2	12.4	8.3
Highest level of qualification: Level 4 qualifications and above	34.8	28.3	29.9	21.7	27.4	19.9
Highest level of qualification: Other qualifications	7.4	5.0	5.2	6.8	5.7	6.9

Source 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Percentage of residents aged 16+ with no qualifications

	% residents aged 16+ with no qualifications
Reading	17.4
Bracknell Forest	16.3
Slough	20.1
West Berkshire	17.2
Windsor and Maidenhead	15.6
Wokingham	13.2
SE	19.1
England	22.5

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Percentage of residents aged 16+ with no qualifications

Legend

| 4.31 - 11.20 | 11.21 - 18.20 | 18.21 - 25.10 | 25.11 - 32.10 | 32.11 - 39.01 |
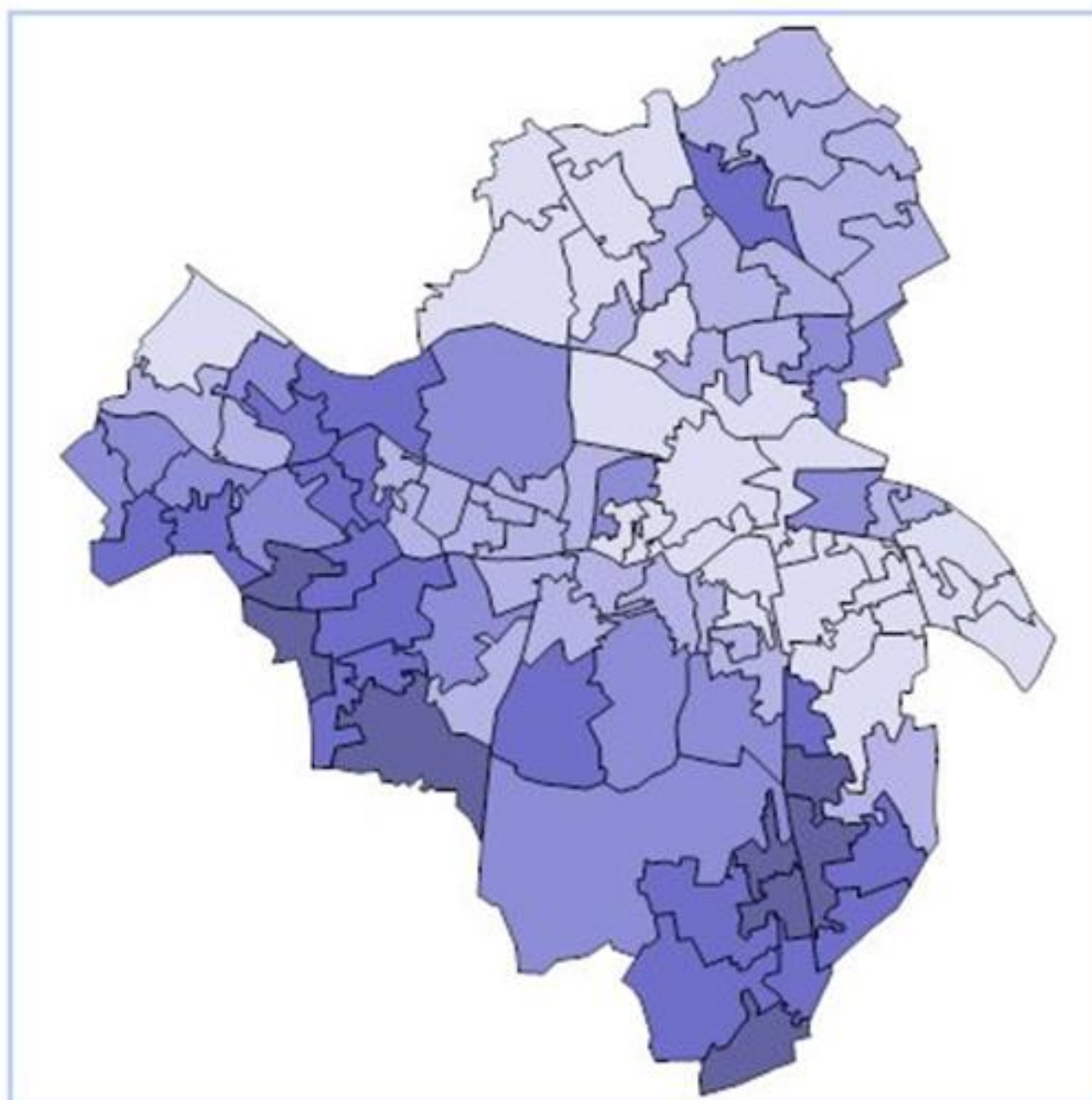
Legend = No of claimants at Lower Super Output Area level

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

19 year olds gaining level 2 and 3 qualifications

84% of young people aged 19 have gained a level 2 qualification; this is lower than both the national and regional averages, though higher than the South East for those on free school meals. At level 3, Reading's performance is higher than that at the national and regional levels, but lower than the national average for free school meals. Fewer of those eligible for free school meals achieve level 2 or 3 qualifications at age 19.

Percentage of 19 year olds gaining level 2 and 3 qualifications

			Level 2		*Level 3*
		All	*Eligible for free school meals*	*All*	*Eligible for free school meals*
2016	**Reading**	**84%**	**66%**	**59%**	**29%**
	SE	86%	65%	58%	29%
	England	85%	70%	57%	36%
2015	**Reading**	**84%**	**68%**	**57%**	**31%**
	SE	87%	68%	57%	30%
	England	86%	72%	57%	36%

Source: Department for Education

Occupation profile

Percentage of working population aged 16 -74 by occupation type

Occupation type	*Reading*		*South East*		*England*	
	2011	*2001*	*2011*	*2011*	*2011*	*2001*
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	**9**	15	**12**	17	**11**	15
2. Professional occupations	**25**	16	**19**	12	**18**	11
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	**14**	15	**14**	15	**13**	14
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	**10**	14	**12**	14	**12**	13
5. Skilled trades occupations	**9**	9	**11**	11	**11**	12
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	**9**	5	**9**	7	**9**	7
7. Sales and customer service occupations	**9**	9	**8**	7	**8**	8
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	**5**	6	**6**	6	**7**	8
9. Elementary occupations	**11**	11	**10**	10	**11**	12

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Reading's occupation profile changed between the 2001 and 2011 Census, with **professional occupation types showing the most significant increase** with 24.5% of the Reading population employed in this sector in 2011, well above the regional and England percentages of 18.7% and 17.5% respectively. Service occupations have increased and administrative occupations decreased.

NEETS (Not in Education, Employment or Training)

After struggling for a few years with a consistently high comparative NEET percentage, which resulted in DCLG monitoring, a renewed focus and a shift of reporting requirements from DfE resulted in a significant improvement in Reading's position against the national and regional backdrop. The Reading NEET figure was 5.4% at the end of 2016[38]; the monthly figure has now fallen to 3.85% in February 2018.

% combined NEET/not known

	2016/17
Reading	**5.4%**
Bracknell Forest	5.2%
Slough	3.7%
West Berkshire	2.4%
Windsor & Maidenhead	44.8%
Wokingham	4.4%
South East	**6.4%**
England	**6%**

Source: Dept for Education, combined NEET/Not Known, Dec 16 - Feb 17

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: Education, skills and training domain

Reading ranks 77th out of 326 local authorities nationally on the IMD Education, Skills and Training domain, which relates to both children and young people, and adult skills. 18 LSOAs fall within the 20% most deprived nationally (similar in 2010), 9 in the 10% most deprived (8 in 2010), and 3 in the most deprived 5% (1 in 2010), in South Reading.

Overall, Reading ranks 239th on the adult skills sub-domain and 103rd on the children and young people's sub-domain.

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[38] *The NEET only figure at the end of 2015 was 6%. However, the DfE changed the definition of NEET at the end of 2016 figures to include those young people whose activity is not known and shifted the period for which the average is made from November to January to December to February. As such these figures cannot be compared with NEET publications for previous years.*

IMD 2015: Education, skills and training domain

Education. Skills & Training Ranks of all LSOAs
(0-5% Range = Most Deprived)

🟥	1 to 1642 (0-5%)
🟧	1643 to 3284 (5-10%)
🟨	3285 to 6568 (10-20%)
🟩	6596 to 9853 (20-30%)
⬜	9,854 to 32,844 (30-100%)
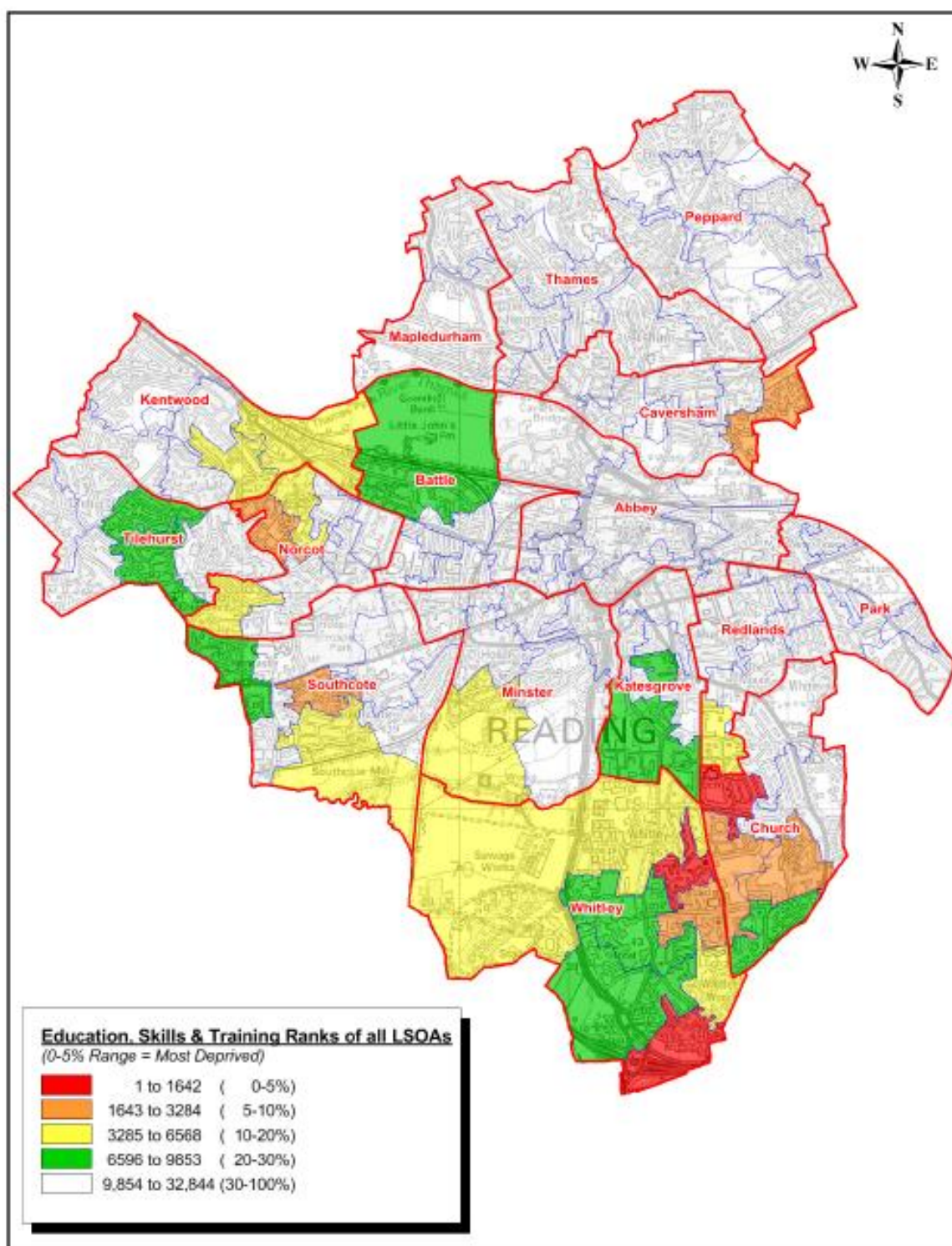
Title: **Education, Skills and Training**
Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015

Produced by GIS & Mapping Services   Date: 14/01/2015   Scale at A4: 1:46,000
Ref: G:\Mapinfo\Data\Client datasets\Chief Executives\IMD Maps 2015\Education_Skills_Training.wor

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Department for Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2015.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015

MEETING BASIC NEEDS

Homelessness

Overall levels of homelessness have been increasing in Reading since 2010, with the number of households accepted as statutorily homeless almost doubling from 2012/13 to 2016/17. This increase has been due to a number of factors, including high house prices and rental costs, a lack of affordable housing, landlords becoming less willing to house benefit claimants, and the level of Local Housing Allowance failing to keep up with the cost of renting, with private sector eviction being the most common reason for homelessness in Reading. In addition, the introduction of the further reduction to the benefit cap in 2016 has further reduced households' income available to pay rent.

Since the beginning of 2017, the Council has started to see a decline in the numbers of households eligible for homeless assistance and a linked reduction in the use of emergency accommodation. The total number of homeless acceptances in Q2 for 2016/17 was 116, compared with 77 in the same quarter in 2017/18. The average monthly number of homelessness acceptances has reduced from 34 in 2016/17 to 24 in 2017/18 (to date).

The number of households in temporary accommodation has also reduced from 340 households at the end of Q2 2016/17 to 255 at the end Q2 2017/18. Additional new temporary accommodation coming online in January should see a further decline in occupancy.

Source: Reading Borough Council

Number of homeless households in temporary accommodation at end of quarter from 2012/13 to Q2 2017/18

■ Single and couple households with no dependents
■ H/holds with dep. children and/or pregnant with no other dependants

Source: Reading Borough Council

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: Barriers to housing and services domain

Reading ranks 52nd out of 326 local authorities nationally on the IMD barriers to housing and services domain, which measures the physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services. A total of 17 LSOAs fall within the 20% most deprived nationally (6 in 2010) and 1 in the 10% most deprived (1 also in 2010).

Reading ranks 44th on the 'wider barriers' sub-domain (which looks at issues relating to access to housing such as affordability), though there are no LSOAs in the most deprived 5%. In terms of the 'geographical barriers' sub-domain, Reading is relatively un-deprived, ranking 248th nationally.

IMD 2015: Barriers to housing and services domain

Title: **Barriers to Housing and Services**
Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015

Produced by GIS & Mapping Services   Date: 15/01/2016   Scale at A4:1:46,000
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Department for Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2015.

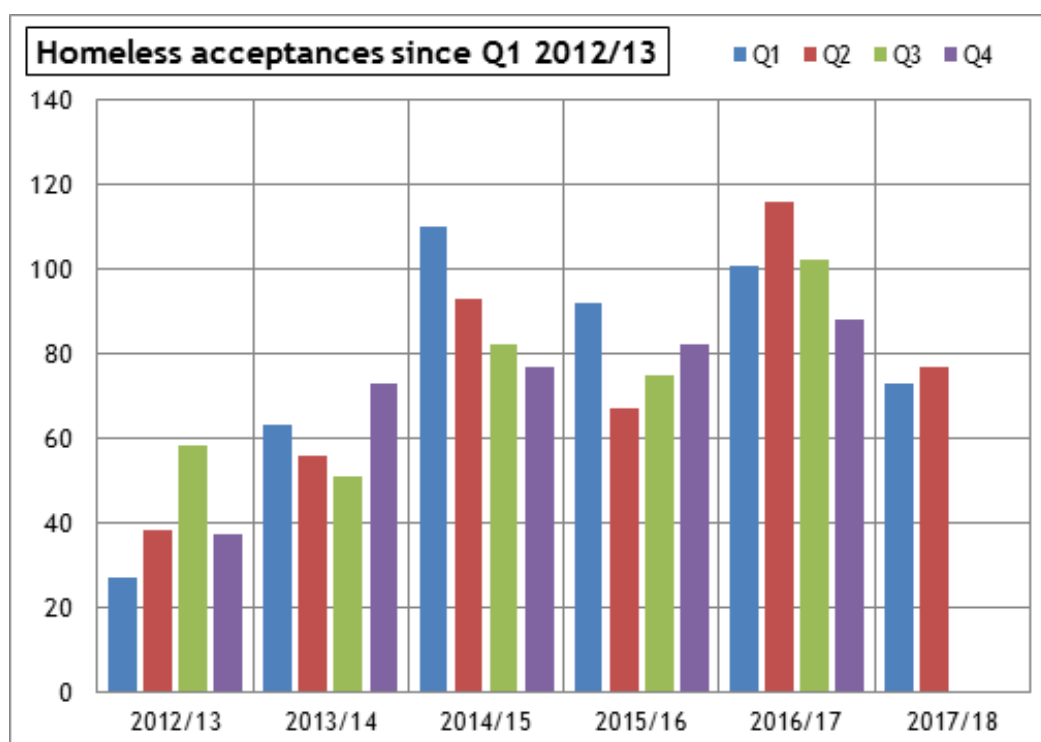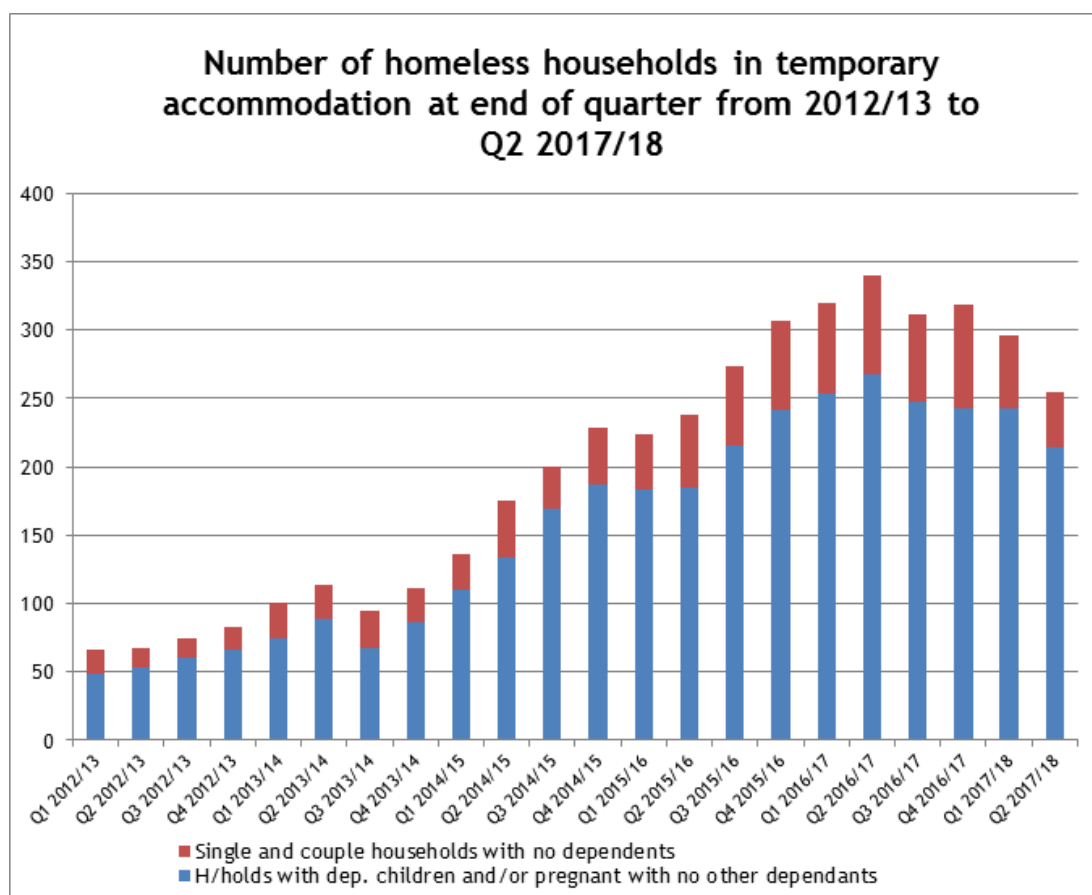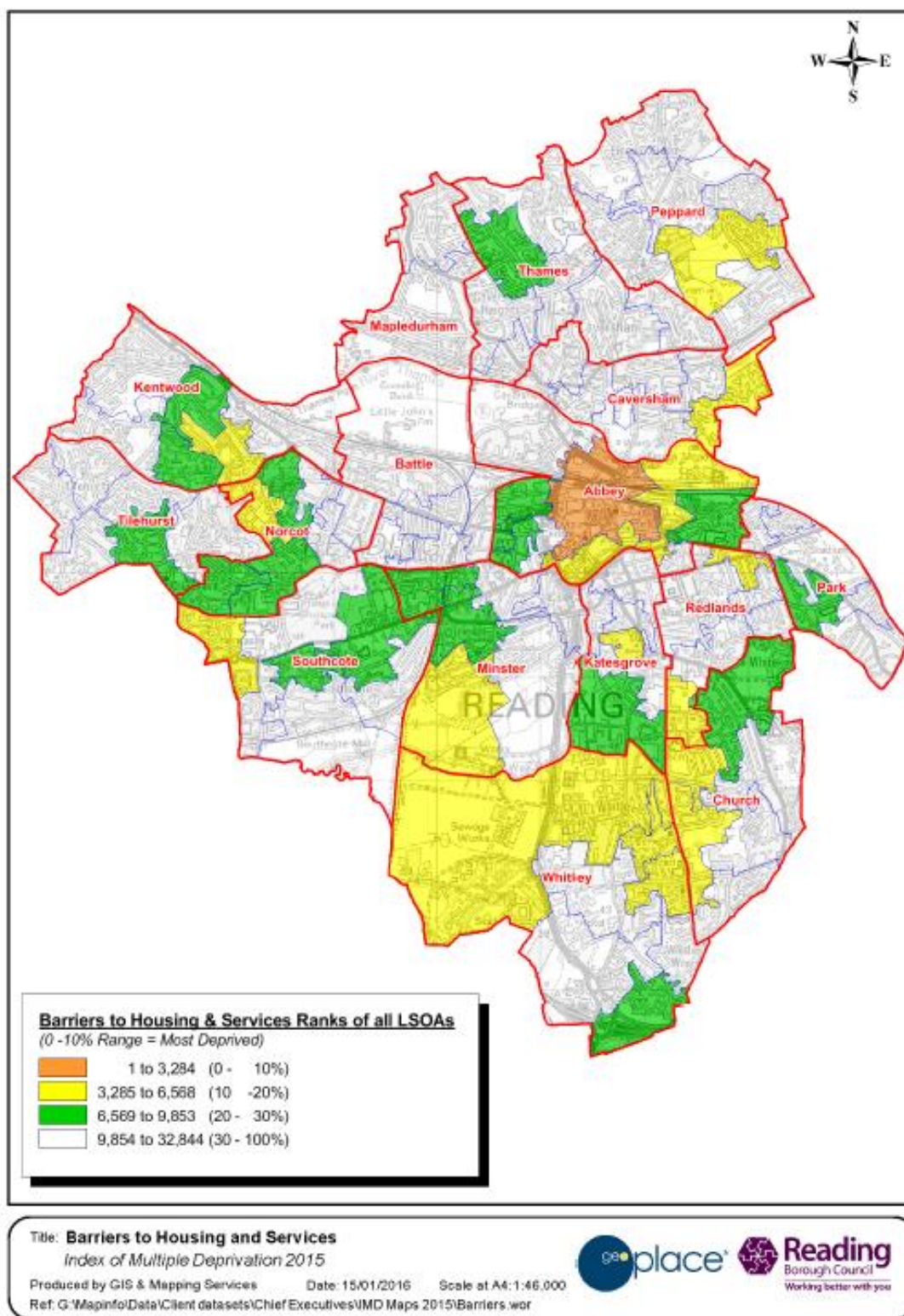*Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015*

Housing conditions

According to the Children's Society, in 2013 over half of all children in the UK who say they are in poverty are living in homes that are too cold, and a quarter live in damp or mould-ridden conditions[39].

Overcrowding and central heating

The 2011 Census provides a measure of under-occupancy and over-crowding. An occupancy rating of -1 means that there is one room too few for the number of people living in the household. **Reading has a higher proportion of households with an occupancy rating of -1** than either the South East of England *(see map)*.

Central heating and occupancy rating

Area	% No central heating	Occupancy rating of -1	Occupancy rating of -2 or less
Reading	**3.16%**	**5.26%**	**0.97%**
Abbey	5.35%	6.44%	1.11%
Battle	4.64%	7.75%	1.88%
Caversham	3.67%	3.76%	0.33%
Church	1.95%	7.12%	1.28%
Katesgrove	5.60%	7.02%	1.91%
Kentwood	2.03%	3.50%	0.75%
Mapledurham	0.85%	0.51%	0.08%
Minster	4.19%	5.67%	0.84%
Norcot	2.77%	5.35%	0.63%
Park	3.90%	7.52%	1.98%
Peppard	1.01%	1.69%	0.23%
Redlands	3.64%	6.76%	1.04%
Southcote	2.32%	5.00%	0.87%
Thames	1.26%	1.21%	0.14%
Tilehurst	1.67%	2.37%	0.19%
Whitley	1.79%	7.52%	1.39%
South East	**2.38%**	**3.29%**	**0.47%**
England	**2.69%**	**4.06%**	**0.75%**

Source: Census 2011, Office for National Statistics

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[39] *Through Young Eyes, the Children's Commission on Poverty, the Children's Society 2013*

Percentage of households with an occupancy rating of -1[40]
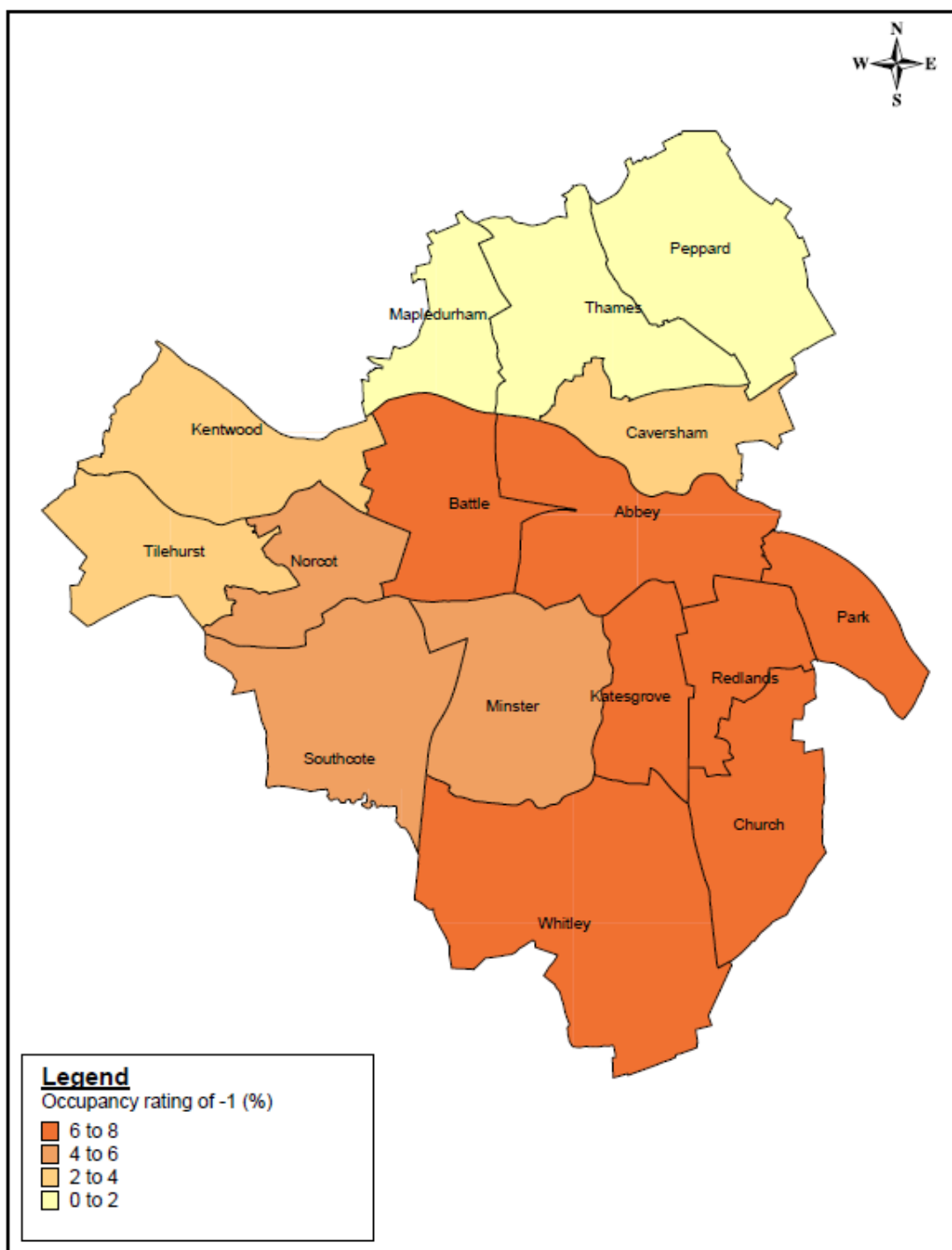
Source: Census 2011, Office for National Statistics

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[40] *An occupancy rating of -1 means there is one room too few for the number of people living in the household*

Private sector house condition survey 2013

A sample of a thousand private sector properties in Reading were surveyed over a 3 month period in 2013. The results showed that **the number of non-decent[41] homes has reduced by 40%** since the previous stock condition survey in 2006. However, 12,200 dwellings (23.4% of total private sector housing) still fail to meet the requirements of the decent homes standard. This compares with 25% for England (2011/12).

Other results indicate:
- 5,265 dwellings (10.1%) exhibit Category 1 hazards within the Housing Health and Safety Rating System
- 6,164 dwellings (11.8%) are in disrepair
- 596 dwellings (1.1%) lack modern facilities and services
- 4,531 dwellings (8.7%) fail to provide a reasonable degree of thermal comfort
- 31.5% of vulnerable households live in non-decent homes
- 7.4% households have insufficient bedrooms to meet family needs and are therefore overcrowded
- the estimated cost to meet the decency standard in the private sector in Reading is £85 million.

Rates of non-decency in the private rented sector are around the national average at 34.8% (national average 35%), but significantly higher than the private sector owner occupied average of 21.9%.

The highest rates of decent homes failure are recorded for the wards of Battle, Park, Caversham and Redlands. Failure rates in these wards exceed one third of ward housing stock.

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: Living environment domain

Reading ranks 49th out of 326 local authorities nationally on the IMD living environment domain, which measures the quality of the local environment, including the quality of housing, air quality and road traffic accidents. A total of 29 Lower Super Output Areas fall within the 20% most deprived nationally (17 in 2010) and 10 in the 5% most deprived (none in 2010).

The 'living environment' domain is made up of 'outdoor' (quality of housing) and 'indoor' (air quality and road traffic accidents) sub-domains. Reading ranks 40th on the outdoor sub-domain, with 9 LSOAs in the most deprived 5%, and 128th on the indoor sub-domain, with 2 LSOAs in the most deprived 5%.

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[41] *A decent home is one that satisfies all of the following four criteria: it meets the current statutory minimum standard for housing; it is in a reasonable state of repair; it has reasonably modern facilities and services; it provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort.*

IMD 2015: Living environment domain

Living Environment Ranks of all LSOAs
(0-5% Range = Most Deprived)

■ (red)	1 to 1642 (0 - 5%)
■ (orange)	1643 to 3284 (5 - 10%)
■ (yellow)	3285 to 6568 (10 - 20%)
■ (green)	6569 to 9853 (20 - 30%)
□ (white)	9,854 to 32,844 (30 - 100%)
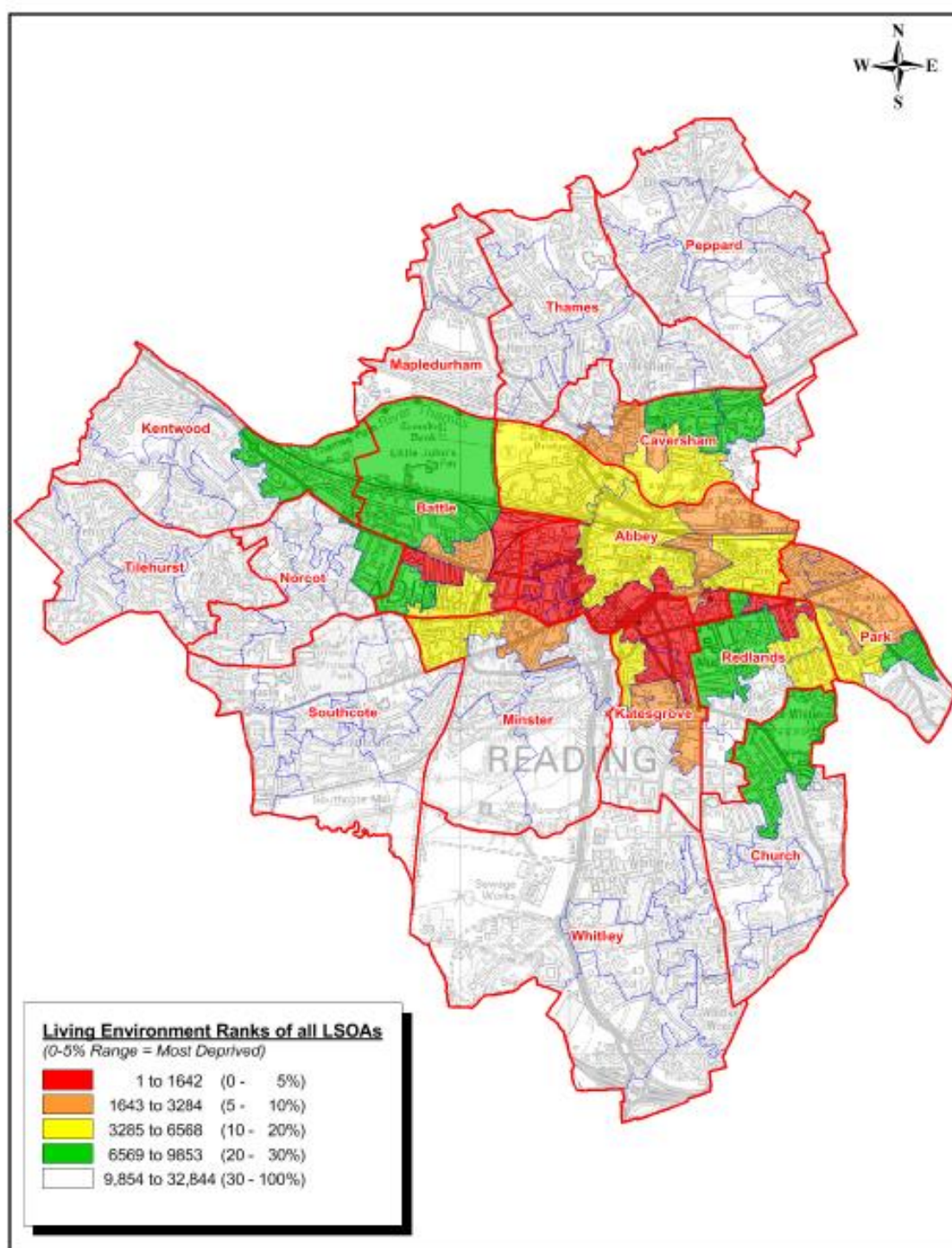
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Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015
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Department for Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2015.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015

Fuel poverty

Fuel poverty in England is measured using the 'low income high costs' indicator, which considers a household to be fuel poor if:
- they have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level);
- were they to spend that amount, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

According to **Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)**, Reading has seen a increase in the number of households considered fuel poor from 10.8% in 2014 to 13.9% in 2015. This reflects the national trend, though higher than both the national and regional figures. Rates of fuel poverty tend to be above average for households living in the private-rented sector, in multiple occupations and in pre-1919 terraced housing.

Percentage of households in fuel poverty (estimated)

	Reading Fuel poor households	*Reading % fuel poor*	*SE % fuel poor*	*England % fuel poor*
2015	**9,085**	**13.9%**	9.4%	11.0%
2014	7,002	10.8%	8.3%	10.6%
2013	7,264	11.2%	8.1%	10.4%

Source: Department for Energy and Climate Change

However, the DECC data at Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level, as shown in the map, should be interpreted with caution, as the pattern of fuel poverty is not quite consistent with local knowledge.

Alternatively, the Council's **Private Sector House Condition Survey (2013)** suggests that, while energy efficiency levels have improved since the previous survey in 2006, fuel poverty has increased in the Borough from 11% (5,600 households) in 2006, to 17.9% (10,573 households) in 2013. This is primarily related to increases in energy tariffs and the economic circumstances of households affected.

Food poverty

Readifood provide emergency food parcels to families and individuals across greater Reading and has seen unprecedented growth in demand over the past few years, at least partly due to recent welfare reform changes.

- Readifood distributed around 7,000 food parcels to Reading residents in 2016/7
- This equates to over 130 parcels per week, up from 25 parcels per week in 2013.
- Readifood works with more than 70 local agencies who make referrals for food parcels.

Reading Poverty Needs Analysis 2017

Households in fuel poverty
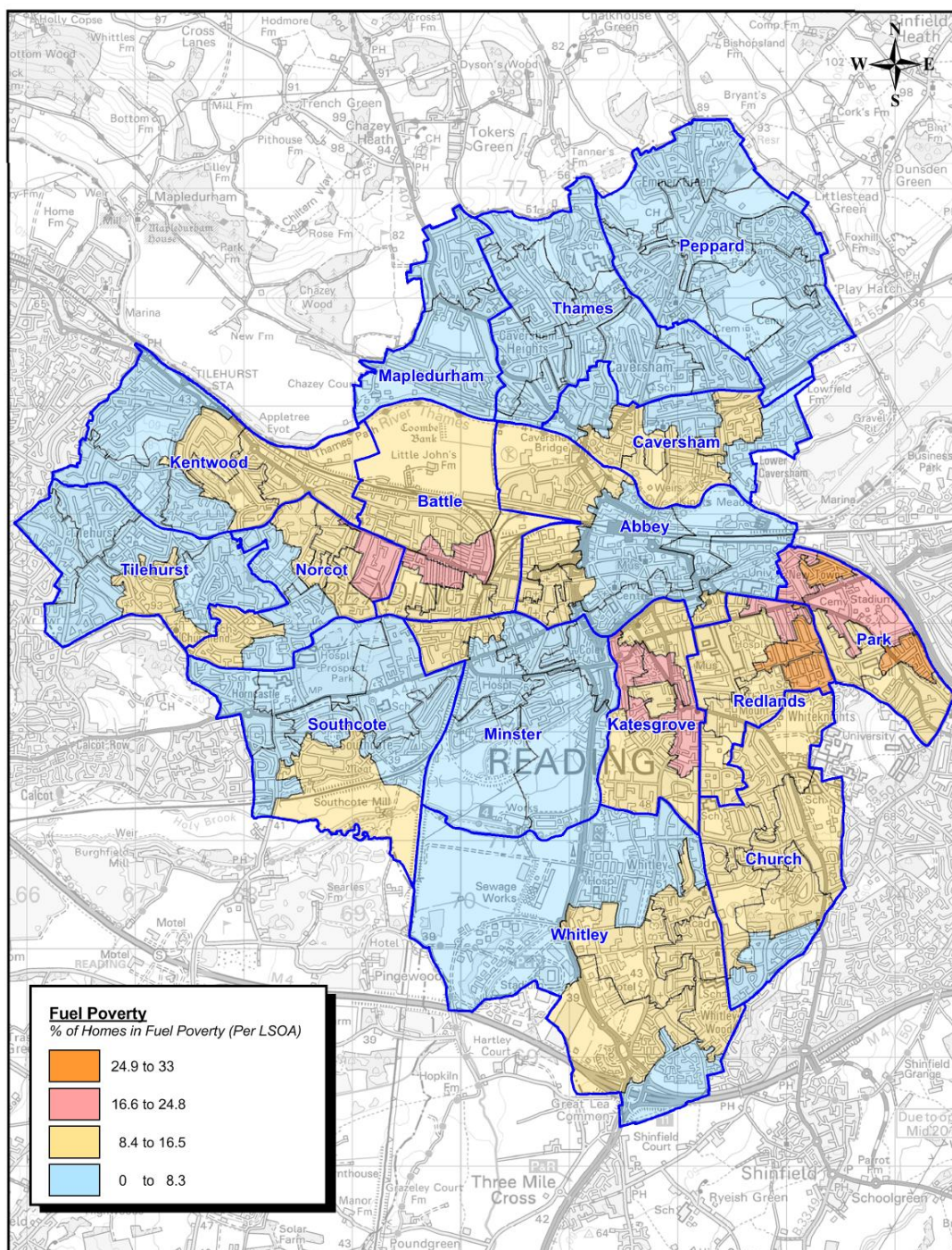
Title: **Households in Fuel Poverty 2015 (source: DECC)**

Date: 17/01/2018   Scale at A4: 1:46,000

Produced by GIS & Mapping Services   Ref: 7540\G:\MI\D\CD\Chief Executives\IMD Maps\2018\Households in Fuel Poverty

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Source: Department for Energy and Climate Change 2015

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: Crime domain

Reading ranks 71st out of 326 local authorities nationally on the IMD crime domain. A total of 16 Lower Super Output Areas fall within the 20% most deprived nationally (35 in 2010) and 3 in the 5% most deprived (20 in 2010), indicating that deprivation in terms of crime has improved.

<u>IMD 2015: Crime domain</u>
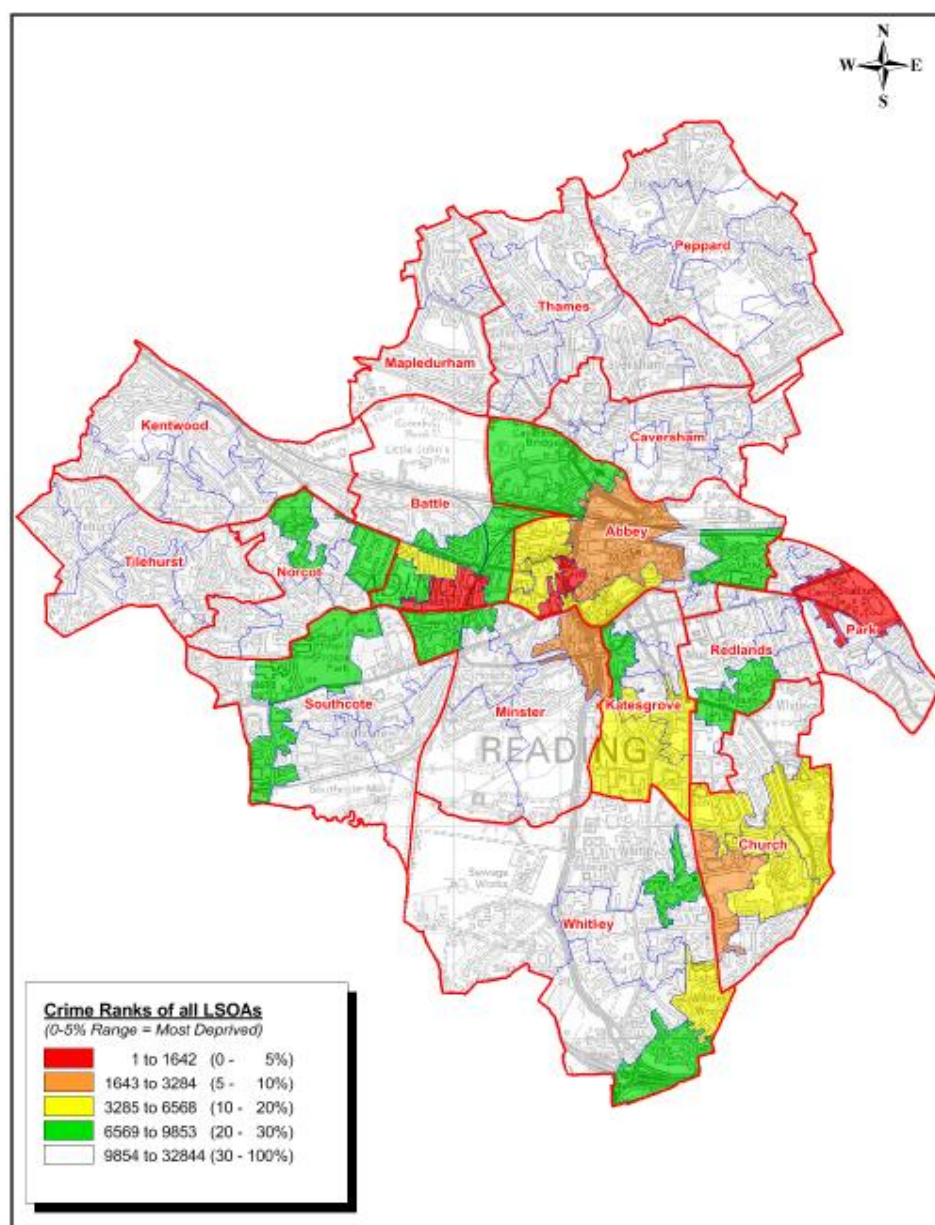
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015

POVERTY AND HEALTH

Children living in income-deprived families are prone to significantly worse health outcomes, both during childhood and later in life. The adverse impact of unemployment, for example, on the physical and mental health of individuals in terms of higher risk of depression and increased morbidity is well documented. Poor parental health combined with financial hardship has an inevitable effect on the wellbeing of children. Deprivation can influence behavioural choices that are known to impact on the health of adults and children such as breastfeeding, eating habits and participation in sports and exercise.

Census overview

Proportion of population reporting good or very good health

The 2011 Census shows that, on average, **a higher percentage of residents report good or very good health** than in either the South East or nationally.

	% reporting good or very good health
Reading	**86%**
South East	84%
England	81%

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

However, there are significant geographical differences within Reading *(see chart and map by ward)*. The areas reporting the highest percentage of residents reporting good or very good health are Park, Redlands and Thames. In Park and Redlands this may be due to the higher number of younger people, particularly students, in these areas.

Proportion reporting good or very good health by ward
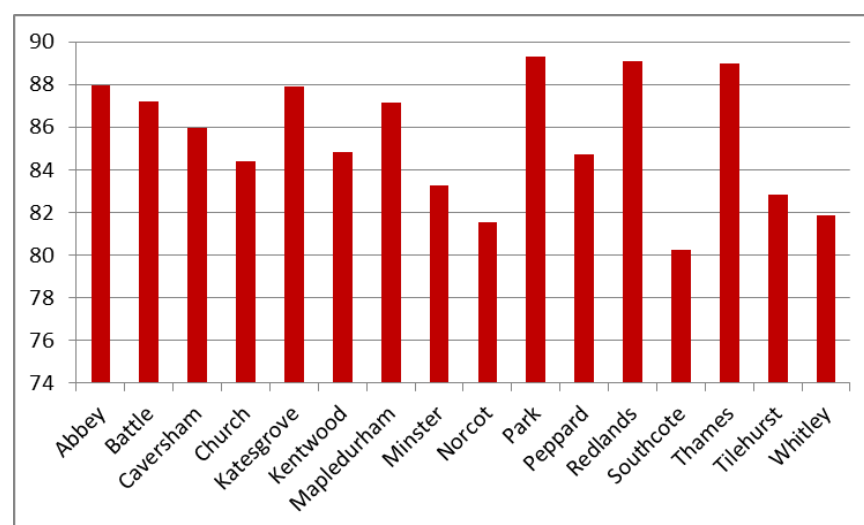
Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Proportion reporting good or very good health by ward

Legend
Percentage of people in good health

- 89 to 90
- 87 to 89
- 85 to 87
- 84 to 85
- 80 to 84
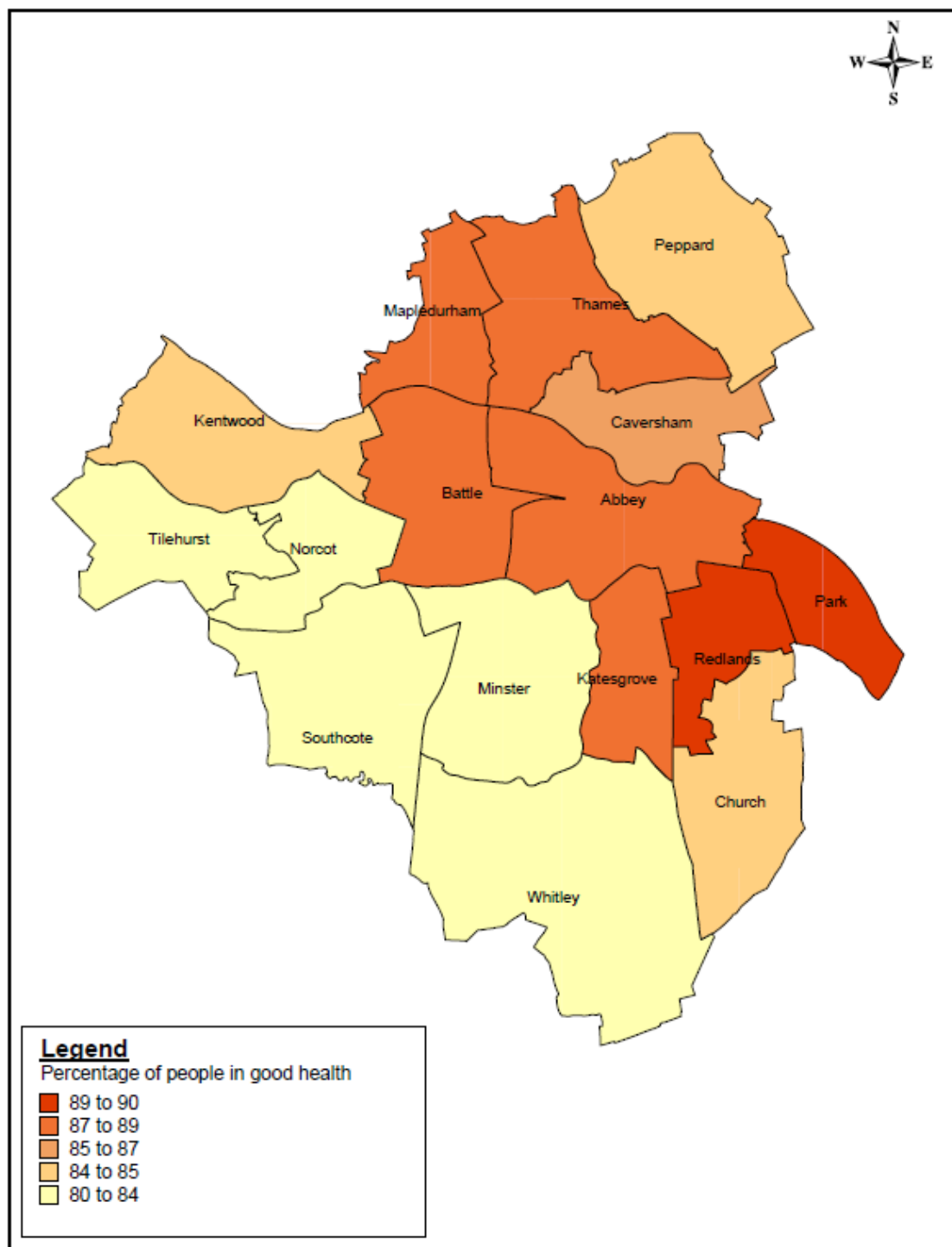
Title: **Proportion of population reporting good or very good health by ward**

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Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Reading health profile

According to Public Health England's 'Reading Health Profile 2017':

- **Life expectancy** is 7.8 years lower for men and 6.5 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Reading than in the least deprived areas. The difference has decreased slightly for women since the previous year when it was 6.6 years, and decreased for men from 9.1 years. However, life expectancy for men is lower than the England average (*see also health inequalities below*).

- The rate of **alcohol-related harm hospital stays** is 599/100,000 population, which is an increase from the year before at 541/100k, but is better than the average for England. This represents 831 stays per year.

- The rate of **self-harm hospital stays** is 223/100,000, an increase from 130/100k in 2016, and worse than the average for England. This represents 382 stays per year.

- The rate of **smoking related deaths** is 281/ 100,000 population. This represents 175 deaths per year, an increase from 162 in the previous period.

- Rates of **sexually transmitted infections and TB** in Reading are worse than average.

- The rate of **people killed or seriously injured on roads** is better than average.

- **Priorities in Reading** include preventing and reducing early deaths from cardiovascular disease & cancer, promoting positive mental health & wellbeing, reducing levels of infectious disease e.g. TB, and reducing alcohol consumption to safe levels. For more information see www.reading.gov.uk/jsna.

Source: Public Health England Health Profile 2017

Reading health profile 2017[42]

Compared with benchmark ● Better ● Similar ● Worse ○ Not Compared

Benchmark Value
Worst | 25th Percentile | 75th Percentile | Best

Indicator	Period	Reading Recent Trend	Reading Count	Reading Value	Region England Value	England Value	England Worst	England Range	England Best
Deprivation score (IMD 2015)	2015	–	-	19.3	-	21.8	42.0	○	5.7
Children in low income families (under 16s)	2014	↓	5,800	18.7%	14.7%	20.1%	39.2%	●	7.0%
Statutory homelessness	2016/17	↓	53	0.8	0.7*	0.8	9.6	●	0.0
GCSEs achieved	2015/16	–	767	52.1%	60.3%	57.8%	44.8%	●	74.6%
Violent crime (violence offences)	2015/16	↑	3,353	20.9	16.8	17.2	36.7	●	6.7
Long term unemployment	2016	↓	308	2.8*	2.0*	3.7*	13.8	●	0.7
Smoking status at time of delivery - current method	2016/17	→	172	6.8%	9.7%	10.7%	28.1%	●	2.3%
Smoking status at time of delivery - historical method	2016/17	→	172	6.8%	9.7%	10.5%	28.1%	●	2.3%
Breastfeeding initiation	2014/15	→	2,321	79.0%	78.0%	74.3%	47.2%	●	92.9%
Obese children (Year 6)	2016/17	→	309	18.5%	16.9%	20.0%	29.2%	●	11.3%
Hospital stays for alcohol-specific conditions (under 18s)	2013/14 - 15/16	–	21	19.6	36.5	37.4	115.1	●	10.8
Under 18 conceptions	2015	↓	55	22.2	17.1	20.8	43.8	●	5.7
Smoking prevalence in adults	2016	–	-	15.8%	14.6%	15.5%	24.2%	●	7.4%
Percentage of physically active adults - current method	2015/16	–	-	64.0	67.3	64.9	53.9	●	73.7
Percentage of physically active adults - historical method	2015	–	-	59.3%	60.2%	57.0%	44.8%	●	69.8%
Excess weight in Adults - current method	2015/16	–	-	55.3%	59.7%	61.3%	73.4%	●	42.7%
Excess weight in adults - historical method	2013 - 15	–	-	63.4%	63.3%	64.8%	76.2%	●	46.5%
Cancer diagnosed at early stage	2015	–	235	51.6%	52.1%	52.4%	41.6%	○	60.4%
Hospital stays for self-harm	2015/16	–	382	223.2	211.8	196.5	635.3	●	55.7
Hospital stays for alcohol-related harm	2015/16	–	831	599	527	647	1,163	●	390
Recorded diabetes	2014/15	↑	8,568	4.7%	5.7%	6.4%	8.9%	●	3.7%
Incidence of TB	2014 - 16	–	128	26.4	7.1	10.9	69.0	●	1.3
New sexually transmitted infections (STI)	2016	→	1,051	949	648	795	3,288	●	344
Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over	2015/16	–	94	457	562	589	820	●	391
Estimated dementia diagnosis rate (aged 65+)	2017	–	1,218	68.4%	64.7%	67.9%	53.8%	●	90.8%
Life expectancy at birth (Male)	2013 - 15	–	-	78.7	80.5	79.5	74.3	●	83.4
Life expectancy at birth (Female)	2013 - 15	–	-	83.2	84.0	83.1	79.4	●	86.4
Infant mortality	2014 - 16	–	24	3.2	3.2	3.9	7.9	●	1.6
Killed and seriously injured on roads	2013 - 15	–	130	26.9	49.1	38.5	74.0	●	11.8
Suicide rate	2014 - 16	–	40	9.9	9.8	9.9	18.3	●	6.1
Smoking related deaths	2014 - 16	–	532	280.3	238.5	272.0	499.3	●	162.5
Under 75 mortality rate: cardiovascular	2014 - 16	–	259	88.2	61.5	73.5	141.3	●	45.6
Under 75 mortality rate: cancer	2014 - 16	–	403	137.4	126.9	136.8	195.3	●	100.0
Excess winter deaths	Aug 2013 - Jul 2016	–	177	17.7	17.4	17.9	28.9	●	7.4

Source: Public Health England Health Profile 2017

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[42] *For some indicators, more recent data is presented elsewhere in this document*

Child health profile

According to Public Health England's Child Health Profile, the health and wellbeing of children in Reading is mixed compared with the England average.

- Children and young people under the age of 20 make up 25.4% of the Reading population[43]. 54% of primary school children and 49% of secondary school children are from a Black and Minority Ethnic group[44].

- The level of **child poverty** is better than the England average with 16.1% of children aged under 16 years living in poverty[45].

- Infant and child **mortality rates** are similar to the England average.

- The rate of **family homelessness** is worse than the England average.

- 9.7% of children aged 4-5 years and 22.0% of children aged 10-11 years are classified as **obese** (the latter worse than the national average).

- GCSE results are above the national average on all of the measures, and above the regional average on most[46].

- In 2014, approximately 27 girls aged under 18 conceived for every 1,000 women aged 15-17 years. This is higher than the regional average, but similar to the national average.

- The proportion of mothers breastfeeding their babies is higher than the national average, with 79% of mothers initiating breastfeeding and 61.3% of babies still being breastfed after 6-8 weeks.

- The percentage of young people aged 16 to 18 not in education, employment or training is now lower than the England average[47] *(see also NEETs in the 'Work-related poverty' chapter).*

Source: Public Health England Child Health Profile 2017 (except where indicated otherwise)

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[43] *ONS mid year population estimates 2016*
[44] *RBC School Census 2016*
[45] *Children in low income households local measure, HM Revenues and Customs 2015*
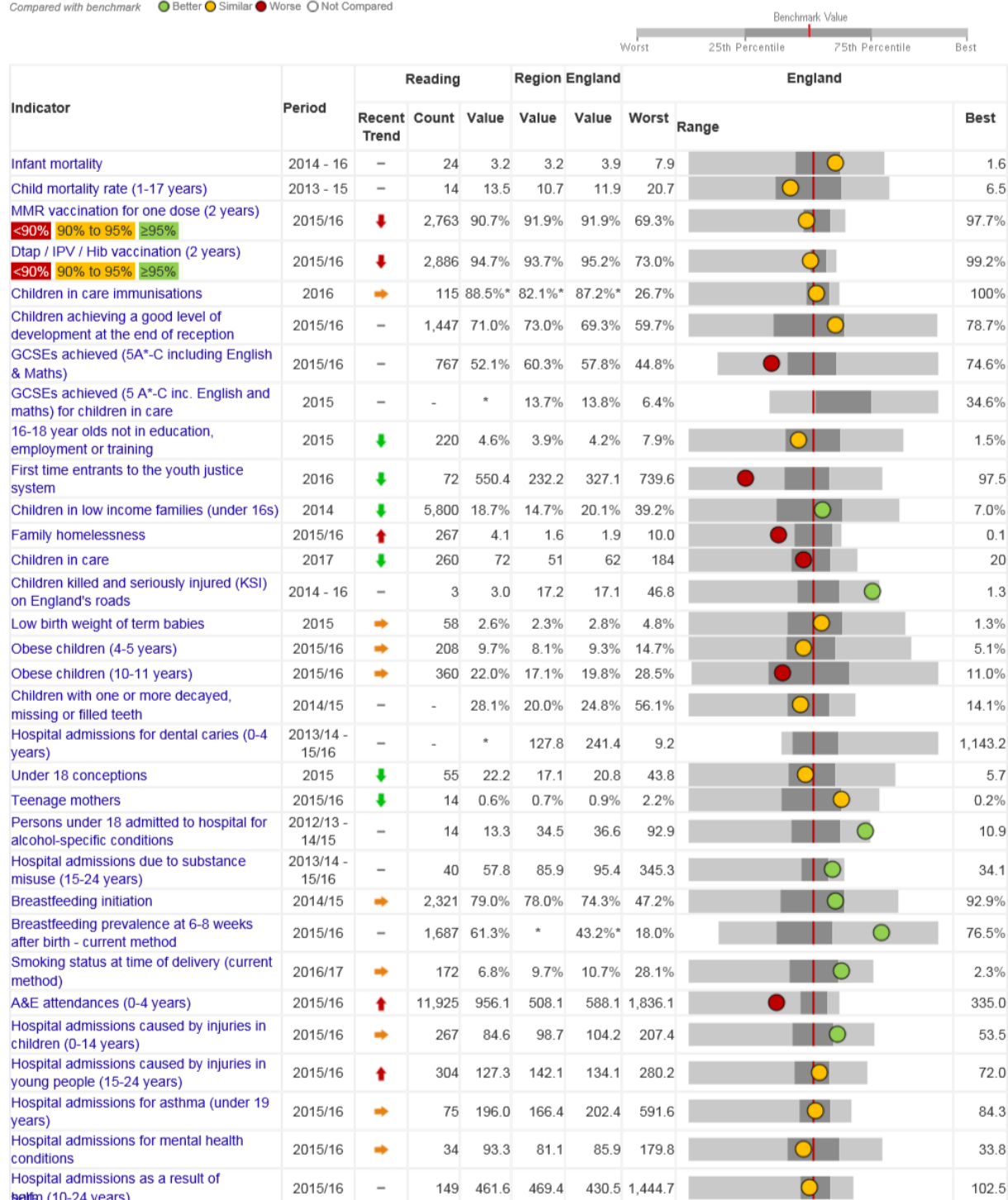[46] *Department for Education 2017*
[47] *Source: gov.uk 2015/16 (average at end of Jan-Mar 17 and Apr-Jun 17 quarters)*

Child health profile 2017[48]

Compared with benchmark   ● Better ● Similar ● Worse ○ Not Compared

Benchmark Value

Worst   25th Percentile   75th Percentile   Best

Indicator	Period	Reading			Region England	England	England			
		Recent Trend	Count	Value	Value	Value	Worst	Range		Best
Infant mortality	2014 - 16	−	24	3.2	3.2	3.9	7.9			1.6
Child mortality rate (1-17 years)	2013 - 15	−	14	13.5	10.7	11.9	20.7			6.5
MMR vaccination for one dose (2 years) <90% 90% to 95% ≥95%	2015/16	⬇	2,763	90.7%	91.9%	91.9%	69.3%			97.7%
Dtap / IPV / Hib vaccination (2 years) <90% 90% to 95% ≥95%	2015/16	⬇	2,886	94.7%	93.7%	95.2%	73.0%			99.2%
Children in care immunisations	2016	➡	115	88.5%*	82.1%*	87.2%*	26.7%			100%
Children achieving a good level of development at the end of reception	2015/16	−	1,447	71.0%	73.0%	69.3%	59.7%			78.7%
GCSEs achieved (5A*-C including English & Maths)	2015/16	−	767	52.1%	60.3%	57.8%	44.8%			74.6%
GCSEs achieved (5 A*-C inc. English and maths) for children in care	2015	−	-	*	13.7%	13.8%	6.4%			34.6%
16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training	2015	⬇	220	4.6%	3.9%	4.2%	7.9%			1.5%
First time entrants to the youth justice system	2016	⬇	72	550.4	232.2	327.1	739.6			97.5
Children in low income families (under 16s)	2014	⬇	5,800	18.7%	14.7%	20.1%	39.2%			7.0%
Family homelessness	2015/16	⬆	267	4.1	1.6	1.9	10.0			0.1
Children in care	2017	⬇	260	72	51	62	184			20
Children killed and seriously injured (KSI) on England's roads	2014 - 16	−	3	3.0	17.2	17.1	46.8			1.3
Low birth weight of term babies	2015	➡	58	2.6%	2.3%	2.8%	4.8%			1.3%
Obese children (4-5 years)	2015/16	➡	208	9.7%	8.1%	9.3%	14.7%			5.1%
Obese children (10-11 years)	2015/16	➡	360	22.0%	17.1%	19.8%	28.5%			11.0%
Children with one or more decayed, missing or filled teeth	2014/15	−	-	28.1%	20.0%	24.8%	56.1%			14.1%
Hospital admissions for dental caries (0-4 years)	2013/14 - 15/16	−	-	*	127.8	241.4	9.2			1,143.2
Under 18 conceptions	2015	⬇	55	22.2	17.1	20.8	43.8			5.7
Teenage mothers	2015/16	⬇	14	0.6%	0.7%	0.9%	2.2%			0.2%
Persons under 18 admitted to hospital for alcohol-specific conditions	2012/13 - 14/15	−	14	13.3	34.5	36.6	92.9			10.9
Hospital admissions due to substance misuse (15-24 years)	2013/14 - 15/16	−	40	57.8	85.9	95.4	345.3			34.1
Breastfeeding initiation	2014/15	➡	2,321	79.0%	78.0%	74.3%	47.2%			92.9%
Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth - current method	2015/16	−	1,687	61.3%	*	43.2%*	18.0%			76.5%
Smoking status at time of delivery (current method)	2016/17	➡	172	6.8%	9.7%	10.7%	28.1%			2.3%
A&E attendances (0-4 years)	2015/16	⬆	11,925	956.1	508.1	588.1	1,836.1			335.0
Hospital admissions caused by injuries in children (0-14 years)	2015/16	➡	267	84.6	98.7	104.2	207.4			53.5
Hospital admissions caused by injuries in young people (15-24 years)	2015/16	⬆	304	127.3	142.1	134.1	280.2			72.0
Hospital admissions for asthma (under 19 years)	2015/16	➡	75	196.0	166.4	202.4	591.6			84.3
Hospital admissions for mental health conditions	2015/16	➡	34	93.3	81.1	85.9	179.8			33.8
Hospital admissions as a result of self harm (10-24 years)	2015/16	−	149	461.6	469.4	430.5	1,444.7			102.5

Source: Public Health England Child Health Profile 2017

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[48] *For some indicators, more recent data is presented elsewhere in this document*

Life expectancy and health inequalities

Life expectancy is a way of expressing general population health. Currently, life expectancy in Reading for both males and females is below the national and regional averages, males significantly so. Analysis of life expectancy at sub-local authority level shows that health equality differences within the borough are quite large. For example, a boy born to parents living in Mapledurham ward can expect to live eight years longer than a boy born at the same time to parents in Whitley ward. Emergency hospital admission rates also tend to occur more often amongst resident from the more deprived areas.
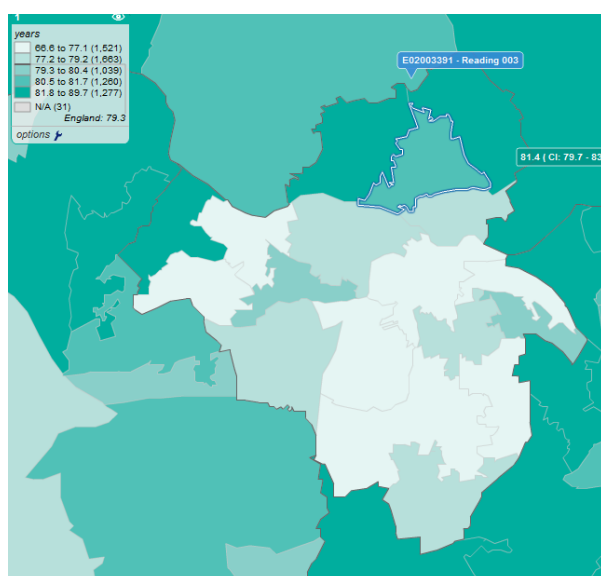
<u>Life expectancy and emergency hospital admissions by ward</u>

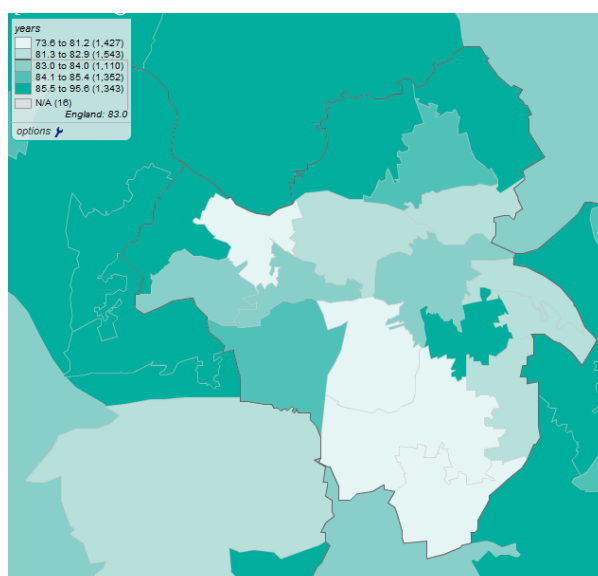|	*Life expectancy, birth (years) females*	*Life expectancy, birth (years) males*	*Emergency hospital admissions (standardised admission ratio)*
	2010-2014	*2010-2014*	*2010/11-2014/15*
Abbey	82.9	74.1	83.3
Battle	81.9	78.6	87.7
Caversham	83.6	78.4	81.8
Church	80.2	77.8	86.1
Katesgrove	85	77.2	78.5
Kentwood	80.5	80	84.3
Mapledurham	89.8	84.7	57.5
Minster	80.2	75	82
Norcot	83	77.8	91.1
Park	81.8	78.4	76.9
Peppard	84.8	82.1	66.1
Redlands	83.4	78.4	68.9
Southcote	85	79	90.8
Thames	87.1	81.9	63.8
Tilehurst	85.9	78.9	90.3
Whitley	79	76.9	100.8
Reading	**82.9**	**78.1**	**81.7**

Source: Berkshire Public Health team/ Public Health England (based on ONS Mortality Statistics and Hospital Episode Statistics)

Reading Poverty Needs Analysis 2017

Life expectancy for males[49]   ## Life expectancy for females

Source: Public health England, 2010-2014/ LG Inform Plus

Marmot indicators

	Healthy life expectancy at birth (years)		Inequality in life expec tancy at birth (years)	
	Male	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*
Reading 2013-15	**66.4**	**65.6**	**7.8**	**6.5**
South East	66.0	66.7	-	-
England	63.4	64.1	-	-
Reading 2012-14	66.6	64.1	9.1	7.1
Reading 2011-13	66.5	65.2	10.4	5.6
Reading 2010-12	64.5	66.4	9.6	6.7

Source: Institute of Health Equity/ ONS

The Marmot Indicators, published by the Institute of Health Equity in 2015, measure inequalities in health and life expectancy in every local authority in England. Healthy life expectancy is higher than the national average for both men and women.

However, the inequality in life expectancy measure shows the variation within Reading and how much life expectancy varies with deprivation. For men, there is 7.8 years difference between the Lower Super Output Areas in the most deprived and least deprived deprivation deciles, compared with 6.5 for women. This is an improvement since 2012-14 but is still a significant disparity.

For more information on the health, social care and wellbeing needs of Reading residents, see the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) at http://www.reading.gov.uk/jsna.

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[49] *Mid Super Output Area level*

POVERTY AND ETHNICITY

Children from ethnic minorities face a particularly high risk of growing up in poverty. Risks of poverty are highest for those from Bangladeshi, Pakistani and Black African communities, but are also above average for those from Caribbean, Indian and Chinese communities.

Census overview

Reading's population has increased in ethnic diversity. At the last Census in 2011, **35% of the population now belong to a Black and Minority Ethnic community,** the third highest proportion in the South East after Slough and Oxford.

Ethnicity

	Reading 2011	*England 2011*	*Reading 2001*
White British	**66.9%**	80.9%	86.80%
Other White	**7.9%**	4.6%	4.2%
Mixed	**3.9%**	2.2%	2.4%
Indian	**4.2%**	2.6%	1.7%
Pakistani	**4.5%**	2.1%	2.7%
Other Asian	**3.9%**	2.3%	0.8%
Black Caribbean	**2.1%**	1.1%	2.2%
Black African	**4.9%**	1.8%	1.6%
Black other	**0.7%**	0.5	0.4%
Chinese	**1%**	0.7%	0.7%
Other ethnic group	**0.9%**	1.%	0.7%

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Ethnicity in schools

According to the School Census 2017, **56% of primary school children and 53% of secondary school children are from a Black and Minority Ethnic group**, compared with 54% in primary and 49% in secondary in 2016**.**

Percentage of BME pupils in schools

	2017		*2016*	*2015*
	Reading	*England*	*Reading*	*Reading*
% BME primary	**56**	32.4	**54**	53
% BME secondary	**53**	29.1	**49**	46

Source: 2017 School Census, Reading Borough Council

Ethnicity in schools

	% primary	*% secondary*
White British	42%	45%
BME	56%	53%
White Total	53.7%	54.0%
Mixed Total	11.3%	9.4%
Asian Indian	7.1%	10.1%
Asian Pakistani	8.1%	7.1%
Asian Bangladeshi	0.9%	0.8%
Asian Other	5.6%	5.3%
Asian Total	21.7%	23.3%
Black Caribbean	1.2%	1.8%
Black African	6.9%	4.9%
Black Other	1.1%	1.1%
Black Total	9.3%	7.8%
Chinese	0.6%	1.7%
Other Ethnic Origin	1.6%	1.5%

Source: 2017 School Census, Reading Borough Council

Ethnicity and attainment

		White	*Mixed*	*Asian*	*Black*	*Chinese*	*All pupils*
2017							
Key Stage 2 - % achieving expected standard in reading, writing & maths	**Reading**	**60**	**54**	**63**	**57**	**-**	**59**
	England	61	63	64	61	78	65
GCSE - Average Attainment 8 score	**Reading**	**48.9**	**46.6**	**56.5**	**41.7**	**80.8**	**49.6**
	England	46.0	47.1	50.2	45.0	63.0	46.4
2016							
Key Stage 2 - % achieving expected standard in reading, writing & maths	**Reading**	55	52	63	45	-	56
	England	54	56	56	51	72	54
GCSE - Average Attainment 8 score	**Reading**	49.8	45.2	58.7	45.5	78.3	51.4
	England	49.0	49.5	52.1	47.8	62.2	50.1

Source: Department for Education and National Consortium for Examination Results (GCSE data 2016)

The table above highlights that, in Reading, attainment at both Key Stage 2 and GCSE level by young people from Black and mixed race communities is lower than that of their peers, reflecting the national picture. Students from Asian communities tend to achieve a higher level of attainment.

Free school meals

A higher proportion of mixed race and Black children are eligible for free school meals than White children, but a lower proportion of Asian and Chinese children. The proportion eligible has decreased since 2014 for all groups, except for Chinese children.

Research shows that nationally White children who are eligible for free school meals are consistently the lowest performing group in the country, and the difference between their educational performance and that of their less-deprived White peers is larger than for any other ethnic group. The gap exists at age five and widens as children get older[50].

Eligibility for free school meals by ethnic group

	Eligible for free school meals 2017	*Eligible for free school meals 2016*
White	**14.1%**	**14.5%**
Mixed	**24.3%**	**25.8%**
Asian	**8.1%**	**8.7%**
Black	**17.6%**	**18.1%**
Chinese	**3.6%**	**2.7%**

Source: Reading Borough Council School Census

Health

This table shows the percentage of hospital admissions in 2014/15 that were emergencies for each ethnic group in Reading. A high percentage of emergency admissions may reflect some patients not accessing or receiving the care most suited to managing their conditions. **There is a higher proportion of admissions by residents from all BME groups** than White groups in Reading (though nationally the percentage for mixed and Chinese communities is lower). The proportion has increased since the previous year for all groups nationally and for most groups in Reading, except for Black communities where it has decreased from 47.6% to 45.1%.

Percentage of emergency hospital admissions by ethnic group

	All ethnic groups	*White*	*Mixed*	*Asian*	*Black*	*Chinese*	*Other*	*Un known*
Reading - no of emergency admissions	12,257	9,094	227	1,089	574	53	182	1,038
Reading	**41.3%**	**42.4%**	**45.4%**	**47.2%**	**45.1%**	**45.0%**	**51.5%**	**28.4%**
England	39.4%	39.9%	38.8%	44.0%	43.1%	35.9%	44.9%	30.9%

Source: Reading Health Profile 2016, Public Health England (data 2014/15)

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[50] *the Government's Education Committee, 'Underachievement in Education by White Working Class Children'*

Job Seekers Allowance claimant count

In Nov 2017, 67.3% JSA claimants were White and 28% claimants were from BME groups (a slight increase since Nov 2016).

JSA claimants by ethnic group

Ethnicity	Nov 2017		Nov 2016	
	No claimants	% claimants	No claimants	% claimants
White	**855**	**67.3%**	**850**	**67.7%**
Total ethnic minority	**355**	**28.0%**	**340**	**27.1%**
Mixed	65	5.1%	55	4.4%
Asian or Asian British	95	7.5%	100	8.0%
Black or Black British	160	12.6%	150	12.0%
Chinese or Other	35	2.8%	35	2.8%

Source: NOMIS

Migration and country of birth

International migration is a key driver of population growth in Reading, and the number of people coming to live in Reading is considerably higher than in neighbouring boroughs. Consequently, Reading has a higher proportion of residents born outside of the UK than the South East and the UK as a whole, with an estimated 40,000 born outside of the UK in 2014, representing 25.32% of the total population[51].

These are likely to be mostly working age people, with the largest proportions born in Poland, India, Pakistan, Republic of Ireland and Germany, and they are more likely to be resident in areas near the town centre.

Country of birth (top 10 in Reading)	% of Reading Population	No. in Reading population	% of England and Wales population
India	3%	4670	1.2%
Poland	2.5%	3919	1.0%
Pakistan	2%	3160	0.9%
Republic of Ireland	1.1%	1732	0.7%
Germany	0.7%	1042	0.5%
Zimbabwe	0.5%	827	0.2%
South Africa	0.5%	818	0.3%
Ghana	0.5%	816	0.2%
Hong Kong	0.5%	785	0.2%
Nigeria	0.5%	755	0.3%

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

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[51] *Office of National Statistics, Migration Indicators Tool (August 2015).*

POVERTY AND OLDER PEOPLE

Pensioners were once much more likely to be in poverty than either children or working-age adults, however pensioner poverty rates in the UK have fallen significantly from 28% in 1994/95 to 14% in 2014/15[52], rising slightly again to 16% in 2015/16[53].

Locally, there is a mixed picture, with poverty amongst older people increasing in terms of the Index of Multiple Deprivation measure, but with a lower proportion on benefits (apart from JSA) than in the previous period.

Census overview

Residents in older age bands

	Number	*%*
All usual residents	155,698	100.0
Age 60 to 64	6,373	4.1
Age 65 to 74	9,058	5.8
Age 75 to 84	6,132	3.9
Age 85 to 89	1,704	1.1
Age 90 and over	938	0.6
All residents 60+	**24,205**	**15.5**

Source: Census 2011, Office for National Statistics

Population projections

According to the ONS 2014-based population projections, **the proportion of the population aged 60+ will rise from 16% in 2017 to 22.3% by 2039**.[54]

Residents in older age bands - projections

	2017		*2039*	
	Number	*%*	*Number*	*%*
All usual residents	165,000	100%	181,900	100%
All residents 60+	26,300	15.9%	40,500	22.3%
All residents 90+	1,100	0.7%	3,000	1.6%

Source: ONS population projections 2014-based

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[52] *Monitoring Poverty and Social Exclusion 2016, Joseph Rowntree Foundation*

[53] *UK Poverty 2017, Joseph Rowntree Foundation*

[54] *2014-based population projections, ONS*

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: Index of income deprivation affecting older people

Contrary to the national trend, the 2015 IMD indicates that relative deprivation amongst older people has increased since 2010, with 30 LSOAs in the 20% most deprived (15 in 2010), 14 LSOAs in the 10% most deprived (4 in 2010), and 6 LSOAs in the 5% most deprived LSOAs nationally (1 in 2010). **Reading ranks 81st on this indicator out of 326 local authorities.**

IMD 2015: Index of income deprivation affecting older people
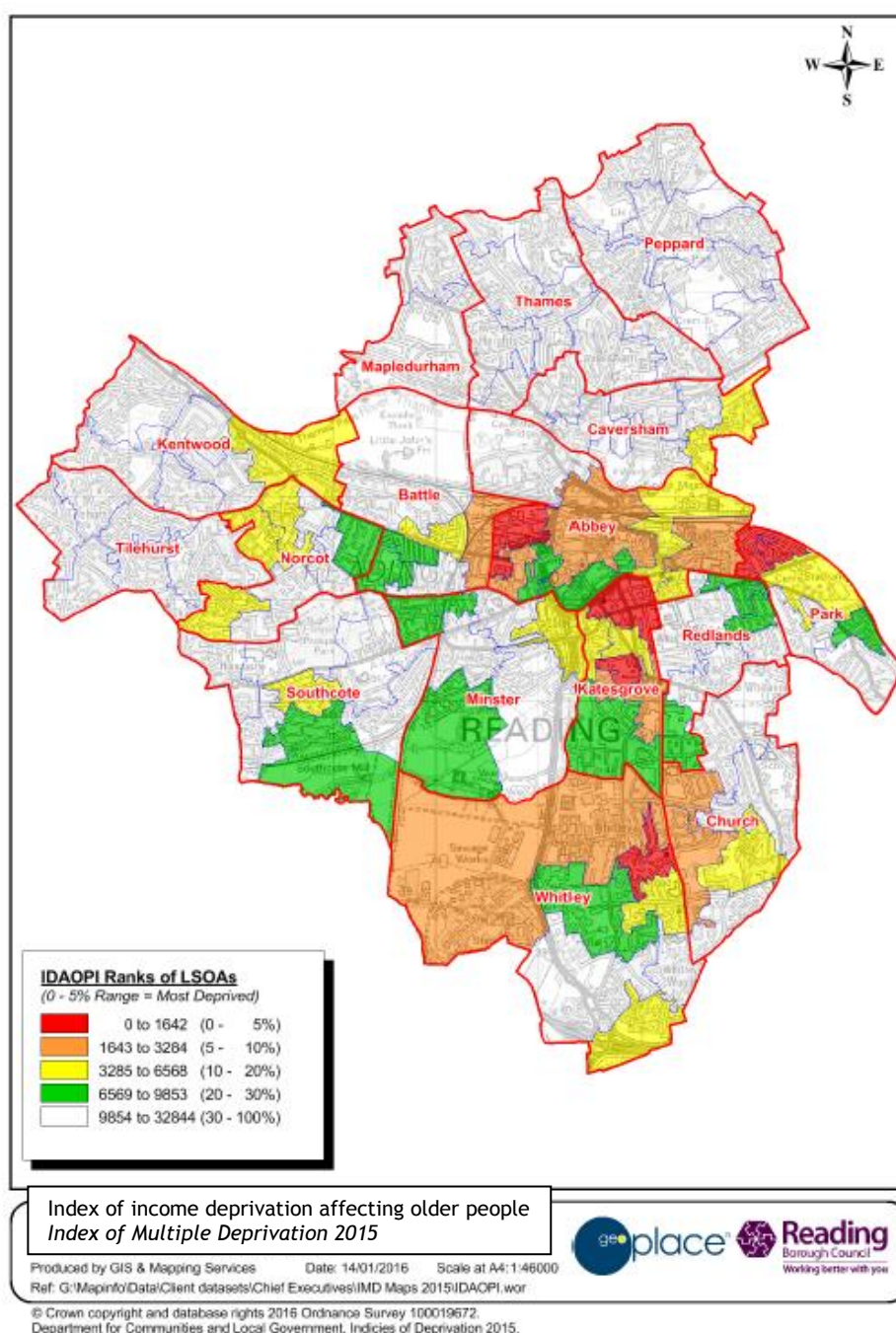
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015

Excess winter deaths

The ratio of excess winter deaths to expected deaths[55] increased in Reading to the highest in the country in the period 2008-2011 (3 year average). Since then, the ratio has fallen to around the national average. Both the Reading and national ratios have decreased since the previous period.

Excess winter deaths

	2013-16	*2012-15*	*2011-14*	*2010-13*
Reading	**17.7**	**25.7**	**19.1**	**23.3**
England	17.9	19.6	15.6	17.4

Source: Public Health England Health Profile 2017

Benefits claimants

Although pensioner poverty may have fallen at a national level, the **proportion of deprived people aged 65 and over in Reading is above the average for South East.**[56]

Benefit claimants over 65

Benefit	*May 2017*		*May 2016*	
Benefit	*No claimants*	*Rate[57]*	*No claimants*	*Rate[58]*
Disability Living Allowance	**890**	**4.5%**	1,010	5.2%
Pension Credits	**3,490**	**17.8%**	3,620	18.6%
Carers Allowance	**60**	**0.3%**	50	0.3%
Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement	**30**	**0.2%**	40	0.2%

Source: NOMIS; ONS 2016 & 2015 mid-year estimates

Nationally, many older people are not claiming benefits to which they are entitled. According to DWP data for 2015/16, up to 33% of older people were failing to claim Pension Credit.

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[55] *the number of additional deaths that occurred between December and March expressed as a percentage of the number of deaths expected to occur in a different four month period*
[56] *Based on number of pension credit claimants*
[57] *Rate of 65+ population, ONS 2016 mid year estimates*
[58] *Rate of 65+ population, ONS 2015 mid year estimates*

Pension credit

The map below shows the distribution of Reading's 3,610 Pension Credit claimants (aged 60+)[59] in May 2017. This represents 13.9% of the 60+ population[60] (down from 15% in May 2016), a higher rate than for both the South East (8.8%) and England (12%).

Pension credit claimants
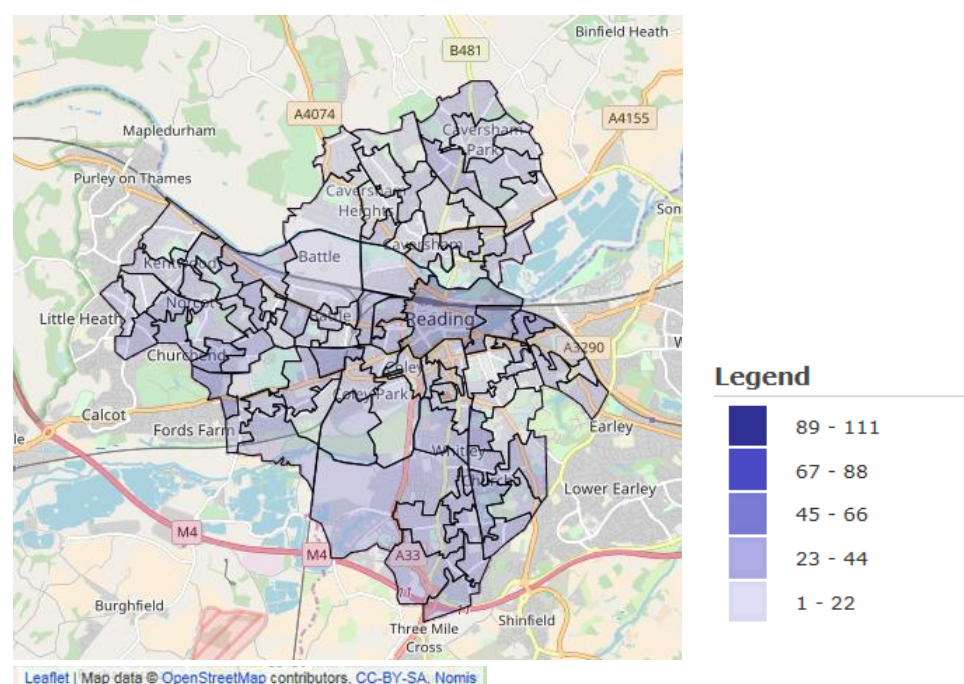
Legend = no claimants at Lower Super Output level
Source: NOMIS May 2017 (aged 60+)/ Office for National Statistics

JSA claimants

The rate for JSA claimants in Reading over 50 is higher than the rate for the South East but in line with the national average, and has increased since Dec 2016.

JSA claimants over 50

	claimant rate[61] *Dec 2017*	*claimant rate* *Dec 2016*
Reading	**0.5%**	**0.4%**
South East	0.3%	0.3%
England	0.5%	0.4%

Source: NOMIS

See also the section on fuel poverty in the Meeting Basic Needs chapter.

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[59] *Maps at LSOA level only available for 60+ population*
[60] *Based on ONS 2016 mid-year population estimates*
[61] *As a proportion of residents aged 16-64 (ONS 2016 mid year estimates)*

POVERTY AND DISABILITY

Nationally, 30% of people in a family with a disabled adult or child (6.4 million) live in poverty, a lower proportion than 20 years ago. However, this compares with a poverty rate of 19% for people in families without a disabled adult or child[62].

In relation to physical disabilities, it is estimated that by 2025, 50% of the national population will have at least one long-term condition[63].

Census overview

The rates of limiting long term illness and provision of unpaid care have changed little since 2001 and are below the average for England.

Limiting long term illness and unpaid care

	Reading 2011	*England 2011*	*Reading 2001*
People with limiting long-term illness	**13.0%**	17.6%	13.5%
Provision of unpaid care: % persons	**8.0%**	10.3%	7.7%

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Extent to which illness or disability is limiting

| Ward	*% of resident population*		
	A lot	*A little*	*Not at all*
Reading	**5.66**	**7.25**	**87.08**
Abbey	4.51	5.38	90.11
Battle	4.13	5.98	89.89
Caversham	4.94	7.33	87.73
Church	6.33	7.77	85.90
Katesgrove	4.06	6.01	89.92
Kentwood	5.84	7.47	86.68
Mapledurham	4.59	9.55	85.86
Minster	7.43	7.39	85.19
Norcot	7.48	9.28	83.24
Park	4.09	5.01	90.90
Peppard	6.08	8.29	85.63
Redlands	3.65	5.48	90.87
Southcote	8.96	9.77	81.27
Thames	4.06	6.53	89.41
Tilehurst	7.15	9.11	83.74
Whitley	7.36	8.51	84.14

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

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[62] *UK Poverty 2017, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.*
[63] *The Hidden Need in Berkshire, Overcoming Social Deprivation, Berkshire Community foundation, December 2010*

Percentage of residents who feel that they are limited 'a lot' by their illness or disability
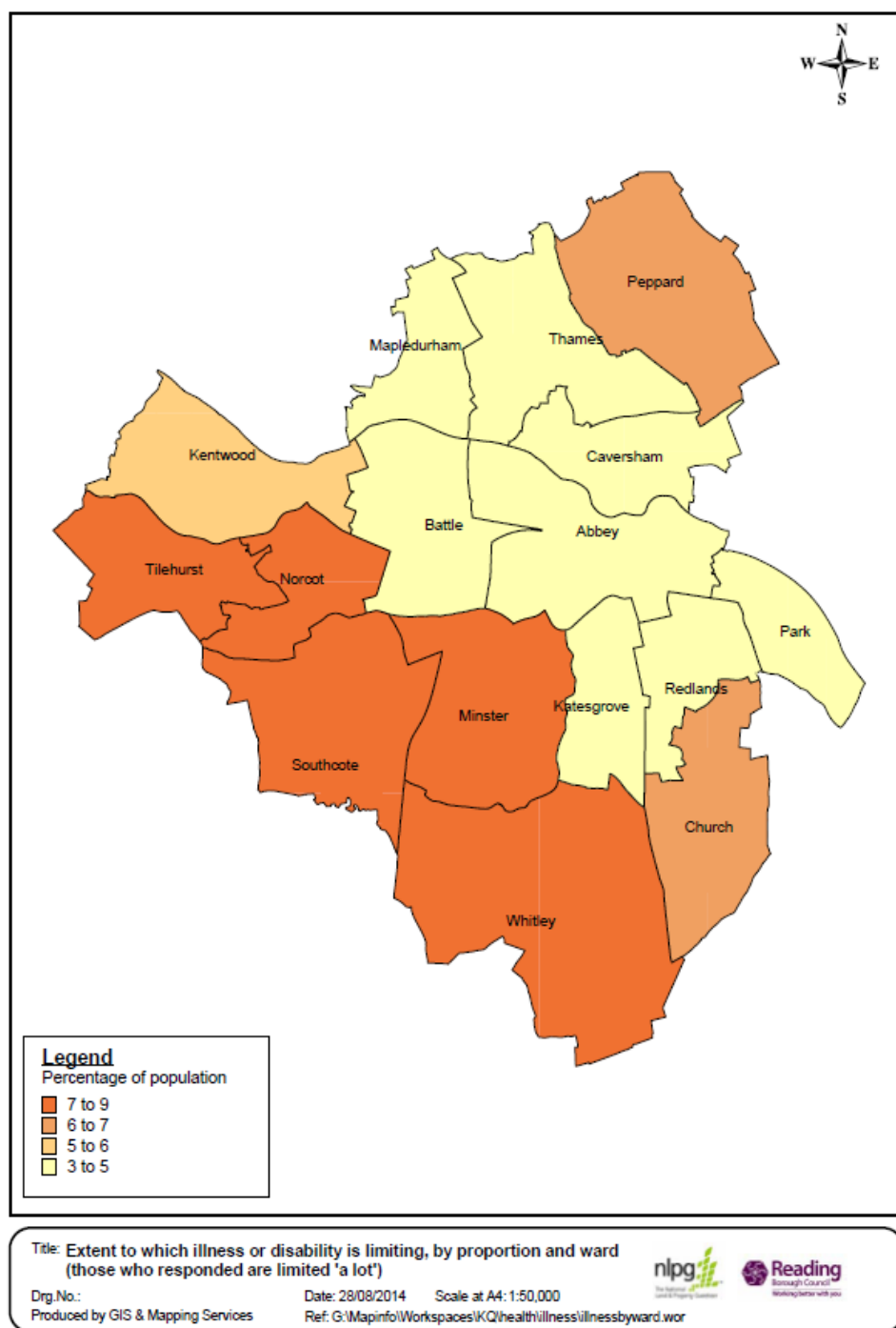
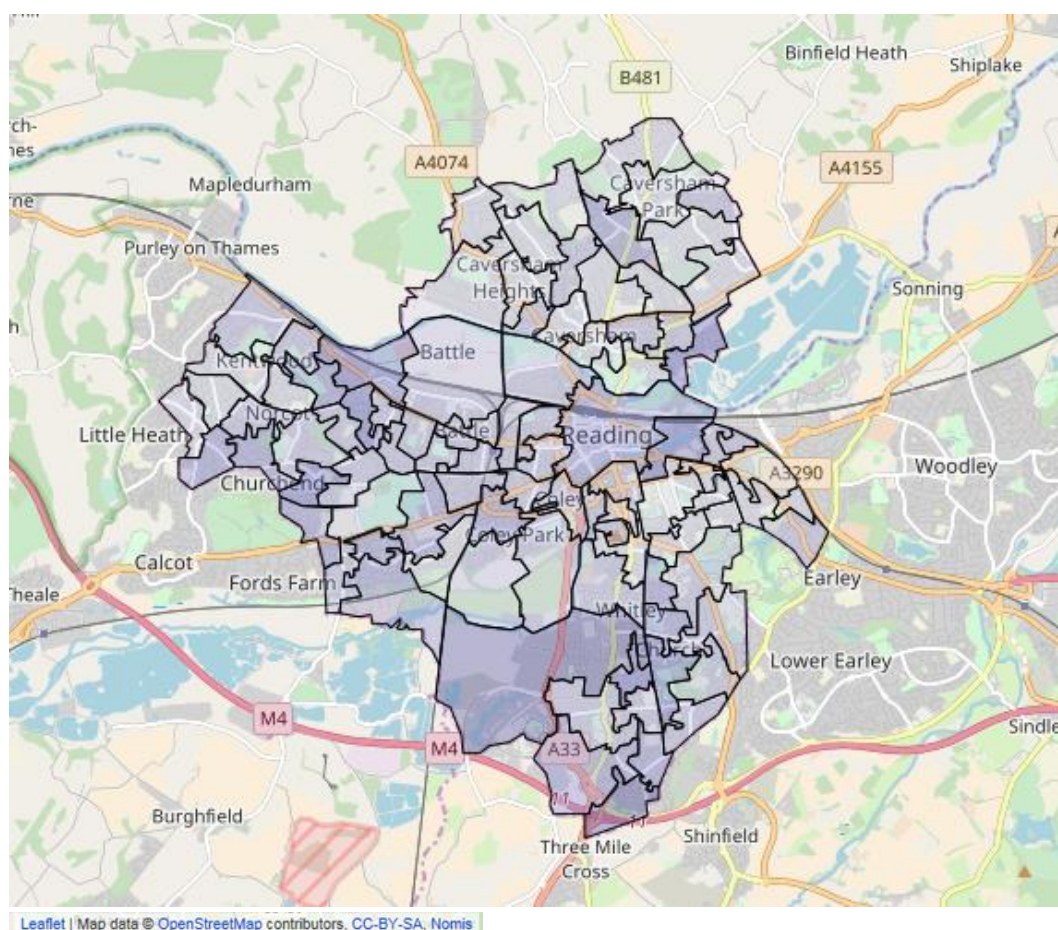*Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics*

Those who feel that they are limited 'a lot' by their illness or disability tend to be concentrated in the south and west of the borough.

Benefits claimants

In May 2017, 4,190 people in Reading were claiming Disability Living Allowance, 3.8% of the working age population[64] (down slightly from May 2016, and lower than the South East and England averages). Their distribution is shown in the following map.

260 people were claiming Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance in May 2016, 0.2% of the working population.
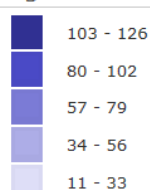
Disability Living Allowance claimants

Leaflet | Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA, Nomis

Legend = no claimants at Lower Super Output area level

Source: NOMIS May 2017/ Office for National Statistics

Legend

- 103 – 126
- 80 – 102
- 57 – 79
- 34 – 56
- 11 – 33

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[64] *Based on ONS population projections mid 2016 (age 16-64)*

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015: Health deprivation and disability domain

Reading ranks 109th most deprived out of 326 LAs on this domain, with 3 LSOAs in bottom 20%, compared with 16 LSOAs in 2010. This domain measures rates of poor health, early mortality and disability and covers the entire age range, though areas high on this index tend to be those with a higher proportion of older residents.

IMD 2015: Health deprivation and disability domain
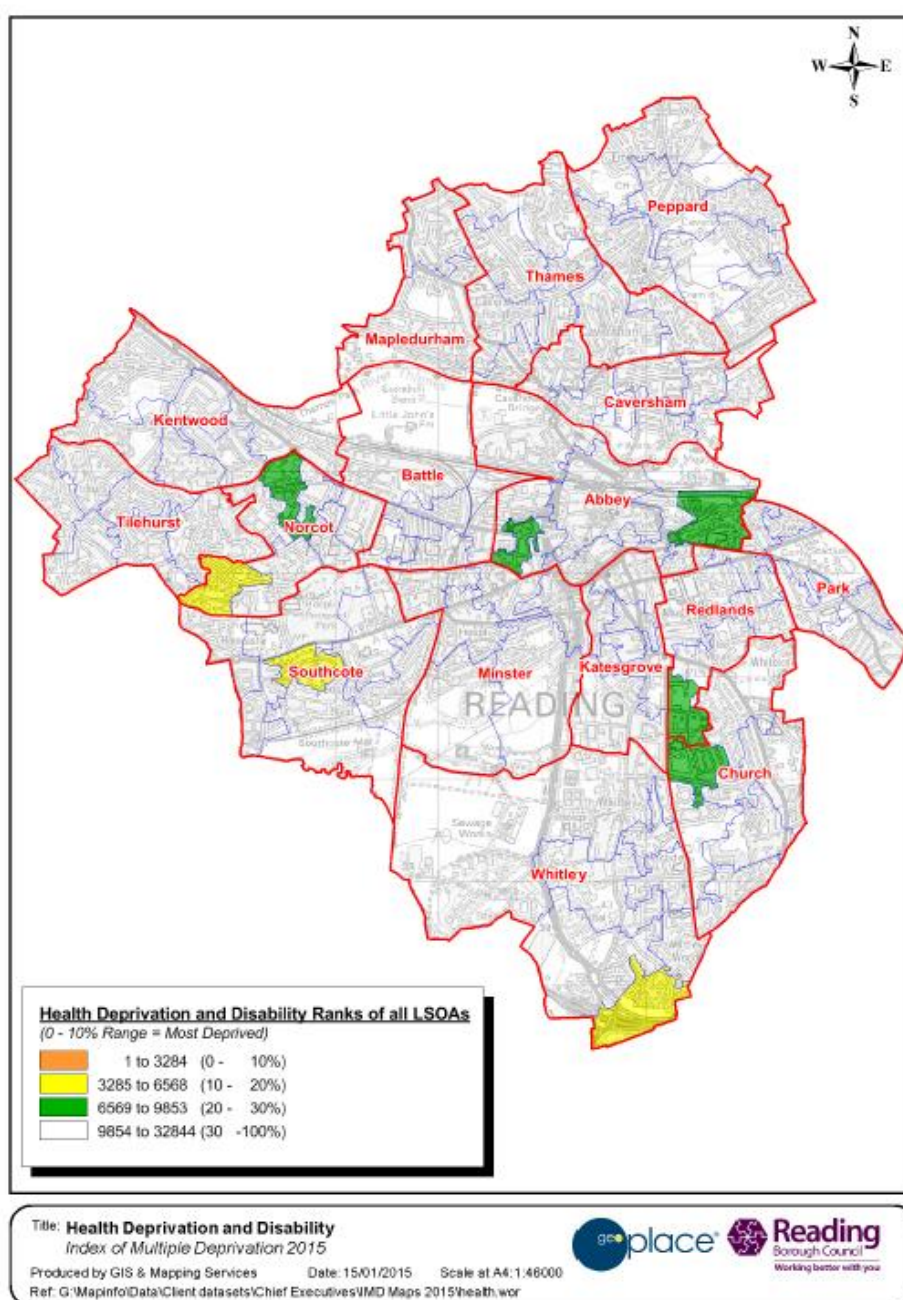
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2015

DEBT

According to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, just under one in 10 households report having 'problem debt'[65]. Research by Citizens' Advice[66] finds that one in twenty adults have debt worth more than six months of their income. When looking at different groups in society however, that figure is far higher:

- One in fourteen of the lowest paid fifth of the population have debt worth more than six months' income (7%)

- One in ten private renters have debts worth six months of their income, nearly twice the proportion among people with a mortgage (10% compared to 6%)

- One in seven of 20–29 year olds have more than six months' income in debt, twice the figure for 30–39 year olds (14% compared to 7%)
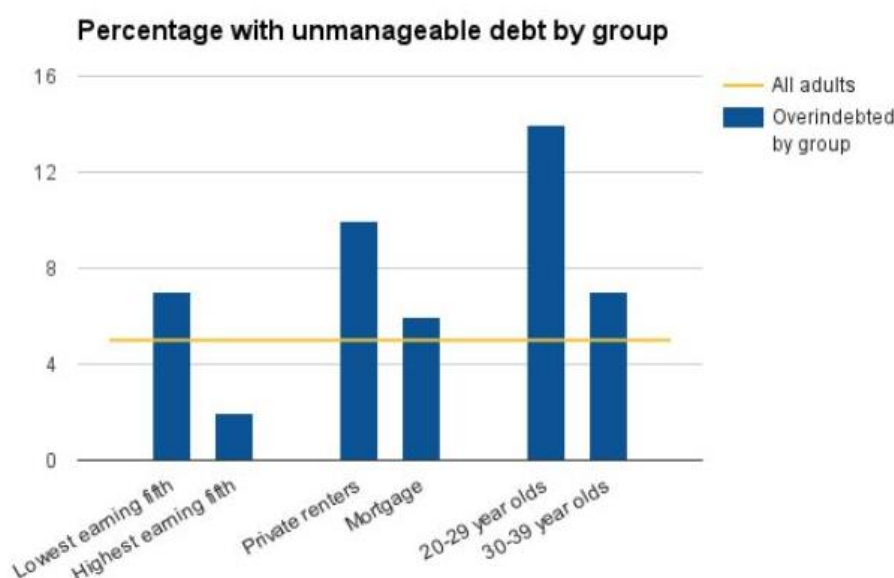
Citizens Advice report that nationally around half of the people they help with debt problems have a problem in at least one other area of their life.

The most striking finding is the relationship between debt and mental health. People with unmanageable levels of debt are 24% more likely to have poor mental health – even taking into account their incomes and other factors

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[65] *defined by the Family Resources Survey as being behind with any household bill or credit commitment; UK Poverty 2017, Joseph Rowntree Foundation*
[66] *Citizens Advice, Aug 2016*

Reading Advice Agencies

Throughout Berkshire, local Citizens Advice report increasing problems relating to debt, from young families with high mortgages, to older, asset-rich/cash poor households.
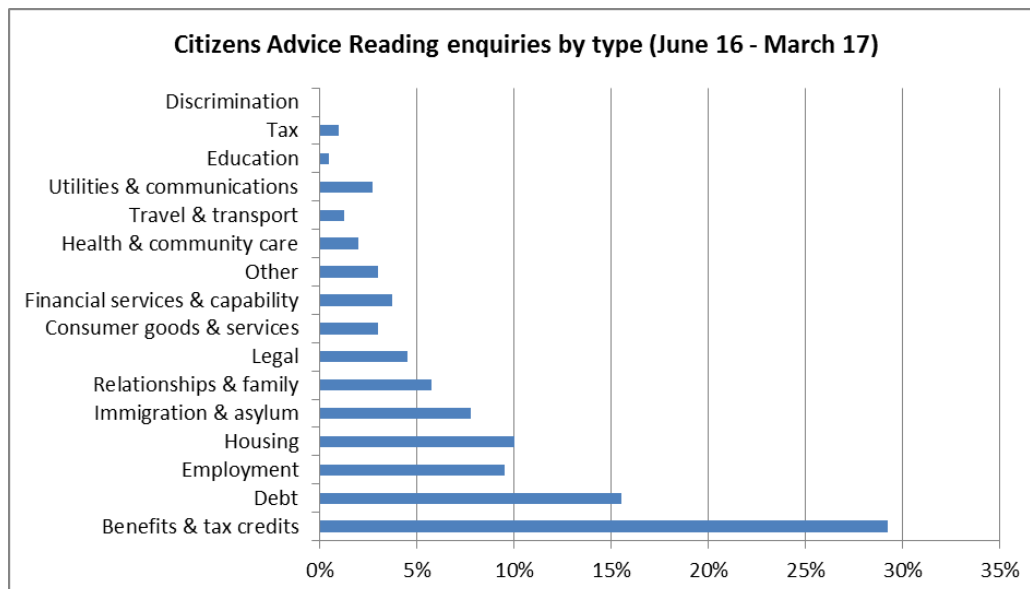
Source: CAR 2017 (June 16 – May 17)

For **Citizens Advice Reading**, **debt is the 2nd most common issue that clients seek help with** and forms almost 16% of the workload; benefits issues form around 29%. However as almost all of the benefit and tax credit enquires are also related to debt, the reality is that around **45% of enquires** are debt related.

From Dec 2017 to Feb 2018[1], in terms of maximising residents' income, **Citizens Advice Reading**:
- Supported and advised almost 2,196 clients through the Gateway process
- Secured financial gains of over £300,000 for clients
- Helped around 160 clients with budgeting / managing their money and helped to avoid court actions for debt
- Helped 290 clients with benefit entitlements checks, backdated benefit payments, hardship loans and/or payments.
- Helped 54 clients to avoid of repossession of their home or homelessness
- Helped almost £94,000 of clients' debt to be written off.

Reading Community Welfare Rights Unit:
- Secured financial gains of £154,000 for clients
- Assisted over 1,000 clients with 1,300 enquiries

Communicare:
- Secured financial gains of £8,600 for clients
- Assisted clients with over 1,000 issues

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[1] *The latest quarter for which data available at time of writing; figures relate to the organisations' contract with the Council*

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