READING
SOCIAL EXCLUSION ANALYSIS
2022

CONTENTS

SUMMARY OF INDICATORS & DIRECTION OF TRAVEL[1]

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	South East	England	Reading previous performance	Performance since previous period
FINANCIAL EXCLUSION & POVERTY						
GENERAL DEPRIVATION						
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)	2019	**141st most deprived of 317 LAs**	n/a	n/a	142nd most deprived[2] (2015)	decline
IMD – LSOAs in most 10% deprived	2019	**5**	n/a	n/a	2 (2015)	decline
Gini co-efficient (measures wealth inequality)	2016/17	**3rd least equal city**	n/a	n/a	3rd least equal city (2015/16)	no change
Social Mobility Index overall score	2017	**217th (out of 324 LAs)**	n/a	n/a	225th (2016)	improvement
INCOME & EMPLOYMENT						
IMD: Income domain	2019	**140th most deprived of 317 LAs; 3 LSOAs in 10% most deprived**	n/a	n/a	121st most deprived (2015); 5 LSOAs in 10% most deprived	improvement
IMD: Employment domain	2019	**200th most**	n/a	n/a	128th most deprived; 2	improvement

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[1] *Census 2011 indicators not included as direction of travel information now out of date; Census 2021 to be provided from Summer 2022*

[2] *IMD 2015 recast for to 2019 local authority district level boundaries for overall score, income and employment domains, to enable more consistent comparison*

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	South East	England	Reading previous performance	Performance since previous period
		deprived of 317 LAs; 1 LSOA in most deprived 10%			LSOAs in most deprived 10% (2015)	
Median pay residents (annual pay – gross)	2021	**£36,500**	£33,983	£31,490	£33,032 (2020)	improvement
Median pay workforce (annual pay – gross)	2021	**£34,222**	£32,810	£31,480	£34,290 (2020)	decline
Number of jobs paid less than the living wage (£9.50)	2021	**9.2%**	12.8%	17.2%	12.5% (2020)	improvement
Claimant count rate (JSA/ Universal Credit)	Sept 2021	**5.3%**	3.9%	5.1%	6.5% (Sept 2020)	improvement
Long term unemployment rate	Dec 2019	**0.3%**	0.2%	0.3%	0.4% (Dec 2018)	improvement
JSA claimants with dependent children	Nov 2019	**18.2%**	23.9%	24.7%	19.5% (Nov 2018)	improvement
SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS						
IMD: Education, skills and training domain	2019	**135th most deprived of 317 LAs; 9 LSOAs most deprived 10%; 4 in most**	n/a	n/a	77th most deprived of 326 LAs; 9 LSOAs most deprived 10% (2015); 3 in most deprived 5%	Improved at Reading level, but small areas more deprived

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	South East	England	Reading previous performance	Performance since previous period
		deprived 5%				
% 19 year olds gaining level 2 qualifications	2020	**75%**	82%	81%	76% (2019)	decline
% 19 year olds gaining level 3 qualifications	2020	**62%**	59%	57%	59% (2019)	improvement
NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training)	Dec 20-Feb 21	**6.9%**	6.4%	5.5%	14.9% (2020/21)	improvement
ACCESS TO HOUSING						
IMD: Barriers to housing and services domain	2019	**43rd most deprived of 317 LAs; 9 LSOAs in most deprived 10%; 1 in most deprived 5%**	n/a	n/a	52nd most deprived of 326 LAs; 2 LSOAs in most deprived 10% (2015)	decline
IMD: Living environment domain	2019	**119th most deprived of 317 LAs; 6 LSOAs in most deprived 10%**	n/a	n/a	49th most deprived of 326 LAs; 19 LSOAs in most deprived 10%; 10 in most deprived 5%	improvement
Number of homelessness presentations	2020/21	**1453**	n/a	n/a	1472 (2019/20)	improvement

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	South East	England	Reading previous performance	Performance since previous period
FUEL POVERTY						
Percentage in fuel poverty	2019	**10.3%**	7.5%	13.4%	9% (2020)	decline
Readifood food parcels	2020/21	**190 parcels per week**	n/a	n/a	185 parcels per week (2019/20)	decline
CRIME/ACCESS TO SAFE ENVIRONMENT						
IMD: Crime	2019	**108 most deprived of 317 LAs; 6 LSOAs in most deprived 10%**	n/a	n/a	71st most deprived of 326 LAs; 6 LSOAs in most deprived 10%, 3 in most deprived 5%	improvement
Violent crime rate per 1000 population	2020/21	**33.7**	n/a	29.5	34 (2019/20)	improvement
HEALTH						
Life expectancy – Male	2018-20	**79.0**	80.6	79.4	79.4 (2017-19)	decline
Life expectancy – Females	2018-20	**82.3**	84.1	83.1	83 (2017-19)	decline
Inequality[3] in life expectancy at birth - Male	2018-20	**6.8**	7.9	9.7	7.0 (2017-19)	improvement
Inequality in life expectancy at birth - Female	2018-20	**7.8**	6.0	7.9	8.3 (2017-19)	improvement

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[3] *between LSOAs in the most deprived and least deprived deprivation deciles*

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	South East	England	Reading previous performance	Performance since previous period
Healthy life expectancy at birth - Male	2018-20	**66.4**	65.5	63.1	64.2 (2017-19)	improvement
Healthy life expectancy at birth - Female	2018-20	**62.6**	65.9	63.9	65.6 (2017-19)	decline
Adults in contact with mental health services in paid employment	2020/21	**14%**	11%	9%	14% (2019/20)	no change
Gap between employment rate for adults with mental health problems and overall rate.	2019/20	**66.7%**	70.6%	67.2%	64.8% (2018/19)	decline
LONELINESS & SOCIAL ISOLATION						
Percentage of adults who feel lonely often/always or most of the time	2019/20	**20.39%**	20.83%	22.26%	n/a	n/a
Percentage who felt strongly they belong to their immediate neighbourhood	2021	**76%**	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
AGE						
CHILD POVERTY						
IMD: Income deprivation affecting children index	2019	**133rd most deprived of 317 LAs;**	n/a	n/a	**82nd most deprived of 326 LAs; 6 LSOAs in 10% most**	improvement

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	South East	England	Reading previous performance	Performance since previous period
		4 LSOAs in 10% most deprived, 1 LSOA in 5%			deprived, 1 LSOA in 5%	
Children in low-income families	2019/20	15%	n/a	19% (UK)	15% (2018/19)	no change
Children in low-income lone parent families	2019/20	39.3%	40.7%	40.2%	43% (2018/19)	improvement
End Child Poverty local measure (% children in poverty)	2019/20	26.9%	24%	30%	27.9% (2018/19)	improvement
Pupils eligible for pupil premium	2020/21	24.8%	21.8%	27.5%	24.2% (2019/20)	decline
Pupils eligible for free school meals	2020/21	14.3%	12.6%	19.3%	15.6% (2019/20)	improvement
Educational attainment – foundation stage	2019	69%	75%	72%	69% (2018)	no change
Educational attainment – key stage 2	2019	63%	66%	65%	60% (2018)	improvement
Educational attainment - attainment 8 score	2020	54.0	51.4	50.2	50.5 (2019)	improvement
Youth offending rate (per 100,000 first time entrants)	Jan-Dec 2019	344	141	207 (England & Wales)	296 (2018/19)	decline
OLDER PEOPLE						
IMD: Income deprivation affecting older people index	2019	66th most deprived out of 317 LAs; 14 in	n/a	n/a	81st most deprived out of 326 LAs; 14 LSOAs in most deprived	no change

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	South East	England	Reading previous performance	Performance since previous period
		most deprived 10%; 4 in most deprived 5%			10%; 6 in most deprived 5% (2015)	
Excess winter deaths	2019/20	**29.5%**	17.4%	17.4%	28.5% (2018/19)	decline
Pension Credit claimants over 65	Aug 2020	**14.5%**	n/a	11.5%	15.2% (Aug 2019)	improvement
JSA claimants over 50	Feb 2022	**10.5%**	n/a	7.3%	15.3% (Feb 2021)	improvement
ETHNICITY						
% BME in primary schools	2021	**60%**	n/a	34.8%	58% (2020)	n/a
% BME in secondary schools	2021	**62%**	n/a	34.1%	59% (2020)	n/a
Eligibility for free school meals	2021	• **White British 24.5%** • **Mixed/multiple group 34.8%** • **Asian 11.7%** • **Black 25.9%** • **Chinese 2.2%**	n/a	• White British 21.6% • Mixed/multiple group 29.4% • Asian 19.4% • Black 34.3% Chinese 7.8%	• White British 19.1% (2020) • Mixed/multiple group 27.2% • Asian 8.6% • Black 18.1% • Chinese 4.6%	n/a
JSA – BME claimants	Feb 2022	**21.5%**	7.9%	16.5%	12.3% (Feb 2021)	n/a
DISABILITY						

Indicator	Year/ time period	Reading	South East	England	Reading previous performance	Performance since previous period
IMD: Health deprivation and disability domain	2019	**137th most deprived out of 317 LAs; 1 LSOA in most deprived 10%**	n/a	n/a	**109th most deprived out of 326 LAs**	no change
Disability Living Allowance claimants	Aug 2021	**1.9%**	n/a	2%	1.9% (Aug 2020)	no change

1. INTRODUCTION

What is social exclusion

Social 'exclusion' describes a state in which individuals are unable to participate fully in economic, social, political and cultural life[4]. Social 'inclusion' is the process of increasing participation.

Participation may be hindered when people lack access to material resources, including income, employment, land and housing, or to such services as education and health care

Poverty, or lack of access to material resources, is a key reason for social inclusion; millions of people in the UK are struggling to meet their needs, many from working families. Poverty impacts on the quality of family life, parenting, child development, mental health, education and learning, and the economy as a whole.

However, poverty is not the only cause of exclusion. People are disadvantaged if they are unable to access services such as education and health care. Participation is also limited when people cannot exercise their voice or interact with each other, and when their rights and dignity are not accorded equal respect and protection. Factors such as age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, religion, migration status, socio-economic status, place of residence, sexual orientation and gender identity can all contribute towards social exclusion.

Development of the Social Exclusion Analysis

The Council first produced a **Poverty Needs Analysis** in 2014 to support the development of the Council's then Tackling Poverty Strategy and action plan[5]. The Poverty Needs Analysis was revised annually 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 year, the document has been expanded to provide a more holistic view of social exclusion more widely, including data on digital exclusion and loneliness and social isolation, as well as poverty and general deprivation.

This document therefore provides an overview of the key social exclusion-related data for Reading, and is structured broadly according to the following themes:

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[4] *United Nations - https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/rwss/2016/chapter1.pdf*

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

Types of social exclusion

1. Financial exclusion & poverty
2. Access to housing
3. Fuel poverty
4. Food poverty
5. Crime/ access to safe environment
6. Health
7. Digital exclusion
8. Social isolation & loneliness

Factors affecting social exclusion

9. Age
10. Ethnicity
11. Disability

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). This document also includes older indicators and datasets, e.g. 2011 Census data[6] and Index of Multiple Deprivation, which are not included in the summary.

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[6] *2021 Census data is due to be released from late June 2022 onwards; the relevant sections of this document will be revised accordingly.*

TYPES OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION

Financial Exclusion & Poverty

The pre-covid economic climate, the recent significant reform of our national welfare system, the covid pandemic itself and the current cost of living crisis all mean that many households are increasingly struggling to make ends meet.

Nationally, income inequality widened in 2018 for the first time in 10 years. This is due to a rise in wages combined with a reduction in benefits, resulting in incomes for the richest fifth of the population rising by 4.7% and incomes for the poorest fifth of the population reducing by 1.6%.[7]

In the UK, poverty is primarily measured by the number living on less than 60% of the average household income over the past year. Nearly a quarter (24%) of the population lived in poverty 20 years ago and by 2004, this had fallen to 20%. The proportion has risen again but then fallen again to 20% in 2020/21 (13.4 million people), one in five of the population[8].

In 2018, the Social Metrics Commission created a new measure which incorporates the depth, persistence and lived experience of poverty and includes debt repayment, disability and childcare costs. According to this measure, 22% (14.4 million people) are in poverty, with 11% (7.1 million) in "persistent" poverty (i.e. they have been in poverty for two out of the last three years).[9]

Poverty trends amongst different populations

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.

Poverty amongst pensioners has decreased from 17% in 2017/18 to 15% in 2020/19[10]. However, poverty rates are consistently highest among families with children, although these have fallen slightly in recent years to 27% in 2020/21[11]. The relatively high rate 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.

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[7] *https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-47370739, BBC News, February 2019*
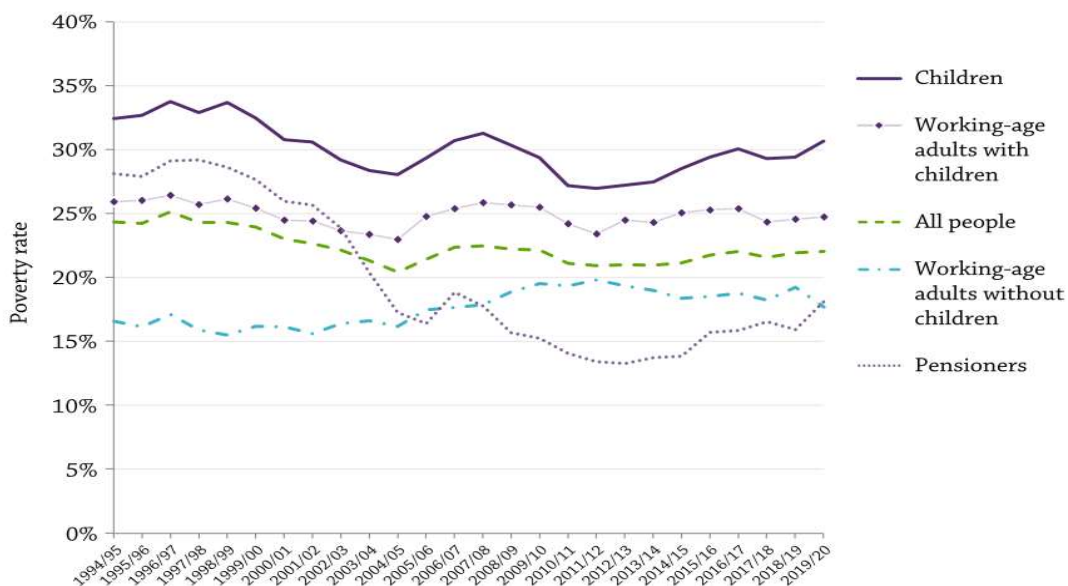[8] *Households Below Average Income 2020/21, DWP; after housing costs; note data collection for 2020/21 was affected by COVID-19*
[9] *A New Measure of Poverty for the UK, Social Metrics Commission, 2020*
[10] *Households Below Average Income 2020/21, DWP*
[11] *Households Below Average Income 2020/21, DWP*

Overall UK poverty rates

Source: Households Below Average Income, 2019/20, DWP

General Deprivation 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 beyond the Borough's boundaries. There has been a huge structural shift from the town's 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, which are often masked by statistics at borough and even ward levels. According to the Centre for Cities report on the

UK's largest city economies, Reading is the **3rd least equal city** (after Oxford and Cambridge and joint with London and Brighton)[12].

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019

The most comprehensive and widely adopted overall measure of deprivation is the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), which was updated in 2019 and replaces the previous 2015 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 141st[13] most deprived out of 317 local authorities in the country, a slight increase in deprivation relative to other LAs since 2015, when Reading was 142nd[14] most deprived** (though this doesn't necessarily mean an increase in overall deprivation)**.**

T**here are now 5 LSOAs within the most deprived 10%** *(see map)*, compared with 2 in 2015*.* This suggests that relative deprivation has 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 4.4% of Reading's overall population and 6.1% of children and young people aged 0-17 years[15] lived in the 10% most deprived LSOAs.

2011 Census deprivation dimensions

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

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 (most deprived LSOAs)

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[12] *Centre for Cities* https://www.centreforcities.org*, gini co-efficient (2016/17) which measures wealth inequality.*
[13] *Rank of average score*
[14] *IMD 2015 recast to 2019 local authority district level boundaries, to enable more consistent comparison*
[15] *2011 Census data, Office for National Statistics*

Index of Multiple Deprivation Deciles for LSOAs

	0 to 10% most deprived	(5)
	11 to 20% most deprived	(5)
	21 to 30% most deprived	(14)
	Above 30% most deprived	(66)
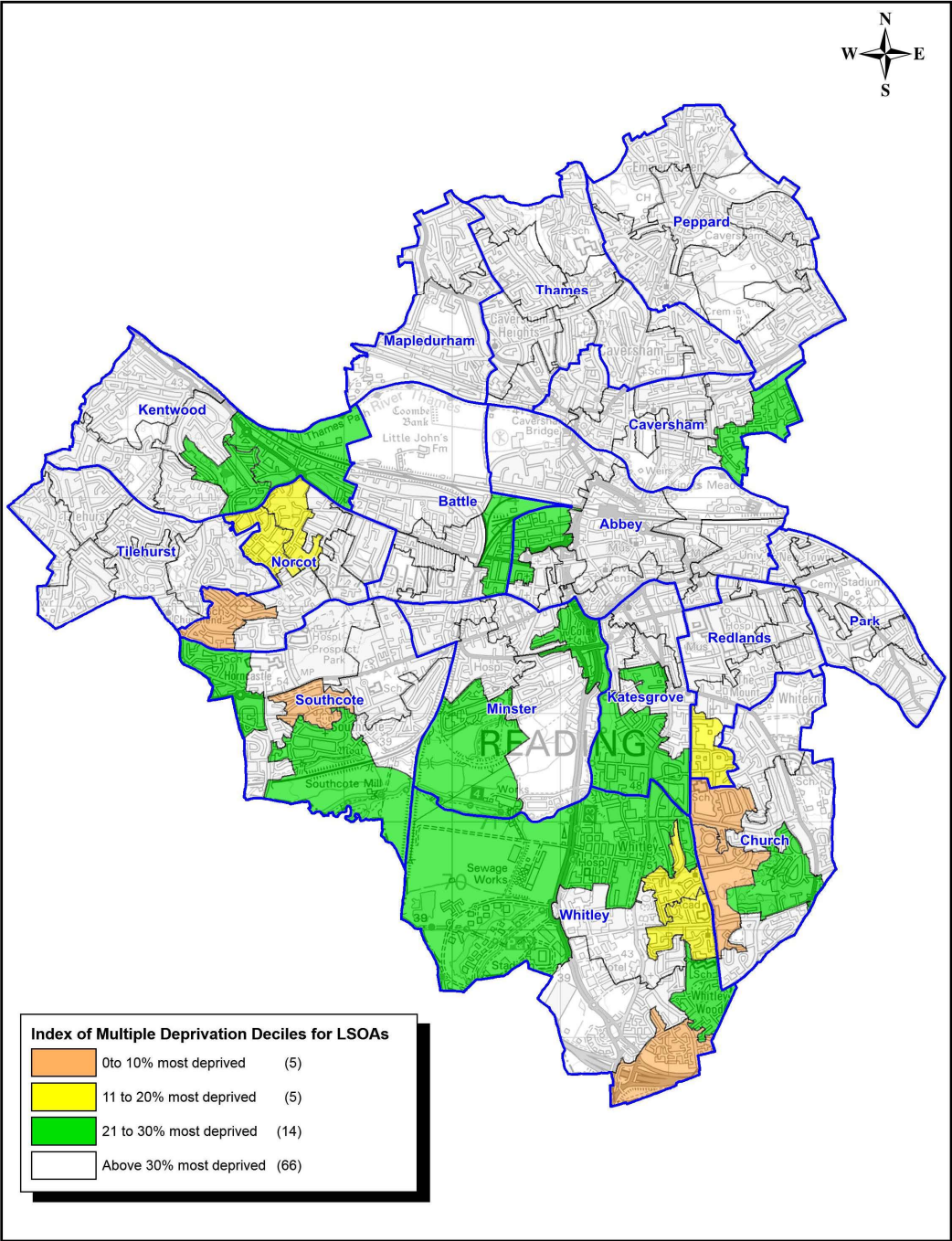
Title: **Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019**

Produced by GIS & Mapping Services   Date: 23/03/2020   Scale at A4: 1:46,000
Ref:G:\Mapinfo\Data\Client datasets\Chief Executives\IMD Maps\2020\Index_Of_Multiple_Deprivation.wor

© Crown copyright and database rights 2020 Ordnance Survey 100019672.
Department for Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2020.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

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.

Census 2011 deprivation dimensions - households deprived on 4 dimensions
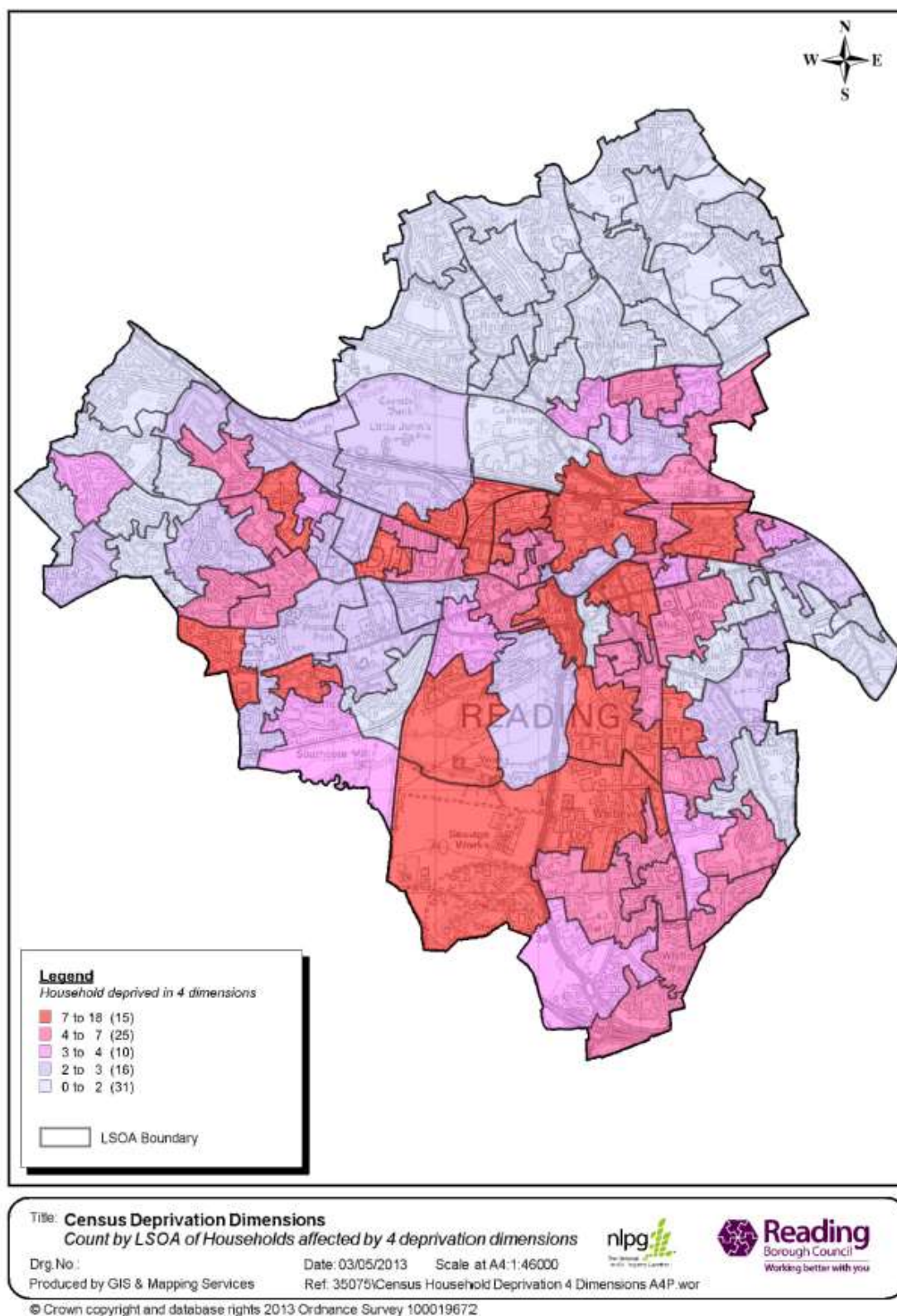
Source: Census 2011, Office for National Statistics

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/low number = high social mobility)					
	Overall ranking (out of 324)	*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

Reading ranks 217 overall out of 324 local authorities, with the 'schools' indicators ranked particularly poorly. However, Reading tends to score much better on the 'adulthood' indicators, particularly the following:

'Schools' indicators with low rankings	*Ranking*
% of children eligible for FSM attending a primary school rated 'outstanding' or 'good' by Ofsted	285
% of children eligible for FSM attending a secondary school rated 'outstanding' or 'good' by Ofsted	316
Average attainment 8 score for pupils eligible for FSM	256
'Adulthood' indicators with high rankings	*Ranking*
Median weekly salary (£) of employees who live in the local area, all employees (FT and PT)	83
% of people that live in the local area who are in managerial and professional occupations (SOC 1 and 2)	41
% of jobs that are paid less than the applicable Living Wage Foundation living wage	27

Income & Employment

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

Unemployment rates have generally been falling since 2011, reaching a record low in 2019. This has been followed by a rise due to covid-19 which, although now reversed, has not yet reached previous low levels, with unemployment in the UK at 3.8% in Dec 2021 – Feb 2022[16].

However, in-work poverty is a significant issue; there has been a large rise in the proportion of poor households where someone is in work. Around two-thirds (68%) of working-age adults in poverty live in a household where at least one adult is in work, the highest proportion since records began in 1996/97[17]. Part-time worker poverty rates are more than double the poverty rates of full-time workers (23% compared with 10%) and self-employed workers are twice as likely to be in poverty than employees (23% compared with 11%)[18].

Over the last 15 years, the slow creep upward of the rate of workers in poverty suggests that work is becoming less effective as a route out of poverty.

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: 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 140th out of 317 local authorities nationally on the IMD income domain, compared with 121st in 2015, indicating that income deprivation has decreased. 3 LSOAs fall within the most 10% deprived nationally (5 in 2015).

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[16] *ONS*
[17] *Households Below Average Income 2020/21; DWP*
[18] *Households Below Average Income 2020/21; DWP*

IMD 2019: Income domain

Income Deciles for LSOAs

0 to 10% most deprived	(3)	
11 to 20% most deprived	(9)	
21 to 30% most deprived	(12)	
Above 30% most deprived	(66)	
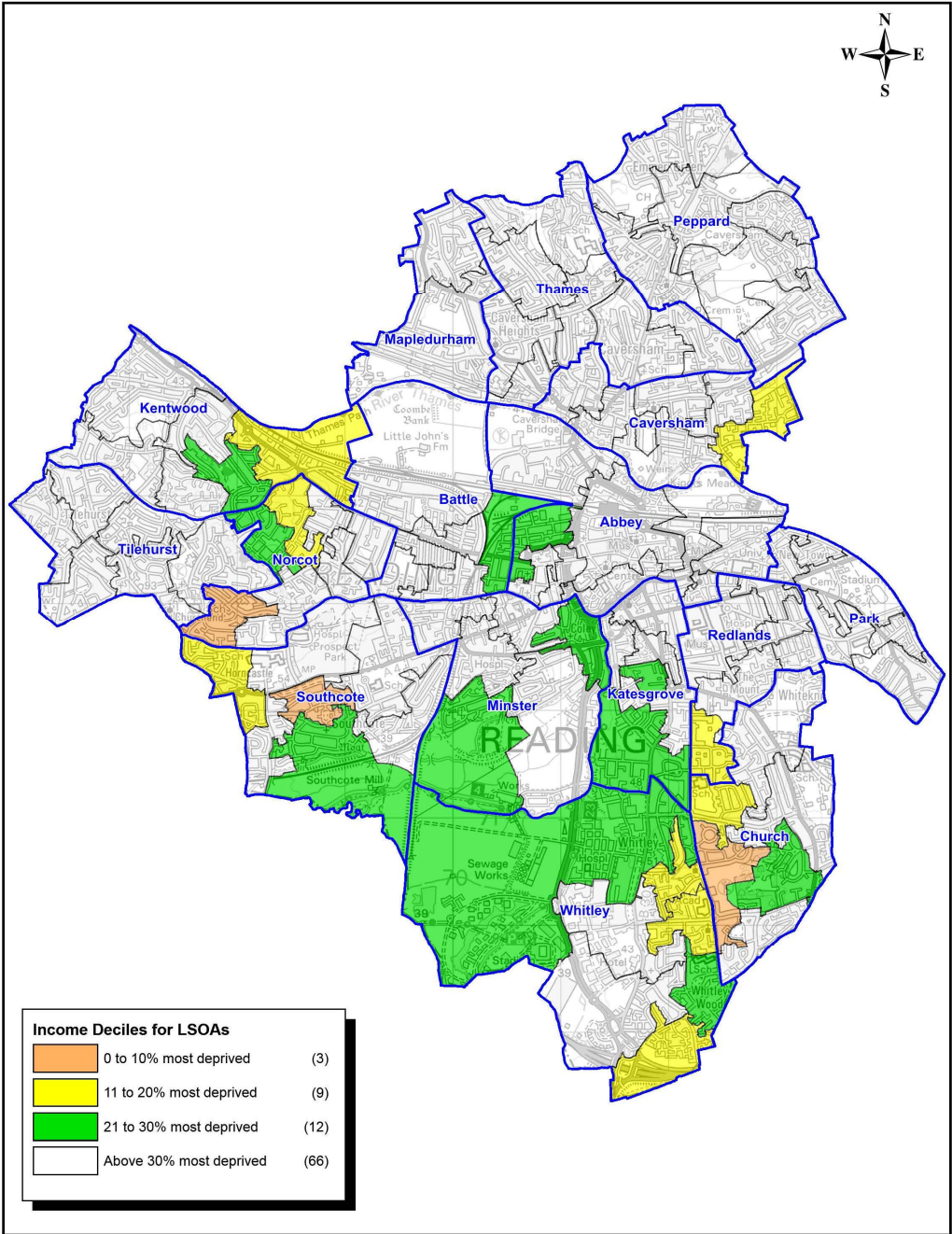
Title: **Income Domain**
   Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019
Produced by GIS & Mapping Services   Date: 23/03/2020   Scale at A4: 1:46,000
Ref:G:\Mapinfo\Data\Client datasets\Chief Executives\IMD Maps\2020\Income_Rank.wor

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Employment domain

Reading ranks 200th out of 317 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 128th in 2015, indicating that relative deprivation has decreased. One Lower Super Output Area falls within the most 10% deprived nationally (2 in 2015)[19].

IMD 2019: Employment domain
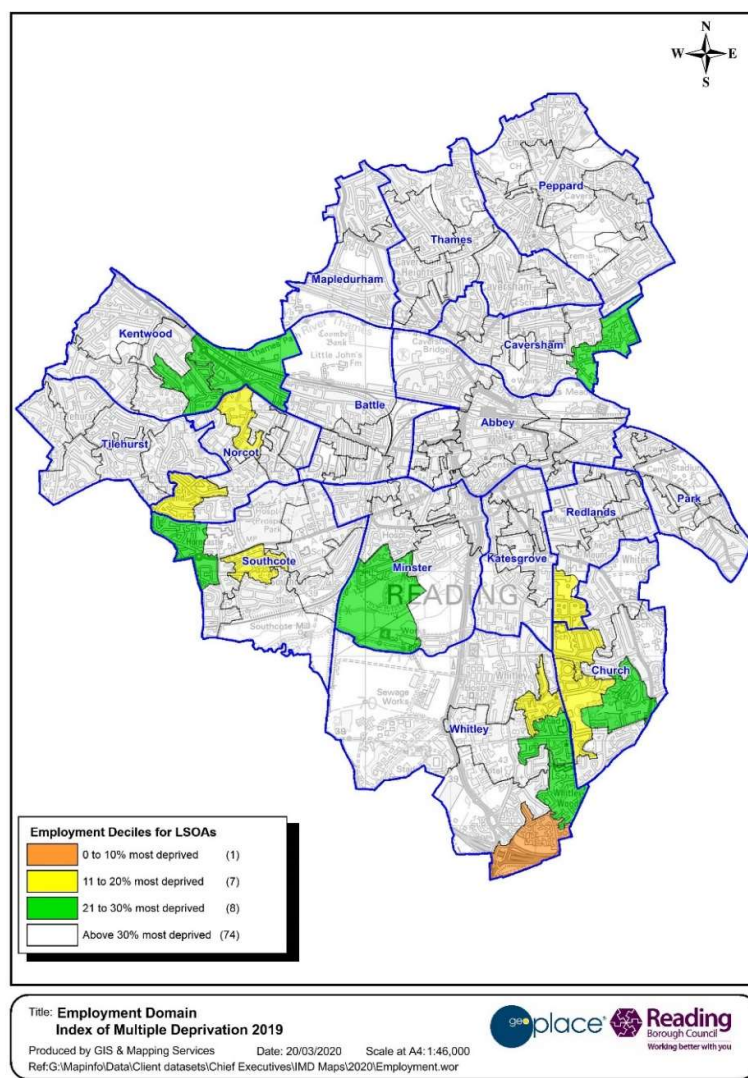
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

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[19] *IMD 2015 recast to 2019 local authority district level boundaries, to enable more consistent comparison*

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 2011	*Reading 2001*	*South East 2011*	*South East 2001*	*England 2011*	*England 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

Median pay

		Weekly pay – gross £	*Weekly pay – basic £*	*Hourly pay – gross £*	*Annual pay – gross £*
Reading 2021	**Residents**	**659**	**636**	**17.68**	**36,500**
	Workforce	**652**	**628**	**17.41**	**34,222**
South East 2021	Residents	660	631	17.04	33,983
	Workforce	635	609	16.40	32,810
England 2021	Residents	613	586	15.77	31,490
	Workforce	613	585	15.77	31,480
Reading 2020	Residents	636	616	16.76	33,032
	Workforce	669	648	18.18	34,290

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

Median earnings for residents in Reading are generally higher than the national average. Historically, median earnings for the Reading workforce have been significantly higher than for resident, clearly demonstrates the mismatch between outstanding economic success and the level of benefits to local people in Reading. However, the trend appears to have been reversed in 2021, with Reading residents earning more. This may be due to the effects of covid-19 home-working restrictions, where highly paid residents working in London for example have been working from home and therefore counted in the 'residents' figure.

Income distribution

Annual estimates of earnings for employees – gross weekly pay

Percentile	Reading £	South East £	England £
10	236.9	170.4	171.8
20	366.6	287.5	282.0
25	405.0	344.3	334.1
30	442.1	379.7	370.6
40	498.1	452.8	438.4
60	656.9	610.3	592.2
70	762.4	720.1	700.0
75	822.4	779.0	766.6
80	905.6	860.6	840.0
90	x	1,103.9	1,079.1

Source: ONS, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) 2021

Living wage

Estimated number of jobs paid less than the living wage

	Number of jobs	% of jobs 2021[20] (£9.50)	% of jobs 2020 (£9.30)	% of jobs 2019 (£9)	% of jobs 2018 (£8.75)	% of jobs 2017 (£8.45)
Reading	**10,000**	**9.2%**	12.5%	16.7%	17.4%	17.1%
South East	533,000	12.8%	16.8%	15.5%	18.2%	18.1%
England	3,993,000	17.2%	20.3%	20%	22.2%	22%

Source: Office for National Statistics

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[20] *Provisional*

Claimant count[21]

	Reading count	*Reading rate %*	*South-East rate %*	*England rate %*
Sept 21	**5,660**	**5.3**	3.9	5.1
Sept 20	6,915	6.5	5.3	6.4
Sept 19	2,865	2.7	1.9	2.8
Sept 18	2,225	2.0	1.4	2.1
Sept 17	1,675	1.5	1.1	1.8

Source: NOMIS

The claimant count rate (proportion of working age population claiming JSA or Universal Credit) had decreased overall since 2012 but had been increasing again until 2017. Due to covid-19, rates increased significantly in 2020, though they have started to fall again to 5.3% in Sept 21. However, the current rate is higher than both the regional and national averages.

In certain circumstances, Jobseeker's Allowance or Universal Credit can be claimed if the claimant has part-time work but relatively low earnings. The fact that the Claimant Count increased from 2017 to 2020 while unemployment fell could suggest an increase in in-work poverty.

Long term unemployment by age[22]

JSA claimant rate (over a year)						
	Dec 2019			*Dec 2018*		
	Reading	*South East*	*England*	*Reading*	*South East*	*England*
Age 16-24	**0.0**	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Age 25-49	**0.2**	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4
Age 50-64	**0.6**	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.5
Total	**0.3**	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4

Source: NOMIS; JSA by age and duration with proportions

The long term unemployment rate has decreased slightly overall and for all age groups from Dec 2018. The overall rate is equal to the national rate, however the 50-64 age group rate is higher than both the national and regional figures.

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[21] *The overall claimant count rate includes those claiming both Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit, however this dataset is not available for long term unemployment and claimants with children for which the JSA claimant rate is still used*
[22] *The JSA claimant rate is used for long term unemployment and claimants with children, and was discontinued in 2019*

JSA claimants with dependent children

% claimants with children		
	Nov 2018	*Nov 2017*
Reading	**18.2%**	19.5%
South East	23.9%	25.1%
England	24.7%	25.3%

Source: NOMIS; JSA claimants

The percentage of JSA claimants in Reading with dependent children has decreased since Nov 2017, and is lower than the national and regional averages.

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*.*

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Education, skills and training domain

Reading ranks 135th out of 317 local authorities nationally on the IMD Education, Skills and Training domain, which relates to both children and young people, and adult skills. 9 LSOAs fall within the 10% most deprived (9 in 2015), and 4 in the most deprived 5% (3 in 2015), in South Reading.

On the adult skills sub-domain, 6 LSOAs fall within the 10% most deprived nationally (6 in 2015), with 3 LSOAs within the 5% most deprived (3 in 2015). On the children and young people's sub-domain, 13 LSOAs fall within the 10% most deprived nationally (7 in 2015), with 9 within the 5% most deprived (6 in 2015).

IMD 2019: Education, skills and training domain

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

Occupation profile

Percentage of working population aged 16 -74 by occupation type

Occupation type	Reading 2011	Reading 2001	South East 2011	South East 2001	England 2011	England 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.

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
Level 1 qualifications	**12.2**	15.0	13.5	17.1	13.3	16.6
Level 2 qualifications	**12.3**	17.4	15.9	21.2	15.2	19.4
Apprenticeship	**2.5**	N/A	3.6	N/A	3.6	N/A
Level 3 qualifications	**13.4**	11.5	12.8	9.2	12.4	8.3
Level 4 qualifications and above	**34.8**	28.3	29.9	21.7	27.4	19.9
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
South East	19.1
England	22.5

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Percentage of residents aged 16+ with no qualifications
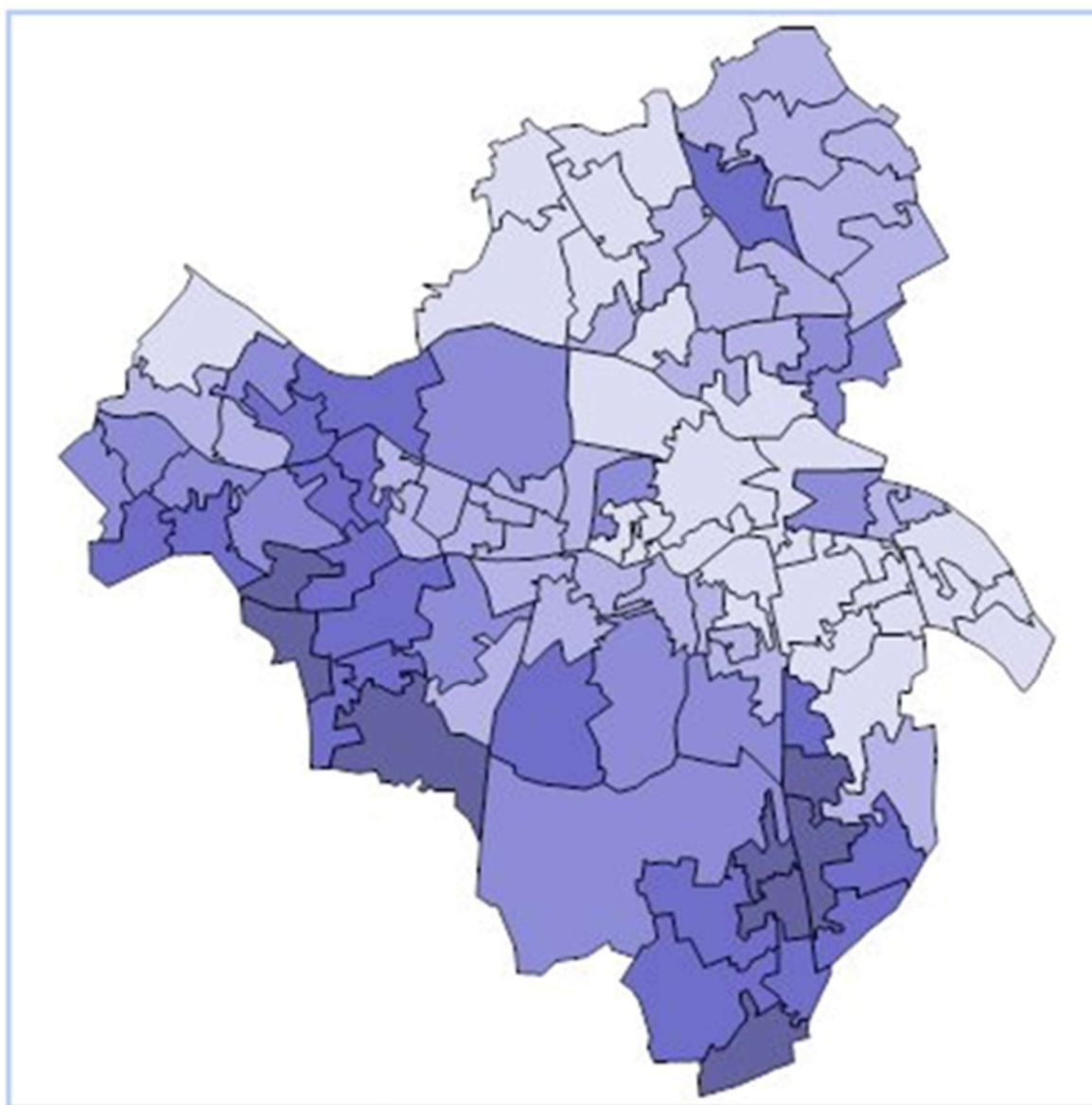
© Crown copyright. All rights reserved GD272183.2014

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

75% of young people aged 19 have gained a level 2 qualification; this is lower than the previous year, as well as lower than both the national and regional averages, and for those eligible free school meals as well as all pupils. At level 3, Reading's performance is better than both the national and regional averages, but lower than national average for those eligible 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 - All	*Level 2 - Eligible for free school meals*	*Level 3 - All*	*Level 3 - Eligible for free school meals*
2020[23]	**Reading**	**75%**	**46%**	**62%**	**28%**
	SE	82%	56%	59%	29%
	England	81%	62%	57%	36%
2019	Reading	76%	50%	59%	33%
	SE	83%	57%	59%	29%
	England	82%	63%	57%	35%
2018	Reading	77%	54%	60%	30%
	SE	83%	59%	58%	29%
	England	82%	63%	57%	35%
2017	Reading	80%	56%	58%	28%
	SE	84%	61%	59%	29%
	England	84%	66%	58%	36%
2016	Reading	84%	66%	59%	29%
	SE	86%	65%	58%	29%
	England	85%	70%	57%	36%

Source: Department for Education

NEETS (Not in Education, Employment or Training)

% combined NEET/not known

	2020/21	*2019/20*	*2018/19*	*2017/18*
Reading	**6.9%**	14.9%	7.5%	6.1%
South-East	**6.4%**	6.4%	5.5%	6.8%
England	**5.5%**	5.5%	5.5%	6.0%

Source: Dept for Education, combined NEET/Not Known, Dec 20 - Feb 21

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[23] *Given the circumstances in which grades were awarded in 2020 die to covid-19, caution should be taken in comparing 19/20 data to previous years*

DEBT

For many people already struggling, the Covid pandemic has contributed to a financial crisis and has pushed millions into financial hardship. The pandemic and the restrictions put in place to control it, have had a dramatic impact on household finances. Many people have been made redundant, furloughed, become too ill to work or have taken time off to care for a loved one. Nearly 1 in 3 households have lost income because of coronavirus, meaning people are struggling to pay bills and are falling into debt[24].

More recently, the UK is steadily seeing the effects of the cost of living crisis hit households, many of which are turning to credit and debt in order to manage cost of living standards.

- The average total debt per household is £63,582 in January 2022
- It now takes 21 years on average to save for a first time buyer house deposit, saving at the average rate out of the average UK income[25]
- People who need debt advice are more likely to be aged under 35 and have children, come from an ethnic minority community and be a social or private tenant in a low-income household[26]

The impact of debt on individuals can be seen in various ways, including lower standards of living such as reduced spending on food, breakdown of families and personal relationships, poor mental health and sleep problems.

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.

For Citizens Advice Reading, 'debt' is one of the most common issues that clients seek help with and forms just under 9% of the workload; benefits issues form 37%. However as almost all of the benefit and tax credit enquires are also related to debt, the reality is that **46% of enquires** are debt related.

From June 2020 to May 2021, in terms of maximising residents' income[27][28]:

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24 *Citizens Advice, Jan 2021*
25 *UK Debt Service March 2022*
26 *Money & Pensions Service 2022*
27 *figures relate to the organisations' contract with the Council*
28 *some figures are reduced in comparison to previous years due a reduction and changes to services provided as a result of covid-19 restrictions during this period.*

Citizens Advice Reading
- Helped 854 clients with benefits gains of around £3,690,400 through benefit entitlements checks, backdated benefit payments, hardship loans and/or payments.
- Helped 641 clients with £77,900 of debt written off
- Assisted 4,218 new clients
- Dealt with an average of 4,559 issues per quarter

Reading Community Welfare Rights Unit:
- Secured financial gains of around £653,000 for clients
- Assisted 425 new clients
- Dealt with an average of 534 issues per quarter

Communicare:
- Secured predicted financial gains of around £542,400 for clients
- Assisted 1,198 new clients
- Dealt with an average of 1,043 issues a month

Citizens Advice Reading enquiries by type, June 20 - May 21

Enquiry type	Percentage
Benefits Universal Credit	22.8%
Benefits & tax credits	14.3%
Employment	11.3%
Housing	9.5%
Debt	8.8%
Relationships & family	6.8%
Financial services & capability	5.3%
Immigration & asylum	4.8%
Legal	3.5%
Consumer goods & services	3.5%
Other	2.8%
Utilities & communications	2.5%
Health & community care	1.5%
Travel & transport	1.0%
Tax	0.5%
Discrimination	0.0%
Education	0.0%

Source: Citizens Advice Reading

2. ACCESS TO HOUSING

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Barriers to housing and services domain

Reading ranks 43rd out of 317 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 9 LSOAs now fall within the 10% most deprived nationally (1 in 2015).

On the 'wider barriers' sub-domain (which looks at issues relating to access to housing such as affordability), there are 16 LSOAs in the most deprived 10%, compared with only 4 in 2015. In terms of the 'geographical barriers' sub-domain, Reading is relatively un-deprived.

<u>IMD 2019: Barriers to housing and services domain</u>
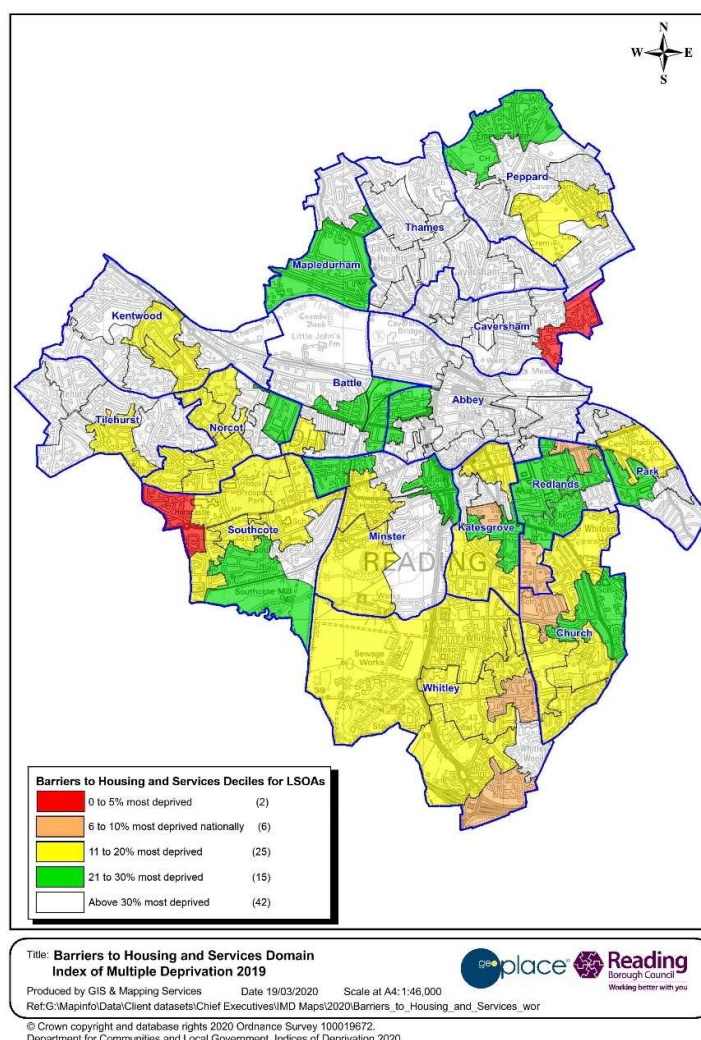
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Living environment domain

Reading ranks 119th out of 317 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. No Lower Super Output Areas fall within the 5% most deprived nationally (compared with 3 in 2015).

The 'living environment' domain is made up of 'outdoor' (quality of housing) and 'indoor' (air quality and road traffic accidents) sub-domains. Reading has no LSOAs in the most deprived 5% on either of these (compared with 9 and 1 respectively according to the 2015 index).

IMD 2019: Living environment domain
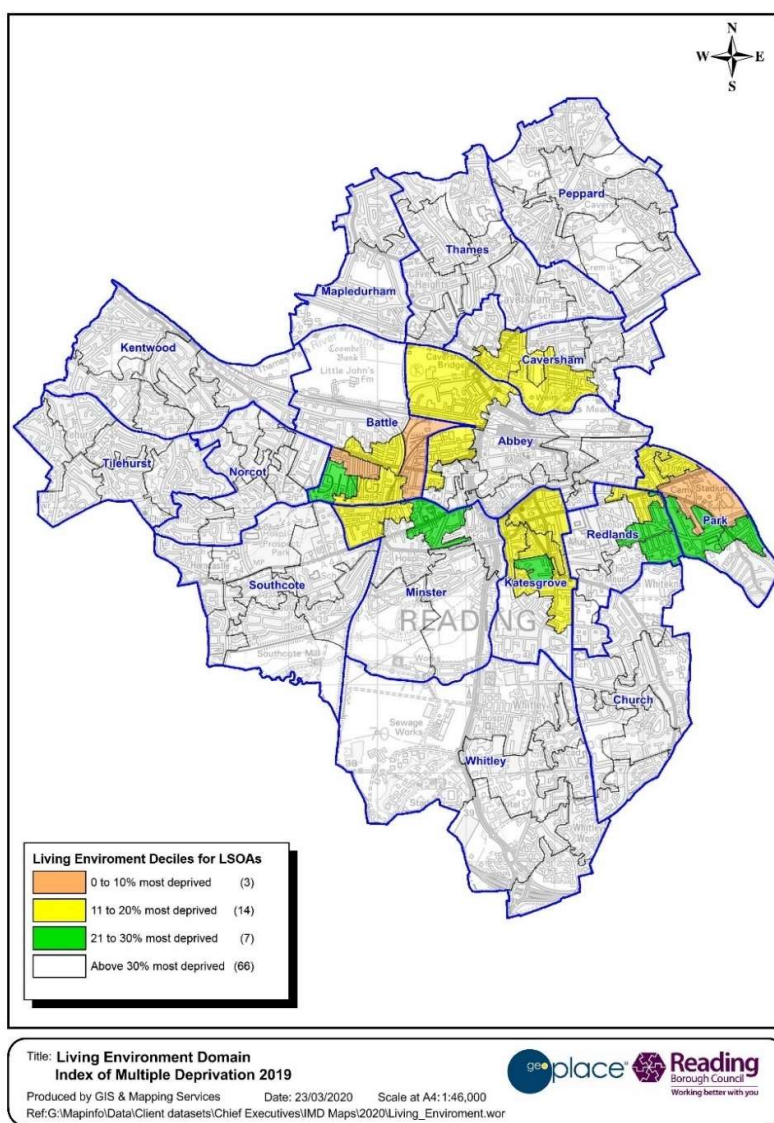
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

Homelessness

Homeless presentations	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
April	**140**	132	75
May	**135**	110	164
June	**121**	172	125
July	**130**	120	124
August	**108**	113	130
September	**111**	113	107
October	**145**	146	99
November	**131**	144	108
December	**79**	78	77
January	**126**	111	75
February	**107**	98	127
March	**120**	135	99
Total	**1453**	**1472**	**1310**

Source: Reading Borough Council
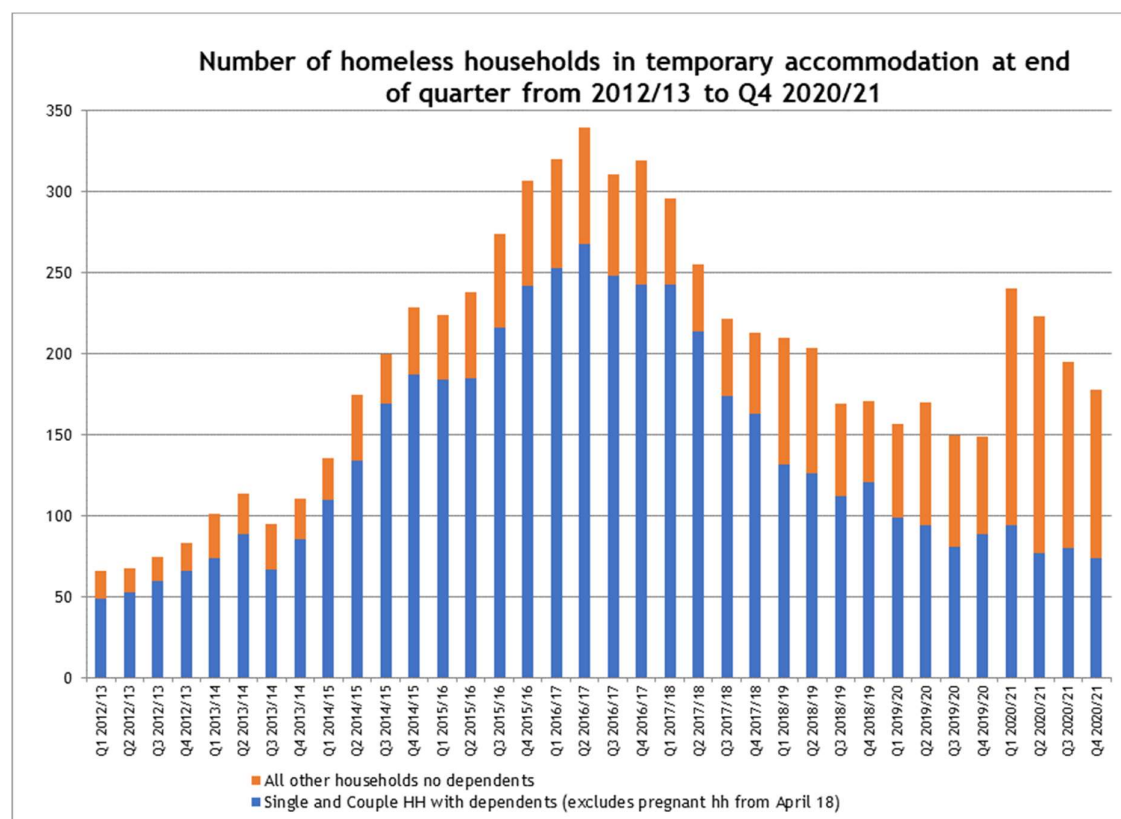
Source: Reading Borough Council[29]

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[29] *Note there is a spike in single homeless in Q1 20/21 due to the "Everyone In" scheme when the first lockdown was implemented.*
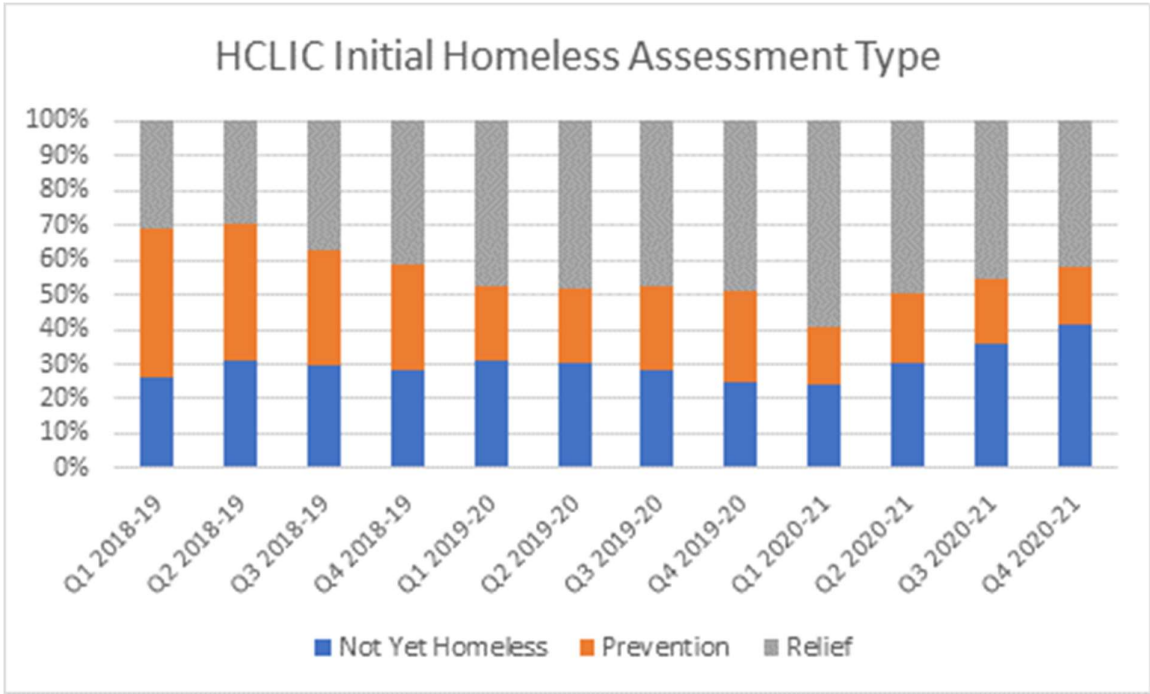
Source: Reading Borough Council
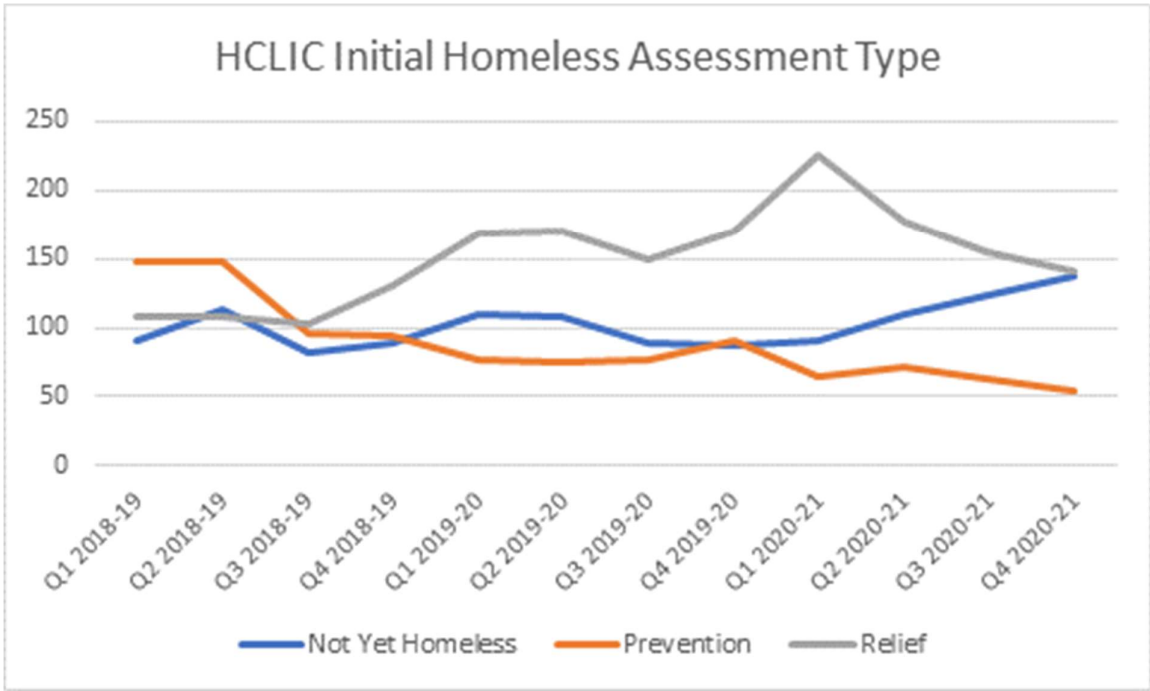
Source: Reading Borough Council[30]

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[30] *Note there is a spike in single homeless in Q1 20/21 due to the "Everyone In" scheme when the first lockdown was implemented.*

Housing conditions

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 o 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

Percentage of households with an occupancy rating of -1[31]
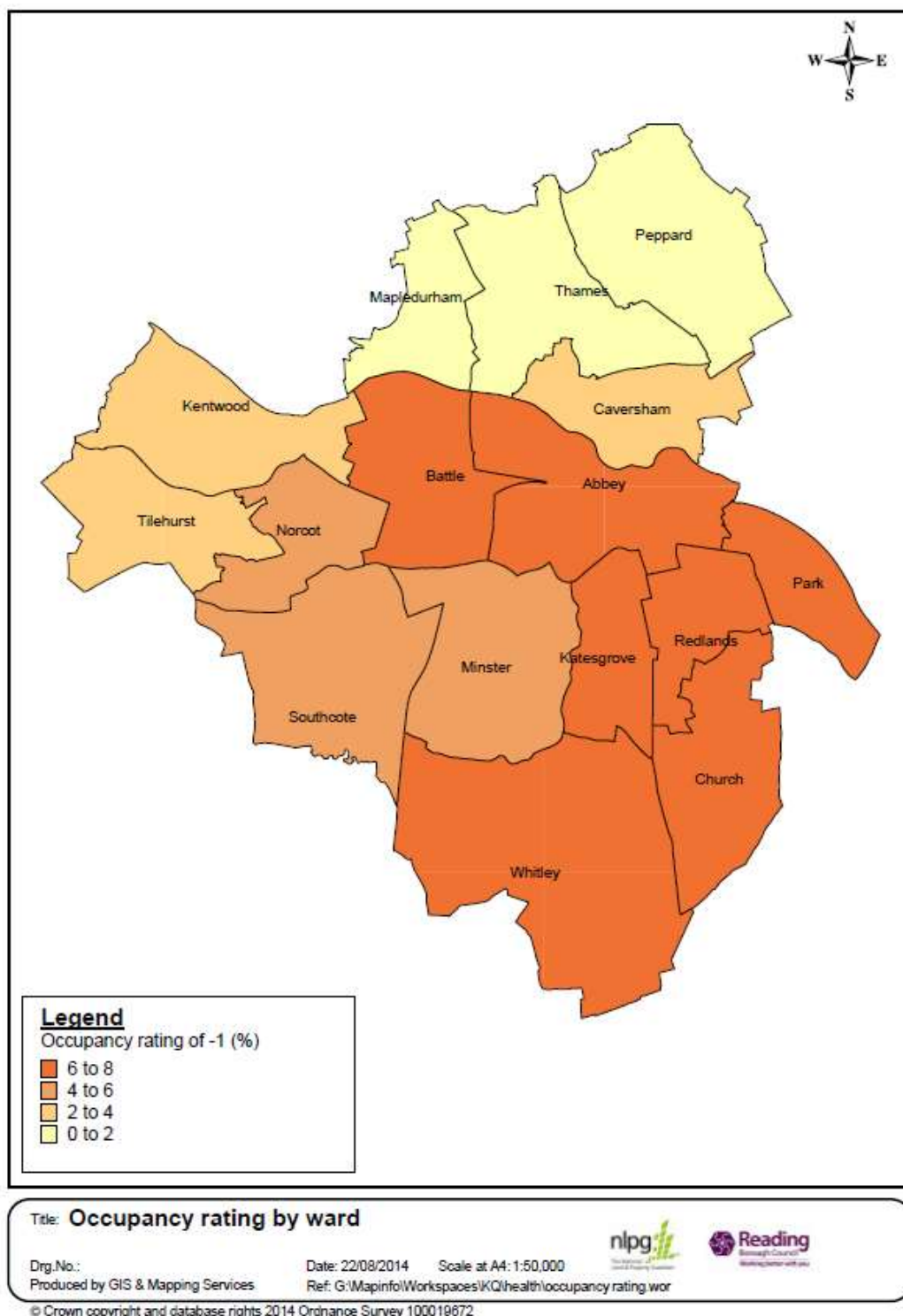
Source: Census 2011, Office for National Statistics

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[31] *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 2012

A sample of a thousand private sector properties in Reading was surveyed over a 3 month period in 2013. The results showed that **the number of non-decent[32] 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.

3. 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 9% in 2018 to 10.3% in 2019, although this is still below the national figure. 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.

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[32] *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.*

Percentage of households in fuel poverty (estimated)

	Reading No fuel poor households	*Reading % fuel poor*	*SE % fuel poor*	*England % fuel poor*
2019	**6,999**	**10.3%**	7.5%	13.4%
2018	6,056	9.0%	7.9%	10.3%
2017	7,290	10.9%	8.7%	10.9%
2016	7,904	11.9%	9.0%	11.1%
2015	9,085	13.9%	9.4%	11.0%
2014	7,002	10.8%	8.3%	10.6%

Source: Department for Energy and Climate Change

Alternatively, the Council's **Private Sector House Condition Survey (2012)** 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.

4. 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 almost 10,000 food parcels to Reading residents between June 20 – May 21. This equates to almost 190 parcels per week
- Readifood works with around 100 local agencies that make referrals for food parcels.

<u>Households in fuel poverty</u>
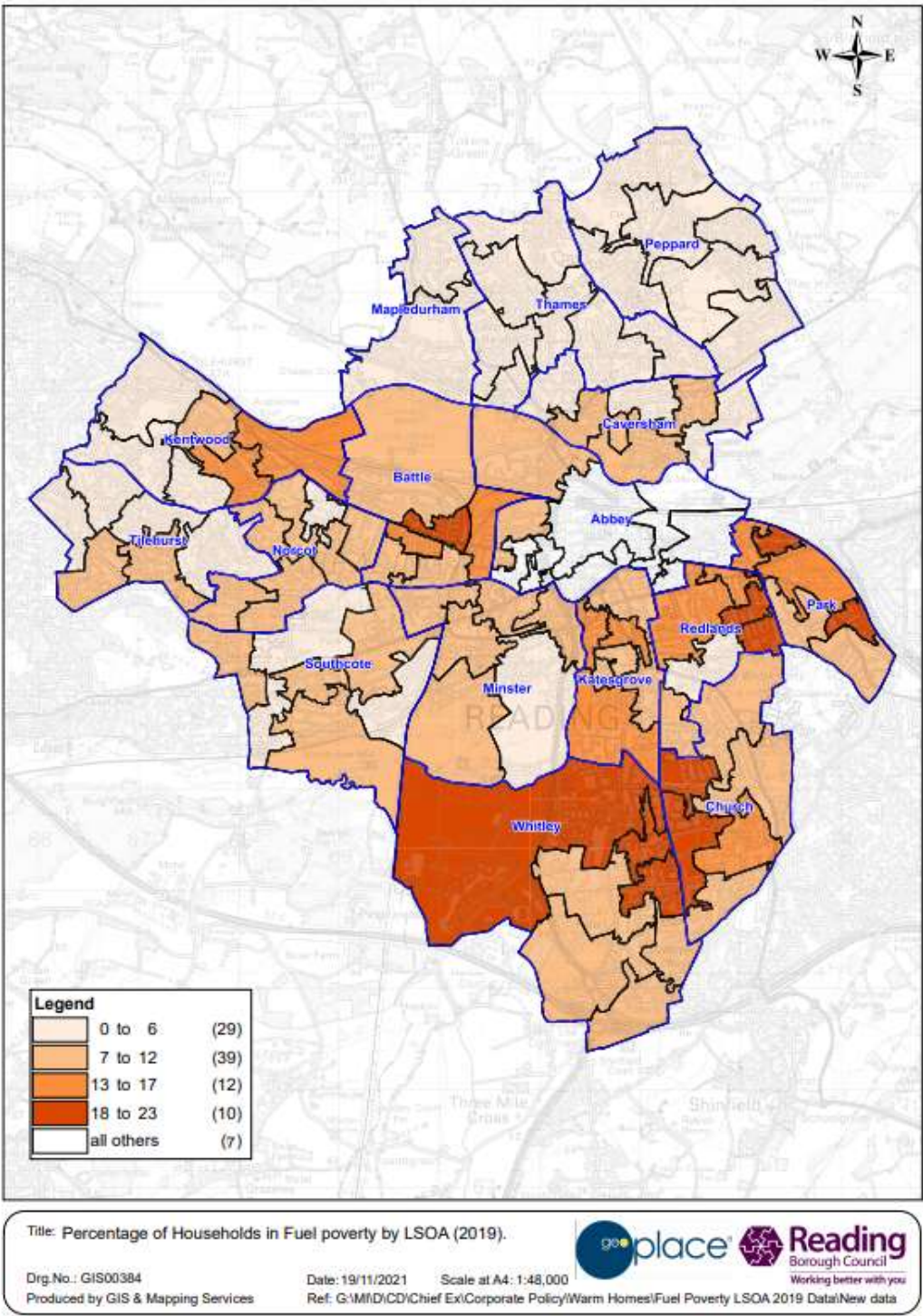
Source: Department for Energy and Climate Change 2019

5. CRIME/ ACCESS TO SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Crime domain

Reading ranks 108th out of 317 local authorities nationally on the IMD crime domain. A total of 6 Lower Super Output Areas fall within the 10% most deprived nationally (6 also in 2015).

IMD 2015: Crime domain
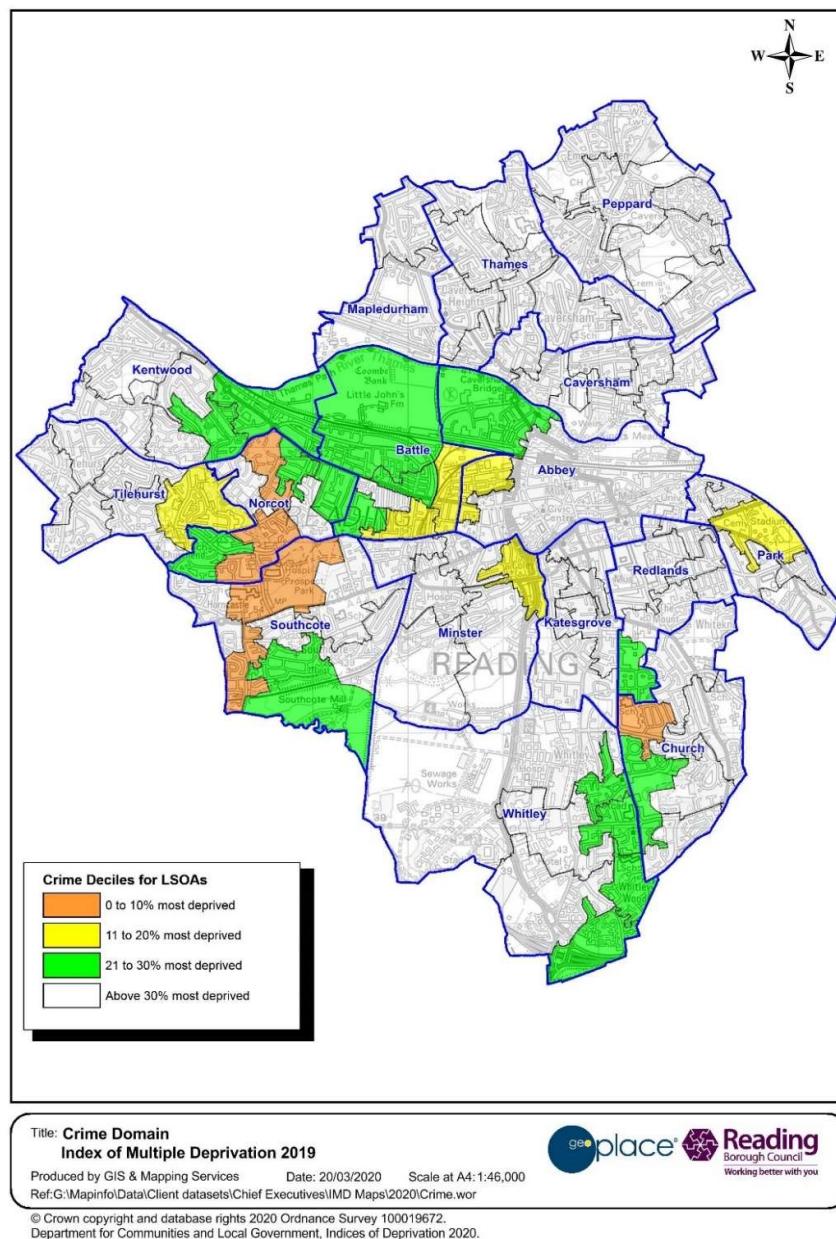
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

Crime rates

Crime and the fear of crime have become more significant issues as Reading's evening economy has grown over recent years. However, Reading has a fairly average crime rate, when compared our most similar group of Community Safety Partnerships, ranking 10th out of the 15 CSPs.

- 16,389 crimes were reported in 20/21, a 2% increase on the previous year[33]

- 5902 **violent crimes** were report in 20/21, an 8.5% increase since 19/20[34]

- The violent crime rate is currently 33.7 per 1000 population (2020/21), compared to 29.5 nationally. The rate has shown an upward trend since 2012/13, but down slightly on previous year.

Crime rates

	Value per 1000 population		
	Reading 20/21	*England*	*Reading 19/20*
Violent offences	**33.7**	29.5	34.0
Sexual offences	**3.3**	2.3	3.7
Domestic abuse-related incidents and crimes	**16.0**	28.0	15.1

Source: Public Health England

- Reading is currently above average for arson, theft from person and cycle theft; below average for burglary, theft from vehicle, vehicle interference and wounding.

- The current priorities for Reading's Community Safety Partnership are:
  - ➢ Exploitation (incorporating both Adult Exploitation and Modern Slavery)
  - ➢ Violent Crime and Serious Anti-Social Behaviour (incorporating increasing violence against the person, knife possession and high level anti-social behaviour that have significant impact on communities)
  - ➢ Class A Drugs (incorporating drug visibility, drugs dealers from within and outside Reading, and drug related anti-social behaviour).

Community safety

According to the Council's Community Safety Survey 2021, the top 5 community safety issues for Reading residents are:

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[33] *ONS 2019/20*

[34] *Public Health England Health 2016-18*

1. Drugs (1st in 2019 & 3rd in 2017)
2. Parking Issues (2nd in 2019 & 1st 2017)
3. Motorbike and vehicle nuisance (Potholes were 3rd in 2019)
4. Flytipping
5. Burglary (4th in 2019) Speeding was 5th in 2019 & 2017

6. 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 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 geographical differences within Reading *(see chart and map by ward)*. The highest percentages of residents with good or very good health are in Park, Redlands and Thames. In Park and Redlands, this may be due to the higher number of young people, particularly students.

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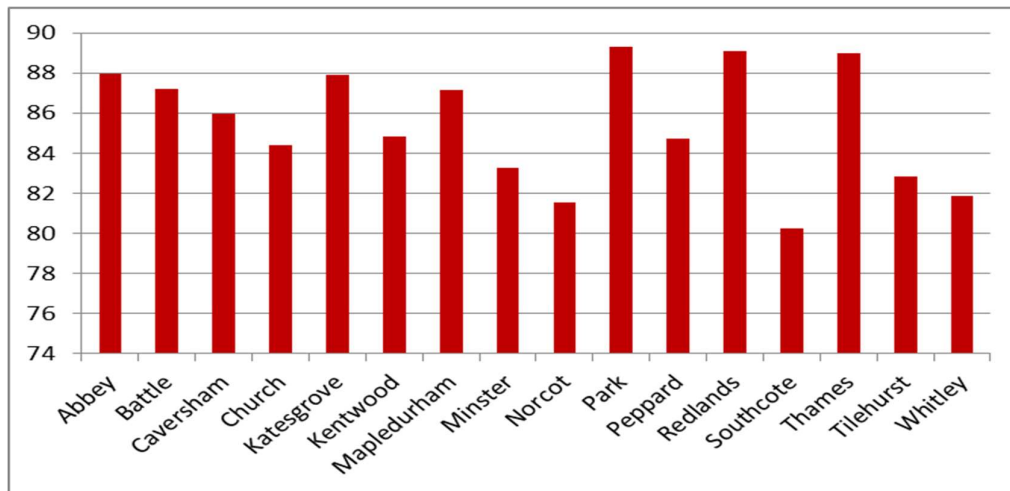
Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

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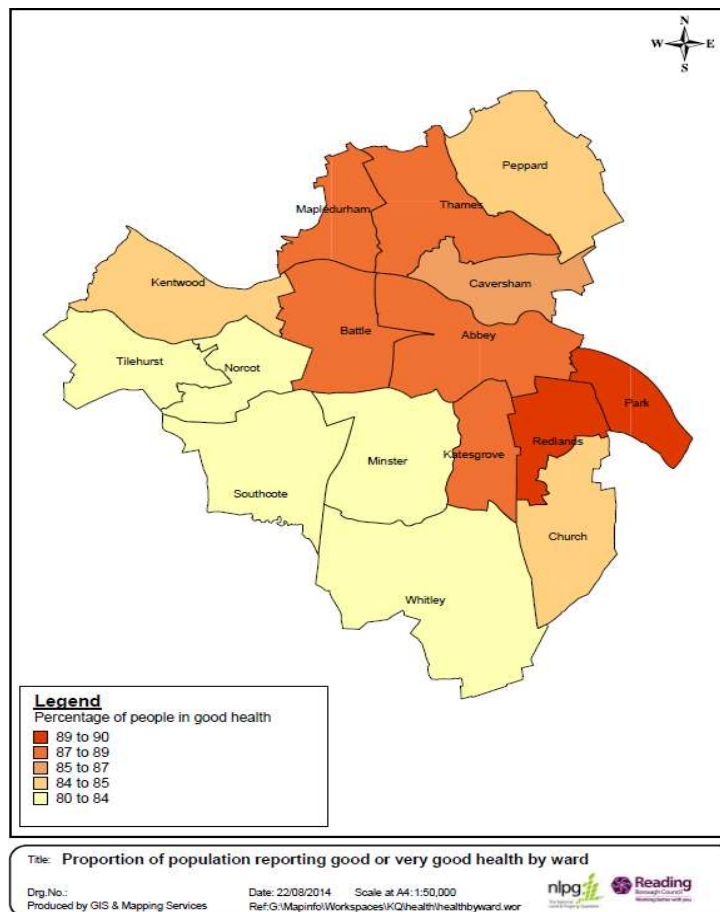
Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Reading health profile[35]

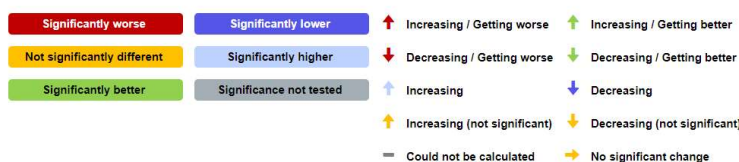| Indicator	Period	Reading Recent Trend	Reading Count	Reading Value	Region Value	England Value	England Worst/ Lowest	England Range	Best/ Highest
Life expectancy and causes of death									
Life expectancy at birth (Male)	2018 - 20	–	-	79.0	80.6	79.4	74.1		84.7
Life expectancy at birth (Female)	2018 - 20	–	-	82.3	84.1	83.1	79.0		87.9
Under 75 mortality rate from all causes	2018 - 20	–	1,239	375.4	293.9	336.5	570.7		221.0
Under 75 mortality rate from all cardiovascular diseases	2017 - 19	–	206	64.9	57.1	70.4	121.6		43.6
Under 75 mortality rate from cancer	2017 - 19	–	444	142.0	121.6	129.2	182.4		87.4
Suicide rate	2018 - 20	–	45	11.5	10.1	10.4	18.8		5.0
Injuries and ill health									
Killed and seriously injured (KSI) casualties on England's roads (historic data)	2016 - 18	–	149	30.5	49.6	42.6*	97.4		17.7
Emergency Hospital Admissions for Intentional Self-Harm New data	2019/20	➡	360	215.0	212.4	192.6	439.3		44.5
Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over New data	2019/20	➡	110	509	551	572	912		326
Cancer diagnosed at early stage (experimental statistics)	2017	–	232	50.8%	52.7%	52.2%	41.9%		57.7%
Estimated diabetes diagnosis rate	2018	–	-	68.1%	75.2%	78.0%	54.3%		97.5%
Estimated dementia diagnosis rate (aged 65 and over) > 66.7% (significantly) similar to 66.7% < 66.7% (significantly)	2021	➡	1,128	63.3%	*	61.6%	50.5%		82.4%
Behavioural risk factors									
Admission episodes for alcohol-specific conditions - Under 18s	2017/18 - 19/20	–	25	22.5	31.2*	30.6	111.5		7.7
Admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions (Narrow): Old Method	2018/19	➡	810	567	526*	664	1,127		389
Smoking Prevalence in adults (18+) - current smokers (APS)	2019	–	17,404	13.9%	12.2%	13.9%	23.4%		8.0%
Percentage of physically active adults	2019/20	–	-	66.6%	69.5%	66.4%	49.4%		77.3%
Percentage of adults (aged 18+) classified as overweight or obese	2019/20	–	-	62.0%	61.5%	62.8%	78.3%		41.6%
Child health									
Under 18s conception rate / 1,000	2019	➡	38	15.8	12.7	15.7	37.1		3.9
Smoking status at time of delivery	2020/21	➡	124	6.2%	9.0%	9.6%	21.4%		1.8%
Breastfeeding initiation	2016/17	➡	2,323	77.9%	79.1%	74.5%	37.9%		96.7%
Infant mortality rate	2018 - 20	–	30	4.7	3.5	3.9	6.8		1.7
Year 6: Prevalence of obesity (including severe obesity)	2019/20	➡	400	21.4%	17.8%	21.0%	30.1%		11.1%
Inequalities									
Deprivation score (IMD 2015)	2015	–	-	19.3	-	21.8	42.0		5.7
Smoking Prevalence in adults in routine and manual occupations (18-64) - current smokers (APS)	2019	–	-	29.3%	23.7%	23.2%	36.8%		10.3%
Inequality in life expectancy at birth (Male)	2017 - 19	–	-	7.0	7.8	9.4	14.8		2.9
Inequality in life expectancy at birth (Female)	2017 - 19	–	-	8.3	6.1	7.6	13.3		1.5
Wider determinants of health									
Children in low income families (under 16s)	2016	⬇	4,945	15.7%	12.9%	17.0%	31.8%		6.4%
Average Attainment 8 score	2019/20	–	76,216	49.7	51.3	50.2	42.9		60.0
Percentage of people in employment	2020/21	➡	90,400	81.9%	77.7%	75.1%	63.2%		84.3%
Statutory homelessness - Eligible homeless people not in priority need	2017/18	⬇	27	0.4	0.7	0.8	8.1		0.1
Violent crime - hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) New data	2017/18 - 19/20	–	145	27.3	31.6*	45.8*	127.7		11.3
Health protection									
Excess winter deaths index	Aug 2019 - Jul 2020	–	100	29.5%	17.4%	17.4%	50.2%		0.7%
New STI diagnoses (exc chlamydia aged <25) / 100,000	2020	➡	826	767	461	619	3,547		247
TB incidence (three year average) New data	2018 - 20	–	75	15.4	5.6	8.0	43.1		0.6

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[35] *Latest data at April 2020*

Significance compared to goal / England average:

Significantly worse	Significantly lower	↑ Increasing / Getting worse	↑ Increasing / Getting better
Not significantly different	Significantly higher	↓ Decreasing / Getting worse	↓ Decreasing / Getting better
Significantly better	Significance not tested	↑ Increasing	↓ Decreasing
		↑ Increasing (not significant)	↓ Decreasing (not significant)
		− Could not be calculated	→ No significant change

For full details on each indicator, see the definitions tab of the Local Authority Health Profiles online tool.

Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, Fingertips, Local Authority Health Profiles

Child health profile[36]

Indicator	Period	Reading			Region	England		England		Best
		Recent Trend	Count	Value	Value	Value	Worst	Range		
Under 18s conception rate / 1,000	2019	→	38	15.8	12.7	15.7	37.1			3.9
Smoking status at time of delivery	2020/21	→	124	6.2%	9.0%	9.6%	21.4%			1.8%
Breastfeeding initiation	2016/17	→	2,323	77.9%	79.1%	74.5%	37.9%			96.7%
Infant mortality rate	2018 - 20	−	30	4.7	3.5	3.9	6.8			1.7
Year 6: Prevalence of obesity (including severe obesity)	2019/20	→	400	21.4%	17.8%	21.0%	30.1%			11.1%

Life expectancy and health inequalities

Life expectancy is a way of expressing general population health. Currently, life expectancy in Reading is below the national average for males. 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 around nine years longer than a boy born at the same time to parents in Minster ward.

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[36] *Latest data at April 2020*

	Life expectancy at birth females (years)	*Life expectancy at birth males (years)*
Reading 2018-20	**82.3**	**79.0**
South East	84.1	80.6
England	83.1	79.4
Reading 2017-19	83	79.4
Reading 2016-18	83.1	79.1
Reading 2015-17	83.2	78.6
Reading 2014-16	83.2	79
Reading 2013-15	83.2	78.7
Reading 2012-14	82.9	78.4
Reading 2011-13	82.9	78

Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, Fingertips, 2018-20

Life expectancy by ward

	Life expectancy, birth (years) females	*Life expectancy, birth (years) males*
Abbey	84.2	78.6
Battle	83.8	77.3
Caversham	86.1	82
Church	80.9	77.1
Katesgrove	82.6	78
Kentwood	81.8	77
Mapledurham	88.9	83.5
Minster	78.3	75.3
Norcot	80.2	77.3
Park	83.5	78.7
Peppard	85.4	81.7
Redlands	82.6	78.3
Southcote	83.3	80
Thames	88.3	82.5
Tilehurst	84.8	81.2
Whitley	80.8	78.3
Reading	**83.1**	**79.1**

Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 2015-19

Life expectancy at birth for males (2015-19)   Life expectancy at birth for females (2015-19)

Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities

1	Settings 🔧
	72.4 to 81.4 (1,331)
	81.5 to 83.1 (1,416)
	83.2 to 84.4 (1,316)
	84.5 to 86.0 (1,472)
	86.1 to 95.0 (1,444)
	N/A (222)
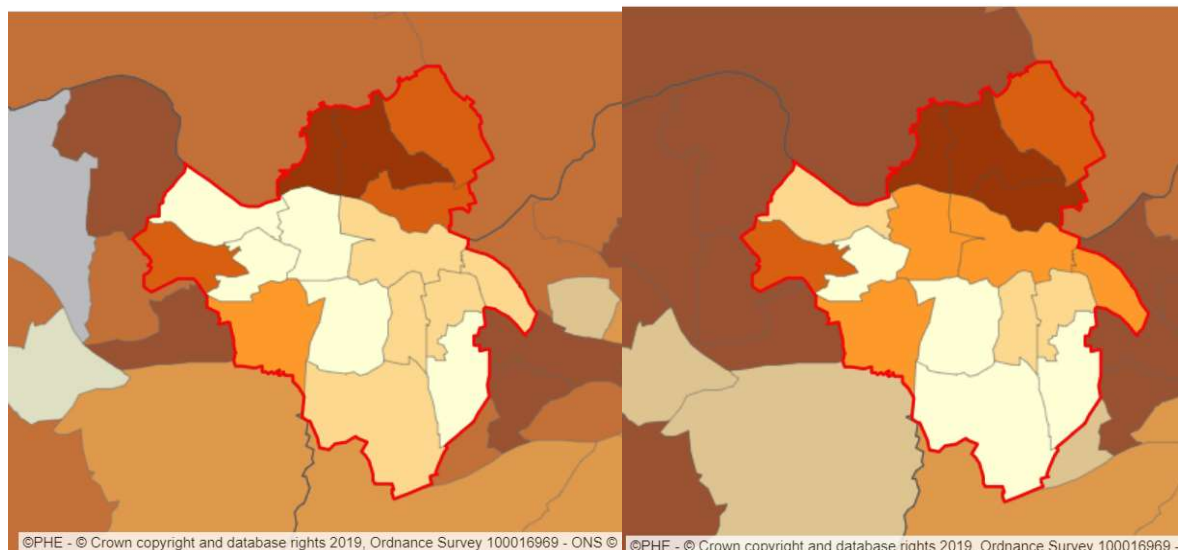
England: 83.2 years

Marmot indicators

	Healthy life expectancy at birth (years) - Male	*Healthy life expectancy at birth (years) - Female*	*Inequality in life expectancy at birth (years) - Male*	*Inequality in life expectancy at birth (years) - Female*
Reading 2018-20	**66.4**	**62.6**	**6.8**	**7.8**
South East	65.5	65.9	7.9	6.0
England	63.1	63.9	9.7	7.9
Reading 2017-19	64.2	65.6	7.0	8.3
Reading 2016-18	65.1	64.4	8.0	7.2
Reading 2015-17	65.3	66.5	8.8	6.3
Reading 2014-16	67.0	64.6	7.6	7.6
Reading 2013-15	66.4	65.6	7.8	6.5
Reading 2012-14	66.6	64.1	9.1	7.1
Reading 2011-13	66.5	65.2	10.4	5.6

Source: Institute of Health Equity/ Office for Health Improvement & Disparities

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 in Reading.

However, the inequality in life expectancy measure shows the variation within Reading and how much life expectancy varies with deprivation. For men, there is an 6.8 year difference and for women a 7.8 year difference between the LSOAs in the most deprived and least deprived deprivation deciles. This is an improvement for men since 2016-18 but there is still a significant disparity.

Mental health and employment

Percentage of adults in contact with mental health services in paid employment

The Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) is a national framework to measure local authority performance in care and support services. One of the ASCOF indicators is the percentage of adults in contact with secondary mental health services in paid employment. In 2020/21, this was 14% of adults in Reading.

	2020/21	*2019/20*	*2018/19*	*2017/18*
Reading	**14%**	14%	12%	11%
South East	11%	9%	9%	8%
England	9%	9%	8%	7%

Source: Measures from the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework; NHS Digital

Gap in employment rate for people with mental health conditions

Another indicator is the gap between the employment rate for those in contact with secondary mental health services and the overall employment rate. In 2019/20, the percentage in Reading was 66.7%, below both the regional and national averages, but higher than the previous year.

	2019/20	*2018/19*	*2017/18*
Reading	**66.7%**	64.8%	67.3%
South East	70.6%	69.4%	70.5%
England	67.2%	67.6%	68.2%

Source: Public Health England

7. DIGITAL EXCLUSION

Someone is digitally excluded if they lack internet access and/or have low levels of digital literacy and skills.

Age is the characteristic that is most likely to identify digital exclusion, and those aged 70+ are significantly more likely to be digitally excluded than all UK adults.

- Four in ten of the UK population aged 70+ are digitally excluded (vs. 10% of UK adults)

Other characteristics that can also increase the likelihood of being digitally excluded include:
- living alone (30% excluded)
- having a condition that limits or impairs their use of communications services (23% excluded)
- being financially vulnerable (20% excluded)

Source: Ofcom 2020, http://www.broadbanduk.org/2020/06/02/ofcom-publishes-digital-exclusion-analysis

ONS analysis

As part of preparations for the 2021 Census, ONS have produced an **'hard-to-count (HtC) index', which includes a 'digital' domain**, which measures the likelihood of residents completing their Census 2021 questionnaire online. This uses information about driving licence applications (online or on paper), broadband uptake and median age group. Every Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) in the country is assigned a separate score which is then ranked.

The table shows the proportion of all LSOAs nationally which fall into each of 5 categories. This indicates that overall, Reading is relatively digitally included, but **there are 2 LSOAs within the most excluded 10% in the country** (orange areas shown in the map – Hexham Rd area and Southcote/Aldi area).

	% LSOAs in 40% most included	*% LSOAs in 60% most excluded*	*% LSOAs in 20% most excluded*	*% LSOAs in 10% most excluded*	*% LSOAs in 2% most excluded*
Reading	58%	37%	3%	2%	0%

HtC Digital - Reading

© OpenStreetMap contributors, © CartoDB
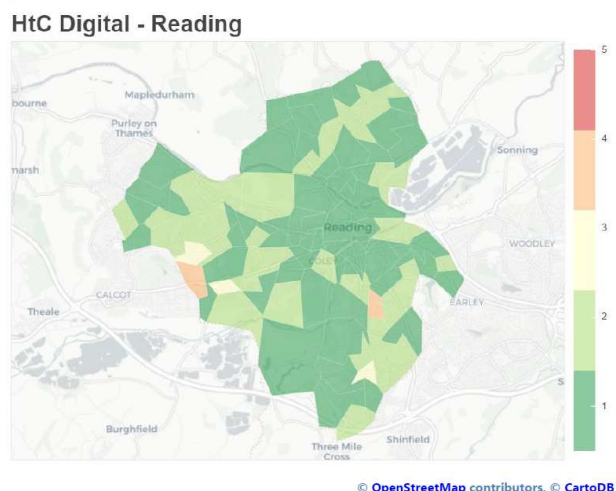
Source: ONS

Reading surveys

RBC Covid Survey

In November 2020, the Council recently carried out an survey with the online Citizens' Panel to see how residents felt about service changes during lockdown, their priorities for recovery and what support they thought they would need in the future.

26.3% of respondents said that they were highly likely or likely to need support with using online services, despite them being online to complete the survey. This need was apparent across all ages and other customer segments.

Whitley Researchers survey[37]

In 2021, the Whitley Researchers[38], in collaboration with University of Reading, surveyed 70 people residents, predominantly from South Reading, about their online engagement.

- **Just over half (55%) of the respondents were less than familiar with all (or all but one) of seven common online activities** (finding out information, emails, social media, shopping and bookings, attending online meet-ups, banking, and filling in forms).
- Almost half struggled with filling in forms online for official bodies.

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[37] *https://research.reading.ac.uk/community-based-research/participatory-research-in-whitley/*
[38] *The Whitley Community Development Agency's Whitley Researchers are a group of local people trained by University of Reading to carry out research with the local community, co-production, engagement and participation, where communities are encouraged to get involved in conducting their own research, and to co-produce the methodology with participants.*

- The most important barrier to digital inclusion was lack of knowhow.
- The second barrier was lack of adequate equipment - around 40% of respondents to this survey complained of unreliable Wi-Fi coverage and slow internet.
- A third of those interviewed resisted using the internet, much of this linked to a lack of confidence in being able to get things done online, but also because they wanted to keep interpersonal connections live.
- Older people, those with fewer qualifications, those in poor health and those already disconnected from others tended to be more digitally excluded.

RBC Sheltered Housing survey

In Autumn 2020, 213 sheltered housing residents were surveyed on their digital access.

- 38% of participants have access to the internet.

  - ➢ 40% of participants with access to the internet only use a phone
  - ➢ 11% of participants with access to the internet only use a laptop
  - ➢ 5% of participants with access to the internet only use a tablet
  - ➢ 38% of participants with access to the internet use a phone and a laptop or tablet
  - ➢ 2% of participants with access to the internet use a laptop and tablet
  - ➢ 4% did not answer this question

- Barriers found to using the internet

  - ➢ Lack of support and skills – 37 participants mentioned
  - ➢ Not interested – 32 participants mentioned
  - ➢ No broadband – 9 participants mentioned
  - ➢ Too expensive – 7 participants mentioned
  - ➢ No equipment – 1 participant mentioned
  - ➢ Capacity Issues – 15 participants mentioned

- 30% of participants responded that they would access the internet more if they had support using it and/or free access to equipment (of these participants 57% do not have access to the internet and 43%).

RBC voluntary and community sector partner survey

In 2020, we asked our voluntary sector partners for feedback on the needs their service users presented in terms of online services.

The main obstacles faced by service users in accessing online services were reported as

- not having the equipment or access to the equipment to go online

- not having the skills or ability to use the technology independently
- not having access to the internet including not having an email address in the case of some one with a learning disability.

8. SOCIAL ISOLATION & LONELINESS

It is often associated with social isolation, but people can and do feel lonely even when in a relationship or when surrounded by others. Loneliness affects people of all ages and from all backgrounds, affecting our health and wellbeing and damaging our ability to connect with others.

In 2016 to 2017, 5% of adults in England reported feeling lonely "often" or "always"; 16% of adults reported feeling lonely sometimes and 24% occasionally[39]. Younger people, women, single or widowed people and those with limiting health conditions are more likely to report feeling lonely. This will have been exacerbated by the covid-19 pandemic and various lockdowns.

Percentage of adults who feel lonely often/always or most of the time

	2019/20
Reading	**20.39%**
South East	20.83%
England	22.26%

Source: Active Lives Survey, Sport England

Percentage who felt strongly they belong to their immediate neighbourhood

	2021
Reading	76%

Source: Reading Borough Council residents survey

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[39] *Community Life Survey*

FACTORS AFFECTING SOCIAL EXCLUSION

9. AGE

Reading Age Profile

2020 ONS mid-year estimates show Reading Borough's population at 160,337 with 20.8% aged between 0-15; 64.1% of working age; 12.7% above working age. Reading has a younger population but the town is seeing a 'greying' trend, with the pensionable age population projected to grow more quickly (by over 50% over next 20 years) than those of working age. The 'dependency rate' (the ratio of total population to those of working age), is set to rise over next 20 years accordingly.

Reading population pyramid 2020
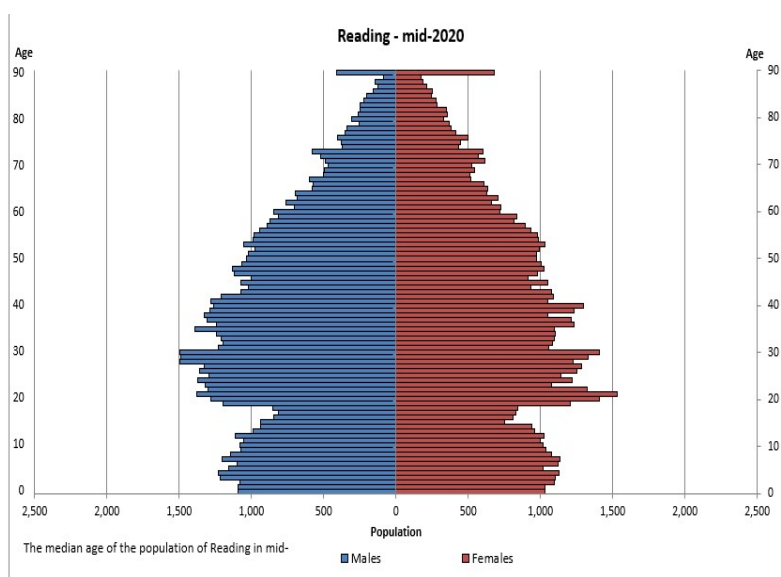
Source: ONS mid-year estimates 2020

Population estimates and projections				
Age	*2020*	*% of total*	*2043*	*% of total*
0-4	11,096	6.9%	10,895	6.5%
5-9	11,059	6.9%	9,433	5.7%
10-19	19,194	12.0%	18,721	11.2%
20-39	50,895	31.7%	54,398	32.6%
40-59	40,638	25.3%	34,861	20.9%
60-79	21,703	13.5%	28,827	17.3%
80+	5,752	3.6%	9,790	5.9%
Total	**160,337**		**166,924**	

Source: ONS 2020 mid year estimates; ONS 2018-based projections

Child Poverty

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 2020/21, **over one in four children (4.3 million) or 31% of children were living in relative poverty** (after housing costs), up from 27% in 2013/14. The child poverty rate for children in families with three or more children is almost twice as high as the rate for children in one- or two-child families (47% compared with 24%)[40]. Of the working-age adults, lone parents are by far the most likely of any family type to be struggling with poverty.

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: 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 133rd out of 317 local authorities.** Only 4 LSOAs fall within the most deprived 10%, compared with 6 in 2015. One LSOA falls within the most deprived 5% (though a different area than in 2015).

<u>IMD 2019: Index of income deprivation affecting children</u>
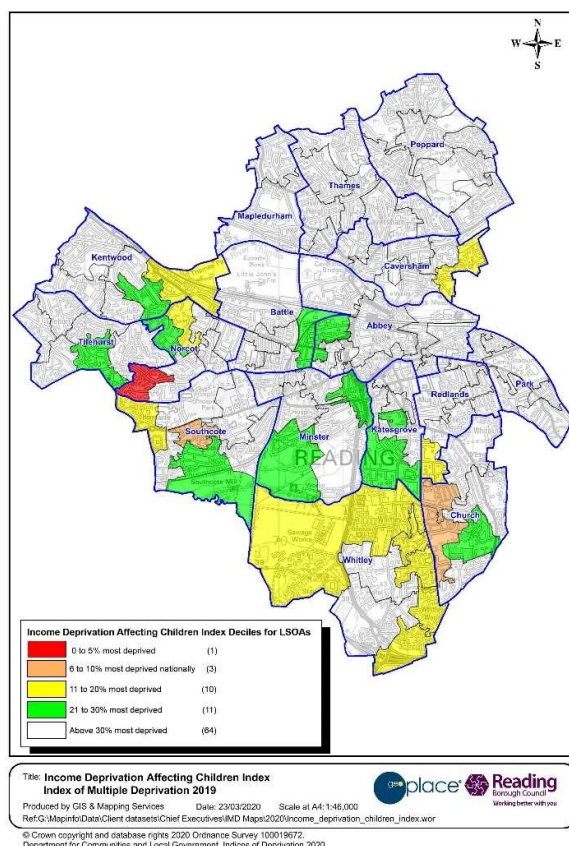
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

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[40] *Households Below Average Income 2020/21, DWP*

Children in low-income families local measure

This indicator measures the number and percentage of children aged 0-15 years who are living in households with below 60% median income, before housing costs.

On this measure, **Reading is below the national level with almost 1 in 7 children, or 15%, in relative poverty,** with this level stable since 2016/17.

'Relative poverty' can be a more useful measure than 'absolute poverty' as it compares a household's income with the current incomes of other households within the UK.

Relative child poverty in Reading

Year	*No in Reading*	*% Reading*	*% UK*
2019/20	**4,935**	**15%**	**19%**
2018/19	4,982	15%	18%
2017/18	4,854	14%	18%
2016/17	4,676	14%	17%
2015/16	3,839	12%	16%
2014/15	3,491	11%	16%

Source: DWP

Child poverty by ward

Ward	*No children in low income families 2019/20*	*% children in low-income families 2019/20*	*No children in low income families 2018/19*	*% children in low-income families 2018/19*
Abbey	272	11%	289	12%
Battle	426	16%	401	15%
Caversham	225	12%	233	11%
Church	461	23%	423	21%
Katesgrove	257	13%	304	15%
Kentwood	335	15%	290	14%
Mapledurham	17	3%	7	1%
Minster	379	17%	387	17%
Norcot	515	19%	539	20%
Park	346	16%	305	14%
Peppard	133	7%	130	7%
Redlands	233	15%	227	14%
Southcote	368	19%	397	20%

Ward	No children in low income families 2019/20	% children in low-income families 2019/20	No children in low income families 2018/19	% children in low-income families 2018/19
Thames	100	5%	100	4%
Tilehurst	257	13%	260	13%
Whitley	594	19%	707	23%

Source: DWP

The table above shows that child poverty on this measure has decreased in some wards but increased in others. The map of child poverty at ward level shows the highest numbers of children in relative poverty in Church, Norcot, Southcote and Whitley wards.

Relative child poverty by ward[41]
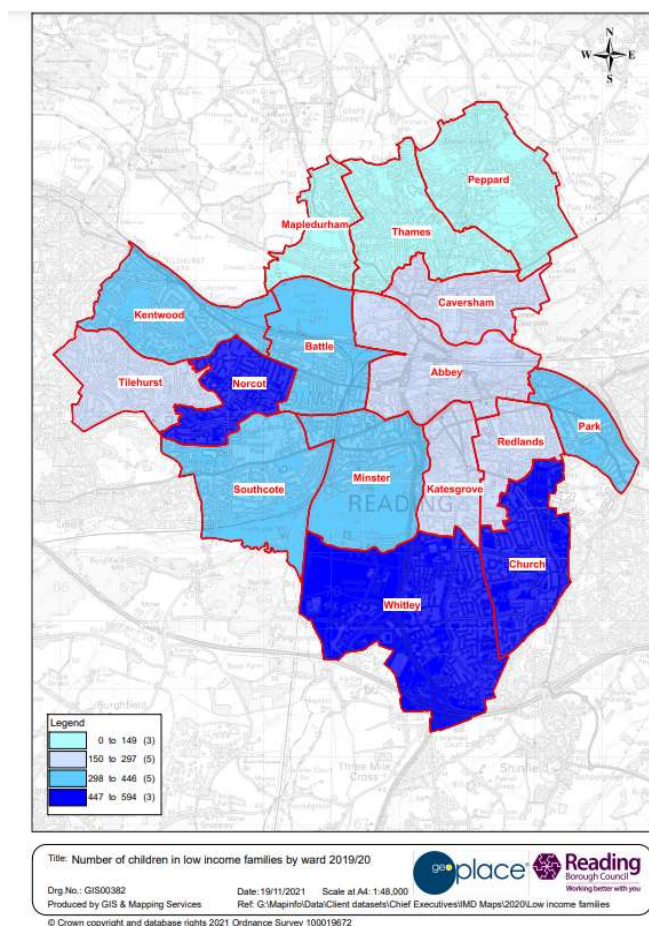
Source: DWP 2019/20

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

<u>Lone parent families</u>

Just under 40% of children in poverty live in lone parent families in Reading, a slightly lower proportion than both the national and regional figures, and lower than the previous year. Lone parents claiming key benefits tend to be in areas with higher levels of child poverty.

<u>Children in relative poverty in lone parent families</u>

	Couple 2019/20	*Lone parent 2019/20*	*Couple 2018/19*	*Lone parent 2018/19*	*Couple 2017/18*	*Lone parent 2017/18*
Reading	**60.6%**	**39.3%**	57.0%	43.0%	57.2%	42.8%
South East	59.3%	40.7%	56.5%	43.5%	57.6%	42.4%
England	59.8%	40.2%	59.2%	40.8%	58.9%	41.1%

Source: DWP

End Child Poverty local measure

The End Child Poverty coalition has published a set of local child poverty figures which use the DWP/HMRC 'children in low income families' local indicators (the number and percentage of children aged 0-15 years who are living in households with below 60% median income before housing costs) combined with information about housing costs at the local level to estimate poverty rates <u>after housing costs</u> (AHC). This enables a more accurate comparison of what households across the UK have available to spend on food, utilities, clothing and leisure, than looking at income alone, given the disparity of rents in different parts of the UK.

On this measure, **27% of children are in poverty in Reading** after housing costs, lower than the national average and lower than the previous figure in 2018/19.

<u>Percentage of children in poverty</u>

	Reading No children	*Reading %*	*SE %*	*England %*
2019/20	**9098**	**26.9%**	24%	30%
2018/19	9463	27.9%	25%	30%
2017/18	9567	28.4%	25%	30%
2016/17	9783	29.3%	26%	30%

Source: Centre for Social Research, Loughborough University

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[42].

Almost 25% of Reading **pupils are eligible for pupil premium** (5,125 pupils), higher than the South East, but lower than the national figure. This has increased since the previous year, when nearly 24% were eligible, in line with the national trend.

	2021/22	*2020/21*	*2019/20*	*2018/19*
Reading	24.8%	23.8%	24.2%	25.0%
South East	21.8%	20.9%	21.1%	21.4%
England	27.5%	26.7%	27.2%	26.3%

Source: Department for Education

Free school meals

Reading has a higher proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals than the South East, but lower than the national figure. The proportion has increased to 14.3% from 10.5% in 2019/20, following the national trend. The number of infant aged pupils eligible is higher than for all schools, but is lower in Reading than both the regional and national figures, and has decreased since the previous year. 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

	All pupils 2020/21	*Infants 2020/21*	*All pupils 2019/20*	*Infants 2019/20*	*All pupils 2018/19*	*Infants 2018/19*
Reading	**14.3%**	**19.3%**	10.5%	19.8%	9.5%	20.9%
South East	**12.6%**	**19.8%**	9.7%	20.2%	8.4%	20.4%
England	**19.3%**	**20.3%**	13.6%	20.4%	12.1%	20.7%

Source: Dept for Education

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

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

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[43].

Pre-covid-19, analysis of GCSE results across England in 2018 found that it could take over 70 years for poorer pupils to catch up with their peers in terms of exam performance. 24.9% of the poorest pupils got good passes in English and maths GCSE, compared with 50.1% of their peers.[44] The educational disruption as a result of Covid 19 has exacerbated already existing inequalities; the gap in average attainment between those eligible for Pupil Premium and their peers has further increased. The Education Policy Institute estimate that in our most challenging communities, disadvantaged pupils could be up to eight months behind in some of their learning.

Due to the covid-19 pandemic, the summer exam series was cancelled in 2020. Pupils scheduled to sit GCSE and A/AS level exams in 2020 were awarded either a centre assessment grade (based on what the school or college believed the student would most likely have achieved had exams gone ahead) or their calculated grade using a model developed by Ofqual - whichever was the higher of the two. As a result the 2019/20 data should not be directly compared to attainment data from previous years for the purposes of measuring changes in student performance.

In 2020, GCSE results (average attainment 8 score) were above the national and regional averages for all pupils, but below both for those receiving free school meals.

Attainment and free school meals

	Foundation Stage (All)	*Foundation Stage (Eligible for free school meals)*	*Key Stage 2 (All)*	*Key Stage 2 (Eligible for free school meals)*	*GCSEs (All)*	*GCSEs (Eligible for free school meals)*
2020						
Reading	*n/a[45]*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	**54.0**	**35.4**
South East	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	**51.4**	**36.1**
England	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	**50.2**	**38.6**
2019						
Reading (all pupils)	69	55	63	45	50.5	31.2

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[43] www.endchildpoverty.org.uk
[44] https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-46947617, *BBC News, January 2019*
[45] *Foundation and Key stage 2 tests cancelled in 2020 and 2021due to Covid 19.*

	Foundation Stage (All)	Foundation Stage (Eligible for free school meals)	Key Stage 2 (All)	Key Stage 2 (Eligible for free school meals)	GCSEs (All)	GCSEs (Eligible for free school meals)
Reading pupils only	69	57	63	45	45.3	32.6
South East	75	55.4	66	43	45.5	32.2
England	72	56.4	65	47	46.8	34.9
2018						
Reading (all pupils)	69	58	60	33	49.0	30.7
Reading pupils only	71	59	68	31	43.9	31.7
South East	74	56	66	42	47.8	31.6
England	70	55	65	46	46.6	34.5
2017						
Reading (all pupils)	69	54	59	35	49.6	31.1
Reading pupils only	69	54	55	37	45.3	31.4
South East	73	55	63	39	47.4	32.0
England	69	54	62	43	46.4[46]	35.1

Source: Department for Education

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[46] *State funded schools only*

GCSE attainment

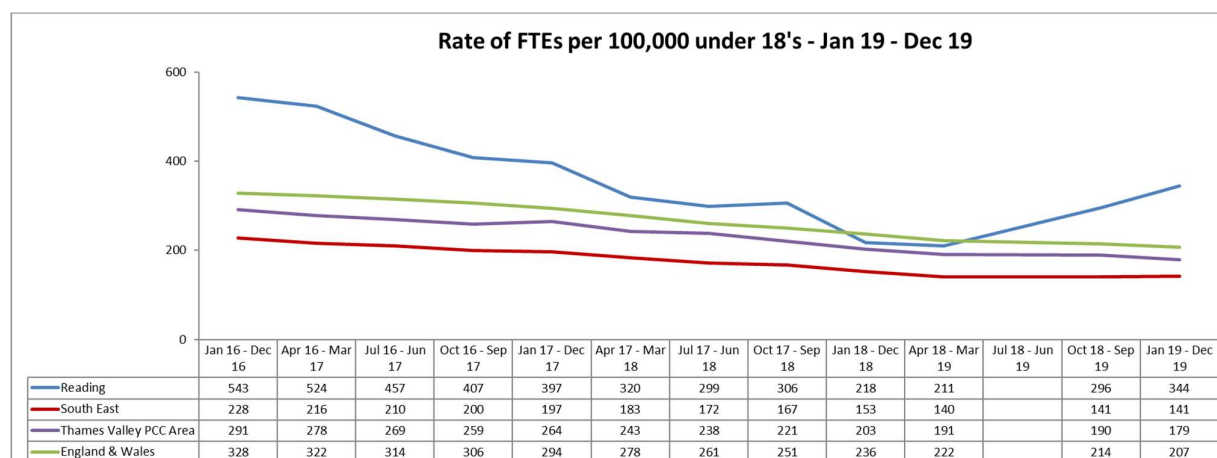|	Average Attainment 8 scores	Progress 8 scores	% achieving a strong grade 9-5 pass in Eng & maths	% achieving a strong grade 9-4 pass in Eng & maths	% achieving English Baccalaureate (inc a strong grade 9-5 pass in Eng & maths)	% achieving English Baccalaureate (inc a strong grade 9-4 pass in Eng & maths)
2020						
Reading	**54.0**	*n/a*[47]	**54.3**	**72.4**	**28.9**	**34.6**
South East	51.4	*n/a*	52.4	73.3	23.3	31.7
England	50.2	*n/a*	49.9	71.2	21.3	29.8
2019						
All pupils	50.5	0.02	47.1	63.4	26.1	29.6
Reading pupils only	45.3	-0.1	37.4	57.1	17	21.2
South East	45.5	-0.26	46.5	67.5	19.4	27.2
England (state funded)	46.8	-0.03	43.4	64.9	17.2	25.1
2018						
All pupils	49.0	-0.04	47	61	27	30
Reading pupils only	43.9	-0.2	38	55	17	20
South East	47.8	0.01	46	67	19	26
England (state funded)	46.6	-0.02	44	64	17	24
2017						
All pupils	49.6	0.02	50	65	28	28
Reading pupils only	45.3	-0.1	43	60	19	20
South East	47.5	-0.02	46	67	24	26
England (state funded)	44.6	-0.03	40	59	20	22

Source: Department for Education

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[47] *Progress 8 not calculated due to cancellation of exams*

Youth Offending

Nationally there has been an historic trend of a reduction of first time entrants (FTEs) to the youth justice system over the last 12 years. Reading's figures peaked in 2008/9 when over 250 young people entered the youth justice system. The majority of Youth Offending Teams have continued to experience further reductions in their FTEs; Reading has demonstrated a similar decline, though more recent performance since indicates an unusual increase.
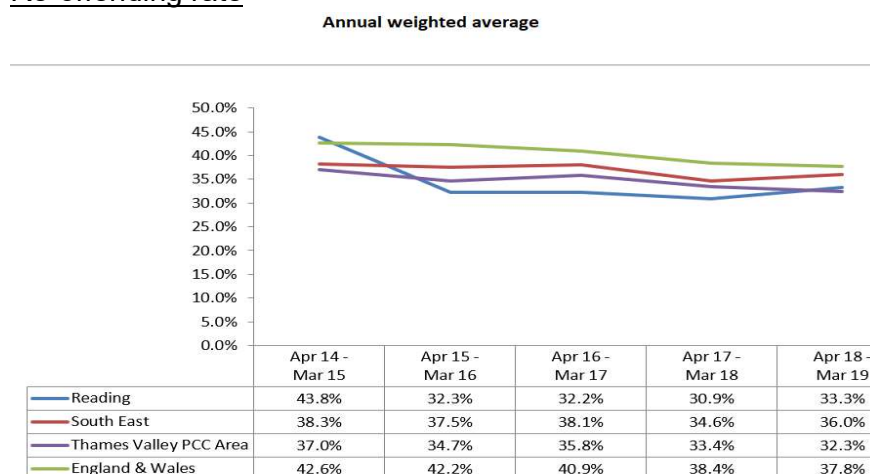
Reading has achieved a significant and sustained reduction in our reoffending data, both in terms of the numbers of reoffenders and also the number of further offences that our reoffenders commit, and is lower than the national rate.

Rate of FTEs per 100,000 under 18's - Jan 19 - Dec 19

	Jan 16 - Dec 16	Apr 16 - Mar 17	Jul 16 - Jun 17	Oct 16 - Sep 17	Jan 17 - Dec 17	Apr 17 - Mar 18	Jul 17 - Jun 18	Oct 17 - Sep 18	Jan 18 - Dec 18	Apr 18 - Mar 19	Jul 18 - Jun 19	Oct 18 - Sep 19	Jan 19 - Dec 19
Reading	543	524	457	407	397	320	299	306	218	211		296	344
South East	228	216	210	200	197	183	172	167	153	140		141	141
Thames Valley PCC Area	291	278	269	259	264	243	238	221	203	191		190	179
England & Wales	328	322	314	306	294	278	261	251	236	222		214	207

Source: Reading Youth Justice Plan 2021/22
NB: Data not available from Home Office for Jul 18- Jun 19 cohort and there have been difficulties with more recent data due to COVID 19

Re-offending rate

Annual weighted average

	Apr 14 - Mar 15	Apr 15 - Mar 16	Apr 16 - Mar 17	Apr 17 - Mar 18	Apr 18 - Mar 19
Reading	43.8%	32.3%	32.2%	30.9%	33.3%
South East	38.3%	37.5%	38.1%	34.6%	36.0%
Thames Valley PCC Area	37.0%	34.7%	35.8%	33.4%	32.3%
England & Wales	42.6%	42.2%	40.9%	38.4%	37.8%

Source: Reading Youth Justice Plan 2021/22

Older People

Pensioners were once much more likely to be in poverty than either children or working-age adults. After the pensioner poverty rate fell dramatically in the mid to late 1990s, driven by increasing income from private pensions and increases in benefits, it has edged up ever since and now stands at 18% in 2020/21.[48]

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 2018-based population projections, **the proportion of the population aged 60+** will rise from 17.1% in 2020 to 23.1% by 2043.[49]

Residents in older age bands – estimates and projections

Age	*2020 estimates*	*% of total*	*2043 projections*	*% of total*
60+	27,455	17.1%	38,617	23.1%
80+	5,752	3.6%	9,790	5.9%
90+	412	0.3%	2,009	1.2%

*Sources: ONS mid-year estimates 2020, ONS population projections 2018-based*

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Index of income deprivation affecting older people

Reading ranks 66th on this indicator out of 317 local authorities, with 14 LSOAs in the 10% most deprived (14 also in 2015), and 4 in the 5% most deprived (6 in 2015).

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[48] *Households Below Average Income, DWP, 2020/21*
[49] *2017-based population projections, ONS*

IMD 2019: Index of income deprivation affecting older people
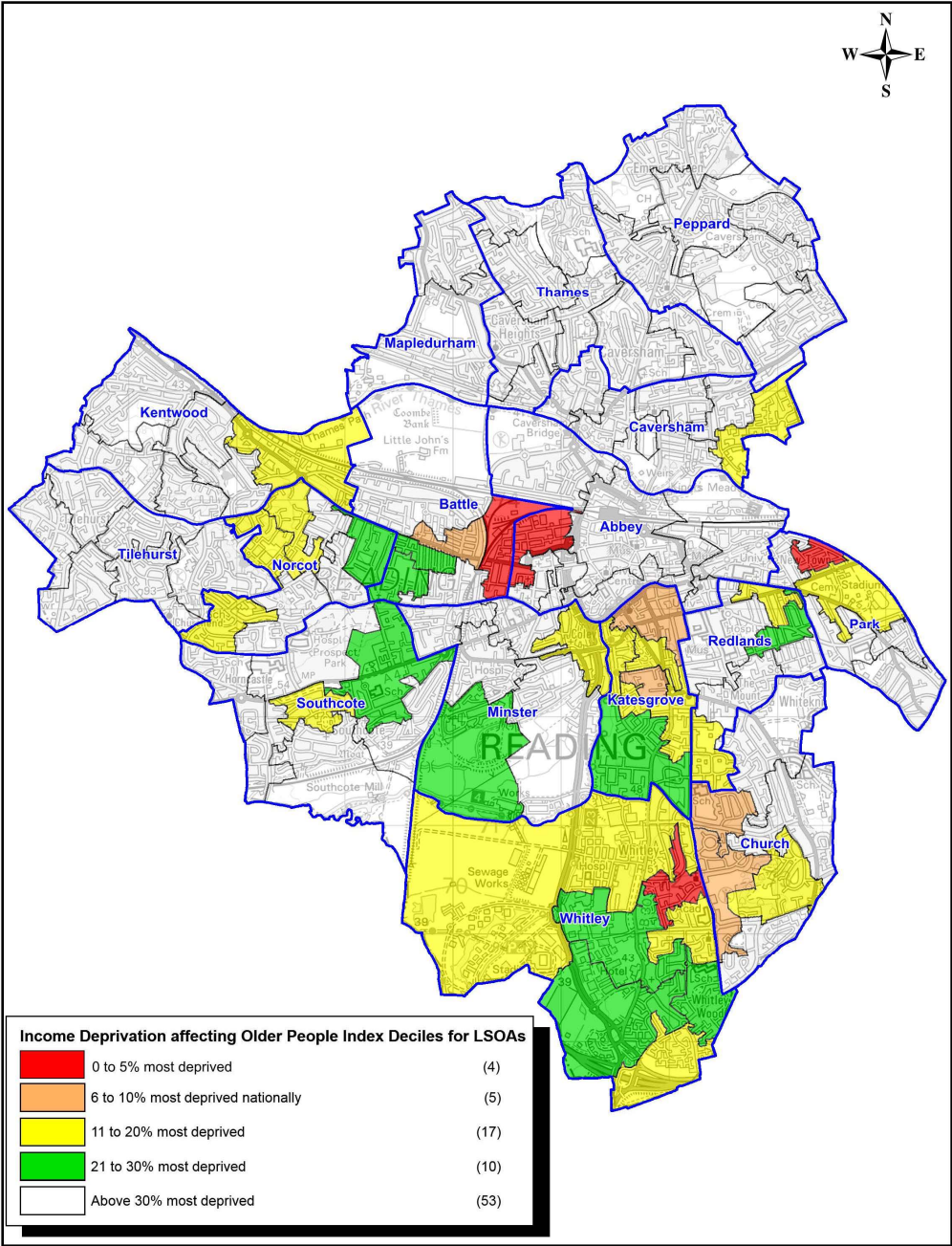
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

Excess winter deaths

The ratio of excess winter deaths to expected deaths[50] is above the national average, and has increased significantly since the previous year.

<u>Excess winter deaths</u>

	2019/20	*2018/19*	*2018/17*
Reading	**29.5%**	**17.0%**	**28.5%**
SE	17.4%	14.3%	30.2%
England	17.4%	15.1%	30.1%

Source: Public Health England Health Profile

Benefits claimants

The proportion of people aged 65 and over in Reading claiming Pension Credit is higher than the national average, but is lower than the previous period. However, the proportion of 65+ claiming other benefits is lower than the national average.

<u>Benefit claimants over 65</u>

	Reading Aug 2021		*England Aug 2021*	*Reading Aug 2020*		*England Aug 2020*
Benefit	*No claimants*	*Rate[51]*	*Rate*	*No claimants*	*Rate*	*Rate*
Pension Credit	**2946**	**14.5%**	11.5%	3083	15.2%	12.1%
Attendance Allowance	**2150**	**10.6%**	11.3%	2217	10.9%	11.4%
Disability Living Allowance (65+)	**644**	**3.2%**	4.2%	666	3.3%	4.6%
Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement (65+)	**24**	**0.1%**	0.13%	24	0.2%	0.14%

Source: Stat-Xplore; ONS 2020 mid-year estimates

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[50] *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*
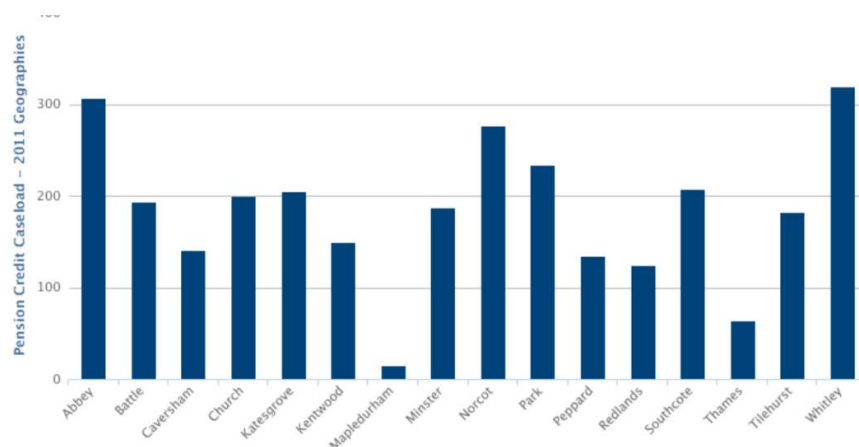[51] *Rate of 65+ population, ONS 2020 mid-year estimates*

Pension credit

The map below shows the distribution of Reading's 2,946 Pension Credit claimants in Aug 2021 by ward.

Pension credit claimants by ward (Aug 2021)

Source: Stat-xplore, Dept for Work & Pensions

JSA claimants

The rate for JSA claimants in Reading over 50 is higher than the national average, but has decreased since Feb 2021.

JSA claimants over 50

	claimant rate[52] Feb 22	*claimant rate Feb 21*
Reading	10.5%	15.3%
England	7.3%	10.8%

Source: NOMIS

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[52] *As a proportion of residents aged 50+ (ONS 2020 mid year estimates)*

10. 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	**65.3%**	79.8%	86.80%
Other White	**9.4%**	5.7%	4.2%
Mixed/multiple group	**4%**	2.3%	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%**	1.8%	2.2%
Black African	**3.9%**	1.1%	1.6%
Black other	**0.7%**	0.5	0.4%
Chinese	**1%**	0.7%	0.7%
Other ethnic group	**1%**	1.%	0.7%

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

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 25% born outside of the UK in mid 2021[53].

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.

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[53] *Office of National Statistics, population estimates for the UK by country of birth and nationality mid 2021*

Country of birth – 2011 Census

Top 10 countries in Reading	Reading %	Number	England and Wales %
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

Estimated country of birth 2018/19

	Reading count	Reading %	South East %	England %
European Union	13,000	7.9	5	5.9
Non-EU European	3,000	1.8	0.5	0.3
Middle and East Central Asia	1,000	0.6	0.5	0.3
East Asia	1,000	0.6	0.6	0.3
South Asia	15,000	9.1	2.1	1.2
South-East Asia	0	0	0.7	0.3
Sub Saharan Africa	6,000	3.7	2.1	0.7
North Africa	1,000	0.6	0.2	0.1
North America	1,000	0.6	0.6	0.3
Central and South America	1,000	0.6	0.5	0.3
Oceania	2,000	1.2	0.4	0.2
Rest of the World	11,000	6.7	3.9	1.6

Source: Office for National Statistics

Ethnicity in schools

According to the School Census 2021, **60.4% of primary school children and 62.1% of secondary school children are from a Black and Minority Ethnic group**, compared with 58% in primary and 59% in secondary in 2020.

Percentage of BME pupils in schools

	Reading 2021	*England 2021*	*Reading 2020*	*Reading 2019*	*Reading 2018*	*Reading 2017*	*Reading 2016*
% BME primary	**60%**	35%	58%	58%	56%	56%	54%
% BME secondary	**62%**	34%	59%	57%	54%	53%	49%

Source: 2021 School Census, Reading Borough Council

Ethnicity in schools

	% primary	*% secondary*
White British	36.3%	35.2%
BME	60.4%	62.1%
Unclassified	3.3%	2.7%
White Total	47.1%	45.8%
Mixed/multiple group Total	12.6%	10.5%
Asian Total	24.4%	28.1%
Black Total	8.6%	8.6%
Chinese	1.6%	2.4%
Other Ethnic Origin	2.4%	1.9%

Source: 2021 School Census, Reading Borough Council

Ethnicity and attainment

		White	*Mixed/ multiple group*	*Asian*	*Black*	*Chinese*	*All pupils*
2020/21							
Key Stage 2 - % achieving expected standard in reading, writing & maths[54]	**Reading**	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	England	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
GCSE - Average Attainment 8 score	**Reading**	**51.5**	**47**	**66**	**49**	**82**	**55.4**
	England	50.2	51.3	55.8	50	69.2	50.9
2019/20							
Key Stage 2 - % achieving expected standard in reading, writing & maths[55]	**Reading**	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	England	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

[54] *Release of statistics cancelled due to covid-19*
[55] *Release of statistics cancelled due to covid-19*

		White	Mixed/ multiple group	Asian	Black	Chinese	All pupils
GCSE - Average Attainment 8 score	Reading	51.2	51	64.2	46.9	71.3	54
	England	49.7	50.8	54.5	48.9	67.6	50.2
2019							
Key Stage 2 - % achieving expected standard in reading, writing & maths	Reading	62	63	71	59	82	63
	England	64	66	69	64	80	65
GCSE - Average Attainment 8 score	Reading	48.4	44.2	58.7	42	77.9	50.5
	England	46.1	47.6	51.2	44.9	64.3	46.7
2018							
Key Stage 2 - % achieving expected standard in reading, writing & maths	Reading	58	57	67	58	80	64
	England	64	66	69	64	82	69
GCSE - Average Attainment 8 score	Reading	46.0	45.8	58.7	40.6	80.4	49.0
	England	46.1	47.4	50.7	45.3	64.5	46.6
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

Source: gov.uk, Department for Education

The table above highlights that, in Reading, attainment at GCSE level by young people from Black and mixed/multiple ethnic group communities is lower than that of their peers, reflecting the national picture. Students from Asian communities, particularly Chinese pupils, tend to achieve a higher level of attainment.

Free School Meals

A higher proportion of mixed/multiple ethnic group children are eligible for free school meals than White children, but a lower proportion of Black, 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 performances 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[56].

Eligibility for free school meals by ethnic group

	Reading 2021	England 2021	Reading 2020	Reading 2019
White British	**24.5%**	21.6%	19.1%	17.5%
Mixed/multiple group	**34.8%**	29.4%	27.2%	24.3%
Asian	**11.7%**	19.4%	8.6%	7.5%
Black	**25.9%**	34.3%	18.1%	16.5%
Chinese	**2.2%**	7.8%	4.6%	4.4%

Source: Reading Borough Council School Census 2021

Job Seekers Allowance Claimant Count

In Feb 2022, 65% JSA claimants were White and 21% claimants were from BME groups. JSA is no longer a full count of those claiming unemployment related benefits, however a breakdown of the Claimant Count (which would give a fuller picture) by ethnicity isn't available.

JSA claimants by ethnic group

Ethnicity	No claimants Feb 2022	% claimants Feb 2022	No claimants Feb 2021	% claimants Feb 2021
White	**170**	**65.38%**	380	46.63%
Total ethnic minority	**55**	**21.15%**	100	12.27%
Mixed/multiple group	10	3.85%	15	1.84%
Asian or Asian British	15	5.77%	35	4.29%
Black or Black British	25	9.62%	45	5.52%
Chinese or Other	5	1.92%	5	0.61%
Prefer not to say	15	5.77%	80	9.82%
Unknown	20	7.69%	255	31.29%

Source: NOMIS

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

11. DISABILITY

Disabled people face a higher risk of poverty and have done so for at least the last 20 years. Currently, 32% of disabled people are in poverty (excluding disability benefits), a rate that has remained broadly constant since 2013/14. The difference is particularly stark for working-age adults: those who are disabled are more than twice as likely to live in poverty than those who are not (38% and 17% respectively).

Census overview

The rates of limiting long term illness and provision of unpaid care are below the average for England.

Limiting long term illness and unpaid care

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

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Extent to which illness or disability is limiting (% of resident population)

Ward	*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

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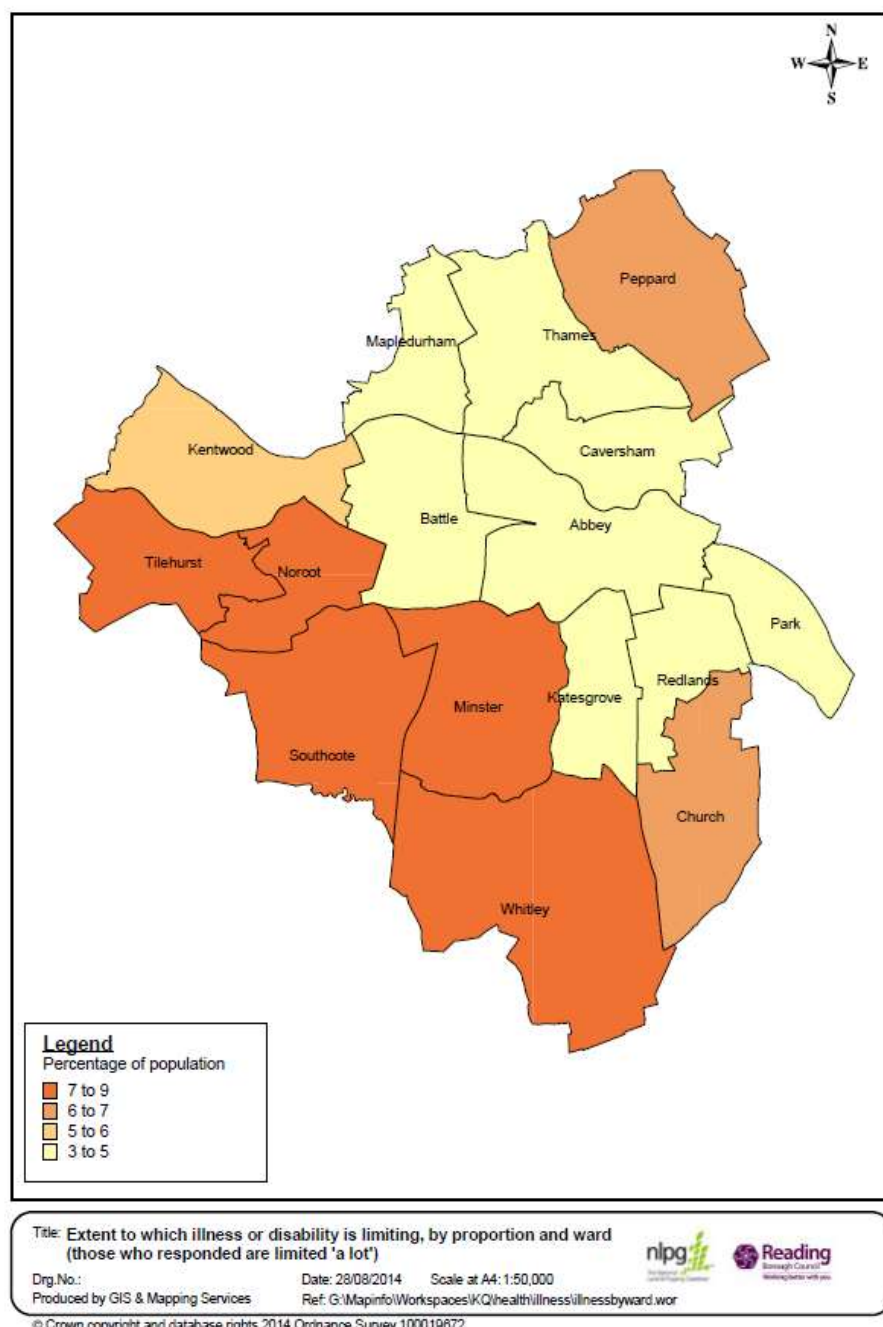
Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

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.

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Health Deprivation and Disability Domain

Reading ranks 137th most deprived out of 317 LAs on this domain, with 1 LSOA in most deprived 10%, compared with none in 2015. 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.

<u>IMD 2019: Health deprivation and disability domain</u>
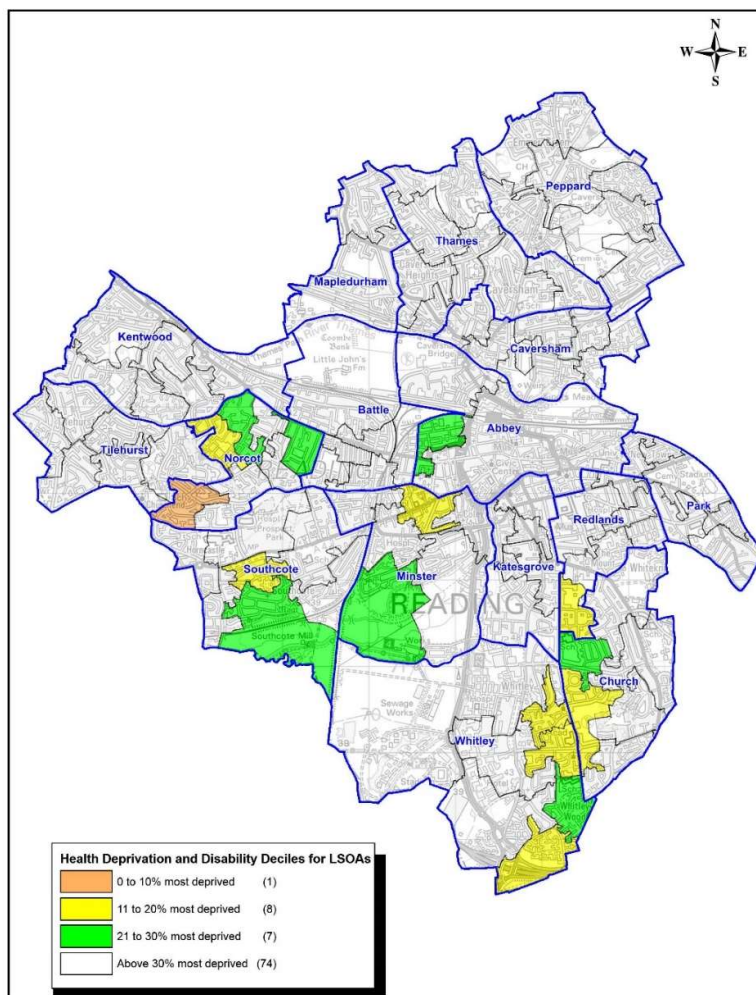
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government 2019

Benefits Claimants

In Aug 2021, 3,000 people in Reading were claiming Disability Living Allowance, 1.9% of the population[57] (slightly lower than the England average). Their distribution is shown in the following chart.

60 people were claiming Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance in Aug 2021, 0.04% of the population.

<u>Disability Living Allowance claimants by ward (Aug 21)</u>
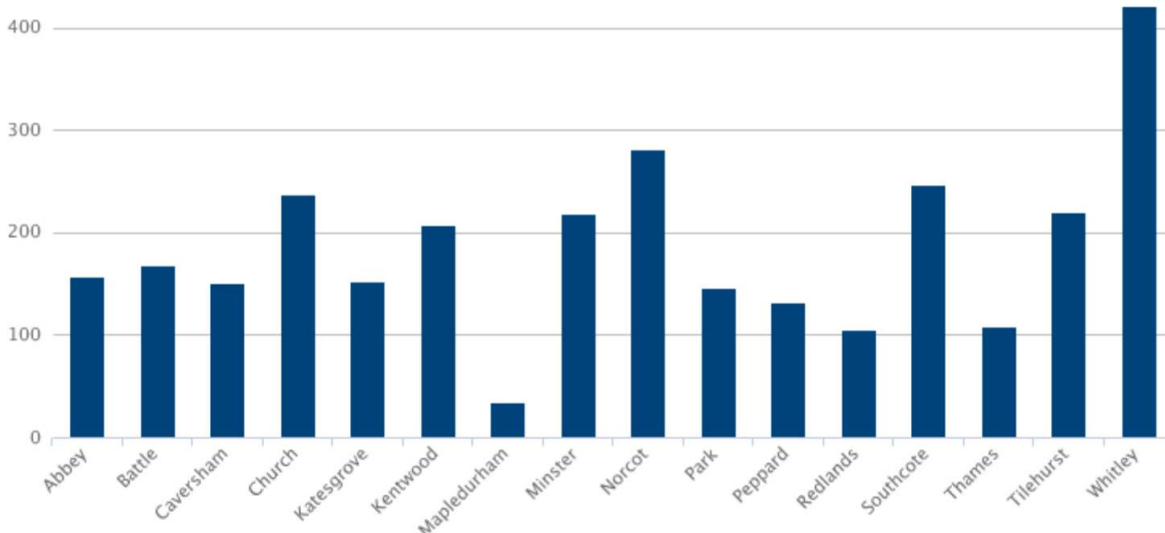
Source: Stat-xplore/ Dept for Work & Pensions

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[57] *Based on ONS population projections mid 2018*