

CIS2014-02

# 2011 Census snapshot: Car and Van Availability

January 2014

## Introduction

The 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2013 saw Census release 3.3 from the Office of National Statistics which included Detailed Characteristics data for demography and families. This snapshot sets out the key findings for London from tables DC1401EW and DC4202EW. These datasets provide 2011 Census estimates that classify households in England & Wales by car or van availability, household composition, ethnic group and tenure. The estimates are as at Census Day, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

## Key Findings:

- In 2011, 58 per cent of households in London had access to a car or van
- The number of vehicles in London in 2011 was 1.91 million, a one per cent increase over 2001 levels
- Owner occupied households were more likely to have access to a car or van (77 per cent) than social rented (37 per cent) or private rented (24 per cent) households
- Households headed by Asian/Asian British residents were most likely to have access to a car or van (65 per cent), and those headed by Black residents were least likely (47 per cent)
- Outer London households had greater access to cars or vans than inner London households (68 per cent compared to 44 per cent)
- City of London, Hackney and Islington had the lowest rates of cars per household in London while Hillingdon, Havering and Harrow had the highest.

## Definition: Car and Van Availability

This measure provides an estimate of the number of cars or vans that are owned, or available for use, by one or more members of a household. This includes company cars and vans that are available for private use. It does not include motorbikes or scooters, or any cars or vans belonging to visitors. The count of cars or vans in an area relates only to households. Cars or vans used by residents of communal establishments are not counted.

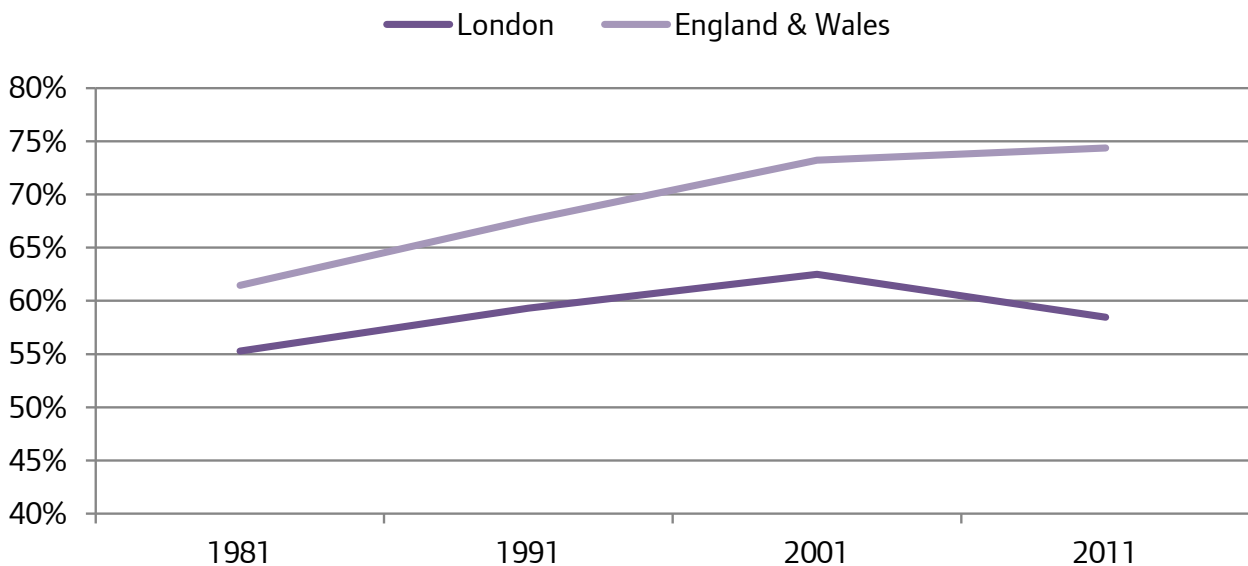
Households with 10 to 20 cars or vans are counted as having only ten. Responses indicating a number of cars or vans greater than 20 were treated as invalid and a value was imputed.<sup>1</sup>

The census provides data on the number of households without access to a car or van, those with access to one car or van, two cars or vans, three cars or vans, and four or more cars or vans. This snapshot groups those with access to two, three or four cars or vans into a single group (two or more).

### Historical Car and Van Availability

The number of vehicles in London in 2011 was 1.91 million, a one per cent increase over 2001 levels. England & Wales saw a significantly larger increase of ten per cent to a total of 17.38 million cars and vans (see Figure 1).

**Figure 1: Proportion of households with access to a car or van**



Source: 2011 Census DC1401EW, 2001 Census ST022, 1991 Census SAS21, 1981 Census SAS12

The percentage of households in London with access to cars or vans increased every decade from 1981 up until 2001, but fell over the ten year period to 2011. Nationally, there was no decline between 2001 and 2011 meaning proportions increased every decade since 1981. The largest difference between census periods in London was between 2001 and 2011 which saw a four percentage point decrease and access levels falling back to almost 1991 levels. In England & Wales over the same period, access grew by one per cent.

In 2011, 58 per cent of households in London had access to a car or van, while in England & Wales the share was higher at 74 per cent. London had a lower proportion of households with access to cars or vans than any other region.

<sup>1</sup> For more information on Census definitions see the Office for National Statistics 2011 Census Glossary: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/census/2011/census-data/2011-census-user-guide/glossary/index.html>

**Table 1: Total households in London and England & Wales with access to cars or vans**

		Total households (millions)	Households with access to cars or vans	
			Number (millions)	%
2011	London	3.26	1.91	58%
	England & Wales	23.37	17.38	74%
2001	London	3.02	1.89	63%
	England & Wales	21.67	15.89	73%
1991	London	2.76	1.64	59%
	England & Wales	19.89	13.43	68%
1981	London	2.51	1.39	55%
	England & Wales	17.71	10.88	62%

Source: 2011 Census DC1401EW, 2001 Census ST022, 1991 Census SAS21, 1981 Census SAS12

### Regional Comparison

A little over two fifths (42 per cent) of households in London did not have access to a car or van, making London the region with the lowest level of access to cars or vans in England & Wales. There was a 16 percentage point difference between London and the national average in this category.

London was the region with the lowest proportion of households with one car or van (41 per cent) or two car or vans (18 per cent), see Table 2. The difference between London and the national average in this second category was 14 per cent.

**Table 2: Total households with access to cars or vans by region**

	Total households (millions)	No cars or vans in household	1 car or van in household	2 or more cars or vans in household
<b>England &amp; Wales</b>	<b>23.37</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>32%</b>
East	2.42	19%	43%	39%
East Midlands	1.90	22%	43%	35%
<b>London</b>	<b>3.27</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>18%</b>
North East	1.13	32%	42%	26%
North West	3.00	28%	42%	30%
South East	3.56	19%	42%	40%
South West	2.26	19%	44%	38%
Wales	1.30	23%	43%	34%
West Midlands	2.29	25%	42%	34%
Yorkshire and The Humber	2.22	28%	43%	30%

Source: 2011 Census, DC1401EW

## London Car or Van Availability by Household Composition

In London, three fifths (62 per cent) of one person households did not have access to any cars or vans. Of the 1.03 million one person households in London, seven tenths were occupied by residents aged 64 or under (718,500). These households were nine percentage points more likely to have access to a car or van than their older counterparts (see Table 3).

Over half of lone parents households had no access to a car or van (51 per cent).

In five out of nine household composition categories, over 40 per cent of households had access to one car or van (see Table 3). The category 'One Family: All aged 65 and over' had the highest proportion of households with one car or van (56 per cent). However, the number of households in this category was the lowest out of all categories of household composition (8,700 households or 0.3 per cent of all households in London).

In London, couple families with all non-dependent children were the most likely to have two or more cars or vans (57 per cent). This was higher than any other category by 24 per cent. Overall, there were four categories where over a quarter of households had access to two or more cars or vans (see Table 3).

**Table 3: Car and van availability by household composition**

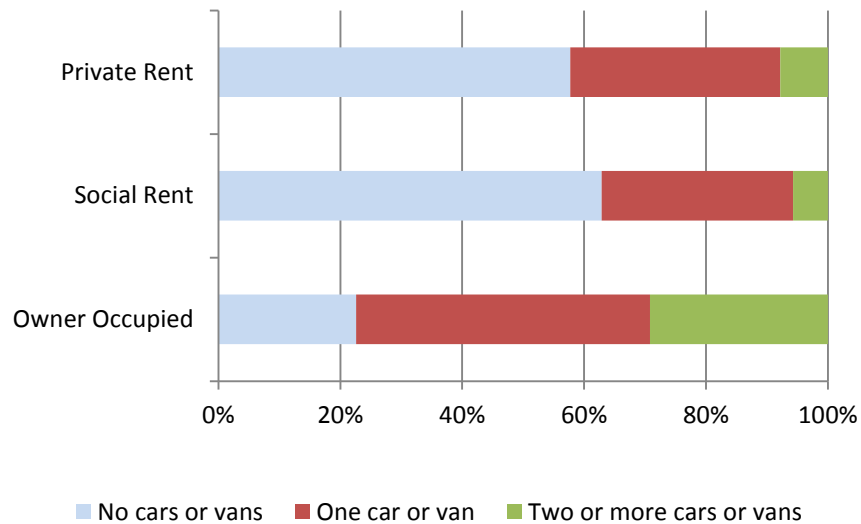
Household composition	Total households	No cars or vans in household	1 car or van in household	2 or more cars or vans in household
<b>All Households</b>	<b>3,266,200</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>One person household</b>	<b>1,030,600</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Aged 64 and under	718,500	59%	38%	3%
Aged 65 and over	312,000	68%	31%	2%
<b>One family only: Total</b>	<b>1,746,800</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>26%</b>
All aged 65 and over	134,100	24%	56%	19%
Couple Families	1,199,300	22%	46%	32%
No Children	449,600	31%	46%	23%
Dependent Children	581,800	18%	50%	33%
All Children Non-dependent	167,900	12%	32%	57%
Lone parent: Total	416,500	51%	40%	9%
Dependent Children	279,000	55%	40%	5%
All Children Non-dependent	134,500	42%	40%	18%
<b>Other household types: Total</b>	<b>488,800</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>22%</b>

Source: 2011 Census, DC1401EW

## Tenure by Car and Van Availability

In London, owner occupied households were more likely to have access to one or more cars or vans than either private or social rented households. The rented categories on the other hand were more likely to have no cars or vans.

**Figure 2: Proportion of households with access to cars or vans by tenure, London 2011**



Source: DC4202EW

In London, 23 per cent of owner occupied households did not have access to a car or van, while almost half had access to one car or van, and three in ten had access to two or more cars or vans. Within this category, almost 30 per cent of owned outright households did not have any cars or vans, ten percentage points more than owned with a mortgage<sup>2</sup>. Households which were owned with a mortgage were more likely to have two or more cars or vans (32 per cent compared to owned outright households with 25 per cent).

Almost two thirds (63 per cent) of social rented households did not have access a car or van, while 31 per cent had access to one car or van, and six per cent had access to two or more cars or vans. In this category, there were only minor differences in the proportion of households with access to cars or vans in the sub-groups rented from council and other socially rented households.

As with social rented households, well over half (58 per cent) of private rented households did not have access to any cars or vans. A total of 34 per cent of private rented households had one car or van and eight per cent had access to two or more cars or vans. Private landlord or letting agency households were more likely to have no cars or vans compared to other private rented households (six percentage point difference).

<sup>2</sup> includes owned with a loan and shared ownership

**Table 4: Tenure by car and van availability**

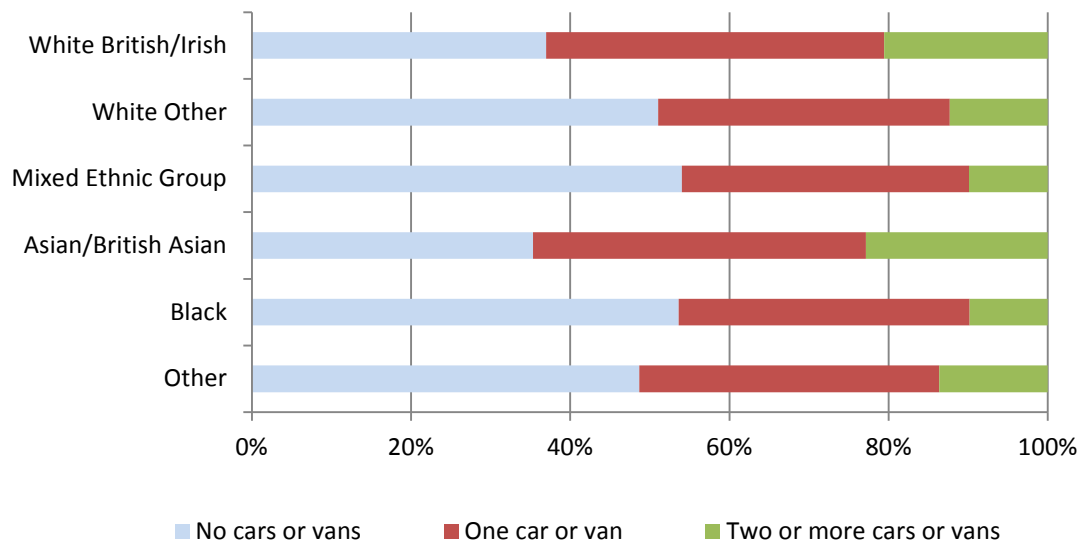
<b>Tenure</b>	<b>Total households</b>	<b>No cars or vans in household</b>	<b>1 car or van in household</b>	<b>2 or more cars or vans in household</b>
<b>All Households</b>	<b>3,266,200</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Owned or shared ownership: Total</b>	<b>1,618,300</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>29%</b>
Owned outright	689,900	28%	47%	25%
Owned with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership	928,400	18%	49%	32%
<b>Social rented: Total</b>	<b>786,000</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>6%</b>
Rented from council (Local Authority)	439,700	64%	30%	5%
Other social rented	346,300	61%	33%	6%
<b>Private rented or living rent free: Total</b>	<b>861,900</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>8%</b>
Private landlord or letting agency	775,600	58%	34%	8%
Other private rented or living rent free	86,300	52%	37%	11%

Source: 2011 Census, DC4202EW

## London Car and Van Availability by Ethnic Group

In London, among the broad ethnic groups, the Black and Mixed Ethnicity groups had the highest proportion of households without access to a car or van (both 54 per cent). The group Asian/Asian British had the highest proportion of households with access to one car or van (42 per cent) and two or more cars or vans (23 per cent), see Table 5.

**Figure 3: Percentage of households with access to cars or vans by ethnic group, London 2011**



Source: DC4202EW

Of the White ethnic groups in London, over half of Gypsy and Irish Traveller households (59 per cent) did not have access to a car or van. Two fifths of White British households had access to one car or van (43 per cent) while 21 per cent had access to two or more cars or vans. Only eight per cent of Gypsy and Irish traveller households had access to two or more cars or vans, the lowest percentage of any ethnic group in London (see Table 5).

Almost three fifths of White and Black African households (58 per cent) did not have access to a car or van, the highest proportion of any of the Mixed ethnic groups. The White and Asian group had the highest proportion of households with one or more cars or vans with a total of 53 per cent (see Table 5). This group was the only mixed group in which the majority of households had access to a car or van.

Chinese was the only Asian ethnic group in which over half of households (50 per cent) did not have access to a car or van. Pakistani had the highest proportion of households with one car or van (46 per cent) in the Asian group and the lowest proportion of households with no cars or vans (28 per cent). The proportion of Indian households with two or more cars or vans was 30 per cent, higher than any other ethnic group in London (see Table 5).

The Black ethnic groups saw some of the largest proportions of households with no cars or vans; in every Black ethnic group the majority of households had no cars or vans. In the ethnic group Other Black three fifths of households had no cars or vans (59 per cent, higher than any other Black ethnicity) this group also had the lowest share of households with access to two cars or vans with eight per cent. Those with Caribbean ethnicity were mostly likely among Black Londoners to have access to one or more cars or vans (49 per cent).

**Table 5: London car and van availability by ethnic group**

Ethnic Group	Total households	No cars or vans in household	1 car or van in household	2 or more cars or vans in household
<b>All Household Reference Persons</b>	<b>3,266,200</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>White: Total</b>	<b>2,183,600</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>19%</b>
British	1,664,400	36%	43%	21%
Irish	98,900	49%	37%	15%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	2,900	59%	33%	8%
Other White	417,500	51%	37%	12%
<b>Mixed/multiple ethnic group: Total</b>	<b>102,500</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>10%</b>
White and Black Caribbean	30,000	57%	34%	9%
White and Black African	17,300	58%	34%	8%
White and Asian	24,100	47%	40%	13%
Other Mixed	31,100	54%	36%	10%
<b>Asian/Asian British: Total</b>	<b>463,300</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>23%</b>
Indian	176,000	29%	41%	30%
Pakistani	59,600	28%	46%	26%
Bangladeshi	52,900	43%	44%	13%
Chinese	48,200	50%	37%	13%
Other Asian	126,600	39%	42%	18%
<b>Black: Total</b>	<b>416,400</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>10%</b>
African	202,300	54%	36%	9%
Caribbean	163,600	51%	38%	11%
Other Black	50,500	59%	34%	8%
<b>Other ethnic group: Total</b>	<b>100,400</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>14%</b>
Arab	37,400	51%	37%	12%
Any other ethnic group	63,000	47%	38%	15%

Source: 2011 Census, DC4202EW



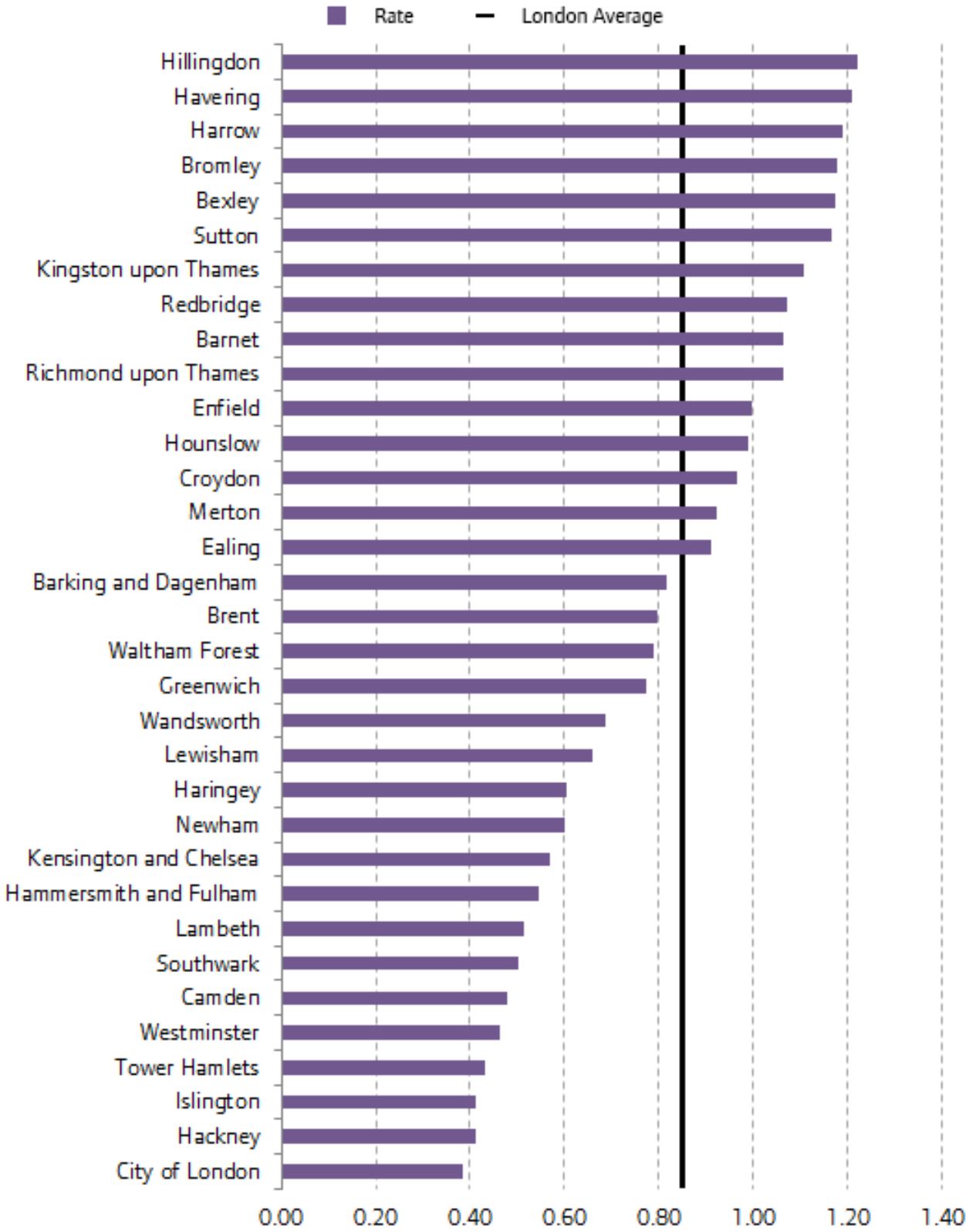
## Car and Van Availability in London Boroughs

As may be expected, outer London had a higher overall percentage of households (69 per cent) with access to cars or vans compared to inner London (43 per cent). Outer London had a total of 1.94 million cars and vans, equivalent to 73 per cent of the London total, despite accounting for only 58 per cent of the total number of households.

The London borough with the highest number of cars and vans was Bromley with 153,900, while Islington had the lowest with 38,600. The inner London borough with the highest number of cars and vans was Wandsworth with 89,513.

The average number of cars and vans per households in London was 0.82. In outer London the rate was 1.02 while the rate in inner London was 0.53. Not one inner borough had a rate of one car or van per household. Hillingdon (1.22) and Havering (1.21) were the only boroughs to have a rate over 1.20. In total, 22 boroughs had a rate below one car or van per household. The City of London had the lowest rate with 0.39, which was followed by Hackney and Islington which both had rates of 0.41 (see Chart 1).

Chart 1: Cars per household by London Borough

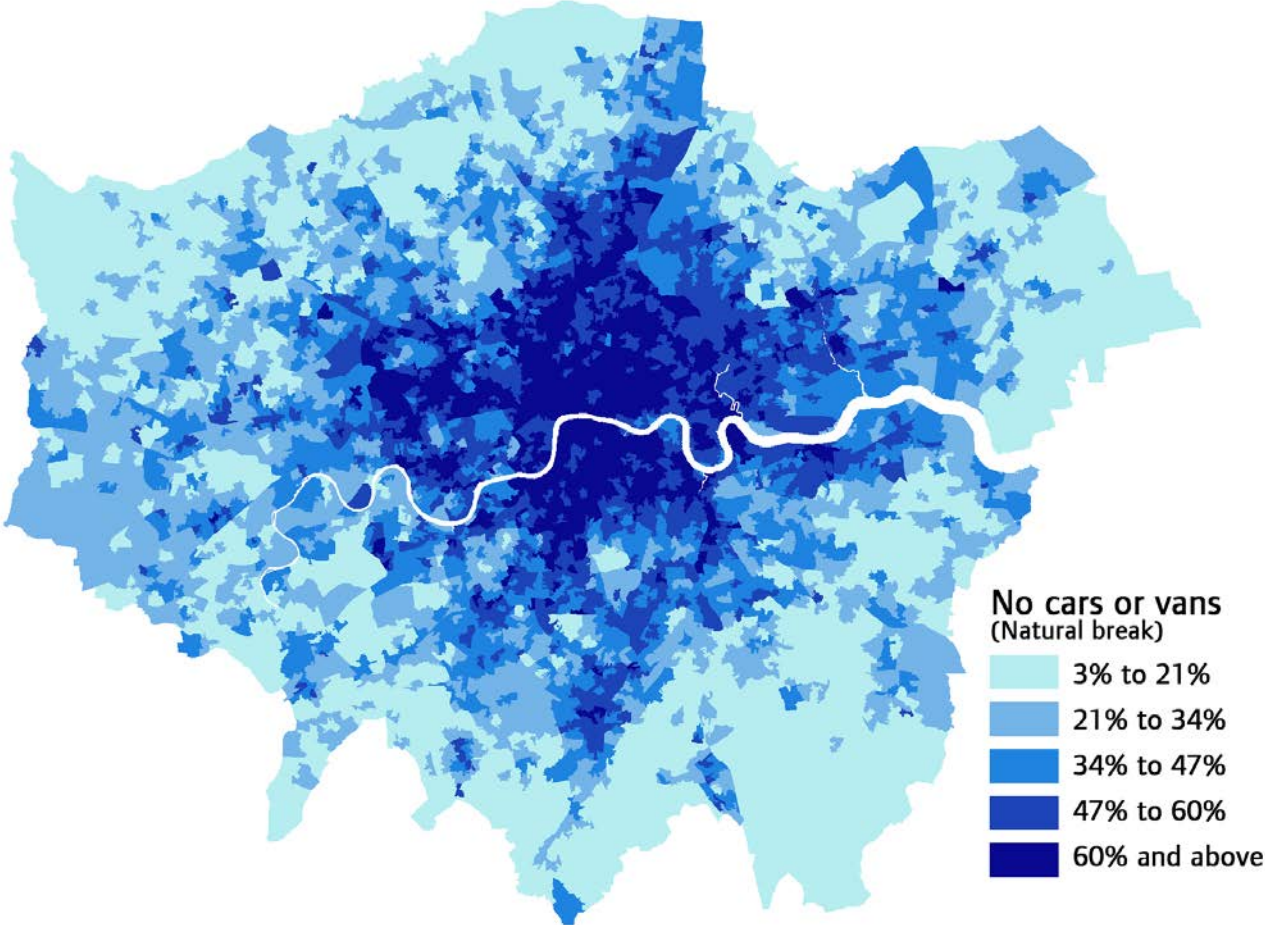


Source: KS404EW

**No Cars or Vans**

Overall two fifths of London households (42 per cent) had no access to cars or vans. Over half of inner London households (57 per cent) had no access compared to a third (31 per cent) of outer London households. Map 1 displays the concentration of households within London with no access to cars or vans.

**Map 1: Households with no cars or vans by LSOA**



Source: 2011 Census, DC1401EW

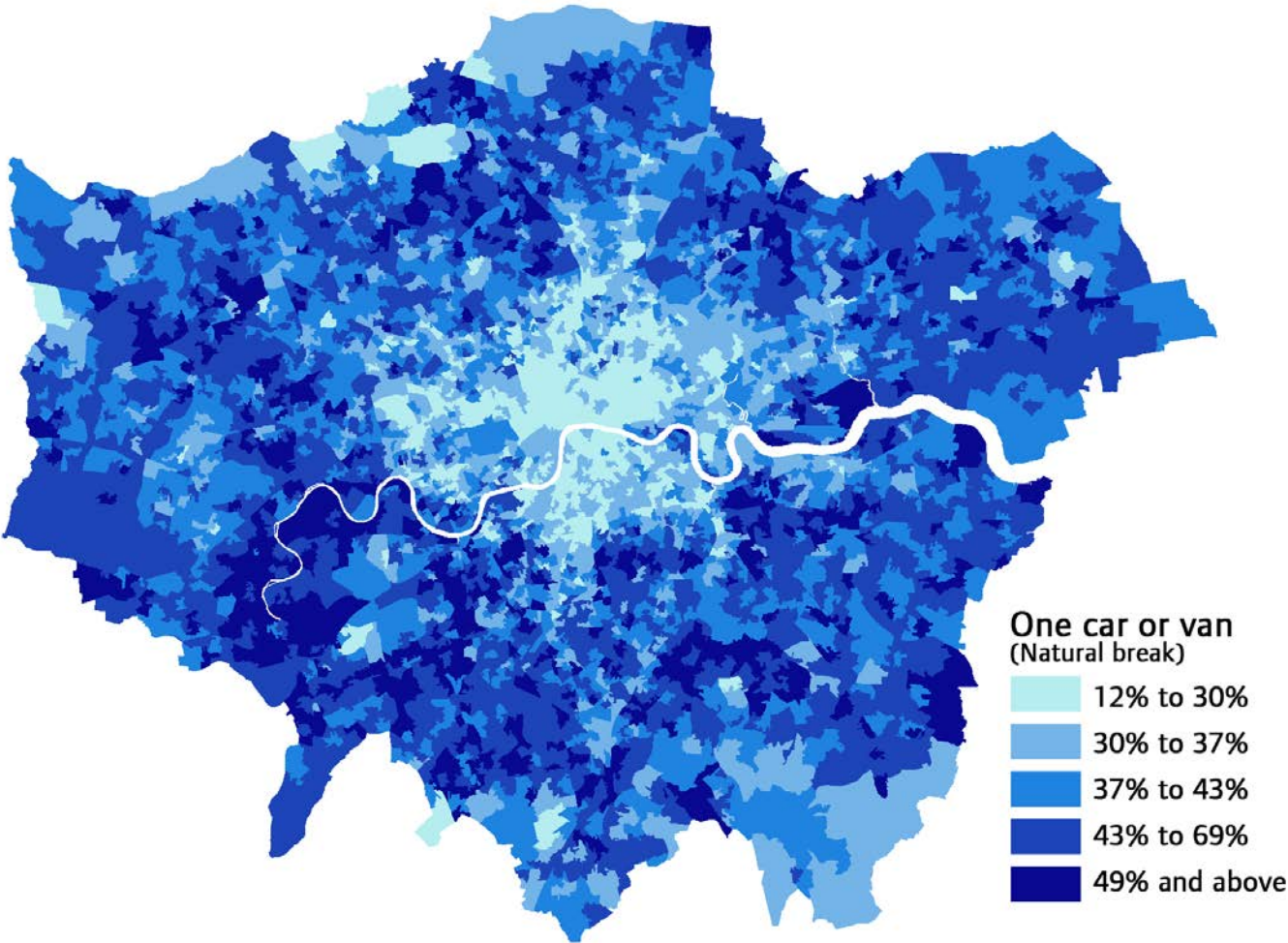
Within inner London, the City of London had the highest proportion of households with access to no cars or vans; however the number of households within the City of London is significantly lower than that of any other London borough meaning small changes in numbers of households can appear as large changes in percentages. The borough with the next highest proportion of households with no access to cars or vans was Islington with 65 per cent. The inner borough with the lowest percentage of households with no access to cars or vans was Greenwich with 42 per cent.

In the outer boroughs, just over two fifths of households in Brent had no cars or vans (43 per cent). A quarter of households in six London boroughs did not have access to any cars or vans, Hillingdon had the lowest proportion without access at 23 per cent.

### One Car or Van

In every London borough, households were most likely to have access to one car or van (as opposed to none, one, two, three or four or more). Outer London had 76 per cent more households than inner London with access to one car or van. Overall, just over two fifths (44 per cent) of outer London households and just over a third (35 per cent) of inner London households had access to one car or van.

**Map 2: Households with one car or van by LSOA**



Source: 2011 Census, DC1401EW

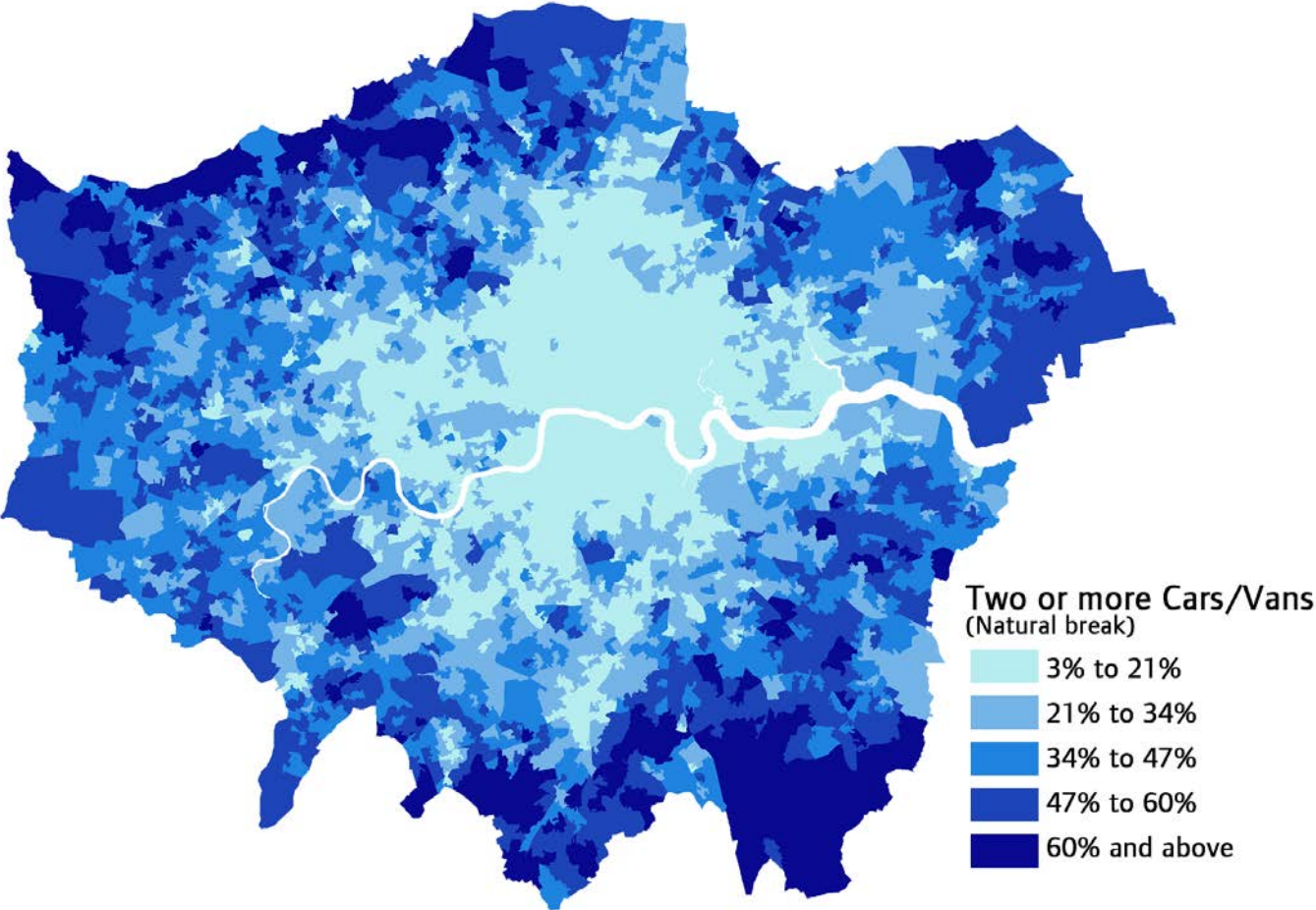
Due to the large majority of households in the City of London having access to no cars or vans, just a quarter of households in the area had access to one car or van, the lowest share of any London borough. Two fifths of households in Wandsworth had access to one car or van, which was the highest proportion of any inner London borough.

In the outer boroughs, Brent had the lowest share of households with access to one car or van with 40 per cent. Half (50 per cent) of households in Wandsworth had one car or van, the highest percentage of any London borough.

### Two or More Cars and Vans

In London, 18 per cent of households had access to two or more cars or vans. As may be expected, the propensity for access to two or more cars or vans was much higher in outer London than inner London. A quarter of outer London households had access to two or more cars or vans.

**Map 3: Households with two or more cars and vans by LSOA**

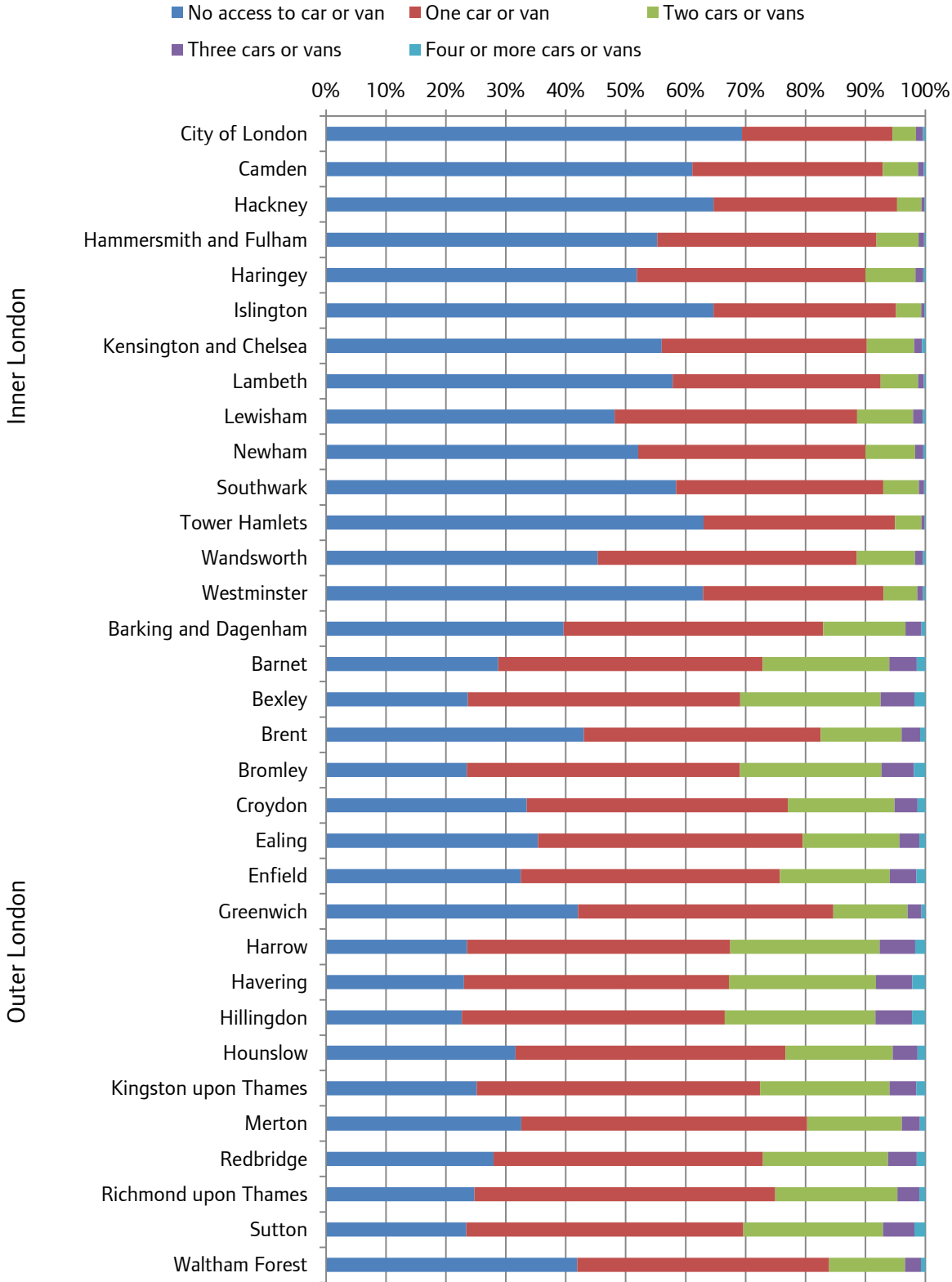


Source: 2011 Census, DC1401EW

Within inner London, only six out of fourteen boroughs had above ten per cent of households with access to two or more cars or vans. The highest proportion in inner London was in Lewisham and Wandsworth where 11 per cent of households had access to two or more cars or vans. Hackney, Islington and Tower Hamlets had the lowest proportions of households with access to two or more cars or vans with five per cent.

Over a quarter of households in eight outer boroughs had access to two or more cars or vans, while three outer boroughs saw proportions of below 20 per cent. Harrow, Havering and Hillingdon all had the highest proportions of household in outer London with access to two or more cars or vans (33 per cent each).

Chart 2: Households with access to cars and vans



Source: 2011 Census, QS416EW

For more information please contact Jack Ryan, GLA Intelligence  
Greater London Authority, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, More London, London SE1 2AA  
Tel: 02079834332 e-mail: [jack.ryan@london.gov.uk](mailto:jack.ryan@london.gov.uk)