

Census 2021 Briefing #9: Health, Disability and Unpaid Care

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Summary

- 83.0% of residents (219,777) reported having 'very good' or 'good' health which is higher than 81.9% in London and 81.7% in England
- There were disparities in self-reported health status across neighbourhoods in Havering. Communities located towards the North of the borough (Harold Hill East, Dagnam Park & Noak Hill and Havering-atte-Bower & Chase Cross) reported poorer health with Ardleigh Green and Upminster areas reporting better health
- 15.3% of Havering residents have disabilities, similar to London (15.6%) but lower than England (17.7%)
- There were disparities in disability prevalence within Havering. There were nearly three times more households with a disabled person in Harold Hill East (1,605 households) compared to Emerson Park (596 households).
- Havering has the highest proportion of unpaid carers in London – 8.7% of Havering residents provide unpaid care, compared to 7.8% in London and 8.9% in England

1. Introduction

On the 19th January 2023 the Office for National Statistics (ONS) released their ninth, and final publication in their series of Census 2021 'Topic Summaries'. The themes covered in the latest Topic Summary are Health, Disability and Unpaid Care.

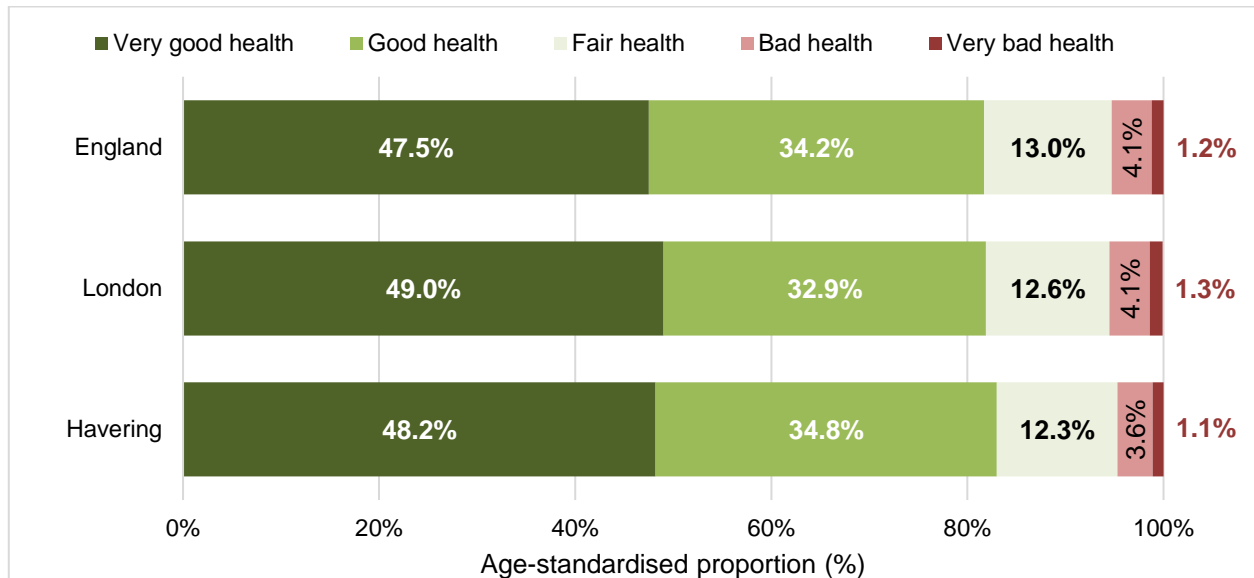
The 2021 Census was undertaken during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, which may have influenced how people perceive their health status and activity limitations and therefore may affect how people chose to respond.

Percentages in this bulletin have been age-standardised (unless otherwise stated). Health and age are closely related, with older people being more likely to be in poorer health. Age-standardised proportions (ASPs) account for different age structures in populations and are more appropriate than crude percentages. ASPs allow for comparison between populations over time and across geographies.

2. Health

In Havering an estimated 219,777 residents had 'good' or 'very good' health in 2021. This is an age-standardised proportion (ASP) of 83.0%, which is higher than London (81.9%) and England (81.7%). However, in Havering, an ASP of 48.2% residents had 'very good' health compared to 49% in London (see figure 1 below).

Figure 1: ASP (%) reported health of the population



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

The neighbourhoods (MSOA¹) in Havering that have the highest crude proportion (%) of residents who reported 'good' or 'very good' health were Upminster North & Cranham West, Upminster South & Corbets Tey, and Ardleigh Green (see figure 2 - darker shades represent areas with a higher proportion of residents reporting good or very good health). The neighbourhoods in Havering that have the highest crude proportion (%) of residents who reported 'bad' or 'very bad' health were Harold Hill East, Dagnam Park & Noak Hill and Havering-atte-Bower & Chase Cross (see figure 3 – darker shades represent areas with a higher proportion of residents reporting bad or very bad health).

Figure 2: Crude % of residents by Havering neighbourhood (MSOA) that reported 'good' or 'very good' health

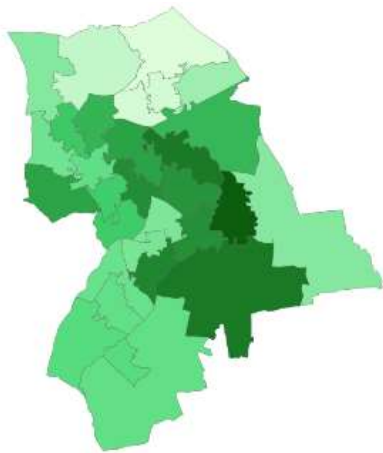
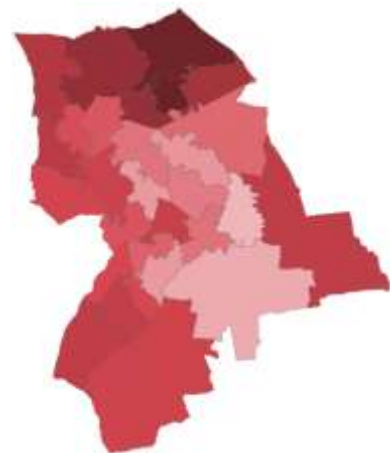


Figure 3: Crude % of residents by Havering neighbourhood (MSOA) that reported 'bad' or 'very bad' health



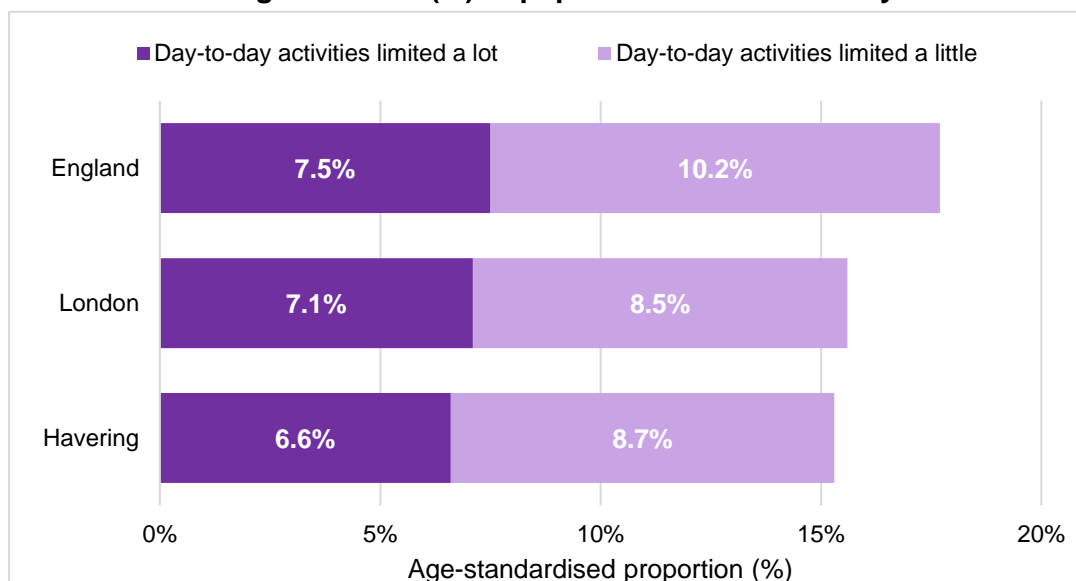
Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

¹ MSOA (Middle Layer Super Output Areas) are a geographic hierarchy designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics. The minimum population of an MSOA is 5,000 and on average is 7,200

3. Disability

In Havering an estimated 38,449 residents reported having a disability² in 2021. This is an ASP of 15.3%, which is slightly lower than London (15.6%) and lower than England (17.7%). In Havering, an ASP of 6.6% reported that their day-to-day activities were limited a lot and 8.7% reported their day-to-day activities were limited a little, due to a disability (see figure 4 below).

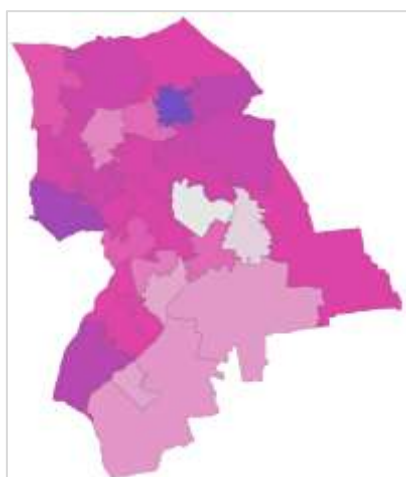
Figure 4: ASP (%) of population with a disability



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

29,742 households in Havering had at least one person with a disability. Of these households, 6,181 had two or more members with a disability. The neighbourhoods in Havering that have the highest number of households where at least one member is disabled were Hornchurch Marshes, Rush Green and Harold Hill East. The lowest were Emerson Park, Upminster North & Cranham West and Hacton (see figure 5 below - darker shades represent areas with a higher number of households where at least one person has a disability). There are nearly three (2.7) times more households with a disabled person in the highest ranked neighbourhood (Harold Hill East – 1,605) compared to the lowest (Emerson Park – 596).

Figure 5: Number of households where at least one person has a disability by Havering neighbourhood (MSOA)



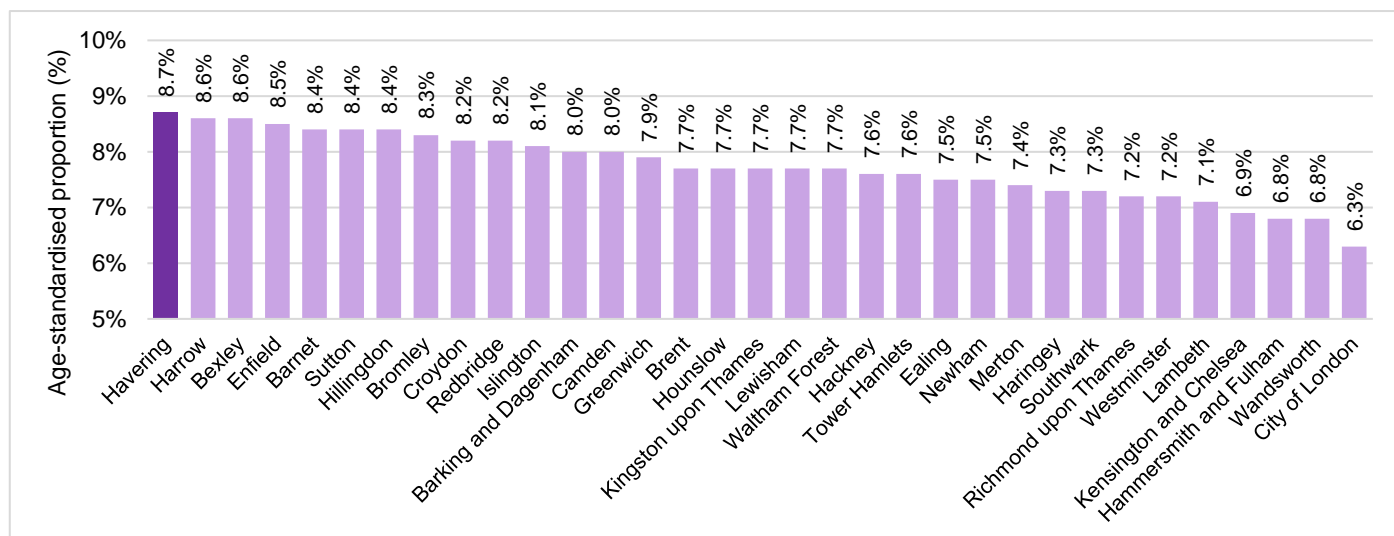
Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

² People who assessed their day-to-day activities as limited by long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses are considered disabled. This definition of a disabled person meets the harmonised standard for measuring disability and is in line with the Equality Act (2010).

4. Unpaid care

In Havering an estimated 20,637 residents aged over 5 provided unpaid care³ in 2021. This is an ASP of 8.7%, which is higher than London (7.8%) and similar to England (8.9%). Havering had the highest ASP of residents providing unpaid care of all local authorities across London (see figure 6 below).

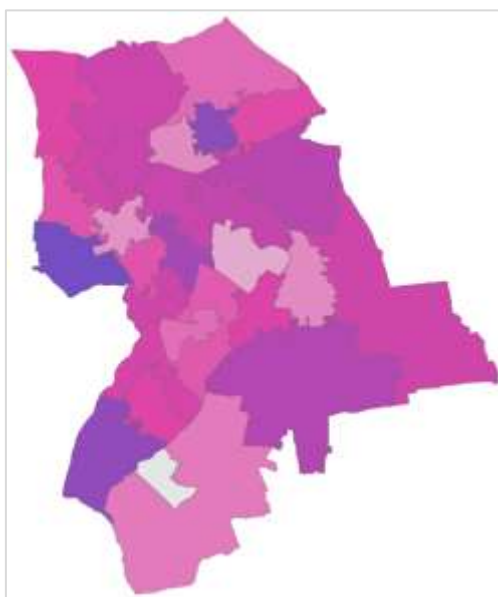
Figure 6: ASP (%) of population providing unpaid care by London Local Authorities



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

In Havering, 2.7% of residents provide over 50 hours of care a week, 1.7% provide 20-49 hours and 4.4% provide 19 or less hours of unpaid care. The highest number of unpaid carers in Havering reside in Hornchurch Marshes, Harold Hill East and Rush Green (see figure 7 below - darker shades represent areas with a higher number of residents providing unpaid care). These are the same 3 neighbourhoods that have the highest proportion of households where at least one member has a disability (see section 3 above).

Figure 7: Number of residents providing unpaid care by Havering neighbourhood (MSOA)



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

³ An unpaid carer may look after, give help or support to anyone who has long-term physical or mental ill-health conditions, illness or problems related to old age. This help can be within or outside of the carer's household and does not include any activities as part of paid employment.

5. Conclusion

Reported health and disability rates in Havering are broadly similar or slightly better than London. However, there are significant disparities within neighbourhoods. It is important that the Council continues to target services and interventions to improve health equity across Havering. More insight as to why there are significant health and disability differences across Havering should be more fully understood when multivariate data is published by the ONS in later releases. This will allow for further exploration of the relationships between various variables and outcomes.

The age of those who provide unpaid care is not yet known, however it will be possible to determine this when the ONS releases multivariate data (expected early 2023). Unpaid care data from the census provides essential information that can help the Council design services and direct support to unpaid carers to achieve its obligations under the Care Act 2014 and the Government's White Paper 'People at the Heart of Care.'

6. Further reading

ONS has now released all the planned Census data in the current phase. The next phase will be releasing multivariate data which will allow variables to be combined to explore relationships between the data. ONS has produced an interactive summary for all Local Authorities which can be found [here](#). The ONS have also produced Census maps which can be found [here](#). Data for all previous topic summaries has now been published at ward level and can be found on the [ONS website](#).

The Havering Local Insight tool also shows Census 2021 data and can be found [here](#) (select the 'Data' box on the left hand side and then choose which Census indicator to view. Results are displayed on the map).