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Introduction

The ward profiles have been produced for all 20 wards in Tower Hamlets. They provide the social, economic and demographic characteristics of each ward in the borough developing a broad picture of the area and help describing local differences.

In May 2014, the number of wards increased from 17 to 20. The changes were made by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, in order to ensure that every councillor in Tower Hamlets represented roughly the same number of residents. The changes mean that no ward will have a population variance of greater than 10 per cent. As a result of the changes, the average population per councillor will be 4,029 in 2014, rising to 4,417 by 2018, according to projected population growth.

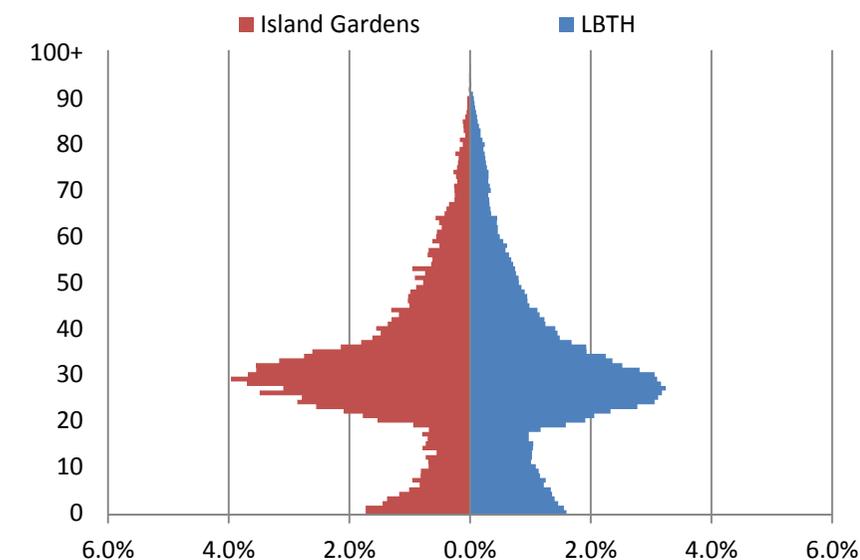
Data from the 2011 Census has been used throughout this ward profile as this still provides the single best source of statistics which are available at geography small enough to be aggregated up in to the new wards. While more recent estimates of the resident population are available for the borough and old ward boundaries, these cannot be used to infer the current population according to the new ward boundaries.

Population

- At the time of the 2011 Census, the population for Island Gardens was 14,220 which accounted for 5.6 per cent of the total population of Tower Hamlets.
- The population density in this ward was 152 people per hectare, higher than the borough average of 129 people per hectare.
- The ward had 7,373 males and 6,847 females providing a gender split in the ward of 51.8 per cent male and 48.2 per cent female. The gender split in the ward is broadly comparable to the borough average.

Age Structure

Figure 1: Proportion of population by age



(Source: Census 2011 QS103EW - Age by single year)

Table 1: Number and proportion of residents by age range

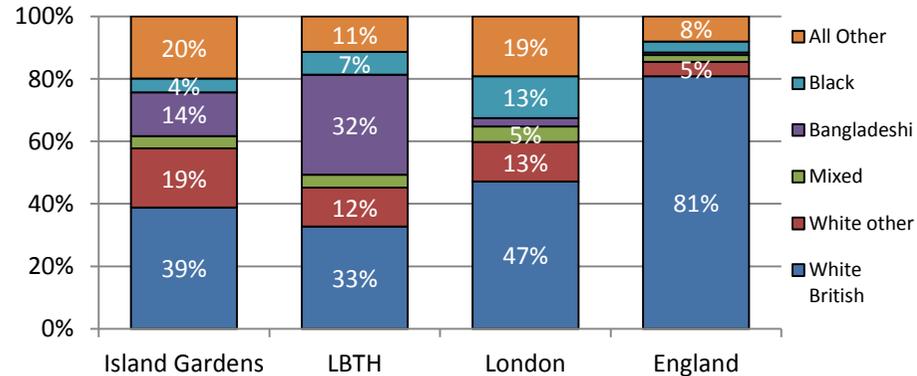
Residents by Age	0-15	16-64	65+	Total
Island Gardens	2,291	11,215	714	14,220
Island Gardens %	16.1%	78.9%	5.0%	100%
Tower Hamlets %	19.7%	74.1%	6.1%	100%

(Source: Census 2011 QS103EW - Age by single year)

- The ward had a higher than average proportion of residents who were working age (16-64 years old), and a corresponding lower proportion of residents aged 0-15. The proportion of residents aged 65+ was the third lowest in the borough.

Ethnicity

Figure 2: Ethnicity

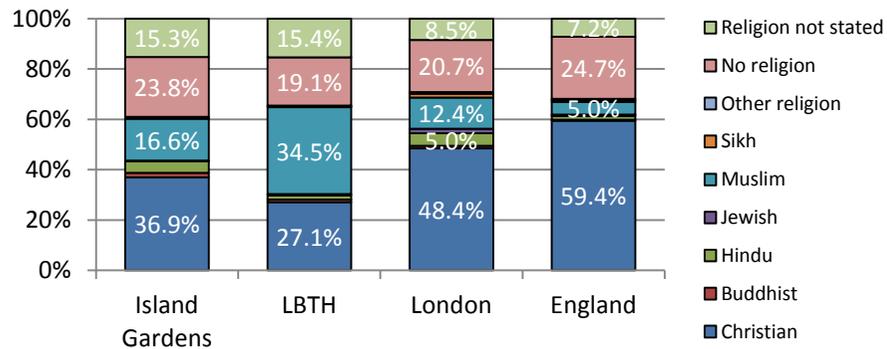


(Source: Census 2011 QS201EW - Ethnic group)

- At the time of the 2011 Census, 6,006 residents in the ward were BME (42 per cent). This proportion was below the borough average of 54 per cent.
- Residents of Bangladeshi origin accounted for 14 per cent of the population (1,988 residents), less than half of the proportion of the borough average.
- There were 5,523 White British residents in the Island Gardens ward – a higher proportion compared to the borough average of 33 per cent.
- The three largest ethnic groups in the borough (White British, Bangladeshi and White Other) accounted for 72 per cent of all residents in this ward.
- 7.3 per cent of the population in this borough is from the Chinese community (1,043 people).

Religion

Figure 3: Religion



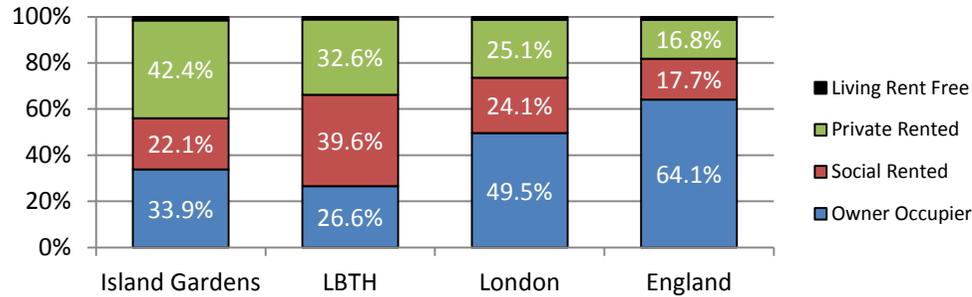
(Source: Census 2011 QS208EW – Religion)

- The proportion of residents who identified themselves as Christian was 36.9 per cent – the second highest proportion out of all 20 wards in the borough. Conversely, at 16.6 per cent of the population, the proportion of Muslim residents was the second lowest in the borough.
- 3,379 residents in the Island Gardens ward explicitly stated that they had no religion; this was higher than both the borough and the London averages, and accounted for almost 24 per cent of the ward population.
- Tower Hamlets had a significantly higher proportion of residents who did not state their religion on the census form when compared to London and the rest of England. There were 2,172 residents in this ward who did not state their religion – accounting for 15.3 per cent of the ward’s population, broadly comparable to the borough average.
- The ward had the highest number and proportion of Buddhist’s in the borough, making up 1.8 per cent of the ward population.

Housing

Tenure¹

Figure 4: Tenure of households



(Source: Census 2011 QS405EW - Tenure – Households)

Household size

Figure 5: Tenure of households



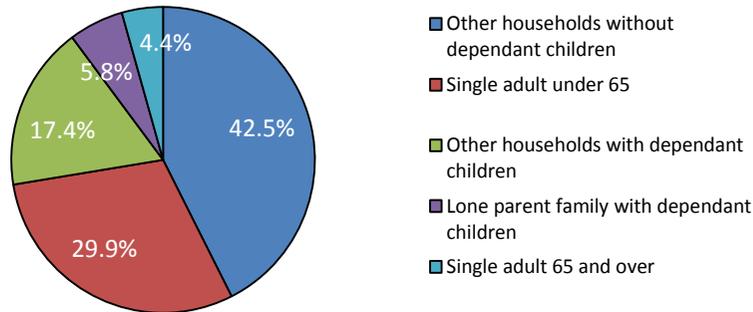
(Source: Census 2011 QS405EW - Tenure – Households)

¹ Tenure provides information about whether a household rents or owns the accommodation that it occupies and, if rented, combines this with information about the type of landlord who owns or manages the accommodation.

- At the time of the 2011 Census, Tower Hamlets as a whole had a significantly lower proportion of households who were owner-occupier compared to the London average (26.6 per cent compared to 49.5 per cent). The proportion of socially rented households in the borough was almost double that of the London average. There was also a higher proportion of privately rented households compared to the London average.
- There were 6,231 households in the Island Gardens ward. Compared to the other wards, Island Gardens had a higher than average proportion of households – accounting for almost 6.1 per cent of the whole.
- 33.9 per cent of households in the wards are owner-occupied, seven percentage points higher than the borough average.
- There were a lower than average proportion of socially rented properties in this ward and a higher than average proportion of private rented properties. Together the proportion of renters (64.5 per cent) was lower than the borough average (72.2 per cent).
- The proportion of households in the Island Gardens ward with three or more people accounted for 32.5 per cent of the total households in the ward. This proportion was lower than the borough average of 35 per cent.
- On Census day, 442 households were recorded as having five or more people living in them. This equates to 8.2 per cent of the households in the ward and was lower than the average for Tower Hamlets (12.3 per cent).
- The average household size in this ward was 2.28 compared to 2.51 borough average.

Household composition

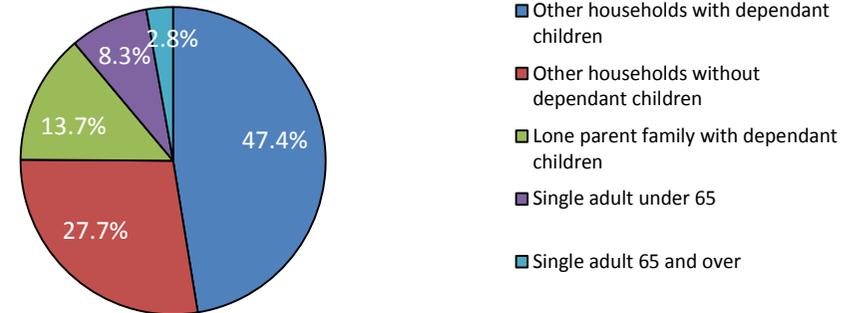
Figure 6: Household composition - percentage of households by type



(Source: Census 2011 QS113EW - Household composition – Households)

- At the time of the Census, 39.4 per cent of all residents in the ward lived in family households with dependent children; this proportion was lower than the borough average of 46.2 per cent.
- However, families with dependent children occupied 23.2 percent of the households in the ward, lower than the borough average of 26.6 per cent.
- Single adult households accounted for 34.2 per cent of all households in the ward; however 11.2 per cent of the ward's residents lived in this type of household.
- Older people living alone (65+) accounted for 4.4 per cent of households which was lower than the borough average of 6 per cent.
- Table 3 shows the proportion of households that were overcrowded, had the required number of bedrooms, or were under-occupied at the time of the Census. 11 per cent of households (683 households) in the ward were overcrowded – lower than the average for the borough (16 per cent).

Figure 7: Household composition: percentage of residents that live in each household type



(Source: Census 2011 QS112EW - Household composition – People)

Average residents per household	Island Gardens	Tower Hamlets	London	England
Households with dependent children	3.87	4.30	3.89	3.78
Households with non-dependent children	1.80	1.81	1.84	1.78

(Source: Census 2011 QS406EW - Household size)

Area	Overcrowded (-1 or less)		Required Bedrooms (0)		Under Occupied (+1 or more)	
Island Gardens	683	11%	2,832	45%	2,716	44%
Tower Hamlets	16,605	16%	51,058	50%	33,594	33%
London	370,531	11%	1,282,883	39%	1,612,759	49%
England	1,024,473	5%	5,885,951	27%	15,152,944	69%

(Source: Census 2011 QS406EW - Household size)

Health - Limiting illness or disability

Area	Day-to-day activities limited a lot	Day-to-day activities limited a little	Day-to-day activities not limited
Island Gardens	669	710	12,841
Island Gardens (%)	4.7%	5.0%	90.3%
Tower Hamlets (%)	6.8%	6.7%	86.5%
London (%)	6.7%	7.4%	85.8%
England (%)	8.3%	9.3%	82.4%

(Source: Census 2011 QS303EW - Long-term health problem or disability)

- On Census day, around 669 residents (4.7 per cent) in Island Gardens had a long term health problem or disability *limiting the persons day to day activities a lot*, while around 5 per cent (710 residents) had a long term health problem or disability *limiting the persons day to day activities a little*.
- In Island Gardens, the rate of people with a long term health problem or disability *limiting day to day activities a lot* and the rate of people with a long term health problem or disability *limiting day to day activities a little* were below England, London and Tower Hamlets averages.

Unpaid care provision

Area	Provides no unpaid care	Provides 1 to 19 hours unpaid care a week	Provides 20 to 49 hours unpaid care a week	Provides 50 or more hours unpaid care a week
Island Gardens	13,317	568	129	206
Island Gardens (%)	93.6%	4.0%	0.9%	1.4%
Tower Hamlets (%)	92.4%	4.3%	1.4%	1.9%
London (%)	91.6%	5.3%	1.3%	1.8%
England (%)	89.8%	6.5%	1.4%	2.4%

(Source: Census 2011 QS301EW - Provision of unpaid care)

- Around 4.9 per cent of residents in Island Gardens provided unpaid care. The Island Gardens rate was lower compared to the Tower Hamlets (7.6 per cent), London (8.4 per cent) and England (10.2 per cent) averages.
- From 903 residents in Island Gardens who provided unpaid care, around 129 residents provided care for 20 to 49 hours a week, while 206 residents provided care for 50 or more hours a week.
- The proportion of those providing unpaid care for 50 hours or more of 1.4 per cent in Island Gardens was below the Tower Hamlets (1.9 per cent) and London (1.8 per cent) averages.

Labour market participation

Table 6: Labour market participation - Economic active (EA) and Economic Inactive (EI) (totals and %)

Area	EA: In employment	EA: Unemployed	EA: Full-time student	EI: Retired	EI: Student (incl. full-time)	EI: Looking after home / family	EI: Long-term sick or disabled	EI: Other
Island Gardens	7,933	646	452	516	816	620	327	321
Island Gardens (%)	68.2	5.6	3.9	4.4	7.0	5.3	2.8	2.8
Tower Hamlets (%)	57.6	6.7	5.5	4.7	9.9	7.0	4.5	4.0
London (%)	62.4	5.2	4.1	8.4	7.8	5.2	3.7	3.2
England (%)	62.1	4.4	3.4	13.7	5.8	4.4	4.0	2.2

(Source: Census 2011 KS601EW to KS603EW - Economic activity by sex, Population 16 to 74)

- Table 6 shows a summary of labour market participation of residents in the week before the Census 2011. The table summarises economic activity and inactivity of the 16 to 74 population in Island Gardens and comparator areas.

- The Island Gardens ward had a very high rate of people in employment (68.2 per cent) compared to Tower Hamlets (57.6 per cent) and London (62.4 per cent).

- The proportion of economically inactive residents, including those looking

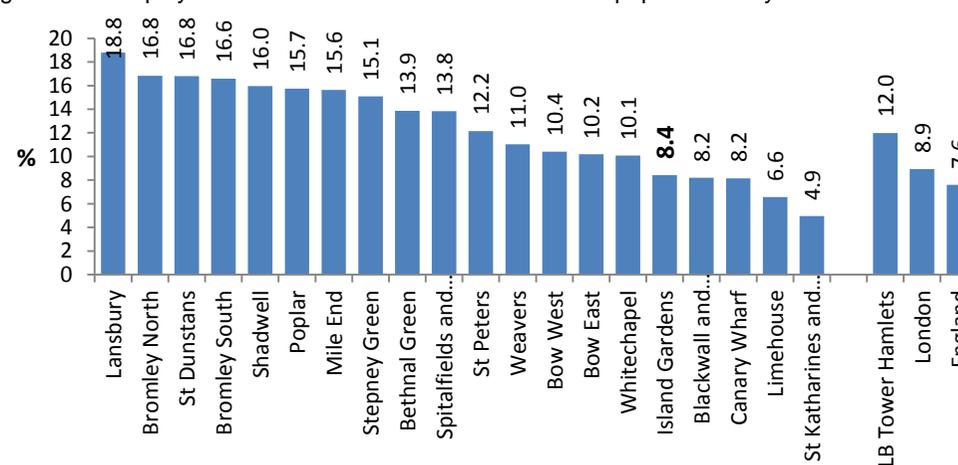
after home & family (5.3 per cent), long term sick (2.8 per cent) and students (7 per cent) was lower compared to most other wards in the borough and the Tower Hamlets average.

- A total of 646 residents were unemployed in Island Gardens. This rate of 5.6 per cent was below the Tower Hamlets average (6.7 per cent), but above the London (5.2 per cent) and England (4.4 per cent) rates.

Unemployment rate of 16 to 64 (economic active population only)

- Figure 8 shows the unemployment rate based on the economically active population only. This measure is the better unemployment measure but is in general higher compared to the rate based on the proportion of all residents in the 16 to 74 age group as shown above.
- Island Gardens had the 5th lowest unemployment rate in the Borough with 8.4 per cent, which was significantly below the Tower Hamlets rate (12 per cent).
- On Census day, the highest unemployment rate was recorded in Lansbury (18.8 per cent) and the lowest in St Katharine's and Wapping with only 4.9 per cent.

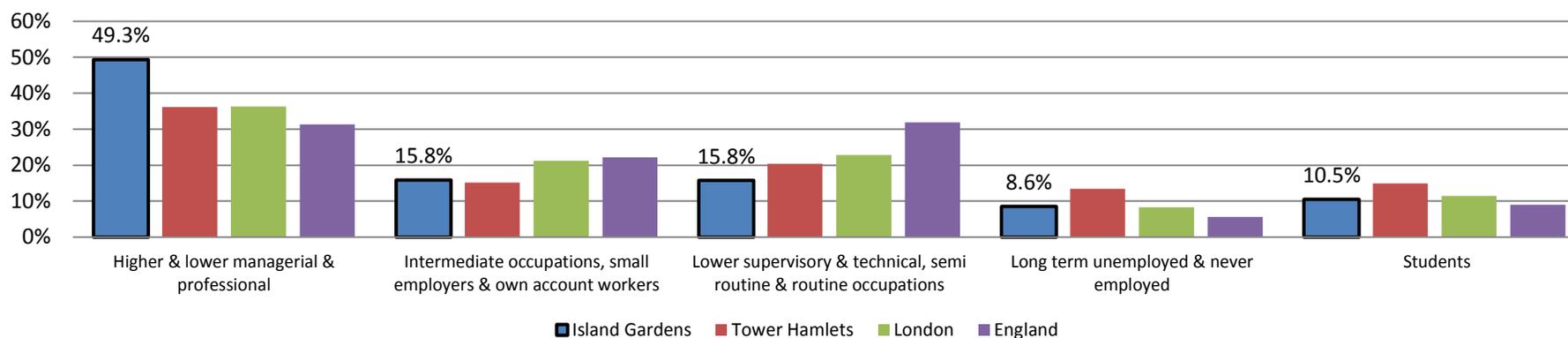
Figure 8: Unemployment rate of 16 to 64 – economic active population only



(Source: Census 2011: QS601EW - Economic activity)

Socio economic groups

Figure 9: Socio Economic Groups



(Source: Census 2011 QS607EW - NS-SeC)

- At the time of the Census, almost half of the Island Gardens ward worked in the managerial and professional occupations compared to the borough average of 36.1 per cent.
- The managerial and professional occupation category broke down as: higher managerial & administrative (2,690 residents); and lower managerial & administrative (3,046 residents) professions.
- At 8.6 per cent, the proportion of residents who were long term unemployed / never worked was lower than the borough average of 13.5 per cent. There were 806 residents in this group.

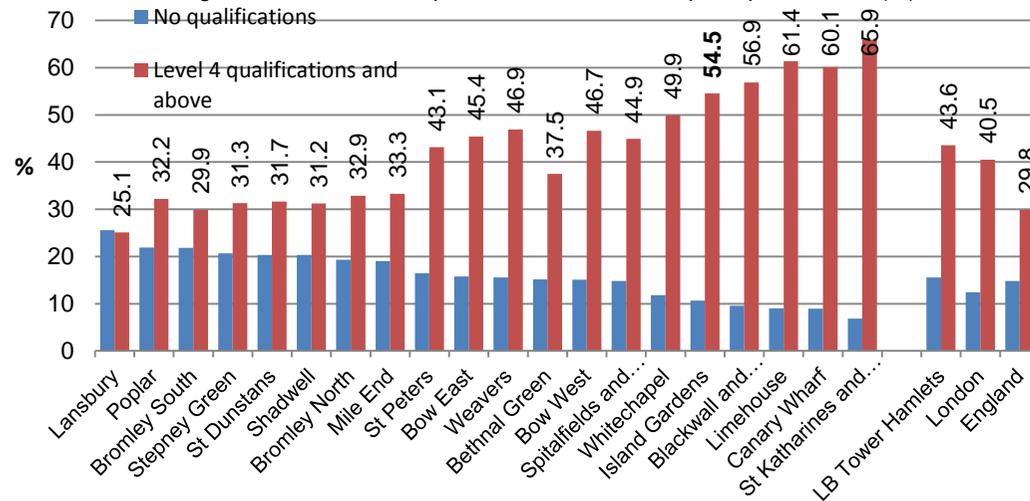
Qualification levels

Table 7: Highest qualification of residents aged 16 to 64

Area	No qualification	Level 1	Level 2	Apprenticeship	Level 3	Level 4 and above	Other
Island Gardens	1,197	842	854	115	993	6,117	1,097
Island Gardens (%)	10.7	7.5	7.6	1.0	8.9	54.5	9.8
Tower Hamlets (%)	15.6	9.8	9.2	0.8	10.8	43.6	10.2
London (%)	12.4	11.5	12.6	1.4	11.5	40.5	10.0
England (%)	14.8	15.2	17.1	3.1	14.5	29.8	5.6

(Source: Census 2011 LC5102EW - Highest level of qualification by age)

Figure 10: Residents aged 16 to 64 with No qualification and Level 4 plus qualification (%)



(Source: Census 2011 LC5102EW - Highest level of qualification by age)

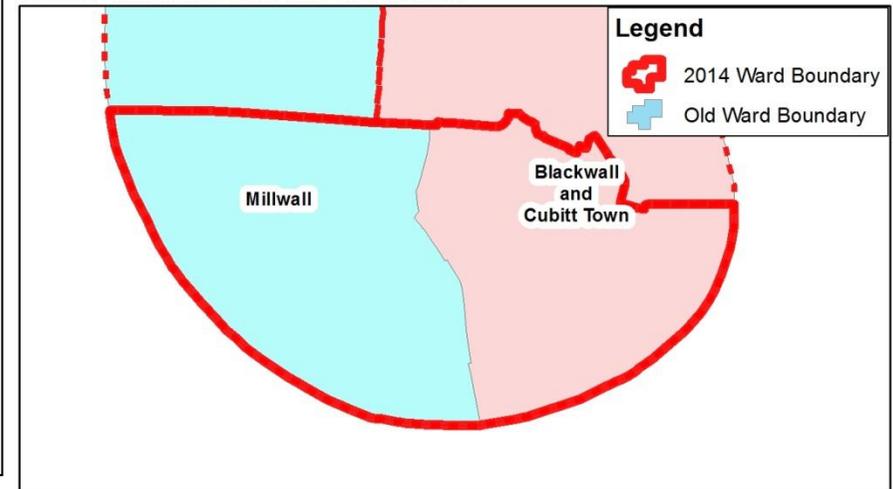
- The population aged 16 to 64 in Island Gardens showed a different qualification structure to Tower Hamlets as a whole with a larger proportion of highly qualified residents.
- The proportion of those with a level 4 qualification was high in Island Gardens (54.6 per cent) when compared to Tower Hamlets (43.6 per cent) and London (40.5 per cent).
- Around 1,197 residents or 10.7 per cent aged 16 to 64 did not hold a formal qualification. However, this rate was substantially below the Tower Hamlets average of 15.6 per cent, the London (12.4 per cent) and England rates (14.8 per cent).
- The proportion of Island Gardens residents with no formal qualification was the 5th lowest out of all 20 wards in Tower Hamlets.
- The lowest proportion of residents with no qualification was recorded in St Katharine's and Wapping ward (6.8 per cent) while the highest proportion with no qualification was in the Lansbury ward with 25.6 per cent.
- The proportion of Island Gardens residents with a level 3 qualification was 8.9 per cent, again a rate below the Tower Hamlets and London averages.

Statistical Areas

The map (right) shows which Census Output Areas have been included in the summary statistics for this ward, and which areas have been assigned to other wards.

Census Output Area (OA) data has been aggregated on a best fit basis to match the new Tower Hamlets ward boundaries as closely as possible. This has been done in accordance with methodology employed by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in producing census statistics for non-standard geographies. Details of this methodology can be found on the ONS website at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/geography/geographic-policy/best-fit-policy/index.html>.

Island Gardens and the old wards



Further information

The data used in this document has been sourced from the Office for National Statistics Census 2011 and specific Census 2011 data tables are quoted in the document.

Contact the Corporate Research Unit: cru@towerhamlets.gov.uk

For more information, see the [Borough Statistics](#) page on the council's internet. Census 2011 data tables can be obtained from the [Office for National Statistics](#) official labour market statistics webpage.