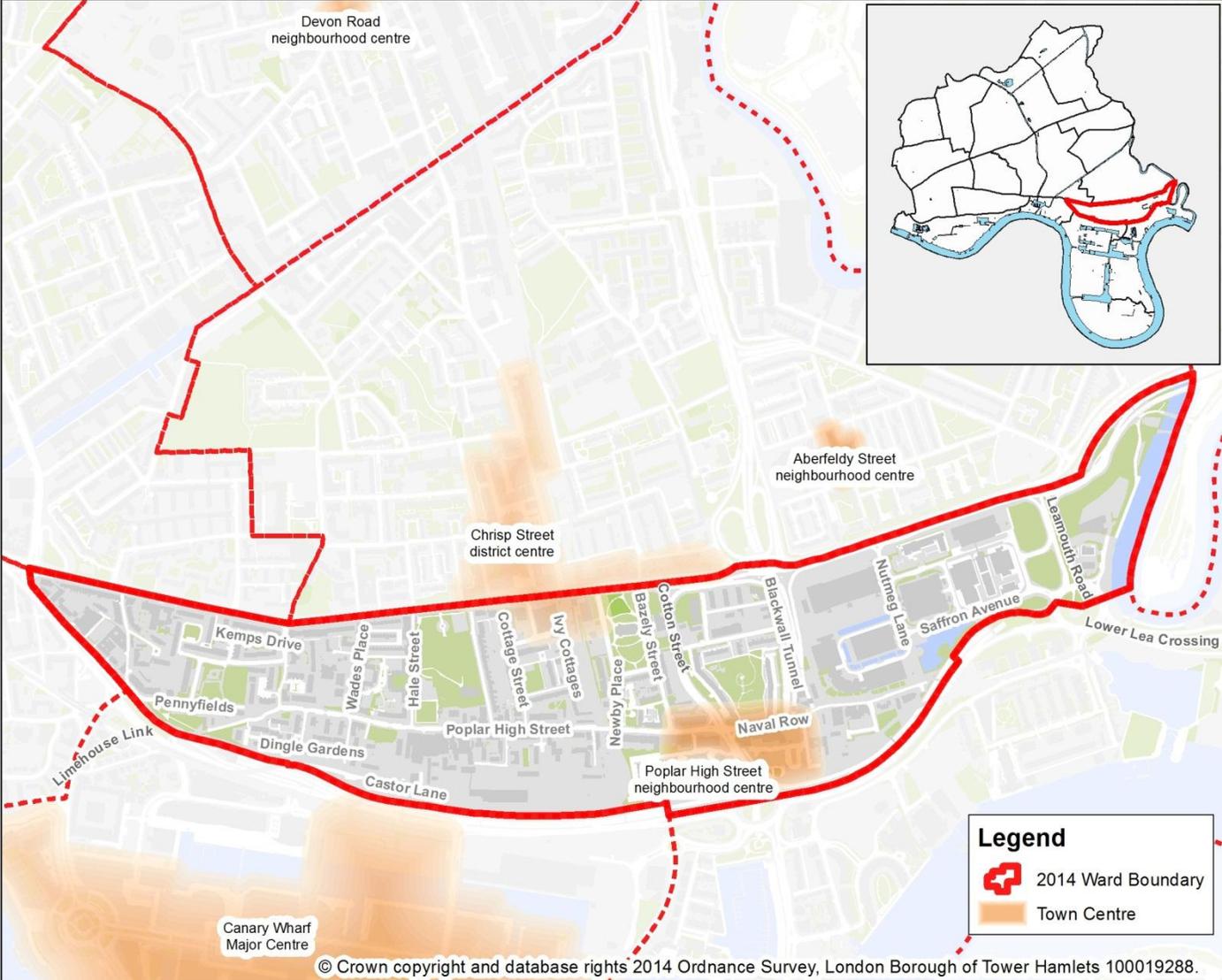


Poplar Ward Profile



Corporate Research Unit
May 2014

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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.

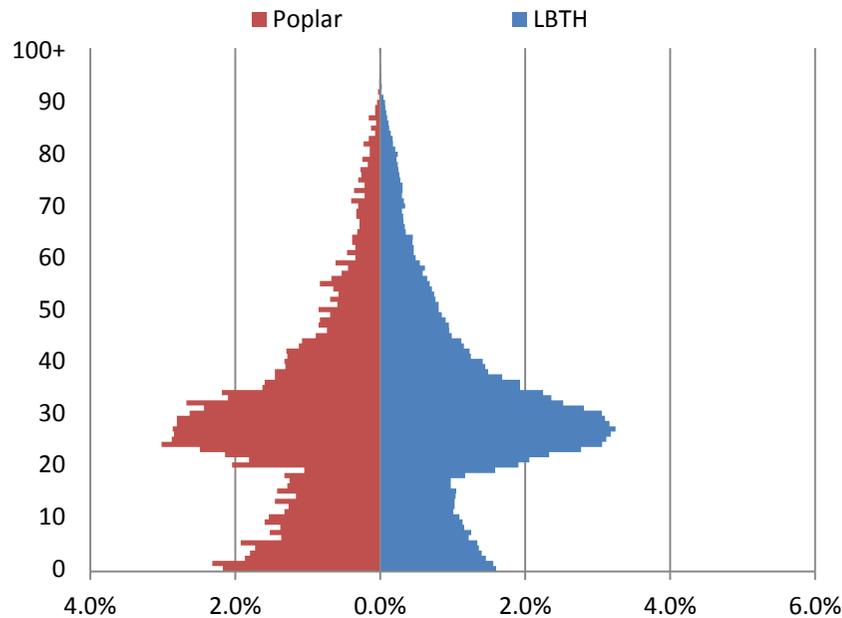
In May 2014, the number of wards increased from 17 to 20. The changes were made by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, in order to ensure that every councillor in Tower Hamlets represented roughly the same number of residents. The changes mean that no ward will have a population variance 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

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

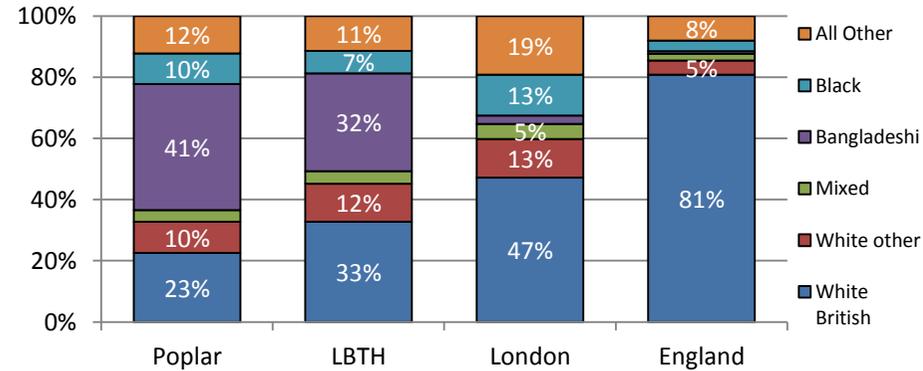
Residents by Age	0-15	16-64	65+	Total
Poplar	1,797	4,766	394	6,957
Poplar %	25.8%	68.5%	5.7%	100%
Tower Hamlets %	19.7%	74.1%	6.1%	100%

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

- At the time of the 2011 Census, the population for Poplar ward was 6,957 which accounted for 2.7 per cent of the total population of Tower Hamlets.
- The ward had 3,523 males and 3,434 females providing a gender split in the ward of 50.5 per cent male and 49.4 per cent female – a variance of 89 people.
- The population density in this ward was 136 people per hectare, compared to the borough average of 129 people per hectare.
- The proportion of residents in Poplar aged 0-15 years old is the third highest in the borough, with a corresponding lower than average proportion of working aged residents (16-62 years) and residents aged 65+.

Ethnicity

Figure 2: Ethnicity

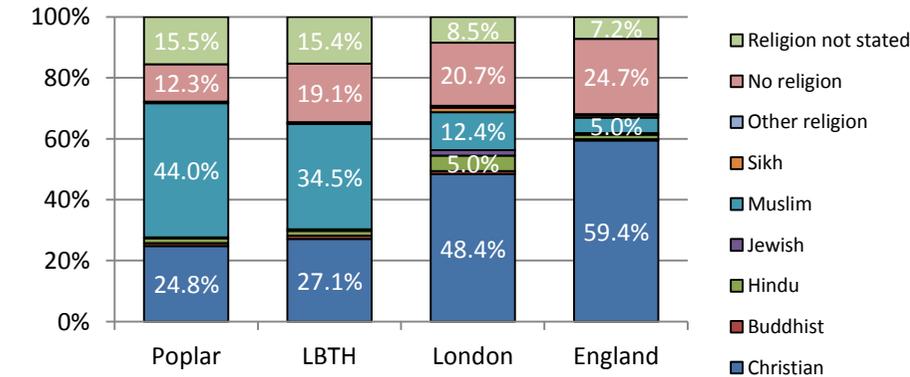


(Source: Census 2011 QS201EW - Ethnic group)

- At the time of the 2011 Census, 4,676 residents in the ward were BME (67 per cent). This proportion was significantly higher than the borough average of 54 per cent.
- Residents of Bangladeshi origin accounted for 41 per cent of the population (2,871 residents), a higher proportion than the borough average.
- There were 1,567 White British residents in the Poplar ward. There was a significantly lower proportion of residents who are White British in the ward 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 74 per cent of all residents in this ward.

Religion

Figure 3: Religion

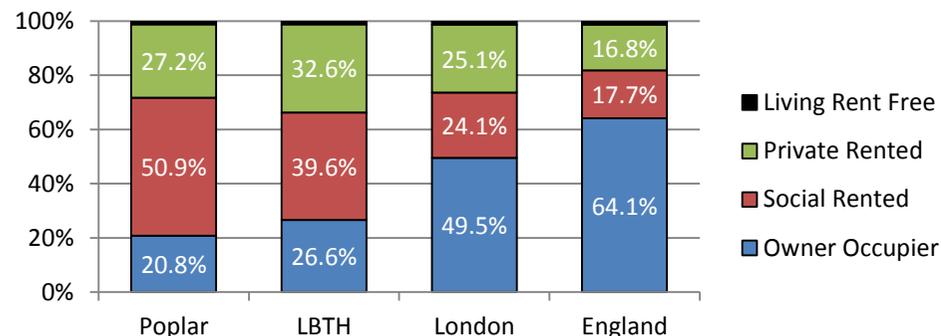


(Source: Census 2011 QS208EW - Religion)

- The proportion of residents who identified themselves as Christian was almost 25 per cent, lower than the borough average. Conversely, at 44 per cent of the population, the proportion of Muslim residents was higher than the borough average.
- Tower Hamlets had a significantly higher proportion of residents who explicitly did not state their religion on the census form when compared to London and the rest of England. There were just over 1,081 residents in this ward who did not state their religion – accounting for 15.5 per cent. This was the lowest proportion of all 20 wards in the borough.
- There were just over 853 residents in the ward who said they had no religion on the census form – accounting for 12.3 per cent of the ward's population, broadly comparable with both the borough average.

Housing Tenure¹

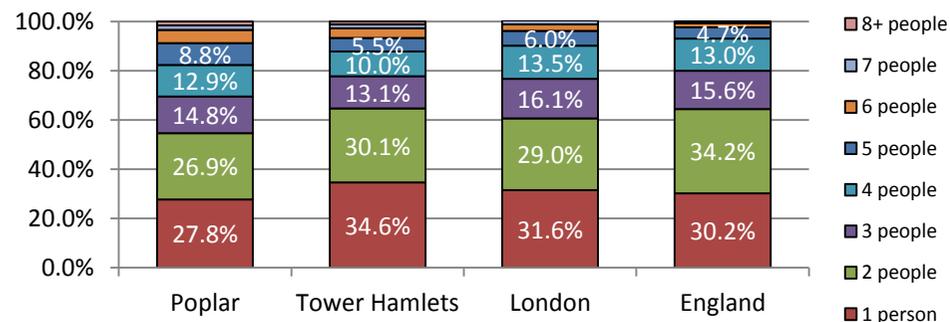
Figure 4: Tenure of households



(Source: Census 2011 QS405EW - Tenure – Households)

Household size

Figure 5: Tenure of households



(Source: Census 2011 QS405EW - Tenure – Households)

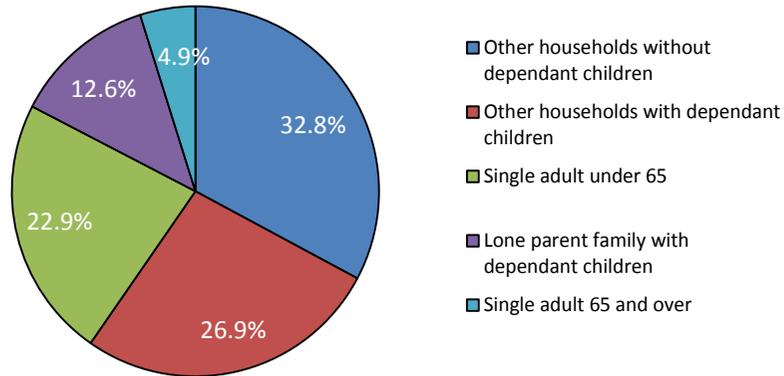
¹ Tenure provides information about whether a household rents or owns the accommodation that it occupies and, if rented, combines this with information about the type of landlord who owns or manages the accommodation.

- 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 49.9 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 2,445 households in the Poplar ward. Compared to the other wards, Poplar had a significantly lower than average proportion of households – accounting for just 2.4 per cent of the whole.
- 20.8 per cent of households in the wards were owner-occupied, lower than the borough average of 26.6 per cent.
- There were a higher than average proportion of socially rented properties in this ward and a lower than average proportion of private rented properties. Together the proportion of renters (78 per cent) was higher than the borough average (72.2 per cent).

- The proportion of households in the Poplar ward with three or more people accounted for 45.4 per cent of the total households in the ward. This proportion was higher than the borough average of 35 per cent.
- On Census day, 432 households were recorded as having five or more people living in them. This equates to 17.7 per cent of the households in the ward and was higher than the average for Tower Hamlets (12.3 per cent).
- The average household size for the ward was 2.85 compared to the borough average of 2.51.

Household composition

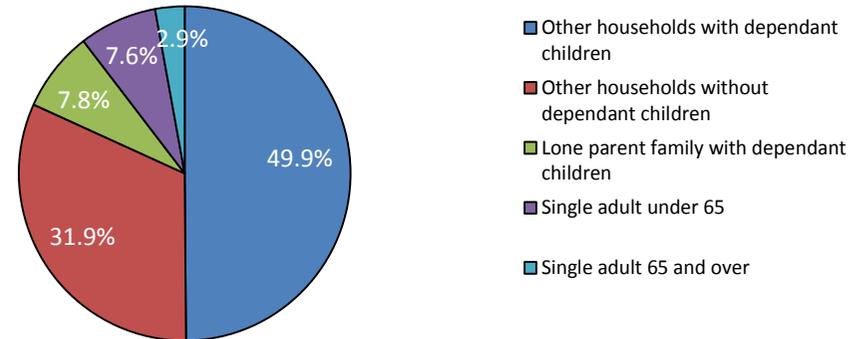
Figure 6: Household composition - percentage of households by type



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

- At the time of the Census, 58.9 per cent of all residents in the ward lived in family households with dependent children; this proportion was higher than the borough average of 46.2 per cent.
- However, families with dependent children occupied 39.4 percent of the households in the ward, higher than the borough average of 26.6 per cent.
- Single adult households accounted for 27.8 per cent of all households in the ward; however 11.6 per cent of the ward's residents lived in this type of household.
- Older people living alone (65+) accounted for 4.9 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. 23 per cent of households (554 households) in the ward were overcrowded – higher 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)

Table 2: Average household size

Average residents per household	Poplar	Tower Hamlets	London	England
Households with dependent children	4.20	4.30	3.89	3.78
Households with non-dependent children	1.91	1.81	1.84	1.78

(Source: Census 2011 QS406EW - Household size)

Table 3: Occupancy ratings

Area	Overcrowded (-1 or less)		Required Bedrooms (0)		Under Occupied (+1 or more)	
Poplar	554	23%	1,180	48%	711	29%
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
Poplar	467	483	6,007
Poplar (%)	6.7%	6.9%	86.3%
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 467 residents (6.7 per cent) in Poplar had a long term health problem or disability *limiting the persons day to day activities a lot*, while 6.9 per cent (483 residents) had a long term health problem or disability *limiting the persons day to day activities a little*.
- In Poplar, the rate of people with a long term health problem or disability *limiting day to day activities a lot* was close to the Tower Hamlets (6.8 per cent) and London rate (6.7 per cent) but below the England rate.
- In comparison, the rate of people with a long term health problem or disability *limiting day to day activities a little* of 6.9 per cent was still above the Tower Hamlets rate (6.7 per cent) but below London and England 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
Poplar	6,363	316	106	172
Poplar (%)	91.5%	4.5%	1.5%	2.5%
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 8.5 per cent of residents in Poplar provided unpaid care. The Poplar rate was above the Tower Hamlets (7.6 per cent), London (8.4 per cent) and England (10.2 per cent) rates.
- From 594 residents in Poplar who provided unpaid care, around 106 residents provided care for 20 to 49 hours a week, while 172 residents provided care for 50 or more hours a week.
- The proportion of those providing unpaid care for 50 hours or more of 2.5 per cent in Poplar was above Tower Hamlets, London and even England averages (2.4 per cent).

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
Poplar	2,577	444	266	236	447	509	256	243
Poplar (%)	51.8	8.9	5.3	4.7	9.0	10.2	5.1	4.9
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 Poplar and comparator areas.

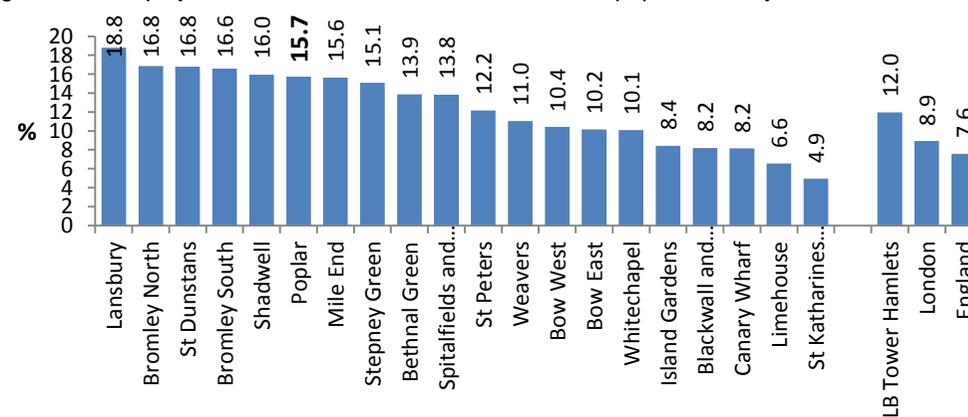
• The Poplar ward had a rate of 51.8 per cent of residents in employment, a rate significantly below Tower Hamlets (57.6 per cent), London (62.4 per cent) and England (62.1 per cent) averages.

- The proportion of economically inactive residents, including those looking after home & family (10.2 per cent) and the long term sick (5.1 per cent) was above the borough, London and England averages.
- A total of 444 residents were unemployed in Poplar. The rate of 8.9 per cent was above the Tower Hamlets (6.7 per cent), London (5.2 per cent) and England (4.4 per cent) averages.

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 it is in general higher compared to the rate based on the proportion of residents aged 16 to 74 age group as shown above.
- Poplar had the 6th highest unemployment rate in the borough with 15.7 per cent, around 3.7 percentage points above 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.

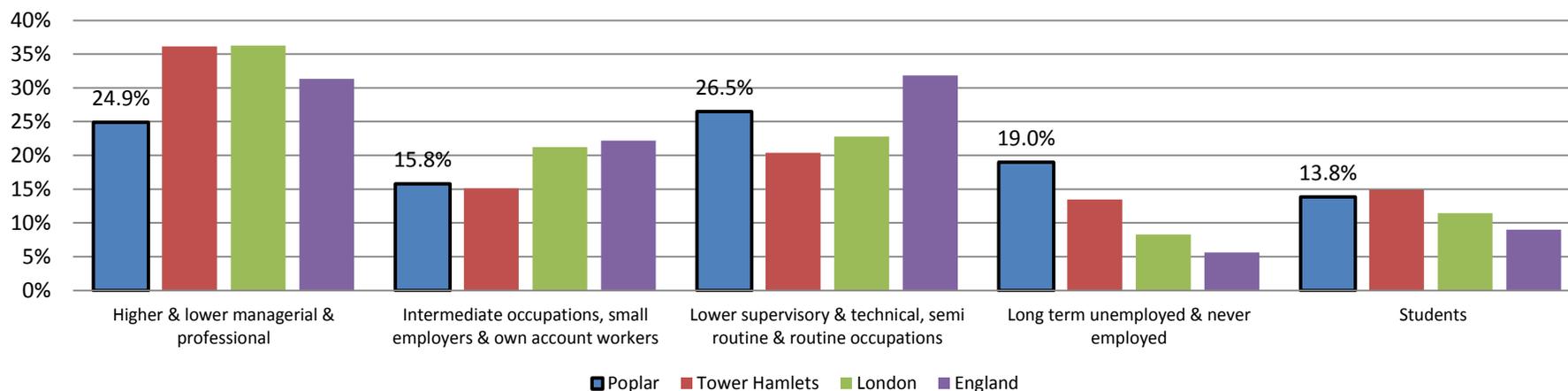
Figure 8: Unemployment rate of 16 to 64 – economic active population only



(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, there was a high proportion of residents who worked in the routine and manual occupations sector (26.5 per cent compared to the borough average of 20.4 per cent).
- The ward had a lower proportion of residents working in the managerial and professional occupations compared to the borough average (36.1 per cent).
- Nineteen per cent of the ward's working aged population was classified as long term unemployed / never employed compared to the borough average of 13.5 per cent (946 residents).

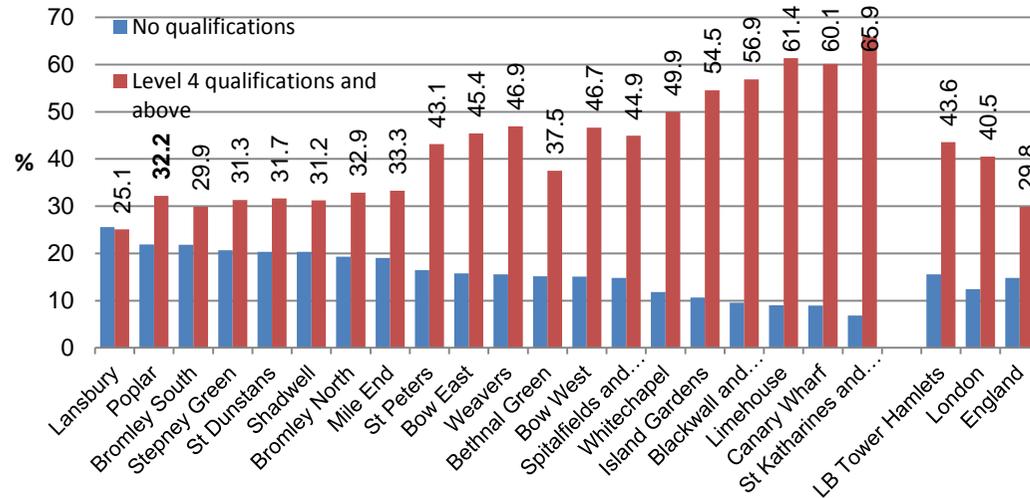
Qualification levels

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
Poplar	1,044	620	500	51	438	1,535	578
Poplar (%)	21.9	13.0	10.5	1.1	9.2	32.2	12.1
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 Poplar showed a different qualification structure to Tower Hamlets as a whole with a far lower proportion of highly qualified residents.
- The proportion of those with a level 4 qualification was relatively low in Poplar (32.2 per cent) when compared to Tower Hamlets (43.6 per cent) and London (40.5 per cent).
- Around 1,044 residents or 21.9 per cent aged 16 to 64 did not hold a formal qualification. This rate was substantially above the Tower Hamlets average of 15.6 per cent and the London (12.4 per cent) and England rates (14.8 per cent).
- The proportion of Poplar residents with no formal qualification was the 2nd highest 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 Poplar residents with a level 3 qualification was 9.2 per cent, a rate just below the Tower Hamlets and London averages.

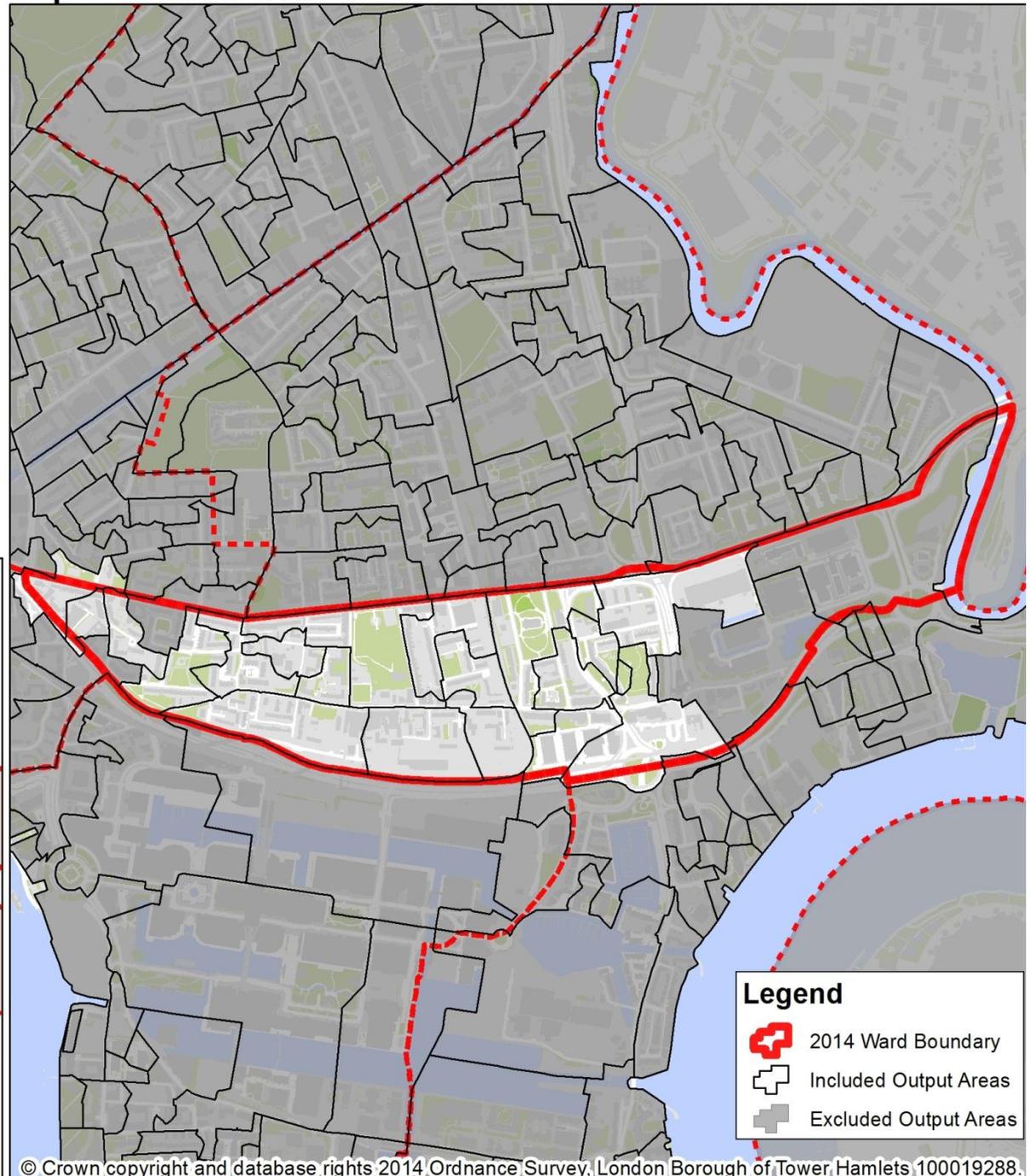
Statistical Areas

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.

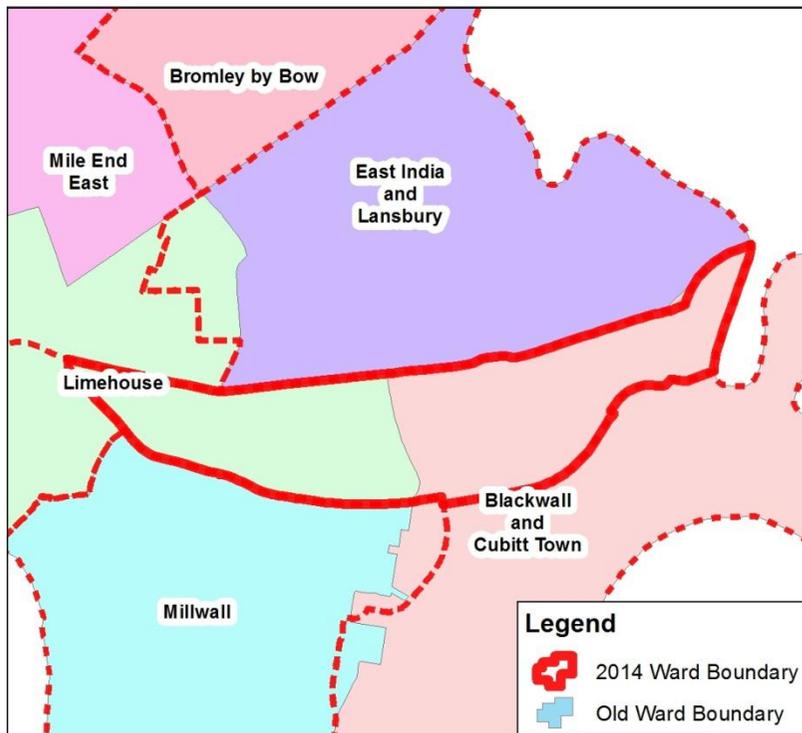
Census Output Area (OA) data has been aggregated on a best fit basis to match the new Tower Hamlets ward boundaries as closely as possible. This has been done in accordance with methodology employed by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in producing census statistics for non-standard geographies. 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>.

Poplar Statistical Area



Poplar 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.