

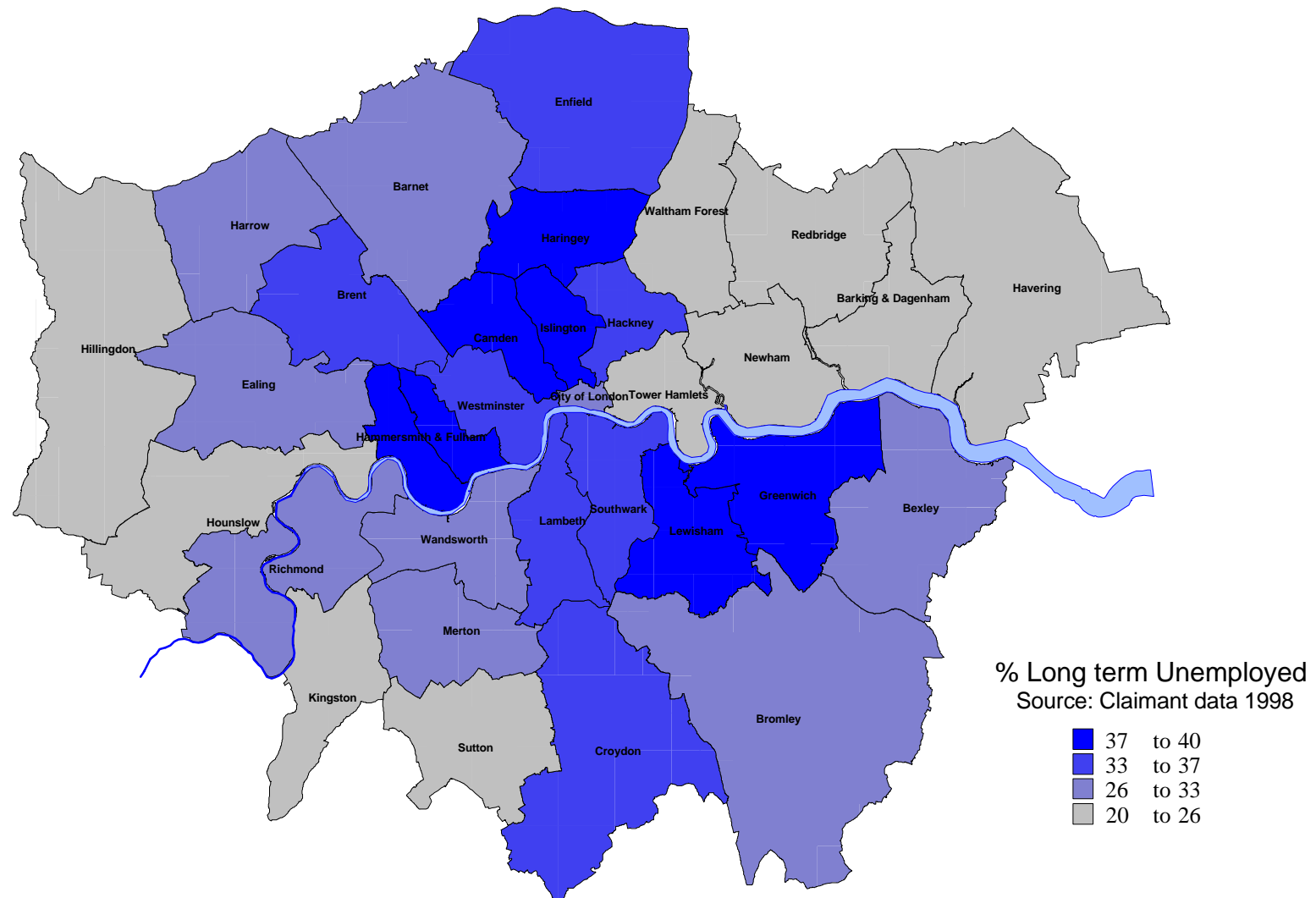
London's refugees and asylum seekers

- It has been estimated that over half of the international migration to the UK comes to London.
- In recent years people given UK residence as a result of seeking asylum, or entering the country as a visitor and requesting residence, have formed an important part of the inward migration from overseas.
- There is no reliable information on how many refugees are living or have moved to London. It has been estimated that the numbers of refugees who have entered the country over the last 15 years and are now living in London is between 240,000 and 280,000. (HOLP 1999 unpublished)
- The majority of asylum seekers are young, two thirds aged between 21 and 34, and men (over 75% in 1997). Roughly 35% of applicants in 1997 were Asian, 30% African and 30% from Europe.
- A home office study showed that eight out of 10 people granted refugee status between 1983 and 1991 settled in London. This would suggest that over 43,000 applicants since 1989 have sought to house themselves in London.
- As could be expected, refugees and asylum seekers experience some of the greatest difficulties trying to house themselves in London.
- The difficulties faced by refugees and asylum seekers in terms of language and securing employment may be compounded by trauma, isolation, and anxiety.
- Source: LRC "The Capital Divided", Asylum Statistics United Kingdom 1997

Determinants of Health: employment

- Average earnings in London (£566 and £403 average per week for men and women) are higher than the average earnings for Great Britain as a whole, (£427 and £310), and is maintained across the type of occupation. This is a reflection of the high salaries paid in financial and business sectors. Even so nearly one in four women in manual work earned less than £200 per week.
- Male workers in London work an estimated four and a half hours unpaid overtime a week and women five hours, both more than an hour longer than the UK average.
- Long term unemployment has strong links with both social exclusion and poverty. Since 1990 in London the unemployment rate has been higher than the UK average. The rate in 1998 was 8.1 %, compared with 6.1 % for the UK.
- Long term unemployment is a considerable problem in London. Men were more likely than women to be long term unemployed, and over a third of men claiming benefit had been unemployed for more than a year.
- People from black and minority ethnic communities have a much higher chance of being unemployed than the white population.
- The greatest concentration of unemployment was found in the black community. This represents more than three quarters of all unemployed black people in Britain.
- Measures such as the “New Deal” for the long term unemployed and the proposed Employment Zones (Southwark, Newham, Tower Hamlets, Haringey and Brent in London) have implications for London.

Determinants of Health: employment



Determinants of Health: education

- Spending per pupil on education in London was over a fifth higher than England in primary schools and one sixth higher for secondary schools, at £2,090 and £2,700 per pupil.
- For more than a fifth of pupils in London English is a second language and not the main one used at home.
- In 1996/7 the educational attainments at GCSE and GCE A levels by pupils in Outer London was similar to those of England as a whole. However the results for Inner London were below those of England as a whole.
- Nearly 40% of Inner London's resident population of working age has a higher education qualification compared with 24 per cent for the UK overall.
- Four of the 25 first round Education Action Zones are in London (Croydon, Lambeth, Southwark and Newham).

Source LRC, DfEE

Trend in GCSE/GCE A level examination results: by sex (percentages)

	Inner London		Outer London		England	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Pupils achieving at least 5 GCSE grades A* to C (1)						
1991/92	26.1	32.6	34.1	43.1	34.1	42.7
1993/94	29.6	37.0	39.2	48.5	39.1	47.8
1995/96	31.4	39.9	41.0	50.7	39.9	49.4
1996/97	33.2	41.8	41.9	51.8	40.5	50.0
No graded results						
1991/92	19.5	14.3	10.5	8.2	9.7	7.0
1993/94	14.9	11.8	8.8	7.0	8.7	6.6
1995/96	13.1	9.3	8.4	6.1	8.9	6.6
1996/97	12.0	7.6	7.3	5.6	8.8	6.5
Students achieving at least 3 GCE A levels or AS equivalents (2)						
1991/92	12.1	13.2	15.5	17.1	15.9	17.5
1993/94	13.6	14.9	17.2	20.4	18.4	21.4
1995/96	15.1	16.9	20.3	24.2	20.4	24.4
1996/97	15.7	18.9	20.1	24.7	20.4	24.8

(1) Pupils in their last year of compulsory schooling as a percentage of the school population of the same age

(2) Students in schools and further education colleges aged 17-19 at the end of the academic year as a percentage of the 18 year old population.

Source: LRC London 99 / Department for Education and Employment

Determinants of Health: environment

- Over 40% of the land in London is in non urban use, including over a fifth identified as grassland. There are many parks and areas of open land throughout London which includes 59 nature reserves and 35 sites of special scientific interest. Access to this space is not easy for people in many parts of London as the green spaces are concentrated in particular areas. Green spaces help to enhance the quality of life for Londoners.
- London has a long history of poor air quality. The smogs brought about by burning coal and other fuels have declined only to be replaced by pollutants arising from road traffic (particularly through the use of the car), the principal contributor to the main pollutants other than sulphur dioxide.

Source LRC

Determinants of Health: transport

- Road traffic plays a major role both as a source of pollutants and in road accident injuries and deaths.
- The pattern of travel in London shows an increase in car use of some 45% between 1981 and 1991. More than a half of all trips by car in London are under five miles.
- Traffic speed in central London has fallen to an average 10 mph, with very little difference between the rush hour and off peak speeds.
- Road traffic accident casualties are an obvious link to health, and in 1997 there were over 46,000 road traffic casualties in London of which 6,700 were serious and 276 were fatal. Over half of the fatalities and nearly a third of the serious injuries were pedestrians.
- Although the long term trend has been a decline in total road accident casualties compared to 1981-85 an increase both in total casualties and fatal/serious casualties was seen between 1996 and 1997.

Fatal and serious road casualties 1997

Borough	Pedestrian	Cyclist	Motorcycle	Car	Other	Total
City of London	17	3	10	12	6	48
Barking and Dagenham	34	9	21	115	16	195
Barnet	62	18	45	145	17	287
Bexley	36	8	20	87	5	156
Brent	88	21	26	109	12	256
Bromley	60	21	39	165	20	305
Camden	105	41	38	70	11	265
Croydon	58	10	39	118	24	249
Ealing	105	21	34	123	18	301
Enfield	70	11	24	151	10	266
Greenwich	55	6	36	95	14	206
Hackney	75	29	23	78	17	222
Hammersmith and Fulham	61	17	23	45	12	158
Haringey	76	7	19	74	9	185
Harrow	35	6	14	58	5	118
Havering	35	8	20	148	5	216
Hillingdon	64	12	37	156	11	280
Hounslow	55	25	24	103	22	229
Islington	90	27	28	39	14	198
Kensington and Chelsea	68	22	36	41	13	180
Kingston upon Thames	37	10	21	52	8	128
Lambeth	118	34	42	72	20	286
Lewisham	86	14	35	58	17	210
Merton	36	13	32	56	7	144
Newham	72	12	16	86	11	197
Redbridge	41	9	24	134	11	219
Richmond upon Thames	35	26	29	58	9	157
Southwark	71	27	47	85	11	241
Sutton	26	8	17	60	4	115
Tower Hamlets	59	12	33	54	8	166
Waltham Forest	59	9	19	80	7	174
Wandsworth	63	39	69	67	8	246
Westminster	182	39	48	77	43	389
London	2,136	574	991	2,889	428	7,018
Source LRC						

Determinants of Health: health and lifestyle

- Lifestyle has a significant impact on an individual's health. Diet, physical activity, smoking, alcohol consumption, sexual behaviour and drugs are all risk factors for ill health. Smoking is estimated to be the biggest cause of premature deaths in England. The publication last November of the White Paper "Smoking Kills" underlines this.
- Smoking amongst men in London is slightly more common than in Great Britain as a whole. The average consumption for men is around 15 cigarettes a day, and 12 for women. Both London and national figures show a decline from 1980, but this still means nearly a third of men and over a quarter of women over 16 in London smoke.
- Both good diet and physical activity are important factors in maintaining health. The proportion of obese men and women in London is likely to be around 15%. This is lower than the average for England.

Source LRC, Health Survey for England

Percentage cigarette smoking people aged 16 and over

Males	London	Great Britain
1980	44	42
1986	36	35
1990-91	32	31
1994-95	32	28
1996-97	32	29
Females		
1980	36	37
1986	31	31
1990-91	29	29
1994-95	26	26
1996-97	27	28

Source: Health Survey for England

Determinants of Health: economic prosperity & regeneration

- From the 1960's governments have made resources available for urban regeneration.
- The Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) provides an integrated approach to the problems of multiple deprivation by addressing sustainable development in three respects, economic competitiveness, social cohesion and environmental sustainability.
- The SRB supports major regeneration schemes in the most deprived boroughs in London. A focus on communities is a key element of the regeneration policy. The fifth round of SRB bidding is expected to support a number of schemes of around £20m-£25m from these boroughs together with smaller bids.
- 68 priority community areas in London have been identified as focal points of need and deprivation, all but six of these are located in the most deprived boroughs.
- In London there are nearly 140 schemes up and running as a result of rounds one to four of the SRB. In the period ending (1998/9) the SRB in London amounted to some £150 million.

Health and London: public opinion

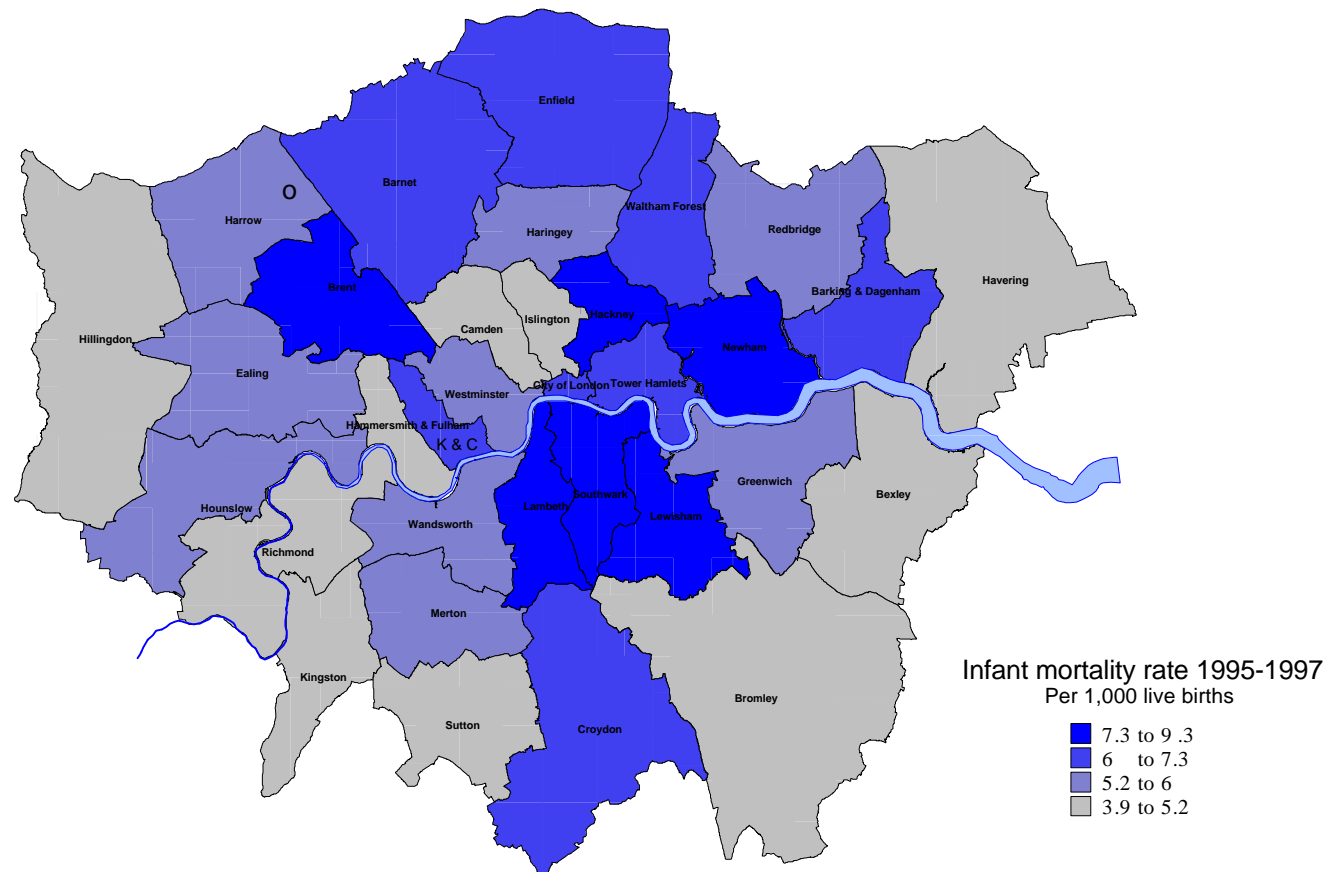
- In November 1998 the King's Fund and the Evening Standard conducted a poll on the Health of London.
- The aim of the poll was to discover what Londoners think about the underlying causes of their health and the health of their city.
- Over eight out of 10 Londoners said their health was good.
- However when asked about how healthy a place London is to live in:-
 - three out of five people think the capital is an unhealthy place to live.
 - and half of all Londoners think London will become less healthy.
- When asked about which factors affect their health the most:-
 - 88% said environmental factors are one of the top three affecting their health
 - 54% said life style factors one of the top three affecting their health
 - 39% said work and employment issues one of the top three affecting their health
- When asked what are the top three priorities for the Mayor to change:-
 - 89% of Londoners thought the Mayor should prioritise environmental issues
 - 55% thought life style factors should be prioritised
 - 31% indicated work and employment issues
- Thus the environment, employment and lifestyle were seen by Londoners as being important factors which affect their health, not just local health services.

Health Indicators: infant mortality

- Traditionally infant mortality has been seen as a major indicator of a population's health.
- Average values for London are comparable or better than other UK cities, although somewhat behind some other European capitals, particularly those in Scandinavia.
- Generally Inner London rates are higher than those in Outer London, Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham has the highest infant mortality rate in the country.
- There are wide social class variations.
- Low birthweight is the strongest risk factor for infant mortality.
- The rate for mothers born in the New Commonwealth is 50% higher than that for those born in the UK, and particularly high for mothers born in Pakistan.

Source PHCDS 1998, Child Health in London

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births



Source: PHCDS 1998