

Ethnicity, language, religion and country of birth

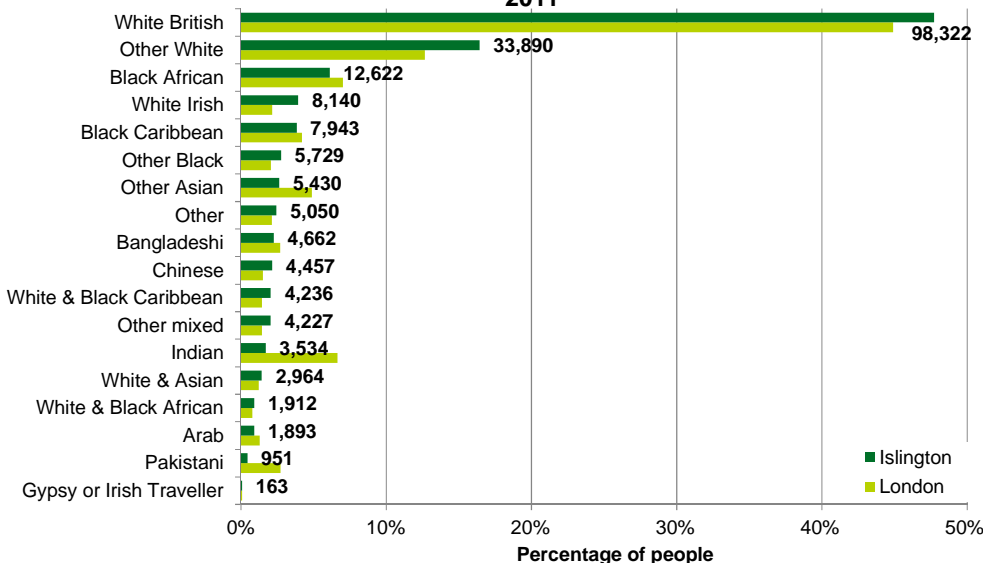
This briefing provides information on ethnicity, language and country of birth among Islington residents. The briefing draws on data released from the 2011 Census during the second, third and fourth data releases, which took place during 2013. Data was downloaded from <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

Overview

- Nearly half (**48%, 98,300**) of Islington's population is White British.
- Ethnic diversity has increased in the borough between the 2001 and 2011. In 2011, **32%** of Islington residents identified themselves as being from non-white backgrounds compared to **25%** in 2001. This diversity is generally more pronounced in younger age groups under 25, where nearly half the population is from non-white ethnic groups.
- Overall, about **3%** (6,600) of Islington residents do not speak English well or at all. Older age groups tend to have lower levels of English proficiency than younger residents and a higher proportion of women than men cannot speak English well or at all. This may have implications for service provision.
- About **6% (11,400)** people of Islington's resident population have been living in the UK for less than 2 years. This group may have different needs than people who have lived in the UK for a long time.

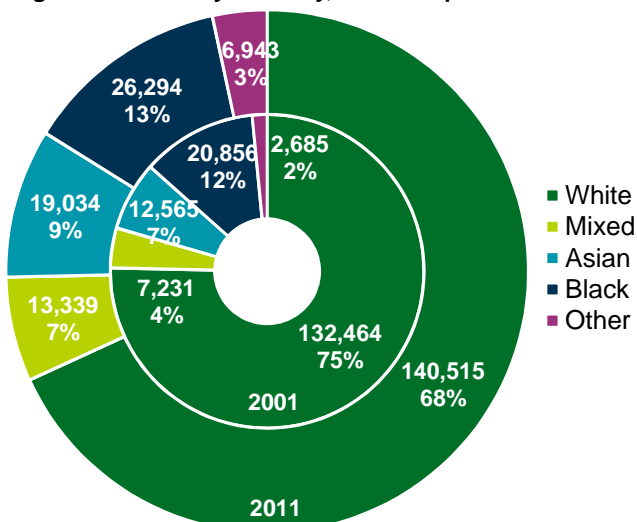
Ethnicity

Percentage of Islington and London residents by detailed ethnicity, 2011



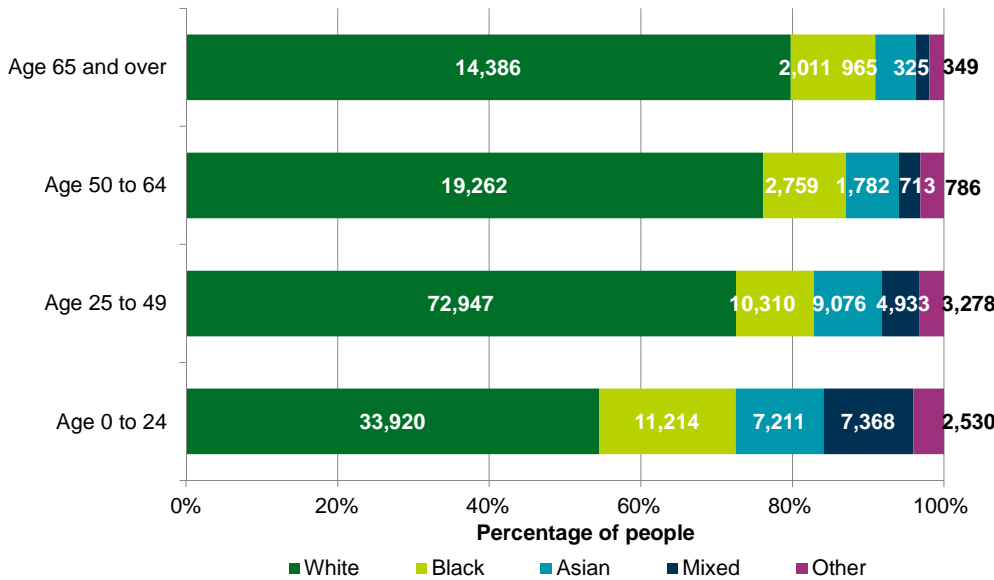
- The largest ethnic group in Islington is White British, but Islington also has several large minority groups.
- Compared to London, the proportion of Other White, White Irish, Other Black, Chinese, Mixed ethnicity and Other residents is higher in Islington.
- There is a smaller proportion of South Asian people in Islington compared to London.

Islington residents by ethnicity, 2011 compared to 2001



- Islington's population has become more ethnically diverse between 2001 and 2011.
- The proportion of Islington residents identifying themselves as White British has dropped from **57%** in 2001 to **48%** in 2011.
- There has also been a decrease in the proportion of residents identifying themselves as White Irish, from **6% (10,000)** to **4% (8,000)**. This is largely due to an aging Irish population (data not shown).
- The proportion of residents identifying themselves as other White has increased from **13%** in 2001 to **17%** in 2011.

Breakdown of Islington residents by age and ethnicity, Islington, 2011

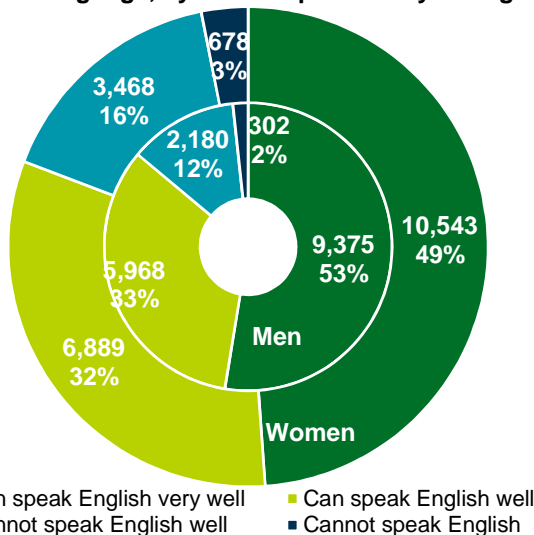


- The younger population in Islington is more ethnically diverse than older groups.
- This may reflect a high level of migration into the borough for work and study, and high fertility rates in some ethnic minorities.
- For more information on students in the borough, see the Work and Employment Census briefing.

Language in Islington

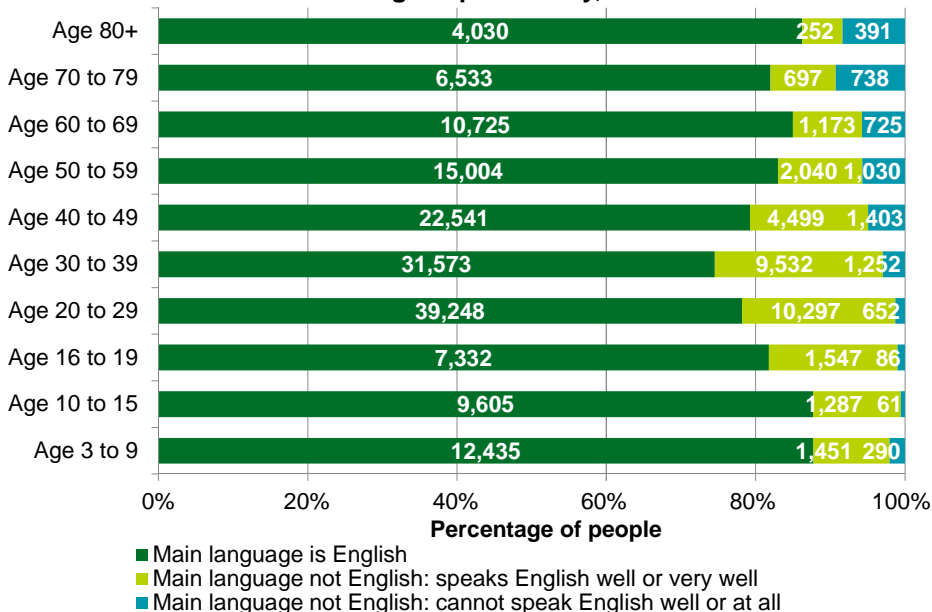
English as a main language

Breakdown of Islington residents for whom English is not the main language, by sex and proficiency in English, 2011



- Overall, about **20% (39,400)** of Islington residents do not speak English as a main language. This is comparable to the London average of **22%**.
- Among Islington residents for whom English is not the main language, about half (**51%, 19,900**) speak English very well and a third (**33%, 12,900**) speak English well.
- **17% (6,600)** of Islington residents for whom English is not a main language cannot speak English well or at all. This proportion is higher among women (**19%**) than men (**14%**).

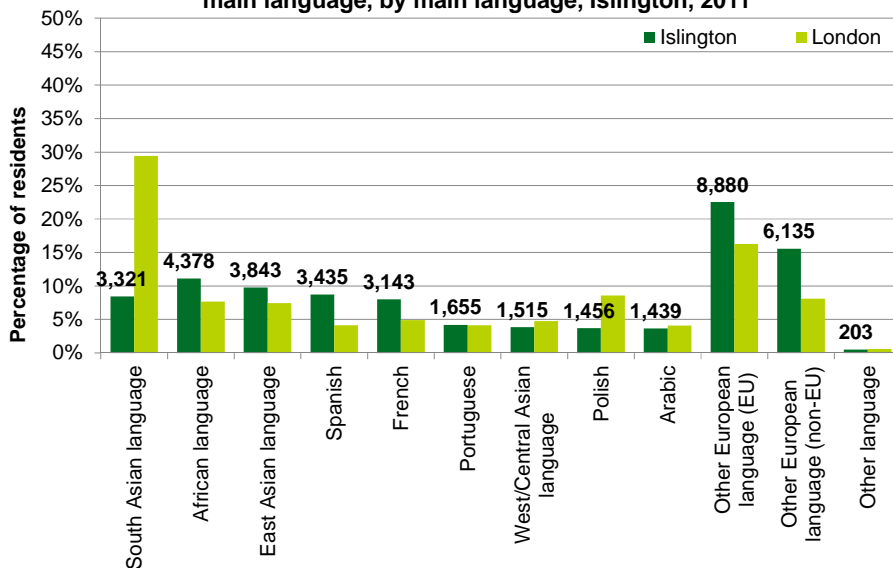
Breakdown of Islington residents aged three and over by age group and English proficiency, 2011



- Islington residents aged 70+ have the largest proportion of people who cannot speak English well or at all. This may have implications for service provision and increase the risk of isolation among older people.
- Overall, people aged 16 to 49 have the largest proportions of people for whom English is not a first language but who speak English well or very well. This may reflect a migrant population with high competence in English who work and study in the borough.

Other languages spoken in Islington

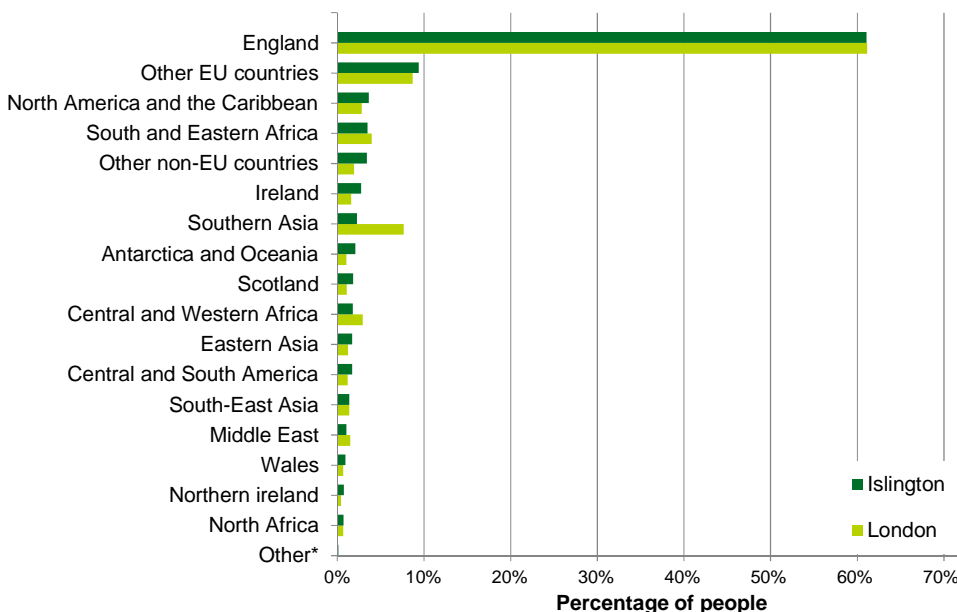
Percentage and number of residents for whom English is not the main language, by main language, Islington, 2011



- After English, other EU European languages are most commonly spoken in Islington, followed by other non-EU European languages.
- Compared to London, a larger proportion of Islington residents speak African languages, East Asian languages, Spanish, French and other European languages.
- Knowing what languages are most prevalent in the borough is essential to targeting and delivering culturally and linguistically appropriate services.

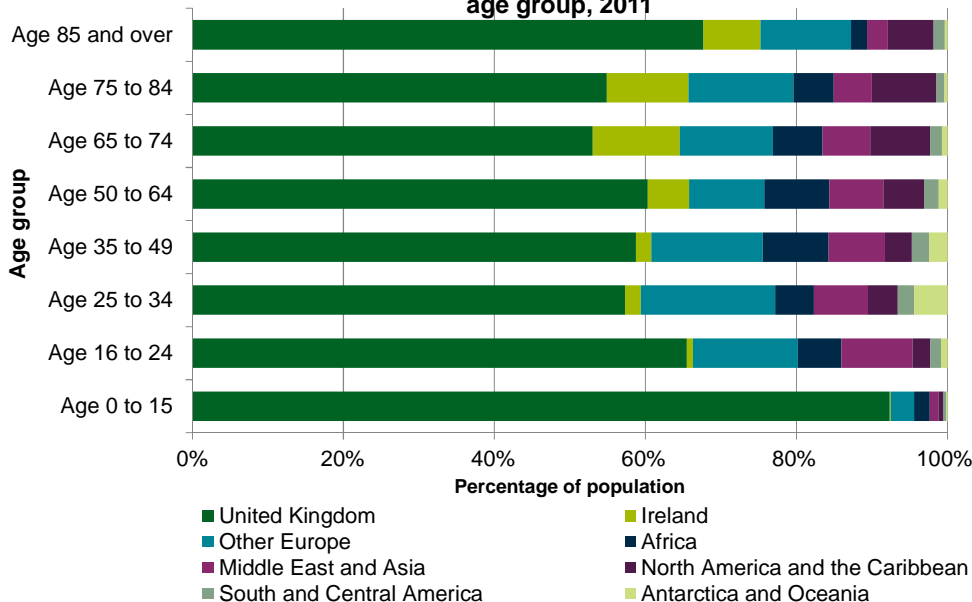
Place of Birth

Percentage of Islington residents, by place of birth, 2011



*Includes: UK not otherwise specified, Africa not otherwise specified, Central Asia and Other

Breakdown of Islington resident population by place of birth and age group, 2011



- The majority (**65%**, **133,100**) of Islington residents are born within the UK. A further **12%** (**25,100**) are born in Ireland and other EU countries.
- Islington has a lower proportion of residents born in Southern Asia compared to London (**2%** vs. **8%**).
- Most children under 15 (**92%**, **30,300**) are born in the UK. A higher proportion of 16-29 year olds are born in the Middle East and Asia compared to other age groups. This may reflect the demographics of the student population in the borough.
- A higher proportion of people aged 65 and over are born North America compared to other age groups. Changing patterns in country of birth among different age groups reflect shifts in migration trends over the years.

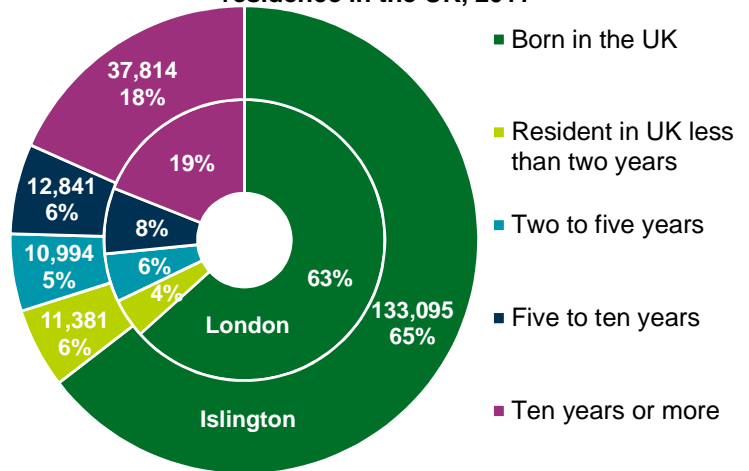
Length of residency in the UK

22,400

Islington residents have lived in the UK for less than five years.

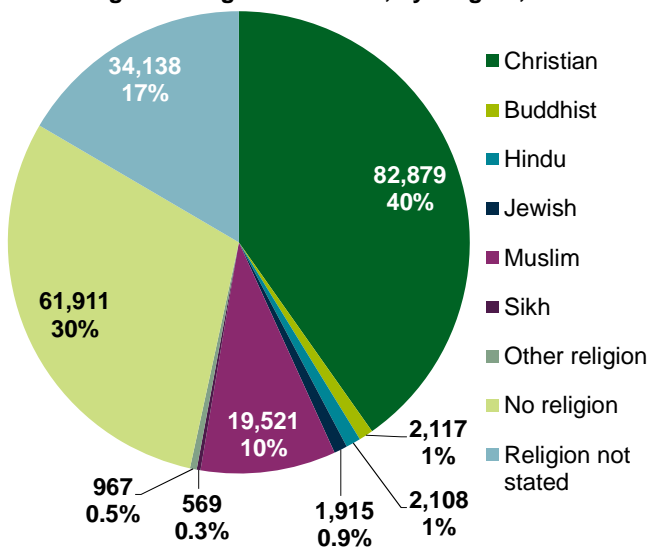
About **6% (11,400 people)** of Islington's resident population have been living in the UK for less than 2 years. Monitoring this population is important, as new arrivals in the UK often have different needs than people who have lived here a long time.

Breakdown of Islington and London residents, by length of residence in the UK, 2011

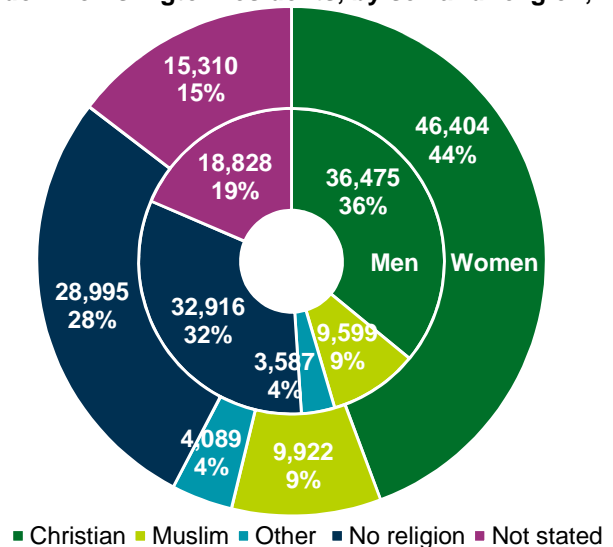


Religion

Percentage of Islington residents, by religion, 2011

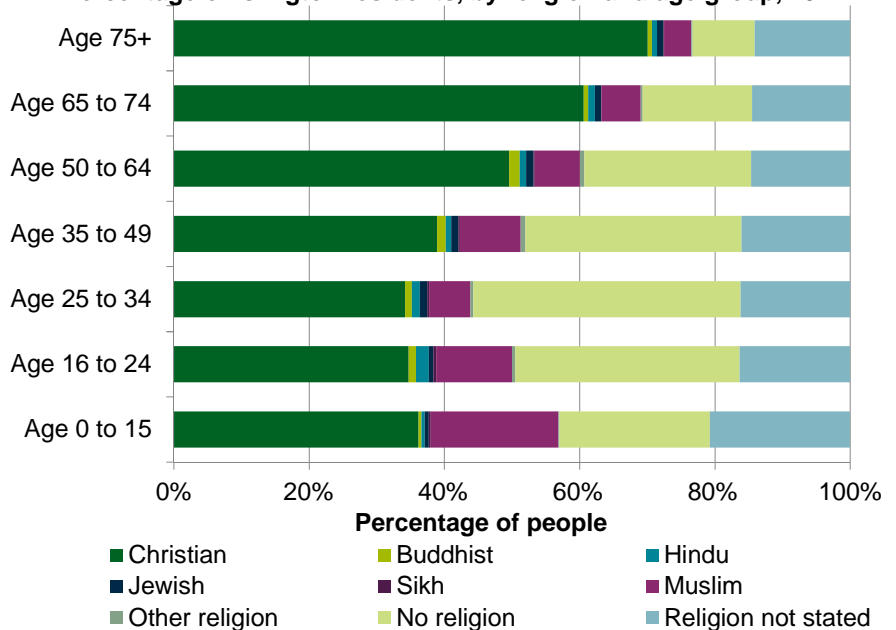


Breakdown of Islington residents, by sex and religion, 2011



- Overall, about **half** of all Islington residents have a stated religion.
- The majority of people with a stated religion identify themselves as Christian (**40%** of all residents), however a large proportion of Islington residents are Muslim (**9%**).
- More women (**58%**) identify with a religion than men (**49%**).
- A higher proportion of older (aged 65+) identify themselves as belonging to a religion (mostly Christianity) than younger people.

Percentage of Islington residents, by religion and age group, 2011



This profile has been produced by Chloé Rousseau and reviewed by Alexandra Cronberg. For more information contact publichealth.intelligence@islington.gov.uk or call 020 7527 1370