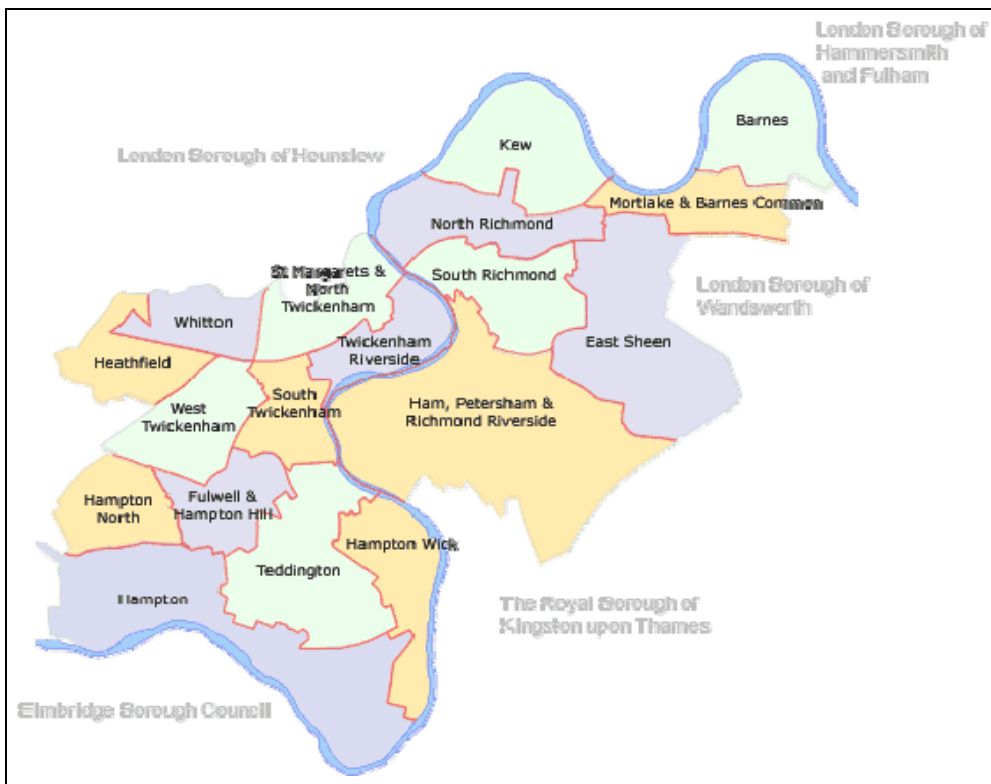


London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Borough Profile

Introduction

The London Borough of Richmond upon Thames is a prosperous, safe and healthy borough. It covers an area of 5,095 hectares (14,591 acres) in southwest London and is the only London borough spanning both sides of the Thames, with river frontage of 21½ miles. The main town centre is Richmond and there are four district centres at Twickenham, Teddington, East Sheen and Whitton.



Our People

Population

Richmond upon Thames has a population of 187,200 according to the revised mid-year estimates for 2008; 51% females and 49% males. (ONS, released May 2010). The latest information can be found at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=14060>.

According to the ONS revised mid-year estimates for 2008 there are some differences between the population of Richmond upon Thames and that of the country as a whole. There is a greater proportion of people aged 0-9 years in Richmond (13.0%), and a smaller proportion aged 10-24 (15.2%). There are also more people of a working age, with 59.4% of the population aged 25-64. The proportion of those aged 65-84 (10.3%) is slightly lower than that of Outer London (11.2%), and lower than that of the country as a whole (14.0%). However, the number of people aged over 85 (1.3%) is very similar to the national picture (1.5%).

At the time of the 2001 Census, Richmond upon Thames had the highest percentage in London (44%) of people aged 65 and over living alone and this was expected to increase further. Ham, Petersham and Richmond Riverside wards have the highest count of population for both 65+ and 85+ age bands.

The ONS population projections suggest a rise in the total population of Richmond upon Thames to 189,000 by 2011 and to 198,000 in 2016.

Significant differences in age groups are as follows:

- The 0-19 age group will increase by 3.4 % by 2011 and by 9.9% by 2016;
- The 20-39 age group will decrease by 0.4% by 2011 and by 0.9% by 2016;
- The 40-64 age group will increase by 2.9% by 2011 and by 6.2% by 2016;
- There will be an overall increase in the 65+ age group, with a significant rise in the number of “younger” older people by 2016.

More detailed demographic data can be found at:

<http://www.richmond.gov.uk/cenborough.pdf>

Ward level data can be found at:

[Census information - London Borough of Richmond upon Thames](#)

Community

The borough has a strong community; according to the 2008/9 Place Survey, almost nine out of ten residents feel that people from different backgrounds get on with each other in their local area and almost two-thirds of all residents feel they belong to their immediate neighbourhood too.

Deprivation

Richmond is one of the least deprived areas in the country and the least deprived within London (Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007). No areas in Richmond are among the 20% most deprived areas in the country, and 55% of areas in Richmond are among the least deprived 20% in England. Figures also suggest that relative deprivation is decreasing: the borough's Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) rank score has reduced from 301 in 2004 to 309 in 2007.

However, there are pockets of relative disadvantage in the borough. Seven areas (Lower Super Output Areas) in Richmond are among the 20% to 40% most deprived areas in England. These are located in the following wards: Ham & Petersham, Heathfield, Hampton North, Barnes, Hampton and Whitton. In these areas there are concentrations of less well off residents facing higher levels of unemployment, worklessness, lower skill levels and poorer physical and mental health. Progress has been made through partnership working to tackle these issues and a targeted approach is now being developed to support households affected by disadvantage.

More information on the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 can be found at:

[Indices of Deprivation 2007 - Communities and neighbourhoods - Communities and Local Government](#)

Ethnicity

Richmond upon Thames is a relatively diverse borough when compared with England and Wales as a whole, but one of the least ethnically diverse boroughs when compared to London. The London Borough of Richmond upon Thames' Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority population comprises 11.5% of the total population of which the largest group is Indian

(2.5%). A further 12% have a non-British white background of which the greatest proportion is Irish (2.8%).

Heathfield ward has by far the largest concentration of non-white ethnic minority groups (16.2%) living in the borough. Whitton and West Twickenham are also more ethnically diverse compared to the borough average, approximately a quarter of all Indians in the borough live in these two wards. The least diverse ward in the borough is Hampton. (JSNA 2009).

Employment

In 2009, approximately 71,300 people worked in jobs within the borough and of these 16,600 (23%) were self-employed workers. This is a much higher proportion than in London (15%) and England (13%). According to the 2001 Census, 11% of Richmond residents worked mostly from home compared to around 9% in London and England and this is likely to be underestimated.

70% of Richmond working age residents work in managerial, profession and technical jobs. Only 7% work in 'elementary' positions such as manufacturing processing and cleaning. There is a good supply of office premises in Richmond although the dense nature of the borough limits the availability of potential new developments.

Well over half of Richmond's residents hold at least a degree. This is 80% above the English average and 34% more than the London average. Richmond's resident weekly earnings are on average 24% higher than in London as a whole and 60% above the national average at £780 per week.

Many local people commute out of the borough to work and at the same time, many non-residents come to work in Richmond each day. In 2001 the census told us that 62% (55,500 people) of all employed residents commuted out of the borough to work – most significantly to The City, Westminster, Hounslow and Kingston. 38% (34,000 people) of the resident workforce both lived and worked in the borough, and 50% of the borough's workforce (34,500 people) commuted into the borough to work, mainly from Hounslow, Kingston, Wandsworth and north Surrey.

Although unemployment rose significantly during the recession, it remains relatively low. In July 2010, 1.6% of the borough's residents were claiming unemployment benefit, significantly lower than in London and England. Fewer Richmond residents experience long-term unemployment: 13.6% of all claimants have been claiming for over 12 months compared to 17% in London and 18% in England.

Education

The local authority maintains one nursery school and 16 nursery units, 41 primary schools, eight secondary schools for 11-16 year olds, and two special schools. Provision for children with special needs is made in all mainstream schools. The local authority maintained schools have 13,890 full-time and part-time primary pupils on roll, 6,660 secondary pupils, and 140 pupils attending the borough special schools.

Pupils eligible for free school meals represent 9% of the roll in primary schools, 17% in secondary schools and 39% in special schools. Overall, 20% of pupils are resident outside the borough, comprising 12% of primary school pupils and 35% of secondary school pupils.

The majority of pupils attending the borough schools are from white ethnic backgrounds (76%), with the largest minority ethnic groups being pupils from mixed backgrounds (9%) and

pupils from Asian/Asian British backgrounds (7%). The diverse range of backgrounds of pupils is evident from the fact that pupils speak over 130 languages other than English. Standards achieved in Key Stage 2 tests taken by 11-year-old pupils in Richmond primary schools are well above national averages. In 2009:

- 84% of pupils achieved Level 4 or above in English and mathematics combined (national average 72%);
- 91% of pupils achieved Level 4 or above in English (national average 80%); and
- 87% of pupils achieved Level 4 or above in mathematics (national average 79%).

In 2009, 16-year-old pupils in Richmond secondary schools achieved GCSE and equivalent results above national averages, as:

- 56% of pupils achieved 5 or more A* to C grades including English and mathematics (national average 50%); and
- 71% of pupils achieved 5 or more passes at A* to C grades (national average 70%).

The standards attained by pupils in Richmond's primary schools are above the national average, but those for the maintained secondary schools are slightly below the national average, with considerable variation within this average. A contributing factor to this is the relatively high proportion of children resident in the borough who are not educated at its local authority maintained secondary schools. The borough is a net importer of pupils from other boroughs to its secondary schools with approximately 37% of Richmond upon Thames secondary school pupils resident in other local authorities. There is a significant difference in achievement by borough of residence with 69% of Richmond upon Thames resident pupils achieving 5 or more A* to C grades in 2008 compared with 59% of pupils resident outside the borough.

The secondary schools in Richmond upon Thames do not have sixth forms and over 16s generally attend Richmond College or other state post-16 establishments in nearby Esher, Kingston or the private sector. Many pupils from outside the borough attend colleges in Richmond upon Thames.

Further information on standards in Richmond schools is available in the [Department for Education Achievement and Attainment Tables](#).

Health

The borough's residents are amongst the healthiest in the country and have a much longer life expectancy than average: 80.0 years for men and 83.3 for women. However, too many people still smoke, drink above sensible levels, take too little exercise and have unhealthy diets. The JSNA 2009 recommended that partner organisations keep focussed on smoking, alcohol, obesity, physical activity and healthy eating, and emphasised the need to continue directing services towards informing, advising and supporting people to make lifestyle changes.

The JSNA also highlights the pockets of disadvantage in the borough where health is not as good, lifestyles not so healthy and life expectancy is lower. The life expectancy gaps between the least and most deprived deciles for males and females are 4.2 years and 5.1 years respectively. Health inequalities in the borough are particularly challenging to address as deprivation is geographically quite dispersed. The major focus has been upon the areas of the borough showing the highest concentration of deprivation and associated poor health. Action is continuing to target services and local interventions in these areas to reduce health inequalities, but work also needs to be done to identify and address the needs of other groups affected by health inequalities in the borough. Evidence indicates a clear link between

deprivation and health related behaviour. Smoking, in particular, is a major contributor to our gap in life expectancy.

Being one of the healthiest places in the country, the borough's residents suffer from far fewer major diseases than elsewhere. The leading causes of death in Richmond upon Thames are circulatory diseases and cancer followed by respiratory diseases. The prevalence of some conditions such as diabetes (type II) and hypertension is likely to increase in the future. The rise in some sexually transmitted infections means that maintaining good sexual health needs to continue to be a priority.

The borough is served by the West Middlesex Hospital and Kingston Hospital, both located outside the borough. Within the borough there are clinics and 9 day centres. Teddington Memorial Hospital also provides in-patient and out patient services and has a walk in centre for minor injuries.

More information on the Health of the borough can be found at:
[Richmond Health Profile NHS Richmond](#)

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is a comprehensive assessment of the health and well-being needs of the population of Richmond upon Thames and can be found at:
[Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) - London Borough of Richmond upon Thames](#)

Our Place

Housing

At the time of the 2001 Census there were approximately 76,100 homes in the borough.

Owner occupation is the dominant tenure in the borough with 69% of households owning their properties. There is a large private rented sector in the borough, with 16% households renting privately. The borough has the 4th smallest social rented sector in Greater London, which amounts to nearly 12% of the borough's households renting their home from a housing association.

Comparing the average prices of houses across Greater London, Richmond is ranked the 7th most expensive borough in the capital; it is also the most expensive Outer London borough to buy in. The Land Registry's House Price Index shows the average house price in Richmond upon Thames in July 2010 was £436,578 compared to £343,730 in the London region.

Affordability is a key issue affecting residents in Richmond both in the ability to rent privately or buy property. In April 2009, there were 6,858 households on the housing register (who are registered for affordable housing) with numbers increasing since April 2001.

Although homelessness is still an issue it is lower than many London boroughs; in 2008/09 there were 130 homeless families and 203 households in temporary accommodation. With a large private rented and owner occupied sector house conditions remain an issue for the borough.

More detailed information on housing issues and housing need within the borough can be found at:

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/appendix_c_housing_strategy_evidence_base.pdf

More information on the Housing Strategy of the borough can be found at:

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/housing_strategy_2008-2012_final.pdf

Crime and Community Safety

Richmond borough residents, or people who work or visit here, have the lowest risk of being victims of crime for any London borough. The borough has consistently had the lowest total notifiable offences per 1000 population of the 32 London boroughs across the Metropolitan Police Service as measured by iQuanta. 2009/10 was the seventh consecutive year with an overall reduction in crime. Serious Acquisitive Crime rate was reduced by 3%, knife crime reduced by 31.2% and youth violence by 6.6%.

After Theft & Handling, Violence against the Person is the second largest contributor to total crime, followed by Burglary and Motor Vehicle Crime. Total reported antisocial behaviour to the council has decreased by 8.8% during 2008/09 and residents believe that antisocial behaviour is significantly less of a problem in their local area compared to London as a whole. The borough had the lowest level of alcohol related crimes in London in 2008/09

There was a 6.2 % increase in domestic abuse offences in 2009/10, which is a result of the Domestic Abuse forum's work on increasing reporting. The number of Hate Crimes reported has also increased by 51.3%, impacted by the establishment of a Hate Crime Forum.

There has been a decrease in the confidence of the public that the police 'deal with things that matter' and 'are doing a good job'. More action is needed to improve residents' confidence in the police and the council. The partnership is constantly seeking new ways to improve communication on crime to highlight that the borough offers a very safe environment.

More information on community safety in Richmond upon Thames can be found at: [Community Safety Partnership - London Borough of Richmond upon Thames](#)

Local Economy

Richmond is an enterprising borough. There were approximately 10,455 enterprises operating in Richmond in 2009 - 10% more than in 2000 - and 11,845 business units (an enterprise can have more than one business unit, such as multiple shops). The enterprise stock has grown faster than in London since 2000 and business density levels are high.

A telling characteristic is how businesses are spread across the borough. Although there are concentrations in major centres such as Richmond, Twickenham and Teddington, all smaller centres and neighbourhoods are dotted with small businesses. In fact, Richmond is characterised by the fact that 91.5% of all business units employ less than ten people, compared to 87.5% in London. In addition, in 2008, 19.5% of residents in Richmond were self-employed compared to 15.5% in London on average.

Richmond is a dynamic economy, creating more jobs and more businesses than the national average since 2001. It is also a diverse economy and the largest sectors in terms of employment are in expanding industries while there are few jobs in declining sectors. The largest amount of jobs are in business services, hotels and restaurants, property services/real estate and recreation and culture. Retail is also a large employment sector which has room for growth and is a major contributor to the visitor economy.

The visitor economy in Richmond supports at least 8,600 jobs in 770 business units (not including self employed) which is 12% of all jobs, compared to 8% in London. Over half of these jobs are in restaurants and bars. Major attractions like Kew Gardens, Hampton Court,

Richmond Park and Twickenham stadium help to bring in around 3 million visitors per year , generating an estimated £292 million in the local economy.

The Environment

Richmond upon Thames has over 21 miles of River Thames frontage, and over 100 parks. This includes two Royal Parks, Richmond and Bushy, containing herds of red and fallow deer, the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew and many other wildlife habitats. Richmond Park is 930 hectares in size and has been designated a National Nature Reserve. Bushy Park was first enclosed in 1499 and is 445 hectares in size.

Of key importance in Richmond upon Thames is the need to protect the borough's biodiversity. The priority habitats within this borough, which are also of regional and national importance, are: Acid Grassland, Ancient Parkland/Veteran Trees, Broadleaved Woodland, Reedbeds and Tidal Thames. The priority species, which are also of regional, national and international importance, are: Bats, Mistletoe, Song Thrush, Stag Beetles, Tower Mustard and Water Voles. More information on Biodiversity in Richmond can be found at: http://www.richmond.gov.uk/richmonds_biodiversity_action_plan.

We are also aware of the impacts that climate change can have on the borough with the risk of flooding being a major concern to many residents given the borough's extensive river footage. More information on the borough's work to act locally and contribute to reducing global warming can be found in the Climate Change Strategy: http://www.richmond.gov.uk/climate_change_strategy_v2.0.pdf.

Pollution

Air pollution data from the period from 1993 to 2001 showed a slight decrease in levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). However, following an especially bad year in 2003, levels from 2004 to 2009 have remained at a higher level. The most recent result is that 47 out of 59 monitoring sites across the Borough exceeded Government limits in 2009, when monitored where people live. This result was worse than for 2008. Modelling for 2010 indicates that the higher NO₂ pollution levels are set to continue, unless new London-wide and Europe-wide measures prove effective in improving the situation. Monitoring for PM₁₀ particles indicates compliance of the limits at the 3 monitoring sites, although modelling for other area of the Borough indicates that levels are close to the limits for a few homes.

Noise pollution from aircraft and other sources continues to be of concern across the Borough. Even though the third runway proposal for Heathrow has been cancelled, the noise climate could still worsen if Heathrow is permitted to expand in other ways.

Further information on pollution can be found at:

<http://www.richmond.gov.uk/home/environment/pollution.htm>

Waste and recycling

Between 2008 and 2009 households in the borough created over 80,000 tonnes of waste. Of this waste the Council recycled 41% (33,019 tonnes), which is one of the highest recycle rates in London.

Further information can be found at:

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/home/environment/rubbish_waste_and_recycling.htm

Social and Cultural Activities

Residents and visitors to the borough enjoy a great deal of cultural activity. Each year, over 1.4 million visits are made to our libraries, 900,000 visits to sports centres, 500,000 visits to galleries and museums, and 460,000 visits to theatres and performing arts venues.

Richmond upon Thames has the richest historic environment outside central London with 1,100 listed buildings. English Heritage, the National Trust and the Historic Royal Palaces all own property within the borough. The heritage attractions within the borough include Hampton Court Palace, Ham House, Strawberry Hill House, Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare, Kew Palace, the Palladian villa at Marble Hill, and Richmond Theatre.

Richmond upon Thames is home to Twickenham Stadium, has five sports and fitness centres, and four swimming pools, as well as golf clubs, tennis courts and bowling greens. The River Thames is used for sailing, rowing and canoeing. According to Sport England's 2008 Active People Survey, adult participation in sport and physical activity in the borough is comparatively high at 30%. Participation in sport and physical activity is further encouraged through a programme of sports development and active lifestyle opportunities.

There is a thriving arts community in Richmond upon Thames; in 2008, 66% of residents were engaged with the visual and performing arts as participants or audience members.

Further information can be found at:

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/cpp_2009-13.pdf