

# Black Country & West Birmingham Socio-Economic Profile

July 2020



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Geography – where available Black Country and West Birmingham CCG data has been used building from Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA’s). When other geographical levels have been used this has been stated within the section.

# People

## Population

In 2018, there were a total of 1,370,653 people living in the Black Country and West Birmingham geography. Of these, 679,847 (49.6%) were males and 690,806 were females (50.4%) – similar levels can be seen for England at 49.4% males and 50.6% females. Since 2017, the overall total population has increased by 0.6% (+8,755 people), which matches the England average percentage increase<sup>1</sup>.

## Population Age and Gender Profile

In 2018, **21.5% of the population were aged between 0-15 years old** (294,931 people) compared to 19.2% for England. 62.1% of the population were 16-64 years old (851,703 people) compared to 62.6% for England. 16.3% of the population were aged 65+ (224,019 people) compared to 18.2% for England.

There are **more males aged 0-15** at 22.2% (150,937) within the Black Country and West Birmingham area when compared to females at 20.8% (143,994) and at the other end of the scale there are less males aged 65 years and over at 14.9% (101,512) then females at 17.7% (122,507).

The following table shows the Black Country and West Birmingham and England age and gender breakdown.

		All Ages	Aged 0 to 15	% Aged 0 - 15	Aged 16 to 64	% Aged 16 to 64	Aged 65+	% Aged 65+
<b>Black Country &amp; West Birmingham</b>	Male	679,847	150,937	22.2%	427,398	62.9%	101,512	14.9%
	Female	690,806	143,994	20.8%	424,305	61.4%	122,507	17.7%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,370,653</b>	<b>294,931</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>851,703</b>	<b>62.1%</b>	<b>224,019</b>	<b>16.3%</b>
<b>England</b>	Male	27,667,942	5,507,903	19.9%	17,511,344	63.3%	4,648,695	16.8%
	Female	28,309,236	5,240,555	18.5%	17,538,123	62.0%	5,530,558	19.5%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>55,977,178</b>	<b>10,748,458</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>35,049,467</b>	<b>62.6%</b>	<b>10,179,253</b>	<b>18.2%</b>

Source: ONS, Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2019 Release

## Ethnicity

Based off the 2011 Census, in the Black Country and West Birmingham area 29.3% are classed as BAME which is above the England average of 14.6%.

The following table shows the Black Country and West Birmingham and England age ethnic group breakdown.

	Black Country & West Birmingham		England	
	number	%	number	%
<b>All usual residents</b>	1,300,929	100	53,012,456	100
<b>White</b>	920,314	70.7	45,281,142	85.4
<b>Mixed/multiple ethnic groups</b>	43,834	3.4	1,192,879	2.3
<b>Asian/Asian British</b>	238,862	18.4	4,143,403	7.8
<b>Black/African/Caribbean/Black British</b>	79,757	6.1	1,846,614	3.5
<b>Other ethnic group</b>	18,162	1.4	548,418	1.0

<sup>1</sup> Source: ONS, Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2019 Release

## School Performance

The following data is based off 96 schools across the Black Country and West Birmingham area and scores where available for both Progress 8 and Attainment 8<sup>2</sup>. Progress 8 is designed to measure how well pupils progress between the end of primary school and the end of secondary school. The score for each pupil is based on whether their actual grades are higher or lower than those achieved by pupils who had similar attainment. Attainment 8 measures a student's average grade across eight subjects – the same subjects that count towards Progress 8. This measure is designed to encourage schools to offer a broad, well-balanced curriculum.

Attainment 8 scores vary across the area with scores of 0.1 (Mayfield School, Birmingham) and 0.5 (Castle Business and Enterprise College, Walsall - please note, these schools are Community Special Schools) to 76.4 (Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall) and 74.3 (Wolverhampton Girls' High School) in 2018/19. **The England average score was 46.7 – 24 schools were above this score.**

Progress 8 scores vary across the area with scores of -3.01 (Northern House School (City of Wolverhampton)) and -2.46 (Elmwood School, Walsall) to 1.69 (Eden Boys School, Birmingham) and 0.99 (Nishkam High School, Birmingham) in 2018/19. The England average score was -0.03.

The following table shows at local authority the overall results for Progress 8 and Attainment 8:




Local Authority	Progress 8 2018/19	Attainment 8 2018/19
<b>Dudley</b>	-0.17	43.9
<b>Sandwell</b>	-0.19	42.2
<b>Walsall</b>	-0.11	44.0
<b>Wolverhampton</b>	-0.01	45.1
<b>Birmingham</b>	0.09	46.6
<b>England</b>	-0.03	46.7

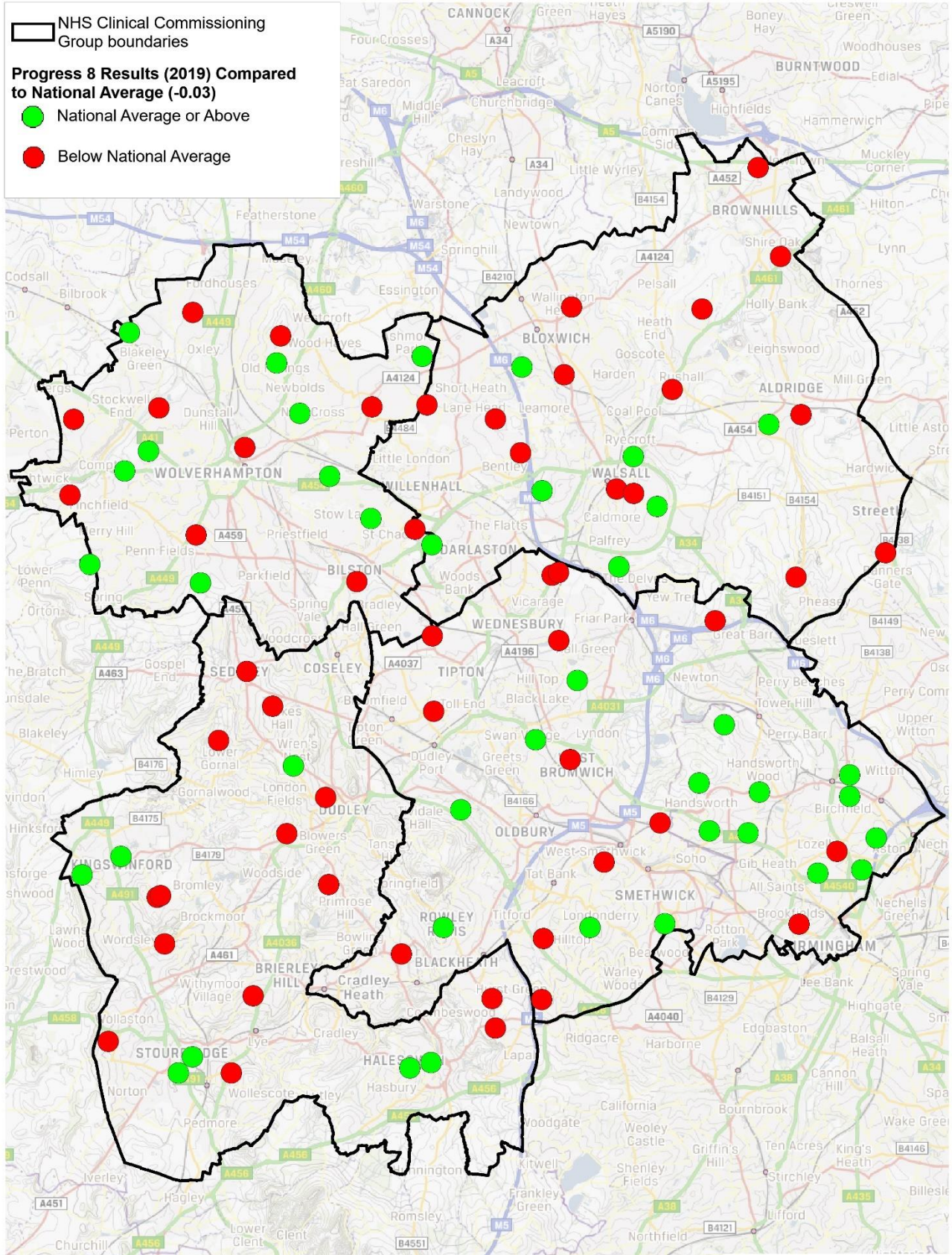
The following map shows the locations of the **40 schools at or above the national average and the 56 that are below** for Progress 8 scores.

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<sup>2</sup> Source: Department for Education, 2020

# PROGRESS 8

 NHS Clinical Commissioning Group boundaries  
**Progress 8 Results (2019) Compared to National Average (-0.03)**  
 National Average or Above  
 Below National Average



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**Black Country Consortium**  
  
 Economic Intelligence Unit

## Qualifications

Across the Black Country and West Birmingham geography, NVQ Level 4+ qualifications have increased by 0.1% over the year to 209,600 people from 209,300 compared to a national increase of 2.9%. This now means that **24.8% of the working age population are educated to NVQ4+** but due to a higher increase in the denominator this has decreased from 25.4% in 2018. **A further 127,840 residents are required to obtain NVQ Level 4+ qualification to equal the national average<sup>3</sup>.**

The number of people with no qualifications, increased from 131,700 in 2018 to 144,100 in 2019. This equates to 12,400 more people with no qualifications or an increase of 9.4% compared to a decrease of 1.4% nationally. There are over twice as many people in the **Black Country and West Birmingham area (17.1%) with no qualifications** as the national average (7.5%), **To eradicate the gap with the national average, a further 80,830 residents are needed to obtain at least one qualification.**

The following table shows qualification level breakdown, change and scale of the challenge.

	2018 Num.	2019 Num.	2019 %	England %	BC & West Birmingham % Change	Scale of the Challenge
% with NVQ4+	209,300	209,600	24.8%	40.0%	+0.1%	+127,840
% with NVQ3 only	124,900	125,400	14.9%	17.1%	+0.4%	+18,856
% with Trade Apprenticeships	15,600	16,800	2.0%	2.7%	+7.7%	+5,977
% with NVQ2 only	152,100	152,500	18.1%	15.9%	+0.3%	No Gap
% with NVQ1 only	105,000	108,000	12.8%	10.1%	+2.9%	No Gap
% with other qualifications	84,300	87,200	10.3%	6.7%	+3.4%	No Gap
% with no qualifications	131,700	144,100	17.1%	7.5%	+9.4%	-80,830

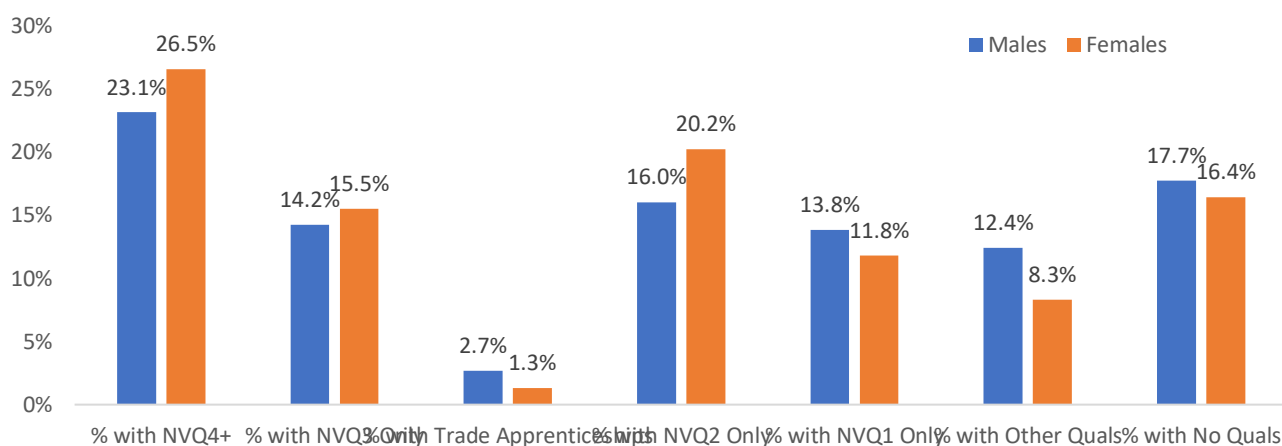
Source: Annual Population Survey, 2020

## Qualifications by Gender

Females in the Black Country and West Birmingham area have higher level qualifications when compared to males, for example; there are 26.5% (112,200) females qualified to NVQ4 + level, while there are 23.1% (97,400) males qualified to this level.

At the other end of the scale, there are also fewer females with no qualifications at 16.4% (69,500) compared to 17.7% (74,700) for males.

### Qualification by Gender, 2019



Source: Annual Population Survey, 2020

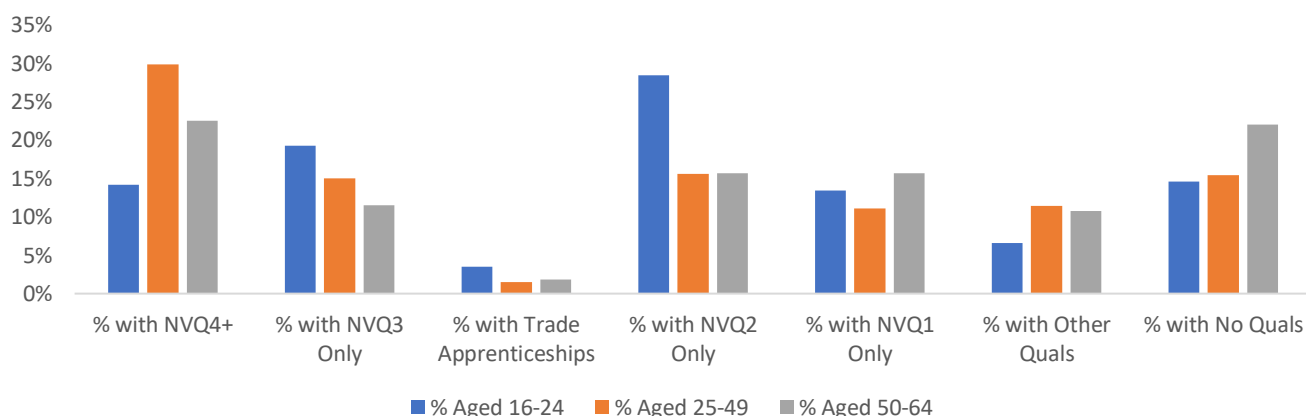
<sup>3</sup> Source: Annual Population Survey, 2020

## Qualifications by Age

Across the Black Country and West Birmingham, 29.9% (133,800) of people aged 24 – 49 years old had NVQ4+ qualifications in 2019. The proportion varies across ages with 22.5% (52,900) of people aged 50-64 had NVQ4+ qualifications followed by 14.2% (22,900) for those aged 16 – 24 years old.

At the other end of the scale, 22.0% (51,700) of people aged 50 – 64 years old had no qualifications in 2019, this was followed by 15.4% (68,900) for people aged 24- 49 years old and 14.6% (23,500) for those aged 16 – 24 years old.

**Qualifications by Age, 2019**



Source: Annual Population Survey, 2020

## Qualifications by Ethnicity

The highest level of qualifications by ethnic group is available from the 2011 Census at the Black Country and West Birmingham ward level for those aged 16 years and over.

Black/African/Caribbean/Black British are the only ethnic group where there are more with level 4 qualification (15,211) than those with no qualifications (13,145).

The following table shows a breakdown of the highest level of qualification by ethnic group in the Black Country and West Birmingham at an overall ward level:

	No Quals	Level 1	Level 2	Apprenticeship	Level 3	Level 4	Other Quals.
<b>All categories</b>	331,206	147,200	156,940	28,899	117,323	193,090	68,183
<b>White</b>	260,229	108,142	119,550	25,827	86,435	129,803	37,585
<b>Mixed/multiple ethnic group</b>	5,370	4,613	5,009	426	3,475	3,752	1,011
<b>Asian/Asian British</b>	48,629	23,733	20,404	1,572	18,123	40,908	22,365
<b>Black/African/Caribbean/Black British</b>	13,145	9,085	10,537	964	7,980	15,211	4,820
<b>Other ethnic group</b>	3,833	1,627	1,440	110	1,310	3,416	2,402

Source: Census, 2011

## Apprenticeship Starts

In 2018/19 there were **11,523 apprenticeship starts in the Black Country and West Birmingham wards**. Compared to 2017/18, this has increased by 10.3% (+1,076) which is above the national increase of 4.7%. In 2018/19 there were 6,024

of the apprenticeship starts were female and 5,499 were male<sup>4</sup>. Overall, there were 4,412 Intermediate level apprenticeship starts, 5,060 advanced and 2,051 higher level.

The following table shows apprenticeship starts broken down by age for the Black Country and West Birmingham area in 2018/19.

Age Range	Apprenticeship Starts
<b>Under 16</b>	7
<b>16-18</b>	2,785
<b>19-24</b>	3,256
<b>25+</b>	5,475

The following graph shows the breakdown of apprenticeship start by ethnicity in the Black Country and West Birmingham area.



## **Economic Activity**

The total working age (16- 64) population of Black Country and West Birmingham increased by 2.7% (+22,300 people) since 2018 to **847,200 people in 2019**. **73.4% (621,500 people) are economically active**, increasing from the previous year by 1.2 percentage points (pp, +25,900 people), compared to a 0.5pp increase in England. This includes both employed (579,600 people) and unemployed (41,900 people)<sup>5</sup>.

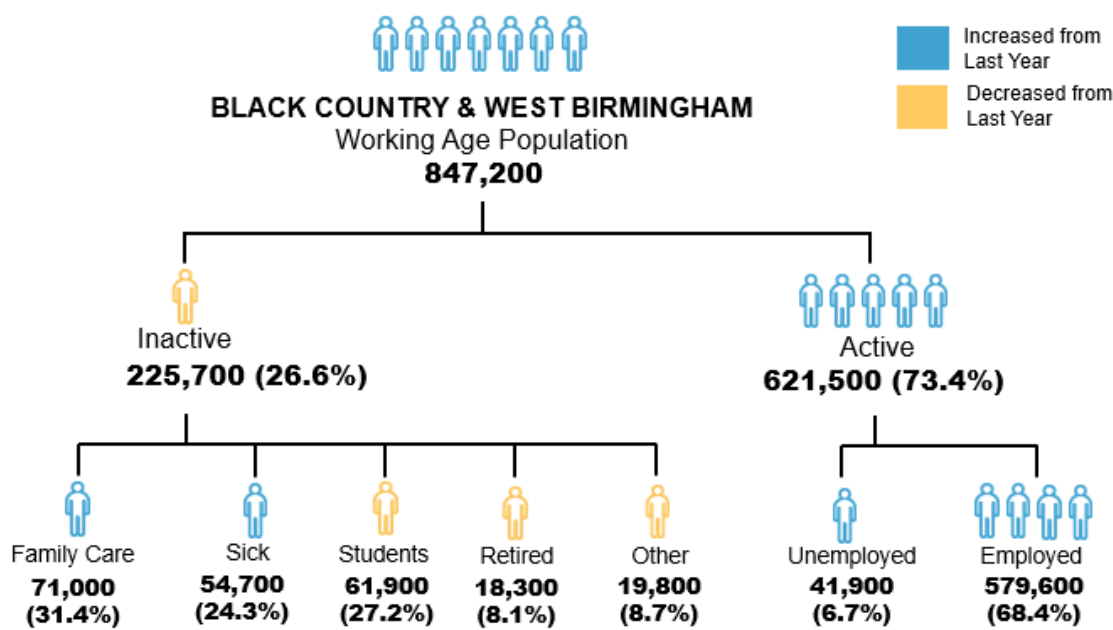
In 2019, **the Black Country and West Birmingham employment rate was 68.4%**, which is below the England average (76.0%). **The unemployment rate in 2019 was 6.7%**, above the England average (4.0%). This has increased by 0.3pp since 2018, compared to a decrease in England of 0.2pp.

In the Black Country and West Birmingham area, **26.6% (225,700 people) are economically inactive**, and this has decreased since 2018 by 1.2pp (or 3,600 people), compared to a 0.5pp decrease across England. 31.4% (71,000 people) look after the home/family, up 2.4pp (+4,500 people). 24.3% (54,700 people) are sick, up 2.3pp (+4,500 people). 8.1% (18,300 people) are retired, 27.2% (61,900 people) are students, and 8.7% (19,800 people) are inactive for other reasons.

<sup>4</sup> Source: Department for Education, 2020

<sup>5</sup> Source: Annual Population Survey, 2020





Source: Annual Population Survey, 2020

The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) analysis suggests that workers that are most likely to be affected are young workers (under 25), females and low earners.

The employment rate for males aged 25-49 years old is 84.7% (187,600) in the Black Country and Birmingham area, for the same age group for females is 68.7% (76,600).

The unemployment rate for males aged 16-24 years old is 15.6% (7,700) in the Black Country and Birmingham area, which is above the female rate of 13.0% (4,900).

The following table shows a breakdown by gender and age for economic activity, economic inactivity, employment rate and unemployment in the Black Country and West Birmingham area and England in 2019.

Status	Gender & Age	Black Country & West Birmingham		England	
		numerator	percent	numerator	percent
Economic activity	males - aged 16-24	49,300	58.8	1,833,800	61.9
	males - aged 25-49	197,700	89.3	8,530,800	93.1
	males - aged 50-64	90,200	76.7	4,164,600	79.7
	males - aged 65+	7,600	7.4	661,500	14.3
	females - aged 16-24	37,900	48.0	1,701,000	60.0
	females - aged 25-49	165,800	72.9	7,528,100	81.7
	females - aged 50-64	80,600	68.3	3,808,200	70.5
	females - aged 65+	5,700	4.8	456,800	8.5
Economically inactive	males - aged 16-24	34,600	41.2	1,130,300	38.1
	males - aged 25-49	23,800	10.7	629,900	6.9
	males - aged 50-64	27,300	23.3	1,063,200	20.3
	males - aged 65+	95,500	92.6	3,973,700	85.7
	females - aged 16-24	41,000	52.0	1,135,100	40.0
	females - aged 25-49	61,500	27.1	1,690,400	18.3
	females - aged 50-64	37,500	31.7	1,595,800	29.5
	females - aged 65+	112,300	95.2	4,907,600	91.5
Employment rate	males - aged 16-24	41,600	49.6	1,582,600	53.4

		Black Country & West Birmingham		England	
	males - aged 25-49	187,600	84.7	8,292,200	90.5
	males - aged 50-64	84,600	72.0	4,039,100	77.3
	males - aged 65+	7,500	7.2	649,500	14.0
	females - aged 16-24	33,000	41.8	1,538,400	54.2
	females - aged 25-49	156,200	68.7	7,291,700	79.1
	females - aged 50-64	76,600	64.9	3,710,700	68.7
	females - aged 65+	5,600	4.7	450,800	8.4
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	males - aged 16-24	7,700	15.6	251,200	13.7
	males - aged 25-49	10,100	5.1	238,600	2.8
	males - aged 50-64	5,600	6.2	125,500	3.0
	males - aged 65+	-	-	12,000	1.8
	females - aged 16-24	4,900	13.0	162,600	9.6
	females - aged 25-49	9,600	5.8	236,400	3.1
	females - aged 50-64	4,000	5.0	97,500	2.6
	females - aged 65+	-	-	6,000	1.3

Source: Annual Population Survey, 2020 (please note, in the table “-“ means data has been suppressed)

The employment rate for the working age population by ethnicity in the Black Country and Birmingham area varies from 72.2% (402,500) for those classed as white to 54.5% (6,800) for mixed ethnic groups.

The unemployment rate for those aged 16 years and over is notably higher for those that are classed as a mixed ethnic group with 19.3% (1,600) and 12.9% (6,100) for Pakistanis/Bangladeshis. While for Indians, the unemployment rate was 4.5% (3,300) and 5.5% (24,200) for whites.

The following table shows a breakdown by ethnic group for employment, unemployment and economic inactivity in the Black Country and West Birmingham area and England for 2019.

		Black Country & West Birmingham		England	
		numerator	percent	numerator	Percent
<b>Employment Rate (Aged 16-64)</b>	White	402,500	72.2	22,615,600	77.9
	Mixed ethnic group	6,800	54.5	344,100	69.3
	Indians	69,200	76.6	875,100	75.8
	Pakistanis/Bangladeshis	41,400	47.5	678,600	56.1
	Black or black British	43,400	61.2	959,300	69.1
	Other ethnic group	16,300	57.3	968,800	64.5
<b>Unemployment Rate (Aged 16+)</b>	White	24,200	5.5	851,200	3.5
	Mixed ethnic group	1,600	19.3	23,100	6.2
	Indians	3,300	4.5	36,100	3.9
	Pakistanis/Bangladeshis	6,100	12.9	61,300	8.2
	Black or black British	4,700	9.7	85,500	8.1
	Other ethnic group	2,200	11.6	72,000	6.8
<b>Economically Inactive (Aged 16 - 64)</b>	Whites	130,700	23.5	5,588,200	19.2
	Mixed ethnic group	4,100	32.5	129,200	26.0
	Indians	17,800	19.8	243,600	21.1
	Pakistanis/Bangladeshis	39,700	45.5	469,900	38.8
	Black or Black British	22,700	32.1	345,300	24.9
	Other ethnic group	10,000	35.0	461,300	30.7

Source: Annual Population Survey, 2020

## Mental Health and Employment

Across the Black Country local authorities, the average Proportion of working age adults (18-69) who are receiving secondary mental health services and who are on the Care Programme Approach at the end of the month who are recorded as being employed was 5% in 2019, slightly below the England average of 8%<sup>6</sup>.

## Resident Earnings

The average full-time annual earnings across the Black Country and West Birmingham parliamentary constituencies was **£26,618 in 2019**, this is a **shortfall of £4,043** to the England average of £30,661. Compared to 2018, the average annual earnings have increased by 3.0% (+£770), which is above the England increase of 2.7%<sup>7</sup>.

Overall, the average female full-time annual earnings were £23,422 in 2019, a shortfall of £3,568 to the national average (£26,990). Compared to 2018, earnings have increased by 2.4% (£547) slightly below the England increase of 3.0%. While the average male full-time annual earnings were £28,151 in 2019, a shortfall of £5,091 to the national average (£33,242), also compared to 2018, earnings have decreased by 0.2% (-£46) while England experienced an overall increase of 3.3%.

## Car Ownership

The following table displays from the 2011 census the number of car or vans per household in the Black Country and West Birmingham LSOA's. **41.7% (215,779) have 1 car or van in the household**, this is followed by 31.2% that have no cars or vans in the household - further breakdowns can be seen in the following table.

	Households	%
<b>Car or van availability</b>	517,933	
<b>No cars or vans in household</b>	161,660	31.2
<b>1 car or van in household</b>	215,779	41.7
<b>2 cars or vans in household</b>	108,888	21.0
<b>3 cars or vans in household</b>	24,140	4.7
<b>4 or more cars or vans in household</b>	7,466	1.4

Source: Census, 2011

Further detailed statistics are available from the census 2011 that are based on all residents in each household by ethnic group at Black Country and West Birmingham ward level.

Black/African/Caribbean/Black British ethnic group had the highest percentage of having no cars or vans in a household at 41.9% down to those classed as white at 23.0%.

The following table displays car or van availability for all usual residents in households across the Black Country and West Birmingham overall ward level.

	Car or van availability	No cars or vans in household		1 car or van in household		2 or more cars or vans in household	
<b>All categories</b>	1,298,736	312,574	24.1%	521,291	40.1%	464,871	35.8%
<b>White</b>	915,027	210,361	23.0%	366,348	40.0%	338,318	37.0%
<b>Mixed/multiple ethnic group</b>	44,379	17,978	40.5%	17,162	38.7%	9,239	20.8%
<b>Asian/Asian British</b>	239,924	45,714	19.1%	97,935	40.8%	96,275	40.1%
<b>Black/African/Caribbean/Black British</b>	80,731	33,820	41.9%	32,756	40.6%	14,155	17.5%
<b>Other ethnic group</b>	18,675	4,701	25.2%	7,090	38.0%	6,884	36.9%

Source: Census, 2011

<sup>6</sup> Source: NHS Digital, 2019

<sup>7</sup> Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, 2019

## Claimant Count

There were **82,040** claimants aged 16 years and over in the Black Country and West Birmingham area in May 2020. This accounts for 7.6% of the population aged 16 years and over which is above the national average of 5.0%.

There were **16,425** claimants aged 16-24 years old in the Black Country and West Birmingham area in May 2020. This accounts for 10.8% which is above the national average of 7.2%<sup>8</sup>.

Due to the impact of Covid-19, since April 2020 all age range and by gender have seen a significant increase in the number of claimants, this is mirrored across England as a whole.

Across all age groups, males have a higher number of claimants as a percentage of population in May 2020 when compared to females in the Black Country and West Birmingham area. The following table shows a breakdown by gender, age, change and proportions for selected months for claimants in the Black Country and West Birmingham area.

	Age	May 2019	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	May 2020 Claimants as % of Pop.	April - May Change	Mar - May Change	May 19 - May 20 Change	Eng. - May 20 Claimants as % of Pop.
<b>Total</b>	<b>Age 16+</b>	<b>42,015</b>	<b>49,480</b>	<b>68,865</b>	<b>82,040</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>13,175</b>	<b>32,560</b>	<b>40,025</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
	Aged 16-24	8,195	9,785	13,260	16,425	10.8%	3,165	6,640	8,230	7.2%
	Aged 25-49	23,505	28,245	40,420	47,940	10.4%	7,520	19,695	24,435	7.2%
	Aged 50+	10,315	11,445	15,180	17,675	3.8%	2,495	6,230	7,360	2.5%
<b>Male</b>	<b>Age 16+</b>	<b>25,080</b>	<b>29,140</b>	<b>41,615</b>	<b>50,265</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>8,650</b>	<b>21,125</b>	<b>25,185</b>	<b>6.2%</b>
	Aged 16-24	4,985	6,010	8,165	10,320	13.2%	2,155	4,310	5,335	8.7%
	Aged 25-49	13,975	16,380	24,435	29,360	12.7%	4,925	12,980	15,385	8.8%
	Aged 50+	6,120	6,750	9,010	10,585	4.8%	1,575	3,835	4,465	3.1%
<b>Female</b>	<b>Age 16+</b>	<b>16,940</b>	<b>20,340</b>	<b>27,250</b>	<b>31,775</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>4,525</b>	<b>11,435</b>	<b>14,835</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
	Aged 16-24	3,210	3,780	5,095	6,105	8.3%	1,010	2,325	2,895	5.6%
	Aged 25-49	9,530	11,865	15,985	18,580	8.1%	2,595	6,715	9,050	5.6%
	Aged 50+	4,195	4,695	6,170	7,085	2.9%	915	2,390	2,890	1.9%

Source: ONS/DWP, Claimant Count, June 2020

The following map shows claimants as a proportion of residents aged 16 years and over across the Black Country and West Birmingham wards for May 2020.

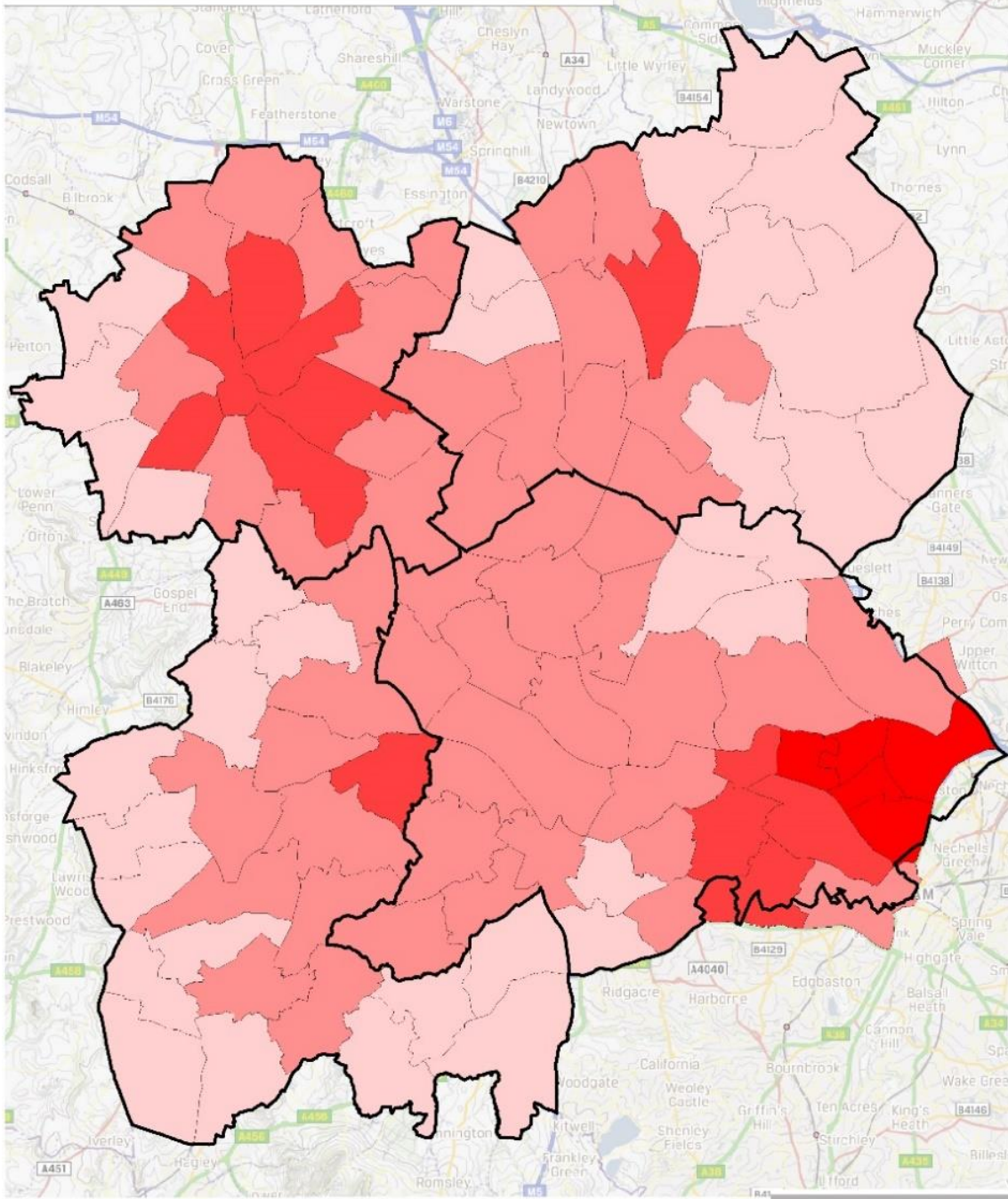
<sup>8</sup> Source: ONS/DWP, Claimant Count, June 2020 – Please note Claimant Count includes people on Jobseekers Allowance and Universal Credit.

# CLAIMANTS

**Claimants as % of all residents aged 16+ per ward (May 2020)**

- 14 to 18%
- 10 to 14%
- 6 to 10%
- 2 to 6%

NHS Clinical Commissioning Group boundaries



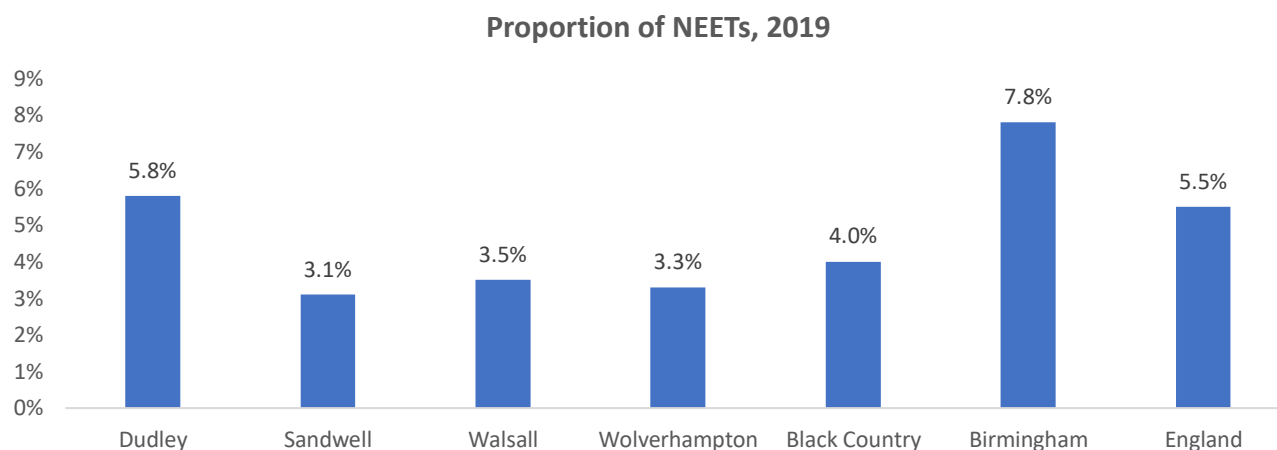
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## Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)

4.0% (1,120) of people aged 16 – 17 years old were classed as NEETs in the Black Country and 7.8% (2,370 people) in Birmingham – The England average is 5.5%. This has decreased from 5.3% (1,433) from the end of 2018 for the Black Country and from 8.5% (2,339) for Birmingham, while England has remained the same<sup>9</sup>.

The proportion of NEETs varies in the Black Country from 5.8% (420 people) in Dudley to 3.1% (260 people) in Sandwell which can be seen in the following graph.



## Fuel Poverty

In 2018, **12.4% (67,826) of Black Country and West Birmingham households were living in fuel poverty**, above the national average of 10.3%. However, compared to 2017 there was a decrease in the Black Country by 13.7% (-10,761 households). Nationally the decrease was 5.2%<sup>10</sup>.

## Net Annual Household Income Before and After Housing Costs

The Black Country and West Birmingham Middle Super Output Area (MSOA'S) **average household income before housing costs was £26,401** in 2018, with the national average standing at £31,873. This has increased by 8.1% (+£1,989) since 2016 which is above the national increase of 2.7%<sup>11</sup>.

The Black Country and West Birmingham **average household income after housing costs was £22,629 in 2018**, with the national average standing at £28,296. This has increased by 7.8 (+£1,634) since 2016 which is above the national increase of 3.4%.

## Children (aged under 16) Living in Relative Low-Income Families

At ward level, the Black Country and West Birmingham had an estimated number of **91,699 children living in relative low-income families**, this is an average of 28% in 2018/19. This has increased from 88,648 children in 2017/18, however proportion wise still accounts for approximately 28%<sup>12</sup>.

<sup>9</sup> Source: Department for Education, 2020

<sup>10</sup> Source: BEIS: Sub-regional Fuel Poverty, 2020

<sup>11</sup> Source: ONS, Income Estimates for Small Areas, 2020

<sup>12</sup> Source: HMRC, Children in Low Income Families, 2020

## Overall COVID-19 Vulnerability Index

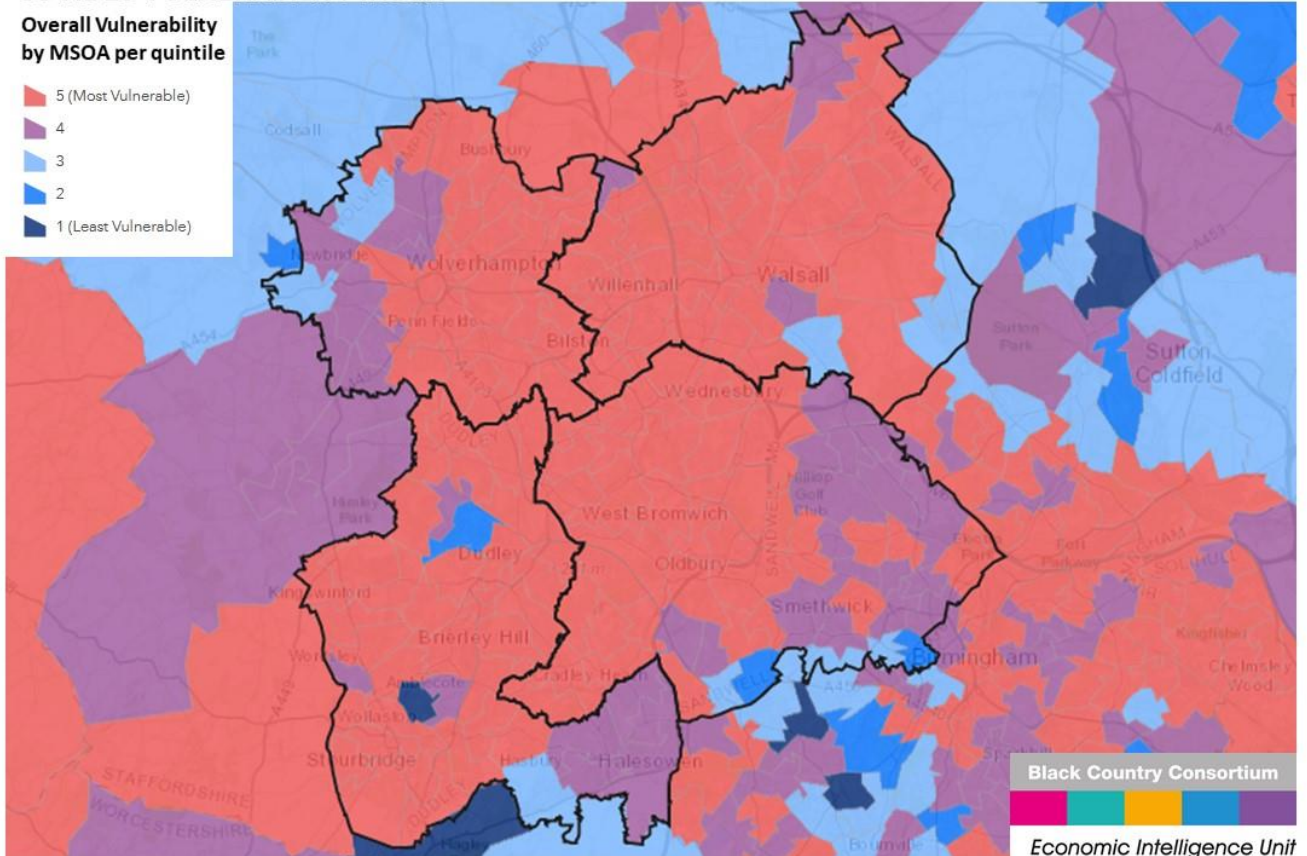
The British Red Cross has developed a COVID-19 Vulnerability index at Ward and Local Authority level. The index combines multiple sources of (mostly) open data to identify vulnerable areas and groups within Local Authorities and neighbourhoods (wards).

The Index consists of the following:

- Clinical vulnerability (underlying health conditions)
- Health & wellbeing including mental health (loneliness, healthy life expectancy at 65)
- Economic vulnerability (recipients of social care benefits, employment & support allowance, disability benefits, Universal Credit)
- Social and geographical vulnerability (barriers to housing and services, poor living environment, digital exclusion).

Across the Black Country and West Birmingham area, 161 MSOA's (92.5%) were categorised in the top 2 more vulnerable quintiles with **124 MSOA's in the most vulnerable quintile (71%)**.

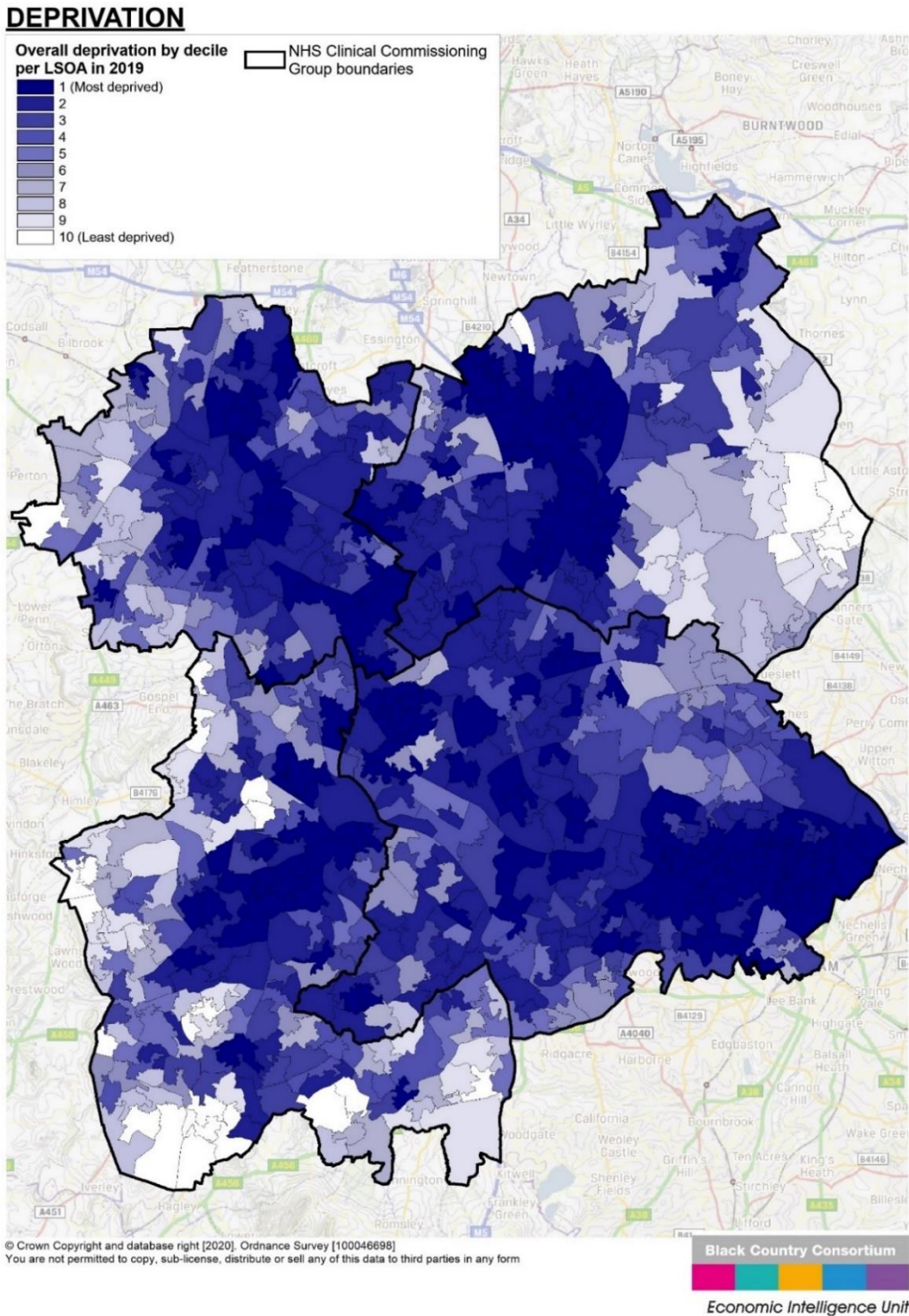
### COVID19 VULNERABILITY INDEX



# Place

## Indices of Multiple Deprivation

48.4% (389 LSOA's) of the Black Country and West Birmingham areas are in the top 20% of deprivation. The following map shows the overall deprivation by all deciles<sup>13</sup>.



<sup>13</sup> Source: MHCLG, English Indices of Deprivation, 2019



## Housing Affordability Ratio

In 2018, the overall housing affordability ratio for the Black Country and West Birmingham MSOA's was 5.71, this is below the England average of 8.68<sup>14</sup>.

## Travel to Work Areas

The 2011 census data shows that **76% of the Black Country Workforce - 297,966 people live and work in the Black Country** LEP area. 7% commute in from Birmingham and 5% from South Staffordshire. **61% of the Birmingham Workforce – 256,811 people live and work in Birmingham**; 15% commute in from the Black Country (64,024 people) and 7% commute in from Solihull (29,458 people).

The following table shows a breakdown of travel to work areas within the Black Country and then Birmingham local authority<sup>15</sup>.

Place of residence	Place of Work, % of workforce													
	Dudley		Sandwell		Walsall		W'ton		Black Country		Birmingham		Black Country and Birmingham	
Place of residence	63,764	62%	50,299	46%	47,216	53%	49,388	53%	297,966	76%	256,811	61%	645,641	79%
Black Country	82,604	81%	81,988	75%	64,749	73%	68,625	73%	297,966	76%	64,024	15%	361,990	44%
Dudley	63,764	62%	16,877	15%	2,638	3%	7,757	8%	91,036	23%	14,057	3%	105,093	13%
Sandwell	11,739	11%	50,299	46%	6,843	8%	3,780	4%	72,661	18%	28,088	7%	100,749	12%
Walsall	1,852	2%	8,679	8%	47,216	53%	7,700	8%	65,447	17%	16,037	4%	81,484	10%
W'ton	5,249	5%	6,133	6%	8,052	9%	49,388	53%	68,822	17%	5,842	1%	74,664	9%
Birmingham	4,547	4%	13,661	13%	5,872	7%	2,760	3%	26,840	7%	256,811	61%	283,651	35%

Source: Census, 2011

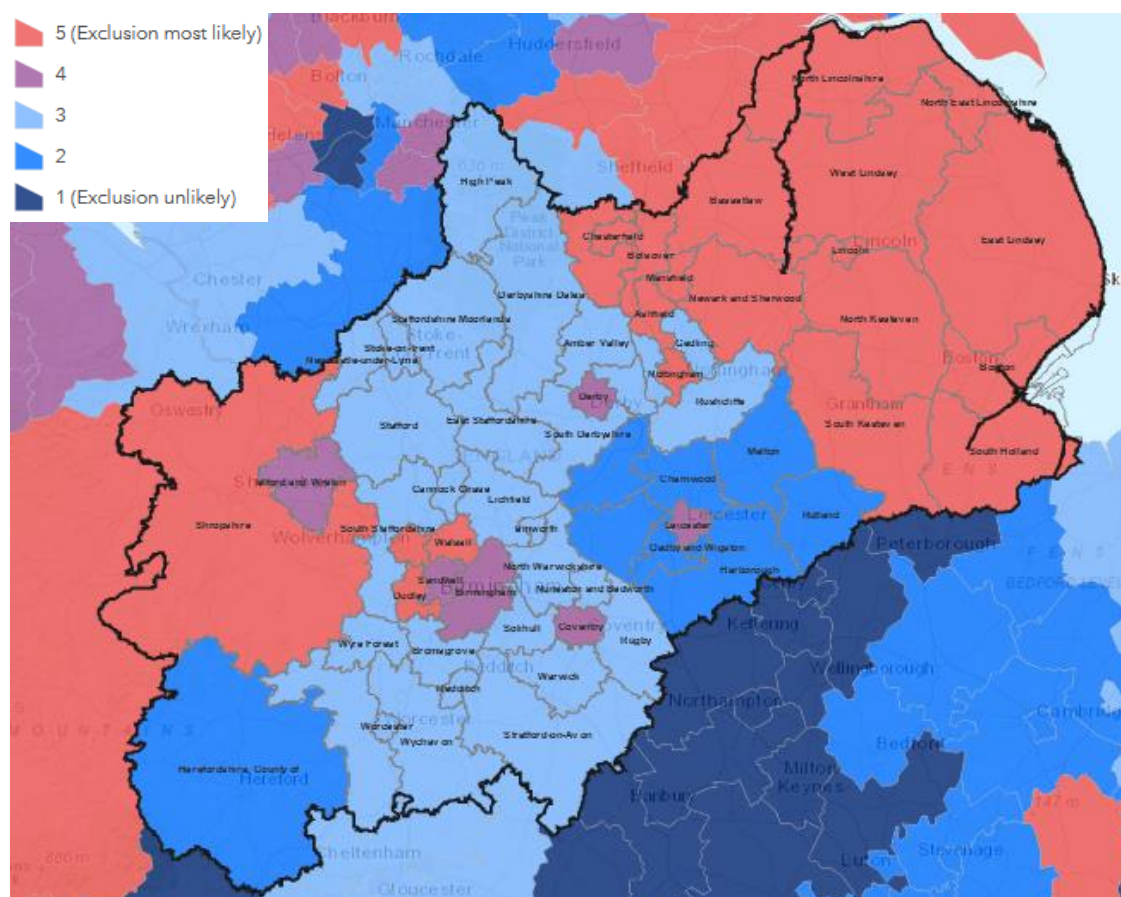
## Digital Vulnerability

Digital exclusion is the inability to access online products or services or to use simple forms of digital technology. This disproportionately affects vulnerable people, low-income groups, the elderly and the more marginalised communities in our society. This creates a strong correlation between digital exclusion and social exclusion.

The following map shows access (not been online in last quarter) for Local Authorities by Quintile – Dudley, Wolverhampton and Walsall local authorities are in the most likely quintile when it comes to digital access exclusion.

<sup>14</sup> Source: ONS, Housing Affordability Ratio, 2020

<sup>15</sup> Source: Census, 2011



Source: British Red Cross, 2020

## Crime

Due to lockdown restrictions in place in May 2020, crime figures will be impacted. **There were 12,432 crimes in May 2020** across the Black Country and West Birmingham geography which is an increase from the 9,850 crimes in May 2019. This is due to significant increases in violence and sexual offences, anti-social behaviour and public order and small increases in drugs, other crime and bicycle theft<sup>16</sup>.

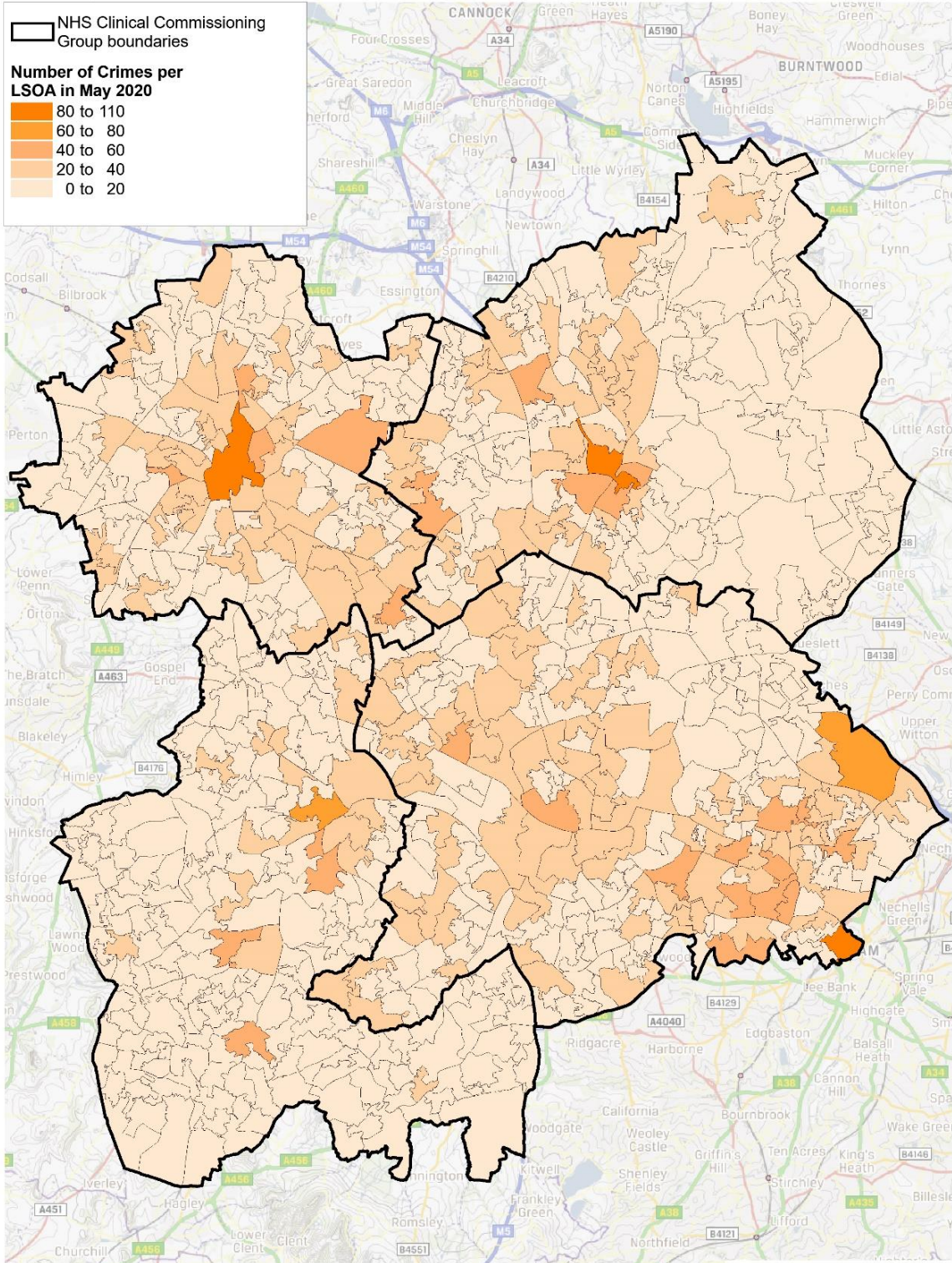
Crime Type	Number of crimes May 2019	Number of crimes May 2020
<b>Violence and sexual offences</b>	3,186	4,242
<b>Anti-social behaviour</b>	1,275	3,596
<b>Public order</b>	577	928
<b>Criminal damage and arson</b>	815	796
<b>Vehicle crime</b>	1,110	708
<b>Burglary</b>	892	536
<b>Other theft</b>	611	487
<b>Shoplifting</b>	614	317
<b>Drugs</b>	157	262
<b>Robbery</b>	219	188
<b>Other crime</b>	177	186
<b>Possession of weapons</b>	87	86
<b>Bicycle theft</b>	52	58
<b>Theft from the person</b>	78	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,850</b>	<b>12,432</b>

Source: Ministry of Justice and Single Online Home National Digital Team, 2020

<sup>16</sup> Source: Ministry of Justice and Single Online Home National Digital Team, 2020

The following map shows where overall crimes were committed in the Black Country and West Birmingham area in May 2020.

### CRIME



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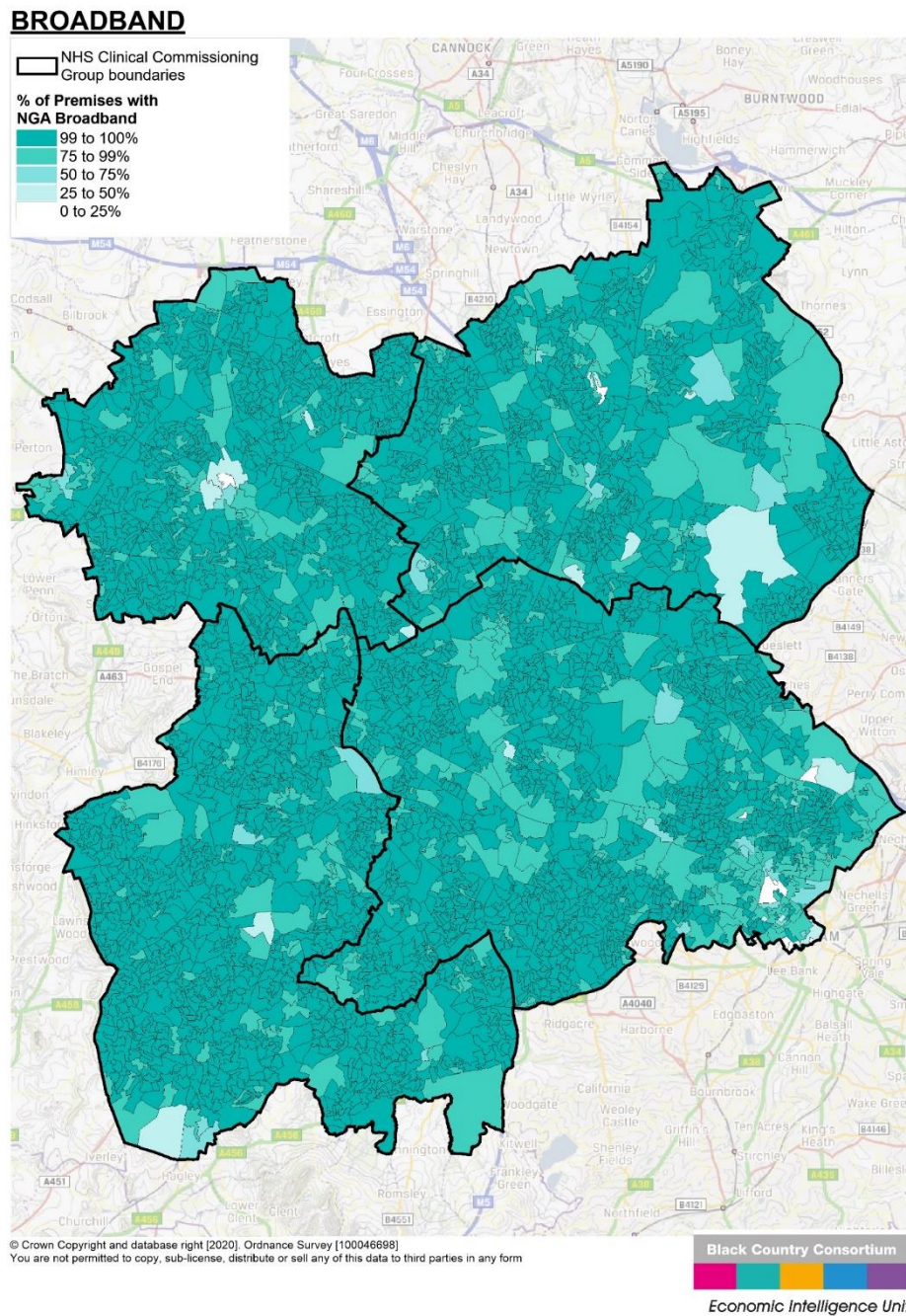


# Infrastructure

## Broadband Connectivity

Across the Black Country and West Birmingham output level in Spring 2020, **97.9% (585,634 of all premises) have Next Generation Access (NGA) broadband**. This is split by 81.4% (486,998 premises) that have ultrafast broadband with the remaining 16.5% (98,639 premises) have superfast broadband connectivity<sup>17</sup>.

The following map shows NGA coverage across the Black Country and West Birmingham area.

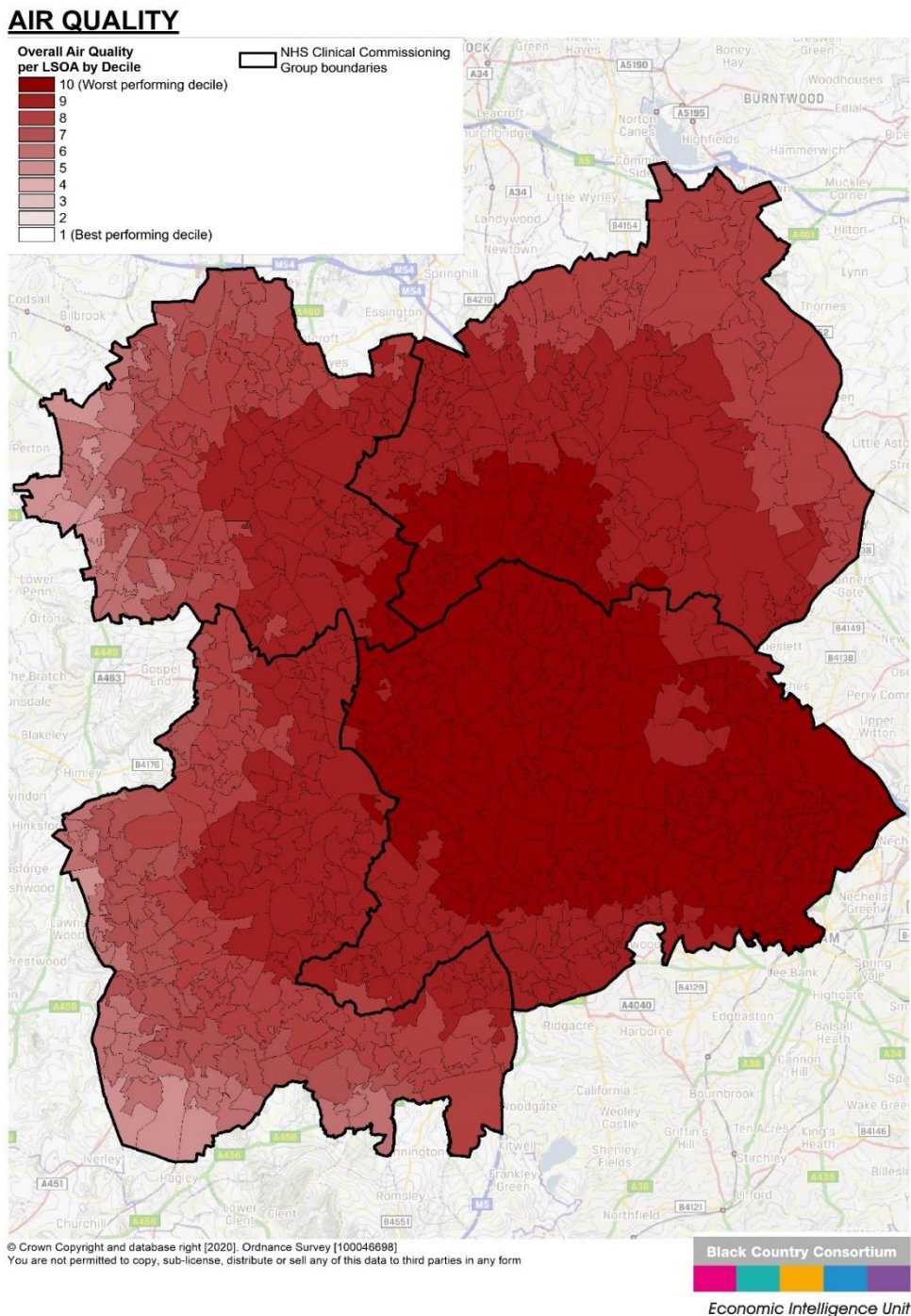


<sup>17</sup> Source: Ofcom, Connected Nations, Spring 2020

## Air Quality

Across the Black Country and West Birmingham area, when looking at components of air quality there was an average mean level of 14.6 NO<sub>2</sub> (12.0 for England), 13.5 PM10 (13.5 for England) and 1.7 SO<sub>2</sub> (1.2 for England). At a decile ranking view 40 were ranked the worst performing for NO<sub>2</sub>, none were ranked worse for PM10 and 515 were worse performing for SO<sub>2</sub> nationally<sup>18</sup>.

In the Black Country and West Birmingham, there were 254 LSOA's out of 804 which had the worst volume of air quality at an average volume of 55. The following map shows the overall air quality per LSOA by decile in the Black Country and West Birmingham area



<sup>18</sup> Source: Consumer Data Research Centre: Access to Healthy Assets and Hazards, 2019

# Business

In order to determine which sectors are most vulnerable from Coronavirus, broad sector analysis from the Office for Budget Responsibility scenario<sup>19</sup> has been applied to 10 main sectors. The following three tables show on a red- green shading scale which sectors will be potentially affected the most and how much that sector accounts for the overall total. This headline analysis suggests that the public sector (including education) and the visitor economy sector will be the sectors most impacted from the Coronavirus. Analysis suggests that health may be the only sector that will be unscathed, but notably also one of main sectors that has taken the brunt of the human impact from Coronavirus.

## Jobs by Sector

In 2018, there were **605,780 jobs** across the Black Country and West Birmingham, this has decreased by 0.5% (-3,190) when compared to 2017 while the England average increased by 0.6%<sup>20</sup>.

**The Black Country and West Birmingham area has a higher percentage of jobs in 4 sectors** when compared to nationally; advanced manufacturing (13.7% vs 8.8%), environmental technology (1.2% vs 1.1%), transport technologies (6.1% vs 4.9%) and retail (17.2% vs 15.3%).

In the Black Country and West Birmingham area the business services sector accounts for the highest percentage of jobs at 24.0% (approximately 145,300 jobs). This sector has increased by 300 jobs (+0.2%) since 2017. The second highest percentage of jobs is in the retail sector at 17.2% (104,000), this has increased by 2,000 jobs (+2.0%) from 2017.

The following table shows the breakdown of jobs per sector and proportions for Black Country and West Birmingham area.

	2017	2018	% of Total 2018	England 2018	% of England Total
<b>Advanced Manufacturing</b>	82,155	82,770	13.7%	2,714,300	10.4%
<b>Building Technologies</b>	24,000	27,500	4.5%	1,202,000	4.6%
<b>Business Services</b>	145,000	145,300	24.0%	6,605,000	25.4%
<b>Environmental Technologies</b>	9,600	7,050	1.2%	295,000	1.1%
<b>Health</b>	79,900	76,800	12.7%	3,360,000	12.9%
<b>Public Sector</b>	90,000	86,000	14.2%	3,972,000	15.3%
<b>Retail</b>	102,000	104,000	17.2%	3,983,000	15.3%
<b>Sports</b>	10,250	9,500	1.6%	469,000	1.8%
<b>Transport Technologies</b>	32,065	37,160	6.1%	1,279,000	4.9%
<b>Visitor Economy</b>	34,000	29,700	4.9%	2,100,000	8.1%
<b>Total</b>	608,970	605,780		25,979,300	

Source: Business Register and Employment Survey, 2019

## Gross Value Added (GVA) by Sector

In 2018, the Black Country area and Birmingham local authority GVA was £50.3bn. This is an increase of 4.5% since last year (+£2.3bn), which is above the increase of 3.1% nationally<sup>21</sup>.

<sup>19</sup> <sup>1</sup>The scenario is based on an assumption of a three-month lockdown, followed by three months of partial restrictions in the transition to normality, shows a 35.1% reduction in GDP in Q2 2020 (April to June), following growth of 0.2% in Q1 2020, with a yearly contraction of the UK economy of 12.8%.

<sup>20</sup> Source: Business Register and Employment Survey, 2019

<sup>21</sup> ONS: Regional Balanced Gross Value Added (GVA) by Industry, 2019

GVA per head in the Black Country area and Birmingham was £21,532, this is an increase since last year of 4.2% (+£876). Whereas England saw an increase of 2.5% from 2017 to £29,356. The gap between England and the Black Country and Birmingham stands at £7,824.

The Black Country has a higher or the same percentage of jobs in 7 sectors when compared to nationally, example include advanced manufacturing (14.5% vs 11.7%), public sector (14.4% vs 10.8%), sports (1.2% vs 1.1%) and retail (12.4% vs 10.7%).

The following table shows the breakdown of GVA per sector and proportions for Black Country and Birmingham local authority.

	2017 (£m)	2018 (£m)	% of 2018	England % of 2018
<b>Advanced Manufacturing</b>	£6,932	£7,265	14.5%	11.7%
<b>Building Technologies</b>	£2,787	£3,002	6.0%	6.1%
<b>Transport Technologies</b>	£2,182	£2,338	4.7%	4.2%
<b>Business Services</b>	£15,251	£15,760	31.1%	42.1%
<b>Environmental Technologies</b>	£1,157	£1,239	2.5%	2.5%
<b>Health</b>	£5,005	£5,321	10.6%	7.4%
<b>Retail</b>	£5,847	£6,239	12.4%	10.7%
<b>Visitor Economy</b>	£1,213	£1,239	2.5%	3.3%
<b>Public Sector</b>	£7,005	£7,252	14.4%	10.8%
<b>Sports</b>	£608	£616	1.2%	1.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£47,987</b>	<b>£50,272</b>		

ONS: Regional Balanced Gross Value Added (GVA) by Industry, 2019

### Enterprises by Sector

A snapshot of enterprises by sector is only available which covers 42,490 enterprises across the Black Country and West Birmingham MSOA geography<sup>22</sup>.

**The Black Country and West Birmingham area has a higher percentage of enterprises in 3 sectors when compared to nationally;** transport technologies (8.1% vs 4.2%), health (4.6% vs 3.9%) and retail (21.2% vs 14.3%).

In the Black Country and West Birmingham area the business services sector accounts for the highest percentage of enterprises at 34.30% (approximately 14,590 enterprises). This sector has increased by 1,440 enterprises (+0.11%) since 2017.

The following table shows the breakdown of enterprises per sector and proportions for Black Country and West Birmingham area.

	2018	2019	% of total (2019)	England % of Total
<b>Advanced Manufacturing</b>	4,440	4,330	10.2%	12.8%
<b>Building Technologies</b>	5,015	5,045	11.9%	12.7%
<b>Business Services</b>	13,150	14,590	34.3%	40.1%
<b>Environmental Technologies</b>	160	155	0.4%	0.5%
<b>Transport Technologies</b>	3,325	3,455	8.1%	4.2%
<b>Health</b>	2,110	1,955	4.6%	3.9%
<b>Public Sector</b>	985	1,005	2.4%	3.6%
<b>Retail</b>	8,495	9,000	21.2%	14.3%
<b>Sports</b>	295	300	0.7%	1.3%
<b>Visitor Economy</b>	2,515	2,655	6.2%	6.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,490</b>	<b>42,490</b>		

Source: UK Business Counts, 2019

<sup>22</sup> Source: UK Business Counts, 2019

# Ideas

## **Business Innovation**

The Black Country has improved its ranking across most of the innovation indicators utilised in and now sits in the top 10 of all LEPs in five categories: product/service innovation, process innovation, collaboration, marketing innovation and new methods of work organisation. For the latter, the Black Country was ranked number 1 of all LEPs. Across three indicators the Black Country's ranking has reduced: design investment, introduction of new business practices and new to market innovation<sup>23</sup>.

The following tables shows the Black Country Ranking of 38 LEPs: Benchmarking Local Innovation Indicators.

	2015 Study	2017 Study	2019 Study
<b>Product/ Service</b>	17	19	9
<b>New to Market</b>	13	N/A	26
<b>Process</b>	19	24	9
<b>R&amp;D</b>	8	29	12
<b>Collaboration</b>	5	20	4
<b>Introduction of New Business Practice</b>	N/A	13	27
<b>New Methods of Work Organisation</b>	N/A	23	1
<b>Marketing Innovation</b>	N/A	29	9
<b>Design Investment</b>	N/A	14	18
<b>Sales of Innovative Products/Service</b>	N/A	35	29

Source: Enterprise Research Centre (ERC), Benchmarking Local Innovation, 2019

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<sup>23</sup> Source: Enterprise Research Centre (ERC), Benchmarking Local Innovation, 2019



**This report is produced by the Economic Intelligence Unit of Black Country Consortium Ltd**



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