



Oral health is a key indicator of overall health, well-being and quality of life. Oral health affects our ability to eat, sleep, smile and show emotions. Oral health also affects a person’s self-esteem, school performance and attendance at school or work. Diseases and conditions include dental caries, periodontal (gum) disease, oral cancers, oro-dental trauma and cleft lip and palate.

Deprivation is associated with poorer oral health in all age groups, with children from the most deprived areas having more than twice the level of decay than those from the least deprived. Consumption of food and beverages high in sugar, as well as smoking and alcohol, contribute to oral health conditions. Good oral health can be maintained by decreasing sugar intake, tooth brushing with a fluoride toothpaste, avoiding tobacco use, minimising alcohol intake and visiting the dentist.

While the prevalence of visible dental decay in five-year-olds decreased substantially between 2007/08 and 2016/17, the prevalence has increased between 2016/17 and 2018/19.

KEY INDICATORS

Prevalence of dental decay among five-year-olds, 2018-19

28.3%



Hospital admissions for dental caries (0-5 years) 2018/19 – 2020/21, rate/100,000

274.2



Mortality rate from oral cancer, 2017-2019, rate per 100,000

7.6



Oral Health Data



Percentage of five-year-olds with visually obvious dental decay (2018/19)

28.3



London 27.0

Decayed, missing or filled teeth (DMFT) in five-year-olds mean DMFT per child

0.84



London 0.92

Percentage of three-year-olds with visually obvious dental decay (2019/20)

10.5



London 12.6

Decayed, missing or filled teeth in three-year-olds mean DMFT per child

0.3



London 0.4

Hospital admissions for dental caries rate per 100,000 (2018/19-2020/21)

274.2



London 280.1

Mortality rate from oral Cancer, rate per 100,000 (2017/19)

7.6



London 4.9

Latest data and comparison with previous years: dental decay in 5-year-olds 2018/19 compared to 2016/17, hospital admissions 2018/19-2020/21 compared to 2017/18-2019/20, oral cancer 2017/19 compared to 2016/18.

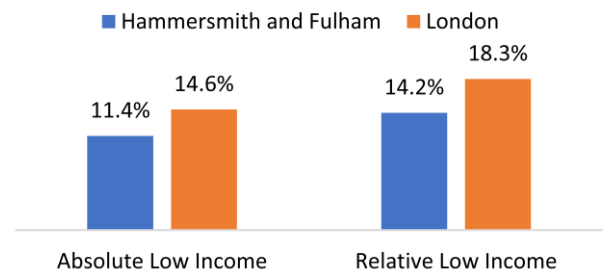
Demographics



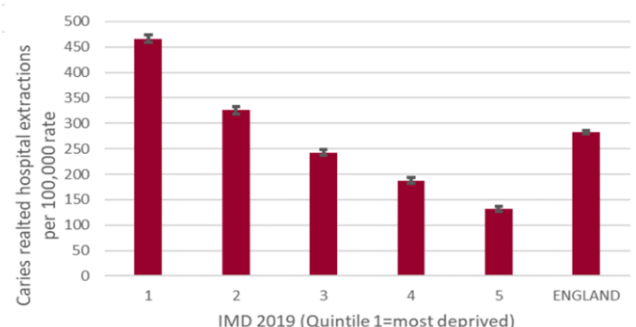
Children (under 16s) in **low income families**:

- 11.4% of children live in absolute low-income families and 14.2% live in relative low income families.

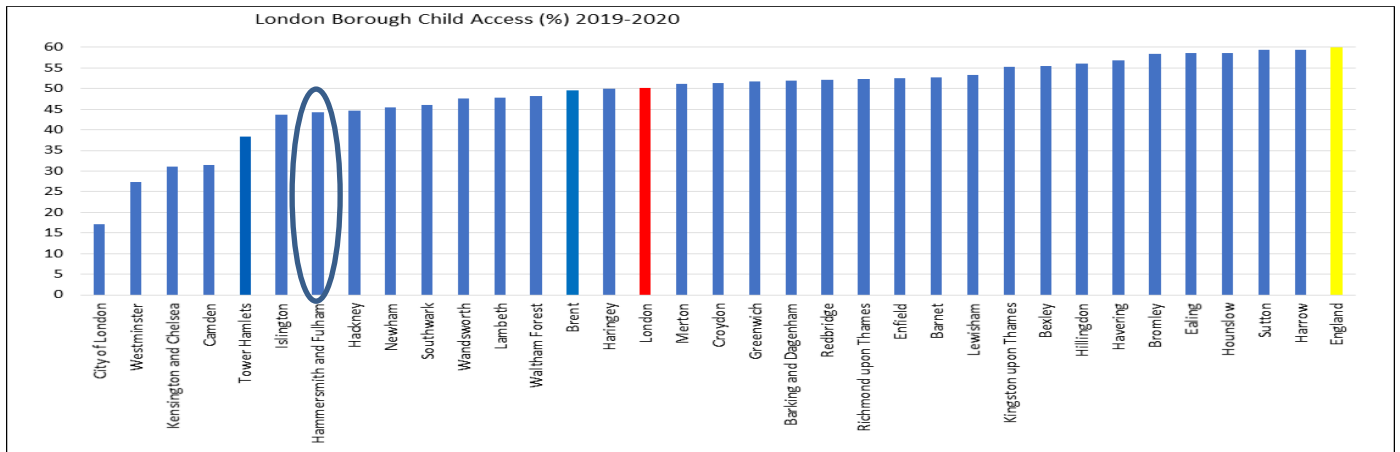
Children under 16 in Low Income Families



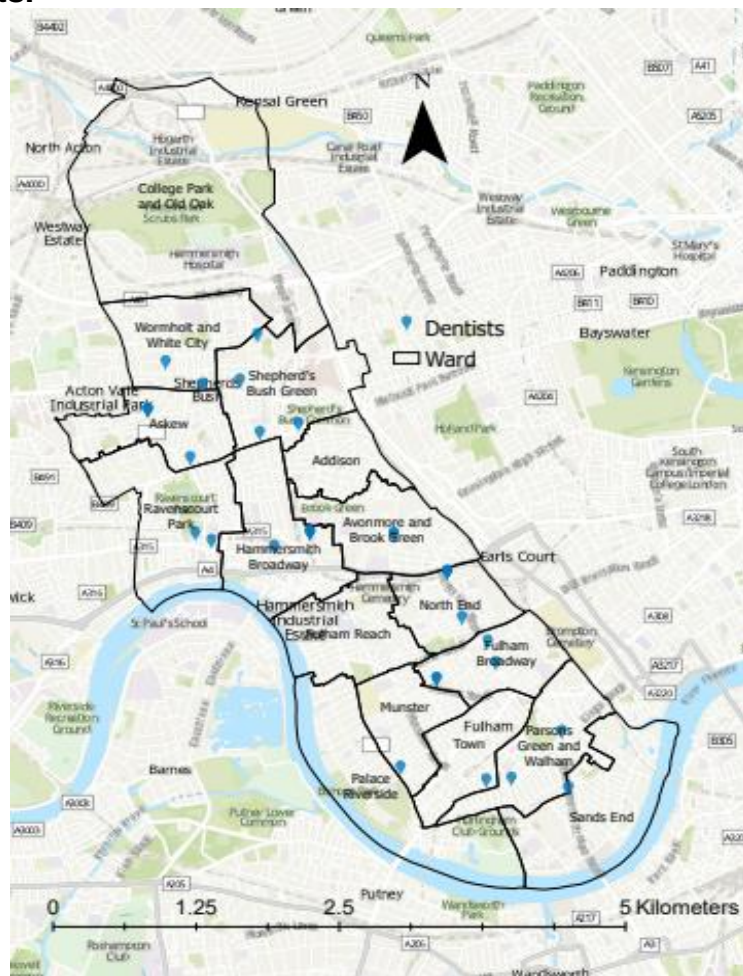
Caries-related tooth extractions in hospital (0-19 years old, 2018-19, England) per IMD quintile:



Dental access rate for children, London boroughs.



Map of LBHF Dentists.



Data sources:

- Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, "Oral Health," 2019. [Online]. Available: [Oral health - OHID \(phe.org.uk\)](https://phe.org.uk). [Accessed March 2023].
- Office for Health Improvements & Disparities, "Child and Maternal Health," 2021. [Online]. Available: [Child and Maternal Health - Data - OHID \(phe.org.uk\)](https://phe.org.uk) [Accessed March 2023].
- Public Health England, "Oral Health," 2020. [Online]. Available: [NDEP for England OH Survey 5Yr 2019 Results.xlsx \(live.com\)](https://phe.org.uk) [Accessed March 2023].
- Public Health England, "Oral health survey of 3 year old children 2020," 2020. [Online]. Available: [PHE document \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://phe.org.uk). [Accessed March 2023].

Data trends shown by: Increase/ negative: ↑ Decrease, positive: ↓ No significant change: ●