



SMOKING PREVALENCE

Report for Hackney

20

23

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Smoking remains the single biggest risk factor for premature death and disease nationally and locally. It is also the biggest driver of inequalities in mortality rates between higher and lower socio-demographic groups within our communities.
- The prevalence of smoking has declined in Hackney since 2011, but this decline seems to have stalled in the last five years.
- Around 14% of Hackney adults smoke, which is approximately 29,000 residents. About 2,100 residents accessed local stop smoking services and set a quit date in 2021/22.
- The smoking prevalence in Hackney is similar to London and England and comparable boroughs, but there is notable variation within the borough itself.
- Smoking prevalence also varies across different population groups and they are higher among men, some ethnic communities, individuals residing in economically disadvantaged areas, those employed in routine or manual jobs, social housing tenants, homeless individuals, LGBTQ+ residents, those diagnosed with severe mental health conditions, and individuals dealing with substance use problems.
- The government has recently announced measures to protect young people from the harms of smoking for generations to come. This involves raising the age of sale one year every year from 2027 onwards, and increasing the funding for stop smoking services, awareness-raising campaigns, and enforcement on illicit tobacco and e-cigarettes. They will soon launch a consultation on measures to tackle the increase in youth vaping.

BACKGROUND

Despite progress in the last decade, smoking remains the single biggest risk factor for premature death and disease, both at the national and local level. It is also the biggest cause of inequalities in mortality rates between different socio-demographic groups in our communities.

The government has outlined an ambition for England to be smoke-free by 2030, which means to reduce smoking prevalence to below 5%. However, the 2020 analysis by [Cancer Research UK \[1\]](#) showed that, at the current rate of decline, England will not reach this target until 2037.

The government has recognised the need to take bold new steps in tackling smoking-related harms in our communities. On the 4th of October 2023, the Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced the following changes to the government's smoking policy [2]:

- Legislate to raise the age of sale one year every year from 2027 onwards
- Double the funding for local authority Stop Smoking Services from next year
- Increase funding for awareness raising campaigns by £5 million this year and £15 million from next year onwards
- Increase funding for enforcement on illicit tobacco and e-cigarettes by £30 million from next year
- Launch a consultation shortly on specific measures to tackle the increase in youth vaping

These new measures has been welcomed across the health and care sector as important steps towards achieving the Smokefree 2030 ambitions.



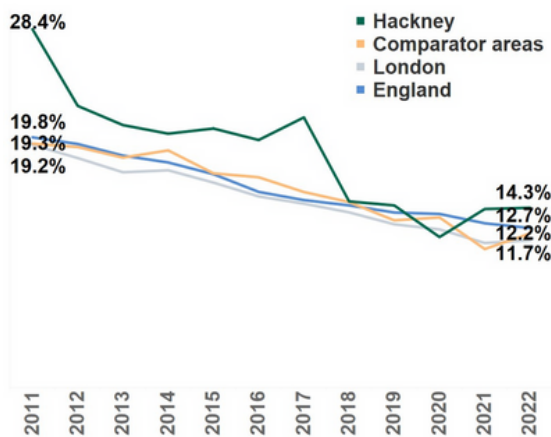
Smoking continues to be the leading cause of premature death and exacerbate health inequalities

MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM

Data from 2011 show that smoking prevalence has reduced significantly nationally, in London and in Hackney (Figure 1). In 2011, Hackney had significantly higher smoking prevalence compared to England and London averages, but by 2018 the prevalence was similar. However, this steep reduction in smoking has stalled over the last five years, with little change between 2018 and 2022.

According to the latest statistics, around 29,000 adult Hackney residents, or around 14% of the population smoke (Figure 2). Smoking prevalence in Hackney is similar to England, London, and comparable boroughs. Among comparable boroughs to Hackney, only Hammersmith and Fulham, Islington, and Wandsworth have significantly lower smoking prevalence than the England average [3].

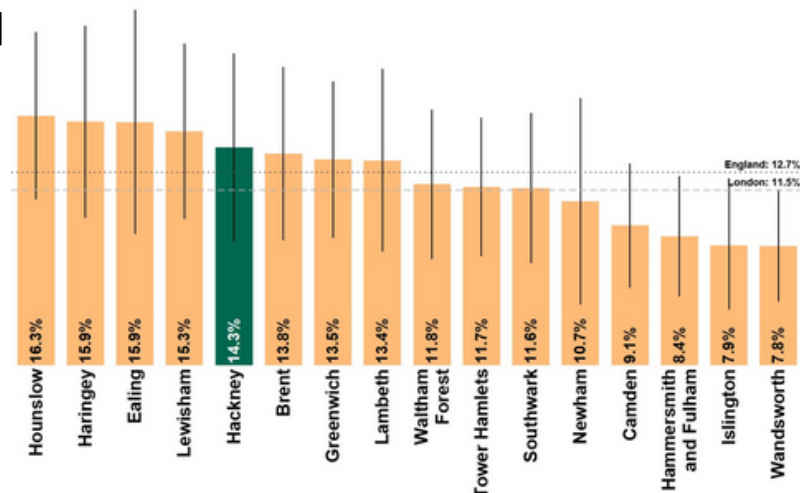
Figure 1. Smoking prevalence amongst residents aged 18+ over time, Hackney, 2011-22



**14% or around
29,000
Hackney adults
smoke**

Notes: Comparators areas are the 15 CIPFA statistical neighbours used by OHID to compare Local Tobacco Control Profiles indicators in Fingertips. They are boroughs similar in terms of demographics and socio-economic conditions, not necessarily geographical neighbours. The comparator areas can be seen in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Smoking prevalence amongst residents aged 18+, Hackney and comparator areas, 2022 [3]

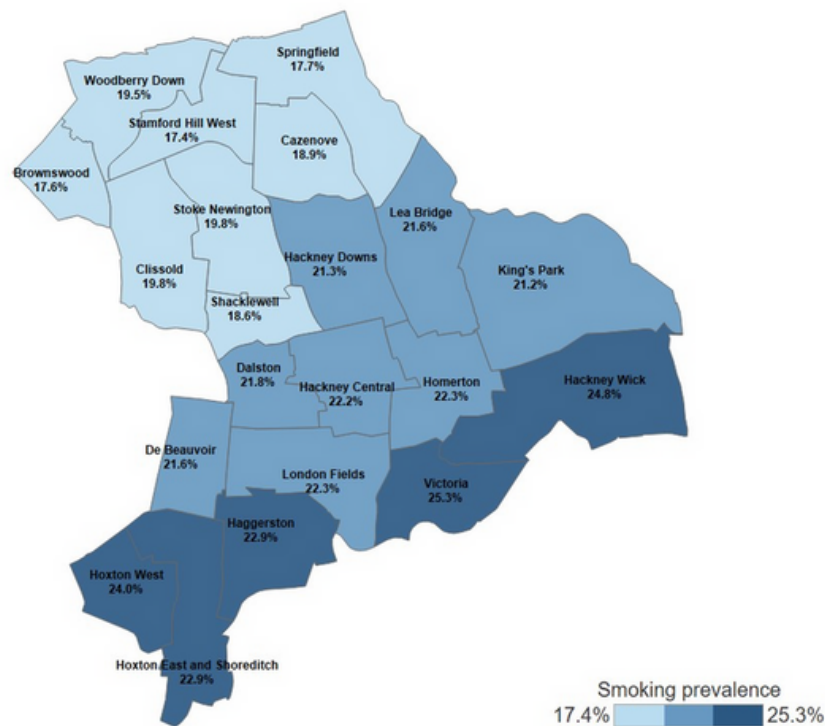


Notes: Comparators areas are the 15 CIPFA statistical neighbours used by OHID to compare Local Tobacco Control Profiles indicators in Fingertips. They are boroughs similar in terms of demographics and socio-economic conditions, not necessarily geographical neighbours. The black bars represent 95% confidence intervals, which reflect the percent certainty that the value is within the stated range.

GEOGRAPHICAL VARIATION

There are notable geographic differences in smoking prevalence* within Hackney, with wards in the South and East seeing the highest prevalence (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Smoking prevalence by ward, Hackney, 2022. [4]



SMOKING IN PREGNANCY



Smoking in pregnancy has well-documented detrimental effects on the growth and development of the baby and the health of the mother. Around 4.5% of women in Hackney were recorded as smokers at the time of delivery in 2021/22 [5]. This is likely to be under-recorded due to the stigma attached to reporting smoking status in pregnancy. The proportion of women smoking at delivery in Hackney is similar to London and has been relatively stable in the last ten years.

*To enable detailed analysis, two different data sources were used throughout the report, resulting in some differences between estimates.

DEMOGRAPHIC INEQUALITIES

Smoking patterns vary among different demographic groups, reflecting the influence of various societal factors. These differences emphasize the importance of targeted strategies to address the unique challenges of tobacco use within each group.

Ethnicity



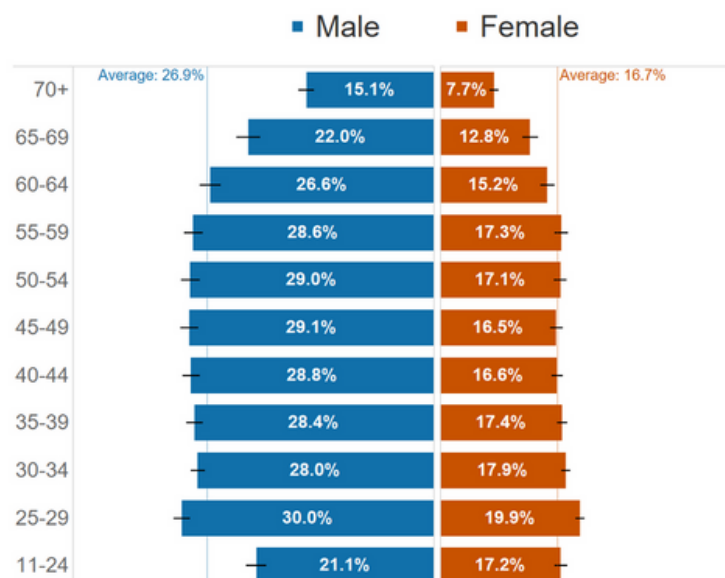
In Hackney, the smoking prevalence is higher than average among [4]:

- Bangladeshi men
- black Caribbean men
- 'other' black (not African or Caribbean) men
- white and black Caribbean men and women
- Irish women
- 'other' white (not British or Irish) men and women.

Age and sex

Smoking prevalence varies by age and sex with men being much more likely to smoke at any age (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Smoking prevalence by age and sex, Hackney, 2022 [4]



LGBTQ+



According to national statistics, smoking prevalence is higher among LGB adults (27%) compared with heterosexual adults (18%) [6]. Around 9% of Hackney residents aged 16+ identify as LGBTQ+ compared to less than 5% in London [7].

OTHER INEQUALITIES

Smoking prevalence is also higher in other communities and population groups, who experience a disproportionately higher burden of smoking-related harm. The smoking prevalence across various groups in Hackney is shown below.



Occupation [3]

25% routine and manual
10% managerial and professional



Deprivation [4]



Homeless [4]

55% adults recorded as homeless
21% adults not recorded as homeless



Housing tenure [3]

21% rents from a local authority or housing association
3% owns accommodation with no mortgage



Severe mental illness [4]

41% adults with severe mental illness recorded
21% adults without severe mental illness recorded



Substance use [4]

72% adults with recorded substance use
28% adults without recorded substance use

LOCAL SERVICE



Locally, [Smokefree City and Hackney \[9\]](#), a stop smoking service (SSS), provides support to quit smoking to people aged 18 or above who live, work, or study in City and Hackney. The service is provided in different settings based in both Hackney and the City of London (such as GP, pharmacies and community settings), offering 12 weeks of behavioural support and nicotine replacement therapy.

In total, 2,132 people set a quit date with the SSS across City and Hackney in 2021/22 [10]. This represented 7% of the estimated number of smokers locally. This is above the NICE standard of 5% of the estimated local population who should be treated each year [11].

The number of Hackney smokers who set a quit date has decreased over the past five years, which is in line with trends seen in other places. This decline can be partly attributed to the overall reduction in the number of smokers [10]. Despite this decline, the 4-week quit rate (the main quality standard for local stop smoking services) remained relatively stable in recent years. Hackney's 4-week quit rate has also been consistently higher than London and England averages and has exceeded the target set by NICE (at least 35%) [11], reaching about 59% in 2021/22 [10].

For the benefits of quitting smoking and FREE support, please check the [website](#) or speak to one of the specialists on the freephone number.



Freephone
0800 046 99 46
Monday to Friday
9am to 5 pm

REFERENCES

[1] [Cancer Intelligence Team, Cancer Research UK. Smoking prevalence projections for England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, based on data to 2018/19. Published February 2020.](#)

[2] [UK Government. Prime Minister to create 'smokefree generation' by ending cigarette sales to those born on or after 1 January 2009, 2023 \[cited 2023 Oct 5\].](#)

[3] [Office for Health Improvement Disparities \(OHID\). Fingertips. 2022 \[cited 2023 Jan 25\]. Smoking Prevalence in adults \(18+\) - current smokers \(APS\) Proportion.](#)

[4] [Clinical Effectiveness Group. East London Database 2022. 2023. \[data not publicly available\]](#)

[5] [Office for Health Improvement and Disparities. Fingertips. Public Health Profiles. 2022 \[cited 2023 Jan 25\] Smoking status at time of delivery.](#)

[6] [NHS Digital. NDRS. 2021 \[cited 2023 Jun 1\]. National representative data on the health of lesbian, gay and bisexual adults in England published for the first time. In this survey only lesbian, gay and bisexual were included rather than people with other sexual orientations.](#)

[7] [Office for National Statistics \(ONS\). Census 2021.](#)

[8] [Smokefree City and Hackney, 2023. \[data not publicly available\]](#)

[9] [Smokefree City and Hackney website, 2023.](#)

[10] [NICE. Tobacco: preventing uptake, promoting quitting and treating dependence. NICE guideline \[NG209\] \[Internet\]. NICE; 2023 Jan \[cited 2023 May 24\].](#)