Introduction

On 11th December 2012 ONS released the second results from the 2011 Census for England & Wales. This Census Snapshot covers passports held.

All data presented here is available by local authority and can be accessed and viewed through a range of interactive maps and tools on the London Datastore at http://data.london.gov.uk/census. A more detailed analysis of 2011 Census Labour Market data will be published in 2013.

Passports held

For the first time in 2011, the Census included a question on passports held. In London there were 8,430,326 responses to the question. This number is higher than London’s total population (8.17 million) because some individuals hold multiple passports. 7.6 per cent of Londoners responded that they did not hold a passport, which equates to 638,343 people.

Of those who hold a passport (respondents could specify all passports held), 74.7 per cent have a passport for the United Kingdom equating to 5.82 million people. 1.95 per cent have a passport for the Republic of Ireland (151,800 people) and 10.1 per cent have a passport for another EU country (787,000 people).

Outside the EU, the most common passport held is for a country in the Middle East or Asia (5.49 per cent) followed by an African passport (3.1 per cent) and then a North American or Caribbean passport (1.81 per cent). 1.27 per cent of Londoners have a passport for a country in Antarctica or Oceania (which includes Australia and New Zealand) followed by 1.0 per cent with a non-EU European country passport.

Less than one per cent of Londoners have a passport for a country in Central America, South America or a British Overseas Territory.

Figure 1 shows the split of passports held by Londoners by country or region of the world.
In London\(^1\), Kensington & Chelsea has the lowest percentage of people who do not hold a passport (0.8 per cent) while Croydon has the highest (5.9 per cent). In London as a whole an average of 3.1 per cent of people per borough hold a United Kingdom passport. This ranges from 1.6 per cent for Kensington & Chelsea to 4.7 per cent for Croydon. Brent has the highest proportion of Irish passport holders (6.9 per cent) followed by Ealing (5.9 per cent).

Greenwich has the highest proportion of African passport holders (6.7 per cent) followed by Newham (6.0 per cent). Newham also has the highest percentage of people who have a passport for a Middle Eastern or Asian country (10.5 per cent) with Brent having the second highest (6.7 per cent).

A high proportion of those with a passport from a country in Antarctic or Oceania reside in Wandsworth (11.0 per cent) or Hammersmith & Fulham (8.2 per cent). North American and Caribbean passport holders tend to reside in Kensington & Chelsea (8.3 per cent) or Camden (7.2 per cent).

Central American passport holders are highest in Westminster (9.1 per cent) whereas South American passport holders are greatest in Lambeth (9.9 per cent).

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\(^1\) Excluding City of London due to low numbers