



We Make Camden: State of the Borough 2026 Summary

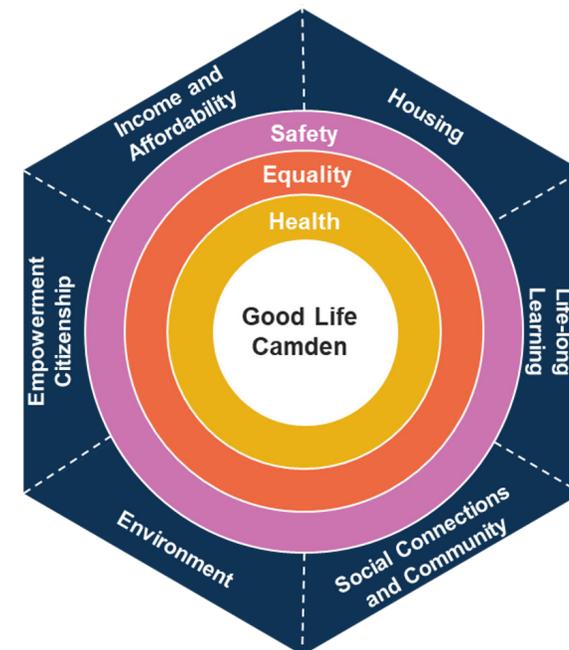
About the State of the Borough report

Camden's State of the Borough report is published annually. It brings together data and evidence from quantitative and qualitative sources, and includes national level statistics, regional data, and locally collected data.

It provides a **shared evidence base about the outcomes experienced by people in Camden**, and is intended for organisations, residents and the council to increase the understanding of people's wellbeing in the borough. It is aligned to the structure of the [We Make Camden](#) vision for the borough, and uses the [Good Life Camden framework](#) to identify relevant data.

A note on timings: The 2026 report is published earlier than in previous years due to the local elections in May 2026. Due to the shorter timeline for producing the report, we did not include data that was not updated since the last report at the time of drafting.

To read the State of the Borough report go to

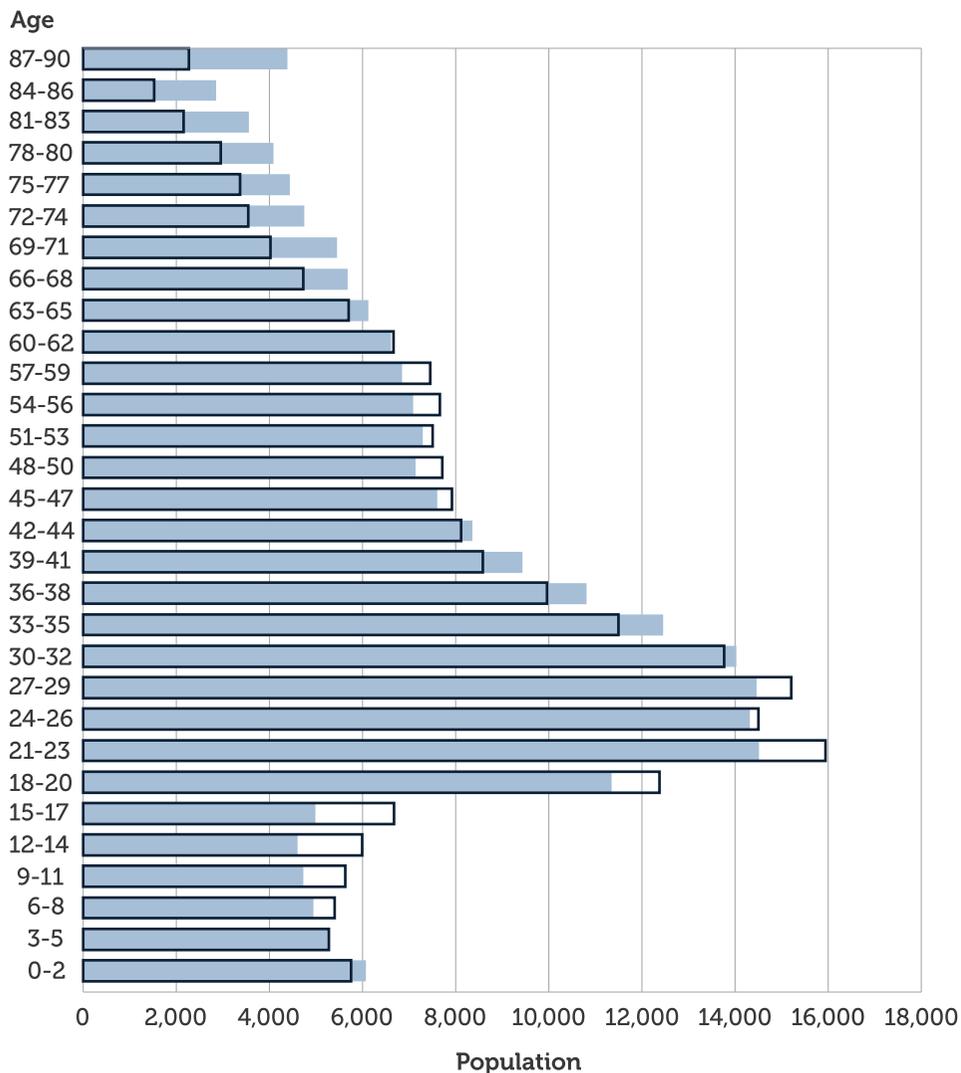


We Make Camden:
State of the Borough 2026

Key Insights

Camden population by age, across time

□ 2025 Population (Actual) ■ 2050 Population (Predicted)



Camden's population is projected to grow from 219k to 224k in 2050, and the age profile is expected to change, with over 65s set to become a larger proportion of our borough, while the proportion of children will shrink. The statistics below reflect some of the drivers and consequences of this changing profile.



Dependency ratio

The ratio of over 65s to working-age adults will rise from 16:100 to 23:100 by 2050.



Housing affordability & tenure

High house prices & demand for social housing are factors in why currently 47% of 25-50 year olds rent privately, versus 13% of 50+ year olds.



Student "bulge"

Camden's higher education institutions means we have a large, but transient, younger adult population, currently 30,738 students.

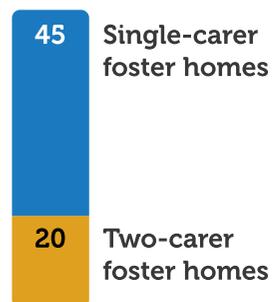


Fertility rates

In Camden, 1.05 children are born per woman on average. Lower fertility drives the projection of fewer children and young people in 2050.

Key Insights

In March 2024
Camden had 65 approved foster homes



“
 I’m part of the LGBT adoption network, which is supportive, but it mostly meets outside Camden. When it did meet here during the protests, it was powerful to feel solidarity in such a difficult moment.
 ”

-65-74, Female

In 2024/2025

1,607

Camden children had an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP)

“
 I have an autistic child [...] I can’t work full time [...] We’re just living from check to paycheck and it’s very difficult, it is very difficult.
 ”

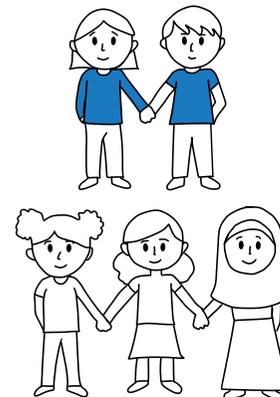
-48, Female

In March 2024

502

Care Experienced Young People were accessing a Camden service

In 2024,
1 in 5 children in Camden were living in relative poverty; this doubles to 2 in 5, once housing costs are included



In 2024/2025
Childcare for children aged 3-4 cost

£11,600/yr

after free hours are applied

“
 The cost of childcare, it’s the same as a mortgage.
 ”

-27, Female

In 2024/2025

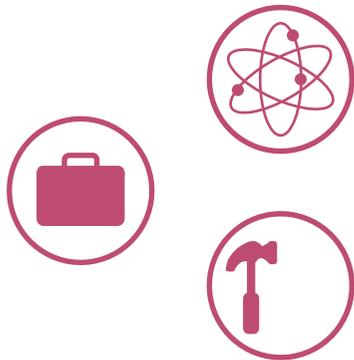
Over 1 in 4 secondary school pupils were persistently absent, the highest share in London



Key Insights

In 2023

There were 442,000 jobs in Camden: 2.5 jobs per every working age resident



In 2025

The median household income in Camden was £59,334



In 2025

The largest industry sector is the Professional, Scientific and Technical category, with 10,995 businesses (27% of all businesses in Camden)



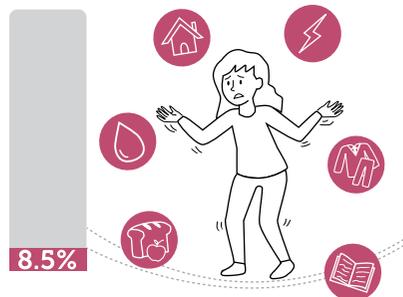
In 2024/2025

5%

of the Camden labour force was unemployed

In 2024

8.5% of employees were earning below the London Living Wage (£13.85/hour)



“

I think [it] is so important to keeping the youth occupied and prepared for adult life and employment.

”

-50+, Male

“

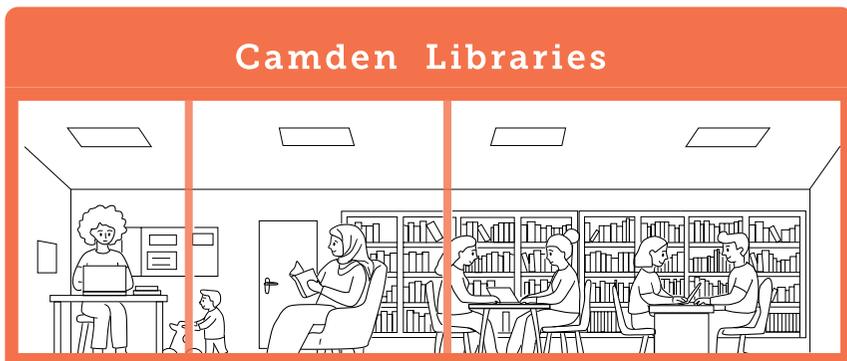
Camden is a great place to live, there are lots of opportunities.

”

-45, Female

Key Insights

37% of adults in Camden visited a library in the last year, the highest percentage in Inner London



“
I enjoy attending local events and activities at my local community centres [...] however, as I am the main carer for my husband who is housebound, I don't have the time to go as often as I would like.

My husband and I live alone and I don't like being at home all the time, it can feel lonely. I like to go to the centres to talk to people, to do exercise classes and get help with filling out forms.

”
-66, Female

Crime rate is second highest in London at 173 offences per 1,000 residents



Theft is the largest category of crime in the borough

“
I was walking down and just before I went there [...] two boys on a cycle grabbed a phone from somebody and ran off.

”
-35, Female

“
I wouldn't get my phone out because it might just disappear out my hands.

”
-82, Female

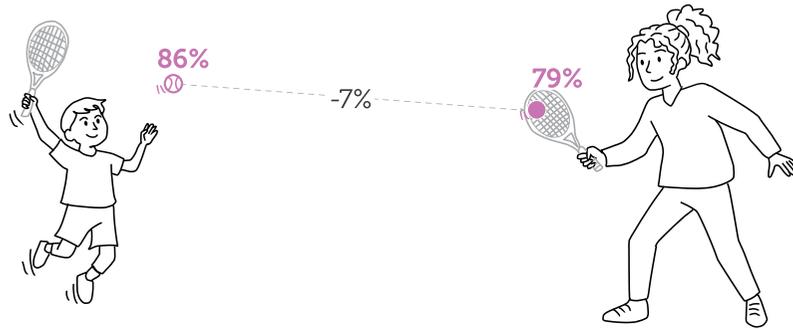
The rate of Domestic Abuse is lower than other London boroughs, but Violence Against Women and Girls is 9.8% higher than the London average



Key Insights

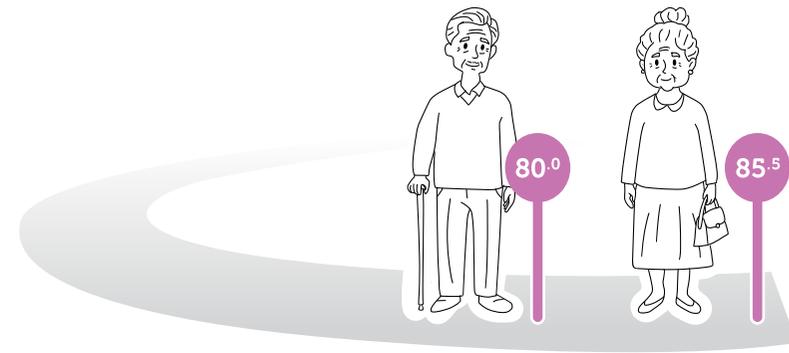
In 2025

86% of primary school students enjoyed taking part in sports or exercise. This decreases to 79% for secondary school students



In 2021-2023

Life expectancy at birth in Camden was 80 years for males and 85.5 years for females



In 2023/2024

78% of adults in Camden were physically active, an increase of 4.6%pt from last year

2023/2024

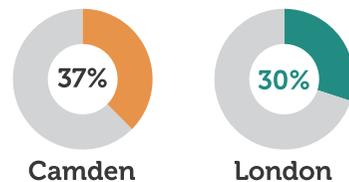


2022/2023



In 2023/2024

Only 37% of adults in Camden ate the recommended 5-a-day



“

Being part of a community has been good for my health, I enjoy doing things that distract me from the worries I face at home. I enjoy talking to people about things that make me happy and reliving happier memories from when I was young.

”

-64, Female

“

When you try to access health services here, it can be hard to get appointments. I know that's a national issue, but Camden's density makes it worse. On the flip side, we benefit from having more hospitals and services than many boroughs, including bigger sexual health clinics. So it's both: longer waits but more choice when you [...] get through.

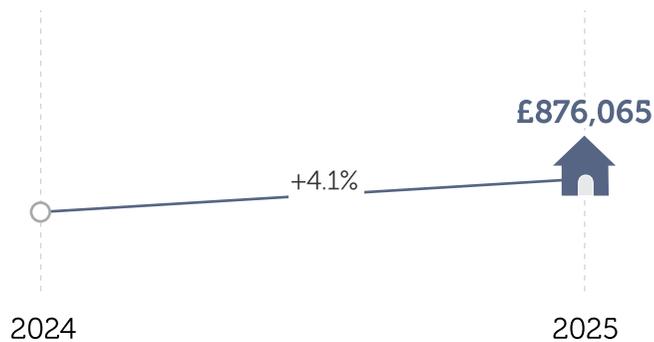
”

-35-44, Female

Key Insights

In 2025

Average house prices in Camden increased to £876,065



In March 2025

1,014

households were in Temporary Accommodation

“

I want to live by where I call home [...] I've been here 15 years [...] but it's so difficult to achieve that goal [...] the goalposts keep moving.

”

-35-44, Male

In March 2025

There were 8,380 households on the waiting list for social housing



+9.5%

since 2024

“

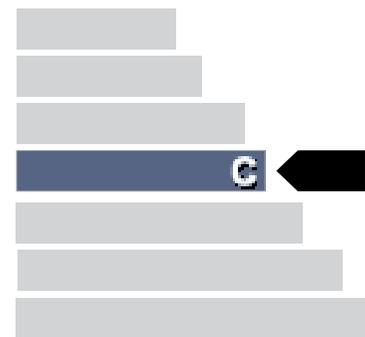
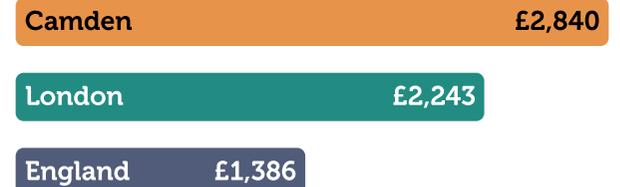
My experience of homelessness is very difficult, the negative consequences of which my daughter and I are still experiencing; all this has affected our mental and physical health.

”

-NA, Female

In March 2025

£2,840 was the average monthly private rent in Camden



In 2024

Camden's housing energy efficiency rating was C – the same as the London average

Key Insights

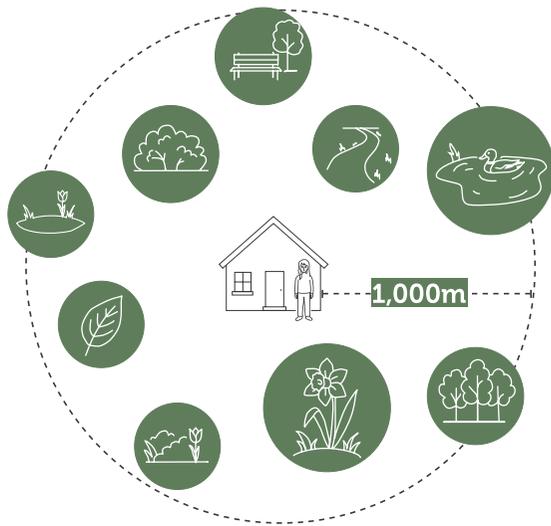
“

Our favourite place to visit in Camden is Parliament Hill, as it is such a big and lovely park and there is so much to do. If you want to reconnect with nature, meet up with family and friends or even go to do some fitness, it's a good place to go to.

”

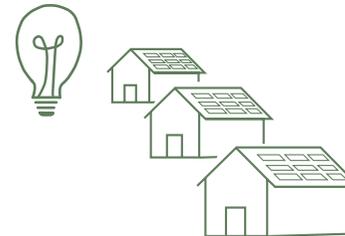
-Couple: 25, Female; 25, Male

A resident in Camden has, on average, 9.1 parks or green spaces within 1,000m of their home.



In 2023

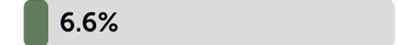
Camden produced 5,160Mwh (megawatt hours) of renewable energy from sources in the borough...



...enough to power about 1,911 homes for an entire year

Between 2018 and 2023, **Air pollution-related deaths fell by 2.6%**

2023



2018



In 2023/2024

On average, Camden households produced

30% less waste since 2010/2011

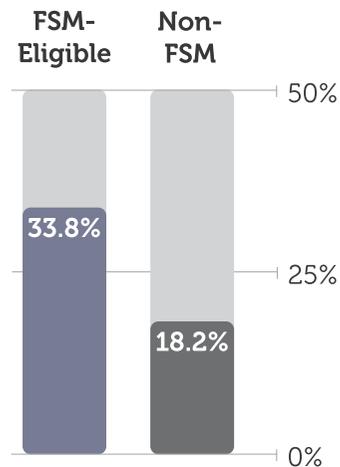
Almost 9 out of 10 trips were made using public transport, walking, or cycling



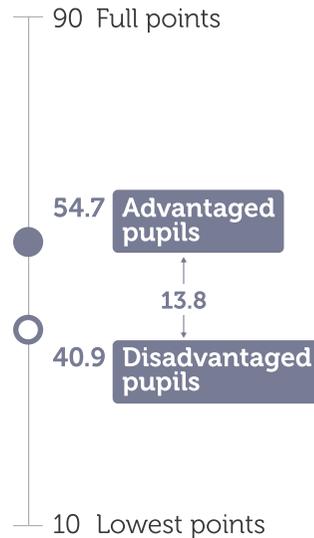
Key Insights

“
It's a borough of contrast [...] you notice it more here.
”
-65-74 years old, Female

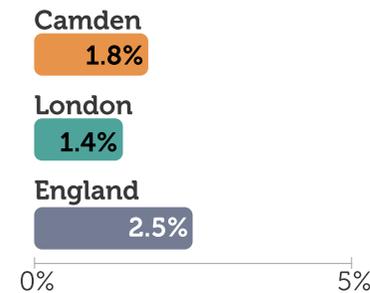
In 2023/2024
34% of secondary school pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) were persistently absent, almost double the rate of their non-FSM peers



In 2023/2024
Disadvantaged pupils achieved lower GCSE outcomes, scoring 13.8 points less on average on Attainment 8



In 2024
1.8% of 16-17 year olds were NEET (not in education, employment, or training)



1,045

young people (aged 18-24) were claiming unemployment benefits in Camden

“
There should be extra support for parents with special needs kids [...] swimming £36 for 30 mins, football £120 [...] too expensive.
”

-48, Female

“
Local youth workers encouraged me to do things out of the house and attend the Carers Partnership Board [...] My husband is visually impaired and my daughter is on the spectrum and I feel very supported by family and friends in the area.
”

-42, Female

Missions

In March 2022, we published We Make Camden – our refreshed vision for the future of Camden. It was developed following conversations with residents, partners and community leaders and it highlights what we want to achieve together as a community, alongside practical ways we can make change together in the short, medium and long term.

We framed these long-term goals as our We Make Camden Missions:



By 2030, those holding positions of power in Camden are as **diverse** as our community – and the next generation is ready to follow.



By 2025, every young person has access to economic opportunity that enables them to be safe and secure.



By 2030, everyone eats well every day with nutritious, affordable, sustainable **food**.

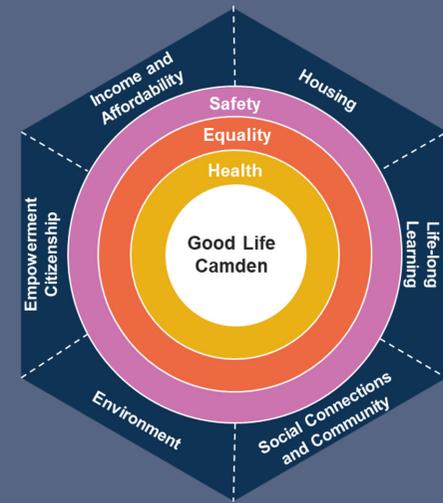


By 2030, Camden's **estates and their neighbourhoods** are healthy, sustainable and unlock creativity.

Missions

The State of the Borough report includes a State of the Mission chapter for each of the four missions. These are an essential part of an annual learning and reflection process, and a public account of the progress we can see across the missions, what we have learnt and what we need to know and do to continue to move towards these ambitious goals.

In these chapters, we have relied on quantitative data from secondary sources, qualitative insights from our primary data collection, and learning from our partners in the borough. The tapestry of insights shared has been shaped by the availability of these data sources.



To read the State of the Borough report go to



For more information about Good Life Camden visit
www.wemakecamden.org.uk/good-life-camden





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