

Overview of Harrow's population and changes

Harrow's main sources of population data are the Office for National Statistics (**ONS**) and the Greater London Authority (**GLA**).

The ONS produce the National Census, Mid-Year Estimates (**MYE**) annually and the Sub-National Population Projections (**SNPP**) approximately every two years; these datasets include births and migration data.

The GLA Demography Team produce a range of annually updated population projections at both borough and ward level for the 33 local authorities in the London region. Each round of projections includes a number of variants designed to meet a range of requirements, but in general variants form two groups:

- **Borough Preferred Option (BPO)**. This is the default option but is dependent on boroughs providing development data to be incorporated into the projections.
- **The latest GLA ward level Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)** – capped AHS (average household size) population projections for all wards in the local authority. This is the option if boroughs have not provided their development data.

Harrow uses the GLA's Borough Preferred Option, which are based on the latest available housing trajectory, to run our School Roll Projections on.

ONS 2011 National Census

Harrow's population has been changing and increasing since the 2001 Census. A number of factors have contributed to this position; these are outlined in this document.

The 2011 National Census revealed that Harrow's population is estimated to have increased to 239,100; this figure is 15.6% higher than the 2001 Census showed, and the ONS revised 2016 MYEs show a further increase to 248,697. Harrow's population is now at the highest recorded level, based on records going back to 1901. The 0-4 age group has increased by 5,877 between mid- 2001 (12,058) and mid-2016 (17,935), which represents a 48.7% increase. There have also been increases across all the statutory school age groups.

The 2011 Census showed that Harrow's residents were born in approximately 200 different countries and the percentage of Harrow's residents born in the UK is the 6th lowest ranking nationally. Harrow is ranked 7th nationally (and in London) for ethnic diversity and 2nd for religious diversity in London.

ONS Population Projections and Estimates

The ONS's Sub-National Population Projections project what the population of every local authority will look like over the next 25 years. It should be noted that all population projections become increasingly uncertain the further they are carried forward due to the inherent uncertainty of demographic behaviour.

The 2016-based SNPPs take the 2016 Mid-Year Estimates (MYEs) as their starting point, then: the population is projected forward a year at a time to 2041; the population is aged on from the previous year; the projected number of births and deaths are added; and adjustments for net migration are included. Births, deaths and migration are based on the trends observed in each local authority over the period mid-2011 to 2014. Finally the SNPPs are constrained to be

consistent with the national projections for England. The 2018-based SNPPs will be published by the ONS in May 2020.

GLA Borough Preferred Option Results for Harrow

Population Change

The population of Harrow is estimated to have grown by 6,845 persons (2.8 percent) between 2011 and 2015. Over the decade to 2025 the population is projected to grow by 22,384 persons (9.0 percent). By 2041 the population is projected to reach 295,227 persons, a 22.7 percent increase on the 2011 population.

Table 1 below outlines the total population of Harrow from the census base population of 240,607 through five-year intervals to a projected 2041 population of 295,227.

Table 1: Population of Harrow

Year	2017 Population
2011	240,607
2016	249,548
2021	262,122
2026	271,761
2031	279,518
2036	290,405
2041	295,227

Source: 2017 BPO projection - Harrow_low_out_migration_dclg

Age structure

The greatest growth in Harrow, between 2011 and 2031, is projected to be in the 65 and over age group where the population increases by 18,291 persons (54.0 percent). The proportion of the population aged 65 and over will rise from 14.1 percent to 18.5 percent between 2011 and 2031.

Table 2: Age structure of Harrow - 2017

Age Group	Population 2011	Population 2031	Change	Percentage Change
0 to 3	13,428	14,277	850	6.3
4 to 10	20,364	24,568	4,205	20.6
11 to 15	14,561	17,902	3,341	22.9
16 to 25	31,836	32,270	434	1.4
26 to 64	126,533	140,248	13,715	10.8
65 and over	33,886	52,177	18,291	54.0

Source: 2017 BPO projection - Harrow_low_out_migration_dclg

ONS 2017 Revised Mid Year Estimates (MYE)

The ONS 2017 MYE (published 28th June 2018) show that London's population was 8.83 million in mid-2017, 55,342 (0.6%) higher than the previous year, mid-2016. Harrow's growth rate of 0.1 per cent over the past year, is lower than the UK growth rate of 0.60 per cent (0.83% in 2016), England & Wales growth rate of 0.62 per cent (0.86% in 2016) and London's rate of 0.63 per cent (1.2% in 2016). This indicates that for the third year Harrow's growth has slowed down in comparison to the aforementioned regions which have grown at a similar rate to recent years.

Harrow's 2017 mid-year resident population is estimated to be 248,880, which is 183 higher than the ONS mid-2016 population estimate of 248,697. Over the past year Harrow's population is estimated to have increased by 0.07 per cent (883), compared to 0.76 per cent (1,879) from mid-2015 to mid-2016, 0.68 per cent (1,669) from mid-2014 to mid-2015, and 0.88 per cent (2,145) from mid-2013 to mid-2014. Over the decade¹ the borough's population has increased by 11.2 per cent (25,065).

Harrow's population growth (mid-2016 to mid-2017) can be largely attributed to natural change, with 2,177 more births than deaths. 22.0 per cent of Harrow's residents are aged under 16 (54,810), this is above the mid-2016 number of 51,465, as well as above the mid-2015 number of 50,943, the mid-2014 number of 50,315 and the mid-2013 number of 49,508. Harrow's 2017 proportion of 22.0% is higher than both London (21.6%) and England (20.2%). The number of 5 to 15 year old residents in Harrow has been increasing from 32,482 at mid-2013, to 32,840 in mid-2014, to 33,373 in mid-2015, to 33,530 in mid-2016 and now to 34,208.

ONS 2016-based Subnational Population Projections (SNPP)

Published on 24th May 2018, the SNPP suggest that all regions of England are projected to grow see population growth over the 10 year period to mid-2026, but the rate of that growth could vary.

All ages

London is again projected to be the fastest growing region, by 8.8% (653,900) over the 10 year period and regions in the north of England are projected to grow at slower rates than the rest of the country. Natural change is expected (births minus deaths) to account for around 95 per cent of this growth in London, with the remainder largely attributable to migration. Migration is further split down to show migration within the UK and international migration separately. Between mid-2016 and mid-2026 London is expected to see: a net loss of around 594,900 people to other parts of England; a net loss of 3,500 to other parts of the UK; and a net gain of around 618,900 through international migration.

Over the same period Harrow's population is expected to increase from 248,700 to 257,200, an increase of 8,500 or 3.4 per cent. Natural change could account for an increase in 14,200 residents, but migration may see a net loss of around 8,500 people from Harrow. Internal Immigration could account for: a net loss of around 20,900 people to other parts of the UK; a net gain of 15,900 people through international migration; and a net loss of around 800 to other parts of the UK.

Past international migration also has an indirect impact on the population through its effect on the numbers of births and deaths – for example, women who were born overseas but who give birth after migrating to England will increase the numbers of births, while the numbers will be decreased by women born in England but who migrate overseas before giving birth. Assumed future fertility and mortality are based on past trends of all residents irrespective of where they were born.

Children

In absolute terms the number of children (0-15 years) in Harrow is projected to increase over this ten year period up to 2026, from 51,465 to 53,766, a 4.5% increase, but showing a considerable

¹ Based on ONS 2004 MYEs, revised in the light of the 2011 Census

slowing down on the 14% increase indicated by the previous SNPPs (2014 to 2024 period). Within London, Havering (north-east London) has been shown as having the highest projected population growth over this period, at 22.7%. It should be noted that Hillingdon, a neighbouring borough, has been shown as having a growth rate of 11.8% over the ten-year period 2016 to 2026 and this could potentially contribute to Harrow's growth with an over-spill of children attending Harrow's schools. Barnet's growth is shown as 6.5% and Brent's at 1.3%, whilst Ealing could see a slight fall in this population age group, at -1.4%.

ONS Births

Live births - calendar year

The total number of live births in England and Wales and elsewhere, dropped from 696,271 in 2016 to 679,106 in 2017, a decrease of 2.5% from 2016 and the lowest number of live births since 2006. This decrease is due to a 2.7% drop in births to UK born women (from 499,974 in 2016 to 486,417 in 2017), whilst there has been a 1.8% increase in live births to women born outside the UK. Over a quarter of births (28.4% - 192,651) in 2017 were to mothers born outside of the UK, a slight increase from 2016 (28.2% - 196,254). This is the highest proportion of births to mothers born outside the UK since information on parents' country of birth has been collected, with the numbers increasing year on year since 2008.

The total number of live births in London decreased from 128,803 in 2016 to 126,308 in 2017. A majority of local authorities in London saw a reduction in births from 2016 to 2017, with only 8 experiencing increases, of which Harrow is one. The rises in births varied in the remaining London boroughs with the highest increase of 89 births in Harrow, as much as the drops varied from -16 births in the Waltham Forest, to -233 in Haringey. Births in Harrow's and its statistical neighbours were: Harrow (+89), Barnet (-111), Brent (+62), Ealing (-134), Hillingdon (-100), Hounslow (-185), Kingston upon Thames (-19), Redbridge (-75), Sutton (-99) and Slough (-99).

Harrow's live births substantially increased from 2,581 in 2001, to 3,088 in 2007 and were at 3,585 in 2012, however in 2013 they declined slightly to 3,559 (28 less), and then dropped again in 2014 to 3,525 (34 less). Live births increased again in 2015 to 3,601 and then again by 89 to 3,695. Harrow's birth rates among British-born mothers have fallen from 1,307 births in 2001 to 974 in 2017 (1,049 in 2016). Of the 3,695 live births in 2017 73.6% were to non-UK born mothers (70.9% in 2016). Of the 73.6% non-UK born mothers 41.9% were born in the Middle East & Asia, 43.3% in the European Union and 9.3% in Africa. 93% of the mothers from the European Union were born in the 'New EU', which constitutes the twelve countries which joined the European Union (EU) between 2004 and 2012.

The estimated total fertility rate (TFR) for UK born women has fallen from 1.86 in 2011 to 1.71 in 2017 and for non-UK born women has fallen from 2.21 in 2011 to 1.95 in 2017.

The latest available report (Childbearing of UK and Non-UK Born Women Living in the UK) by the Office for National Statistics and based on 2011 Census data provides an analysis of fertility rates for women (aged between 15 and 44) born in around 150 non-UK countries of birth. However fertility rates vary quite considerably depending on the country of birth of the women. For those women born in the UK the TFR was 1.84, but it can be higher (or lower) for those born elsewhere and Harrow has sizeable communities of residents born outside the United Kingdom.

Table 3 below shows the top 12 countries of birth of Harrow’s residents in 2011, together with the fertility rates of women (aged 15-44).

Table 3

Top 12 Countries of Birth of Harrow Residents in 2011, and TFR of Women (aged 15-44)

Country of Birth	Number of residents	Rank	TFR
Total	239,056	-	
England	128,424	1	1.84 (UK)
India	21,539	2	2.35
Kenya	11,706	3	1.89
Sri Lanka	10,392	4	2.62
Ireland	4,952	5	1.56
Romania	4,784	6	2.93
Uganda	4,008	7	2.52
Poland	3,868	8	2.13
Pakistan	3,582	9	3.82
Afghanistan	3,314	10	4.25
Tanzania	2,682	11	2.35
Somalia	2,241	12	4.19

Source: 2011 Census (Table CT008) and Reference Table 1 (Total Fertility Rates for non-UK born women living in England and Wales, 2011, by mothers' country of birth), ONS

This information leads to the assumption that the size of families from the areas outside the UK (excluding Ireland) as shown in Table 3 (and some other countries not shown) would be larger than the average UK family, and also quite accurately reflects the significant demographic changes in Harrow, especially the ethnic profile of the children in Harrow’s schools.

The increase in child population along with the other factors listed above inevitably has had a direct impact on the population of Harrow's schools, leading to a substantial increase in the number of age 4 to 5 pupils entering Harrow schools’ Reception national curriculum year group.

ONS 2016 Mid-Year Estimates (MYE) Births

On a mid-year basis, Harrow’s births decreased by 1.0% in mid-2017 to 3,624, after having increased to 3,664 in mid-2016. This is in-line with decreases experience in previous years - drop of 1.3% from 3,620 in mid-2013 to 3,574 in mid-2014, and then falling again by 1.8% to 3,509 in mid-2015.

The 2017 MYE of births in London decreased from the 2016 MYE. 27 of 33 local authorities in London saw a reduction in births from mid-year 2016 to mid-year 2017. The rise in births ranged from 3 more births in Tower Hamlets to 83 more births in Sutton. Harrow had a decrease in births, along with some of its neighbouring boroughs – Barnet (-100), Brent (-75), Harrow (-37) and Hillingdon (123), however Ealing (+3), Redbridge (+65) and Sutton (+83) experienced increases as at mid-2017.

ONS SNPP births

The ONS 2016 SNPP births are projecting Harrow’s births to drop very slightly in 2017 (3,395) and 2018 (3,433), after which point they are projected to continue dropping down to 3,159 by 2025.

Migration

International Migration

In recent years Harrow has seen a distinct peak of net international-migration; this is due to the influx of migrants from the A8 countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia) in 2004-05, which gave rise to increased international in-migration. The economic downturn did not seem to have had a strong impact on net international migration.

From 1 January 2014, Bulgarians and Romanians have had the freedom to live and work in the UK. This change is likely to add further pressure on our school places. The latest estimates of long-term migration from the International Passenger Survey (IPS) are for the year ending December 2014, when an estimated 46,000 Bulgarian and Romanian citizens immigrated to the UK. This is a statistically significant increase from 23,000 for the year ending December 2013. This represents 8% of total immigration to the UK. These IPS statistics are not available on a borough basis, but the Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) release statistics on National Insurance Registrations for overseas nationals (NINo) every year. This data shows that in 2016/17 the highest numbers of worker registrations in Harrow were made by Romanian nationals, with 6,076 registrations. Since NINo recording starting in 2002/03 Romanian workers have accounted for over 31 per cent of total registrations, the largest national group. Of course not all of these migrant workers may stay in the borough or remain for lengthy periods, or even have children, but this database does provide very useful information on migrant workers and their country of origin.

2015/16 saw a 6.8 per cent decrease (763) in the number of NINo registrations in Harrow and in 2016/17 there was a 10.2 per cent decline (1,073) on the previous year. It is likely that the Brexit vote is possibly one of the main reasons for an overall fall in the number of EU workers coming to the UK for work over the past two years, coupled with growing economies in Romania, Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary. In the year ending September 2017 the overall number of EU citizens coming to work in the UK fell by 58,000.

Internal Migration

The ONS Mid-Year Estimates for 2017 state Harrow's internal migration (within UK) as increasing from 20,130 people leaving Harrow for other parts of the country (17,436 in 2016). This figure is higher than the number of people coming into the borough - 15,142, (13,277 in 2016). In contrast long-term international migration into the borough is 4,742 for 2017 (5,608 in 2016) is higher than international migration out of the borough at 1,707 (1,777 in 2016).

Migration projections by age

The ONS 2016 SNPPs contain migration projections by age. Age groups 0 to 4 and 5 to 15 can be seen in Tables 4 and 5 below. The estimates show a net gain from international migration for both of these age groups, which counteracts the loss from internal & cross border migration. The overall net gain of the 0 to 4 age group is projected to drop from 64 in 2017 to around 44 by 2020, remaining steady for a few years, then increasing to 70 by 2027. The net gain of the 5 to 15 age group has a downward trend, 95 in 2017 to 16 by 2027.

Table 4: 2016 SNPP Migration in Harrow by Age 0 to 4 - 2017 to 2027

Migration component	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
International migration NET	251	244	236	228	220	214	206	206	206	206	206
Internal migration NET	-182	-181	-179	-179	-171	-165	-157	-150	-143	-137	-131
Cross border migration NET	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5
NET Migration	64	58	52	44	44	44	44	51	58	64	70

Table 5: 2016 SNPP Migration in Harrow by Age 5 to 15 - 2017 to 2027

Migration Component	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2013	2014	2025	2026	2027
International migration NET	324	315	305	295	285	276	266	266	266	266	266
Internal migration NET	-227	-232	-237	-235	-241	-241	-248	-247	-246	-247	-248
Cross border migration NET	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2
NET Migration	95	81	67	59	43	34	17	18	19	18	16

Source: 2016 SNPP Population Projections

It should be noted that these projections are purely based on past trends, so any impacts that Brexit may have on future migration levels (or as a result of any other changes in government policies or economic circumstances) are not considered.