

Town Profile:

Smethwick

Smethwick is one of six towns in Sandwell. It is situated in the southeast of Sandwell and contains the wards of Abbey, Smethwick, Soho and Victoria, and St Pauls. Smethwick borders Birmingham to the east.



Geographic Information:

Abbey, Smethwick, Soho and Victoria, and St Pauls wards are within Smethwick town.

Area size: 14.73 square km

Population: (2021): 64,007 residents

Town density: 4,345 residents per sq. Km


Sandwell density: 3,826 residents per sq. Km

1. Demographics


Smethwick Population estimate, 2021

64,007

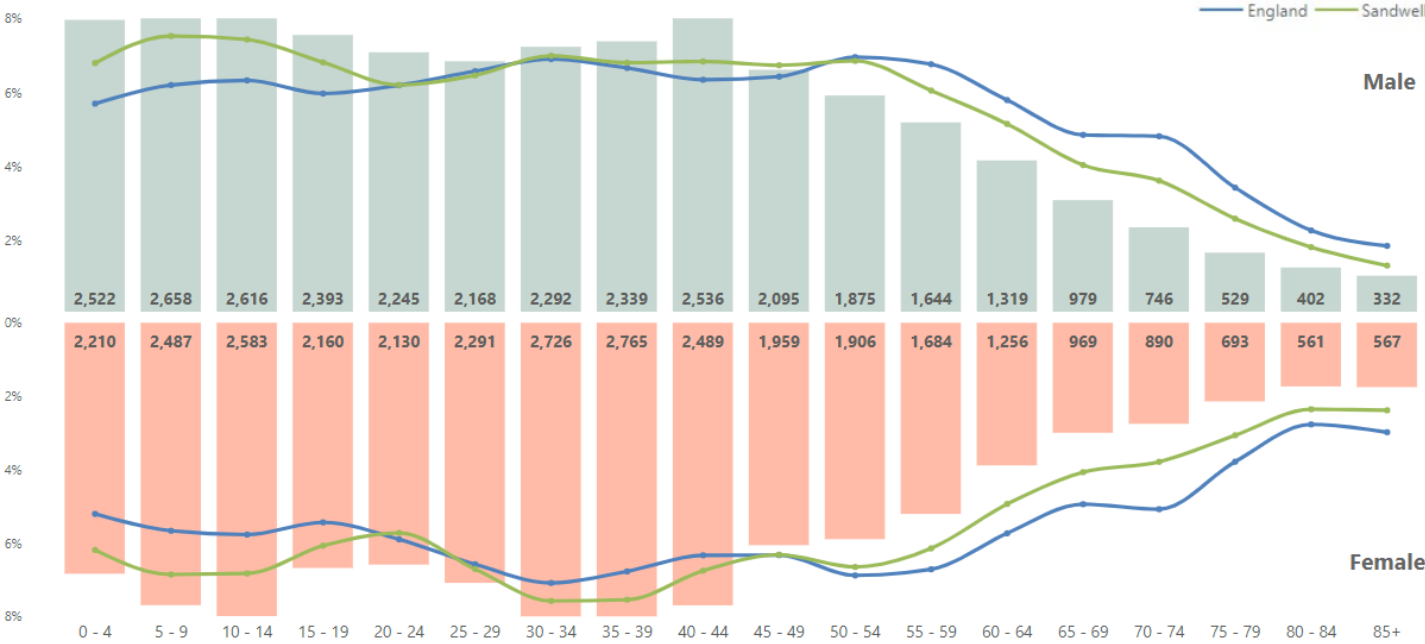
Male
49.5%
31,690



Female
50.5%
32,326



Population of Smethwick Town by Age and Sex, 2021

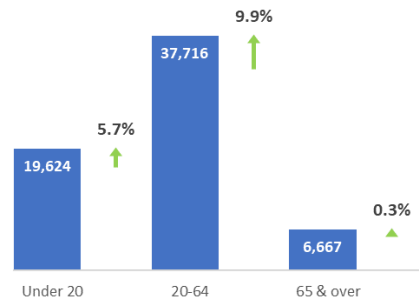


Source: Census 2021, ONS

Population Growth, 2021

	2011	2021	%Change
Abbey	11,752	12,186	3.7
Smethwick	14,146	15,472	9.4
Soho and Victoria	15,042	19,629	30.5
St Pauls	14,226	16,720	17.5
Smethwick town	55,166	64,007	16.0
SANDWELL	308,063	341,835	11

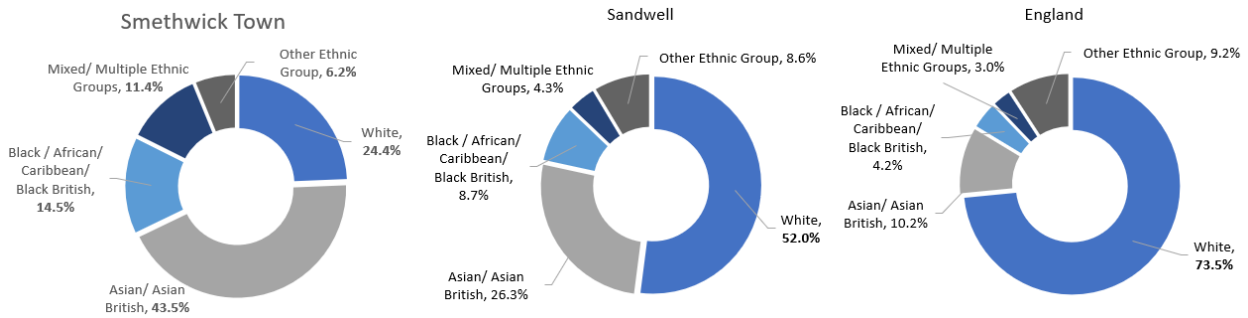
Population growth of Smethwick town by age group



Source: Census 2021, ONS

The population of Smethwick town grew by 16% between 2011 and 2021. Soho and Victoria ward had the largest percentage change of all the wards within Smethwick town, growing by 30.5%. Looking at broad age groups, the 20-64 group in Rowley Regis town had the largest increase, of 9.9% over the ten-year period.

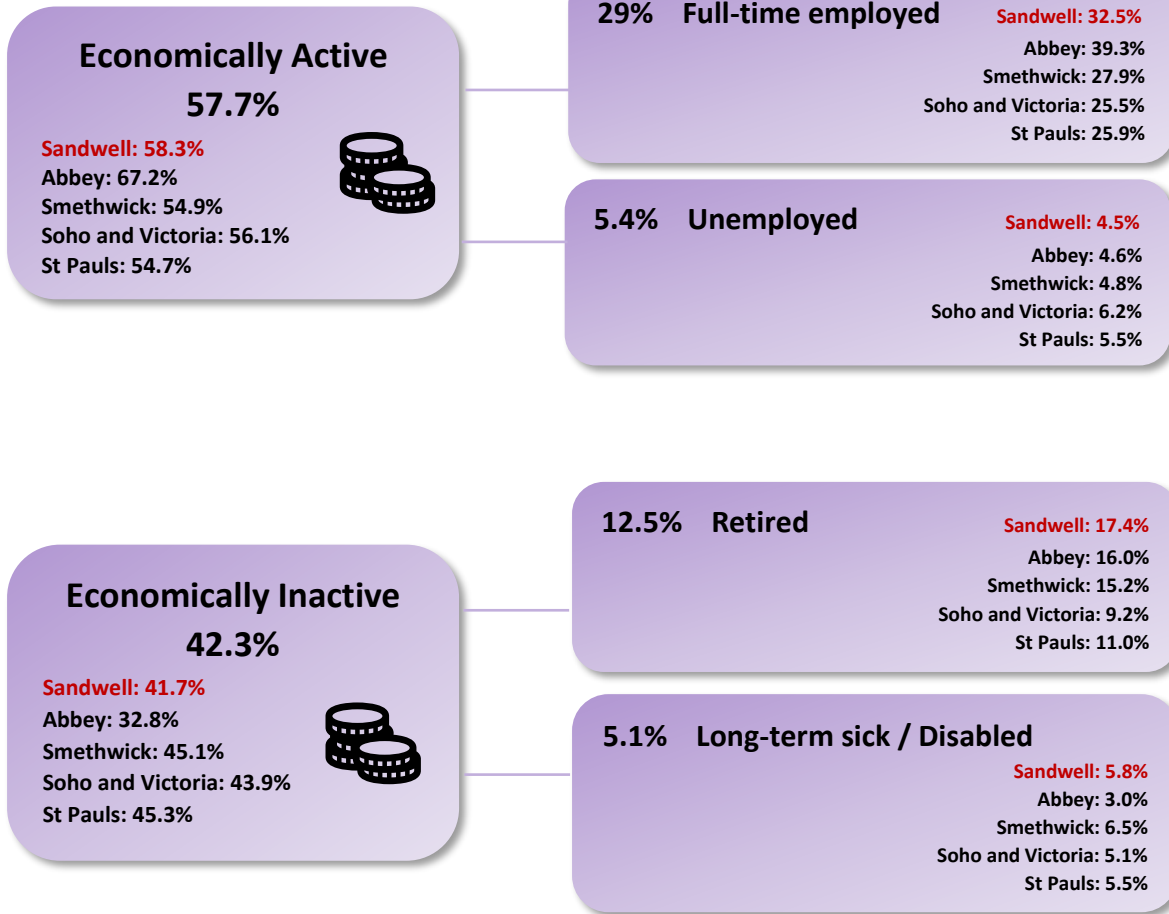
Ethnicity, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS

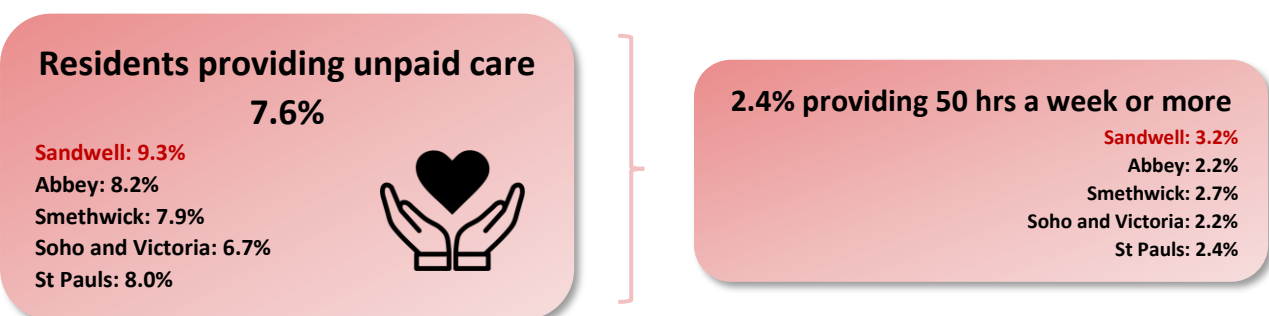
76% of Smethwick's population are from ethnic minorities. This is much higher than Sandwell (48%) and England (27%).

Economic Activity, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS

Unpaid Care, 2021

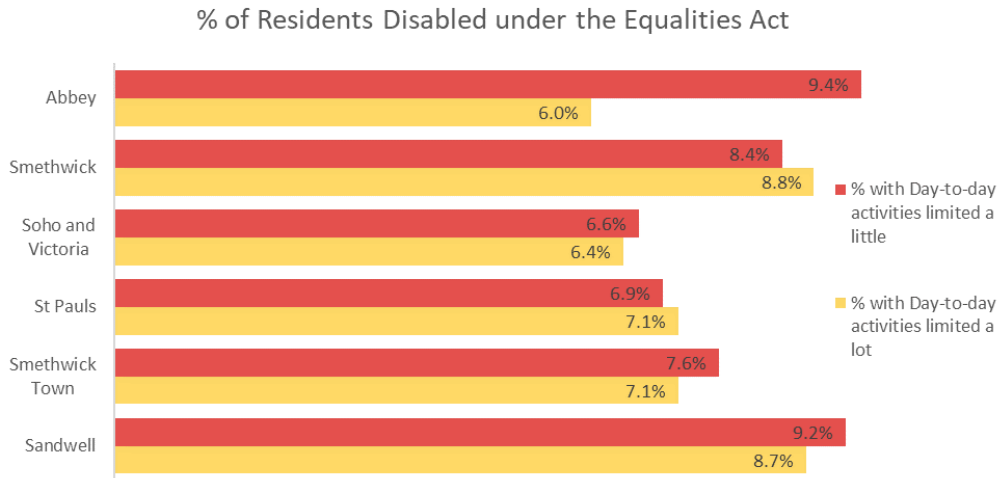


Source: Census 2021, ONS

The number of full-time employees in Smethwick town is lower than Sandwell. Abbey has the lowest unemployment (4.6%) with the highest in Soho and Victoria (6.2%). These figures are higher than Sandwell (4.5%). Abbey also has the highest percentage of retired residents, with 16.0% compared to 17.4% across Sandwell.

7.6% of residents in Smethwick town provide unpaid care, with 2.4% providing 50 hours a week or more. This is lower than Sandwell (3.2%).

Long term illness/Disability, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS

% of Residents Long-Term Sick / Disabled *

18.6%

Sandwell: 22.8%
Abbey: 22.3%
Smethwick: 21%
Soho and Victoria: 16%
St Pauls: 16.9%



% of households where no resident speaks English as a main language

16.4%

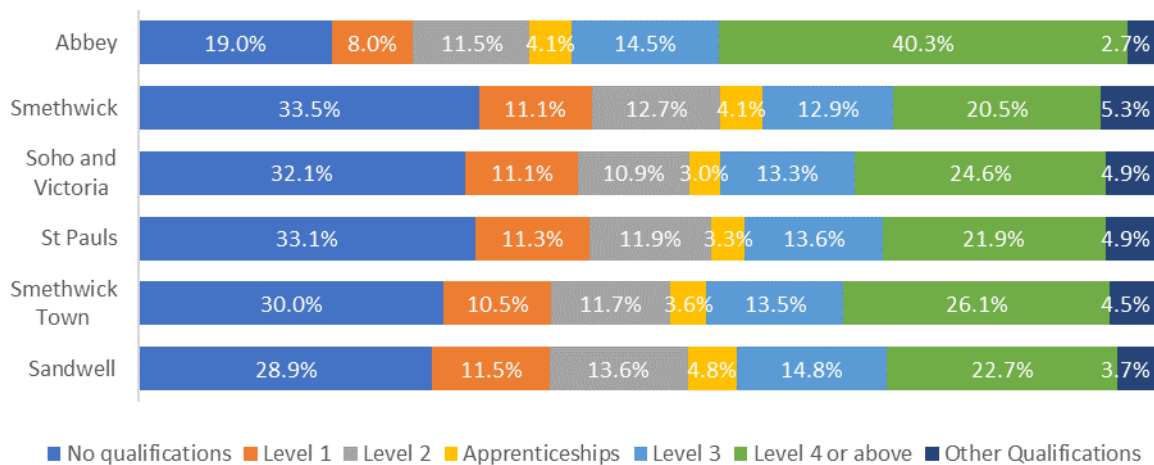
Sandwell: 8.6%
Abbey: 8.0%
Smethwick: 16.5%
Soho and Victoria: 20.0%
St Pauls: 20.7%



Source: Census 2021, ONS

* This includes people disabled under the equality act and people with long term conditions with no limits on day-to-day activities (not disabled under equality act)

Highest Level of Qualification, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS

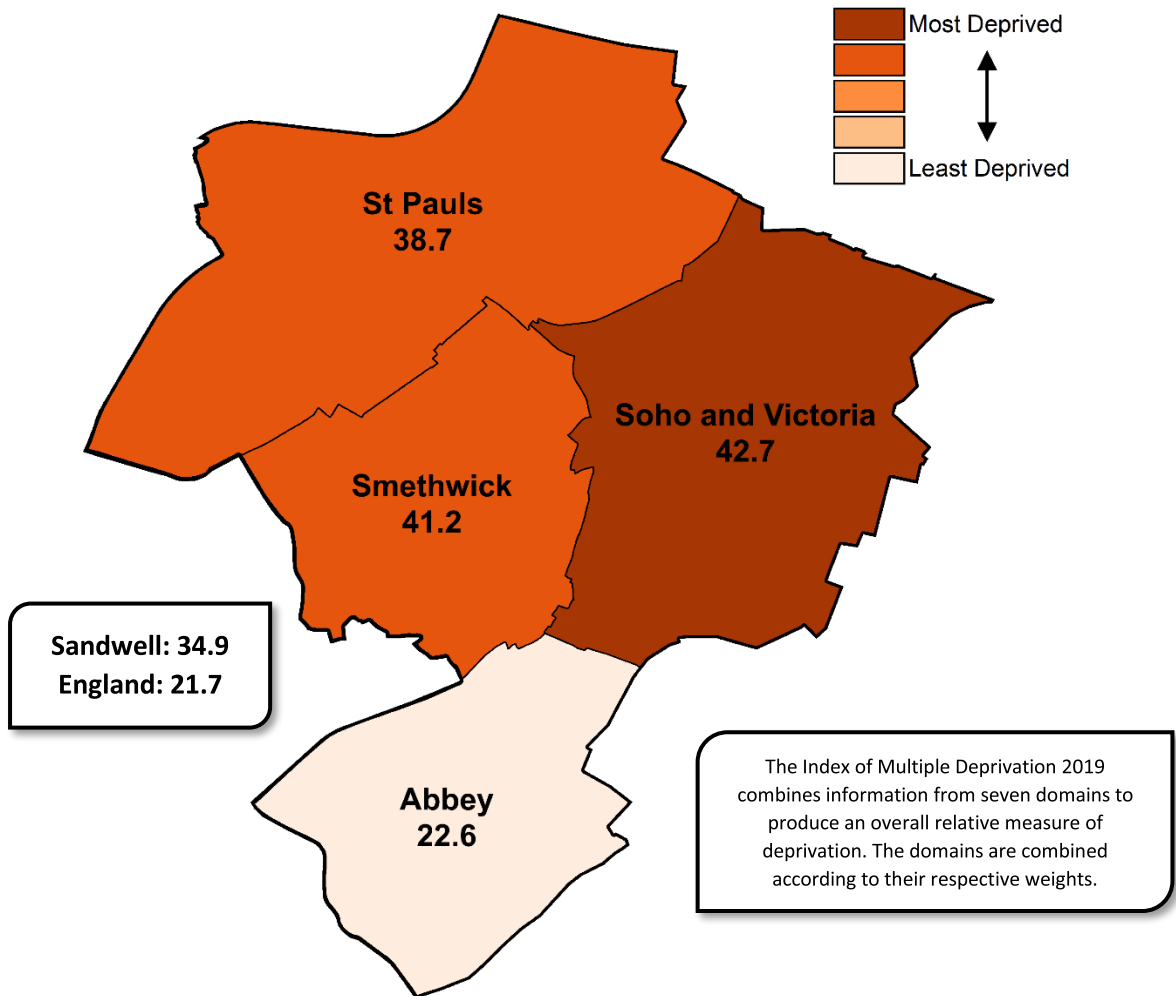
The percentage of residents who are disabled under the Equalities Act is in line with Sandwell, at 14.7%. The percentage of residents who are long-term sick or disabled is lower than Sandwell at 18.6%.

The percentage of residents with no qualifications is slightly higher in Smethwick town (30%) than in Sandwell (29%). Abbey has the highest percentage of residents with a level 4 qualification or above (40%) which is much higher than Sandwell (23%).

16% of households in Smethwick town have no resident who speaks English as a main language, compared to 9% in Sandwell. This is lower in Abbey (8%) and much higher in Soho and Victoria and St Pauls wards (20% and 21% respectively).

2. Deprivation

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Score, 2019



Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, 2019

In England, the lower layer super output areas (LSOA*) are ranked into 10 deciles for Deprivation.

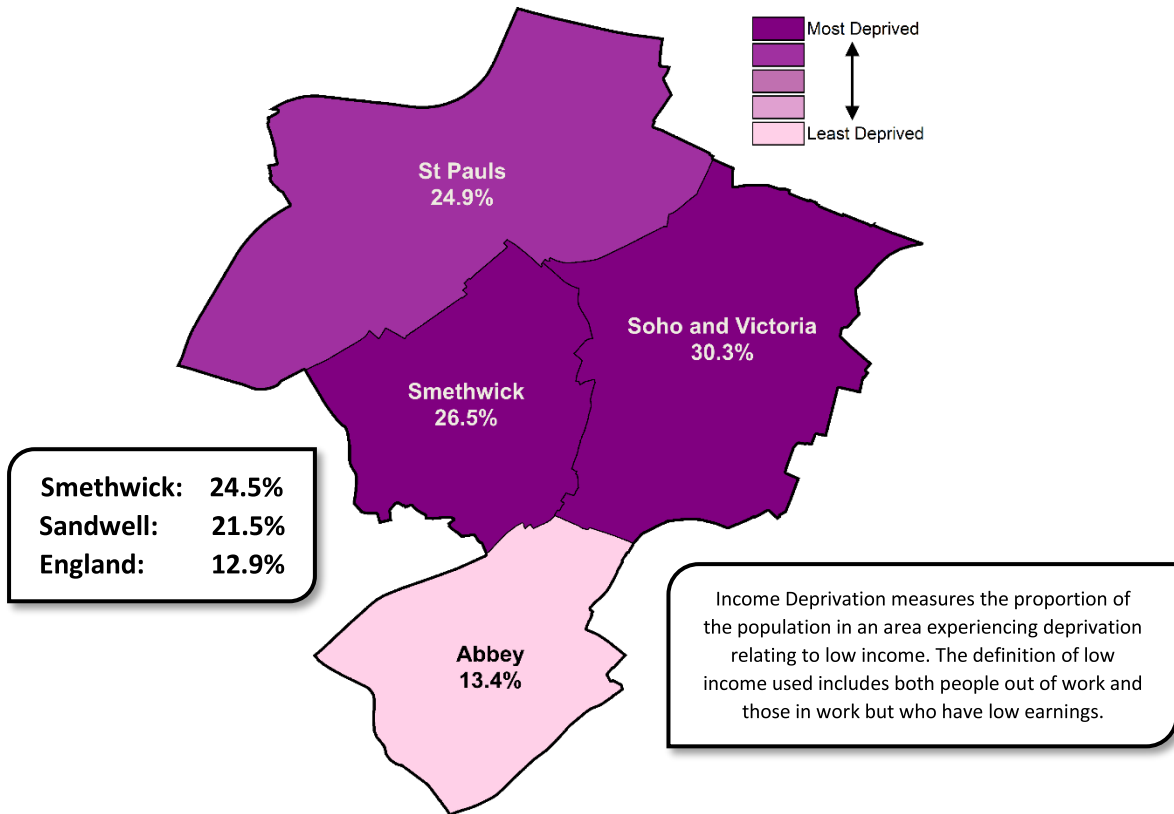
- 59% of the LSOA's Smethwick town are in the 20% most deprived LSOAs in England (Sandwell, 60%)

Smethwick's Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOP) Scores are in the 20% (IDACI) & 10% (IDAOP) most deprived areas in England.

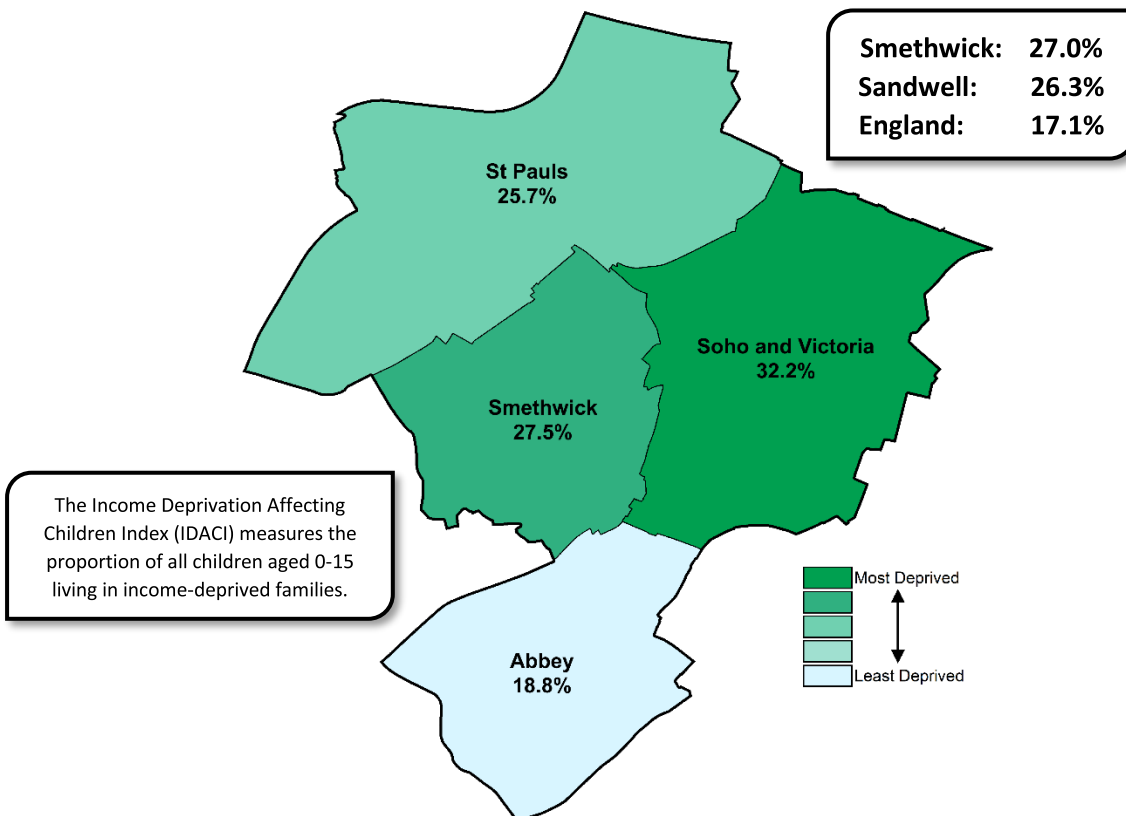
Overall Smethwick is more deprived than England and Sandwell and its deprivation score would put it in the 20% most deprived areas in England.

**LSOA are areas with between 1,000 and 3,000 people*

Income Deprivation, 2019

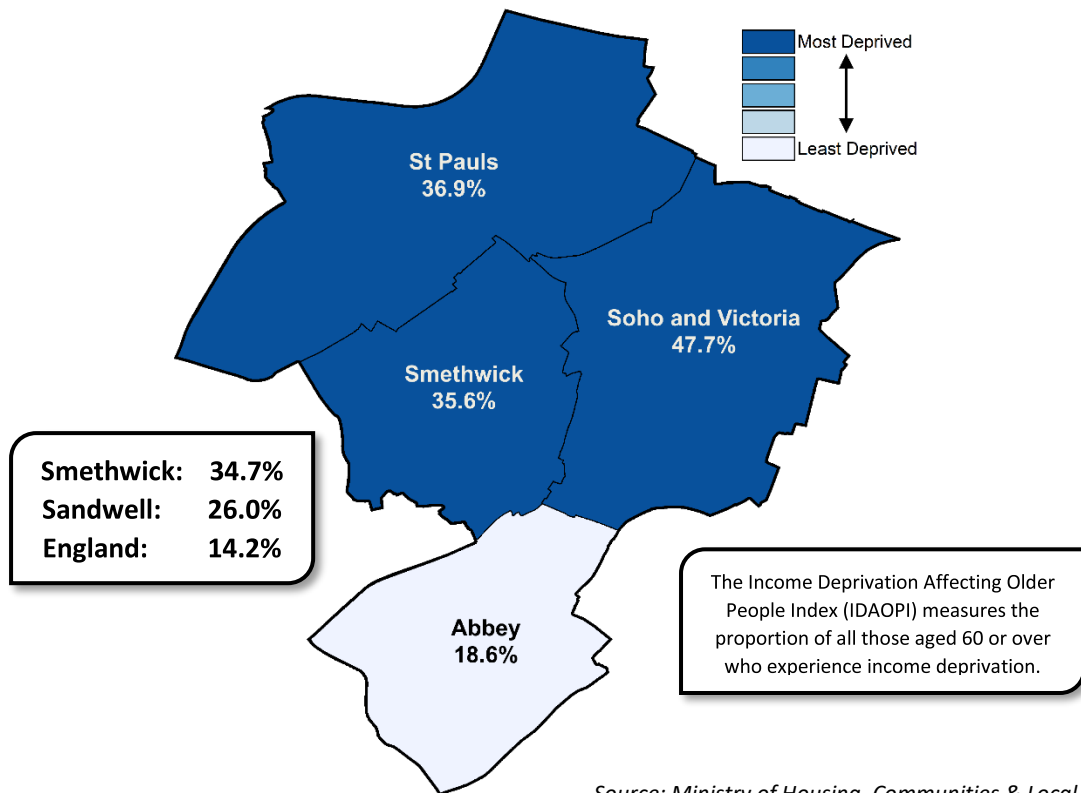


Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index, 2019



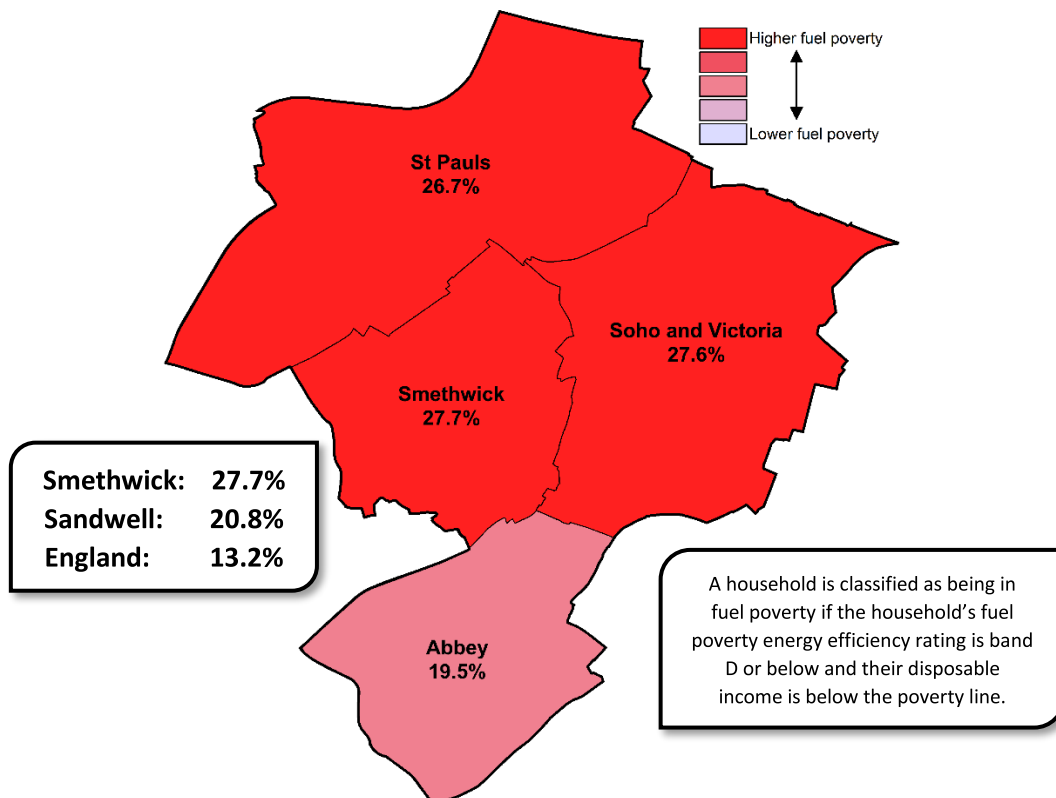
Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, 2019

Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index, 2019



Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, 2019

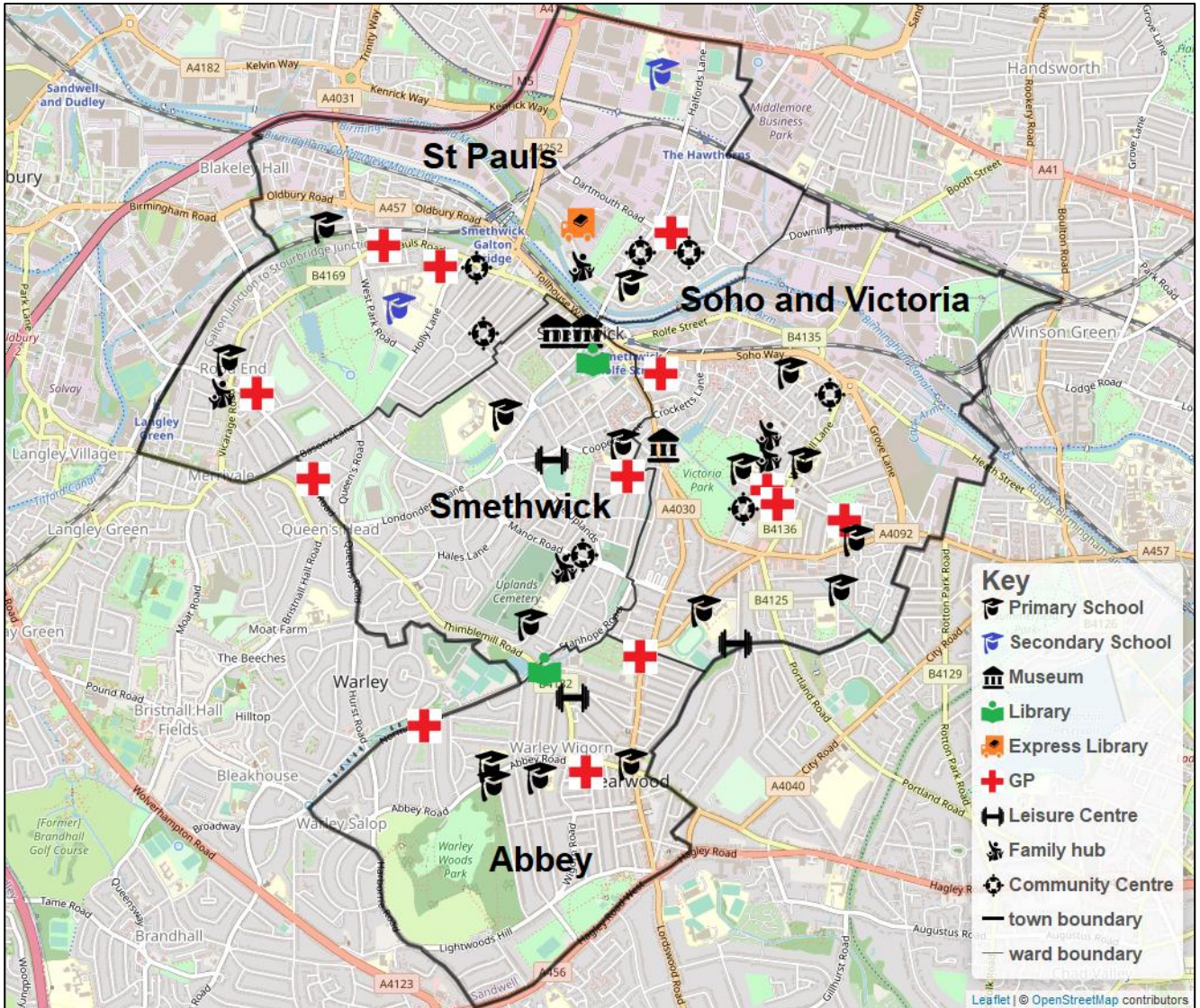
Fuel Poverty, 2020



Source: Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, 2020

3. Asset Map

(Some assets at the same postcode may not show as another asset may show on top of them)



4. Housing

Tenure, 2021 (%)

	Owner-occupied	Social rented	Private rented	Shared Ownership
Abbey	58.4%	9.1%	31.9%	0.5%
Smethwick	46.0%	30.1%	22.4%	0.5%
Soho and Victoria	35.5%	31.6%	31.2%	0.5%
St Pauls	52.2%	18.8%	27.8%	0.5%
Smethwick Town	47.3%	22.9%	28.4%	0.5%
Sandwell	53.7%	26.6%	18.6%	0.5%

Source: Census 2021, ONS

Households lacking central heating

2.1%

Sandwell: 1.8%
Abbey: 2.2%
Smethwick: 2.1%
Soho and Victoria: 2.0%
St Pauls: 1.9%



Overcrowded households

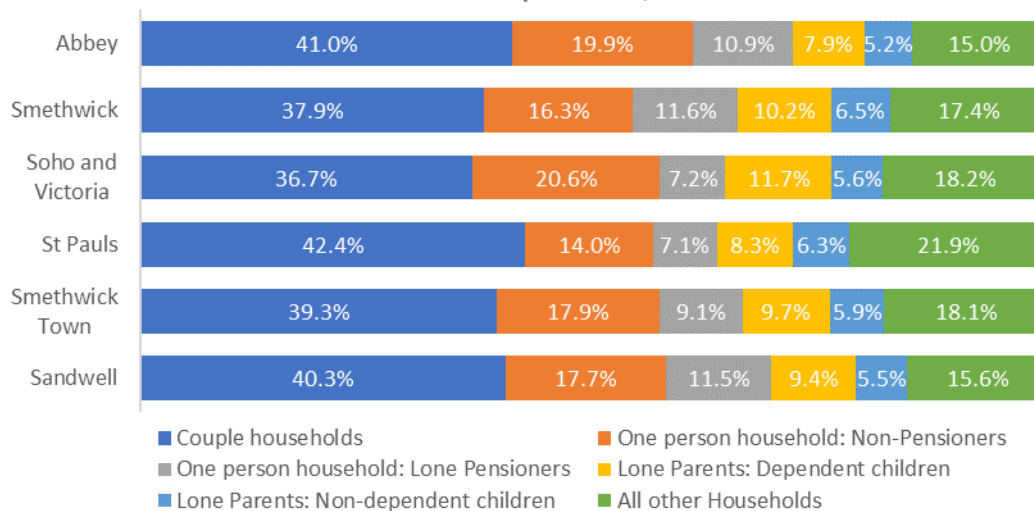
11.8%

Sandwell: 8.2%
Abbey: 6.3%
Smethwick: 10.4%
Soho and Victoria: 16.5%
St Pauls: 13.3%



Source: Census 2021, ONS

Household Composition, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS

The majority of housing in Smethwick town is owner-occupied (47.3%). Smethwick and Soho & Victoria wards have high social renting (30% and 32% respectively), with the lowest in Abbey (9.1%). Private renting in Smethwick town is higher than Sandwell at 28% and 19% respectively. Overcrowding is higher in Soho and Victoria (16.5%) when compared to Sandwell (8%). It is also high when comparing at town level (12%). Household composition within Smethwick town is mostly in line with Sandwell.

5. Life Expectancy

Life Expectancy at Birth, 2016 to 2020

Data in red indicates the ward is statistically significantly lower than England

Data in amber indicates the ward is not statistically significantly different to England

Data in green indicates the ward is not statistically significantly different to England

Area	Life Expectancy (Years)	
	Female	Male
Abbey	84.5	78.9
Smethwick	78.8	74.2
Soho and Victoria	79.3	74.7
St Pauls	81	76.1
Smethwick Town	80.9	76.0
Sandwell	80.9	76.4
England	83.2	79.5

Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 2016 – 2020

Life expectancy of
Smethwick Males

76



Life Expectancy of
Smethwick Females

81



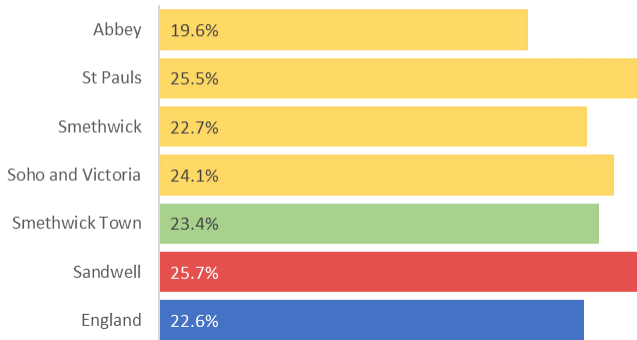
Female life expectancy at birth was statistically significantly lower in all the wards when compared to England, apart from Abbey (84.5) which exceeded England's figure (83.2).

Male life expectancy at birth was statistically significantly lower in all the wards when compared to England, apart from Abbey (78.9) which was only slightly lower than England's figure (79.5).

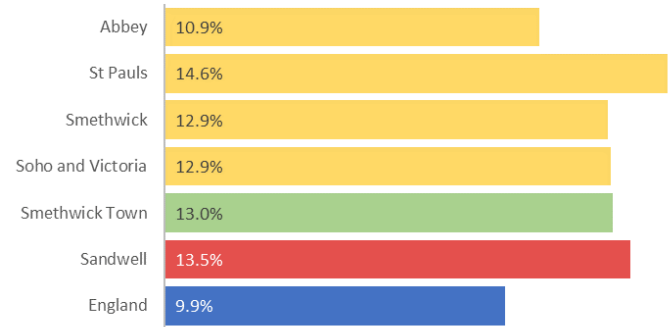
6. Health and Wider Indicators

Overweight/Obesity in Children

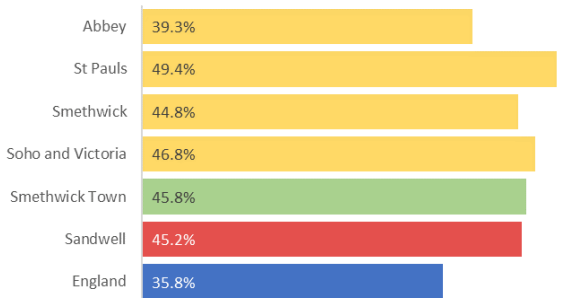
Prevalence of overweight (including obesity) at Reception, 3-year period 2019/20 - 2021/22



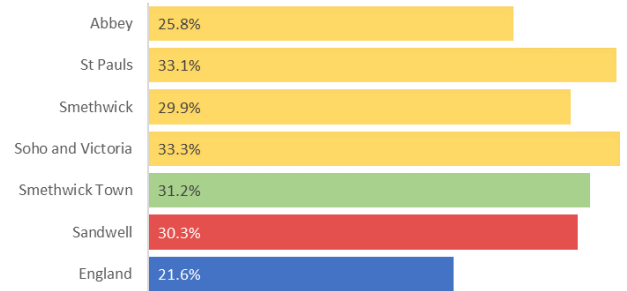
Prevalence of obesity (including severe obesity) at Reception, 3-year period 2019/20 - 2021/22



Prevalence of overweight (including obesity) at Year 6, 3-year period 2019/20 - 2021/22



Prevalence of obesity (including severe obesity) at Year 6, 3-year period 2019/20 - 2021/22



Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 2019/20 – 2021/22

Fast food outlets

11.8

per 10,000 population

Sandwell: 11.5
England: 9.5



Emergency admissions for injuries in children under 5 years old*

122.9

Abbey: 128
St Pauls: 151
Smethwick: 108.3
Soho and Victoria: 104.8



Sandwell: 133.4
England: 119.3

Low birth weight

9.0%

Abbey: 8.5
St Pauls: 8.9
Smethwick: 10.1
Soho and Victoria: 8.6



Sandwell: 8.9
England: 6.8

*Crude rate per 10,000, (2016/17 – 2020/21)

Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 2016/17 – 2020/21

Deliveries to teenage mothers

0.76%

Sandwell: 1.07%
England: 0.67%



Source: OHID, 2016/17 – 2020/21

The prevalence of overweight (including obesity) at Year 6 is higher in Smethwick town (46%) than England (36%). The rate of emergency admissions for injuries in children under 5 years old is higher in Smethwick town (122.9) than England (119.3), however is still lower than Sandwell (133.4). St Pauls ward is particularly high with a rate of 151.

Deliveries to teenage mothers were lower in Smethwick town (0.76%) than Sandwell (1.07%). Low birth weight is in line with Sandwell (9%), however Smethwick ward was much higher than the other wards, with 10%.

Incidence of breast cancer & lung cancer, standardised incidence ratio, 5-year period 2015-19

Data in red indicates the ward is statistically higher than England

Data in green indicates the ward is statistically lower than England

Area	Breast cancer	Lung cancer
Abbey	92.5	107.7
St Pauls	58.9	97.7
Smethwick	119.2	121.8
Soho and Victoria	80.7	94.9
Smethwick Town	89.0	106.7
Sandwell	92.2	115
England	100	100

Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 2015-19



Hospital Admissions Data, 2016/17 – 2020/21

Data in red indicates the ward is higher than England

Data in green indicates the ward is lower than England

Area	Emergency Hospital Admissions, standardised admission ratio				Hospital admissions for alcohol attributable conditions
	Heart Attack	Coronary Heart Disease	COPD	Stroke	
Abbey	85.8	90.5	129.5	93.5	81.7
St Pauls	143.7	158.6	138.7	116.4	111.3
Smethwick	120.0	118.9	191.4	122.3	136.9
Soho and Victoria	143.8	144.0	194.4	119.2	110.5
Smethwick Town	123.3	128.0	163.5	112.9	110.8
Sandwell	113.9	112.9	157.3	105.4	113.5
England	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 2016/17 – 2020/21

Deaths from Circulatory Disease, under 75 years old*

169.2

Abbey: 123.5

St Pauls: 175.0

Smethwick: 197.5

Soho and Victoria: 173.7



Sandwell: 148.5

England: 100

*Standardised Mortality Ratio, 2016 – 2020

Source: OHID, 2016 – 2020

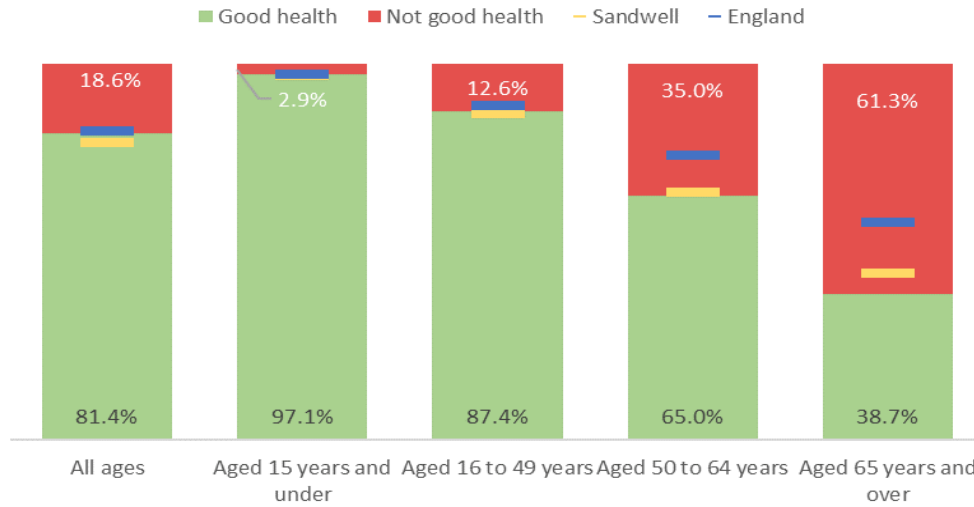
Incidence of lung cancer is statistically higher than England in both Smethwick town and Sandwell. Breast cancer is much lower, however is higher in Smethwick ward than England (119.2).

Emergency hospital admissions for heart attack are higher in Smethwick town (SAR 123.3) than Sandwell (113.9). This is significantly higher in Soho and Victoria and St Pauls wards (144).

Emergency admissions for COPD are higher at town level (163.5) compared to Sandwell (157.3).

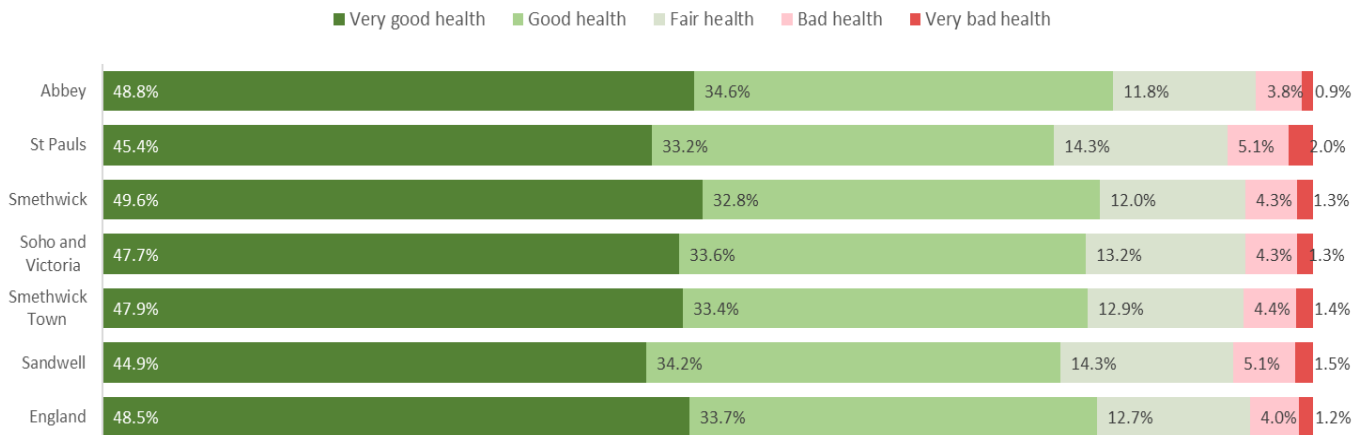
Looking at deaths from circulatory diseases in the under 75's, Smethwick has a significantly higher standardised mortality ratio than Sandwell (169.2 and 148.5 respectively). Abbey is the ward with the lowest SMR, at 123.5.

General Health of Smethwick Town residents by Age, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS

General Health of Residents by Ward, 2021



Source: Census 2021, ONS

About 81% of residents said their health was good or very good. 61% of residents aged 65 and over said they were not in good health. This was higher than for both Sandwell and England.

7. Crime

Crime rate per 1,000 119.8

Abbey: 127.7
St Pauls: 99.8
Smethwick: 81.5
Soho and Victoria: 162.0
Sandwell: 121.7



Source: Police data, July 2022 – June 2023

Crime Type (July 2022 – June 2023)

	Violence and sexual offences	Vehicle crime	Public order	Criminal damage and arson	Anti-social behaviour	Burglary	Drugs	Other Crime
Abbey	35.9%	11.4%	7.8%	4.9%	6.2%	5.7%	1.7%	26.3%
St Pauls	47.1%	11.0%	9.2%	7.3%	4.4%	4.2%	2.1%	14.6%
Smethwick	48.8%	8.1%	8.8%	7.8%	5.3%	6.4%	1.7%	13.1%
Soho and Victoria	43.1%	10.1%	8.5%	7.8%	4.7%	4.5%	2.4%	18.9%
Smethwick Town	43.5%	10.3%	8.6%	7.1%	5.0%	5.0%	2.1%	18.5%
Sandwell	44.2%	9.5%	8.6%	7.7%	5.1%	4.6%	2.1%	18.3%

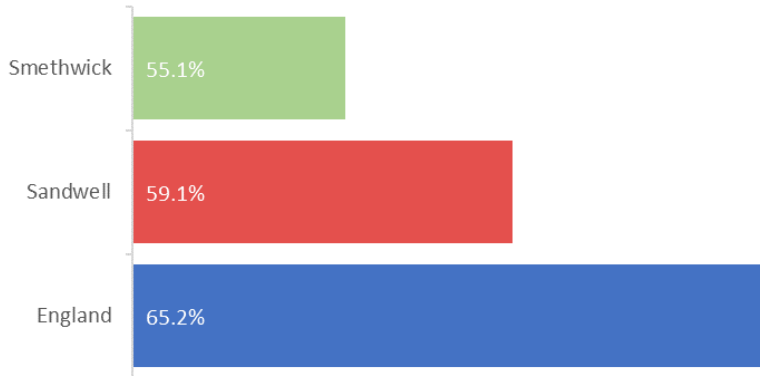
Source: Police data, July 2022 – June 2023

The crime rate per 1,000 residents is slightly lower in Smethwick town (119.8) than in Sandwell (121.7). Soho and Victoria ward has a particularly high crime rate, with 162.0.

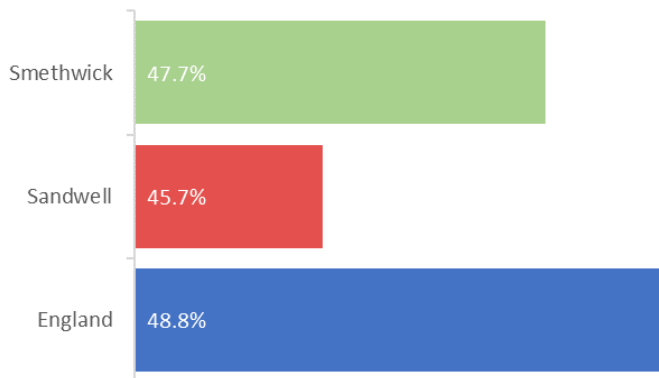
Violence and sexual offences were the most prevalent type of crime across all areas. Vehicle crime was highest in Abbey (11%) compared to 10% in Sandwell. Burglary was highest in Smethwick ward (6%), when compared to Smethwick town (5%) and Sandwell (5%).

8. Child Development – Education

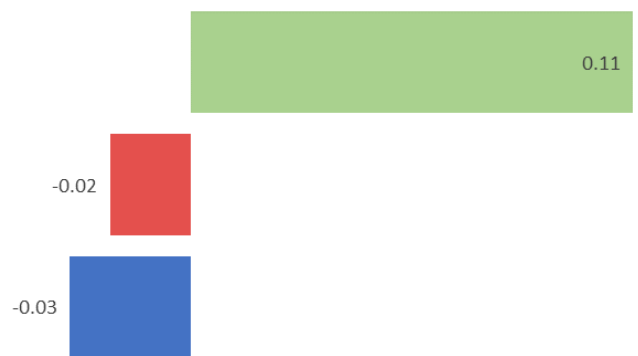
Early Years: % of children achieving a good level of development, 2022



Key Stage 4: Attainment 8 Score, 2022



Key Stage 4: Progress 8 Score, 2022



Source: Sandwell Council – Children & Education, 2023

The percentage of children achieving a good level of development at the end of Reception is slightly lower in Smethwick town (55.1%) than Sandwell (59.1%). Both are lower than the national figure of 65.2%.

The average Attainment 8 score in Smethwick town is 47.7, which is in line with the national figure (48.8%). Sandwell is slightly lower with 45.7%.

The average Progress 8 score for Smethwick is higher than both England and Sandwell, at 0.11.

9. Gambling

The table below gives a breakdown of the gambling premises licences/permits in Smethwick town at January 2021.

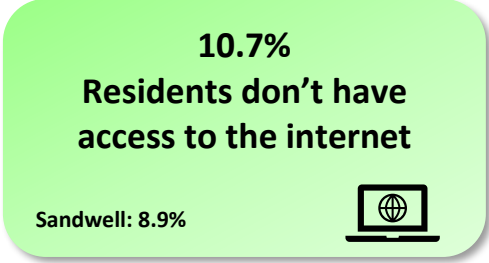
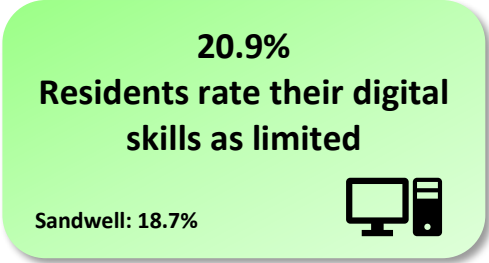
Gambling Premises Licences/Permits*	Number
Gaming Machine Permits	2
Club Machine Permits	4
Adult Gaming Centre	1
Betting Premises Licences	11
Bingo Premises Licences	0
Casino Premises Licences	0
Track Betting Premises Licence	1
Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre	0
Family Entertainment Centre	0
Total	19

Source: Sandwell Trading Standards, 2021



Source: PHE, 2017

10. Digital Exclusion



Source: Sandwell Resident & Wellbeing Survey, 2022

11. Regeneration

Completed and ongoing regenerations within the town are shown in the table below. Click the [link](#) to access the Sandwell Projects website for further information. *(Website current as of September 2023)*

Reservation	Reservation type	Location	Start date	Delivery date	Investment *
Grove lane masterplan	Housing	Grove lane	In progress		£100,000,000 +
Midland Metropolitan University Hospital	Sustainability & Health	Cranford St, B66 2RT	In progress		Not available
Ron Davis Centre Expansion	Sustainability & Health	Ballot Street, B66 3HH	July 2022	April 2023	£360,000
Sandwell Aquatics Centre	Sustainability & Health	Londonderry Ln, B67 7EW	-	July 2023	£92,000,000
Windsor Olympus Academy	Education & skills	Perrott St, B18 4LX	June 2022	September 2023	£20,000,000
Rolfe Street Canalside Regeneration	Housing	Smethwick Enterprise Centre, Rolfe Street, B66 2AL	June 2022	December 2024	£2,000,000
Midland Met Learning Campus	Education & skills	Cradley Heath	June 2022	February 2025	£15,798,000
Smethwick Connected	Transportation	Selected sites	February 2022	March 2026	£3,872,800
Grove Lane Regeneration	Housing	Grove lane	September 2022	March 2026	£4,350,000

* See website for breakdown on funding

Samples of some planned and completed regenerations *(shown in order of table from left to right)*

