Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East Ward Factsheet

Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East Ward is located in the inner city to the south east of the city centre. It has a population of 27,338 making it the 2nd most populous ward in the city.

The ward has a younger age profile than the city as a whole and has a higher BAME population share.

Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East is the city's most deprived ward and has the 8th highest child poverty rate out of the city's 69 wards.

Resident employment rates in the ward are well below the city average and claimant count unemployment proportions are well above the Birmingham average.

Population
27,338

Employment Rate
42.0%

NVQ4+ Qualifications
20.3%

Ward Rank

Population	**2**
Employment Rate	**65**
No Qualifications Rate	**8**
Index of Deprivation	**1**

Demography

Table 1: Ward Age Structure

Age	Ward Nº	% of Ward Population	Birmingham %	England %
All Residents	27,338		-	-
16-64	17,575	64.3%	64.6%	63.0%
Under 18	8,652	31.6%	25.1%	20.8%
18-24	3,387	12.4%	11.5%	8.3%
25-44	8,156	29.8%	28.1%	26.6%
45-64	4,999	18.3%	22.1%	25.8%
65+	2,144	7.8%	13.1%	18.4%

- Under 18
- 18 to 24
- 25 to 44
- 45 to 64
- 65+

Age Structure

8% / 32% / 12% / 30% / 18%
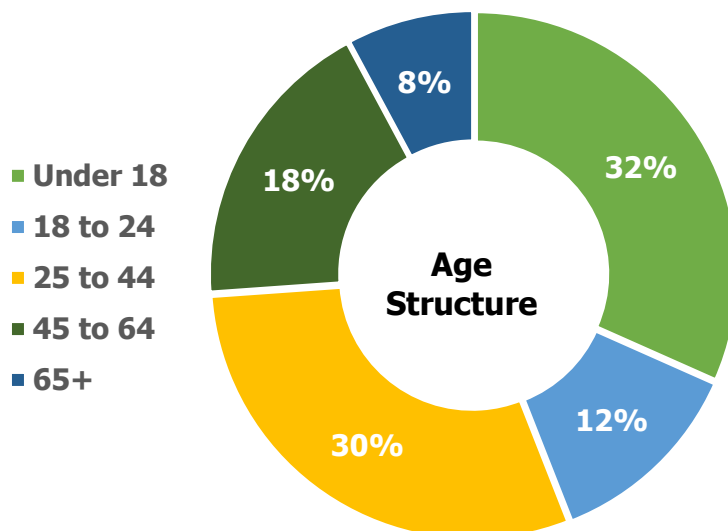
Under 18s

31.6%

(25.1% B'ham)

Over 65s

7.8%

(13.1% B'ham)

Table 2: Ward Ethnicity

Ethnic Group	Ward Nº	% of Ward Population	Birmingham %	England %
All Residents	27,338		-	-
BAME Total	24,716	90.5%	51.4%	19.0%
Bangladeshi	3,170	11.6%	4.2%	1.1%
Chinese	66	0.2%	1.1%	0.8%
Indian	942	3.4%	5.8%	3.3%
Pakistani	12,891	47.2%	17.0%	2.8%
Black African	1,705	6.2%	5.8%	2.6%
Black Caribbean	623	2.3%	3.9%	1.1%
Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups	980	3.6%	4.8%	3.0%
Other Ethnic Group	3,134	11.5%	4.5%	2.2%
White	2,600	9.5%	48.6%	81.0%

Labour Market

Table 3: Ward Working Age Economic Activity

Economic Activity	Ward Nº	% 16-64	Birmingham %	England %
16-64 Population	17,572	-	-	-
Economically Active Total	8,872	50.5%	64.9%	71.0%
Employed	7,399	42.1%	57.9%	71.0%
Unemployed	1,473	8.4%	7.0%	0.0%
Economically inactive Total	8,700	49.5%	35.1%	24.6%

Claimant Count Unemployment

Ward level claimant count and youth claimant count unemployment data is released monthly. The latest data can be found in our monthly Unemployment Update available on our website on the following link: Link to Monthly Unemployment Update

Table 4: Ward Occupational Breakdown

Occupation	Ward Nº	% of Employed Residents	Birmingham %	England %
All Employed 16+	7,538	-	-	-
Managers, directors and senior officials	459	6.1%	9.3%	12.9%
Professional occupations	973	12.9%	21.1%	20.3%
Associate professional and technical occupations	631	8.4%	11.3%	13.3%
Higher Skilled Occupations	**2,063**	**27.4%**	**41.7%**	**46.4%**
Administrative and secretarial occupations	596	7.9%	9.3%	9.3%
Skilled trades occupations	615	8.2%	8.3%	10.2%
Intermediate Occupations	**1,211**	**16.1%**	**17.6%**	**19.4%**
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	884	11.7%	10.3%	9.3%
Sales and customer service occupations	840	11.1%	8.2%	7.5%
Process plant and machine operatives	1,060	14.1%	8.7%	6.9%
Elementary occupations	1,480	19.6%	13.4%	10.5%
Lower Skilled Occupations	**4,264**	**56.6%**	**40.7%**	**34.1%**

Higher Skilled
27.4%

Intermediate Skills
16.1%

Lower Skilled
56.6%

Table 5: Ward NVQ Qualification Levels

NVQ Level	Ward Nº	% of 16+ Population	Birmingham %	England %
No Qualifications	6,757	34.3%	23.9%	18.1%
Level 1	2,433	12.3%	10.1%	9.7%
Level 2	2,631	13.3%	12.5%	13.3%
Apprenticeship	448	2.3%	3.6%	5.3%
Level 3	2,780	14.1%	17.1%	16.9%
Level 4 qualifications	4,011	20.3%	29.9%	33.9%
Other Qualifications	658	3.3%	2.9%	2.8%

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- **No qualifications**
- **Level 1**
- **Level 2**
- **Apprenticeship**
- **Level 3**
- **Level 4+**
- **Other qualifications**

Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East: 34%, 12%, 14%, 2%, 14%, 21%, 3%

B'ham: 24%, 10%, 12%, 4%, 17%, 30%, 3%
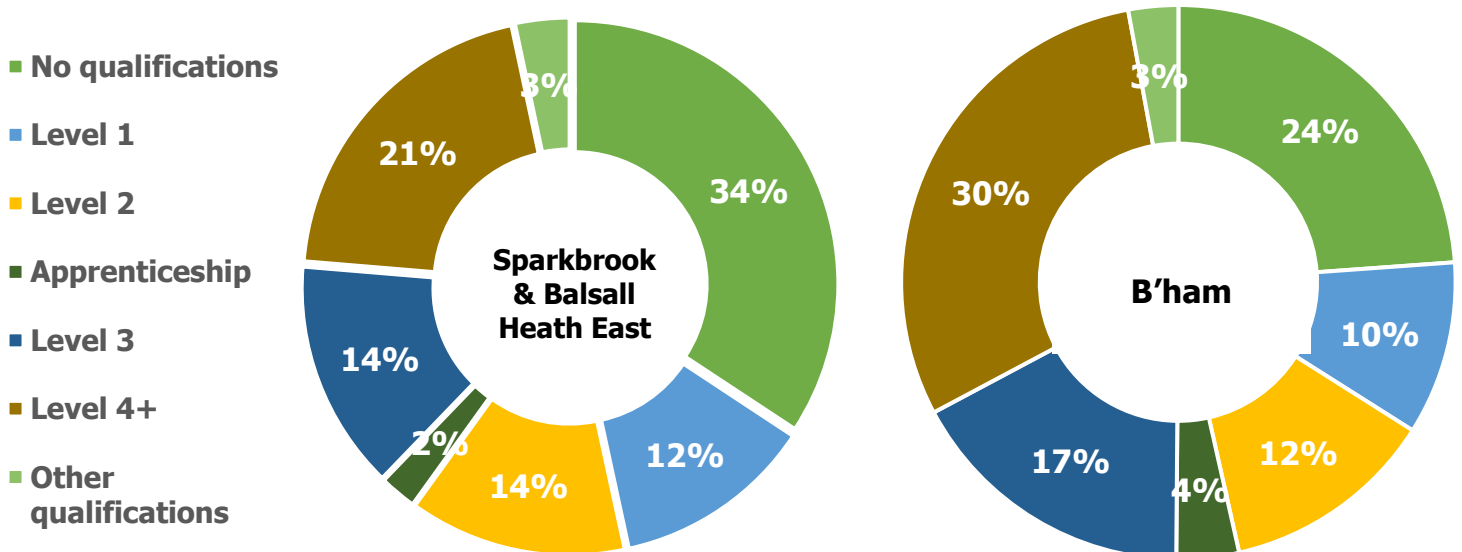
Table 6: Ward Disability & Long Term Health Conditions Working Age

Level	Ward Nº	%	Birmingham %	England %
Disabled	2,968	16.5%	16.1%	15.0%
Long Term Health Condition -not Disabled	525	2.9%	5.8%	7.5%
Total Disabled & Long Term Health Condition	**3,493**	**19.4%**	**21.8%**	**22.6%**
Not Disabled & No Long Term Health Conditions	14,529	80.6%	78.2%	77.4%

Table 7: Ward Language Barriers Aged 16+

Proficiency in English	Ward Nº	% 16+	Birmingham %	England %
Main language is English	12,911	65.5%	82.7%	90.1%
Main language is not English Total	6,809	34.5%	17.3%	9.9%
Main language is not English- Can speak English very well or well	3,809	19.3%	11.9%	7.9%
Main language is not English- Cannot speak English or speak English well	**3,000**	**15.2%**	**5.4%**	**2.1%**

Deprivation

Table 8: 2019 Index of Deprivation Birmingham Wards Ranked

Ward	2019 Ward Rank	2015 Ward Rank	Change in Rank 2015 to 2019	2019 Decile (where 1 is 10% Most Deprived Nationally)
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	1	2	1	1
Bordesley Green	2	4	2	1
Lozells	3	3	-	1
Castle Vale	4	18	14	1
Alum Rock	5	5	-	1
Newtown	6	1	-5	1
Heartlands	7	9	2	1
Gravelly Hill	8	10	2	1
Balsall Heath West	9	6	-3	1
Birchfield	10	7	-3	1
Shard End	11	12	1	1
Kingstanding	12	16	4	1
Garretts Green	13	14	1	1
Aston	14	11	-3	1
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	15	17	2	1
Handsworth	16	20	4	1
Kings Norton South	17	13	-4	1
Ward End	18	21	3	1
Bordesley & Highgate	19	15	-4	1
Tyseley & Hay Mills	20	22	2	1
Small Heath	21	19	-2	1
Frankley Great Park	22	24	2	1
Holyhead	23	23	-	1
Nechells	24	8	-16	1
Druids Heath & Monyhull	25	27	2	1
Stockland Green	26	28	2	1
Yardley West & Stechford	27	26	-1	1
Perry Common	28	29	1	2
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	29	25	-4	2
Sparkhill	30	30	-	2
Bartley Green	31	31	-	2
Allens Cross	32	35	3	2
Bromford & Hodge Hill	33	33	-	2
Billesley	34	37	3	2
Weoley & Selly Oak	35	41	6	2
Acocks Green	36	34	-2	2
Rubery & Rednal	37	40	3	2

Erdington	38	36	-2	3
Pype Hayes	39	39	-	2
Longbridge & West Heath	40	42	2	2
North Edgbaston	41	38	-3	2
Ladywood	42	32	-10	2
Moseley	43	44	1	2
Kings Norton North	44	46	2	2
Sheldon	45	52	7	3
Stirchley	46	50	4	3
Highter's Heath	47	47	-	3
South Yardley	48	45	-3	3
Yardley East	49	43	-6	3
Hall Green North	50	49	-1	3
Quinton	51	51	-	3
Oscott	52	53	1	3
Brandwood & King's Heath	53	54	1	3
Handsworth Wood	54	48	-6	3
Harborne	55	55	-	3
Perry Barr	56	58	2	4
Bournville & Cotteridge	57	56	-1	4
Sutton Reddicap	58	60	2	4
Northfield	59	57	-2	4
Bournbrook & Selly Park	60	61	1	5
Edgbaston	61	59	-2	5
Hall Green South	62	62	-	6
Sutton Trinity	63	63	-	6
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	64	64	-	7
Sutton Vesey	65	65	-	7
Sutton Mere Green	66	66	-	7
Sutton Wylde Green	67	68	1	7
Sutton Four Oaks	68	67	-1	8
Sutton Roughley	69	69	-	9

Child Poverty

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) data on the number and proportion of children living in low income families provide an indication of the number of children living in poverty in each ward of the city. Low income families are defined as those whose household income is less than 60% of average household income. Only families who have claimed Child Benefit and at least one other household benefit are included in the statistics.

In 2021/22 there were 5,617 children living in low income households in Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East, 57.9% of all children in the ward, meaning the ward is ranked 8th in the city in terms of the levels of child poverty.

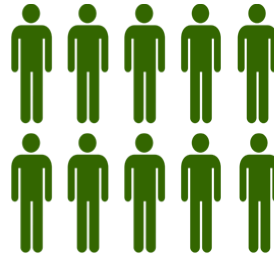**Children in Poverty**

Ward Rank

5,617
57.9%

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Economic Output

New experimental data from the ONS provides Gross Value Added (GVA) a measure of economic output at LSOA level. Ward economic output has been calculated using an LSOA best fit approach. Total economic output in Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East stood at £368m in 2020 (latest data available) and GVA per head was £14,341. Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East has the 17th largest ward economy in the city in terms of GVA.

GVA
£368m

GVA Per Head
£14,341