

Community data profile for the Leys, Oxford (update 2024)

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Compiled by the Public Health Intelligence Team at Oxfordshire County Council

Changes from version 1 to version 2: table in section 5.10 updated with the latest GP QOF data for 2023-24, original table was missing some table headings.

1 Summary of findings

Population and housing

- According to the latest population data (mid-2022 population estimate), the Leys has a resident population of 13,434. The Leys has a higher proportion of young people and a lower proportion of older people (aged 65+) compared to the Oxford and Oxfordshire averages.
- Between the 2011 and 2021 Census surveys the total resident population in the Leys increased by 3%. This was well below the percentage increase across Oxford district (7%) and Oxfordshire (11%).
- The change in the Leys population by broad age band between 2011 and 2021 shows a large decline in the younger population aged 0-19 years.
- The Leys is a more ethnically diverse area compared to Oxfordshire as a whole, with a higher proportion of residents from a Mixed and a Black ethnic background.
- The proportion of social rented housing in the Leys was over double that of the averages for Oxford and Oxfordshire.

Health and Wellbeing

- The two areas making up the Leys had much lower averages of Life Expectancy at birth than the Oxfordshire and England averages.
- Out of 32 local health and wellbeing inequalities indicators, the Leys has 21 indicators in total ranked as worse than the England average including:
 - Emergency hospital admissions for self-harm, where Greater Leys MSOA had a rate that was over three times higher than the Oxfordshire and England averages.
 - Emergency hospital admissions for all causes, where both areas in the Leys had the two highest rates in Oxfordshire.
 - Emergency hospital admissions for COPD, where both areas in the Leys had a rate that was over two times higher than the Oxfordshire and England averages.
- There were 17 health and wellbeing indicators where either one or both MSOAs in the Leys area, had the highest rates in Oxfordshire compared to all MSOAs in the county.
- The rate of adults receiving structured drug and alcohol in the Leys was over double that of the Oxfordshire average.
- Blackbird Leys had the highest prevalence of children classified as overweight (including obesity) in Year 6 in Oxfordshire, a rate which was statistically higher than both the averages for Oxfordshire and England.
- The prevalence of obesity, diabetes and depression among patients registered at the Leys Health Centre was well above that of the average for Oxfordshire.
- A higher proportion of adults in The Leys were (self-declared) long term sick or disabled according to the 2021 Census.

Employment

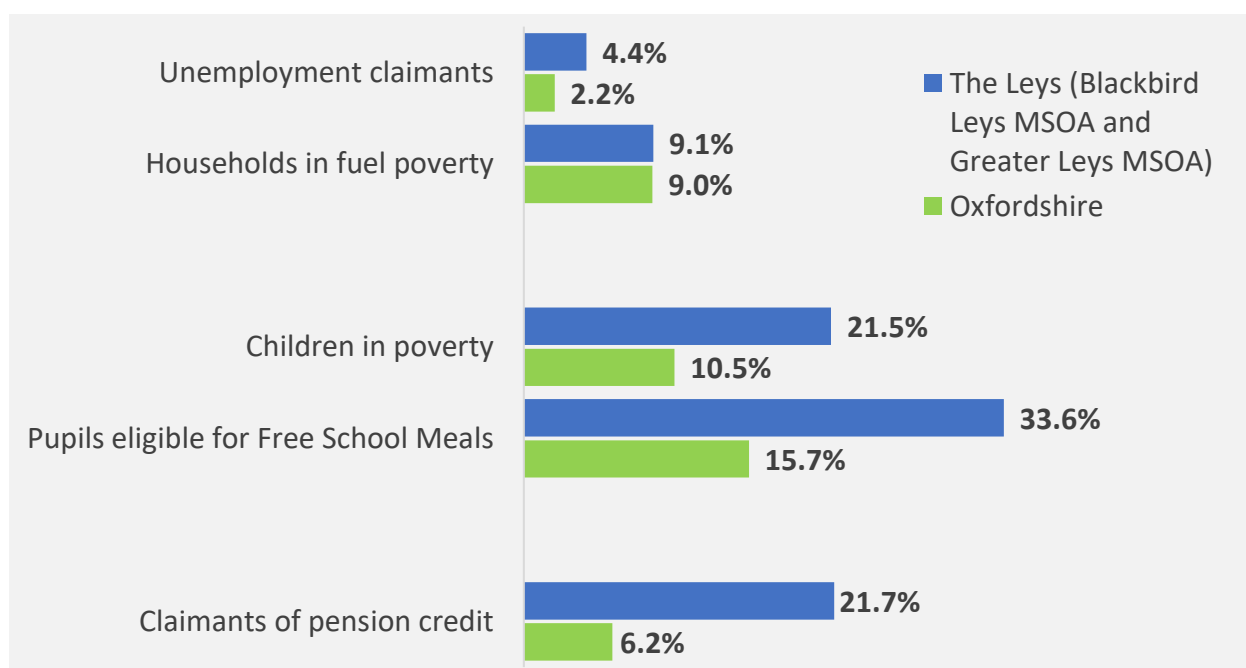
- The Leys has a higher proportion of residents looking after their home or family (therefore not in employment) compared to the Oxfordshire average.
- A much higher proportion of workers in the Leys were in the (generally lower paid) caring, leisure, process, and elementary occupations compared to the Oxford and Oxfordshire averages.

Poverty and deprivation

- The Leys has a much higher proportion of households classified as deprived according to the 2021 Census than the averages for Oxford City and Oxfordshire.
- The proportion of residents claiming unemployment-related benefits in the Leys was double that for Oxfordshire.

- A similar proportion of households in the Leys were estimated to be in fuel poverty to that of Oxfordshire.
- Rates of child poverty and pupils eligible for free school meals in the Leys were each over double the average for Oxfordshire.
- The rate of older people in poverty and claiming pension credit in the Leys was three and a half times that of the Oxfordshire average.
- According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) five LSOAs within the Leys are ranked within the 10% most deprived areas in England for the education, skills and training IMD Domain.

Figure 1 Indicators of low income¹



Crime and community safety

- The overall rate of crime in both Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys were well above (worse than) the Oxfordshire average.

Living environment

- Mapping by Natural England shows that the Leys has several public parks, play space provisions, allotments and a sport facility. The area is also surrounded by small areas of woodland however these appear to be inaccessible according to Natural England.
- A study on greenspace-deprived neighbourhoods, identified three neighbourhoods (LSOAs) within the Leys area as high priority neighbourhoods meaning that they are both relatively socio-economically deprived and have relatively poor provision of local, accessible greenspace.

¹ Sources: DWP claimant count March 2024 from nomisweb.co.uk, Claimant count is a measure of the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed, based on administrative data from the benefits system; Sub-regional fuel poverty data 2022 Dept for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, fuel poverty refers to households living in a property with fuel energy efficiency rating of band D or below as well as households which after paying their energy bill to heat their home the residual income is below the official poverty line; Child poverty from DWP statXplore, children aged 0-15, 2022/23; FSM from January 2024 pupil census, Oxfordshire County Council; Pension credit from DWP statXplore as of August 2023.

- The findings from an Active Neighbourhood Scan undertaken in Blackbird Leys, highlighted a number of assets within the area which enable residents to be active, these included: Gillians Park, outdoor gyms in Blackbird Leys Park and Gillians Park and Spindleberry Nature Reserve. However, the report also highlighted a few barriers to being active in the area including litter, lack of lighting and poorly maintained paths.
- There are three pharmacies and one GP practice located within the Leys area. The whole area is within a 20-minute walking time to the nearest GP practice and also within a 20-minute walking time to the nearest pharmacy site.

2 Introduction

This update

The first community profile for the Leys was published in September 2022, combining both quantitative data and community insight in a single report.

To aid accessibility, ease of use, and to be consistent with other published community insight profiles, the Leys profile has been reformatted into three separate reports:

1. Community insight project report by Oxford Hub.
2. Community data profile compiled by the Public Health Intelligence team of Oxfordshire County Council (this report).
3. Summary of findings.

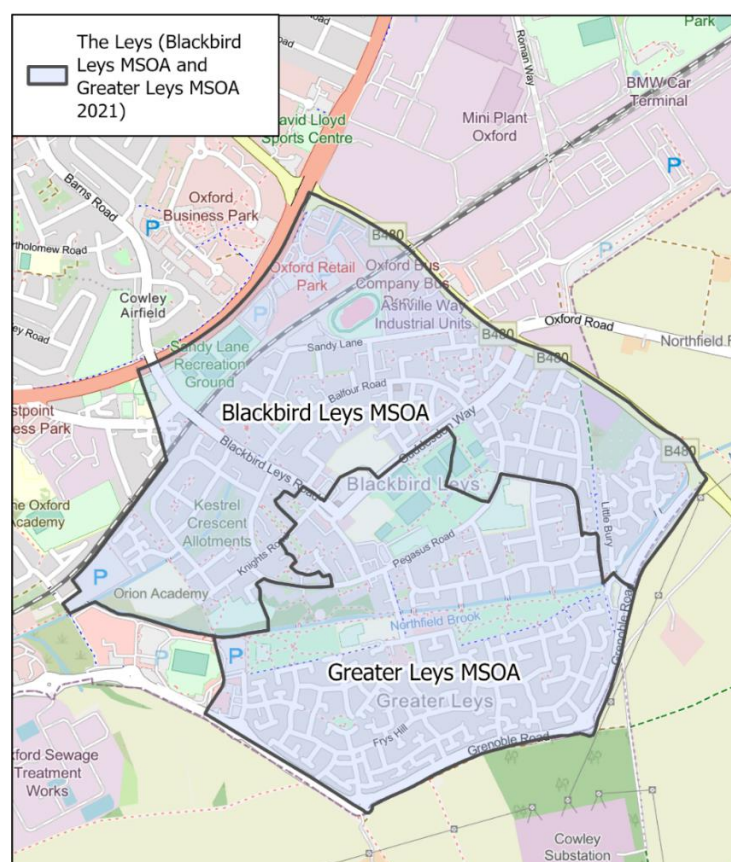
The original data profile used Census 2011 data which has now been superseded by the publication of 2021 Census data. Extracts of the Census 2021 data are included in this report.

Geographical area

Blackbird Leys and Northfield Brook are wards located in south east Oxford. Northfield Brook ward is often referred to as Greater Leys, and both areas together are referred to as 'the Leys'.

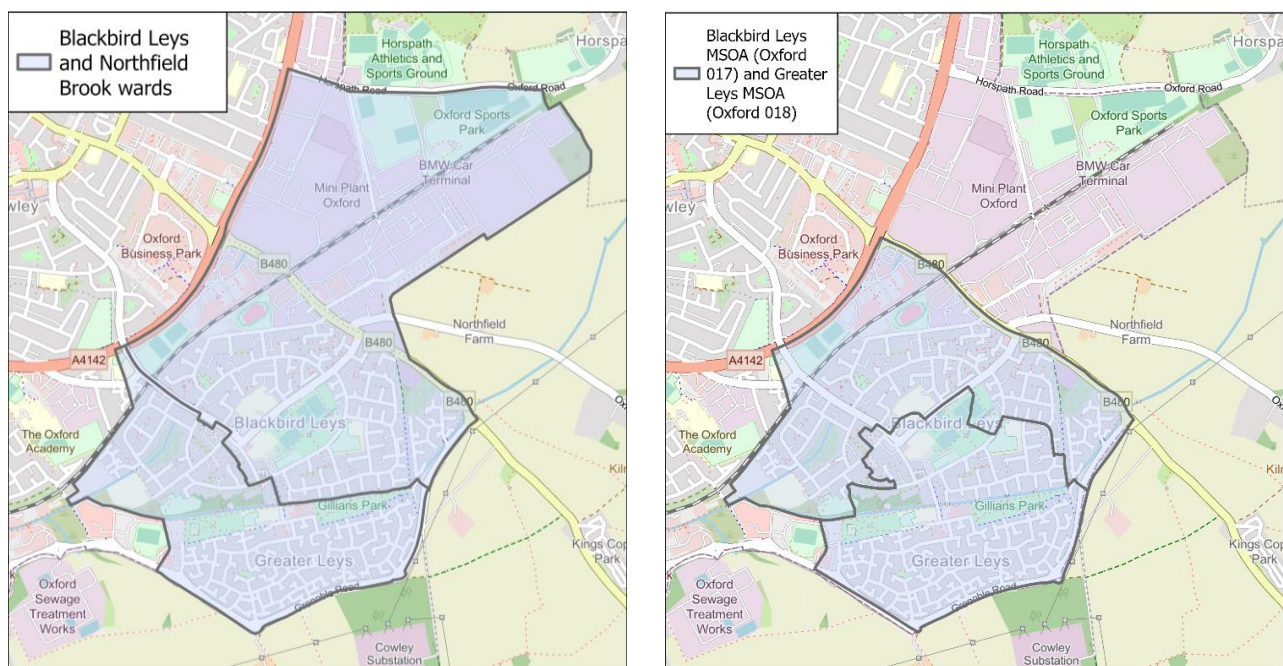
Unlike the original profile which focused on the two wards of, Blackbird Leys and Northfield Brook, this profile uses the Middle Layer Super Output areas (MSOAs): Blackbird Leys MSOA and Greater Leys MSOA, as the geography to make up the Leys Community Insight area (see Figure 2 and Figure 3).

Figure 2 The Leys Community Insight data area, comprising of Blackbird Leys MSOA and Greater Leys MSOA



Mapping by Oxfordshire County Council

Figure 3 Maps showing wards and MSOAs covering the Leys

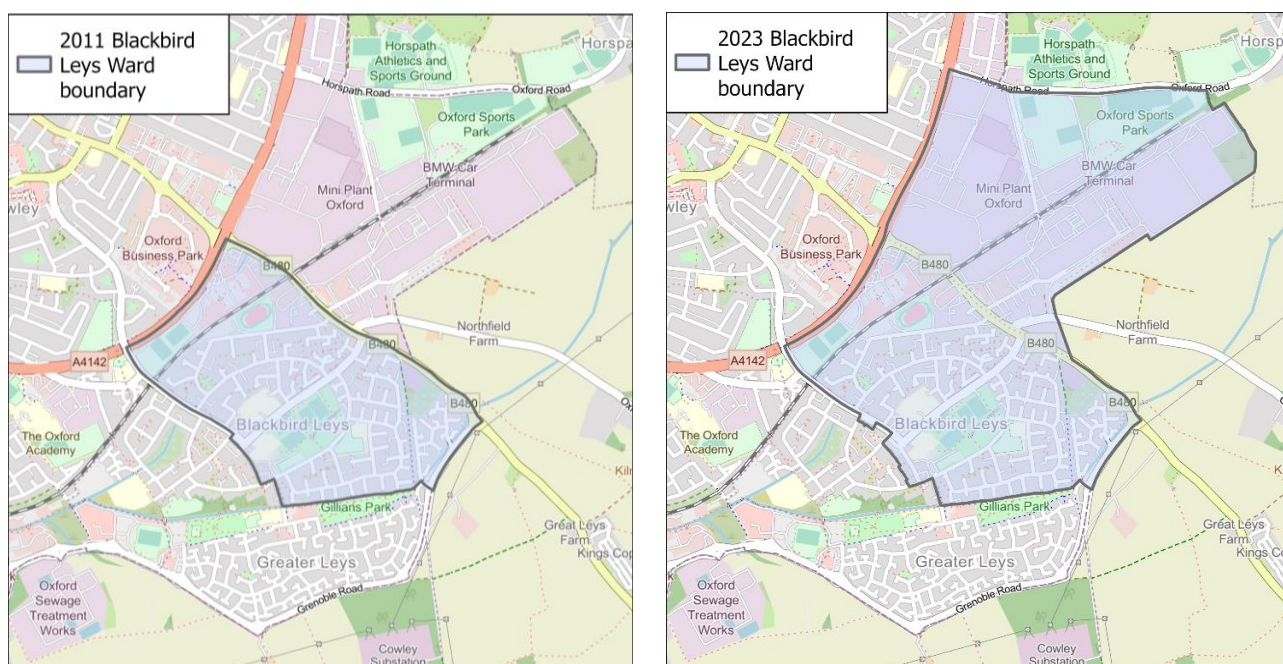


Mapping by Oxfordshire County Council

The choice to use MSOAs as the default geography is due to the Blackbird Leys ward boundary change in 2015, resulting in the ward covering a larger area than the previous boundary and subsequently including the Mini Plant Oxford (see Figure 4). This means that looking at change over time for the area (e.g. analysing population change) and using data sets which use 2011 boundaries (e.g. DWP benefits data) is not possible using this ward boundary.

The area not included in this profile as a result of using the MSOA boundary is an area of Blackbird Leys where no residents live and therefore using this boundary has no consequence to the understanding the health and wellbeing of residents in Blackbird Leys through the data.

Figure 4 Maps showing the Blackbird Leys ward boundary change



Mapping by Oxfordshire County Council

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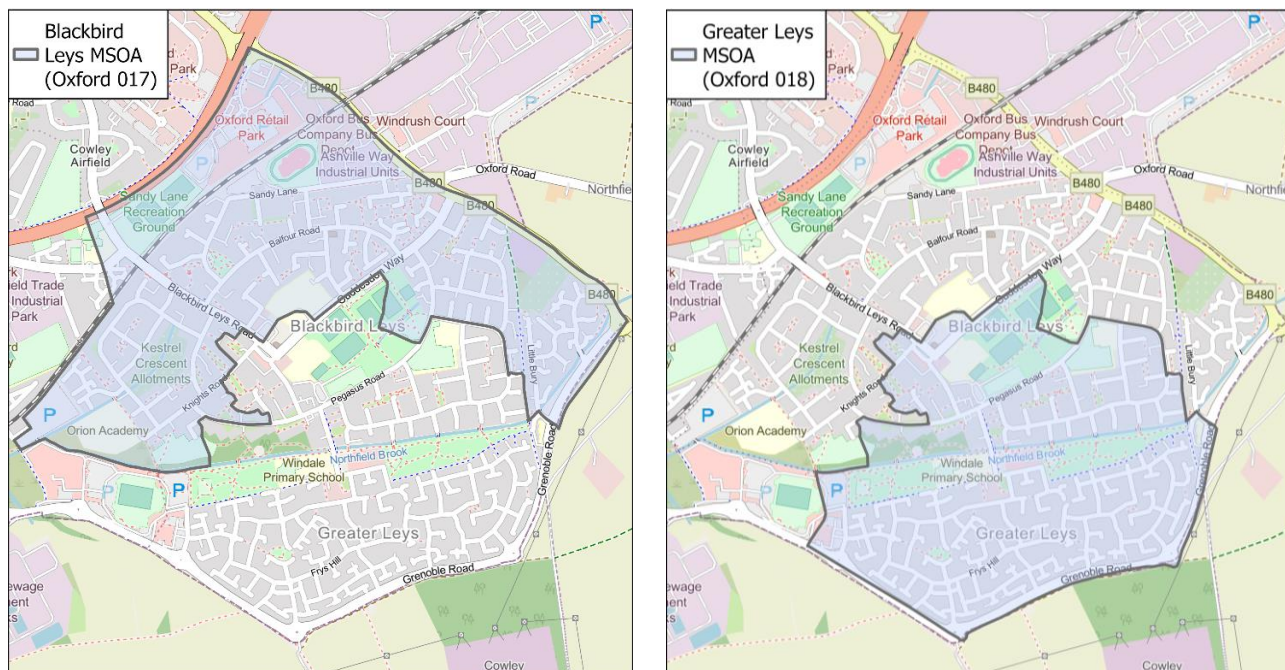
Data for the Leys area is included for:

- Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs) for the Leys area: Blackbird Leys MSOA and Greater Leys MSOA (codes Oxford 017 and Oxford 018);
- Lower Super Output Areas for the Leys area: LSOAs Oxford 017A, 017B, 017C and 017D which cover Blackbird Leys MSOA and LSOAs Oxford 018A, 018B, 018C and 018D which cover Greater Leys MSOA.

Where relevant, data for the Leys is compared with Oxford City, Oxfordshire County and the England averages.

The following maps show the two Middle layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs) that cover the Leys area. MSOAs are made up of groups of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs), usually four or five. They comprise between 2,000 and 6,000 households and have a resident population between 5,000 and 15,000 persons. MSOAs fit within local authorities and health data is usually provided at this level of geography.

Figure 5 Maps showing Blackbird Leys MSOA (Oxford 016) and Greater Leys MSOA (Oxford 018)



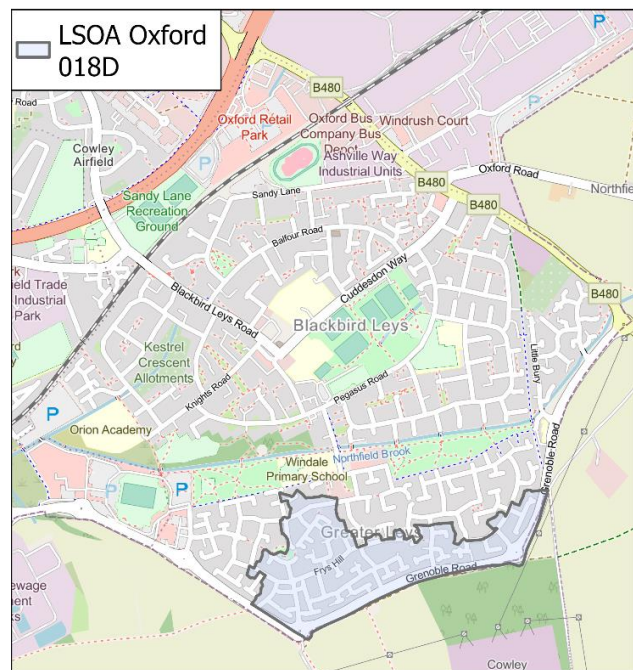
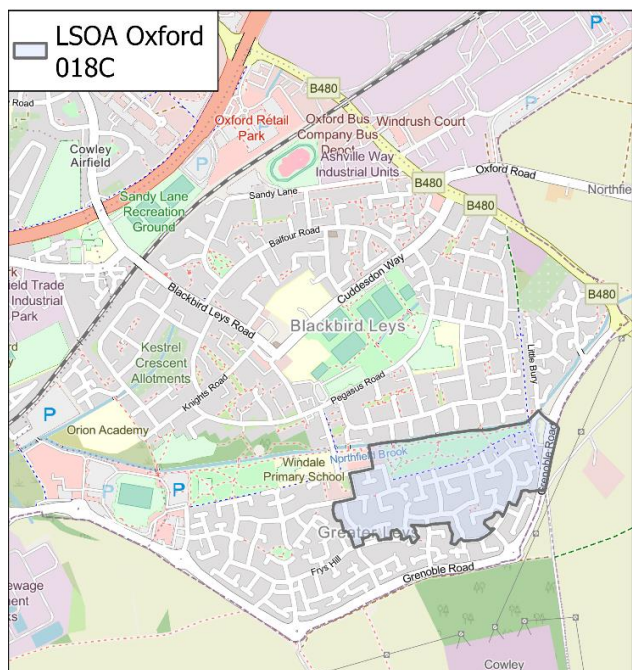
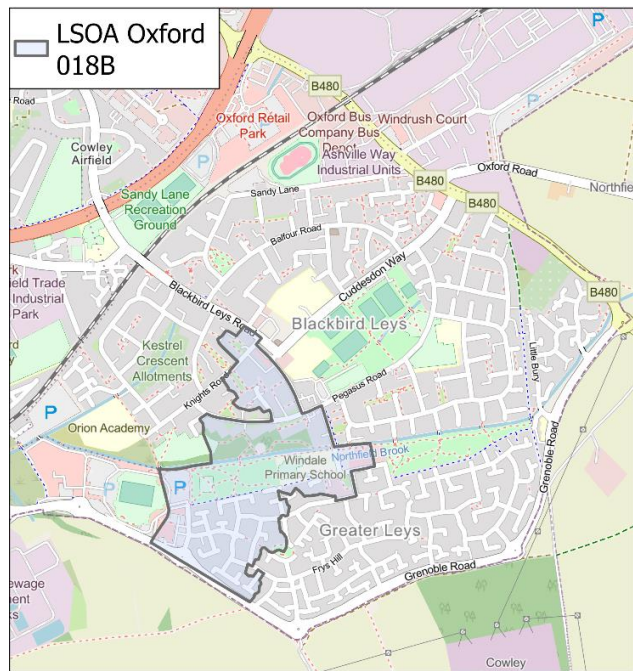
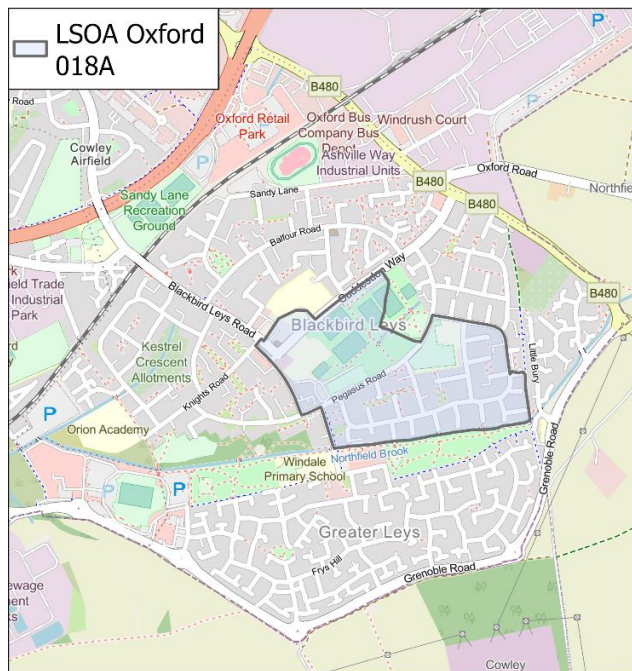
Mapping by Oxfordshire County Council

The following maps show the eight Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) within the Leys area. An LSOA has on average 650 households.

Figure 6 Maps showing LSOAs within the Leys area



Mapping by Oxfordshire County Council



Mapping by Oxfordshire County Council

The map displays the Blackbird Leys MSOA, which is outlined in black. Within this area, the Greater Leys MSOA is also outlined. A red pin marks the location of 'The Leys' GP surgery, situated near the 'The Leys Health Centre'. The map includes various landmarks such as 'Oxford Retail Park', 'Oxford Bus Company Bldg', 'Ashville Way Industrial Units', 'Sandy Lane Recreation Ground', 'Kestrel Crescent Allotments', 'Orion Academy', and 'The Oxford Academy'. Major roads like 'Oxford Road' and 'Barnes Road' are shown, along with the 'David Lloyd Sports Centre' and 'BMW Car Terminal' to the north. A legend in the top left corner identifies 'The Leys' as a black-outlined area and 'GP surgery' as a red pin.

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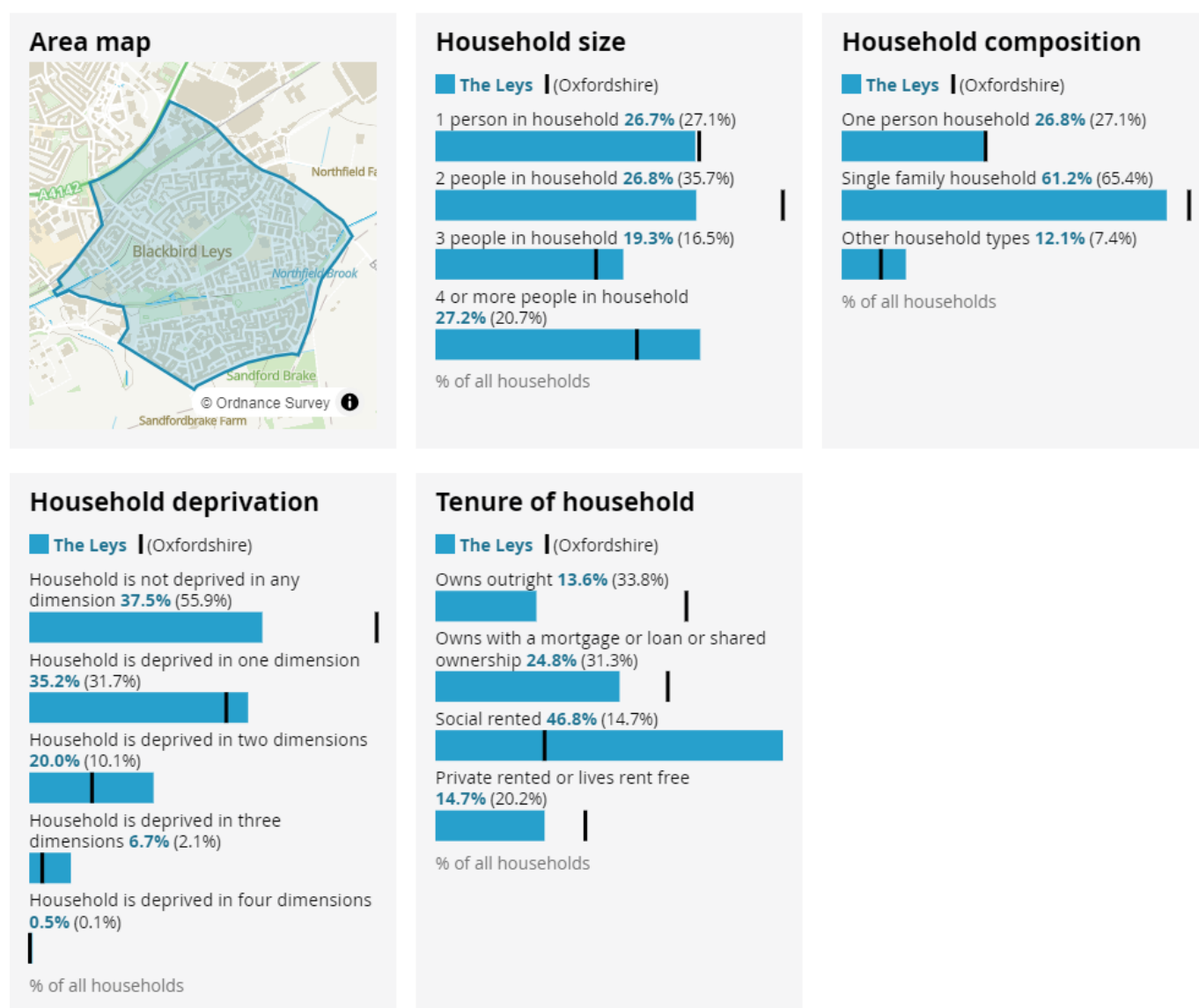
3 Census 2021 profile the Leys

The following Census profile is for the Leys and shows that, compared with Oxfordshire as a whole, the area had a higher proportion of:

- People living in social rented households (46.8% vs 14.7%)
- Young residents (0 to 19 years old), working age residents (25 to 49 years old and 55 to 59 years old)
- People from an Asian ethnic background (10.7% vs 6.4%), a Black ethnic background (11.8% vs 2.1%), a Mixed ethnic background (7.3% vs 3.1%) and other ethnic background (2.7% vs 1.6%)
- People with disabilities (17.8% vs 14.5%)
- People unemployed (4.1% vs 2.4%)
- People in routine (19.9% vs 9.8%), semi-routine occupations (17.4% vs 9.5%) and who have never worked or are long term unemployed (9.8% vs 5.0%)

Figure 8 Census 2021 profile for the Leys

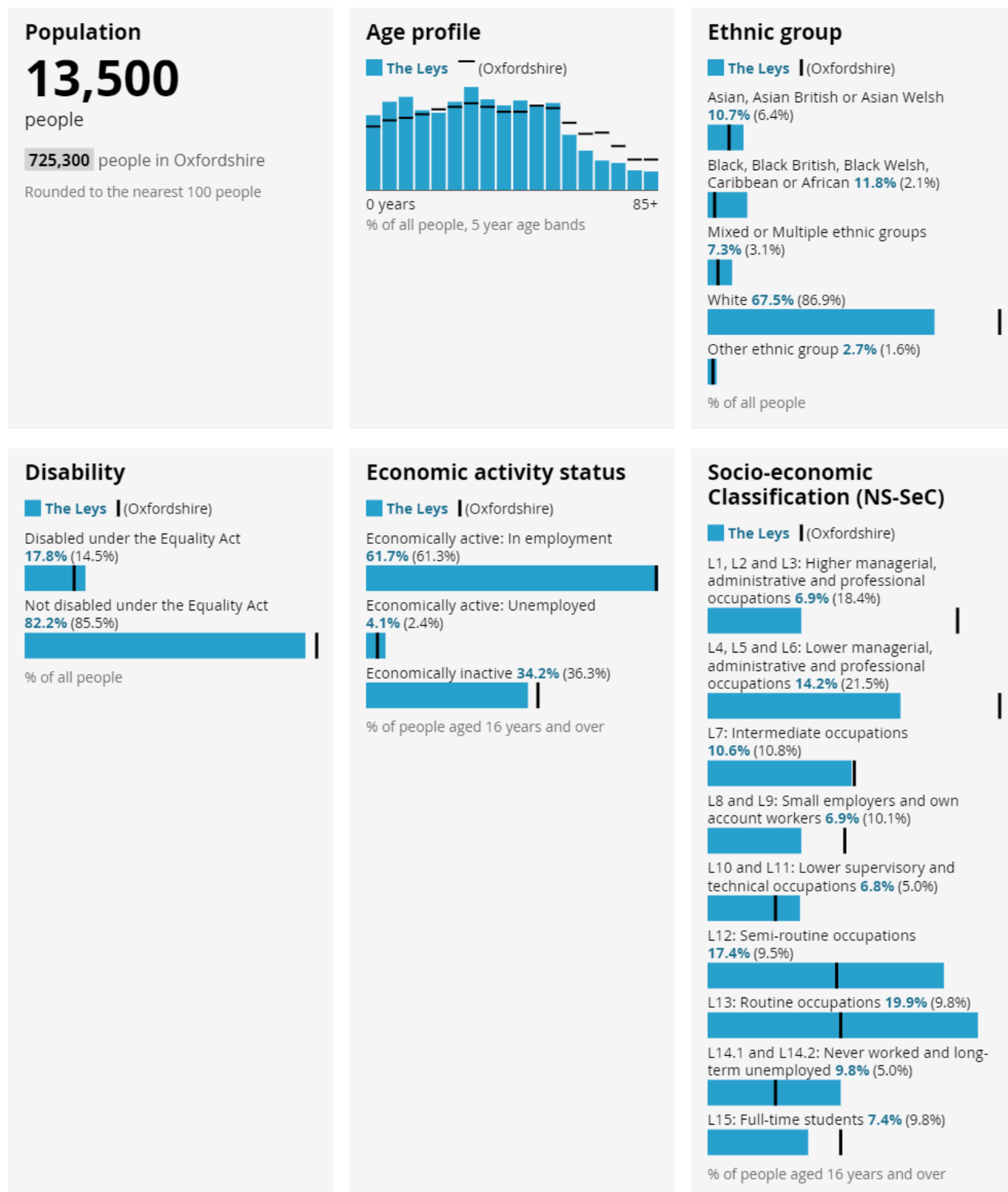
The Leys



From [Build a custom area profile - Census 2021, ONS](#)

Figure 9 Census 2021 profile for the Leys continued

The Leys



From [Build a custom area profile - Census 2021, ONS](#)

4 Population and housing

4.1 Population and population growth

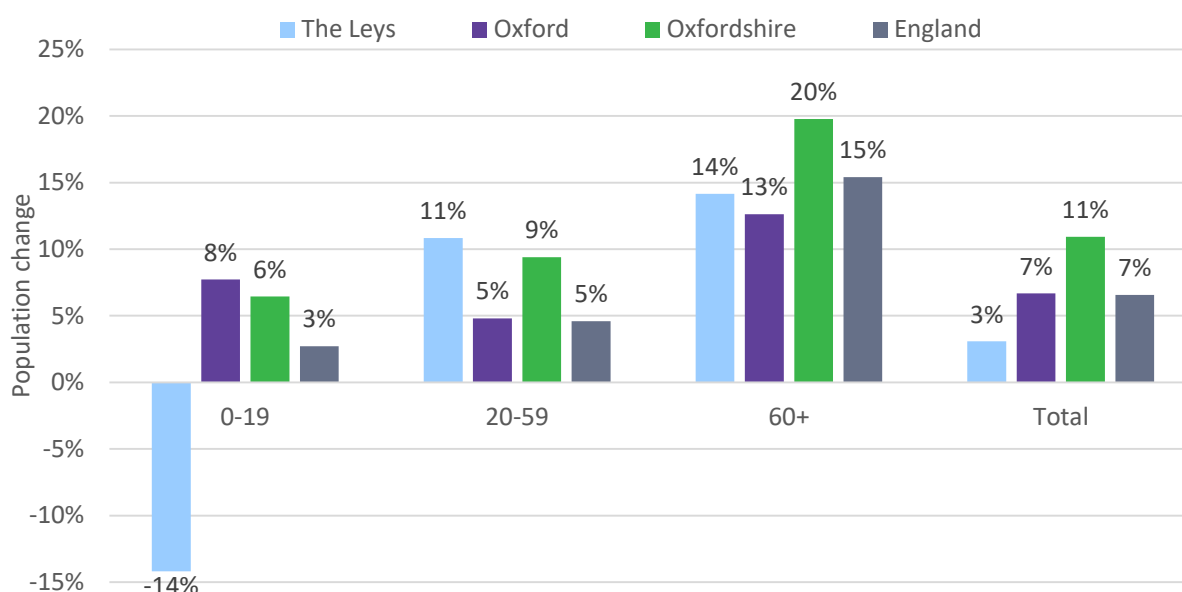
According to the latest ONS mid-year population estimate for mid-2022, the total resident population of the Leys was 13,434 people. This is comprised of 6,603 (49.2%) residents living in Blackbird Leys MSOA and 6,831 (50.8%) residents in Greater Leys MSOA.

This was similar to the population count according to the ONS 2021 Census (13,467).

Between the 2011 and 2021 Census surveys, the total resident population in the Leys increased by 3%. This was well below the increase across Oxford district (7%), Oxfordshire (11%), and England (7%).

The change in the Leys' population by broad age shows a large decrease in the younger population (aged 0-19 years).

Figure 10 Population change between Census 2011 and Census 2021

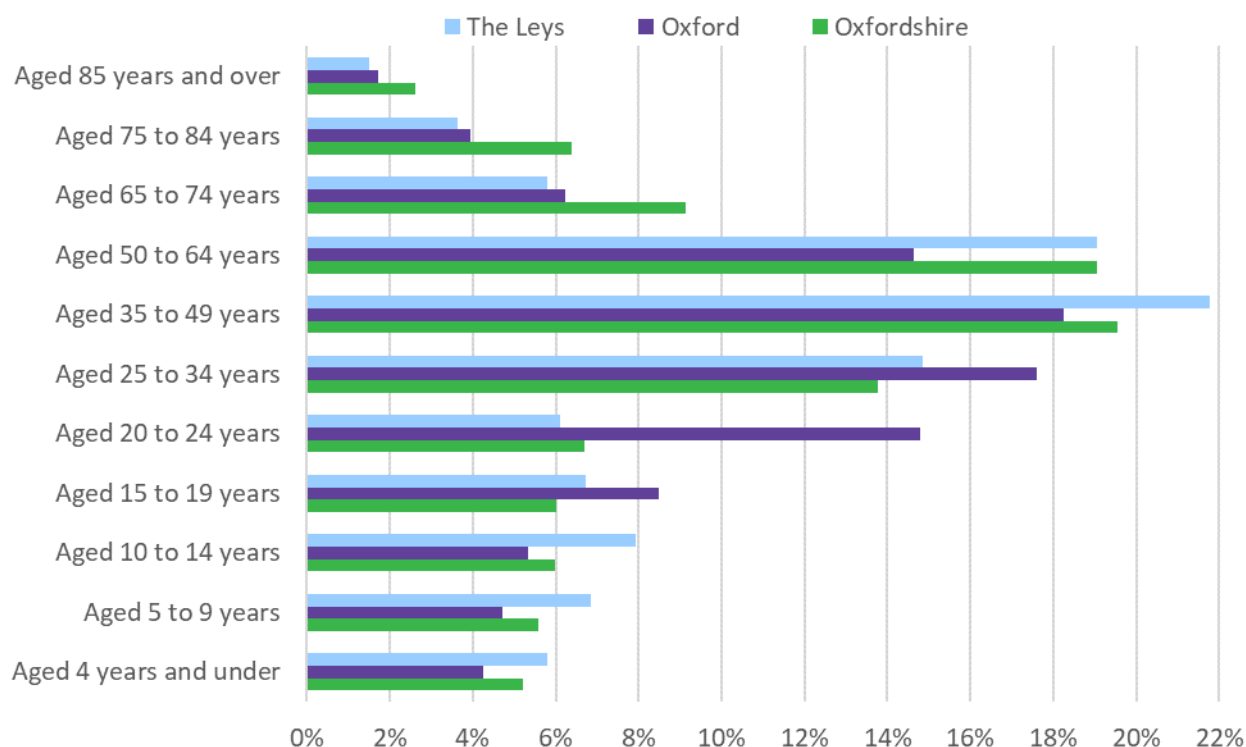


Source: ONS Census 2011 table QS103 and Census 2021 table TS007A from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

4.2 Population by age

Despite the large decrease in the younger population between 2011 and 2021, the Leys has a higher proportion of young people (aged 0 to 14 years) as well as those aged 35 to 49 years, compared with Oxford and Oxfordshire. The Leys also had a lower proportion of older people (aged 65+ years) compared with the district and County averages.

Figure 11 Proportion of the population by broad age band (mid-2022), the Leys vs Oxford district and Oxfordshire



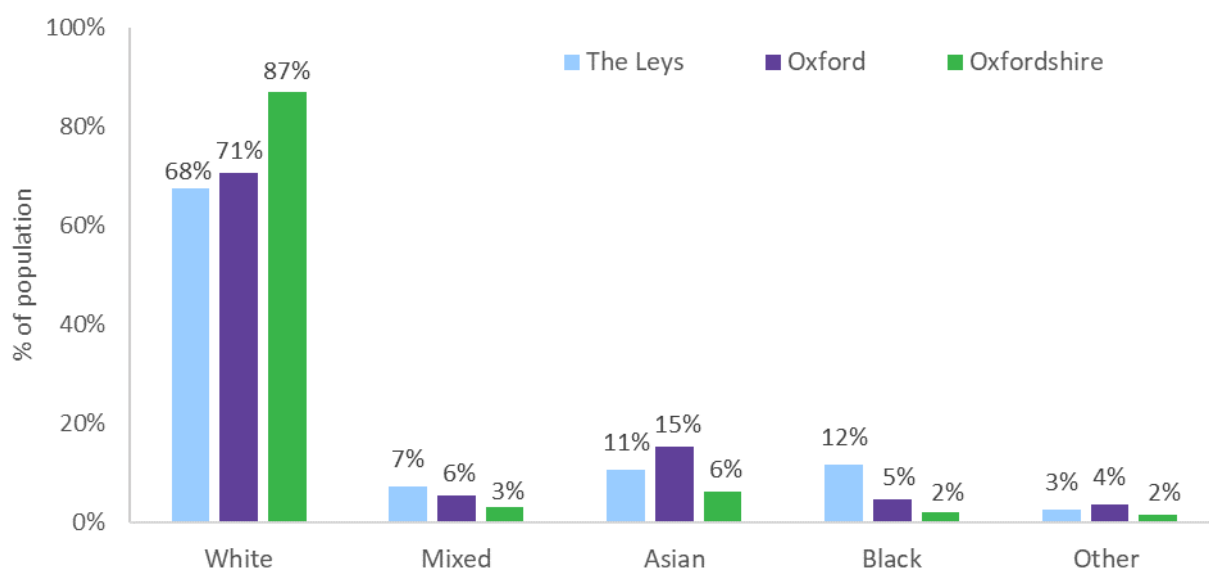
Source: ONS mid-year population estimate from [Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)

4.3 Ethnicity

The most recent data on ethnicity is the 2021 Census. At the time of the census, 67.5% of residents in the Leys identified as White, this was below the Oxford City (70.7%) and Oxfordshire percentages (86.9%).

The percentage of residents from a Mixed ethnic background and a Black ethnic background was higher in the Leys (7.3% and 11.7% respectively) than both the Oxford (5.6% and 4.7% respectively) and Oxfordshire averages (2.7% and 2.1% respectively).

Figure 12 Proportion of resident population by ethnic group (2021)



Source: Census 2021 table TS021 from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

Between 2011 and 2021 there was a decrease in the number of people from a White ethnic group and an increase in the number of people from a Mixed, Asian and Other broad ethnic group in the Leys, resulting in the area becoming more ethnically diverse.

Figure 13 Change in population by broad ethnic group, Census 2011 to 2021 (count and percentage change)

Broad ethnic group	The Leys		Oxford	Oxfordshire
	Count	%	%	%
White	-699	-7%	-3%	6%
Mixed	221	29%	49%	71%
Asian	662	84%	33%	47%
Black	-7	0%	7%	30%
Other	222	151%	189%	226%

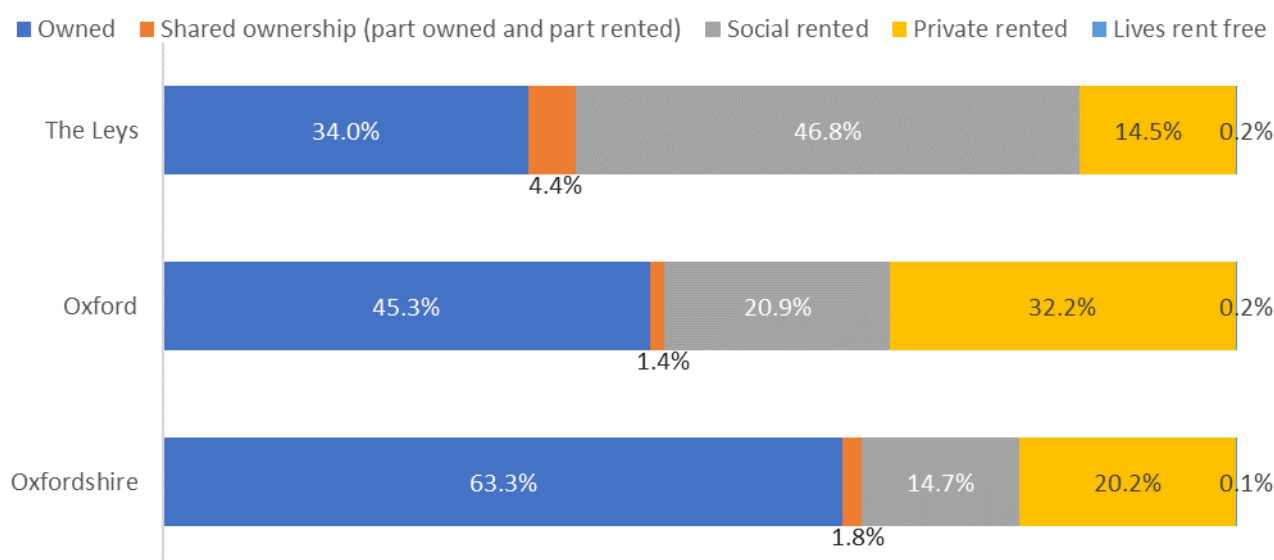
Source: ONS Census 2011 table KS201EW and Census 2021 table TS021 from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

4.4 Housing

According to the Census 2021, the proportion of social rented housing in the Leys (46.8%) was over double the average for Oxford (20.9%) and over three times that for Oxfordshire (14.7%).

The Leys also had a much lower proportion of home ownership (34.0%) compared to the district (45.3%) and County averages (63.3%). Similarly, the percentage of privately rented households in the Leys was well below the district and County averages (14.5% vs. (32.2% and 20.2% respectively).

Figure 14 Percentage of households in the Leys, Oxford district and Oxfordshire County



Source: Census 2021 table TS054 from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

5 Health and Wellbeing

5.1 Summary of Health and wellbeing indicators for the Leys

The below table shows indicators for Blackbird Leys MSOA and Greater Leys MSOA which relate to health inequalities. The values are compared to the England and Oxfordshire average and are shown as either **better than (green)**, **similar to (yellow)** or **worse than (red)** than the England/Oxfordshire average.

Compared with other areas of Oxfordshire, both Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys have a relatively poor health profile. Of the local health and wellbeing indicators for Blackbird Leys MSOA, 17 out of 32 are ranked as worse than the England average and for Greater Leys MSOA, 16 out of 32 are ranked as worse.

When comparing to Oxfordshire, Blackbird Leys has 22 indicators ranked as worse than the Oxfordshire average and Greater Leys MSOA has 19 indicators ranked as worse.

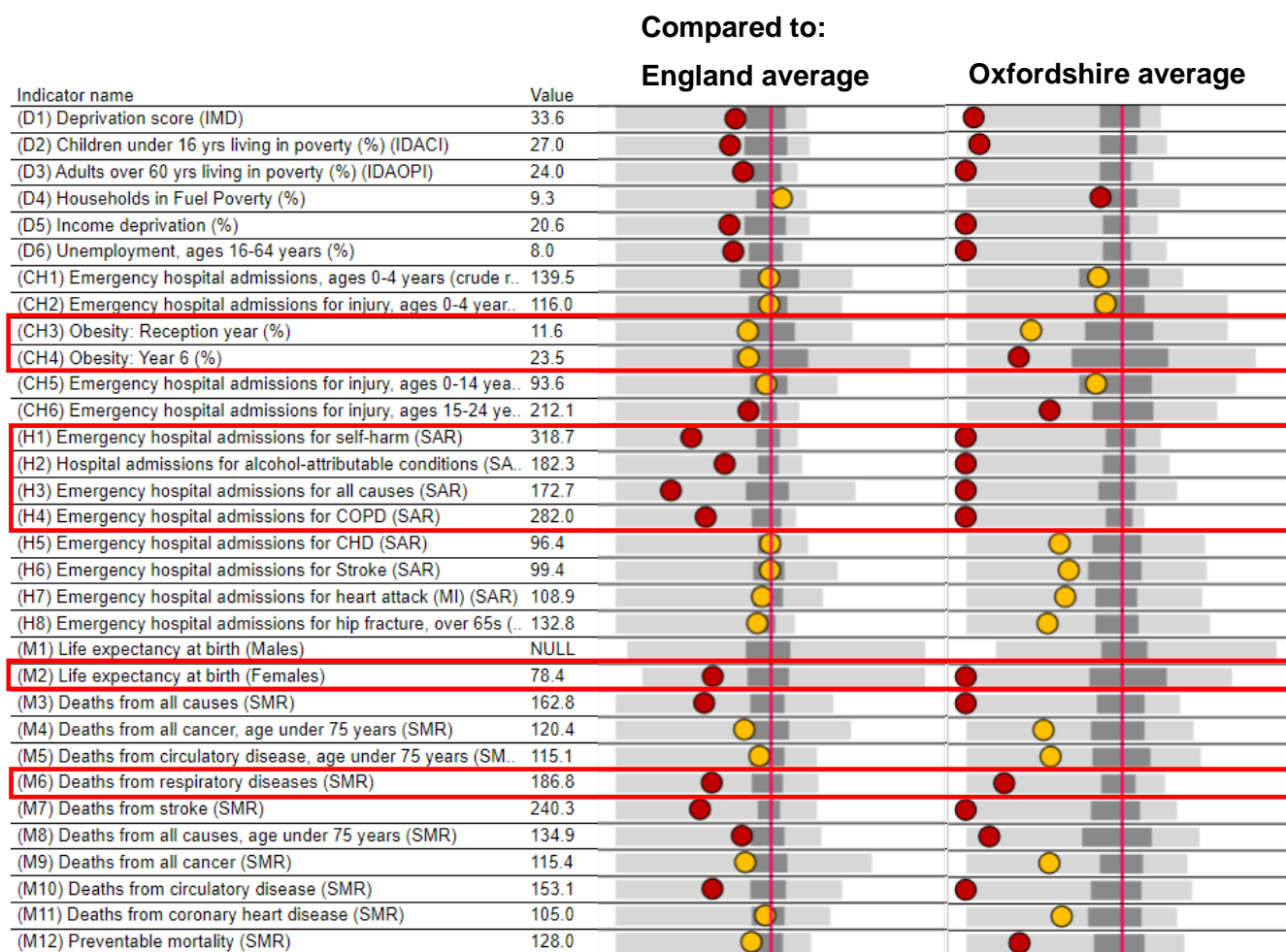
Figure 15 Table of local health and wellbeing indicators for Blackbird Leys MSOA

Indicator name	Value	Compared to:	
		England average	Oxfordshire average
(D1) Deprivation score (IMD)	34.9		
(D2) Children under 16 yrs living in poverty (%) (IDACI)	25.2		
(D3) Adults over 60 yrs living in poverty (%) (IDAOP)	22.4		
(D4) Households in Fuel Poverty (%)	12.8		
(D5) Income deprivation (%)	19.5		
(D6) Unemployment, ages 16-64 years (%)	7.9		
(CH1) Emergency hospital admissions, ages 0-4 years (crude r..	171.7		
(CH2) Emergency hospital admissions for injury, ages 0-4 year..	156.6		
(CH3) Obesity: Reception year (%)	12.5		
(CH4) Obesity: Year 6 (%)	25.0		
(CH5) Emergency hospital admissions for injury, ages 0-14 yea..	105.5		
(CH6) Emergency hospital admissions for injury, ages 15-24 ye..	283.8		
(H1) Emergency hospital admissions for self-harm (SAR)	160.2		
(H2) Hospital admissions for alcohol-attributable conditions (SA..	151.8		
(H3) Emergency hospital admissions for all causes (SAR)	167.1		
(H4) Emergency hospital admissions for COPD (SAR)	238.1		
(H5) Emergency hospital admissions for CHD (SAR)	125.9		
(H6) Emergency hospital admissions for Stroke (SAR)	141.3		
(H7) Emergency hospital admissions for heart attack (MI) (SAR)	165.8		
(H8) Emergency hospital admissions for hip fracture, over 65s (..	176.0		
(M1) Life expectancy at birth (Males)	75.4		
(M2) Life expectancy at birth (Females)	82.3		
(M3) Deaths from all causes (SMR)	129.4		
(M4) Deaths from all cancer, age under 75 years (SMR)	115.0		
(M5) Deaths from circulatory disease, age under 75 years (SM..	80.0		
(M6) Deaths from respiratory diseases (SMR)	199.0		
(M7) Deaths from stroke (SMR)	123.5		
(M8) Deaths from all causes, age under 75 years (SMR)	121.3		
(M9) Deaths from all cancer (SMR)	113.7		
(M10) Deaths from circulatory disease (SMR)	99.8		
(M11) Deaths from coronary heart disease (SMR)	67.1		
(M12) Preventable mortality (SMR)	99.8		


Source: [Oxfordshire Local Area Inequalities Dashboard](#)

The highlighted indicators are further broken down below in the following charts.

Figure 16 Table of local health and wellbeing indicators for Greater Leys MSOA



Source: [Oxfordshire Local Area Inequalities Dashboard](#)

The highlighted indicators  are further broken down below in the following charts.

5.2 Obesity

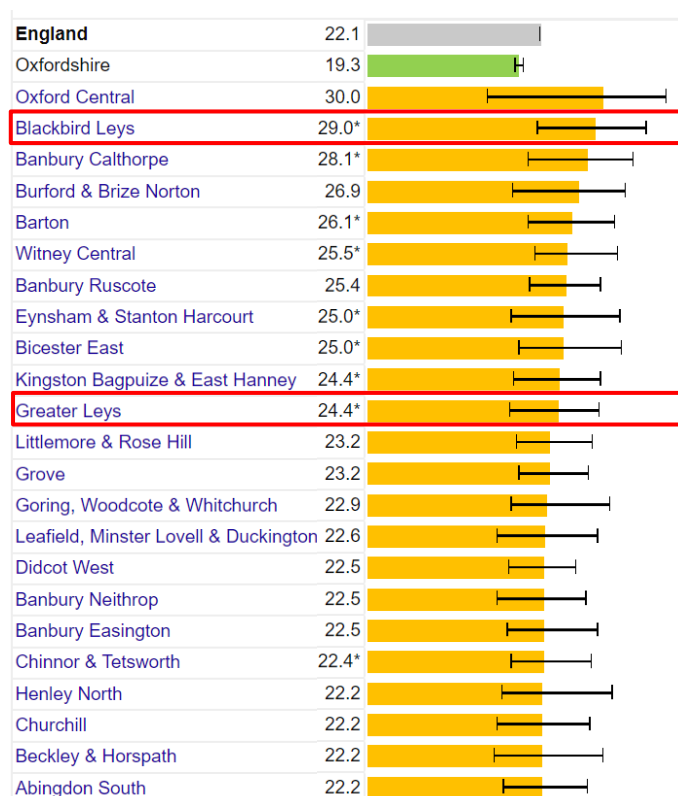
Obesity is defined as “abnormal or excessive fat accumulation that may impair health”. Prevalence of Obesity is increasing within the UK with rates having increased between 15-28% since 1993². Currently, 1 in every 4 adults and around 1 in every 5 children aged 10 to 11³. Obesity increases the risk of several health conditions: Type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke, several types of cancers and depression. Obesity is more likely amongst those living in a deprived area.

According to the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)*:

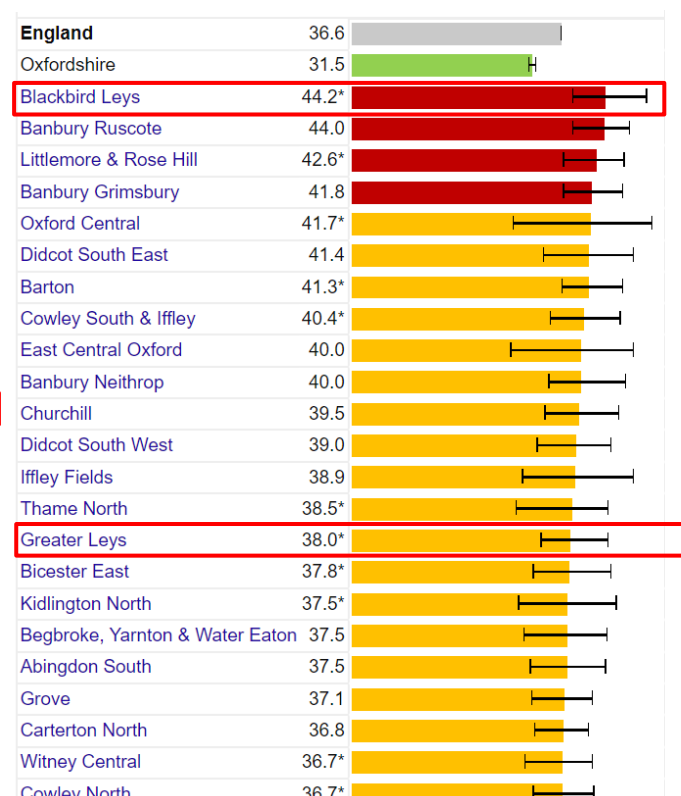
- For children in reception (aged 4-5 years), the prevalence of overweight (including obesity) in Blackbird Leys MSOA was 29.0%, similar to the England average (22.1%) but statistically higher than the average for Oxfordshire (19.3%). In Greater Leys MSOA the prevalence was 24.4%, similar to the averages for Oxfordshire and England.
- Blackbird Leys MSOA had the highest prevalence of Year 6 children (aged 10-11 years) measured as overweight (including obese) in Oxfordshire at 44.2%, statistically higher than the average for Oxfordshire (31.5%) and England (36.6%). Greater Leys MSOA also had a prevalence (38.0%) which statistically higher than the average for Oxfordshire but was similar to the England average.

Figure 17 Prevalence of children classified as overweight (including obesity) 3-years data combined 2020/21-22/23

Reception (aged 4-5 years)



Year 6 (aged 10-11 years)



Source: [OHID Fingertips](#), using National Child Measurement Programme, NHS Digital

*Note that this data is more recent than that in the summary of Health and Wellbeing indicators

² [Houses Of Commons Library - Obesity statistics \(2023\)](#) (Accessed 27/11/23)

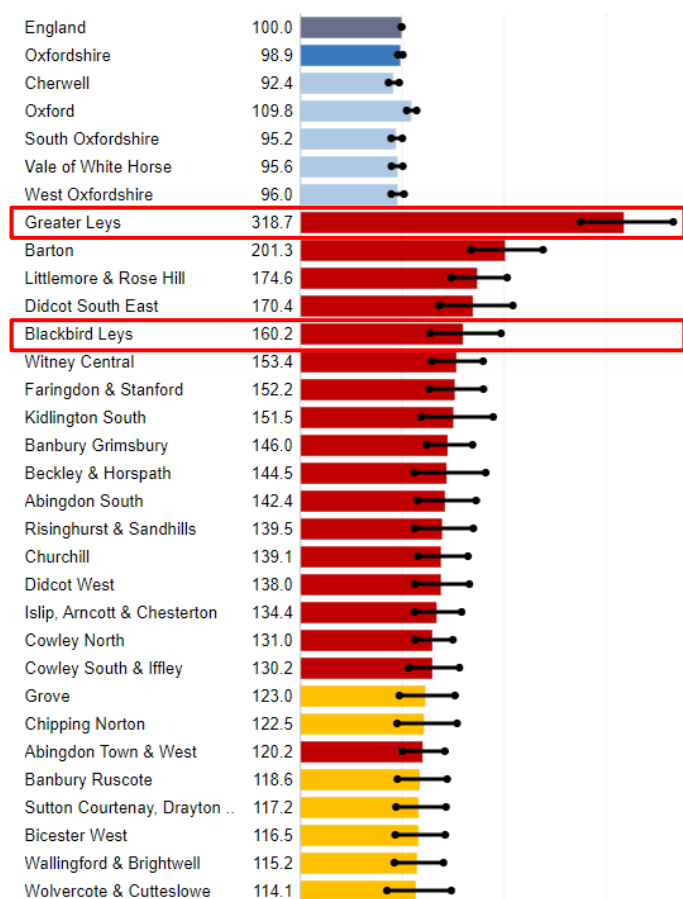
³ [NHS – Obesity \(2023\)](#) (Accessed 27/11/23).

5.3 Emergency hospital admissions for self-harm

For the 4 years combined 2016/17 to 2020/21, the standardised admission ratio (SAR) for self-harm was the highest in Greater Leys MSOA (318.7) compared to all 86 MSOAs in Oxfordshire, a rate that was well above the Oxford district average (109.8) and over three times higher than the County (98.9) and England averages (100.0).

Blackbird Leys also had one of the highest rates in Oxfordshire (160.2), which was well above the Oxford district, County and England averages.

Figure 18 Emergency hospital admissions for self-harm (SAR) 2016/17-2020/21

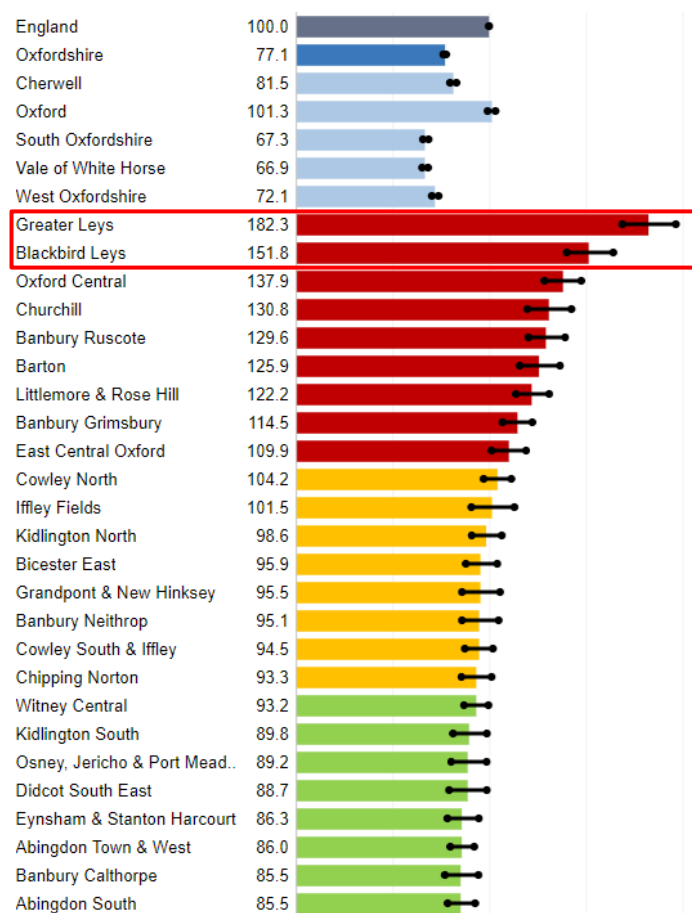


Source: [Oxfordshire Local Area Inequalities Dashboard](#)

5.4 Hospital admissions for alcohol-attributable conditions

For the 4 years combined 2016/17 to 2020/21, the standardised admission ratio (SAR) for alcohol-attributable conditions (all ages) for Greater Leys MSOA was 182.3 and 151.8 for Blackbird Leys MSOA. Both rates were well above the average rates for Oxfordshire (77.1) and England (100.0).

Figure 19 Hospital admissions for alcohol-attributable conditions (SAR) 2016/17 – 2020/21

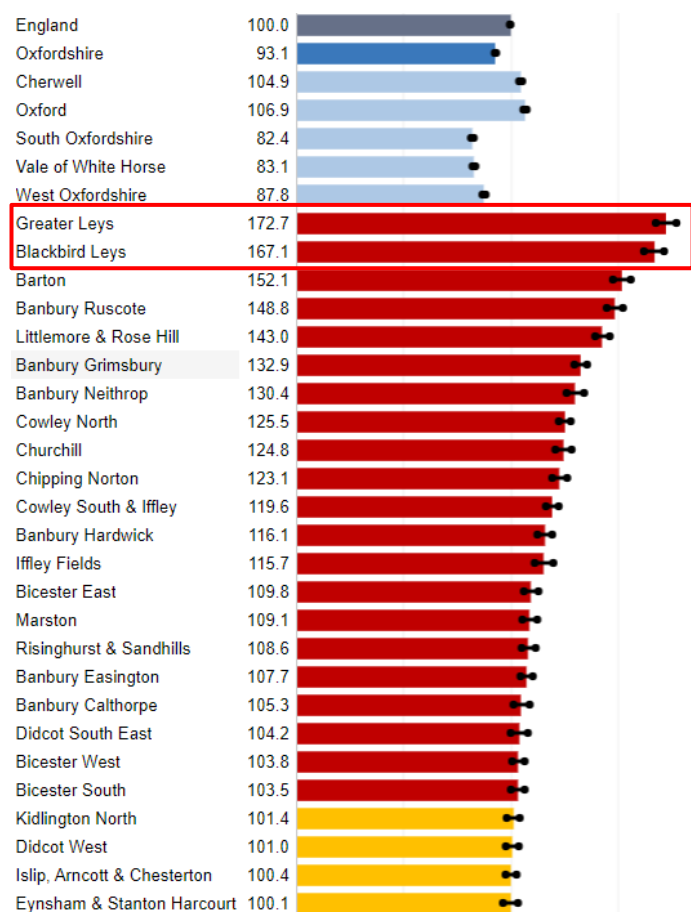


Source: [Oxfordshire Local Area Inequalities Dashboard](#)

5.5 Emergency hospital admissions for all causes

For the 4 years combined 2016/17 to 2020/21, the standardised admission ratio (SAR) for all causes for Blackbird Leys was 172.7 and for Greater Leys was 167.1. These were the two highest rates of emergency hospital admissions for all causes compared to all 86 MSOAs in Oxfordshire and were well above the Oxford, Oxfordshire and England averages.

Figure 20 Emergency hospital admissions for all causes (SAR) 2016/17-2020/21

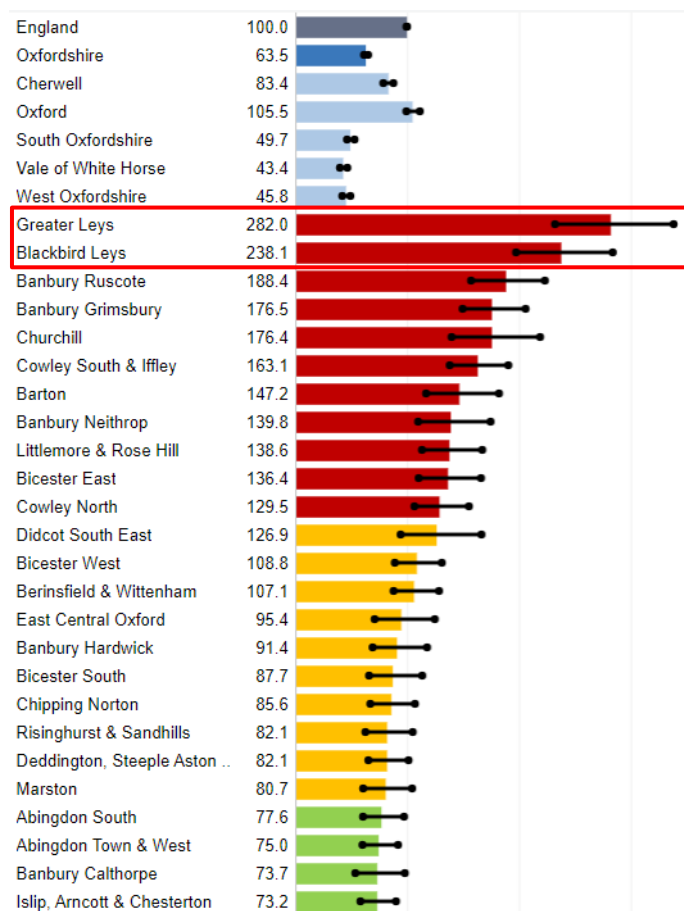


Source: [Oxfordshire Local Area Inequalities Dashboard](#)

5.6 Emergency hospital admissions for COPD

For the 4 years combined 2016/17 to 2020/21, the standardised admission ratio (SAR) for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) for Blackbird Leys MSOA (238.1) and for Greater Leys MSOA (282.0) were well above the Oxford City, Oxfordshire and England averages.

Figure 21 Emergency hospital admissions for COPD (SAR) 2016/17-2020/21



Source: [Oxfordshire Local Area Inequalities Dashboard](#)

5.7 Life expectancy

Life expectancy data for Blackbird Leys MSOA shows the average life expectancy (2016-2020) was:

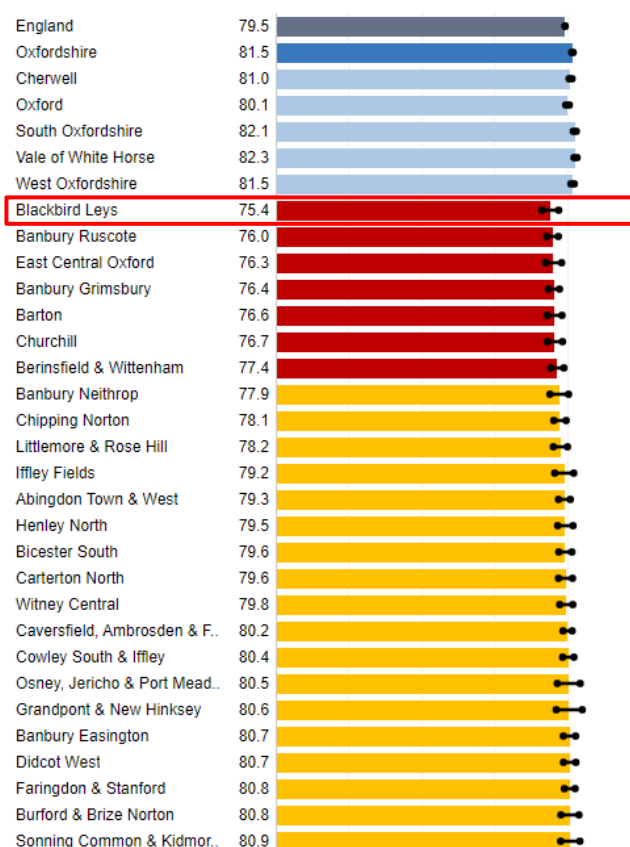
- 75.4 years for males. This value is lower (worse) than both the average life expectancies across Oxfordshire (81.5) and England (79.5). Blackbird Leys MSOA has the lowest life expectancy for males compared to all of the 86 MSOAs in Oxfordshire.
- 82.3 years for females. This value is lower (worse) than the average life expectancy across Oxfordshire (84.8) but similar to England (83.2).

Life expectancy data for Greater Leys MSOA shows the average life expectancy (2016-2020) was:

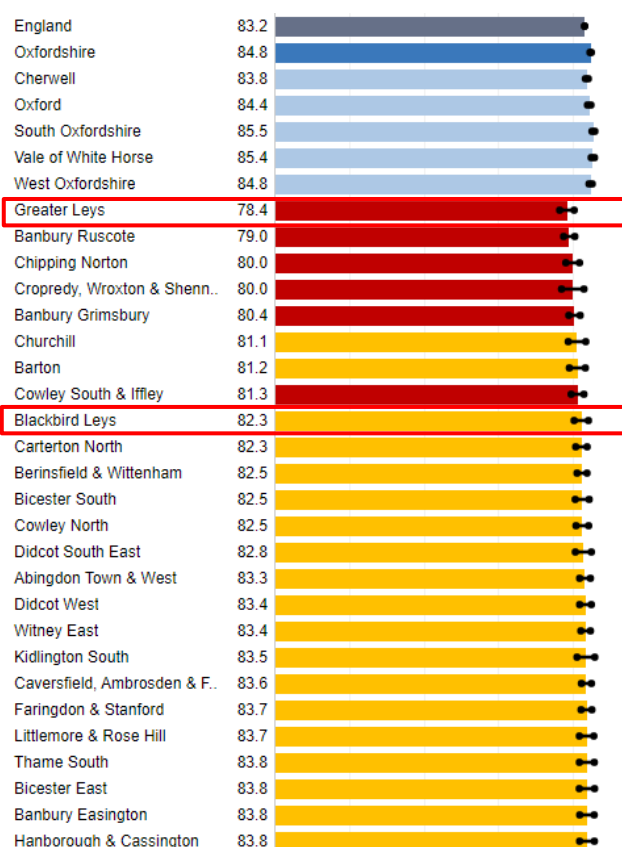
- There is currently no value for life expectancy at birth for males in Greater Leys MSOA due to a small sample size.
- 78.4 for females. This value is lower than both the average life expectancies across Oxfordshire (84.8) and England (83.2). Greater Leys MSOA has the lowest life expectancy for females compared to all of the 86 MSOAs in Oxfordshire.

Figure 22 Life expectancy at birth by sex (2016-2020)

Males



Females

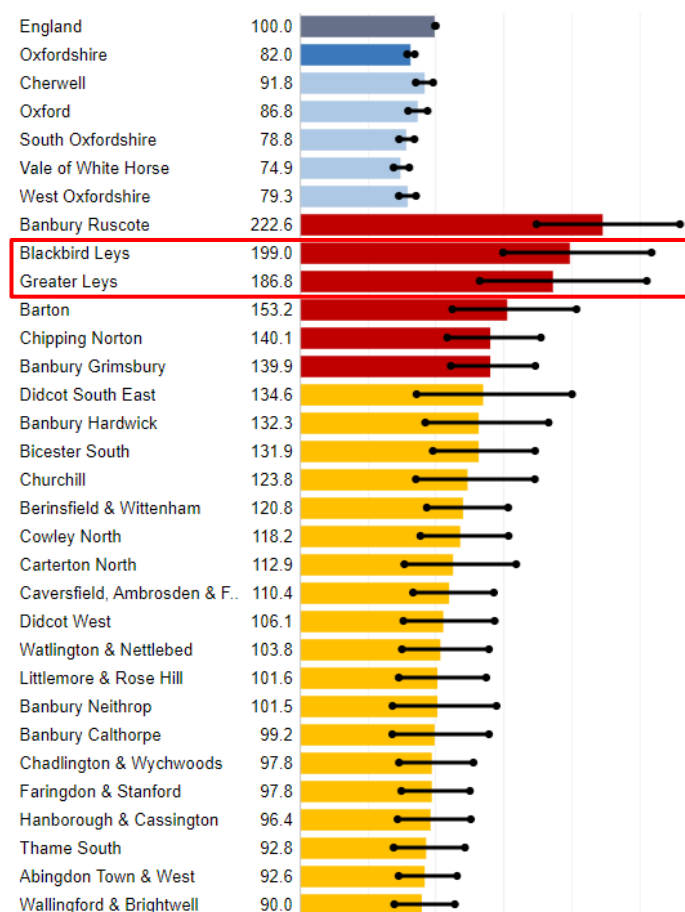


Source: [Oxfordshire Local Area Inequalities Dashboard](#)

5.8 Deaths from respiratory diseases

For the four years combined 2016-2020, the standardised mortality ratio (SMR) for deaths from all respiratory diseases (all ages) for Blackbird Leys MSOA was 199.0 and for Greater Leys MSOA was 186.8, both rates were well above the Oxford (86.8) Oxfordshire (82.0) and England averages (100.0).

Figure 23 Deaths from respiratory diseases (SMR) 2016-2020

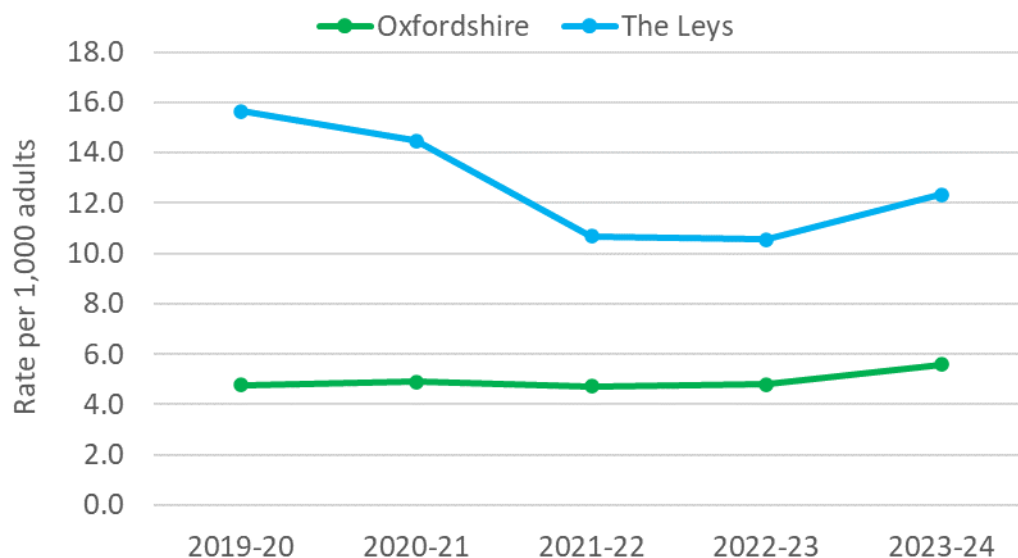


Source: [Oxfordshire Local Area Inequalities Dashboard](#)

5.9 Adults in drugs and alcohol treatment

During the financial year 2023-24, the rate of adults aged 18 years and over, receiving structured drug and alcohol treatment was 12.3 per 1,000 population for the Leys, over double the Oxfordshire rate of 5.6 per 1,000.

Figure 24 Rate per 1,000 of adults in structured treatment for drugs and alcohol



Source: Local drugs and alcohol services commissioned by Oxfordshire County Council; rate calculated using ONS mid-year population estimates

5.10 GP Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) data

The following table shows measures published as part of the GP Practice Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) for 2023-24 (NHS Digital) for the GP practice in the Leys – The Leys Health Centre. Patients living in the Leys area may register with any GP practice in the surrounding areas and it is not possible to report prevalence of health conditions for all patients in the Leys area using this data source.

The prevalence of obesity, diabetes and depression among patients registered at the Leys Health Centre were well above that of the average for Oxfordshire.

Shaded cells show rates above the average for NHS Oxfordshire.

Table 1 Prevalence of health conditions for The Leys Health Centre and Oxfordshire (2023-24)

	The Leys Health Centre	NHS Oxfordshire (10Q)	Difference
Cardiovascular group			
Atrial fibrillation, prevalence (%)	1.33	2.20	-0.88
Coronary heart disease, prevalence (%)	2.17	2.32	-0.16
Hypertension, prevalence (%)	12.75	13.29	-0.53
Heart failure, prevalence (%)	0.89	0.95	-0.06
Peripheral arterial disease, prevalence (%)	0.75	0.45	0.31
Stroke and transient ischaemic attack, prevalence (%)	1.69	1.78	-0.09
Respiratory group			
Asthma, prevalence (%)	6.17	6.12	0.04
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, prevalence (%)	2.33	1.31	1.02
Lifestyle group			
Obese, prevalence (%)	17.53	10.73	6.79
High dependency and other long term conditions group			
Cancer, prevalence (%)	2.87	4.15	-1.28
Chronic kidney disease, prevalence (%)	2.63	3.38	-0.75
Diabetes Mellitus, prevalence (%)	7.84	5.61	2.23
Non-diabetic hyperglycaemia, prevalence (%)	4.84	4.64	0.19
Palliative care, prevalence (%)	0.30	0.29	0.01
Mental health and neurology group			
Dementia, prevalence (%)	0.81	0.75	0.07
Epilepsy, prevalence (%)	0.92	0.73	0.19
Learning disability, prevalence (%)	0.77	0.43	0.34
Mental health, prevalence (%)	0.93	0.86	0.07
Depression (new diagnosis), incidence (%)	2.53	1.64	0.89
Musculoskeletal group			
Osteoporosis, prevalence (%)	2.03	1.96	0.07
Rheumatoid arthritis, prevalence (%)	0.60	0.68	-0.08

Source: [NHS Digital QOF 2023-24](#) data accessed 4Oct24

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6 Employment

6.1 Economic activity

Data on economic activity is available from 2021 Census and counts people aged 16 years and over as economically active if, between 15 March and 21 March 2021, they were:

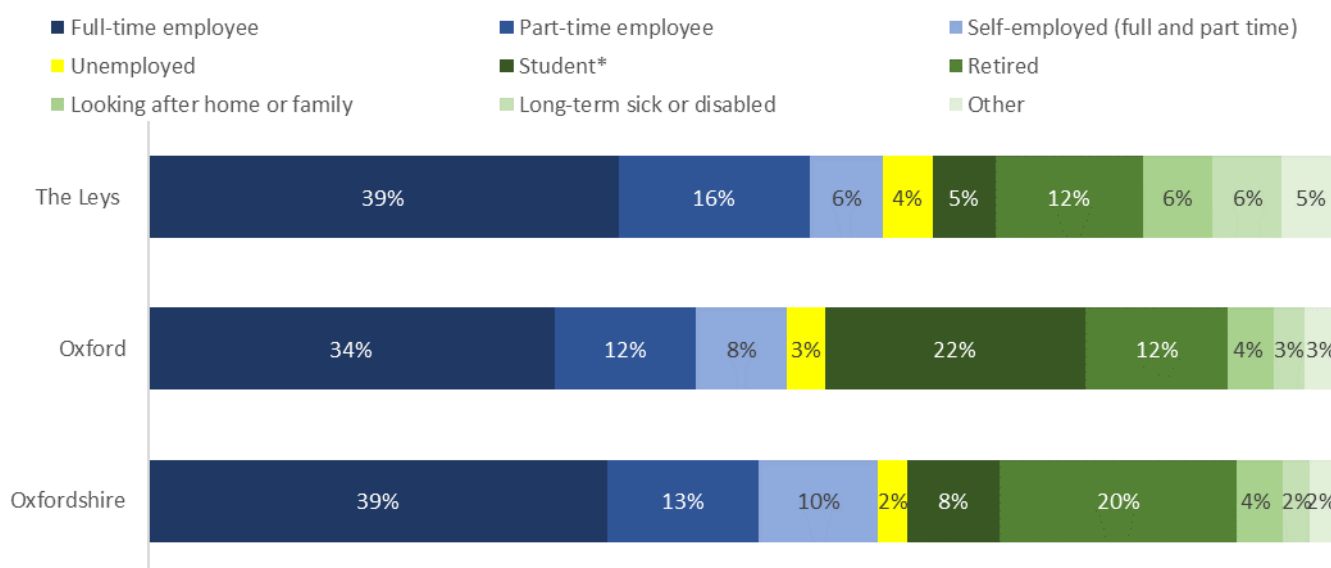
- In employment (an employee or self-employed),
- Unemployed, but looking for work and could start within two weeks
- Unemployed, but waiting to start a job that had been offered and accepted

As of March 2021, the percentage of people who were economically active (includes residents in employment and unemployed residents) in the Leys was 65.8%, this was above the rate for Oxford (56.8%) and Oxfordshire (63.7%). This may be explained by lower percentage of students of students in the Leys compared to Oxford and a lower percentage of residents retired compared to Oxfordshire and therefore does not necessarily mean that employment rates are higher in the Leys.

Further breakdown of economic activity shows that, compared with Oxford and Oxfordshire averages, the Leys had a:

- Similar proportion of full-time employees to Oxfordshire but a higher proportion compared to Oxford.
- Higher proportion of those working part-time (16.0% in the Leys vs 11.9% in Oxford and 12.6% in Oxfordshire).
- A higher proportion unemployed (4.1% in the Leys vs 3.2% in Oxford and 2.4% in Oxfordshire).
- A lower proportion of students (5.3% in the Leys vs 21.8% in Oxford and 7.7% in Oxfordshire).
- A higher proportion looking after their home or family (5.9% in the Leys vs 3.8% in Oxford and 3.8% in Oxfordshire).
- A higher proportion who were long term sick or disabled (5.8% in the Leys vs 2.6% in Oxford and 2.3% in Oxfordshire).

Figure 25 Economic activity (Census 2021)



Source: ONS Census table TS066 from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

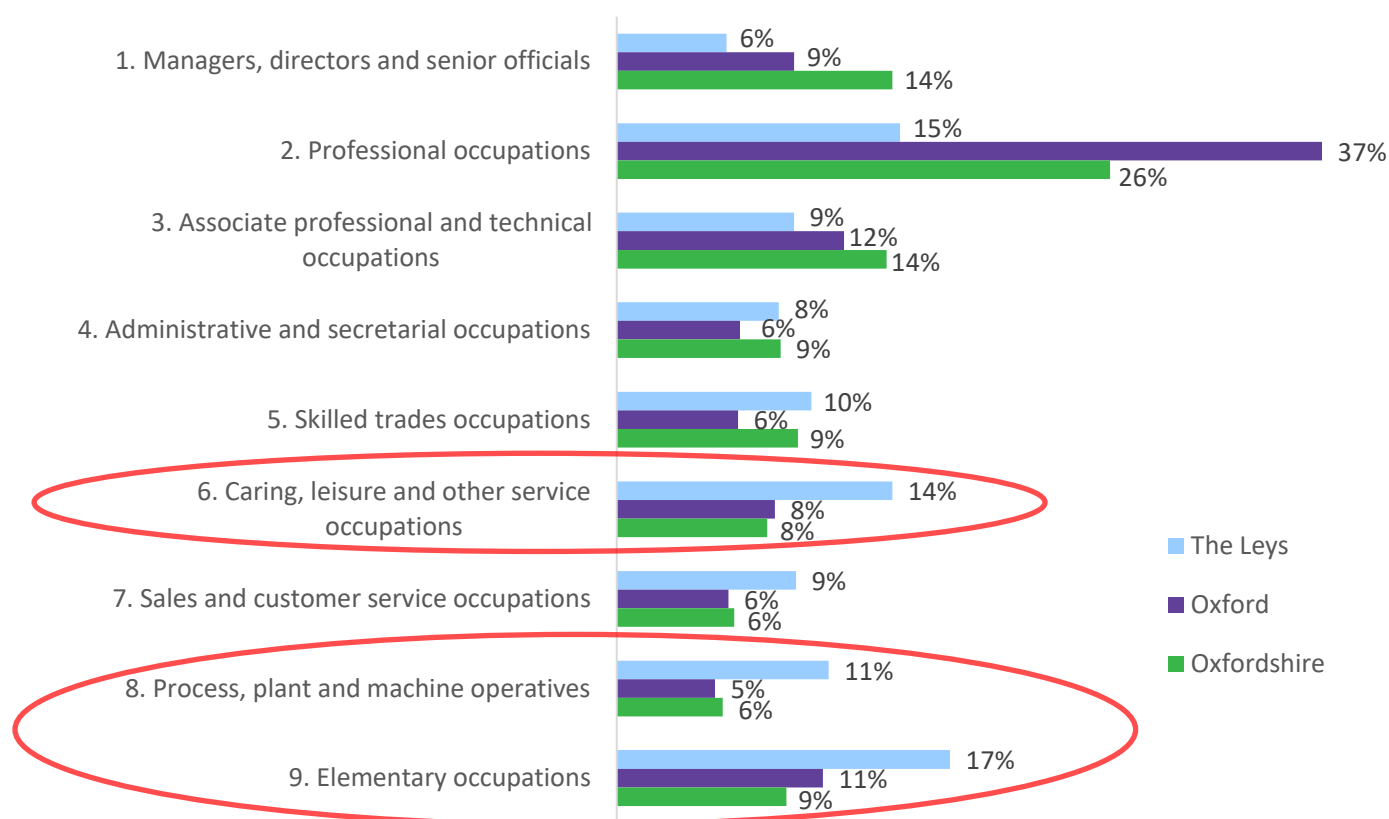
*student includes economically inactive full time students only, some full time students are included in the economically active populations.

6.2 Occupation

The occupation indicator classifies what people aged 16 years and over, do as their main job. This includes job title or details of activities they do in their job and any supervisory or management responsibilities.

According to the 2021 Census, 42.6% of people in employment in the Leys were in the (generally lower paid) caring, leisure, process, and elementary occupations. This was well above the averages for Oxford (24.0%) and Oxfordshire (22.1%).

Figure 26 Proportion of people aged 16+ in employment by occupation (Census 2021)



Source: ONS Census 2021 Table TS063 from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

The three largest employment (industry) sectors⁴ for the Leys were:

- Health and social work (20.5%)
- Retail (15.6%)
- Education (13.2%)

⁴ ONS Census 2021 table TS060 - industry
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6.3 Unemployment

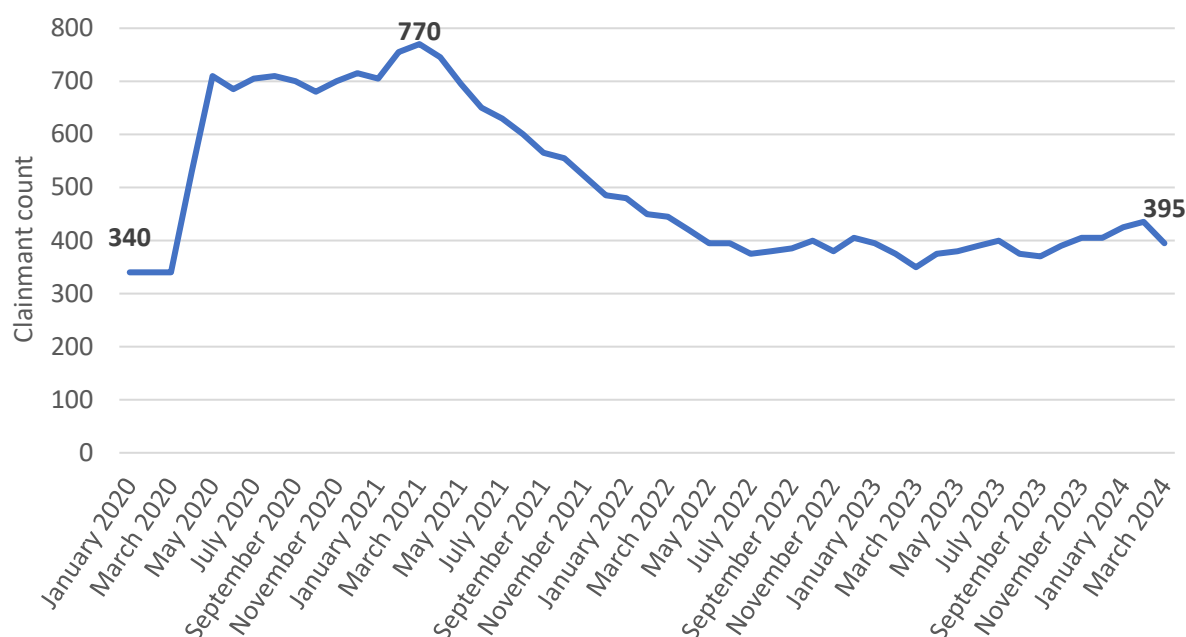
The claimant count is a measure of the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed, based on administrative data from the benefits system.

The below chart is a trend chart showing the number of people claiming benefits mainly for unemployment (claimant count) for the Leys between January 2020 and March 2024.

The claimant count in the Leys increased significantly at the start of the pandemic in April 2020 and has slowly been decreasing since April 2021. However, numbers remain slightly above pre-pandemic levels.

Claimant count as a proportion of the residents aged 16-64 for the Leys was 4.4% as of March 2024, well above the average for Oxford (2.4%) and Oxfordshire (2.2%).

Figure 27 Claimant count trend for the Leys from January 2020 to March 2024



Source: DWP Claimant count from www.nomisweb.co.uk; rate uses ONS mid-2022 population estimates aged 16-64

7 Poverty and deprivation

7.1 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The Index of Multiple Deprivation is an official measure of relative deprivation of small areas within England. The measure is created by combining and weighting data from 7 different domains: income, employment, health deprivation and disability, education and skills training, crime, barriers to housing and services and living environment. The overall IMD score is used to rank small areas based on level of deprivation.

The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and Income deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPI) are subsets of the Income Deprivation Domain. The IDACI measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families. The IDAOPI measures the proportion of all those aged 60 or over who experience income deprivation.

The table below shows the LSOAs within the Leys ranked against areas across England.

The LSOA Oxford 018B falls within the 10% most deprived areas in England and five of the other LSOAs within the Leys area fall within the 20% most deprived areas in England. Five LSOAs are also ranked within the 10% most deprived for the *Education, Skills and Training* IMD Domain.

Table 2 IMD for the LSOAs in the Leys area (1 is the most deprived, 10 is the least deprived)

LSOA Area Name	Overall IMD	IMD Domains							IDACI and IDAOPI	
	IMD	Income	Employment	Education, Skills and Training	Health Deprivation and Disability	Crime	Barriers to Housing and Services	Living Environment Decile	Income Deprivation Affecting Children	Income Deprivation Affecting Older People
Oxford 017A	2	3	3	1	3	3	1	7	3	6
Oxford 017B	2	2	2	1	2	4	4	7	2	3
Oxford 017C	3	3	4	2	3	3	6	3	4	3
Oxford 017D	2	3	3	2	3	1	3	4	3	2
Oxford 018A	2	2	3	1	3	2	4	7	1	3
Oxford 018B	1	2	2	1	2	2	4	8	2	2
Oxford 018C	2	2	2	1	2	5	2	9	2	2
Oxford 018D	7	6	7	5	7	7	5	9	5	4

Source MHCLG English Indices of Deprivation 2019, based on data from 2011 to 2016

For maps of each LSOA area, please see pages 9 and 10 of the [Introduction](#).

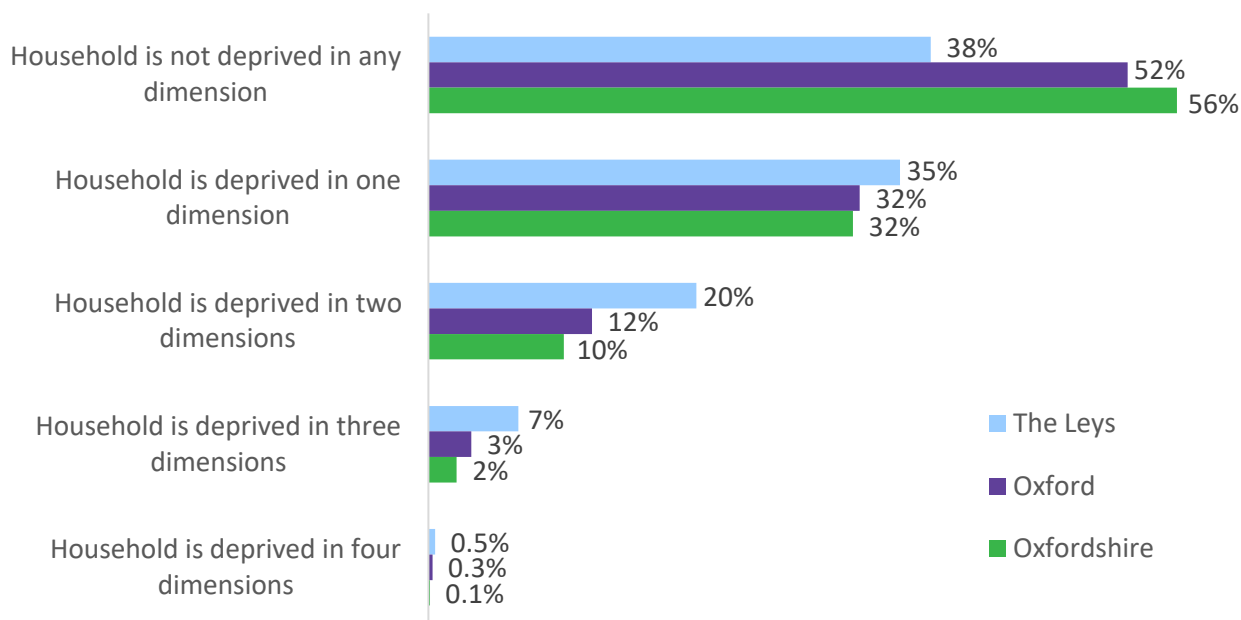
7.2 Household deprivation

The dimensions of deprivation used to classify households in the Census are indicators based on four selected household characteristics.

- **Education:** A household is classified as deprived in the education dimension if no one has at least level 2 education and no one aged 16 to 18 years is a full-time student.
- **Employment:** A household is classified as deprived in the employment dimension if any member, not a full-time student, is either unemployed or economically inactive due to long-term sickness or disability.
- **Health:** A household is classified as deprived in the health dimension if any person in the household has general health that is bad or very bad or is identified as disabled.
- **Housing:** A household is classified as deprived in the housing dimension if the household's accommodation is either overcrowded, in a shared dwelling, or has no central heating.

The Leys has a much higher proportion of households classified as deprived in one or more dimensions (62.4%) than the Oxford district (47.9%) and Oxfordshire averages (44.0%) (or a lower proportion classified as not deprived).

Figure 28 Proportion of households by dimensions of deprivation

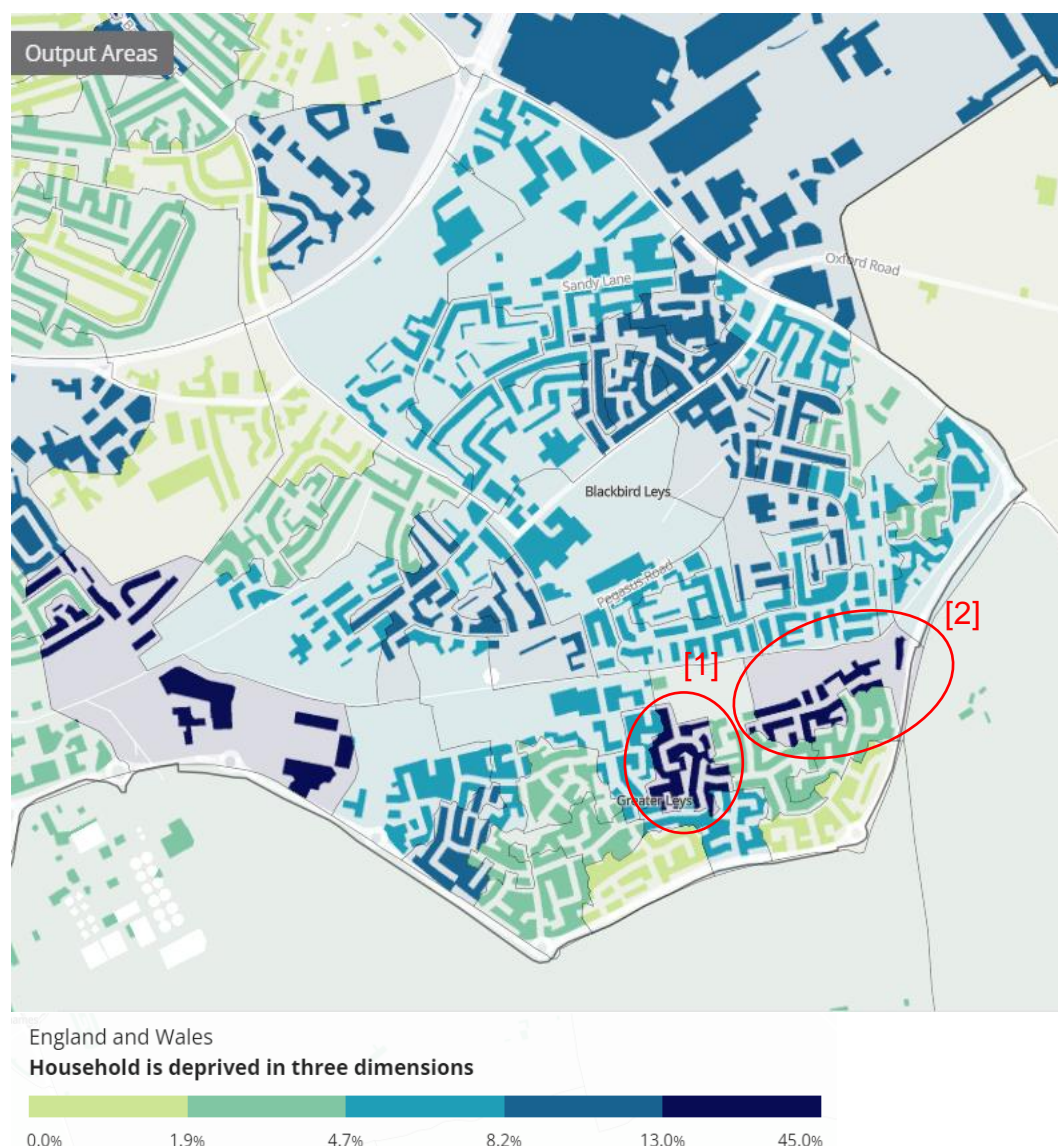


Source: ONS Census 2021 Table TS011 from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

However, there is variation in household deprivation across the Leys, which means that the averages for the area may hide wide differences.

The area south west of Gillians Park, between Farm Close and Sage Walk [1] and the areas just south of Gillians Park and between Grenoble road and Blacksmiths Meadow [2] are more likely to have households in relative deprivation.

Figure 29 Map showing the percentage of housing deprived in three dimensions in the Leys area



Source: [Household deprivation - Census Maps, ONS](#)

7.3 Children in poverty

Relative low-income is defined as a family in low income Before Housing Costs (BHC) in the reference year. A family must have claimed Child Benefit and at least one other household benefit (Universal Credit, tax credits, or Housing Benefit) at any point in the year to be classed as low income in these statistics. Gross income measure is Before Housing Costs (BHC) and includes contributions from earnings, state support and pensions.

As of 2022/23, there were 633 children aged 0-15 years living in poverty (relative low-income families) in the Leys, a rate of 21.5% per population aged 0-15 years. This was well above the average for Oxford (14.4%) and Oxfordshire (10.5%).

Table 3 Children in poverty by age band and rate of child poverty (2022/23)

Age band of child	The Leys	Oxford	Oxfordshire
0-4	177	853	3,724
5-10	223	1,336	5,071
11-15	233	1,440	5,172
Total 0-15	633	3,629	13,967
Rate of child poverty per population 0-15	21.5%	14.4%	10.5%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore, Children in relative low income families, rate uses ONS mid-2022 population estimates see also [Children in low income families: local area statistics, financial year ending 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-in-low-income-families-local-area-statistics-financial-year-ending-2021)

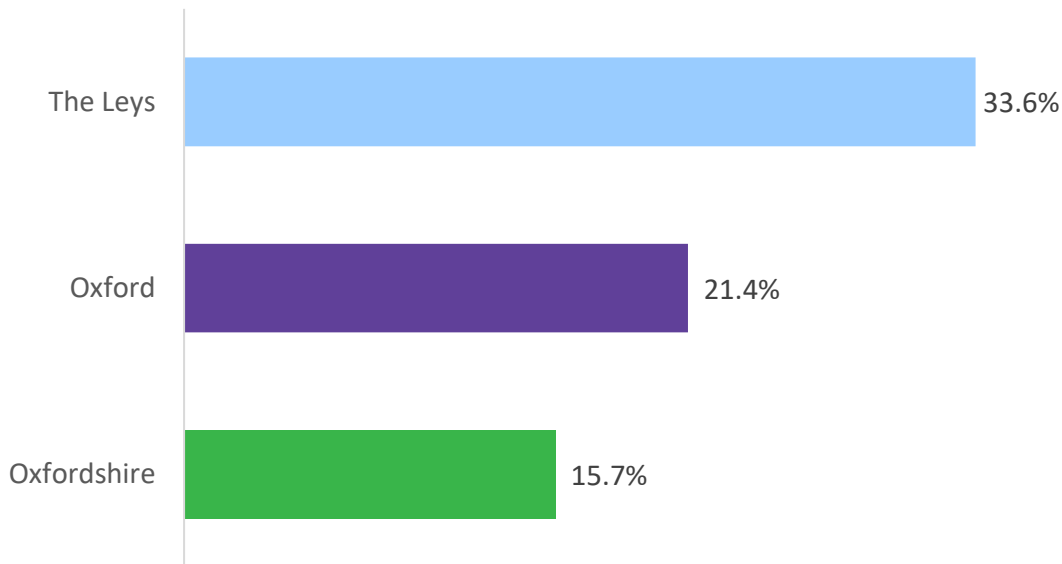
7.4 Free school meals

Pupils are eligible for Free School Meals if the household receives any of the below:

- *Income Support*
- *income-based Jobseeker's Allowance*
- *Income-related Employment and Support Allowance*
- *Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
- *The guaranteed element of Pension Credit*
- *Child Tax Credit (provided not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)*
- *Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit*
- *Universal Credit - household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits)*

As of January 2024, 33.6% (count=837) of primary and secondary pupils living in the Leys were eligible for Free School Meals. This was above the average for Oxford (21.4%) and Oxfordshire (15.7%).

Figure 30 Percentage of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (January 2024)



Source: Oxfordshire County Council (School Census January 2024)

7.5 Fuel poverty

Fuel poverty in England is measured using the Low-Income Low Energy Efficiency (LILEE) indicator. Under this indicator, a household is considered to be fuel poor if:

- they are living in a property with a fuel poverty energy efficiency rating of band D or below*

and

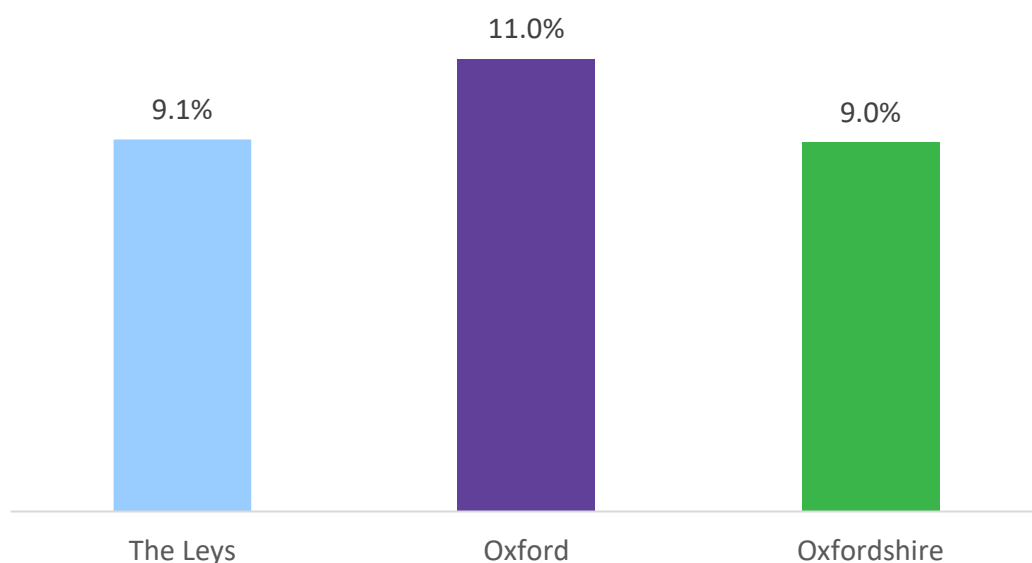
- when they spend the required amount to heat their home, they are left with a residual income below the official poverty line.*

The data in this graph is provided from the Annual Fuel Poverty Statistics at a subnational level for LSOAs in England. The Leys includes 8 LSOAs within the Blackbird Leys MSOA and Greater Leys MSOA boundaries: Oxford 017A, 017B, 017C, 017D, 018A, 018B, 018C and 018D and is the average of the proportion of households fuel poor in these areas.

The chart below shows that in 2022, the Leys had a lower proportion of households in fuel poverty than the average for Oxford but similar to that of the Oxfordshire average.

This lower percentage of fuel poor households in the Leys area may be explained by the lower percentage of dwellings with an energy efficiency rating of band D or below in the Leys (38.1%) compared to both Oxford and Oxfordshire (48.6% and 45.6% respectively).⁵ This means that households will not meet the LILEE indicator criteria even if a household is left with a residual income below the official poverty line, when they spend the required amount to heat their home.

Figure 31 Proportion of households fuel poor in the Leys area (LSOAs), Oxford district and Oxfordshire



Source: Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, 2022

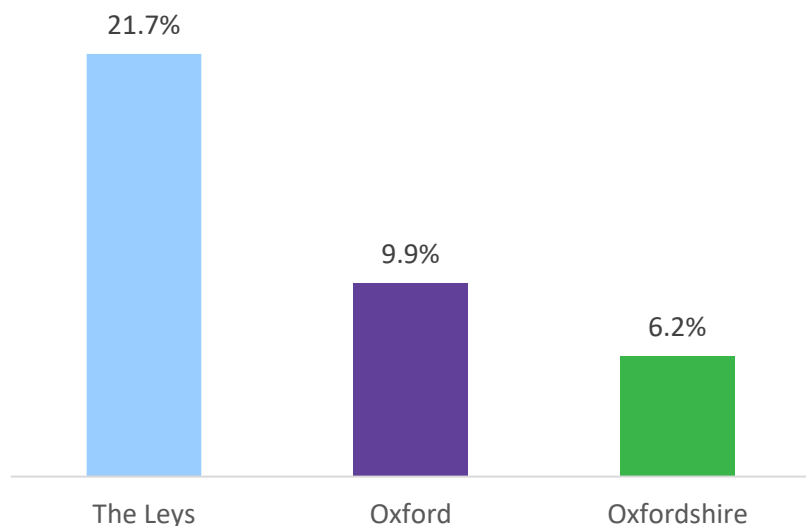
⁵ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) - Energy efficiency of housing from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

7.6 Pension credit

Pension credit can be claimed by those aged 65 and over who reached state pension age before 5th April 2016 and have made some additional provision for their retirement, for example through private pension or savings.

As of August 2023, 21.7% (count=319) of older residents were claiming pension credit in the Leys, over double the average for Oxford (9.9%) and Oxfordshire (6.2%).

Figure 32 Percentage of population aged 65+ claiming pension credit (August 2023)



Source: Pension Credit from StatXplore; rate used ONS mis-2022 population estimates (aged 65+)

8 Crime and community safety

In 2022 the overall rate of crime in Blackbird Leys MSOA was 145.0 crimes per 1,000 residents, ranking 7th out of all the 86 MSOAs in Oxfordshire.

The overall rate of crime in Greater Leys MSOA was 98.0 crimes per 1,000 residents, ranking 16th out of all the 86 MSOAs.

Both areas had rates which well above the average rate of crime for Oxfordshire of 74.5 and when excluding areas covering shopping areas, (eg Bicester South which includes Bicester Village and Oxford Central) Blackbird Leys is amongst the highest areas for crime in the county.

The crime type with the highest rate in both Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys was *Violence and sexual offences* (54.9 and 46.7 crimes per 1,000 respectively).

Figure 33 Overall rate of crime per 1,000 population for MSOAs in Oxfordshire (2022)

Overall rate of crime					Violence and sexual offences				
Area	Offences	Rate	Change		Area	Offences	Rate	Change	
Bicester South	1,854	214.7	+33.9%		Banbury Grimsbury	946	74.1	+8.5%	
Oxford Central	3,665	192.7	+12.5%		Banbury Ruscote	592	66.9	+15.8%	
Banbury Grimsbury	2,411	188.8	+7.9%		Oxford Central	1,190	62.6	+24.8%	
East Central Oxford	1,950	171.0	+5.9%		Banbury Neithrop	353	58.6	+0.1%	
Banbury Neithrop	944	156.6	-1.4%		Abingdon Town & ..	631	57.0	+22.8%	
Abingdon Town & ..	1,700	153.6	+7.7%		Blackbird Leys	359	54.9	+0.1%	
Blackbird Leys	949	145.0	-7.0%		East Central Oxford	613	53.7	+14.9%	
Witney Central	1,570	145.0	+41.1%		Littlemore & Rose H..	614	53.4	+13.1%	
Banbury Ruscote	1,164	131.6	+15.9%		Bicester South	413	47.8	+15.3%	
Cowley South & Iffley	1,370	130.7	+8.6%		Greater Leys	324	46.7	-14.5%	
Littlemore & Rose H..	1,453	126.3	+7.3%		Didcot South East	246	44.1	-18.2%	
Osney, Jericho & P..	765	115.9	+0.7%		Witney Central	467	43.1	+17.7%	
Churchill	792	103.1	-13.0%		Cowley South & Iffley	428	40.8	+28.0%	
Barton	856	101.3	-4.1%		Barton	341	40.4	-3.4%	
Didcot West	985	98.7	+0.7%		Banbury Easington	363	39.5	-10.0%	
Greater Leys	680	98.0	-15.0%		Churchill	300	39.1	-7.1%	

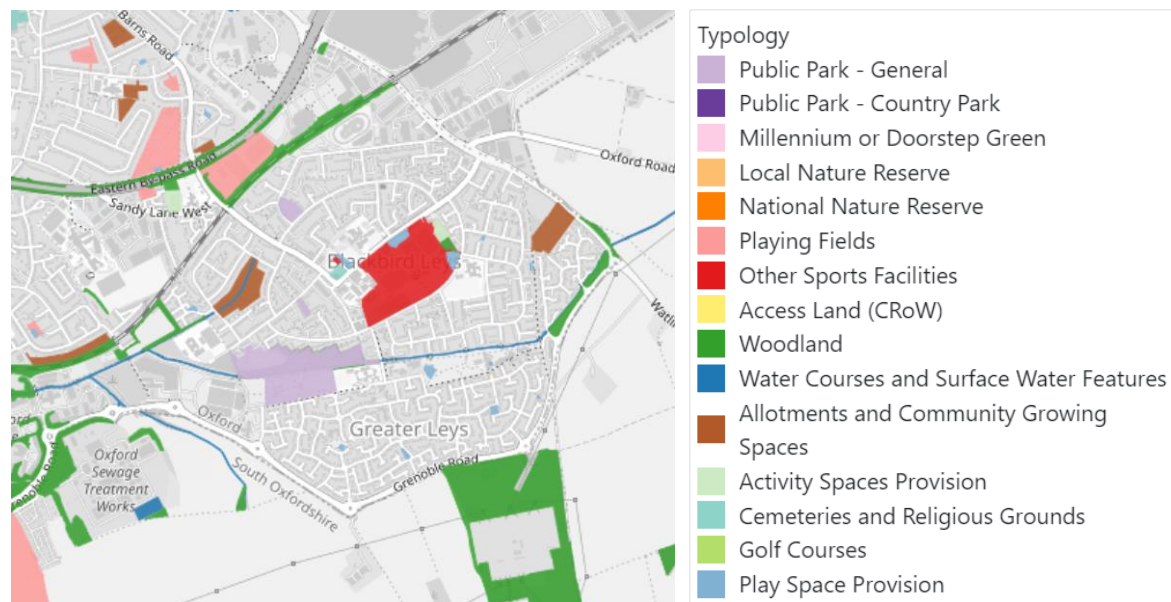
Source: Police UK data from Oxfordshire Crime dashboard [Community safety | Oxfordshire Insight](#)

9 Living environment

9.1 Access to green space

Mapping by Natural England shows that the Leys has several public parks, play space provisions, allotments and a large sport facility.

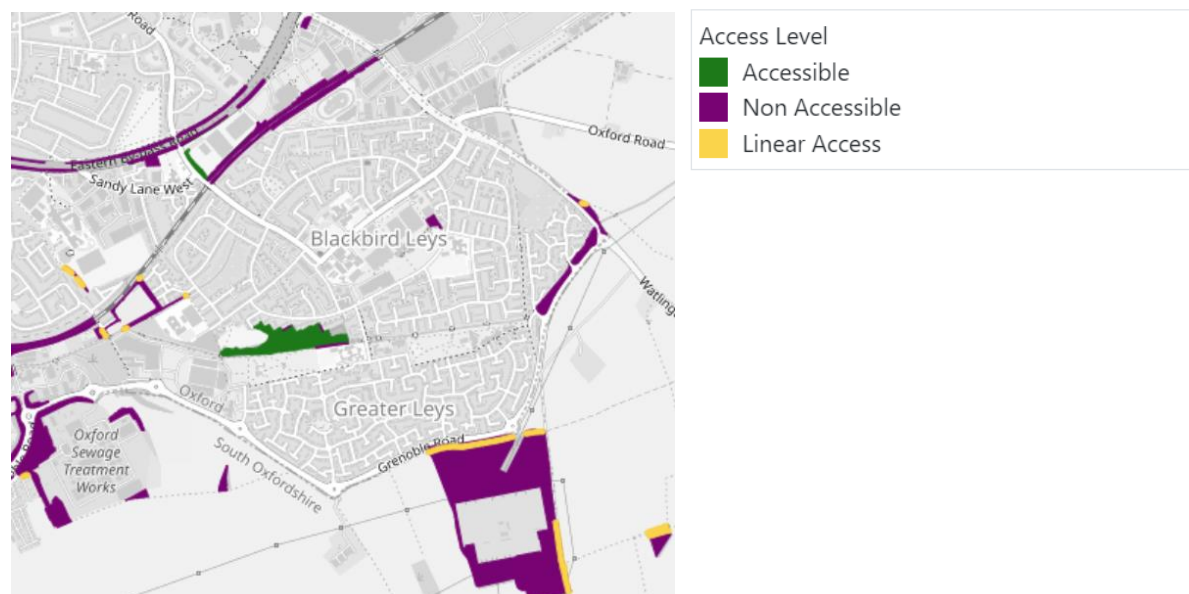
Figure 34 Natural England mapping of Green and Blue Infrastructure in the Leys area



Source: [Green Infrastructure Map \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](https://naturalengland.org.uk/green-infrastructure-map)

The area is also surrounded by small areas of woodland however these appear to be inaccessible according to Natural England.

Figure 35 Natural England mapping of woodland access in the Leys area



Source: [Green Infrastructure Map \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](https://naturalengland.org.uk/green-infrastructure-map)

9.2 Greenspace-deprived neighbourhoods

Introduction

This section provides information from a March 2024 report on greenspace-deprived neighbourhoods⁶ funded by University of Oxford's Leverhulme Centre for Nature Recovery and designed in partnership with the Oxfordshire Local Nature Partnership, Oxfordshire County Council and Wild Oxfordshire. The study had the aim of identifying:

Oxfordshire neighbourhoods that are both socio-economically deprived and have poor provision of local, accessible greenspace, and should thus potentially be prioritised in greenspace funding, strategy and policy.

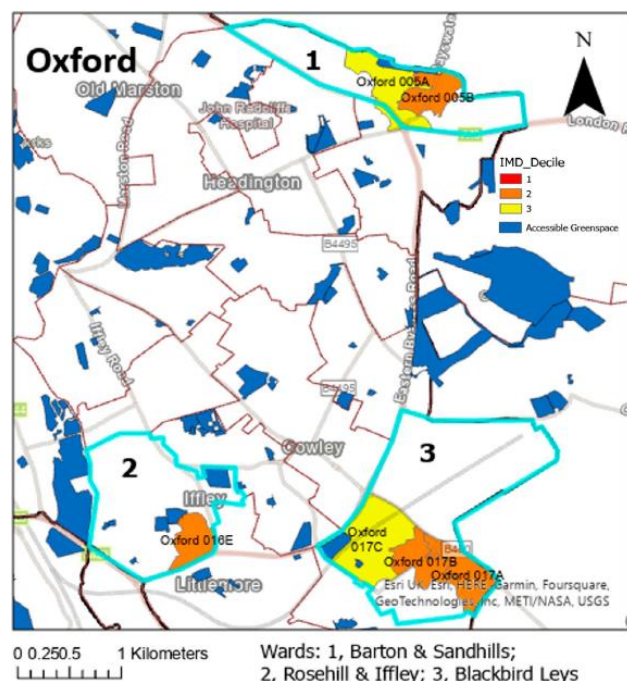
Natural England defines greenspace as “an area of vegetation that is set within a landscape or townscape. Greenspace can include blue space (i.e. lakes, rivers and wetlands) and may include built environment features.”

Greenspaces are described as being accessible if they are freely open to the public without payment and with what amounts to no time restrictions; e.g. if a park is locked overnight it would still be described as accessible, whereas a private estate that is open to the public 2-3 days a year would not be considered accessible.

Findings

The studied identified four neighbourhoods (LSOAs) in the Leys area (three in Blackbird Leys ward and one in Northfield Brook ward) as high priority neighbourhoods meaning that they are both relatively socio-economically deprived and have relatively poor provision of local, accessible greenspace.

Figure 36 Map showing neighbourhoods (LSOAs) in Oxford with high population density and poor provision of local greenspace



Contains data supplied by Natural England, Ordnance Survey, Forestry Commission, Historic England © Natural England

Source: [Oxfordshire's greenspace-deprived neighbourhoods \(March 2024\)](#)

⁶ Crockatt et al [Oxfordshire's greenspace-deprived neighbourhoods \(March 2024\)](#)

9.3 Blackbird Leys Active Neighbourhood Scan

Introduction

This section provides a summary of the December 2023 Active Neighbourhood Scan report conducted in Blackbird Leys by Active Oxfordshire. This was undertaken as part of their Oxfordshire on the Move movement designed to bring together people, organisations and communities to help transform lives through physical activity.

Active Neighbourhood Scans are used to understand how easy it is for residents to walk, cycle and wheel the pavements and roads, as well as to play and engage in physical activity in parks and green spaces within their community. They seek to identify opportunities to make small, public space improvements that enable residents to be active more easily where they live.

In September 2023, 29 residents and people from local community groups and organisations undertook a scanning event of Blackbird Leys. Participants walked, cycled or wheeled a given route and answered questions about how easy the route was to walk, cycle, wheel or play.

Findings

Overall, it was found that in Blackbird Leys there is good provision in terms of playgrounds, outdoor leisure facilities, parks and green space as these categories were scored highly by participants. Cycling provision was as scored much lower, indicating that it is not as well maintained and is less accessible.

The scan found a number of strengths and assets allowing residents to be active in Blackbird Leys, these included: Gillian Park, outdoor gyms in both Blackbird Leys Park and Gillians Park, Fry's Hill cycle paths, Spindleberry Nature Reserve and The Barn and The Clockhouse.

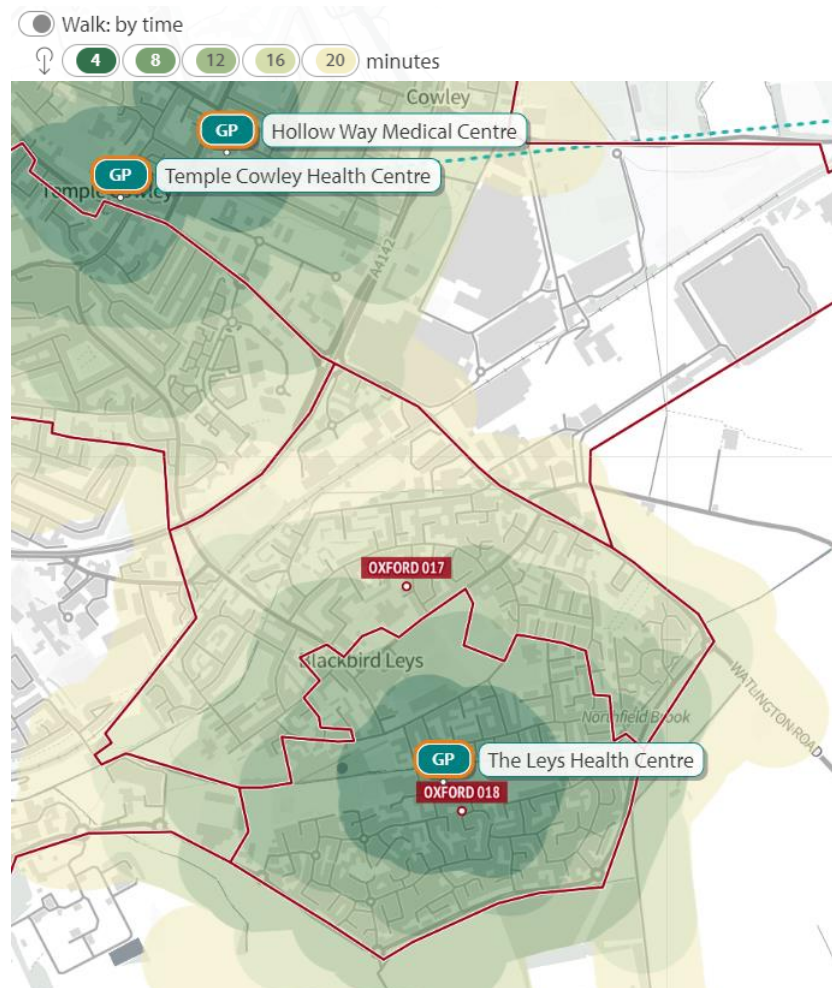
However, there were also barriers identified to being active in the area including litter and fly tipping, lack of lighting, poorly maintained paths, lack of safe crossings and uneven paths and pavements.

Source: [Blackbird Leys Active Neighbourhood Scan \(December 2023\)](#)

9.4 Proximity to health services

There is one GP practice located within the Leys area (MSOAs Oxford 017 and Oxford 018) and several located in the surrounding areas. The whole of the Leys area is within an estimated 20-minute walking time to the nearest GP practice.

Figure 37 Map showing estimated walk times to GP practices serving the Leys area



Source: [SHAPE tool](#)

There are three pharmacies located within the Leys area and the whole area is within an estimated 20-minute walking time to the nearest pharmacy site.

Figure 38 Map showing estimated walk times to pharmacies serving the Leys area



Source: [SHAPE tool](#)