Policy Unit June 2013

2011 Census Outputs

Second Release, Phase 3: Detailed characteristics on housing

Summary

• Private rented homes are the most crowded tenure type in Barnet with 27% of all homes having more than 1.5 people per bedroom (high when compared to 7.2% of owner occupied homes). 15% of homes rented from the council have less than 0.5 people per bedroom. Both of these statistics are likely to have changed since the census because of welfare reform.

- A disproportionately high number of people living in socially rented housing are from BAME ethnicities and in particular Black ethnicities; more than 20% of people identifying themselves as black live in socially rented housing, while only 4% of black people are owner-occupiers.
- 26% of household reference people (HRP refer to Appendix 1 for a definition) living in socially rented housing are economically active due to a long-term illness or disability, which is significantly higher than any other type of tenure.
- Those people living in homes rented from the council are the least likely to own a car (55% of households own at least one car) while owner-occupiers have the highest proportion of car ownership (90%).

Introduction

The information in this release would be particularly useful in trying to understand how new housing developments are likely to change Barnet's population and, therefore, the effect on demand for council services. Additionally, while the data is a snapshot of 2011, these data might better help the council better understand the effect of welfare reform.

The third release of the 2011 census data continues with detailed characteristics on housing and households. Detailed characteristics are multivariate statistics that combine two or more data sets e.g. tenure by household composition or number of bedrooms by accommodation type by age of dependent children. There are 28 multivariate tables included in this release which are available from the ONS-run nomis website¹.

Tenure characteristics

- There were 135,886 households in Barnet at the time of the 2011 census. 59% of homes in Barnet are owner-occupied, 14% socially rented and 27% privately rented.
- Home ownership is highest among older families by some margin. For families in which all members are over 65, 88% are owner occupiers and 90% of those families own their homes outright. The rate of home ownership is slightly lower for single-person families over 65, though is still much higher than the entire population at 68% of all people.

¹ http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/detailed_characteristics

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• There are more than 9,000 cohabiting couples² in in Barnet of which 45% are home owner occupiers and 42% rent from private landlords. Of those that are home owners, 78% (3,165 households) have a mortgage.

- 10,000 households in Barnet are lone parents with dependent children. 38% of those families live in social rented houses and 37% in private rented properties. Lone parent families with non-dependent children 58% of households are owner occupiers.
- Private rented properties are the most crowded tenure type when looking at the number of persons per bedroom. 27% of properties have more than 1.5 persons per bedroom. Only 7.2% of owner-occupier properties are over the 1.5 person per bedroom threshold.
- 15% of homes rented from Barnet Council have fewer than 0.5 people per bedroom. This compares to 11% homes rented from a private landlord and 30% for owner-occupier homes.
- 69.7% of homes owner occupier homes in Barnet are owned by someone of white ethnicity; 5.7% higher than the proportion for the total population.
- 20.7% of all socially rented housing is rented to black ethnicities, markedly higher than the 7.7% of the population that describe themselves as black.

Tenure	Total	White	Mixed ethnic group	Asian	Black	Other
Owned outright	82,008	74.5%	2.5%	18.1%	2.2%	2.7%
Owned with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership	124,058	66.5%	4.6%	20.1%	5.0%	3.7%
All owned	206,066	69.7%	3.8%	19.3%	3.9%	3.3%
Rented from Barnet Homes	28,752	53.4%	7.7%	12.6%	19.8%	6.5%
Other Social Rented	18,508	49.9%	8.5%	13.5%	22.2%	5.9%
All Social Rented	47,260	52.0%	8.0%	12.9%	20.7%	6.3%
Private Rented	99,271	57.8%	5.6%	19.8%	9.4%	7.5%
All categories	352,597	64.0%	4.8%	18.6%	7.7%	4.9%

- 52% of HRPs living in socially rented homes are economically active. This compares to 73% for owner-occupiers and 81% of people renting from private landlords.
- Economic inactivity is highest among HRPs that own their homes outright (48%) or live in socially rented accommodation (48%), though when delving into what comprises those figures, a very different picture is painted. 92% of HRP owner-occupiers that own their home outright are retired while only 48% of socially rented HRPs are retired. The remainder of socially rented HRPs that are economically inactive are long term sick or disabled (26%) or looking after the home or family (12%).

Car and van use

- 22% of households in Barnet do not own a car which is slightly lower than the proportion in 2001 (26.7%).
- 78% of Barnet households own a car. Car ownership is highest among home owners of whom 90% own a car and 50% own two or more cars.

² Cohabiting couples does not include married couples

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• The lowest rate of car ownership is among households who rent from Barnet Homes. 55% of households own a car and only 13% own more than two. 63% of private rental households own a car.

Conclusion

There is a vast disjuncture between the livelihoods for people living in socially rented housing and those in other tenure types. Those in socially rented homes are more likely to be unemployed or economically inactive, have a long term illness or disability or be a single parent with dependent children. People living in social housing are also more likely to come from a BAME background (particularly a black ethnicity) making housing in Barnet an issue of equality.

Appendix 1 – Household reference person

From 2001/02 the concept of household reference person (HRP) was adopted on all government-sponsored surveys in place of head of household. The household reference person is the householder who:

- Owns the household accommodation; or
- is legally responsible for the rent of the accommodation; or
- has the household accommodation as an emolument or perquisite; or
- has the household accommodation by virtue of some relationship to the owner who is not a member of the household.

If there are joint householders the household reference person will be the one with the higher income. If the income is the same, then the eldest householder is taken.