The release of detailed outputs on the communal establishment population formed part of release 3.4 of 2011 Census data. This Snapshot provides analysis of the age structure, population distribution and ethnic group characteristics of the communal establishment population in London.

Due to the small size of the communal establishment population the analysis undertaken in this Snapshot is all at regional level.

Key Findings

- The communal establishment population of London in 2011 was 100,200, accounting for one per cent of all usual residents in the capital.

- Five per cent of Londoners aged 75 or over lived in a communal establishment in 2011 compared with under one per cent of the under 75s.

- The majority of the communal establishment were resident in either private care homes (31 per cent) and educational establishments (42 per cent).

- There were fewer residents in medical and care establishments in 2011 than in 2001 and more residents in non-medical establishments.

- The communal establishment population was less ethnically diverse than the household population; 55 per cent of communal establishment residents were White British or Irish in 2011 compared with 47 per cent of the household population.
The 2011 Census found 8.17 million usual residents in London. The overwhelming majority (99 per cent) lived in households, while just 100,241 lived in a communal establishment. This proportion (one per cent) is smaller than elsewhere in England & Wales; both nationally and in all regions outside London, the communal establishment population constituted two per cent of all usual residents.

In addition to residents, communal establishment estimates include counts of staff, owners and family members of staff/owners whose place of usual residence is the establishment. In London there were 94,700 residents, 2,900 staff/owners and 2,600 family members in communal establishments in 2011. This report is concerned only with the residents of communal establishments and does not analyse data on staff, owners or family members.

Figure 1 below shows the age structure of the household and communal establishment resident populations in London in 2011. A significant proportion (42 per cent) of communal establishment residents were between the ages of 15 and 24. This is in contrast to the household population which was largest in the age range 25 to 34, a cohort which accounted for 20 per cent of all household residents.

![Figure 1: Proportion of residents in 5-year age groups, London 2011](image)

Each of the five-year age categories between 30 and 84 accounted for between two and five per cent of the communal establishment population. Almost a quarter of the communal establishment population in London

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1 A communal establishment is an establishment providing full or part-time supervised residential accommodation. For a more detailed definition of communal establishments, including examples, see the [ONS 2011 Census Glossary of Terms](https://www.ons.gov.uk/guide).
was aged 75 or over (24 per cent) in 2011. This is in contrast to the household population where just five per cent of residents were aged 75 or over. In 2011 five per cent of Londoners aged 75 or over lived in a communal establishment.

Figure 2 shows how the CE population was distributed within London in 2011. Those areas which contain no communal establishments and so have a population of zero show as white on the map. Half of LSOAs in London had no communal establishments in 2011. Just under a quarter of LSOAs (24 per cent) contained one CE while 11 per cent had two CEs. The remaining 15 per cent of LSOAs contained three or more CEs.\(^2\)

Figure 2: Distribution of communal establishment population, London 2011

![Map showing the distribution of communal establishments in London](image)

Census Table KS405EW

The distribution of the communal establishment resident population across London in 2011 (shown in Figure 2) is relatively even. There are some areas of concentration, particularly in central London.

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\(^2\) See note on erroneous data at the end of this document
**Type of Establishment**

Communal Establishments are categorised in the census according to the type of accommodation they offer. Broadly, establishments are classified by whether or not they provide medical care.

In 2011, 38 per cent of communal establishment residents were living in a medical or care facility of some description. By far the largest sub-group within the medical and care classification was non-local authority care homes. This type of establishment includes privately run nursing homes and around three quarters (74 per cent) of residents in this type of establishment were aged 65 or over. Almost a third of all CE residents in London lived in a non-local authority care home (see table 1).

The second broad category of establishments are those without a medical function. This category covers a diverse range of establishments and accounted for 62 per cent of communal establishment residents in the capital in 2011. The largest sub-group was the population resident in educational institutions. Over four in ten (42 per cent) of all communal establishment residents in London were living in an educational establishment in 2011. This group includes both children at boarding school and students in university halls of residence; 86 per cent of residents in an educational establishment were aged 16 to 24.

### Table 1: Communal establishment type, London 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Establishment</th>
<th>CE Residents</th>
<th>Proportion of CE Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communal Establishment Population</td>
<td>94,700</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and Care Establishment</td>
<td>36,400</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHS Hospital</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Hospital</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authority Care Home</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Care Home (private)</td>
<td>28,900</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home/Hostel/Sheltered Housing (RSL/HA)</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Medical Establishment</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Establishment</td>
<td>58,300</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison/Approved premises</td>
<td>4,100</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>39,700</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless Shelter</td>
<td>5,900</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other including religious</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Census Table DC4210EW

Note: Hospital includes mental health hospital/unit/secure unit
Note: Prison includes detention centres, Approved premises includes probation/bail hostels
Note: Local Authority Care includes children’s homes and care homes (with or without nursing)
Note: Other Care Home includes children’s homes and care homes (with or without nursing)
Note: Hotel includes guest house, B&B, youth hostel

*RSL = Registered Social Landlord, HA = Housing Association
The communal establishment population in London grew by 1,200 people between 2001 and 2011 (a one per cent rise) while the number of establishments increased by 250 (a four per cent rise). Over the same period London’s household population grew by 14 per cent.

While the size of the communal establishment population in 2011 was similar to that in 2001 there were some significant differences in the structure of the population across the two years. Specifically, the proportion of the population resident in the different types of establishment changed with a shift away from medical and care towards non-medical establishments (see figure 3).

There were 2,100 fewer people resident in medical and care establishments in 2011 than in 2001 (a six per cent decrease). In 2001 medical and care establishment residents accounted for 41 per cent of the communal establishment population while in 2011 a smaller proportion, 38 per cent of residents, were found in medical and care facilities.

Figure 3: Percentage change in population by establishment type, London 2001 to 2011

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3 It should be noted when comparing data from the 2001 and 2011 censuses that improvements to the way in which individuals were counted and estimates produced in mean the later dataset is considered more accurate. Therefore some of the perceived change may be due to undercount in 2001.
The population resident in NHS hospitals, local authority care and RSL/HA hostels or housing all decreased (-68 per cent, -51 per cent and -26 per cent respectively). The population resident in private hospitals, private care homes or other medical establishments all increased (104 per cent, 11 per cent and 20 per cent respectively).

Over the same period the population of non-medical establishments saw growth of six per cent (3,400 additional people). Among non-medical establishments both prisons and educational establishments saw significant increases in population (44 per cent and 60 per cent respectively). Defence establishments, hotels and homeless shelters all recorded fewer residents in 2011 than in 2001.

**Ethnicity**

The communal establishment population in London was less diverse than the capital’s household population in 2011; a greater proportion of the communal establishment population was White British or Irish (55 per cent compared with 47 per cent in the household population). As a result the proportional size of other ethnic groups was smaller.

**Figure 4: Ethnicity of communal establishment and household populations, London 2011**

The two most significant types of establishment in London were private care homes (31 per cent of all communal establishment residents) and education establishments (42 per cent of all residents), see above. The two populations have very different ethnic profiles. The private care home population, which was largely an older population, was overwhelmingly White British/Irish (80 per cent). As a result no other ethnic
group was of notable size: Black residents accounted for eight per cent of those in private care homes and Asian residents five per cent.

Among the educational establishment population, a population concentrated in the ages 16 to 24, just 40 per cent were of White British/Irish ethnicity. This lead to greater diversity: 29 per cent were of Asian ethnicity and 17 per cent were recorded in the Other White ethnic group (this group includes many European migrants).

**Note on Erroneous Data**

Some inaccurate data has been identified in the 2011 Census estimates of communal establishments. This issue affects the estimates of the number of institutions rather than the number of residents.

An output area in the Ravenscourt Park ward of Hammersmith & Fulham shows 73 separate communal establishments but a population of just communal establishment 12 residents. The ONS has indicated that the most likely reason for this is that individual rooms in a hostel were recorded as separate establishments.

Due to the fact that census data are aggregated from output areas to higher geographies this anomaly is present in all of the data from output area through to national level. There is no evidence that the estimates of residents are affected.