Deprivation in Birmingham

Analysis of the 2025 Indices of Deprivation

Introduction

The Indices of Deprivation (IOD) 2025 are the Government's official measure of deprivation for English local authorities and neighbourhoods. The 2025 data was released in October 2025 by the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). The IOD includes the headline Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) as well as indices covering income deprivation for young people and for older people.

This report provides analysis of the 2025 IMD including:

- Deprivation at a city level comparing Birmingham's performance with other areas in the region and the English Core Cities.
- Birmingham's performance in relation to the IMD sub domains.
- Deprivation within the city focussing on relative levels of deprivation at a neighbourhood and ward level.

The Index of Multiple Deprivation

The IMD is based on 55 separate indicators, organised across seven sub domains of deprivation which are combined and weighted to calculate the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025 as shown in the infographic below. This is a significant increase on the 39 indicators used for the 2019 IMD and along with other methodological changes means direct comparison with the previous IMD is limited.

The IMD is an overall measure of relative deprivation, it is not a measure of absolute deprivation and changes in deprivation rankings over time are not necessarily due to an increase or decrease in deprivation within a given neighbourhood but how it performs relative to other areas.

The IMD is calculated for every Lower Super Output Area (LSOA), or neighbourhood, in England. All neighbourhoods in England are then ranked according to their deprivation score relative to that of other areas. LSOAs or neighbourhoods are ranked from 1 the most deprived in the country to 33,755 the least deprived area. Areas that are in the most deprived 10% of areas nationally are classed as highly deprived.

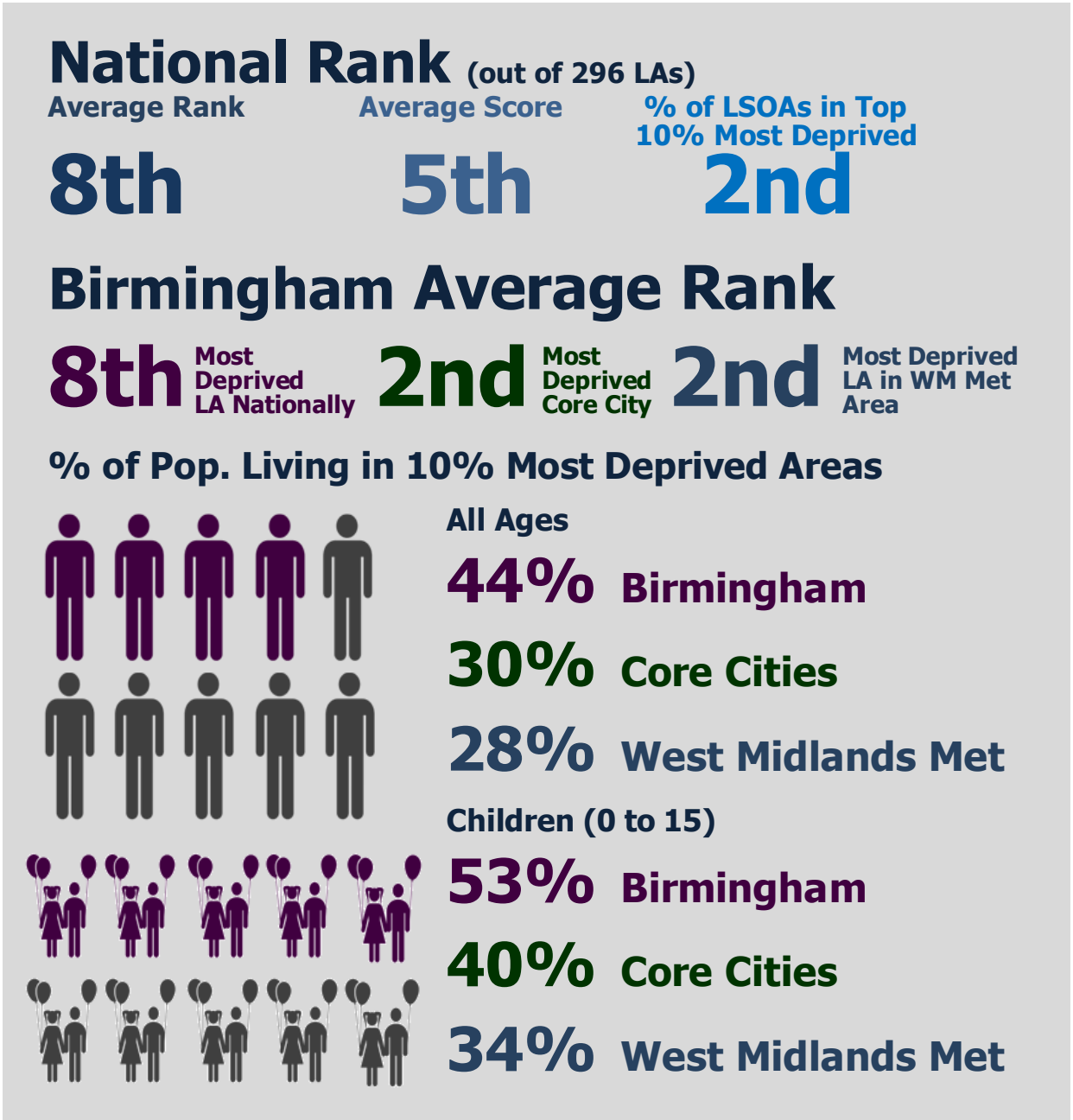
The Indices of Deprivation 2025

Key Findings

- Birmingham suffers from high levels of deprivation, there are a number of ways that relative deprivation in the city can be compared to other local authorities, which are set out below. On all three measures Birmingham is in the top ten most deprived LA areas in England.
- In 2025 44% of the population live in neighbourhoods that are in the 10% most deprived in England, and 53% of children (under 16s) live in the 10% most deprived areas.
- Using the average rank measure, Birmingham is ranked the 8th most deprived local authority in England.
- The city is also the 2nd most deprived authority in the West Midlands Metropolitan area after Sandwell (5th).
- Birmingham is ranked the second most deprived English Core City after Manchester (2nd).
- While there are pockets of deprivation in all parts of the city, deprivation is most heavily concentrated in the areas surrounding the city centre.
- Ladywood is the most deprived constituency in the city.
- Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East, Bordesley Green and Handsworth are the top 3 most deprived wards. Sutton Coldfield is the least deprived part of the city with 7 of the 8 Sutton wards ranked as the city's least deprived wards.

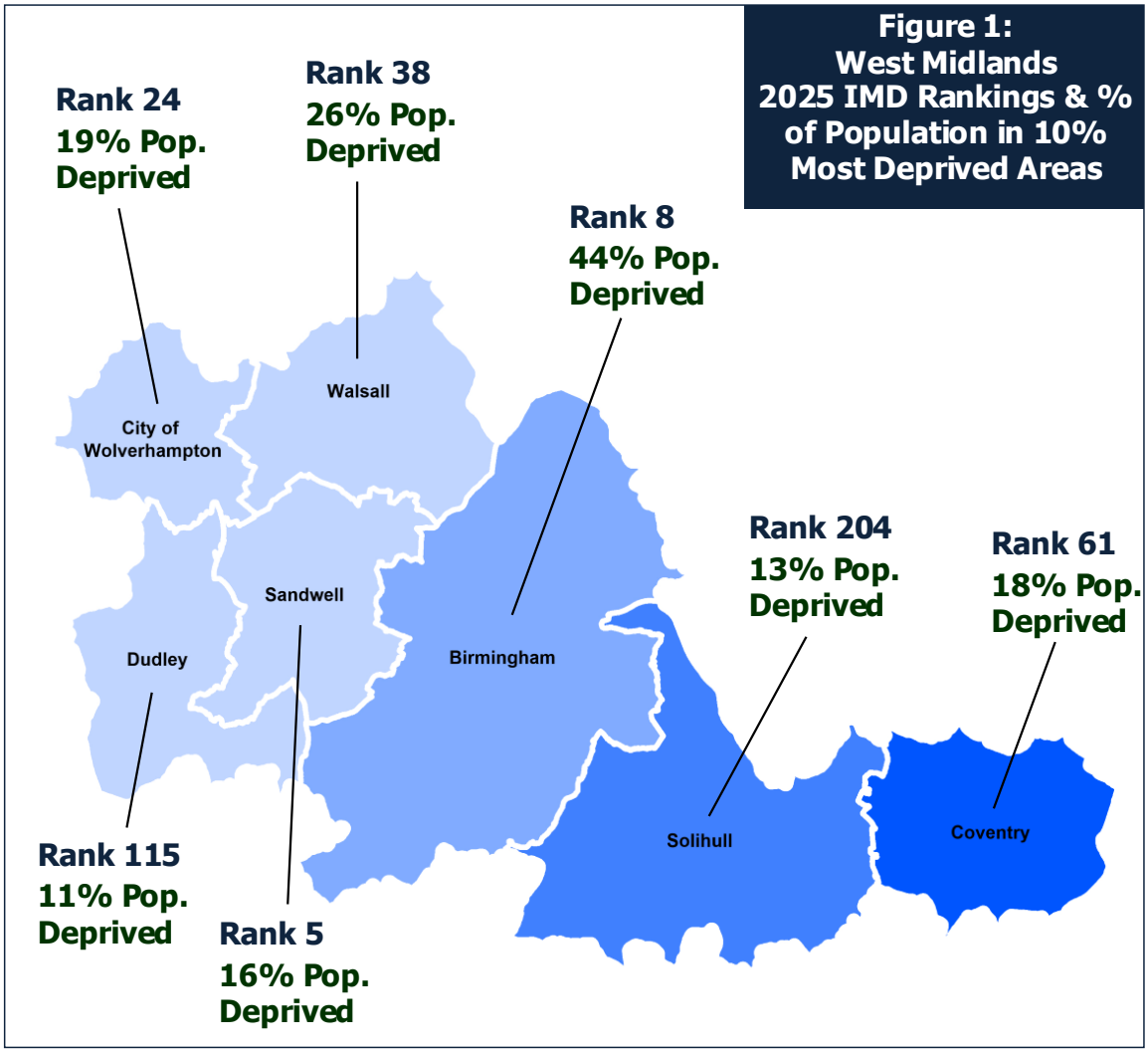
Change Between 2019 & 2025 IMD

- When looking at change between the 2019 and 2025 IMD, caution must be used due to changes in methodology and indicators used. Whilst real change in deprivation over time cannot be identified, changes in the pattern of relative deprivation can be tracked.
- Birmingham's relative IMD rank has remained broadly unchanged between 2019 and 2025 at 8th most deprived LA area.
- The proportion of the population locally living in the 10% most deprived areas nationally has however, increased from 43% in 2019 to 44% in 2025.
- The % of neighbourhoods (LSOAs) in the city that are ranked in the 10% most deprived nationally has also increased from 41% in 2019 to 43% in 2025.



Deprivation in the West Midlands

There are relatively high levels of deprivation across the West Midlands Met area. On the rank of average rank measure Birmingham is the 8th most deprived local authority out of England's 296 authorities. Sandwell (5th), Wolverhampton (24th) and Walsall (38th) are the highest ranked areas locally. The least deprived area locally is Solihull (204th) which makes it the only Met area with a below average ranking for deprivation. Solihull is in the 68th percentile compared to Birmingham for example which is in the 2nd percentile (within the top 3% of deprived local authority areas).



Population in Most Deprived Areas

If we look at the proportion of the local population in each Met area that live in the 10% most deprived neighbourhoods (LSOAs) nationally we can see the extent of deprivation as experienced by the local population. Birmingham has the highest share of residents living in the most deprived areas with 44% of people living in areas that are ranked in the 10% most deprived areas nationally. This equates to over half a million (512,100) of the city's residents living in the most deprived areas; 134,600 children live in these areas of the city.

Birmingham Residents Living in Most Deprived Neighbourhoods

All Ages

512,100

Children

134,600

Table 1: West Midlands IMD 2025 West Midlands LAs Ranked

	Area	IMD 2025 West Midlands LAs Ranked	IMD 2025 West Midlands LAs Ranked	Change in Rank from 2019 IMD	Change in 10% Most Deprived LSOAs from 2019 IMD
1	Sandwell	5	16%	-3	-4%
2	**Birmingham**	**8**	**43%**	**2**	**2%**
3	Wolverhampton	24	22%	5	1%
4	Walsall	38	25%	7	-1%
5	Coventry	61	18%	-20	4%
6	Dudley	115	11%	11	0%
7	Solihull	204	13%	-2	1%

Deprivation in the Core Cities

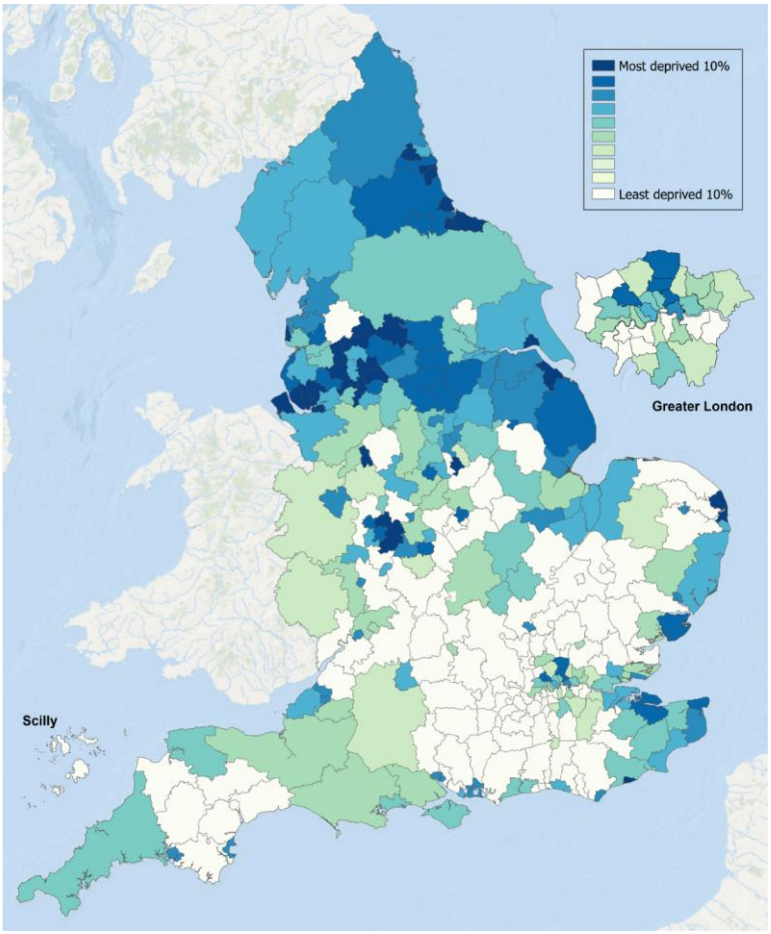
Deprivation tends to be more concentrated in urban areas, 3 of the 8 English core cities are amongst the top 15 most deprived local authorities in England. On the rank of average ranks measure Manchester is the most deprived core city and is joined in the top 10 by Birmingham (8th). Leeds is the least deprived core city. However, ranked at 124th it is still in the top 40% of deprived local authority areas nationally.

1st Most Deprived LA Area

2025 IMD	2019 IMD
2nd Manchester	2nd Manchester
8th Birmingham	4th Liverpool
12th Liverpool	6th Birmingham
18th Nottingham	10th Nottingham
82nd Newcastle	74th Newcastle
90th Sheffield	82nd Bristol
	91st Leeds
	92nd Sheffield
123rd Bristol	
124th Leeds	

296th Least Deprived LA Area

Map1: Local Authorities by Share of Neighbourhoods in the 10% Most Deprived Neighbourhoods



Deprivation in Birmingham by Sub Domain

Income

42%

Population in income deprivation

Birmingham Rank

7th

Highest Ranked Core City

Employment

21%

Involuntarily excluded from labour market

Birmingham Rank

9th

Highest Ranked Core City

Education & Skills

Measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population. For children and young people

Birmingham Rank

30th

2nd Highest Core City

Health Deprivation & Disability

Measures the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health.

Birmingham Rank

23rd

4th Highest Core City

Crime

Measures the risk of personal and material crime recorded locally.

Birmingham Rank

18th

3rd Highest Core City

Barriers to Housing & Services

Measures the physical and financial accessibility of housing and other key local services.

Birmingham Rank

141st

2nd Highest Core City

Living Environment

Measures the quality of housing; air quality and road traffic accidents.

Birmingham Rank

31st

Highest Ranked Core City

IDACI

62%

of children live in income deprived households

National Rank 4th

IDAOPI

29%

of over 60s are income deprived

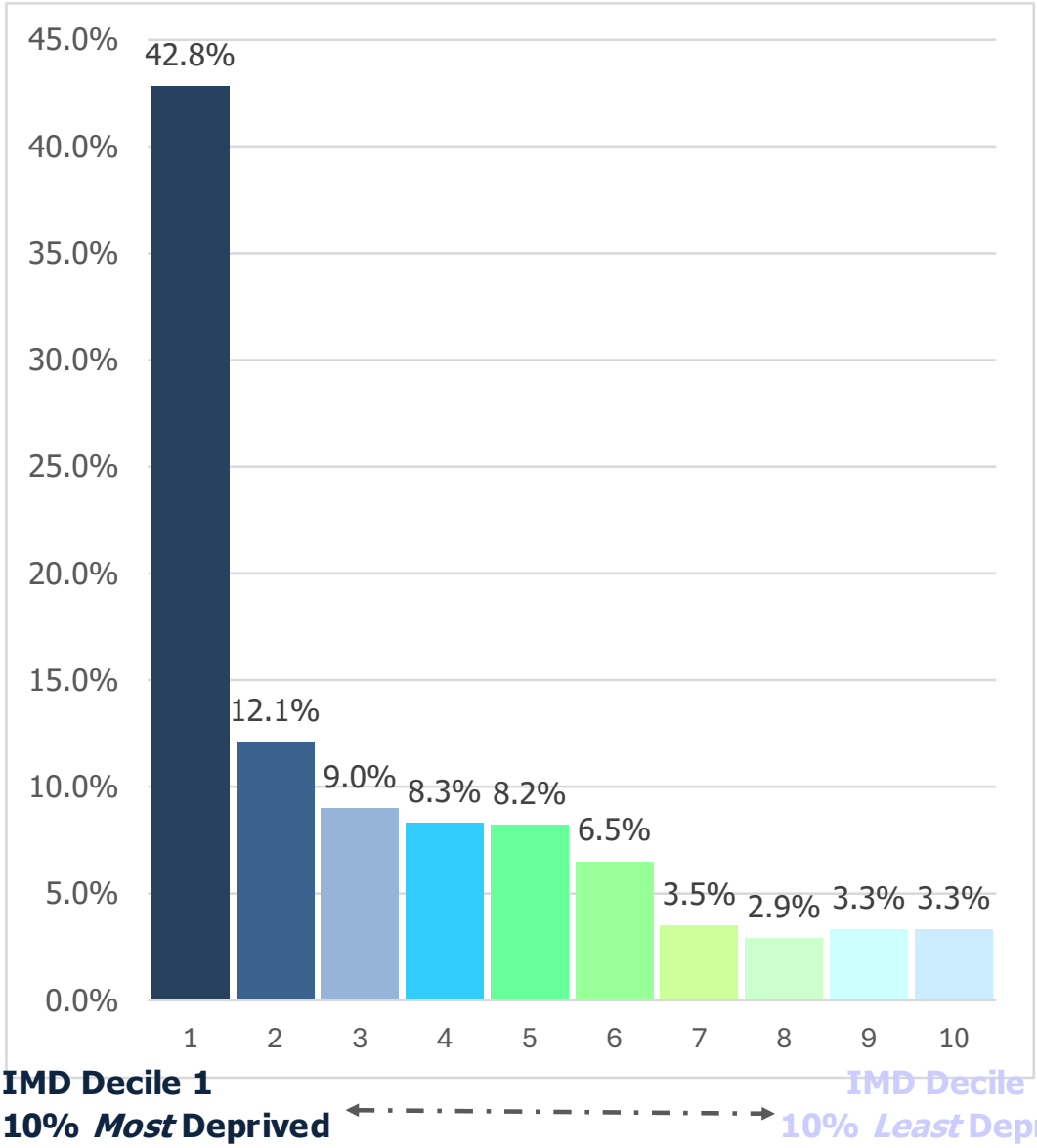
National Rank 27th

Distribution of Deprivation in Birmingham

The chart below shows the distribution of deprivation across the city broken down by decile., ranging from decile 1 (the 10% most deprived areas through to decile 10 (the 10% least deprived areas).

Overall, 43% of Birmingham's LSOAs are among the 1st decile or 10% most deprived LSOAs in England, and 3.3% of Birmingham's LSOAs are among the 10th decile or 10% least deprived LSOAs in England.

Chart 1: Birmingham LSOAs by IMD Decile



Deprivation by Parliamentary Constituency

MHCLG do not produce deprivation data for wards and constituencies. However, they do provide a methodology for aggregating LSOA data into higher geographies and this has been used to create rankings for the city's constituencies and wards (page 9) for the IMD.

Ladywood is the most deprived constituency in Birmingham followed by Perry Barr and Hodge Hill & Solihull North. Seven of Birmingham's ten constituencies are ranked in the top 10% most deprived constituencies nationally. Sutton Coldfield is by far the least deprived constituency and is somewhat of an outlier from the other 9 constituencies being in the 9th deprivation decile (the 20% least deprived areas).

Rank	Constituency	IMD Decile
1	Ladywood	1
2	Perry Barr	1
3	Hodge Hill & Solihull North	1
4	Erdington Constituency	1
5	Yardley Constituency	1
6	Hall Green Constituency	1
7	Northfield Constituency	1
8	Edgbaston Constituency	3
9	Selly Oak Constituency	3
10	Sutton Coldfield Constituency	9

Deprivation by Neighbourhood in Birmingham

The map below shows that deprivation is concentrated in a ring around the city centre. But there is also significant deprivation across the city, particularly to the east of the city centre, and also in the outer city to the south, west and north east. Sutton Coldfield and parts of Edgbaston have some of the least deprived areas.

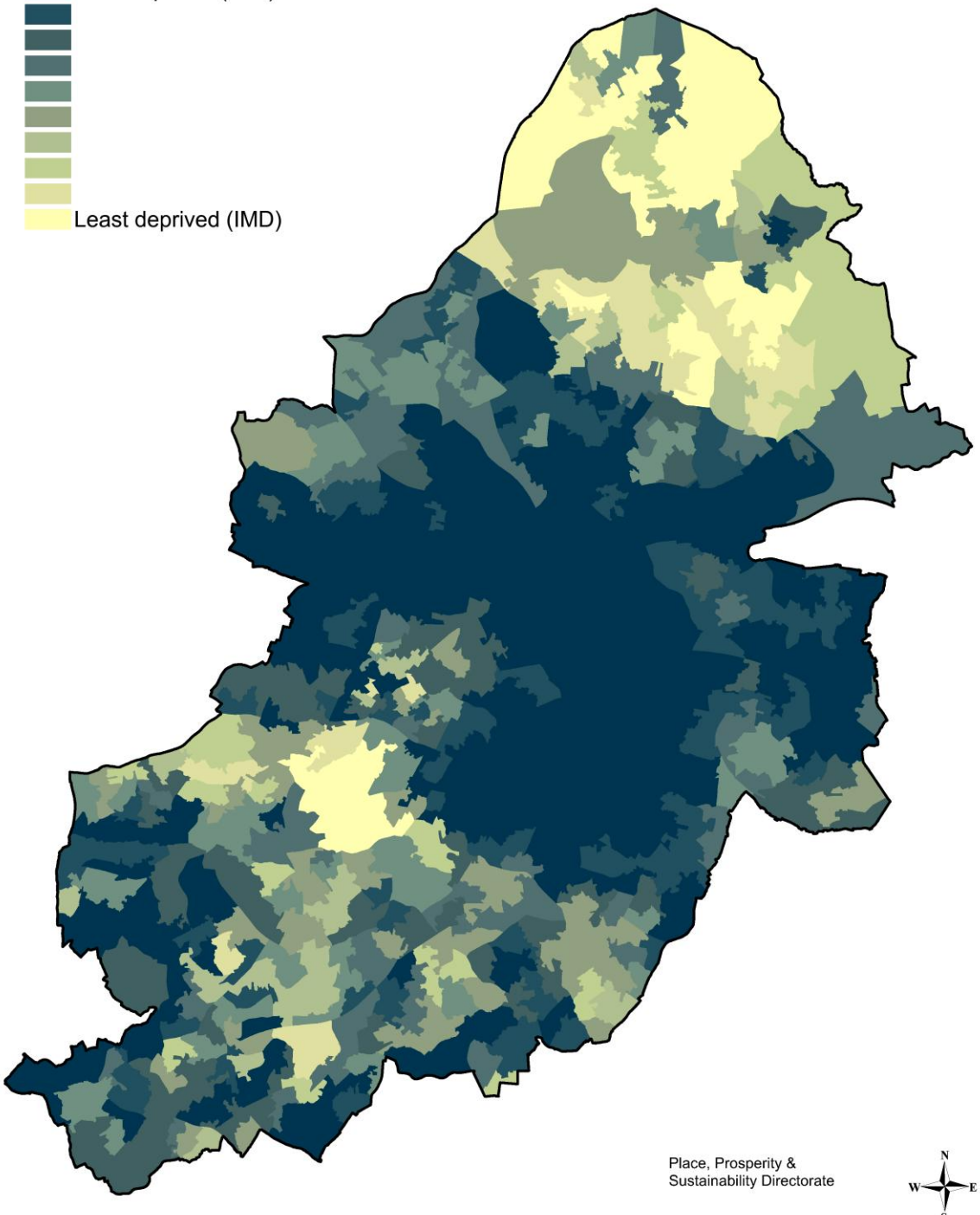
The map also allows us to identify small pockets of deprivation in wards that are not particularly deprived overall, and also less deprived areas in wards with that are very deprived.

One of Birmingham's LSOAs is in the most deprived 100 LSOAs in the country. There are 14 LSOA in the city that are extremely deprived and ranked amongst the top 1% of deprived areas nationally. This has increased from 7 areas that were in the top 1% in the 2019 IMD.

Table 2: Areas in the Top 1% of Deprived Neighbourhoods Nationally

LSOA	2025 Rank	Ward & Broad Location
E01008978	81	Druids Heath & Monyhull - Druids Heath estate directly to the north west of the Maypole Island.
E01009160	114	Frankley Great Park - The Dowries Estate to the north of the A38 at the city's south west boundary.
E01009361	117	Soho & Jewellery Quarter - Area to the south east of Black Patch Park bordering the A4040 Outer Ring Rd.
E01009355	135	Lozells - Area to the south of Handsworth Park bordered by Hampstead and Soho Rd.
E01008916	136	Aston - Area directly north and east of Villa Park.
E01009365	157	Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East - Area at the top of the Stratford Road between Camp Hill and Farm Road.
E01009412	177	Stockland Green - Area directly south of Stockland Green School and east of Brookvale Park.
E01009377	194	Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East - Area north of Brighton Rd bordered by Ladypool Rd and the Camp Hill line.
E01009345	202	North Edgbaston - Area north of Dudley Rd and directly to the west of the City Hospital site.
E01009053	227	Aston - Area north of Witton Lande just west of Witton Railway Station.
E01009113	309	King's Norton South - Area is part of the Hawkesley estate on the southern boundary of Birmingham.
E01009364	310	Bordesley & Highgate - Area to the north of Highgate Middleway directly west of Highgate Park.
E01009305	314	Glebe Farm & Tile Cross - Area south of the M6 and north of Kingfisher Country Park.
E01009507	315	Yardley West & Stechford - Area between Bachelors Farm Recreation Ground and Stechford Railway Station.

English indices of Multiple Deprivation 2025



Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (2025).
English Indices of Deprivation 2025: Statistical Release.

Place, Prosperity &
Sustainability Directorate

Scale 1:NTS

Date:31/10/2025

N
W E
S

Birmingham
City Council

Deprivation by Ward

As mentioned previously MHCLG do not produce deprivation data for wards but LSOA IMD scores can be aggregated to calculate ward deprivation rankings.

Table 3 opposite and continued on the following page shows Birmingham's 69 wards ranked from 1 the most deprived to 69 the least deprived. The table also highlights where each wards IMD score would rank it nationally in terms of IMD decile with 1 being in the most deprived 10% of areas nationally, 2 in the top 20% of deprived areas and so on.

Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East is the most deprived ward in the city. The top 10 most deprived wards are mainly comprised of inner city areas but also include some more deprived outer city and suburban areas.

20 of Birmingham's 69 wards rank in in the 10% most deprived areas nationally. 60 of the city's wards are in the top 50% with only 9 wards being in the least deprived 50% of areas; these 9 wards are comprised of Hall Green South, Edgbaston and 7 Sutton Coldfield wards.

The table also highlights the relative change in ward deprivation ranking in Birmingham between the 2019 IMD and the 2025 IMD. Most areas have seen their rankings remain broadly similar but some wards have seen larger movements in the ranking in both directions.

Holyhead saw the largest increase in deprivation rankings moving 16 places from 23rd in 2019 to 7th in 2025; Sparkhill (+14) and Handsworth (+13) also saw a significant increase in their relative deprivation rankings between 2019 and 2025.

In the other direction Newtown saw the largest fall in deprivation ranking, falling 15 places from 6th most deprived ward in the city in 2019 to 21st in 2025. Nechells (-12), Kings Norton South(-12) and Kingstanding (-12) also saw significant falls in their deprivation rankings between 2019 and 2025.

Table 3: IMD Rankings by Birmingham Ward

Ward	2025 Birmingham Ward Rank	2019 Birmingham Ward Rank	Change in Rank 2019 to 2025	2025 Decile (where 1 is 10% Most Deprived Nationally)
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	1	1	-	1
Bordesley Green	2	2	-	1
Handsworth	3	16	13	1
Lozells	4	3	-1	1
Alum Rock	5	5	-	1
Aston	6	14	8	1
Holyhead	7	23	16	1
Ward End	8	18	10	1
Birchfield	9	10	1	1
Heartlands	10	7	-3	1
Small Heath	11	21	10	1
Gravelly Hill	12	8	-4	1
Tyseley & Hay Mills	13	20	7	1
Castle Vale	14	4	-10	1
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	15	15	-	1
Sparkhill	16	30	14	1
Balsall Heath West	17	9	-8	1
Yardley West & Stechford	18	27	9	1
Shard End	19	11	-8	1
Garretts Green	20	13	-7	1
Newtown	21	6	-15	2
Stockland Green	22	26	4	2
Bordesley & Highgate	23	19	-4	2
Kingstanding	24	12	-12	2
Acocks Green	25	36	11	2
Frankley Great Park	26	22	-4	2
Bromford & Hodge Hill	27	33	6	2
North Edgbaston	28	41	13	2
King's Norton South	29	17	-12	2
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	30	29	-1	2
Perry Common	31	28	-3	2
Bartley Green	32	31	-1	2
Pype Hayes	33	39	6	2
Erdington	34	38	4	3
Druids Heath & Monyhull	35	25	-10	3
Nechells	36	24	-12	3
Allens Cross	37	32	-5	3
South Yardley	38	48	10	3
Billesley	39	34	-5	3

Rubery & Rednal	40	37	-3	3
Yardley East	41	49	8	3
Highter's Heath	42	47	5	3
Weoley & Selly Oak	43	35	-8	3
Longbridge & West Heath	44	40	-4	3
Hall Green North	45	50	5	3
Handsworth Wood	46	54	8	4
Sheldon	47	45	-2	4
Moseley	48	43	-5	4
Stirchley	49	46	-3	4
Ladywood	50	42	-8	4
Oscott	51	52	1	4
King's Norton North	52	44	-8	4
Perry Barr	53	56	3	4
Brandwood & King's Heath	54	53	-1	4
Northfield	55	59	4	5
Quinton	56	51	-5	5
Harborne	57	55	-2	5
Bournbrook & Selly Park	58	60	2	5
Sutton Reddicap	59	58	-1	5
Bournville & Cotteridge	60	57	-3	5
Hall Green South	61	62	1	7
Edgbaston	62	61	-1	7
Sutton Vesey	63	65	2	8
Sutton Trinity	64	63	-1	8
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	65	64	-1	8
Sutton Mere Green	66	66	-	8
Sutton Wylde Green	67	67	-	9
Sutton Roughley	68	69	1	9
Sutton Four Oaks	69	68	-1	9