

# UXBRIDGE: A CHARMING WEST LONDON TOWN



## History

Uxbridge dates back to the Bronze Age, with archaeological finds indicating human presence since 1500 BC. The town's name derives from "Wuxen Bridge," referring to a ancient bridge over the River Frays. Uxbridge was a significant center during the English Civil War and was the site of the Treaty of Uxbridge (1645).

## Geography

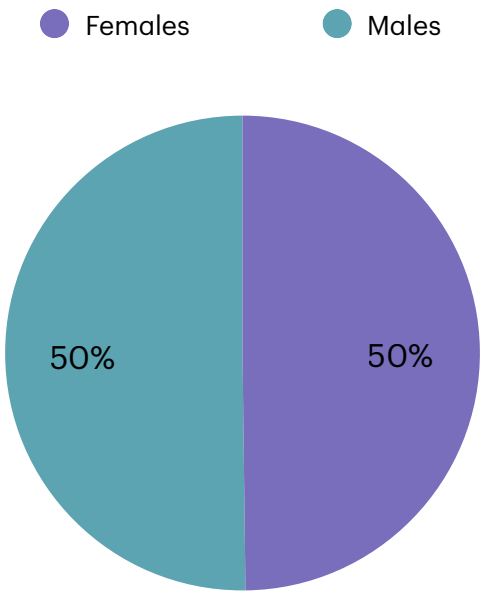
Located in the London Borough of Hillingdon, Uxbridge is situated 15 miles northwest of Central London. The town borders the Chiltern Hills, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

## Socio-Political Economy

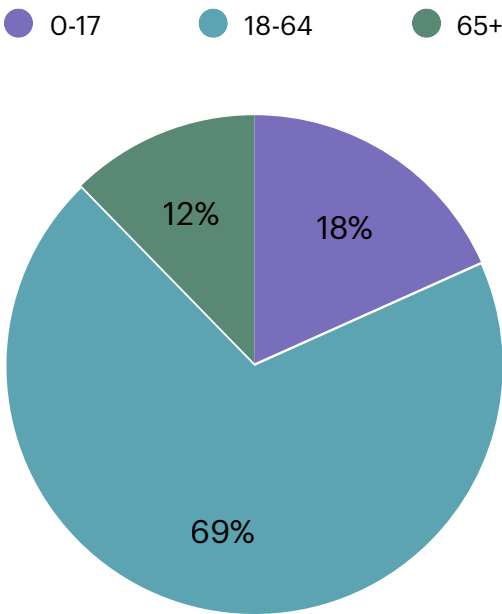
- Population (2021 estimate): 17,962
- Median household income: £43,600
- Unemployment rate (2020): 4.5%
- Main political parties: Labour, Conservative, Liberal Democrats
- Member of Parliament (MP): Danny Beales (Labour)

## Population Structure

### ○ Gender (C 2021)



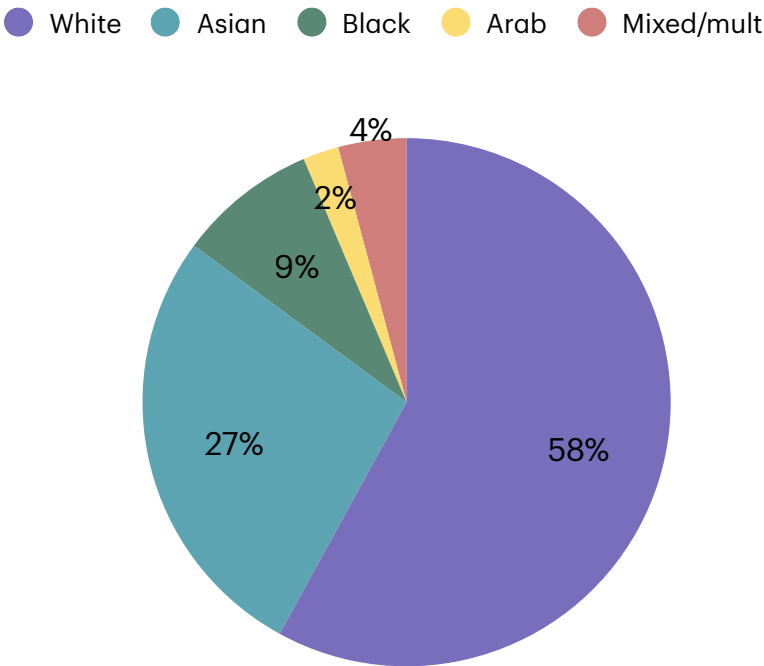
### ○ Age Groups (C 2021)



## Ethnic Group

According to the 2021 census:

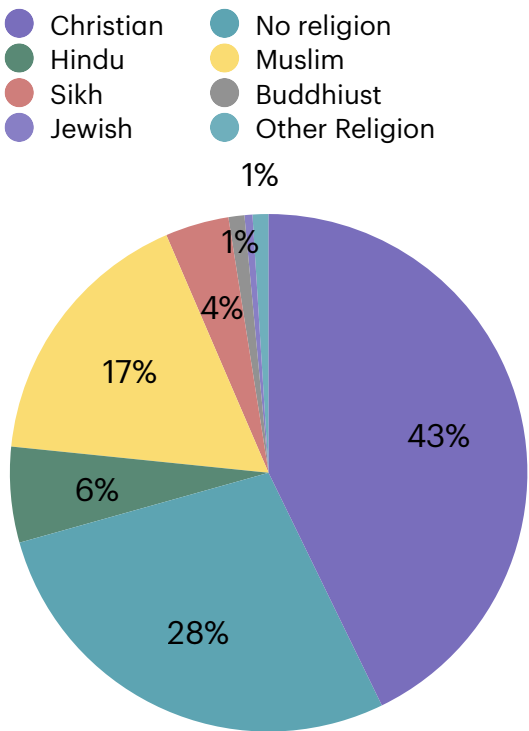
- White British: 58%
- Asian or Asian British: 27%
- Black or Black British: 9%
- Mixed or Other: 4%
- Arab: 2%



## Religion

Population breakdown by religion (2021 census):

- Christian: 43%
- No religion: 28%
- Hindu: 6%
- Muslim: 17%
- Sikh: 4%
- Buddhist: 1%
- Jewish: 0.5%
- Other religions: 1%



## Places of Worship

- Churches:
  - St Margaret's Church (Church of England)
  - St John's Church (Roman Catholic)
  - Uxbridge Methodist Church
- 2. Mosques:
  - Uxbridge Mosque

- Hillingdon Mosque
- 3. Hindu Temples:
  - Shree Swaminarayan Mandir
  - Uxbridge Hindu Temple
- 4. Sikh Gurudwaras:
  - Guru Nanak Gurudwara
- 5. Synagogues:
  - Uxbridge Synagogue

## Sporting Clubs

- Uxbridge Football Club: Established in 1871, playing in the Spartan South Midlands Football League.
- Hillingdon Athletics Club: Founded in 1923, offering track and field, cross-country, and road running.
- Uxbridge Rugby Club: Formed in 1953, competing in the Middlesex Merit Table.
- Uxbridge Cricket Club: Established in 1857, playing in the Middlesex County Cricket League.

## Industries

- Service sector: Major employers include retail, hospitality, and healthcare.
- Technology and IT: Companies like IBM, Fujitsu, and Oracle have a presence.
- Healthcare and pharmaceuticals: Hillingdon Hospital and pharmaceutical companies like GlaxoSmithKline.
- Education: Brunel University London, Uxbridge College, and Buckinghamshire New University.
- Logistics and distribution: Proximity to Heathrow Airport and the M40 motorway.

## Education

**Uxbridge is home to several educational institutions, including Brunel University, which attracts students from around the world. The university contributes to the local economy and cultural landscape.**

- Brunel University London: Offering courses in business, law, engineering, and arts.
- Uxbridge College: Providing vocational and academic courses.
- Buckinghamshire New University: Offering courses in business, healthcare, and creative arts.
- Primary and secondary schools: Uxbridge High School, The Downs School, and St. Helen's School.

## Health Institutions

- Hillingdon Hospital: Providing emergency care, maternity services, and specialist treatments.
- Uxbridge Health Centre: Offering GP services, physiotherapy, and community health.
- Mount Vernon Hospital: Specialising in cancer treatment, dermatology, and ENT services.

## Historical Overview

The Uxbridge and South Ruislip constituency in London has a rich political history, shaped by its location, demographics, and the influence of key political figures. Situated in the western part of Greater London, it has historically been a key battleground for both major political parties.

The Uxbridge and South Ruislip constituency in London has a long history, traditionally leaning Conservative since its creation in 1918. Initially reflecting a middle-class, suburban demographic, it remained a Conservative stronghold throughout much of the 20th century, though Labour gained ground at times, notably winning the seat from 1964 to 1970 during the post-war period. However, the seat quickly returned to Conservative control after 1970.

During the 1980s, under Margaret Thatcher, the constituency remained firmly Conservative, bolstered by suburban conservatism and the economic policies of the time. This trend continued through the 2000s and 2010s, even as Labour made inroads in nearby areas. The seat became particularly notable due to Boris Johnson, who represented it from 2015 to 2023. Johnson, who became Prime Minister in 2019, won re-election with a significant majority, largely due to his Brexit leadership and popularity within the constituency. His tenure solidified Conservative dominance, although his resignation amid the Partygate scandal in 2022 triggered a by-election.

In the 2023 by-election, the Labour Party made strong gains, reflecting growing support in outer London. Despite this, the Conservatives held onto the seat, though the results were seen as a sign of increasing political volatility. The by-election highlighted discontent with the Conservative government, particularly over issues like inflation and the cost of living, setting the stage for a more competitive race in future elections.

## Political Landscape

- Local Government: Uxbridge is part of the London Borough of Hillingdon. It has a borough council that manages local services, including education, transport, and housing.
- Parliamentary Representation: Uxbridge has been represented in the UK Parliament, with notable MPs, including Boris Johnson, who served as the Member of Parliament (MP) from 2015 until he became Prime Minister in 2019. The constituency is traditionally seen as a Conservative stronghold.
- Danny Beales, the Labour Party candidate, is the current Member of Parliament for Uxbridge and South Ruislip, having won the seat in the 2024 general election<sup>1</sup>. He secured a narrow victory with a majority of just 587 votes, defeating Conservative candidate Steve Tuckwell.

## Current politician

- Danny Beales (MP for Uxbridge and South Ruislip)
- Councillor Ray Puddifoot (Leader, Hillingdon Council)

## Notable Personalities

- Danny Beales (Labour MP) Former Camden Council Cabinet Member and governor at Torriano Primary School
- Boris Johnson (former UK Prime Minister) Former Mayor of London and MP for Uxbridge and South Ruislip.
- John McDonnell (Labour MP and Shadow Chancellor) Representing Hayes and Harlington constituency.
- Vince Cable (former Liberal Democrats leader) Former MP for Twickenham.
- Sir Terry Wogan (late broadcaster) Renowned BBC radio and television presenter.
- Gareth Southgate (England football manager) Former player and manager of Crystal Palace and Middlesbrough.
- J.J. Abrams: Renowned filmmaker and producer, known for his work on major franchises like "Star Wars" and "Star Trek."
- Katy Brand: Comedian and writer.

## Transport Links

Uxbridge boasts excellent transportation links, connecting residents and businesses to London, surrounding areas, and major airports.

### Road Network

- **M40 motorway:** Direct access to London, Oxford, and Birmingham
- **A40:** Links to Central London, Heathrow Airport, and the M25 motorway
- **A408:** Connects to Denham, Gerrards Cross, and the M40

### Public Transport

- **Rail:**
  - Uxbridge Station (Metropolitan and Piccadilly lines): Direct trains to London Paddington, Liverpool Street, and Heathrow Airport
  - West Ruislip Station (Central line): Trains to London Liverpool Street and Epping
- **Bus:**
  - London Bus Network: Routes 222, 331, 607, and A10 connect to Heathrow Airport, Hillingdon, and surrounding areas
  - National Express: Coaches to London Victoria, Gatwick Airport, and other UK cities
- **Air:**
  - Heathrow Airport (6 miles): Direct access via A40 and M25
  - London Gatwick Airport (35 miles): Accessible via M25 and M23

### Cycling and Walking

- Cycle lanes and paths: Connecting Uxbridge to surrounding areas and London
- Grand Union Canal Walk: Scenic route along the canal, ideal for walking and cycling

### Future Developments



- Crossrail: Expected to improve rail connectivity to London, Heathrow, and surrounding areas
- Heathrow Expansion: Proposed third runway to increase airport capacity and economic growth

#### Transport Operators

- London Underground
- Chiltern Railways
- Great Western Railway
- National Express
- London Bus Network

## Big News

### • **Danny Beales Triumphs in Uxbridge and South Ruislip After Dramatic By-election Results**

In a fiercely contested race marked by delays and recounts, Danny Beales emerged victorious in the Uxbridge and South Ruislip by-election, defying expectations and securing a historic win for Labour. The tight contest saw Beales acknowledge the emotional journey from homelessness to Parliament, vowing to fight for those struggling with housing and cost of living issues.



His Conservative rival, Steve Tuckwell, expressed deep disappointment but took pride in his brief tenure as MP, remaining committed to representing his community at the local council level



### • **The bus routes in and around London at risk if Chancellor scraps £2 cap on fares in the Autumn Budget**

"Chancellor Rachel Reeves is preparing to get rid of the cap in this month's budget as she tries to fill a claimed £22bn black hole in the public finances." - The Telegraph

### • **Controversial housing development in Uxbridge approved by Hillingdon Council**

"I remember I was on the committee when we rejected this on the second round. I think this is a great example of how an applicant can work well with the planning officers to evolve a scheme."

<sup>7</sup> -Committee Vice-Chair Cllr

Adam Bennet





- **Council urges government to honour commitment to build new hospital in Hillingdon**

Cllr Edwards emphasised, “Residents of Hillingdon, have been eagerly anticipating the much-needed improvements to our local healthcare facilities. It is no secret that the current Hillingdon Hospital is in urgent need of modernisation to meet the growing demands of our community.”



### **Uxbridge Town Centre Set for Major Revamp to Boost Economy and Attract Shoppers**

Uxbridge town centre is set to undergo a major transformation as part of a redevelopment project aimed at revitalising the area. The plan includes new housing, improved public spaces, and upgraded shopping facilities, with the goal of attracting more visitors and boosting the local economy. The revitalisation comes in response to growing concerns over vacant shops and declining foot traffic, with hopes that the overhaul will make Uxbridge a more vibrant and attractive destination for residents and businesses alike. Key features of the project





£58m.

Three in four people feel pubs help combat loneliness. - Localis, in partnership with the BBPA

### **•Pub trade in Uxbridge crying out for help**

The beer and pub sector in Uxbridge and South Ruislip, which supports 1,319 jobs, could be at risk if the Government doesn't support the industry.

The British Beer and Pub Association says pubs make just 12p a pint from sales. Its research suggests that, in one year alone, the sector in Uxbridge and South Ruislip – the parliamentary constituency - contributed more than

