

## centre for cities outlook 2009

**Out of 64** cities and large towns, the ranking for **Birmingham** in this report was as follows:

1. Population growth 1997-2007: **Ranking 52** at 0.0%.  
(highest Milton Keynes at 1.4%, lowest Dundee at -0.6%)
2. Employment rate 2007-08: **Ranking 62** at 67.4%.  
(best Aldershot at 85.9%, worst Liverpool at 67.4%)
3. Employment growth 2006-07: **Ranking 55** at -1.8%.  
(highest Wakefield at 7.8%, lowest Stoke at -4.3%)
4. Average earnings per week: **Ranking 37** at £415.70;  
(highest London at £612.60, lowest Hastings at £349.10)
5. Earnings growth: **Ranking 43** at 2.8%  
(highest Blackburn at 7.8%, lowest Aldershot at -1.7%)
6. % working age population with NVQ4 or above in 2007:  
**Ranking 46** at 21.7%  
(highest Edinburgh with 44.2%, lowest Hull with 15.3%)
7. % working age population with no formal qualification in 2007:  
**Ranking 60** at 20.9%  
(best Edinburgh with 7.2%, worst Belfast with 24%)
8. Benefit claimants as % of working age population in May 2008:  
**Ranking 51** at 19.1% (0.5 fewer than May 2000)  
(lowest Aldershot at 7.3% (1.2% higher than May 2000) , highest Liverpool with 24.6%, 5.6% fewer than May 2000)
9. Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 (56 English cities only):  
**Ranking 53** at 31.6 (2004: ranking 48 at 30.4)  
(lowest score Aldershot (both years) at 7.2 & 6.3, highest Liverpool (both years) at 42.2 & 45.2)
10. Disparities within cities (using the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 and 2004, the lower the score the fewer disparities, 56 English cities only): **Ranking 53** at 78.27  
(the lowest score Cambridge at 29.33, the highest Manchester at 56)

## birmingham 2026: our vision for the future

In 2008, Birmingham City Council published a booklet giving its 'vision for the future'. The points listed below were all taken from the booklet:

- ◆ major population growth (100K by 2026) with
  - 24K more under 18-year olds by 2026
  - 38% increase in 85+ year olds
  - a plural city: 128K fewer white people, 228,300 more people belonging to black and ethnic minority groups
- ◆ reduce carbon emissions by 60%
- ◆ build 50K+ new homes, with 2,530 by 2011, with at least 1K of them "affordable"
- ◆ become "Britain's best skilled city"
  - all 16-24 year olds in education, employment or training
  - the working-age population qualified to at least NVQ Level 4 or higher
- ◆ grow and also attract key new industries
- ◆ eliminate the productivity gap with the best UK cities
- ◆ have good public transport
- ◆ be "Britain's safest city"
- ◆ health:
  - increase current life expectancy to the national average (currently 3 years below)
  - reduce the number of smokers by 2K
  - reduce the rate of childhood obesity to under 22% of Year 6 school children
  - reduce the number of 15-17 year old girls becoming pregnant

## what may not happen & will have big social impact

**60% reduction in carbon emissions – becoming Britain's best-skilled city – new industries – good public transport**