

Compare My Move Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Date: TBC

London's Mass Exodus - Where Are People Going?

More and more people are moving out of London each year, and with house prices in the capital remaining the highest in the UK, and showing no sign of decreasing, it doesn't come as a surprise. Here at [Compare My Move](#), we've looked at a sample of our moving data to see where exactly Londoners are moving to when they leave the city, the average house prices, and the commute times into London.

Compare My Move can reveal that the South East was the most popular region for a move out of London in 2022. The region saw 35% of all London moves going here, with Reading being the most popular town.

Headline figures at a glance:

- South East is the most popular region Londoners are moving to
- Reading is the favourite town for Londoners
- Avg. house price of top 10 areas 40% cheaper than London
- Avg. commute of 34.6 minutes for top 10 locations

Top 10 locations for London movers

Although a dip from the previous year, our moves out of London are still high.

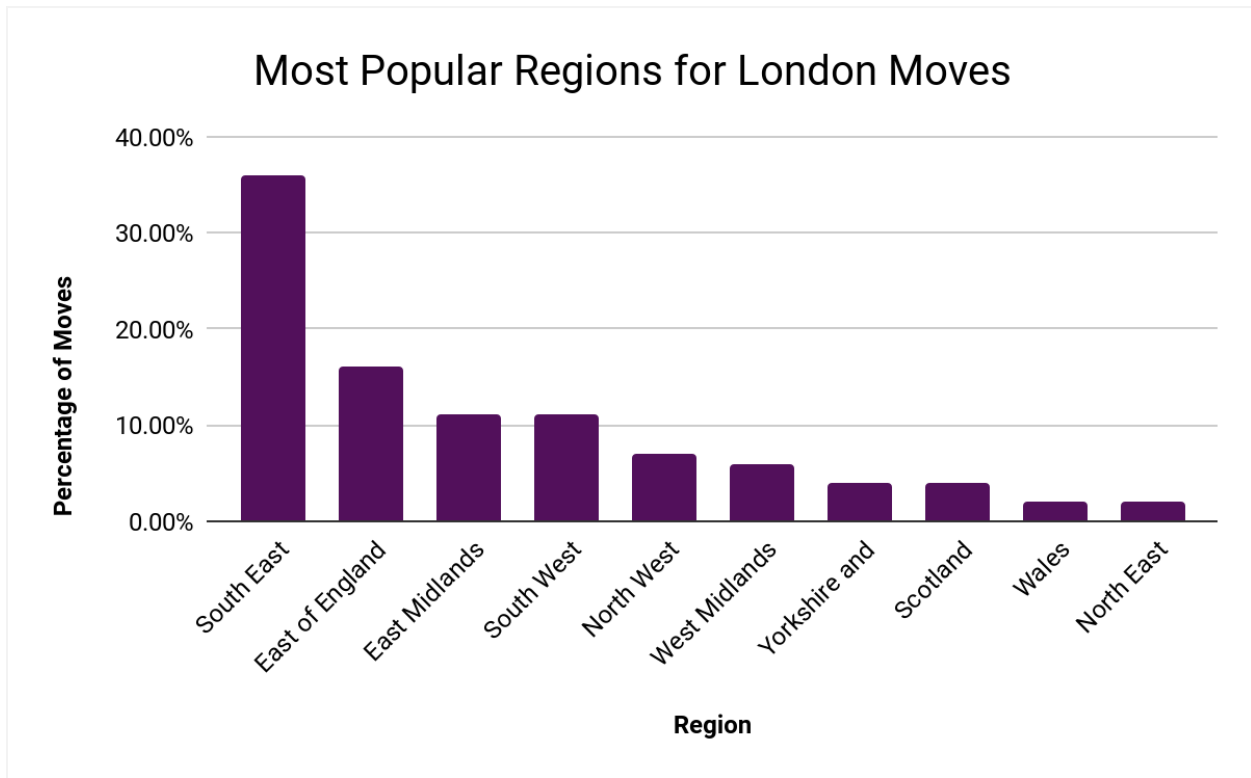
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Our data shows that Londoners are moving to the South East, with the region seeing 35.69% of all moves. Reading, Brighton and Woking were among some of the most popular areas.

The North East saw the fewest moves with just 2.13%.



Region	% of Moves
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South East	35.69%
East of England	15.52%
East Midlands	11.17%
South West	11.11%
North West	7.42%
West Midlands	5.59%
Yorkshire and the Humber	4.42%
Scotland	4.01%
Wales	2.4%
North East	2.13%

Average commute and house prices

Commonly voted as one of the best commuter towns for London, Reading has come out on top as the most popular area in the South East for our users.

According to Trainline, Reading is just a 23-minute commute from London and at a fraction of the average property price, we can see why it's popular. Rightmove reports that the average property price in Reading is £449,731, which is 14% cheaper than London's £725,715.

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It's interesting to note that Slough is the shortest commute from London at just 14 minutes and the 2nd cheapest area to buy property from our 10 most popular locations.

With all 10 locations averaging under a 35-minute commute, it's clear that Londoners want to save money by buying property not far from the capital and commuting to the city instead.

Ranking	Location	Avg. Commute Time	Avg. House Price
1.	Reading	23 minutes	£449,731
2.	Brighton	1 hour 23 minutes	£514,325
3.	Woking	24 minutes	£598,900
4.	Guildford	32 minutes	£616,456
5.	High Wycombe	25 minutes	£438,659
6.	Tunbridge Wells	41 minutes	£522,311
7.	Slough	14 minutes	£432,903
8.	Sevenoaks	22 minutes	£829,817
9.	Hemel Hempstead	27 minutes	£454,520

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10.	Aylesbury	55 minutes	£335,485
Avg.		34.6 minutes	£519,310

Commute times taken from Trainline and house prices from Rightmove.

Is the 'London exodus' slowing down?

The number of people leaving London slowed down in 2022 compared to the previous year, with our data seeing a 31% decrease.

Many people left London during and immediately after the lockdown due to changes in priorities as well as the increase in hybrid working. The demand for extra space that London didn't offer saw lots of families move to the countryside.

[Rightmove](#) reported that Cornwall overtook London as the top searched location in 2021, but in 2022 London topped the search list again.

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Comments from Compare My Move

"It's clear that although the London exodus is slowing down, many people are still moving out of London for cheaper house prices and short commutes to their jobs. Compare My Move has seen a busy Q1 for moves in and out of London with no sign of this slowing down."

Owner and Managing Director of Compare My Move, Dave Sayce