England’s Seaside Towns: a benchmarking study

Prof Steve Fothergill
CRESR, Sheffield Hallam University

Four proposals for research

- A benchmarking study of seaside towns
- Incapacity claimants
- Seaside tourism
- Costs of service delivery

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Geographical coverage

- **Seaside towns/resorts, not all coastal towns**
- **37 'principal seaside towns' from *Seaside Economy* report**
- **All with 10,000+ population**
- **Possible to cover smaller seaside towns………..**

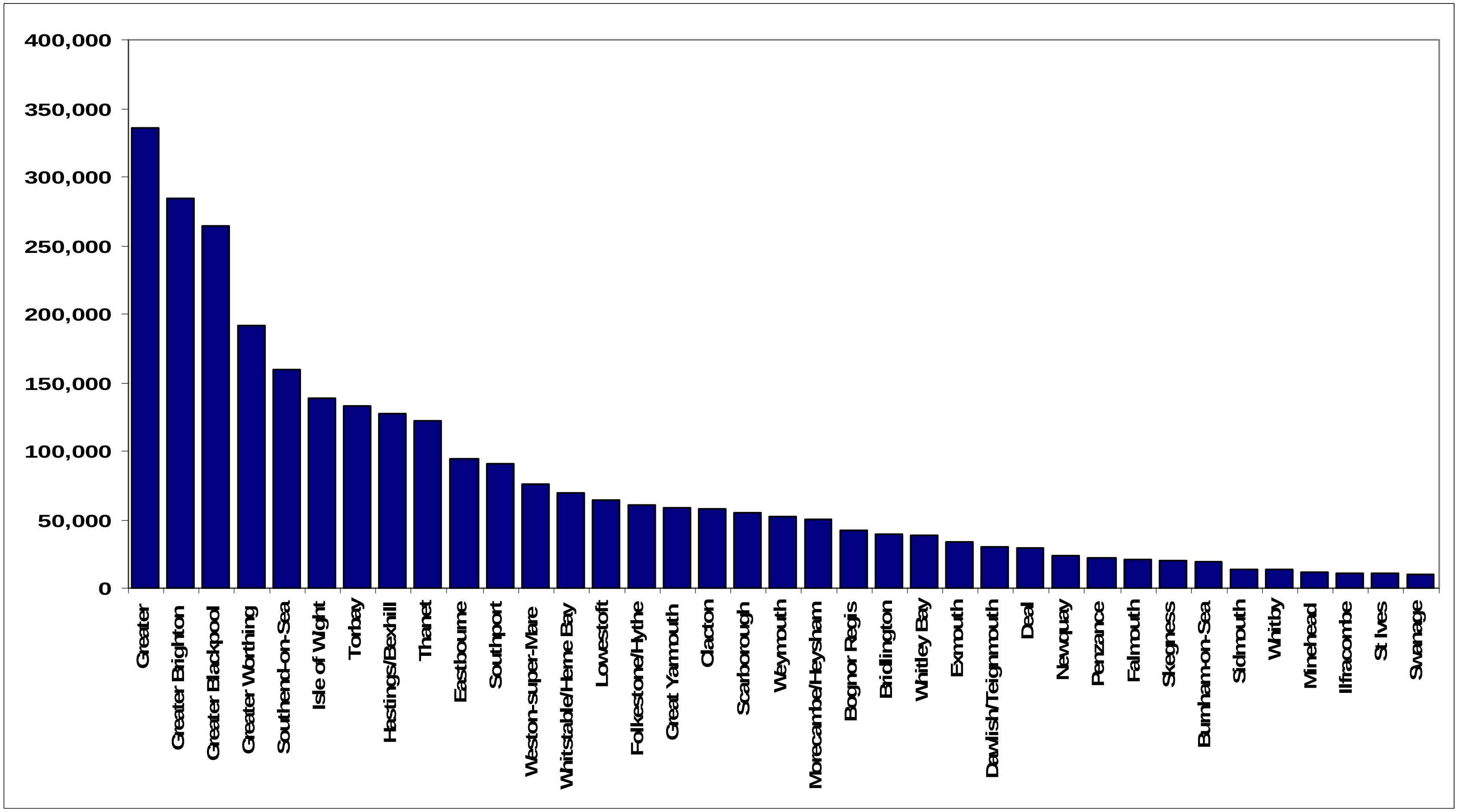
Source: The Seaside Economy

Population

- Nearly 2.9m people live in England's 37 principal seaside towns

- Nearly 6 per cent of England's total population (51m)

Population of England's principal seaside towns, 2006



Source: ONS mid-year population estimates

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Population change

- Seaside town population is growing
  - Up 320,000 1971-2001
  - Up 52,000 2001-06
  - Grew *faster* than English average 1971-2001
  - But *slower* 2001-06
  - Some apparent changes in trend in individual towns

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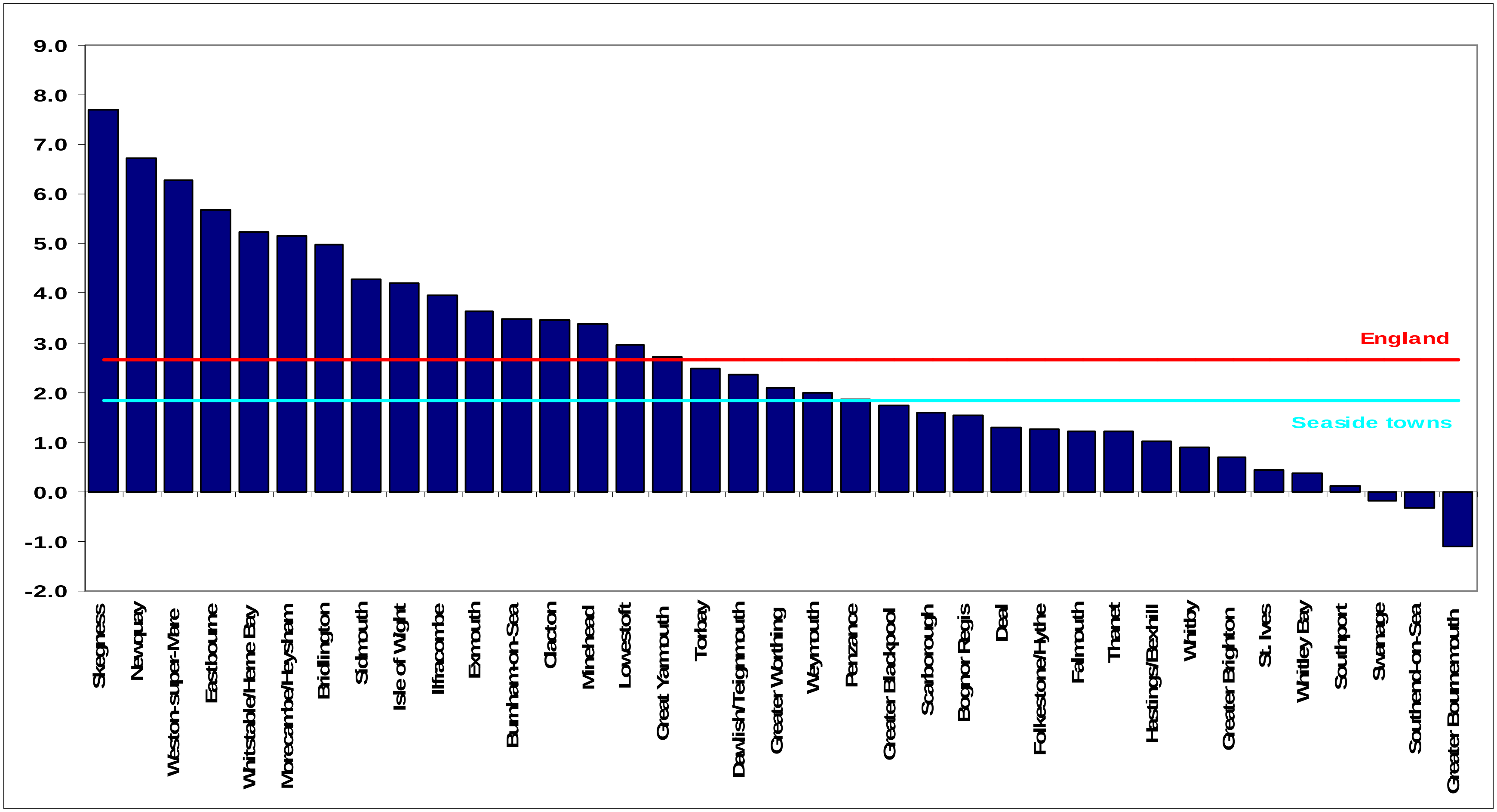
Population growth, 2001-2006, per cent



Sources: Census of Population, ONS mid-year population estimates

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Age distribution of population

- Seaside town population is skewed towards older age groups
  - 24 per cent aged 60/65+, compared to 19 per cent for England as a whole
  - Working age population = 58 per cent (cf. 62 per cent)

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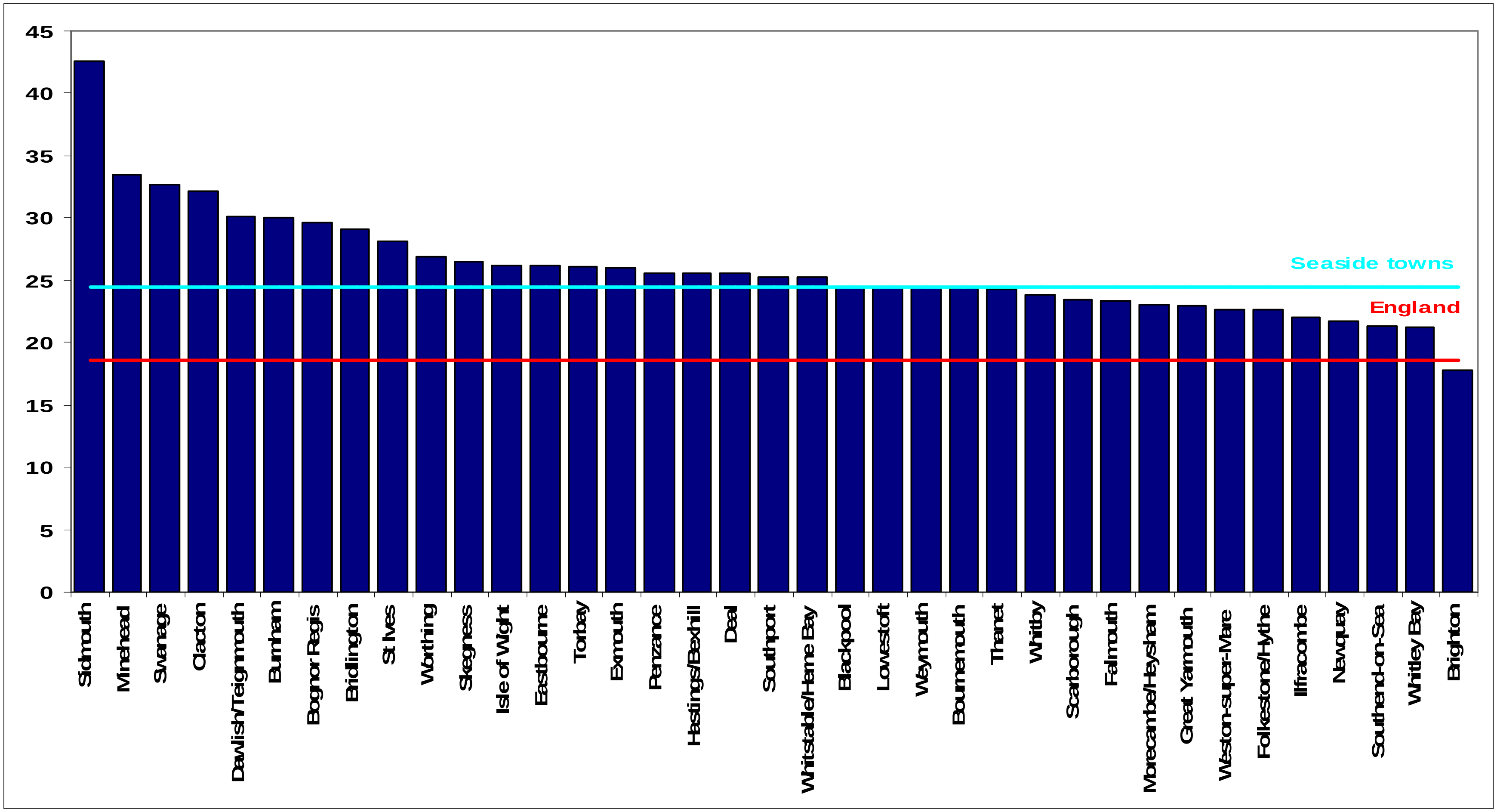
Age distribution of population, % aged 60/65+, 2006



Source: ONS mid-year population estimates

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Employment

- 1.2m jobs in England's 37 principal seaside towns
- Employment is growing slightly faster than English average – up 7.5 per cent (cf. 6.9 per cent) 1998/9 – 2005/6

Employment change, 1998-2006

Source: Annual Business Inquiry

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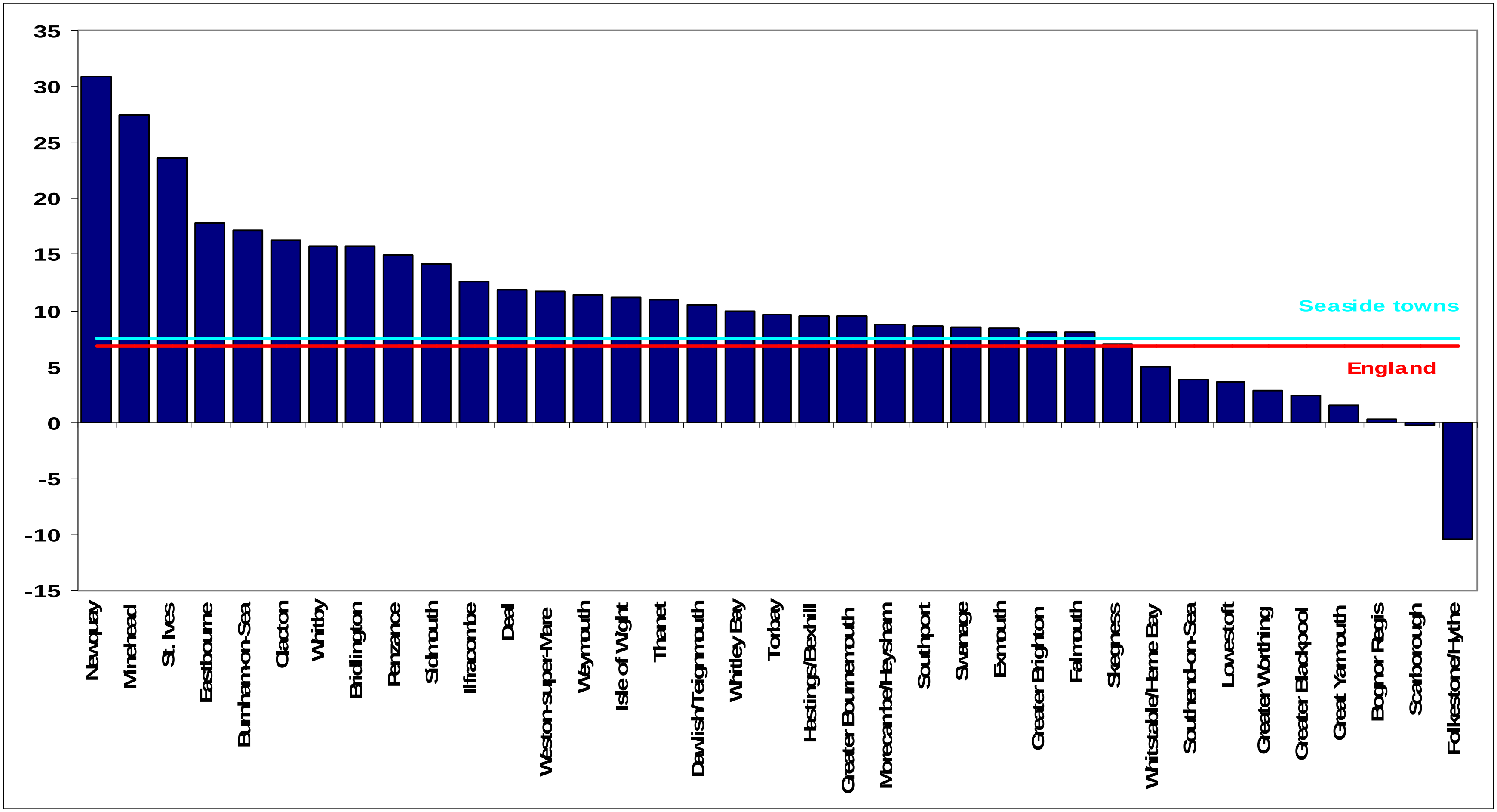
Change in employment, 1998/99 to 2005/06, per cent



Source: Annual Business Inquiry

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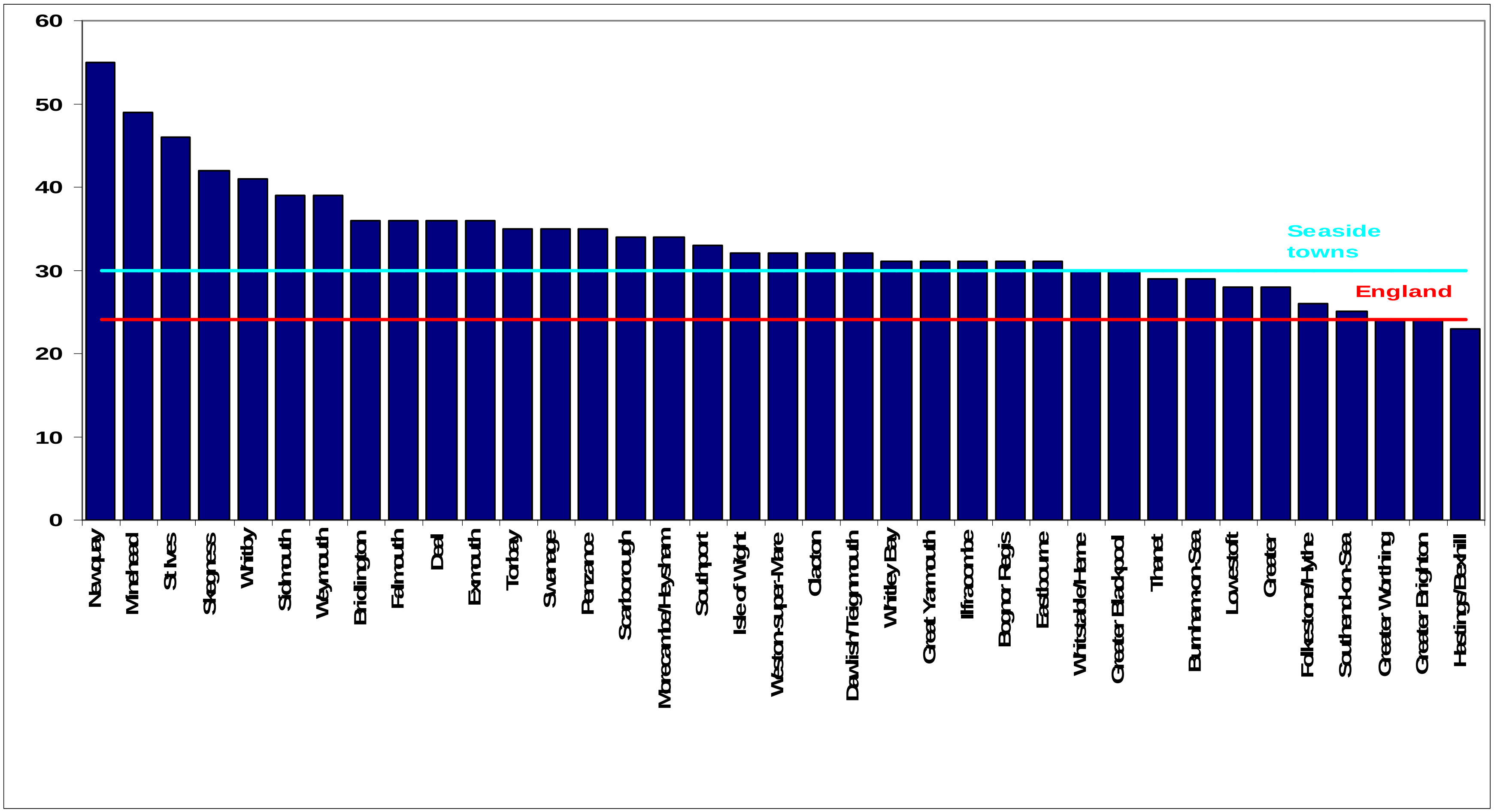
Employees in distribution, hotels and restaurants, 2006, per cent



Source: Annual Business Inquiry

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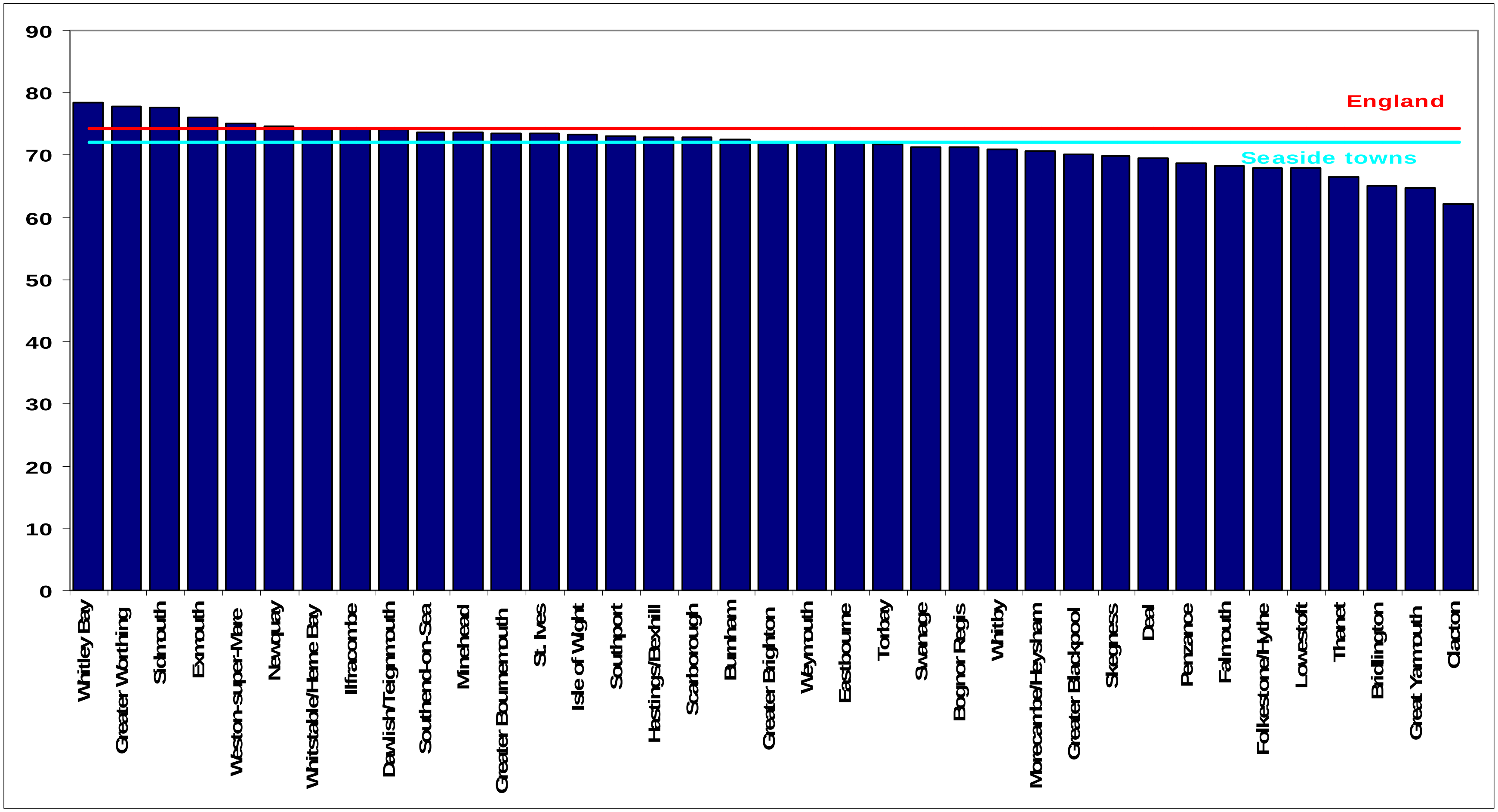
Employment rate, 2006, per cent



Sources: Census of Population, Labour Force Survey, ONS mid-year population estimates

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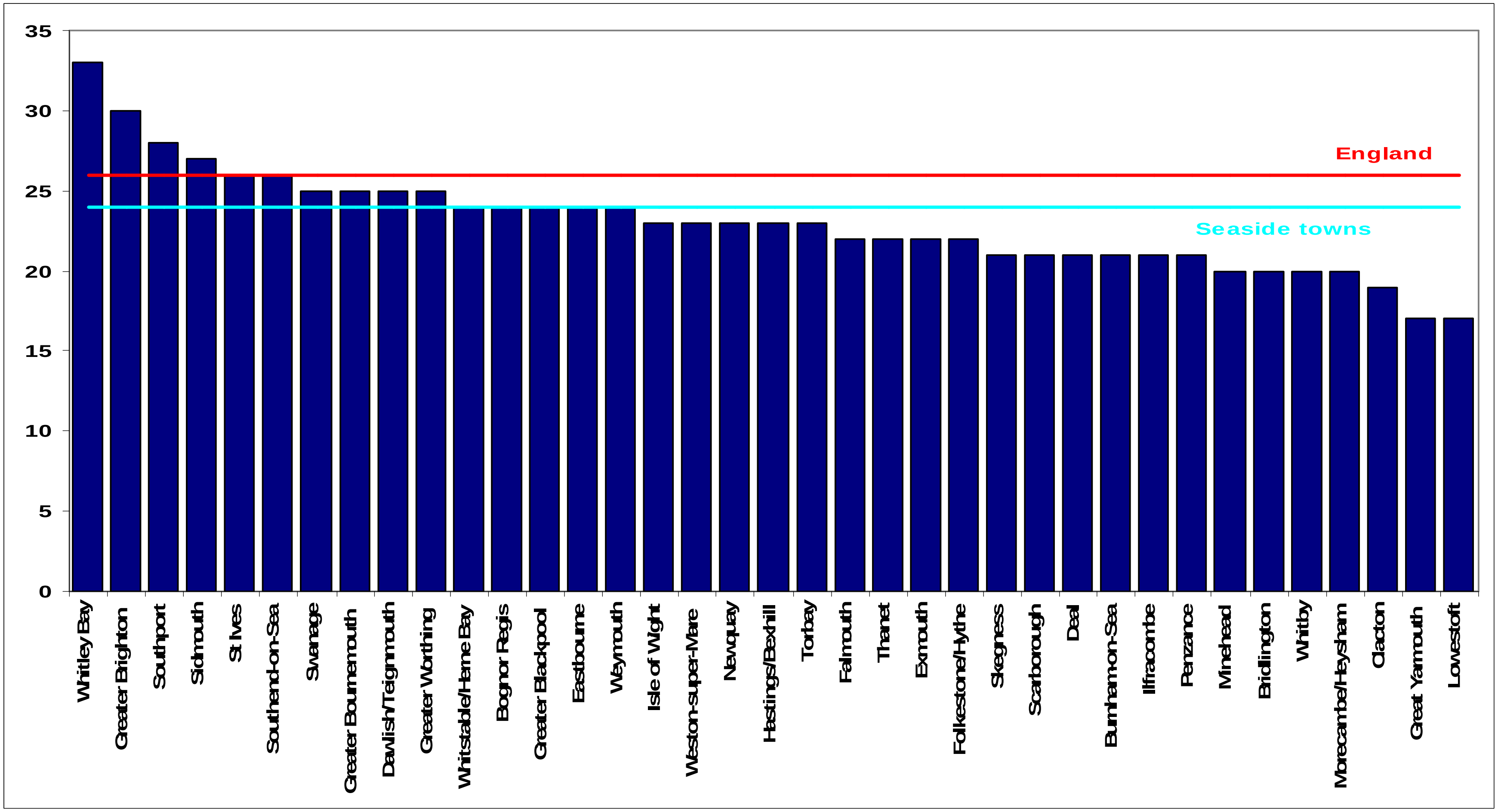
Managers and professionals as % of all employment, 2001



Source: Census of Population

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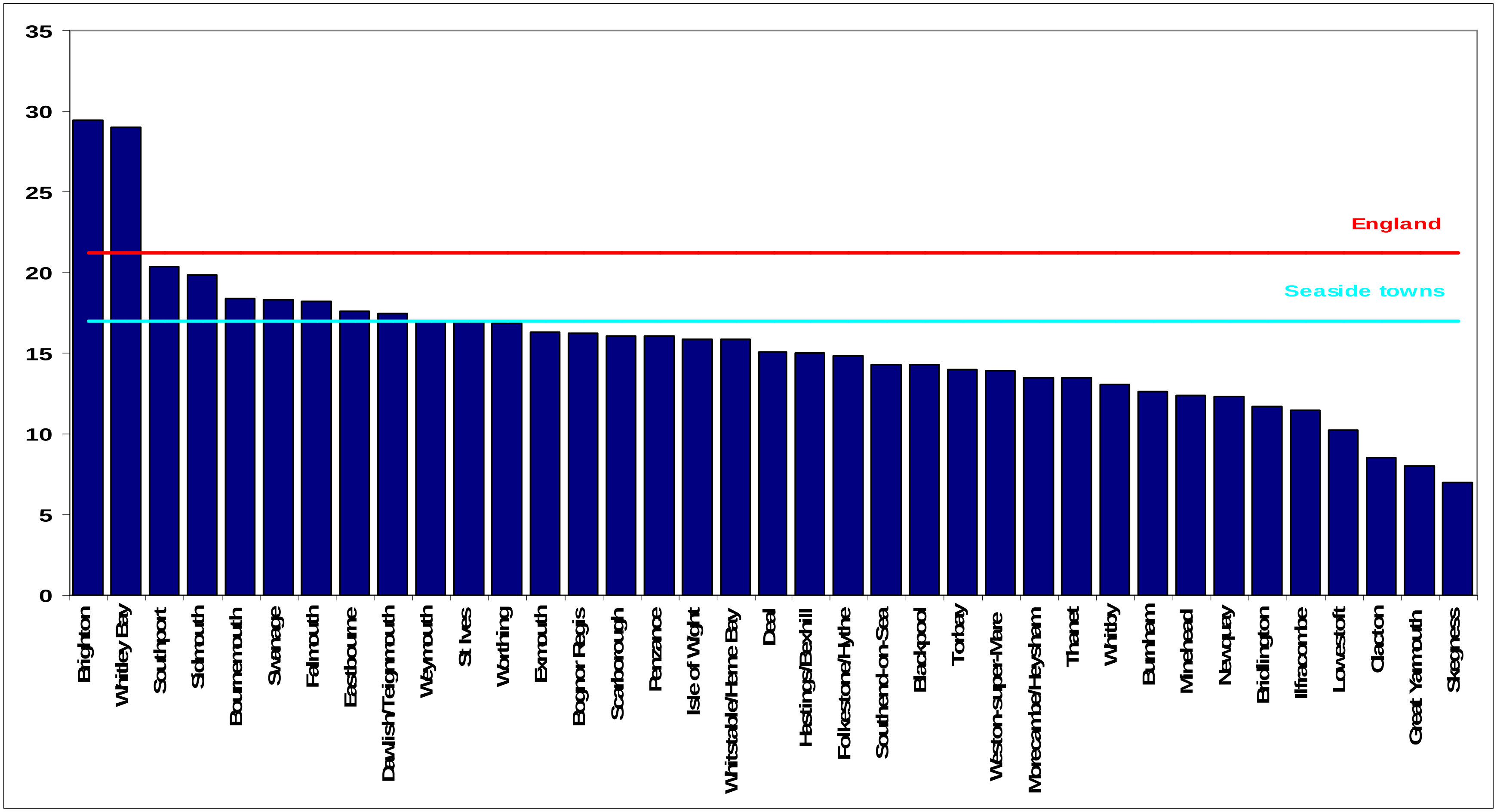
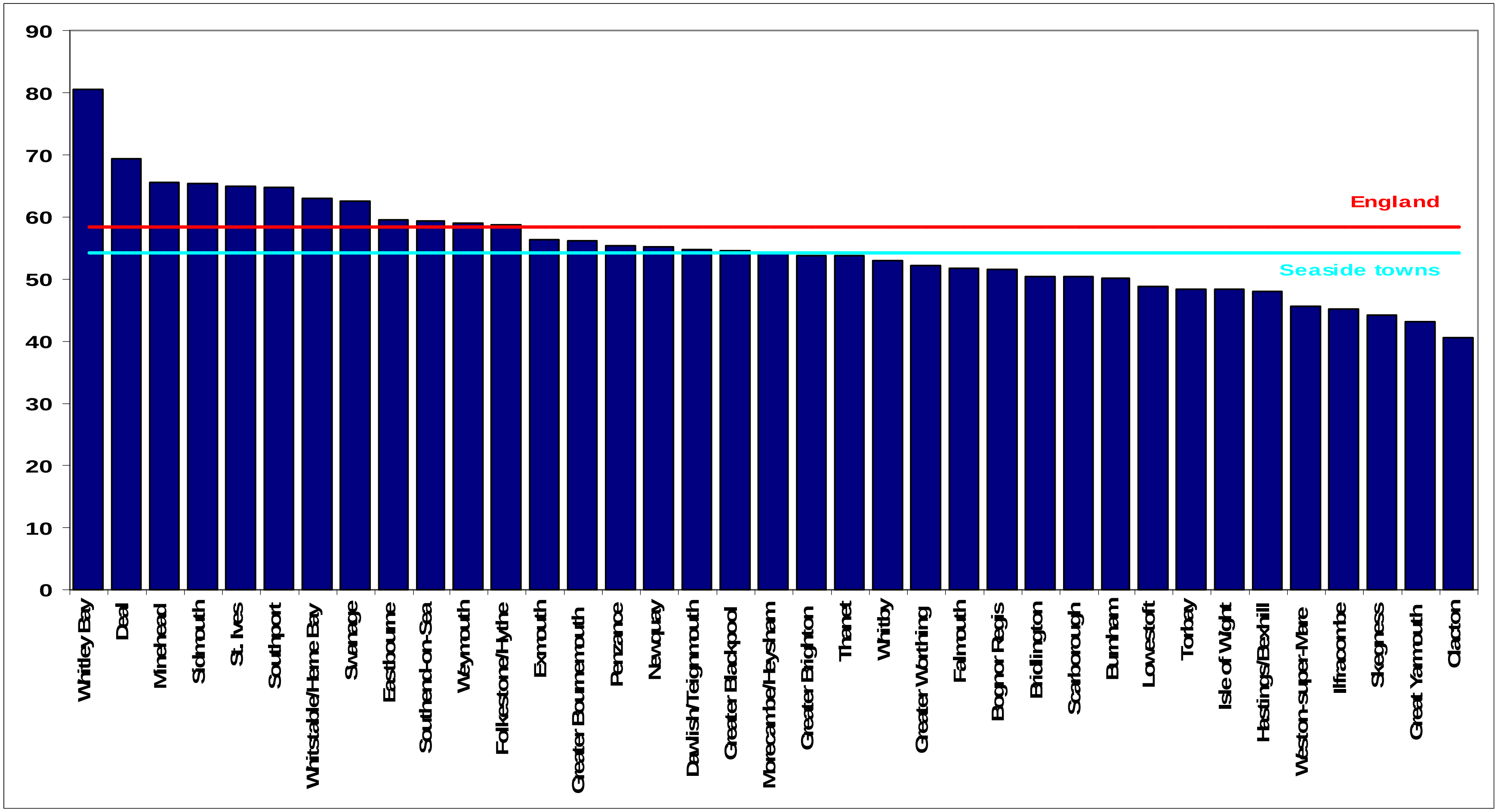
Share of working age population with Level 4/5 qualifications, 2001, per cent



Source: Census of Population

Estimated share of pupils achieving 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE, 2006, per cent



Source: DfES

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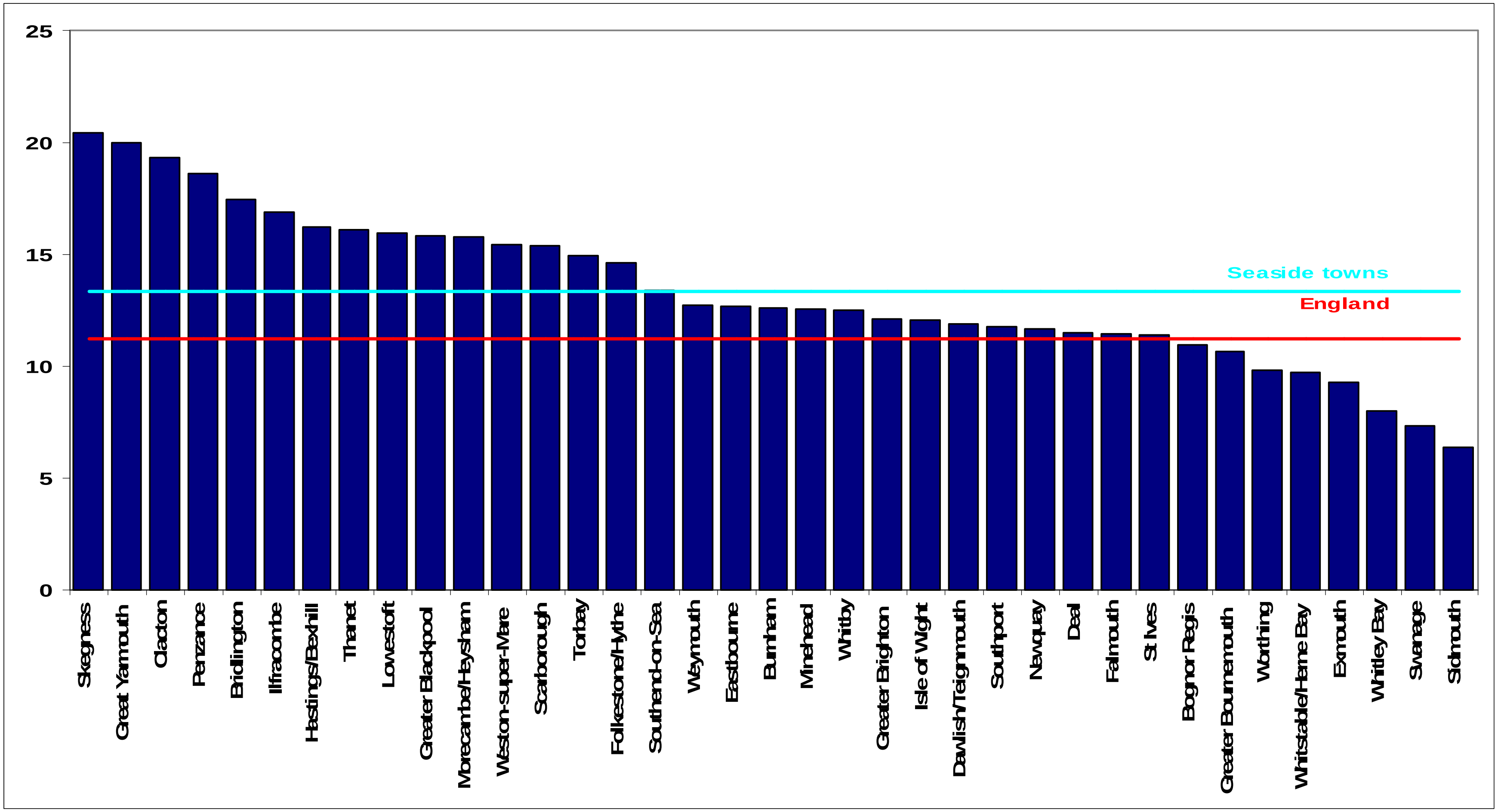
Working age benefit claimants

- **39,000 JSA claimants**
  36,000 IS lone parents
  147,000 IB/SDA claimants

- **JSA and IS lone parent rates close to English average**

- **IB/SDA claimant rate well ahead of average – 8.8 per cent of all 16-59/64 year olds, cf. 6.9 per cent**

Total working age claimant rate, May 2007, % of 16-59/64



Source: DWP

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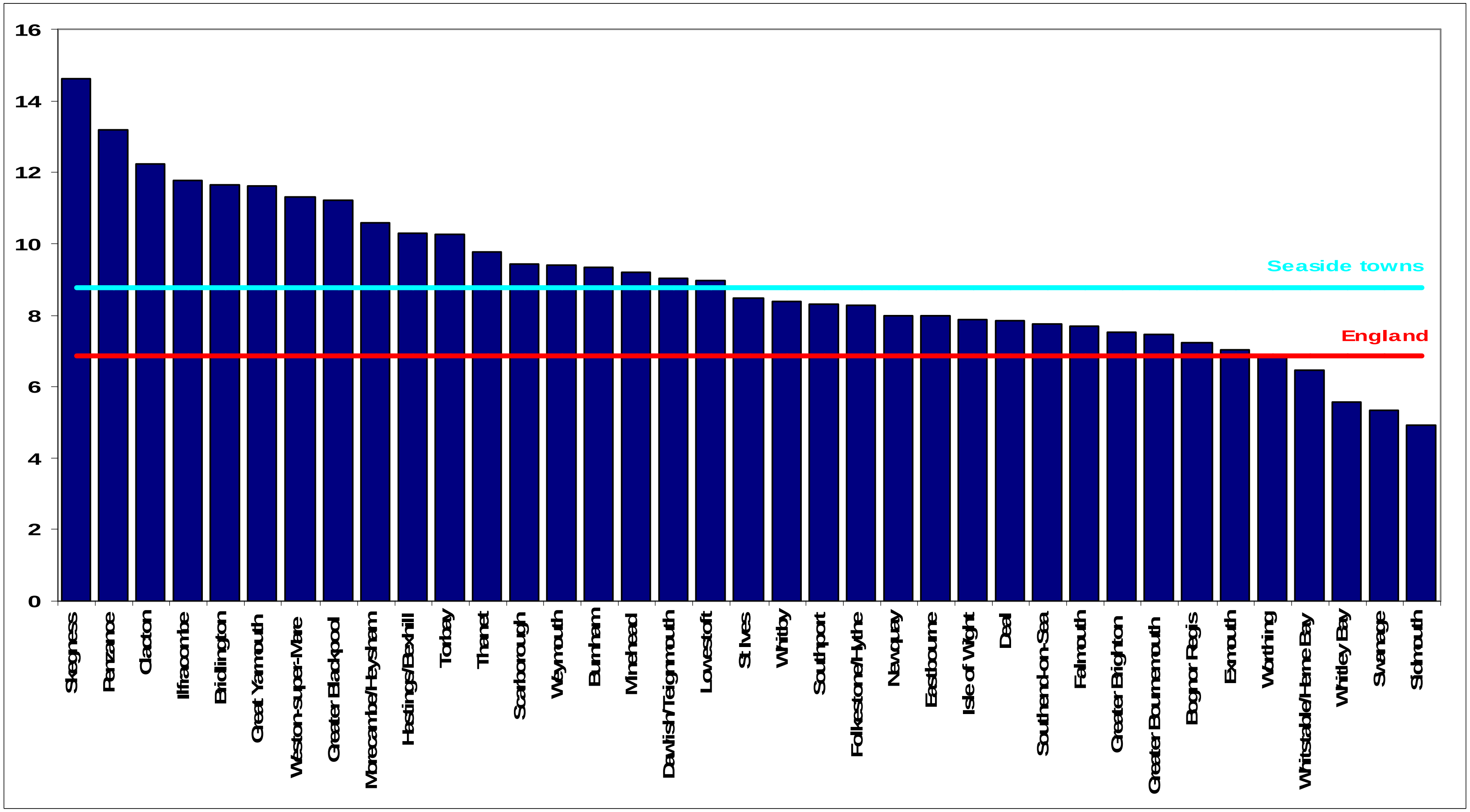
IB claimant rate; May 2007, % of 16-59/64



Source: DWP

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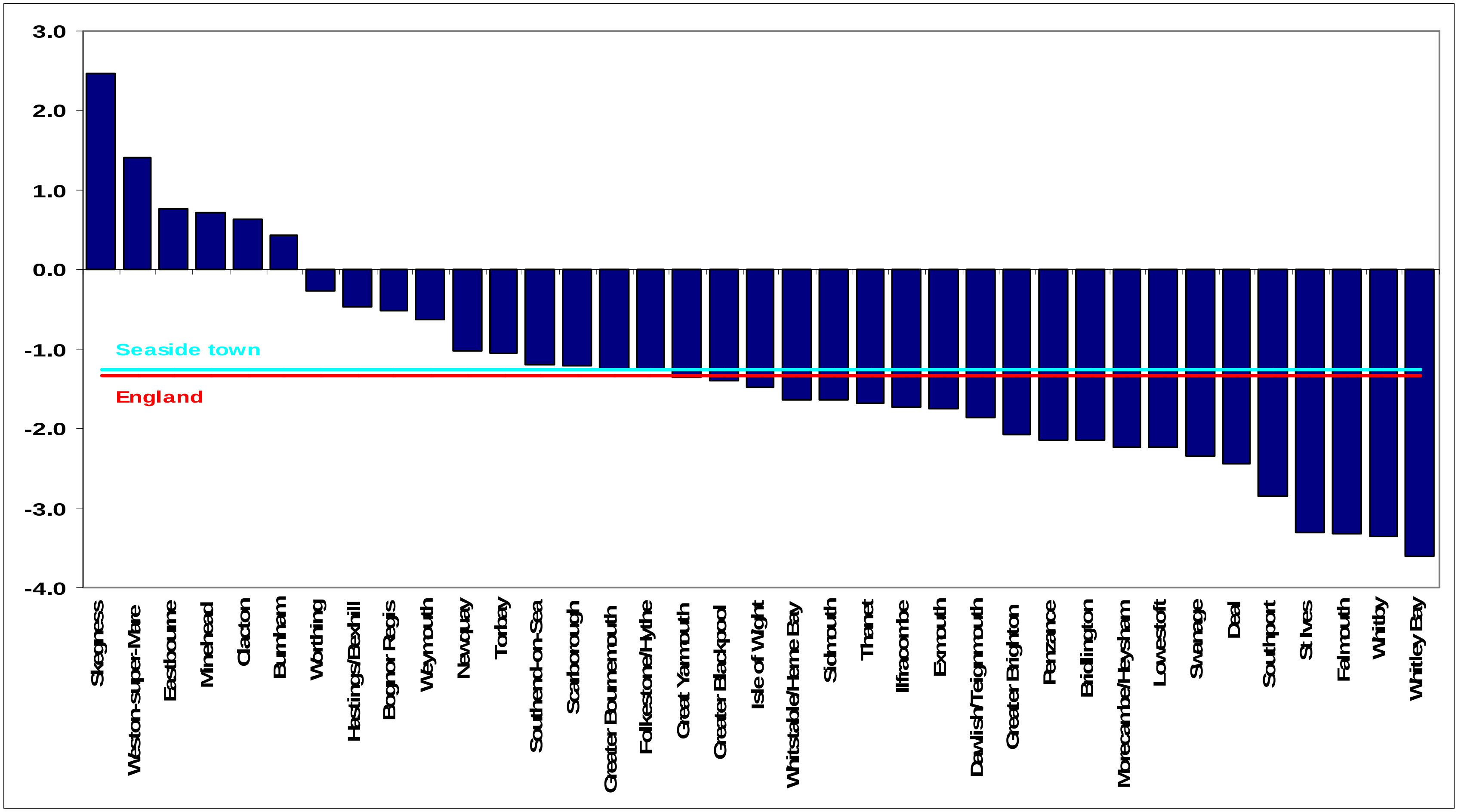
Change in claimant rates

- **JSA and IS lone parent claimant rates *down* slightly faster than English average 1999-2007**

- **IB/SDA claimant rate *up* by 0.6 percentage points 1999-2007, cf. no change for England**

Change in total working age claimant rate, August 1999 - May 2007



Source: DWP

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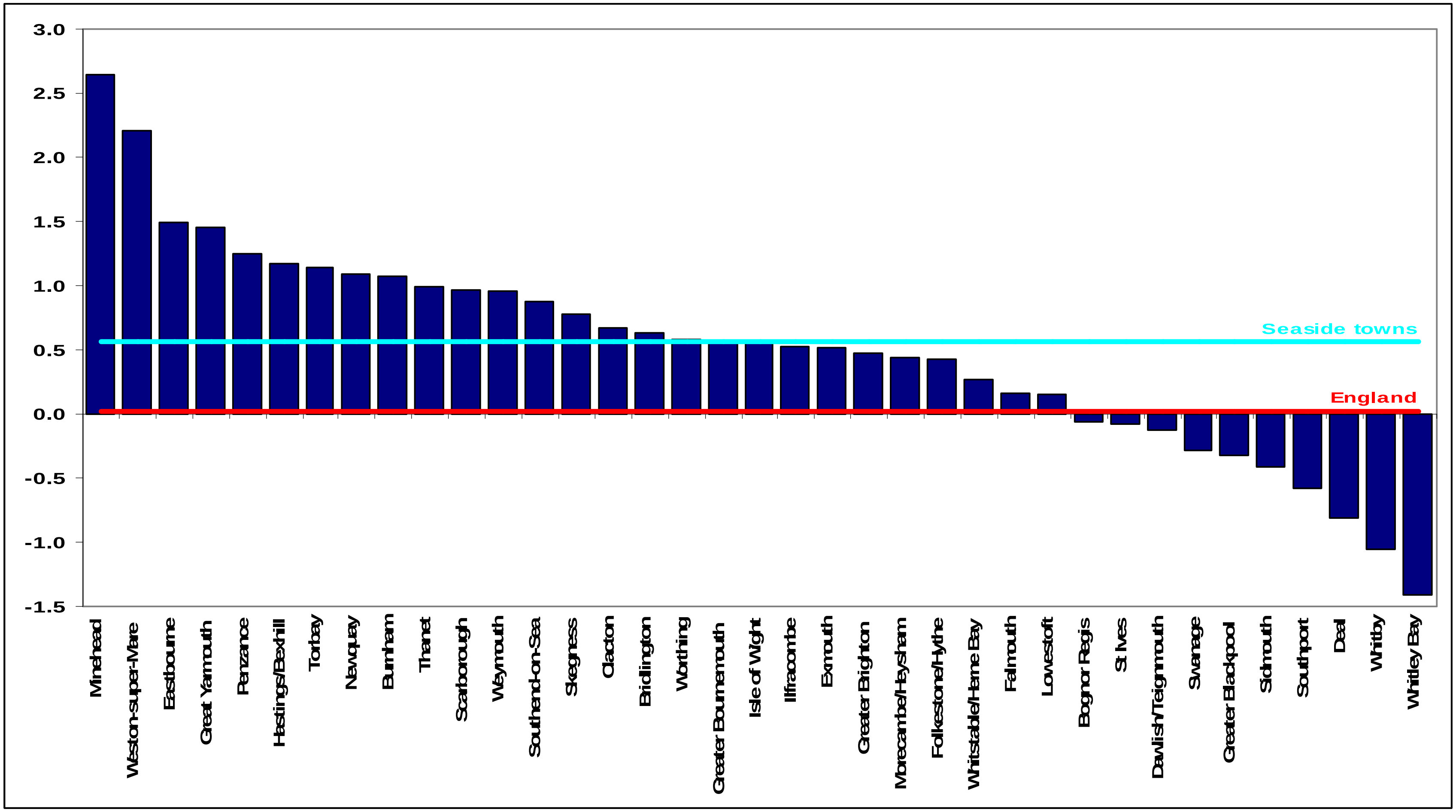
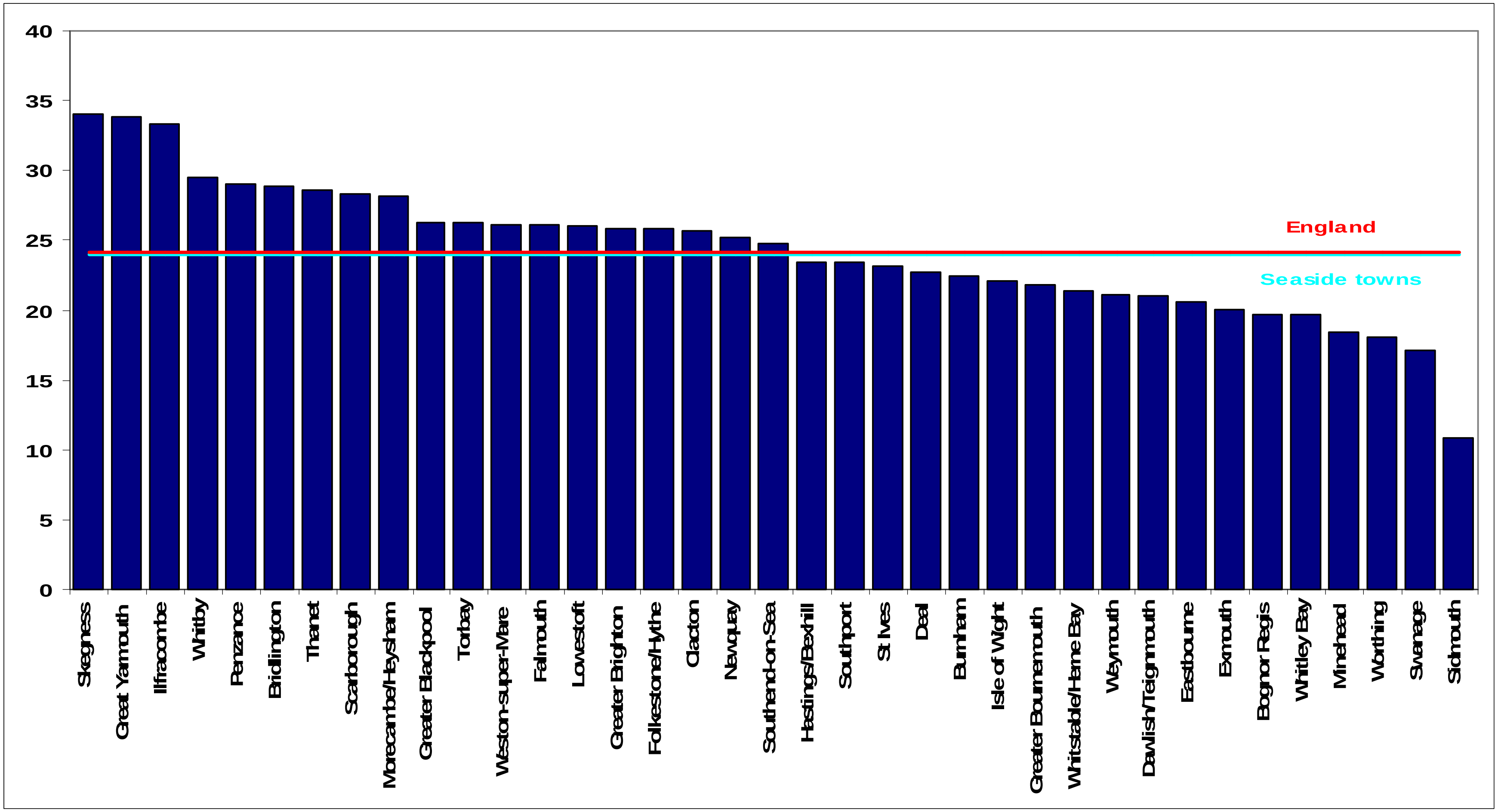
Change in IB claimant rate; August 1999 – May 2007



Source: DWP

Pension Credit claimant rate, May 2007, % of all aged 60/64+



Sources: DWP, ONS

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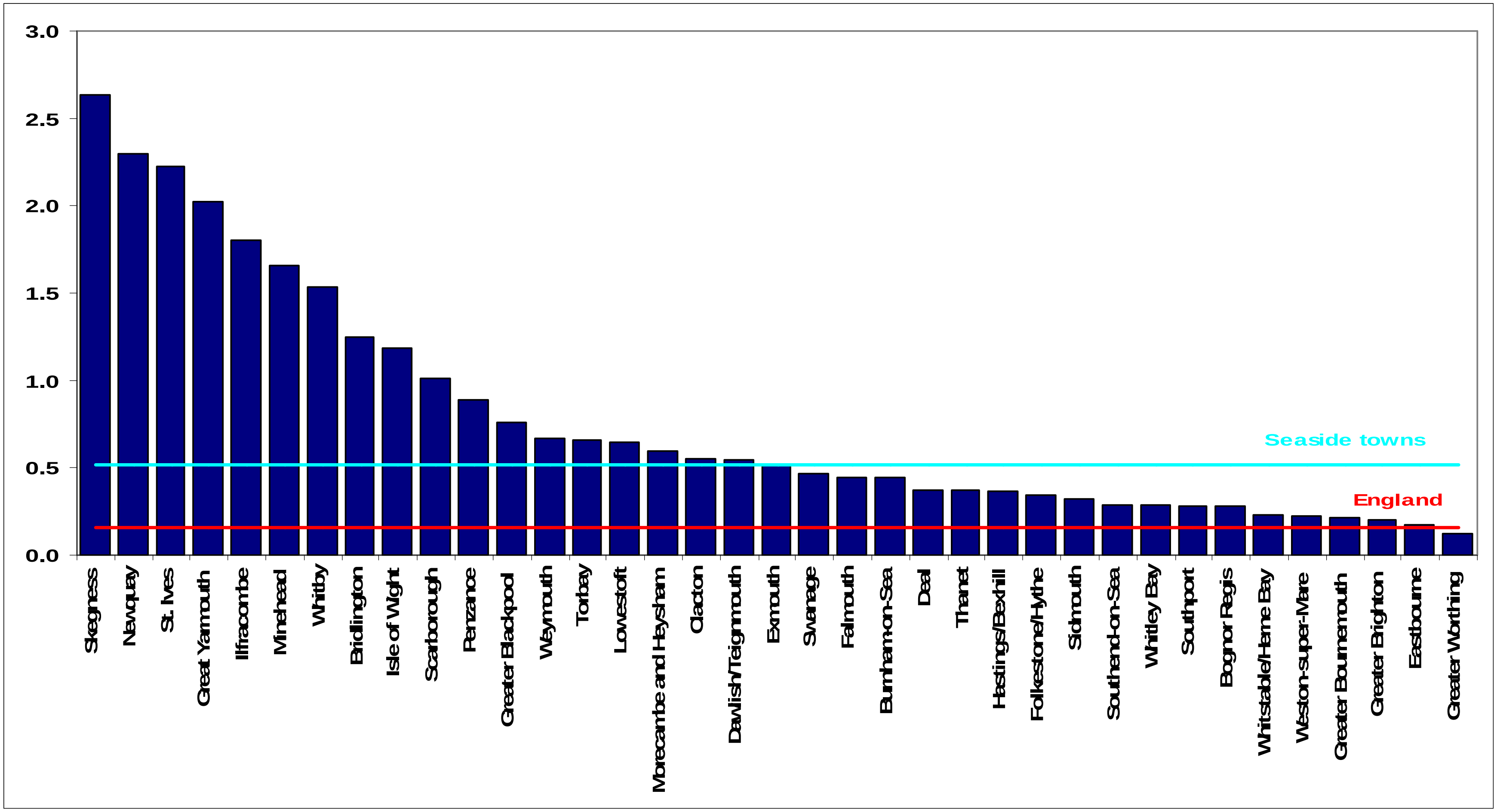
Average seasonal fluctuation in claimant unemployment rate, 2001-2007, per cent



Sources: DWP, ONS

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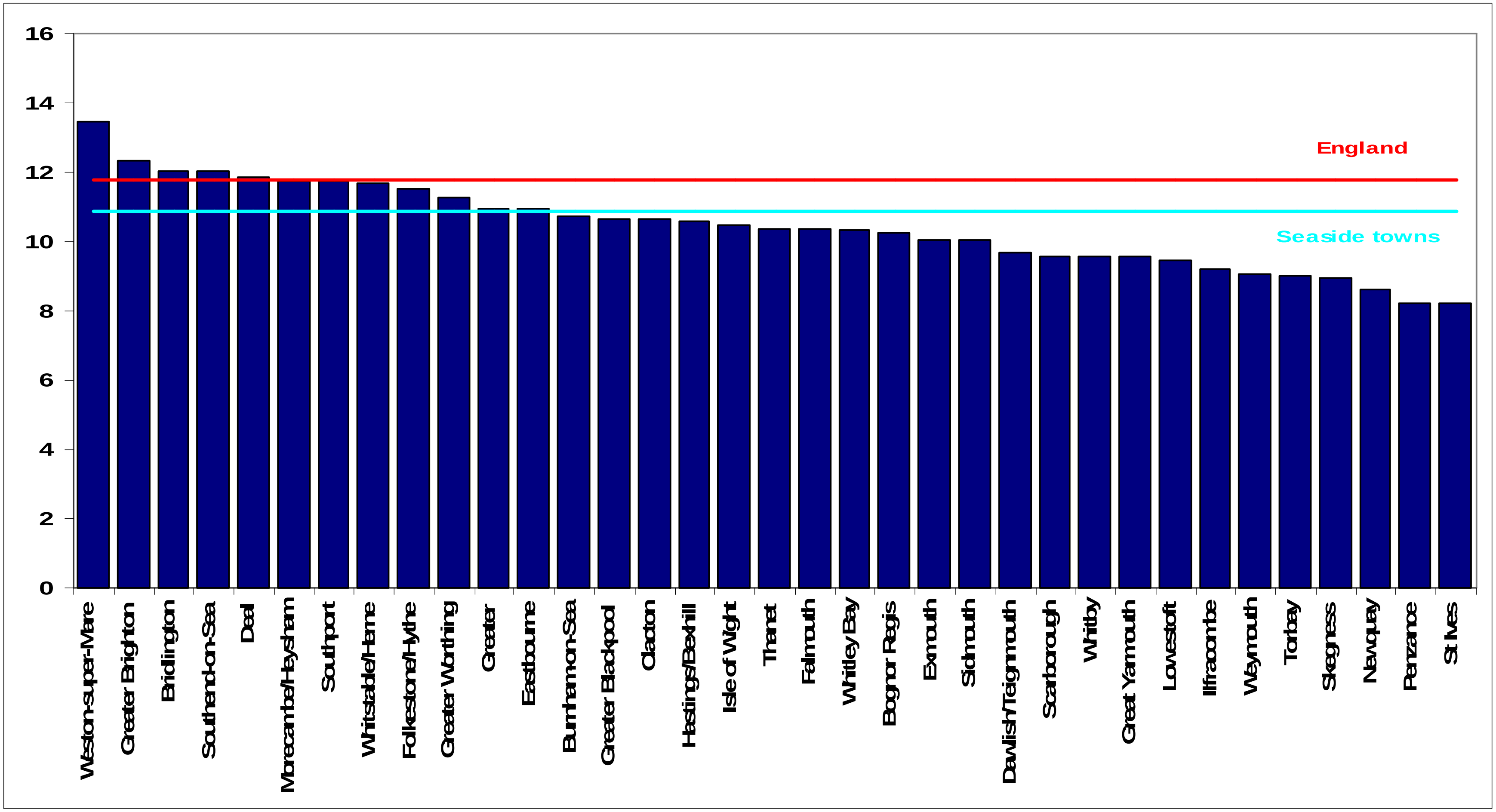
Median hourly earnings (£), male, 2007



Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings

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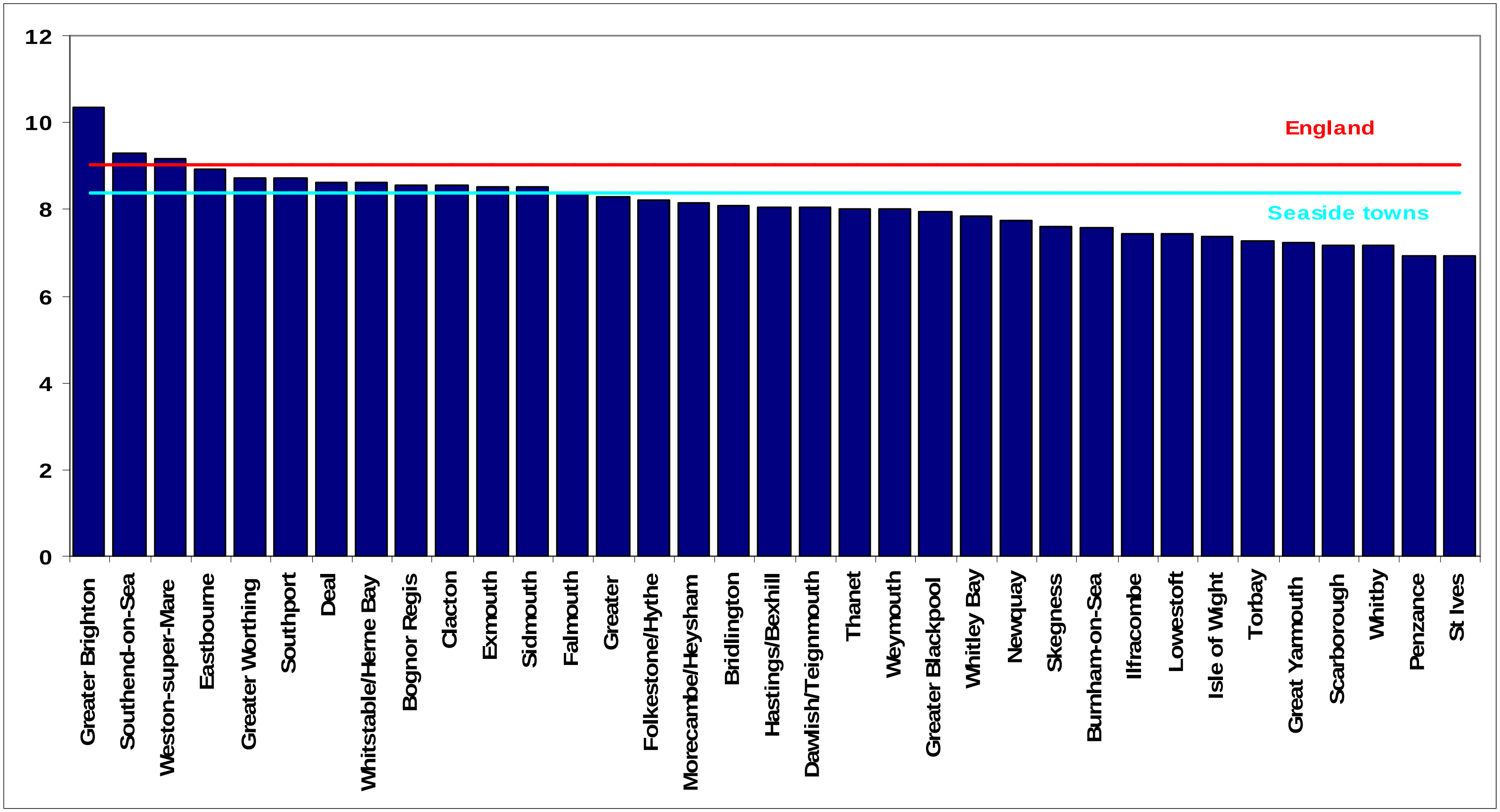
Median hourly earnings (£), female, 2007



Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings

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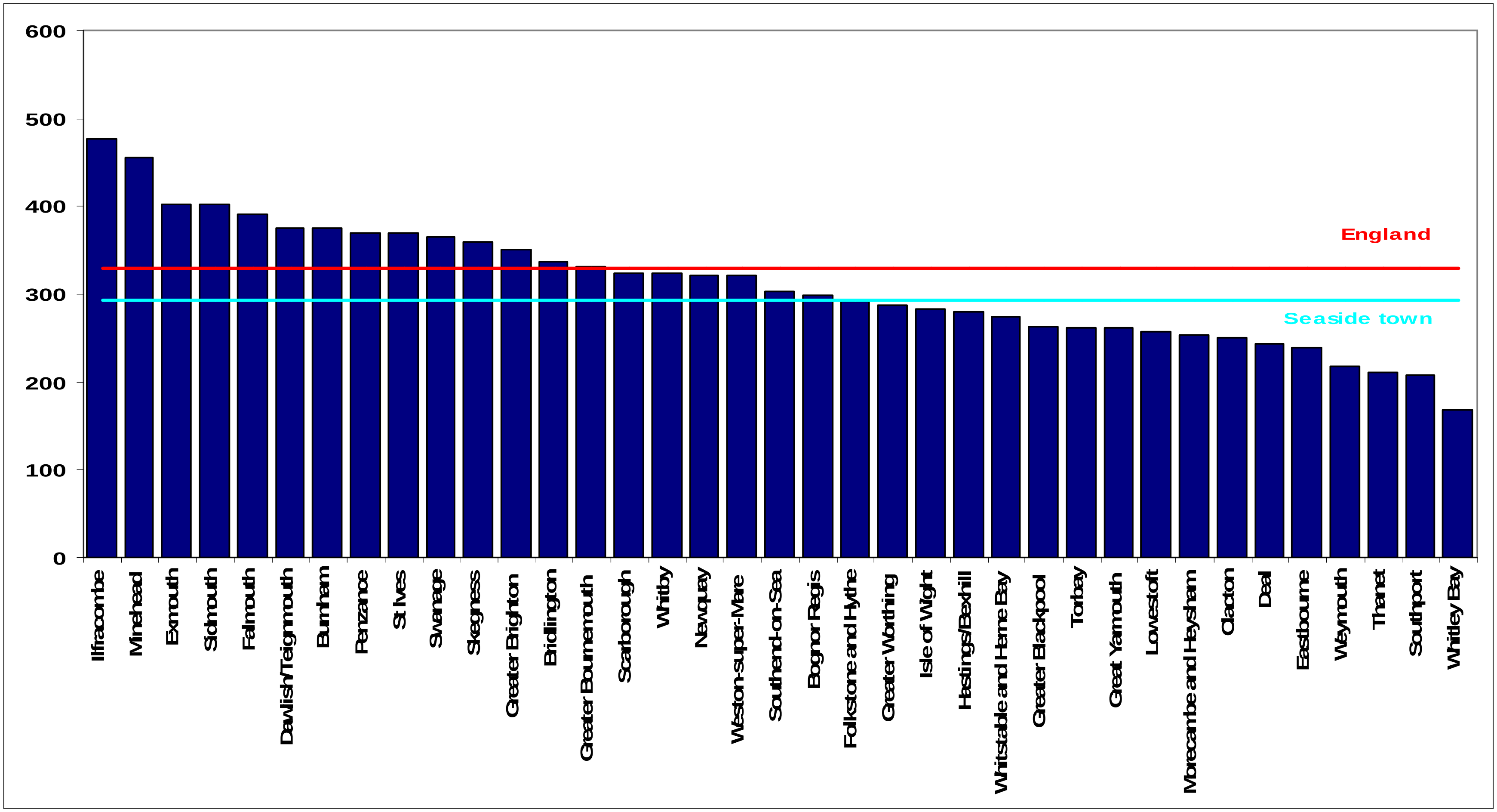
Business stock

- Stock of businesses (per 10,000 residents) is slightly below English average – but not greatly out-of-line with regions outside London

- Rate of new business formation is also not out-of-line with regions outside London

Stock of VAT registered businesses, per 10,000 residents, 2006



Source: DBERR

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Migrant workers

- Districts covering seaside towns have mostly attracted *fewer* migrant workers (in relation to existing pop) than average
- Bournemouth and Brighton are notable exceptions
- But district data probably understates concentration in towns themselves

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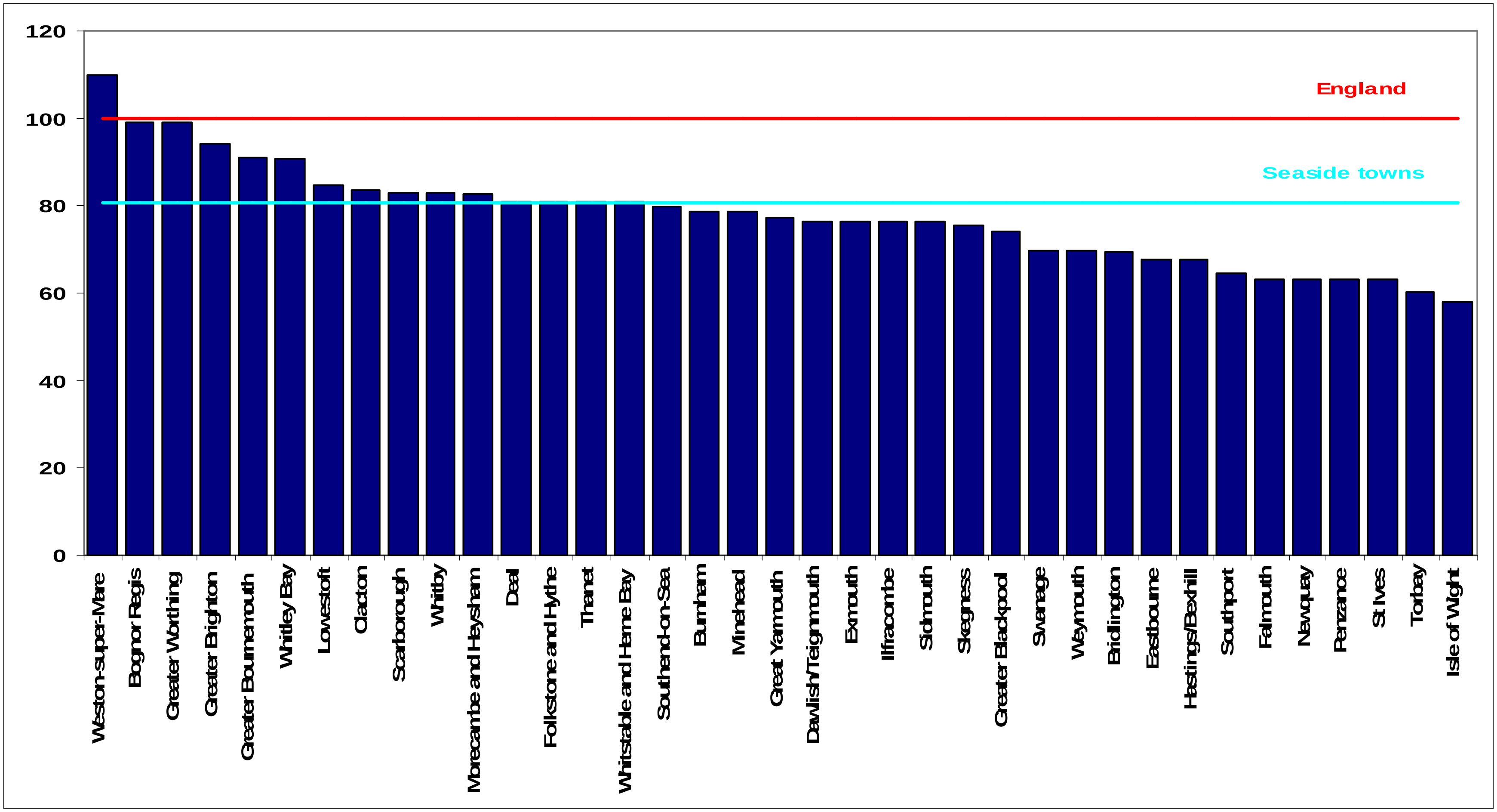
GVA per head in local NUTS 3 region, 2004



Source: ONS

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Housing tenure

- Slightly above average share of owner-occupiers
- Markedly low share in social rented sector
- High share in private rented sector – 16 per cent – more akin to London (17 per cent)

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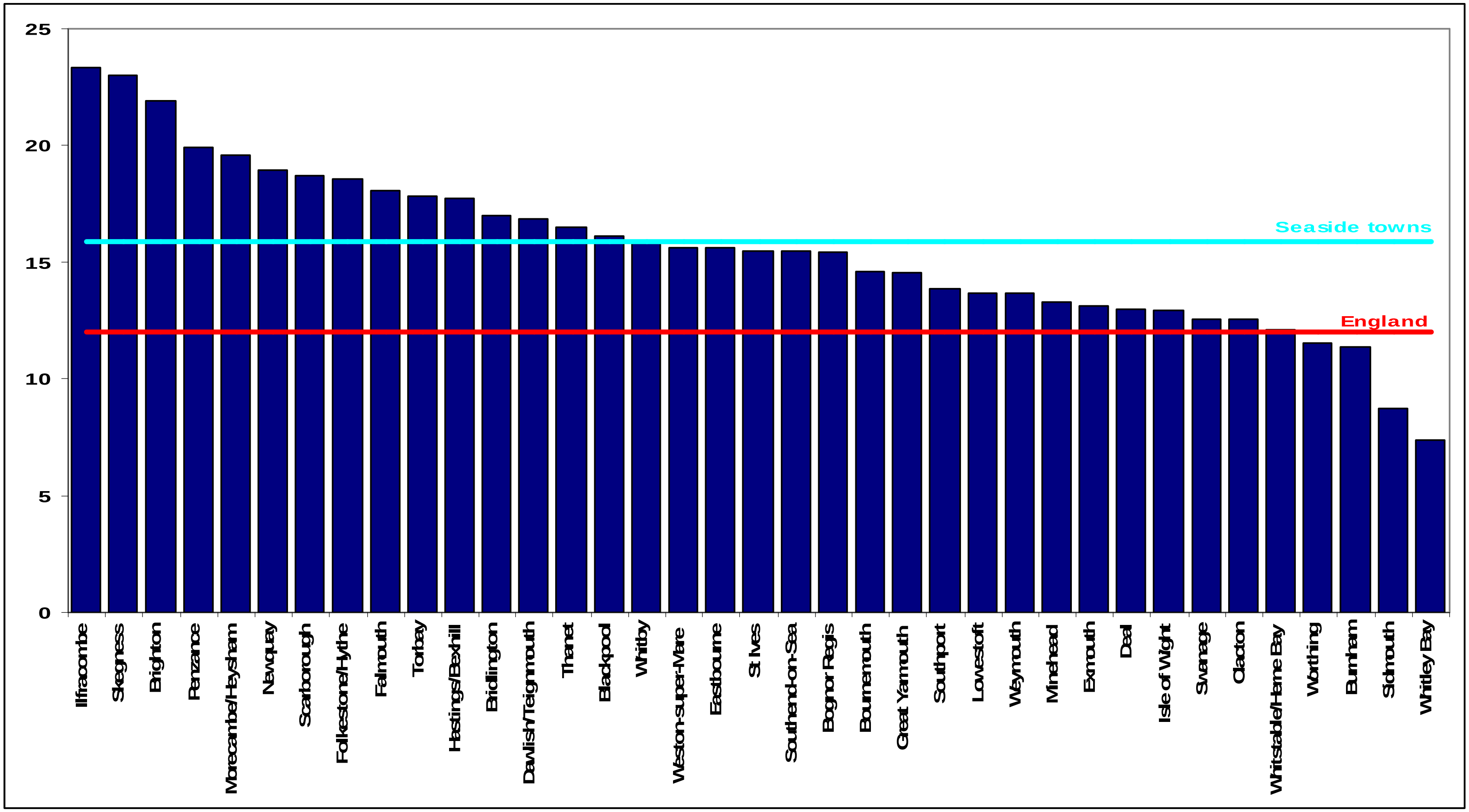
Households in private rented, 2001, per cent



Source: Census of Population

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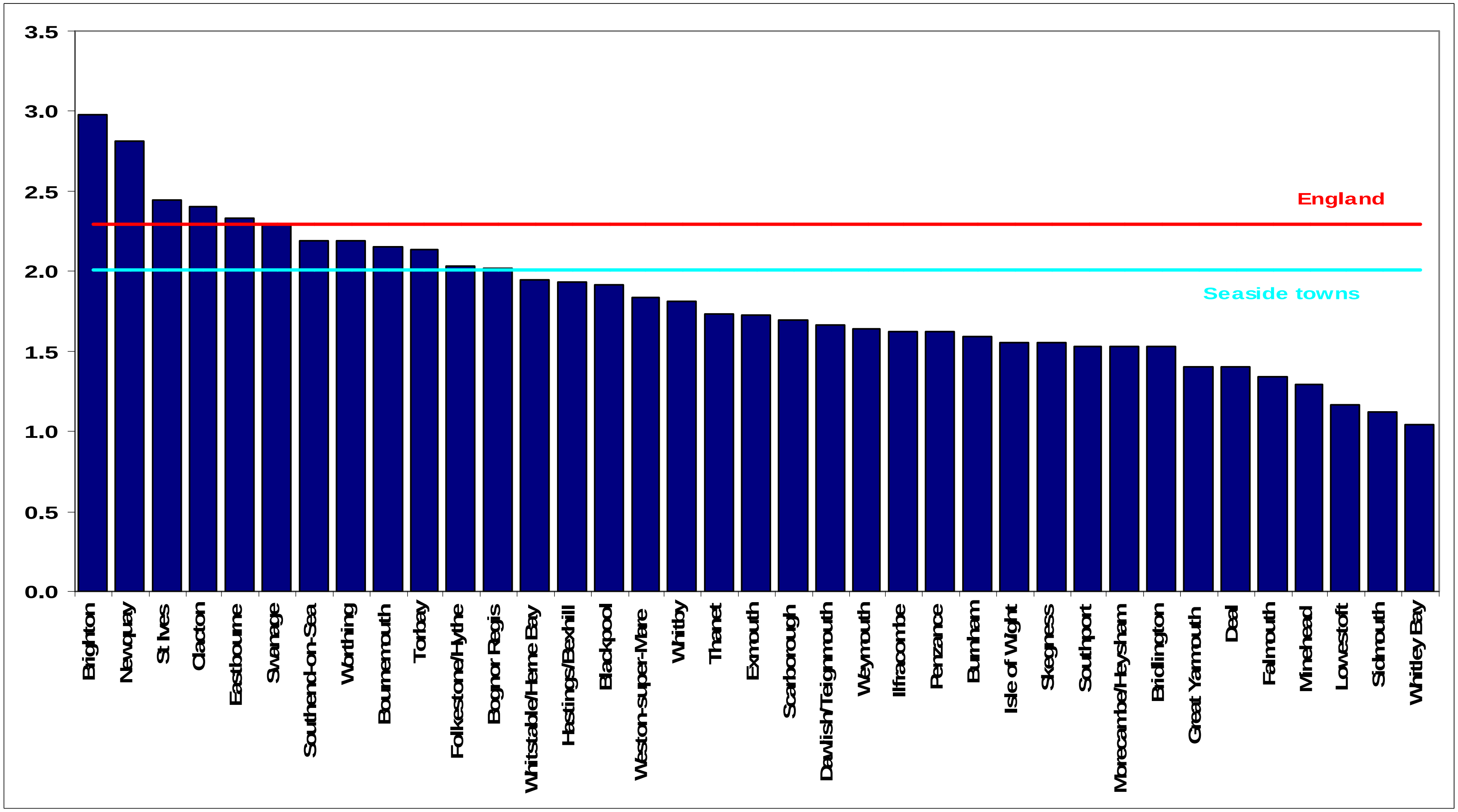
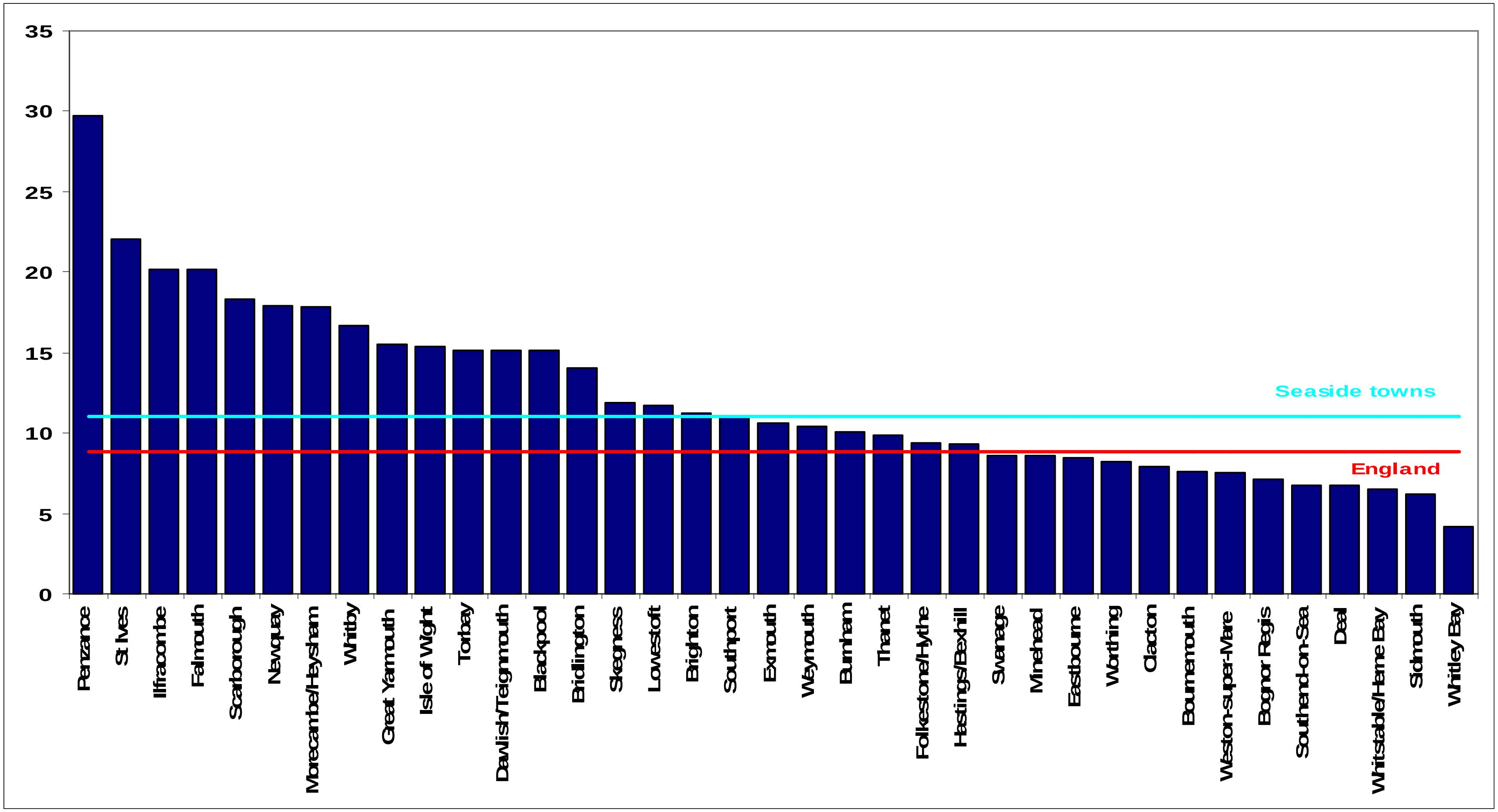
Overcrowded households as % of all households, 2001



Source: Census of Population

Households lacking key amenities, % of all households, 2001



Source: Census of Population

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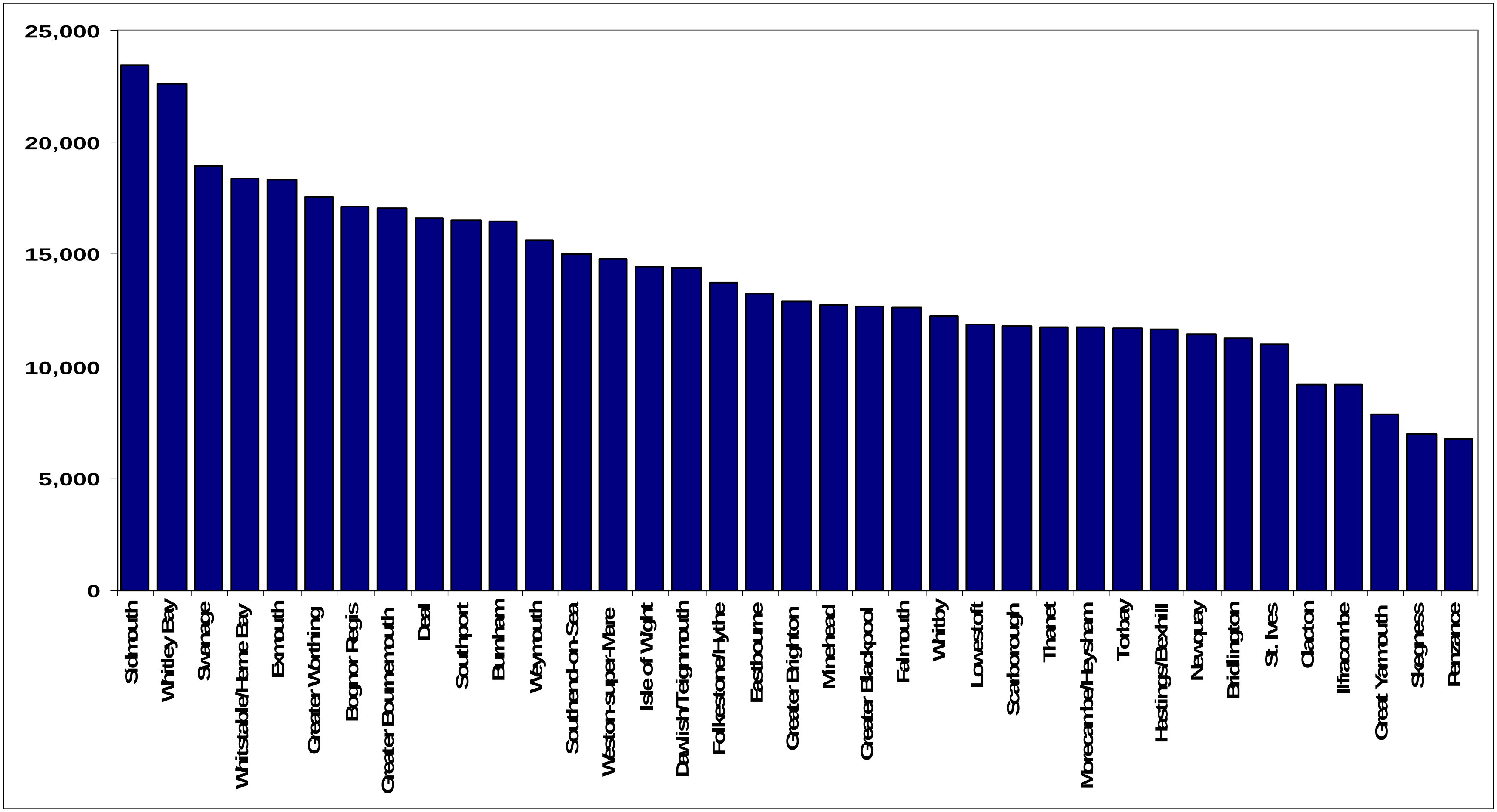
Overall deprivation ranking of LSOAs, 2007



Source: Indices of Deprivation

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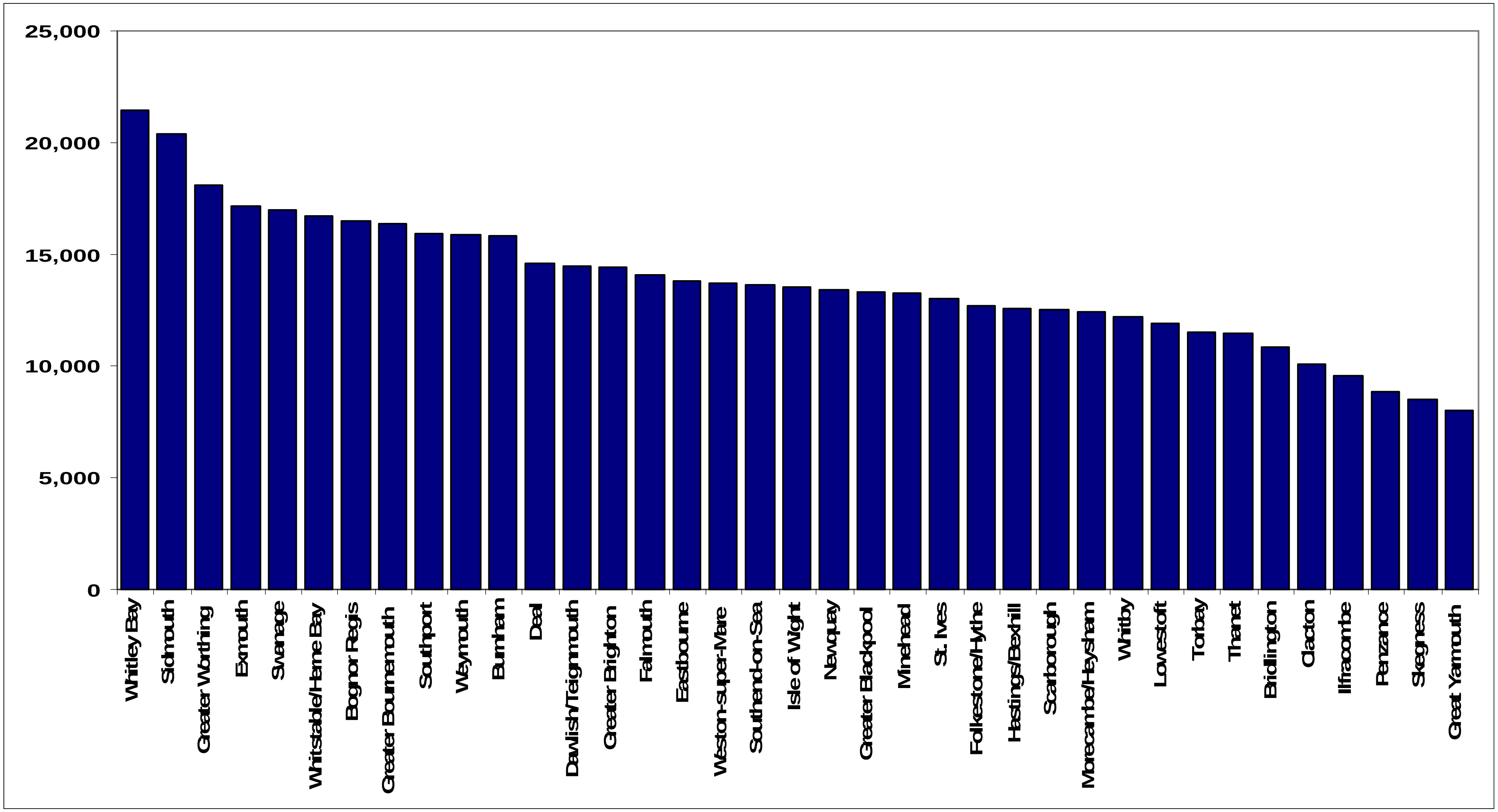
Income deprivation ranking of LSOAs, 2007



Source: Indices of Deprivation

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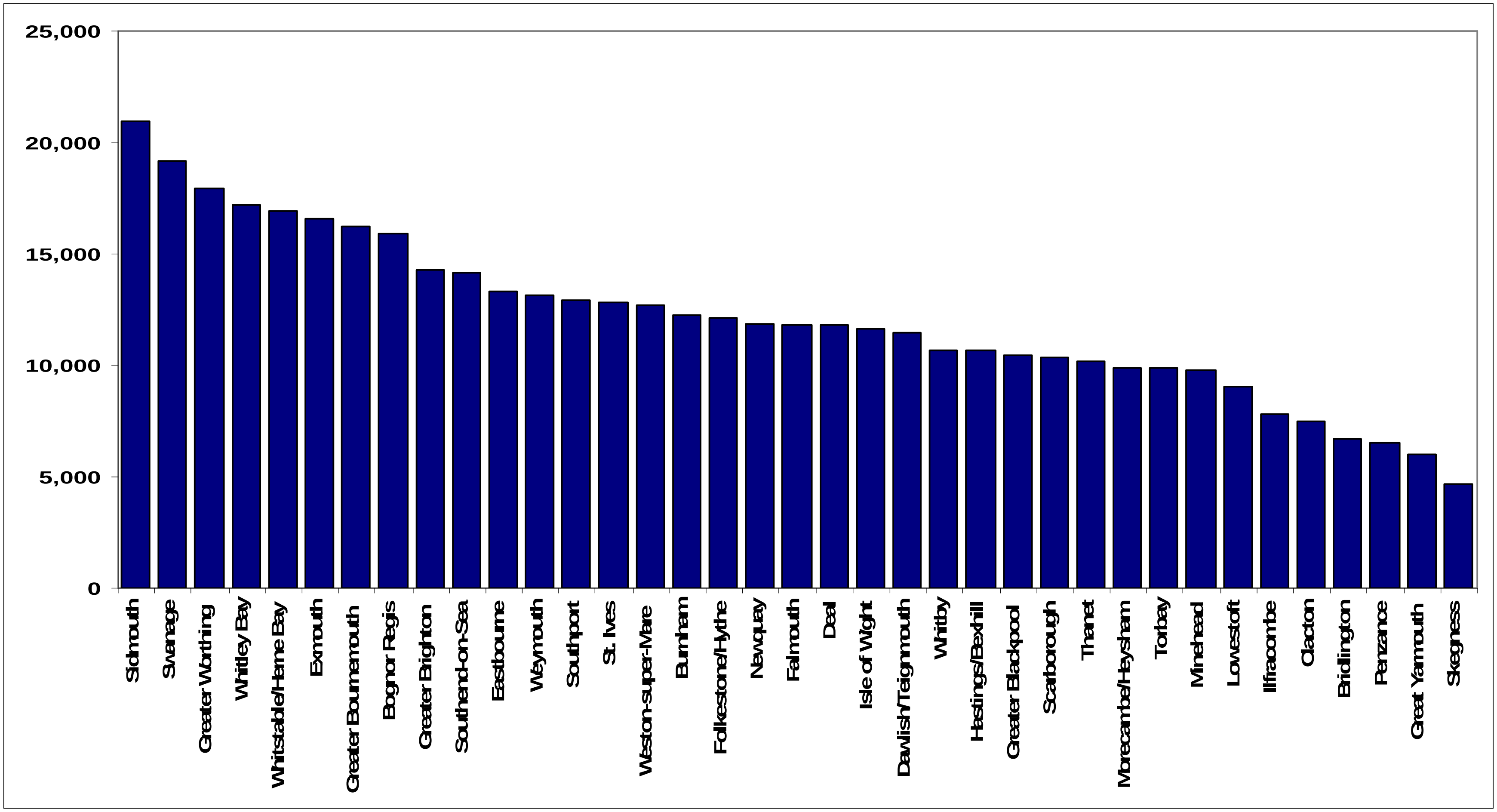
Employment deprivation ranking of LSOAs, 2007



Source: Indices of Deprivation

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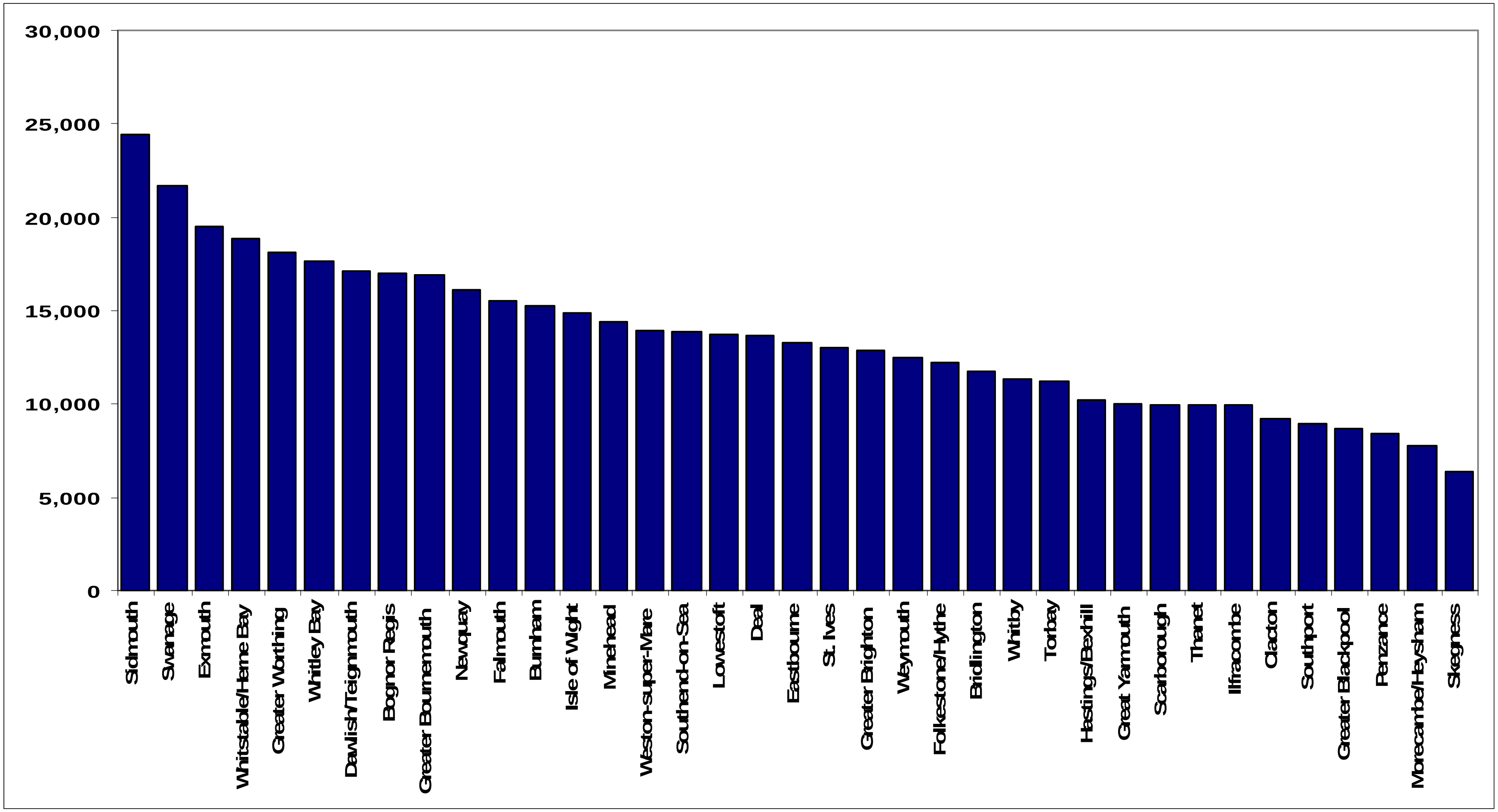
Health deprivation ranking of LSOAs, 2007



Source: Indices of Deprivation

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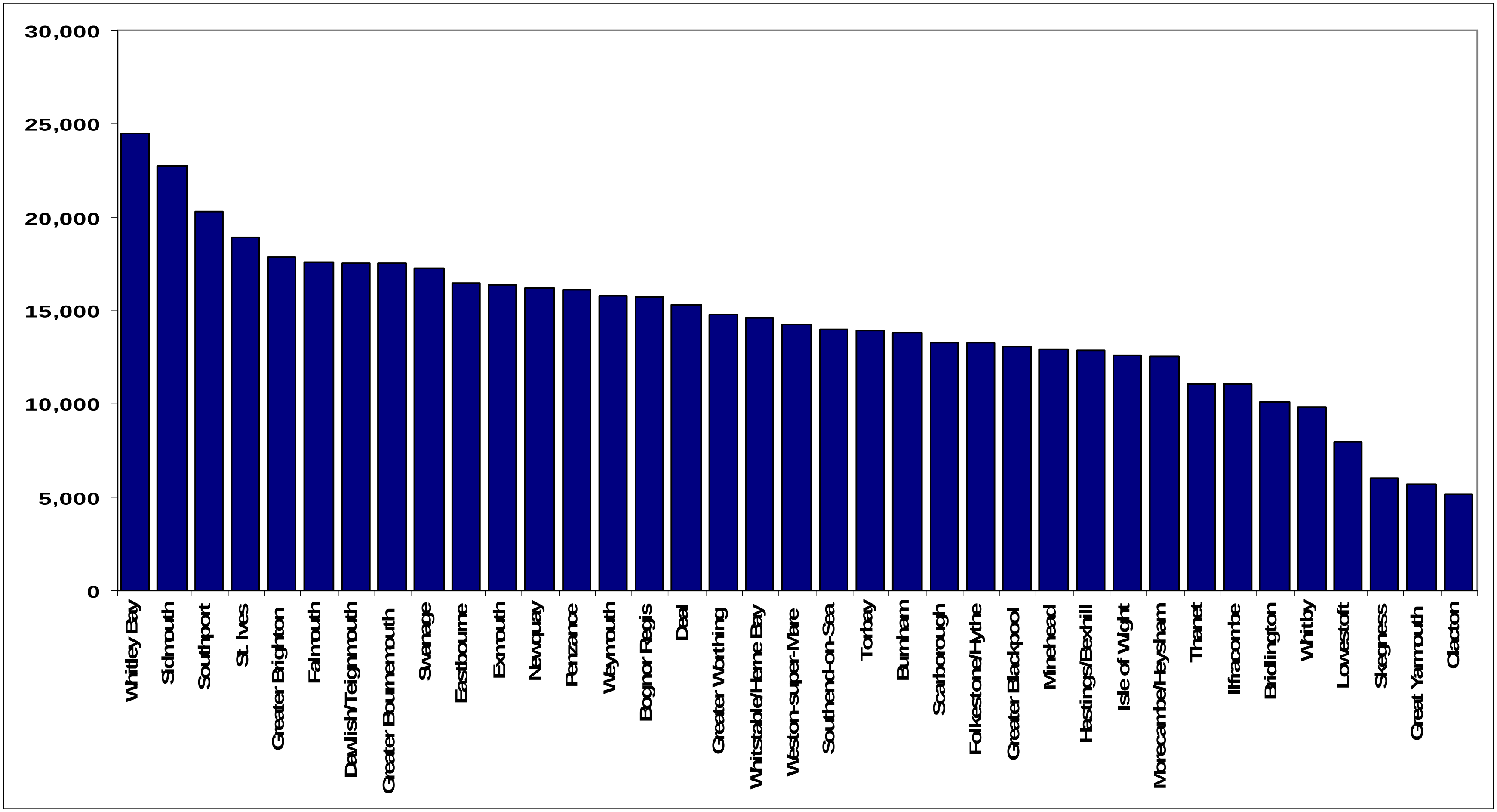
Education and skills deprivation ranking of LSOAs, 2007



Source: Indices of Deprivation

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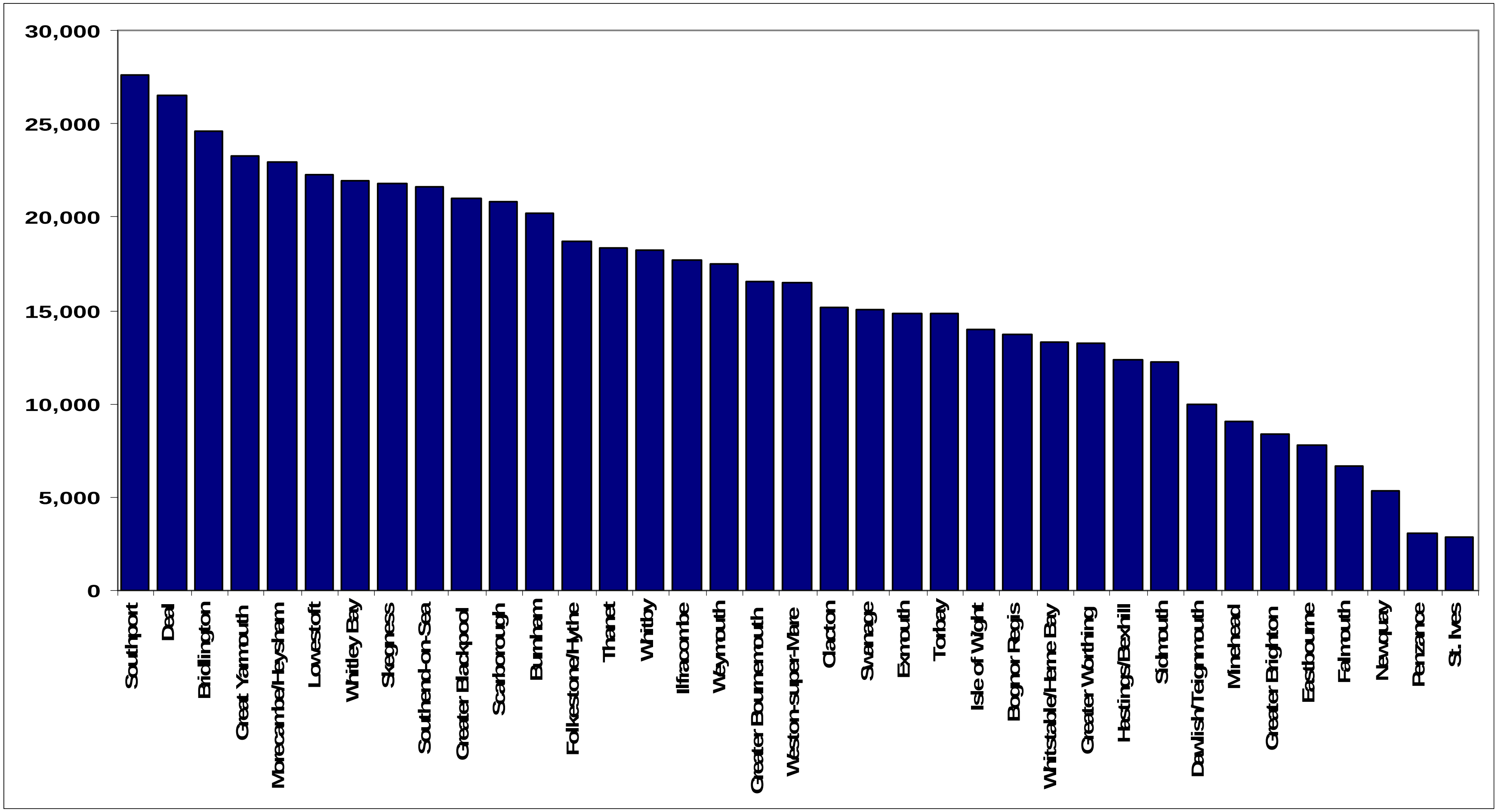
Barriers to housing and services deprivation ranking of LSOAs, 2007



Source: Indices of Deprivation

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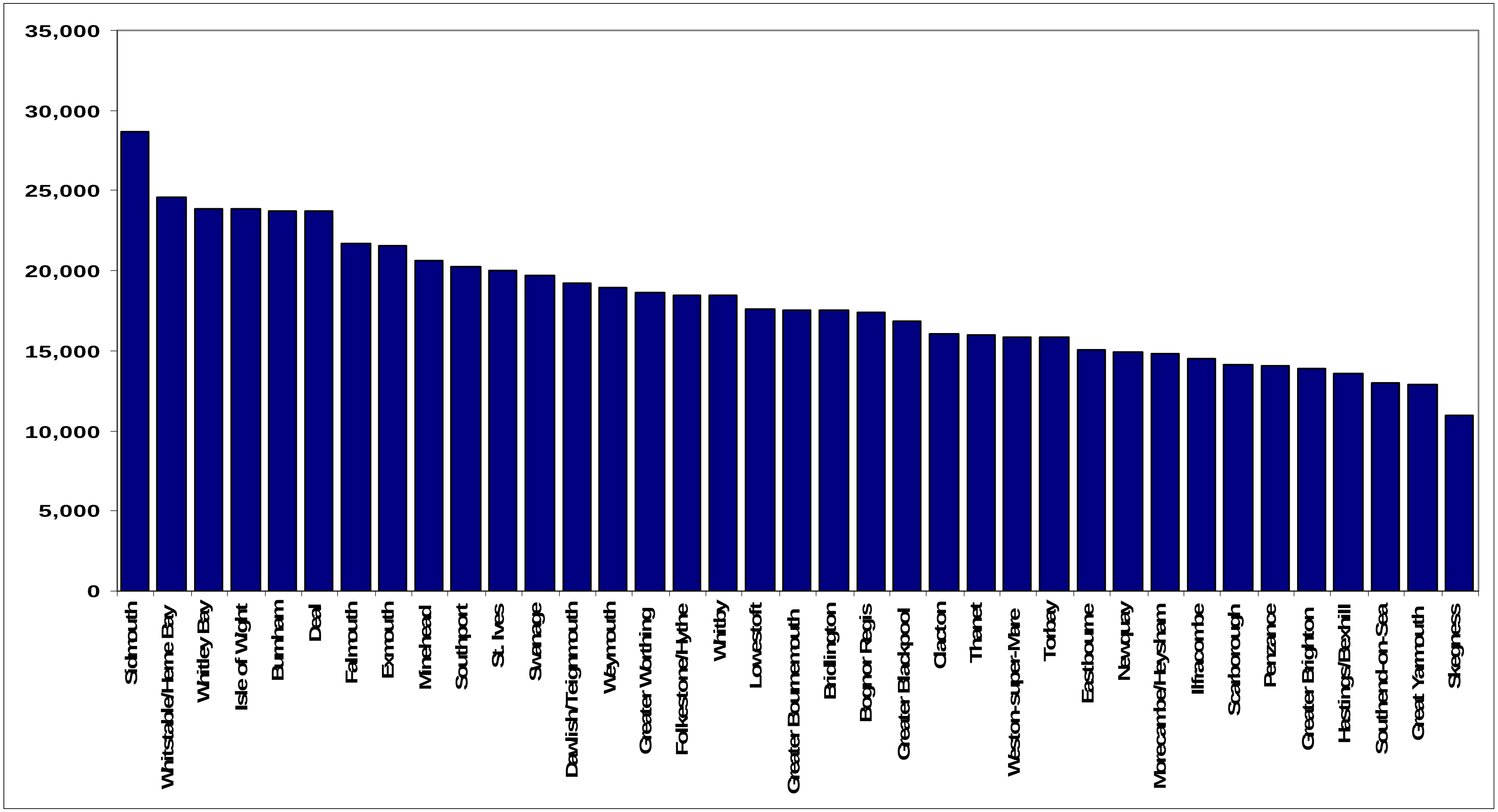
Crime ranking of LSOAs, 2007



Source: Indices of Deprivation

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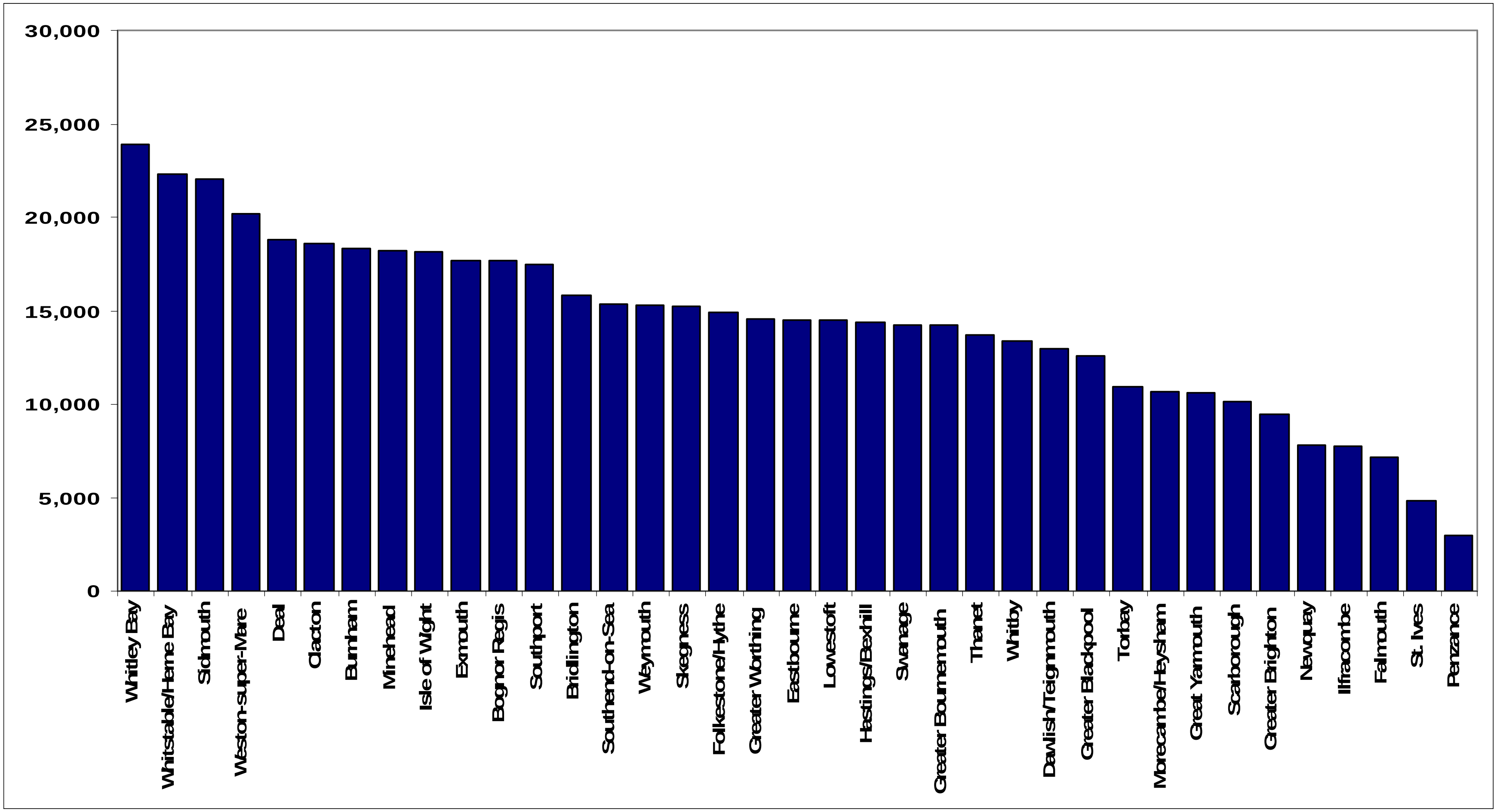
Living environment deprivation ranking of LSOAs, 2007



Source: Indices of Deprivation

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An assessment

- **On around three quarters of the indicators in the report, seaside towns are ‘worse’ than the English average**
- **But the gap isn’t always large**
- **And there is big diversity among the towns**
- ***Overall, England’s principal seaside towns are rather more disadvantaged than the rest of the country, but not markedly so***

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Towns with the strongest local economies

On the broadly 'economic' data within the IMD:

Bognor Regis, Exmouth, Greater Bournemouth, Greater Brighton, Greater Worthing, Sidmouth, Southport, Swanage, Whitley Bay, Whitstable/Herne Bay

(in alphabetical order)

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Towns with the weakest local economies

On the broadly ‘economic’ data within the IMD:

Bridlington, Clacton, Great Yarmouth, Ilfracombe, Lowestoft, Morecambe, Penzance, Thanet, Torbay, Skegness, Whitby

(in alphabetical order)

What about the big seaside towns?

On the basis of the same IMD data, the ranking of the largest nine seaside towns/areas (100,000+ pop) is *in order of disadvantage*:

Thanet

Torbay

Hastings/Bexhill

Greater Blackpool

Isle of Wight

Southend on Sea

Greater Brighton

Greater Bournemouth

Greater Worthing

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