



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Health Profiles

Questions about the data in the 2011 profiles

Please be aware these questions are not retrospectively updated and so external links might not work.

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Questions about the data in the 2011 profiles

What are the issues around the Increasing and Higher Risk Drinking indicator?

Alcohol consumption is an important cause of health inequalities. This indicator has been constructed by combining two indicators that estimate the rates of increasing risk and higher risk drinking. The combined indicator "Increasing and Higher Risk Drinking" shows all areas in England as amber, which means for all areas, the indicator is not significantly different to the England average. This is because the confidence intervals around the data are very wide, i.e. the method yields a high level of uncertainty. More information is available on <http://www.lape.org.uk/>

Why are the Health Profiles 2011 data based on the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007, instead of the IMD 2010?

The Slope Index of Inequality, the deprivation maps and charts and the Deprivation Indicator are based on IMD 2007. IMD 2010 was released in March 2011. This did not allow sufficient time for calculation and quality assurance of Health Profiles indicators and profiles for the annual release date. IMD 2010 is used for Health Profiles 2012 onwards.

Are there any changes to ward boundaries?

There are a small number of areas where ward boundaries were updated in May 2011 (ward boundaries are displayed on the deprivation maps). However the data required for this update were not available for inclusion in Health Profiles 2011.

Why are some data for the "Local Number per Year" not displayed?

In general, data for the "Local Number per Year" (numerator) are displayed where this data may be helpful. Some indicators are based on modelled estimates (e.g. adult health and lifestyle indicators), in which case there is no measured local value to report. For some indicators the actual measured data is not particularly helpful. For example, children's tooth decay measures the average numbers of decayed, missing or filled teeth in local 12-year old children. A total number of decayed teeth for the local authority would not be likely to be useful. When data for the "Local Number per Year" are not thought to be helpful, they are not displayed.