



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Health Profiles

Questions about the data in the 2017 profiles

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

Contents

Questions about the data in the 2017 profiles	3
Which indicators have changed compared to the previous profiles?	3
Why do the county Health Profiles show different range data from the district or unitary authority profiles?	3
Why is the England range for the statutory homelessness and smoking related deaths indicators not shown for district and unitary authority areas?	3
Why does statutory homelessness or smoking related deaths appear in the key messages (for my area) when a significance dot is not displayed for them on the spine chart?	4
Is there more information on the change in calculation of the slope index of inequality and the use of the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015?	4

Questions about the data in the 2017 profiles

Which indicators have changed compared to the previous profiles?

A list of changes is provided in the FAQ section of our website in the document “HealthProfiles2017_ListOfChanges.pdf”, <http://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/supporting-information/faqs>.

Why do the county Health Profiles show different range data from the district or unitary authority profiles?

Health Profiles divide local authorities into upper tier (which includes counties and unitary authorities) and lower tier (which includes districts and unitary authorities). Unitary authorities are included in both groups, because they have most of the functions of districts and counties.

The pdf Health Profiles for districts present ranges which include districts and unitary authorities.

The pdf Health Profiles for unitary authorities treat the unitary authorities as districts rather than counties. Therefore the pdf Health Profiles for unitary authorities present ranges which include districts and unitary authorities.

The pdf Health Profiles for counties present ranges which include unitary authorities and counties.

The Health Profiles online tool allows users to select upper tier local authorities (counties and unitary authorities) or lower tier local authorities (districts and unitary authorities). Unitary authorities can therefore be compared with counties or districts according to the user preference. This will affect the range that is presented for unitary authorities.

Why is the England range for the statutory homelessness and smoking related deaths indicators not shown for district and unitary authority areas?

For districts and unitary authorities, a large number of rates cannot be calculated reliably due to small counts for the indicators. If more than 25% of all district and unitary authorities have no rates calculated, the range is considered too incomplete, and the range information is not shown.

Where individual areas do have a valid value, these are displayed in the spine chart and are compared to the benchmark on the online tool. This is in line with the approach taken in the Public Health Outcomes Framework data tool.

This methodology is also applied to the Health Profiles online tool (area profile display).

Why do statutory homelessness and smoking related deaths appear in the key messages (for my area) when a significance dot is not displayed for them on the spine chart?

Whilst the England range for these areas is suppressed on the spine chart for the reasons described above, areas with a valid value are still compared to the England average (and can be seen on the online tool). The key message logic checks for significance compared to the England average for these indicators for the local area, regardless of whether the England range is suppressed.

Is there more information on the change in calculation of the slope index of inequality (SII) and the use of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2015?

The Technical user guide – PHOF overarching indicators provides further information on how the SII is calculated and IMD2015. This document is available at <http://www.phoutcomes.info/further-information>