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Release: Inequality in Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth by National Deciles of Area Deprivation: England, 2010-12

Released: **22 July 2014**

- Males in the most deprived areas have a life expectancy 9.1 years shorter (when measured by the range) than males in the least deprived areas; they also spend a smaller proportion of their shorter lives in 'Good' health (70.8% compared to 85.0%).
- Females in the most deprived areas have a life expectancy 6.8 years shorter (when measured by the range) than females in the least deprived areas; they also expect to spend 17.2% less of their life in 'Good' health (66.1% compared to 83.2%).
- Males in the most advantaged areas can expect to live 19.4 years longer in 'Good' health than those in the least advantaged areas as measured by the Slope Index of Inequality (SII). For females this was 19.8 years.

In this release

Reference tables (1)

This release contains a reference table providing Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) and Life Expectancy (LE) at birth for national deciles of area deprivation in England. It also provides two measures of inequality, the range and Slope Index of Inequality (SII), for the period 2010-12.

[All editions of this release](#)

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Categories: [Health and Social Care](#), [Health of the Population, Disability and Self-reported Health](#), [Health Expectancy](#), [Subnational Health Expectancies](#)

Frequency of release: Annually

Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) were allocated to deprivation deciles using their respective deprivation score as measured by the English Index of Multiple Deprivation ([IMD 2010](#)). These scores were then used to rank the areas which were then divided into 10 groups with approximately equal numbers of LSOAs in each.

HLE was calculated using the Sullivan method which combines prevalence data with mortality and mid-year population estimates (MYPE) over the same period and decile aggregation to calculate estimates of LE and HLE at birth by sex ([ONS Life Table Template](#) (192.5 Kb Excel sheet) ; Jagger et al, 2007). [The MYPEs used to estimate HLE for this bulletin are the revised backdated estimates based on the 2011 census.](#)

The prevalence of 'Good' general health used in calculating HLE estimates was obtained from the Annual Population Survey (APS). It was aggregated over a three-year period (2010-12) to achieve sufficiently large sample sizes to enable meaningful statistical comparison.

The APS provides prevalence information for those over the age of 16. We are able to estimate HLE at birth by directly imputing health prevalence at age 16 -19 for those under 16 ([ONS, 2013a](#)).

Measures of Inequality

This release uses two measures to compare the least and most deprived groups of areas. The first is the range which shows the absolute difference between the least and most deprived area deciles. The second is the Slope Index of Inequality (SII) which measures the gap in HLE by taking into account the inequality across all adjacent deciles of relative deprivation, rather than focusing only on the extremes.

The use of the range can mask the scale of inequality as it ignores the inequality present between the intervening deciles. The SII better represents the magnitude of the absolute inequality in HLE between more and less deprived areas, as it reflects the experiences of the whole population. It is, therefore, more sensitive to changes in the socioeconomic profile of all areas (Low and Low, 2004). SII can be interpreted as the range in HLE between the most and least deprived parts of the population, based on the line of best fit.

Previous releases in this series showing the inequality in HLE at birth for national deciles of area deprivation can be found on the [ONS website](#).

Other Useful Information

A list of the names of those given [pre-release access](#) to the statistics and written commentary is available in the pre-release access list. The rules and principles which govern pre-release access are featured within the Pre-release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008.

A [quality and methodology information report for ONS health expectancies](#) (185.7 Kb Pdf) is available on the ONS website. Quality and methodology information reports are overview notes which pull together key qualitative information on the various dimensions of statistical quality as well as providing a summary of the methods used to compile the particular output.

Language: English

Geographical coverage: England

Geographical breakdown: Other

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, which signifies compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

These National Statistics are produced to high professional standards and released according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

[Inequality in Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth by National Deciles of Area Deprivation: England - Pre-release access, 2010-12](#)

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