

## Lancashire Insight Newsletter

### February 2018 articles

#### Introduction

The February 2018 newsletter includes provisional estimates of average earnings in 2017, household waste, recycling and landfill figures, and passenger journey statistics by bus and for Blackpool Airport.

The health and care theme contains the latest life expectancy at birth and healthy life expectancy figures. We have updated the healthy eating (part of food and nutrition), healthy weight, physical activity, alcohol and tobacco pages.

If you have any comments on the content of this newsletter, or the new Lancashire Insight website in general, please email [businessintelligence.insight@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:businessintelligence.insight@lancashire.gov.uk). You can also use this email address to subscribe/unsubscribe to this newsletter.

#### Geographic areas used in Lancashire Insight reports

The Lancashire-12 area is comprised of the 12 local authorities that fall within the Lancashire County Council administrative boundary. The Lancashire-14 area incorporates the two additional unitary authorities of Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool, and has the same geographic footprint as the Lancashire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area and the Lancashire Constabulary area.

The boundary of the Lancashire and South Cumbria Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) area, and the geographic areas of the eight NHS clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) which make up that area, are also mapped on the [geographies](#) web page of Lancashire Insight.

For statistical purposes, the 28-member European Union is divided into different geographic levels - the so-called nomenclature of units for territorial statistics (NUTS) areas. The North West is a NUTS-1 level region. The Lancashire-14 area is [a NUTS-2 level sub-region](#). There are six smaller [NUTS-3 level areas](#) in the Lancashire-14 area, which include both the Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool NUTS-3 areas.

Lower-layer super output areas (LSOAs) and middle-layer super output areas (MSOAs) are designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics. Each LSOA contains between 1,000-3,000 people (400 to 1,200 households). There are typically between one and six LSOAs per ward in the Lancashire-14 area. Each MSOA contains between 5,000-15,000 people (2,000 to 6,000 households). The number of MSOAs per local authority in the Lancashire-14 area ranges from eight MSOAs in Ribble Valley to 20 MSOAs in Lancaster.

#### Recent updates to the [Lancashire Insight](#) website

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## **Average earnings and hours of work, 2017 (provisional estimates)**

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has published provisional estimates from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) for 2017. Interpretation of the figures requires caution as the results have wide margins of error, especially at the district level.

Median gross annual [earnings](#) for all employees by place of residence in the UK for April 2017 stood at £23,474. For the Lancashire-14 area, the figure was £21,056, or 10.3% less than the UK median figure. Blackpool (£17,320) had the lowest residence-based median gross annual earnings within Great Britain (GB). Fylde (£24,098) was the only local authority in the Lancashire-14 area where residence-based median annual gross earnings exceeded the UK median (Pendle and Wyre figures were not available).

For workplace-based earnings, the gross annual figure for the Lancashire-14 area for all employees was £21,000, which was 10.5% below the UK figure of £23,474. Fylde district (£28,259) had the 27<sup>th</sup> highest workplace based median gross annual earnings in GB. Blackpool had the lowest workplace-based median gross annual earnings within the Lancashire-14 area at £18,073, ranked 17<sup>th</sup> lowest in GB (Pendle, Rossendale and Wyre figures were not available).

## **Bus passenger journeys**

The Department for Transport has released figures for [bus passenger journeys](#) for 2016/17 from the Public Service Vehicle Survey (excluding school bus journeys and dial-a-ride services).

There has been a pattern of continuing decline in bus passenger journeys in the Lancashire-14 area over the past seven years with numbers decreasing by 24.9% (England = a drop of 3.8%). In 2016/17, there were 45.5 million bus passenger journeys in the Lancashire-12 area, which was -4.4% lower (-2.1m journeys) than a year earlier. In Blackpool, journeys fell by -7.4% (-0.8m journeys) over the year to 10.0m. In Blackburn with Darwen, journeys fell by -5.0% (-0.2m journeys) between 2015/16 and 2016/17) to 3.8m journeys. England bus passenger journeys fell by 1.5% over the year.

## **Blackpool Airport passenger journeys**

Blackpool Council bought [Blackpool Airport](#) in September 2017 and took full control of the operating company Regional and City Airports (Blackpool) Holdings Ltd and approximately 30 employees.

[Figures from the Civil Aviation Authority](#) show that the 2017 passenger total for Blackpool Airport (23,391) was the lowest since 1961 with numbers falling by 35.5% (-12,878 passengers) between 2016 and 2017. The majority of the 2017 total consisted of passengers on chartered helicopter flights (21,485) to offshore gas rigs and 1,906 passengers on the scheduled [Citywing](#) Isle of Man / Belfast flights (until March 2017, when Citywing went into liquidation).

[Annual surveys taken by the Civil Aviation Authority](#) estimate 2,359,000 passengers using Manchester Airport in 2016 began or finished their journeys in the Lancashire-14 area and 481,000 passengers using Liverpool Airport were coming from or going to places in the Lancashire-14 area.

## **Household waste recycling and waste sent to landfill**

The 2016/17 [household waste sent for recycling, reuse and composting](#) figures reveal that the Lancashire-12 area had a rate of 45.6% which was under the North West rate of 45.9% but above the England average of 43.7%. The Lancashire-12 percentage dropped by -6.0 percentage points over the previous year. This compares with a rise of 0.7 percentage points for England.

Within the Lancashire-14 area, recycling, reuse and composting rates varied between lows of just 31.4% in Preston and 32.9% in Hyndburn, to 50.5% in Fylde. Only four of the Lancashire-14 authorities saw improvements in their recycling rates over the past 12 months (Burnley, Hyndburn, Blackburn with Darwen and Rossendale).

In 2016/17, 15.9% of municipal waste in England was sent to landfill, down from 19.8% in 2015/16. The percentages were 51.4% for the Lancashire-12 area (up from 30.9% in 2015/16) and 58.2% for Blackpool (up from 16.9% in 2015/16). For Blackburn with Darwen, the percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill has fallen substantially, from 67.1% in 2014/15, to 22.8% in 2016/17.

## **Environment and transport dashboard: new slide**

A slide that charts air quality and road transport data has been added to the [environment and transport neighbourhood Intelligence dashboard](#) (slide 2). The latest 2015 data for the three air pollutant types of nitrogen oxides (NOx), particulates of size less than 2.5 µm (PM2.5) and sulphur dioxide (SO2) are presented. A second map shows the percentage of NOx and PM2.5 emissions originating from road transport.

Data for the total number of licenced vehicles and type of vehicle from 2006 to 2016 are included for each of the Lancashire-14 authorities on the right hand side of slide 2. Figures for licenced diesel cars and vans and traffic flow data are also shown.

## **Life expectancy at birth**

[Life expectancy](#) is closely linked to deprivation and inequalities, with those living in the poorest neighbourhoods more likely to die earlier. It is estimated that the life expectancy at birth of females born between 2014 and 2016 in Blackpool (79.5 yrs), Blackburn with Darwen (80.6 yrs) and the Lancashire-12 area (82.2 yrs) will be significantly lower than England (83.1 yrs). For males, it is also estimated that the life expectancy of those born between in 2014 and 2016 in Blackpool (74.2 yrs), Blackburn with Darwen (76.2 yrs) and the Lancashire-12 area (78.7 yrs) will be significantly lower than the England average (79.5 yrs).

Overall estimates of female and male life expectancy in the Lancashire-12 area continue to increase. However, at a district level, Hyndburn, Preston, Ribble Valley and West Lancashire have seen a reduction in female LE at birth. Fylde, Lancaster and Wyre have all seen decreases in their male estimated LE at birth. Chorley has seen a plateauing of both its female and male LE at birth. Blackburn with Darwen has seen a reduction in both its female and male LE at birth estimates, whilst Blackpool has seen a drop in male LE at birth.

## **Healthy life expectancy**

[Healthy life expectancy](#) at birth (HLE) adds an element of quality to length of life, estimating the average lifespan spent in a self-assessed favourable state of health. For 2014 to 2016, HLE for females in Lancashire-12 (63.4 years) is estimated to be similar to England's (63.9 years), whilst

estimates for Blackburn with Darwen (60.0) and Blackpool (58.0) are significantly lower. Male HLE in Lancashire-12 (62.5) is also similar to the national average (63.3), whilst both Blackburn with Darwen (57.3) and Blackpool (55.1) have estimates that are below national average.

The slope index of inequality (SII) in HLE measures the gradient in HLE across the least to most deprived small areas. Analysis shows wide levels of inequality in HLE for females and males in the Lancashire-12 area (females 15.6 years, males 15.8 years), Blackburn with Darwen (17.5, 18.0) and Blackpool (14.5, 16.6) between the least and most deprived MSOAs.

## **Tobacco: stop smoking and smoking-attributable hospital admissions**

Lancashire County Council is responsible for commissioning [stop smoking services](#) across the Lancashire-12 area. For 2016/17, the authority recorded a 'successful quitters at four weeks per 100,000 smokers' rate of 2,986, which is higher than the England rate of 2,248. In real terms, this equates to 4,679 persons who were recorded as having successfully quit smoking at four weeks. Blackburn with Darwen (3,297) and Blackpool (3,287) also recorded rates that were higher than the national rate.

During the 2016/17 period, the Lancashire-12 area recorded a significantly higher directly standardised rate (DSR) per 100,000 of smoking attributable hospital admissions than England (1,888 vs 1,685). The Blackburn with Darwen (2,113) and Blackpool (3,116) rates were significantly above the England average.

## **Alcohol: hospital admissions and alcohol-specific mortality**

The latest [alcohol](#) indicators show that significant issues continue to exist across the Lancashire-12 area concerning alcohol-specific and alcohol-related hospital admissions, and alcohol-related mortality. The rates below are directly standardised (DSR) and are per 100,000 of the population.

In 2016/17, Lancashire-12 recorded significantly high levels of alcohol-specific (679) and alcohol-related admissions (645) into hospital (all ages) when compared to England (563, 636) with particularly high alcohol-specific rates in Burnley (954) and Hyndburn (935). Ribble Valley (499) recorded an alcohol-specific rate that was significantly below the England rate (563). Burnley and Hyndburn rank amongst the top 10% of local authorities in England for alcohol-specific admissions.

Blackpool (1,151), Wyre (802), Blackburn with Darwen (800), Burnley (735) and Preston (690) also recorded significantly higher alcohol-related hospital admission rates (all ages) than England (636), with Blackpool's rate the highest in the country.

Between 2014/15 and 2016/17, there were 367 admission episodes into a hospital for alcohol-specific conditions, involving patients aged 17 or under across Lancashire-12, giving the area a DSR of 49.8, significantly above the England rate of 34.2. Lancaster (92.8), Burnley (74.4), Blackpool (74.3), Wyre (67.2), Fylde (57.6) and Blackburn with Darwen (40.1) were significantly above the national rate. Lancaster, Burnley, Blackpool and Wyre rank within the top 10% nationally.

The latest three-year (2014-16) alcohol-specific mortality rates (all ages) show that there were 436 deaths across Lancashire-12, giving a rate of 12.3, significantly above the England rate of 10.4. At a district level, the rates for Blackpool (28.6), Wyre (16.4), Preston (16.3), Lancaster (15.2) and South Ribble (15.2) rates were significantly above the national rate. Blackpool's rate was the greatest in England, whilst the rates for Wyre and Preston rank within the top 10% nationally.

## **Healthy weight: estimates of excess weight prevalence in adults**

It is well evidenced that carrying [excess weight](#) (being overweight or obese) is associated with an increased risk of ill health. The Sport England Active Lives Survey (2015/16) estimates that 63.5% of the adult population (aged 16+) in the Lancashire-12 area are living with excess weight,

significantly above the England estimate of 61.3%. This suggests there are over 600,000 adults in the Lancashire-12 area with a weight problem. The districts of South Ribble (68.3%) and Burnley (67.7%) have significantly higher estimated excess weight prevalence than the England average, as does Blackpool (68.6%).

## **Healthy eating: estimates for adults and primary school children (years 4 and 6)**

[Healthy eating](#) prevalence, estimated from the Sport England Active Lives Survey 2015/16, suggests that just 52.9% of adults (aged 16+) in the Lancashire-12 area eat the recommended five portions of fruit and vegetables per day, significantly below the England estimate (56.8%). Pendle (46.3%), Rossendale (48.9%), Hyndburn (50.2%) and Preston (51.0%) are estimated to have adult (16+) healthy eating prevalence significantly below England, as are Blackburn with Darwen (46.0%) and Blackpool (49.0%).

The Pupil Attitude Questionnaire for the 2016/17 academic year provides an insight into the eating habits of primary school children in years 4 and 6 in the Lancashire-12 area. Asked whether they liked eating fruit and vegetables, 79.9% of year-4 and 83.3% of year-6 children said they either really liked or quite liked eating them. Girls in both age groups were significantly more likely to say they "liked or quite liked" eating them than boys. Almost a fifth of year-4 children (18.3%) and year-6 children (19.9%) said that they hardly ever or never chose to eat a healthy meal. Girls of both age groups were found to be significantly more likely than boys to choose the healthy option.

## **Physical activity: estimates for adults and young people**

The Chief Medical Officer's report (2011) recommended that adults aged 19 to 64 should undertake 150 minutes of moderate-intensity [physical activity](#) each week. Estimates from the Sport England Active Lives Survey 2015/16 suggest that around two thirds (64.9%) of adults in the Lancashire-12 area (aged 16+) are estimated to be meeting the national guidelines, in line with the England estimate (64.9%). The survey also looked at physical inactivity (adults doing less than 30 minutes moderate activity per week) and suggests that 22.8% of the Lancashire-12 adult population is inactive, similar to the England estimate of 22.3%.

Hyndburn (60.3%), Blackpool (59.8%), Wyre (59.3%), Pendle (57.7%) and Burnley (57.6%) were estimated to have significantly smaller proportion of physically active adults than the England average.

It is recommended that children aged 5-18 should be engaging in at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous intensity physical activity every day. However, the 2014/15 What about YOUth survey indicated that just 15.0% of young people aged 15 in the Lancashire-12 area met these guidelines, which, whilst in line with the England average (13.9%), is a low percentage. Blackpool (14.1%) and Blackburn with Darwen (12.4%) had similarly low percentages.

## **'At a glance' district summaries from Public Health England**

Public Health England's 'At a glance' [district summaries](#) have been updated across a wide range of Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF) indicators, including the wider determinants of health, health protection, healthcare and premature mortality. The summary profiles present public health performance data for each of the local authorities in the Lancashire-14 area and the Lancashire-12 area overall. They include comparisons with England, and recent trend analysis. The summaries are also included in the '[Area profiles](#)' section of Lancashire Insight, on the '[External sources of local profiles](#)' web page.

## **Official UK and North West unemployment figures**

Official unemployment was 1,470,000 in the UK and 145,000 in the North West for the three months ending December 2017. The North West unemployment rate of 4.1% was lower than the UK rate (4.4%). The UK rate is back to the level recorded for the three months ending June 2017 and the second lowest since the Spring of 1975. The North West rate is also back to the level seen for the three months ending June 2017, and is the second lowest since the regional time series began in the Spring of 1992. The male unemployment rate in the region (4.3%) is the lowest in the series but higher than that for women (3.9%), with the regional male unemployment rate similar to the UK male rate (4.4%) and the North West female rate lower than the UK female rate (4.4%).

Unemployment in the UK rose over the previous quarter for the first time since the summer of 2016, increasing by 46,000 persons, but decreased by 9,000 persons in the North West region. Over the previous year, the North West unemployment rate for all persons fell by 0.9 percentage points, compared to the UK decrease of 0.4. The unemployment rate for males in the North West fell by a notable -1.7 percentage points over the year whilst the female rate was unchanged.

## **Persons on Universal Credit (revised)**

Universal Credit figures are designated as experimental statistics owing to the varying speed of the roll out across Great Britain. Caution should be applied when interpreting and analysing the data. The bulk of the transition to Universal Credit is estimated to be completed in 2022.

Lancaster became a Universal Credit full service area in July 2016. This means that persons can process claims online, rather than via the phone. More complex claims are also processed. The result has been an acceleration in the number of persons claiming Universal Credit in Lancaster, which has increased almost fivefold since July 2016. This is also likely to explain the considerable reduction in claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) within Lancaster. Burnley became a Universal Credit full service area in May 2017 and Universal Credit numbers have more than doubled since this date. West Lancashire became a Universal Credit full service area in December 2017, and a similar impact is anticipated over the coming months.

In December 2017, the revised number of persons on Universal Credit in the Lancashire-14 area was 27,973. A total of 16,775 (60.0%) were not in employment. Lancaster (6,178), Blackpool (4,088), Burnley (3,763) and Blackburn with Darwen (2,433) had the largest totals in the area.

The number of persons on Universal Credit, as a percentage of the 16-64 population, for the Lancashire-14 area (3.1%) was above the GB rate (1.8%) in December 2017. For 10 of the Lancashire-14 authorities, rates were also above the GB average, and highest in Burnley (7.0%) and Lancaster (6.7%). Ribble Valley (0.8%) had the lowest rate in the Lancashire-14 area.

## **Claimant Count figures**

As from April 2015, the Claimant Count has included all claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), plus those Universal Credit claimants who are required to seek work and be available for work. Owing to inconsistencies in the coverage of Universal Credit across the UK, the Claimant Count figures have been re-classified as experimental statistics by the ONS. Universal Credit also requires a broader span of claimants to look for work than under Jobseeker's Allowance. The Claimant Count is therefore likely to rise in those areas where Universal Credit full service has been implemented. Caution is therefore required when analysing and interpreting the data.

The Claimant Count does not measure official unemployment, which has a broader definition, although it does provide a good proxy for unemployment.

In January 2018, the Lancashire-14 Claimant Count totalled 22,620 persons and the proportion of the resident working age population aged 16-64 was 2.5% (UK = 2.0%). Blackpool (4.7%), Burnley (4.5%) and Blackburn with Darwen (3.1%) had the greatest proportions in the Lancashire-14 area.

The UK Claimant Count rose by 7.3% over the year, and its proportion rose by 0.1 percentage point. The Lancashire-14 area recorded a notably greater percentage increase to its Claimant Count over the year (13.0%, 2,595 persons) with its proportion rising by 0.3 percentage points. Ten of the Lancashire-14 areas saw yearly percentage point increases to their total Claimant Count proportions, with Burnley (+1.4), Lancaster (+0.6), Blackburn with Darwen (+0.4) and Blackpool (+0.4) recording the largest.

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