

Lancashire Insight Newsletter

April 2018 articles

Introduction

The April 2018 newsletter includes details of the three Lancashire winners of the Queen's Awards for Enterprise in 2018, Britain's highest accolade for business success.

The health and care theme contains updates on mental health, safeguarding children, low birth weight, breastfeeding, child immunisations, tuberculosis incidence and physical activity estimates.

You can now follow Lancashire Insight on Twitter - [@lancsinsight](https://twitter.com/lancsinsight). Tweet or follow us at <https://twitter.com/lancsinsight> for statistics and intelligence on socio-economic and health matters within local areas, including joint strategic needs assessment (JSNA) data.

If you have any comments on the content of this newsletter, or the Lancashire Insight website in general, please email 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 (pan-Lancashire) 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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The 2018 Queen's Awards for Enterprise, Lancashire winners

April saw the publication of the latest winners of the [Queen's Awards for Enterprise](#), Britain's highest accolade for business success. The three award-winning companies in the Lancashire-14 area were [Rinicom Ltd.](#), located in Lancaster, which won a Queen's Award for outstanding achievement in International Trade, as did [Recycling Lives Limited.](#), based in Preston. TISS Ltd., from Blackpool, won a Queen's Award for its outstanding achievement in Innovation. This is third Queen's Award for Recycling Lives Limited and the second for both Rinicom Ltd. and TISS Ltd.

Licensed motor vehicles

In 2017, the total number of [licensed motor vehicles](#) in the Lancashire-14 area was 832,400. Of these, 279,800 were diesel cars and 75,700 were diesel vans. The 690,900 licensed cars in the Lancashire-14 area accounted for 83% of the total number of licensed vehicles (UK = 82.7%).

The total number of licensed motor vehicles in the Lancashire-14 area has risen by 11,300 (1.4%) on the 2016 figure. The increase was primarily the result of 8,700 extra licensed cars and 2,500 more light goods vehicles. There was a decline of 600 motorcycles (2%) in the Lancashire-14 area, which was similar to the regional decline but above the UK (1.1%) fall.

There were 3,100 licensed buses and coaches in the Lancashire-14 area in 2017, very slightly fewer than in 2016, although the decline constituted a 2.4% reduction, which was more than the regional (1.8%) and UK (1.9%) rates of decline.

Trends over a longer period can be seen for the Lancashire districts in the [Transport/Environment Neighbourhood Intelligence dashboard](#) on the second slide.

Safeguarding children: children with parental risk factors for vulnerability

Children may be vulnerable and at risk of harm for many reasons. These include living in a home where there is a parent/carer experiencing domestic abuse, and/or with mental illness, and/or where there is substance misuse. Children who experience one or more of these parental risk factors are more likely to have worse outcomes in life, compared to children who do not. These risk factors are more commonly recorded in deprived areas and among white British ethnic groups, but can be found across all populations.

At least 99,000 children in the Lancashire-12 area and 126,000 in the Lancashire-14 area are affected by at least one of the three parental risk factors. There are many other risk and protective factors affecting the health and wellbeing of children, and adverse events in childhood do not always lead to negative outcomes in adulthood. Further details can be found on our [safeguarding children](#) page.

Mental health

Mental health is a high priority for public health. In the Lancashire-14 area in 2017, an estimated 141,059 people aged 16-64 years were predicted to have a common mental health disorder.

According to data from the 2016/17 Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF), in the eight clinical commissioning groups in the Lancashire-14 area the prevalence of GP recorded adult depression is worse than the England average, with 155,554 adult patients on the GP depression registers. This accounts for 11.2% of the GP registered adult population compared with the England prevalence of 9.1%. For severe mental health problems (schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses) the prevalence (1.1%) is also significantly higher than England (0.9%), with 18,608 patients on the GP registers.

Low birth weight

The World Health Organization defines **low birth weight** (LBW) as less than 2,500g (5lbs 8oz). At a population level, there are inequalities in low birth weight and a high proportion of low birth weight births could indicate lifestyle issues of the mothers and/or issues with maternity services.

During the period 2005 to 2016, in the Lancashire-12 area, the percentage of live births at term with low birth weight has improved. The latest (2016) figures show that in the Lancashire-12 area 2.8% of all live births at term are low birth weight, which is similar to the England rate (2.8%). However, in Blackburn with Darwen (5.1%) and Burnley (4.5%) the percentages are worse than the England. Blackburn with Darwen's rate is the third highest in England. Ribble Valley's rate (0.7%) is better than the England rate.

Breastfeeding

Breastfeeding figures for the period 2016/17 show the variation in breastfeeding initiation across the Lancashire-14 area. In Blackpool (59.2%), West Lancashire (62.4%), Lancaster (62.4%), Preston (68.0%), Wyre (68.2%), Chorley (69.0%), Burnley (69.0%) and South Ribble (70.2%) the percentage of all mothers who breastfeed their babies in the first 48 hours after delivery is significantly below the England rate (74.5%).

Childhood immunisations

Child immunisations provide valuable protection for children and the community. The combined DTaP/IPV/Hib is the first in a course of vaccines offered to babies to protect them against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, Haemophilus influenzae type b (an important cause of childhood meningitis and pneumonia) and polio. The MMR vaccine provides protection against measles, mumps and rubella (German measles).

Public Health England data (2016/17) show a mixed picture of child immunisation rates across the Lancashire-12 area, Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool, with coverage rates falling below the 90% local target in some areas and improving in others.

Across the Lancashire-14 area, the percentage of eligible children receiving three doses of Dtap/IPV/Hib vaccine before their second birthday is above the local target of 90%. However, the trend shows that the percentage of eligible children receiving three doses of Dtap/IPV/Hib vaccine before their second birthday has decreased between 2012/13 and 2016/17. For MMR, the percentage of eligible children in the Lancashire-14 area receiving two doses of MMR vaccine between their first and fifth birthday remains below the local target of 90%, with the recent trend showing signs of decrease in the Lancashire-12 area and in Blackburn with Darwen.

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) has major health and social impacts for those affected. In addition it contributes to increasing health inequalities in already deprived populations. Reducing TB incidence is a key ambition of the Collaborative Tuberculosis Strategy for England 2015-2020.

Over the 2014 to 2016 three-year period, there were 345 TB notifications across the Lancashire-14 area. The three year (2014-2016) average incidence of TB is worse than the England rate (10.9 per 100,000 population) in Blackburn with Darwen (24.3 per 100,000 population) and Preston (14.9). In the Lancashire-12 area (5.5 per 100,000 population) the incidence of TB is better than the England rate and in Blackpool (10.3 per 100,000 population) it is similar to the England rate. In the Lancashire-12 area, the TB treatment completion rate is improving.

Physical activity estimates

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 2016/17 suggest that around two thirds (65%) of adults in the Lancashire-12 area (aged 19+) are meeting the national guidelines, in line with the England estimate (66%). The survey also looked at physical inactivity (adults doing less than 30 minutes moderate activity per week) and suggests that 23% of the adult population of Lancashire-12 is inactive. When applied to the latest population estimates (ONS Mid-Year 2016), this suggests that 214,030 adults in the Lancashire-12 area are not meeting the recommended national guidelines.

Five local authority areas (Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool, Hyndburn, Pendle and Rossendale) were estimated to have both a significantly smaller proportion of physically active adults and a significantly larger proportion of inactive adults than the England average. Lancaster was estimated to have significantly higher levels of physically active adults and significantly lower levels of inactivity than England.

Official UK and North West unemployment figures

Official unemployment was 1,423,000 in the UK and 147,000 in the North West for the three months ending February 2018. The North West unemployment rate of 4.1% was marginally lower than the UK rate (4.2%). The UK rate is the lowest since the Spring of 1975. The North West rate is back to the level seen for the three months ending June 2017, and is the joint second lowest since the regional time series began in the Spring of 1992. The male unemployment rate in the region (4.5%) is higher than that for women (3.8%), with the regional male unemployment rate higher than the UK male rate (4.2%) and the North West female rate lower than the UK female rate (4.2%).

Unemployment in the UK fell over the previous quarter, decreasing by 16,000 persons, but increased by 3,000 persons in the North West region. Over the previous year, the North West unemployment rate for all persons fell by 0.4 percentage points, the same as the UK decrease of 0.4. The unemployment rate for males in the North West fell by 0.5 percentage points over the year whilst the female rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points.

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 more than 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 Blackburn with Darwen and Hyndburn in February 2018. Similar increases in these areas are anticipated over the coming months.

In February 2018, the revised number of persons on [Universal Credit](#) in the Lancashire-14 area was 28,798. A total of 18,188 (63.2%) were not in employment. Lancaster (6,513), Burnley (4,178), Blackpool (4,019) and Blackburn with Darwen (2,403) 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 (3.2%) was above the GB rate (1.9%) in February 2018. For nine of the Lancashire-14 authorities, rates were also above the GB average, and highest in Burnley (7.8%) and Lancaster (7.2%). 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 March 2018, the Lancashire-14 [Claimant Count](#) totalled 23,875 persons and the proportion of the resident working age population aged 16-64 was 2.6% (UK = 2.1%). Blackpool (4.9%), Burnley (4.8%) and Blackburn with Darwen (3.0%) had the greatest proportions in the Lancashire-14 area.

The UK Claimant Count rose by 9.0% over the year, and its proportion rose by 0.1 percentage point. The Lancashire-14 area recorded a greater percentage increase to its Claimant Count over the year (11.0%, 2,360 persons) with its proportion rising by 0.2 percentage points. Ten of the Lancashire-14 areas saw yearly percentage point increases to their total Claimant Count proportions, with Burnley (+1.5), Lancaster (+0.8) and Rossendale (+0.3) recording the largest. Fylde, Wyre and Chorley each recorded a fall to their Claimant Count proportions of -0.1 percentage point over the year.

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