



# Poverty and deprivation

## At a glance:

- Bradford District is home to 534,800 people living in 207,491 households
- 127,300 (23.8%) of the population are young people aged under 16 years
- 78,100 (14.6%) of our residents are aged 65 or over
- Bradford is ranked the 5<sup>th</sup> most income deprived local authority in England
- 14.3% of households are in fuel poverty
- 22% of children are living below the poverty line (previous figure is 29%)
- 42% of children in poverty live in couple-headed households
- 23% of older people (65+) live in income deprived households
- 78.1% of pupils attend a Good or Outstanding primary school
- 53.4% of pupils attend a Good or Outstanding secondary school
- 13.1% of working age people have no qualifications
- 2.8% of our young people are NEET (not in education, employment or training)
- 11.4% of the working age population claim an out of work benefit
- 39,700 working families receive Working Tax Credit and/or Child Tax Credit
- 0.69 jobs are available for every person of working age
- Life expectancy for women in the District is 81.5 and for men is 77.5, with an expectation that, respectively, 61.1 and 61.8 of these years will be healthy
- 1.84 households in every 1,000 households are accepted as being 'statutory homeless'
- 849 asylum seekers accommodated in Bradford at 31 January 2018 via the home office contract held by G4S. There are also many more, who are appealing against the refusal of their applications for asylum, who are destitute with no recourse to public funds

## Population

The latest population estimates for mid-year 2017 (published June 2018) show that there are 534,800 people and 207,491 households living in Bradford District. A large part of Bradford's population is dominated by the younger age groups. More than 127,300 (23.8%) are aged less than 16; 329,400 (61.6%) of the population are aged 16-64 and 78,100 (14.6%) are aged 65+.

City ward has the largest population (24,260 people), this is probably due to the large numbers of students at the University and College in this ward. Wharfedale has the smallest population (11,850).

The results of the 2011 Census found that 83% of the population were born in the UK, 8% were born in Pakistan, 1% were born in India, 1% were born in Bangladesh, 2% were born in the EU Accession Countries, 1% were born in other European countries and 4% were born elsewhere.

67% of the District's population is of white ethnic origin, 20% are Pakistani, 3% are Indian, 2% are Bangladeshi, 2% are of Mixed heritage, 2% are Black and 4% have other ethnic origins.

85% of the population over the age of 3 speak English as their main language, 4% speak Punjabi, 3% speak Urdu, 1% speak Bengali, 1% speak Gujarati, 1% speak Polish and 5% speak other languages.

8% of families with dependent children are headed by a lone parent, whereas 30% of families with dependent children are headed by a couple. 33% of households comprise a single person, 16% comprise a lone couple and 12% are formed of other types of household.

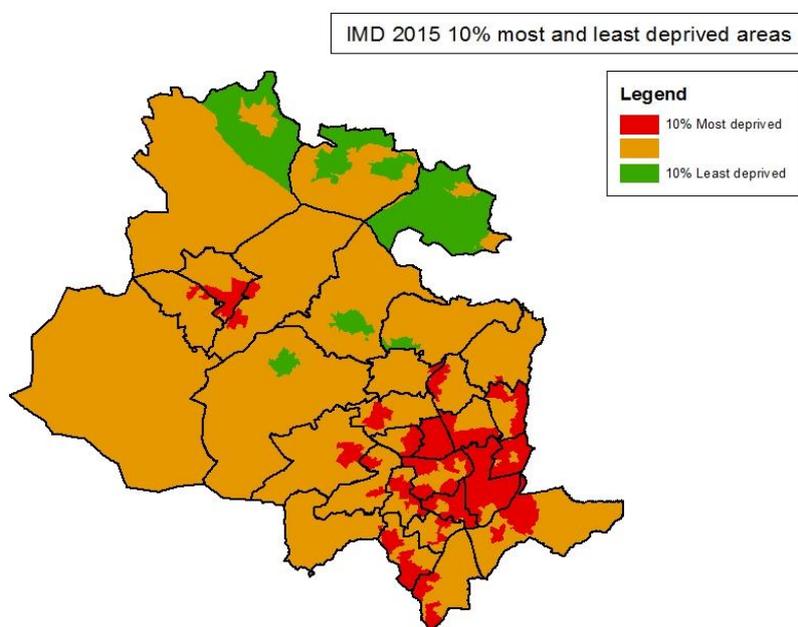
## Income deprivation

The latest Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015 ranks Bradford as the 5<sup>th</sup> most income deprived district<sup>1</sup> in England. Birmingham is the most income deprived local authority in England.

There are wide variations around the district with 27% of the district's population classed as in the 10% most deprived areas in England, and 6% of the population living in areas classed as in the 10% least deprived areas. The most income deprived areas are shown in red on the following map and are located in and around central Bradford and Keighley and the least deprived areas are shown in green and are located in the Wharfe and Aire valleys and villages to the north and west of central Bradford.

Leeds which is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> most income deprived district in England. All the other local authority areas in West Yorkshire are ranked higher than Bradford – Kirklees is 16<sup>th</sup>, Wakefield is 33<sup>rd</sup> and Calderdale is 77<sup>th</sup>.

*It is important to note that this data does not apply to every person living in these areas. Many non-deprived people live in deprived areas, and many deprived people live in non-deprived areas.*



## Employment

329,400 people (61.6% of the District's population) are aged between 16-64<sup>2</sup> years. 68.1% of this total is in employment – this is lower than the regional rate (73.5%) and national rate (75.2%)<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This includes families that are out of work and families that are in work but have low earnings and satisfy means tests).

Bradford is ranked 6<sup>th</sup> most employment deprived local authority in England<sup>4</sup> – this is the same position as in both 2007 and 2010. Birmingham is the most employment deprived local authority in England.

Leeds is the most employment deprived local authority in West Yorkshire and is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> most employment deprived district in England. All the other local authority areas in West Yorkshire are ranked higher than Bradford – Kirklees is 11<sup>th</sup>, Wakefield is 17<sup>th</sup> and Calderdale is 73<sup>rd</sup>.

### Earnings and Income

Bradford has a low-wage, low-skills economy and the working age population of the District is projected to increase by 1,200 people per year over the next ten years. This is driving a real need for high paid jobs growth. However, median weekly earnings<sup>5</sup> in Bradford remain relatively low with median weekly gross pay of £476. This figure compares unfavourably with the equivalents for Yorkshire and the Humber (£502) and England (£556).

### Skills and qualifications

Research shows that compared to those with adequate skills, adults with poor basic skills are up to five times more likely to be unemployed or out of the labour market. Only 26.5% of people living in Bradford have achieved a NVQ level 4 qualification<sup>6</sup> (degree level and above or equivalent), this is lower than the Yorkshire and Humber region (33%) and the national figure of 38.3%. There are higher proportions of people with NVQ1, NVQ2 and NVQ3 level qualifications. The level of people with other qualifications or no qualifications are also higher for Bradford than regional and national averages.

% aged 16-64 with this qualification	Bradford District	Yorkshire & Humber	England
NVQ 4	26.5	33.0	38.3
NVQ 3	18.7	17.5	17.3
NVQ 2	17.5	16.9	16.1
NVQ 1	13.1	12.4	10.9
Other qualifications	8.2	7.0	6.9
No qualifications	13.1	9.5	7.6

*Source: ONS Annual Population Survey 2017*

42.4% of school students attained and average attainment 8 or Progress 8 compared to 44.6% for England as a whole<sup>7</sup>

## Claimants

### Out of work benefits

10.9% of the District's population claim an out of work benefit<sup>8</sup> - this is higher than both the regional rate (9.5%) and the national rate (8.4%)

<sup>2</sup> 2017 mid-year population estimates ONS

<sup>3</sup> Annual Population Survey 2017-2018, Nomis

<sup>4</sup> Indices of Deprivation 2015, ONS

<sup>5</sup> Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2017, Nomis

<sup>6</sup> Annual Population Survey 2017-18, Nomis

<sup>7</sup> Local authority interactive tool 2017, DfE

<sup>8</sup> This includes JSA, Income Support, ESA, Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance and Carer's Allowance, November 2016, Nomis

39,700 working families in Bradford District receive either Working Tax Credit or Child Tax Credit, or a combination of both<sup>9</sup>

### **Unemployment and NEETs**

In August 2018 (the most recent data available)<sup>10</sup> the claimant rate for people aged 16-64 in Bradford District was 2.9%. This is a higher rate to the same month in the previous year (2.7%). The claimant rate is higher than the City Region (2.5%), regional (2.5%) and national rates (2.2%). The number of young people not in education employment or training (NEET) in the district remains low but shows a recent upward trend. Compared with the same month one year before, the NEET figures for 16 and 17 year old residents were lower throughout 2017. However, In January, February and March 2018, the NEET numbers were higher: there were 390 NEETs in March 2018, against 376 in March 2017. The NEET rate in March was 2.8%; it was 2.7% in March 2017.

Bradford's NEET and participation rates for 16 and 17 year olds were in line with the England average in March 2018:

- NEET was 2.8% for both Bradford and England
- Destination Not Known was 2.8% for both Bradford and England
- Participating in Learning was 91.6% in Bradford and 92.1% in England

The 4 wards with the highest NEET rates were Tong (7.7%), Eccleshill (5.3%), Bowling & Barkerend (4.5%) and Little Horton (4.4%).

## **Deprivation**

### **Problems coping on household income**

In 2014 (latest available data)<sup>11</sup> 28% of Bradford households were finding it difficult or very difficult to cope on their income compared with 27% in England. Tong ward had the highest proportion of households which found it difficult or very difficult to cope (64%), followed by Royds (51%). Wharfedale had the lowest proportion (4%) followed by Ilkley (8%). 26% of households in the District are more likely to be coping comfortably on their household incomes, a number of urban wards (Bradford Moor, City, Little Horton and Manningham) have no households which are likely to be coping comfortably.

### **Fuel poverty**

The latest official fuel poverty statistics<sup>12</sup> (2016) show that there were 20,095 households (14.3%) in Bradford District considered to be in fuel poverty according to the 'Low Income, High Cost' methodology<sup>13</sup>. This is higher than the rates for Yorkshire and the Humber region (12.1%) and England (11.1%).

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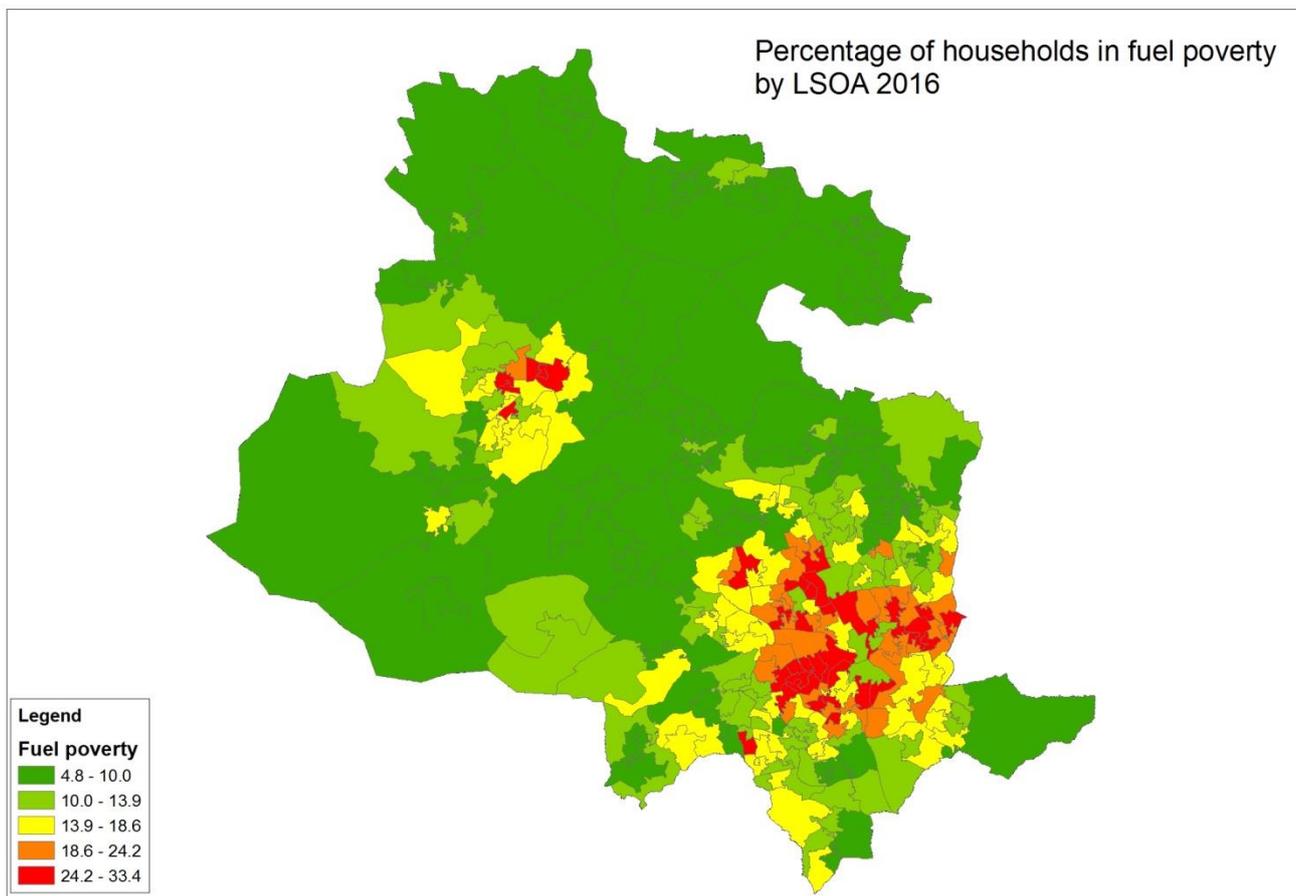
<sup>9</sup> Child and Working Tax Credits 2014-15, DWP

<sup>10</sup> Jobcentre Plus data, NOMIS

<sup>11</sup> Mosaic 2014 data, Experian – this data will be updated when Mosaic is updated by Experian.

<sup>12</sup> Sub-regional Fuel Poverty, England 2016, Department of Energy & Climate Change

<sup>13</sup> The 'Low Income, High Cost' measures was implemented by the Government to remove the influence of fluctuating fuel prices in the calculation. To be counted as fuel poor a household has to have above national average required fuel costs AND were they to spend that amount, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.



Bradford has a high level of fuel poverty, ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> most fuel poor of local authority districts in England. This is probably due to a combination of energy inefficient Victorian housing stock in conjunction with low household incomes. The map above shows that the central Bradford and Keighley and the surrounding urban areas are most likely to be in fuel poverty.

Fuel poverty is associated with a range of additional adverse health outcomes and in extreme cases can lead to excess winter deaths. In 2015/16 (latest available data)<sup>14</sup> there were 210 excess winter deaths in Bradford. This is similar to the winter of 2010/11 when there were 240 deaths. The winter of 2013/14 was exceptionally mild and there were only 130 excess deaths. Over 80% of excess winter deaths occur among the over-65s.

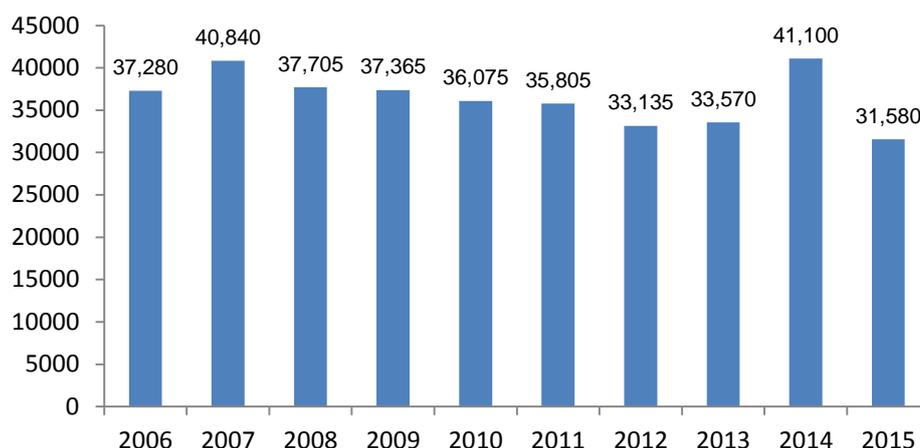
### Child poverty

The most recent national child poverty data for 2016<sup>15</sup> (published 2018) reported a child poverty rate of 21.8% for Bradford District, compared to 16.6% for England – with 31,580 children and young people aged 0 – 19, living in households with less than 60% of average (median) income. In 2015, the District's child poverty rate was second highest in the Yorkshire and Humber region – Hull had the highest rate.

<sup>14</sup> Excess Winter Mortality in England and Wales 2015/16, ONS

<sup>15</sup> Households below average income, ONS

## Number of children living in low income families in Bradford 2006 - 2015



The total number of children living in low income families in Bradford in 2015 is lower than in previous years and this is probably due to a decrease in the threshold of the figure used to define 60% of median income from £253 in 2014 to £233 in 2015. The threshold produced in 2014 was unusually high due to an increase in the number of high earners near the low income threshold.<sup>16</sup>

Child poverty is concentrated in the inner-city and urban areas of the District. In 2015, approximately half of all children living in poverty in the District have been found to live in 8 of the District's 30 wards: Little Horton, Bradford Moor, Bowling and Barkerend, Manningham, Toller, Tong, Great Horton and City wards.

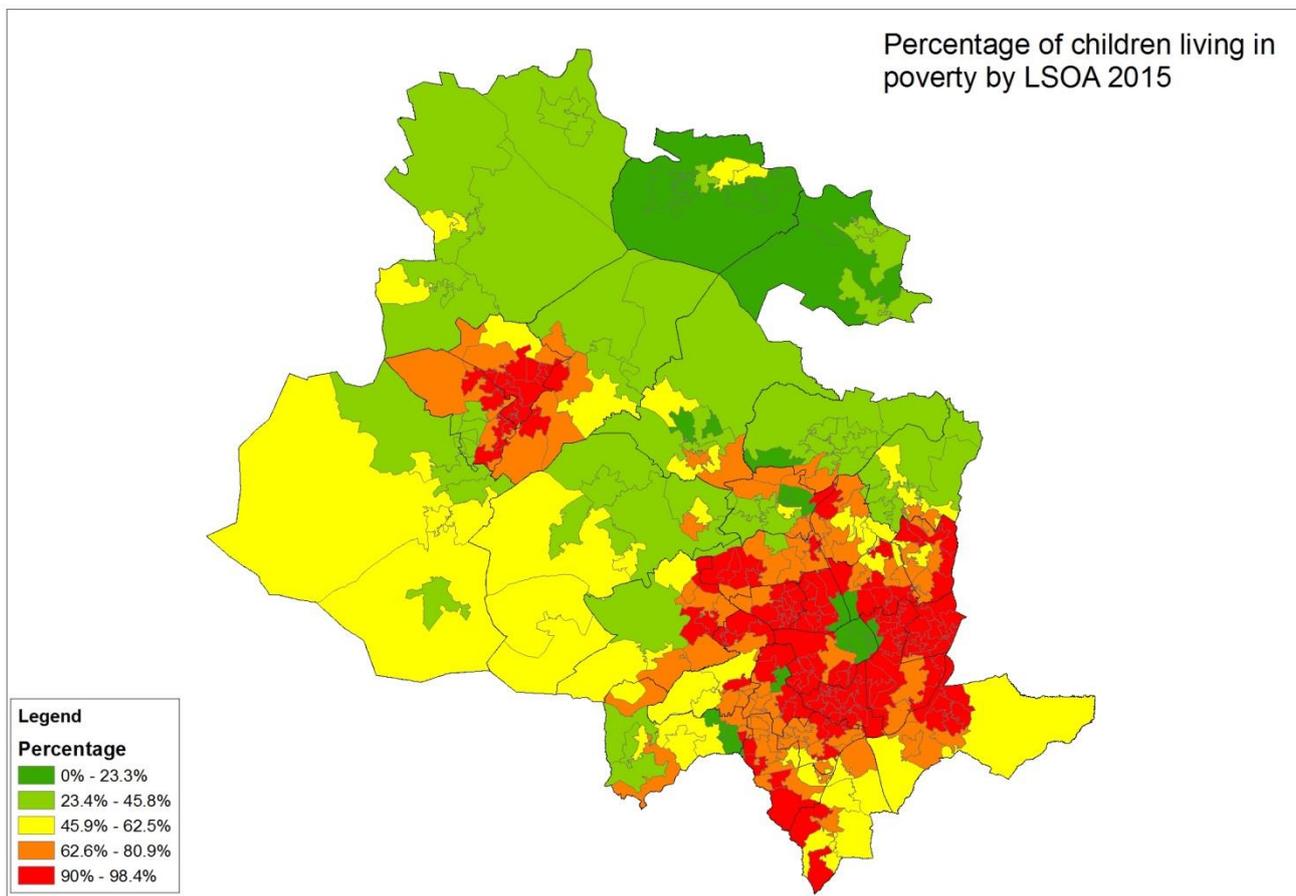
Living in persistent poverty is defined as living in poverty for 3 out of the previous 4 years. Although the figures for children living in persistent poverty are not available for local areas, it is likely that many children in these wards have been living in persistent poverty.

Living in a couple-headed household is generally regarded as a protective factor against poverty, as two adults can be in work rather than just one. Nationally 33% of children in poverty live in households headed by a couple. In Bradford this figure is much higher at 42%. Low wages and high levels of economic inactivity in Bradford may be the reason why living in couple-headed household tends not to have the same effect in Bradford.

Bradford also has a higher percentage of children living in poverty in families with four or more children than nationally (28% compared with 21% nationally) and a lower percentage are in single child families (19% compared with 23% nationally). Whilst having more children does not necessarily cause poverty, there is an association between the two factors.

The District follows the national pattern in relation to age; with a very even spread of poverty across all children's age groups.

<sup>16</sup> HM Revenue and Customs 2015 Children in Low-Income Families Local Measure, pub - February 2018 HMRC



## Health

Poverty is an important issue for public health, with evidence suggesting that childhood poverty in particular leads to premature mortality and poor health outcomes for adults. There are many health factors which can be affected by poverty, some of which are listed below:

### Life expectancy male and female

Life expectancy at birth is the average number of years a person would expect to live from birth based on current mortality rates and is an important measure of illness and death. Although life expectancy at birth for males has been rising in Bradford<sup>17</sup>, life expectancy at birth is still lower than the average for England. Males born in Bradford can expect to live on average for 77.5 years and females born in Bradford can expect to live an average of 81.5 years. The regional and national rates are higher for both men and women. Males born in Yorkshire and Humber can expect to live to 78.7 and females can expect to live to 82.4. Males born in England can expect to live to 79.5 and females can expect to live to 83.2 years.

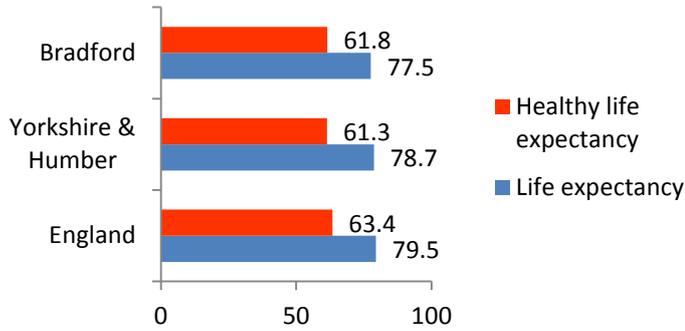
Men in Bradford have a lower healthy life expectancy than nationally, but slightly higher than the regional rate.

Women in Bradford have a lower healthy life expectancy<sup>18</sup> than both regionally and nationally.

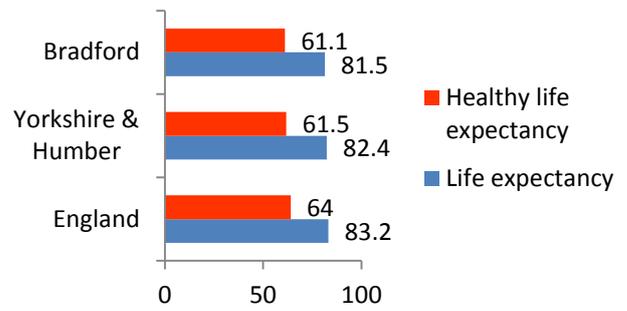
<sup>17</sup> Health state life expectancies 2014-16, published 7 December 2017, ONS

<sup>18</sup> Health state life expectancies 2014-16, published 7 December 2017, ONS

### Male healthy life expectancy at birth



### Female healthy life expectancy at birth

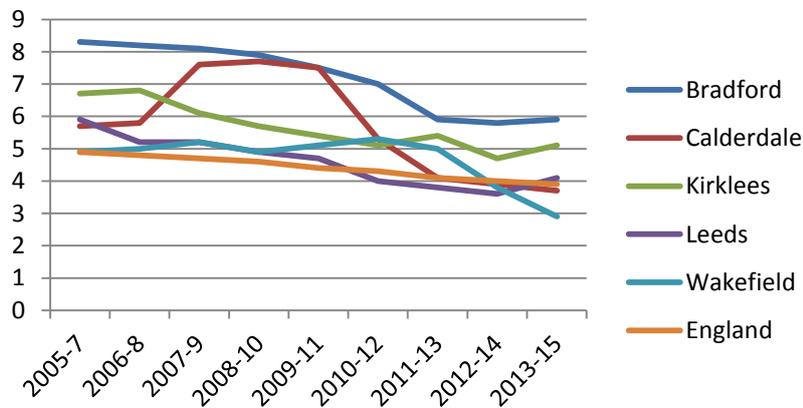


### Infant mortality

Infant mortality is an indicator of the general health of the entire population and it reflects the relationship between causes of infant mortality and the wider determinants of population health such as economic, social and environmental conditions. Although infant mortality rates are falling in Bradford, they are still above the average for England and higher than the rates for the rest of West Yorkshire. The most recent rate<sup>19</sup> (2013-15) for Bradford is 5.9 deaths per 1,000 live births, whereas the national rate is 3.9 deaths per 1,000 live births.

Bradford's rate has fallen from 8.3 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2005-7, but as the following chart shows Bradford's rate has consistently been the highest in West Yorkshire and higher than the England average.

### Infant mortality rate 2005-7 to 2013-15



### Obesity

Obesity is one of the biggest challenges to the health of our residents today. It is a particular issue in the Bradford area with income, ethnicity and social deprivation known to have an impact on an individual's weight.

Overall, for women, obesity prevalence increases with greater levels of deprivation, regardless of the measure used. For men, only occupation-based and qualification based measures show differences in obesity rates by levels of deprivation.

<sup>19</sup> Infant mortality, ONS

Highest level of educational attainment can be used as an indicator of socio-economic status. For both men and women obesity prevalence decreases with increasing levels of educational attainment.

Research has shown that there is a strong link between poverty and childhood obesity; at 5 years of age, poor children were nearly twice as likely to be obese, compared with their peers from better socio-economic backgrounds. Research has also shown that children who are overweight or obese are far more likely to suffer from serious illnesses like Type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer later in life

38.2% of the District's 10 to 11 year olds are overweight compared to 34.6% of 10 to 11 year olds regionally and 34.6% nationally<sup>20</sup>

At a district wide level based on Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) data registrations with GPs by condition: 56,891 adults were registered as obese with their GP in 2014-15<sup>21</sup>. This is equivalent to 12% of the District population aged 17+ and higher than the national rate of 9%.

## Housing

There is a large body of evidence which has highlighted relationships between housing and poverty related implication, which include:

- The number of people in the private rented sector has doubled in the last ten years. In 2001 there were 21,600 households renting from private landlords or living rent free (12% of the total tenure in the district), by 2011 this had increased to 36,100 households (18% of the total tenure in the district).<sup>22</sup>
- A large number of people in poverty own their own home – 25% of owner-occupied households in Bradford District are classed as low income<sup>23</sup>
- Private renters are most likely to be in fuel poverty, have least money left over once they have paid their housing costs and live in the worst housing conditions – 45% of households renting privately are classed as low income<sup>24</sup>.
- Poor housing conditions affect some aspects of child development and elements of adult health.

As such it is important to understand the makeup and condition of housing stock to explore potential linkages to poverty related issues. The key housing related issues for Bradford are outlined below:

There are a total of 199,296 households in the District<sup>25</sup>. The majority of households are owner-occupiers (65%), this is higher than both the regional rate (63%) and national rate (64%). 15% of the District's households rent their home from a social landlord which is lower than the national rate (18%). 18% of the District's households rent their home from a private landlord and the remainder live rent-free or with family and friends.

The average house price<sup>26</sup> in Bradford is £133,248 which is lower than the regional average of £155,385 and the national average of £242,176.

An analysis of class 1 hazards<sup>27</sup> and low income high costs fuel poverty by housing stock type shows that properties in the private rented sector are more likely to be adversely affected than

<sup>20</sup> National Child Measurement Programme 2016/17, published 19/10/17, NHS Digital

<sup>21</sup> Quality Outcomes Framework, NHS

<sup>22</sup> 2001 and 2011 Census, ONS

<sup>23</sup> Bradford Integrated Housing Stock Modelling Database 2015

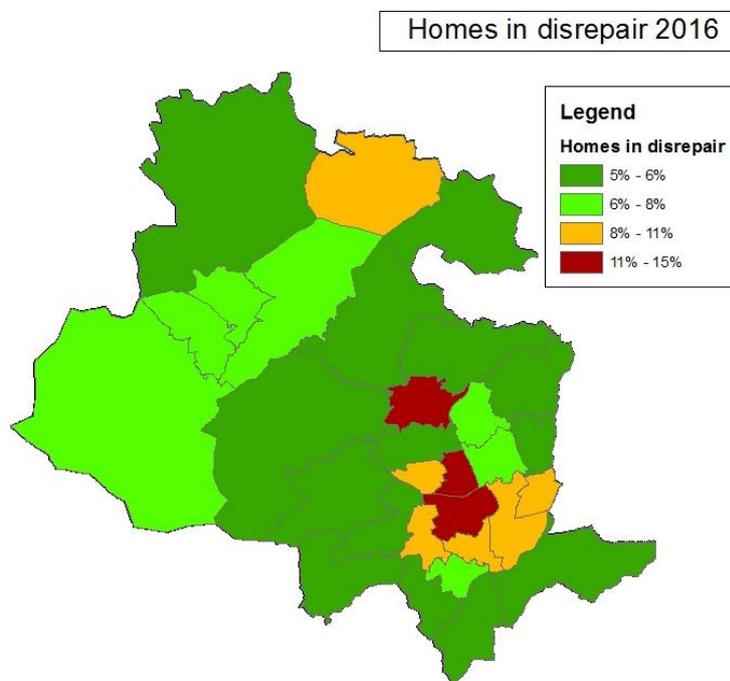
<sup>24</sup> Bradford Integrated Housing Stock Modelling Database 2015

<sup>25</sup> 2011 Census, ONS

<sup>26</sup> UK House Price Index February 2018, Land Registry

the owner occupier or social rented sectors. Recent government initiatives to improve the condition of the social rented sector has led to improvements and this is probably why the figures for this sector are lower.

The **Decent Homes Standard** is a programme aimed primarily at improving the social rented housing sector. Using 'disrepair' as a proxy for non-decent homes reveals that a total of 16,307 properties (8%) District-wide are non-decent<sup>28</sup>. Of this total, 58% of these properties are owner-occupied, 29% are privately rented and 13% are in the social-rented sector.



## Welfare Reform

The Government's Welfare Reform programme was the biggest change to the welfare system in 60 years. Key areas of the reform included:

- Reduction in the level of housing benefit for private tenants
- Size restrictions on social housing
- The benefit cap
- Localisation of Council Tax support and Discretionary Social Fund
- Changes to disability and other welfare benefits
- The introduction of Universal Credit

In May 2017 (the most recent data available) 873 households were affected by the benefit cap, each seeing an average loss of £50.71 to their benefits<sup>29</sup>. In November 2017 there were 2,490 households facing a reduction in their Housing Benefit because they were deemed to have too many bedrooms for their size of household, an average weekly loss per household of £15.40<sup>30</sup>. An independent evaluation published by the Government in December 2015 noted that many tenants were "in severe poverty and unable to pay the shortfall"<sup>31</sup>.

<sup>27</sup> Some properties may have more than one hazard, e.g. excess cold and danger of trips and falls

<sup>28</sup> Bradford Integrated Housing Stock Modelling Database report 2016

<sup>29</sup> Dwp-stats.maps.arcgis.com, May 2017

<sup>30</sup> Housing benefit caseload statistics, November 2017, DWP

<sup>31</sup> Removal of the Spare Room Subsidy evaluation: final report, DWP, Ipsos MORI and the Cambridge Centre for Housing and Planning Research, December 2015

Universal Credit was introduced for new claimants who are single in Bradford in November 2015. The most recent data available for March 2018 shows that there are 3,891 claimants, 2,524 of whom are not in work<sup>32</sup>.

As part of the reform agenda, the Government introduced stricter sanctions to individuals claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) and work-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). Since 2012, benefit payments can be suspended for a minimum of four weeks and for up to three years when a claimant fails to take sufficient steps to search for work, to prepare themselves for the labour market or when they turn down an offer of employment or leave a job voluntarily.

The number of sanctions in Bradford peaked in August 2013 with more than 1,100 individuals receiving sanctions, but has fallen sharply since this date and in October 2017 (the most recent data available) 172 individuals claiming JSA received a sanction. The most recent data for sanctions imposed on individuals claiming ESA is May 2017 when 9 individuals received a sanction.

#### JSA claimants in Bradford District receiving a sanction between August 2013 and March 2018

	August 2013	October 2013	October 2014	October 2015	October 2016	October 2017
Total number of JSA claimants	19,023	17,474	13,004	9,341	6,805	5,837
Total number of JSA claimants receiving a sanction (sanction was applied)	1,136	1,132	659	391	170	172
%	6.0%	6.5%	5.1%	4.2%	2.5%	2.9%

Source: Nomis and Stat-Xplore

#### ESA claimants in Bradford District receiving a sanction between August 2013 and August 2017

	August 2013	August 2014	August 2015	August 2016	August 2017
Total number of ESA claimants	17,280	20,710	22,550	23,170	23,450
Total number of ESA claimants receiving a sanction	13	12	9	8	9
%	0.08%	0.06%	0.04%	0.03%	0.04%

Source: DWP Tabulation Tool and Stat-Xplore

### The Government's other welfare reform proposals have included (since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018):

- The amount which families with children and disabled people can earn before their Universal Credit is gradually reduced has been increased by 2%
- People in receipt of Housing Benefit will receive an extra 2 weeks' support with their rent when they move onto Universal Credit
- The National Living Wage increased by 4.4% to £7.83 from 1 April

<sup>32</sup> Universal credit claimants, Stat-Xplore, DWP, May 2018

## Data sources and further information

The next bulletin in this series will be released Spring 2019  
Links and sources identified as footnotes throughout the report



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