



Poverty and deprivation

At a glance:

- Bradford District is home to 537,200 people living in 208,900 households
- 24% of the population are young people aged under 16 years
- 15% of our residents are aged 65 or over
- Bradford is ranked the 5th most income deprived local authority in England
- 13.5% of households are in fuel poverty
- 24% of children are living below the poverty line (previous figure is 22%)
- 23% of older people (60+) live in income deprived households
- 13.1% of working age people have no qualifications
- Life expectancy in the District is 81.6 for women and 77.8 for men, with an expectation that, respectively, 60 and 60.1 of these years will be healthy

Population

The latest population estimate (for June 2018)¹ shows that there are 537,200 people and 208,900 households living in Bradford District. A large part of Bradford's population is dominated by the younger age groups. More than 127,600 (24%) are aged less than 16; 330,100 (62%) of the population are aged 16-64 and 79,500 (14%) are aged 65+.

City ward has the largest population (25,520 people), this is probably due to the large numbers of students at the University and College in this ward. Wharfedale has the smallest population (11,860).

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.

¹ Annual mid-year population estimates: ONS, June 2019

Employment

330,100 people (62% of the District's population) are aged between 16-64³ years. 68% of this total is in employment – this is lower than the regional rate (74%) and national rate (76%)⁴ Bradford is ranked 6th most employment deprived local authority in England⁵ – this is the same position as in both 2010 and 2015. Birmingham is the most employment deprived local authority in England.

Leeds is the most employment deprived local authority in West Yorkshire and is ranked 3rd most employment deprived district in England. All the other local authority areas in West Yorkshire are ranked higher than Bradford – Kirklees is 11th, Wakefield is 17th and Calderdale is 74th.

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 earnings⁶ in Bradford remain relatively low with median weekly gross pay of £500. This figure compares unfavourably with the equivalents for Yorkshire and the Humber (£540) and England (£591).

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 27.2% of people living in Bradford have achieved a NVQ level 4 qualification⁷ (degree level and above or equivalent), this is lower than the Yorkshire and Humber region (33.3%) and the national figure of 39%. There are also lower proportions of people with NVQ1, NVQ2 and NVQ3 level qualifications. The level of people with other qualifications or no qualifications is higher for Bradford than regional and national averages.

% aged 16-64 with this qualification	Bradford District	Yorkshire & Humber	England
NVQ 4	27.2	33.3	39.0
NVQ 3	43.9	53.6	57.7
NVQ 2	61.2	71.8	75.0
NVQ 1	77.2	83.4	85.6
Other qualifications	9.0	7.2	6.8
No qualifications	13.8	8.5	7.6

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey 2018

³ Annual mid-year population estimates 2018, ONS

⁴ Annual Population Survey Oct 2018-Sept 2018, Nomis

⁵ Indices of Deprivation 2019, ONS

⁶ Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2019, Nomis

⁷ Annual Population Survey Jan-Dec 2018, Nomis

Claimants

Unemployment and NEETs

In December 2019 (the most recent data available)⁸ the claimant rate for people aged 16-64 in Bradford District was 4.8%.

The claimant rate is higher than the City Region (3.2%), regional (3.2%) and national rates (2.9%).

Bradford's NEET and participation rates for 16 and 17 year olds were in line with the England average in December 2019:

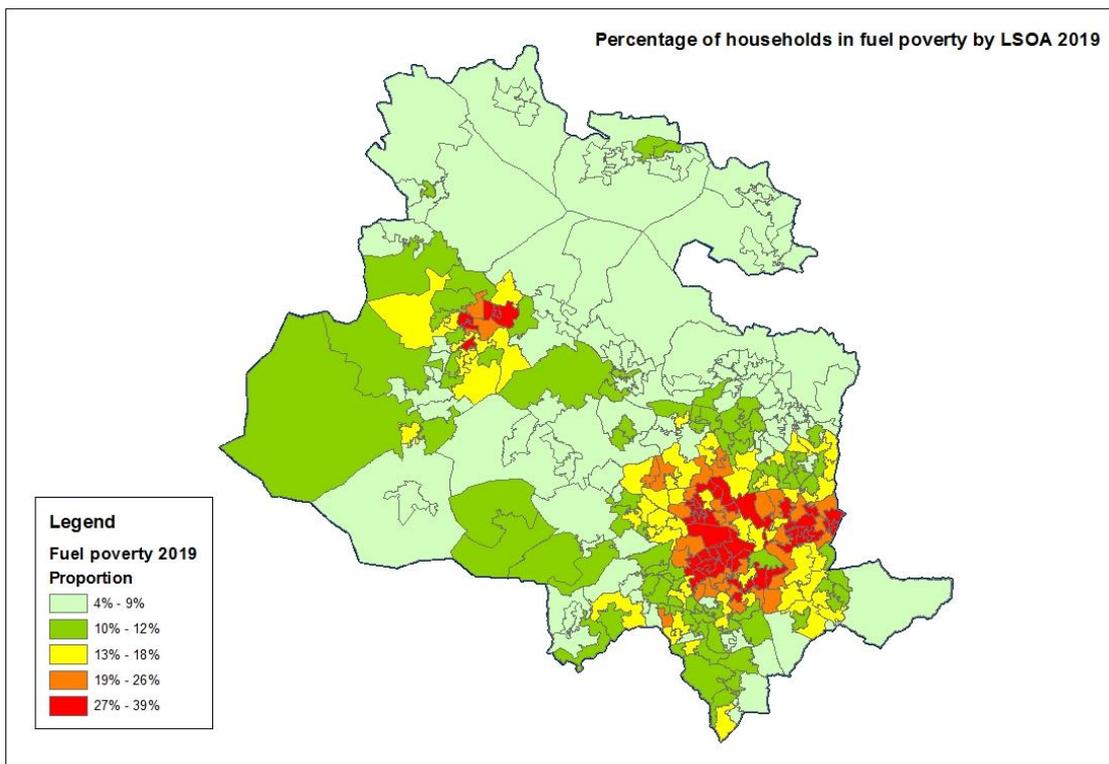
- NEET was 2.7% for both Bradford and England
- Destination Not Known was 2.8% for both Bradford and England
- Participating in Learning was 91.6% in Bradford and 92.1% in England

The 4 wards with the highest NEET rates were Tong (5.2%), Manningham (5%), Eccleshill (4.5%) and Royds (4.4%).

Deprivation

Fuel poverty

The latest official fuel poverty statistics⁹ (2017) show that there were 27,770 households (13.5%) in Bradford District considered to be in fuel poverty according to the 'Low Income, High Cost' methodology¹⁰. This is higher than the rates for Yorkshire and the Humber region (10.6%) and England (10.9%).



⁸ Jobcentre Plus data, NOMIS

⁹ Sub-regional Fuel Poverty, England 2017, published June 2019, Department of Energy & Climate Change

¹⁰ 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 29th 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 2017/18 (latest available data)¹¹ there were 430 excess winter deaths in Bradford. The last time the excess winter deaths figure was this high was in 1998/99. The Office for National Statistics said that flu and the ineffectiveness of the flu vaccine, coupled with an extended spell of very cold weather were key reasons for the rise of excess winter deaths. Over 80% of excess winter deaths occur among the over-65s.

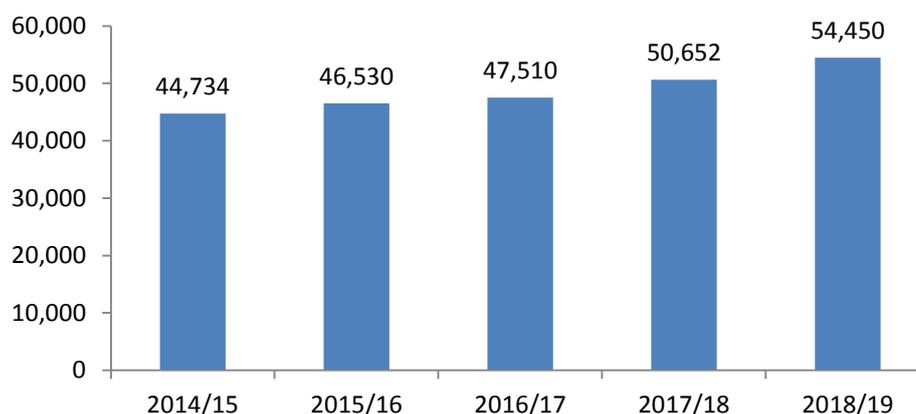
Child poverty

HMRC has recently published a new measure for child poverty: '*Children in low income families*'. This has replaced two measures: DWP's '*Children in out of work benefit households*' and HMRC's '*Personal Tax Credits: children in low income families measure*'.

Children in low income families measures both relative low income families and absolute low income families. (Relative low income measures households with less than 60% of the median household income. Absolute low income compares households to the 60% of the median household income in 2010/11.)

In 2018/19¹² - 35% of children under 16 in Bradford were living in relative low income families. Bradford has the 5th highest proportion in the UK. 30% of children under 16 in Bradford were living in absolute low income families – Bradford has the 4th highest proportion in the UK.

Number of children living relative low income families in Bradford 2014/15 to 2018/19



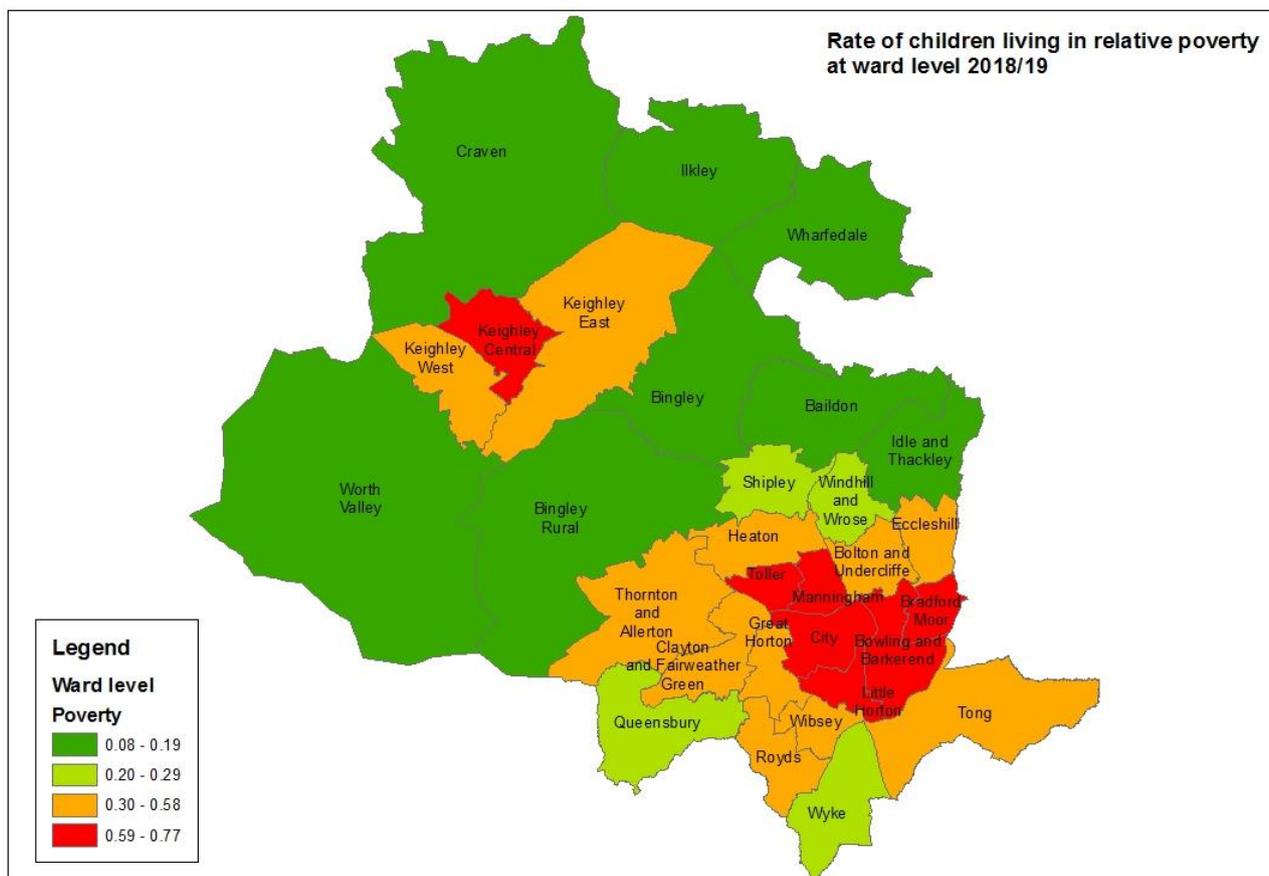
The total number of children under 16 living in relative low income families in Bradford has increased each year since 2014/15.

Child poverty is concentrated in the inner-city and urban areas of the District. In 2018/19, 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, Tong, Toller, City, Manningham and Great Horton wards.

¹¹ Excess Winter Mortality in England and Wales 2017/18, ONS

¹² Stat-Xplore: Children in low-income families 2014/15 – 2018/19

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 59% of children in relative poverty live in households headed by a couple. In Bradford this figure is much higher at 72%. 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.



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 Bradford¹³, life expectancy at birth is still lower than the average for England. Males born in Bradford can expect to live on average for 77.8 years and females born in Bradford can expect to live an average of 81.6 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 79.6 and females can expect to 83.2 years.

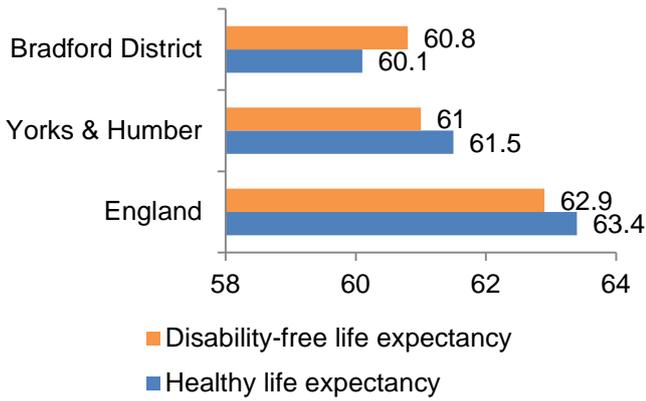
Men in Bradford have a lower healthy life expectancy and a lower disability-free life expectancy than regionally and nationally.

Women in Bradford have a lower healthy life expectancy¹⁴ than both regionally and nationally.

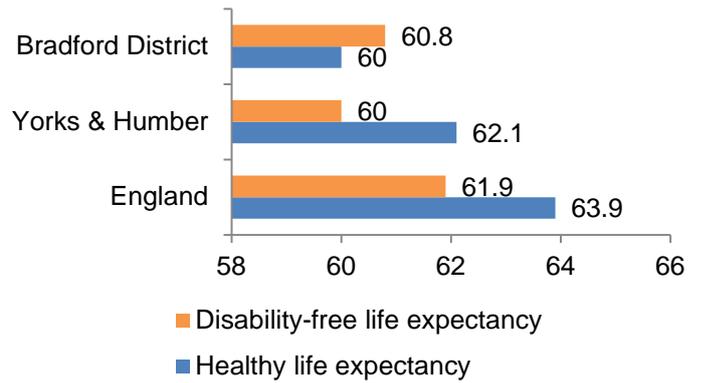
¹³ Life expectancies 2016-18, published 11 December 2019, ONS

¹⁴ Health state life expectancies 2016-18, published 11 December 2019, ONS

Males - disability-free life expectancy and healthy life expectancy



Females - disability-free life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

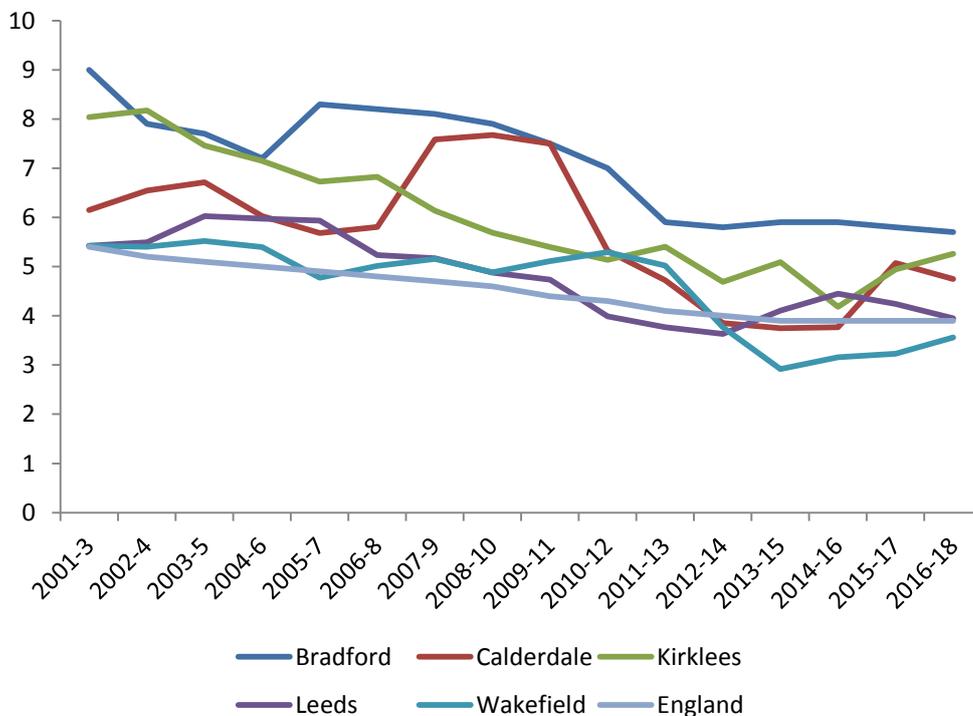


Infant mortality

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 rate¹⁵ (2016-18) for Bradford is 5.7 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 9 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2001-3, but as the following chart shows Bradford's rate has consistently been the highest in West Yorkshire and higher than the regional and England averages.

Infant mortality rate 2001-3 to 2016-18



¹⁵ Infant mortality, ONS

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.

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

In 2018-19 24.4% of the District's 10 to 11 year olds are obese compared to 21.0% in Yorkshire and the Humber and 20.2% in England.¹⁶

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).¹⁷
- A large number of people in poverty own their own home – 25% of owner-occupied households in Bradford District are classed as low income¹⁸
- 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 income¹⁹.
- 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 District²⁰. 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.

¹⁶ National Child Measurement Programme 2018/19, published 4/5/19, NHS Digital

¹⁷ 2001 and 2011 Census, ONS

¹⁸ Bradford Integrated Housing Stock Modelling Database 2015

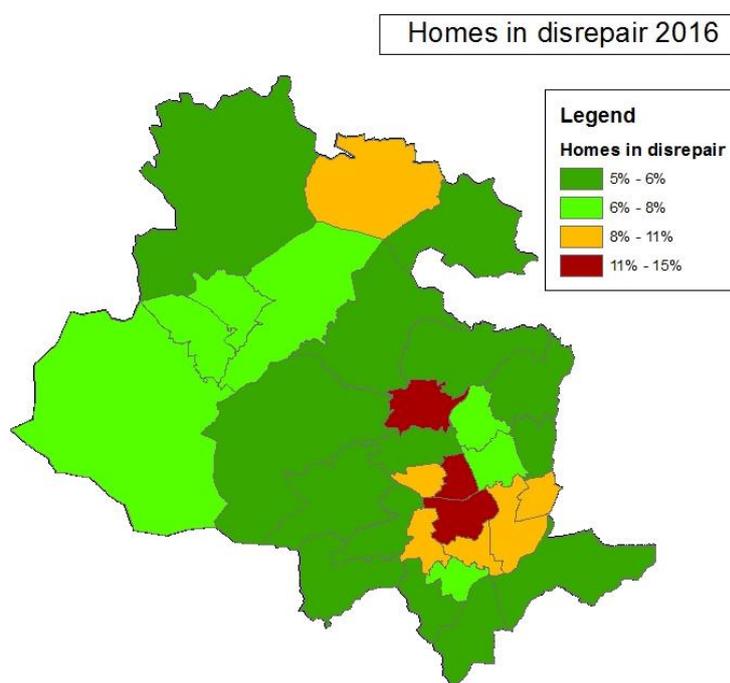
¹⁹ Bradford Integrated Housing Stock Modelling Database 2015

²⁰ 2011 Census, ONS

The average house price²¹ in Bradford is £135,073 which is lower than the regional average of £162,334 and the national average of £246,341..

An analysis of class 1 hazards²² 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 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-decent²³. 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 November 2019 (the most recent data available) 512 households were affected by the benefit cap, each seeing an average loss of £43.71 to their benefits²⁴.

²¹ UK House Price Index February 2020, Land Registry

²² Some properties may have more than one hazard, e.g. excess cold and danger of trips and falls

²³ Bradford Integrated Housing Stock Modelling Database report 2016

²⁴ Dwp-stats.maps.arcgis.com, November 2019

Universal Credit was launched in 2013 and replaces six 'legacy' benefits and tax credits for working age households. The delivery rollout of the Universal Credit Full Service to all jobcentres in Great Britain was completed by the end of 2018. The Government anticipates that all households claiming legacy benefits and tax credits to have moved across to Universal Credit by September 2024. The most recent data available for February 2020 shows that there are 33,149 claimants, 9,470 of whom are not in work²⁵.

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 2018 (the most recent data available) 13 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 October 2013 and October 2018

	October 2013	October 2014	October 2015	October 2016	October 2017	October 2018
Total number of JSA claimants	17,474	13,004	9,341	6,805	5,837	2,312
Total number of JSA claimants receiving a sanction (sanction was applied)	1,132	659	391	170	172	13
%	6.5%	5.1%	4.2%	2.5%	2.9%	0.56%

Source: Nomis and Stat-Xplore

ESA claimants in Bradford District receiving a sanction between August 2015 and August 2019

	August 2015	August 2016	August 2017	August 2018	August 2019
Total number of ESA claimants	22,550	23,170	23,450	22,057	19,120
Total number of ESA claimants receiving a sanction	9	8	9	**	**
%	0.04%	0.03%	0.04%		

Source: DWP Tabulation Tool and Stat-Xplore

** data too small to report

Data sources and further information

The next bulletin in this series will be released Spring 2021
Links and sources identified as footnotes throughout the report

²⁵ Universal credit claimants, Nomis, May 2020



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