



Life expectancy at birth 2018-20

At a glance:

- Life expectancy at birth is 77.3 for males and 81.5 for females in Bradford
- Since 1991-3 rates for life expectancy at birth have increased by 5.1 years for males and 3.5 years for females in Bradford
- Bradford has the joint lowest life expectancy rates for males and the second lowest life expectancy rate for females in West Yorkshire

Introduction

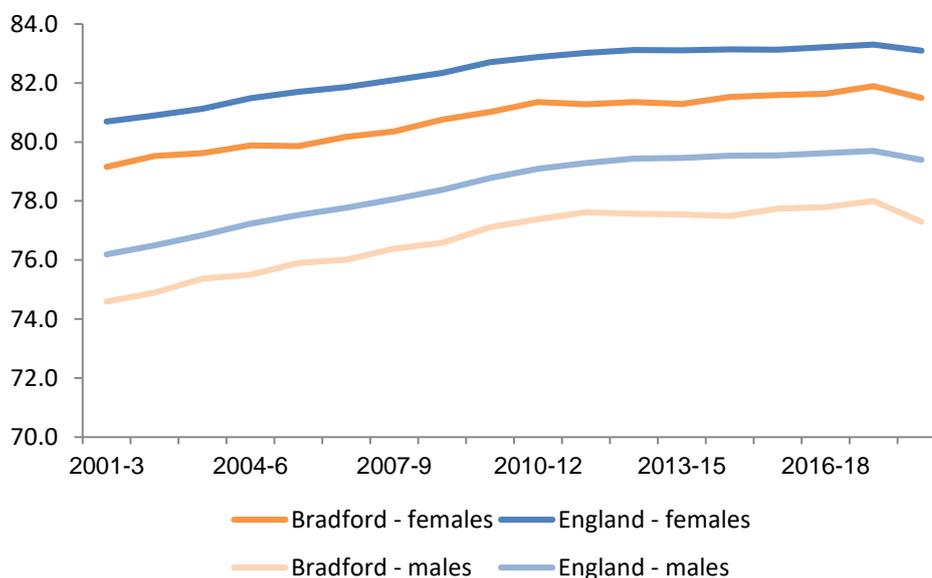
The Government's Office for National Statistics (ONS) has recently published an update to life expectancy data for new-born babies and for people aged 65 in each local council area. The figures use the mid-year population estimates and mortality data for three consecutive years. The latest data available is for 2018-2020.

The life expectancy figures are an estimate of the average number of years that someone living in the area and experiencing that area's age-specific mortality rates would survive; they are not an indication of how many years a person living in the area could actually expect to live.

Results

Life expectancy in Bradford for males at birth is 77.3 years and for females is 81.5 years. This compares unfavourably with the England figure of 79.4 for males and 83.1 for females.

Figure 1: Life expectancy at birth for males and females - Bradford and England



Bradford has the joint (with Wakefield) lowest life expectancy at birth figures for men in West Yorkshire and the second lowest (after Wakefield) life expectancy at birth figures for women in West Yorkshire.

However, life expectancy rates for Bradford have improved since 1991-3. Male life expectancy at birth increased by 5.1 years and female life expectancy at birth increased by 3.5 years. The gap between male and female life expectancy has also narrowed from 5.8 years in 1991-3 to 4.2 years in 2018-20. There are a number of reasons why life expectancies have improved – one explanation is that deaths from certain cancers, respiratory diseases and heart disease have fallen due to improved treatments.

The national picture

A report published by The King’s Fund in April 2021 identified that there have been two turning points in life expectancy in England in the past decade. From 2011, increases in life expectancy slowed after decades of steady improvement. Then in 2020. The Covid-19 pandemic was a more significant turning point, causing a sharp fall in life expectancy which had not been seen since the World War II. By 2019 the life expectancy at birth in England had increased to 80 years for males and 83.7 years for females. However, the Covid-19 pandemic caused life expectancy in 2020 to fall for males to 78.7 years and for females to 82.7 years, the level of a decade ago. Mortality from Covid-19 has had an unequal impact on different population sub-groups and exacerbated inequalities. As a result, the gap in life expectancy between the richest and poorest areas widened in 2020 to 10.2 years for males and 8.5 years for females, compared with 9.3 and 7.9 years respectively in 2019

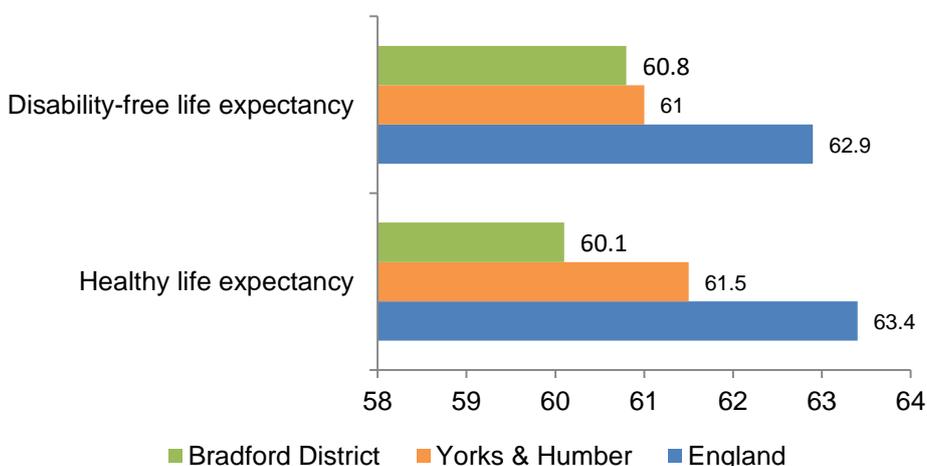
Healthy life expectancy and disability-free life expectancy

Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) is an estimate of the number of years lived in “Very good” or “Good” general health, based on how individuals perceive their general health.

Disability-free life expectancy (DFLE) is an estimate of the number of years lived without any long-lasting physical or mental health condition that limits daily activities.

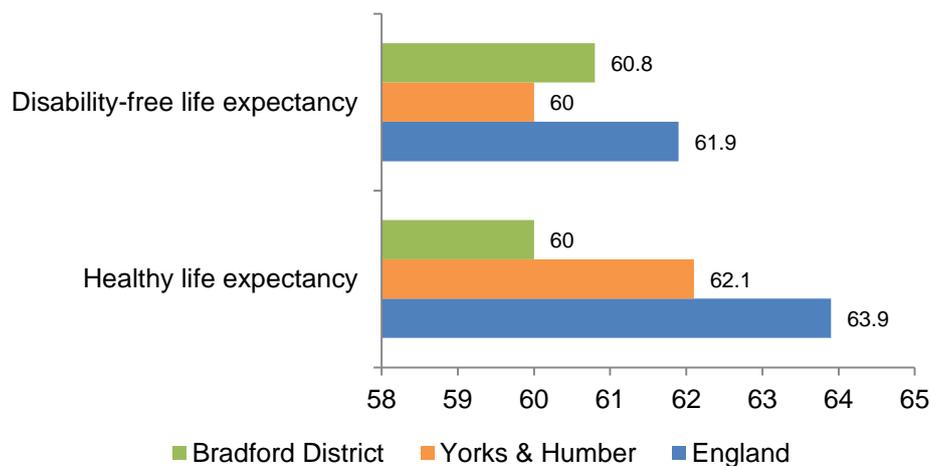
The following charts compare the number of years which both males and females can expect to live. This includes healthy life expectancy and disability-free life expectancy. Males in Bradford are more likely to have lower healthy life expectancies and disability-free life expectancies than the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Males - disability-free life expectancy and healthy life expectancy 2017-19



Females in Bradford have lower healthy-life expectancies than regional and national averages. Interestingly females in Bradford have slightly higher disability-free life expectancies than the regional average, but lower than the national averages.

Females - disability-free life expectancy and healthy life expectancy 2017-19



Life expectancy and deprivation

An examination of life expectancy by national deprivation profiles (IMD 2019) shows that males living in the 20% most deprived areas have a life expectancy of 75.7. Males living in the 20% least deprived areas have a life expectancy of 83.3 years.

Females living in the 20% most deprived areas have a life expectancy of 79.8 years. Females living in the 20% least deprived areas have a life expectancy of 86.1 years.

Data sources and further information

The next bulletin in the series will be released in January 2022

Source: ONS – Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by local areas UK

Link:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandlifeexpectancies/datasets/lifeexpectancyestimatesallagesuk>

Bradford Joint Strategic Needs Assessment:

<https://jsna.bradford.gov.uk/The%20population%20of%20Bradford%20District.asp>

The King’s Fund: “What is happening to life expectancy in the UK?”

<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/whats-happening-life-expectancy-uk>

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