# Needs analysis

Oxford City

The area

Oxfordshire is made up of five District Councils: Oxford City, Cherwell, South Oxfordshire, Vale of White Horse and West Oxfordshire. Statistics in this report will refer to Oxford City or Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) within the district. Comparisons to Oxfordshire and England averages will be made to demonstrate the scale of deprivation or the inequality in some areas.

Population

As of mid-2016, the estimated total population of Oxfordshire was 683,169. Oxford City total population was estimated at 161,291 – representing 23.6% of Oxfordshire's population.

Health deprivation
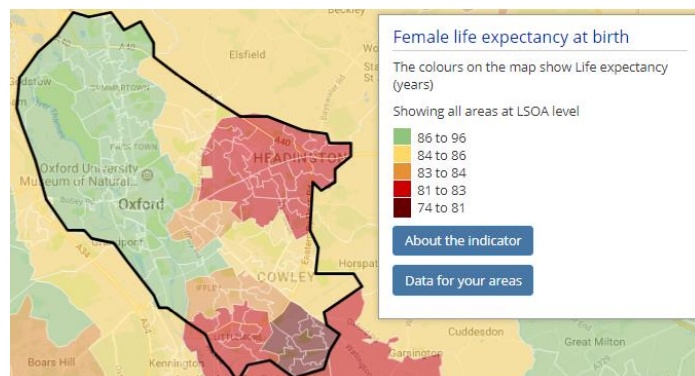
Life expectancy
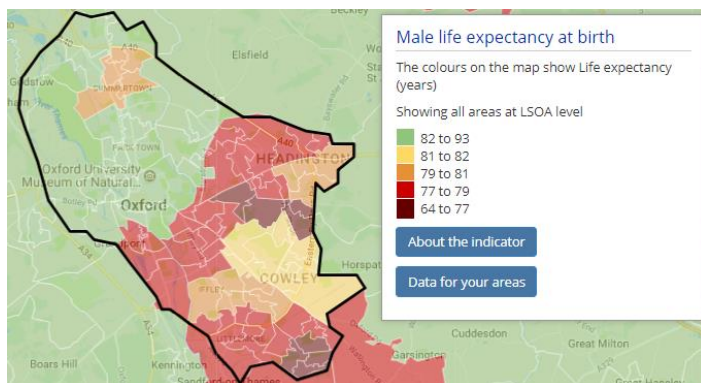
Life expectancy at birth for a male born to a family in Blackbird Leys is 75 years. To the north of the city, in areas of Park Town the life expectancy is 11 years more, 86.

The JSNA states that this gap between the north and south wards of the city has increased dramatically over the last 10 years.

A very similar picture can be seen in the map to the right, of female life expectancy at birth.

Here we see life expectancies as low as 77 in the areas to the south. The areas to the north of the city again see an increase of 11 years to 88.

Wider determinants of health

Socioeconomic status

This includes work, affluence and deprivation. ONS analysis has demonstrated higher life expectancies and greater life expectancy gains for people in the higher socio-economic groups.
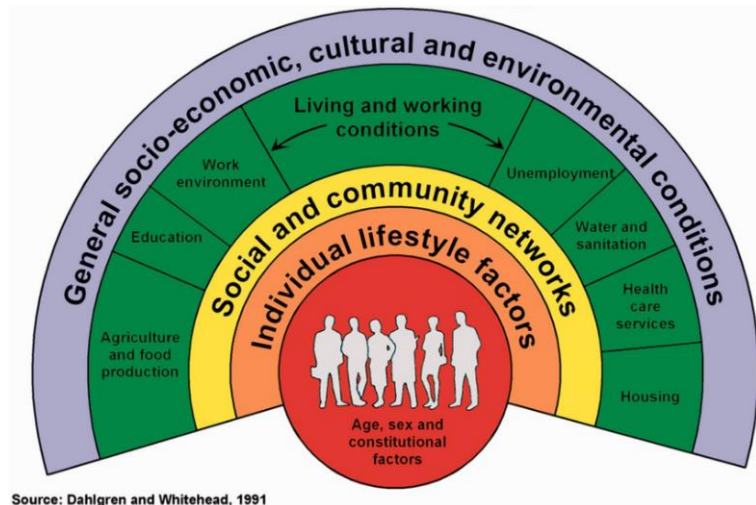
Education and qualifications

A report on behalf of the OCED found that: "*there are substantial and important causal effects of education on health*" and "*the effect of education on health is at least as great as the effect of income*".

Physical environment

Source: Dahlgren and Whitehead, 1991

This includes the built and natural environment. The WHO estimates that the environment accounts for almost 20% of all deaths in the WHO European Region.

Social environment

This includes social support networks within communities and between individuals, family and friends. Being socially connected is influential for psychological and emotional wellbeing, and has a significant and positive influence on physical wellbeing and overall longevity.

Socioeconomic status

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The Indices of Deprivation 2015 are a relative measure of deprivation for small areas (Lower-layer Super Output Areas) across England. The overall Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015 combines indicators under seven different domains of deprivation: Income Deprivation; Employment Deprivation; Education, Skills and Training Deprivation; Health Deprivation and Disability; Crime; Barriers to Housing and Services; and Living Environment Deprivation. A higher score indicates that an area is experiencing high levels of deprivation.
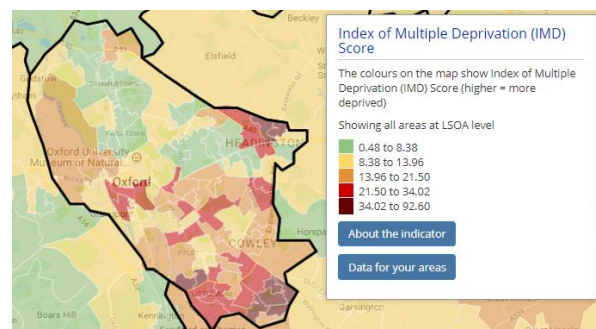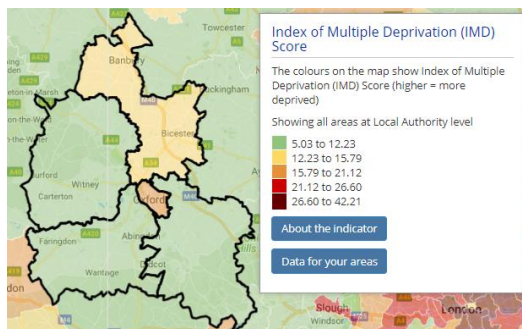

As can be seen from the map on the left, at a local authority level, Oxfordshire presents as not being a very deprived area. It is only the Oxford City district which appears to have more deprivation. The map on the right shows that within Oxford City there are some areas that have a high IMD score.

Income deprivation

The Indices of Deprivation (ID) 2015 Income Deprivation Domain measures the proportion of the population in an area experiencing deprivation relating to low income. The definition of low income used includes both those people that are out-of-work, and those that are in work but who have low earnings (and who satisfy the respective means tests). Income deprivation has the heaviest weighting in the IMD, so it no surprise to see similar colouring to the map for the overall deprivation score.
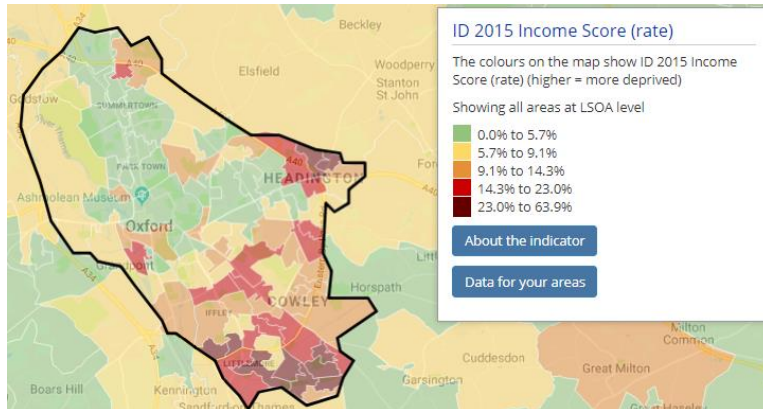
As can be seen from this map and the table below, there is great inequality in income between areas of Oxford City.

Overall Oxford City has a lower percentage of people living on low incomes than the nation. However, the average doesn't show the range. In Blackbird Leys one in four peopla are living on low income levels. Looking at an LSOA level, the percentage can rise as high as 31.4%.

Area	% pop. income deprived	N° people income deprived	Income Deprivation Affecting Children	Income Deprivation Affecting Older People
England	14.5%	7,765,018	19.5%	16.0%
Oxfordshire	8.0%	(52,479)	11.3%	9.3%
Oxford	11.1%	(16,944)	19.7%	14.3%
Blackbird Leys	25.0%	(1,550)	36.5%	22.6%
Northfield Brook	23.0%	(1,620)	30.5%	28.4%
Barton & Sandhills	20.6%	(1,485)	30.4%	21.2%
Rose Hill & Iffley	19.9%	(1,340)	32.9%	18.3%
Headington	4.5%	(260)	4.2%	7.8%
Carfax	4.5%	(515)	20.4%	21.1%
North Oxford	3.0%	(169)	3.7%	6.4%
St Margaret's	2.6%	(140)	2.8%	2.6%

The St Margaret's and North areas of Oxford show rates below a fifth of the England average. At LSOA level the percentage can fall as low as 1%.

We can see from the IDACI (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index) in the fourth column and map below, that children in Oxford City are more likely to affected by income deprivation than the general population. It is concerning that although Carfax presents a low rate for the population (about a quarter of the national rate), it has a higher rate than the nation for children. Carfax also has a higher rate for Income Deprivation Affecting Older People.
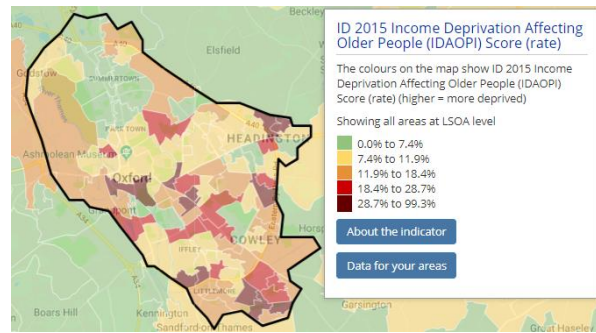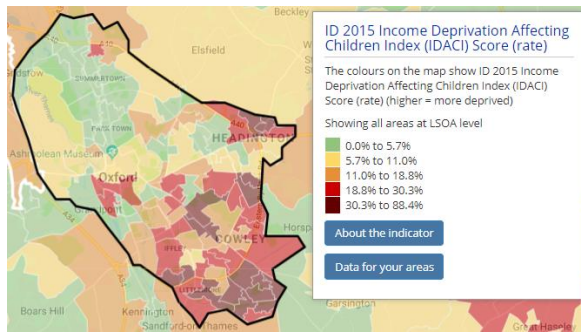
The IDAOPI (Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index) shows a different pattern to the other two indices. There are fewer areas with higher levels of deprivation on this metric.

Employment, skills and education

Employment

By looking at the number of working-age welfare benefit claimants, one can see that all in all Oxford city has relatively high levels of employment. As can be seen from the map below, the majority of the benefit claimants are within some of the previously identified areas of deprivation.
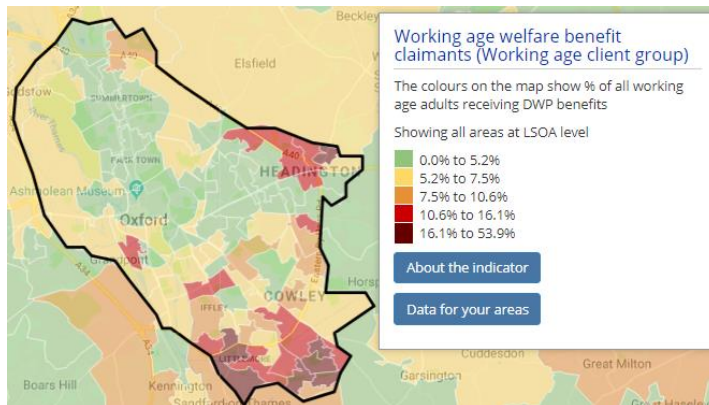
The following benefits are included: Bereavement Benefit, Carers Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance, Income Support, Jobseekers Allowance, Pension Credit and Widows Benefit.

The England rate for this measure is 10.7%. Overall Oxford city has a rate of 7%. However, in Blackbird Leys and Northfield Brook the rate is around 15.5% with Barton, Littlemore and Rose Hill around the 12.2% mark. As can be seen on the map, there are some areas that are in the 20% most deprived nationally; these have a rate of just over 21% of people claiming benefits.

It is frequently reported that there are more employment opportunities in Oxford than there are people seeking employment. Two key factors that can explain unemployment in Oxford are: the skills gap – there are few unskilled/low-skilled opportunities, or there are insufficient skills/education in the workforce fill the opportunities; and housing affordability – accommodation costs in Oxford are so high that many in lower-paid professions cannot afford to live here.

Skills and education

Considering that Oxford is recognised as one of the world's leading centres of academic achievement, it is shocking to see the poor skills or educational attainment of many of its residents.

This map shows the Index of Education, Skills and Training. Once again, we can see the great inequality between the north and south of the city.
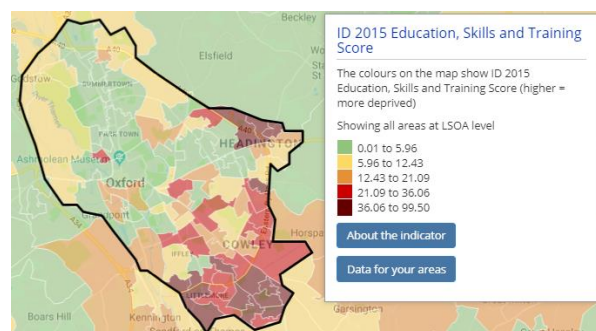
The index is made up of skills and education metrics through the whole of life; from Key stage 1 to adult education. The index score for England is 21.8. Within Oxford City there is an LSOA with the least deprivation nationally (0.01 in North Oxford) and an LSOA in Rose Hill that is one of the most deprived nationally (73.81).

The Indices of Deprivation (ID) 2015 Adult Skills sub-domain measures the lack of skills in the local population. This shows the skills gap to employment very clearly – the areas with low skills are the areas with higher levels of unemployment, income deprivation and benefit claimants. We can also see how the northern part of Oxford is one of the least deprived areas of the country by this metric.
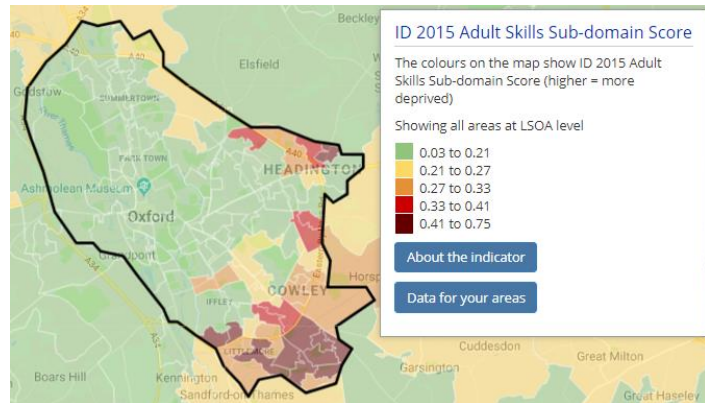

Perhaps more worrying than the deprivation in adult skills is the outlook for the future.

Below are two maps showing the average point score for Key Stage 1 (year 2) and Key Stage 2 (year 6) pupils.
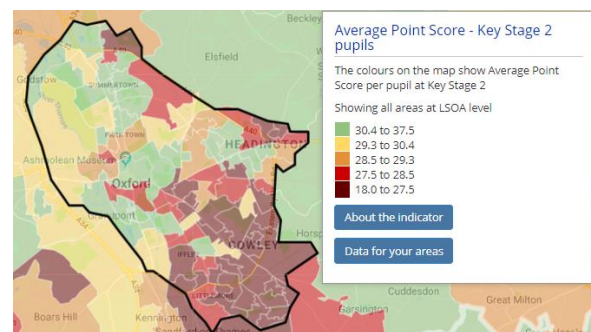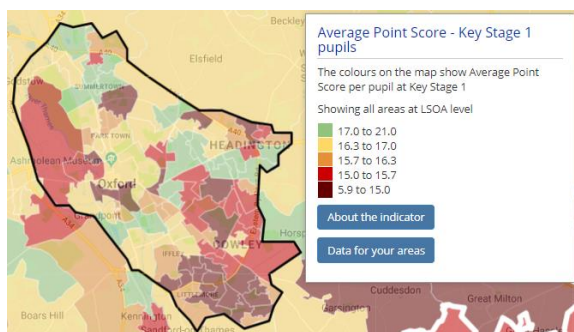
The picture deteriorates from Key Stage 1 to 2, with more and more areas falling into the worst performing quartile nationally. Again, the worse performing areas are in the areas of multiple deprivation, but here we also see some LSOAs in the central, north and west areas of Oxford dropping into the most deprived areas of the country.

This picture is very much repeated later on in education. Below we can see the number of students achieving five passes grade A*–C, including English and Maths at GCSE.
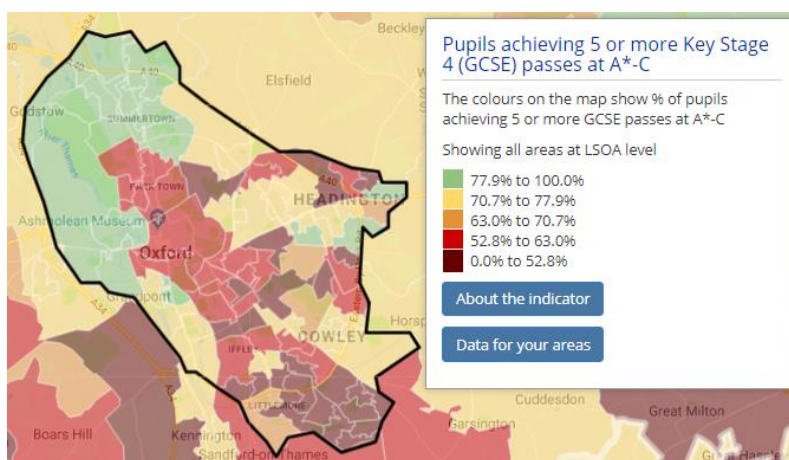
This is a particularly poor picture to look at for employers of medium to higher skilled staff. Poor educational attainment will have a negative effect on Oxford's economy.

Housing and homelessness

The Indices of Deprivation (ID) 2015 Wider Barriers sub-domain measures financial accessibility of housing including affordability.

It is easy to deduce from this map that Oxford has a severe level of deprivation by this measure, and is one of the least affordable places to live in the country.

More on this section will follow.