

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Understanding levels and patterns of deprivation is an important aspect of maintaining our knowledge of local conditions. Various indexes and measures have been designed over the years, but in recent times the Index of Multiple Deprivation, or IMD for short, has become the most commonly used. The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government published its 2019 version of the English Indices of Deprivation on 26th September 2019.
- 1.2 The IMD does not measure absolute levels of poverty, and the complexity of its construction means it is usually very difficult to determine the impact single indicators have on the overall index. Neither is the IMD a timely publication, as at best the data are a couple of years old, and in some cases up to five years old, despite the '2019' name tag. And the IMD cannot be used to identify real change in deprivation over time.
- 1.3 Instead, the value of the IMD is that it's one of very few intelligence products where data are produced at a neighbourhood level for all of England, for a harmonised time period, and transformed to make relative comparisons straightforward. Additionally, the IMD is the only occasion that some small-area data enters the public domain.
- 1.4 Locally, therefore, the IMD is an important piece of intelligence in its own right – highlighting the district's position relative to other English local authorities. The IMD also acts as a useful tool for analysing the inequalities within the district across a wide range of measures, and provides access to some neighbourhood-level data that would often be difficult to source.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 (IMD 2019) combines data on seven different themes from around the period 2015/16. Deprivation scores and ranks are produced for every lower-layer super output area (LSOA) in England. An LSOA typically contains 1,600 people, and there are 209 LSOA's in Wakefield District. District-level deprivation summaries are also published, as is guidance about creating deprivation rankings for other geographies, e.g. wards.
- 2.2 Because LSOA's have quite small populations, some indicators use an average taken over several years. For example, entry to higher education (an underlying variable of the education and skills domain) is measured using five years of data, from 2012/13 to 2016/17.
- 2.3 The IMD scores reflect the extent of deprivation relative to elsewhere in England. The term 'relative deprivation' needs to be emphasised, especially when considering results from different years. Some people may be becoming less deprived in absolute terms, but if they're doing so at a slower rate than elsewhere in England then their relative deprivation may appear to have worsened over time.

2.0 Summary

2.1 The IMD 2019 shows Wakefield to be the 54th most deprived district in England, out of 317. In 2015 Wakefield was 65th (from 326). Wakefield is the 7th most deprived district in the Yorkshire and Humber region. It was the 8th most-deprived in 2015.

2.2 Thirty-four percent of the district's neighbourhoods are in the top-20% most deprived in England. It was 31% in 2015 and 29% in 2010. This is a common benchmark of district-level deprivation relative to elsewhere in the country.

2.3 There are 54,200 people living in neighbourhoods among the top-10% most deprived in England. In 2015 the number was 47,400 people (Table 1). Looking back further shows that swings of this order have been seen previously.

| IMD | population | |
|------|------------|---------|
| | top-10% | top-20% |
| 2004 | 45,400 | 113,100 |
| 2007 | 47,000 | 99,500 |
| 2010 | 40,500 | 93,600 |
| 2015 | 47,400 | 102,400 |
| 2019 | 54,200 | 117,900 |

Table 1 Wakefield population living in top-10% and top-20 most deprived neighbourhoods in England.

2.4 The new geography of multiple deprivation is shown in Figure 1.

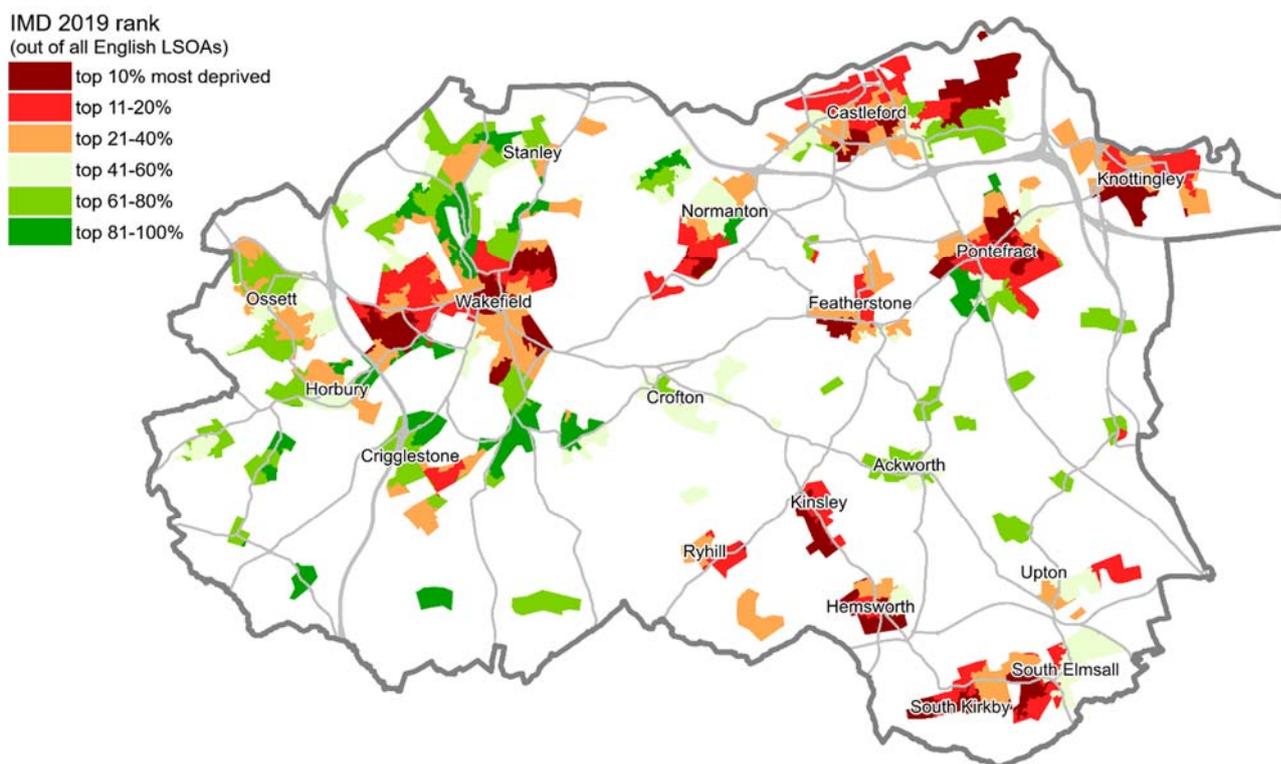


Figure 1 Geography of multiple deprivation.

3.0 Deprivation in the Yorkshire and Humber Region

3.1 Hull is the most deprived area in the region and the fourth most-deprived district in all of England. York and Harrogate are the region's least deprived areas. In ranking terms, Wakefield's overall deprivation is similar to that of Sheffield and Leeds, as it was in 2015.

3.2 Even the most deprived districts in the region have some neighbourhoods in the top-20% least deprived neighbourhoods in England (Figure 2). Conversely, while over half of all neighbourhoods in York are in the 20% least deprived in England, they still have some in top-20% most deprived. Wakefield's distribution is somewhere between these two positions.

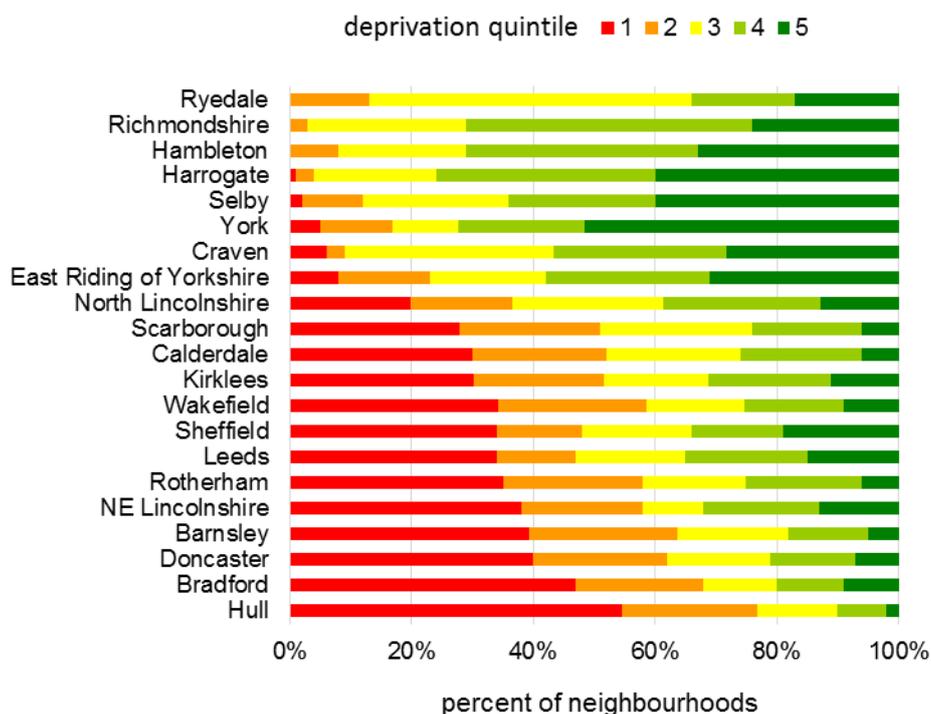


Figure 2 Neighbourhood level distribution of deprivation.

3.3 Between 2015 and 2019, all the West Yorkshire districts tended to become more deprived relative to elsewhere in England, and districts such as Richmondshire, Hambleton and York became less so. To some extent this is a result of the relative nature of the IMD – if deprivation goes up in one place then it has to go down somewhere else.

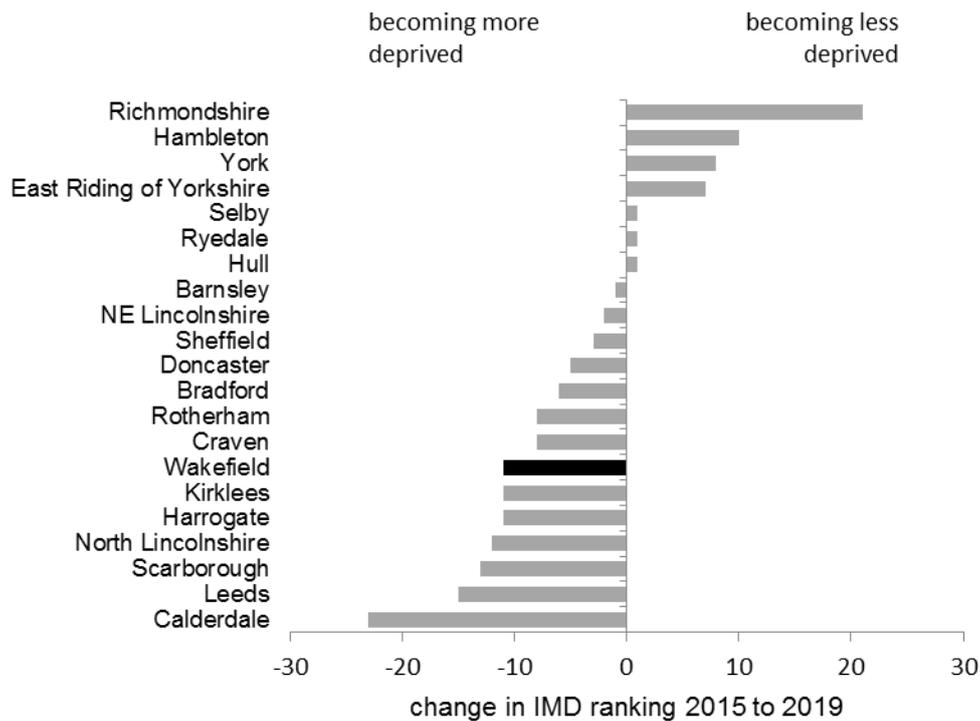


Figure 3 Change in deprivation across the region relative to elsewhere in England.

4.0 Deprivation Domains Summary

- 4.1 In the IMD 2019, Wakefield's deprivation profile is most shaped by high levels of education and skills deprivation, and high levels of crime deprivation (Figure 4). The education and skills position has deteriorated slightly compared to IMD 2015 and Wakefield is the 20th most deprived local authority in England for this type of deprivation. The domain comprises indicators of Key Stage performance; school absence; post-16 and higher education participation. The adult skills component is measured using no, or low, qualification levels and poor English language skills. Some indicators take an average across three, four or five years.
- 4.2 Crime deprivation appears to have risen significantly since IMD 2015, although there are some potential issues with this data (see section 5.0). The variables used in this domain include offence rates for violence, burglary, theft and criminal damage.
- 4.3 The district's relative income deprivation ranking has changed very little compared to 2010, and employment deprivation has improved slightly. Health and disability deprivation has also improved relative to elsewhere in England.
- 4.4 Barriers to housing deprivation are relatively low in Wakefield district, reflecting good geographic access to public services; relatively low levels of homelessness and overcrowding; and relatively good levels of affordability.
- 4.5 Levels of living environment deprivation are also low, and continue to improve. This type of deprivation reflects poor housing conditions, levels of air pollution, and road traffic accidents.

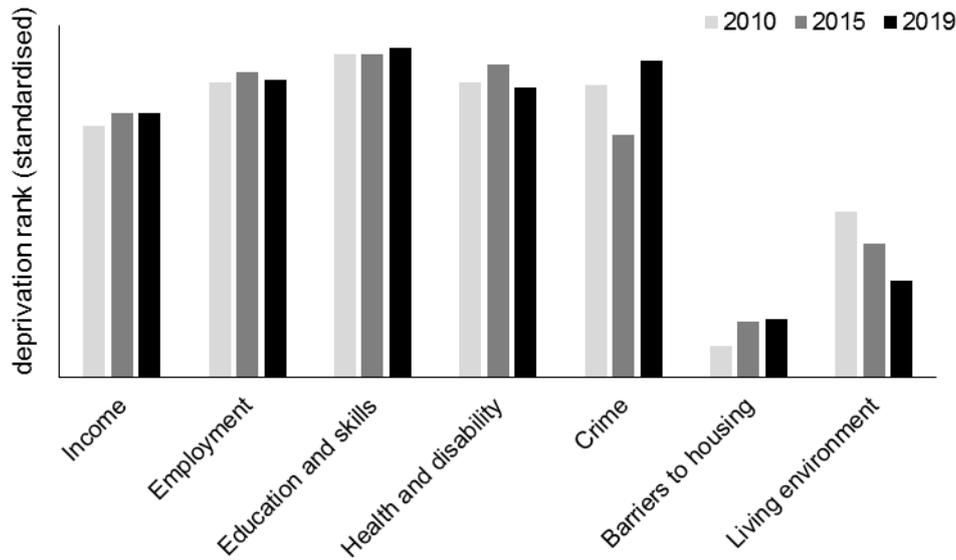


Figure 4 Changes in district-level deprivation ranks over time, by domain.

5.0 Crime Data Quality

5.1 The marked change in crime deprivation might be reflecting bias in crime recording quality at police force level. HMIC data integrity inspections have highlighted significant amounts of under-recording of crime across most of the country. This led the Office for National Statistics to demote recorded crime to experimental statistics status in 2014. Police forces are now improving but at different rates, with West Yorkshire one of those furthest ahead, and now in possession of an 'outstanding' rating. Although the crime data in the IMD 2019 are from 2016/17 and 2017/18, an 'improvement journey' bias may still be having an effect. Worsening crime deprivation is evident in all five West Yorkshire districts.

5.2 Although the crime domain is only weighted at 9.3% in the IMD calculation, the effect of removing it changes Wakefield's rank to 65th most deprived out of 317 districts, not 54th.

6.0 Significant Change at the Neighbourhood Level

6.1 Between 2015 and 2019, most Wakefield District neighbourhoods have seen some change in their deprivation ranks but the majority of these changes are small. Statistical analysis to identify meaningful amounts of change shows,

- 0 neighbourhoods with a significantly improved rank
- 1 neighbourhood with a moderately improved rank
- 150 neighbourhoods with no change
- 41 neighbourhoods with a moderately worse rank
- 17 neighbourhoods with a significantly worse rank

6.2 The one neighbourhood to have an improved ranking (Outwood Lofthouse Hill, Lee Moor) had a low level of deprivation to start with (Table 2). The geography of these changes is shown in Figure 5.

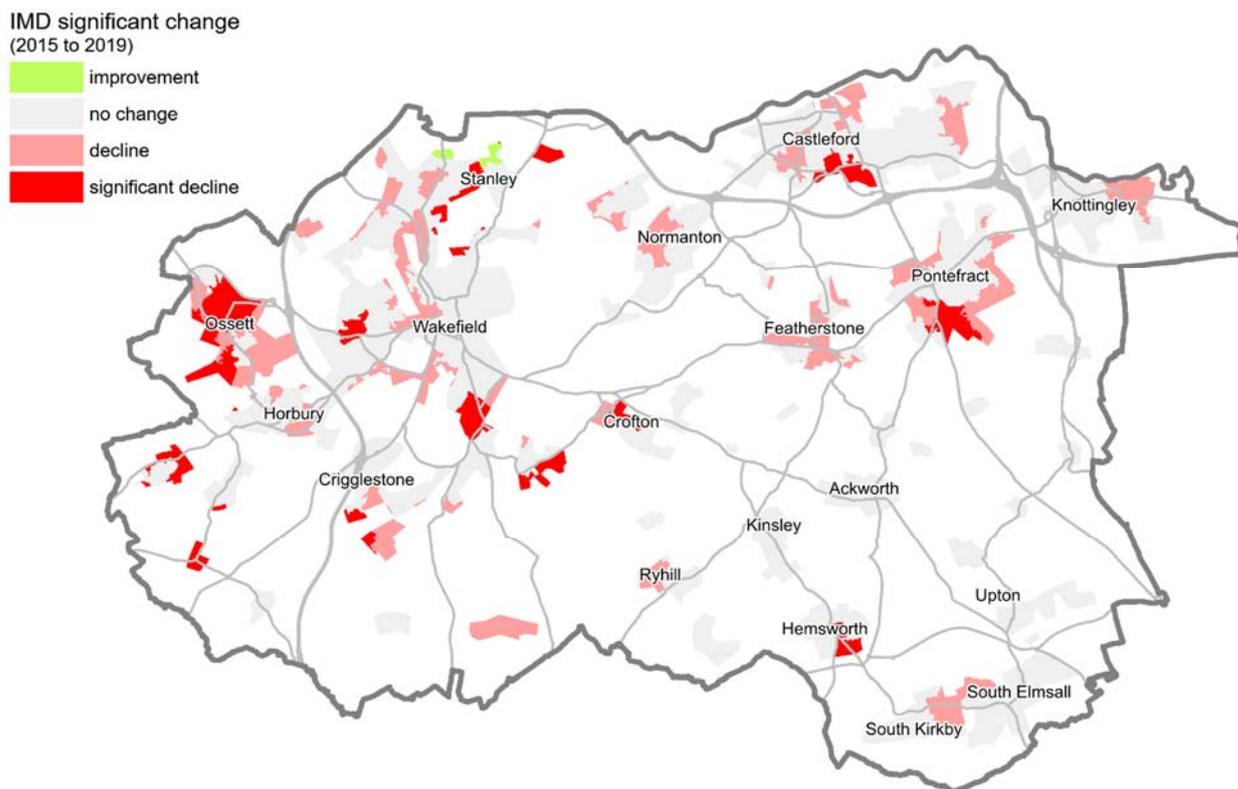


Figure 5 Significant change between 2015 and 2019.

6.3 Four years ago, when analysing the IMD 2015, the data suggested a widening gap within the district, with the least-deprived neighbourhoods more likely to be seeing improvements, and the more-deprived neighbourhoods slightly more likely to be experiencing a worsening in their rank. The change between 2015 and 2019 is different. There is almost no overall improvement, and the worsening ranks are more prevalent in the less-deprived neighbourhoods. There is a temptation to see this as evidence of the gap closing again, but other techniques for examining the gap are inconclusive.

| Wakefield Quintile | Number of neighbourhoods | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------|---------------|----------|------------------------|
| | Significantly Worse | Worse | Little Change | Improved | Significantly Improved |
| 1 | 1 | 3 | 38 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 1 | 8 | 33 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | 4 | 12 | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | 7 | 12 | 23 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | 4 | 6 | 31 | 1 | 0 |

Table 2 Changes from 2015 to 2019 by deprivation fifths within Wakefield.

6.4 The impact of removing the crime domain from the data shows a couple more neighbourhoods improving and fewer worsening (Table 3).

| Wakefield Quintile | Number of neighbourhoods | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------|---------------|----------|------------------------|
| | Significantly Worse | Worse | Little Change | Improved | Significantly Improved |
| 1 | 0 | 2 | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 38 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | 3 | 6 | 32 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | 3 | 5 | 33 | 1 | 0 |
| 5 | 1 | 2 | 37 | 2 | 0 |

Table 3 Changes from 2015 to 2019 by deprivation fifths within Wakefield, excluding crime domain.

6.5 Even at the individual domain level there are very few neighbourhoods registering improved rankings relative to elsewhere compared to IMD 2015 (Table 4). Around 13% of neighbourhoods have worsened to some degree across each of the domains. The exceptions were the income domain, where 25% of neighbourhoods have seen their rank worsen; and crime, where 67% of neighbourhoods have seen their relative crime deprivation rank worsen. The income domain is comprised of seven different benefit/tax credit rates, plus a measure of the asylum seeker population.

| Significant change 2015 to 2019 | Number of neighbourhoods | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | Income | Employment | Education, skills and training | Health and disability | Crime | Barriers to housing | Living environment |
| Significantly improved | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Improved | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 9 |
| No change | 155 | 180 | 179 | 184 | 68 | 176 | 175 |
| Worse | 35 | 23 | 19 | 18 | 70 | 21 | 19 |
| Significantly worse | 17 | 5 | 11 | 5 | 71 | 7 | 6 |

Table 4 Number of neighbourhoods showing significant change, by deprivation domain.

7.0 Deprivation at Ward Level

7.1 Deprivation scores and ranks for wards are not published with the IMD, but values have been calculated by combining data at the neighbourhood scale (LSOA).

7.2 Airedale and Ferry Fryston ward has the highest percentage of people living in neighbourhoods among the top-20% most deprived in England, followed by South Elmsall and South Kirkby and Hemsworth wards (Table 5). On average, wards contain 10 LSOAs. Most of the changes at ward level between 2015 and 2019 represent the movement of a single LSOA into or out of the England top-20%. The only exception is Pontefract South, where two LSOAs moved from the top-30% most deprived in England to the top-20%. Only one of these shifts – in the Chequerfield area - is calculated to be significant, driven by a worsening in income deprivation and a significant worsening in crime deprivation. (It should be noted that ward populations here are calculated based on best-fit of LSOAs to wards).

Population living in neighbourhoods among top-20% most deprived nationally

| | 2004 | 2007 | 2010 | 2015 | 2019 | 2019 |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | people |
| Airedale and Ferry Fryston | 64 | 65 | 65 | 65 | 66 | 11,880 |
| South Elmsall and South Kirkby | 64 | 63 | 54 | 51 | 65 | 12,030 |
| Hemsworth | 66 | 65 | 53 | 64 | 65 | 9,740 |
| Wakefield East | 77 | 67 | 54 | 75 | 64 | 10,050 |
| Wakefield West | 62 | 51 | 51 | 51 | 63 | 9,710 |
| Pontefract South | 28 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 57 | 9,240 |
| Wakefield North | 56 | 38 | 45 | 45 | 56 | 11,180 |
| Knottingley | 44 | 45 | 45 | 42 | 53 | 7,590 |
| Castleford Central and Glasshoughton | 64 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 38 | 5,100 |
| Altofts and Whitwood | 45 | 33 | 33 | 33 | 34 | 5,210 |
| Normanton | 34 | 36 | 42 | 39 | 32 | 6,480 |
| Wakefield South | 14 | 13 | 13 | 27 | 29 | 3,660 |
| Crofton, Ryhill and Walton | 26 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 27 | 4,520 |
| Ackworth, North Elmsall and Upton | 28 | 27 | 8 | 26 | 25 | 4,300 |
| Featherstone | 51 | 42 | 33 | 23 | 24 | 3,840 |
| Pontefract North | 21 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 22 | 3,380 |
| Horbury and South Ossett | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ossett | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stanley and Outwood East | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wakefield Rural | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wrenthorpe and Outwood West | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 5 Deprivation trends by ward.

8.0 Example uses of the Index of Multiple Deprivation

8.1 The IMD can be a useful tool for testing how much outcomes vary according the level of poverty experienced where people live. There is a long history of this type of analysis in public health, and the Wakefield Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) has its own examples (Figure 6).

Explore smoking in pregnancy by area:

Smoking at time of delivery

2018/19

Deprivation Decile

All ages

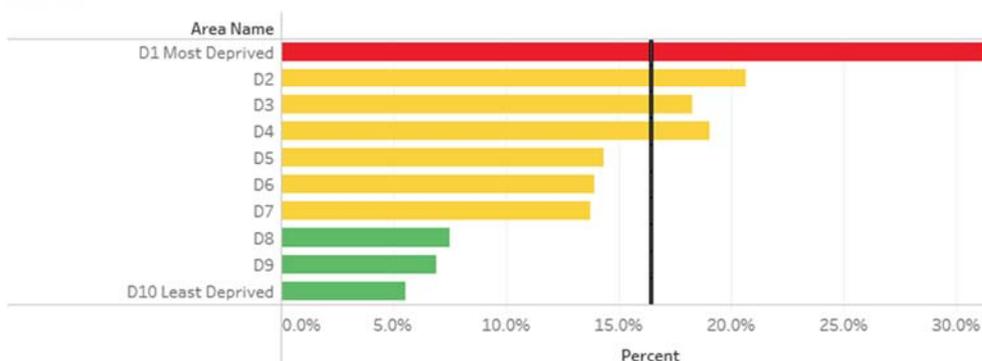
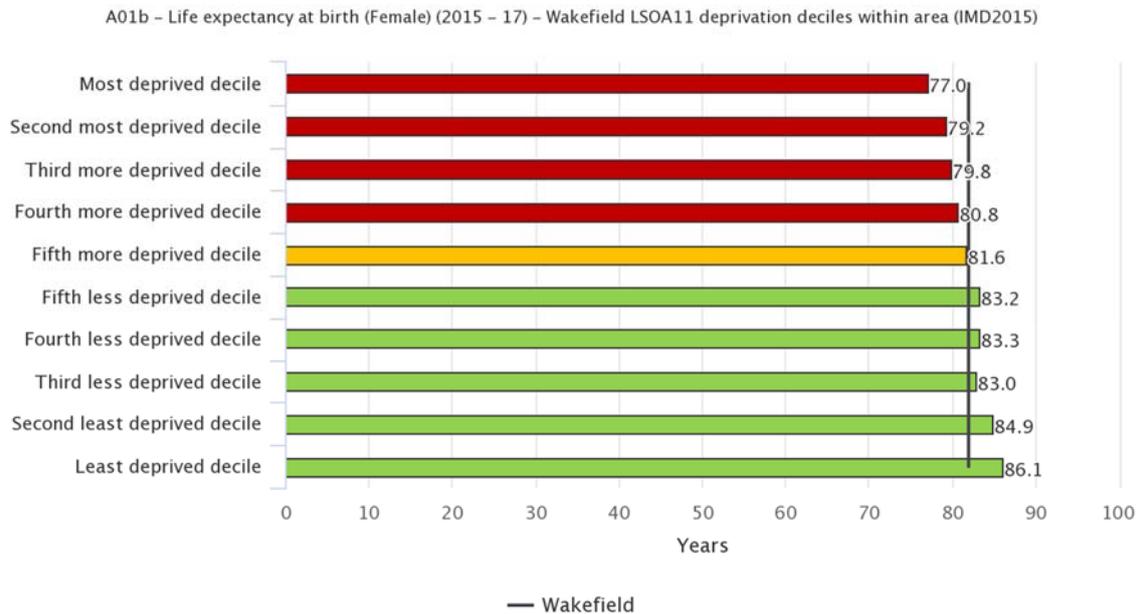


Figure 6 Inequalities in smoking status (of mothers) at time of delivery.

8.2 A small number of indicators in the Public Health England ‘fingertips’ dashboards have similar analyses of inequalities.



9.0 Possible implications for grant funding

- 9.1 Various government and other grant providers use the IMD for calculating disadvantage uplift of funding settlements. The IMD is currently used in the allocation of European Regional Development Funds (ERDF). For example, Community-Led Local Development is prioritised in the 20% most deprived areas. (It is proposed that a Shared Prosperity Fund will replace the EU structural funding after Brexit, but details of how this is to be administered have not been published yet).
- 9.2 The IDACI data (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index, a subset of the IMD) is an integral part of both the schools and high need funding formulae. IDACI data is used as a proxy for deprivation in the Schools National Funding Formula (NFF) and as a proxy for deprivation in the High Needs National Funding Formula (HN NFF).
- 9.3 Funding allocated by the NHS to Clinical Commissioning Groups and funding from the Education and Skills Funding Agency for adult education and further education also use the IMD to estimate deprivation uplift.

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