

Denby Dale, Kirkburton and Mirfield

This locality covers the wards of Denby Dale & Kirkburton in the Greater Huddersfield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area and Mirfield in the North Kirklees CCG.

People in the locality were amongst the healthiest in Kirklees and were most satisfied with the locality as a place to live, although 1 in 4 had a limiting long-term condition.

The emotional wellbeing of young people, smoking in adults and the drinking habits of both young people and adults were a concern, especially women of childbearing age. More 14-year olds had tried alcohol, which was most usually bought for them by their families – although fewer 14-year olds drank regularly. Whilst smoking levels of 14-year olds have reduced considerably over 1 in 4 reported living with a smoker. Too many adults still smoked and risked developing conditions that increase the chance of an early death.

The locality had the highest proportion of older people and whilst adults felt people from different ages got on well, young people felt the opposite. 14-year olds were more likely to feel lonely than 14-year olds elsewhere in Kirklees.

Headlines

- The population was older than other areas, with a much lower proportion of south Asian people than other areas although this had significantly increased since the last JSNA.
- Life expectancy levels were amongst the highest in Kirklees.
- 1 in 4 adults had a limiting long-term condition.
- 4 in 5 adults with long-term conditions were confident in managing their health.
- Although the locality had some of the lowest levels of worklessness 1 in 10 children and 1 in 5 older people were living in poverty.
- Young people's emotional wellbeing was a concern with 1 in 4 14-year olds feeling miserable, 1 in 5 feeling lonely and high levels of concerns about bullying and self-image.
- Whilst obesity levels were relatively low in children and adults more than half of all adults were overweight or obese.
- Physical activity levels amongst young people were the lowest in Kirklees whilst adults were more likely to be active.

- Smoking rates were the lowest in Kirklees with a considerable reduction in 14-year olds smoking. Adult rates are low but still sufficient to cause considerable morbidity and mortality.
- Drinking amongst young people fell and most got the alcohol from their family, the highest in Kirklees.
- Nearly 4 in 5 (74%) adults were drinking at increasing risk levels, similar to Kirklees overall. The majority were not concerned about it, especially in Mirfield for women of childbearing age, and men.
- Residents were the most satisfied with the locality as a place to live in Kirklees, there were high levels of social capital and volunteering in the area, and people also felt safe in the locality.

Population

There were 53,039 people living in Denby Dale & Kirkburton and Mirfield; of these 1 in 5 (10,203) were aged fewer than 18. The age and ethnicity profile of the area differed from Kirklees, having the lowest proportion aged under 19 and the highest aged 65 and over, and one of the lowest proportions of children and adults of south Asian origin. The population has however changed since the last JSNA with an increase in south Asians aged under 18 years and an increase in over 65 and over 75 age groups, while there has been a decrease in the 18-44 year old population group.

Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 was amongst the highest in Kirklees. Both men and women's life expectancy at birth, 79.7 years and 83.7 years respectively, are above the national average. Women at 65 in Denby Dale & Kirkburton and Mirfield had the longest life expectancy at over 86 years, versus 84.1 years for women in Batley, a gap of 2 years. Across the locality women at 65 years old are likely to live 3.0 years more than men, compared to a gap of 2.4 years across Kirklees.

There are around 21,605 households in Denby Dale & Kirkburton and Mirfield. The locality had the lowest rate of households who felt their house was inadequate for their needs, but this was still 1 in 7 (14%) in Mirfield and 1 in 11 (9%) in Denby Dale & Kirkburton.

The district had fewer deaths (2.44 per 1,000) from all causes aged under 75 than Kirklees (2.93 per 1,000) and fewer deaths from all cancers and circulatory disease, though these remained the major causes of premature mortality.

Conditions

Emotional wellbeing of 14-year olds was similar to Kirklees figures overall, especially in Denby Dale & Kirkburton. Over 1 in 4 (29%) 14-year olds felt miserable weekly or more in the last year, 1 in 5 (19%) had problems getting to sleep because of being anxious or worried and 1 in 5 (20%) did not have someone to talk to about their problems. 1 in 5 (18%) felt lonely, which was significantly worse than the Kirklees average (11%). More than 1 in 3 (37%) were not happy with the way they looked and 1 in 5 (19.2%) reported they were on a diet or trying to lose weight.

1 in 5 (19%) 14-year olds reported ever having been bullied at least weekly in the previous two months, similar to Kirklees. In Denby Dale & Kirkburton, more 14-year olds were worried about bullying than in any other locality, with 1 in 7 (14%) worrying about it weekly or more.

They were also least likely to report feeling safe at school, although still more than 8 in 10 (84%) felt very or quite safe at school.

Levels of obesity amongst reception age children were the lowest in Kirklees (5.1%), although 1 in 6 (16%) of 4-5 year olds were overweight in Denby Dale & Kirkburton.

Denby Dale & Kirkburton and Mirfield had one of the lowest levels of adult obesity at 1 in 6 (16%) but more than half (52%) were either overweight or obese, similar to the Kirklees average.

More than 1 in 4 people in Denby Dale & Kirkburton and Mirfield were living with a long-term condition (LTC); and around 8 in 10 (81%) of those were confident in managing their own health.

Fewer adults than the Kirklees average had problems with usual activities, self-care and mobility.

2.4% of adults had chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and 1 in 8 (13%) had long-term pain problems, similar in both cases to the Kirklees average. However, 1 in 6 (16%) adults had depression, lower than the Kirklees average of 1 in 5 (21%).

Denby Dale & Kirkburton had the highest rates of new cases of breast cancer in Kirklees.

Behaviours

Teenage conception levels were similar to the last JSNA with 29.4 and 28.9 per 1,000 population in Mirfield and Denby Dale & Kirkburton respectively. These were amongst the

lowest in Kirklees. In 2009 sexual activity amongst 14-year olds fell (from 20% to 10%) to below the Kirklees rate (13%).

Smoking rates amongst 14-year olds in 2009 fell from 11% to 4% and were the lowest in Kirklees for boys and girls. They were also the least likely to live with someone who smoked, having fallen from 1 in 3 (36%) to 1 in 4 (28%). Overall the locality had the lowest adult smoking rates in Kirklees although 1 in 7 (14%) still smoked in Mirfield and 1 in 10 (10%) in Denby Dale & Kirkburton. The smoking status of mothers at delivery was significantly better than the Kirklees average and this locality also had one of the lowest rates amongst women of childbearing age.

14-year olds were amongst the most likely to have ever drunk alcohol, but lower than in 2005 – from 90% to 77%. Far fewer were drunk at least weekly, from almost half (46%) to 1 in 6 (16%). Fewer also had their first drink aged 9 or less: from 1 in 5 (21%) to 1 in 10 (10%). Of those who had drunk alcohol more than half (60%) usually got their alcohol from family/relatives living at home – the highest in Kirklees.

7 out of 10 adults (72%) in the locality were drinking at increasing risk levels, the same as Kirklees' overall figure. Nearly 1 in 4 (23%) men and 1 in 7 (14%) females binge drank. This figure has risen since the previous JSNA but is similar to the Kirklees average. Only 1 in 5 of those who binged were concerned about their alcohol consumption and planned to reduce it.

Levels of physical activity in 14-year olds were amongst the lowest in Kirklees; less than 2 in 3 (61%) did 60 minutes per day intensive physical activity, lower than the Kirklees average.

However, adults in the locality were most likely in Kirklees to be physically active – only 1 in 10 never did the recommended levels of physical activity. Adults in Mirfield were amongst the most likely to be physically active enough to benefit their health than elsewhere in Kirklees.

Wider factors affecting health

The economic wellbeing of those living in Mirfield, Denby Dale & Kirkburton was significantly better than Kirklees overall. Also, working-age poverty and pensioner poverty had significantly improved since the last JSNA.

1 in 10 (10%) children lived in poverty and 1 in 10 (10%) pupils were eligible for free school meals (10%).

Only 2% of working age people were in poverty; 1 in 5 (21%) older people were in poverty.

However, the proportion of those living in overcrowded accommodation has increased since the previous JSNA, although it is still significantly better than the Kirklees average. There are good levels of social capital in Denby Dale & Kirkburton, and levels of regular volunteering in Denby Dale & Kirkburton were slightly above average with 1 in 4 (23%) participating in regular volunteering.

Overall, perceptions of community cohesion are improving across Kirklees though people rate cohesion more highly in Denby Dale & Kirkburton than in other districts. Compared to the rest of Kirklees, residents like Denby Dale & Kirkburton as a place to live: 8 in 10 (85%) people in Mirfield and 9 in 10 (91%) in Denby Dale & Kirkburton were satisfied with it as a place to live. And over half (52%) felt it is a place where people pull together to improve things.

Although 3 in 4 (74%) 14-year olds in Denby Dale & Kirkburton felt that people of different ages got on well together, this was the lowest in Kirklees. In Mirfield, 2 in 5 (44%) 14-year olds felt people from different backgrounds got on well together, again the lowest in Kirklees. They were also the least satisfied with their local area as a place to live (60%). Locally, 14-year olds felt as safe as their peers across Kirklees in most settings. However, in Denby Dale & Kirkburton, 1 in 8 (12%) were most likely to worry about violence in their own home.

The level of total recorded crime has been reducing over the past decade in Kirklees. The area had the lowest levels of reported crime, but rates in Mirfield were higher than Denby Dale & Kirkburton.

Educational attainment across the locality was very strong, with attainment at all stages amongst the highest in Kirklees, and persistent absence amongst the lowest. Attainment at Early Years Foundation Stage was highest in Denby Dale & Kirkburton (80%). In 2012, 4 in 5 (79%) of all pupils in Denby Dale & Kirkburton achieved five or more GCSEs grades A*-C including English and maths; this reduced to just over 2 in 3 (70%) in Mirfield.

1 in 9 (12%) 14-year olds reported having a caring responsibility for a parent, sibling or other relative, this dropped to 1 in 12 (8%) in Denby Dale & Kirkburton – the lowest in Kirklees.

Date this section was last reviewed

09/07/2013 (PL)