Southwark
A profile of socio-economic determinants of health during the economic downturn

This profile provides an overview of socio-economic determinants of health in this borough during the economic downturn. It is designed to guide and inform the work of those in the Local Authority, the NHS, and the community and voluntary sector responsible for commissioning and providing health and welfare services to the residents of the borough.

Background

This profile should be read alongside the report The impact of the economic downturn and policy changes on health inequalities in London: development of an indicator set, commissioned by the London Health Inequalities Network and produced by the UCL Institute of Health Equity. A related report synthesising the evidence on the association between economic factors and health was published in June 2012. This provides an overview of the likely effects of the economic downturn on health as a consequence of changes in employment, housing, income levels and patterns of migration.

Using this profile

The indicators in the above report were selected following consultation with national and local public health specialists and other experts. The indicators include both publicly available national data sets, and local data. This profile presents only the indicators that are centrally collated. The indicators are different from, but complimentary to, other indicator sets such as the Public Health Outcomes Framework (www.phoutcomes.info). The criteria used to select the indicators – such as sensitivity to short term changes – are detailed in the accompanying report. This can be accessed at www.lho.org.uk/LHO_Topics/Data/EconomicDownturn.aspx

The indicators included in this profile are grouped into four domains:

- Employment: unemployment, Job Seekers Allowance claims and claim duration; Employment and Support Allowance claims; Job Seekers Allowance claims and job vacancies; full- and part-time employment; young people not in employment, education or training;
- Economic security: working age, Council Tax and housing benefit claims; landlord and mortgage repossessions claims and orders; individual insolvencies; free school meals;
- Housing: overcrowding; homelessness; use of temporary accommodation and children in temporary accommodation; fuel poverty;
- Health and well-being: emergency hospital admissions for self-harm; adults with depression; low birth weight; tuberculosis incidence.

This profile and the associated report include metadata for each of the 24 indicators. The profiles for all the London boroughs and a data pack containing all the underlying data are available at www.lho.org.uk/LHO_Topics/Data/EconomicDownturn.aspx

Further information

Enquiries regarding the data used in this profile can be directed to londonkit@phe.gov.uk
Summary of socio-economic determinants of health during the economic downturn.

This spine chart shows how this borough compares against the London and England averages for 24 employment, economic security, housing, and health and wellbeing indicators.

The result for this borough for each indicator is shown as a circle. The London average is shown by the black vertical line in the centre of the chart. The range of results for all boroughs in London is shown by the horizontal grey bar. A red circle means the indicator for the borough is significantly worse than the London average, a green circle means it is significantly better, and a white circle means there is no significant difference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Local Value</th>
<th>London Average</th>
<th>London Worst</th>
<th>London Range</th>
<th>London Best</th>
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<td>Unemployment (Jul 2012-Jun 2013)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training (2012)</td>
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<td>Unemployment (Jul 2012-Jun 2013)</td>
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<td>19.6</td>
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<td>Full- and part-time employment (Jul 2012-Jun 2013)</td>
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<td>2.5</td>
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<td>16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training (2012)</td>
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<td>4.7</td>
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<td>11.4</td>
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<td>Fuel poverty (2013)</td>
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<td>112.2</td>
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<td>Low birth weight (2011)</td>
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<td>Tuberculosis incidence (2010-12)</td>
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<td>41.4</td>
<td>112.3</td>
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Data are not centrally collated for indicators ES3, ES4, ES8, ES10, H5 and HW3. HW6 not shown.

(E1) The unemployment count as a percentage of the economically active population aged 16 years and over. (E2) The number of people newly claiming Job Seekers Allowance divided by the mid-year population estimate of those aged 16-64. (E3) The number of Job Seekers Allowance claimants who have been claiming for more than 12 months divided by the mid-year population estimate of those aged 16-64. (E4) The number of New Employment and Support Allowance Claimants divided by the 2012 mid-year estimate of the population aged 16-64. (E5) Total number of Job Seekers Allowance claimants divided by the number of notified full-time vacancies. (E6) The number of persons employed part-time. (E7) The number of people aged 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training divided by the total number of 16-18 year olds known to the local authority whose activity is either not in education, employment or training (NEET), or in education, employment or training (EET). (ES1) The number of people aged 16-64 receiving at least one of the benefits listed below, as a proportion of the 16-64 population in that area (based on ONS mid-year estimates), carers allowance (CA), disability living allowance (DLA), incapacity benefit (IB) or ESA, income support (IS)/pension credit (PC), jobseekers allowance (JSA), severe disablement allowance (SDA), widows benefit (WB) and any combination of these. Note this does not include housing benefit (ES2) The number of households claiming Council Tax Benefit divided by the estimated number of total households (DCLG households projections) (ES5a) Landlord possession claims leading to orders per 1,000 households (ES5b) Mortgage possession claims leading to orders per 1,000 households (ES6) Individual insolvencies per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over. Individual insolvencies include bankruptcy orders, Individual Voluntary Arrangements (IVAs) and Debt Relief Orders (DROs). (ES7) The number of state primary and secondary school students known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals as a percentage of pupils who have full time attendance and are aged 15 or under, or pupils who have part time attendance and are aged between 5 and 15. (ES9) The number of households receiving Housing Benefits divided by the estimated number of total households. (H1) Percentage of overcrowded households, as defined by the ‘bedroom standard’ (households with a negative bedroom occupancy score/too few bedrooms). (H2) Rate of homelessness applications accepted by the local authority per 1,000 households. (H3) Rate of households in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households. (H4) The number of children in temporary accommodation as a percentage of the total number of children aged 0-15 years. (H6) The percentage of households that experience fuel poverty based on the “Low income, high cost” methodology (HW1) Directly age-sex standardised rate of hospital admissions for intentional self-harm per 100,000 population. (HW2) Number GP patients registered with depression as a percentage of all patients aged 18 years or over on GP registers. (HW3) Percentage of all live births at term with low birth weight (<2,500g). (HW5) Number of new cases of tuberculosis notified – calculated as three-year average rate per 100,000 population.
Domain 1: Employment

Being in employment is associated with good health through its positive impact on physical and mental activity levels, levels of social interaction, personal identity and status, and income. Those not in employment, particularly the long-term unemployed, tend to have poorer physical and mental health outcomes. They are also more likely to engage in behaviours that have a negative impact on health, such as smoking, excessive alcohol consumption and low physical activity levels.

E1 Unemployment

The unemployment indicator shows the percentage of economically active persons aged 16 to 64 who have been seeking work in the last four weeks and are available to start work within the next two.

E2 Job Seekers Allowance claims

The Job Seekers Allowance claimant on-flow indicator shows the number of persons aged 16 to 64 newly claiming JSA. There is a broadly cyclical pattern to new JSA claims, with the percentage of new claimants tending to increase from quarter four (January to March) to quarter three (October to December) of the financial year. An increase in new JSA claims is likely to signal an increase in the overall level of unemployment.

Source: Office for National Statistics. NOMIS.
E3a/b

Job Seekers Allowance claim duration

The duration of claims for Job Seekers Allowance can be used to measure levels of long-term unemployment. These two indicators show the percentage of JSA claimants aged 16 to 64 who have been claiming for 6 or more and 12 or more months.

E3a  Job Seekers Allowance claim duration

% of JSA claimants where duration of claim is 12 months or longer

Source: Office for National Statistics. NOMIS.

E3b  Job Seekers Allowance claim duration

% of JSA claimants where duration of claim is six months or longer

Source: Office for National Statistics. NOMIS.
Employment and Support Allowance claims

There is evidence that periods of economic downturn are associated with an increase in people leaving the job market as a result of poor physical and mental health, thereby increasing the number of claims for sickness-related benefits. Employment and Support Allowance has been progressively replacing Incapacity Benefit since 2009 for persons aged 16 to 64 unable to work due to a long-term health condition or disability. Accordingly, the claims trend should be interpreted with a degree of caution as at least in part it reflects differences in the uptake of this benefit over time.

Source: Department for Work and Pensions. NOMIS.

Job Seekers Allowance claimants and job vacancies

A primary determinant of the level of employment is the availability of vacancies in the job market. The ratio of Job Seekers Allowance claimants to fulltime vacancies provides a measure of employment opportunities. The higher the ratio, the greater the degree of competition for jobs.

Source: Office for National Statistics. NOMIS.
**E6 Full- and part-time employment**

Part-time work often pays at a lower pro rata rate than comparable full-time work, and can mean a relatively low level of income. A falling ratio of full to part-time workers is likely to signal an increase in the percentage of persons aged 16 to 64 with low incomes.

**E7 Young people not in employment, education or training**

There is clear evidence of the link at an individual level for young adults aged 16 to 18 between relative deprivation and the risk of not being in employment, education or training. Early unemployment in turn is negatively associated with the likelihood and level of unemployment in later life.

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**E6 Full- and part-time employment**

Ratio of full- to part-time workers

Source: Office for National Statistics. NOMIS.

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**E7 Young people not in employment, education or training**

% of 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training

Source: Department for Education.
**Domain 2: Economic security**

The cost of living in London is generally higher than elsewhere in England. As a result, London households are more likely to be in debt. Living in poverty has a negative impact on physical and mental health, and certain groups in the population such as children and young people are more likely to suffer the ill-effects of poor health, both immediately and in later life. This profile does not include data on Council Tax arrears (ES3), housing rent arrears (ES4), new school registrations (ES8) and Local Housing Allowance applications (ES10) as these are not centrally collated.

**ES1 Working age benefits claims**

Working age benefit claims provide a measure of low income levels. This indicator shows the percentage of persons aged 16 to 64 receiving one or more of these welfare benefits.

**ES2 Council Tax benefit claims**

This indicator shows the number of households claiming Council Tax benefit.

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**ES1 Working age benefits claims**

Source: Department. for Work and Pensions. NOMIS.

**ES2 Council Tax benefit claims**

Source: Department. for Work and Pensions.
ES5a  Landlord repossession claims and orders

ES5b  Mortgage repossession claims and orders

The economic downturn and welfare reforms are likely to limit the amount of money households have to spend on accommodation. Private tenants and larger families with children can be expected to be most affected. Landlord and mortgage repossession claims and orders can be used to measure changes in housing affordability, with increases in repossession claims and orders likely to indicate an increase in the proportion of households struggling to meet the costs of accommodation.

ES6 Individual insolvencies

Insolvencies provide a measure of the extent to which persons aged 18 and over are struggling to manage financial debts. Individual insolvencies include bankruptcy orders, individual voluntary arrangements and debt relief orders.

ES7 Free school meals

The percentage of primary and secondary school children eligible for and claiming free school meals is an indicator of low household incomes.

ES9 Housing benefit claims

The number of households claiming housing benefits is a further indicator of low household incomes.

**ES5a  Landlord repossession claims and orders**

Rate of landlord repossession claims leading to orders per 1,000 households

**ES5b  Mortgage repossession claims and orders**

Rate of mortgage repossession claims leading to orders per 1,000 households
ES6  Individual insolvencies

Rate of individual insolvencies per 10,000 persons

Source: Department of Business, Innovation and Skills.

ES7  Free school meals

% of primary and secondary school children eligible for and claiming free school meals

Source: Department for Education.

ES9  Housing benefit claims

Number of households claiming housing benefit

Source: Department for Work and Pensions.
Domain 3: Housing

Housing conditions are a major determinant of health and wellbeing outcomes. The challenges associated with housing in London are greater than in many other parts of England and can be expected to increase as a result of the economic downturn and welfare policy changes. Data on tenancy rescue services (H5) are not included in this profile as this information is not centrally collated.

H1 Overcrowding

Overcrowding is associated with higher rates of respiratory and infectious diseases, and also has a negative impact on educational attainment, family relationships, and physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. This indicator shows the estimated percentage of overcrowded households, defined as households with more residents than bedrooms.

H2 Homelessness acceptances

Homelessness is associated with poorer health outcomes and a reduced length of life. This indicator measures the rate of homelessness applications accepted by the Local Authority. It should be interpreted with caution, however, as the acceptance rate is not simply a function of demand.

H1 Overcrowding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>England</th>
<th>London</th>
<th>Southwark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004/05</td>
<td>4.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005/06</td>
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<td>2006/07</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/13</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Office for National Statistics.

H2 Homelessness acceptances

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government.
H3 Use of temporary accommodation

H4 Children in temporary accommodation

Demand for temporary accommodation is a measure of the availability of affordable housing. As with homelessness acceptances, however, temporary accommodation indicators need to be interpreted with a degree of caution as falls in the measure may indicate changes in the supply of accommodation rather than changes in demand.

**H3 Use of temporary accommodation**  
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government

Rate of households in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households

**H4 Children in temporary accommodation**  
Source: Department for Communities and Local Government.

Number of children aged 0-15 years living in temporary accommodation
H6 Fuel poverty

Living in a cold home increases the risk of poor physical and mental health. People living in fuel poverty can take longer to recover from serious illnesses, and may require longer stays in hospital because their homes are not suitable for their recovery. The fuel poverty indicator shows the percentage of households spending more than 10% of their income on energy costs (although it should be noted that the fuel poverty definition has changed recently).
**Domain 4: Health and wellbeing**

The economic downturn and welfare policy changes are likely to have a direct impact on health outcomes and health inequalities across London. Data on domestic abuse (HW3) are not included in this profile as this information is not centrally collated. GLA wellbeing data (HW6) are not included in this profile but can be downloaded from the GLA website.

**HW1 Emergency hospital admissions for self-harm**

There is clear evidence that the rate of intentional self-harm increases during periods of economic downturn.

**HW2 Adults with depression**

The impact of economic crises on population mental health is clear. Some studies have concluded that the impact on mental health is more immediate than on physical health. This indicator shows the number of persons aged 18 or over with a diagnosis of depression as a percentage of those who are registered with a GP.

**HW4 Low birth weight**

Children are at particular risk during an economic downturn. Low birth weight is a measure of child health and is associated with deprivation.

**HW5 Tuberculosis incidence**

There is evidence that infectious disease incidence rates increase during economic downturns due to poorer living conditions and lower treatment retention rates. Tuberculosis is a particular health challenge for London.

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**HW1 Emergency hospital admissions for Self-harm**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009/10</th>
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<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>198.26</td>
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<td>London</td>
<td>114.79</td>
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<td>Southwark</td>
<td>63.74</td>
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**HW2 Adults with depression**

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<th>2009/10</th>
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<th>2011/12</th>
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<td>10.70</td>
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<td>7.54</td>
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<td>Southwark</td>
<td>7.05</td>
<td>7.33</td>
<td>7.74</td>
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</table>

Source: Health and Social Care Information Centre.
**HW4  Low birth weight**

% of term babies weighing 2,500g or less

- England
- London
- Southwark

Source: Office for National Statistics.

**HW5  Tuberculosis incidence**

Rate of new tuberculosis cases per 100,000 population

- England
- London
- Southwark