

# West Lancashire's Children and Young People Profile

This profile provides an overview for West Lancashire. It includes demographics and key indicators which are directly related to health, or have an impact on children's health. The **statistical significance** comparisons are with England (see key on right). These are a snapshot, the [district](#) and [ward](#) profiles have a fuller range of indicators around these themes.

Comparison with England  
● Better  
● Worse  
● Similar

## About the population

Age	Area %	Area count	England %
0-4	4.6%	5,510	5.3%
5-9	4.9%	5,934	5.8%
10-14	5.6%	6,734	6.1%
15-19	6.5%	7,891	5.9%

Source: NOMIS, Mid-year Estimates 2023

- 21.6% of the population (26,029 are aged between 0-19).
- West Lancashire has a slightly smaller proportion children in the population compared to England.
- The area has lower proportions of 0-9 year olds than England but a slightly higher proportion of 5-19 year olds, owing to the university in the area.

## Deprivation

**15.8%** of children are living in child poverty (IDACI, 2019)

**20.5%** of children are in relative low income families (under-16) (2022/23)

**15.4%** of children are in absolute low income families (under-16) (2022/23)

Children in relative low income	%
Skelmersdale South	41.9
Old Skelmersdale	37.3
Tanhouse & Skelmersdale Town Centre	31
Skelmersdale North	30.7
Ormskirk West	16.9

Source: LG inform

Childhood poverty can lead to poor health outcomes in later life. Reducing it is key to improving health in adulthood, and increasing healthy life expectancy. West Lancashire is significantly better (lower) than England for IDACI but the children in relative low income indicators are similar to England.

Breaking this down further, the table shows the five wards with the highest proportion of children in poverty. Four wards are significantly worse than England. Whilst 11 wards are significantly better. The lowest proportion of children in RLI in a ward in West Lancashire is 5.8%.

Additional indicators around deprivation, with England values and comparisons, are in the [district profile](#).

## Maternity and infancy

**26** under-18 conceptions (**13.4** per 1,000 <18) (2020)

**1.1%** of deliveries are to teenage mothers (12-17 years) (2016/17-20/21)

**9.7%** of mothers are smoking at the time of delivery (all ages) (2022/23)

**1.8%** of term babies were low birth weight (LBW) (2022)

**13** babies (**4.4** per 1,000) died before the age of one (2020-22)

Source: [Fingertips, Local Health Profile](#) (district)

Becoming pregnant at a young age and/or being a teenage parent is linked to poorer outcomes, such as living in poverty, for both mother and baby. For both indicators, West Lancashire is significantly worse than England.

Smoking when pregnant has negative effects for the mother and baby, and in West Lancashire an estimated 9.7% of mothers are smoking at the time of delivery, similar to England.

The proportion of LBW term babies is lower than for England, whilst the rate of infant mortality is similar to England. For variation across wards please see the [ward profile](#).

## Children's health and wellbeing

A healthy childhood lays the foundations for a healthy adulthood and these indicators provide a useful overview of children's health in West Lancashire. While some are 'health' indicators, others are focused on the wider determinants of health (education, schooling). Where available, ward rankings have been provided, showing the five areas with the highest proportion or rates.

**25.0%** of reception children are overweight or obese (2020/21-2022/23)

**36.9%** of year 6 children are overweight or obese (2020/21-2022/23)

**41.4%** of children (5-16-years) are physically active (2022/23)

Comparison with England

● Better ● Worse ● Similar

Source: [Fingertips, Local Health Profiles](#) (district)

Reception: overweight or obese	%
Skelmersdale South	38.2
Moorside	37.0
Tanhouse	31.4
Skelmersdale North	28.6
Birch Green	27.8

Year 6: overweight or obese	%
Skelmersdale North	44.0
Tanhouse	43.6
Moorside	43.5
Up Holland	42.4
Digmoor	41.7

Source: [Fingertips, Local Health Profile](#) (ward)

**7.4** of half days missed due to pupil absence (5-15-years) (2022/23)

**44.1** is the average attainment 8 score (15-16-years) (2022/23)

**191.1** emergency hospital admissions (per 1,000 children) for under-fives (2016/17-20/21)

**97.4** emergency hospital admissions (per 10,000) for injuries (<15) (2016/17-20/21)

**30.5** admission episodes (per 100,000) for alcohol-specific conditions in children <18 (2020/21-2022/23)

Emergency admissions under-5	Per 1,000
Skelmersdale South	291.9
Newburgh	289.9
Halsall	234.7
Hesketh-with-Beaconsall	230.2
Scarisbrick	220.8

Emergency admissions injuries <15	Per 10,000
Halsall	143.4
Moorside	125.1
Tanhouse	123.7
Skelmersdale South	122.6
Scott	117.0

Comparison with England

● Better ● Worse ● Similar

Source: [Fingertips, Local Health Profile](#) (ward)

Improving attendance at school can increase a child's opportunities and future life chances. A child who has consistent attendance will be more likely to achieve academically. West Lancashire is similar to England for pupil absence whilst the attainment 8 score is in the second worst quintile of districts in England.

Emergency hospital admissions are an important indication of wider determinants of poor health. These can include respiratory conditions caused by cold, damp homes, or smoking around children for example.

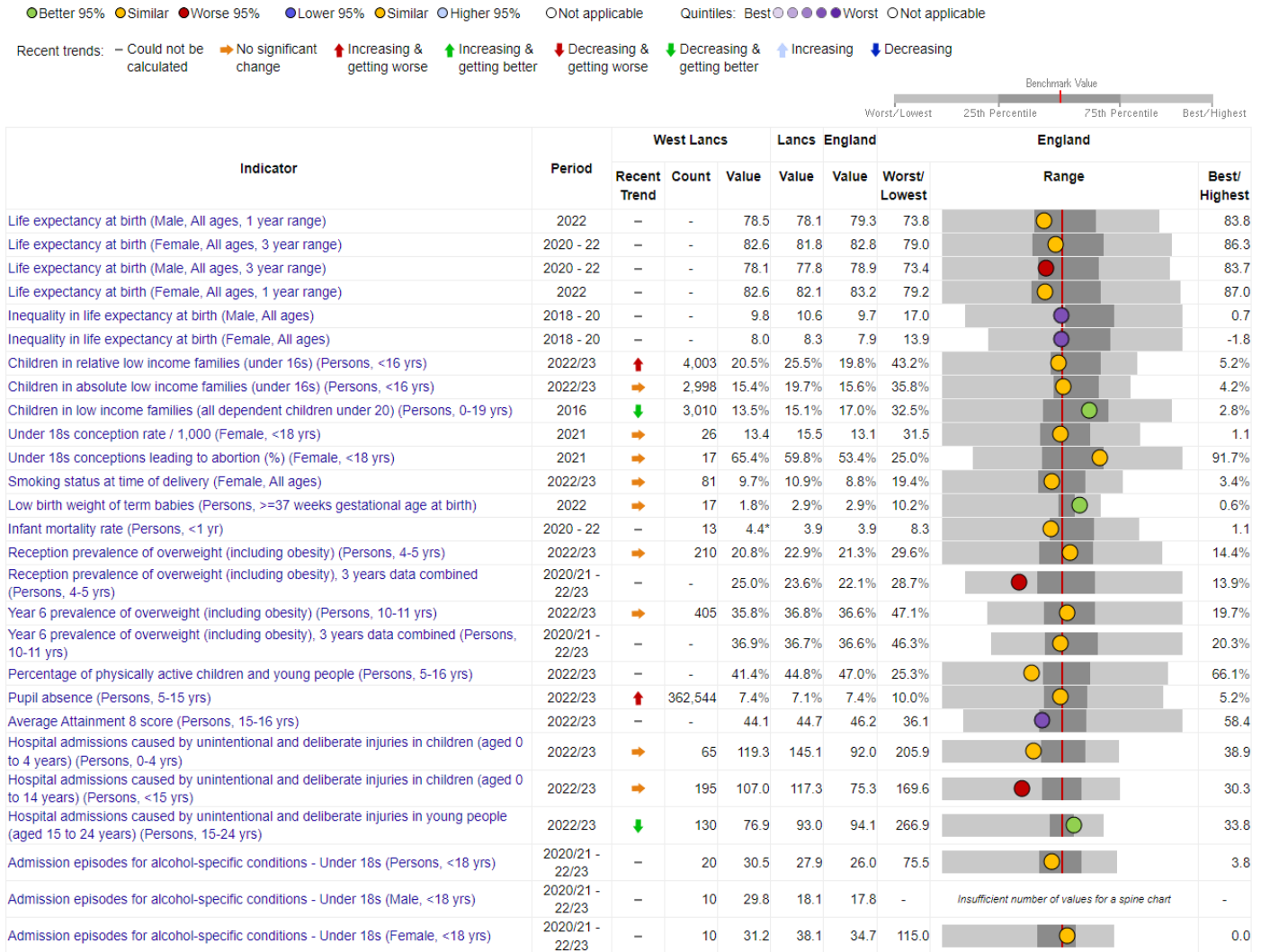
Emergency admissions for injuries are a major cause of premature mortality for children and young people, and can be a source of long-term issues, including mental health related to the experience.

Looking at the available ward data, in 17 wards the rate of emergency admissions for under-fives is significantly worse than England with the top five wards presented in the table. The remaining wards are similar to England.

For admissions for injuries (<15 years), three of the top five wards are significantly worse, with the remaining wards similar to England.

## District profile

Please see the district profile below which highlights key indicators for West Lancashire. While some may not be specific to children and young people, they provide an oversight to health and wellbeing for people in the area.



— the recent trend cannot be calculated for this value.

Please note, data collection for the National Child measurement Programme paused in March 2020, so data for 2019/20 is underrepresented.

Source: [Fingertips, Local Health Profile](#) (district)

## Ward profile

Please see the ward profile below for West Lancashire. Please note, not all indicators in the district profile are available at ward level. Not all available indicators will have a value.



Indicator	Period	England	West Lancashire	Ashurst	Aughton and Downholland	Aughton Park	Bickerstaffe	Birch Green	Burscough East	Burscough West	Derby	Digmeor	Halsall	Heaketh-with-Becconsall	Knovesley	Moorside	Newburgh	North Meols	Parbold	Rufford	Scarbriick	Scott	Stelmensdale North	Stelmensdale South	Tanhouse	Tarleton	Up Holland	Wrightington
<b>Behavioural risk factors</b>																												
Smoking prevalence at age 15. Regular smokers (modelled estimates)	2014	5.4*	5.7*	6.1*	6.2*	7.7*	5.1*	3.5*	6.2*	6.5*	7.6*	3.5*	5.1*	6.9*	7.1*	3.4*	7.7*	3.6*	7.8*	7.6*	4.7*	6.0*	3.7*	3.7*	3.3*	7.1*	5.9*	8.0*
Smoking prevalence at age 15. Regular or occasional smokers (modelled estimates)	2014	8.2*	9.0*	9.4*	9.4*	10.9*	8.8*	6.9*	9.6*	9.9*	10.8*	6.8*	8.9*	10.3*	10.5*	6.6*	11.0*	6.6*	11.1*	10.6*	7.8*	9.4*	6.9*	7.0*	6.4*	10.3*	9.4*	11.5*
Reception prevalence of obesity (including severe obesity), 3 years data combined	2020/21 - 22/23	9.7	10.8	9.1	9.1	*	*	13.9	10.0	10.7	14.3	12.1	*	10.0	11.1	11.1	*	12.5	*	*	*	7.4	14.3	17.6	14.3	7.1	10.0	*
Reception prevalence of overweight (including obesity), 3 years data combined	2020/21 - 22/23	22.1	25.0	24.2	18.2	15.4*	*	27.8	20.0	25.0	23.8	24.2	*	15.0	16.7	37.0	*	20.8	17.6	*	27.3*	18.5	28.6	38.2	31.4	17.9	26.7	26.7
Year 6 prevalence of obesity (including severe obesity), 3 years data combined	2020/21 - 22/23	22.5	22.0	22.0	13.8	16.7*	*	23.5	18.5	24.1	18.2	25.0*	30.0	19.2	20.0*	26.1	*	20.8	13.3	16.7	11.8	20.7	32.0	25.0	28.2	22.6	24.2	16.7
Year 6 prevalence of overweight (including obesity), 3 years data combined	2020/21 - 22/23	36.6	36.9	39.0	27.6	27.8*	*	41.2	29.8	34.5	36.4	41.7*	40.0	34.6	35.0*	43.5	*	33.3	20.0	33.3	29.4	37.9	44.0	36.1	43.6	35.5	42.4	33.3
<b>Child and Maternal Health</b>																												
Deliveries (births) to teenage mothers, 5 year pooled data	2016/17 - 20/21	0.7	1.1	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	*	0.0	0.0	*	0.0	*	*	*	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
General fertility rate, live births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 years. Five year pooled	2016 - 20	59.2	49.5	52.3	42.7	43.7	69.5	62.2	60.9	59.4	14.7	71.5	49.4	56.5	35.7	66.0	53.4	69.9	46.3	57.6	50.6	43.5	53.7	62.6	75.2	46.2	50.0	47.7
Low birth weight (LBW) of live babies, five year pooled	2016 - 20	6.8	6.3	5.2	7.1	3.7	*	5.7	4.5	7.5	5.1	8.1	4.5	6.0	5.7	9.8	*	5.2	4.2	6.3	5.8	5.8	7.3	7.6	8.9	4.4	6.6	3.7
<b>Children and Young people: Health care use</b>																												
Emergency hospital admissions in under 5 years old, crude rate	2016/17 - 20/21	140.7	191.1	202.1	210.1	169.3	187.8	166.7	157.7	187.9	175.0	187.0	234.7	230.2	196.1	189.2	289.9	186.5	168.8	149.6	220.8	190.3	177.8	291.9	181.3	167.6	171.7	118.8
Emergency hospital admissions for injuries in under 5 years old, crude rate	2016/17 - 20/21	119.3	118.3	125.0	100.4	137.0	*	155.4	91.1	107.1	*	128.9	*	109.2	220.8	101.8	*	134.3	124.8	*	*	139.6	80.1	192.1	135.0	130.8	66.9	*
Emergency hospital admissions for injuries in under 15 years old, crude rate	2016/17 - 20/21	92.0	97.4	72.9	71.7	70.3	86.4	98.8	78.4	94.6	77.0	100.5	143.4	103.4	114.1	125.1	*	106.0	71.7	*	83.1	117.0	100.6	122.6	123.7	89.0	107.6	68.1
Emergency hospital admissions for injuries in 15 to 24 years old, crude rate	2016/17 - 20/21	127.9	137.7	148.6	132.5	83.7	215.8	182.9	150.5	129.6	99.3	152.9	*	166.8	130.5	155.3	141.2	228.3	55.6	147.5	131.9	101.9	199.5	184.0	224.1	166.4	145.0	144.3

**No data**

\* Value suppressed for disclosure control reasons

Please note, data collection for the National Child measurement Programme paused in March 2020, so data for 2019/20 is underrepresented.

Source: [Fingertips, Local Health Profile](#) (ward)