

Indices of Multiple Deprivation: 2000, 2004 and 2007

Background

This report gives an overview of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), including what is measured to calculate the IMD, what it shows and what its uses are.

The IMD was devised to measure as accurately as possible the distribution of deprivation at small area level. It was first calculated in 1998, 2000, 2004 and most recently in 2007.

After the IMD 2000 was produced, it became possible to measure the different dimensions of deprivation more precisely, as for example, more datasets become available. The emergence of more datasets however, presented a dilemma – whether to preserve the old indicators (if they still existed) or update with newer, more up-to-date information.

The Government carried out a consultation to review the issue. Respondents overwhelmingly stated that it was better to strive for better measurement of deprivation, even at the expense of ‘backward’ comparability.

This means that the 2004 data are not directly comparable with the 2000 and 1998 data. The new IMD 2007 data however, is constructed using the same 7 domains and weighting as the IMD 2004, so IMD 2004 and IMD 2007 are directly comparable with each other.

Data

As has been mentioned above, data used to calculate the IMD 2004 and IMD 2007 have changed slightly from that which was used to calculate IMD 1998 and IMD 2000 data, the main differences are detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Main differences between IMD 1998, 2000 and IMD 2004, 2007

IMD 1998, 2000	IMD 2004, 2007
Based on wards as of April 1998	Based on Lower Super Output Area (LSOA ¹) level
Ranked all 8414 wards in England, with 1 being most deprived, 8414 being least deprived.	Ranks the 32,482 Lower Super Output Areas in England. 1 being the most deprived, 32,482 being least deprived.
Summary is available at district level (e.g Wirral)	Summary is available at district level (e.g Wirral)
Out of 354 district/LA areas, Wirral ranked 56 in 2000, putting it in the 20% most deprived areas in the country (hence Wirral becoming an area eligible for Neighbourhood Renewal Funding).	Out of 354 districts/LA areas, Wirral ranked 48 in 2004 and 60 in 2007. This means the area has moved up 12 places in the rankings (indicating slightly less deprivation than in 2004), but the area is still in the bottom 20% of local authority areas.
Used 6 measures or domains of deprivation (32 indicators within these 6 domains): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Income 2. Employment 3. Health Deprivation & Disability 4. Education, Skills & Training 5. Housing 6. Geographical access to services 	Used 7 measures or domains of deprivation (37 indicators within these 7 domains): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Income 2. Employment 3. Health Deprivation & Disability 4. Education, Skills & Training 5. Barriers to Housing & Services 6. Crime 7. Living environment
Domains were not given equal weighting, they were weighted as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income (25%) • Employment (25%) • Health Deprivation & Disability (15%) • Education, Skills & Training (15%) 	Domains were not given equal weighting AND their weightings changed from 2000. They are weighted as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income (22.5%) • Employment (22.5%) • Health Deprivation & Disability (13.5%) • Education, Skills & Training (13.5%)

¹ Refer to [Super Output Area Short Report](#) and the [Ward Boundaries Short Report](#) for further information about geographical boundaries in Wirral.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing (10%) • Geographical access to services (10%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers to Housing & Services (9.3%) • Crime (9.3%) • Living environment (9.3%)
Bidston ward was No.1 in the child deprivation index in 2000 (the IDACI – Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index - is a subset of the Income domain and measures the % of children in each ward that live in families claiming means tested benefits)	Wards were not used this time. The supplementary indices relating to children (IDACI) and older people (IDAOP) living in poverty were also reproduced in both 2004 and 2007.

In addition to the overall ranking of areas according to levels of deprivation, two additional indices were devised in 2000 and repeated in 2004 and 2007. These looked at deprivation specifically in relation to two population groups:

1. Older People (IDAOP) or Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index)
2. Children (IDACI or Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index)

All Wirral's wards (as of 2000) are shown in Table 2 below and their respective ranks are given for; the levels of child poverty in that year (blue) as measured by the IDACI and overall rank of the ward for all population groups for 2000 (green).

Table 2: Child Poverty Ranking (IDACI) and main IMD Ranks for Wirral wards in 2000

Ward	IDACI Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	IMD Rank (where 1 is most deprived)
Bidston	1	23
Birkenhead	69	54
Tranmere	136	58
Seacombe	211	179
Leasowe	241	289
Claughton	817	1157
Liscard	1109	928
Egerton	1174	631
Upton	1214	1324
Bromborough	1275	1168
New Brighton	1565	1115
Oxton	2010	1816
Moreton	2421	2187
Prenton	2772	2035
Bebington	3089	3064
Eastham	3431	2929
Wallasey	4371	4067
Royden	4545	4598
Thurstaston	4855	4144
Hoylake	4917	4130
Clatterbridge	5828	4789
Heswall	7844	6819

As you can see from Table 2, in 2000 one of Wirral's wards (Bidston) was ranked as the number one most deprived ward in terms of child poverty in England & Wales. This is a fact that is still often quoted locally despite it no longer being accurate, as there are now two more recent IMD's which have replaced this data and in neither 2004 or 2007 did Wirral have the number one most deprived area in England for child poverty.

In 2004, other units of area (called Super Output Areas - SOA's) were introduced which replaced wards, and this time, none of Wirral's areas were ranked number one for child poverty. However six out of the top 100 most deprived LSOAs¹ in England, as defined by the IDACI, were in Wirral. Table 3 below shows those six areas with their LSOA area code (red) and associated ward (blue) and rank out of 32,482 (green).

Table 3: IMD's (IDACI) 6 most deprived Wirral LSOA's in 2004

Lower Super Output area code	Within which ward?	IDACI Rank (where 1 is most deprived)
E01007124	Bidston	4
E01007128	Birkenhead	7
E01007126	Birkenhead	27
E01007122	Bidston	61
E01007292	Tranmere	92
E01007293	Tranmere	97

Note: LSOA's do not as yet have names, so we refer to them by their codes

Considering there are 32,482 LSOA's in England & Wales, the fact that two LSOA's within the Bidston ward were ranked fourth and seventh and Wirral has 6 areas in the top 100, means that child deprivation locally was still a serious issue that improved little between 2000 and 2004. Interestingly, the two LSOA's which ranked the highest in Wirral for child deprivation in 2004, also ranked the highest in the older people's deprivation Index (IDAOPI) in 2004 (see Table 4 below).

Table 4: IMD's (IDAOPI) 5 most deprived LSOA's in Wirral in 2004

Lower Super Output area code	Ward	IDAOPI Rank (where 1 is most deprived)
E01007124	Bidston	176
E01007128	Birkenhead	266
E01007290	Tranmere	268
E01007122	Bidston	430
E01007121	Bidston	671

As Table 4 above shows, none of the five most deprived wards in Wirral according to the IDAOPI come in the top 100 in England overall, as is the case for child deprivation. This would indicate that in Wirral in 2004, deprivation affecting children was slightly more acute than that affecting older people.

Table 5 below, shows the five most deprived LSOA's in Wirral according to the main Index of Multiple Deprivation which takes **all** age groups into account, and is therefore a more general measure of overall deprivation.

Table 5: IMD's 5 most deprived LSOA's in Wirral in 2004

Lower Super Output area code	Ward	IMD Rank (where 1 is most deprived)
E01007122	Bidston	23
E01007124	Bidston	56
E01007132	Birkenhead	57
E01007293	Tranmere	69
E01007127	Birkenhead	70

All of Wirral's five most deprived areas are ranked in the 100 most deprived out of 32,482 areas in England by the IMD 2004. This demonstrates that Wirral is an area where deprivation is a significant issue.

The most recent Index: IMD 2007

In 2007, Wirral was ranked the 60th most deprived Local Authority area out of 354 areas, compared to its ranking of 48th most deprived in 2004. This means that overall, Wirral was assessed as being slightly less deprived than in 2004, but it is still within the 20% most deprived of local authorities in England.

Table 6 below shows the five most deprived LSOA's in Wirral according to the main IMD 2007 which takes **all** age groups into account.

Table 6: IMD's 5 most deprived LSOA's in Wirral in 2007

Lower Super Output area code	Ward	Rank of IMD (where 1 is most deprived)
E01007122	Bidston	26
E01007127	Birkenhead	43
E01007132	Birkenhead	91
E01007133	Birkenhead	95
E01007128	Birkenhead	97

As Table 6 shows, Wirral's five most deprived wards are all ranked as being in the 100 most deprived LSOA's out of 32,482 areas in England by the IMD 2007. This highlights that deprivation is still a serious issue in Wirral that has improved since 2004, but only very slightly. For example, the most deprived ward in Wirral (Bidston) is now ranked 26th most deprived in England, compared to 2004, when it was the 23rd most deprived.

Table 7 below shows the wards most affected by deprivation according to the index measuring child deprivation in particular (IDACI) in 2007.

Table 7: IDACI's 5 most deprived LSOA's in Wirral in 2007

Lower Super Output area code	Ward	Rank of IDACI (where 1 is most deprived)
E01007126	Birkenhead	51
E01007133	Birkenhead	53
E01007293	Tranmere	99
E01007122	Bidston	126
E01007127	Birkenhead	220

According to the IDAC, there has been a measurable improvement in levels of child poverty in Wirral between 2004 and 2007. In 2004, there were six areas in the most deprived 100 in England. In 2007, there are only 3 (and one of those is only just in the top 100, being ranked 99th!) marking a positive change.

Table 8 below shows the wards most affected by deprivation according to the index measuring deprivation amongst older people in particular (IDAOP) in 2007.

Table 8: IDAOP's most deprived LSOA's in Wirral in 2007

Lower Super Output area code	Ward	Rank of IDAOP (where 1 is most deprived)
E01007122	Bidston	164
E01007128	Birkenhead	332
E01007274	Seacombe	366
E01007121	Bidston	497
E01007133	Birkenhead	633

The 2007 IDAOPI shows a slightly mixed picture. Income deprivation affecting older people seems to have worsened slightly in some areas since 2004, moving them **into** the top 5, and improved in others moving them **out** of the top five. Overall, Wirral's most deprived area for older people is slightly more deprived (ranking of 164 for an area within Bidston) than the most deprived ward was in 2004 (the ranking was 176 for different area within Bidston).

Other interesting details relating to Wirral from the IMD 2007

- Employment deprivation is measured in IMD as involuntary exclusion of the working age population from the labour market. This domain represented Wirral's worst performance on the IMD overall, coming 8th place (where 1 is most deprived) out of the 354 districts (so in the bottom 3%). This is unchanged from 2004 when Wirral also came 8th.
- As mentioned above, Wirral was 8th in the employment domain in England, just ahead of Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Bradford, and Sunderland.
- The most deprived LSOA in Wirral in the employment domain was E01007126 (area around Conway Park Station/Woodside). This is the 5th most deprived area in England in this particular domain, behind areas in Rochdale, Middlesbrough, Blackburn and Liverpool.
- As the employment domain contributes 22.5% of the weighting to the overall IMD ranking and Wirral performs particularly poorly on this domain, the employment domain is the main contributor to Wirral's overall low ranking².
- Wirral ranked 21st out of 354 districts on the income deprivation domain. This is an improvement on 2004, when Wirral was ranked 13th

Implications/Recommendations

The IMD tells us that despite the good work carried out in Wirral to reduce health inequalities and deprivation, there is still much to be done, specifically in the wards of Birkenhead, Bidston, Tranmere and Seacombe.

Wirral did move up twelve places in the ranking between 2004 and 2007, and scores measuring child deprivation showed noticeable improvement. The IDAC (Index of Deprivation Affecting Children) listed Bidston as being the number one ward for child deprivation in England in 2000 and 4th worst in 2004. By 2007, our worst area was an LSOA in Birkenhead and it ranked 51, a definite improvement. Wirral still however, ranks extremely poorly with regard to measures of employment and overall, still falls within the 20% most deprived boroughs in England.

¹ Lower Super Output areas are the smallest type of SOA's and contain approximately 1,500 people. See our [Super Output Areas short report](#) for a more information on Super Output Areas

² English Indices of Deprivation report by Economic Policy Team, Corporate Services Department, Wirral Borough Council.