Life Expectancy at birth in years - Males 1998-2000 to 2012-14 (3-year rolling averages)
England, South East Region, Oxfordshire and districts within Oxfordshire

Life expectancy at birth (a measure of mortality) for males in an area in a given period is an estimate of the number of years a newborn baby would survive, were he to experience the particular area's age-specific mortality rates for that time period throughout his life.

Definitions and data quality

Definitions
Life expectancy is measured in years for males at birth. It is a three-year average.

Life expectancy figures are calculated from mortality data among those living in a geographic area in calendar years and the mid-year population estimates for corresponding years. The data are a three-year average.

Strengths & Limitations
1. County level data were not published for the first two time periods.
2. Three-year rolling data are used to create a smoother line which is easier to interpret and less susceptible to annual fluctuation, particularly at a local level.
3. The method of calculation of life expectancy used here (period method) does not allow for changes in mortality rates over time and should not be read as a measure of lifespan. In practice, death rates of the area are likely to change in the future so period life expectancy does not therefore give the number of years someone could actually expect to live. Also, people may live in other areas for at least some part of their lives.
4. Life expectancy at birth is not a guide to the remaining expectancy of life at any given age - it is heavily influenced by deaths in children and young people within each time period.
5. This chart does not tell us about years lived without a disability due to injury or disease (healthy life expectancy)

Latest available data

2012-14

Time Trend
1. Life expectancy at birth for males has increased across most geographic areas during this time period.
2. There is some fluctuation within districts in more recent years but the differences year on year are not significantly different.

Benchmarking outside Oxfordshire
1. Life expectancy in males is significantly higher in Oxfordshire when compared to England.
2. With the exception of Oxford City, local authorities in Oxfordshire have significantly higher life expectancy for males than England.
3. Life expectancy at birth for males in Oxfordshire is similar to that for England with some variation year on year.

Benchmarking within Oxfordshire
1. Vale of White Horse had significantly higher life expectancy in males than Oxfordshire for the a period between 2007 and 2011. More recent data since then indicates there is no significant difference.
2. Oxford City continues to have a significantly lower life expectancy in males than the county as a whole but continues to increase.
3. Cherwell was significantly lower than the county as a whole for a brief period between 2007 and 2009.

Epidemiological Facts

1. Life expectancy for men in Oxfordshire is significantly higher than for England and continues to increase within most districts in Oxfordshire over the last 10 years, reflecting the national trend. Life expectancy for men is still significantly lower than for women in the county.
2. Life expectancy for men in Oxford City remains significantly lower than other districts in Oxfordshire. It is important to continue surveillance in Oxford to see if recent trends continue.
3. Life expectancy for men in Cherwell was not increasing at the same pace as other districts but more recently data shows that this is now on the increase.
4. Life expectancy at birth is affected by deaths in children and young people, so higher rates of mortality from accidents, suicide, war, childhood illness etc will have the effect of reducing life expectancy at birth. It may be that higher death rates of this sort among males have some impact on lower life expectancy for men when compared with women.
5. Deprivation plays a big part in life expectancy. Previous analysis on the gap between the least and most deprived parts of the districts show that Cherwell had the biggest difference in life expectancy for men, with a gap of 7.1 (lower than in previous years). In Oxford this gap is 6.7 years (also lower than previous years). The differences in South Oxfordshire (4 years) and West Oxfordshire (3.2) are lower but the gap between the most and least deprived in Vale of White Horse has increased (6 years). These figures make a very strong case for continuing to target men in deprived areas in prevention programmes.
6. Other impacts on life expectancy include lifestyle choices and access to health care. A targeted approach for preventing premature deaths amongst men seems to be indicated from these figures if they are to live as long as women.
7. These data do not reflect "healthy life expectancy" and do not reflect people living with disability or long term illness. Other information would be needed to show whether life is being added to years as well as years being added to life. See also dashboard ref F-007 (healthy life expectancy).
8. RAG rating is amber because of the lower life expectancy in Oxford City and the decreasing life expectancy in Vale of White Horse.

Key:
- LCI is lower limit of 95% confidence interval.
- UC is upper limit of 95% confidence interval.
- LE is Life Expectancy.
- EN is England.
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Life expectancy at birth - males

Figure in thousands
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Key:
- Suggests significantly higher rate compared to Oxfordshire rate.
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Table 15

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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Life Expectancy at birth (in years) for Males</th>
<th>Percentile</th>
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Sources:
Office for National Statistics

Data is updated quarterly

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