Directly age-standardised mortality rate from coronary heart disease per 100,000 population of all ages: 3-year rolling data - 2004/06 to 2012/14

England, South East Region, Oxfordshire and districts within Oxfordshire

**Definitions and data quality**

1. 3-year rolling data are used to create a smoother line which is easier to interpret and less susceptible to annual fluctuation.
2. Rates for local authorities are calculated from relatively small numbers and should be treated with a degree of caution.
3. ONS uses the underlying cause of death on the medical certificate of cause of death (MCCD). Coding for cause of death are carried out according to Tenth Revision of International Classification of Disease and Related Health Problems (ICD-10) and internationally agreed rules. If more than one cause is noted on MCCD (but no apparent sequence) one or more selection rules are applied based on the ICD. This means that COPD may be noted as a secondary cause of death but not necessarily the underlying cause.
4. The European Standard Population (ESP) is an artificial population structure which is used in the weighting of mortality or incidence data to produce Directly Standardised Rates (DSRs), also known as age-standardised rates (ASRs). The ESP is divided into quinary age bands, which correspond to the age bands used by the observations and population figures. Each age band is assigned a value which is used to standardise the rate obtained from the observations and population.
5. Eurostat, the statistical Institute of the European Union, decided at the end of 2012 to bring this population structure up to date. Up to 2014, indicators were directly standardised against ESP released in 1976. For both sexes, mortality rates for all causes of death registered in 2012 were significantly higher when calculated using the 2013 ESP compared with the 1976 ESP. This is to be expected as deaths predominantly occur at older ages and the larger number of older people in the 2013 ESP exerts more influence on these summary figures. This affects three year pooled data for 2010-12 onwards.

**Time Trend**

1. Generally speaking, all geographic areas show a decline in the mortality rate from CHD. The revised European Standard Population makes it more difficult to see a trend for the latest data points.

**Benchmarks outside Oxfordshire**

1. Oxfordshire has significantly lower mortality rates from CHD than England and, until recently, the South East region.
2. All district council areas have significantly lower rates than England (except for one data point for Oxford City).

**Benchmarks within Oxfordshire**

1. Generally speaking there are no significant differences in the mortality rates from CHD between districts in Oxfordshire and Oxfordshire as a whole, although Oxford city did fluctuate from this during 2009-11 and was significantly higher than the county as a whole.

**Expert interpretation and conclusions with additional information**

1. The falling death rate from CHD reflects fewer people smoking, improved dietary awareness, better early detection of CHD and improved treatment. It is a major triumph for disease prevention and early detection.
2. Immediate public health action to reduce morbidity and mortality from CHD should include:
   - continuing roll out of NHS Health Checks;
   - support for giving up smoking;
   - offering support for weight management.
3. Oxfordshire and the districts continue to have lower rates of mortality than England and the South East region.
4. RAG rating is therefore green.

**Definitions**

Directly age-standardised mortality rate from coronary heart disease (CHD, ICD-10 codes I20-I25) per 100,000 population.

**Source**

Health & Social Care Information Centre indicator Portal

**Denominator**

Mid-year population estimates for the respective calendar years.

**Rates and data quality**

- 2012-14: RAG rating is therefore green
- 2013-15: RAG rating is therefore green
- 2014-16: RAG rating is therefore green
- 2016-18: RAG rating is therefore green
- 2017-19: RAG rating is therefore green
- 2018-20: RAG rating is therefore green

**Latest available data**

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**See notes in Strengths and Limitations which explain the increase in rates across all geographies and the gap in trend lines.**