



# News Release

## New liver disease atlas points to significant variation across England

The rate of people dying early from liver disease in some parts of England is almost 8 times higher than others, according to new data published by Public Health England (PHE) today.

Liver disease is almost entirely preventable with the major risk factors: alcohol, obesity and Hepatitis B and C accounting for up to 90% of cases. The atlas will help health professionals to allocate their resources to improve patient outcomes.

The *Atlas* shows premature mortality rates – dying before the age of 75 – ranged from 3.9 per 100,000 in South Norfolk CCG to 30.1 per 100,000 in Blackpool CCG, a 7.7-fold difference.

The Atlas paints a mixed picture, with 10 indicators showing improvements including; a reduction of premature deaths and fewer hospital alcohol specific admissions for under 18s.

Nine of the indicators have become worse over time, including a doubling of hospital admission rates for cirrhosis from 54.8 per 100,000 to 108.4 per 100,000 people over the past decade. This indicator also varies significantly across the country with an 8.5 fold variation across CCGs and this gap has widened over the past decade.

Liver disease is responsible for almost 12% of deaths in men aged 40 to 49 years and is now the 4th most common cause of Years of Life Lost in people aged under 75 after heart disease and lung cancer.

Professor Julia Verne, head of clinical epidemiology at Public Health England said:

“Chronic liver disease is a silent killer of young adults, creeping up and showing itself when it’s often too late. However, around 90% of liver disease is preventable.

“We hope local health professionals will make the most of this rich data source to inform how they reduce the burden of liver disease in their areas.”

The Atlas also lays bare the impact of the stark health inequalities in England. Inequality plays a role in the significant variation in risk factors of liver disease – excessive alcohol consumption, obesity, and hepatitis B and C.

For example, there is a 7.4-fold difference in the rate of alcohol-specific hospital admissions across the country, with the majority of the higher rates being clustered in the more deprived areas. Also, in the most deprived fifth of the country, people with liver disease die 9 years earlier than those in the most affluent fifth.

These data will underline the importance of developing a strategy to tackle the rising burden of liver disease, especially in younger adults and even children. Liver disease can take 20 years to show up as symptoms.

The Atlas is made up of 39 indicators, 19 of which show trend data over time. It shows the degree of variation across the country, a national figure for comparison and commentary providing options for action and a list of evidence based resources for local health systems to improve

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PHE exists to protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities. It does this through advocacy, partnerships, world-class science, knowledge and intelligence, and the delivery of specialist public health services. PHE is an operationally autonomous executive agency of the Department of Health. [www.gov.uk/phe](http://www.gov.uk/phe). Follow us on Twitter @PHE\_uk

The 2nd Atlas of Variation in risk factors and healthcare for liver disease in England will be published on the PHE fingertips website here: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/atlas-of-variation>

The 2nd Atlas of Variation in risk factors and healthcare for liver disease in England has been prepared in partnership with a wide range of organisations:

- [NHS Rightcare](#)
- [NHS England](#)
- [NHS Digital](#)
- [NHS Blood and Transplant](#)
- [Office of National Statistics](#)
- [Children's Liver Disease Foundation](#)
- [The British Association of the Study of the Liver](#)
- [The British Liver Trust](#)
- [The Lancet Liver Commission](#)
- [The Hepatitis C Trust](#)

Key indicators broken down by highest and lowest CCG:

	<b>Map 1a: Variation in rate of years of life lost in people aged 1 to 64 years from chronic liver disease including cirrhosis per population by CCG - Directly standardised rate per 10,000</b>	Rate
Highest years of life lost (under 65)		
1	NHS Blackpool CCG	71.46
2	NHS Blackburn with Darwen CCG	51.13
3	NHS North Manchester CCG	50.86
4	NHS Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees CCG	50.31
5	NHS Wolverhampton CCG	48.68
Lowest years of life lost (under 65)		
209	NHS Barnet CCG	9.32
208	NHS North Hampshire CCG	10.26
207	NHS Chiltern CCG	10.65
206	NHS West Suffolk CCG	11.15
205	NHS South Eastern Hampshire CCG	11.33
	<b>England</b>	<b>21.92</b>

	<b>Map 1b: Variation in rate of years of life lost in people aged 1 to 74 years from chronic liver disease including cirrhosis per population by CCG - Directly standardised rate per 10,000</b>	Rate
Highest years of life lost (under 75)		
1	NHS Blackpool CCG	65.72
2	NHS North Manchester CCG	48.93
3	NHS Blackburn with Darwen CCG	46.45
4	NHS Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees CCG	46.12
5	NHS Wolverhampton CCG	45.68
Lowest years of life lost (under 75)		
209	NHS South Norfolk CCG	7.46
208	NHS Aylesbury Vale CCG	8.74
207	NHS High Weald Lewes Havens CCG	9.30
206	NHS Barnet CCG	9.31

205	NHS North Hampshire CCG	10.16
	<b>England</b>	<b>20.80</b>

<b>Map 1c: Variation in mortality rate in people aged under 75 years from chronic liver disease including cirrhosis per population by CCG - Directly standardised rate per 100,000</b>		Rate
Highest avoidable mortality rate (liver disease)		
1	NHS Blackpool CCG	30.06
2	NHS North Manchester CCG	25.98
3	NHS Wolverhampton CCG	22.05
4	NHS Liverpool CCG	21.50
5	NHS Blackburn with Darwen CCG	21.44
Lowest avoidable mortality rate (liver disease)		
209	NHS South Norfolk CCG	3.92
208	NHS Aylesbury Vale CCG	5.37
207	NHS Barnet CCG	5.55
206	NHS North Norfolk CCG	5.64
205	NHS West Suffolk CCG	5.66
	<b>England</b>	<b>11.08</b>

<b>Map 2: Variation in rate of admissions to hospital at least once for cirrhosis in people aged 18 years and over per population by CCG - Directly standardised rate per 100,000</b>		Rate
Highest admissions to hospital for cirrhosis		
1	NHS North Manchester CCG	308.30
2	NHS Islington CCG	277.25
3	NHS Tower Hamlets CCG	261.55
4	NHS Central Manchester CCG	254.74
5	NHS Bradford City CCG	250.91
Lowest admissions to hospital for cirrhosis		
209	NHS Ashford CCG	36.47
208	NHS Herefordshire CCG	48.67

207	NHS South Eastern Hampshire CCG	50.52
206	NHS Bracknell and Ascot CCG	54.05
205	NHS Surrey Downs CCG	55.17
	<b>England</b>	<b>113.69</b>

	<b>Map 4a: Variation in rate of alcohol-specific admissions in people of all ages per population by CCG - Directly standardised rate per 100,000</b>	Rate
Highest alcohol specific admissions (all ages)		
1	NHS Salford CCG	1681.03
2	NHS Blackpool CCG	1483.65
3	NHS Liverpool CCG	1303.16
4	NHS Bradford City CCG	1230.94
5	NHS North Manchester CCG	1189.74
Lowest alcohol specific admissions (all ages)		
209	NHS Castle Point and Rochford CCG	228.62
208	NHS Ashford CCG	230.70
207	NHS Thurrock CCG	245.84
206	NHS Basildon and Brentwood CCG	254.69
205	NHS South West Lincolnshire CCG	284.75
	<b>England</b>	<b>573.17</b>

	<b>Map 4b: Variation in rate of alcohol-specific admissions in men of all ages per population by CCG - Directly standardised rate per 100,000</b>	Rate
Highest alcohol specific admissions (men)		
1	NHS Salford CCG	2758.02
2	NHS Bradford City CCG	2476.28
3	NHS Blackpool CCG	2148.15
4	NHS North Manchester CCG	2103.72
5	NHS Liverpool CCG	2062.67
Lowest alcohol specific admissions (men)		

209	NHS Ashford CCG	336.31
208	NHS Castle Point and Rochford CCG	343.06
207	NHS Basildon and Brentwood CCG	383.36
206	NHS South West Lincolnshire CCG	386.32
205	NHS South Norfolk CCG	393.15
	<b>England</b>	<b>872.43</b>

	<b>Map 4c: Variation in rate of alcohol-specific admissions in women of all ages per population by CCG - Directly standardised rate per 100,000</b>	Rate
Highest alcohol specific admissions (women)		
1	NHS Blackpool CCG	1015.45
2	NHS Salford CCG	942.65
3	NHS Liverpool CCG	826.71
4	NHS South Sefton CCG	819.23
5	NHS Knowsley CCG	755.69
Lowest alcohol specific admissions (women)		
209	NHS Redbridge CCG	133.48
208	NHS Castle Point and Rochford CCG	139.65
207	NHS Thurrock CCG	144.66
206	NHS Ashford CCG	150.55
205	NHS Harrow CCG	169.98
	<b>England</b>	<b>364.09</b>

	<b>Map 5: Variation in rate of alcohol-specific admissions in people aged under 18 years per population by CCG - Crude rate per 100,000</b>	Rate
Highest alcohol specific admissions (under 18s)		
1	NHS Sunderland CCG	106.81
2	NHS Stockport CCG	87.29
3	NHS St Helens CCG	85.45
4	NHS Salford CCG	85.44

5	NHS Lancashire North CCG	79.35
Lowest alcohol specific admissions (under 18s)		
209	NHS Brent CCG	8
208	NHS Southwark CCG	9.53
207	NHS Redbridge CCG	10.64
206	NHS Greenwich CCG	12.11
205	NHS Walsall CCG	12.29
	<b>England</b>	<b>34.86</b>