

Indicator specification:

PLDR collection of population health indicators

Finance Indicators: Local Authority Finance
(FIN_07_65L)



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Overview

Indicator title

Local Authority Finance: Public Health Services individual spending lines (R03), Lower Tier (FIN_07_65L)

Indicator family name

Local Authority Finance

Summary

This dataset describes individual spending lines (i.e., sub-categories of spending) for all Public Health services. Public health services were transferred to local government in 2013. The extract is sourced from the Social Care and Public Health Services revenue outturn from Local Authorities (known as R03). Figures are provided for every Lower Tier Local Authority in England for each financial year between 2013-14 to 2021-22. The dataset contains Net spending figures.

Technical description

The Public Health Services spending lines (R03) were compiled from annual revenue outturn estimates of Local Authority (LA) revenue expenditure and financing. This includes 25 variables describing spending lines, broadly including:

- Sexual health services
- NHS health check programme
- Health protection
- National child measurement programme
- Obesity (adults – children)
- Physical activity (adults – children)
- Substance misuse (adults – children)
- Smoking and tobacco
- Children 5-19 public health programmes
- Health at work
- Public mental health
- Miscellaneous public health services

During the time period, there have been changes in spending lines due to services phasing in/out; or changes to the reporting process. For example, Public mental health was introduced in 2016-17. When there is no reported spending line, values for that financial year are described as `NA`. Spending lines included here are those included in the latest year only. As such Total Public Health in early years may not be equal to the sum of all individual spending

lines; the total value was instead taken directly from the reported total in the source data. A few spending lines have changed names slightly. When obvious, and assuming they regard the same services, older variable names have been revised to the latest.

Values are expressed in thousands (£) and presented on the basis of financial years, i.e. from April 1st to March 31st. However, annual figures were not adjusted for inflation. Figures are provided in Net values, as in:

$$\text{Gross service spending} - \text{Total Income from service} = \text{Net service spending}$$

Total Income is the sum of Sales, Fees & Charges, and Other Income of said service provision.

Figures for Lower Tier LAs have been calculated by disaggregating Upper Tier and Other Authority figures based on population ratios (see section “Construction of LA-level data” for a detailed description). Figures from historic LA geography have been referenced to the 2021 LA geography. This includes changes in name/codes, merges, or splits of old LAs to new LAs based on population ratios for that year.

Unique Identifier

FIN_07_65L

Construction

Data sources

Outturn revenue data of LAs in England are published annually by the *Local Government Finance - Data Collection Analysis and Accountancy* division of the *Department for Communities and Local Government*. The Local Authority Net Current Expenditure figures were extracted from the *Revenue Outturn Summary* datasets. The collection of datasets and additional information about LA revenue outturn data estimates can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/local-authority-revenue-expenditure-and-financing>. Data on annual population estimates have been provided by the UK Office for National statistics.

Construction of LA-level data

Some services are provided in Lower and some in Upper tier local authorities (e.g. at County level). LA spending figures thus includes both Upper Tier (UTLA) and Lower Tier (LTLA) authorities (i.e. 152 and 309 respectively in England as of April 2021). In order to provide a common denominator for direct comparisons with other types of data, LA expenditures were distributed from Lower to Upper and from Upper to Lower. Further expenditures on specific services also includes spending from “other” authorities. In particular, these are:

- The Greater London Authority

- Combined Authorities
- Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable Authorities
- Fire and Rescue Authorities
- Waste Authorities
- Transport Authorities

All spending by all of the above types of authorities has been included in the calculations of the total LA-level service expenditure, and has been referenced either to LTLAs or UTLAs. Note that the only type of authority for which expenditures have not been taken into account are Park Authorities (however, these show generally low levels of expenditure, mainly within the Cultural and Related services and Central Services). Also note that many of these special local authorities have been abolished and their services incorporated (in part or in whole) into other administrations (for instance Transport Authorities' services have been transferred to Combined Authorities).

The specific methodology by which the total levels of expenditure per service category are calculated for each Local Authority is as follows:

- **LTLA Methodology:** Shire Counties' expenditures were disaggregated to Shire Districts by means of population-based ratios, i.e. annual expenditure was distributed to LTLAs based on their share of population, derived from their total population estimates for that particular year (Source: ONS).

The Greater London Authority expenditure was distributed to London Boroughs by means of distributing expenditure according to population. Expenditures from Combined Authorities, Police Authorities, Fire and Rescue Authorities, Waste Authorities and Transport Authorities were also attributed to LTLAs by means of distributing expenditure according to population for that year. All the above expenditures are aggregated and added to the recorded LTLA service expenditure in order to produce the estimated total service expenditure for that LA.

For the construction of LTLA measures, all expenditure values from historic LA geography have been referenced to the 2021 LA geography. This includes changes in name/codes, merges, or splits of old LAs to new LAs based on population ratios for that year. For instance, after 2009 the (upper tier) Cheshire County Council and the (lower tier) 6 Cheshire Local Authority Districts were abolished and replaced by two new unitary authorities, Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester. In order to calculate the "would-be" Cheshire East's spending figures in 2008, values for the 3 of the 6 historic districts that formed Cheshire East as well as 47.28% of the historical Cheshire County spending were aggregated.

- **UTLA Methodology:** Shire Districts' expenditures are attributed to Shire Counties by means of aggregating. Expenditures from the Greater London Authority, Combined Authorities, Police Authorities, Fire and Rescue Authorities, Waste Authorities and Transport Authorities have been disaggregated to UTLAs by means of population ratios, and referenced to the 2021 Local Authority geography, similarly to the LTLA methodology.

Note that spending categories are not consistent throughout the time period, with the introduction of new services (and removal of others). This also suggests that total expenditure values may not be directly comparable between all years. For instance, Public Health was introduced in 2013, while Court services were removed in 2009.

Presentation

Breakdowns

Time period

Financial year (April 1st to March 31st) data: 2013-14 to 2021-22.

Geography

Lower Tier Local Authorities (2021 reference).

Coverage

England.

Disclosure control

This indicator has been produced using only publicly available datasets.

Output FIN_07_65L.csv

Column name	Description
Year	Start of financial year, i.e. "2015" refers to the financial year "2015-16".
LTLA21CD	Lower Tier Local Authority Code.
LTLA21NM	Lower Tier Local Authority Name.
Pop_Est_Total	The total mid-year population estimate of that local authority in that year.
Sexual_health_services_STI_testing_and_treatment_prescribed_functions_Net	Value in £1000's.
Sexual_health_services_Contraception_prescribed_functions_Net	Value in £1000's.
Sexual_health_services_Advice_prevention_and_promotion_non_prescribed_functions_Net	Value in £1000's.
NHS_health_check_programme_prescribed_functions_Net	Value in £1000's.
Health_protection_Local_authority_role_in_health_protection_prescribed_functions_Net	Value in £1000's.
National_child_measurement_programme_prescribed_functions_Net	Value in £1000's.

Public_health_advice_prescribed_functions_Net	Value in £1000's.
Obesity_adults_Net	Value in £1000's.
Obesity_children_Net	Value in £1000's.
Physical_activity_adults_Net	Value in £1000's.
Physical_activity_children_Net	Value in £1000's.
Substance_misuse_Treatment_for_drug_misuse_in_adults_Net	Value in £1000's.
Substance_misuse_Treatment_for_alcohol_misuse_in_adults_Net	Value in £1000's.
Substance_misuse_Specialist_drug_and_alcohol_misuse_services_f or_children_and_young_people_Net	Value in £1000's.
Substance_misuse_Preventing_and_reducing_harm_from_drug_mi suse_in_adults_Net	Value in £1000's.
Substance_misuse_Preventing_and_reducing_harm_from_alcohol misuse_in_adults_Net	Value in £1000's.
Smoking_and_tobacco_Stop_smoking_services_and_interventions _Net	Value in £1000's.
Smoking_and_tobacco_Wider_tobacco_control_Net	Value in £1000's.
Children_5_19_public_health_programmes_Net	Value in £1000's.
Miscellaneous_public_health_services_Children_0_5_services_pres cribed_functions_Net	Value in £1000's.
Miscellaneous_public_health_services_Children_0_5_services_Oth er_non_prescribed_functions_Net	Value in £1000's.
Health_at_work_Net	Value in £1000's.
Public_mental_health_Net	Value in £1000's.
Miscellaneous_public_health_services_Net	Value in £1000's.
TOTAL_PUBLIC_HEALTH_Net	Total spending value in £1000's.

Revision history

Version	Date	Summary of changes
1.00	Nov 2023	First release