



Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service London

Intelligence Update – Summer 2020

Welcome

Welcome to the Intelligence Update - Summer 2020, on behalf of the London Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service. This briefing provides you with updates about Public Health England (PHE) tools and resources, together with key points for London, and news of publications and events. We welcome your feedback about our content and our work. Do send your suggestions for any other support that you would like by email to LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk.

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A message from us

Although we are busy supporting the COVID-19 response during these unprecedented times, we are here to support our local partners and want to let you know that we are still monitoring and responding to enquiries received via our generic inbox.

We have set up a [Wiki page](#) on our national khub group which includes some resources that we think you will find useful to support the work that you are doing locally on COVID-19.

The NHS has also set up a COVID-19 workspace on their FutureNHS collaborative platform – click [here](#) to access.

In focus this month: Wider impacts of Covid-19 on health monitoring tool (WICH)

PHE have published a wider impacts of COVID-19 on health monitoring tool [\(WICH\)](#), along with a summary of the first release available in [gov.uk](#).

What is the purpose of the tool?

The WICH tool is complementary to PHE surveillance data. It aims to look at the indirect effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the population's health and wellbeing, including how certain measures have changed since lockdown.

What indicators are available in the tool?

The measures in the tool, updated weekly, assess the indirect effects of the pandemic on the population's health and well-being, such as smoking and drinking habits; physical activity; mental health and well-being; how people are spending their time; and grocery purchasing behaviour.

How can the tool be useful for you?

Access to a range of metrics in the tool will enable stakeholders to:

- monitor changes over time or against an agreed point in time
- make timely informed decisions
- intervene to reduce/mitigate against poor outcomes
- understand the wider context of population health

The tool also helps monitor the impact of COVID-19 on health inequalities, with demographic and regional breakdowns where possible.

Updates from PHE's Population Health Analysis team

- **Excess mortality in England: [weekly reports now available](#)**

Since Monday 20 July PHE has been publishing weekly reports of excess mortality in England during the COVID-19 pandemic to help us understand how it has impacted the population. The reports indicate how COVID-19 has affected mortality in England by comparing the number of deaths that would have been expected based on the previous five years.

The reports include excess mortality from all causes, and selected causes, for all persons and by age group, sex, region, place of death, ethnic group* and deprivation quintiles and provide a percentage of the excess deaths caused by COVID-19. The tool will act as an objective and comparable measure of the scale of the pandemic over time.

While the overall number of excess deaths in England estimated by this PHE model is similar to that estimated by ONS and EuroMOMO, our report adjusts for the age profile of the population, the effect of bank holidays on the number of deaths registered, and the underlying trend in death rates from year to year. These factors account for the variation seen in the ONS figures.

*Note: Ethnicity data will be published a week in arrears.

- **Adult Smoking Habits in the UK, 2019**

The Population Health Analysis team worked collaboratively with ONS to produce the release of [Adult Smoking Habits in the UK, 2019](#) on 07 July 2020. This publication reports on cigarette smoking among adults including the proportion of people who smoke, demographic breakdowns, changes over time, and e-cigarettes.

In addition, the [Local Tobacco Control Profiles](#) have been updated with the following information:

- smoking prevalence data for 2019 including inequalities and the gap between smoking prevalence in routine and manual and other occupations
- a NEW indicator to measure the gap in smoking prevalence by mental health status
- more recent data for lung, oral and oesophageal cancer registrations for 2016-2018
- more recent data for smoking related fires and fatalities caused by them for 2018/19

Also updated by NHS Digital on 07 July 2020 are latest results and trends from the women's [Smoking at time of delivery \(SATOD\)](#) data collection in England.

- **Briefing statistics report: ABV levels in beer, cider and wine for the 'in-home' market**

PHE have produced a [review](#) of typical alcohol by volume (ABV) levels in beer, cider and wine purchased for the 'in-home' market. This report recommends updating or further harmonisation of government survey questions relating to alcohol consumption, citing the Health Survey for England (HSE) as an example.

Health Intelligence Network updates

- **Cardiovascular disease**

- **CVD prevent: new national primary care audit for CVD prevention**

PHE's National Cardiovascular Health Intelligence Network (NCVIN) has been confirmed as the official analytical partner for the delivery of [CVDPREVENT](#), the new national primary care audit for CVD prevention. NCVIN has been commissioned to work in partnership with NHS Digital and Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership's (HQIP) 'preferred provider' who will provide strategic governance for audit and facilitate clinical and professional involvement.

The audit will automatically extract routinely held GP data covering diagnosis and management of cardiovascular disease and the six high risk conditions that cause stroke, heart attack and dementia: atrial fibrillation (AF), high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, non-diabetic hyperglycaemia and chronic kidney disease. It will support primary care in gaining an understanding of how many people with cardiovascular disease (CVD) or conditions that lead to a higher risk of developing CVD are potentially undiagnosed, and under or over treated.

Analysis and reporting of the audit will support systematic quality improvement aimed at reducing health inequalities and improving outcomes in line with the NHS Long Term Plan. The initial reporting outputs from CVDPREVENT are scheduled for March 2021. More information is available [here](#).

Health Economics and Modelling

- A [report](#) has been released that updates Alcohol Attributable Fractions for England previously estimated in 2013. The work provides estimates of the proportion of diseases associated with alcohol consumption. It also provides updated estimates of relative risk.
- The redeveloped [Spend and Outcomes Tool \(SPOT\)](#) has now been published. Feedback from users is welcomed and can be provided by email.

For further details on the Health Economics and Modelling work programme, please contact healthconomics@phe.gov.uk.

Methodological updates

There has been a minor release to the PHEindicatormethods R package: the latest version is v1.3.2 – phe_dsr, phe_isr, phe_mean, phe_proportion, phe_rate, phe_smr and phe_life_expectancy functions have been amended to ensure consistency between the grouping attributes of the output and input data frames. Previously the last grouping variable was dropped as this was the default applied by dplyr::summarise(), but the latest release of dplyr allows the summarise() function to control output groupings. The package now has a minimum version dependency on dplyr version v1.0.0.

Knowledge and Library Services updates

- **Finding the evidence: Coronavirus**

PHE Knowledge and Library Services team (KLS) has produced [this page](#) to help those working on the current coronavirus outbreak to identify and access emerging evidence as it is published. The page is produced by Public Health England as a resource for professionals working in public health, librarians and information professionals.

Most of the resources are freely accessible but some may ask for an [OpenAthens sign-in](#). It is therefore important that your OpenAthens details are up-to-date. PHE staff unable to access an article or a resource, can email libraries@phe.gov.uk for assistance. Non-PHE staff are advised to contact their local [health librarian](#) for support if necessary.

- **Discovery Service**

The [LAPH Discovery Service](#) allows a single search across a range of content from multiple information resources. It is designed to save time when looking for information and to allow resources to be “discovered” which might not have been found otherwise. Local authority public health teams can search and access the journal titles currently provided by PHE, along with the nationally procured content journals. There are new additions for 2020, details available [here](#).

- **Evidence briefings**

Evidence briefings are a summary of the best available evidence that has been identified and selected from research using systematic and transparent search methods in order to answer a specific question. Please note, the findings are not quality assessed or critically appraised. The evidence briefings are available [here](#).

- **Practice examples**

[Practice examples](#) aim to share the learning from public health practitioners’ experience of developing and implementing public health programmes and projects. They embed local, regional and national descriptions of service practice or service case studies, bringing together public health practitioners’ rich sources of knowledge on evidence and intelligence

Data releases

- **Subnational ageing tool**

As part of ONS’s role in providing data to support decision-making, a new [interactive tool](#) for local authorities and service providers across the UK has been produced. It provides insight into local areas which either have or are projected to have high populations of older people. Users can identify local authorities with similar population profiles to enable sharing of best practice. Alongside this, an [article](#) was published which looks at how even neighbouring authorities may have very different age profiles, using the example of Brighton and Hove compared with nearby Lewes.

- **Deaths involving Covid-19 by local area and socioeconomic deprivation**
ONS have published provisional counts of the number of deaths and age-standardised mortality rates involving coronavirus (COVID-19) between 1 March and 30 June 2020 in England and Wales. Figures are provided by age, sex, local authority level geographies, and deprivation indices. The publication includes an [interactive map](#), a [report](#), and downloadable [data](#).
- **Upcoming releases**
Over the summer you can keep up to date with upcoming data releases through the PHE National Health Intelligence [Khub](#) where we publish our Public Health Intelligence Calendar. The calendar provides a list of data and statistics of public health interest scheduled for the following two weeks and is published each Friday. If you need assistance registering or using Knowledge Hub, please email us at LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk.

Local news, events and training

- **Migrant health in London: new resource available**
The Migrant Health in London resource, now available in the [khub library](#), demonstrates the changing profile of London's migrant population to provide an informed understanding of the health needs of this diverse population. It aims to include essential information for planning healthcare and public health services for all local decision and policy makers, commissioners and providers, practitioners and analysts. The slide set focuses on the main data sources that are available and relevant to migrant health.

Please note: it was prepared prior to the current situation so does not include data on the impact of Covid-19

- **Public Health Intelligence training**
Due to the impact of COVID-19, LKIS has suspended delivery of face-to-face training courses set out in our [training prospectus](#). We are working hard behind the scenes to transfer some of our training offer online to enable us to continue to support local systems.
 - Foundations of population health intelligence
The e-learning modules (*F1* and *F2*) remain available on the [Public Health Intelligence programme on e-LfH](#). We are working to transform *F3 A foundation course in population health intelligence* from a one-day face-to-face course to a series of shorter online sessions. We aim to pilot this in Autumn 2020.
 - Core skills for population health intelligence
This four-day course covers in depth the core skills and knowledge required to analyse and communicate population health intelligence. We are aiming for a more blended

approach for this course in the future, moving some content into e-learning and delivering some aspects online. However, as face-to-face delivery remains an important component, this course is unlikely to run again until that is possible.

- Population health management

Three new e-learning modules on population health management have recently been published (June 2020) representing the first components of a [Population Health Management programme on e-LfH](#). These have been developed by LKIS in partnership with NHS England and NHS Improvement and the topics are as follows:

- Introduction to population health management
- Assessing needs
- A practical introduction to population segmentation

- Specialist courses and PHE population health intelligence tools

Some of these may become available as online courses – contact your LKIS London for details. In the meantime, *S1 Health economics and prioritisation in public health* is available through two e-learning modules [on e-LfH](#), and in the absence of face-to-face training, you may find these online resources useful:

Course	Resource type	Content
S2 Critical appraisal skills	Videos	1. Formulating an answerable search question 2. Tips and tricks for search terms
	E-learning modules	Literature searching: building the foundations, developing the skills, applying the skills
T1 Public Health profiles	Video	An introduction to the PHE Fingertips tool
	Video	An introduction to the PHOF
T2 SHAPE Place	Video	Introduction to GP primary care data and how to visualise a PCN
T3 Global Burden of Disease	Video	Global burden of disease: What is it? How to access the results
T6 Health economics tools	Videos	Air pollution Best start in life Cardiovascular disease Falls prevention Sexual & reproductive health SPend and Outcome Tool (SPOT)

Finally, if you have a training need, whether included in the prospectus or not, please let us know by emailing us at LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk.

- **[PHE National Health Intelligence Knowledge hub group](#)**

National content (such as the Public Health Intelligence Calendar and updates on PHE tools and products) is now posted on the [PHE National Health Intelligence group](#).

Reference material includes:

- A series of guides to support access to key datasets
- Technical guidance on using Fingertips and the Fingertips R package
- A 'Signposting guide' with links to online health data tools and resources
- Our population health intelligence training prospectus
- Contact details for webinars, regional networks and other events.

This beta version has been made available so that we can take on board your views as we develop it further. Please email us at LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk with your comments and suggestions on how it can be improved.

Local updates will continue to be posted on the [PHE London group](#).

National and local PHE groups can also be accessed by visiting the [PHE network home page](#). There you will find instructions on how to set PHE as your home network and locate PHE groups, along with hints, tips and other resources to maximise the benefits of belonging to the network.

- **All Our Health: e-learning sessions**

Public Health England has launched new free bite-sized [e-learning sessions](#) developed in partnership with Health Education England, to improve the knowledge, confidence and skills of all health and care professionals in preventing illness, protecting health and promoting wellbeing. The sessions focus on major public health issues and provide signposting to trusted sources of evidence, guidance and support to help professionals embed prevention in everyday practice.

Useful information

- Links to key tools and sources of information:
 - The [PHE data and analysis tools site](#) is a single point of access for data and analysis tools from across PHE
 - The [Public Health Profiles](#) site includes a wide range of health and wellbeing themes that support a variety of purposes including Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and commissioning
 - Information about local knowledge and intelligence products and services are available on the PHE London Knowledge hub site.
- **Release dates for public health statistics are included in the calendars below:**
 - [gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements)
 - content.digital.nhs.uk/pubs/calendar
 - ons.gov.uk/ons/release-calendar/index.html.

Enquiry service

The PHE Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service London operate an enquiry service. Please send your questions and information requests to: LKISLondon@phe.gov.uk