

What is the tartan rug telling me?

The health profile or 'tartan rug' shows how each ward within Cheshire East compares with all other wards in England across a range of health indicators and outcomes. Although the rug only includes a limited number of indicators, it does provide an overview of local health need and a tool to aid discussions about local priorities.

The current version of the tartan rug (updated Feb 2021) includes 25 (54%) indicators where the data had been updated since November 2017, 3 of these are demographic indicators so are excluded from this analysis. Also, the 'Long term unemployment' indicator has also been excluded from the comparison analysis despite being updated, this is because the data was not available at ward level in the November 2017 version. This leaves 21 (46%) indicators which did not have updated data available (see appendix), 3 of these are demographic indicators so are excluded from this analysis. Some of the data used within the tartan rug may appear old but remains the standard source for some of these indicators. This includes indicators derived from Census or Lifestyle surveys (see appendix for more detail).

Green indicates that the area is better relative to other wards in England whereas red indicates that the area is worse.

The updated tartan rug highlights that overall, the health of residents in Cheshire East was better than or similar to the national average. However, the health experience was worse in Cheshire East than the national average specifically in terms of

- Hospital stays for self-harm
- New cases - bowel cancer
- Emergency admissions all causes
- New cases - breast cancer
- Admissions for injury age 0-4
- Emergency admissions age 0-4
- Binge drinking (adults)

What has changed between 2017 and February 2021?

Cheshire East

When considering the Cheshire East average data (39 indicators), 44% of the tartan rug was coloured green in 2017 and 13% was coloured red. The percentage of the tartan rug coloured green decreased to 41% in February 2021, while the percentage that is coloured red increased to 18%. This decrease in the percentage of greens and an increase in the percentage of reds indicates a decline between 2017 and February 2021.

However, when the indicator data for all 52 wards within Cheshire East are considered (39 indicators x 52 wards = 2028 data points), 45% of the tartan rug was coloured green in 2017 and 31% was coloured red. In February 2021 the percentage of the tartan rug coloured green increased to 47% and the percentage which is coloured red also increased to 32%.

Overall Cheshire East has improved compared to other areas over the two time periods, although inequalities have widened slightly.

If we look at the performance over a longer period and included the tartan rug from 2015, this shows that the improvement we see in 2021 is a recovery from a dip in performance in 2017, rather than a long-term improvement.

	2015	2017	2021
Green	48%	45%	47%
Red	32%	31%	32%

It is likely that there will be further dips in performance over the next couple of iterations of the tartan rug due to the impact of COVID-19. Although the tartan rug colouration reflects performance relative to other areas of the country and therefore the expectation may be that the percentages of red and green remain stable, we know that the impact of COVID-19 was not universal, and the North West was more affected by COVID-19 infections. It is likely that the inequalities gap will widen for some area.

When considering **only the 22 indicators where data has been updated**: -

Some indicators have shown improvement, this is where there has been an increase in the percentage of greens with either a decrease in the percentage of reds over the two time periods or the percentage of reds has remained the same. These are: **Emergency admissions heart attack; Emergency admissions respiratory; New cases -lung cancer; New cases -prostate cancer; All new cancer cases; Cancer deaths under 75 age; Heart deaths under 75; Deaths from respiratory disease; All deaths all ages; Female Life Expectancy.**

The indicator '**All deaths under 75**' has a decrease in the percentage of greens but a larger decrease in the number of reds, therefore has improved overall.

Some indicators have declined between 2017 and February 2021; this is where there has been a decrease in the percentage of greens and an increase in the percentage of reds. These are: **Excess weight age 4-5; Admissions for alcohol; Hospital stays for self-harm; Emergency admissions stroke; New cases -breast cancer; Male Life Expectancy.**

For other indicators there is an increase in both the percentage of green and red, this indicates that there is an increase in the inequality gap of this indicator. These indicators are: **Emergency admissions hip fracture; Emergency admissions all causes.**

Two indicators show neither improvement or decline over the two time periods: **Excess weight age 10-11**, where there has been no change in either the percentage of greens or reds across the two time periods; **New cases - bowel cancer**, which has an equal decrease in both the percentage of greens and reds.

The update also highlights that pre-existing inequalities persist, with poorer health experience in some areas of Crewe, Macclesfield and Handforth, than in other wards in Cheshire East and the England average.

Top 10 worse performing wards

Ward	Indicators coloured red	
	Number	%
Crewe Central	35	88%
Crewe St Barnabas	34	85%
Crewe West	33	83%
Crewe East	32	80%
Crewe North	32	80%
Macclesfield South	32	80%
Crewe South	31	78%
Macclesfield Hurdsfield	25	63%
Macclesfield West and Ivy	24	60%
Handforth	23	58%

Nantwich Locality

There are 5 wards in the Nantwich Locality. In 2017 50% was coloured green within the Nantwich Locality. In February 2021 this had increased to 53%. In 2017 17% was coloured red, this increased to 22% in In February 2021.

[This indicates that the inequality gap widened within Nantwich Locality over the two time periods.](#)

Crewe Locality

There are 11 wards in the Crewe Locality. In 2017 31% was coloured green within the Crewe Locality. In February 2021 this had reduced to 30%. In 2017 54% was coloured red, this increased to 55% in February.

[Overall Crewe Locality has declined compared to other areas over the two snapshots.](#)

Sandbach, Middlewich, Alsager, Haslington (SMASH) Locality

There are 9 wards in the SMASH Locality. In 2017 46% was coloured green within the SMASH Locality. This remained the same in February 2021. In 2017 26% was coloured red, this remained the same at 26% in February 2021.

[Overall SMASH Locality remained the same compared to other areas over the two time periods.](#)

Congleton Locality

There are 3 wards in the Congleton Locality. In 2017 39% was coloured green within the Congleton Locality. This had increased to 42% in February 2021. In 2017 26% was coloured red, this reduced to 25% in February 2021.

Overall Congleton Locality has improved compared to other areas over the two time periods.

Knutsford Locality

There are 3 wards in the Knutsford Locality. In 2017 53% was coloured green within the Knutsford Locality. This had increased to 57% in February 2021. In 2017 26% was coloured red, this decreased to 22% in February 2021.

Overall Knutsford Locality has improved compared to other areas over the two time periods.

Wilmslow Locality

There are 8 wards in the Wilmslow Locality. In 2017 60% was coloured green within the Wilmslow Locality. This had increased to 63% in February 2021. In 2017 21% was coloured red, this remained the same at 21% in February 2021.

Overall Wilmslow Locality has improved compared to other areas over the two time periods.

Macclesfield Locality

There are 9 wards in the Macclesfield Locality. In 2017 39% was coloured green within the Macclesfield Locality. This had increased to 42% in February 2021. In 2017 36% was coloured red, this increased to 38% in February 2021.

This indicates that the inequality gap widened within Macclesfield Locality over the two time periods.

Poynton Locality

There are 4 wards in the Poynton Locality. In 2017 63% was coloured green within the Poynton Locality. This had reduced to 60% in February 2021. In 2017 13% was coloured red, this remained the same in February 2021.

Overall Poynton Locality has declined slightly compared to other areas over the two time periods.

Overall RAG status of indicators by locality is given below:

Cheshire East - Amber

Nantwich- Green

Crewe - Red

Sandbach, Middlewich, Alsager, Haslington (SMASH) - Amber

Congleton - Amber

Knutsford - Green

Wilmslow - Green

Macclesfield - Amber

Poynton - Green

RAG status key used:

Green = 50% or more boxes are green

Amber = Picture is mixed. There are neither 50% or more red boxes or 50% or more green boxes.

Red = 50% or more boxes are red.

Note: Indicators relating to demographic information are excluded from this comparison analysis, these are coloured shades of blue on the Feb 2021 Tartan rug. The 'Pensioners living alone' indicator has also been excluded from the analysis. The 'Long term unemployment' indicator was also excluded from the Nov 2017 analysis as it was not available for the lower geographies for that data release.

Appendix

Use of data that has not been updated within the Tartan Rug

Some of the indicators included within the Tartan rug appear to be old. Often there is a valid reason for this such as data is taken from the census which is only done every 10 years, or the data definition has been changed between data release which means that we are unable to compare across time periods. Below is a table of those indicators, indicating whether the data will be updated in the next version (Jun 2021 data release) and reason if known.

Indicator name	Data used in the Mar 2020 data release (tartan Rug Feb 2021)	Updated data available in Jun 2021 release	Notes
BME Population	2011		Census data - awaiting release of Census 2021 data
Proficiency in English	2011		Census data - awaiting release of Census 2021 data
Pensioners living alone	2011		Census data - awaiting release of Census 2021 data
Older people with low income	2015	Yes	
People with low income	2015	Yes	
Children in poverty	2015	Yes	
Fertility rate	2011 - 2015		
Low birth rate	2011 - 2015	Yes	
Deliveries to teenage mothers	2011/12 - 2015/16		
A&E attendances age 0-4	2013/14 - 2015/16		
Admissions for injury age 0-4	2011/12 - 2015/16		
Emergency admissions age 0-4	2013/14 - 2015/16		
Child development at age 5	2013/14		Removed in June 2021
GCSE achievement	2013/14		Removed in June 2021
Smokers age 11-15	2009 - 2012		Survey has not been updated
Smokers age 16-17	2009 - 2012		Survey has not been updated
Healthy Eating (adults)	2006 - 2008		Lifestyle estimates have not been updated below borough level
Obese adults	2006 - 2008		Lifestyle estimates have not been updated below borough level
Binge drinkings (adults)	2006 - 2008		Lifestyle estimates have not been updated below borough level
Self-reported bad health	2011		Census data - awaiting release of Census 2021 data
Self-reported illness	2011		Census data - awaiting release of Census 2021 data