



NCMP Local Authority Profile – February 2017 update

The February 2017 National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) Local Authority Profile update presents new data not previously in the public domain:

- Ethnicity data for a larger number of groups is provided for England for overweight and obesity prevalence combined, and obesity prevalence for children in Reception and Year 6
- Five-years combined obesity prevalence data for children in Reception and Year 6 is provided, which enables inequalities data for sex, deprivation and ethnic group to be presented at a local authority level

Main Findings

- The NCMP data shows that obesity prevalence in children continues to have strong associations with ethnic group, deprivation and sex.

Overweight (including obesity) prevalence by ethnicity

- Children in Black African communities are at higher risk of being overweight or obese; 31.2% of children in Reception and 45.9% in Year 6, significantly worse compared to the England averages of 22.1% and 34.2%
- Several ethnic groups have obesity and overweight prevalence that is significantly lower than the England average in Reception children, but in Year 6 prevalence is significantly higher
- In Year 6, only children who are White British, White and Asian, or Chinese have overweight and obesity prevalence that is significantly lower than the England average
- Indian children in Reception have the lowest obesity and overweight prevalence of 14.5%, but in Year 6 Indian children's prevalence is significantly higher than the England average at 36.3%

Figure 1: Prevalence of overweight (including obese) in Reception children, by ethnic group, England 2015/16

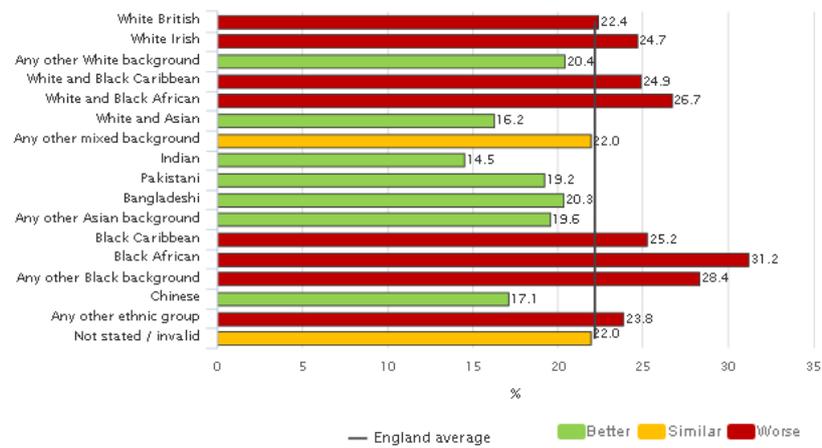
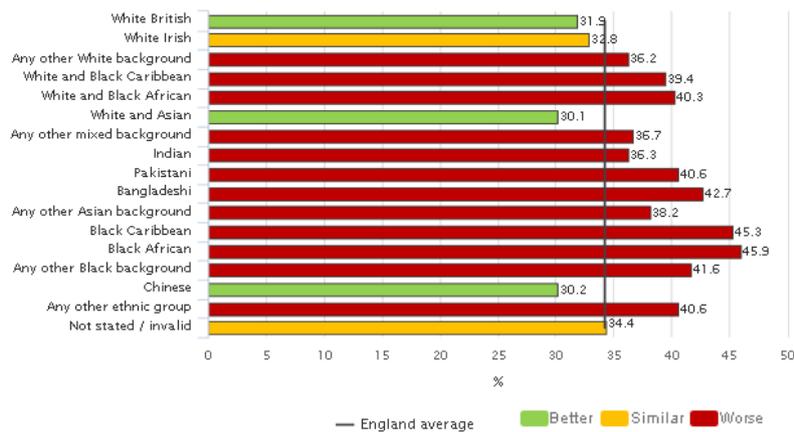


Figure 2: Prevalence of overweight (including obese) in Year 6 children, by ethnic group, England 2015/16



Obesity prevalence by ethnicity

- Obesity prevalence data by ethnicity emphasise the inequalities in the population
- For most ethnic groups, the percentage of children who are obese in Year 6 is at least double the percentage in Reception
- Children in the ethnic groups of White and Black Caribbean, White and Black African, Black Caribbean, Black African, any other Black Background, Pakistani and Bangladeshi and any other ethnic group have significantly higher rates of obesity than the England average in both Reception and Year 6
- Children in the any other White background and Indian groups have significantly lower rates of obesity than the England average in Reception but significantly higher rates in Year 6

Figure 3: Prevalence of obesity in Reception children, by ethnic group, England 2015/16

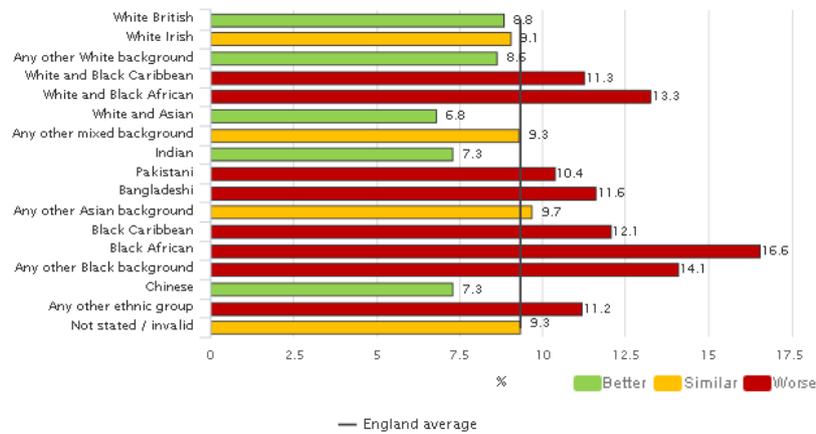
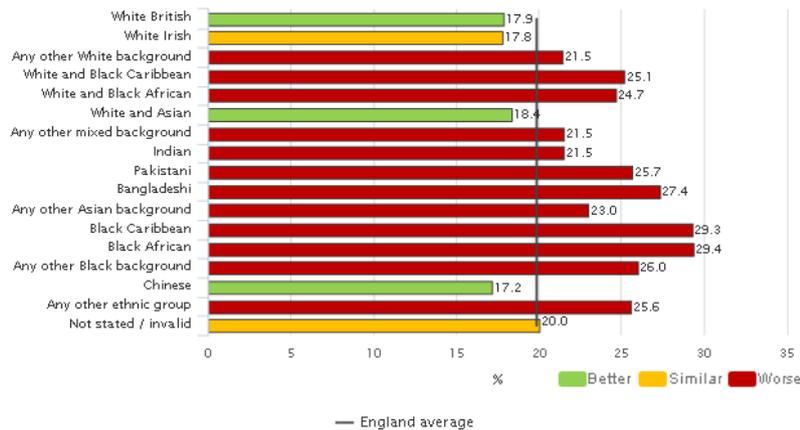


Figure 4: Prevalence of obesity in Year 6 children, by ethnic group, England 2015/16



To provide inequalities data for local authorities, the sample size needs to be increased. Therefore the latest 5-years' worth of data have been combined and deprivation has been classified into 5 groups instead of 10. Ethnicity data is provided for the broad groups of Asian, Black and White where possible. This data for England is outlined below.

Obesity prevalence by sex, five years combined

- Obesity prevalence is higher in boys than girls in both Reception and Year 6
- The difference between boys and girls is greater in Year 6

Figure 5: Prevalence of obesity in Reception children, by sex, England 2011/12 - 2015/16

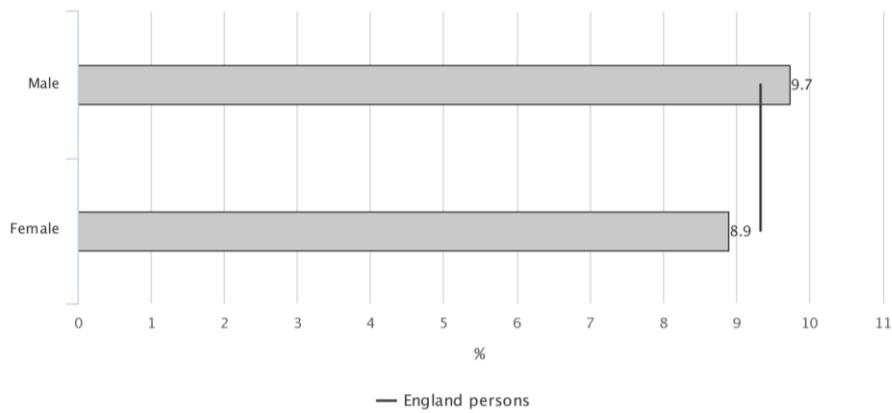
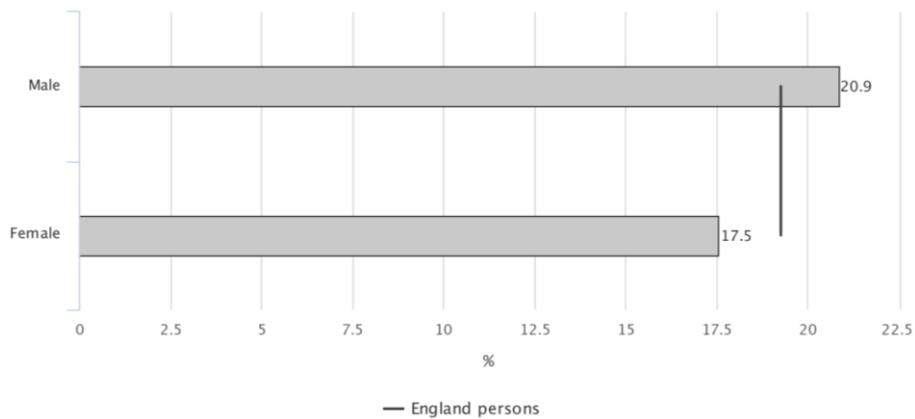


Figure 6: Prevalence of obesity in Year 6 children, by sex, England 2011/12 -2015/16



Obesity prevalence by ethnic group, five years combined

- Obesity prevalence in Asian and Black children is higher than the national average in both Reception and Year 6
- Obesity prevalence in White children is lower than the national average in both Reception and Year 6

Figure 7: Prevalence of obesity in Reception children, by broad ethnic group, England 2011/12 -2015/16

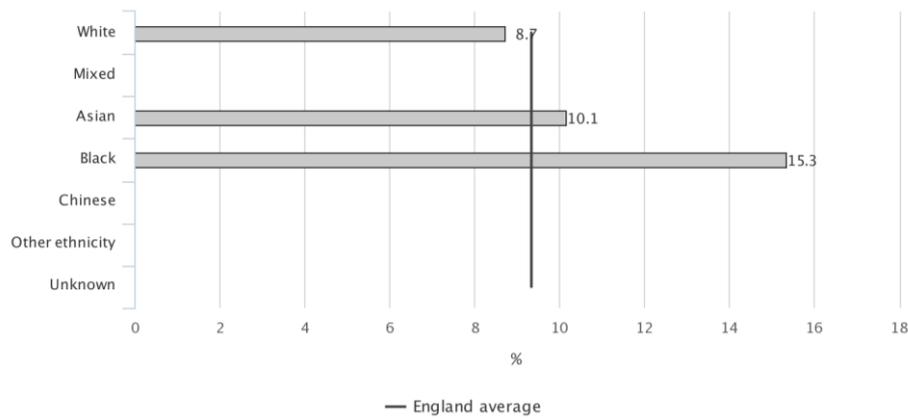
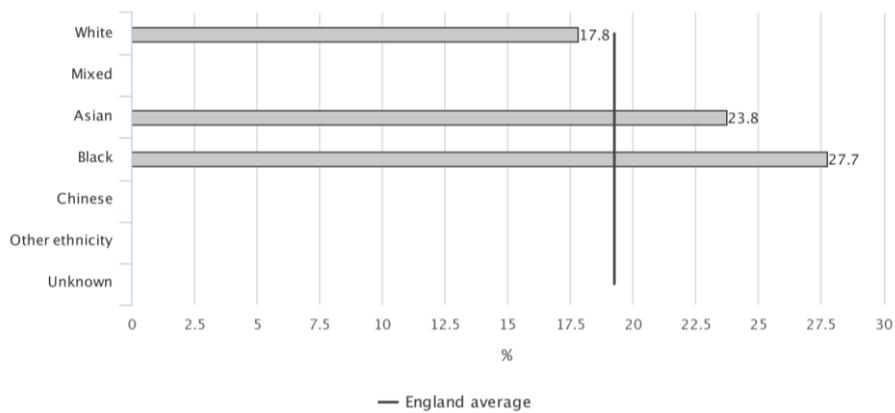


Figure 8: Prevalence of obesity in Year 6 children, by broad ethnic group, England 2011/12 -2015/16



Obesity prevalence by deprivation group, five years combined

- In both Reception and Year 6, obesity prevalence in the most deprived quintile is almost double that of the least deprived quintile
- Within each quintile, obesity prevalence in Year 6 is more than double that for Reception

Figure 7: Prevalence of obesity in Reception children, by deprivation group, England 2011/12 -2015/16

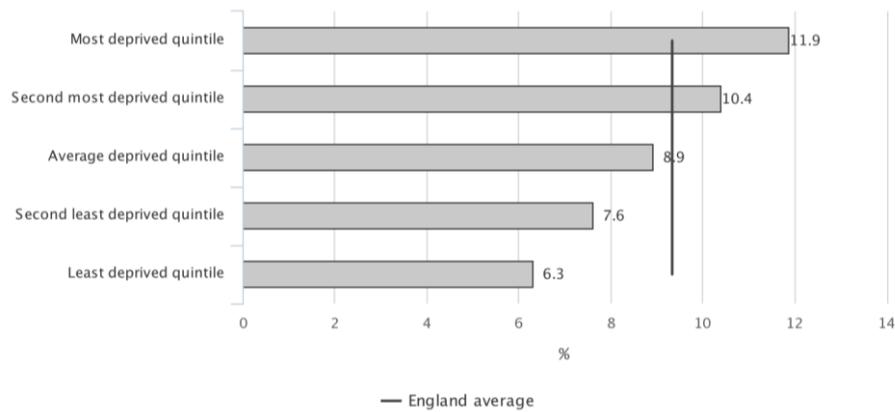
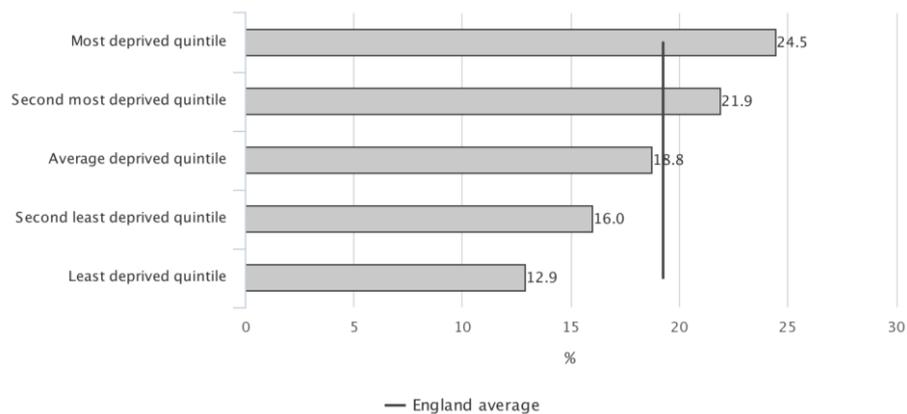


Figure 8: Prevalence of obesity in Year 6 children, by deprivation group, England 2011/12 -2015/16



Similar patterns described for England are seen within local authorities, with some variation at a local level. Inequalities data for child obesity prevalence by sex, deprivation and ethnic group by local authority is provided in the NCMP LA Profile tool (<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/national-child-measurement-programme>).

Background

The NCMP annually measures over one million children and provides robust data on rates of childhood obesity. The NCMP LA Profile holds data from 2006/07 and allows users to compare local authority data by region or between 'CIPFA nearest neighbours' (local authorities with similar characteristics). The data indicators in this tool enable monitoring of the national ambition to "significantly reduce childhood obesity" as set out in the government's 2016 publication, "Child Obesity A Plan for Action".

NHS Digital published commentary on the 2015/16 NCMP data when it was first released in November (available here: <http://www.content.digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB22269>). It provides high-level analysis of the prevalence of 'underweight', 'healthy weight', 'overweight', 'obese' and 'overweight and obese combined' children, in Reception (aged 4–5 years) and Year 6 (aged 10–11 years), measured in state schools in England in the school year 2015-16.

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