

Northumberland Knowledge



Know Guide

Using the English Indices of Deprivation 2010

- November 2012 -

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About this guide

The Know Guides are a suite of documents that provide useful information about using data and information supplied via the Northumberland Knowledge website.

This guide provides a basic introduction to the Indices of Deprivation 2010 (ID 2010) to allow users to make good use of the information on how the ID 2010 are reflected in Northumberland that can be accessed using the following link www.northumberlandknowledge.gov.uk/deprivation.

Detailed information regarding the English ID 2010 is also available on the [Department Communities and Local Government \(DCLG\) website](#).

What is the Indices of Deprivation 2010?

The [DCLG English Indices of Deprivation 2010 Guidance Document](#) states, “The Indices of Deprivation 2010 is based on the concept that deprivation consists of more than just poverty. Poverty is not having enough money to get by on whereas deprivation refers to a general lack of resources and opportunities”.

The English Indices of Deprivation 2010 (ID 2010) is a relative measure of deprivation for small areas in England and it updates the Indices of Deprivation 2007. It is important to note that although the ID 2010 was constructed in 2010 the indicators used relate mainly to 2008 as in most cases this was the most up to date information available at the time.

There are seven individual domains of the ID 2010 that measure different forms of deprivation and these can be recognised and measured separately. These domains have been combined to form a weighted measure of multiple deprivation, known as the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD).

The IMD is the most commonly used measure of deprivation because it is a combined measure of all forms of deprivation. Areas that are not considered as deprived overall (according to the IMD) may still have high levels of deprivation in a specific domain. An example of this in Northumberland is that most rural areas tend to have lower levels of deprivation according to the IMD but higher levels of deprivation within the Barriers to Housing and Services and the Living Environment Deprivation domains.

The definition of the seven domains of deprivation that makeup the IMD is given below, the percentage in brackets shows the weight applied to each domain when calculating the IMD.

IMD Domains

Income Deprivation Domain	(IMD Weight - 22.5 per cent)
<p>This domain measures the proportion of the population in an area experiencing deprivation related to low income. In addition to this domain index two supplementary indices concerning income deprivation are also produced, an Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index and an Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index.</p>	
Employment Deprivation Domain	(IMD Weight - 22.5 per cent)
<p>This domain measures employment deprivation in an area conceptualised as involuntary exclusion of the working age population from the labour market.</p>	
Health Deprivation and Disability Domain	(IMD Weight - 13.5 per cent)
<p>This domain measures premature death and the impairment of quality of life by poor health. It considers both physical and mental health. The domain measures morbidity, disability and premature mortality but not aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation.</p>	
Education, Skills and Training Deprivation Domain	(IMD Weight - 13.5 per cent)
<p>This domain measures the extent of deprivation in terms of education, skills and training in an area. The indicators are structured into two sub-domains: one relating to children and young people and one relating to adult skills.</p>	
Barriers to Housing and Services Domain	(IMD Weight - 9.3 per cent)
<p>This domain measures the physical and financial accessibility of housing and key local services. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: 'geographical barriers', which relate to the physical proximity of local services, and 'wider barriers' which includes issues relating to access to housing such as affordability.</p>	
Crime Domain	(IMD Weight - 9.3 per cent)
<p>This domain measures the rate of recorded crime in an area for four major crime types representing the risk of personal and material victimisation at a small area level.</p>	
Living Environment Deprivation Domain	(IMD Weight - 9.3 per cent)
<p>This domain measures the quality of individuals' immediate surroundings both within and outside the home. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: the 'indoors' living environment, which measures the quality of housing, and the 'outdoors' living environment which contains two measures relating to air quality and road traffic accidents.</p>	

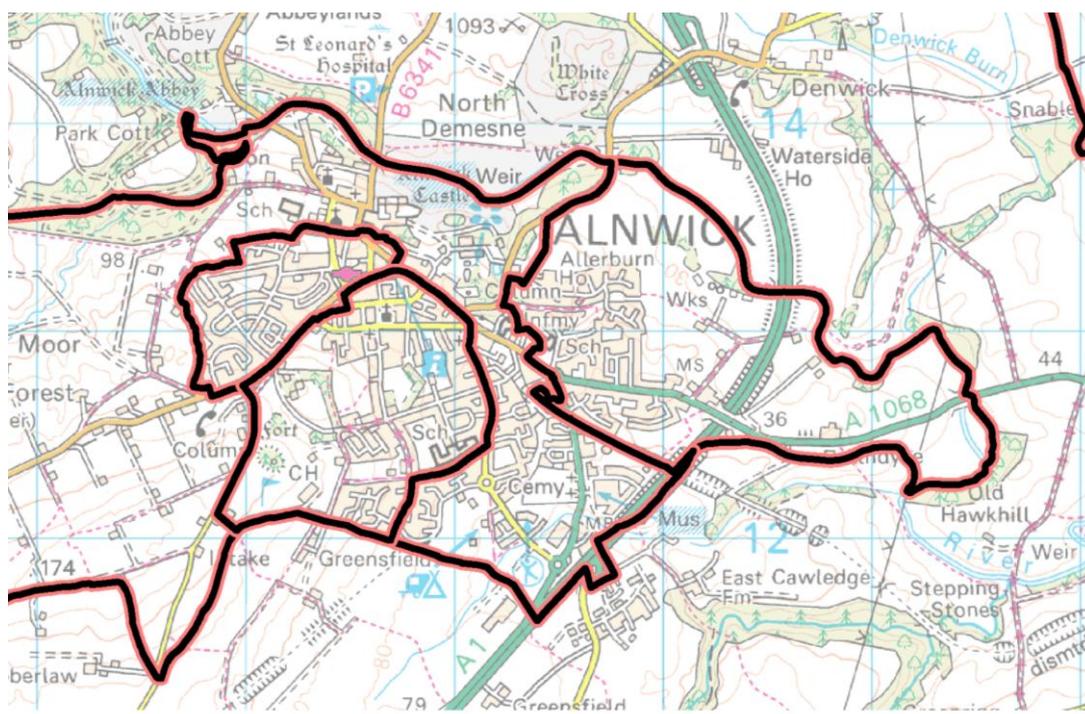
Local Areas

The local areas that the ID 2010 measures deprivation at are 2001 Census Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs). These areas have been used as they are not subject to regular boundary change, are of a consistent size (approximately 1,500 people) and data is widely available at this level.

The ID 2010 was setup using 2001 Census LSOA boundaries which have since been revised following the release of results from the 2011 Census to take into account changes in population across the country between 2001 and 2011. Northumberland has 199 (2001 Census) LSOAs and England has 32,482.

Several summary measures of overall deprivation are also produced for local authority areas but the main purpose of the ID 2010 is to measure deprivation at a small area level.

Map: Example of LSOA boundaries around Alnwick



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Using the ID 2010

Some of the key ways that the Indices of Deprivation 2010 can and should be used are summarised below.

Each domain of the IMD has its own scores and ranks allowing users to focus on specific aspects of deprivation. All small areas in England (LSOAs) can be ranked according to their Index of Multiple Deprivation score using exactly the same indicators. This allows users to identify the most and least deprived areas in England and to compare whether any one area in England is more deprived than another. If an area has a rank closer to 1 than another area it is more deprived.

Generally speaking it is usually more appropriate to quote the rank or the decile (a group that represents 10 per cent of the total number of areas) that a LSOA falls into rather than the score because small differences between two scores often means very little.

Ranks of the 32,482 small areas in England can be used to place each of the local areas into groups or deciles of deprivation. This allows users to state whether a local area is (for example) among the 10 per cent or 20 per cent most deprived in England. Alternatively customised cut off points can be used rather than a decile (for example within the 5 per cent most deprived areas in England).

Specific domain scores and ranks can be used when comparing areas to show which types of deprivation are the biggest concern in an area.

The income and employment domain scores represent the proportion of people in a LSOA who experience that aspect of deprivation. These scores represent the proportion of the population who are income or employment deprived and can be used along with appropriate population estimates (mid-2008) for each LSOA to calculate the total number of people in an area who are income or employment deprived.

The ID 2010 can also be cross referenced with other statistics. For example if a survey identifying users of different council services has been carried out the results could be cross referenced with the IMD to check if users or non-users of specific council services live in areas of high or low deprivation. This may then allow service providers to identify people living in areas who may appear to have been excluded from using the service because they live in an area suffering from high levels of deprivation and alter the way the service is delivered to make it more accessible.

Summaries of overall deprivation are provided for local authorities that allow you to look at levels of deprivation across larger areas. There are a number of ways to summarise Indices of Deprivation 2010 results across larger areas and the best approach will depend on the purpose of the analysis.

What not to use the ID 2010 for

The Department for Communities and Local Government included a list of what the ID 2010 should and should not be used for in the [English Indices of Deprivation 2010 Guidance document](#). The information below is taken directly from this document.

There are a few ways in which it is tempting to use the index, but which do not really make sense or which lead to unreliable results. Small differences in the deprivation scores don't mean anything. There is no point rummaging among the decimal places trying to show that one area is more deprived than another.

- **To show how deprived a place is**

The Indices of Deprivation 2010 are relative measures of deprivation. This means it can tell you if one area is more deprived than another but not by how much. For example if an area has a rank of 40 it is not necessarily half as deprived as a place with a rank of 20.

- **Measuring absolute change over time**

Deprivation scores cannot be compared between 2010 and 2007 because an area's score is affected by the scores of every other area; so it is impossible to tell whether a change in score is a real change in the deprivation level of an area, or whether it is due to the scores of other areas going up or down.

- **Say how affluent a place is**

The Indices of Deprivation 2010 is not a measure of affluence; all of the indicators used in the index are designed to identify aspects of deprivation, not affluence. Therefore the area ranked as the least deprived is not necessarily the most affluent.

- **Identify deprived people**

The Indices of Deprivation 2010 measures the relative level of deprivation in an area. Within every area there will be individuals who are deprived and individuals who are not. The Indices of Deprivation 2010 is not a suitable tool for targeting individuals.

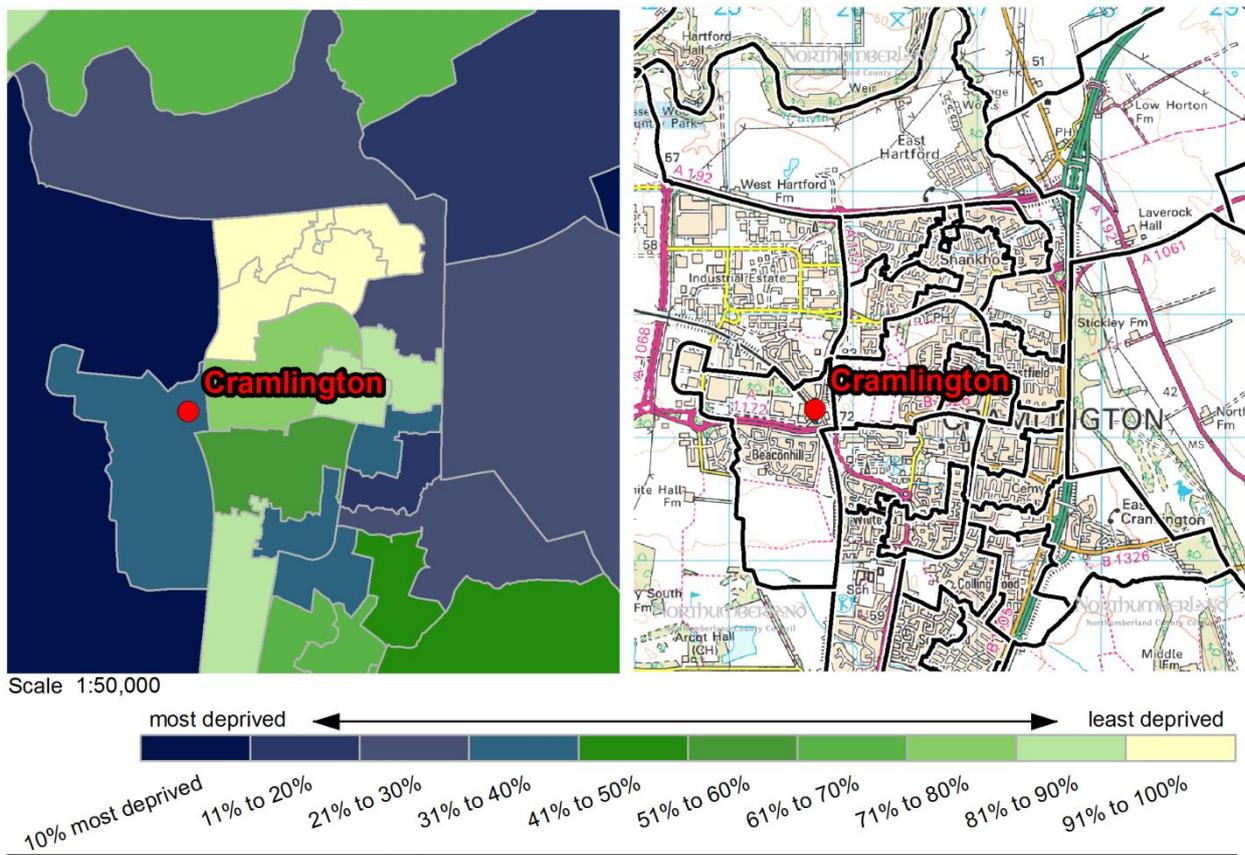
- **Make comparisons with different countries**

Each country in the UK produces their own version of the Indices of Deprivation and they all use similar methodologies. However differences in the indicators used, the time periods covered and the sizes of the areas mean that it is not possible to make direct comparisons between the different Indices.

An Example of Analysing the ID 2010

The map below shows the levels of overall deprivation (IMD) around Cramlington. The dark blue areas fall into the 10 per cent most deprived in England and the yellow areas fall into the 10 per cent least deprived areas in England. Using the two maps it is possible to see how deprived different parts of the town are.

Map: Example showing levels of deprivation in Cramlington using the IMD



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Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2010.

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November 2012