



Which causes of death contribute to life expectancy gaps?

The Public Health England Segment Tool provides information on life expectancy and the causes of death that are driving inequalities in life expectancy at local area level. Targeting the causes of death which contribute most to the life expectancy gap should have the biggest impact on reducing inequalities.¹

In Oxford, the absolute gap in life expectancy between the most deprived and least deprived fifth of areas for males is -7.1 years, whereas for females it is -3.3 years. On the overall local authority level, life expectancy for both sexes is slightly higher than in England overall.

Overall life expectancy gaps between males and females vary by broad cause of death. For males, the leading causes of life expectancy inequalities are circulatory diseases (32%), cancer (23%), and respiratory diseases (17%). For females, it is respiratory diseases (26%), cancer (23%), and circulatory diseases (20%). The charts below are from the set of Segment Tool data visualizations that show the detailed breakdown of causes of death, and the years of life that would be gained or lost if the most deprived in Oxford had the same mortality rates as Oxford's least deprived.

Life expectancy years gained or lost in Oxford's most deprived quintile if it had the same mortality rates as Oxford's least deprived quintile, by detailed cause of death, 2012-2014

