

Hidden Needs II

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Introduction

Northamptonshire has a mixture of rural and urban areas, with several issues that require attention, including support for an ageing population, poverty, health, and well-being (Paterson-Young, Hazenberg, and Brylka, 2017; Northamptonshire Health & Wellbeing Board, 2016).

One of the underlying causes of these inequalities is that the various needs of the county inhabitants are not being adequately identified or/and addressed by the local authorities and other actors (e.g., charities). Northamptonshire has experienced significant growth over time, with the population of Northamptonshire growing faster than the national average over the past 30 years (JSNA, 2020).

A report on the Hidden Needs in Northamptonshire (Paterson-Young, Hazenberg and Brylka, 2017) highlighted the significant issues facing people living in Northamptonshire including poverty, health inequalities and social isolation. The problems affecting Northamptonshire have been exacerbated by Coronavirus (COVID-19), also known as SARS-CoV-2, a virus that has been spreading worldwide, affecting an individual's lungs and airways (with other affects under investigation) and other crisis across the past five years.



Population

Northamptonshire experienced population growth higher than the national average (7.84% in England), with the population growing around 10.2% in the past decade (JSNA, 2020).

Northamptonshire's population was estimated at 757,181 people (all ages) in 2020 (JSNA, 2020).

A larger proportion of the population lived in West Northamptonshire (405,050) than North Northamptonshire (348,228) (JSNA, 2020).

Northamptonshire is predicted to experience a growth in population of 16.6% (123,927) between 2018 and 2043, a prediction higher than the national average (JSNA, 2020).

	Population	% change over 10 years			Population	
	1989	1999	2009	2019	2019	2020
Corby	52,900	0.20%	11.30%	22.40%	72,218	73,053
Daventry	62,700	9.90%	12.80%	10.60%	85,950	86,951
East Northants	67,100	9.80%	16.60%	10.00%	94,527	95,103
Kettering	75,200	7.60%	13.80%	10.50%	101,776	102,211
Northampton	181,700	7.70%	6.20%	8.00%	224,610	224,290
South Northants	68,500	13.30%	10.40%	10.30%	94,490	95,492
Wellingborough	67,400	5.30%	5.80%	6.10%	79,707	80,081
North	262,600	6.10%	12.00%	11.60%	348,228	350,448
West	312,900	9.40%	8.50%	9.10%	405,050	406,733
Northamptonshire	575,500	7.90%	10.10%	10.20%	753,278	757,181

(JSNA, 2020; Local Insight, 2023).

Key Thematic Areas

Rural Challenges

Inequality and Deprivation

Health and Deprivation

Impact and Challenges for Children

Education, Employment and Training

Older People

Housing and Environment

Crime and Justice

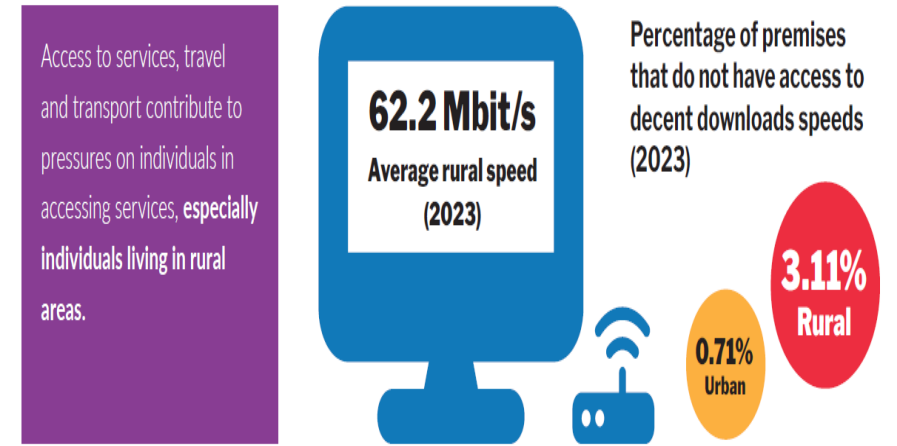
Rural Challenges

In Northamptonshire, 20.2% of the population live in 'rural town and fringe' areas and 11.1% of the population live in 'rural villages and dispersed' areas, which means over third of the population live in areas classified as 'rural' (ONS, 2020).

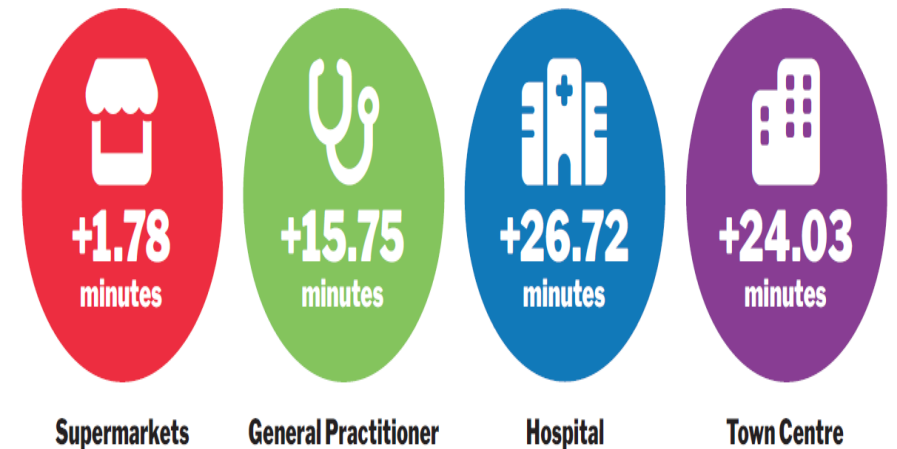
Northamptonshire comprises of several rural communities, with 239,741 residents living in Rural Classifications in 2020. In total, 18.31% were aged 0-15 years-old, 59.35% were aged 16-64 years-old and 22.34% were aged 65 years-old and over. The population of adults aged 65 years-old and over is higher in rural areas than urban areas (16.36%) (Local Insight, 2023)

Residents living in rural areas have longer travel times (by public transport/walking and cycling) to supermarkets, GPs, hospital, town centre than those in urban areas.

The OCSI (2023:12) report on 'Rural Poverty in Northamptonshire' found that rural areas in Northamptonshire often have long road distances "to the nearest GP (2.7km), more than double the average distance for people living in urban areas (1.3km)".



Residents living in rural areas have longer travel times (by public transport/walking and cycling) to:



(Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023)

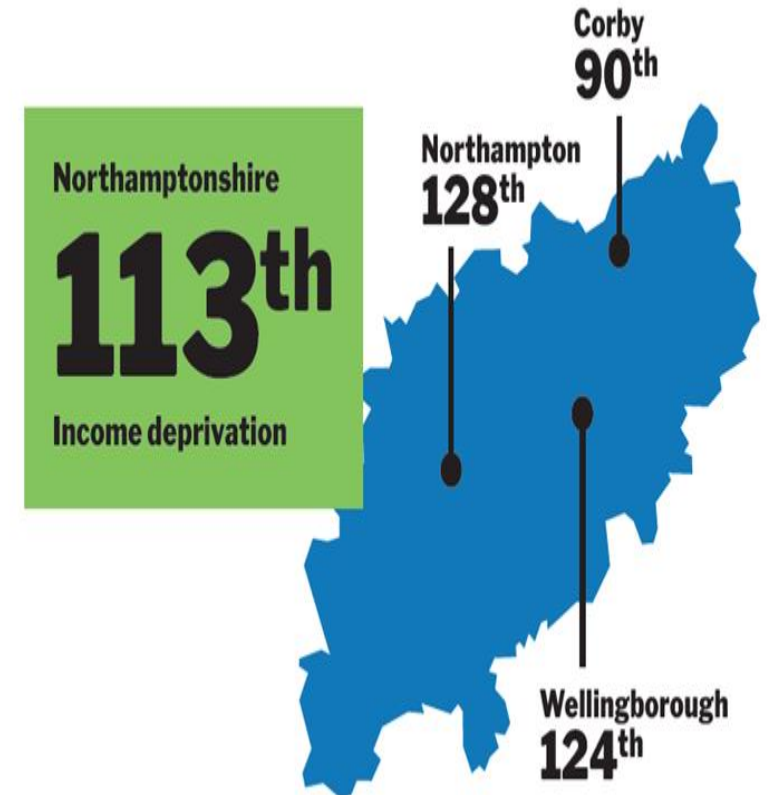
Inequality and Deprivation I

The Income domain measures the proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income. Northamptonshire ranks in the 113th for Income, with significant variance across the county.

Corby appears in the 90th most deprived areas for Income Deprivation, followed by Wellingborough (124th) and Northampton (128th). South Northamptonshire is ranked at the opposite end of the scale (314th).

Income deprivation in Northamptonshire are impacted by the rates of employment (including salary) and unemployment. In West Northamptonshire the unemployment rate is 3.1% whilst in North Northamptonshire the unemployment rate is 2.8% (NOMIS, 2023).

In 2021, only 77.6% of adults were economically active in North Northamptonshire (lower than the England average – 78.7%) in comparison to 82.5% of adults in West Northamptonshire (ONS, 2021).



Inequality and Deprivation II

Children living in low-income families (2020)



Food vulnerability (2020)

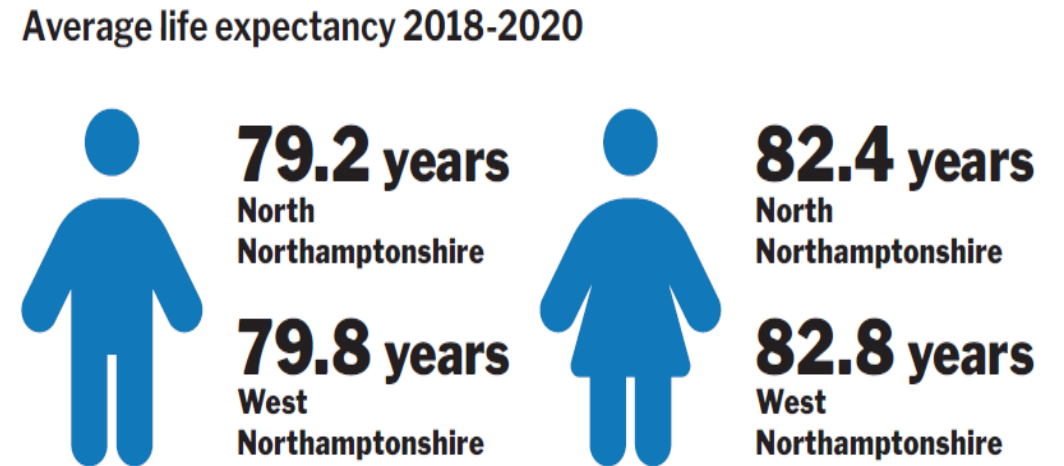
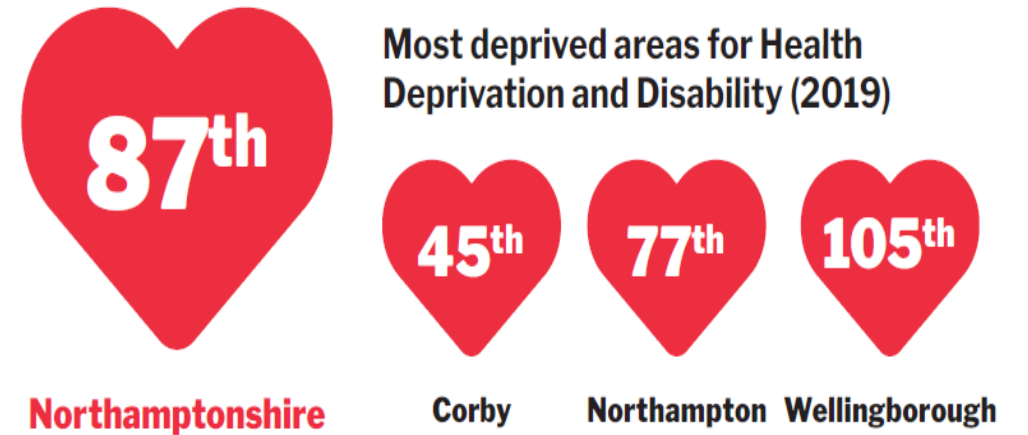


Health and Wellbeing I

Health inequalities refer to avoidable differences in health and wellbeing across the population, and between distinct groups within society.

In West Northamptonshire, the proportion of individuals reporting 'bad or very bad health' increased from 3.4% in 2011 to 4.2% in 2021 (national average 5.3%) (ONS, 2023).

Health and wellbeing problems have been exasperated in recent years with the COVID-19 pandemic and although the full impact remains unknown, research shows that at the beginning of the pandemic individuals experienced lower levels of physical health and subjective wellbeing, with significant mental distress manifesting at the end of the lockdown (Sibley et al., 2020). Furthermore, research investigating population mental health concluded that, due to the pandemic, levels decreased compared to the trends before COVID-19 (i.e., people felt worse) (Pierce et al., 2020).



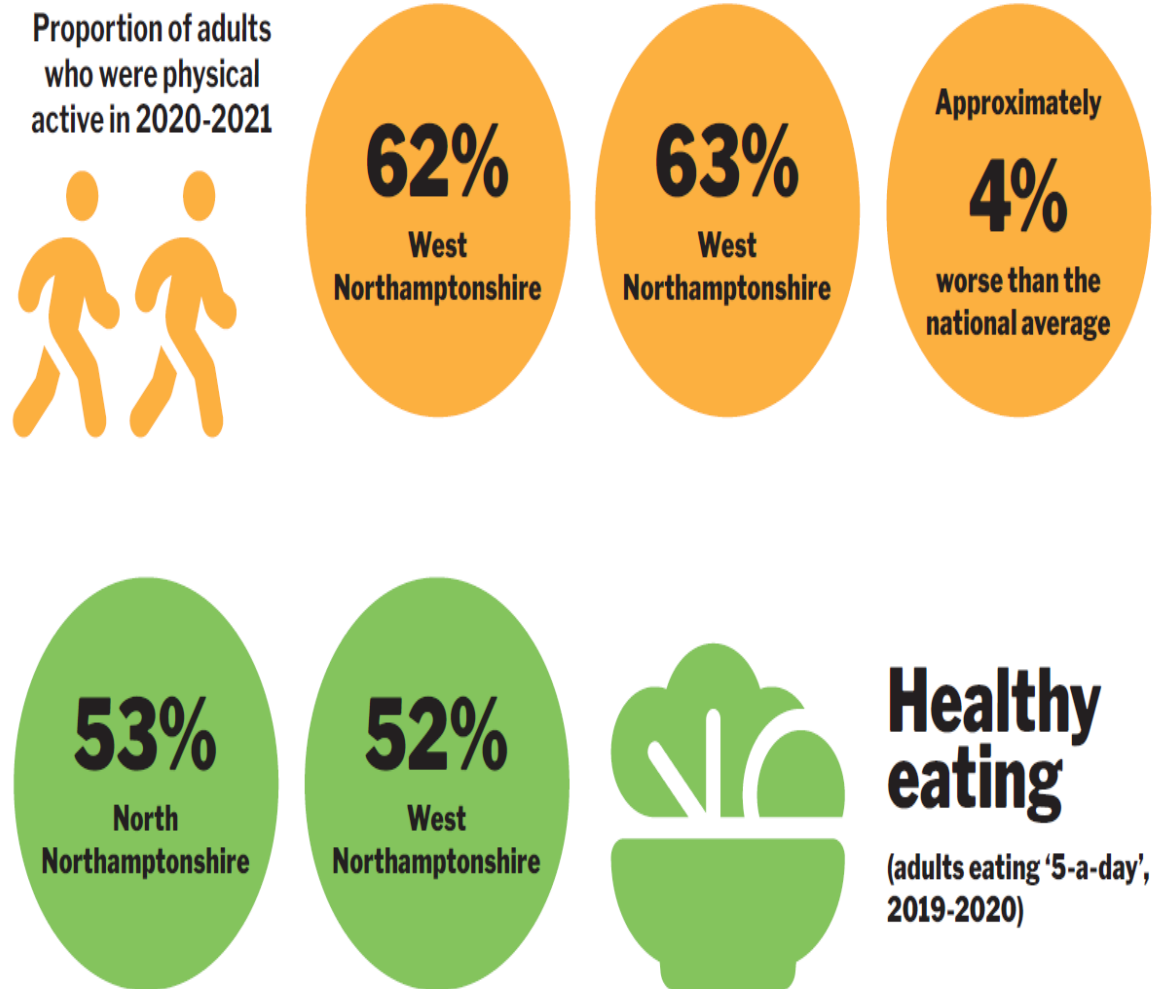
(Public Health England, 2023)

Health and Wellbeing II

Weight issues in adults were reported in Northamptonshire, with 12.9% of adults in North Northamptonshire and 9.4% of adults in West Northamptonshire reporting being overweight or obese in 2019-2020 (Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023).

On physical activity, 62.6% of adults in North Northamptonshire (worse than the England average - 67.3%) and 63% of adults in West Northamptonshire (worse than the England average - 67.3%) reported involvement in physically activity in 2020-21 (Public Health England, 2023).

Northamptonshire's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2016-2020) seeks to tackle obesity by creating environments that promote health and sustainable lifestyles, supporting health childhood, and preventing ill health through tackling inequality.



(Public Health England, 2023)

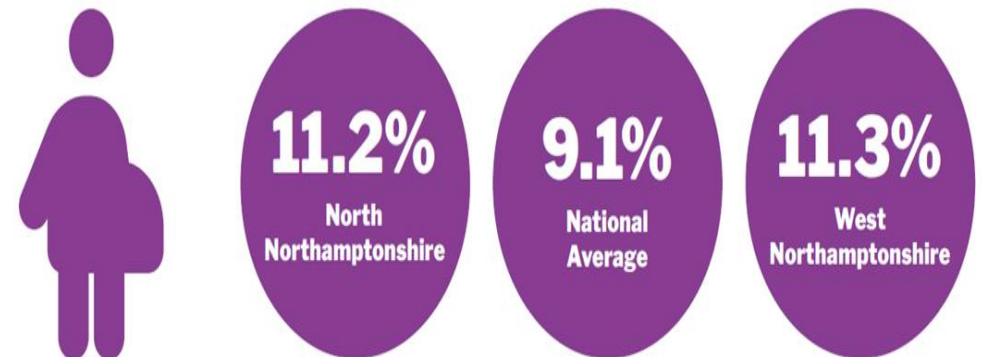
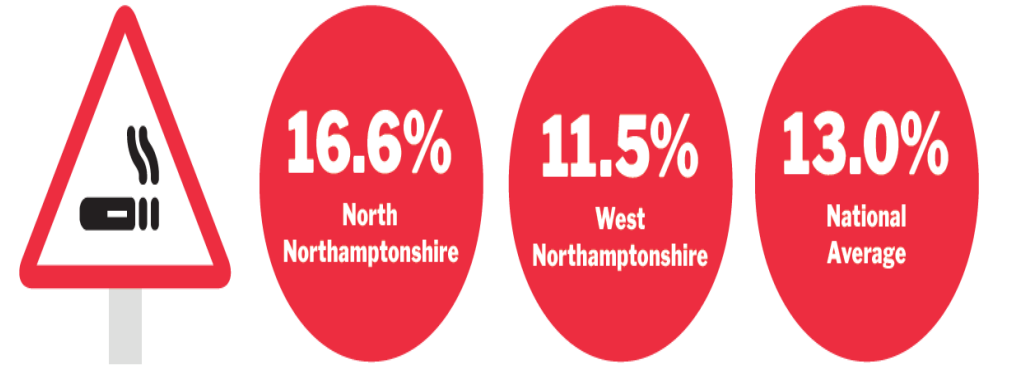
Health and Wellbeing III

Smoking prevalence in North Northamptonshire (16.6%) was higher than the English (13.0%) national average in 2021 whilst smoking prevalence was lower in West Northamptonshire (11.5%) (Public Health England, 2023).

Smoking prevalence is higher in people (18-64 years-old) working in routine and manual occupation, with 29.1% in North Northamptonshire and 27.1% in West Northamptonshire (England average was 24.5%) (Public Health England, 2023).

Other issues associated with smoking include smoking in pregnancy with data from 2021-2022 showing that 11.3% of mothers in West Northamptonshire and 11.2% of mothers in North Northamptonshire were smoking at the time of birth (Public Health England, 2023). Both are higher than the England average which is 9.1% (Public Health England, 2023)

Smoking prevalence (2023)



(Public Health England, 2023)

Health and Wellbeing IV

Alcohol-related hospital admissions per 100,000 population were 479 people in North Northamptonshire and 473 people in West Northamptonshire (2021-2022) (England average was 494) (Public Health England, 2023).

Hospital admission rates for alcohol-specific conditions in 2018/2019 (directly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population) increased across all Districts in Northamptonshire, highest in Corby (863.9), Kettering (839.1) and Northampton (831.1).

Hospital admission rates for alcohol-specific conditions for children under 18 years-old in 2016/2017 and 2018/2019 decreased across all Districts in Northamptonshire except for Northampton (JSNA North, 2021; JSNA West, 2021).



Hospital admission rates for alcohol-specific conditions in 2018/2019



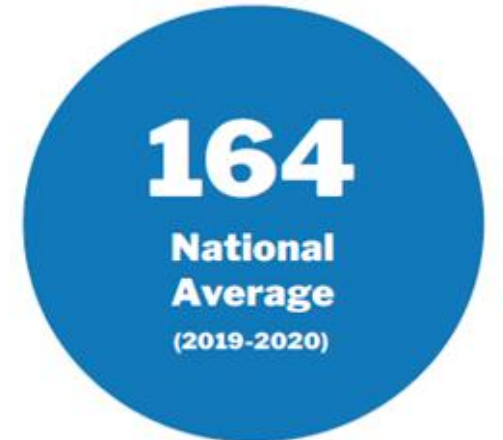
(JSNA North, 2021; JSNA West, 2021).

Health and Wellbeing V

Recent reports found 297 hospital admissions for self-harm per 100,000 population in West Northamptonshire and 196 hospital admissions for self-harm per 100,000 population in North Northamptonshire (ONS North, 2021; ONS West, 2021) in 2019-2020. The figures on self-harm remain worse than the national average in England (163.9).

There were 11 suicides per 100,000 reported in North Northamptonshire (ONS North, 2021) and 8 suicides per 100,000 reported in West Northamptonshire (ONS West, 2021) in 2018-2020.

Self-harm and suicide per 100,000 population in Northamptonshire is available at District level, showing an increase in emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm (per 100,000) in all Districts except East Northamptonshire, and an increase in suicide (per 100,000) for all areas except Corby.



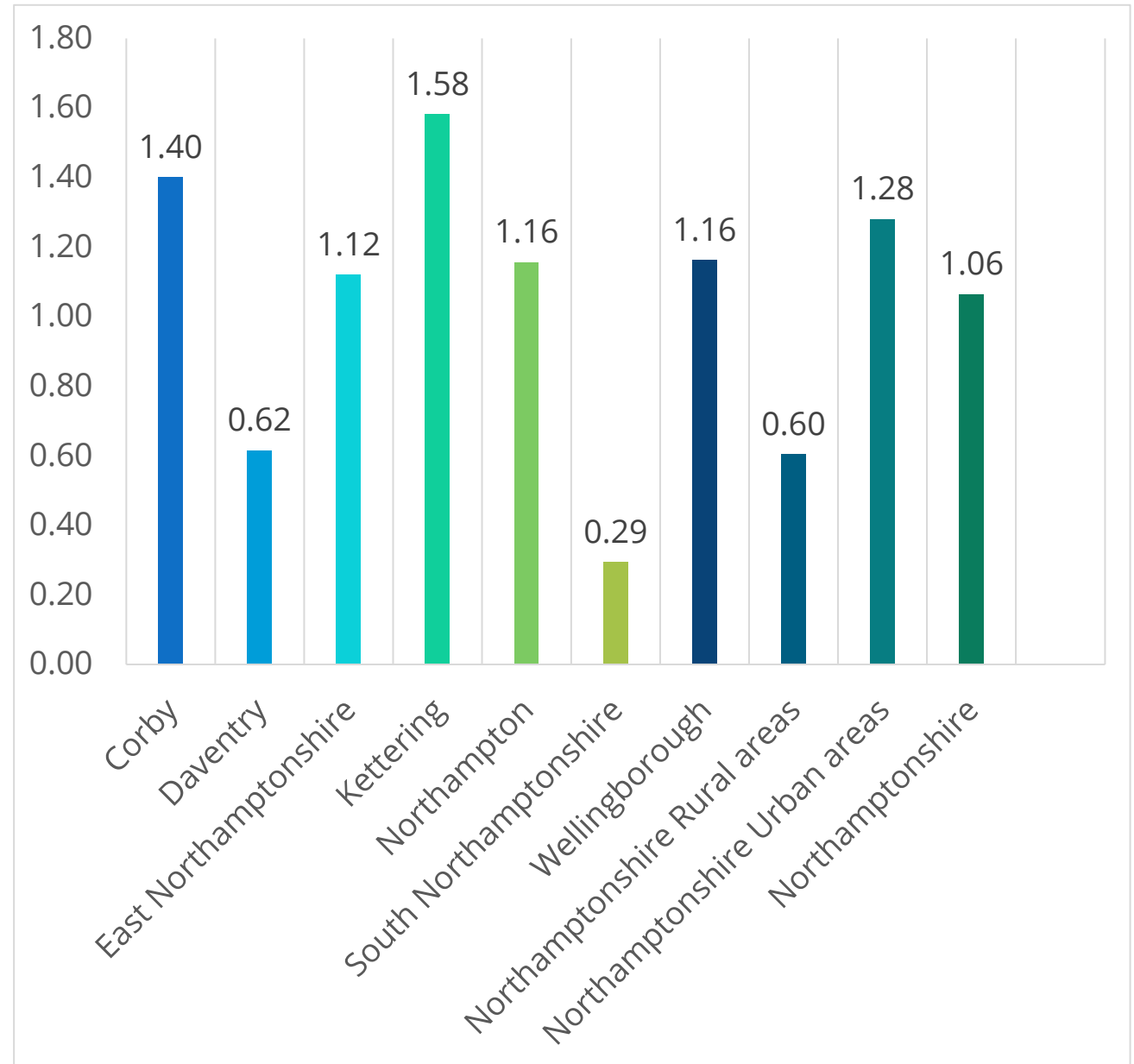
(ONS North, 2021; ONS West, 2021)

Health and Wellbeing VI

The Small Area Mental Health Index is a measure of population mental health for each LSOA in England. Northamptonshire's urban areas (1.28) experience higher mental health need than rural areas (0.60).

District level data shows higher than Northamptonshire average mental health needs in Kettering (1.58) and Corby (1.40), higher than the average in England (0.70).

The prevalence of depression in Northamptonshire was slightly higher in urban areas (13.79%) than rural areas (13.47%). District level data shows a higher prevalence of depression in Kettering (15.31%), East Northamptonshire (14.74%) and Corby (14.07%) than the average in England (11.7%) (Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023)



(Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023)

Impact and Challenges for Children I

Child poverty remains a concern in the United Kingdom, with Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) (2023) finding that 3.9 million children were living in poverty in 2020/2021.

A breakdown of income deprivation affecting children shows that Corby has the highest proportion of income deprivation affecting children, with 22.0% in the top 20% most deprived followed by Northampton (13.5%), Kettering (12.3%) and East Northamptonshire (8.2%)

Information for North Northamptonshire (2020-2021) shows that the number of children (aged under 16 years) living in absolute or relative low-income families has reduced, with 7,561 in absolute low-income families and 9,932 in relative low-income families.

Children living in poverty have poorer education and health outcomes than their non-deprived peers (Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2023); therefore, appropriate and targeted support is required (Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government, 2020a/b)

Children achieving a good level of development upon finishing reception (2020)

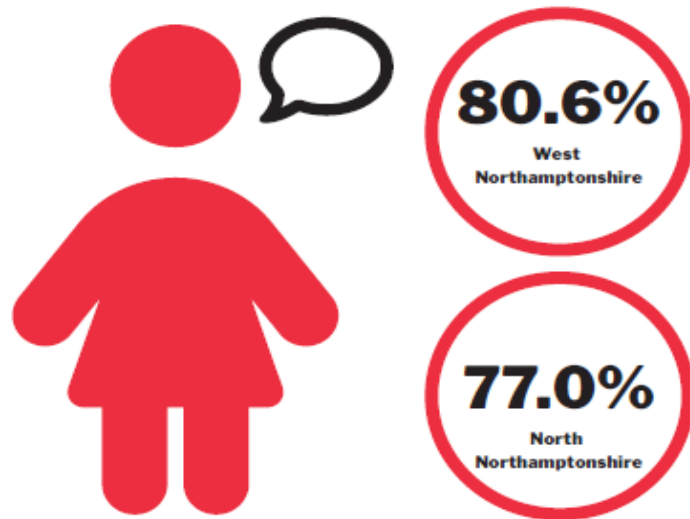


The percentage of children that achieved a standard pass (4) in England and Maths at GCSE in 2021

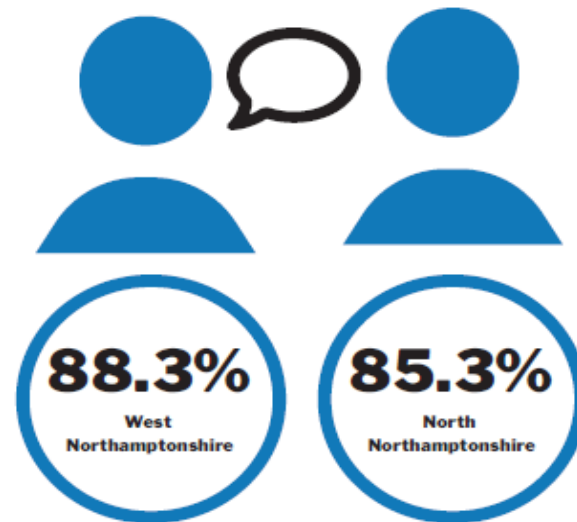


Impact and Challenges for Children II

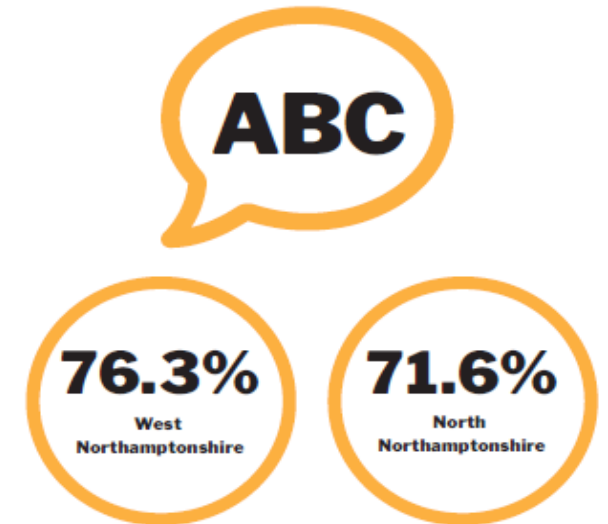
Children achieving a good level of development at 2 – 2.5 years in 2021-2022:



Children achieving the expected level in communication skills



Children achieving the expected level in personal social skills

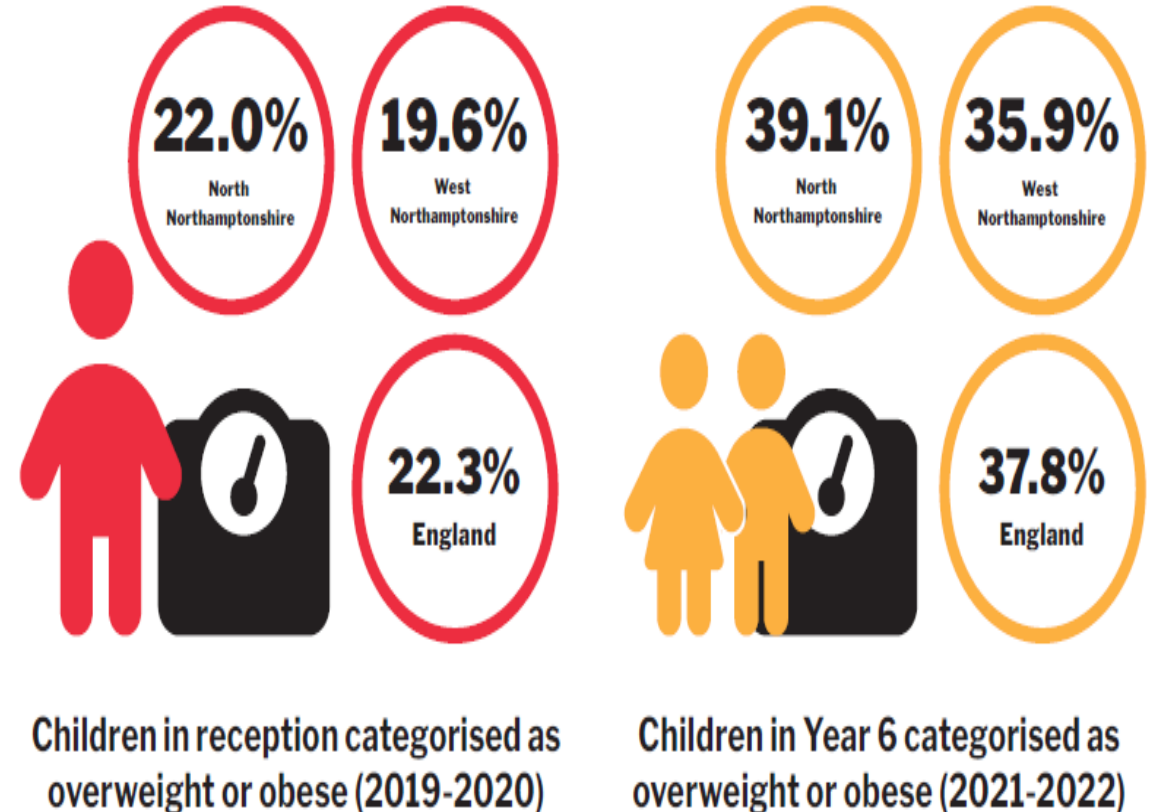


Children achieving the expected level in phonics at Year 1

Impact and Challenges for Children III

In North Northamptonshire, 22% of children in reception class (lower than the England average of 22.3%) and 39.1% of children in Year 6 were categorised as overweight or obese in 2021-2022 (higher than the England average of 37.8%) (Public Health England, 2023).

In West Northamptonshire, 19.6% of children in reception class (lower than the England average of 22.3%) and 35.9% of children in Year 6 were categorised as overweight or obese in 2021-2022 (lower than the England average of 37.8%) (Public Health England, 2023).



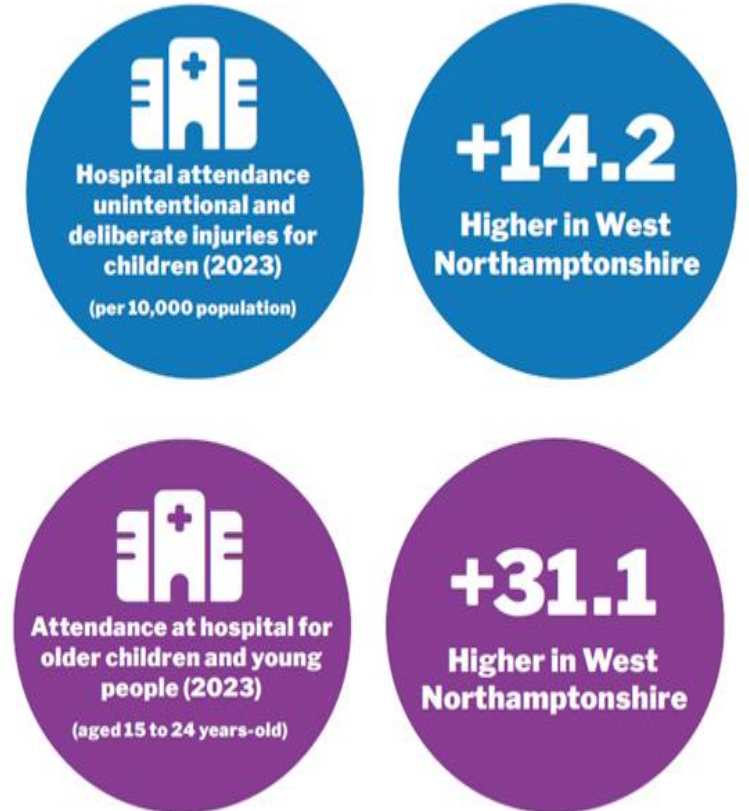
(Public Health England, 2023)

Impact and Challenges for Children IV

Attendance at hospital for children under 4 years-old is rising, with rates in the West higher than the North North.

In West Northamptonshire (2021-2022), the number of children (aged 0 – 14 years-old) attending hospital for unintentional and deliberate injuries was 68.1 (per 10,000), the number of children (aged 0 – 4 years-old) attending hospital for unintentional and deliberate injuries was 81.5 (per 10,000) and the number of young people (aged 15 to 24 years-old) attending hospital for unintentional and deliberate injuries was 145.5 (per 10,000) (Public Health England, 2023).

In North Northamptonshire (2021-2022), the number of children (aged 0 – 14 years-old) attending hospital for unintentional and deliberate injuries was 53.9 (per 10,000), the number of children (aged 0 – 4 years-old) attending hospital for unintentional and deliberate injuries was 69.5 (per 10,000) and the number of young people (aged 15 to 24 years-old) attending hospital for unintentional and deliberate injuries was 114.4 (per 10,000) (Public Health England, 2023).



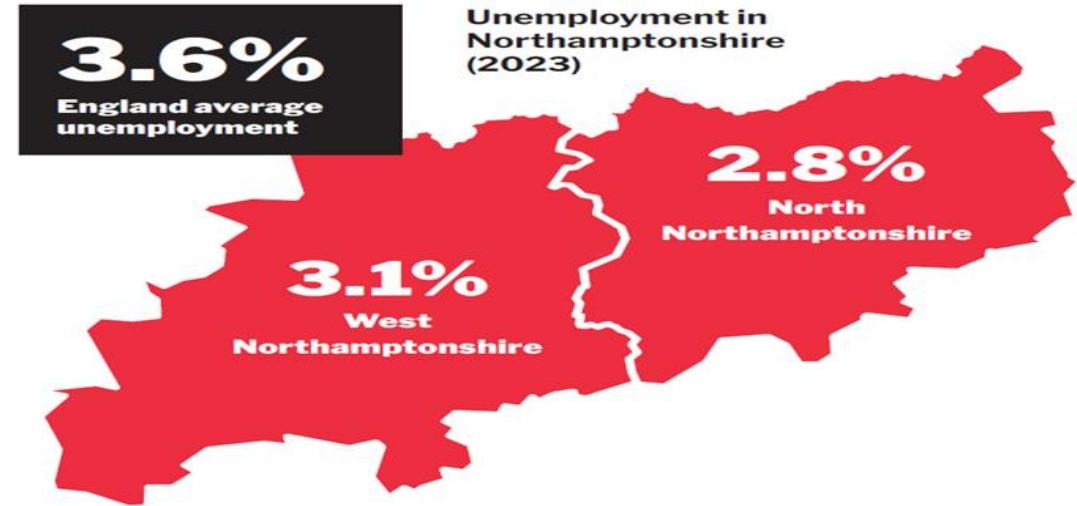
(Public Health England, 2023)

Education, Employment and Training I

Unemployment soared in many countries as a result of COVID-19 and 'lockdown' restrictions. Securing and maintaining employment is influenced by a multitude of factors including health, opportunity, qualifications, skills and experience.

In West Northamptonshire the unemployment rate is 3.1% whilst in North Northamptonshire the unemployment rate is 2.8% (NOMIS, 2023). The rate of unemployment is lower than the England average (3.6%) (NOMIS, 2023).

The proportion of individuals claiming out-of-work benefits in West Northamptonshire was 3.2% (April 2023), whilst in North Northamptonshire the number claiming out-of-work benefits was 3.5% (April 2023) (NOMIS, 2023b). The proportion of individuals claiming out-of-work benefits is lower than the England average (3.9%) (NOMIS, 203b).



Unemployment was highest in (October 2021-September 2022):



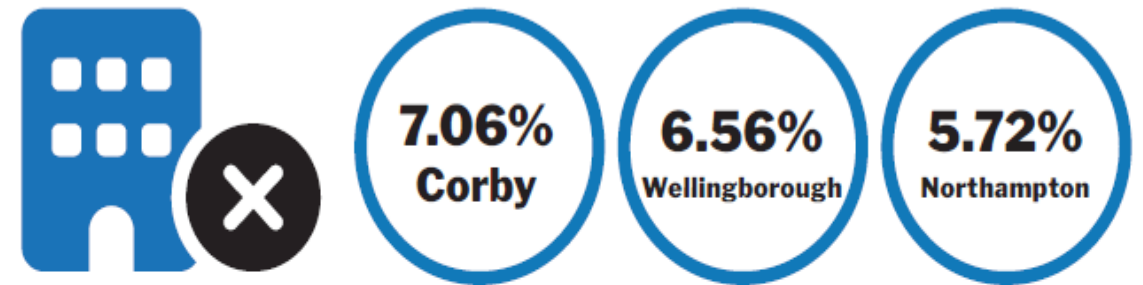
(NOMIS, 203b)

Education, Employment and Training II

Specific figures on youth unemployment, for March 2023, illustrate that Corby (7.06%), Wellingborough (6.56%) and Northampton (5.72%) have the highest levels of youth unemployment (18–24-year-olds receiving JSA or Universal Credit) (Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023).

Rural and urban differences are evident for youth unemployment with higher levels of youth unemployment in urban areas (5.75%) than rural areas (3.27%) of Northamptonshire (Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023).

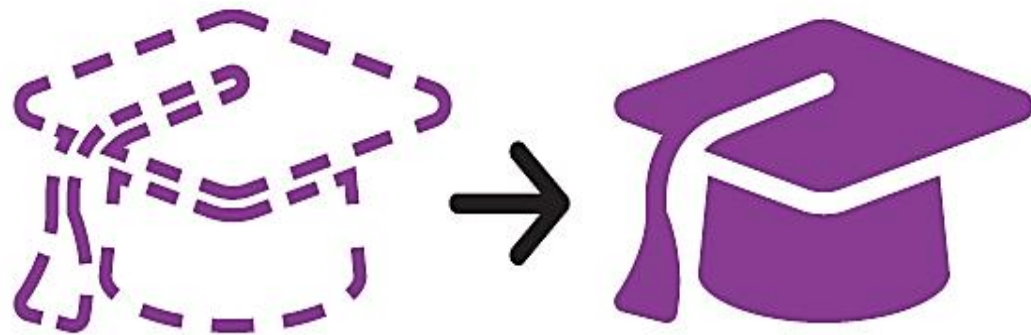
Youth unemployment (18–24-year-olds receiving JSA or Universal Credit) levels are highest in (2023):



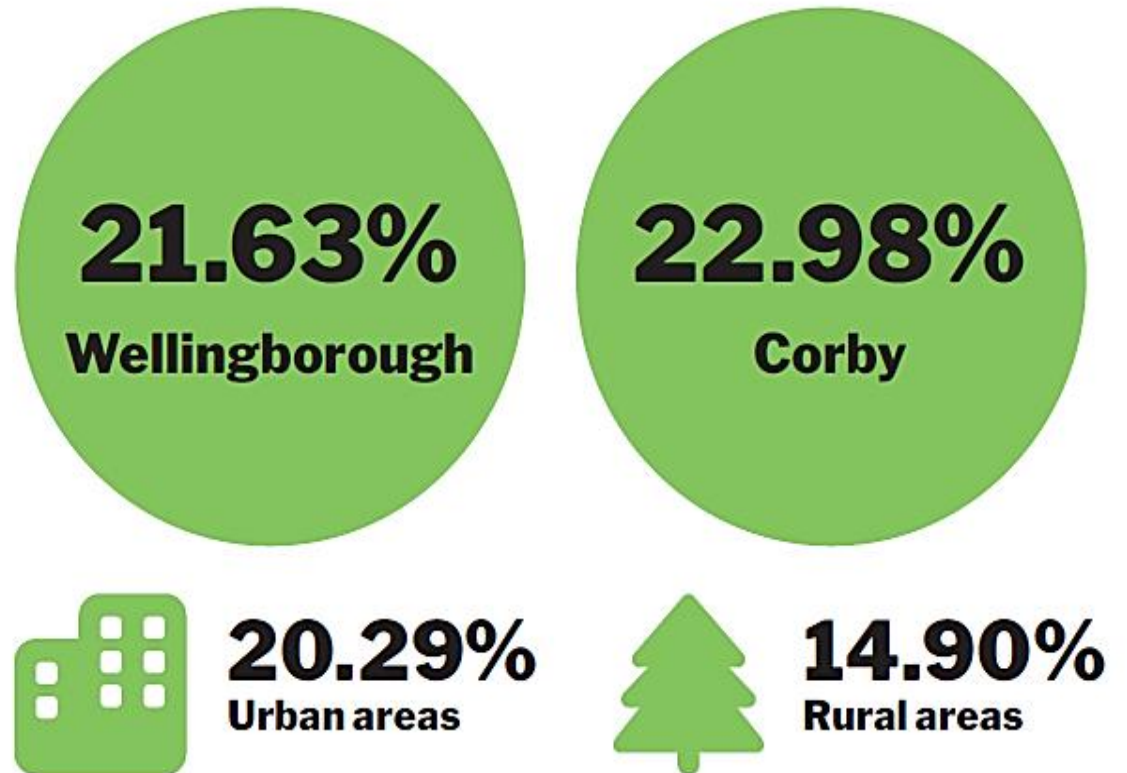
(Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023)

Education, Employment and Training III

Northamptonshire experienced a shift from people with no qualifications to people with level 4/5 qualifications and above. Despite changes, there remains a high number of residents in Northamptonshire who have no qualifications which creates challenges for securing employment.



Residents with no qualifications was highest in (2021):



Older People I

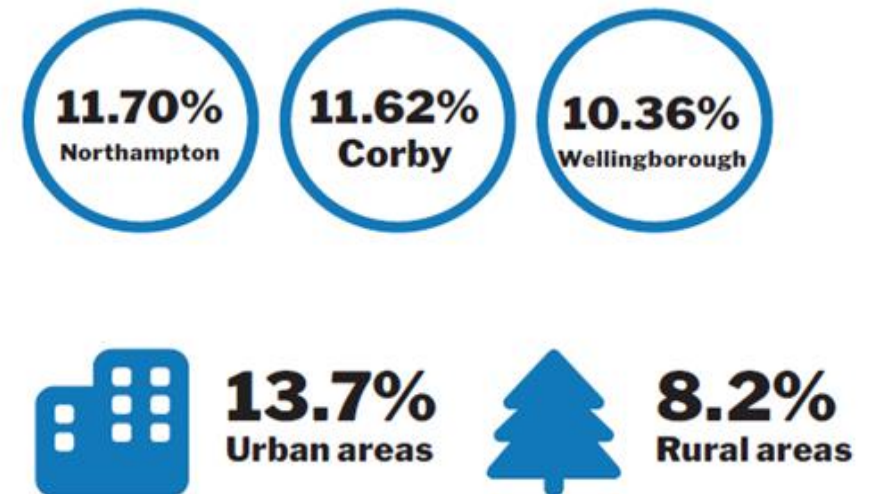
The original 'Hidden Needs' report (Paterson-Young et al., 2017) illustrated the new and emerging needs associated with an ageing population including increased isolation, keeping warm, safe and secure.

Research conducted by Roberts and Windle (2020) found that social isolation in Northamptonshire has an impact on loneliness and wellbeing, noting isolation and loneliness were higher for older people living in urban communities than older people living in rural communities.

Rates of pensioner poverty in Northamptonshire, defined as pensioners in receipt of Pension Credit, shows higher levels of pensioners in poverty in urban areas (13.7%) than rural areas (8.2%). Detailed information on Northamptonshire districts shows the highest level of older people living in poverty in Northampton (11.70%), Corby (11.62%) and Wellingborough (10.36%) (Local Insight, 2023).

Northamptonshire is one of the UK's fastest growing counties in England and Wales, with Northamptonshire seeing the **highest increase in population groups aged 50 years and over** (and those aged 10-19 years) (2020)

Pensioner poverty, referring to pensioners living in households with an income of less than 60% of the median for the UK (2020):



(Local Insight, 2023)

Older People II

Hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65+ per 100,000 in 2020-21 for North Northamptonshire was 1,893 and for West Northamptonshire was 2,727 (Public Health England, 2023).

A higher proportion of residents over 65 and over with emergency hospital admissions for hip fractures reside in Corby (765.6) and Kettering (753.9) [higher than the average across the Region and England] (Public Health England, 2023).

Other areas with high levels include Daventry (590.1) and Northampton (577.5) have higher rates of hospital admissions than the average across England (Public Health England, 2023).

There has been an increase in dementia diagnosis in Northamptonshire (except for South Northamptonshire). A higher proportion (% recorded diagnosis of dementia as a proportion of the estimated number with dementia) of residents over 65 and over diagnosed with dementia reside in Corby (88.5) and Northampton (72.8) [higher than the average across the Region and England]. (Public Health England, 2023).

Hospital admission for hip fractures for residents 65+ years (2023)



765.6
Corby

753.9
Kettering

590.1
Daventry

577.5
Northampton

Dementia diagnosis in Northamptonshire has increased in all areas (with the exception of South Northamptonshire)(2023)

88.5
Corby

72.8
Northampton

62.0
England

(Public Health England, 2023)

Housing and Living Environment I

Northamptonshire ranks in the 65th for Barriers to Housing and Services, with significant variance across the county. Corby appears in the 63rd most deprived areas for Barriers to Housing and Services, followed by Northampton (72nd) and Daventry (101st) (IMD, 2019).

In 2021-2022, the number of households owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act was 1,972 in West Northamptonshire and 1,211 in North Northamptonshire (Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2023).

Experiences of homelessness in Northamptonshire (2017/2018) show decreases in statutory homelessness rate (Crude rate per 1,000 households), with the highest levels found in Daventry (0.51), Wellingborough (0.42) and East Northamptonshire (0.42) (Public Health England, 2023).

Despite high rates of homelessness in areas of Northamptonshire, all areas have lower rates than the national average (Public Health England, 2023).

Households owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act (2021-2022)



Most deprived areas for Living Environment (2023)



Levels of statutory homelessness (crude rate 1,000 households) (2023)



(Public Health England, 2023).

Housing and Living Environment II

Overcrowding was recorded at 5.02% in West Northamptonshire and 3.59% in North Northamptonshire, with the highest levels of overcrowding in Northampton (7.16%), and Corby (2.47%) (ONS North, 2021; ONS West, 2021; Community Insights, 2023).

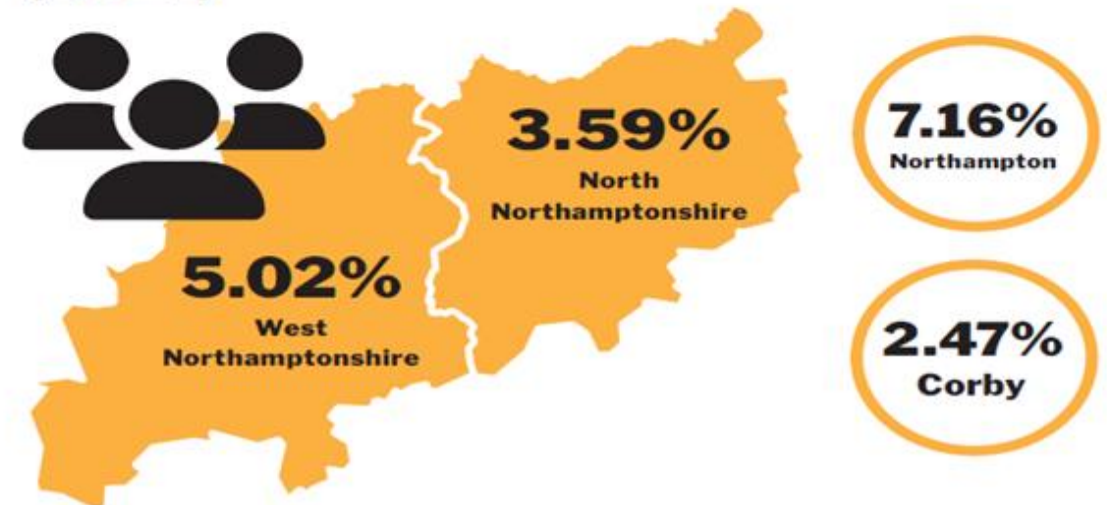
Northampton appears in the 160th most deprived areas for Living Environment, followed by Kettering (211th) and Daventry (213th).

In 2020, the proportion of households experiencing fuel poverty was higher in North Northamptonshire (12.9) than West Northamptonshire (11.9) in comparison to 13.3 in England (Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2023).

Proportion of households experiencing fuel poverty (2023)



Overcrowding in Northamptonshire (2021)



Housing and Living Environment III

Resident satisfaction is evidenced through the Community Needs score (see Section 9.3), with other areas of community satisfaction evidenced in the Civil Asset score, Connectedness score and Active and Engaged Community score. Community Need scores are highest in Corby (109.13) followed by Kettering (104.62) (Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023).

Civil Asset scored are highest in Corby (45.02) followed by Kettering (37.95) and Northampton (34.36) (Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023).

Connectedness score was highest in Wellingborough (21.31) followed by East Northamptonshire (16.02) and Corby (15.81) (Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023).

Active and Engaged Community score was highest in Kettering (51.29), Corby (48.29), and Northampton (46.72) (Local Insight (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion), 2023).

Civil Asset score was highest in (2023):



Connectedness score was highest in (2023):



Active and Engaged Community score was highest in (2023):



(Local Insight, 2023)

Crime I

Brighton Analytics Limited (2023) provide an overview of crime rates in England, Wales and Northern Island with Northamptonshire ranked among the top 20 most dangerous counties. Northamptonshire had an overall crime rate of 85 crimes per 1,000 people in 2022 (in comparison to 83.77 crime per 1,000 people in England), with the most dangerous areas Kettering, Northampton and Wellingborough (Brighton Analytics Limited, 2023)

In North Northamptonshire (2019-2020), the percentage of offenders who re-offended was 19.6%, with an average number of re-offences per re-offender of 3.57 (Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2023).

In West Northamptonshire (2019-2020), the percentage of offenders who re-offended was 24%, with an average number of re-offences per re-offender of 3.81 (Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2023).

Number of violent offences (per 1,000 population) (2021-222):



The number of sexual offences (per re-offender) (2021-2022)



The percentage of offenders who re-offend (2023):



Average number of re-offences (per re-offender) (2023):



(Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2023)

Crime II

Violent crime in Northamptonshire, particularly violent crime involving children and young people, has received significant attention in 2023.

In North Northamptonshire (2021-2022), the number of violent offences (per 1,000 population) was 35.7 and the number of sexual offences (per 1,000 population) was 3.5.

The number of violent crimes requiring hospital admission (including sexual violence) was 40.1, which was lower than the England average (41.9) (Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2023). In West Northamptonshire (2021-2022), the number of violent offences (per 1,000 population) was 36.1 and the number of sexual offences (per 1,000 population) was 3.7.

The number of violent crimes requiring hospital admission (including sexual violence) was 36.2, which was higher than the regional average (32.9), but lower than North Northamptonshire (Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2023).



(Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2023)

Summary

Northamptonshire has experienced population growth higher than the national average, with the population growing an estimated 10.2% in the past decade (in comparison with 7.84% for England) (JSNA, 2020).

In 2019, Northamptonshire's population was estimated at 753,278 people (all ages) (ONS mid-year estimates), an increase of 0.76% from 2018 (747,622) and 8.86% from 2011 (691,952) (JSNA, 2020).

The unitary council split for Northamptonshire illustrates that a larger proportion of the population live in West Northamptonshire (405,050) than North Northamptonshire (348,228) (JSNA, 2020).

Population growth creates pressure on local authorities to ensure priority needs are addressed at the right time.

Addressing priority needs at the right time requires access to the good quality information and data to ensure existing and emerging needs are identified.



References I

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Thank you
for listening

Any questions?

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