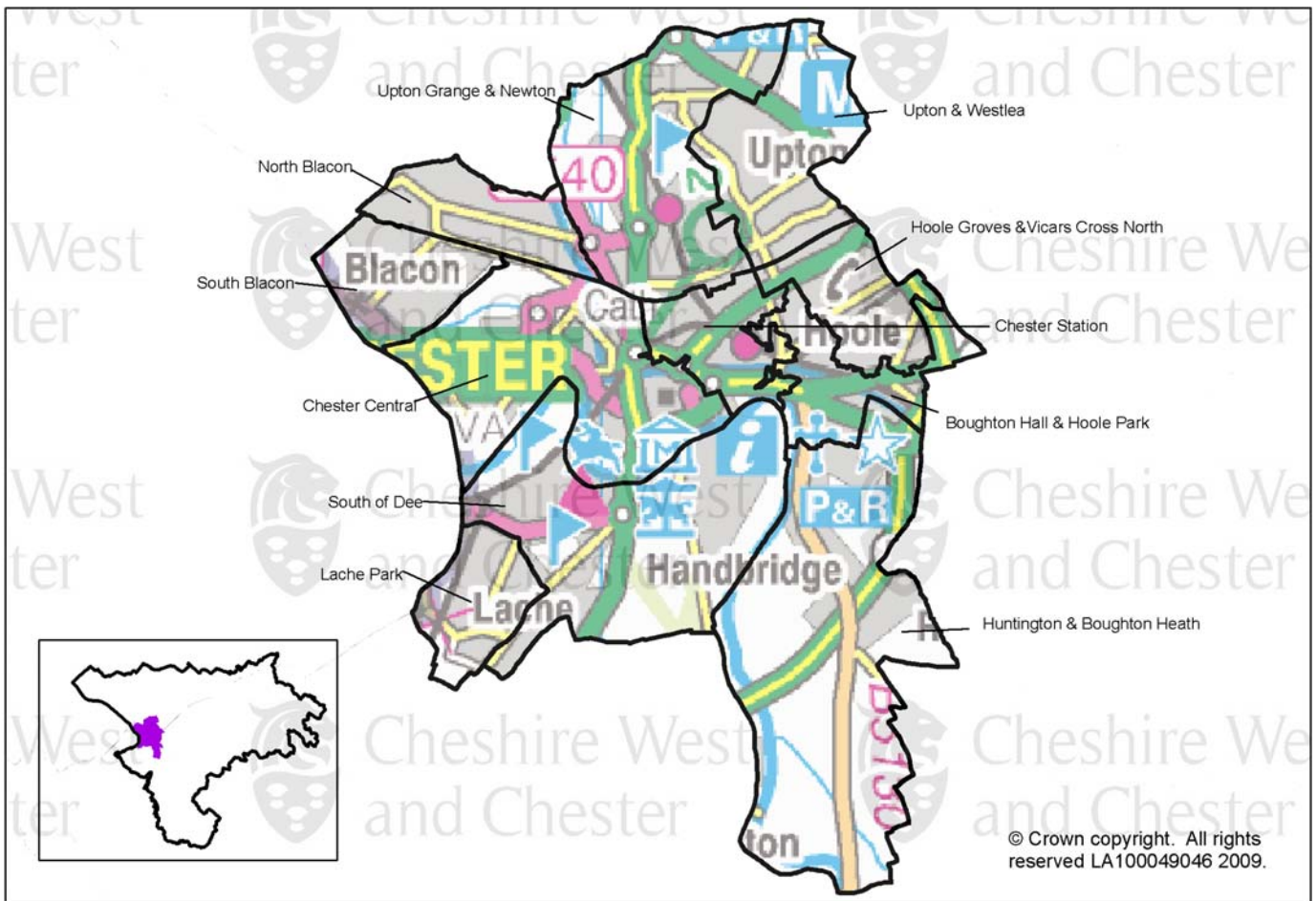


Area Partnership Board Profile Chester



The map shows the middle super output areas (MSOAs) that make up the APB area. MSOAs are areas with an average population of 7200.

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About the Profile

The aim of this profile is to provide the Local Area Partnership with background data and intelligence about the characteristics of the area. In this way the partnership can better assess how it needs to focus its efforts.

This is a developing tool and as needs change data will be added and updated.

Whilst every effort has been made to provide accurate data, some figures are estimates due to complications of disaggregation.

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Summary

Chester APB In Perspective

Chester Area Partnership Board (APB) lies upon a meander of the River Dee, bordering and overlooking North Wales.

Chester city has significant Roman heritage, and has the largest known amphitheatre and the most complete city walls in Britain. Chester is uniquely home to the Rows – two storey buildings containing shops, with galleried walkways on the upper floor – which run along the four streets that meet at The Cross.

Chester is the main administrative centre for Cheshire West and Chester Unitary Authority, and also provides a base for private-sector jobs in retail, tourism and financial services. Chester's main private sector employer is Bank of America. The University of Chester was created in 2005, from the college established in 1839.

Outside the city centre are several suburbs, including: Blacon, which contains the largest housing estate in Chester; Handbridge, situated on the South bank of the River Dee and as historic as the centre itself; and Hoole, a popular residential neighbourhood, of mainly Victorian architecture, situated close to the railway station.

Attractions include the Grosvenor Museum, Chester racecourse, Chester castle, Grosvenor Park and the Shropshire Union canal, which leads into the River Dee.

Priorities and Perceptions

The top 3 priorities for improvement in Chester APB in 2008 were road and pavement repairs, activities for teenagers, and traffic congestion. This links with the perception that teenagers hanging around on the streets were a big problem in local areas and indicates the importance of transport. Chester APB had the highest crime rate of all the APBs. The level of crime was the 4th priority for improvement, and the top choice for making somewhere a good place to live.

Chester APB's People

Chester is the APB in Cheshire West and Chester (CW&C) with the smallest area and the largest population. The population age distribution was similar to that for England & Wales, but there was a particularly high proportion of 20-24 year olds, reflecting the fact that Chester City has a university. Of all the APBs, at the time of the 2001 Census, Chester had the highest proportion of people of minority ethnic background and the lowest proportion of people stating their religion as Christian.

Jobs and Enterprise

Unemployment rates were lower than those for England & Wales, but similar to the rates for CW&C. Chester APB had the lowest car ownership and the highest proportion of people travelling to work on foot in CW&C, indicating better accessibility to services in urban areas.

Children & Young People

Overall exam results for Chester APB pupils at Key Stages 2 and 3 were similar to those for England, but slightly lower than results for CW&C. At GCSE and A-Level, overall results were lower than those for both the Unitary Authority and England.

The under 18 conception rate in Chester APB was 30 per 1,000 females aged 15-17 years.

Safer & Stronger Communities

Chester APB had the highest recorded crime rate in CW&C, but only the second highest rates of violent crime and assaults with injury (after Ellesmere Port APB).

Nine out of the 52 lower super output areas (LSOAs) in Chester APB were in the top 20% most multiply deprived nationally in the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007, and LSOAs in Chester APB ranked highest in CW&C for 3 out of 7 of the indicators. Lache Park L1 was most multiply deprived in CW&C.

There are significant pockets of social and economic disadvantage in the areas of North and South Blacon, where unemployment is high, household income is low, high proportions of people claim benefits, and educational achievement is low.

Adult Health & Wellbeing

The percentage of people with limiting long term illness or disability (LLTI) was similar to the proportion in the Cheshire West and Chester and in England & Wales. South Blacon MSOA had the highest proportion of people claiming DLA in CW&C, and also contained the LSOA ranking highest in CW&C for the 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation Mental Health indicator.

Environmental Sustainability

Chester APB had the lowest consumption of ordinary domestic electricity per meter of all APBs.

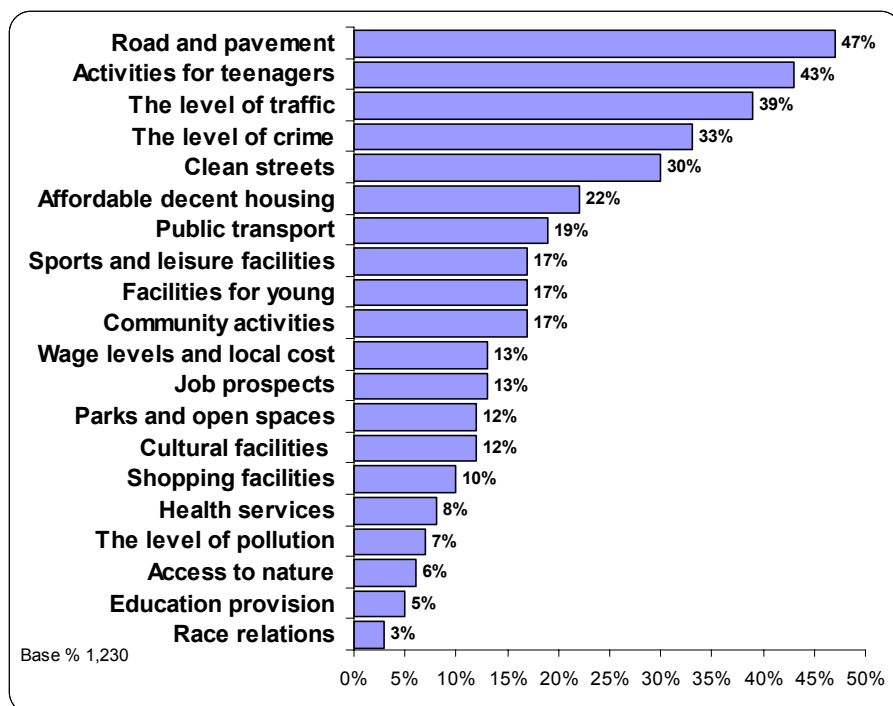
From the Census, Chester APB had the lowest proportion of people travelling to work by car, and from the Communities of Cheshire Survey (Place survey), Chester had the highest proportion of people satisfied with local bus services.

Headline Statistics

- Chester APB had a population of 77,700 in 2007, 24% of the population in CW&C
- The unemployment rate was 3.5% in April 2009 (3.6% in CW&C)
- Chester APB had a third of those aged 20-24 and 3 in 10 of those aged 25-34 in CW&C
- One third of the total number of households in Chester APB were single person households, the highest proportion in CW&C
- 95% of Chester APB workers were employed in the service sector, the highest proportion for any APB
- The recorded crime rate was 102 per 1,000 population, the highest in CW&C
- The under 18 conception rate in Chester APB was 30 per 1,000 females aged 15-17 years
- The top 3 priorities for improvement in Chester APB in 2008 were road and pavement repairs, activities for teenagers, and traffic congestion.

Priorities and Perceptions

Overall Priorities for Improvement



- In the 2008 Place Survey¹, the issue rated as the highest priority for improvement in Chester APB was road and pavement repairs. Almost half of respondents (47%) placed this in their top five priorities
- Another question in the survey asked what made somewhere a good place to live. The top 3 criteria were the level of crime (chosen by 66% of respondents), clean streets (51%), and health services (38%).

Perceptions

- In the 2008 Place Survey¹, 41% of respondents from Chester APB considered that teenagers hanging around on the streets were a 'very big or fairly big problem'. This was the same proportion of respondents as in Cheshire West and Chester
- Noisy neighbours and abandoned or burnt out cars were of less concern – less than 20% of respondents said they were a problem in their local area. These were considered less of a concern in Cheshire West and Chester as well (less than 15% thought they were a problem)
- About a third of people in Chester APB thought litter was a problem, and similar proportions thought drug dealing and drug use, vandalism and graffiti, and people being drunk or rowdy in public places were problems. The proportions were slightly higher than those for Cheshire West and Chester
- Almost a third of people in the Chester APB area agreed that parents took enough responsibility for their children, this was the same as in Cheshire West and Chester
- 89% of respondents said they felt safe outside in daylight, and 50% felt safe after dark, similar to the proportions in Cheshire West and Chester.

¹ Place Survey 2008, Cheshire County Council (also known as Communities of Cheshire Survey 2008)

National Performance Indicators

In 2008, the Department for Communities and Local Government published a set of 198 indicators to measure local authority performance. Listed below are some of the key indicators that form part of the Cheshire West and Chester Local Area Agreement 2008-2011. The table shows the latest available figures and where [proxy definitions](#) have been used to enable comparison across APBs, may vary from other published figures for that indicator. Information for some indicators is not currently available (N/A) at APB level.

Indicator	Description	Date	Cheshire West and Chester	Chester APB
NI 4	% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality.	2008	26.9%	29.4%
NI 8	Adult participation in sport and active recreation. Proxy definition % of adults who used sports/leisure facilities at least once/week.	2008	18.5%	20.8%
NI 18	Adult re-offending rate for those under probation supervision – Percent shows the difference between <i>actual</i> and <i>predicted</i> re-offending rates (Good performance is typified by a negative %).	2007/8	8.70%	N/A
NI 20	Assault with injury crime rate. Proxy definition - Number of 'assaults with less serious injury' offences, per 1,000 population.	08/09	6.3	8.5
NI 21	% agreeing that the police and other local public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues.	2008	26.5%	26.5%
NI 33	Number of deliberate primary and secondary fires per 10,000 population.	2008/9	29	20
NI 47	People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents. Proxy definition - 3 year rolling average as rate per 100 km total roads.	2004-2006	12	11
NI 56	Obesity in primary school age children in Year 6 – % of children in year 6 (with height and weight recorded) who are obese.	2007	17.5%	N/A
NI 111	First time entrants into the Youth Justice System aged 10–17. Rate per 100,000 receiving their first reprimand, final warning, or first time court appearance.	2007/8	1671	1784
NI 112	Under 18 conception rate – Proxy definition : No. of conceptions for girls aged 15-17 as a rate/1,000. 3 yr rolling average	2004-06	36	30
NI 120	All age all cause mortality rate – rate per 100,000 population.	2007/8	Male – 682.25 Female – 512.14	N/A
NI 121	Mortality rate from circulatory diseases at ages under 75 – rate per 100,000 population	2005	73.81	N/A
NI 153	Proxy definition - Working-age people claiming out of work benefits, shown as percentage of total working age population. Average % for area not just worse-performing neighbourhoods.	May 2007- Feb 2008	10.2%	11.5%
NI 154	Net additional homes provided – per annum.	2008/9	719	N/A
NI 155	Number of affordable homes delivered (gross) – per annum.	2008/9	215	N/A
NI 168	Principal roads where maintenance should be considered - % of surveyed road length.	2008/9	3%	4%
NI 169	Non-principal roads where maintenance should be considered - % of surveyed road length.	2008/9	4%	9%
NI 171	New Business registration rate: Proxy definition – Percentage change of businesses registered for VAT shown as an increase or decrease, since 2005.	2007	+5%	+4%

NI8: Used figures from Place Survey as national Active People Survey data not available at APB level

NI 20: Crime figures calculated using CoSTAR. Figures will differ from data supplied by Cheshire Constabulary (which should be available soon at APB level) as CoSTAR excludes crimes without grid references.

NI 47: Measurements for road length (used to calculate the rate per 100km) include principal roads, non-principal roads and unclassified roads, and measure the centre line of each road as opposed to both carriageways, 2008.

NI 111: Rates quoted for APBs areas were re-calculated to match official baseline figure for CW&C. Up to date figures should be available soon.

NI 112: Figures quoted for APBs are **estimated**. These figures have a confidence interval of around +/- 10. Where possible we have aggregated ward data but in some cases ward data was unavailable.

NI 153: Working age benefits include; jobseekers allowance, income support, incapacity benefits and other income related benefits.

Chester APB's People

Size & Distribution

- In 2007, the population of the Chester APB was 77,700², the highest population of all APBs in Cheshire West and Chester Unitary Authority
- This represented nearly one quarter (24%) of the population of Cheshire West and Chester
- Chester APB is divided into 11 Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs) and 52 Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs). These are based on population characteristics rather than administrative boundaries and form basic units for understanding local information
- Chester City has a population of 59,080
- Chester APB also contains the parishes Great Boughton (8,500); Upton-by-Chester (7,880); Huntington (1,910); Bache (280); and Chester Castle which has no resident population.

Density

- The area of Chester APB was about 3,300 hectares. This was just under 4% of the area of Cheshire West and Chester, the smallest APB in Cheshire West and Chester
- The population density in 2007 was 23.66 people per hectare, the highest in the authority. (Cheshire West and Chester had 3.49 people per hectare)
- Chester Station was the MSOA with the highest population density, 52.40 people per hectare.

Rural/Urban Classification

Percentage of population by urban/rural category

	Chester	Cheshire West and Chester
Urban	54%	25%
Predominantly urban	17%	14%
More urban than rural	21%	26%
More rural than urban	7%	23%
Predominantly rural	0%	7%
Rural	0%	4%

Only 4 LSOAs were classified as more rural than urban in 2004³ - two in South of Dee MSOA (L1 and L4) and two in Huntington & Boughton Heath (L3 and L4).

Trends

- The population of Chester APB is expected to increase by about 3% between 2006 and 2016⁴. The population of Cheshire West and Chester is forecast to grow by about 2% over the same period. (These figures are based on ward population forecasts; updated APB based forecasts are due to be available September 2009.)

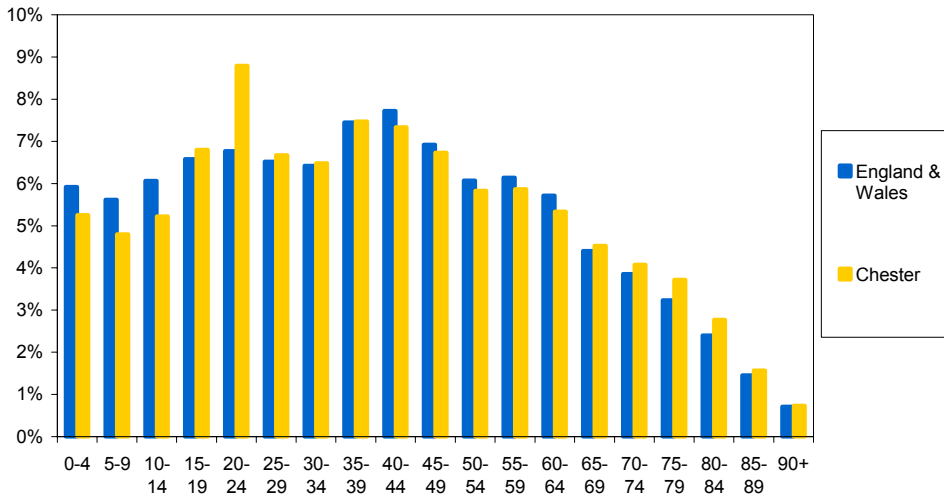
² Cheshire County Council population estimates 2007

³ Cheshire County Council Rural/Urban Classification

⁴ 2008 Cheshire County Council Population Forecasts

Age Distribution

Populations shown as proportions



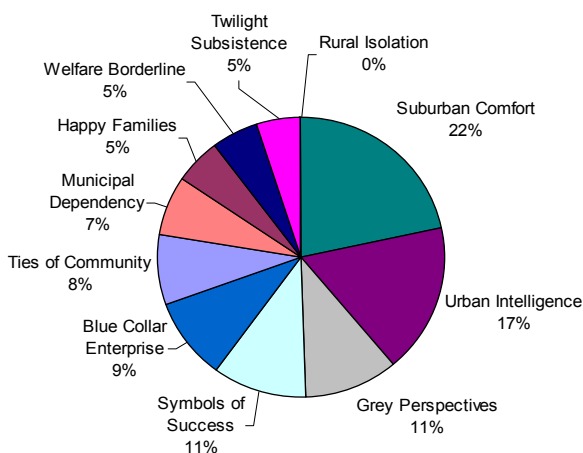
In 2007² Chester APB had:

- A high proportion of 20-24 year olds compared to England & Wales
- The lowest proportion of 5-14 year olds of all APBs
- In fact Chester APB has: over a third of the population of 20-24 year olds; 3 in 10 of the age range 25-29; over a quarter of the 30-34 year olds; and over a quarter of the 75+ age group in Cheshire West and Chester.

Households

- From the Census, in 2001⁵ there were 33,600 households in Chester APB
- 15% of people lived alone. Of those, 48% were pensioners. The MSOA with the highest percentage of people living alone was Chester Station (28%). In Cheshire West and Chester, 11% lived alone and 52% of those people were pensioners
- Single person households formed 33% of the total number of households. This was the highest proportion of all APBs in Cheshire West and Chester (27% of households in the Unitary Authority contained only 1 person)
- 25% of households had dependent children, and lone parents with dependent children made up 7% of all households. North Blacon MSOA had the highest proportion of lone parents with dependent children (15%) in Chester APB and the Unitary Authority. In Cheshire West and Chester, 29% had dependent children and 6% of all households were lone parents with dependent children.

Mosaic Classification



Mosaic is a system of classifying households by consumer behaviour⁶.

- As Chester APB is an urban area, there were no households classed as Rural Isolation – small communities in the countryside, with a generally older population
- The sector with the largest number of households in Chester APB was Suburban Comfort – established families in suburban homes. Chester APB also had the highest proportion of Urban Intelligence

⁵ Census 2001 © Crown Copyright 2005. Crown Copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO

⁶ Mosaic www.experian.co.uk/www/pages/what_we_offer/products/mosaic_uk.html

households – young, well-educated and cosmopolitan. It had the lowest proportion of Happy Families – parents with school-age children living in modern houses.

Ethnic Background and Religion

In 2001⁵, the ethnic composition of Chester APB was as follows.

All People	White British	Other White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese or Other Ethnic Group
76,822	72,371	2,610	532	694	171	444

- 98% of people said they were either White British or Other White (including White Irish), which was similar to Cheshire West and Chester (98%)
- Population estimates for 2006⁷ indicated that the proportion of people of minority ethnic background in Cheshire West and Chester was about 3%. (Estimates were not available at APB level).

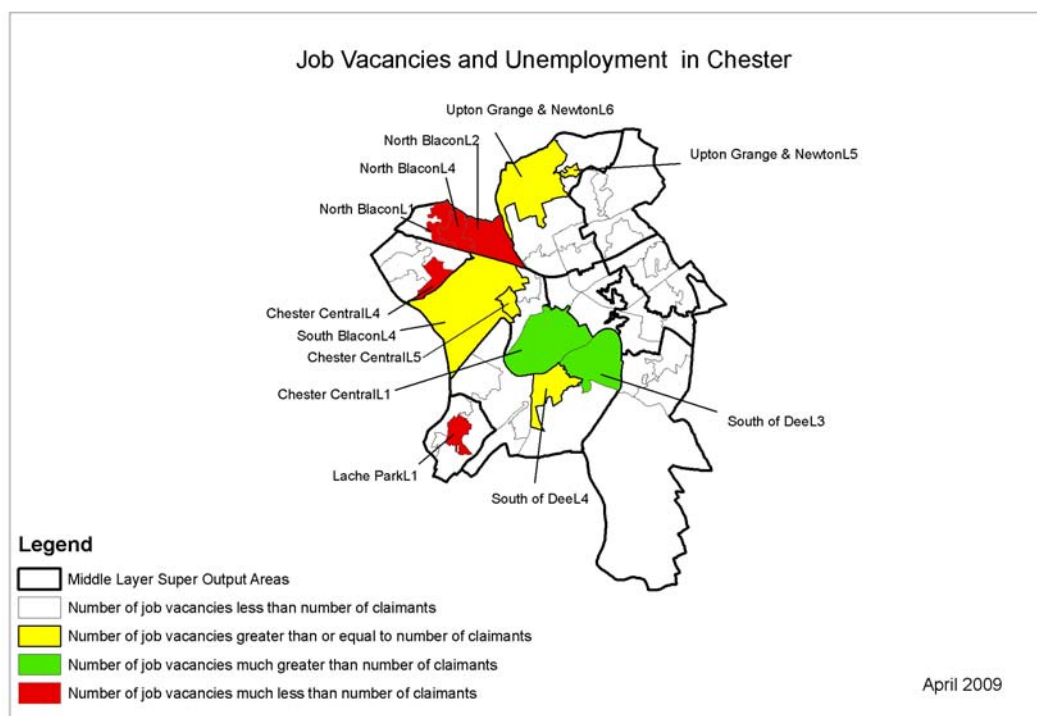
The table below shows the religions of people in Chester APB, in 2001⁵.

All People	Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religion	No religion	Religion not stated
76,821	58,403	172	176	89	544	49	154	10,918	6,316

- 76% identified themselves as Christian, which was the lowest proportion of all APBs in Cheshire West and Chester.

Jobs & Enterprise

Employment and Unemployment⁸

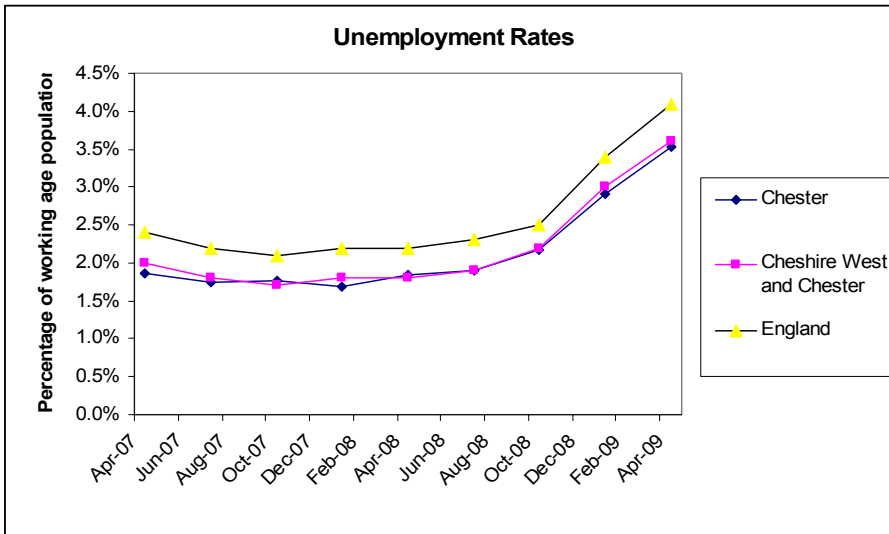


5 LSOAs in Chester APB had over 50 Jobseekers Allowance claimants for no more than 1 job vacancy in April 2009. 2 LSOAs had more than 4 times as many vacancies as Jobseekers Allowance claimants.

⁷ Office for National Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

⁸ NOMIS – Official Labour Market Statistics

- Claimant count unemployment rates in Chester APB were similar to the rates for Cheshire West and Chester, but lower than the rates for England.



At April 2009:

- The unemployment rate in Chester APB was 3.5%, similar to the rate in Cheshire West and Chester (3.6%)
- 5% of unemployed people had been out of work for over a year (the same as for Cheshire West and Chester)
- 29% of unemployed people were under 25 years old (31% for Cheshire West and Chester)
- 15% of unemployed people were aged 50+ (16% for Cheshire West and Chester)

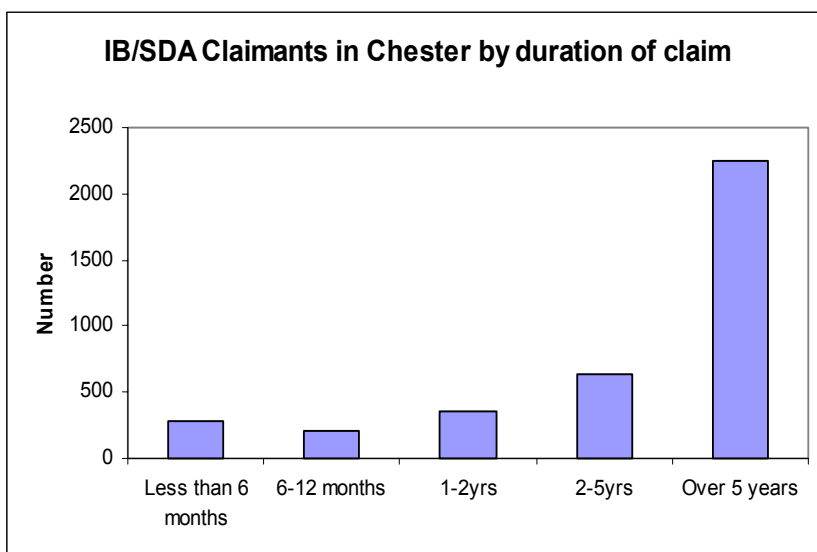
- The MSOA in Chester APB with the highest unemployment rate was South Blacon (6.0%). The highest unemployment rate of all MSOAs in Cheshire West and Chester was 9.0% in Westminster & Central, Ellesmere Port APB.

Socio-economic Classification

From the 2001 Census⁵, in Chester APB

- 31% of the population had Managerial and Professional roles (slightly higher than the proportion for Cheshire West and Chester), 30% had never worked, were long term unemployed or were otherwise unclassified, 15% had intermediate, supervisory or technical roles, and 19% were in semi-routine and routine jobs (about the same as the proportion for the Unitary Authority). 5% were self-employed or worked on their own account.

Benefit Claimants⁹



- About 8% of the working age population of Chester APB were claiming Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) in November 2008 and 50% of claims were for mental health conditions. Cheshire West and Chester had 7% claiming, and 41% of claims were for mental health conditions
- South Blacon L5 had the highest proportion of claimants in Chester and Cheshire West and Chester (30%). Lache Park L1 was second in the Unitary Authority, with 23% claiming. Four out of the top 5 LSOAs for the proportion of claims for mental health conditions were in Chester APB.

⁹ Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) © Crown Copyright

Note that Incapacity Benefit was replaced by Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) for new applicants from October 2008.

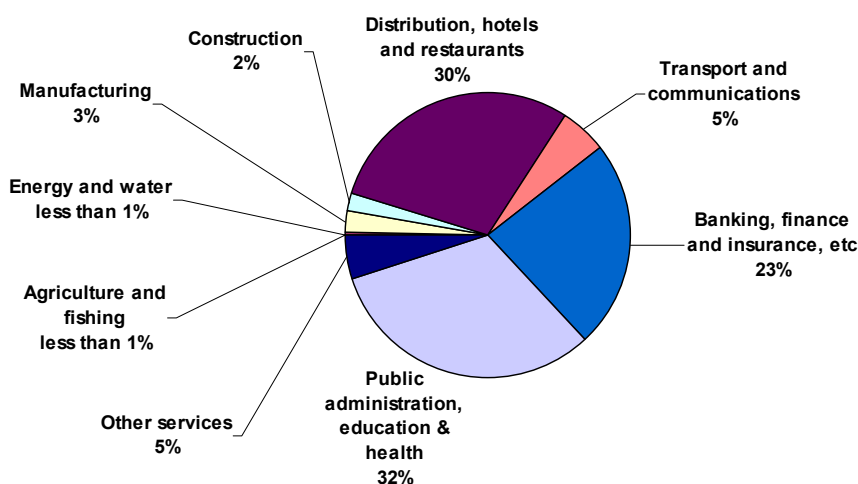
- In Chester APB in 2007, 14% of the working age population were claiming at least one of the following benefits:- Jobseekers' Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance, Income Support, Carers' Allowance, Widows' Benefit, Bereavement Benefit and Pension Credit. This was about the same as the percentage of the Cheshire West and Chester working age population claiming any of these benefits (13%)
- South Blacon L5 LSOA had the highest proportion of benefit claimants (45%), and this was also the highest in Cheshire West and Chester
- Chester Central L2 had the lowest proportion of claimants (4%) in Chester APB. Hartford and Kingsmead L4 (Northwich and Rural North APB) had the lowest in Cheshire West and Chester (3%).

Economics

- The number of business enterprises registered for VAT⁷ in Chester APB rose by 4% between 2005 and 2007. In Cheshire West and Chester, the number increased by 5% over the same period
- In 2008 average household income¹⁰ in Chester was £34,300, which was 4% below that for Cheshire West and Chester, and about the same as the GB average
- The MSOA with the lowest average income was North Blacon (£25,900). The lowest average income in Cheshire West and Chester was in Westminster and Central, Ellesmere Port APB (£25,100)
- The MSOA with the highest average income was Huntington & Boughton Heath (£41,500). The highest average income in Cheshire West and Chester was in Hartford & Kingsmead MSOA in Northwich and Rural North APB (£50,200)
- In 2007⁷, the number of people aged 15-24 increased considerably in the MSOAs Chester Station (147 per 1000 population in that age group) and Chester Central (65 per 1000) because of migration (change of postcode between MSOAs). Huntington & Boughton Heath saw a decrease of 76 per 1000 in the same age group, and in the 25-44 age group there was a decrease of 66 per 1000 in Chester Central. Note that this is a snapshot and does not indicate trends, although in 2005 the migration pattern for Chester APB was similar.

Industry by Sector 2007⁸

Annual Business enquiry: Employee analysis. Percentages reflect number of jobs held by employees, within each APB.



- 95% of workers in Chester APB worked in the Service sector (Banking, Distribution, Public Administration, Other services and Transport), compared to 83% working in Cheshire West and Chester
- Over a third (36%) of the Service sector employees in Cheshire West and Chester, worked within Chester APB

- 42% of public administration, education & health industry employees working in Chester West and Chester, worked within Chester APB
- The source used for Industry by Sector data (Annual Business Inquiry) does not include self-employed workers; therefore the figures for agricultural employment are lower than the actual figure.

¹⁰ CACI PayCheck 2008.

Qualifications

From the 2001 Census⁵, in Chester APB:

- 27% of 16-74 year olds were qualified to degree level or above, compared with 22% in Cheshire West and Chester and 20% in England & Wales
- 25% had no qualifications at all (27% in Cheshire West and Chester and 29% in England & Wales)
- South of Dee MSOA had the highest proportion of people aged 16-74 with degree level qualifications or above (40%) in Chester APB and the Unitary Authority
- North Blacon MSOA had the highest proportion of people aged 16-74 with no qualifications (40%) in Chester APB, but Wolverham and Stanlow in Ellesmere Port APB had the highest proportion in Cheshire West and Chester (44%).

Children & Young People

Schools and Pupils

- In Chester APB (January 2009) there were 21 primary schools, 5 secondary schools and 2 special schools¹¹
- Approximately 4,500 children of primary school age, 6,100 pupils of secondary school age, and 1,600 nursery-school age children lived in Chester APB in 2007².

Early Years¹²

The percentage of children in Chester APB in their Reception year at school (the year when they reach 5 years of age) who achieved expected outcomes was 61%. Rural West APB had the highest proportion (67%).

Results¹³

The percentages of pupils achieving the expected level in Key Stage 2 and 3 examinations in 2006-7 are shown in the table below. Note that Key Stage 3 examinations were discontinued after 2007-8.

KS2	English	Mathematics	Science	KS3	English	Mathematics	Science
Chester APB	80	75	85	Chester APB	73	73	72
CW&C	82	79	88	CW&C	77	78	76
England	80	77	88	England	74	76	73

- At Key Stage 2, the MSOAs with the lowest percentages of pupils achieving the expected level were
 - ↓ South Blacon for English (65%) and Science (79%). Lache Park also had 79% for Science. North Blacon (60%) was lowest for Mathematics.
 - ↓ West Winsford for English (60%) and Mathematics (59%), and South Winsford for Science (73%) in Cheshire West and Chester (CW&C).
- The highest percentages were seen in
 - ↑ Huntington & Boughton Heath for Mathematics (90%). This MSOA was also highest in Cheshire West and Chester for English (94%). Boughton Hall & Hoole Park was highest for Science (93%).
 - ↑ Winsford's Cuddington, Oakmere & Whitegate for Mathematics (93%) and Helsby, Forest & Kingsley (Northwich) for Science (97%) in Cheshire West and Chester.
- At Key Stage 3, the MSOAs with the lowest percentages of pupils achieving the expected level were
 - ↓ South Blacon for English (52%), Mathematics (56%) and Science (53%)
 - ↓ Ellesmere Port APB's Westminster and Central for English (50%) and Mathematics (54%), and Wolverham and Stanlow for Science (51%) in Cheshire West and Chester.

¹¹ Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) School Census

¹² Children & Young People's Services, Cheshire County Council.

¹³ DCSF

- The highest percentages were seen in
 - ↑ Upton, Grange & Newton for English (91%), Mathematics (87%) and Science (90%).
 - ↑ Northwich & Rural North's Hartford & Kingsmead for English (97%) and Science (97%), and Cuddington, Oakmere & Whitegate (95%) for Mathematics in Cheshire West and Chester.

The table below shows a comparison of results at GCSE and A-level, or equivalents, in 2006-7.

	GCSE 5+ Grades A* to C	A-level Average Points
Chester APB	55%	691
CW&C	62%	748
England	60%	712

Points obtained depended on the type of qualification and the grade achieved. For example, an A at A-Level contributed 120 points, and an A-Level with additional AS at grade AA contributed 180 points.

- The MSOA in Chester APB with the lowest percentage of students achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* to C was North Blacon (35%). Huntington & Boughton Heath had the highest proportion (76%). The highest in Cheshire West and Chester was in Willaston & Burton, Rural West (89%) and the lowest was in Rivacre Brook, Ellesmere Port APB (34%)
- The MSOA with the highest average A-level points per pupil was Huntington & Boughton Heath (731). The lowest average was in South Blacon (559). In Cheshire West and Chester, the highest average was in Winsford's Mara, Tarporley and Oulton (895), and the lowest was in Wolverham and Stanlow, Ellesmere Port APB (541).

Children in Need

- According to the Child Wellbeing Index 2009¹⁴, in Chester APB, 13 LSOAs were in the lowest 20% of LSOAs nationally for the Children In Need indicator, having high proportions of children supported by social services. Ellesmere Port APB had 16 LSOAs in the bottom 20%.

Teenage Pregnancy

- From 2004 to 2006, there were 144 conceptions⁷ to females aged under 18 years old in Chester APB (estimated figures adjusted to allow for undisclosed data due to confidentiality)
- The under 18 conception rate in Chester APB was 30 per 1,000 females aged 15-17 years. The highest rate in Cheshire West & Chester was 42 in Winsford and Rural East.

Births

- In 2007⁷, the crude birth rate (number of births per 1,000 resident population) was 12. Cheshire West and Chester had a crude birth rate of 11, and the rate for England & Wales was 13.

Safer & Stronger Communities

Crime & Disorder

- From April 2008 to March 2009, there were 102 recorded crime incidents per 1,000 population¹⁵, compared to 71 per 1,000 population in Cheshire West and Chester. This was the highest rate of all APBs. Crimes counted include violence, theft, drug related offences, fraud and criminal damage
- In the same period, the rate of violent crime (including the offences violence against the person, robbery and sexual offences) was 20 per 1,000 population. In Cheshire West and Chester, the rate was 14 per 1,000
- In 2008¹⁶, there were 35 deliberate primary fires (including buildings and vehicles) and 119 deliberate secondary fires (including refuse, vegetation and derelict buildings) in Chester APB. In Cheshire West and Chester, there were 253 primary and 704 secondary fires.

¹⁴ Child Wellbeing Index 2009 © Crown Copyright

¹⁵ Management Information Unit, Cheshire Constabulary. APB level data produced by CoSTAR. This uses grid references. Crimes with no grid reference are not included. Figures may not match those produced separately by Cheshire Constabulary

Road Safety

- In 2006¹⁷, the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in Chester APB was 28.

Community Involvement

The Place Survey 2008¹ found that:

- Around a third of people surveyed in Chester APB (29%) agreed that they could influence decisions affecting their local area. This was about the same as the proportion for Cheshire West and Chester (27%)
- Just over a quarter of people in Chester APB (27%) thought lack of respect for other people was a problem in their area, which was similar to the proportion in Cheshire West and Chester (30%)
- 22% of people surveyed in Chester APB said they participated in regular volunteering. This was similar to the proportion for Cheshire West and Chester (24%).

Liveability in Chester

- From the Place Survey¹, 86% of people surveyed said they were satisfied with where they lived (83% in Cheshire West and Chester). 28% were very satisfied. Rural West APB had the highest proportion of satisfied people in Cheshire West and Chester (91%).

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)¹⁸ is well established as a key source of evidence of deprivation at small area level across England. The 2007 update was undertaken by Oxford University on behalf of Communities and Local Government. The 2007 IMD was constructed at the lower layer super output area (LSOA) level.

The IMD acknowledges that disadvantage is not just a matter of poverty. The index consists of 7 domains; Income, Employment, Health Deprivation & Disability, Education Skills and Training, Barriers to Housing and Services, Crime and Living Environment.

- The most deprived LSOA in Chester APB was Lache Park L1, which was also the most deprived LSOA in Cheshire West and Chester, with a national rank of 363 (out of 32,482 LSOAs). 9 LSOAs in Chester were in the top 20% most multiply deprived nationally
- Lache Park L1 ranked highest for deprivation in Chester APB and the Unitary Authority for Income and Health Deprivation and Disability. It was 3rd in Cheshire West and Chester for Education, Skills and Training
- South Blacon L5 ranked highest for deprivation in Chester APB and the Unitary Authority for Employment and was 2nd in Cheshire West and Chester for Living Environment
- North Blacon L2 was highest for deprivation in Chester APB for Crime (12th in Cheshire West and Chester) and for Barriers to Housing and Services (31st in Cheshire West and Chester).

Adult Health and Wellbeing

Limiting Long Term Illness

Limiting long-term illness (LLTI) is a self assessment of whether or not a person has 'any long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits work or daily activities', based on a question asked in the 2001 Census.

- In 2001⁵, 19% of people in Chester APB reported having a limiting long-term illness or disability. This was about the same as for Cheshire West and Chester, and England & Wales (18%)

¹⁶ Cheshire Fire Authority

¹⁷ Road Casualties Cheshire, Annual Report 2006, Cheshire County Council

¹⁸ Indices of Deprivation 2007, Department for Communities and Local Government

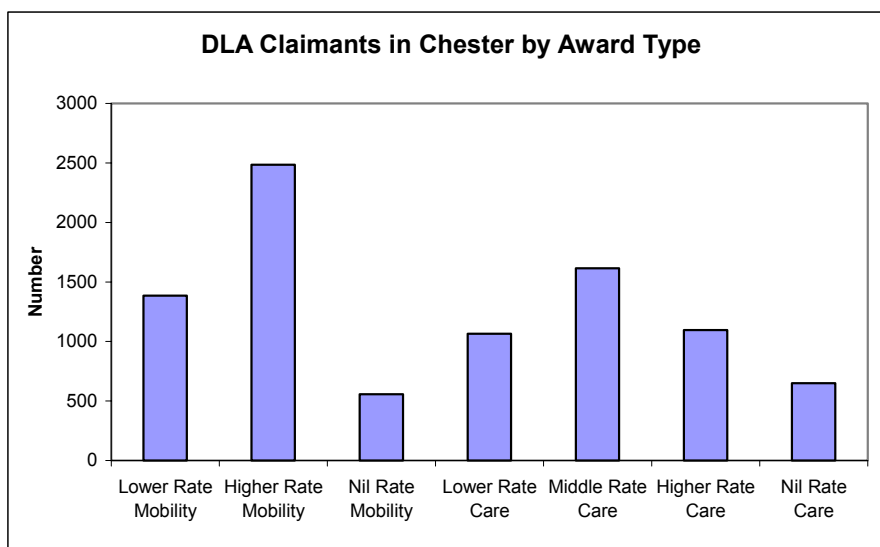
- The LSOA with the highest percentage of people with LLTI was South Blacon L5 (28%). In Cheshire West and Chester the highest percentage was in Westminster and Central L4 (31%) in Ellesmere Port APB
- In the Place Survey¹, 19% of respondents in Chester APB reported that they had a limiting long term illness or disability.

Mental Health and Well Being

- According to a 2007 survey¹⁹, 16% of adults in Great Britain are considered to have anxiety- or depression-related mental illness. This would represent around 12,000 people in Chester APB. Including other conditions, such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and eating disorders, 23% of adults in Great Britain experience mental health issues, which would represent about 18,000 people in Chester APB
- Within Chester APB, the LSOA with the greatest evidence of mental health issues, according to the 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation Mental Health Indicator¹⁸, was South Blacon L5. This was also the highest ranking LSOA in Cheshire West and Chester
- The MSOA in Chester APB with the highest hospitalised prevalence ratio (1999-2003) for mental health conditions²⁰ (a measure of people who have been admitted to hospital electively or as an emergency) was Chester Station with a ratio of 253.4, which was also highest in Cheshire West and Chester
- South Blacon MSOA had the highest hospitalised incidence ratio (113.9) in Chester APB for self-harm (a measure of people admitted to hospital as an emergency). Neston and Parkgate MSOA had the highest ratio in Cheshire West and Chester (136.5).

Disability Living Allowance (DLA)⁹

This is for people who are disabled and need help with personal care, getting around or both. The Care Component is divided into 3 rates: Lower, Middle and Higher, and the Mobility Component is divided into Lower and Higher rates.



- At November 2008, 6% of the population of Chester APB were claiming DLA, compared to 5% of the population of Cheshire West and Chester
- The LSOA with the highest proportion of claimants was South Blacon L5 (15%), which was also the highest in Cheshire West and Chester

¹⁹ Psychiatric Morbidity Among Adults Living in Private Households in Great Britain, ONS 2007

²⁰ North West Public Health Observatory: <http://www.nwpho.org.uk>

- The lowest proportion of claimants was 1% in Chester Central L2, which was marginally higher than the lowest in Cheshire West and Chester, in Hartford and Kingsmead L4, Northwich and Rural North APB.

Health Issues

- Model-based estimates²⁰ for the proportions of people who smoke were produced, based on survey data from 2003 to 2005. In Chester APB, North Blacon MSOA had the highest proportion (37%). Westminster and Central MSOA, Ellesmere Port APB (39%) had the highest estimate in Cheshire West and Chester
- The estimates for the percentage of binge drinkers (people who consumed more than 8 units in a day at least once in a week for a man, 6 units for a woman) indicated that Chester Central MSOA had the highest proportion (39%), which was the highest in Cheshire West and Chester
- Estimates for the percentage of obese people (with Body Mass Index 30 or more) indicated that South Blacon had the highest proportion (30%). This was marginally lower than the percentage for Wolverham and Stanlow in Ellesmere Port APB, which was highest in Cheshire West and Chester
- Chester Station MSOA had the highest hospitalised prevalence ratio²⁰ in Chester APB and the Unitary Authority for alcohol specific conditions (206.6). Four out of the top 5 ratios in the Unitary Authority were in Chester APB
- From the 2001 Census⁵, 9% of people in Chester APB reported being not in good health, which was the same as the percentage in Cheshire West and Chester (9%). The MSOA with the highest percentage was South Blacon (13%). Wolverham and Stanlow MSOA in Ellesmere Port had the highest percentage in Cheshire West and Chester (14%). Huntington & Boughton Heath had the lowest proportion of people not in good health (7%) in Chester APB, and Hartford and Kingsmead in Northwich and Rural North had the lowest percentage in the Unitary Authority (5%)
- In the Place Survey¹, 5% reported being not in good health, which was the same proportion as in Cheshire West and Chester.

Some data is not available at LSOA or MSOA level, but can be provided for former district wards.

- The ward in Chester APB with the lowest estimated life expectancy⁷ was Hoole All Saints (73 years), which was marginally higher than the lowest in Cheshire West and Chester, in Winsford Dene ward. The highest estimated life expectancy was in Boughton Heath (82 years). Dodleston in Rural West had the highest in Cheshire West and Chester (86 years)
- Healthy life expectancy was estimated based on answers to the question about general health in the 2001 census. Blacon Lodge Ward had the lowest estimate in Chester APB (65 years) but Westminster ward in Ellesmere Port APB had the lowest in Cheshire West and Chester (63 years). Curzon & Westminster had the highest estimate in Chester (75 years) and Dodleston ward in Rural West APB had the highest healthy life expectancy in Cheshire West and Chester (80 years)
- Standardised Mortality Ratios (SMRs)⁷ compare the actual number of deaths to the number that would occur per 100,000 population if the population had the same age-specific death rate of England & Wales. An SMR of 100 reflects the same crude death rate as England & Wales. Hoole All Saints Ward had the highest ratio (163). Curzon & Westminster Ward had the lowest SMR (71) in Chester APB, and its age-specific death rate was significantly lower than the National rate. About 54% of the population of Chester APB lived in areas with SMRs less than 100, meaning age specific death rates were better than for England & Wales.

In 2007, the crude death rate⁷ (number of deaths per 1,000 resident population) was 10. Cheshire West and Chester had a crude death rate of 10, and the rate for England & Wales was 9.

Environmental Sustainability

Access To Services²¹

Percentage of all households within 2 kilometres (1¼ miles) of a service

	Chester	Cheshire West and Chester
Job centres	62%	47%
Banks and building societies	92%	67%
Public houses	95%	97%
Secondary schools	96%	72%
Supermarkets	98%	84%
GP surgeries (all sites)	100%	83%
Post offices	100%	96%
Primary schools	100%	98%

Greenspace

- 70% of land in Chester APB was either greenspace or domestic gardens in 2005⁷. Ellesmere Port APB had the lowest proportion (62%) in Cheshire West and Chester, and Rural West APB had the highest proportion (94%).

Recycling and Waste

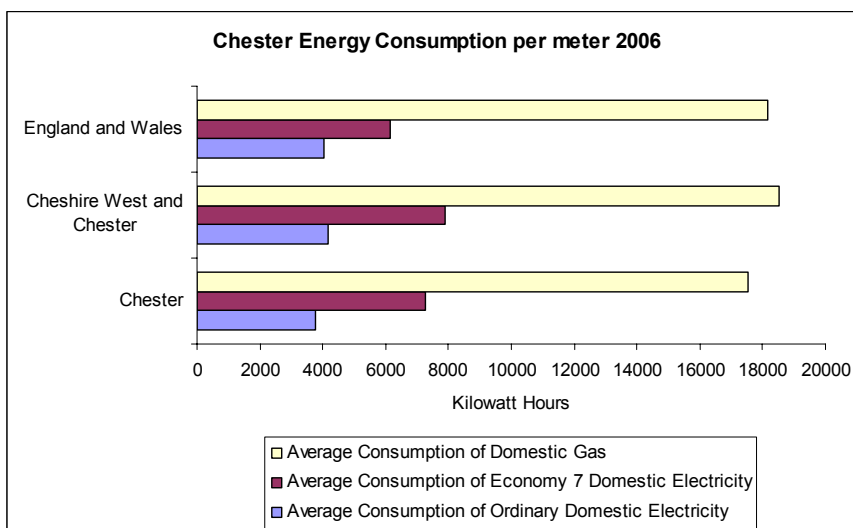
From the Place Survey¹

- 71% of Chester APB respondents were satisfied with local tips/household recycling sites, which was the lowest proportion of all APBs in Cheshire West and Chester. 5% were very dissatisfied (the highest proportion of all APBs).
- 75% of people surveyed were satisfied with doorstep recycling services, which was the same as in Cheshire West and Chester. However, 6% were very dissatisfied (the highest proportion of all APBs).

Fuel Poverty

- A household is in fuel poverty if more than 10% of the household income is spent on maintaining a satisfactory heating regime. 6% of households in Chester APB were considered to be in fuel poverty in 2007¹⁸, which was the same as for Cheshire West and Chester. The LSOA with the highest proportion was Chester Central L2 (7.5%) and the lowest proportion was in Huntington & Boughton Heath L3 (5.1%).

Energy Consumption

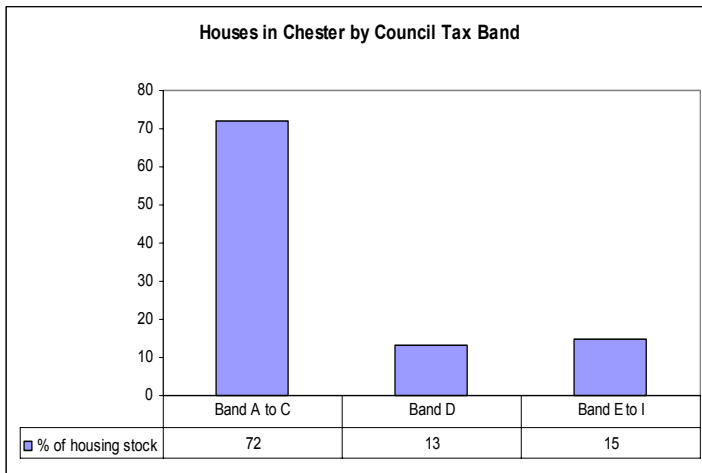


- In 2006²² Chester APB had lower average consumption for domestic electricity and gas than Cheshire West and Chester but higher consumption of Economy 7 domestic electricity than England & Wales, using 19% more. Economy 7 is dual tariff, with cheaper rates for 7 hours during off-peak periods
- It had the lowest average consumption of ordinary domestic electricity of all the APBs
- Chester APB used gas for 80% of its domestic energy supply (compared to 78% in England & Wales).

²¹ Commission for Rural Communities <http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/projects/ruralservicesseriesdata/overview>

²² Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR)

Housing



- The largest proportion of housing in Chester APB was in Council Tax bands A to C (below the average band D) in 2007²³. Only Ellesmere Port APB had a higher proportion out of the other APBs
- The LSOA with the greatest proportion of houses in bands A to C was South Blacon L2 (100%)
- The LSOA with the greatest proportion of houses in bands E to I was South of Dee L1 (83%)

- According to the 2001 census⁵, 40% of people in Chester APB lived in semi-detached houses (39% for Cheshire West and Chester) and 11% lived in a flat, maisonette or apartment (compared to 6% for Cheshire West and Chester)
- 69% of households in Chester APB were owned, compared to 75% for Cheshire West and Chester. 18% of households were social rented, which was about the same as the rate for Cheshire West and Chester (17%)
- The MSOA with the highest percentage of social rented housing in Chester APB was North Blacon (42%). In Cheshire West and Chester, the highest percentage was in Wolverham and Stanlow MSOA, Ellesmere Port APB (54%).

In 2006, the average property price²⁴ for Chester APB was £186,616, based on 2110 house sales. In the Unitary Authority, there were 7,079 sales, at an average price of £188,089. The average price for transactions in England & Wales was £166,402.

Car Availability

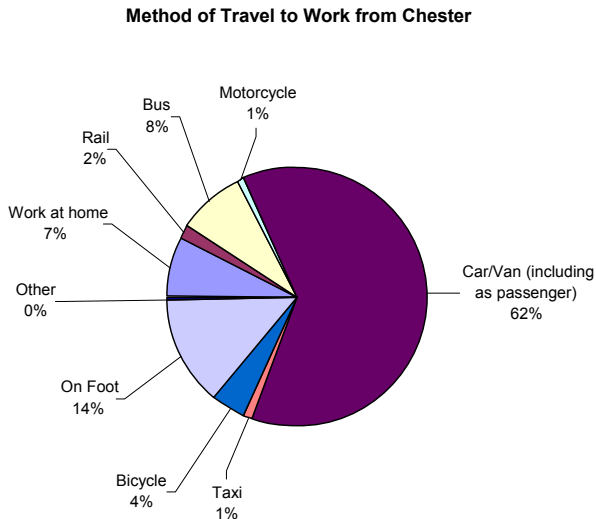
- At the time of the 2001 Census⁵, 72% of households in Chester APB owned at least one car or van, which was the lowest proportion of all APBs in the Unitary Authority. 26% of households owned 2 or more. In Cheshire West and Chester, 80% of households had at least one car or van and 37% had 2 or more.
- Chester Station MSOA had the highest percentage of households with no car or van (42%), which was also the highest percentage in Cheshire West and Chester
- Highest car/van ownership in Chester APB was in Huntington & Boughton Heath, where 84% of households owned at least one. 94% of households in Hartford and Kingsmead MSOA, Northwich and Rural North, had at least one car or van.
- In 2007, about 215,000 vehicles were registered in Chester²⁵. This figure included 170,000 company cars registered to City & St Anne's Ward. Including these cars, just 4% of all vehicles in Chester APB were 10 years old or more.

²³ Department for Communities and Local Government, and Valuation Office Agency

²⁴ HM Land Registry © Crown Copyright

²⁵ Department for Transport

Travel to Work



- From the Census⁵ the car was the most popular means of travel to work by Chester APB residents (62% drivers or passengers, compared with 71% for Cheshire West and Chester and 61% for England & Wales)
- 14% travelled to work on foot, compared with 9% for Cheshire West and Chester and 10% for England & Wales. 8% used a bus (in Cheshire West and Chester, 4% travelled by bus, and 7% in England & Wales)
- 7% of people worked from home, compared with 9% for both Cheshire West and Chester and England & Wales

- People in South of Dee MSOA had the highest average distance travelled to work⁵ in Chester APB (19km/12miles). Malpas, Farndon and Tilston residents had the highest average in Cheshire West and Chester (22km/14miles). The lowest average distance travelled in Chester APB was from North Blacon (11km/7miles). The lowest in Cheshire West and Chester was from Whitby West MSOA in Ellesmere Port APB (9km/5½miles). The average distance travelled to work in England & Wales was 13km/8miles.

Attitudes to Transport

- From the Place Survey¹, 62% of Chester APB respondents were satisfied with local bus services. This was the highest proportion of all APBs in Cheshire West and Chester. Chester APB also had the lowest proportion of people saying they were very dissatisfied (7%).

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