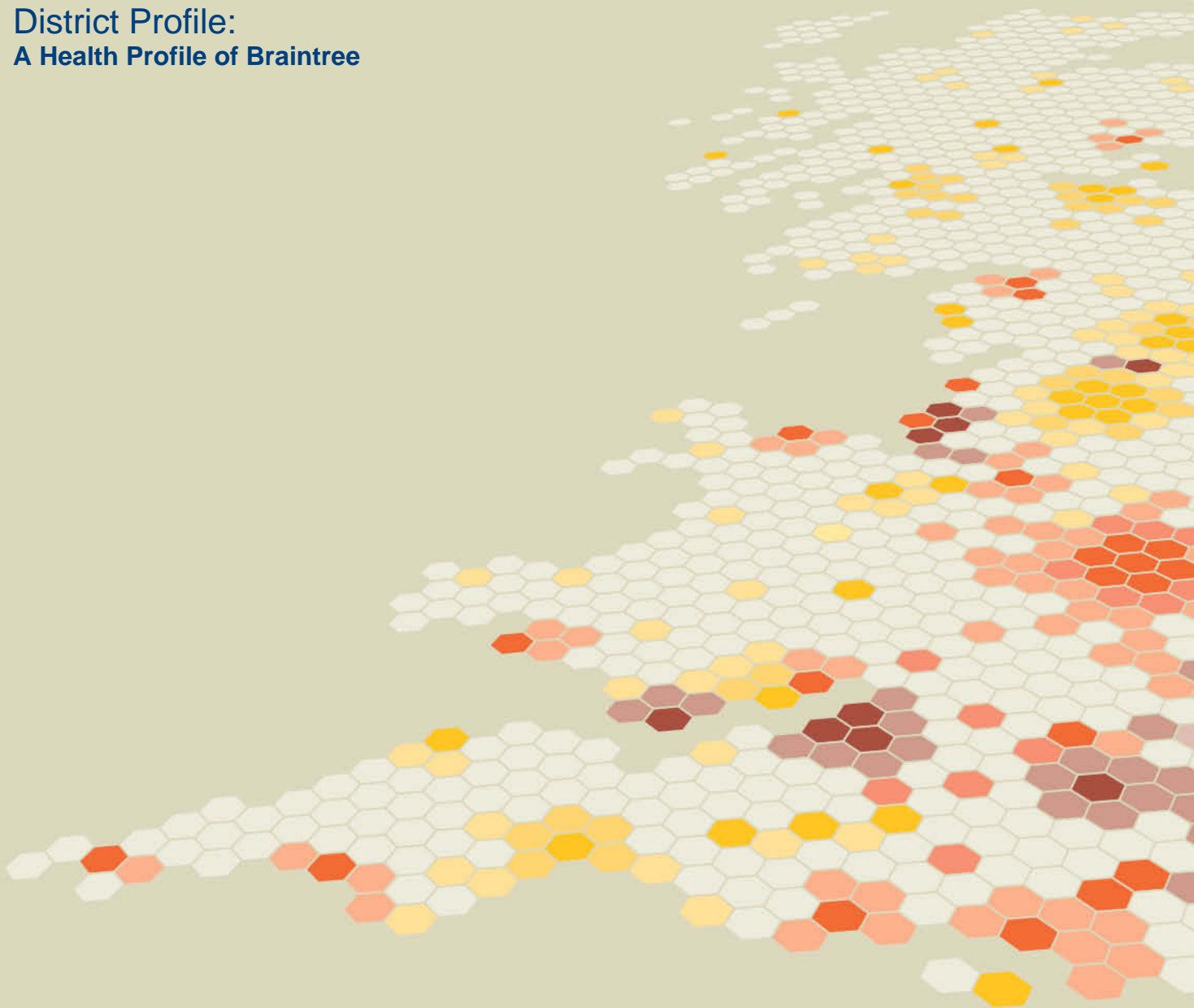


April 2009

District Profile: A Health Profile of Braintree



About Place Profiles

Place Profiles are a series of reports available from the Local Futures Group that provide an assessment of local conditions. Using the latest data at the time of creation, they are available for a range of economic, social and environmental themes at sub-region through to neighbourhood level. The reports present a range of graphical outputs, together with a summary analysis of performance that is set within a regional and national context.

More information about the profiles and how to purchase further copies is available at the end of this report.

About the Local Futures Group

The Local Futures Group comprises a team of researchers and consultants with academic, corporate and policy backgrounds. We provide a geographical perspective on economic, social and environmental change. We introduce this perspective into public policy and corporate strategies, both in the UK and internationally. Our services include:

- **Benchmarking:** a family of benchmarking services that ensure future strategies are underpinned by a clear and shared understanding of current conditions. These provide a comprehensive analysis set within a regional and national context.
- **Strategy:** research and support services to identify future drivers of change and develop long-term strategies.
- **Monitoring:** online services to monitor change and assess the impact of strategies.

These services are underpinned by our subscription service **Local Knowledge:**

Local Knowledge is regarded as a powerful web-based service for local strategies and marketing. Incorporating the latest thinking on competitiveness and sustainable development, it provides researchers and policy-makers with access to an unrivalled decision support tool that is interactive and easy to use.

To find out more about our services or to arrange a free trial of Local Knowledge please give us a call on 020 7440 7360 or email info@localfutures.com

Health Profile: Braintree

Introduction

Nationally, there have been major improvements in public health over the course of the last century, with big increases in life expectancy. However, this overall picture masks significant geographical variations and health inequality. Life expectancy is one of two national targets in the Public Service Agreements framework, the other is infant mortality. Our health profile assesses Braintree according to a number of health indicators, including life expectancy, expected prevalence of smoking and obesity, infant mortality and standardised mortality ratios.

Braintree is ranked 133 out of 374 districts on our health score, indicating standards of health that are in the top 40% of districts nationally. Our health score indexes life expectancy at birth to the national average.

With a health score of 102.68, Braintree is above the national median. This is shown in the map, where areas with very dark shadings score highly and those with very light shadings score poorly. However, the nature of the small range between the highest and lowest health scores means that small actual differences will have a major impact on the position relative to the national median.

Average life expectancy in Braintree was 80.74 years in 2006. By comparison, the Essex figure was 80.47 years, the East of England figure was 80.34 years and the national figure was 78.63 years.

A glossary of the terms and definitions used in this profile are included at the end of the report.

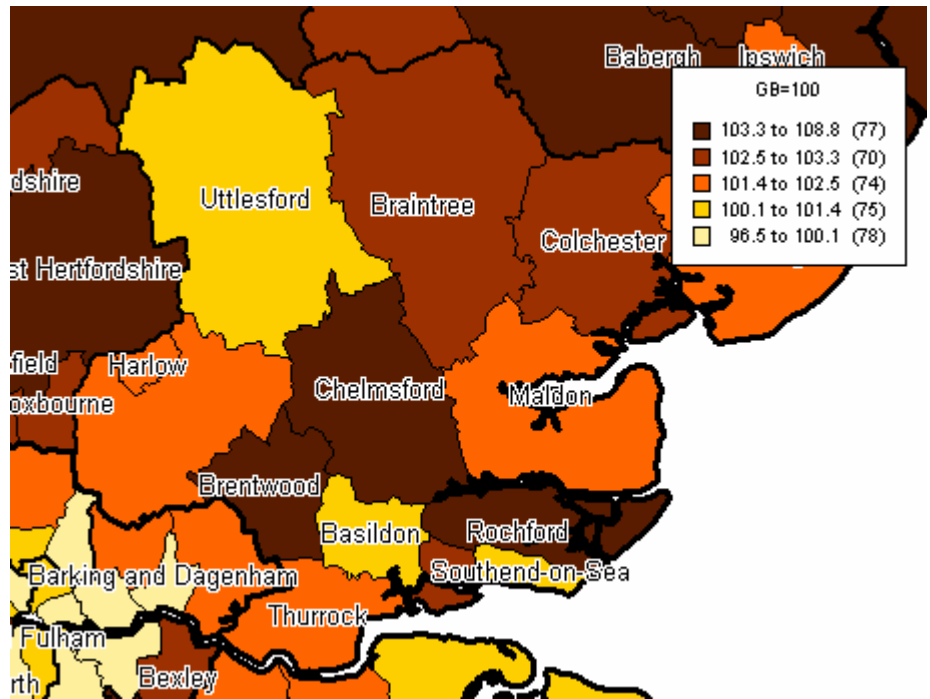
Health Profile

Braintree
April 2009

Health Score

The map shows the performance of districts within Essex on our health score (life expectancy indexed to the national average). The areas with very dark shading score highly and those with very light shading score poorly.

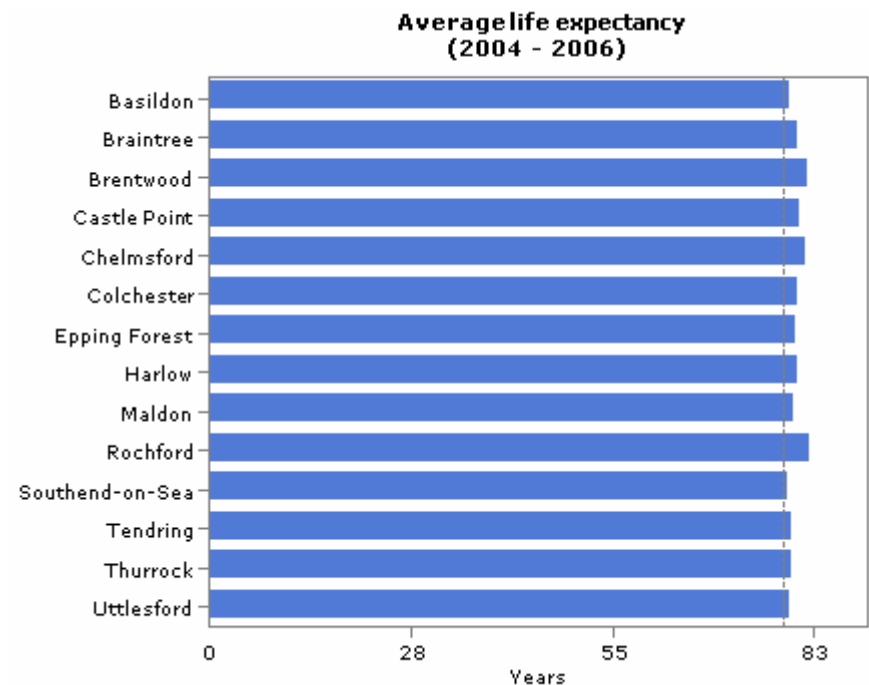
With a score of 102.68, Braintree is in the top 40% of districts and is in a sub region that is in the top 40% of sub regions nationally.



Average Life Expectancy

The bar chart shows the average life expectancy of the resident population in 2006, for districts in Essex.

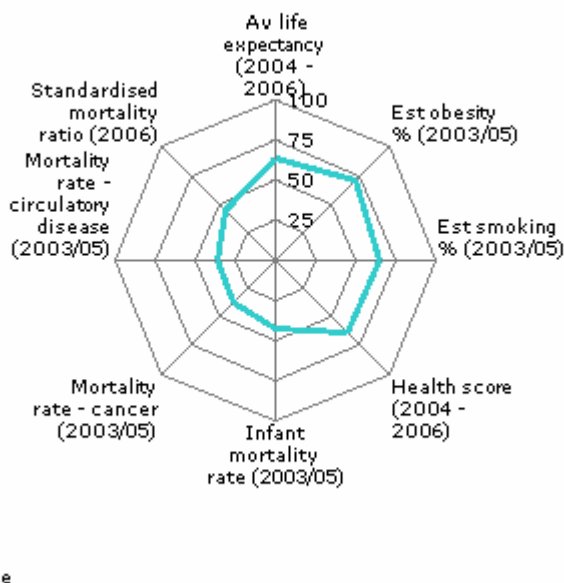
The chart shows that at 80.74 years, average life expectancy in Braintree is above the national median. All figures are also benchmarked to the England and Wales mean average of 78.63 years, as shown by the dashed line.



Health Indicators

The spider chart is a way of showing how Braintree rates against the national median. Data for every district in Great Britain is converted into a percentile score, with the top ranking area scoring 100 and the bottom zero. The national median is shown by the 50th percentile. However, where there is a very small range for any indicator, small actual differences will have a major impact on the position relative to the national median.

The chart shows that Braintree performs relatively well by national standards on our overall health score. The chart also shows how Braintree performs on a range of related health measures.



Source: Life expectancy at birth (years) and rank order for Great Britain

Health Indicators

Areas	Infant mortality rate (per 000) 2003/05	Standardised mortality ratio (GB=100) 2006	Mortality rate - cancer (10000 pop) 2003/05	Mortality rate - circulatory disease (10000 pop) 2003/05	Est obesity % (%) 2003/05	Est smoking % (%) 2003/05	Av life expectancy (Years) 2004 - 2006	Health score (GB=100) 2004 - 2006	Rank
Rochford	2.60	85	111.80	120.30	24.40	21.60	82.18	104.51	13/374
Brentwood	5.10	86	95.40		20.40	17.80	81.92	104.19	26/374
Chelmsford	3.30	81	106.80	88	22.70	21.30	81.83	104.07	32/374
Castle Point	5.60	93	116.90		26.40	24.60	81.04	103.07	99/374
Braintree	4.40	96	110.60	87	25.70	24.80	80.74	102.68	133/374
Colchester	4.60	94	102.10	82.80	25.10	23.10	80.63	102.55	145/374
Harlow	6	91	119.90	80.40	26.80	27.50	80.59	102.50	148/374
Epping Forest	4	98	110.80	77	22.90	21.60	80.31	102.14	174/374
Maldon	2.30	97	126.40	81.80	25.10	21.80	80.13	101.91	188/374
Tendring	4.50	93	121.20	88.10	26.60	21.60	79.86	101.56	210/374
Thurrock	3.80	99	118.70	81.10	26.60	29.20	79.85	101.55	211/374
Uttlesford	1.90	91	105.80		22.60	20.10	79.71	101.37	223/374
Basildon	3.20	103	129	96.80	25.80	28.10	79.62	101.25	234/374
Southend-on-Sea	3.80	105	120	126.30	23.30	26.10	79.41	101	247/374
Essex	4.72	94.53	114.36	87.40	24.72	23.97	80.47	102.34	17/49
East of England	4.50	93	111.31	111.71	25.62	25.27	80.34	102.17	3/10
England Average	5.20	100	119	102.80	20.10	20.63	78.63	92.27	

Source: Life expectancy at birth (years) and rank order for Great Britain

Health Indicators Summary

Looking at some of the indicators from the table we find that:

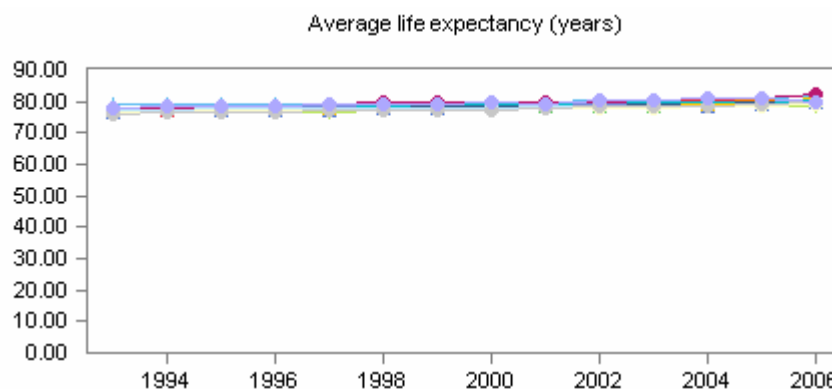
- At 4.40 per 1000 population, the infant mortality rate in Braintree is average, with the area ranking in the middle 20% of districts nationally. By comparison, the Essex figure is 4.72 and the national figure is 5.20.
- At 96.00, the standardised mortality ratio in Braintree is average, with the area ranking in the middle 20% of districts nationally. By comparison, the Essex figure is 94.53 and the national figure is 100.00.
- At 25.70%, the proportion of the population who are obese in Braintree is estimated to be high, with the area ranking in the top 40% of districts nationally. By comparison, the Essex figure is 24.72% and the national figure is 20.10%.
- At 24.80%, the proportion of the population who smoke in Braintree is estimated to be high, with the area ranking in the top 40% of districts nationally. By comparison, the Essex figure is 23.97% and the national figure is 20.63%.
- At 110.60 per 100,000 people, the cancer mortality rate in Braintree is low, with the area ranking in the bottom 40% of districts nationally. By comparison, the Essex figure is 114.36 and the national figure is 119.00.

Source: Life expectancy at birth (years) and rank order for Great Britain

Change In Average Life Expectancy

The chart shows how average life expectancy has changed over recent years, for districts in Essex.

For Braintree it shows that the average life expectancy has increased from 77.90 years to 80.74 years between 1993 and 2006.



Source: Local Knowledge; Life expectancy at birth (years) and rank order for
Notes: Reproduced under the terms of the Click-Use License.

- ▲ Basildon
- ▲ Braintree
- ▲ Brentwood
- ▲ Castle Point
- ▲ Chelmsford
- ▲ Colchester
- ▲ Epping Forest
- ▲ Harlow
- ▲ Maldon
- ▲ National Average
- ▲ Rochford
- ▲ Southend-on-Sea
- ▲ Tendring
- ▲ Thurrock
- ▲ Uttlesford

Source: Life expectancy at birth (years) and rank order for Great Britain

Nearest Neighbours

For the indicators in the spider chart shown earlier, the areas in the country with the most similar profiles are shown on the right. These are statistically the nearest neighbours to Braintree, with Oswestry in Shropshire being the most similar on the health indicators.

Rank	Place Name	Sub Region
1	Oswestry	Shropshire
2	Colchester	Essex
3	Mid Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire & Luton
4	Hinckley and Bosworth	Leicestershire
5	Broxbourne	Hertfordshire
6	Maidstone	Kent & Medway
7	South Holland	Lincolnshire & Rutland
8	Breckland	Norfolk
9	Rushmoor	Hampshire & The Isle of Wight
10	Bedford	Bedfordshire & Luton

Source: Life expectancy at birth (years) and rank order for Great Britain

Glossary of terms

Average life expectancy (years)	The average life expectancy at birth, of all residents.
Cancer mortality rates per 100,000 people aged under 75 years	The mortality rates from cancer per 100,000 people aged under 75 years within the area.
Circulatory disease mortality rates per 100,000 people aged under 75 years	The mortality rates from heart disease and stroke and related diseases per 100,000 people aged under 75 within the area.
Health score	The health score provides an index of the average life expectancy at birth, of all residents in relation to the national average.
Infant mortality rate per 000 live births	Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births.
Proportion of residents who are obese	The proportion of residents who are obese, which can be defined as having a Body Mass Index of over 30.
Proportion of residents who smoke	The proportion of the population who smoke.
Standardised Mortality Ratio	The Standardised Mortality Ratio compares overall mortality in a locality with that for the UK as a whole. The ratio expresses the number of deaths in a locality as a percentage of the hypothetical number that would have occurred if the local population had experienced the sex/age specific rates of the UK in that year. The lower the figure, the lower the relative mortality.

Data Sources and Definitions

Average life expectancy (years)	Data is provided at district level based on three year rolling averages.
Cancer mortality rates per 100,000 people aged under 75 years	The figure is provided in the form in which it appears.
Circulatory disease mortality rates per 100,000 people aged under 75 years	The figure is provided in the form in which it appears.
Health score	Calculated by indexing to the national average the male and female life expectancy in each area as proportions of all male and female residents.
Infant mortality rate per 000 live births	The figure is provided in the form in which it appears.
Proportion of residents who are obese	Calculated from ward level data as the total proportion of obese residents in an area as a proportion of the total adult population in that area. Uses modelled data from the Health Survey for England.
Proportion of residents who smoke	Calculated from ward level data as the total proportion of residents who smoke in an area as a proportion of the total adult population in that area. Uses modelled data from the Health Survey for England.

Health Profile

Braintree
April 2009



Standardised Mortality Ratio

The figure is provided in the form in which it appears. The ratio expresses the number of deaths in a locality as a percentage of the hypothetical number that would have occurred if the local population had experienced the sex/age specific rates of the UK in that year. The lower the figure, the lower the relative mortality.

Source: Local Knowledge; Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright); Department of Health; Neighbourhood Statistics.

We hope that you have found this report useful. If you would like a more comprehensive guide which benchmarks and analyses a specific area's performance, please contact us to discuss your requirements.

Ordering further Place Profiles

Place Profiles are available at a range of spatial levels from Sub-Region to Lower Layer Super Output Area. The reports are produced using the latest information. They cover the following economic, social and environmental themes which, in combination, provide a comprehensive analysis of local conditions:

Economy

Economic Performance
Industrial Structure
Business and Enterprise
Skills and Qualifications
Labour Market

Society

Age
Ethnicity
Households
Migration and Change
Occupations
Prosperity
Deprivation
Health
Crime

Environment

Housing
Commercial Property
Transport and Communications
Amenities
Natural Environment

Prices range from £50 to £100 for a single report, depending on content and spatial level. Please call us on ☎ 020 7440 7360 or email placeprofiles@localfutures.com to place an order or to discuss discounted prices for multiple reports.

Want to know more?

Please visit our website (www.localfutures.com) for further information or join us at one of our regular seminars (details on our website under 'what's new'). Alternatively, phone or contact us using the details below.

Copyright note

Reproduced under the terms of the Click Use licence. Unless otherwise stated, all text and images featured in this report are copyright the Local Futures Group, 2009. Any reproduction, in full or in part, must credit the Local Futures Group as the copyright holder. If you are interested in reproducing any of the text or images, please email placeprofiles@localfutures.com.

The Local Futures Group Ltd is registered in England, number 0337 5867. VAT number: 969 8871 49.

Registered office: 30 Little Russell Street, London, WC1A 2HN.

☎ 020 7440 7360 📠 020 7440 7370