Gloucestershire's 2023/24 National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) Inequalities Report

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Executive Summary: what does NCMP data tell us?

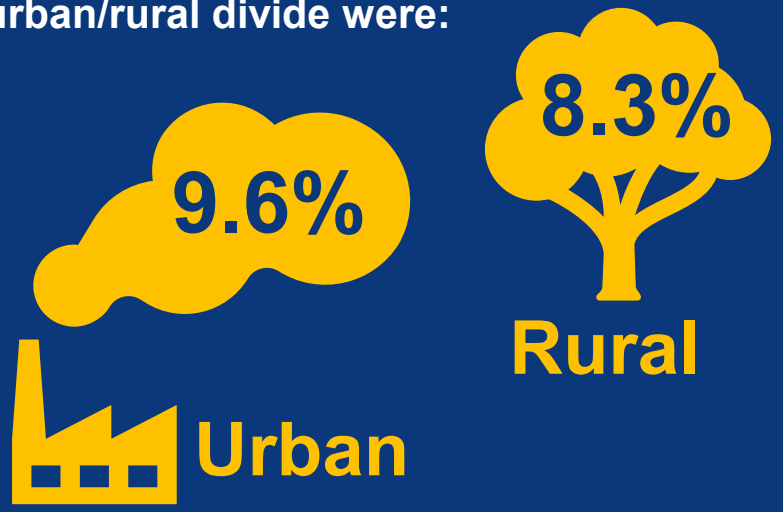
- Since 2008/09, NCMP data has shown that the obesity rate among Reception children in Gloucestershire has not been significantly different to the England average, except for 2021/22 where Gloucestershire was significantly lower (better) than the England average.
- Most recent data (2023/24) shows that the prevalence of obesity among Reception children in Gloucestershire is not significantly different to the South-West or England averages.
- For each year recorded (since 2008/09), NCMP data has shown that the obesity rate among Year 6 children in Gloucestershire is significantly lower (better) than the England average.
- Gloucestershire has the fifth and eight highest rate of obesity prevalence among **Reception** and **Year 6** children (respectively) compared to other 15 local authorities deemed as Gloucestershire's nearest statistical neighbours.

Data below shows that the prevalence of childhood obesity is not evenly distributed throughout the county (2023/24):

- For children in **Reception classes**, Cotswold is significantly below the England average.
- Data in the Forest of Dean shows the highest rate of obesity in Reception, where this area is significantly higher than the four other districts in Gloucestershire for **Reception** children (excluding Gloucester).
- For children In **Year 6**, Gloucester and Forest of Dean have statistically significant higher rates of obesity compared to regional rates.
- Cotswold is the only district where the rate of obesity among **Year 6** children is significantly lower (better) than the county and national rates.

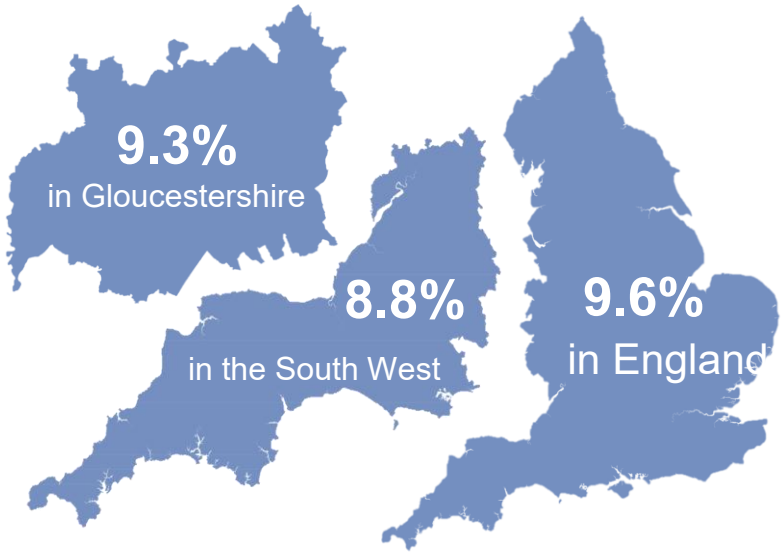
- Childhood obesity is not experienced equally across Gloucestershire. Children living in more deprived or urban areas are more likely to be affected. National and local data also show that boys and children from Black ethnic backgrounds have higher rates of obesity. These patterns highlight the need to address the wider social and environmental factors that influence children's health.

From 2019-24, the obesity rates for Reception children in Gloucestershire by urban/rural divide were:

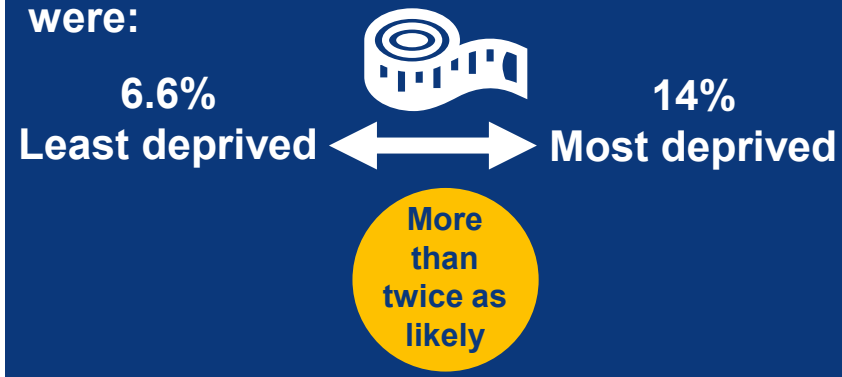


Reception children living in urban areas were more likely to have obesity than those living in rural areas.

In 2023/24, obesity prevalence in Reception was…

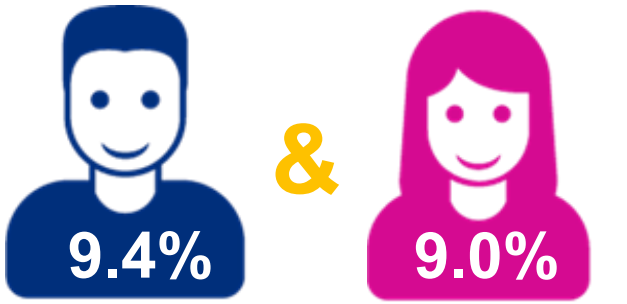


From 2019-24, the rates of obesity for Reception children in Gloucestershire were:



Reception children living in the most deprived areas of Gloucestershire are **significantly more likely** to have obesity than those living in the least. The 'deprivation gap' widens even further as children progress to Year 6.

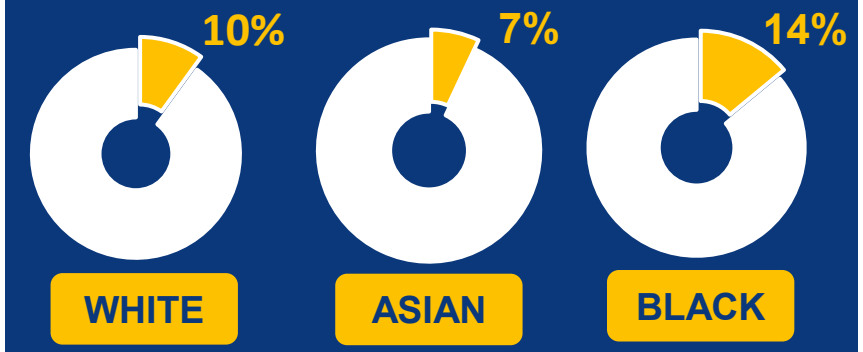
From 2019-24, obesity prevalence in Gloucestershire in Reception was…



in males **in females**

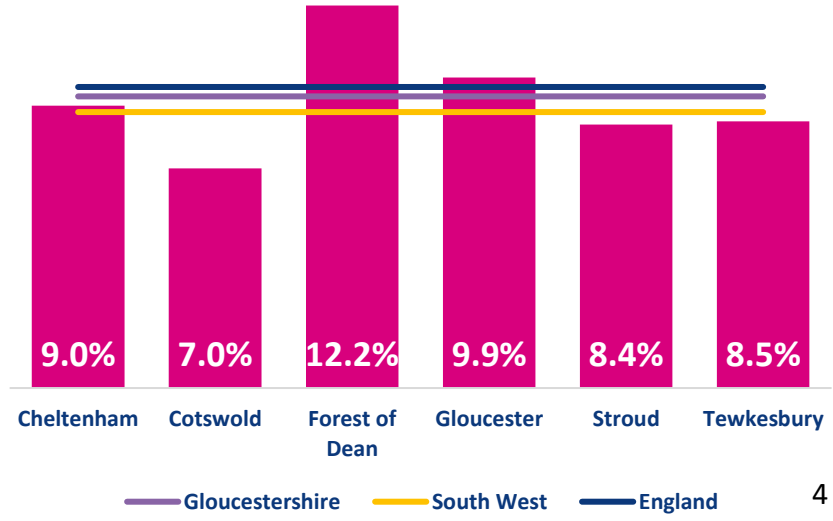
There was no clear evidence of sex-specific inequalities in obesity prevalence in Reception, but this was not the case in Year 6.

From 2019-24, Reception obesity prevalence in Gloucestershire by ethnicity was…



Children of Black or Mixed ethnicity were more likely to live with obesity than their peers of White ethnicity. There is no statistical difference in obesity for children with Asian ethnicity.

In 2023/24, the district rate of obesity in Reception (including severe obesity) was…



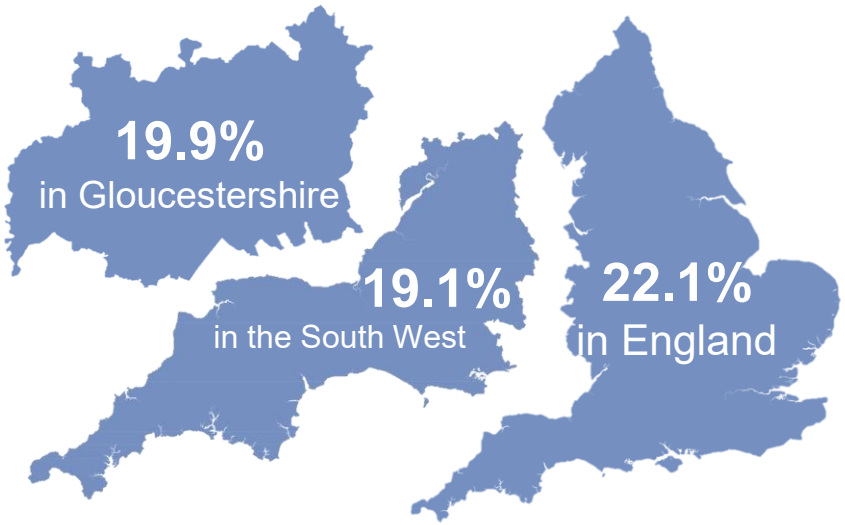
From 2019-24, the obesity rates for Year 6 children in Gloucestershire by urban/rural divide were:

21%
Urban

16%
Rural

Year 6 children living in urban areas are **significantly more** likely to live with obesity than those living in rural areas.

In 2023/24, obesity prevalence in Year 6 was…



From 2019-24, the rates of obesity for Year 6 children in Gloucestershire were:

11.9%
Least deprived

29.7%
Most deprived

Nearly x3 more likely

Year 6 children living in the most deprived areas of Gloucestershire are **significantly more likely** to have obesity than those living in the least.

From 2019-24, Year 6 obesity prevalence in Gloucestershire was...

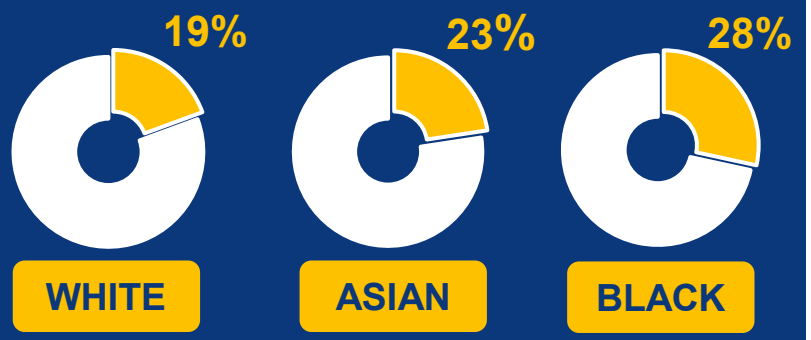
22.3%
in males

&

17.4%
in females

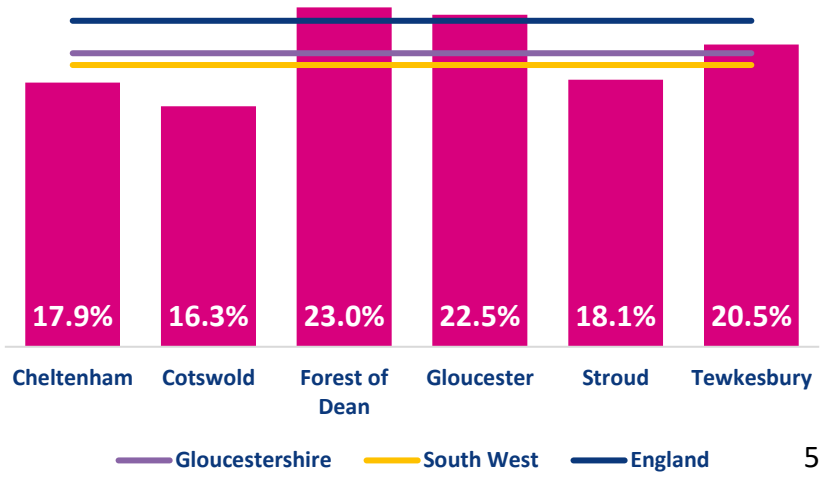
In **Year 6,** males were **significantly more likely** to live with obesity than females.

From 2019-24, Year 6 obesity prevalence in Gloucestershire by ethnicity was…



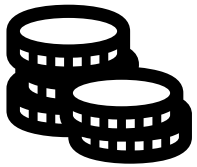
Children of Black or Mixed ethnicity were more likely to live with obesity than their peers of White ethnicity. There is no statistical difference in obesity for children with Asian ethnicity.

In 2023/24, the district rate of obesity in Year 6 (including severe obesity) was…



Purpose of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)

The NCMP is a UK government mandated programme delivered annually by local authorities. The programme involves measuring the height and weight of all children in Reception and Year 6 to better understand how children are growing according to their age across all state-funded primary schools and academies. Locally, the NCMP allows Gloucestershire to:



Plan for and invest in key services for children and young people, with a focus on health, weight, and its wider determinants.

Provide a platform to engage with children and families about local healthy lifestyle opportunities following feedback of individual NCMP results to families.

Gather population-level data to allow analysis of trends and patterns in children's outcomes.

Increase public and professional understanding around the prevalence of excess weight in children and young people.

A word around data quality

School closures during the pandemic disrupted NCMP recordings in 2019/20 and 2020/21. During these years of NCMP delivery, we did not meet the 85% coverage required to give a high level of confidence that the data reflects Gloucestershire's child population in **Reception** and **Year 6**. In 2020/21, a 10% sample was used to make estimates about **Year 6** children – this year is **not** included in the 5-year comparison data.

Caution should be taken when looking at small geography data for individual lower super output areas (LSOAs). Some LSOAs have small numbers of participating children, this reduces our confidence that the data truly reflects prevalence, although the pooling of data across 5-years helps mitigate this.

The NCMP takes place in state-funded primary schools only, meaning data is not reflective of all children in Gloucestershire, such as those who are home educated or attending independent schools.

BMI is only one indication of a person's overall health. It is not appropriate to define a person's health by their weight when good health should reflect a person's complete physical, emotional and social well-being. As a measurement tool, it is also important to note that BMI is unable to differentiate between fat and muscle mass.

When looking at NCMP data, GCC uses confidence intervals (CIs) rather than point values; since Fingertips uses point values, interpretations around significance may differ.

The NCMP: Language Matters – a compassionate approach

What does the NCMP use?

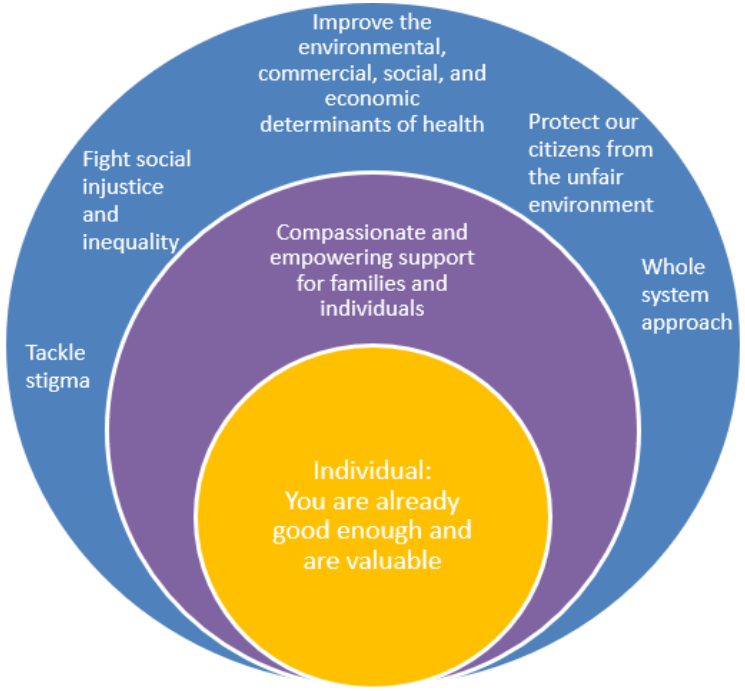
Specific terminology, including 'overweight' and 'obesity' is used to categorise body mass index (BMI). These terms are applied for individual and population monitoring to ensure accuracy and national consistency. **While this terminology is used for reporting purposes, it is not reflective of the language we choose when speaking with children, families, or communities.**

How do parents/ carers want to talk about weight?

Insight gathered from parents, carers, local NCMP teams and behavioural insights highlight the importance of **sensitive, respectful and empowering** conversations. Further guidance around how to talk to children about weight can be found, here.

We lead with children's health – not weight

Gloucestershire's approach (adapted from City of Doncaster Council)



Our commitment

In Gloucestershire, we are committed to a **compassionate, strength-based approach** to health and wellbeing. We will continue to ensure language used throughout the NCMP aligns with national guidance and local voices. Our ambition is to ensure that every family receives **non-judgmental support**, that health messaging is **empowering,** and all conversations promote **dignity and inclusion.**

A word around Body Mass Index (BMI)

BMI centiles are categorised differently for population and individual monitoring purposes. For the purpose of this report, as we are interested in understanding what the data tells us about our county, we will be using the BMI centile range for **population** monitoring.

BMI Category	BMI Centile Range: Population Monitoring	BMI Centile Range: Individual (Clinical) Monitoring
Obese/ very overweight	≥95th centile	≥98th centile
Overweight	≥85th and <95th centile	≥91st and <98th centile
Healthy weight	>2nd and <85th centile	> 2nd and <91st centile
Underweight	≤2nd centile	Less than/ equal to 2nd centile

Remember: our weight is only one indicator of our overall health and wellbeing. If you are interested in learning more about what builds good health, please watch **this video** on the Social Determinants of Health.

Purpose of the NCMP Inequalities Report

The NCMP is a high-quality source of public health intelligence. Our aim is to ensure we use this information productively to benefit children, young people and their families. This report will:

- Highlight that not all children have the same opportunities to grow, develop and maintain a healthy weight.
- Make NCMP information accessible to anyone that has an interest in population level data around children.
- Understand how we respond as a county to the inequalities that exist within our communities.
- Provide population level feedback to understand the effectiveness of Gloucestershire's health improvement initiatives for children and young people.
- Raise awareness among system partners of the opportunities that exist to ensure positive health and wellbeing outcomes for the children and young people of Gloucestershire.

Our response to healthy weight for children and young people

Gloucestershire is an asset rich county. Crucially, this includes the children, young people and families that live in our communities. Our response to enabling healthy weight goes beyond delivering 'weight management' interventions, with a focus on preventative action to create the conditions that allows people to thrive.

As a county, our aim is to ensure that every child, young person and family has the same opportunity to live a healthy and happy life.

Our voluntary and community sector, education, health and social care system all have a role to play in supporting communities to ensure healthy, nutritious food and enriching activities are an option for all. For children, young people and families in need of additional support to maintain a healthy weight, Gloucestershire commissions two developing services (see slide 12).

Healthier Lifestyles Support for Children, Young People and Families

NCMP follow-up: to ensure families are connected to the right support at the right time, Beezee Maximus (see below) and Gloucestershire's School Nursing team are working together to speak with parents or carers of children identified as living above their ideal healthy weight through the NCMP. This is a supportive and compassionate conversation with the child's health at the front of mind.

Beezee Maximus: a dedicated team of nutritionists and behaviour change professionals helping families make real, long-lasting changes towards a healthier lifestyle. Beezee offer a variety of FREE healthier lifestyle programmes for children and young people (aged 4-18 years) across Gloucestershire, including a Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Youth programme.

For children, young people and families experiencing additional challenges around their health and weight, Gloucestershire is home to:

Gloucestershire Lifestyle Opportunity and Wellbeing (GLOW): a psychologically led multidisciplinary team of professionals who are dedicated to working alongside children, young people and families to manage excess weight and associated complications.

NCMP at a glance: Gloucestershire in the context of Regional, National & Nearest Statistical Neighbours

NCMP Data: Regional/ National Comparison

Prevalence of obesity in Gloucestershire by age

National Child Measurement Programme 2023 to 2024

In 2023 to 2024, 9.3% of children in reception (aged 4 to 5 years) were living with obesity

In 2023 to 2024, 19.9% children in year 6 (aged 10 to 11 years) were living with obesity

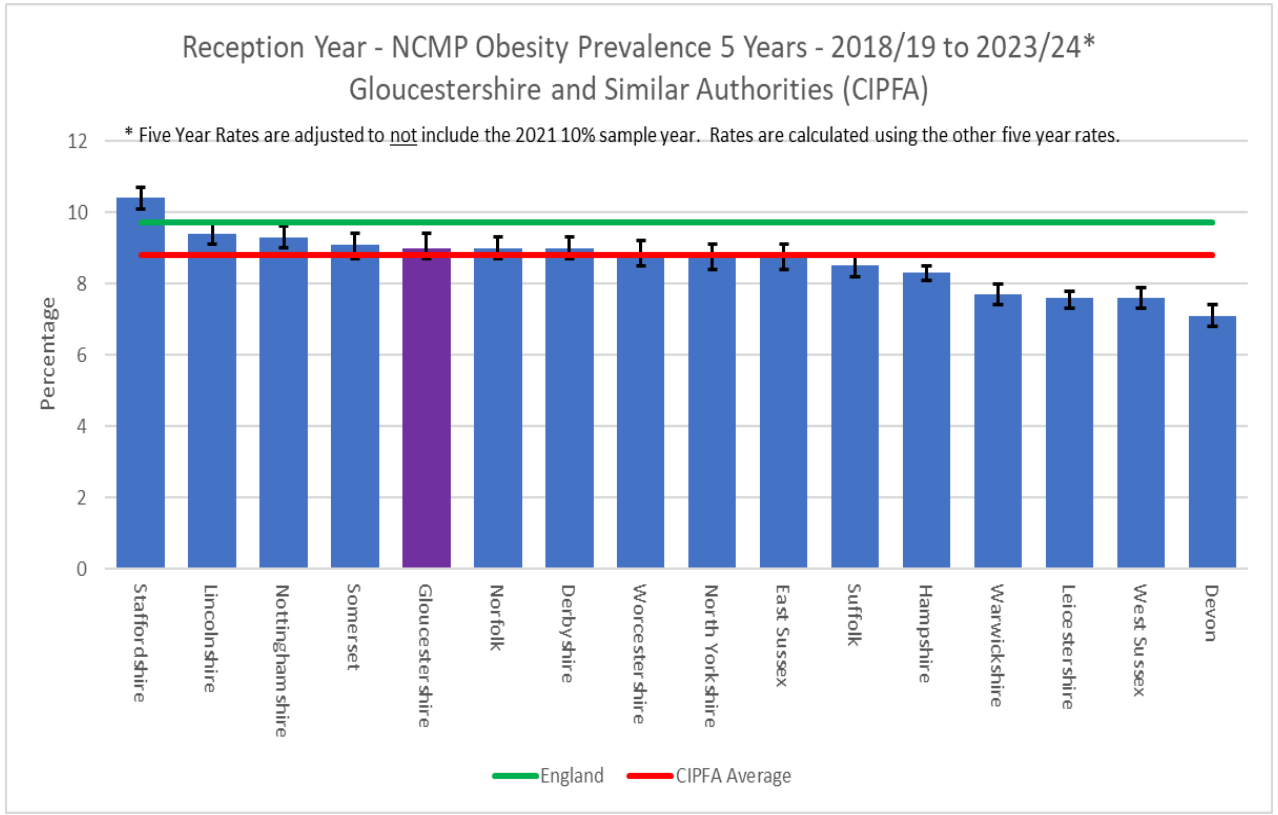
For each year recorded (since 2008/09), NCMP data has shown the obesity rate among **Reception** children in Gloucestershire to not be significantly different to the England average, except for 2021/22 where Gloucestershire was significantly lower (better) than the England average.

The most recent data (2023/24) shows the prevalence of obesity among **Reception** children in Gloucestershire to not be significantly different from the South-West or England averages.

For each year recorded (since 2008/09), NCMP data has shown the obesity rate among **Year 6** children in Gloucestershire to be significantly lower (better) than the England average.

School Year	Gloucestershire	South West	England
Obesity Prevalence: Reception (%)	9.3%	8.8%	9.6%
Obesity Prevalence: Year 6 (%)	19.9%	19.1%	22.1%

Gloucestershire's Most Similar Areas (Reception Year)



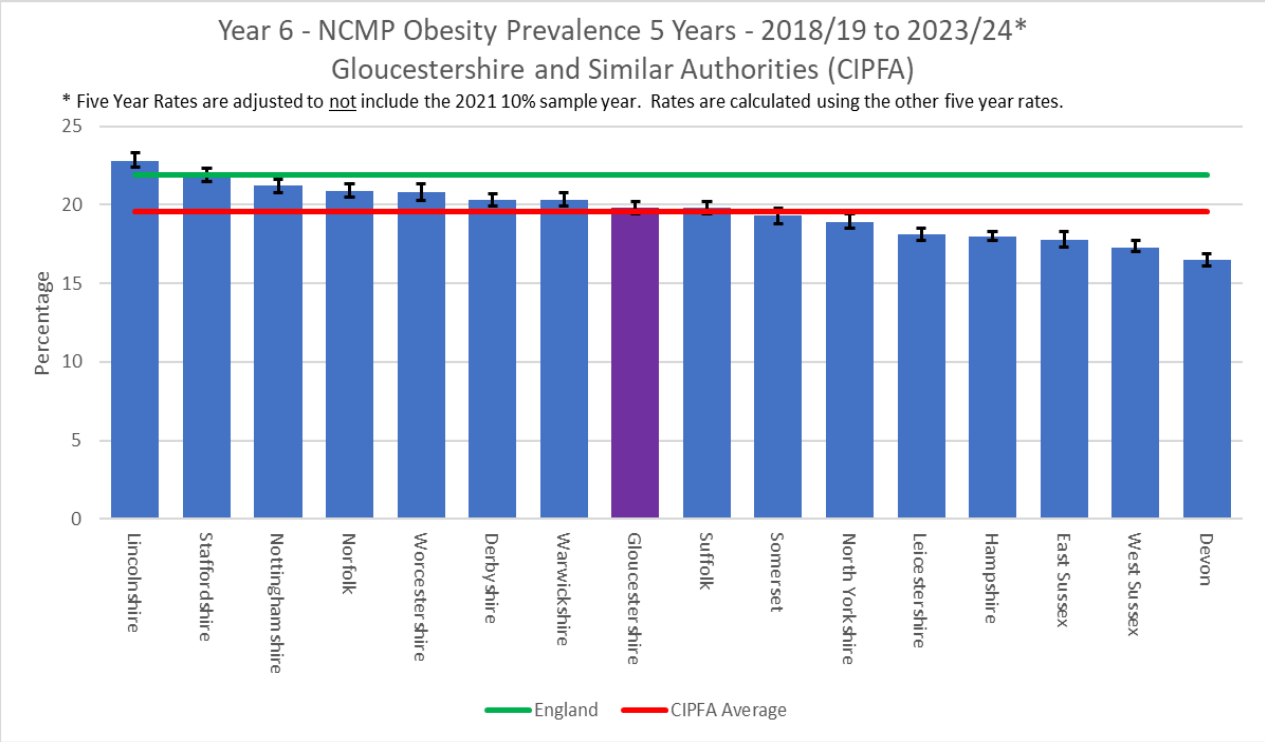
***CIPFA** = the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy average places Gloucestershire in the context of our nearest statistical neighbours (i.e., among Local Authorities deemed to have similar characteristics).*

Considering five years of pooled data:

Gloucestershire has the fifth highest rate of obesity among **Reception** children when compared to the other 15 local authorities deemed to be Gloucestershire's *nearest statistical neighbours.*

However, Gloucestershire's rate is not significantly different than the average of our nearest statistical neighbours for Reception children and is significantly lower than the England rate.

Gloucestershire's Most Similar Areas (Year 6)



***CIPFA** = the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy*
average places Gloucestershire in the context of our nearest statistical neighbours (i.e., among Local Authorities deemed to have similar characteristics).

Considering five years of pooled data:

Gloucestershire has the eighth highest rate of obesity prevalence in **Year 6** children, compared to the other 15 local authorities deemed to be Gloucestershire's nearest statistical neighbours.

Gloucestershire's rate is not significantly different to the average rate of our nearest statistical neighbours for **Year 6** children.

However, it is significantly lower (better) than the England rate.

What does NCMP data tell us about our districts?

Prevalence of obesity in Gloucestershire Districts: Reception Year

2023/24 Annual Rate of Obesity in Reception Year (including severe obesity)									
Area	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest of Dean	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury	Gloucestershire	South West	England
	9.0%	7.0%	12.2%	9.9%	8.4%	8.5%	9.3%	8.8%	9.6%

In 2023/24…

Forest of Dean shows the highest rate of obesity in **Reception;** this district is *significantly higher* than the four other districts in Gloucestershire for Reception children (excluding Gloucester).

Cotswold is *significantly below* the England rate for 2023/24.

However, Gloucestershire's other four districts are *not statistically different* from county, regional or national averages.

Prevalence of obesity in Gloucestershire Districts: Year 6

2023/24 Annual Rate of Obesity in Year 6 (including severe obesity)									
Area	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest of Dean	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury	Gloucestershire	South West	England
	17.9%	16.3%	23.0%	22.5%	18.1%	20.5%	19.9%	19.1%	22.1%

In 2023/24…

Gloucester and **Forest of Dean** have *significantly higher* rates of obesity among **Year 6** children compared to regional rates. Tewkesbury has *no statistically significant* difference to the county, regional and national rates.

Gloucestershire's three remaining districts are all *significantly lower* (better) than the England rate for **Year 6** children.

Cotswold is the only district where the rate of obesity among Year 6 children is *significantly lower* (better) than county and national rates.

Obesity Prevalence at Neighbourhood Level

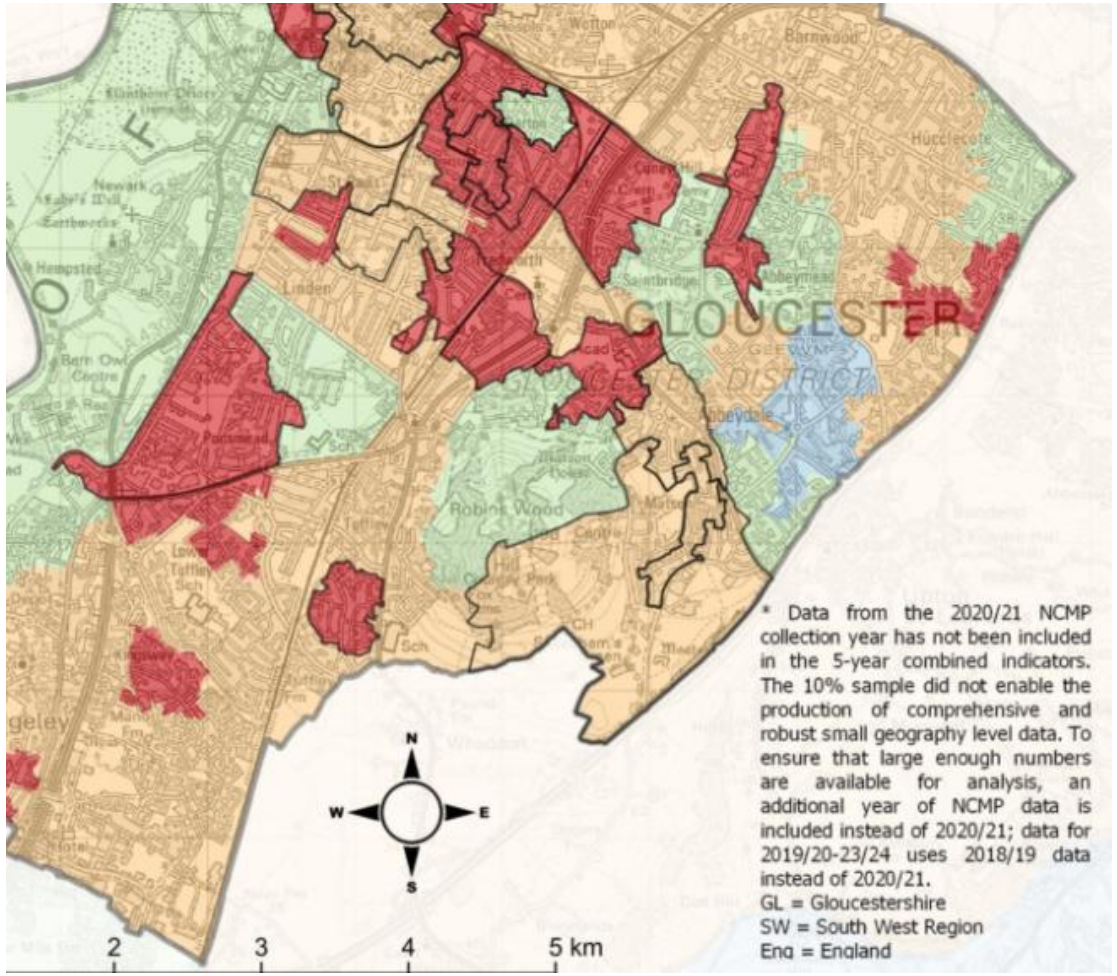
The following slides explore the prevalence of obesity at Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level. LSOAs are geographical areas that are used for census statistics in England. They are designed to contain between 400 and 1,200 households and a population of 1,000 to 3,000 people.

We've pooled the data over five years (2019-2024) to enable a more reliable estimate of what is happening at the small neighbourhood level where the numbers of children measured are low. We call this the 'five-year rate'.

Each slide includes a district level map, in which the LSOAs are colour coded according to the level of childhood obesity in that area. LSOAs have been ranked (at county level) and then categorised according to natural breaks in the data.

Areas coded red have the highest level of childhood obesity, followed by areas coded yellow. Areas coded green and blue are generally lower than the county average in terms of obesity prevalence.

The rates given at LSOA level are the actual recorded rates – it is not possible to comment on whether the differences between LSOAs are statistically significant due to small sample sizes within each area.



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Obesity Prevalence at Neighbourhood Level

Most Deprived Quintiles (Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 National Quintiles)

LSOA Local Name - The following LSOAs are in the top deprivation quintile nationally. The colours below refer to Obesity Prevalence on the map	LA NAME	Rate - Obesity Prevalence 2019-24*	Total Number Measured for NCMP 2019-24*	Number Measured as Very Overweight
TUFFLEY 4	Gloucester	36.73	98	36
KINGSHOLM AND WOTTON 3	Gloucester	35.11	94	33
CONEY HILL 2	Gloucester	33.64	110	37
PODSMEAD 1	Gloucester	32.26	93	30
CONEY HILL 1	Gloucester	31.82	88	28
BARTON AND TREDWORTH 1	Gloucester	31.11	180	56
MATSON AND ROBINSWOOD 5	Gloucester	30.25	162	49
MORELAND 4	Gloucester	30.22	139	42
BARTON AND TREDWORTH 5	Gloucester	29.81	104	31
BARTON AND TREDWORTH 4	Gloucester	29.66	118	35
WESTGATE 4	Gloucester	29.27	82	24
BARTON AND TREDWORTH 2	Gloucester	29.13	127	37
MATSON AND ROBINSWOOD 4	Gloucester	29.00	100	29
WESTGATE 5	Gloucester	28.21	39	11
MORELAND 7	Gloucester	27.68	112	31
MATSON AND ROBINSWOOD 2	Gloucester	26.67	90	24
MATSON AND ROBINSWOOD 6	Gloucester	25.93	108	28
WESTGATE 1	Gloucester	25.42	59	15
MATSON AND ROBINSWOOD 1	Gloucester	25.20	127	32
MORELAND 3	Gloucester	23.30	103	24
BARTON AND TREDWORTH 3	Gloucester	17.59	108	19

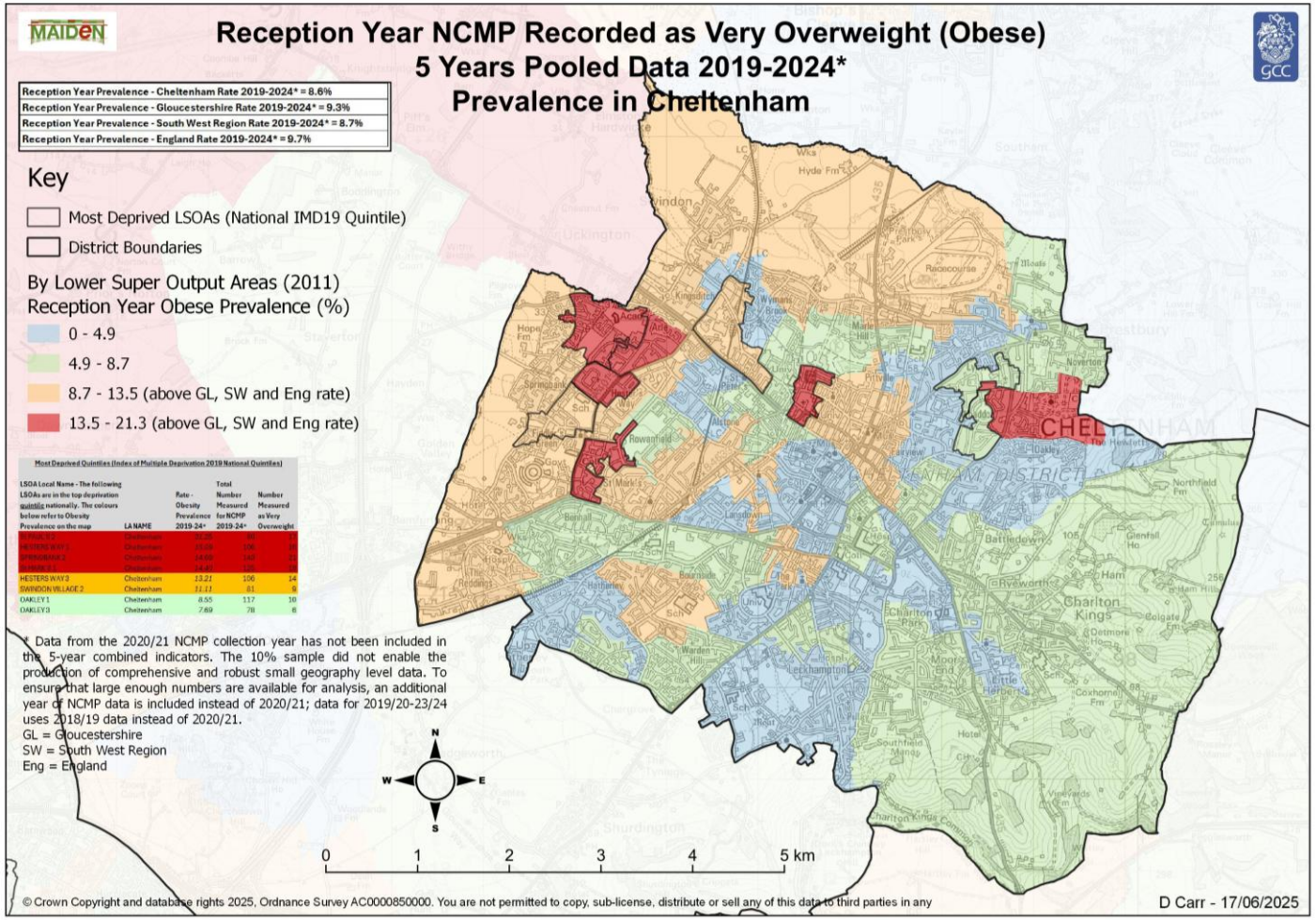
The tables within the maps for Gloucester, Cheltenham, Forest of Dean and Tewkesbury (see left), list the LSOAs within the district that fall within the 20% most deprived areas nationally. NHS England call these: ‘CORE20’ areas.

The narrative and table on each slide (see example on the right) highlights where obesity prevalence (%) is highest in each district; this information can support the planning of local services for children, young people and families.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Reception % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Reception (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
MATSON AND ROBINSWOOD 1	19.9	36	1
PODSMEAD 1	18.9	14	1
BARTON AND TREDWORTH 1	18.5	24	1
GRANGE 2	18.4	7	4
MATSON AND ROBINSWOOD 6	17.6	22	1
TUFFLEY 4	17.4	15	1

Reception year NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Reception Year Obesity: Cheltenham



***LSOA = Lower Super Output Area**

The 5-year rate of obesity among Reception children in Cheltenham is 8.6%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 21.3% in St Paul's (2).

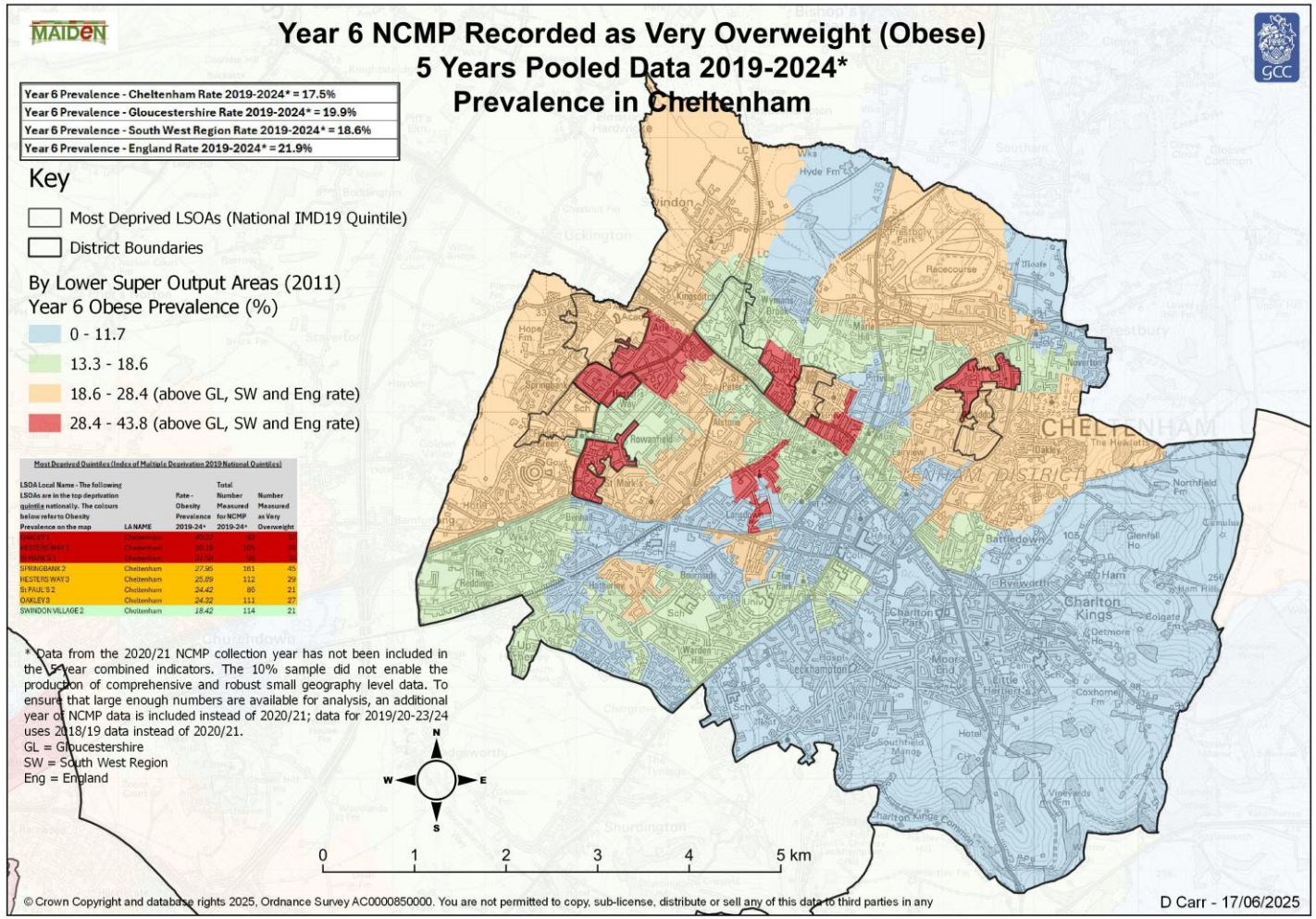
The highest **total number** of Reception children with obesity is 21, seen in Springbank (2).

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Reception, St Paul's (2), Hester's Way (1), Springbank (2) and St Mark's (1) are amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Reception % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Reception (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
St PAUL'S 2	21.3	17	1
SPRINGBANK 1	16.7	16	2
HESTERS WAY 1	15.1	16	1
SPRINGBANK 2	14.7	21	1
St MARK'S 1	14.4	18	1
OAKLEY 2	14.3	15	2

Reception year NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Year 6 Obesity: Cheltenham



*LSOA = Lower Super Output Area

The 5-year rate of obesity among Year 6 children in Cheltenham is 17.5%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 40.2% in Oakley (1).

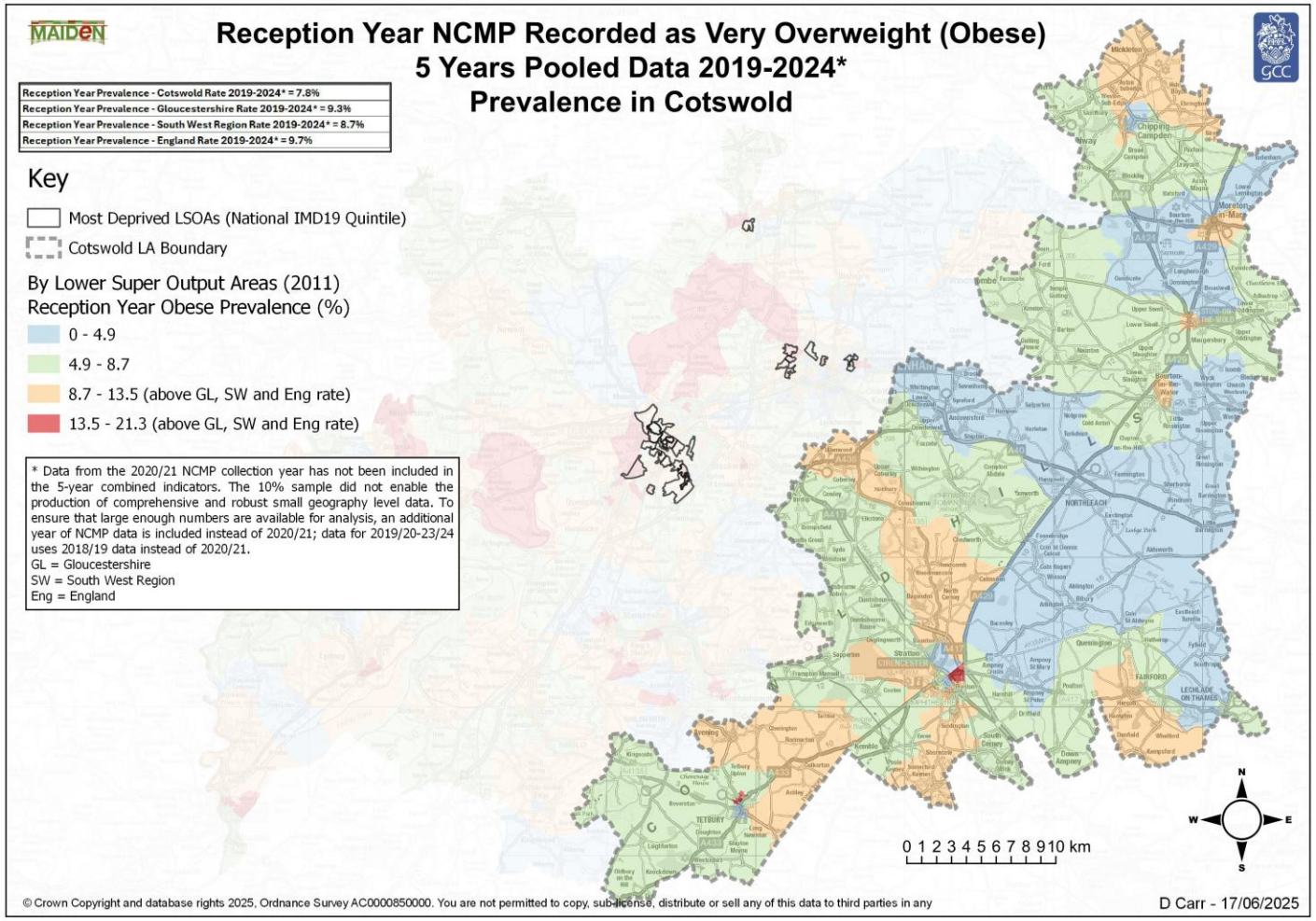
The highest **total number** of Year 6 children with obesity is 45, seen in Springbank (2) (28.0% prevalence).

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Year 6, Oakley (1), Hester's Way (1) and St Mark's (1) are amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Year 6 % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Year 6 (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
OAKLEY 1	40.2	37	1
HESTERS WAY 1	36.2	38	1
St PETER'S 3	34.7	33	2
LANSDOWN 1	33.3	3	2
St MARK'S 1	31.6	30	1
St PAUL'S 1	30.8	16	2

Year 6 NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Reception Year Obesity: Cotswold



***LSOA = Lower Super Output Area**

The 5-year rate of obesity among Reception children in Cotswold is 7.8%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 18.4% in The Beeches (2).

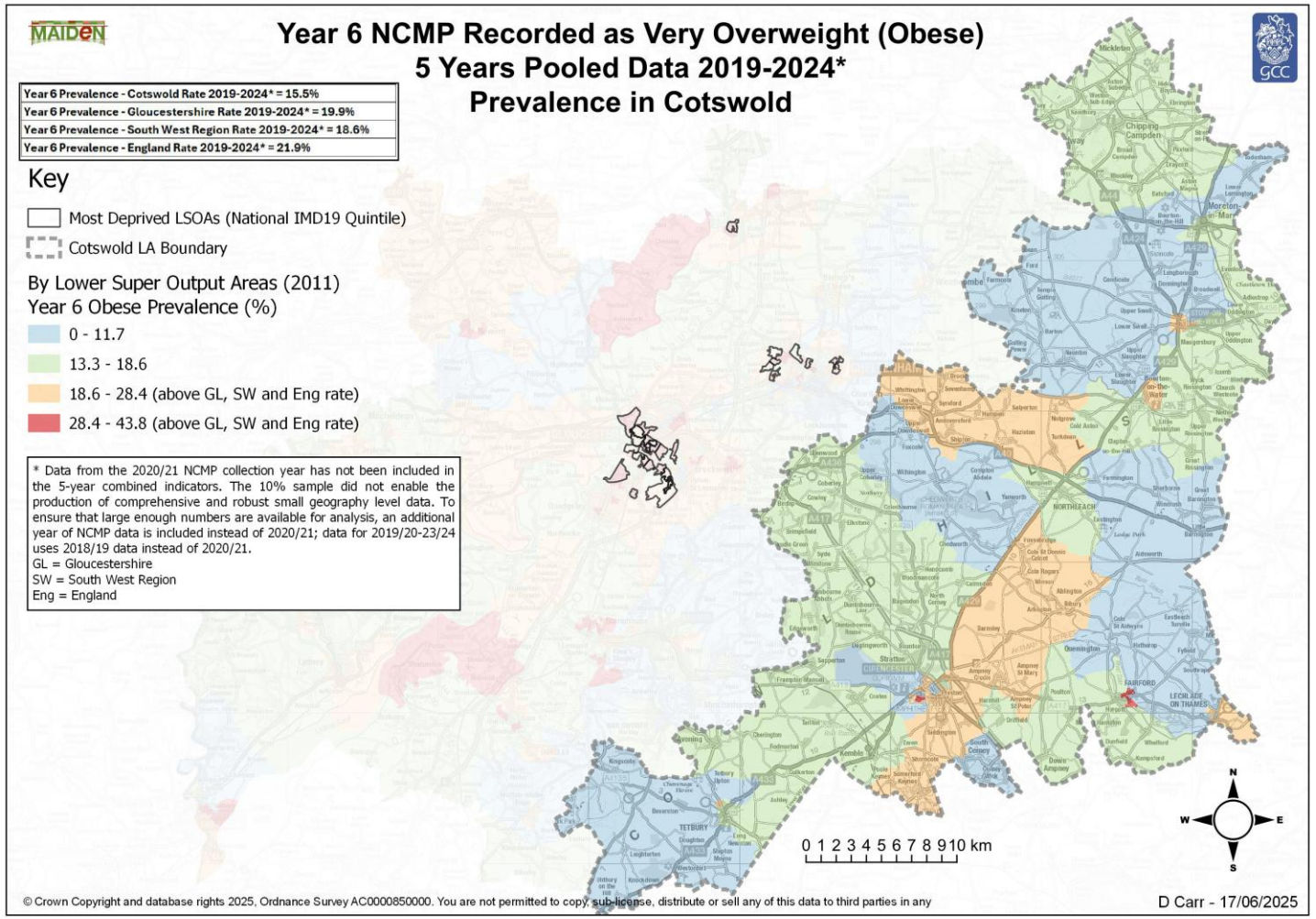
The highest **total number** of Reception children with obesity is 18, seen in The Beeches (1) .

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Reception, none are amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Reception % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Reception (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
THE BEECHES 2	18.4	9	5
TETBURY TOWN	15.4	8	5
THE BEECHES 1	15.0	18	3
CHEDWORTH AND CHURN 2	12.7	7	3
FAIRFORD NORTH	12.5	8	5
MORETON WEST	12.2	6	3

Reception year NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Year 6 Obesity: Cotswold



***LSOA = Lower Super Output Area**

The 5-year rate of obesity among Year 6 children in Cotswold is 15.5%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is Fairford North with 29.7%.

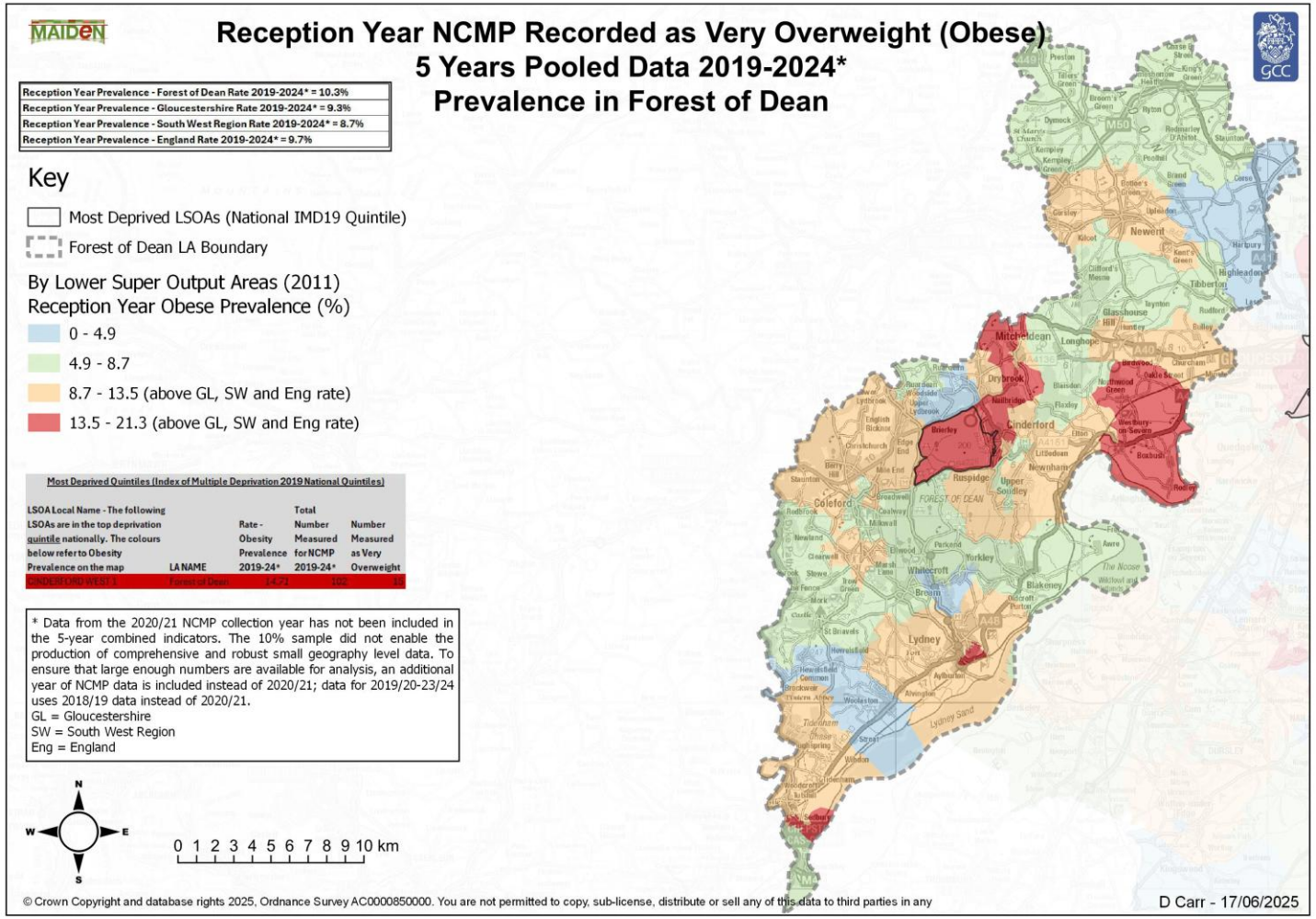
The highest **total number** of Year 6 children with obesity is 21, seen in Chesterton (1).

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of childhood obesity, none were amongst the 20% most deprived areas nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Year 6 % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Year 6 (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
FAIRFORD NORTH	29.7	19	5
CHESTERTON 1	28.8	21	2
ST. MICHAEL'S 1	25.6	10	4
WATERMOOR 2	25.5	14	2
SANDYWELL	24.2	15	3
WATERMOOR 1	23.6	13	4

Year 6 NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Reception Year Obesity: Forest of Dean



*LSOA = Lower Super Output Area

The 5-year rate of obesity among Reception children in the Forest of Dean is 10.3%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 20.9% in Westbury on Severn.

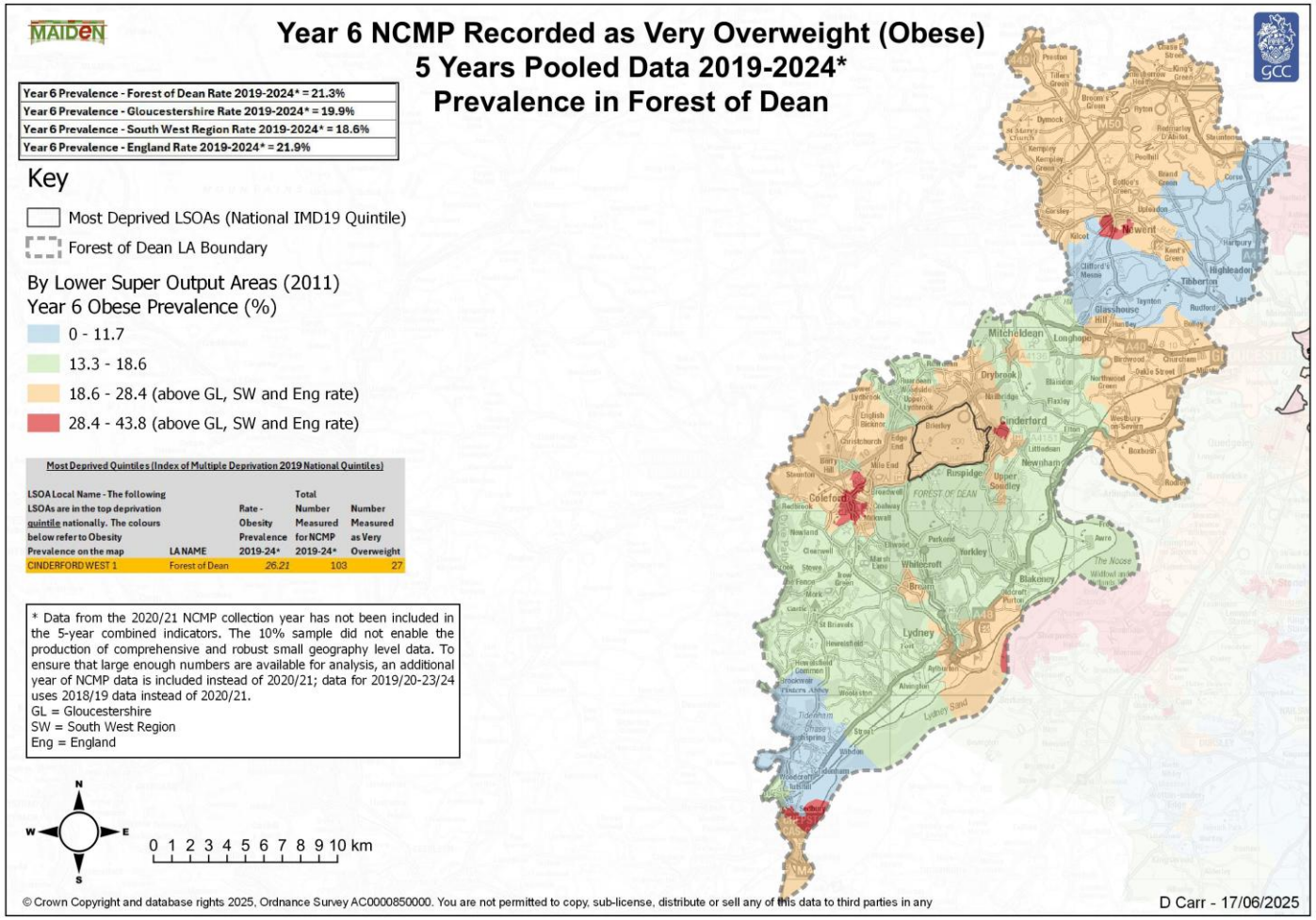
The highest **total number** of Reception children with obesity is 30, seen in Lydney East (1) (15.1% prevalence) .

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Reception, none were amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Reception % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Reception (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
WESTBURY ON SEVERN	20.9	14	3
CINDERFORD WEST 3	17.7	20	2
MITCHELDEAN, RUARDEAN AND DRYBROOK 2	16.3	8	4
CINDERFORD EAST 2	15.9	14	2
CINDERFORD WEST 2	15.7	8	4
TIDENHAM 1	15.2	7	3

Reception year NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
***Total number of children per year.**

Year 6 Obesity: Forest of Dean



***LSOA = Lower Super Output Area**

The 5-year rate of obesity among Year 6 children in Forest of Dean is 21.3%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 38.9% in Coleford (4).

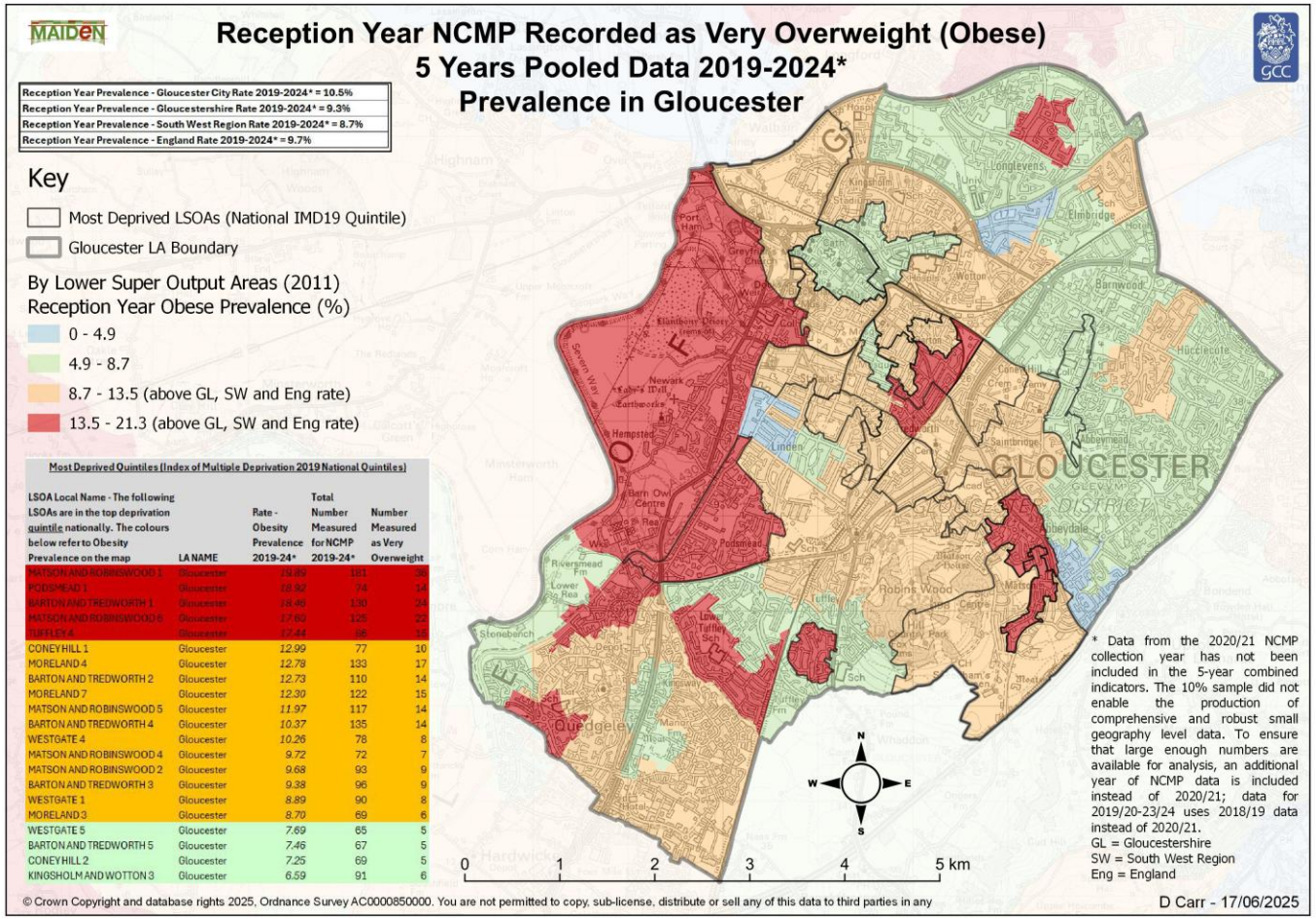
The highest **total number** of Year 6 children with obesity is 48, seen in Newent and Taynton (3).

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Year 6, none were amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Year 6 % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Year 6 (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
COLEFORD 4	38.9	35	2
NEWENT AND TAYNTON 3	33.3	48	3
CINDERFORD EAST 2	31.7	32	2
COLEFORD 1	31.3	21	2
TIDENHAM 1	29.3	17	3
MITCHELDEAN, RUARDEAN AND DRYBROOK 3	26.7	28	3

Year 6 NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Reception Year Obesity: Gloucester



***LSOA = Lower Super Output Area**

The 5-year rate of obesity among Reception children in Gloucester is 10.5%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 19.9% in Matson and Robinswood (1).

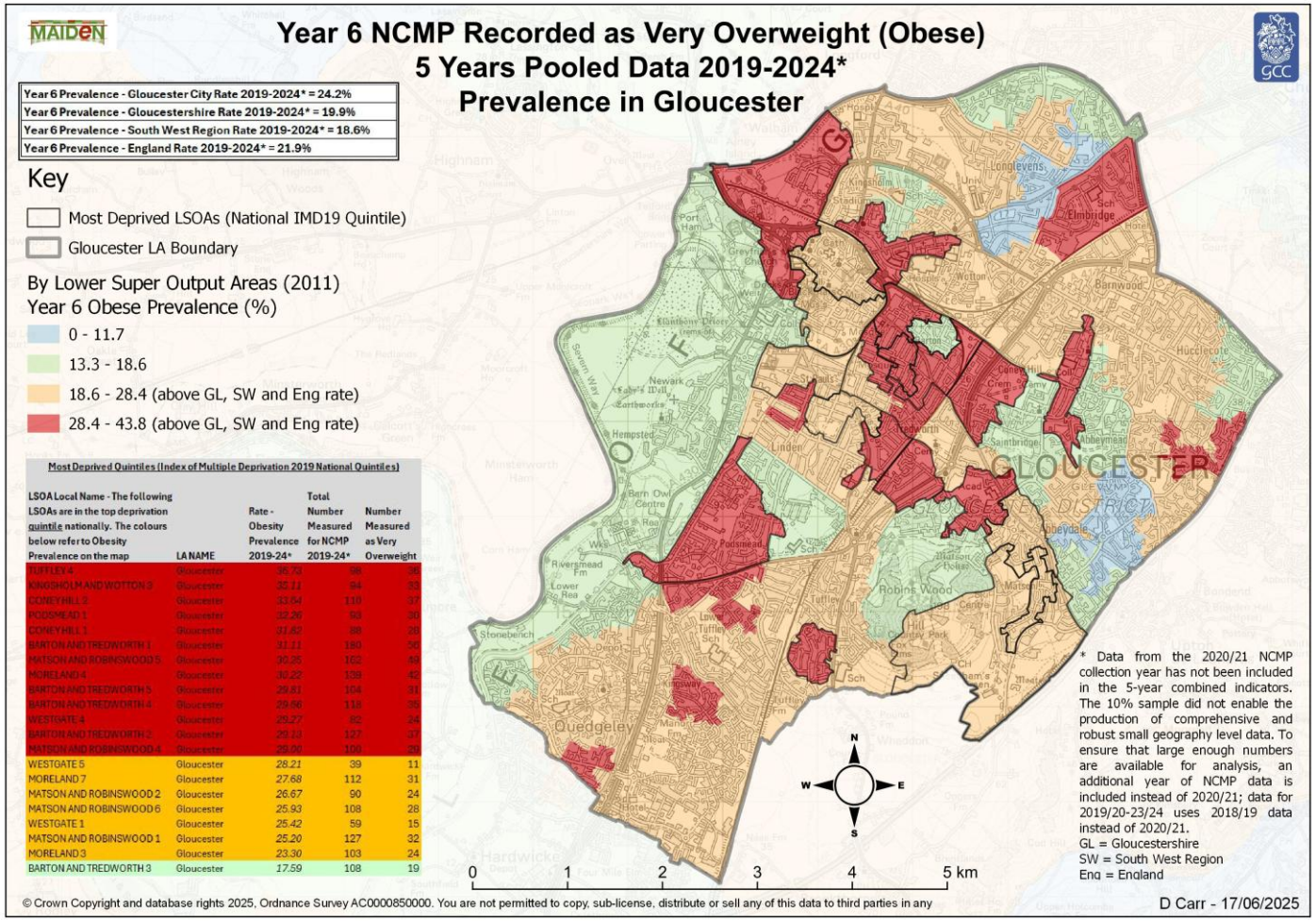
The highest **total number** of Reception children with obesity is 36, seen in Matson and Robinswood (1).

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Reception, all LSOAs in the table below, except for Grange (2), are amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Reception % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Reception (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
MATSON AND ROBINSWOOD 1	19.9	36	1
PODSMEAD 1	18.9	14	1
BARTON AND TREDWORTH 1	18.5	24	1
GRANGE 2	18.4	7	4
MATSON AND ROBINSWOOD 6	17.6	22	1
TUFFLEY 4	17.4	15	1

Reception year NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Year 6 Obesity: Gloucester



***LSOA = Lower Super Output Area**

The 5-year rate of obesity among Year 6 children in Gloucester is 24.2%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 38.6% in Barton and Tredworth (7).

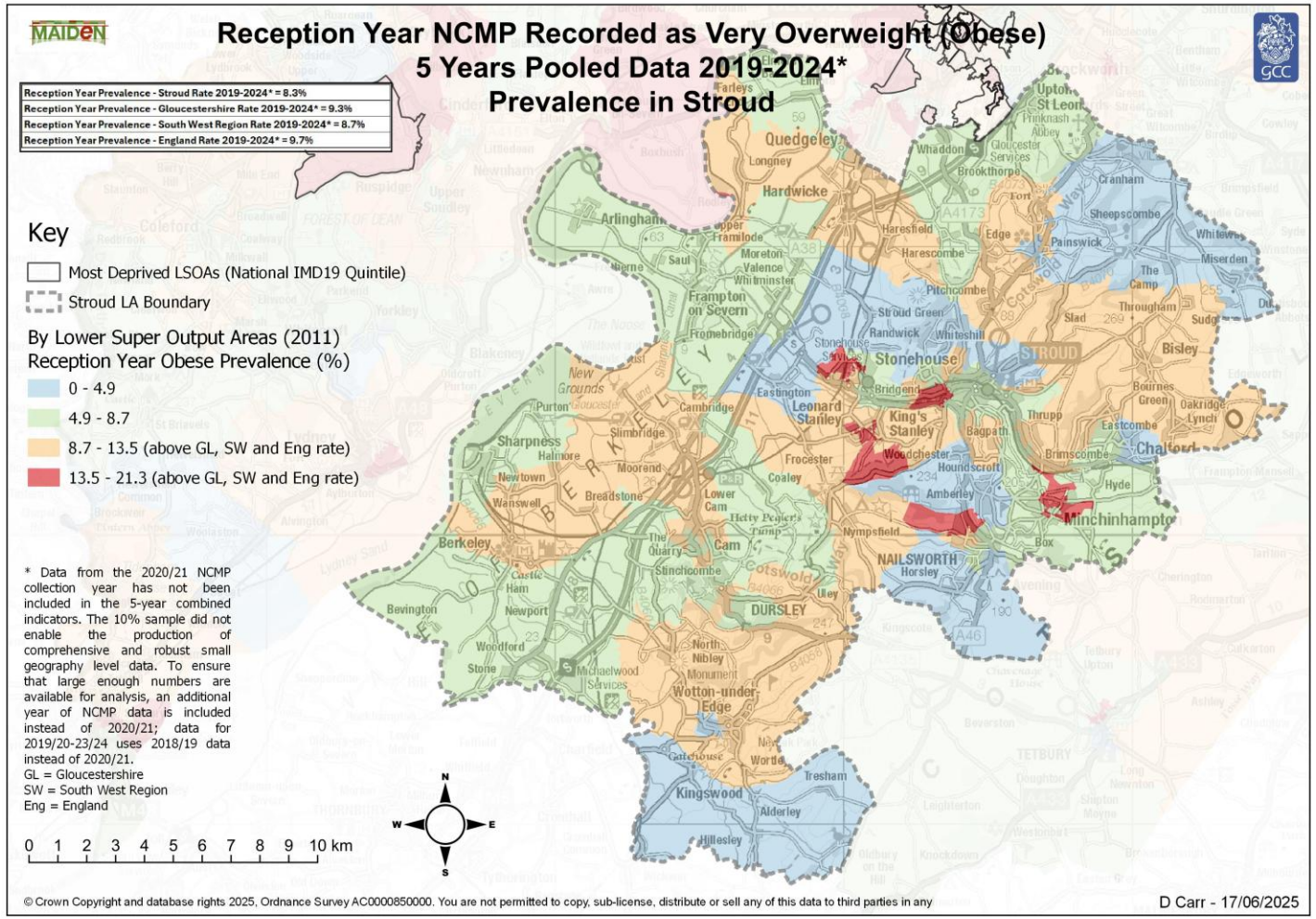
The highest **total number** of Year 6 children with obesity is 83, seen in Kingsway (3) (23.6% prevalence) .

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Year 6, Tuffley (4), Kingsholm and Wotton (3) and Coney Hill (2) are amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Year 6 % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Year 6 (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
BARTON AND TREDWORTH 7	38.6	51	2
TUFFLEY 4	36.7	36	1
KINGSHOLM AND WOTTON 3	35.1	33	1
ELMBRIDGE 1	34.1	28	4
MORELAND 1	34.1	30	2
CONEY HILL 2	33.6	37	1

Year 6 NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Reception Year Obesity: Stroud



*LSOA = Lower Super Output Area

The 5-year rate of obesity among Reception children in Stroud is 8.3%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 16.9% in Nailsworth (3).

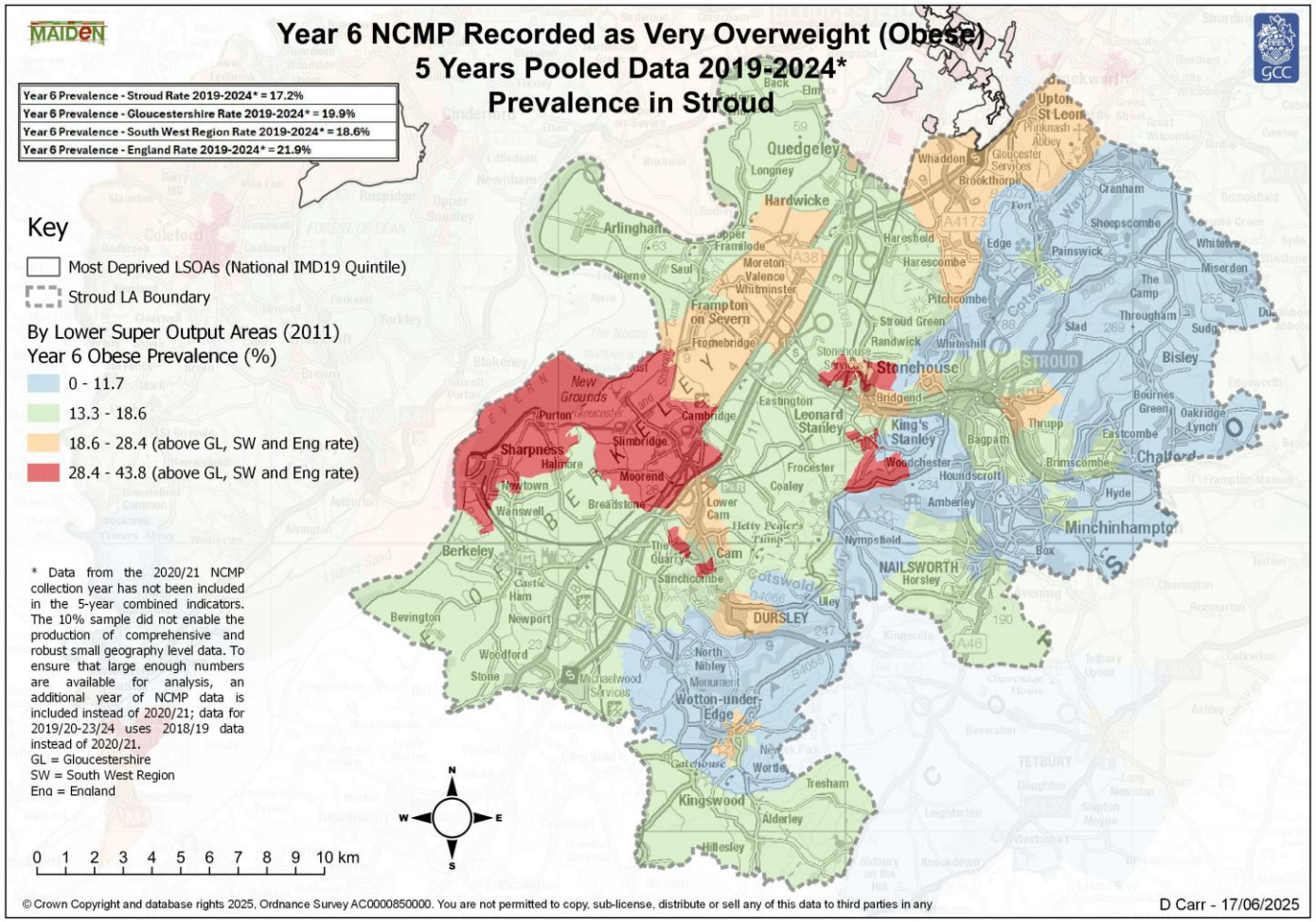
The highest **total number** of Reception children with obesity is 26, seen in Hardwicke (3) (9.8% prevalence) .

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Reception, none were amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Reception % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Reception (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
NAILSWORTH 3	16.9	12	4
THE STANLEYS 1	16.5	21	4
STONEHOUSE 4	14.6	12	2
CAINSCROSS 2	14.3	16	4
MINCHINHAMPTON 2	13.9	11	3
DURSLEY 3	13.4	13	3

Reception year NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Year 6 Obesity: Stroud



*LSOA = Lower Super Output Area

The 5-year rate of obesity among Year 6 children in Stroud is 17.2%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 38.2% in Dursley (4).

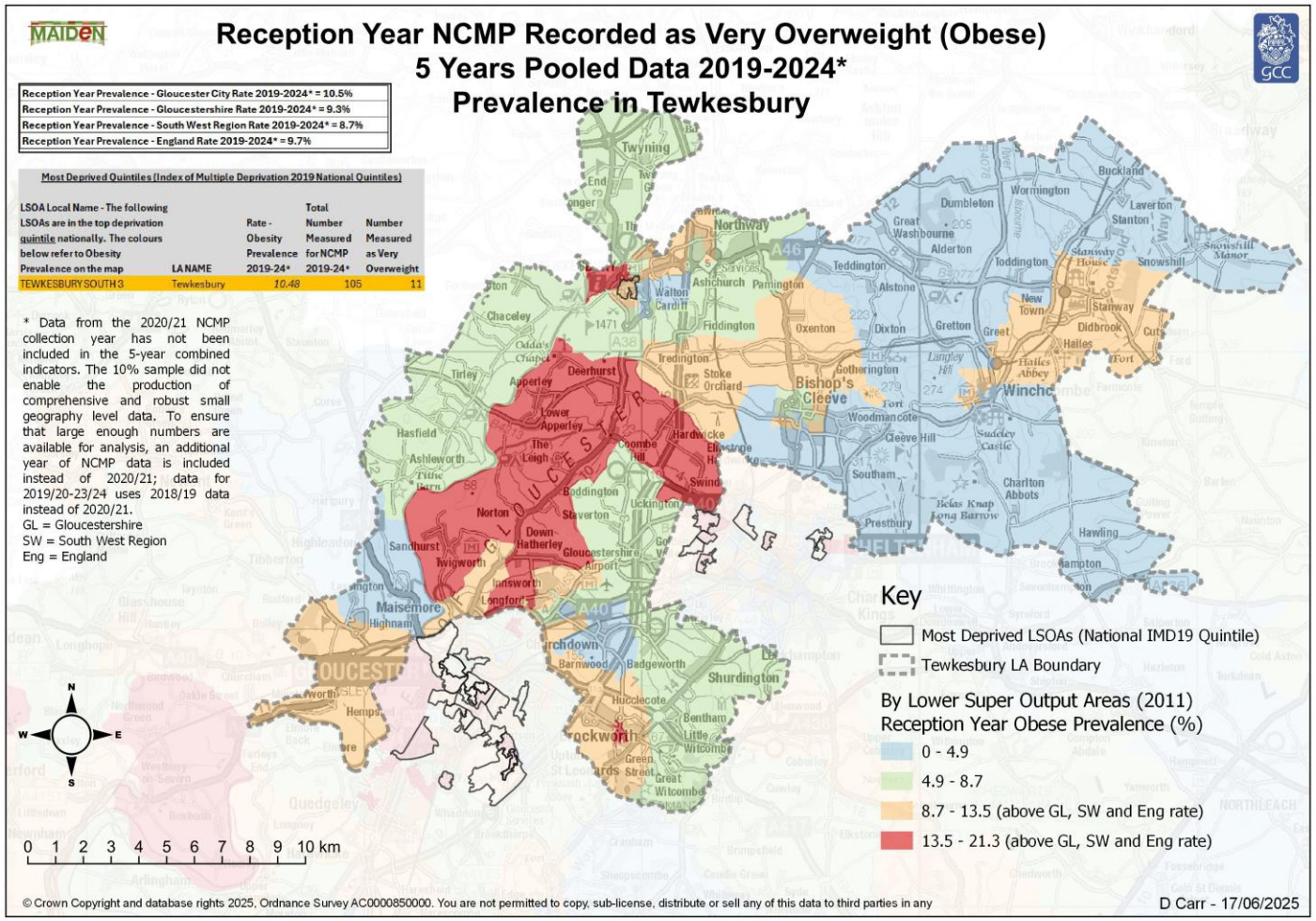
The highest **total number** of Year 6 children with obesity is 51, seen in Hardwicke (3) (18.5% prevalence).

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Year 6, none were amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Year 6 % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Year 6 (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
DURSLEY 4	38.2	34	2
CAM WEST 3	34.5	19	2
STONEHOUSE 2	33.9	20	4
BERKELEY 1	31.3	25	3
THE STANLEYS 1	31.1	33	4
STONEHOUSE 4	29.9	29	2

Year 6 NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Reception Year Obesity: Tewkesbury



***LSOA = Lower Super Output Area**

The 5-year rate of obesity among Reception children in Tewkesbury is 8.9%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 16.7% in Tewkesbury North and Twyning (1).

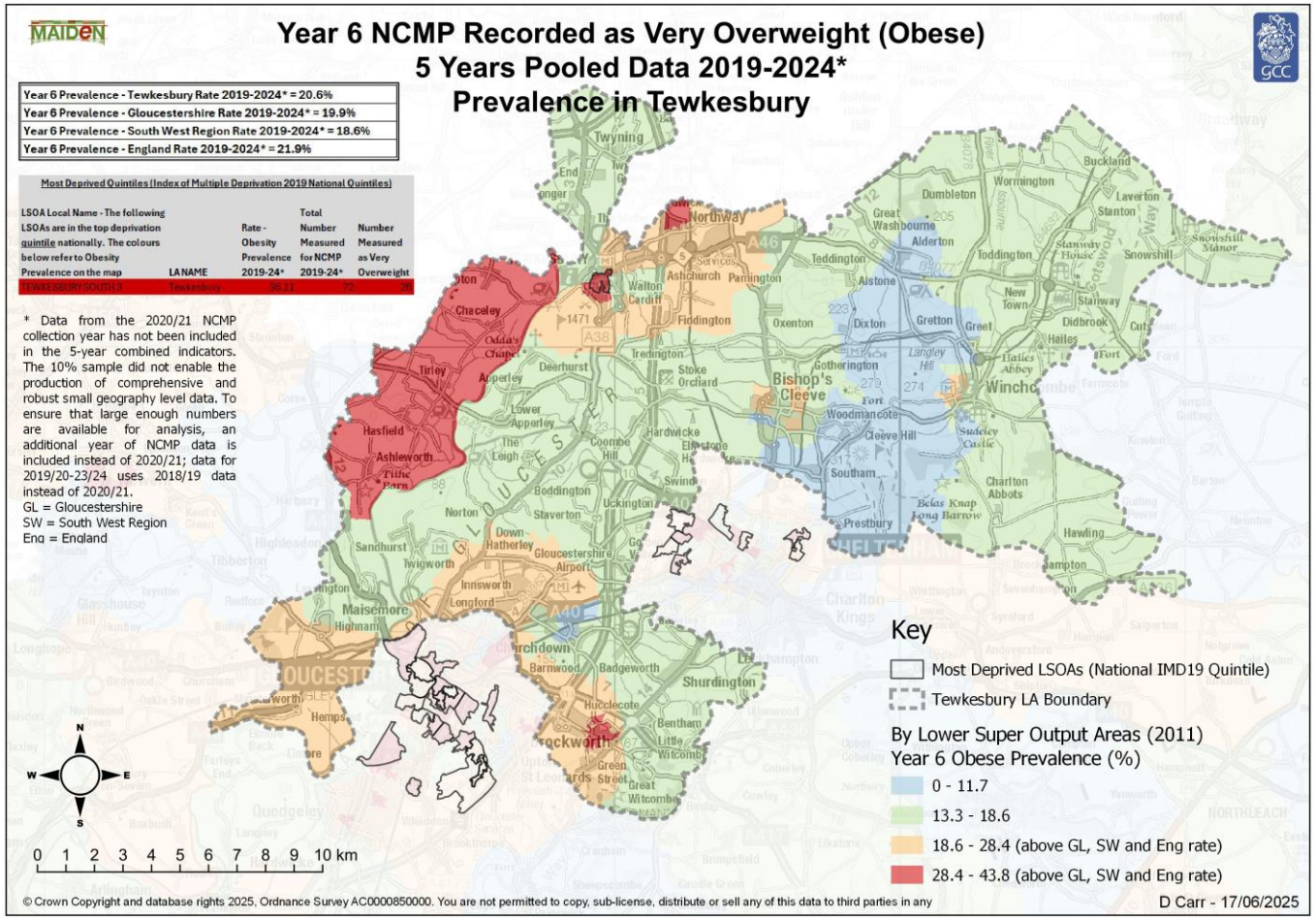
The highest **total number** of Reception children with obesity is 33, seen in Brockworth West (2) (12.1% prevalence).

From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Reception, none were amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Reception % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Reception (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
TEWKESBURY NORTH AND TWYNING 1	16.7	4	3
BROCKWORTH WEST 1	15.3	15	2
INNSWORTH 3	14.8	19	3
SEVERN VALE NORTH	14.3	7	3
SEVERN VALE SOUTH	13.9	11	3
TEWKESBURY SOUTH 2	13.0	9	2

Reception year NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Year 6 Obesity: Tewkesbury



*LSOA = Lower Super Output Area

The 5-year rate of obesity among Year 6 children in Tewkesbury is 20.6%.

The highest **prevalence** (%) of obesity is 43.8% in Tewkesbury South (2).

The highest **total number** of Year 6 children with obesity is 57 seen in Churchdown Brookfield with Hucclecote (3) and Cleeve St Michael's (1) (27.3% and 24.5% prevalence, respectively) .

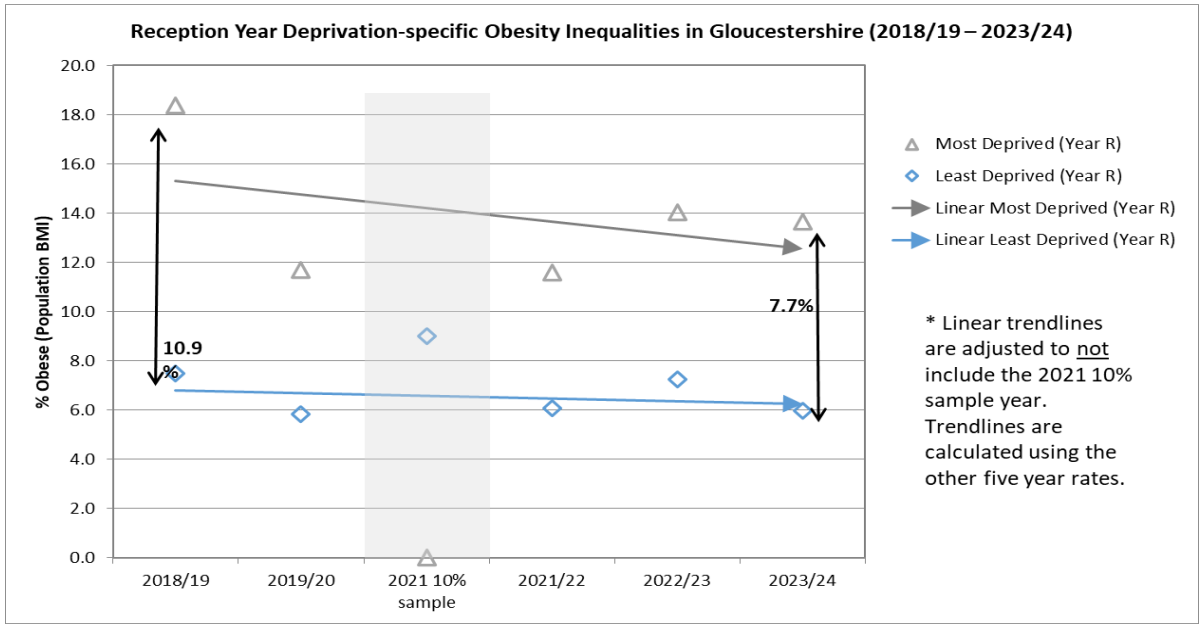
From the LSOAs identified as having the highest prevalence of obesity in Year 6, Tewkesbury South (3) is amongst the 20% most deprived nationally.

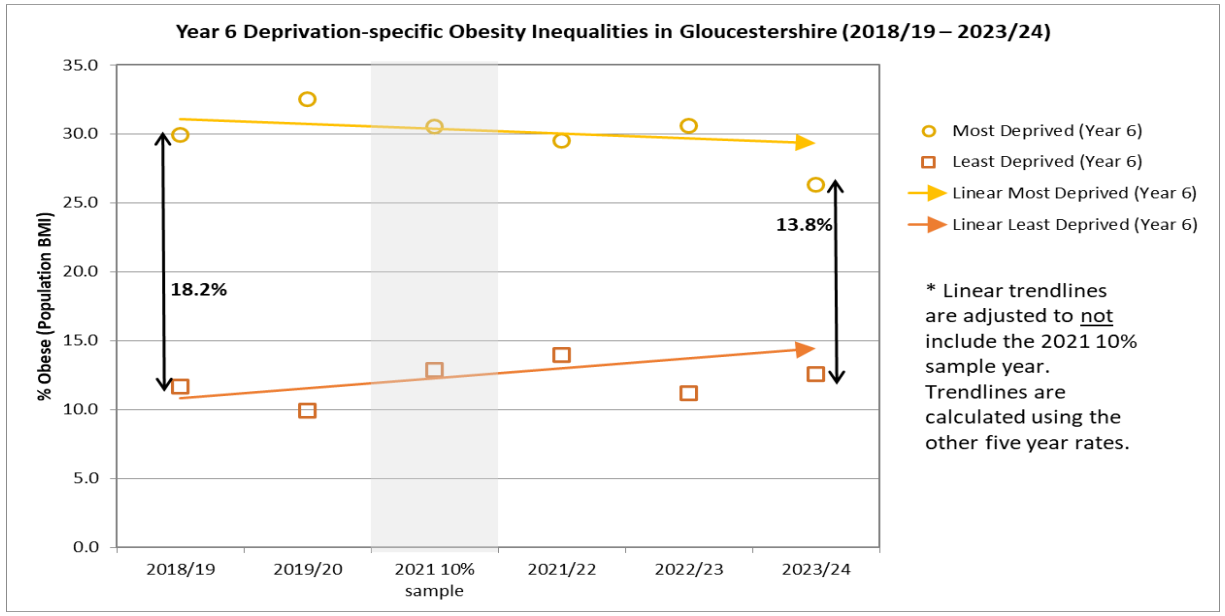
LSOA Local Name 2019	Obesity Prevalence in Year 6 % (2019-24)*	Obesity Number in Year 6 (2019-24)*	IMD Quintile (1 most deprived)
TEWKESBURY SOUTH 2	43.8	28	2
TEWKESBURY SOUTH 3	36.1	26	1
NORTHWAY 2	34.5	20	4
BROCKWORTH WEST 1	29.8	28	2
BROCKWORTH EAST	29.5	33	2
HIGHNAM WITH HAW BRIDGE 3	28.9	13	4

Year 6 NCMP pooled data (2019-2024)
*** Total number of children per year.**

Health inequalities in the context of childhood obesity

Inequalities in obesity according to deprivation





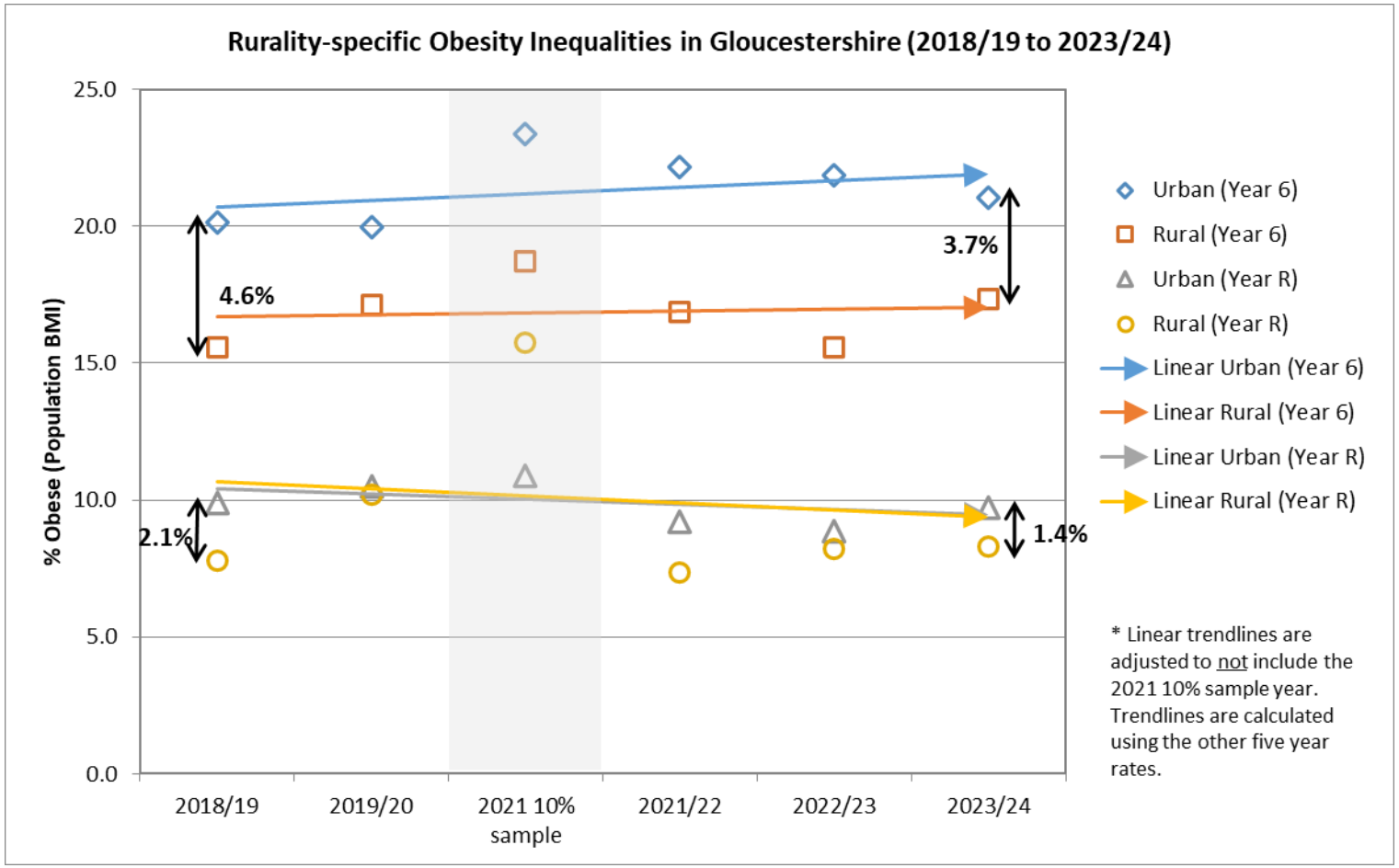
Children living in the most deprived areas of Gloucestershire are *significantly more likely* to have obesity than those living in the least. This is apparent for both **Reception** and **Year 6** children, with the 'deprivation gap' widening as children progress to **Year 6**.

This follows national trends which recognises that Year 6 children living in the most deprived parts of the country are more than twice as likely to live with obesity than those from the least (1).

Deprivation	Reception Year Obesity Rates (2019-24)	Year 6 Obesity Rates (2019-24)
Least Deprived	6.6%	11.9%
Most Deprived	14.0%	29.7%

Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) – please see slide 14 for a visual representation of Gloucestershire obesity prevalence by deprivation and age, using confidence intervals.

Inequalities in obesity according to rural/ urban areas



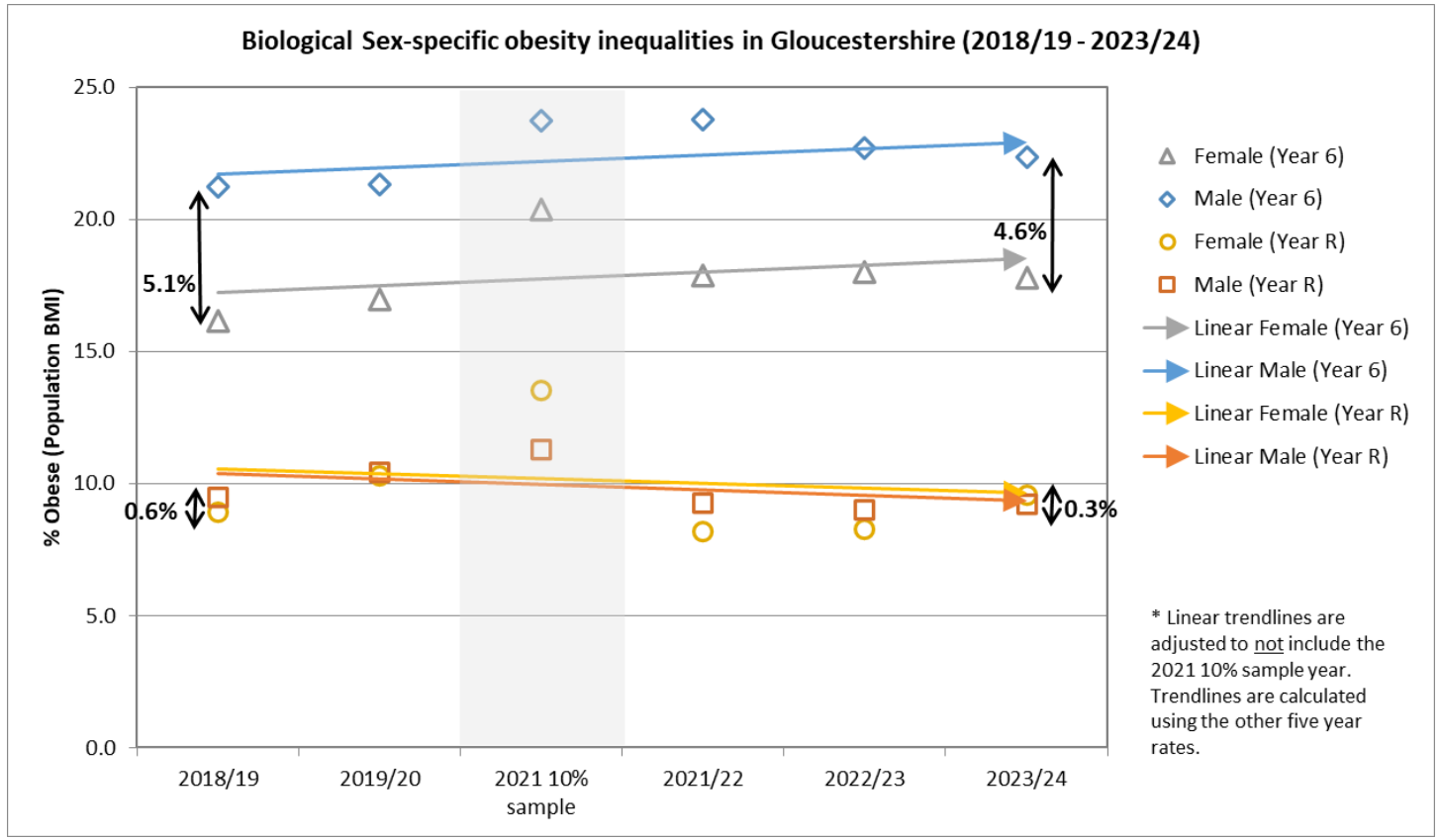
Over the past 5 years in Gloucestershire…

Children living in urban areas were more likely to have obesity than those living in rural areas. This applies to both **Reception** and **Year 6** children and is consistent with national trends. Year 6 children living in urban areas are significantly more likely to live with obesity than those living in rural areas.

For **Reception**, the gap between rural and urban obesity levels has remained steady over the last five years, whilst for **Year 6** children the linear trend suggests the gap is widening.

Rural/ Urban	Reception Year Obesity Rates (2019-24)	Year 6 Obesity Rates (2019-24)
Urban	9.6%	21.1%
Rural	8.3%	16.4%

Inequalities in obesity according to sex



Over the past 5 years in Gloucestershire…

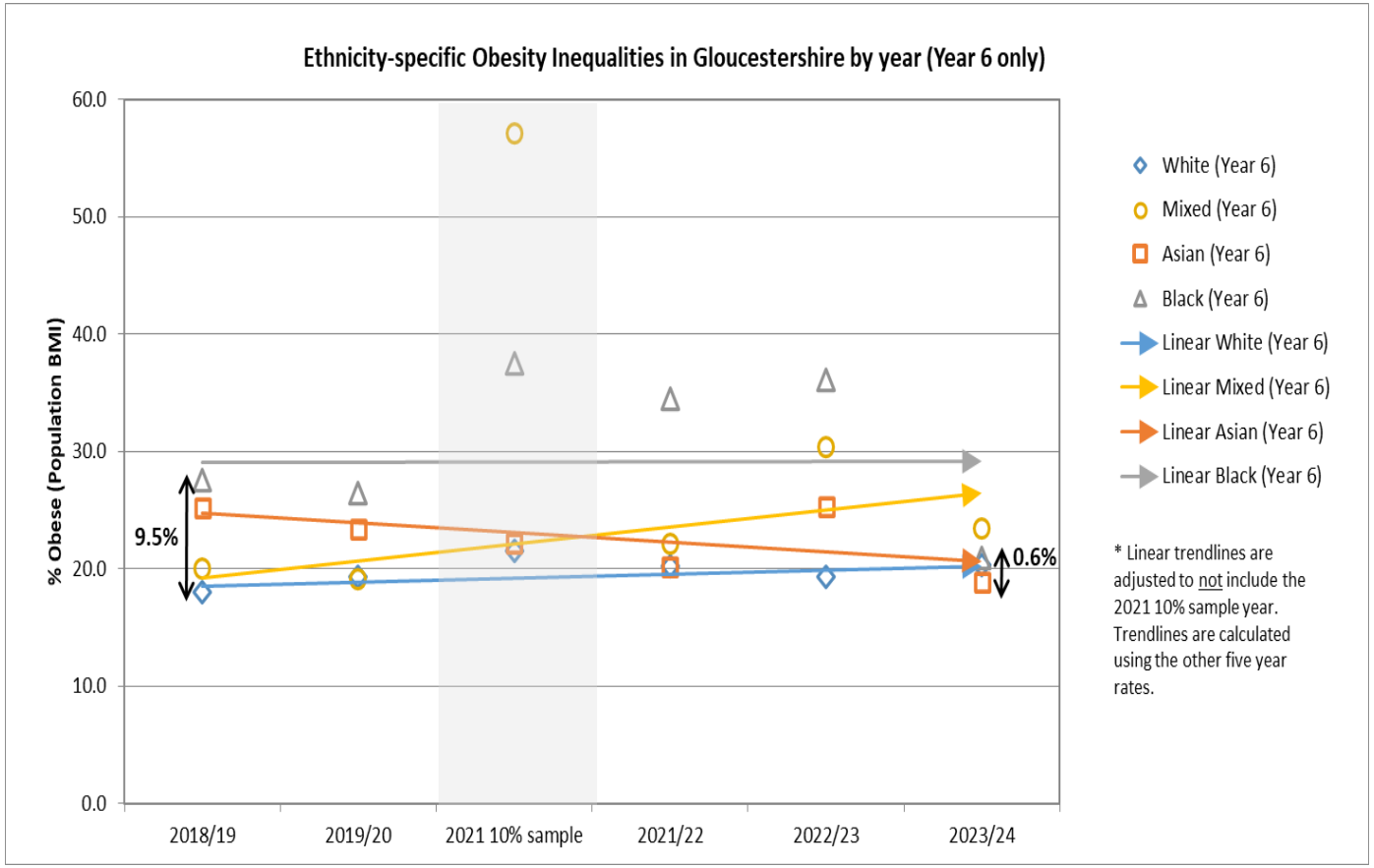
In **Reception,** there was no clear evidence of sex-specific inequalities in obesity prevalence.

In **Year 6** however, males were significantly more likely to live with obesity than females. This gap in obesity levels among males and females has narrowed, from 5.1% in 2018/19 to 4.6% in 2023/24.

Nationally, the gap in sex-specific obesity inequality for **Reception** Year children has been narrowing over the last 15 years of recording. The **Year 6** inequality gap for England in 2023/24 is comparable to Gloucestershire and continues to widen.

Sex	Reception Year Obesity Rates (2019-24)	Year 6 Obesity Rates (2019-24)
Male	9.4%	22.3%
Female	9.0%	17.4%

Inequalities in obesity according to ethnicity



Over the past 5 years in Gloucestershire…

The prevalence of childhood obesity has been shown to vary according to ethnicity.

Children of Black ethnicity were significantly more likely to have obesity than the Gloucestershire rate in Reception and Year 6 (this is also the same for children of Mixed ethnicity in Reception). There is no significantly statistical difference in obesity for children with Asian ethnicity.

National data shows slightly higher obesity rates in White, Asian and Black children when compared to Gloucestershire.

Ethnicity	Reception Year Obesity Rates (2019-24)	Year 6 Obesity Rates (2019-24)
White	10.0%	19.4%
Asian	7.0%	22.6%
Black	14.0%	28.4%
Mixed	10.5%	23.8%

Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) – please see slide 15 for a visual representation of Gloucestershire obesity prevalence by ethnic group and age, using confidence intervals.

A word around inequalities

This report highlights that obesity does not affect all children equally.

These inequalities are not unique to Gloucestershire; children living in the most deprived areas in England are more than twice as likely to live with obesity than those living in the least (1).

Obesity is **not** an individual choice. The options and opportunities we have available to us affect how healthy and active we are. Our society is plentiful with unhealthy options and some neighbourhoods have fewer opportunities to access affordable and nutritious food or to run and play safely.

Only a few of the factors associated with an increased risk of childhood obesity are highlighted in this report. The complexity of health and weight means that a range of factors influence a child's risk of obesity. These include but are not limited to living with a disability, living in care or living with a physical or mental health condition.

As a county, we aim to narrow the health inequalities that exist for children, young people and families. This means that in the planning, implementation and delivery of healthier lifestyle offers, we are committed to a continuous cycle of listening, learning and adapting to meet the needs of communities.

Contact Information

We invite partners to use this data in the planning and development of preventative activities that support a fairer, healthier and happier society for children, young people and families.

For any comments in relation to data quality, please contact:
inform.gloucestershire@gloucestershire.gov.uk

For further information about Gloucestershire's Healthier Lifestyles Programme for children, young people and families, please contact:

BZBinfo@maximusuk.co.uk