

Life expectancy and healthy ageing in Gloucestershire

Data up to 2022-2024

Published in October 2026

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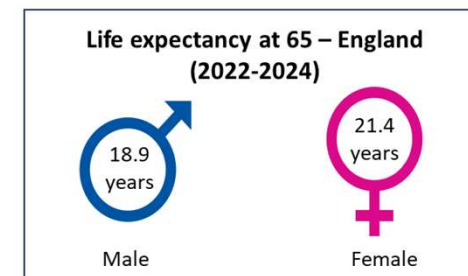
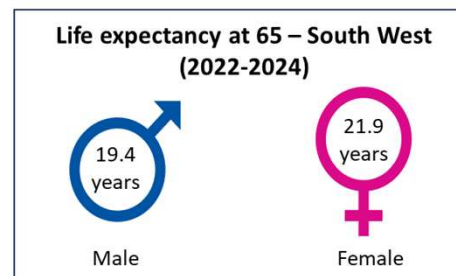
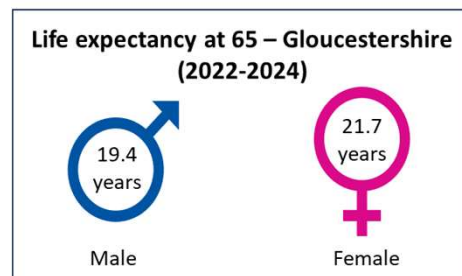
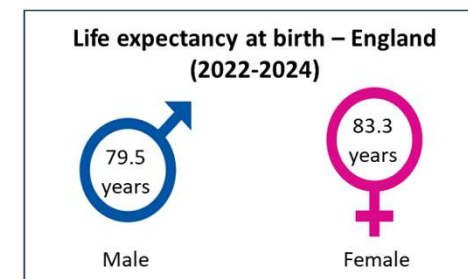
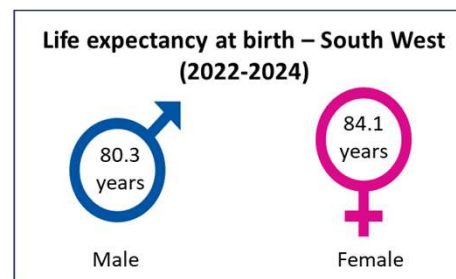
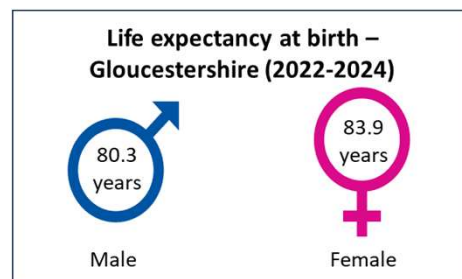


Life expectancy in Gloucestershire¹

“Life expectancy” is a measure of estimated length of life in a population.

In Gloucestershire male life expectancy at birth is **80.3 years** and female life expectancy at birth is **83.9 years**.

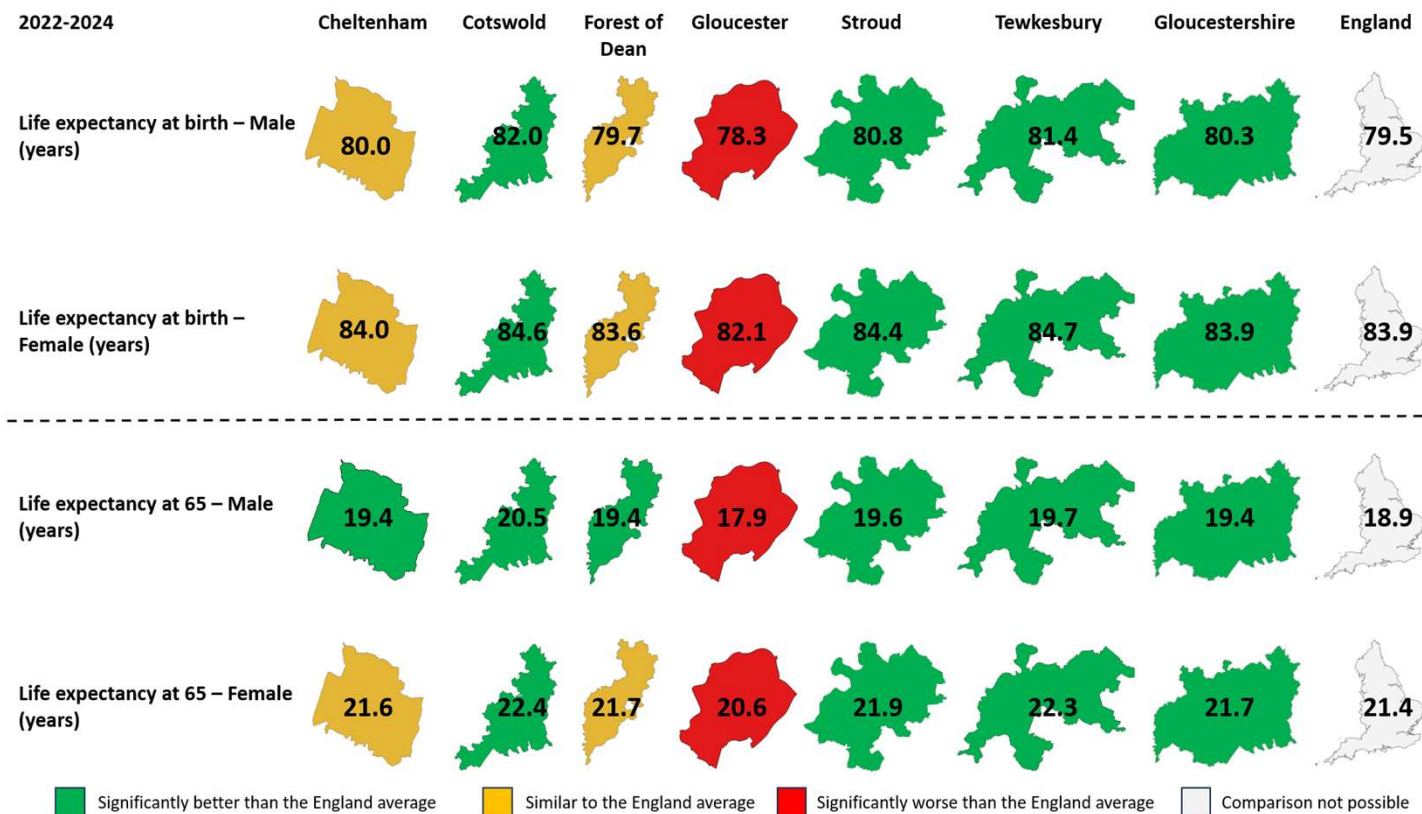
Life expectancy at age 65 years is a further **19.4 years** for males and a further **21.7 years** for females.



Variation across Gloucestershire¹

Male life expectancy at birth ranges from 78.3 years in Gloucester, to 82.0 years in Cotswold, a difference of **3.7 years**.

Female life expectancy at birth ranges from 82.1 years in Gloucester to 84.7 years in Tewkesbury, a difference of **2.6 years**.



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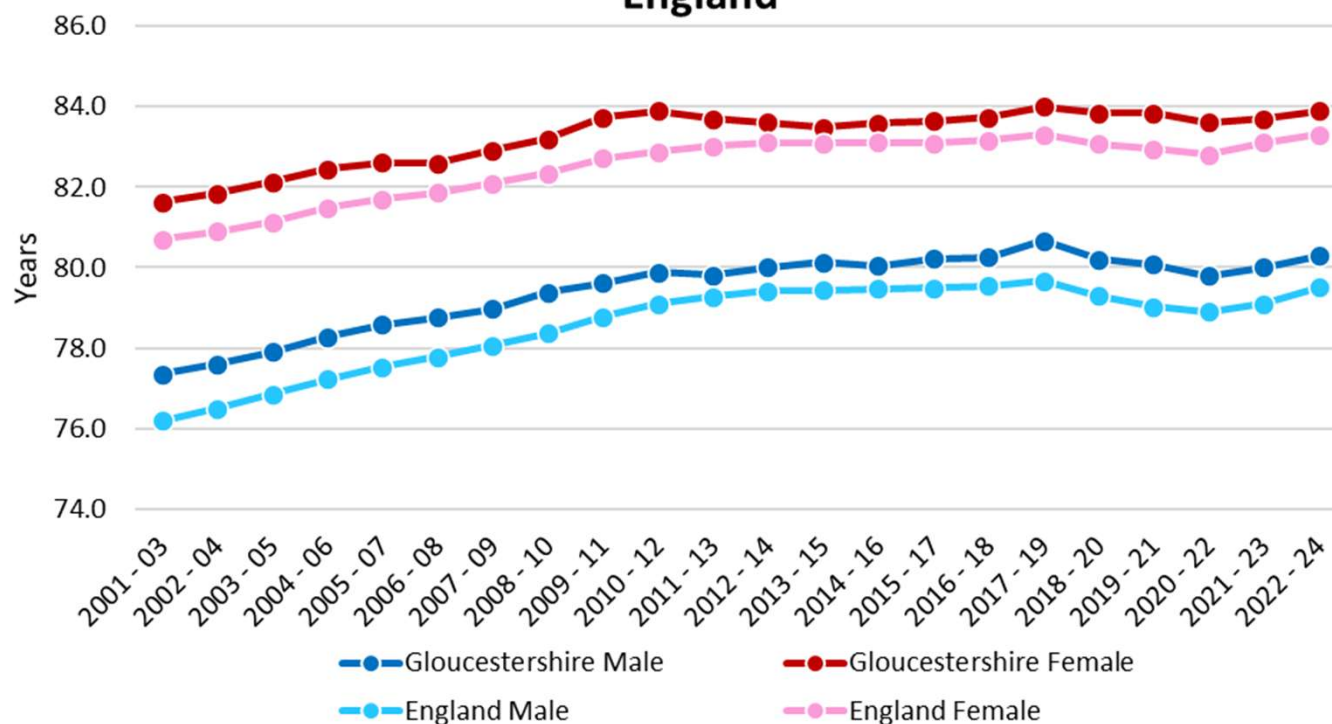
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Change over time¹

In the late 1990's and early 2000's, local and national life expectancy at birth rose steadily.

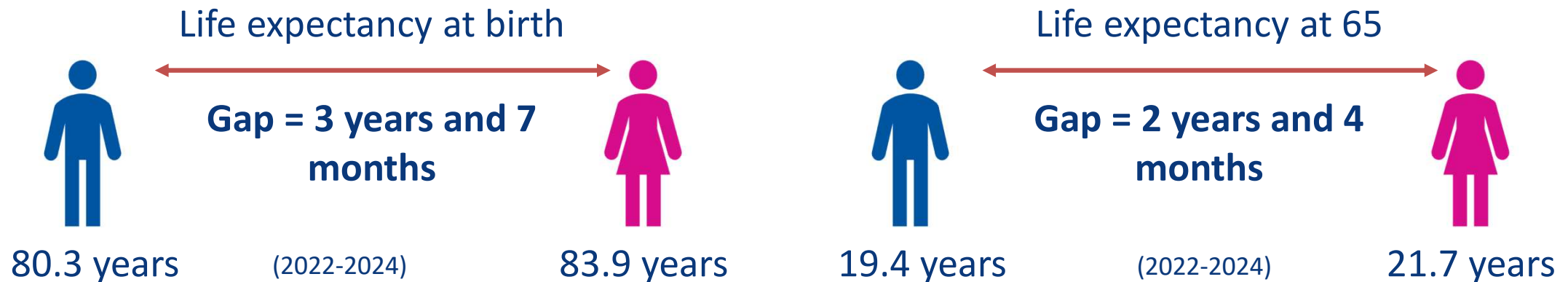
However, over the last ten years this improvement had levelled off and begun to decline (up until 2020-2022). In the most recent two periods (2021-2023, and 2022-2024) there has been an increase in life expectancy nationally and locally for both males and females, although these changes are not statistically significant.

Trend in life expectancy at birth, Gloucestershire and England



Inequality in life expectancy: Sex¹

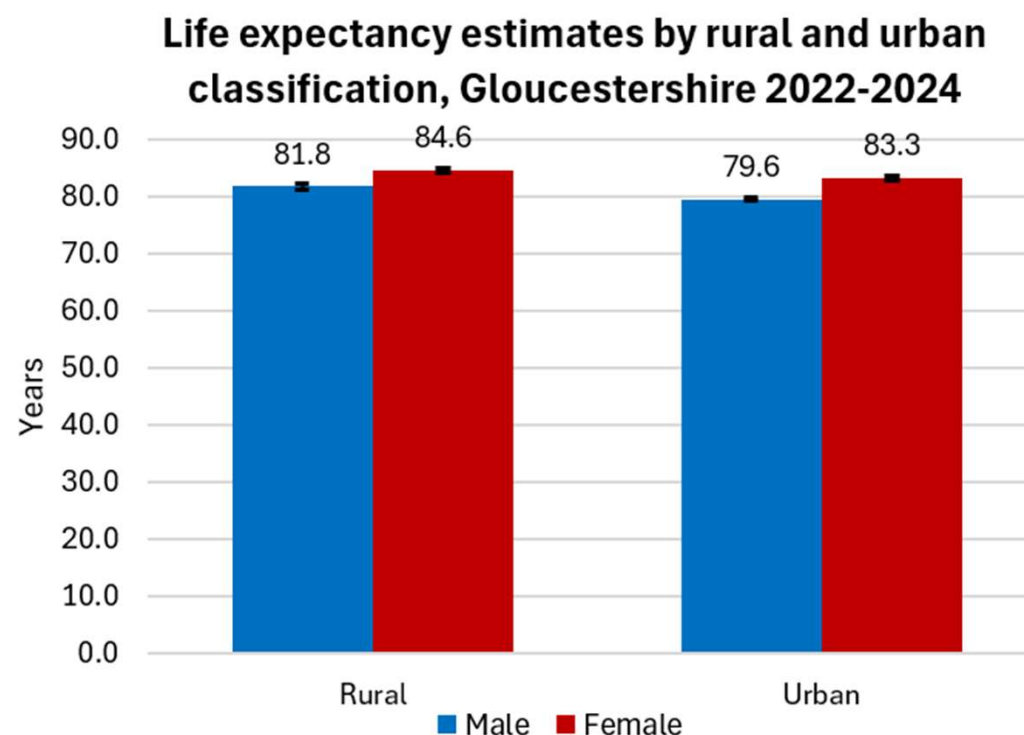
Sex has a role to play in life expectancy: women live longer than men. In Gloucestershire, they can expect to live an average **3 years and 7 months longer**. The picture is similar for life expectancy at age 65. The gap between males and females for life expectancy at 65 is around **two years and four months**.



Inequality in life expectancy: urban-rural classification³

Estimated life expectancy was **higher in rural areas** than in urban areas for both **males and females**.

The difference is **larger for males (2.2 years)** than for females (1.3 years).

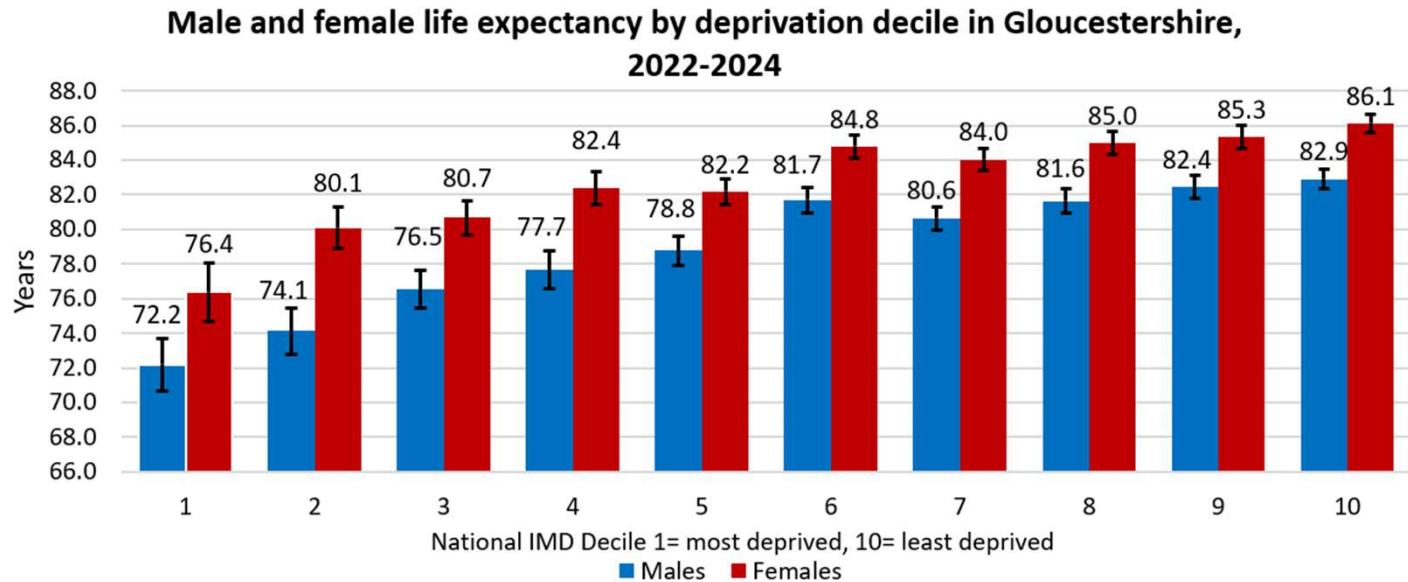


Inequality in life expectancy: deprivation³

Life expectancy **improves** as deprivation decreases for both males and females.

The **gap** between the most and least deprived areas is **substantial**, particularly for males (10.7 years).

Females have a **higher** life expectancy than males across all deprivation levels.

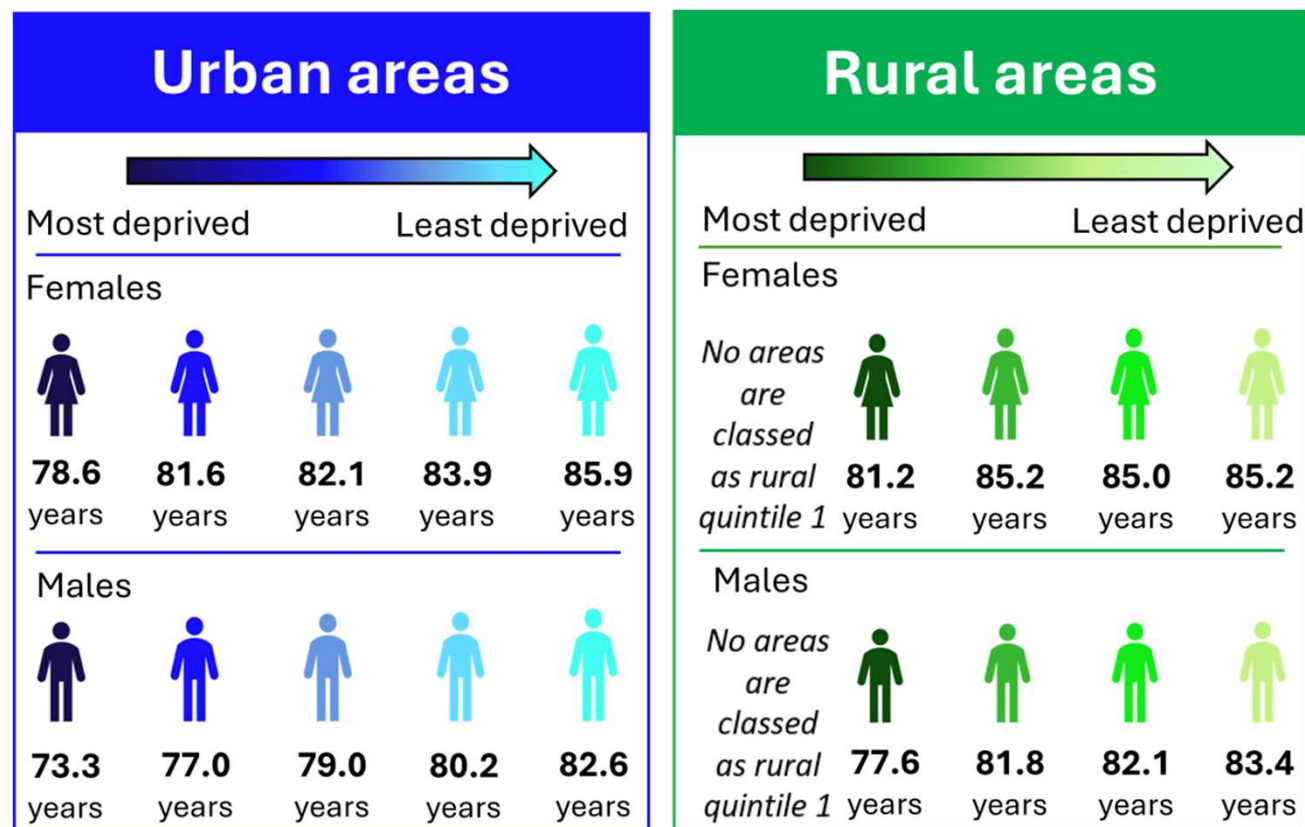


Inequality in life expectancy: urban-rural classification and deprivation³

Across similar levels of deprivation, people living in **rural areas** generally have a **higher** life expectancy than those living in urban areas.

The urban-rural gap is **greatest** in **quintile 3**, particularly for males.

The findings suggest that **both deprivation and place** are associated with **inequalities in life expectancy** in Gloucestershire.

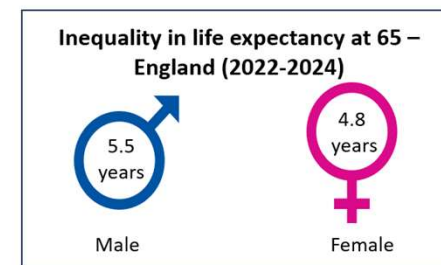
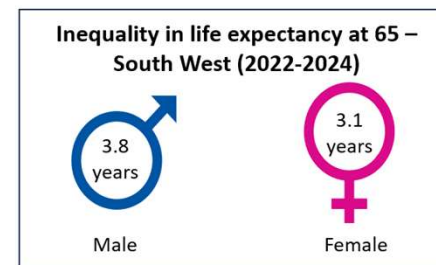
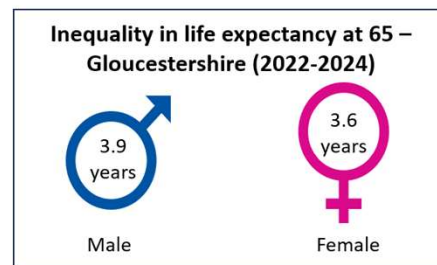
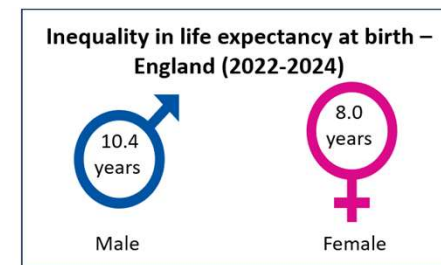
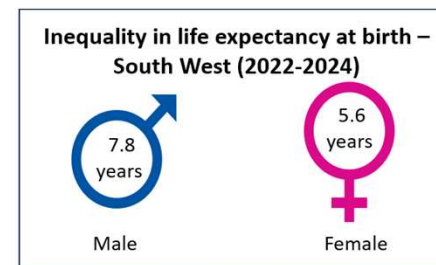
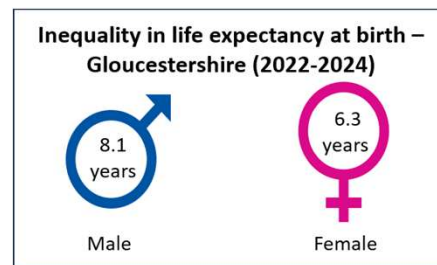


Inequality in life expectancy: Slope Index of Inequality²

The Slope Index of Inequality estimates the life expectancy gap between the most and least deprived parts of the population, using information from all deprivation groups.

In Gloucestershire, males born in the most deprived areas of the county could expect to live **8 years and 1 month less** than those born in the most affluent areas.

Females born in the most deprived areas could expect to live **6 years and 4 months less** than those born in the most affluent areas.

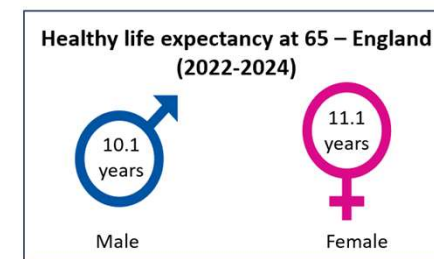
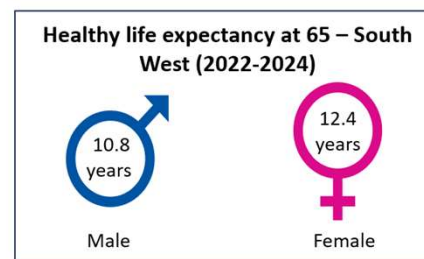
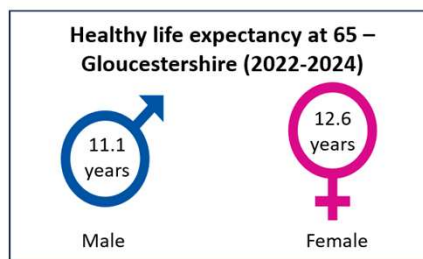
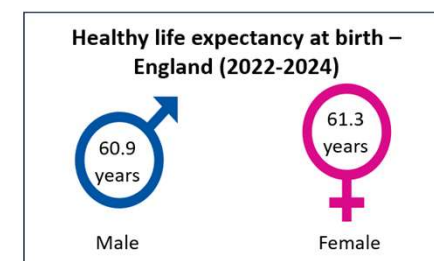
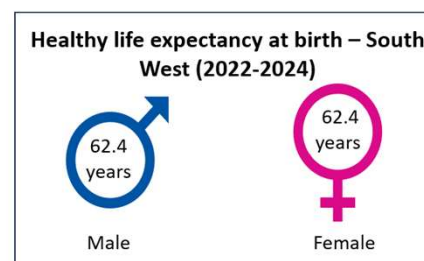
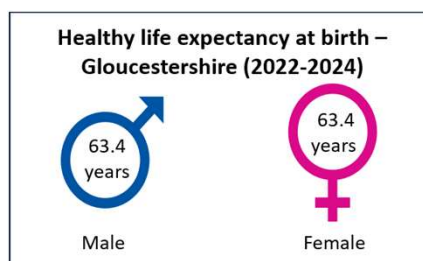


Healthy Life expectancy⁴

Healthy life expectancy measures the average number of years a person would expect to live in good health rather than with a disability or in poor health.

In Gloucestershire male healthy life expectancy at birth is **63.4 years** and female healthy life expectancy at birth is **63.4 years**.

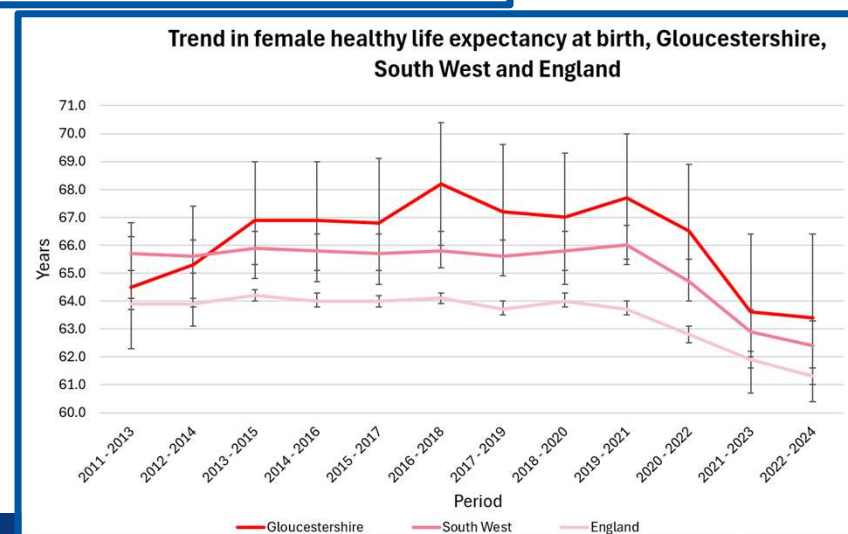
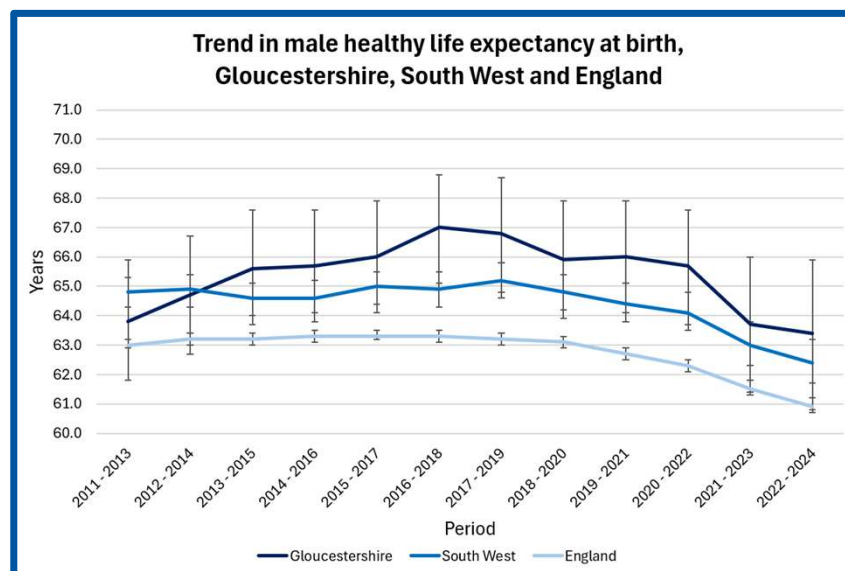
Healthy life expectancy at age 65 is a further **11.1 years** for males and **12.6 years** for females.



Change over time⁴

Healthy life expectancy in Gloucestershire showed an increasing trend between the periods 2011-2013 and 2016-2018, although not statistically significant.

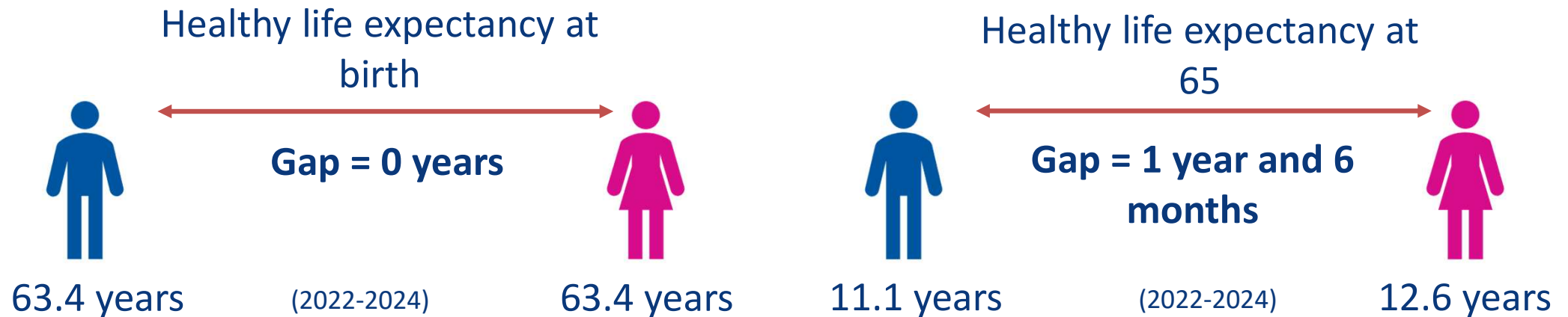
Between 2017-2019 and 2022-2024, healthy life expectancy fell across Gloucestershire, the South West and England for both males and females. In contrast to overall life expectancy, healthy life expectancy has continued to decline in recent years.



Inequality in healthy life expectancy: Sex⁴

Looking at healthy life expectancy there is **no gap** between male and female healthy life expectancy **at birth**. However, looking at the healthy life expectancy data for **people aged 65** in 2022-2024 females can expect to live **1 year and 6 months** longer than males in good health.

This is in contrast to the significant gap in life expectancy between males and females.

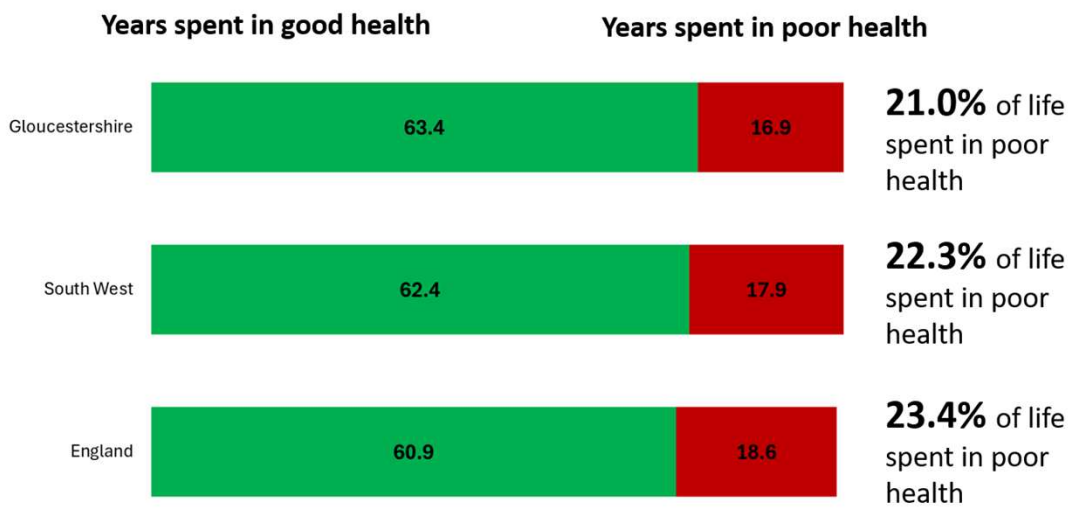


Time spent in poor health^{1,4}

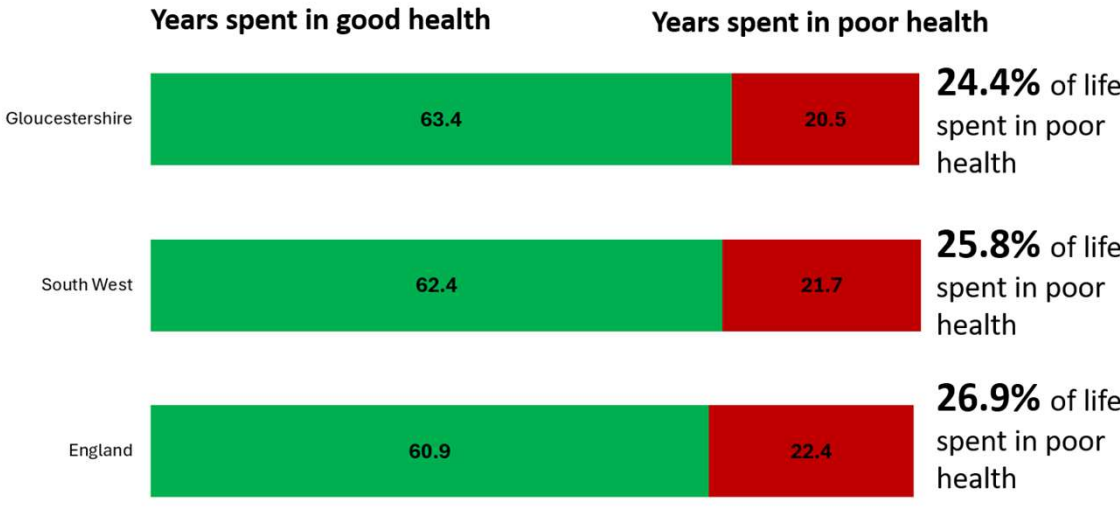
A Gloucestershire male could expect to live around **16.9 years** or **21.0%** of their life in poor health.

A Gloucestershire female could expect to live around **20.5 years** or **24.4%** of their life in poor health.

Time spent in good/poor health – Males, Gloucestershire, South West and England (2022-2024)



Time spent in good/poor health – Females, Gloucestershire, South West and England (2022-2024)

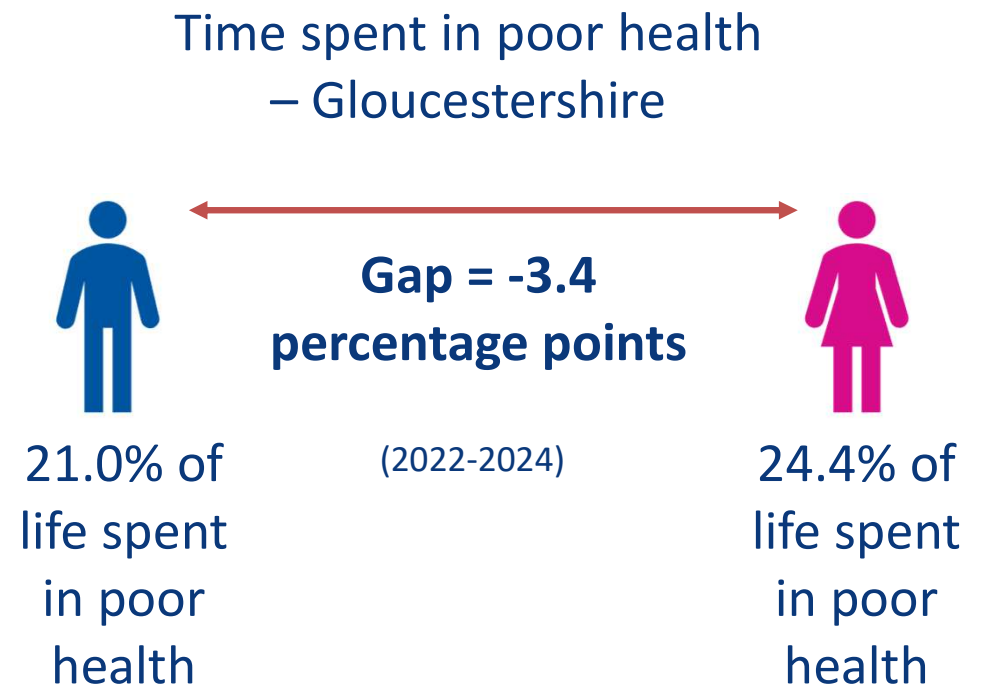


Inequality in time spent in poor health: Sex^{1,4}

A male in Gloucestershire is estimated to spend **16.9 years** or **21.0%** of their life living in poor health.

A female in Gloucestershire is estimated to spend **20.5 years** or **24.4%** of their life living in poor health.

This suggests while females live longer, they spend longer in poor health than males.



Long term conditions⁵

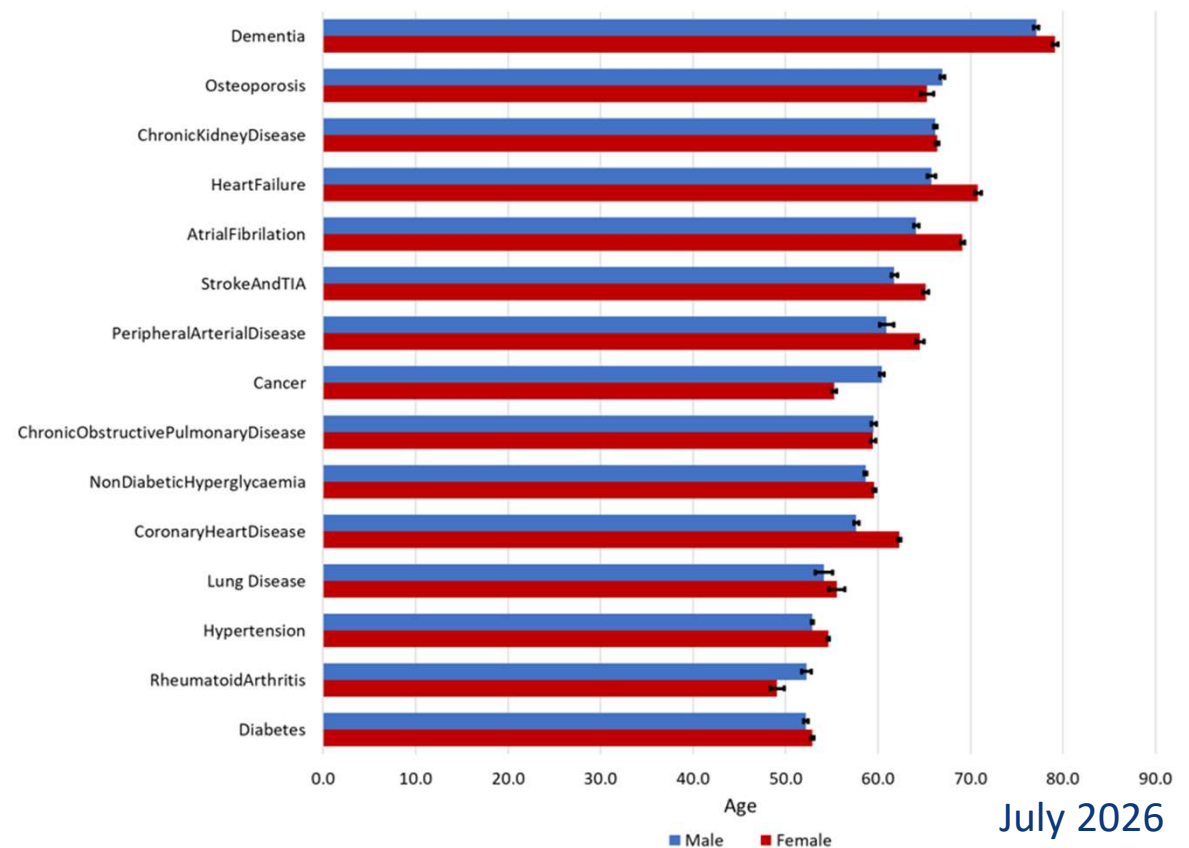
These long-term conditions are ones that carry a high risk of mortality or negatively impact a person's daily function or quality of life.

Most conditions are diagnosed in the late 50's or 60's.

On average diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis were diagnosed at the earliest age.

Dementia was diagnosed later than all other conditions.

Average age of first diagnosis of long-term conditions by sex- Gloucestershire



July 2026

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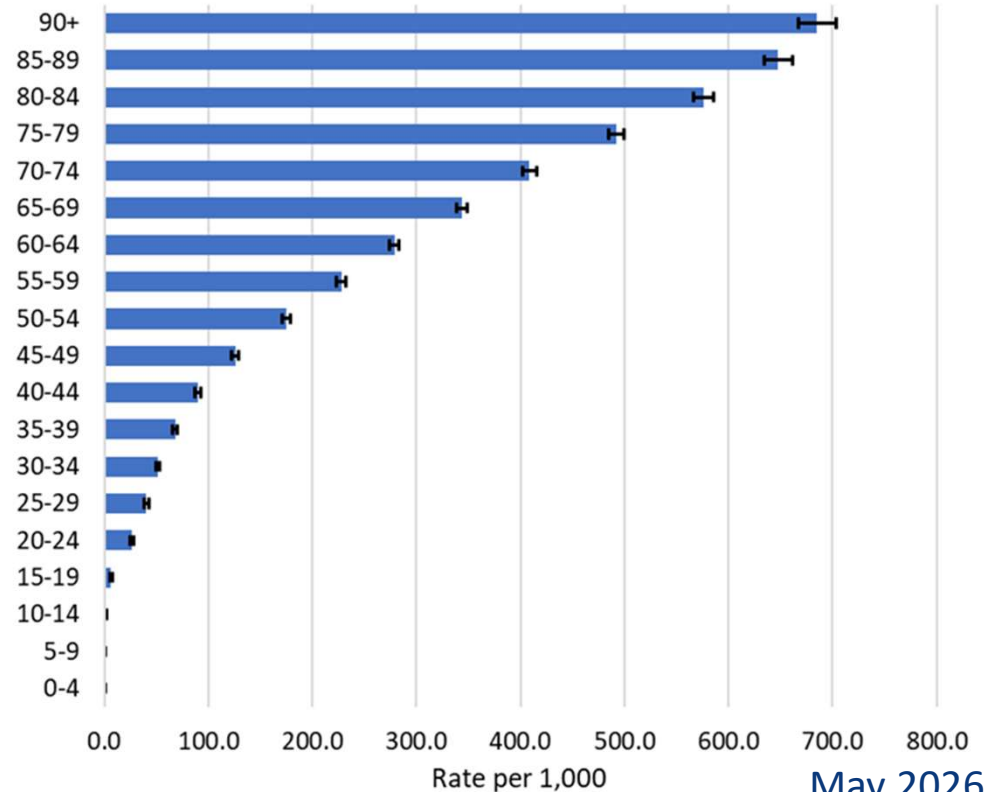
Multi-morbidity⁶

Multi-morbidity is the presence of 2 or more long-term health conditions in a single individual.

There are around 122,884 people in the county with multi-morbidities. This equates to a rate of 176.7 per 1,000 registered patients.

The prevalence of multi-morbidities increases with age. The rate of multi-morbidity is highest amongst those aged 90+, where it stands at 703.8 per 1,000 registered patients.

Rate of multi-morbidities by 5-year age band, Gloucestershire



May 2026

Sources

1. Life expectancy for local areas between 2001 to 2003 and 2022 to 2024, ONS
2. PHOF, OHID.
3. Local analysis produced by the Data, Analysis and Insights Team at Gloucestershire County Council
4. Health state life expectancies in England, Northern Ireland and Wales: between 2011 to 2013 and 2022 to 2024, ONS
5. Gloucestershire ICB
6. Gloucestershire ICB

