

Introduction

The area shown on the map is amongst the most deprived in the country, and what is more, it has been that way for at least 20 years. This makes it extremely rare and truly intensely deprived. Most authorities of our size would expect to have either no areas like this, or maybe just one; we have five that have always been in the 2% most deprived in the country in every IMD (and one of those always in the 1% most deprived). This persistent and intense deprivation is the reason for producing this set of reports; to dig a little deeper into the data, and to better understand the nature of the area.

The analysis is a collaboration with Chris Lloyd and team at Queens University Belfast and covers the period from 2004 to 2025.

The Indices of Deprivation

Often known as the IMD, it is a set of measures of relative deprivation at a small area geography. It comprises seven themes (or 'domains') of deprivation (Income, Employment, Education, Health, Crime, Living Environment, and Barriers to Housing & Services) and an overall Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) which combines the seven themes. The update in 2025 was the latest in a series going back to 2000 (though this analysis starts in 2004).

The IMD feeds into funding calculations, and often we only use the overall measure at Local Authority level. But there is a wealth of data that are calculated at these small areas (142 of these areas are in Oldham), for those seven different themes (domains). The five most persistently deprived areas of Oldham are the subject of these reports.

The small areas (Lower Super Output Areas, or LSOAs) were introduced in 2004, and recent work by Prof Chris Lloyd at the University of Belfast allows us to look at a time series for our LSOAs between 2004 and 2025.

Format of the Report

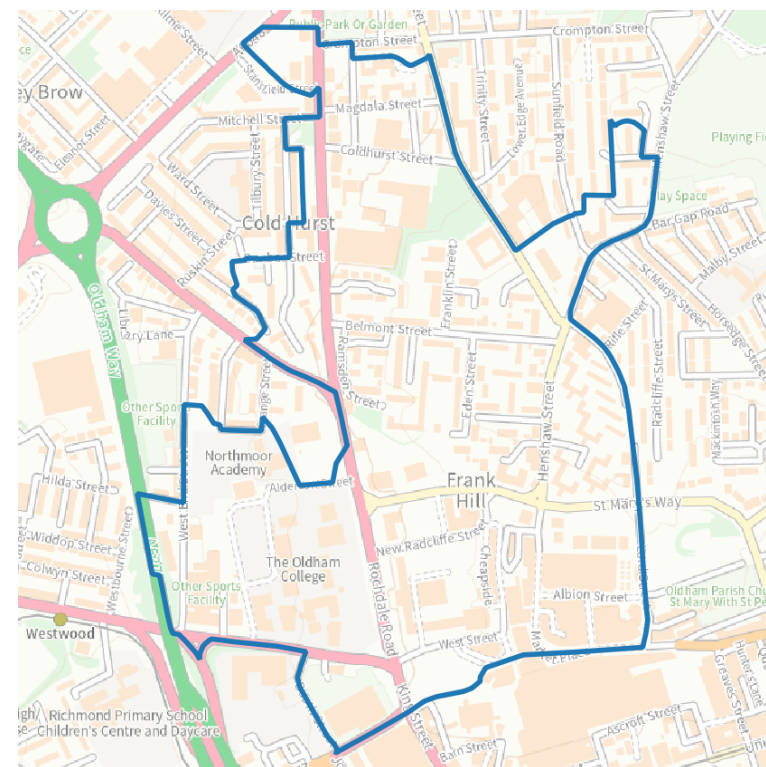
Page 1	Area Context: Information about the LSOA - the people, buildings and infrastructure
Page 2	Longitudinal Summary: Charts showing deprivation from 2004-2025 across the 7 themes and the overall IMD
Page 3	Income and Employment: Underlying data is not supplied, so we use recent Universal Credit data for both
Page 4	Education Theme: Change over time, comparison with Oldham, and 2025 underlying data
Page 5	Health Theme: Change over time, comparison with Oldham, and 2025 underlying data
Page 6	Crime Theme: Change over time, comparison with Oldham, and 2025 underlying data
Page 7	Barriers to Housing & Services Theme: Change over time, comparison with Oldham, and 2025 underlying data
Page 8	Living Environment Theme: Change over time, comparison with Oldham, and 2025 underlying data
Pages 9-11	Information on sources

What is the Geography Used?

Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are a statistical geography, not representing 'real' community boundaries. The five LSOAs chosen for these reports have on average a population of 2,000 people (ranging between around 1,500 to 2,500).

LSOAs names (e.g. 'Oldham 014D') are not meaningful, so a rough description of the area has been included at the top of each page, in addition to the map that is shown on a few of the pages.

Oldham 014B : Belmont Street Surrounds, Coldhurst



How the report might be used

- As a catalyst for intervention in the area
- As the basis for further research
- As evidence for the need for funding

Contacts and Links

- [John Pritchard, Oldham Council](#)
- [Trajectories of Deprivation Project, Queens University Belfast](#)

LSOA Name

Oldham 014B

Persistence of Deprivation Area Context

Oldham 014B : Belmont Street Surrounds, Coldhurst

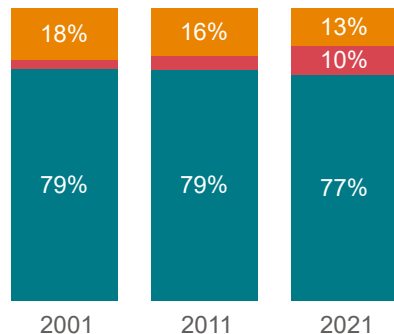


Housing

- Majority social rented housing:
- large number of deck access flats
- majority on a communal heating network
- some overcrowding – a more recent trend
- Increasing private rent in last 10 years, decrease in socially rented properties
- Some recent HMOs – including supported accommodation
- People living in temporary accommodation

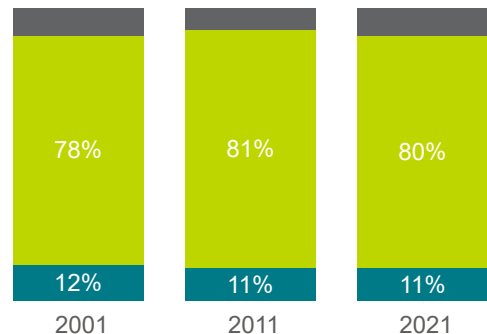
Housing Tenure

● Social rented ● Private Rented ● Owned



Housing Type

● Terraced ● Flat or Apartment ● Detached or Semi-Detached



Demographics

- Increase in people who are from ethnic minorities – in parts greater increase of people who identify as black
- Younger age profile for the area – more families than in 2010
- Decreasing elderly people

Population 2001-2011-2021



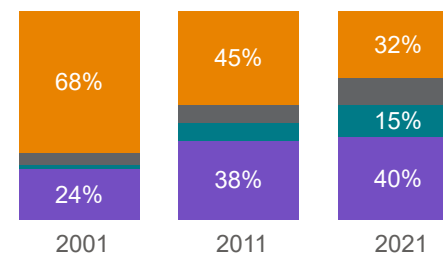
Household Type 2021

● 1 family ● 1 person ● Other



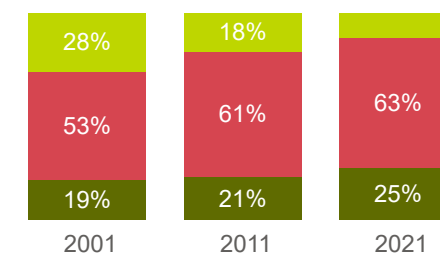
Broad Ethnic Group

● Asian ● Black ● Other ● White British



Broad Age Group

● Children ● Working Age ● Elderly



Location and Connectivity

- Close to the town centre with good public transport access
- Limited access to open space – closest is Oldham Edge



Crime and Community Safety

- Isolated pockets of ASB – reduced over the years
- Some racially motivated crimes
- Some activity linked to criminal gangs in the surrounding neighbourhoods

LSOA Name

Oldham 014B

Persistence of Deprivation Longitudinal Summary

Oldham 014B : Belmont Street Surrounds, Coldhurst

How to read this page

Each chart shows how this area ranks over time by theme (top left being the overall measure, adding all seven themes).

The percentage indicates where the area ranks in a national 'league table'. So for example 99.9% would mean it is in the top few most deprived LSOAs in the country, out of 33,000 of these small areas (LSOAs).

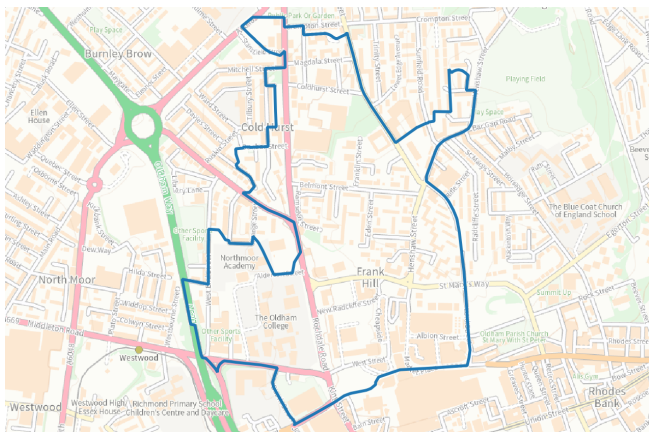
Five of the themes (domains) tend to show a similar persistent deprivation pattern, resulting in that pattern in the overall IMD. The 'Barriers to Housing & Services' and 'Living Environment' themes are often different, and how they are measured has changed somewhat over time.

More detail on each theme (domain) is on subsequent pages.

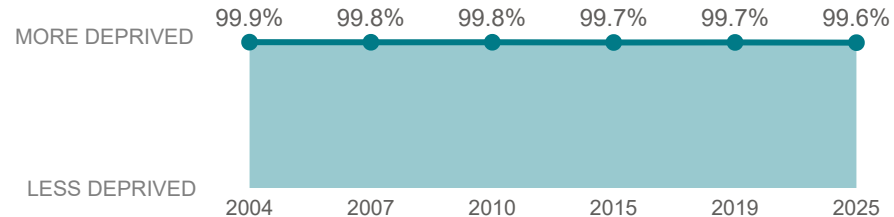
Population 2001-2011-2021 (Census)



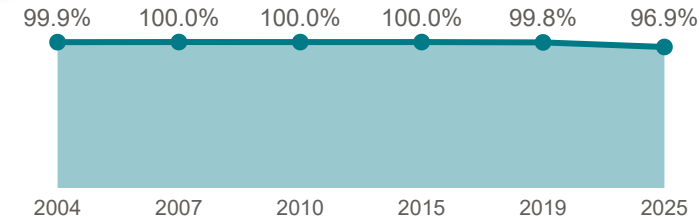
Oldham 014B : Belmont Street Surrounds, Coldhurst



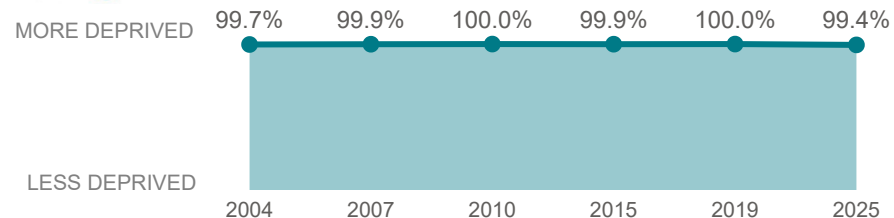
Overall IMD Rank Percentile



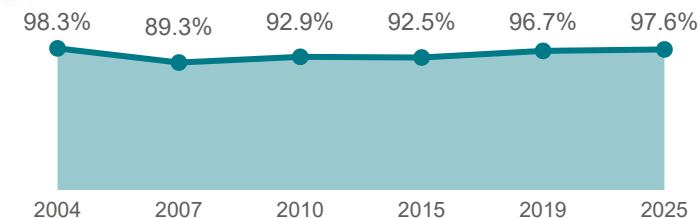
Health Domain Rank Percentile



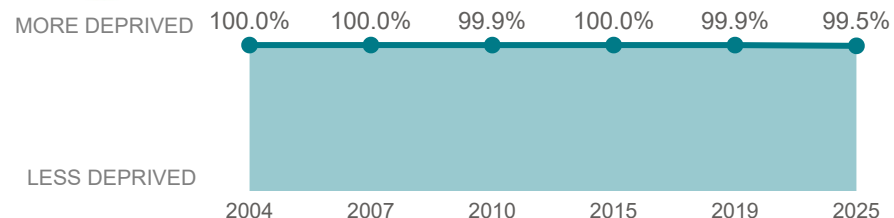
Income Domain Rank Percentile



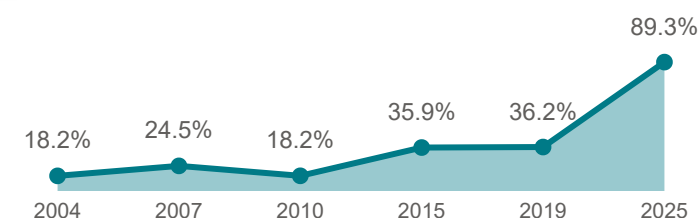
Crime Domain Rank Percentile



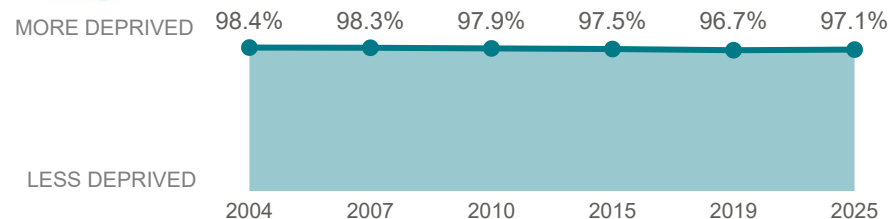
Employment Domain Rank Percentile



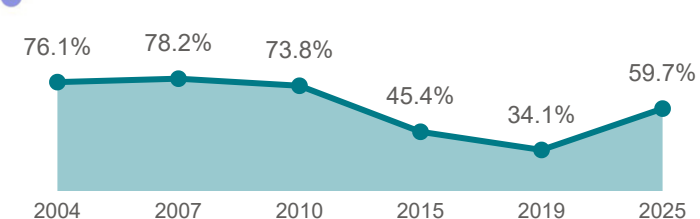
Barriers to Housing & Services Rank Percentile



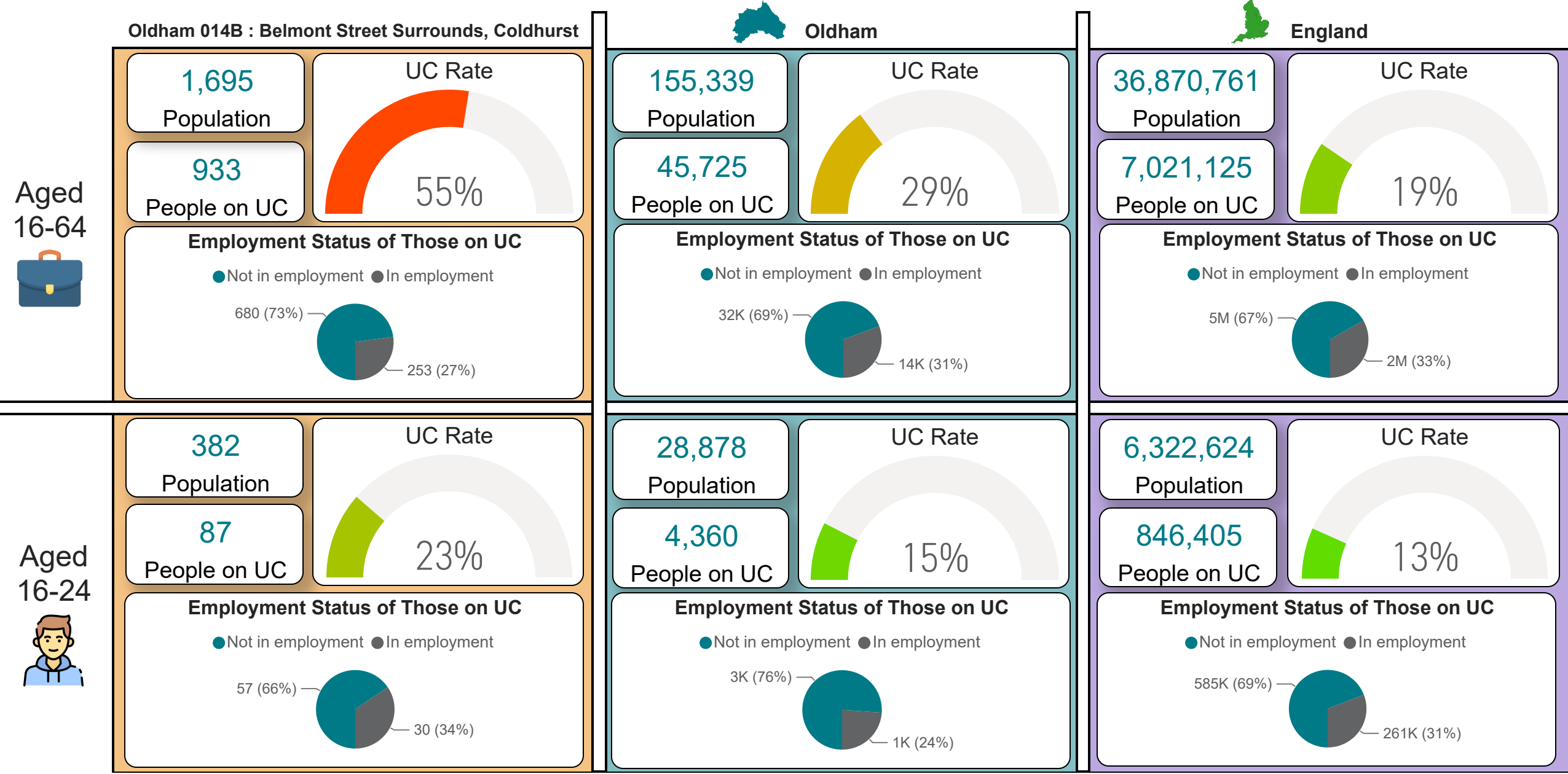
Education Domain Rank Percentile



Living Environment Domain Rank Percentile



Universal Credit: Working Age and Young People, LSOA and Comparators, November 2025. This helps us to understand the Income and Employment Domains



LSOA Name

Oldham 014B

Persistence of Deprivation

Education Domain

Oldham 014B : Belmont Street Surrounds, Coldhurst



The chart on the right shows how the national rank of the LSOA on the Education domain has changed over time, and compares to Oldham. The position of its rank is shown by a percentile figure, where 100.0% would mean it is amongst the most deprived few LSOAs in the country.

The bottom-left charts show the ranking of this LSOA (and comparators) in the underlying datasets used to form the Education domain. Note the four datasets to the bottom right were not in the release; they are our own more recent data.

Education Domain Rank Over time - Commentary

014B has always been in the most deprived 4% of LSOAs in the country on the Education domain, with only marginal improvements since the first couple of IMD iterations.

2021 Census Contextual Data

68%

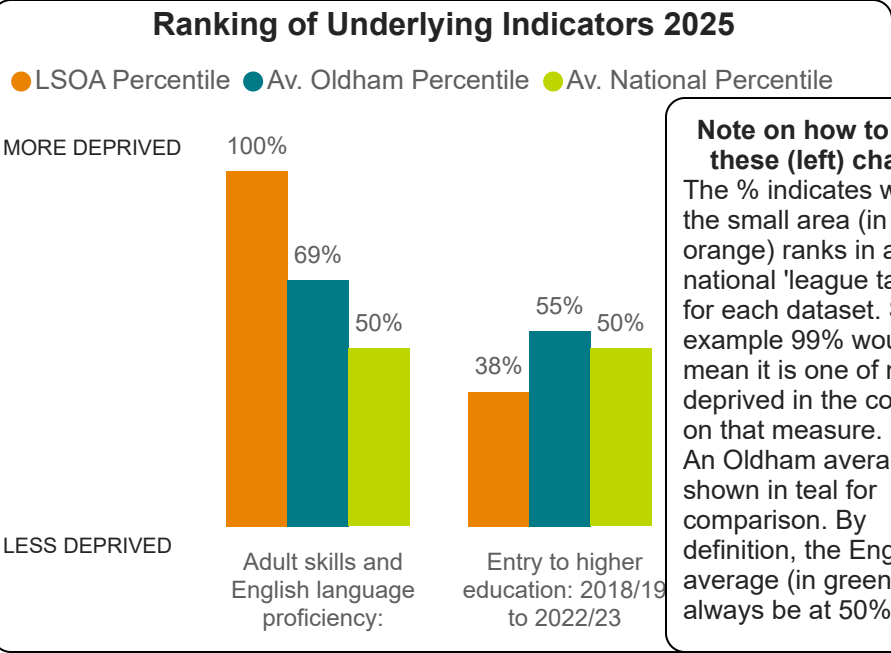
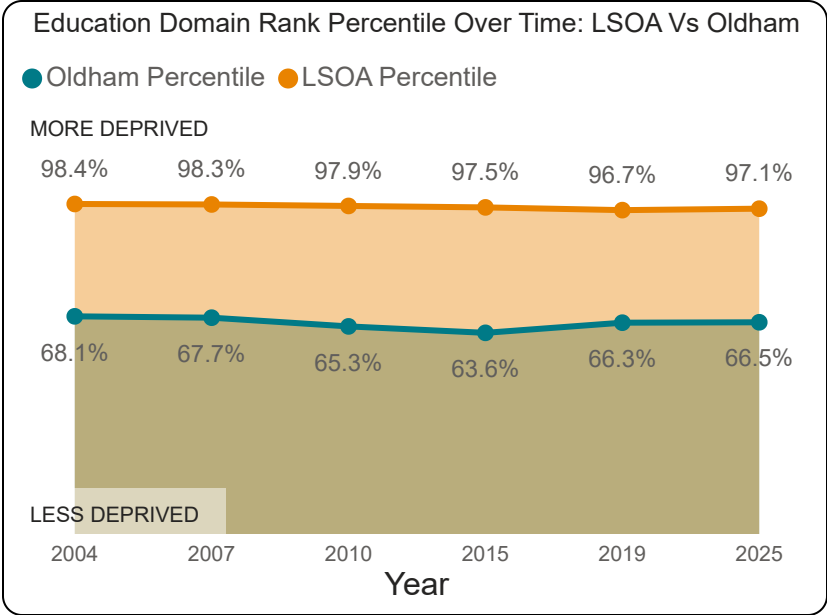
Ethnic Minority Groups

41%

Born Abroad

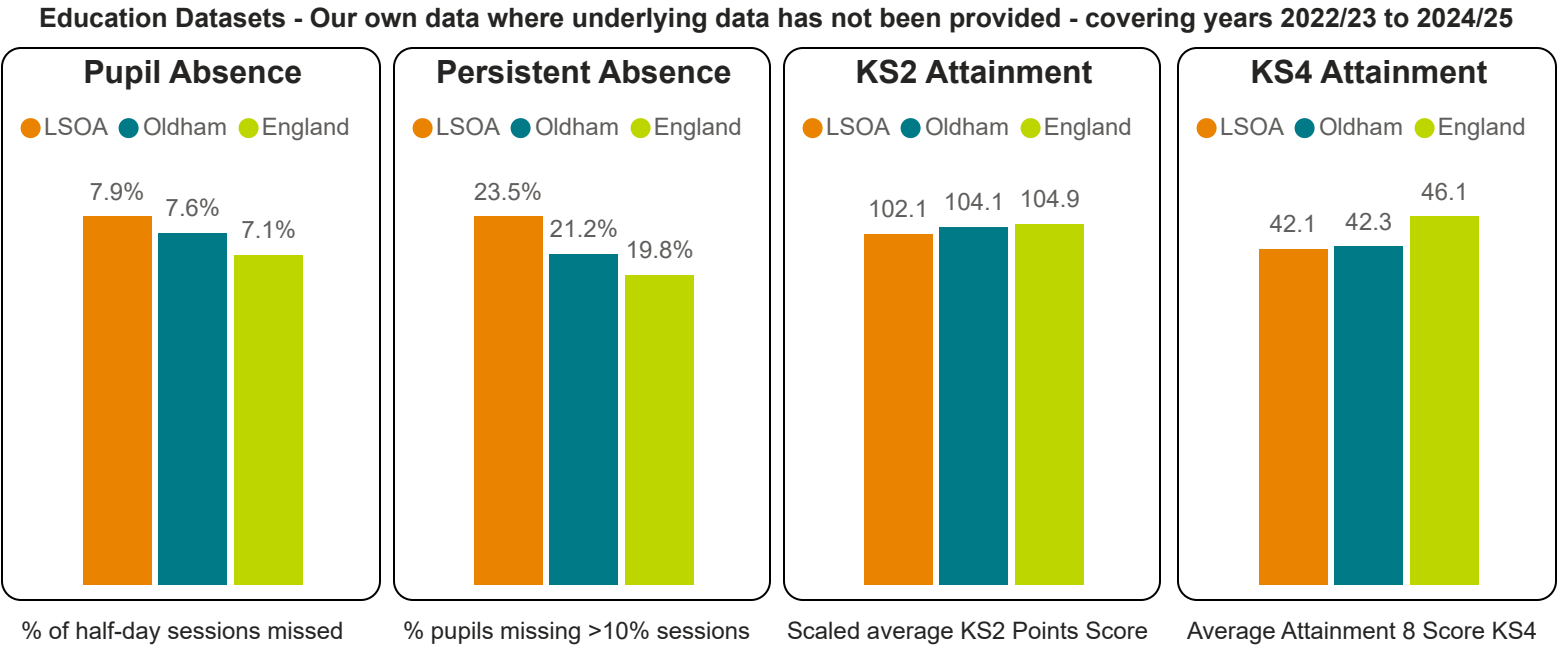
Underlying Indicators 2025 - Commentary

014B is a very diverse LSOA; 68% minority ethnic groups. Often older and recently arrived residents lack qualifications and have lower English Language proficiency. Yet levels of engagement and achievement amongst younger people from ethnic minorities is often high. Hence 014B is amongst the most deprived in the country on the Adults measure shown below, but less deprived on Entry to Higher Education. Rates of absence and persistent absence are above Oldham and national averages. The charts for attainment need to be read carefully - in these cases a higher score is less deprived. 014B students perform less well on average than Oldham and national averages at both KS2 (age 11) and KS4 (age 16).



Note on how to read these (left) charts

The % indicates where the small area (in orange) ranks in a national 'league table' for each dataset. So for example 99% would mean it is one of most deprived in the country on that measure. An Oldham average is shown in teal for comparison. By definition, the England average (in green) will always be at 50%



LSOA Name

Oldham 014B

Persistence of Deprivation

Health & Disability Domain

Oldham 014B : Belmont Street Surrounds, Coldhurst



The chart on the right shows how the national rank of the LSOA on the Health domain has changed over time, and compares to Oldham. The position of its rank is shown by a percentile figure, where 100.0% would mean it is amongst the most deprived few LSOAs in the country.

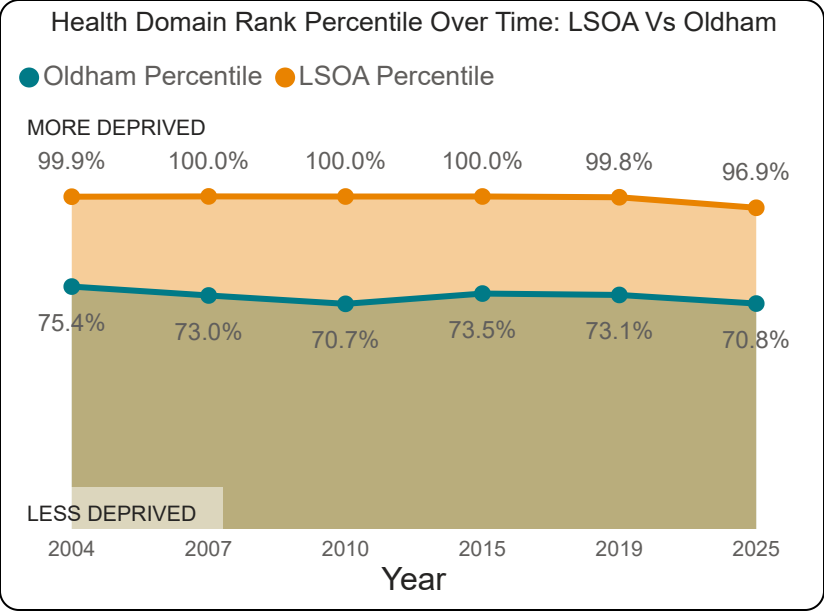
The charts below shows the ranking of this LSOA (and comparators) in the underlying datasets used to form the Health & Disability domain.

Health Domain Rank Over time - Commentary

After being in the most deprived 1% on the Health Domain until 2019, 014B has improved significantly in the rankings in 2025.

Underlying Indicators 2025 - Commentary

All four measures that collectively make up the Health Domain ranked very highly in 2025 compared to Oldham. The relative improvement in 2025 may be due to the ranking on the Mental Health measure being relatively somewhat less deprived.

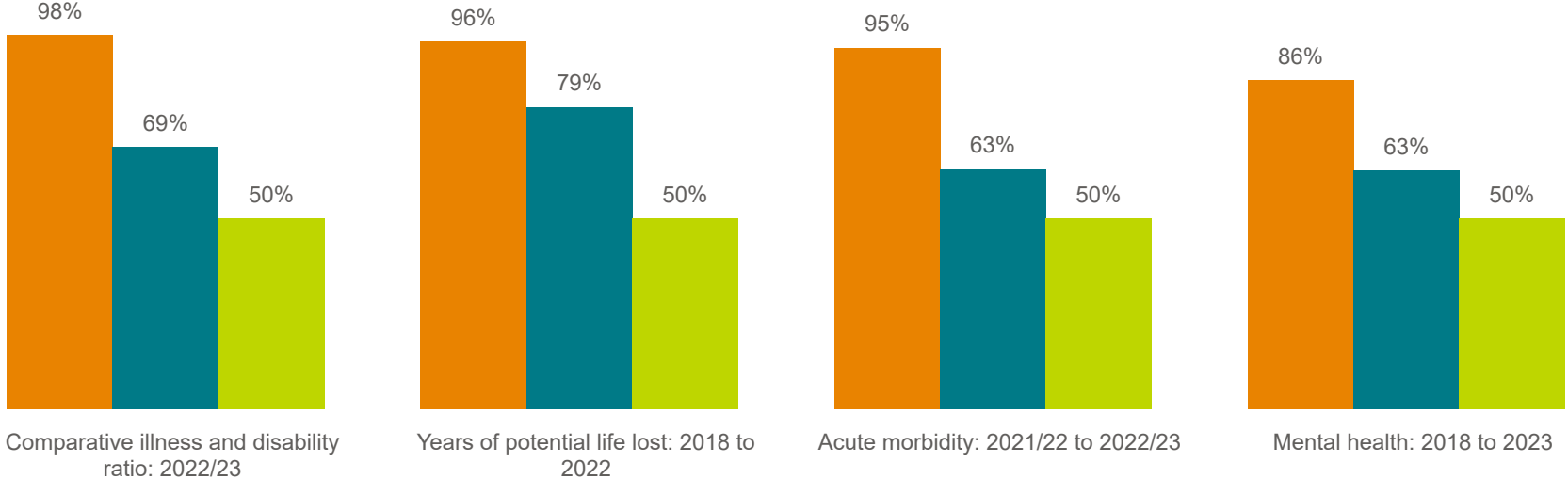


Ranking of Underlying Indicators 2025: LSOA Vs Oldham

● LSOA Percentile ● Average Oldham Percentile ● Average National Percentile

MORE DEPRIVED

LESS DEPRIVED



Note on how to read these charts

The percentage indicates where the small area (in orange) ranks in a national 'league table' for each dataset. So for example 99% would mean it is one of most deprived LSOAs (small areas) in the country on that measure.

An Oldham average is shown in teal for comparison.

By definition, the England average (in green) will always be at 50%

LSOA Name

Oldham 014B

Persistence of Deprivation Crime Domain

Oldham 014B : Belmont Street Surrounds, Coldhurst



The chart on the right shows how the national rank of the LSOA on the Crime domain has changed over time, and compares to Oldham. The position of its rank is shown by a percentile figure, where 100.0% would mean it is amongst the most deprived few LSOAs in the country.

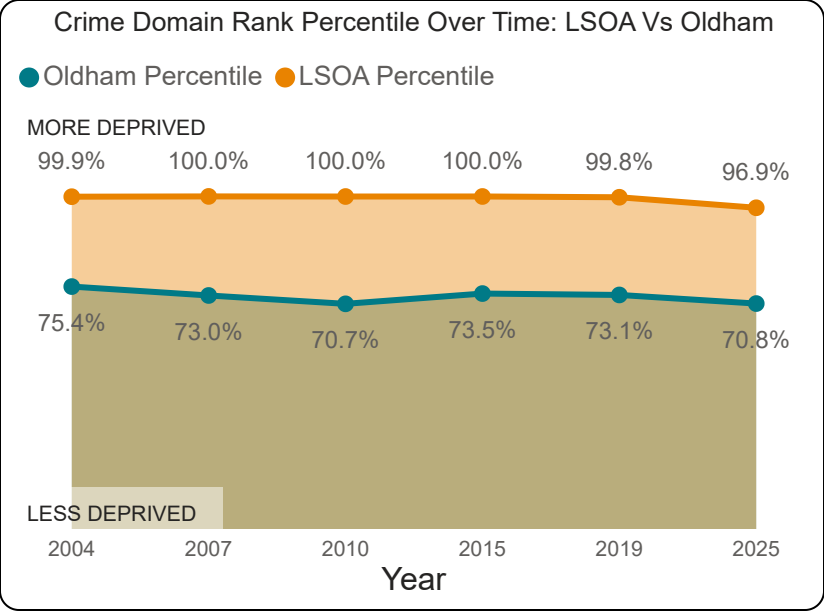
The charts below shows the ranking of this LSOA (and comparators) in the underlying datasets used to form the Crime domain.

Crime Domain Rank Over time - Commentary

After being in the most deprived 0.2% on the Crime Domain until the 2025 IMD iteration, 014B has improved slightly to be at around the 97th percentile.

Underlying Indicators 2025 - Commentary

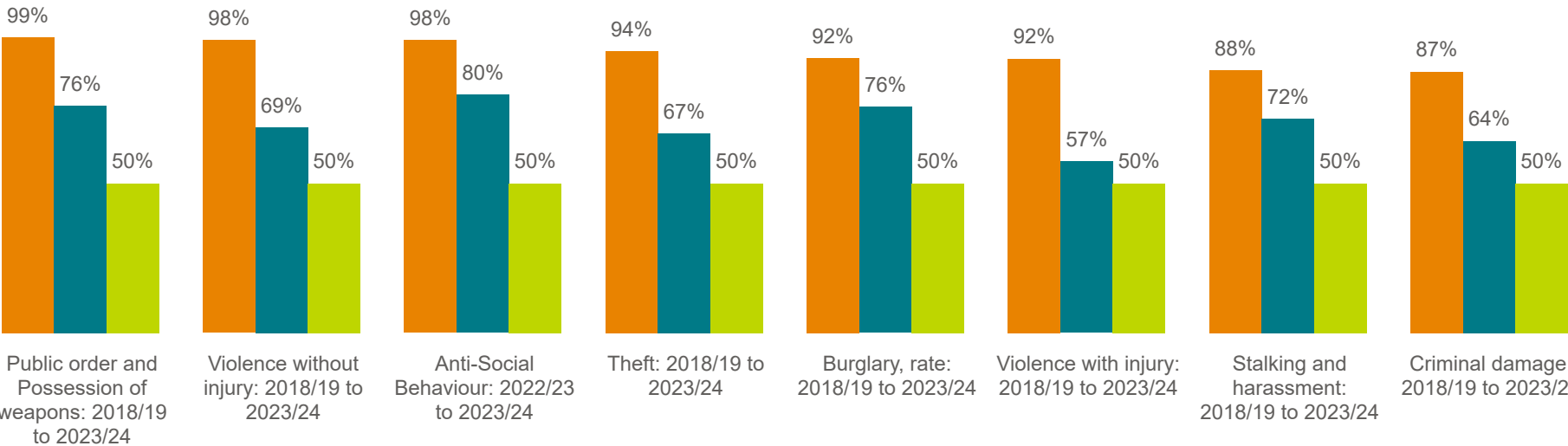
Rates of all of the types of crime used in forming this domain are high for the 2025 IMD. The highest relative rate is "Public Order and Possession of weapons" offences.



Ranking of Underlying Indicators 2025: LSOA Vs Oldham

● LSOA Percentile ● Average Oldham Percentile ● Average National Percentile

MORE DEPRIVED



Note on how to read these charts

The percentage indicates where the small area (in orange) ranks in a national 'league table' for each dataset. So for example 99% would mean it is one of most deprived LSOAs (small areas) in the country on that measure.

An Oldham average is shown in teal for comparison.

By definition, the England average (in green) will always be at 50%



The chart on the right shows how the national rank of the LSOA on the Barriers domain has changed over time, and compares to Oldham. The position of its rank is shown by a percentile figure, where 100.0% would mean it is amongst the most deprived few LSOAs in the country.

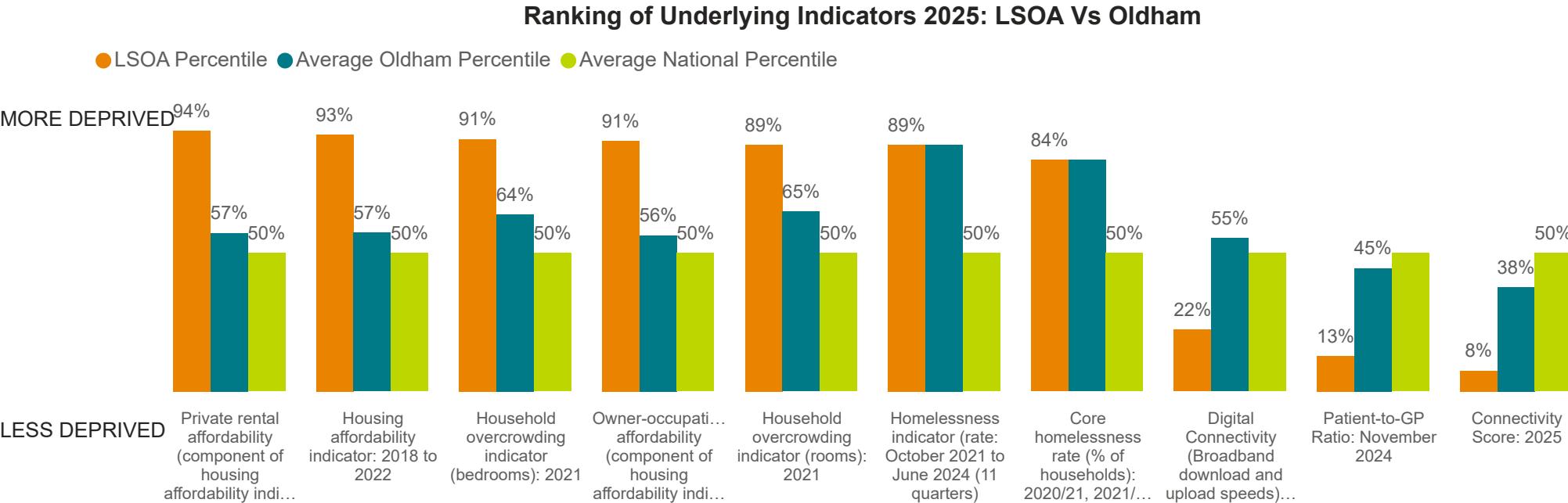
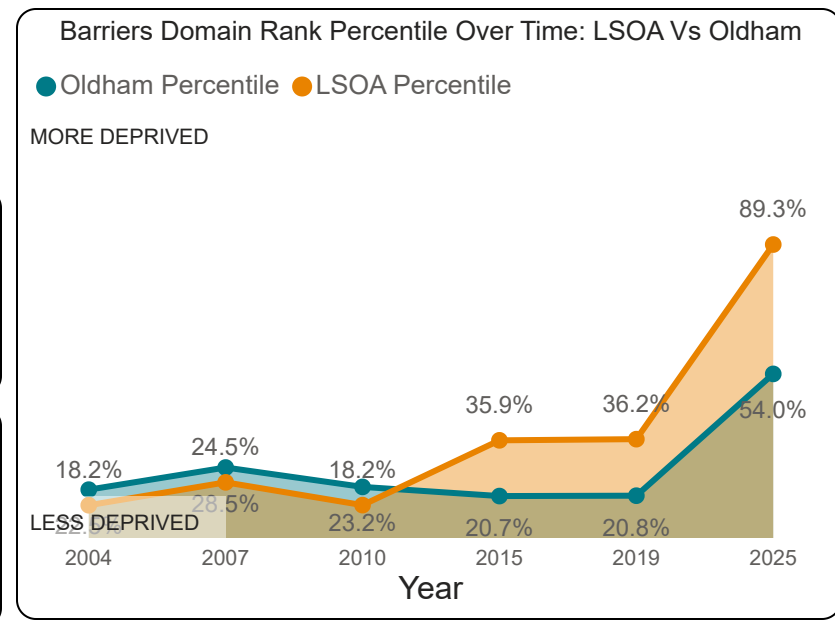
The charts below shows the ranking of this LSOA (and comparators) in the underlying datasets used to form the Barriers domain.

Barriers to Housing and Services Domain Rank Over time - Commentary

The measures that comprise the Barriers to Housing and Services Domain have evolved over time, so some of the change we see are a function of the changes rather than 'real' change in 014B LSOA. But we shouldn't ignore the fact that housing pressures in Oldham as a whole, and particularly in the more deprived areas have taken 014B up to the 89th percentile for of this domain in 2025.

Underlying Indicators 2025 - Commentary

The datasets making up this domain can be divided into 'Housing' and 'Others' (the 'others' being Connectivity, Digital Connectivity and Patient-to GP Ratio). It is all of the Housing measures that makes this LSOA relatively deprived on this domain. On the 'Other' (connectivity) measures it fares very well. Note the Homelessness indicators are from Oldham-level data, as homelessness cases by definition cannot be assigned to LSOAs. However, homelessness clearly impacts more deprived areas disproportionately.



Note on how to read these charts

The percentage indicates where the small area (in orange) ranks in a national 'league table' for each dataset. So for example 99% would mean it is one of most deprived LSOAs (small areas) in the country on that measure.

An Oldham average is shown in teal for comparison.

By definition, the England average (in green) will always be at 50%

LSOA Name

Oldham 014B



Persistence of Deprivation

Living Environment Domain

Oldham 014B : Belmont Street Surrounds, Coldhurst

The chart on the right shows how the national rank of the LSOA on the Living Environment domain has changed over time, and compares to Oldham. The rank is shown by a percentile figure, where 100.0% would mean it is amongst the most deprived few LSOAs in the country.

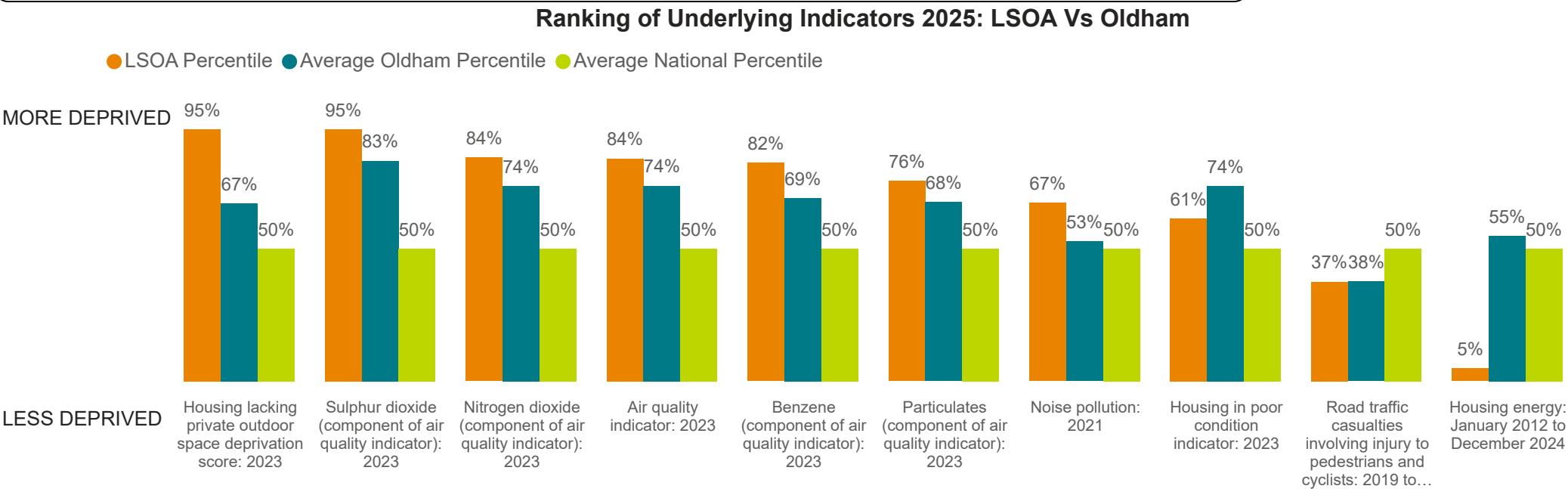
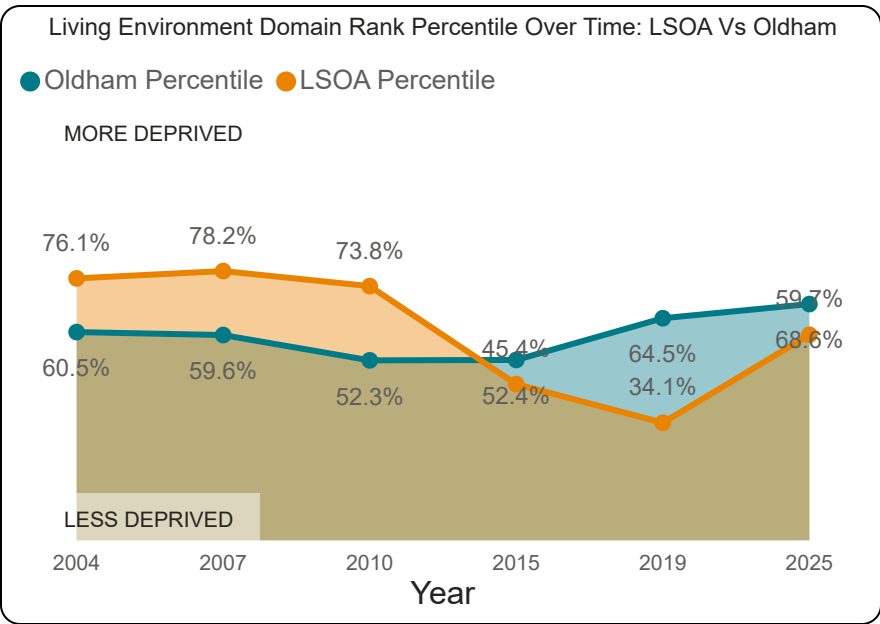
The charts below shows the ranking of this LSOA (and comparators) in the underlying datasets used to form the Living Environment domain.

Living Environment Domain Rank Over time - Commentary

The measures that comprise the Living Environment Domain have evolved over time (e.g. the addition of energy performance, outdoor space and noise pollution), so some of the change we see can be a function of the changing datasets rather than 'real' change in 014B LSOA.

Underlying Indicators 2025 - Commentary

014B ranks badly on all air pollution measures, particularly Sulphur Dioxide. It is also considered deprived on the outdoor space (gardens) measure. Energy ratings are good in 014B.



Note on how to read these charts

The percentage indicates where the small area (in orange) ranks in a national 'league table' for each dataset. So for example 99% would mean it is one of most deprived LSOAs (small areas) in the country on that measure.

An Oldham average is shown in teal for comparison.

By definition, the England average (in green) will always be at 50%

Indicator Definitions: Crime, Education and Health Domains

Domain	Indicator	Data time point	Comments
Crime	Burglary, rate	2018/19 to 2023/24	This indicator is based on all sub-categories of 'burglary'. The indicator is expressed as the annual average rate of offences per 1,000 at risk properties in the LSOA.
Crime	Criminal damage	2018/19 to 2023/24	This indicator is based on all sub-categories of 'criminal damage' and 'arson'. The indicator is expressed as the annual average rate of offences per 1,000 at risk population in the LSOA.
Crime	Public order and Possession of weapons	2018/19 to 2023/24	This indicator is based on all sub-categories of 'public order' and 'possession of weapon offences'. The indicator is expressed as the annual average rate of offences per 1,000 at risk population in the LSOA.
Crime	Stalking and harassment	2018/19 to 2023/24	This indicator is based on all sub-categories of 'stalking and harassment'. The indicator is expressed as the annual average rate of offences per 1,000 at risk population in the LSOA.
Crime	Theft	2018/19 to 2023/24	This indicator is based on all sub-categories of 'theft' and 'robbery', except 'shoplifting'. The indicator is expressed as the annual average rate of offences per 1,000 at risk population in the LSOA.
Crime	Violence with injury	2018/19 to 2023/24	This indicator is based on all sub-categories of 'violence with injury', plus all categories of 'homicide'. The indicator is expressed as the annual average rate of offences per 1,000 at risk population in the LSOA.
Crime	Violence without injury	2018/19 to 2023/24	This indicator is based on all sub-categories of 'violence without injury'. The indicator is expressed as the annual average rate of offences per 1,000 at risk population in the LSOA.
Crime	Anti-Social Behaviour	2022/23 to 2023/24	This indicator is based on all sub-categories of ASB that are reported to the police and are recorded as police incidents, which consists of incidents of 'personal', 'environmental' and 'nuisance' anti-social behaviour. The indicator is expressed as the annual average rate of incidents per 1,000 at risk population in the LSOA.
Education	Entry to higher education	2018/19 to 2022/23	The indicator measures the proportion of young people aged under 21 not entering higher education. Cells where the population at risk is below 23 have been suppressed at the request of the data supplier.
Education	Adult skills & English language proficiency	2021	The adult skills indicator is the proportion of working-age adults (aged 25 to 66) with no or low qualifications. The English language proficiency indicator is the proportion of the working-age population who cannot speak English or cannot speak English 'well'.
Education	Key Stage 2 attainment	2022/23 to 2024/25	The aggregated scaled score of pupils taking Mathematics, English reading and English grammar, punctuation and spelling Key Stage 2 exams. Note this measure was not included in the underlying data; LSOA rates have been calculated from council-held data.
Education	Key Stage 4 attainment	2022/23 to 2024/25	The average capped points score (Attainment 8 score) of pupils taking Key Stage 4 (GCSE or equivalent) exams. Note this measure was not included in the underlying data; LSOA rates have been calculated from council-held data.
Education	Pupil absence	2022/23 to 2024/25	The proportion of authorised and unauthorised absences for pupils attending maintained Primary, Secondary and Special Schools. Note this measure was not included in the underlying data; LSOA rates have been calculated from council-held data.
Education	Persistent pupil absence	2022/23 to 2024/25	The proportion of pupils missing 10% or more of possible school sessions. Note this measure was not included in the underlying data; LSOA rates have been calculated from council-held data.
Health	Years of potential life lost	2018 to 2022	The years of potential life lost indicator measures 'premature death', defined as death before the age of 75 from any cause (the commonly used measure of premature death). It is an age-sex standardised measure.
Health	Mental health	2018 to 2023	The mental indicator is a broad measure of levels of mental ill health in the local population. The definition used for this indicator includes mood (affective), neurotic, stress-related and somatoform disorders. The indicator is a composite estimate based on four underlying sub-components from separate sources: suicide mortality data, hospital admissions, prescribing data; and health benefits data.
Health	Acute morbidity	2021/22 to 2022/23	The acute morbidity indicator measures the level of emergency admissions to hospital, based on administrative records of inpatient admissions. A higher score for the indicator represents a higher level of deprivation. Shrinkage has been applied to this indicator. This indicator uses Hospital Episodes Statistics.
Health	Comparative illness and disability ratio	2022/23	The comparative illness and disability ratio is an indicator of work limiting morbidity and disability, based on those receiving benefits due to inability to work through ill health. It is an age-sex standardised measure.

Indicator Definitions: Living Environment Domain

Domain	Indicator	Data time point	Comments
Living Environment	Air quality indicator	2023	The indicator is an estimate of the concentration of the four pollutants nitrogen dioxide, benzene, sulphur dioxide and particulates.
Living Environment	Housing energy	January 2012 to December 2024	This indicator measures the average energy performance of residential buildings at LSOA level as an indicator of housing quality. Property counts by dwelling type and their associated EPC scores (observed EPC value where available, and imputed EPC value otherwise) were aggregated to LSOA level to form the indicator’s denominator and numerator, respectively. the mean EPC score was calculated for each LSOA by dividing the numerator (total EPC score across the LSOA) by the denominator (total residential properties in the LSOA).
Living Environment	Housing in poor condition indicator	2023	The housing in poor condition indicator is a modelled estimate of the proportion of social and private homes that fail to meet the Decent Homes standard.
Living Environment	Housing lacking private outdoor space deprivation score	2023	This indicator measures the extent to which residential properties in England lack access to private outdoor space. A deprivation score was assigned to each property (houses and flats) to denote the extent to which the property’s private outdoor space value fell below the 120m² national median threshold. Any properties with a private outdoor space value of 120m² or over were assigned a deprivation score of zero, as households living in these properties were deemed to be not deprived on this indicator. For those properties that had a private outdoor space value of less then 120m², a scaled deprivation score between 0 and 100 was assigned to denote how far below that 120m² threshold the property’s own private outdoor space value fell. Properties that had no access to private garden space at all were assigned the maximum value of 100 on this deprivation indicator. The LSOA-level deprivation score is the mean of all constituent property-level deprivation scores.
Living Environment	Noise pollution	2021	The percentage of the population of each LSOA exposed to noise pollution greater than or equal to 55dB Lden. The Lden metric, also referred to as the ‘day–evening–night level’, represents the annual average long-term noise over 24 hours. It applies a 5 dB(A) penalty for the evening period (19:00–23:00) and a 10 dB(A) penalty for the night-time period (23:00–07:00), to reflect greater sensitivity to noise during these hours. The numerator is the number of residents in each LSOA exposed to combined transport noise above 55 dB Lden. The denominator is the total population of the LSOA in 2021.
Living Environment	Road traffic casualties involving injury to pedestrians and cyclists	2019 to 2023	The indicator is based on reported accidents that involve death or personal injury to a pedestrian or cyclist. This indicator is expressed as a rate per 1000 at risk population.

Indicator Definitions: Barriers to Housing and Services Domain

Domain	Indicator	Data time point	Comments
Barriers	Connectivity Score	2025	Travel time to retail, education, health, employment and leisure/entertainment destinations by walking, cycling and public transport. It measures the travel time required to reach key destinations weighted by destination category (based on the proclivity of people visiting key destinations) and people's assumed travel preferences. Separate scores were calculated for each destination category. An overall score was created by combining each of the destination category scores (weighted by the frequency of travel to each kind of destination within each category and informed by the National Travel Survey).
Barriers	Core homelessness rate (% of households)	2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23	This Local Authority District (LAD) indicator measures the number of households experiencing the most extreme and immediate forms of homelessness. The following categories are included: Rough Sleeping, Unconventional Accommodation, Hostels, Unsuitable Temporary Accommodation and Sofa Surfing. Each component source is assigned a weight before combining; with the relative weight size informed by project timeliness, coverage, sample size, response rates and potential bias, and relevance of questions/categories.
Barriers	Digital Connectivity (Broadband download and upload speeds)	December 2024	This indicator of digital connectivity represents the average broadband upload and download line-speeds (Mbit/s) for connections in the area. Data on broadband provision is gathered from 61 Internet Service Providers (ISPs) who provide information on the technology available, together with estimates of download and upload speeds. OfCom's analysis of active fixed broadband speeds is based on the information provided by these ISPs regarding the maximum measured speed of each active line. This represents the maximum possible connection speed achievable between the ISP's access network and the consumer premises. Note that this indicator is included here in the form it takes in the IoD 2025, which is based on the combination of the upload and download speed sub-components, each of which was ranked and normalised prior to being combined into the final indicator.
Barriers	Homelessness indicator (rate)	October 2021 to June 2024 (11 quarters)	This Local Authority District (LAD) level indicator is expressed as the rate of acceptances for housing assistance under the homelessness provisions of housing legislation. Any imputed statistics are excluded from the numerator of this indicator. The denominator is the number of households in the LAD from the 2021 Census. The denominator data are included for the same number of time points as there are valid (i.e. non-imputed) numerator data, to ensure consistency between numerator and denominator. The rate is expressed as the number of acceptances per 1,000 households at LAD level.
Barriers	Household overcrowding indicator (bedrooms)	2021	The indicator is the proportion of households in a Lower-layer Super Output Area that are classed as overcrowded based on the Census 2021 'occupancy rating'. The 'occupancy rating' provides a measure of whether a household's accommodation is over occupied based on the number of bedrooms per people in the household.
Barriers	Household overcrowding indicator (rooms)	2021	The indicator is the proportion of households in a Lower-layer Super Output Area that are classed as overcrowded based on the Census 2021 'occupancy rating'. The 'occupancy rating' provides a measure of whether a household's accommodation is over occupied based on the number of rooms per people in the household.
Barriers	Housing affordability indicator	2018 to 2022	This indicator is a measure of the inability to afford to enter owner occupation or the private rental market. The indicator is made up of two component sub-indicators relating to housing affordability a) Difficulty of access to owner-occupation for households where the head is aged under 40 b) Difficulty of access to the private rental market where the household head is under 40. The indicator is a modelled estimate based on house prices and rents in the relevant Housing Market Area and incomes at LSOA level.
Barriers	Patient-to-GP Ratio	November 2024	This indicator represents the number of patients registered at a GP Surgery as a ratio of all Full Time Equivalent GPs, with the data apportioned to LSOA level based on patient residence distributions. NHS Digital provides data on the number of patients registered at the practice and the number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) and headcount figures by four staff groups, (GPs, Nurses, Direct Patient Care (DPC) and administrative staff), with breakdowns of individual job roles within these high-level groups at GP Practice level. Figures are derived from the General Practice Workforce series of Official Statistics. The estimate for each GP practice is distributed indirectly to LSOA level, using the GP Attribution Dataset. The GP Attribution Dataset contains information about the place of residence for each patient registered with a GP practice and is maintained by NHS Digital. The patient resident data is aggregated to provide a count of the number of patients registered at each GP practice by LSOA. Using this information, it is possible to attribute the Patient-to-GP ratio scores to each LSOA in England.