

The East Midlands in 2010: Deprivation and Economic Inclusion

A report prepared by *emda*

2010

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5. Deprivation and Economic Inclusion

5.1 Introduction	2
5.2 The English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004-2007	3
5.2.1 Regional comparison of the summary measure of IMD 2007	4
5.2.2 Comparison of IMD 2004 and 2007	7
5.2.3 Income Deprivation 2007	8
5.2.4 Employment deprivation 2007.....	11
5.2.5 Health deprivation 2007	13
5.3 Labour market participation in the East Midlands	16
5.3.1 Economic activity by group	17
5.3.2 Employment by group	19
5.3.3 Occupation by ethnic group and gender	21
5.3.4 Earnings by gender.....	23
5.3.5 Unemployment by group.....	24
5.4 Participation and education achievement by group	27
5.4.1 Participation in education and Work Based Learning of 16 and 17 year olds	27
5.4.1.1 Pupil absence	28
5.4.2 Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)	31
5.4.3 Achievement by ethnicity	33
5.4.4 Achievement by Special Educational Need (SEN).....	35
5.5 Worklessness	37
5.5.1 Jobseeker's Allowance	42
5.5.2 Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants.....	46
5.5.3 Lone parents on Income Support.....	49
5.6 Poverty in the East Midlands	51
5.6.1 Child poverty	52
5.6.2 Fuel poverty	55
5.7 Barriers to labour market participation and economic inclusion	60
5.7.1 Health and health barriers to employability	60
5.7.1.1 The state of health in the East Midlands	60
5.7.1.2 Health related benefits	66
5.7.1.3 Health barriers to employability.....	67
5.7.2 Access to childcare and flexible working.....	70
5.7.3 Access to services	75
5.8 Crime	81
5.9 Active and cohesive communities	88
5.10 Conclusions	90

5.1 Introduction

This section of The East Midlands in 2010 assesses deprivation, labour market participation and economic inclusion in the East Midlands.

Until the recession the UK enjoyed a period of sustained economic growth, high levels of employment and low levels of unemployment in comparison to all of its major competitors. However, the benefits of economic growth have not flowed equally to all groups in society. As a result of this some parts of the UK and the East Midlands suffer from problems of long-term deprivation and poverty.

Data used in this section include the English Indices of Deprivation 2007, labour market data from the Office for National Statistics and administrative data on benefit claimants. A range of survey data were provided by the National Centre for Social Research examining issues around flexible working arrangements, childcare, living standards, spatial mobility and community cohesion.

Section 2 applies an area-based approach to the analysis. A particular area can be characterised as deprived relative to other areas, on the basis of people in the area experiencing the type of deprivation in question¹. This section highlights that although the East Midlands performs relatively well in terms of health, employment and income deprivation, there are geographical areas where pockets of multiple deprivation are severe. The most deprived areas are concentrated around the three cities of Leicester, Derby, and Nottingham, along with the districts in the coalfields area.

Section 3 focuses on the differences in labour market participation and social inclusion by population groups identified by gender, age, disability and ethnicity. Section 3 confirms the significant differences in levels and types of labour market participation by social groups. Women, those with disabilities and those from ethnic minority groups are less likely than average to participate in the labour market. The section also discusses the occupational and earnings differences by gender which show concentrations of male employment in certain occupations and a greater gender pay gap in the East Midlands compared to the national average.

Section 4 focuses on those in younger age groups, from minority groups and those with special education needs analysing their participation and achievement in education. The analysis shows that those with special education needs, or from certain minority groups, perform significantly worse than other children of the same age. Analysis also shows that education performance in the East Midlands is close to the national average.

Section 5, discusses the phenomena of worklessness. Although the East Midlands performs relatively well in terms of labour market participation, worklessness is

¹ The concept of Multiple Deprivation emphasises that Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) should be the first geography of every interpretation of the Index of Deprivation 2007. This is because analysis undertaken just at the higher level of geography (for example at local authority level) may cause an analysis which simply overlooks the lower level of deprivation and fails to identify deprived LSOAs in a generally less deprived local authority (Department for Communities and Local Government, The English Indices of Deprivation 2007).

prevalent in certain parts of the region such as Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, the coalfields and coastal areas.

Section 6 discusses poverty in the East Midlands and emphasises that risk of poverty is significantly lower among those families where at least one parent is in employment. Child poverty is concentrated in certain wards in Nottingham, Leicester and Derby. This section also discusses fuel poverty in the East Midlands and highlights that it is a particular issue in East Lindsey.

Section 7 provides an overview of health and health barriers to employability in the East Midlands. Productivity losses due to ill health were estimated to be £802 million in the East Midlands in 2006-2007. In spite of some improvements in the general health of the East Midlands, health inequalities remained an issue. This section also discusses childcare and flexible working arrangements as tools to help to reconcile family and work. Although, there is no significant difference between the East Midlands and England in the proportion of employers which provide assistance with childcare, workless households are generally less satisfied by the childcare provisions. Working parents in the region were more likely to receive help from relatives and friends as the most important childcare arrangement that helped the respondent to work than the national average.

Sections 8 and 9 highlights crime and issues of cohesive communities. Crime is concentrated in certain parts of the region such as Nottinghamshire or Leicestershire. On the whole the East Midlands seems to be a place where people have a strong sense of belonging to their community.

5.2 The English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004-2007

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 (IMD 2007) was published in December 2007 by the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG), having been developed by the Social Disadvantage Centre at the Department of Social Policy and Social Work at the University of Oxford. The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 (IMD 2007) is a relative, weighted cumulative single measure of deprivation at small area level (Lower Layer Super Output – LSOA²) made up of seven domain indices.

The weighting of the seven independent domains (which can be examined separately) are income deprivation (22.5%), employment deprivation (22.5%), health deprivation and disability (13.5%), education and skills (13.5%), barriers to housing and services (9.3%), crime (9.3%) and living environment (9.3%). Data are constructed at LSOA level and the ranks of the LSOAs are then used to construct indices at LAD and County level.

² The IMD 2007 has been produced on a statistical geography known as Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) that covers about 1,500 people and 750 households. There are 32,482 LSOAs in England. There are 2,732 LSOAs in the East Midlands with an average population size of just over 1,500 (minimum 1,437, maximum 1,652). As the boundaries have been designed to have similar counts of people the actual size of LSOAs varies greatly, as an LSOA in a sparsely populated rural area covers a bigger area than an LSOA in a densely populated urban centre. This is often an issue when mapping and needs to be taken into consideration. (Regional Statisticians in the East Midlands, 'Index of Deprivation 2007').

5.2.1 Regional comparison of the summary measure of IMD 2007

Although there is no regional measure of deprivation it is possible to examine the number and percentage of people living in the most deprived areas in England by region. This is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Proportion of overall and regional population living in the most deprived 20% of LSOAs in England by region, 2007

	Number of persons in most deprived areas in England by region (thousand)*	Percentage of regional population living in the most deprived areas in England	Proportion of people living in the most deprived areas in England by region, (%)*
East Midlands	717	16.6	7.2
East of England	345	6.2	3.4
London	2,128	28.5	21.2
North East	858	33.7	8.6
North West	2,170	31.8	21.6
South East	485	5.9	4.8
South West	468	9.2	4.7
West Midlands	1,464	27.4	14.6
Yorkshire and the Humber	1,389	27.2	13.9
England	10,023	20.0**	100.0

Source: Communities and Local Government, 'The English Indices of Deprivation 2007', page 61

Note: * The most deprived is defined as the lowest 20% of LSOAs in England.

** The 20% is an approximation, the real figure is 19.9%. Because the population of an LSOA is more or less fixed (about 1,500 people), the 20% of LSOAs in England should cover approximately 20% of the population as well. The IMD 2007 identifies concentrations of deprivation and it is important to note that not all deprived people live in deprived areas and conversely, not everyone living in a deprived area is deprived.

In the East Midlands there were 717,000 people living in deprived areas in 2007³ which accounts for 16.6% of the regional population. The North West has the largest number of people living in deprived areas (2.17 million which accounts for 31.8% of its population), followed by London (2.13 million or 28.5%). The South East, South West and the East of England have between 6% and 9% of their population living in deprived areas in 2007.

A little more than 7% of those who live in the most deprived areas in England are resident in the East Midlands. More than 21% of those who live in the most deprived areas in England are resident in the North West and a similar proportion live in London. There are relatively high concentrations of disadvantage in the West Midlands and Yorkshire and the Humber as 14%-15% of those who live in the most deprived areas in England are resident in each of these regions. In this national context the scale of deprivation in the East Midlands is relatively small.

³ These people are not deprived per se but live in those areas which are considered as deprived based on an aggregate experience of residents.

Based on the IMD 2007, the five most deprived districts in the East Midlands⁴ were Nottingham, Leicester, Mansfield, Bolsover and Corby. These districts were ranked as 12th, 23rd, 34th, 40th and 66th respectively out of the 354 districts across England. The least deprived Local Authorities in the East Midlands were Blaby, Rushcliffe, Rutland, Harborough and South Northampton ranked 324th, 330th, 335th, 344th and 351st⁵ respectively.

Map 1 shows the IMD 2007 in the East Midlands. It shows that deprivation is concentrated in the urban centres, the coalfields, remote rural areas and the Lincolnshire coast:

- The most deprived LSOAs of the East Midlands are concentrated around the three cities of Leicester, Derby, and Nottingham. The former Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire coalfield districts of Mansfield, Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Chesterfield and Bolsover are all areas with a high concentration of LSOAs suffering severe deprivation;
- The least deprived LSOAs can be found around the centre and the south of the region in Melton, South Kesteven, Harborough and South Northamptonshire. However, larger population centres in these areas exhibit significant deprivation such as Northampton or Corby⁶; and
- There is something of a north-south split in the region with districts in the north generally having higher deprivation scores than those in the south.

⁴ Local Authority level analysis should use the 'rank of the ranks'. This is because Local Authorities are ranked based on the deprivation of their LSOAs and due to the different Local Authority sizes the ranking procedure is a two stage process. First, the LSOAs are ranked, and then based on these ranks, the different LAs are ranked (ONS Regional Statisticians in the East Midlands). However, it is worth to note that the change in rank does not necessarily mean the change of the level of deprivation at absolute term.

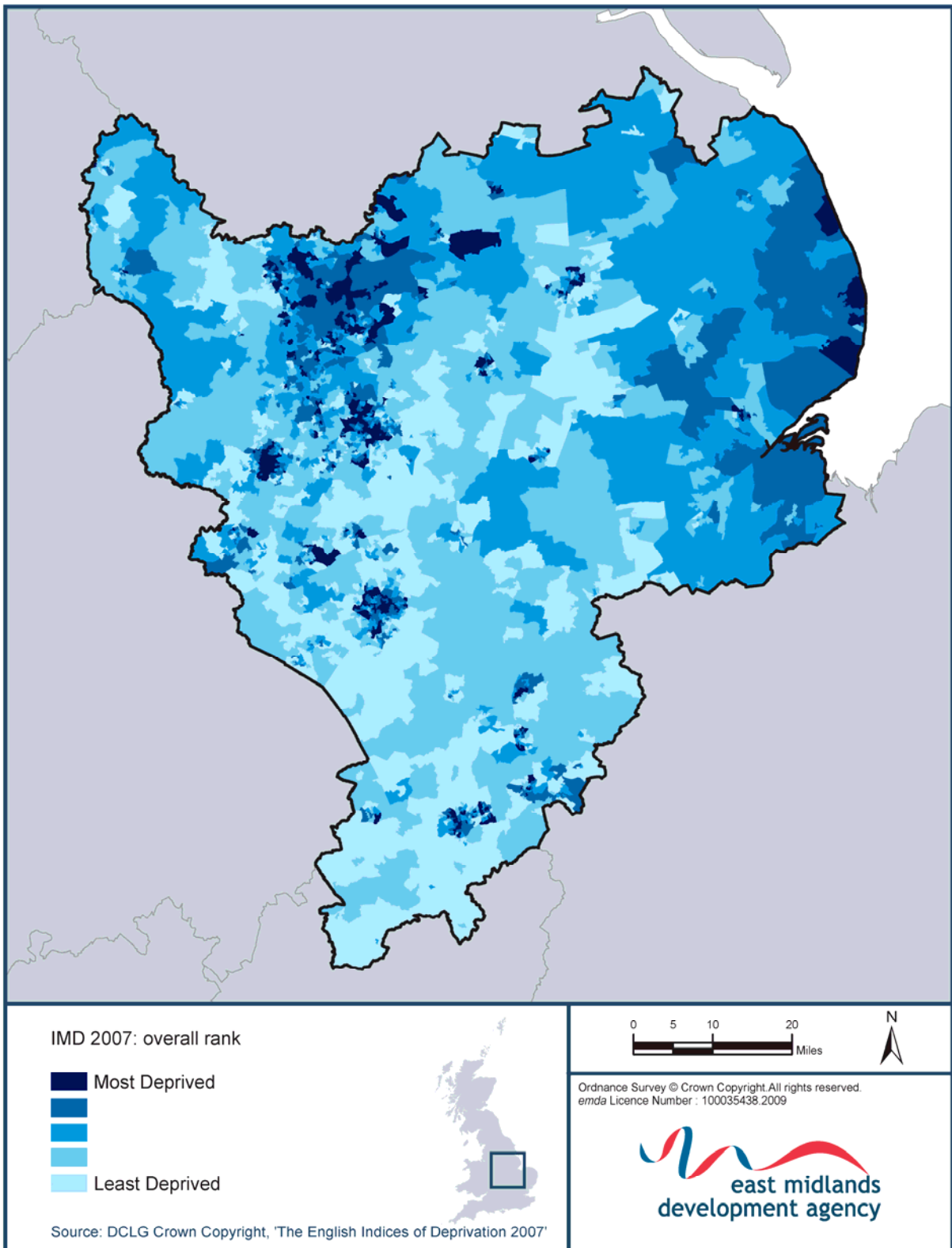
⁵ Communities and Local Government, 'The English Indices of Deprivation 2007'.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/neighbourhoodrenewal/deprivation/deprivation07/>

⁶ Communities and Local Government, 'The English Indices of Deprivation 2007'.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/neighbourhoodrenewal/deprivation/deprivation07/>

Map 1: IMD 2007: Overall rank



5.2.2 Comparison of IMD 2004 and 2007

Previous versions of the IMD have not been comparable but the IMD 2007 retains the same methodology, domains and indicators as the IMD 2004 offering a consistent measurement over time.

This sub-section concentrates on the changes of rank of LSOAs by Local Authorities⁷ to identify those which have changed their position between 2004 and 2007 relative to other areas in the region.

Chart 1 shows that in 2004, eight Local Authorities in the region were classified as among the most deprived 20% in England. However, in 2007 only five Local Authorities in the region were in this group (Bolsover, Corby, Leicester, Mansfield and Nottingham). The three districts that moved out of this group were Lincoln, Ashfield and Chesterfield.

The number of Local Authorities classified as among the most deprived 20%-40% in England has increased from four to eight. The three Local Authorities above moved upward into this group but Northampton moved downwards to this quintile from the most deprived 40%-60%.

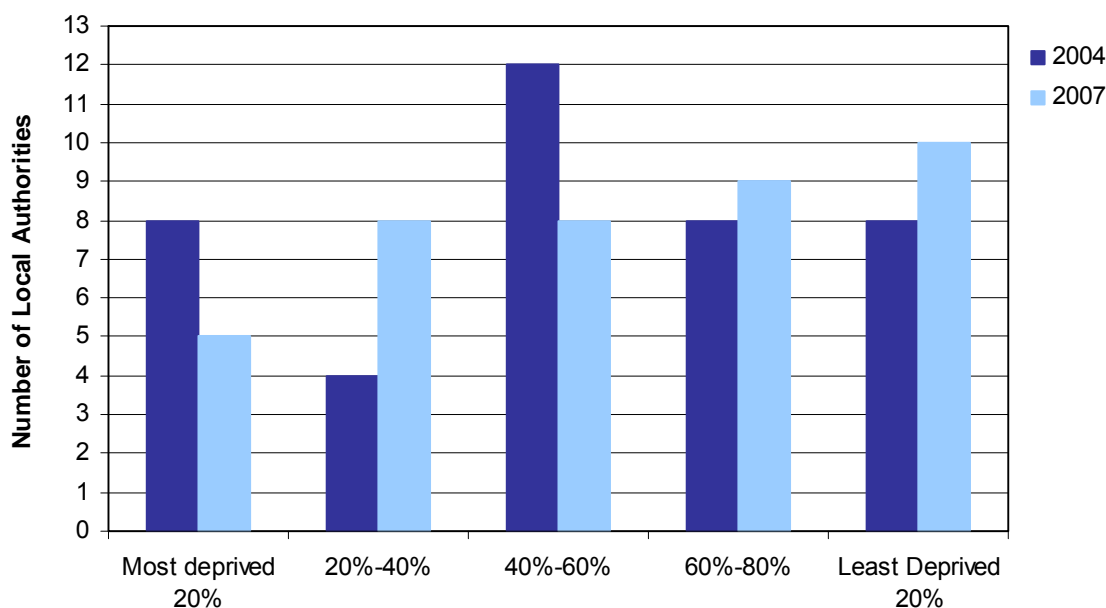
The number of Local Authorities classified as among the most deprived 40%-60% in England has dropped significantly from 12 in 2004 to eight in 2007. In 2007, Amber Valley, Erewash, Gedling, Newark and Sherwood, North East Derbyshire, South Holland, Wellingborough and West Lindsey were classified in this group.

The number of authorities classified as among the most deprived 60%-80% in England has increased from eight to nine. Similarly, the number of East Midlands districts among the least deprived Local Authorities in England increased between 2004 and 2007 from eight to 10. The least deprived Local Authorities in 2007 were Blaby, Daventry, Harborough, Hinckley and Bosworth, Melton, North Kesteven, Oadby and Wigston, Rushcliffe, Rutland and South Northamptonshire.

Despite these changes, the most deprived areas in the East Midlands remain in the former coalfields and coastal districts and in the inner-city areas.

⁷ Although the methodology is the same between 2004 and 2007 no comparison of scores between the years is advisable. The comparison of ranks is, however, acceptable.

Chart 1: Number of authorities in the East Midlands in each national quintile of the IMD 2004 and 2007 – based on ‘rank of average ranks’ of LSOAs in the authority



Source: Communities and Local Government, ‘The English Indices of Deprivation 2007’, Local Authority Summaries 2007 and 2004.

Note: The ‘rank of average ranks’ is the preferred measure when comparing LA level information.

The following section discusses three of the seven domains of the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007: employment, income and health. Research suggests that the strong association between health and income can be partly explained by the association between employment and health status⁸. The generally lower income of those with health problems and disabilities is largely due to their difficulties in participating in the labour market and their relative concentration in less well paid occupations.

5.2.3 Income Deprivation 2007

Income deprivation accounts for 22.5% of the score of the overall deprivation index. The purpose of the income deprivation indicator is to capture the proportion of the population experiencing financial difficulties in an area. The domain includes six indicators⁹:

- Adults and children in Income Support households;
- Adults and children in Income Based Job Seekers Allowance households;
- Adults and children in Pension Credit (Guarantee) households;
- Adults and children in Working Families Tax Credit households where there are children in receipt of Child Tax Credit whose equivalised income (excluding housing benefits) is below 60% of median before housing costs;

⁸ K Stronks, H van de Mheen, J van den Bos and JP Mackenbach, ‘The interrelationship between income, health and employment status’ International Journal of Epidemiology, Vol 26 Number 3.

⁹ Communities and Local Government, ‘The English Indices of Deprivation 2007’.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/neighbourhoodrenewal/deprivation/deprivation07/>

- Adults and children in Child Tax Credit households (who are not eligible for IS, Income-Based JSA, Pension Credit or Working Tax Credit) whose equivalised income (excluding housing benefits) is below 60% of median before housing costs; and
- Adults and children in households in receipt of National Asylum Support Service (NASS) vouchers.

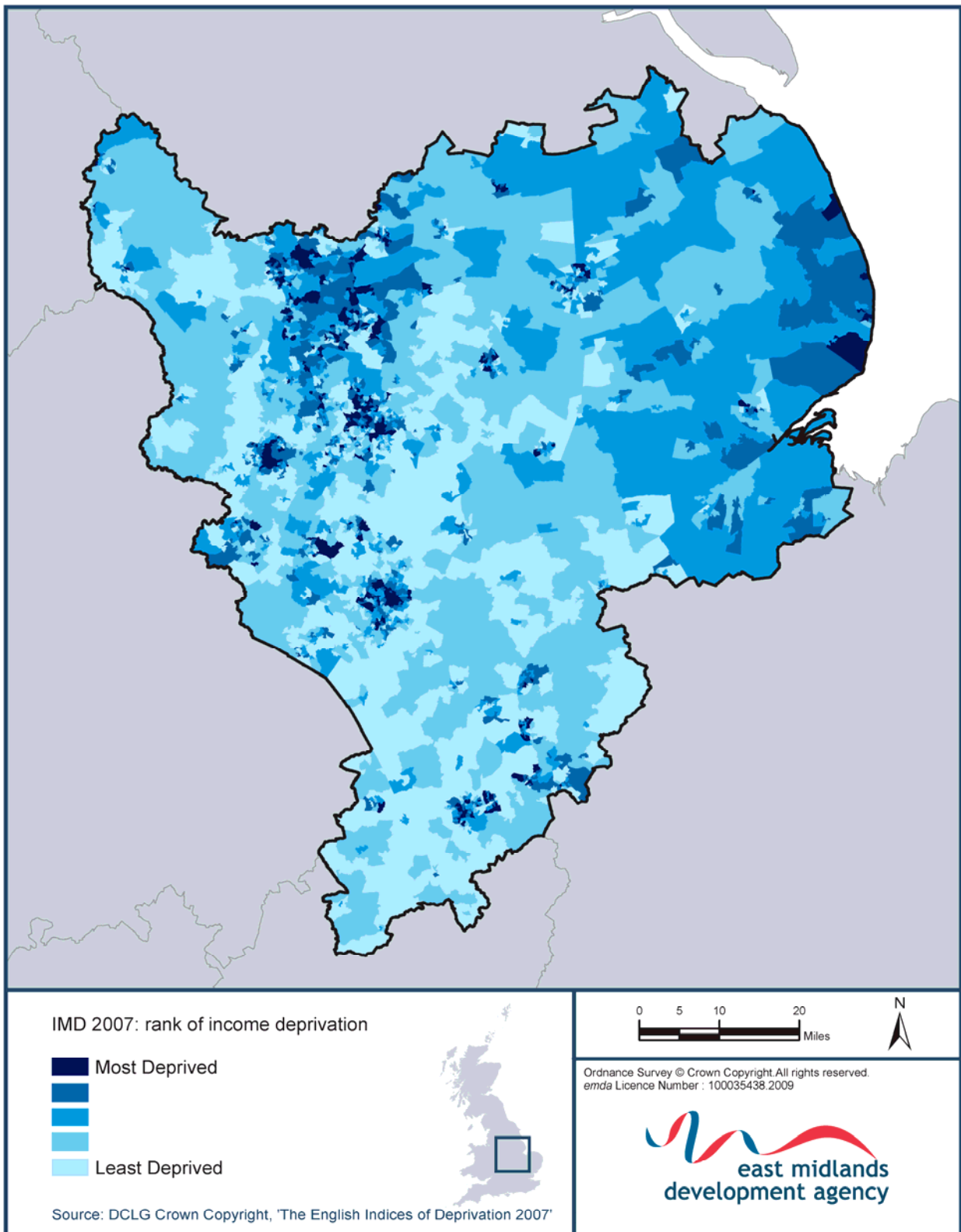
A little more than 15% of the East Midlands' LSOAs are classified as among the most income deprived 20% of LSOAs in England¹⁰. However, this overall picture masks significant local differences. For example, almost 51% of LSOAs in Leicester are classified among the most income deprived 20% of LSOAs in England. This proportion was 48% in the case of Nottingham and more than 25% in Chesterfield, Lincoln and Mansfield.

On the other hand, there are a number of Local Authorities which do not have any LSOAs among the most income deprived 20% of LSOAs in England: Blaby, Harborough, Melton, Oadby and Wigston, Rutland, South Holland, Rushcliffe and South Northamptonshire. More than half of the LSOAs of these latter two authorities are classified among the least income deprived 20% of LSOAs in England.

Map 2 shows that there are pockets of income deprivation throughout the East Midlands.

¹⁰ ONS Regional Statisticians in the East Midlands, 'Index of Deprivation 2007'.

Map 2: IMD 2007: Rank of Income Deprivation



5.2.4 Employment deprivation 2007

Employment deprivation accounts for 22.5% of the score of the overall deprivation index. The purpose of the employment deprivation measure is to capture involuntary exclusion of the working-age population from the world of work. The domain includes six indicators:

- Job Seekers Allowance Claimants (both contributory and income based) among women aged 18-59 and men aged 18-64;
- Participants in New Deal for the 18-24s who are not in receipt of JSA;
- Participants in New Deal for 25+ who are not in receipt of JSA;
- Participants in New Deal for Lone Parents aged 18 and over;
- Incapacity Benefit claimants for women aged 18-59 and men aged 18-64; and
- Severe Disablement Allowance claimants for women aged 18-59 and men aged 18-64.

Just over 17% of the East Midlands' LSOAs are among the most employment deprived 20% of LSOAs in England¹¹. This reflects the historical labour market trend with a higher regional employment rate compared to the national average. However, this overall picture hides local differences. For example, 53.0% of LSOAs in Mansfield are classified among the most employment deprived 20% of LSOAs in England. This proportion was also high in Bolsover (47.9%), Chesterfield (42.6%), Nottingham (41.5%) and Leicester (40.6%).

On the other hand, more than 62.2% of LSOAs in Daventry are classified among the least employment deprived 20% of LSOAs in England. This proportion is even higher in Rutland (73.9%) and South Northamptonshire (81.3%), indicating the advantageous local labour market conditions in these areas.

Map 3 shows that employment deprivation in the East Midlands is concentrated in North East Derbyshire, in the west of Nottinghamshire, in East Lindsey, and in the three cities (Nottingham, Leicester and Derby), parts of Northampton and Corby. These vulnerable groups appear to be geographically concentrated in the most deprived local authority wards. As a result of the recession the unemployment rates for these areas may be expected to increase more quickly than rises in national unemployment¹².

When the most deprived areas were cross-checked with accessibility to employment indicators¹³, it was confirmed that those areas with the most severe employment deprivation (coalfields and coastal districts) suffer from a relatively low proportion of the population having access to employment centres¹⁴:

¹¹ ONS Regional Statisticians in the East Midlands, 'Index of Deprivation 2007'.

¹² Department for Work and Pensions, 'Review of evidence on the impact of economic downturn on disadvantaged groups', Working Paper No 68.

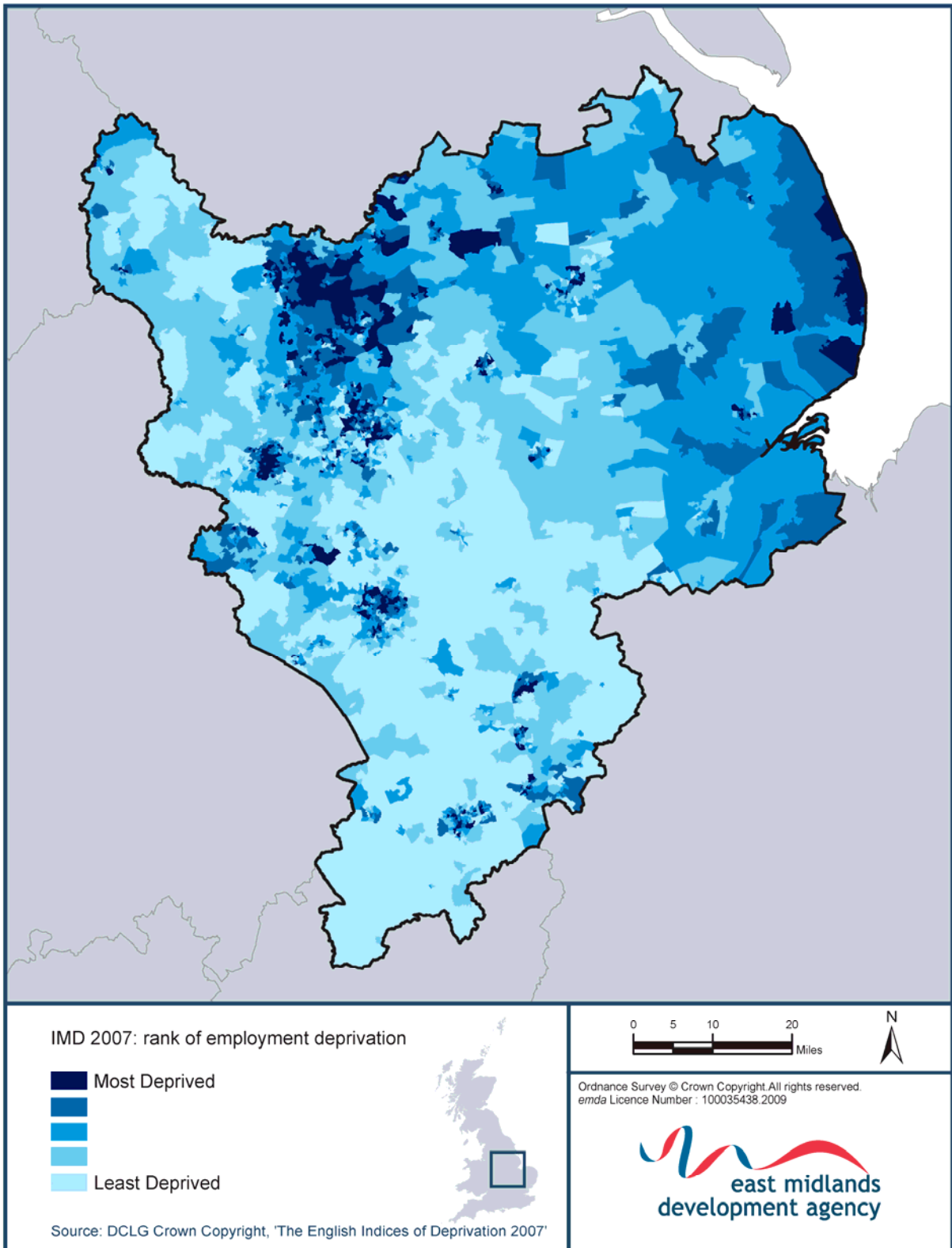
¹³ Department for Transport, '2008 Core Accessibility Indicators'.

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/ltp/coreaccessindicators2008>

Number and percentage of people of working age (aged 16 to 74 years) within 20 minutes of a location with more than 500 jobs by a composite of public transport/walking and cycling, and by car. Employment centre is an LSOA with more than 500 jobs. The employment centres were defined using the ABI 2008.

¹⁴ Ibid.

Map 3: IMD 2007: Rank of Employment Deprivation



5.2.5 Health deprivation 2007

Health deprivation accounts for 13.5% of the score of the overall deprivation index and it includes four indicators¹⁵:

- Comparative illness and disability ratio;
- Measure of emergency admissions to hospital;
- Measure of adults suffering from mood or anxiety disorders; and
- Years of potential life lost.

A little more than 18% of the East Midlands LSOAs are among the most health deprived 20% of English LSOAs¹⁶. This average however, varies considerably at Local Authority level. For example, 69.3% of the LSOAs in Nottingham, 57.6% of LSOAs in Mansfield and more than 56% of LSOAs in Bolsover are classified among the most health deprived 20% of English LSOAs. These areas are those where the wider determinants of health such as poverty, poor educational outcomes, unemployment, poor housing, and the problems of disadvantaged neighbourhoods appear to be concentrated as well. In addition, Nottingham, Bolsover, Lincoln, Leicester and Corby are the five Local Authorities in the Spearhead Group¹⁷.

In contrast, 14 Local Authorities in the East Midlands have no LSOAs listed among the most health deprived 20% of English LSOAs. In addition, in South Northamptonshire and in Rutland more than 85% of LSOAs are classified among the least health deprived 20% of LSOAs in England.

Map 4 shows that there are pockets of health deprivation and disability throughout the East Midlands, but the most deprived areas are found in the north east of Derbyshire, the west of Nottinghamshire, and the east of Lincolnshire, as well as in the three cities.

Improvements in terms of health related indicators require a longer time horizon than changes in most other domains of the Indices of Deprivation such as employment or income domains.

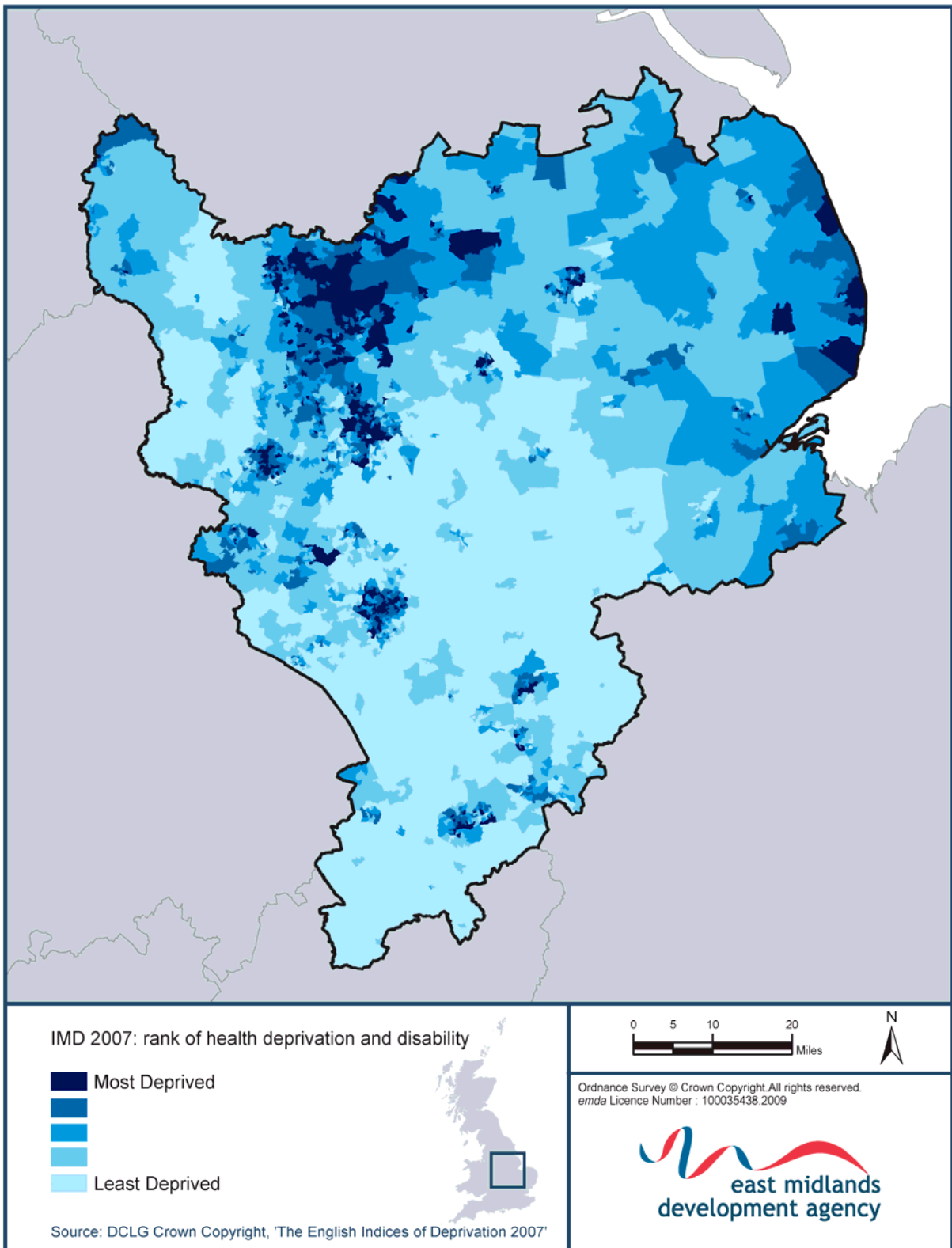
¹⁵ Communities and Local Government, 'The English Indices of Deprivation 2007'.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/neighbourhoodrenewal/deprivation/deprivation07/>

¹⁶ Jen Beaumont and Andy Botterill: Index of Deprivation 2007, Office for National Statistics: Regional Statisticians in the East Midlands.

¹⁷ Spearhead Group are those which are among the worst quintile in England for at least three of five selected indicators. These indicators are: male and female life expectancy; death rates in people aged less than 75 years for cancer and circulatory disease, and the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004. For more information see the 'State of health in the East Midlands' sub-section.

Map 4: IMD 2007: Rank of Health Deprivation and Disability



Key Points: The English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004-2007

- In the East Midlands there were 717,000 people living in deprived areas in 2007 which accounts for 16.6% of the regional population.
- A little more than 7% of those who live in the most deprived areas in England are resident in the East Midlands.
- The most deprived LSOAs of the East Midlands are concentrated around the three cities of Leicester, Derby, and Nottingham, along with the districts of Mansfield, Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Chesterfield and Bolsover in the coalfields area and on the coast.
- The least deprived LSOAs can be found around the centre and the south of the region.
- Three East Midlands districts have moved out from the most deprived 20% of districts in England and shifted towards the most deprived 20%-40% in 2007. These are Lincoln, Ashfield and Chesterfield.
- A lower than average proportion of East Midlands' LSOAs can be classified as employment, income or health deprived. However, it needs to be noted that there are significant variations within the region.

5.3 Labour market participation in the East Midlands

Labour market participation is one of the fundamental indicators of deprivation in its widest sense. Apart from the direct benefits of being in work, such as financial returns, there are a number of indirect benefits of work in terms of the usage of skills, knowledge and abilities, social life and relationships and increased self esteem. For more details regarding the measurement and definitions of participation, see the Labour Market chapter.

The previous section of this chapter focused on deprived places based on the proportion of the population in a particular area experiencing relative deprivation. This sub-section comments on participation in the labour market by various sub-groups (gender, age, ethnicity and disability). The data by ethnicity is presented in terms of a white/ethnic minority¹⁸ breakdown because the sample size of the Annual Population Survey (APS) is not large enough to allow for a more detailed breakdown.

The recent recession has had a differential impact across the population. Firstly, it has so far impacted more on men in employment than women. In the East Midlands the unemployment rate for men was 2.4 percentage points higher in the period November-January 2010 compared to the same period a year earlier, while female unemployment rate was 0.4 percentage points lower in the period November-January 2010 compared to the same period a year earlier¹⁹.

Employment rates have decreased for each age group below state pension age during the recession. Employment rates of young people (16-17 year olds and 18-24 year olds) experienced the largest decrease, compared with other age groups. In July 2008-June 2009 the employment rate of 16-17 year olds was 30.2% in the East Midlands and decreased by 8.2 percentage points compared to the same period a year earlier. This is compared to a decrease of working age employment rate of 0.7 percentage points in the East Midlands²⁰. In addition, the claimant count unemployment rate increased the most among 18-24 year olds. Between February 2010 and February 2009 the number of 18-24 year old JSA claimants increased more in the East Midlands than in the UK. The number of 18-24 year olds claiming JSA increased by 13.7% in the East Midlands compared to 10.9% in the UK²¹.

¹⁸ Ethnic identification is a subjective (self-reported by people being asked which group they see themselves as belonging to) and multidimensional phenomenon. Minority ethnic groups are differentiated based on a combination of categories including 'race', skin colour, national and regional origins, and language. Although the content of ethnic monitoring categories has been modified over time, what has remained fixed is the assumption of an 'ethnic majority'; that is white, of British origin, and English-speaking.

(Office for National Statistics, 'Ethnic group statistics – A guide for the collection and classification of ethnic data').

¹⁹ Office for National Statistics, 'Labour market statistics, March 2010: East Midlands'. Table 1, Table 2.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Claimant count – age and duration' February 2010, from NOMIS.

In addition, as the difference in employment rates between ethnic minorities and the white population is relatively high, it is likely that the recession may increase this gap further as members of ethnic minorities are more vulnerable to unemployment²².

5.3.1 Economic activity by group

The economic activity rate measures the percentage of the population who are in employment or unemployed. The activity rate is a useful general measure of labour market participation. It is usually expressed as a percentage of the working age population. A comparison of the economic activity of the East Midlands with other regions and the UK can be found in the labour market chapter. A discussion of employment and unemployment by various sub-groups follows in subsequent sections.

The economic activity rate was 80.8% in 2008 in the East Midlands compared to 78.6% in the UK. In addition to the differences within the region by place, there are also considerable differences in economic activity rates between groups in the region.

Chart 2 shows how activity rates in the East Midlands differ by gender, disability and ethnicity. The economic activity rate for women is lower than that for men at 76.6% compared to 84.5%. The economic activity rate for those with a disability²³ is just 44.5%, around half the rate of those without a disability.

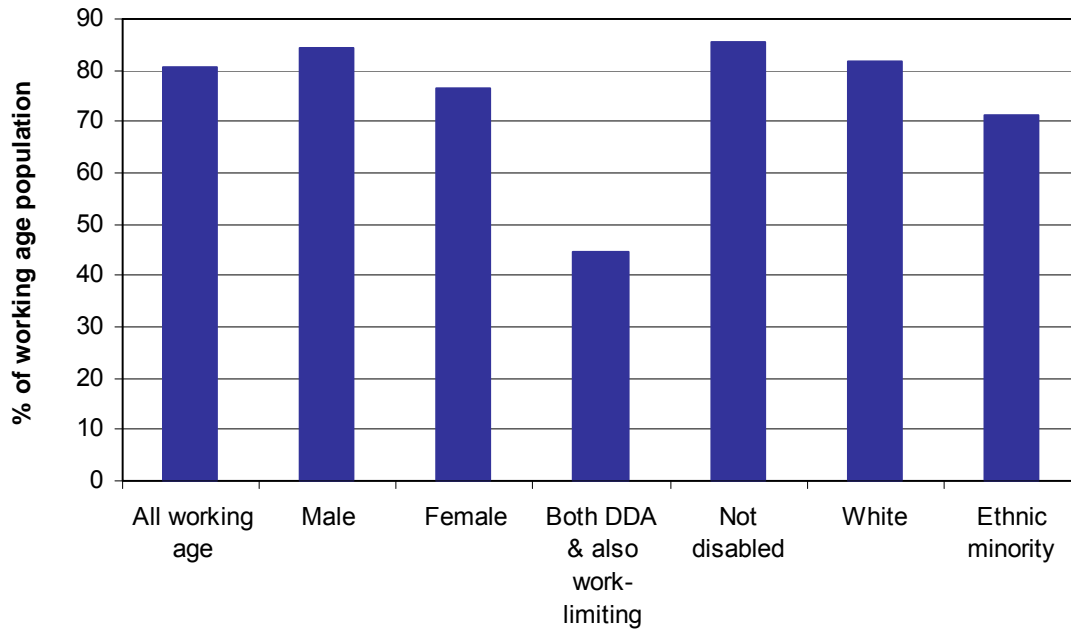
In 2008 the economic activity rate of the white working age population was 81.7% in the East Midlands compared to 71.3% for the ethnic minority population, a difference of 10.4 percentage points. However, the activity rate for whites and for ethnic minorities in the East Midlands are above their respective UK averages of 80.0% and 67.9% and relatively more so in the case of ethnic minority groups.

²² Department for Work and Pensions, 'Review of evidence on the impact of economic downturn on disadvantaged groups', Working Paper No 68. page 32.

²³ DDA disability is based on the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 amended by the Disability Discrimination Act 2005. The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) defines a disabled person as someone who has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/RightsAndObligations/DisabilityRights/DG_4001069

Chart 2: Economic activity rates by group, East Midlands 2008 (%)



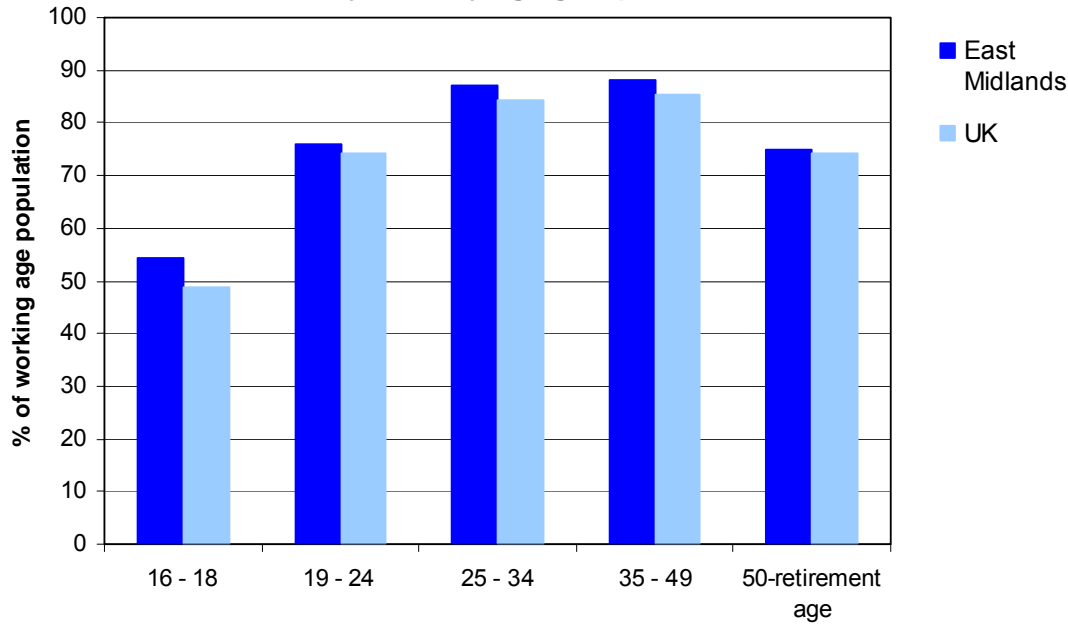
Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Annual Population Survey', January-December 2008, from NOMIS.
Note: Activity rate for ethnicity is calculated as 100 minus percentage of whites/ethnic minorities of working age who are economically inactive from NOMIS.

The economic activity rate varies significantly by age group. In order to provide a relevant picture about the regional labour market in line with the Leitch Review, 16-18 year olds are separated from the 19 year olds and the older population.

The relationship between economic activity and age is largely similar in the East Midlands to the UK – a reverse U shape relationship meaning that as age increases, economic activity also increases before falling in the highest age band.

- The economic activity rate of 16-18 year olds is 5.4 percentage points higher in the East Midlands than in the UK (54.3% and 48.9% respectively).
- The economic activity rate of 19-24 year olds is 1.6 percentage points higher in the East Midlands than in the UK (75.9% and 74.3% respectively).
- The economic activity rate of those aged 50 and retirement age is 1 percentage points higher in the East Midlands than in the UK (75.0% and 74.0% respectively).

Chart 3: Economic activity rates by age groups, 2008



Source: Annual Population Survey January-December 2008 Client File, ONS Regional Statistician.

Latest labour market statistics²⁴ show that for the period of July 2008-June 2009 the activity rate was 80.9% for the working age population in the East Midlands. However, the economic activity rate was lower for younger age groups (16-17 and 18-24 year olds) and due to the recession economic activity rate of 16-17 and 18-24 year olds decreased more than the average for all age groups. The activity rate of 16-17 year olds in the East Midlands decreased by 6.4 percentage points on the year to July 2008-June 2009, compared to the average of 0.6 percentage points increase for the whole working age population. The activity rate of 18-24 year olds in the East Midlands decreased by 1.7 percentage points between July 2007-June 2008 and July 2008-June 2009. This suggests that the recession had a disproportionate impact on the younger age groups.

5.3.2 Employment by group

Chart 4 shows how employment rates in the East Midlands differ by gender, disability and ethnicity in 2008. The employment rate for women is considerably lower than that for men at 72.3% compared to 79.2%. The employment rate for those with a disability is 38.6%, which is less than half the rate reported for those without a disability (80.8%)²⁵. These figures for the East Midlands are higher than their respective national averages.

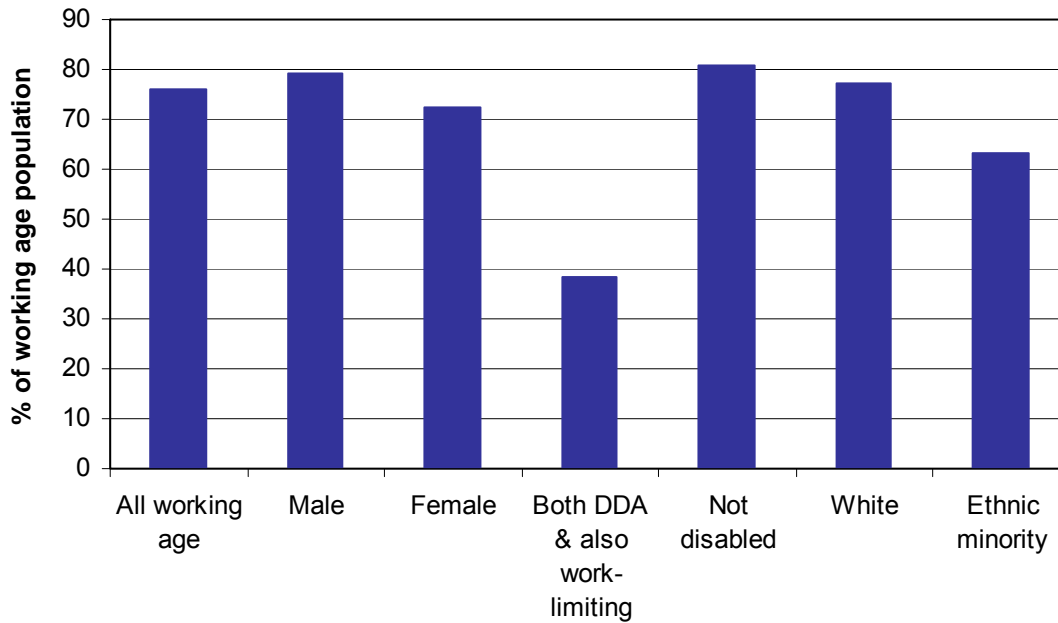
The working age employment rate for ethnic minorities in the East Midlands is 63.4%, significantly below the rate for those who are white (77.2%). However, the employment rate for ethnic minorities and whites are above the national averages of 60.3% and

²⁴ Office for National Statistics, 'Labour market statistics, March 2010: East Midlands' Table 9. Please note that these age bands are slightly different than those applied earlier in this section.

²⁵ PSA 16 aims to increase the proportion of socially excluded adults such as care leavers, ex-offenders, adults with mental health issues, adults with moderate to severe learning disabilities, in settled accommodation and employment, education or training.

75.8% respectively. The gap between the employment rates of whites and ethnic minorities is smaller in the East Midlands than in England, at 13.8% compared to 15.5%.

Chart 4: Employment rate by group, East Midlands 2008 (%)



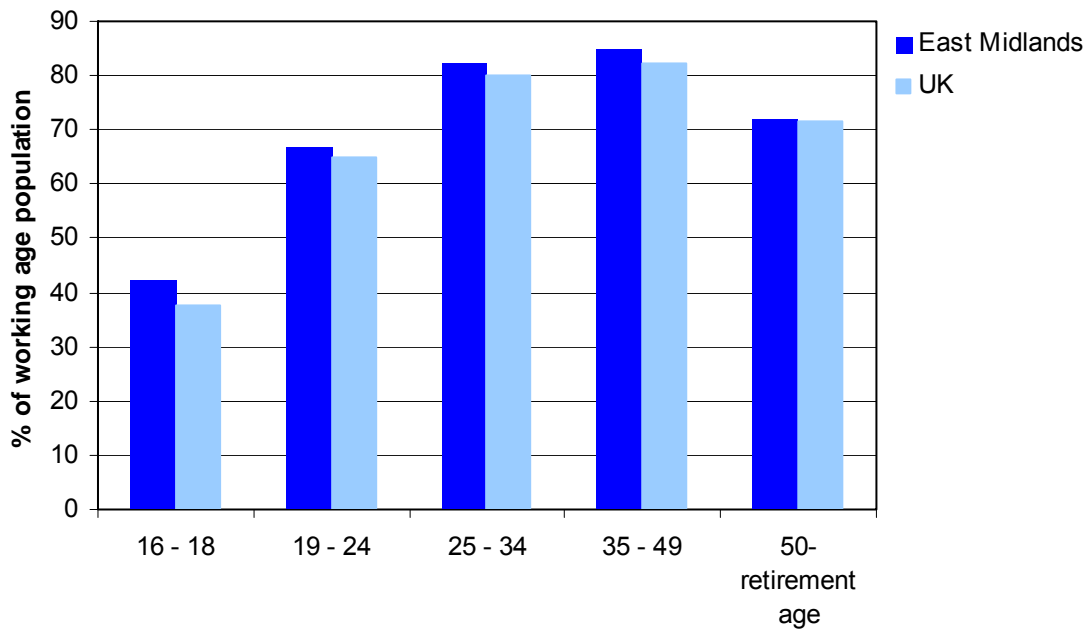
Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Annual Population Survey', January-December 2008, from NOMIS.
 Note: For definition of employment rate see Labour Market chapter.

Employment rates also vary significantly by age group. Chart 5 shows that employment rates in the East Midlands slightly exceed the UK in every age group. The 35-49 age group has the highest employment rate (both regionally and nationally) at 88.1% in the East Midlands compared to 82.1% in the UK.

The lowest employment rates are found among the 16-18 year old age group both regionally and nationally. The employment rate of younger age groups is higher in the East Midlands than in the UK. The employment rate of 16-18 year old was 42.3% in the East Midlands compared to 37.7% in the UK in 2008. This can be linked to the slightly higher proportion of East Midlands employers recruiting young labour market entrants aged 16, 17 and 18 years old as highlighted in the Labour Market chapter.

The employment rate of those of 50-retirement age was 72.1% in the East Midlands, slightly higher than in the UK (71.5%). The employment rate of those over retirement age was 10.6% in the East Midlands, similar to the UK average of 11.5%.

Chart 5: Employment rate by age group, 2008 (%)



Source: Annual Population Survey January-December 2008 Client File, ONS Regional Statistician.

Latest labour market statistics²⁶ show that for the period July 2008-June 2009 the employment rate was 75.2% in the East Midlands. The employment rate was significantly lower among young age groups and decreased the most over the year to July 2008-June 2009. The employment rate of 16-17 year olds was 30.2% in the East Midlands and decreased by 8.2 percentage points on the year to July 2008-June 2009. This is compared to the decrease of working age employment rate of 0.7 percentage points in the East Midlands.

5.3.3 Occupation by ethnic group and gender

There are differences between the East Midlands and the UK in the occupational structure of employment. The region has proportionately more jobs at the lower end of the occupational scale and fewer jobs at the upper end of the occupational scale. The Labour Market chapter discusses the current and future prospects for occupational change in the region. This section discusses the main differences of the occupational structure in the East Midlands and the UK by ethnicity and gender. Data is not available for other groups.

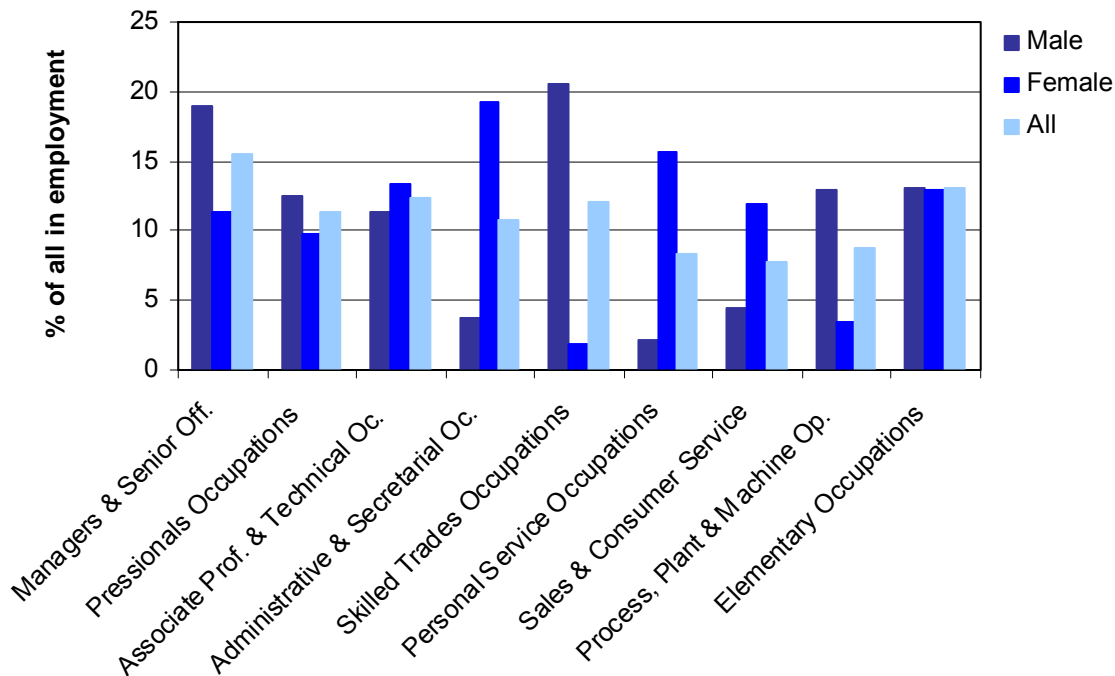
Occupation by gender

Chart 6 shows the occupational structure of male and female employees in the East Midlands. Male employees are significantly more likely to be employed in manager and senior official positions (18.9%), skilled trades (20.6%) and process, plant and machine operative positions (13.0%). This is compared to the proportion of female employees

²⁶ Office for National Statistics, 'Labour market statistics, March 2010: East Midlands' Table 2. Please note that these age bands are slightly different than those applied earlier in this section.

working in these occupations of 11.4%, 1.8% and 3.5% respectively. On the other hand, female employees are significantly more likely to be employed in administrative and secretarial (19.2%), personal services (15.6%) and sales and customer services positions (11.9%). This is compared to the proportion of male employees working in these occupations at 3.7%, 2.2% and 4.4% respectively.

Chart 6: Occupational structure of male and female employment, East Midlands 2008



Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Annual Population Survey', January-December 2008, from NOMIS.

Occupation by ethnicity

Table 2 shows that there are significant differences between whites and ethnic minorities in the nature of their employment. Generally, ethnic minorities are more likely to be employed in lower skilled and lower paid jobs compared to their white counterparts both in the East Midlands and in the UK. Both in the East Midlands and the UK a somewhat lower proportion of ethnic minorities than whites are employed as managers & senior officials. However, the pattern is reversed among professional occupations where the proportion of ethnic minorities is greater than that of whites at 16.9% compared to 10.9% in the East Midlands and at 15.7% compared to 12.8% in the UK. In the UK, there are significantly fewer ethnic minorities employed in administrative and secretarial occupations and even fewer in skilled trades occupations compared to their white counterparts and this pattern exists in the East Midlands as well. However, the proportion of ethnic minorities employed at the lower end of the occupational scale as process, plant & machine operatives and elementary occupations is significantly higher than for whites in both the East Midlands and in the UK.

Table 2: Percentage of different ethnic groups in employment by occupations, 2008

% in employment who are...	UK			East Midlands		
	All	White*	Ethnic minority**	All	White*	Ethnic minority**
Managers and senior officials	15.5	15.9	12.7	15.5	15.9	11.5
Professionals	13.0	12.8	15.7	11.3	10.9	16.9
Associate prof & tech	14.5	14.6	14.2	12.3	12.3	11.9
Administrative and secretarial	11.4	11.6	10.1	10.8	11.0	8.2
Skilled trades	10.9	11.4	6.7	12.0	12.6	5.5
Personal service occupations	8.2	8.1	9.0	8.3	8.3	8.7
Sales and customer service	7.6	7.4	10.1	7.8	7.6	10.8
Process, plant and machine operatives	7.1	7.0	7.7	8.7	8.5	11.1
Elementary occupations	11.4	11.2	13.8	13.1	12.9	15.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Annual Population Survey', January-December 2008, from NOMIS.

Note: * %16+ whites in employment.

** %16+ ethnic minorities in employment.

5.3.4 Earnings by gender

Earnings are a function of a number of factors including the nature and type of employment. The Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) provides estimates on earnings from employment²⁷ by gender. This is analysed in detail for the total working age population in the Labour Market chapter.

The earnings information collected relates to gross pay before tax, National Insurance and other deductions, and excludes payments in kind.

The Government Equalities Office suggests examining the gender pay gap²⁸ as the percentage difference between the median²⁹ hourly earnings of men and women, excluding overtime payments.

Workplace based full time median hourly pay, excluding overtime, is 8.3% lower in the East Midlands than in the UK. The gender pay gap is also greater than the national

²⁷ In ONS published reports, the standard practice for presenting earnings estimates is to use the figure for full-time workers rather than the total workers figure. Full-time workers are defined as those who work more than 30 paid hours per week or those in teaching professions working 25 paid hours or more per week.

In published ONS reports, median earnings rather than the mean will generally be used. The median is the value below which 50% of employees fall. It is preferred over the mean for earnings data as it is influenced less by extreme values and because of the skewed distribution of earnings data.

²⁸ <http://www.equalities.gov.uk>: The Equal Pay Act 1970 requires equal pay between men and women where they are employed on equal work. The term "equal work" refers to work that has been rated as equivalent under a job evaluation study; or work of equal value. The concept of "equal pay" includes both pay and other terms and conditions of the contract of employment.

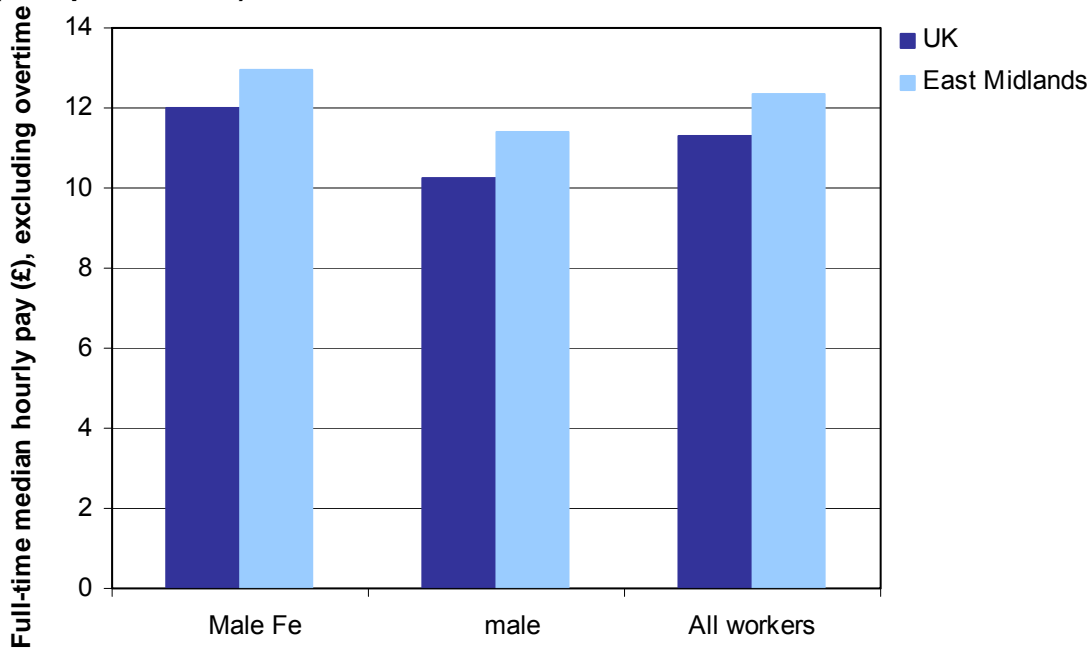
²⁹ Since October 2004 the Office for National Statistics has recommended measuring the gender pay gap using the median, rather than the mean value.

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/what_we_do/women_and_work/gender_pay_gap.aspx

This section applies the same ONS methodology as the Government Equalities Office to calculate the gender pay gap. While the data cited by the Equalities Office have been taken from the Labour Force Survey results for the period March-May 2009, this section uses the calendar year figures for 2009.

average. Male median hourly earnings are 12.2% higher than female earnings for the UK. In the East Midlands this gap is greater at 14.4%.

Chart 7: Full-time median hourly pay (£), excluding overtime for men and women, 2009 (workplace based)



Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Annual Survey of Hours and Earning', workplace analysis 2009, from NOMIS.

The causes of the gender pay gap are complex. Key factors include differences in educational levels and work experience and occupational segregation³⁰.

5.3.5 Unemployment by group

The Office for National Statistics measures unemployment based on the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition³¹. For a detailed definition please see the Labour Market chapter.

Although historically the unemployment rate in the East Midlands has been lower than the national average, and in 2008 was not significantly different from the UK level, significant differences exist by gender, disability, ethnicity and age.

The latest quarterly Labour Force Survey data are not available at regional level by group. However, claimant count statistics show that in February 2010, the claimant count rate in the East Midlands was 4.2%, which accounts for about 115, 400 people. The claimant count rate was 5.8% for men and 2.4% for women³².

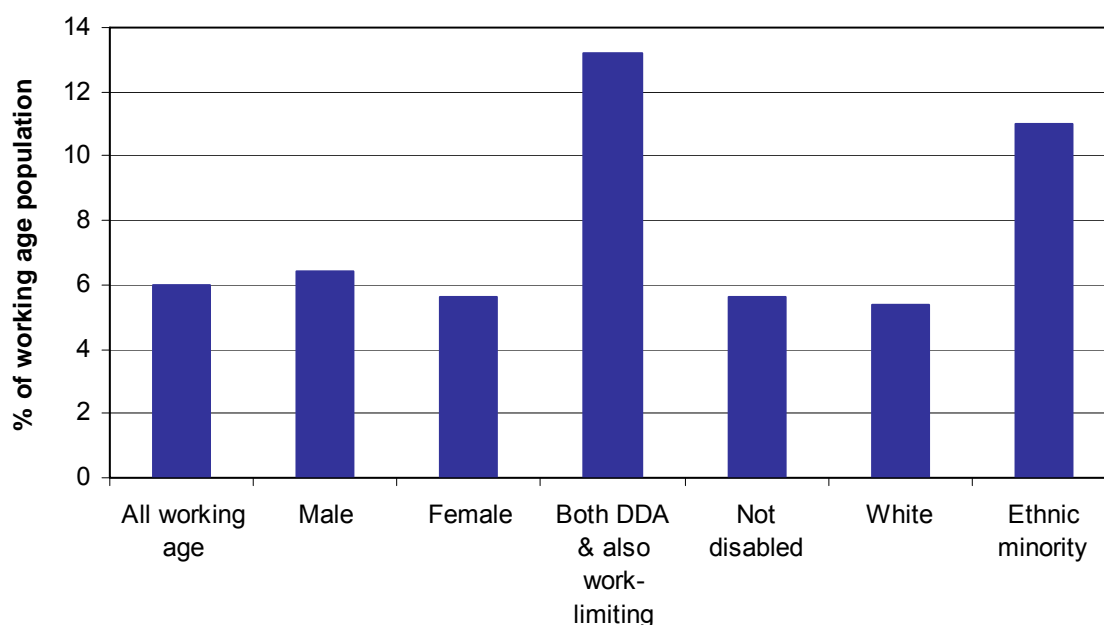
³⁰ Government Equalities Office, 'Tackling the Gender Pay Gap – Fact Sheet' <http://www.equalities.gov.uk/pdf/GenderPayGap.pdf>

³¹ Office for National Statistics, 'How exactly is unemployment measured?' http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_labour/unemployment.pdf

Figure 10 shows that the unemployment rate varied significantly among different groups in the East Midlands in 2008. The unemployment rate for males was 6.4%, compared to 5.6% for females, which is not a significant difference. The unemployment rate for those with disability was 13.2%, more than twice as high as the unemployment rate for those who do not have a disability (5.6%).

Unemployment rates for ethnic minority groups also show significant differences. This indicator is not comparable to those presented previously because the denominator is not the working age population, but the population who are over 16. The unemployment rate of whites aged 16+ was 5.4% in 2008 in the East Midlands. However, the unemployment rate amongst ethnic minorities was more than twice as high, at 11.0% in the East Midlands. This is the same as the figure for the UK.

Chart 8: Unemployment rate by group, East Midlands, 2008



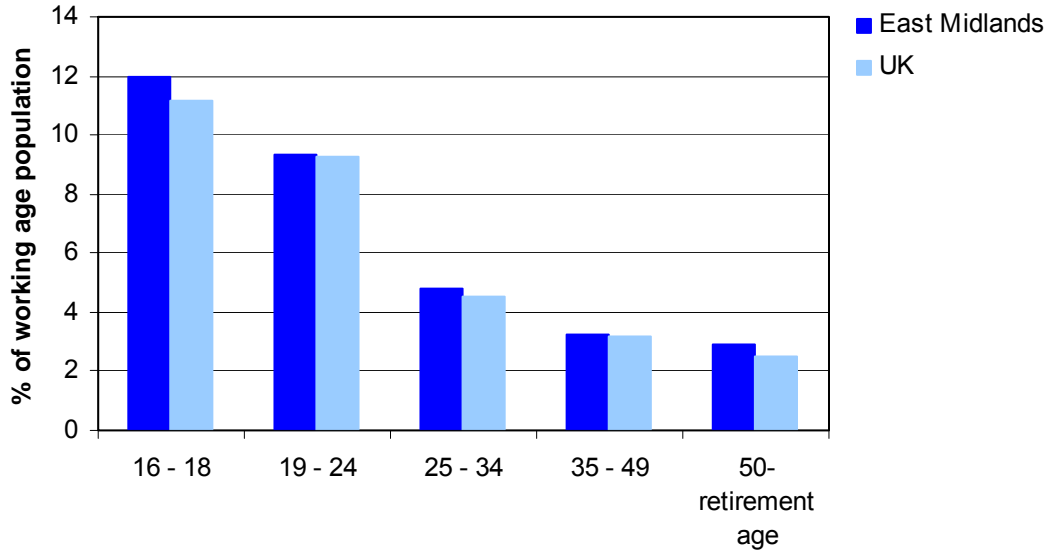
Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Annual Population Survey', January-December 2008, from NOMIS.
 Note: Unemployment rate for ethnicity covers the 16+ population.

Chart 9 shows the unemployment rate by age group. The regional unemployment rate – in line with the national figures – is the highest among 16-18 year olds. In the East Midlands, 12.0% of 16-18 year olds were unemployed in 2008, slightly higher than the UK average of 11.2%.

- The unemployment rate is lower amongst 19-24 year olds compared to 16-18 year olds. In the East Midlands, the unemployment rate for 19-24 year olds is 9.3%, the same as the national average.
- The unemployment rate is the lowest amongst the 50-retirement age group at 2.9% in the East Midlands and 2.5% in the UK.

³² Office for National Statistics, 'Labour Market Statistics, March 2010: East Midlands'. Table 16.

Chart 9: Unemployment rate by age group, 2008



Source: Annual Population Survey, January-December 2008, Client File, ONS Regional Statisticians.

Key Points: Labour Market Participation in the East Midlands

- In the East Midlands the economic activity rate for women is lower than that for men. In addition, the economic activity rate of disabled people is less than half the rate of those without a disability.
- In the East Midlands the economic activity rate of the white working age population was 10.4 percentage points higher than the activity rate of ethnic minorities.
- Both in the East Midlands and in England, as age increases, economic activity also increases before falling in the highest age band (50-retirement age).
- In the East Midlands, the unemployment rate of disabled people is more than twice as high as the unemployment rate for those without a disability.
- The unemployment rate amongst ethnic minorities is more than twice as high as amongst whites in the East Midlands.
- The unemployment rate – in line with the national figures – is the highest among 16-18 year olds.
- Statistics show that employment rate was significantly lower among young age groups. The recession had a disproportionate impact on young people as both activity and employment rates decreased the most among them.
- Male employees are significantly more likely to be employed in manager and senior official positions, skilled trades and process and plant and machine operative positions than female employees. Female employees are significantly more likely to be employed in administrative and secretarial, personal services and sales and customer services positions.
- In the East Midlands and the UK a significantly lower proportion of ethnic minorities than whites are employed as managers and senior officials.
- The gender pay gap in the East Midlands is also greater than the national average.

5.4 Participation and education achievement by group

Participation in formal education is essential to develop the skills and competencies that are fundamental for making informed career decisions and for doing a job well. This section discusses participation, educational attainment and achievement of East Midlands pupils by ethnicity and Special Educational Need (SEN).

5.4.1 Participation in education and Work Based Learning of 16 and 17 year olds³³

In 2007, the participation rate in full-time³⁴ and part-time education, and Work Based Learning (WBL) of 16 and 17 year olds was 80% in the East Midlands. This is 3 percentage points lower than the English average of 83%. However, this overall picture masks significant sub-regional differences. Chart 10 shows that:

- The participation rate was the highest in Leicester at 91%; and
- The participation rate was the lowest in Rutland at 68%.

In 2007, the participation rate of 16 and 17 year olds in full-time education was 68% in the East Midlands, 4 percentage points lower than the national average of 72%. Again, as chart 10 shows there are significant sub-regional disparities:

- The participation rate in full-time education was the highest in Leicester at 83%;
- The participation rate in full-time education was the lowest in Derby at 62%.

“Work Based Learning” is a generic term used to describe vocationally focused learning completed within the workplace. In 2007, the participation rate of 16 and 17 year olds in workplace-based learning was 7% both in the East Midlands and in England. However, as Chart 10 shows there are significant sub-regional differences:

- The participation rate of 16 and 17 year olds in workplace-based learning was the highest in Derby and Nottinghamshire at 9%; and
- The participation rate was the lowest in Rutland at just 2%.

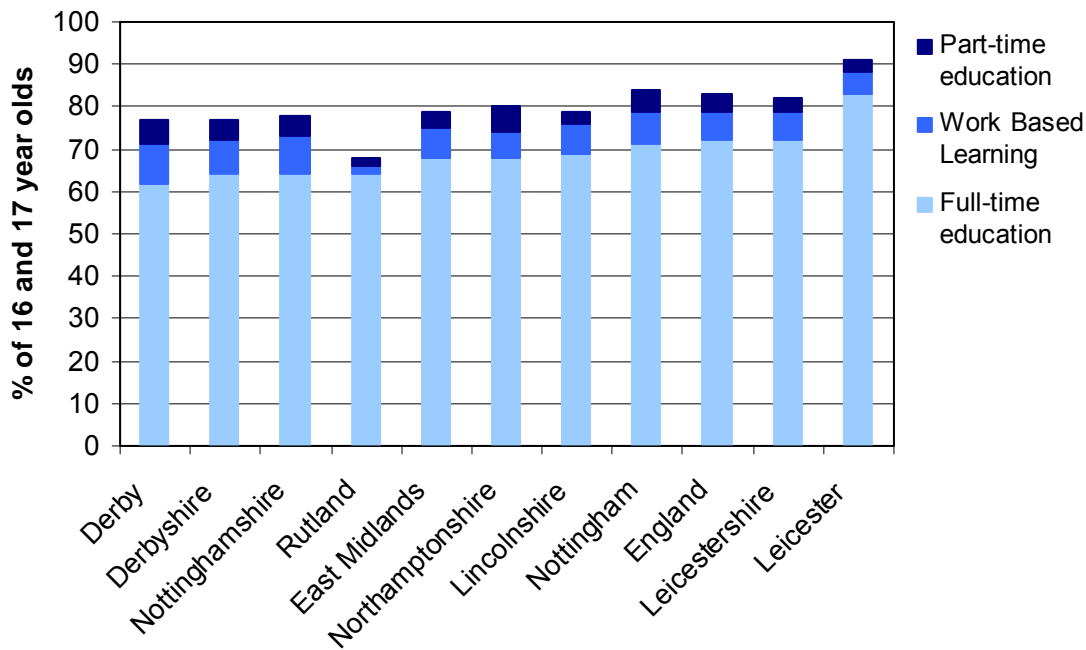
³³ Department for Children, School and Families, ‘Participation in education and work based learning (WBL) of 16 and 17 year olds, Local Authority (LA) Tables’.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000849/index.shtml>

Published, 16 June, 2009.

³⁴ Full-time education covers maintained schools, independent schools (city technology colleges, academies and pupil referral units), sixth form colleges and Further Education Colleges (general, tertiary and specialist colleges). For both Child Benefit and Child Tax Credit, full-time education means a course where the average time spent during term time is more than 12 hours a week and is not advanced, or linked to employment or any office held. (<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/manuals/ccmmanual/CCM18030.htm>)

Chart 10: Participation rate in formal education and Work Based Learning (WBL) of 16 and 17 year olds, 2007



Source: Department for Children, School and Families, 'Participation in education and work based learning (WBL) of 16 and 17 year olds' <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000849/index.shtml>

Note: Bars show the total participation rate which is the sum of participation rate of full-time education, part-time education and WBL. Therefore full-time, part-time and WBL categories are mutually exclusive.

5.4.1.1 Pupil absence

Chronic absenteeism of school age children is a problem as it jeopardises their progress at school. Absenteeism occurs for legitimate reasons such as illness or family crisis but the level of unauthorised absenteeism is a concern for policy making.

There are two ways to examine school absenteeism. Firstly, based on the number of half days³⁵ missed as a percentage of total half days. Secondly, based on the percentage of enrolments, a proxy for pupils that can be classified as persistent absentees. Persistent absentees are defined as pupils having 48 or more half days of absence (authorised and unauthorised) across both examined terms (autumn term 2008 and the spring term 2009).

Between the autumn term in 2008 and the spring term in 2009, the overall absence rate³⁶ was 5.4% in East Midlands primary schools, 0.1 percentage points lower than the English average of 5.5%. The overall absence rate in the secondary schools was the same in the region and in England at 7.2%. As Chart 11 shows, the proportion of unauthorised absence is largely the same in the region compared to the figures for England as a whole.

³⁵ Half days are often referred to as 'sessions'.

³⁶ Department for Children, Schools and Families, 'Pupil absence in schools in England: autumn term 2008 and spring term 2009'. Authorised and unauthorised absence collectively. <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000882/index.shtml>

Pupil absence tends to be higher in secondary schools³⁷ compared to primary schools. Between the autumn term in 2008 and the spring term in 2009, the overall absence rate was 7.3% in England and 7.2% in the East Midlands. The authorised absence rate in state funded secondary schools was 5.7% in the East Midlands, 0.1 percentage points lower than the English figure of 5.8%. However, the proportion of absences that were unauthorised was 1.5% in the East Midlands, which is the same as the national figure³⁸.

Secondary school absenteeism shows significant sub-regional differences. The overall absence was by far the highest in Nottingham and was the lowest in Rutland.

- The authorised absence rate was highest in Lincolnshire (6.1%) and Nottingham (6.1%), and lowest in Leicester at 5.2%.
- The unauthorised absence rate was the highest in Nottingham at 2.5%.
- The unauthorised absence rate was also relatively high in Leicester at 2.1%. On the other hand, unauthorised absence was the lowest in Lincolnshire (0.9%) and Rutland (0.7%).

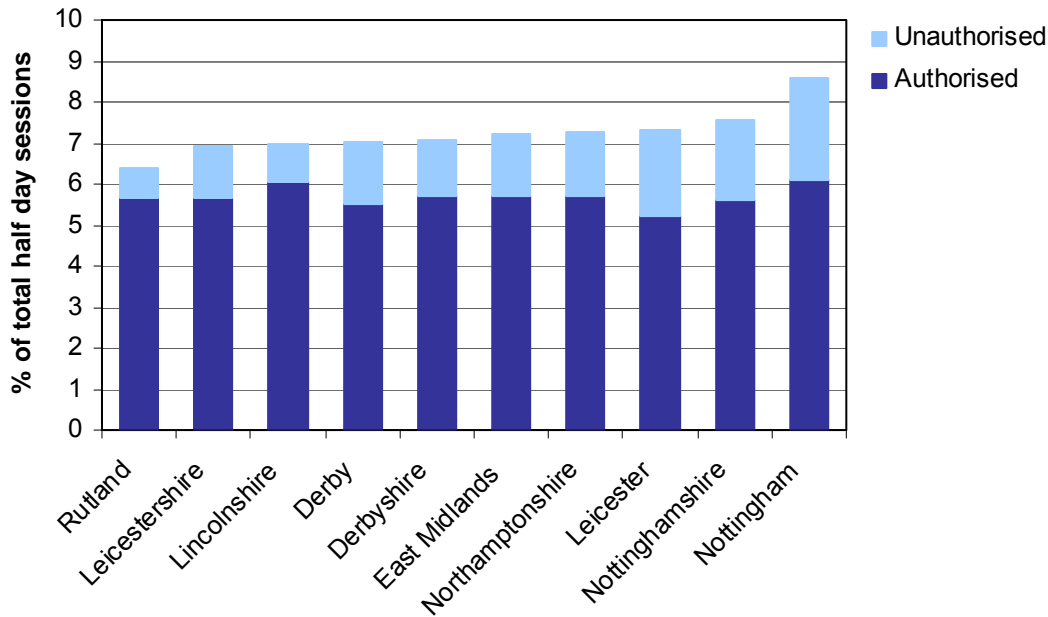
³⁷ Secondary school students are pupils aged from age 11 to 16, students will enter secondary school for key stages three and four and to start their move towards taking the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSEs). Once students completed their GCSEs they have the choice to either move into further education (with a view to higher education) or can leave school and look for work.

http://uk.internationalstudent.com/study_uk/education_system/

³⁸ Department for Children, Schools and Families, 'Pupil absence in schools in England: autumn term 2008 and spring term 2009'. Authorised and unauthorised absence collectively.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000882/index.shtml>

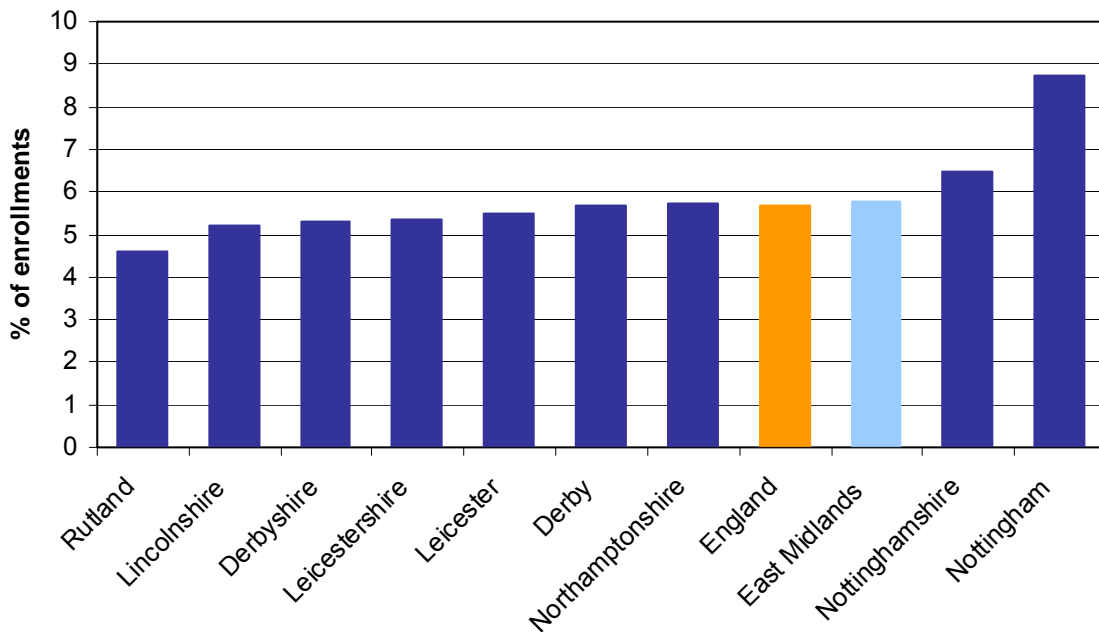
Chart 11: Percentage of half days missed in state funded secondary schools (autumn term 2008 and spring term 2009)



Source: Department for Children, Schools and Families, 'Pupil absence in schools in England: autumn term 2008 and spring term 2009'. State funded secondary schools includes middle schools, maintained secondary schools, city technology colleges and academies.

If enrolments are an acceptable proxy for the number of pupils, the proportion of persistent absentees in the East Midlands' secondary schools was 5.8%, 0.1 percentage points higher than the English average of 5.7%. The proportion of persistent absentees was the highest in Nottingham at 8.7%. The lowest percentage of persistent absentees was in Rutland, at just 4.6%.

Chart 12: Percentage of enrolments which can be classed as persistent absentees* (autumn term 2008 and spring term 2009)



Source: Department for Children, Schools and Families, 'Pupil absence in schools in England: autumn term 2008 and spring term 2009'.

Note: Persistent absentees are defined as pupils having 48 or more half days of absence (authorised and unauthorised) across both terms. State funded secondary includes middle schools, maintained secondary schools, city technology colleges and academies.

5.4.2 Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)

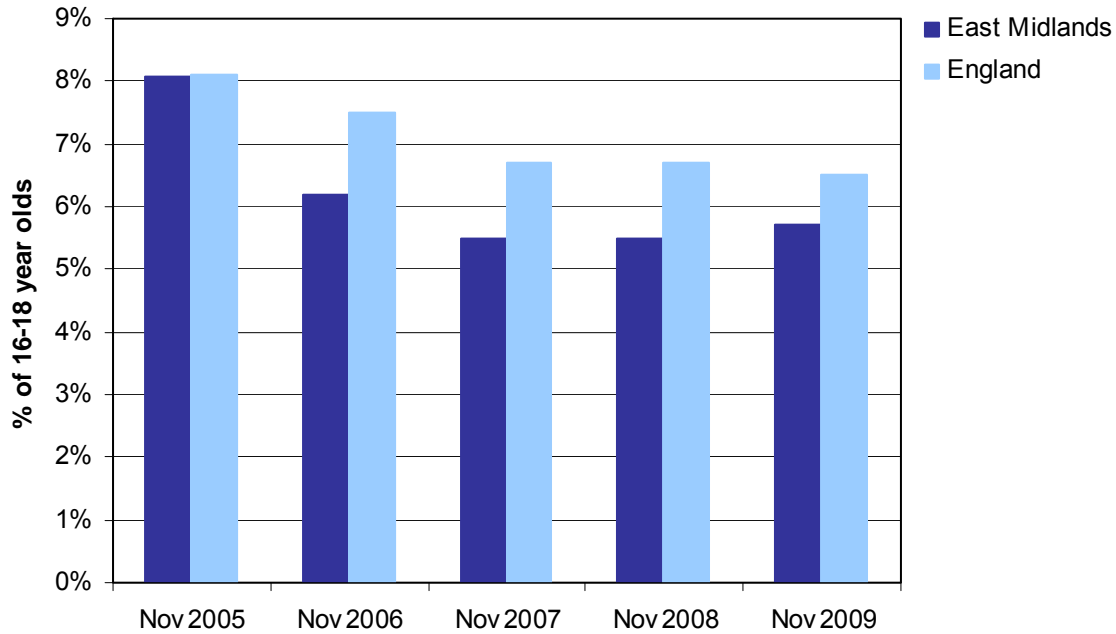
The Education and Skills Act 2008 contains the requirement for all young people to participate in education or training until their 18th birthday in the future. The participation age is being raised in two stages, to 17 from 2013 and to 18 from 2015. However, there are young people who are currently not participating in education, employment or training (NEET) between the ages of 16 and 18. This is a missed opportunity both for the individual and society.

Chart 13 shows a comparison of the proportion of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) for the period November 2005 to November 2009. Between 2005 and 2008, there has been a general decrease in the proportion of 16-18 year olds who are NEET in the East Midlands and in England. However, due to the recession, the proportion of those young people not in education, employment or training slightly increased in the East Midlands by November 2009.

In the East Midlands 5.7% of 16-18 year olds were NEET compared to the English average of 6.5% in November 2009³⁹. Due to the recession, the proportion of young people who were NEET has increased by 0.2 percentage points between November 2008 and November 2009 in the East Midlands. This is compared to a decrease of 0.2 percentage points in England as a whole.

³⁹ Data used by this chapter are Connexion data received from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) (November data each year) for the 16-18 year olds. The statistics published in The Poverty Site are for 16-19 year olds, and based on Labour Force Survey averages for 2006 and 2008. Based on the Poverty Site, in 2008, in the East Midlands 12% of 16-19 year olds were NEET in 2006-2008, which is the same as the UK average of 12%. <http://www.poverty.org.uk/32/index.shtml>

Chart 13: Proportion of 16 -18 year olds who are NEET including PDOs (adjusted)

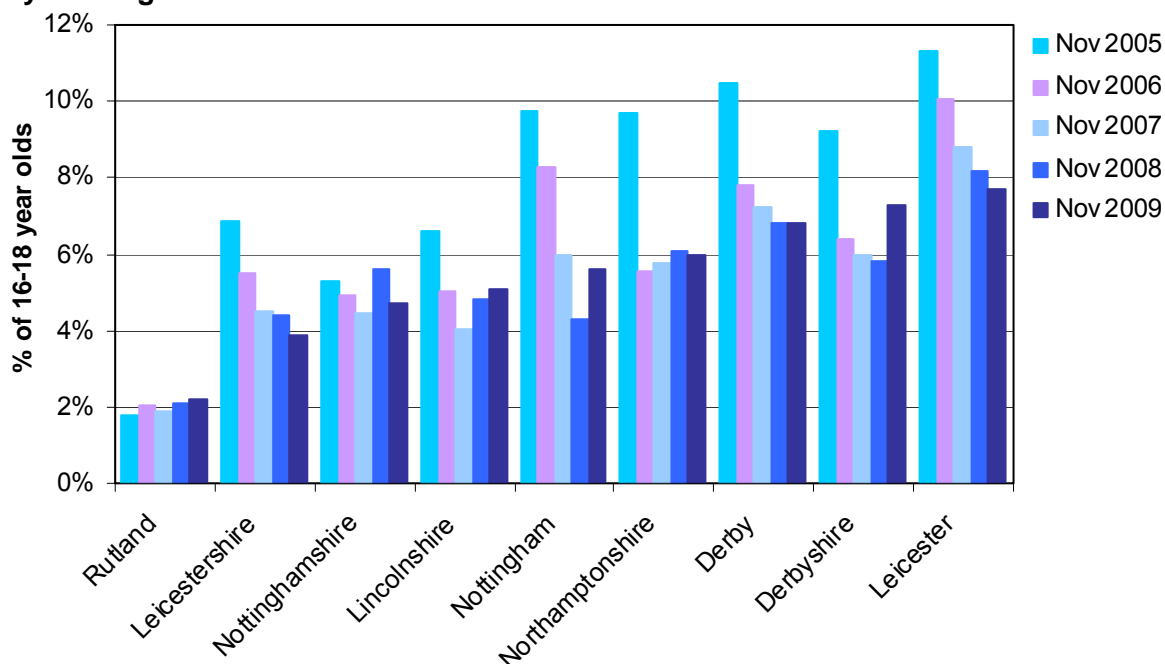


Source: Connexions, provided by regional LSC office. Data refer to the November data each year.
 Note: The NEET cohort includes those young people undertaking Personal and Social Development Opportunities (PDO) and excludes those in custody, applying for asylum and refugees. Those young people accessing post-16 education are counted within the area of the education provider and not of their residence.

Chart 14 shows that in November 2009 the proportion of 16-18 year olds who were NEET was highest in the cities. In Leicester, 7.7% of 16-18 year olds were not in education or training, compared to 6.8% in Derby and 5.6% in Nottingham. In Rutland, only 2.2% of 16-18 year olds were NEET.

Between November 2008 and November 2009 the proportion of 16-18 year olds who were NEET increased the most in Derbyshire and Nottingham, by 1.5 and 1.3 percentage points respectively. Some decreases were recorded in Nottinghamshire (-0.9 percentage points), Leicester and Leicestershire.

Chart 14: Proportion of 16 -18 year olds who are NEET including PDOs (adjusted) by sub-region



Source: Connexions, provided by regional LSC office.

Note: The NEET cohort includes those young people undertaking Personal and Social Development Opportunities (PDO) and excludes those in custody, applying for asylum and refugees. Those young people accessing post-16 education are counted within the area of the education provider and not of their residence.

The Regional 14-19 Strategic Analysis 2008-2010 produced by the regional Learning and Skills Council emphasises that there is a higher proportion of learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities within the NEET population than the total 16-18 cohort. Within this group those with emotional and behavioural difficulties were represented twice as frequently as they were in the 16-18 population as a whole⁴⁰.

5.4.3 Achievement by ethnicity

The Department for Children, School and Families (DCSF) publishes data on pupil achievement by ethnic group (identified as White, Mixed, Asian, Black and Chinese). At least five GCSEs at grades A*-C is equivalent to the Level 2 qualification, which is considered as the basic platform for employability and progression by the Government⁴¹.

Provisional achievement data shows that in 2009 there were some significant differences in achievement by pupils from different ethnic groups. Educational attainment success of pupils of Mixed and Black ethnic minority groups are lower than

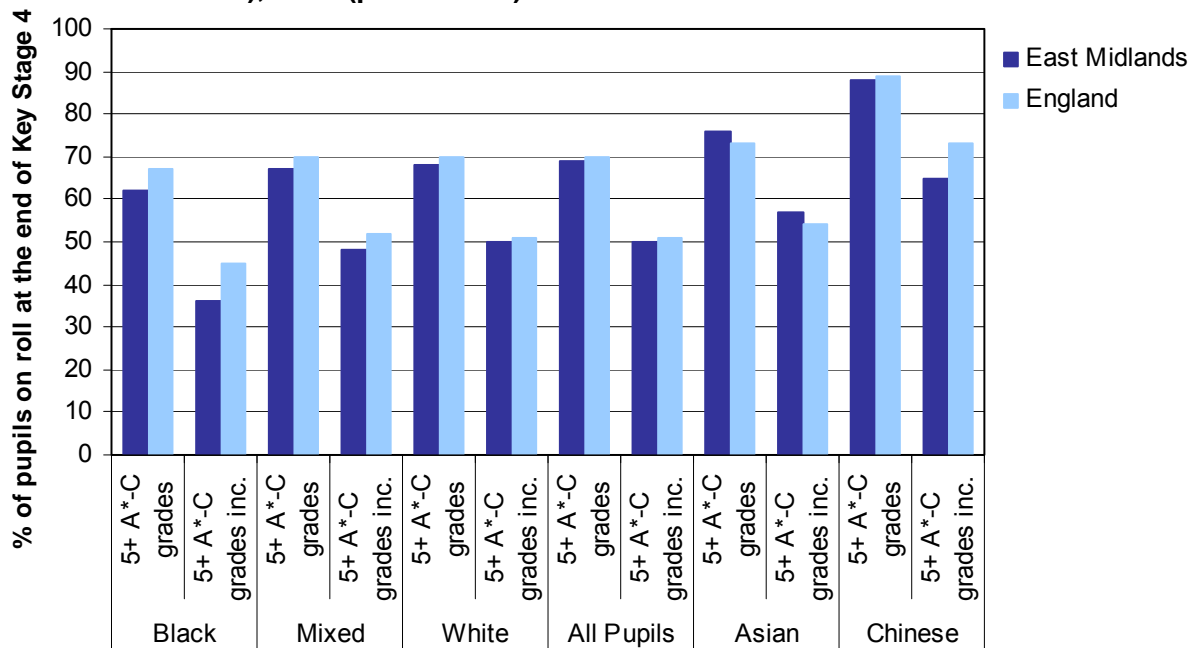
⁴⁰ Learning and Skills Council, 'Regional 14-19 Strategic Analysis 2008/2010', August 2008.

⁴¹ Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), 'Level 2 National Vocational Qualification: The Characteristics of those who obtain them, and their impact on Employment and Earnings Growth – Brief'. <http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=RB821&>

average. In contrast, pupils from Chinese and Asian ethnic groups perform better than the average:

- The proportion of pupils from Black ethnic groups gaining five or more A*-C GCSEs was 62% in the East Midlands compared to 67% in England. The attainment gap between pupils from Black ethnic groups and all pupils was 7 percentage points in the East Midlands compared to 3 percentage points in England.
- The proportion of students from Mixed ethnic groups gaining five or more A*-C GCSEs was 67% in the East Midlands, 3 percentage points lower than the national average of 70%. This achievement rate of pupils from Mixed groups was 2 percentage points lower than the average for all pupils in the East Midlands.
- The proportion of pupils from White ethnic groups gaining five or more A*-C GCSEs was 68% in the East Midlands, 2 percentage points lower than the national average of 70%. This achievement rate of pupils from White groups was largely similar to the average for all pupils both in the East Midlands and in England.
- The proportion of students from Asian and Chinese ethnic groups gaining five or more A*-C GCSEs was 76% and 88% in the East Midlands. Pupils from Asian and Chinese ethnic groups perform significantly better than the average for all pupils both in the East Midlands and in England.

Chart 15: Achievements at GCSE by ethnicity at the end of Key Stage 4, (pupils aged between 14 and 16), 2009 (provisional)



Source: Department for Children, School and Families, 'GCSE Attainment by Pupil Characteristics in England 2008/09', <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000900/index.shtml>

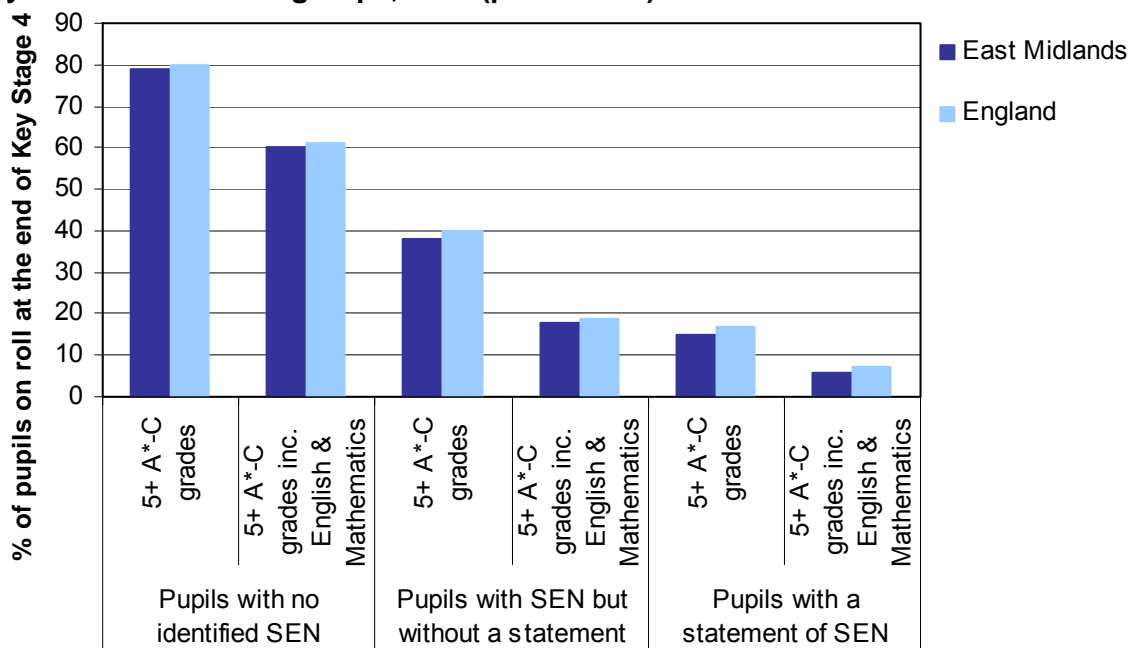
Note: Schools include academies and CTCs, primary, secondary and maintained special schools. Excludes non maintained special schools, independent schools and pupil referral units. Data refer to the pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 in the 2008-2009 academic year, 14-16 year olds.

5.4.4 Achievement by Special Educational Need (SEN)

The Education Act 1996 defines children with Special Educational Need (SEN) as children who have a considerably greater difficulty in learning than others the same age. It includes children who cannot use the educational facilities which other children of a similar age use because of their disability⁴². Attainment is significantly lower among this group.

In 2009 there were 1,550 pupils with a statement of SEN and additional 10,370 pupils with SEN but without a statement in the East Midlands⁴³. The proportion of non SEN pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 achieving five or more A*-C GCSEs was 79% in the East Midlands and 80% in England. However, only 15% of pupils with SEN gained five or more A*-C GCSEs in the region, 2 percentage points lower than the national figure of 17%. The gap between the achievement of pupils with no SEN and pupils with statement of SEN stood at 64 percentage points in the East Midlands and at 63 percentage points in England in 2009.

Chart 16: Percentage of pupils on roll at the end of Key Stage 4 achieving 5+ A*-C GCSEs by SEN and non-SEN groups, 2009 (provisional)



Source: Department for Children, School and Families, 'GCSE Attainment by Pupil Characteristics in England 2008/09', <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000900/index.shtml>

Note: SEN without a statement comprised of pupils at School Action and School Action Plus. Schools include academies and CTCs, primary, secondary and maintained special schools. Excludes non maintained special schools, independent schools and pupil referral units. Data refer to the pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 in the 2008-2009 academic year; 14-16 year olds.

⁴² Penny Roper, 'Special Education Need – England' <http://www.cafamily.org.uk/pdfs/educatio.pdf>

⁴³ Department for Children, School and Families: 'GCSE Attainment by Pupil Characteristics, in England 2008/09'. <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000900/index.shtml>

At sub-regional level the following points can be made⁴⁴:

- In 2009 the proportion of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 with a statement of SEN gaining five or more A*-C GCSEs is highest in Leicestershire (19%) and in Lincolnshire (18%); and
- The proportion of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 with a statement of SEN gaining five or more A*-C GCSEs was lowest in Rutland (7%) and in Derby (10%).

Key Points: Participation and educational attainment by group

- The overall participation rate in education and workplace-based learning of 16 and 17 year olds in the East Midlands is lower than the English average.
- The overall absence rates in both primary and secondary schools were slightly lower in the East Midlands than in England.
- The proportion of persistent absentees in the East Midlands is slightly higher than the English average.
- In the East Midlands 5.7% of 16-18 year olds were NEET compared to the English average of 6.5% in November 2009. Due to the recession, the proportion of young people who were NEET has increased by 0.2 percentage points between November 2008 and November 2009 in the East Midlands.
- Between November 2008 and November 2009 the proportion of 16-18 year olds who were NEET increased the most in Derbyshire and Nottingham, by 1.5 and 1.3 percentage points respectively.
- Although the overall achievement of pupils aged 14 and 16 is largely similar in the East Midlands to the English average, performance of students from ethnic minority background is weaker in the East Midlands than in England, except pupils with an Asian background.

⁴⁴ Source: Department for Children, School and Families, 'GCSE Attainment by Pupil Characteristics in England 2008/09', <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000900/index.shtml>

5.5 Worklessness

Worklessness is a diverse phenomenon. Work commissioned by the Department for Work and Pensions⁴⁵ defines worklessness as “detachment from the formal labour market in particular areas, and among particular groups. Workless individuals include individuals who are unemployed and claiming unemployment benefits, individuals who are economically inactive and eligible for inactive benefits (who may or may not be claiming them), and individuals who are working exclusively in the informal economy (who may or may not be also claiming benefits)”. As a result of the recession, worklessness is expected to increase.

The simple way to quantify the level of worklessness is by adding up the figures for the unemployed and the economically inactive. At national and regional level the LFS data can be used, but Local Authority District level LFS data is not robust enough to provide a reliable assessment. In addition, this concept can skew the figure as large numbers of students and retired people are included.

Beatty et al, Fothergill, Gore and Powell established the term ‘real-unemployment’⁴⁶. They argue that ‘real’ unemployment should be defined as all those who might reasonably be expected to have been in work in a fully-employed economy. This counts the claimant unemployed, the additional ILO unemployed and the hidden unemployed among incapacity benefit claimants⁴⁷. Table 3 shows the regional variations in real unemployment in January 2007.

Table 3 shows that before the recession while the claimant count was relatively low in all regions and there was little variation between regions the level of real unemployment was more variable. For example, the gap between the South East and the North East (the lowest and highest in both measures) is 5 percentage points compared to 1.9 percentage points for the claimant count. However, due to the recession the claimant count rate has increased in every region. Latest statistics for February 2010⁴⁸ show that claimant count rate was the highest in the West Midlands (5.6%) and the North East (5.6%). The claimant count rate was 4.2% in the East Midlands in February 2010. This is compared to the UK average of 4.4%.

There were around 98,000 males and 88,000 females in the East Midlands who could be described as unemployed, but who are not included in the unemployment statistics. The real unemployment rate in the East Midlands was estimated to be 7% in January 2007, with little difference between male and female rates. This is just below the average of 7.2% for the Great Britain. Given the changes in the labour market since 2007, the real unemployment rate is now likely to be significantly higher.

⁴⁵ Ritchie, H, Casebourne, J, and Rick, J, ‘Understanding workless people and communities: A Literature Review’. London HMSO, 2005. Page 2.

⁴⁶ Beatty, C, Fothergill, S, Gore, T and Powell, R, ‘The Real Level of Unemployment, 2007’. Sheffield, CRESR.

⁴⁷ The “hidden unemployed among IB claimants” is calculated as the deviation between the “benchmark IB claimant rate” and the actual IB claimant rate in each district. The benchmark is the proportion of men and women claiming IB in fully employed parts of South East England.

⁴⁸ ONS Crown Copyright Reserved, ‘Claimant count with rates and proportions’ via NOMIS.

Table 3: Unemployment by region, January 2007

	% of working age population	
	Claimant count	Real unemployment
North East	3.5	9.6
North West	2.9	8.9
West Midlands	3.4	8.1
London	3.2	7.9
Yorkshire and the Humber	2.9	7.4
East Midlands	2.4	7.0
East	2.0	5.2
South West	1.7	5.2
South East	1.6	4.6
Great Britain	2.6	7.2

Source: Beatty, C, Fothergill, S, Gore, T and Powell, R, 'The Real Level of Unemployment 2007'. Page 25, Table 5.

At local level, the real unemployment rate in the East Midlands was the highest in the cities, former coalfields area and Lincolnshire coast. In January 2007, the real unemployment rate was estimated to be the highest in Bolsover (11.3%), Mansfield (11.2%), Chesterfield (10.4%), Leicester (10.4%), Nottingham (10.3%) and East Lindsey (9.5%). The real unemployment rate was the lowest in Rutland and Harborough at 2.8% and 3.0% respectively⁴⁹.

Another possible way to identify worklessness is by the proportion of the working age population claiming out-of-work benefits⁵⁰. 'Key out-of-work benefits' covers:

- Those jobseekers who claim Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Those who claim Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance;
- Those lone parents on Income Support; and
- Others on income-related benefits such as other Income Support (including IS Disability Premium) or Pension Credit.

Large numbers of benefit claimants are an indicator of low levels of income and low levels of economic activity. The following calculations are based on the Working Age Client Group Datasets (WACGD) accessed from NOMIS in which each claimant appears only once, even though some claim more than one benefit⁵¹. The total number, and the proportion of working age people who are claiming one or more out-of-work benefits is used as a proxy for worklessness.

⁴⁹ Beatty, C, Fothergill, S, Gore, T and Powell, R, 'The Real Level of Unemployment 2007'. Sheffield, CRESR.

<http://www.shu.ac.uk/research/cresr/downloads/The%20Real%20Level%20of%20Unemployment%202007-.pdf>

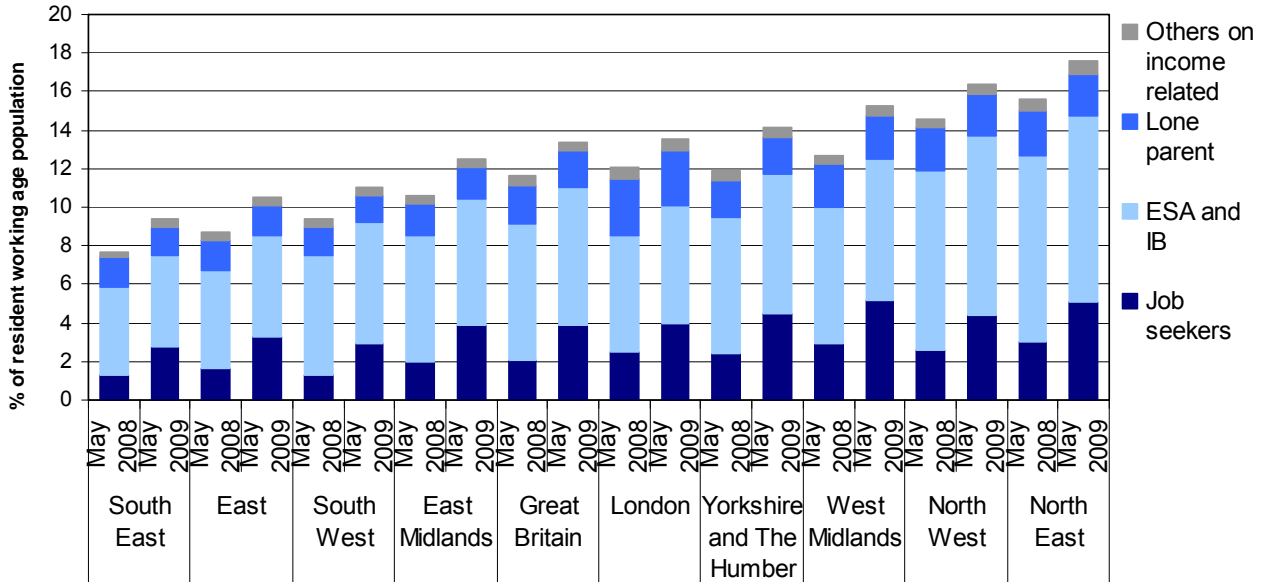
⁵⁰ Communities and Local Government, 'National Indicators for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships: Handbook of definitions – Draft for Consultation' National Indicators 152,

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/nationalindicatorsupdate>

⁵¹ The Client Group Data Sets are advised for information on the total number of people claiming benefits and the combination of benefits claimed. These data sets provide benefit claimant data as a proportion of working age population. However, the Individual Benefit Data Sets provide a number of people claiming a particular benefit. Unlike the Client Group Data Set, a person claiming multiple benefits will be counted separately in each applicable benefit data sets. Hence, the two types of datasets provide a picture of benefit claimants from slightly different perspectives (NOMIS).

Chart 17 shows a snapshot of the proportion of people claiming out-of-work benefits in May 2008 and May 2009. Given changes in economic performance since the summer of 2008, the proportion of the population claiming key out-of-work benefits has increased significantly. This overall increase was mainly due to the rising number of people claiming Jobseekers' Allowance between May 2008 and May 2009.

Chart 17: Proportion of resident working age population claiming one or more out-of-work benefits, May 2008 and May 2009



Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Benefit Claimants – working age client group', from NOMIS.
 Note: Residence-based proportions express the number of claimants resident in an area as a percentage of the working age population resident in that area. Working age is defined as 16-64 for males and 16-59 for females.

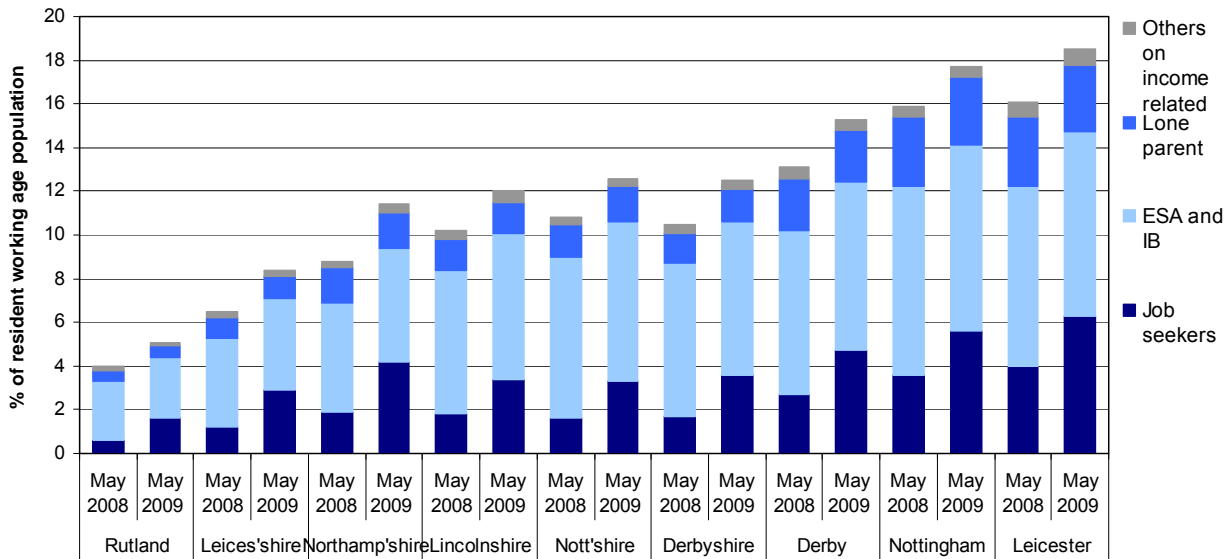
In May 2009, the proportion of the working age population claiming one or more out-of-work benefits was 12.6% in the East Midlands, which is equivalent to 345,000 individuals. This is below the average of 13.4% for Great Britain. In other regions this proportion ranges from 9.4% in the South East to 17.7% in the North East.

In the East Midlands the percentage of working age claimants increased by 2.0 percentage points from May 2008 to May 2009. This was the fourth highest increase after the West Midlands (2.4 percentage points), North East (2.1 percentage points) and the Yorkshire and the Humber (2.2 percentage points). The lowest increase is in London where the percentage of out-of-work benefits claimants increased by 1.4 percentage points during the reference period.

Chart 18 shows that in May 2009, within the East Midlands, the proportion of out-of-work benefit claimants is the highest in Leicester and Nottingham at 18.5% and 17.7% respectively. Among the East Midlands Unitary Authorities, Rutland has the lowest proportion of out-of-work benefit claimants at 5.1% followed by Leicestershire (8.4%).

Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of out-of-work benefit claimants increased the most in Northamptonshire and Leicester by 2.5 percentage points and 2.4 percentage points respectively. This is compared to the regional average of 2 percentage points. The proportion of out-of-work benefit claimants increased the least in Rutland by 1.1 percentage points. In Derbyshire the proportion of those claiming out-of-work benefits increased by 2 percentage points over the same period. In Derby, Nottingham and Leicester the increases were 2.3, 1.8 and 2.4 percentage points respectively.

Chart 18: Proportion of resident working age population claiming one or more out-of-work benefits, May 2008 and May 2009



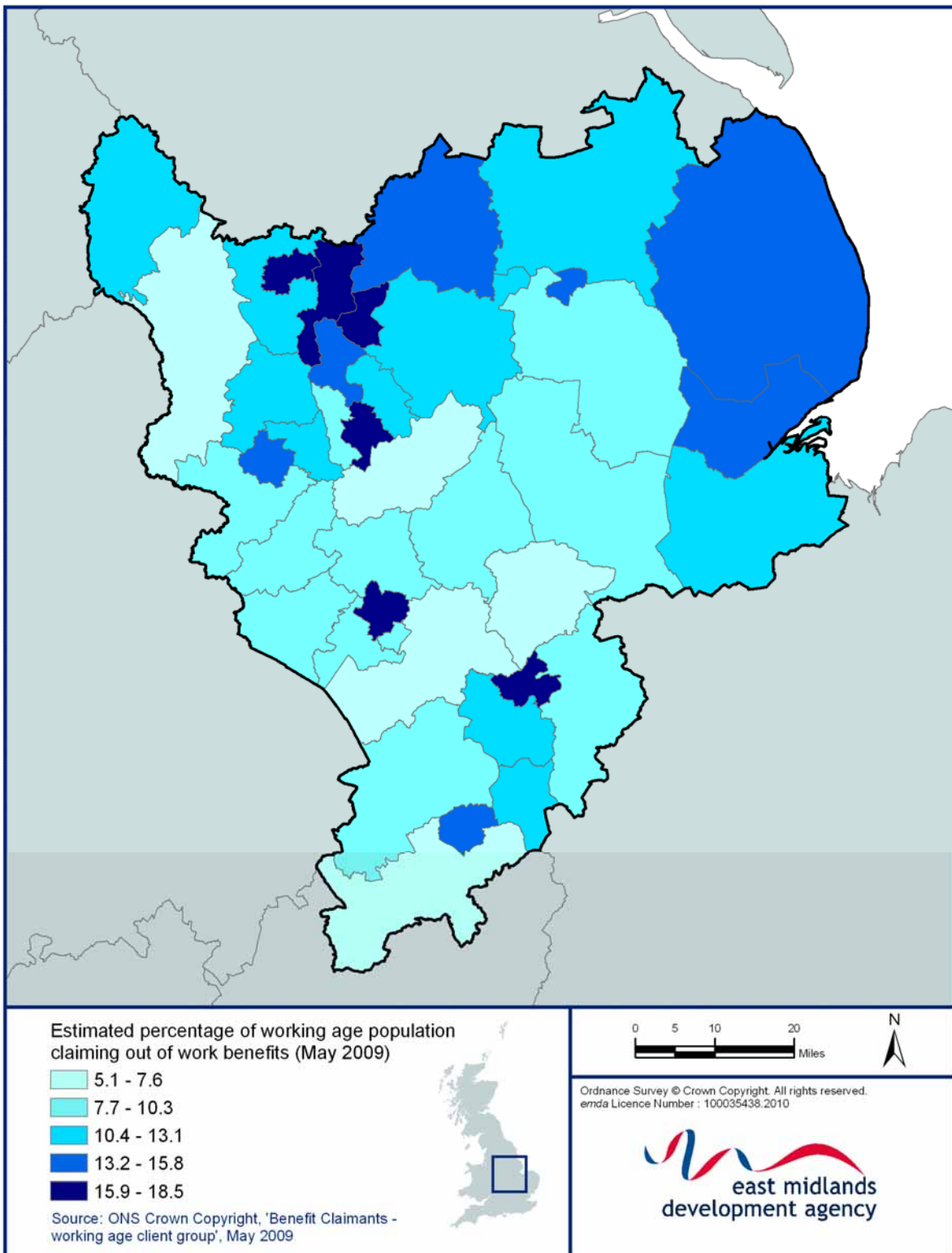
Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Benefit Claimants – working age client group', from NOMIS.

Map 5 shows that the proportion of the working age population claiming out-of-work benefits is relatively high not only in cities such as Leicester (18.5%) and Nottingham (17.7%), but also in Local Authority districts in the coalfields such as Corby (18.0%), Mansfield (17.6%) and Bolsover (17.3%). Apart from Rutland (5.1%), Local Authorities with the lowest proportions are South Northamptonshire (5.6%) and Harborough (6.5%).

The geographical concentrations of worklessness occur in the former coalfields where the contraction of the coal industry (de-industrialisation) left behind a unique combination of joblessness, physical isolation and health problems.

Spatial mismatches may occur as individuals are unable to access employment in other areas of their own local labour market because of childcare responsibilities or a lack of public transport. This may be the case in the Lincolnshire coastal area. The economic upturn in such areas could be expected to see slower improvement, potentially increasing spatial disparities within the region.

Map 5: Proportion of resident working age population claiming out-of-work benefits, May 2009



The following sub-sections examine levels of benefit dependency in more detail, focusing on three benefits: Jobseeker's Allowance claimants, Employment and Support Allowance and other incapacity benefits and lone parents on Income Support. Other income related benefit claimants are not discussed because of their relatively small proportion and uncertain composition.

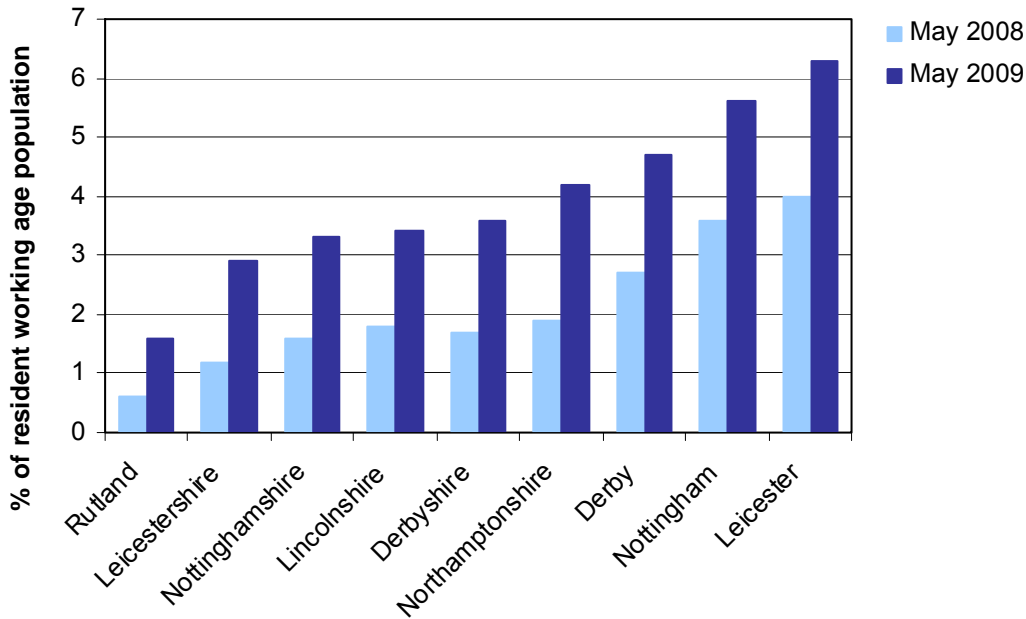
5.5.1 Jobseeker's Allowance

Jobseekers receive Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), which is payable to people under pensionable age who are available for, and actively seeking work.

In the East Midlands 3.9% of the resident working age population was claiming Jobseeker's Allowance in May 2009, equivalent to 106,600 people. This is the same as the average of 3.9% for Great Britain.

The proportion of JSA claimants has increased in every region in England between May 2008 and May 2009. In the East Midlands, the proportion of JSA claimants increased by 1.9 percentage points, from 2.0% to 3.9%. This percentage change compares to the Great Britain increase of 1.8 percentage points. The proportion of the population claiming JSA was the highest in the in the West Midlands and the North East at 5.2% and 5.1% respectively in May 2009. The JSA claimant rate was the lowest in the South East and the South West at 2.8% and 2.9% respectively. In percentage terms, between May 2008 and May 2009 the JSA claimant rate increased the most in those regions which have been the hardest hit by the recession; the West Midlands, the North East, and Yorkshire and the Humber, by 2.3, 2.1 and 2.1 percentage points respectively. In London and in the South East, the JSA claimant rate increased by only 1.5 percentage points over the period.

Chart 19: Proportion of resident working age population claiming Jobseeker’s Allowance, East Midlands



Source: ONS Crown Copyright, ‘Benefit Claimants – working age client group’, from NOMIS.

Note: Statistical group analysis for job seekers. Because of the hierarchical arrangement of benefits, those who are classified as jobseekers may claim other benefits as well such as other income related benefits etc.

The aim of the Statistical Group typology is to present each person by the main reasons why they are claiming benefit. Each client is classified just once as benefits are arranged hierarchically and claimants are assigned to the top most benefit which they receive. Residence-based proportions express the number of claimants resident in an area as a percentage of the working age population resident in that area. Working age is defined as 16-64 for males and 16-59 for females.

Sub-regional analysis shows that the proportion of resident working age population claiming Jobseeker’s Allowance increased in every sub-region between May 2008 and May 2009. In May 2009 the proportion of the resident working age population claiming JSA was highest in Leicester and Nottingham at 6.3% and 5.6% respectively. In Rutland only 1.6% of the population claimed JSA.

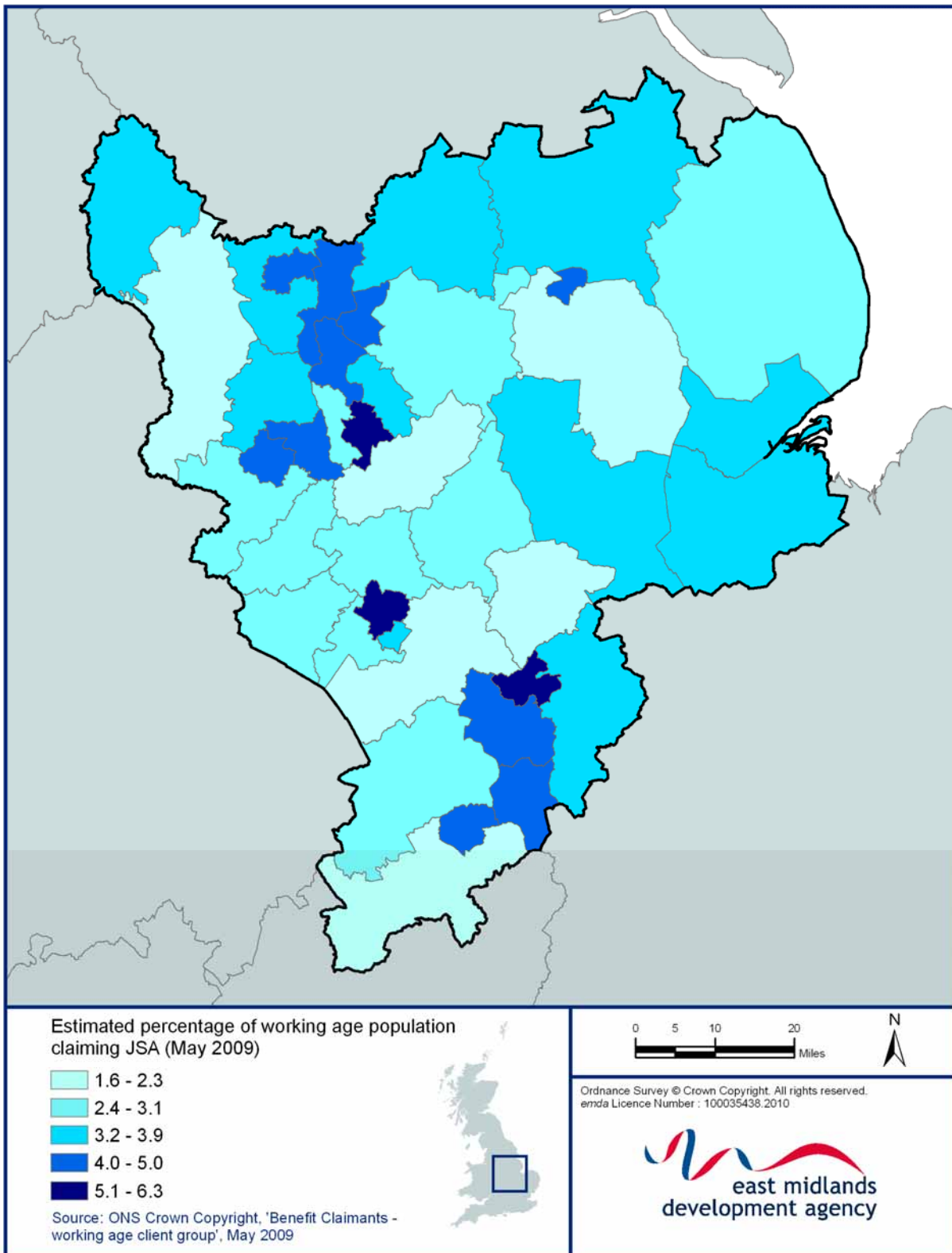
Local analysis shows that in May 2009, Rutland, Derbyshire Dales and Rushcliffe had the lowest rate of the working age residents claiming JSA (1.6%, 1.9% and 2.1% respectively). Apart from Leicester, other Local Authorities with a relatively high proportion of JSA claimants are Corby, Nottingham, Northampton and Lincoln at 6.3%, 5.6%, 5.0% and 5.0% respectively. In addition to the region’s key urban centres, the former coalfields also experience relatively high proportion of JSA claimants, in particular; Chesterfield (4.5%) and Bolsover (4.3 %) and Mansfield (4.1%).

The proportion of JSA claimants increased the most in Northamptonshire and in Leicester by 2.3 percentage points between May 2008 and May 2009. The proportion of JSA claimants increased by 2.0 percentage points in Derby and in Nottingham. Between May 2008 and May 2009 the JSA claimant rate increased by only 1.0 percentage point in Rutland.

Latest labour market statistics show⁵² that between February 2009 and February 2010 the number of people claiming JSA has increased from 104,700 to 115,400 in the East Midlands. Between February 2009 and February 2010, the claimant count rate increased by 0.4 percentage points in the East Midlands, which is slightly lower than the UK average of 0.5 percentage points. The claimant count rate increased the most in Leicester (1.0 percentage points), Nottingham (0.8 percentage points) and Northampton (0.6 percentage points) over the period. The claimant count rate in February 2010 was above the regional average in the three cities, Corby, Lincoln, Northampton, Erewash, Chesterfield, Bolsover, Ashfield, Mansfield and Wellingborough.

⁵² Office for National Statistics, 'Labour Market Statistics March 2010' and 'Labour Market Statistics March 2010: East Midlands'.

Map 6: Proportion of resident working age population claiming JSA (%), May 2009



5.5.2 Employment and Support Allowance⁵³ and incapacity benefits⁵⁴ claimants

As part of welfare reform, Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on incapacity grounds from October 2008 have been replaced by Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). Existing incapacity benefits claimants will, for the time being, continue to receive their current benefits. In the longer term though – between 2009 and 2013 – those claiming under the old Incapacity Benefit will also be progressively transferred to the new regime. The changes were designed to both reduce on-flows to the benefit, as well as increase off-flows. Central to Employment and Support Allowance is a new test, the Work Capability Assessment, which assesses what an individual can do – rather than what they can't do. The assessment looks at people's physical and mental ability, including conditions such as learning disabilities and other similar conditions. Following this assessment most individuals will be given support and employment advice to enable them to return to work where possible⁵⁵.

The proportion⁵⁶ of ESA and incapacity benefits claimants (i.e. Incapacity Benefit⁵⁷ or Severe Disablements Allowance⁵⁸) in the East Midlands was 6.5%, which accounts for about 179,500 individuals. This proportion was below the average of 7.1% for Great Britain in May 2009. The proportion of claimants was highest in the North East and the North West at 9.6% and 9.3% respectively.

Between May 2008 and May 2009 the proportion of ESA and incapacity benefits claimants has levelled off in most English regions. In the East Midlands the proportion of ESA and incapacity benefits claimants remained the same at 6.5%. This is compared to the slight increase of 0.1 percentage points in Great Britain, from 7.0% to 7.1% over the same period.

Chart 20 shows the sub-regional differences in the proportion of ESA and incapacity benefit claimants in the East Midlands. The proportion of ESA and incapacity benefit claimants was relatively high in the cities and low in Rutland in May 2009. However, this picture masks significant local disparities.

⁵³ Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) was introduced from 27th October 2008, and gradually replaces Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid because of an illness or disability, for new customers only.

⁵⁴ Incapacity benefits include Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablements Allowance. See definitions later in the section.

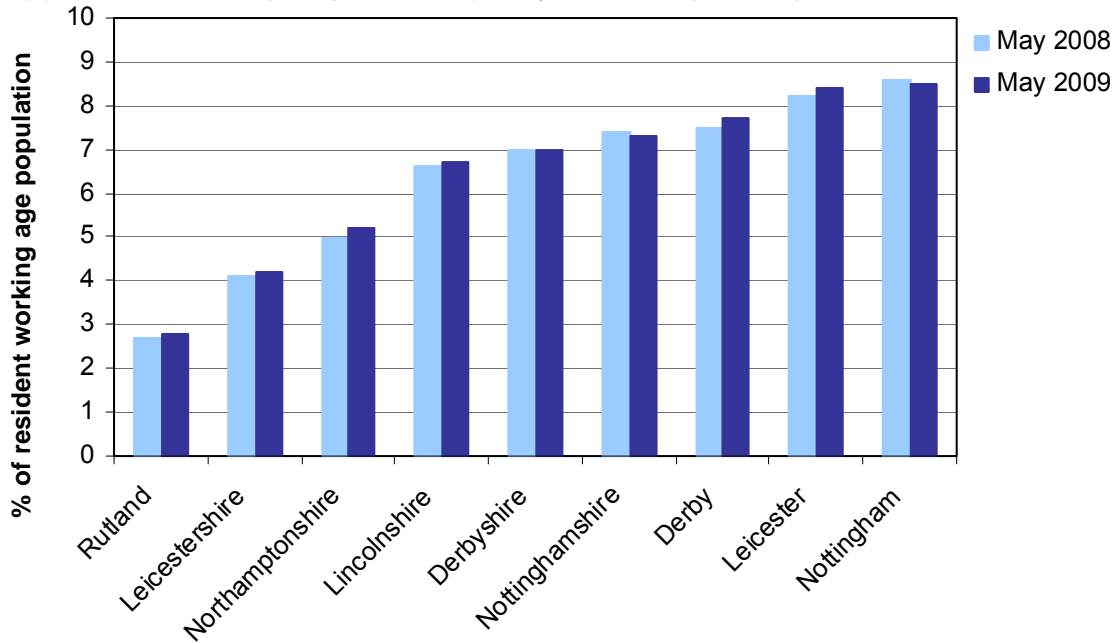
⁵⁵ Department for Work and Pension, <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/employment-and-support/>

⁵⁶ Residence-based proportions express the number of claimants resident in an area as a percentage of the working age population resident in that area. Working age is defined as 16-64 for males and 16-59 for females.

⁵⁷ Incapacity Benefits of existing customers is paid to people who have been incapable of work because of sickness or disability for at least four days in a row and who have paid sufficient contributions throughout their working lives. From October 2008 it is replaced by the Employment and Support Allowance (ONS Crown Copyright, 'Benefit Claimants – working age client group', from NOMIS).

⁵⁸ Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) was paid to those unable to work for 28 weeks in a row or more because of illness or disability. Since April 2001 it has not been possible to make a new claim for Severe Disablement Allowance (ONS Crown Copyright, 'Benefit Claimants - working age client group', from NOMIS).

Chart 20: Proportion of resident working age population claiming Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and Incapacity Benefits (IB/SDA), East Midlands



Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Benefit Claimants – working age client group', from NOMIS.
 Note: Statistical group analysis for ESA and incapacity benefits claimants.

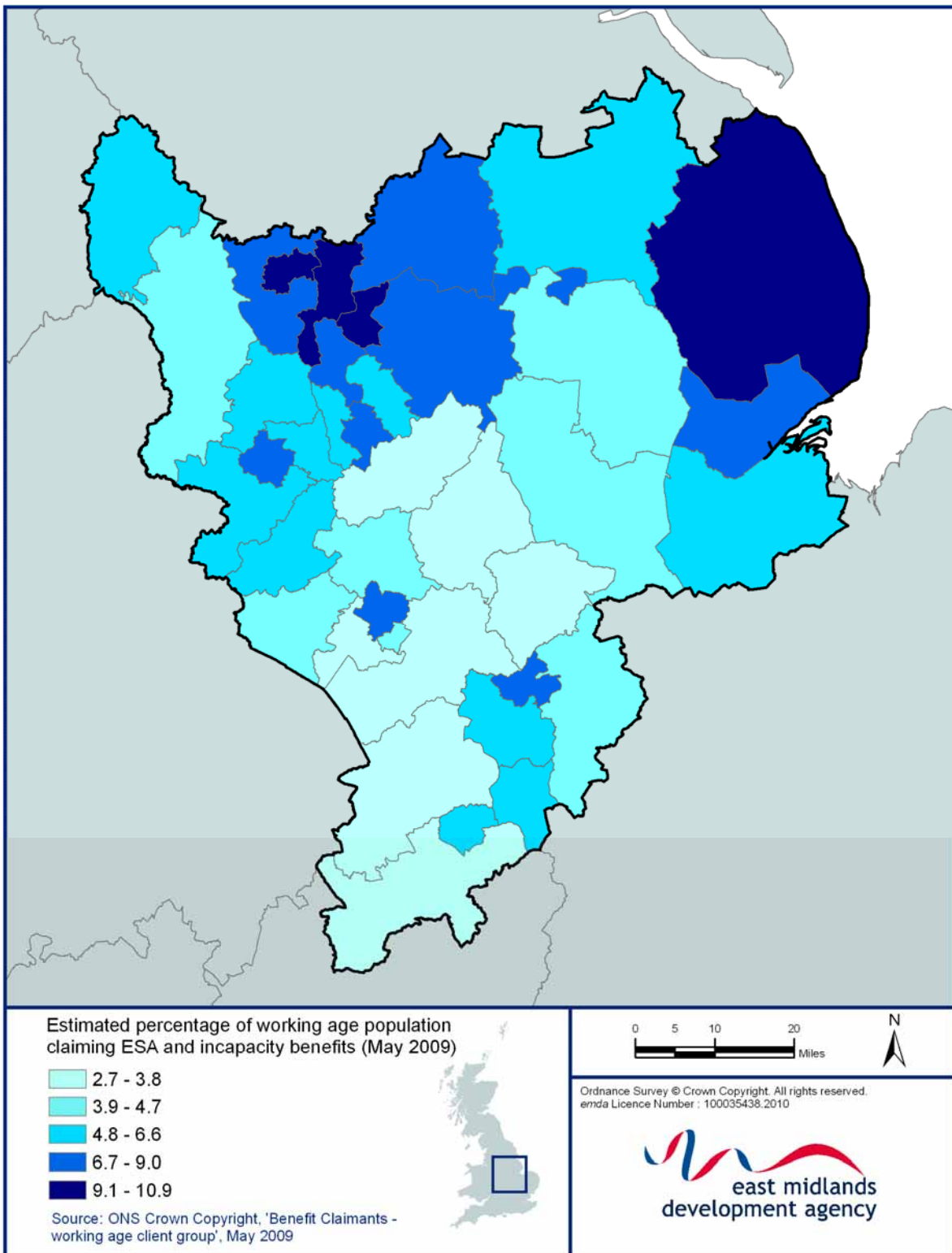
The proportion of Incapacity Benefit claimants has been historically high in the coalfields and the coastal areas of the East Midlands. This type of inactivity continues to be an issue as in May 2009 the highest proportion of the resident working age population claiming ESA and Incapacity Benefits was in Mansfield (10.9%), Bolsover (10.6%), Chesterfield (9.7%) and in East Lindsey (9.6%). This proportion was the lowest in South Northamptonshire (2.7%) and in Rutland (2.8%).

Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of ESA and Incapacity Benefits claimants increased the most in Corby (0.5 percentage points), Northampton (0.3 percentage points) and Kettering (0.3 percentage points). In Derby, Leicester, East Lindsey and Lincoln, the proportion of ESA and Incapacity Benefit claimants increased by 0.2 percentage points respectively. This is compared to the unchanged regional proportions over the same period.

The short analysis above shows that ESA and Incapacity Benefits claimants are concentrated in the coalfields, the coastal areas and partly in some urban districts where the structural inefficiencies of the local labour market can be described by for example the low skills base of the workforce (for example hard to fill and skills shortage vacancies tend to be concentrated in Lincolnshire)⁵⁹ and/or the lack of suitable job opportunities.

⁵⁹ See the relevant sections of the Labour Market chapter about sub-regional variations in the qualification of the workforce.

Map 7: Proportion of resident working age population claiming ESA and Incapacity Benefits (%), May 2009



5.5.3 Lone parents on Income Support

Lone parents aged 16 to 59 years old who are responsible for a child under 12 years, work less than 16 hours a week are not in full-time study, do not get Jobseeker's Allowance, do not have savings, have low income and live in Great Britain, can claim Income Support (IS)⁶⁰. However, from 2010, most lone parents with a youngest child aged 7 or over will no longer be entitled to Income Support only on the grounds of being a lone parent. Instead, those able to take up paid employment may claim Jobseeker's Allowance and those with a disability or health condition may claim Employment and Support Allowance⁶¹.

The proportion of those working age residents who are lone parents on IS in the East Midlands was 1.7%, which accounts for about 46,700 individuals. The proportion of lone parents on IS in the East Midlands is below the average of 1.9% for Great Britain in May 2009. The proportion of claimants was highest in London at 2.8%. In May 2009 the proportion of those working age residents who are lone parents on IS was the lowest in the South West and the South East at 1.4% and 1.5% respectively. Between May 2008 and May 2009 the proportion of those working age residents who are lone parents on IS levelled off or decreased slightly in every region.

The proportion of those working age residents who are lone parents on IS varies significantly within the East Midlands. In May 2009 the proportion of the resident working age population claiming Income Support for lone parents was the highest in Nottingham and Leicester, at 3.1% each.

Chart 21 also shows that between May 2008 and May 2009 there was a slight decrease in the proportion of those working age residents who are lone parents on IS in most sub-regions within the East Midlands.

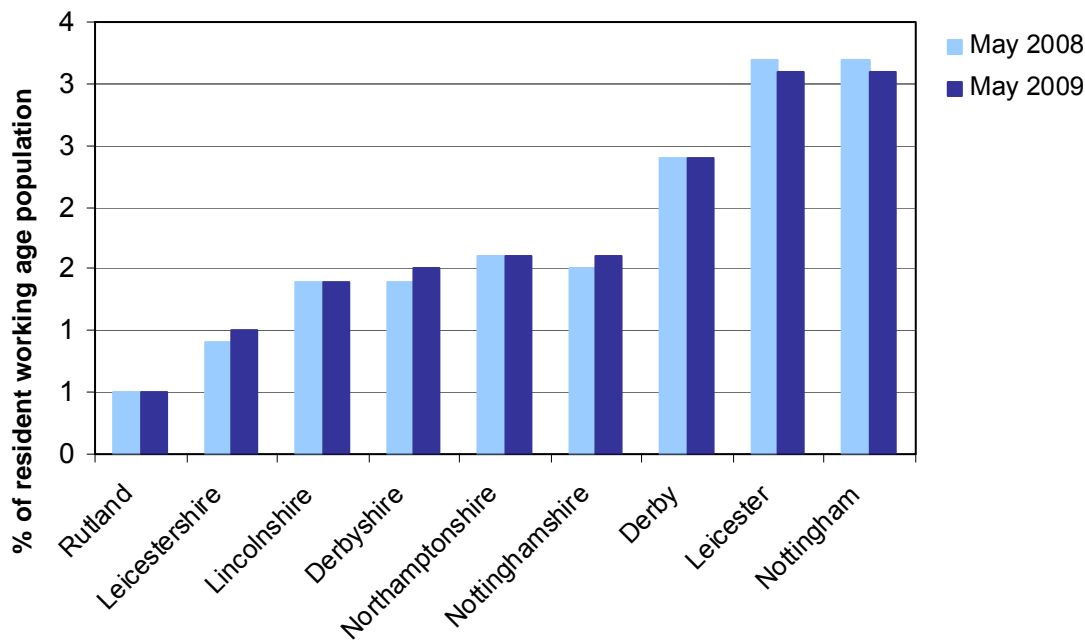
⁶⁰ JobCentre Plus,

http://www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk/JCP/Customers/WorkingAgeBenefits/Dev_015271.xml.html

⁶¹ Department for Work and Pension, 'Changes to benefits for lone parents'

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/adviser/updates/changes-to-benefits-for-lone/>

Chart 21: Proportion of resident working age population claiming Income Support for Lone Parents, East Midlands



Source: ONS Crown Copyright, 'Benefit Claimants – working age client group', from NOMIS.
 Note: Statistical group analysis for lone parents.

Key Points: Worklessness

- The 'real unemployment rate' in the East Midlands was estimated to be 7% in January 2007, with little difference between male and female rates. This was close to the average of 7.2% for the Great Britain.
- The proportion of the working age population claiming one or more key out-of-work benefits in May 2009 was 12.6% in the East Midlands, which is equivalent to 345,900 individuals. This is below the average of 13.4% for Great Britain.
- Due to the recession, the proportion of the population claiming key out-of-work benefits has increased significantly. This overall increase was mainly due to the rising number of people claiming Jobseekers' Allowance between May 2008 and May 2009.
- Within the East Midlands the proportion of working age resident population claiming out-of-work benefits is the highest in Leicester and Nottingham.
- As a result of recession, the claimant count rate in the East Midlands has increased since the summer of 2008. However, in the last 11 months it has levelled off at around 4.0%.
- Historically there has been a relatively high proportion of incapacity benefit claimants in the coalfields and the coastal areas in the East Midlands. This type of inactivity still appears to be an issue as the highest proportion of ESA and incapacity benefits claimants within the East Midlands were in Mansfield, Bolsover and East Lindsey.
- The highest proportion of lone parents on Income Support was in Nottingham and Leicester.

5.6 Poverty in the East Midlands

The most widely used definition of income poverty sets a poverty threshold at 60% of the net disposable⁶² equivalised⁶³ median household income. People who live under this threshold are considered to be income poor.

One of the reasons why people may fall into poverty is because they lose their jobs and are trapped in “worklessness”. Although getting into work helps people to move out of income poverty, Palmer et al state that the answer is nowhere near as simple as “work is the route out of poverty”⁶⁴. The more persistent the poverty, the more challenging it is to escape from it. Finding a way to break the ‘cycle of poverty’ is crucial as poverty hinders economic development and detracts from an individual’s quality of life.

Based on the Household Below Average Income 2006/07 (HBAI) report, 20% of East Midlands residents live in households below 60% of median income Before Housing Costs. This is 3 percentage points higher than the English average. Only the North East has a greater proportion of individuals in poverty than the East Midlands at 21%⁶⁵.

At family level in 2006, the proportion of families with children in income poverty was 24% in the East Midlands. In England, the proportion of families with children in poverty was 22%. However, this 2 percentage points difference is not significant. The proportion of families with children in poverty increased from 20% to 24% in the East Midlands between 2003 and 2006. In England, the proportion of families with children in poverty increased by 2 percentage points from 20% to 22% over the same period⁶⁶.

Chart 22 shows that family work status has a clear relationship with income poverty so that moving into work is a crucial factor in escaping poverty. The proportion of families (couples with children) where neither parents work for at least 16 hours per week, in

⁶² Disposable income is the income after the deduction of Income Tax and National Insurance Contributions from employment and self-employment, investments and savings, private and occupational pensions, Social Security benefits and Tax Credits.

⁶³ Because a family of several people needs a higher income than a single person to enjoy a similar standard of living, household income is adjusted, or equivalised. Equivalence scales take a couple with no children as a reference point. The incomes of larger households are adjusted downwards and the incomes of smaller households adjusted upwards relative to this benchmark.

http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai/hbai2007/pdf_files/full_hbai08.pdf

⁶⁴ Guy Palmer, Tom MacInnes and Peter Kenway, ‘Monitoring Poverty and Social Exclusion 2008’ Joseph Rowntree Foundation, New Policy Institute, 2008, page 18.

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/2315-society-poverty-exclusion.pdf>

⁶⁵ Office for National Statistics, ‘Household Below Average Income, an analysis of the income distribution 1994/95 – 2006/07’ (HBAI), Table 3.6.

http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai/hbai2007/pdf_files/full_hbai08.pdf

Data refer to a three-year average.

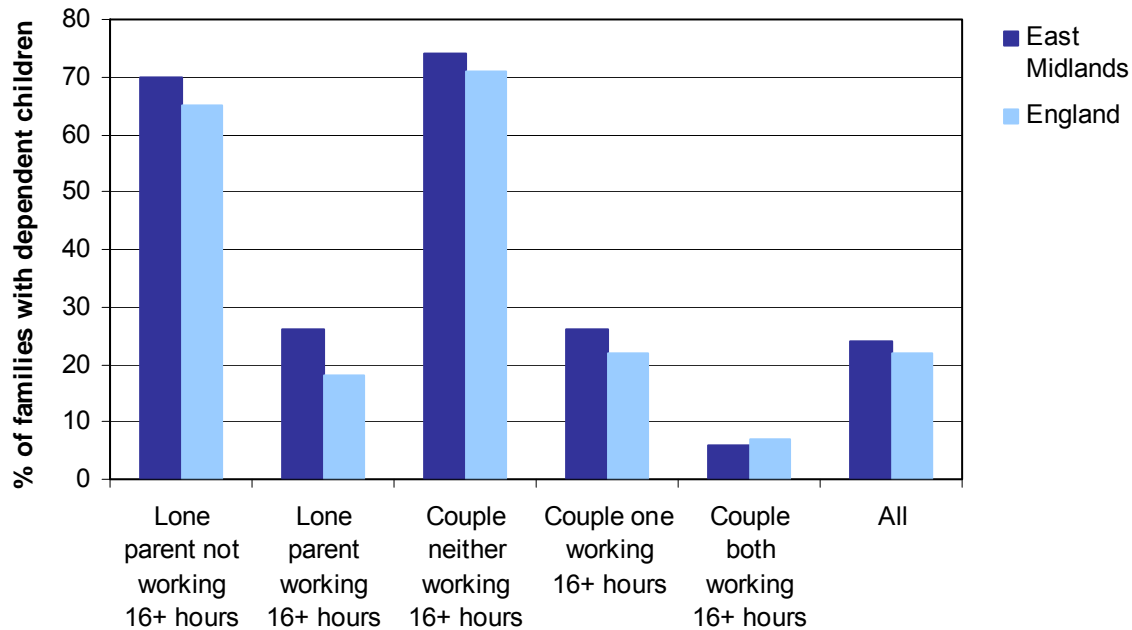
⁶⁶ National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, ‘Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys’, 2009.

These proportions are published data for children at risk of income poverty from Household Below Average Income 2003-2004 and 2006-2007 (Table 4.6

http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai/hbai2007/pdf_files/full_hbai08.pdf) and were applied to families with children from Families and Children Study 2003 and 2006 (FACS). This is the closest possible match can be achieved by using publicly available data, as HBAI does not publish poverty levels at household or family level.

income poverty was 74% in the East Midlands compared to 24% for all families with children. The corresponding figure for lone parents was 70% in the East Midlands and 65% for England. The proportion of lone parents who worked for at least 16 hours per week in poverty was 26% in the East Midlands compared to 18% in England in 2006. There were few (6%) dual-earning couple families in income poverty both in the East Midlands and in England (7%)⁶⁷.

Chart 22: Risk of income poverty (before housing costs – BHC) by family work status, 2006 (% of families with children)



Source: National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009. Families and Children Study 2006 (FACS).

Base: Families with dependent children.

Note: Dependent children is defined as any resident child aged 16 years or under, or aged 17 or 18 and in full-time education. 16+ hours is considered as someone in full-time work. The figure for 'couple neither working 16+ hours' for the East Midlands needs to be treated with caution because it is based on fewer than 50 actual cases.

5.6.1 Child poverty

Growing up in poverty can damage physical, cognitive, social and emotional development, preventing children from reaching their full potential in adult life. Child poverty has effects well beyond the individual as poor children in these circumstances tend to have lower educational attainment, and lower skills and productivity which may limit wider economic competitiveness⁶⁸.

Child poverty is defined as the proportion of dependent children who live in households whose equivalised income⁶⁹ is below 60% of the contemporary national median. In the

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ HM Treasury, 'Ending child poverty: everybody's business' March 2008.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/bud_bud08_child.htm

⁶⁹ The equivalisation of income is the process by which total income is adjusted for family size (number of family members) and composition (number of parents and number and age of children). Barnes, Lyon

East Midlands the proportion of children living in poverty was 24% in 2006-2007, compared to 22% in England.

Worklessness among parents is the key determinant of child poverty. However, there is a growing concern about 'in work poverty'. The Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) suggests moving into work does not necessarily mean moving out of poverty, especially for families with children⁷⁰. Calculations using the Families and Children Study 2006 (FACS) show that in 2006, 51% of children in poverty lived in working households (i.e. lone parent who worked, couples where one or both of them worked) in the East Midlands, compared to 53% in England⁷¹. The corresponding figures for the East Midlands and England were 30% and 40% in 2003. The Government has set a target to end child poverty by 2020, which is a challenging target for both the East Midlands and UK as a whole.

Chart 23 shows that 24% of children were living in income poverty in the East Midlands compared to 22% in England in 2006⁷². In addition, 67% of children living in families where neither parents work for at least 16 hours per week were in income poverty in the East Midlands. This compares to 65% in England. The proportion of children in poverty living in families with a lone parent who did not work was 61% in the East Midlands and 58% for England⁷³. The difference is not significant.

and Millar, 'Employment transitions and the changes in economic circumstances of families with children: Evidence from the Families and Children Study (FACS)'. DWP Research Report No 506.

⁷⁰ Kayte Lawton, 'Nice Work If You Can Get It!' Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR), January 2009. <http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=%2Fecomm%2Ffiles%2Fnice+work+if+you+can+get+it%2Epdf>

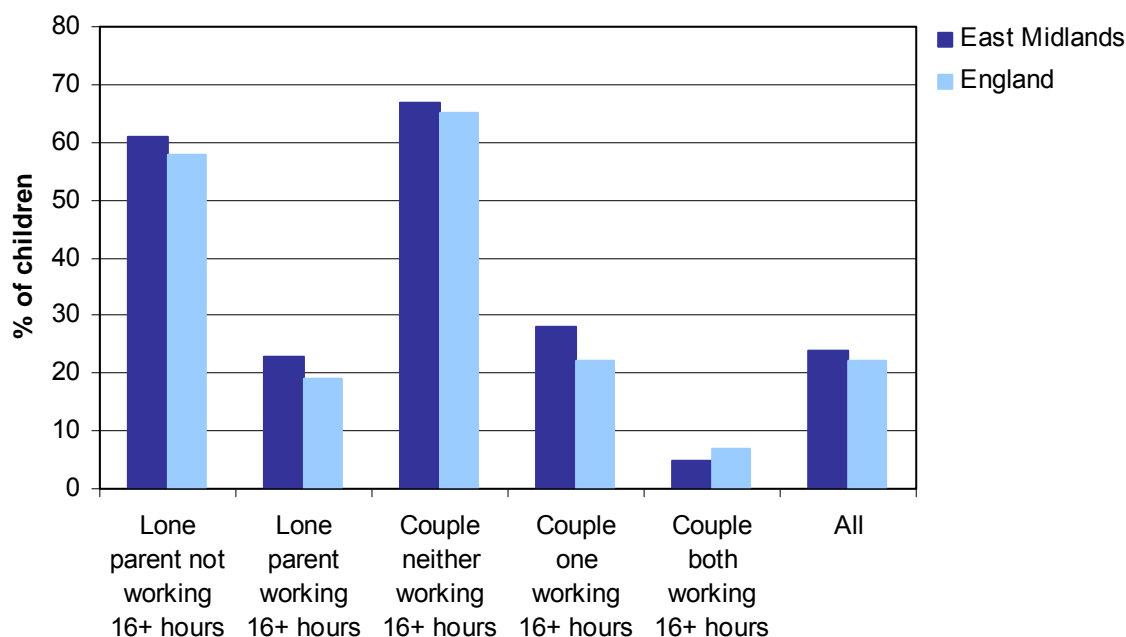
⁷¹ Families and Children Study 2006 (FACS) data provided by National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009. Working households are: Lone parent working 16+ hours, couple: one working 16+ hours and couple both working 16+ hours.

⁷² Ibid.

These proportions are published data for children at risk of income poverty from Household Below Average Income 2006-2007 (HBAI) and were applied to families with children from FACS.

⁷³ Ibid.

Chart 23: Proportion of children in income poverty (before housing costs – BHC) by family work status, 2006 (%children)



Source: National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009. Families and Children Study 2006 (FACS).

Base: Families with dependent children.

Note: Dependent children is defined as any resident child aged 16 years or under, or aged 17 or 18 and in full-time education. 16+ hours is considered as someone in full-time work.

Child poverty data at local level are available by using the proportion of children who live in households where out-of-work benefits are received⁷⁴. However it is important to note that this indicator is not directly comparable to the proportion of children living in low income households as discussed above. Children living in households receiving key out-of-work benefits do not include all children living in poverty, as not all families living in poverty are out of work and not all out of work families claim benefit. Still, this data provides a good indicator of high levels of poverty in a certain area. The spatial pattern shows that in certain wards of Nottingham, Leicester and Derby the proportion of children living in households where out-of-work benefits are received was twice the national average both in 2005 and in 2007. In addition, Bolsover, Boston, Bassetlaw, Erewash and Mansfield also showed a persistently high concentration of child poverty⁷⁵.

⁷⁴ Out-of-work benefits were identified as Jobseeker's Allowance, Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance, Income Support and Pension Credit. This definition is largely comparable with the 'worklessness' concept measured by the key-out-of-benefit definition discussed earlier in this section. However, it is important to note that earlier the analysis was undertaken at individual level and in this case the unit of analysis is the household with dependant children.

IEM, GOEM and EMRA, 'Child Poverty in the East Midlands: Identifying what works' Page 11
http://www.intelligenceeastmidlands.org.uk/index2.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=411&Itemid=99999999

⁷⁵ IEM, GOEM and EMRA, 'Child Poverty in the East Midlands: Identifying what works' Page 14, Table 3, based on administrative data from DWP 2007. Page 38.

http://www.intelligenceeastmidlands.org.uk/index2.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=411&Itemid=99999999

5.6.2 Fuel poverty

A warm home during the winter is a basic need. In extreme cases fuel poverty leads to winter deaths, which were estimated to be almost 24,000 for the winter of 2006-2007 in England and Wales⁷⁶.

A household is said to be in fuel poverty if it needs to spend more than 10% of its income on fuel to maintain a satisfactory heating regime (usually 21 degrees for the main living area, and 18 degrees for other occupied rooms)⁷⁷.

Volatile energy prices are a cost over which individuals have little control. The increase in fuel poverty since 2004 has largely been caused by price rises over that period. Although, for some households the price rise has been partially offset by rising incomes and improvements in the energy efficiency of their homes, the overall effect of price rise since 2004 has outweighed the impact of increasing income and energy efficiency⁷⁸. However, energy efficiency programmes will help to reduce the cost of energy bills and tackle fuel poverty.

Rising energy prices have made the challenge of tackling fuel poverty more difficult. The number of households in fuel poverty is estimated to have increased from 1.2 million in 2004 to 2.8 million in 2007 in England. Projections suggest there are likely to be around 3.6 million fuel poor households in England in 2008 and up to a further million in 2009. However, it worth noting that the energy price reduction of early 2009 will have an impact on fuel poverty which will be observed in 2010, due to the way fuel poverty is calculated⁷⁹.

In 2007 about 14.8% of East Midlands households lived in fuel poverty, which is equivalent to 272,000 households. Fuel poverty is most prevalent in the North East where 18.6% of households were classified as being in fuel poverty. In absolute terms, the highest number of households in fuel poverty was in the North West at 472,000 households. The proportion of households in fuel poverty was the lowest in London and in the South East at 10.0% and 9.5%⁸⁰.

⁷⁶ Department of Energy and Climate Change 'Annual Report on fuel poverty statistics 2009'.

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/fuelpov_stats/fuelpov_stats.aspx

⁷⁷ Ibid.

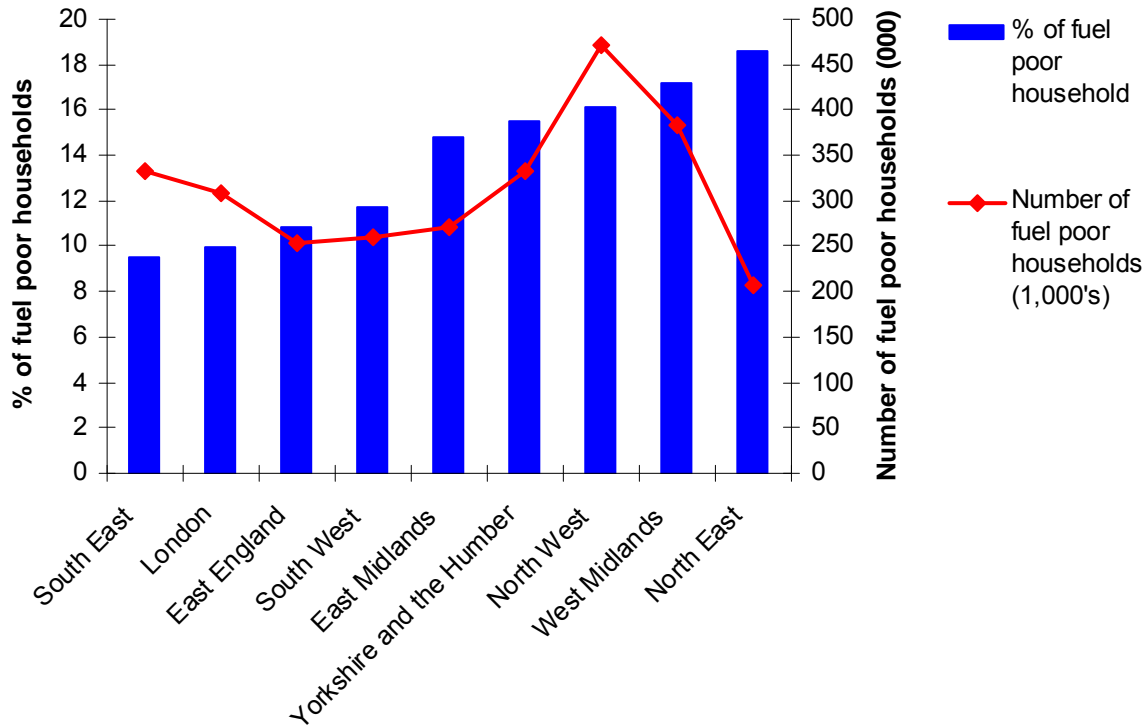
⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁸⁰ Department of Energy and Climate Change, 'Fuel Poverty 2007 – Detailed tables. Annex to the Annual Report on Fuel Poverty Statistics 2009.

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/fuelpov_stats/fuelpov_stats.aspx

Chart 24: Proportion of households living in fuel poverty by region, 2007



Source: Department of Energy and Climate Change, 'Fuel Poverty 2007 – detailed tables. Annex to the Annual Report on Fuel Poverty Statistics 2009.

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/fuelpov_stats/fuelpov_stats.aspx

Table 39.

At national level, the following household types are much more likely to be in fuel poverty⁸¹:

- Low income households (1st and 2nd income deciles);
- Households in Means Tested Benefits or Tax Credits;
- Unemployed or inactive households based on the primary working status of the household reference person;
- Households in village hamlets and isolated dwellings; and
- Dwellings ranked as less than 20 and between 20 and 30 out of 100 in the Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) which measures energy efficiency of homes⁸².

DECC developed a model for fuel poverty rates at sub-regional level. This model provides fuel poverty data for the whole of the housing stock including private and social rented sectors. These local authority level estimates are calculated for 2006⁸³. Data

⁸¹ Ibid.

⁸² Measurement of the energy efficiency of homes is based on the Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) energy rating of dwellings, which takes into account factors such as size of the house, its insulation, ventilation system and the efficiency of heating and hot water systems. SAP ratings are expressed on a scale of 1 to 100 the higher the number, the better the rating.

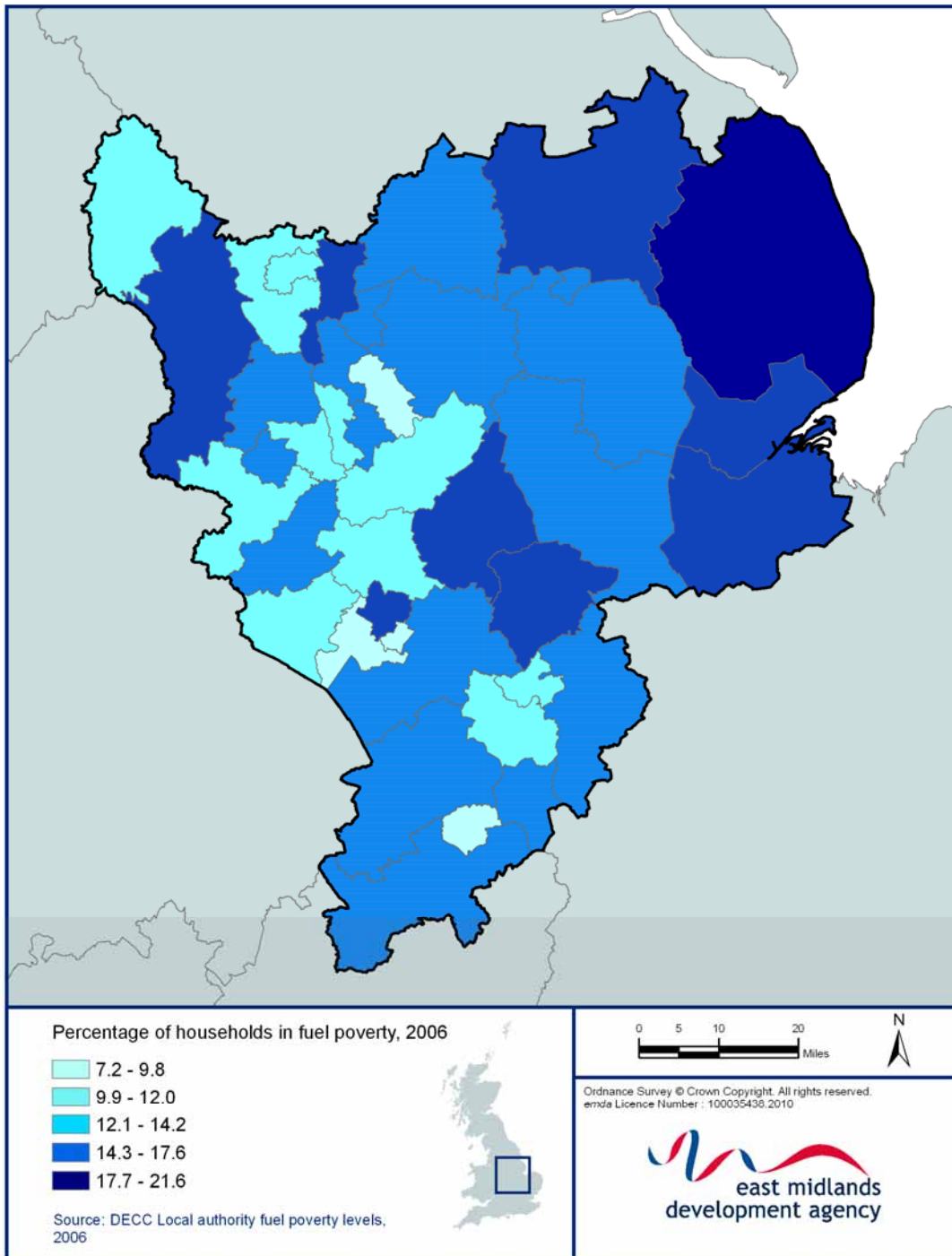
The Poverty Site/Energy Efficient Homes: <http://www.poverty.org.uk/79/index.shtml>

⁸³ Department of Energy and Climate Change, 'Local authority fuel poverty levels, 2006'.

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/fuelpov_stats/regional/regional.aspx

suggests that the prevalence of fuel poverty is the highest in East Lindsey where 21.6% of homes were fuel poor in 2006. The level of fuel poverty is relatively high in Derbyshire Dales, Boston, West Lindsey and South Holland as well. In Blaby, Gedling and Northampton only 7.2%, 9.7% and 9.8% of homes respectively were fuel poor in the East Midlands in 2006.

Map 8: Proportion of households estimated to be in fuel poverty (private and social rented), 2006⁸⁴



⁸⁴ Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) published Local Authority level data for fuel poverty for 2006. This model combined the BRE Housing Stock Models for the private sector with a fuel poverty model for the social rented sector and identified fuel poverty for the whole of the housing stock. For more information see: BRE, DECC, '2006 Fuel Poverty Models'. http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/fuelpov_stats/regional/regional.aspx

Key Points: Poverty in the East Midlands

- In 2006-2007 one fifth of East Midlands' residents lived in poverty, 3 percentage points higher than the English average.
- Family work status has a clear relationship with income poverty, confirming that moving into work is a crucial factor in movement out of poverty.
- Between 2003 and 2006 the proportion of all families with children in income poverty increased from 20% to 24% in the East Midlands. In England, the proportion of families with children in poverty increased by 2 percentage points from 20% to 22%.
- Within the East Midlands child poverty is concentrated in Nottingham and Leicester and in some wards in Derby. In addition, Bolsover, Boston, Bassetlaw, Erewash and Mansfield also have significant concentration of child poverty.
- In 2007 14.8% of East Midlands' households lived in fuel poverty, which is higher than the average of England (13.2%).
- Local data suggests that fuel poverty is most prevalent in East Lindsey. The level of fuel poverty is relatively high in Derbyshire Dales, Boston, West Lindsey and South Holland as well.

5.7 Barriers to labour market participation and economic inclusion

As the previous section highlighted, worklessness is most prominent in groups with multiple disadvantage, where people face more than one barrier to participating in the labour market. Worklessness has a negative impact on well-being which can act as a barrier to re-employment⁸⁵. Therefore, it is crucial to tackle barriers to participation and detachment from the labour market in particular areas and particular groups.

This section discusses some of the barriers to economic inclusion which make individuals less likely to participate in the labour market such as health status, childcare, flexible working arrangements and transportation.

5.7.1 Health and health barriers to employability

The health status of the regional workforce has a significant impact on the productivity of the economy. Productivity losses due to ill health were estimated to be £802 million⁸⁶ in the East Midlands in 2006-2007. Research suggests that work is generally good for the health of both those in employment and those who might be able to return to the labour market despite health issues. The relationship between work and health is a reciprocal one as healthy individuals are more likely to seek, obtain and remain in employment whilst work can have a valuable social role and beneficial consequences for health⁸⁷. As a consequence, the healthier the workforce the greater its productivity.

Improving the general health of the regional population and tackling health inequalities has been reflected in the Government Public Health White Paper Choosing Health-Making Healthy Choices Easier (Department of Health, 2004) and through national and local Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets, and Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets.

5.7.1.1 The state of health in the East Midlands

The following section will summarise the state of health of the East Midlands workforce. Regarding self-reported health problems in the East Midlands, the following main points can be made:

⁸⁵ Ritchie, H, Casebourne, J, and Rick, J, 'Understanding workless people and communities: A Literature Review'. London: HMSO, 2005.
Centre for Local Economic Strategies, 'Making it work: Analysing different ways of tackling worklessness', March 2009.

⁸⁶ Vanessa Beck et al, University of Leicester, commissioned by *emda*, 'Economics of Health'.
http://www.intelligenceeastmidlands.org.uk/index.php?option=com_research&task=showReportA&hidema_inmenu=1&id=2174&title=health&Itemid=29

⁸⁷ Vanessa Beck et al commissioned by *emda*, 'The Economics of Health', 2008.

- Up to 42.2% of individuals of working age in the East Midlands report health problems, of which 22.7% suffer from a limiting longstanding illness and 19.4% report a non-limiting longstanding illness⁸⁸;
- Of those who report a health problem, more than half (54.1%) state that it limits the activities they can undertake. Health problems affect the amount of work that can be undertaken by 43.9% of individuals and the type of work of 51.7% of individuals⁸⁹; and
- The main reported health problems in the region were heart, blood pressure and circulation, chest and breathing, and back and neck problems⁹⁰.

The East Midlands Health Profile 2009 published by the East Midlands Public Health Observatory (EMPHO) summarises a number of health indicators such as life expectancy at birth, premature mortality rate from different causes, obesity prevalence, cigarette smoking, teenage pregnancy rate and suicide⁹¹:

Life expectancy and causes of death

Life expectancy is a useful statistic that summarises the current health status of a population. Life expectancy is significantly different by gender. In the East Midlands, life expectancy at birth for males is 77.6 years, which is largely the same as the average for England at 77.7. Life expectancy is 81.6 years for females in the East Midlands, slightly below the national level of 81.8 years.⁹²

From 1995-1997 life expectancy has increased in the East Midlands, mirroring the national trend in England.

⁸⁸ Ibid. Data are based on Labour Force Survey October 2006 – September 2007 (working age population only).

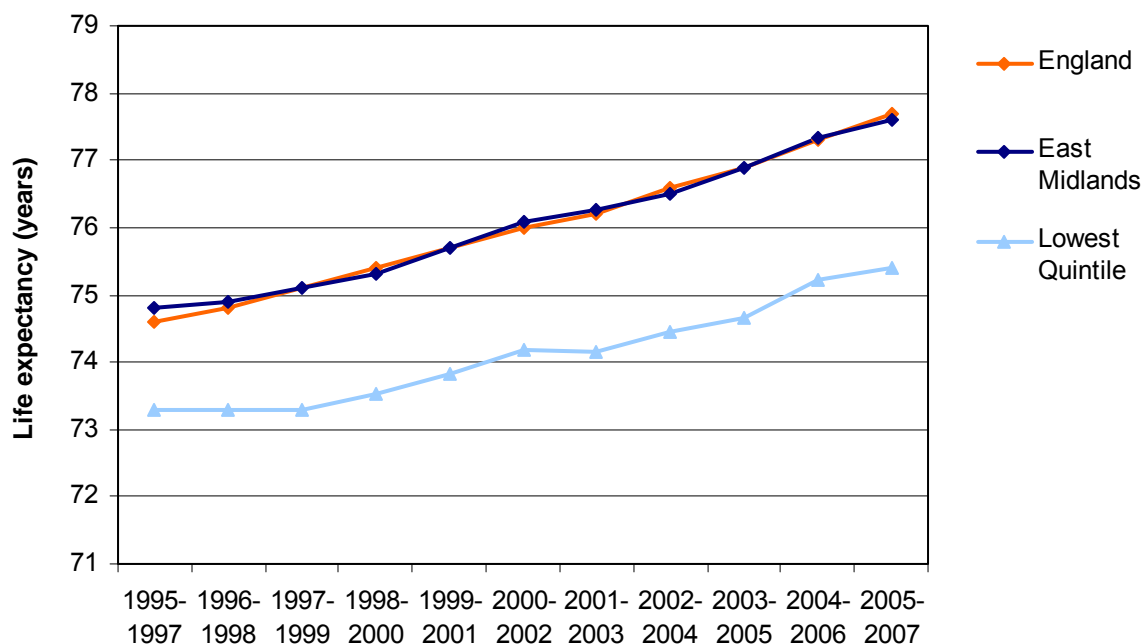
⁸⁹ Ibid.

⁹⁰ Ibid.

⁹¹ East Midlands Public Health Observatory, 'Health trends within the East Midlands' 2009 update. <http://www.empho.org.uk/viewResource.aspx?id=11541>

⁹² Ibid.

Chart 25: Male life expectancy at birth for England, the East Midlands and the East Midlands lowest quintile, 1995-1997 to 2005-2007



Source: East Midlands Public Health Observatory, 'Health trends within the East Midlands': 2009 update.

In 2005-2007, the eight Local Authorities in the worst quintile for male life expectancy were Corby, Nottingham, Leicester, Mansfield, Ashfield, Boston, Bolsover, and Lincoln. This list contains all five East Midlands Local Authorities in the Spearhead Group⁹³.

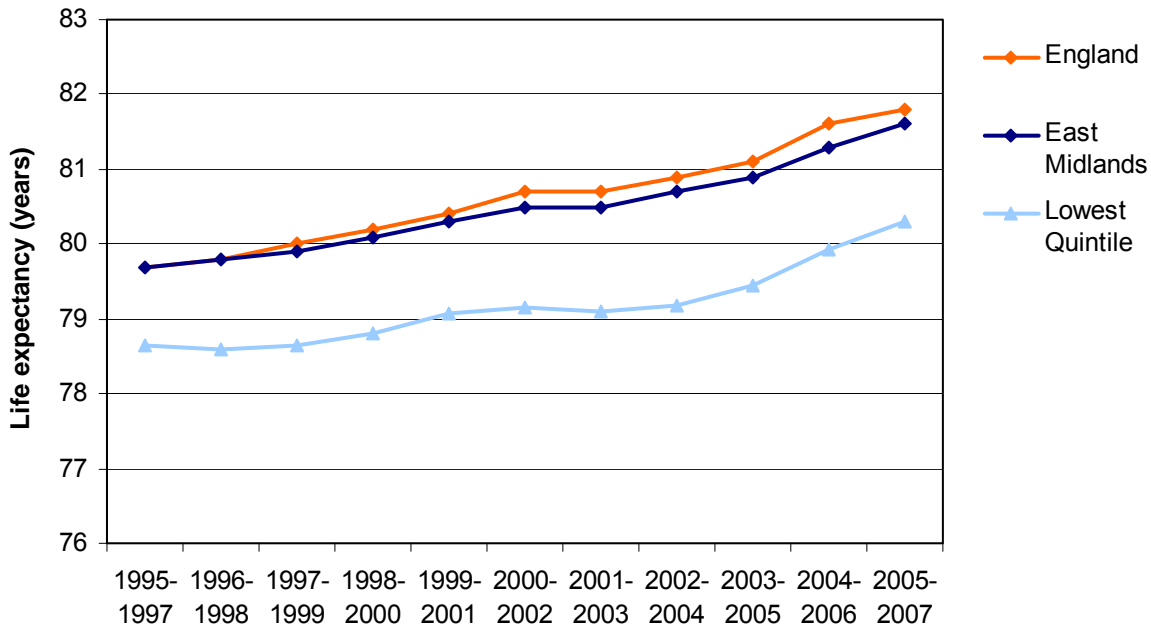
In terms of male life expectancy, the absolute gap between the quintile of eight Local Authorities with the lowest life expectancy and the East Midlands population increased from 1.5 years to 2.2 years between 1995-1997 and 2005-2007.

⁹³ The Spearhead Group is made up of 70 Local Authorities and 88 Primary Care Trusts, based upon the Local Authority areas that are in the bottom fifth nationally for three or more of the following five indicators:

- Male life expectancy at birth
 - Female life expectancy at birth
 - Cancer mortality rate in under 75s
 - Cardiovascular disease mortality rate in under 75s
 - Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (Local Authority Summary), average score. The five East Midlands Local Authorities in the Spearhead Group are Nottingham, Bolsover, Lincoln, Leicester and Corby.
- Department of Health, 'Tackling health inequalities: the Spearhead Group of Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts'

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4101455

Chart 26: Female life expectancy at birth for England, the East Midlands and the East Midlands lowest quintile, 1995-1997 to 2005-2007



Source: East Midlands Public Health Observatory, 'Health trends within the East Midlands: 2009 update.'

For females the gap between the lowest quintile of Local Authorities in the East Midlands and the East Midlands population as a whole, has increased slightly over the period, from 1.1 years in 1995-1997 to 1.3 years in 2005-2007. In 2005-2007, the eight Local Authorities in the lowest quintile for female life expectancy were Leicester, Nottingham, Corby, Lincoln, Mansfield, Ashfield, Bolsover and West Lindsey. This list contains four out of the five East Midlands Local Authorities in the Spearhead Group.

Obesity and people diagnosed with diabetes

Obesity and diet significantly affect life expectancy and are important risk factors for coronary heart disease, some cancers and other conditions such as diabetes.

The reasons for obesity include genetic predisposition, environmental factors and socio-economic influences. Changing diet may have an immediate effect on obesity. Extrapolating from national surveys to identify trends and variations in diet in the East Midlands, it seems likely that⁹⁴:

- The average proportion of dietary energy derived from saturated fats has been decreasing but remains higher than recommended⁹⁵;
- The average intake of non-milk extrinsic (i.e. added) sugar and salt are also higher than recommended;

⁹⁴ East Midlands Public Health Observatory, 'Trends and variation in diet in the East Midlands', 2005. http://www.empho.org.uk/Download/Public/8299/1/trends_variations_diet.pdf

⁹⁵ No more than 35% of daily energy intake should come from fat and no more than 11% from saturated fat. The energy requirements for an average woman and man are 2,000 and 2,500 kcals per day respectively. http://www.thefatpanel.org.uk/what_types.html.

- The average intake of fruit and vegetables and dietary fibre are lower than recommended, although the consumption of fruit is increasing;
- On average, less well-off households consume fewer fruit and vegetables, salads, wholemeal bread, whole grain and high-fibre cereals, and oily fish, and consume more white bread, full-fat milk, table sugar, and processed meat products. As a result, the average percentage of energy derived from total and saturated fats is typically higher in these households;
- The recommended amount of fruit and vegetables per day is five portions⁹⁶ according to the Department of Health. The age-standardised proportions of men and women in the East Midlands consuming five or more portions of fruit and vegetables were 27% in each case. These figures were not statistically significantly different from national proportions (24% males; 28% females)⁹⁷; and
- Model based estimates of the proportion of people consuming at least five portions of fruit and vegetables by Local Authorities in the East Midlands show that adequate fruit and vegetable consumption was highest in Rushcliffe, Rutland and Derbyshire Dales and lowest in Ashfield, Bolsover and Corby⁹⁸.

Regarding the prevalence of obesity⁹⁹ in the East Midlands the following main points can be made:

- The prevalence of obesity among males was slightly higher in the East Midlands (25.7%) than the average for England¹⁰⁰ (23.8%) in 2006. The prevalence of obesity among females was also slightly higher in the East Midlands than in England at 25.9% and 24.4% respectively. Between 1998 and 2006 obesity prevalence among males has increased by 9.1 percentage points in the East Midlands compared to a 6.7 percentage point increase in England. The prevalence of obesity among females has remained the same in the East Midlands while it increased by 3.4 percentage points in England between 1998 and 2006.
- Obesity is more prevalent in lower social classes. Some 28% of women in the lowest social class are obese, double the prevalence of obesity among the highest social class (14%)¹⁰¹; and

⁹⁶ For the definition of one portion see: http://www.salt.gov.uk/healthy_eating.html

⁹⁷ East Midlands Public Health Observatory, 'Trends and variation in diet in the East Midlands' http://www.empho.org.uk/Download/Public/8299/1/trends_variations_diet.pdf

⁹⁸ The National Health Service (NHS) Information Centre www.ic.nhs.uk

⁹⁹ Standardised percent from Health Survey for England (HSE) data 1998-2006. Observed prevalence of obesity is defined by Body Mass Index (BMI)>30.

¹⁰⁰ East Midlands Public Health Observatory, 'Health trends within the East Midlands' 2009 update. <http://www.empho.org.uk/viewResource.aspx?id=11541>

¹⁰¹ Department of Health, 'Tackling Health Inequalities: 2002 Cross-Cutting Review'. www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4098280
Social Classes used by the report are: Class 1: Professionals; Class 2: Managerial; Class 3NM: Non-manual skilled; Class 3M: Manual skilled; Class 4: Partly skilled; Class 5: Unskilled.

- The prevalence of obesity amongst children aged 2 to 15 years has increased, both in the East Midlands and in England between 1996 and 2005. Data for 2006 are similar to those for 2005, but more data is required before a stabilising trend can be confirmed. In 1996, 14% of boys and 13% of girls were obese in the East Midlands compared to 12% of boys and girls in England. In 2006, 18% of boys and 17% of girls were obese in the East Midlands compared to 17% for boys and 15% of girls in England¹⁰².

Physical activity is one of the means by which obesity can be prevented and a healthier lifestyle could be developed. Active People Survey results¹⁰³ highlighted that in 2008, about 21.5% of adults participated in sport or active recreation at moderate intensity, for at least 30 minutes on 3 or more days a week in England¹⁰⁴. In terms of the East Midlands, in every county, about 21-22% of the population participated in some kind of sport or active recreation activities which is largely in line with the national trend.

Smoking

Smoking¹⁰⁵ is the main avoidable risk factor for coronary heart disease and cancer, and is responsible for over 7,000 deaths in the East Midlands each year¹⁰⁶. In the East Midlands figures show that:

- Between 1996 and 2007, the prevalence of smoking decreased gradually in both men and women in England and the regional¹⁰⁷ trend appears to be mirroring the gradual decline seen nationally. Smoking prevalence among males reached its peak in 2003 when 31% reported that they smoked. This decreased to 22% by 2007. Smoking prevalence among females peaked in 2004 when 28% cited that they smoked. This proportion decreased to 17% by 2007; and
- Smoking prevalence rates for people in manual occupations have been higher than those for non-manual groups in England. Smoking prevalence data broken down by socio-economic group is not routinely available for the East Midlands. In 2006 the prevalence of smoking among those in manual occupations was 28% compared to 17% for those with non-manual jobs, a difference of 11 percentage points. In 2007, smoking prevalence rate was 25% for those in manual occupations and 16% for those in non-manual occupations, a difference of 9 percentage points¹⁰⁸.

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ Active People Survey results are based on the latest 12 month rolling period, April 2008 to April 2009 and cover population 16 and over.

¹⁰⁴ Sport England, http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/national_indicator_8.aspx

¹⁰⁵ Ibid. The General Household Survey 2006 smoking questions that determine prevalence are:

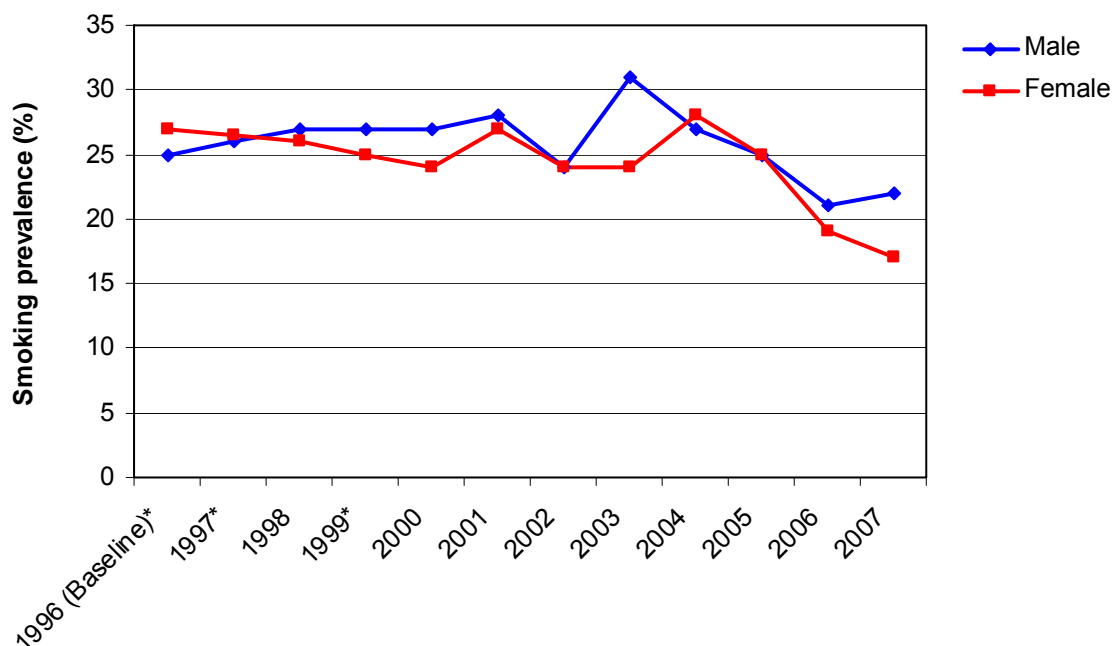
- Have you ever smoked a cigarette, a cigar or a pipe (Yes/no)
- If yes, do you smoke cigarettes at all nowadays (Yes/no)

¹⁰⁶ Report of the Regional Director of Public Health for the East Midlands. 'East Midlands: The health of the region 2007'. www.emphasisnetwork.org.uk/publications/rdphrpt2007/rdphreport2007.pdf

¹⁰⁷ Because of relatively small sample sizes, smoking prevalence data for the East Midlands is subject to more random variation and trends need to be interpreted carefully.

¹⁰⁸ East Midlands Public Health Observatory, 'Health trends within the East Midlands' 2009 update.

Chart 27: Male and female smoking prevalence in the East Midlands, 1996-2007



Source: East Midlands Public Health Observatory, 'Health trends within the East Midlands: 2009 update.'

Smoking during pregnancy increases the risk of a wide range of adverse outcomes, including death from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and infections in infancy. It is also a contributing factor to low birth weight¹⁰⁹. In 2007, the proportion of pregnant women who smoke was 18.3%, significantly higher than the English average at 16.1% in 2006-2007¹¹⁰.

5.7.1.2 Health related benefits

There are three benefits which can be claimed based on health related issues or care responsibilities. These are Disability Living Allowance (DLA), Attendance Allowance (AA) and Carer's Allowance (CA).

Disabled individuals claiming for Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is a tax-free benefit for children and adults under 65 who need help with personal care or have walking difficulties because of a physical or mental disability. To qualify for DLA, the need for help must exist for three months, and should be likely to continue for at least another six months¹¹¹.

¹⁰⁹ Department of Health, 'Tackling Health Inequalities: 2002 Cross-Cutting Review' www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4098280

¹¹⁰ East Midlands Public Health Observatory, 'East Midlands Health Profile 2008,' 2008.

¹¹¹ Directgov, Disability Living Allowance (DLA) <http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/FinancialSupport/DisabilityLivingAllowance/index.htm>

Attendance Allowance (AA) is a tax-free benefit for people aged 65 or over who need help with personal care because they are physically or mentally disabled. About 1% of the working age population in the East Midlands was claiming for Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance in May 2009. This proportion is similar to the average of Great Britain.

Local analysis shows that in May 2009 the lowest proportion of working age residents claiming for Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance was in South Northamptonshire at 0.7%. The highest proportion was in Chesterfield and Bolsover at 1.6%. The coalfields and parts of the Lincolnshire coastal area also had an above average proportion of working age residents claiming Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance.

Carer's Allowance

Carer's Allowance is a taxable benefit to help people who look after someone who is disabled¹¹².

In May 2009 about 1.1% of the working age population in the East Midlands was claiming for Carer's Allowance. This proportion is the same as the average for Great Britain.

Local analysis shows that in May 2009 the lowest proportion of working age residents claiming Carer's Allowance was in Harborough, Rutland and South Northamptonshire at 0.6%. The highest proportion was in East Lindsey and Bolsover (2.0%). There was a relatively high proportion of working age residents claiming for Carer's Allowance in the coalfields, such as Mansfield and Chesterfield at 1.8% and 1.6% respectively.

5.7.1.3 Health barriers to employability

Many people with mental or physical health problems face barriers in joining the labour market, and the unemployment rate for disabled people is double that for non-disabled people.¹¹³ Being out of work has been shown to have a significant adverse effect on both physical and mental health through isolation, changing health-related behaviour, disruption to future work career and trapping people on lower incomes than they could have through work¹¹⁴. The following summarises the main barriers to labour market participation experienced by people with mental or physical health problems.

Barriers to labour market participation for those with health problems include issues related to the individual and to the employer. Individual related barriers are direct health issues, stigmatisation and discrimination at the workplace, training and retraining issues, financial considerations and access to transportation. Employer related barriers

¹¹² Directgov, Carer's Allowance

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/CaringForSomeone/MoneyMatters/CarersAllowance/index.htm>

¹¹³ Disabled people are those who are both DDA and work limiting disabled. Annual Population Survey January-December 2008.

¹¹⁴ Department for Work and Pensions, 'Pathways to Work: Helping people into employment' 2002 www.dwp.gov.uk/consultations/consult/2002/pathways/pathways.pdf

include the physical modifications and/or managerial adjustment of workplace practices, and the lack of knowledge of relevant legislation.

Direct health issues

In response to a Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) survey of the perceived obstacles to getting a job faced by a sample of incapacity benefit recipients,¹¹⁵ almost 60% mentioned that their health problems were a barrier.

Discrimination

A common barrier preventing people with ill health from joining or returning to the labour market is the attitude of others towards them. Stigma and discrimination are major obstacles to the integration of people with health problems (especially mental health issues) into the workplace, and the experience of discrimination can affect a person's self confidence leading them to doubt their ability to work. Even if people with mental health issues do find work, they are often denied opportunities for training, promotion or transfer, and are more likely to be underemployed, employed in low status or poorly paid jobs, or employed in roles which are not commensurate with their skills or level of education.¹¹⁶

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995¹¹⁷ aims to reduce discrimination experienced by disabled people. In recent years, a range of strategies have been introduced to help disabled people find and retain employment. In addition, there are a number of labour market policy measures, targeted at disabled people, including the Pathways to Work Scheme, the Supported Employment Programme, and the New Deal for Disabled People.¹¹⁸

Workplace adjustments

Some people with health problems need special equipment or physical modifications to the workplace to perform their job.

Analysis of the 2004 Workplace Employment Relations Survey (WERS)¹¹⁹ suggests that the proportion of employers who had carried out a formal assessment of workplace accessibility for disabled employees or job applicants was not significantly lower in the East Midlands (36%) than in England as a whole (45%). The proportions of East Midlands establishments in the manufacturing, utilities, production and construction sector (7%) and establishment age 10 to 24 years (23%) that had carried out such

¹¹⁵ Department for Work and Pensions, 'Pathways to Work: Helping people into employment' 2002. Page 14, Figure 5. These estimations exclude the 10% of benefit recipients who thought they would never get back to work.

¹¹⁶ Royal College of Psychiatrists, 'Mental health and work' 2008

<http://www.workingforhealth.gov.uk/documents/mental-health-and-work.pdf>

¹¹⁷ This legislation was revised in 2005.

¹¹⁸ Goldstone C, Department for Work and Pensions, 'Barriers to employment for disabled people'. In-house report 95, 2002. http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/report_abstracts/ih_abstracts/iha_095.asp

¹¹⁹ National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009. 2004 Workplace Employment Relations Survey (WERS). Manager interviews examine equal opportunity policies relating to recruitment, selection, promotion and relative pay rates.

assessments was significantly smaller than the corresponding figures for England (29% and 44% respectively)¹²⁰.

However, besides simple adjustments to the physical workplace, workplace practices may also need to be adjusted. Flexible working options, such as special leave, phased returns to work, reduced hours and home-working would enable many people suffering ill-health to return to work.¹²¹

Some employers find it difficult to balance the individual's desire for confidentiality and discretion with providing adjustments that would be obvious to others in the workplace. Encouraging other members of staff to be understanding and tolerant of such 'special' treatment can also be a challenge for managers.¹²²

Training / retraining

Many recipients of incapacity benefit perceive that there is a lack of local job opportunities or that it is difficult for them to find suitable work.¹²³ People with mental or physical health problems may have been out of work for a while because of their condition. This affects their confidence in their skills and ability to work, and employers may need to provide on the job support and training in order for these individuals to return to work. Line managers and human resources staff may also need training to allow them to interact more effectively with people with health problems.¹²⁴

Financial considerations

Incapacity benefit has become a barrier to work for many claimants who fear that taking steps towards employment will place their benefits at risk.¹²⁵ The Government replaced incapacity benefits for new claimants with the 'Employment and Support Allowance, which focuses on what people can do rather than on what they cannot.'¹²⁶ Another financial consideration for the individual returning to work is the direct costs of working, for example clothing and transport costs.

¹²⁰ National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009.

¹²¹ Black C, 'Dame Carol Black's Review of the health of Britain's working age population, Summary of evidence submitted' 2008 <http://www.workingforhealth.gov.uk/documents/summary-of-the-evidence.pdf>

¹²² Sainsbury R, Irvine A, Aston J, et al. Department for Work and Pensions, 'Mental health and employment', Research Report No 513. 2008. <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2007-2008/rrep513.pdf>

¹²³ Department for Work and Pensions 'Pathways to Work: Helping people into employment' 2002. www.dwp.gov.uk/consultations/consult/2002/pathways/pathways.pdf

¹²⁴ Black C 'Summary of evidence submitted' 2008 <http://www.workingforhealth.gov.uk/documents/summary-of-the-evidence.pdf>

¹²⁵ Institute for Public Policy Research 'The reform of incapacity benefit' 2004 <http://www.ippr.org/research/teams/project.asp?id=982>

¹²⁶ Department for Work and Pensions 'Realising potential: A vision for personalised conditionality and support' 2008 <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/legislation-and-key-documents/realising-potential/>

Transport

It is also essential to provide transport options for disabled people. People with disabilities may not be able to drive and some may be unable to use public transport, making it difficult and / or expensive for them to get to work. Therefore, access to public transport is crucial to disabled people and their carers to participate fully in everyday life.

Lack of knowledge of relevant legislation

In 2002, the Department for Work and Pensions commissioned a study among employers to identify and examine the barriers to employment which are perceived to be faced by disabled people. Many employers did not realise which disabilities were covered by the DDA legislation, and knowledge about the Act's employment provisions was found to be low.¹²⁷ More rigorous application of the DDA may change employer attitudes to ill health and help to tackle prejudice. Health and safety regulations also need to be more rigorously enforced.¹²⁸

5.7.2 Access to childcare and flexible working

Access to childcare services and flexible working arrangements are the main instruments by which barriers to employment for parents can be reduced. In 2004 in the East Midlands there was a significantly lower proportion of non-working parents stating specific child-related reasons¹²⁹ for not working compared to England. By 2007 the proportion of parents mentioning child related reasons for not working was similar in the East Midlands and in England¹³⁰:

- In the East Midlands 10% of non-working parents reported that they could not find free or cheap childcare which would make working worthwhile. This proportion was 12% in England which is not significantly different;
- In the East Midlands 6% of non-working parents reported that they could not find childcare for the hours or days when they would need to go out to work. This proportion was 5% in England which is not significantly different; and
- In the East Midlands 8% of non-working parents reported that the reason for not working is that they could not afford good quality childcare. This proportion was the same in England.

Childcare

The childcare situation in the East Midlands compared with England is explored from two angles. Firstly, employer provision of childcare facilities and assistance with childcare for employees is analysed using the Work-Life Balance Employer Survey

¹²⁷ Goldstone C, Department for Work and Pensions, 'Barriers to employment for disabled people'. In-house report 95.2002. <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/IH95.pdf>

¹²⁸ Black C, 'Dame Carol Black's Review of the health of Britain's working age population, Summary of evidence submitted'. <http://www.workingforhealth.gov.uk/documents/summary-of-the-evidence.pdf>

¹²⁹ Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2007. These specific reasons are quality, affordability, reliability and availability of childcare.

¹³⁰ National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009. Data are from Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2007.

(WLBS). Secondly, the Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents (CEYP)¹³¹ was used to look at parental views of local childcare, as well as both childcare arrangements and support that helped respondents work, and child-related reasons for the respondent not working.

The Work-Life Balance Employer Survey 2007 confirms that there were no significant differences between the East Midlands and England in the proportion of employers¹³² which provide assistance with childcare. In 2007, 21% of East Midlands employers provided assistance¹³³ with childcare compared to the English average of 17%. However, in 2003 the proportion of East Midlands employers which provided assistance with childcare was significantly lower than the national average at 3% compared to 7%. This suggests that some progress has been made between 2003 and 2007 both nationally and regionally in the provision of childcare arrangements by employers.

In 2004, families in the East Midlands held more positive views with regard to quality and affordability of local formal childcare compared with England. However, this positive view had changed by 2007 when 61% of families with children aged 14 or younger in the East Midlands reported that the quality of childcare in the local area is good compared to 63% in England.

Data suggests that in 2007 workless households were less satisfied with childcare provision. In the East Midlands in 2007 only 50% thought that the quality of formal childcare provided was good compared to 64% of those couples where both parents were at work.

¹³¹ The Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2007 (CEYP) was commissioned by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), the Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents (CEYP) provides comprehensive data on parents' take-up, views and experiences of childcare. The 2007 CEYP is the most recent wave in the series.

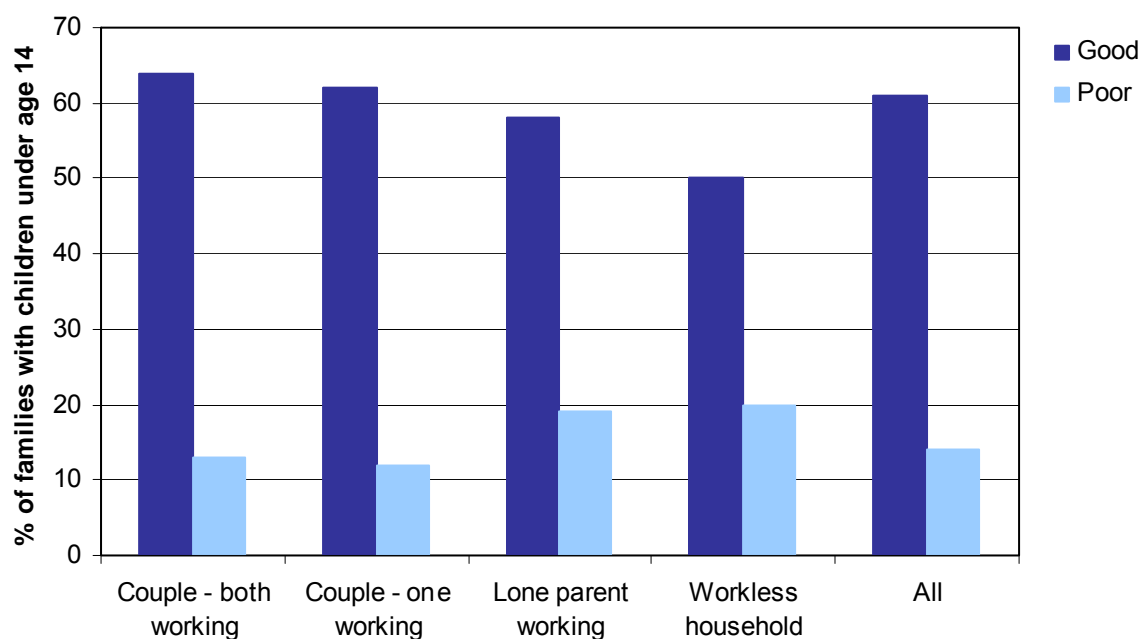
¹³² Establishments with five or more employees.

National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009.

¹³³ *Ibid.*

Childcare arrangements provided by employers include childcare situated at workplace, financial help and other help with childcare. This latter consists of childcare arrangements during school holiday, information about local provision etc.

Chart 28: Families perception about the quality of local formal childcare, East Midlands 2007 (%)



Source: National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009. Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2007.

Base: All parents with children aged 14 and under, based on 649 unweighted observations.

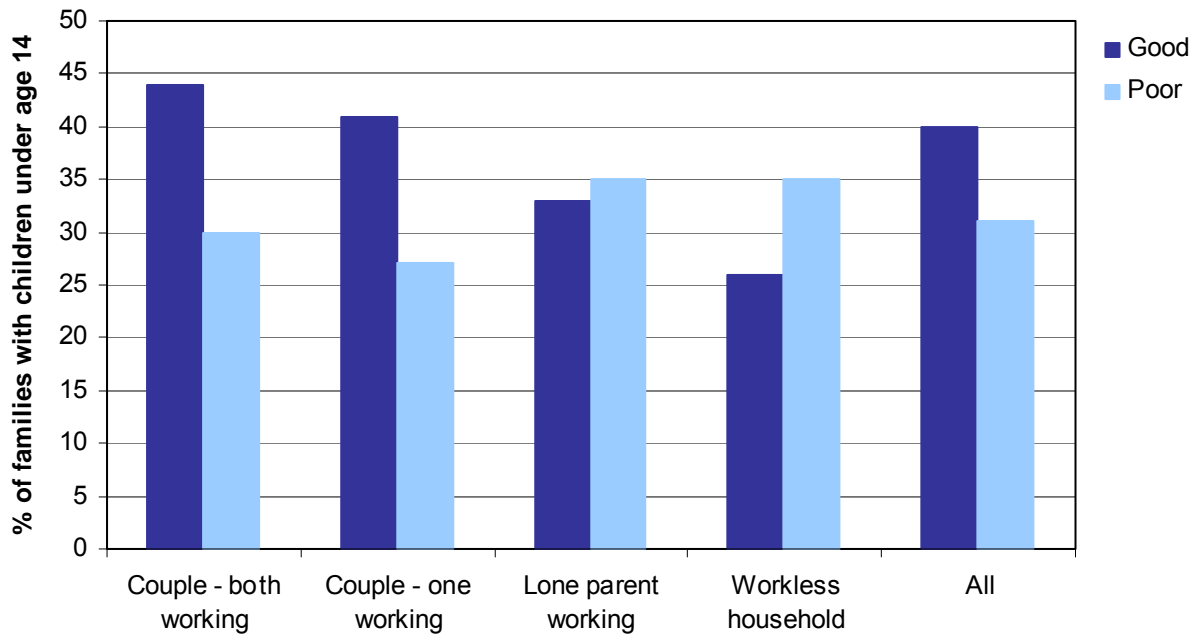
Note: Good is the sum of 'Very good' and 'Fairly good'. Poor is the sum of 'Very poor' and 'Fairly poor'. The proportion of 'Don't know' category ranges between 23% (Couple – both working) and 31% (Workless household). The average of 'Don't know' category is 25%.

In 2007, 40% of East Midlands families thought that the affordability of formal local childcare is good¹³⁴ compared to 38% in England. However, opinion about affordability differs again by household working status. Workless households tend to be less satisfied with affordability compared to families where both partners are at work. Only 26% of workless families reported that affordability of childcare is good compared to 44% of working couples.

¹³⁴ Ibid.

'Very good' and 'Fairly good' together.

Chart 29: Families perceptions and views about the affordability of local childcare, East Midlands 2007



Source: National Centre for Social Research commissioned by emda, ‘Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys’, 2009. Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2007.

Base: All parents with children aged 14 and under, based on 649 unweighted observations.

Note: Good is the sum of ‘Very good’ and ‘Fairly good’. Poor is the sum of ‘Very poor’ and ‘Fairly poor’. The proportion of ‘Don’t know’ category ranges between 26% (Couple – both working) and 40% (Workless household). The average of ‘Don’t know’ category is 30%.

In 2007, 45% of families reported that there are too many or a sufficient number of formal childcare places in their local area both in the East Midlands and in England. Therefore, parents’ perceptions of the availability of formal childcare provision is not significantly different in the region than nationally. Again, a smaller proportion of workless families in the region were satisfied with the number of childcare places in their local area compared to working couples at 36% and 47% respectively.

Informal childcare is an important source of help for families with children¹³⁵. In 2007, a significantly larger proportion of families in the East Midlands cited help from relatives and friends as the most important childcare arrangement that helped the respondent work (17% compared with 12% in England). Families with the youngest child of primary school age (5 to 11 years) in the East Midlands are more likely to have help from relatives and friends.

¹³⁵ Informal childcare includes help from wife, husband or ex-partner, from grandparents, child’s older brother or sister, any other relatives, friends or neighbours. Department for Children, Schools and Families, ‘Childcare and Early Years Survey 2007, Parents’ Use, Views and Experiences’ <http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR025.pdf> Research Report DCSF-RR025, Table 2.1.

Flexible working

'Flexible working' is a phrase that describes any working patterns adapted to suit employee needs to reconcile their work and family or carer duties. These flexible working arrangements are crucial in tackling barriers to employability for carers and parents with children or with a disabled child under 18. Common types of flexible working are¹³⁶:

- Part-time: working less than the normal hours, perhaps by working fewer days per week;
- Flexi-time: choosing when to work (there is usually a core period during which you have to work);
- Annualised hours: your hours are worked out over a year (often set shifts with you deciding when to work the other hours);
- Compressed hours: working your agreed hours over fewer days;
- Job sharing: sharing a job designed for one person with someone else; and
- Home-working: working from home.

The Work-Life Balance Employer Survey (WLBS) allows an assessment of the availability and take-up of flexible working practices from an employer perspective, while the Labour Force Survey (LFS) explores this from an employee perspective¹³⁷.

Chart 30 shows that based on the WLBS, in 2007, there were no statistically significant differences in the proportion of establishments with employees working flexibly in the last 12 months¹³⁸ in the East Midlands compared to England as a whole¹³⁹. Part-time working seems the most widespread type of flexible working both in the East Midlands and England. However, we can expect that the proportion of part-time working may increase because of the working hours arrangements applied by businesses due to the recession.

Generally, job share and compressed hours are the less widespread practices.

- In the East Midlands 84% of establishments had employees who worked part-time compared to 75% in England.
- In the East Midlands 23% of establishments had employees who worked flexi-time compared to 24% in England.
- In the East Midlands 32% of establishments had employees who worked reduced hours compared to 22% in England.
- In the East Midlands 19% of establishments had employees who worked from home compared to 16% in England.

¹³⁶ Directgov, 'Flexible working and work-life balance'

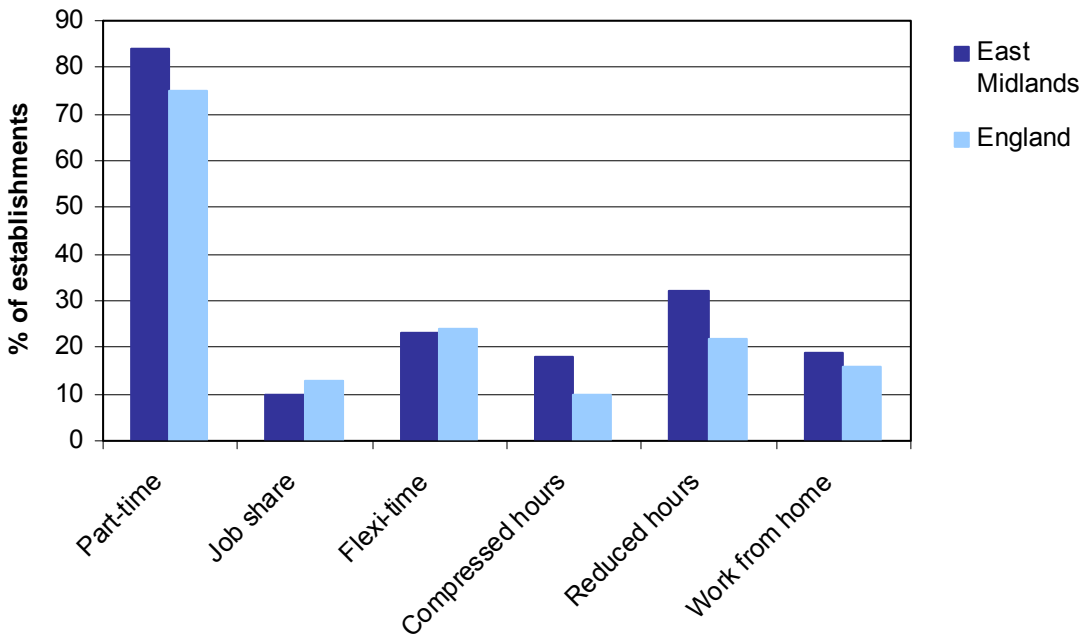
http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Employment/Employees/WorkingHoursAndTimeOff/DG_10029491

¹³⁷ However, the LFS tables do not match entirely to the WLBS tables because WLBS employer tables do not include part-time working as a category of flexible working.

¹³⁸ The WLBS identifies flexible working arrangements as part-time, job share, flexi-time, compressed hours, reduced hours and work from home.

¹³⁹ National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009.

Chart 30: Proportion of establishments with employees working flexibly in the last 12 months, 2007



Source: National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009. Work-Life Balance Employer Survey 2007.

Base: Establishments with five or more employees, based on 95 unweighted observations.

Note: Multiple responses.

Based on the Labour Force Survey 2007-2008¹⁴⁰ data there is no significant difference between flexible working arrangements¹⁴¹ reported by employees in the East Midlands compared to England, at 24% and 24% respectively. There was no significant difference between the East Midlands and England in flexible working arrangements reported by gender, ethnicity and disability. This suggests that generally flexible working is a relatively widespread instrument among employees to address issues around work-life balance.

5.7.3 Access to services

Accessibility is a key requirement of a functioning economy. Poor accessibility not only impacts on the quality of residents' day-to-day lives but also their future prospects e.g. access to education and employment. We can analyse the issues related to accessibility in the East Midlands by considering the geographical availability of services. As well as the physical distance to key services it is also important to analyse the time it takes for residents of the region to access these key services. These two important measures of accessibility will be discussed in this section and used to highlight the disparities present between urban and rural areas of the East Midlands.

Improving places and making services and employment more accessible improves quality of life.

¹⁴⁰ These data refer to Labour Force Survey 2007-2008 – five quarter longitudinal dataset.

¹⁴¹ Flexible working arrangements asked by the LFS are flexi-time, annualised hours contract, term-time working, job sharing, nine day fortnight, four and a half day week and zero hour contract.

The East Midlands is the third most rural region in England¹⁴². Accessibility indicators echo this geographical feature as a lower proportion of the East Midlands population enjoys the same level of accessibility to some of key services than residents of other regions.

Distance to services

The following section of this chapter summarises how accessible some of the public and private services are (in terms of their distance) in the East Midlands compared to other regions¹⁴³. Services discussed in this section are the nearest Jobcentre, GP, hospital, supermarket and Post Office.

- In 2009, 83.9% of East Midlands residents had a Jobcentre within 8km. This is the fourth lowest proportion compared to other English regions but higher than the South West, East of England and the South East at 72.4%, 80.6% and 82.0% respectively.
- In 2009, 96.6% of residents had a GP surgery within 4km in the East Midlands. This is the third lowest proportion among all English regions. The proportion of residents having a GP within 4km is 94.8% in the South West and 95.9% in the East of England. In London, all residents have a GP surgery within 4 km.
- A smaller proportion of residents live within 8km of the nearest hospital in the East Midlands than in most of the regions. Only 86.8% of the East Midlands resident population have this service within 8km. This is the second lowest proportion among the English regions and just slightly better than the East of England where 85.4% of the population live within 8km of the nearest hospital.
- In 2009, 93.0% of the East Midlands resident population had a supermarket within 4km. This is the third lowest proportion among the nine English regions. The accessibility of supermarkets was more difficult in the South West and in the East of England where 88.1% and 90.2% of the population lived within 4km of the nearest supermarket respectively.
- In 2009, 94.4% of the East Midlands population live within 2km of the nearest Post Office. This is the third lowest proportion among the other regions and it is slightly better than the South West (93.1%) and the East of England (93.6%).

Accessibility is directly determined by available infrastructure and this is affected significantly by rurality. Table 4 shows what proportion of the regions households are within a specified distance of specified services split by urban rural definition. The table also highlights:

¹⁴² *emda*, 'The Rural East Midlands in 2008'.

¹⁴³ Commission for Rural Communities, 'Rural Services Data Series, 2009'
<http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/projects/ruralservicesseriesdata/overview>

- Households in rural areas, in general, have to travel further to access services than households in urban areas. Jobcentres, banks and building societies experience the greatest disparity between urban and rural classification, by around 40 percentage points;
- There is very little variation in the percentage of households within specified distances from services in urban areas. Hospitals remain the furthest from households in urban areas, however, they are still within 8km for over 97% of households in the East Midlands; and
- There is significantly more variation in the percentage of households within specified distances of services in rural areas. Jobcentres are the furthest from the rural areas where only 51% of households are within 8km. In contrast, pubs (2km) and cashpoints (4km) are closest to rural households with 92.8% and 90.5% of households within the specified distance respectively.

Table 4: Percentage of households within a given distance of a key service in the East Midlands, by rural/urban classification¹⁴⁴, 2009

Service (Distance)	Rural	Urban
Jobcentres (8km)	50.8%	97.6%
Banks and building societies (4km)	60.0%	99.5%
Hospitals (8km)	61.6%	97.2%
Secondary schools (4km)	62.8%	99.5%
NHS dentists (4km)	63.0%	99.6%
Convenience stores (4km)	75.6%	98.9%
Supermarkets (4km)	76.2%	99.9%
Post Offices (2km)	82.0%	99.5%
Petrol stations (4km)	85.2%	100.0%
GP surgeries (All sites) (4km)	88.5%	100.0%
Primary schools (2km)	89.1%	99.9%
Cashpoints (4km)	90.5%	100.0%
Pubs (2km)	92.8%	99.9%

Source: Commission for Rural Communities, Rural Services Series, Analysis by Defra RSU, 2009

Travel times to services¹⁴⁵

Although distance to a given service is a good indicator of proximity it does not consider the wider accessibility of the service. It is more useful to consider how long it actually takes to get to the service using the available transport infrastructure and how this relates to the population which is most likely to use it.

Data from the Department for Transport offers information on the proportion of the resident population that can access key services within a certain time via public transport or walking. They also produce indicators based on the proportion of the

¹⁴⁴ Defined by the 2004 Rural and Urban definition developed by the Rural Evidence Research Centre at Birkbeck College (RERC).

¹⁴⁵ Via public transport or walking.

population most likely to use the service, known as the ‘target’ population as well as the proportion of the population which may find it more difficult to access the service (possibly due to cost or ability to access a car), known as the ‘risk’ population. It is generally the case that the ‘risk’ population has greater accessibility to key services than the larger ‘target’ population.

The population of the East Midlands experiences almost universal access to **primary schools** within 30 minutes via public transport or walking, irrespective of rurality. Of the district classification Rural 80 districts are the least accessible to primary schools. However, with 95% of the target population¹⁴⁶ within a travel time of 15 minutes, primary schools are classed as highly accessible.

Table 5: Travel times to primary schools, 2008

	Percentage of target population within a travel time of 15 mins	Percentage of target population within a travel time of 30 mins	Percentage of the at risk population within a travel time of 15 mins	Percentage of the at risk population within a travel time of 30 mins
LU	100	100	100	100
OU	100	100	100	100
SR	97	100	98	100
R50	97	100	99	100
R80	95	99	98	100

Source: Defra, Local Authority Core Accessibility Indicators, November 2009, Accessed January 2010.

Note: Risk population is defined as 5-10 year olds in receipt of Free School Meals.

The accessibility of **secondary schools** in the East Midlands is lower than that of primary schools, mirroring national trends. The pattern of accessibility of secondary schools mirrors that of primary school as population in more rural districts have to travel further to reach secondary schools than in more urban districts. Despite this, secondary schools are still accessible to over 95% of the population within a travel time of 40 minutes in Rural 80 Districts. Areas in Northamptonshire, such as Daventry and Corby experience particularly low accessibility where less than 60% of the target population is within 20 minutes travel time of a secondary school.

Accessibility to **GPs** is almost universal to the ‘at risk’¹⁴⁷ population within a travel time of 30 minutes. Unsurprisingly, there is a greater variation in the accessibility for the ‘target’ and ‘at risk’ population within a travel time of 15 minutes. The target population¹⁴⁸ in Rural 80 districts experiences the lowest levels of accessibility within 15 minutes, of 72%. On this indicator, Melton, along with areas of Lincolnshire including South Holland and East Lindsey, experience the lowest levels of accessibility.

A slightly different measure is available to assess the accessibility to **employment**. National Indicator 176 is based on a composite measure of travel where public transport, cycling and walking are weighted by the national mode split but does not include a travel time measure. Table 6 shows the percentage of the population with access to employment on this composite measure.

¹⁴⁶ Target population is defined as 5-10 year olds.

¹⁴⁷ Risk population is defined as all households without access to a car.

¹⁴⁸ Target population is defined as all households.

Table 6: Accessibility to employment centres by composite mode of travel, 2008

	Percentage of target population weighted by the access to employment centres by composite mode
LU	84
OU	82
SR	80
R50	80
R80	76

Source: Defra, Local Authority Core Accessibility Indicators, November 2009, Accessed January 2010.
Note: Target population is defined as 16-74 year olds.

Table 6 shows that the more rural districts in the region experience lower levels of accessibility. It does, however, remain the case that even in Large Urban areas 16% of the target population does not have access to employment centres by the composite measure.

Key Points: Barriers to labour market participation and economic inclusion

- Productivity losses due to ill health were estimated to be £802 million in the East Midlands in 2006-2007.
- Life expectancy has been increasing in the East Midlands mirroring the trend in England. However, the absolute gap between the quintile of eight Local Authorities with the lowest life expectancy and the East Midlands population increased both in case of males and females.
- The main reported health problems in the region were heart, blood pressure and circulation, chest and breathing, and back and neck problems.
- Overall, there were no significant differences between the East Midlands and England in the proportion of employers which provide assistance with childcare.
- Workless households are less satisfied with the childcare provision both in the East Midlands and in England.
- In 2007, a significantly larger proportion of working parents in the East Midlands cited help from relatives and friends as the most important childcare arrangement that helped the respondent to work.
- In 2007, there were no significant differences between flexible working arrangements reported by employees in East Midlands compared to England. Among these arrangements, part-time working seems to be the most widespread type of flexible working offered by firms.
- There were similar proportions of the working age population claiming for health related benefits (Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance) and Carer's Allowance in the East Midlands and in Great Britain. However, both health related benefit claimants and carers appear to be concentrated in the coalfields and parts of the Lincolnshire coastal area suggesting deeply rooted issues of economic exclusion.
- Part-time working seems the most widespread type of flexible working both in the East Midlands and England. However, we can expect that the proportion of part-time working may increase because of the working hours arrangements applied by businesses due to the recession.
- In 2007 10% of non-working parents reported that they could not find free or affordable childcare which would make working worthwhile. This proportion was 12% in England which is not significantly different.
- The pattern of accessibility of services shows that those who live in more rural districts have to travel further to reach public services or employment opportunities than those living in more urban districts. For example, Jobcentres are the furthest from the rural areas where only 51% of households are within 8km. This is compared to 97.6% of households living in urban areas.

5.8 Crime

Crime is often a manifestation of deeply rooted disadvantage and poverty combined with dysfunctional family conditions and lack of social networks. However, crime is also a sensitive indicator of life chances, as when economic performance declines, crime often rises. Crime damages the quality of life and makes the local area a less attractive place to live.

This section is based on Crime in England and Wales, 2008-2009 published by the Home Office. This is the eighth report in an annual series that combines the reporting of [police recorded crime](#)¹⁴⁹ and the [British Crime Survey](#) (BCS)¹⁵⁰ results. The police recorded and BCS figures are a complementary series that together provide a better picture of crime than could be obtained from either series alone.¹⁵¹

Offences in the BCS are reported for the person and for the household.¹⁵² For households, the respondent answers on behalf of the whole household in the offence categories of bicycle theft, burglary, theft in a dwelling, other household theft, thefts of and from vehicles and vandalism to household property and vehicles.¹⁵³ The common term used in interpreting this indicator is the “risk of household crime” where one or more persons experienced crime on one or more occasions during the 12 months prior to interview.

Chart 31 shows that in 2008-2009, the risk of household crime was 18% in the East Midlands. The highest risks of household crime were in the South East, North West, North East and London at 19%. In contrast, the lowest proportions were in the South West and in the West Midlands at 16% in 2008-2009.

¹⁴⁹ The police recorded crime data analysed in this chapter reports crime on the financial year 2008-2009. The police recorded crime statistics provide a good measure of trends in well-reported crimes, are an important indicator of police workload, and can be used for local crime pattern analysis. However, they do not include crimes that have not been reported to the police. Recorded crime statistics provide the only measure of homicide and also the only reliable measure of relatively rare crimes such as robbery. Home Office, ‘Crime in England and Wales 2008-2009’. Chapter 1.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0809.html>

¹⁵⁰ The British Crime Survey (BCS) is a victimisation survey in which adults living in private households are asked about their experiences of crime in face-to-face interviews. BCS results are based on interviews conducted in the financial year 2008-2009. It includes property crimes such as vehicle-related thefts and burglary, and personal crimes such as assaults. For the crime types it covers, the BCS can provide a better reflection of the true extent of household and personal crime because it includes crimes that are not reported to the police. The BCS count also gives a better indication of trends in crime over time because it is unaffected by changes in levels of reporting to the police and in police recording practices. The BCS is also the main Home Office source of data on perceptions of crime, anti-social behaviour and attitudes to the criminal justice system (CJS).

Home Office, ‘Methodological information about the British Crime Survey’

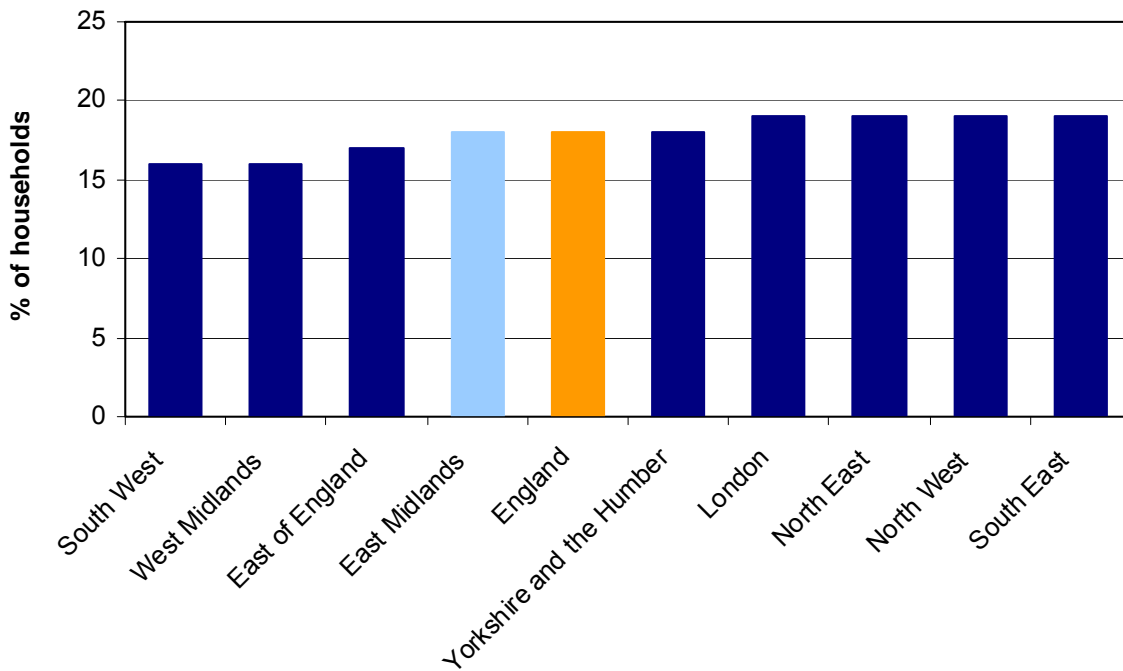
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/bcs-methodological.html>

¹⁵¹ Home Office, ‘Research Development Statistics’, <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0708.html>

¹⁵² The risk of personal crime shows little regional variations. Therefore, the risk of household crime was chosen for this analysis. Home Office, ‘Crime in England and Wales 2008-2009’. Chapter 7, Table 7.08 and 7.09. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0809.html>

¹⁵³ Home Office, ‘Crime in England and Wales 2008/09’. Glossary, <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0809.html>

Chart 31: Risk of household crime by region, British Crime Survey 2008-2009

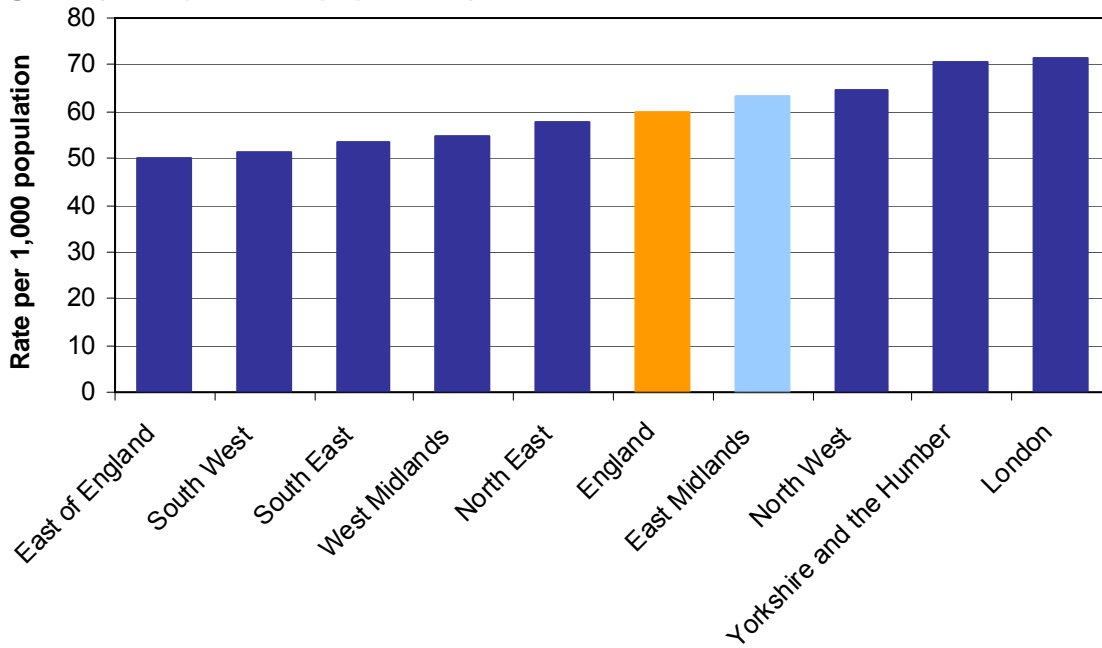


Source: Home Office, 'Crime in England and Wales 2008-2009'. Chapter 7, Table 7.08. BCS household crime.

Note: Risk of household crime includes bicycle theft; burglary; theft in a dwelling; other household theft; thefts of and from vehicles, and vandalism to household property and vehicles.

Police recorded crime related to offences against property and possession include robbery, burglary, criminal damage, other theft and offences against vehicles. The recorded offences rate per 1,000 population was 63 in the East Midlands. This is higher than the English average of 60 offences per 1,000 people. The highest offence rates were in London and in Yorkshire and the Humber at 71 recorded crimes per 1,000 population respectively. In the East of England and in the South West, 50 and 51 offences were recorded per 1,000 people respectively. These are the lowest rates among the English regions.

Chart 32: Recorded crime against possession and property by police force area, English regions (rates per 1,000 population), 2008-2009

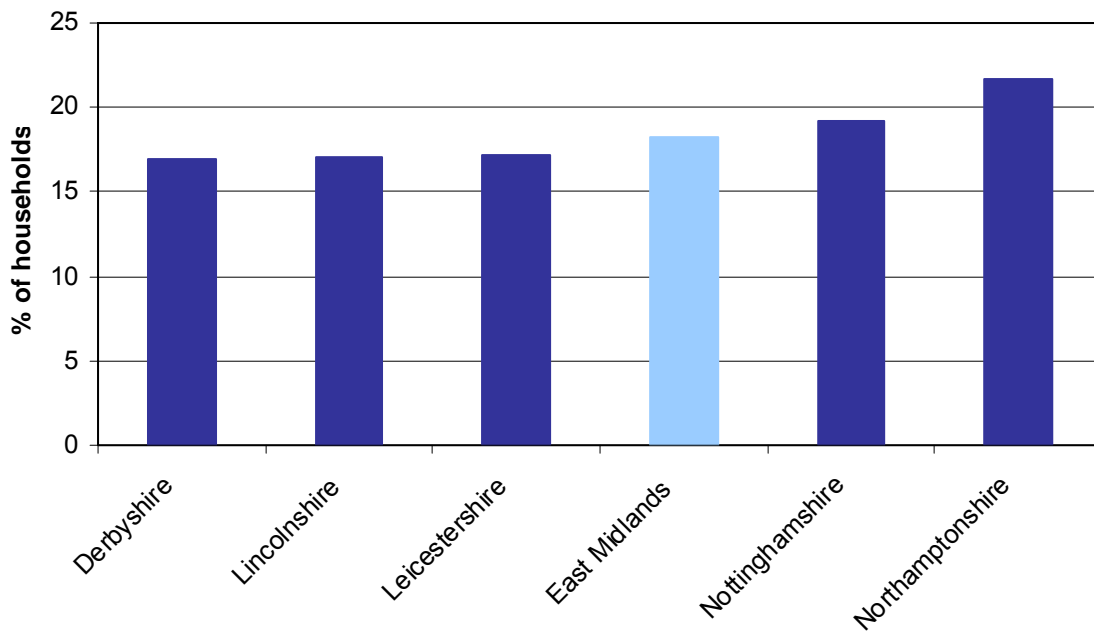


Source: Home Office, 'Crime in England and Wales 2008/09'. Chapter 7, Table 7.05. Recorded crime.

Note: Crime against property and possession includes robbery, burglary, criminal damage, other theft and offences against vehicles. Offences against vehicles include theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a vehicle, aggravated vehicle taking and interfering with a motor vehicle.

During the 2008-2009 financial year, the risk of household crime was the highest in Northamptonshire at 22% and in Nottinghamshire at 19%. The risk of household crime was the lowest in Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire at 17%.

Chart 33: Risk of household crime by East Midlands' sub-region, British Crime Survey 2008-2009

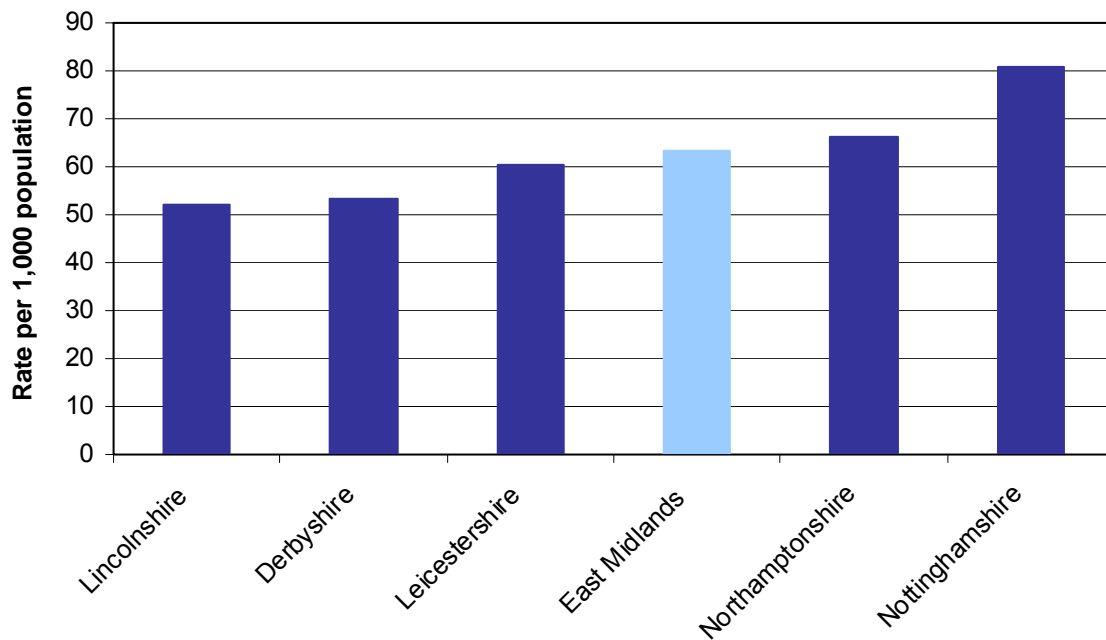


Source: Home Office, 'Crime in England and Wales 2008-2009'. Chapter 7, Table 7.08, BCS household crime.

Note: Risk of household crime includes bicycle theft; burglary; theft in a dwelling; other household theft; thefts of and from vehicles, and vandalism to household property and vehicles.

Sub-regional analysis shows that the highest offences rate against possession and property was in Nottinghamshire at 81 per 1,000 population in 2008-2009. The lowest rates of police recorded offences were in Lincolnshire and Derbyshire at 52 and 54 per 1,000 population in 2008-2009.

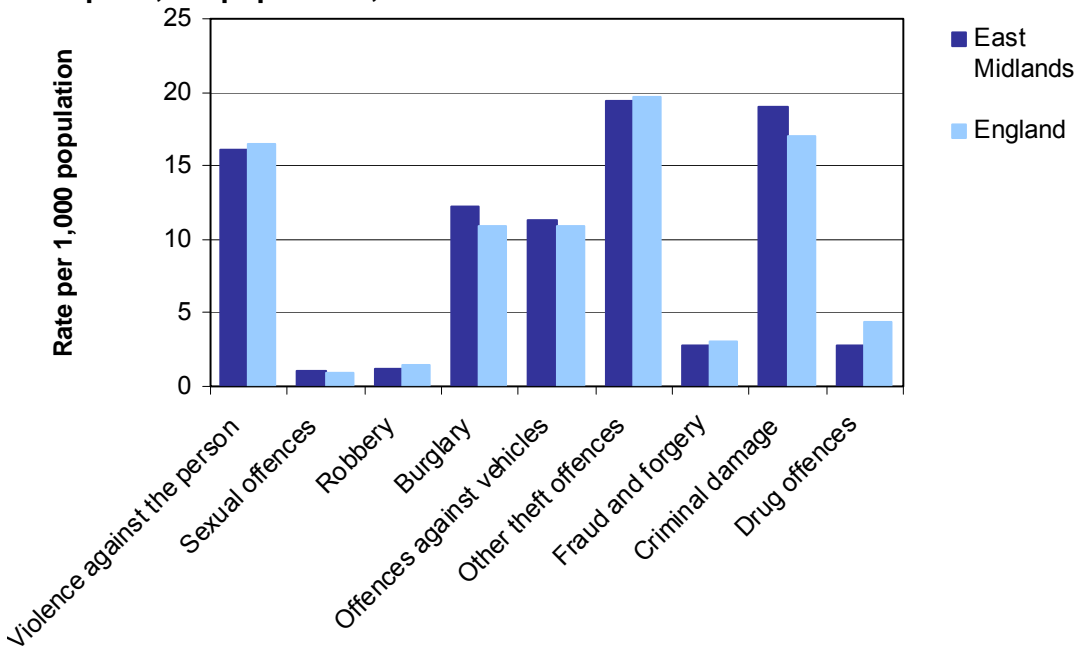
Chart 34: Recorded crime against possession and property by East Midlands' sub-regions (rates per 1,000 population), 2008-2009



Source: Home Office, 'Crime in England and Wales 2008-2009'. Chapter 7, Table 7.05. Recorded crime.
 Note: Crime against property and possession includes robbery, burglary, criminal damage, other theft and offences against vehicles. Offences against vehicles include theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a vehicle, aggravated vehicle taking and interfering with a motor vehicle.

For the following analysis by offence groups, the police recorded crime data are used. Crime against or committed by individuals will be also covered such as 'violence against the person' or 'drug offences'. Chart 35 shows that theft, criminal damage and violence against the person were the most often recorded offences both in the East Midlands and in England. Burglary and criminal damage were more often recorded in the East Midlands than in England. In 2008-2009 the criminal damage rate per 1,000 people was 19 in the East Midlands compared to 17 in England. The burglary rate per 1,000 population in the East Midlands was 12 compared to 11 in England.

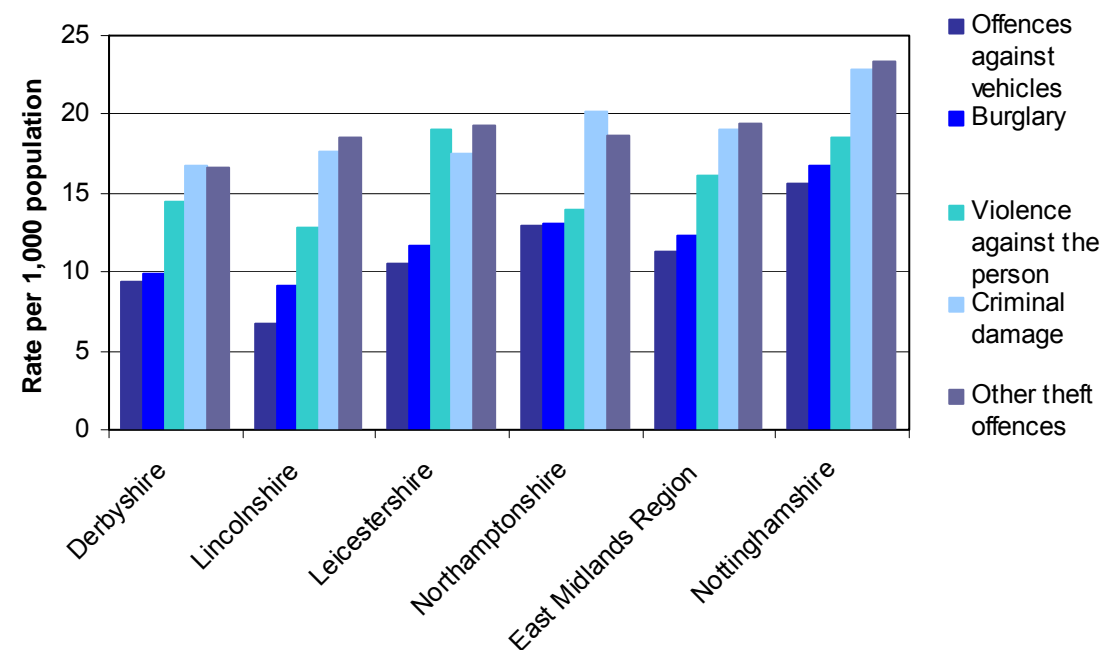
Chart 35: Recorded offences by offence group, East Midlands and England, rates per 1,000 population, 2008-2009



Source: Home Office, 'Crime in England and Wales 2008-2009'. Chapter 7, Table 7.05. Recorded crime.
 Note: Sexual offences and other offences are left out due to small numbers.

Chart 36 shows the five most commonly recorded offences in the East Midlands sub-regions: violence against the person, burglary, offences against vehicles, other theft offences and criminal damage. The rate of each offence is the highest in Nottinghamshire except violence against the person where the highest rate was recorded in Leicestershire.

Chart 36: The five most common recorded offences in the East Midlands sub-regions (rates per 1,000 population), 2008-2009



Source: Home Office, 'Crime in England and Wales 2008-2009'. Chapter 7, Table 7.05. Recorded crime.

Key Points: Crime

- In 2008-2009, the risk of self-reported household crime was 18% in the East Midlands. This is the same as the English average.
- Police recorded crime against possession and property was higher in the East Midlands than the England.
- During 2008-2009, the risk of self-reported household crime was the highest in Northamptonshire and the lowest in Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire.
- Analysis by offence groups shows that burglary and criminal damage was more often recorded by the police in the East Midlands than in England.
- The five most commonly recorded offences in the East Midlands were also the highest in Nottinghamshire except violence against the person where the highest rate was recorded in Leicestershire. The five most common recorded offences were the lowest in Lincolnshire and Derbyshire.

5.9 Active and cohesive communities

Active and cohesive communities are those where there is a sense of belonging to the neighbourhood and a strong, supportive and positive relationship between people. Community cohesion helps to find consensus for local problems and provides a common ground of understanding of local issues on which people can work together.

The analyses draw on data from the Citizenship Survey (CS). The CS is the principal source of Home Office monitoring of Public Service Agreement (PSA) objective 21 to “Build more cohesive, empowered and active communities”.

Active communities are explored by examining the prevalence of formal volunteering, informal voluntary help and participation in civic activities¹⁵⁴:

- In 2007, the proportion of respondents who provided formal voluntary help¹⁵⁵ in the last 12 months was 43% both in the East Midlands and in England. The engagement of different groups (gender, disability, age and household composition) in this activity does not differ significantly between the East Midlands and England;
- In 2007, the proportion of respondents who provided informal help¹⁵⁶ in the last 12 months was 64% both in the East Midlands and in England. Again there are no significant differences between the East Midlands and England in participation in informal volunteering by social group; and
- The proportion of people participation in civic activities¹⁵⁷ was 38% in the East Midlands and 39% in England in 2007. Participation in civic activities is somewhat lower for ethnic minorities compared to other groups both in England and in the East Midlands.

¹⁵⁴ National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, ‘Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys’, 2009.

¹⁵⁵ Formal voluntary help covers every activity taken part in, supported or helped either alone or with others which helped a group, club or organisation in the last 12 months, excluding giving money and anything that was required of the respondents’ daily job.

Citizenship Survey 2007, <http://survey.net.essex.ac.uk/SQB/QB/surveys/citizenship/07questcs.pdf>

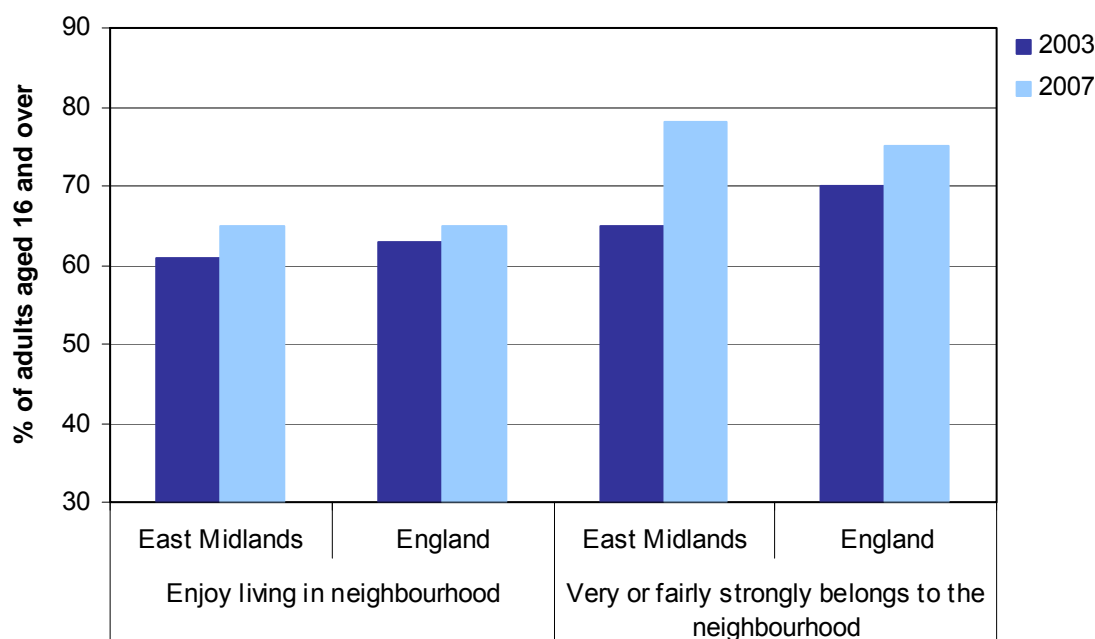
¹⁵⁶ Informal help covers any unpaid help that the respondent, as an individual, may have given to other people. This could be help for a friend, neighbour or someone else but not a relative. Citizenship Survey 2007, <http://survey.net.essex.ac.uk/SQB/QB/surveys/citizenship/07questcs.pdf>

¹⁵⁷ Civic activities include activities that the respondent has done in the last year and include having; been a local councillor (for the Local Authority, town or parish), been a school governor, been a volunteer, Special Constable or a Magistrate. If the respondent was a member of a group making decisions on local health services, on regeneration issues of the local area, on local crime problem, on a tenants’ group decision, on local education services, on issues related to the local communities etc. <http://survey.net.essex.ac.uk/SQB/QB/surveys/citizenship/07questcs.pdf>

The strength and cohesion of communities is explored by the enjoyment of living in the neighbourhood, the sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and respondents' trust in their neighbours.

Chart 37 shows that in 2003, the proportion of East Midlands residents who felt that they very or fairly strongly belong to their neighbourhood was significantly lower than in England at 65% compared to 70%. Between 2003 and 2007, the proportion of those who had a strong sense of belonging to their community increased remarkably in the East Midlands. In 2007, 78% of East Midlands residents felt strong bonds to their community similar to 75% in England.

Chart 37: Proportion of adults who enjoy living in their neighbourhood and have a sense of belonging to the neighbourhood



Source: National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, 'Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys', 2009. Citizenship Survey 2003 and 2007.

Base: Adults aged 16 and over living in private households.

Key Points: Active and cohesive communities

- In 2007, the proportion of respondents who provided formal voluntary help in the last 12 months was the same in the East Midlands and in England at 43%.
- Similarly, the proportion of respondents who provided informal voluntary help in the last 12 months was 36% both in the East Midlands and in England.
- The proportion of people participating in civic activities was 38% in the East Midlands and 39% in England in 2007.
- Between 2003 and 2007, the proportion of East Midlands residents who had a strong sense of belonging to their community increased in the East Midlands. In 2007, 78% of East Midlands residents felt strong bonds to their community compared to 75% in England which is not significantly different.

5.10 Conclusions

As a result of recession, the claimant count rate in the East Midlands has increased since the summer of 2008. However, in the last 10 months it has levelled off at around 4.0%. Analysis shows that vulnerable groups appear to be geographically concentrated in the most deprived Local Authority wards. As a result of the recession the unemployment rates for these areas may be expected to increase more quickly than rises in national unemployment.

Area-based analysis highlighted that the most deprived LSOAs (as measured by the index of deprivation) of the East Midlands are concentrated around the three cities of Leicester, Derby, and Nottingham, the former coalfields districts of Mansfield, Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Chesterfield and Bolsover, and the Lincolnshire coast.

The economic challenge of the former coalfields area is well established.¹⁵⁸ Communities in the coalfields area tend to have higher numbers of people on incapacity benefit and in other forms of inactivity. In addition, due to the recession some groups where intergenerational unemployment is already an issue, may face further difficulties in getting into work or maintaining their labour market position.

Deprivation in the Lincolnshire coastal areas is partly related to access to services and employment because of a lack of connectivity. The problems of deprived localities like inner-city areas (parts of Nottingham and Leicester for example) and former coalfields areas (Mansfield, Bolsover and Chesterfield) are very different.¹⁵⁹ The labour market challenges posed by a highly stable, largely homogeneous population experiencing intergenerational unemployment in a former coalfield area are quite different from those of an ethnically diverse, younger and more transient population living in an inner-city area.¹⁶⁰

The extent of labour market participation varies significantly by social groups identified by gender, age, ethnicity and disability. Economic inclusion and labour market participation of young people, women, ethnic minorities and disabled people are below average.

As the Labour Market chapter highlights, educational attainment is one of the routes which leads to sustainable employment. Between 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 education achievement of pupils shows a significant overall improvement across the UK and in the East Midlands. However, participation in education and educational achievement varies significantly not only by the ethnic background of pupils but also by local areas. In the East Midlands educational attainment of pupils with Mixed and Black ethnic minority groups is generally lower than average. In addition, comparing the East Midlands to England as a whole, educational attainment is significantly weaker in every ethnic group

¹⁵⁸ The Coalfields Regeneration Trust, changing the face of coalfield communities

<http://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk/default.asp>

¹⁵⁹ North, D, Syrett, S and Etherington, D, Joseph Rowntree Foundation 'Devolution and regional governance: Tackling the economic needs of deprived areas', 2007.

¹⁶⁰ Marilyn Taylor, Joseph Rowntree Foundation 'Transforming disadvantaged places: Effective strategies for places and people', 2008. <http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/housing/pdf/2255.pdf>

(Whites, Mixed, Black and Chinese) apart from pupils with an Asian background, who perform relatively better in the region than in England. Local analysis in the Labour Market chapter suggests that absenteeism is higher and achievement is generally weaker in Nottingham and in Leicester (deprived inner-city areas), highlighting the challenge of tackling the intergenerational transmission of social disadvantages.

Although moving into work was identified as the main factor associated with movement out of income poverty, concerns about “in-work” poverty have been raised because of the low-skill, low-pay nature of much employment in the region. This highlights the challenges of the quality of jobs, depressed earnings, the generally skewed employment toward the lower end of the occupation scale, and its long lasting social impact on the life chances of the regional population. It may be the case that some sub-regions are more affected than others especially where businesses tend to compete on the basis of price. As the Labour Market section suggests, this may be the case in the coastal areas of Lincolnshire where the concentration of low-skilled labour may have a stronger negative effect on productivity¹⁶¹ and consequently on the wellbeing of its residents.

The spatial pattern of child poverty shows that the proportion of children living in households receiving out-of-work benefits are concentrated in Nottingham, Leicester and some wards in Derby. The labour market participation of parents is crucial in avoiding intergenerational poverty. However, in 2006, 51% of poor children lived in working households (i.e. lone parent who worked, couples where one or both worked) in the East Midlands compared to 53% in England.¹⁶²

Health status has a reciprocal relationship with employability as healthy individuals are more likely to seek, obtain and remain in employment. In addition, work can also have a valuable social role and beneficial consequences for health.¹⁶³ Health deprivation and health inequalities are the result of complex interactions between a wide range of social, environmental and biological factors.¹⁶⁴ Nottingham, Mansfield and Bolsover are the most health deprived areas where wider determinants of health such as poverty, poor educational outcomes, unemployment, poor housing, and the problems of disadvantaged neighbourhoods appear to also be concentrated. In addition, although there were a similar proportion of the working age population claiming for health related benefits (Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance) and Carer’s Allowance in the East Midlands than in Great Britain, both health related benefit claimants and carers appear to be concentrated in the coalfields and parts of the Lincolnshire coastal area, suggesting deeply rooted issues of economic exclusion.

¹⁶¹ Gambin Lynn et al, Warwick Institute for Employment Research, University of Warwick, commissioned on behalf of *emda*, ‘Exploring the links between skills and Productivity’, 2009, cited Webber et al, ‘Explaining Spatial Variation in Business Performance in Great Britain’, *The European Journal of Comparative Economics*, 2007, 4(2): 319-332.

¹⁶² Families and Children Study 2006 (FACS) data provided by National Centre for Social Research commissioned by *emda*, ‘Secondary Analysis of Regional Data in National Surveys’, 2009. Working households are: Lone parent working 16+ hours, couple one working 16+ hours and couple both working 16+ hours.

¹⁶³ Vanessa Beck et al, commissioned by *emda*, ‘The Economics of Health’, 2008.

<http://www.intelligenceeastmidlands.org.uk/>

¹⁶⁴ East Midlands: The health of the region 2007. Report of the Regional Director of Public Health for the East Midlands. www.emphasisnetwork.org.uk/publications/rdphrpt2007/rdphreport2007.pdf

Health barriers to employment remain an issue. Health barriers to employability can be grouped into individual and employer factors. Individual factors include health concerns, the availability of suitable jobs, confidence and skills, stigmatisation, financial considerations and transport issues. Employer factors include discrimination, the need to make adjustment to the workplace, provision of training and support, and lack of knowledge of relevant legislation.

The difficulties of reconciling family and work duties pose another barrier to employability. Access to childcare services and flexible working arrangements are the main instruments by which these barriers can be reduced. Barriers to childcare may hinder labour market participation especially for lone parents. In the East Midlands, 10% of non-working parents reported that they could not find free or cheap childcare which would make working worthwhile. In the East Midlands, 6% of non-working parents reported that they could not find childcare for the hours or days when they would need to go out to work.

The East Midlands is the third most rural region in England. Accessibility indicators echo this geographical feature as a lower proportion of the East Midlands population enjoys the same level of accessibility to some key services than residents of other regions. Barriers to transportation and key services can be an issue for those living in remote rural areas and the Lincolnshire coast, as the Transport chapter of the evidence base also highlights.

Recorded crime related to offences against property and possession is higher in the East Midlands than the English average. These crimes are concentrated in Nottinghamshire and in Northamptonshire while violence against the person was the highest in Leicestershire. In spite of this, the East Midlands is a place where people have strong sense of belonging to their community.

Active and cohesive communities are more likely to find consensus for their local problems and the sense of belonging to this neighbourhood is greater.¹⁶⁵ The proportion of residents participating in formal voluntary help, informal help and civic activities in the East Midlands was almost the same as the English average. In addition, the proportion of East Midlands residents who had a strong sense of belonging to their community increased in the East Midlands between 2003 and 2007.

¹⁶⁵ Department for Communities and Local Government, '2005 Citizenship Survey, Active Communities Topic Report', page 11.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/2005citizenshipsurveyactive>