

Introduction

The latest Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD 2019) was published by the Welsh Government on 27 November 2019. WIMD is the official measure of relative deprivation for small areas in Wales. This is the first new index for five years and supersedes WIMD 2014.

In this context, 'deprivation' is about more than poverty; it reflects unmet need which is caused by a lack of resources of various kinds, not just financial. It can also be defined as a lack of access to opportunities and resources which we might expect in our society. WIMD identifies areas with the highest concentrations of several different types of deprivation and aims to capture both the material and social aspects of deprivation.

WIMD has been developed as a means to identify and understand local area deprivation and is used to support policy development and the targeting of resources and services. It can also be used to identify pilot areas, build area profiles, in funding and grant applications, for monitoring health and other inequalities, model demands on public services, inform survey design and analysis, and for evidencing local well-being and needs assessments.

This note provides an overview of the 2019 Index, summary results for areas in Swansea, brief guidance on how it should (and should not) be used, and sources of further information.

Composition of the Index

The overall Index for 2019 is again made up of eight separate types or 'domains' of deprivation, namely:

- Income
- Health
- Access to services
- Community safety
- Employment
- Education
- Housing
- Physical environment.

Each domain is based on a range of different indicators, which are then weighted and combined to generate individual scores and rankings for each domain and the overall index of 'multiple deprivation'. The weights of each domain have changed slightly from the 2014 Index. Income and Employment remain the two most important domains, each accounting for 22% of the total Index score, followed by Health 15%, Education 14%, Access to Services 10%, Housing 7% and Community Safety and Physical Environment 5% each.

There have been changes to individual indicators, and new indicators included within the Health, Education, Access to Services, Physical Environment and Housing domains.

Geography

WIMD 2019, like the four previous iterations, is based on the Office for National Statistics' Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) statistical geography. Within Wales there are now 1,909 LSOAs, with an average population of around 1,600.

Since the release of local area statistics from the 2011 Census, there are 148 LSOAs in Swansea – most of which nest within Swansea's 36 Electoral Divisions or Wards.

Deprivation Index rankings are not published for other geographic areas, e.g. at a ward or local authority level, although some of the underlying indicator data from the Index is available for both LSOAs and other geographies.

Using the Index

WIMD 2019 can be used to:

- Identify the most deprived small areas in Wales as a whole or within more local areas
- Compare the relative deprivation of small areas
- Explore the eight domains (types) of deprivation at a small area level
- Compare the proportion of small areas within a larger area that are very deprived (e.g. the proportion of LSOAs in Swansea in the most deprived 10% in Wales)
- Consider absolute change over time in areas using indicator data.

The 2019 Index *should not* be used to:

- Quantify how deprived an area is, or how much more deprived it is than another. For example, if area A were ranked the 10th most deprived area and B the 20th, it does not follow that A is twice as deprived as B
- Infer absolute change over time (between indices). As WIMD is a relative index, rank changes may not mean change in absolute deprivation levels
- Identify deprived people – as not everyone living in a deprived area is deprived, and that not all deprived people live in deprived areas
- Measure affluence. The fact that one area is ranked lower than another means that it is less deprived and not more affluent
- Compare results in Wales with deprivation indices for other areas of the UK.

Summary of WIMD 2019 results

Across Wales as a whole, the 2019 Index identifies 'Rhyl West 2' in Denbighshire as the most deprived LSOA. LSOAs in Caerphilly, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil, Wrexham and Newport also feature in the ten most deprived LSOAs in Wales.

In the 2019 Index, Swansea has an above average proportion of its LSOAs featuring in the most deprived 10% in Wales, with 17 (11.5%) of its 148 LSOAs in the 191 (10%) most deprived. The local authority areas in Wales with the highest proportions are Newport (24.2%), Merthyr Tydfil (22.2%), Cardiff (18.2%) and Rhondda Cynon Taf (17.5%). In all, seven of Wales' 22 local authorities have a higher proportion of most-deprived LSOAs than Swansea (note: in 2014, Swansea had the 9th highest proportion on this basis).

- Within Swansea the number of LSOAs in the 10% most deprived LSOAs in Wales is down slightly from 18 in 2014 to 17 in 2019.
- The number and proportion of Swansea LSOAs in the most deprived 20% and the most deprived 50% in Wales has also fallen, as detailed in Table 1 below.
- However, the proportion of Swansea LSOAs in the most deprived 30% in Wales has increased to over 30% (46 of its 148 LSOAs).

Table 1: Number and % of Swansea LSOAs in the most deprived 10%, 20%, 30% and 50% in Wales

WIMD	Most deprived 10%		20%		30%		50%	
	LSOAs	% of all	LSOAs	% of all	LSOAs	% of all	LSOAs	% of all
2014	18	12.2	37	25.0	42	28.4	72	48.6
2019	17	11.5	35	23.6	46	31.1	68	45.9

In the individual domains, levels of deprivation are most significant in respect of Employment (14.9% of Swansea's LSOAs are in the 10% most deprived in Wales), followed by Income (12.8%), Health (12.2%), Education (11.5%) and Community Safety (10.1%). However, levels in the Access to Services, Physical Environment and Housing domains are below the Welsh average (for the proportion of LSOAs in the 10% most deprived in Wales).

In WIMD 2019, Townhill 2 (ranked 16 in Wales) and Townhill 1 (18 in Wales) are now the most deprived LSOAs in Swansea. In the Overall Index, Swansea's 17 most deprived LSOAs, i.e. those featuring in the most deprived 10% (191 LSOAs) in Wales, are located in the following ward areas:

Townhill (5 of 6 LSOAs)

Castle (2 of 10 LSOAs)

Bonymaen (1 of 4 LSOAs - central/east)

Llansamlet (1 of 8 LSOAs - part Birchgrove)

Penderry (5 of the 7 LSOAs in the ward)

Morryston (2 of 11 LSOAs)

Mynyddbach (1 of 6 LSOAs - Clase area).

(Total = 17 LSOAs)

A schedule of the LSOAs ranked in the top 20 (i.e. most deprived) and bottom 10 (least deprived) in Wales and Swansea is set out in Appendix 1.

Conclusions

- Swansea remains slightly above the Welsh average for local authorities with LSOAs in the 10% most deprived; although this proportion has fallen slightly since WIMD 2014.
- Townhill, Penderry, Castle and Morryston remain the wards in Swansea with more than one LSOA in the 10% most deprived.
- Swansea now has two LSOAs in the 20 most deprived LSOAs in Wales, and 13 in the 100 most deprived (in WIMD 2014, these figures were 0 and 11).

The 2019 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation will be particularly useful for:

- Improving local knowledge and understanding of the distribution, extent and nature of deprivation within Swansea; both in terms of overall, multiple deprivation and more detailed analysis of individual issues (domains and indicators).
- The future development of policy and the allocation of resources to local authorities and other public bodies in respect of a range of targeted initiatives.
- Providing a sound evidence base for the Council and other local organisations to inform service delivery, resource allocation, funding bids and decision-making.

December 2019

If you would like to know more about WIMD or have any other queries regarding deprivation statistics, please contact:

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NOTE

WIMD 2019: Sources of further information

More information about the 2019 Index – including overall and domain rankings for Swansea's LSOAs, local area summaries and a list of the indicators used in each domain – is available via the following links.

www.swansea.gov.uk/wimd2019 / www.swansea.gov.uk/deprivation

The statistical procedures used to compile the Index are described in more detail in the WIMD 2019 Results Report and Technical Report. The Welsh Government's WIMD web pages are accessible via the link: www.wales.gov.uk/wimd

APPENDIX 1: WIMD 2019 RANKINGS SUMMARY

The table below lists the 20 most deprived and 10 least deprived LSOAs in Wales and Swansea. The top 20 and bottom 10 LSOAs in Swansea in terms of the individual domain rankings are also set out below. The full list is available via the web page www.swansea.gov.uk/wimd2019

Wales Rank	Overall Index (Wales)	Overall Index (Swansea)	Wales / Swa rank	Domains: Income	Employment	Health	Education	Access to Services	Housing	Community Safety	Physical Environment
1	Rhyl West 2	Townhill 2	16 / 1	Townhill 5	Castle 2 North	Penderry 1	Townhill 1	Gower 1	Castle 6	Castle 2 North	Pontardulais 2
2	Rhyl West 1	Townhill 1	18 / 2	Townhill 1	Castle 1	Townhill 2	Townhill 3	Mawr	Uplands 9	Morrison 7	Pontardulais 3
3	St. James 3	Penderry 3	22 / 3	Penderry 1	Penderry 3	Penderry 3	Penderry 1	Gower 2	Castle 4	Castle 4	Castle 8
4	Tylorstown 1	Castle 1	23 / 4	Townhill 2	Townhill 2	Townhill 1	Townhill 2	Townhill 2	Landore 4	Castle 7 East	Llansamlet 7
5	Caerau 1	Penderry 1	31 / 5	Townhill 3	Mynyddbach 1	Castle 1	Penderry 5	Townhill 1	Uplands 4	Llansamlet 1	Uplands 8
6	Penrhiwceiber 1	Townhill 3	32 / 6	Penderry 3	Penderry 4	Castle 2 North	Townhill 6	Castle 2 North	Uplands 6	Cockett 7	Cwmbwrla 3
7	Penydarren 1	Castle 2 North	36 / 7	Castle 1	Townhill 6	Mynyddbach 1	Penderry 4	Penderry 1	Uplands 7	Mynyddbach 1	Castle 7 West
8	Twyn Carno 1	Mynyddbach 1	37 / 8	Mynyddbach 1	Townhill 5	Townhill 3	Townhill 5	Castle 5	Cwmbwrla 1	Landore 2	Cwmbwrla 1
9	Queensway 1	Townhill 5	41 / 9	Castle 2 North	Townhill 1	Bonymaen 1	Mynyddbach 1	St. Thomas 1	Castle 5	Castle 3	Castle 4
10	Pillgwenlly 4	Penderry 4	48 / 10	Penderry 4	Morrison 5	Townhill 5	Penderry 3	Penderry 3	Uplands 8	Penderry 3	Cwmbwrla 2
11	Rhyl West 3	Townhill 6	58 / 11	Townhill 6	Bonymaen 1	Townhill 6	Penderry 6	Mynyddbach 1	Castle 8	Cockett 8	Landore 4
12	Splott 6	Bonymaen 1	81 / 12	Morrison 5	Townhill 3	Penderry 4	Bonymaen 1	Penderry 4	Cwmbwrla 2	Penderry 6	Landore 3
13	Trowbridge 8	Morrison 5	95 / 13	Bonymaen 1	Cockett 2	Penderry 6	Penderry 2	Castle 2 South	Cwmbwrla 3	Castle 7 West	Llansamlet 3
14	Ely 5	Penderry 2	147 / 14	Penderry 2	Sketty 4	Morrison 9	Castle 1	Castle 7 East	Morrison 7	Townhill 5	Castle 3
15	Pen-y-waun 2	Morrison 7	154 / 15	Penderry 5	Penderry 1	Cockett 2	Llansamlet 8	Townhill 6	Landore 1	Penderry 1	Morrison 1
16	Townhill 2	Penderry 6	157 / 16	Penderry 6	Penderry 2	Morrison 5	Penderry 7	Morrison 5	Uplands 3	Castle 1	Uplands 4
17	Tyisha 2	Llansamlet 8	179 / 17	Morrison 7	Morrison 7	St. Thomas 1	Cockett 8	Penllergaer 2	Castle 3	Penderry 4	Castle 2 South
18	Townhill 1	Penderry 5	201 / 18	Cockett 8	Llansamlet 8	Llansamlet 8	Castle 5	Townhill 5	Morrison 9	Llansamlet 2	Castle 1
19	Rhyl South West 2	Morrison 9	205 / 19	Llansamlet 8	West Cross 3	Cockett 8	Morrison 9	Castle 1	St. Thomas 2	Morrison 6	West Cross 2
20	Glyn 2	Cockett 8	207 / 20	Clydach 3	Penderry 6	Penyrheol 4	Castle 3	Penderry 5	St. Thomas 1	Morrison 9	Bonymaen 2
1900	Radyr & Morg'town 3	Kingsbridge 2	1851 / 139	West Cross 1	Oystermouth 3	Uplands 5	Uplands 7	Killay North 2	Newton 1	Pennard 1	Gorseinon 2
1901	Marford & Hoseley 1	Mayals 1	1858 / 140	Uplands 9	West Cross 1	Sketty 8	Uplands 5	Morrison 8	Llangyfelach 1	Bishopston 1	Upper Loughor 2
1902	Bryntirion L & MM 4	Sketty 8	1881 / 141	Bishopston 1	Killay 3	Mayals 1	Killay North 2	Sketty 6	Kingsbridge 2	Llangyfelach 1	West Cross 4
1903	St. Kingsmark 1	Killay 3	1885 / 142	Llangyfelach 3	Uplands 7	Killay North 2	Oystermouth 3	West Cross 1	Llansamlet 2	Llansamlet 3	Clydach 3
1904	Pont-y-clun 2	West Cross 1	1893 / 143	Sketty 9	Mayals 1	Newton 2	Mayals 2	West Cross 2	Llangyfelach 3	Fairwood 1	Sketty 4
1905	Newton 1	Bishopston 1	1895 / 144	Kingsbridge 2	Newton 1	Newton 1	Bishopston 1	Sketty 1	Mayals 1	Dunvant 3	Pennard 1
1906	Mayals 2	Killay North 2	1897 / 145	Sketty 8	Sketty 8	Pennard 2	West Cross 1	Killay South 1	Castle 2 South	Newton 1	Pennard 2
1907	Church Village 3	Pennard 2	1898 / 146	Newton 1	Mayals 2	Bishopston 1	Newton 2	Pennard 2	Newton 2	Mayals 2	Dunvant 2
1908	Marford & Hoseley 2	Newton 1	1905 / 147	Mayals 2	Uplands 9	Oystermouth 3	Sketty 8	Gowerton 2	Sketty 2	Pennard 2	Fairwood 2
1909	Mold South 2	Mayals 2	1906 / 148	Penllergaer 1	Sketty 9	Mayals 2	Newton 1	Oystermouth 3	Mayals 2	Killay North 2	Fairwood 1

Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 (published 27 November 2019), Welsh Government.

Notes:

- a.) **High ranked (most deprived) LSOAs** (excluding those in Swansea): Rhyl West and Rhyl South West are in Denbighshire local authority area; St. James and Twyn Carno are in Caerphilly; Tylorstown, Penrhiwceiber and Pen-y-waun are in Rhondda Cynon Taf; Caerau is in Bridgend; Penydarren is in Merthyr Tydfil; Queensway is in Wrexham; Pillgwenlly is in Newport; Splott, Trowbridge and Ely are in Cardiff; Tyisha is in Carmarthenshire; Glyn is in Conwy.
- b.) **Low ranked LSOAs** (excluding those in Swansea): Mold South is in Flintshire; Marford and Hoseley is in Wrexham; Church Village and Pont-y-clun are in Rhondda Cynon Taf; St. Kingsmark is in Monmouthshire; Bryntirion Laleston and Merthyr Mawr is in Bridgend; Radyr & Morganstown is in Cardiff.