



Developing The Public Health Observatory For Wales
Datblygu Arsyllfa Iechyd y Cyhoedd i Gymru

Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University

Local Health Board

> Demography Profile



Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Local Health Board (LHB) is one of the most densely populated LHBs in Wales. 45.7 percent, 27.5 percent, and 26.8 percent of the population live in the local authority areas of Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend respectively.

With 17% of Wales' population, the area's **age and sex profile** is very similar to that of Wales as a whole (Fig. 1). There are, however, relatively fewer in the 5 to 19 and 55 to 64 year old age groups. The 2001 Census reported that 1.6 percent of the population came from a black and ethnic minority background⁴, the effect of migration since this time is more difficult to quantify.

Across Wales and the UK, the **general fertility rate**, the number of births per 1,000 women of child bearing age, had been falling until 2001/2002. However, it has been slowly rising since (Fig. 2). The Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University LHB general fertility rate closely resembles the Wales rate⁵.

In the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University LHB area, the **under 75 age standardised mortality rate** dropped by 18 percent between

Key Statistics	Wales	A. B. M. University LHB
Area size ^[1]	20,779 km ²	1,071 km ²
Total population ^[2]	2,980,000	499,400
Life expectancy at birth - males ^[3]	76.8 years	76.3 years
Life expectancy at birth - females ^[3]	81.2 years	80.7 years
Persons per km ² ^[1, 2]	143.4	466.3
% population from ethnic minority background (2001) ^[4]	2.1%	1.6%
Total number of births ^[5]	34,572	5,760
Number of deaths ^[6]	32,148	5,570
% lower super output areas (LSOAs) in most deprived 5th of Wales ^[7]	20%	27%

> Fig 1: Population Pyramid A. B. M. University LHB and Wales
Data source: Office for National Statistics, mid year estimates 2007

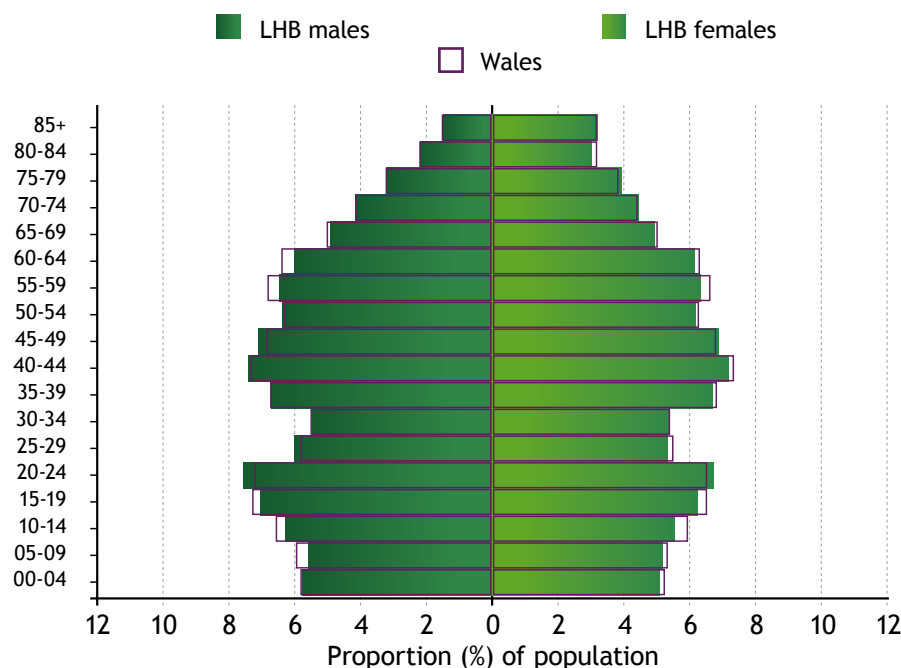
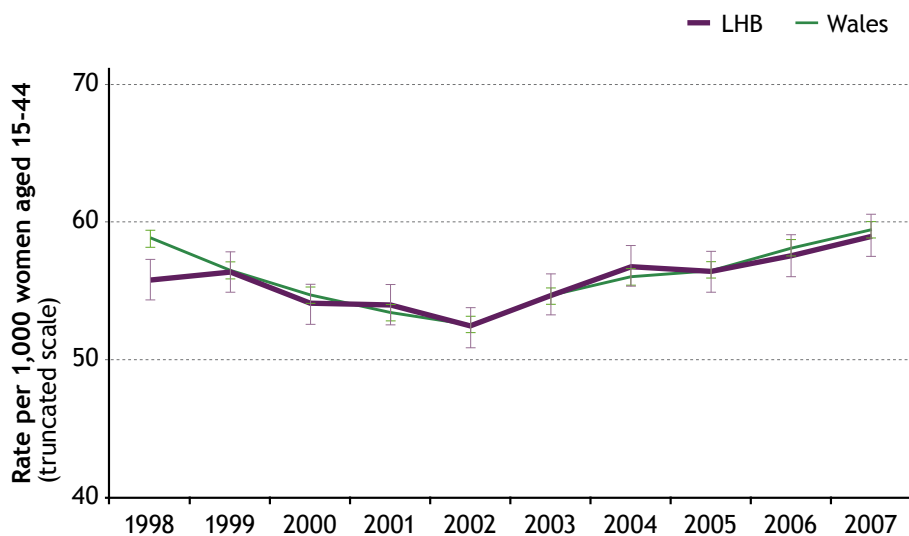


Fig 2: General Fertility Rate trend, A. B. M. University LHB and Wales, 1998 - 2007

Data source: Office for National Statistics, Annual District Births Extract, mid year estimates



Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. These reflect how random variation might influence the rate shown. This variation is greater in smaller populations, giving rise to wider intervals (for further details see website).

Fig 3: Under 75 mortality rate trend, A. B. M. University LHB and Wales 1998-2007

Data source: Office for National Statistics, Annual District Deaths Extract, mid year estimates



*EASR: European age standardised rate. Age standardisation allows comparison of rates across populations or time periods even when the age structures in these populations/time periods are different.

1. Office for National Statistics, 2007 geography.

2. Office for National Statistics, 2007 mid year estimates (rounded to the nearest 100).

3. Office for National Statistics, 2005-07 deaths registration and mid-year population estimates data.

4. Office for National Statistics, 2001 Census.

5. Office for National Statistics, Annual District Births Extract.

6. Office for National Statistics, Annual District Deaths Extract.

7. Welsh Assembly Government (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation domains: income employment, health, education, access to service, housing, physical environment, community safety).

1998 and 2007 (Fig. 3). It has remained consistently close to the Wales rate. This fall is likely to reflect not only the activities of health services, but also improvements in living standards in the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University LHB area during the latter part of the 20th century.

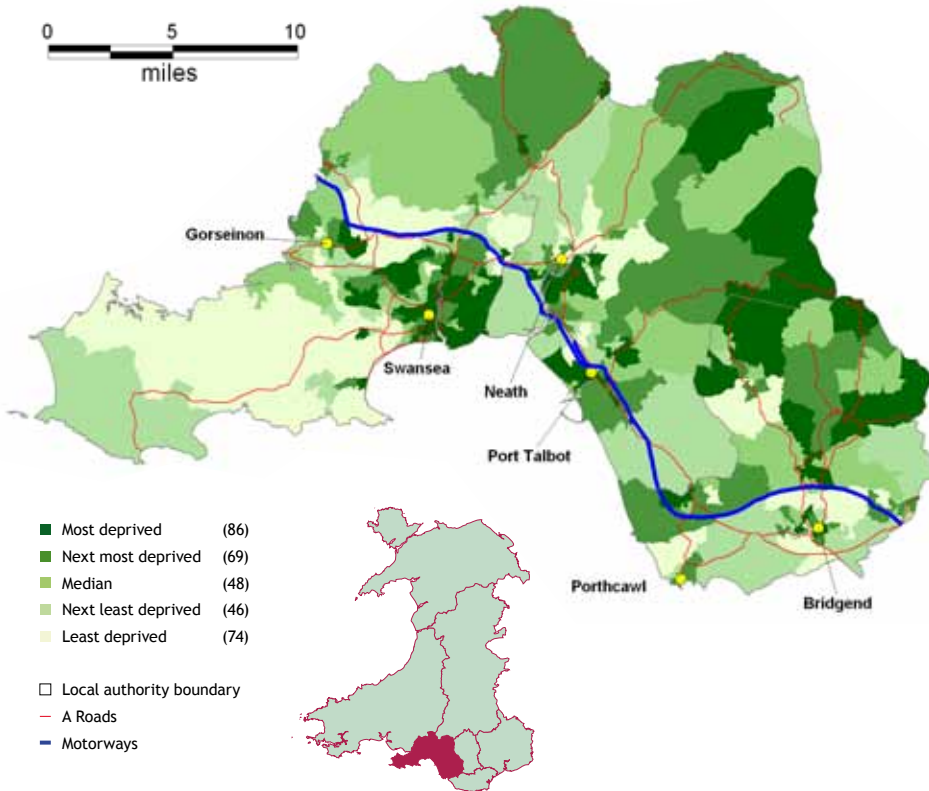
The greatest causes of death in people aged under 75 among Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University LHB residents are cancer, circulatory disease and respiratory disease, accounting for 39%, 26% and 9% of approximately 1,900 deaths respectively during 2007⁶.

Geographically based deprivation measures can be used to show inequalities in health and suggest areas likely to most need measures to improve health and manage ill-health. The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2008, is produced at a small area level called Lower Super Output Area (LSOA), and is derived from a broad range of factors⁷.

Within the LHB there are areas of deprivation, particularly in the urban parts of Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and the valley communities in Bridgend (Fig. 4). 86 out of the 323 LSOAs in the LHB (27 percent) are among the most deprived fifth in Wales with 74 (23 percent) in the least deprived fifth. However, within less deprived areas there are often pockets of hidden deprivation.

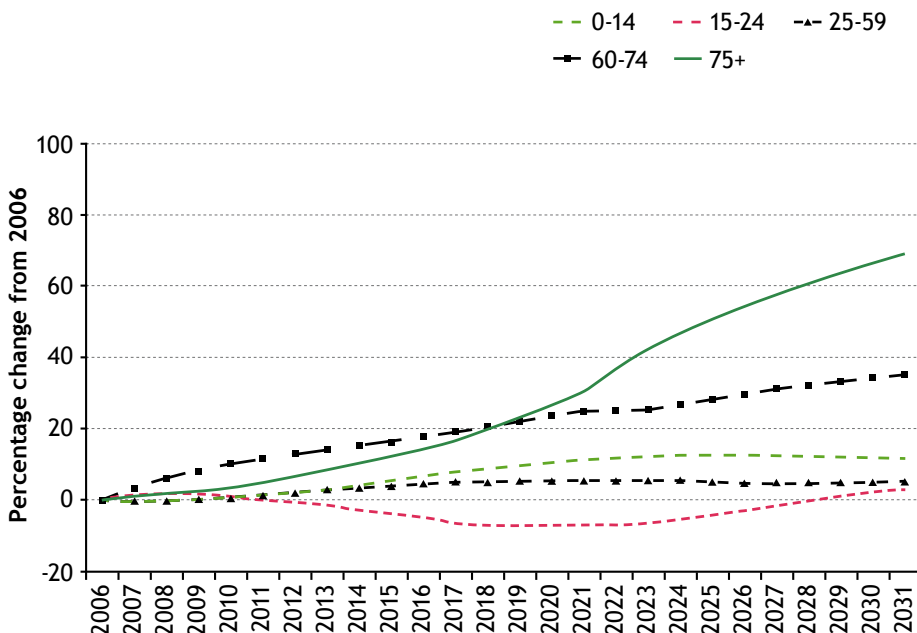
Current projections see a rise in the older population (75 years and over) of Abertawe Bro Morgannwg LHB residents from 43,000 (9% of the total population) in 2006 to 72,000 (13% of the total

> **Fig 4: Overall Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2008**
Fifths of deprivation, Lower Super Output Areas.
Data source: Welsh Assembly Government



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> **Fig 5: Population projections, A. B. M. University LHB**
Data source: Derived from LA Population Projections (2006-based)
Welsh Assembly Government



population) in 2031 (Fig. 5). These estimates are based on assumptions about births, deaths and migration. The increase in the number of older people is likely to cause a rise in chronic conditions such as circulatory and respiratory diseases and cancers. Meeting the needs of these individuals will be a key challenge for the LHB. In the current economic climate, the relative (and absolute) increase in economically dependent and, in some cases, care-dependent populations will pose particular challenges to communities.

> **Further Information:**

More detail on the demography of the residents of Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University LHB and Wales to accompany this profile is available at www.wch.wales.nhs.uk. This includes information at small area level, local variations in mortality and further resources to support LHB work.

This profile presents information for use by the newly formed Local Health Boards of Wales. It has been produced as the first of a series of information products made available by the newly created Public Health Observatory for Wales, a collaboration between the Wales Centre for Health and the National Public Health Service for Wales. LHB requirements will direct future profile development.

Contact us on:
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