

Q-Step Internship: EWERC at Alliance Manchester Business School

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The European Work and Employment Research Centre has developed an internationally recognised programme of comparative and interdisciplinary research. This research involves collaborations by academics

and research staff from a range of disciplines. EWERC has a strong tradition of publishing both high profile policy reports and high quality academic outputs in journals and books.

Objectives

Two projects were undertaken; one on precarious work in Europe and the other a Human Development Report for the Greater Manchester area.

The first project looked at various aspects of precarious work such as temporary agency work, part-time and zero-hour contracts. The data was sourced from Eurostat and OECD and primary datasets included the Labour Force Survey. The aim of the HDR was to discover the extent to which deprivation exists in Manchester.

Investigating data from various life stages, the objective was to discover whether certain risk factors predicted deprivation in later life. The data used came from Marmot Indicators, the ONS and other regional data surveys and the report aimed to assess the 11 wards in Greater Manchester, including Salford and Stockport. The project also compared these wards with their statistical neighbours.

Method

The two projects required different quantitative skills. For the precarious work project, tasks involved gathering and collating data from across Europe and graphically representing it to be included in the report. The primary issue faced was that of finding consistent and reliable data across the board.

The HDR required a greater depth of analysis. The data was all national so automatically more consistent. The various indicators such as income deprivation and life expectancy had to be normalized so comparisons could be made, each ward could be given a deprivation score and patterns could be analysed. The method used to normalize figures was consistent with that of international HDRs when comparing countries.

Excel was used for the majority of analyses and for creating graphs for representation for both reports. Heat maps, bar charts and

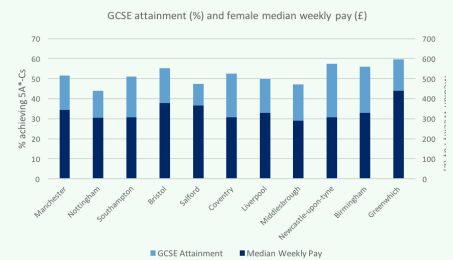
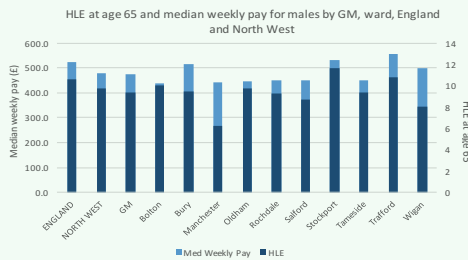
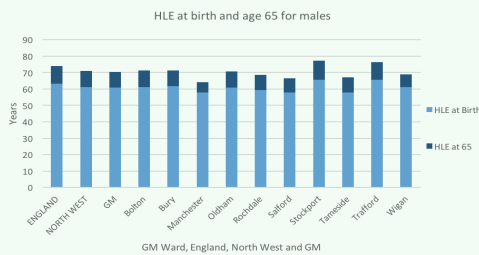
Key Findings

The report was in its very early stages so the analysis led to a variety of findings:

- Low Healthy Life Expectancy at birth is correlated with a lower Healthy Life Expectancy at age 65 for males. Manchester has the lowest Healthy Life Expectancy both at birth and age 65 for males.

- Median Weekly Pay and Healthy Life Expectancy at age 65 are correlated for men both in the England, the North West and Greater Manchester. The higher the weekly pay, the greater the Healthy Life Expectancy at age 65. Manchester has the lowest Median Weekly Pay for males.

- GCSE attainment and female weekly median pay are correlated. Areas with a higher percentage of GCSE attainment also have higher Median Weekly Pay for women.



Conclusion

- Greater Manchester suffers greatly from deprivation. Manchester suffers from deprivation more than other local authorities in the area and performs lowest in all indicators such as Life Expectancy.
- Most Greater Manchester wards excluding Stockport and Trafford perform below the national average on almost all indicators.
- Raises questions about deprivation not just in Manchester but in the UK as a whole and provides some evidence as to links between deprivation and low indicator scores in early and later life. May give some aid in where money should be invested in the Greater Manchester area.