

This overview of the Watcombe ward is one of fifteen in a series covering the electoral wards of Torbay. For more information please visit: www.southdevonandtorbay.info

Overview: Watcombe is one of the seven wards in Torquay. The Watcombe population has a lower than average life expectancy, higher levels of deprivation and a generally younger population.

Figure 1: Watcombe ward map

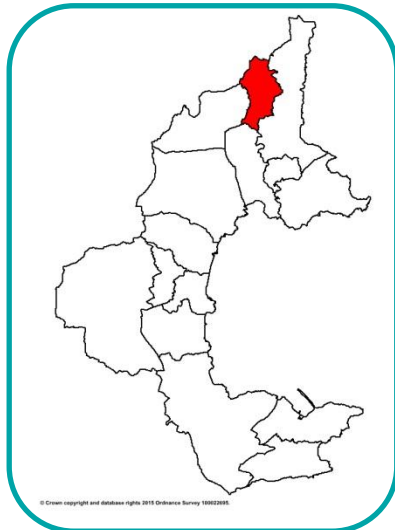
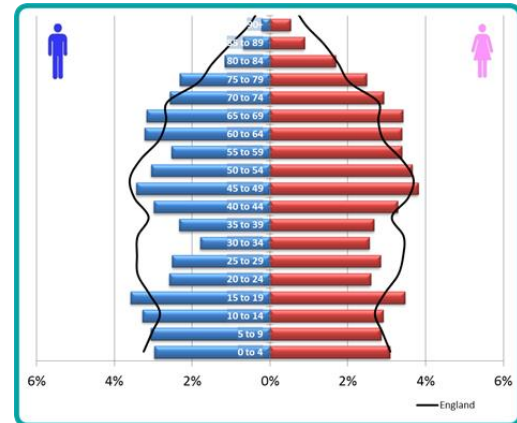
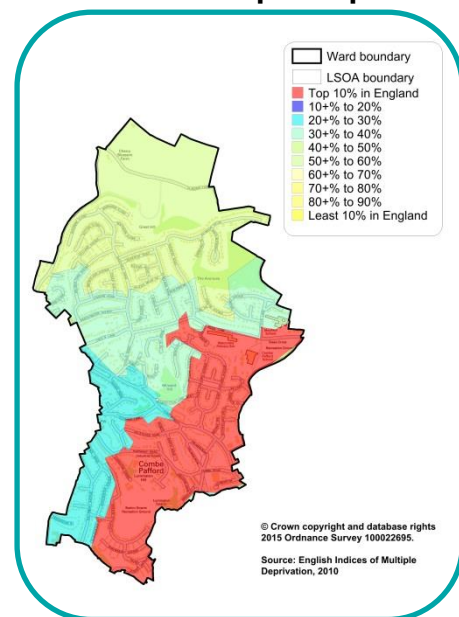


Figure 2: Population structure, 2013



Source: ONS mid-year resident population, 2013

Figure 3: Index of multiple deprivation, 2010



Key facts

- In 2013, the total resident population of Watcombe was around 7,200;
- In 2013, the average age of residents was 42 years;
- Almost 1 in 4 (23%) residents lived in social rented accommodation in 2011.

Population overview

The Watcombe population is generally younger (Table 1 and Figure 2), with 58% under 50 years of age.

Table 1: Population by age group, 2013

Age	Watcombe	Torbay	England
Years	Count		
0 - 29	2,569	36%	31%
30 - 64	2,992	42%	44%
65 - 84	1,457	20%	21%
85+	178	3%	4%
All ages	7,196		

Source: ONS mid-year resident population, 2013.

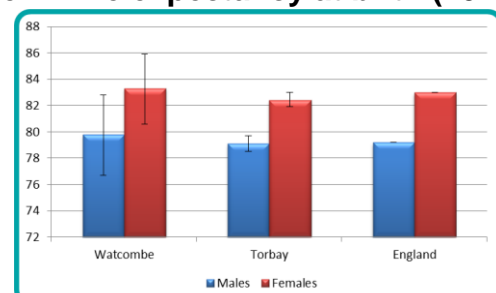
Deprivation

Watcombe contains one area ranked in the top 10% most deprived in England (red - Figure 3).

Life expectancy

Life expectancy at birth in Watcombe is similar to the Torbay and England average (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Life expectancy at birth (2010-12)



Source: PCMD 2010-12, ONS mid-year resident population 2010-12

Crime

The rate of crime in Watcombe is lower than the Torbay average (Table 2). Over 1 in 4 crimes are violent (including sexual violence).

Table 2: Crime and violent crime rate per 1,000 residents (all ages) 2011/12-2013/14

Area	All crime	Violent crime
Watcombe	54	15
Torbay	68	17
England	68*	11

Source: Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, PHOF - England comparator, *ONS - England and Wales comparator

Starting well

Around 1 in 3 mothers are smoking during pregnancy in Watcombe. Watcombe also has a lower proportion of mother's breastfeeding their children compared to Torbay and England.

Table 3: Starting well 2010/11-2013/14

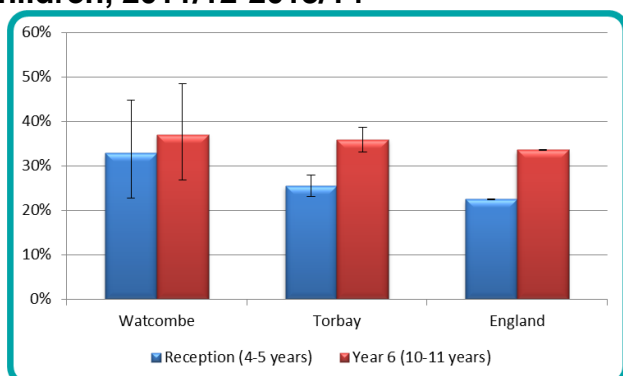
Area	Smoking at birth	Breastfeeding initiation	Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks
Watcombe	34%	62%	31%
Torbay	18%	71%	38%
England	13%	74%	47%

Source: Maternity and Child health dataset, 2010/11-2013/14

Excess weight in children

Around 35% of children are classified as overweight or obese when they leave primary school in Watcombe (Figure 2). This is higher than the Torbay and England average.

Figure 5: Excess weight in primary school children, 2011/12-2013/14

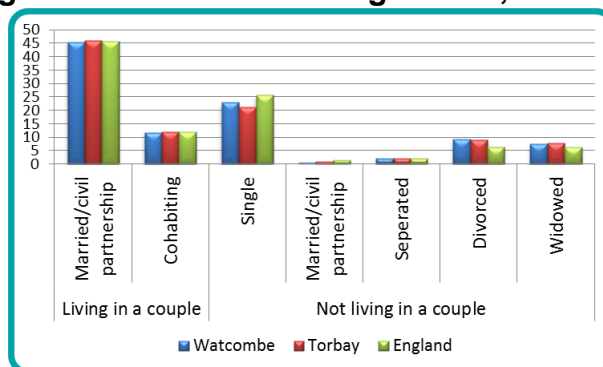


Source: National Child Measurement Programme, 2011/12-2013/14

Living arrangements

In 2011, around 1 in 10 (9%) Watcombe residents were divorced (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Household arrangements, 2011

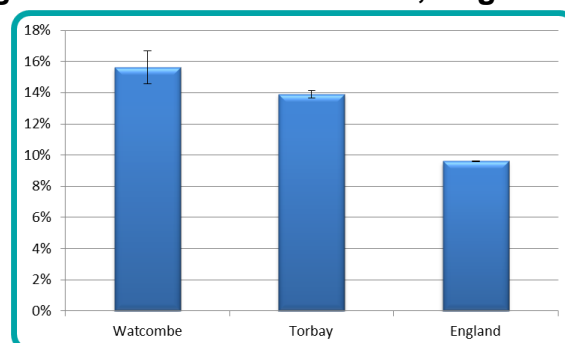


Source: Census, 2011

Out of work benefits

Watcombe has a significantly higher proportion of the working population (16-64yrs) claiming an out of work benefit compared to both England and Torbay (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Out of work benefits, Aug 2014



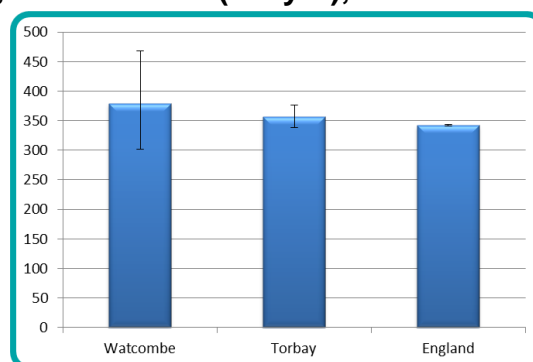
Source: Department of Work and Pensions, Aug 2014

Premature mortality

The rate of premature mortality (<75yrs) is slightly higher in Watcombe (Figure 7). Around 25 people per year die prematurely.

Cancer accounts for 41% of premature mortality in Watcombe.

Figure 7: Premature mortality rate per 100,000 residents (<75yrs), 2012-2014



Source: Primary Care Mortality Database 2012-14, ONS mid-year resident population 2011-13. Directly age standardised rate (ESP 2013)