

Torbay has some high under 75 mortality rates, including:

- the highest 2023-25 (and 2025) under 75 male mortality rate in the South West,
- the highest 2023-25 under 75 mortality rates from cardiovascular disease in the South West,
- the highest 2023-25 under 75 male mortality rate from cancer in the South West,
- the highest 2022-24 under 75 male and female rates from alcoholic liver disease in the South West,
- the highest 2022-24 under 75 male and female rates from liver disease considered preventable in the South West.

In 2022-24, 685 Torbay under 75 deaths were considered preventable (440 male, 245 female).

Why is this important?



Many deaths aged under 75 years are preventable.

What is the local context?



Torbay has high premature death rates and inequality.

What should we do?



Reduce self-harm, smoking, harmful drinking and drug taking, encourage healthy lifestyles, exercise and eating. Diagnose cancers and other disease symptoms early.

Fig 1: Torbay premature death rates (under 75 years), all causes, 2020/21 to 2024/25

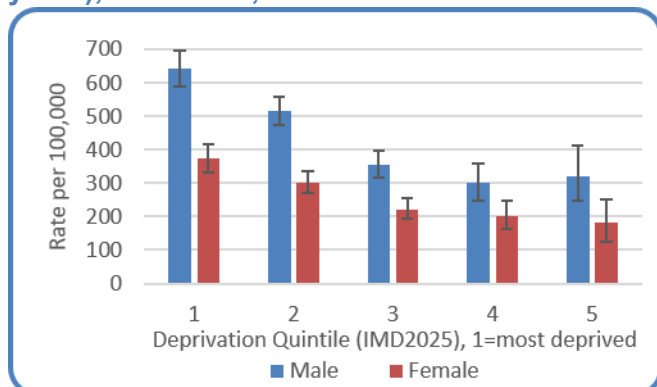


Table 1: Deaths in each age band (total for 5 years 2021-25)

Ages	Males	Females
0-14	16	10
15-24	16	5
25-34	39	16
35-44	71	50
45-54	203	102
55-64	445	297
65-74	877	551
0-74 Total	1667	1031

Torbay Premature Death Rates: Figure 1 shows the death rate is significantly higher for men than for women, and significantly higher in the more deprived areas.

Causes for different age groups (2021-2025):

Aged 0-14. 5 Torbay residents died aged 1 day or younger, 11 before their 1st birthday, and 10 between 1 and 14 years old.

6 out of 21 aged **15-24** were suicide or undetermined intent, 5 were medical (e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, COVID, melanoma), and other causes included falls, accidental drug poisoning, alcohol, motorcycle / watercraft, and drowning.

55 Torbay residents died aged **25-34**. 7 were suicide or undetermined intent (all male), 9 accidental drug poisoning, 7 due to alcohol, 24 diseases (mainly cancer or circulatory), and 8 causes such as motor vehicle, watercraft, falling, drowning, or other external cause.

121 Torbay residents died aged **35-44**. 17 of these were suicide or undetermined intent (10 male, 7 female), 21 were accidental drug poisoning, 18 due to alcohol, 27 cancer, 18 circulatory disease (11 male, 7 female), 16 other diseases and infections, and fewer than 5 other external causes.

305 Torbay residents died aged **45-54**. 17 of these were suicide or undetermined (11 male (M), 6 female (F)), 20 accidental drug poisoning (13M/7F), 37 due to alcohol (24M/13F), 82 cancer (50M/32F), 67 circulatory disease (53M/14F), 23 respiratory system (15M/8F) e.g. pneumonia, asthma, COPD, and 15 digestive system (not alcohol) (10M/5F).

742 Torbay residents died aged **55-64**. 275 deaths were caused by cancer (151M/124F); 182 by diseases of the circulatory system (134M/48F); 89 respiratory and 16 COVID; 6 accidental drug poisoning, 49 due to alcohol (30M/19F); 33 digestive system (not alcohol); 28 nervous system; 16 diabetes; 13 suicide or undetermined intent (7M/6F).

1,428 Torbay residents died aged **65-74**. 565 deaths were caused by cancer (328M/237F); 368 by diseases of the circulatory system (260M/108F); 158 respiratory and 26 COVID (16M); 21 due to alcohol (13M/8F); 67 digestive system (not alcohol); 73 nervous system and 27

vascular/unspecified dementia; 12 diabetes; 11 suicide or undetermined intent.

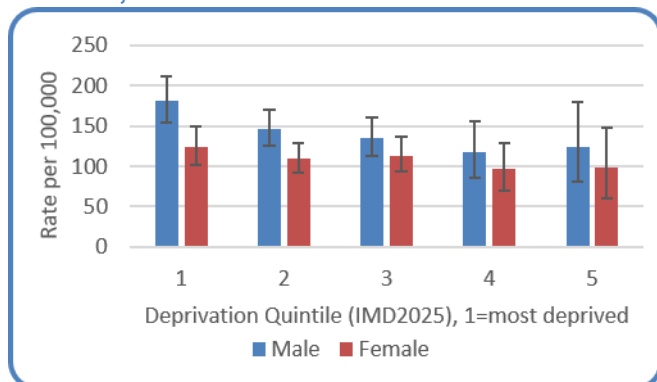
Overall, in the 5 years between 2021 and 2025:

2,698 Torbay residents aged <75yrs died. Cancers (556M/415F), diseases of the circulatory system (468M/179F), respiratory system (149M/115F), digestive system (133M/95F) and external causes (128M/58F) caused the most deaths.

Cancers: Men's cancers included bronchus/lung (117), prostate (47), pancreas (36), oesophagus (33), colon (27), kidney (25), liver and intrahepatic bile duct (24), brain (21), stomach/cardia (20), rectum (16) and rectosigmoid junction (15), bladder (13), skin melanoma (11) and many more.

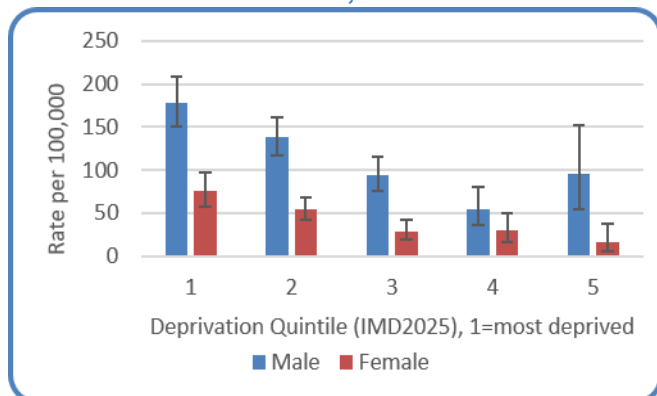
Women's cancers included bronchus/lung (89), breast (52), pancreas (22), ovary (22), colon (21), brain (19), cervix uteri (16), oesophagus (15), skin melanoma (12), endometrium (10), and many more.

Fig 2: Torbay premature death rates (<75 yrs), cancers, 2020/21 to 2024/25



About 73% of Torbay men's lung cancer, and 68% of women's, is smoking-attributable, as well as 71%/65% of larynx cancer, 59%/53% of pharynx cancer, 41%/34% of bladder cancer, 40%/34% of oesophagus cancer, and 35%/30% of oral cancer.

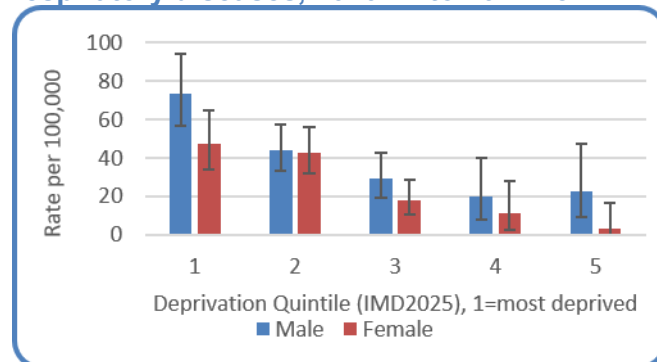
Fig 3: Torbay premature death rates (<75 yrs), cardiovascular diseases, 2020/21 to 2024/25



Cardiovascular diseases: Atherosclerotic heart disease killed 137 men and 23 women, **chronic ischaemic heart disease** 49 men and 11 women, **acute myocardial infarction** 75 men and 21 women. 39% of ischaemic heart disease is smoking-attributable.

Respiratory diseases: COPD killed 57 men and 64 women and **pneumonia** killed 38 men and 25 women. Over 50% of COPD is smoking attributable.

Fig 4: Torbay premature death rates (<75 yrs), respiratory diseases, 2020/21 to 2024/25



Diseases of the nervous system: During 2021 to 2025, Parkinson's disease killed 20 Torbay residents prematurely, motor neuron disease 17, multiple sclerosis 16, Alzheimer's disease 10, and epilepsy 10.

Other causes:

Alcohol-specific conditions killed 134 Torbay residents under 75 between 2021 and 2025 (82 male, 52 female). Only 10 deaths were for older ages. Torbay's death rate from liver disease considered preventable is the highest in the South West: 153 deaths during 2021-25.

Drug poisoning killed 77 residents under 75 between 2021 and 2025 (52 male, 25 female). 20 were intentional or undetermined intent (11 male 9 female). <5 deaths were for older ages.

During 2021-25, **COVID-19** killed 48 (32M/16F) Torbay residents under 75 and 230 older residents, accidental **falls** killed 26 (17M/9F) and 144 older residents, **flu** killed 9 and 16 older residents, and 6 under 75 died on the **roads** (often motorcycle).

Of 26 premature **drowning deaths in 12 years**, 14 were accidental (5 while at sea, 5 from path, cliff or coastering, others on fishing boats/jetski), and 12 were undetermined intent or intentional.

Data: [OHID](#) Public Health Profiles accessed 14/05/2026. Data for graphs & table: Primary Care Mortality Database, NHS Digital. Populations: ONS. Deprivation: IMD205: gov.uk.