OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Oxfordshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2025

User Guide

This document contains information to help you understand the information presented in the dashboards. This is a living document that is regularly updated following feedback and engagement with users of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Get in touch at jsna@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

Dynamic content
Dashboards are dynamic which means that their appearance will change following filter selections and when clicking on specific elements in data visualisations. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that these changes are clearly communicated to the user, take care to understand the content of each visualisation.

Axes
Some pages allow the user to change the data that is displayed on the visualisation. This may also change the units which are assigned to the x- and y-axes. Take care to look closely at the variables that are mapped to the axes.

Line graphs
Some line graphs exceed the recommended number of series to plot on a graph. Rather than remove these from the dashboard, as we believe they will have value to some users, we have supplemented these with an additional table as an alternative means of accessing the data.

Tables
Most visualisations will allow you to see the data in tabular format.

Data download
See the 'Sources' page if you would like to download the datasets that underpin the indicators presented in these dashboards for yourself.

Confidence intervals
Due to variations in sample sizes across different populations, some estimates displayed in the dashboards are subject to confidence intervals (CIs). A confidence interval provides a range within which the true value is likely to fall, helping to account for uncertainty in the data. All confidence intervals presented are at the 95% confidence level. Wider confidence intervals indicate greater uncertainty, often due to smaller sample sizes, whereas narrower confidence intervals suggest more precise estimates, typically from larger datasets. Where applicable, confidence intervals are displayed in the visualisations to provide context around the reliability of the data and significant difference between areas.

What does it mean to be 'better', 'worse', or 'similar'?
Bars in the dashboard are coloured to indicate how the selected area compares to the England average for the chosen measure:

Green – The value is statistically better than the England average
Yellow – The value is similar to the England average, meaning there is no significant statistical difference
Red – The value is statistically worse than the England average
Blue - The value is not compared to the England average

This comparison is based on confidence intervals, which assess whether differences are likely due to chance or reflect genuine variation (see above). For data sourced from Fingertips, these comparisons follow the methodology outlined in the Fingertips guidance.

Geographical levels
The dashboard presents data at multiple geographical levels:

- **Local Authority Districts:** 5 in Oxfordshire – Cherwell, Oxford, South Oxfordshire, Vale of White Horse and West Oxfordshire
- **Wards:** 112 in Oxfordshire with an average of 6,500 residents
- **Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs):** 87 in Oxfordshire with an average of 7,600 residents
- **Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs):** 428 in Oxfordshire with an average of 1,700 residents. About 5 LSOAs combine into a MSOA

Users can filter the data using slicers to view insights at different levels of geography.

Maps
Some pages allow the data to be seen using a map view. These are called choropleth maps. If a map does not populate following slicer selection, this means that the selected data is not available for this specific geography.

The maps consistently use darker colours to represent higher values in the chosen indicator, with lighter colours representing lower values.

Most maps will shade a specific area according to the data that is linked to it. Please note that this will change depending on your view selection. For example, when viewing MSOAs across the whole of the county, the colour gradient will account for the highest lowest values of all MSOAs in Oxfordshire. However, when looking at MSOAs in a specific district, the colour gradient will adjust to account for the range of values within your chosen district. Therefore, while the data attached to the MSOA will remain the same, the colour gradient may change depending on your filter selection.

Language related to time
These dashboards are not connected to live data sources. Therefore, where relative language is used to describe a point in time (e.g. most recent) this will be according to the data set which is used for that specific visualisation. The year is stated on each visualisation where this language is used.