

Fast facts

The Health and Care of Older People

The HSCIC has compiled a diverse range of data from several sources on the health and care of older people to build a broader insight into the health of people aged 65 or over in England.

The report includes data on hospital activity, mental health, social care, prescribing, NHS workforce, census data and life expectancy in older people.

Key facts for England

The latest data shows:

Aging population

- In 2012 **people aged 65 or over** accounted for **one in six of the population** and people aged 85 or over accounted for one in 44.
- By 2051 it is estimated that one in 15 of the population will be 85 or older.
- Based on 2011 census data, the local authorities with the highest proportion of older people were Dorset, Isle of Wight and Torbay where one in four people were aged 65 or over (25, 24 and 24 per cent respectively).
- The local authorities with the lowest proportion of older people were Tower Hamlets, Newham and Hackney where less than one in 14 people were aged 65 or over (6, 7 and 7 per cent respectively).

Health and lifestyle

- Over **seven in ten older people** (aged 65 or over) are **obese or overweight**, and this is a similar proportion for those aged 45 or over.
- The prevalence of Ischemic **Heart Disease** in those aged 65 to 74 fell between 2006 (15 per cent) and 2011 (11 per cent).
- In 2013 about **600 million** of the **one billion drug items dispensed** in the community (60 per cent) were for people aged 65 or over.

Fast facts

Community Care

- Home care and equipment and adaptation are the most commonly locally funded **community based services** accessed by older people.
- Over the last ten years there has been a fall in the rates of older people permanently admitted to **residential care and nursing care**. Among people age 65 and over in 2012/13:
 - 467 per 100,000 were permanently admitted to residential care, down from 614 per 100,000, ten years ago
 - 230 per 100,000 were permanently admitted to nursing care, down from 392 per 100,000 ten years ago

Hospital care

- **One in two hospital bed days** in 2012 were for **patients aged 65 or over** and one in six bed days were for people aged 85 or over.
- Over the last 20 years total **hospital bed days** have decreased in every age group apart from for those **aged 85 or over** where the number has **increased by a tenth**.
- **One in five people aged 85 or over** (20 per cent) used all three A&E, inpatient and outpatient services in 2012-13, for those under 65 years this was one in 24 (four per cent).
- **Two in three** admissions to hospital for people aged 85 or over were via **emergency channels** (65 per cent) but for those under 65 years this was one in three (32 per cent).

More Information

Access HSCIC information at:

- [Focus on the Health and Care of Older People](http://www.hscic.gov.uk/pubs/opfocusjun14) <http://www.hscic.gov.uk/pubs/opfocusjun14>

Charities:

- Age UK
- Independent Age