



Local Profiles

The Centre for Regional and Local Statistics in the Office for National Statistics are developing a set of local profiles to help local authorities use official statistics to better understand the economic, social and environmental picture for their area. The first set of profiles are being developed using data that will be of use to analysts, economists and policy makers involved in preparing Local Economic Assessments (LEAs).

The profiles will include many of the foundation variables suggested in the guidance generated by Communities and Local Government (CLG) and the Improvement and Development Agency for local government (IDeA), and are being created in consultation with regional and local experts throughout the country, for release on 31st March 2010.

Purpose

- To provide a better understanding of the economy, society and environment in each local authority
- To provide access to recent available key economic related indicators
- To provide analysis of the data to generate the key messages from the underlying data

Themes

The analysis provided within the profiles will be focused around eight themes and their related indicators: Demography, Skills, Employment, Enterprise, Economic Context, Inclusion, Housing and Environment.

Scope

- The first version of the Local Profiles will provide analysis for upper and lower tier local authorities in the form of tables, graphs, maps and supporting text. The output will include analysis of any selected local authority including comparisons with regional and national figures, and with another comparator local authority
- The profiles use existing published official statistics on a nationally consistent basis
- A mapping capability will show the spatial pattern of key indicators for the local authority and its surroundings

- The profiles will initially be distributed on CD, and will use Microsoft Excel and the mapping tool Instant Atlas. In the future we will investigate how to build it into a web application
- The CD will contain other selected ONS products alongside the Local Profiles which will aid local authorities in preparing their economic assessments
- Future updates to the profiles are planned to ensure they contain the latest available data and will be extended to incorporate social indicators

Further Information

For updates on the Local Profiles please go to the Local Profiles homepage at www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/Info.do?page=analysisandguidance/analysisarticles/localprofilelandingpage.htm

To register your request for a copy of the Local Profiles please email better.info@ons.gov.uk, ensuring that you provide a contact address.

The ONS Toolkit for Local Area Assessments contains:

- Local Profiles
- Commute – APS
- CoTA Viewer – Worklessness
- Atlas of Deprivation: England 2007
- IDBR Analysis to support Local Authorities