

PROVISIONAL – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2025: Coastal West Sussex

Public Health and Social Research Unit | November 2025



What are the Indices of Multiple Deprivation?

- The Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IoD25) measure **relative** deprivation for small areas (lower super output areas, LSOAs) in England.

What do we mean by relative deprivation?

Across the IoD25, deprivation is measured on a **relative** rather than an absolute scale. This means that it can show if one area is more deprived than another but not by how much. For example, whilst an area with a rank of 100 is more deprived than an area with a rank of 200, this does not mean that it is twice as deprived.

- The IoD25 includes seven standalone indexes which are combined and weighted together to form the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD25). The IMD25 is the official measure of deprivation in England.
- The IMD25 ranks every LSOA in England from most to least deprived, according to their level of multiple deprivation relative to that of other areas. These are commonly described using deciles, where all small areas are divided into 10 equal groups according to their deprivation rank. This means that areas in decile 1 are among the 10% most deprived areas in England.
- A range of summary measures are also produced for larger areas, such as upper tier local authorities, local authority districts, built up areas, and NHS Integrated Care Boards.

How can the IoD25 be used?

The IoD25 **can** be used to:

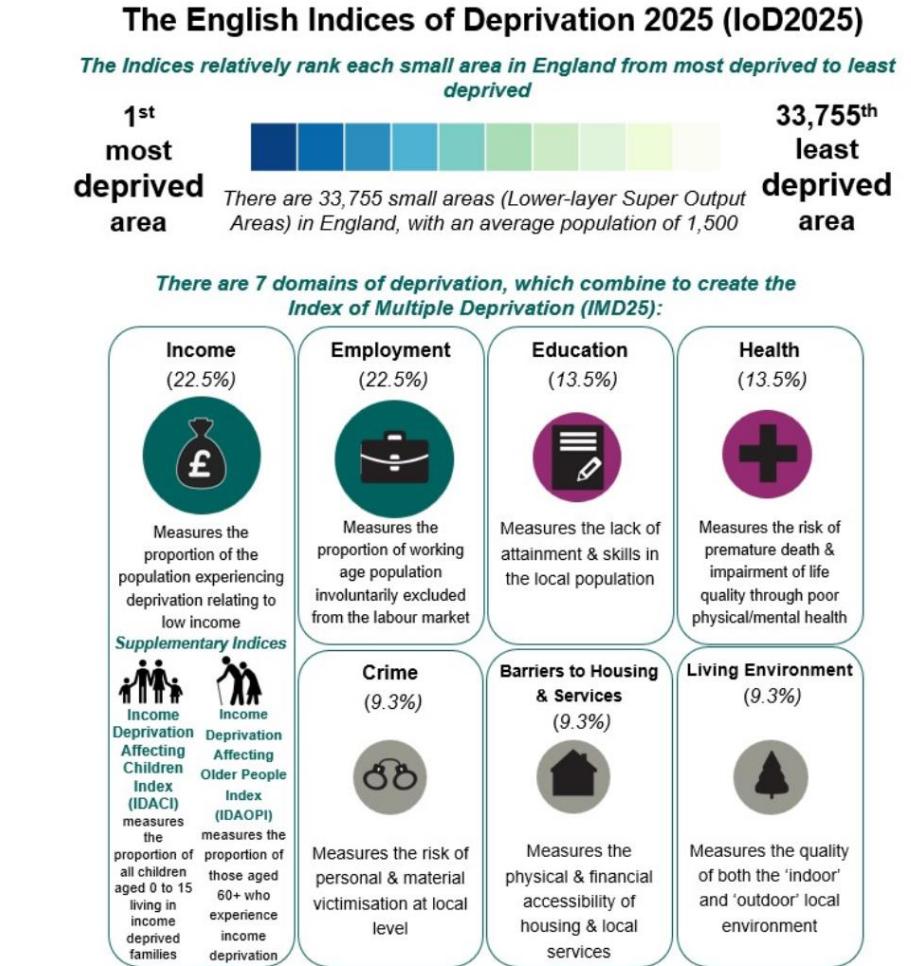
- ✓ Compare small areas across England
- ✓ Identify the most deprived small areas
- ✓ Explore different types of deprivation (domains)
- ✓ Compare larger administrative areas, such as local authorities
- ✓ Look at changes in relative deprivation between iterations (i.e. changes in ranks)

The IoD25 **cannot** be used to:

- ✗ Quantify how deprived a small area is
- ✗ Identify deprived individuals – many non-deprived people live in deprived areas and many deprived people live in non-deprived areas
- ✗ Say how affluent an area is
- ✗ Measure absolute change in deprivation over time
- ✗ Compare with small areas in other UK countries

What are the domains?

- The IoD25 is constructed of seven domains, which combine (weights as indicated) to create the IMD25. These domains include:
 - Income deprivation (22.5%)
 - Employment deprivation (22.5%)
 - Education (13.5%)
 - Health (13.5%)
 - Crime (9.3%)
 - Barriers to housing and services (9.3%)
 - Living environment (9.3%)
- Along with the seven domains, there are two supplementary income indices:
 - Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)
 - Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOP)



Coastal Deprivation: Methodology

Methodology was taken from the [Coastal Inequalities Framework](#). The deprivation analysis was updated to reflect the latest IoD.

How were coastal towns defined?

This analysis used the 2020 ONS definition of coastal towns which classifies built-up urban areas (BUAs) and built-up urban area sub-divisions (BUASDs) as coastal towns if they have populations between 5,000 and 225,000 (as at 2011 Census) and a direct coastal boundary (West Sussex County Council, 2024). This is the method we used in our existing [Coastal Inequalities Framework](#).

Using this approach, seven coastal towns were identified in West Sussex – four larger seaside towns (Bognor Regis, Littlehampton, Shoreham-by-Sea and Worthing) and three smaller seaside towns (East Wittering, Selsey and Southwick).

How was the IoD25 linked to coastal towns in West Sussex?

2021 LSOAs were assigned to BUAs, in several steps, using official ‘best-fit’ look-up tables.

Which population estimates were used?

2022 mid-year population estimates were used as they were the denominators used in the IMD 2025.

Deprivation in Coastal and Non-Coastal West Sussex

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD25) is a measure of relative deprivation at small areas in England. The ‘overall’ IMD 2025 combines data across seven different domains: income, employment, education, health, crime, barriers to housing and services, and living environment deprivation. Two supplementary domains are also available for income deprivation affecting children and older people.

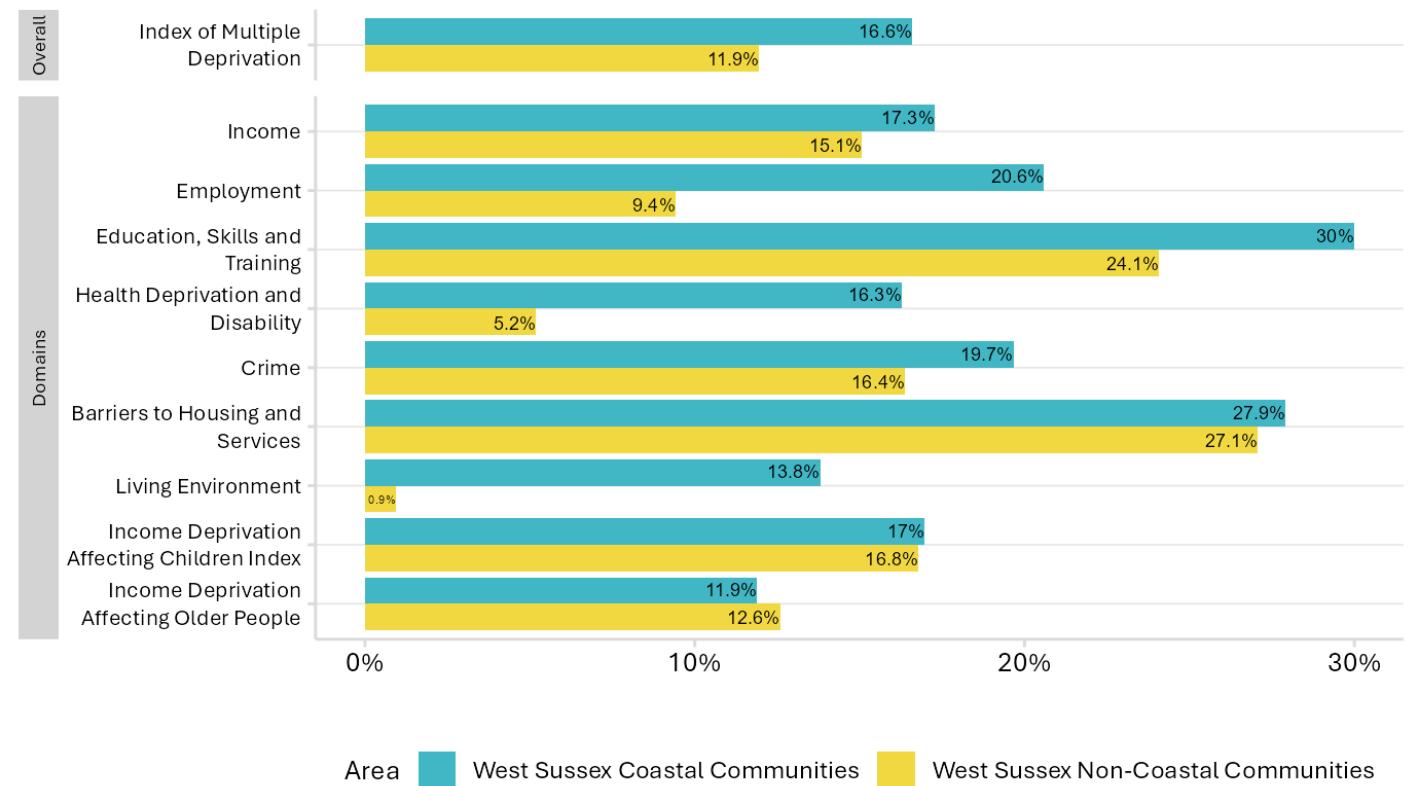
Coastal towns of West Sussex have a higher proportion of their population living in the 30% most deprived areas (16.6%) when compared to non-coastal areas (11.9%).

Coastal towns also have a higher proportion of their population living in the most deprived areas across all domains.

The biggest difference between coastal and non-coastal towns was in the living environment domain (*quality of the local environment, indoors and outdoors*).

Proportion of the population in West Sussex coastal and non-coastal towns living in areas among the 30% most deprived nationally

Notes. Uses the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025 and ONS mid-year population 2022



Sources: Indices of Deprivation 2025 (Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government); Mid-year population estimates (2022)

Deprivation in Coastal Towns of West Sussex

The figure shows the proportion of the population of coastal towns in West Sussex that live in the 30% most deprived neighbourhoods nationally, according to the IMD.

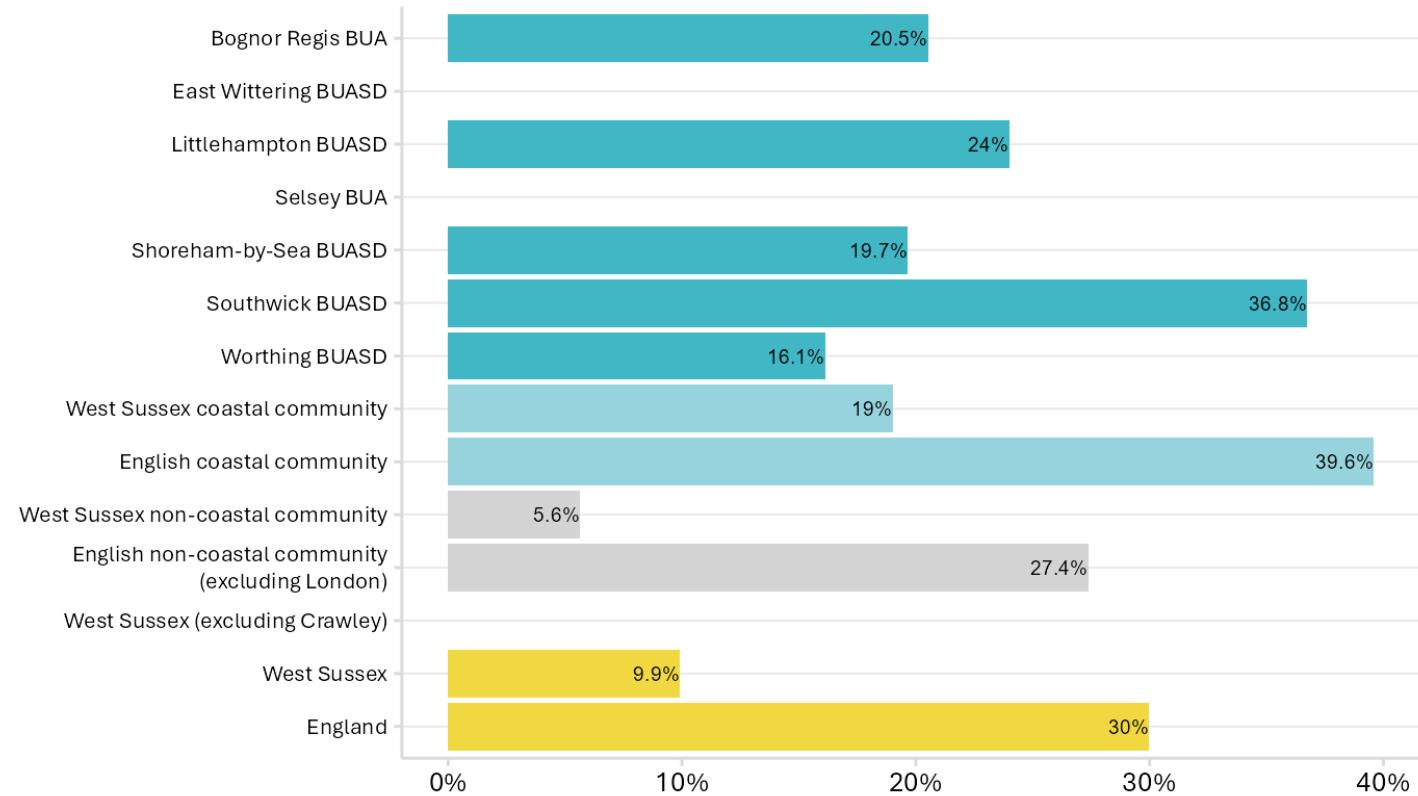
Variation exists across coastal towns, with none of the population of Selsey or East Wittering living in the 30% most deprived areas, compared to 36.8% in Southwick.

The coastal town of Bognor Regis and Littlehampton have more than 10% of their populations living in areas among the 0 to 20% most deprived (13.1% and 15.2% respectively)

Of the six neighbourhoods in West Sussex that are among the 10% most deprived areas nationally, five are within coastal towns (two in Bognor Regis, and three in Littlehampton).

Coastal towns with a higher proportion of residents aged 65+ were generally less deprived. Older residents made up 8.3% of the population in the most deprived areas, compared with 17.1% in the least deprived (based on 2022 mid-year estimates).

Proportion of the population living in areas among the 30% most deprived nationally
Notes. Uses the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025 and ONS mid-year population 2022



Sources: Indices of Deprivation 2025 (Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government); Mid-year population estimates (2022)

Small Area Deprivation in Coastal West Sussex

The map shows national deprivation deciles among small areas (lower super output areas) in West Sussex coastal towns.

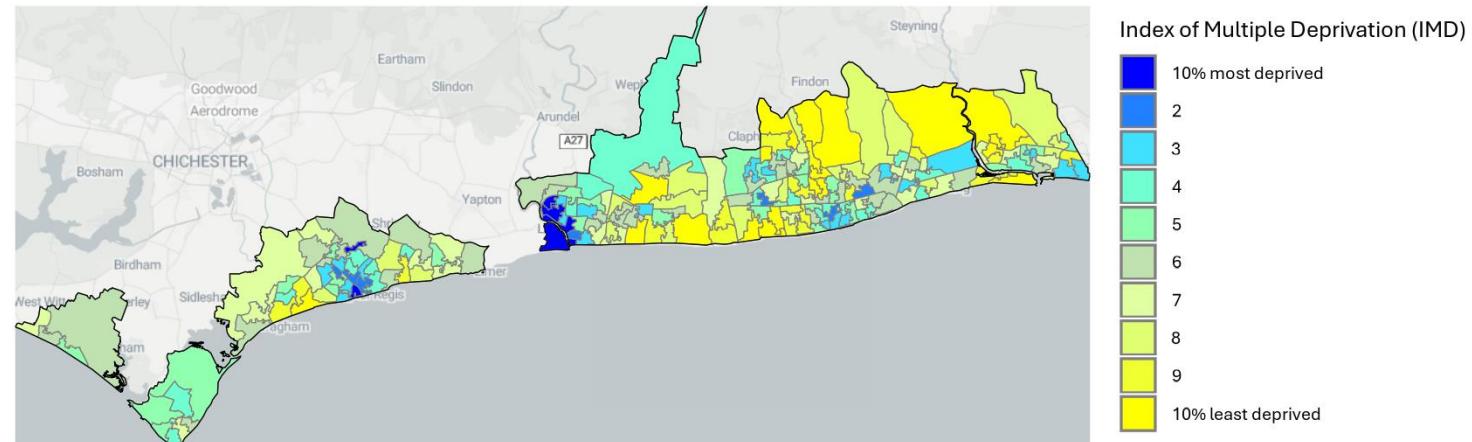
Five small areas in coastal West Sussex are among the 10% most deprived nationally (decile 1).

The table provides the number and proportion of small areas in coastal and non-coastal West Sussex falling within each decile on the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025.

A greater number and proportion of coastal small areas are relatively more deprived than non-coastal areas of West Sussex (around 6% of LSOAs in coastal West Sussex are among the 20% most deprived nationally).

National Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2025 deciles in coastal West Sussex

Small areas are 2021 Lower Super Output Areas



Office for National Statistics: OpenGeography (via Open Government Licence v3.0)

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government: English Indices of Deprivation 2025 (via Open Government Licence v3.0)

Number and proportion of Lower Super Output Areas in coastal and non-coastal areas of West Sussex by national Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025 deciles

Decile	West Sussex coastal community		West Sussex non-coastal community	
	N LSOAs	Proportion	N LSOAs	Proportion
10% most deprived	5	2.5%	1	0.4%
2	7	3.4%	0	0.0%
3	21	10.3%	24	10.8%
4	25	12.3%	16	7.2%
5	26	12.7%	29	13.0%
6	35	17.2%	15	6.7%
7	26	12.7%	22	9.9%
8	20	9.8%	26	11.7%
9	19	9.3%	31	13.9%
10% least deprived	20	9.8%	59	26.5%

Where can I find out more information about the IoD 2025?

- [Local Deprivation Explorer](#) tool – can be used to lookup information about deprivation in your area, explore maps and download data
- [English indices of deprivation 2025](#) – Homepage for the IoD 2025, including the links to datafiles
- [English indices of deprivation 2025: statistical release](#) – high level summary of the English indices of deprivation 2025
- [English indices of deprivation 2025: frequently asked questions](#) – frequently asked questions about the indices of deprivation
- [English indices of deprivation 2025: technical report](#) – a report presenting the conceptions and methodology underpinning the indices and the indicators that make up the IoD
- [English indices of deprivation 2025: research report](#) – a report outlining the main results and providing examples and guidance on how to use and interpret the datasets
- [English indices of deprivation 2025: rural report](#) – supplementary report on deprivation in rural areas, produced in collaboration with Defra
- [Briefing: West Sussex IMD 2019](#) – a briefing summarising the previous IoD 2019 for West Sussex