

Measuring Well-being

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Measuring Well-being: the framework

Well-being at ONS

1970 - ONS has been reporting on developments in society in the UK for over 40 years in the Social Trends publication



2010 – The then National Statistician, Dame Jill Matheson, launched the ONS National Well-being Programme.

“We must measure what matters - the key elements of national well-being. We want to develop measures based on what people tell us matters most.”

National

Well-being

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Measures of National Well-being Dashboard: Quality of Life in the UK

Bringing together the latest national well-being data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and other sources to give an overview of how the UK is doing across the ten areas of life that the UK public told us matter most.

12 August 2022

Measuring Well-being: during the pandemic

Personal well-being in the UK, quarterly: April 2011 to September 2021

Since the start of the pandemic, lowest levels of well-being were observed in Q4 2020 and Q1 2021, but by Q3 2021 well-being estimates stabilised.

Compared with Q3 2020, life satisfaction and anxiety scores improved in Q3 2021.

Average (mean) ratings of personal well-being in the UK, April 2011 to September 2021

Overall, how **satisfied** are you with your life nowadays?



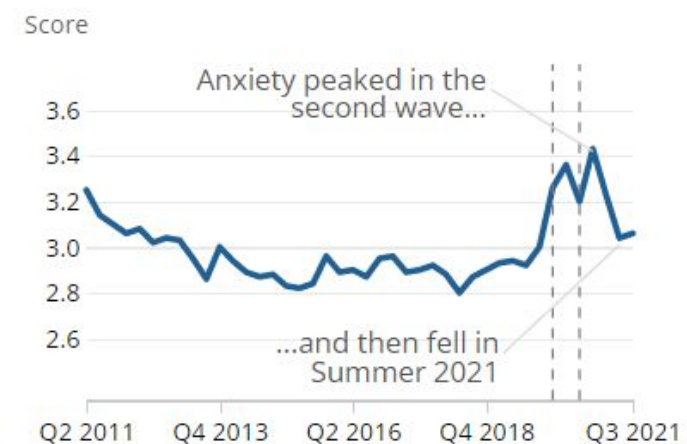
Overall, to what extent do you feel that the things you do in your life are **worthwhile**?



Overall, how **happy** did you feel yesterday?



Overall, how **anxious** did you feel yesterday?



Personal well-being by sex

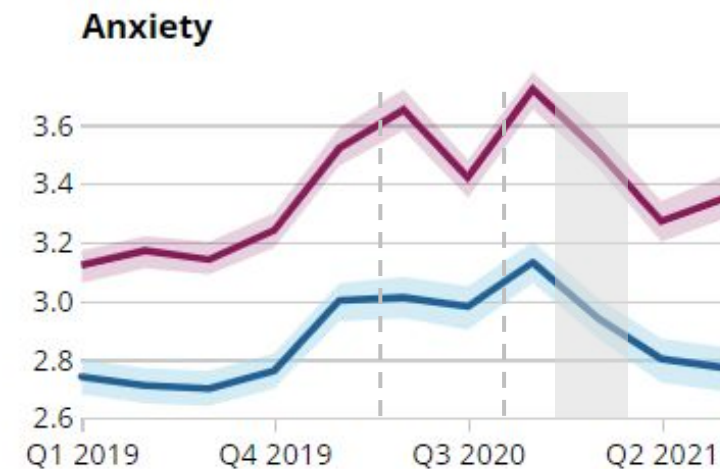
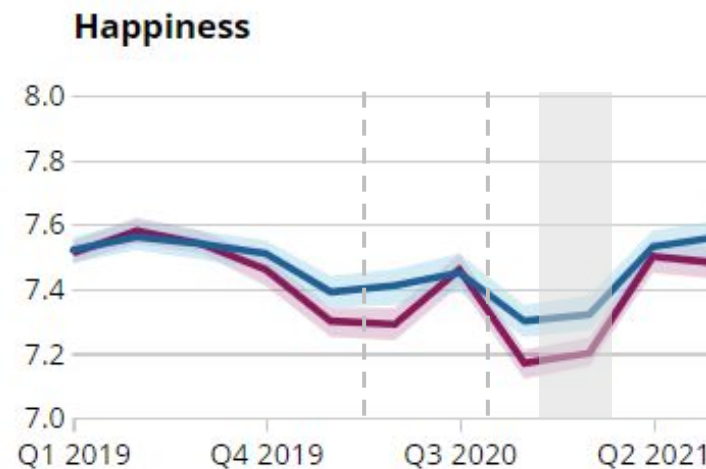
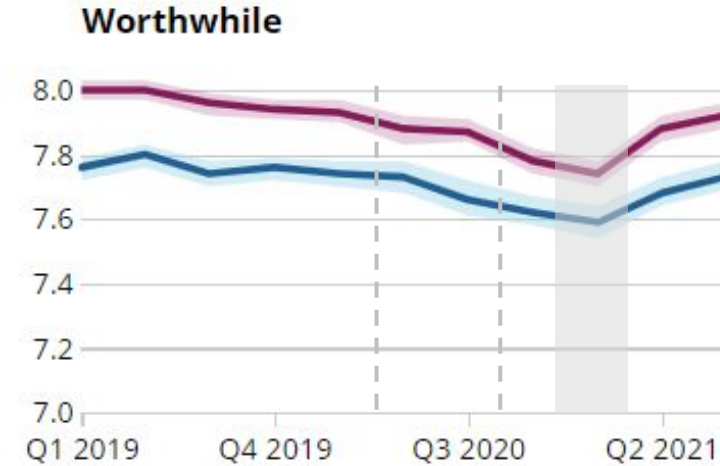
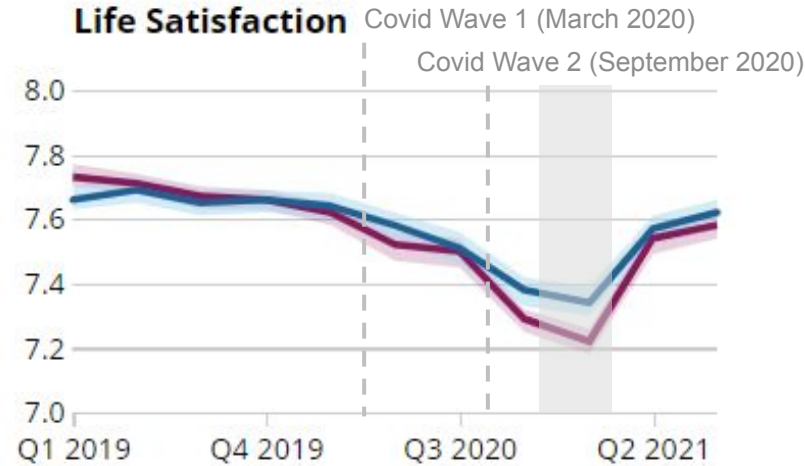
Personal well-being in the UK, quarterly: April 2011 to September 2021

New 'gendered' pattern in well-being during the pandemic:

Females reported lower life satisfaction in Q4 2020 and Q1 2021, and lower happiness in Q2 2020, Q4 2020 and Q1 2021.

Average (mean) ratings and confidence intervals of personal well-being in the UK by sex, January 2019 to September 2021

— Males — Females
■ 95% credible interval



Area-based trends in loneliness

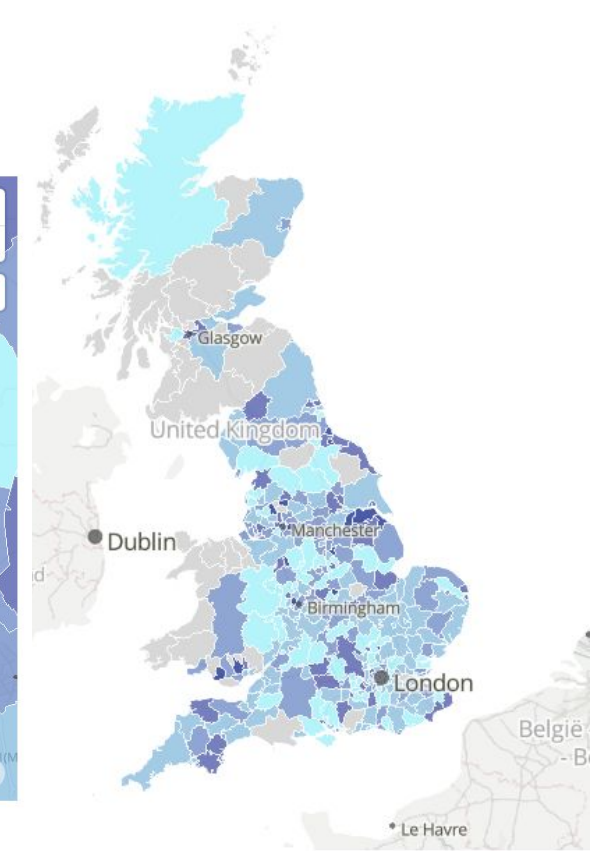
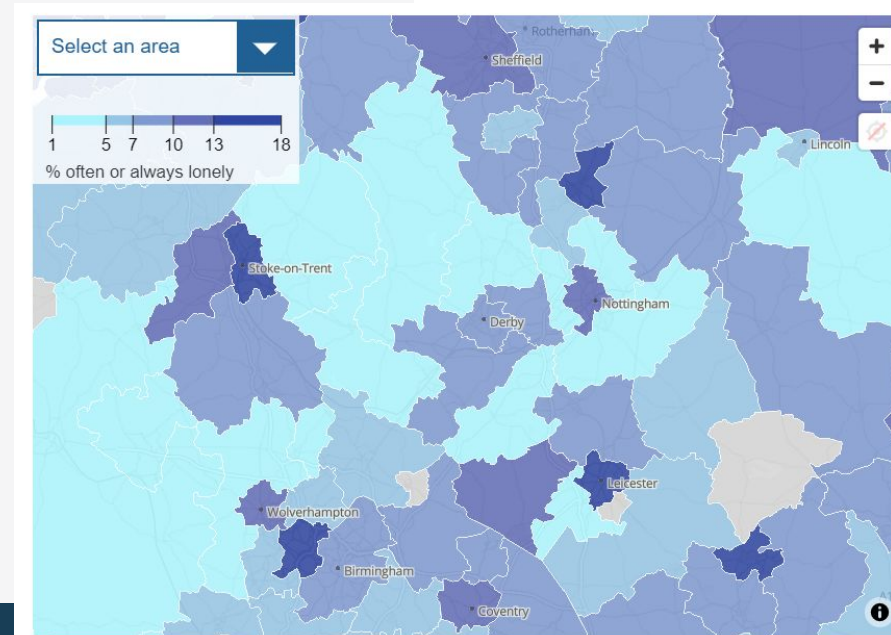
Mapping loneliness during the coronavirus pandemic, Great Britain: October 2020 to February 2021

Urban areas with lower median age and higher rates of unemployment reported highest rates of loneliness. This relationship is stronger outside of London.

Areas with strong local businesses and adult education tended to have lower rates of loneliness.

Interactive map: Loneliness rates by local authority

Percentage reporting "often or always" feeling lonely, Great Britain, 14 October 2020 to 22 February 2021



Measuring Well-being: at local levels

Figure 2: Personal well-being interactive maps

Average ratings of personal well-being, UK, years ending March 2012 to March 2021

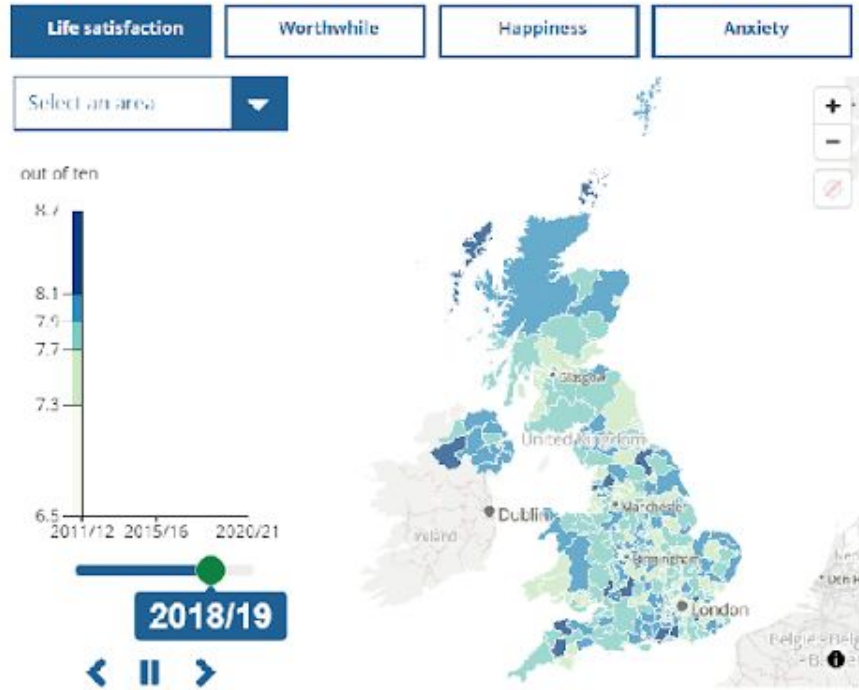
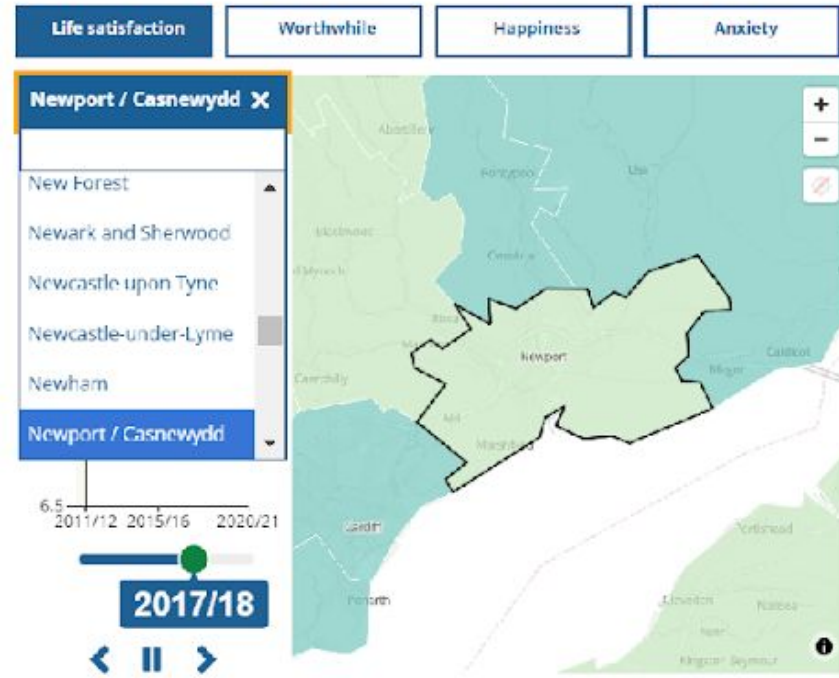


Figure 2: Personal well-being interactive maps

Average ratings of personal well-being, UK, years ending March 2012 to March 2021



Personal Well-being local authority interactive tools

Personal Well-being local authority interactive tools



ONS data at local levels: what's new?

GSS Subnational Data Strategy

A framework to guide the GSS in producing and disseminating more timely, granular and harmonised subnational statistics, that meet user needs



Produce more timely, granular and harmonised subnational statistics



Build capability and capacity for subnational statistics and analysis



Improve the dissemination of subnational statistics



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Subnational indicators explorer

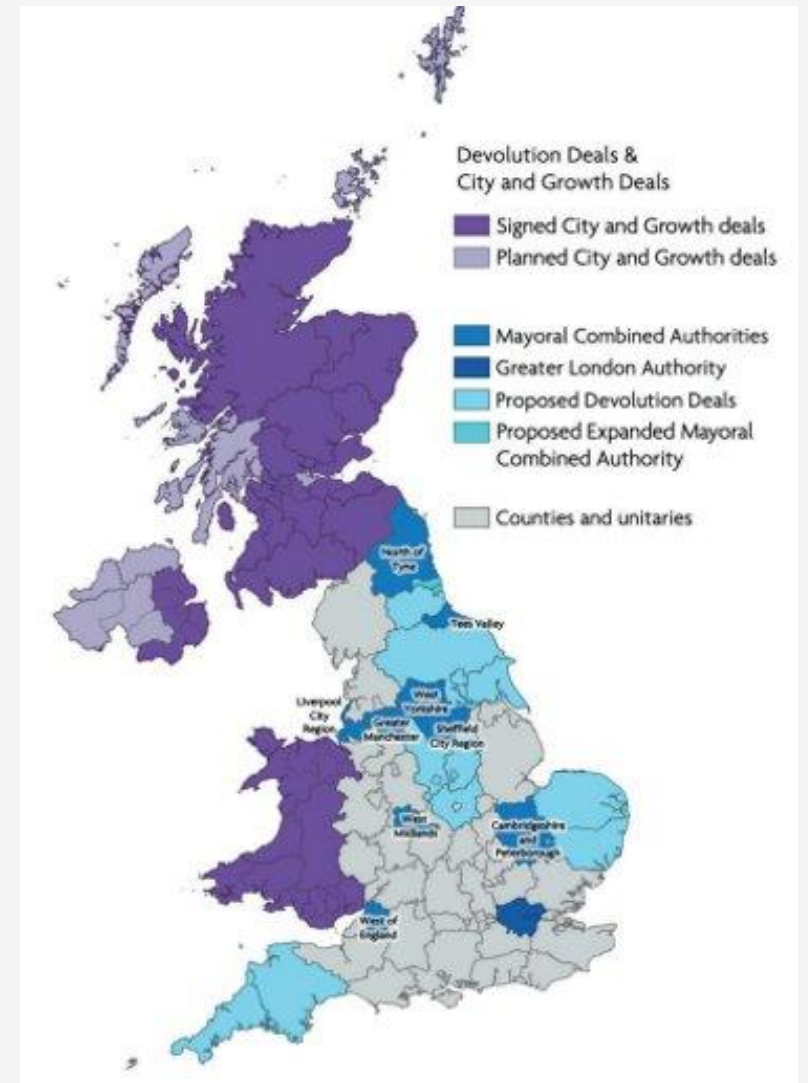
Use our interactive tool to find out more about your local authority.

[Alpha] This is a new service - to help improve it please give us your feedback.

Subnational Indicators Explorer

ONS Local

- Commitment outlined in the Levelling Up White paper
- A statistical advisory service for local leaders, with dedicated analysts based in hubs across the UK, ensuring they have access to data, statistics and analysis to support decision making
- Analysts based in each region, drawing on support and resource from across the office to act as a window onto wider ONS developments and capability
- First iteration of service to be launched this Winter



Measuring Well-being: Give us your views!

Looking forwards - Review of the measures and dissemination tools



- Our view is that the framework is still as important and relevant as it ever was.
- However, we wonder if all the measures still are – are there any missing?
- Data expectations have also moved on since the pandemic.
- We will therefore be reviewing the measures and dissemination tools (dashboard) to see if they still meets user needs.
- Launching a 6 month review, including an online survey, on 3rd October at an online event, with opening address by Sir Ian Diamond and a panel of external experts.
- Sign up here!! [National Statistician Launch: Measures of National Well-being consultation Tickets, Mon 3 Oct 2022 at 13:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Thank you for listening!

Any questions?

- Quality of Life team: qualityoflife@ons.gov.uk
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